Network Flow

Algorithm Design

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Max-Flow and Min-Cut Problems

A Flow network

A flow network is a tuple $G = (V, E, s, t, c)$.

- Diagraph (V, E) with source $s \in V$ and sink $t \in V$.
- Capacity $c(e) > 0$ for each $e \in E$.

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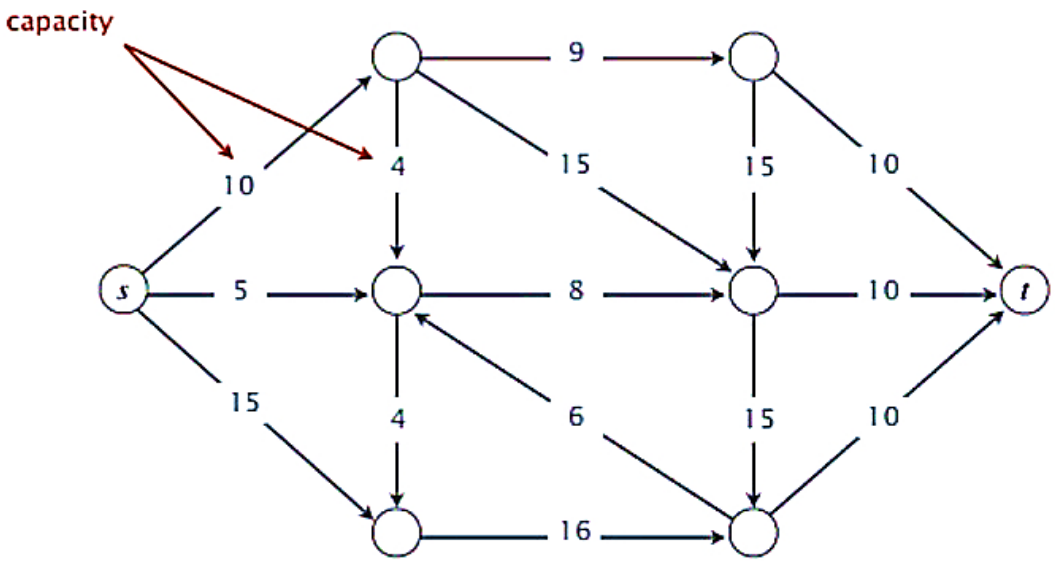
Intuition. Material flowing through a transportation network, which originates at source and is sent to sink.



Minimum-cut problem

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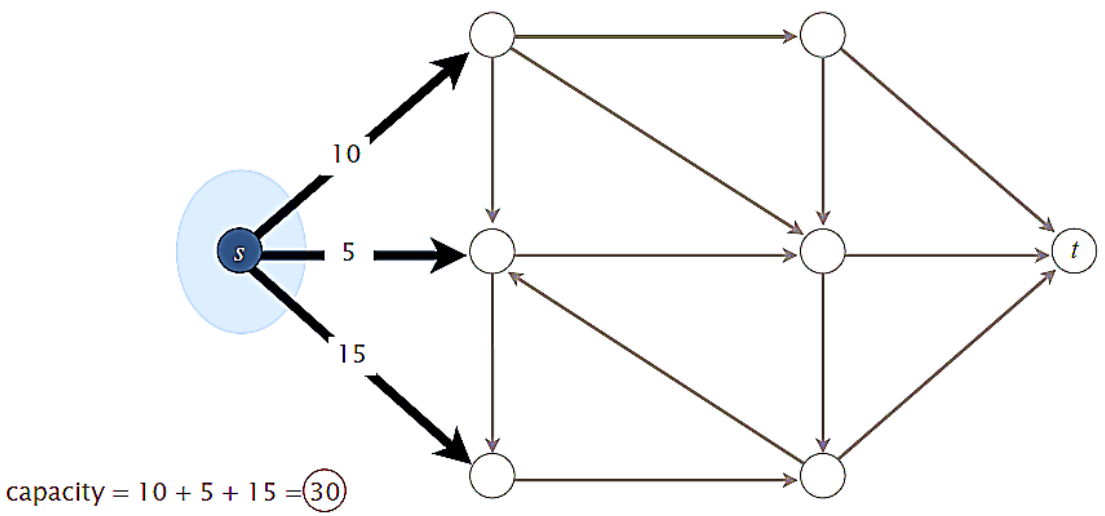

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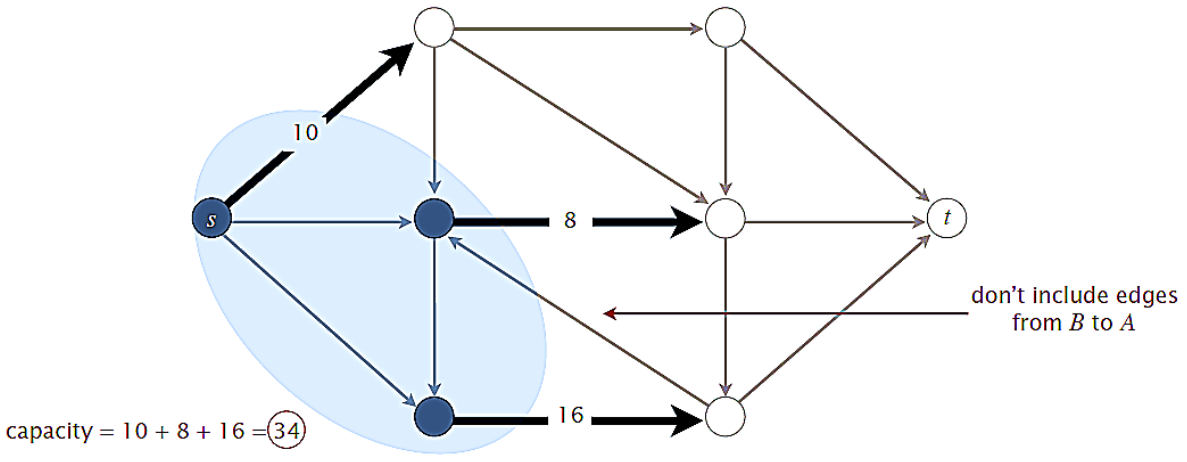
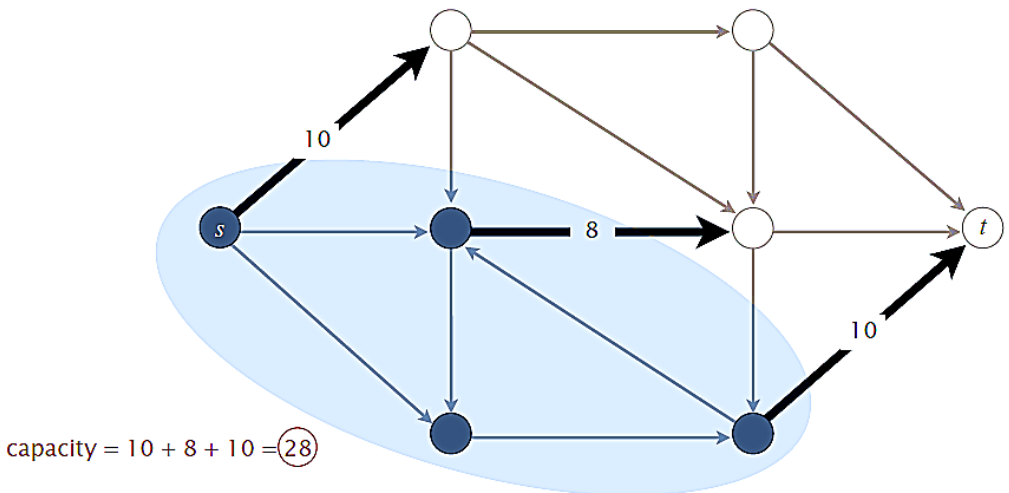


Minimum-cut problem

Min-cut problem. Find a cut of minimum capacity.



Quiz 1

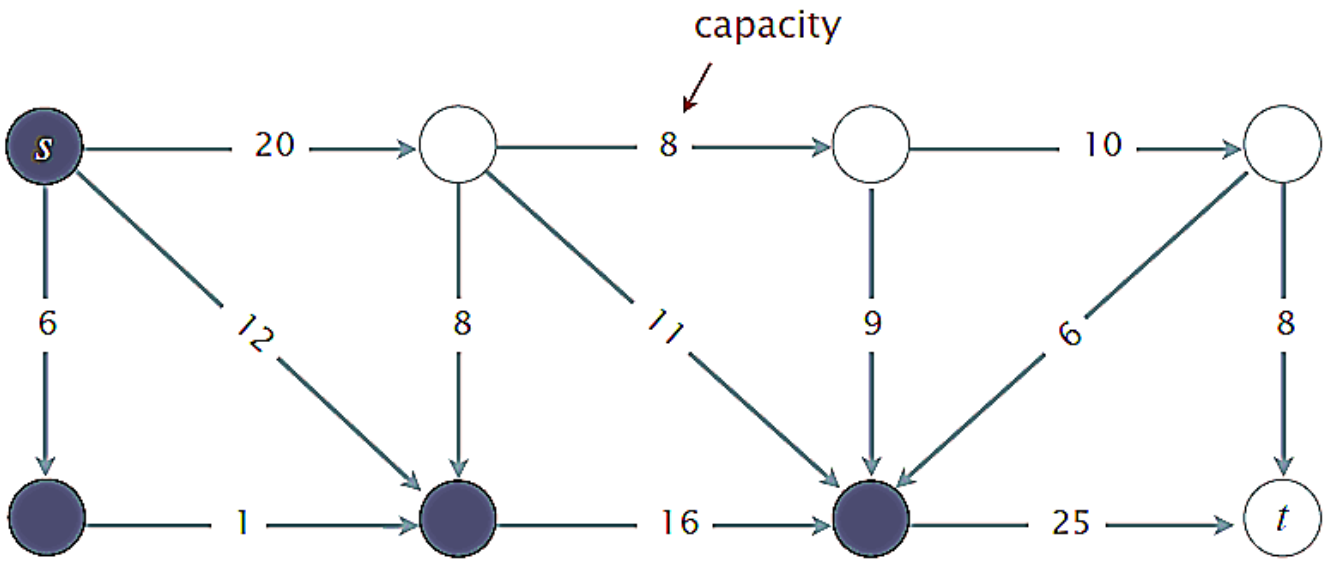
Which is the capacity of the given *st*-cut?

A. 11 $(20 + 25 - 8 - 11 - 9 - 6)$

B. 34 $(8 + 11 + 9 + 6)$

C. 45 $(20 + 25)$

D. 79 $(20 + 25 + 8 + 11 + 9 + 6)$

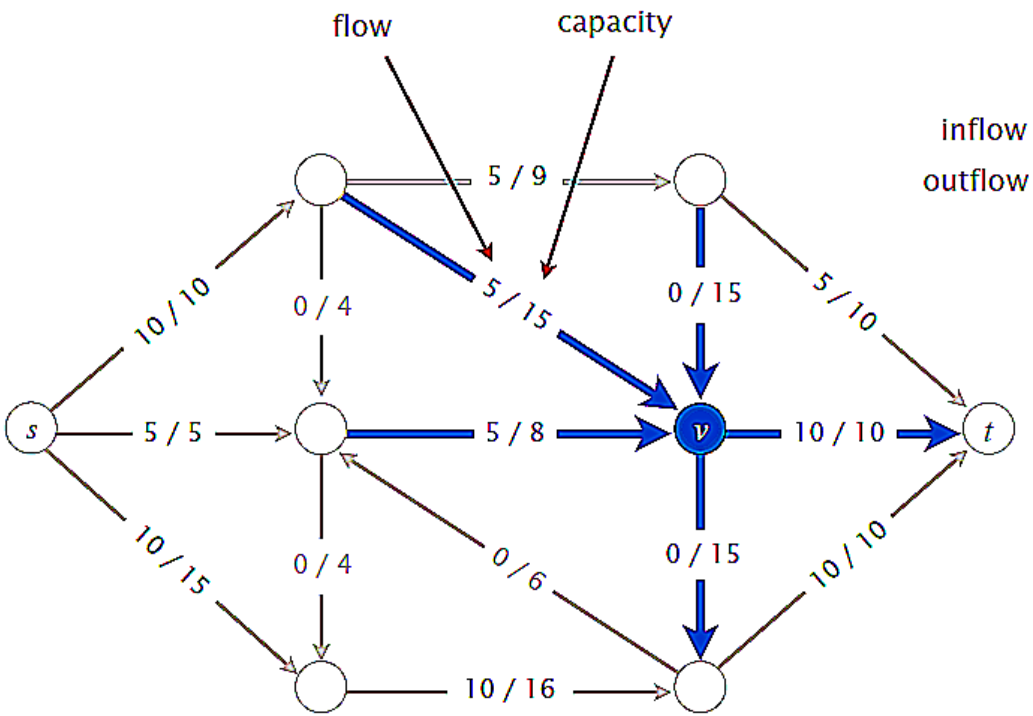


Maximum-flow problem

Definition

An *st*-flow(flow) f is a function that satisfies:

- For each $e \in E$: $\quad 0 \leq f(e) \leq c(e)$
- For each $v \in V - \{s, t\}$: $\sum_{e \text{ in to } v} f(e) = \sum_{e \text{ out of } v} f(e)$



inflow at $v = 5 + 5 + 0 = 10$

outflow at $v = 10 + 0 = 10$

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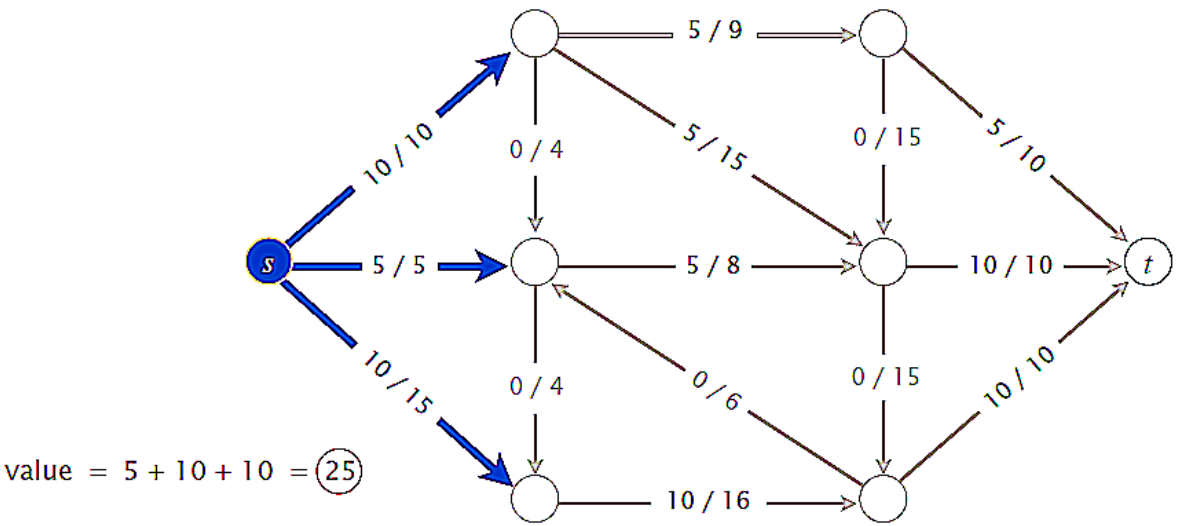
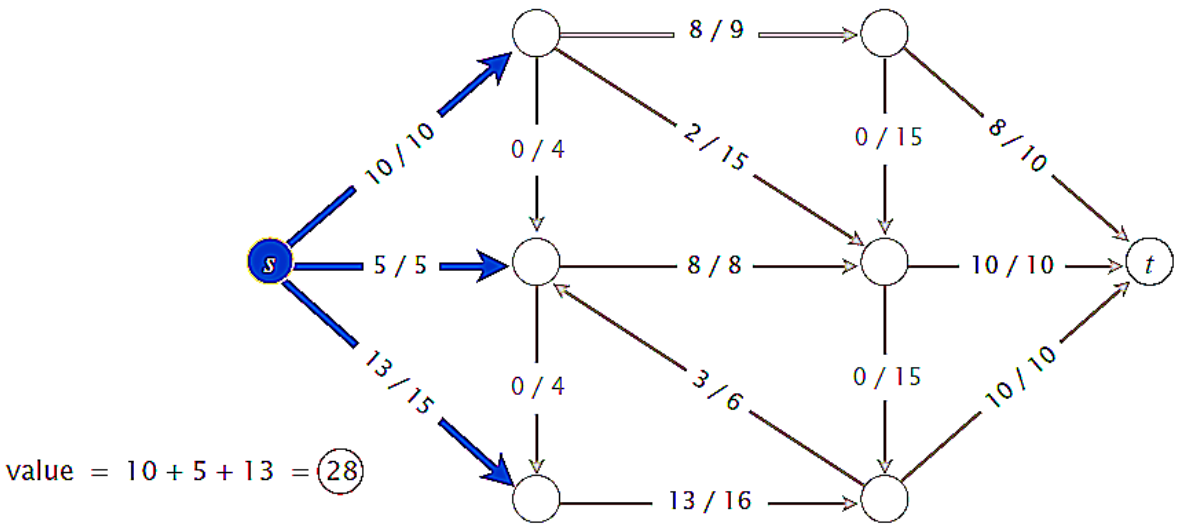
Definition

The value of a flow f is: $val(f) = \sum_{e \text{ out of } s} f(e) - \sum_{e \text{ in to } s} f(e)$



Maximum-flow problem

Max-flow problem. Find a flow of maximum value.

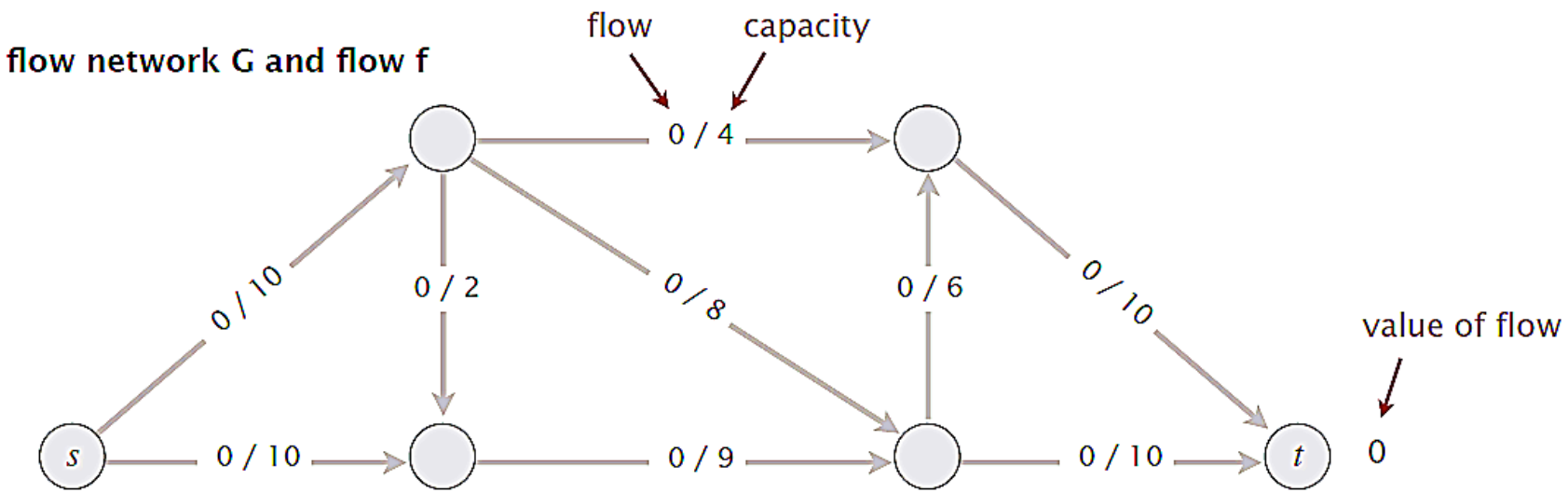


Ford-Fulkerson Algorithm

Toward a max-flow algorithm

Greedy algorithm.

- Start with $f(e) = 0$ for each edge $e \in E$.
- Find an $s \rightsquigarrow t$ path P where each edge has $f(e) < c(e)$.
- Augment flow along path P.
- Repeat until you get stuck.



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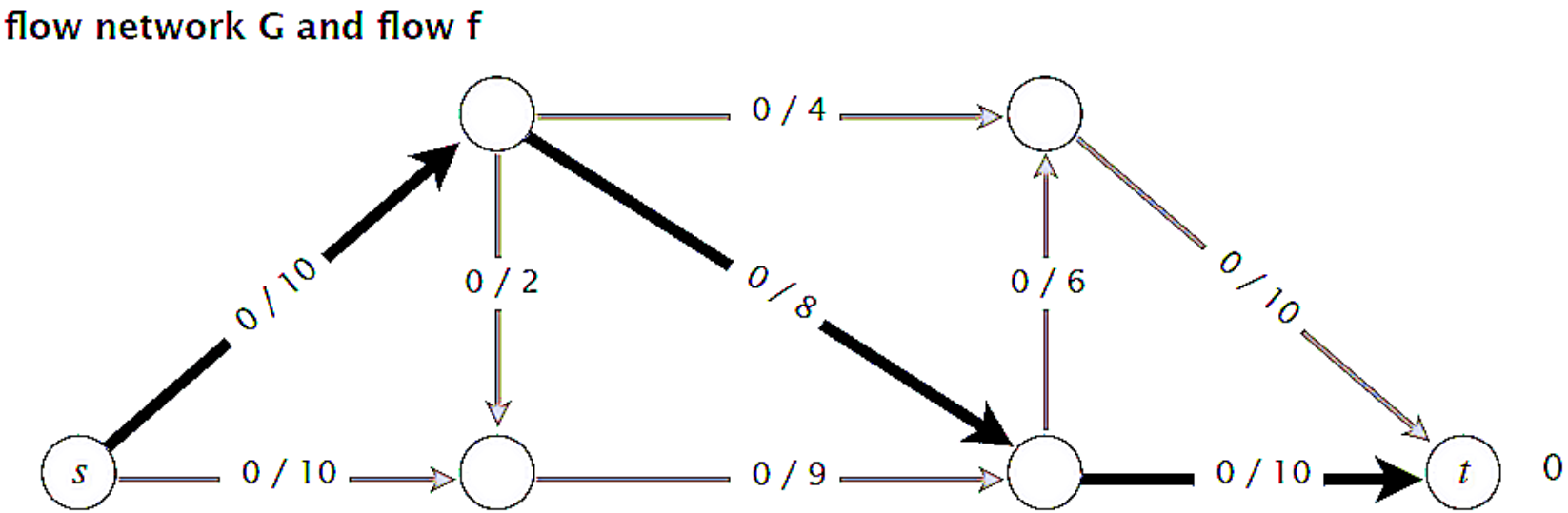

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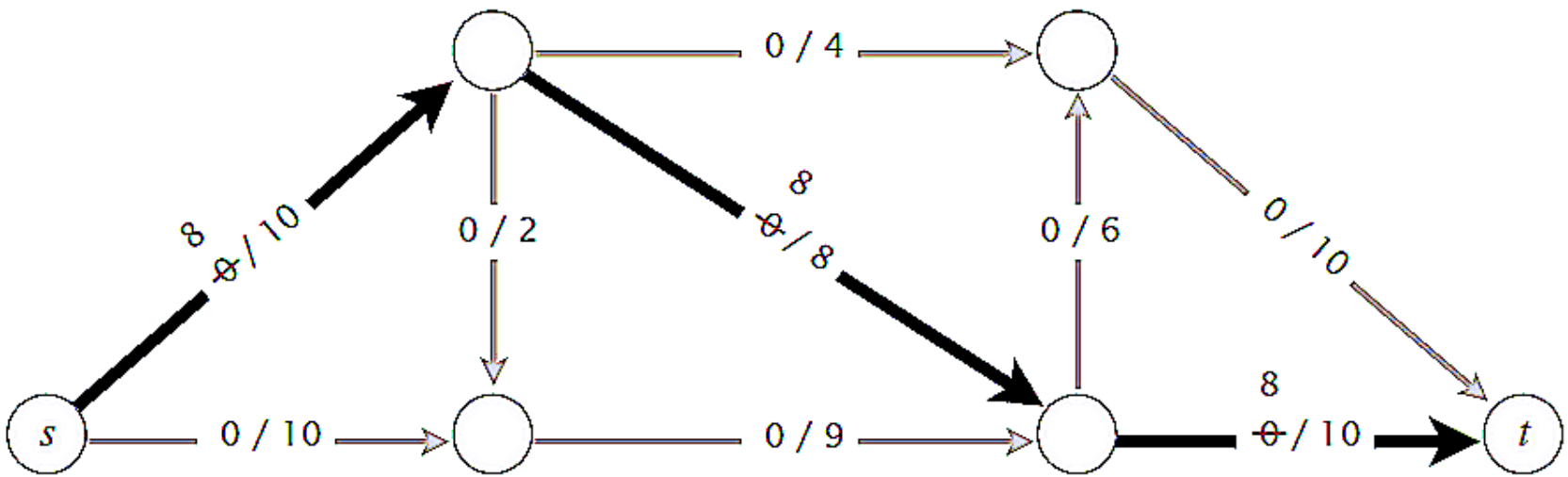

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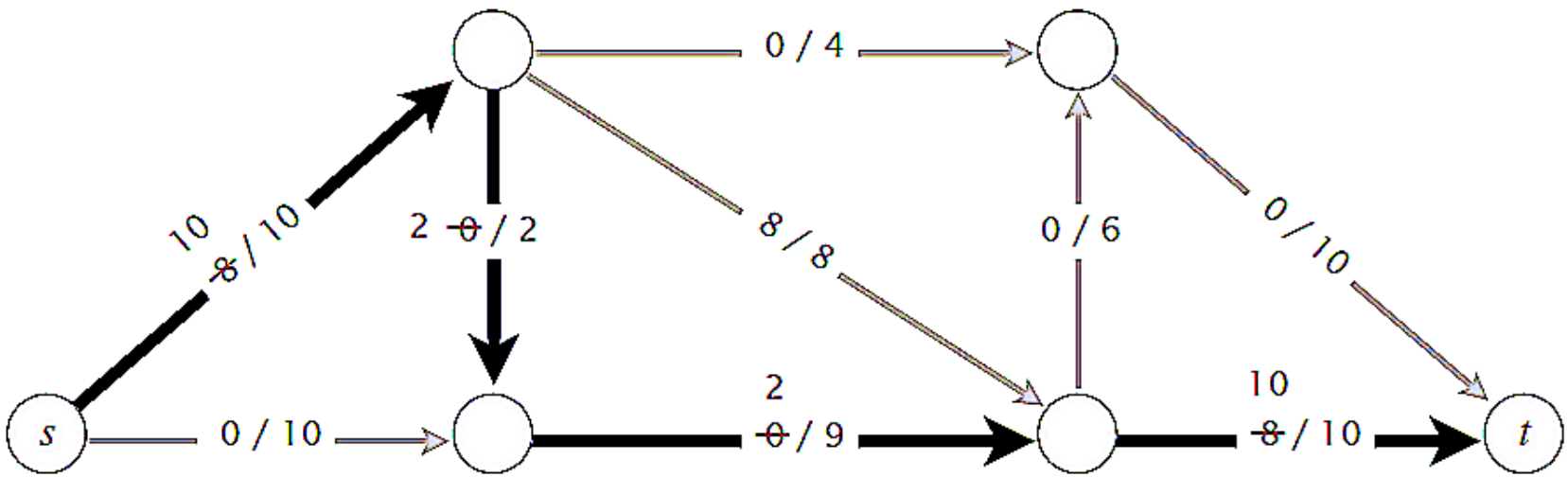

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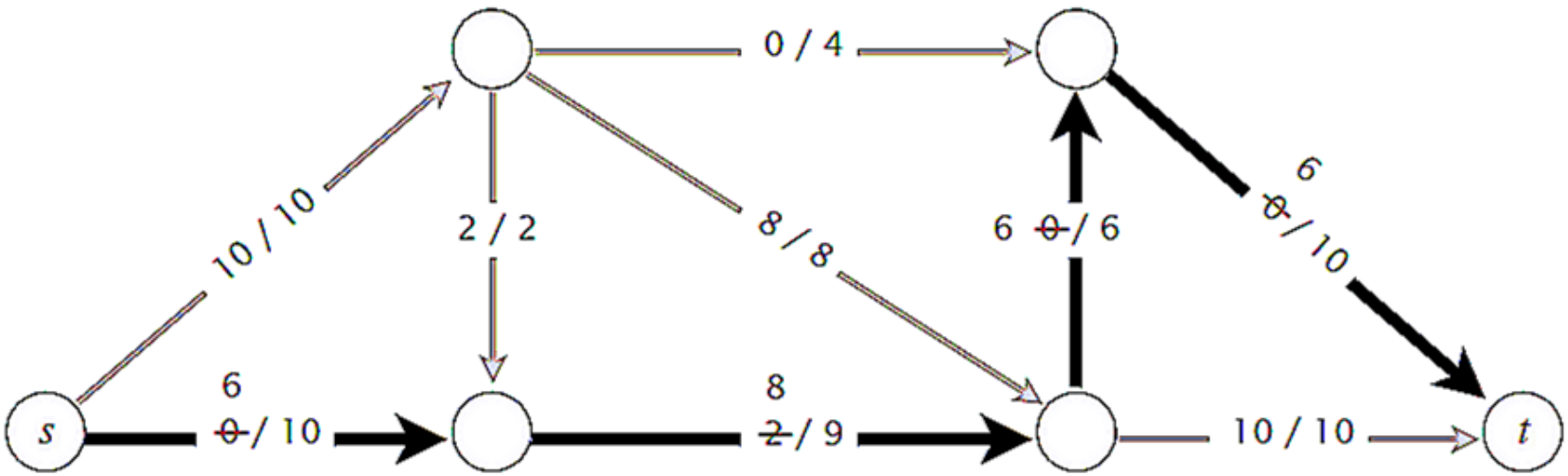

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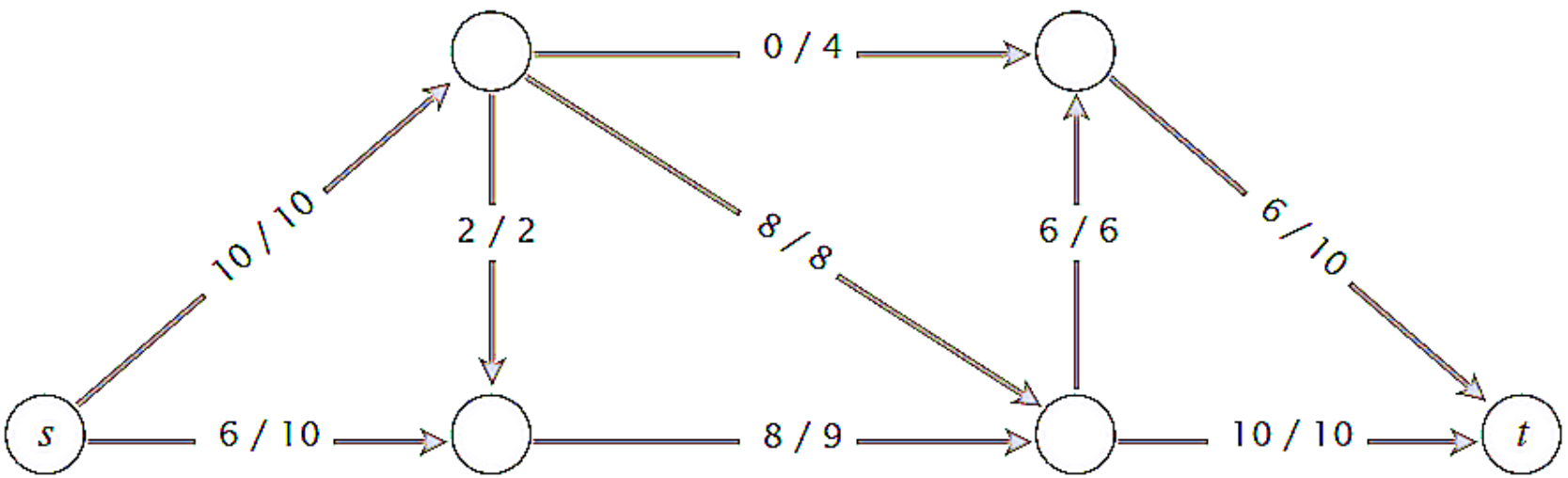

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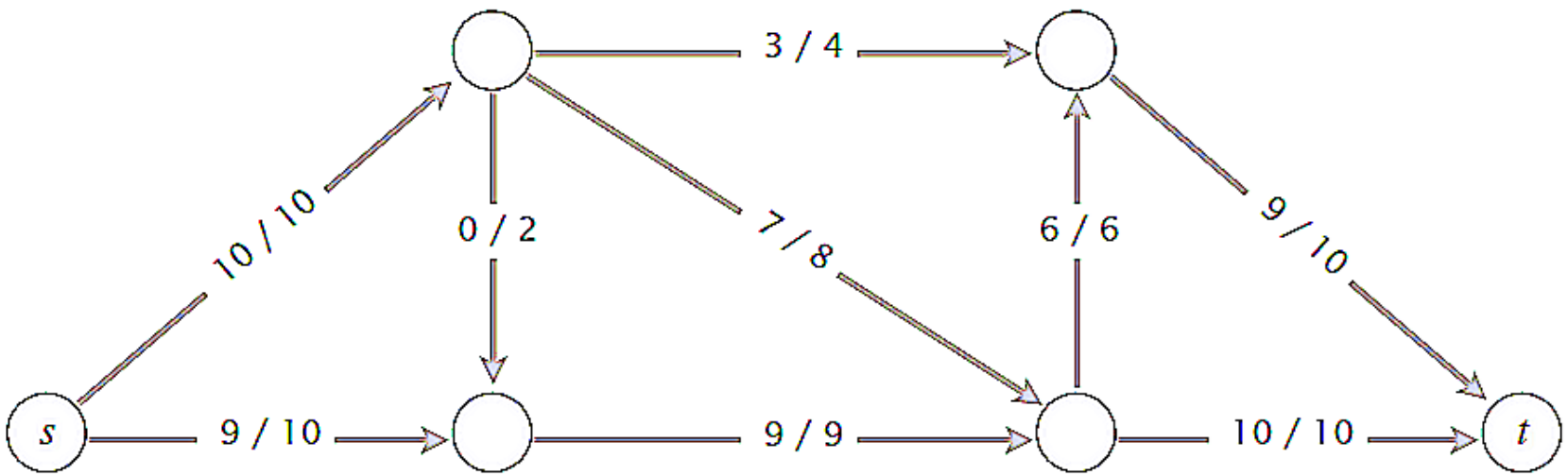

Why the greedy algorithm fails

Q. Why does the greedy algorithm fail?

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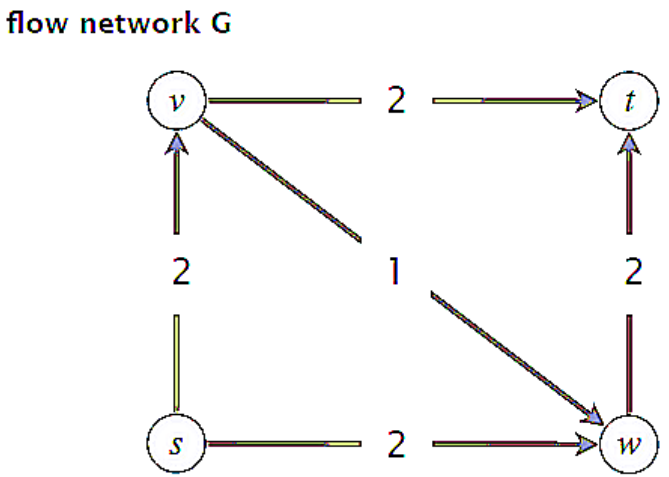
Ex. Consider flow network G.

- The unique max flow has $f^*(v, w) = 0$.
- Greedy algorithm could choose $s \to v \to w \to t$ as first augmenting path.



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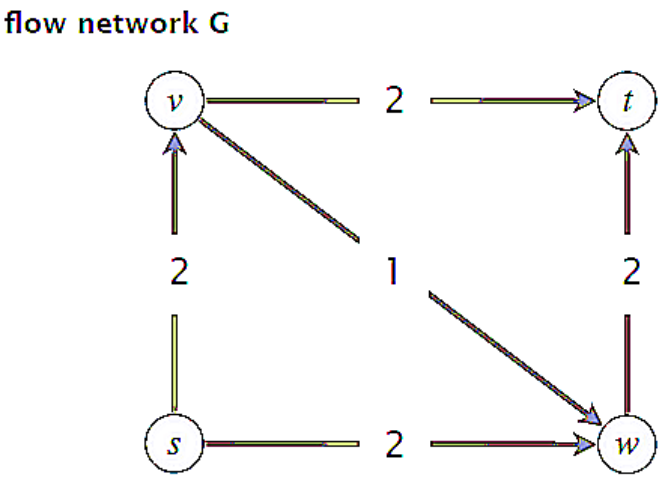


Bottom line. Need some mechanism to undo a bad decision.

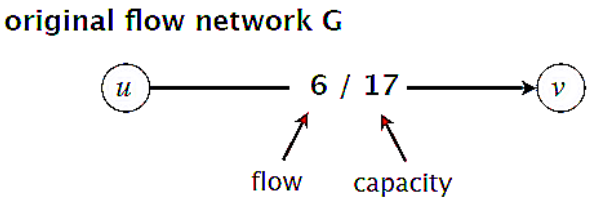
Residual network

Original edge $e = (u, v) \in E$.

- Flow $f(e)$.
- Capacity $c(e)$

Reverse edge $e^{\text{reverse}} = (v, u)$

- Undo flow sent.



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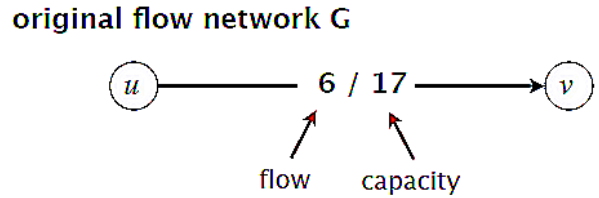

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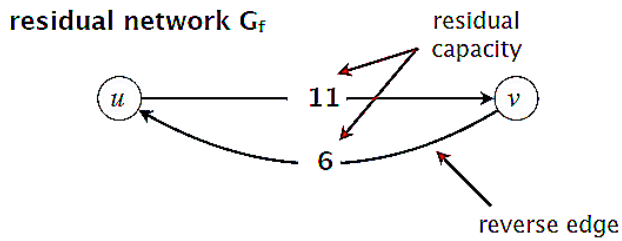
Residual capacity

$$c_f(e) = \begin{cases} c(e) - f(e) & \text{if } e \in E \\ f(e) & \text{if } e^{\text{reverse}} \in E \end{cases}$$



Residual network $G_f = (V, E_f, s, t, c_f)$

- $E_f = \{e : f(e) < c(e)\} \cup \{e^{\text{reverse}} : f(e) > 0\}$.
- Key property: f' is a flow in G_f iff $f + f'$ is a flow in G

Augmenting path

Definition

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Definition

The bottleneck capacity of an augmenting path P is the minimum residual capacity of any edge in P.

Augmenting path

Key Property. Let f be a flow and let P be an augmenting path in G_f. After calling $f' \leftarrow \texttt{Augment}(f, c, P)$, the resulting f' is a flow and $val(f') = val(f) + bottleneck(G_f, P)$.

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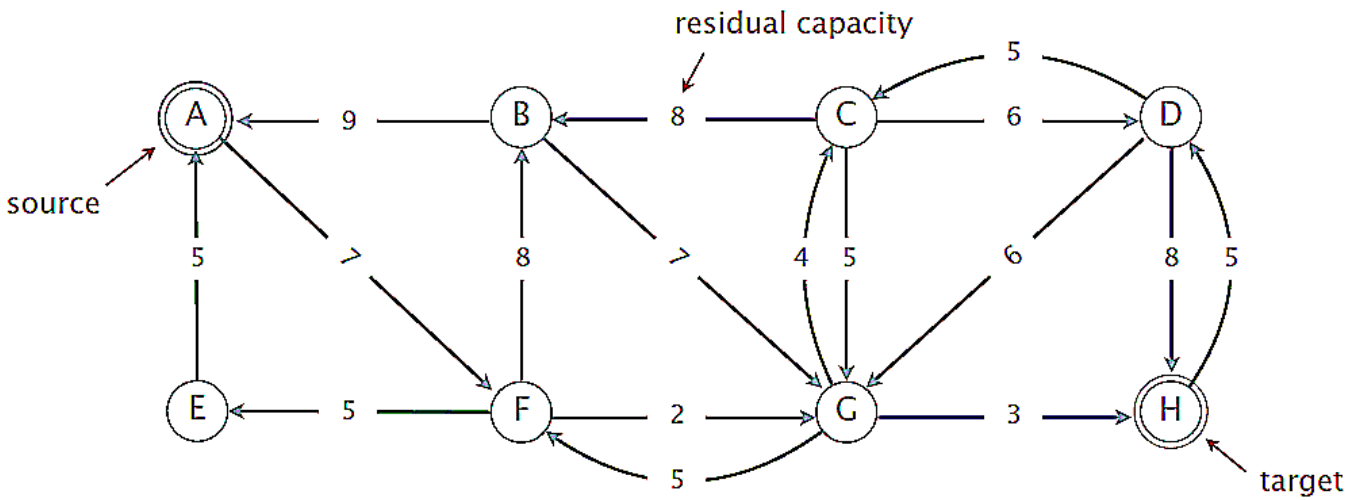
Augment(f,c,P)

$\delta \leftarrow$ bottleneck capacity of augmenting path P;
for *each edge* $e \in P$ **do**
  if $(e \in E)$ **then** $f(e) \leftarrow f(e) + \delta$;
  else
    $f(e^{\text{reverse}}) \leftarrow f(e^{\text{reverse}}) - \delta$
  end
end
Return f;

Network flow: quiz 2

Which is the augmenting path of highest bottleneck capacity?

1. $A \to F \to G \to H$
2. $A \to B \to C \to D \to H$
3. $A \to F \to B \to G \to H$
4. $A \to F \to B \to G \to C \to D \to H$



Ford–Fulkerson algorithm

Ford–Fulkerson augmenting path algorithm.

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```
Ford–Fulkerson(G)

for each edge e ∈ E do
  | f(e) ← 0
end
G_f ← residual network of G with respect to flow f;
while there exists an s ⇝ t path P in G_f do
  | f ← Augment(f,c,P);
  | Update(G_f);
end
Return f;
```

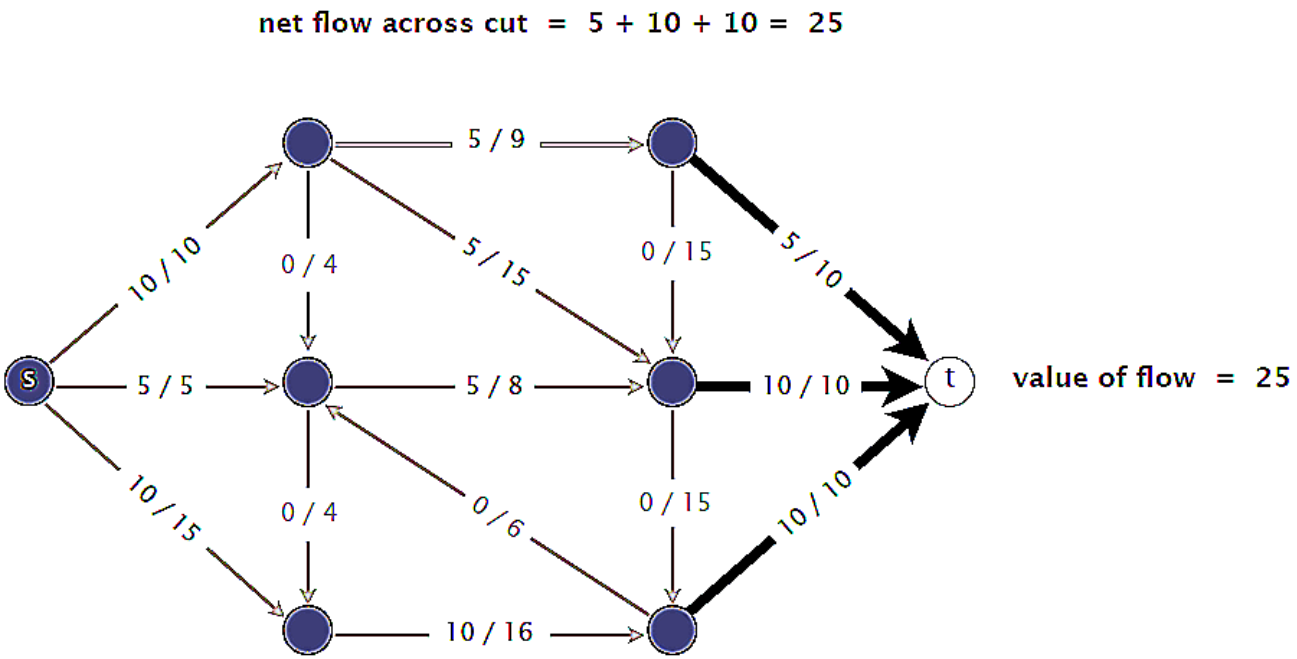
Max-Flow Min-Cut Theorem

Relationship between flows and cuts

Lemma

Let f be any flow and let (A, B) be any cut. Then, the value of the flow f equals the net flow across the cut (A, B).

$$val(f) = \sum_{out\ of\ A} f(e) - \sum_{e\ in\ to\ A} f(e)$$



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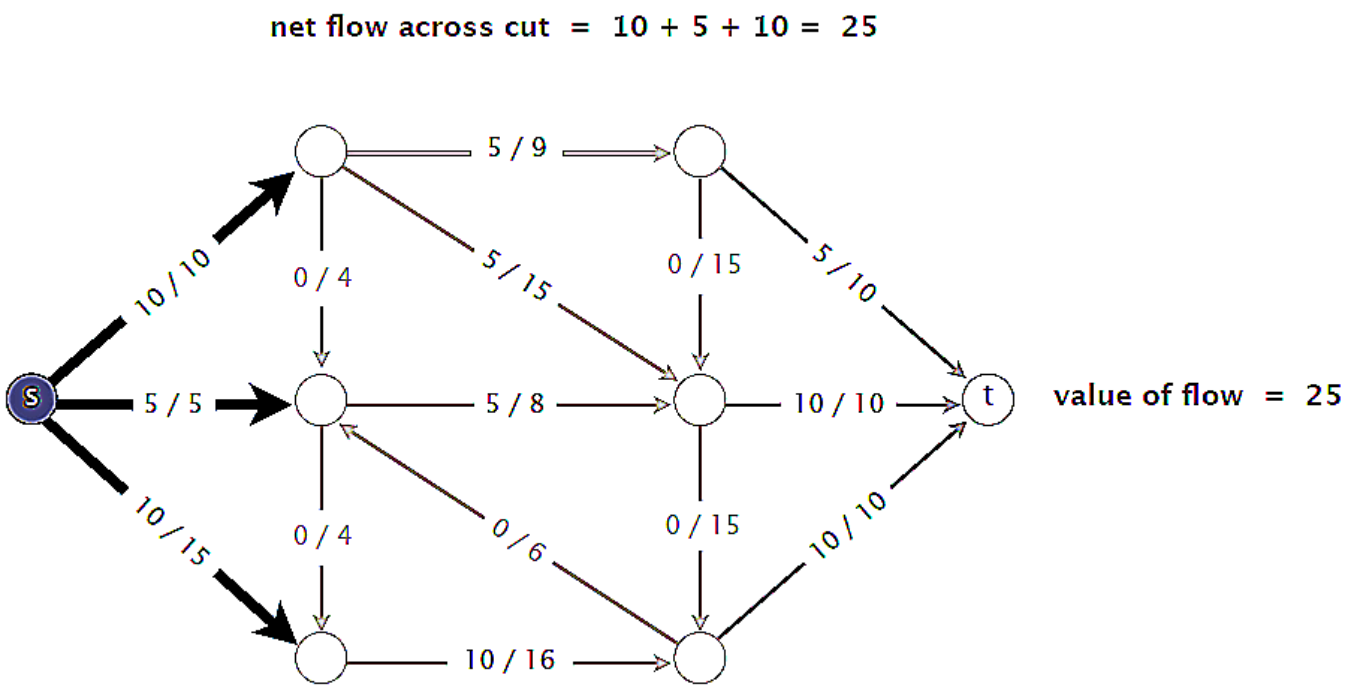

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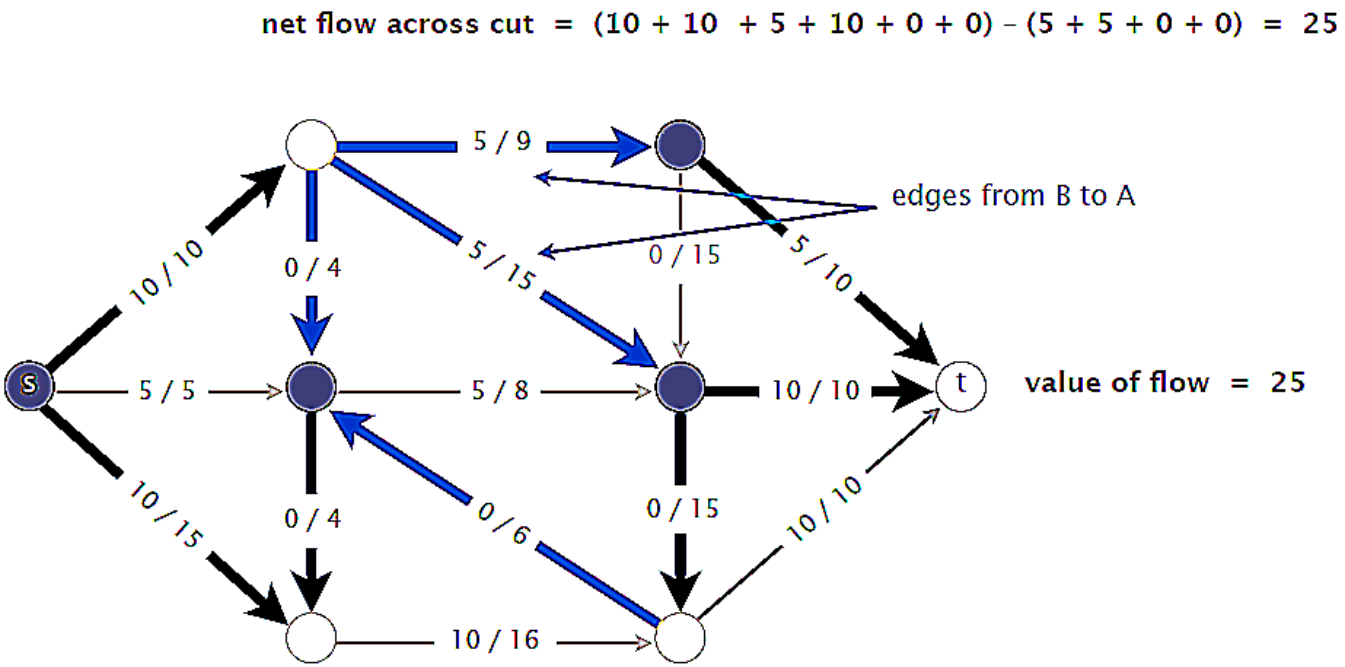
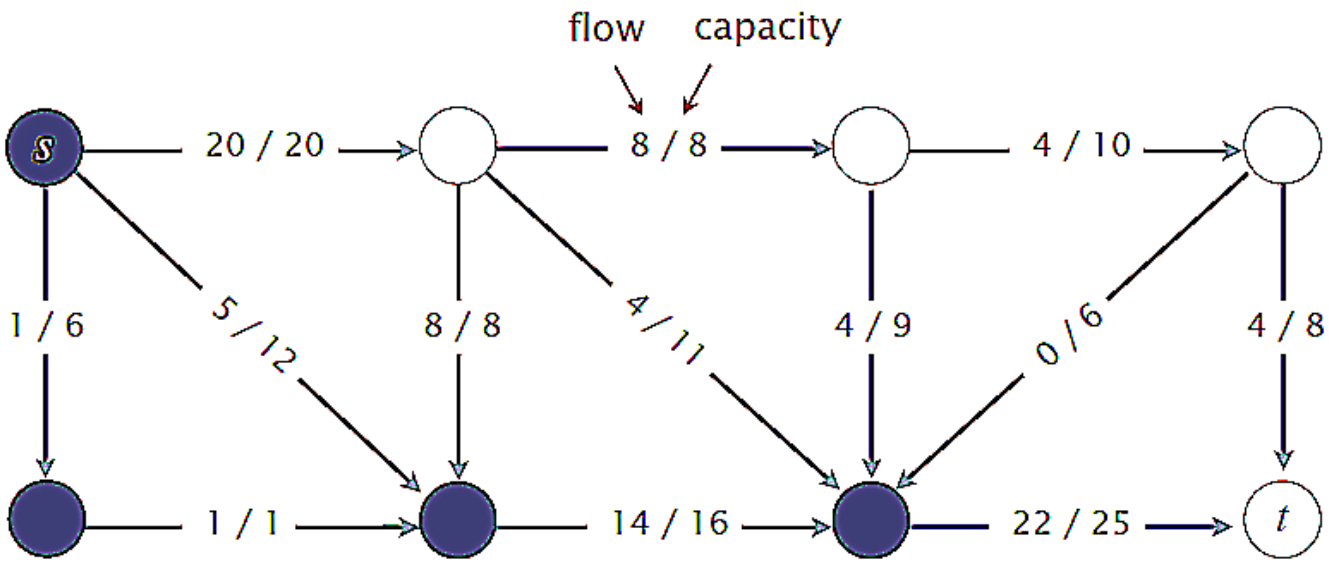


Network flow: quiz 3

Which is the net flow across the given cut?

1. 11 $(20 + 25 - 8 - 11 - 9 - 6)$
2. 26 $(20 + 22 - 8 - 4 - 4)$
3. 42 $(20 + 22)$
4. 45 $(20 + 25)$



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Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} val(f) &= \sum_{e \text{ out of } s} f(e) - \sum_{e \text{ in to } s} f(e) \\ &= \sum_{v \in A} \left(\sum_{e \text{ out of } v} f(e) - \sum_{e \text{ in to } v} f(e) \right) \\ &= \sum_{e \text{ out of } A} f(e) - \sum_{e \text{ in to } A} f(e). \end{aligned}$$

Relationship between flows and cuts

Theorem

Weak Duality Let f be any flow and (A, B) be any cut. Then, $val(f) \leq \mathsf{cap}(A, B)$.

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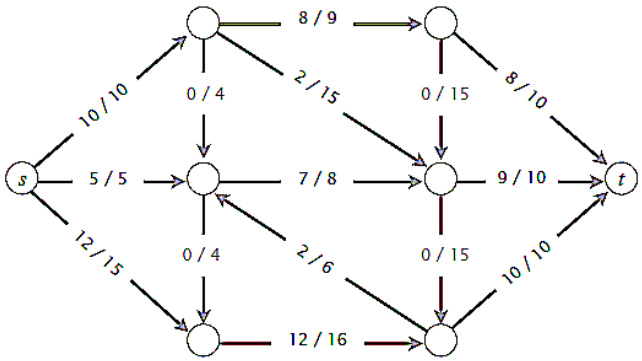
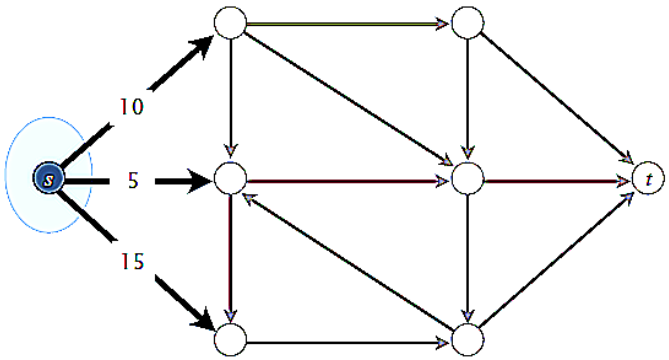
Proof.

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathsf{val}(f) &= \sum_{e \text{ out of } A} f(e) - \sum_{\text{e in to } A} f(e) \\
&\leq \sum_{\text{e out of } A} f(e) \\
&\leq \sum_{e \text{ out of } A} c(e) \\
&= \mathsf{cap}(A, B)
\end{aligned}$$





Certificate of optimality

Corollary

Let f be a flow and let (A, B) be any cut. If $val(f) = \mathsf{cap}(A, B)$, then f is a max flow and (A, B) is a min cut.

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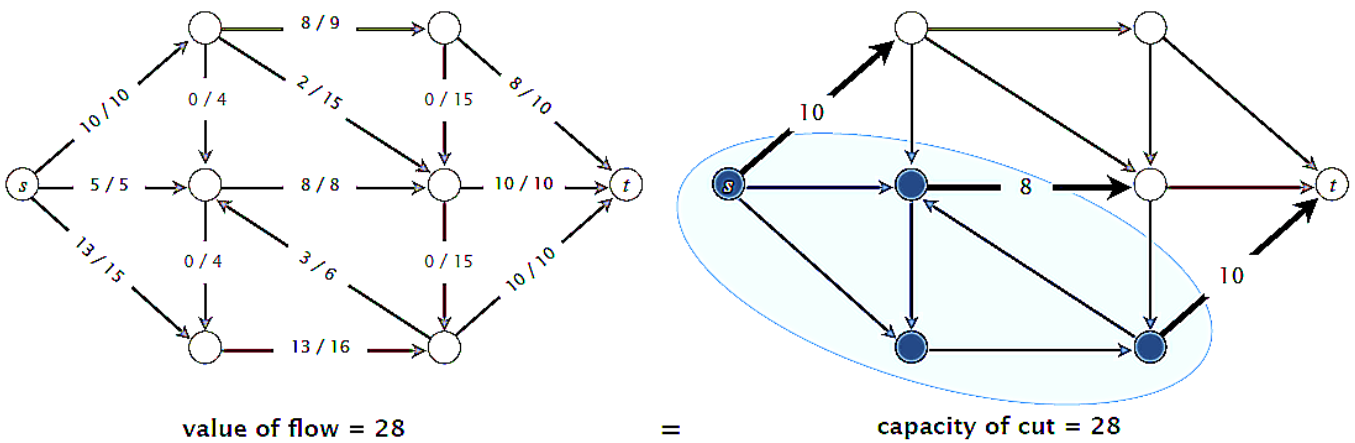
Let f be a flow and let (A, B) be any cut. If $val(f) = \mathsf{cap}(A, B)$, then f is a max flow and (A, B) is a min cut.

Proof.

- For any flow f' : $val(f') \leq \mathsf{cap}(A, B) = val(f)$.
- For any cut (A', B') : $\mathsf{cap}(A', B') \geq val(f) = \mathsf{cap}(A, B)$



Max-flow min-cut theorem

Max-Flow Min-Cut Theorem

Value of a max flow = capacity of a min cut.

MAXIMAL FLOW THROUGH A NETWORK

L. R. FORD, JR. AND D. R. FULKERSON

Introduction. The problem discussed in this paper was formulated by T. Harris as follows:

"Consider a rail network connecting two cities by way of a number of intermediate cities, where each link of the network has a number assigned to it representing its capacity. Assuming a steady state condition, find a maximal flow from one given city to the other."

ON THE MAX FLOW MIN CUT THEOREM OF NETWORKS

G. B. Dantzig
D. R. Fulkerson

P-826

April 15, 1955

A Note on the Maximum Flow Through a Network*

P. ELIAS†, A. FEINSTEIN‡, AND C. E. SHANNON§

Summary—This note discusses the problem of maximizing the rate of flow from one terminal to another, through a network which consists of a number of branches, each of which has a limited capacity. The main result is a theorem: The maximum possible flow from left to right through a network is equal to the minimum value among all simple cut-sets. This theorem is applied to solve a more general problem, in which a number of input nodes and a number of output nodes are used.

from one terminal to the other in the original network passes through at least one branch in the cut-set. In the network above, some examples of cut-sets are (d, e, f), and (b, c, e, g, h), (d, g, h, i). By a *simple cut-set* we will mean a cut-set such that if any branch is omitted it is no longer a cut-set. Thus (d, e, f) and (b, c, e, g, h) are simple cut-sets while (d, g, h, i) is not. When a simple cut-set is

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Augmenting path theorem

A flow f is a max flow iff no augmenting paths.

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Proof. The following three conditions are equivalent for any flow f:

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Augmenting path theorem

A flow f is a max flow iff no augmenting paths.

Proof. The following three conditions are equivalent for any flow f:

i. There exists a cut (A, B) such that $\mathsf{cap}(A, B) = \mathit{val}(f)$.

ii. f is a max flow.

iii. There is no augmenting path with respect to f.

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[i$\Rightarrow$ ii]

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[i$\Rightarrow$ ii] This is the weak duality corollary.

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iii. There is no augmenting path with respect to f.

[ii$\Rightarrow$ iii] We prove contrapositive: $\neg$ iii $\Rightarrow \neg$ii.

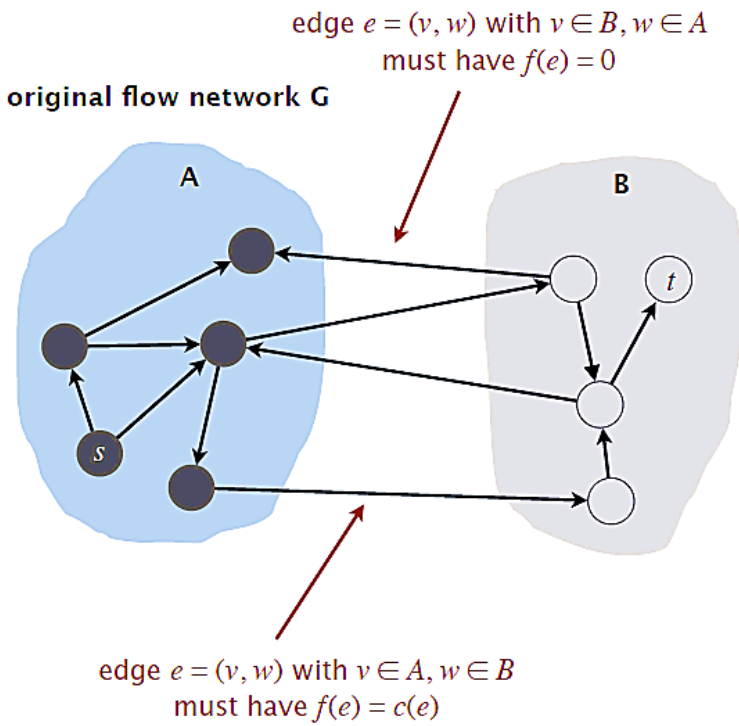
- Suppose that there is an augmenting path with respect to f.
- Can improve flow f by sending flow along this path.
- Thus, f is not a max flow.

Max-flow min-cut theorem

[iii $\Rightarrow$ i]

- Let f be a flow with no augmenting paths.
- Let A be set of nodes reachable from s in residual network G_f.
- By definition of $A : s \in A$.
- By definition of flow $f : t \notin A$.

$$
\begin{aligned}
val(f) &= \sum_{\text{e out of } A} f(e) - \sum_{\text{e in to } A} f(e) \\
&= \sum_{\text{e out of } A} c(e) - 0 \\
&= \text{cap}(A, B)
\end{aligned}
$$



Capacity-Scaling Algorithm

Analysis of Ford–Fulkerson algorithm (when capacities are integral)

Assumption. Every edge capacity $c(e)$ is an integer between 1 and C.

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Ford–Fulkerson terminates after at most $val\,(f^*) \leq nC$ augmenting paths, where f^* is a max flow.

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Theorem

Ford–Fulkerson terminates after at most $val(f^*) \leq nC$ augmenting paths, where f^* is a max flow.

Proof. Each augmentation increases the value of the flow by at least 1.

Analysis of Ford–Fulkerson algorithm (when capacities are integral)

Corollary

The running time of Ford–Fulkerson is $O(mnC)$.

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Proof. Can use either BFS or DFS to find an augmenting path in $O(m)$ time.

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There exists an integral max flow f^*

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The running time of Ford–Fulkerson is $O(mnC)$.

Proof. Can use either BFS or DFS to find an augmenting path in $O(m)$ time.

Integrality Theorem

There exists an integral max flow f^*

Proof. Since Ford–Fulkerson terminates, theorem follows from integrality invariant.

Ford–Fulkerson: exponential example

Q. Is generic Ford–Fulkerson algorithm poly-time in input size?

Ford–Fulkerson: exponential example

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A. No. If max capacity is C, then algorithm can take $\geq C$ iterations.

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A. No. If max capacity is C, then algorithm can take $\geq C$ iterations.

- $s \to v \to w \to t$
- $s \to w \to v \to t$
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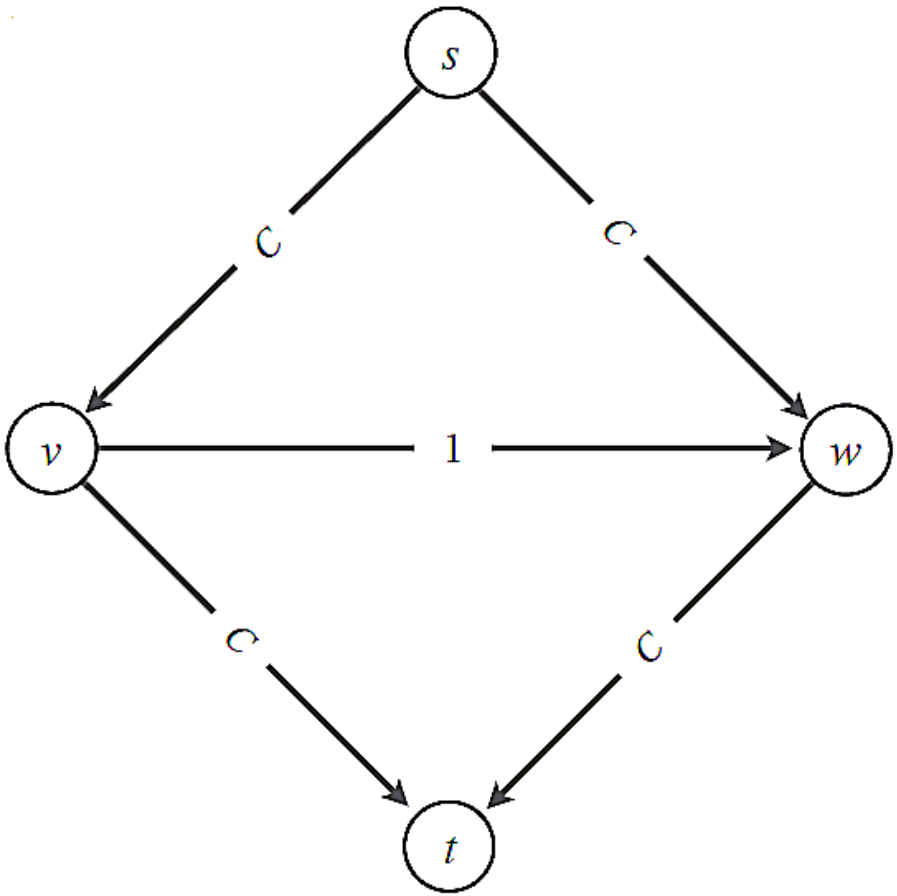
- $s \to w \to v \to t$
- ...
- $s \to v \to w \to t$
- $s \to w \to v \to t$



Network flow: quiz 4

The Ford–Fulkerson algorithm is guaranteed to terminate if the edge capacities are . . .

A. Rational numbers.

B. Real numbers.

C. Both A and B.

D. Neither A nor B.

Choosing good augmenting paths

Use care when selecting augmenting paths.

- Some choices lead to exponential algorithms.
- Clever choices lead to polynomial algorithms.

Choosing good augmenting paths

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Pathology. When edge capacities can be irrational, no guarantee that Ford–Fulkerson terminates (or converges to a maximum flow)!

Choosing good augmenting paths

Use care when selecting augmenting paths.

- Some choices lead to exponential algorithms.
- Clever choices lead to polynomial algorithms.

Pathology. When edge capacities can be irrational, no guarantee that Ford–Fulkerson terminates (or converges to a maximum flow)!

Goal. Choose augmenting paths so that:

- Can find augmenting paths efficiently.
- Few iterations.

Choosing good augmenting paths

Choose augmenting paths with:

Choosing good augmenting paths

Choose augmenting paths with:

- Max bottleneck capacity(“fattest”).

Choosing good augmenting paths

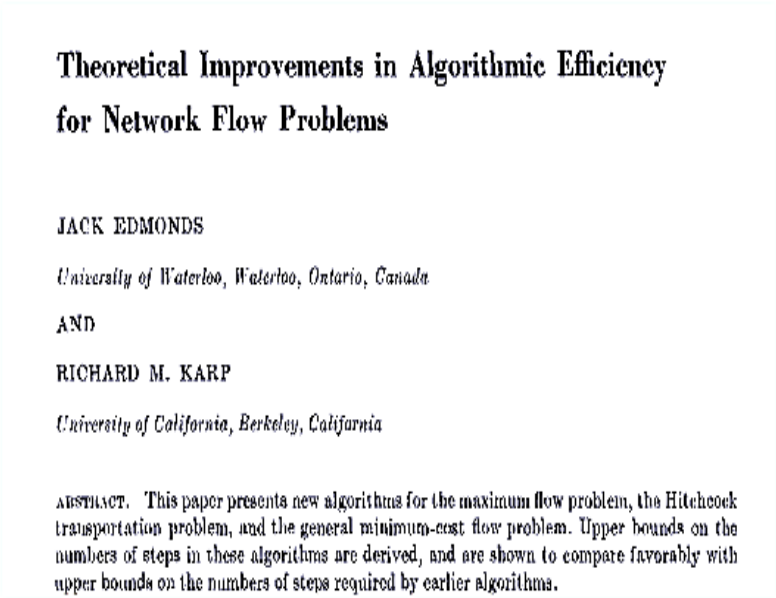
Choose augmenting paths with:

- Max bottleneck capacity(“fattest”).
- Sufficiently large bottleneck capacity.

Choosing good augmenting paths

Choose augmenting paths with:

- Max bottleneck capacity("fattest").
- Sufficiently large bottleneck capacity.
- Fewest edges.



Theoretical Improvements in Algorithmic Efficiency for Network Flow Problems

JACK EDMONDS

University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada

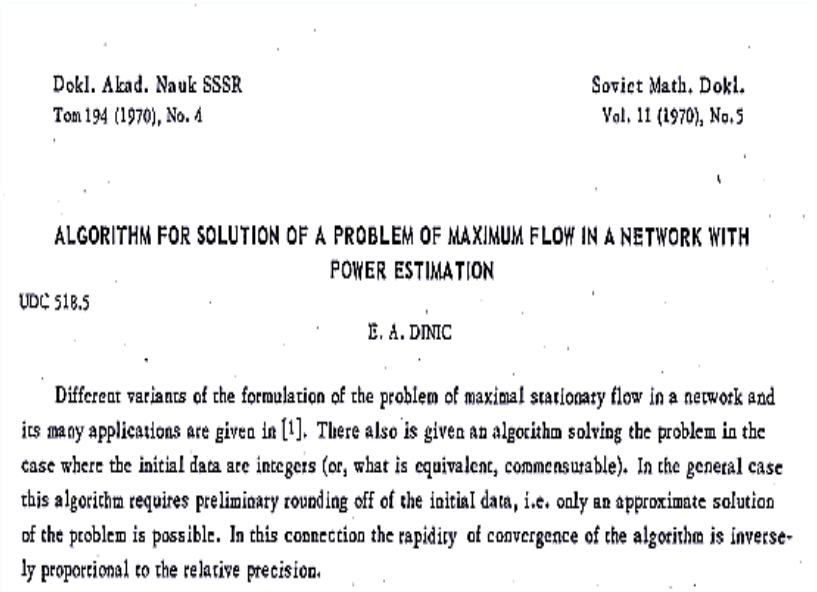
AND

RICHARD M. KARP

University of California, Berkeley, California

ABSTRACT. This paper presents new algorithms for the maximum flow problem, the Hitchcock transportation problem, and the general minimum-cost flow problem. Upper bounds on the numbers of steps in these algorithms are derived, and are shown to compare favorably with upper bounds on the numbers of steps required by earlier algorithms.

Edmonds-Karp 1972 (USA)



Dokl. Akad. Nauk SSSR
Tom 194 (1970), No. 4

Soviet Math. Dokl.
Vol. 11 (1970), No. 5

ALGORITHM FOR SOLUTION OF A PROBLEM OF MAXIMUM FLOW IN A NETWORK WITH POWER ESTIMATION

UDC 518.5

E. A. DINIC

Different variants of the formulation of the problem of maximal stationary flow in a network and its many applications are given in [1]. There also is given an algorithm solving the problem in the case where the initial data are integers (or, what is equivalent, commensurable). In the general case this algorithm requires preliminary rounding off of the initial data, i.e. only an approximate solution of the problem is possible. In this connection the rapidity of convergence of the algorithm is inversely proportional to the relative precision.

Dinitz 1970 (Soviet Union)

Capacity-scaling algorithm

Overview. Choosing augmented paths with large bottleneck capacity.

Capacity-scaling algorithm

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- Maintain scaling parameter Δ.

Capacity-scaling algorithm

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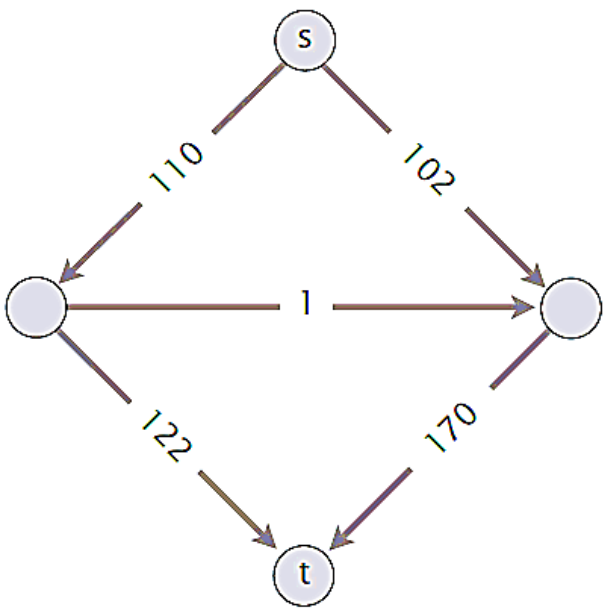
- Maintain scaling parameter Δ.
- Let $G_f(\Delta)$ be the part of the residual network containing only those edges with capacity $\geq \Delta$.

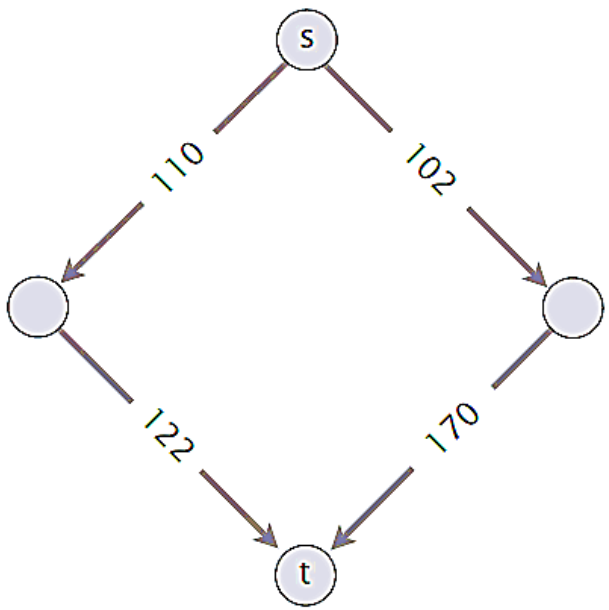
Capacity-scaling algorithm

Overview. Choosing augmented paths with large bottleneck capacity.

- Maintain scaling parameter Δ.
- Let $G_f(\Delta)$ be the part of the residual network containing only those edges with capacity $\geq \Delta$.
- Any augmenting path in $G_f(\Delta)$ has bottleneck capacity $\geq \Delta$.



G_f



$G_f(\Delta),\ \Delta = 100$

Capacity-scaling algorithm

Capacity-Scaling(G)

for *each edge* $e \in E$ **do**
  $f(e) \leftarrow 0$
end
$\Delta \leftarrow$ largest power of $2 \leq C$;
while $\Delta \geq 1$ **do**
  $G_f(\Delta) \leftarrow \Delta$-residual network of G with respect to flow f;
  while *there exists an* $s \rightsquigarrow t$ *path* P *in* $G_f(\Delta)$ **do**
    $f \leftarrow$ Augment(f, c, P);
    Update($G_\Delta(f)$);
  end
  $\Delta = \Delta/2$;
end
Return f;

Capacity-scaling algorithm: proof of correctness

Assumption. All edge capacities are integers between 1 and C.

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Invariant. The scaling parameter Δ is a power of 2.

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Integrality invariant. Throughout the algorithm, every edge flow $f(e)$ and residual capacity $c_f(e)$ is an integer.

Capacity-scaling algorithm: proof of correctness

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Proof. Initially a power of 2; each phase divides Δ by exactly 2.

Integrality invariant. Throughout the algorithm, every edge flow $f(e)$ and residual capacity $c_f(e)$ is an integer.

Proof. Same as for generic Ford–Fulkerson.

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Theorem

If capacity-scaling algorithm terminates, then f is a max flow.

Capacity-scaling algorithm: proof of correctness

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Proof.

Capacity-scaling algorithm: proof of correctness

Theorem

If capacity-scaling algorithm terminates, then f is a max flow.

Proof.

- By integrality invariant, when $\Delta = 1 \Rightarrow G_f(\Delta) = G_f$
- Upon termination of $\Delta = 1$ phase, there are no augmenting paths.
- Result follows augmenting path theorem.

Capacity-scaling algorithm: analysis of running time

Lemma 1

There are $1 + \lfloor \log_2 C \rfloor$ scaling phases.

Lemma 2

There are $\leq 2m$ augmentations per scaling phase.

Lemma 3

Let f be the flow at the end of a Δ-scaling phase.

Then, the max-flow value $\leq \mathsf{val}(f) + m\Delta$.

Capacity-scaling algorithm: analysis of running time

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The capacity-scaling algorithm takes $O(m^2 \log C)$ time.

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Capacity-scaling algorithm: analysis of running time

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The capacity-scaling algorithm takes $O(m^2 \log C)$ time.

Proof.

- Lemma 1+ Lemma 2 $\Rightarrow$ $O(m \log C)$ augmentations.
- Finding an augmenting path takes $O(m)$ time.

Capacity-scaling algorithm: analysis of running time

Lemma 1

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Capacity-scaling algorithm: analysis of running time

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Proof. Initially $C/2 < \Delta \leq C$; Δ decreases by a factor of 2 in each iteration.

Capacity-scaling algorithm: analysis of running time

Lemma 2

There are $\leq 2m$ augmentations per scaling phase.

Capacity-scaling algorithm: analysis of running time

Lemma 2

There are $\leq 2m$ augmentations per scaling phase.

Proof.

- Let f be the flow at the beginning of a Δ-scaling phase.
- Lemma 3 $\Rightarrow$ max-flow value $\leq val(f) + m(2\Delta)$.
- Each augmentation in a Δ-phase increases $val(f)$ by at least Δ.

Capacity-scaling algorithm: analysis of running time

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Proof.

- We show there exists a cut (A, B) such that $cap(A, B) \leq val(f) + m\Delta$.
- Choose A to be the set of nodes reachable from s in $G_f(\Delta)$.
- By definition of $A : s \in A$.
- By definition of flow $f : t \notin A$.

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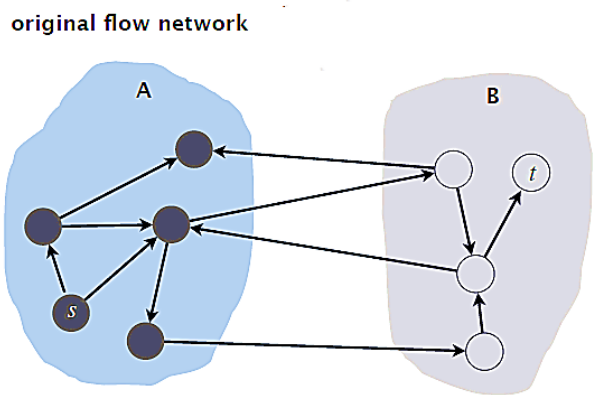
- Choose A to be the set of nodes reachable from s in $G_f(\Delta)$.
- By definition of $A : s \in A$.
- By definition of flow $f : t \notin A$.

$$
\begin{aligned}
val(f) &= \sum_{e \text{ out of } A} f(e) - \sum_{e \text{ in to } A} f(e) \\
&\geq \sum_{e \text{ out of } A} (c(e) - \Delta) - \sum_{e \text{ in to } A} \Delta \\
&\geq \sum_{e \text{ out of } A} c(e) - \sum_{e \text{ out of } A} \Delta - \sum_{e \text{ in to } A} \Delta \\
&\geq \mathsf{cap}(A, B) - m\Delta
\end{aligned}
$$



Shortest Augmenting Paths

Shortest augmenting path

Q. How to choose next augmenting path in Ford–Fulkerson?

Shortest augmenting path

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A. Pick one that uses the fewest edges.

Shortest augmenting path

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Shortest-Augmenting-Path(G)

for *each edge* $e \in E$ **do**
  $f(e) \leftarrow 0$
end
$G_f \leftarrow$ residual network of G with respect to flow f;
while *there exists an* $s \rightsquigarrow t$ *path in* G_f **do**
  $P \leftarrow \text{BFS}((G_f))$;
  $f \leftarrow \text{Augment}(f, c, P)$;
  Update(G_f);
end
Return f;

Shortest augmenting path: overview of analysis

Lemma 1

The length of a shortest augmenting path never decreases.

Shortest augmenting path: overview of analysis

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After at most m shortest-path augmentations, the length of a shortest augmenting path strictly increases.

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Proof.

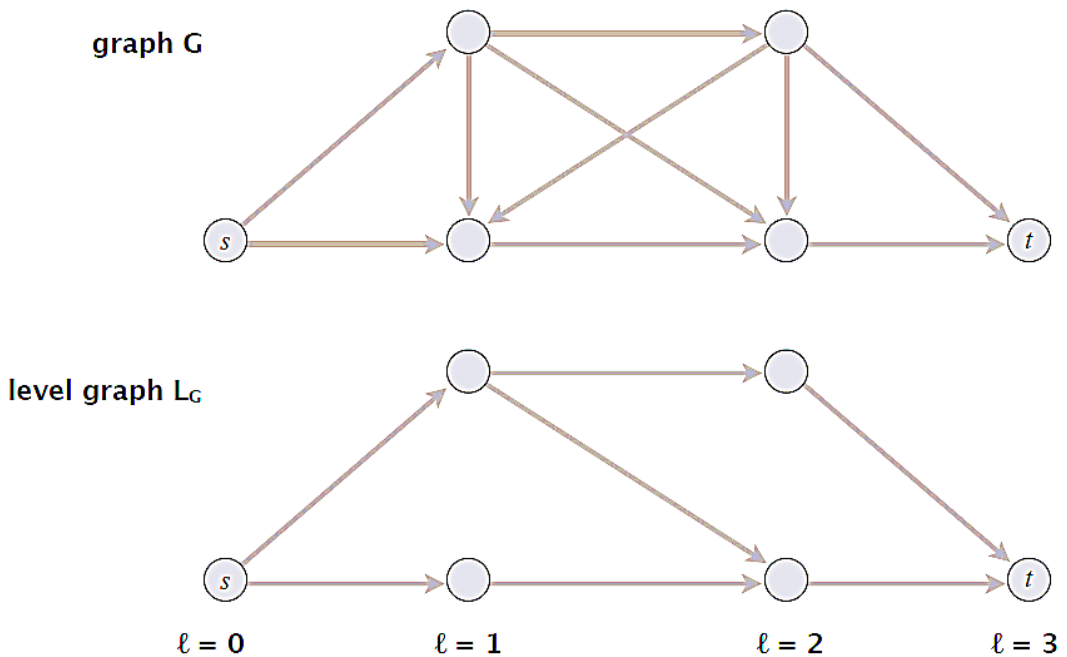
- $O(m)$ time to find a shortest augmenting path via BFS.
- There are $\leq mn$ augmentations
  - at most m augmenting paths of length $k \longleftarrow$ Lemma 1 + Lemma 2
  - at most $n - 1$ different lengths

Shortest augmenting path: analysis

Definition

Given a digraph $G = (V, E)$ with source s, its level graph is defined by:

- $\ell(v)$ = number of edges in shortest $s \rightsquigarrow v$ path.
- $L_G = (V, E_G)$ is the subgraph of G that contains only those edges $(v, w) \in E$ with $\ell(w) = \ell(v) + 1$.



Network flow: quiz 5

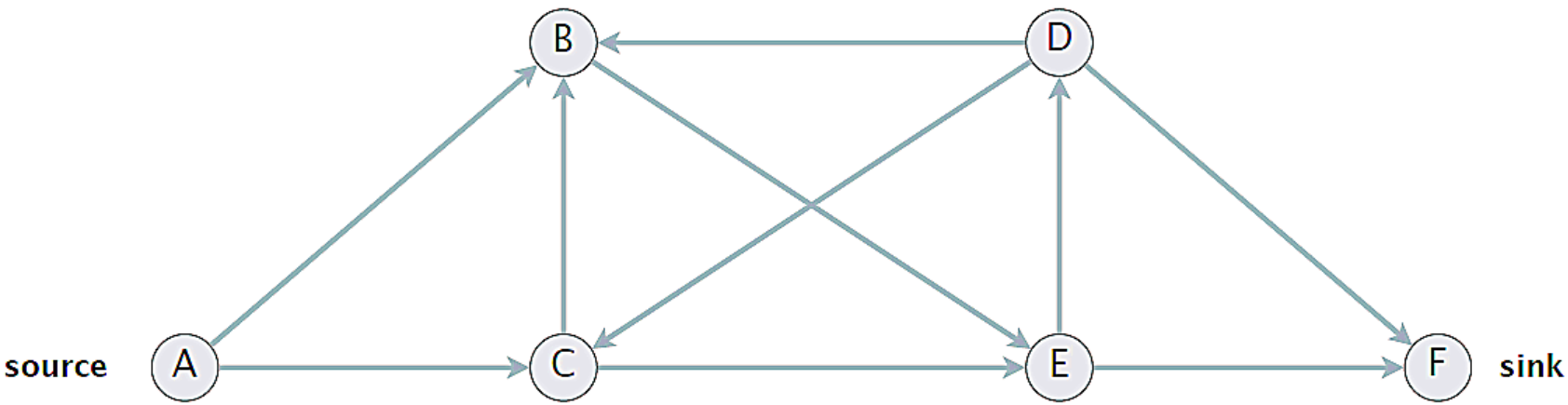
Which edges are in the level graph of the following digraph?

A. $D \to F$

B. $E \to F$

C. Both A and B.

D. Neither A nor B.



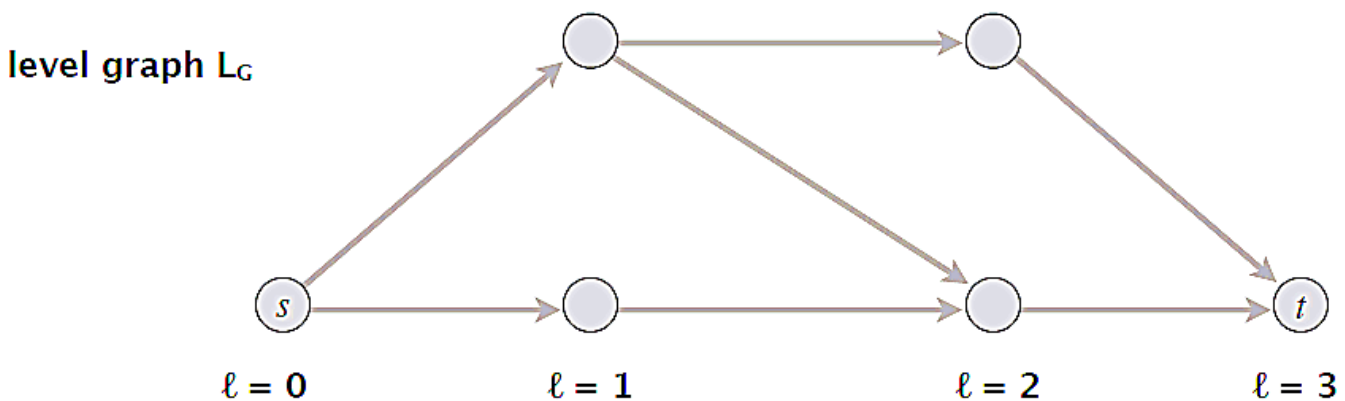
Shortest augmenting path: analysis

Definition

Given a digraph $G = (V, E)$ with source s, its level graph is defined by:

- $\ell(v)$ = number of edges in shortest $s \rightsquigarrow v$ path.
- $L_G = (V, E_G)$ is the subgraph of G that contains only those edges $(v, w) \in E$ with $\ell(w) = \ell(v) + 1$.

Key property. P is a shortest $s \rightsquigarrow v$ path in G iff P is an $s \rightsquigarrow v$ path in L_G.



Shortest augmenting path: analysis

Lemma 1

The length of a shortest augmenting path never decreases.

Shortest augmenting path: analysis

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Proof.

Shortest augmenting path: analysis

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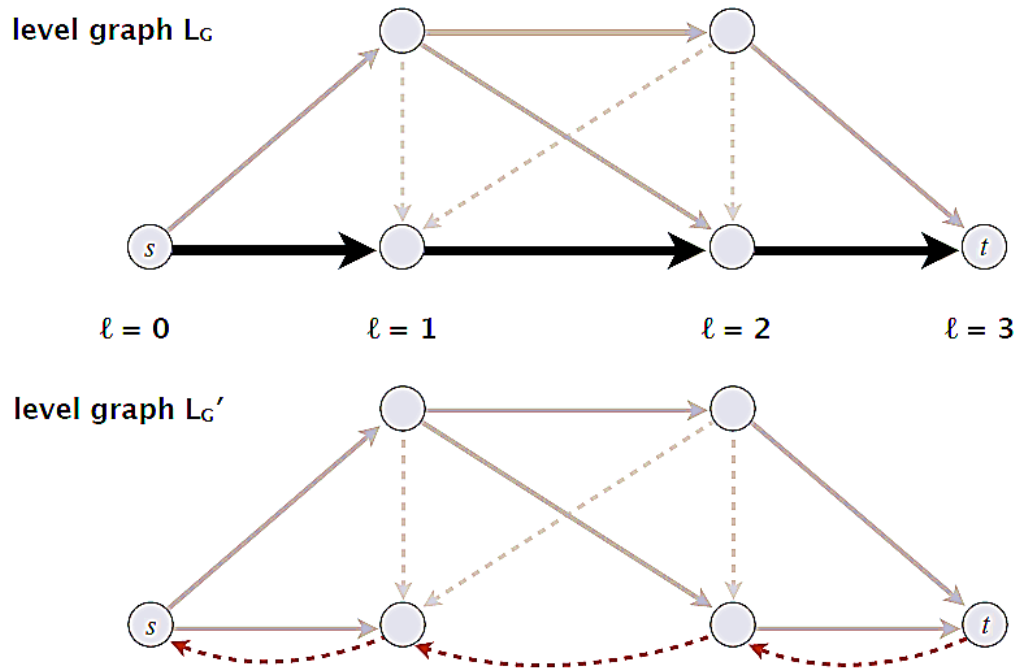
The length of a shortest augmenting path never decreases.

Proof.

- Let f and f' be flow before and after a shortest-path augmentation.
- Let L_G and $L_{G'}$ be level graphs of G_f and $G_{f'}$.
- Only back edges added to $G_{f'}$
  (any $s \rightsquigarrow t$ path that uses a back edge is longer than previous length)



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Lemma 2

After at most m shortest-path augmentations, the length of a shortest augmenting path strictly increases.

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Proof.

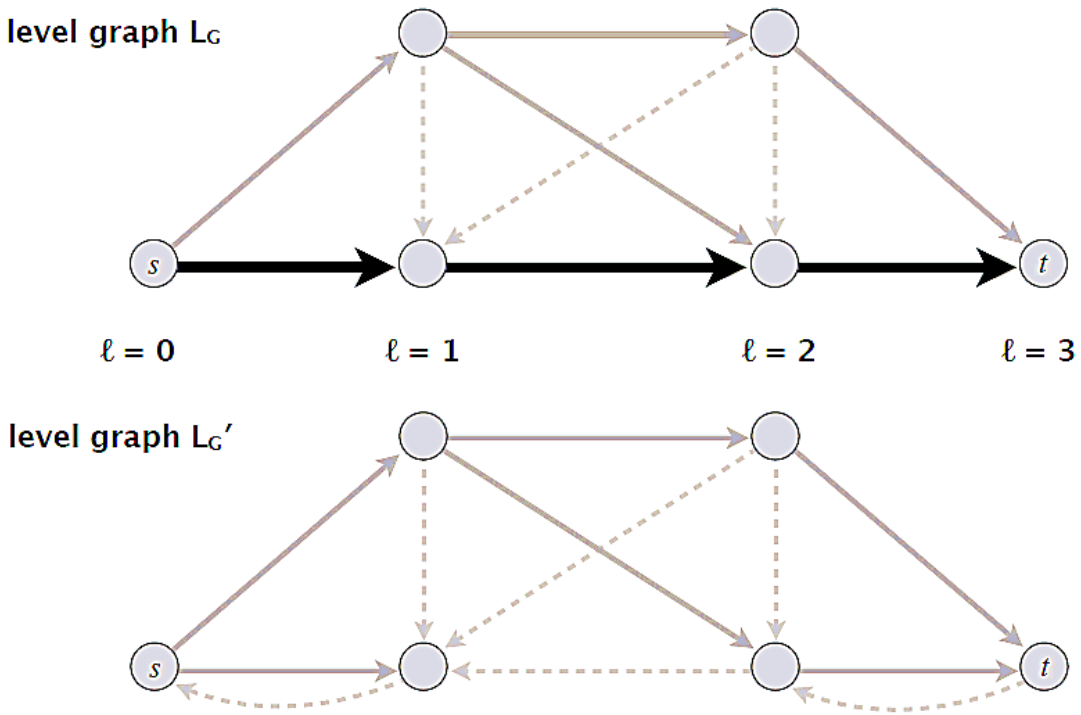
Shortest augmenting path: analysis

Lemma 2

After at most m shortest-path augmentations, the length of a shortest augmenting path strictly increases.

Proof.

- At least one (bottleneck) edge is deleted from L_G per augmentation.
- No new edge added to L_G until shortest path length strictly increases.



Shortest augmenting path: review of analysis

Lemma 1

The length of a shortest augmenting path never decreases.

Lemma 2

After at most m shortest-path augmentations, the length of a shortest augmenting path strictly increases.

Theorem

The shortest-augmenting-path algorithm takes $O(m^2 n)$ time.

Shortest augmenting path: improving the running time

Note. $\Theta(mn)$ augmentations necessary for some flow networks.

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- Try to decrease time per augmentation instead.
- Simple idea $\Rightarrow O(mn^2)$ [Dinitz 1970]

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Note. $\Theta(mn)$ augmentations necessary for some flow networks.

- Try to decrease time per augmentation instead.
- Simple idea $\Rightarrow O(mn^2)$ [Dinitz 1970]
- Dynamic trees $\Rightarrow O(mn \log n)$ [Sleator–Tarjan 1983]

A Data Structure for Dynamic Trees

DANIEL D. SLEATOR AND ROBERT ENDRE TARJAN

Bell Laboratories, Murray Hill, New Jersey 07974

Received May 8, 1982; revised October 18, 1982

A data structure is proposed to maintain a collection of vertex-disjoint trees under a sequence of two kinds of operations: a *link* operation that combines two trees into one by adding an edge, and a *cut* operation that divides one tree into two by deleting an edge. Each operation requires $O(\log n)$ time. Using this data structure, new fast algorithms are obtained for the following problems:

(1) Computing nearest common ancestors.

(2) Solving various network flow problems including finding maximum flows, blocking flows, and acyclic flows.

(3) Computing certain kinds of constrained minimum spanning trees.

(4) Implementing the network simplex algorithm for minimum-cost flows.

The most significant application is (2); an $O(mn \log n)$-time algorithm is obtained to find a maximum flow in a network of n vertices and m edges, beating by a factor of $\log n$ the fastest algorithm previously known for sparse graphs.

Dinitz' Algorithm

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Two types of augmentations.

- Normal: length of shortest path does not change.
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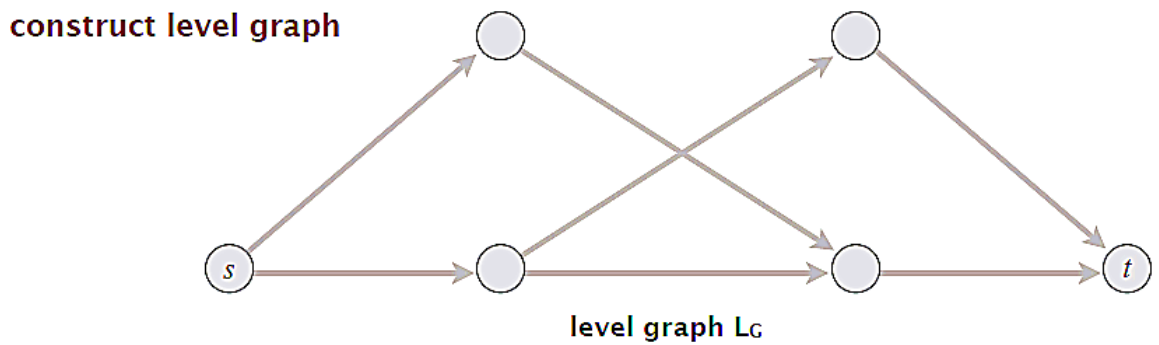

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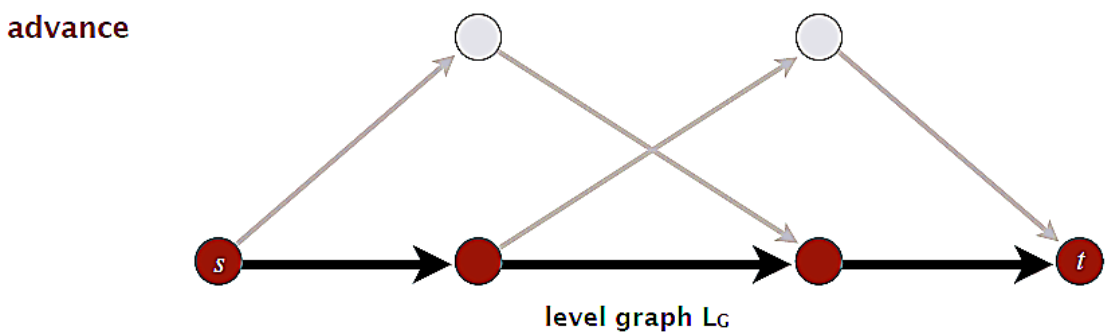

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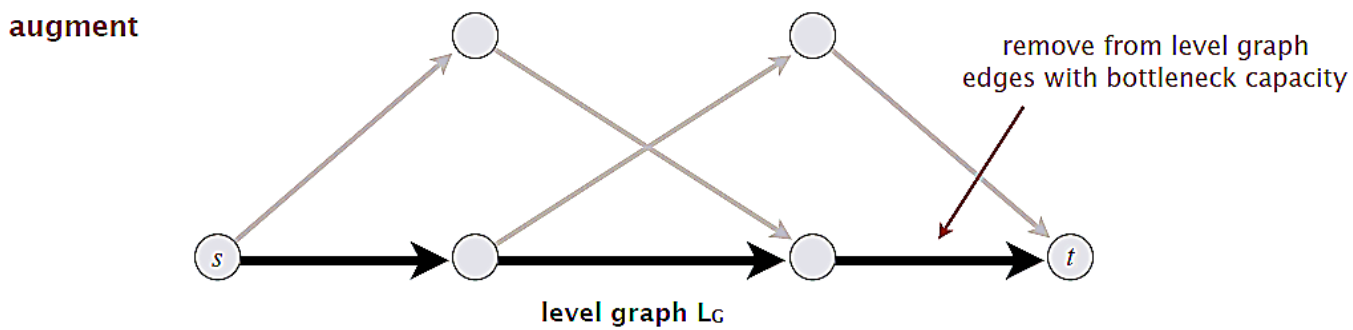

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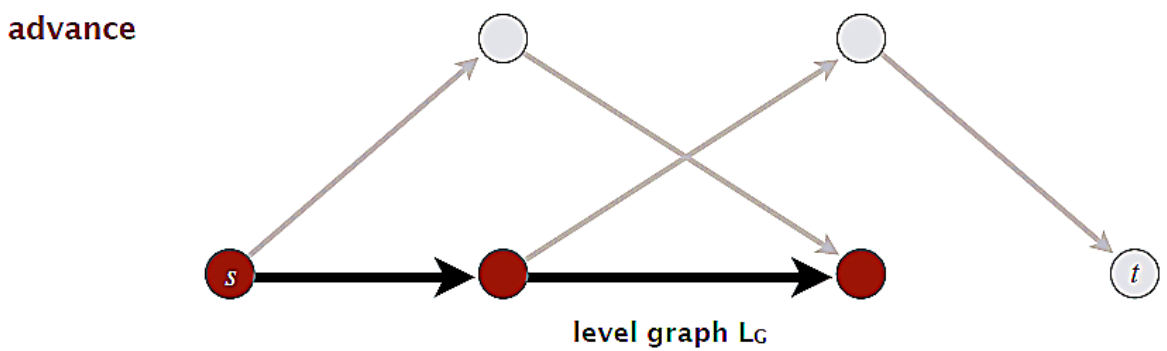

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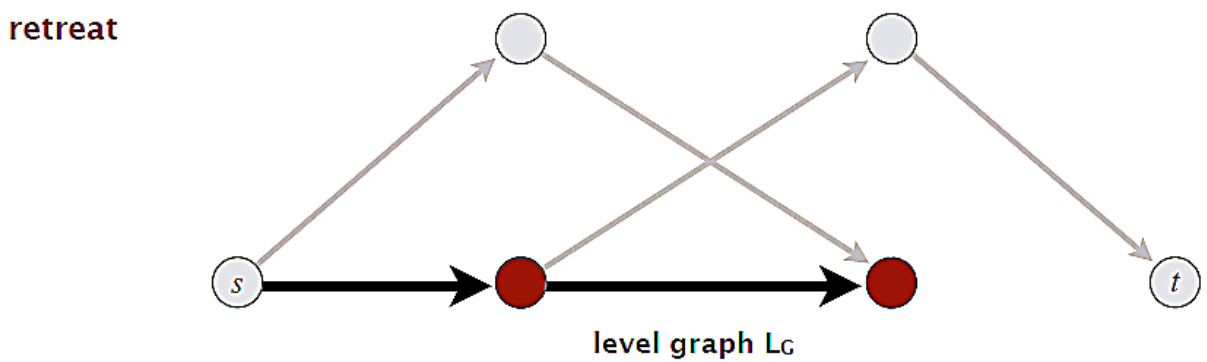

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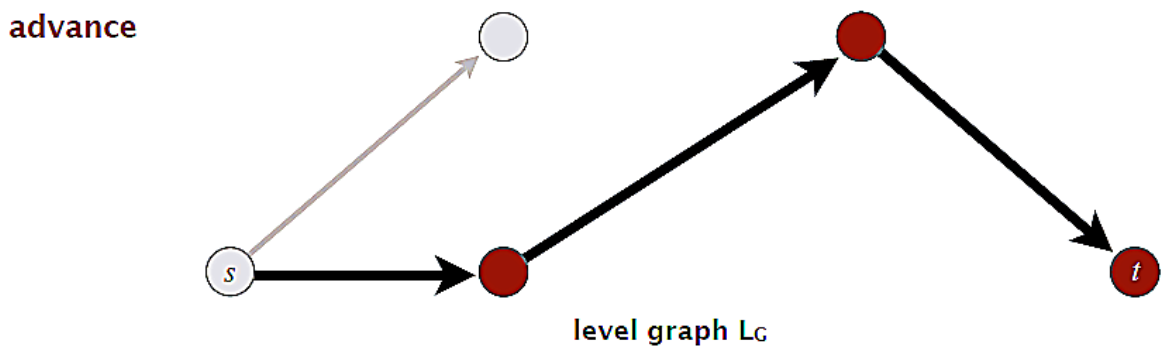

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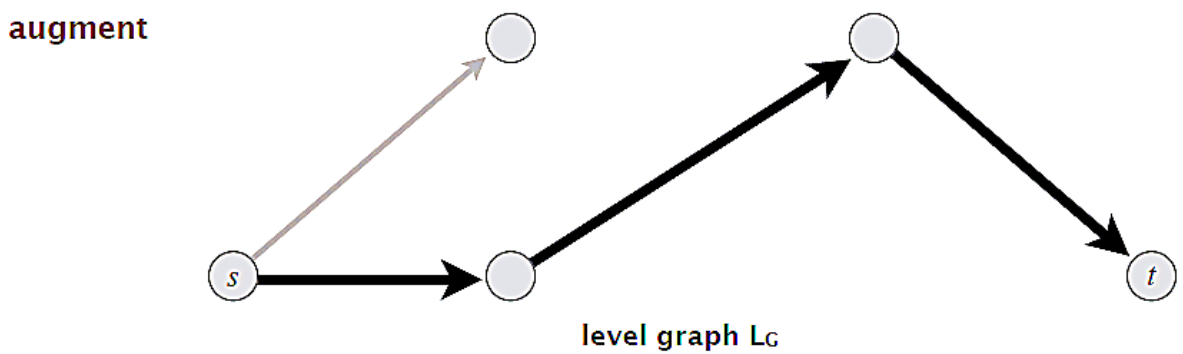

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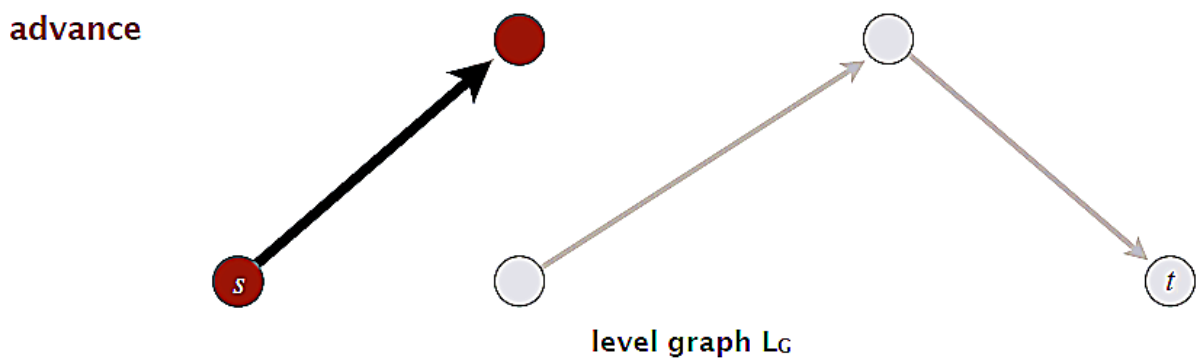

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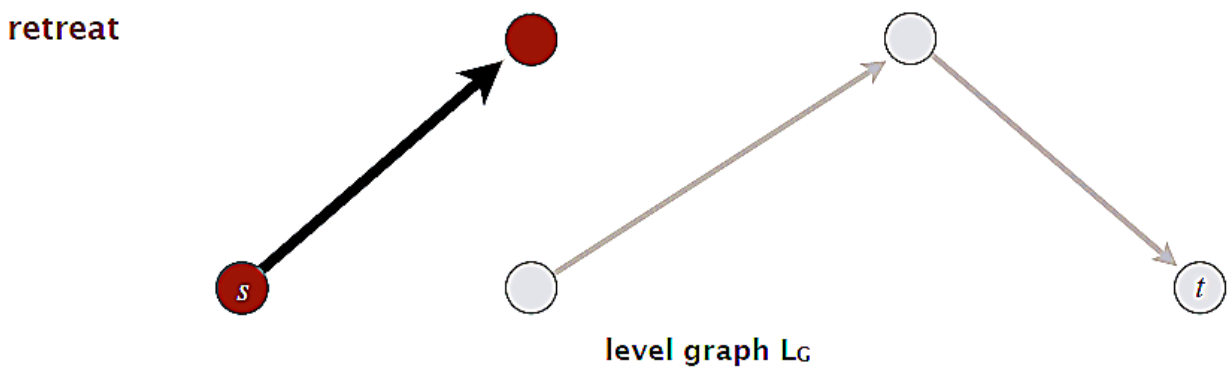

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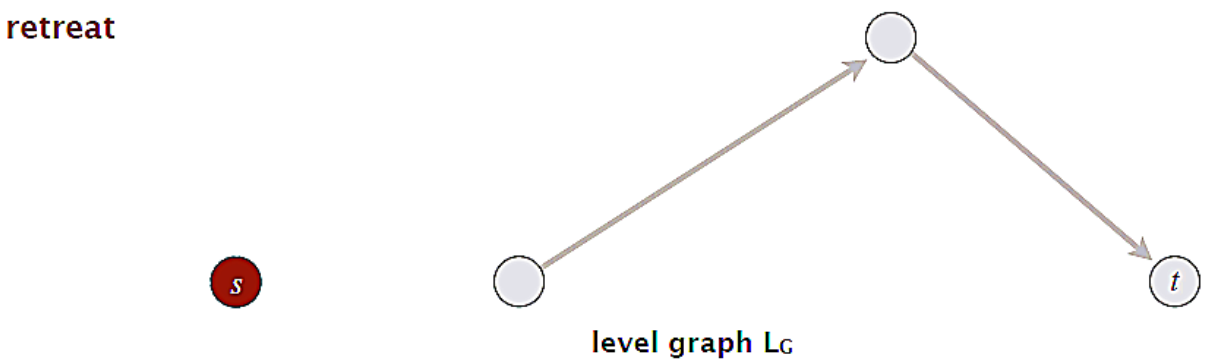

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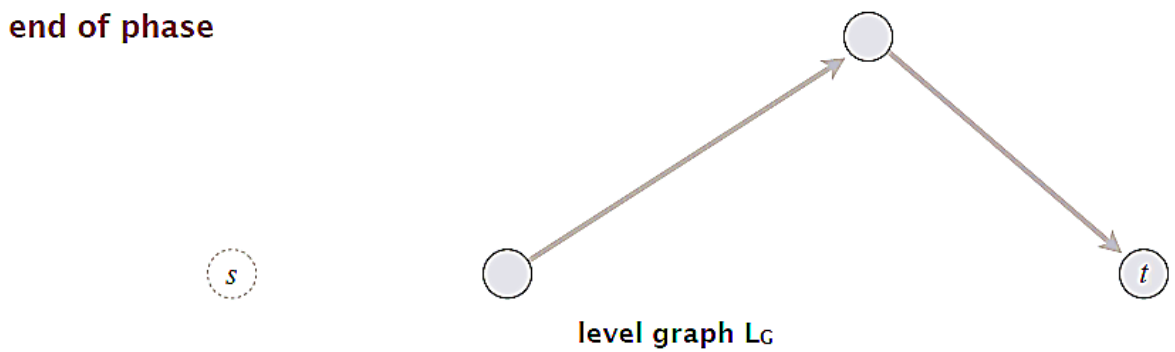


Dinitz' algorithm (as refined by Even and Itai)

Initialize(G, f)

$L_G \leftarrow$ level-graph of G_f
$P \leftarrow \varnothing$
goto Advance(s);

Retreat(v)

if $v = s$ **then** Stop;
else
  Delete v from L_G;
  Remove last edge (u, v) from P;
end
goto Advance(u);

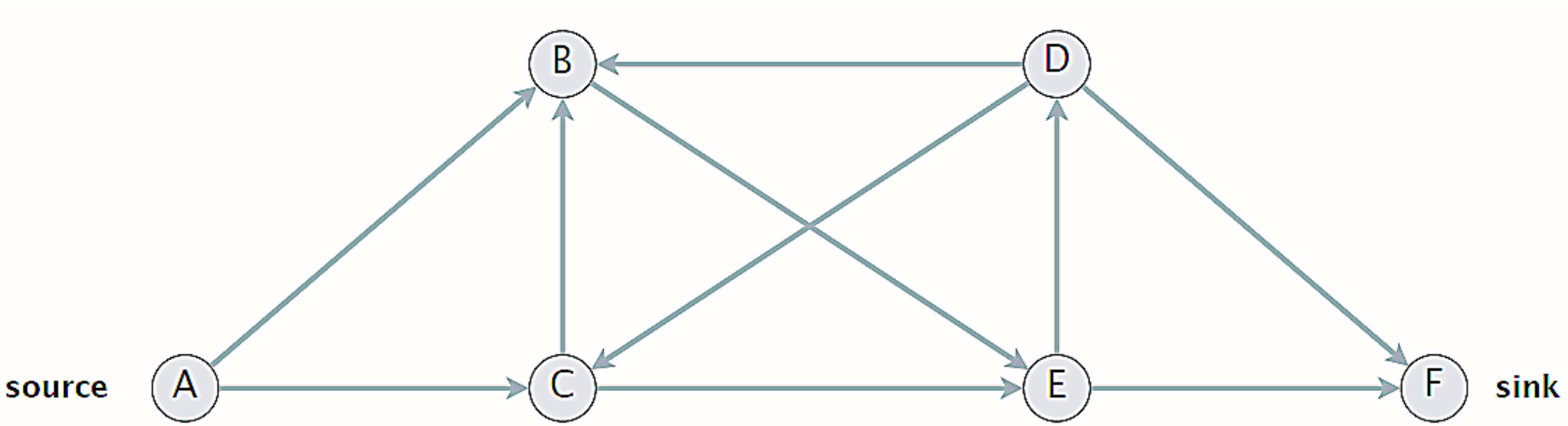
Advance(v)

if $v = t$ **then**
  Augment(P);
  Remove saturated edges from L_G;
  $P \leftarrow \varnothing$;
  goto Advance(s);
end
if *there exists edge* $(v, w) \in L_G$ **then**
  Add edge (v, w) to P;
  goto Advance(w);
end
else
  goto Retreat(v);
end

Network flow: quiz 6

How to compute the level graph L_G efficiently?

1. Depth-first search.
2. Breadth-first search.
3. Both A and B.
4. Neither A nor B.



Dinitz' algorithm: analysis

Lemma

A phase can be implemented to run in $O(mn)$ time.

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- Initialization happens once per phase.

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- Initialization happens once per phase. using BFS
- At most m augmentations per phase. $\longleftarrow$ $O(mn)$ per phase

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Proof.

- Initialization happens once per phase. using BFS
- At most m augmentations per phase. $\longleftarrow$ $O(mn)$ per phase
  (because an augmentation deletes at least one edge from L_G)

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- At most n retreats per phase.

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- Initialization happens once per phase. using BFS
- At most m augmentations per phase. $\longleftarrow O(mn)$ per phase
  (because an augmentation deletes at least one edge from L_G)
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  (because a retreat deletes one node from L_G)
- At most mn advances per phase.

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  (because an augmentation deletes at least one edge from L_G)
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  (because an augmentation deletes at least one edge from L_G)
- At most n retreats per phase. $\longleftarrow O(m+n)$ per phase
  (because a retreat deletes one node from L_G)
- At most mn advances per phase. $\longleftarrow O(mn)$ per phase
  (because at most n advances before retreat or augmentation)

Dinitz' algorithm: analysis

Theorem (Dinitz 1970)

Dinitz' algorithm runs in $O(mn^2)$ time.

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- By Lemma, $O(mn)$ time per phase.
- At most $n-1$ phases

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Theorem (Dinitz 1970)

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Proof.

- By Lemma, $O(mn)$ time per phase.
- At most $n-1$ phases (as in shortest-augmenting-path analysis).

Augmenting-path algorithms: summary

year	method	# augmentations	running time
1955	augmenting path	nC	$O(mnC)$
1972	fattest path	$m \log(mC)$	$O\left(m^2 \log n \log(mC)\right)$
1972	capacity scaling	$m \log C$	$O\left(m^2 \log C\right)$
1985	improved capacity scaling	$m \log C$	$O(mn \log C)$
1970	shortest augmenting path	mn	$O\left(m^2 n\right)$
1970	level graph	mn	$O\left(mn^2\right)$
1983	dynamic trees	mn	$O(mn \log n)$

augmenting-path algorithms with m edges, n nodes, and integer capacities between 1 and C

Maximum-flow algorithms: theory highlights

year	method	worst case	discovered by
1951	simplex	$O\left(mn^2 C\right)$	Dantzig
1955	augmenting paths	$O(mnC)$	Ford–Fulkerson
1970	shortest augmenting paths	$O\left(mn^2\right)$	Edmonds–Karp, Dinitz
1974	blocking flows	$O\left(n^3\right)$	Karzanov
1983	dynamic trees	$O(mn \log n)$	Sleator–Tarjan
1985	improved capacity scaling	$O(mn \log C)$	Gabow
1988	push–relabel	$O\left(mn \log\left(n^2/m\right)\right)$	Goldberg–Tarjan
1998	binary blocking flows	$O\left(m^{3/2} \log\left(n^2/m\right) \log C\right)$	Goldberg–Rao
2013	compact networks	$O(mn)$	Orlin
2014	interior-point methods	$\tilde{O}\left(mm^{1/2} \log C\right)$	Lee–Sidford
2016	electrical flows	$\tilde{O}\left(m^{10/7} C^{1/7}\right)$	Madry
20xx		???	

augmenting-path algorithms with m edges, n nodes, and integer capacities between 1 and C