

The algorithm is stated as follow:

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**Algorithm 1** Algorithm for problem 1

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**Draw** the residual graph  $G_f = (V, E_f)$  based on the pre-computed flow  $f$

$(v, w) = []$

Run BFS from the sink  $t$  (reversed BFS):

**While** paths **is not** empty:

**Check** the edges  $(v_i, w_i)$  ( $v$  is on  $s$  side and  $w$  is on  $t$  side) at each level of paths

**If**  $v$  **is** reachable from  $s$ , and  $w$  **is not**:

$(v, w).add((v_i, w_i))$

**Remove** the path containing  $(v_i, w_i)$  from paths

**Endif**

**Endwhile**

EndBFS

**Cut** the graph into  $(A, B)$  on the edge set  $(v, w)$  with  $s, v \in A$  and  $w, t \in B$

**Return**  $(A, B)$

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### Proof of Correctness:

From the lecture we already proved that for the residual graph  $G_f$  generated from the maximum flow  $f$ , there exists a cut  $C(A, B)$  and the set of edges that links  $A$  and  $B$  is  $(v, w)$  where  $v$  is reachable from  $s$  and  $w$  is not. Such cut is a minimum capacity cut and the capacity equals to the value of maximum flow  $f$ . Therefore we guaranteed that the cut in our algorithm is the minimum capacity cut. Now we need to prove this cut has as many node in  $A$  as possible, which is equivalent to proving as few nodes in  $B$  as possible. We use contradictory: If there is another minimum cut  $(A', B')$  with fewer nodes in  $B'$ , at least one node  $w'$  in  $B$  should be in  $A'$ . However, running BFS on  $G_f$  from node  $t$ , we get  $(A, B)$  if and only if we get set  $(v, w)$  where all edges satisfies  $v$  is reachable from  $s$  and  $w$  is not for the **first time**. Hence for any node  $w''$  in  $B$ ,  $(w', w'')$  (i.e., any node pair in  $B$ ) would not satisfy the condition. Therefore  $(A', B')$  is not a minimum cut. Hence we proved that  $(A, B)$  is the minimum cut with as many nodes in  $A$  as possible.

### Time Complexity Analysis::

Since  $f$  has already been pre-computed, the only time cost in this algorithm is BFS. We know in a graph the time complexity for a BFS algorithm is  $O(m' + n)$ . Given that  $n \leq m$  and we know  $m' \leq 2m$ , the time complexity is  $O(m' + n) = O(3m) = O(m)$ .