

Matchings and Assignments

Endre Boros
26:711:653: Discrete Optimization

February 19, 2018

Matchings and augmenting paths

a

- ▶ A graph $G = (V, E)$ on 8 vertices.

c

b

- ▶ A matching: $M = \{(b, d), (c, g), (e, h)\}$
- ▶ An M -alternating path:

d

$$P = \{(a, c), (c, g), (g, h), (h, e)\}$$

f

- ▶ An M -augmenting path:

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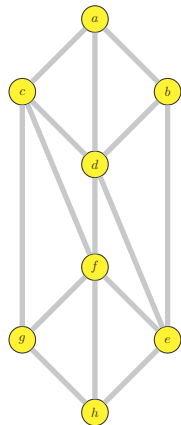
- ▶ An improved matching: $M' = M \triangle P$.
- ▶ For any matching M and any M -augmenting path P we have

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$$|M \triangle P| = |M| + 1$$

- ▶ Berge (1957): A matching M is maximum iff there exists no M -augmenting path.

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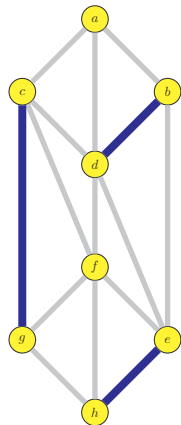
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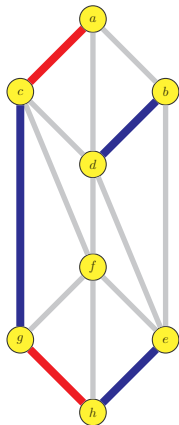
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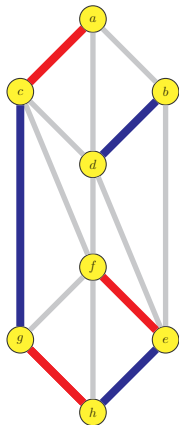
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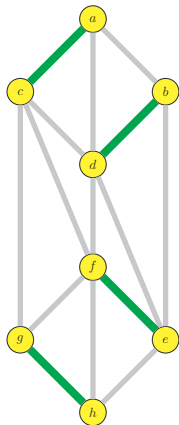
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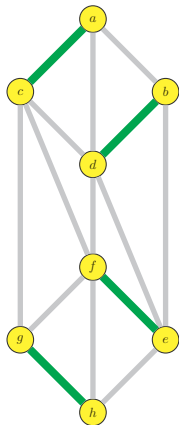
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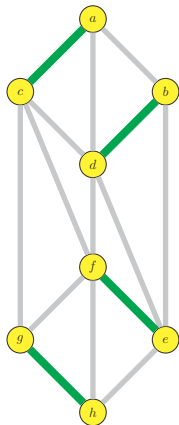
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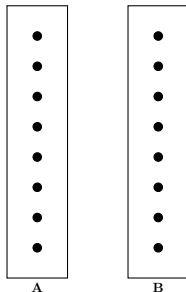
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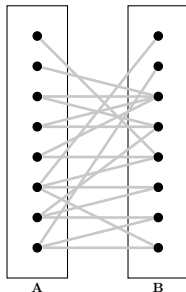
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A very useful Lemma



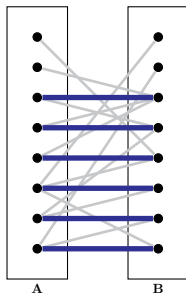
- ▶ Consider a bipartite graph $G = (A \cup B, E)$.
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- ▶ Define $\mathbf{W} = A \setminus V(\mathbf{M})$ and $\mathbf{Z} = B \setminus V(\mathbf{M})$.
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- ▶ Then G does not have edges between $(\mathbf{V} \cup \mathbf{W})$ and $(\mathbf{X} \cup \mathbf{Z})$.
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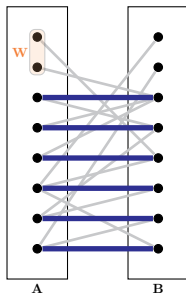
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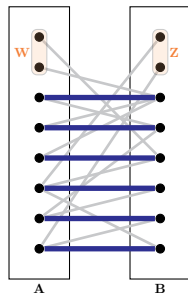
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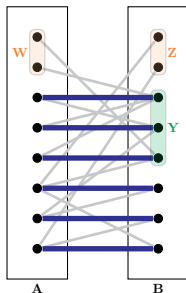
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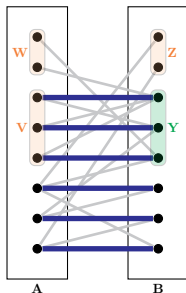
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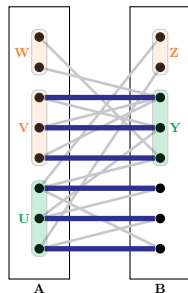
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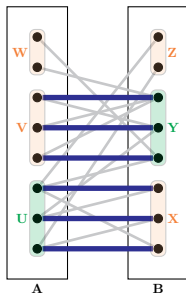
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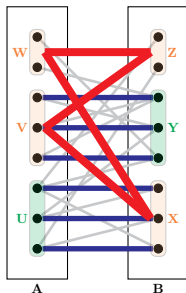
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