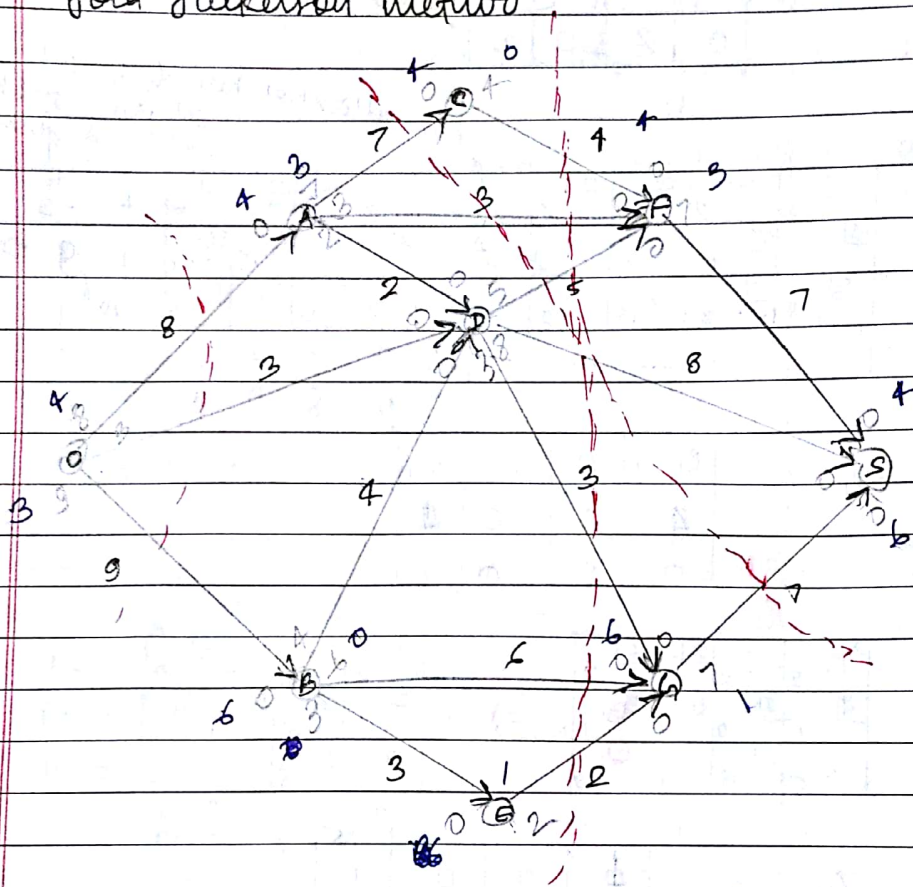


Maximal flow problem Ford Fulkerson method



Based on the concept of augmenting path

Find max flow possible at unit time.

Find the ^{flow} path from source to sink & the amount that is passed from this path

General maximal flow problems can be described as -

1. Directed and connected network, all flows through this network that originate at one node called the source and terminate at other node called the sink. An intermediate node is called transshipment node.

There should be just one source & one

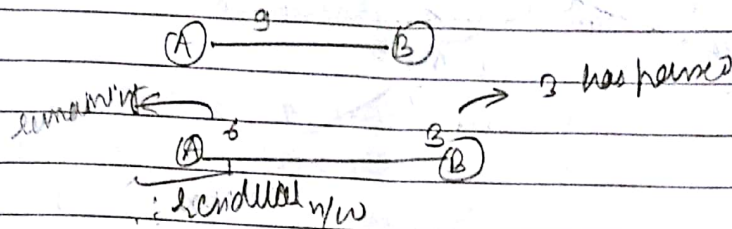
2. Maximum amount of flow is given by the capacity of the link.

It is desired to maximize the total flow, from the source to sink. This maximum flow happens to be

the amt. of flow leaving the source is the amount of flow entering the sink.

⇒ There are two important concepts:

- i) Residual network
- ii) Augmenting path



Residual n/w gives the remaining link capacity.

~~Residual network~~ Augmenting path

It is a directed path from source to the sink in a residual n/w that every link on this path has a strictly positive residual capacity in the positive direction of the link.

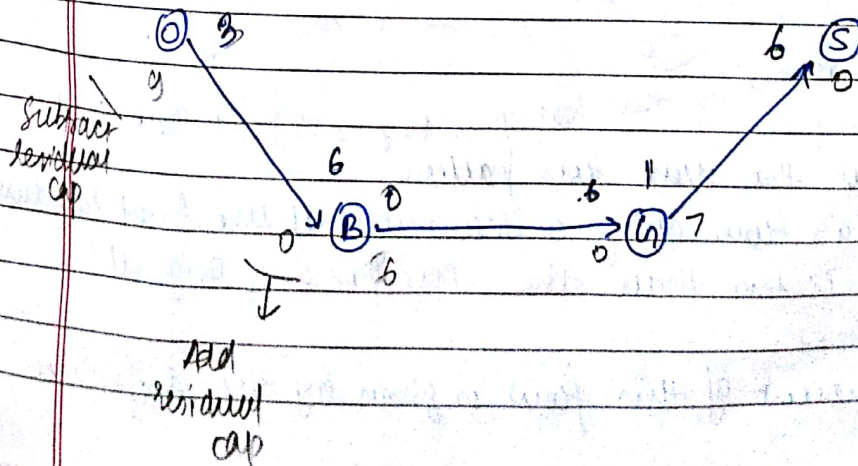
The minimum of these residual capacities on the path is called the residual capacity of the augmenting path.

1. Write the flow values (0 & values at each of a link. 0 on arrow side
2. Identify an augmenting path

O B G S is one such augmenting path

{9, 6, 7}

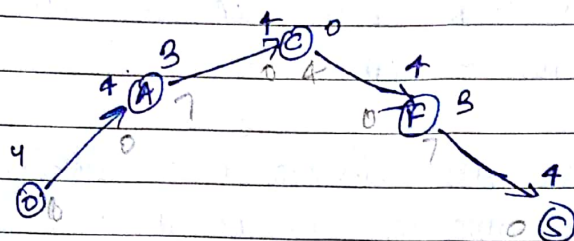
↳ min \rightarrow 6: residual capacity



Another augmenting path

OA CFS

{ 8, 7, 4, 7 }

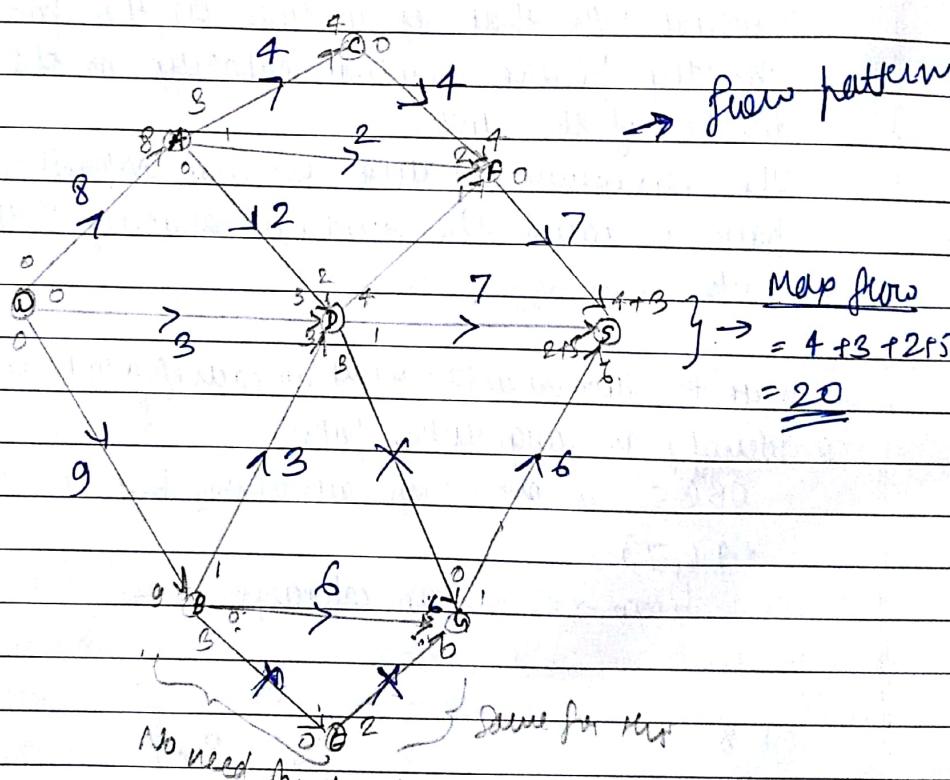


OBDFS { 3, 4, 5, 3 }

OADS { 4, 2, 8 }

ODS { 3, 6 }

OAFDS



So find out the max flow pattern

- There is a flow along a line only if the final residual capacity is less than the corresponding original capacity.
- The amount of this flow is given by the difference

in this (original vs ~~residual~~ residual capacity)

maximal flow ^{min cut} ~~mean~~ ~~path~~ method

This method helps us to recognize the attainment of maximum flow, thus saving us from searching of additional augmenting path.

A cut defines a set of directed links which when deleted from the network will cause a complete discontinuity of flow b/w the source & sink.

We have to select a no. of cut in the original flow that ^{totally discontinues} ~~cuts~~ ~~is~~ the original flow from source to sink.