

# Dinic's Algorithm

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**Algorithm (Dinic):** Start with zero flow. And repeat blocking step until exists augmenting path (target is reachable in the actual layered network).

**Blocking step:** Find blocking flow  $f'$  in the layered network  $L$  defined by the current flow  $f$ .  
Set  $f' := f + f'$ , which is defined  $(f + f')(x, y) = f(x, y) + f'(x, y)$ .

**How to find a blocking flow?** Start with zero flow and go to initialization.  
Let  $x$  is the current vertex and  $p$  is the augmenting path from source to  $x$

**Initialization:** Set  $p := [s]$  and  $x := s$ . And go to forward.

**Forward:** If  $\nexists y \in V_L : (x, y) \in V_L$  than go to backward.  
Else takes any edge  $(x, y)$ , " $p = p + y$ " and  $x = y$  (new actual vertex).  
If  $y \neq t$  (target) than repeat forward else if  $y = t$  go to increase.

**Backward:** If  $x = s$  end (does not exist augmenting path from  $s$  to  $t$ ).  
If  $x \neq s$  then do this: let  $(v, x)$  is the last edge in  $p$ . Remove  $x$  from  $p$  and remove the edge  $(v, x)$  from  $L$ .  
Set  $x = v$  (new actual vertex) and go to forward.

**Increase:** Let  $d = \min\{c(x, y) - f(x, y) \mid (x, y) \text{ is the edge in } p\}$ .  
Add  $d$  to flow at all the edges of the path  $p$ , remove from  $L$  all saturated edges. Go to initialization.