

CMPT 732-G200 Practices for Visual Computing

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Image Segmentation

- Hough Transform

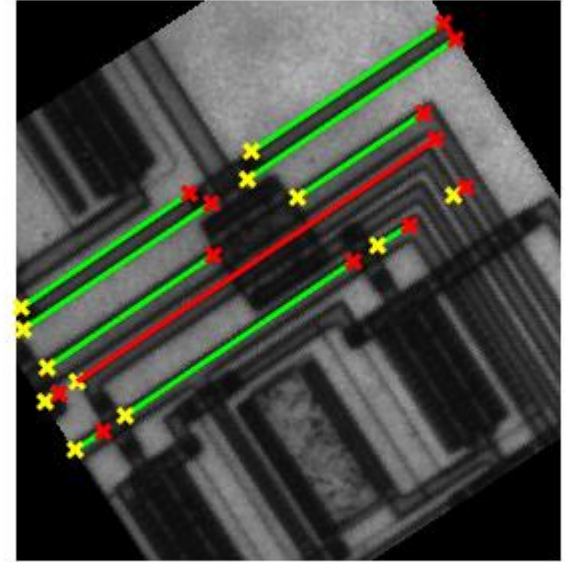


Image Segmentation

- Hough Transform
- Active Contours

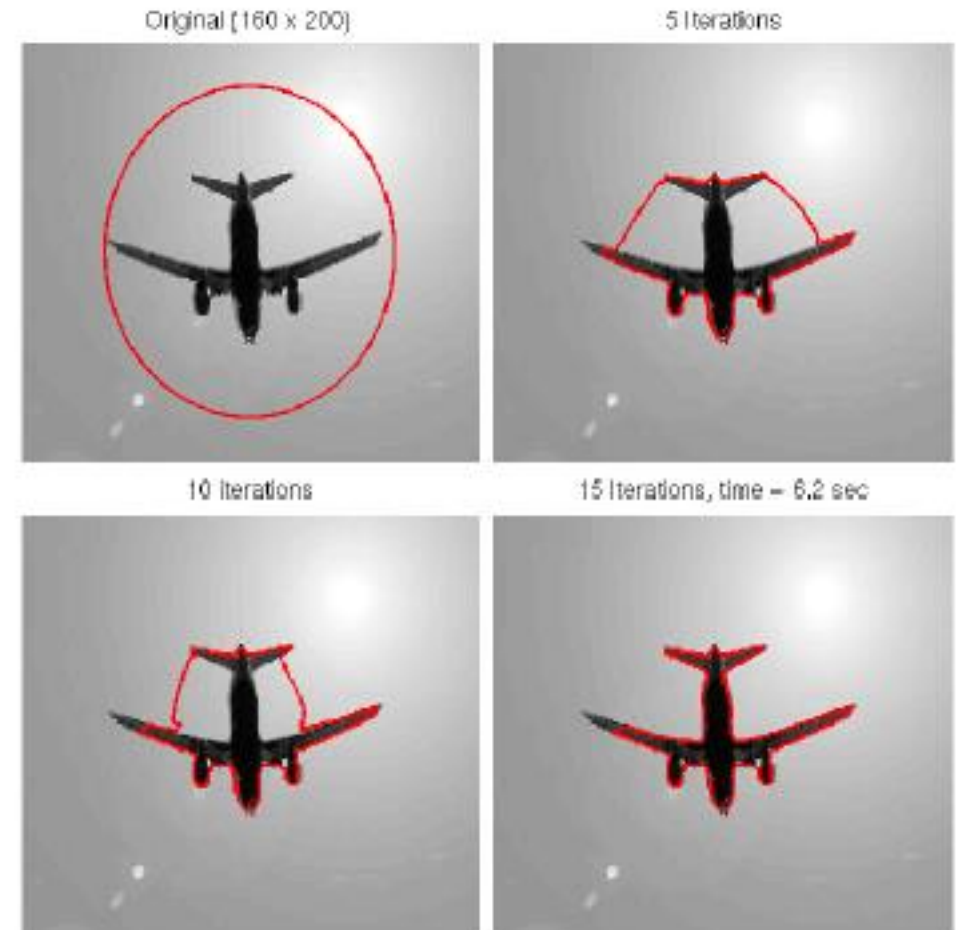
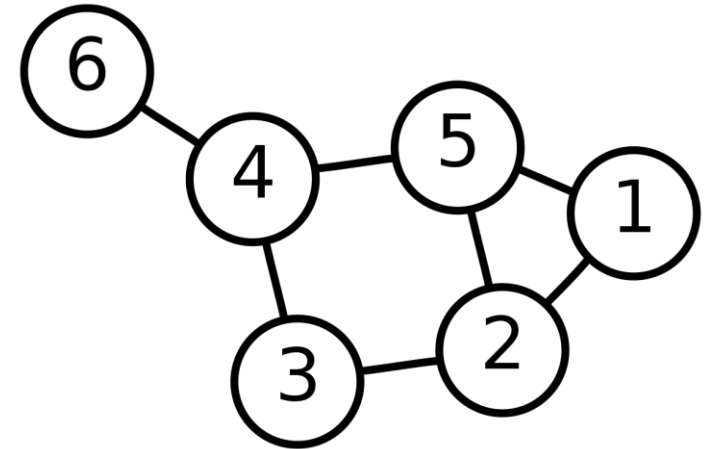


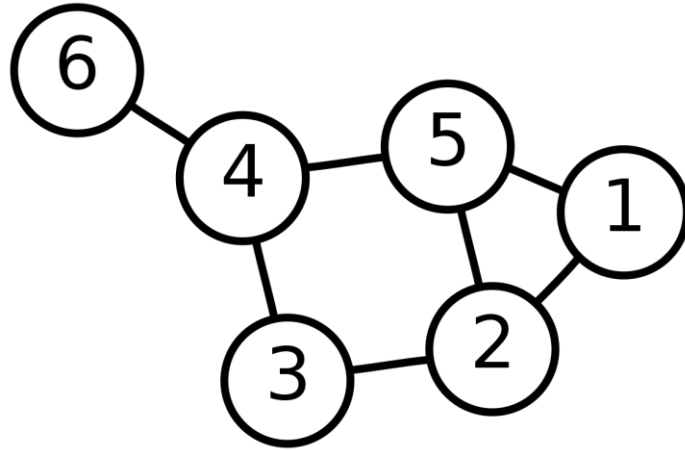
Image Segmentation

- Hough Transform
- Active Contours
- Graphs



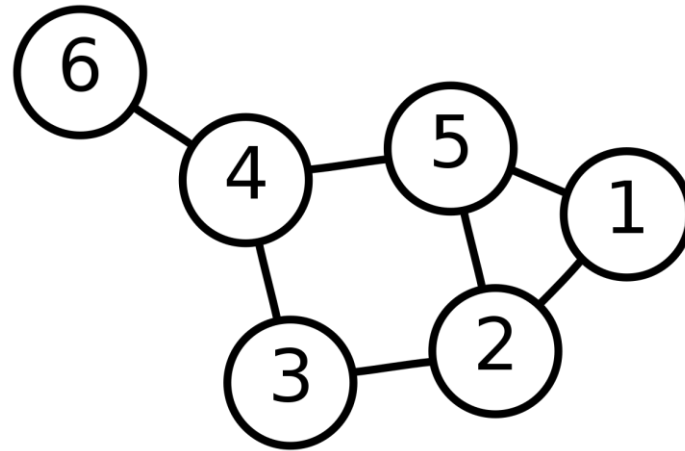
Graph

- Graph G is a set of vertices V connected by edges E and we use $G(V, E)$ notation to refer to it.



Graph

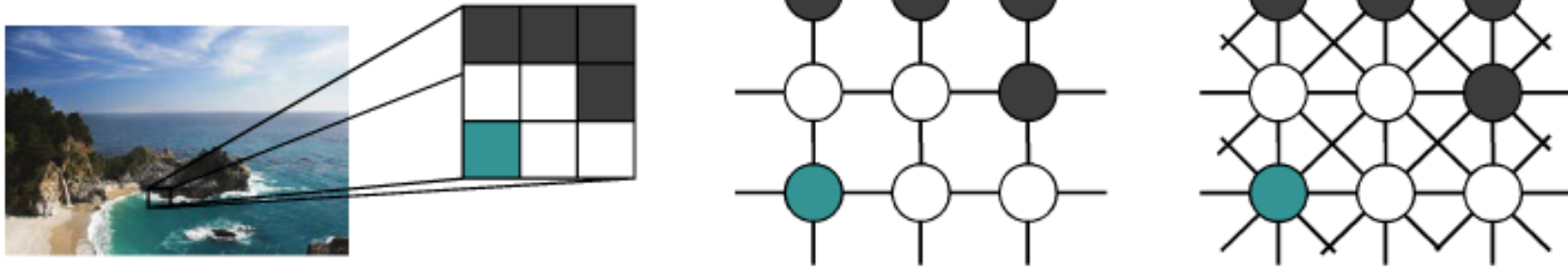
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What is the difference between graphs and trees?

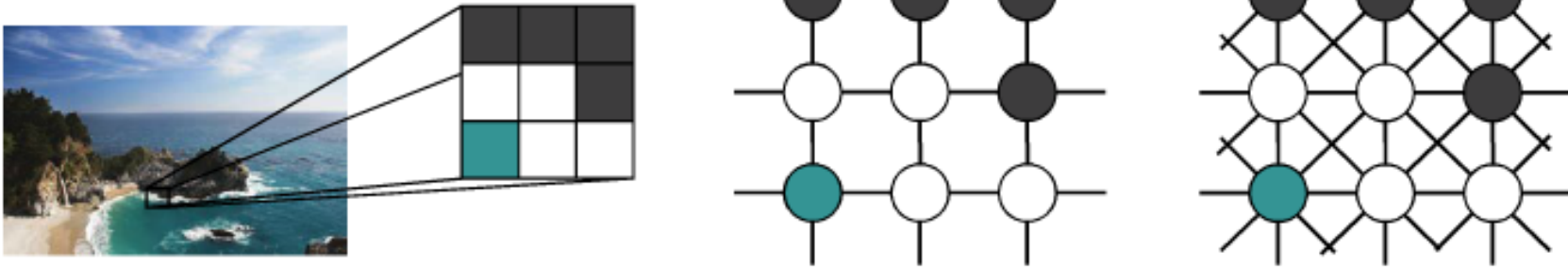
Graph

- Graphs can be used to represent images



Graph

- We want to use this representation to segment an image into a set of regions.



Graph

- We discussed that the segments are usually separated by edges.

What is an edge?



Graph

- An edge appears in sudden movements of the color of one pixel to its neighbor.



Graph

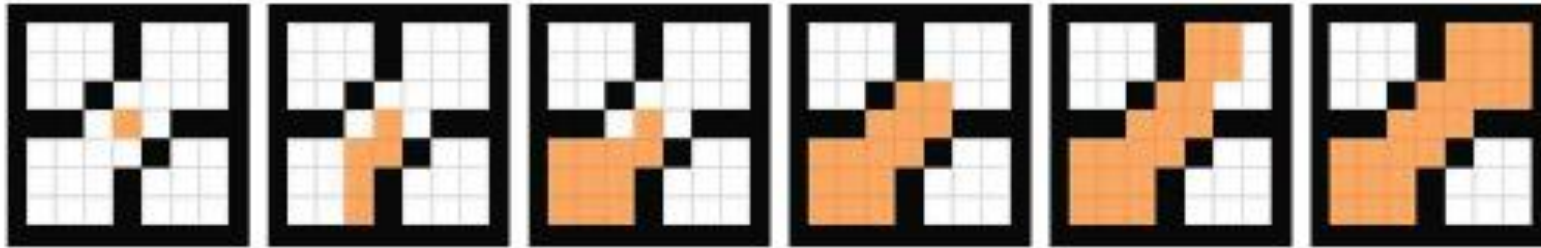
- An edge appears in sudden movements of the color of one pixel to its neighbor.

Can we use these properties to design a segmentation technique?



Flood Fill

- Think about starting from a node and add its neighbors if their neighbors have the same color.



Flood Fill

- Simple algorithm

```
FloodFill( i, j ) {  
    Pixel p = I(i,j)  
    If not (stopTest(p) or isVisited(p)) {  
        Visit(p)  
        FloodFill(i, j + 1)  
        FloodFill(i, j - 1)  
        FloodFill(i + 1, j)  
        FloodFill(i - 1, j)  
    }  
}
```

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When should we stop?

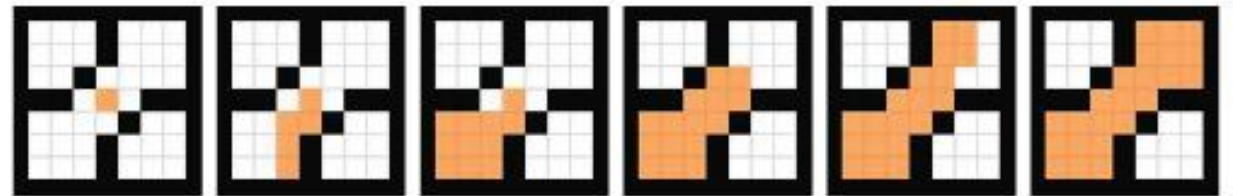


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Assign a color or label to the pixel

Region Grow

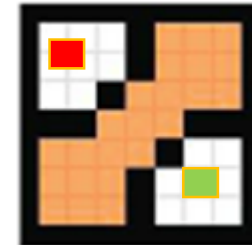
- More general that works for a general graph

```
RegionGrow( Node v, Graph G ) {  
    If not (stopTest(v,G) or isVisited(v)) {  
        Visit(v)  
        For all neighbors of u of v do  
            RegionGrow(u, G)  
    }  
}
```

Region Grow

- We cannot segment the entire image, we need more seeds:

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```



Watershed Algorithm


- Partition algorithm repeats until no unassigned vertex is remained:

```
Partition( Graph G ) {  
    Loop until there are no more free nodes in G {  
        Choose a free node s as seed  
        RegionGrow(s,G)  
    }  
    Clean up small regions  
}
```

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Distribute it to neighboring segments

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Randomly



Watershed Algorithm

- Random chosen seeds are not good ideas

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Why?

Watershed Algorithm

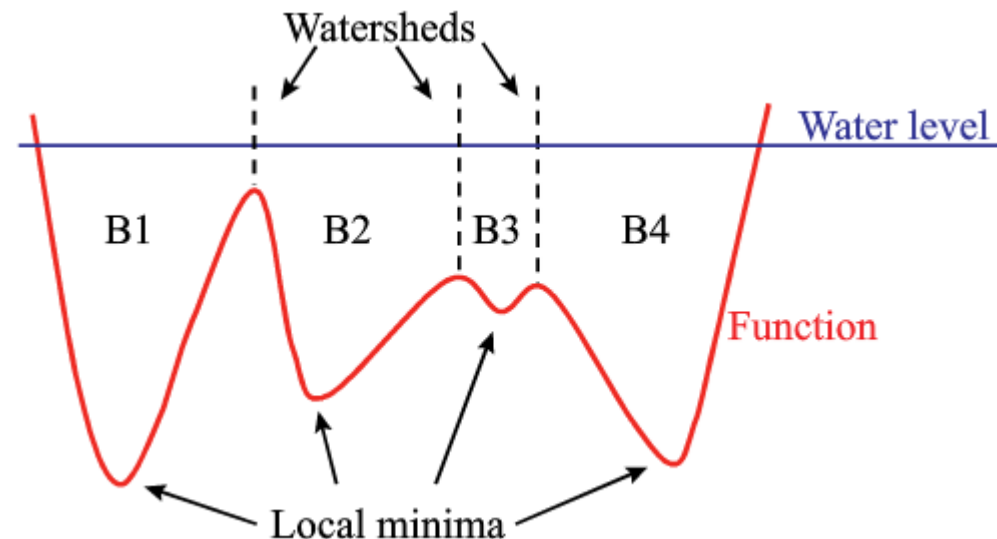
- The idea of watershed algorithm is to start from a local minima. Therefore you need to have a height function h .

Watershed Algorithm

- The idea of watershed algorithm is to start from a local minima.
- One possibility is to convert images to grey scale and define the minimum on the pixel gradient. Refer to book for more info on h .

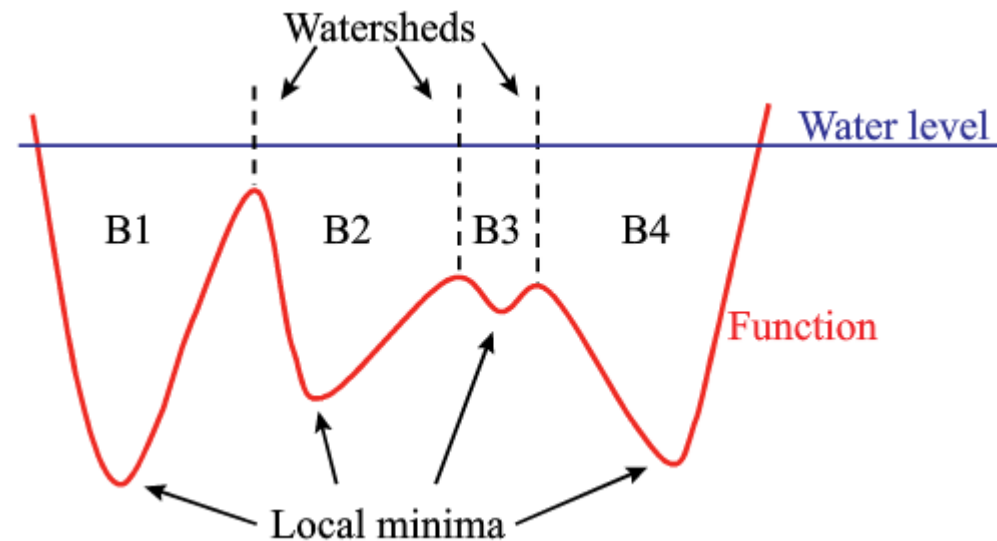
Local Minima

- Local Minima M of I at altitude h is a connected plateau of pixels with the value h from which it is impossible to reach a point of lower altitude without having to climb.



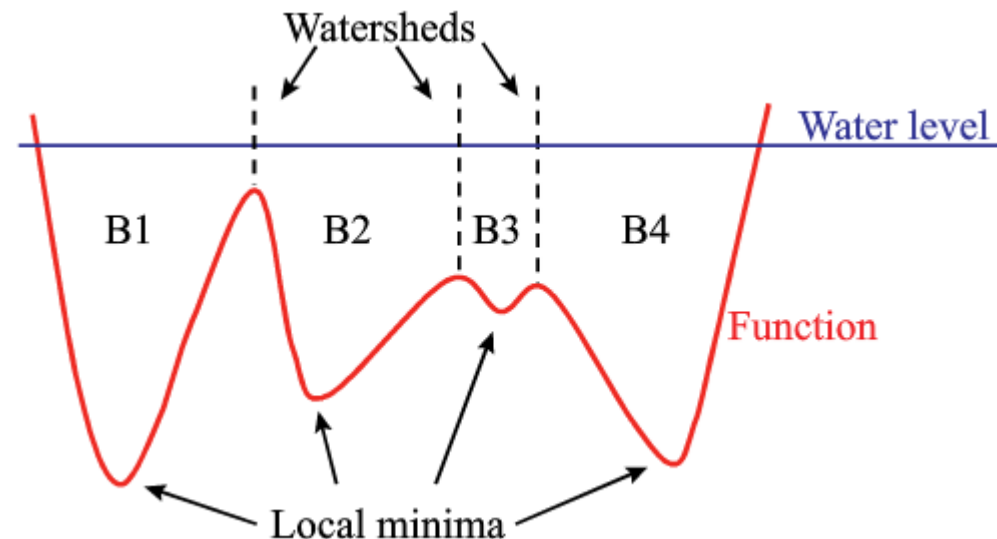
Watershed Algorithm

- The idea of watershed is to start from a local minimum and try to fill it with water.



Watershed Algorithm

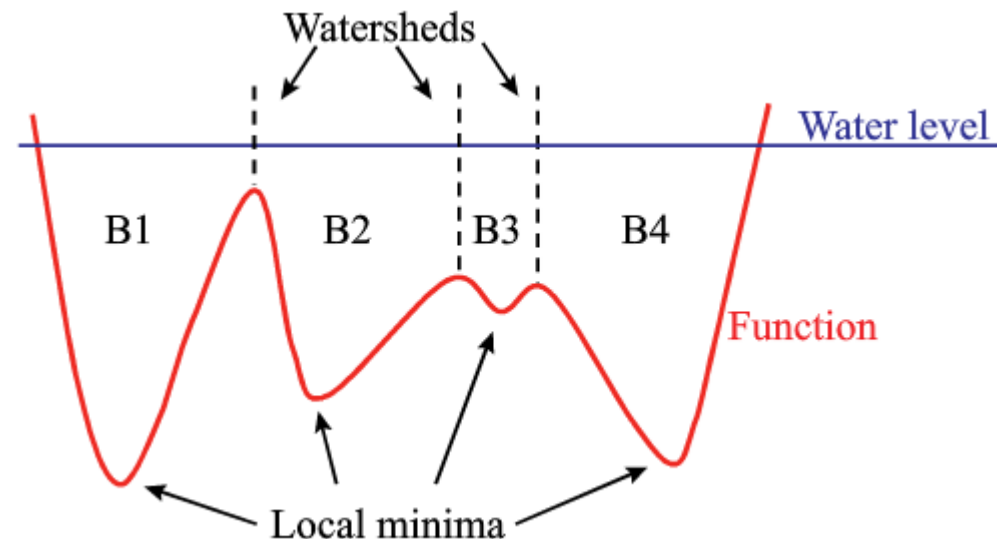
- The idea of watershed is to start from a local minimum and try to fill it with water.
- Wherever two basins are full of water and start to flood, make a barrier (watershed).



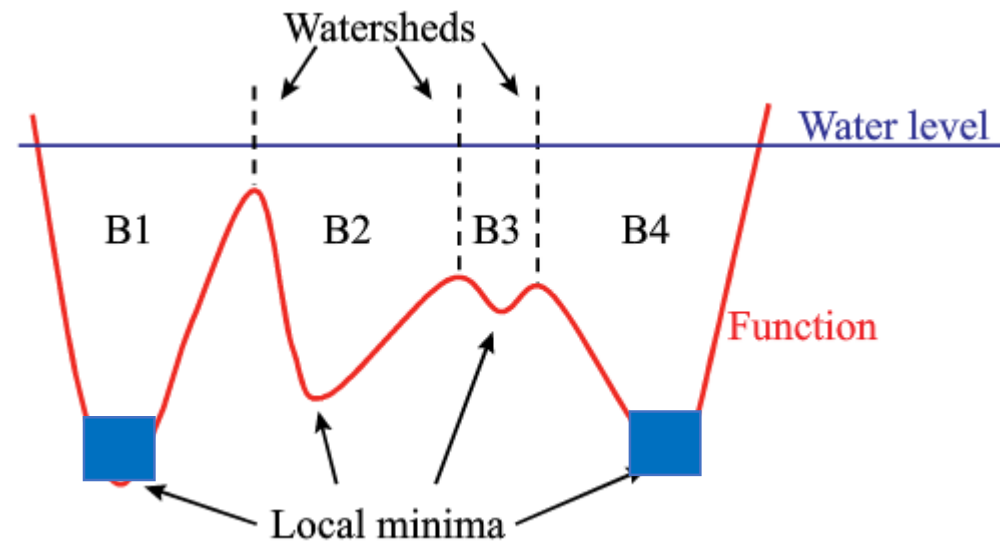
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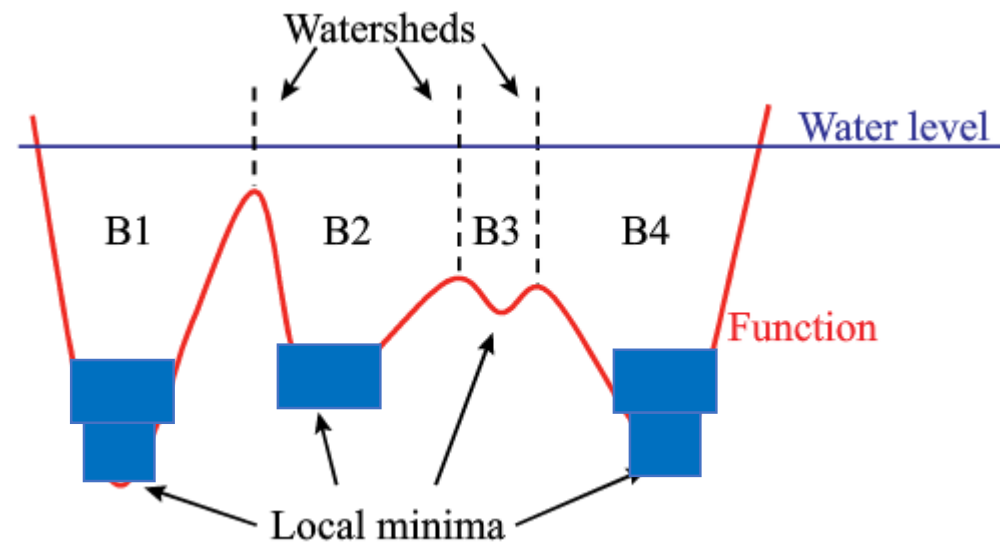
Label neighbors



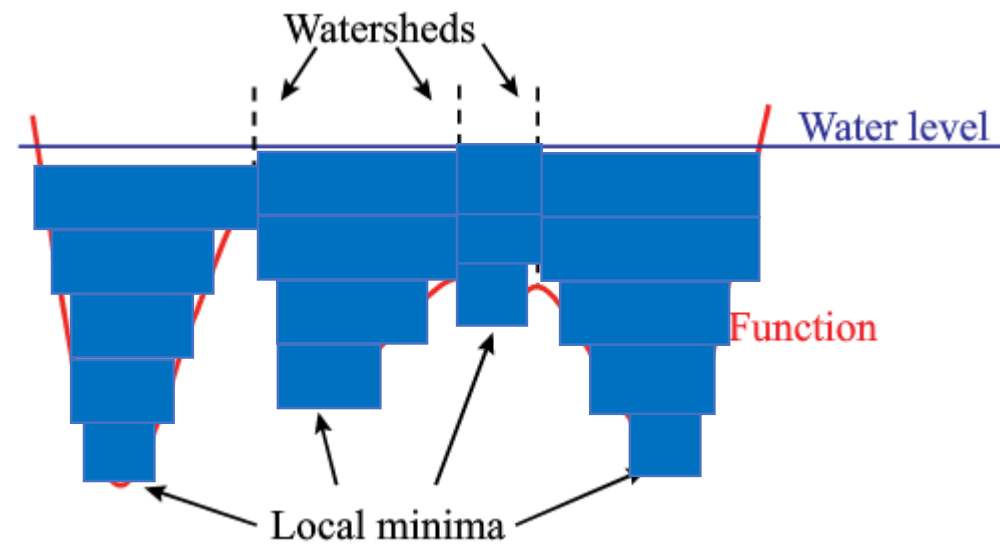
Watershed Algorithm



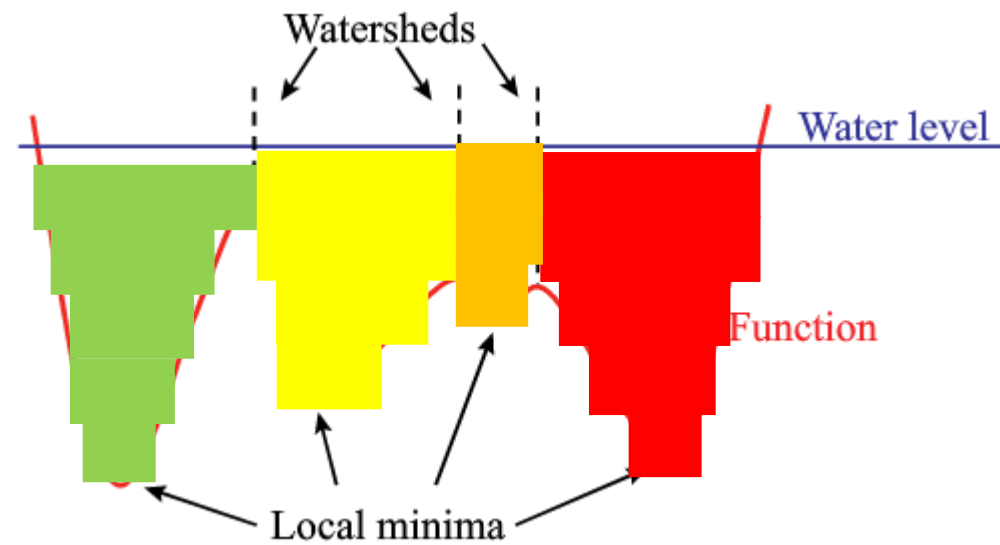
Watershed Algorithm



Watershed Algorithm

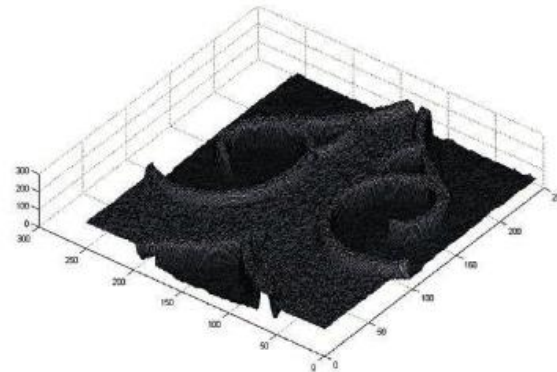
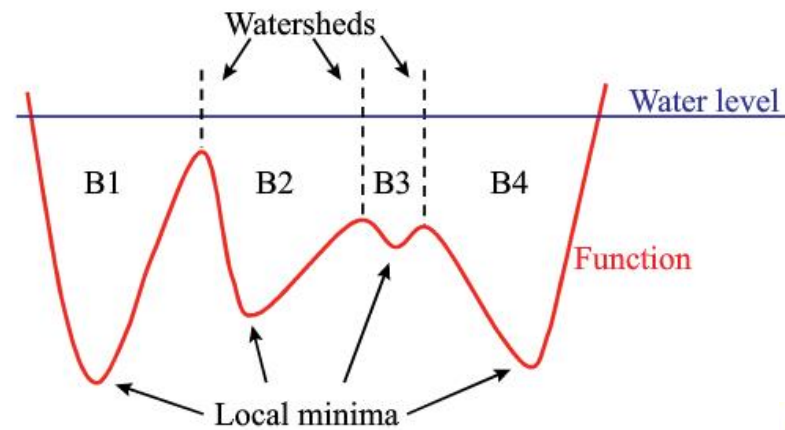


Watershed Algorithm



Watershed Algorithm

- Local minima and basins can be defined on 2D domain

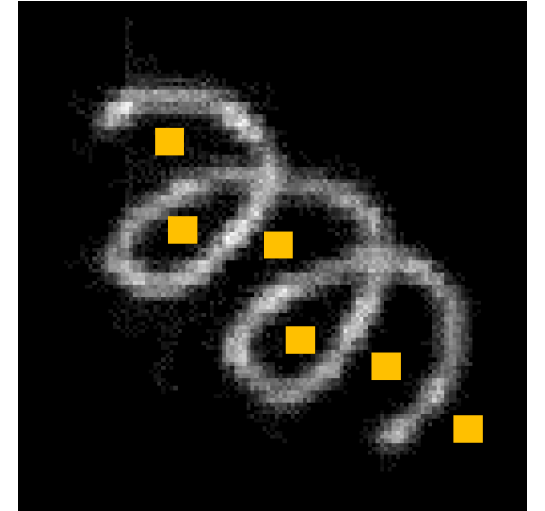


Watershed Algorithm

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Watershed( Graph G, function h ) {  
    Find all local minima of h(G) as seeds {  
        Create a priority queue Q  
            the highest priority is the lowest height  
        Label each seed with a unique label  
        Insert all un-labeled neighbors of all seeds into Q  
        Loop until Q is empty {  
            Get the node v with highest priority from Q  
            If all labeled neighbors of v have the same label  
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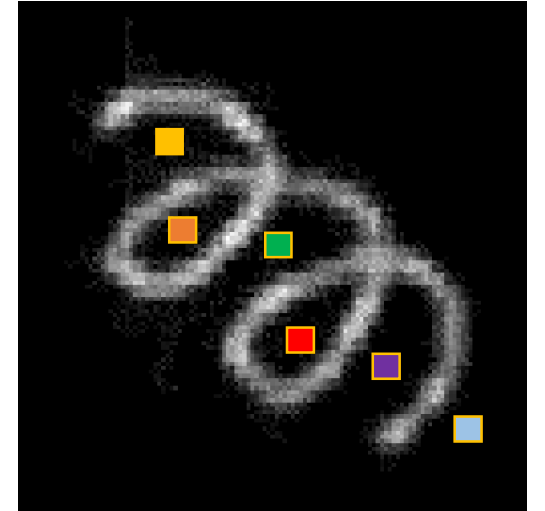
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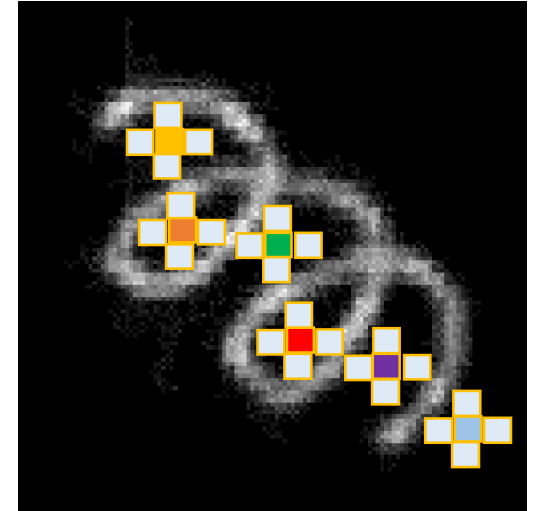
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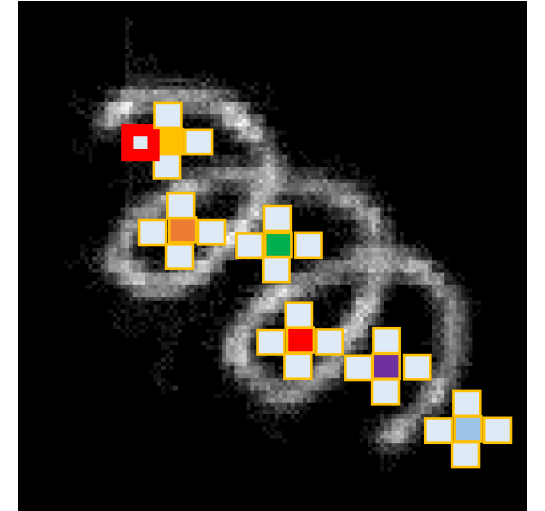
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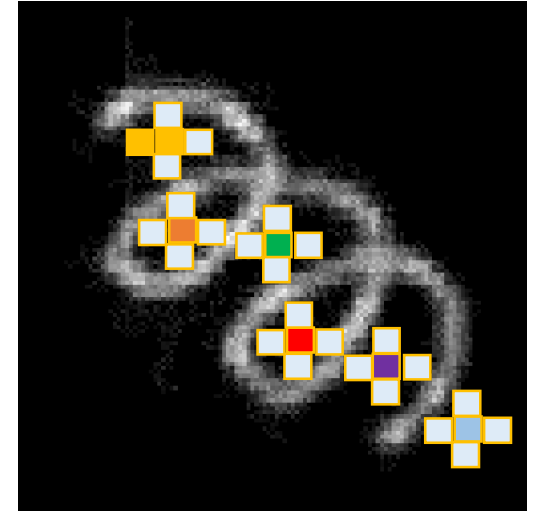
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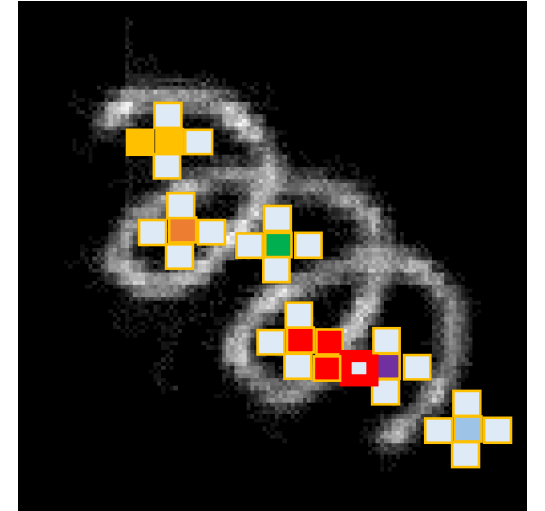
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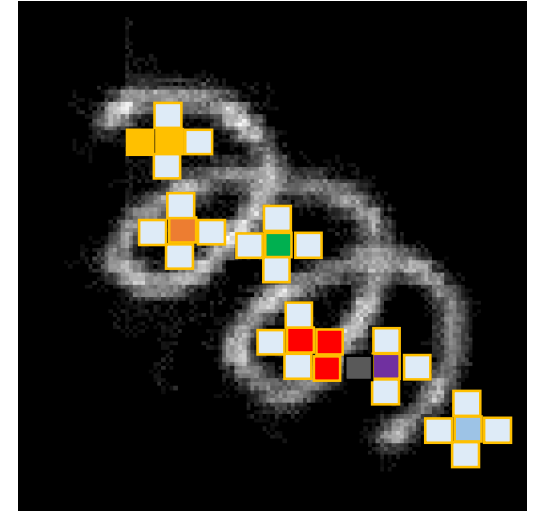
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Recap

- Watershed algorithm starts from pixels with local minima and tries to add pixels in their neighborhood until two regions collide (watershed).



Graph Cut

- We can see the image segmentation problem as an optimization problem.

Graph Cut

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- We define an energy that measures the cost of assigning a label (F, B) to a pixel.

Graph Cut

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- We define an energy that measures the cost of assigning a label (F, B) to a pixel.

What is a proper energy function?

Energy Function

- We should assign B/F labels to the pixel with color similar to background or foreground.

Energy Function

- We should assign B/F labels to the pixel with color similar to background or foreground.
- How do we know which colors are foreground and which colors are background?

Energy Function

- We can use an interactive system to define B/F colors.



Energy Function

- Now we are ready to define the first cost function

$$D(L) = \sum_{p \in I} cost(p, L(p))$$

Energy Function

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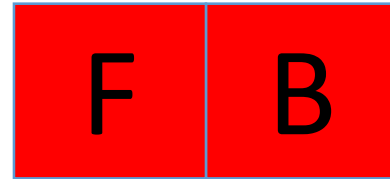
$$D(L) = \sum_{p \in I} cost(p, L(p))$$

$$L(p) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{foreground} \\ 1 & \text{background} \end{cases}$$

$cost(p, 1)$ is **small** if the color of p is close to the color distribution of **background pixels**.

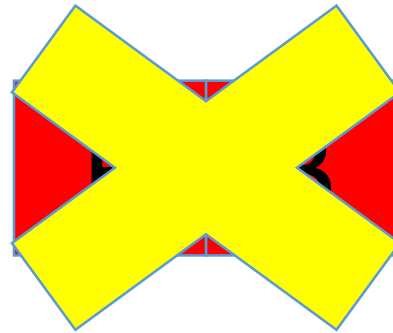
Energy Function

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Measures the color similarity

Energy Function

- Overall energy

$$E(L) = D(L) + \lambda S(L)$$

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Energy Function

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- The solution space to this problem for all the pixels to get F/B label is exponential (2^n , n : is the number of pixels)
 - Why?

Graph Cut

- We can usually cut the foreground from a background and paste it somewhere else.



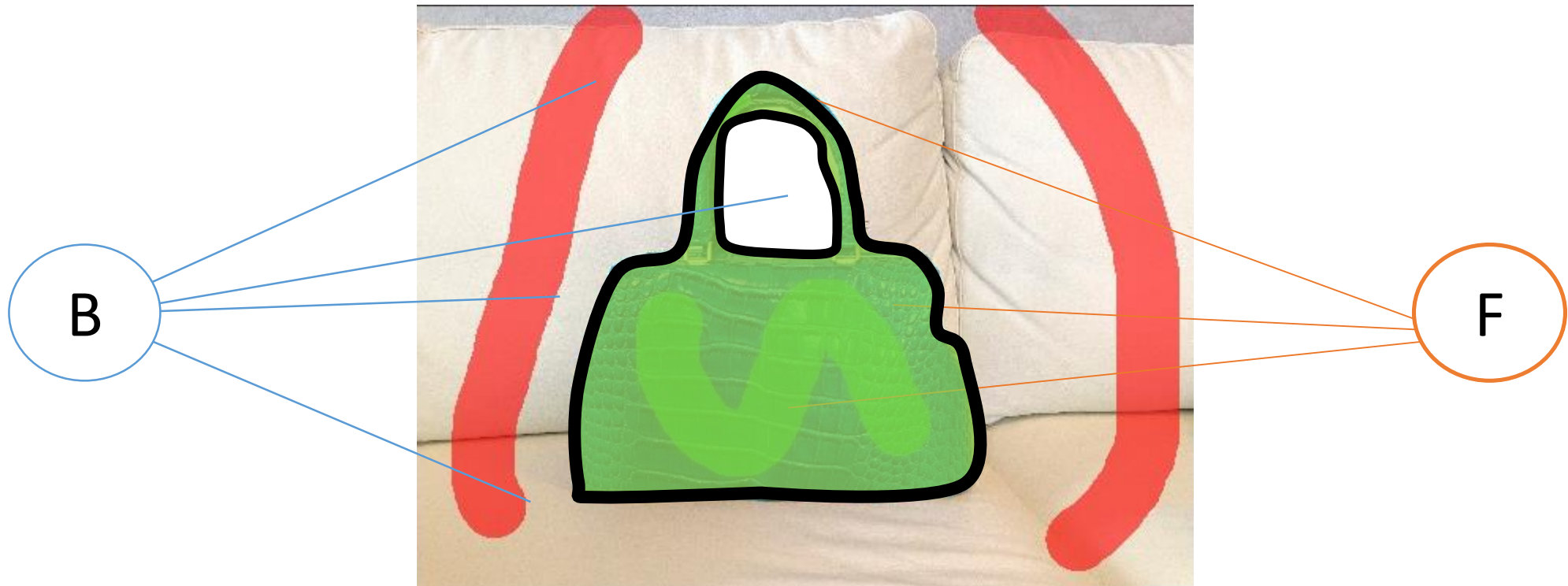
Graph Cut

- Therefore we can see this as two separated graphs that are connected to two dummy nodes (B/F).



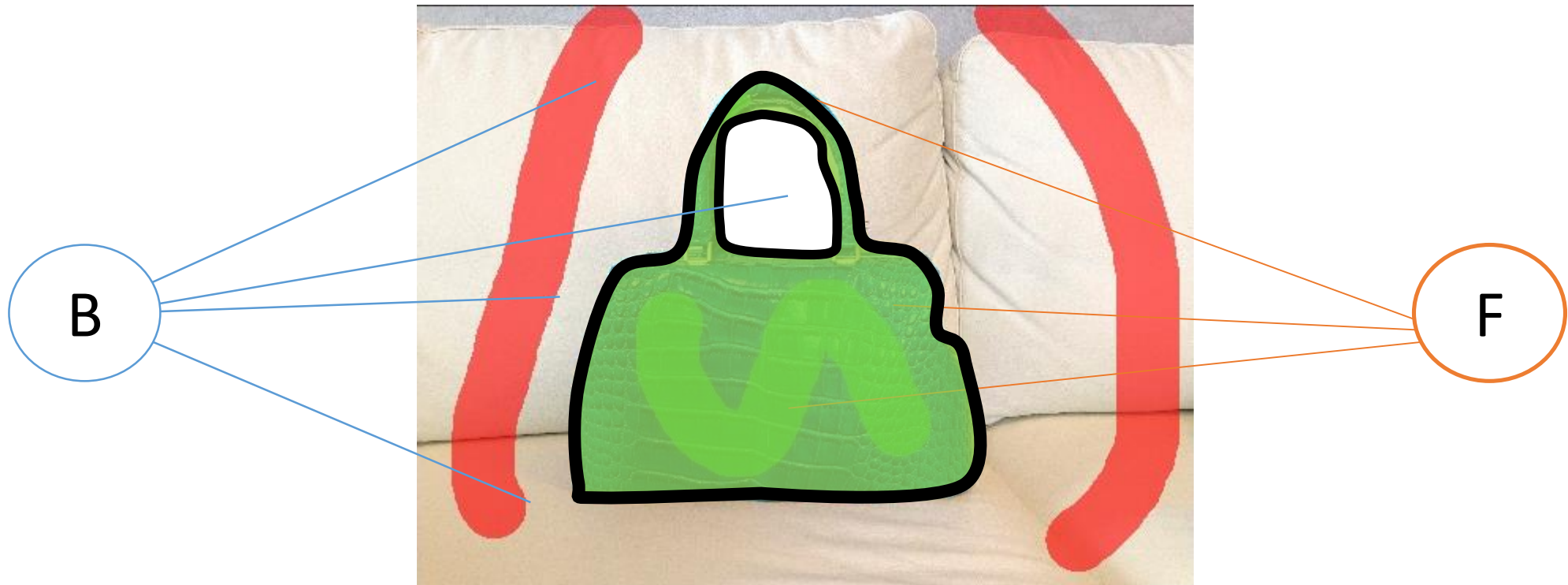
Graph Cut

- If we can find a way to make these two subgraphs separated, then we have found a segmentation.



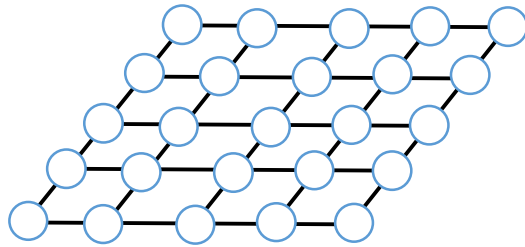
Graph Cut

- Fortunately, there is a well know algorithm for doing this task and it is called graph cut.



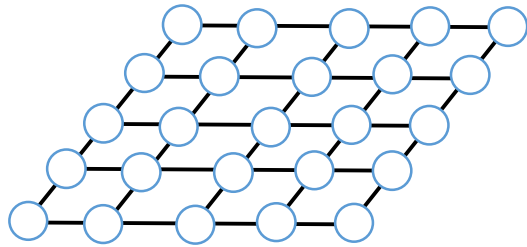
Graph Cut

- Imagine the image as a graph whose vertices are pixels of an image and its edges connect two neighboring pixels.



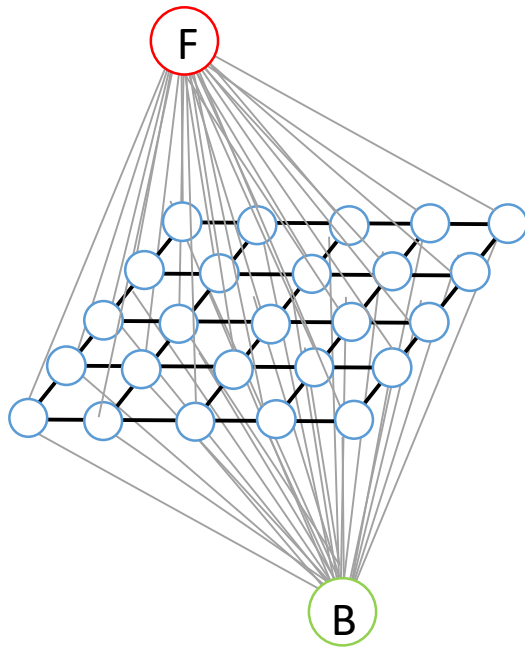
Graph Cut

- Imagine the image as a graph whose vertices are pixels of an image and its edges connect two neighboring pixels.
- These edges are called **n-links**



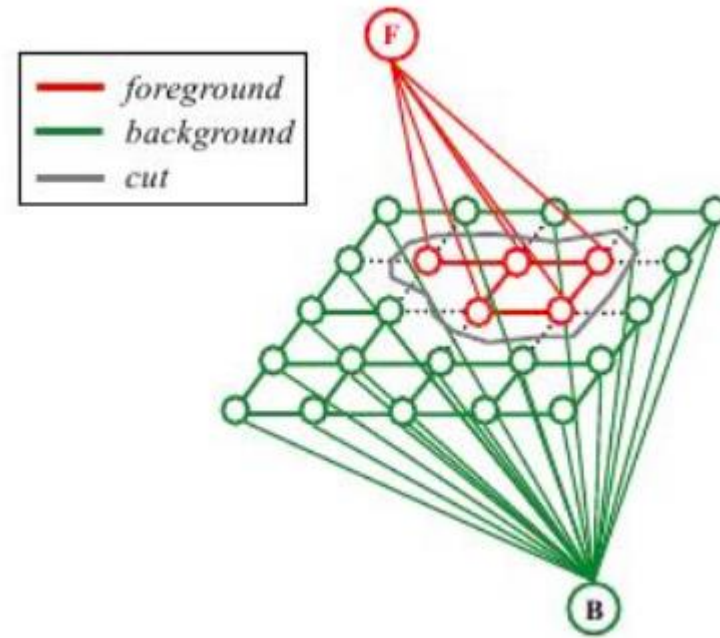
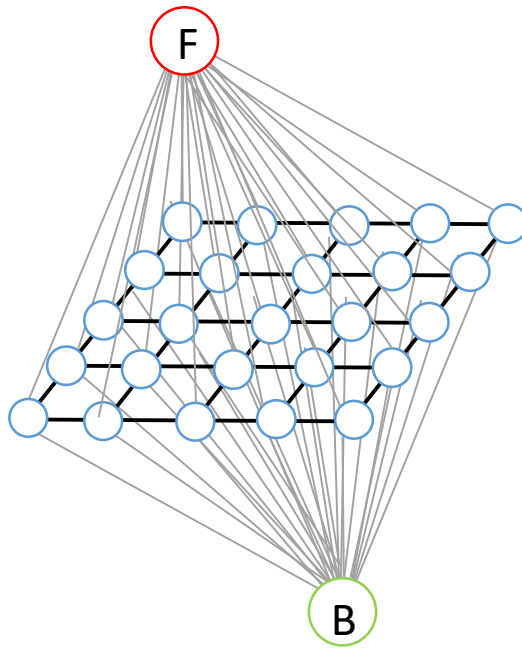
Graph Cut

- Now consider that all the vertices (pixels) are connected to two dummy **terminal** nodes through a set of **t-links**



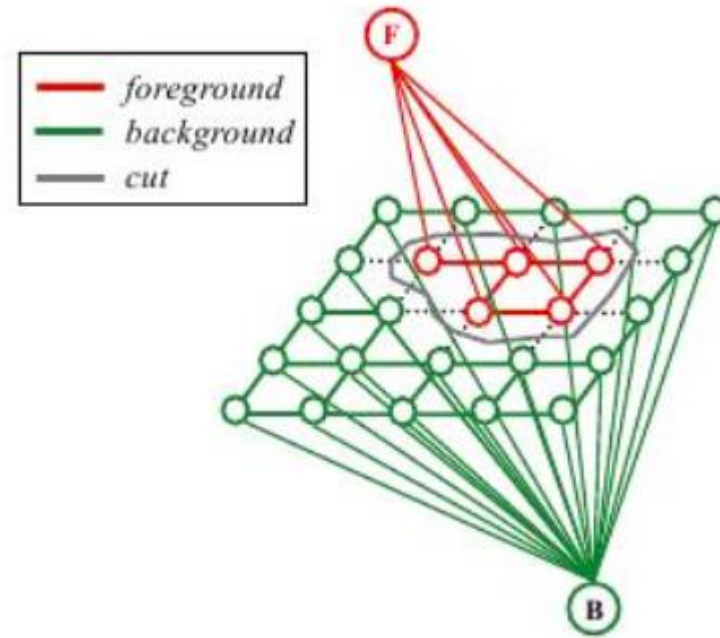
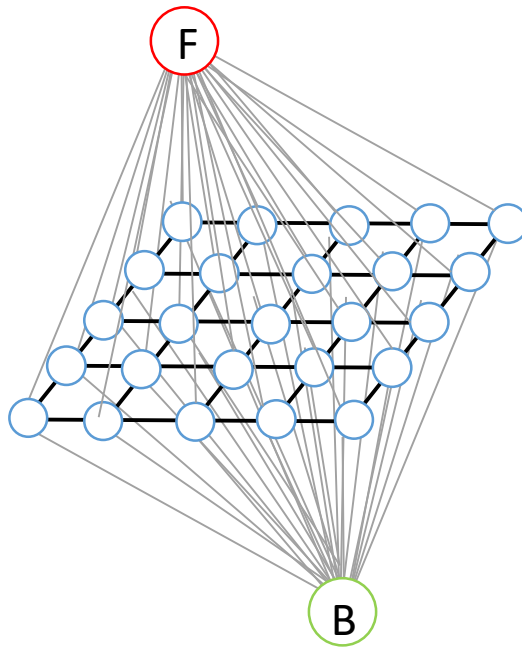
Graph Cut

- The main idea is to find a cut in the graph that separates the two terminal nodes.



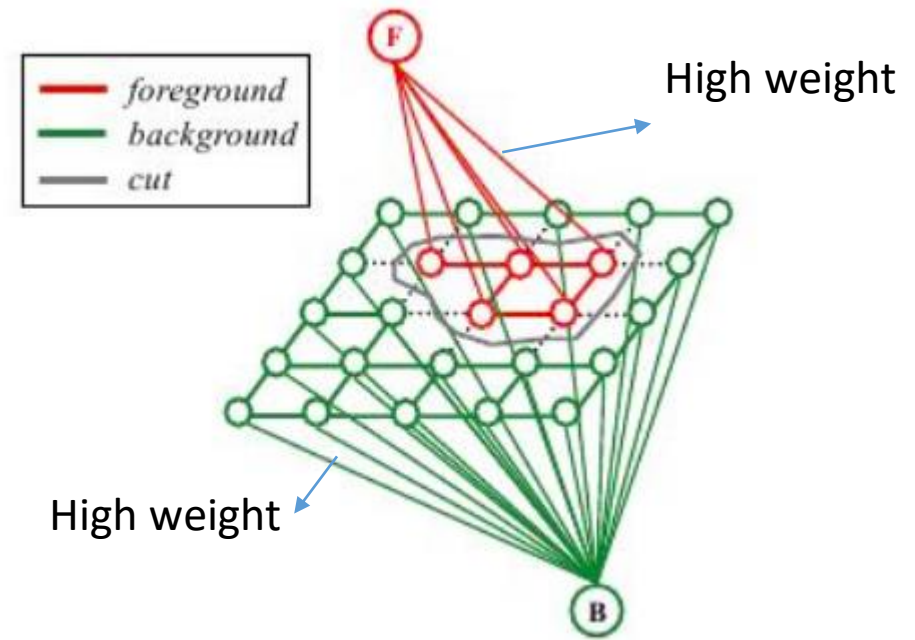
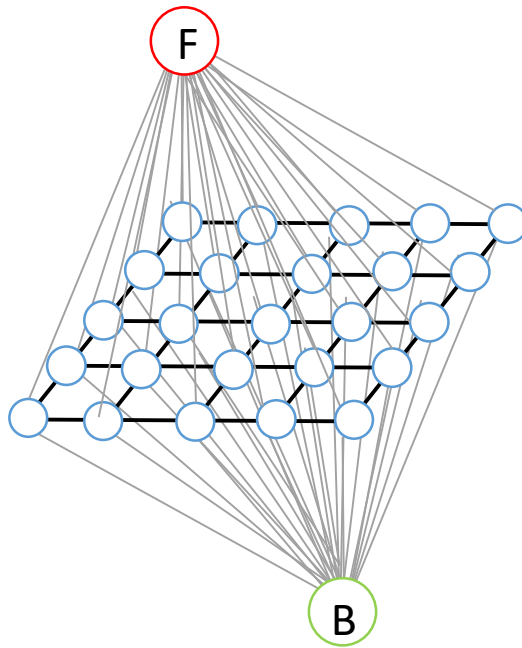
Graph Cut

- A cut is a set of edges that are removed from the graph.



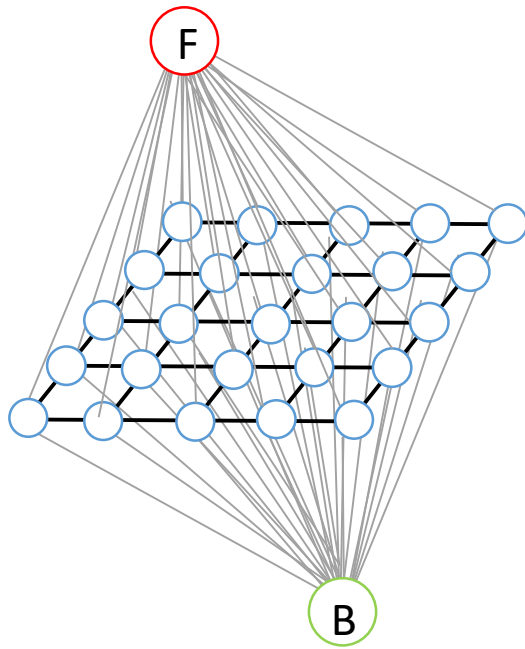
Graph Cut

- If we assign a high weight to the edges that we want to keep, we are looking for a minimal cut (set of edges with low weights)



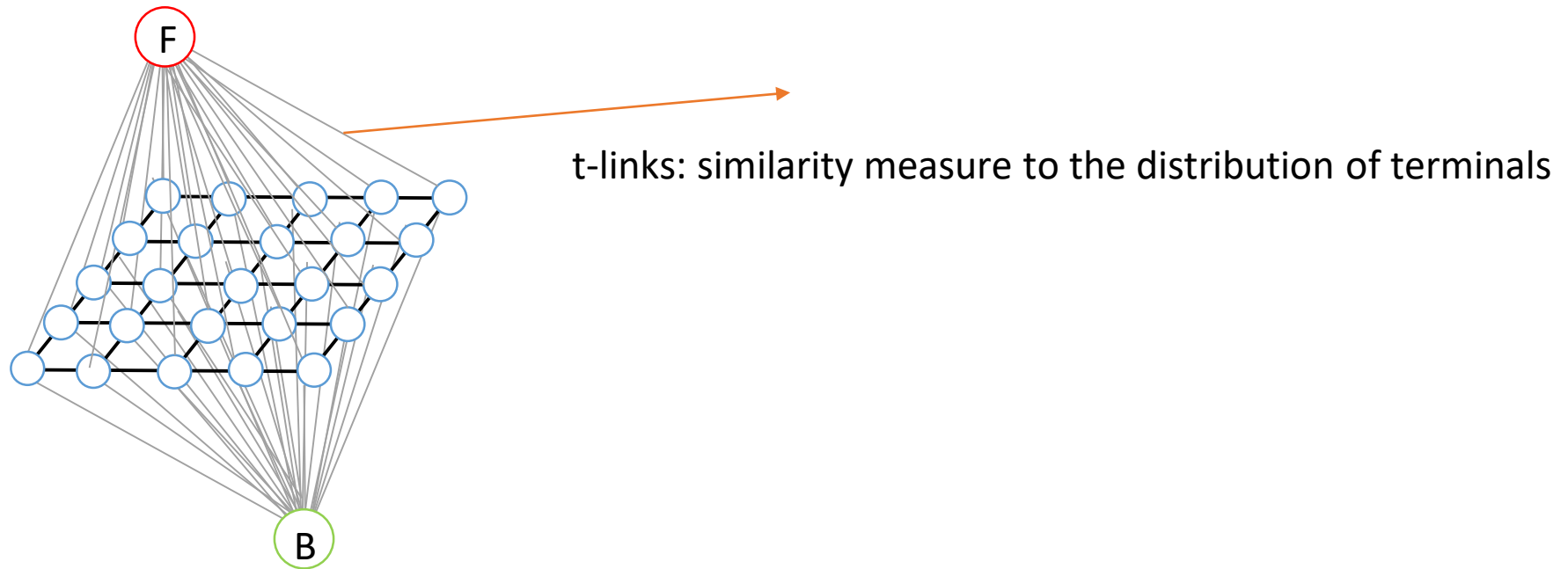
Graph Cut

- What function do you suggest for weights of the edges?



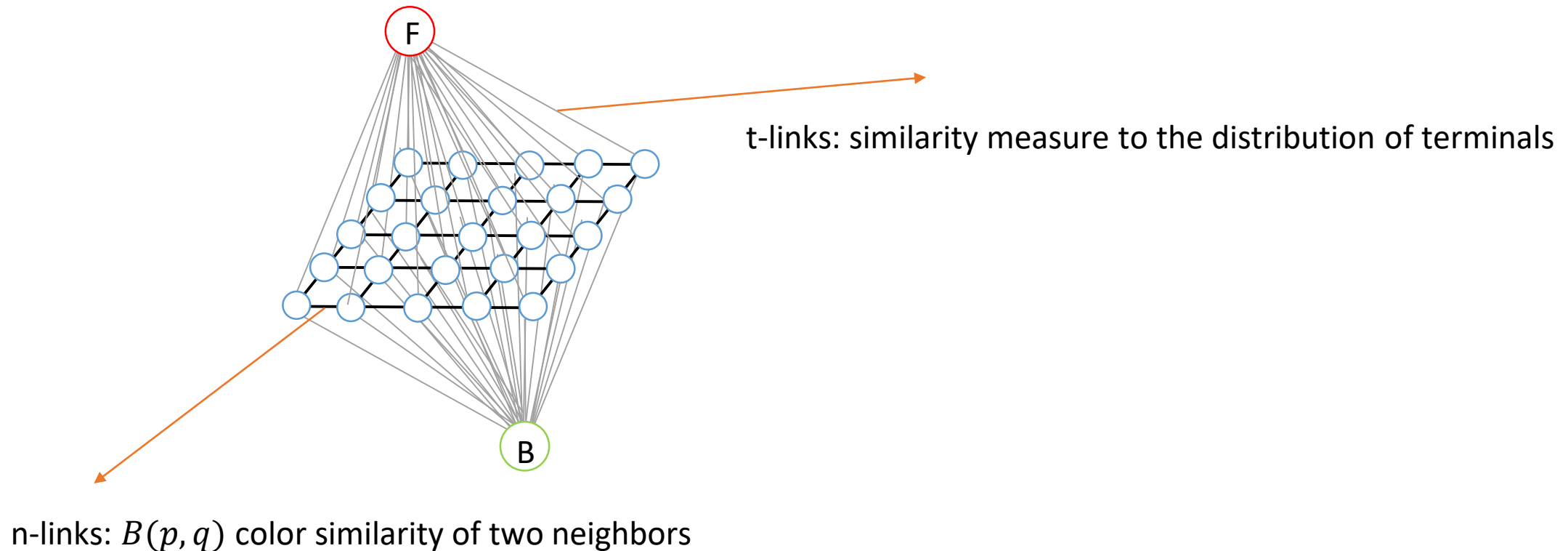
Graph Cut

- What function do you suggest for weights of the edges?



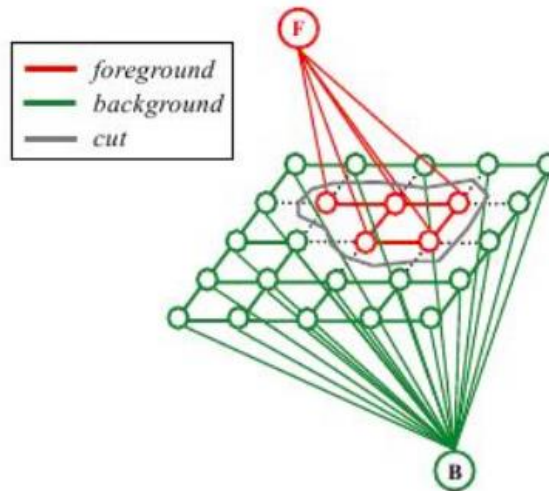
Graph Cut

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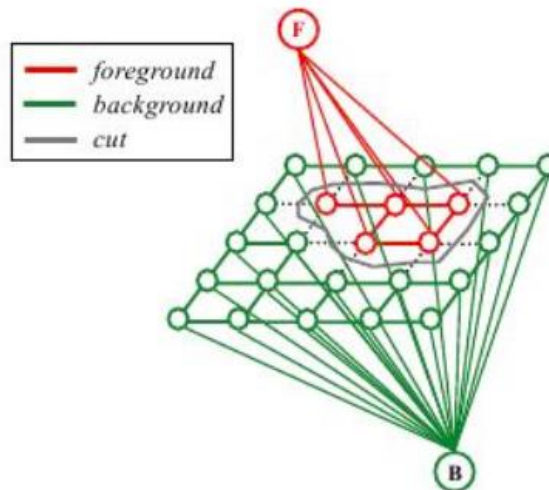
Graph Cut

- We are looking to collect edges with minimum weights that separate terminal nodes F and B.



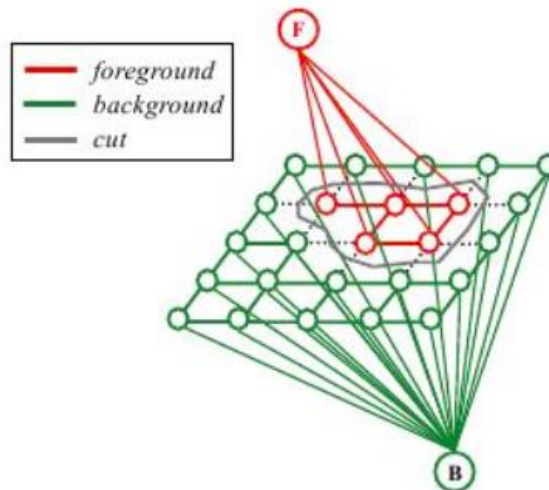
Graph Cut

- We are looking to collect edges with minimum weights that separate terminal nodes F and B.
- Again, there is an exponential number of cuts.



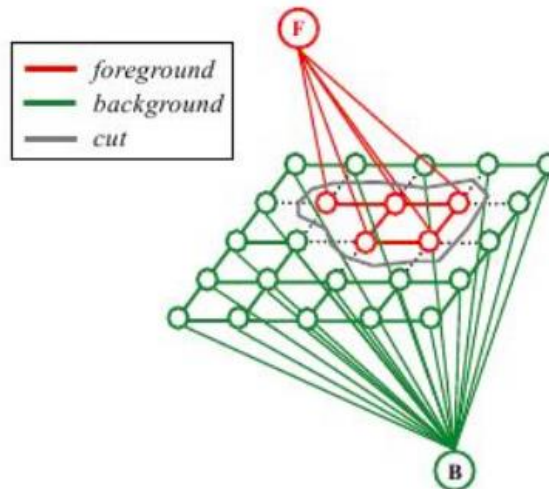
Graph Cut

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Graph Cut

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- Again, there is an exponential number of cuts. Why?
 - $2^{|E|}$



Ford Fulkerson

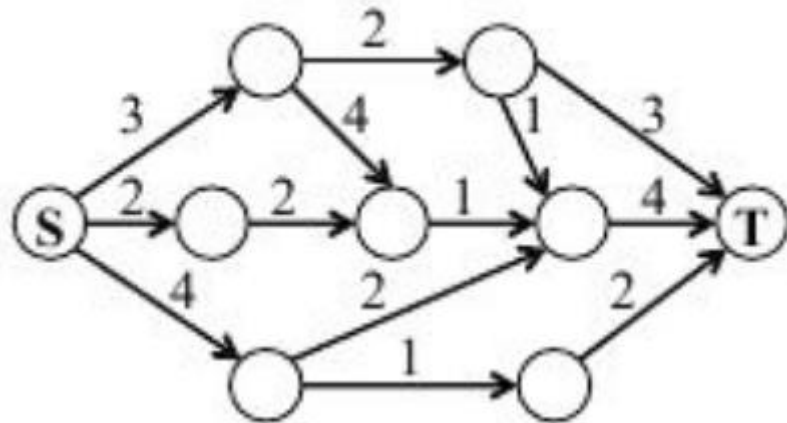
- This algorithm finds the minimum cut in $O(|E|f)$, f is the maximum number of **flows**.

Ford Fulkerson

- This algorithm finds the minimum cut in $O(|E|f)$, f is the maximum number of flows.
- Let's see what are flows.

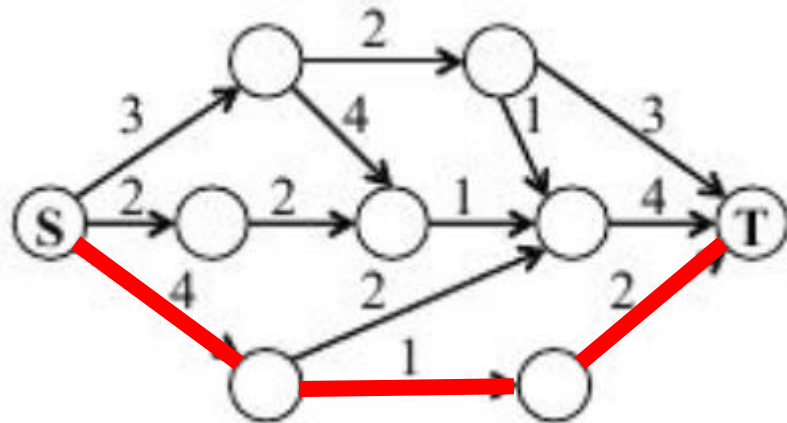
Ford Fulkerson

- Let's say we have the following graph and we want to find its minimum cut from **S** to **T**.



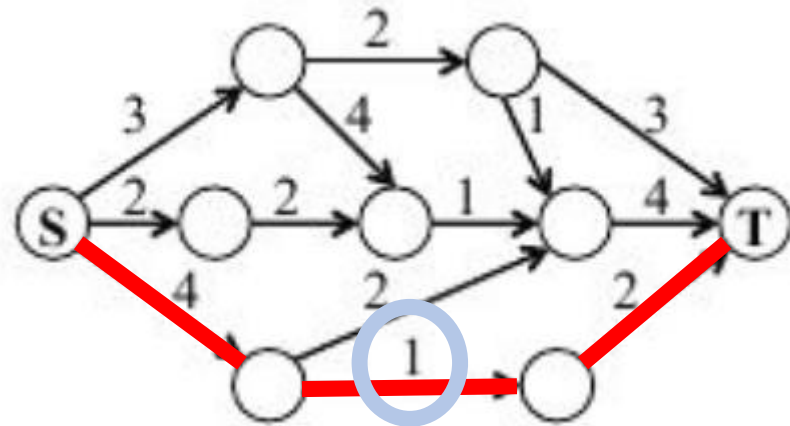
Ford Fulkerson

- In the first step, we find the **augmenting path** which is a **shortest path** from **S** to **T** with **nonzero weights** on it.



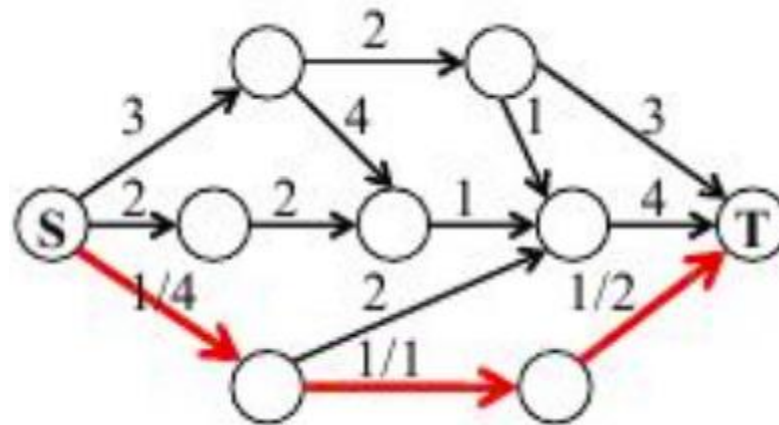
Ford Fulkerson

- Second Step, we find the **minimum edge**



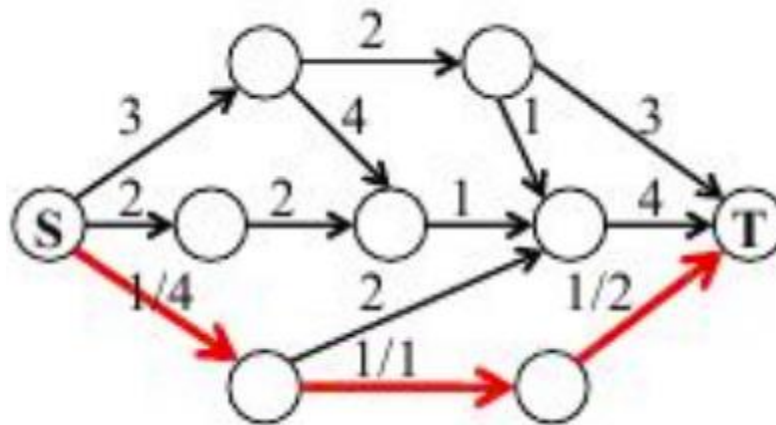
Ford Fulkerson

- Second Step, we find the **minimum edge** and **flow** the path with that Value.



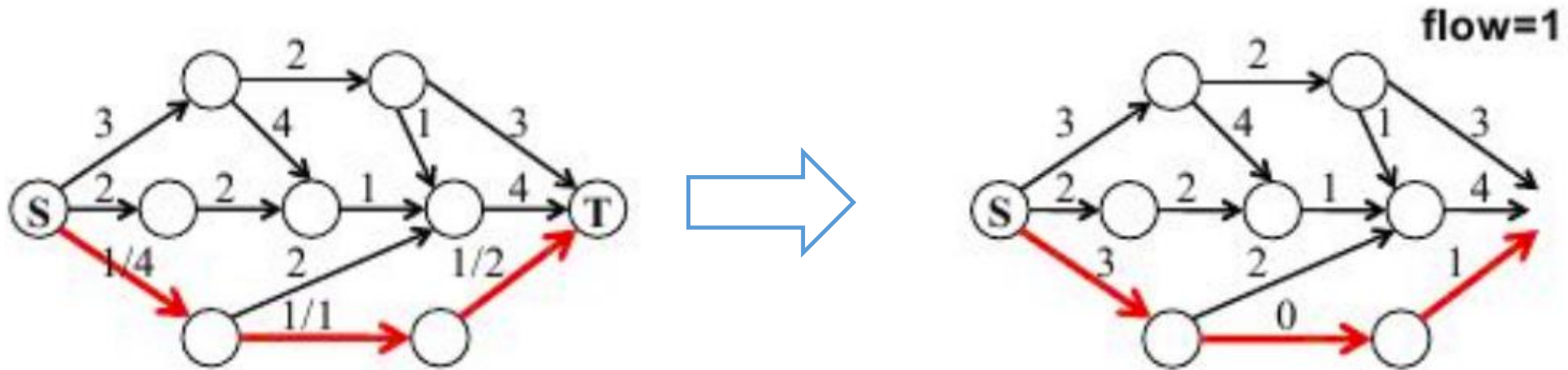
Ford Fulkerson

- Third Step, we **update the weight** of all the nodes participating in the path **by subtracting the amount of flow from the initial weights**.



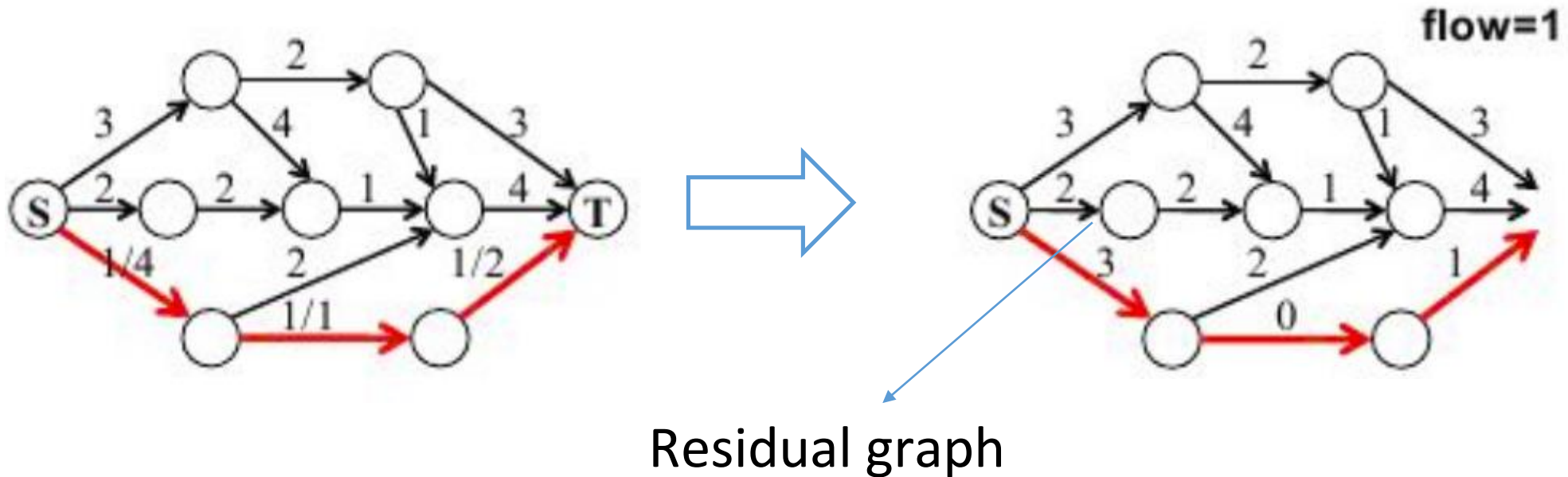
Ford Fulkerson

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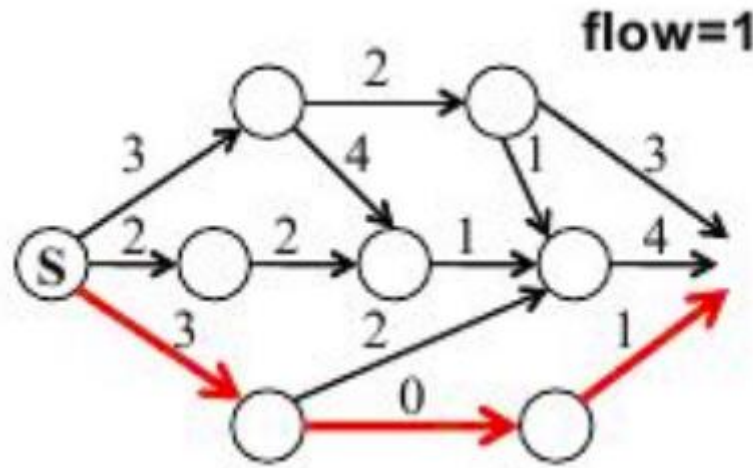
Ford Fulkerson

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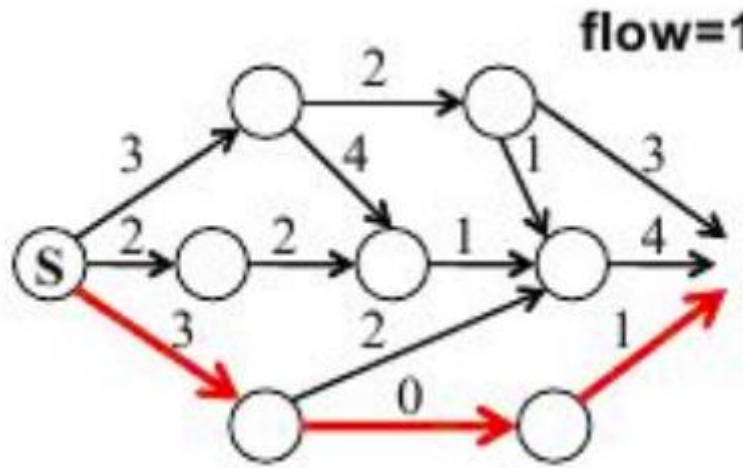
Ford Fulkerson

- We repeat the same process on the residual graph.



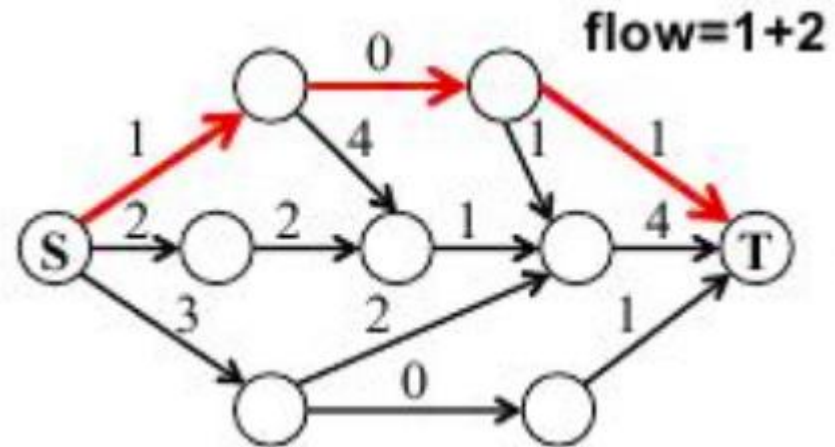
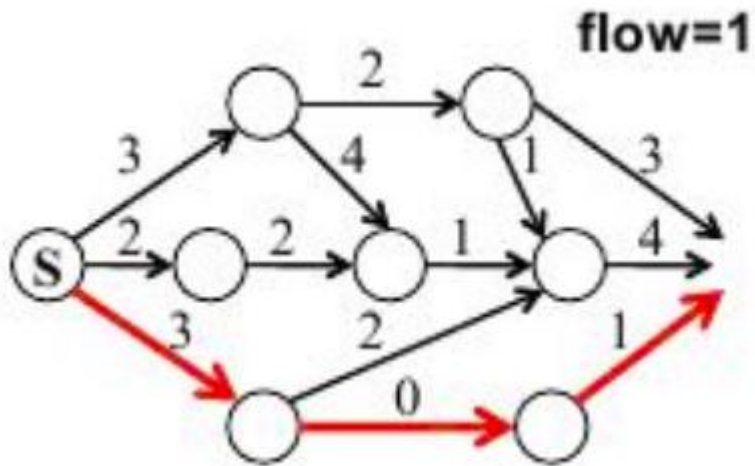
Ford Fulkerson

- We repeat the same process on the residual graph.
- The path that we went through is not picked again. **why?**



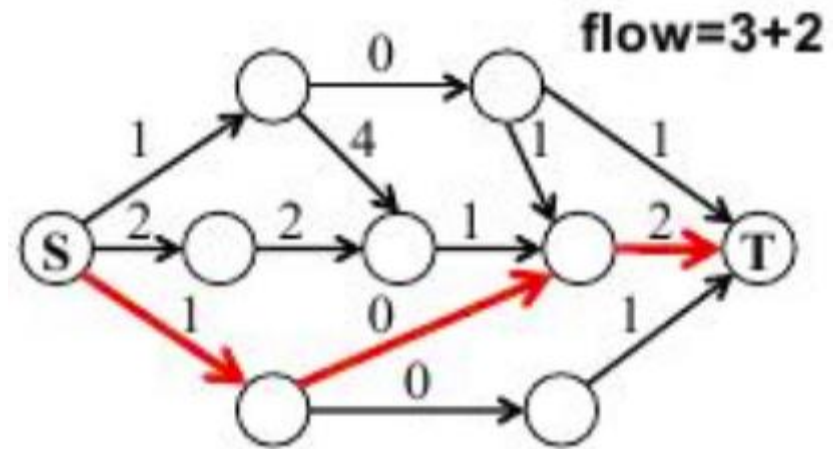
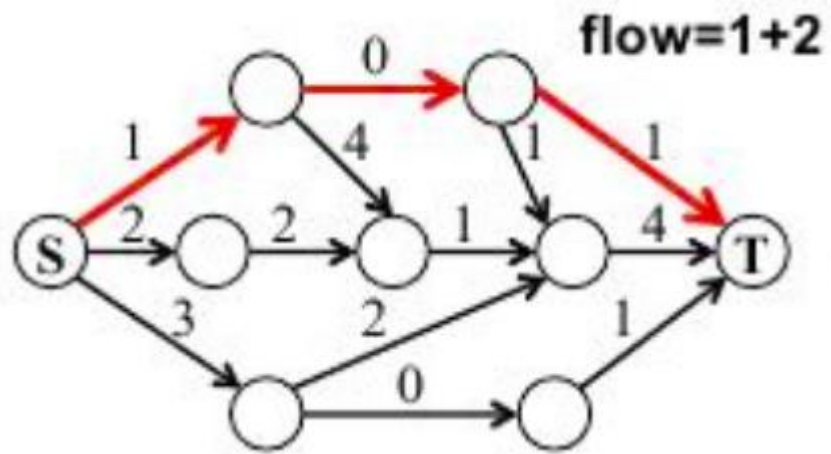
Ford Fulkerson

- Applying the same process:



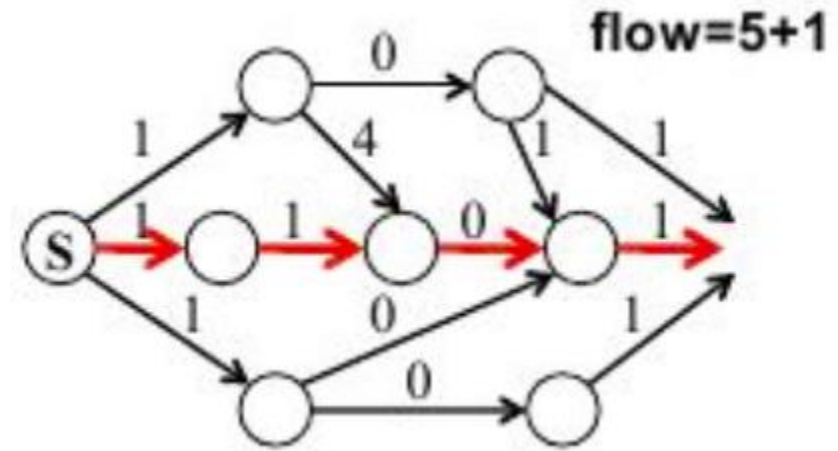
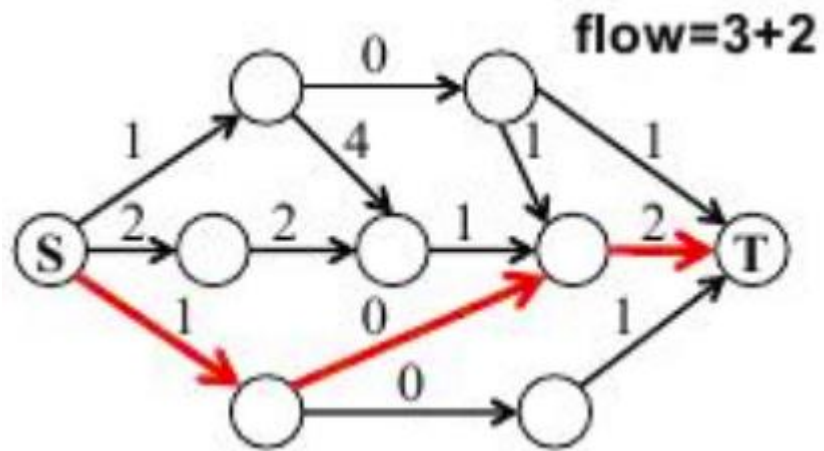
Ford Fulkerson

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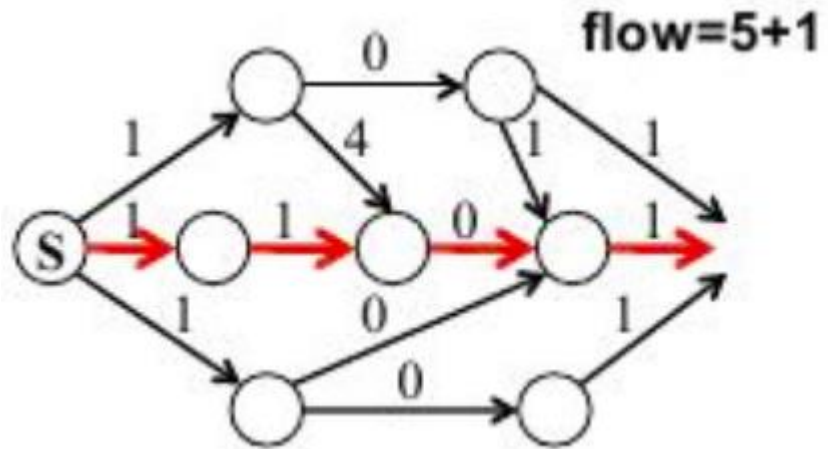
Ford Fulkerson

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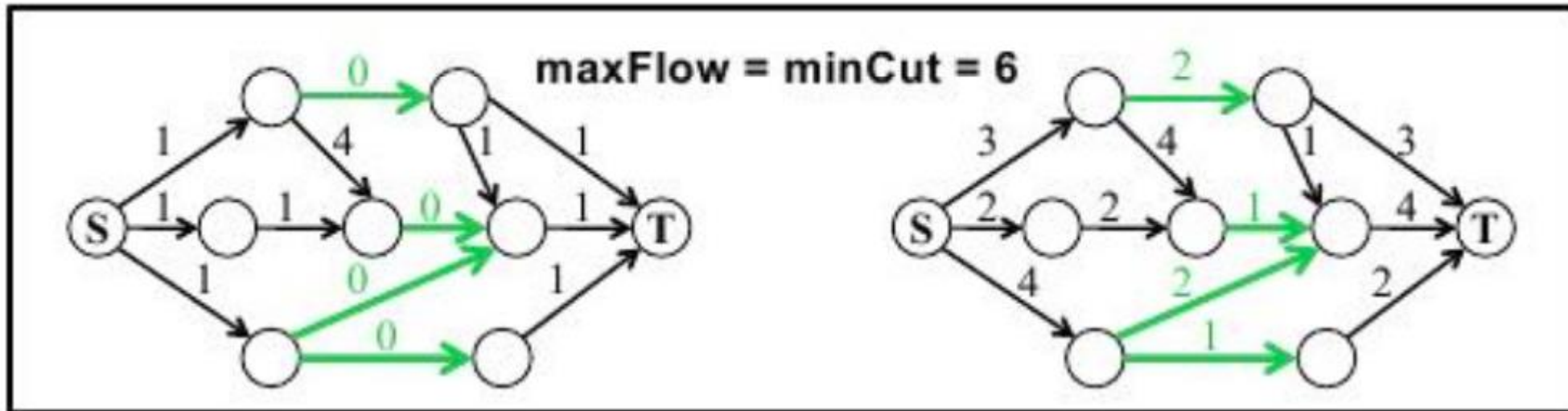
Ford Fulkerson

- No augmenting path anymore, the cut is found



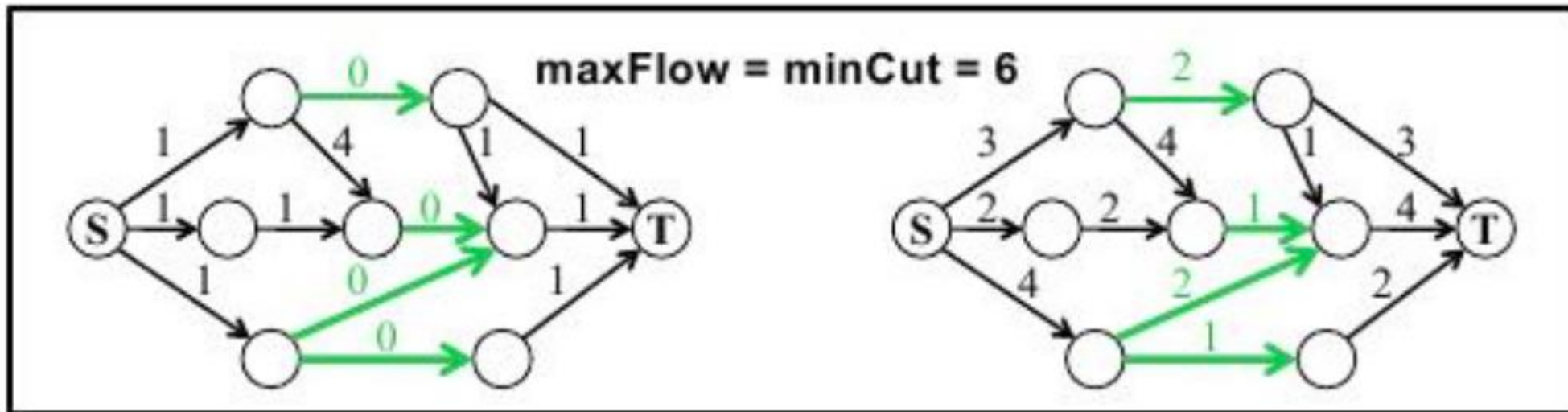
Ford Fulkerson

- No augmenting path anymore, the cut is found



Ford Fulkerson

- In fact, each iteration of this algorithm finds one edge belonging to the cut.



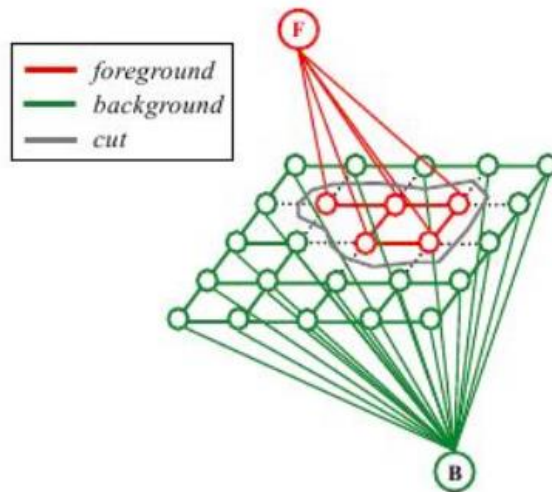
Ford Fulkerson

- Algorithm

```
Ford--Fulkerson( graph  $G$ , node  $s$ , node  $t$  ) {  
    Initialize  $f(e) = 0$  for all  $e \in E$ .  
    Repeat {  
        Find an augmenting path  $A$  in  $G$  between  $s$  and  $t$   
        Augment  $f(e)$  for each edges  $e \in A$   
         $G$  = calculate residual graph using  $A$   
    } Until no more augmenting paths found in  $G$   
}
```

Recap

- Connect all pixels to two terminal nodes representing F/B.
- Assign proper weights to the edges.
- Apply Ford Fulkerson algorithm to separate F/B nodes.



Questions?