

# Homework 1

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Course: *Network dynamics and learning* – Professor: *Fagnani fabio*  
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The homework has been carried out alone but then it has been checked and discussed with course students: Davide Bussone, Pedro Ramirez Hernandez, Antonio Dimitris Defonte.

## Exercise 1

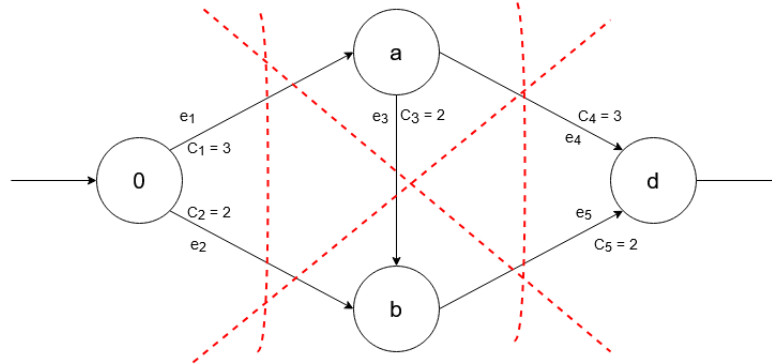


Figure 1: graph cuts

**a-b).** The four  $o$ - $d$  cuts  $U_1 = \{o\}$ ,  $U_2 = \{o, a\}$ ,  $U_3 = \{o, b\}$  and  $U_4 = \{o, a, b\}$  have capacities:

$$C_{U_1} = 5, C_{U_2} = 7, C_{U_3} = 5 \text{ and } C_{U_4} = 5$$

According to the max-flow min-cut theorem, the max possible flow is the minimum between  $C_{U_n}$  which is  $\tau_{o,d} = 5$  for  $C_{U_1}, C_{U_3}$  and  $C_{U_4}$ . The infimum that if removed does not allow an unitary flow is  $4 + \epsilon$ . To maximize the throughput  $\tau$  by adding 2 additional capacities points, they should be apportioned between  $C_2$  and  $C_5$  making  $\tau_{o,d}^* = C_{U_1} = C_{U_3} = C_{U_4} = 6$ .

**c).** Wardrop equilibrium. The paths colored in the picture above are  $p^1, p^2, p^3$  (red, green, blue), with respective flows  $z_1, z_2$  and  $z_3$ . So it turns out that

- $x_1 = z_1 + z_2 \Rightarrow d_1(x) = (z_1 + z_2) + 1$
- $x_2 = z_3 \Rightarrow d_2(x) = 5(z_3) + 1$
- $x_3 = z_3 \Rightarrow d_3(x) = 1$

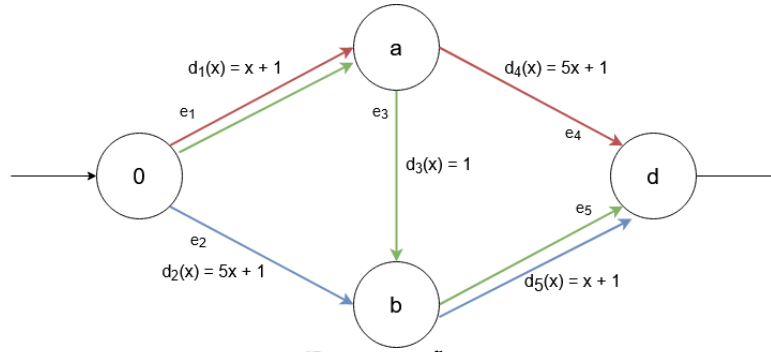


Figure 2: flows

- $x_4 = z_1 \Rightarrow d_4(x) = 5(z_1) + 1$
- $x_5 = z_2 + z_3 \Rightarrow d_5(x) = (z_2 + z_3) + 1$

and for each path the total delay is given by:

- $d_{p^1} = d_1 + d_4 = 6z_1 + z_2 + 2$
- $d_{p^2} = d_1 + d_3 + d_4 = z_1 + 2z_2 + z_3 + 3$
- $d_{p^3} = d_2 + d_5 = 6z_3 + z_2 + 2$

As it could be noticed in the figure 2 there is an horizontal symmetry of delays that could lead to have  $d_1 = d_2$  given  $z_1 = z_3$ .

To calculate the W.E. for an unitary flow we consider  $z_2 = 1 - z_1 - z_3$ .

- $d_{p^1} = 5z_1 - z_3 + 3$
- $d_{p^2} = -z_1 - z_3 + 5$
- $d_{p^3} = 5z_3 - z_1 + 3$

Then we suppose that  $z_1 > 0 \Rightarrow d_{p^1} \leq d_{p^2}, d_{p^1} \leq d_{p^3}$  (the condition is based on the selfish behaviour of users).

- $5z_1 - z_3 + 3 \leq -z_1 - z_3 + 5 \Rightarrow z_1 \leq 1/3$
- $5z_1 - z_3 + 3 \leq 5z_3 - z_1 + 3 \Rightarrow z_1 \leq z_3$

But if  $z_1 \leq z_3$  means that  $z_3 > 0$  so  $d_{p^1} = d_{p^3}$ . As we supposed before the flows are symmetric  $z_1 = z_3$ , moreover  $z_1 = z_3 = 1/3$ , that means  $z_2 = 1 - z_1 - z_3 = 1/3$

- $z_1 = 1/3 \Rightarrow d_{p^1} = 13/3$
- $z_2 = 1/3 \Rightarrow d_{p^2} = 13/3$
- $z_3 = 1/3 \Rightarrow d_{p^3} = 13/3$

And so the average delay is  $13/3$ .

d). The social optimum flow vector is the vector  $\mathbf{z} = [z_1, z_2, z_3]$  that minimizes the total cost associated.

$$C = 6z_1^2 + 2z_2^2 + 6z_3^2 + 2z_1z_2 + 2z_2z_3 + 2z_1 + 3z_2 + 2z_3$$

That by substitution becomes:

$$C = 6z_1^2 + 6z_3^2 - 3z_1 - 3z_3 + 5$$

To find the minimum we consider the partial derivatives of  $C$  over  $z_1$  and  $z_2$ .

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial z_1} = 12z_1 - 3$$

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial z_3} = 12z_3 - 3$$

In the end given that the cost function is an increasing function, being a set of sum/-multiplication of delays and flows that are non negative, we have that for  $\partial C = 0$  there is a global minimum, condition satisfied by  $z_1 = z_3 = 1/4 \Rightarrow z_2 = 1/2$ . We could also state that it is the global minimum by checking the second derivative which is 12 for both variables, that means the function is convex over  $z_1, z_3 \in [0, 1]$ .

The min cost is:  $\frac{17}{4}$  for  $Z = \left(\frac{1}{3} \quad \frac{1}{3} \quad \frac{1}{3}\right)$ .

e). The associated price of anarchy is:  $6z_1 + 6z_3 + 2z_2 + 5$

$$PoA = \frac{\frac{13}{3}}{\frac{17}{4}} = \frac{52}{51}$$

f). The tolls must be set to reduce the PoA to 1 are:

$$w^* = c'(f^*) - d_f^* = f^* d'(f^*)$$

$$d'(f^*) = \{1, 5, 0, 5, 1\}$$

$$f^* = \{3/4, 1/4, 1/2, 1/4, 3/4\}$$

$$\Rightarrow w^* = \{3/4, 5/4, 0, 5/4, 3/4\}$$

## Exercise 2

$w_e = 1 \forall e \in \Sigma \setminus \{w_0 = a\}$  The related condensation graph  $H_g$  is composed from a single node, that means it is strongly connected.

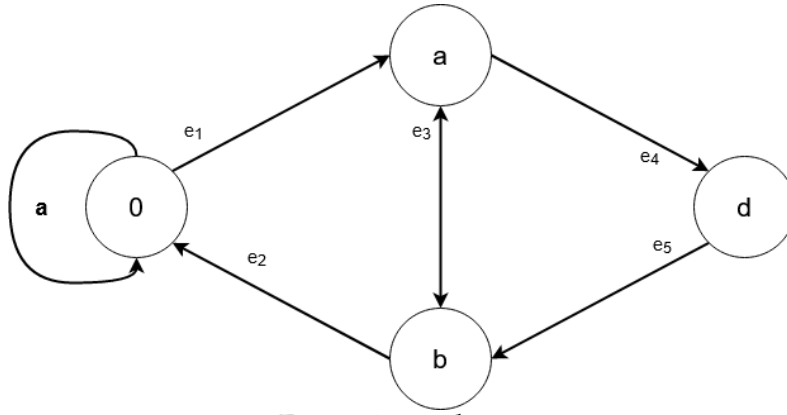


Figure 3: graph cuts

$$\text{a). } W = \begin{pmatrix} a & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad w = W\mathbb{1} = \begin{pmatrix} a+1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad D = \text{diag}(w) = \begin{pmatrix} a+1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$D^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{a}{a+1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix} \quad P = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{a}{a+1} & \frac{1}{a+1} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad L = D - W = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

**b-c).** As said at the beginning of this section, the graph is strongly connected and moreover the relative condensation graph is composed by a single node, that means a unique sink  $s_g = 1$ , that coincide with the number of consensus vectors possible. Moreover the graph is aperiodic  $\forall a \geq 0$ , it follows that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t)$$

converges  $\forall a \geq 0$ .

**d).** Given  $a=0$  the graph is strongly connected and balanced, so for  $x = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) = \mathbb{1} \pi' x(0)$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) = \mathbb{1} \alpha$$

$$\alpha = \pi' x(0)$$

$$\pi = \frac{w}{|w|} = \left( \frac{1}{6} \quad \frac{1}{3} \quad \frac{1}{6} \quad \frac{1}{3} \right)$$

$$\alpha = -\frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \end{pmatrix}$$

e). For  $a \geq 0$  the graph is still balanced,

$$\Rightarrow \pi = \left( \frac{a+1}{a+6} \quad \frac{2}{a+6} \quad \frac{1}{a+6} \quad \frac{2}{a+6} \right)$$

$$\alpha = -\frac{a+1}{a+6} + \frac{2}{a+6} - \frac{1}{a+6} + \frac{2}{a+6} = \frac{2-a}{a+6}$$

$$a = \min_{a \geq 0} a \mid \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x_1(t) < 0 \iff a = 2$$

.

f).

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x_1(t) = \alpha$$

Again for a generic  $a \geq 0$ ,

$$\pi = \left( \frac{a+1}{a+6} \quad \frac{2}{a+6} \quad \frac{1}{a+6} \quad \frac{2}{a+6} \right)$$

but alpha would be:

$$\alpha = x_1(0) \frac{a+1}{a+6} + x_2(0) \frac{2}{a+6} + x_3(0) \frac{1}{a+6} + x_4(0) \frac{2}{a+6} = \frac{x_1(0)(a+1) + 2x_2(0) + x_3(0) + 2x_4(0)}{a+6}$$

$$\text{Var}(\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x_1(t)) = \text{Var}(\alpha) = \mathbb{E}[\alpha^2] - \mathbb{E}[\alpha]^2$$

$$\mathbb{E}[x_i] = 0 \forall x_i \in x(0) \Rightarrow \mathbb{E}[\alpha]^2 = 0$$

$$\text{Var}(\alpha) = \mathbb{E}[\alpha^2] =$$

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{2(a+1)(2x_2x_1 + x_3x_1 + 2x_4x_1) + x_1^2(a+1)^2 + 4(x_2^2 + x_2x_3 + 2x_2x_4 + x_3x_4 + x_4^2) + x_3^2}{(a+6)^2} \right]$$

$$= \frac{(a+1)^2 \mathbb{E}[x_1^2] + 4\mathbb{E}[x_2^2] + \mathbb{E}[x_3^2] + 4\mathbb{E}[x_4^2]}{(a+6)^2}$$

$$= \frac{a^2 + 2a + 10}{(a+6)^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial \text{Var}}{\partial a} = \frac{2(5a-4)}{(6+a)^3}$$

$$\frac{\partial \text{Var}}{\partial a} = 0 \iff a = \frac{4}{5}$$

So in the end, the variance would be minimized for  $a = 4/5$ .

**Exercise 3**

a). The Florence's families graph is undirected, balanced and strongly-connected. This means that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) = \mathbb{1} \pi' x(0)$$

. The initial opinion  $x(0)$  is 0 except for

- Medici :  $1 \Rightarrow \pi_{Medici} = \frac{6}{38}$
- Strozzi :  $-1 \Rightarrow \pi_{Strozzi} = \frac{4}{38}$

Every other product is 0, so

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{19}$$

and

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) = \frac{1}{19} \mathbb{1}_{(15)}$$

A python version of this exercise is available at the end of the homework.

c). In this part the graph will be solved with the simplification of the electric networks. A variant is reported in the end.

In the final figure is shown the asymptotic opinion, with

- red : -1
- white : 0
- blue : 1

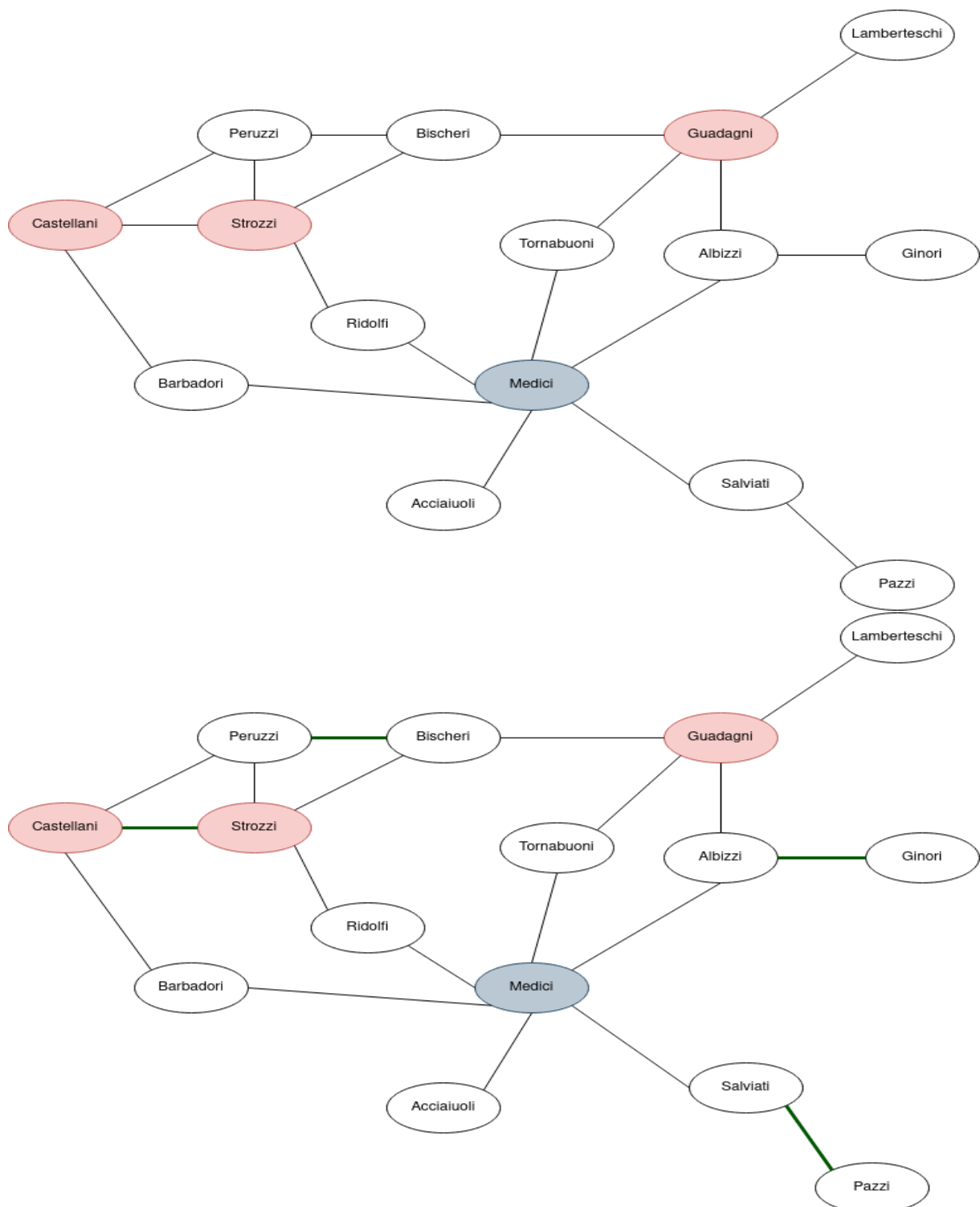


Figure 4: The green edges represent the possible glue simplifications



Figure 5: The red edges represent the parallel simplification





Figure 6: in this step intermediary nodes between concord stubborn nodes and dead end nodes are simplified (in an electric network no current flow would pass through)

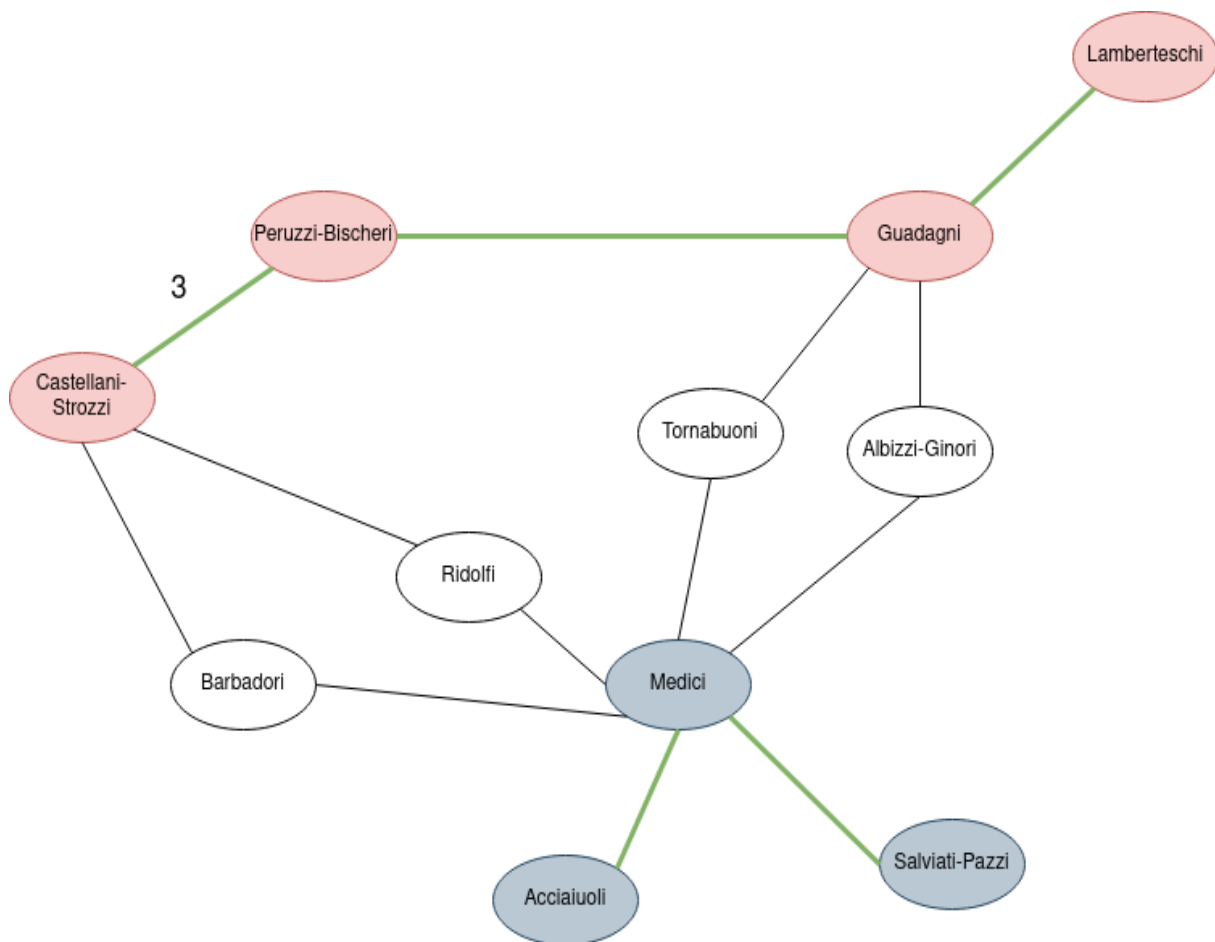


Figure 7: again a glue simplification

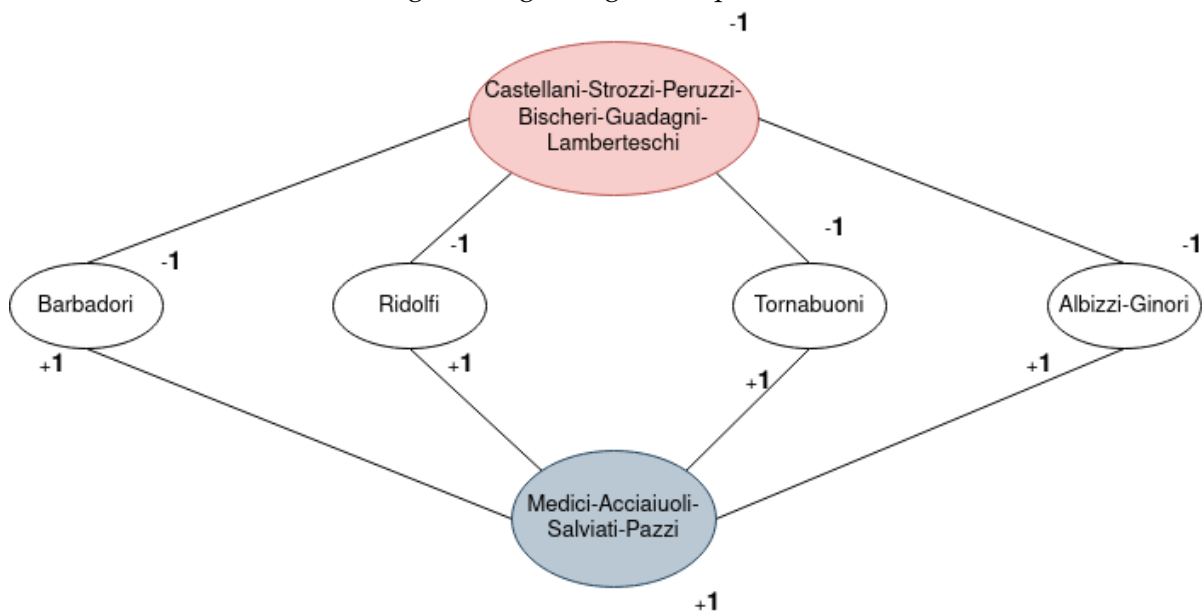


Figure 8: No more simplifications are required it is clear the result (red : -1, white : 0, blue : 1) the sum of currents for each white node is 0