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Lecture 1 (2011-10-13):**Graph basics****Definition 2.1** (connected):

A graph is called *zusammenhängend* (*connected*) if there exists a $[s,t]$ -Path between all pairs of vertices $s, t \in V$.

Definition 2.2 (forrest, tree, spanning, forest problem, minimum spanning tree):

A *Wald* (*forest*) is a graph that does not contain a cycle (Kreis). A connected forest is called a *Baum* (*tree*). A tree in a graph (as subgraph) is called *aufspannend* (*spanning*), if it contains all vertices.

Given a graph $G = (V, E)$ with edge weights $c_e \in \mathbb{R}$ for all $e \in E$, the task to find a forest $W \subset E$ such that $c(W) := \sum_{e \in W} c_e$ is maximal, is called the *Problem des maximalen Waldes* (*Maximum Forest Problem*). The task to find a tree $T \subset E$ which spans G and which weight $c(T)$ is minimal, is called the *minimaler Spannbaum* (*Minimum Spanning Tree (MST) problem*).

Lemma 2.3:

A tree $G = (V, E)$ with at least 2 vertices has at least 2 vertices of degree 1.

Proof. Let v be arbitrary. Since G is connected, $\deg(v) \geq 1$. Assume $\deg(v) = 1$. So $\delta(v) = \{vw\}$. If $\deg(w) = 1$, we found two vertices with degree 1. If $\deg(w) > 1$, there exist a neighbour of w , different from $v : u$. Now, again u has degree 1 or higher. If we repeat this procedure we either find a vertex of degree 1 or find again new vertices. Hence, after at most $n - 1$ vertices we end up at a vertex of degree 1. Now, if $\deg(v) \geq 2$, we do the same and find a vertex of degree 1, say w . Then repeat the above, starting from w to find a second vertex of degree 1. \square

Corollary 2.4:

A tree $G = (V, E)$ with maximum degree Δ has at least Δ vertices of degree 1.

Lemma 2.5: (a) For every graph $G = (V, E)$ it holds that $2|E| = \sum_{u \in V} \deg(u)$

(b) for every tree $G = (V, E)$ it holds that $|E| = |V| - 1$.

Proof. (a) trivial

(b) Proof by induction. Clearly, if $|V| = 1$ or $|V| = 2$ it holds. Assumption: true for $n \geq 2$. Let G be a tree with $n + 1$ vertices. By Lemma 2.3, there exists a vertex $v \in G$ with $\deg(v) = 1$. $G - v = G[V \setminus \{v\}]$ is a tree again with n vertices and thus $|E(G - v)| = |V(G - v)| - 1$. Since G differs by one vertex and one edge from $G - v$, the claim holds for G as well. \square

Lemma 2.6:

If $G = (V, E)$ with $|V| \geq 2$ has $|E| < |V| - 1$, G is not connected.

MST and Shortest Path Algorithms

$\min_{x \in X} = -\max_{x \in X} - c(x)$ maximal forest

X spanning trees

$$\min_{x \in X} + (n-1)D = -\max_{x \in X} - c(x)(n-1)D = \max_{x \in X} \sum \underbrace{D - C_{ij}x_{ij}}_{\geq 0 \text{ if } D \geq \max_{ij \in E} C_{ij}}$$

Theorem 2.7:

Kruskal's Algorithm returns the optimal solution.

Proof. Let T be Kruskal's tree and assume there exists a tree T' with $c(T') < c(T)$. Then there exist an edge $e' \in T' \setminus T$. Then $T \cup \{e'\}$ contains a cycle $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_k, e'\}$. Let $c_f = \max_{i=1, \dots, k} c_{ij}$. At the moment Kruskal chooses edge f , edge e' cannot be added yet and therefore $c(e') \geq c(f)$. Now exchange e' by f in T' . Hence the number of differences between T' and T is reduced by one, $c(T'_{\text{new}}) \leq c(T') < c(T)$. Repeating the procedure results in $c(T) \leq \dots < c(T)$, a contradiction. \square

Lecture 3 (2011-10-17):

Definition 2.7(+1):

The *Laufzeit (running time of algorithms)* of an algorithm is measured by the number of operations needed in worst case of a function of the input size. We use the $O(\cdot)$ notation (Big-O-notation) to focus on the most important factor of the running time, ignoring constants and smaller factors.

Example 2.7(+2):

If the running time is $3n \cdot \log n + 26n$, the algorithm runs in $O(n \cdot \log n)$. If the running time is $3n \cdot \log n + 25n^2$, the algorithm runs in $O(n^2)$.

For graph Problems, the running is expressed in the number of vertices $n = |V|$ and the number of edges $m = |E|$. Sometimes m is approximated by n^2 .

Example 2.7(+3) (Kruskal's Algorithm):

First, the edges are sorted according to nondecreasing weights. This can be done in $O(m \cdot \log m)$. Next, we repeatedly select an edge or reject its selection until $n-1$ edges are selected. Since the last selected edge might be after m steps, this routine is performed at most $O(m)$ times.

Checking whether the end nodes of $\{u, v\}$ are already in the same tree can be done in constant time, if we label the vertices of the trees selected so far: $r(u) = \# \text{trees containing } u$. If $r(u) \neq r(v)$, the trees are connected by $\{u, v\}$ to a new tree.

Without going into details, the resetting of labels in one of the old trees, can be done $O(\log n)$ on average. Since this update has to be done at most $n-1$ times, it takes $O(n \cdot \log n)$.

Overall, Kruskal runs in

$$O(n \log m + m + n \cdot \log n) = O(m \cdot \log m) = O(m \cdot \log n^2) = O(m \cdot \log n)$$

Definition 2.7(+4) (Shortest paths in acyclic digraphs):

A directed graph (digraph) $D = (V, A)$ is called *acyklisch* (*acyclic*) if it does not contain any *directed cycles*, i.e. a *Kette* (*chain*) $(v_0, a_1, v_1, a_2, v_2, \dots, a_k, v_k)$, $k \geq 0$, with $a_i(v_{i-1}, v_i) \in A$ and $v_k = v_0$. In particular, D does not contain *entgegengesetzt* (*antiparallel*) arcs: if $(u, v) \in A$, $(v, u) \notin A$. With $\delta_D^+(v)$ we denote the arcs leaving vertex v :

$$\delta_D^+(v) = \{(u, w) \in A : u = v\}$$

similarly:

$$\delta_D^-(v) = \{(u, w) \in A : w = v\}$$

are the arcs entering v .

The *Ausgangsgrad* (*outdegree*) of v is $\deg_D^+(v) = |\delta^+(v)|$ (assuming simple digraph)

The *Eingangsgrad* (*indegree*) of v is $\deg_D^-(v) = |\delta^-(v)|$

Definition 3.1:

The *(shortest path)* problem in a acyclic digraph is, given an acyclic digraph $D = (V, A)$, a length function $C : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and two vertices $s, t \in V$, find a $[s, t]$ -path of minimal length.

Question 3.1.1:

Does there exist a $[s, t]$ -path at all?

Theorem 3.2:

A digraph $D = (V, A)$ is acyclic, if and only if there exists a permutation $\sigma : V \rightarrow \{1, \dots, n\}$ of the vertices such that $\deg_{D[v_1, \dots, v_n]}^-(v_i) = 0$ for all $i = 1, \dots, n$ with $v_i = \sigma^{-1}(i)$.

Proof. By induction:

For digraph with $|V| = 1$, the statement is true. Assume the statement is true for all digraphs with $|V| \leq n$ and consider $D = (V, A)$ acyclic with $n + 1$ vertices. If there does not exist a vertex with $\deg_D^-(v) = 0$, a directed cycle can be detected by following incoming arcs backwards until a vertex is repeated, a contradiction regarding the acyclic property of D .

Hence, let v be a vertex with $\deg_D^-(v) = 0$. Set $v_1 = v$. The digraph $D - v_1$ has n vertices and is acyclic, and thus has a permutation (v_2, \dots, v_{n+1}) with

$$\deg_{D[v_1, \dots, v_{n+1}]}^-(v_i) = 0 \quad \forall i = 2, \dots, n + 1$$

Now, (v_1, \dots, v_{n+1}) is a permutation fulfilling the condition.

In reverse, if there exists a permutation (v_1, \dots, v_{n+1}) , $\deg_D^-(v_1) = 0$ and there cannot exist a directed cycle containing v_1 . By induction, neither cycles containing v_i , $i = 2, \dots, n + 1$ exist. \square

Theorem 3.3:

A $[s, t]$ -path exists in a acyclic Digraph $D = (V, A)$ if and only if in all permutations $\sigma : V \rightarrow \{1, \dots, n\}$ with $\deg_{D[v_1, \dots, v_n]}^-(v_i) = 0$ for all $i = 1, \dots, n$, it holds that $\sigma(s) < \sigma(t)$.

Proof. Assume there exists a permutation σ with $\sigma(s) > \sigma(t)$. Since outgoing arcs only go to higher ordered vertices, there does not exist a path from s to t in D .

In reverse, if there does not exist a path from s to t , we order all vertices with paths to t first, followed by t and s afterwards. \square

Question 3.3.1:

How do we find the shortest $[s, t]$ -path if it exists?

To simplify notation, let $V = \{1, \dots, n\}$, $s = 1$, $t = n$ and $(i, j) \in A \Rightarrow i < j$. Let $D(i)$ be the distance from i to n and $NEXT(i)$ be the next vertex on the shortest path from i to n .

Bellman's Algorithm

```

1   $D(i) = \{\infty : i < n \text{ and } NEXT(i) = NIL, 0 : i = n\}$ 
2  FOR  $i = n - 1$  DOWNTO 1 DO
3       $D(i) = \min_{j=i+1, \dots, n} \{D(j) + c(i, j)\}$  with  $c(i, j) = \infty$  if
         $(i, j) \notin A$ 
4       $NEXT(i) = \text{Argmin}_{j=i+1, \dots, n} \{D(j) + c(i, j)\}$ 

```

Theorem 3.4:

Bellman's Algorithm is correct and runs in $O(m + n)$ time.

Proof. Every path from 1 to n passes through vertices of increasing ID. Assume there exists a path (a_1, \dots, a_k) with $\sum_{i=1}^k c(a_i) < D(1)$. Let $a_1 = (1, j_1)$. Since $D(1) \leq c(a_1) + D(j_1)$, it should hold that

$$\sum_{i=2}^2 c(a_i) < D(j_1)$$

But $D(j_1) \leq c(a_2) + D(j_2)$ with $a_2 = (j_1, j_2)$, etc.

In the end, $c(a_k) < D(j_{k-1})$ but $D(j_{k-1}) \leq c(a_k) + D(n) = c(a_k)$, contradiction. \square

Lecture 4 (2011-10-20):

Theorem 3.5:

Bellman's Algorithm is correct and runs in $O(m + n) = O(n)$.

Proof. of runtime:

$$D(i) = \min_{(i,j) \in A} D(j) + D(i, j)$$

\Rightarrow Every arc is considered once, and thus overall $O(m)$ computations are needed. Initialization costs $O(n)$. \square

Bemerkung 3.5(+1):

The running time does not contain the time to find the permutation.

Observation 1: We not only found the shortest path from 1 to n , but also from i to n , $i = 2, \dots, n$.

Observation 2: We can use a similar procedure for the shortest path from 1 to i , $i = 2, \dots, n$. (with $PREV(i)$ for previous instead of $NEXT(i)$).

Question 3.5.1:

Can we find a shortest path from 1 to i in a digraph that is not acyclic, i.e. it contains cycles?

Theorem 4.1:

The Moore-Bellman-Algorithm returns the shortest paths from 1 to $i = 1, \dots, n$ provided D does not contain negative-weighted directed cycles.

Proof. We call an arc $(i, j) \in A$ an *upgoing* arc (Aufwärtsbogen) if $i < j$ and a *downgoing* arc (Abwärtsbogen) if $i > j$.

A shortest path from 1 to i contains at most $n - 1$ arcs. If an upgoing arc is followed by a downgoing arc (or vice versa), we have a *change of direction* (Richtungswechsel). With at most $n - 1$ arcs, at most $n - 2$ changes of direction are possible.

Let $D(i, m)$ be the value of $D(i)$ at the end of the m -th iteration. We will show (and this is enough):

$$D(i, m) = \min\{c(W) : W \text{ is the directed } [1, i]\text{-path with at most } m \text{ changes of directions}\}$$

We prove it by induction on m .

- For $m = 0$, the algorithm is equivalent to Bellman's algorithm for acyclic graphs. Thus, $D(i, 0)$ is the length of the shortest path without any change of direction.
- Now, let us assume, that the statement is true for $m \geq 0$ and the subroutine is executed for the $m+1$ -st time. The set of $[1, i]$ -paths with at most $m+1$ changes of direction consists of

(a) $[1, i]$ -paths with $\leq m$ changes of direction

(b) $[1, i]$ -paths with exactly $m+1$ changes of direction

$$\Rightarrow D(i, m)$$

- Since every path starts with an upgoing arc $(1, k)$, the last arc after $m+1$ changes is either a downgoing arc if $m+1$ is odd or an upgoing arc if $m+1$ is even. We restrict ourselves to $m+1$ odd ($m+1$ even is similar).

To compute the minimum length path in (b) we use an additional induction on $i = n, n-1, \dots, j+1$. Since every path ending at n ends with an upgoing arc, there do not exist such $[1, n]$ -paths. Hence, $D(n, m+1) = D(n, m)$.

Now assume that $D(k, m+1)$ is correctly computed for $i \leq k \leq n$. The shortest path from 1 to $i-1$ with exactly $m+1$ changes ends with a downgoing arc $(j, i-1)$, $j > i-1$.

$D(j, m+1)$ is already computed correctly. If $PREV(j) > j$, no change of direction is required in j and $D(i-1, m+1) = D(j, m+1) + c(j, i-1)$. If $PREV(j) < j$, the last arc of the $[1, j]$ -Path is upgoing, and thus $D(i-1, m+1) = D(j, m) + c(j, i)$. The last change of direction at j is thus, in worst case, the $(m+1)$ -st change. Hence, $D(i-1, m+1)$ fulfills the statement.

□

Remark 1:

In fact, the algorithm finds the minimum length of a chain (kette) with at most $n-2$ changes of direction. In case of negative weighted cycles these might be in a chain several times.

In case no negative weighted cycles exist, the min. length chains are indeed paths. Hence, the algorithm only works correctly if *all* cycles are non-negative weighted.

Remark 2:

If a further executing of the subroutine ($m = n-1$) results in at least one change of a value $D(i)$, then the digraph contains negative weighted cycles.

Remark 3:

A more efficient implementation is given by E'sopo-Pape-Variant.

Dijkstra's Algorithm for non-negative weights

Theorem 4.2:

Dijkstra returns the shortest paths from 1 to i , $i = 1 \dots n$, provided all weights ≥ 0 .

Proof. Each step, one vertex is moved from T to S . At the end of a step, $D(j)$ is the shortest path from 1 to j via vertices in S .

If $S = V(T = \emptyset)$, $D(i)$ is thus the shortest $[1, i]$ -path

□

Lecture 5 (2011-10-24):

Shortest paths between all pairs of vertices

Solution 1: Apply Moore-Bellman or Dijkstra to all vertices i as starting vertex

Solution 2: Apply Floyd's Algorithm

Notation:

w_{ij} is the length of the shortest $[i, j]$ -path, $i \neq j$

w_{ii} is the length of the shortest directed cycle containing i

p_{ij} is the predecessor of j on the shortest $[i, j]$ -path (cycle)

$W = (w_{ij})$ is the ??? (shortest path length matrix)

Theorem 5.1:

The Floyd Algorithm works correctly if and only if $D = (V, A)$ does not contain any negative weighted cycles.

D contains a negative weighted cycle if and only if one of the diagonal elements $w_{ii} < 0$.

Proof. Let W^k be the matrix W after iteration k , with W^0 being the initial matrix. By induction on $k = 0, \dots, n$ we show that W^k is the matrix of shortest path lengths with vertices $1, \dots, k$ as *possible* internal vertices, provided D does not contain a negative cycle on these vertices.

If D has a negative cycle, then $w_{ii}^k < 0$ for an $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$

For $k = 0$, the statement clearly true.

Assume, it is correct for $k \geq 0$, and we have executed the $(k + 1)$ st iteration.

It holds that $w_{ij}^{k+1} = \min\{w_{ij}^k, w_{i,k+1}^k + w_{k+1,j}^k\}$. Note that, provided no negative cycle exists, $w_{i,k+1}^{k+1}$ does not have any vertex $k + 1$ as internal vertex, and thus $w_{i,k+1}^{k+1} = w_{i,k+1}^k$ (similarly, $w_{k+1,j}^{k+1} = w_{k+1,j}^k$).

$w_{i,k+1}^k$ is the minimal length of a $[i, k + 1]$ -path with $\{1, \dots, k\}$ as allowed internal vertices. Similarly, $w_{k+1,j}^k$.

Thus, $w_{i,k+1}^k + w_{k+1,j}^k$ is the minimal length of an $[i, j]$ -path (not necessarily simple) containing $k + 1$ (mandatory) and $\{1, \dots, k\}$ (voluntary). If the shortest path from i to j using $\{1, \dots, k + 1\}$ does not contain $k + 1$, it only contains $\{1, \dots, k\}$ (voluntary) and, hence, w_{ij}^k is the right value.

What remains to show is that the connection of the $[i, k + 1]$ -path with the $[k + 1, j]$ -path is indeed a simple path.

Let K be this chain. After removal of cycles, the chain K contains (of course) a simple $[i, j]$ -path \bar{K} . Since such cycles may only contain vertices from $\{1, \dots, k + 1\}$, one cycle must contain $k + 1$. If this cycle is not negatively weighted, then path \bar{K} is shorter and $w_{ij}^k < w_{i,k+1}^k + w_{k+1,j}^k$.

If this cycle is negatively weighted, $w_{k+1,k+1}^k < 0$ (the cycle only contains internal vertices from $\{1, \dots, k\}$) and algorithm would have stopped earlier. \square

Min-Max-Theorems for combinatorial Optimization Problems

From "Optimierung A": Duality of linear programs

$$\max_{\text{s. t.}, Ax \leq b, x \geq 0} c^T x = \min_{\text{s. t.}, A^T y \geq c, y \geq 0} b^T y$$

For several combinatorial problems $\min\{c(x) : x \in X\}$

We can define a second set Y and a function $b(y)$ with $\max\{b(y) : y \in Y\} = \min\{c(x) : x \in X\}$ where Y and $b(y)$ have a graph theoretical interpretation.

Existence of such a "Dual" Problem indicates often that the problem can be solved "efficiently". For the shortest path problem several max-min-theorems exist.

Definition 5.2:

An (s, t) -Schnitt $((s, t)$ -cut) in a digraph $D = (V, A)$ with $s, t \in V$ is a subset $B \subset A$ of the arcs with the property that every (s, t) -path contains at least one arc of B .

Stated otherwise, for every cut B , there exists a vertex set $W \subset V$ such that

- $s \in W, t \in V \setminus W$
- $\delta^+(w) = \{(i, j) \in A : i \in W, j \in V \setminus W\} \subseteq B$

Theorem 5.3:

Let $D = (V, A)$ be a digraph, $c(a) = 1 \forall a \in A, s, t \in V, s \neq t$. Then the minimum length of a $[s, t]$ -path equals the maximum number of arc-disjoint (s, t) -cuts.

Proof. Follows from 5.4 □

Theorem 5.4:

Let $D = (V, A)$ be a digraph, $c(a) \in \mathbb{Z}_+ \forall a \in A \wedge s, t \in V \wedge s \neq t$. Then the min length of an $[s, t]$ -path equals the maximum number d of (not necessarily different) (s, t) -cuts C_1, \dots, C_d such that every arc $a \in A$ is contained in at most $c(a)$ cuts.

Proof. We define (s, t) -cuts $C_i = \delta^+(v_i)$ with

$$\begin{aligned} v_i &= \{v \in V : \exists (s, v)\text{-path with } c(P) \leq i - 1\} \\ v_1 &= \{s\} \\ v_2 &= \{5, 3, 4\} \\ v_3 &= \{5, 2, 3, 4\} \\ v_4 &= v_3 \cup \{6\} \end{aligned}$$

(for the example graph on the board)

The shortest $[s, t]$ -path P consists of arcs a_1, \dots, a_k with arc a_j contained in (s, t) -cuts $C_i, i \in \{\sum_{l=1}^{j-1} c(a_l) + 1, \dots, \sum_{l=1}^j c(a_l)\}$: exactly $c(a)$ cuts. □

Lecture 6 (2011-10-26):

Knapsack problem**Definition 6.1:**

The *Knapsack Problem* (*Knapsack problem*) is defined by a set of items $N = \{1, \dots, n\}$ weights $a_i \in \mathbb{N}$, value $c_i \in \mathbb{N}$, and a bound $b \in \mathbb{N}$. We search for a subset $S \subset \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$a(S) = \sum_{i \in S} a_i \leq b \text{ and } c(S) = \sum_{i \in S} c_i \text{ maximum}$$

Approach 1:

Greedy algorithm

Idea: Items with small weight but high value are the most attractive ones.

Procedure:

```

1 Sort the items such that  $\frac{c_1}{a_1} \leq \frac{c_2}{a_2} \leq \dots \leq \frac{c_n}{a_n}$ .
2
3 Set  $S = \emptyset$ .
4 For  $i = 1$  to  $n$  do
5     if  $(a(s) + a_i \leq b)$  then
6          $S = S \cup \{i\}$ 
7     endif
8 endfor
9 return  $S$  and  $c(S)$ 

```

Theorem 6.2:The greedy algorithm does *not* guarantee an optimal solution.*Proof.* Let $b = 10$, $n = 6$

i	2	3	4	5	6
a_i	9	2	2	2	2
c_i	19	4	4	4	4

Greedy: $S = \{1\}$, $c(s) = 20$ Optimal: $S = \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6, \}$, $c(S) = 20$

□

Approach 2: Integer Linear Programming

The set of solutions X of a combinatorial optimization problem can (almost always) be written as the intersection of integer points in \mathbb{N}_0^n and a polyhedron $\{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : Ax \leq b\}$

Let $x \in \{0, 1\}^n$ be a vector representing all solutions of the knapsack problem:

$$x_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i \in S \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$X = \{0, 1\} \cap \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \sum_{i=1}^n a_i x_i \leq b\}$$

$$\text{Knapsack: } \max \sum_{i=1}^n c_i x_i$$

The *Lineare Relaxierung (linear relaxation)* of an ILP is the linear program obtained by relaxing the integrality of the variables:

$$\max \sum_{i=1}^n c_i x_i$$

$$\text{s. t. } \sum_{i=1}^n a_i x_i \leq b, 0 \leq x_i \leq 1 \quad \forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$$

Theorem 6.3:An optimal solution \tilde{x} of the linear relaxation of the knapsack problem is:

There exists a $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ such that

$$\tilde{x}_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i \leq k \\ 0 & \text{if } i > k+1 \\ (b - \sum_{i=1}^k a_i)/a_{k+1} & \text{if } i = k+1 \end{cases}$$

where $c_1/a_1 \geq c_2/a_2 \geq \dots \geq c_n/a_n$.

Proof. Let x^* be an optimal solution with $c^T x^* > c^T \tilde{x}$. If $x_i^* < 1$ for $i \leq k$, there must exist a $j \geq k+1$ with $x_j^* > \tilde{x}_j$.

We define \bar{x} with $\varepsilon \leq x_j^* - \tilde{x}_j$ as

$$\bar{x}_l = \begin{cases} x_k^* & \text{for } l \notin \{i, j\} \\ x_j^* - \varepsilon & \text{for } l = j \\ x_j^* + \frac{a_j}{a_i} \cdot \varepsilon & \text{for } l = i \end{cases}$$

Then \bar{x} is feasible and

$$c^T \bar{x} = \sum_{l=1}^n c_l \bar{x}_l = \sum_{l=1}^n c_l x_l^* + \underbrace{c_i \cdot \frac{a_j}{a_i} \varepsilon - c_j \varepsilon}_{\geq 0} \geq c^T x^* > c^T \tilde{x}$$

Repetition yields $c^T \bar{x} > c^T \bar{x}$, a contradiction. \square

Note:

If \bar{x} is integer valued, then the solution is also optimal for the knapsack problem. In this case, also the greedy algorithm is optimal.

Approach 3: Dynamic Programming

A dynamic program algorithm to solve a problem first solves similar, but smaller subproblems in order to use their solution to solve the original problem.

The problem should conform to the *optimality principle* of Bellman: Given an optimal solution for the original problem, a partial solution restricted to a subproblem is also optimal for the subproblem.

Let $f_k(b)$ be the optimal solution value of the knapsack problem with total weight equal to b and items from $\{1, \dots, k\}$.

Theorem 6.4:

$$f_{k+1}(b) = \max\{f_k(b), f_k(b - a_{k+1}) + c_{k+1}\}.$$

Proof. An optimal solution of $f_{k+1}(b)$ either contains item $k+1$ or not. If $k+1$ is not contained, the problem is identical to $f_k(b)$. If $k+1$ is contained, other items in the solution should have total weight $b - a_{k+1}$.

Hence, $f_k(b - a_{k+1})$ is an optimal solution for the remaining items $+c_{k+1}$ for the item $k+1$. \square

Corollary 6.5:

The knapsack problem can be solved in $O(nb)$ with value $\max_{d=0, \dots, b} f_n(d)$.

Lecture 7 (2011-10-31):

Matchings, Stable Sets, Vertex Covers and Edge Covers

Definition 7.1:

Let $G = (V, E)$ be an undirected graph. A *Paarung (matching)* is a subset $M \subseteq E$ such that $e \cap e' = \emptyset \forall e, e' \in M$ with $e \neq e'$.

A matching M is called *perfect* if all vertices are incident to some edge in M .

Example 7.1(+1):

An airline has to allocate two pilots to each of the (round)trips on a single day. Only certain pairs of pilots can work together, due to experience, qualification, location, etc. By defining a graph with vertex set the pilots and edges if two pilots can work together, a daily corresponds to a matching since a pilot can work at two trips at the same time.

Definition 7.2:

A matching $M \subseteq E$ is called *maximal* if no further edges can be added.

A *maximum* matching is a matching M with maximal cardinality, i.e. no other matching M' exists with $|M'| > |M|$.

$\nu(G) = \text{Paarungszahl (matching number)}$, size of a maximum matching.

Further related graph parameters

$\alpha(G) = \text{Stabile-Menge-Zahl (Stable set number / independent set number)}$, size of a maximum stable set in G : a subset $S \subseteq V$ such that $\forall \{v, w\} \in E \mid \{v, w\} \cap S \leq 1$

$\rho(G) = \text{Kantenüberdeckungszahl (Edge cover number)}$, minimum size of an edge cover of G : a subset $F \subseteq E$ such that $\forall v \in V : \exists e \in F : v \in e$.

$\tau(G) = \text{Vertex Knotenüberdeckungszahl (cover number)}$, minimum size of a vertex cover of G : a subset $W \subseteq V$ such that $\forall e \in E : e \cap W \neq \emptyset$.

Lemma 7.3:

$\rho(G) = \infty$ if and only if G contains isolated vertices.

Proof. If G contains isolated vertices, such vertices cannot be covered by any edge, hence $\rho(G) = \infty$. If G does not contain isolated vertices, then E is an edge cover itself, thus $\rho(G) \leq |E|$. \square

Lemma 7.4:

$S \subseteq V$ is a stable set if and only if $V \setminus S$ is a vertex cover.

Proof. Exercise sheet. \square

Lemma 7.5:

$\alpha(G) \leq \rho(G)$.

Proof. If $\rho(G) = \infty$, then $\alpha(G) \leq \rho(G)$ follows automatically. If $\rho(G) < \infty$, then every vertex has degree at least one. Let F be an edge cover in G . Since the

vertices of a stable set are not adjacent, there must exist an edge $e \in F$ for all $v \in S$ such that $v \in e_v$ and $e_v \neq e_w$ for all $v, w \in S, v \neq w$. Hence, $|F| \geq |S|$ and it follows $\alpha(G) \leq \rho(G)$. \square

Lemma 7.6:

$$\nu(G) \leq \tau(G)$$

Proof. To cover all edges of a matching M by vertices, we need at last $|M|$ vertices. Hence, $\nu(G) \leq \tau(G)$. \square

Theorem 7.7 (Gallai's Theorem):

For every graph $G = (V, E)$ without isolated vertices, it holds that

$$\alpha(G) + \tau(G) = |V| = \nu(G) + \rho(G)$$

Proof. $\alpha(G) + \tau(G) = |V|$ follows directly from Lemma 7.4.

To show $\nu(G) + \rho(G) = |V|$, consider a maximum matching M ($|M| = \nu(G)$). M covers all $2|M|$ vertices in M . For every vertex not covered by M , add an incident edge to M . The resulting edge cover has

$$|M| + (|V| - 2|M|) = |V| - |M| = |V| - \nu(G)$$

edges. Hence, $\rho(G) \leq |V| - \nu(G)$.

Now, let F be an edge cover with $|F| = \rho(G)$. Remove for every vertex $v \in V$ $\deg_F(v) - 1$ edges incident to v . The resulting edge set is a matching with at least

$$\nu(G) \geq |F| - \sum_{v \in V} (\deg_F(v) - 1) = |F| - 2|F| + |V| = |V| - |F| = |V| - \rho(G)$$

\square

For all graph parameters, there exists a weighted version:

$$\nu(G, w), \tau(G, w), \alpha(G, w), \rho(G, w)$$

Question 7.7.1:

How do we find a maximum (weighted) matching?

Definition 7.8:

Let M be a matching in G . A path $P = (v_0 e_1 v_1 \dots e_r v_r)$ in G is called *M-alternating* (*M-alternierend*), if M contains either all edges e_i with i even or all edges e_i with i odd.

A *M-alternating* path P is called *M-augmenting* (*M-augmentierender*) path if v_0 and v_r are not matched in M , i.e. $v_0, v_r \notin \bigcup_{e \in M} e$.

Lemma 7.9:

If P is *M-augmenting*, then r odd and

$$M' = M \setminus \{e_2, e_4, \dots, e_{r-1}\} \cup \{e_1, e_3, \dots, e_r\}$$

is a matching with $|M'| = |M| + 1$.

Proof. Trivial. □

Lemma 7.10:

(Berge)

Let $G = (V, E)$ be a graph and M a matching in G . Then either M is a maximum matching or there exists a M -augmenting path.

Lecture 8 (2011-11-04):

Matchings in bipartite graphs

Theorem 8.1:

(Berge) Let $G = (V, E)$ be a graph and M a matching in G . Then either M is a maximum matching or there exists an M -augmenting path.

Proof. If M is a maximum matching, no M -augmenting path can exist, since M' would be a larger matching.

Let \bar{M} a matching with $|\bar{M}| > |M|$. Consider the components (Komponente) of $G' = (V, M \cup \bar{M})$. Since the degree of vertices in (V, M) and (V, \bar{M}) is at most one, the degree in G' is at most two. Thus, each component of G' is either a path (possibly of length zero) or a cycle. Since $|\bar{M}| > |M|$, at least one component of G' has to have more edges from \bar{M} than from M . Such a component cannot be a cycle and thus is a path, better an M -augmenting path since the end nodes are not matched in M . □

Definition 8.2:

A graph $G = (V, E)$ is called *bipartit (bipartite)* if and only if $V = U \cup W$ ($U \cap W = \emptyset$) such that $\{v, w\} \in E \Rightarrow v \in U, w \in W$ (or vice versa). The set U and W are called the color classes of V .

Example 8.2(+1):

n workers, m Jobs. Not every worker is qualified for every job. How many jobs can be processed simultaneously? U = set of worker. W = set of jobs, $\{u_i, w_j\} \in E \Leftrightarrow$ worker i is qualified for job j .

$$\nu(G) \leq \tau(G) \text{ vertex cover}$$

Theorem 8.3:

(König's Matching Theorem, 1931) For every bipartite graph $G = (V, E)$: $\nu(G) = \tau(G)$

Proof. $\nu(G) \leq \tau(G)$ holds by Lemma 7.6. We therefore only show $\nu(G) \geq \tau(G)$. We may assume that G has at least one edge (otherwise $\nu(G) = \tau(G) = 0$). We will show that G has a vertex v that is matched in every maximum matching. Let $\{v, w\} = e$ be an arbitrary edge in G and assume that M and N are two maximal matchings with u not matched in M and v not matched in N . Define P as the component of $(V, M \cup N)$ containing u . Since u is only matched in N , $\deg_P(u) = 1$ and thus u is an end node of the path P . Since M is maximum, P

is *not* an M -augmenting path. Hence, the length of P is even. Consequently, P does not contain v (otherwise P ends at v which contradicts the bipartiteness of G : $P \cup \{u, v\}$ would be an odd cycle). The path $P \cup \{v, v\}$ is thus odd, starts with vertex v not matched in N and ends with another vertex not matched in N . Hence $P \cup e$ is N -augmenting path; contradiction since N is a maximum matching.

So, either u or v must be contained in all maximum matchings, let's say v . Now, consider $G' := G - v$. It holds that $\nu(G) = \nu(G') + 1$. By induction on $n = |V|$ we may assume that G' has a vertex cover W with $|W| = \nu(G')$. Then $W \cup \{v\}$ is a vertex cover of G of size $\nu(G') + 1 = \nu(G)$. It follows $\tau(G) \leq \nu(G)$. \square

Corollary 8.4:

(König's Edge Cover Theorem) Every bipartite graph has $\alpha(G) = \rho(G)$.

Proof. Follows from Thm 7.7 (Gallai's Thm) and 8.3 \square

Matching augmenting algorithm for bipartite graphs

Input: bipartite graph $G = (V, E)$ and a matching M

Output: matching M' with $|M'| > |M|$ (if it exists)

Description: Let U, W be the color classes of G . Orientate every edge $e = \{v, w\}$ ($u \in U, w \in W$) as follows:

if $e \in M$, then orientate from w to u

if $e \notin M$, then orientate from u to w

Let D be the digraph constructed this way. Consider

$$U' := U \setminus \bigcup_{e \in M} e \quad \text{and} \quad W' := W \setminus \bigcup_{e \in M} e$$

An M -augmenting path exists if and only if a directed path in D exists starting at a vertex U' and ending at a vertex W' . Augment M with this path return M' .

Theorem 8.5:

A maximum matching can be found by applying at most $\frac{1}{2}|V|$ times the above algorithm.

Proof. Thm 8.2 says that either a maximum matching or an M -augmenting path exists. This path can be found by the digraph as it has to start with an unmatched vertex and alternates between matched and not matched edges. This is guaranteed by the direction of the edges in the digraph. If we start with $M = \emptyset$, the size increases by one in every iteration. A max matching can at most $\frac{1}{2}|V|$ edges. \square

Lecture 9 (2011-11-07):

Corollary 9.1 (Frobenius theorem):

A bipartite graph $G = (V, E)$ has a perfect, iff all the vertex covers contain at least $\frac{1}{2}|V|$ nodes.

Proof. Let $\tau(G) \geq \frac{1}{2}|V|$ hold. We derive $\nu(G) \geq \frac{1}{2}|V|$ from König's theorem, but $\nu(G) \leq \frac{1}{2}|V|$ holds as well. If $\tau(G) < \frac{1}{2}|V|$ holds, $\nu(G) < \frac{1}{2}|V|$ holds as well and therefore no perfect matching exists. \square

Corollary 9.2:

Every regular bipartite graph ($\deg(r) = \deg(W) \forall v, w \in B$) (with positive degree) has a perfect matching

Proof. exercise \square

Theorem 9.3 (Hall's theorem (Hochzeitssatz)):

Let $G = (U \cup W, E)$ be a bipartite graph with classes U, W . For each subset $X \subseteq U$, $N(X)$ describes the set of nodes in W , which are adjacent to a node in X (neighborhood)

$$\nu(G) = |U| \Leftrightarrow |N(X)| \geq |X| \forall X \subseteq U$$

Proof. necessity. If $|N(X)| < |X|$ holds, then a matching M can contain at most $|N(X)|$ edges with ending nodes in X . Therefore nodes remain in X which cannot be covered by a matching.

Sufficient: Assume $\nu(G) < |U|$, but $|N(X)| \geq |X| \forall X \subseteq U$. Then there exists a vertex cover Z for G with $|Z| < |U|$.

Define $X := U \setminus Z$. Then it follows that $N(X) \subseteq W \cap Z$ and therefore

$$|X| - |N(X)| \geq \underbrace{|U| - |U \cap Z|}_{=|X|} - \underbrace{|W \cap Z|}_{\geq |N(X)|} = |U| - |Z| > 0$$

produces a contradiction \square

Maximum Weighted Matching on bipartite graphs

Let $G = (V, E)$ be a graph and let $\omega : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a weight function. For any subset M of E define the weight $\omega(M)$ of M by

$$\omega(M) = \sum_{e \in M} \omega(e)$$

Definition 9.3(+1):

We call a matching extreme if it has maximum weight among all matchings of *Kardnialität* $|M|$ (*cardinality* $|M|$)

$$I(e) = \begin{cases} \omega(e), & \text{if } e \in M \\ -\omega(e), & \text{if } e \notin M \end{cases}$$

Lemma 9.4:

Let $P = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_r\}$ be an M -augmenting path of minimal length. If M is extreme, then $M' = M \setminus \underbrace{\{e_2, \dots, e_{r-1}\}}_{\in M} \cup \underbrace{\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_r\}}_{\notin M}$ is again extreme

Proof. Let N be any extreme matching of size $|M| + 1$. As $|N| > |M|$, $M \cup N$ has a component $Q = \{f_1, f_2, \dots, f_q\}$ that is an M -augmenting path. As P is a shortest M -augmenting path, we know $I(P) \leq I(Q)$. Moreover, as $M^* = N \setminus \{f_1, f_3, \dots, f_q\} \cup \{f_2, \dots, f_{q-1}\}$ is a matching of size $|M|$ and as M is extreme, we know that $\omega(M^*) \leq \omega(M)$. Hence $\omega(N) = \omega(M^*) - I(Q) \leq \omega(M) - I(P) = \omega(M')$. Hence M' is extreme. \square

Hungarian method for maximum weighted matching

"find iteratively extreme matchings M_1, M_2, \dots, M_j with $|M_k| = K$. Then the matching among M_1, \dots, M_j of maximum weight is a maximum weight matching." Define D as in the maximum cardinality matching algorithm.

set

$$U' = U \setminus (\cup_{I \in M} e) \quad W' = W \setminus (\cup_{I \in M} e)$$

extend D with nodes s and t and arcs $(s, u) \forall u \in U'$ with length 0 and $(w, t) \forall w \in W'$ with length 0.

Now we find a shortest path from s to t , to get an extreme matching M' from extreme matching M ($|M'| > |M|$).

Theorem 9.5:

Let M be an extreme matching. Then D does not contain a directed circuit of negative length.

Proof. Suppose C is a directed circuit in D with length $I(C) < 0$. We may assume $C = (u_0, w_1, u_1, \dots, w_t, u_t)$ with $u_0 = u_t$, $u_1, \dots, u_t \in U$ and $w_1, \dots, w_t \in W$. Then $w_1 u_1, \dots, w_t u_t$ belong to M and the edges $u_0 w_1, \dots, u_{t-1} w_t$ do not belong to M . Then $M'' = M \setminus \{w_1 u_1, \dots, w_t u_t\} \cup \{u_0 w_1, \dots, u_{t-1} w_t\}$ matching of cardinality $|M''| = |M|$ with weight: $\omega(M'') = \omega(M) - I(C) > \omega(M)$. This contradicts to M being extreme. \square

Corollary 9.6:

The maximum weighted matching in bipartite graphs can be found by using a shortest path algorithm $\frac{1}{2}|V|$ -times.

Lecture 10 (2011-11-10):

Matchings in non-bipartite graphs

Definition 10.1:

A component of a graph is called *ungerade (odd)*, if its number of vertices is odd. We define $o(G) :=$ number of odd components of G . $G - U := G[V \setminus U]$ denotes the subgraph induced by $V \setminus U$.

Theorem 10.2 (Tutte-Berge-Formula):

For a graph $G = (V, E)$ it holds that $D(G) = \min_{U \subseteq V} \left\{ \frac{1}{2}(|V| + |U| - o(G - U)) \right\}$

Proof. We first prove \leq . For $U \subseteq V$ it holds that

$$\begin{aligned}\nu(F) &\leq |U| + \nu(G - U) \leq |U| + \frac{1}{2}(|V \setminus U| - o(G - U)) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(|U \setminus V| + 2|U| - o(G - U)) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(|V| + |U| - o(G - U))\end{aligned}$$

Now, we prove \geq . We apply inductions on $|V|$. For $|V| = 0$, the statement is trivial. Furtherh, we may assume w.l.o.g (o.B.d.A) that G is connected, otherwise the result follows by induction on the components of G .

Case 1:

There exists a vertex v that is matched in all maximum matches (like in the bipartite case). Thus $\nu(G - v) = \nu(G) - 1$ and by induction there exists a subset $U' \subseteq V - v$ with $\nu(G - v) = \frac{1}{2}(|V \setminus \{v\}| + |U'| - o(G - v - U'))$ Set $U := U' \cup \{v\}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}\nu(G) &= \nu(G - v) - 1 = \frac{1}{2}(|V \setminus \{v\}| + |U'| - o(G - U' - v)) - 1 \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(|V| - 1 + |U| - 1 - o(G - U) + 2) \\ &\leq \min_{T \subseteq V} \frac{1}{2}(|V| + |T| - O(G - T))\end{aligned}$$

Case 2:

There does (not) exist a vertex matched in all maximum matchings. So for all $v \in V$, there exists a maximum matching without v . Then, in particular $\nu(G) < \frac{1}{2}|V|$. We will show that there exists in this case a matching of size $\frac{1}{2}(|V| - 1)$. By this, we have proven the theorem (set $U = \emptyset$).

If there does not exist a matching of size $\frac{1}{2}(|V| - 1)$, then for every matching M , there exist two vertices u and v such that both are not matched. Among all maximum matchings, select a triple (M, u, v) for which $\text{Dist}(u, v)$ is minimum there, $\text{Dist}(u, v)$ is the minimum number of edges or a path between u and v . That is, for any other maximum matching N and pair of unmatched vertices s, t , $\text{Dist}(s, t) \geq \text{Dist}(u, v)$.

If $\text{Dist}(u, v) = 1$, then u and v are adjacent and we can extend M with $\{u, v\}$, a contradiction. Thus, $\text{Dist}(u, v) \geq 2$ and hence there exists a vertex t on the shortest path from u to v . Not that t is matched in M , otherwise $\text{Dist}(u, t) < \text{Dist}(u, v)$; a contradiction. For t there exist other maximum matchings not covering t . Choose N such that $|M \cap N|$ is maximal.

Also, u and v are covered by N , since otherwise N would have a pair (t, u) (or (t, v)) of unmatched vertices with $\text{Dist}(u, t) < \text{Dist}(u, v)$ (or $\text{Dist}(t, v) < \text{Dist}(u, v)$, respectively).

Since $|M| = |N|$, there must be a second vertex $x \neq t$ which is not covered by N , but covered by M . Let $e = \{x, y\} \in M$. Then y is also covered by N , otherwise N could be extended by $\{x, y\}$, contradiction to maximality of $|N|$. Let $f = \{y, z\} \in N$. Now replace N by $N \setminus \{f\} \cup \{e\}$. The new matching has one more edge in common with M , contradiction.

Hence, a maximum matching cannot miss two or more vertices. Thus $\nu(G) = \frac{1}{2}(|V| - 1)$

□

Corollary 10.3 (Tutte's 1-Factor Theorem):

A graph $G(V, E)$ has a perfect matching if and only if $G - U$ contains at most $|U|$ odd components for all $U \subseteq V$.

Corollary 10.4:

Let $G = (V, E)$ be a graph without isolated vertices. Then

$$\rho(G) = \max_{U \subseteq V} \frac{|U| + o(G[U])}{2}$$

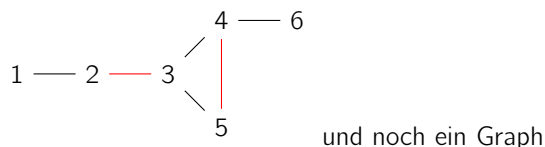
Proof. Homework

□

Edmond's Matching Algorithm (blossom shrinking algorithm)

Again we are looking for M -augmenting paths. In bipartite graphs we just have to find a shortest path in the orientation of G by M .

Example 10.4(+1):



Example 10.4(+2):

Weitere 2 graphen

We define for sets X and Y :

$$X/Y := \begin{cases} X & \text{if } X \cap Y = \emptyset \\ (X \setminus Y) \cup \{Y\} & \text{if } X \cap Y \neq \emptyset \end{cases}$$

Thus, if $G = (V, E)$ is a graph and $C \subseteq V$, then V/C is the set of vertices where all vertices in C are replaced by a single vertex C . For an edge $e \in E$, $e/C = e$ if e and C are disjoint, whereas $e/C = \{u, C\}$ if $e \in \{u, v\}$ with $u \notin C$, $v \in C$, and $e/C = \{C, C\}$ if $e = \{u, v\}$ with $u, v \in C$.

The last type is unimportant for matchings and can be ignored. Further, for $F \subseteq E$, we have $F/C := \{f/C : f \in F\}$ and thus $G/C := (V/C, E/C)$ is again a graph which results from *Schrumpfen (shrinking)* of C .

Lecture 11 (2011-11-21):

Let G be a graph, M a matching in G and W the set of unmatched vertices. A M -augmenting path is a M -alternating W - W chain of positive length where all vertices are distinct.

We call a M -alternating chain $P = \{v_0, v_0, \dots, v_t\}$ a *M-Blüte (M-blossom)* if v_0, \dots, v_{t-1} are distinct, v_0 is not matched in M and $v_t = v_0$

Theorem 11.1:

Let C be a M -blossom in G . M is a maximum matching if and only if M/C is a maximum matching in G/C .

Proof. Let $C = \{v_0, v_1, \dots, v_t\}$, $G' = G/C$, $M' = M/C$. First, let P be a M -augmenting path in G . W.l.o.g we may assume that P does not start in v_0 (otherwise turnaround P). If P does not visit any vertex of C , then P is a M -augmenting path in G' as well. If P visits a vertex of C , then we can decompose P in Q and R with Q ending at the first vertex of C . Replace this vertex in Q with vertex C in G' . Then Q is a M' -augmenting path in G' . Now, on the reverse, let P' be an M' -augmenting path in G' . If P' does not visit vertex C , then P' is M -augmenting path in G . If vertex C is visited by P' , we may assume that C is the end vertex (since M' does not cover C). We thus can replace vertex C with a suitable vertex $v_i \in C$ such that the new path Q ends at v_2 in G . If i is odd, then we extend Q with $v_{i+1}, v_{i+2}, \dots, v_t = v_0$. If i is even, then we extend Q with $v_{i-1}, v_{i-2}, \dots, v_0$. The resulting path is a M -augmenting path in G \square

Edmonds' Algorithm

Input: Matching M with set $W \subseteq V$ of unmatched vertices Output: Matching N with $|N| = |M| + 1$ or a certificate that M is a maximum matching. Description:

```

1 Case 1: No  $M$ -alternating  $W$ - $W$  chain exists:
2     Then  $M$  is an maximum matching.
3     STOP.
4 Case 2: A  $M$ -alternating  $W$ - $W$  chain exists:
5     Let  $P = (v_0, v_1, \dots, v_t)$  be a shortest  $M$ -alternating
6      $W$ - $W$  chain
7     Case 2A:  $P$  is a path.
8         Then  $P$  is  $M$ -augmenting and  $N := M \Delta P$ .
9     Case 2B:  $P$  is not a path.
10        Choose  $i < j$  with  $v_i = v_j$  and  $j$  as small as
11        possible
12        Replace  $M$  by  $M \Delta \{v_0, \dots, v_i\}$ 
13        Then  $C := \{v_i, v_{i+1}, \dots, v_j\}$  is a  $M$ -blossom.
14        Apply the Algorithm recursively
15        until  $G' := G/C$  and  $M' := M/C$ .
16
17        * If a  $M'$ -augmenting path  $P$  in  $G'$ 
18        is returned, transform  $P'$  to a
19         $M$ -augmenting path in  $G$ 
20        (by \todo{Thm 11.1})
21
22        * If  $M'$  is a maximum matching in  $G'$ ,
23        then  $M$  is a maximum matching in  $G$ 
24        (\todo{Thm 11.1})

```

Lecture 12 (2011-11-24):**Weighted Matchings in general graphs**

Instead of a maximum weighted matching, we search for a minimum weighted perfect matching. Without loss of generality we may assume that G contains at least one perfect matching: construct a new graph H by copying G , add $n = |V(G)|$ new vertices, each one adjacent to one vertex of G , and add a clique on the new vertices. All new edges have weight zero. To turn a maximum weight perfect matching into a minimum weight perfect matching, we define new weights

$$w'(e) := W - w(e) \quad \text{with} \quad W = \max_{e \in E} w(e)$$

Lemma 12.1:

A maximum weight matching in (G, w) corresponds to a minimum weight perfect matching in (H, w') .

Proof. Let M be a perfect matching in H .

$$w'(M) = n \cdot W - \sum_{e \in M \cap E(G)} w(e)$$

Hence

$$\min_{M \in E(H)} w'(M) = n \cdot W - \max_{M \in E(G)} w(M)$$

In contrast to the maximum cardinality matching problem, we also might have to "unshrink" a blossom: Expand □

Definition 12.2:

A collection Ω of odd subsets of V is called *verschachtelt (nested)*, if for all $U, W \in \Omega$ either $U \cap W = \emptyset$ or $U \subseteq W$ or $W \subseteq U$.

Example 12.2(+1):

$$\Omega = \{\{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{4\}, \{5\}, \{6\}, \{7\}, \{1, 2, 3\}, \{4, 5, 6\}, \{4, \dots, 7\}\}$$

if

$$\Omega = \{\{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{4\}, \{5\}, \{6\}, \{7\}, \{1, 2, 3\}, \{4, 5, 6\}\}$$

then

$$\Omega^{max} = \{\{1, 2, 3\}, \{4, 5, 6\}, \{7\}\}$$

We will assume that $\{v\} \in \Omega$ for all $v \in V$. As a consequence Ω covers V . Further, there exist inclusionwise maximal elements in Ω . Let Ω^{max} denote the subsets of Ω that are inclusionwise maximal. Therefor Ω^{max} is a partition of V . The algorithm for finding a minimum weight perfect matching is "primal-dual",

i.e., during the algorithm both a matching and a dual object, a function $\Pi : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ is carried on. We consider functions $\Pi : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ satisfying following conditions:

$$\begin{cases} \Pi(U) \geq 0 & \text{if } U \in \Omega \text{ with } |U| \geq \varepsilon \\ \sum_{U \in \Omega: e \in \delta(U)} \Pi(U) \leq w(e) & \text{for all } e \in E \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

Lemma 12.3:

Let N be a perfect matching. Then $w(N) \geq \sum_{U \in \Omega} \Pi(U)$

Proof.

$$w(N) = \sum_{e \in N} w(e) \stackrel{1}{\geq} \sum_{e \in N} \sum_{U \in \Omega: e \in \delta(U)} \Pi(U) = \sum_{U \in \Omega} \Pi(U) \cdot |N \cap \delta(U)| \stackrel{*}{\geq} \sum_{U \in \Omega} \Pi(U) \quad (2)$$

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(*): since all elements of Ω are of odd size, there always must be at least one vertex of U matched with a vertex of $V \setminus U$ in every perfect m .

So if we have a perfect matching N and a function Π fulfilling 2 with equality, we are done. Thus, a given $\Pi : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$, we define

$$w_\Pi(e) := w(e) - \sum_{U \in \Omega: e \in \delta(U)} \Pi(U) \stackrel{1}{\geq} 0$$

This in the end $w_\Pi(e) = 0$ for all $e \in N$. Further, let $G \setminus \Omega$ be the graph with all $U \in \Omega^{max}$ shrunken (with U as shrunken vertex). Thus $G \setminus \Omega$ has vertex set Ω^{max} and $U, W \in \Omega^{max}$ are adjacent if and only if there exist $u \in U, w \in W$ with $\{u, w\} \in E$. Finally, we only consider collections Ω such that for all $U \in \Omega$ with $|U| \geq 3$, the graph H_U contains a Hamilton cycle C_U with edges e having $w_\Pi(e) = 0$. Hence H_U is the graph obtained by shrinking all inclusionwise minimal subsets in $G[U]$ \square

Edmonds' Minimum Weighted Perfect Matching Algorithm

```

1 Initialize:
2      $M := \emptyset$ ,
3      $F := \emptyset$ ,
4      $\Omega := \{\{v\}, v \in V\}$ ,
5      $\Pi(\{v\}) := 0$ 
6 As long as  $M$  is not perfect in  $G \setminus \Omega$  iterate as follows
7     a) Select  $\alpha$  maximal such that
8          $\Pi(U) - \alpha \geq 0 \forall U \in \Omega, |U| \geq \varepsilon, U \in \text{odd}(F)$ ,
9          $\Pi(U) + \alpha \geq 0 \forall U \in \Omega, |U| \geq \varepsilon, U \in \text{even}(F)$  and
10         $\sum_{U \in \Omega \cap \text{odd}(F): e \in \delta(U)} (\Pi(U) - \alpha) + \sum_{U \in \Omega \cap \text{even}(F): e \in \delta(U)} (\Pi(U) + \alpha) \leq w(e) \forall e \in E$ 

```

```

11      Reset  $\Pi(U) := \Pi(U) - \alpha$  for  $U \in \text{odd}(F)$  and
         $\Pi(U) := \Pi(U) + \alpha$  for  $U \in \text{even}(F)$ 
12      The new  $\Pi$  fullfills 1 and in addition either
        of the following holds:
13      i)  $\exists e \in G \setminus \Omega$  with  $w_\Pi(e) = 0$  such that  $e$  intersects
        with  $\text{even}(F)$  but not with  $\text{odd}(F)$ 
14      ii)  $\exists U \in \text{odd}(F)$  with  $|U| \geq \varepsilon$  and  $\Pi(U) = 0$ 
15      b) If (i) holds, and only 1 end vertex of  $e$ 
        belongs to  $\text{even}(F)$  and the other one is in
         $\text{free}(F)$  then extend  $F$  with  $e$  GROW
16      If (i) holds, and both end vertices of  $e$ 
        belong to  $\text{even}(F)$  and  $F \cup \{e\}$  contains a cycle
         $U$ , add  $U$  to  $\Omega$  with  $\Pi(U) := 0$ , replace  $F$  by
         $F \setminus U$  and  $M$  by  $M \setminus U$  SHRINK
17      If (i) holds, and both ...  $\text{even}(F)$  and  $F \cup \{e\}$ 
        contains a  $M$ -augmenting path, augment  $M$  an
        replace  $F := M$ . AUGMENT
18      c) If (ii) holds, remove  $U$  from  $\Omega$ , replace  $F$  by
         $F \cup P \cup N$  and  $M$  by  $M \cup N$ , where  $P$  is the path of
        even length in  $C_U$  connection the two vertices
        incident to the edges in  $F$  adjacent to  $U$  and
         $N$  the matching  $C_U$  which covers all vertices in
         $U$  not covered by  $M$  EXPAND
19  END

```

Lecture 13 (2011-11-25):

The Traveling Salesman Problem

Definition 13.1:

A (directed) cycle (path) with $|V|$ (resp. $|V| - 1$) edges is called a (directed) *Hamiltonkreis (Hamilton cycle) (Hamiltonpfad (Hamilton path))*.

Occasionally, a Hamilton cycle will be called a *Tour (tour)*.

The *Problem des Handelsreisenden (traveling salesman problem (TSP))* is to find, given distances c_{ij} for all i, j , a minimum length Hamilton cycle in a complete graph.

If $c_{ij} = c_{ji} \forall i, j$, the problem is *symmetrisch (symmetric)*, otherwise it is *as-symmetrisch (asymmetric)*.

If c_{ij} represent euclidean distances in \mathbb{R}^2 , the TSP is euclidean.

Lemma 13.2:

If $c_{ij} < \infty$ fulfills the triangle inequality $c_{ij} + c_{jk} \geq c_{ik}$, the vertices can be placed in \mathbb{R}^2 such that the TSP is euclidean. \square

Let $C(S, k)$ = minimum length of a path from vertex 1 to vertex k which visits

all vertices in S exactly once (and no other vertices). Hence, the TSP is solved as soon as we have computed $C(\{2, \dots, n\}, 1)$.

Lemma 13.3:

$$C(S, k) = \min_{j \in S} \{C(S \setminus \{j\}, j) + c_{jk}\}$$

Proof. The optimal path from 1 to k via S has as last-but-one vertex a vertex $j^* \in S$. The path from 1 to j^* via $S \setminus \{j^*\}$ should be optimal (i.e. has value $C(S \setminus \{j^*\}, j^*)$), otherwise we can improve it. Vertex j^* can be determined by taking the minimum among all $j \in S$. \square

Listing 1: Held-Karp Algorithm for TSP

```

1 Initialize  $C(\emptyset, k) = c_{1k} \forall k \in \{2, \dots, n\}$ 
2 FOR  $2 \leq l \leq n-1$  DO
3     FOR ALL  $S \subseteq \{2, \dots, n\}$  with  $|S| = l$  DO
4         FOR  $k \in \{2, \dots, n\} \setminus S$  DO
5              $C(S, k) = \min_{j \in S} \{C(S \setminus \{j\}, j) + c_{jk}\}$ 
6         ENDDO
7     ENDDO
8 ENDDO
9  $C^* = \min_{j \in \{2, \dots, n\}} \{C(\{2, \dots, n\} \setminus \{j\}, j) + c_{j1}\}$ 
10 RETURN  $C^*$ 
```

Theorem 13.4:

The Held-Karp algorithm is correct.

In total $(n-1)2^{n-2} - (n-2)$ values have to be computed.

Proof. Follows directly from Lemma 13.2 and the slides. \square

For comparison: Complete enumeration searches through $(n-1)!$ tours. $999! \approx 10^{2500}$. Stirling formula tells us:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n! \cdot e^n}{\sqrt{2\pi n} \cdot n^n} = 1 \Rightarrow 2^n \ll n!$$

The practical running time of the algorithm can be reduced significantly by a good solution value (upper bound): all values $C(S, k) > \text{upper bound}$ can be ignored for further computations.

SpanningTree heuristic

A TSP tour is a set of $|V|$ edges building a cycle connecting all vertices. Instead, I might search for a relaxation, the minimum spanning tree plus one edge. Stated otherwise, the MST is a lower bound on the TSP tour.

Listing 2: The MST heuristic is therefore

```

1 Find a MST  $T$  in  $G$ 
```

- 2 Duplicate all edges in T : T_2
- 3 Determine an euler tour in (V, T_2)
- 4 Replace vertices visited twice by the shortest to the next not yet visited vertex.

Lecture 14 (2011-12-01):

Flows in Networks

Menger's Theorem

Definition 14.1:

Let $D = (V, A)$ be a digraph and S, T subsets of V . A path is called a $S - T$ -path, if the start vertex is in S and the end vertex is in T .

If $S = \{s\}$ and $T = \{t\}$ we also refer to the path as $s - t$ -path instead of $\{s\} - \{t\}$ -path.

Definition 14.2:

Two $S - T$ -paths P_1 and P_2 are called *knotendisjunkt (vertex disjoint)* if P_1 and P_2 have no common vertices.

Two $S - T$ -paths are called internally vertex disjoint if they have no common vertices, except for the start and end vertices.

Two $S - T$ -paths are called *bogendisjunkt (arc disjoint)* if they have no arcs in common.

Question: How many vertex/arc disjoint paths exist between S and T resp. s and t ?

Definition 14.3:

A set $C \subset V$ (*separates*) S from T if every $S - T$ -path intersects with C (C can intersect $S \cup T$). C is called a *(($S - T$)-separator)*.

Theorem 14.4:

(Menger's Theorem, directed vertex disjoint version)

Let $D = (V, A)$ be a digraph and $S, T \subset V$. Then, the maximum number of pairwise vertex disjoint $S - T$ -paths equals the minimum size of a $S - T$ -separator.

Proof. Clearly, the number of vertex disjoint paths cannot exceed the size of a $S - T$ -separator C (i.e. for $v \in C$, at most one path exists). We will show \geq by induction on $|A|$. For $|A| = 0$, the statement is trivial. Now, let k be the minimum size of a $S - T$ -separator. Select $a = (u, v) \in A$ arbitrarily. If every $S - T$ -separator in $D \setminus a$ has size $\geq k$, then by induction k vertex-disjoint paths exist in $D \setminus a$, and thus in D as well.

Thus, we can assume w.l.o.g that $D \setminus a$ has a $S - T$ -separator C with $|C| \leq k - 1$. Then $C \cup \{u\}$ and $C \cup \{v\}$ are $S - T$ -separators in D of size k .

Now, every $S - (C \cup \{u\})$ -separator B of $D \setminus a$ has size at least k , since B also

separates S from T in D : every $S - T$ -path in D intersects $C \cup \{u\}$ and thus P contains $S - (C \cup \{u\})$ -subpath in $D \setminus a$. Therefore, the subpath and thus P itself intersects B . By induction $D \setminus a$ has k vertex disjoint $S - (C \cup \{u\})$ -paths. Similarly there exist k vertex disjoint $(C \cup \{v\}) - T$ -paths in $D \setminus a$. Since both path sets use all vertices in C , we can connect these $k - 1$ $S - C$ -paths with the $C - T$ -paths. One more path in D can be established by connecting the $S - u$ -path with the $v - T$ -path via arc $a = (u, v)$. \square

Definition 14.5:

A set $U \subset V$ is called a $((s - t)$ -vertex cut) if $s, t \notin U$ and every $s - t$ -path intersects U .

Corollary 14.6:

Let $D = (V, A)$ be a digraph and s, t two non-adjacent vertices. then the maximum number of (internally vertex disjoint) $s - t$ -paths equals the minimum size of a $s - t$ -vertex cut.

Proof. Let $D' = D \setminus s - t$. $S = N_D^+(s)$, $T = N_D^-(t)$. Apply \square

Definition 14.7:

An arc set $C \subset A$ define a $(s - t)$ -Schnitt $((s - t)$ -cut) if a subset $U \subset V, s \in U, t \notin U$ with $\delta^+(U) \subset C$.

Corollary 14.8:

(Menger's Theorem, directed arc version) let $D = (V, A)$ be a digraph with $s, t \in V$. Then the maximum number of arc disjoint $s - t$ -paths equals the minimum size of a $s - t$ -cut.

Proof. Übungsblatt \square

Question: How to find arc disjoint $s - t$ -paths? *Answer:* Given D a digraph and a path P , let us define D/P as the digraph in which all arcs of P are reversed.

```

1 Initialize  $D_0 := D, \quad k = 0;$ 
2 WHILE  $D_k$  contains a  $s - t$ -path  $P_k$  DO
3      $D_{k+1} := D_k / P_k$ 
4      $k := k + 1$ 
5 ENDWHILE
6 The reversed arcs in  $D - k$  are  $k - 1$  arc disjoint  $s - t$ -paths.
```

Note: A $s - t$ -path P_k in D_k can be found with e.g. Dijkstra.

Lecture 15 (2011-12-05):

Flows in Networks

Consider the following problem:

Let $D = (V, A)$ be a digraph with *arc capacities* $c(a) \geq 0$ for all $a \in A$. How many paths can be established from s to t (for $s, t \in V$ and duplicates allowed) without having more than $c(a)$ paths via arc $a \in A$.

If $c(a) = 1$ for all $a \in A$, we search for arc-disjoint paths and Menger's Theorem provides the answer.

Instead of specifying the paths explicitly, we can define values on the arcs stating the number of paths across that arc.

Definition 15.1:

A function $x : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ (or vector $x \in \mathbb{R}^{|A|}$) is a *zulässiger (s, t) -Fluss* (*feasible (s, t) -flow*) if the following conditions are satisfied:

$$0 \leq x_a \leq c_a \quad \forall a \in A \quad (3)$$

$$\sum_{a \in \delta^+(v)} x_a = \sum_{a \in \delta^-(v)} x_a \quad (4)$$

(3) representing the *Kapazitätsbedingungen* (*capacity constraints*), and (4) representing the *Flusserhaltungsbedingungen* (*flow conservation constraints*).

The *Wert des (s, t) -Flusses* (*(s, t) -flow-value*) x is

$$\text{val}(x) := \sum_{a \in \delta^+(s)} x_a - \sum_{a \in \delta^-(s)} x_a$$

The vertex s is the *Quelle* (*source/origin*) and t is the *Senke/Ziel* (*target/sink/destination*).

Question what is the maximum value of a (s, t) -flow?

A (s, t) -cut $S \subseteq A$ interrupts every path from s to t . The capacity of a cut S is $\sum_{a \in S} c_a =: c(S)$

Lemma 15.2:

Let $W \subseteq V$.

- (a) If $s \in W$, $t \notin W$, then $\text{val}(x) = \sum_{a \in \delta^+(W)} x_a - \sum_{a \in \delta^-(W)} x_a$ for every feasible (s, t) flow x .
- (b) The maximum value of a (s, t) -flow is at most the minimum capacity of a (s, t) -cut.

Proof. (a) By flow conservation constraint (z), it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{val}(x) &= \sum_{a \in \delta^+(s)} x_a - \sum_{a \in \delta^-(s)} x_a + \sum_{v \in W \setminus \{s\}} \left(\sum_{a \in \delta^+(v)} x_a - \sum_{a \in \delta^-(v)} x_a \right) \\ &= \sum_{v \in W} \left(\sum_{a \in \delta^+(v)} x_a - \sum_{a \in \delta^-(v)} x_a \right) \\ &= \sum_{a \in \delta^+(W)} x_a - \sum_{a \in \delta^-(W)} x_a \end{aligned}$$

- (b) Let $\delta^+(W)$ be an arbitrary (s, t) -cut and x a feasible (s, t) -flow. By (3) and part (a) it holds that

$$\text{val}(x) = \sum_{a \in \delta^+(W)} x_a - \sum_{a \in \delta^-(W)} x_a \leq \sum_{a \in \delta^+(W)} c_a = c(\delta^+(W))$$

□

Theorem 15.3 (Max-Flow-Min-Cut-Theorem):

Let $D = (V, A)$ be a digraph, $s, t \in V$ and $c : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ a capacity function. The maximum value of a (s, t) -flow equals the minimum capacity of a (s, t) -cut:

$$\max_{x \text{ (s,t)-flow}} \text{val}(x) = \min_{(s,t)\text{-cut } S} c(S)$$

Proof. • If c is integer, every arc $a \in A$ is replaced by c_a parallel arcs of capacity one. Now the result follows from Menger's Theorem for arc-disjoint paths.

- If c is rational, then there exists a N such that $N \cdot c_a$ is an integer for all $a \in A$. By this scaling, both the max flow and min cut are scaled with N as well. Now, the results holds by the result of the integer case.
- If c is real valued, the result follows from continuity and compactness of \mathbb{Q}

□

Corollary 15.4:

If c is integer, there exists an *integer* maximum (s, t) -flow. For $c : A \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$, there exists a combinatorial algorithm to determine a max (s, t) flow: Ford-Fulkerson Algorithm

Definition 15.5:

Let $D = (V, A)$ be a digraph with arc capacities $c(a) \in \mathbb{Q} \forall a \in A, s, t \in V, s \neq t$ and x a feasible (s, t) -flow in D . In an *undirected* $[s, v]$ -path P we call an arc (i, j) a *Vorwärtsbogen (forward arc)* if it is directed from s to v on the path, otherwise (i, j) is a *Rückwärtsbogen (backward-arc)*.

Path P is called an *augmenting* $[s, v]$ -path with respect to (s, t) -flow x if $x_{ij} < c_{ij}$ for all forward arcs and $x_{ij} > 0$ for all backward arcs (i, j) .

Theorem 15.6:

A (s, t) -flow x is maximum if and only if no augmenting $[s, t]$ -path with respect to x exists.

Proof. If P defined an augmenting $[s, t]$ -path with respect to x , then let

$$\varepsilon := \min \begin{cases} c_{ij} - x_{ij} & \text{if } (i, j) \in P \text{ forward arc} \\ x_{ij} & \text{if } (i, j) \in P \text{ backward arc} \end{cases}$$

Now define

$$\tilde{x}_{ij} := \min \begin{cases} x_{ij} + \varepsilon & \text{if } (i, j) \in P \text{ forward arc} \\ x_{ij} - \varepsilon & \text{if } (i, j) \in P \text{ backward arc} \\ x_{ij} & \text{if } (i, j) \in A \setminus P \end{cases}$$

Clearly \tilde{x}_{ij} defines a feasible (s, t) -flow. Moreover $val(\tilde{x}) = val(x) + \varepsilon$, hence x was not maximum.

Now, assume x does not have an augmenting $[s, v]$ -path. Then, let

$$W := \{v \in V : \text{there exists an augmenting } [s, t]\text{-path with respect to } x\}$$

Hence, $s \in W$ and $t \notin W$ by assumption. To be more precise,

$$\begin{aligned} x_a &= c_a & \text{for all } a \in \delta^+(W) \text{ and} \\ x_a &= 0 & \text{for all } a \in \delta^-(W) \end{aligned}$$

It follows $val(x) = x(\delta^+(W)) - x(\delta^-(W)) = c(\delta^+(W))$. By lemma 15.2(b), x is maximum. \square

Lecture 16 (2011-12-08):

Minimum Cost Flows

Definition 16.1:

Let $D = (V, A)$ be a digraph with arc capacities $c(a) \geq 0$ for all $a \in A$ and cost coefficients $w(a)$ for all $a \in A$. Let $s, t \in V$.

Consider all (s, t) -flows of value f . The *Minimaler Kosten Netzwerkflussproblem* (*Minimum Cost Flow (MCF) Problem*) consists of finding a (s, t) -flow x with $val(x) = f$ and cost $\sum_{a \in A} w(a)x_a$ minimum among all (s, t) -flows of value f .

The MCF Problem can be formulated as linear program (later more) and special network-simplex algorithms exist to solve the problem in polynomial time. Alternatively several combinatorial algorithms exist.

Definition 16.2:

Let x be a feasible (s, t) -flow in D and let C be a (not necessarily directed) cycle in D . The cycle C can be orientated in two possible ways (clockwise or counterclockwise). Given an orientation of C , *forward arcs* on C are directed along the orientation, *backwards arcs* opposite.

A cycle C is called *augmenting* w.r.t. x if there exists an orientation of C such that

$$\begin{aligned} x_a &< c_a & \text{for all forward arcs } a \in C \\ x_a &> 0 & \text{for all backward arcs } a \in C \end{aligned}$$

Definition 16.3:

A *cost* of an augmenting cycle C is defined as

$$\sum_{a \in C: \text{forward}} w_a - \sum_{a \in C: \text{backward}} w_a$$

Theorem 16.4:

A feasible (s, t) -flow x in D with value f has minimum cost if and only if no augmenting cycle C w.r.t. x with negative costs exists.

Proof. only \Rightarrow , \Leftarrow later.

Let $\sum w(a)x_a$ be minimum. Assume that there exists an augmenting cycle with negative cost. We define

$$\varepsilon = \min(c_{ij} - x_{ij} \text{ if } (i,j) \in C_{forward}; x_{ij} \text{ if } (i,j) \in C_{backward})$$

and

$$\tilde{x}_{ij} = (x_{ij} + \varepsilon \text{ if } (i,j) \in C_{forward}, x_{ij} - \varepsilon \text{ if } (i,j) \in C_{backward}, x_{ij} \text{ if } (i,j) \in A \setminus C)$$

Now, \tilde{x} is a feasible (s, t) -flow with $val(\tilde{x}) = val(x) = f$ and cost

$$\sum_{a \in A} w(a)\tilde{x}_a = \sum_{a \in A} w(a)x_a + \varepsilon \left(\sum_{a \in C: forward} w(a) - \sum_{a \in C: backward} w(a) \right) < \sum_{a \in A} w(a)x_a$$

To prove the backward direction, we first describe the algorithmic procedure. \square

Definition 16.5:

Given a (s, t) -flow x with $val(x) = f$, we define the *augmenting network* w.r.t. x as follows: $N = (V, \bar{A}, \bar{C}, \bar{w})$ with

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{A} &= A_1 \cup A_2 \\ A_1 &= \{ij \in A : x_{ij} < c_{ij}\} \\ A_2 &= \{ji : ij \in A, x_{ij} > 0\} \end{aligned}$$

For $a \in A$, we denote by $a_1 \in A_1$ and / or $a_2 \in A_2$ the corresponding arcs in A_1 and A_2 . If a_1 (or a_2) does not exist, we evaluate $x(a_1)$ (or $x(a_2)$) with zero. Further,

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{c}(\bar{a}) &= (c(a) - x(a) \text{ if } \bar{a} = a_1, x(a) \text{ if } \bar{a} = a_2) \forall a \in A \\ \bar{w}(\bar{a}) &= (w(a) \text{ if } \bar{a} = a_1, -w(a) \text{ if } \bar{a} = a_2) \forall a \in A \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 16.6:

Every augmenting cycle in D corresponds with exactly one *directed* cycle in N . The cost of both cycles are identical.

Proof. Exercise sheet. \square

Theorem 16.7:

The flow x is cost minimal among all (s, t) -flows in D of value f if and only if no directed cycle in N has negative cost.

Proof. \Rightarrow : analogue to Theorem 16.4.

\Leftarrow : Assume x is not cost minimal. Hence, there exists a \tilde{x} with value f and $w^T \tilde{x} < w^T x$. Now define for $\bar{a} \in \bar{A}$ (w.r.t. x)

$$\bar{x}(\bar{a}) = (\max\{0, \tilde{x}(a) - x(a)\} \text{ if } \bar{a} = a_1 \in A_1, \max\{0, x(a) - \tilde{x}(a)\} \text{ if } \bar{a} = a_2 \in A_2)$$

Thus it holds that $\bar{x}(a_1) - \bar{x}(a_2) = \tilde{x}(a) - x(a)$. Further, it holds that

$$\bar{x}(a_1)\bar{w}(a_1) + \bar{x}(a_2)\bar{w}(a_2) = w(a)(\tilde{x}(a) - x(a))$$

and thus

$$\sum_{\bar{a} \in \bar{A}} \bar{w}(\bar{a})\bar{x}(\bar{a}) = \sum_{a \in A} w(a)(\tilde{x}(a) - x(a)) = w^T \tilde{x} - w^T x < 0$$

Moreover, flow conservation holds for all $v \in V$:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{a \in \delta_N^+(v)} \bar{x}(a) - \sum_{a \in \delta_N^-(v)} \bar{x}(a) \\ &= \sum_{a \in \delta_D^+(v)} \bar{x}(a_1) - \bar{x}(a_2) - \sum_{a \in \delta_D^-(v)} \bar{x}(a_1) - \bar{x}(a_2) \\ &= \sum_{a \in \delta^+(v)} \tilde{x}(a) - x(a) - \sum_{a \in \delta^-(v)} \tilde{x}(a) - x(a) \\ &= \left(\sum_{a \in \delta^+(v)} \tilde{x}(a) - \sum_{a \in \delta^-(v)} \tilde{x}(a) \right) - \left(\sum_{a \in \delta^+(v)} x(a) - \sum_{a \in \delta^-(v)} x(a) \right) \\ &= (0 - 0 \text{ if } v \in V \setminus \{s, t\}, f - f = 0 \text{ if } v = s, -f + f = 0 \text{ if } v = t) \end{aligned}$$

Thus \bar{x} is a feasible flow of value 0 and $\bar{w}^T \bar{x} < 0$. Since $\bar{x} \neq 0$ and flow conservation holds for all $v \in V$, \bar{x} is a *Zirkulation (circulation)* and can be decomposed into flows x_i defined on cycles C_i ($i = 1, \dots, k < |\bar{A}|$). With $\sum_{i=1}^k x_i(\bar{a}) = \bar{x}(\bar{a}) \forall \bar{a} \in \bar{A}$. For at least one cycle C_j it must hold that $\bar{w}^T x_j < 0$, otherwise $\bar{w}^T \bar{x} \geq 0$. Then the vector x_j defines an augmenting cycle with negative cost. Contradiction. \square

Acronyms

$(S - T)$ -separator . 26

(s, t) -cut (s, t) -Schnitt. 9

(s, t) -flow-value Wert des (s, t) -Flusses. 28

$(s - t)$ -cut $(s - t)$ -Schnitt. 27

$(s - t)$ -vertex cut . 27

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