

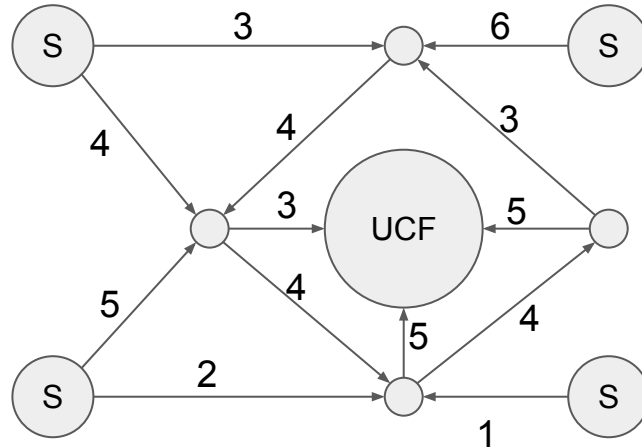
Network Flow Algorithms

Traffic

Suppose we have a large group of people that will leave certain locations (houses) in the morning by vehicle and all travel to the same location (UCF). We know the rate at which cars can travel along all roads (in cars per minute). We want to know the number of cars that can reach the location in cars per minute to determine how long it takes the location to fill up.

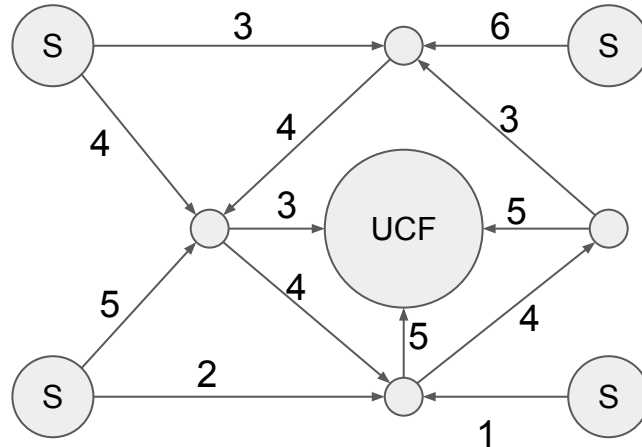
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Traffic

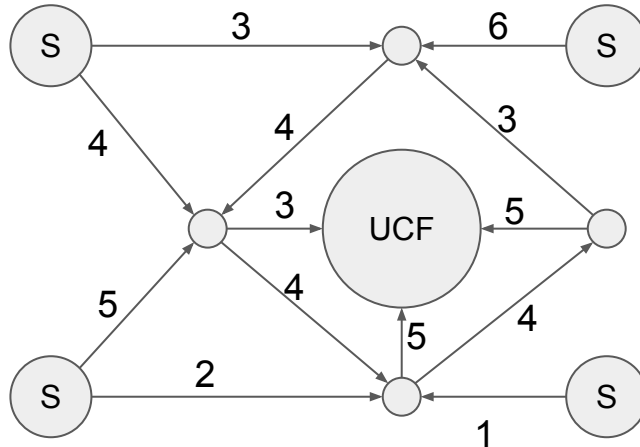
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Ideally we could use the sum of the edges leaving S.

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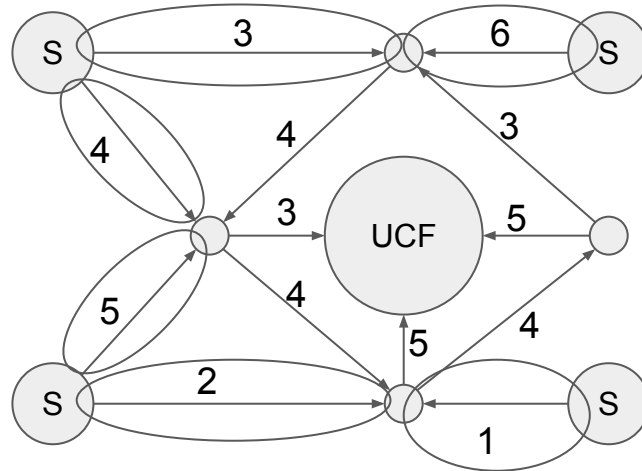


Ideally we could use the sum of the edges leaving S or the sum of the edges entering UCF.

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Leaving S = 21

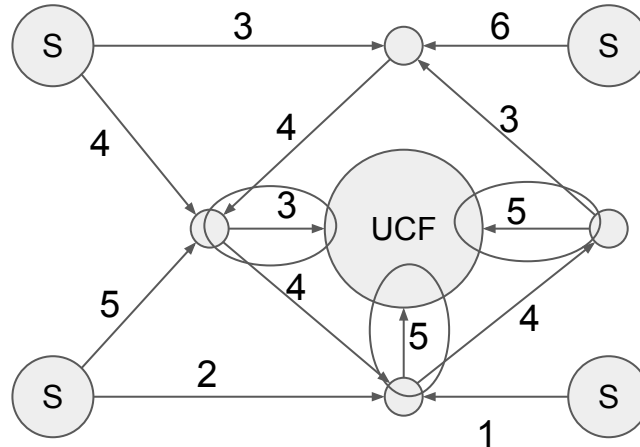


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Leaving S = 21
Entering UCF = 13

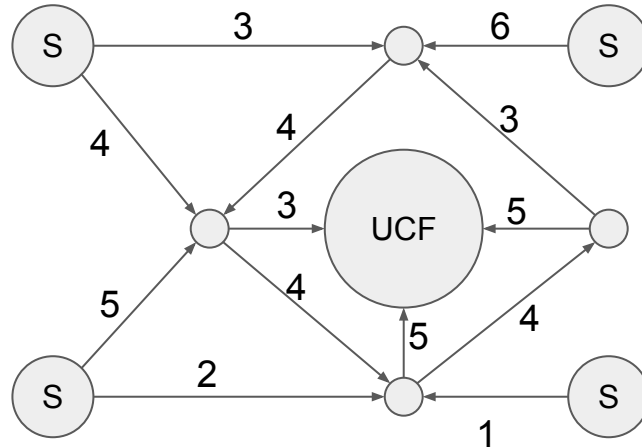


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Leaving S = 21
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13 is the bounding
value.

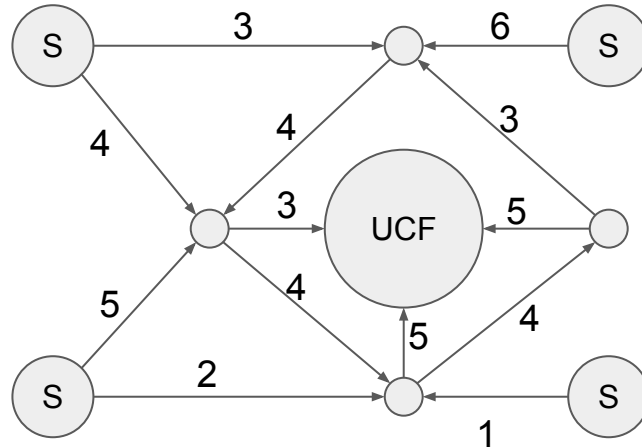


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Leaving S = 21
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13 is the bounding
value. Is it correct?



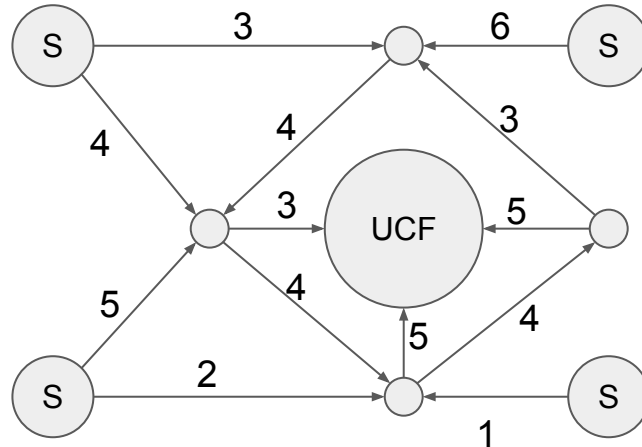
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13 is the bounding
value. Is it correct?

The actual answer
is 10.



Ideally we could use
the sum of the edges
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Solution Ideas

We could try sending one car at a time.

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How do we find if a car can reach UCF?

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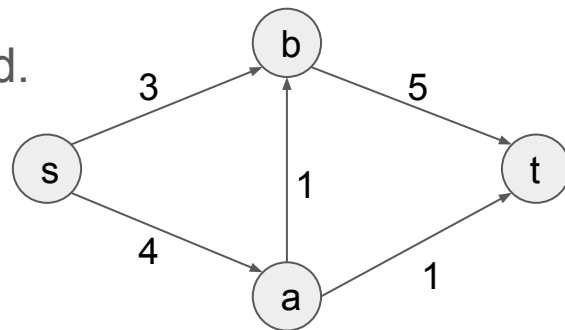
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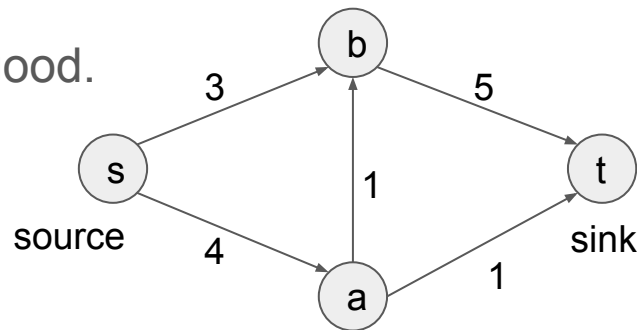
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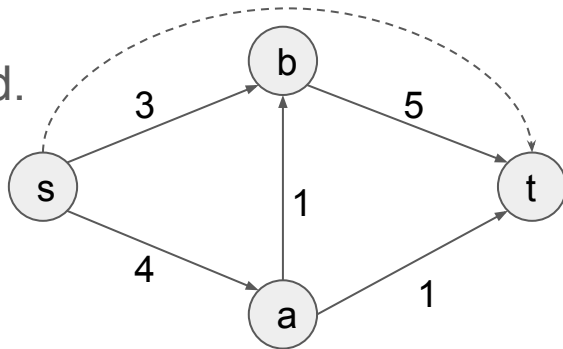
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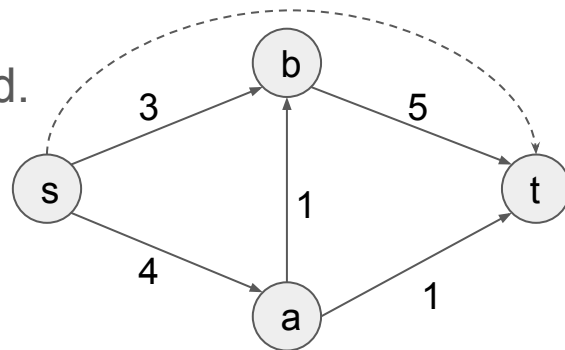
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In action
Send 3 cars



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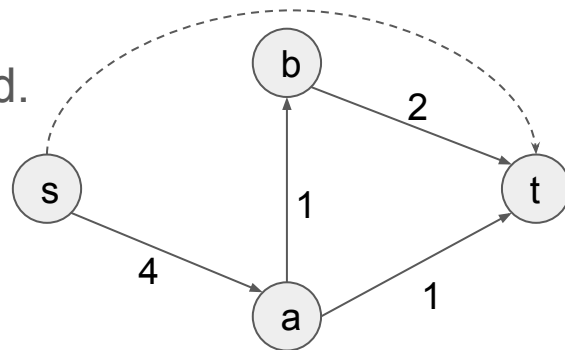
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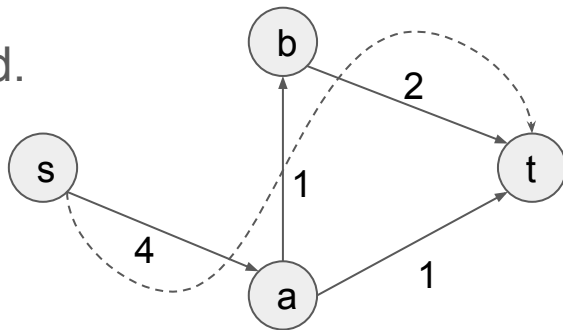
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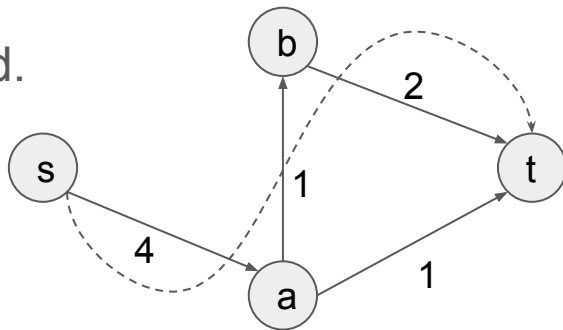
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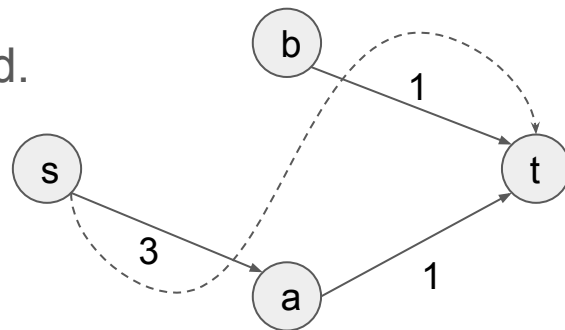
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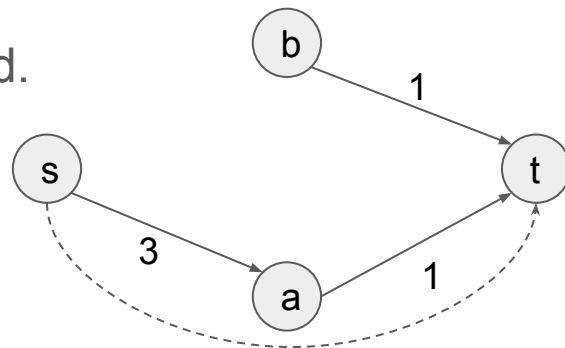
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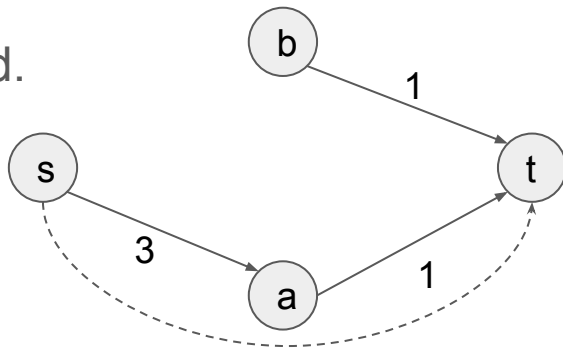
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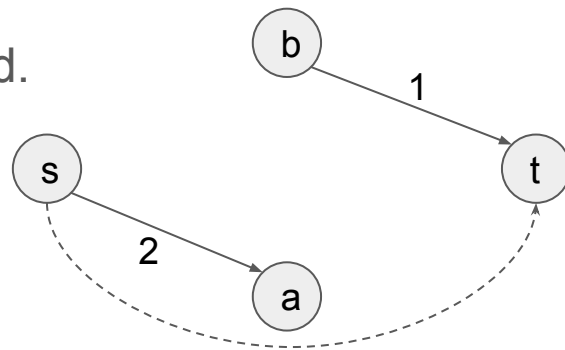
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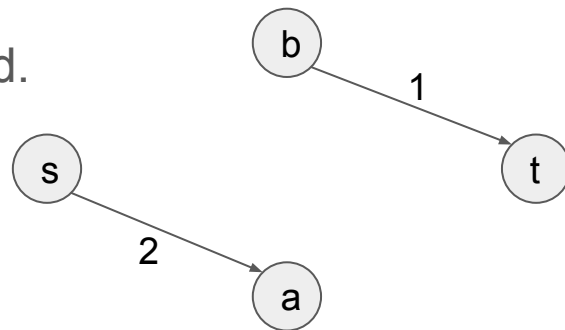
In action

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No Remaining Paths

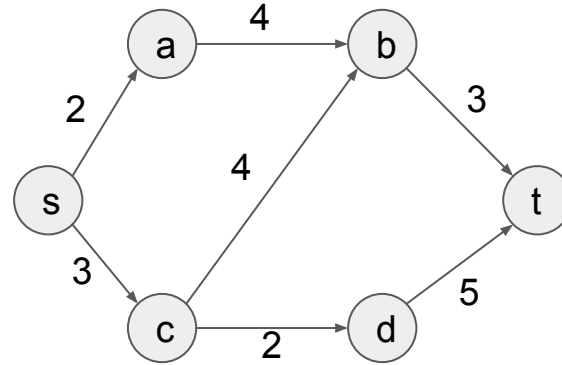


Solution Ideas (cont.)

That idea has some issues.

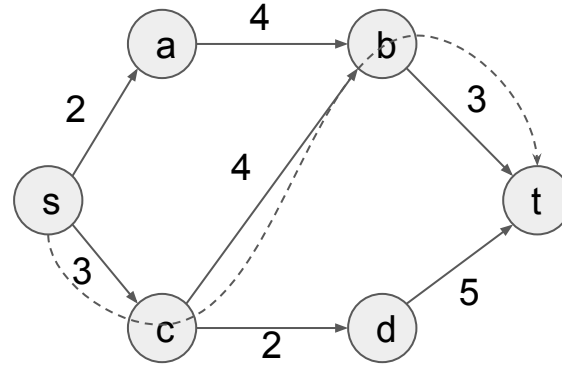
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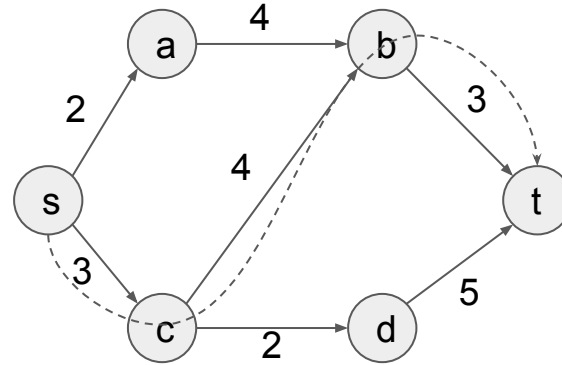
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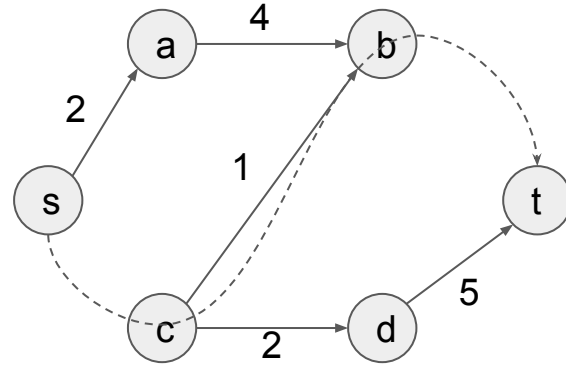
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Send 3 cars

Solution Ideas (cont.)

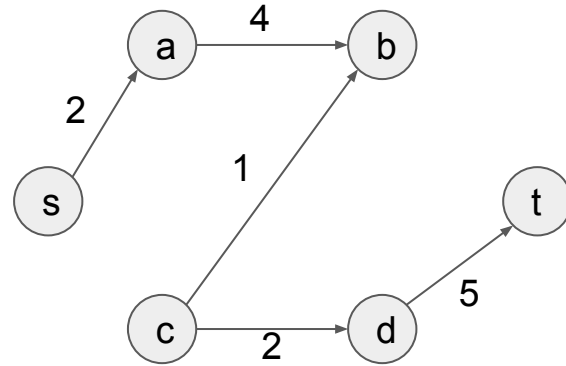
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Solution Ideas (cont.)

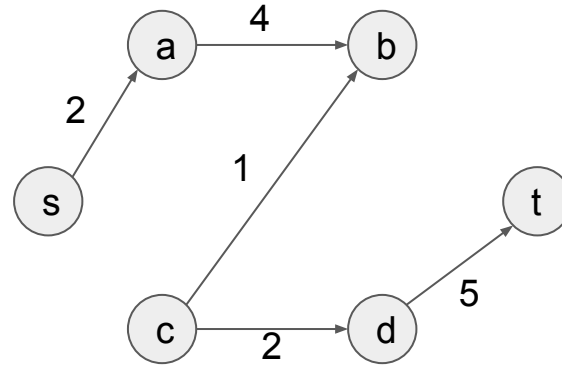
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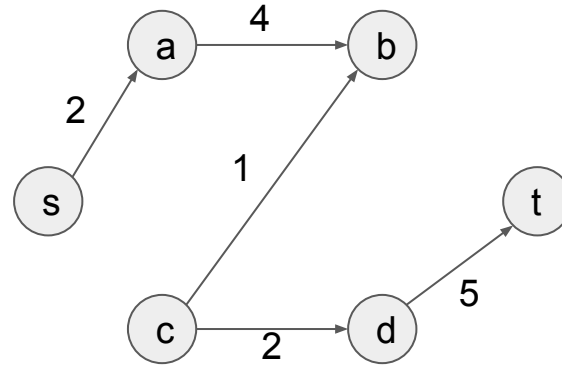
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Send 3 cars
No path.

Solution Ideas (cont.)

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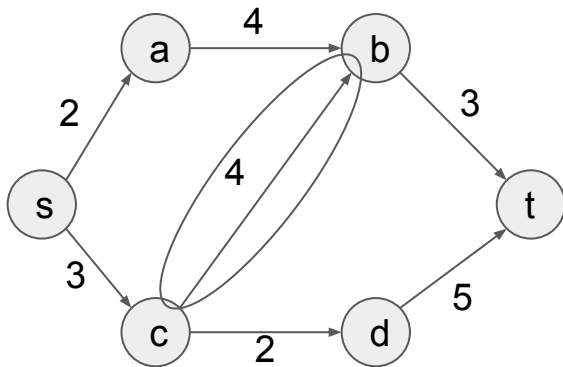


Send 3 cars
No path.
But what was the answer?

Solution Ideas (cont.)

That idea has some issues.

We made a mistake early by taking the center edge.

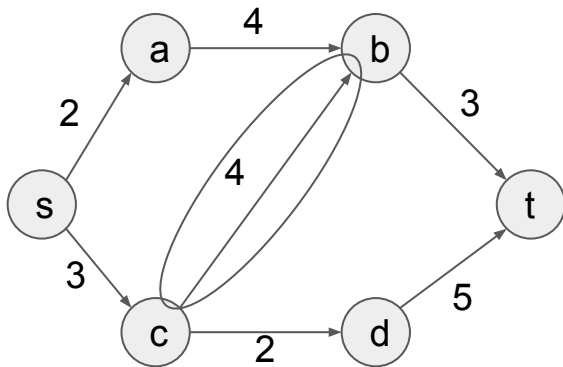


Solution Ideas (cont.)

That idea has some issues.

We made a mistake early by taking the center edge.

We need to allow ourselves to undo mistakes.



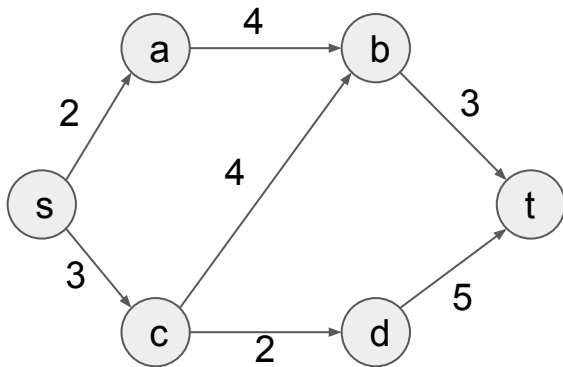
Solution Ideas (cont.)

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Create residual edges.



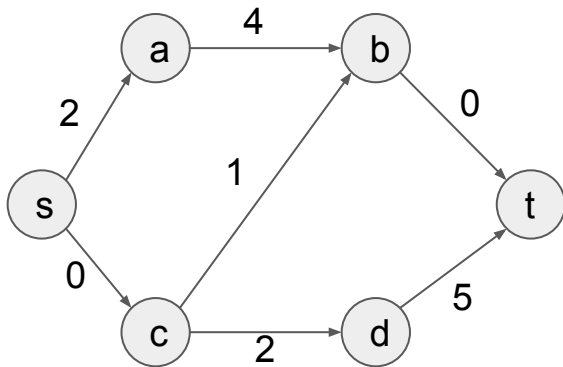
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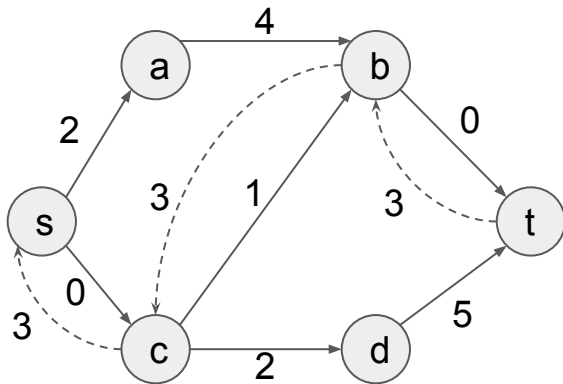
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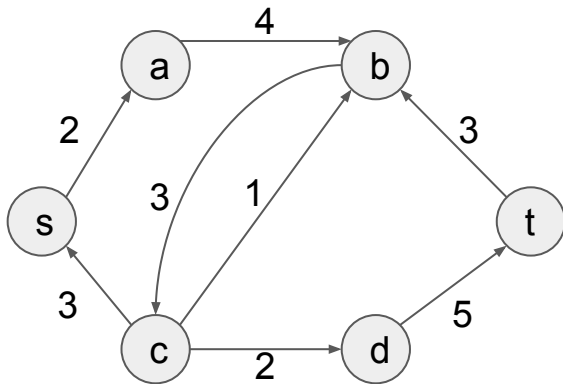
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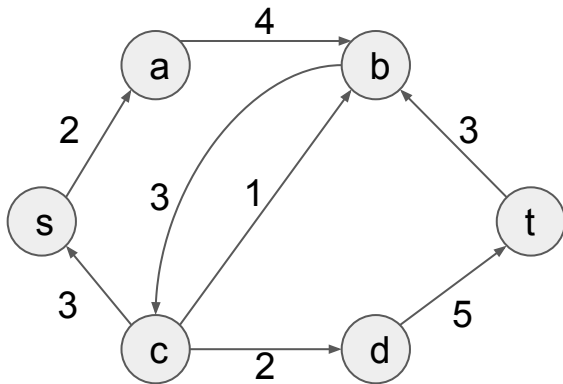
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Create residual edges.

Continue the algorithm.



Solution Ideas (cont.)

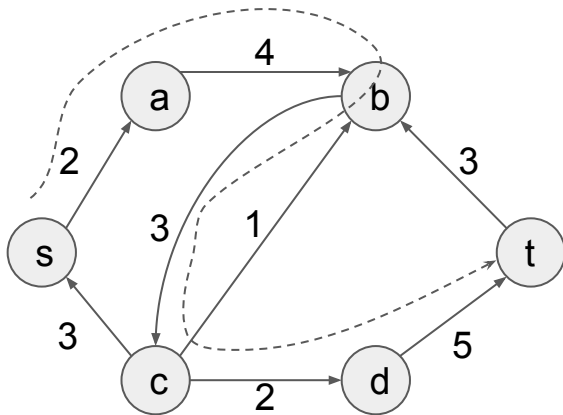
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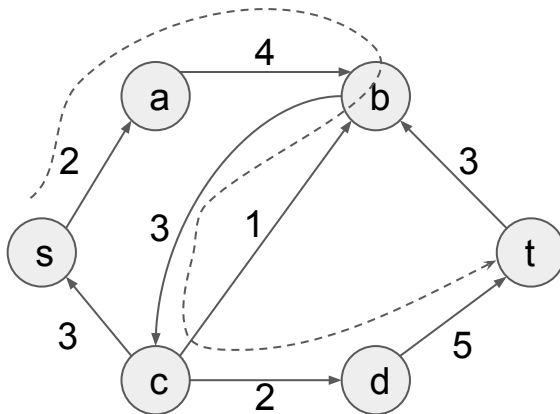
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We need to allow ourselves to undo mistakes.

Create residual edges.

Continue the algorithm.

Send 2 cars
(in addition to the 3 other cars)



Solution Ideas (cont.)

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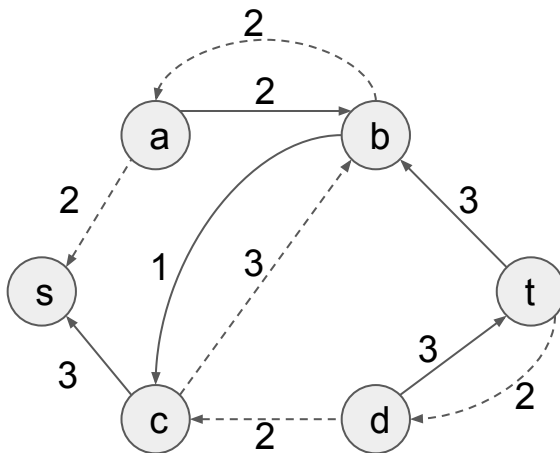
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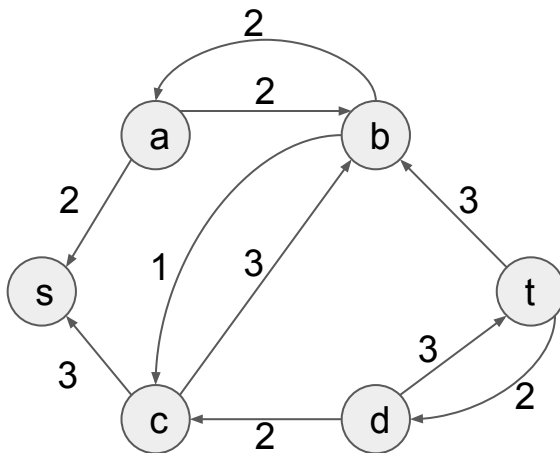
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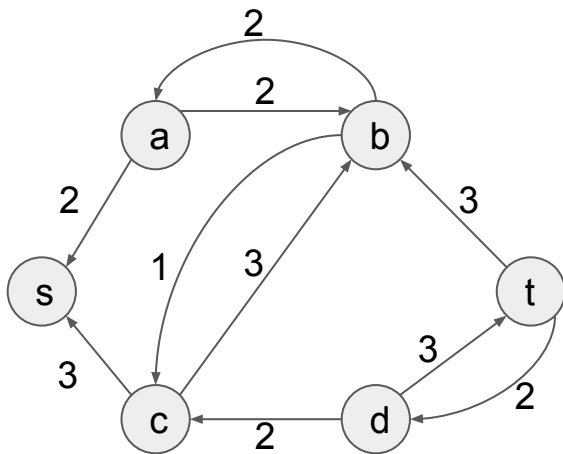
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Create residual edges.

Continue the algorithm.

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What happens if we DFS now?



Solution Ideas (cont.)

That idea has some issues.

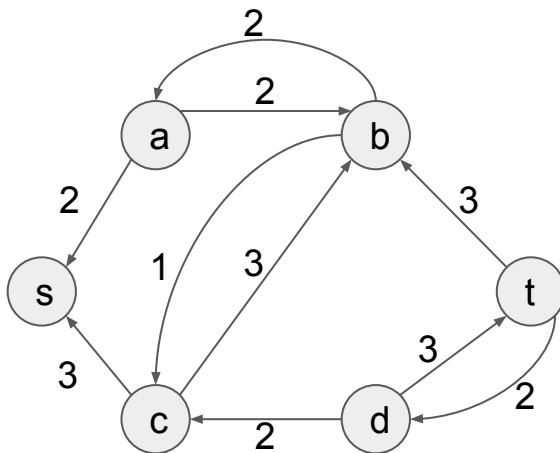
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Continue the algorithm.

Send 2 cars
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What happens if we DFS now?
No path from s to t!



Correctness

By adding the reverse edges,

Correctness

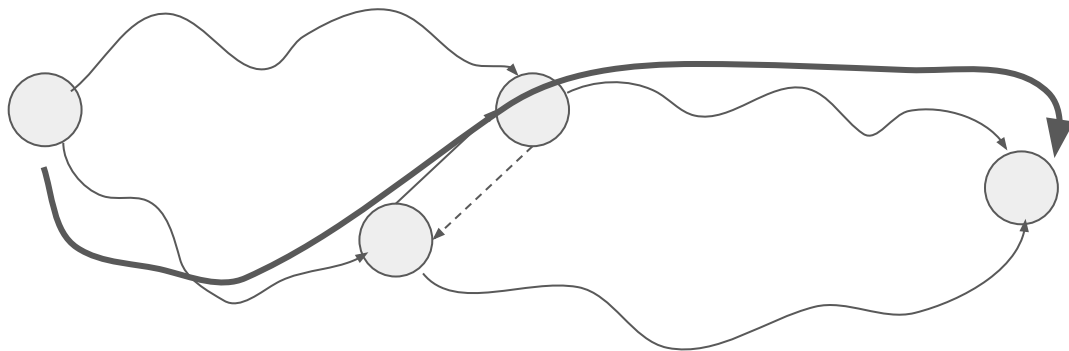
By adding the reverse edges,

We allow ourselves to pick patchwork paths together

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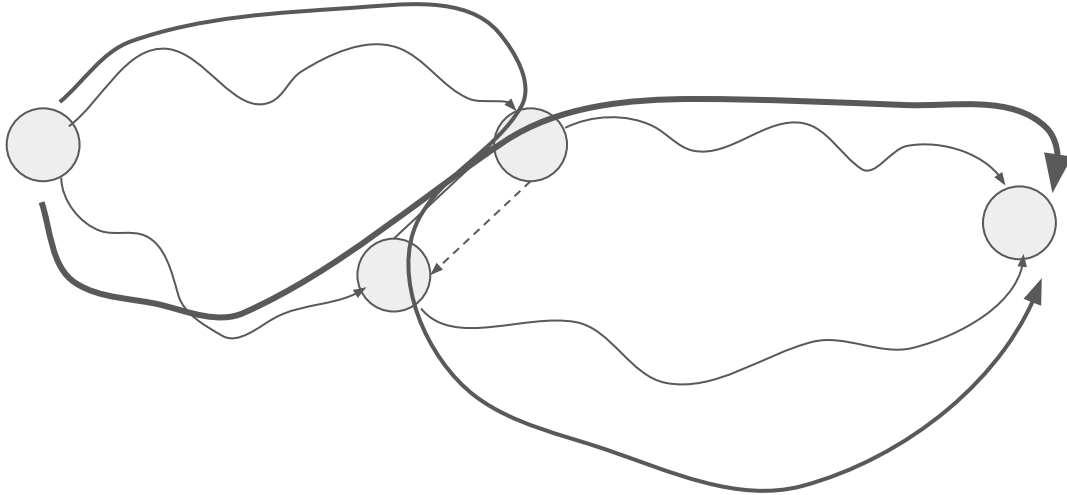
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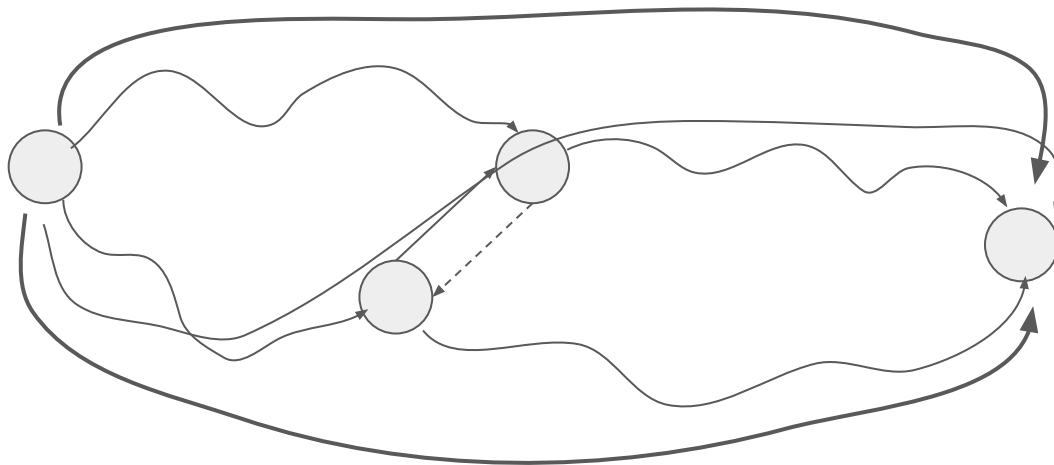
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Correctness

By adding the reverse edges,

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Ford-Fulkerson Algorithm (FFA)

Let the answer be 0

While a path exists

- Find the path using a DFS

- Increment answer by the minimum capacity along the path

- Adjust capacities along the path

- Add residual edges along the path

FFA Analysis

Runtime?

FFA Analysis

Runtime?

(Runtime of DFS) TIMES (Number of paths)

FFA Analysis

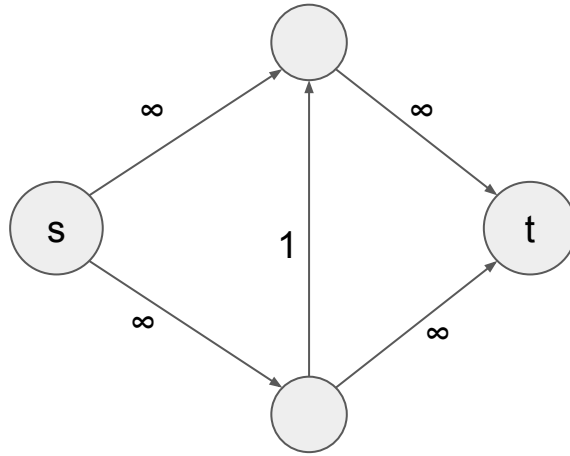
Runtime?

(Runtime of DFS) TIMES (The Answer in worst case)

FFA Analysis

Runtime?

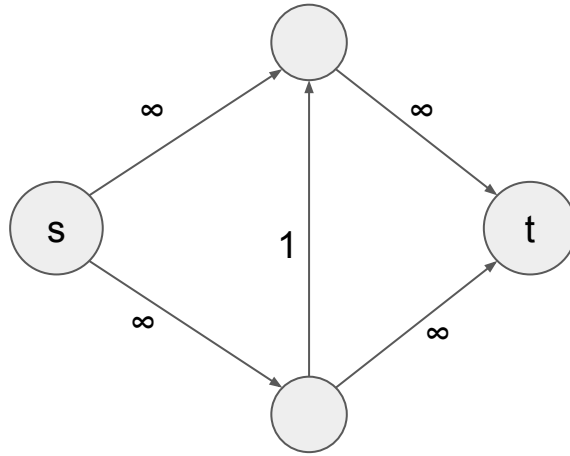
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FFA Analysis

Runtime?

(Runtime of DFS) TIMES (The Answer in worst case)

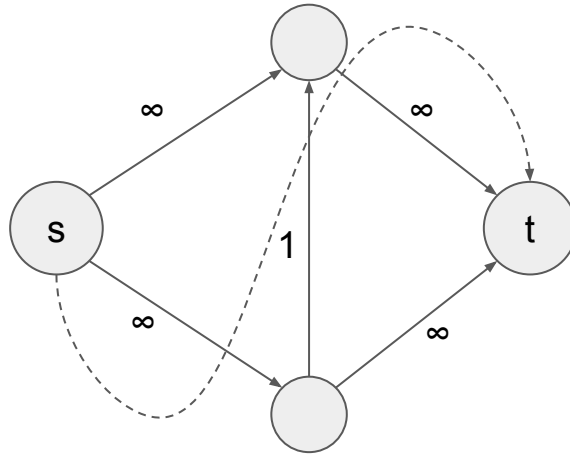


Not really ∞ , but a very large value.

FFA Analysis

Runtime?

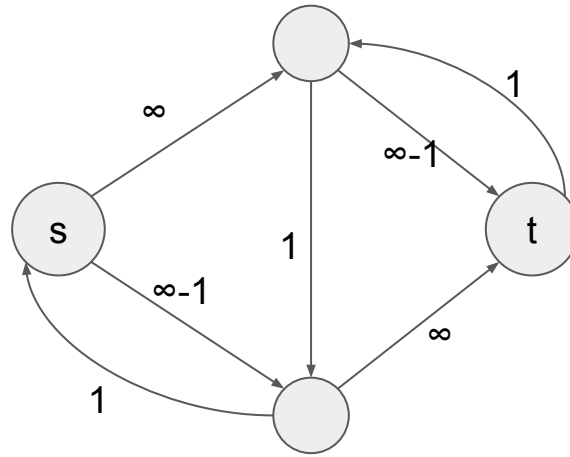
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FFA Analysis

Runtime?

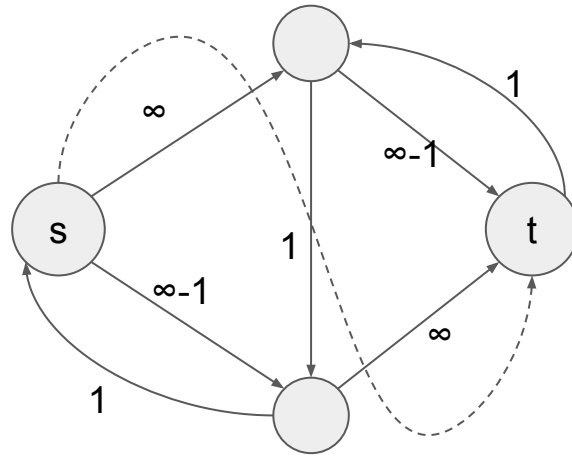
(Runtime of DFS) TIMES (The Answer in worst case)



FFA Analysis

Runtime?

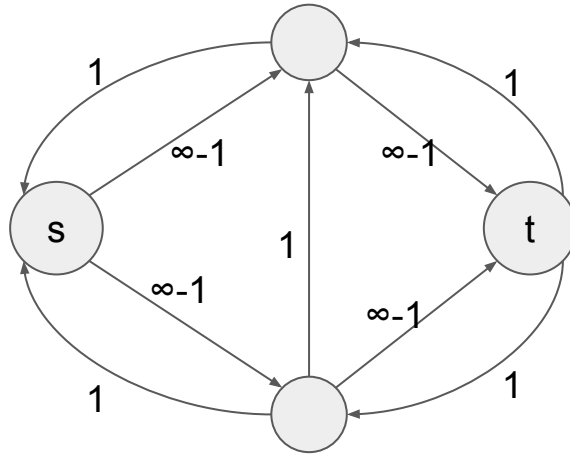
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FFA Analysis

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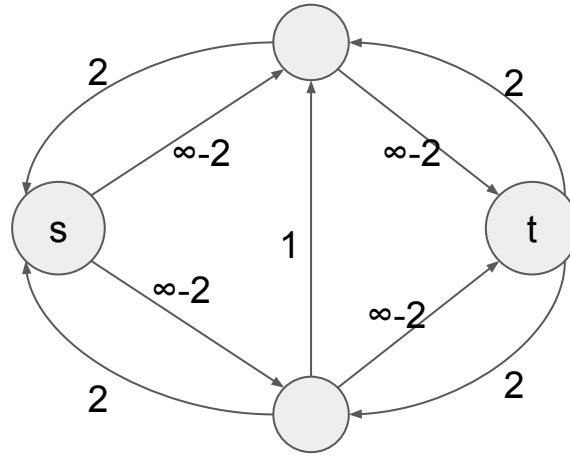
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FFA Analysis

Runtime?

(Runtime of DFS) TIMES (The Answer in worst case)

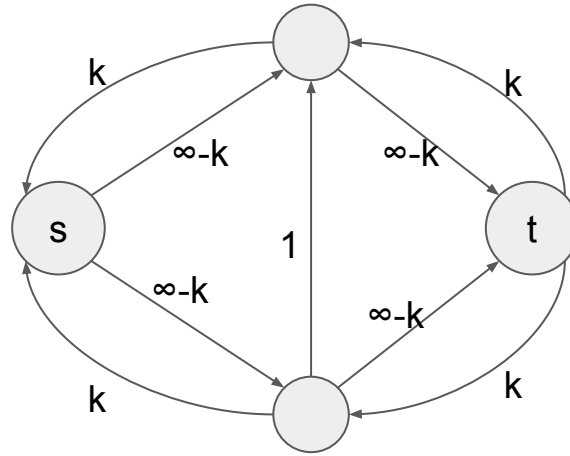


After 2 more DFS's

FFA Analysis

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After $2k$ total DFS's

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FFA can be thought of as $O((|E|+|V|)(F))$, where F is the maximum flow.

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Using the BFS makes the algorithm something called Edmonds-Karp Algorithm.

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$O((|V|+|E|)(|E|)(|V|))$ or $O(|E|^2|V|)$

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The blocking flow provably has a worst case of $O(|E||V|^2)$

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An optimized version has $O(|V|^2|E|^{0.5})$

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