

Design and Analysis of Algorithms

CS218M

Network Flow Algorithms

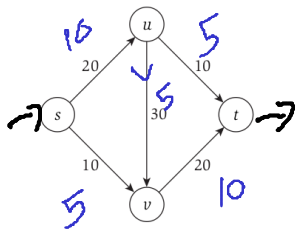
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Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay

Autumn, 2022

Optimal Network Flow Problem

A **flow network** is a directed graph $G = (V, E)$ where each edge (u, v) has a non-negative integer capacity $c(u, v) \geq 0$. The graph has **source vertex** s and **sink vertex** t .



- s has no incoming edges. t has no outgoing edges.
- For all internal nodes v there is a path $s \rightsquigarrow v \rightsquigarrow t$.

Given a flow network (G, c) , a **flow** is $f : E \rightarrow Z_0$ such that

- **(capacity)** $0 \leq f(u, v) \leq c(u, v)$.
- **(conservation)** For all internal nodes v we have

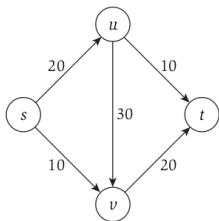
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$$f^{\text{in}}(v) = f^{\text{out}}(v)$$

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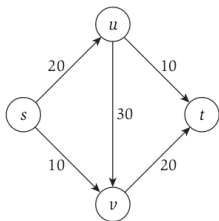
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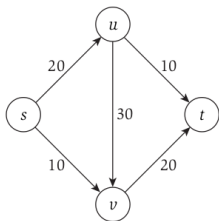
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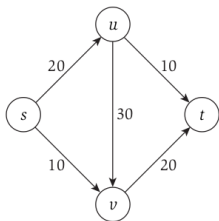


- Let $f^{out}(v) = \sum_{e \text{ out of } v} f(e)$ and $f^{in}(v) = \sum_{e \text{ in to } v} f(e)$.

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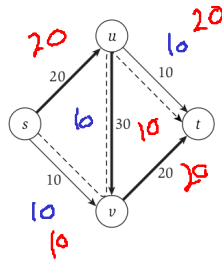
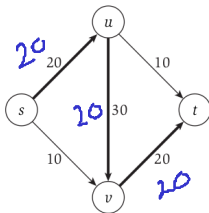
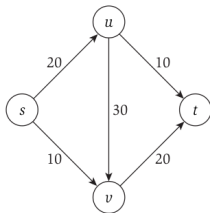
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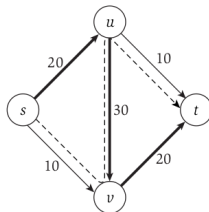
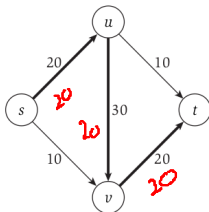
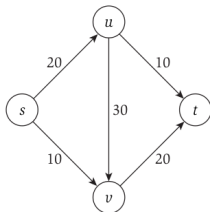


- Let $f^{out}(v) = \sum_{e \text{ out of } v} f(e)$ and $f^{in}(v) = \sum_{e \text{ in to } v} f(e)$.
- Define **value of flow** f as $f^{out}(s)$.

Finding Maximum Flow

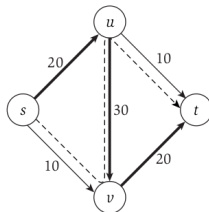
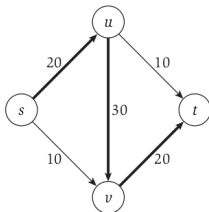
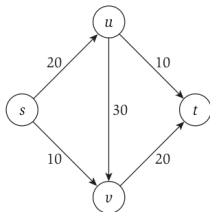


Finding Maximum Flow



- Find a path $P = s \rightsquigarrow t$. Let $Bottleneck(P)$ be the smallest capacity on the path. Initial flow f has value $Bottleneck(P)$.

Finding Maximum Flow

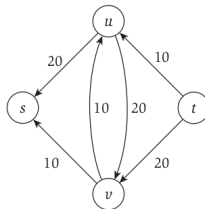
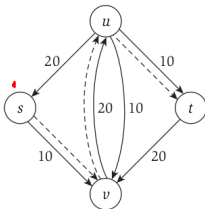
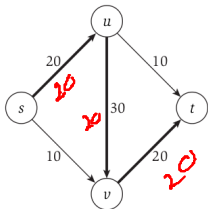


- Find a path $P = s \rightsquigarrow t$. Let $Bottleneck(P)$ be the smallest capacity on the path. Initial flow f has value $Bottleneck(P)$.
- Given current flow f , find **augmenting path** $P = s \rightsquigarrow t$. Check that it is feasible and push $Bottleneck(P)$ additional flow to get revised flow f' .

Residual Graph

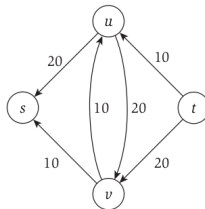
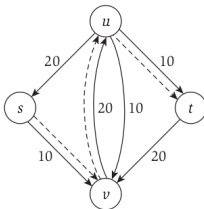
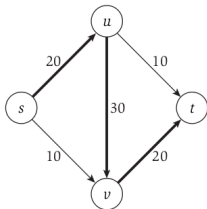


Given flow f for flow network G , c , define **Residual graph** G_f .



Residual Graph

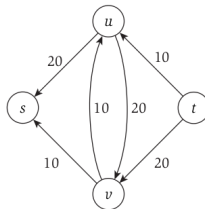
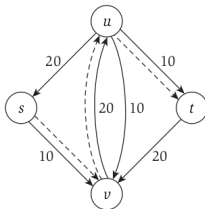
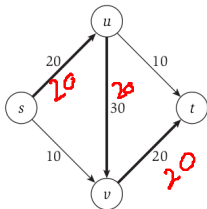
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- **Forward edges:** Edges e with residual capacity $c(e) - f(e) > 0$.

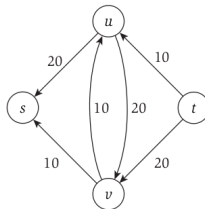
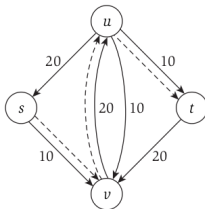
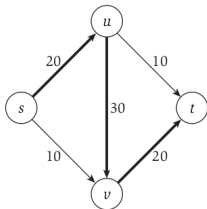
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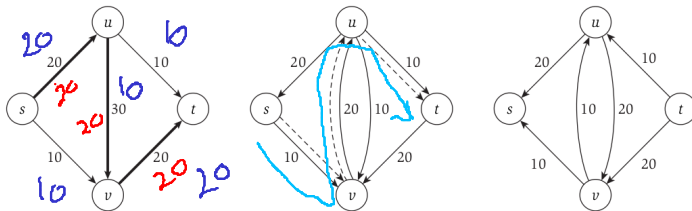


- **Forward edges:** Edges e with residual capacity $c(e) - f(e) > 0$.
- **Backward edges:** Reverse $\bar{e}$ of edges e with $f(e) > 0$ allowing reverse flow upto $f(e)$.

Augmenting the Flow

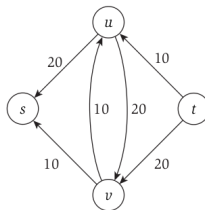
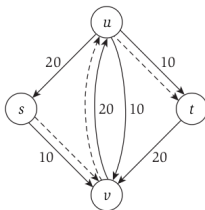
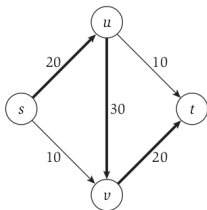


Augmenting the Flow



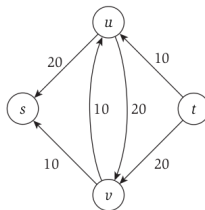
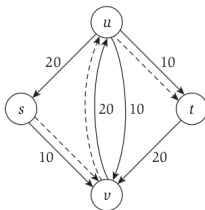
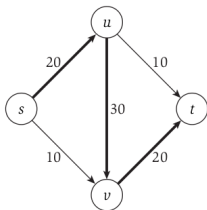
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Augmenting the Flow



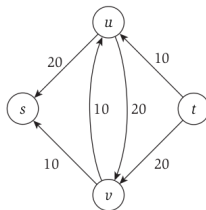
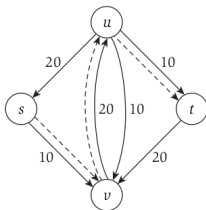
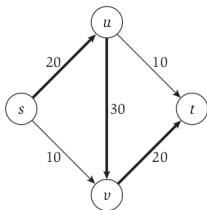
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- **Augmented Flow** f' is f modified as follows:
 - for each forward edge e on P , **increase** $f'(e) = f(e) + b$
 - for each backward edge $\bar{e}$ on P , **decrease** $f'(e) = f(e) - b$.

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- **Claim:** f' is a valid flow in G, c .

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- Augmentation f' from f can be computed in time $O(E)$.

Ford-Fulkerson Algorithm (1956) for Max-Flow

f.n. (G, c)

f^*
 f^* maximal

Max-Flow

Initially $f(e) = 0$ for all e in G

While there is an s - t path in the residual graph G_f

Let P be a simple s - t path in G_f

$f' = \text{augment}(f, P)$

Update f to be f'

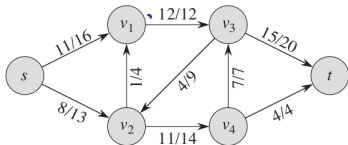
Update the residual graph G_f to be $G_{f'}$

Endwhile

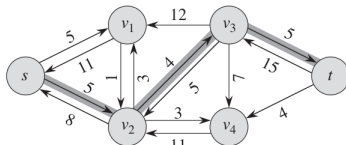
Return f

Example: Ford Fulkerson

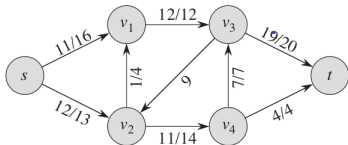
f



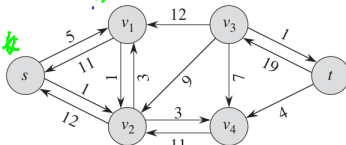
(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

Max-flow Min-Cut Theorem

Given flow network G, c and a valid flow f ,

- partition A, B of V is an s, t -cut if $s \in A$ and $t \in B$.

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Clearly, flow value $f^{out}(s) = f^{out} A - f^{in}(A) \leq c(A, B)$.

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Theorem

If f^ is the flow such that there is no $s \rightsquigarrow t$ path in G_f (i.e. f^* is returned by Ford-Fulkerson algorithm), then we can construct an s, t cut (A^*, B^*) such that $f^* = c(A^*, B^*)$. Hence f^* is max flow and A^*, B^* is min cut.*

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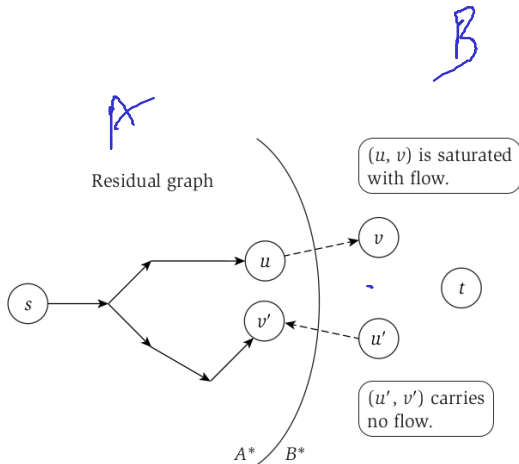
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Construction: Let A^* be all nodes v s.t. $s \rightsquigarrow v$ in G_{f^*} . Let $B^* = V - A^*$.

Proof Idea



Maximal Matching in Bipartate Graph

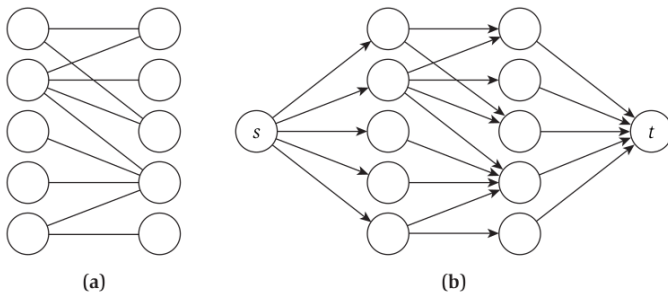


Figure 7.9 (a) A bipartite graph. (b) The corresponding flow network, with all capacities equal to 1.

- Matching $M \subseteq E$ s.t. every $v \in X \cup Y$ occurs at most once in M .
- Maximal Matching. Perfect Matching.

Hall's Theorem

A bipartate graph $(X; Y, E)$ with $|X| = |Y|$ has

- either a perfect matching
- or there exists $A \subseteq X$ s.t. $|A| > |E(A)|$.