# Network Flow II

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#### KT 7.3, 7.5, 7.6

# Network Flow

- Network flow:
  - graph G=(V,E).
  - Special vertices s (source) and t (sink).
  - Every edge e has a capacity  $c(e) \ge 0$ .
  - Flow:



- capacity constraint: every edge e has a flow  $0 \le f(e) \le c(e)$ .
- flow conservation: for all  $u \neq s$ , t: flow into u equals flow out of u.





• Value of flow f is the sum of flows out of s minus sum of flows into s:

$$v(f) = \sum_{v:(s,v)\in E} f(e) - \sum_{v:(v,s)\in E} f(e) = f^{out}(s) - f^{in}(s)$$

Maximum flow problem: find s-t flow of maximum value

# Today

- Applications
- Finding good augmenting paths. Edmonds-Karp and scaling algorithm.

#### Ford-Fulkerson

- Find (any) augmenting path and use it.
- Augmenting path (definition different than in CLRS): s-t path where
  - · forward edges have leftover capacity
  - backwards edges have positive flow



• Can add extra flow: min(c<sub>1</sub> - f<sub>1</sub>, f<sub>2</sub>, c<sub>3</sub> - f<sub>3</sub>, c<sub>4</sub> - f<sub>4</sub>, f<sub>5</sub>, f<sub>6</sub>) =  $\delta$ 



# Ford-Fulkerson

- Integral capacities:
  - Each augmenting path increases flow with at least 1.
  - At most v(f) iterations
  - Find augmenting path via DFS/BFS: O(m)
  - Total running time: O(v(f) m)
- Lemma. If all the capacities are integers, then there is a maximum flow where the flow on every edge is an integer.
- Bad example for Ford-Fulkerson:



- Find shortest augmenting path and use it.
- Augmenting path (definition different than in CLRS): s-t path where
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# Find a minimum cut

- When there are no more augmenting s-t paths:
- Find all augmenting paths from s.
- The nodes S that can be reached by these augmenting paths form the left side of a minimum cut.
  - edges out of S have  $c_e = f_e$ .
  - edges into S have  $f_e = 0$ .
  - · Capacity of the cut equals the flow.



- Scaling parameter  $\Delta$
- Only consider edges with capacity at least  $\Delta$  in residual graph  $G_f(\Delta)$ .
- Example:  $\Delta = 4$



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- Start with  $\Delta$  = "highest power of 2  $\leq$  largest capacity out of s"



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• Stop when no more augmenting paths in  $G_f(1)$ .











#### Exercise



- Running time: O(m<sup>2</sup> log C), where C is the largest capacity out of s.
- Lemma 1. Number of scaling phases:  $1 + \lceil lg C \rceil$
- Lemma 2. Let *f* the flow when  $\Delta$ -scaling phase ends, and let *f*\*be the maximum flow. Then  $v(f^*) \leq v(f) + m\Delta$ .
- Lemma 3. The number of augmentations in a scaling phase is at most 2m.
  - First phase: can use each edge out of s in at most one augmenting path.
  - f flow at the end of previous phase.
  - Used  $\Delta' = 2\Delta$  in last round.
  - Lemma 2:  $v(f^*) \le v(f) + m\Delta' = v(f) + 2m\Delta$ .
  - "Leftover flow" to be found  $\leq 2m\Delta$ .
  - Each agumentation in a  $\Delta$ -scaling phase augments flow with at least  $\Delta$ .

- Lemma 2. Let *f* the flow when  $\Delta$ -scaling phase ends, and let *f*\*be the maximum flow. Then  $v(f^*) \leq v(f) + m\Delta$ .
- By the end of the phase there is a cut  $c(S,T) \le v(f) + m\Delta$ .



$$\begin{aligned} c(S,T) - v(f) &= c(e_1) + c(e_3) + c(e_7) - f(e_1) - f(e_3) - f(e_7) + f(e_2) + f(e_5) \\ &= c(e_1) - f(e_1) + c(e_3) - f(e_3) + c(e_7) - f(e_7) + f(e_2) + f(e_5) \\ &< \Delta + \Delta + \Delta + \Delta + \Delta = 5\Delta \end{aligned}$$

# Maximum flow algorithms

- Edmonds-Karp: O(m<sup>2</sup>n)
- Scaling: O(m<sup>2</sup> log C)
- Ford-Fulkerson O(m v(f)).
- Preflow-push O(n<sup>3</sup>)
- Other algorithms: O(mn log n) or O(min(n<sup>2/3</sup>, m<sup>1/2</sup>)m log n log U).

- Bipartite graph: Can color vertices red and blue such that all edges have a red and a blue endpoint.
- Matching: Subset of edges  $M \subseteq E$  such that no edges in M share an endpoint.
- Maximum matching: matching of maximum cardinality.
- Applications:
  - planes to routes
  - · jobs to workers/machines



matched

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  - Flow of value v(f) => matching of size v(f)



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- Matching: Subset of edges  $M \subseteq E$  such that no edges in M share an endpoint.
- Maximum matching: matching of maximum cardinality.
- Solve via flow:
- Can generalize to general matchings



• X doctors, Y holidays, each doctor should work at at most 1 holiday, each doctor is available at some of the holidays.



• Same problem, but each doctor should work at most c holidays?

• X doctors, Y holidays, each doctor should work at at most c holidays, each doctor is available at some of the holidays.



 Same problem, but each doctor should work at most one day in each vacation period?

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- Same problem, but each doctor should work at most one day in each vacation period?



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# Edge Disjoint paths

- Problem: Find maximum number of edge-disjoint paths from s to t.
- Two paths are edge-disjoint if they have no edge in common.



# Edge Disjoint paths

- Edge-disjoint path problem. Find the maximum number of edge-disjoint paths from s to t.
- Two paths are edge-disjoint if they have no edge in common.



# Edge Disjoint Paths

• Reduction to max flow: assign capacity 1 to each edge.



- Thm. Max number of edge-disjoint s-t paths is equal to the value of a maximum flow.
  - Suppose there are k edge-disjoint paths: then there is a flow of k (let all edges on the paths have flow 1).
  - Other way (graph theory course).
- Ford-Fulkerson: v(f) ≤ n (no multiple edges and therefore at most n edges out of s)
  => running time O(nm).

# Network Connectivity

• Network connectivity. Find minimum number of edges whose removal disconnects t from s (destroys all s-t paths).



# Network Connectivity

 Network connectivity. Find minimum number of edges whose removal disconnects t from s (destroys all s-t paths).



- Set all capacities to 1 and find minimum cut.
- Thm. (Menger) The maximum number of edge-disjoint s-t paths is equal to the minimum number of edges whose removal disconnects t from s.

#### **Baseball elimination**

Team	Wins	Games left	Against			
			NY	Bal	Tor	Bos
New York	92	2	-	1	1	0
Baltimore	91	3	1	-	1	1
Toronto	91	3	1	1	-	1
Boston	90	2	0	1	1	-

- Question: Can Boston finish in first place (or in tie of first place)?
- No: Boston must win both its remaining 2 and NY must loose. But then Baltimore and Toronto both beat NY so winner of Baltimore-Toronto will get 93 points.
- Other argument: Boston can finish with at most 92. Cumulatively the other three teams have 274 wins currently and their 3 games against each other will give another 3 points => 277. 277/3 = 92,33333 => one of them must win > 92.

#### **Baseball elimination**

Team	Wins	Games left	Against			
			NY	Bal	Tor	Bos
New York	90	11	-	1	6	4
Baltimore	88	6	1	-	1	4
Toronto	87	11	6	1	-	4
Boston	79	12	4	4	4	-

• Question: Can Boston finish in first place (or in tie of first place)?



Boston can get at most 79 + 12 = 91 points

• Boston is eliminated  $\Leftrightarrow$  max s-t flow < 8.

# Node capacities

• Capacities on nodes.

