Chapter 6
Graph Algorithms

Algorithm Theory
WS 2015/16

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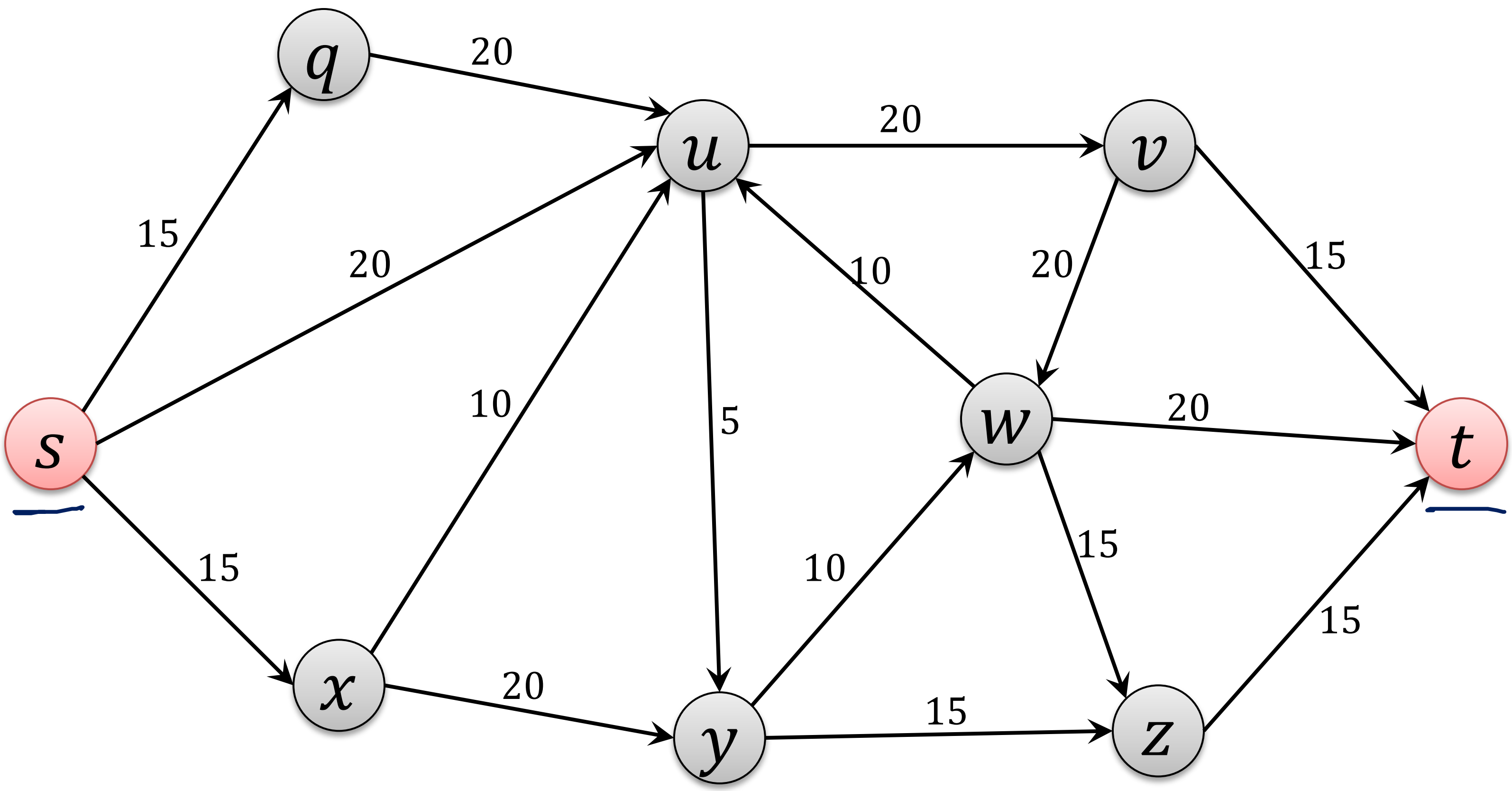
Flow Network



Ford Fulkerson: Running Time

- Time of regular Ford-Fulkerson algorithm with integer capacities:

$$O(mC)$$

- Time of algorithm with scaling parameter:

$$O(m^2 \log C)$$

- $O(\log C)$ is polynomial in the size of the input, but not in n

- Can we get an algorithm that runs in time polynomial in n?

- Always picking a shortest augmenting path leads to running time

$$O(m^2 n)$$

Other Maximum Flow Algorithms

- There are many other algorithms to solve the maximum flow problem, for example:

- **Preflow-push algorithm:**
  - Maintains a preflow (∀ nodes: inflow ≥ outflow)
  - Alg. guarantees: As soon as we have a flow, it is optimal
  - Detailed discussion in 2012/13 lecture
  - Running time of basic algorithm: $O(m \cdot n^2)$
  - Doing steps in the "right" order: $O(n^3)$

- **Current best known complexity:** $\boldsymbol{O(m \cdot n)}$
  - For graphs with $m \geq n^{1+\epsilon}$ (for every constant $\epsilon > 0$) [King,Rao,Tarjan 1992/1994]
  - For sparse graphs with $m \leq n^{16/15-\delta}$ [Orlin, 2013]

Maximum Flow Applications

- Maximum flow has many applications

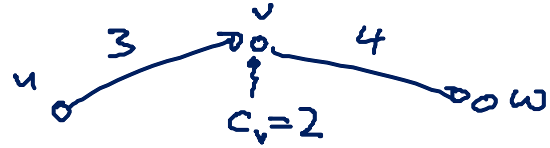
- Reducing a problem to a max flow problem can even be seen as an important algorithmic technique

- Examples:
  - related network flow problems
  - computation of small cuts
  - computation of matchings
  - computing disjoint paths
  - scheduling problems
  - assignment problems with some side constraints
  - …

Undirected Edges and Vertex Capacities

Undirected Edges:

- Undirected edge $\{u, v\}$: add edges (u, v) and (v, u) to network

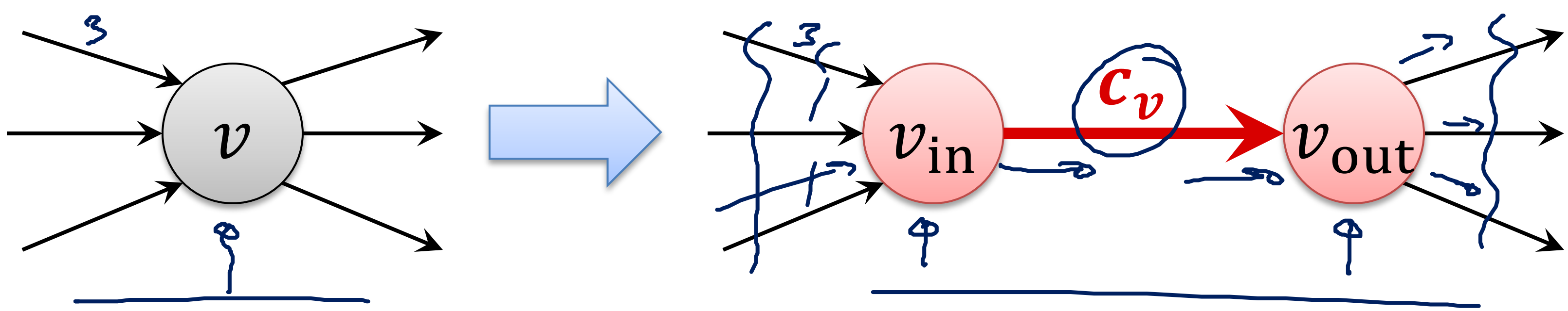


Vertex Capacities:

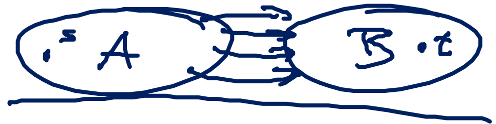
- Not only edges, but also (or only) nodes have capacities
- Capacity c_v of node $v \notin \{s, t\}$:

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

- Replace node v by edge $e_v = \{v_{\text{in}}, v_{\text{out}}\}$:



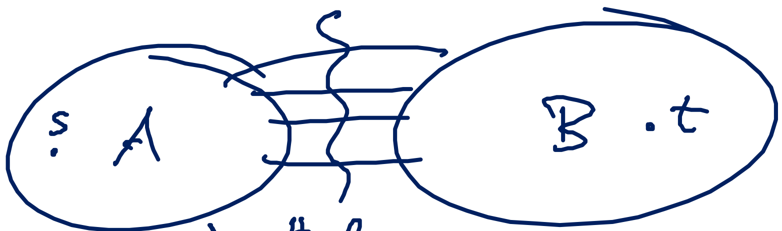
Minimum s-t Cut (A,B)



Given: undirected graph $G = (V, E)$, nodes $s, t \in V$

***s*-*t* cut:** Partition (A, B) of V such that $s \in A$, $t \in B$

Size of cut $(\boldsymbol{A}, \boldsymbol{B})$: number of edges crossing the cut



min #edges

Objective: find s-t cut of minimum size

create flow netw. by adding dir. edges of cap. 1

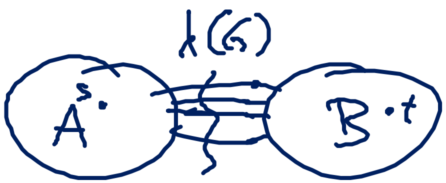
size of cut $\longleftrightarrow$ cap. of cut

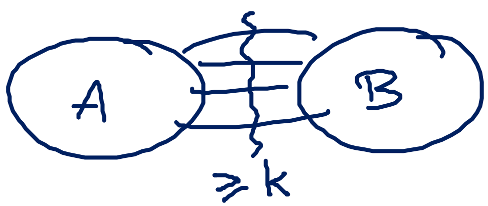
Edge Connectivity

Definition: A graph $G = (V, E)$ is k-edge connected for an integer $k \geq 1$ if the graph $G_X = (V, E \setminus X)$ is connected for every edge set

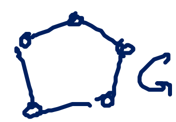
$$X \subseteq E, |X| \leq k - 1.$$

need to remove at least k edges to disconnect G





edge connectivity $\lambda(G)$: max k s.t. G is k-edge connected



$\lambda(G) = 2$

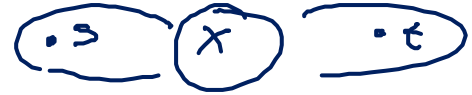
Goal: Compute edge connectivity $\lambda(G)$ of G

(and edge set X of size $\lambda(G)$ that divides G into ≥ 2 parts)

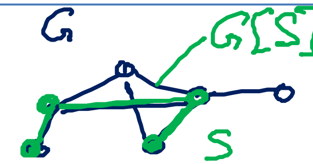
- minimum set X "is" a minimum s-t cut for some $s, t \in V$
  - Actually for all s, t in different components of $G_X = (V, E \setminus X)$ $O(mn^2)$
- Possible algorithm: fix s and find min s-t cut for all $t \neq s$

$\Theta(n)$ max. flow computations

Minimum s-t Vertex-Cut

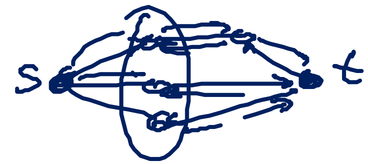


Given: undirected graph $G = (V, E)$, nodes $s, t \in V$



***s*-*t* vertex cut:** Set $X \subset V$ such that $s, t \notin X$ and s and t are in different components of the sub-graph $G[V \setminus X]$ induced by $V \setminus X$

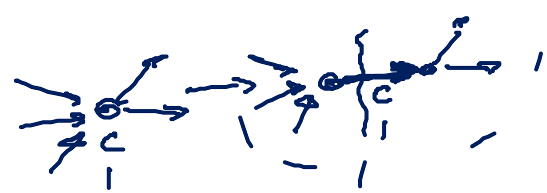
Size of vertex cut: $|X|$



Objective: find s-t vertex-cut of minimum size

- Replace undirected edge $\{u, v\}$ by (u, v) and (v, u)
- Compute max s-t flow for edge capacities ∞ and node capacities

$$c_v = 1 \text{ for } v \neq s, t$$



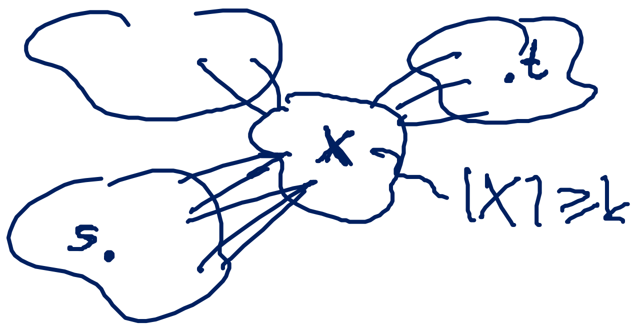
- Replace each node v by v_{in} and v_{out}:
- Min edge cut corresponds to min vertex cut in G

Vertex Connectivity

Definition: A graph $G = (V, E)$ is k-vertex connected for an integer $k \geq 1$ if the sub-graph $G[V \setminus X]$ induced by $V \setminus X$ is connected for every edge set

$$X \subseteq V, |X| \leq k - 1.$$

need to remove at least k nodes to disconnect G



vertex connectivity of G

max. k s.t. G is k-vertex connected

Goal: Compute vertex connectivity $\kappa(G)$ of G

(and node set X of size $\kappa(G)$ that divides G into ≥ 2 parts)

- Compute minimum s-t vertex cut for fixed s and all $t \neq s$

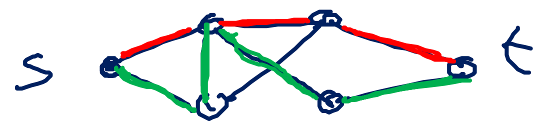
1: test all comb. of s & t

Edge-Disjoint Paths

Given: Graph $G = (V, E)$ with nodes $s, t \in V$

unweighted

Goal: Find as many edge-disjoint s-t paths as possible

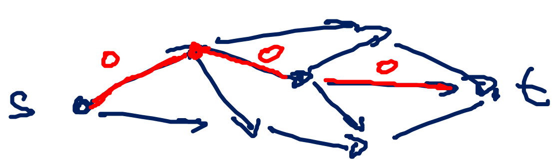


Solution:

- Find max s-t flow in G with edge capacities $c_e = 1$ for all $e \in E$

Flow f induces $|f|$ edge-disjoint paths:

- Integral capacities → can compute integral max flow f
- Get $|f|$ edge-disjoint paths by greedily picking them
- Correctness follows from flow conservation $f^{\text{in}}(v) = f^{\text{out}}(v)$



Vertex-Disjoint Paths

Given: Graph $G = (V, E)$ with nodes $s, t \in V$

Goal: Find as many internally vertex-disjoint s-t paths as possible

Solution:

- Find max s-t flow in G with node capacities $c_v = 1$ for all $v \in V$

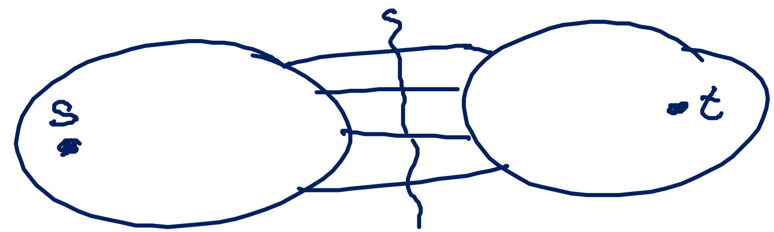
edge cap. $= \infty$

Flow f induces $|f|$ vertex-disjoint paths:

- Integral capacities → can compute integral max flow f
- Get $|f|$ vertex-disjoint paths by greedily picking them
- Correctness follows from flow conservation $f^{\text{in}}(v) = f^{\text{out}}(v)$

Menger's Theorem

Theorem: (edge version)
For every graph $G = (V, E)$ with nodes $s, t \in V$, the size of the minimum s-t (edge) cut equals the maximum number of pairwise edge-disjoint paths from s to t.



Theorem: (node version)
For every graph $G = (V, E)$ with nodes $s, t \in V$, the size of the minimum s-t vertex cut equals the maximum number of pairwise internally vertex-disjoint paths from s to t

- Both versions can be seen as a special case of the max flow min cut theorem