

Max Flow / Min Cut

Shortest Paths

we are here

Minimum-Cost Flows

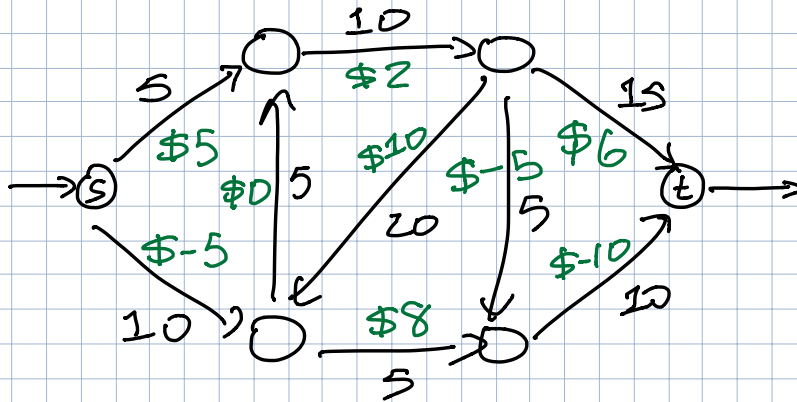
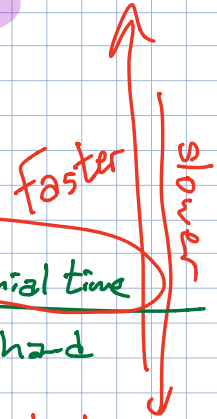
Linear Programming

Integer Programming

Polynomial time

NP-hard

Practical



Max-Flow: Edges have capacities $c(u \rightarrow v)$
maximize value

Min-cost Flow: Edges also have costs $\$(u \rightarrow v)$
minimize total cost:

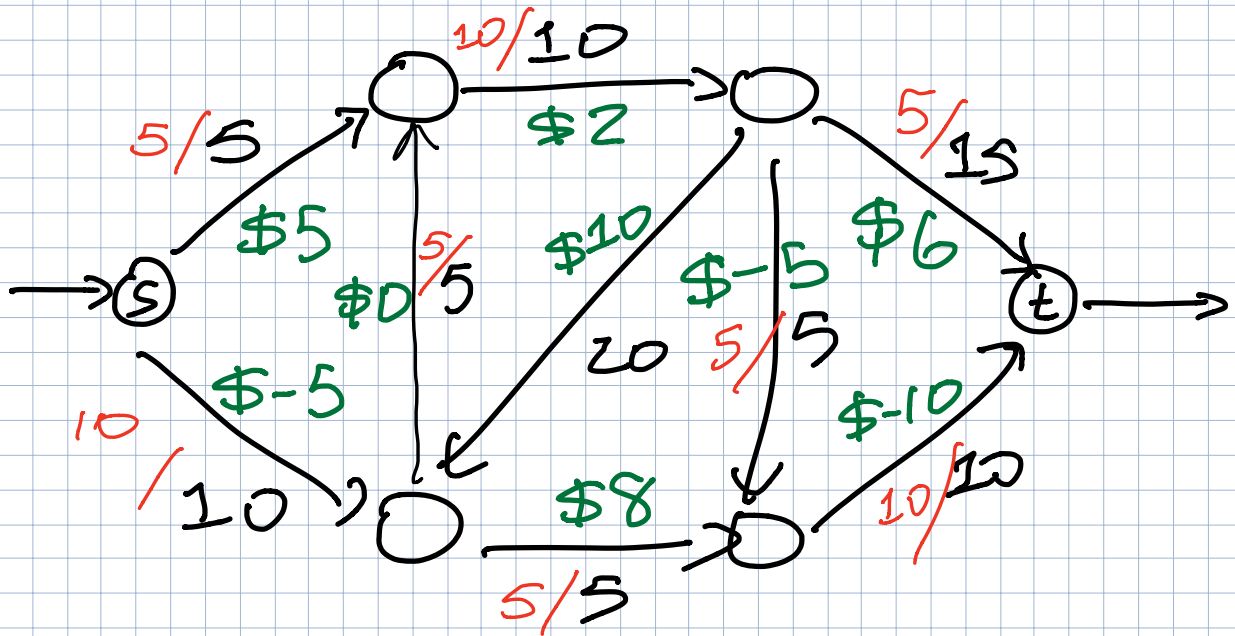
$$\sum_{u \rightarrow v} f(u \rightarrow v) \cdot \$(u \rightarrow v)$$

and max value.

General strategy

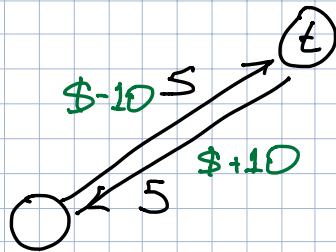
① Find any max flow

② Incrementally improve it



$$\text{Residual cap } c_f(u \rightarrow v) = \begin{cases} c(u \rightarrow v) - F(u \rightarrow v) & \text{if } u \rightarrow v \in E \\ F(v \rightarrow u) & \text{if } v \rightarrow u \in E \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Residual cost } \$_f(u \rightarrow v) = \begin{cases} \$(u \rightarrow v) & \text{if } u \rightarrow v \in E \\ -\$(v \rightarrow u) & \text{if } v \rightarrow u \in E \end{cases}$$

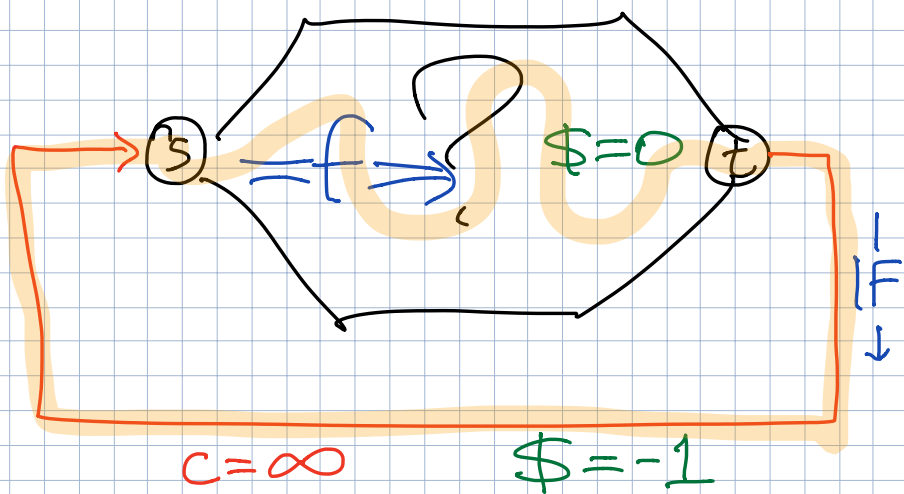


f is a min-cost flow \iff

G_f has no ^{directed} cycles with negative total $\$_f$

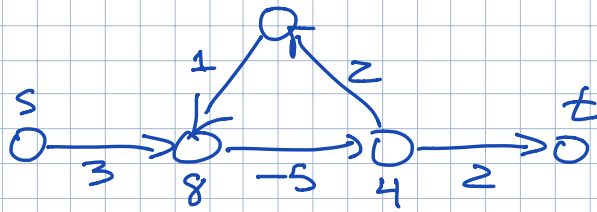
① Find any max flow

② While G_f has a **neg cost cycle** push flow around neg cycle



$$\$ = -|f|$$

Ford Fulkerson \equiv cycle canceling

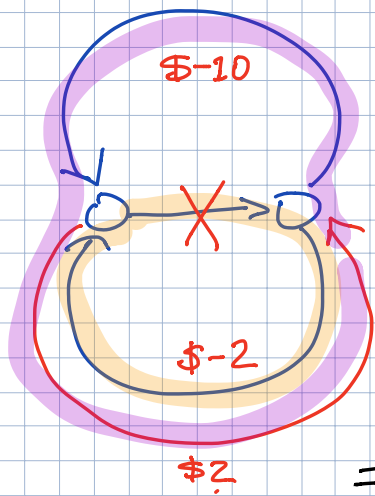


Neg cycles mean no shortest paths

Find Neg cycles using shortest path algo

Modification of BellmanFord

Finds neg cycle in $O(VE)$ time



How many iterations?

integer caps

integer costs

each iter reduces $\$(F)$

by ≥ 1

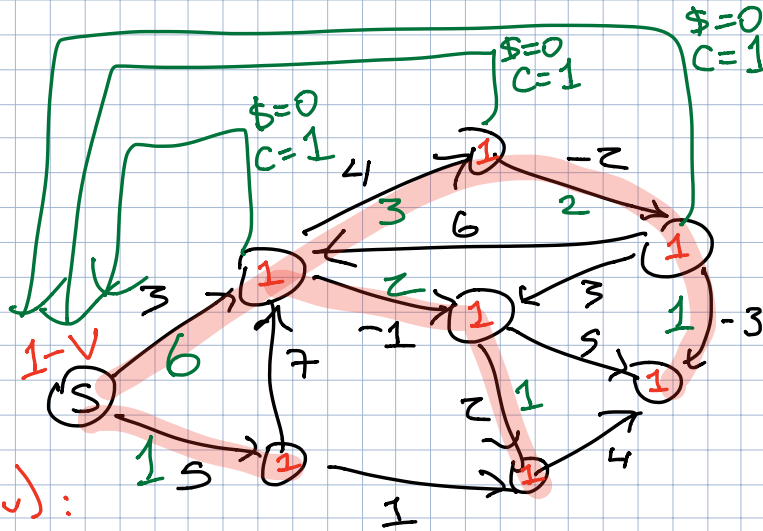
$\Rightarrow \#iters \leq C \cdot D$

$$C = \sum_e c(e) \quad D = \sum_e |\$(e)|$$

min mean cycle

minimise $\frac{\text{total cost of cycle}}{\#edges \text{ in cycle}}$

$\Rightarrow O(VE^2 \log^2 V)$ time overall



balance $b(v)$:

$$\sum_u F(u \rightarrow v) - \sum_w F(v \rightarrow w) = b(v)$$

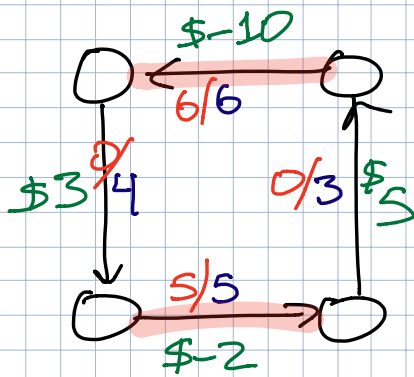
$$\$(e) = w(e)$$

$$c(e) = \infty$$

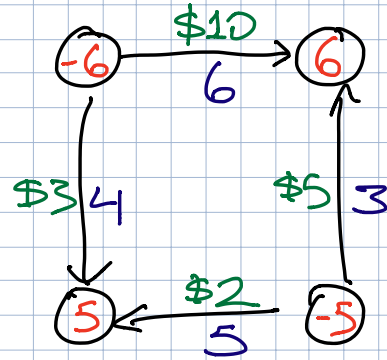
Consider a min-cost circulation problem
 G graph cap c cost \$

Past: Find any circ ——— remove neg cycles
balance

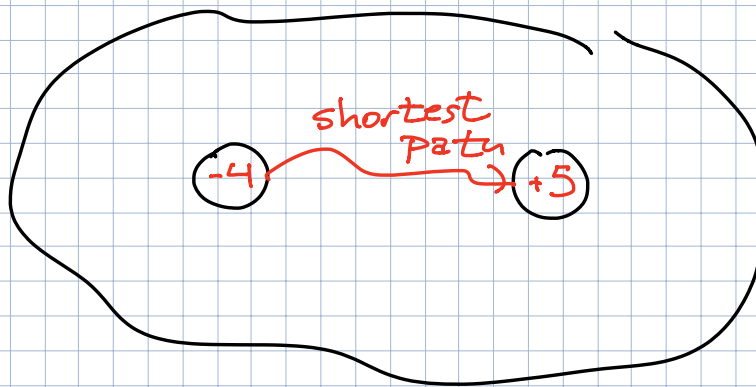
Now: remove all neg cycles ——— restore balance
 ??



saturate all
neg edges



residual graph
with res. balances



Successive SP:

Find any node u s.t. $b_f(u) < 0$
 v s.t. $b_f(v) > 0$

push Flow along shortest path $u \rightarrow v$

\uparrow
 c_f

\uparrow
 c_f

\uparrow

$O(V \cdot E)$ BF

$O(E^2 \log^2 V)$ time [Orlin]