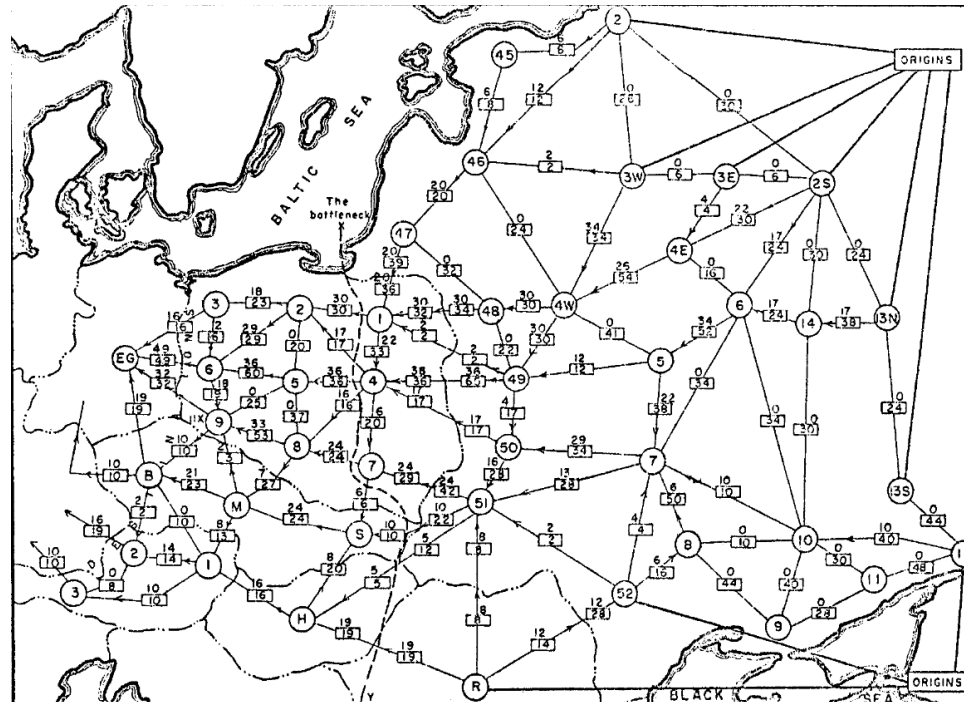


Lecture 30: Network Flow III



COSC 311 *Algorithms*, Fall 2022

Annoucement

Midterm II on Wednesday

- Practice solutions coming soon

Last Time

Max Flow Problem:

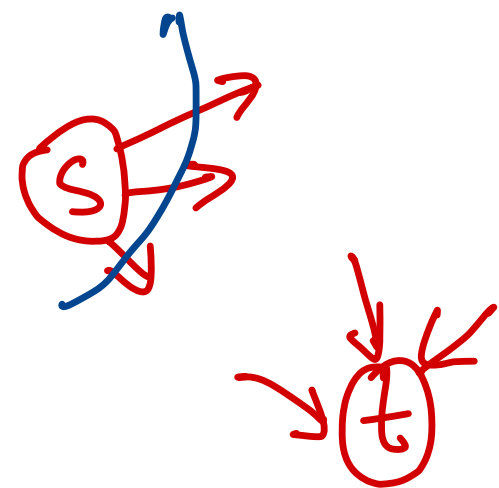
Input.

- weighted directed graph $G = (V, E)$
 - weights = edge capacities > 0
- source s , sink t
 - all edges oriented out of s
 - all edges oriented into t

Output.

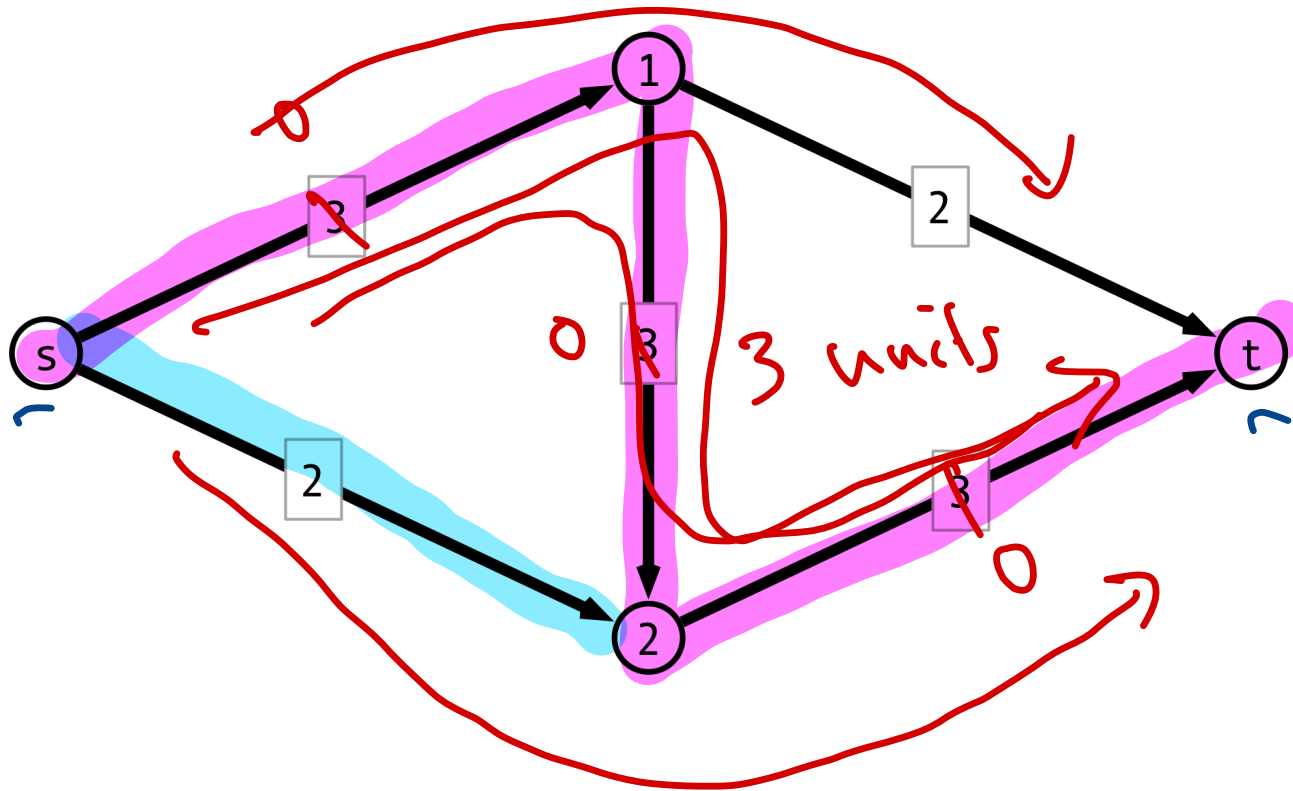
- flow f of maximum value
 - $\text{val}(f) = \sum_{s \rightarrow v} f(s, v)$

$\text{val}(f) = \text{sum of flow from } s$



We Showed

Greedy strategy doesn't always work

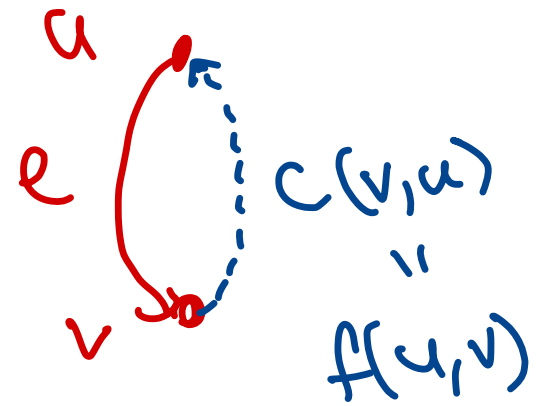


Ford-Fulkerson Idea

Given a flow f :

- allow forward flow to be “undone”
- when routing forward flow $f(u, v)$ across edge (u, v) , create backwards edge (v, u) with capacity $f(u, v)$
 - graph with backwards edges = *residual graph*
- backwards flow cancels out forward flow

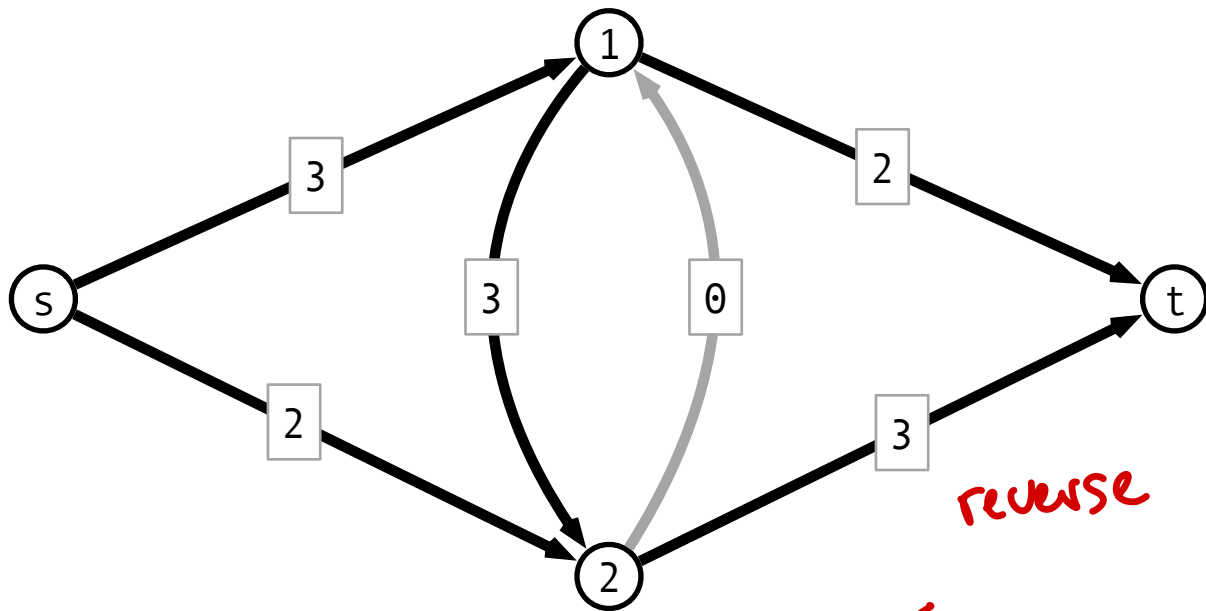
$f(e)$



Ford-Fulkerson Algorithm:

1. apply greedy strategy to residual graph
2. update residual graph with new flow
3. continue until no unsaturated path from s to t remains

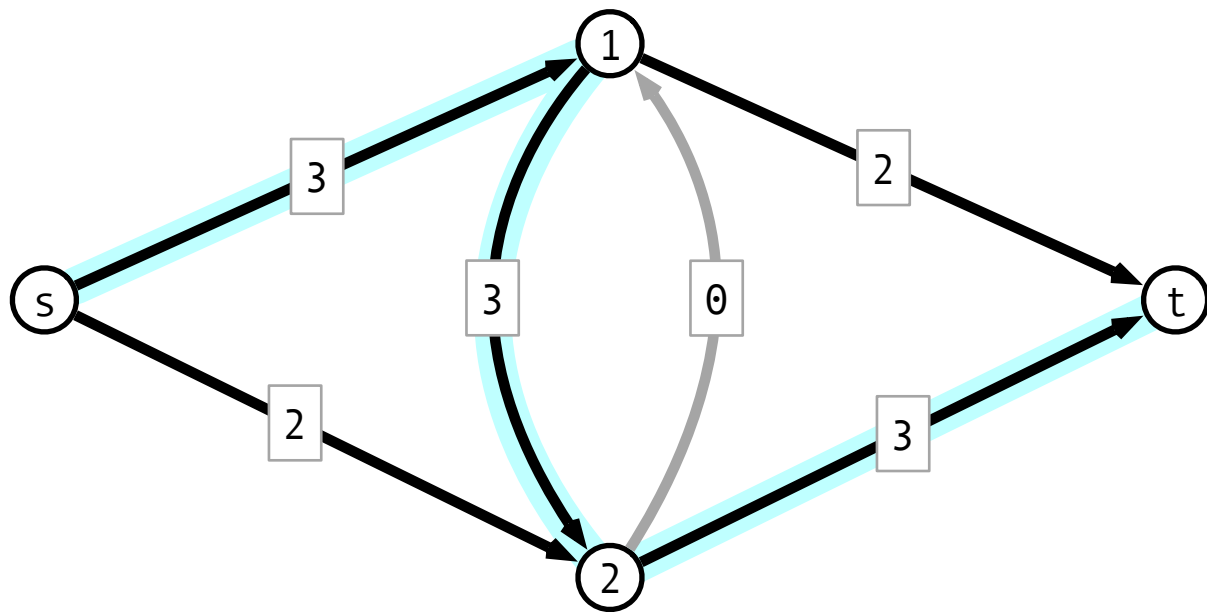
Ford-Fulkerson Example



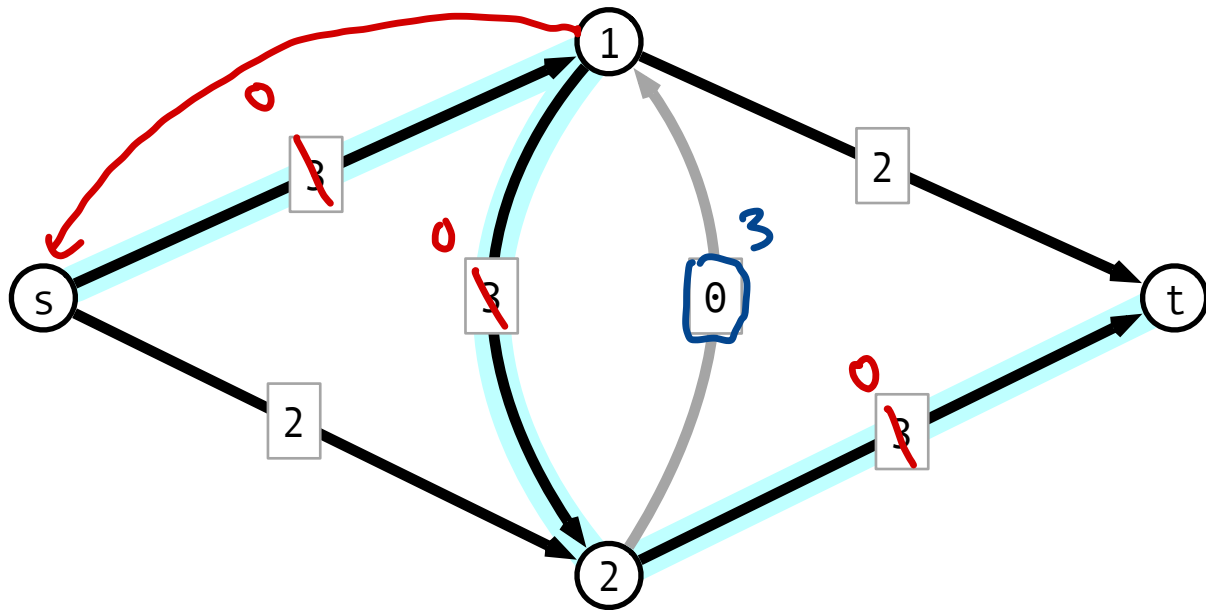
reverse



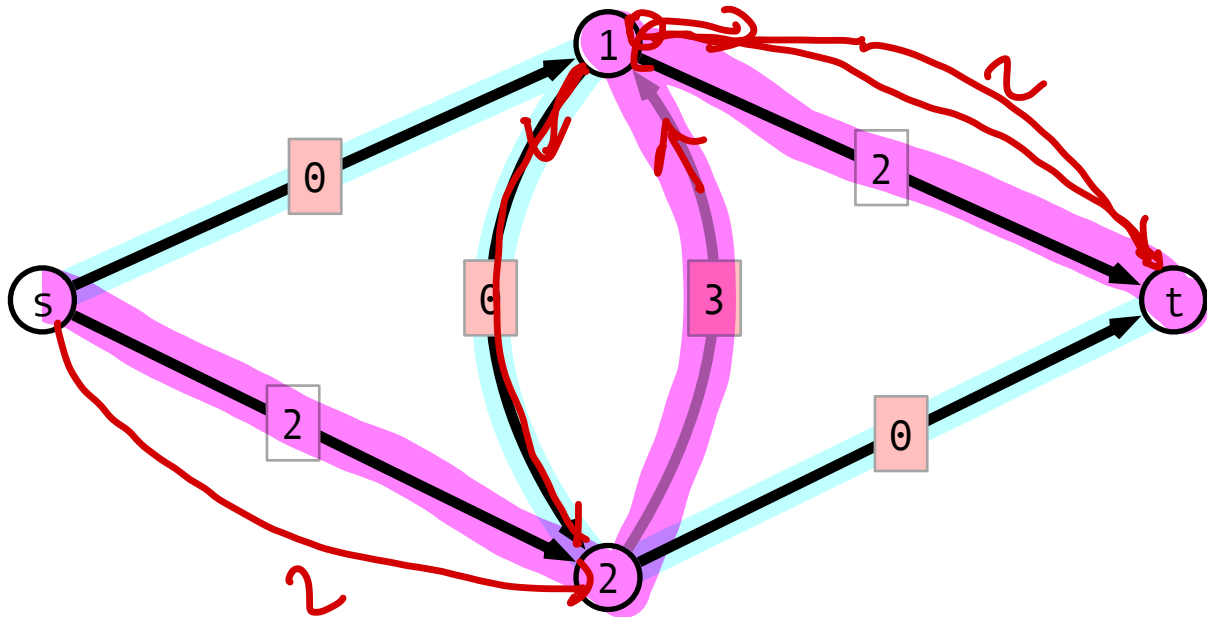
| e | (s, 1) | (s, 2) | (1, 2) | (1, t) | (2, 1) | (2, t) |
|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| f(e) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |



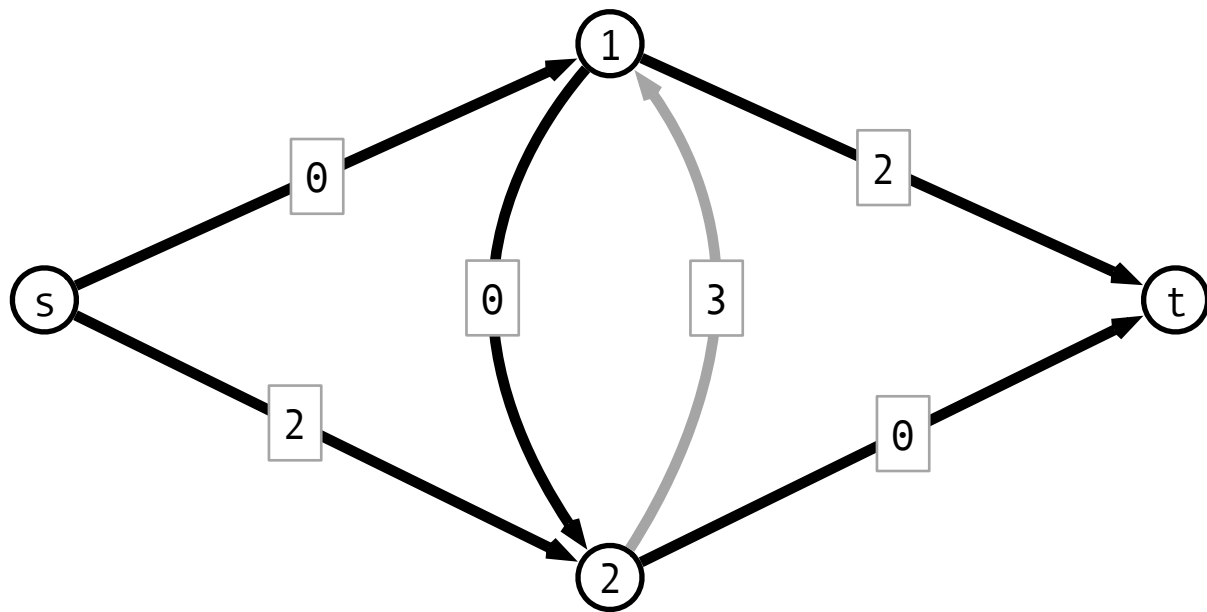
| e | (s, 1) | (s, 2) | (1, 2) | (1, t) | (2, 1) | (2, t) |
|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| f(e) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |



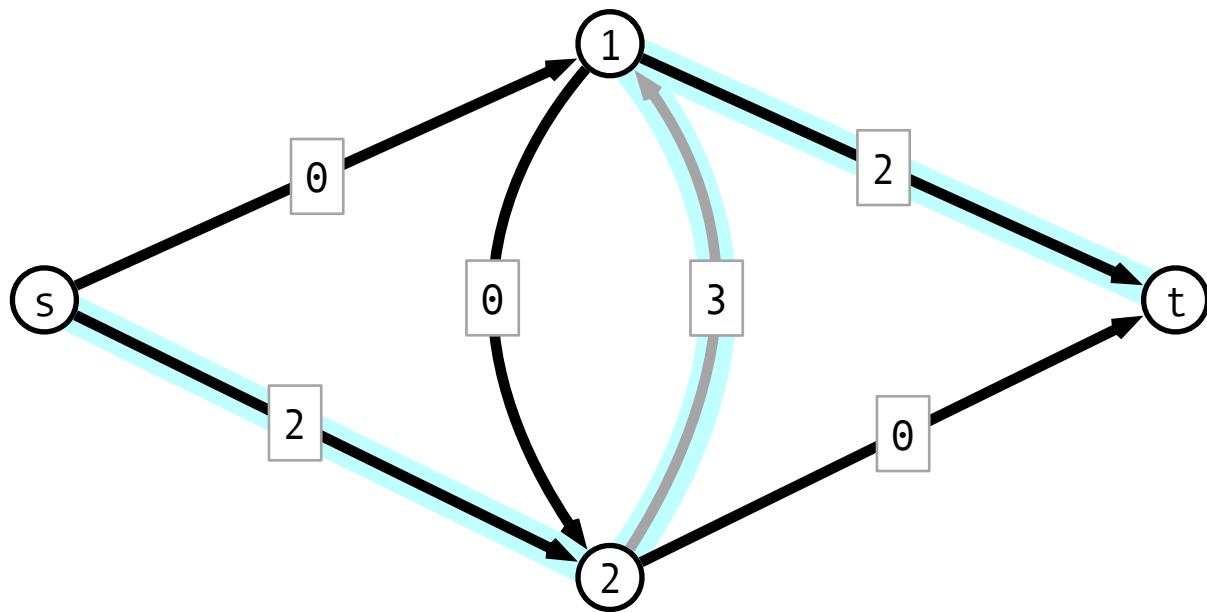
| e | (s, 1) | (s, 2) | (1, 2) | (1, t) | (2, 1) | (2, t) |
|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| f(e) | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 |



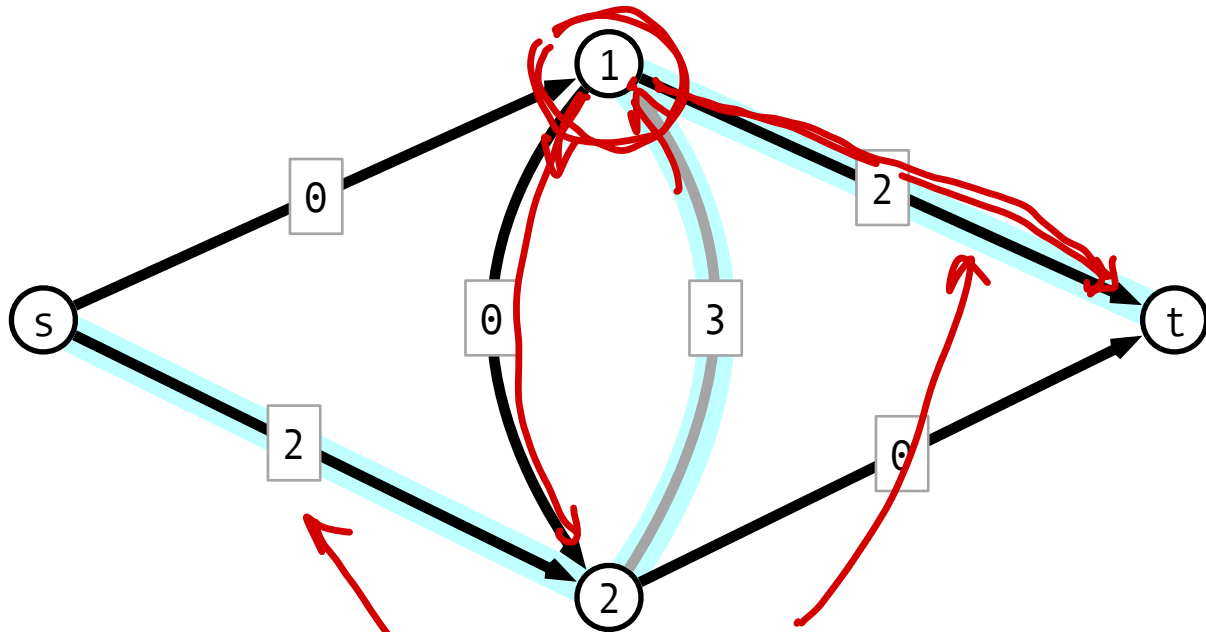
| e | (s, 1) | (s, 2) | (1, 2) | (1, t) | (2, 1) | (2, t) |
|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| f(e) | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 |



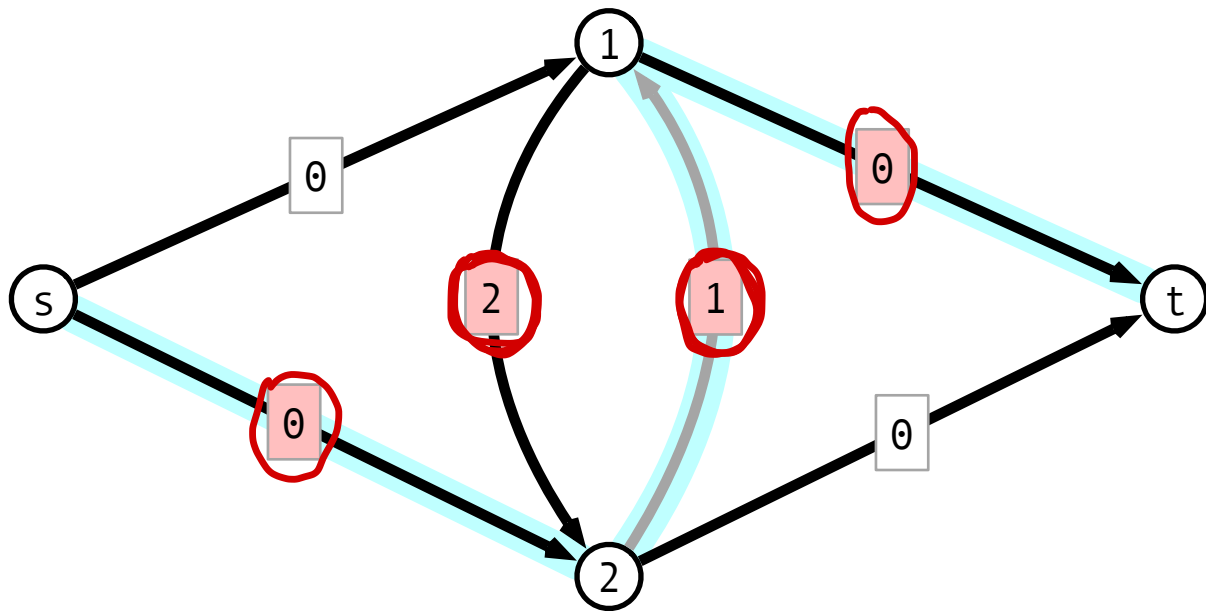
| e | (s, 1) | (s, 2) | (1, 2) | (1, t) | (2, 1) | (2, t) |
|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| f(e) | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 |



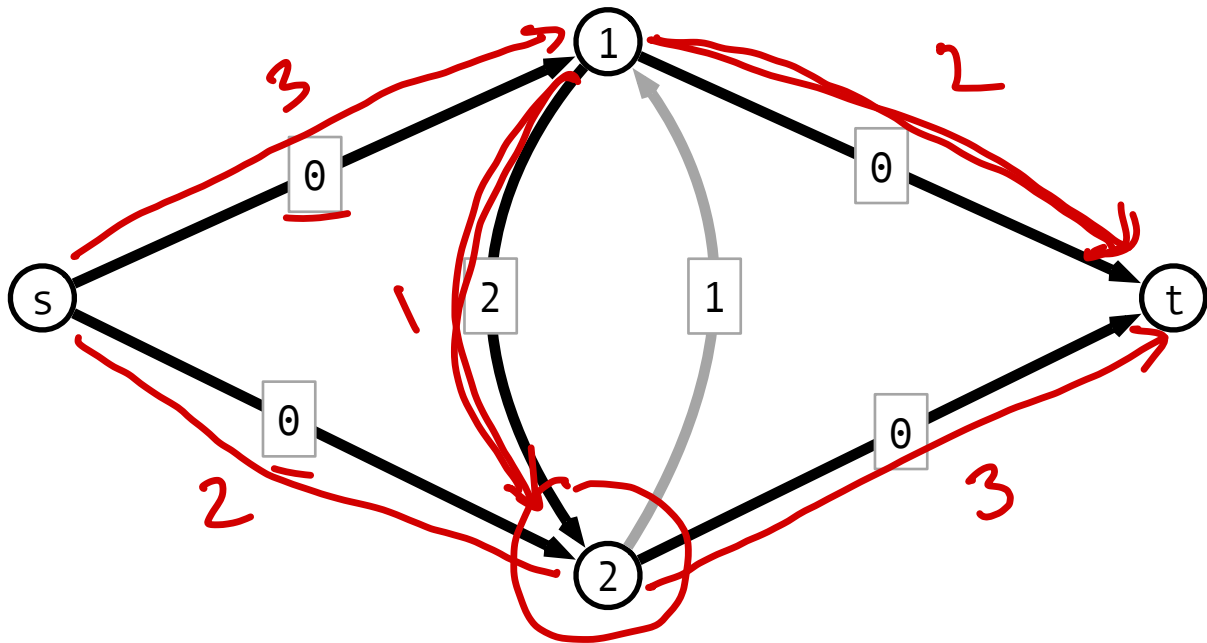
| e | (s, 1) | (s, 2) | (1, 2) | (1, t) | (2, 1) | (2, t) |
|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| f(e) | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 3 |



| | | | | | | |
|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| e | (s, 1) | (s, 2) | (1, 2) | (1, t) | (2, 1) | (2, t) |
| f(e) | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 |



| e | (s, 1) | (s, 2) | (1, 2) | (1, t) | (2, 1) | (2, t) |
|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| f(e) | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 |



| e | (s, 1) | (s, 2) | (1, 2) | (1, t) | (2, 1) | (2, t) |
|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| f(e) | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 |

Questions

How do we...

1. find *augmenting path* P from s to t ?

DFS, BFS, ...

b = min remaining capacity along path

2. update flow f according to P ?

(u, v) is forward edge, increment $f(u, v)$ by b

(u, v) is backward edge: decrement $f(v, u)$ by b

3. update residual graph G_f ?

(u, v) is fwd edge:

- decrement $\text{cap}(u, v)$ by b
- increment $\text{cap}(v, u)$ by b

corresp. fwd edge

(u, v) is backward edge: same!

Formalizing Ford-Fulkerson

```
MaxFlow(G, s, t):
```

```
  Gf <- G
```

```
  f <- zero flow
```

```
  P <- FindPath(Gf, s, t)
```

```
  while P is not null do:
```

```
    b <- min capacity of any edge in P
```

```
    Augment(Gf, f, P, b)
```

```
    P <- FindPath(Gf, s, t)
```

```
  endwhile
```

```
  return f
```

residual graph

flow

BFS

← update flow, resid. graph

Augment Procedure

```
Augment(Gf, f, P, b):  
  for each edge (u, v) in P  
    if (u, v) is forward edge then  
      f(u, v)  $\leftarrow$  f(u, v) + b  
      c(u, v)  $\leftarrow$  c(u, v) - b  
      c(v, u)  $\leftarrow$  c(v, u) + b  
    else  
      f(v, u)  $\leftarrow$  f(v, u) - b  
      c(v, u)  $\leftarrow$  c(v, u) + b  
      c(u, v)  $\leftarrow$  c(u, v) - b
```

Running Time

$n = \#$ nodes
 $m = \#$ edges

Assume:

1. all capacities are integers
2. C = sum of capacities of edges out of s

Observe:

1. How long to find augmenting path P ?

$O(m)$

2. How long to run Augment?

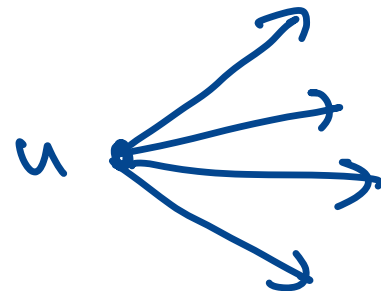
$O(m)$ (or $O(n)$)

3. How many iterations of find/augment?

$\leq C$ bc each iter. val by ≥ 1 increases

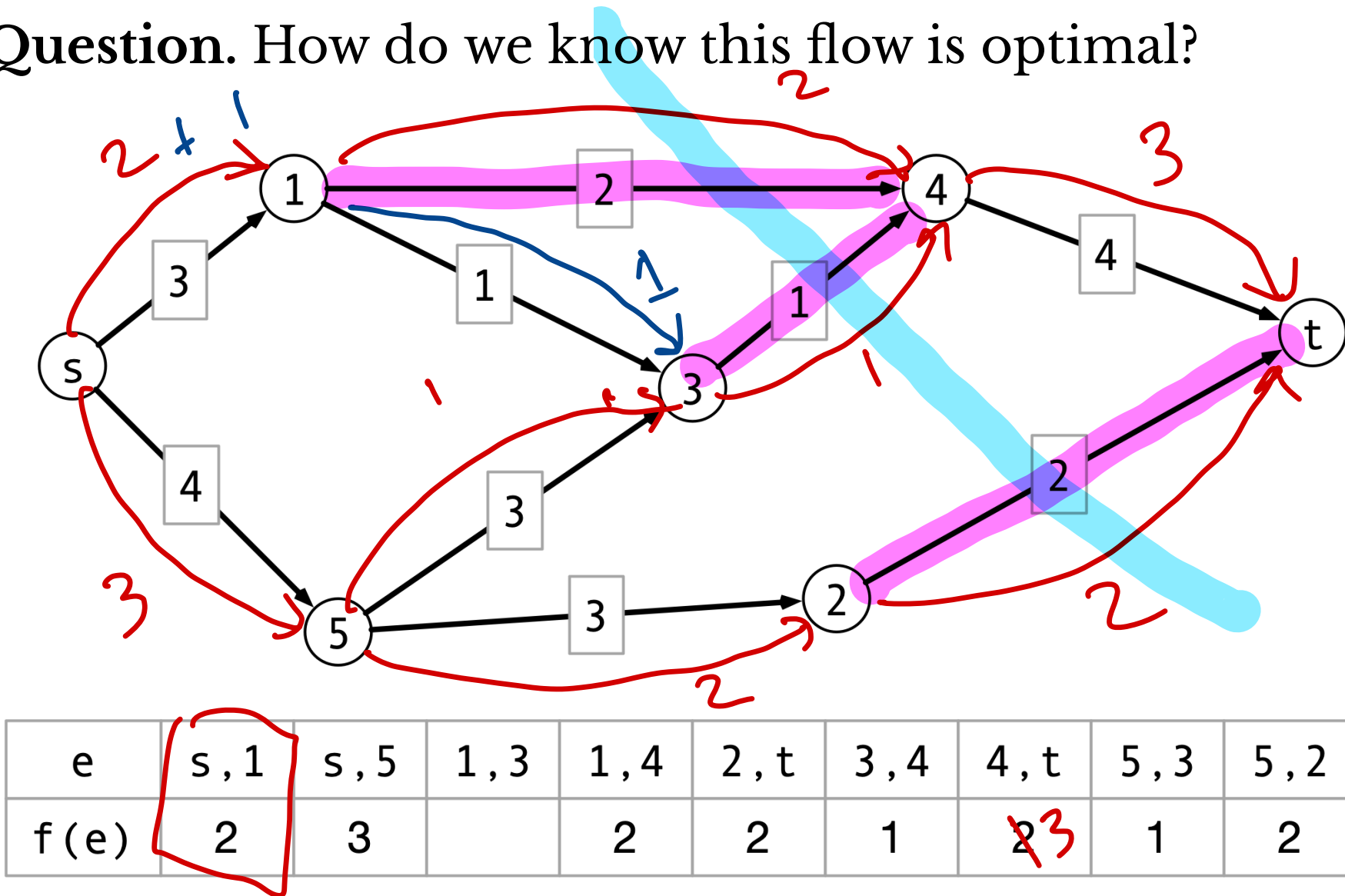
Conclude: Overall running time?

$O(C \cdot m)$



Optimality of Flow?

Question. How do we know this flow is optimal?

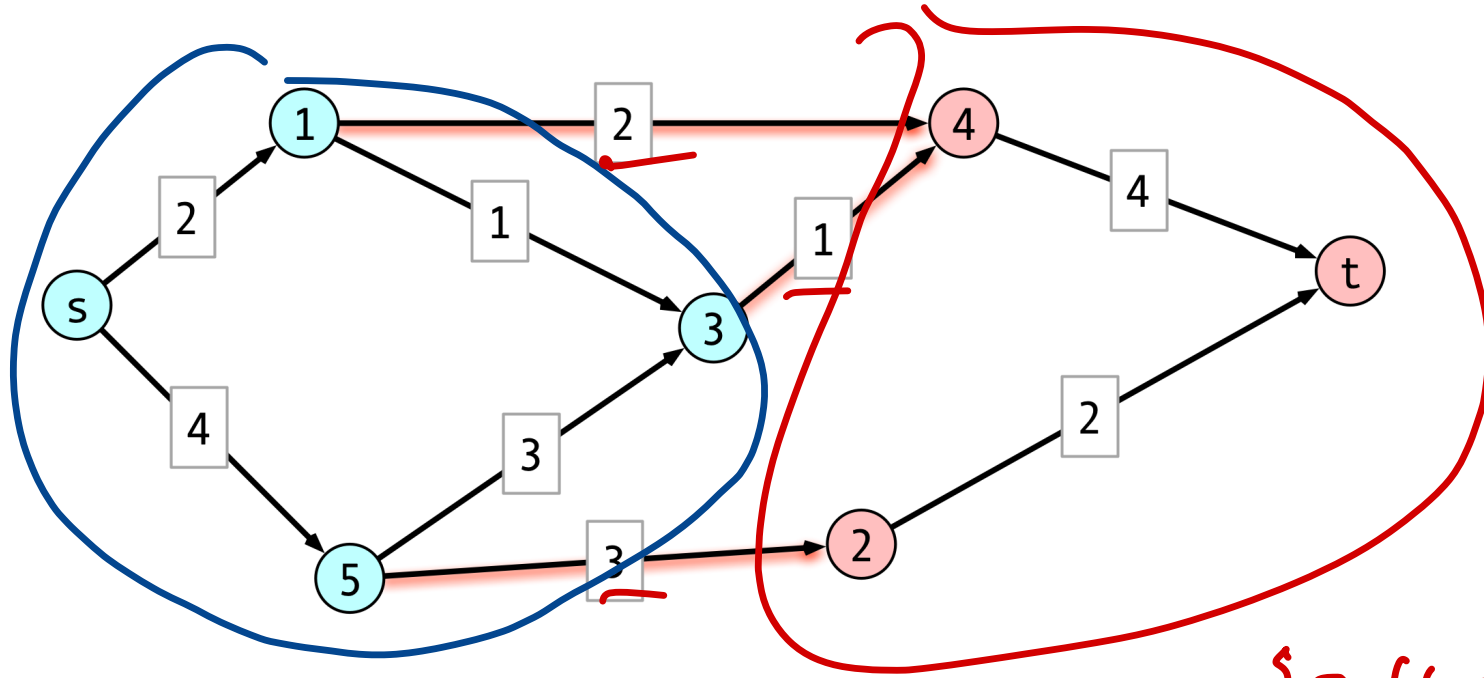


Cuts

Definition. An $s - t$ cut (A, B) is a partition of vertices into two disjoint sets with s in A and t in B .

The **capacity** of (A, B) , denoted $\text{cap}(A, B)$ is the sum of the capacities of the edges out of A .

Cut Example



$$A = \{s, 1, 3, 5\}$$

$$B = \{2, 4, t\}$$

$$\text{cap}(A, B) = 2 + 1 + 3 = 6.$$

| e | s, 1 | s, 5 | 1, 3 | 1, 4 | 2, t | 3, 4 | 4, t | 5, 3 | 5, 2 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| f(e) | 2 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 |

Correctness of Ford-Fulkerson

Idea. Relate values of flows to capacities of cuts:

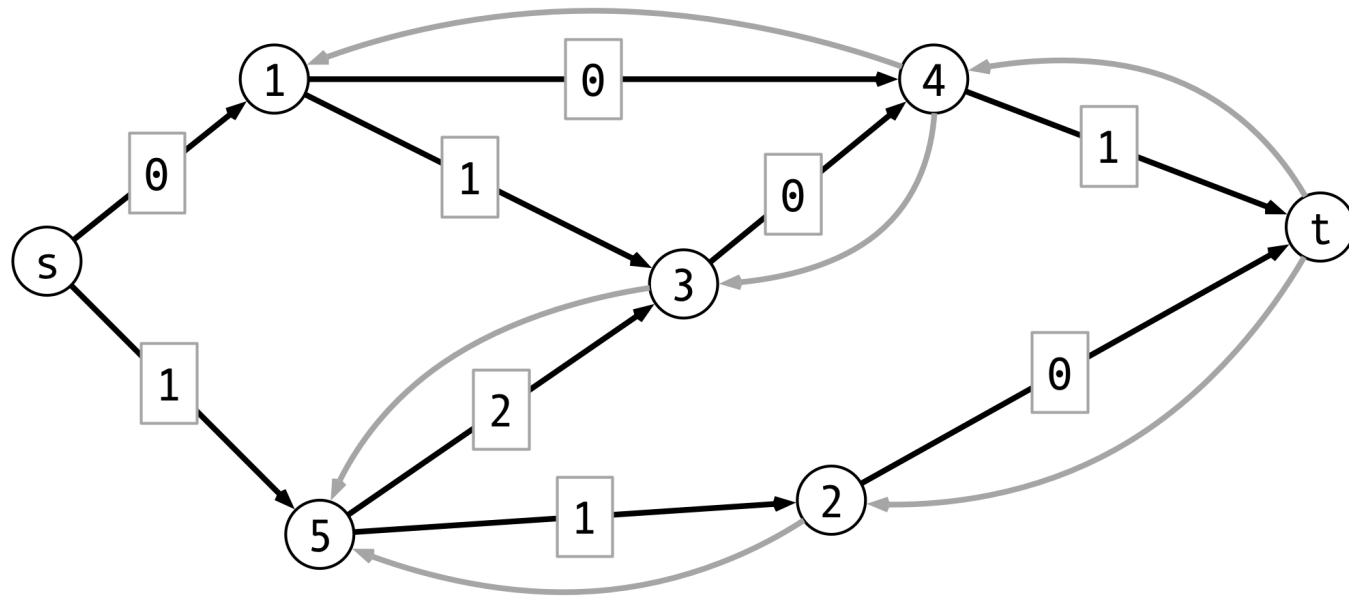
- max flow = min cut

Outline:

- for any cut (A, B) , net flow across cut = value of flow
 - $\implies \text{max flow} \leq \text{min cut}$
- if f has no augmenting path in residual graph, then there is a cut with net flow = value of cut
 - $\implies \text{value of } f = \text{capacity of cut}$
 - $\implies \text{val}(f) = \text{cap}(A, B) \geq \text{min cut}$

Together these imply Ford-Fulkerson produces max flow

Max Flow/Min Cut Example



| e | s, 1 | s, 5 | 1, 3 | 1, 4 | 2, t | 3, 4 | 4, t | 5, 3 | 5, 2 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| f(e) | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 |

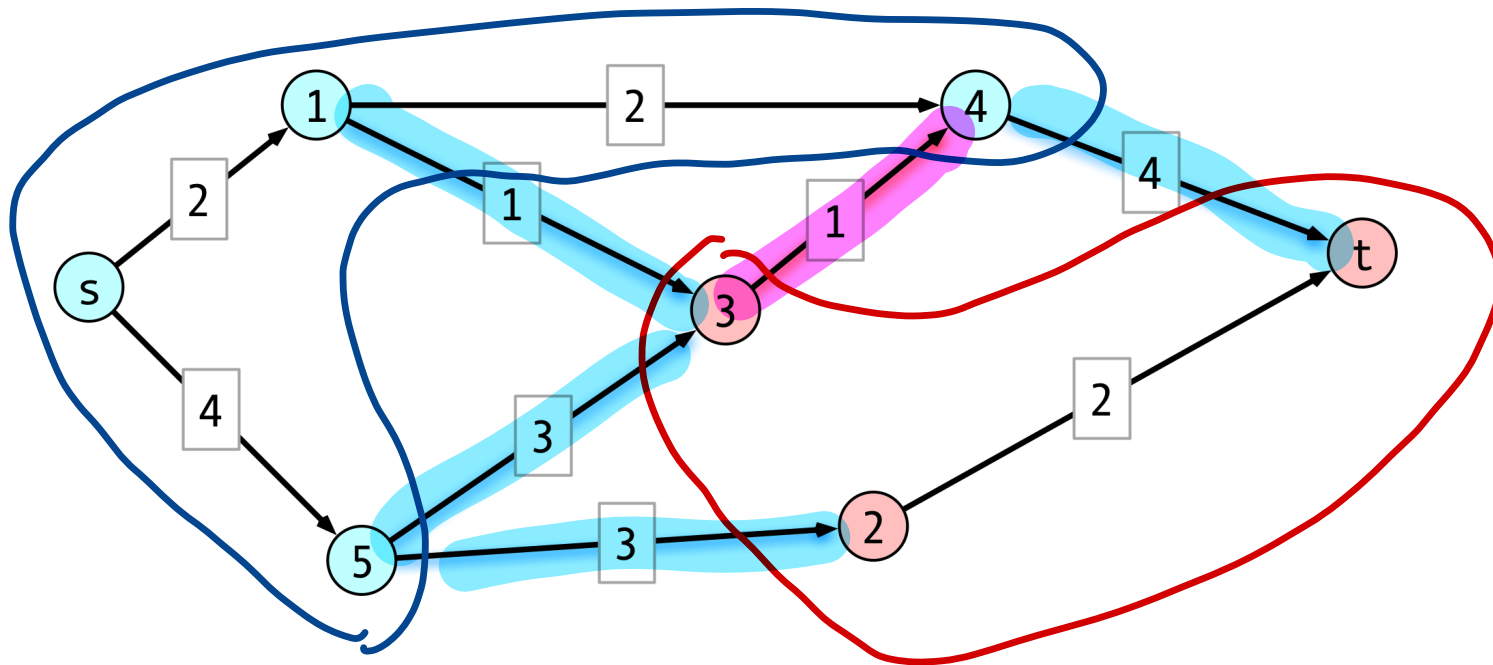
Claim 1

For any $s - t$ cut (A, B) and flow f , $\text{val}(f) = f^{\text{out}}(A) - f^{\text{in}}(A)$

- $f^{\text{out}}(A)$ = flow out of A
- $f^{\text{in}}(A)$ = flow into A

Consequence. For all cuts (A, B) , $\text{val}(f) \leq \text{cap}(A, B)$

Claim 1 Illustration



| e | s, 1 | s, 5 | 1, 3 | 1, 4 | 2, t | 3, 4 | 4, t | 5, 3 | 5, 2 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| f(e) | 2 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 |

$$2 + 3 = 5$$

6 out
1 in

5

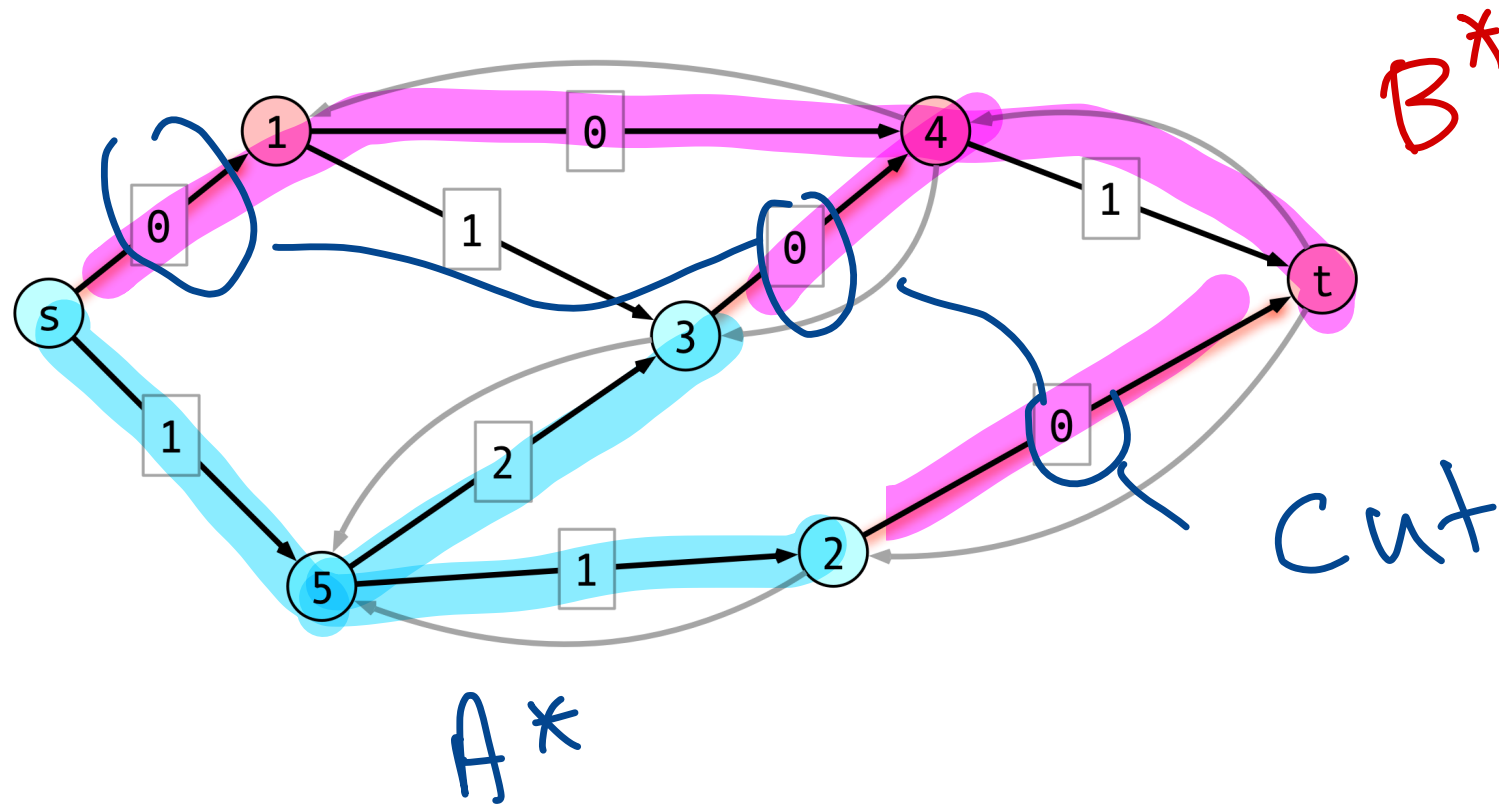
Claim 2

Suppose f does not have an augmenting path in the auxiliary graph.

- A^* = nodes reachable from s in auxiliary graph
- B^* = nodes not reachable

Then $\text{val}(f) = \text{cap}(A^*, B^*)$

Claim 2 Illustration



| | | | | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| e | s, 1 | s, 5 | 1, 3 | 1, 4 | 2, t | 3, 4 | 4, t | 5, 3 | 5, 2 |
| f(e) | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 |

Correctness Follows

Consider flow f found by Ford-Fulkerson.

1. By claim 1, no flow can have value larger than any cut capacity
2. By claim 2, $\text{val}(f) = \text{cap}(A, B)$

These imply:

1. f is a maximum flow
2. (A, B) is a minimum cut

Conclusion

$G = (V, E)$ a weighted, directed graph with minimum cut capacity C .

Ford-Fulkerson finds maximum flow in time $O(Cm)$.

- can be modified to find minimum cut as well

Next Time

1. Midterm on Wednesday
2. Stable Matching + Will's research on Friday
3. Reductions and NP completeness after break