



# CSE 421 Introduction to Algorithms

Winter 2024  
Lecture 20  
Network Flow Applications

## Today's topics

- Network flow reductions
  - Multi source flow
  - Reviewer Assignment
- Baseball Scheduling
- Image Segmentation
- Task Selection
- Reading: 7.5, 7.6, 7.10-7.12

## Multi-source network flow

- Multi-source network flow
  - Sources  $s_1, s_2, \dots, s_k$
  - Sinks  $t_1, t_2, \dots, t_j$
- Solve with Single source network flow

## Resource Allocation: Assignment of reviewers

- A set of papers  $P_1, \dots, P_n$
- A set of reviewers  $R_1, \dots, R_m$
- Paper  $P_i$  requires  $A_i$  reviewers
- Reviewer  $R_j$  can review  $B_j$  papers
- For each reviewer  $R_j$ , there is a list of paper  $L_{j1}, \dots, L_{jk}$  that  $R_j$  is qualified to review

## Resource Allocation: Illegal Campaign Donations

- Candidates  $C_1, \dots, C_n$ 
  - Donate  $b_i$  to  $C_i$
- With a little help from your friends
  - Friends  $F_1, \dots, F_m$
  - $F_i$  can give  $a_{ij}$  to candidate  $C_j$
  - You can give at most  $M_i$  to  $F_i$

## Baseball elimination

- Can the Dinosaurs win the league?
- Remaining games:
  - AB, AC, AD, AD, AD, BC, BC, BC, BD, CD

|             | W | L |
|-------------|---|---|
| Ants        | 4 | 2 |
| Bees        | 4 | 2 |
| Cockroaches | 3 | 3 |
| Dinosaurs   | 1 | 5 |

A team **wins** the league if it has strictly more wins than any other team at the end of the season.  
A team **ties** for first place if no team has more wins, and there is some other team with the same number of wins

## Baseball elimination

- Can the Fruit Flies win or tie the league?
- Remaining games:
  - AC, AD, AD, AD, AF, BC, BC, BC, BC, BC, BD, BE, BE, BE, BE, BF, CE, CE, CE, CF, CF, DE, DF, EF, EF

|             | W  | L  |
|-------------|----|----|
| Ants        | 17 | 12 |
| Bees        | 16 | 7  |
| Cockroaches | 16 | 7  |
| Dinosaurs   | 14 | 13 |
| Earthworms  | 14 | 10 |
| Fruit Flies | 12 | 15 |

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## Assume Fruit Flies win remaining games

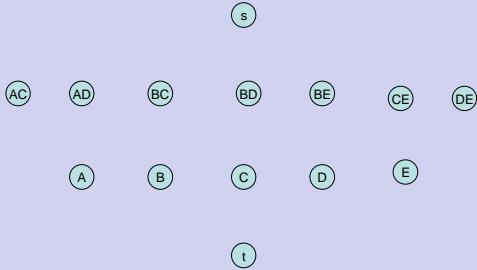
- Fruit Flies are tied for first place if no team wins more than 19 games
- Allowable wins
  - Ants (2)
  - Bees (3)
  - Cockroaches (3)
  - Dinosaurs (5)
  - Earthworms (5)
- 18 games to play
  - AC, AD, AD, AD, BC, BC, BC, BC, BC, BD, BE, BE, BE, BE, BE, BE, CE, CE, CE, DE

|             | W  | L  |
|-------------|----|----|
| Ants        | 17 | 13 |
| Bees        | 16 | 8  |
| Cockroaches | 16 | 9  |
| Dinosaurs   | 14 | 14 |
| Earthworms  | 14 | 12 |
| Fruit Flies | 19 | 15 |

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## Remaining games

AC, AD, AD, AD, BC, BC, BC, BC, BC, BD, BE, BE, BE, BE, CE, CE, CE, DE



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## Minimum Cut Applications

- Image Segmentation
- Open Pit Mining / Task Selection Problem
- Reduction to Min Cut problem

$S, T$  is a cut if  $S, T$  is a partition of the vertices with  $s$  in  $S$  and  $t$  in  $T$

The capacity of an  $S, T$  cut is the sum of the capacities of all edges going from  $S$  to  $T$

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## Image Segmentation



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## Separate Lion from Savana



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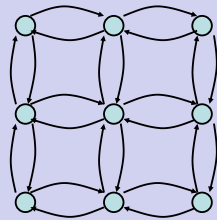
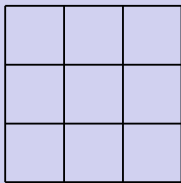
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## Image analysis

- $a_i$ : value of assigning pixel  $i$  to the foreground
- $b_j$ : value of assigning pixel  $i$  to the background
- $p_{ij}$ : penalty for assigning  $i$  to the foreground,  $j$  to the background or vice versa
- A: foreground, B: background
- $Q(A,B) = \sum_{(i \text{ in } A)} a_i + \sum_{(j \text{ in } B)} b_j - \sum_{((i,j) \text{ in } E, i \text{ in } A, j \text{ in } B)} p_{ij}$

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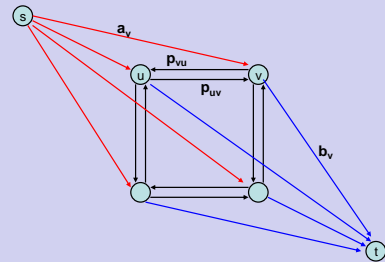
## Pixel graph to flow graph



t

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## Mincut Construction



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## Open Pit Mining



## Application of Min-cut

- Open Pit Mining Problem
- Task Selection Problem
- Reduction to Min Cut problem

$S, T$  is a cut if  $S, T$  is a partition of the vertices with  $s$  in  $S$  and  $t$  in  $T$

The capacity of an  $S, T$  cut is the sum of the capacities of all edges going from  $S$  to  $T$

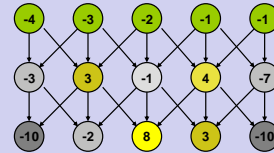
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## Open Pit Mining

- Each unit of earth has a profit (possibly negative)
- Getting to the ore below the surface requires removing the dirt above
- Test drilling gives reasonable estimates of costs
- Plan an optimal mining operation

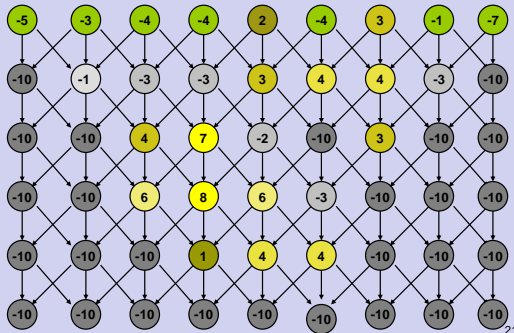
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## Mine Graph



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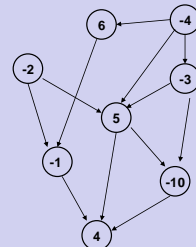
## Determine an optimal mine



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## Generalization

- Precedence graph  $G=(V,E)$
- Each  $v$  in  $V$  has a profit  $p(v)$
- A set  $F$  is *feasible* if when  $w$  in  $F$ , and  $(v,w)$  in  $E$ , then  $v$  in  $F$ .
- Find a feasible set to maximize the profit



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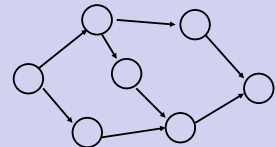
## Min cut algorithm for profit maximization

- Construct a flow graph where the minimum cut identifies a feasible set that maximizes profit

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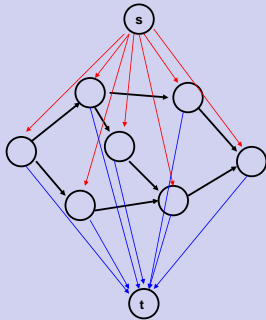
## Precedence graph construction

- Precedence graph  $G=(V,E)$
- Each edge in  $E$  has infinite capacity
- Add vertices  $s, t$
- Each vertex in  $V$  is attached to  $s$  and  $t$  with finite capacity edges



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Find a **finite** value cut with at least two vertices on each side of the cut

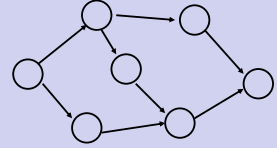


→ Infinite  
→ Finite

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The sink side of a finite cut is a feasible set

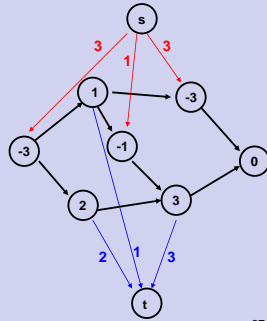
- No edges permitted from S to T
- If a vertex is in T, all of its ancestors are in T



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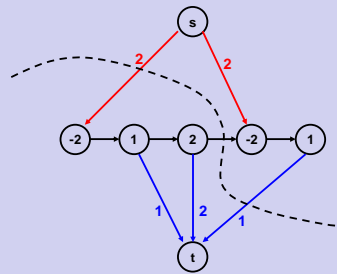
### Setting the costs

- If  $p(v) > 0$ ,
  - $cap(v,t) = p(v)$
  - $cap(s,v) = 0$
- If  $p(v) < 0$ 
  - $cap(s,v) = -p(v)$
  - $cap(v,t) = 0$
- If  $p(v) = 0$ 
  - $cap(s,v) = 0$
  - $cap(v,t) = 0$



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Minimum cut gives optimal solution  
Why?



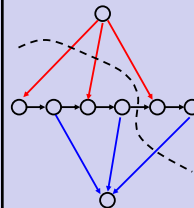
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### Computing the Profit

- $Cost(W) = \sum_{\{w \text{ in } W; p(w) < 0\}} -p(w)$
- $Benefit(W) = \sum_{\{w \text{ in } W; p(w) > 0\}} p(w)$
- $Profit(W) = Benefit(W) - Cost(W)$
- Maximum cost and benefit
  - $C = Cost(V)$
  - $B = Benefit(V)$

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Express  $Cap(S,T)$  in terms of  $B$ ,  $C$ ,  $Cost(T)$ ,  $Benefit(T)$ , and  $Profit(T)$



$$Cap(S,T) = Cost(T) + Ben(S) = Cost(T) + Ben(S) + Ben(T) - Ben(T) \\ = B + Cost(T) - Ben(T) = B - Profit(T)$$

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