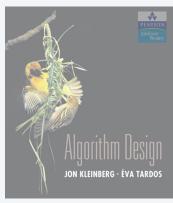


# 7. NETWORK FLOW I

- → Ford–Fulkerson demo
- ▶ exponential-time example
- pathological example

Last updated on 4/17/18 9:07 AM



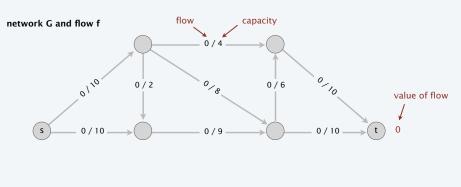
SECTION 7.1

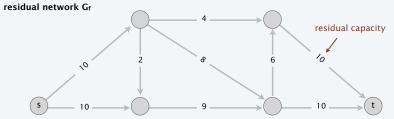
### 7. NETWORK FLOW I

## ▶ Ford–Fulkerson demo

- ▶ exponential-time example
- pathological example

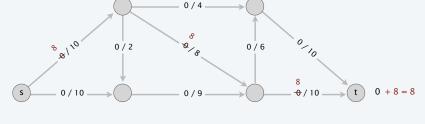
### Ford-Fulkerson algorithm demo

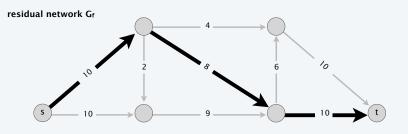




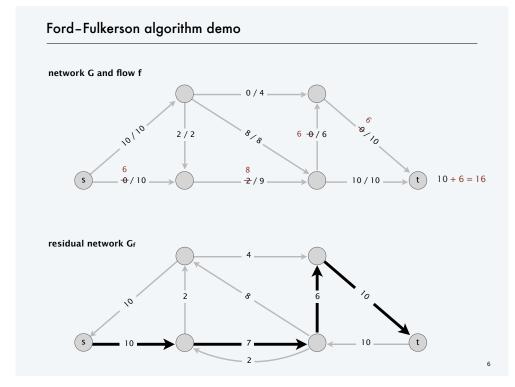
### Ford-Fulkerson algorithm demo

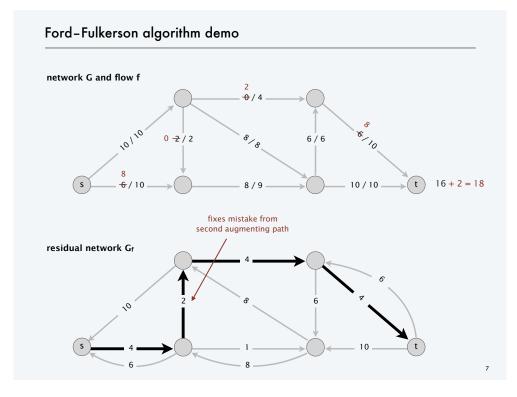


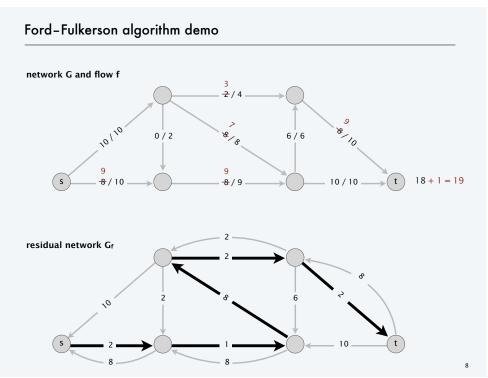




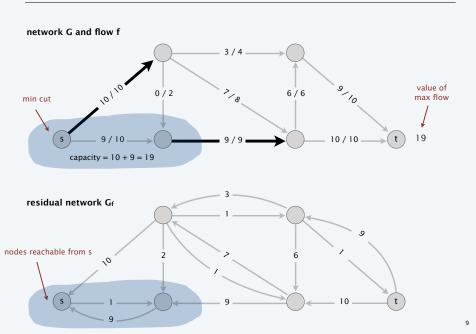
# residual network Gr







# Ford-Fulkerson algorithm demo



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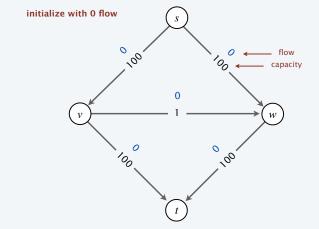
### SECTION 7.1

## 7. NETWORK FLOW I

- ▶ Ford–Fulkerson demo
- exponential-time example
- pathological example

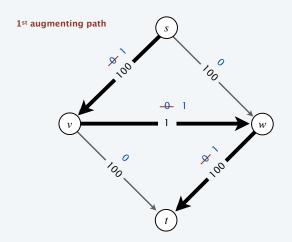
### Ford-Fulkerson algorithm: exponential-time example

Bad news. Number of augmenting paths can be exponential in input size.



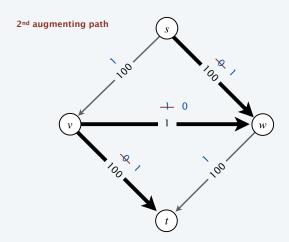
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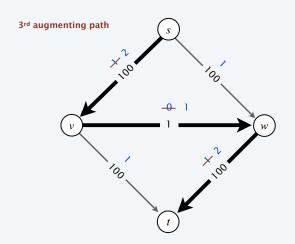
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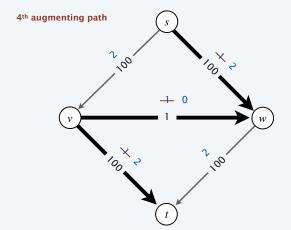
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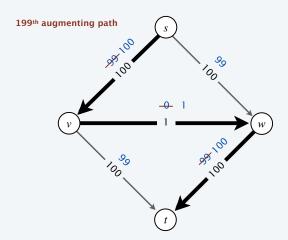
### Ford-Fulkerson algorithm: exponential-time example

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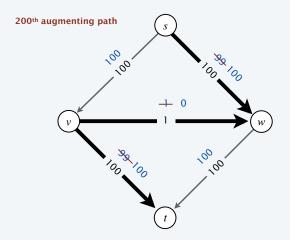
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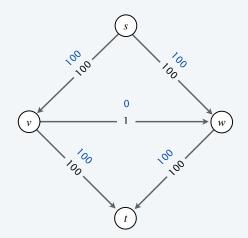
## Ford-Fulkerson algorithm: exponential-time example

Bad news. Number of augmenting paths can be exponential in input size.



### Ford-Fulkerson algorithm: exponential-time example

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SECTION 7.1

# 7. NETWORK FLOW I

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Intuition. Let r > 0 satisfy  $r^2 = 1 - r$ .

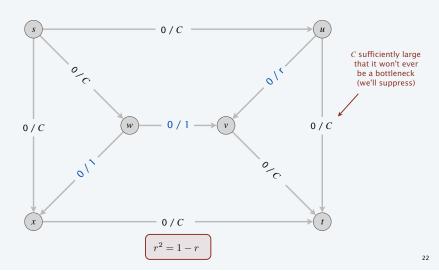
- Initially, some residual capacities are 1 and r.
- After two augmenting paths, some residual capacities are r and  $r^2$ .
- After two more augmenting paths, some residual capacities are  $r^2$  and  $r^3$ .
- After two more, some residual capacities are  $r^3$  and  $r^4$ .
- By carefully choreographing the augmenting paths, r-r infinitely many residual capacities arise!  $r^2-r^3$

$$r = \frac{\sqrt{5} - 1}{2} \implies r^2 = 1 - r$$

$$r \approx 0.618 \implies r^4 < r^3 < r^2 < r < 1$$

Ford-Fulkerson algorithm: pathological example

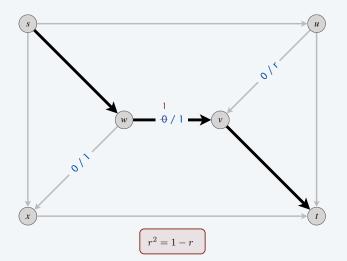
flow network G



21

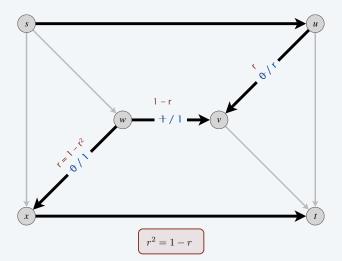
### Ford-Fulkerson algorithm: pathological example

augmenting path 1:  $s\rightarrow w\rightarrow v\rightarrow t$  (bottleneck capacity = 1)



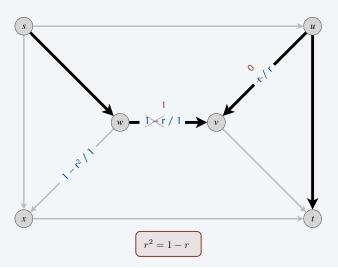
### Ford-Fulkerson algorithm: pathological example

augmenting path 2:  $s \rightarrow u \rightarrow v \rightarrow w \rightarrow x \rightarrow t$  (bottleneck capacity = r)



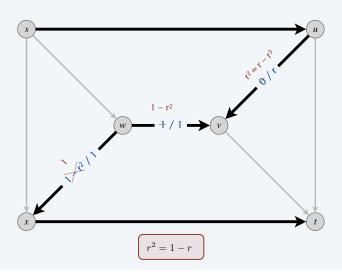
2

augmenting path 3:  $s \rightarrow w \rightarrow v \rightarrow u \rightarrow t$  (bottleneck capacity = r)



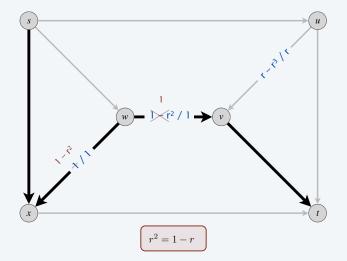
## Ford-Fulkerson algorithm: pathological example

augmenting path 4:  $s \rightarrow u \rightarrow v \rightarrow w \rightarrow x \rightarrow t$  (bottleneck capacity =  $r^2$ )



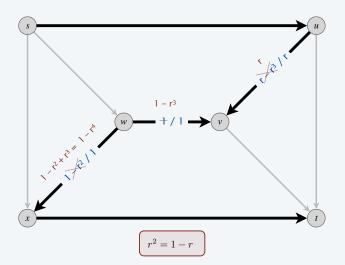
### Ford-Fulkerson algorithm: pathological example

augmenting path 5:  $s \rightarrow x \rightarrow w \rightarrow v \rightarrow t$  (bottleneck capacity =  $r^2$ )

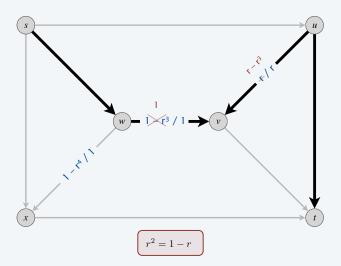


### Ford-Fulkerson algorithm: pathological example

augmenting path 6:  $s \rightarrow u \rightarrow v \rightarrow w \rightarrow x \rightarrow t$  (bottleneck capacity =  $r^3$ )

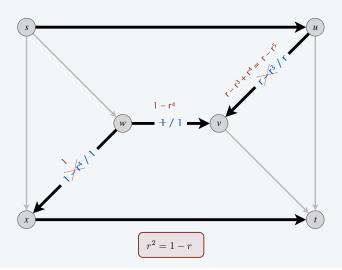


### augmenting path 7: $s \rightarrow w \rightarrow v \rightarrow u \rightarrow t$ (bottleneck capacity = $r^3$ )



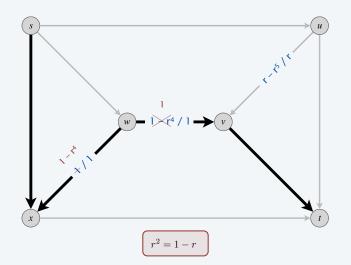
### Ford-Fulkerson algorithm: pathological example

### augmenting path 8: $s \rightarrow u \rightarrow v \rightarrow w \rightarrow x \rightarrow t$ (bottleneck capacity = $r^4$ )



### Ford-Fulkerson algorithm: pathological example

### augmenting path 9: $s \rightarrow x \rightarrow w \rightarrow v \rightarrow t$ (bottleneck capacity = $r^4$ )

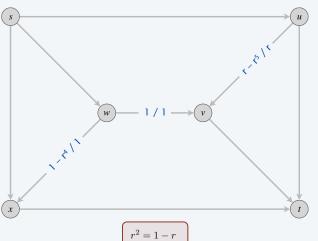


### Ford-Fulkerson algorithm: pathological example

flow after augmenting path 1:  $\{r - r^1, 1, 1 - r^0\}$  (value of flow = 1)

flow after augmenting path 5:  $\{r-r^3, 1, 1-r^2\}$  (value of flow =  $1+2r+2r^2$ )

flow after augmenting path 9:  $\{r - r^5, 1, 1 - r^4\}$  (value of flow =  $1 + 2r + 2r^2 + 2r^3 + 2r^4$ )



Theorem. The Ford-Fulkerson algorithm may not terminate; moreover, it may converge to a value not equal to the value of the maximum flow.

Pf.

• After (1 + 4k) augmenting paths of the form just described, the value of the flow

$$= 1 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{2k} r^{i}$$

$$\leq 1 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} r^{i}$$

$$= 1 + \frac{2r}{1-r}$$
< 5

• Value of maximum flow = 2C + 1.

### Reference



Theoretical Computer Science

Theoretical Computer Science 148 (1995) 165-170

Note

The smallest networks on which the Ford-Fulkerson maximum flow procedure may fail to terminate

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### Abstract

It is widely known that the Ford-Fulkerson procedure for finding the maximum flow in a network need not terminate if some of the capacities of the network are irrational. Ford and Fulkerson gave as an example a network with 10 vertices and 48 edges on which their procedure may fail to halt. We construct much smaller and simpler networks on which the same may happen. Our smallest network has only 6 vertices and 8 edges. We show that it is the smallest example possible.