

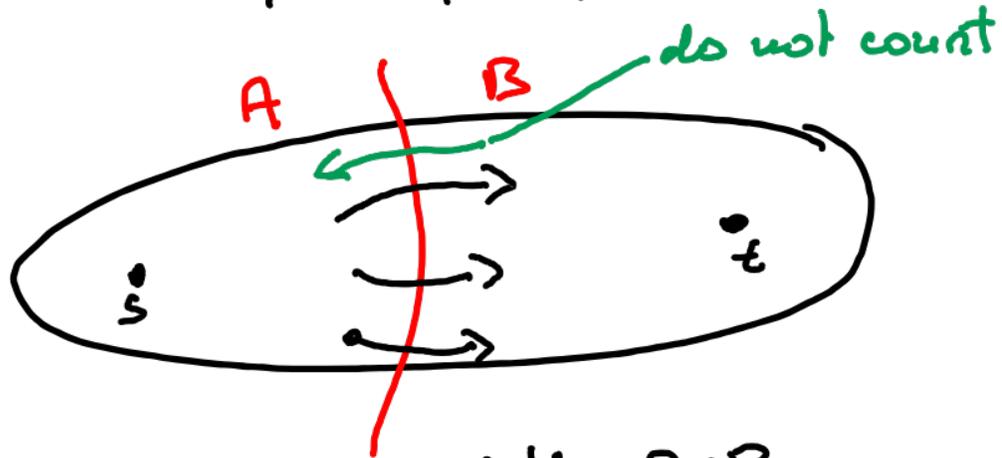
# Announcements

- Regrade requests are due a week after we open the grades.  
~~Today for the prelim~~ Was closed, almost set with responses
- Tuesday OH Eva Tardos: 10:30-11:30. would 2-3 be better?
- Hw3 is graded
- Hw5 is posted on Gradescope/canvas  
today: application of cuts  
Monday start of Chapter 8

# Today min cut applications.

## The min-cut problem

Input  $G = (V, E)$  directed  
 $s, t \in V$ , capacities  $c_e \geq 0$  for  $e \in E$



Find partition of  $V = A \cup B$

$s \in A, t \in B$

& min capacity  $(A, B) = \sum_{\substack{e \text{ from } A \\ \text{to } B}} c_e$

Ford-Fulkerson

max flow value =  
min cut capacity

& algorithm finds a  
min cut



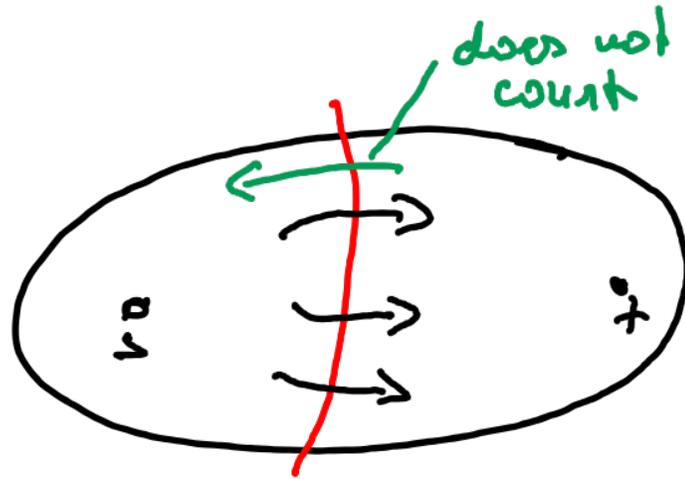
What is the min-cut value on the network below

• A. 6

• **B. 4** ✓

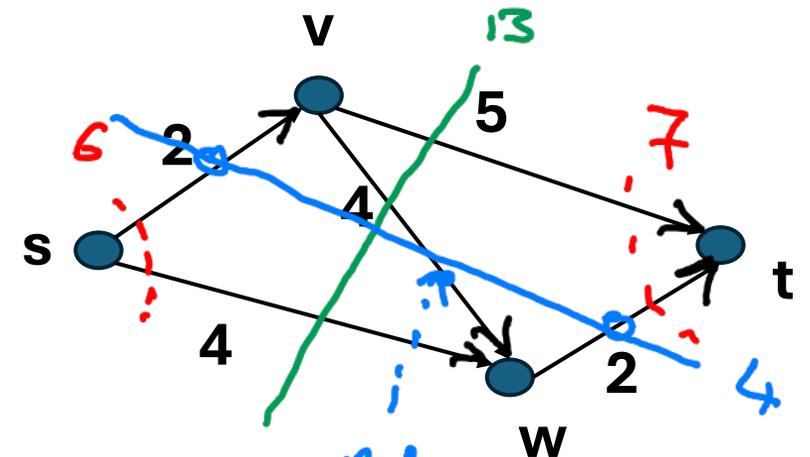
C. 7

too light



cut value = sum capacities  $A \rightarrow B$

network C



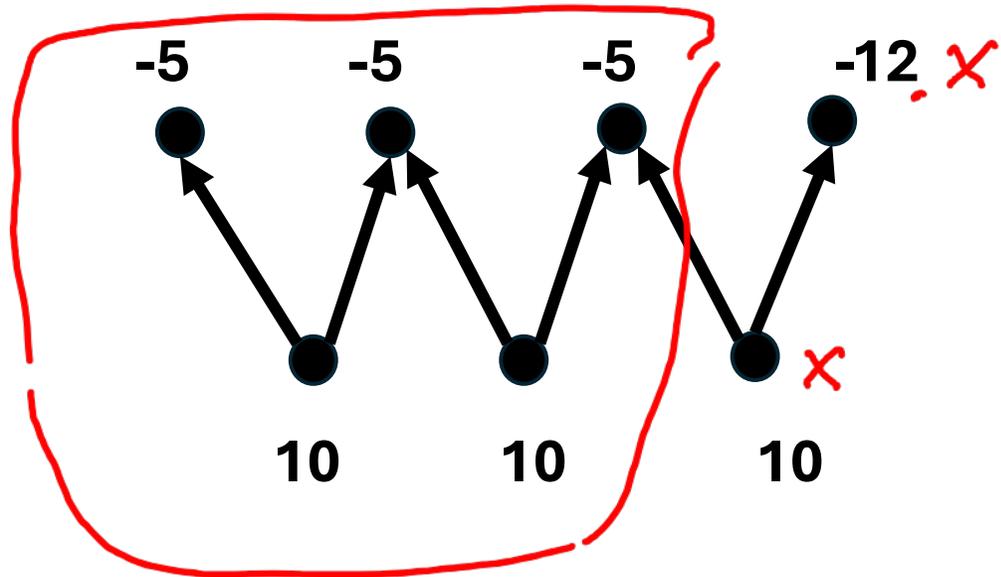
edge going  $B \rightarrow A$   
does not count





What is the value of the optimal set of projects?

- A. 30
  - B. -7
  - C. 5
  - D. 0
- $(i,j) \in E$   
 $i$  requires  $j$  to be taken  
goal: max value



# Project selection as a cut problem

Select cut in graph  $(A, B)$

no edges from  $A \rightarrow B$

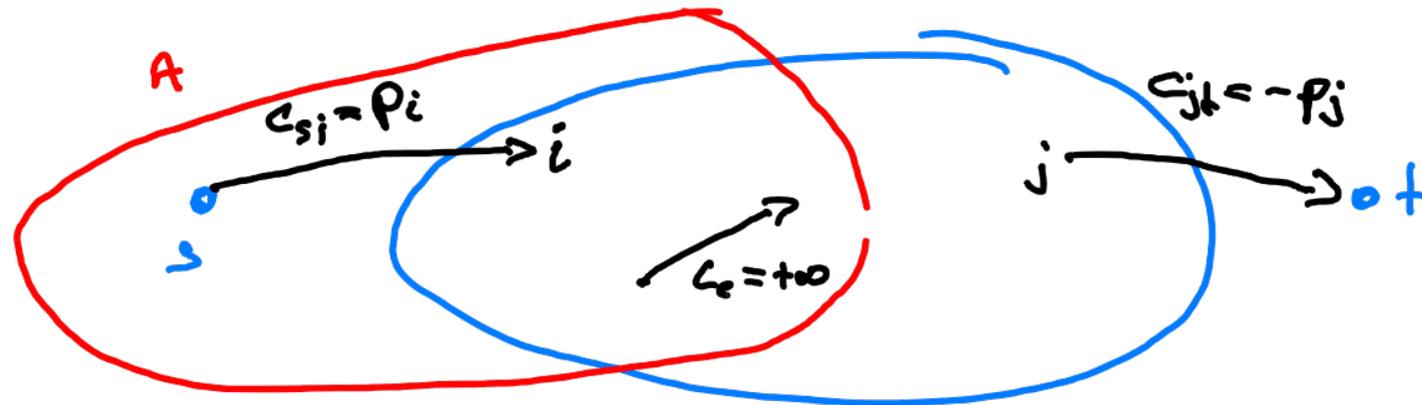
Idea 1:  $c_{ij} = +\infty \implies$  min cut never contain them

comment  $c_e = +\infty$  OK in algorithm

also ok  $c_e = \sum_j |P_j|$

no min cut will have  $A \rightarrow B$  edge of this form

# Project selection solvable by Ford-Fulkerson



add  $s \rightarrow t$   
 edges  $(s, i)$  if  $p_i > 0$   
 $(j, t)$  if  $p_j < 0$

Claim: min cut  $(A, B)$  in this network

$\Rightarrow A \setminus s =$  optimal set of projects

if & only if  
 $i \in A \wedge (i, j) \in E$   
 $\Rightarrow j \in A$

Claim 1: cut with finite capacity  
 1-1 correspondence with valid  
 project sets

needs: min cut capacity  $\sim$  max project value

# Proving the Algorithm Correct

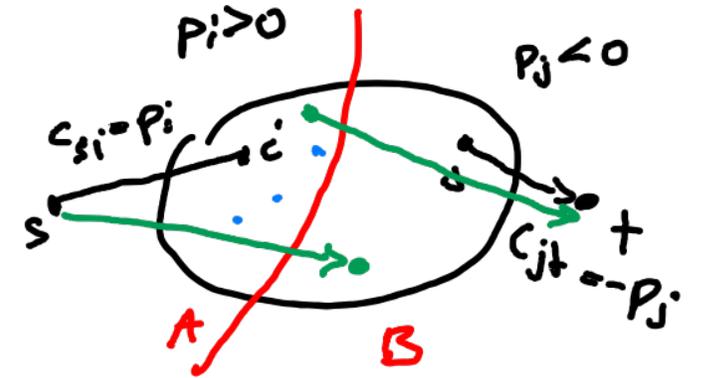
$$\text{value projects} = \sum_{j \in A} P_j$$

$$\text{capacity}(A, B) = \sum_{j \in B: P_j > 0} P_j - \sum_{i \in A: P_i < 0} P_i$$

$$= \sum_{j \in B} P_j - \sum_{j \in B: P_j < 0} P_j - \sum_{i \in A: P_i < 0} P_i = \sum_{j \in B} P_j - \left( \sum_{i: P_i < 0} P_i \right)$$

Note: error in last line fixed after class

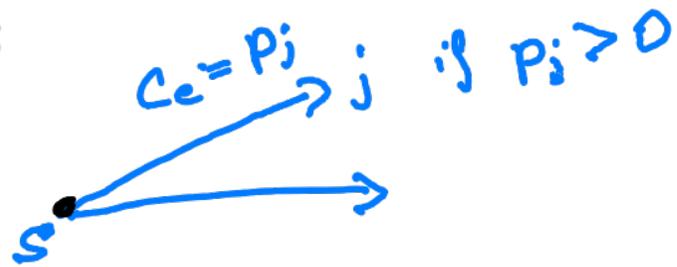
max value project set = min capacity cut



$$= \boxed{\sum_{j: P_j > 0} P_j} - \sum_{j \in A} P_j$$

fixed does not depend on cut

Running time:



Ford-Fulkerson OK is  
 $P_j$  values are small steps

better algorithm depends on  
choice of path

$$C = \sum_{e=(s,i) \in E} c_e$$

# iterations  $\leq C+1$  if  
 $c_e$  integer all  $e$

One iteration  $O(m+n)$

$m = \# \text{ edges}$

$n = \# \text{ nodes}$

time  $O(C(m+n))$