

# CS 381 – FALL 2019

## Week 11.2, Wednesday, Oct 30

Midterm 2 Tonight! October 30 (8-9:30PM) MTHW 210 and BRNG 2280

Friday PSO → BRNG 2280 (Exam Capacity 62)

All Others → MTHW 210 (Exam Capacity 111)

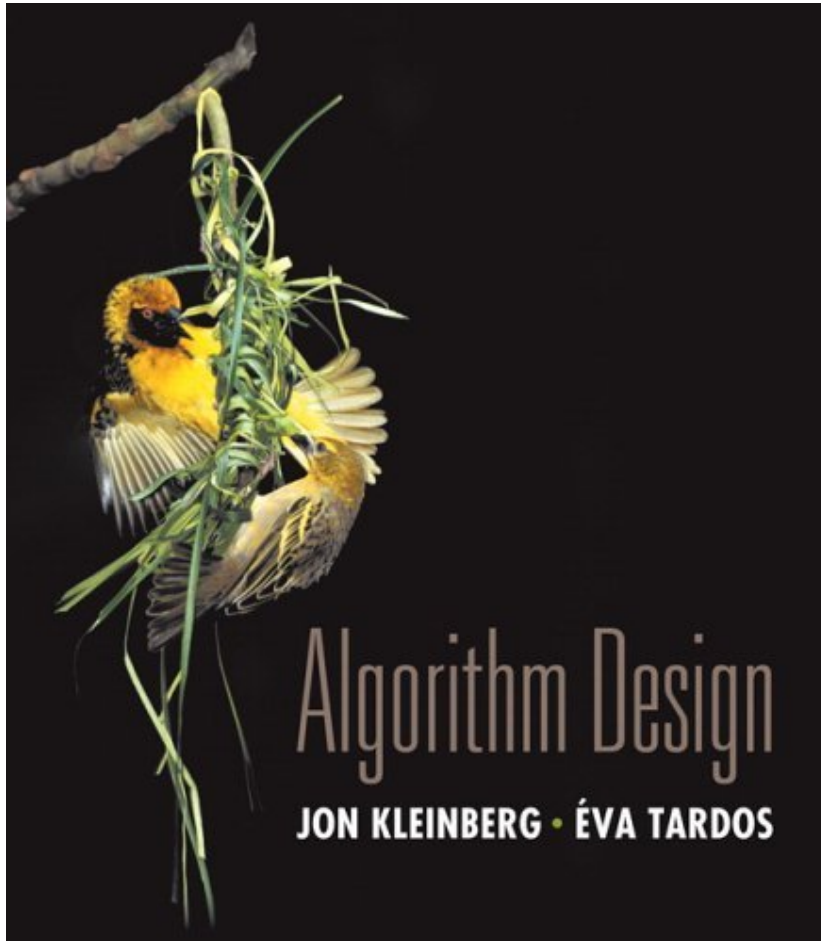
Practice Midterm 2 & Solutions on Piazza

No PSOs this week (Due to Midterm)

# Midterm 2

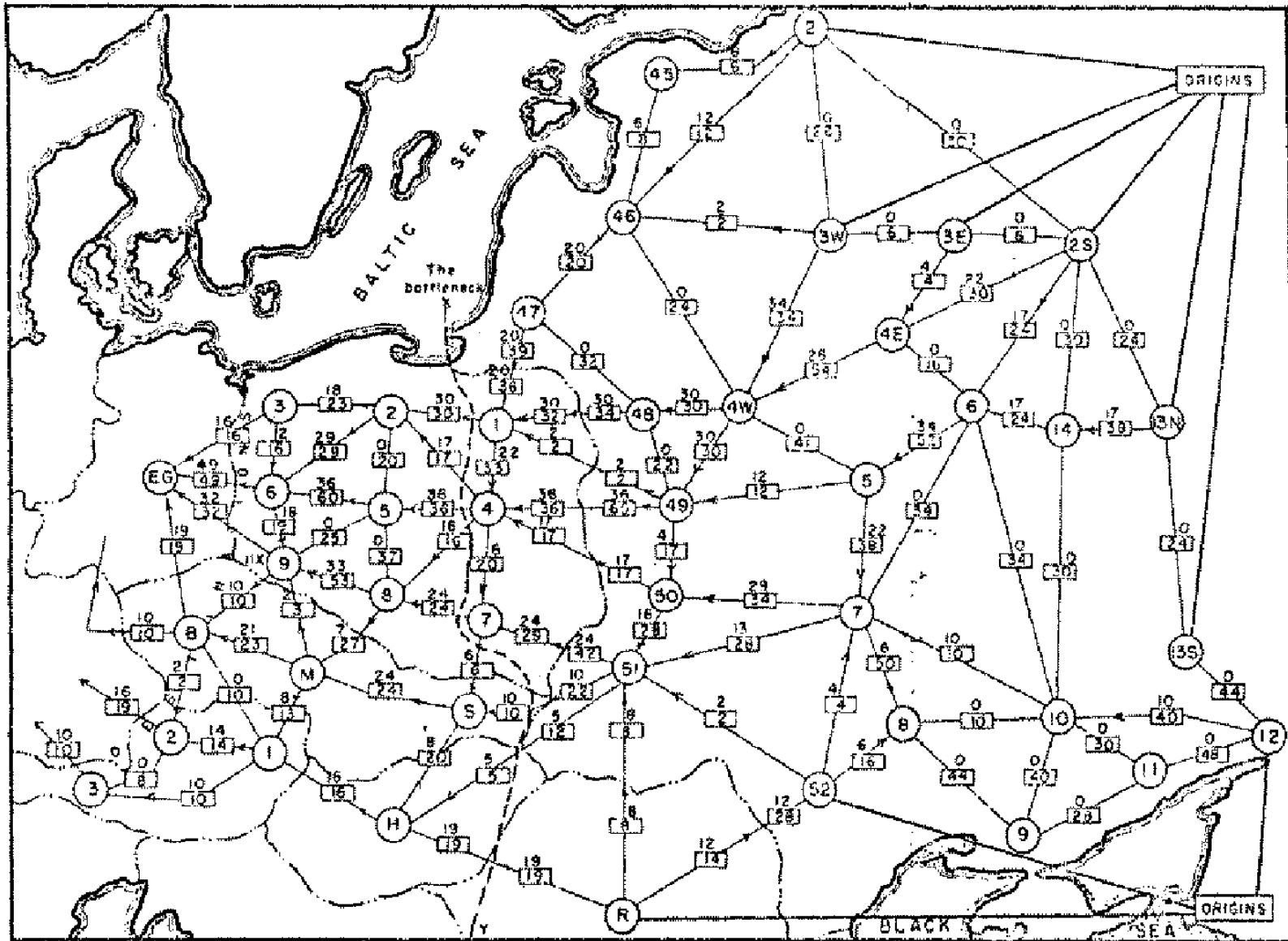
- ▣ Friday PSO → BRNG 2280 (Exam Capacity 62)
- ▣ All Others → MTHW 210 (Exam Capacity 111)
- ▣ Focus: Dynamic Programming and Graph Algorithms
  - Lectures 15 to 28
  - No Network Flow (today's lecture)
- ▣ Same Rules as Midterm 1
  - Allowed to prepare 1 page of handwritten notes
  - No calculators, phones, smartwatches etc...
  - Make sure your writing implement shows up clearly when scanned!
    - ▣ Number 2 pencils work

# Network Flow



Slides by Kevin Wayne.  
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# Soviet Rail Network, 1955



Reference: *On the history of the transportation and maximum flow problems.*  
Alexander Schrijver in *Math Programming*, 91: 3, 2002.

# Maximum Flow and Minimum Cut

## Max flow and min cut.

- Two very rich algorithmic problems.
- Cornerstone problems in combinatorial optimization.
- Beautiful mathematical duality.

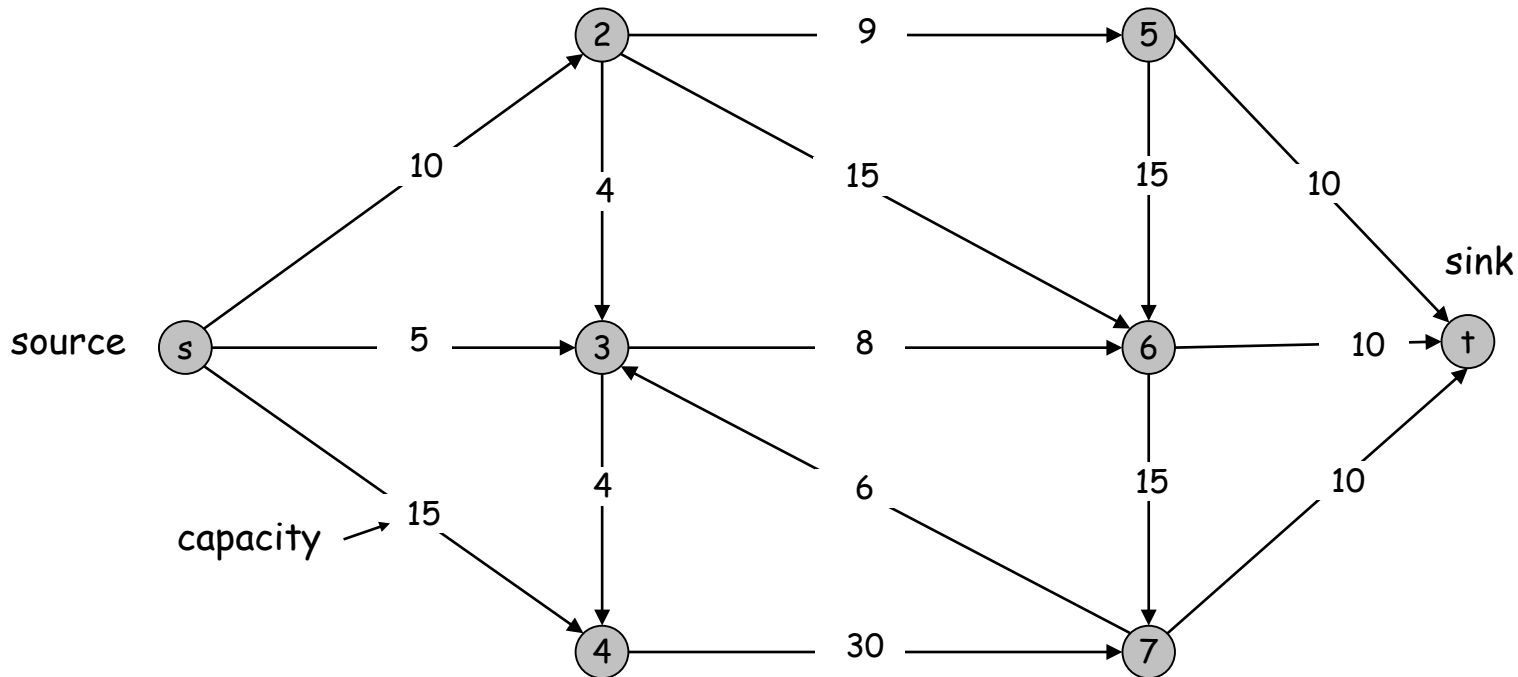
## Nontrivial applications / reductions.

- Data mining.
- Open-pit mining.
- Project selection.
- Airline scheduling.
- Bipartite matching.
- Baseball elimination.
- Image segmentation.
- Network connectivity.
- Network reliability.
- Distributed computing.
- Egalitarian stable matching.
- Security of statistical data.
- Network intrusion detection.
- Multi-camera scene reconstruction.
- Many many more ...

# Minimum Cut Problem

## Flow network.

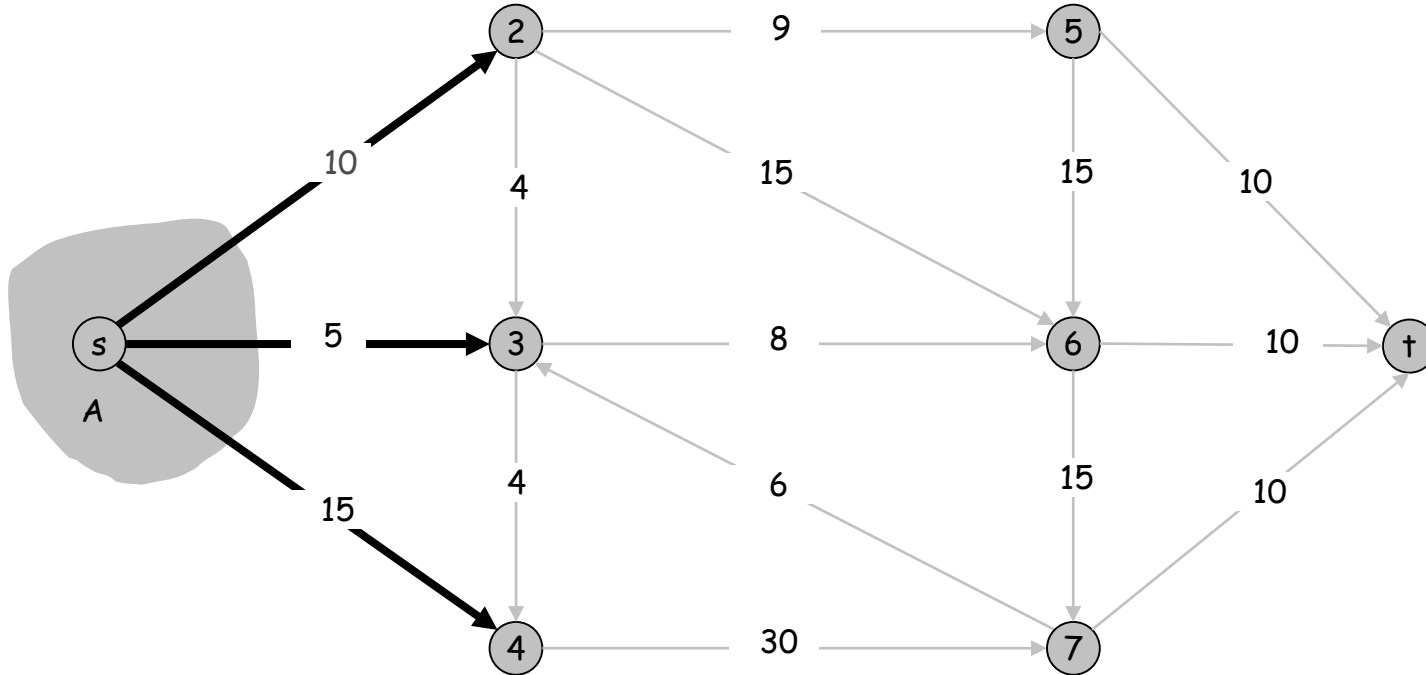
- Abstraction for material **flowing** through the edges.
- $G = (V, E)$  = directed graph, no parallel edges.
- Two distinguished nodes:  $s$  = source,  $t$  = sink.
- $c(e)$  = capacity of edge  $e$ .



# Cuts

Def. An **s-t cut** is a partition  $(A, B)$  of  $V$  with  $s \in A$  and  $t \in B$ .

Def. The **capacity** of a cut  $(A, B)$  is:  $cap(A, B) = \sum_{e \text{ out of } A} c(e)$

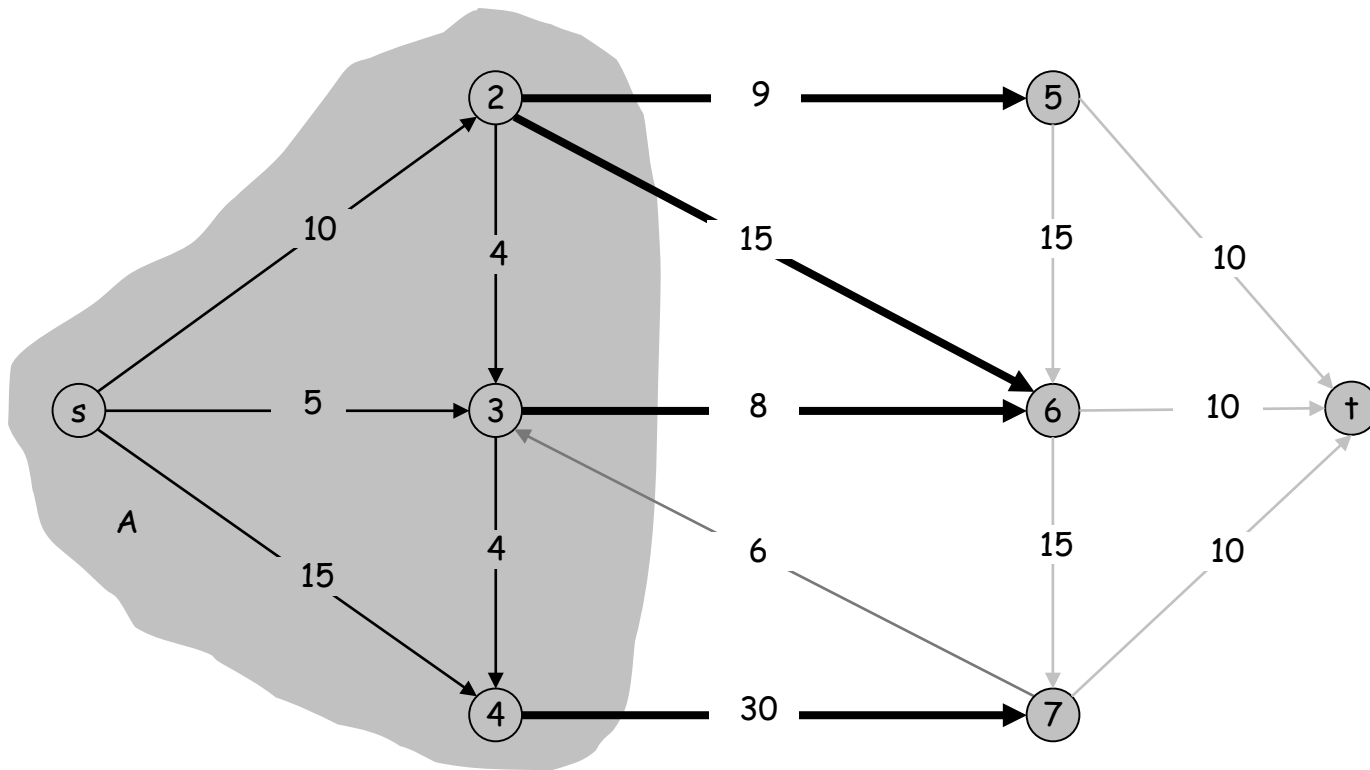


$$\begin{aligned} \text{Capacity} &= 10 + 5 + 15 \\ &= 30 \end{aligned}$$

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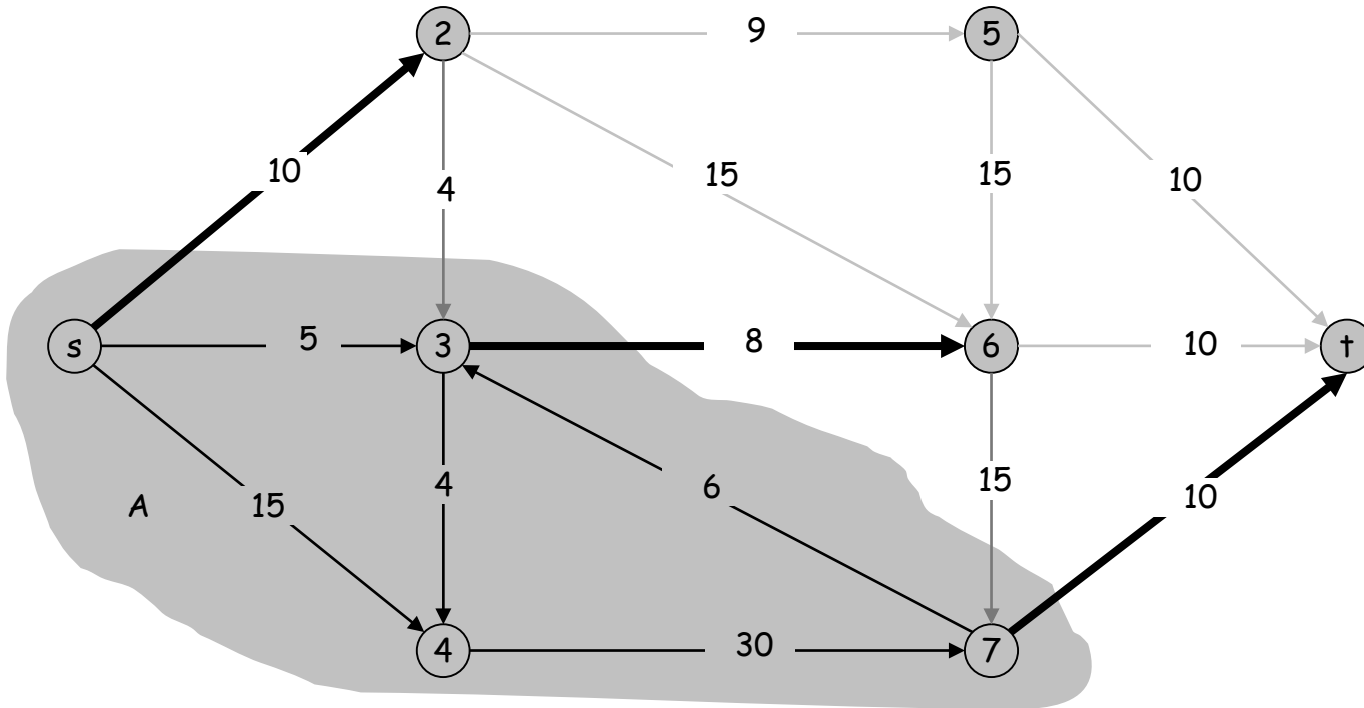


$$\begin{aligned} \text{Capacity} &= 9 + 15 + 8 + 30 \\ &= 62 \end{aligned}$$



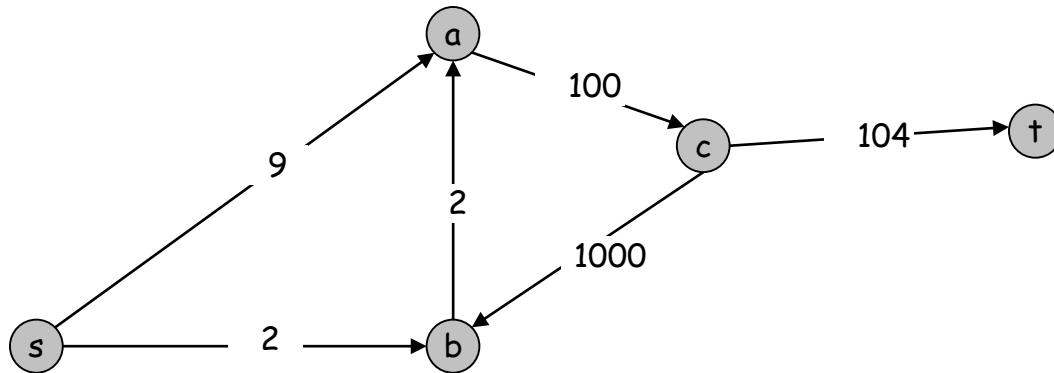
# Minimum Cut Problem

Min s-t cut problem. Find an s-t cut of minimum capacity.



$$\begin{aligned} \text{Capacity} &= 10 + 8 + 10 \\ &= 28 \end{aligned}$$

## Clicker Question

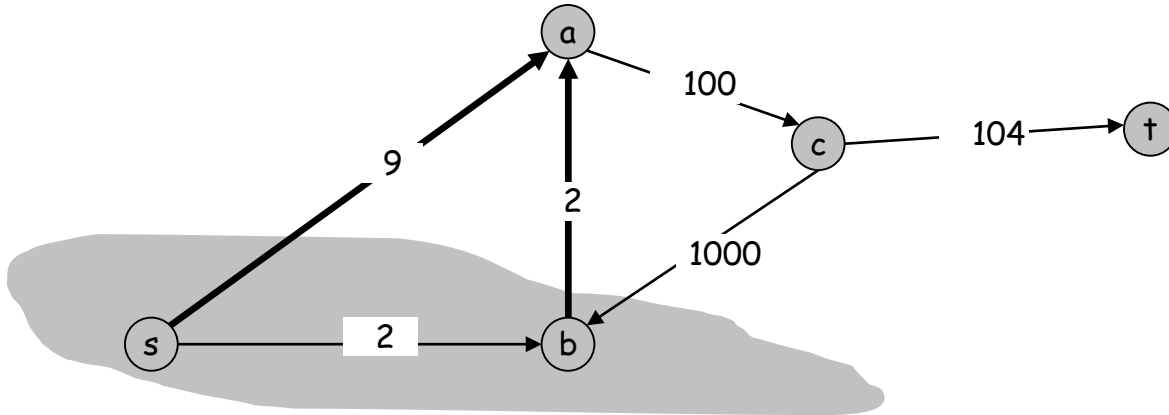


Find the minimum capacity s-t cut  $(A, B=V\setminus A)$

- Choice A:  $A=\{s,b\}, B=\{a,c,t\}$
- Choice B:  $A=\{s,a\}, B=\{b,c,t\}$
- Choice C:  $A=\{s,a,b\}, B=\{c,t\}$
- Choice D:  $A=\{s,a,b,c,t\}, B=\{\}$
- Choice E:  $A=\{a,b\}, B=\{s,c,t\}$



# Clicker Question



Find the minimum capacity  $s$ - $t$  cut ( $A, B=V \setminus A$ )

**Choice A:**  $A=\{s,b\}, B=\{a,c,t\}$

**Choice B:**  $A=\{s,a\}, B=\{b,c,t\}$

**Choice C:**  $A=\{s,a,b\}, B=\{c,t\}$

**Choice D:**  $A=\{s,a,b,c,t\}, B=\{\}$  (Not a  $s$ - $t$  cut)

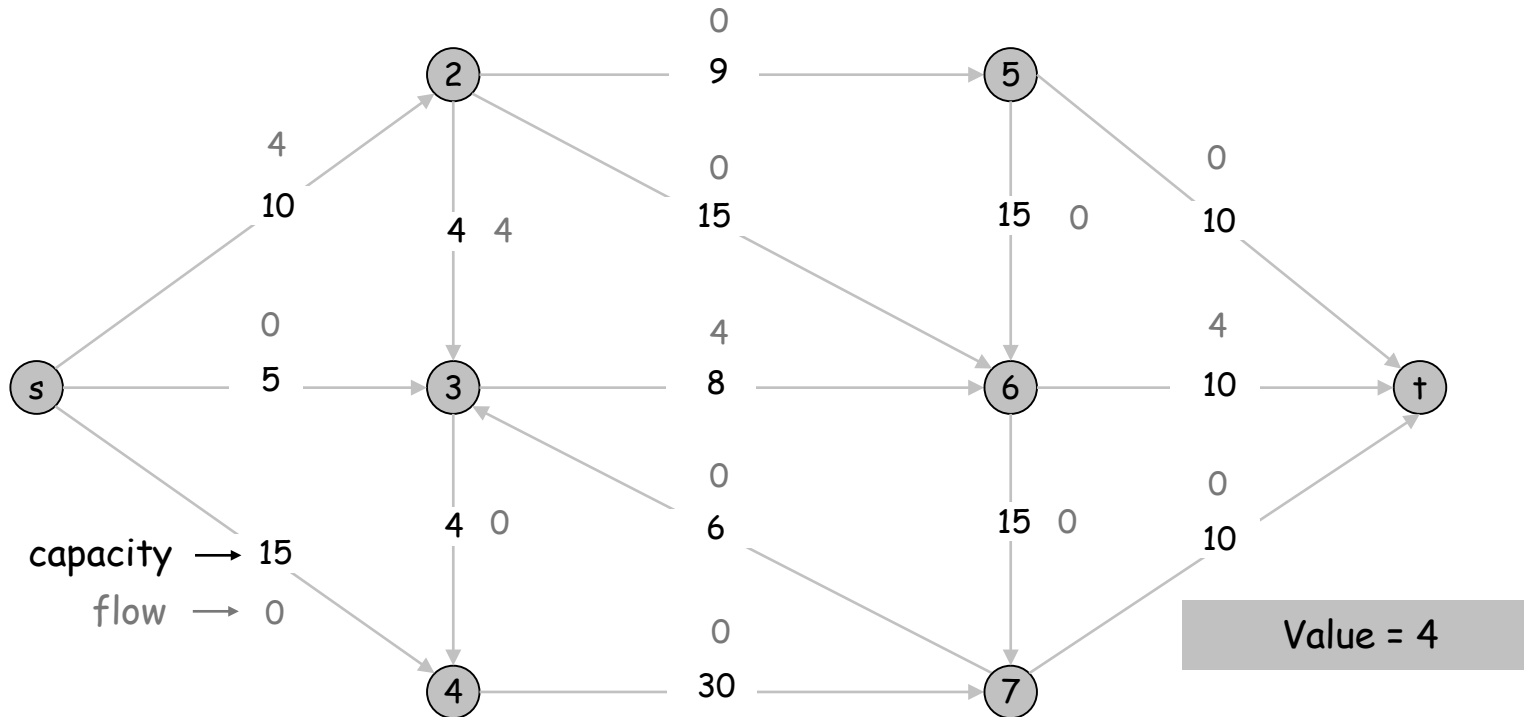
**Choice E:**  $A=\{a,b\}, B=\{s,c,t\}$  (Not a  $s$ - $t$  cut)

# Flows

Def. An **s-t flow** is a function that satisfies:

- For each  $e \in E$ :  $0 \leq f(e) \leq c(e)$  [capacity]
- For each  $v \in V - \{s, t\}$ :  $\sum_{e \text{ in to } v} f(e) = \sum_{e \text{ out of } v} f(e)$  [conservation]

Def. The **value** of a flow  $f$  is:  $v(f) = \sum_{e \text{ out of } s} f(e)$ .

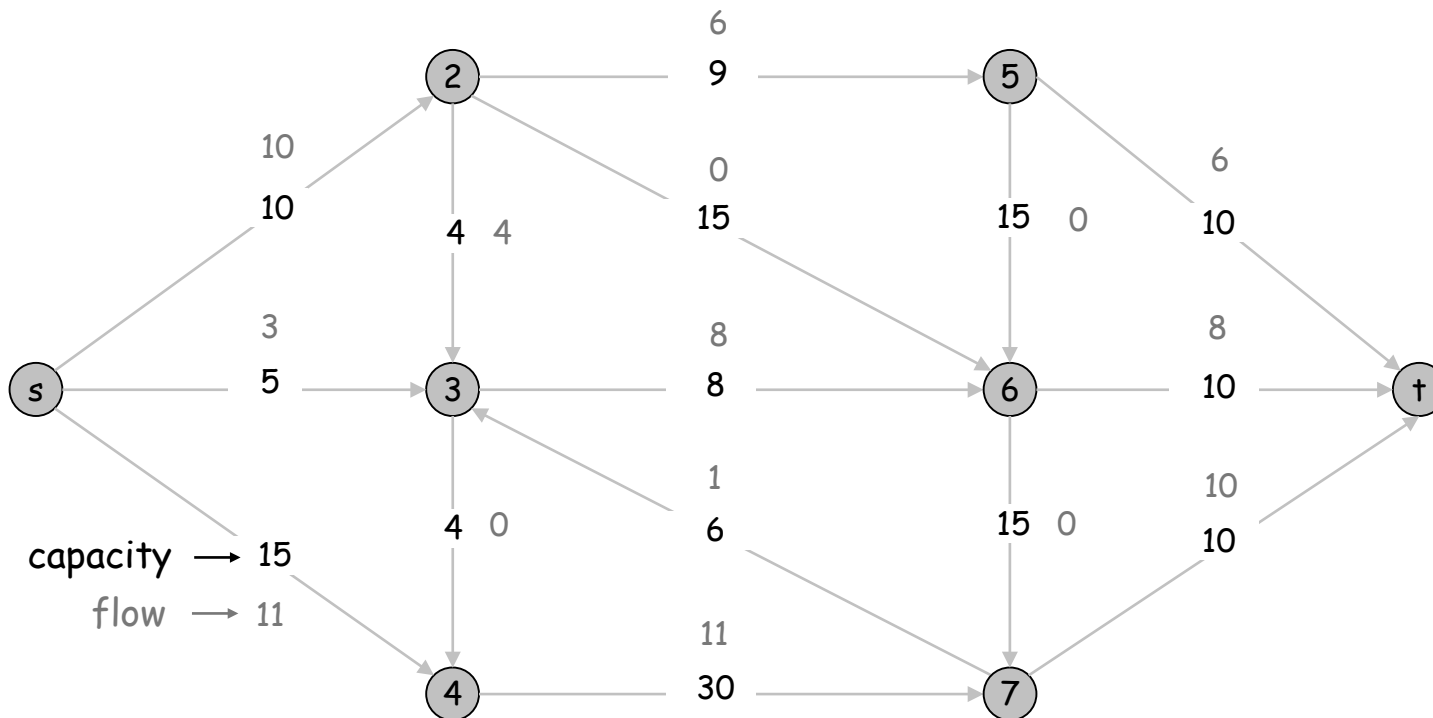


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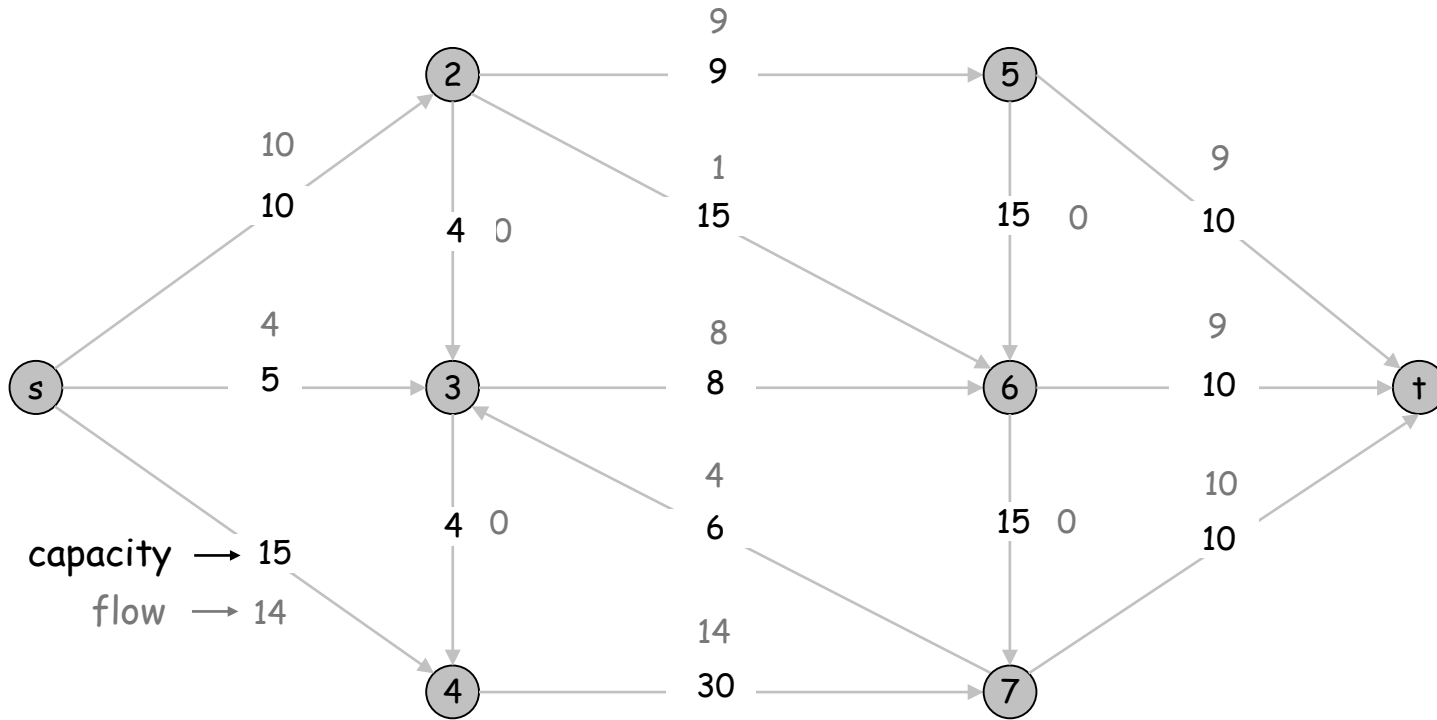
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Value = 24

# Maximum Flow Problem

Max flow problem. Find s-t flow of maximum value.

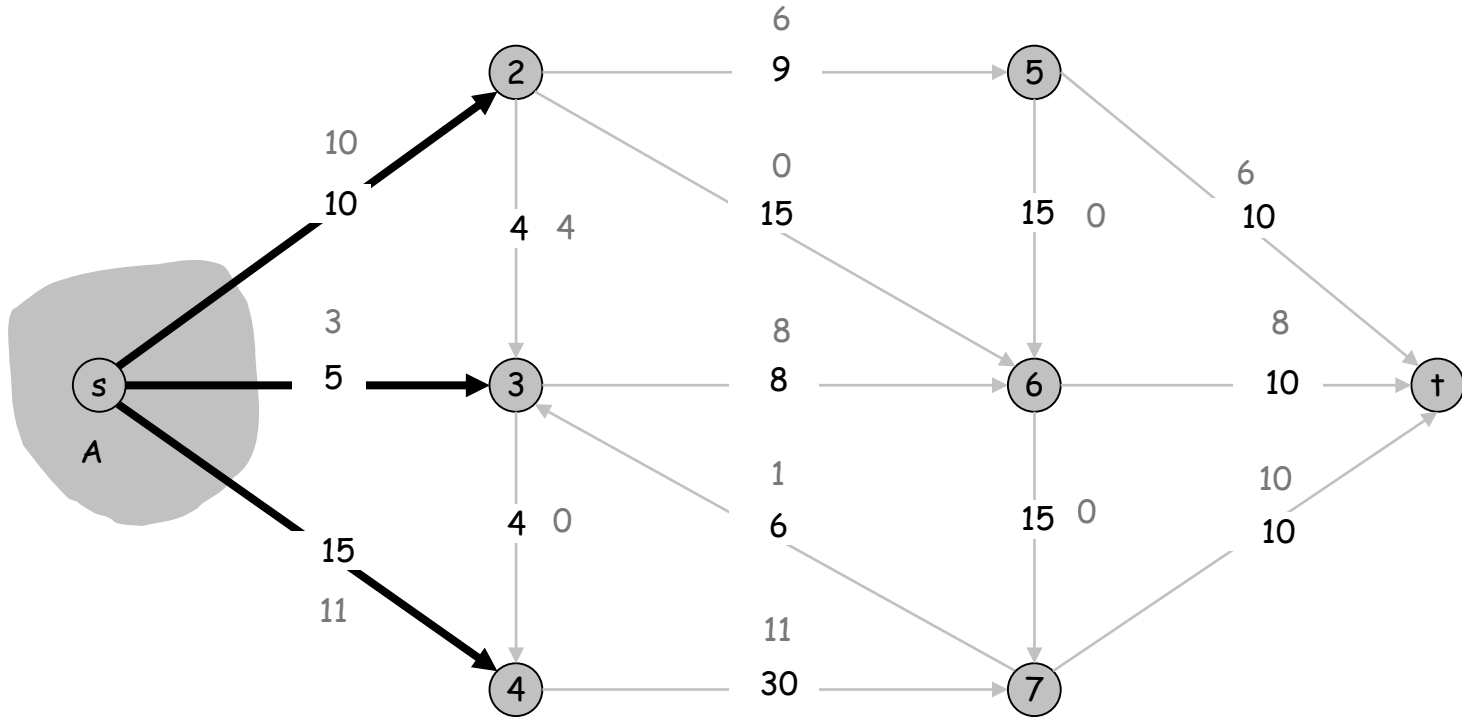


Value = 28

# Flows and Cuts

**Flow value lemma.** Let  $f$  be any flow, and let  $(A, B)$  be any  $s$ - $t$  cut. Then, the net flow sent across the cut is equal to the amount leaving  $s$ .

$$\sum_{e \text{ out of } A} f(e) - \sum_{e \text{ in to } A} f(e) = v(f)$$



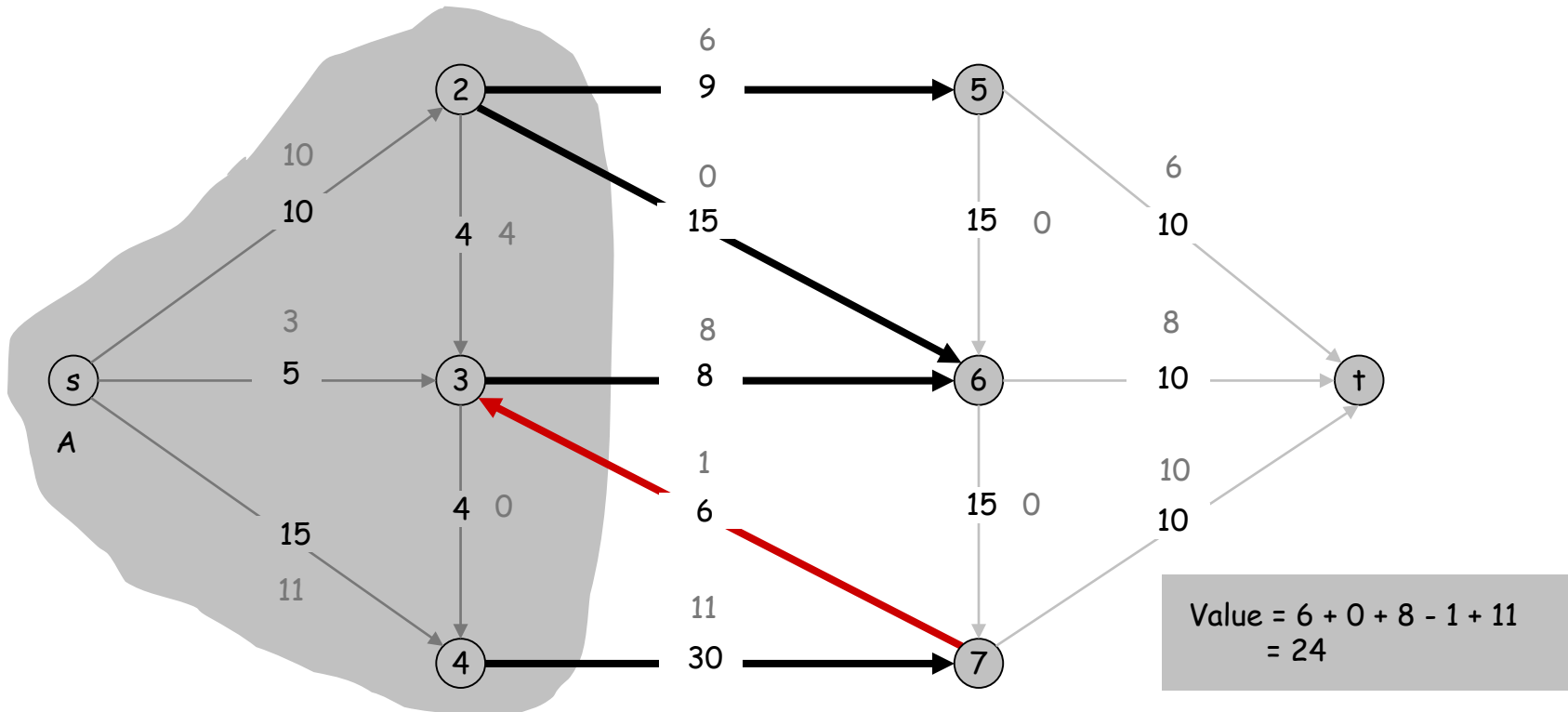
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# Flows and Cuts

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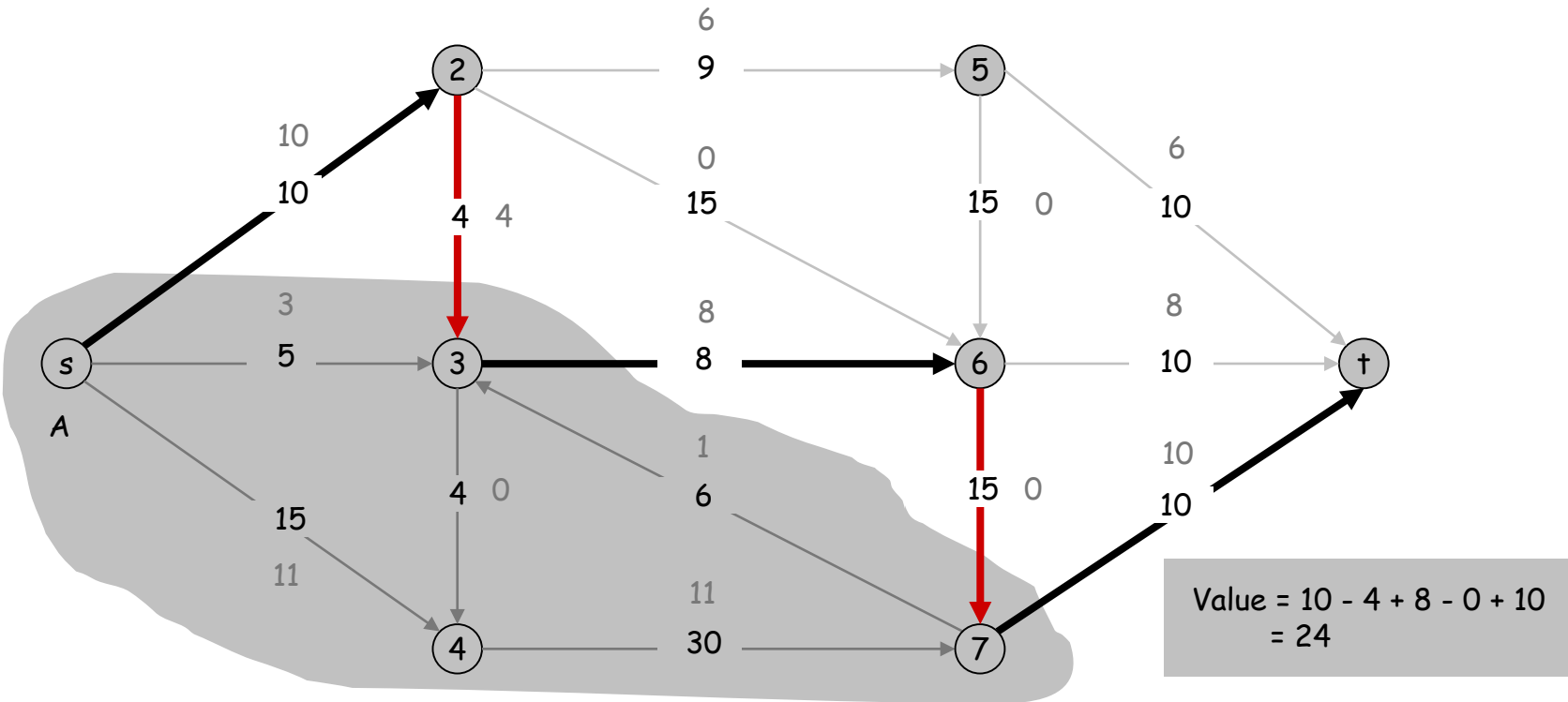
$$\sum_{e \text{ out of } A} f(e) - \sum_{e \text{ in to } A} f(e) = v(f)$$



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# Flows and Cuts

**Flow value lemma.** Let  $f$  be any flow, and let  $(A, B)$  be any  $s$ - $t$  cut. Then

$$\sum_{e \text{ out of } A} f(e) - \sum_{e \text{ in to } A} f(e) = v(f).$$

**Pf.** 
$$v(f) = \sum_{e \text{ out of } s} f(e) + 0$$
$$= \sum_{e \text{ out of } s} f(e) + \sum_{v \in A \setminus \{s\}} \left( \sum_{e \text{ out of } v} f(e) - \sum_{e \text{ in to } v} f(e) \right)$$

by flow conservation, all terms  
except  $v = s$  are 0

# Flows and Cuts

**Flow value lemma.** Let  $f$  be any flow, and let  $(A, B)$  be any  $s$ - $t$  cut. Then

$$\sum_{e \text{ out of } A} f(e) - \sum_{e \text{ in to } A} f(e) = v(f).$$

**Pf.**  $v(f) = \sum_{e \text{ out of } s} f(e) + 0$

$$= \sum_{e \text{ out of } s} f(e) + \sum_{v \in A \setminus \{s\}} \left( \sum_{e \text{ out of } v} f(e) - \sum_{e \text{ in to } v} f(e) \right)$$
$$= \sum_{v \in A} \left( \sum_{e \text{ out of } v} f(e) - \sum_{e \text{ in to } v} f(e) \right)$$

↑  
Flow into  $s$  is 0

# Flows and Cuts

**Flow value lemma.** Let  $f$  be any flow, and let  $(A, B)$  be any  $s$ - $t$  cut. Then

$$\sum_{e \text{ out of } A} f(e) - \sum_{e \text{ in to } A} f(e) = v(f).$$

**Pf.**  $v(f) = \sum_{e \text{ out of } s} f(e) + 0$

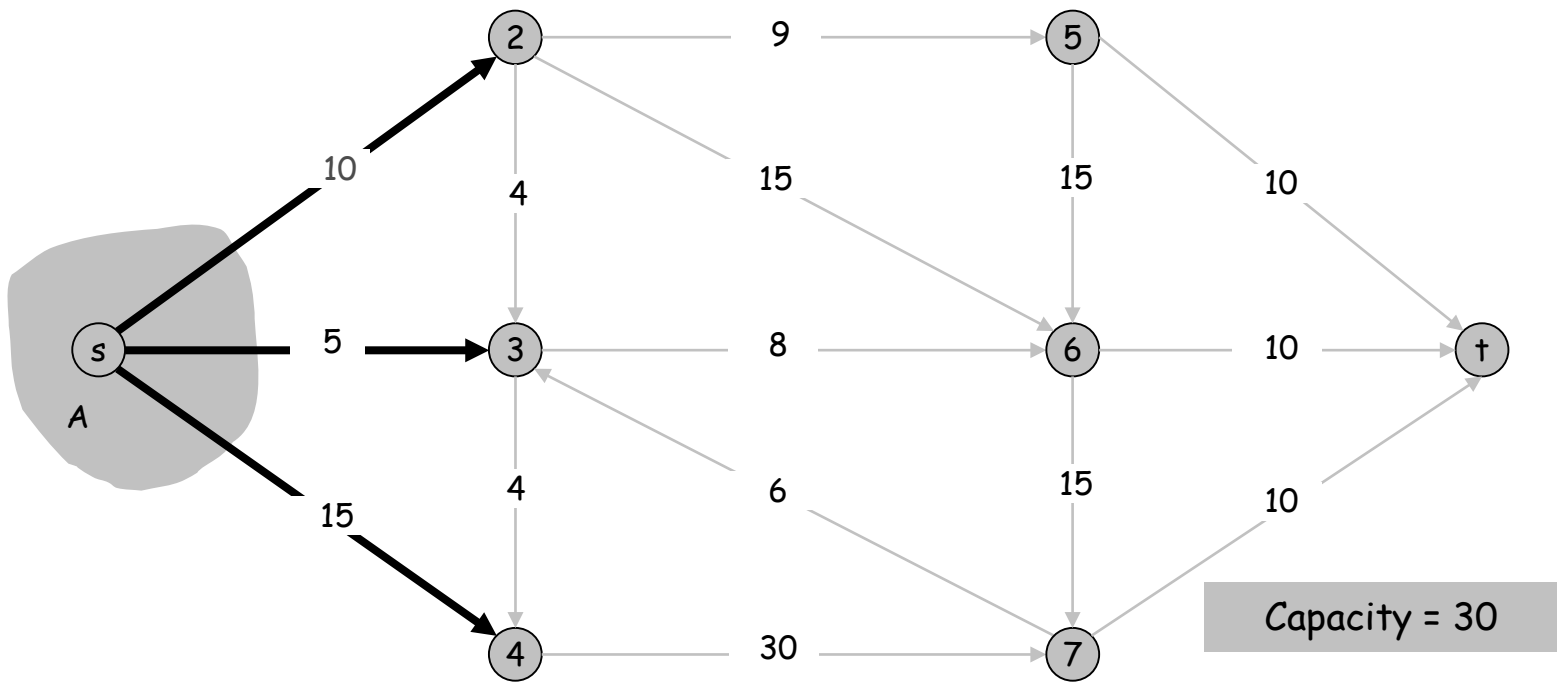
$$= \sum_{e \text{ out of } s} f(e) + \sum_{v \in A \setminus \{s\}} \left( \sum_{e \text{ out of } v} f(e) - \sum_{e \text{ in to } v} f(e) \right)$$
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↑  
If  $e=(u,v)$  with  $u$  and  $v$  in  $A$  then  $f(e)$  was added & subtracted in prior sum

# Flows and Cuts

**Weak duality.** Let  $f$  be any flow, and let  $(A, B)$  be any  $s$ - $t$  cut. Then the value of the flow is at most the capacity of the cut.

Cut capacity = 30  $\Rightarrow$  Flow value  $\leq$  30



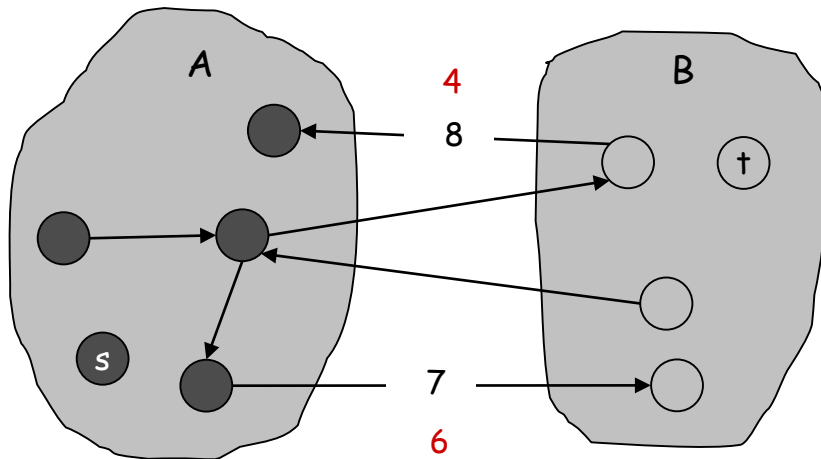
# Flows and Cuts

**Weak duality.** Let  $f$  be any flow. Then, for any  $s$ - $t$  cut  $(A, B)$  we have  $v(f) \leq \text{cap}(A, B)$ .

**Pf.**

$$\begin{aligned} v(f) &= \sum_{e \text{ out of } A} f(e) - \sum_{e \text{ in to } A} f(e) \\ &\leq \sum_{e \text{ out of } A} f(e) \leq \sum_{e \text{ out of } A} c(e) \\ &= \text{cap}(A, B) \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

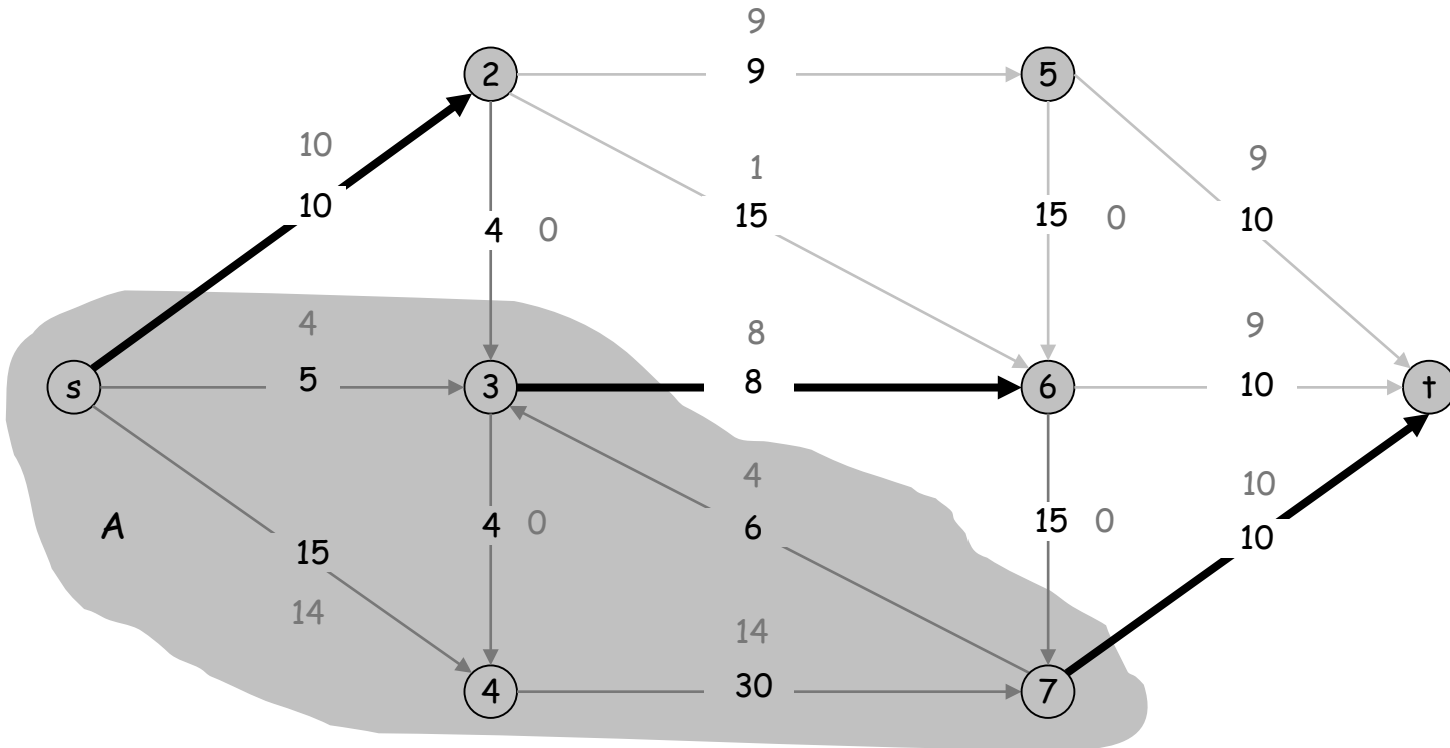
By Flow value lemma.



# Certificate of Optimality

**Corollary.** Let  $f$  be any flow, and let  $(A, B)$  be any cut. If  $v(f) = \text{cap}(A, B)$ , then  $f$  is a max flow and  $(A, B)$  is a min cut.

Value of flow = 28  
 Cut capacity = 28  $\Rightarrow$  Flow value  $\leq$  28

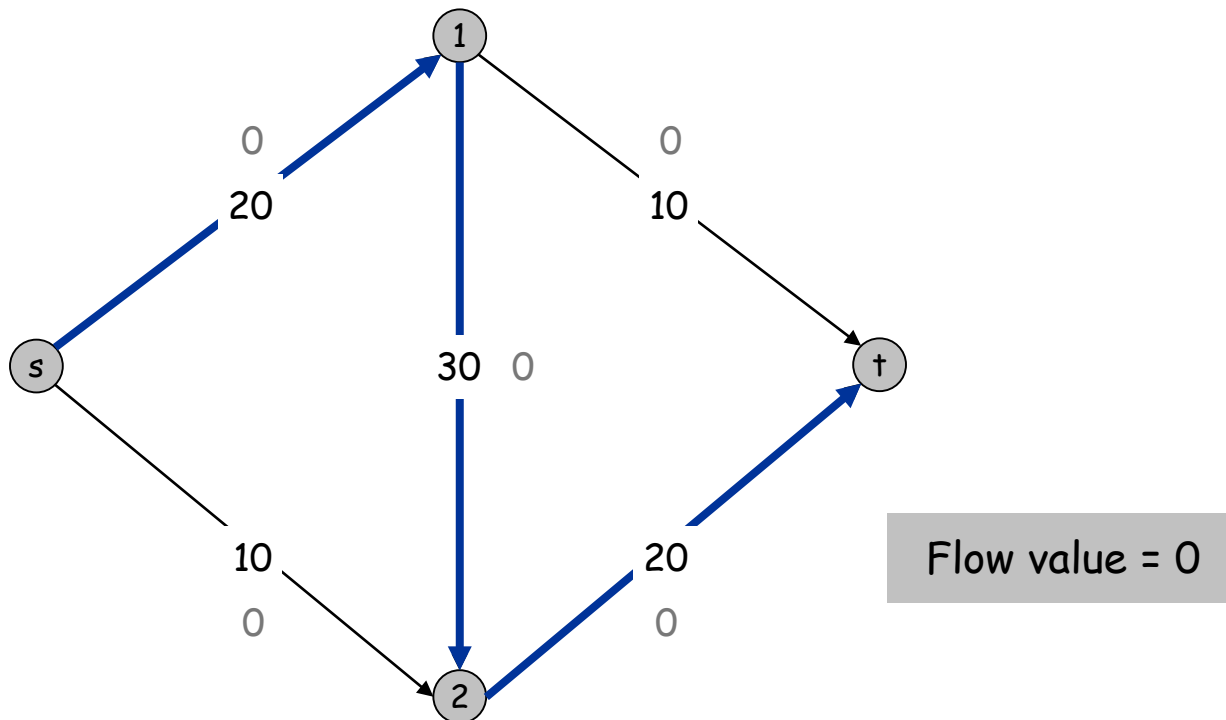




# Towards a Max Flow Algorithm

## Greedy algorithm.

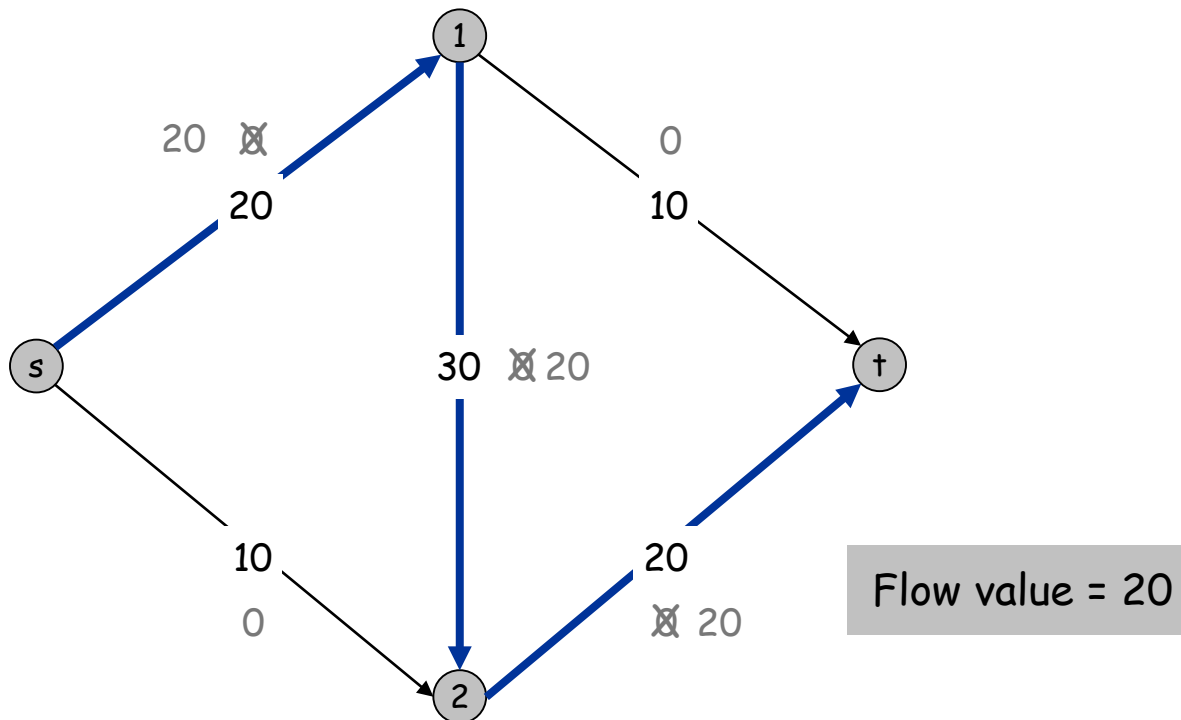
- Start with  $f(e) = 0$  for all edge  $e \in E$ .
- Find an  $s$ - $t$  path  $P$  where each edge has  $f(e) < c(e)$ .
- Augment flow along path  $P$ .
- Repeat until you get stuck.



# Towards a Max Flow Algorithm

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- Repeat until you get **stuck**.

← locally optimality  $\nRightarrow$  global optimality

