

# Markov Random Fields for Computer Vision (Part 1)

Machine Learning Summer School (MLSS 2011)

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Australian National University

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# Pixel Labeling

Label every pixel in an image with a class label from some pre-defined set, i.e.,  $y_p \in \mathcal{L}$ .

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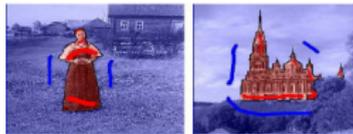
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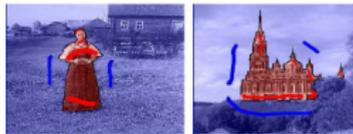
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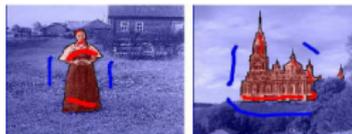
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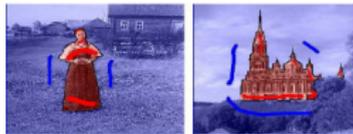
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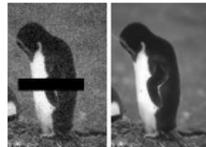
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**Image denoising** (Felzenszwalb and Huttenlocher, 2004; Szeliski et al., 2008)

# Digital Photo Montage



(Agarwala et al., 2004)

# Probability Review

## Bayes Rule

$$\underbrace{P(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{x})}_{\text{posterior}} = \frac{\overbrace{P(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{y})}^{\text{likelihood}} \cdot \overbrace{P(\mathbf{y})}^{\text{prior}}}{P(\mathbf{x})}$$

Maximum a Posteriori (MAP) inference:  $\mathbf{y}^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{\mathbf{y}} P(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{x})$ .

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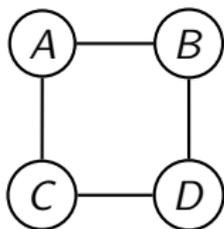
## Conditional Independence

Random variables  $\mathbf{y}$  and  $\mathbf{x}$  are *conditionally independent* given  $\mathbf{z}$  if  $P(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x} | \mathbf{z}) = P(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{z}) P(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{z})$ .

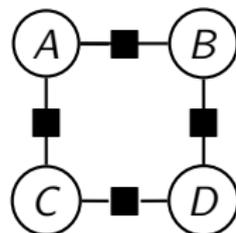
## Graphical Models

We can exploit conditional independence assumptions to represent probability distributions in a way that is both *compact* and *efficient* for inference.

**This tutorial is all about one particular representation, called a **Markov Random Field (MRF)**, and the associated inference algorithms that are used in computer vision.**

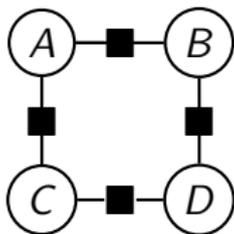


$$a \perp\!\!\!\perp d \mid b, c$$



$$\frac{1}{Z} \Psi(a, b) \Psi(b, d) \Psi(d, c) \Psi(c, a)$$

## Graphical Models



$$\begin{aligned} P(a, b, c, d) &= \frac{1}{Z} \Psi(a, b) \Psi(b, d) \Psi(d, c) \Psi(c, a) \\ &= \frac{1}{Z} \exp \{ -\psi(a, b) - \psi(b, d) - \psi(d, c) - \psi(c, a) \} \end{aligned}$$

where  $\psi = -\log \Psi$ .

## Energy Functions

Let  $\mathbf{x}$  be some observations (i.e., features from the image) and let  $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_n)$  be a vector of random variables. Then we can write the conditional probability of  $\mathbf{y}$  given  $\mathbf{x}$  as

$$P(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{Z(\mathbf{x})} \exp \{-E(\mathbf{y}; \mathbf{x})\}$$

where  $Z(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{L}^n} \exp \{-E(\mathbf{y}; \mathbf{x})\}$  is called the *partition function*.

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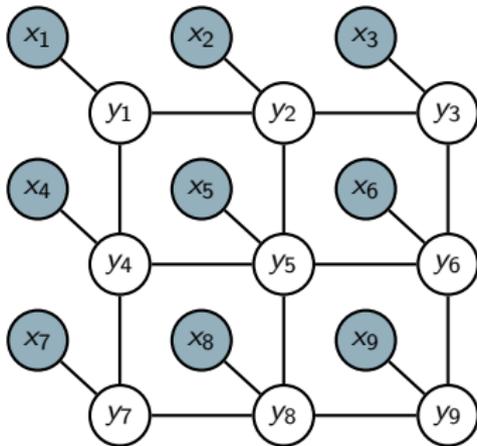
The *energy function*  $E(\mathbf{y}; \mathbf{x})$  usually has some structured form:

$$E(\mathbf{y}; \mathbf{x}) = \sum_c \psi_c(\mathbf{y}_c; \mathbf{x})$$

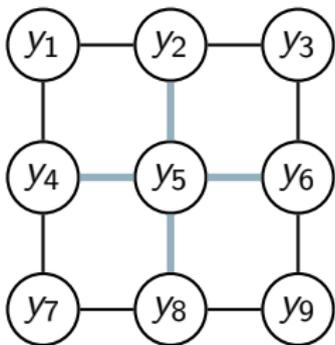
where  $\psi_c(\mathbf{y}_c; \mathbf{x})$  are *clique potentials* defined over a subset of random variables  $\mathbf{y}_c \subseteq \mathbf{y}$ .

## Conditional Markov Random Fields

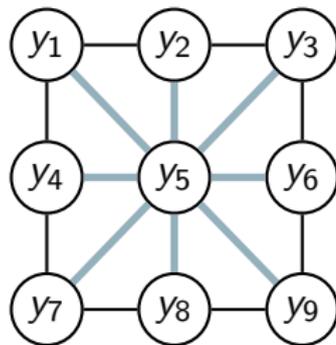
$$\begin{aligned}
 E(\mathbf{y}; \mathbf{x}) &= \sum_c \psi_c(\mathbf{y}_c; \mathbf{x}) \\
 &= \underbrace{\sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}} \psi_i^U(y_i; \mathbf{x})}_{\text{unary}} + \underbrace{\sum_{ij \in \mathcal{E}} \psi_{ij}^P(y_i, y_j; \mathbf{x})}_{\text{pairwise}} + \underbrace{\sum_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \psi_c^H(\mathbf{y}_c; \mathbf{x})}_{\text{higher-order}}.
 \end{aligned}$$



# Pixel Neighbourhoods



4-connected,  $\mathcal{N}_4$



8-connected,  $\mathcal{N}_8$

## Binary MRF Example

Consider the following energy function for two binary random variables,  $y_1$  and  $y_2$ .

|   |   |
|---|---|
|   | 0 |
| 5 |   |
| 2 |   |

|   |   |
|---|---|
|   | 0 |
| 1 |   |
| 3 |   |

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
|   | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 0 | 3 |
| 1 | 4 | 0 |

$$E(y_1, y_2) = \psi_1(y_1) + \psi_2(y_2) + \psi_{12}(y_1, y_2)$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 E(y_1, y_2) &= \psi_1(y_1) + \psi_2(y_2) + \psi_{12}(y_1, y_2) \\
 &= \underbrace{5\bar{y}_1 + 2y_1}_{\psi_1} \\
 &\quad + \underbrace{\bar{y}_2 + 3y_2}_{\psi_2} \\
 &\quad + \underbrace{3\bar{y}_1y_2 + 4y_1\bar{y}_2}_{\psi_{12}}
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $\bar{y}_1 = 1 - y_1$  and  $\bar{y}_2 = 1 - y_2$ .

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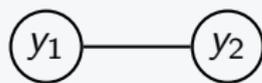
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### Graphical Model



### Probability Table

| $y_1$ | $y_2$ | $E$ | $P$   |
|-------|-------|-----|-------|
| 0     | 0     | 6   | 0.244 |
| 0     | 1     | 11  | 0.002 |
| 1     | 0     | 7   | 0.090 |
| 1     | 1     | 5   | 0.664 |

## Compactness of Representation

Consider a 1 mega-pixel image, e.g.,  $1000 \times 1000$  pixels. We want to annotate each pixel with a label from  $\mathcal{L}$ . Let  $L = |\mathcal{L}|$ .

- There are  $L^{10^6}$  possible ways to label such an image.
- A naive encoding—i.e., one big table—would require  $L^{10^6} - 1$  parameters.
- A pairwise MRF over  $\mathcal{N}_4$  requires  $10^6 L$  parameters for the unary terms and  $2 \times 1000 \times (1000 - 1)L^2$  parameters for the pairwise terms, i.e.,  $O(10^6 L^2)$ . Even less are required if we share parameters.

## Inference and Energy Minimization

We are usually interested in finding the most probable labeling,

$$\mathbf{y}^* = \underset{\mathbf{y}}{\operatorname{argmax}} P(\mathbf{y} \mid \mathbf{x}) = \underset{\mathbf{y}}{\operatorname{argmin}} E(\mathbf{y}; \mathbf{x}).$$

This is known as *maximum a posteriori* (MAP) inference or *energy minimization*.

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A number of techniques can be used to find  $\mathbf{y}^*$ , including:

- message-passing (dynamic programming)
- integer programming (part 3)
- graph-cuts (part 2)

**However, in general, inference is NP-hard.**

# Characterizing Markov Random Fields

Markov random fields can be categorized via a number of different dimensions:

- **Label space:** binary vs. multi-label; homogeneous vs. heterogeneous.
- **Order:** unary vs. pairwise vs. higher-order.
- **Structure:** chain vs. tree vs. grid vs. general graph; neighbourhood size.
- **Potentials:** submodular, convex, compressible.

These all affect tractability of inference.

# Markov Random Fields for Pixel Labeling

$$P(\mathbf{y} \mid \mathbf{x}) \propto P(\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{y}) P(\mathbf{y}) = \exp\{-E(\mathbf{y}; \mathbf{x})\}$$

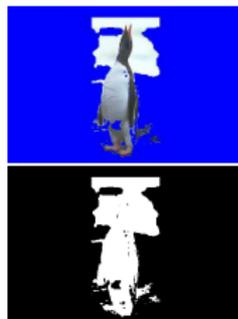
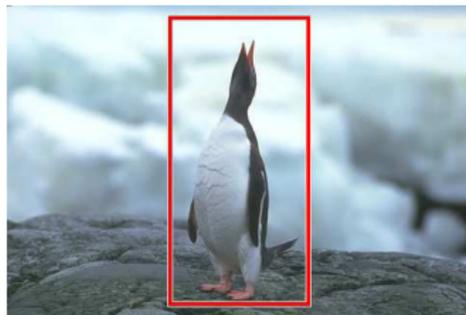
$$E(\mathbf{y}; \mathbf{x}) = \underbrace{\sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}} \psi_i^U(y_i; \mathbf{x})}_{\text{unary}} + \lambda \underbrace{\sum_{ij \in \mathcal{N}_8} \psi_{ij}^P(y_i, y_j; \mathbf{x})}_{\text{pairwise}}$$

$$\psi_i^U(y_i; \mathbf{x}) = - \overbrace{\sum_{\ell \in \mathcal{L}} \mathbb{I}[y_i = \ell] \log P(x_i \mid \ell)}^{\text{likelihood}}$$

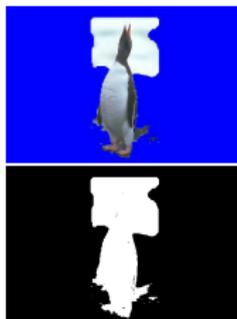
$$\psi_{ij}^P(y_i, y_j; \mathbf{x}) = \underbrace{\mathbb{I}[y_i \neq y_j]}_{\text{Potts prior}}$$

Here the prior acts to “smooth” predictions (independent of  $\mathbf{x}$ ).

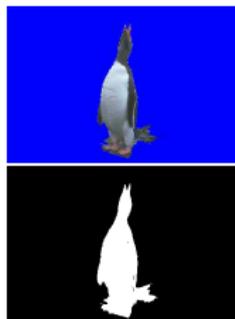
# Prior Strength



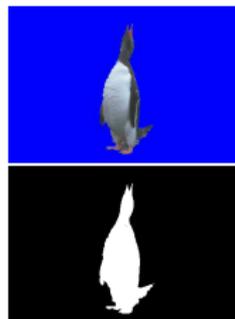
$\lambda = 1$



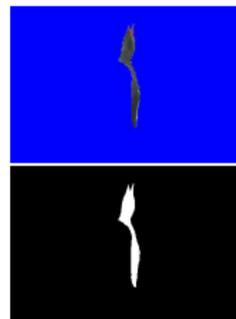
$\lambda = 4$



$\lambda = 16$



$\lambda = 128$



$\lambda = 1024$

# Interactive Segmentation Model

- **Label space:** foreground or background

$$\mathcal{L} = \{0, 1\}$$



- **Unary term:** Gaussian mixture models for foreground and background

$$\psi_i^U(y_i; \mathbf{x}) = \sum_k \frac{1}{2} |\Sigma_k| + \frac{1}{2} (x_i - \mu_k)^T \Sigma_k^{-1} (x_i - \mu_k) - \log \lambda_k$$

- **Pairwise term:** contrast-dependent smoothness prior

$$\psi_{ij}^P(y_i, y_j; \mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} \lambda_0 + \lambda_1 \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\beta}\right), & \text{if } y_i \neq y_j \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# Geometric/Semantic Labeling Model

- **Label space:** pre-defined label set, e.g.,



$$\mathcal{L} = \{\text{sky, tree, grass, } \dots\}$$

- **Unary term:** Boosted decision-tree classifiers over “texton-layout” features [Shotton et al., 2006]

$$\psi_i^U(y_i = \ell; \mathbf{x}) = \theta_\ell \log P(\phi_i(\mathbf{x}) | \ell)$$

- **Pairwise term:** contrast-dependent smoothness prior

$$\psi_{ij}^P(y_i, y_j; \mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} \lambda_0 + \lambda_1 \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\beta}\right), & \text{if } y_i \neq y_j \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# Stereo Matching Model

- **Label space:** pixel disparity



$$\mathcal{L} = \{0, 1, \dots, 127\}$$

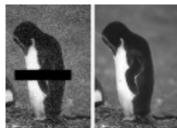
- **Unary term:** sum of absolute differences (SAD) or normalized cross-correlation (NCC)

$$\psi_i^U(y_i; \mathbf{x}) = \sum_{(u,v) \in W} |\mathbf{x}_{\text{left}}(u, v) - \mathbf{x}_{\text{right}}(u - y_i, v)|$$

- **Pairwise term:** “discontinuity preserving” prior

$$\psi_{ij}^P(y_i, y_j) = \max \{|y_i - y_j|, d_{\max}\}$$

# Image Denoising Model



- **Label space:** pixel intensity or colour

$$\mathcal{L} = \{0, 1, \dots, 255\}$$

- **Unary term:** square distance

$$\psi_i^U(y_i; \mathbf{x}) = \|y_i - x_i\|^2$$

- **Pairwise term:** truncated  $L_2$  distance

$$\psi_{ij}^P(y_i, y_j) = \max \{ \|y_i - y_j\|^2, d_{\max}^2 \}$$

# Digital Photo Montage Model



- **Label space:** image index

$$\mathcal{L} = \{1, 2, \dots, K\}$$

- **Unary term:** none!
- **Pairwise term:** seam penalty

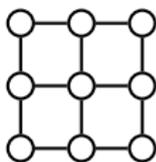
$$\psi_{ij}^P(y_i, y_j; \mathbf{x}) = \|\mathbf{x}_{y_i}(i) - \mathbf{x}_{y_j}(i)\| + \|\mathbf{x}_{y_i}(j) - \mathbf{x}_{y_j}(j)\|$$

(or edge-normalized variant)

# Outline of Energy Minimization via Graph-cuts

## Big picture:

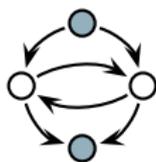
- Start with a pixel labeling problem
- Formulate as a (multilabel) graphical model inference problem
- Convert to a series of binary pairwise MRF inference problems
- Write MRF as a quadratic pseudo-Boolean function
- Convert pseudo-Boolean minimization to min-cut problem
- Equivalently, formulate as a max-flow problem
- Solve using augmented-path algorithm



$$\{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

...

$$\{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$



# A Note About Graphs

## **point of confusion:**

graphs are used to represent many different things

In this talk we use graphs to...

- represent probabilistic models (or energy functions), e.g., Markov random fields and factor graphs.
- represent optimization problems, e.g., psuedo-Boolean function minimization.

# Pseudo-boolean Functions [Boros and Hammer, 2001]

## Pseudo-boolean Function

A mapping  $f : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called a *pseudo-Boolean function*.

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- Pseudo-boolean functions can also be represented in *posiform*, e.g.,  $f(y_1, y_2) = 2y_1 + 5\bar{y}_1 + 3y_2 + \bar{y}_2 + 3\bar{y}_1y_2 + 4y_1\bar{y}_2$ . **This representation is not unique.**

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- **A binary pairwise Markov random field (MRF) is just a quadratic pseudo-Boolean function.**

## Representing a Binary Pairwise MRF

Consider a binary pairwise MRF over two variables:

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
|   | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | A | B |
| 1 | C | D |

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Consider a binary pairwise MRF over two variables:

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
|   | 0 | 1 |
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| 1 | C | D |

$$A + \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 0 & 0 \\ \hline C - A & C - A \\ \hline \end{array} + \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 0 & D - C \\ \hline 0 & D - C \\ \hline \end{array} + \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 0 & B + C - A - D \\ \hline 0 & 0 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$E(y_1, y_2) = A + (C - A)y_1 + (D - C)y_2 + (B + C - A - D)\bar{y}_1y_2$$

[Kolmogorov and Zabih, 2004]

## Pseudo-boolean Optimization [Boros and Hammer, 2001]

A large number of classical combinatorial optimization problems can be formulated in terms of pseudo-boolean optimization, e.g.,

- **Maximum independent set problem:** find the largest set of vertices in a graph such that no two are adjacent.

$$\alpha(G) = \max_{x \in \{0,1\}^n} \left( \sum_{i \in V} x_i - \sum_{(i,j) \in E} x_i x_j \right)$$

- **Minimum vertex cover:** find the smallest set of vertices such that every edge in the graph is adjacent to at least one vertex in the set.

$$\tau(G) = \min_{x \in \{0,1\}^n} \left( \sum_{i \in V} x_i + \sum_{(i,j) \in E} \bar{x}_i \bar{x}_j \right)$$

- **Maximum satisfiability problem:** find an assignment to a set of variables that satisfy as many clauses as possible.

$$\max_{x \in \{0,1\}^n} \left( \sum_{C \in \mathcal{C}} (1 - \sum_{u \in C} \bar{u}) \right)$$

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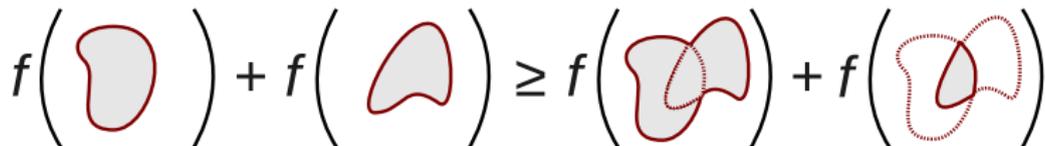
$$\max_{x \in \{0,1\}^n} \left( \sum_{C \in \mathcal{C}} (1 - \sum_{u \in C} \bar{u}) \right)$$

These problems are all NP-hard.

# Submodular Functions

## Submodularity

Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a set. A set function  $f : 2^{\mathcal{V}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called *submodular* if  $f(X) + f(Y) \geq f(X \cup Y) + f(X \cap Y)$  for all subsets  $X, Y \subseteq \mathcal{V}$ .

$$f\left(\text{shape}_1\right) + f\left(\text{shape}_2\right) \geq f\left(\text{union}\right) + f\left(\text{intersection}\right)$$


# Submodular Binary Pairwise MRFs

## Submodularity

A pseudo-Boolean function  $f : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called *submodular* if  $f(\mathbf{x}) + f(\mathbf{y}) \geq f(\mathbf{x} \vee \mathbf{y}) + f(\mathbf{x} \wedge \mathbf{y})$  for all vectors  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \{0, 1\}^n$ .

# Submodular Binary Pairwise MRFs

## Submodularity

A pseudo-Boolean function  $f : \{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called *submodular* if  $f(\mathbf{x}) + f(\mathbf{y}) \geq f(\mathbf{x} \vee \mathbf{y}) + f(\mathbf{x} \wedge \mathbf{y})$  for all vectors  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \{0, 1\}^n$ .

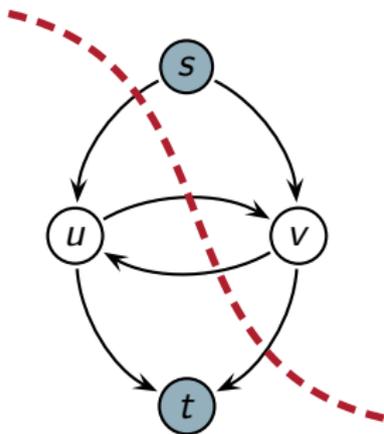
Submodularity checks for pairwise binary MRFs:

- polynomial form (of pseudo-boolean function) has negative coefficients on all bi-linear terms;
- posiform has pairwise terms of the form  $u\bar{v}$ ;
- all pairwise potentials satisfy 
$$\psi_{ij}^P(0, 1) + \psi_{ij}^P(1, 0) \geq \psi_{ij}^P(1, 1) + \psi_{ij}^P(0, 0).$$

# Minimum-cut Problem

## Graph Cut

Let  $\mathcal{G} = \langle \mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E} \rangle$  be a capacitated digraph with two distinguished vertices  $s$  and  $t$ . An  $st$ -cut is a partitioning of  $\mathcal{V}$  into two disjoint sets  $\mathcal{S}$  and  $\mathcal{T}$  such that  $s \in \mathcal{S}$  and  $t \in \mathcal{T}$ . The cost of the cut is the sum of edge capacities for all edges going from  $\mathcal{S}$  to  $\mathcal{T}$ .



# Quadratic Pseudo-boolean Optimization

## Main idea:

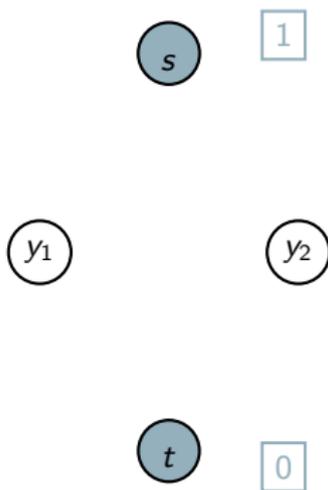
- construct a graph such that every  $st$ -cut corresponds to a joint assignment to the variables  $\mathbf{y}$
- the cost of the cut should be equal to the energy of the assignment,  $E(\mathbf{y}; \mathbf{x})$ .\*
- the minimum-cut then corresponds to the the minimum energy assignment,  $\mathbf{y}^* = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{y}} E(\mathbf{y}; \mathbf{x})$ .

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\*Requires non-negative energies.

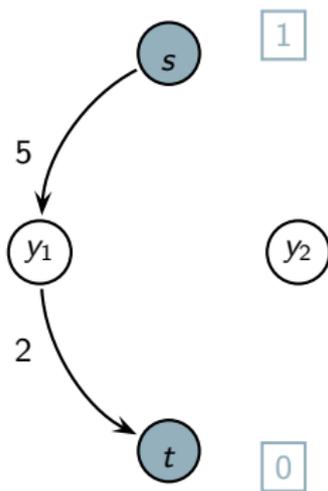
## Example $st$ -Graph Construction for Binary MRF

$$E(y_1, y_2) = \psi_1(y_1) + \psi_2(y_2) + \psi_{ij}(y_1, y_2)$$



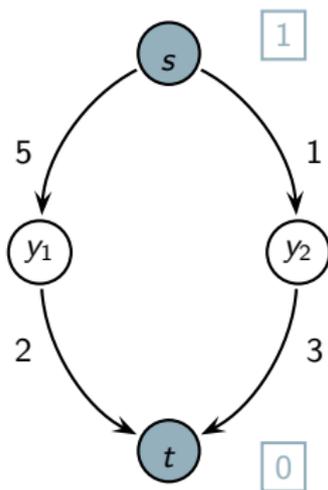
## Example $st$ -Graph Construction for Binary MRF

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(y_1, y_2) &= \psi_1(y_1) + \psi_2(y_2) + \psi_{ij}(y_1, y_2) \\
 &= 2y_1 + 5\bar{y}_1
 \end{aligned}$$



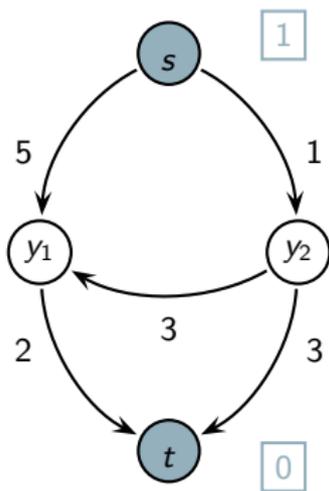
## Example $st$ -Graph Construction for Binary MRF

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(y_1, y_2) &= \psi_1(y_1) + \psi_2(y_2) + \psi_{ij}(y_1, y_2) \\
 &= 2y_1 + 5\bar{y}_1 + 3y_2 + \bar{y}_2
 \end{aligned}$$



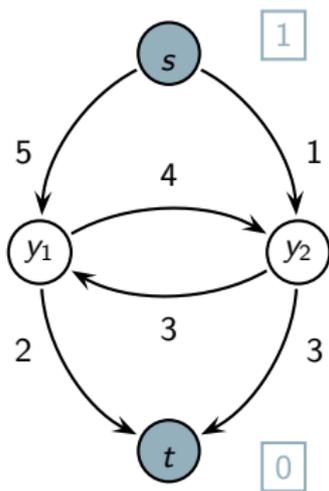
## Example $st$ -Graph Construction for Binary MRF

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(y_1, y_2) &= \psi_1(y_1) + \psi_2(y_2) + \psi_{ij}(y_1, y_2) \\
 &= 2y_1 + 5\bar{y}_1 + 3y_2 + \bar{y}_2 + 3\bar{y}_1y_2
 \end{aligned}$$



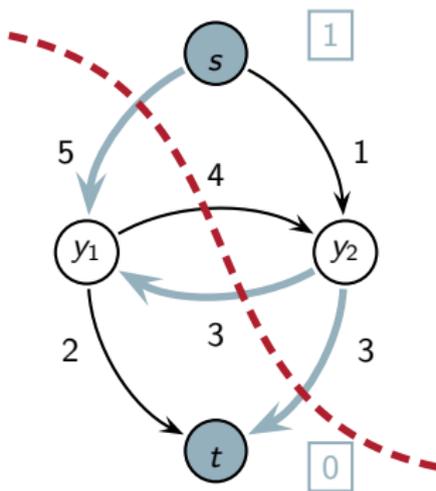
## Example $st$ -Graph Construction for Binary MRF

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(y_1, y_2) &= \psi_1(y_1) + \psi_2(y_2) + \psi_{ij}(y_1, y_2) \\
 &= 2y_1 + 5\bar{y}_1 + 3y_2 + \bar{y}_2 + 3\bar{y}_1y_2 + 4y_1\bar{y}_2
 \end{aligned}$$



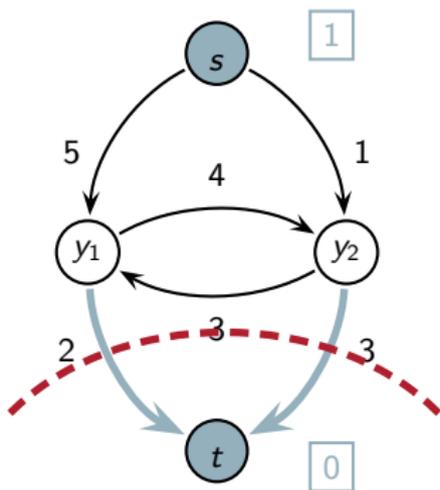
## An Example $st$ -Cut

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(0, 1) &= \psi_1(0) + \psi_2(1) + \psi_{ij}(0, 1) \\
 &= 2y_1 + 5\bar{y}_1 + 3y_2 + \bar{y}_2 + 3\bar{y}_1y_2 + 4y_1\bar{y}_2
 \end{aligned}$$



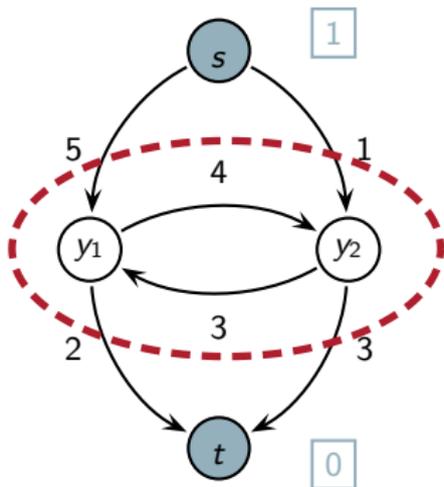
## Another $st$ -Cut

$$\begin{aligned}
 E(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}) &= \psi_1(\mathbf{1}) + \psi_2(\mathbf{1}) + \psi_{ij}(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1}) \\
 &= 2y_1 + 5\bar{y}_1 + 3y_2 + \bar{y}_2 + 3\bar{y}_1y_2 + 4y_1\bar{y}_2
 \end{aligned}$$



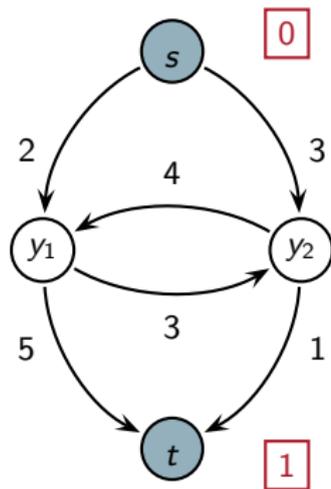
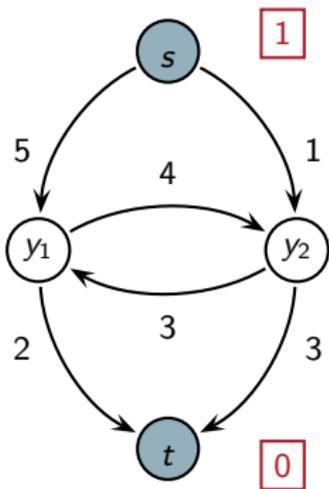
## Invalid $st$ -Cut

This is not a valid cut, since it does not correspond to a partitioning of the nodes into two sets—one containing  $s$  and one containing  $t$ .



## Alternative $st$ -Graph Construction

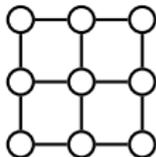
Sometimes you will see the roles of  $s$  and  $t$  switched.



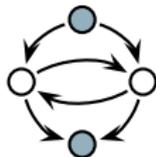
These graphs represent the same energy function.

## Big Picture: Where are we?

We can now formulate inference in a submodular binary pairwise MRF as a minimum-cut problem.



$$\{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

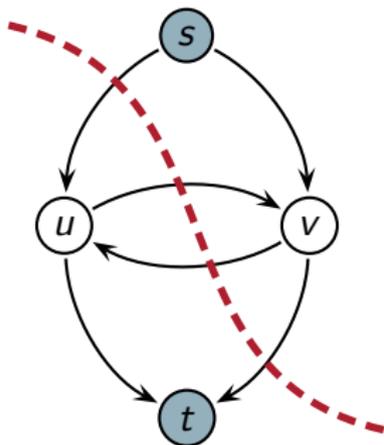


**How do we solve the minimum-cut problem?**

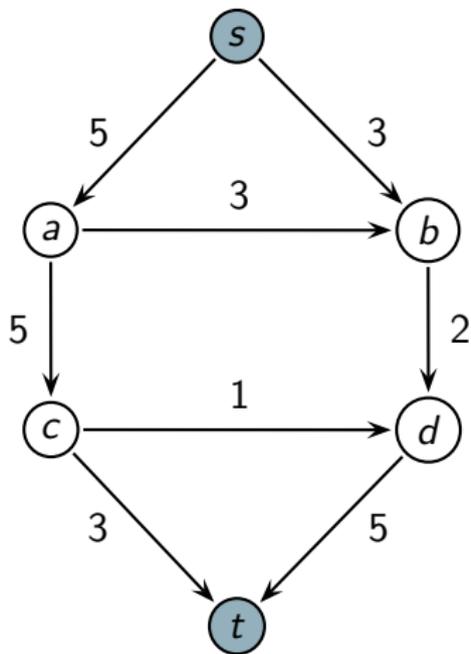
# Max-flow/Min-cut Theorem

Max-flow/Min-cut Theorem [Fulkerson, 1956]

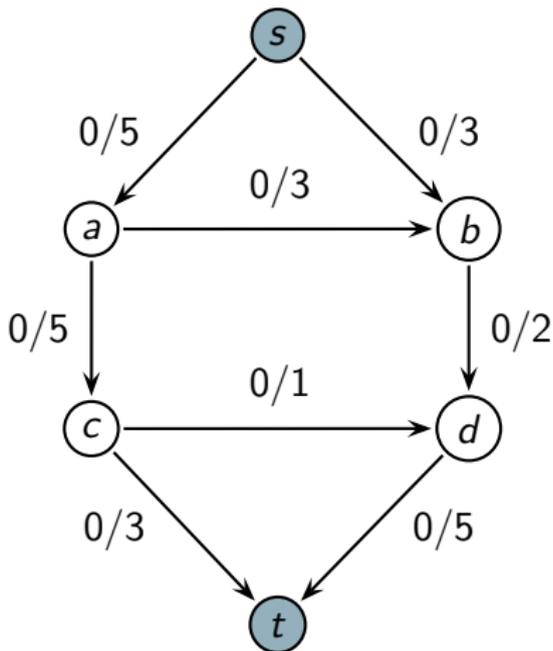
The maximum flow  $f$  from vertex  $s$  to vertex  $t$  is equal to the minimum cost  $st$ -cut.



# Maximum Flow Example



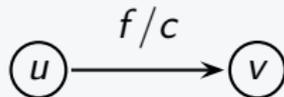
# Maximum Flow Example (Augmenting Path)



flow

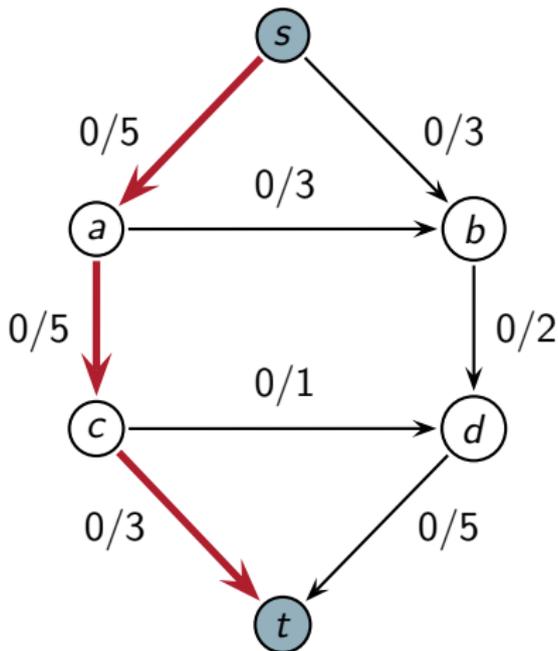
0

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
and current flow  $f$ .

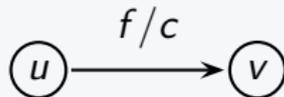
# Maximum Flow Example (Augmenting Path)



flow

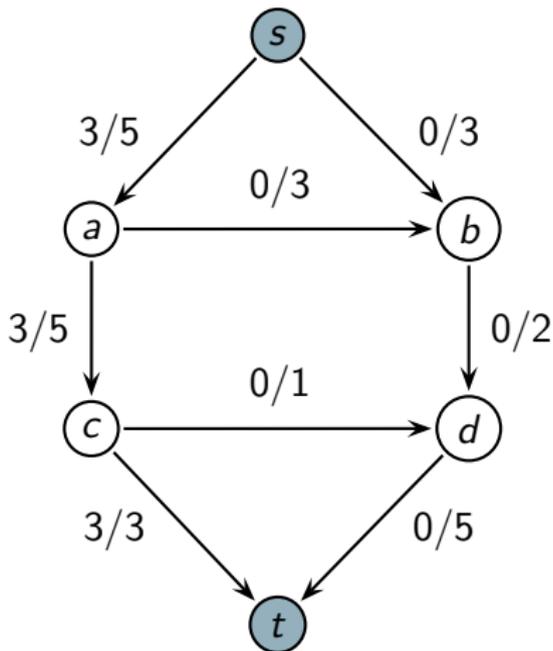
0

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
and current flow  $f$ .

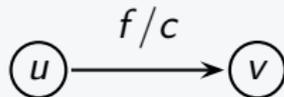
# Maximum Flow Example (Augmenting Path)



flow

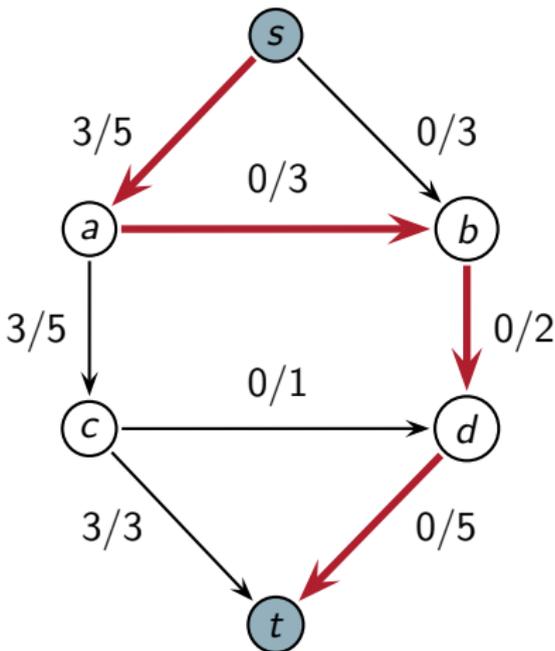
3

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
and current flow  $f$ .

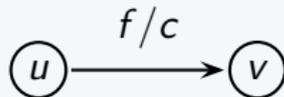
# Maximum Flow Example (Augmenting Path)



flow

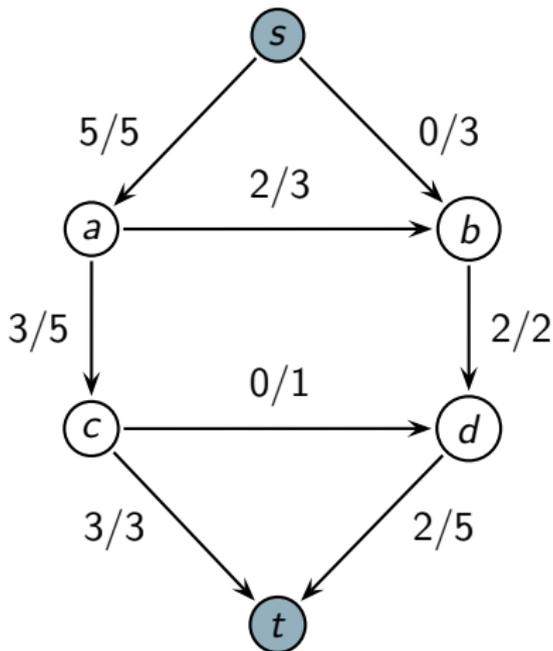
3

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
and current flow  $f$ .

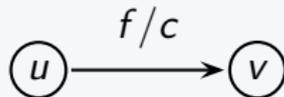
# Maximum Flow Example (Augmenting Path)



flow

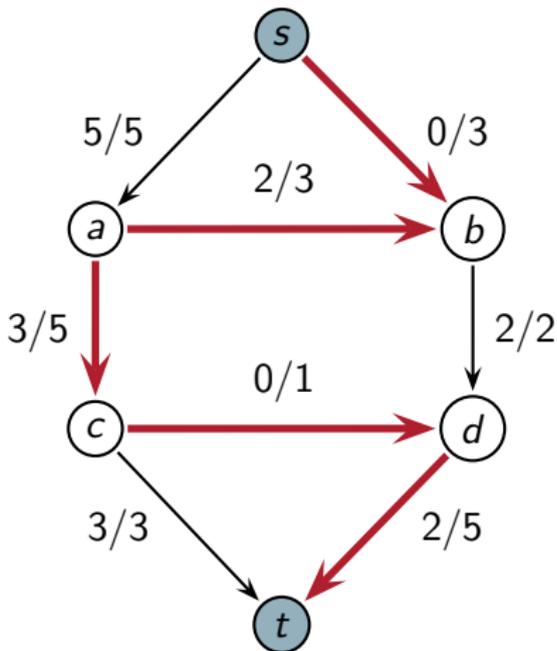
5

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
and current flow  $f$ .

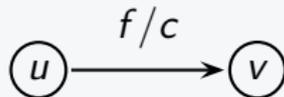
# Maximum Flow Example (Augmenting Path)



flow

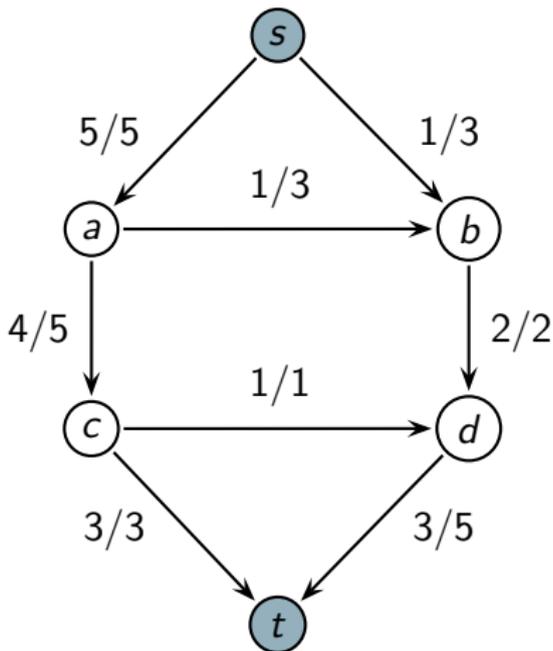
5

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
and current flow  $f$ .

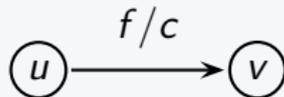
# Maximum Flow Example (Augmenting Path)



flow

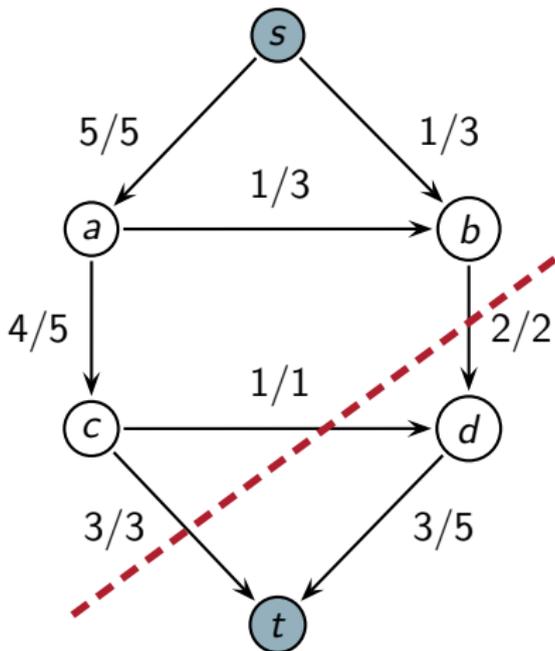
6

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
and current flow  $f$ .

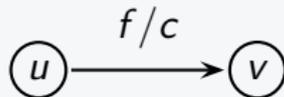
# Maximum Flow Example (Augmenting Path)



flow

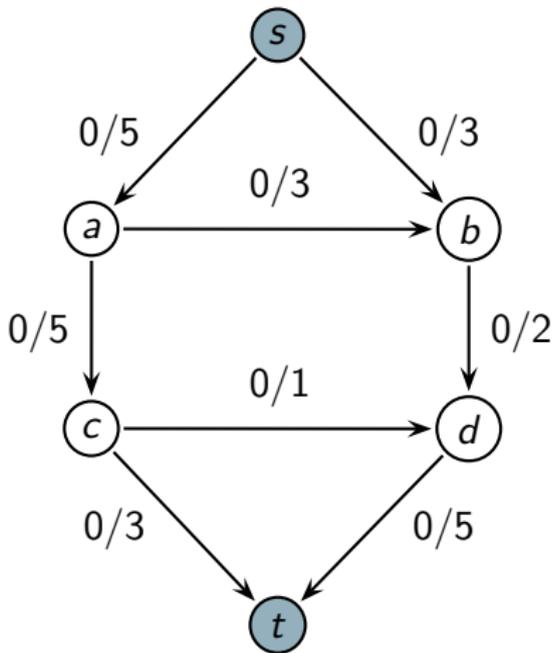
6

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
and current flow  $f$ .

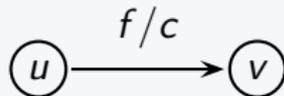
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

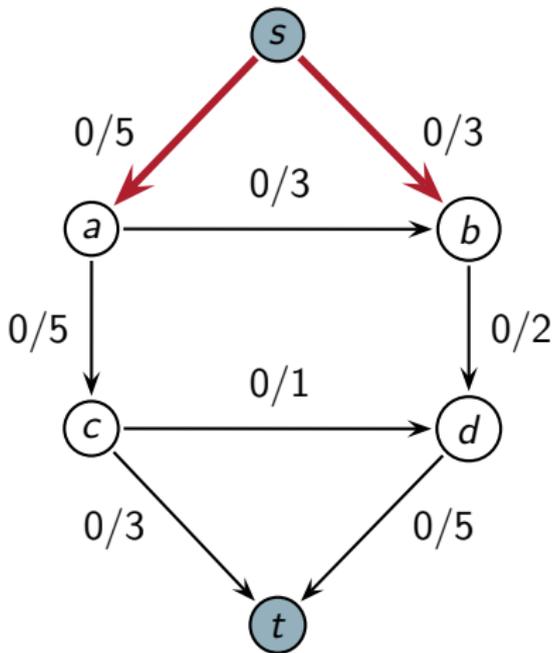
|     | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|-----|------------|------------|
| $s$ | 6          | $\infty$   |
| $a$ | 0          | 0          |
| $b$ | 0          | 0          |
| $c$ | 0          | 0          |
| $d$ | 0          | 0          |
| $t$ | 0          | 0          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

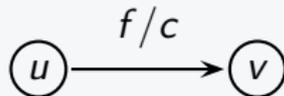
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

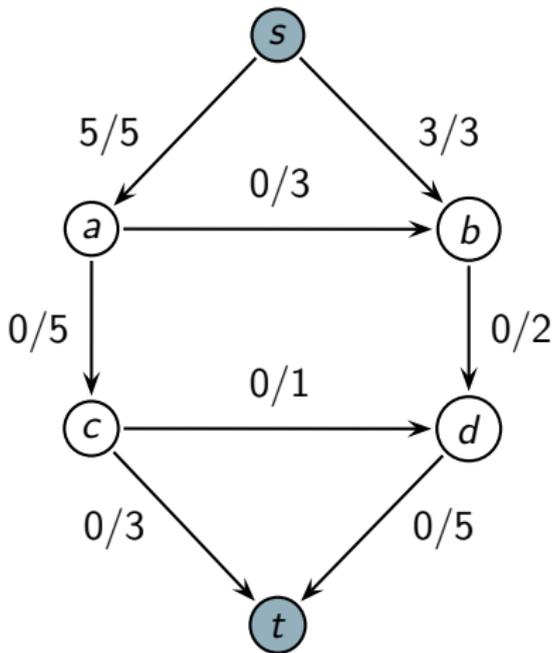
|   | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|---|------------|------------|
| s | 6          | $\infty$   |
| a | 0          | 0          |
| b | 0          | 0          |
| c | 0          | 0          |
| d | 0          | 0          |
| t | 0          | 0          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

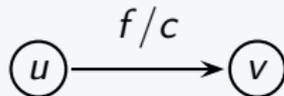
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

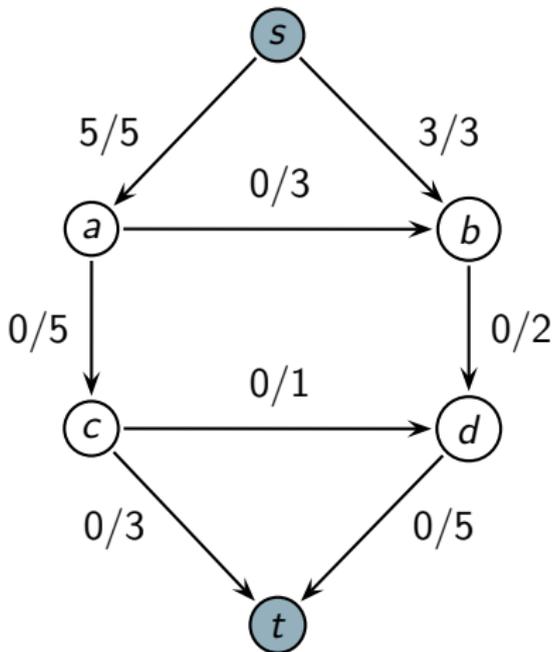
|   | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|---|------------|------------|
| s | 6          | $\infty$   |
| a | 0          | 5          |
| b | 0          | 3          |
| c | 0          | 0          |
| d | 0          | 0          |
| t | 0          | 0          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

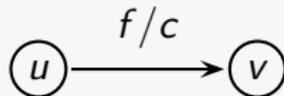
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

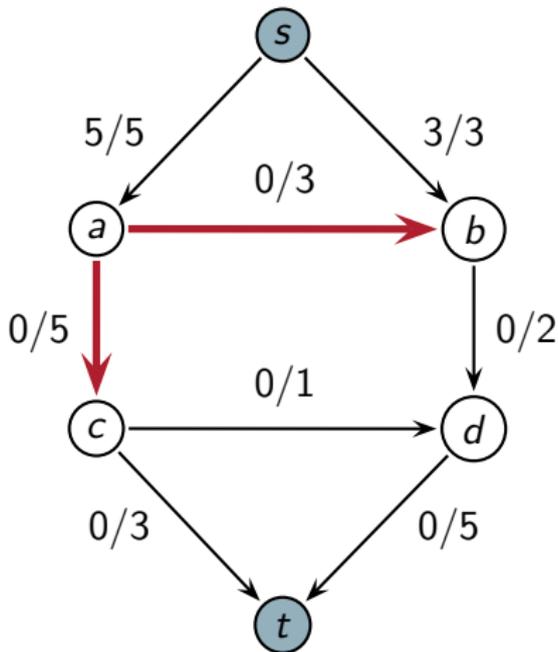
|   | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|---|------------|------------|
| s | 6          | $\infty$   |
| a | 1          | 5          |
| b | 0          | 3          |
| c | 0          | 0          |
| d | 0          | 0          |
| t | 0          | 0          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

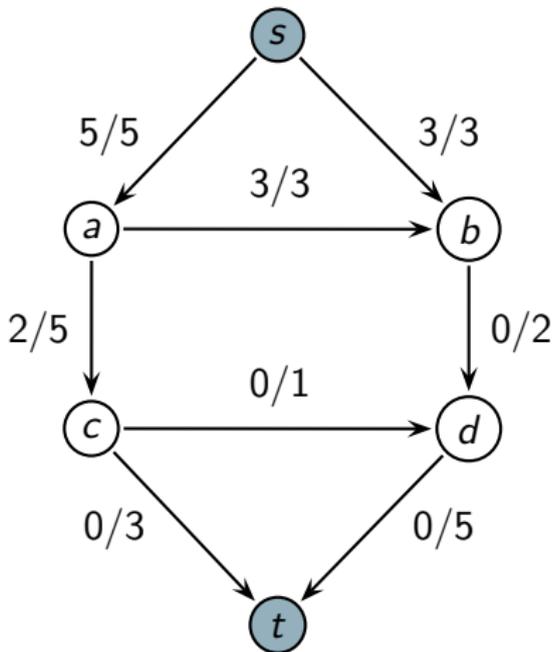
|     | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|-----|------------|------------|
| $s$ | 6          | $\infty$   |
| $a$ | 1          | 5          |
| $b$ | 0          | 3          |
| $c$ | 0          | 0          |
| $d$ | 0          | 0          |
| $t$ | 0          | 0          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

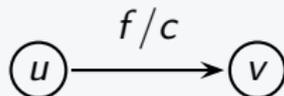
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

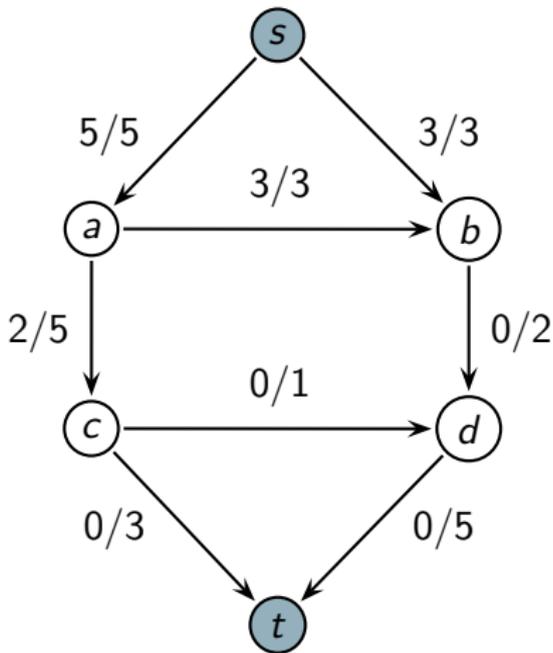
|     | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|-----|------------|------------|
| $s$ | 6          | $\infty$   |
| $a$ | 1          | 0          |
| $b$ | 0          | 6          |
| $c$ | 0          | 2          |
| $d$ | 0          | 0          |
| $t$ | 0          | 0          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

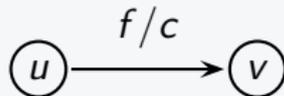
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

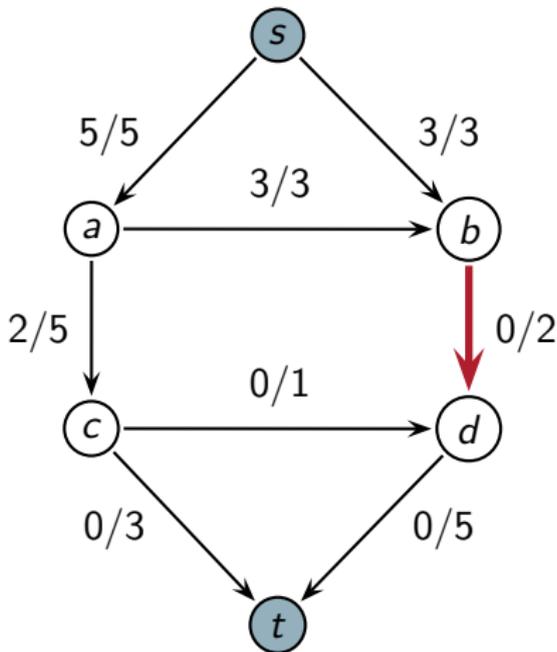
|     | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|-----|------------|------------|
| $s$ | 6          | $\infty$   |
| $a$ | 1          | 0          |
| $b$ | 1          | 6          |
| $c$ | 0          | 2          |
| $d$ | 0          | 0          |
| $t$ | 0          | 0          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

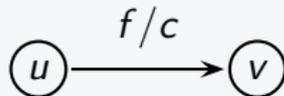
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

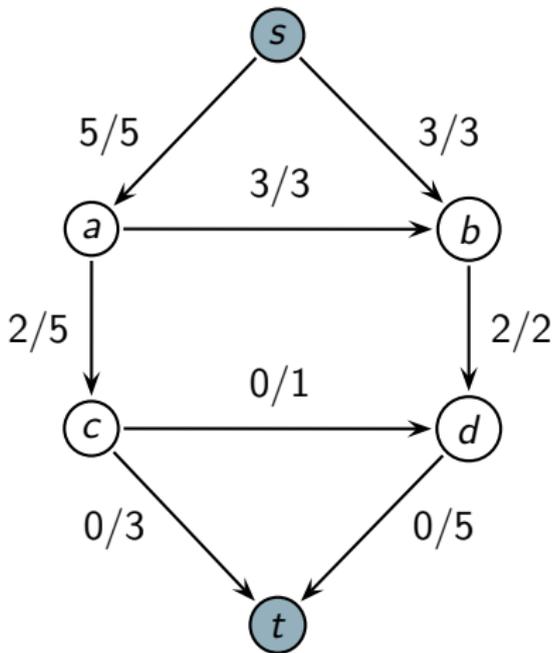
|     | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|-----|------------|------------|
| $s$ | 6          | $\infty$   |
| $a$ | 1          | 0          |
| $b$ | 1          | 6          |
| $c$ | 0          | 2          |
| $d$ | 0          | 0          |
| $t$ | 0          | 0          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

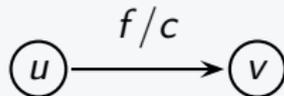
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

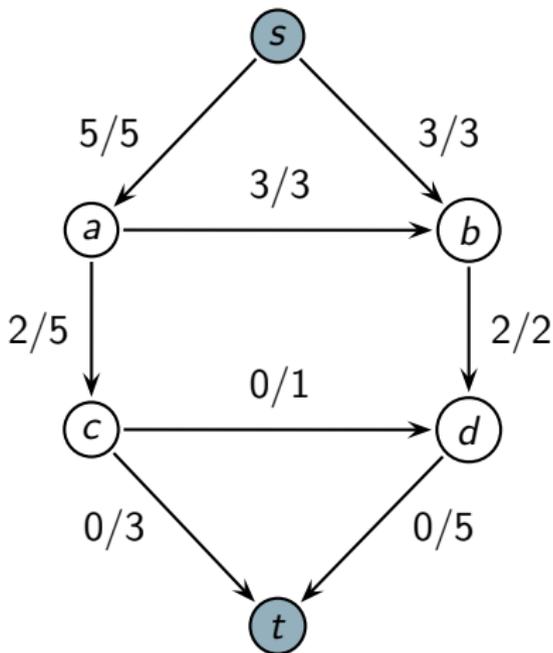
|     | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|-----|------------|------------|
| $s$ | 6          | $\infty$   |
| $a$ | 1          | 0          |
| $b$ | 1          | 4          |
| $c$ | 0          | 2          |
| $d$ | 0          | 2          |
| $t$ | 0          | 0          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

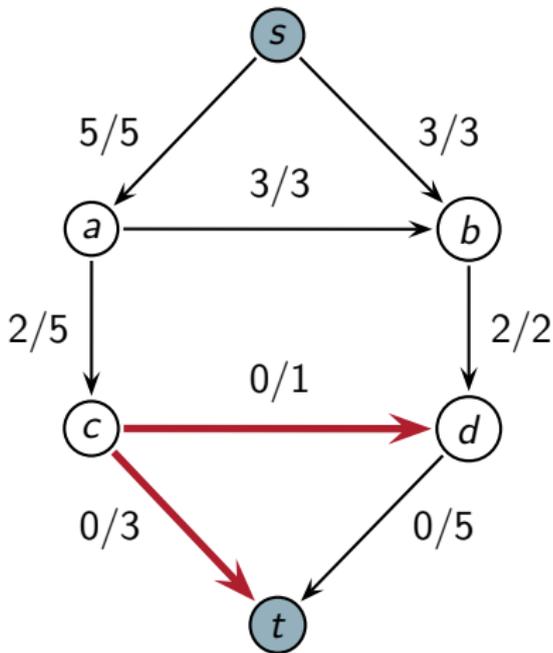
|   | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|---|------------|------------|
| s | 6          | $\infty$   |
| a | 1          | 0          |
| b | 1          | 4          |
| c | 1          | 2          |
| d | 0          | 2          |
| t | 0          | 0          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

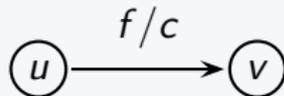
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

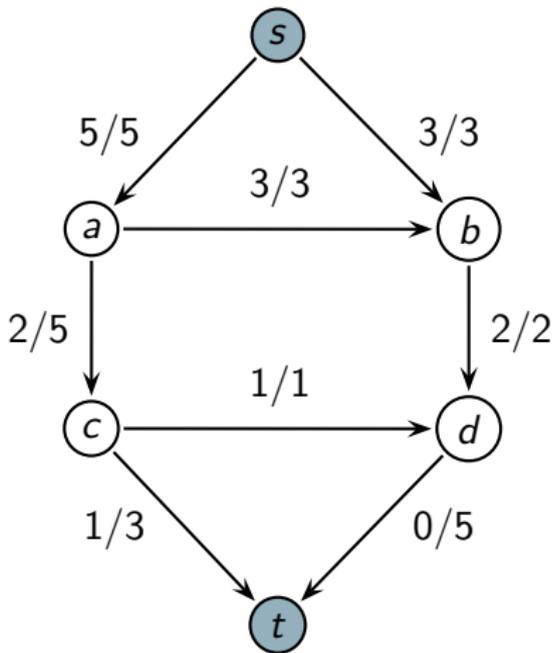
|   | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|---|------------|------------|
| s | 6          | $\infty$   |
| a | 1          | 0          |
| b | 1          | 4          |
| c | 1          | 2          |
| d | 0          | 2          |
| t | 0          | 0          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

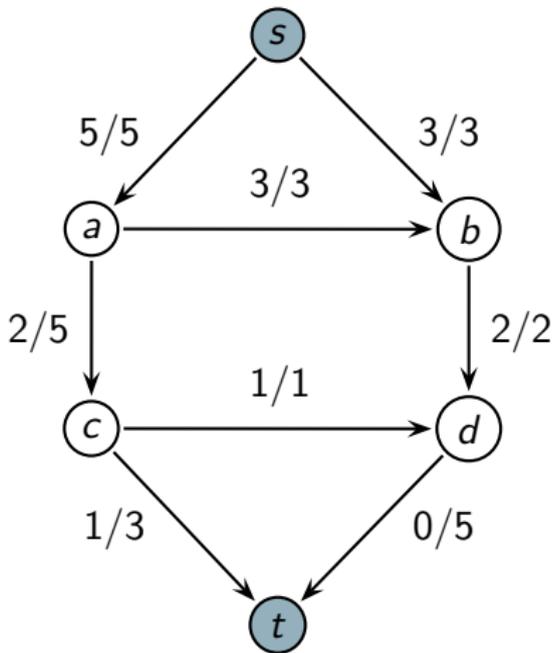
|   | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|---|------------|------------|
| s | 6          | $\infty$   |
| a | 1          | 0          |
| b | 1          | 4          |
| c | 1          | 0          |
| d | 0          | 3          |
| t | 0          | 1          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

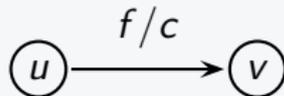
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

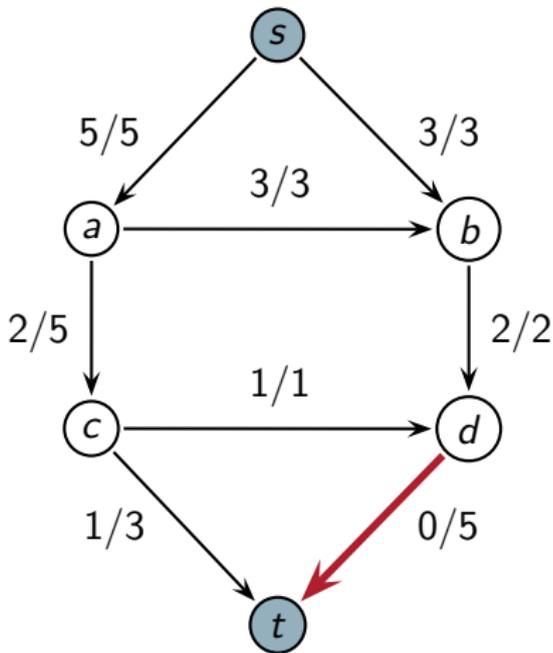
|   | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|---|------------|------------|
| s | 6          | $\infty$   |
| a | 1          | 0          |
| b | 1          | 4          |
| c | 1          | 0          |
| d | 1          | 3          |
| t | 0          | 1          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

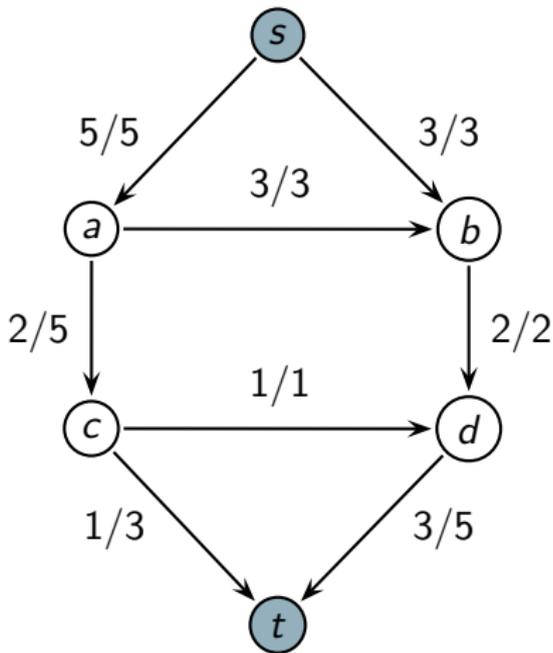
|   | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|---|------------|------------|
| s | 6          | $\infty$   |
| a | 1          | 0          |
| b | 1          | 4          |
| c | 1          | 0          |
| d | 1          | 3          |
| t | 0          | 1          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

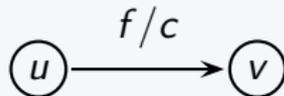
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

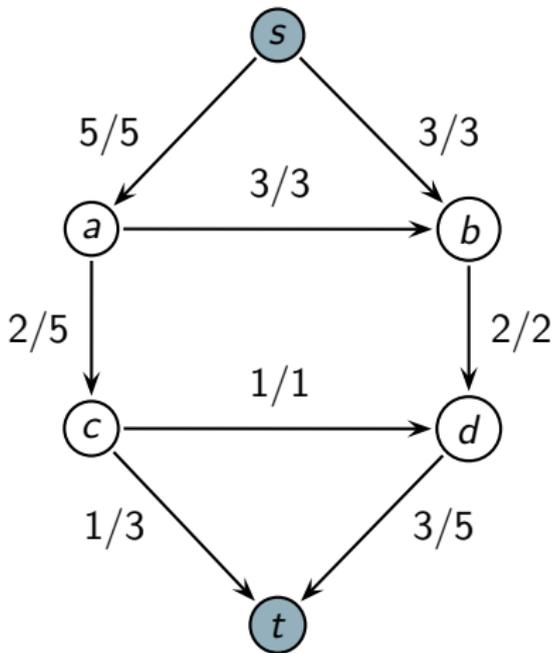
|     | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|-----|------------|------------|
| $s$ | 6          | $\infty$   |
| $a$ | 1          | 0          |
| $b$ | 1          | 4          |
| $c$ | 1          | 0          |
| $d$ | 1          | 0          |
| $t$ | 0          | 4          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

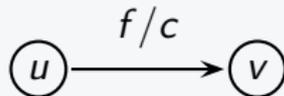
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

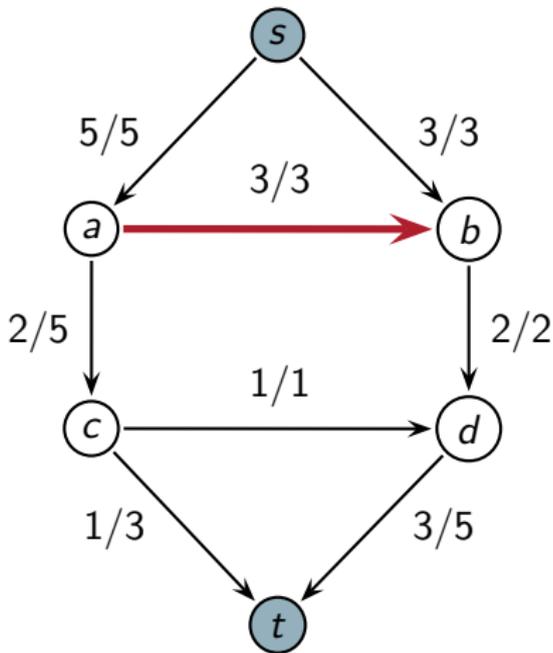
|   | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|---|------------|------------|
| s | 6          | $\infty$   |
| a | 1          | 0          |
| b | 2          | 4          |
| c | 1          | 0          |
| d | 1          | 0          |
| t | 0          | 4          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

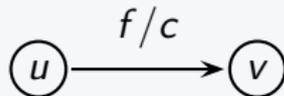
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

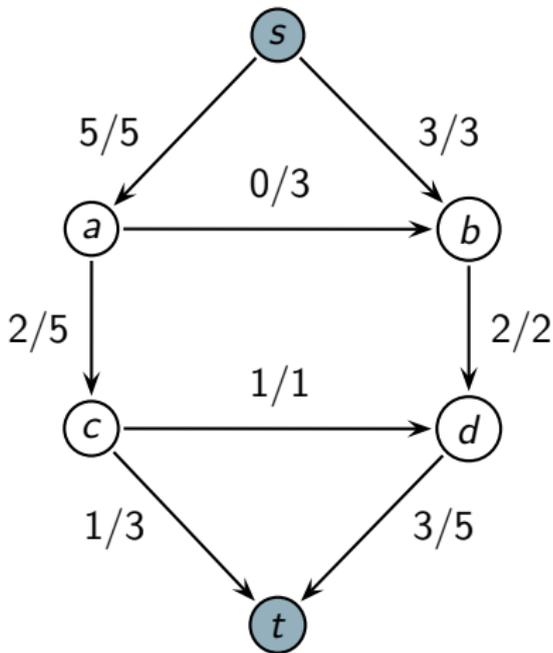
|     | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|-----|------------|------------|
| $s$ | 6          | $\infty$   |
| $a$ | 1          | 0          |
| $b$ | 2          | 4          |
| $c$ | 1          | 0          |
| $d$ | 1          | 0          |
| $t$ | 0          | 4          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

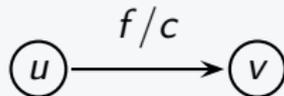
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

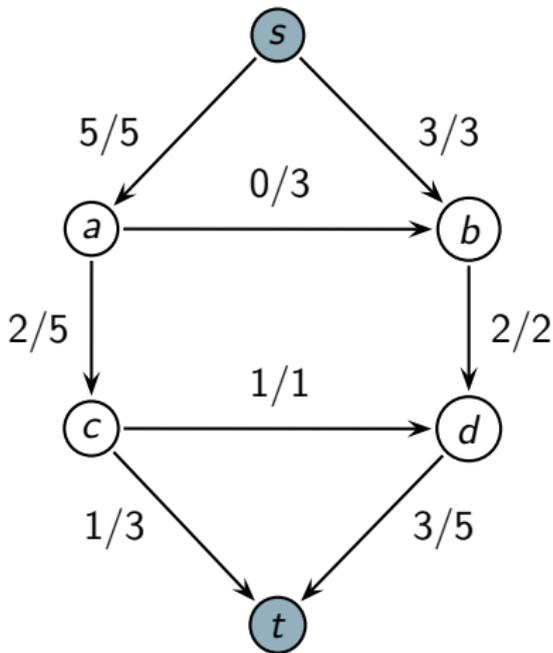
|     | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|-----|------------|------------|
| $s$ | 6          | $\infty$   |
| $a$ | 1          | 3          |
| $b$ | 2          | 1          |
| $c$ | 1          | 0          |
| $d$ | 1          | 0          |
| $t$ | 0          | 4          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

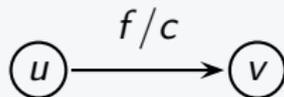
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

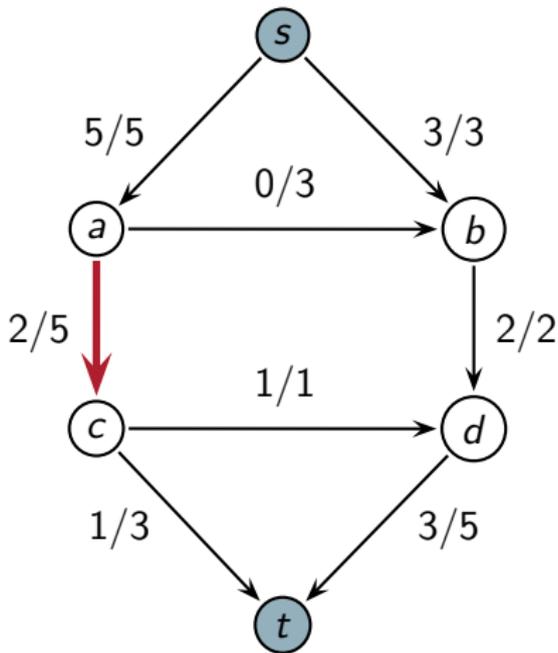
|   | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|---|------------|------------|
| s | 6          | $\infty$   |
| a | 2          | 3          |
| b | 2          | 1          |
| c | 1          | 0          |
| d | 1          | 0          |
| t | 0          | 4          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

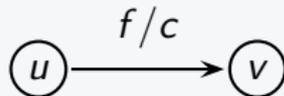
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

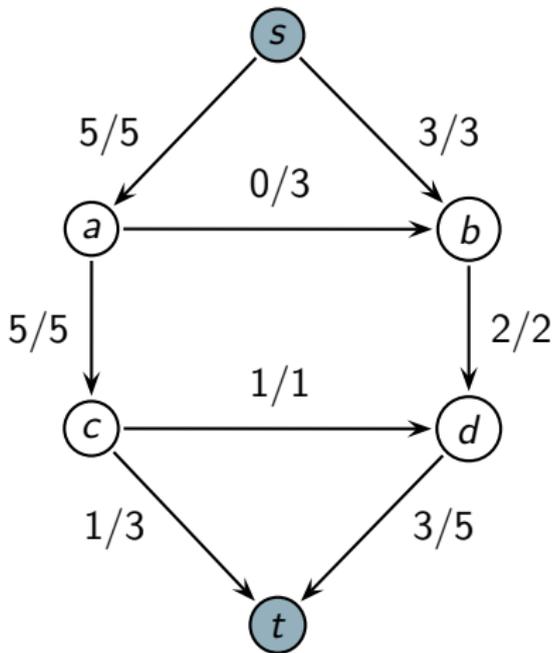
|     | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|-----|------------|------------|
| $s$ | 6          | $\infty$   |
| $a$ | 2          | 3          |
| $b$ | 2          | 1          |
| $c$ | 1          | 0          |
| $d$ | 1          | 0          |
| $t$ | 0          | 4          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

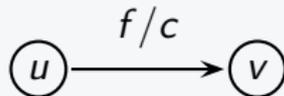
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

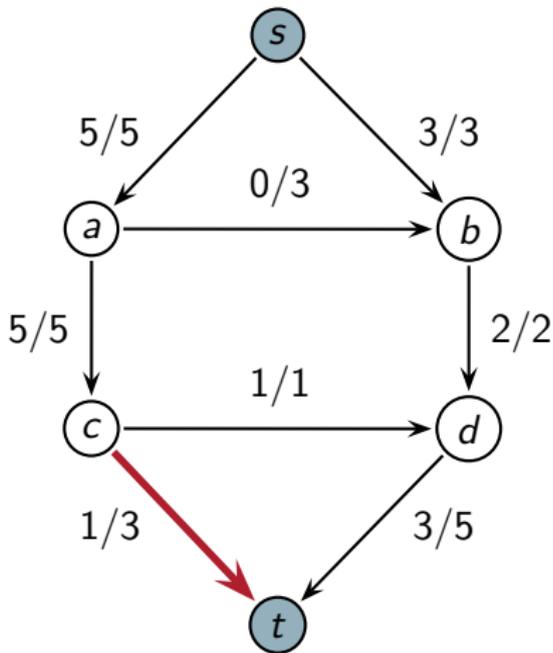
|     | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|-----|------------|------------|
| $s$ | 6          | $\infty$   |
| $a$ | 2          | 0          |
| $b$ | 2          | 1          |
| $c$ | 1          | 3          |
| $d$ | 1          | 0          |
| $t$ | 0          | 4          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

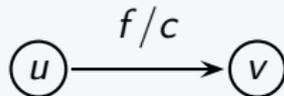
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

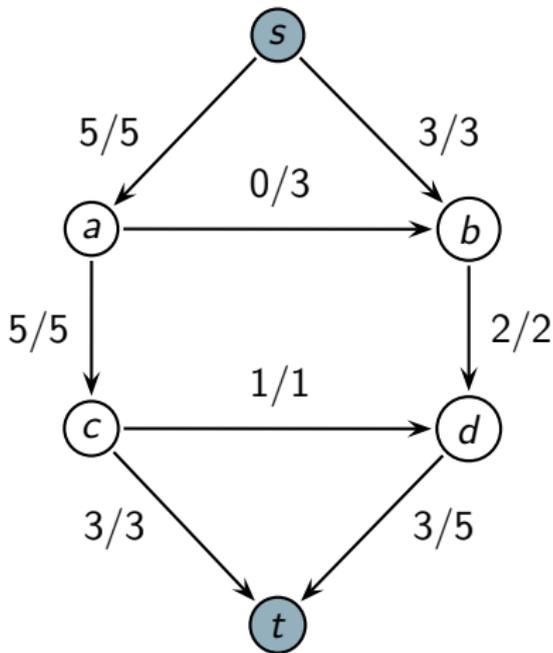
|   | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|---|------------|------------|
| s | 6          | $\infty$   |
| a | 2          | 0          |
| b | 2          | 1          |
| c | 1          | 3          |
| d | 1          | 0          |
| t | 0          | 4          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

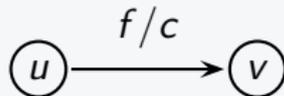
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

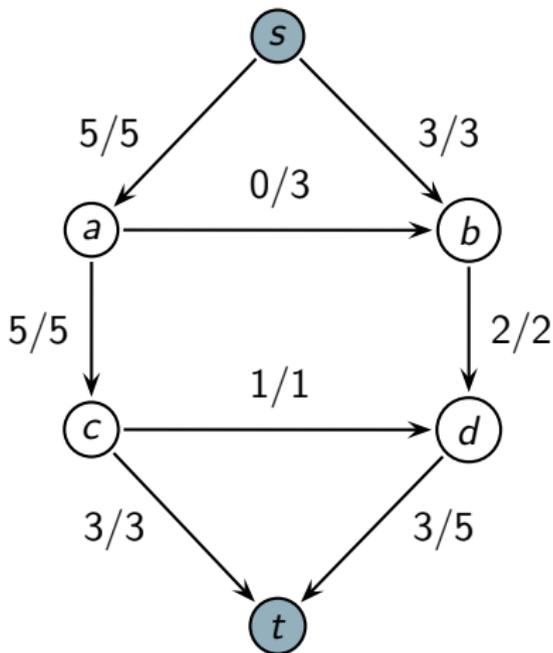
|     | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|-----|------------|------------|
| $s$ | 6          | $\infty$   |
| $a$ | 2          | 0          |
| $b$ | 2          | 1          |
| $c$ | 1          | 1          |
| $d$ | 1          | 0          |
| $t$ | 0          | 6          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

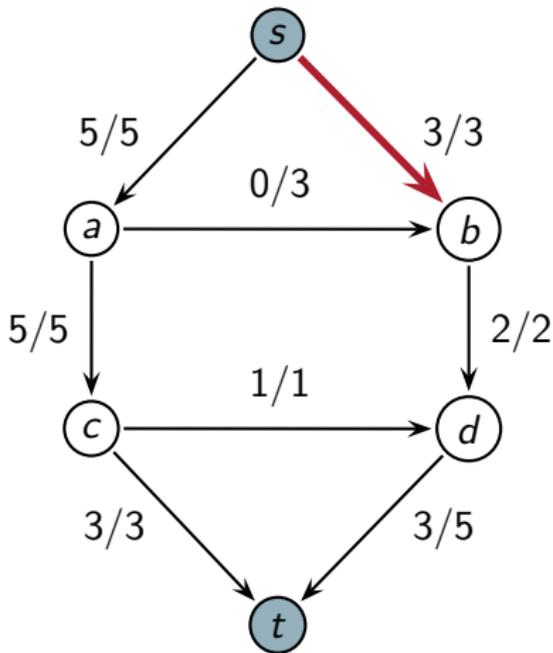
|   | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|---|------------|------------|
| s | 6          | $\infty$   |
| a | 2          | 0          |
| b | 7          | 1          |
| c | 1          | 1          |
| d | 1          | 0          |
| t | 0          | 6          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

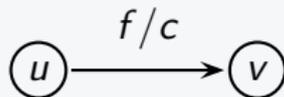
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

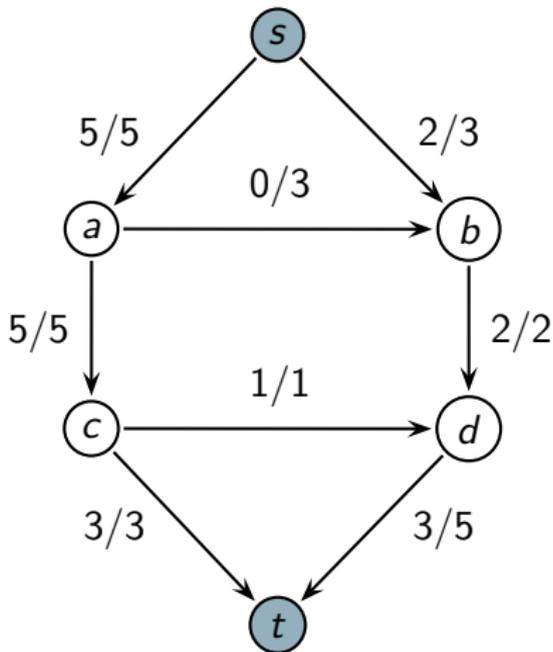
|   | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|---|------------|------------|
| s | 6          | $\infty$   |
| a | 2          | 0          |
| b | 7          | 1          |
| c | 1          | 1          |
| d | 1          | 0          |
| t | 0          | 6          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

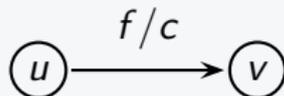
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

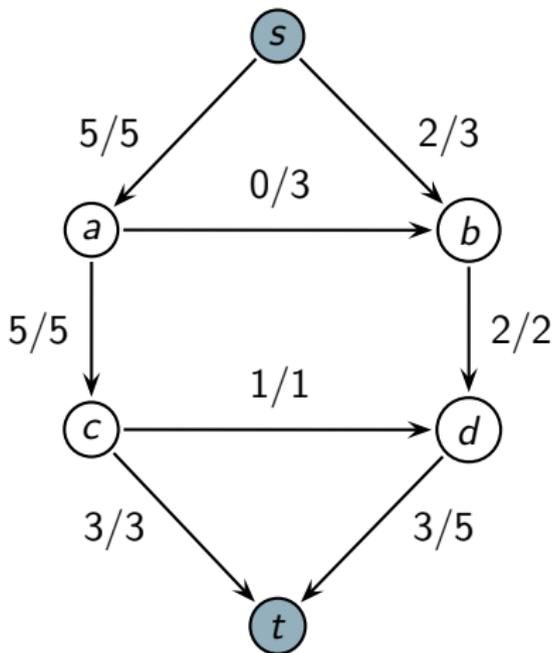
|     | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|-----|------------|------------|
| $s$ | 6          | $\infty$   |
| $a$ | 2          | 0          |
| $b$ | 7          | 0          |
| $c$ | 1          | 1          |
| $d$ | 1          | 0          |
| $t$ | 0          | 6          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

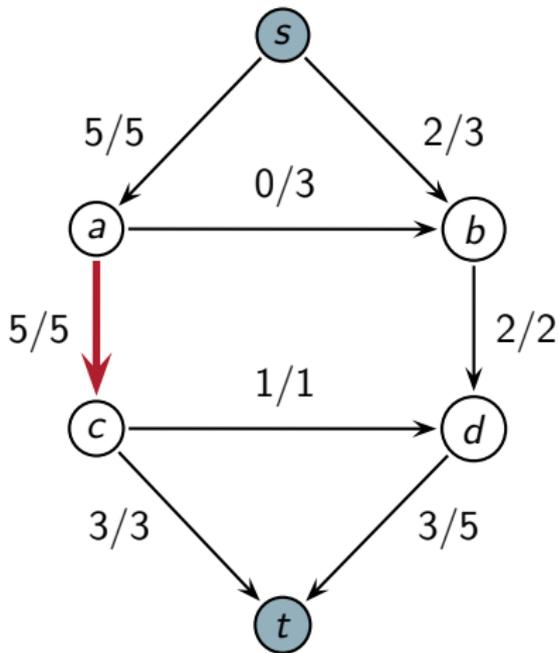
|     | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|-----|------------|------------|
| $s$ | 6          | $\infty$   |
| $a$ | 2          | 0          |
| $b$ | 7          | 0          |
| $c$ | 3          | 1          |
| $d$ | 1          | 0          |
| $t$ | 0          | 6          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

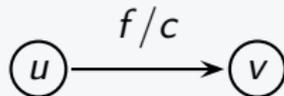
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

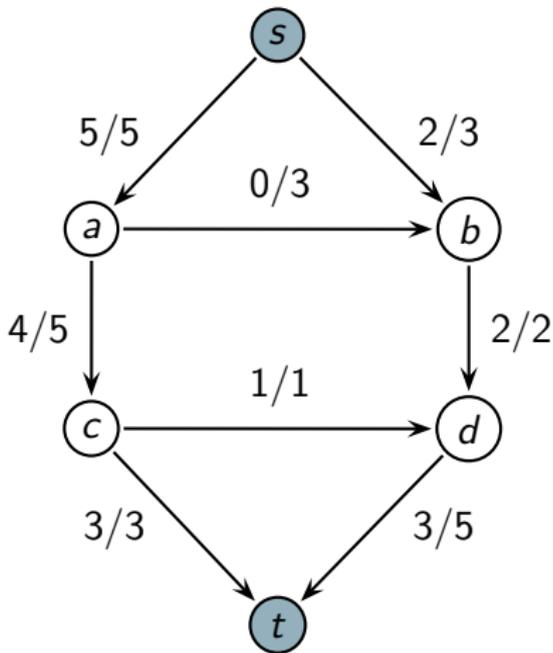
|     | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|-----|------------|------------|
| $s$ | 6          | $\infty$   |
| $a$ | 2          | 0          |
| $b$ | 7          | 0          |
| $c$ | 3          | 1          |
| $d$ | 1          | 0          |
| $t$ | 0          | 6          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

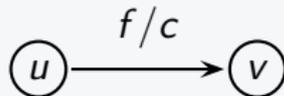
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

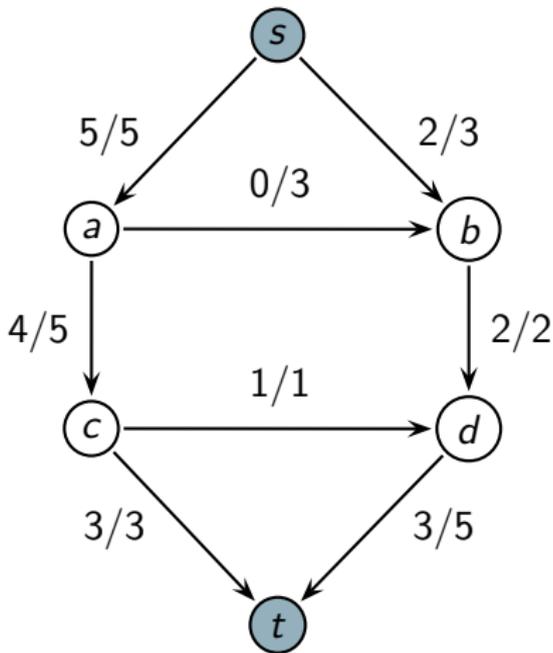
|   | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|---|------------|------------|
| s | 6          | $\infty$   |
| a | 2          | 1          |
| b | 7          | 0          |
| c | 3          | 0          |
| d | 1          | 0          |
| t | 0          | 6          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

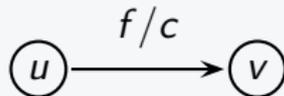
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

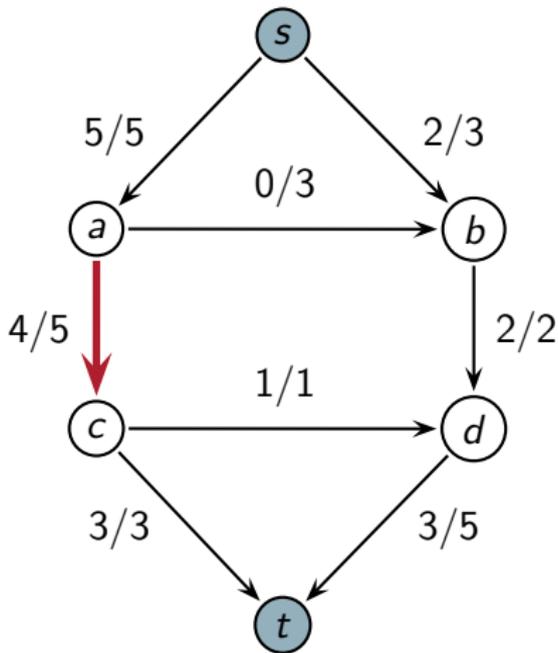
|   | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|---|------------|------------|
| s | 6          | $\infty$   |
| a | 4          | 1          |
| b | 7          | 0          |
| c | 3          | 0          |
| d | 1          | 0          |
| t | 0          | 6          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

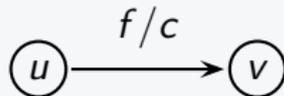
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

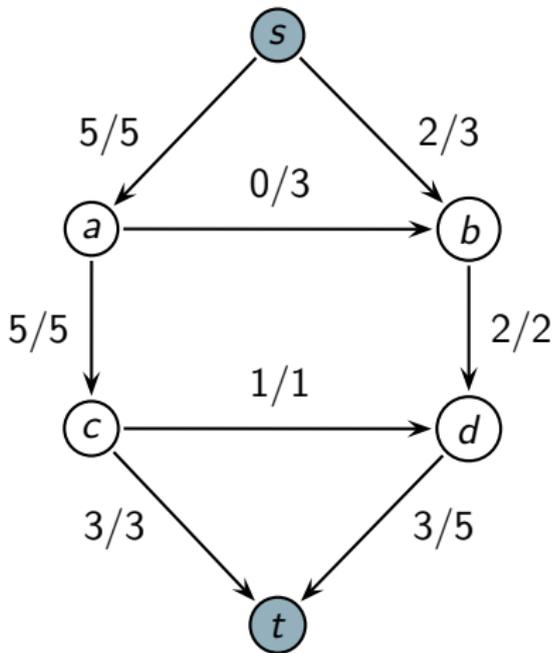
|     | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|-----|------------|------------|
| $s$ | 6          | $\infty$   |
| $a$ | 4          | 1          |
| $b$ | 7          | 0          |
| $c$ | 3          | 0          |
| $d$ | 1          | 0          |
| $t$ | 0          | 6          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

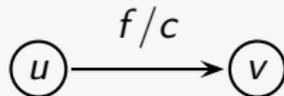
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

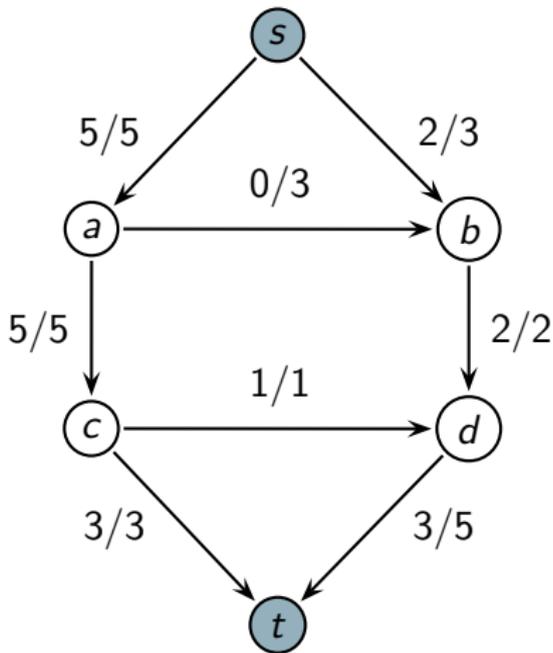
|   | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|---|------------|------------|
| s | 6          | $\infty$   |
| a | 4          | 0          |
| b | 7          | 0          |
| c | 3          | 1          |
| d | 1          | 0          |
| t | 0          | 6          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

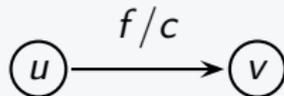
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

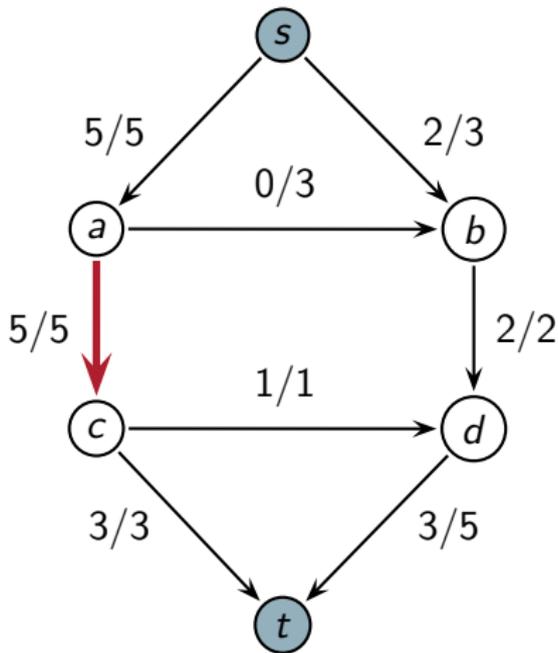
|   | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|---|------------|------------|
| s | 6          | $\infty$   |
| a | 4          | 0          |
| b | 7          | 0          |
| c | 5          | 1          |
| d | 1          | 0          |
| t | 0          | 6          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

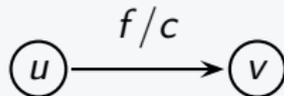
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

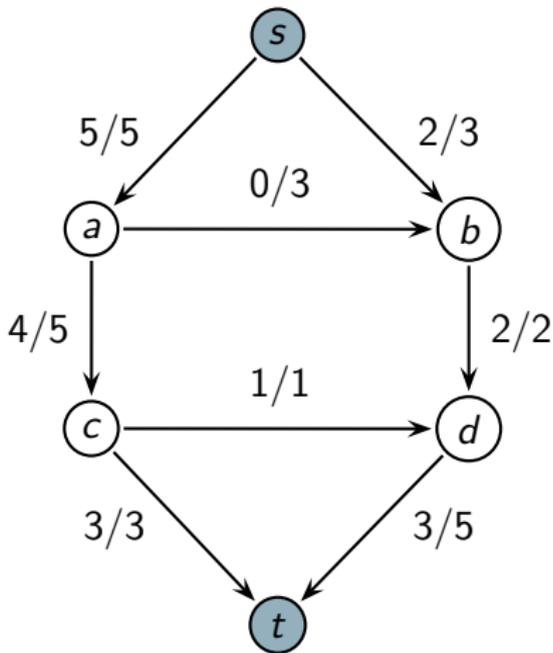
|     | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|-----|------------|------------|
| $s$ | 6          | $\infty$   |
| $a$ | 4          | 0          |
| $b$ | 7          | 0          |
| $c$ | 5          | 1          |
| $d$ | 1          | 0          |
| $t$ | 0          | 6          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

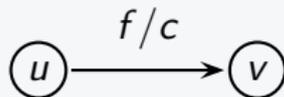
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

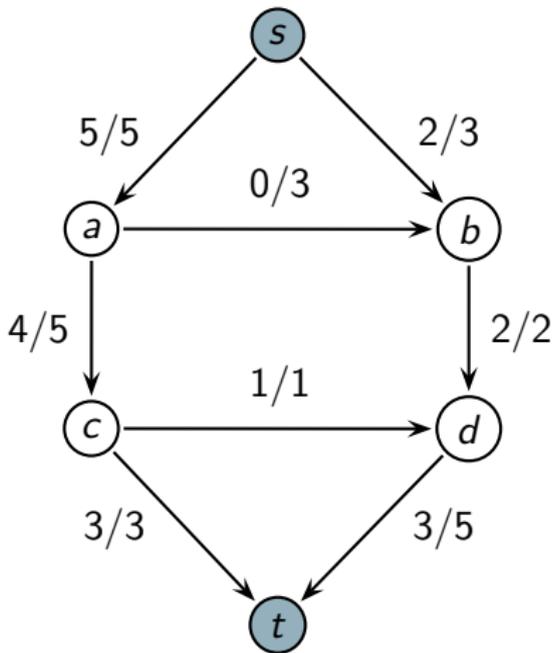
|   | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|---|------------|------------|
| s | 6          | $\infty$   |
| a | 4          | 1          |
| b | 7          | 0          |
| c | 5          | 0          |
| d | 1          | 0          |
| t | 0          | 6          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

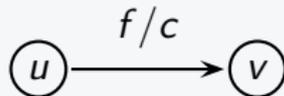
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

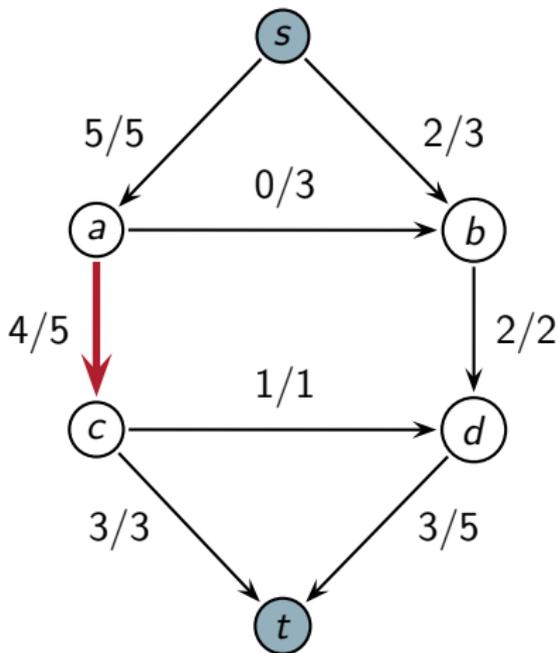
|   | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|---|------------|------------|
| s | 6          | $\infty$   |
| a | 6          | 1          |
| b | 7          | 0          |
| c | 5          | 0          |
| d | 1          | 0          |
| t | 0          | 6          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

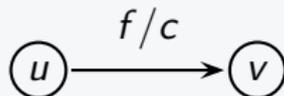
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

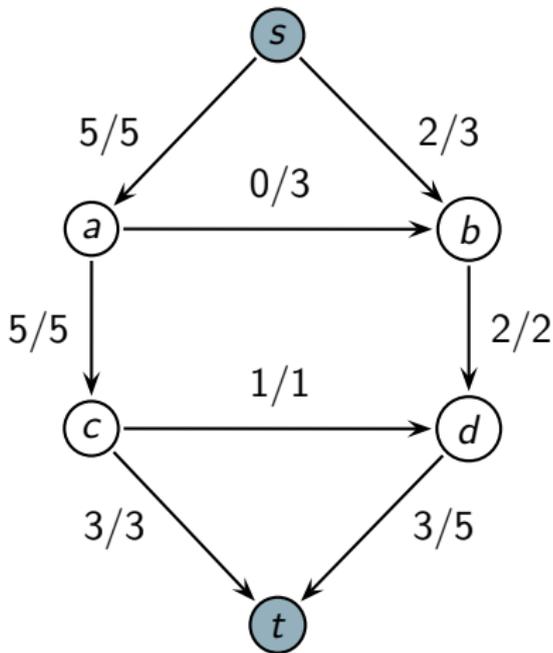
|   | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|---|------------|------------|
| s | 6          | $\infty$   |
| a | 6          | 1          |
| b | 7          | 0          |
| c | 5          | 0          |
| d | 1          | 0          |
| t | 0          | 6          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

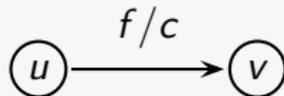
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

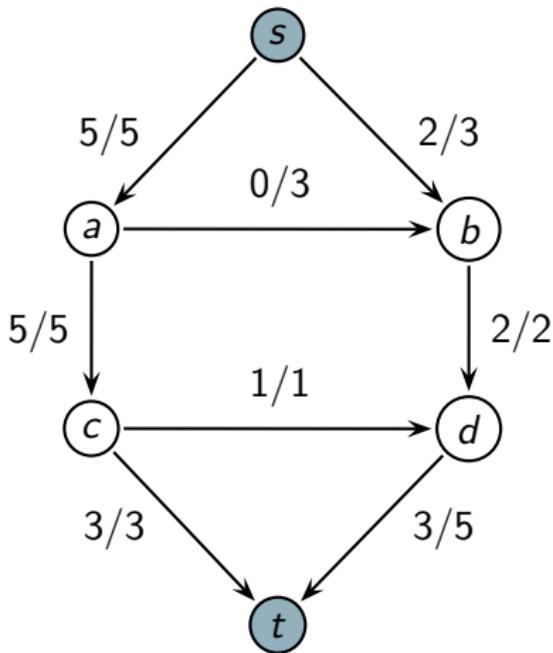
|   | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|---|------------|------------|
| s | 6          | $\infty$   |
| a | 6          | 0          |
| b | 7          | 0          |
| c | 5          | 1          |
| d | 1          | 0          |
| t | 0          | 6          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

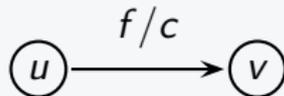
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

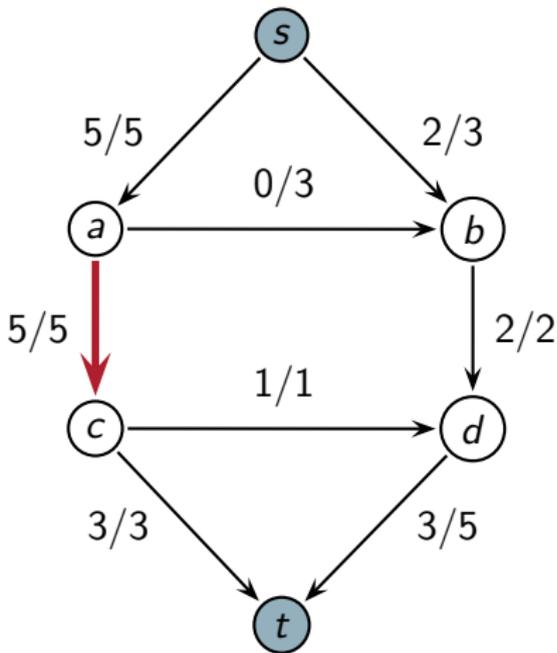
|   | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|---|------------|------------|
| s | 6          | $\infty$   |
| a | 6          | 0          |
| b | 7          | 0          |
| c | 7          | 1          |
| d | 1          | 0          |
| t | 0          | 6          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

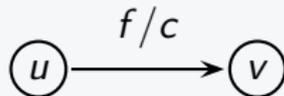
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

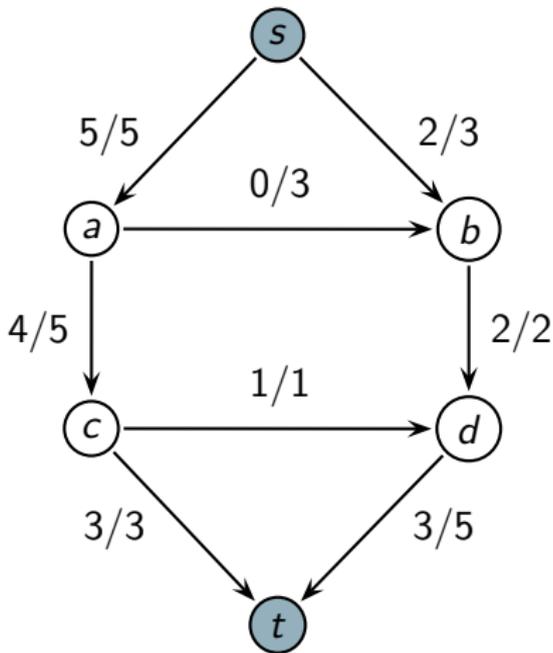
|     | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|-----|------------|------------|
| $s$ | 6          | $\infty$   |
| $a$ | 6          | 0          |
| $b$ | 7          | 0          |
| $c$ | 7          | 1          |
| $d$ | 1          | 0          |
| $t$ | 0          | 6          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

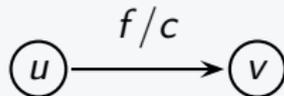
# Maximum Flow Example (Push-Relabel)



state

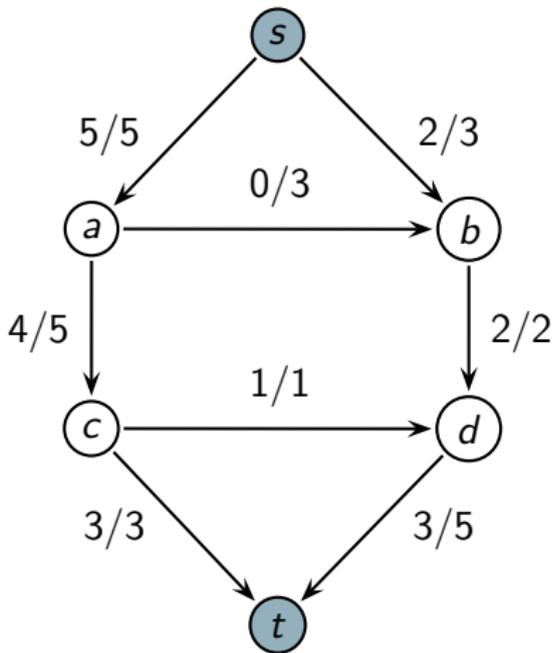
|     | $h(\cdot)$ | $e(\cdot)$ |
|-----|------------|------------|
| $s$ | 6          | $\infty$   |
| $a$ | 6          | 1          |
| $b$ | 7          | 0          |
| $c$ | 7          | 0          |
| $d$ | 1          | 0          |
| $t$ | 0          | 6          |

notation



edge with capacity  $c$ ,  
current flow  $f$ .

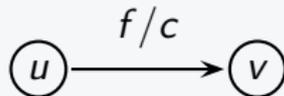
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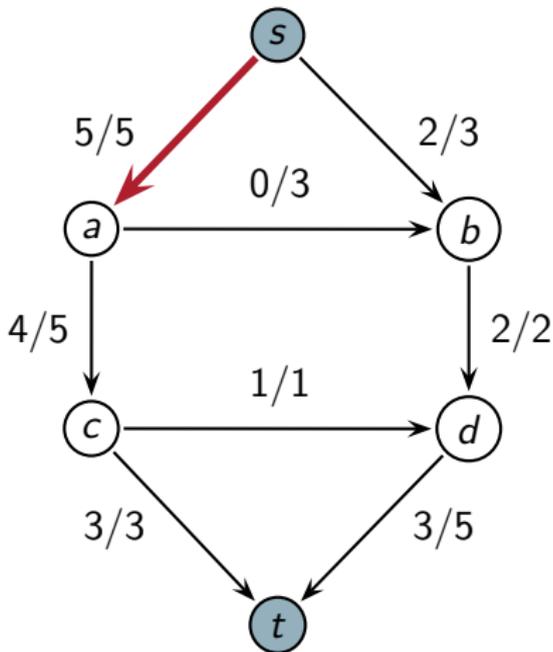
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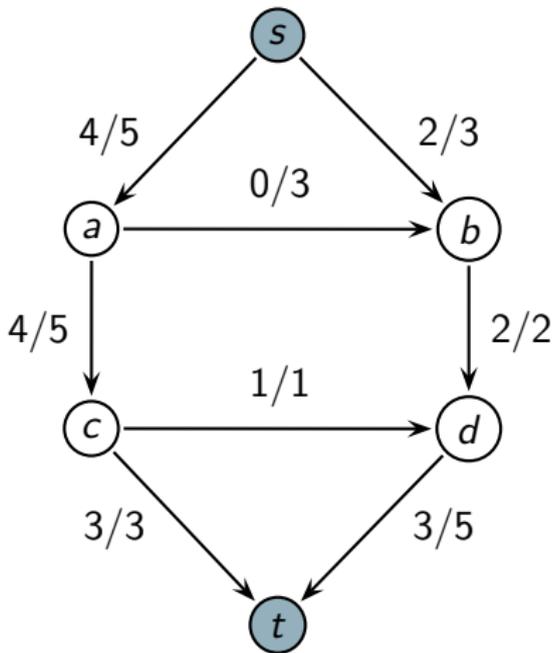
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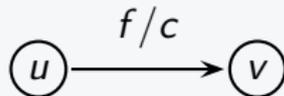
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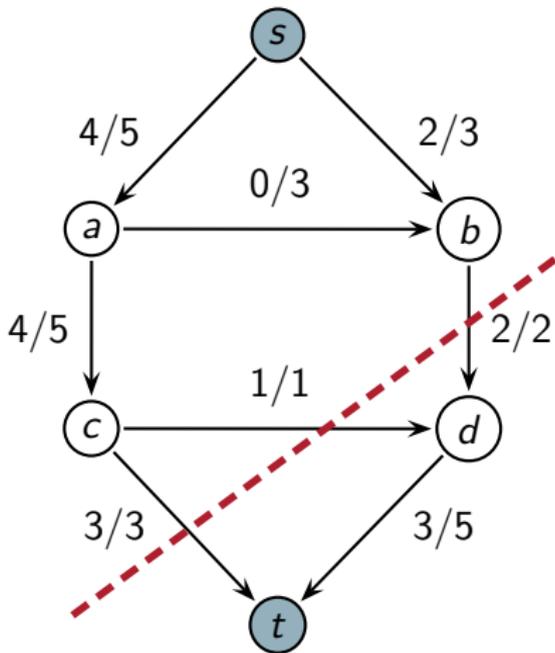
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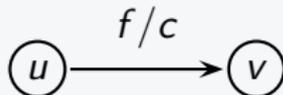
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## Comparison of Maximum Flow Algorithms

Current state-of-the-art algorithm for exact minimization of general submodular pseudo-Boolean functions is  $O(n^5 T + n^6)$ , where  $T$  is the time taken to evaluate the function [Orlin, 2007].

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<sup>†</sup>assumes integer capacities

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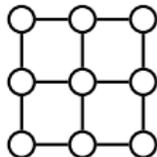
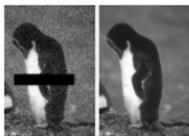
| Algorithm          | Complexity   |
|--------------------|--|
| Ford-Fulkerson     | $O(E \max f)^\dagger$                                  |
| Edmonds-Karp (BFS) | $O(VE^2)$  |
| Push-relabel       | $O(V^3)$   |
| Boykov-Kolmogorov  | $O(V^2 E \max f)$<br>$(\sim O(V) \text{ in practice})$ |

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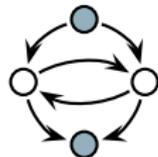
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## Big Picture: Where are we now?

We can perform inference in submodular binary pairwise Markov random fields **exactly**.



$$\{0, 1\}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$



What about...

- non-submodular binary pairwise Markov random fields?
- multi-label Markov random fields?
- higher-order Markov random fields? (part 3)

# Multi-label Markov Random Fields

The quadratic pseudo-Boolean optimization techniques described above cannot be applied directly to multi-label MRFs.

However...

- ...for certain MRFs we can transform the multi-label problem into a binary one exactly.
- ...we can project the multi-label problem onto a series of binary problems in a so-called *move-making* algorithm.

## The “Battleship” Transform [Ishikawa, 2003]

If the multi-label MRFs has pairwise potentials that are convex functions over the label differences, i.e.,  $\psi_{ij}^P(y_i, y_j) = g(|y_i - y_j|)$  where  $g(\cdot)$  is convex, then we can transform the energy function into an equivalent binary one.

$$y = 1 \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{z} = (0, 0, 0)$$

$$y = 2 \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{z} = (1, 0, 0)$$

$$y = 3 \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{z} = (1, 1, 0)$$

$$y = 4 \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{z} = (1, 1, 1)$$

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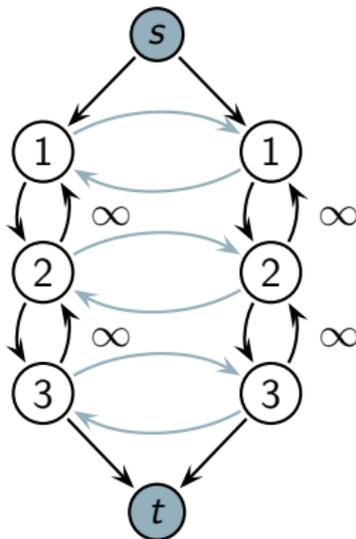
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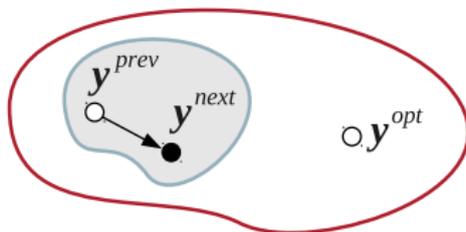
$$y = 4 \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{z} = (1, 1, 1)$$



# Move-making Inference

## Idea:

- initialize  $\mathbf{y}^{\text{prev}}$  to any valid assignment
- restrict the label-space of each variable  $y_i$  from  $\mathcal{L}$  to  $\mathcal{Y}_i \subseteq \mathcal{L}$  (with  $y_i^{\text{prev}} \in \mathcal{Y}_i$ )
- transform  $E : \mathcal{L}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  to  $\hat{E} : \mathcal{Y}_1 \times \cdots \times \mathcal{Y}_n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
- find the optimal assignment  $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$  for  $\hat{E}$  and repeat



**each move results in an assignment with lower energy**

## Iterated Conditional Modes [Besag, 1986]

**Reduce multi-variate inference to solving a series of univariate inference problems.**

### ICM move

For one of the variables  $y_i$ , set  $\mathcal{Y}_i = \mathcal{L}$ . Set  $\mathcal{Y}_j = \{y_j^{\text{prev}}\}$  for all  $j \neq i$  (i.e., hold all other variables fixed).

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Can be used for arbitrary energy functions.

## Alpha Expansion and Alpha-Beta Swap [Boykov et al., 2001]

**Reduce multi-label inference to solving a series of binary (submodular) inference problems.**

$\alpha$ -expansion move

Choose some  $\alpha \in \mathcal{L}$ . Then for all variables, set  $\mathcal{Y}_i = \{\alpha, y_i^{\text{prev}}\}$ .

$\alpha\beta$ -swap move

Choose two labels  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{L}$ . Then for each variable  $y_i$  such that  $y_i^{\text{prev}} \in \{\alpha, \beta\}$ , set  $\mathcal{Y}_i = \{\alpha, \beta\}$ . Otherwise set  $\mathcal{Y}_i = \{y_i^{\text{prev}}\}$ .