



# CSE 417 Algorithms and Complexity

Autumn 2023  
Lecture 27  
Network Flow Applications  
NP-Completeness

## Announcements

- Homework 9
- Exam practice problems on course homepage
- Final Exam: Monday, December 11, 8:30 AM  
– One Hour Fifty Minutes

Fri, Dec 1	Net Flow Applications
Mon, Dec 4	Net Flow Applications + NP-Completeness
Wed, Dec 6	NP-Completeness
Fri, Dec 8	NP-Completeness
Mon, Dec 11	Final Exam

## Problem Reduction

- Reduce Problem A to Problem B
  - Convert an instance of Problem A to an instance of Problem B
  - Use a solution of Problem B to get a solution to Problem A
- Practical
  - Use a program for Problem B to solve Problem A
- Theoretical
  - Show that Problem B is at least as hard as Problem A

## Minimum Cut Applications

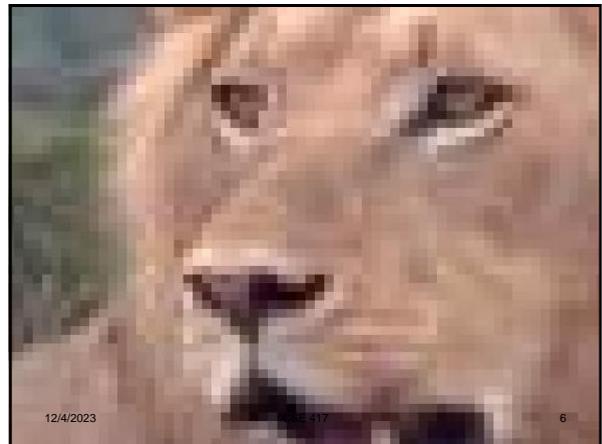
- Image Segmentation
- Open Pit Mining / Task Selection Problem
- Reduction to Min Cut problem

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

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

## Image Segmentation

- Separate foreground from background



## Image analysis

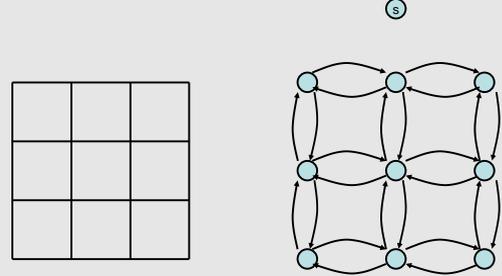
- $a_i$ : value of assigning pixel  $i$  to the foreground
- $b_j$ : value of assigning pixel  $i$  to the background
- $p_{ij}$ : penalty for assigning  $i$  to the foreground,  $j$  to the background or vice versa
- $A$ : foreground,  $B$ : background
- $Q(A,B) = \sum_{\{i \text{ in } A\}} a_i + \sum_{\{j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

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## Pixel graph to flow graph

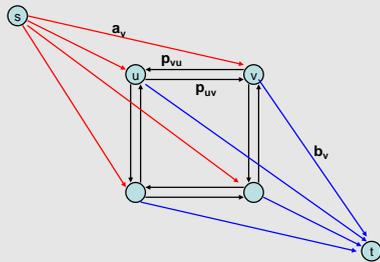


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## Mincut Construction



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## Open Pit Mining (Task selection)



## Open Pit Mining

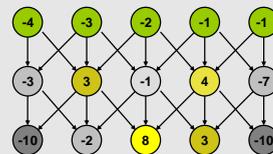
- Each unit of earth has a profit (possibly negative)
- Getting to the ore below the surface requires removing the dirt above
- Test drilling gives reasonable estimates of costs
- Plan an optimal mining operation

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## Mine Graph

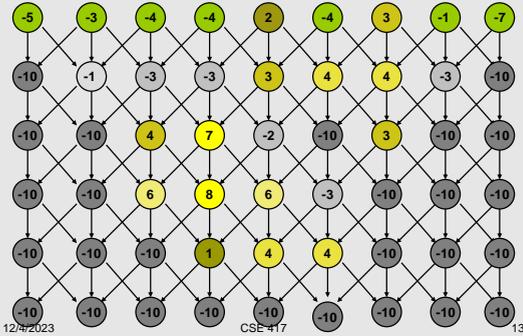


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## Determine an optimal mine



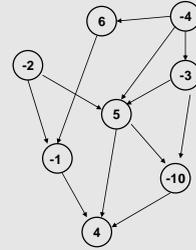
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## Generalization

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



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## Min cut algorithm for profit maximization

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

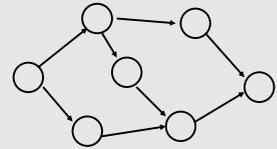
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## Precedence graph construction

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

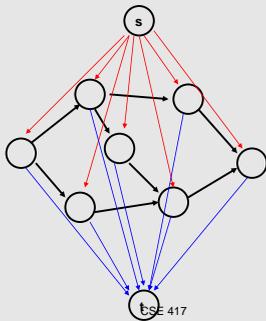


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Find a **finite** value cut with at least two vertices on each side of the cut



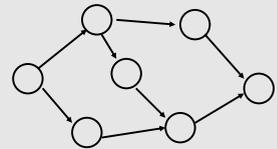
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The sink side of a finite cut is a feasible set

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



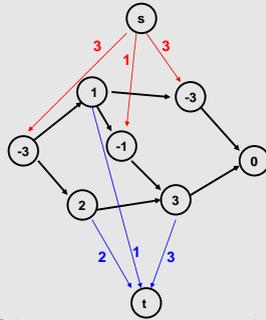
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## Setting the costs

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

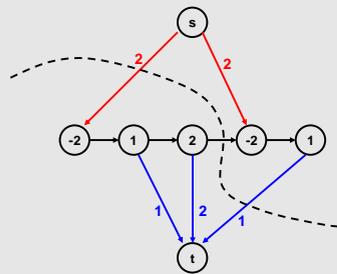


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## Minimum cut gives optimal solution Why?



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## Computing the Profit

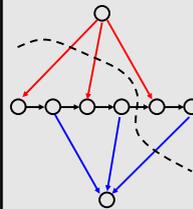
- $Cost(W) = \sum_{\{w \text{ in } W; p(w) < 0\}} -p(w)$
- $Benefit(W) = \sum_{\{w \text{ in } W; p(w) > 0\}} p(w)$
- $Profit(W) = Benefit(W) - Cost(W)$
- Maximum cost and benefit
  - $C = Cost(V)$
  - $B = Benefit(V)$

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



$$\begin{aligned} Cap(S,T) &= Cost(T) + Ben(S) = Cost(T) + Ben(S) + Ben(T) - Ben(T) \\ &= B + Cost(T) - Ben(T) = B - Profit(T) \end{aligned}$$

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## NP-Completeness



## NP Completeness

COMPUTERS, COMPLEXITY, AND INTRACTABILITY



I can't find an efficient algorithm, I guess I'm just too dumb.

.....



I can't find an efficient algorithm, but neither can all these famous people

## Algorithms vs. Lower bounds

- Algorithmic Theory
  - What we can compute
    - I can solve problem X with resources R
  - Proofs are almost always to give an algorithm that meets the resource bounds
- Lower bounds
  - How do we show that something can't be done?

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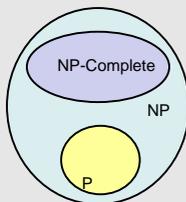
## Theory of NP Completeness

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## The Universe



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## Polynomial Time

- P: Class of problems that can be solved in polynomial time
  - Corresponds with problems that can be solved efficiently in practice
  - Right class to work with “theoretically”

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## Decision Problems

- Theory developed in terms of yes/no problems
  - Independent set
    - Given a graph G and an integer K, does G have an independent set of size at least K
  - Shortest Path
    - Given a graph G with edge lengths, a start vertex s, and end vertex t, and an integer K, does the graph have a path between s and t of length at most K

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## What is NP?

- Problems solvable in non-deterministic polynomial time . . .
- Problems where “yes” instances have polynomial time checkable certificates

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## Certificate examples

- Independent set of size K
  - The Independent Set
- Satisfiable formula
  - Truth assignment to the variables
- Hamiltonian Circuit Problem
  - A cycle including all of the vertices
- K-coloring a graph
  - Assignment of colors to the vertices

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## Certifiers and Certificates: 3-Satisfiability

SAT: Does a given CNF formula have a satisfying formula

Certificate: An assignment of truth values to the n boolean variables

Certifier: Check that each clause has at least one true literal,

instance s

$$(\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge (x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee x_3) \wedge (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_4) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_3 \vee \bar{x}_4)$$

certificate t

$$x_1 = 1, x_2 = 1, x_3 = 0, x_4 = 1$$

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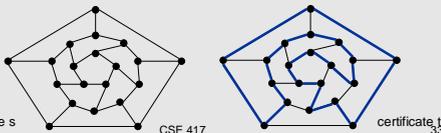
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## Certifiers and Certificates: Hamiltonian Cycle

HAM-CYCLE. Given an undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$ , does there exist a simple cycle  $C$  that visits every node?

Certificate. A permutation of the n nodes.

Certifier. Check that the permutation contains each node in  $V$  exactly once, and that there is an edge between each pair of adjacent nodes in the permutation.



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certificate t

## Polynomial time reductions

- Y is Polynomial Time Reducible to X
  - Solve problem Y with a polynomial number of computation steps and a polynomial number of calls to a black box that solves X
  - Notations:  $Y <_p X$
- Usually, this is converting an input of Y to an input for X, solving X, and then converting the answer back

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## Composability Lemma

- If  $X <_p Y$  and  $Y <_p Z$  then  $X <_p Z$

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## Lemmas

- Suppose  $Y <_p X$ . If X can be solved in polynomial time, then Y can be solved in polynomial time.
- Suppose  $Y <_p X$ . If Y cannot be solved in polynomial time, then X cannot be solved in polynomial time.

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## NP-Completeness

- A problem  $X$  is NP-complete if
  - $X$  is in NP
  - For every  $Y$  in NP,  $Y \leq_p X$
- $X$  is a “hardest” problem in NP
- If  $X$  is NP-Complete,  $Z$  is in NP and  $X \leq_p Z$ 
  - Then  $Z$  is NP-Complete

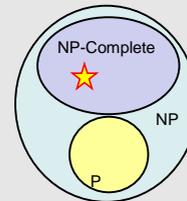
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## Cook’s Theorem

- There is an NP Complete problem
  - The Circuit Satisfiability Problem



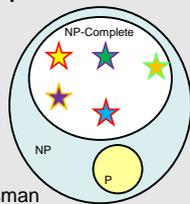
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## Populating the NP-Completeness Universe

- Circuit Sat  $\leq_p$  3-SAT
- 3-SAT  $\leq_p$  Independent Set
- 3-SAT  $\leq_p$  Vertex Cover
- Independent Set  $\leq_p$  Clique
- 3-SAT  $\leq_p$  Hamiltonian Circuit
- Hamiltonian Circuit  $\leq_p$  Traveling Salesman
- 3-SAT  $\leq_p$  Integer Linear Programming
- 3-SAT  $\leq_p$  Graph Coloring
- 3-SAT  $\leq_p$  Subset Sum
- Subset Sum  $\leq_p$  Scheduling with Release times and deadlines



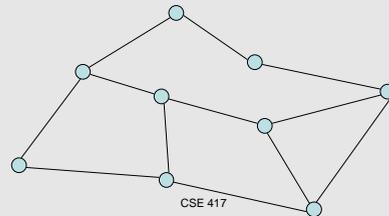
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## Graph Coloring

- NP-Complete
  - Graph 3-coloring
- Polynomial
  - Graph 2-Coloring



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## Graph 4-Coloring

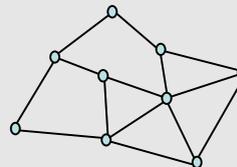
- Given a graph  $G$ , can  $G$  be colored with 4 colors?
- Prove 4-Coloring is NP Complete
- Proof: 3-Coloring  $\leq_p$  4-Coloring
- Show that you can 3-Color a graph if you have an algorithm to 4-Color a graph

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## 3-Coloring $\leq_p$ 4-Coloring



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