

# **CSE 421**

## **Bellman-Ford ALG, Network Flows**

Shayan Oveis Gharan

# DP for Shortest Path

**Def:** Let  $OPT(v, i)$  be the length of the shortest  $s - v$  path with **at most  $i$  edges**.

$$OPT(v, i) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } v = s \\ \infty & \text{if } v \neq s, i = 0 \\ \min(OPT(v, i - 1), \min_{u:(u,v) \text{ an edge}} OPT(u, i - 1) + c_{u,v}) & \end{cases}$$

So, for every  $v$ ,  $OPT(v, ?)$  is the shortest path from  $s$  to  $v$ .

But how long do we have to run?

Since  $G$  has no negative cycle, it has at most  $n - 1$  edges. So,  $OPT(v, n - 1)$  is the answer.

# Bellman Ford Algorithm

```
for v=1 to n
  if v ≠ s then
    M[v,0]=∞
M[s,0]=0.

for i=1 to n-1
  for v=1 to n
    M[v,i]=M[v,i-1]
    for every edge (u,v)
      M[v,i]=min(M[v,i], M[u,i-1]+cu,v)
```

Running Time:  $O(nm)$

Can we test if G has negative cycles?

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```

Running Time:  $O(nm)$

Can we test if  $G$  has negative cycles?

Yes, run for  $i=1 \dots 2n$  and see if the  $M[v,n-1]$  is different from  $M[v,2n]$

# DP Techniques Summary

## Recipe:

- Follow the natural induction proof.
- Find out additional assumptions/variables/subproblems that you need to do the induction
- Strengthen the hypothesis and define w.r.t. new subproblems

## Dynamic programming techniques.

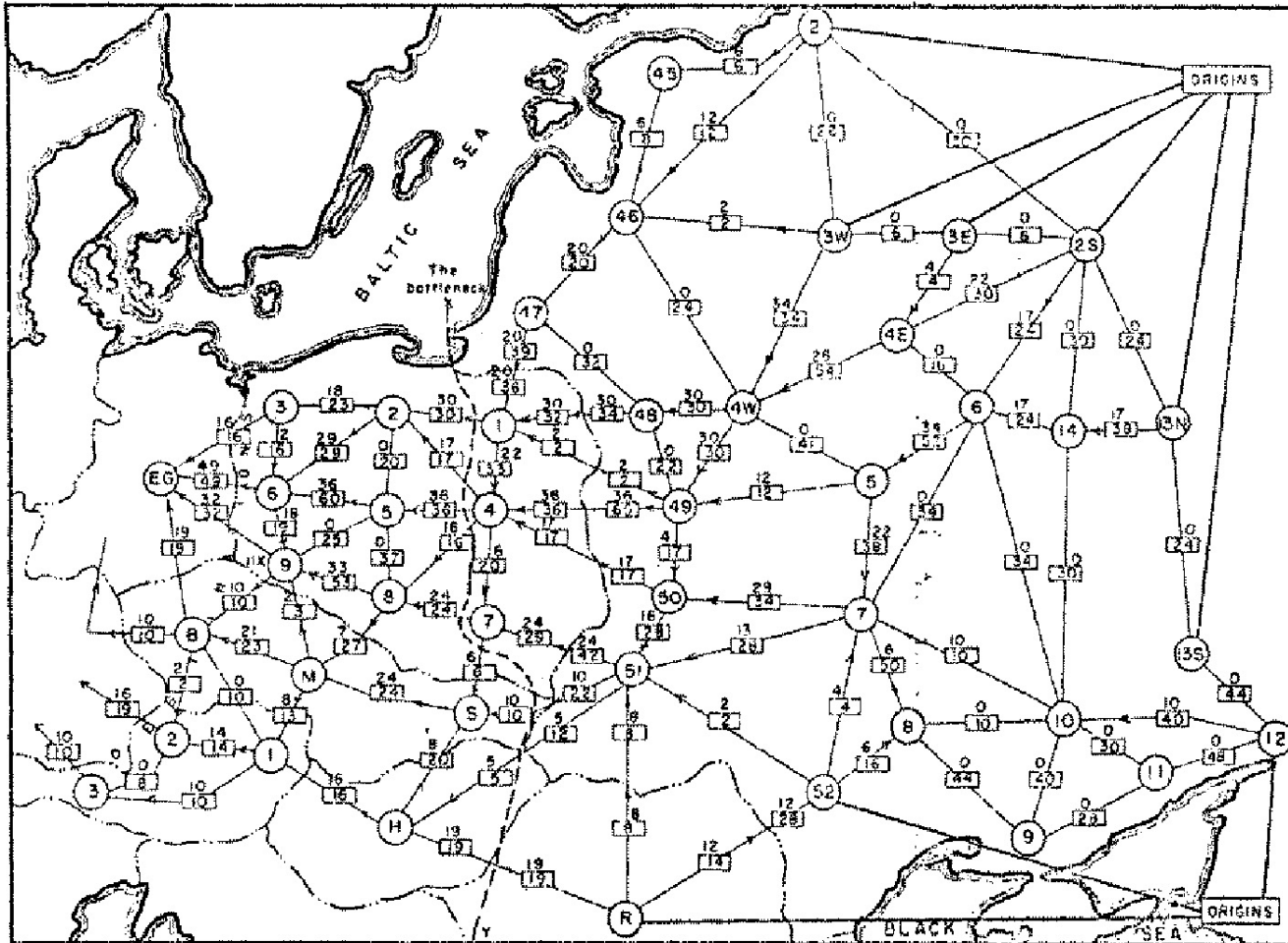
- Whenever a problem is a special case of an NP-hard problem an ordering is important:
- Adding a new variable: knapsack.
- Dynamic programming over intervals: RNA secondary structure.

## Top-down vs. bottom-up:

- Different people have different intuitions
- Bottom-up is useful to optimize the memory

# Network Flows

# Soviet Rail Network



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

# Network Flow Applications

## 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.

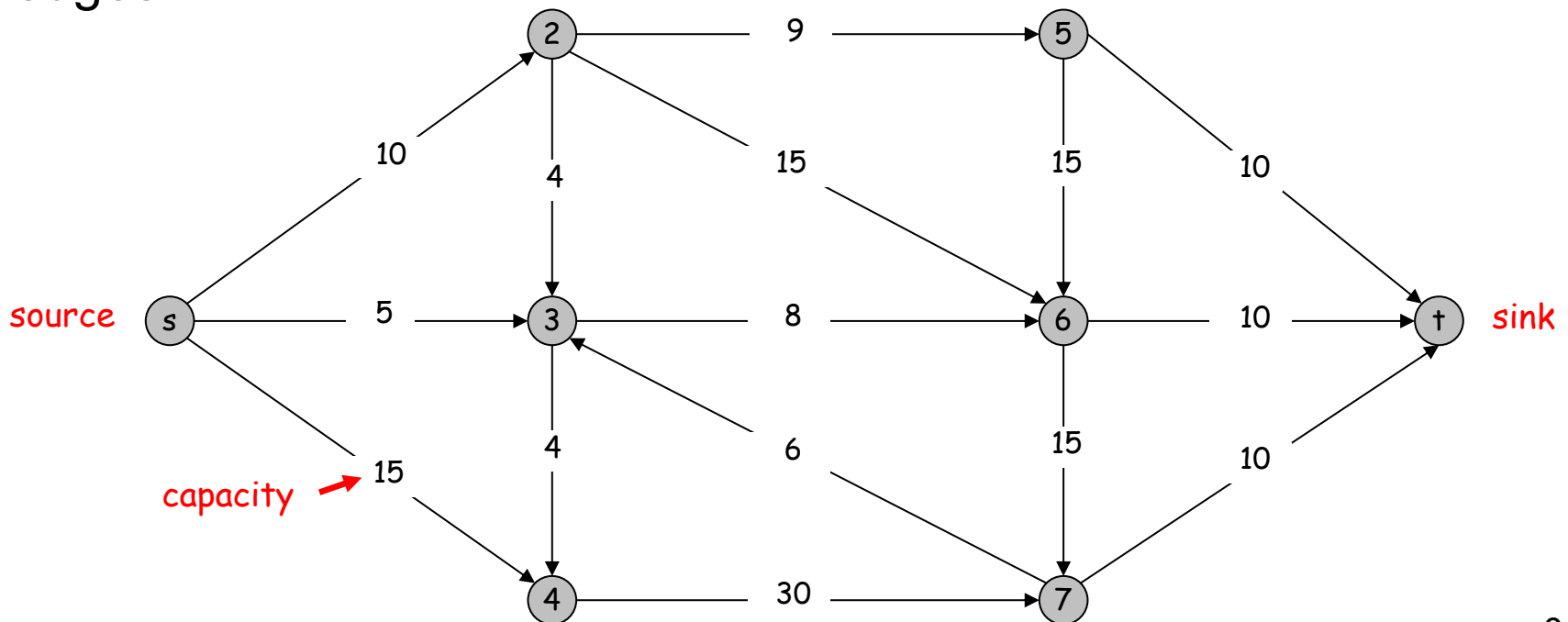


# Minimum s-t Cut Problem

**Given** a directed graph  $G = (V, E)$  = directed graph and two distinguished nodes:  $s$  = source,  $t$  = sink.

Suppose each directed edge  $e$  has a nonnegative capacity  $c(e)$

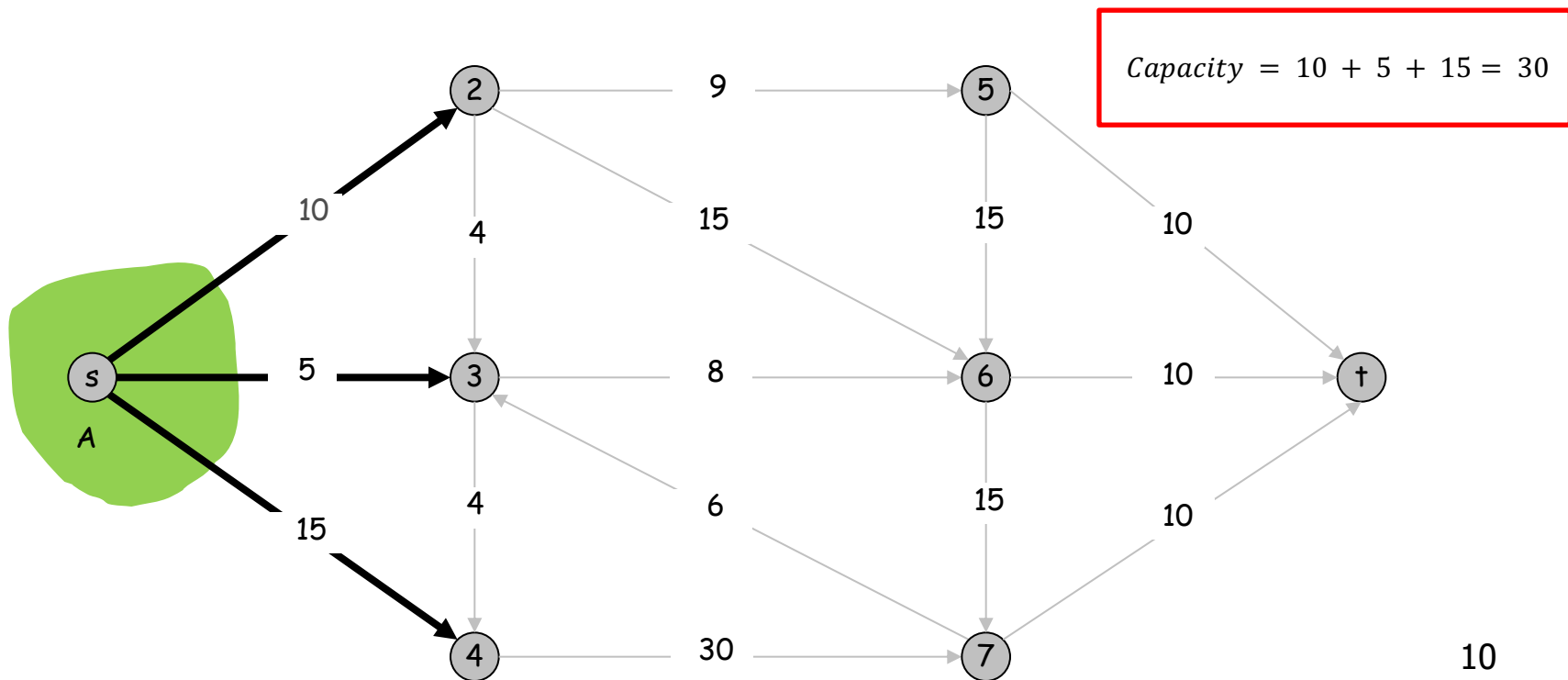
**Goal:** Find a cut separating  $s, t$  that cuts the minimum capacity of edges.



# s-t cuts

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

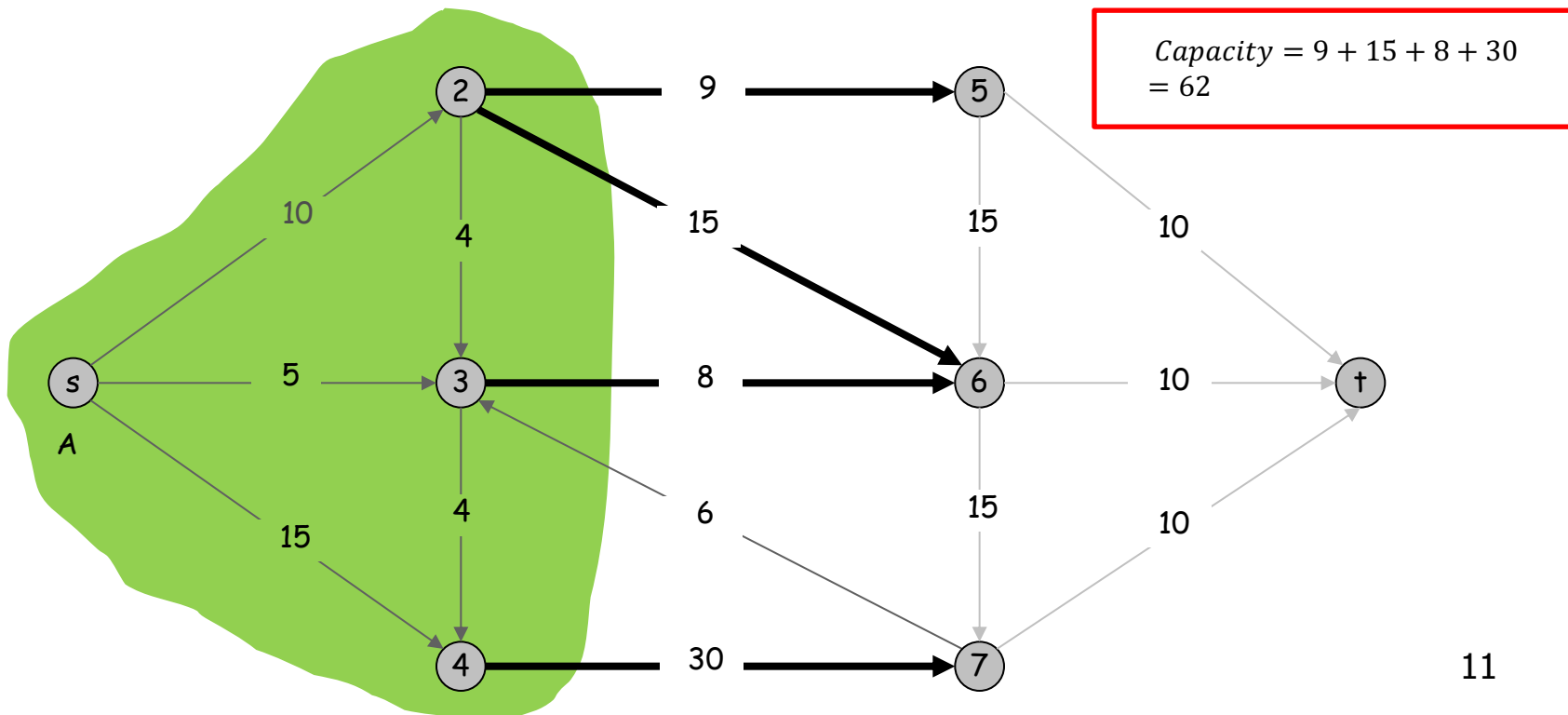
Def. The **capacity** of a cut  $(A, B)$ :  $cap(A, B) = \sum_{e \text{ out of } A} c(e)$



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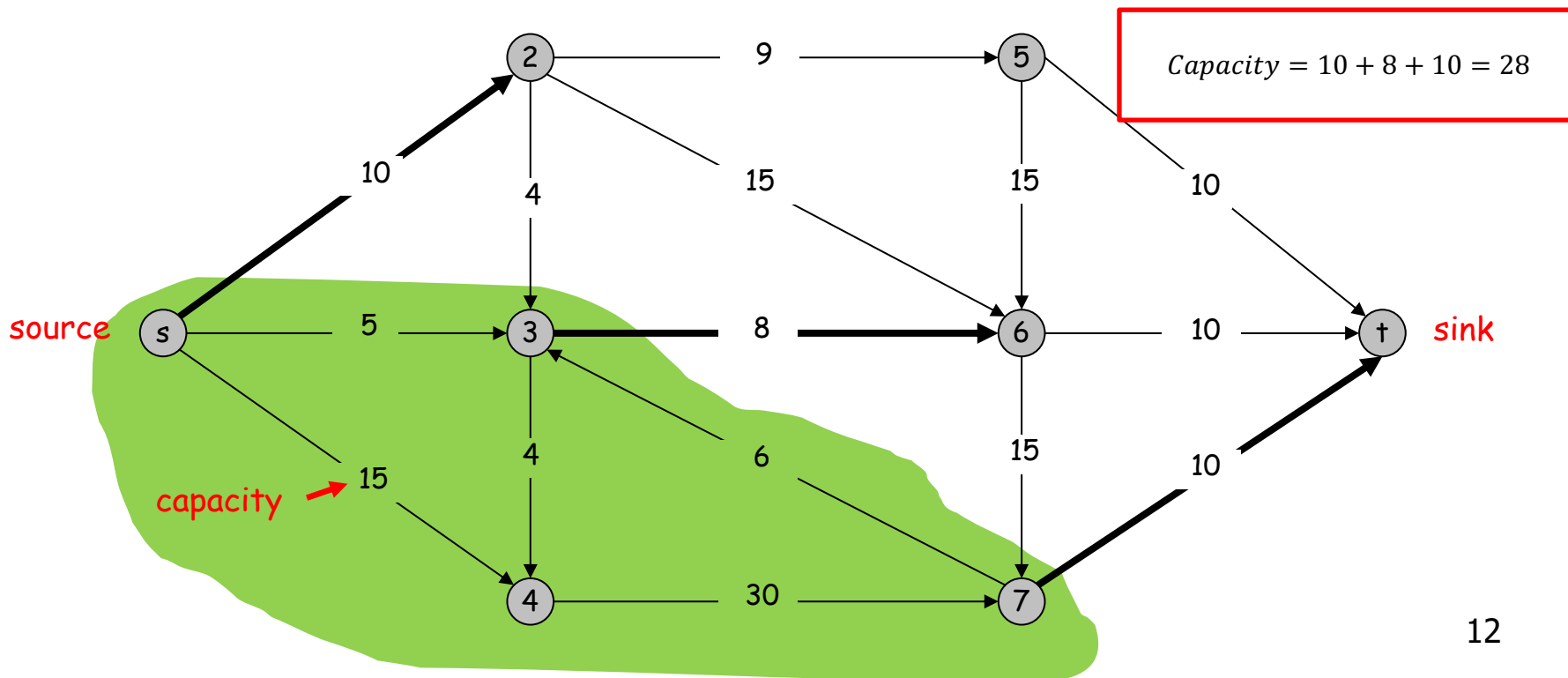


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Goal: Find a s-t cut of minimum capacity

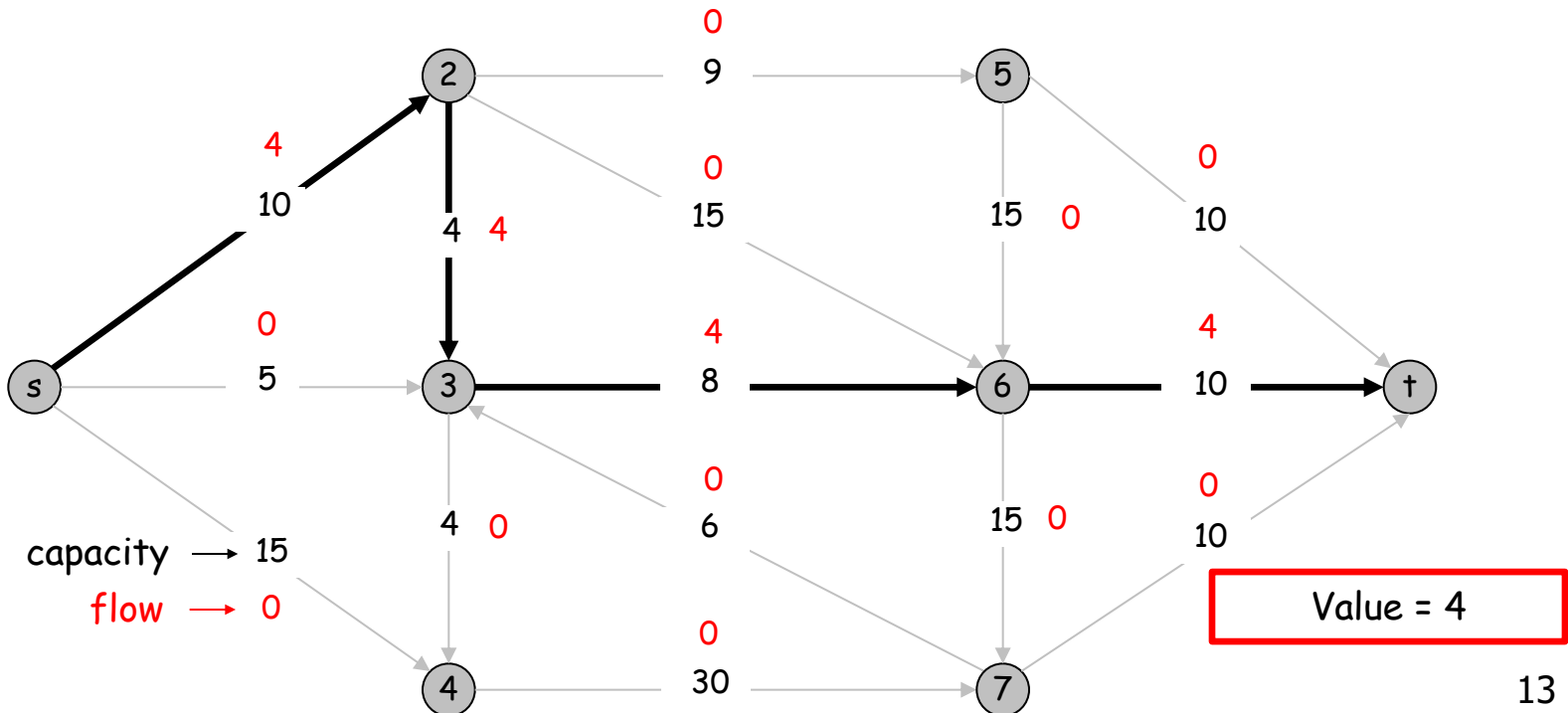


# s-t Flows

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:  $v(f) = \sum_{e \text{ out of } s} f(e)$

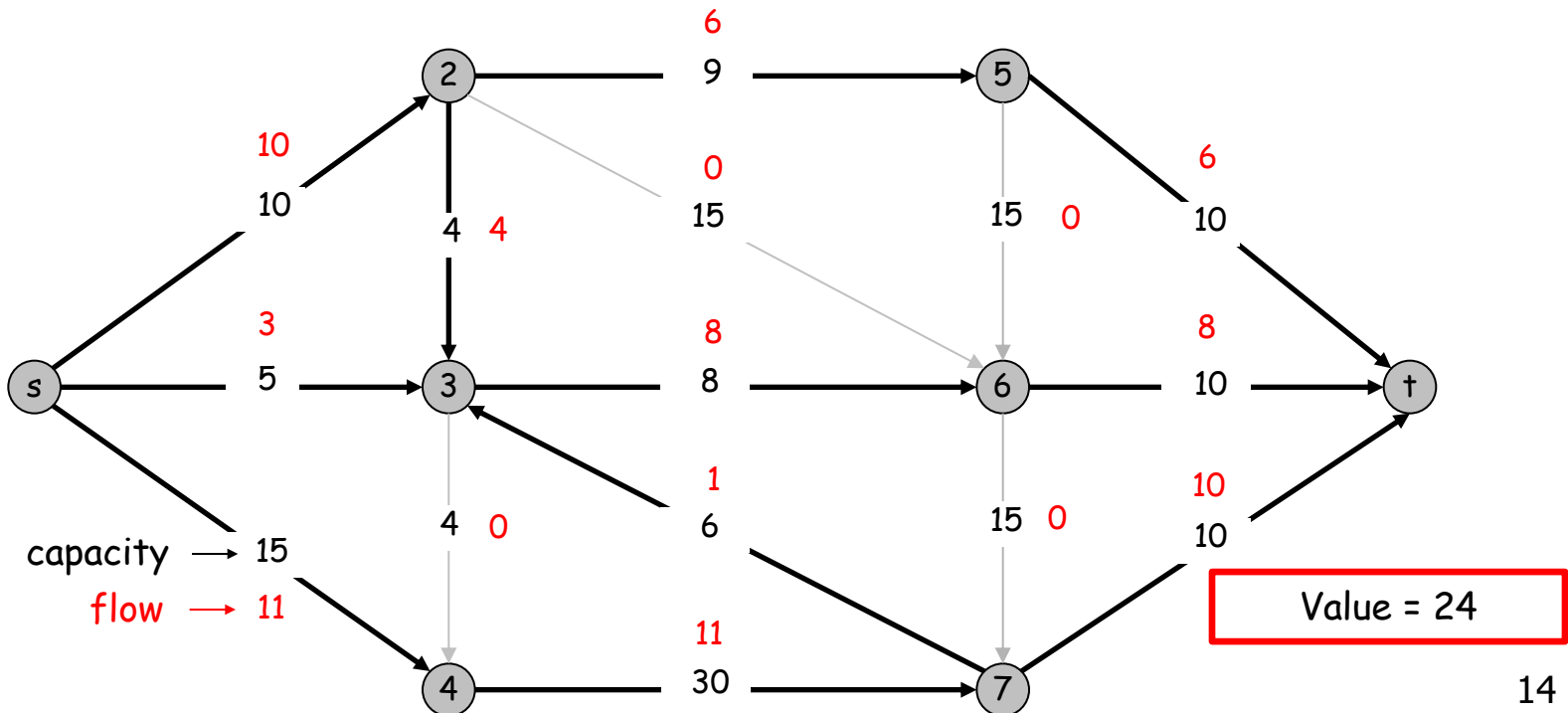


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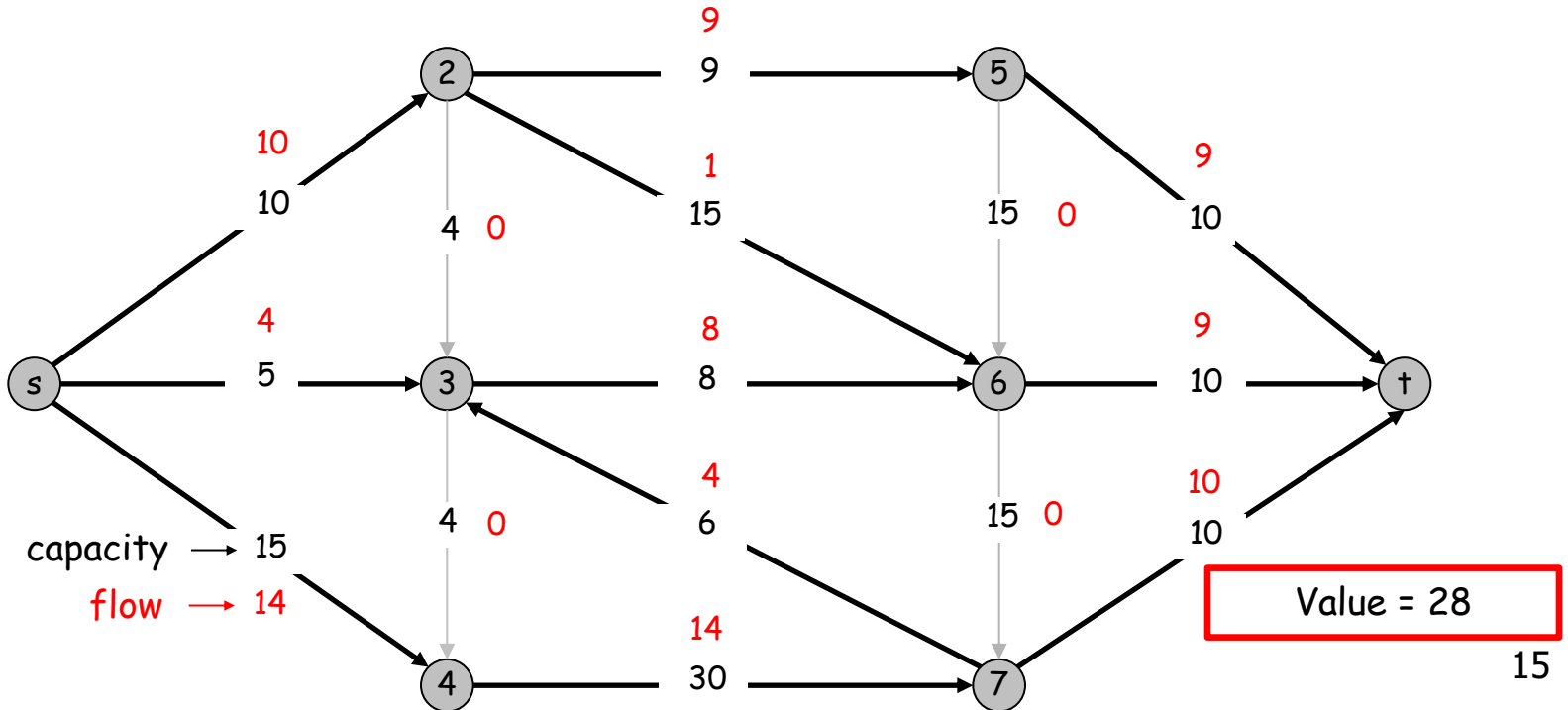
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# Maximum s-t Flow Problem

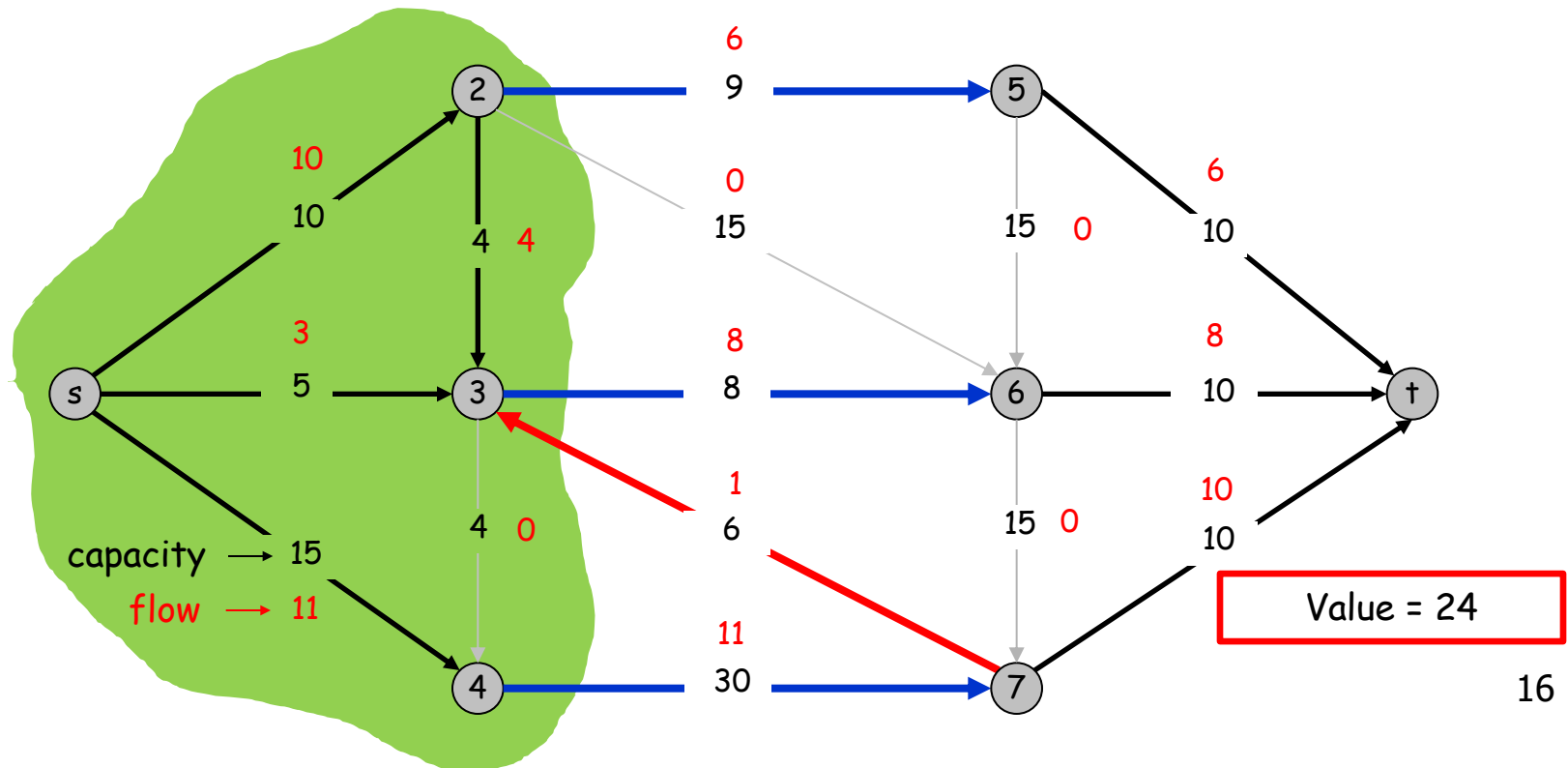
Goal: Find a s-t flow of largest value.



# 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  $s$ .

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





# Pf of Flow value Lemma

**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  $s$ .

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

**Pf.**

$$v(f) = \sum_{e \text{ out of } s} f(e)$$

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

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

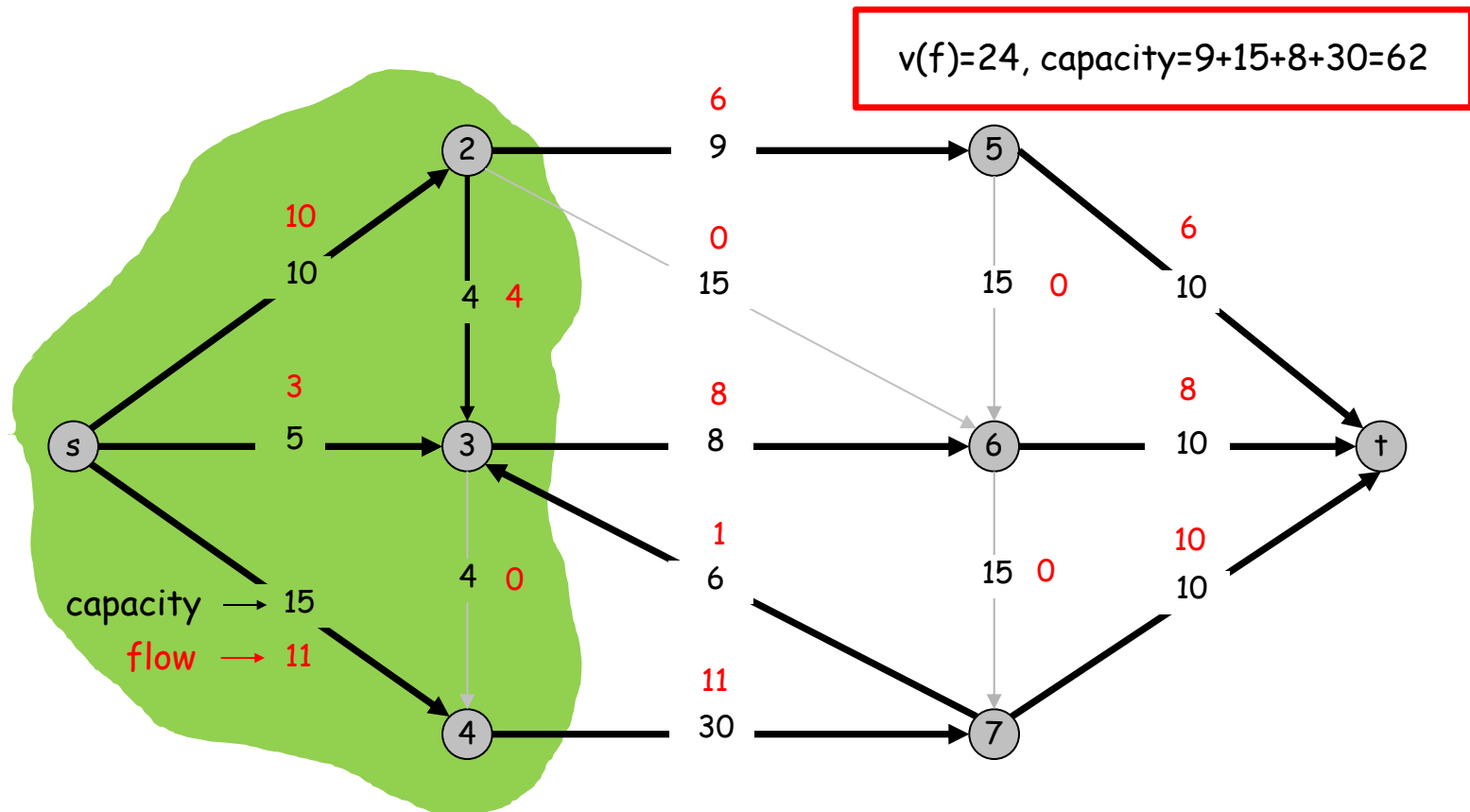
All contributions due to  
internal edges cancel out

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

# Weak Duality of Flows and Cuts

**Cut Capacity lemma.** 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.

$$v(f) \leq \text{cap}(A, B)$$



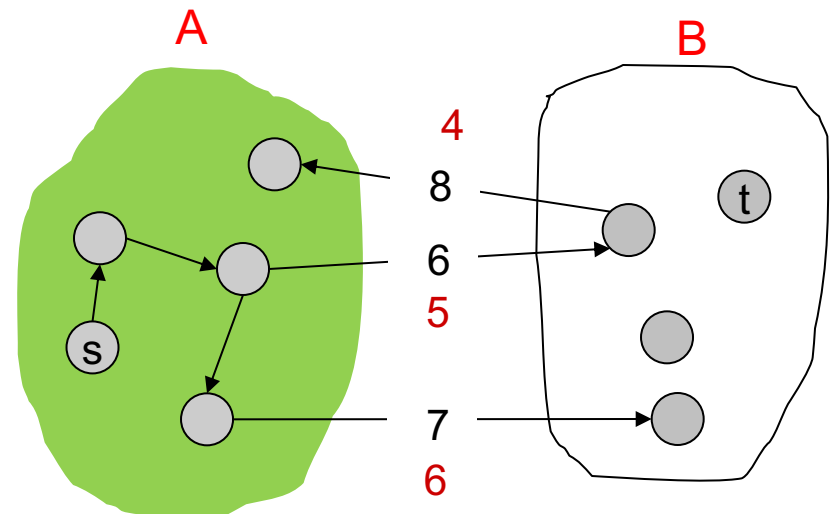
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Pf.

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

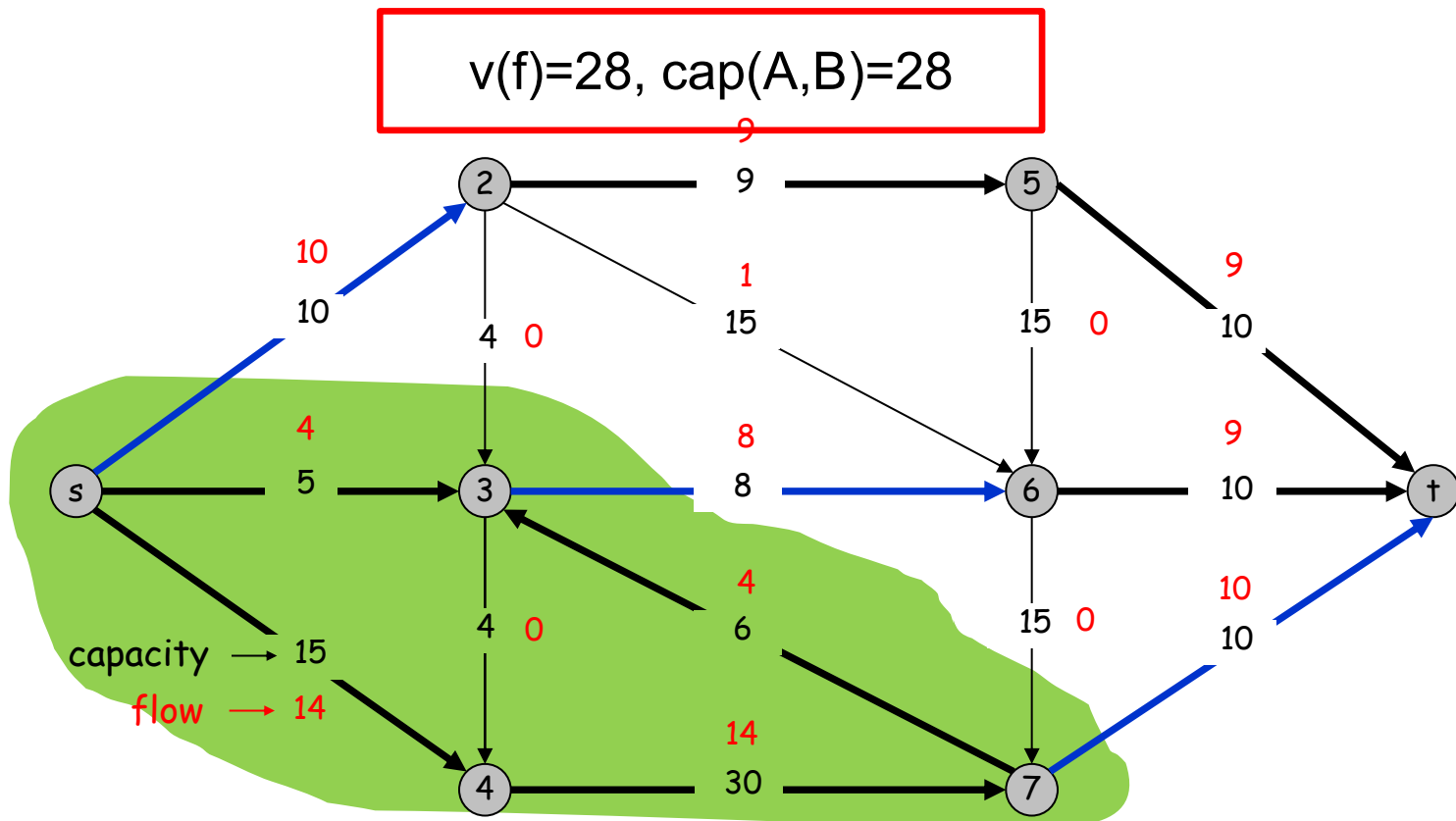


# Certificate of Optimality

**Corollary:** Suppose there is a s-t cut (A,B) such that

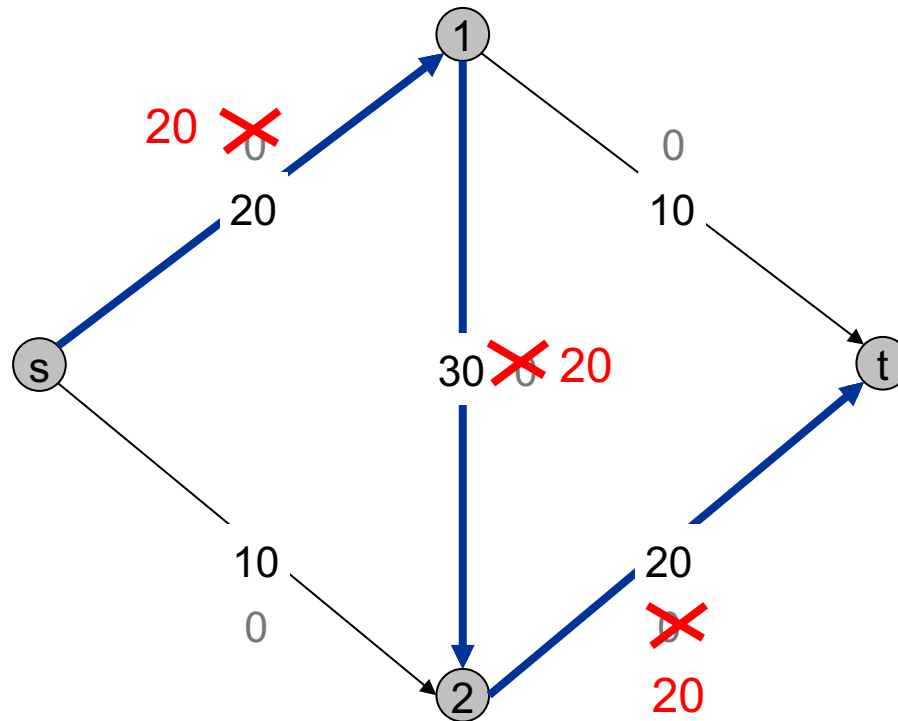
$$v(f) = \text{cap}(A, B)$$

Then,  $f$  is a maximum flow and (A,B) is a minimum cut.



# A Greedy Algorithm for Max Flow

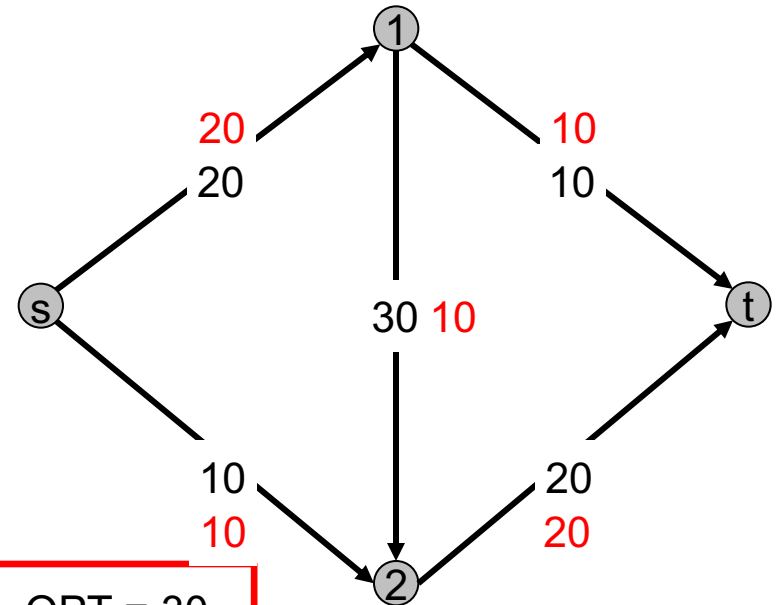
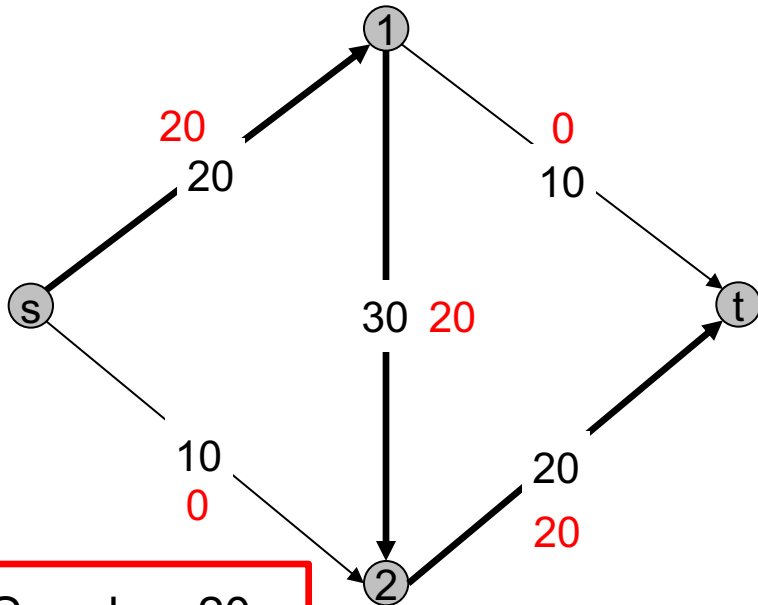
- Start with  $f(e) = 0$  for all edge  $e \in E$ .
- Find an s-t path  $P$  where each edge has  $f(e) < c(e)$ .
- Augment flow along path  $P$ .
- Repeat until you get stuck.



# A Greedy Algorithm for Max Flow

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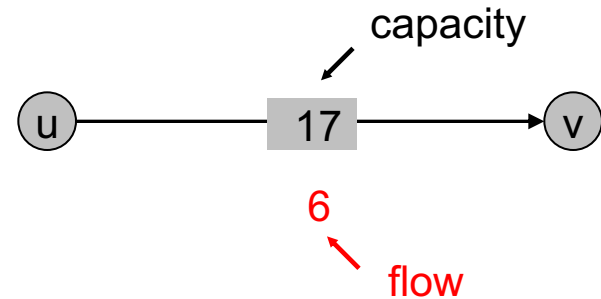
Local Optimum  $\neq$  Global Optimum



# Residual Graph

Original edge:  $e = (u, v) \in E$ .

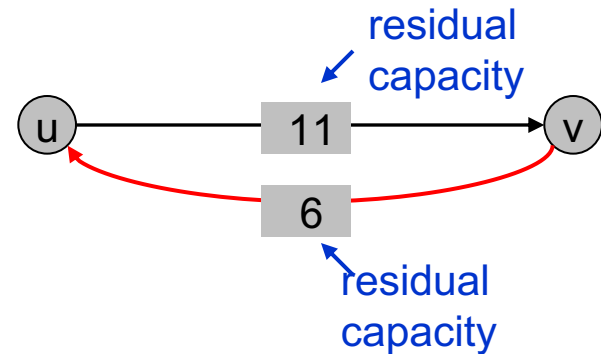
- Flow  $f(e)$ , capacity  $c(e)$ .



Residual edge.

- "Undo" flow sent.
- $e = (u, v)$  and  $e^R = (v, u)$ .
- Residual capacity:

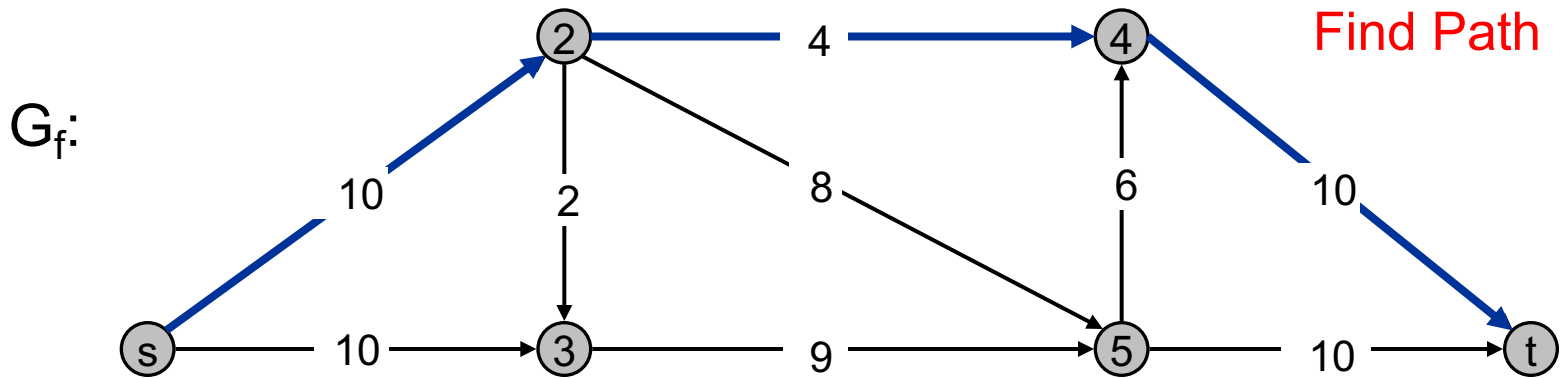
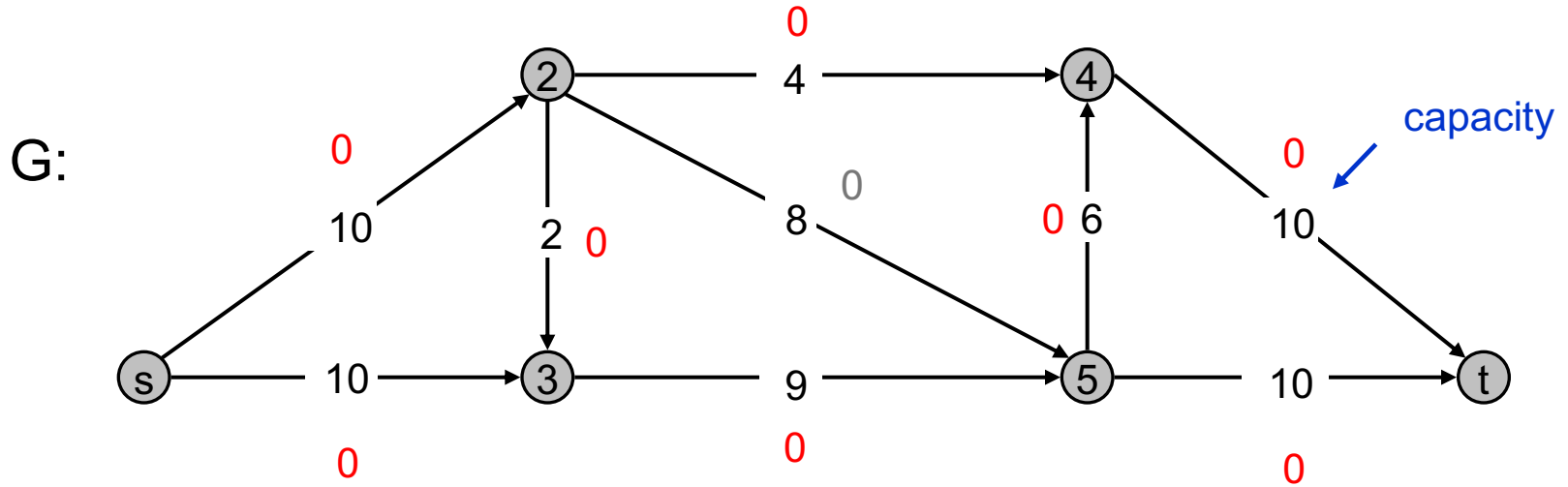
$$c_f(e) = \begin{cases} c(e) - f(e) & \text{if } e \in E \\ f(e) & \text{if } e^R \in E \end{cases}$$



Residual graph:  $G_f = (V, E_f)$ .

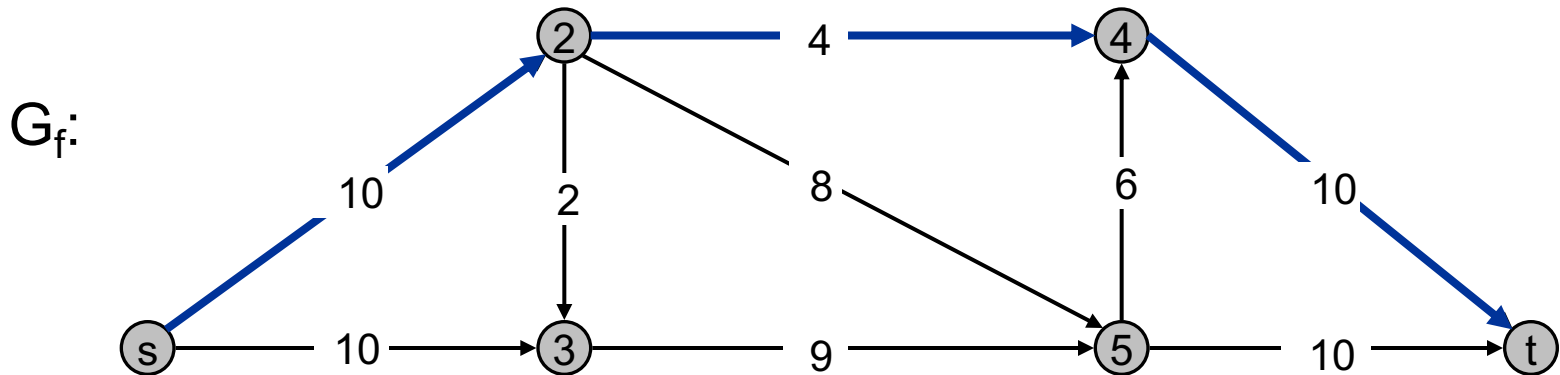
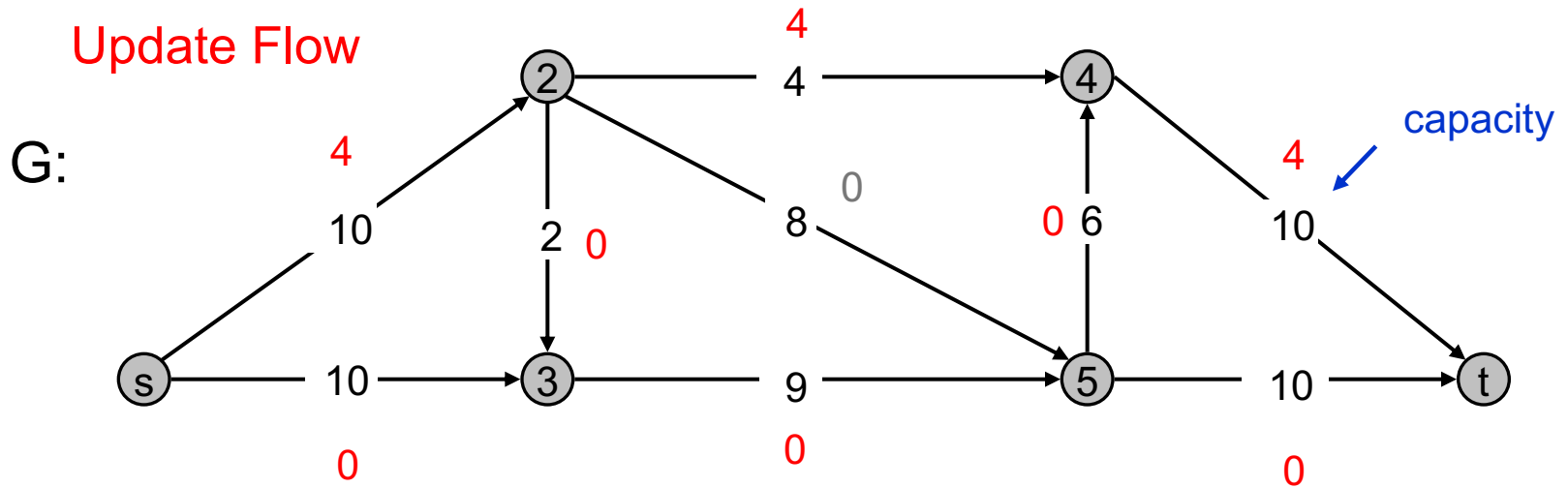
- Residual edges with positive residual capacity.
- $E_f = \{e : f(e) < c(e)\} \cup \{e : f(e^R) > 0\}$ .

# Ford-Fulkerson Alg: Greedy on $G_f$

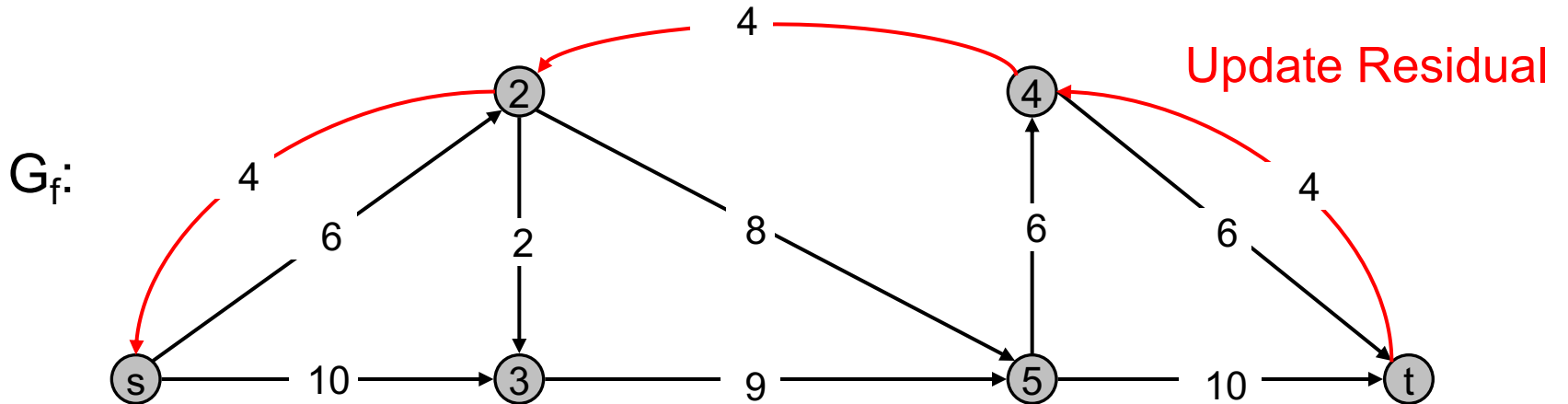
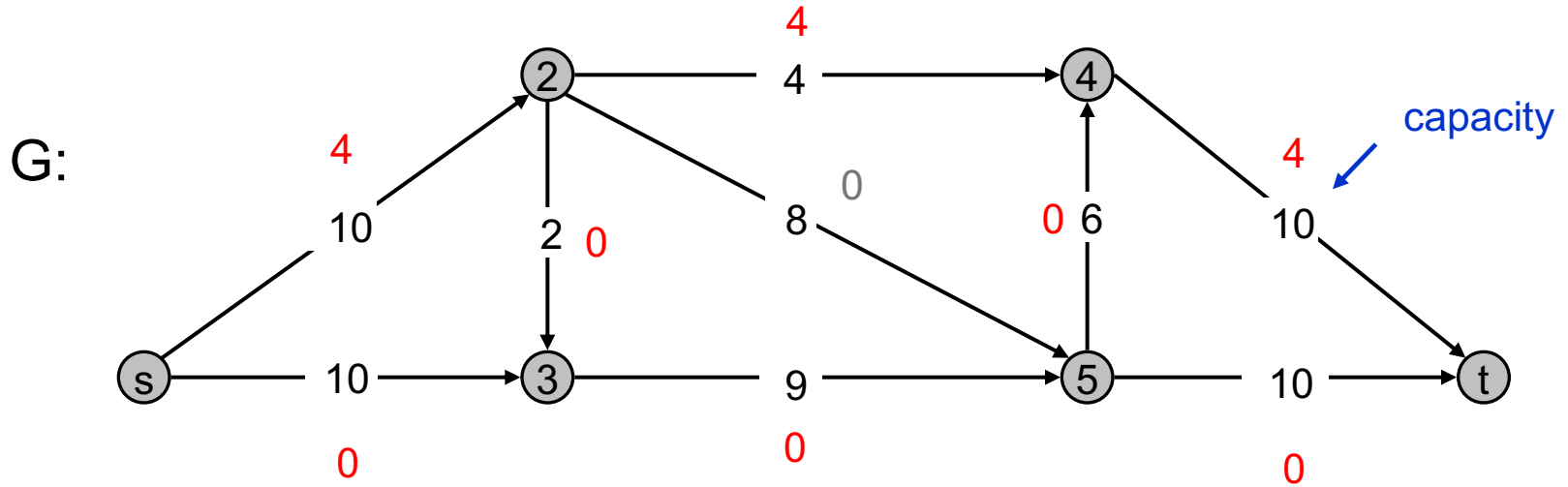




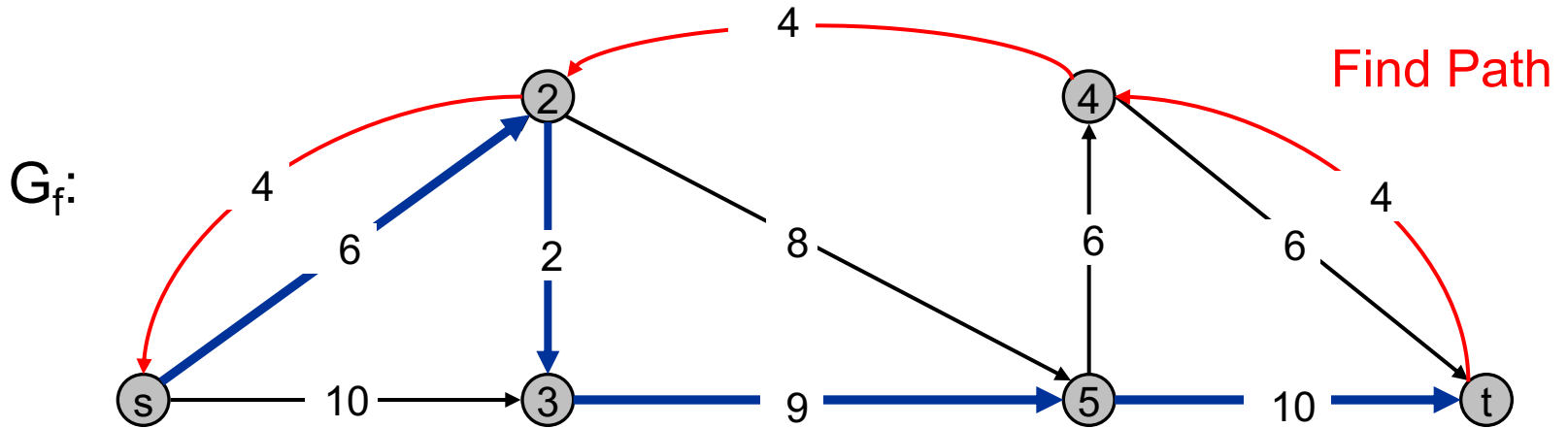
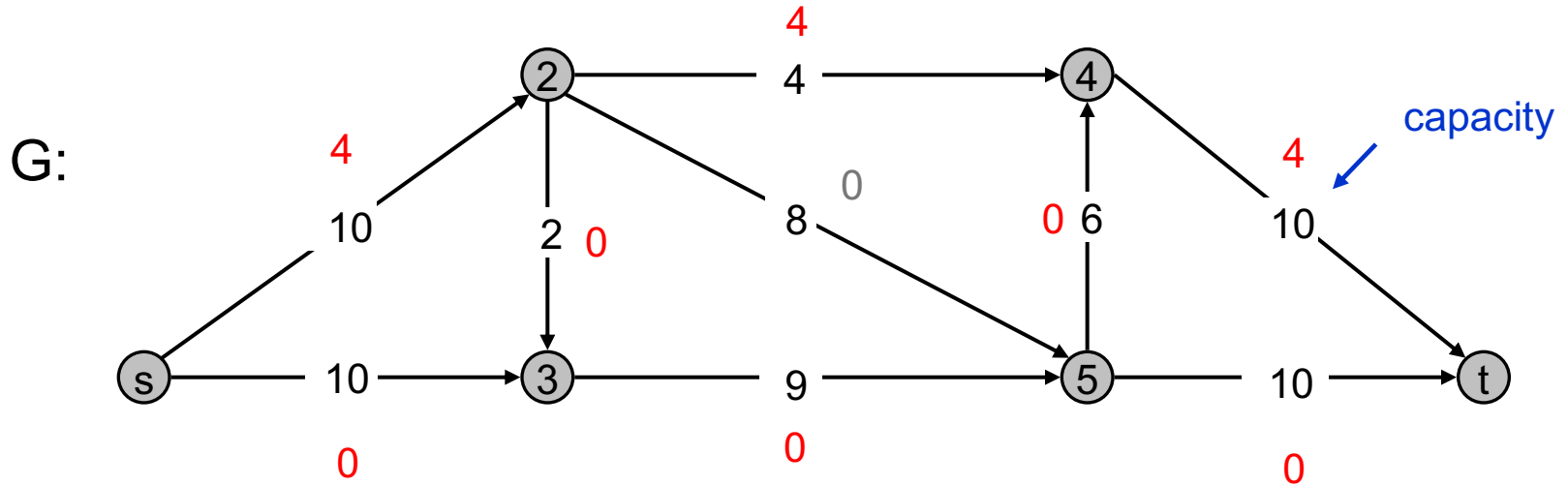
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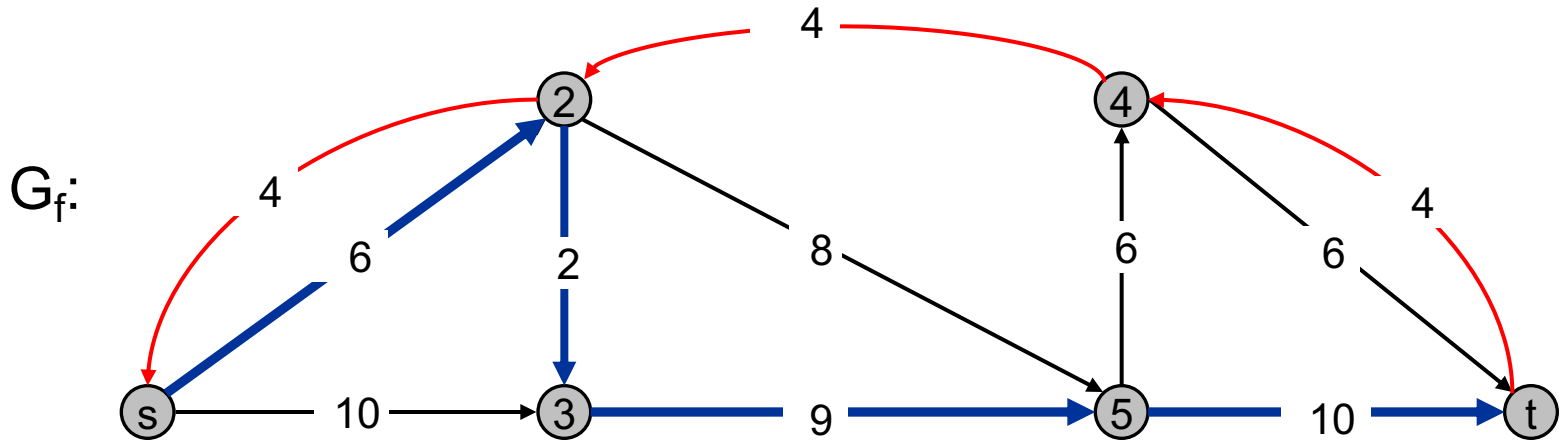
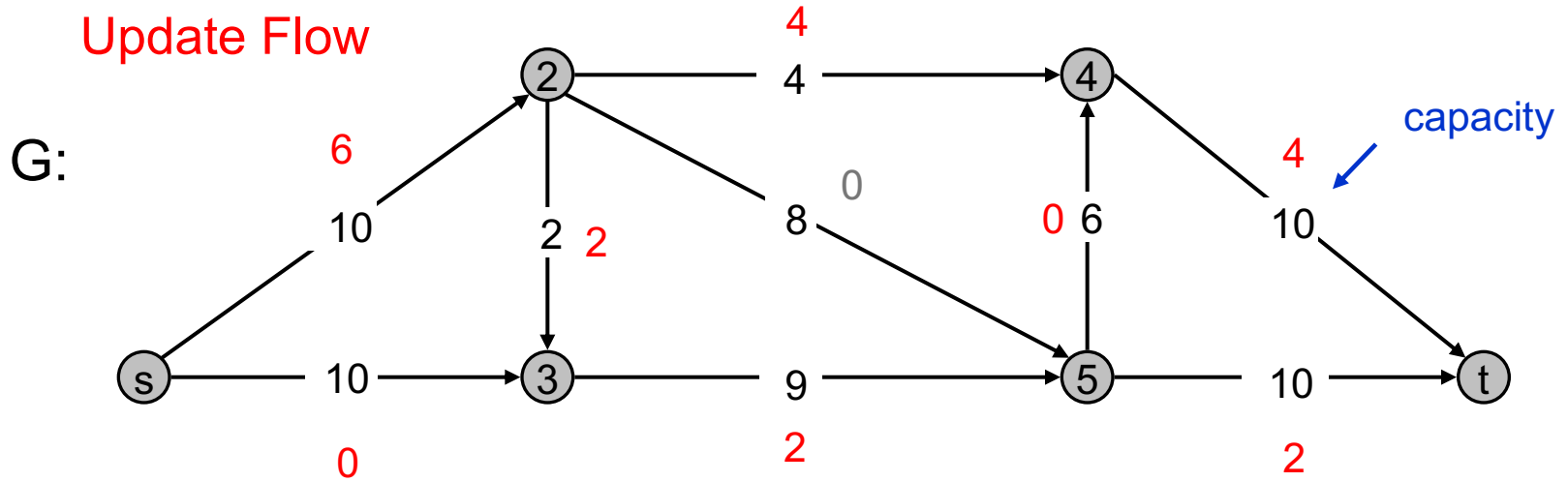
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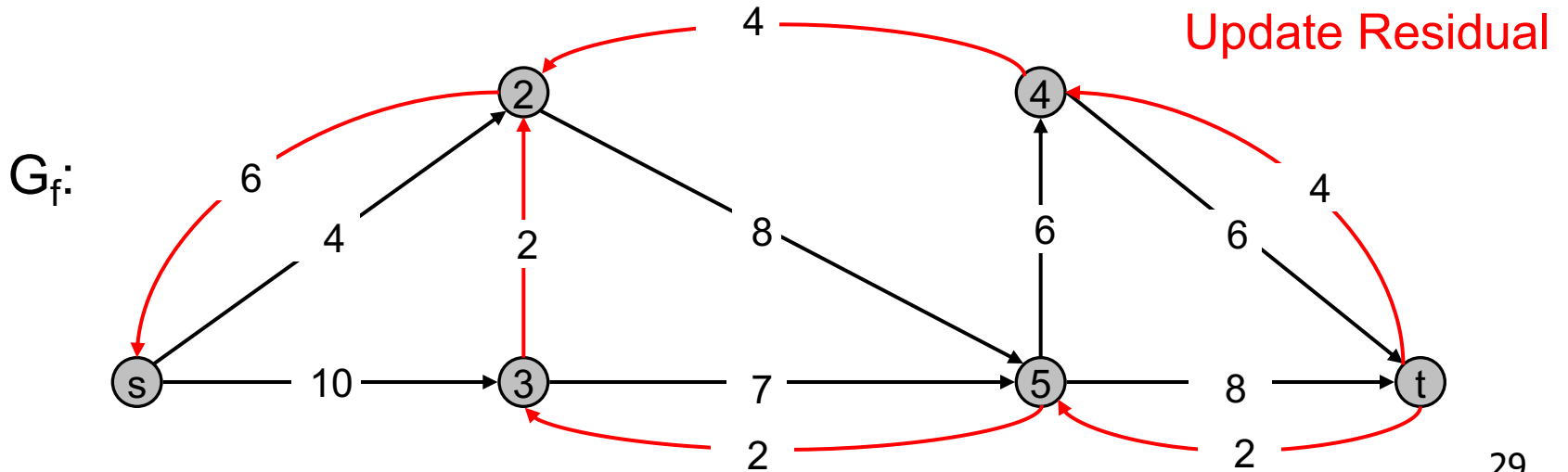
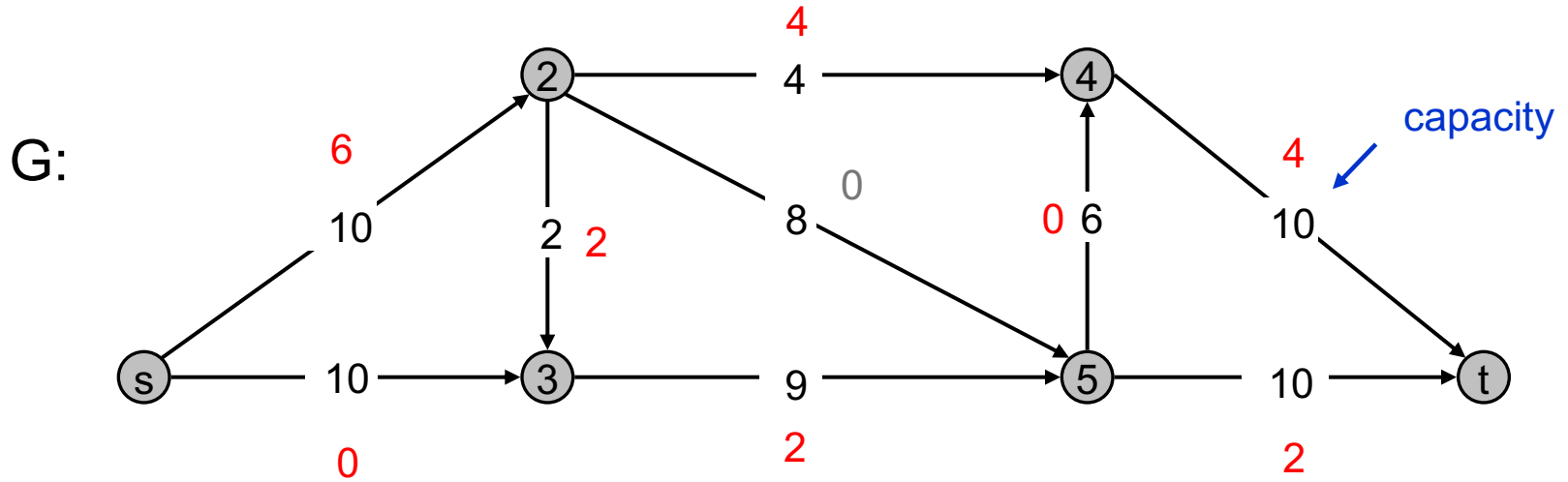
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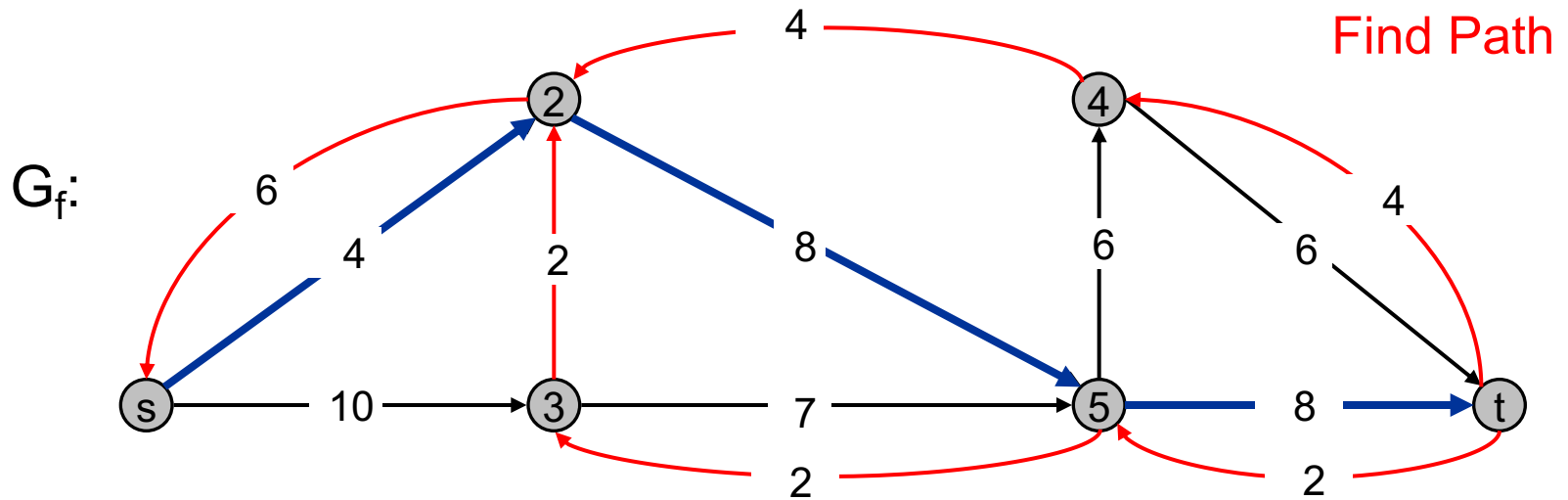
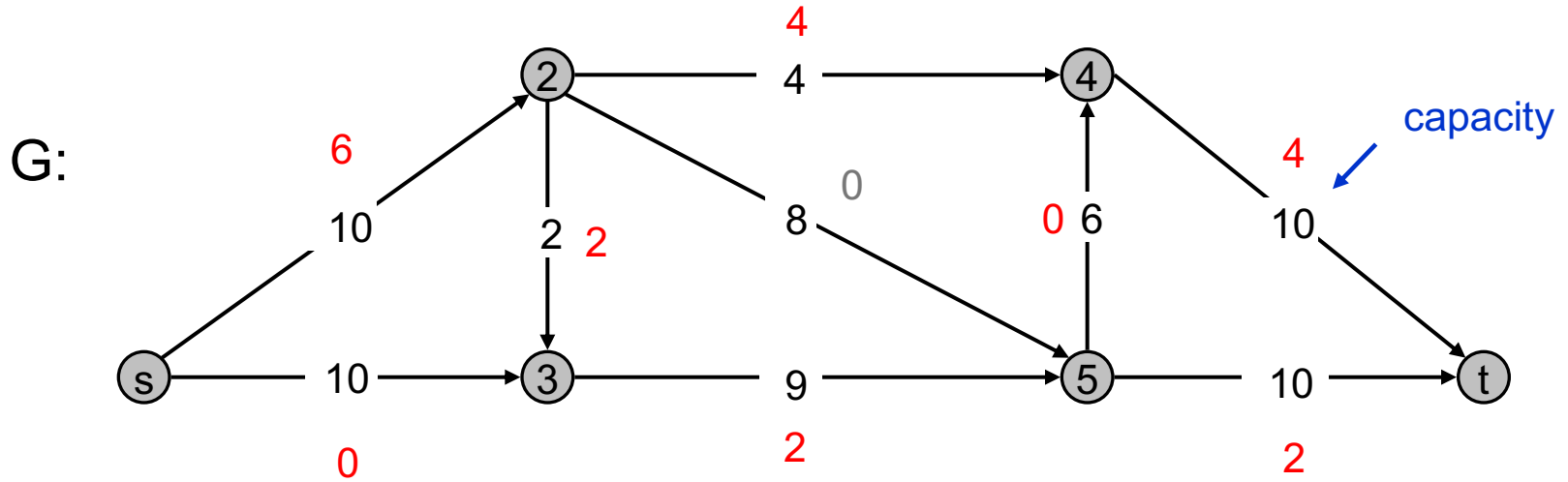
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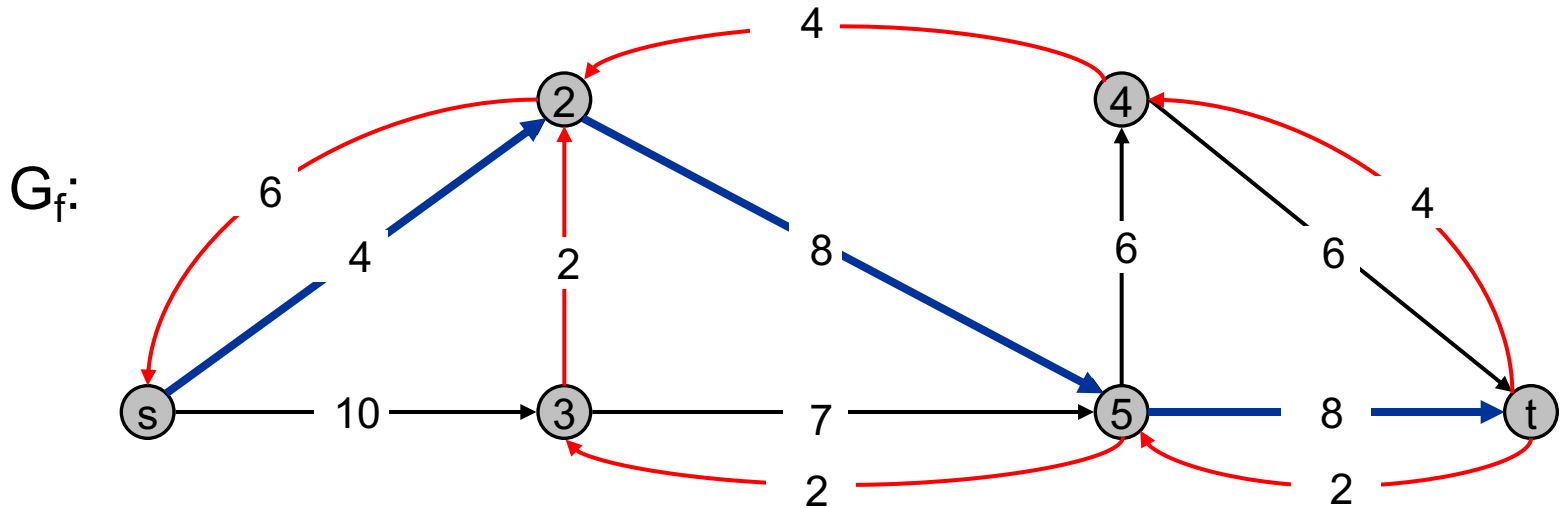
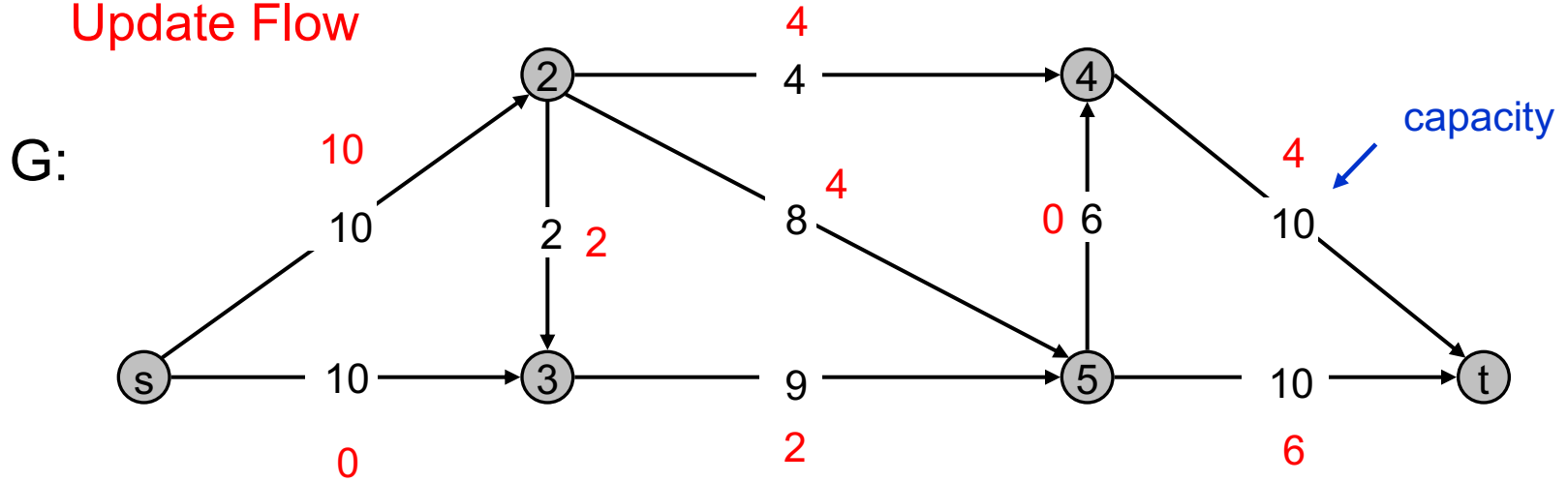


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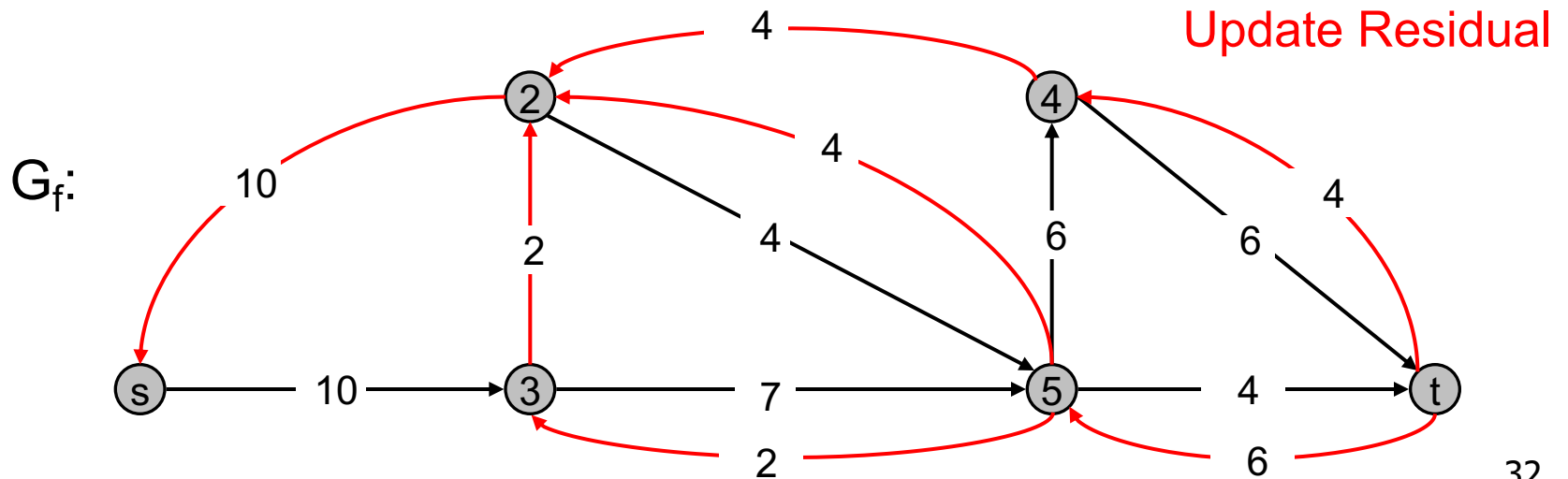
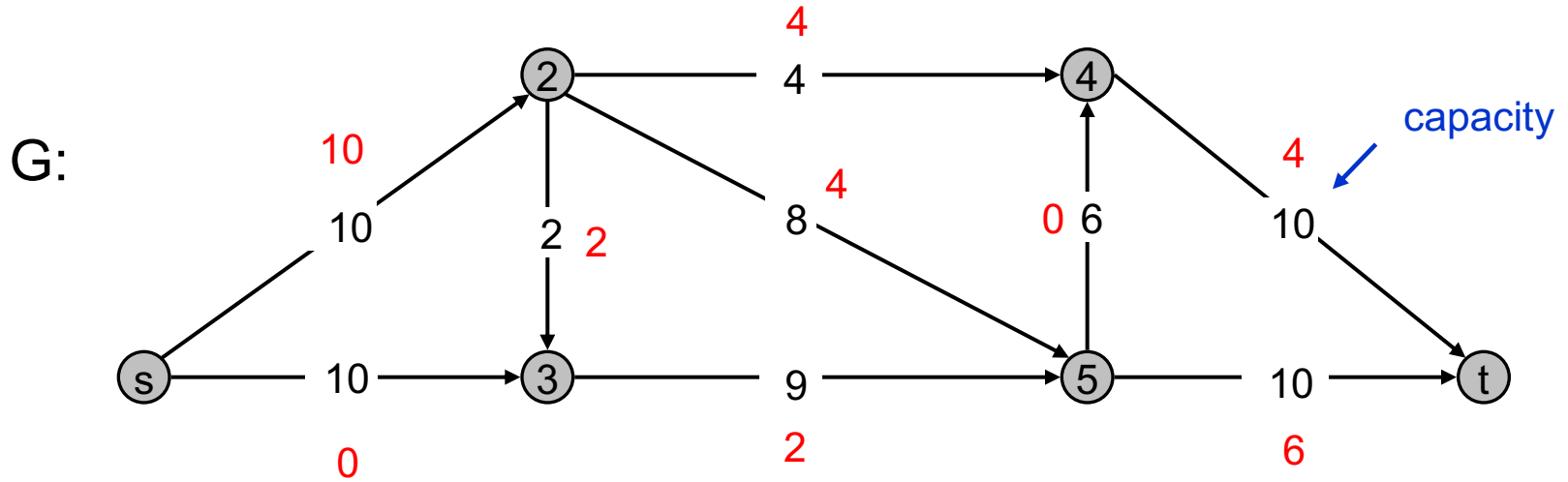


# Ford-Fulkerson Alg: Greedy on $G_f$

Update Flow

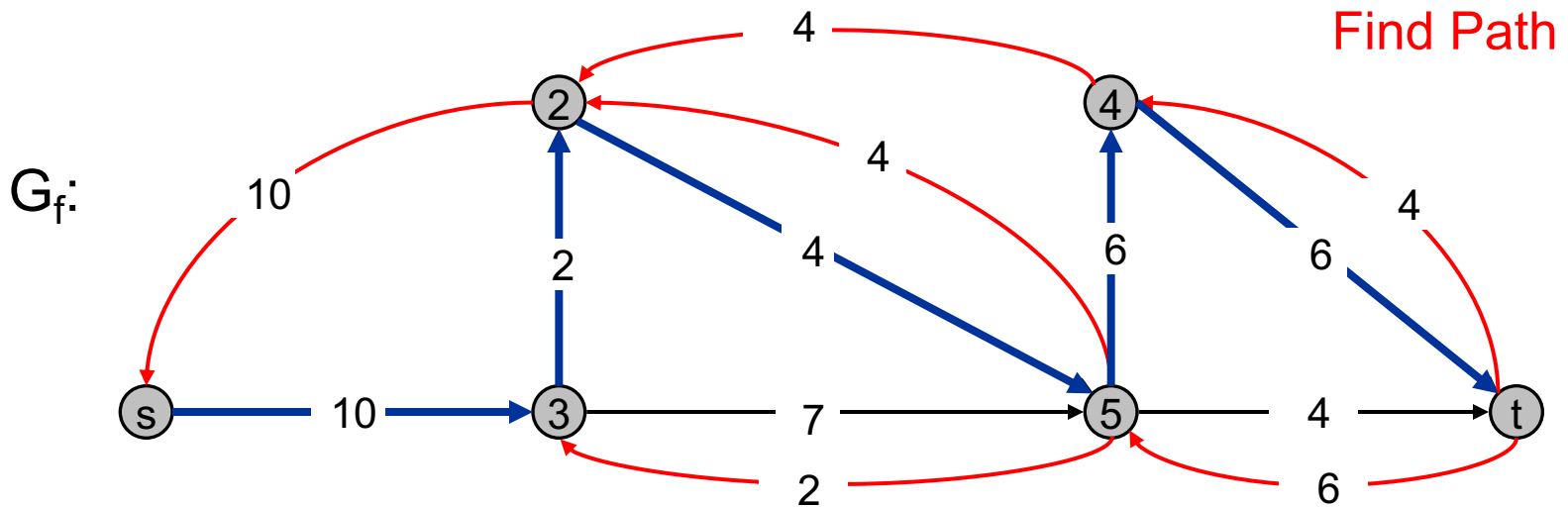
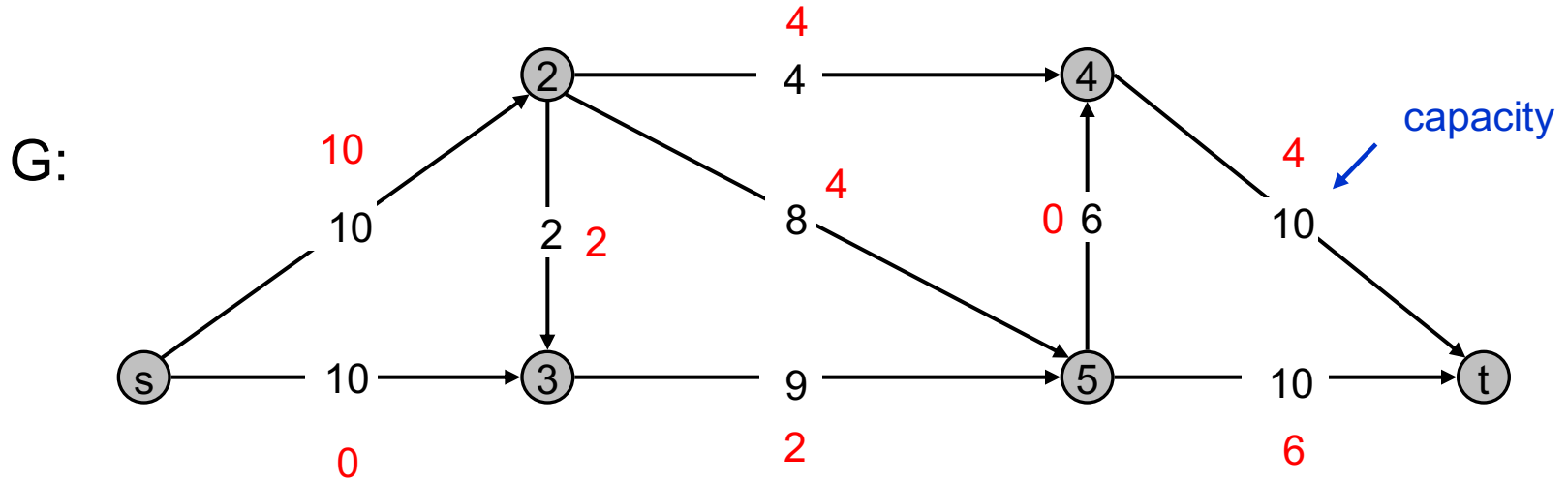


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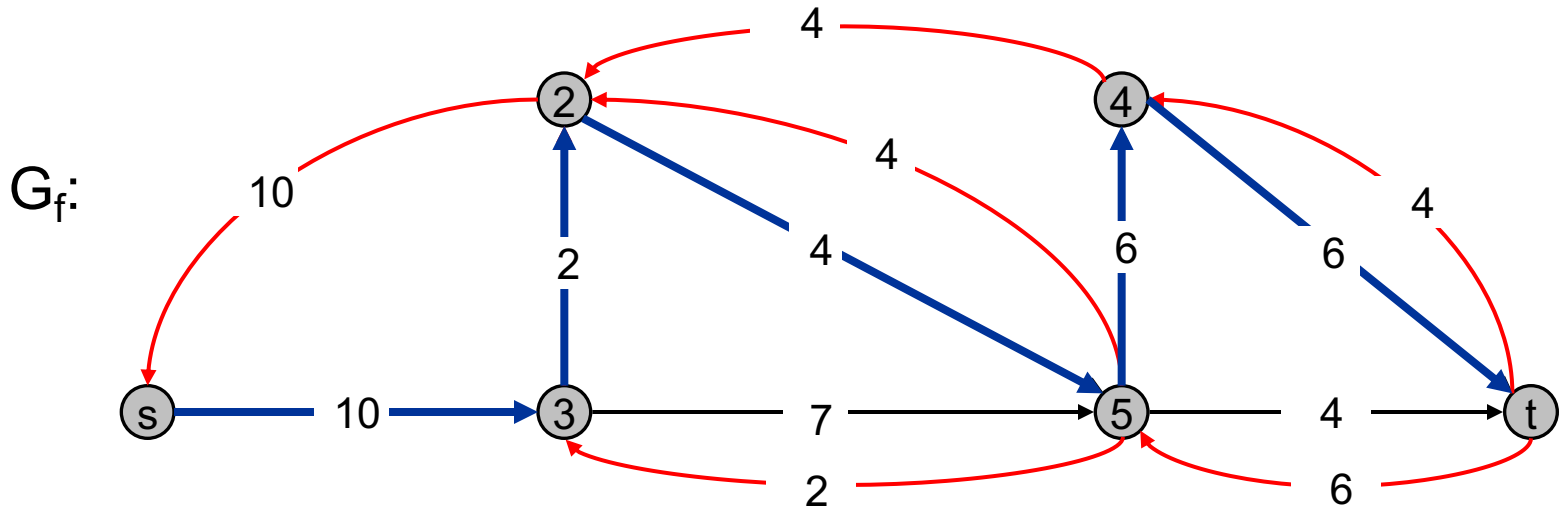
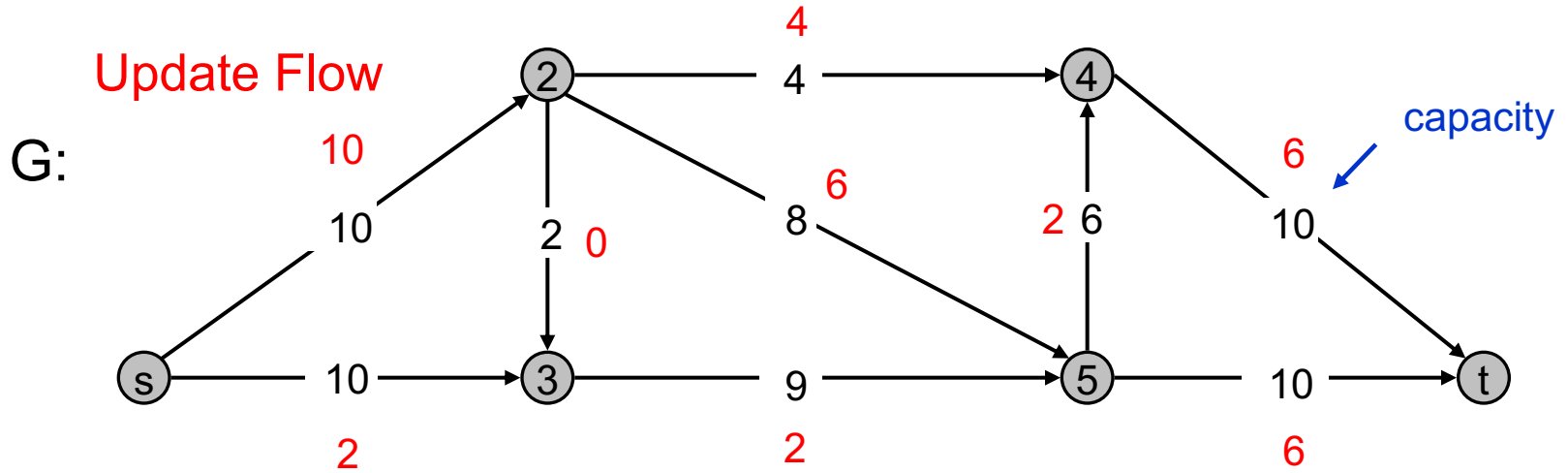




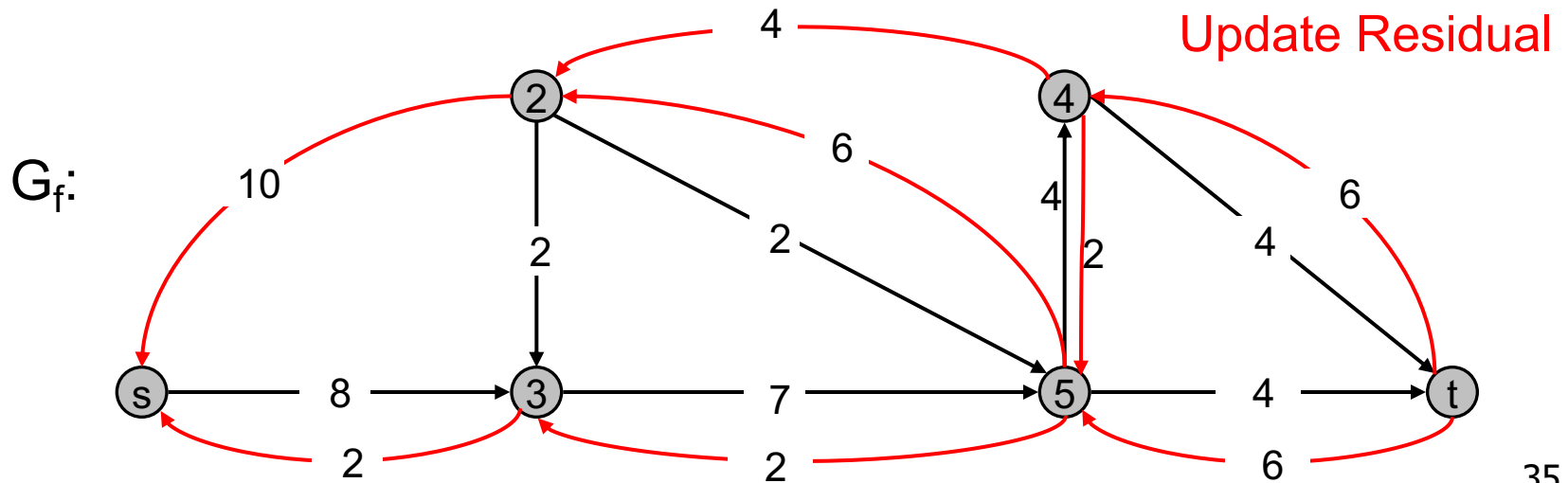
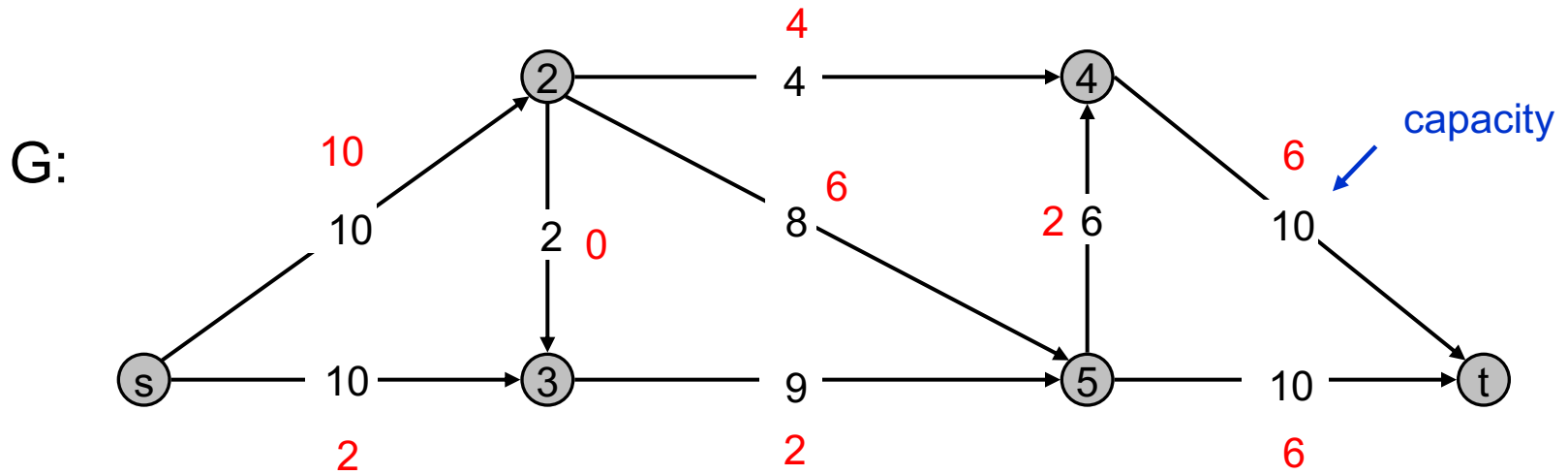
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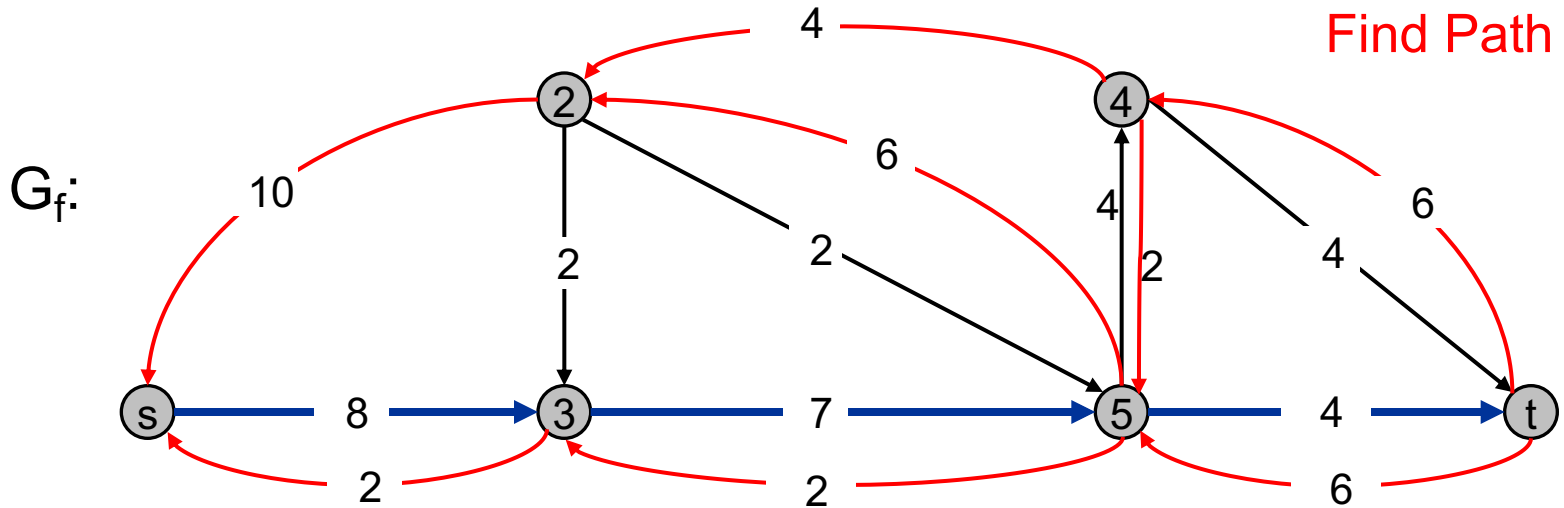
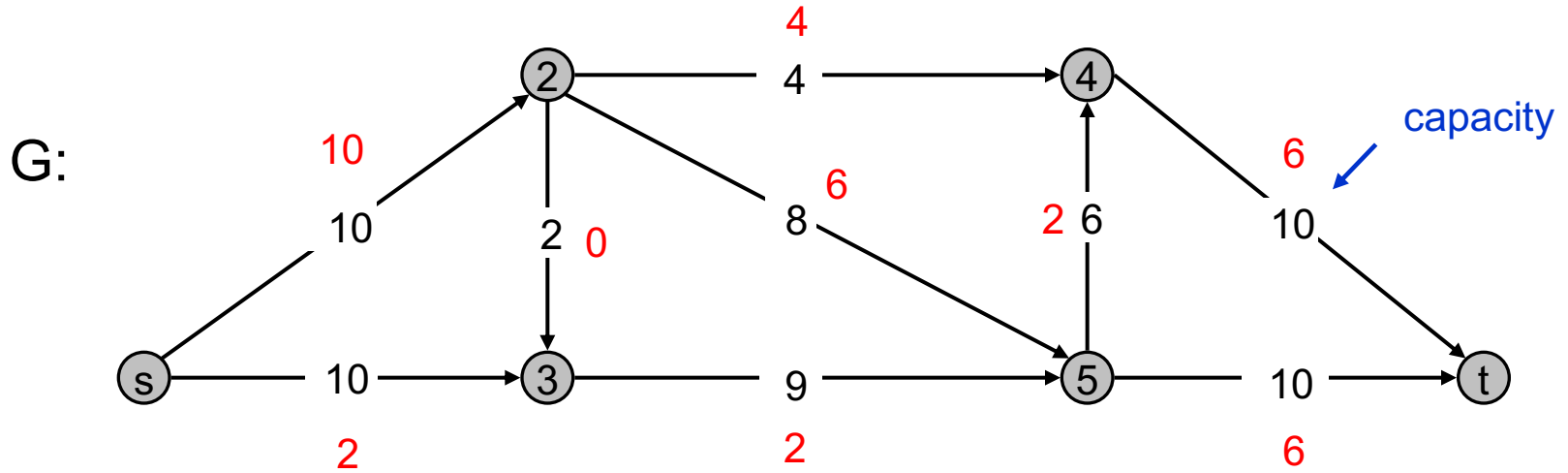
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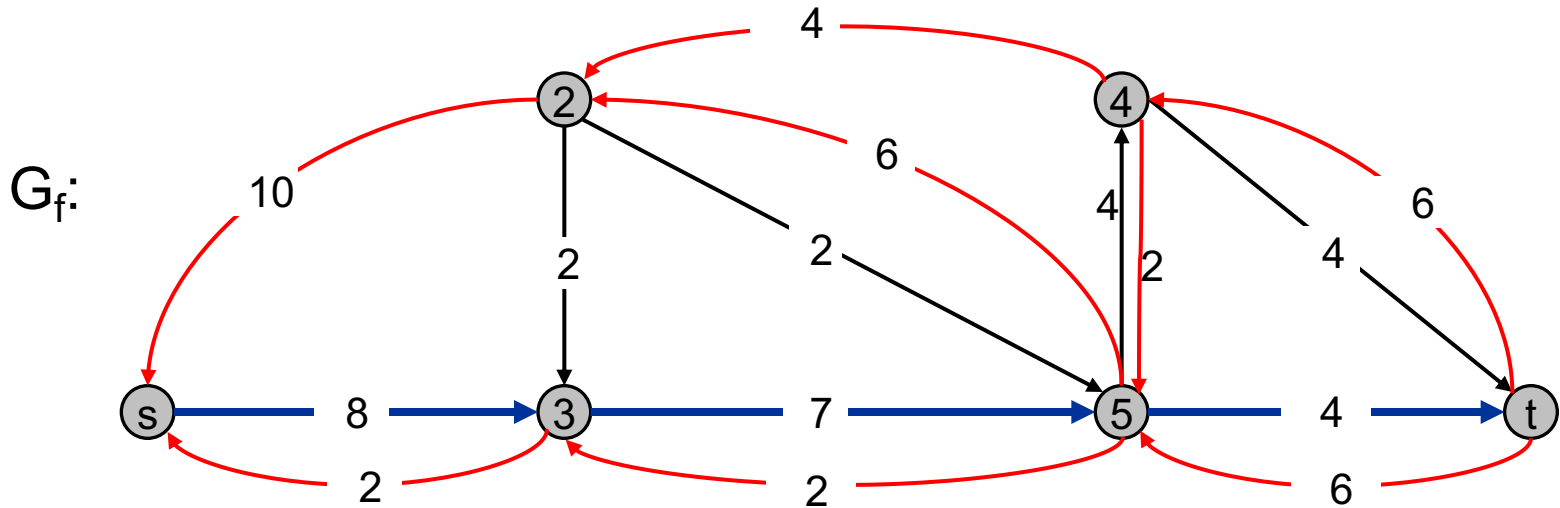
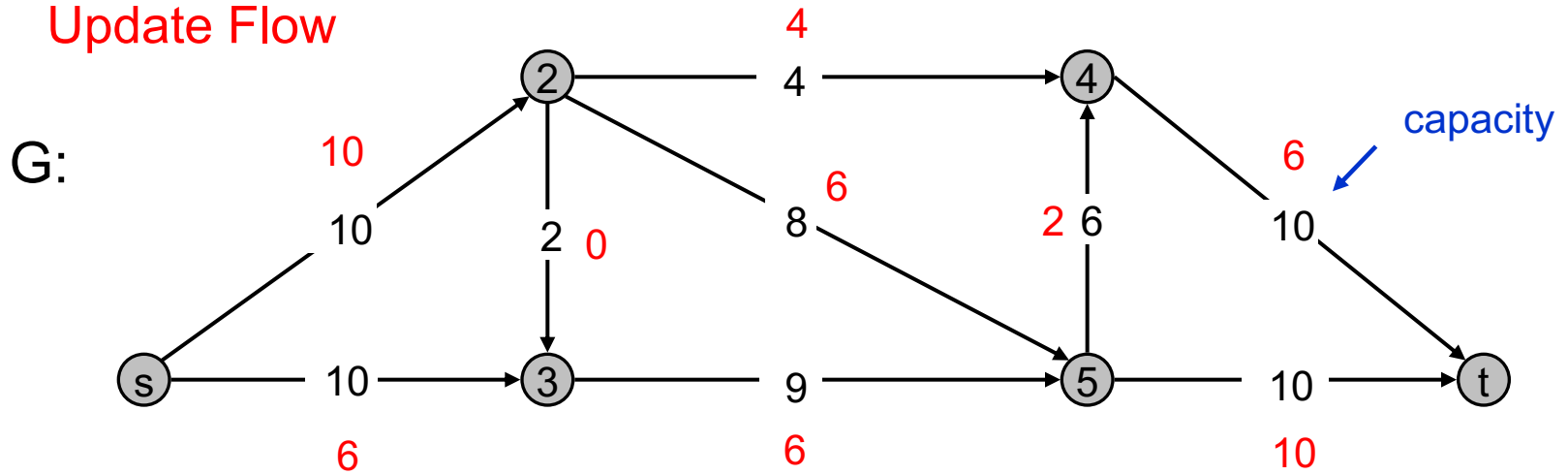


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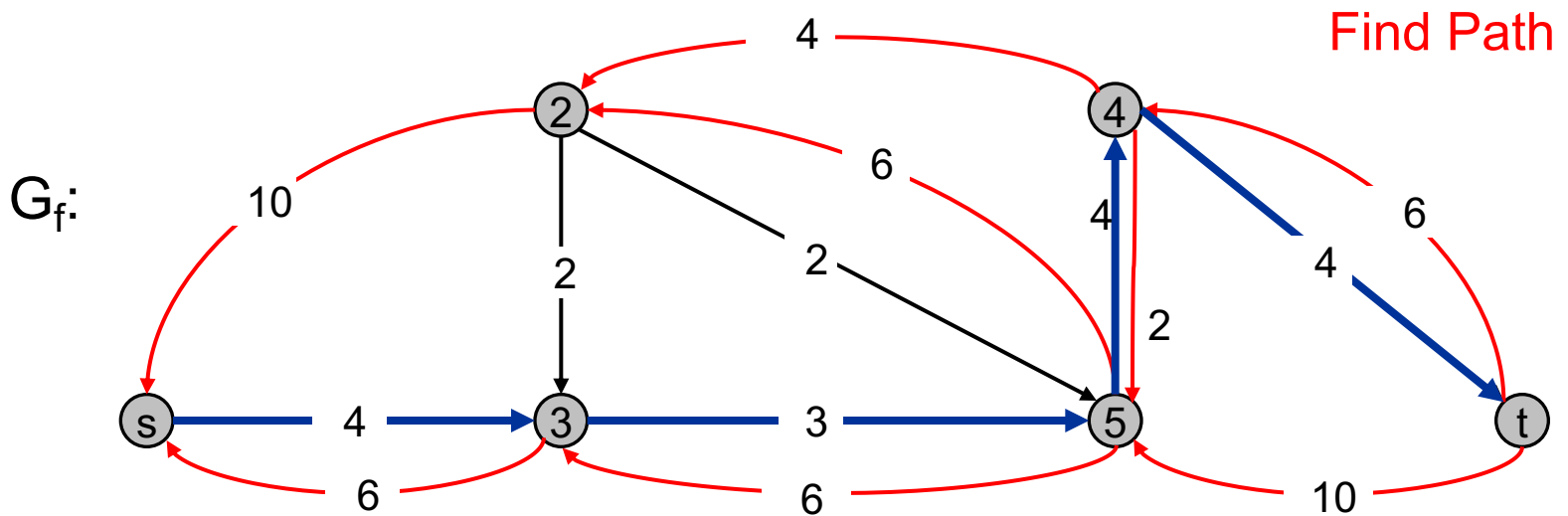
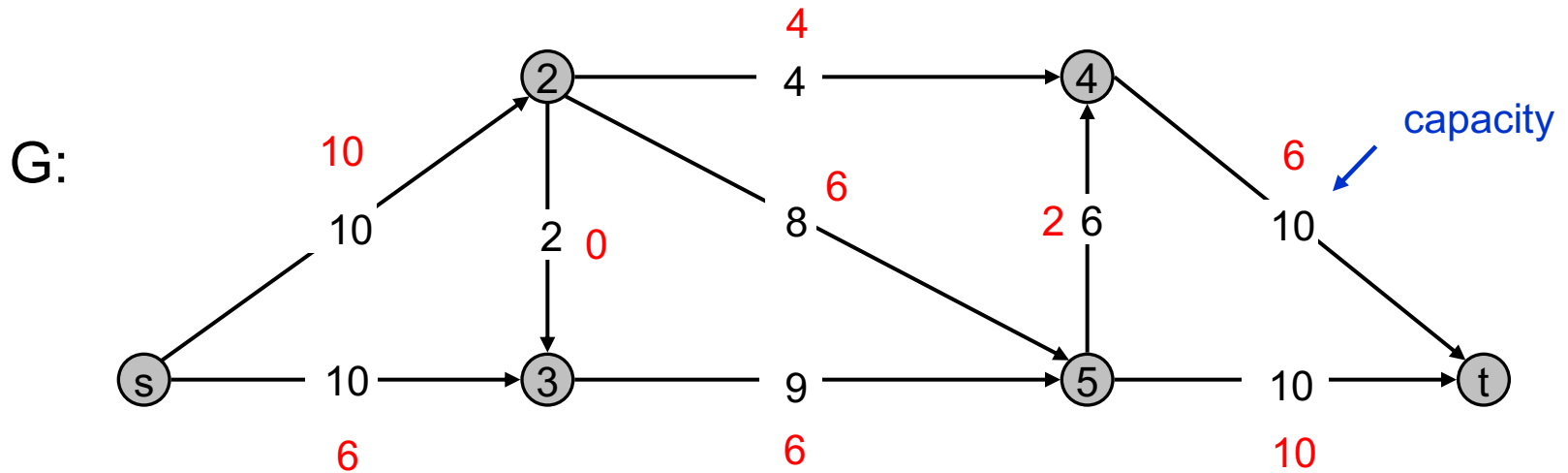
# Ford-Fulkerson Alg: Greedy on $G_f$

Update Flow



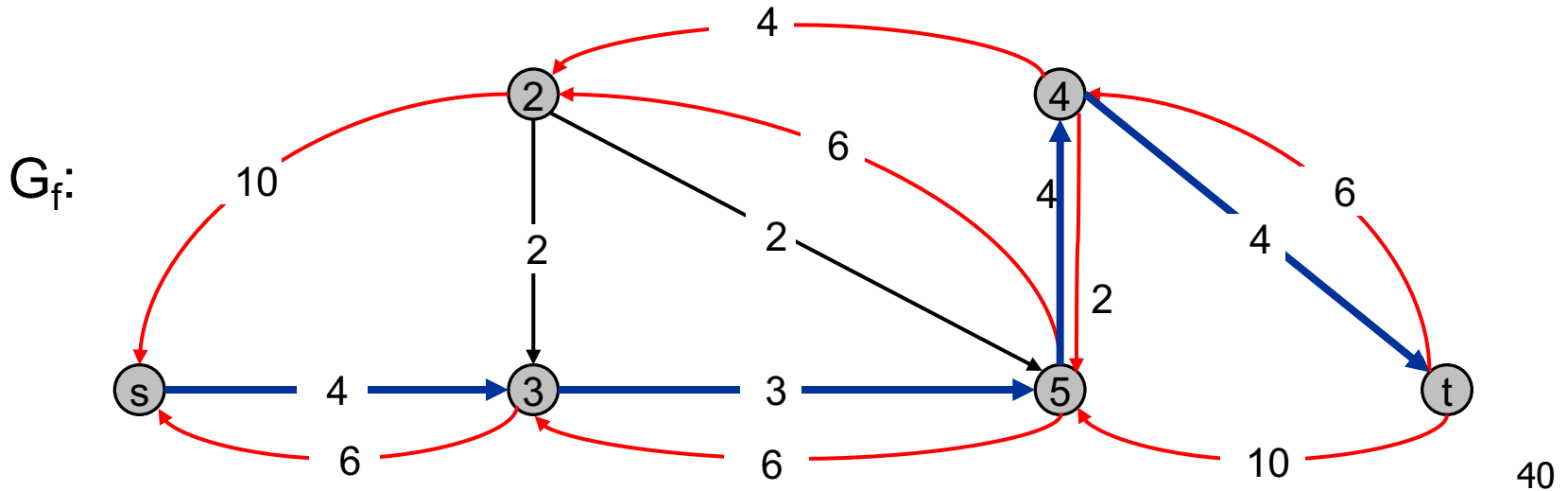
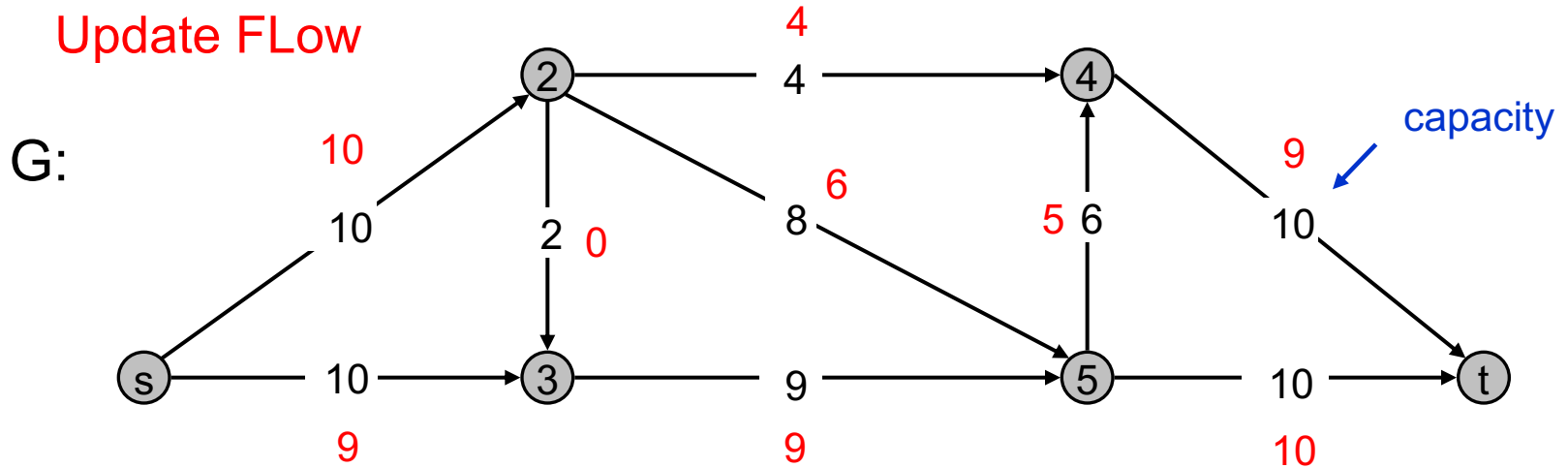


# Ford-Fulkerson Alg: Greedy on $G_f$



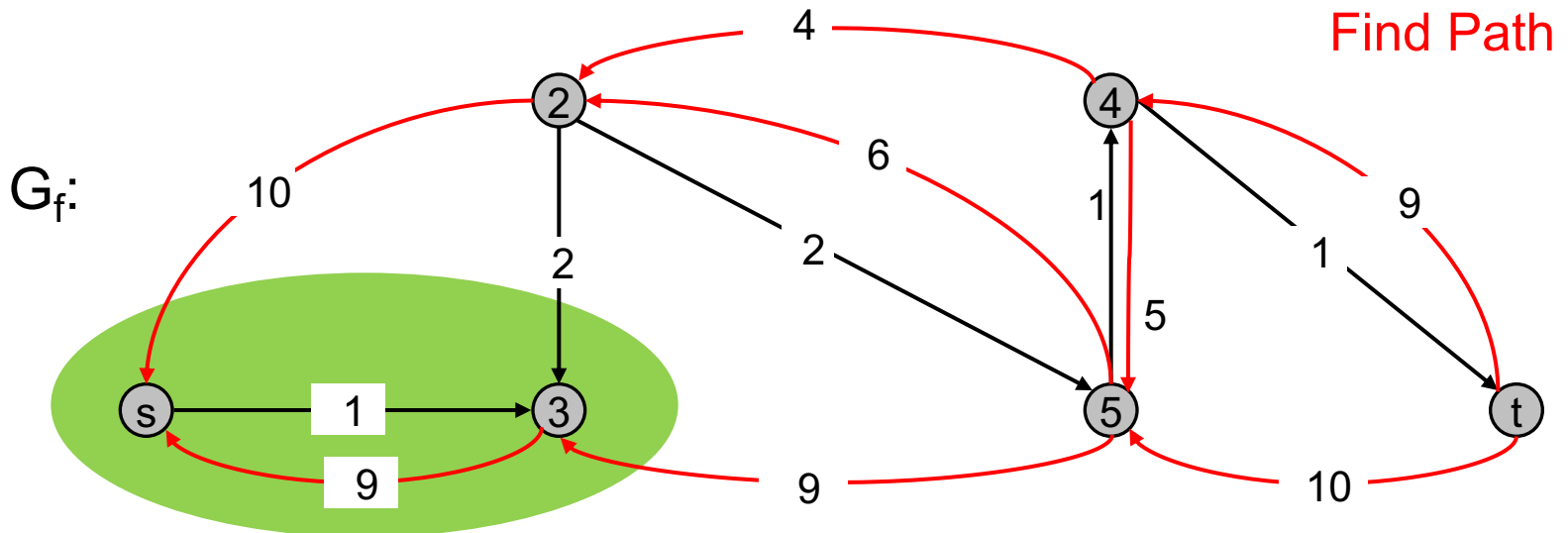
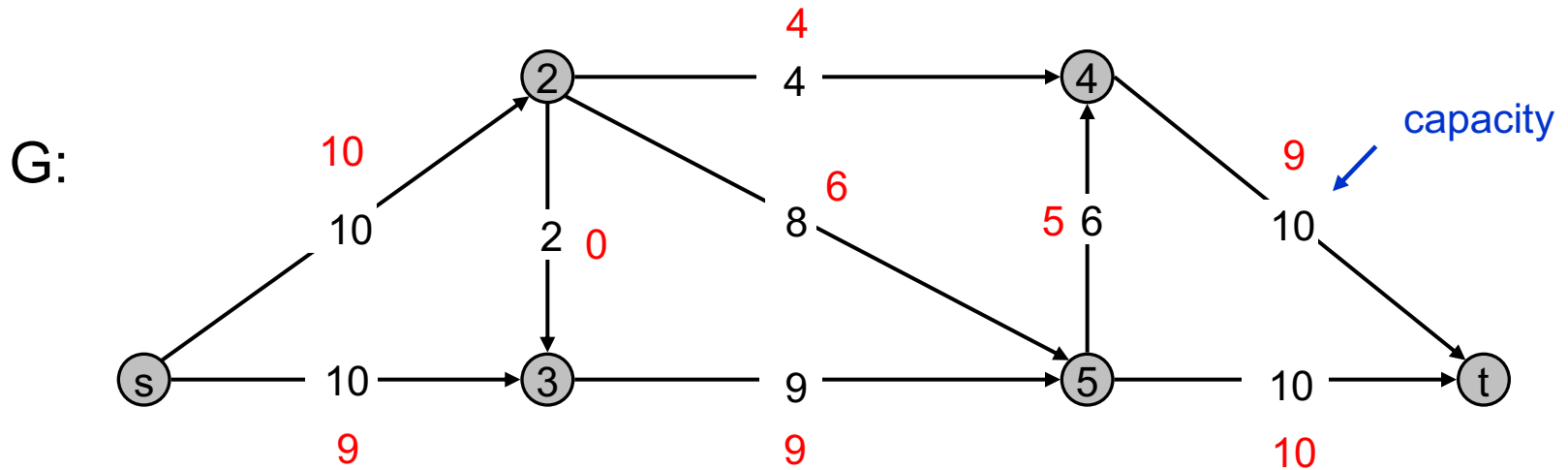
# Ford-Fulkerson Alg: Greedy on $G_f$

Update FLOW





# Ford-Fulkerson Alg: Greedy on $G_f$



# Augmenting Path Algorithm

```
Augment(f, c, P) {  
  b ← bottleneck(P) ← Smallest capacity edge on P  
  foreach e ∈ P {  
    if (e ∈ E) f(e) ← f(e) + b ← Forward edge  
               c(e) ← c(e) - b  
               c(eR) ← c(eR) + b  
    else  
      f(e) ← f(e) - b ← Reverse edge  
      c(e) ← c(e) + b  
      c(eR) ← c(eR) - b  
  }  
  return f  
}
```

$e^R \in P$  → else

```
Ford-Fulkerson(G, s, t, c) {  
  foreach e ∈ E f(e) ← 0. Gf is residual graph  
  while (there exists augmenting path P) {  
    f ← Augment(f, c, P)  
  }  
  return f  
}
```

# Max Flow Min Cut Theorem

**Augmenting path theorem.** Flow  $f$  is a max flow iff there are no augmenting paths.

**Max-flow min-cut theorem.** [Ford-Fulkerson 1956] The value of the max  $s$ - $t$  flow is equal to the value of the min  $s$ - $t$  cut.

**Proof strategy.** We prove both simultaneously by showing the TFAE:

- (i) There exists a cut  $(A, B)$  such that  $v(f) = \text{cap}(A, B)$ .
- (ii) Flow  $f$  is a max flow.
- (iii) There is no augmenting path relative to  $f$ .

(i)  $\Rightarrow$  (ii) This was the corollary to weak duality lemma.

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iii) We show contrapositive.

Let  $f$  be a flow. If there exists an augmenting path, then we can improve  $f$  by sending flow along that path.

# Pf of Max Flow Min Cut Theorem

(iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i)

No augmenting path for  $f \Rightarrow$  there is a cut  $(A,B)$ :  $v(f)=\text{cap}(A,B)$

- Let  $f$  be a flow with no augmenting paths.
- Let  $A$  be set of vertices reachable from  $s$  in residual graph.
- By definition of  $A$ ,  $s \in A$ .
- By definition of  $f$ ,  $t \notin A$ .

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

# Running Time

**Assumption.** All capacities are integers between 1 and  $C$ .

**Invariant.** Every flow value  $f(e)$  and every residual capacities  $c_f(e)$  remains an **integer** throughout the algorithm.

**Theorem.** The algorithm terminates in at most  $v(f^*) \leq nC$  iterations, if  $f^*$  is optimal flow.

**Pf.** Each augmentation increase value by at least 1.

**Corollary.** If  $C = 1$ , Ford-Fulkerson runs in  $O(mn)$  time.

**Integrality theorem.** If all capacities are integers, then there exists a max flow  $f$  for which every flow value  $f(e)$  is an integer.

**Pf.** Since algorithm terminates, theorem follows from invariant.