

15-750  
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# The Preflow-Push Max-Flow Alg

Goal:  $O(n^3)$  Alg  $O(n^2 m)$

This Alg + Better Data Structures:  $O(n \cdot m \log n)$

Known:  $O(m \sqrt{n} \log^k n)$  (some  $k$ )

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Idea Relax the flow-in = flow-out condition.

Def  $f$  is an s-t preflow (preflow) if

1)  $f: E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$

2)  $0 \leq f(e) \leq c_e$

3)  $e_f(v) = \sum_{u} f(u, v) - \sum_{w} f(v, w) \geq 0$  (excess)

$\forall v \in V \setminus \{s, t\}$

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As before we have a residual graph.

$G_f$

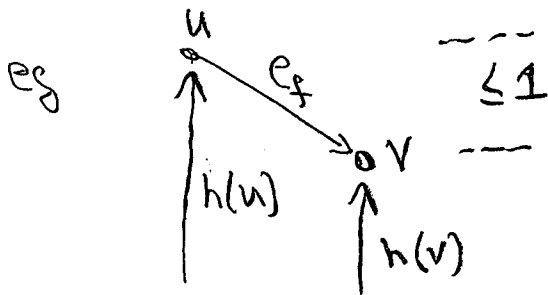
We use a vertex label to guide "pushing" the flow.

Let  $h: V \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^+ = \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  (label or height)

Def  $f$  &  $h$  are compatible if

1)  $h(t) = 0$  &  $h(s) = n$  (sink & source condition)

2)  $\forall (u, v) \in E_f \quad h(u) \leq h(v) + 1$



Lemma  $f$  (st preflow) &  $h$  (compatible labeling)

then no augmenting path in  $G_f$ .

pt By contradiction! Let  $P$  be such a path

We may assume  $P$  is simple. # edges of  $P < n$

∴  $h(s) - h(t) < n$  contra!

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Cor  $f$  (st flow) &  $h$  (compatible labeling)

then  $f$  is a Max-Flow.

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Init( $G$ )  $f(s, v) = C(s, v) \quad \forall v$

$f(e) = 0 \quad \text{o.w.}$

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$h(s) = n \quad h(v) = 0 \quad \text{o.w.}$

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Note  $f$  &  $h$  are compatible

pf Only  $v$  st  $h(v) > 0$  is  $s$ .

But we saturated edges out of  $s$ .

Note is only a preflow!

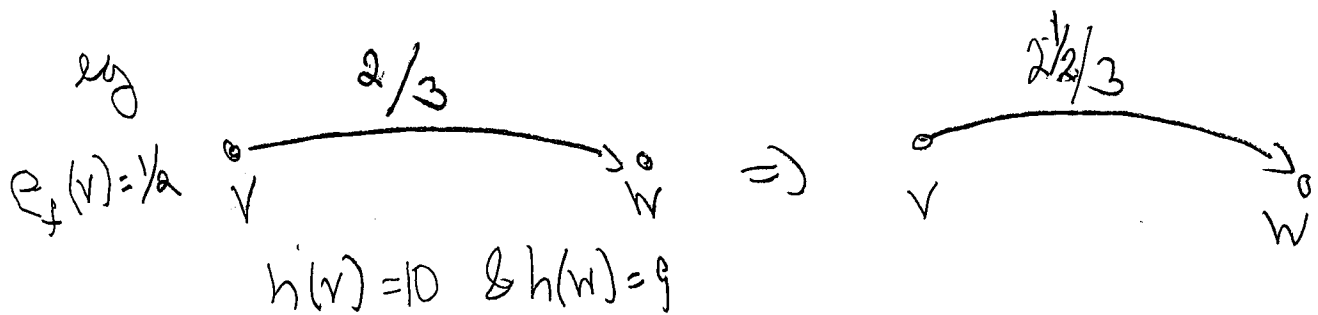
# Push & Relabel

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Push ( $f, h, v, w$ )

if  $e_f(v) > 0$  &  $(v, w) \in E_f$  &  $h(v) > h(w)$

then "push"  $\min\{e_f(v), c_f\}$



Relabel ( $f, h, v$ )

If  $e_f(v) > 0$  &  $\forall (v, w) \in E_f$   $h(v) \leq h(w)$

then  $h(v) \leftarrow h(v) + 1$

## Preflow-Push

1) Init

2) While  $\exists v \neq t$  st  $e_f(v) > 0$  do

If  $\exists w$  st  $(v, w) \in E_f$  &  $h(v) > h(w)$

then  $\text{Push}(f, h, v, w)$

Else  $\text{relabel}(f, h, v)$

3) Return  $f$

## Correctness

Claim 1  $f$  &  $h$  are always compatible.

Claim 2 If Preflow-Push returns  $f$  then

$f$  is a max-flow

### pf of claim 1

Each push preserves compatibility.

" " relabel "

" "

## Timing & Termination

To show excess can be "pushed" back to  $s$ .

Lemma  $f$  preflow &  $e_f(v) > 0$  then  $\exists$  path from  $v$  to  $s$ . ( $s$  not  $t$ )

pf Let  $A = \{w \mid \exists \text{ path from } w \text{ to } s \text{ in } G_f\}$   
 $B = V - A$

Note Flow  $f$  can only go from  $B$  to  $A$ .

Claim  $\sum_{v \in B} e_f(v) = 0$

$$\sum_{v \in B} e_f(v) = \sum_{v \in B} f^{\text{in}}(v) - f^{\text{out}}(v)$$

three types of edges  $(u, v) \in \text{sum}$

1)  $u, v \in B$  (cancel)

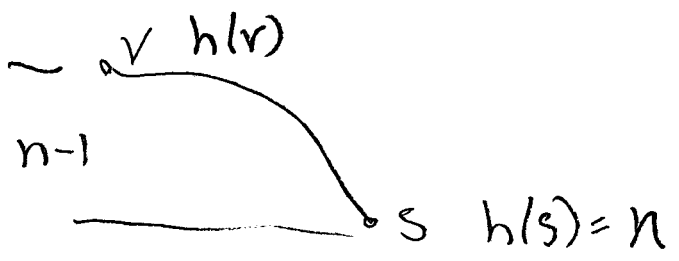
2)  $u \in A$  &  $v \in B$  (zero)

3)  $v \in B$   $u \in A$  (negative in sum)

$$\text{ii } 0 \leq \sum_{v \in B} p_f(v) = -f^{\text{out}}(B) \leq 0 \quad \underline{\text{QED}}$$


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Claim  $h(v) \leq 2n-1$

pt  $\sim$   $v$   $h(v)$   
 $n-1$   
  
 $s$   $h(s)=n \Rightarrow h(v) \geq 2n-1$

Cor # of relabels  $< 2n^2$

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Counting # of pushes

2 types

saturating

push  $\equiv C_f$

nonsaturating

otherwise

Claim # saturating pushes  $\leq 2nm$

to show # per edge  $\leq n$

Before push  $v \xrightarrow{P_f} w$   $h(v) = h(w) + 1$

After push  $v \xleftarrow{E_f} w$  need 2 relabels.

Lemma # nonsaturating pushes  $\leq 4n^2m$ .

pt Consider the following potential

$$\Phi(f, h) = \sum_{e_f(v) > 0} h(v)$$

ops	#	AE	util: cost	effect on potential
relabel	$2n^2$	$\leq 2$	$4n^2$	$+ 2n^2$
saturating	$2nm$	$\leq 2n-1$	$\leq 2n(2n-1)$	$+ 2nm(2n-1)$
non-sat	$\alpha$	$0$	$1$	$-\alpha$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha \leq 2nm(2n-1) + 2n^2 = 4n^2m - 2nm + 2n^2 \leq 4n^2m$$



We have shown

Thm Preflow-Push is  $O(n^3m)$  time.

## New Alg Preflow-Push-Max-Height

Idea: Only "push" max height

Let  $H = \max_{f(v) > 0} h(v)$

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Push ( $f, h, v, w$ )

if  $f(v) > 0$   
 1)  $(v, w) \in E_f$   
 2)  $H = h(v) > h(w)$

} then "push"  $\min\{e_f(v), c_f\}$

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Thm Preflow-Push-Max-Height in  $O(n^3)$  time.

Potential:  $\Phi(f, h) = \max\{h(v) : e_f(v) > 0\}$

Note: Only relabels increase  $\Phi$ .

#relabel  $\leq 2n^2$

#decreases in  $\Phi \leq$  #increases

Thus  $\leq 4n^2$  total changes.

Counting the number of pushes:

Saturating: #SAT  $\leq 2nm \leq n^3$

Non-Sat: Relabel only if cannot find a push.

Note push(v,w) non-sat then  $e_f(v) = 0$

$\therefore |\{v \mid e_f(v) > 0 \ \& \ h(v) = H\}|$

is one less.

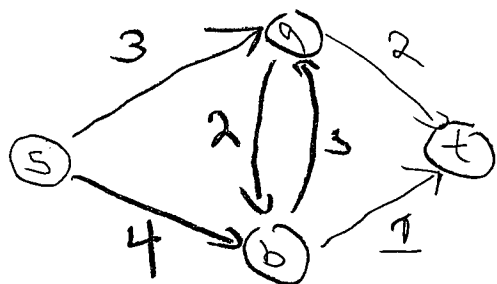
Goal: # of non-sat pushes per change in  $\mathbb{I}(f,h)$

$\leq n$

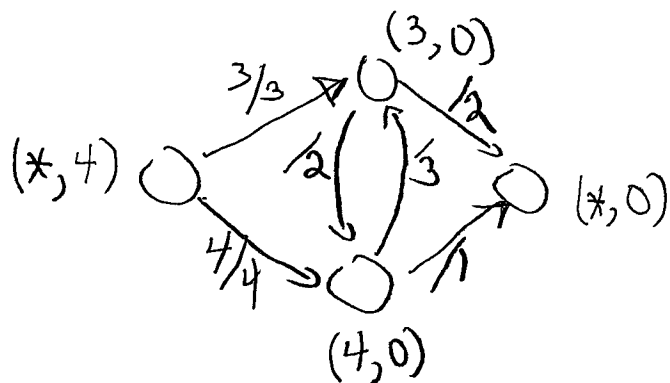
$\therefore \# \text{ non-sat pushes } \leq 4n^3$

QED.

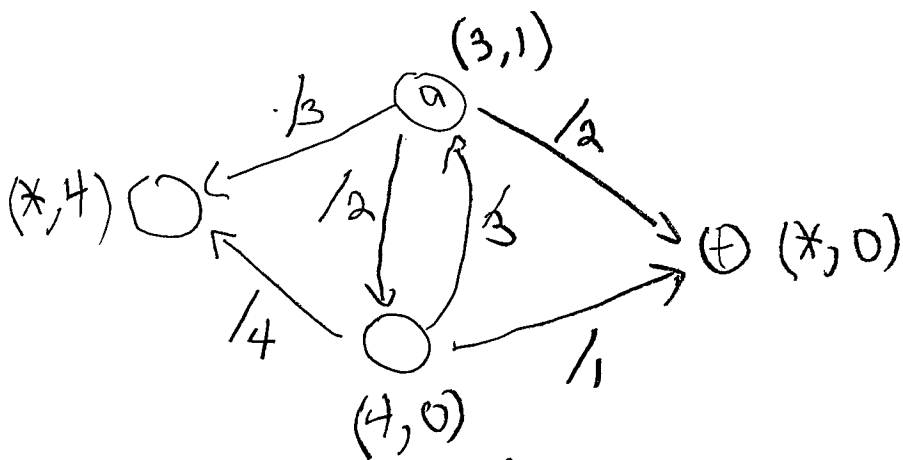
Flow Prob.



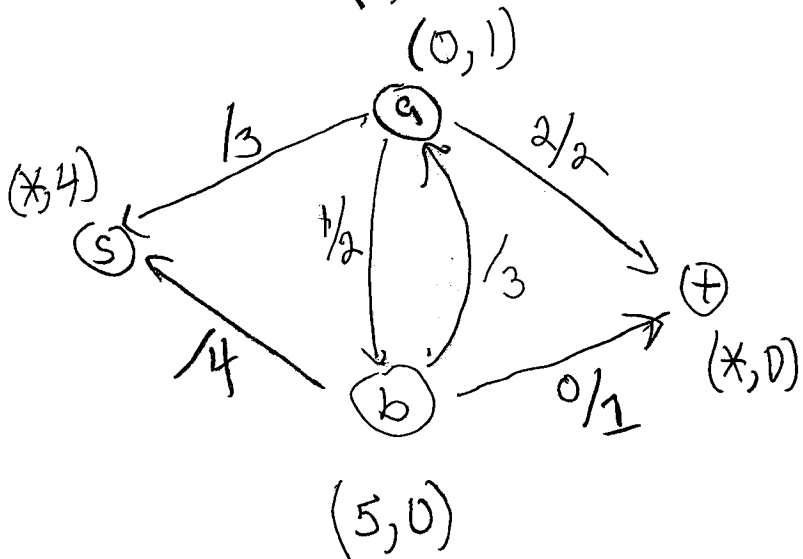
excess  
height  
Init

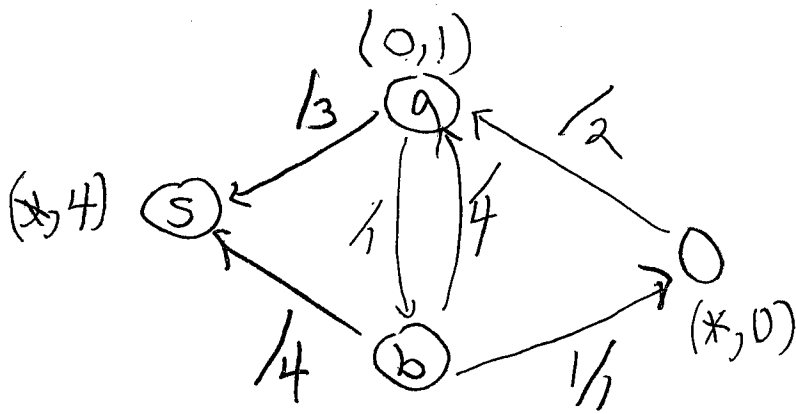


1) residual  
2) relabel (a)

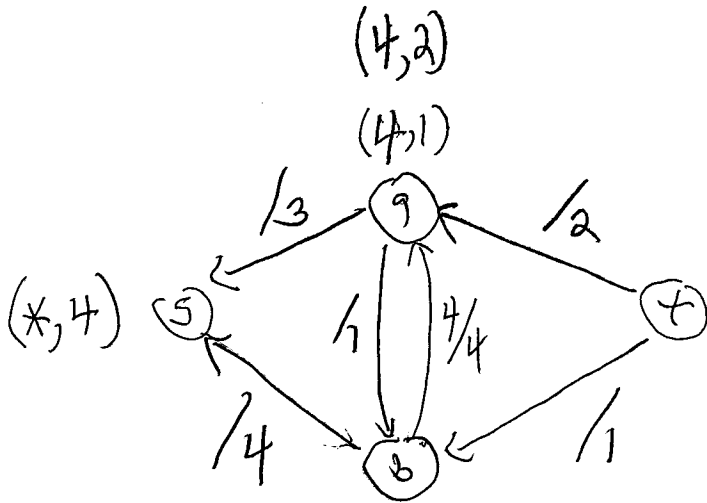


1) Push (f, h, a, t)  
Push (f, h, a, b)

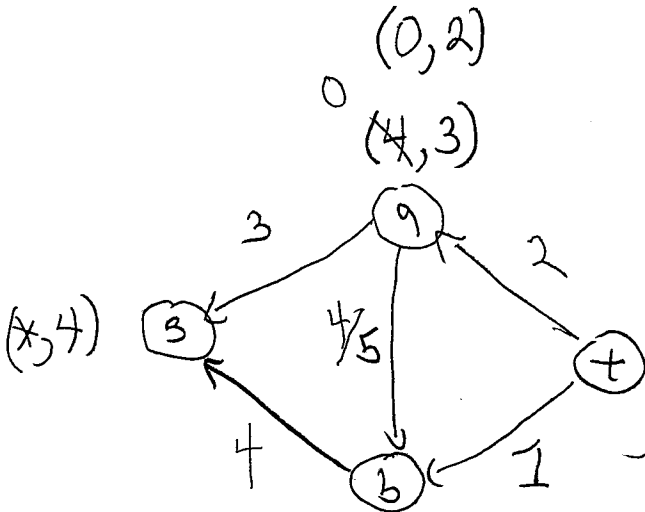




- 1) residual
- 2) relabel(b)
- 3) push(b,t)
- 4) relabel(b)

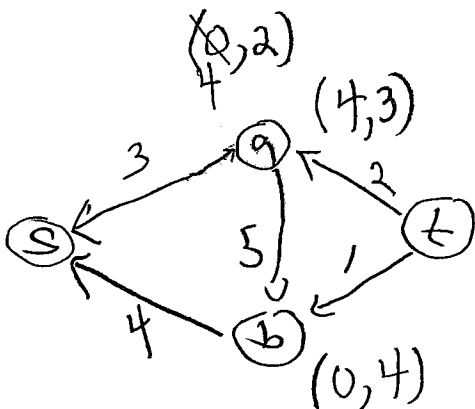


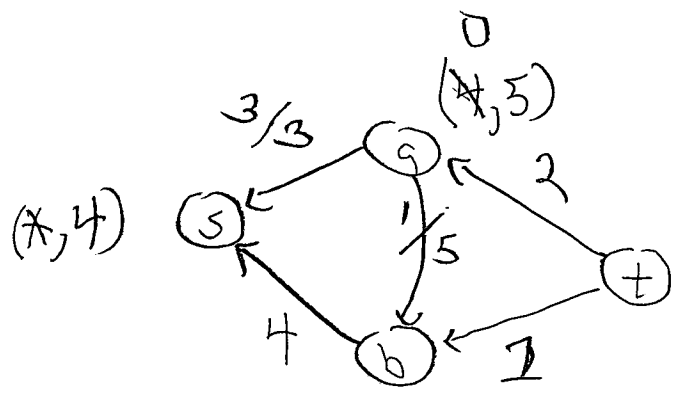
- 1) push(b,a)



- 1) relabel<sup>2</sup>(a)
- 2) push(a,b)

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- (3) relabel<sup>2</sup>(b)
  - (4) push(b,a)



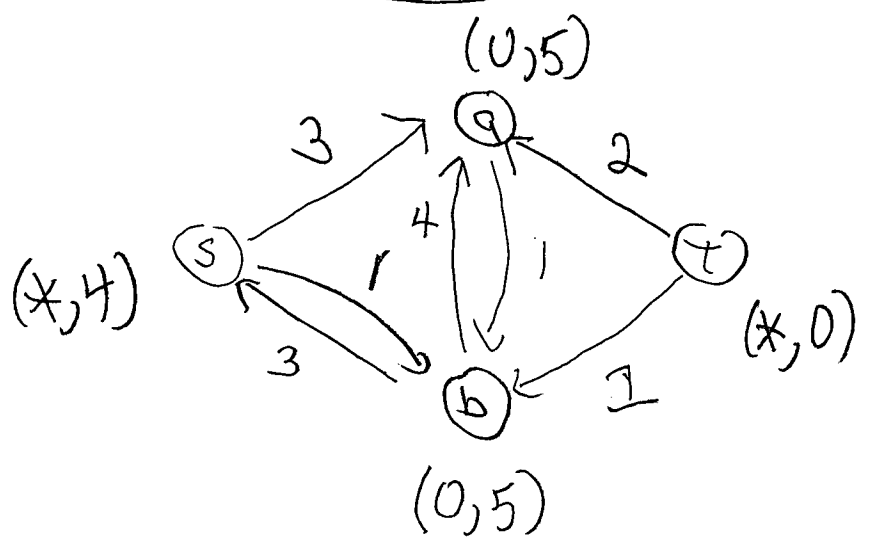


- 1) relabel<sup>2</sup>(a)
- 2) push(a, s)
- 3) push(a, b)

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- 4) relabel(b)
- 5) push(b, s)

(1, 4)



Final Flow

