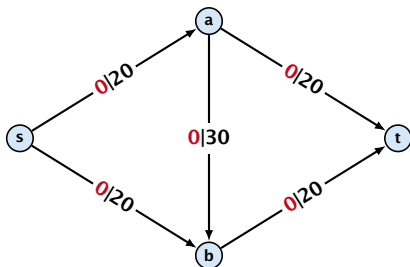


# 11 Augmenting Path Algorithms

## Greedy-algorithm:

- ▶ start with  $f(e) = 0$  everywhere
- ▶ find an  $s$ - $t$  path with  $f(e) < c(e)$  on every edge
- ▶ augment flow along the path
- ▶ repeat as long as possible

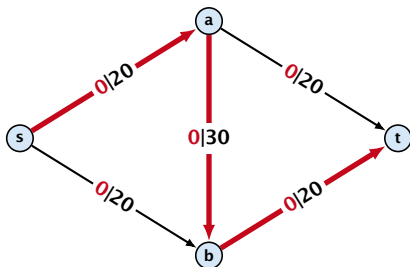


flow value: 0

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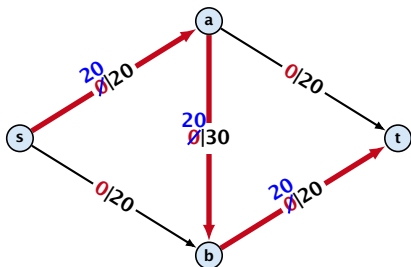


flow value: 0

# 11 Augmenting Path Algorithms

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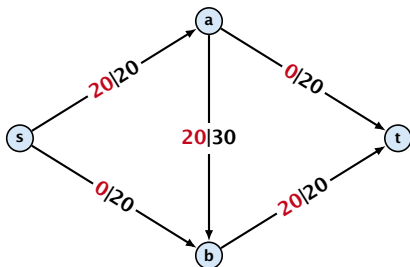


flow value: 0

# 11 Augmenting Path Algorithms

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- ▶ start with  $f(e) = 0$  everywhere
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- ▶ repeat as long as possible



flow value: 20

# The Residual Graph

From the graph  $G = (V, E, c)$  and the current flow  $f$  we construct an auxiliary graph  $G_f = (V, E_f, c_f)$  (the residual graph):

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# The Residual Graph

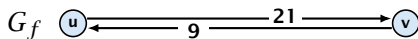
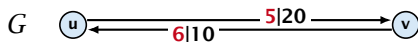
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- ▶  $G_f$  has edge  $e'_1$  with capacity  $\max\{0, c(e_1) - f(e_1) + f(e_2)\}$  and  $e'_2$  with with capacity  $\max\{0, c(e_2) - f(e_2) + f(e_1)\}$ .

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# Augmenting Path Algorithm

## Definition 49

An **augmenting path** with respect to flow  $f$ , is a path from  $s$  to  $t$  in the auxiliary graph  $G_f$  that contains only edges with non-zero capacity.

# Augmenting Path Algorithm

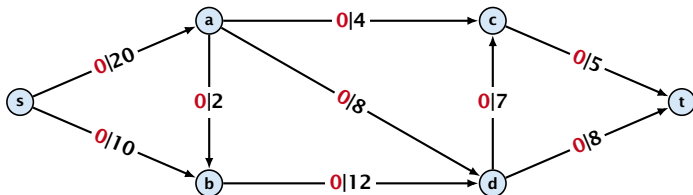
## Definition 49

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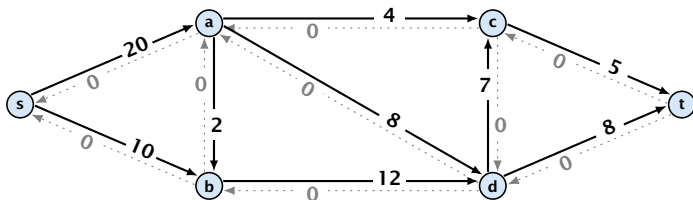
### Algorithm 1 FordFulkerson( $G = (V, E, c)$ )

- 1: Initialize  $f(e) \leftarrow 0$  for all edges.
- 2: **while**  $\exists$  augmenting path  $p$  in  $G_f$  **do**
- 3:     augment as much flow along  $p$  as possible.

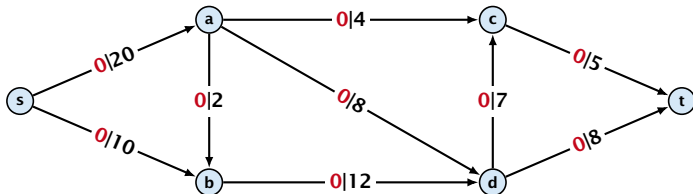
# Augmenting Paths



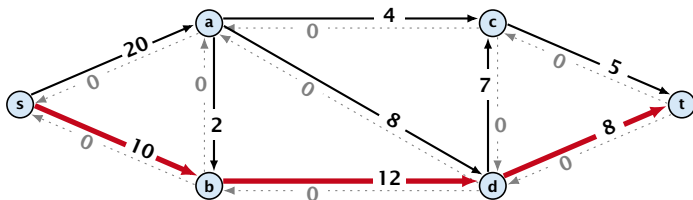
flow value: 0



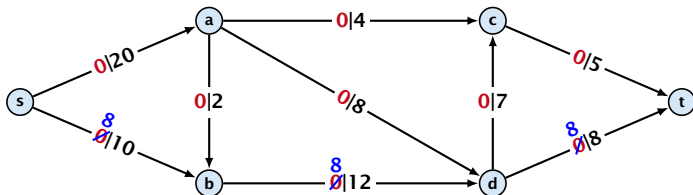
# Augmenting Paths



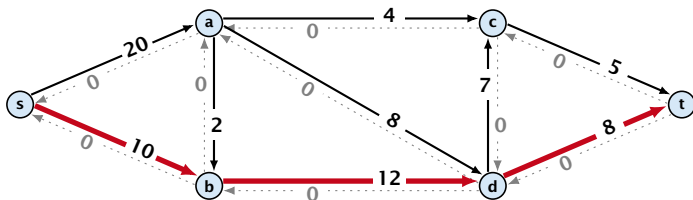
flow value: 0



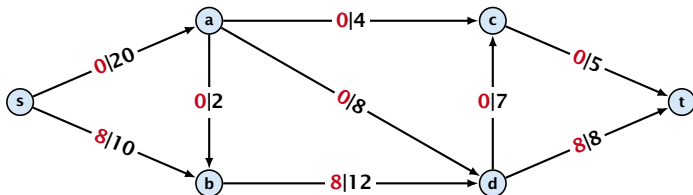
# Augmenting Paths



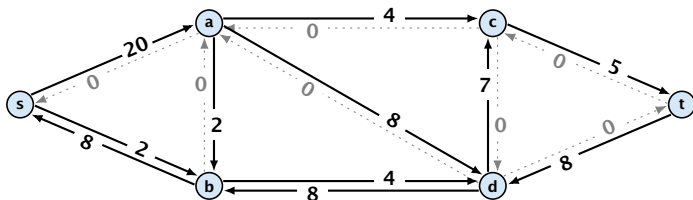
flow value: 0



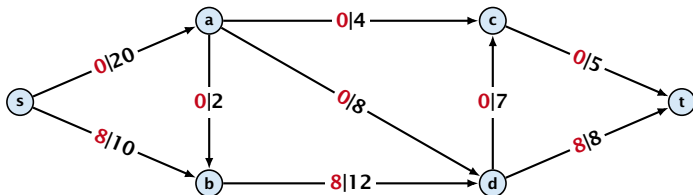
# Augmenting Paths



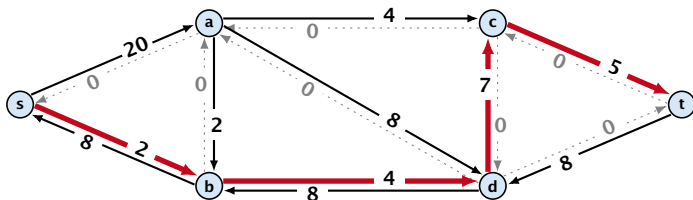
flow value: 8



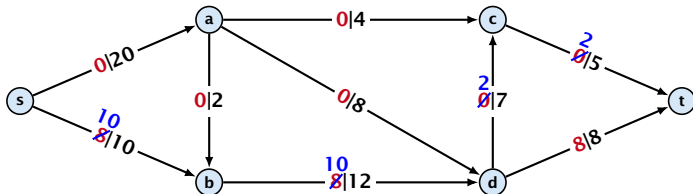
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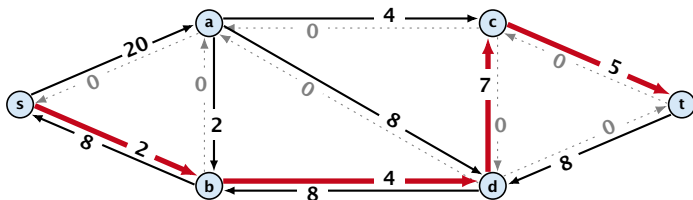
flow value: 8



# Augmenting Paths

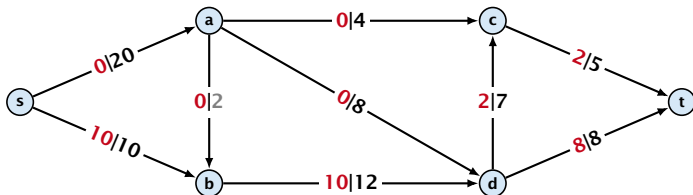


flow value: 8

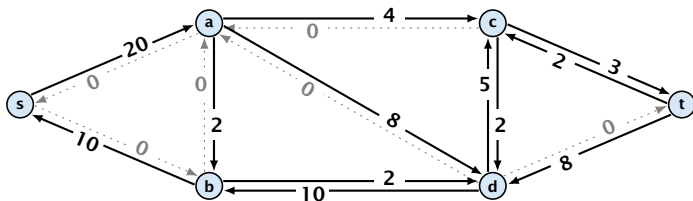




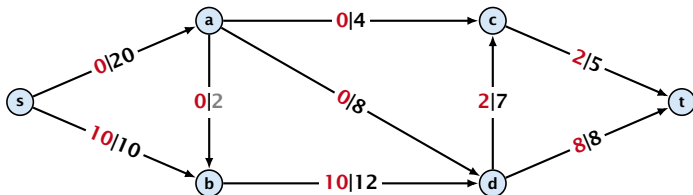
# Augmenting Paths



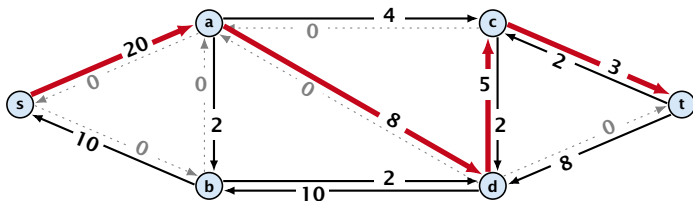
flow value: 10



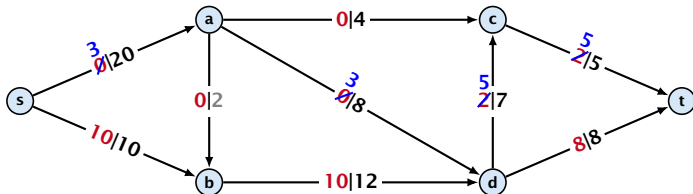
# Augmenting Paths



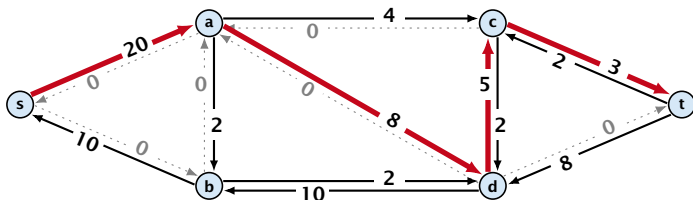
flow value: 10



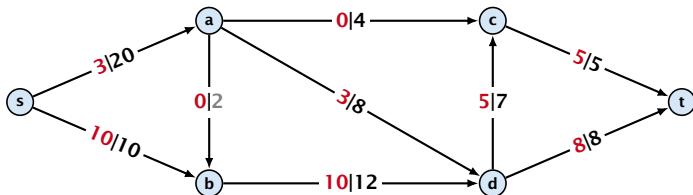
# Augmenting Paths



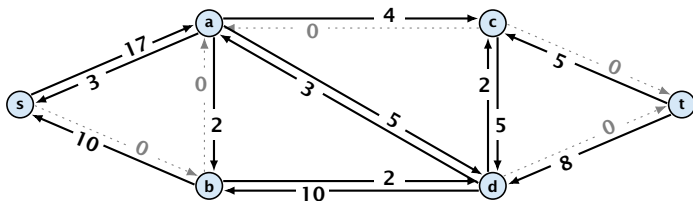
flow value: 10



# Augmenting Paths



flow value: 13



# Augmenting Path Algorithm

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## Theorem 50

A flow  $f$  is a maximum flow **iff** there are no augmenting paths.

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## Proof.

Let  $f$  be a flow. The following are equivalent:

1. There exists a cut  $A$  such that  $\text{val}(f) = \text{cap}(A, V \setminus A)$ .





# Augmenting Path Algorithm

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The value of a maximum flow is equal to the value of a minimum cut.

## Proof.

Let  $f$  be a flow. The following are equivalent:

1. There exists a cut  $A$  such that  $\text{val}(f) = \text{cap}(A, V \setminus A)$ .
2. Flow  $f$  is a maximum flow.
3. There is no augmenting path w.r.t.  $f$ .



# Augmenting Path Algorithm

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1.  $\Rightarrow$  2.

This we already showed.

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Contradiction.

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- ▶ Let  $f$  be a flow with no augmenting paths.
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3.  $\Rightarrow$  1.

- ▶ Let  $f$  be a flow with no augmenting paths.
- ▶ Let  $A$  be the set of vertices reachable from  $s$  in the residual graph along non-zero capacity edges.
- ▶ Since there is no augmenting path we have  $s \in A$  and  $t \notin A$ .



# Augmenting Path Algorithm

$\text{val}(f)$

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$$\text{val}(f) = \sum_{e \in \text{out}(A)} f(e) - \sum_{e \in \text{into}(A)} f(e)$$

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$$\begin{aligned}\text{val}(f) &= \sum_{e \in \text{out}(A)} f(e) - \sum_{e \in \text{into}(A)} f(e) \\ &= \sum_{e \in \text{out}(A)} c(e)\end{aligned}$$

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This finishes the proof.

Here the first equality uses the flow value lemma, and the second exploits the fact that the flow along incoming edges must be 0 as the residual graph does not have edges leaving  $A$ .

**Assumption:**

All capacities are integers between 1 and  $C$ .

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**Invariant:**

Every flow value  $f(e)$  and every residual capacity  $c_f(e)$  remains integral throughout the algorithm.

## Lemma 52

The algorithm terminates in at most  $\text{val}(f^*) \leq nC$  iterations, where  $f^*$  denotes the maximum flow. Each iteration can be implemented in time  $\mathcal{O}(m)$ . This gives a total running time of  $\mathcal{O}(nmC)$ .



## Lemma 52

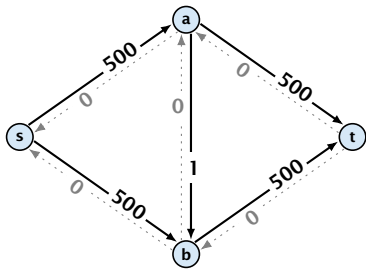
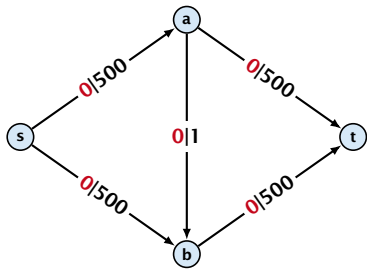
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## Theorem 53

If all capacities are integers, then there exists a maximum flow for which every flow value  $f(e)$  is integral.

# A Bad Input

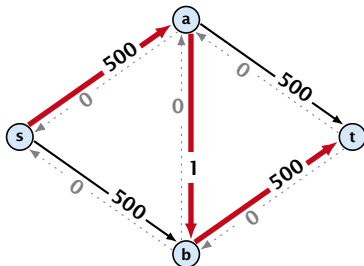
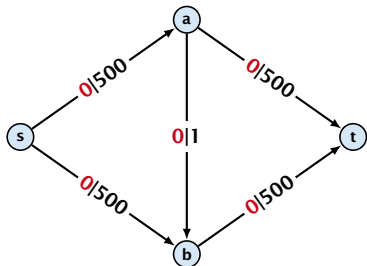
**Problem:** The running time may not be polynomial



flow value: 0

# A Bad Input

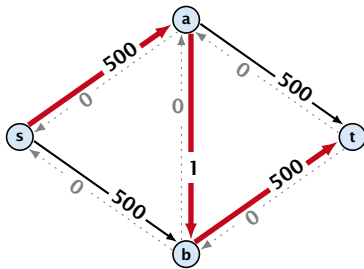
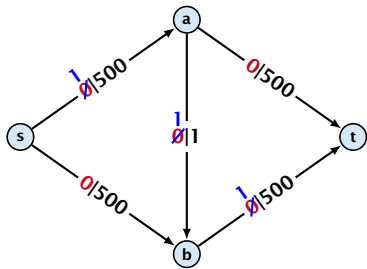
**Problem:** The running time may not be polynomial



flow value: 0

# A Bad Input

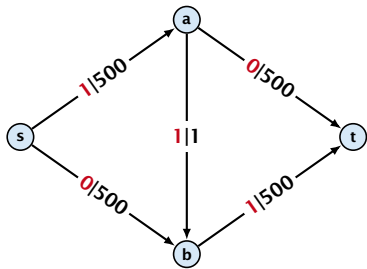
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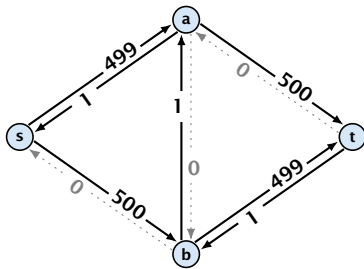
flow value: 0

# A Bad Input

**Problem:** The running time may not be polynomial

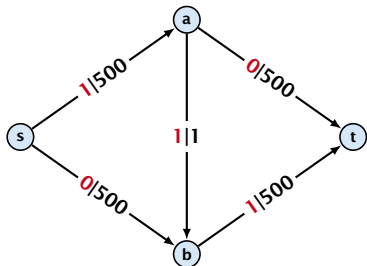


flow value: 1

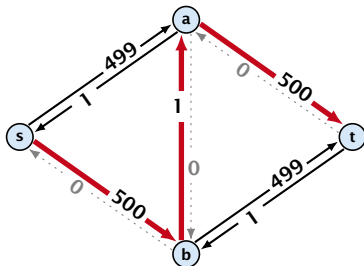


# A Bad Input

**Problem:** The running time may not be polynomial

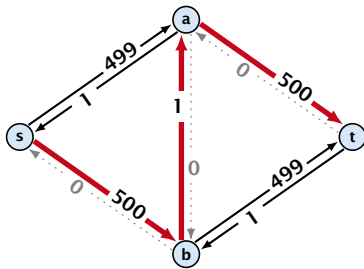
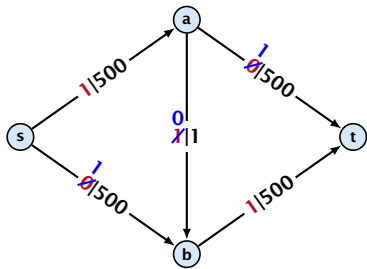


flow value: 1



# A Bad Input

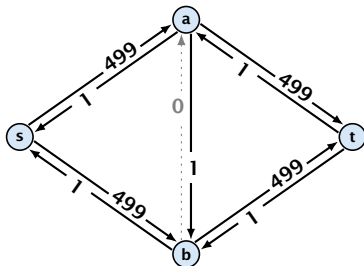
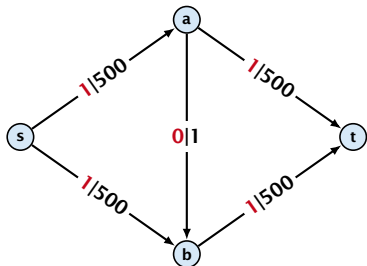
**Problem:** The running time may not be polynomial



flow value: 1

# A Bad Input

**Problem:** The running time may not be polynomial

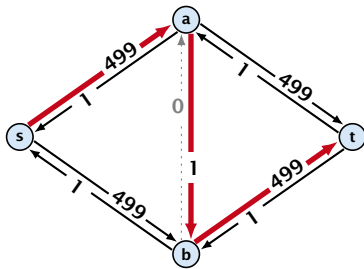
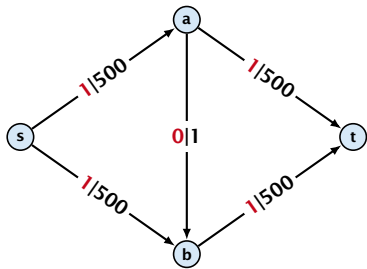


flow value: 2



# A Bad Input

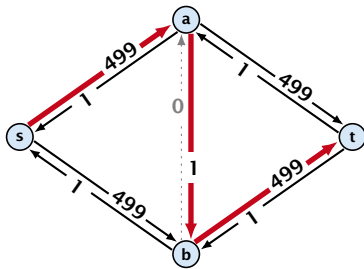
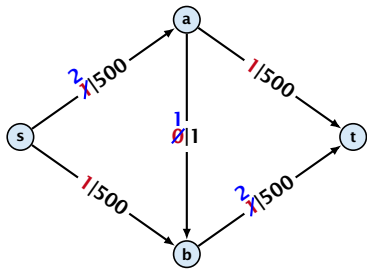
**Problem:** The running time may not be polynomial



flow value: 2

# A Bad Input

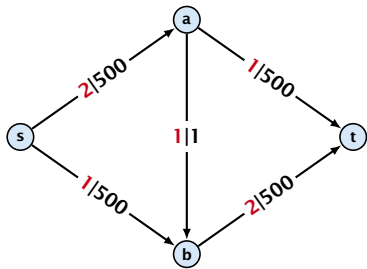
**Problem:** The running time may not be polynomial



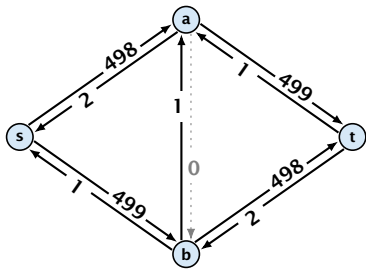
flow value: 2

# A Bad Input

**Problem:** The running time may not be polynomial

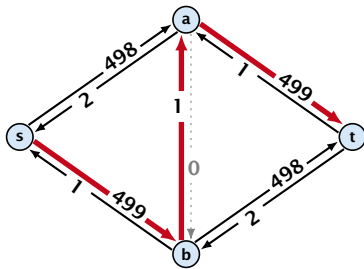
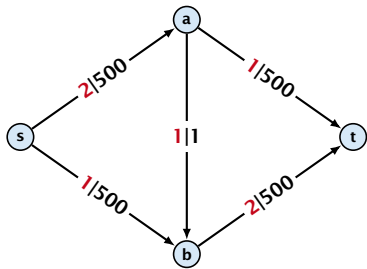


flow value: 3



# A Bad Input

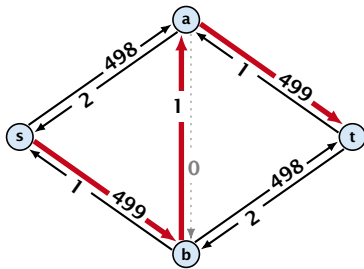
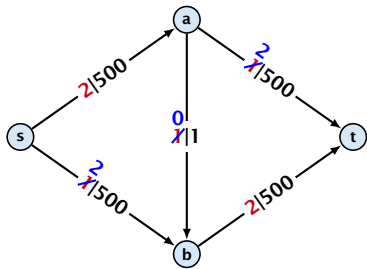
**Problem:** The running time may not be polynomial



flow value: 3

# A Bad Input

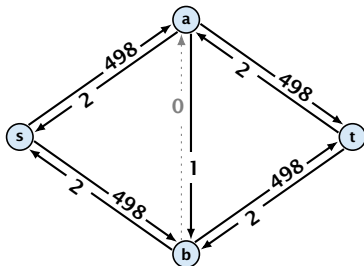
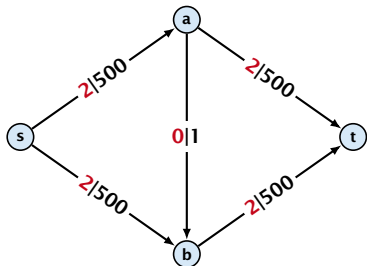
**Problem:** The running time may not be polynomial



flow value: 3

# A Bad Input

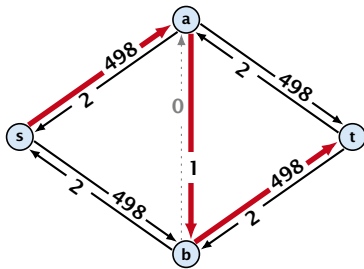
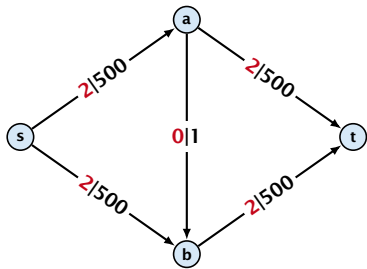
**Problem:** The running time may not be polynomial



flow value: 4

# A Bad Input

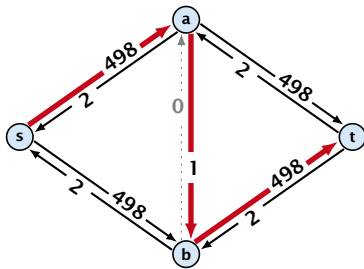
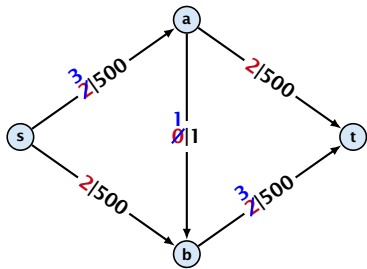
**Problem:** The running time may not be polynomial



flow value: 4

# A Bad Input

**Problem:** The running time may not be polynomial

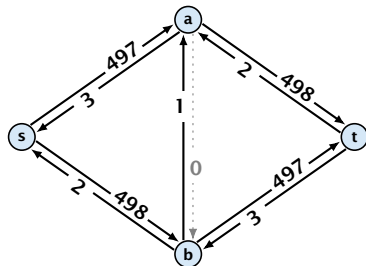
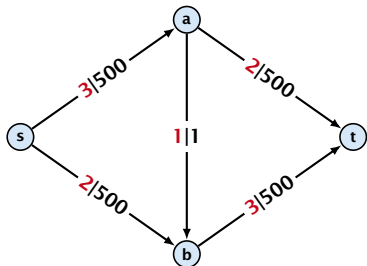


flow value: 4



# A Bad Input

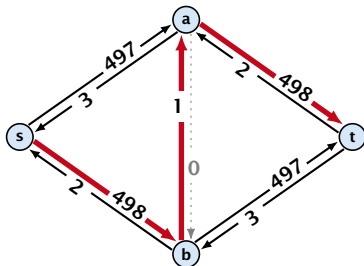
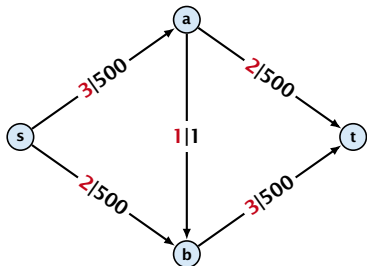
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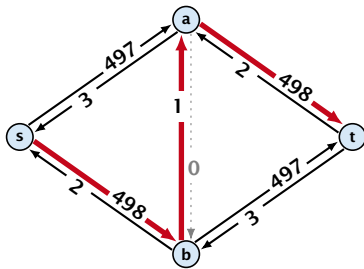
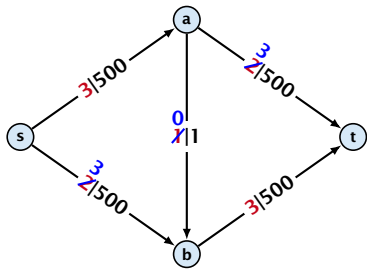
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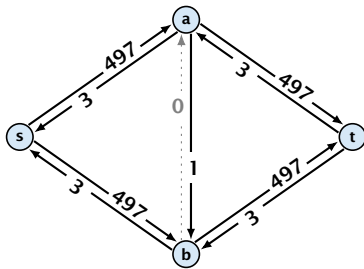
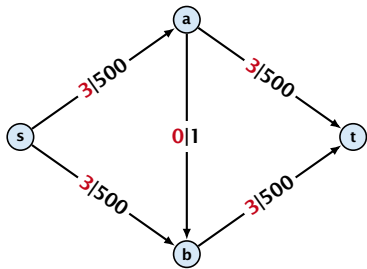
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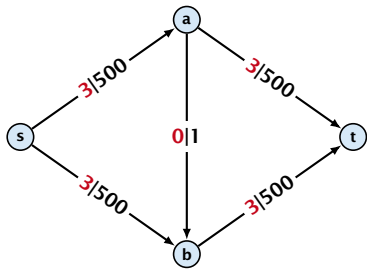
**Problem:** The running time may not be polynomial



flow value: 6

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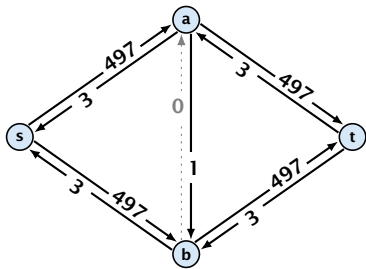
**Problem:** The running time may not be polynomial



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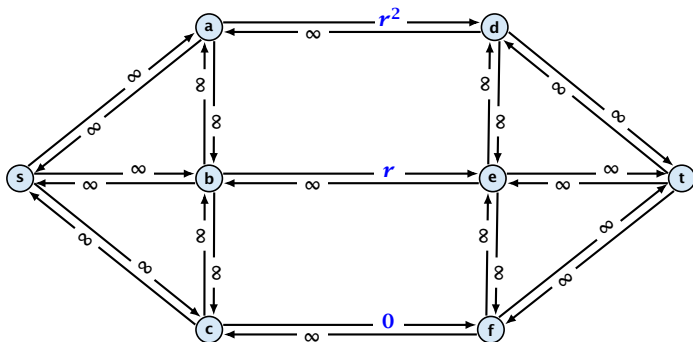
**Question:**

Can we tweak the algorithm so that the running time is polynomial in the input length?



# A Pathological Input

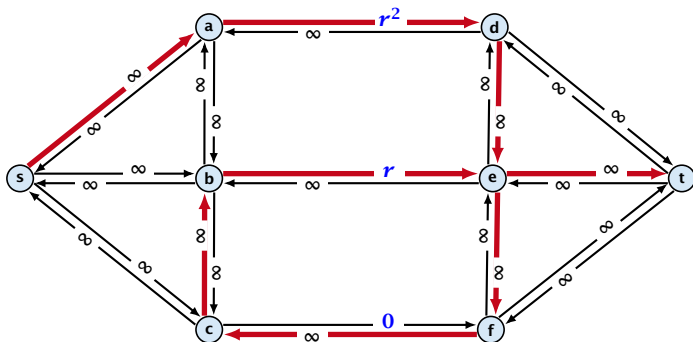
Let  $r = \frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{5} - 1)$ . Then  $r^{n+2} = r^n - r^{n+1}$ .



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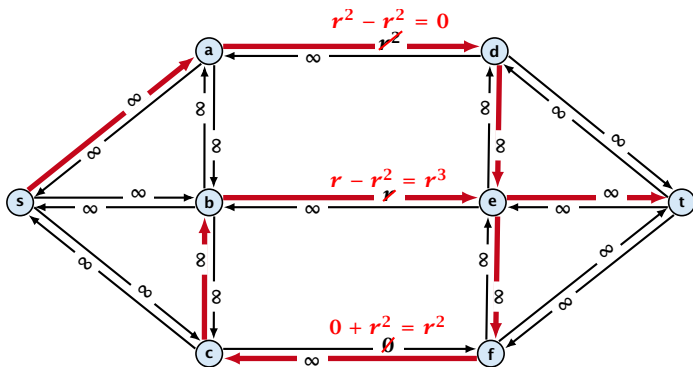
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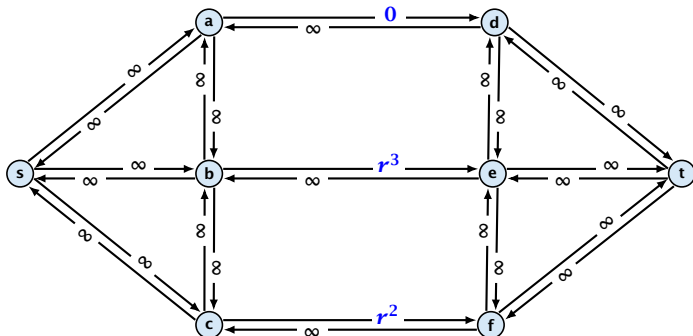


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## A Pathological Input

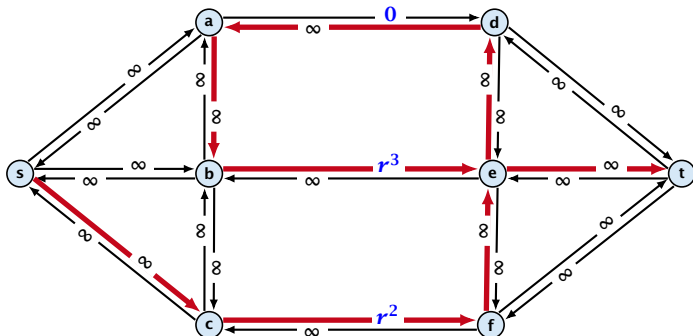
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flow value:  $r^2$

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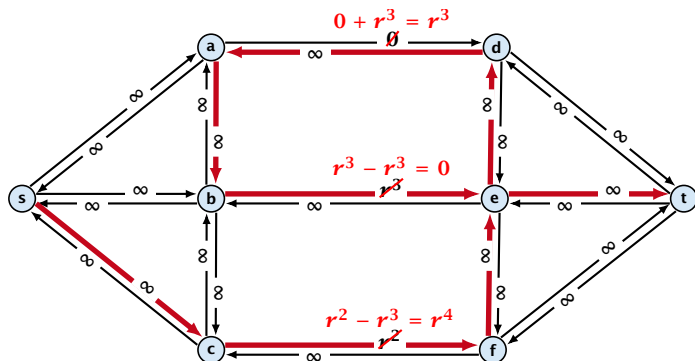
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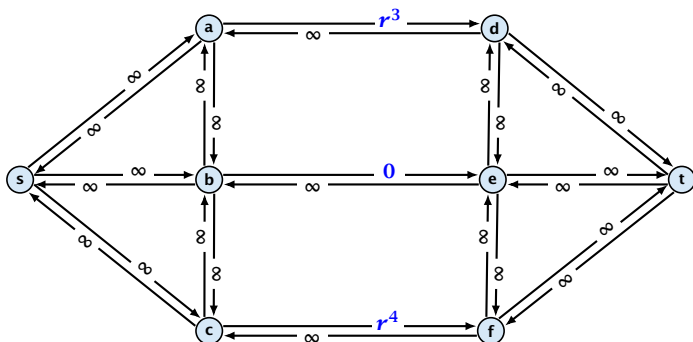
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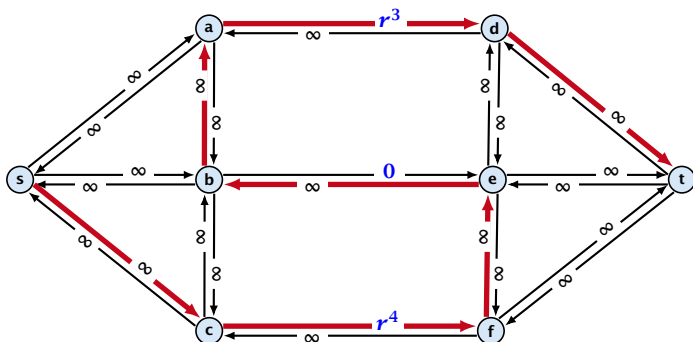
Let  $r = \frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{5} - 1)$ . Then  $r^{n+2} = r^n - r^{n+1}$ .



flow value:  $r^2 + r^3$

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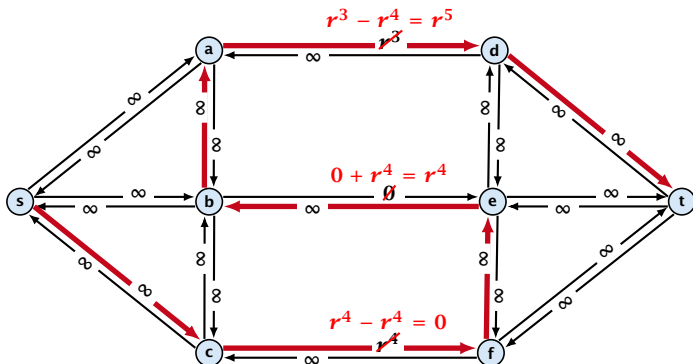
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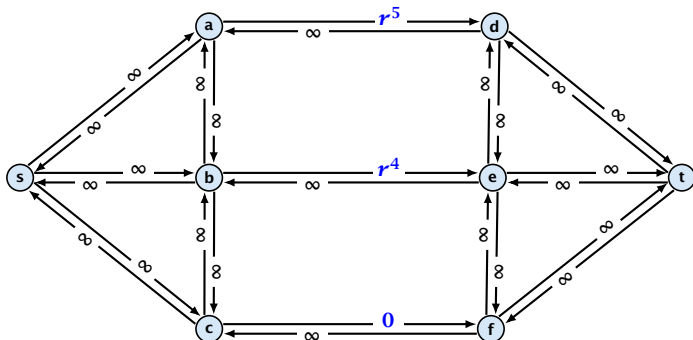
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flow value:  $r^2 + r^3 + r^4$

Running time may be infinite!!!





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- ▶ Choose the shortest augmenting path.

# Overview: Shortest Augmenting Paths



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- ▶  $\mathcal{O}(m)$  augmentations for paths of exactly  $k < n$  edges.



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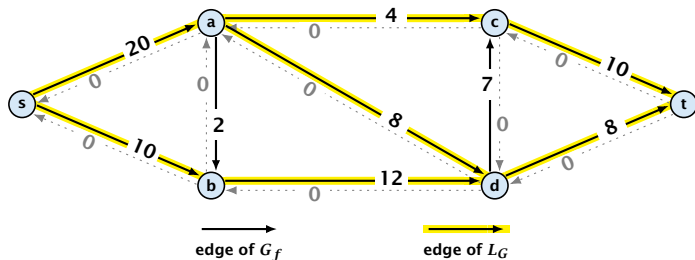


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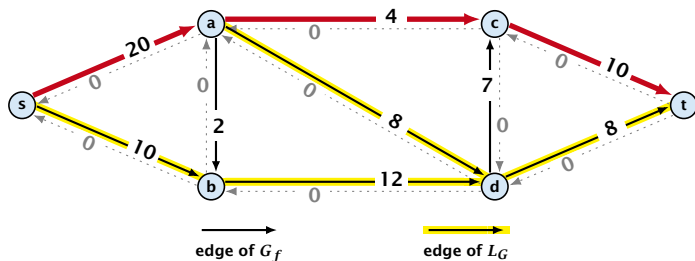


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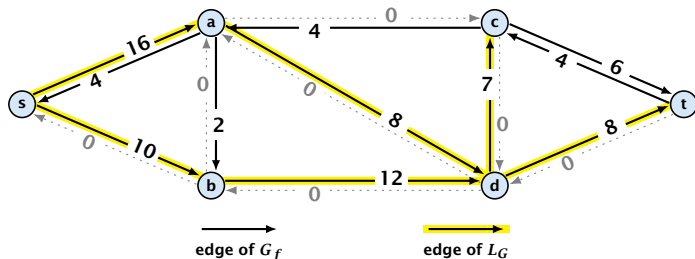


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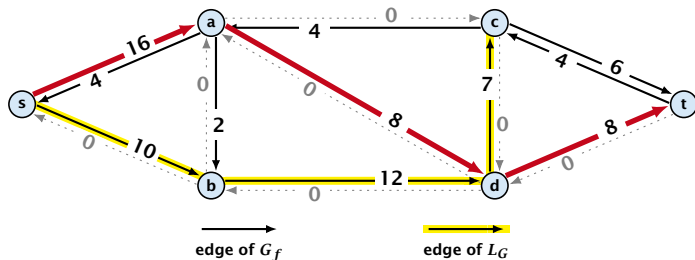


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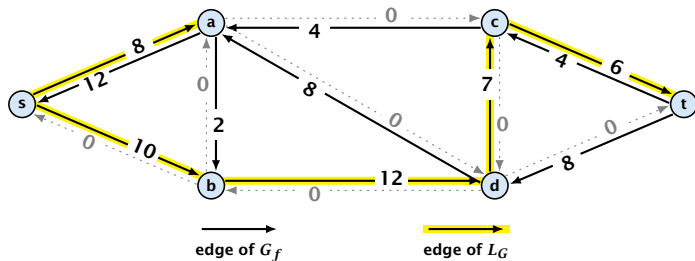


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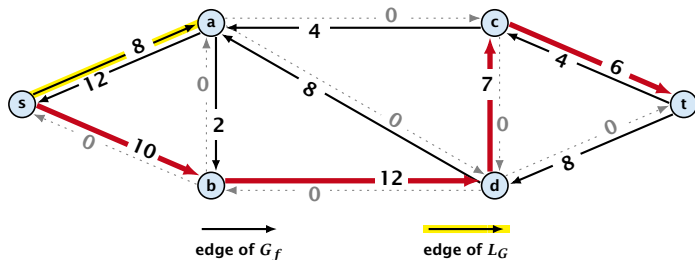


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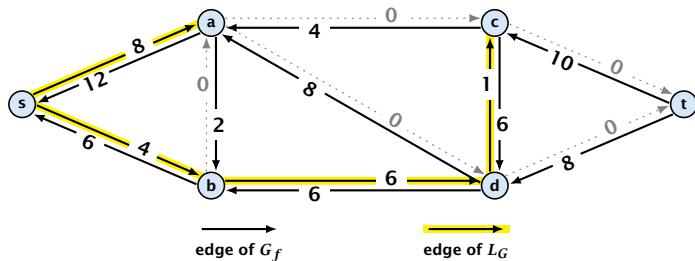


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In the following we assume that the residual graph  $G_f$  does not contain zero capacity edges.

This means, we construct it in the usual sense and then delete edges of zero capacity.



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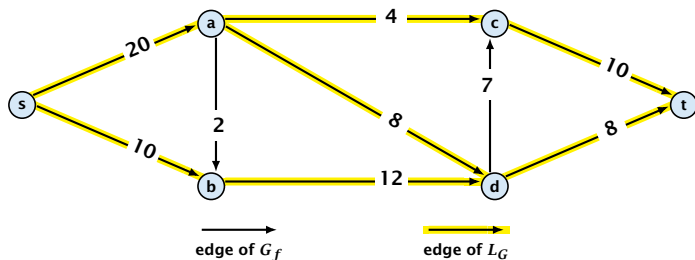
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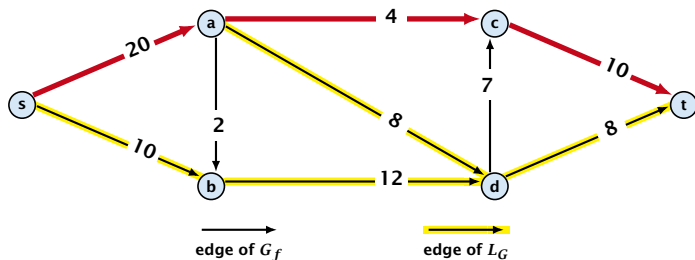
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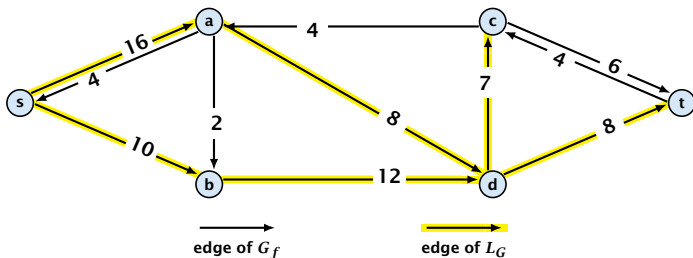
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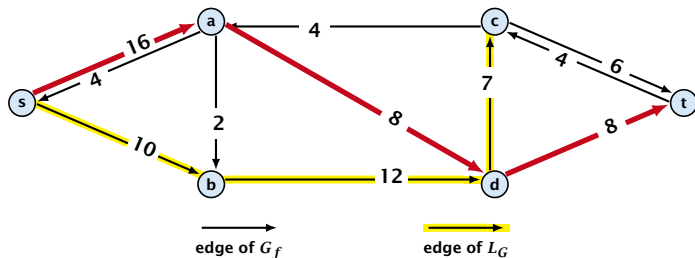
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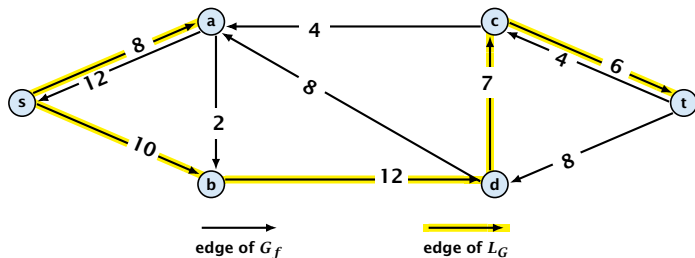
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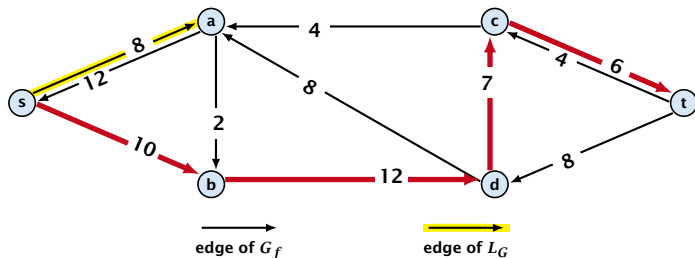
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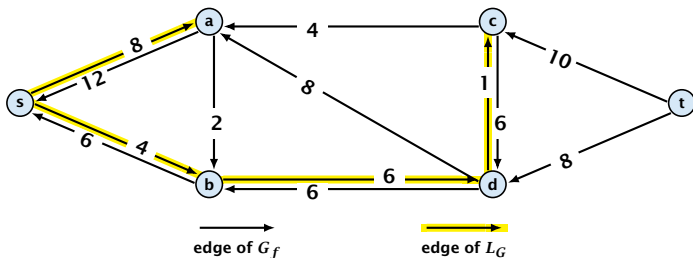
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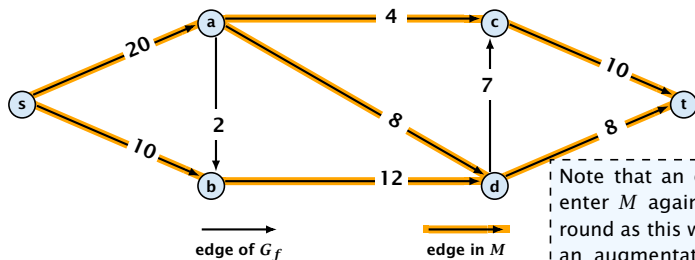
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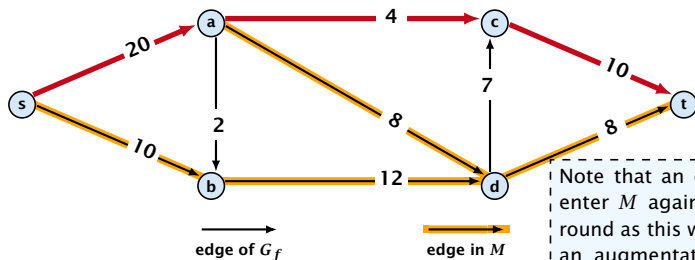
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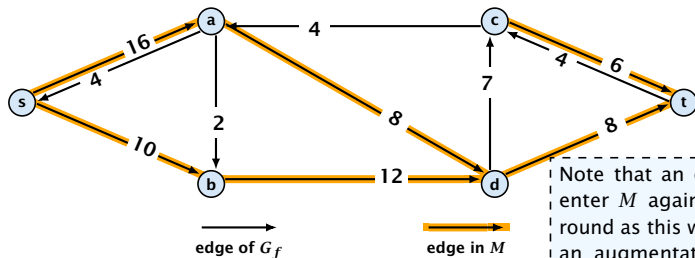
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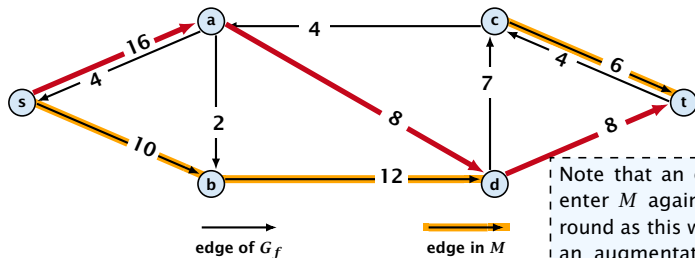
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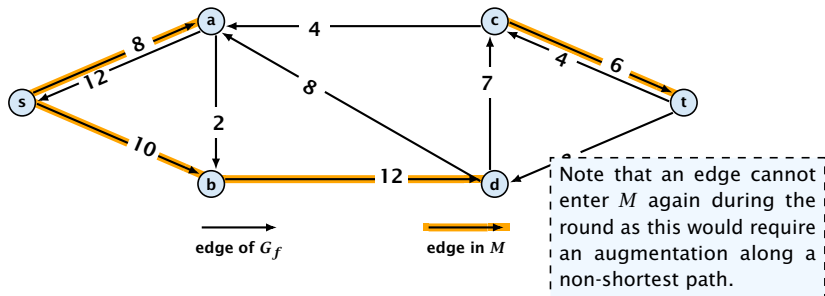
# Shortest Augmenting Path

**Second Lemma:** After at most  $m$  augmentations the length of the shortest augmenting path strictly increases.

Let  $M$  denote the set of edges in graph  $L_G$  at the beginning of a round when the distance between  $s$  and  $t$  is  $k$ .

An  $s$ - $t$  path in  $G_f$  that uses edges not in  $M$  has length larger than  $k$ , even when using edges added to  $G_f$  during the round.

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# Shortest Augmenting Paths

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*There exist networks with  $m = \Theta(n^2)$  that require  $\Omega(mn)$  augmentations, when we restrict ourselves to only augment along shortest augmenting paths.*

### Note:

There always exists a set of  $m$  augmentations that gives a maximum flow (why?).

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When sticking to shortest augmenting paths we cannot improve (asymptotically) on the number of augmentations.

However, we can improve the running time to  $\mathcal{O}(mn^2)$  by improving the running time for finding an augmenting path (currently we assume  $\mathcal{O}(m)$  per augmentation for this).

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When  $M$  does not contain an  $s$ - $t$  path anymore the distance between  $s$  and  $t$  strictly increases.

Note that  $M$  is not the set of edges of the level graph but a subset of level-graph edges.

Suppose that the initial distance between  $s$  and  $t$  in  $G_f$  is  $k$ .

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You can delete incoming edges of  $v$  from  $M$ .

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The total cost for searching for augmenting paths during a phase is at most  $\mathcal{O}(mn)$ , since every search (successful (i.e., reaching  $t$ ) or unsuccessful) decreases the number of edges in  $M$  and takes time  $\mathcal{O}(n)$ .

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The total cost for performing an augmentation **during** a phase is only  $\mathcal{O}(n)$ . For every edge in the augmenting path one has to update the residual graph  $G_f$  and has to check whether the edge is still in  $M$  for the next search.

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There are at most  $n$  phases. Hence, total cost is  $\mathcal{O}(mn^2)$ .



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- ▶ Choose path with maximum bottleneck capacity.
- ▶ Choose path with sufficiently large bottleneck capacity.
- ▶ Choose the shortest augmenting path.

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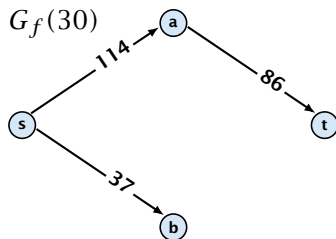
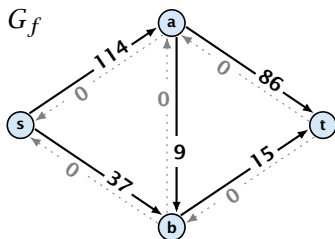
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# Capacity Scaling

## Algorithm 1 $\text{maxflow}(G, s, t, c)$

```
1: foreach  $e \in E$  do  $f_e \leftarrow 0$ ;  
2:  $\Delta \leftarrow 2^{\lceil \log_2 C \rceil}$   
3: while  $\Delta \geq 1$  do  
4:    $G_f(\Delta) \leftarrow \Delta$ -residual graph  
5:   while there is augmenting path  $P$  in  $G_f(\Delta)$  do  
6:      $f \leftarrow \text{augment}(f, c, P)$   
7:      $\text{update}(G_f(\Delta))$   
8:    $\Delta \leftarrow \Delta/2$   
9: return  $f$ 
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- ▶ therefore after the last phase there are no augmenting paths anymore
- ▶ this means we have a maximum flow.

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- ▶ In  $G_f$  this cut can have capacity at most  $m\Delta$ .
- ▶ This gives me an upper bound on the flow that I can still add.

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## Theorem 62

*We need  $\mathcal{O}(m \log C)$  augmentations. The algorithm can be implemented in time  $\mathcal{O}(m^2 \log C)$ .*