

Bipartite Matching Example

One to one correspondence btwn matching and flow.

Matching^M \Rightarrow Flow: For each $e = (u, v) \in M$,
~~send~~ let $f(s, u) = f(u, v) = f(v, t) = 1$.

For any other edge e untouched in this procedure,
 $f(e) = 0$.

① $|f| = |M|$. ② f is a flow.

Pf ②: Obviously, any $e = (u, v)$, $0 \leq f(e) \leq 1$. (Capacity constraint is checked)

Conservation: ~~$\forall (s, u)$~~ , $\forall u \in U$, if $f(s, u) = 1$,

in which case $\exists (u, v) \in M$, $f(u, v) = 1$,

also, $\nexists v' \neq v$, s.t. $(u, v') \in M$. (because of matching)

hence ~~(s, u)~~ (s, u) is the only edge into u

that carries positive flow, and (u, v) the
only edge out of u w/ pos. flow.

Same argument for $v \in V$.

Pf ①. Considers cut ~~$(\{s\} \cup U, V \cup \{t\})$~~

$$|f| = \sum_{u \in U} f(s, u)$$

$$= \sum_{u \in U: \exists v, (u, v) \in M} 1 = |M|$$

each edge in M is incident to exactly one node in U , and no two edges in M share a node in U .

Integral valued

② Flow \Rightarrow Matching: $\forall (u, v), u \in U, v \in V, f(u, v) = 1$,
~~add~~ include $(u, v) \in M$.

Show that ① M is a matching ② $|M| = |f|$.

Pf: ① $\forall u \in U$, the number of edges in M incident to u is at most 1, because otherwise $\exists v, v' \in V$ s.t. $f(u, v) = f(u, v') = 1$ which means $f(u, v) \geq 2$, violating the capacity constraint.

The same argument for any $v \in V$.

② From ①, we see that $\forall u$, the number of edges in M that are incident to u is equal to $f(u, v)$. Therefore

$$|M| = \sum_{u \in U} |\{(u, v) \in M\}| = \sum_{u \in U} f(u, v) = |f|.$$

Pf (Hall's) If $\forall S \subseteq U, |\delta(S)| \geq |S|$,
 then perfect matching exists.

Pf. By the reduction, it suffices to show that ~~the~~^a
 max flow in the flow network has value n .

By max flow min cut thm, it suffices to show
 that the min. capacity of ~~a~~ cut is n .

Take any $s \rightarrow t$ cut, we show its capacity is $\geq n$.

Generically - the cut can be written as

$$(\{s\} \cup A \cup B, \{t\} \cup (U \setminus A) \cup (V \setminus B))$$

for $A \subseteq U, B \subseteq V$.

The capacity of this cut is

$$\geq |U \setminus A| + |\delta(A) \setminus B| + |B|$$

$$\geq |U \setminus A| + |\delta(A)| \geq |U \setminus A| + |A| = n$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \nearrow \quad \uparrow \quad \searrow \\ |\delta(A) \setminus B| = |\delta(A)| - |\delta(A) \cap B| \\ \downarrow \quad \leq |B| \\ |\delta(A) \setminus B| + |B| \geq |\delta(A)| \end{array}$$

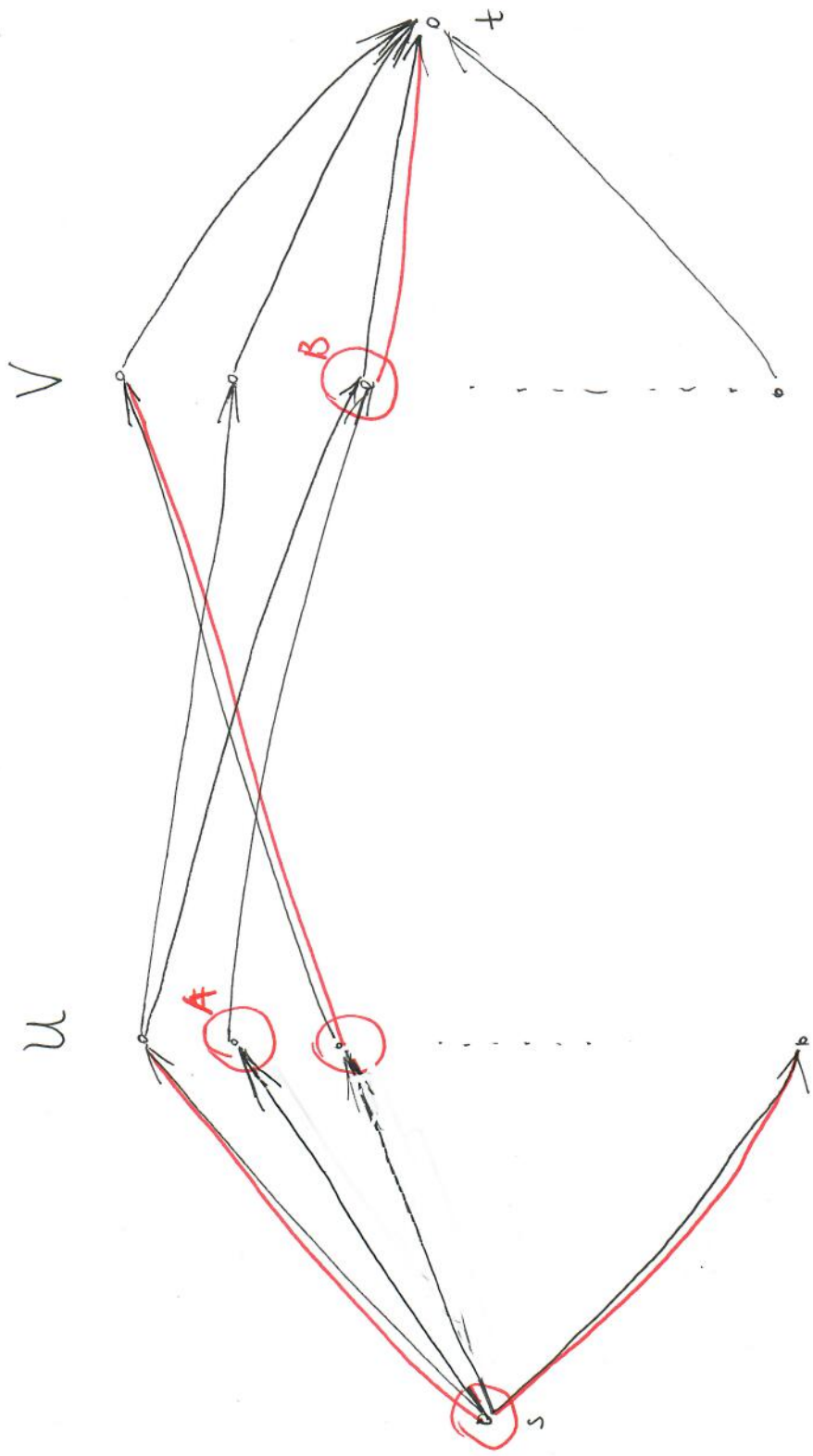


Illustration of Proof of Hall's Thm.

Nodes in red circles are on the side of s in the cut $\{\{s\} \cup A \cup B, \{t\}\}$

$$(\{s\} \cup A \cup B, \{t\}) \cup (U \setminus A) \cup (V \setminus B)$$

Edges highlighted in red contribute to the capacity of this cut.

From s to U , there are $|U \setminus A|$ edges "in the cut".

From U to V , there are $\geq |\delta(A) \setminus B|$ edges "in the cut".

From V to t , there are $|B|$ edges "in the cut".