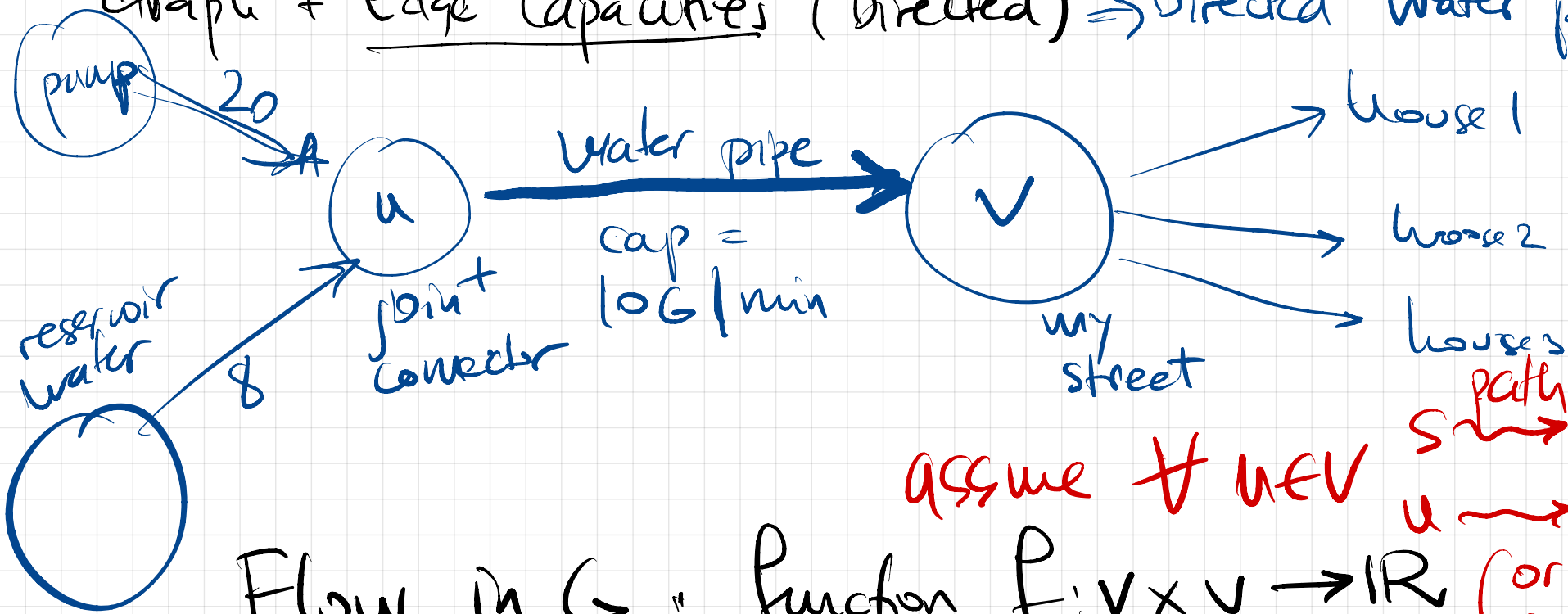


# Lecture 13 Network Flows (Graphs Part 3)

- next week, last lecture (hope in class) no examination attendance
- HW 11 due now
- HW 12 due next Wed. (incl Push Relabel Demos)
- FINAL exam Sat 12/11 10AM-4PM Stillman 3<sup>rd</sup> fl  
4TAs proctors + me online
- TRACE evals: evaluate course, instructor, TAs, early examination etc. Please be honest both  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow \text{good} \\ \rightarrow \text{bad} \end{array} \right.$

# Graph + Edge Capacities (Directed) $\Rightarrow$ "Directed water pipes"

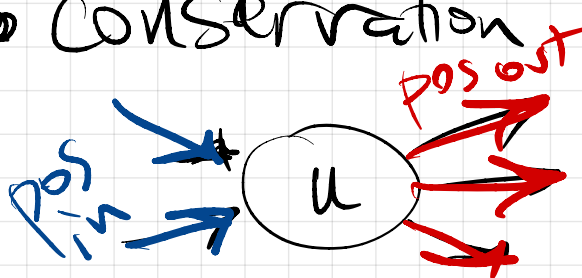


assume  $\forall u \in V$   
 $s \xrightarrow{\text{path}} u$   
 $u \xrightarrow{\text{path}} t$

Flow in  $G$ : function  $f: V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  (or else remove  $u$ )

$f(u,v)$  = how much water flows from  $u$  to  $v$

- $f(u,v) \leq w(u,v)$  at most edge capacity
- symmetry  $f(u,v) = -f(v,u)$  no big deal, just for math
- conservation at each vertex

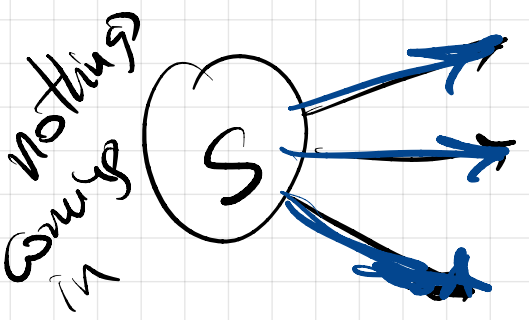


$$\sum_{v \rightarrow u, f(v,u) > 0} f(v,u) = \sum_{u \rightarrow z, f(u,z) > 0} f(u,z)$$

pos + neg to get

$$\sum_z f(u,z) = 0$$

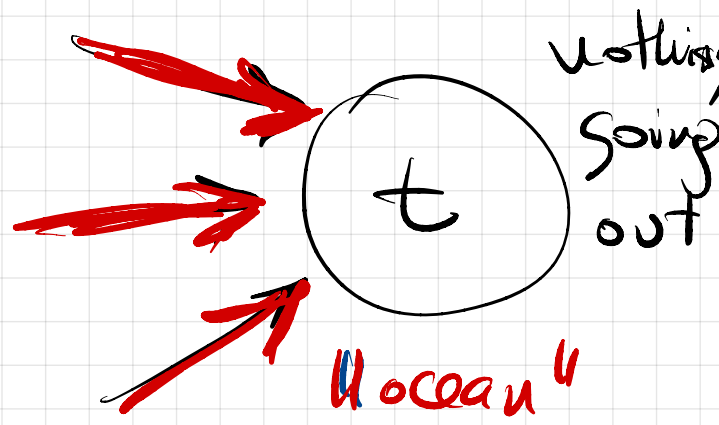
• exception: 2 special vertices  $S$ =source  $t$ =sink



"river source on mountain"

only positive-out flow

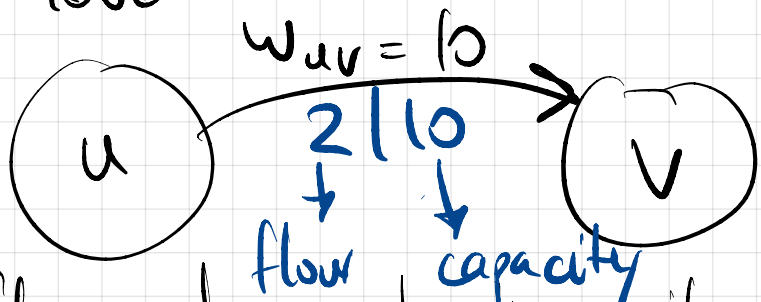
conservation does not apply to  $S, t$



"ocean"

only positive-in flow

• in  $G$  look at a directed edge  $u \rightarrow v$

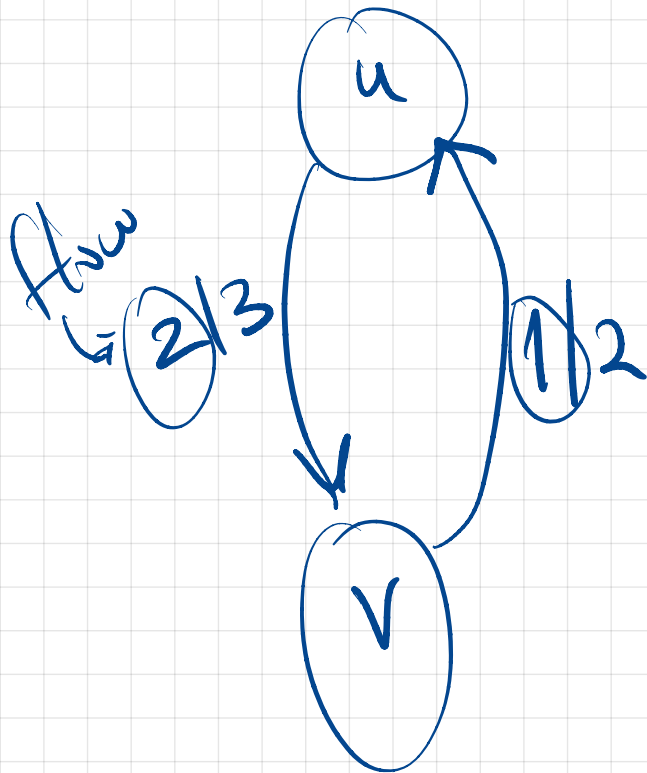


physical vs model  
(actual water) (theory)

Physical model

- can flow at most 10 units of flow from  $u$  to  $v$
- cannot flow water from  $v$  to  $u$ .

model/theory



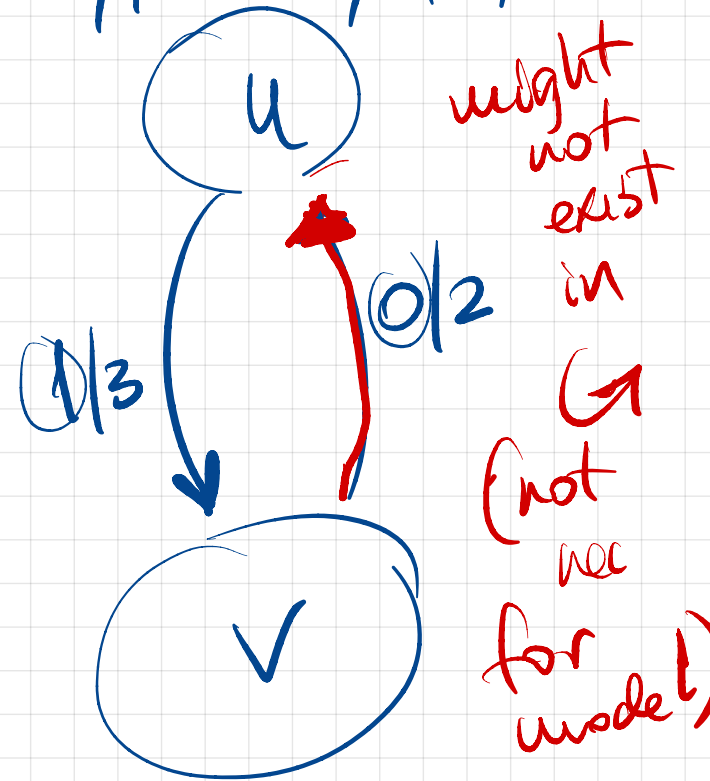
$$f(u, v) = 2$$

$$f(v, u) = 1$$

flow  
cancellation  
(theory)

model still valid  
due to cancellation

reality/practice/physical



$$f(u, v) = 1$$

$$f(v, u) = 0$$

**Task**  
flow capacity

send max flow from  $(s)$  to  $(t)$

$$|F| = \sum_u f(s, u) \text{ total out from source} = \sum_u f(u, t) \text{ total in to the sink}$$



# Network Flow Alg: Ford-Fulkerson

want max flow.

- initialize flow  $f=0$  on all edges

**loop** find "augmenting" path  $s \rightsquigarrow t$  that admits flow



admit flow:  $\forall$  edge  $rem. capacity$   $w(u_k, u_{k+1}) > 0$

$v =$  **bottleneck**  $\min$  edge cap on path.  $v > 0$

- send  $v$  units flow on that path) flow increase  $+v$   
= update flow  $f_{edge} = f_{edge} + v$

- update path-edges capacities**  $w = w - v$

(min edge becomes 0)  
"saturation"

also create new edges!  
(did not exist in  $G$ )

Res net

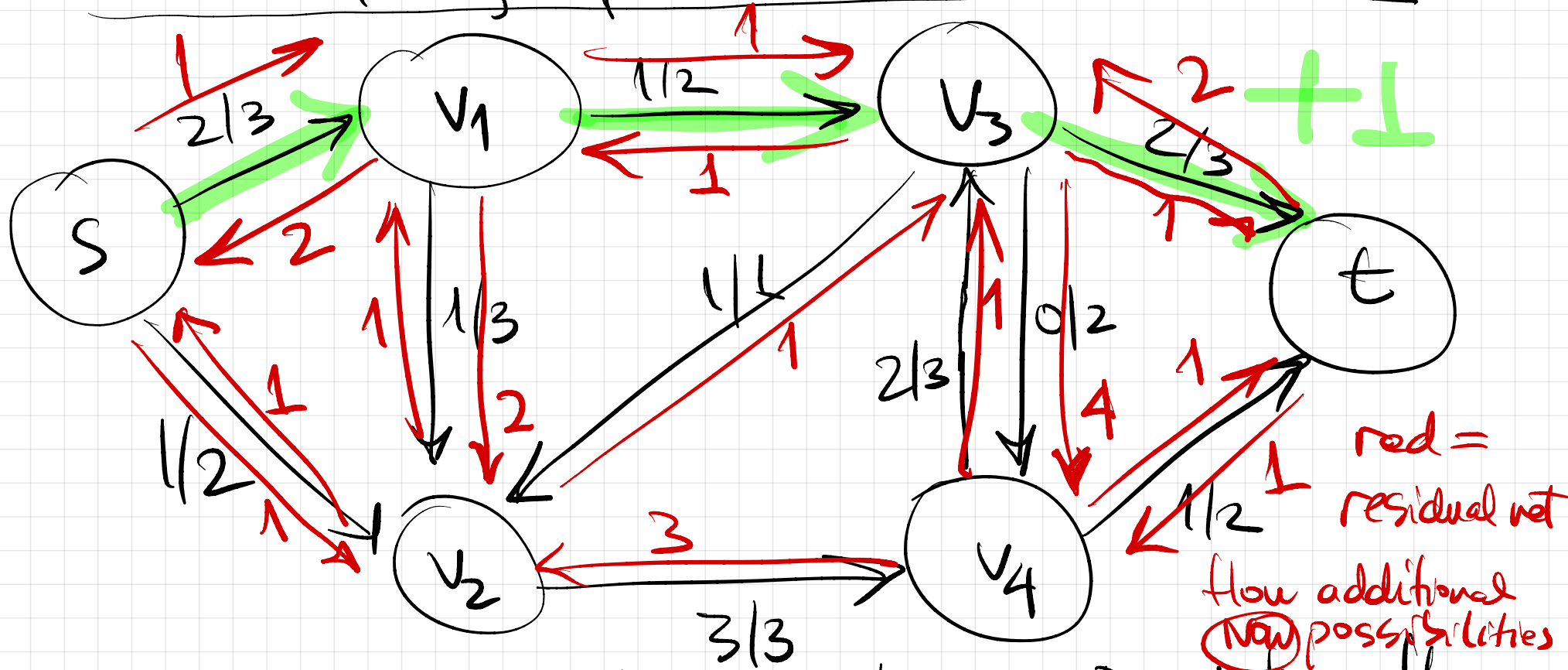
**Q1: how does it work/ implement?**

**Q2: proof**

# Example

$\frac{2}{10}$   
 $2 = \text{current flow}$   
 $10 = \text{edge cap.}$

(in the middle) current situation  
 $|\text{flow}| = 3$

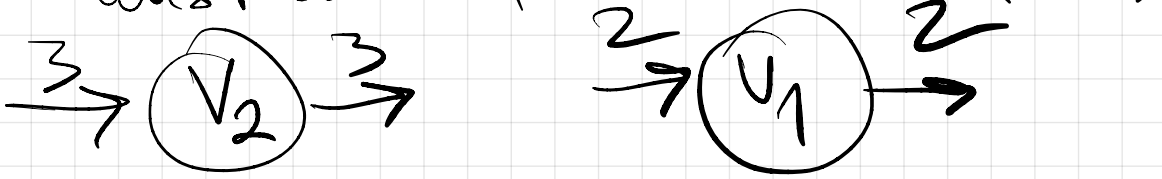


red = residual net  
 flow additional possibilities

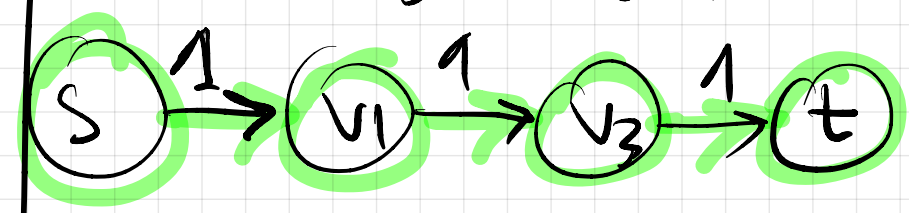
• current flow valid? ✓

-  $f(u,v) \leq \text{edge cap}$  ✓

- conservation for each vertex (not s, t)



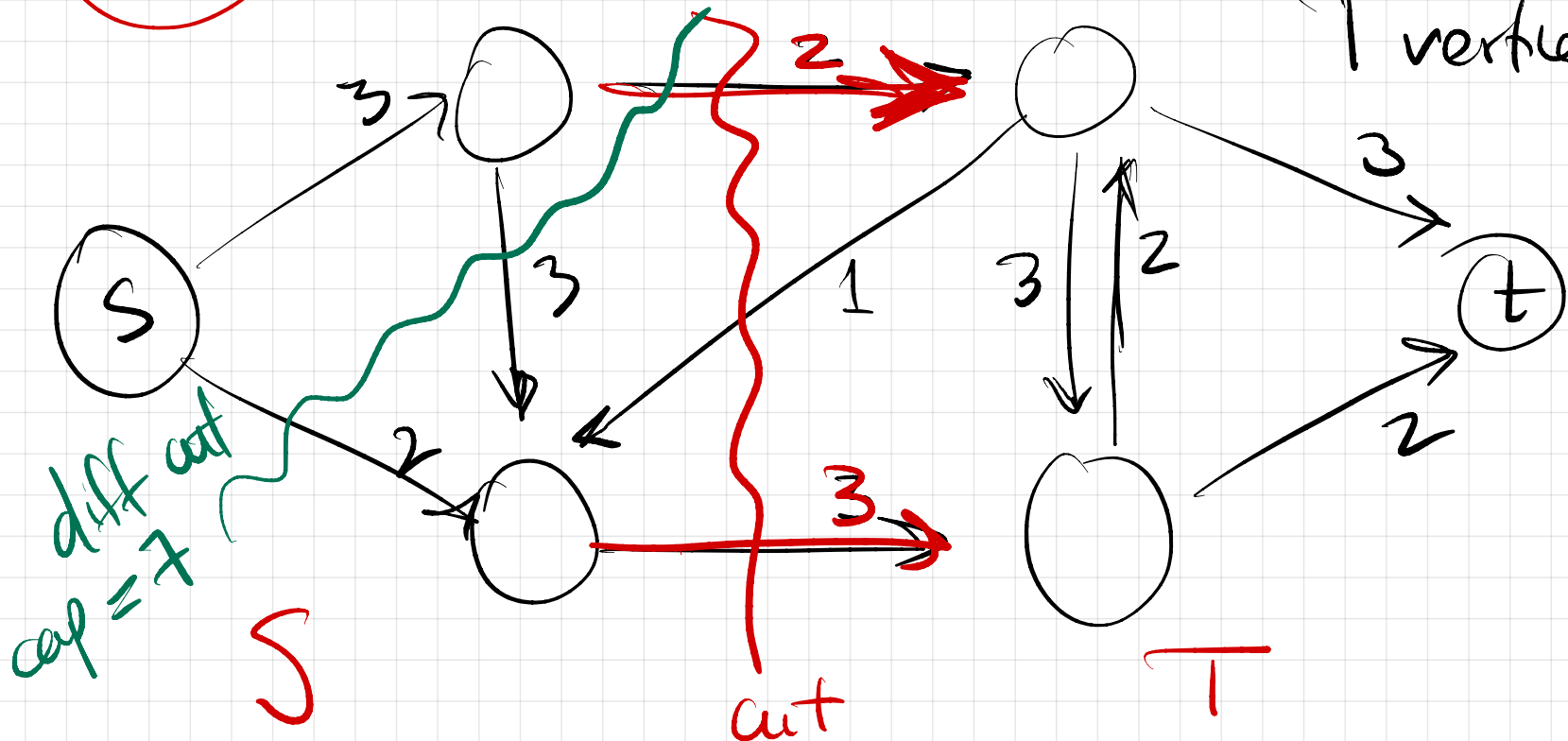
• can I send more flow (find augmenting path)





Q2. Proof that ~~alg~~ FF works.

def Cut in the network partition  $S$  vertices, incl  $s$   
 $T$  vertices, incl  $t$



capacity of the cut  $S, T = \sum_{\substack{u \in S \\ v \in T}} w_{uv} = 2 + 3 = 5$

$\forall$  cut cap  $\geq \forall$  flow size

# Max Flow - Min Cut Theorem

OBS:  $f$  valid flow

(a) (b) (c) equivalent statements

$S \rightarrow T$  cut cap  $C$  then  
 $|f| \leq C$

(a)  $f$  max flow

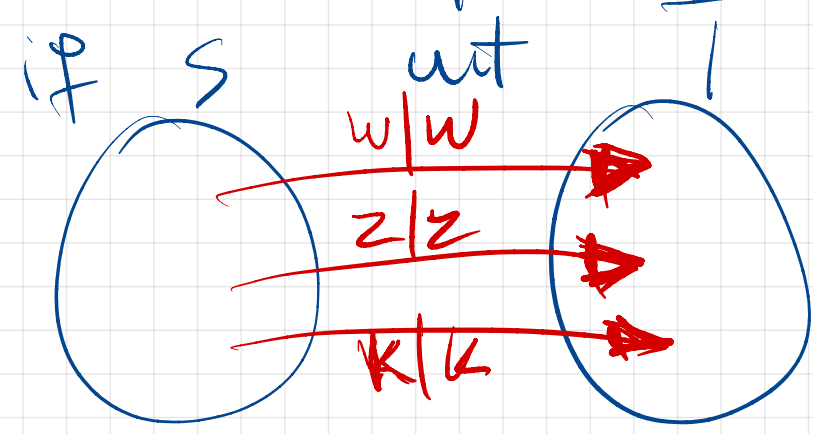
(b) residual net  $R_f$  has no augmenting path

(c) there is a cut  $S \rightarrow T$  saturated by the flow  $|f| = \text{cap}(S \rightarrow T)$

proof: (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b) already done:

if there's add aug path  $\Rightarrow$  increase the flow (not possid if  $f$  maximal)

(c)  $\Rightarrow$  (a)



saturated  $\Rightarrow f$  already uses all edges  $S \rightarrow T$  at max cap

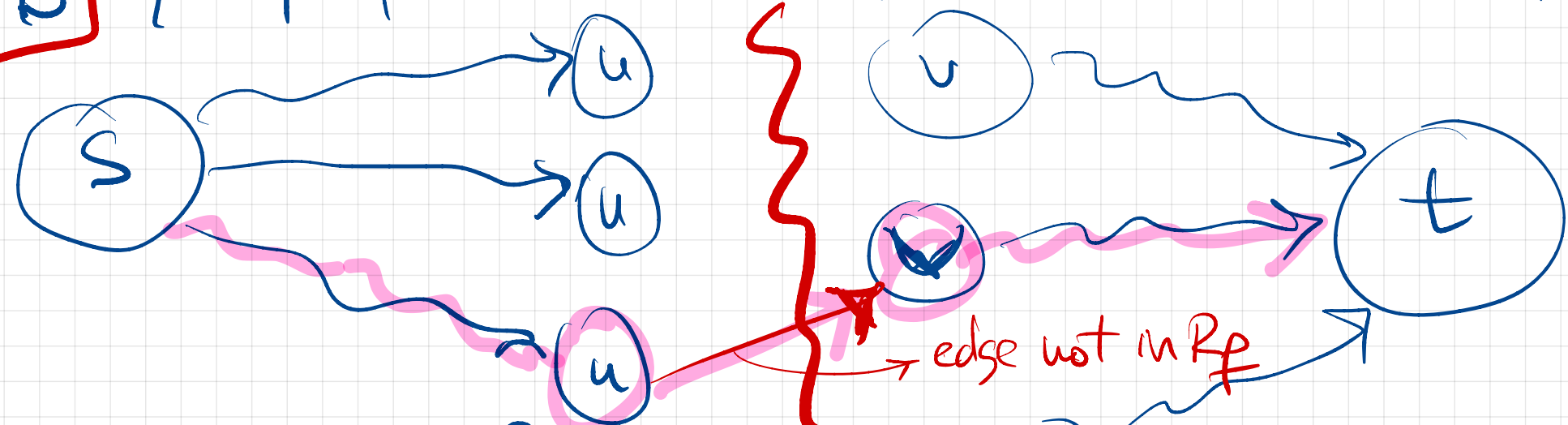
that flow cannot be increased

(b) **no aug path exists in  $R_f$**   $\implies$  (c) saturated cut  $S, T$

Construct the cut  $S, T$ .

**$S = \{ u \mid \exists \text{ path } s \rightsquigarrow u \text{ in } R_f \}$**

**$T = \{ v \mid v \rightsquigarrow t \text{ path exists in } R_f \}$**

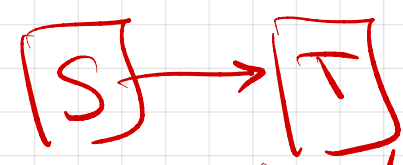


$u$  reachable in  $R_f$  from  $s$   
 "Augm path" from  $s \rightarrow u$

$z$  is <sup>use</sup> not connected to either  $s, t$

Why cut  $S, T$  saturated?

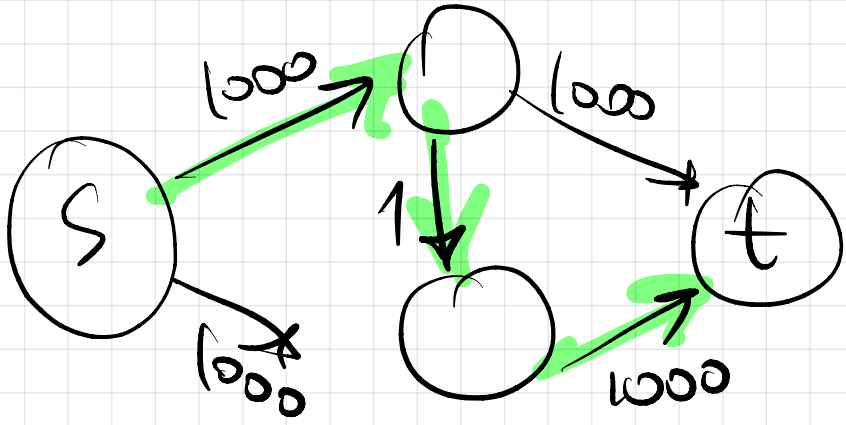
in  $R_f$  (res. net) no edge avail



Reason if edge  $u \rightarrow v$  exists in  $R_f \implies \exists$  path  $s \rightarrow u \rightarrow v \rightarrow t$   
 $\implies$  cut saturated

Bad case for FF: choose a bad aug path repeat small size

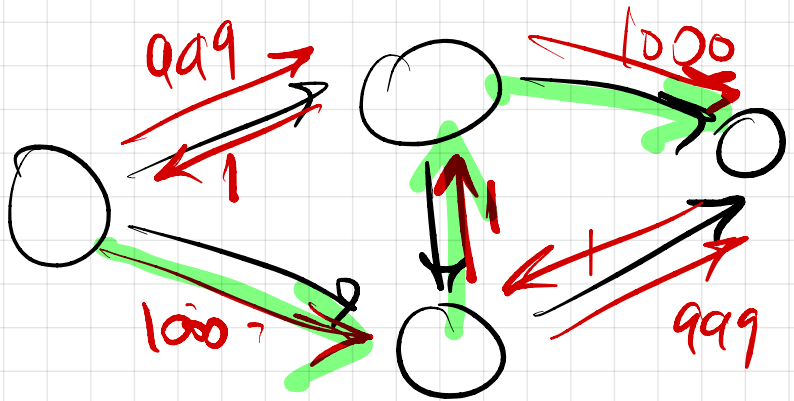
$v=1$



how many iterations if all aug paths are bad ( $v=1$ )

max flow = 2000!  
2000!

$v=1$



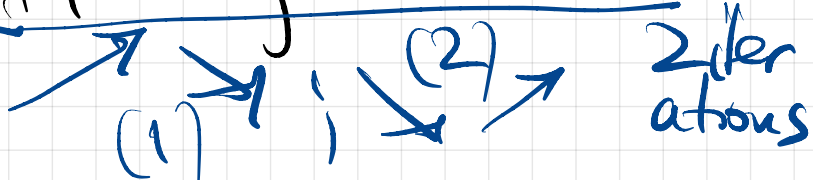
allow any aug path  
DFS (aug path) worst case R.T.

$v=1$

$$\Theta(E \times |f|)$$

$$|f| = \text{value}$$

best aug path / #iterations?





Solution (proof) : Edmonds-Karp.

→ FF pipeline

→ aug path by

**BFS**  
 $O(E)$

→ min # edges possible.

Might not have the best capacity

$\Theta(V \cdot E)$  iterations (each edge can be min-cut at  $V$  times)

BFS  $\Theta(E)$  for the path

---

$\Theta(V \cdot E^2)$  worst case.



# Much Better Net Flow Alg: Push Relabel (HW, not exam)

• same task: Find max Flow (network  $s, t$ , edges  $w_{uv}$ )

• flow very similar:  $f(u,v) \leq w_{uv}$  | flow  $\leq$  edge cap.

max flow = max out of the source.

symm:  $f(u,v) = -f(v,u)$  with only

• conservation only at the end-of-alg

$$\sum_{\substack{v \rightarrow u \\ v \neq u}} f(v,u) = \sum_{z \leftarrow u} f(u,z)$$

incoming to  $u$       total outgoing from  $u$

valid at the end.

• intermediary allow

$$e(u) = \text{inflow}(u) - \text{outgoing flow}(u)$$

$$e(u) = \text{excess}(u) \geq 0$$

$u$  has a reservoir, can store some flow temporarily.



Flood by stage → saturate all edges out of  $s$

- Flood all vertices from the source  
raise  $h(v)$  for those to flow water to others



→ Flood 2<sup>nd</sup> wave with water from the first wave  
raise  $h(v)$  2<sup>nd</sup> stage to the . . .

- Flood next vertices

details: raise (height) cycles possible

Push-Relabel alg. int:  $P(s) = n; h(v) = 0 \forall v \in S$

"active" vertex  $v$   $e(s) = \infty$   $e(v) = 0 \forall v \in S$

$e(v) > 0$  has excess

$e(v)$  need to be DISCHARGED  $\Rightarrow$  water  $e(v)$  must flow out of it.

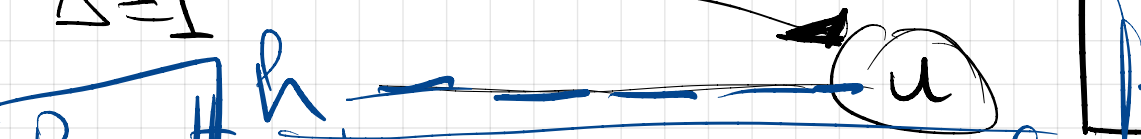
$\exists$  edge  $v \rightarrow u$  in Res. Net to discharge  $e(v)$  excess flow.

Push flow from  $v$

$e(v) > 0$  "active"

edge to push  $res(v, u) > 0$

heights  $h(v) = h(u) + 1$



Result: discharge  $v \rightarrow u$  flow  $\min\{e(v), res(v, u)\}$

RELABEL "INCREASE HEIGHT"

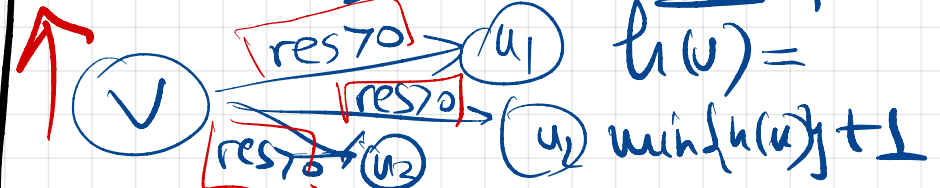
active excess flow  $e(v) > 0$

look for all avail res edges

$res(v, u) > 0$

$h(v)$  too low

Result: more  $v$  higher, at the min-height where push possible

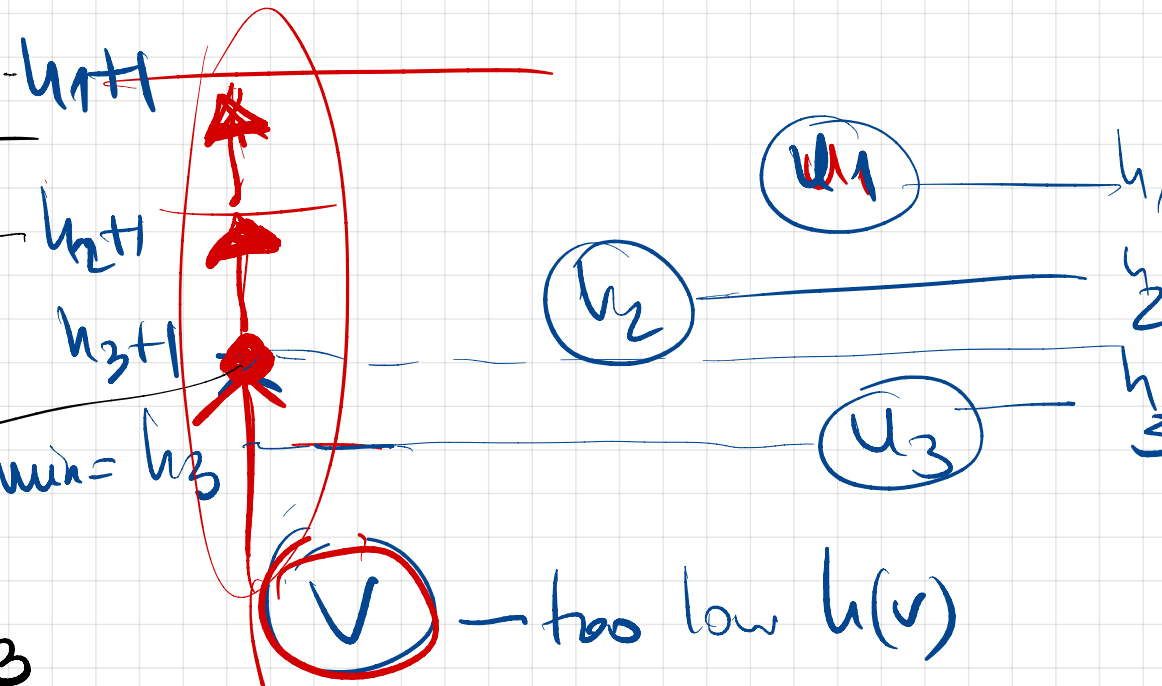


now  $v$  at level  $h_1+1$   
 can push water to  $u_1$ .

now  $v$  at  $h=h_2+1$   
 can push down to  $u_2$

$v$  can  
 discharge/push  
 down to  $u_3$

$$h(v) - h(u_3) = 1$$



DISCHARGE FIFO

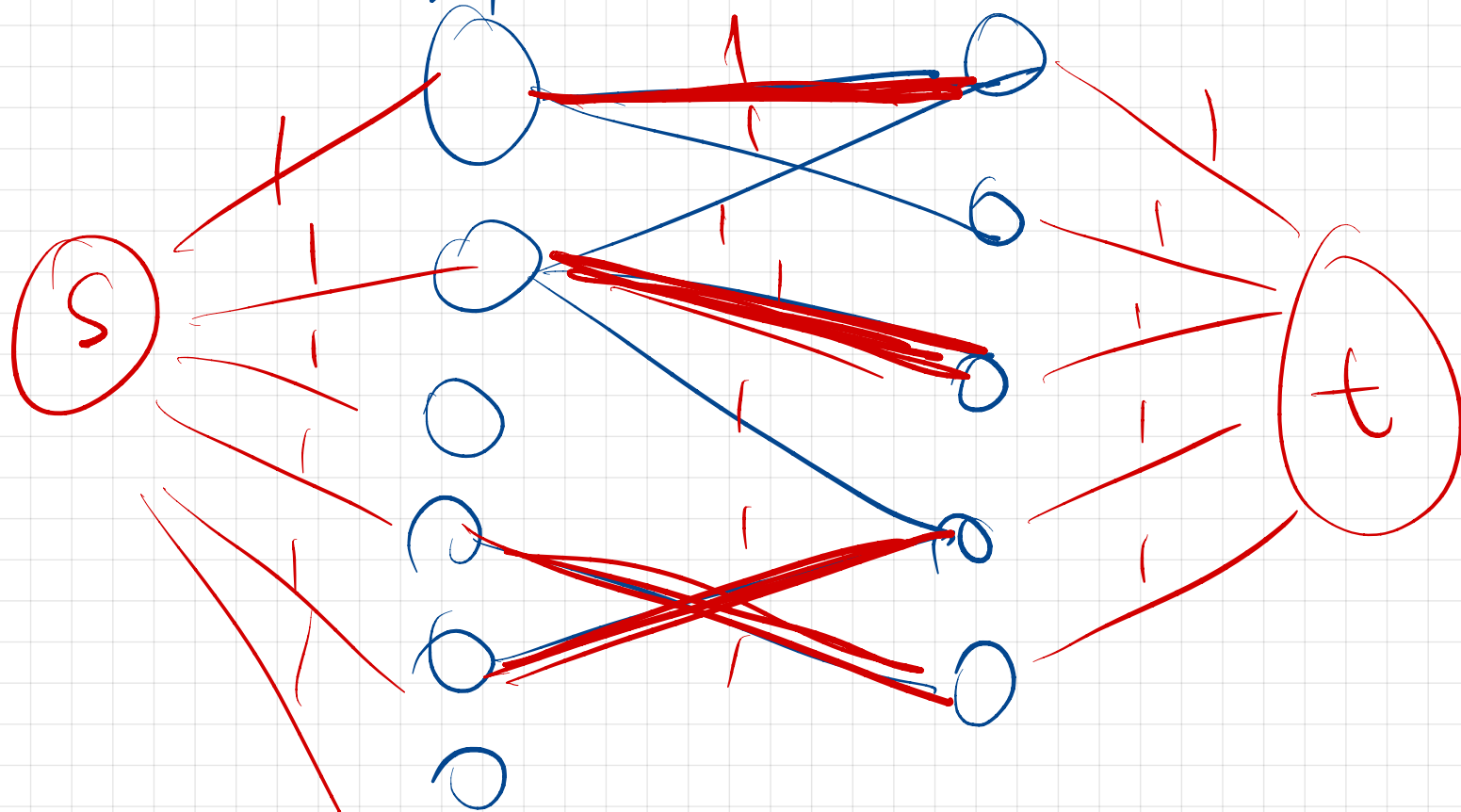
Relabel: height( $v$ ) goes up  
 to min-level where it can  
 push.

- pick active  $v$   $e(v) > 0$
- discharge by repeated push/relabel until that  $v$  is not active ( $e(v) = 0$ )

only after consider other active nodes.  
 $\Theta(n^3)$  very good

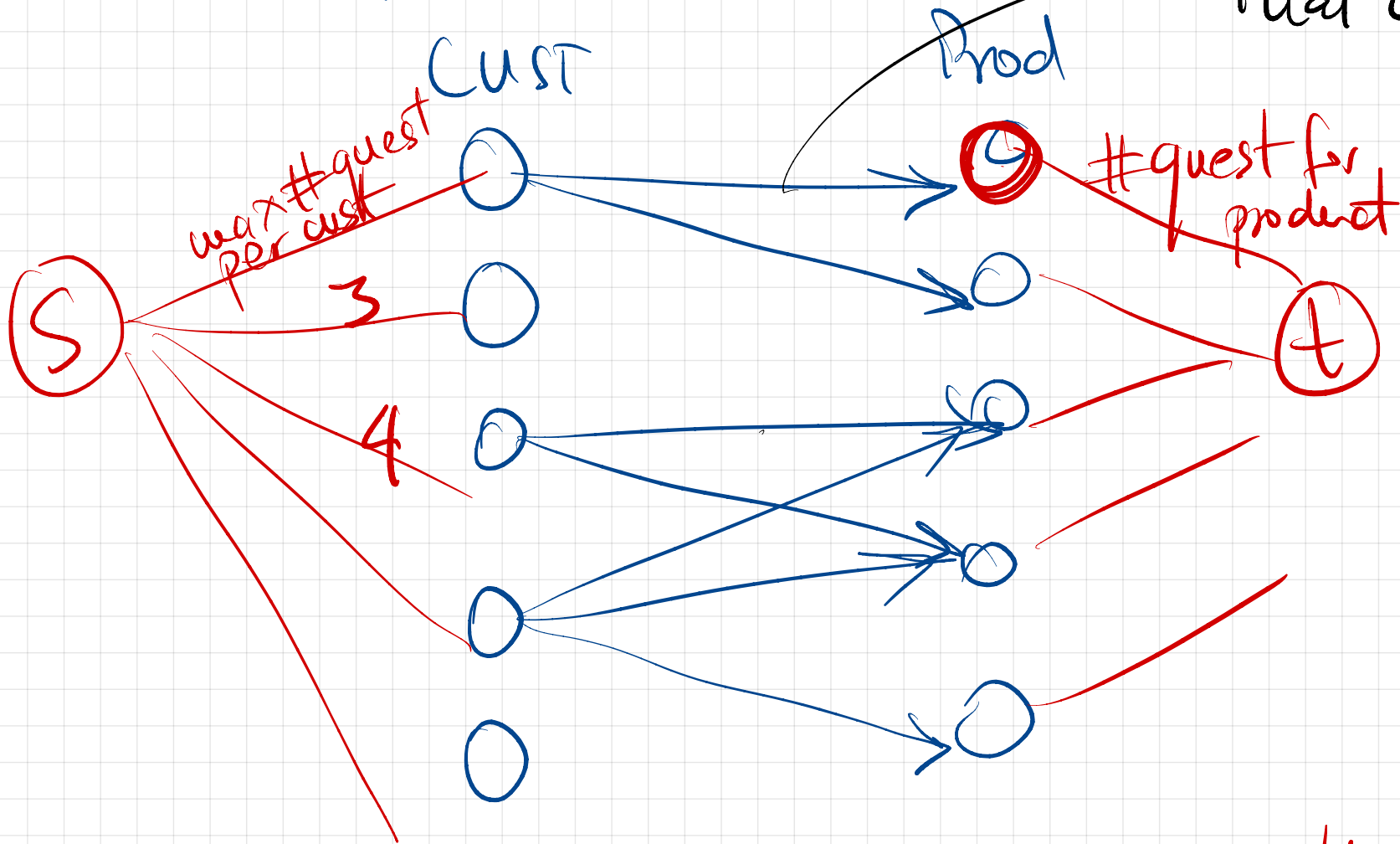
# Unexpected Applications / Uses of Net Flows.

① Bipartite max matching dancing max # pairs



max flow  $\implies$  edges used are dancing pairs.

② Survey products x customers → prod bought by that cust

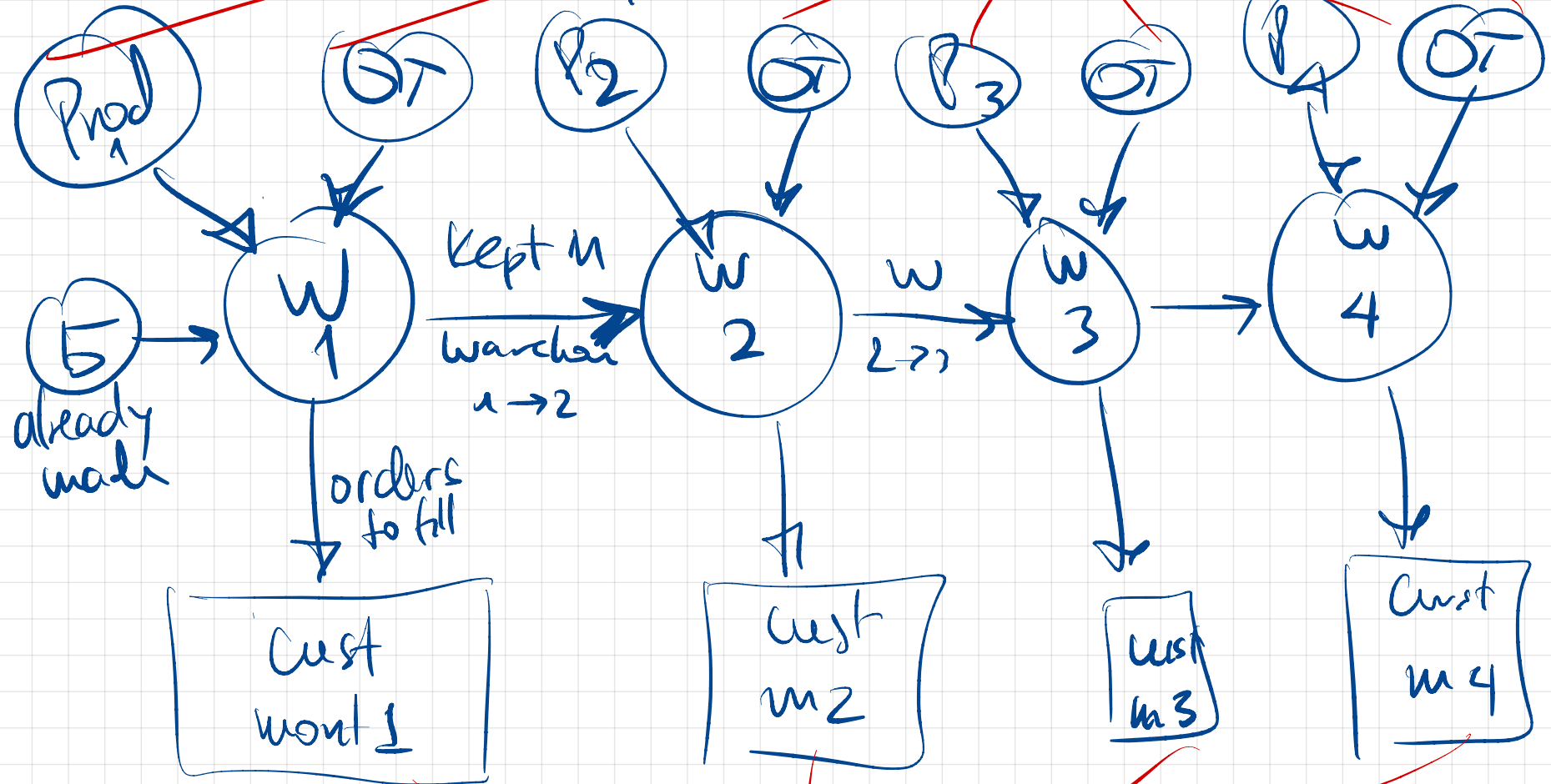


max flow = best/max questions overall that can be asked.

③

warehouse status per month

~~S~~ Costs



$P_i =$  production of month  $i \leq UB$

$OT_i =$  prod of month  $i$  not bounded more expensive

sales