

CS7800: Advanced Algorithms

Lecture 8: Applications of Network Flow

- Bipartite matching
- Image segmentation

Jonathan Ullman

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How many more algorithms do we really need?

Last week:

- Can find a max flow or a min cut in $O(mn)$ time
- If G has integer capacity we can find an integer max flow

Actually can do better!

Today: Standing on the shoulders of giants



Maximum Cardinality Bipartite Matching

two types of nodes

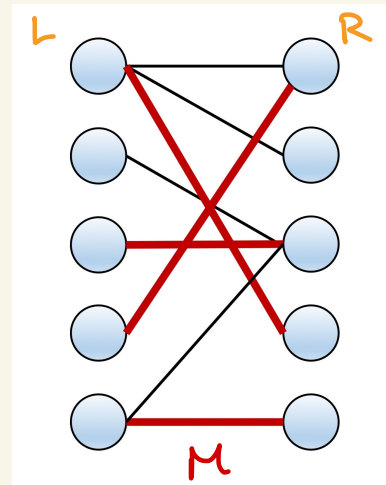
Input: A bipartite graph $G = (L \cup R, E)$

Output: A matching $M \subseteq E$ of maximum size

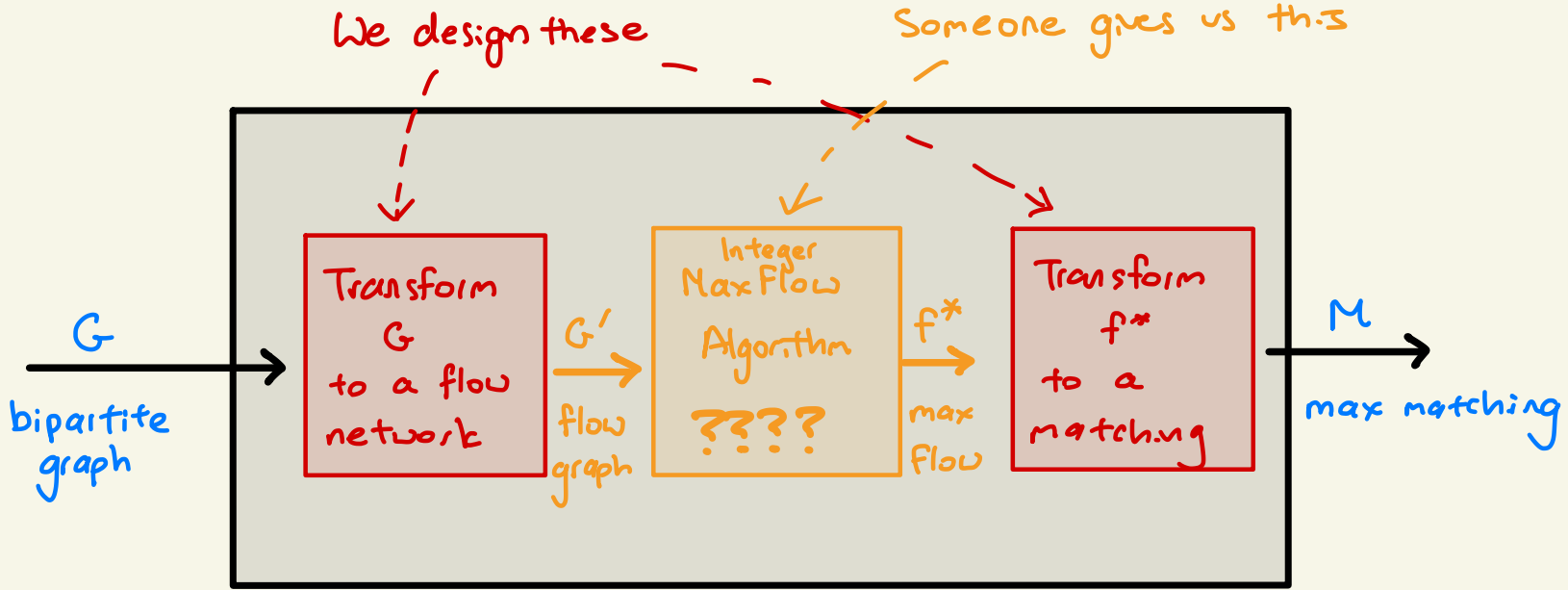
no edges in E
share an endpoint

- A matching M is perfect if $|M| = |L| = |R|$

$G = (L \cup R, E)$



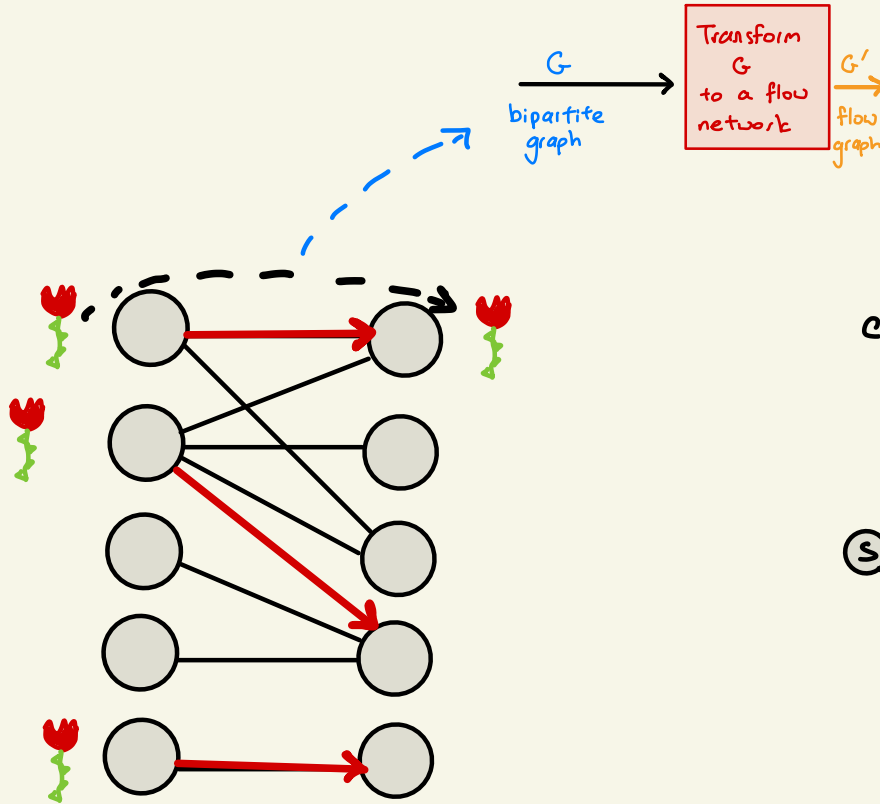
Reductions



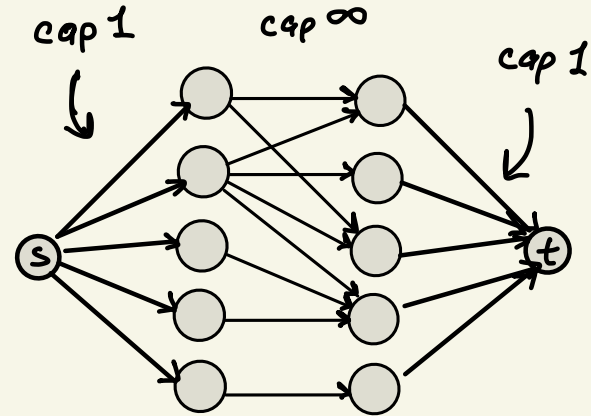
Nothing special about matching and max flow

There are other more general kinds of reduction

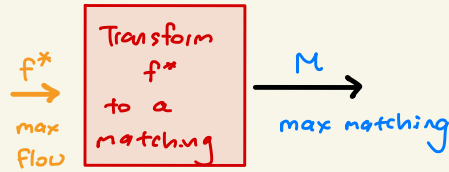
Reducing Matchings to Flows



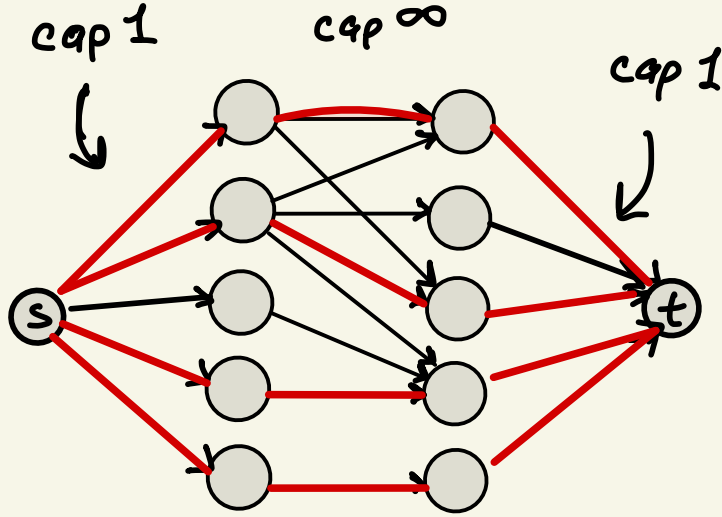
- We produce a valid integer flow network
- Can do the transformation in $O(m)$ time



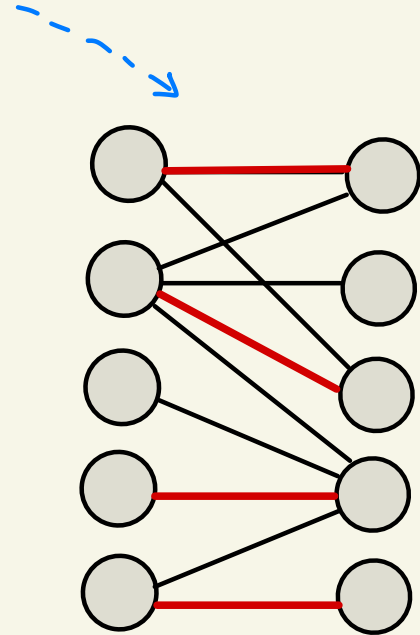
Reducing Matchings to Flows



- We obtain a matching
- Can transform in $O(m)$ time



red edges have flow 1



Correctness of the Reduction

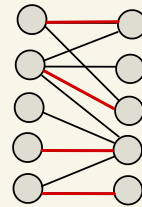
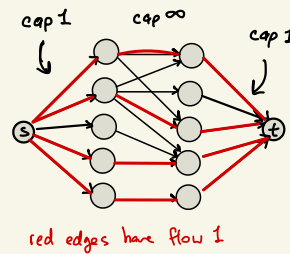
① M is a matching ✓

② If there is a matching of size k
then $\text{val}(f^*) \geq k$

✓

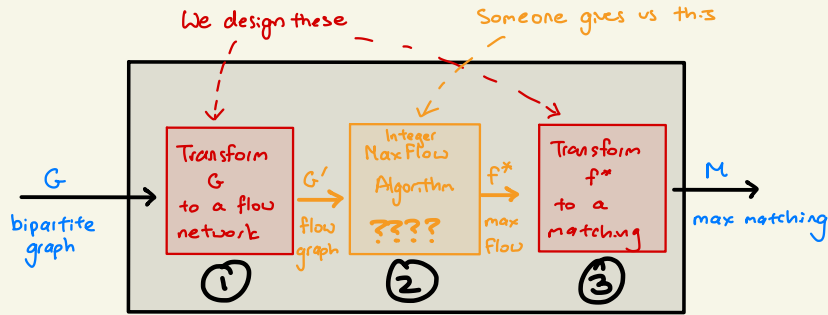
③ If $\text{val}(f^*) = k$ then there is a
matching of size $\geq k$

✓



size of M
= $\text{val}(f^*)$

Running Time Analysis



Assume that we solve max flow in time $O(m'n')$

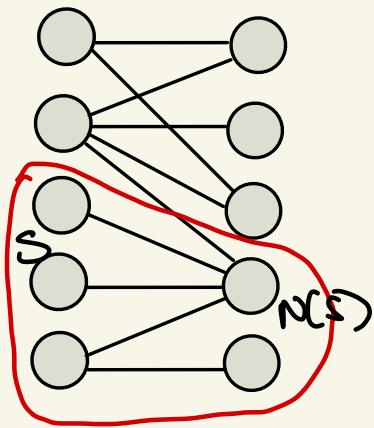
① takes $O(m)$ time, outputs G' with $n' = 2n + 2$ $m' = m + 2n$

② takes $O(m'n') = O((m+n)(n+1)) = O(mn)$

③ takes $O(n)$ time

Algorithm takes $O(mn)$ time

Hall's Theorem



Why can't this graph have a perfect matching?

For $S \subseteq L$ (or $S \subseteq R$) let $N(S)$ = set of nodes on the R (or L) connected to S

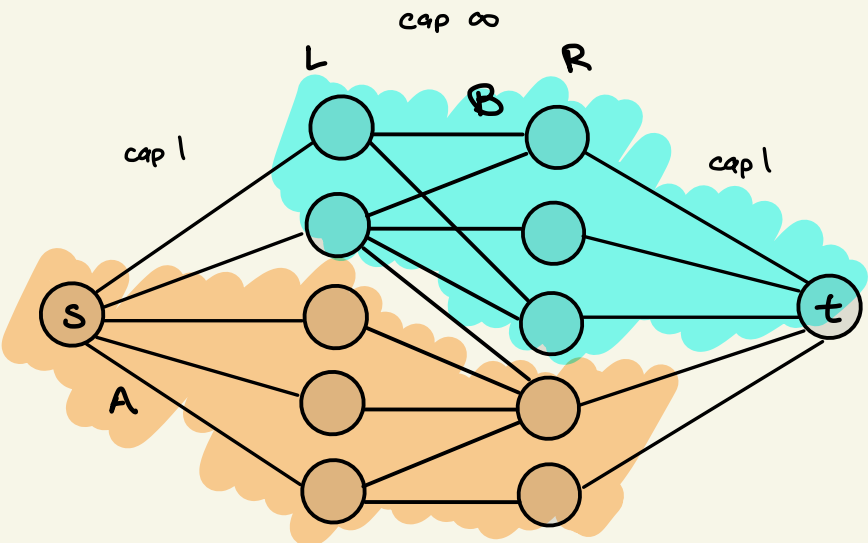
Thm: G has a perfect if and only if

$|N(S)| \geq |S|$ for every $S \subseteq L$ or $S \subseteq R$

We will prove: if G doesn't have a perfect matching then

$\exists S$ such that $|N(S)| < |S|$.

Proof of Hall's Theorem



$S = L \cap A$ $N(S) \subseteq A$
 ↑ ↑

$|S| + |L \setminus S| = n$
 $|N(S)| + |L \setminus S| = \text{cap}(A, B) < n \implies$

Observations:

- ① Min cut does not include edges with cap ∞
- ② No perfect matching

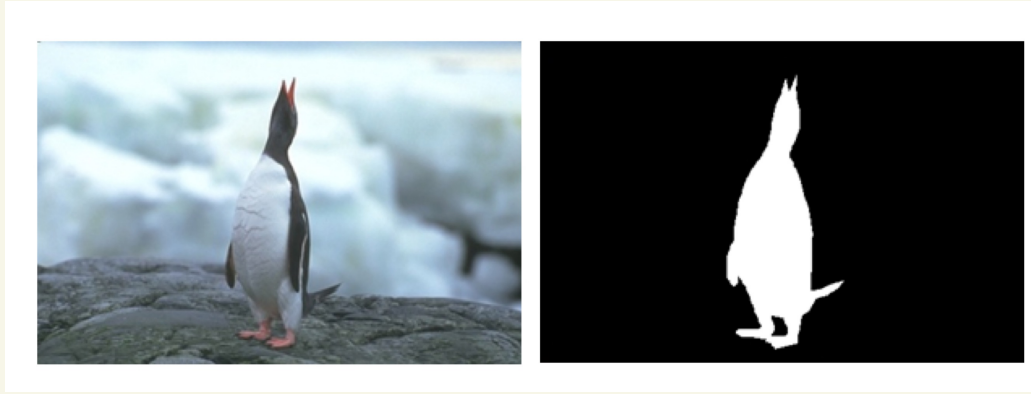


Max flow $< n$
 ⇓
 Min cut $< n$

Use the duality thm

$|N(S)| < |S| \quad \square$

Image Segmentation



Goal: Separate image into foreground and background

How?

Image Segmentation

Input: An undirected graph $G = (V, E)$

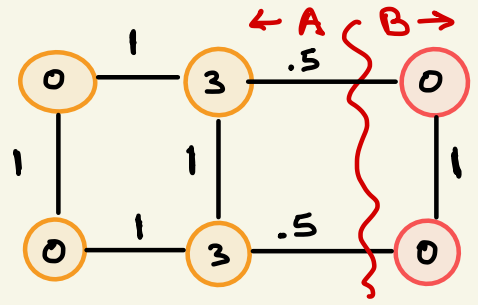
Likelihoods $a_v, b_v \geq 0$ for each node

Separation penalty $p_{uv} \geq 0$ for each edge

Output: A partition of V into (A, B) maximizing

$$\text{quality}(A, B) = \sum_{v \in A} a_v + \sum_{v \in B} b_v - \sum_{\substack{(u,v) \in E \\ u \in A, v \in B}} p_{uv}$$

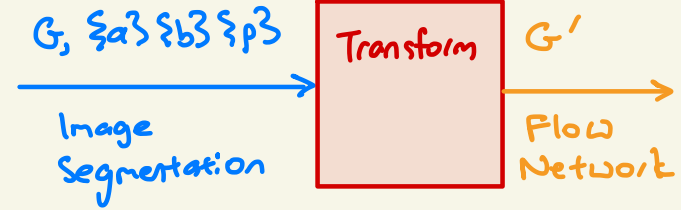
Example:
(All $b_v = 0$)



$$\text{quality}(A, B) = 6 + 0 - 1$$

Designing the Reduction to Min Cut

$$\text{quality}(A, B) = \sum_{v \in A} a_v + \sum_{v \in B} b_v - \sum_{\substack{(u, v) \in E \\ u \in A, v \in B}} p_{u, v}$$



$$\max \text{quality}(A, B)$$

⇓

$$\min -\text{quality}(A, B) = \left(\sum_{v \in A} -a_v \right) + \left(\sum_{v \in B} -b_v \right) + \sum_{(u, v) \in E} p_{u, v}$$

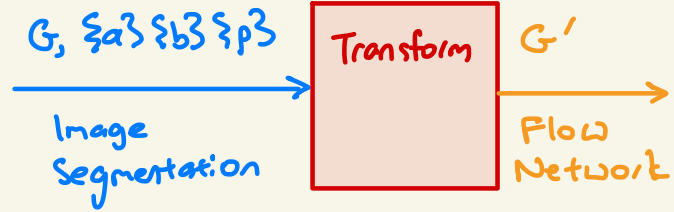
⇓

$$\min -\text{quality}(A, B) = \sum_{v \in B} a_v + \sum_{v \in A} b_v + \sum_{\substack{(u, v) \in E \\ u \in A, v \in B}} p_{u, v}$$

Designing the Reduction to Min Cut

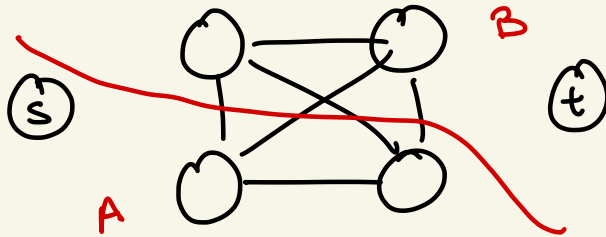
min cut problem is

min
 A, B
s.t. $s \in A$ $t \in B$

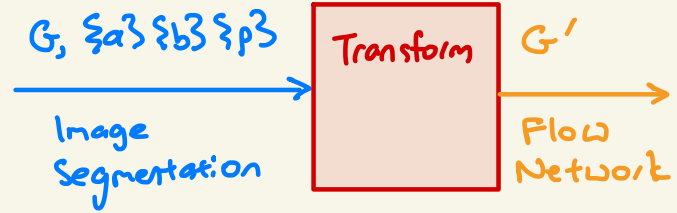


$$\min_{A, B} \text{-quality}(A, B) = \sum_{r \in B} a_r + \sum_{r \in A} b_r + \sum_{\substack{(u, v) \in E \\ u \in A, v \in B}} p_{u, v}$$

① Min cut requires $s \in A$ $t \in B$ \Rightarrow Add "dummy nodes" s, t

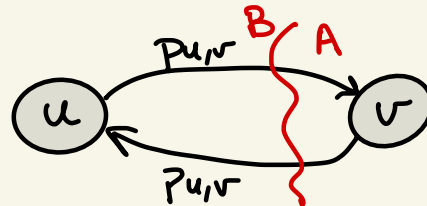


Designing the Reduction to Min Cut

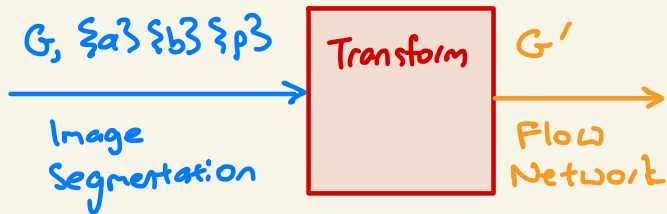


$$\min_{A,B} \text{-quality}(A,B) = \sum_{v \in B} a_v + \sum_{v \in A} b_v + \sum_{\substack{(u,v) \in E \\ u \in A, v \in B}} p_{u,v}$$

② Min cut treats A, B asymmetrically $\left(\text{cap}(A,B) = \sum_{\substack{u \rightarrow v \\ u \in A, v \in B}} \text{cap}(u \rightarrow v) \right)$

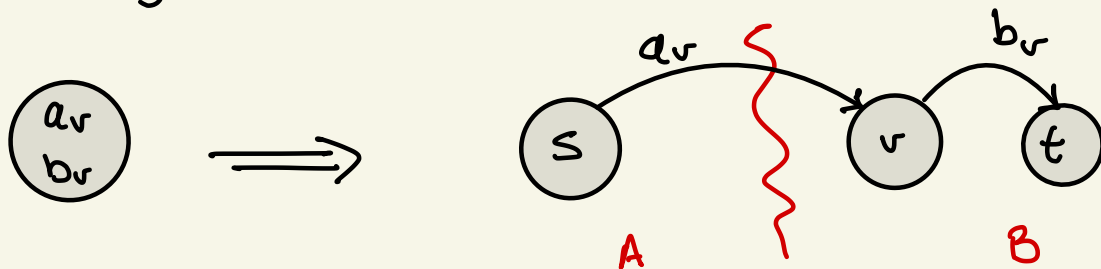


Designing the Reduction to Min Cut

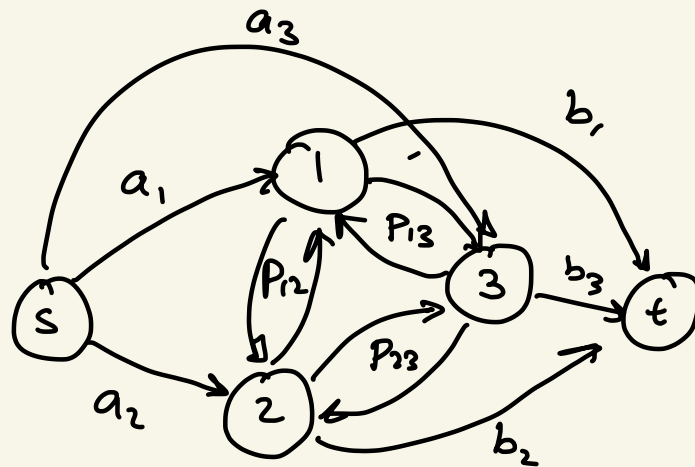
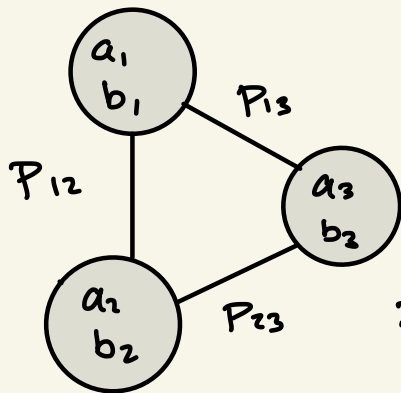
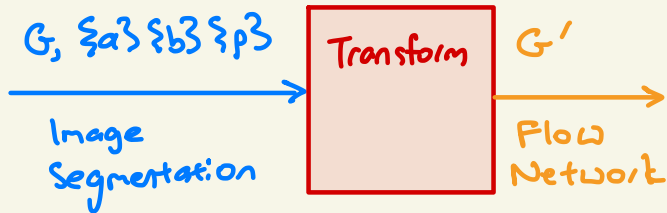


$$\min_{A, B} \text{-quality}(A, B) = \sum_{v \in B} a_v + \sum_{v \in A} b_v + \sum_{\substack{(u, v) \in E \\ u \in A, v \in B}} p_{u, v}$$

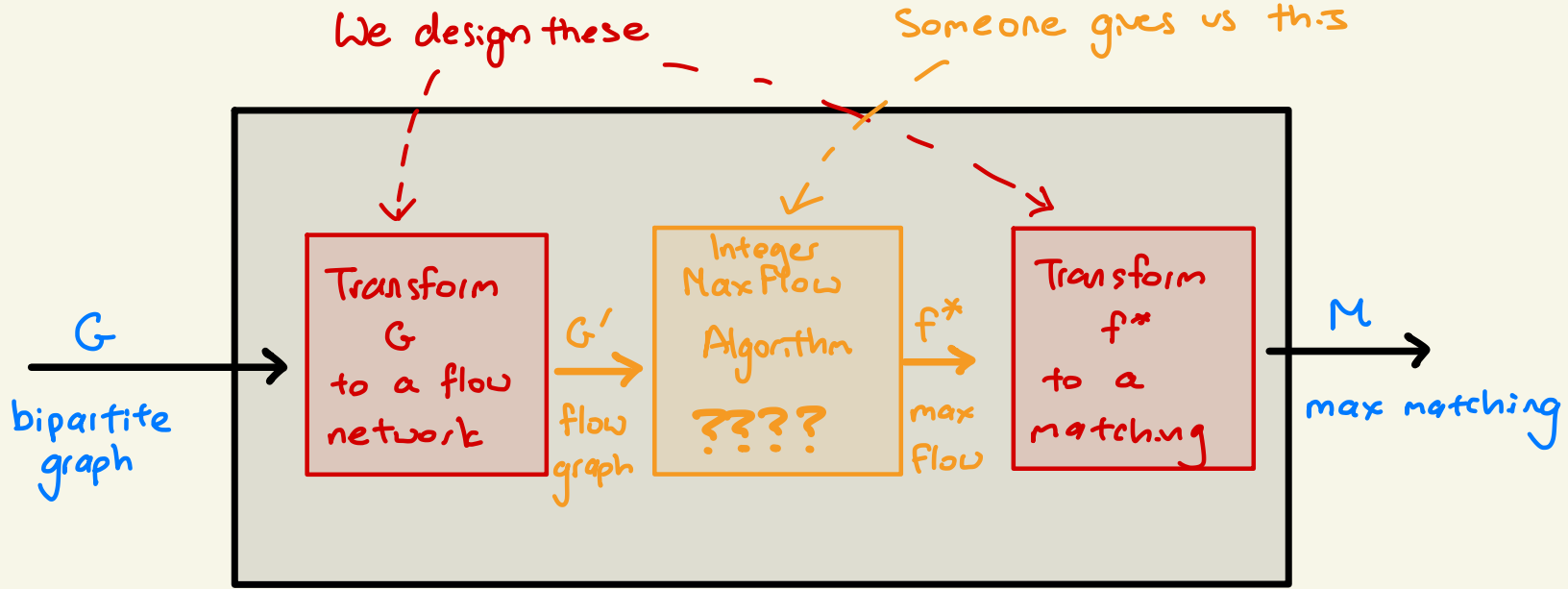
③ Min cut only has edge capacities



Designing the Reduction to Min Cut



Reductions



Nothing special about matching and max flow

There are other more general kinds of reduction