

# Memory Efficient Max Flow for Multi-label Submodular MRFs

Thalaiyasingam Ajanthan    Richard Hartley    Mathieu  
Salzmann

The Australian National University

Data61, CSIRO

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Australian  
National  
University



# Introduction

Minimize

$$E(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{V}} \theta_i(x_i) + \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} \theta_{ij}(x_i, x_j) ,$$

where  $x_i \in \{0, 1, \dots, \ell - 1\}$ .

Multi-label submodular

$$\theta_{ij}(\lambda', \mu) + \theta_{ij}(\lambda, \mu') - \theta_{ij}(\lambda, \mu) - \theta_{ij}(\lambda', \mu') \geq 0 ,$$

for all  $\lambda, \lambda', \mu, \mu'$  where  $\lambda < \lambda'$  and  $\mu < \mu'$ . [Schlesinger-2006]

Current method

- ▶ Ishikawa algorithm [Ishikawa-2003, Schlesinger-2006]

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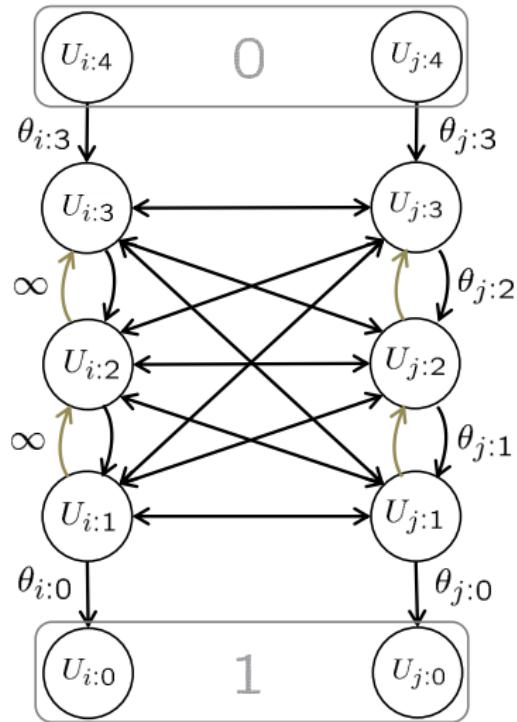
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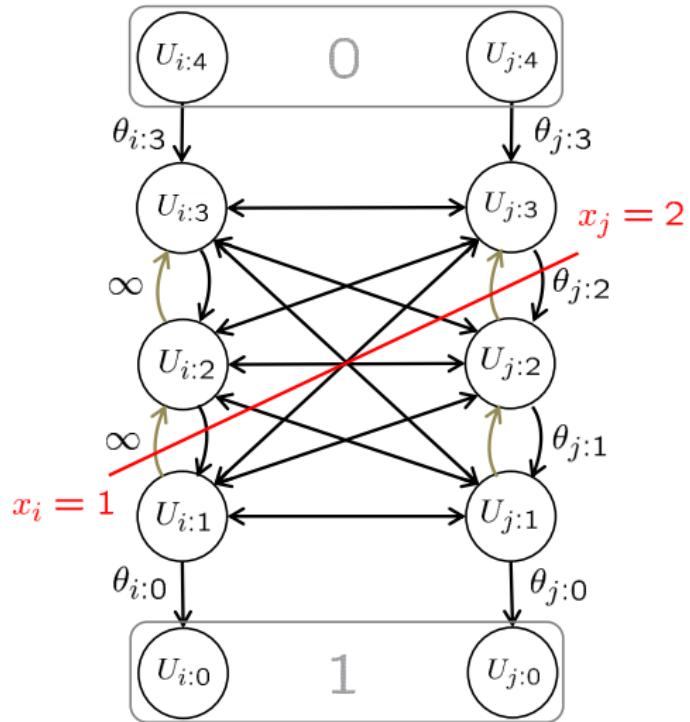
- ▶ Ishikawa algorithm [Ishikawa-2003, Schlesinger-2006]

# The Ishikawa algorithm



*The Ishikawa graph*

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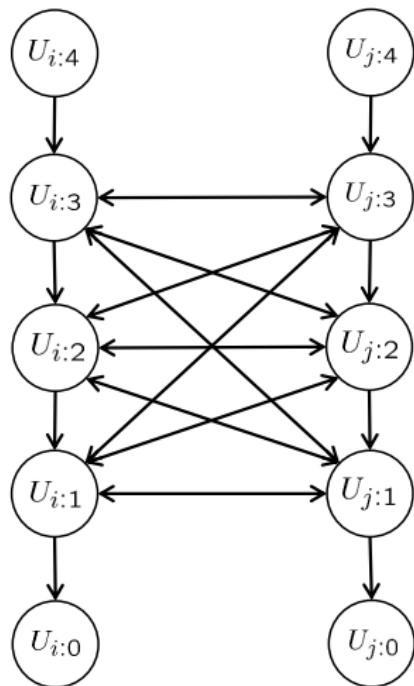
# The Ishikawa algorithm

## Drawback

- ▶ Stores  $2\ell^2$  edges for each pair of neighbours.

## Idea

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E.g.  $|\mathcal{V}| = 10^6$ ,  $\ell = 256$   
Edges  $\approx 2 \times 10^6 \times 2 \times 256^2$   
Memory  $\approx 1000$  GB

## Idea

- ▶ Stores  $2\ell$  values for each pair of neighbours.

Memory  $\approx 4$  GB

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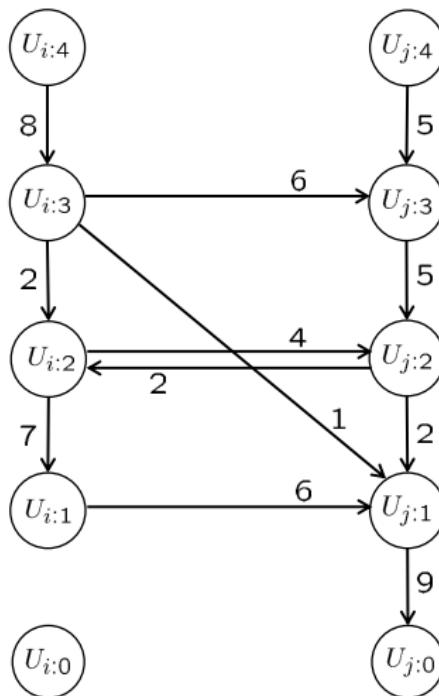
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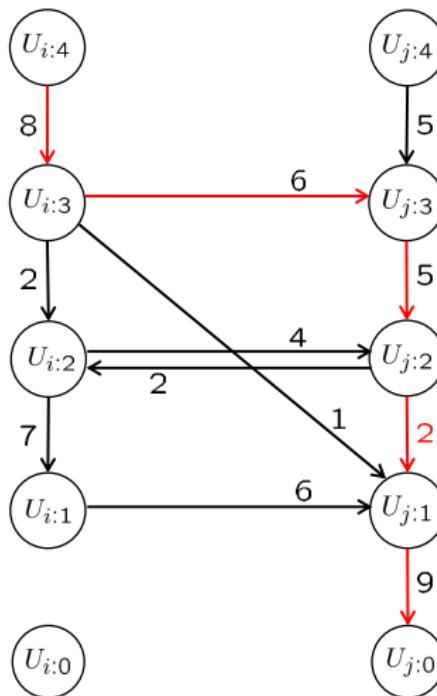
## Max flow on the Ishikawa graph



Flow = 0

Initial Ishikawa graph

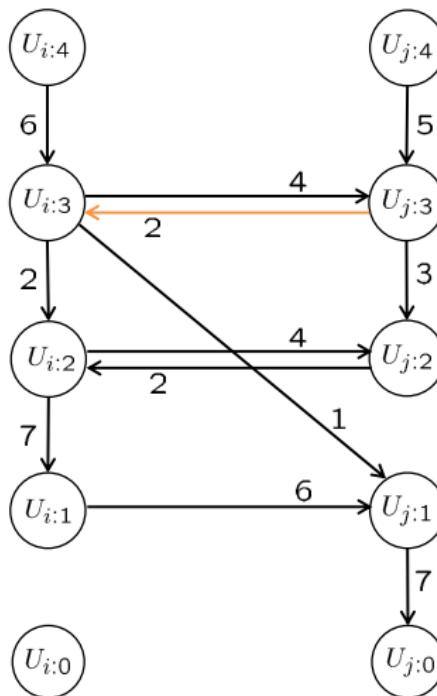
# Max flow on the Ishikawa graph



Flow = 0

Max-flow in progress

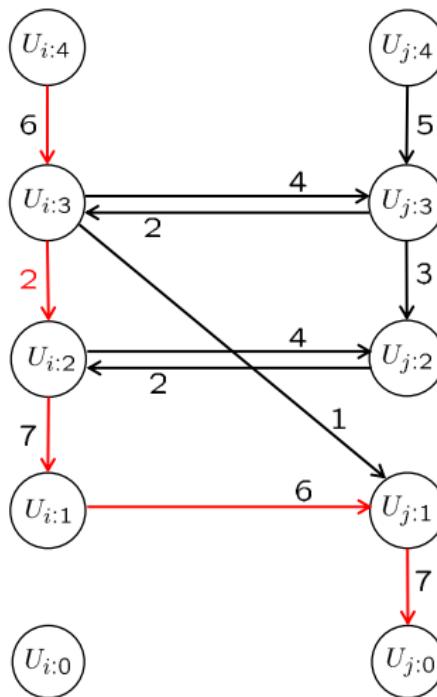
## Max flow on the Ishikawa graph



Flow = 2

*Max-flow in progress*

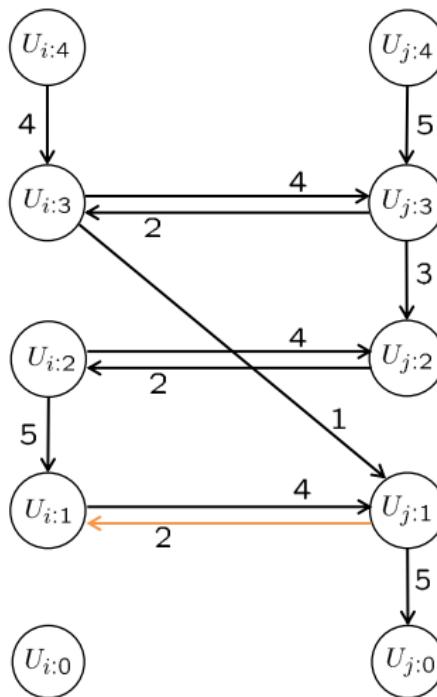
## Max flow on the Ishikawa graph



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*Max-flow in progress*

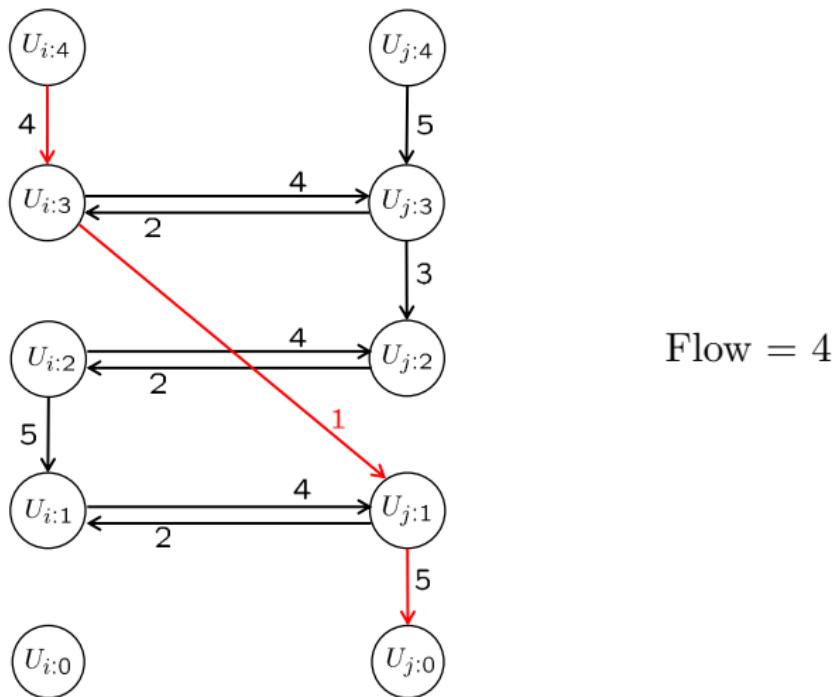
# Max flow on the Ishikawa graph



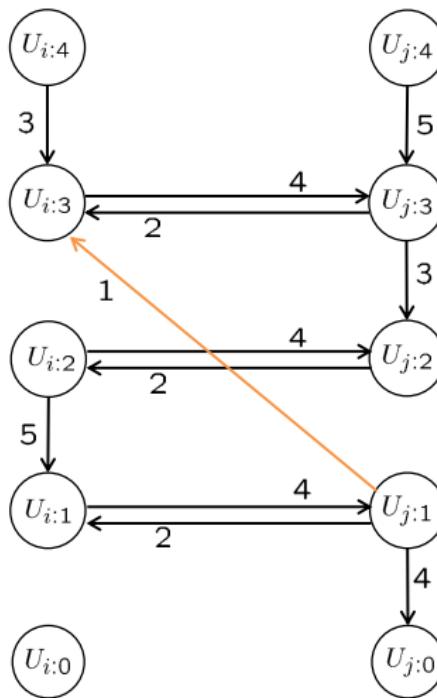
Flow = 4

*Max-flow in progress*

# Max flow on the Ishikawa graph



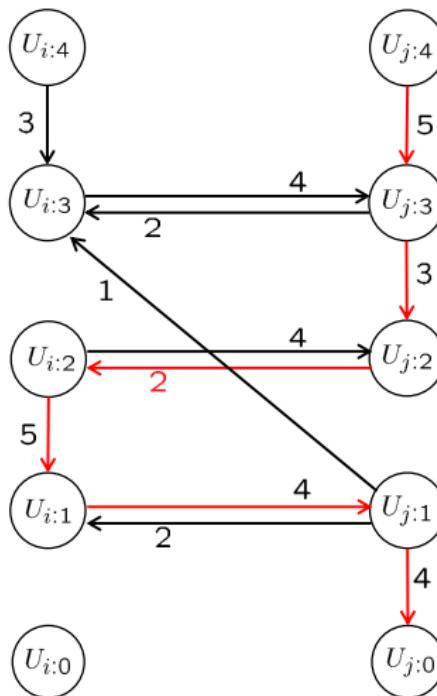
# Max flow on the Ishikawa graph



Flow = 5

Max-flow in progress

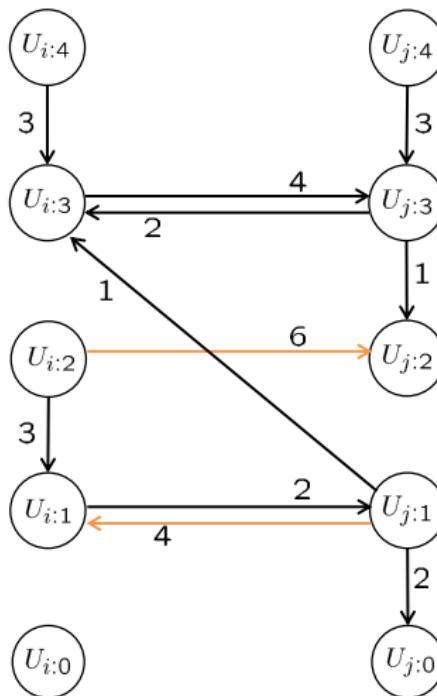
# Max flow on the Ishikawa graph



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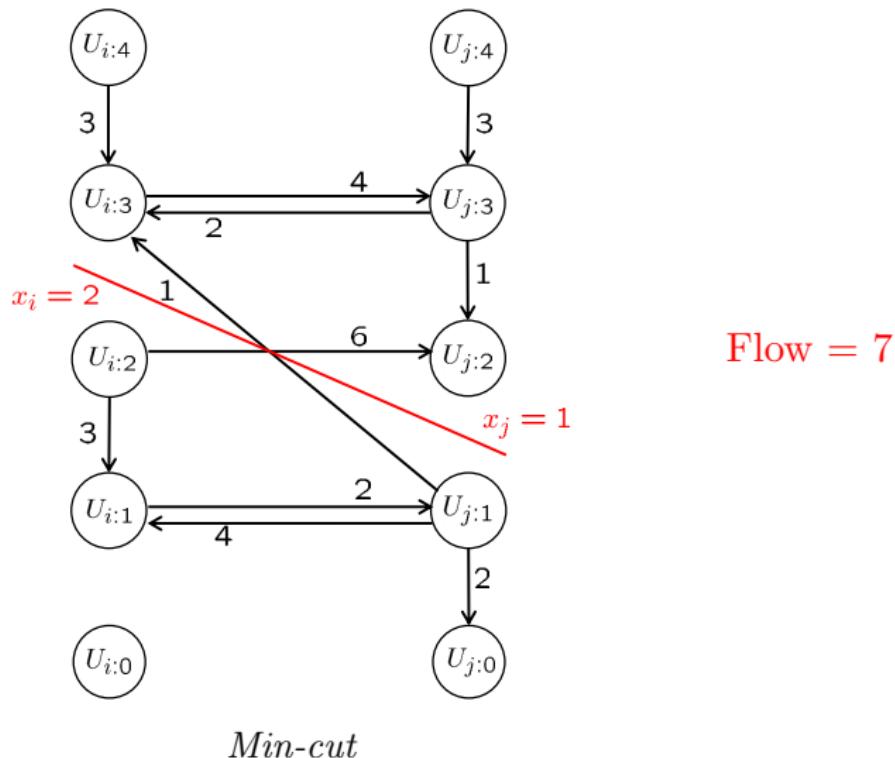
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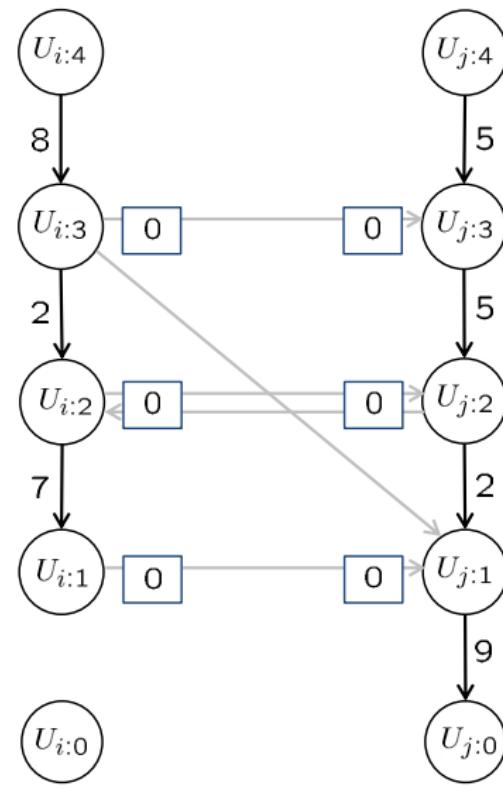
Flow = 7

Max-flow in progress

# Max flow on the Ishikawa graph

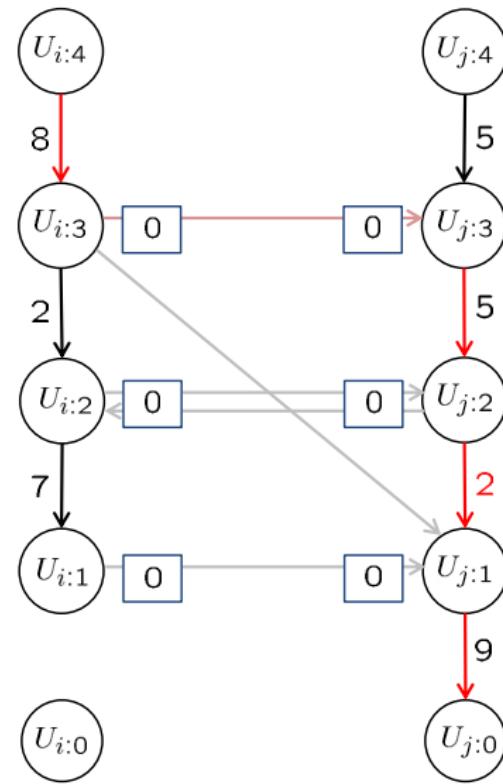


# Memory efficient flow encoding



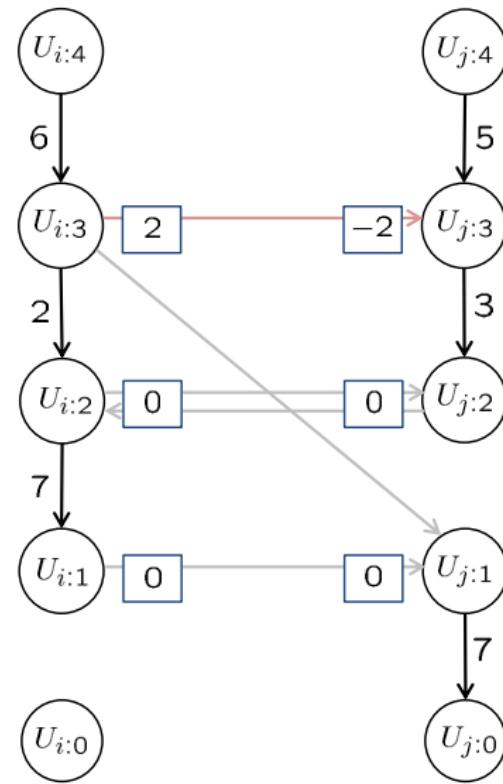
*Initial exit-flows*

# Memory efficient flow encoding



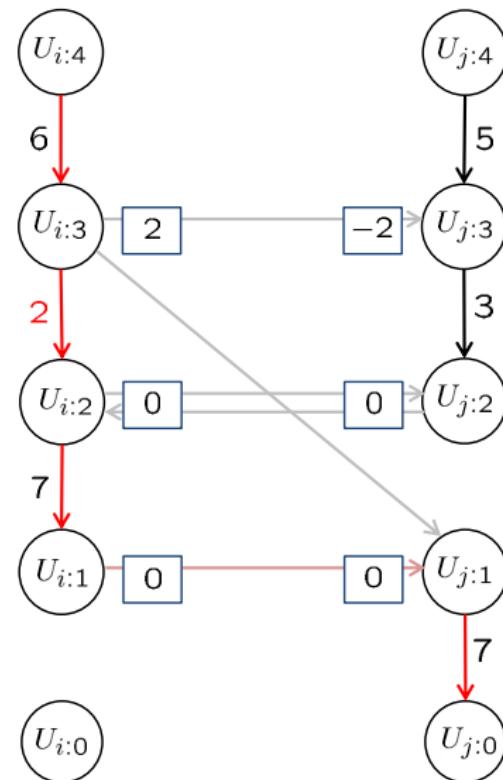
*Update exit-flows*

# Memory efficient flow encoding



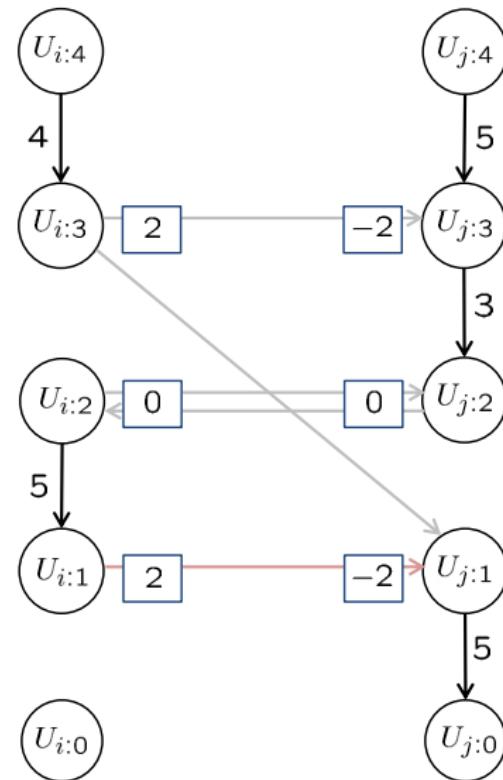
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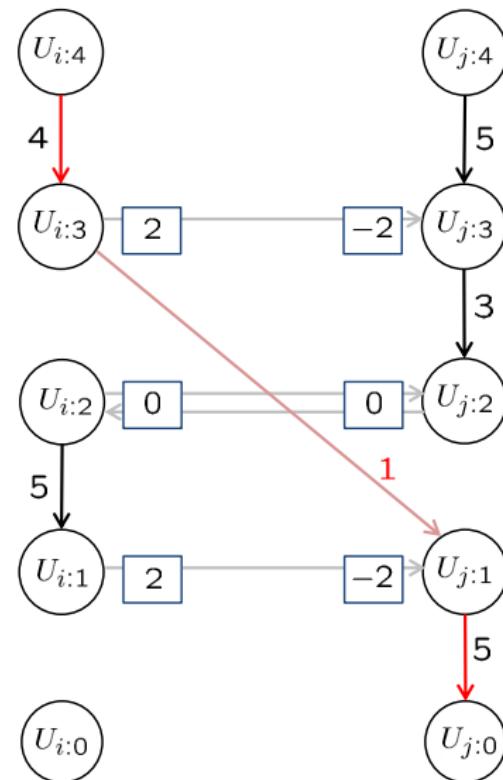
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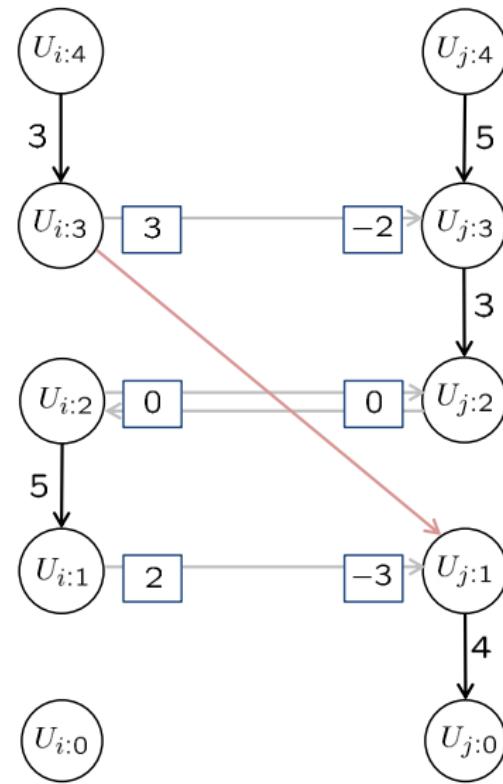
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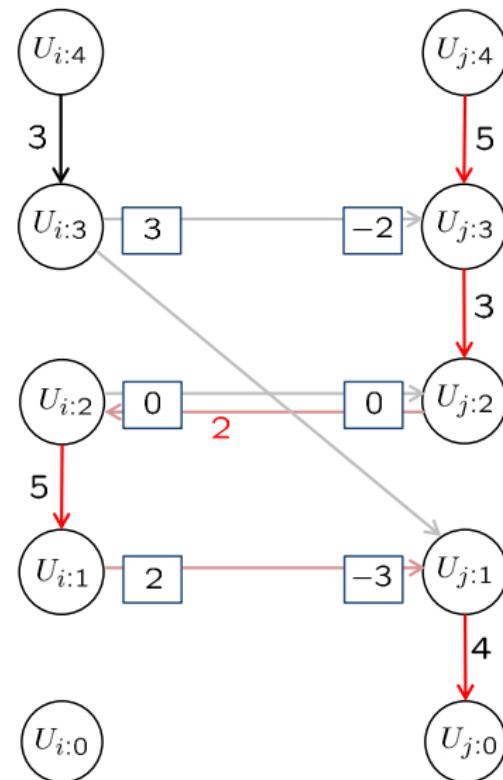
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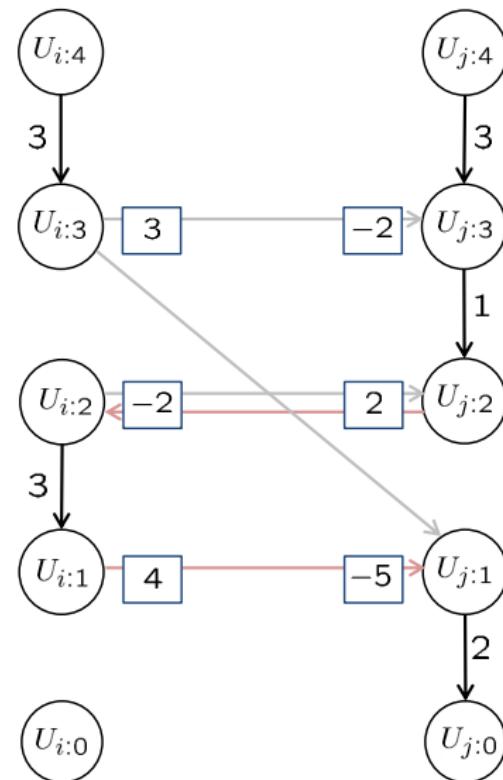
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*Update exit-flows*

# Memory efficient max flow

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## Algorithm

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**Require:**  $\phi^0 \triangleright$  Initial Ishikawa capacities

$\Sigma \leftarrow 0$   $\triangleright$  Initialize exit-flows

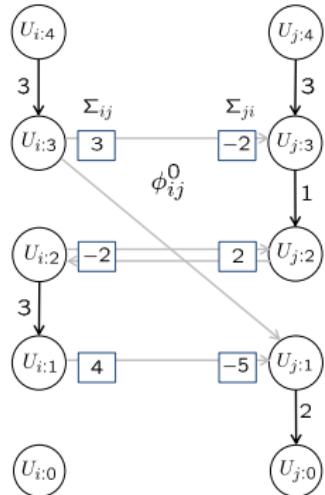
**repeat**

$P \leftarrow \text{augmenting\_path}(\phi^0, \Sigma)$

$\Sigma \leftarrow \text{augment}(P, \phi^0, \Sigma)$

**until** no augmenting paths possible

---



# Memory efficient max flow

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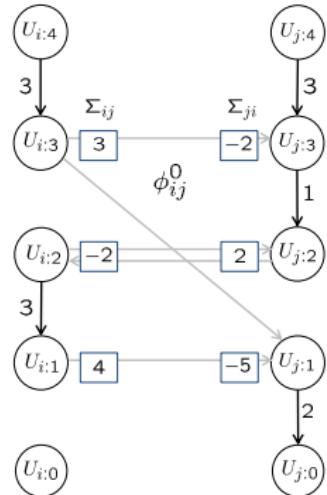
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Space complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(|\mathcal{E}|\ell)$

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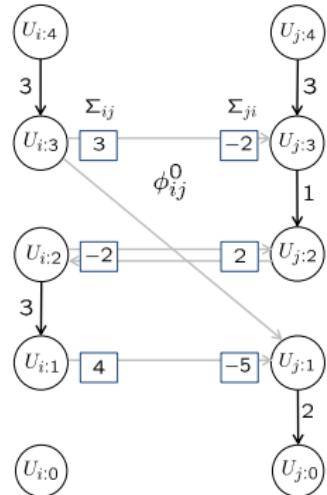
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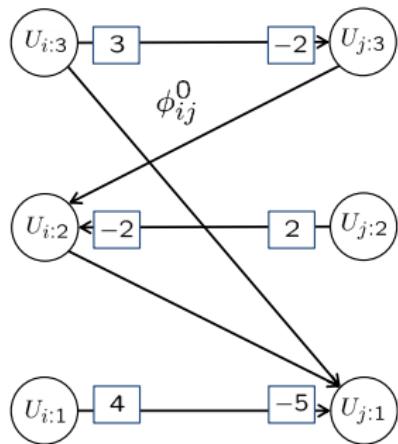
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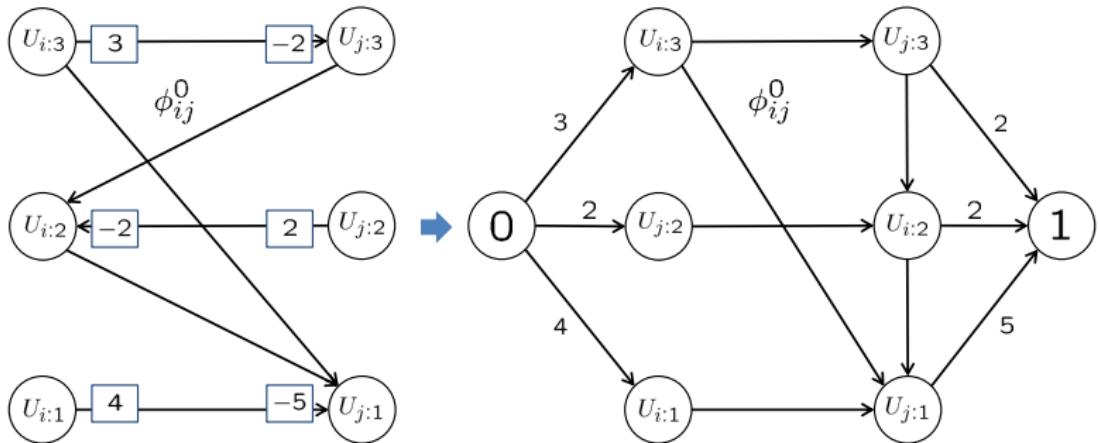


Space complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(|\mathcal{E}|\ell)$

## Flow reconstruction / Computing residual edges

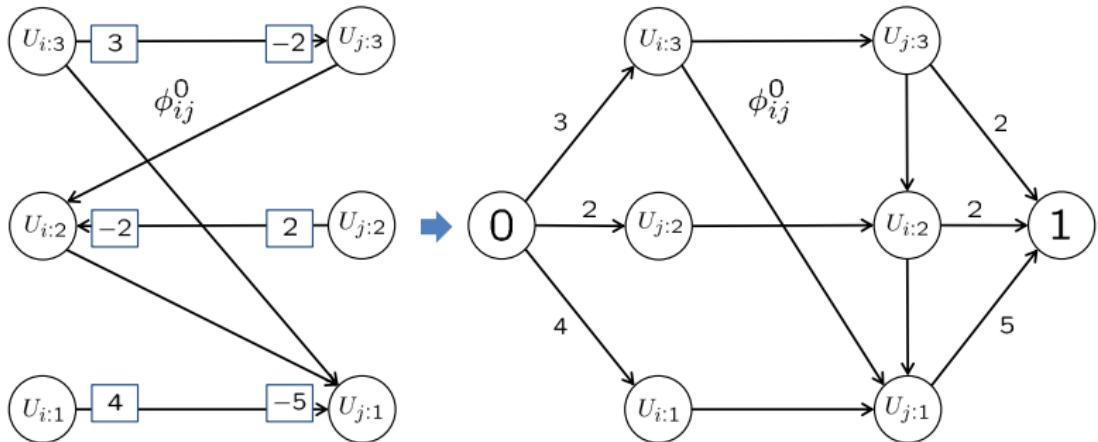


# Flow reconstruction / Computing residual edges



*Flow reconstruction as a small max-flow problem*

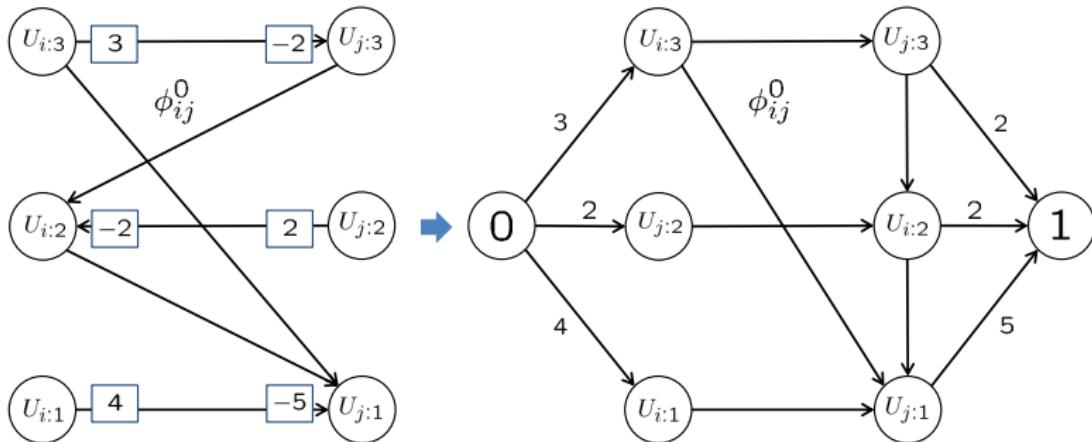
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*Flow reconstruction as a small max-flow problem*

All flow-reconstructions are equivalent.

# Flow reconstruction / Computing residual edges



Flow reconstruction as a small max-flow problem

Time complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(\ell^3)$

## Flow equivalence - an example



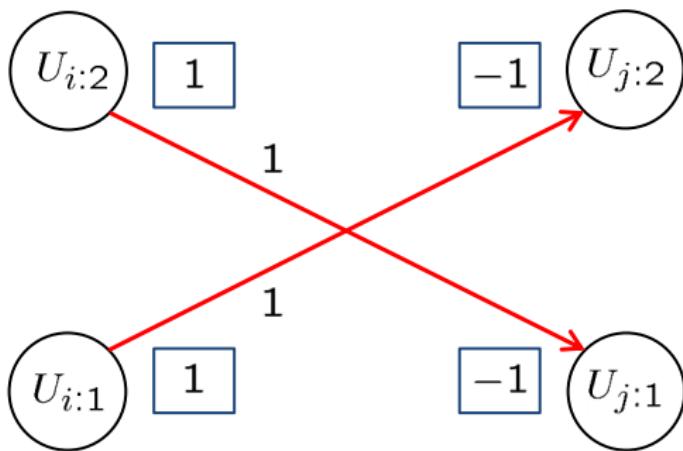
*Exit-flows*

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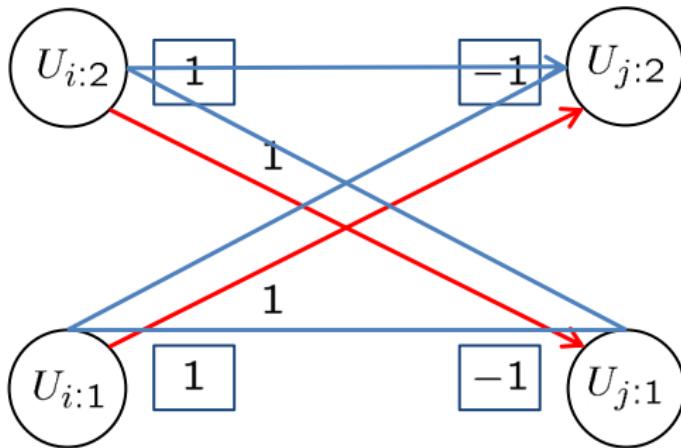
*A reconstructed flow*

## Flow equivalence - an example



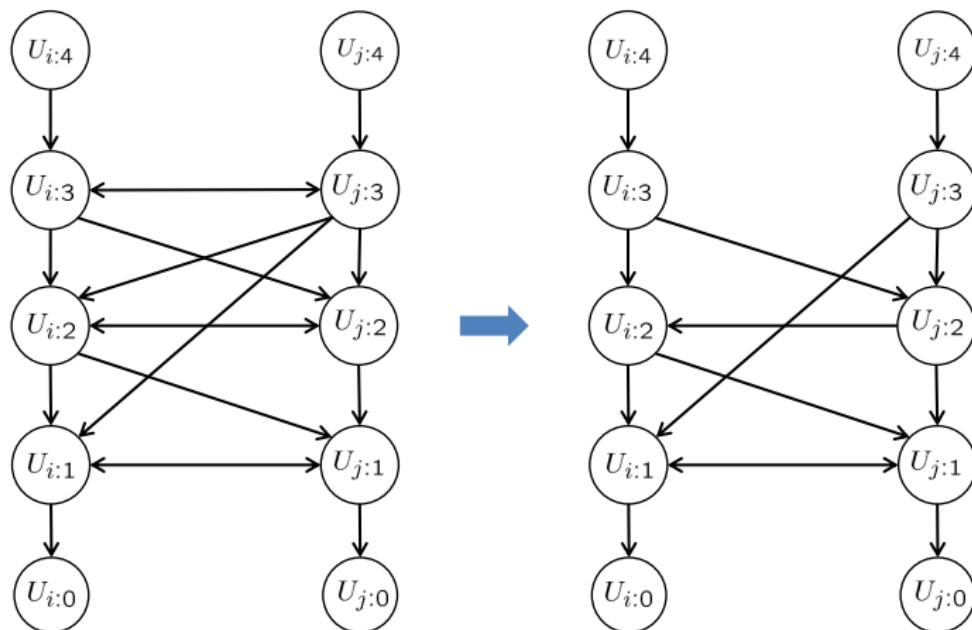
*Another reconstructed flow*

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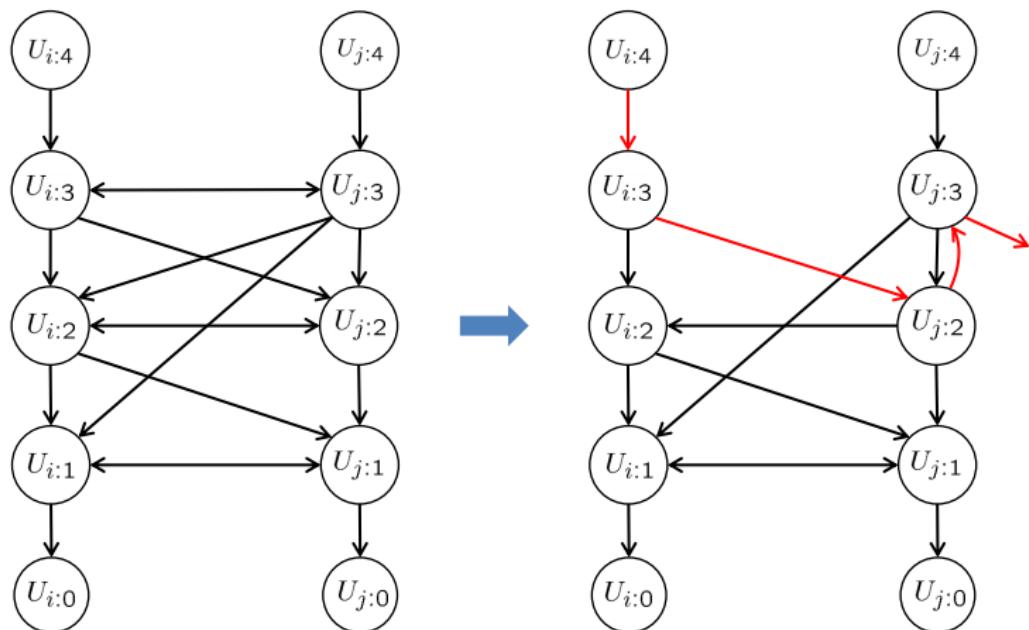
*Both reconstructions are equivalent*

## Finding an augmenting path



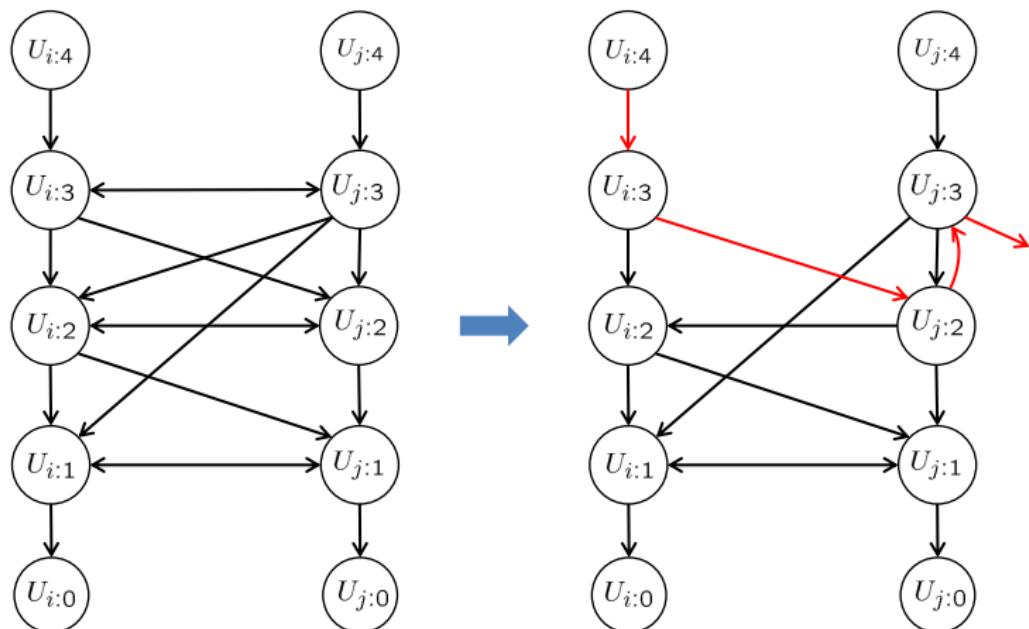
*Find augmenting paths on a subgraph*

## Finding an augmenting path



*Find augmenting paths on a subgraph*

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*Find augmenting paths on a subgraph*

Overall time complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(|\mathcal{V}||\mathcal{E}|\ell^6)$

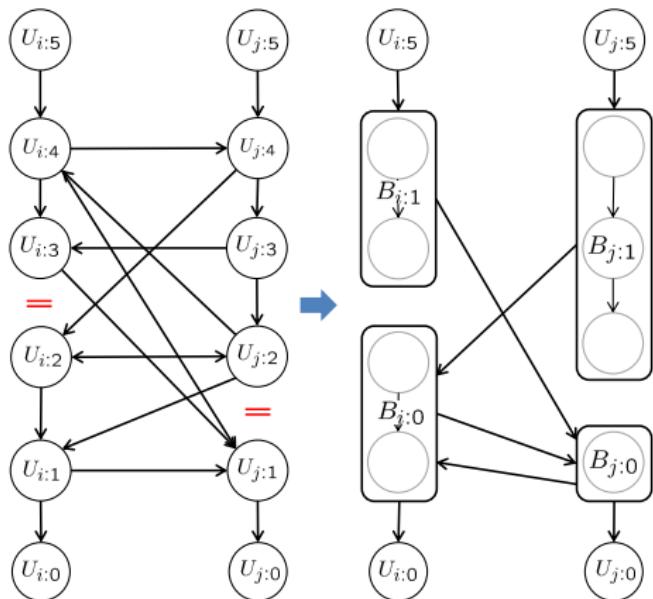
# Efficiently finding an augmenting path

## Simplified graph

- ▶ Sparse graph.
- ▶ Fewer augmenting paths.

## Search-tree-recycling

- ▶ Good empirical performance.



*Simplified graph representation*

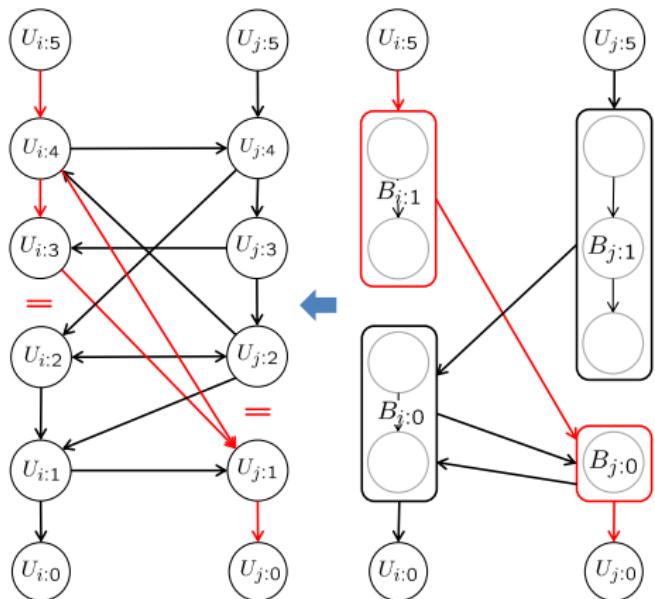
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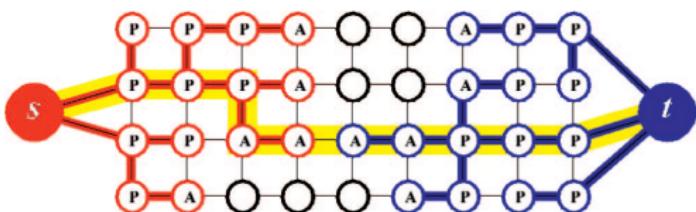


*Simplified graph representation*

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*Image courtesy of [Boykov-2004]*

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# Results

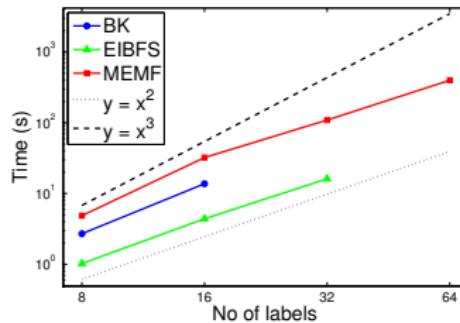
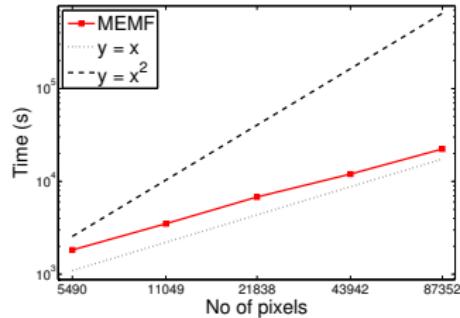
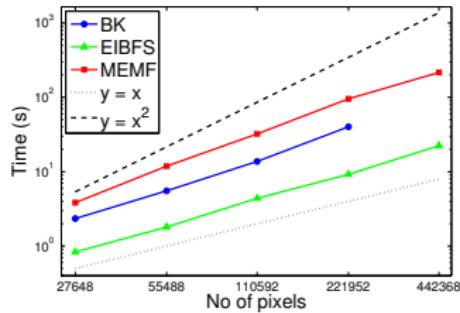
| Problem  | Memory [MB] |         |      | Time [s] |       |       |
|----------|-------------|---------|------|----------|-------|-------|
|          | BK          | EIBFS   | MEMF | BK       | EIBFS | MEMF  |
| Tsukuba  | 3195        | 2495    | 211  | 14       | 4     | 30    |
| Venus    | 7626        | 5907    | 396  | 35       | 9     | 60    |
| Sawtooth | 7566        | 5860    | 393  | 31       | 8     | 35    |
| Map      | 6454        | 4946    | 219  | 57       | 9     | 36    |
| Cones    | *72303      | *55063  | 1200 | -        | -     | 371   |
| Teddy    | *72303      | *55063  | 1200 | -        | -     | 2118  |
| KITTI    | *88413      | *67316  | 2215 | -        | -     | 19008 |
| Penguin  | *173893     | *130728 | 663  | -        | -     | 6835  |
| House    | *521853     | *392315 | 1986 | -        | -     | 9290  |

*Comparison with other max-flow implementations*

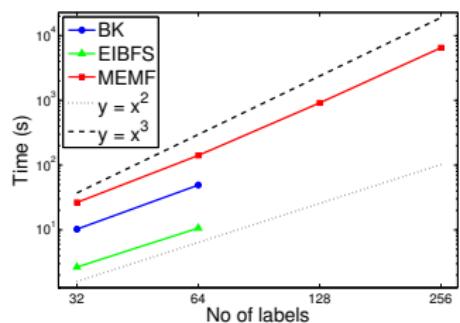
BK Boykov-2004

EIBFS Goldberg-2015

# Empirical time complexity

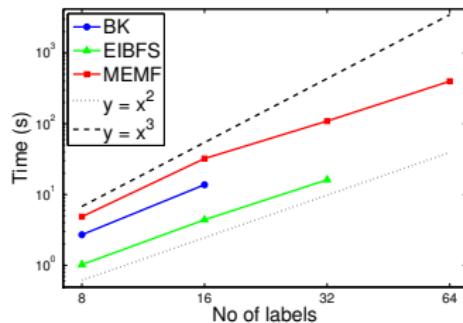
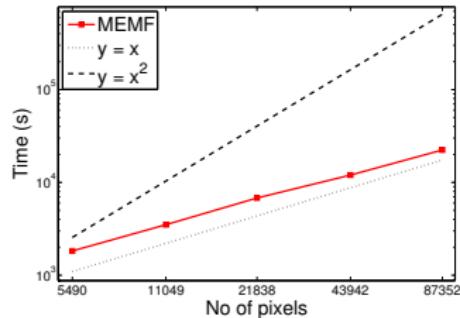
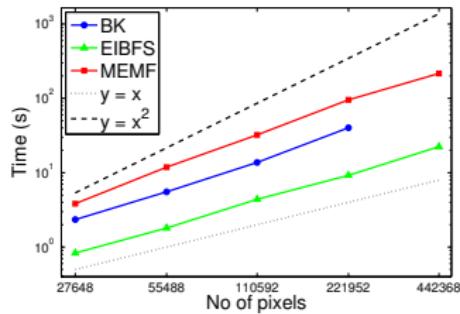


*Tsukuba*

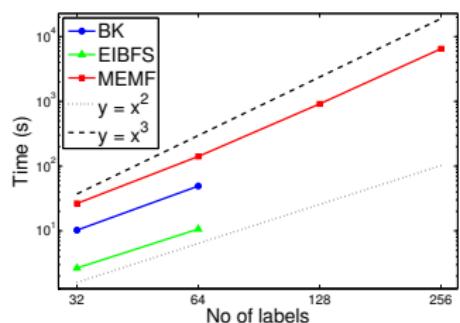


*Penguin*

# Empirical time complexity



*Tsukuba*



*Penguin*

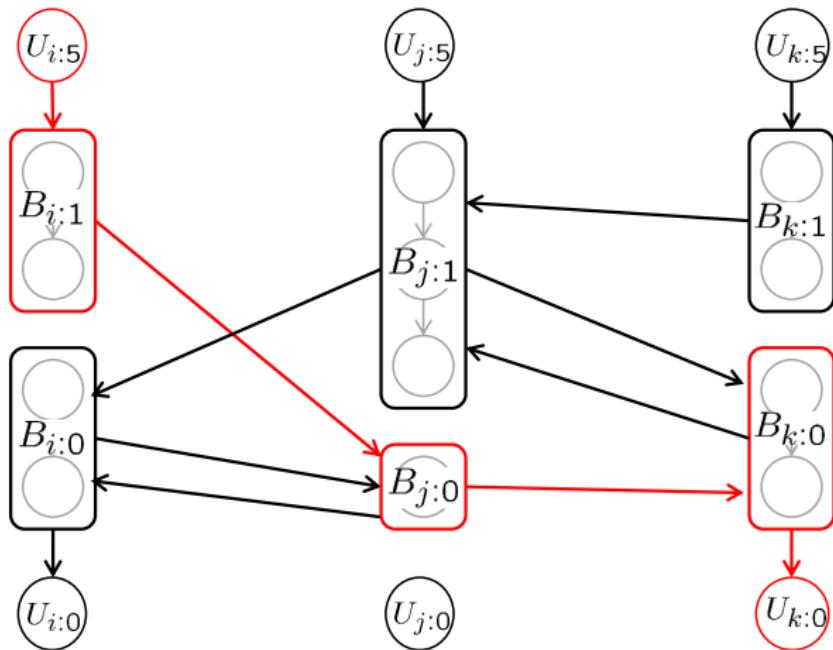
Empirical time complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(|\mathcal{V}| \ell^3)$

# Conclusion

- ▶ We have introduced a memory efficient alternative to the max-flow algorithm that can optimally minimize multi-label submodular MRF energies.

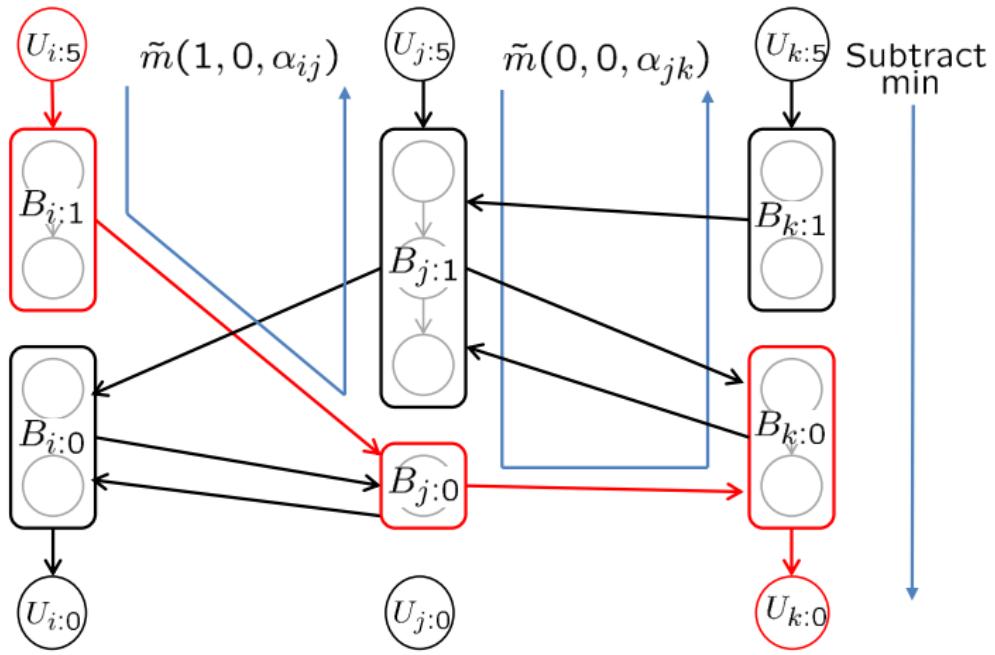
Thank you!

# Augmentation



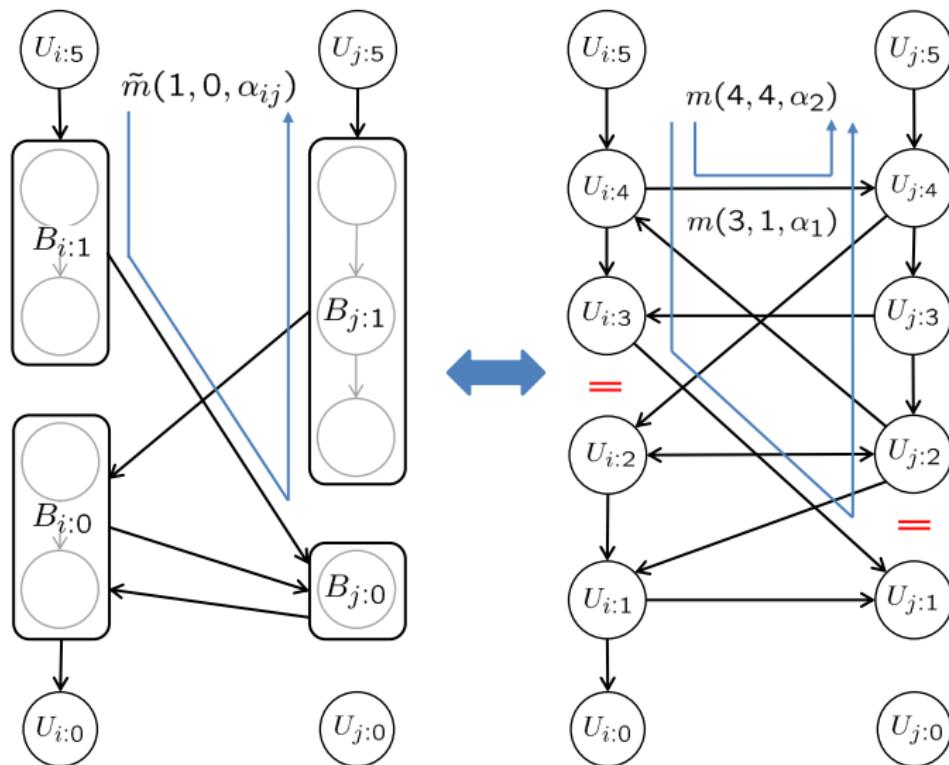
*Augmentation*

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