

Minimum cost spanning r -arborescence

Doctoral course “Optimization on graphs” - Lecture 2.1

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January 15th, 2013



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Definitions

A digraph $\mathcal{D} = (\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{A})$ is a **spanning rooted out-arborescence** (r -arborescence, for short) if and only if there is a unique directed path from its root node $r \in \mathcal{N}$ to all the other nodes in $\mathcal{N} \setminus \{r\}$ and no directed path from any node in $\mathcal{N} \setminus \{r\}$ to r .

The problem

Problem data:

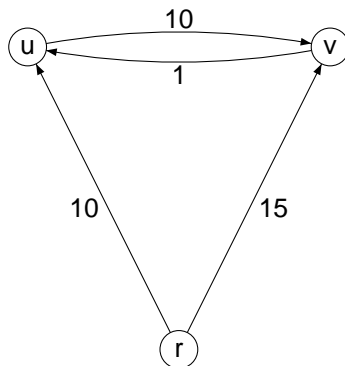
- a digraph $\mathcal{D} = (\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{A})$,
- a node $r \in \mathcal{N}$,
- a cost function $c : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$.

Problem (Minimum Cost Spanning r -Arborescence Problem).

Find a spanning r -arborescence of minimum cost.

Counter-example

The algorithms for the MSTP do not work.



A mathematical programming model

$$\begin{aligned}
 \min z &= \sum_{a \in \mathcal{A}} c_a x_a \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad &\sum_{a \in \delta^{\text{in}}(S)} x_a \geq 1 && \forall S \subseteq \mathcal{N} \setminus \{r\} \\
 &x_a \in \{0, 1\} && \forall a \in \mathcal{A}
 \end{aligned}$$

Integrality conditions are redundant.

We call r -cuts all arc subsets $\delta^{\text{in}}(S)$ corresponding to all node subsets S not containing r .

The dual model

$$\min z = \sum_{a \in \mathcal{A}} c_a x_a$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \sum_{a \in \delta^{\text{in}}(S)} x_a \geq 1$$

$$x_a \geq 0$$

$$\forall S \subseteq \mathcal{N} \setminus \{r\}$$

$$\forall a \in \mathcal{A}$$

This linear program has a dual.

$$\max w = \sum_{S \subseteq \mathcal{N} \setminus \{r\}} y_S$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \sum_{S \subseteq \mathcal{N} \setminus \{r\} : a \in \delta^{\text{in}}(S)} y_S \leq c_a$$

$$y_S \geq 0$$

$$\forall a \in \mathcal{A}$$

$$\forall S \subseteq \mathcal{N} \setminus \{r\}$$

Complementary slackness conditions

Primal C.S.C.: $x_a(c_a - \sum_{S \subseteq \mathcal{N} \setminus \{r\} : a \in \delta^{in}(S)} y_S) = 0 \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{A}$

Dual C.S.C.: $y_S(\sum_{a \in \delta^{in}(S)} x_a - 1) = 0 \quad \forall S \subseteq \mathcal{N} \setminus \{r\}$

The initial **primal solution** $x_a = 0 \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{A}$ is **primal infeasible** (and super-optimal).

The corresponding **dual solution** $y_S = 0 \quad \forall S \subseteq \mathcal{N} \setminus \{r\}$ is **dual feasible** (and sub-optimal).

Edmonds algorithm

This algorithm is due to Chu and Liu (1965), Edmonds (1967), Bock (1971).

Let us define $\mathcal{A}_0 = \{a \in \mathcal{A} : c_a = 0\}$. If \mathcal{A}_0 contains a spanning r -arborescence B , then B is a minimum cost spanning r -arborescence. Otherwise there is a s.c.c. K in the digraph $(\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{A}_0)$ such that

- $r \notin K$
- $c_a > 0 \ \forall a \in \delta^{in}(K)$.

Let us define $\alpha = \min\{c_a : a \in \delta^{in}(K)\}$. Modify the costs in this way: $c'_a := c_a - \alpha \ \forall a \in \delta^{in}(K)$ and $c'_a := c_a$ otherwise. Then search for a minimum cost spanning r -arborescence B with respect to the new cost function c' .

Edmonds algorithm: correctness

It is always possible to choose B such that it contains only one arc entering K , since K is strongly connected.

If $|B \cap \delta^{in}(K)| \geq 2$, then there exists a redundant arc $a \in B \cap \delta^{in}(K)$ such that $B \setminus \{a\} \cup \mathcal{A}_0$ still contains an r -arborescence B' , with $c'(B') \leq c'(B) - c'_a \leq c'(B)$.

The optimal r -arborescence B chosen in this way is also optimal with respect to the original cost function c . For each other r -arborescence B' , we have $c(B') \geq c(B)$:

- $c(B') = c'(B') + \alpha|B' \cap \delta^{in}(K)|$ by definition of the cost update procedure;
- $|B' \cap \delta^{in}(K)| \geq 1$ because of B' is a spanning r -arborescence;
- $c'(B') \geq c'(B)$, because B is optimal with respect to the modified costs c' ;
- $c'(B) + \alpha = c(B)$, because B contains only one arc entering K .

Edmonds algorithm: complexity (1)

The algorithm has complexity $O(nm)$, because it requires at most $2n$ iterations and each of them has complexity $O(m)$.

Let k be the number of s.c.c. in the digraph $(\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{A}_0)$. Let k_0 be the number of s.c.c. of $(\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{A}_0)$ with no zero-cost entering arcs.

At each iteration $k + k_0$ decreases by at least 1: if K remains a s.c.c., it now has at least one entering arc with zero cost, hence k_0 decreases; if K is merged with another s.c.c., then k decreases.

Initially $k = n - 1$ and $k_0 = n - 1$. Therefore the iterations are at most $2(n - 1)$.

Edmonds algorithm: complexity (2)

In $O(m)$ time it is possible to compute the set S of nodes that are not reachable from r in $(\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{A}_0)$.

In $O(m)$ time it is possible find the s.c.c. in the subgraph induced by S , sorting S in pre-topological order, so that its first node belong to a s.c.c. with no zero-cost entering arcs.

Therefore each iteration has time complexity $O(m)$.

Tarjan (1977): implementation in $O(\min\{n^2, m \log n\})$ time.

Dual ascent algorithms

A dual ascent algorithm iteratively does the following:

- **Dual iteration**: a **violated primal constraint** is selected (an r -cut S); the corresponding **dual variable** y_S enters the basis and is increased as much as possible, to activate a **dual constraint** corresponding to a **primal variable** x_a (an arc);
- **Primal iteration**: the corresponding **primal variable** x_a enters the basis and it is increased as little as possible in order to repair the infeasibility of the selected **primal constraint** (an r -cut).

Dual ascent

When a **dual variable** is increased (**w** improves), how much is “as much as possible”?

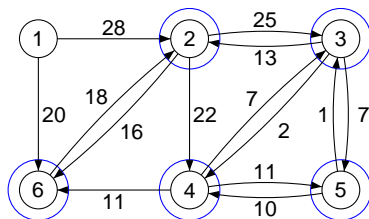
Dual feasibility requires $\sum_{S \subseteq \mathcal{N} \setminus \{r\}: a \in \delta^{\text{in}}(S)} y_S \leq c_a \quad \forall a \in \mathcal{A}$.

Therefore for each node subset S , the maximum value that the corresponding dual variable y_S can take is equal to the minimum reduced cost among all the arcs in the r -cut $\delta^{\text{in}}(S)$.

When a **primal variable** is increased (**z** worsens), how much is “as little as possible”?

The value 1 is the minimum amount to make at least one more primal constraint $\sum_{a \in \delta^{\text{in}}(S)} x_a \geq 1$ active. It is useless (sub-optimal) to give **primal variables** values larger than 1.

Edmonds algorithm: an example



Unreachable from 1: $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$.

S.C.C. $\{2\}\{3\}\{4\}\{5\}\{6\}$ $k = 5$

S.C.C.₀ $\{2\}\{3\}\{4\}\{5\}\{6\}$ $k_0 = 5$

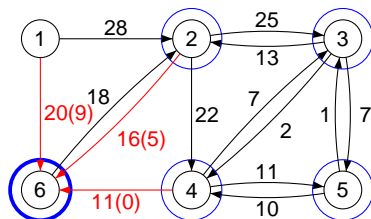
$$k + k_0 = 10.$$

$$w = 0.$$

$$x = 0.$$

$$z = 0.$$

Example: dual iteration 1



$$x = 0.$$

$$z = 0.$$

Unreachable from 1: $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$.

$$\text{S.C.C.} \quad \{2\}\{3\}\{4\}\{5\}\{6\} \quad k = 5$$

$$\text{S.C.C.}_0 \quad \{2\}\{3\}\{4\}\{5\}\{6\} \quad k_0 = 5$$

$$k + k_0 = 10.$$

$$\text{Scan} \quad \{2\}\{3\}\{4\}\{5\}\{6\}$$

$$\text{End} \quad \{2\}\{3\}\{4\}\{5\}\{6\}$$

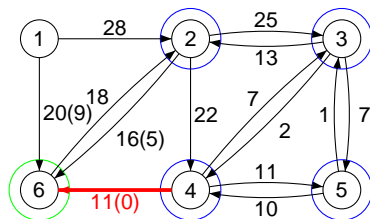
$$S = \{6\}$$

$$\delta(S) = \{(1, 6), (2, 6), (4, 6)\}$$

$$\alpha = 11.$$

$$w = y_6 = 11.$$

Example: primal iteration 1



Unreachable from 1: $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$.

S.C.C. $\{2\}\{3\}\{4\}\{5\}\{6\}$ $k = 5$

S.C.C.₀ $\{2\}\{3\}\{4\}\{5\}$ $k_0 = 4$

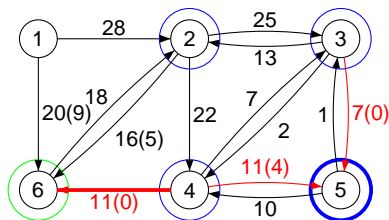
$k + k_0 = 9$.

$w = y_6 = 11$.

$x_{46} = 1$.

$z = 11$.

Example: dual iteration 2



$$x_{46} = 1.$$

$$z = c_{46} = 11.$$

Unreachable from 1: $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$.

$$\text{S.C.C.} \quad \{2\}\{3\}\{4\}\{5\}\{6\} \quad k = 5$$

$$\text{S.C.C.}_0 \quad \{2\}\{3\}\{4\}\{5\} \quad k_0 = 4$$

$$k + k_0 = 9.$$

$$\text{Scan} \quad \{2\}\{3\}\{4\}\{6\}\{5\}$$

$$\text{End} \quad \{2\}\{3\}\{6\}\{4\}\{5\}$$

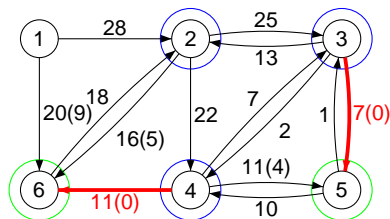
$$S = \{5\}$$

$$\delta(S) = \{(3, 5), (4, 5)\}$$

$$\alpha = 7.$$

$$w = y_6 + y_5 = 18.$$

Example: primal iteration 2



Unreachable from 1: $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$.

S.C.C. $\{2\}\{3\}\{4\}\{5\}\{6\}$ $k = 5$

S.C.C.₀ $\{2\}\{3\}\{4\}$ $k_0 = 3$

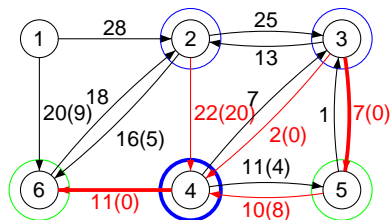
$k + k_0 = 8$.

$w = y_6 + y_5 = 18$.

$x_{46} = x_{35} = 1$.

$z = c_{46} + c_{35} = 18$.

Example: dual iteration 3



$$x_{46} = x_{35} = 1.$$

$$z = c_{46} + c_{35} = 18.$$

Unreachable from 1: $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$.

$$\text{S.C.C.} \quad \{2\}\{3\}\{4\}\{5\}\{6\} \quad k = 5$$

$$\text{S.C.C.}_0 \quad \{2\}\{3\}\{4\} \quad k_0 = 3$$

$$k + k_0 = 8.$$

$$\text{Scan} \quad \{2\}\{3\}\{5\}\{4\}\{6\}$$

$$\text{End} \quad \{2\}\{5\}\{3\}\{6\}\{4\}$$

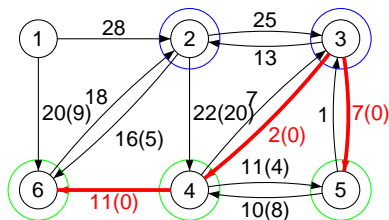
$$S = \{4\}$$

$$\delta(S) = \{(2, 4), (3, 4), (5, 4)\}$$

$$\alpha = 2.$$

$$w = y_6 + y_5 + y_4 = 20.$$

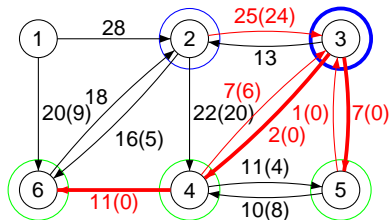
Example: primal iteration 3

Unreachable from 1: $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$.S.C.C. $\{2\}\{3\}\{4\}\{5\}\{6\}$ $k = 5$ S.C.C.₀ $\{2\}\{3\}$ $k_0 = 2$ $k + k_0 = 7$. $w = y_6 + y_5 + y_4 = 20$.

$$x_{46} = x_{35} = x_{34} = 1.$$

$$z = c_{46} + c_{35} + c_{34} = 20.$$

Example: dual iteration 4



$$x_{46} = x_{35} = x_{34} = 1.$$

$$z = c_{46} + c_{35} + c_{34} = 20.$$

Unreachable from 1: $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$.

$$\text{S.C.C.} \quad \{2\}\{3\}\{4\}\{5\}\{6\} \quad k = 5$$

$$\text{S.C.C.}_0 \quad \{2\}\{3\} \quad k_0 = 2$$

$$k + k_0 = 7.$$

$$\text{Scan} \quad \{2\}\{3\}\{4\}\{6\}\{5\}$$

$$\text{End} \quad \{2\}\{6\}\{4\}\{5\}\{3\}$$

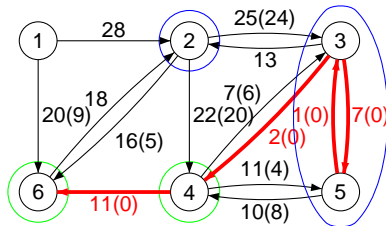
$$S = \{3\}$$

$$\delta(S) = \{(2, 3), (4, 3), (5, 3)\}$$

$$\alpha = 1.$$

$$w = y_6 + y_5 + y_4 + y_3 = 21.$$

Example: primal iteration 4



Unreachable from 1: $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$.

S.C.C. $\{2\}\{3, 5\}\{4\}\{6\}$ $k = 4$

S.C.C.₀ $\{2\}\{3, 5\}$ $k_0 = 2$

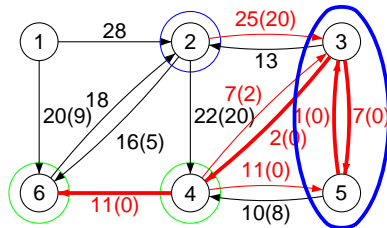
$k + k_0 = 6$.

$w = y_6 + y_5 + y_4 + y_3 = 21$.

$$x_{46} = x_{35} = x_{34} = x_{53} = 1.$$

$$Z = c_{46} + c_{35} + c_{34} + c_{53} = 21.$$

Example: dual iteration 5



$$x_{46} = x_{35} = x_{34} = x_{53} = 1.$$

$$Z = c_{46} + c_{35} + c_{34} + c_{53} = 21.$$

Unreachable from 1: $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$.

$$\text{S.C.C.} \quad \{2\}\{3, 5\}\{4\}\{6\} \quad k = 4$$

$$\text{S.C.C.}_0 \quad \{2\}\{3, 5\} \quad k_0 = 2$$

$$k + k_0 = 6.$$

$$\text{Scan} \quad \{2\}\{3, 5\}\{4\}\{6\}$$

$$\text{End} \quad \{2\}\{6\}\{4\}\{3, 5\}$$

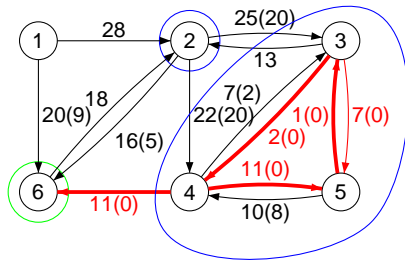
$$S = \{3, 5\}$$

$$\delta(S) = \{(2, 3), (4, 3), (4, 5)\}$$

$$\alpha = 4.$$

$$w = y_6 + y_5 + y_4 + y_3 + y_{35} = 25.$$

Example: primal iteration 5



Unreachable from 1: $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$.

S.C.C. $\{2\}\{3, 4, 5\}\{6\}$ $k = 3$

S.C.C.₀ $\{2\}\{3, 4, 5\}$ $k_0 = 2$

$k + k_0 = 5$.

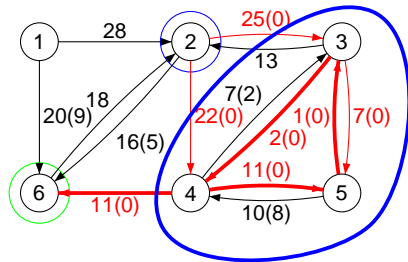
$w = y_6 + y_5 + y_4 + y_3 + y_{35} = 25$.

$$x_{46} = x_{34} = x_{53} = x_{45} = 1.$$

$$Z = c_{46} + c_{34} + c_{53} + c_{45} = 25.$$

$x_{35} = 0$ is replaced by $x_{45} = 1$

Example: dual iteration 6



$$x_{46} = x_{34} = x_{53} = x_{45} = 1.$$

$$Z = c_{46} + c_{34} + c_{53} + c_{45} = 25.$$

Either x_{23} or x_{24} enters the basis.

Unreachable from 1: $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$.

$$\text{S.C.C.} \quad \{2\}\{3, 4, 5\}\{6\} \quad k = 3$$

$$\text{S.C.C.}_0 \quad \{2\}\{3, 4, 5\} \quad k_0 = 2$$

$$k + k_0 = 5.$$

$$\text{Scan} \quad \{2\}\{3, 4, 5\}\{6\}$$

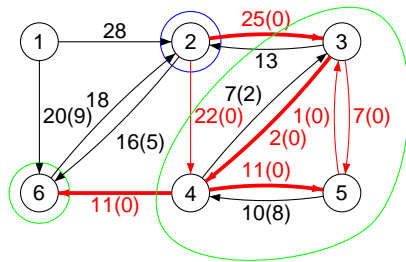
$$\text{End} \quad \{2\}\{6\}\{3, 4, 5\}$$

$$S = \{3, 4, 5\}$$

$$\delta(S) = \{(2, 3), (2, 4)\}$$

$$\alpha = 20.$$

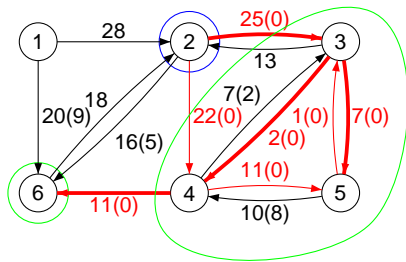
$$W = y_6 + y_5 + y_4 + y_3 + y_{35} + y_{345} = 45.$$

Option 1: x_{23} enters the basis

$$x_{46} = x_{34} = x_{45} = x_{23} = 1.$$

$$Z = c_{46} + c_{34} + c_{45} + c_{23} = 49.$$

Wrong!

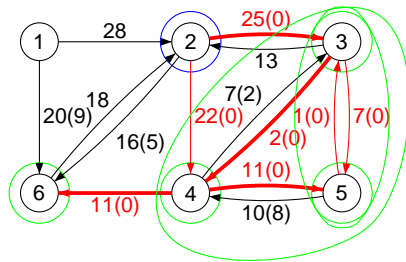


$$x_{46} = x_{34} = x_{35} = x_{23} = 1.$$

$$Z = c_{46} + c_{34} + c_{35} + c_{23} = 45.$$

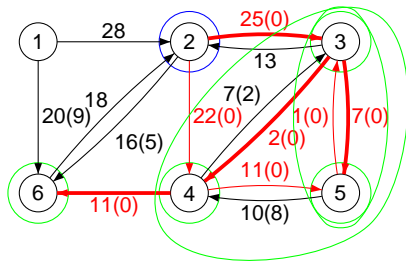
Right!

Why?

Option 1: x_{23} enters the basis

$$x_{46} = x_{34} = \mathbf{x_{45}} = x_{23} = 1.$$

$$Z = c_{46} + c_{34} + \mathbf{c_{45}} + c_{23} = 49.$$

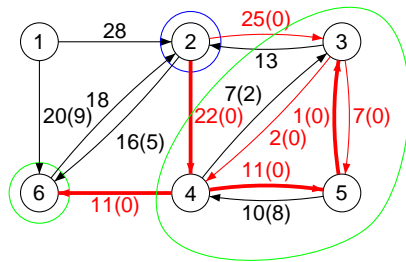
Wrong!

$$x_{46} = x_{34} = \mathbf{x_{35}} = x_{23} = 1.$$

$$Z = c_{46} + c_{34} + \mathbf{c_{35}} + c_{23} = 45.$$

Right!

Because $y_{35} = 4$ and dual C.S.C. impose $y_{35}(x_{23} + x_{43} + x_{45} - 1) = 0$

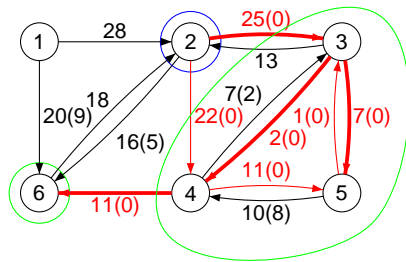
Option 2: x_{24} enters the basis

$$x_{46} = x_{24} = x_{45} = x_{53} = 1.$$

$$Z = c_{46} + c_{24} + c_{45} + c_{53} = 45.$$

x_{34} is replaced by x_{24} .

Example: primal iteration 6



Unreachable from 1: $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$.

S.C.C. $\{2\} \{3, 4, 5\} \{6\}$ $k = 3$

S.C.C.₀ $\{2\}$ $k_0 = 1$

$$k + k_0 = 4.$$

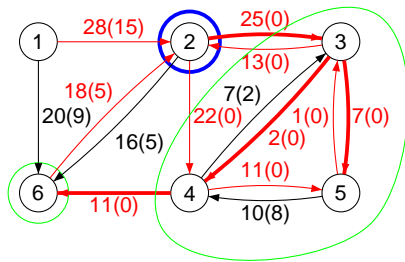
$$w = y_6 + y_5 + y_4 + y_3 + y_{35} + y_{345} = 45.$$

$$x_{46} = x_{34} = x_{35} = x_{23} = 1.$$

$$Z = c_{46} + c_{34} + c_{35} + c_{23} = 45.$$

We choose option 1.

Example: dual iteration 7

Unreachable from 1: $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$.

$$x_{46} = x_{34} = x_{35} = x_{23} = 1.$$

$$Z = c_{46} + c_{34} + c_{35} + c_{23} = 45.$$

$$\text{S.C.C.} \quad \{2\}\{3, 4, 5\}\{6\} \quad k = 3$$

$$\text{S.C.C.}_0 \quad \{2\} \quad k_0 = 1$$

$$k + k_0 = 4.$$

$$\text{Scan} \quad \{2\}\{3, 4, 5\}\{6\}$$

$$\text{End} \quad \{6\}\{3, 4, 5\}\{2\}$$

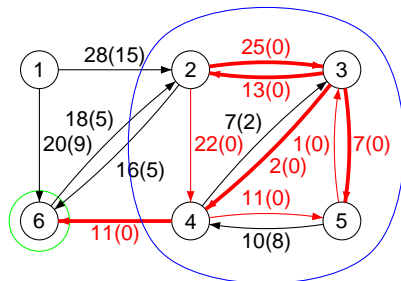
$$S = \{2\}$$

$$\delta(S) = \{(1, 2), (3, 2), (6, 2)\}$$

$$\alpha = 13.$$

$$W = y_6 + y_5 + y_4 + y_3 + y_{35} + y_{345} + y_2 = 58.$$

Example: primal iteration 7



Unreachable from 1: $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$.

S.C.C. $\{2, 3, 4, 5\} \{6\}$ $k = 2$

S.C.C.₀ $\{2, 3, 4, 5\}$ $k_0 = 1$

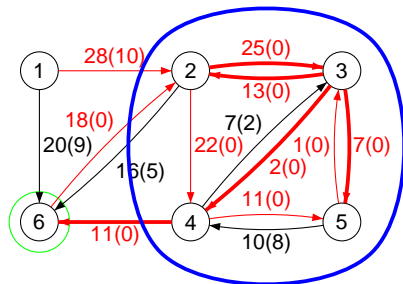
$k + k_0 = 3$.

$w = y_6 + y_5 + y_4 + y_3 + y_{35} + y_{345} +$
 $+ y_2 = 58.$

$$x_{46} = x_{34} = x_{35} = x_{23} = x_{32} = 1.$$

$$Z = c_{46} + c_{34} + c_{35} + c_{23} + c_{32} = 58.$$

Example: dual iteration 8



$$x_{46} = x_{34} = x_{35} = x_{23} = x_{32} = 1.$$

$$Z = c_{46} + c_{34} + c_{35} + c_{23} + c_{32} = 58.$$

Unreachable from 1: $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$.

S.C.C. $\{2, 3, 4, 5\} \{6\}$ $k = 2$

S.C.C.₀ $\{2, 3, 4, 5\}$ $k_0 = 1$

$$k + k_0 = 3.$$

Scan $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\} \{6\}$

End $\{6\} \{2, 3, 4, 5\}$

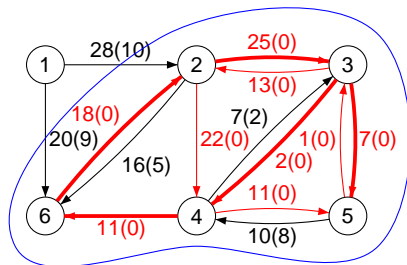
$S = \{2, 3, 4, 5\}$

$\delta(S) = \{(1, 2), (6, 2)\}$

$\alpha = 5.$

$$W = y_6 + y_5 + y_4 + y_3 + y_{35} + y_{345} + y_2 + y_{2345} = 63.$$

Example: primal iteration 8



Unreachable from 1: $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$.

S.C.C. $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ $k = 1$

S.C.C.₀ $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ $k_0 = 1$

$k + k_0 = 2$.

$$W = y_6 + y_5 + y_4 + y_3 + y_{35} + y_{345} + y_2 + y_{2345} = 63.$$

$$x_{46} = x_{34} = x_{35} = x_{23} = x_{62} = 1.$$

$$Z = c_{46} + c_{34} + c_{35} + c_{23} + c_{62} = 63.$$

x_{62} replaces x_{32} .

Example: dual iteration 9

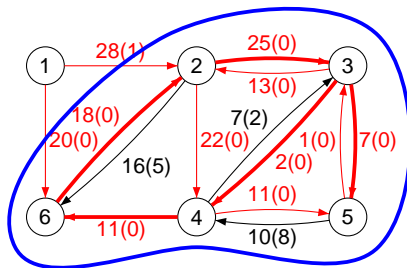
Unreachable from 1: $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$.S.C.C. $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ $k = 1$ S.C.C.₀ $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ $k_0 = 1$ $k + k_0 = 2$.Scan $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ End $\{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ $S = \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ $\delta(S) = \{(1, 2), (1, 6)\}$ $\alpha = 9$.

$$x_{46} = x_{34} = x_{35} = x_{23} = x_{62} = 1.$$

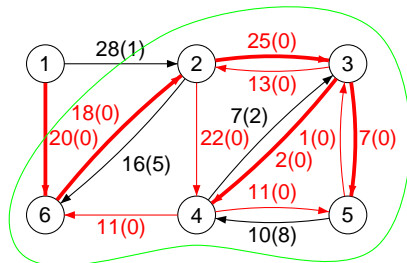
$$Z = c_{46} + c_{34} + c_{35} + c_{23} + c_{62} = 63.$$

$$W = y_6 + y_5 + y_4 + y_3 + y_{35} + y_{345} +$$

$$+ y_2 + y_{2345} + y_{23456} = 72.$$



Example: primal iteration 9



$$x_{34} = x_{35} = x_{23} = x_{62} = x_{16} = 1.$$

$$Z = c_{34} + c_{35} + c_{23} + c_{62} + c_{16} = 72.$$

x_{16} replaces x_{46} .

Unreachable from 1: $\{\}$.

S.C.C.

$$k = 0$$

S.C.C.₀

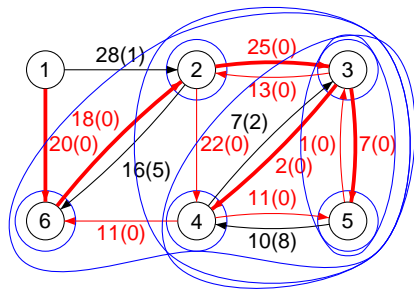
$$k_0 = 0$$

$$k + k_0 = 0.$$

Algorithm termination.

$$w = y_6 + y_5 + y_4 + y_3 + y_{35} + y_{345} + y_2 + y_{2345} + y_{23456} = 72.$$

Example: optimal solution



$$\begin{aligned}
 y_6 &= 11 \\
 y_5 &= 7 \\
 y_4 &= 2 \\
 y_3 &= 1 \\
 y_{35} &= 4 \\
 y_{345} &= 20 \\
 y_2 &= 13 \\
 y_{2345} &= 5 \\
 y_{23456} &= 9
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 x_{34} &= x_{35} = x_{23} = x_{62} = x_{16} = 1. \\
 z &= c_{34} + c_{35} + c_{23} + c_{62} + c_{16} = 72.
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 w &= y_6 + y_5 + y_4 + y_3 + y_{35} + y_{345} + \\
 &\quad + y_2 + y_{2345} + y_{23456} = 72.
 \end{aligned}$$

The reduced cost of each arc is the difference between the original cost and the sum of all dual variables corresponding to the s.c.c. reached by the arc.