

# Computation and Improvement of Wardrop Equilibria with Unknown Demands

Max Klimm

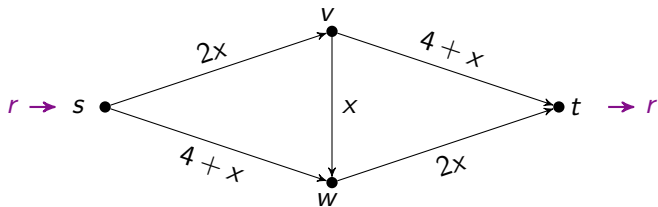
*1st part joint work with Philipp Warode*

*2nd part joint work with Marco Scarsini and Riccardo Colini-Baldeschi*



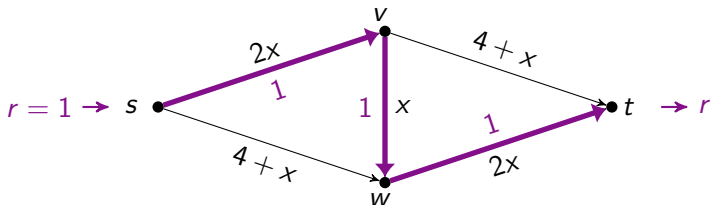
## Problem Statement

- Given:**
- ▶ graph  $G$  with vertex-edge incidence matrix  $\Gamma$
  - ▶ increasing cost functions  $l_e$
  - ▶ source-/sink-vertices  $s, t$



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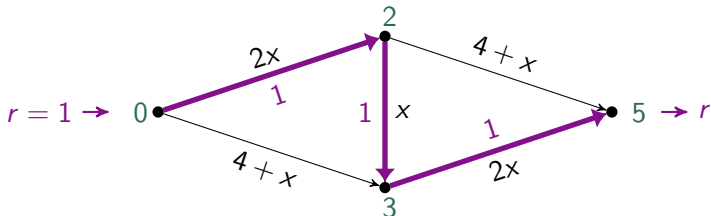
### Definition

A feasible flow  $\mathbf{x}$  is a Wardrop Equilibrium (WE) if

$$x_P > 0 \Rightarrow l_P(\mathbf{x}) \leq l_Q(\mathbf{x}) \quad \forall P, Q \in \mathcal{P}.$$

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### Lemma

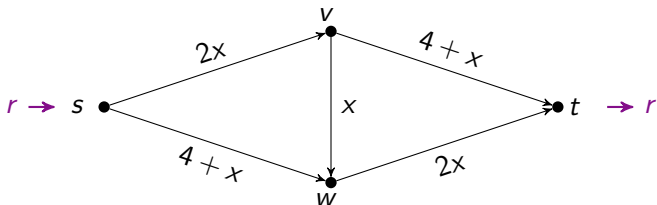
A feasible flow  $\mathbf{x}$  is a WE iff there is a vector  $\boldsymbol{\pi} \in \mathbb{R}^V$  such that

$$\pi_w - \pi_v = \gamma_e^\top \boldsymbol{\pi} \leq l_e(x_e) \quad \forall e \in E$$

$$\pi_w - \pi_v = \gamma_e^\top \boldsymbol{\pi} = l_e(x_e) \quad \forall e \in E : x_e > 0$$

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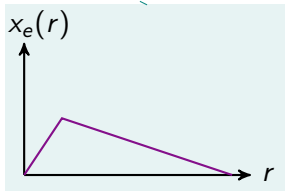
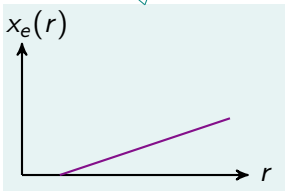
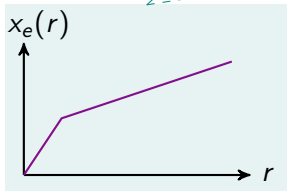
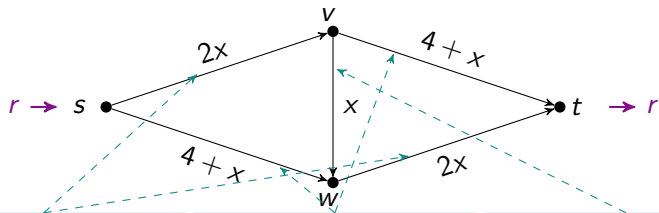
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- Goal:**
- ▶ functions  $x_e : \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$  s.t.  
 $\mathbf{x}(r) = (x_e(r))_{e \in E}$  is a WE with demand  $r$  for all  $r \geq 0$

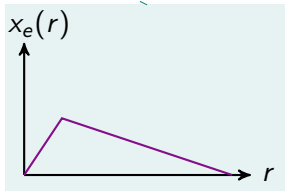
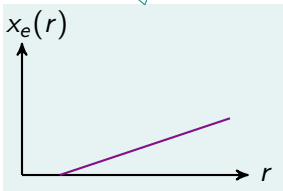
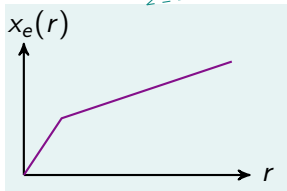
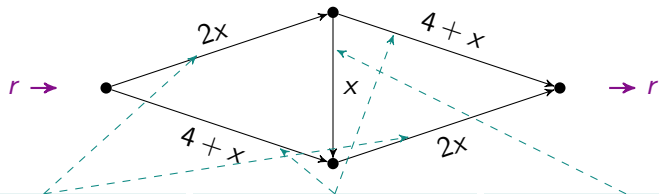
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## Problem Statement

- Given:**
- ▶ graph  $G$  with vertex-edge incidence matrix  $\Gamma$
  - ▶ increasing cost functions  $l_e$  piece-wise linear
  - ▶ source-/sink-vertices  $s, t$



## Related Work

- ▶ Lemke's Algorithm for LCPs [Lemke 1965]
  - ▶ piece-wise linear extensions of Lemke's Algorithm [Kojima, Nishino, Hisakazu 1976]
  - ▶ all versions add an artificial variable which goes to zero in the course of the algorithm
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  - ▶ continuity of path flows [Hall 1978]
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- ▶ mechanism design for unknown demands
  - ▶ increase of cost functions [Christodoulou, Mehlhorn, Pyrga 2010]

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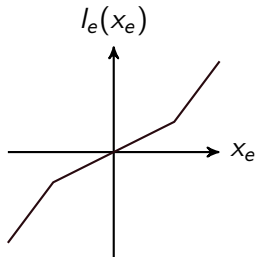
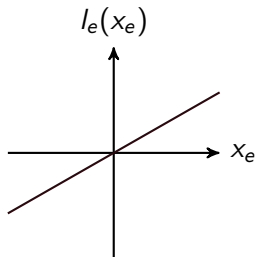
## Computation via Electrical Flows

# Electrical Flows

- ▶ in undirected networks with negative flow and  $I(0) = 0$ :

$$\pi_w - \pi_v = \gamma_e^\top \boldsymbol{\pi} = I_e(x_e)$$

- ▶ equilibria correspond to electric flow
  - ▶  $\pi$  - electrical potential (voltage)
  - ▶  $x$  - electrical current
  - ▶  $I(x)$  - resistance
- ▶ homotopy method to compute electrical flows in networks with piecewise linear resistances [Katzenelson 1965]



# The Framework

- ▶ repeat
  - ▶ start with a simple equilibrium potential  
(we use  $\pi^0 = 0$  for  $r = 0$ )
  - ▶ compute  $\Delta\pi = \pi(r + \Delta r) - \pi(r)$  for  $\Delta r$  small enough  
(piece-wise constant)
  - ▶ augment  $\pi = \pi + \Delta\pi$
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[K. Warode, SODA 2019]

The functions  $x(r)$  are  $k$ -wise linear and the above framework computes them in  $\mathcal{O}(n^{2.4} + kn^2)$ .

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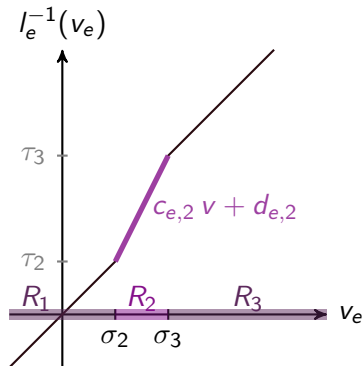
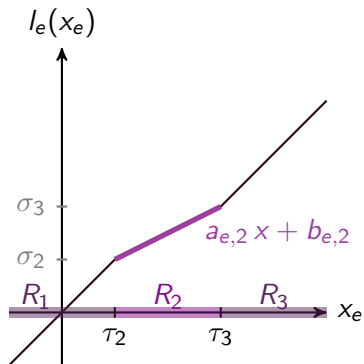
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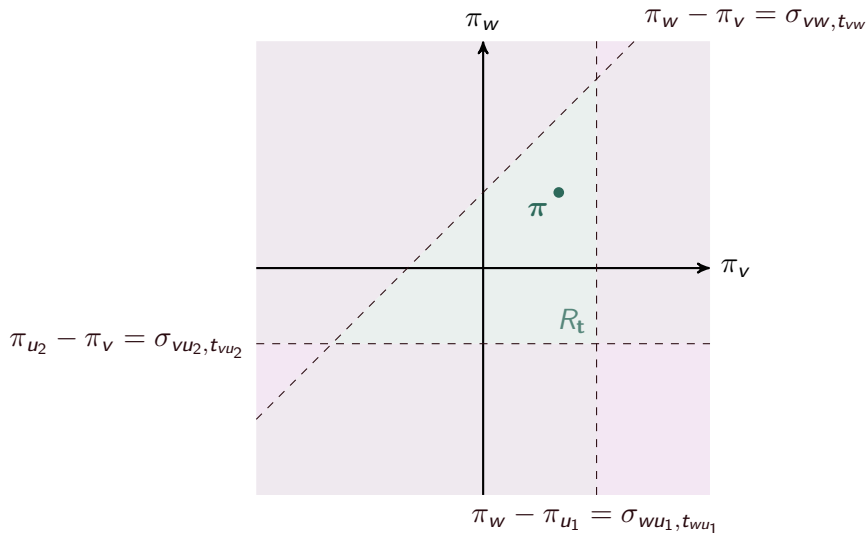
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- ▶ when approximating with arbitrary precision all exponents become close to 1
- ▶ further results for degenerated points, directed edges, edge capacities, functions with constant parts, multi-commodity flows

# Regions



# Potential Space



## The Laplacian Matrix

Fix  $\pi \in R_t$  for some region  $R_t$

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$$\text{flow } x_e = l_e^{-1}(\pi_w - \pi_v) = l_e^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\gamma}_e^\top \boldsymbol{\pi}) = c_{e,t_e} \boldsymbol{\gamma}_e^\top \boldsymbol{\pi} + d_{e,t_e}$$

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$$\text{flow vector } \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{C}_t \boldsymbol{\Gamma}^\top \boldsymbol{\pi} + \mathbf{d}_t$$

**Fact:**  $\check{\mathbf{L}}_t$  (=  $\mathbf{L}_t$  without first row/column) is invertible

- ▶ one-to-one correspondence between (shortened) excess and potential

$$\check{\mathbf{y}} = \check{\mathbf{L}}_t \check{\boldsymbol{\pi}} + \check{\mathbf{d}}_t$$

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**flow vector**  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{C}_t \mathbf{\Gamma}^\top \pi + \mathbf{d}_t$

**excess flow**  $y_v = \gamma_v \mathbf{x} = \sum_{(u,v) \in E} x_e - \sum_{(v,u) \in E} x_e$

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**Laplacian Matrix**  $\mathbf{L}_t = \boldsymbol{\Gamma} \mathbf{C}_t \boldsymbol{\Gamma}^\top$  (of region  $R_t$ )

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# Direction Vectors

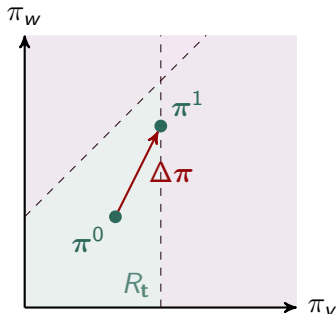
- ▶ increasing demand by  $\Delta r = 1$  changes excess by

$$\Delta \mathbf{y} = \mathbb{1}_t - \mathbb{1}_s$$

and (shortened) potential by

$$\Delta \check{\boldsymbol{\pi}} = \check{\mathbf{L}}_t^{-1} \Delta \check{\mathbf{y}} = \check{\mathbf{L}}_t^{-1} (\check{\mathbb{1}}_t - \check{\mathbb{1}}_s)$$

- ▶ solution curve moves along  $\Delta \boldsymbol{\pi}$  in the potential space until boundary is hit



## Boundary Crossing

- ▶ first boundary hit is

$$\arg \min_{e \in E} \epsilon(e) := \arg \min_{e \in E} \begin{cases} \frac{\sigma_{t_{e+1}} - \gamma_e^\top \pi}{\gamma_e^\top \Delta \pi} & \text{if } \gamma_e^\top \Delta \pi > 0 \\ \frac{\sigma_{t_e} - \gamma_e^\top \pi}{\gamma_e^\top \Delta \pi} & \text{if } \gamma_e^\top \Delta \pi < 0 \\ \infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{L}_{t^2} &= \mathbf{\Gamma} \mathbf{C}_{t^2} \mathbf{\Gamma}^\top = \mathbf{\Gamma} (\mathbf{C}_{t^1} + \text{diag}(0, \dots, 0, \Delta c_e, 0, \dots, 0)) \mathbf{\Gamma}^\top \\ &= \mathbf{L}_{t^1} + \Delta c_e \gamma_e \gamma_e^\top \end{aligned}$$

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## Theorem (Fujisawa, Kuh '72)

$$\check{\mathbf{L}}_{t^2}^{-1} = \check{\mathbf{L}}_{t^1}^{-1} \left( \mathbf{I}_{n-1} - \frac{\Delta c_e}{1 + \Delta c_e \check{\gamma}_e^\top \check{\mathbf{L}}_{t^1}^{-1} \check{\gamma}_e} \check{\gamma}_e \check{\gamma}_e^\top \check{\mathbf{L}}_{t^1}^{-1} \right)$$

# Katzenelson's Algorithm

Find initial potential  $\pi^0 \in R_{t^0}$ ;

Compute  $\check{L}_{t^0}^{-1}$ ;

**while true do**

    Compute direction  $\Delta\check{\pi}^i$ ;

$\epsilon = \min_{e \in E}$  distance to  
    boundary;

**if**  $\epsilon = \infty$  **then**

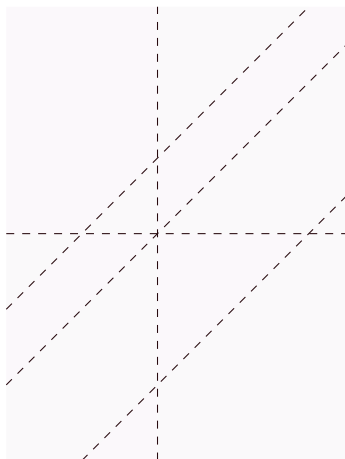
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$\check{\pi}^{i+1} = \check{\pi}^i + \epsilon \Delta\check{\pi}^i$ ;

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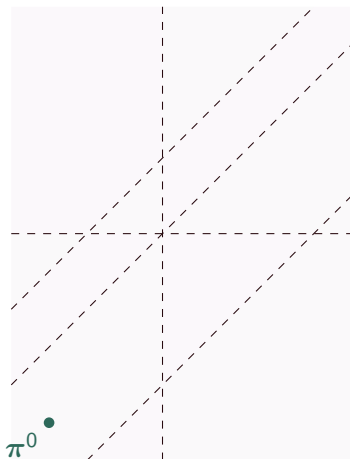
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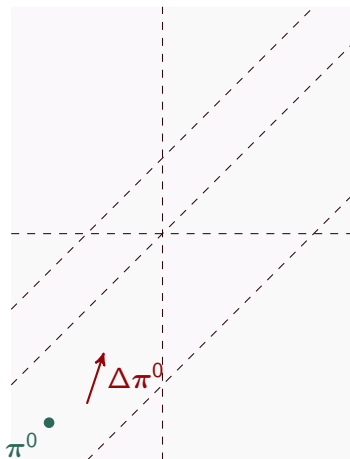
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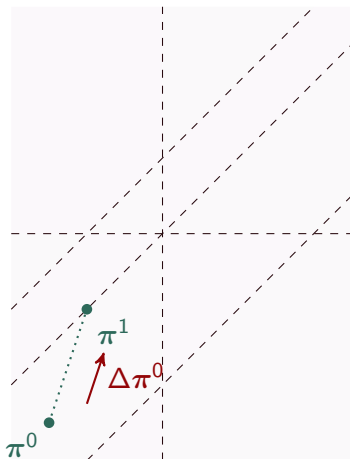
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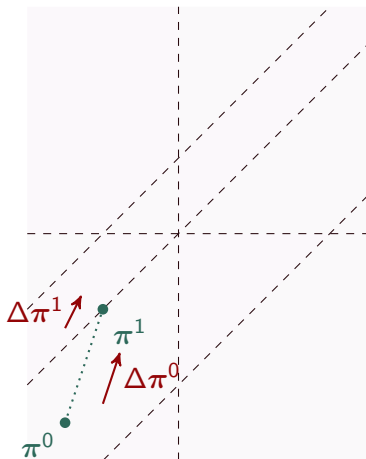
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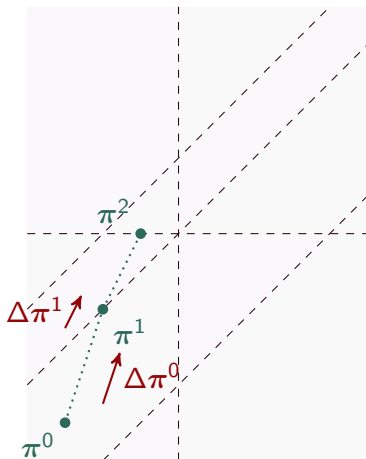
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**if**  $\epsilon = \infty$  **then**

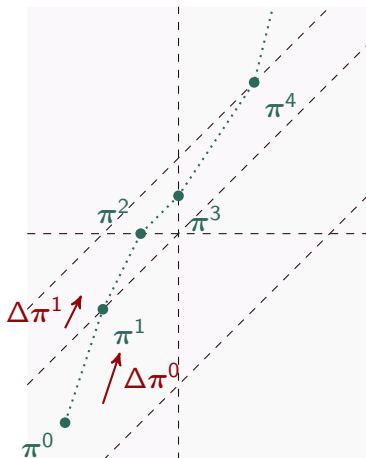
**return**;

**end**

$\check{\pi}^{i+1} = \check{\pi}^i + \epsilon \Delta\check{\pi}^i$ ;

    Compute  $\check{\mathbf{L}}_{t^{i+1}}^{-1}$  for  $R_{t^{i+1}}$  ;

**end**



# Katzenelson's Algorithm

Find initial potential  $\pi^0 \in R_{t^0}$ ;

Compute  $\check{\mathbf{L}}_{t^0}^{-1}$ ;

**while true do**

    Compute direction  $\Delta\check{\pi}^i$ ;

$\epsilon = \min_{e \in E}$  distance to  
    boundary;

**if**  $\epsilon = \infty$  **then**

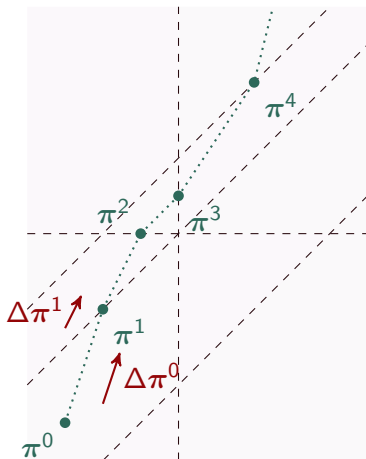
**return**;

**end**

$\check{\pi}^{i+1} = \check{\pi}^i + \epsilon \Delta\check{\pi}^i$ ;

    Compute  $\check{\mathbf{L}}_{t^{i+1}}^{-1}$  for  $R_{t^{i+1}}$  ;

**end**



Solution: Piecewise linear function  $\pi(r) = \pi^i + (r - r^i) \Delta\pi^i$

→ Piecewise linear flow functions  $\mathbf{x}(r) = \mathbf{x}^i + (r - r^i) \Delta\mathbf{x}^i$

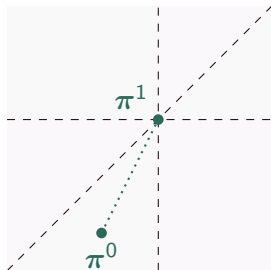
where  $\mathbf{x}^i = \mathbf{C}_{t^i} \Gamma^\top \pi^i + \mathbf{d}_{t^i}$  and  $\Delta\mathbf{x}^i = \mathbf{C}_{t^i} \Gamma^\top \Delta\pi^i$

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Degeneracy

# Degeneracy

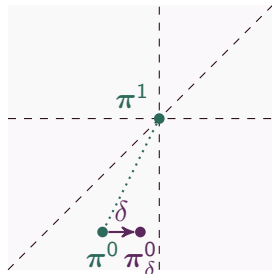
**Problem:** multiple boundaries intersect in  $\pi^1$



# Degeneracy

**Problem:** multiple boundaries intersect in  $\pi^1$

- ▶ perturb the previous potential by  $\delta := (\delta^n, \delta^{n-1}, \dots, \delta)$  for some  $\delta > 0$



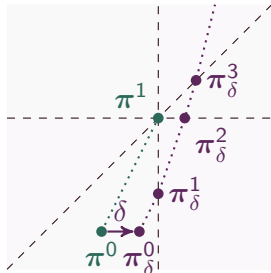


# Degeneracy

**Problem:** multiple boundaries intersect in  $\pi^1$

- ▶ perturb the previous potential by  $\delta := (\delta^n, \delta^{n-1}, \dots, \delta)$  for some  $\delta > 0$
- ▶ track the perturbed solution curve until it moves away from all intersecting boundaries

$$\pi_{\delta}^i = \pi^1 + \mathbf{M}^i \delta \text{ for } i \geq 1$$

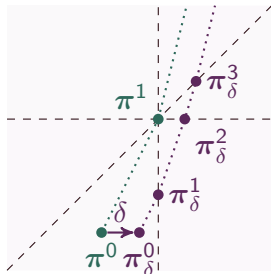


# Degeneracy

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# Degeneracy

**Problem:** multiple boundaries intersect in  $\pi^1$

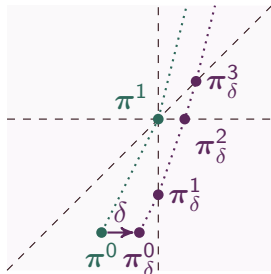
- ▶ perturb the previous potential by  $\delta := (\delta^n, \delta^{n-1}, \dots, \delta)$  for some  $\delta > 0$
- ▶ track the perturbed solution curve until it moves away from all intersecting boundaries

$$\pi_\delta^i = \pi^1 + \mathbf{M}^i \delta \text{ for } i \geq 1$$

- ▶ crossed boundary  $e$  minimizes

$$\epsilon_\delta^i(e) = \mathbf{m}_{e,i}^\top \delta \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbf{m}_{e,i}^\top \delta > 0$$

for  $\delta$  small enough this is equivalent to finding the lexicographically smallest vector  $\mathbf{m}_{e,i}^\top$ .

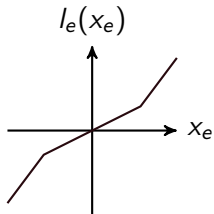


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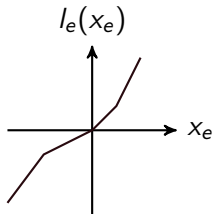
# Discontinuous Cost Functions

# Why Care About Discontinuities?

continuous functions



▶ point-symmetric

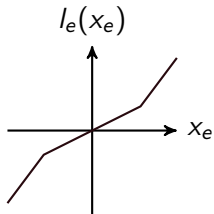


▶ non-symmetric

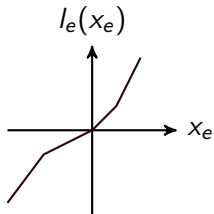
discontinuous functions

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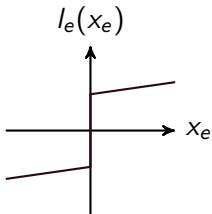


▶ point-symmetric



▶ non-symmetric

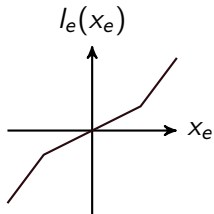
discontinuous functions



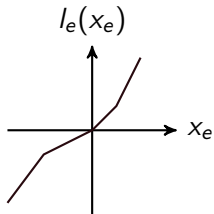
▶ affine

# Why Care About Discontinuities?

continuous functions

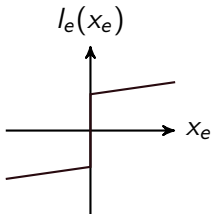


▶ point-symmetric

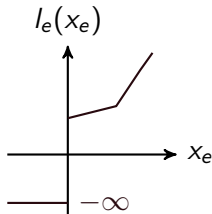


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discontinuous functions



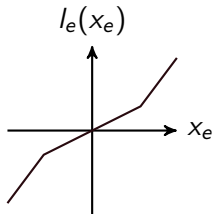
▶ affine



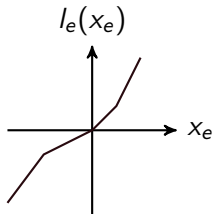
▶ directed edge

# Why Care About Discontinuities?

continuous functions

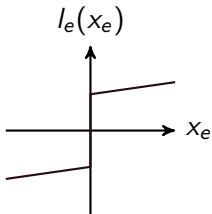


- ▶ point-symmetric

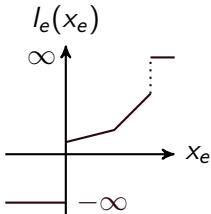


- ▶ non-symmetric

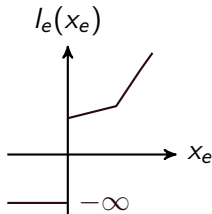
discontinuous functions



- ▶ affine



- ▶ edge capacity

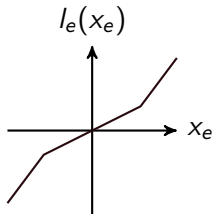


- ▶ directed edge

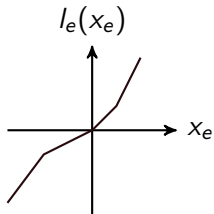


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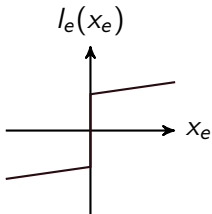


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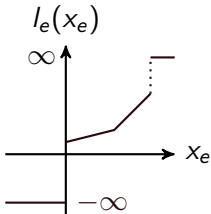


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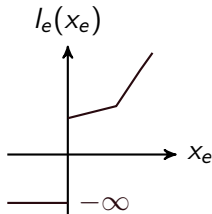
discontinuous functions



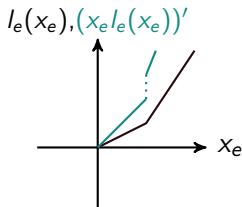
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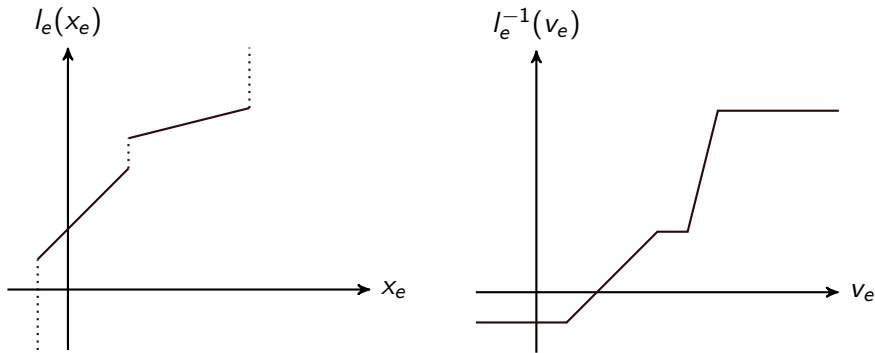


- ▶ directed edge



- ▶ marginal costs

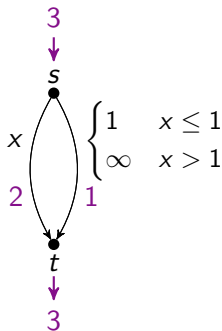
## Discontinuous Cost functions



- ▶ inverse cost function is still continuous, but has constant parts

# From Wardrop Equilibrium to User Equilibrium

- ▶ networks with discontinuous costs need not possess a Wardrop Equilibrium
- ▶ use concept of a User Equilibrium instead [Dafermos 1971; Bernstein and Smith 1994; Correa et al. 2004]



## Definition

A feasible flow  $\mathbf{x}$  is a User Equilibrium (UE) if

$$x_P > 0 \Rightarrow \liminf_{\epsilon \downarrow 0} l_P(\mathbf{x}) \leq l_Q(\mathbf{x} + \epsilon \chi_Q - \epsilon \chi_P) \quad \forall P, Q \in \mathcal{P}.$$

# Characterization of User Equilibria

Assume

- ▶  $l_e$  non-negative and lower semi-continuous on  $\mathbb{R}_{>0}$
- ▶  $l_e$  non-positive and upper semi-continuous on  $\mathbb{R}_{<0}$

## Lemma

A feasible flow  $\mathbf{x}$  is a UE iff there is a vector  $\boldsymbol{\pi} \in \mathbb{R}^V$  such that

$$\liminf_{x \uparrow x_e} l_e(x) \leq \gamma_e^\top \boldsymbol{\pi} \leq \liminf_{x \downarrow x_e} l_e(x) \quad \forall e \in E.$$

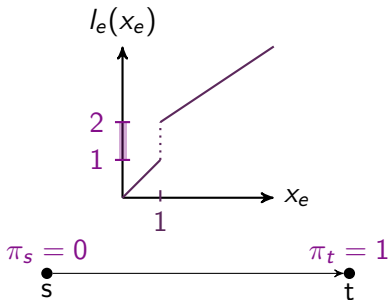
# Ambiguous Regions

- ▶ excess still linear:

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{\Gamma} \mathbf{C}_t \mathbf{\Gamma}^\top \boldsymbol{\pi} + \mathbf{\Gamma} \mathbf{d}_t = \mathbf{L}_t \boldsymbol{\pi} + \tilde{\mathbf{d}}_t$$

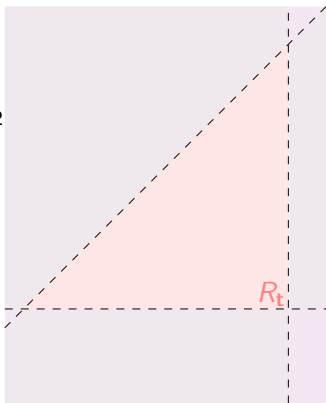
but  $\check{\mathbf{L}}_t$  may be singular if too many entries of  $\mathbf{C}_t$  are zero.

- ▶ **Fact:**  $\check{\mathbf{L}}_t$  regular  $\Leftrightarrow$  all vertices connected by edges with  $c_e > 0$ .



# Ambiguous Regions

- **Fact:**  $\check{L}_t$  singular  
⇒ graph decomposes in connected components  $\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2$  with  $s \in \mathcal{C}_1$  and  $t \in \mathcal{C}_2$



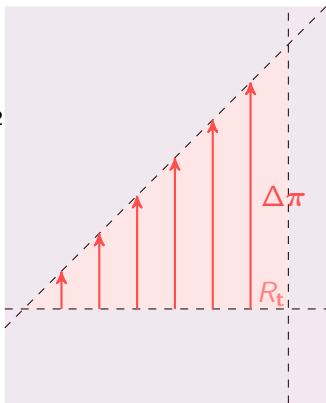
# Ambiguous Regions

- ▶ **Fact:**  $\check{\mathbf{L}}_t$  singular  
 $\Rightarrow$  graph decomposes in connected components  $\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2$  with  $s \in \mathcal{C}_1$  and  $t \in \mathcal{C}_2$
- ▶ direction vector  $\Delta\pi$  with

$$\Delta\pi_v = \begin{cases} 1 & v \in \mathcal{C}_2 \\ 0 & v \in \mathcal{C}_1 \end{cases}$$

- ▶ flow is constant along  $\Delta\pi$ , i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x} &= \mathbf{C}_t \Gamma^T \pi + \mathbf{d}_t \\ &= \mathbf{C}_t \Gamma^T (\pi + \Delta\pi) + \mathbf{d}_t \end{aligned}$$



# Ambiguous Regions

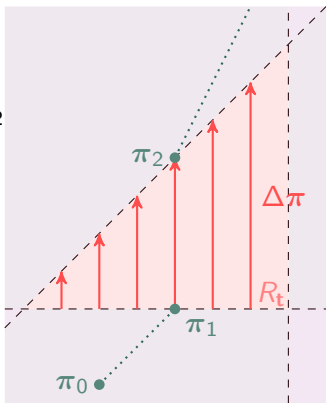
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- ▶ solution curve moves along  $\Delta\pi$  to the next boundary





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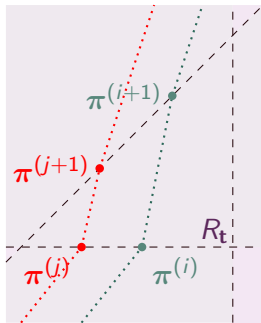
Complexity

## Theorem

The algorithm visits each region  $R_{\mathbf{t}}$  at most once.

## Proof.

- ▶ let  $\mathbf{t} = \mathbf{t}^{(i)} = \mathbf{t}^{(j)}$  be two identical region vectors with  $i < j$
- ▶  $i + 1 < j$  since boundary crossing well-defined
- ▶  $\pi^{(i+1)} = \pi^{(i)} + \epsilon^{(i)} \Delta \pi^{(i)}$  on boundary of  $R_{\mathbf{t}}$
- ▶  $\pi^{(i)} + \lambda \Delta \pi^{(i)} \notin R_{\mathbf{t}}$  for all  $\lambda > \epsilon_i = \lambda_{i+1} - \lambda_i$  since  $R_{\mathbf{t}}$  is convex



## Proof (continued)

**Recall:**  $\pi^{(i)} + \lambda \Delta \pi^{(i)} \notin R_t$  for all  $\lambda > \epsilon_i = \lambda_{i+1} - \lambda_i$  (★)

► by definition

$$\lambda_i \Delta \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{L}_t \pi^{(i)} - \tilde{\mathbf{d}}_t$$

$$\lambda_j \Delta \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{L}_t \pi^{(j)} - \tilde{\mathbf{d}}_t$$

► we obtain

$$(\lambda_j - \lambda_i) \Delta \hat{\mathbf{y}} = \hat{\mathbf{L}}_t (\hat{\pi}^{(j)} - \hat{\pi}^{(i)})$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (\lambda_j - \lambda_i) \hat{\mathbf{L}}_t^{-1} \Delta \hat{\mathbf{y}} = (\hat{\pi}^{(j)} - \hat{\pi}^{(i)})$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (\lambda_j - \lambda_i) \Delta \hat{\pi}^{(t)} = (\hat{\pi}^{(j)} - \hat{\pi}^{(i)})$$

► thus  $\pi^{(j)} = \pi^{(i)} + (\lambda_j - \lambda_i) \Delta \pi^{(t)}$

► since  $\pi^{(j)}, \pi^{(i)} \in R_t$  and  $R_t$  convex,  
also  $\pi^{(i)} + \lambda \Delta \pi^{(t)} \in R_t$  for all  $\lambda \in [0, \lambda_j - \lambda_i]$

► contradiction to (★) □

- ▶ algorithm finite in case of finitely many breakpoints
- ▶ without degenerate points the algorithm is output polynomial
  - ▶ polynomial in the number of segments of  $x_e(r)$
  - ▶ number of segments of  $x_e(r)$  can be exponential in the size of  $G$  (nested Braess' Padox)
  - ▶ in series-parallel networks the algorithm runs in polynomial time in the input size  
(proof via inverse positivity of  $\mathbf{L}_t$ )
- ▶ for special case of constant cost functions with capacities, algorithm equals successive shortest path algorithm
  - ▶ exponential runtime [Zadeh 1973]
  - ▶ NP-mightyness [Disser, Skutella 2015]
- ▶ output polynomial runtime with degenerate points can be achieved via convex programming

## Directions via Convex Program

- ▶ let  $\mathbf{x}$  be a Wardrop equilibrium for some rate  $q > 0$
- ▶ let  $a_e = \partial^+ l_e(x_e)/\partial x_e$ ,  $a_e = \partial^- l_e(x_e)/\partial x_e$ ,  
 $\mathbf{A}^+ = \text{diag}(a_{e_1}^+, \dots, a_{e_m}^+)$ ,  $\mathbf{A}^- = \text{diag}(a_{e_1}^-, \dots, a_{e_m}^-)$
- ▶ consider the quadratic program

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{z}^+)^{\top} \mathbf{A}^+ \mathbf{z}^+ + \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{z}^-)^{\top} \mathbf{A}^- \mathbf{z}^- \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \mathbf{\Gamma} \mathbf{z} = \chi_s - \chi_t \\ & \mathbf{z} = \mathbf{z}^+ + \mathbf{z}^- \\ & \mathbf{z}^+ \geq 0 \\ & \mathbf{z}^- \geq 0 \end{aligned} \tag{QP}$$

## Directions via Convex Program (continued)

**Fact:** (QP) can be solved exactly in polynomial time.

[Kozlov, Tarasov, Khachiyan 1980]

### Theorem

There is  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $\mathbf{x} + \lambda \mathbf{z}$  is a WE with rate  $q + \lambda$  for all  $\lambda \in [0, \epsilon]$ .

### Proof idea.

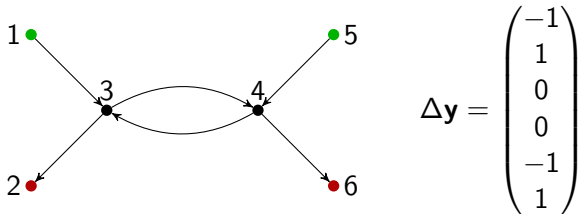
- ▶ use KKT conditions of the program together with the potential formulation of a WE

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## Multiple Sources and Sinks

## Multiple Sources and Sinks

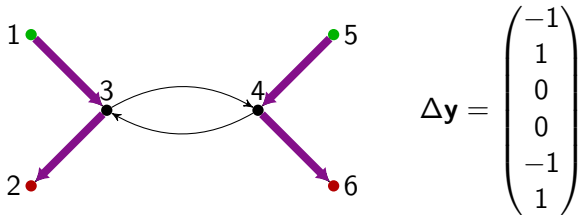
- ▶ all results hold for arbitrary excess directions  $\Delta \mathbf{y}$
  - ▶ multiple
    - ▶ sources (vertices with  $\Delta y_v < 0$ )
    - ▶ sinks (vertices with  $\Delta y_v > 0$ )
- are possible





## Multiple Sources and Sinks

- ▶ all results hold for arbitrary excess directions  $\Delta \mathbf{y}$
- ▶ multiple
  - ▶ sources (vertices with  $\Delta y_v < 0$ )
  - ▶ sinks (vertices with  $\Delta y_v > 0$ )are possible
- ▶ Flows may cancel out  $\rightarrow$  only one commodity



## Lemma

A multi-commodity flow  $\mathbf{X} = (x_{e,k})_{e \in E, k \in [K]}$  is a WE if and only if there are vectors  $\boldsymbol{\pi}^k \in \mathbb{R}^V$  for all  $k \in [K]$  such that

$$\boldsymbol{\gamma}_e^\top \boldsymbol{\pi}^k \leq l_e(z_e) = a_e z_e + b_e, \quad \forall e \in E$$

$$\boldsymbol{\gamma}_e^\top \boldsymbol{\pi}^k = l_e(z_e) = a_e z_e + b_e \quad \forall e \in E : x_{k,e} > 0,$$

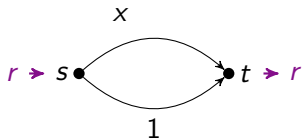
where  $z_e := \sum_{k=1}^K x_{e,k}$ .

- ▶ every commodity  $k$  has its own potential  $\boldsymbol{\pi}^k$
- ▶ pivoting approach infeasible
- ▶ inside a region a direction vector  $\Delta\boldsymbol{\pi}$  can be computed by solving a convex program similar to (QP)

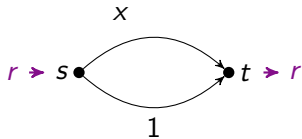
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# Edge Pricing with Unknown Demands

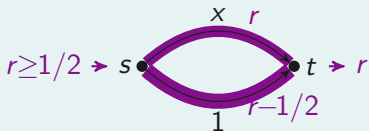
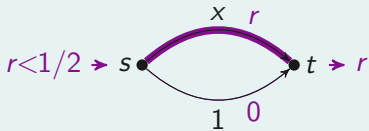
# Pigou's Network



# Pigou's Network



## System optimum

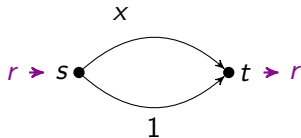


# Pigou's Network

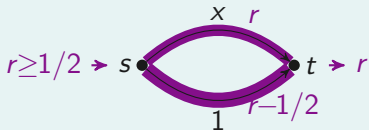
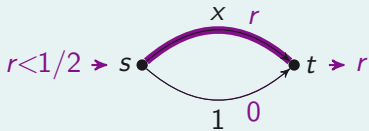
- ▶ marginal cost tolls

$\tau_e^* = l'_e(x_e^*(r))$  yield optimum

[Beckman et al. 1956]



## System optimum



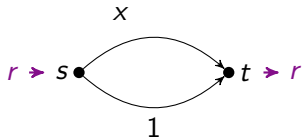
# Pigou's Network

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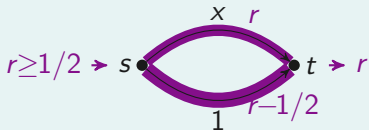
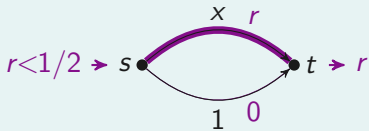
$\tau_e^* = l'_e(x_e^*(r))$  yield optimum

[Beckman et al. 1956]

- ▶ marginal cost tolls depend on  $r$

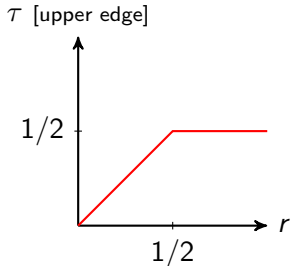
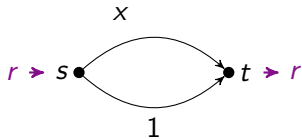


## System optimum

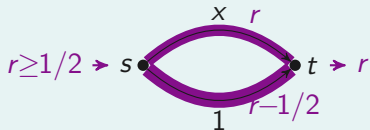
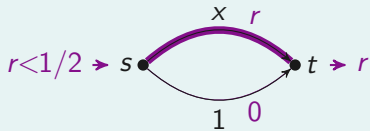


# Pigou's Network

- ▶ marginal cost tolls  $\tau_e^* = l'_e(x_e^*(r))$  yield optimum [Beckman et al. 1956]
- ▶ marginal cost tolls depend on  $r$
- ▶ misperception of  $r$  leads to suboptimal toll



## System optimum

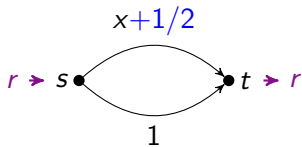
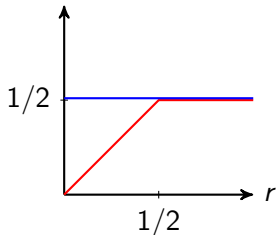




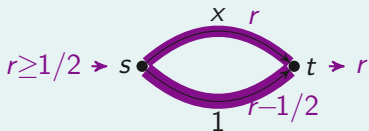
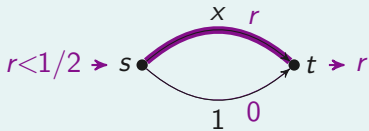
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$\tau$  [upper edge]

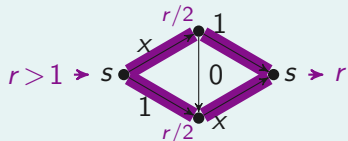
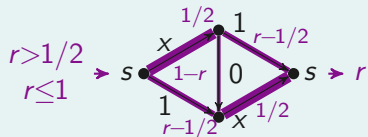
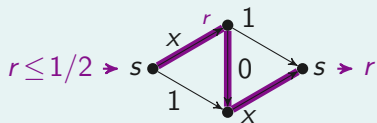


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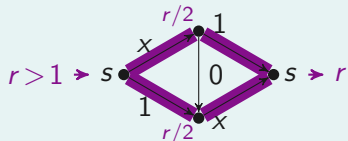
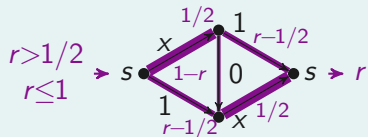
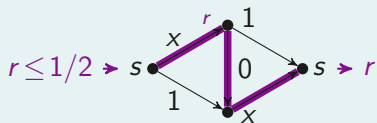
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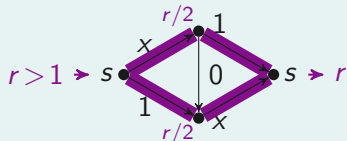
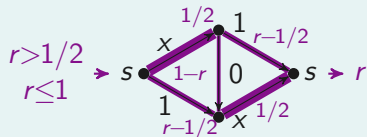
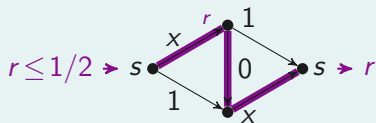
- ▶ marginal cost tolls

$$\tau_e^* = l'_e(x_e^*(r)) \text{ yield optimum}$$

[Beckman et al. 1956]

- ▶ marginal cost tolls depend on  $r$
- ▶ marginal cost pricing harmful for small flow values

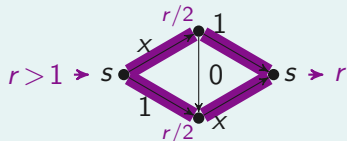
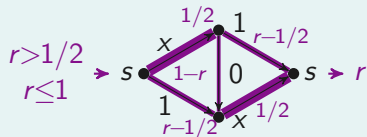
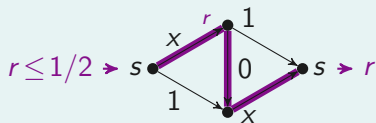
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# Braess' Network

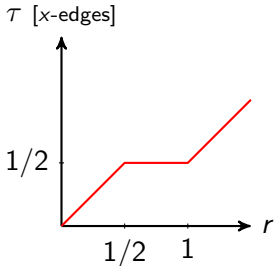
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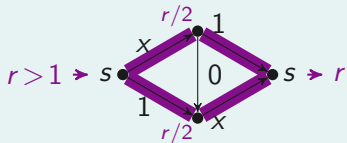
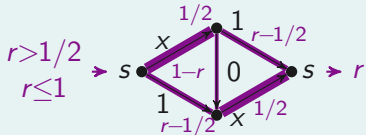
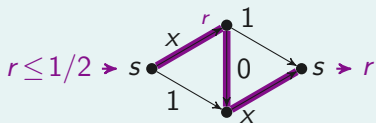


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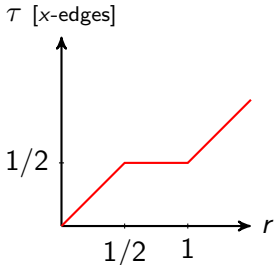


## System optimum

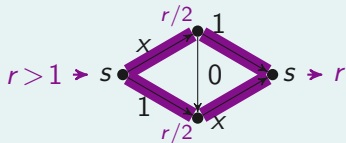
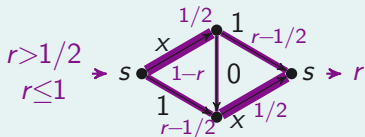
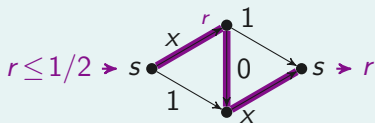


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- ▶ demand-independent optimal toll  $\bar{\tau} = 1/2$  on 0-edge



## System optimum



## Characterization of demand-independent tolls

### Theorem

[Colini-Baldeschi, K., Scarsini ICALP 2018]

Demand-independent tolls exist if and only if all cost functions are of BPR type  $l_e = a_e x^t + b_e$ .

- ▶ includes functions used by US Bureau of Public Roads for  $t = 4$



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- ▶ demand-independent tolls may be negative
- ▶ non-negative demand-independent tolls exist, e.g., for acyclic graphs (e.g., Pigou's, Braess')
- ▶ aggregatively non-negative tolls exist under a weaker condition (e.g. all single-commodity networks)

# Conclusions

- ▶ efficient algorithm for computing all Wardrop equilibria parametrized by the flow value
  - ▶ degenerate points
  - ▶ discontinuous cost functions
  - ▶ edge capacities
  - ▶ multi-commodity networks
- ▶ demand-independent tolls that enforce the system optimal flow
  - ▶ exist only for BPR-functions
  - ▶ essentially unique
  - ▶ additional topological properties give non-negative tolls

Thank you.