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Interactive Graph Cuts for Optimal Boundary & Region Segmentation of Objects in N-D Images

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IEEE Intl. Conf. on Computer Vision (ICCV), 2001

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July 10, 2024





Outline

- Introduction
 - Motivation
 - Problem Description
 - Central Idea
- Graph-Based Modeling
 - Graph Construction
 - Cost Function Definition
 - Cost Minimization





Introduction

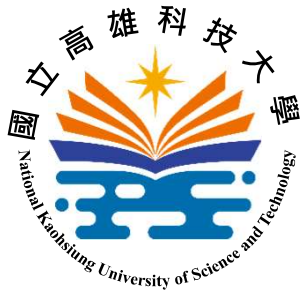
- Motivation
 - The problems from automatic segmentation can be alleviated via user guidance



interactive segmentation

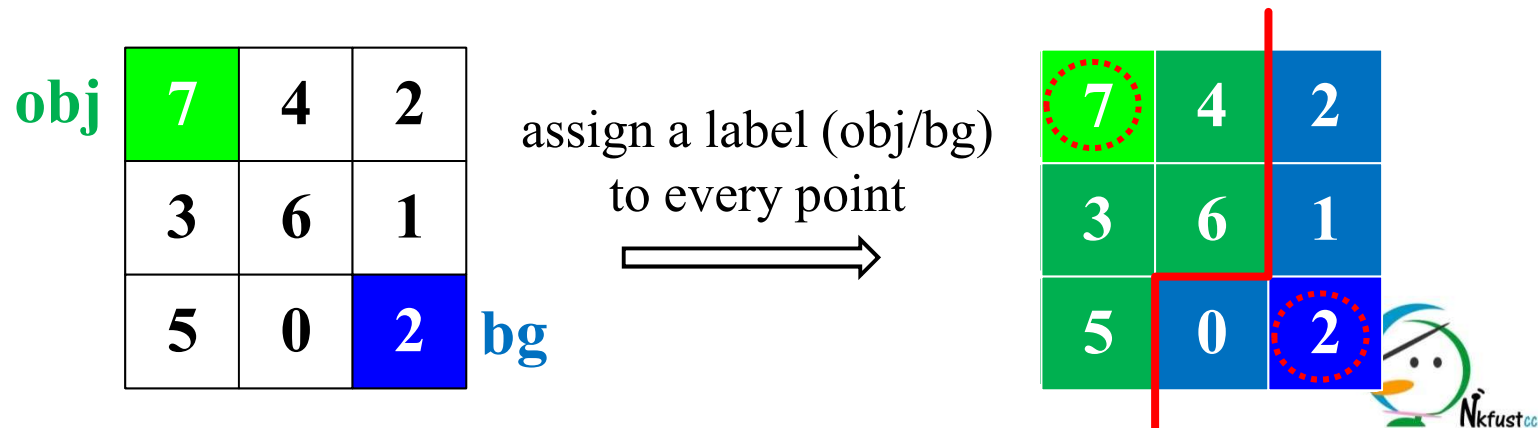
- identify the parts of the object (**obj**) and background (**bg**)
- compute a segmentation that adheres to the user setting





Introduction

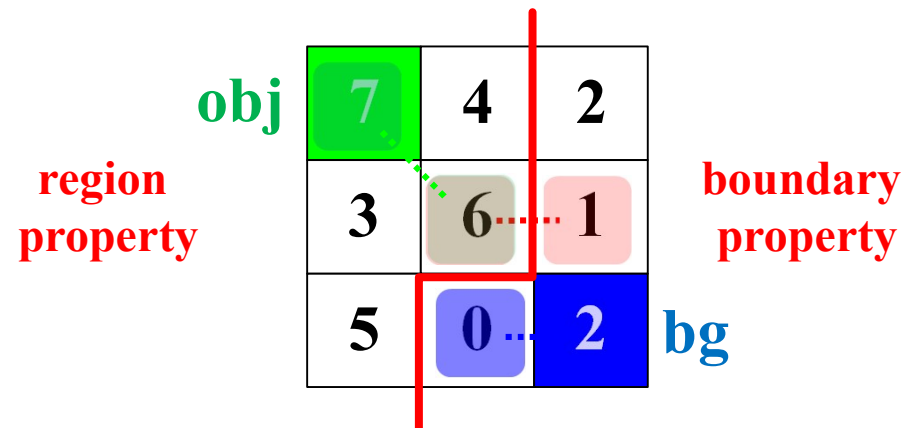
- Problem Description
 - **Given:** an image and two sets of **obj/bg** points provided by the user
 - **Goal:** find a segmentation (an assignment of points)
 - well separate the object points from background ones
 - adhere to user's constraints





Introduction

- Central Idea
 - enforce both boundary and region properties
 - **boundary property**: pixels with significant intensity differences from their neighbors are boundaries
 - **region property**: pixels with similar intensities to **obj/bg** are inclined to be labeled as **obj/bg**



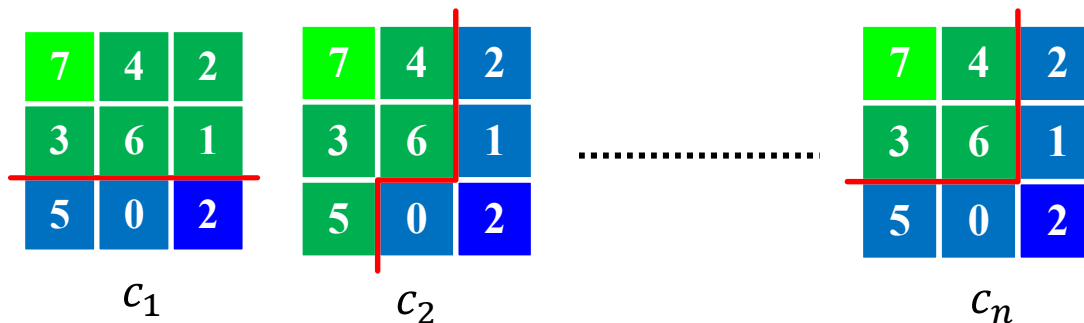


Introduction

- Central Idea
 - formulate segmentation as an optimization problem
 - define a cost function $E(\cdot)$ based on two properties of the segmentation c .

$$E(c) = \lambda R(c) + B(c)$$

a segmentation region importance boundary
 cost function cost function

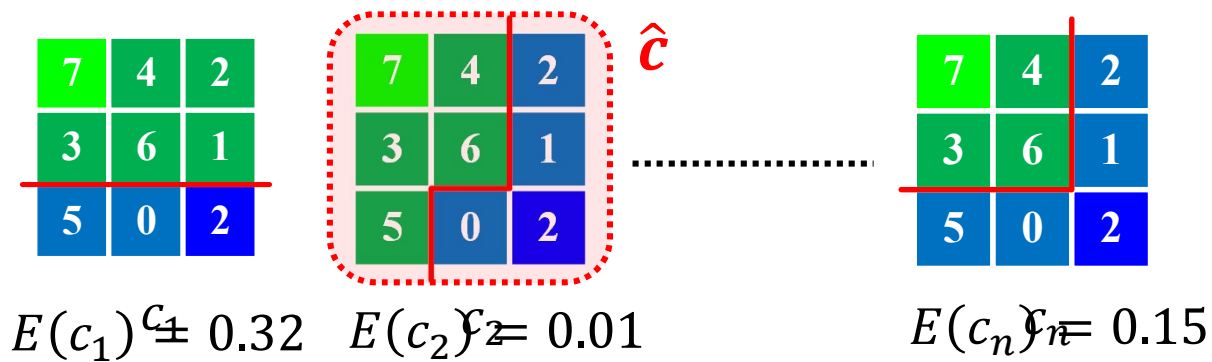




Introduction

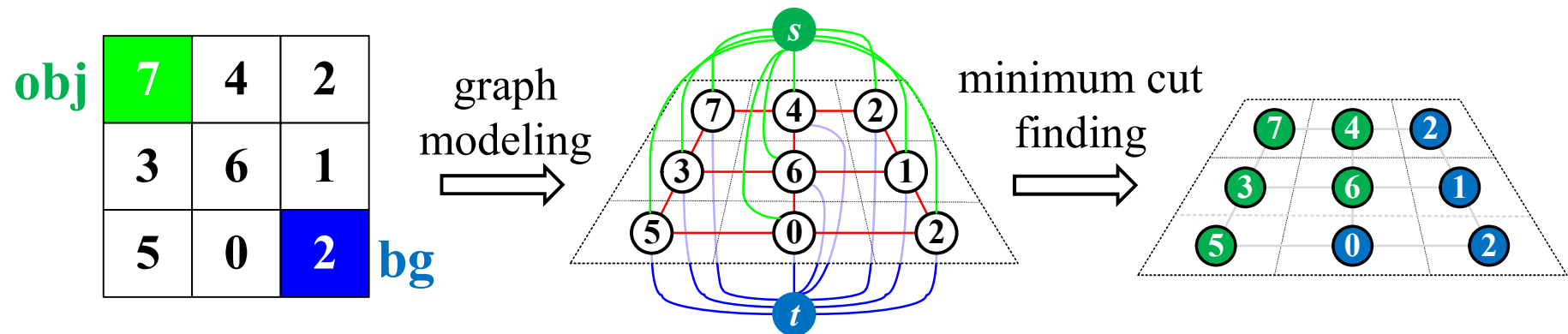
- Central Idea
 - formulate segmentation as an **optimization** problem
 - minimize $E(\cdot)$ to find an optimal segmentation \hat{c}

$$\hat{c} = \underset{c}{\operatorname{argmin}} E(c)$$



Introduction

- Central Idea
 - solve the problem via the **graph-cut** algorithm
 - model the optimization problem as a **graph**
 - determine the \hat{c} through **minimum cut** algorithm





Graph-Based Modeling

- Graph Construction
 - use an undirected graph $\mathbf{G} = (\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{E}, \mathbf{W})$ to describe an image
 - $\mathbf{V} = \{\mathbf{v}\}$: a set of vertices
 - $\mathbf{E} = \{\mathbf{e}\}$: a set of edges $\mathbf{e} = (\mathbf{v}_i, \mathbf{v}_j)$ defined under a neighborhood system.
 - $\mathbf{W} = \{\mathbf{w}\}$: a set of weights assigned to the edges \mathbf{E}





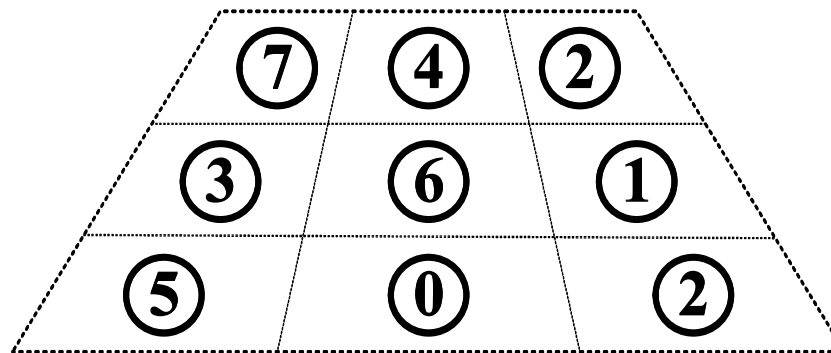
Graph-Based Modeling

- Graph Construction: V (vertices) definition
 - model each pixel as a pixel vertex v
 - add two terminal vertices source (s) and sink (t)

$$V = \{v\} \cup \{s, t\}$$

 source (object)

7	4	2
3	6	1
5	0	2



sink (background) 





Graph-Based Modeling

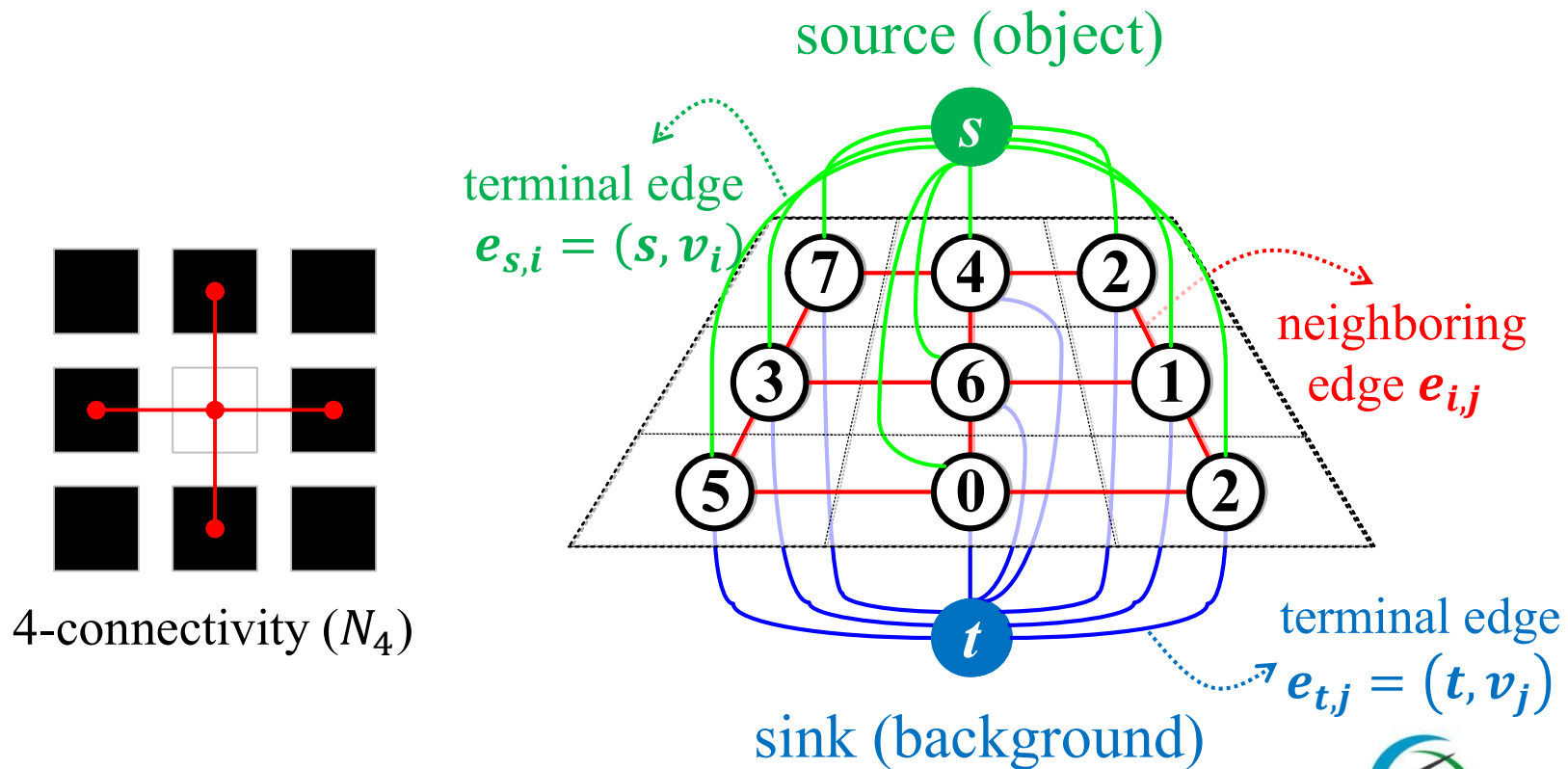
- Graph Construction: **E** (edges) definition
 - model spatial relation between v_i and v_j by a neighboring edge $e_{i,j} = (v_i, v_j)$
 - add two terminal edges $e_{s,i} = (s, v_i)$ and $e_{t,i} = (t, v_i)$ for every pixel vertex v_i

$$\mathbf{E} = \{e_{i,j}\} \cup \{e_{s,i}\} \cup \{e_{t,j}\}$$



Graph-Based Modeling

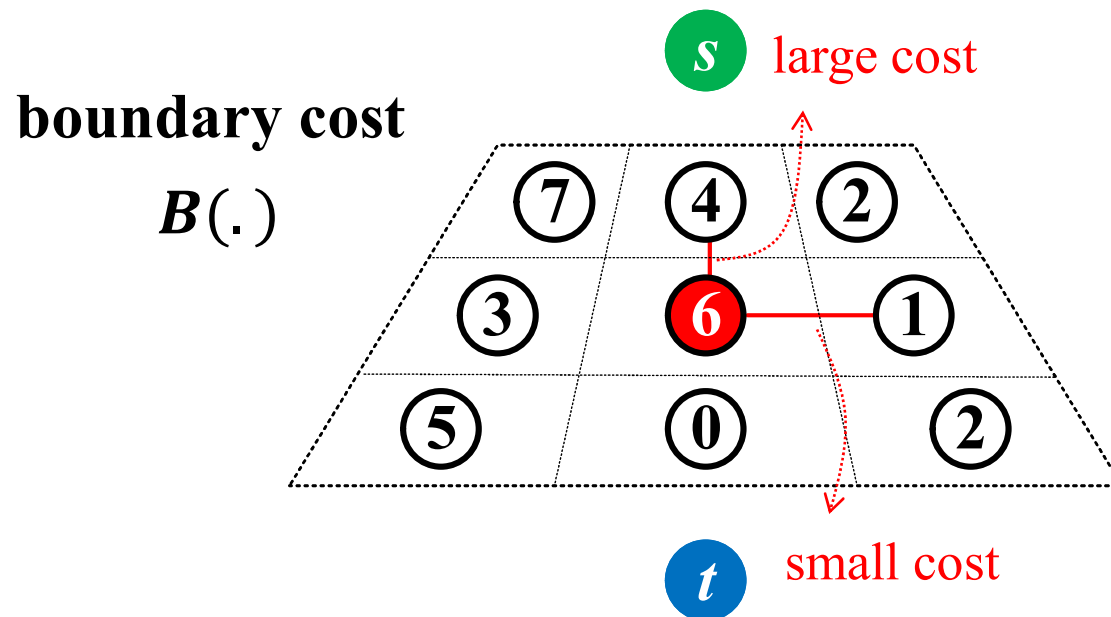
- Graph Construction: **E** (edges) definition





Graph-Based Modeling

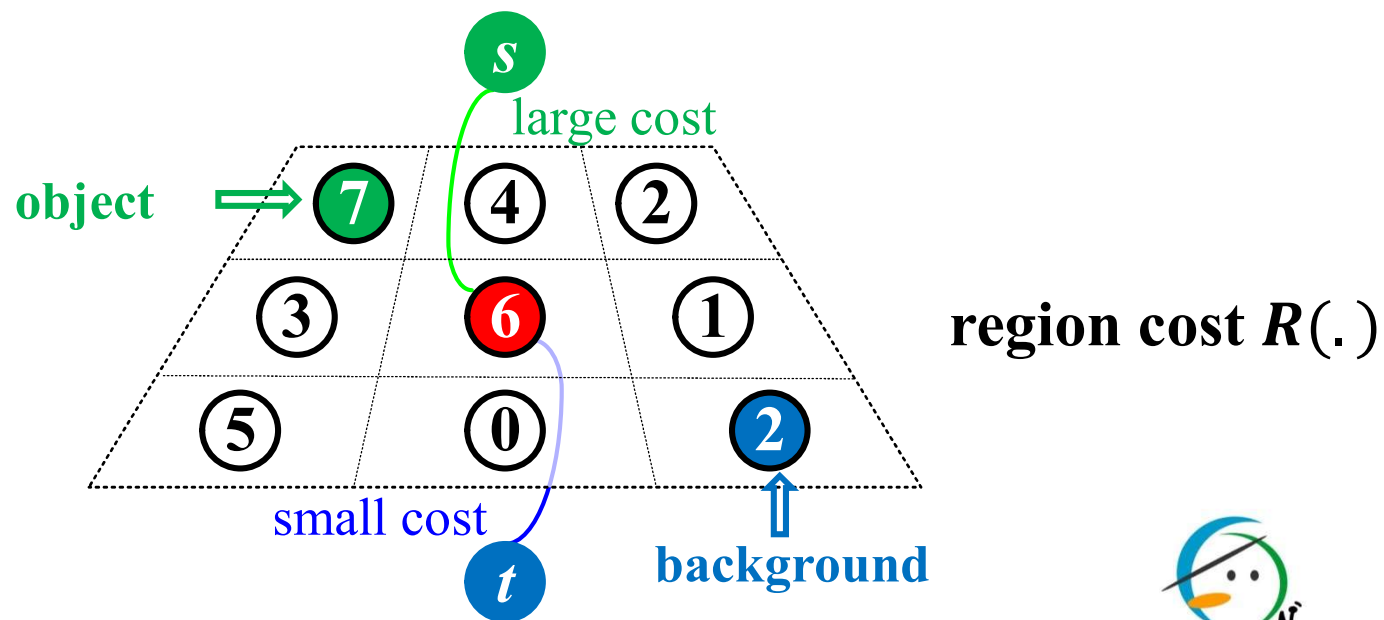
- Graph Construction: \mathbf{W} (weights) definition
 - a weight assigned to an edge $e_{ij} = (v_i, v_j)$ is the penalty (cost) when $l(v_i) \neq l(v_j)$





Graph-Based Modeling

- Graph Construction: W (weights) definition
 - a weight assigned to an edge $e_{ij} = (v_i, v_j)$ is the penalty (cost) when $l(v_i) \neq l(v_j)$



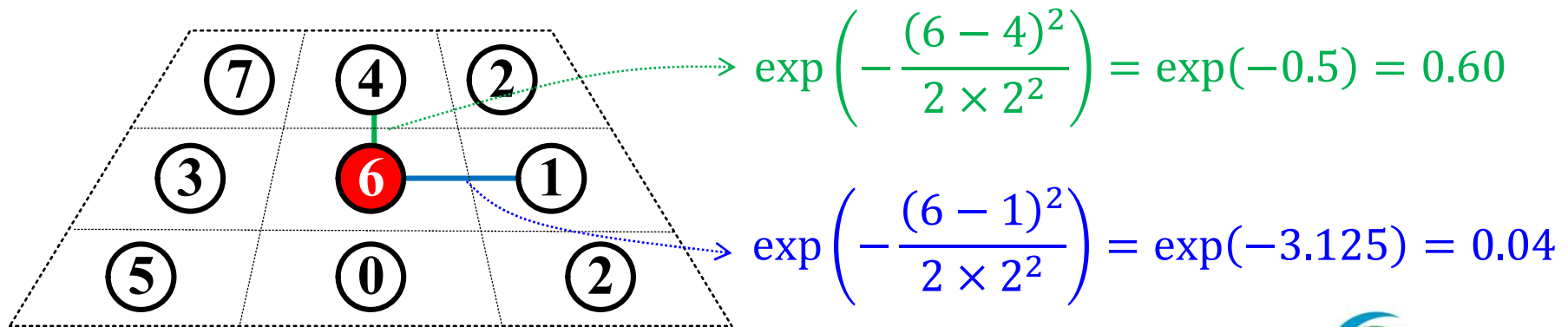


Graph-Based Modeling

- Cost Function Definition: $e_{i,j} = (v_i, v_j)$
 - $w(e_{i,j})$ is modeled using ad-hoc function

$$w(e_{i,j}) = \exp\left(-\frac{(I_{v_i} - I_{v_j})^2}{2 \times \sigma^2}\right)$$

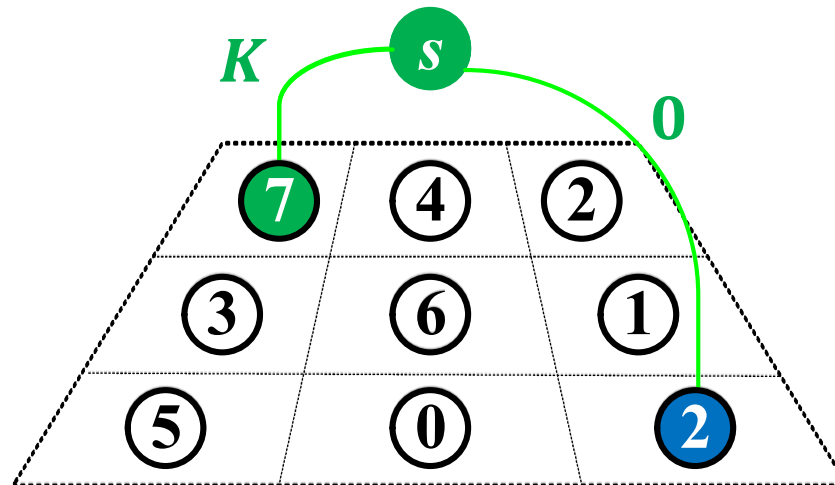
pixel intensity
camera noise (2.0)





Graph-Based Modeling

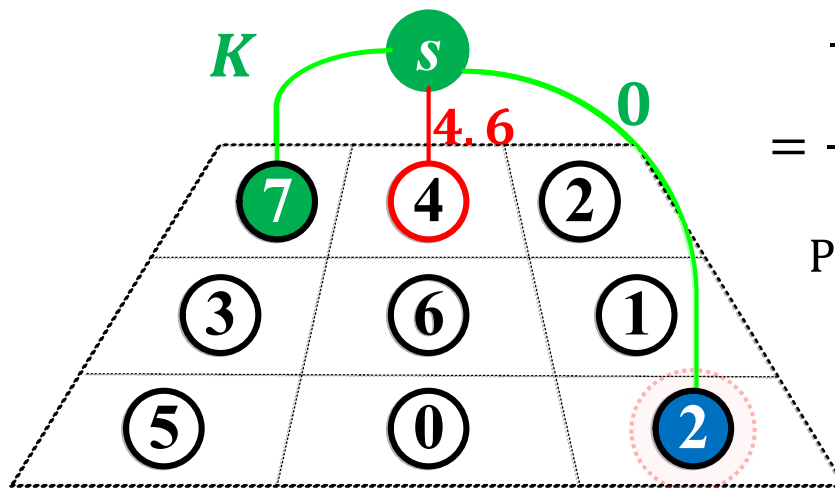
- Cost Function Definition: $e_{s,i} = (s, v_i)$
 - $w(e_{s,i})$ is the penalty (cost) when $l(v_i) \neq \underline{\text{obj}}$
 - v_i is **obj** vertex: $w(e_{s,i}) = K$ (large weight)
 - v_i is **bg** vertex: $w(e_{s,i}) = 0$





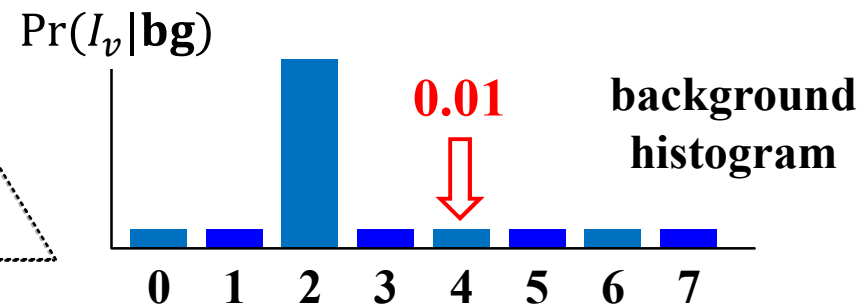
Graph-Based Modeling

- Cost Function Definition: $e_{s,i} = (s, v_i)$
 - $w(e_{s,i})$ is the penalty (cost) when $l(v_i) \neq \underline{\text{obj}}$
 - v_i is **UNK** vertex: negative log-likelihood of intensity distribution of background region



$$-\ln(\Pr(I_v = 4|\mathbf{bg})) \times \lambda$$

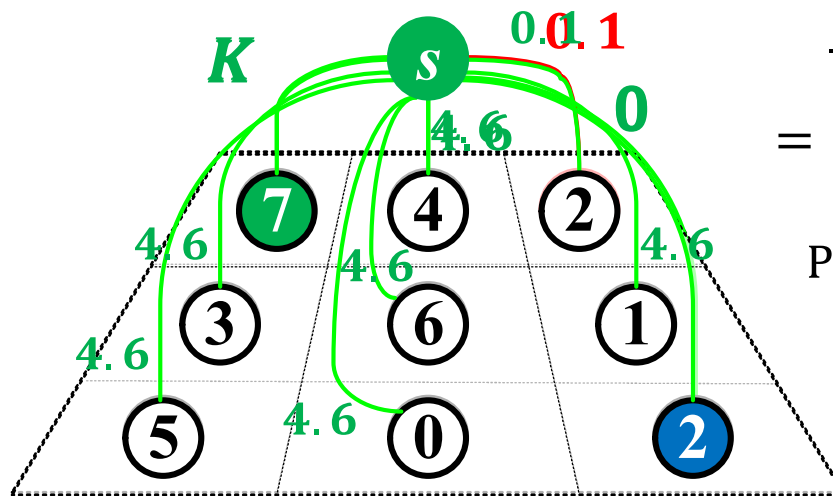
$$= -\ln(0.01) \times 1 = 4.60$$





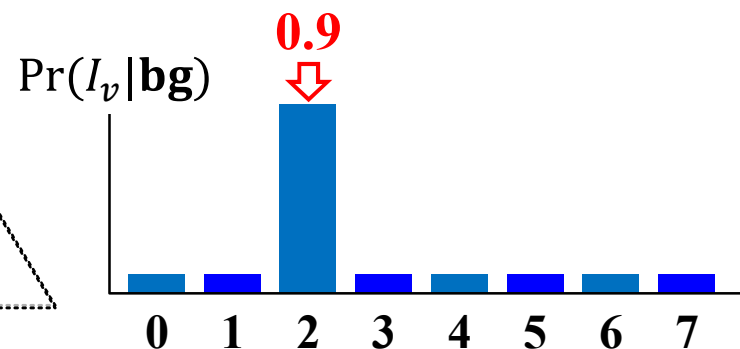
Graph-Based Modeling

- Cost Function Definition: $e_{s,i} = (s, v_i)$
 - $w(e_{s,i})$ is the penalty (cost) when $l(v_i) \neq \underline{\text{obj}}$
 - v is **UNK** vertex: negative log-likelihood of intensity distribution of background region



$$-\ln(\Pr(I_v = 2|\mathbf{bg})) \times \lambda$$

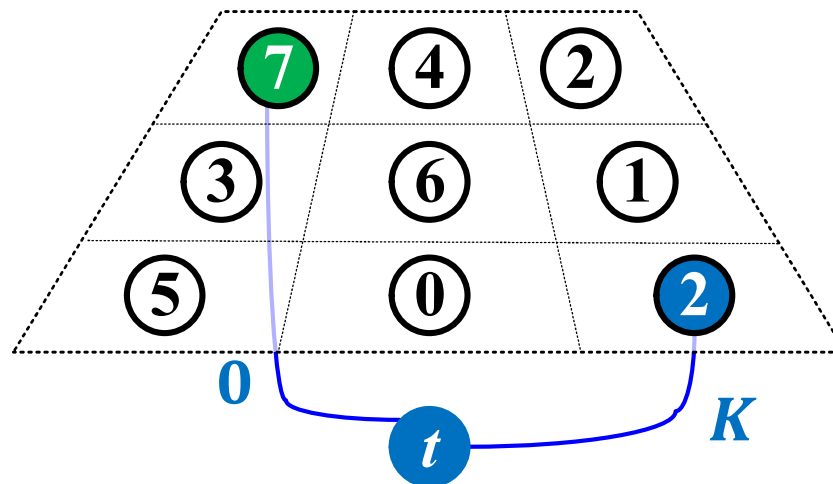
$$= -\ln(0.9) \times 1 = 0.10$$





Graph-Based Modeling

- Cost Function Definition: $e_{t,i} = (t, v_i)$
 - $w(e_{t,i})$ is the penalty (cost) when $l(v_i) \neq \underline{bg}$
 - v_i is **obj** vertex: $w(e_{t,i}) = 0$
 - v_i is **bg** vertex: $w(e_{t,i}) = K$ (large weight)



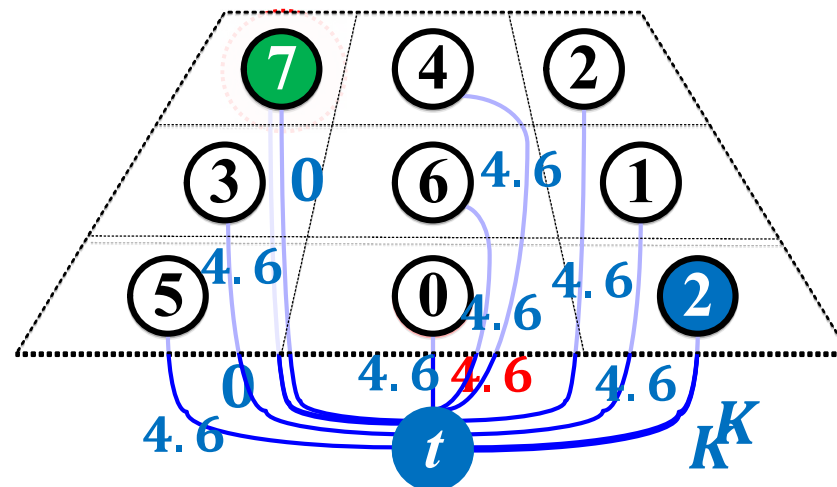
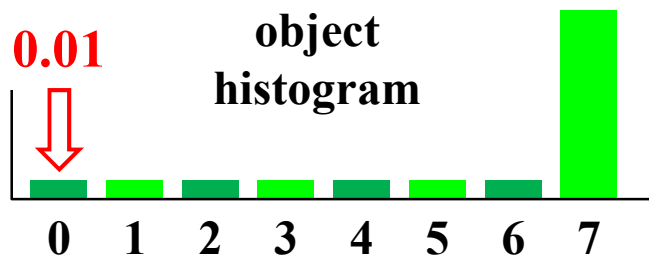


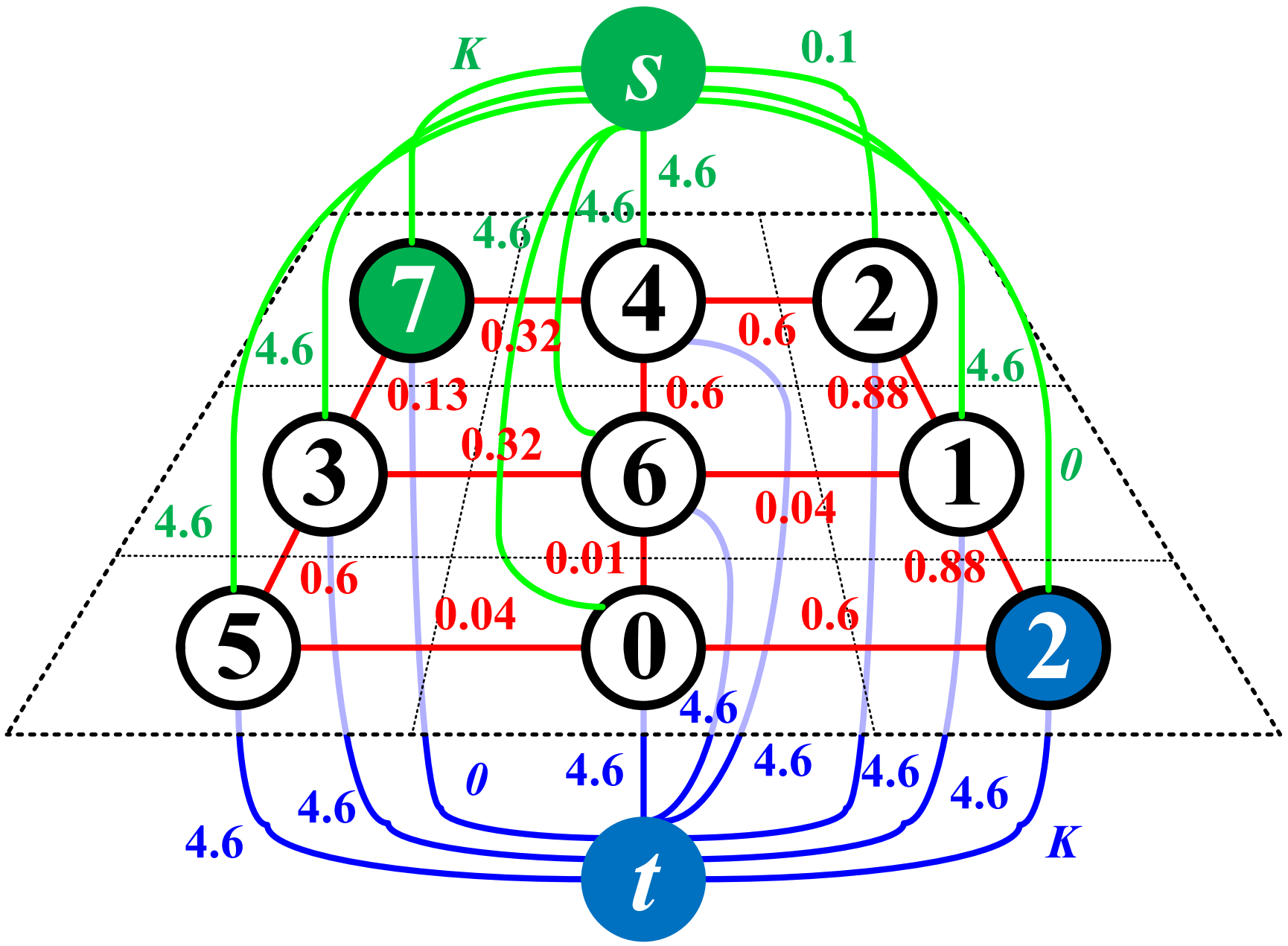
Graph-Based Modeling

- Cost Function Definition: $e_{t,i} = (t, v_i)$
 - $w(e_{t,i})$ is the penalty (cost) when $l(v_i) \neq \underline{\text{bg}}$
 - v_i is **UNK** vertex: negative log-likelihood of intensity distribution of object region

$$-\ln(\Pr(I_v = 0 | \text{obj})) \times \lambda$$

$$= -\ln(0.01) \times 1 = 4.6$$







Graph-Based Modeling

- Cost Minimization
 - A segmentation is a partition (cut) $\mathbf{c} = (\mathbf{S}, \mathbf{T})$ of vertices into two disjoint sets \mathbf{S} and \mathbf{T}
 - $\mathbf{S} \cup \mathbf{T} = \mathbf{V}$ and $\mathbf{S} \cap \mathbf{T} = \emptyset$
 - $s \in \mathbf{S}$ and $t \in \mathbf{T}$
 - The cost of a partition (cut) \mathbf{c} is the sum of the weights of edges between \mathbf{S} and \mathbf{T}

$$E(\mathbf{c}) = \sum_{e=(v_i \in \mathbf{S}, v_j \in \mathbf{T})} w(e)$$





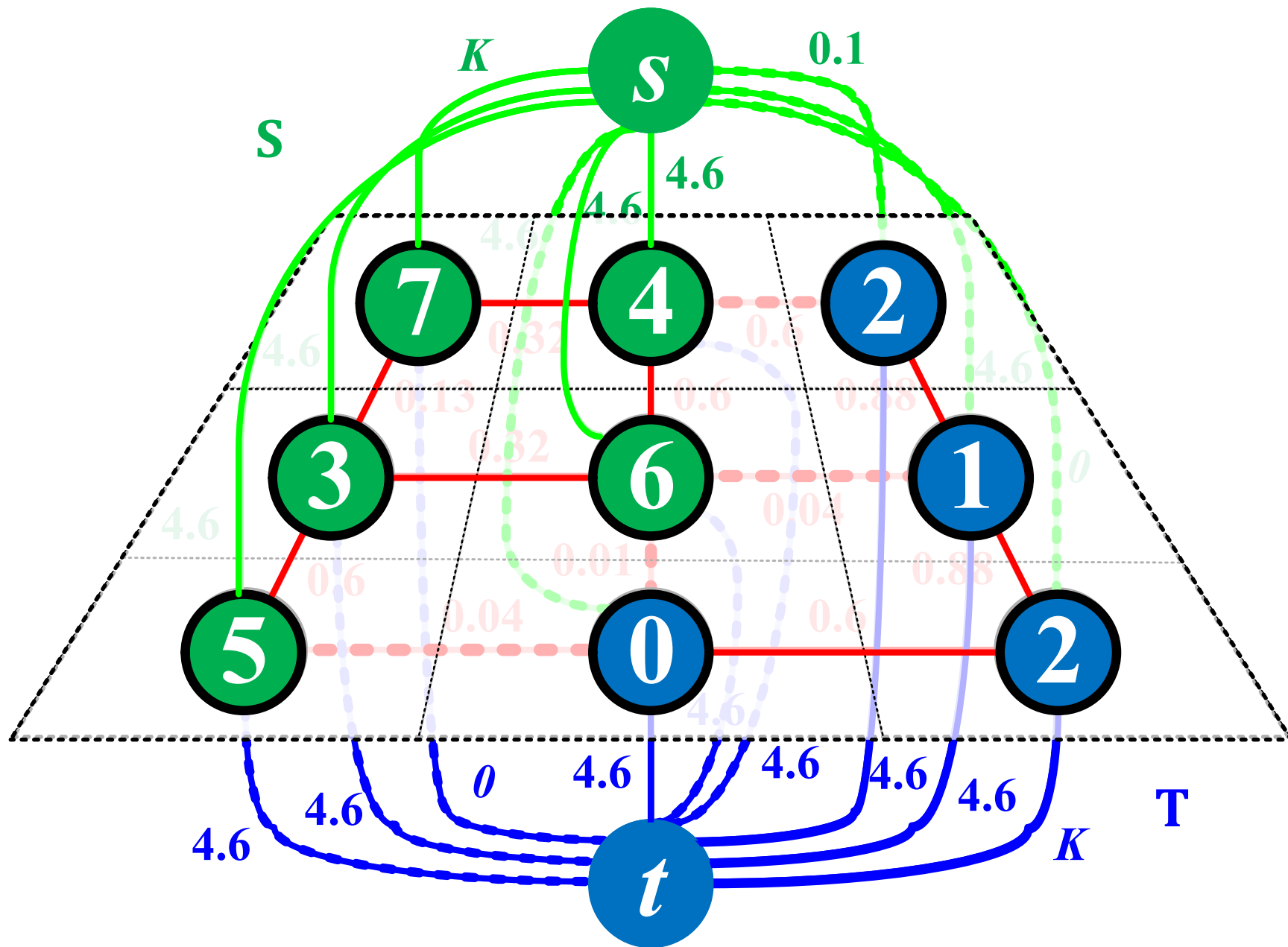
Graph-Based Modeling

- Cost Minimization
 - The optimal segmentation \hat{c} is the cut with the minimum cost (minimum cut).

$$\hat{c} = \operatorname{argmin}_c E(c)$$

- The minimum cut can be found via well-known maximum flow algorithm

Y. Boykov and V. Kolmogorov, “An Experimental Comparison of Min-Cut/Max-Flow Algorithms for Energy Minimization in Vision,” *EMMCVPR*, 2001





thank you

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