time  $O(n^{3/4}m \log L)$  and  $O(nm \log_{2+\frac{m}{n}} L)$ . Goldberg and Tarjan [1990] gave an  $O(nm \log(nL))$  algorithm for minimum-cost flow with unit capacities. More complexity results follow from the table in Section 12.5a. Disjoint s - t cuts were considered by Wagner [1990] and Talluri and Wagner [1994].

## 13.3. Network matrices

Let D = (V, A) be a digraph and let T = (V, A') be a directed tree. Let C be the  $A' \times A$  matrix defined as follows. Take  $a' \in A'$  and  $a = (u, v) \in A$  and let P be the undirected u - v path in T. Define

(13.44)  $C_{a',a} := \begin{cases} +1 \text{ if } a' \text{ occurs in forward direction in } P, \\ -1 \text{ if } a' \text{ occurs in backward direction in } P, \\ 0 \text{ if } a' \text{ does not occur in } P. \end{cases}$ 

Matrix C is called a *network matrix, generated by* T = (V, A') and D = (V, A).

**Theorem 13.19.** Any submatrix of a network matrix is again a network matrix.

**Proof.** Deleting column indexed by  $a \in A$  corresponds to deleting a from D = (V, A). Deleting the row indexed by  $a' = (u, v) \in A'$  corresponds to contracting a' in the tree T = (V, A') and identifying u and v in D.

The following theorem is implicit in Tutte [1965a]:

Theorem 13.20. A network matrix is totally unimodular.

**Proof.** By Theorem 13.19, it suffices to show that any square network matrix C has determinant 0, 1, or -1. We prove this by induction on the size of C, the case of  $1 \times 1$  matrices being trivial. We use notation as above.

Assume that det  $C \neq 0$ . Let u be an end vertex of T and let a' be the arc in T incident with u. By reversing orientations, we can assume that each arc in A and A' incident with u, has u as tail. Then, by definition of C, the row indexed by a' contains only 0's and 1's.

Consider two 1's in row a'. That is, consider two columns indexed by arcs  $a_1 = (u, v_1)$  and  $a_2 = (u, v_2)$  in A. Subtracting column  $a_1$  from column  $a_2$ , has the effect of resetting  $a_2$  to  $(v_1, v_2)$ . So after that, column  $a_2$  has a 0 in position a'. Since this subtraction does not change the determinant, we can assume that there is exactly one arc in A incident with u; that is, row a' has exactly one nonzero. Then by expanding the determinant by row a', we obtain inductively that det  $C = \pm 1$ .

The incidence matrix of a digraph D = (V, A) is a network matrix: add a new vertex u to D giving digraph  $D' = (V \cup \{u\}, A)$ . Let T be the directed