# Love, Marriage, and Lying Lecture P4

## **Stable Marriage Problem**

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P4.1

P4.3

Problem: Given N men and N women, find a "suitable" matching between men and women.

- Participant have ordered preference list of members of opposite sex.
- . Each man lists women in order of preference from best to worst.



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Men's Preference List					
Man	0 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>
Victor	Bertha	Amy	Diane	Erika	Clare
Wayne	Diane	Bertha	Amy	Clare	Erika
Xavier	Bertha	Erika	Clare	Diane	Amy
Yancey	Amy	Diane	Clare	Bertha	Erika
Zeus	Bertha	Diane	Amy	Erika	Clare
	1				
	best				worst
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**Overview** 

## **Stable Marriage Problem**

Problem: Given N men and N women, find a "suitable" matching between men and women.

- Participant have ordered preference list of members of opposite sex.
- Each man lists women in order of preference from best to worst.
- . Each woman lists men in order of preference.



## **Stable Marriage Problem**

Problem: Given N men and N women, find a "suitable" matching between men and women.

- . Everyone is matched monogamously (perfect matching).
  - each man gets exactly one woman
  - each woman gets exactly one man
- Stable: no incentive for some pair of participants (or coalition) to undermine assignment by joint action.
  - an unmatched pair (m,w) is UNSTABLE if man m would prefer woman w to his wife, and w would prefer m to her husband
  - unstable pair could each improve by dumping spouses and eloping

STABLE MARRIAGE = perfect matching with no unstable pairs. (Gale and Shapley, 1962)

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			E	xan	nple			
Man	in Drafa		- 4		10/		6	1:-4
Men's Preference List		1	Women's Preference List					
woman	0	1 31	2114		woman	0"	15	211
Xavier	А	В	С		Amy	Y	Х	Z
Yancey	В	А	С		Bertha	Х	Y	Z
Zeus	А	В	С		Clare	Х	Y	Z

Green assignment is a stable matching.

Women's Preference List				
Woman	0 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
Amy	Y	Х	Z	
Bertha	Х	Y	Z	
Clare	Х	Y	Z	

Well 31 felerence List				
Woman	0 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
Xavier	А	В	С	
Yancey	В	А	С	
Zeus	А	В	С	
Louo			Ŭ	

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Woman

Xavier

Yancey

Zeus

0<sup>th</sup>

А

В

А

Mon's Proforance List

**Example** 

Women's Preference List

Woman	0 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Amy	Y	Х	Z
Bertha	Х	Y	Z
Clare	Х	Y	Z

Lavender assignment is a perfect matching. Is it stable?

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Orange assignment is also a stable matching.

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## **Stable Roommate Problem**

Not obvious that stable marriage exists.

Consider related "stable roommate problem."

- 2N people.
- Each person ranks others from 0 to 2N-2.
- Assign roommate pairs so that no unstable pairs.

Preference List				
	0 <sup>th</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	
Adam	В	С	D	
Bob	С	А	D	
Chris	А	В	D	
Doofus	А	В	С	

No perfect matching is stable.

For all 3 possible perfect marriage, can always find unstable pair.

E.g., A-C forms unstable pair in lavender marriage.

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## **Existence**

#### Surprising Fact:

• Unlike for stable roommate problem, one (or more) stable marriages exist for any input to problem.

#### How do we find one?

- . Are there others?
- Which one is best for Zeus?
- . Is there one that is best for all the men collectively? All the women?

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## Why Does Algorithm Work?

Observation 1. Men propose to their favorite women first.

Observation 2. Once a woman is matched, she never becomes unmatched. She only "trades up."

#### Fact 1. All men and women get matched.

- Suppose upon termination Zeus is not matched.
- Then some woman, say Amy, is not matched upon termination.
- By Observation 2, Amy was never proposed to.
- But, Zeus proposes to everyone, since he ends up unmatched. (contradiction)

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## Why Does Algorithm Work?

Observation 1. Men propose to their favorite women first. int marriages = 0; Observation 2. Once a woman is matched, she never becomes while (marriages < N)unmatched. She only "trades up." find unmatched man m while (m unmatched) Fact 2. No unstable pairs. let w be man m's favorite women to Suppose Zeus-Amy is an unstable pair, i.e., each prefers each other to whom he has not yet proposed spouse. (Zeus-Bertha, Yancy-Amy) if (w unmatched) . Case 1. Zeus never proposed to Amy. m and w get engaged marriages++;  $\Rightarrow$  Zeus must prefer Bertha to Amy (Observation 1) break;  $\Rightarrow$  Zeus-Amy is stable. (contradiction) if (w prefers m to current fiancé f) . Case 2. Zeus proposed to Amy. f now unmatched  $\Rightarrow$  Amy rejected Zeus (right away or later) m and w get engaged  $\Rightarrow$  Amy prefers Yancy to Zeus (women only trade up) break;  $\Rightarrow$  Zeus-Amy is stable (contradiction) else w rejects m 1/26/00 Copyright © 2000, Kevin Wayne P4.14 1/26/00 Copyright © 2000, Kevin Wayne

## How to Represent Men and Women

#### Represent men and women as integers between 0 and N-1.

- 0 through N-1 since C array indices start at 0.
- Could use struct if we want to carry around more information, e.g., name, age, astrological sign.



Pseudocode







Try Out The Code		
marriage.c		
<pre>while (marriages &lt; N) {     /* find first unmatched man */     for (m = 0; m &lt; N; m++)         if (wife[m] == -1) break;</pre>		marria
<pre>printf("man %d proposing:\n", m); /* propose to next women on list until successful */ for (;;) {     w = mp[m][props[m]];     printf(" to woman %d", w);     props[m]++;</pre>		<pre>printf("Stable mat for (m = 0; m &lt; N;     printf("%5d %5d\     return 0; }</pre>
<pre>/* woman w unmatched */ if (husb[w] == -1) {     printf(" accepted\t(woman %d previously unmatched)\n", w);     husb[w] = m; wife[m] = w;     marriages++;     break; }</pre>		
<pre>/* woman w prefers m to current mate */ if (wr[w][m] &lt; wr[w][husb[w]]) {     printf(" accepted\t(woman %d dumps man %d)\n", w, husb[w]);     wife(husb[w]] = -1; }</pre>		
<pre>husb[w] = m; wife[m] = w; break; } /* otherwise m rejected by w */ printf(" rejected\t(woman %d prefers %d)\n", w, husb[w]); }</pre>		Observation: REALLY slow
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		Unix
	% gcc marriage.c	
	% a.out	
arriage.c	man 0 proposing:	
e matching\n"):	to woman 4 accepted	(woman 4 previously unmatched)
( < N; m++)	man 1 proposing:	
<pre>% sod\n", m, wife[m]);</pre>	to woman 0 accepted	(woman 0 previously unmatched)
	man 2 proposing:	
	to woman 2 accepted	(woman 2 previously unmatched)
	man 3 proposing:	
	to woman 2 rejected	(woman 2 prefers 2)
	man 4 proposing:	(woman's previously unmatched)
	to woman 2 accepted	(woman 2 dumps man 2)
	man 2 proposing:	(
	to woman 3 accepted	(woman 3 dumps man 3)
	man 3 proposing:	
	to woman 0 rejected	(woman 0 prefers 1)
	to woman 4 rejected	(woman 4 prefers 0)
	to woman 1 accepted	(woman 1 previously unmatched)
	Stable matching	
	0 4	
	1 0	
ion: code is	2 3	
slow for large N	3 1	
olow for large it.	4 2	

## An Auxiliary Data Structure

#### Create a 2D array that stores men's ranking of women.

- mr[m][w] = i if man m's ranking of woman w is i.
- wr[w][m] = i if woman w's ranking of man m is i.

## An Auxiliary Data Structure

#### Create a 2D array that stores men's ranking of women.

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Does man m = 3 prefer woman  $w_1 = 2$  to woman  $w_2 = 4$ ?



## Check if Marriage is Stable

#### Check if husb[N] and wife[N] correspond to a stable marriage.

- Good warmup and useful for debugging.
- Check every man-woman pair to see if they're unstable.
- Use ranking arrays.



# 

## Men vs. Women

Given input, there may be several stable marriages. Which one does algorithm find?

## Fact 3. Propose-and-reject algorithm is MAN-OPTIMAL!

- Simultaneously best for each and every man.
- There is no stable marriage in which any single man individually does better.

## Fact 4. Propose-and-reject algorithm is WOMAN-PESSIMAL.

- . Simultaneously worst for each and every woman.
- There is no stable marriage in which any single woman individually does worse.

#### Fact 5. The man-optimal stable matching is weakly Pareto optimal.

 In every other matching (stable or unstable), at least one man does strictly worse.

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```
Extensions
```

Yeah, but In real-world every woman is not willing to marry every man, and vice versa?

- Some participants declare others as "unacceptable" (prefer to be alone than with given partner).
- Algorithm extends to handle partial preference lists.

#### Also, there may be an unequal number of men and women.

- E.g., 150 men, 100 women.
- Algorithm extends.

#### What about limited polygamy?

- . E.g., Bill wants 3 women.
- Algorithm extends.

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## Application

Matching medical school residents to hospitals. (NRMP)

- Hospitals ~ Men (limited polygamy allowed).
- Residents ~ Women.
- Original use just after WWII (predates computer usage).
- Ides of March, 13,000+ residents.

#### Rural hospital dilemma.

- Certain hospitals (mainly in rural areas) were unpopular and declared unacceptable by many residents.
- Rural hospitals were under-subscribed in NRMP matching.
- . How can we find stable matching that benefits "rural hospitals"?

#### Rural Hospital Theorem:

CL R

## Deceit: Machiavelli Meets Gale-Shapley

#### Is there any incentive for a participant to misrepresent his/her preferences?

- Assume you know men's propose-and-reject algorithm will be run.
- Assume that you know the preference lists of all other participants.

Fact 6.

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#### Deceit: Machiavelli Meets Gale-Shapley Is there any incentive for a participant to misrepresent his/her preferences? Fact 7. 0.0 Men's Preferences Women's Preferences $0^{th}$ 2<sup>nd</sup> 0<sup>th</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> С Ζ Xavier А В Amy Υ Х В А С Bertha Х Υ Ζ Yancv А В С Clare Х Υ Ζ Zeus 0<sup>th</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> Amy lies. Amv Υ Ζ Χ Х Ζ Bertha Υ Ζ Х Υ Clare 1/26/00 Copyright © 2000, Kevin Wayne

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## **Lessons Learned**

#### Powerful ideas learned in COS 126.

Combine to obtain neat and useful algorithms.

