

THE GALE-SHAPLEY ALGORITHM

GALE-SHAPLEY()

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1  Initially all  $m \in M$  and  $w \in W$  are free
2  while  $\exists m$  who is free and hasn't proposed to every  $w \in W$ 
3      do Choose such a man  $m$ 
4          Let  $w$  be the highest ranked in  $m$ 's preference list
            to whom  $m$  has not yet proposed
5      if  $w$  is free
6          then  $(m, w)$  become engaged
7      else  $w$  is currently engaged to  $m'$ 
8          if  $w$  prefers  $m'$  to  $m$ 
9              then  $m$  remains free
10         else  $w$  prefers  $m$  to  $m'$ 
11              $(m, w)$  become engaged
12              $m'$  becomes free
13  return the set  $S$  of engaged pairs
```

UNDERSTANDING THE SOLUTION

For a given problem instance, there may be several stable matchings. Do all executions of Gale-Shapley yield the same stable matching? If so, which one?

An instance with two stable matchings:

A-X, B-Y, C-Z

A-Y, B-X, C-Z

	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Xavier	A	B	C
Yancey	B	A	C
Zeus	A	B	C

	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Amy	Y	X	Z
Bertha	X	Y	Z
Clare	X	Y	Z