

I'll show that does not always exist an EF1 allocation for the setting of chores with capacity constraints. (?)

Let x, y and z be 3 agents.

Suppose that there are 5 chores.

They all need to be divided between the agents.

The chores are divided into 2 categories: the pink one, and the orange one.

The capacity constraint on each category is 1 - that is, an agent cannot get more than one item from one category.

Agent preferences are represented in the following table:

	chore 1	chore 2	chore 3	chore 4	chore 5
agent x	-4	-2	-1	-2	-1
agent y	-2	-4	-2	-1	-1
agent z	-4	-2	-1	-2	-1

Note that the following allocations are the only possible ones given the capacity constraints:

$\{\{1, 3\}, \{2, 4\}, \{5\}\}$

$\{\{1, 3\}, \{2, 5\}, \{4\}\}$

$\{\{1, 4\}, \{2, 3\}, \{5\}\}$

$\{\{1, 4\}, \{2, 5\}, \{3\}\}$

$\{\{1, 5\}, \{2, 3\}, \{4\}\}$

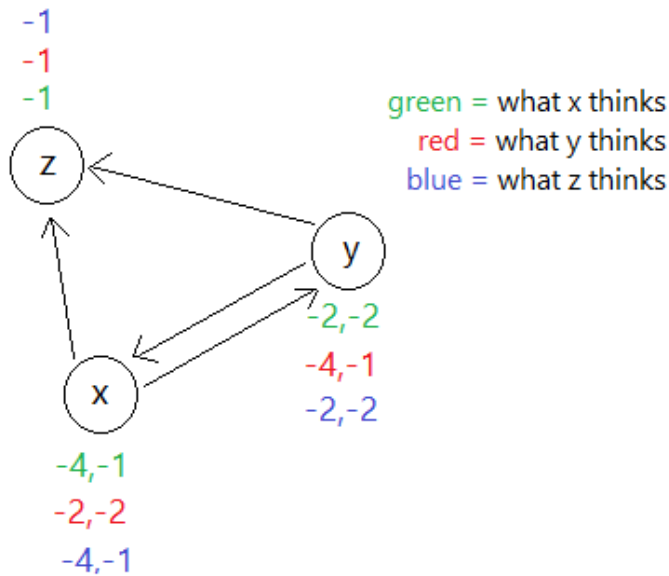
$\{\{1, 5\}, \{2, 4\}, \{3\}\}$

- An agent cannot get 2 chores from the same category, which leads to the fact that allocations containing the $\{1,2\}, \{3,4\}, \{3,5\}, \{4,5\}$ groups are not possible.
In addition, because all objects must be divided, the single chore will always be a chore from the orange group.
- Assume without loss of generality that the first sub-allocation is always given to agent x, the second - to y, and the third - to z.

Now for each of the above allocations, I will show one of the following:

1. The allocation is not EF1.
2. Does not exist a circle in the envy-graph that we can “break” without spoiling the EF1.

$\{\{1, 3\}, \{2, 4\}, \{5\}\}$

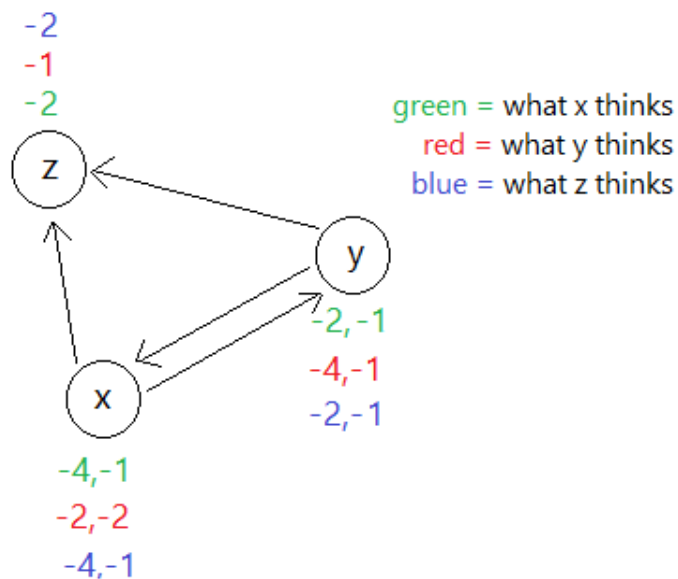


This is the envy-graph, which all the envy displayed in it is at most in one item.

The only circle on this graph is $\{x, y\}$.

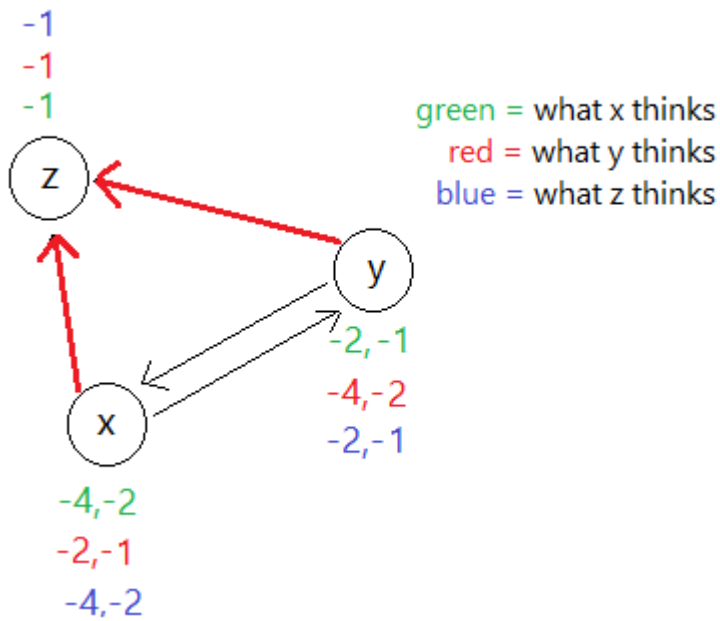
Note that if we'll "break" it, x and y will envy z in more than one item!

$\{\{1, 3\}, \{2, 5\}, \{4\}\}$



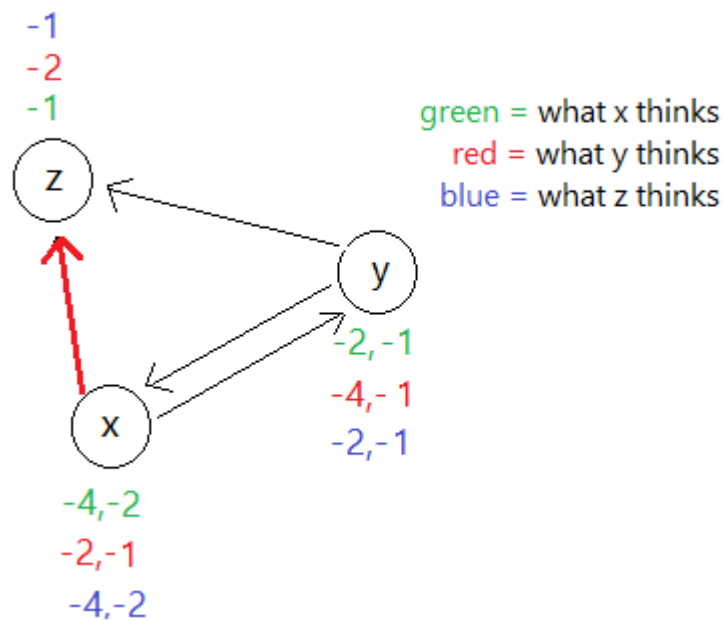
Again, the only circle here is $\{x, y\}$, but if we'll "break" it, y will start to envy z in more than one item (z will see his allocation's utilities as $\{-2, -2\}$, and z 's as $\{-1\}$).

$\{\{1, 4\}, \{2, 3\}, \{5\}\}$



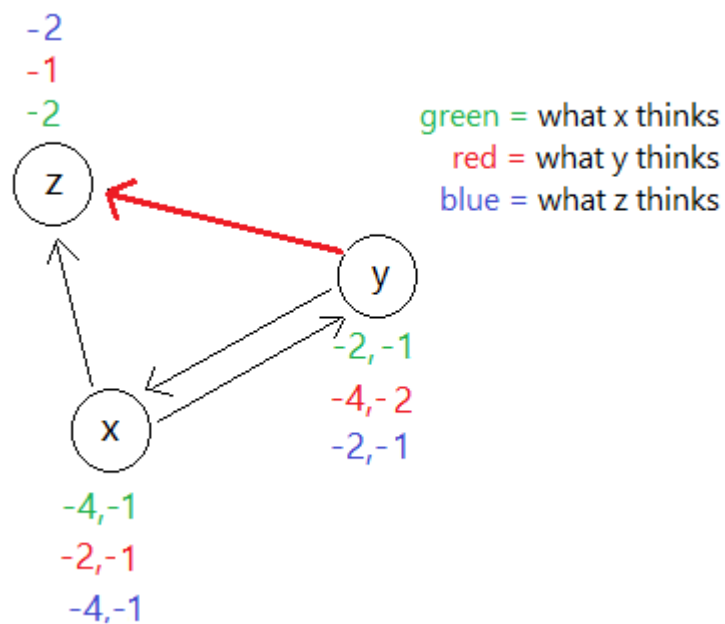
Both x and y envy z in more than one item!! (the red arrows).

{{1, 4}, {2, 5}, {3}}



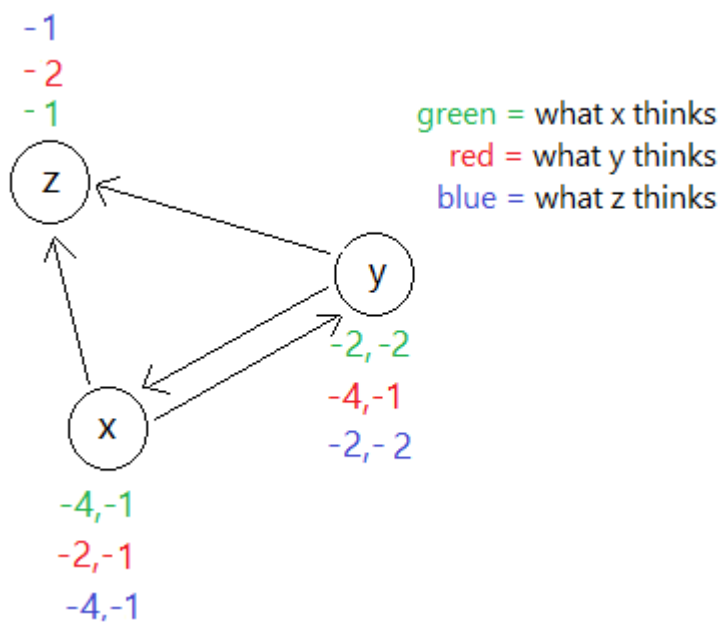
Here x envies z in more than one item!

{{1, 5}, {2, 3}, {4}}



Here y envies z in more than one item!

$\{\{1, 5\}, \{2, 4\}, \{3\}\}$



This allocation is EF1, but if we'll "break" the $\{x, y\}$ circle, then x will envy z in more than one item!

Done.