

Chapter 1 Intro: Some Representative Problem

1.1 Stable matching

Definition:

1. given two sets

$$\{X\}, \{Y\}, \text{ where } \text{len}(\{X\}) = m, \text{len}(\{Y\}) = n$$

2. given two preference tables

P_1 , size = (m, n) , represent X to Y

P_2 , size = (n, m) , represent Y to X

3. "matching them": each x maps to a y and so do y , which the maps may not be one-to-one

$$T_1 : X \rightarrow Y, T_2 : Y \rightarrow X,$$

where maps T_1, T_2 may neither be 1-to-1 (单射) nor surjection (满射)

4. perfect matching

Both T_1 and T_2 are 1-to-1 and $\forall x_i \rightarrow y_j$ in $T_1, y_j \rightarrow x_i$ in T_2
(matched pair by pair)

5. unstable pairs

\exists an **unmatched** pair $x_i - y_j$
(where matched pair are $\{x_i, y_k\}, \{x_l, y_j\}$)
s.t. x_i prefer y_j to y_k, y_j prefer x_i to x_l

通俗解释：两对配偶中的各自一人相爱，容易私奔，故称这一对为不稳定配对

6. Stable matching

perfect matching without unstable pairs

7. Stable matching problem

given (1.) and (2.), solve (3.) that satisfy (6.)

1.2 Propose-And-Reject Algorithm(Gale-Shapley)

An actual problem

given n women, n men, a preference table for men, a preference table for women

solve a possible stable matching

description:

```
1 Initialize each person to be free
2 while(some man is free and hasn;t propose to every woman){
3     Choose a man {m}
4     {w} = 1st woman on m's list to whom m has not yet proposed
5     if (w is free)
6         assign m and w to be engage
7     //w has been engaged
8     else (w prefer m to original m')
9         assign m and w to be engage, m' to be free
10    else
11        w rejects m
12    set w being proposed
13 }
```

Observations

1. Men propose to women in decending order of preference
2. A woman can be either **not proposed** or "**trades up**"
3. stable matchings must exists, but may not be unique

Claims

1. With time complexity $O(n^2)$

proof: In each loop a man propose a woman, and there are at least n^2 proposals.

2. All men and women get matched

proof:

case1, if a women has been proposed, then she will finally match 1 exact man

case2, if a women has not been proposed, when the loop is end, at least one man has proposed to all women in the preference list, but not engaged. It's impossible.

3. No unstable pairs

proof: (by contradiction)

Suppose x_i and y_j are unstable pair, x_i matches y_n , y_j matches x_m

case 1:

x_i has not proposed to y_j

$\rightarrow x_i$ propose y_n to y_j

$\rightarrow x_i - y_n$ stable pair

case 2:

x_i has proposed to y_j
 $\rightarrow y_j$ reject x_i sometime
 $\rightarrow y_j$ trades up
 $\rightarrow y_j$ prefer x_m than x_i at least

4. stable matching must exist

proof: (by contradiction)

Suppose $\exists x_i, y_j$ are not matched finally.

When x_i iterate all women in preference table, x_i will find y_j and they match.

Finally, a perfect matching will be realized, with (3), it's stable.

Implementation: $O(n^2)$

1. data structure preparation

```

1 //preparation 1: O(n)
2 //use HashMap to map a string to an exact index
3 Map<String, Integer> menMap = new HashMap<>();
4 Map<String, Integer> weomenMap = new HashMap<>();
5 Insert all name-index pair;
6
7 //preparation 2: O(n)
8 //numbering men and women
9 men: 0, ..., n-1;
10 women: 0, ..., n-1;
11 man [] men = new man[n];
12 woman [] women = new woman[n];
13 store it as a field "index";
14
15 //preparation 2: O(n)
16 //maintain free mans in a queue
17 //max capacity is n
18 Queue<man> freeQ = new ArrayQueue(n);
19 freeQ.addAll(mans); //add all mans in queue
20
21 //preparation 4: O(n^2)
22 //for a man m, preference table
23 m.preList = new int [n];
24 //m.preList[i] means the ith woman's rank
25 //Similarly, for a women w, maintain a field preList
26 w.preList = new int [n];
27
28 //preparation 5: O(n^2)
29 //for a man, preference list sorted by rank
30 m.preListSorted = new int[n];
31 //m.preListSorted[i] means the ith rank women's index
32 //a pos denote the women he proposed to
33 int pos = 0;
34
35 //maintain 2 arrays to indicate a match pair
  
```

```

36 int [] wivesOfMen = new int[n];
37 int [] husbandsOfWomen = new int[n];

```

2. algorithm

```

1  Initial wivesOfMen, husbandsOfWomen to -1;
2  while(!freeQ.isEmpty()){
3      man m = freeQ.poll();
4      w = m.[pos++];
5      if(husbandsOfWomen[w.index] == -1){
6          //直接结婚
7          husbandsOfWomen[w.index] = m.index;
8          wivesOfMen[m.num] = w.index;
9      }
10     else if(w.preList[m.index] > w.preList[husbandsOfWomen[w.index]])
11     {
12         //离婚
13         freeQ.add(men[husbandsOfWomen[w.index]]);
14         wivesOfMen[husbandsOfWomen[w.index]] = -1;
15         //记录丈夫和妻子的表格改变
16         husbandsOfWomen[w.index] = m.index;
17         wivesOfMen[m.index] = w.index;
18     }
19     else
20     {
21         freeQ.add(m); //把m放回去
22     }
23 }

```

Deeper Understanding

1. valid parnter

*definition : Man m is a valid partner of woman w ,
if there exists some stable matching in which they are matched*

2. man-optimal assignment

definition : Each man recieves best valid partner

3. GS algorithm yields man-optimal assignment, which is a stable matching.

Because a man propose to a woman in descending order of preference, they proposed to another until it cannot maintain the stable matching

Strict proof:

Refer to [经典算法问题——稳定匹配 \(Stable Matching\) - 知乎 \(zhihu.com\)](https://www.zhihu.com/question/21951204).

Proof : Suppose it's not man – optimal \Rightarrow some man is rejected by some valid partner.

1. \exists another stable matching called S^* , let Y be the **first** man rejected by a valid partner and A be the **first** women who reject A (rejection can be during proposal or after being pairs)
2. (In S^*) Wlog. A matches Z finally, which means for $A : Z > Y$.
3. Wlog. In S , $A - Y$, $B - Z$ are two pairs. ($A - Y$ and $B - Z$ are both valid pairs)
4. (In S^*) According the **first** mentioned above, when Y is rejected by A ,
 Z never receive rejections from any valid partner
5. (In S^*) From 2. and 3., both A and B are valid partner for Z .
6. (In S^*) Z proposing to A must happen before Y rejected by A
7. (In S^*) When Z proposed to A , if Z had proposed to B ,
 Z must be **rejected sometime before** his proposal to B ,
which contradicts that the first rejection is **A rejected Y**
8. (In S^*) So Z hadn't propose to B , which indicates for $Z : A > B$
9. A prefer Z , Z prefer A in $S^* \Rightarrow S^*$ is unstable

4. GS algorithm yields woman-pessimal assignment, which is a stable matching.

Because a woman switch to a new man (get a high score) if and only if it cannot satisfy the stable matching.

Strict proof:

Proof : Suppose it's not woman – pessimal \Rightarrow some woman don't match her worst choice

1. (In S^* deduced from GS) Wlog. $A - Z$ is a pair, $\exists Y$, for A , $Y > Z$
2. (In S) Wlog. \exists a stable matching called S (not deduced from GS),
in which $A - Y$ is a pair, while Z matches B .
3. Because $Z - B$ is a valid pair (from 3.). $Z - A$ is a valid pair (from 2.) and in the **GS**.
Therefore, for Z , $A > B \Rightarrow A - Z$ is unstable.

Lab1: stable matching

details in stable matching

1. how to use an unique name to identify a man or woman
2. how to convert a **men-women preference list** to a **men-rank preference list**
(如何将横纵坐标为男人女人编号，内容为女人的排名的二维数组转换成横纵坐标为男人编号和女人排名，内容为女人编号的数组)
3. How to output the name when it is required to output the pairing result. 要求输出配对结果的时候输出名字，如何实现。
4. how to find unmatched men. 如何找到未匹配的男人

Test your program

1. Objective: construct some sample to test your program, so how to create such sample?

2. construct the special testcases:

By **communicating** to peers and friends, thinking about **neglected details** of the problem, thinking about **special io format**

3. construct the general/arbitrary testcases:

for this problem, we figure out the main part we should construct:

```
1 1. man and women's name
2   we can use a string without same character, for example "ABCD", then we
   can generate 4! names by arrangement in total, and add a prefix 'm' for man,
   'w' for woman.
3 2. man and women's preferenceList
4   we know there is n women and n men, so by generating combinations of [1,
   ..., n] and when we can assign an arbitrary one to a man/woman's preference
   list.
```

4. check result

divide the program, they will be 4 parts to inspect carefully:

```
1 1. Does hashmaps map the name to man or woman with accurate index?
2 2. Does every man occur no more than one in the free-man Q?
3 3. Does someone occur more than once in the final result?
4 4. Is there any unstable pair in the final result?
```

test with a trusted friend

```
1 1. Generate several testcase, for example, 10.
2 2. Test with your friend. Save console output to a named file.
3 3. use a program(tellDifference.java) to inspect whether they are different.
```

with a handy program **tellDifference.java** in the repository.