

# ★ Gale Shapley's Algorithm (Valentine's Day Special)

## → Stable Matching

$$M = \{m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n\}$$

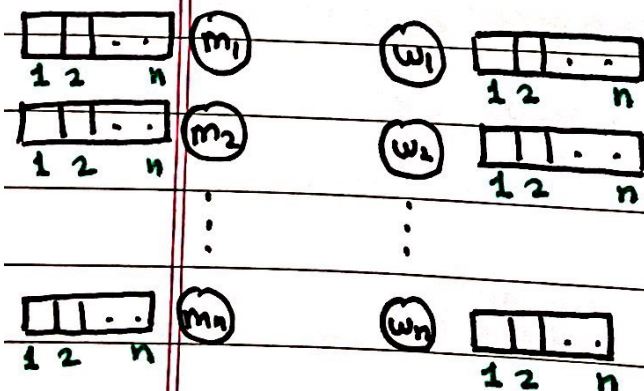
$$W = \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n\}$$

$$M \times W : \{(m, w) \mid m \in M \text{ and } w \in W\}$$

★ Matching S is a set of ordered pairs each from  $M \times W$   $\exists$  each member of  $M$  & each member of  $W$  appears ~~exactly~~ <sup>atmost</sup> in one pair in  $S$ .

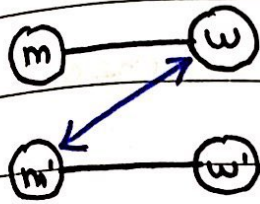
★ Had it been exactly then we have a Perfect matching

★ each man ranks all the women according to his preference. Similarly each woman ranks all men according to her preference.



★ Preference list for each man & woman

## \* Unstable Matching:



$a \rightarrow b$  :  $a$  looking at  $b$

$m' : w > w'$   
 $w : m' > m$

Preferences

## \* Matching is Stable

- ⇒ (1) It is perfect
- (2) No instability

## → G-S Algo

Initially all  $m \in M$  and  $w \in W$  are free

While  $\exists$  man  $m$  who is free and hasn't proposed to every woman

Choose such a man  $m$

Let  $w$  be the  $\uparrow$  preferred woman by  $m$

whom  $m$  hasn't proposed yet  $m: [x|x|w]$

If  $w$  is free then

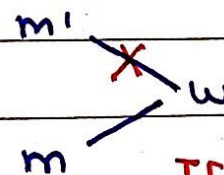
$(m, w)$  are engaged



else ( $w$  is currently engaged to  $m'$ )

If  $w$  prefers  $m' > m$

$m$  remains free



else  $(m, w)$  engaged

$m'$  becomes free

If  $m > m'$

End while



★ engaged & matched is same here

★ Once a woman matched she remains matched

★ The algo always output a matching.

### # Proof By contradiction

→ G-S algorithm terminates after  $O(n^2)$  iterations.

**Proof:** Let  $P(t)$  denote the set of pairs  $(m, w)$

$\exists m$  proposed to  $w$  by end of iteration  $t$

But  $P(t+1) \supset P(t)$  always.

But there are only  $n^2$  possible pairs

$\therefore \exists O(n^2)$  iterations.

★ If  $m$  is free at some point  $\exists$  a woman to whom he hasn't proposed.

**Proof:** Suppose  $m$  has proposed all the  $n$  women  
the each woman is engaged at this point. Since engaged  
pairs form a matching  $\Rightarrow$  there must be  $n$  engaged men  
at this point. Hence #



★ The set  $S$  returned at termination is a perfect matching.

**Proof:**

Let  $\exists$  a free man  $m$

$\therefore \exists$  a woman who is not matched ( $w$ )

algorithm terminates only after  $m$  proposed all the women.

$m: \boxed{\phantom{w}} \boxed{\phantom{w}} \boxed{\phantom{w}} \boxed{w}$   $\therefore$  if  $m$  proposed  $w$  at any point of time  $w$  must be engaged to some

# to  $m$  being left.

★ G-S also gives a Stable matching.

Let  $\exists$  a instability

$m \text{ --- } w$

$w: m' > m$

$m' \text{ --- } w'$

$m': w > w'$

$\therefore m'$  must ofo have proposed  $w$  before  $w'$

# pref:  $w > w'$

If  $w$  matched with  $m$  (# to given matching)

else

$\exists m'' \in m'' > m'$  in  $w$ 's pref

But  $w$  is matched to  $m$  finally

$\therefore \text{pref: } m > m'' > m'$

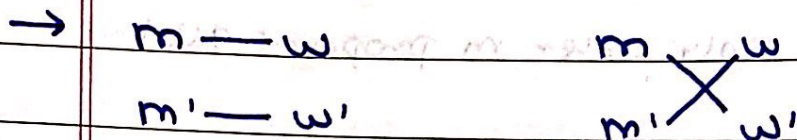
(# to given :  $m' > m$ )

\*  $\boxed{w} \boxed{w'} m$  ,  $w \boxed{m'} m$

$\boxed{w'} \boxed{w} m'$  ,  $w' \boxed{m} m'$

$\exists$  more than one stable matching

for the above example.



→ Hence uniqueness fails

\* We will say woman  $w$  is a valid partner of man  $m$  if  $\exists$  a stable matching with pair  $(m, w)$  in it.

→  $w$  is the best valid partner of  $m$  if  $w$  is a valid partner of  $m$  & no woman whom  $m$  ranks  $\uparrow$  than  $w$  is a valid partner.

$w \rightarrow$  best valid partner

$\boxed{x} \boxed{x} \boxed{x} \boxed{x} \boxed{\checkmark} \boxed{x} \boxed{\checkmark} \boxed{\checkmark} \boxed{x}$

\* III<sup>rd</sup>  $w$ :  $x \ x \ x \ \checkmark \ x \ \checkmark \ \checkmark \ x \ x$

$m \rightarrow$  worst valid partner



★ In G-S algo each man gets BEST valid partner and each woman gets WORST valid partner.

Proof:

Let  $m$  be the man who is rejected by his best valid partner ( $m$ : First such man)

$m$ : X X ✓ X X X ✓ ✓ X X

(w) : Hence  $m$  is rejected by  $w$

$m$  (X)  $\rightarrow$  may or may not happen but still the following holds:

$m'$   $\rightarrow$   $w: m' > m$

But  $\exists$  a stable matching:

$m$  —  $w$   
 $m'$  —  $w'$  #  $w: m' > m$

$\rightarrow$  Here we have 2 cases

①  $m': w \dots w' \Rightarrow$  Instability in the above stable matching:

②  $m': \dots w' \dots w \dots$

In G-S

$m$  —  $w$

$m'$  —  $w'$

$\rightarrow$  Hence  $m'$  would have been rejected by  $w'$  before  $m$  was rejected by  $w$   
# to given

→ for women:

$m \text{ --- } w : x \times x \times m \times x m' \times \times$

↓  
worst valid partner

∃ stable matching

$m' \text{ --- } w$  If  $w$  doesn't get  $m'$

$m \text{ --- } w'$  she must be matched with someone prior ranked man  $m$

$m : w > w'$  (# previous result)

Hence above match unstable (#)

→ No of iterations :  $O(n^2)$

Free List:  $m \rightarrow \square \rightarrow \square$  (Linked List)

Take the head of the list

$m$ 

		$w$		
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first ↑  
best unproposed women

$w$ 

	$m$	$m'$	
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If free match  $w \& m$

else compare rank of  $m \& m'$   $O(1)$

(If some man is inserted he is inserted in the front of linked list.)

★ Pre Processing :  $O(n^2)$  for all woman

$w :$ 

$m_3$	$m_7$	$m_5$	...
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 pref list

	1	2	3
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 : Rank list  
 $m_3 \quad m_7 \quad m_5$