

~~1 Sep~~  
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# Stable matching / Marriage (NOT feminist)

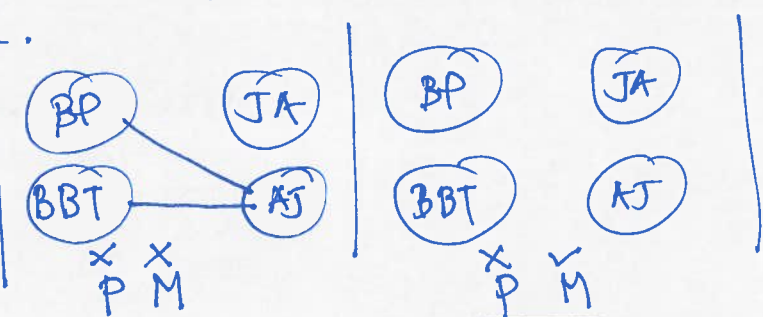
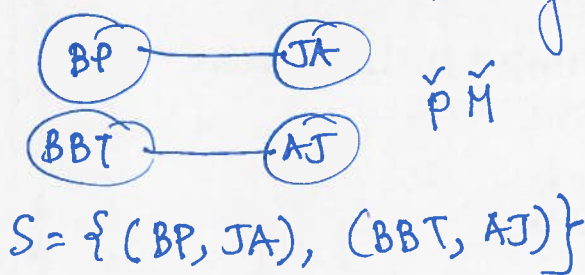
n men  $M = \{m_1, \dots, m_n\}$   
 n women  $W = \{w_1, \dots, w_n\}$

$n=2$  Example  
 $M = \{BP, BBT\}$   
 $W = \{JA, AJ\}$

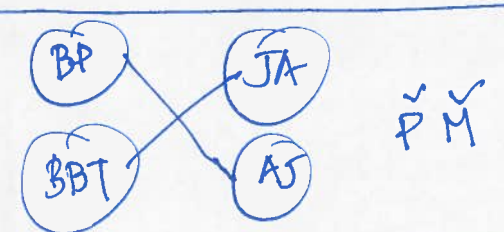
Def (Matching) A subset of pairs  $S \subseteq M \times W$  (def  $\{(m,w) \mid m \in M, w \in W\}$ )

is a matching if  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{for all } m \in M, \exists \text{ at most one } w \in W \text{ s.t. } (m,w) \in S \\ \text{for all } w \in W, \exists \text{ at most one } m \in M \text{ s.t. } (m,w) \in S \end{array} \right.$  *there exists* *such that*

Def (perfect) matching  $\uparrow$  replace at most 1 by exactly 1.



Aside (Ex) There are  $n!$  perfect matching



Preference list:  $\forall m \in M, L_m$ : total ranking of all women in  $W$   
 $\forall w \in W, L_w$ :  $\text{---}$  men in  $M$

Example:  
 $L_{BP}: AJ > JA$   
 $L_{BBT}: AJ > JA$

$L_{JA}: BP > BBT$   
 $L_{AJ}: BP > BBT$

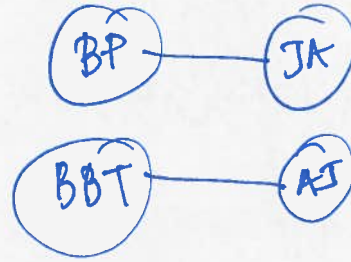
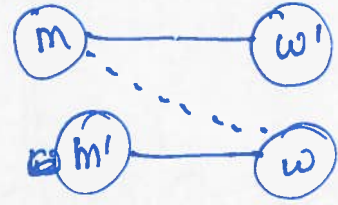
$\uparrow$  total of  $2n$  preference list  
 total size of all pref list =  $2n^2$

(Def) Stable matching: A stable matching  $S$  is s.t.  
 (1)  $S$  is a perfect matching  
 (2) It has no instability

(given  $S$  a perfect matching &  $2n$  preferences  $\forall m \in M$   
 $\forall w \in W$ )

A pair  $(m, w)$  is an instability if

- (1)  $(m, w) \notin S$
- (2) In  $L_m$ :  $w > w'$
- (3) In  $L_w$ :  $m > m'$



$(BP, AJ)$  is an instability

~~BP~~ New pref list  
 $L'_{BP}: AJ > JA$   
 $L'_{BBT}: JA > AJ$

Problem:

$$|M| = |W| = n$$

Input:  $M, W$  &  $2n$  pref lists:  $L_m \forall m \in M$   
 $L_w \forall w \in W$

Output: A stable matching (if it  $\exists$ )