

Sep 9

Gale-Shapley algorithm

n men
n women
2n pref. list

- ① Initially all men & women are free
- ② In a loop: ← in book: men propose
A free woman proposes to a man
- ③ You have n matched pairs

Initial state: All n men & n women are free

① Let w be a free woman

Q1: Which man m should w propose to?

A1: The man m on top of her pref list.

→ w will propose to m

(Q2) What should m do?

Case 2.1: m accepts w's proposal

Issue: m could get a better proposal later on.

Case 2.2: m rejects w's proposal

Issue: He might not get a better proposal later on.

→ Case 2.3: m conditionally accepts
⇒ (m, w) are engaged

General state: All men / women are either free / engaged

① All n men & women are engaged

Q1? ⇒ Algo terminates & outputs n engaged pairs as the final output.

ELSE

② ∃ a free woman w?

Q1: Who should w propose to?

A1: propose to best man m she has NOT proposed to yet.

→ w proposes to m

Q2: What should m do?

Case 2.1: m is free $\Rightarrow (m, w)$ are engaged

Case 2.2: (m, w') are engaged

Case 2.2.1: $w' > w$ in L_m (no changes)

Case 2.2.2: $w > w'$ in $L_m \Rightarrow (m, w)$ are engaged
 w' free.