

Today.

Couple of more induction proofs.
Stable Marriage.

Stable Marriage Problem

- ▶ Small town with n boys and n girls.
- ▶ Each girl has a ranked preference list of boys.
- ▶ Each boy has a ranked preference list of girls.

How should they be matched?

Strengthening: need to...

Theorem: For all $n \geq 1$, $\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{i^2} \leq 2$. ($S_n = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{i^2}$.)

Base: $P(1)$, $1 \leq 2$.

Ind Step: $\sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{i^2} \leq 2$.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} \frac{1}{i^2} &= \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{1}{i^2} + \frac{1}{(k+1)^2} \\ &\leq 2 + \frac{1}{(k+1)^2} \end{aligned}$$

Uh oh?

Hmmm... It better be that any sum is *strictly less than 2*.

How much less? At least by $\frac{1}{(k+1)^2}$ for S_k .

" $S_k \leq 2 - \frac{1}{(k+1)^2}$ " \implies " $S_{k+1} \leq 2$ "

Induction step works! **No! Not the same statement!!!!**

Need to prove " $S_{k+1} \leq 2 - \frac{1}{(k+2)^2}$ ".

Darn!!!

Count the ways..

- ▶ Maximize total satisfaction.
- ▶ Maximize number of first choices.
- ▶ Maximize worse off.
- ▶ Minimize difference between preference ranks.

Strengthening: how?

Theorem: For all $n \geq 1$, $\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{i^2} \leq 2 - f(n)$. ($S_n = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{i^2}$.)

Proof:

Ind hyp: $P(k)$ — " $S_k \leq 2 - f(k)$ "

Prove: $P(k+1)$ — " $S_{k+1} \leq 2 - f(k+1)$ "

$$\begin{aligned} S(k+1) &= S_k + \frac{1}{(k+1)^2} \\ &\leq 2 - f(k) + \frac{1}{(k+1)^2} \text{ By ind. hyp.} \end{aligned}$$

Choose $f(k+1) \leq f(k) - \frac{1}{(k+1)^2}$.
 $\implies S(k+1) \leq 2 - f(k+1)$.

Can you?

Subtracting off a quadratically decreasing function every time.

Maybe a linearly decreasing function to keep positive?

Try $f(k) = \frac{1}{k}$

$$\frac{1}{k+1} \leq \frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{(k+1)^2} ?$$

$$1 \leq \frac{k+1}{k} - \frac{1}{k+1} \text{ Multiplied by } k+1.$$

$$1 \leq 1 + \left(\frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{k+1}\right) \text{ Some math. So yes!}$$

Theorem: For all $n \geq 1$, $\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{i^2} \leq 2 - \frac{1}{n}$.

The best laid plans..

Consider the couples..

- ▶ Jennifer and Brad
- ▶ Angelina and Billy-Bob

Brad prefers Angelina to Jennifer.

Angelina prefers Brad to BillyBob.

Uh..oh.

So..

Produce a pairing where there is no running off!

Definition: A **pairing** is disjoint set of n boy-girl pairs.

Example: A pairing $S = \{(Brad, Jen); (BillyBob, Angelina)\}$.

Definition: A **rogue couple** b, g^* for a pairing S : b and g^* prefer each other to their partners in S

Example: Brad and Angelina are a rogue couple in S .

A stable pairing??

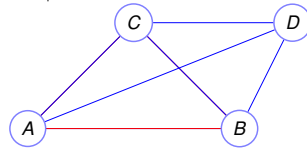
Given a set of preferences.

Is there a stable pairing?

How does one find it?

Consider a single gender version: stable roommates.

A	B	C	D
B	C	A	D
C	A	B	D
D	A	B	C



Example.

	Boys		Girls
A	X 2 3	1	C A B
B	X X 3	2	A B C
C	X 1 3	3	A C B

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
1	A, X	A	X, C	C	C
2	C	B, X	B	A, X	A
3					B

Termination.

Every non-terminated day a boy **crossed** an item off the list.

Total size of lists? n boys, n length list. n^2

Terminates in at most $n^2 + 1$ steps!

The Traditional Marriage Algorithm.

Each Day:

1. Each boy **proposes** to his favorite girl on his list.
2. Each girl rejects all but her favorite proposer (whom she puts on a **string**.)
3. Rejected boy **crosses** rejecting girl off his list.

Stop when each girl gets exactly one proposal.
Does this terminate?

...produce a pairing?

....a stable pairing?

Do boys or girls do "better"?

It gets better every day for girls..

Improvement Lemma: It just gets better for girls.

If on day t a girl, g , has a boy b on a string,
any boy, b' , on g 's string for any day $t' > t$
is at least as good as b .

Proof:

$P(k)$ - "boy on g 's string is at least as good as b on day $t+k$ "

$P(0)$ - true. Girl has b on string.

Assume $P(k)$. Let b' be boy **on string** on day $t+k$.

On day $t+k+1$, boy b' comes back.

Girl can choose b' , or do better with another boy, b''

That is, $b \leq b'$ by induction hypothesis.

And b'' is better than b' by algorithm.

$P(k) \implies P(k+1)$. And by principle of induction. □

Pairing when done.

Lemma: Every boy is matched at end.

Proof:

If not, a boy b must have been rejected n times.

Every girl has been proposed to by b ,
and **Improvement lemma**

⇒ each girl has a boy on a string.

and each boy on at most one string.

n girls and n boys. Same number of each.

⇒ b must be on some girl's string!

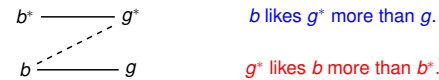
Contradiction. □

Pairing is Stable.

Lemma: There is no rogue couple for the pairing formed by traditional marriage algorithm.

Proof:

Assume there is a rogue couple; (b, g^*)



Boy b proposes to g^* before proposing to g .

So g^* rejected b (since he moved on)

By improvement lemma, g^* likes b^* better than b .

Contradiction! □

Good for boys? girls?

Is the TMA better for boys? for girls?

Definition: A pairing is x -optimal if x 's partner is its best partner in any stable pairing.

Definition: A pairing is x -pessimal if x 's partner is its worst partner in any stable pairing.

Definition: A pairing is boy optimal if it is x -optimal for all boys x .
..and so on for boy pessimal, girl optimal, girl pessimal.

Claim: The optimal partner for a boy must be first in his preference list.

True? False? False!

Subtlety here: Best partner in any stable pairing.
As well as you can in a globally stable solution!

Question: Is there a boy or girl optimal pairing?

Is it possible:

b -optimal pairing different from the b' -optimal pairing!
Yes? No?

TMA is optimal!

For boys? For girls?

Theorem: TMA produces a boy-optimal pairing.

Proof:

Assume not: there are boys who do not get their optimal girl.

Let t be first day a boy b gets rejected
by his optimal girl g who he is paired with
in stable pairing S .

b^* - knocks b off of g 's string on day t ⇒ g prefers b^* to b

By choice of t , b^* prefers g to optimal girl.

⇒ b^* prefers g to his partner g^* in S .

Rogue couple for S .

So S is not a stable pairing. **Contradiction.** □

Notes: S - stable. $(b^*, g^*) \in S$. But (b^*, g) is rogue couple!

Used Well-Ordering principle...Induction.

How about for girls?

Theorem: TMA produces girl-pessimal pairing.

T – pairing produced by TMA.

S – worse stable pairing for girl g .

In T , (g, b) is pair.

In S , (g, b^*) is pair.

g likes b^* less than she likes b .

T is boy optimal, so b likes g more than his partner in S .

(g, b) is Rogue couple for S

S is not stable.

Contradiction. □

Notes: Not really induction.

Structural statement: Boy optimality ⇒ Girl pessimality.

Quick Questions.

How does one make it better for girls?

SMA - stable marriage algorithm. One side proposes.

TMA - boys propose.

Girls could propose. ⇒ optimal for girls.

Residency Matching..

The method was used to match residents to hospitals.

Hospital optimal....

..until 1990's...Resident optimal.

Variations: couples,

Don't go!

Summary.

[▶ Link](#)