

**Exercises:**

1. To prove the statements below you may use, without proving it, the following Lemma:

**Lemma 1** (Gale and Sotomayor (1986), simplified). *Let  $\mu$  and  $\mu'$  be stable matchings in a marriage market  $(M, W, P)$  with strict preferences. Let  $M(\mu')$  be the set of men who prefer  $\mu'$  to  $\mu$  and let  $W(\mu)$  be the set of women who prefer  $\mu$  to  $\mu'$ . Then  $\mu'$  and  $\mu$  map  $M(\mu')$  onto  $W(\mu)$ .*

Show:

- (a) The set of individuals that remain single is the same for all stable matchings.
  - (b)  $\mu \vee_M \mu'$  and  $\mu \wedge_M \mu'$  are both matchings and stable.
2. Show that the matching resulting from the men-proposing deferred acceptance algorithm is men-optimal.
  3. Consider the following marriage market with four men and four women. Preferences are strict and given by

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 m_1 : w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4 & w_1 : m_4, m_3, m_2, m_1 \\
 m_2 : w_2, w_1, w_4, w_3 & w_2 : m_3, m_4, m_1, m_2 \\
 m_3 : w_3, w_4, w_1, w_2 & w_3 : m_2, m_1, m_4, m_3 \\
 m_4 : w_4, w_3, w_2, w_1 & w_4 : m_2, m_3.
 \end{array}$$

In the following, you may use without proof that

$$\mu_1 = \begin{array}{cccc} w_1 & w_2 & w_3 & w_4 \\ m_3 & m_1 & m_4 & m_2 \end{array}$$

is a stable matching.

- (a) Show that

$$\mu_2 = \begin{array}{cccc} w_1 & w_2 & w_3 & w_4 \\ m_2 & m_4 & m_1 & m_3 \end{array}$$

is a stable matching.

- (b) Find the men-optimal stable matching  $\mu_M$  and the women-optimal stable matching  $\mu_W$ .
- (c) Find two additional stable matchings that are different from  $\mu_1$ ,  $\mu_2$ ,  $\mu_M$  and  $\mu_W$ .

4. *Strategic considerations*

Consider a marriage market with strict preferences. A mechanism asks the agents to reveal their preferences and applies the men-proposing deferred acceptance algorithm to the reported preferences.

- (a) Show that truthtelling is a dominant strategy for men.
- (b) Suppose that (i) men report truthfully and (ii) each woman reports a preference list such that all reports form a Nash equilibrium (under complete information). Show: the resulting matching is stable.

*Hint for part (a): Fix an agent  $i$ , reports by all other agents, and suppose that  $i$  has a best response that strictly improves over truthtelling. Denoting his match by  $j$ , show first that  $i$  gets a weakly preferred partner if he uses a cutoff strategy that ranks all agents he prefers to  $j$  truthful and all other agents as unacceptable.*

- 5. There is a set of  $n$  men,  $M = \{m_1, \dots, m_n\}$ , and a set of  $p$  women,  $W = \{w_1, \dots, w_p\}$ . If man  $m_i$  and woman  $w_j$  are paired, they create a monetary value of  $v(m_i, w_j)$ , single individuals do not create value. Utility is given by the monetary value an agent realizes.

- (a) Suppose that utility is transferable,  $n = p = 2$  and match values are given as follows:

	$w_1$	$w_2$
$m_1$	10	18
$m_2$	1	10

Compute the core of the game and draw the set of payoffs for men that are part of core allocations.

- (b) Now one additional man arrives, corresponding match values are given as follows:

	$w_1$	$w_2$
$m_1$	10	18
$m_2$	1	10
$m_3$	3	5

Determine the payoff vector in the core that men prefer the least. Compare to the payoff vector men prefer the least in part (a).

- (c) Consider the general setting with  $n$  men and  $p$  women and arbitrary match values. Suppose that utility is not transferable across agents and each man that is matched receives a share  $s \in (0, 1)$  of the match value, each woman receives a share  $1 - s$ . Assume that match values are such that individuals have strict preferences. Show that there is a unique stable matching.