

Stable Marriages

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People's Preferences				Pets' Preferences			
	Basil	Evan	Felicia		Alina	Casper	Dakota
1 st	Alina	Alina	Dakota	1 st	Felicia	Basil	Evan
2 nd	Casper	Dakota	Casper	2 nd	Basil	Felicia	Felicia
3 rd	Dakota	Casper	Alina	3 rd	Evan	Evan	Basil

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- ▶ Evan is the owner of Casper the cat

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- ▶ Casper the cat prefers Basil to Evan.

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If Basil prefers Casper to Alina: _____

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The Gale–Shapley Algorithm

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Each **pet** then decides whether to accept or reject the proposal(s), as follows:
 - ▶ If the pet has one proposal, it accepts the pairing (tentatively).
 - ▶ If the pet has ≥ 1 proposal (old or new), it uses its preference list to decide which proposal to accept, rejecting all others.

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<<Time for your moment of zen>>

Applying the Gale–Shapley Algorithm

Here is a complete set of preferences for 4 people and 4 pets.

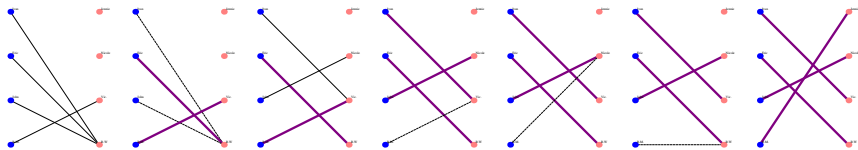
People's Preferences

People:		Emma	Jae	Tracy	Robot
Emma	1 st	Parrot	Parrot	Parrot	Sally
Jae	2 nd	Sally	Casper	Dakota	Dakota
Tracy	3 rd	Casper	Sally	Casper	Parrot
Robot Human	4 th	Dakota	Dakota	Sally	Casper

Women's Preferences

Pets:		Casper	Dakota	Sally	Parrot
Casper the Cat	1 st	Jae	Tracy	Tracy	Jae
Dakota the Dog	2 nd	Tracy	Robot	Emma	Robot
Sally the Snake	3 rd	Robot	Jae	Robot	Emma
Robot Parrot	4 th	Emma	Emma	Jae	Tracy

The Algorithm, Pictorially



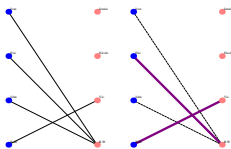
People's Preferences

Emma	Jae	Tracy	Robot
Parrot	Parrot	Parrot	Sally
Sally	Casper	Dakota	Dakota
Casper	Sally	Casper	Parrot
Dakota	Dakota	Sally	Casper

Pets' Preferences

Casper	Dakota	Sally	Parrot
Jae	Tracy	Tracy	Jae
Tracy	Robot	Emma	Robot
Robot	Jae	Robot	Emma
Emma	Emma	Jae	Tracy

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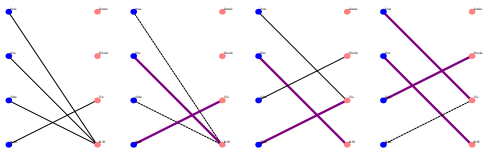
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Emma	Jae	Tracy	Robot
Parrot	Parrot	Parrot	Sally
Sally	Casper	Dakota	Dakota
Casper	Sally	Casper	Parrot
Dakota	Dakota	Sally	Casper

Pets' Preferences

Casper	Dakota	Sally	Parrot
Jae	Tracy	Tracy	Jae
Tracy	Robot	Emma	Robot
Robot	Jae	Robot	Emma
Emma	Emma	Jae	Tracy

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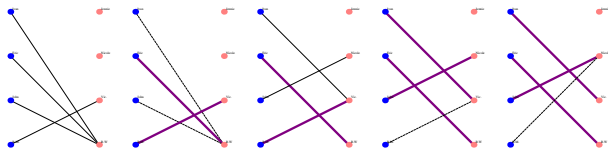
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Tracy	Robot	Emma	Robot
Robot	Jae	Robot	Emma
Emma	Emma	Jae	Tracy

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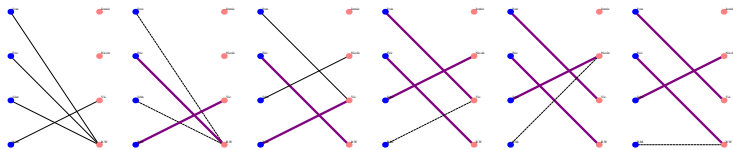
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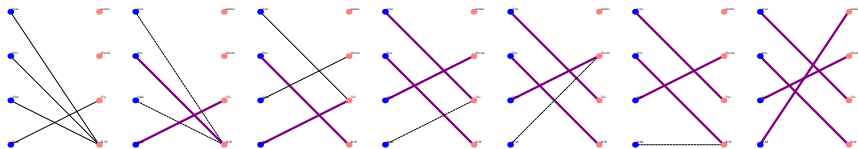
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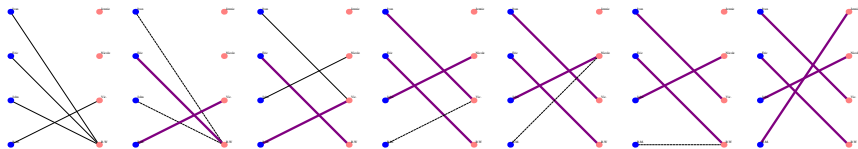
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Claim: Upon termination, everyone is partnered.

- ▶ Once a pet finds a partner, it stays partnered.
- ▶ If a pet is not partnered at the end, it had no proposal.
- ▶ It follows that there is also some person not engaged. However, he/she must have proposed to the lonely pet during some round!

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- ▶ Therefore, there is no instability.

Human-optimality

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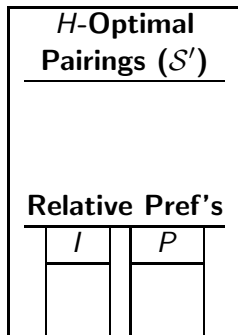
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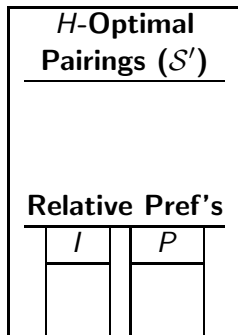


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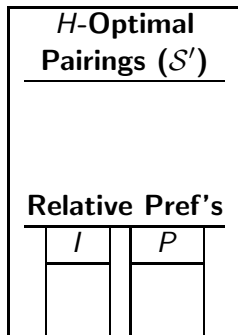


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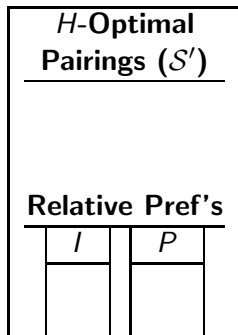


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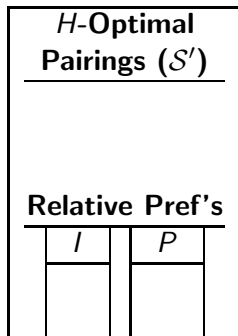
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- H is rejected because some human I proposes to P whom P prefers to H .
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- This, in turn, creates an instability in \mathcal{S}' since P prefers I to H and I prefers P to the pet he is paired with.



Last remarks

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- ▶ The National Resident Matching Program implements this algorithm to match medical students to residency programs. (<http://www.nrmp.org>)