



# Matching

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$N$  = set of players

Value function  $V : 2^N \rightarrow \mathfrak{R}$  is monetary value of subset  $S$  forming a coalition.

$$V(N) \geq \max_{S \subset N} V(S).$$



An allocation  $z$  specifies a division of the total surplus:

$$\sum_{i \in N} z_i = V(N).$$

An allocation  $z$  is **blocked** by a coalition  $S \subset N$  if

$$\sum_{i \in S} z_i < V(S).$$

The **Core** of  $(v, N)$  is the set of unblocked allocations:

$$C(V, N) = \{z \in \mathbb{R}^n : \sum_{j \in N} z_j = V(N), \sum_{j \in S} z_j \geq V(S) \forall S \subset N\}.$$



Let  $B(N)$  be feasible solutions to the following:

$$\sum_{S:i \in S} \delta_S = 1 \quad \forall i \in N$$

$$\delta_S \geq 0 \quad \forall S \subset N$$

Each  $\delta \in B(N)$  are called balancing weights.  $C(V, N) \neq \emptyset$  iff

$$V(N) \geq \sum_{S \subset N} V(S) \delta_S \quad \forall \delta \in B(N).$$



A seller,  $\sigma$  with a single good and opportunity cost zero.

$N = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  a set of potential buyers.

$v_i =$  is  $i$ 's monetary value for the good.



Let  $x_j = 1$  if good is allocated to buyer  $j \in N$  and zero otherwise.

$$v(S) = \max \sum_{j \in S} v_j x_j$$

$$\text{s.t. } \sum_{j \in S} x_j \leq 1$$

$$0 \leq x_j \leq 1 \quad \forall j \in S$$

$$v(S) = \max_{i \in S} v_i$$



Co-op game defined on  $N \cup \sigma$ .

$$V(S \cup \sigma) = v(S) \quad \forall S \subseteq N$$

$$V(S) = 0 \quad \forall S \subseteq N$$

$$C(V, N \cup \sigma) \neq \emptyset$$



Suppose  $v_1 > v_2$ .

$$z_1 + z_2 + z_\sigma = \max\{v_1, v_2\} = v_1$$

$$z_1 + z_\sigma \geq v_1$$

$$z_2 + z_\sigma \geq v_2$$

$$z_1, z_2, z_\sigma \geq 0$$

$$z_1 = v_1 - v_2, z_2 = 0, z_\sigma = v_2$$





$$v(N) = \max \sum_{j \in N} v_j x_j$$

$$\text{s.t. } \sum_{j \in N} x_j \leq 1$$

$$0 \leq x_j \leq 1 \quad \forall j \in N$$

$$\min p + \sum_{j \in N} s_j$$

$$\text{s.t. } p + s_j \geq v_j \quad \forall j \in N$$

$$p, s_j \geq 0 \quad \forall j \in N$$



$$v(N) = \min p + \sum_{j \in N} s_j$$
$$\text{s.t. } p + s_j \geq v_j \quad \forall j \in N$$
$$p, s_j \geq 0 \quad \forall j \in N$$

$$v_1 > v_2 > v_3 \dots > v_{|N|}$$

$$p \in [v_2, v_1], \quad s_1 = v_1 - p, \quad s_j = 0 \quad \forall j > 1$$



$$v(N) = \min p + \sum_{j \in N} s_j$$

$$\text{s.t. } p + s_j \geq v_j \quad \forall j \in N$$

$$p, s_j \geq 0 \quad \forall j \in N$$

$$z_\sigma + \sum_{j \in N} z_j = V(N \cup \sigma) = v(N)$$

$$z_\sigma + \sum_{j \in S} z_j \geq V(S \cup \sigma) = v(S)$$



- ▶  $B$  = set of buyers.
- ▶  $G$  = set of sellers each selling one unit of a good (could be divisible).
- ▶  $v_{ij} \geq 0$  is the monetary value that buyer  $i \in B$  assigns to seller  $j \in G$ 's object.
- ▶ Unit demand.
- ▶  $|B| = |G|$ .



- ▶ Bilateral Trade

$$v_{ij} = u_i - c_j.$$

$u_i$  is the value to buyer  $i$  of acquiring a good irrespective who sells it.

$c_j$  is the opportunity cost to seller  $j$ .

- ▶ Productivity

$v_{ij} = a_i b_j$  is output generated when worker of type  $a_i$  is matched with firm of type  $b_j$ .

- ▶ Keyword auction

$b_j$  is the the click through rate on slot  $i$  and  $a_i$  is the value per click to advertiser  $i$ .



$x_{ij} = 1$  if buyer  $i$  allocated to seller  $j$ . For any  $N \subseteq B$  and  $M \subseteq G$ , let

$$v(N, M) = \max \sum_{i \in N} \sum_{j \in M} v_{ij} x_{ij}$$

$$\text{s.t. } \sum_{j \in M} x_{ij} \leq 1 \quad \forall i \in N$$

$$\sum_{i \in N} x_{ij} \leq 1 \quad \forall j \in M$$

$$x_{ij} \geq 0 \quad , \forall i \in N, j \in M$$

$v(B, G)$  = value of an efficient allocation.



Complete bipartite graph on vertex set  $B \cup G$ .

For each edge  $(i, j)$  where  $i \in B$  and  $j \in G$ , there is a weight  $v_{ij}$ .

A set of edges is a matching if no two edges share a vertex.

Efficiency = maximum weight matching



$s_i$  = the dual variable associated with

$$\sum_{j \in M} x_{ij} \leq 1 \quad \forall i \in N$$

$p_j$  = dual variable associated with

$$\sum_{i \in N} x_{ij} \leq 1 \quad \forall j \in M$$





$$\min \sum_{i \in N} s_i + \sum_{j \in M} p_j$$

subject to

$$s_i + p_j \geq v_{ij} \quad \forall i \in N, \forall j \in M$$

$$s_i, p_j \geq 0 \quad \forall j \in M, \forall i \in N$$

$$s_i = \left\{ \max_{j \in M} (v_{ij} - p_j), 0 \right\}^+.$$



- ▶  $x^*$  is an optimal primal solution.
- ▶  $(s^*, p^*)$  an optimal dual solution.
- ▶ Prices  $p^*$  'support' efficient allocation  $x^*$ .

Post a price  $p_j^*$  for each  $j \in M$ .

Each buyer points to all goods that maximize surplus.

Resulting bipartite graph has a perfect matching; supply = demand.



Complementary Slackness:

$$(s_i^* + p_j^* - v_{ij})x_{ij}^* = 0.$$

$$x_{ij}^* = 1 \Rightarrow s_i^* = v_{ij} - p_j^* = \left\{ \max_{r \in M} (v_{ir} - p_r^*), 0 \right\}^+.$$



$A$  is called **totally unimodular** (TUM) iff the determinant of each square submatrix has value 1, -1 or 0.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



If  $A$  is TUM then so is  $A^T$ .

If  $A$  and  $E$  are TUM, then so is  $AE$ .

If  $A$  is a  $m \times n$  TUM matrix and  $b$  a  $m \times 1$  integral vector. Then, every extreme point of  $\{Ax = b, x \geq 0\}$  is integral.



$A$  is a **network** matrix if  $a_{ij} = 0, 1, -1$  for all  $i, j$  and each column contains at most two non-zero entries of opposite sign.

If  $A$  is a network matrix, then  $A$  is TUM.



Assume all goods owned by a single seller,  $\sigma$ .

For any  $N \subseteq B$ , let  $v(N) = v(N, G)$ .

$v(N)$  is non-decreasing and sub modular:

$$\forall N' \subset N \subseteq B, j \in B \setminus N \Rightarrow \\ v(N \cup j) - v(N) \leq v(N' \cup j) - v(N')$$



The characteristic function  $V$  is defined as follows:

1.  $V(S) = 0 \forall S \subseteq B$
2.  $V(S \cup \sigma) = v(S) \forall S \subseteq B$

Core,  $C(V, B \cup \{\sigma\})$ , of this game is:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i \in B} z_i + z_\sigma &= V(B \cup \sigma) = v(B) \\ \sum_{i \in \{S \cup \sigma\}} z_i + z_\sigma &\geq V(S \cup \sigma) = v(S) \\ \sum_{i \in S} z_i &\geq V(S) = 0 \quad \forall S \subset B \end{aligned}$$

Outcome in core is a division of value that no coalition of agents can 'block'.





$C(V, B \cup \{\sigma\})$  is non-empty.

If  $(s^*, p^*)$  is an optimal dual solution, an efficient assignment produces an outcome in  $C(V, B \cup \{\sigma\})$

$$z_i = s_i^* \text{ and } z_\sigma = \sum_{j \in G} p_j^*$$

Every point in the core corresponds to an optimal dual solution.



Marginal product of  $k \in B$  is  $V(B \cup \sigma) - V(B \cup \sigma \setminus k)$ .

$$\sum_{i \in B} z_i + z_\sigma = V(B \cup \sigma)$$

$$\sum_{i \in B \setminus k} z_i + z_\sigma \geq V(B \cup \sigma \setminus k)$$

Submodularity of  $V$  implies a point  $z \in C(V, B \cup \{\sigma\})$  such that  $z_i = V(B \cup \sigma) - V(B \cup \sigma \setminus i)$  for all  $i \in B$ .



$N$  = set of agents

Each agent  $i \in N$  owns a house.

Each agent  $i$  has a strict preference ordering  $\succ_i$  over all houses.

An assignment  $x$  of homes to agents can be blocked by a subset  $S \subseteq N$  if the agents in  $S$  can by trading among themselves each do strictly better than the house each gets under  $x$ .

Top trading cycle.



$N = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  is a set of agents.

Each  $i \in \{1, \dots, q\}$  owns house  $h_i$ .

Agents  $i \in \{q + 1, \dots, n\}$  do not own a house.

Each  $i \in N$  has money in the amount  $w_i$ .

Utility of agent  $i$  for a monetary amount  $y$  and house  $h_j$  is denoted  $u_i(y, h_j)$ .

Each  $u_i$  is continuous and non-decreasing in money for each house.



A game with nontransferable utility is a pair  $(N, V)$  where  $N$  is a finite set of players, and, for every coalition  $S \subseteq N$ ,  $V(S)$  is a subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  satisfying:

1. If  $S \neq \emptyset$ , then  $V(S)$  is non-empty and closed; and  $V(\emptyset) = \emptyset$ .
2. For every  $i \in N$  there is a  $V_i$  such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $x \in V(i)$  if and only if  $x_i \leq V_i$ .
3. If  $x \in V(S)$  and  $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$  with  $y_i \leq x_i$  for all  $i \in S$  then  $y \in V(S)$  (lower comprehensive).
4. The set  $\{x \in V(N) : x_i \leq V_i\}$  is compact.



Core of an NTU-game  $(N, V)$  is all payoff vectors that are feasible for the grand coalition  $N$  and that cannot be improved upon by any coalition, including  $N$  itself.

If  $x \in V(N)$ , then coalition  $S$  can improve upon  $x$  if there is a  $y \in V(S)$  with  $y_i > x_i$  for all  $i \in S$ .

Core of the game  $(N, V)$  is

$$V(N) \setminus \bigcup_{S \subseteq N} \text{int} V(S).$$



NTU game  $(N, V)$  is balanced if for any balanced collection  $\mathcal{C}$  of subsets of  $N$ ,

$$\bigcap_{S \in \mathcal{C}} V(S) \subseteq V(N).$$

Scarf's lemma: a balanced NTU game has a non-empty core.



For any  $S \subseteq N$  let  $F_S$  be the set of feasible solutions to

$$\sum_{j \in S} x_{ij} = 1 \quad \forall i \in S$$

$$\sum_{i \in S} x_{ij} = 1 \quad \forall j \in S$$

$$x_{ij} \in \{0, 1\} \quad \forall i, j \in N$$

$x_{ir} = 1$  means agent  $i$  receives agent  $r$ 's house.





Allocation  $(y, x)$  is **feasible** for  $S \subseteq N$  if  $x \in F_S$  and  $\sum_{i \in S} y_i \leq \sum_{i \in S} w_i$ .

$A(S)$  = set of feasible allocations for  $S \subseteq N$ .

Core is set of allocations in  $A(N)$  such that no  $S \subseteq N$  can find an allocation in  $A(S)$  that gives *each* member of  $S$  *strictly* more utility.



$$V(S) = \{ \{v_i\}_{i \in S} : \exists (y, x) \in A(S), v_i \leq u_i(y_i, \sum_{j \in S} x_{ij}), \forall i \in S \}$$

1.  $V(S)$  is closed.
2.  $V(S)$  is lower comprehensive.
3. The projection of  $V(S) \setminus \cup_{i \in S} \text{int}V(i)$  onto  $\mathbb{R}^S$  is non-empty and bounded (this is individual rationality).



$$m_{ij}(v) = \inf\{m \in \mathfrak{R}_+ : u_i(m, h_j) \geq v_i\}.$$

$m_{ij}(v)$  is least amount of money given to agent  $i$  to guarantee a utility of at least  $v_i$  when agent  $i$  holds house  $h_j$ .

$v \in V(S)$  iff  $\exists x^S \in F_S$  such that

$$\sum_{i \in S} \sum_{j \in S} m_{ij}(v) x_{ij}^S \leq \sum_{i \in S} w_i.$$



Complete Bipartite Graph

$D \cup H =$  set of vertices (single doctors and hospitals with capacity 1)

$E =$  complete set of edges

$\delta(v) \subseteq E$  set of edges incident to  $v \in D \cup H$

Each  $v \in D \cup H$  has a strict ordering  $\succ_v$  over edges in  $\delta(v)$



Let  $x_e = 1$  if we select edge  $e = (d, h)$  and 0 otherwise.

Selecting edge  $e = (d, h)$  corresponds to matching doctor  $d$  to hospital  $h$ .

The convex hull of all feasible matchings is given by

$$\sum_{e \in \delta(v)} x_e \leq 1 \quad \forall v \in D \cup H$$



A matching  $x$  is blocked by a pair  $e = (d, h)$  if

1.  $x_e = 0$
2. either  $h \succ_d h'$  where  $x_{dh'} = 1$ , and,
3.  $d \succ_h d'$  where  $x_{d'h} = 1$ .

A matching  $x$  is called stable if it cannot be blocked by any pair.



$A = m \times n$  nonnegative matrix and  $b \in \mathbb{R}_+^m$  with  $b \gg 0$ .

$$\mathcal{P} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}_+^n : Ax \leq b\}.$$

Each row  $i \in [m]$  of  $A$  has a strict order  $\succ_i$  over the set of columns  $j$  for which  $a_{ij} > 0$ .

A vector  $x \in \mathcal{P}$  **dominates** column  $r$  if there exists a row  $i$  such that  $\sum_j a_{ij}x_j = b_i$  and  $k \succeq_i r$  for all  $k \in [n]$  such that  $a_{ik} > 0$  and  $x_k > 0$ .

$\mathcal{P}$  has an extreme point that dominates every column of  $A$ .



$A = m \times n$  nonnegative matrix and  $b \in \mathbb{R}_+^m$  with  $b \gg 0$ .

$$\sum_{e \in \delta(v)} x_e \leq 1 \quad \forall v \in D \cup H$$

Each row  $i \in [m]$  of  $A$  has a strict order  $\succ_i$  over the set of columns  $j$  for which  $a_{ij} > 0$ .

Each  $v \in D \cup H$  has a strict ordering  $\succ_v$  over edges in  $\delta(v)$ .

$x \in \mathcal{P}$  **dominates** column  $r$  if  $\exists i$  such that  $\sum_j a_{ij} x_j = b_i$  and  $k \succeq_i r$  for all  $k \in [n]$  such that  $a_{ik} > 0$  and  $x_k > 0$ .

For all  $e \in E$  there is a  $v \in D \cup H$  such that  $e \in \delta(v)$  and

$$\sum_{f \succ_v e} x_f + x_e = 1$$





$D$  = set of single doctors

$C$  = set of couples, each couple  $c \in C$  is denoted  $c = (f_c, m_c)$

$D^* = D \cup \{m_c | c \in C\} \cup \{f_c | c \in C\}$ .

$H$  = set of hospitals

Each  $s \in D$  has a strict preference relation  $\succ_s$  over  $H \cup \{\emptyset\}$

Each  $c \in C$  has a strict preference relation  $\succ_c$  over  $H \cup \{\emptyset\} \times H \cup \{\emptyset\}$



$k_h =$  capacity of hospital  $h \in H$

Preference of hospital  $h$  over subsets of  $D^*$  is modeled by choice function  $ch_h(\cdot) : 2^{D^*} \rightarrow 2^{D^*}$ .

$ch_h(\cdot)$  is responsive

$h$  has a strict priority ordering  $\succ_h$  over elements of  $D \cup \{\emptyset\}$ .

$ch_h(R)$  consists of the (upto)  $\min\{|R|, k_h\}$  highest priority doctors among the feasible doctors in  $R$ .



$\mu$  = matching

$\mu_h$  = the subset of doctors matched to  $h$ .

$\mu_s$  = position that single doctor  $s$  receives.

$\mu_{f_c}, \mu_{m_c}$  = positions that female member and male member of the couple  $c$  obtain, respectively.



$\mu$  is individually rational if

- ▶  $ch_h(\mu_h) = \mu_h$  for any hospital  $h$
- ▶  $\mu_s \succeq_s \emptyset$  for any single doctor  $s$
- ▶  $(\mu_{f_c}, \mu_{m_c}) \succeq_c (\emptyset, \mu_{m_c})$
- ▶  $(\mu_{f_c}, \mu_{m_c}) \succeq_c (\mu_{f_c}, \emptyset)$
- ▶  $(\mu_{f_c}, \mu_{m_c}) \succeq_c (\emptyset, \emptyset)$



A matching  $\mu$  can be blocked in one of three ways.

By a single doctor,  $d \in D$  and a lone hospital,  $h \in H$

- ▶  $h \succ_d \mu(d)$
- ▶  $d \in ch_h(\mu(h) \cup d)$



By a couple  $c \in C$  and a pair of distinct hospitals  $h, h' \in H$

- ▶  $(h, h') \succ_c \mu(c)$
- ▶  $f_c \in ch_h(\mu(h) \cup f_c)$  when  $h \neq \emptyset$
- ▶  $m_c \in ch_{h'}(\mu(h') \cup m_c)$  when  $h' \neq \emptyset$



By a couple  $c \in C$  and a single hospital  $h \in H$

- ▶  $(h, h) \succ_c \mu(c)$
- ▶  $(f_c, m_c) \subseteq ch_h(\mu(h) \cup c)$

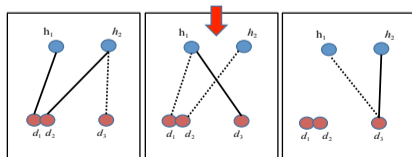
# Non-Existence: Roth (84), Klaus-Klijn (05)

Hospital 1:  $d_1 \succ_{h_1} d_3 \succ_{h_1} \emptyset \succ_{h_1} d_2$ ,  $k_{h_1} = 1$

Hospital 2:  $d_3 \succ_{h_2} d_2 \succ_{h_2} \emptyset \succ_{h_2} d_1$ ,  $k_{h_2} = 1$

Couple  $\{1, 2\}$ :  $(h_1, h_2) \succ_{(d_1, d_2)} \emptyset$

Single doctor  $d_3$ :  $h_1 \succ h_2$







Given an instance of a matching problem with couples, determining if it has a stable matching is NP-hard.

Roth & Peranson algorithm (1999): Heuristic modification of Gale-Shapley

On all recorded instances in NRMP, it returns a matching that is stable wrt reported preferences.

Kojima-Pathak-Roth (QJE 2013); Ashlagi-Braverman-Hassidim (OR 2014)

- ▶ Randomized preferences,
- ▶ Market size increases to infinity
- ▶ Fraction of couples goes to 0

Probability that Roth & Peranson gives a stable matching approaches 1.



US: resident matching: 40,000 doctors participate every year, fraction of couples couples can be upto 10%.

Ashlagi et al: If the fraction of couple does *not* goes to 0, the probability of no stable matching is positive.

Simulations by Biro et. al.: when the number of couples is large, Roth & Perason algorithm fails to find a stable match.



(Nguyen & Vohra)

Given any instance of a matching problem with couples, there is a 'nearby' instance that is guaranteed to have stable matching.

For any capacity vector  $k$ , there exists a  $k'$  and a stable matching with respect to  $k'$ , such that

1.  $|k_h - k'_h| \leq 4 \forall h \in H$
2.  $\sum_{h \in H} k_h \leq \sum_{h \in H} k'_h \leq \sum_{h \in H} k_h + 9.$



$x(d, h) = 1$  if single doctor  $d$  is assigned to hospital  $h \in H$  and zero otherwise.

$x(c, h, h') = 1$  if  $f_c$  is assigned to  $h$  and  $m_c$  is assigned to  $h'$  and zero otherwise.

$x(c, h, h) = 1$  if  $f_c$  and  $m_c$  are assigned to hospital  $h \in H$  and zero otherwise.



Every 0-1 solution to the following system is a feasible matching and vice-versa.

$$\sum_{h \in H} x(d, h) \leq 1 \quad \forall d \in D \quad (1)$$

$$\sum_{h, h' \in H} x(c, h, h') \leq 1 \quad \forall c \in D \quad (2)$$

$$\sum_{d \in D} x(d, h) + \sum_{c \in C} \sum_{h' \neq h} x(c, h, h') + \sum_{c \in C} \sum_{h' \neq h} x(c, h', h) + \sum_{c \in C} 2x(c, h, h) \leq k_h \quad \forall h \in H \quad (3)$$



Constraint matrix and RHS satisfy conditions of Scarf's lemma.

Each row associated with single doctor or couple (1-2) has an ordering over the variables that 'include' them from their preference ordering.

Row associated with each hospital (3) does not have a natural ordering over the variables that 'include' them.

(1-3) *not* guaranteed to have integral extreme points.



Use choice function to induce an ordering over variables for each hospital.

Construct ordering so that a dominating solution wrt this ordering will correspond to a stable matching.

Must show that a dominating solution under this made-up ordering corresponds to a stable matching.

Apply Scarf's Lemma to get a 'fractionally' stable solution.

Round the fractionally stable solution into an integer solution that preserves stability (sharpening of Shapley-Folkman-Starr Lemma).



$\{S^j\}_{j=1}^n$  be a collection of sets in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  with  $n > m$ .

$$S = \sum_{i=1}^m \text{conv}(S^i)$$

Every  $b \in S$  can be expressed as  $\sum_{j=1}^n x^j$  where  $x^j \in \text{conv}(S^j)$  for all  $j = 1, \dots, n$  and  $|\{j : x^j \in S^j\}| \geq n - m$ .





Let  $A$  be an  $m \times n$  0-1 matrix and  $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$  with  $n > m$ .

Denote each column  $j$  of the  $A$  matrix by  $a^j$ .

$$S^j = \{a^j, 0\}.$$

Suppose  $b = Ax^* = \sum_{j=1}^n a^j x_j^*$  where  $0 \leq x_j^* \leq 1 \forall j$ .

SFS  $\Rightarrow b = \sum_{j=1}^n a^j y_j$  where each  $y_j \in [0, 1]$  with at least  $n - m$  of them being 0-1.

$y$  has at most  $m$  fractional components.

Let  $y^*$  be obtained by rounding up each fractional component.

$$\|Ay^* - b\|_\infty \leq m$$



Suppose  $b = \sum_{j=1}^n a^j y_j$  with at least  $m + 1$  components of  $y$  being fractional.

Let  $\bar{C}$  be submatrix of  $A$  that corresponds to integer components of  $y$ .

Let  $C$  be submatrix of  $A$  that corresponds to fractional components of  $y$ .

$$b = \bar{C}y_{\bar{C}} + Cy_C$$



$$b - \bar{C}y_{\bar{C}} = Cy_C$$

Suppose (for a contradiction) that  $C$  has more columns ( $\geq m + 1$ ) than rows ( $m$ ).

$$\Rightarrow \ker(C) \neq 0 \Rightarrow \exists z \in \ker(C)$$

Consider  $y_C + \lambda z$ .

$$b - \bar{C}y_{\bar{C}} = C[y_C + \lambda z]$$

Choose  $\lambda$  to make at least one component of  $y_C$  take value 0 or 1.



Exchange economy with non-convex preferences i.e., upper contour sets of utility functions are non-convex.

$n$  agents and  $m$  goods with  $n \geq m$ .

Starr (1969) identifies a price vector  $p^*$  and a feasible allocation with the property that at most  $m$  agents do not receiving a utility maximizing bundle at the price vector  $p^*$ .



$u_i$  is agent  $i$ 's utility function.

$e^i$  is agent  $i$ 's endowment

Replace the upper contour set associated with  $u_i$  for each  $i$  by its convex hull.

Let  $u_i^*$  be the quasi-concave utility function associated with the convex hull.

$p^*$  is the Walrasian equilibrium prices wrt  $\{u_i^*\}_{i=1}^n$ .

$x_i^*$  be the allocation to agent  $i$  in the associated Walrasian equilibrium.



For each agent  $i$  let

$$S^i = \arg \max \{u_i(x) : p^* \cdot x \leq p^* \cdot e^i\}$$

$w$  = vector of total endowments and  $S^{n+1} = \{-w\}$ .

Let  $z^* = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^* - w = 0$  be the excess demand with respect to  $p^*$  and  $\{u_i^*\}_{i=1}^n$ .

$z^*$  is in convex hull of the Minkowski sum of  $\{S^1, \dots, S^n, S^{n+1}\}$ .

By the SFS lemma  $\exists x_i \in \text{conv}(S^i)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , such that  $|\{i : x_i \in S^i\}| \geq n - m$  and  $0 = z^* = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i - w$ .



$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & \sum_{j=1}^n f_j(y_j) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & Ay = b \\ & y \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$A$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix with  $n > m$ .

$f_j^*(\cdot)$  is the smallest concave function such that  $f_j^*(t) \geq f_j(t)$  for all  $t \geq 0$



Solve the following to get  $y^*$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & \sum_{j=1}^n f_j^*(y_j) \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & Ay = b \\ & y \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$e_j = \sup_t [f_j^*(t) - f_j(t)]$$

Sort  $e_j$ 's in decreasing order.

$$\sum_{j=1}^n f_j(y_j^*) \geq \sum_{j=1}^n f_j^*(y_j^*) - \sum_{j=1}^m e_j$$





Does not allow you to control which constraints to violate.

Want to satisfy (1-2) but are willing to violate (3).

Degree of violation is large because it makes no use of information about  $A$  matrix. In our case each variable intersects exactly two constraints.

We use this sparsity to show that no constraint can contain many occurrences of a fractional variable.



Kiralyi, Lau & Singh (2008)

Gandhi, Khuller, Parthasarathy & Srinivasan (2006)



**Step 0:** Choose extreme point  $x^* \in \arg \max\{w \cdot x : Ax \leq b, x \geq 0\}$ .

**Step 1:** If  $x^*$  is integral, output  $x^*$ , otherwise continue to either Step 2a or 2b.

**Step 2a:** If any coordinate of  $x^*$  is integral, fix the value of those coordinates, and update the linear program and move to step 3.



$C$  = columns of  $A$  that correspond to the non-integer valued coordinates of  $x^*$ .

$\bar{C}$  = columns of  $A$  that correspond to the integer valued coordinates of  $x^*$ .

$A_C$  and  $A_{\bar{C}}$  be the sub-matrices of  $A$  that consists of columns in  $C$  and the complement  $\bar{C}$ , respectively.

Let  $x_C$  and  $x_{\bar{C}}$  be the sub-vector of  $x$  that consists of all coordinates in  $C$  and  $\bar{C}$ . The updated LP is:

$$\max\{w_C \cdot x_C : \text{s.t. } D_C \cdot x_C \leq d - D_{\bar{C}} \cdot x_{\bar{C}}^{opt}\}.$$



**Step 2b:** If all coordinates of  $x^*$  fractional, delete *certain* rows of  $A$  (to be specified later) from the linear program. Update the linear program, move to Step 3.

**Step 3:** Solve the updated linear program  $\max\{w \cdot x \text{ s.t. } Ax \leq b\}$  to get an extreme point solution. Let this be the new  $x^*$  and return to Step 1.



Start with an extreme point solution  $x^*$  to (1-3)

$$\sum_{h \in H} x(d, h) \leq 1 \quad \forall d \in D$$

$$\sum_{h, h' \in H} x(c, h, h') \leq 1 \quad \forall c \in D$$

$$\sum_{d \in D} x(d, h) + \sum_{c \in C} \sum_{h' \neq h} x(c, h, h') + \sum_{c \in C} \sum_{h' \neq h} x(c, h', h) + \sum_{c \in C} 2x(c, h, h) \leq k_h \quad \forall h \in H$$



Round  $x^*$  into a 0-1 solution  $\bar{x}$  such that

$$\sum_{h \in H} \bar{x}(d, h) \leq 1 \quad \forall d \in D$$

$$\sum_{h, h' \in H} \bar{x}(c, h, h') \leq 1 \quad \forall c \in D$$

$$\sum_{d \in D} \bar{x}(d, h) + \sum_{c \in C} \sum_{h' \neq h} \bar{x}(c, h, h') + \sum_{c \in C} \sum_{h' \neq h} \bar{x}(c, h', h) + \sum_{c \in C} 2\bar{x}(c, h, h) \leq k_h + 3 \quad \forall h \in H$$



If every component of  $x^*$  is  $< 1$  (all fractional), there must be a hospital  $h$  where

$$\sum_{d \in D} \lceil x^*(d, h) \rceil + \sum_{c \in C} \sum_{h' \neq h} \lceil x^*(c, h, h') \rceil + \sum_{c \in C} \sum_{h' \neq h} \lceil x^*(c, h', h) \rceil + \sum_{c \in C} 2 \lceil x^*(c, h, h) \rceil \leq k_h + 3$$

In step 2(b) of the iterative rounding method, delete this row/constraint.





If false, then for every hospital  $h$

$$\sum_{d \in D} [x^*(d, h)] + \sum_{c \in C} \sum_{h' \neq h} [x^*(c, h, h')] + \sum_{c \in C} \sum_{h' \neq h} [x^*(c, h', h)] + \sum_{c \in C} 2[x^*(c, h, h)] \geq k_h + 4$$

1. Every column of  $A$  contains exactly two non-zero entries.
2. The columns of  $A$  that correspond to non-zero entries of  $x^*$  are linearly independent and form a basis.
3. The number of non-zero entries that intersect row  $h$  is at least  $k_h + 4$ .



$A$  is an  $m \times n$  positive matrix.

$$\mathcal{P} = \{x \geq 0 : Ax \leq e\}.$$

$U = \{u_{ij}\}$  is an  $m \times n$  positive matrix.

$x \in F$  is **dominating** if for each column index  $k$  there is a row index  $i$  such that

1.  $\sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}x_j = 1$  and
2.  $u_{ik} \leq \min_{j:x_j>0} u_{ij}$ .



Associate a 2 person game with the pair  $(U, A)$ .

Fix a large integer  $t$ , let  $w_{ij} = -\frac{1}{u_{ij}^t}$ .

Payoff matrix for row player will be  $A$ .

Payoff matrix for the column player will be  $W$ .



$(x^*, y^*)$  is an equilibrium pair of mixed strategies for the game.

$x^*$  is mixed strategy for column (payoff matrix  $W$ ).

$y^*$  is mixed strategy for row player (payoff matrix  $A$ ).

For all pure strategies  $q$  for row:

$$\sum_{i=1}^m y_i^* \left[ \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} x_j^* \right] \geq \sum_{j=1}^n a_{qj} x_j^*, \quad \forall q. \quad (4)$$

(4) will bind when  $y_q^* > 0$ .



For all pure strategies  $r$  for column

$$\sum_{i=1}^m y_i^* \left[ \sum_{j=1}^n (u_{ij})^{-t} x_j^* \right] \sum_{j=1}^n x_j^* \left[ \sum_{i=1}^m (u_{ij})^{-t} y_i^* \right] \leq \sum_{i=1}^m (u_{ir})^{-t} y_i^*, \quad \forall r \quad (5)$$

Therefore, for each column  $r$  there is a row index  $i_r$  with  $y_{i_r}^* > 0$  such that

$$\sum_{j=1}^n (u_{i_r j})^{-t} x_j^* \leq (u_{i_r r})^{-t} \Rightarrow u_{i_r r} \leq \left( \frac{1}{\sum_{j=1}^n (u_{i_r j})^{-t} x_j^*} \right)^{1/t}.$$



$$u_{i_r r} \leq \frac{u_{i_r k}}{(x_k^*)^{1/t}} \text{ for all } x_k^* > 0.$$

$t \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $x^*$  and  $y^*$  will converge to some  $\bar{x}$  and  $\bar{y}$  respectively.

For sufficiently large  $t$ ,  $\bar{x}_j > 0 \Rightarrow x_j^* > 0$  and  $\bar{y}_j > 0 \Rightarrow y_j^* > 0$ .

$$u_{i_r r} \leq \frac{u_{i_r k}}{(x_k^*)^{1/t}} \rightarrow u_{i_r k}.$$

Recall that for index  $i_r$  we have  $y_{i_r}^* > 0$ . Therefore,

$$\sum_{j=1}^m a_{i_r j} x_j^* = \sum_{i=1}^n y_i^* [\sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij} x_j^*] = v.$$

$$x = \frac{\bar{x}}{v} \in F \text{ and } \sum_{j=1}^n a_{i_r j} x_j = 1.$$