

Online Bipartite Matching:

Given: Bipartite Graph $|U| = |V| = n$.

$G: (U \cup V, E)$

U is known in advance.

V arrives online, one by one.

Goal: Maximize the size of matching.

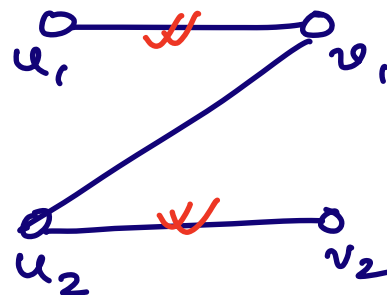
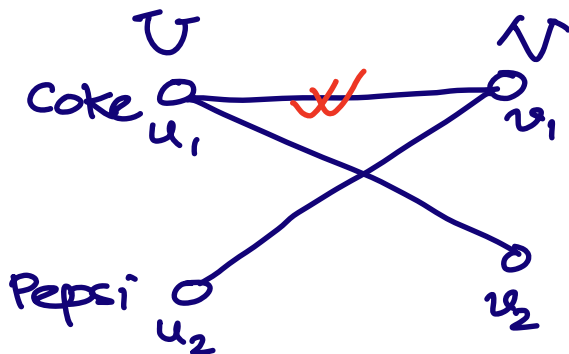
ALGO 1. D-GREEDY (Deterministic Greedy)

→ When the next vertex $v \in V$ arrives:

match v to any available nbr.

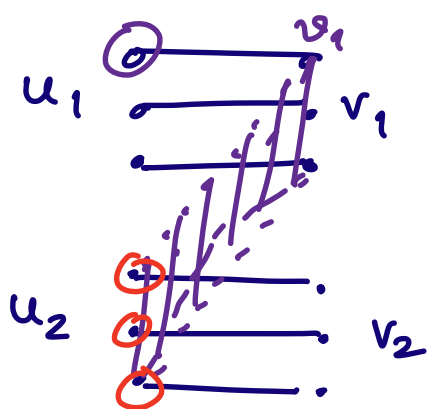
— Always returns a maximal matching.
($1/2$ -approx)

— This is the best any det. algo can do.



ALGO 2. RANDOM.

- When the next vertex $v \in V$ arrives:
match v to a nbr picked uniformly at random from its set of available neighbors.



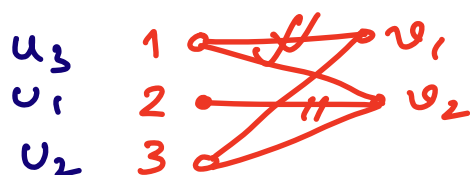
almost all vertices in V_1 are matched to U_2 .

- RANDOM achieves a ratio of $1/2$ and it is tight.

ALGO 3. RANKING (KVV)

$$\pi: U \rightarrow [n]$$

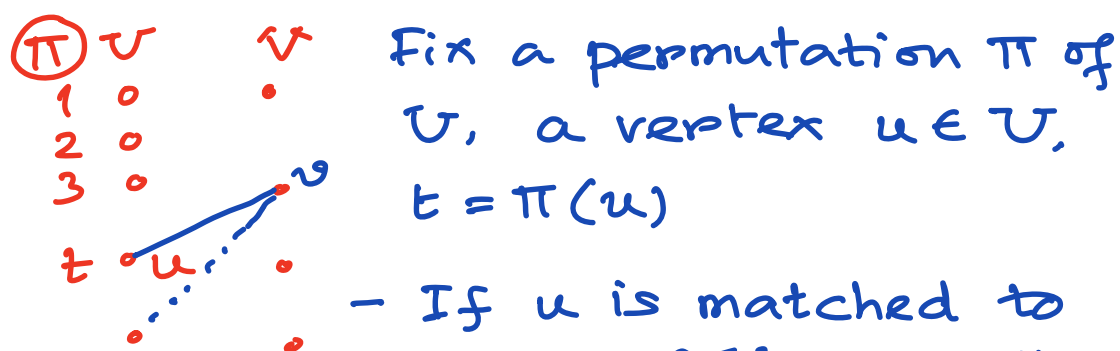
- Pick a permutation π of U , uniformly at random at beginning.
- When next vertex $v \in V$ arrives:
- match v to the highest ranked available (if any) neighbors.



⊙ Theorem: RANKING achieves a ratio of $(1-1/e)$ for online bipartite matching under adversarial arrival.

→ For simplicity, assume the input graph has a perfect matching.

$OPT = n$. M_{OPT} is optimal matching.



– If u is matched to some $v \in V$, we call (π, u) is MATCH event at position t .

– Else we call (π, u) is MISS event at position t .

§ Observation relating MISS & MATCH.

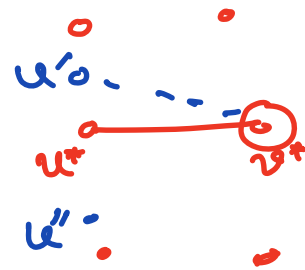
– Consider a MISS event (π, u^*) .

If $(u^*, v^*) \in M_{OPT}$, then when v^* appeared some high ranked vertex u' (s.t. $\pi(u') < \pi(u^*)$) was available.

(π, u') was a MATCH event.

- For each MISS event,
there is a MATCH event

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (\pi, u^*) & \longrightarrow & (\pi, u') \\ \text{MISS} & & \text{MATCH} \end{array}$$



& no two MISS event map to same MATCH event.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (\pi, u^*) & \longrightarrow & (\pi, u') \\ (\pi, \tilde{u}) & \longrightarrow & \end{array} \quad \text{then } u^* = \tilde{u}.$$

$$\Rightarrow \# \text{MISS} \leq \# \text{MATCH}$$

$$\Rightarrow \# \text{MATCH} \geq \frac{\# \text{MATCH}}{\# \text{MISS} + \# \text{MATCH}} \geq \frac{1}{2}.$$

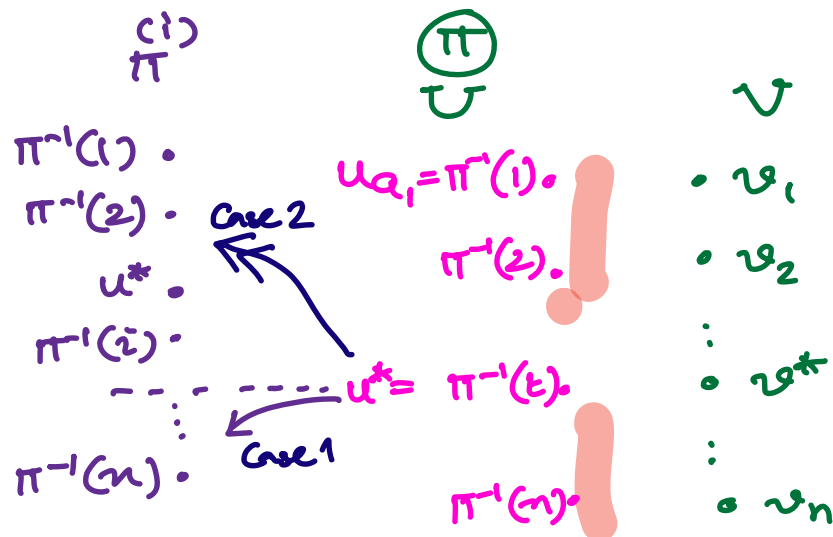
- is $\frac{1}{2}$ -competitive.

However, this does not even full power of random permutations.

MISS event (π, u^*) .

$$\pi: U \rightarrow [n]$$

Say $\pi(u^*) = t$. Let $\pi^{(i)}$ be the permutation produced by moving u^* to position i & keeping the relative order of all other vertices same. Note $\pi^{(t)} = \pi$.



Claim 1: Let $(u^*, v^*) \in M_{OPT}$, $\pi(u^*) = t$.

If (π, u^*) be a MISS event then

u^* is matched in all $\{\pi^{(i)} : i \in [n]\}$ to some vertex $u'' \in U$ with $\pi(u'') \leq t$.

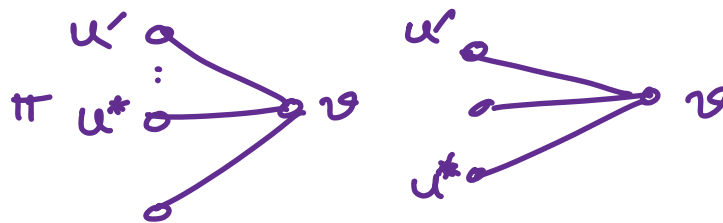
Proof:

Case 1. Consider $\pi^{(i)}$ with $i > t$.

Let v^* be matched to u' in π .

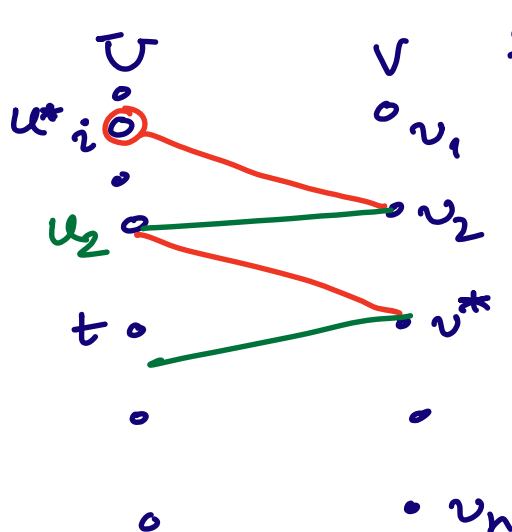
v^* continues to be matched to u' ,

$$\pi(u') < \pi(u^*) = t.$$



Case 2. Consider $\pi^{(i)}$ with $i \leq t$.

If u^* is not matched, when v^* appears in $\pi^{(i)}$, then v^* will be matched to u^* or higher ranked vertex.



So, assume u^* is matched

M Red be matching we get in $\pi^{(i)}$

M' Green be the matching in π .

$M \Delta M'$ form an alternating path.

Subcase a. v^* is not part of this alternating path. v^* is still matched to u' .

subcase b: v^* is part of this alt. path
 v^* gets matched to a higher ranked vertex.

- This observation gives a 1-to- n map from a MISS event (π, u^*) to n MATCH events $(\pi^{(i)}, u_i)$ where $u_i \in V$ is matched to v^* and $\pi^{(i)}(u_i) \leq t$.

- No double counting.

Fix $t \in [n]$, consider MISS event (π, u) with $\pi(u) = t$.

Claim 2: If two MISS events (π_1, u_1) and (π_2, u_2) with $\pi_1(u_1) = t$, $\pi_2(u_2) = t$, map to a MATCH event $(\hat{\pi}, \hat{u})$ then $u_1 = u_2$, and $\pi_1 = \pi_2$.

$\Rightarrow$ Let v^* be the vertex to which $\hat{u}$ is matched in $(\hat{\pi}, \hat{u})$. Let $(u^*, v^*) \in M_{\hat{\pi}}$.

By definition of mapping,

$$u_1 = u_2 = u^*$$

Since, the map only changes position of u_1 and u_2 in π_2 (from t to $[n]$), we get $\pi_1 = \pi_2$.

• Claim 1 + Claim 2 $\Rightarrow$

• Lemma: For every MISS event at position t , there are n unique MATCH events at position $\leq t$. $\blacksquare$

The lemma implies, $\forall t \in [n]$:

$$\begin{aligned} n \cdot \mathbb{P}[\text{MISS event at position } t] \\ \leq \sum_{s \leq t} \mathbb{P}[\text{MATCH event at position } s] \end{aligned}$$

• Let $\mathbb{P}[\text{MATCH event at position } t] = \alpha_t$

$$\forall t \in [n], 1 - x_t \leq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{s \leq t} x_s, 0 \leq x_t \leq 1$$

$$\text{min } \sum_{s=1}^n x_s,$$

This factor revealing LP gives a lower bound on ALGO.

$$\text{Let } S_t = \sum_{s=1}^t x_s.$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 - (S_t - S_{t-1}) \leq \frac{1}{n} S_t$$

$$\Rightarrow S_t \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right) \geq 1 + S_{t-1}.$$

Goal:
find
 $\inf S_n$.

Claim: If $S_t \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right) = 1 + S_{t-1}$.

and $S_1 = 1$. [Highest ranked gets always matched]

$$\text{then } S_t \geq \sum_{s=1}^t \left(1 - \frac{1}{n+1}\right)^s \quad \forall t$$

Proof by induction.

$$S_t = \frac{n}{n+1} \cdot (1 + S_{t-1})$$

$$\geq \left(1 - \frac{1}{n+1}\right) \left[1 + \sum_{s=1}^{t-1} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n+1}\right)^s\right]$$

$$\geq \left(1 - \frac{1}{n+1}\right) + \sum_{s=2}^t \left(1 - \frac{1}{n+1}\right)^s \quad (\text{induction})$$

$$\geq \sum_{s=1}^t \left(1 - \frac{1}{n+1}\right)^s. \quad \square$$

Competitive Ratio $\inf S_n$

$$\geq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{s=1}^n \left(1 - \frac{1}{n+1}\right)^s = \frac{1}{n} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n+1}\right) \frac{[1 - (1 - \frac{1}{n+1})^n]}{[1 - (1 - \frac{1}{n+1})]}$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \cdot \frac{n}{n+1} \cdot \frac{1}{(1/n+1)} [1 - (1 - \frac{1}{n+1})^n]$$

$$= [1 - (1 - \frac{1}{n+1})^n] \rightarrow 1 - 1/e \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty. \quad \square$$

An Economic-based Analysis of Ranking (Eden et al.)

$\mathcal{U}$ (items) $\mathcal{V}$ (buyers)
offline $\left\{ \begin{matrix} \vdots \\ \vdots \end{matrix} \right\}$ appears one by one

If $(v_i, u_j) \in E$, buyer v_i is interested in item u_j . Say value $(u_j) = 1$ for v_i .

ALGO:

① Before arrival of buyers, every item u_j is assigned a price $p_j (= g(w_j) = w_j^{-1})$ where $w_j \sim \text{Uniform}[0,1]$, chosen independently for all items.

② When buyer arrives, it chooses the item that maximizes

$$\text{utility} = \text{value} - \text{price}.$$

[i.e. chooses cheapest price available neighbor]

Define,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{util}_i &= 1 - p_j, \text{ if } v_i \text{ purchased } u_j, \\ &= 0, \text{ if } v_i \text{ didn't purchase any item.} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{rev}_j &= p_j, \text{ if } u_j \text{ was purchased} \\ &= 0, \text{ otherwise.} \end{aligned}$$



Claim: ALGO is equivalent to Ranking.

- Since price of every item is a strictly monotonically increasing function $g(w_j)$ of w_j and w_j is chosen independently and uniformly and random, the permutation induced by item prices is a random permutation as in ranking.

Lem 1: Social welfare (util + rev.)
= cardinality of matching T .

$$\rightarrow \sum_{v_i \in V} \text{util}_i + \sum_{u_j \in U} \text{rev}_j$$

$$= \sum_{(v_i, u_j) \in T} (1 - p_j) + \sum_{(v_i, u_j) \in T} p_j = |T|.$$

Claim 2: $\mathbb{E}_{\omega} [\text{util}_i + \text{rev}_j] \geq 1 - \frac{1}{e} \cdot v(v_i, u_j) \quad \forall (v_i, u_j) \in E$

We will prove claim 2 later. First, we show competitive ratio $(1 - \frac{1}{e})$ assuming claim 2.

Theorem: $C.R. \geq 1 - \frac{1}{e}$.

Let M be the matching from ALGO.

M^* be an optimal matching.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{E}_\omega[|M|] &= \mathbb{E}_\omega \left[\sum_{v_i \in V} \text{util}_i + \sum_{u_j \in U} \text{rev}_j \right] \quad [\text{from Lem 1}] \\
 &\geq \mathbb{E}_\omega \left[\sum_{(v_i, u_j) \in M^*} (\text{util}_i + \text{rev}_j) \right] \quad [\text{Group by edges}] \\
 &\stackrel{*}{=} \sum_{(v_i, u_j) \in M^*} \mathbb{E}_\omega (\text{util}_i + \text{rev}_j) \quad [\text{lin. of exp.}] \\
 &\geq (1 - \frac{1}{e}) |M^*| \quad [\text{from claim 2}].
 \end{aligned}$$

→ This concludes the proof of theorem

Now to finish, we need to prove:

$$\text{claim 2: } \mathbb{E}_\omega [\text{util}_i + \text{rev}_j] \geq 1 - \frac{1}{e}; \quad \forall (v_i, u_j) \in E$$

Fix some arbitrary order of arrival for buyers: σ .

Consider market without item u_j .

Let p be the price of the item (say u') chosen by v_i under σ (except u_j).
 $[= g(v_i)]$

If v_i don't buy anything, set $p = 1$.

Then with u_j , for σ , we have:

Property 1:

Item u_j is always sold if $p_j < p$.

- as either

some previous buyer bought u_j , or
buyer v_i prefers u_j over u' .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Property 1} &\Rightarrow \mathbb{1}_{u_j \text{ is sold}} = \mathbb{1}_{p_j < p} \\ &= \mathbb{1}_{g(w_j) < g(y)} = \mathbb{1}_{w_j < y}. \end{aligned} \quad (**)$$

Property 2: $util_i \geq 1 - p$.

- After reintroducing u_j , every buyer has same (or one extra) available items.
[intuitively, introduction of item never forces a buyer to take a previously waived item, can be shown by induction on arrival order]

$$\begin{aligned}
\therefore \mathbb{E}_{\omega} [\text{util}_i + \text{rev}_j] &= \mathbb{E}_{\omega} [\text{util}_i] + \mathbb{E}_{\omega} [\text{rev}_j] \\
&\geq (1-p) + \mathbb{E}_{\omega} [\text{rev}_j] \\
&= (1-p) + \mathbb{E}_{\omega} [p_j \cdot \mathbb{1}_{u_j \text{ is sold}}] \\
&= (1-g(y)) + \int_0^y g(\omega_j) d\omega_j, \quad [\text{from **}] \\
&= Z. \qquad \text{where } p = g(y),
\end{aligned}$$

we want to maximize the above term

$$\Rightarrow -g'(y) + g(y) = 0, \quad g(1) = 1 \quad [\because \max_p p = 1]$$

$$\Rightarrow g(y) = ke^y, \quad k = 1/e \quad \Rightarrow \quad g(y) = e^{y-1}.$$

[Liebniz integral rule :

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{d}{dx} \left[\int_{\underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ y}}{\underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ 0}}{a(x)}}}^{\underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ y}}{b(x)=y}} f(x, t) dt \right] &= f(x, b(x)) \cdot \frac{d}{dx} (b(x)) \\
&\quad - f(x, a(x)) \cdot \frac{d}{dx} (a(x)) \\
&\quad + \int_{a(x)}^{b(x)} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(x, t) dt.
\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Hence, } Z = 1 - e^{y-1} + \int_0^y e^{\omega_j-1} \cdot d\omega_j$$

$$= 1 - e^{y-1} + \left[e^{\omega_j-1} \right]_0^y$$

$$= 1 - e^{y-1} + e^{y-1} - e^{-1} = 1 - 1/e. \quad \blacksquare$$