## Insight

## Insight Centre for Data Analytics

## Finding Robust Solutions to Stable Marriage

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DCU

## Context



## Background

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- A set of men $U=\left\{m_{1}, m_{2}, \ldots, m_{n_{1}}\right\}$ and a set of woman $W=\left\{w_{1}, w_{2}, \ldots, w_{n_{2}}\right\}$


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- A matching $M$ is a one-to-one correspondence between $U$ and $W$
- A matching is called stable when no blocking pair exists
- A pair $\langle i, j\rangle$ is said to be blocking a matching $M$ if $i$ prefers $j$ to $M(i)$ and $j$ prefers $i$ to $M(j)$.


## Stability



## Motivation

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| :--- |
| $\square \square \square$ |
| $\square \square \square$ |
| Capacity $=2$ |}



## Motivation



## Overview of the contributions

( $a, b$ )-supermatch ([Ginsberg et al., 1998, Hebrard, 2007]) An ( $a, b$ )-supermatch is a stable matching in which if a pairs break up it is possible to find another stable matching by changing the partners of those $a$ pairs and at most $b$ other pairs

## Overview of the contributions

( $a, b$ )-supermatch ([Ginsberg et al., 1998, Hebrard, 2007]) An ( $a, b$ )-supermatch is a stable matching in which if a pairs break up it is possible to find another stable matching by changing the partners of those $a$ pairs and at most $b$ other pairs
Contributions (regarding the $(1, b)$ case)

- Verification in polynomial time
- Three models to find the most robust solution
- Experimental study on random instances


## Example

| $m_{0}$ | 0 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $m_{1}$ | 6 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 3 |
| $m_{2}$ | 6 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 2 |
| $m_{3}$ | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 5 |
| $m_{4}$ | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| $m_{5}$ | 6 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 2 |
| $m_{6}$ | 2 | 5 | 0 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 1 |


| $w_{0}$ | 2 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 0 |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $w_{1}$ | 0 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 1 |  |
| $w_{2}$ | 2 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 6 |  |
| $w_{3}$ | 6 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 5 |  |
| $w_{4}$ | 4 | 6 | 0 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 2 |  |
| $w_{5}$ | 3 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| $w_{6}$ | 4 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 5 |  |

## Lattice of Stable Matchings



## Rotation

- $M_{1}:\langle 0,2\rangle,\langle 1,4\rangle,\langle 2,6\rangle,\langle 3,3\rangle,\langle 4,1\rangle,\langle 5,0\rangle,\langle 6,5\rangle$
- $M_{2}:\langle 0,2\rangle,\langle 1,5\rangle,\langle 2,6\rangle,\langle 3,3\rangle,\langle 4,1\rangle,\langle 5,4\rangle,\langle 6,0\rangle$


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- The sequence $\rho_{1}=[\langle 1,4\rangle,\langle 5,0\rangle,\langle 6,5\rangle]$ is called a rotation
- We say that $\langle 1,4\rangle$ is eliminated by $\rho_{1}$ and $\langle 1,5\rangle$ is produced by $\rho_{1}$


## Graph Poset



## Graph Poset



## Closed Subset



## Closed Subset



## Theorem [Gusfield and Irving, 1989]

There is a one-to-one mapping between closed subsets and stable matchings

## Verification

## Verification

## Verification Problem

Given a stable matching $M$ and an integer $b$, is $M$ a ( $1, b$ )-supermatch?

## Verification

## Verification

- $M$ : a stable matching
- $b$ : is an integer


## Verification

- M: a stable matching
- $b$ : is an integer
- $S$ : closed subset of $M$
- $\langle m, w\rangle$ : couple to break-up
- $\rho_{p}$ : rotation that produces $\langle m, w\rangle$
- $\rho_{e}$ : rotation that eliminates $\langle m, w\rangle$


## Verification

- M: a stable matching
- $b$ : is an integer
- $S$ : closed subset of $M$
- $\langle m, w\rangle$ : couple to break-up
- $\rho_{\rho}$ : rotation that produces $\langle m, w\rangle$
- $\rho_{e}$ : rotation that eliminates $\langle m, w\rangle$
- $S_{U P}:$ The largest closed subset $\subset S$ that does not include $\rho_{p}$
- $S_{D O W N}$ : The smallest closed subset $\supset S$ that includes $\rho_{e}$


## Verification

- $M$ : a stable matching
- $b$ : is an integer
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- $S_{u p}$ : The largest closed subset $\subset S$ that does not include $\rho_{p}$

- $S_{\text {Down: }}$ The smallest closed subset $\supset S$ that includes $\rho_{e}$


## Robust Solutions

## Problem

Given a SM instance, find the most robust stable matching. That is, find a $(1, b)$-supermatch such that $b$ is minimum

## Genetic Algorithm

- Random population based on random closed subsets
- The evaluation of a solution is based on the verification procedure
- Crossover: Given $S_{1}$ and $S_{2}$, pick at random $\rho_{1} \in S_{1}$, then add $\rho_{1}$ and all its predecessors to $S_{2}$
- Mutation: Given $S$ and a random rotation $\rho$, if $\rho \notin S$, then add $\rho$ and all its predecessors to $S$. Otherwise, remove $\rho$ and all its successors to $S$


## Local Search: Key Idea

- Random solutions based on random closed subsets
- The evaluation of a solution is based on the verification procedure
- The neighbourhood of a solution $S$ is defined by adding/removing one rotation to $S$


## A CP model: Key Idea

- Model stable matching using closed subsets
- Rotation variables to represent the sets $S_{U P}$ and $S_{\text {Down }}$ for every men
- Count for each men the repair value (b) based on the verification procedure


## Experimental Study

## Experimental Study



## Experimental Study: Large Instances



## Conclusions \& Future Research

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## Future Research

- Algorithmic Complexity?
- Improve the CP Model?
- The general case of (a,b)-supermatch ?
- Other stable matching Problems?

*Picture taken from The New York Times


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