Topics in Algorithmic Game Theory and Economics

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Lecture 9 Online Bipartite Matching

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Goal: Compute maximum weight matching in bipartite graph B.

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There is a poly(n, m)-time algorithm for solving the (offline) maximum weight bipartite matching problem, where n = |Z| and m = |Y|.

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- Parameters *n* and *m* are used interchangeably.
- You may assume that m = n (essentially w.l.o.g.).

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Generalization of secretary problem (with uniform random arrivals).

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There exist many other models for online (bipartite) matching:

• Model where all nodes arrive online.



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- [Reiffenhäuser, 2019].
 - Strategyproof $\frac{1}{e}$ -approximation for selling multiple items online.

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Online bipartite matching KRTV-algorithm

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Notation:

- Assume arrival order is written as $\sigma = (z_1, \ldots, z_m)$.
- Bipartite graph $B = (Z \cup Y, E)$ with weights $w : E \to \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$.
 - Induced subgraph on $Z' \cup Y'$ is given by bipartite graph $B' = (Z' \cup Y', E')$ with $\{y', z'\} \in E' \Leftrightarrow y' \in Y', z' \in Z'$ and $\{y', z'\} \in E$.

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Phase I (Observation): For $i = 1, ..., \lfloor \frac{m}{e} \rfloor$:

• Do not match up z_i.

Phase II (Selection): For $i = \lfloor \frac{m}{e} \rfloor + 1, \ldots, m$:

• Compute optimal (offline) matching $M^*(\{z_1, \ldots, z_i\} \cup Y)$.

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then set $M = M \cup \{z_i, y\}$.

ALGORITHM 1: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching



ALGORITHM 2: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching



ALGORITHM 3: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching

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Input : Bipartite graph B = (Z \cup Y, E) and weights w : E \to \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}.

Deterministic algorithm \mathcal{A} for max. weight bipartite matching.

Set M = \emptyset.

for i = 1, \dots, \lfloor m/e \rfloor do

\mid Do nothing

end

for i = \lfloor m/e \rfloor + 1, \dots, m do

\mid Compute optimal matching <math>M_i^* = M^*(\{z_1, \dots, z_i\}, Y) using \mathcal{A}

if \{z_i, y\} \in M_i^* for some y \in Y then

\mid Set M \leftarrow M \cup \{z_i, y\} if y is unmatched in M.

end

end

return M
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ALGORITHM 4: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching

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ALGORITHM 6: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching

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end

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ALGORITHM 7: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching

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ALGORITHM 8: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching

Input : Bipartite graph $B = (Z \cup Y, E)$ and weights $w : E \to \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$. Deterministic algorithm \mathcal{A} for max. weight bipartite matching. Set $M = \emptyset$. for $i = 1, \dots, \lfloor m/e \rfloor$ do $\mid Do nothing$ end for $i = \lfloor m/e \rfloor + 1, \dots, m$ do $\mid Compute optimal matching <math>M_i^* = M^*(\{z_1, \dots, z_i\}, Y)$ using \mathcal{A} if $\{z_i, y\} \in M_i^*$ for some $y \in Y$ then $\mid Set M \leftarrow M \cup \{z_i, y\}$ if y is unmatched in M. end end return M



ALGORITHM 9: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching

Input : Bipartite graph $B = (Z \cup Y, E)$ and weights $w : E \to \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$. Deterministic algorithm \mathcal{A} for max. weight bipartite matching. Set $M = \emptyset$. for $i = 1, \dots, \lfloor m/e \rfloor$ do $\mid Do nothing$ end for $i = \lfloor m/e \rfloor + 1, \dots, m$ do $\mid Compute optimal matching <math>M_i^* = M^*(\{z_1, \dots, z_i\}, Y)$ using \mathcal{A} if $\{z_i, y\} \in M_i^*$ for some $y \in Y$ then $\mid Set M \leftarrow M \cup \{z_i, y\}$ if y is unmatched in M. end end return M



ALGORITHM 10: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching



ALGORITHM 11: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching



ALGORITHM 12: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching

Example (of running Phase II for i = 1, ..., m)



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ALGORITHM 13: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching



Online bipartite matching

KRTV-algorithm: Sketch of analysis

ALGORITHM 14: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching

```
Input : Bipartite graph B = (Z \cup Y, E) and weights w : E \to \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}.
Deterministic algorithm \mathcal{A} for max. weight bipartite matching.
```

```
Set M = \emptyset.

for i = 1, ..., \lfloor m/e \rfloor do

\mid Do nothing

end

for i = \lfloor m/e \rfloor + 1, ..., m do

\mid Compute optimal matching <math>M_i^* = M^*(\{z_1, ..., z_i\}, Y) using \mathcal{A}

if \{z_r, y \} \in M_i^* for some y \in Y then

\mid Set M \leftarrow M \cup \{z_i, y\} if y is unmatched in M.

end

end

return M
```

ALGORITHM 15: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching

```
Input : Bipartite graph B = (Z \cup Y, E) and weights w : E \to \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}.
Deterministic algorithm \mathcal{A} for max. weight bipartite matching.
```

```
Set M = \emptyset.

for i = 1, \ldots, \lfloor m/e \rfloor do

\mid Do nothing

end

for <math>i = \lfloor m/e \rfloor + 1, \ldots, m do

\mid Compute optimal matching <math>M_i^* = M^*(\{z_1, \ldots, z_i\}, Y) using \mathcal{A}

if \{z_1, y \in M_i^* for some y \in Y then

\mid Set M \leftarrow M \cup \{z_i, y\} if y is unmatched in M.

end

end

return M
```

We will bound contribution A_i of (random) node *i* arriving in step $i \ge \lceil \frac{m}{e} \rceil$:

ALGORITHM 16: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching

```
Input : Bipartite graph B = (Z \cup Y, E) and weights w : E \to \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}.
Deterministic algorithm \mathcal{A} for max. weight bipartite matching.
```

```
Set M = \emptyset.

for i = 1, \dots, \lfloor m/\theta \rfloor do

\mid Do nothing

end

for i = \lfloor m/e \rfloor + 1, \dots, m do

\mid Compute optimal matching <math>M_i^* = M^*(\{z_1, \dots, z_i\}, Y) using \mathcal{A}

if \{z_1, y_i \in M_i^* for some y \in Y then

\mid Set M \leftarrow M \cup \{z_i, y\} if y is unmatched in M.

end

return M
```

We will bound contribution A_i of (random) node *i* arriving in step $i \ge \lceil \frac{m}{e} \rceil$: (Notation *i* is used for multiple things to keep everything readable.)

ALGORITHM 17: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching

```
Input : Bipartite graph B = (Z \cup Y, E) and weights w : E \to \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}.
Deterministic algorithm \mathcal{A} for max. weight bipartite matching.
```

```
Set M = \emptyset.

for i = 1, \dots, \lfloor m/e \rfloor do

\mid Do nothing

end

for i = \lfloor m/e \rfloor + 1, \dots, m do

\mid Compute optimal matching <math>M_i^* = M^*(\{z_1, \dots, z_i\}, Y) using A

if \{z_i, y\} \in M_i^* for some y \in Y then

\mid Set M \leftarrow M \cup \{z_i, y\} if y is unmatched in M.

end

return M
```

We will bound contribution A_i of (random) node *i* arriving in step $i \ge \lceil \frac{m}{e} \rceil$: (Notation *i* is used for multiple things to keep everything readable.)

• For arrival order σ , we have

ALGORITHM 18: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching

```
Input : Bipartite graph B = (Z \cup Y, E) and weights w : E \to \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}.
Deterministic algorithm \mathcal{A} for max. weight bipartite matching.
```

```
Set M = \emptyset.

for i = 1, ..., \lfloor m/e \rfloor do

\mid Do nothing

end

for i = \lfloor m/e \rfloor + 1, ..., m do

Compute optimal matching M_i^* = M^*(\{z_1, ..., z_i\}, Y) using \mathcal{A}

if \{z_i, y\} \in M_i^* for some y \in Y then

\mid Set M \leftarrow M \cup \{z_i, y\} if y is unmatched in M.

end

end

return M
```

We will bound contribution A_i of (random) node *i* arriving in step $i \ge \lceil \frac{m}{e} \rceil$: (Notation *i* is used for multiple things to keep everything readable.)

• For arrival order σ , we have

$$A_i = \begin{cases} w_{ir} & \text{if } i \text{ gets matched up with } r \text{ under } \sigma, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

ALGORITHM 19: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching

```
Input : Bipartite graph B = (Z \cup Y, E) and weights w : E \to \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}.
Deterministic algorithm \mathcal{A} for max. weight bipartite matching.
```

```
Set M = \emptyset.

for i = 1, ..., \lfloor m/e \rfloor do

\mid Do nothing

end

for i = \lfloor m/e \rfloor + 1, ..., m do

\mid Compute optimal matching <math>M_i^* = M^*(\{z_1, ..., z_l\}, Y) using A

if \{z_i, y\} \in M_i^* for some y \in Y then

\mid Set M \leftarrow M \cup \{z_i, y\} if y is unmatched in M.

end

end

return M
```

We will bound contribution A_i of (random) node *i* arriving in step $i \ge \lceil \frac{m}{e} \rceil$: (Notation *i* is used for multiple things to keep everything readable.)

• For arrival order σ , we have

$$A_i = \begin{cases} w_{ir} & \text{if } i \text{ gets matched up with } r \text{ under } \sigma, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then

 $\mathbb{E}_{\sigma}[A_i] = \mathbb{E}_{\sigma}[\text{Weight of edge } e^{(i)} = \{i, r\} \text{ assigned to } i \text{ in } M_i^*] \\ \times \mathbb{P}_{\sigma}[\text{Node } i \text{ can be added to the online matching } M].$

 \mathbb{E}_{σ} [Weight of edge $e^{(i)} = \{i, r\}$ assigned to i in M_i^*] $\geq \frac{\mathsf{OPT}}{r}$

 $\mathbb{P}_{\sigma}[\text{Node } i \text{ can be added to the online matching } M] \geq \frac{\lfloor n/e \rfloor}{i-1}$

where OPT is the offline optimum (on the whole instance).

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Exercise: Prove these claims.

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The $\left(\frac{1}{e} - \frac{1}{m}\right)$ -approximation then follows, because

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 $\mathbb{P}_{\sigma}[\text{Node } i \text{ can be added to the online matching } M] \geq \frac{\lfloor n/e \rfloor}{i-1}$

where OPT is the offline optimum (on the whole instance).

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The $(\frac{1}{e} - \frac{1}{m})$ -approximation then follows, because

 $\mathbb{E}_{\sigma}[w(M)]$

 \mathbb{E}_{σ} [Weight of edge $e^{(i)} = \{i, r\}$ assigned to *i* in M_i^*] $\geq \frac{\mathsf{OPT}}{r}$

 $\mathbb{P}_{\sigma}[\text{Node } i \text{ can be added to the online matching } M] \geq \frac{\lfloor n/e \rfloor}{i-1}$

where OPT is the offline optimum (on the whole instance).

Exercise: Prove these claims.

The $(\frac{1}{e} - \frac{1}{m})$ -approximation then follows, because

$$\mathbb{E}_{\sigma}[w(M)] = \sum_{i=\lfloor m/e \rfloor+1}^{m} \mathbb{E}_{\sigma}[A_i]$$

 \mathbb{E}_{σ} [Weight of edge $e^{(i)} = \{i, r\}$ assigned to *i* in M_i^*] $\geq \frac{\mathsf{OPT}}{r}$

 $\mathbb{P}_{\sigma}[\text{Node } i \text{ can be added to the online matching } M] \geq \frac{\lfloor n/e \rfloor}{i-1}$

where OPT is the offline optimum (on the whole instance).

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The $\left(\frac{1}{e} - \frac{1}{m}\right)$ -approximation then follows, because

$$\mathbb{E}_{\sigma}[w(M)] = \sum_{i=\lfloor m/e \rfloor+1}^{m} \mathbb{E}_{\sigma}[A_i] \ge \sum_{i=\lfloor m/e \rfloor+1}^{m} \frac{\mathsf{OPT}}{m} \frac{\lfloor m/e \rfloor}{i-1}$$
Two claims:

 \mathbb{E}_{σ} [Weight of edge $e^{(i)} = \{i, r\}$ assigned to *i* in M_i^*] $\geq \frac{\mathsf{OPT}}{r}$

 $\mathbb{P}_{\sigma}[\text{Node } i \text{ can be added to the online matching } M] \geq \frac{\lfloor n/e \rfloor}{i-1}$

where OPT is the offline optimum (on the whole instance).

Exercise: Prove these claims.

The $\left(\frac{1}{e} - \frac{1}{m}\right)$ -approximation then follows, because

$$\mathbb{E}_{\sigma}[w(M)] = \sum_{i=\lfloor m/e \rfloor+1}^{m} \mathbb{E}_{\sigma}[A_i] \ge \sum_{i=\lfloor m/e \rfloor+1}^{m} \frac{\mathsf{OPT}}{m} \frac{\lfloor m/e \rfloor}{i-1}$$
$$= \frac{\lfloor m/e \rfloor}{m} \cdot \mathsf{OPT} \cdot \sum_{i=\lfloor m/e \rfloor+1}^{m} \frac{1}{i-1}$$

Two claims:

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 $\mathbb{P}_{\sigma}[\text{Node } i \text{ can be added to the online matching } M] \geq \frac{\lfloor n/e \rfloor}{i-1}$

where OPT is the offline optimum (on the whole instance).

Exercise: Prove these claims.

The $(\frac{1}{e} - \frac{1}{m})$ -approximation then follows, because

$$\mathbb{E}_{\sigma}[w(M)] = \sum_{i=\lfloor m/e \rfloor+1}^{m} \mathbb{E}_{\sigma}[A_i] \ge \sum_{i=\lfloor m/e \rfloor+1}^{m} \frac{\mathsf{OPT}}{m} \frac{\lfloor m/e \rfloor}{i-1}$$
$$= \frac{\lfloor m/e \rfloor}{m} \cdot \mathsf{OPT} \cdot \sum_{i=\lfloor m/e \rfloor+1}^{m} \frac{1}{i-1}$$
$$\ge \left(\frac{1}{e} - \frac{1}{m}\right) \cdot \mathsf{OPT} \cdot 1$$

Offline mechanism design (recap)

Unit-demand setting:

• Set of items *M* = {1, ..., *m*}

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- For every $i \in N$ a bid function $b_i : M \to \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$.

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The goal is to assign (at most) one item to every bidder.

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The goal is to assign (at most) one item to every bidder.

Example

Non-existing edges have $b_{ij} = 0$.



An (offline) mechanism (x, p) is given by an allocation rule

$$x: \mathbb{R}_{>0}^{n \times m} \to \{0, 1\}^{n \times m},$$

with $\sum_{i} x_{ij} \leq 1$ and $\sum_{i} x_{ij} \leq 1$, and pricing rule $p : \mathbb{R}_{>0}^{n \times m} \to \mathbb{R}_{>0}^{m}$.

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 With b = (b₁,..., b_n), we have x = x(b) and p = p(b).
- Utility of bidder i is

$$u_i(b) = \left\{ egin{array}{c} v_{ij} - p_j(b) \ 0 \end{array}
ight.$$

if j is the item *i* receives, if i does not get an item.

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Desired properties:

 Strategyproof: For every *i* ∈ *N*, bidding true valuations *v_i* = (*v_{i1},..., v_{im}*) is dominant strategy.

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Desired properties:

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 - It should hold that

 $u_i(b_{-i},v_i) \geq u_i(b_{-i},b_i')$

for all $b_{-i} = (b_1, \dots, b_{i-1}, b_{i+1}, \dots, b_n)$ and other bid vector b'_i .

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• Also would like to have *individual rationality*, *welfare maximization*, and *computational tractability*.

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VCG mechanism

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• Collect bid vectors b_1, \ldots, b_n from bidders.

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- Collect bid vectors b_1, \ldots, b_n from bidders.
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- If bidder *i* gets item *j*, i.e., $\{i, j\} \in L^*(N, M)$, then charge her

 $p_{ij}(b) = \mathsf{OPT}(N \setminus \{i\}, M) - \mathsf{OPT}(N \setminus \{i\}, M \setminus \{j\}),$

Notation:

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 $p_{ij}(b) = \mathsf{OPT}(N \setminus \{i\}, M) - \mathsf{OPT}(N \setminus \{i\}, M \setminus \{j\}),$

and otherwise nothing.

Notation:

• Bipartite graph $B = (X \cup Y, E)$ with edge-weights $w : E \to \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$.

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- Compute maximum weight bipartite matching L* (the allocation x)
- If bidder *i* gets item *j*, i.e., $\{i, j\} \in L^*(N, M)$, then charge her

 $p_{ij}(b) = \mathsf{OPT}(N \setminus \{i\}, M) - \mathsf{OPT}(N \setminus \{i\}, M \setminus \{j\}),$

and otherwise nothing.

 $OPT(N \setminus \{i\}, M) - OPT(N \setminus \{i\}, M \setminus \{j\})$ is welfare loss for other players by assigning *j* to *i*.

Online bipartite matching

Strategyproof online mechanism

Selling multiple items online

Setting:

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• Bidder has valuation vector v_i for items in M.
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Online mechanism (informal)

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Online mechanism (informal)

For k = 1, ..., n, upon arrival of bidder $\sigma(k)$:

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For k = 1, ..., n, upon arrival of bidder $\sigma(k)$:

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Utility of bidder *i*, when $\sigma(k) = i$, is given by

$$u_{i,k}(b_{\sigma(1)},\ldots,b_{\sigma(k)}) = \begin{cases} v_{ij} - p(b_{\sigma(1)},\ldots,b_{\sigma(k)}) & \text{if } i \text{ gets item } j, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Takes as input deterministic ordering (y_1, \ldots, y_n) and bid vectors b_1, \ldots, b_n for the item.

• Specifies for every k = 1, ..., n whether to allocate an item to y_k .

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As before, $\sum_k x_{k\ell} \leq 1$ and $\sum_\ell x_{k\ell} \leq 1$.

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Mechanism is truthful, if, upon arrival, reporting truthful bids is optimal (assuming bidders have full knowledge about (x, p) and bidders arrived so far), for every possible arrival order σ .

ALGORITHM 20: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching



ALGORITHM 21: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching



ALGORITHM 22: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching



ALGORITHM 23: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching



ALGORITHM 24: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching



ALGORITHM 25: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching



ALGORITHM 26: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching



ALGORITHM 27: KRTV-algorithm for online bipartite matching





 Bidder might have incentive to misreport true valuations, as, in the offline matching *M*^{*}_i she is matched up with item already assigned to an earlier bidder.

Strategyproof online mechanism

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• Upon arrival of bidder *z_i*, it computes VCG-price for every unallocated item in *J*:

 $p_j(k) = \mathsf{OPT}(\{z_1, \dots, z_{i-1}\}, J) - \mathsf{OPT}(\{z_1, \dots, z_{i-1}\}, J \setminus \{j\}).$

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If there exists at least one item *j* ∈ *J* for which *b_{ij}* ≥ *p_j(k)*, then we assign an item

$$j^* = \operatorname{argmax} \{ b_{ij} - p_j(k) : j \in J \}$$

to bidder *i*, and set $J = J \setminus \{j^*\}$.

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• We charge price $p_{j^*}(k)$ to bidder *i*.

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• Although the algorithm is still relatively simple to describe, analysis is much harder.