

Dual-Donor Organ Exchange

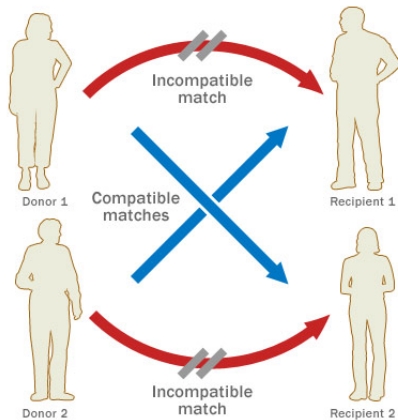
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- **Kidney Exchange** became a wide-spread modality of transplantation within the last decade.
- More than 500 patients a year receive kidney transplant in the US along through exchange, about 10% of all live-donor transplants.
- In theory **live donor organ exchange** can be utilized for any organ for which live donation is feasible.





- Human organs cannot be received or given in exchange for "valuable consideration" (US, NOTA 1984, WHO)
- However, **live donor kidney exchange** is not considered as "valuable consideration" (US NOTA amendment, 2007)
- **Livers** and **lungs** are two of the other organs for which live donation is feasible.
- Live-donor liver and lung donations are common especially in regions where **deceased donation possibilities are limited**, such as Japan, South Korea, and Hong Kong.
- Moreover, in many occasions, each live-donor transplant for these organs requires the involvement of **two donors**.

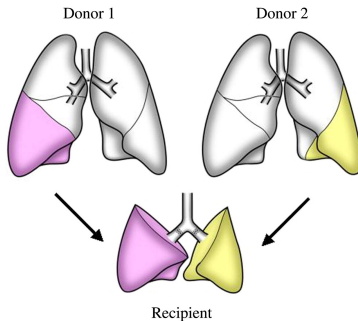
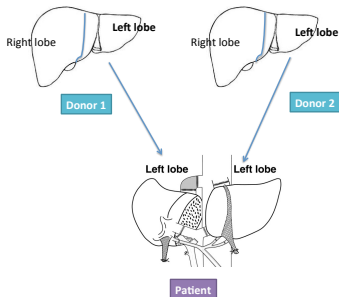


Figure from Date et al. Multimedia Manual of Cardiothoracic Surgery 2005

- Two donors each donate to a single patient a lobe of their lungs (less than 1/4th of total lung volume) to a donor. Lung lobes enlarge but do not regenerate.



- In Japan around 20 patients receive transplants a year. The number is increasing.
- **Size compatibility** and **blood-type compatibility** are required. No consensus on **tissue-type compatibility**, many transplant centers do not check.



- Patient needs roughly at least 40% of his own liver size to survive.
- Donor needs at least 30% remnant liver volume to survive. Usually right lobe is 60+%, left lobe is 40-% of liver.
- Occasionally, the left lobe mass falls below 30%. Donor cannot donate right lobe and a single left lobe is too small for patient.
- Then two lobes are needed for a patient from two donors.



- In Korea, around 10% of the patients at the biggest center receive dual lobe liver transplants. Potential is 20% of all live-donor liver transplants in Korea (850 per year).
- In China, by live donation mandate of 2010, live donation is increasing. “Voluntary donation programs” became nationwide in 2013. Given the prevalence of Hep-B related end-stage liver disease in Asia, we would expect this phenomenon being very relevant.
- Only **Blood-type compatibility** is required. **Tissue-type incompatibility** is not an issue for liver. Even though one lobe could be too small, two are enough in most cases. **Size incompatibility** is not an issue.



- 7.5-15% of end-stage liver disease patients need also kidney transplantation.
- Simultaneous transplantation has been more effective than sequential transplantation for long term survival.
- Each KLT patient requires two designated live-donors, one for kidney and one for liver.
- Live donors are favored over deceased donors.



- We introduce a new transplant modality to the attention of scientific community: **Multi-donor organ exchange**
- We model **multi-donor** organ exchange as matching problems to
 - characterize the maximum number of patients that can be saved under different institutional constraints and
 - find simple algorithms to find optimal exchanges.
- We simulate gains from exchange for dual-graft livers, simultaneous liver-kidney, and lungs to show that
 - **Dual-graft liver exchange** results gains **comparable** with single-graft liver exchange and dual-graft direct donation
 - **Lung exchange** can **quadruple** the number of patients who receive live donor lung donation, much more than kidney exchange.
 - An **integrated SLK** exchange program can **triple** gains of an **isolated SLK** exchange; and **quadruple** the number of SLK transplants even under 2&3-way exchanges.



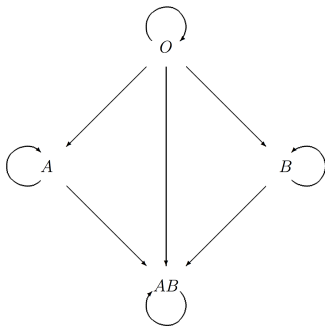
- **Kidney Exchange:** Among many
 - Rapaport [1986] proposed the idea
 - Ross et al. [1997] proposed ethical implementation grounds
 - Roth, Sönmez, Ünver [2004, 2005, 2007] introduced optimization, matching, and market design techniques
 - Segev et al. [2005] simulated gains, approval of the optimization techniques among doctors
 - Roth et al. [2006] proposed non-simultaneous NDD chains
 - Abraham, Blum, Sandholm [2007] designed an efficient algorithm for the NP-complete computational problem
 - Rees et al. [2010] proof of concept of non-simultaneous NDD-chains
 - Ünver [2010] dynamically optimal clearinghouses
 - Sönmez & Ünver [2014, 2015] and Nicolò & Rodriguez-Alvaréz [2014] compatible pairs in exchange
 - Roth, Sönmez, Ünver [2005] and Ashlagi & Roth [2014] multi-hospital exchange programs



- **Liver Exchange:** Only three papers
 - Hwang et al. [2010] proposed the idea and documented the practice in South Korea since 2003
 - Chen et al. [2010] documented the program in Hong Kong
 - Dickerson & Sandholm [2014] showed asymptotic gains from joint liver+kidney exchange
- **Multi-Donor Exchange:** Ours is the first
 - Dual-Graft Liver Exchange
 - Lung Exchange
 - Simultaneous Liver-Kidney Exchange



- Blood-type compatibility is required (like kidneys).





- Finding two compatible donors is difficult.
- **Multi-donor exchange** can substantially increase the number of transplants.

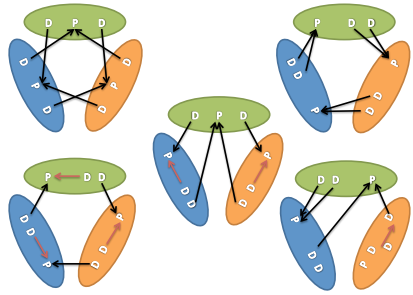
Possible Two&Three-way Multi-Donor Exchanges



Two-Way:



Three-Way:

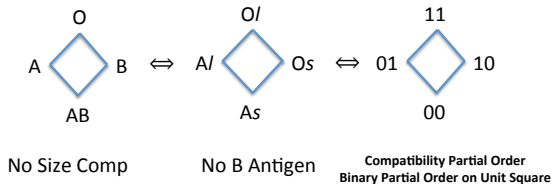




- Each patient in need of an organ has k attached donors
 - If all of them are compatible with her, she receives from them;
 - Otherwise, she participates in **exchange**
- **Preferences**: Dichotomous over compatible donors
- **Compatibility**:
 - **Blood-type**: Kidneys, Lungs, Livers
 - **Tissue-type**: Kidneys, possibly Lungs
 - **Size**: Lungs, Single-lobe Livers (roughly: each patient can get grafts from donors that are at least as heavy/tall as herself; the constraint could be more detailed for livers) **Not a problem for dual-graft and juvenile lung transplantation.**
- **Number of Required Donors**: k
 - $k = 1$: Kidney, Single-lobe liver
 - $k = 2$: Lung, Dual-graft liver, Kidney/Liver
- **Model 0**: Kidneys Roth, Sönmez, Ünver [2005]



- We abstract away from size compatibility at first
 - Blood types: O, A, B, AB
 - Blood-type incompatibility: ✓
 - Tissue-type incompatibility: X
 - Size incompatibility: X
 - Number of donors: 2
- Exact model for **dual-graft liver exchange**
- Exact model for **lung exchange for juveniles** (cystic fibrosis) – Donor size is not an issue
- For **adult lung transplants**, there is an equivalent interpretation: A, O are the most common blood types, making up of 80% of the world population. In this interpretation,
 - suppose there are two types of agents large (ℓ) and small (s), ℓ can only receive from ℓ , s can receive from both s and ℓ ;
 - while patients and donors can have only A or O blood types.



- **Compatibility:** 2 dimensional binary partial order on unit square: \triangleright
- **Model 1a:** A blood antigen is the first dimension, B blood antigen is the second dimension. For $X \in \{A, B\}$
 - No X antigen $\equiv 1$
 - Has X antigen $\equiv 0$
- **Model 1b:** Size replaces antigen B in dimension 2 in the partial order.
 - $l \equiv$ No B antigen
 - $s \equiv$ Has B antigen



- **Set of blood types** $\mathcal{B} = \{O, A, B, AB\} = \{11, 01, 10, 00\}$ **set of compatibility types.**
- A **patient-donors triple** is denoted by the blood types of its patient and donors respectively as $X - Y - Z = X - Z - Y \in \mathcal{B}^3$
- **Set of triple types** \mathcal{B}^3

Definition

A **multi-donor exchange problem** is a vector of non-negative integers $\mathcal{E} = \{n(X - Y - Z) \mid X - Y - Z \in \mathcal{B}^3\}$ such that for all $X - Y - Z \in \mathcal{B}^3$

- (1) $n(X - Y - Z) = n(X - Z - Y)$ and
- (2) $Y \supseteq X$ and $Z \supseteq X \implies n(X - Y - Z) = 0$.

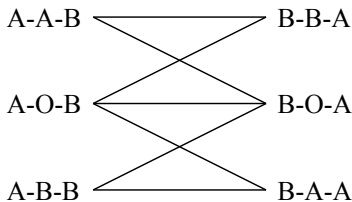


Lemma (Participation Lemma for Two-way Exchanges)

In any given multi-donor exchange problem, the only types that could be part of a two-way exchange are

$$A - Y - B \text{ and } B - Y' - A$$

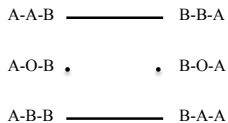
for all $Y, Y' \in \{O, A, B\}$.



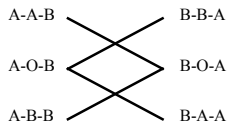


- Step 1:** Match the maximum number of $A - A - B$ and $B - B - A$ types.
Match the maximum number of $A - B - B$ and $B - A - A$ types.
- Step 2:** Match the maximum number of $A - O - B$ types with any subset of the remaining $B - B - A$ and $B - A - A$ types.
Match the maximum number of $B - O - A$ types with any subset of the remaining $A - A - B$ and $A - B - B$ types.
- Step 3:** Match the maximum number of the remaining $A - O - B$ and $B - O - A$ types.

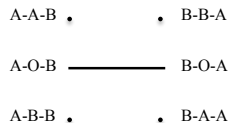
Sequential Two-way Multi-Donor Exchange Algorithm



Step 1



Step 2



Step 3



Theorem (Optimal Two-way Multi-Donor Exchange)

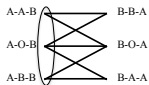
Given a multi-donor exchange problem, the sequential two-way multi-donor exchange algorithm maximizes the number of two-way exchanges. The maximum number of transplants through two-way exchanges is $2 \min\{N_1, N_2, N_3, N_4\}$ where:

$$N_1 = n(A - A - B) + n(A - O - B) + n(A - B - B)$$

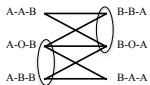
$$N_2 = n(A - O - B) + n(A - B - B) + n(B - B - A) + n(B - O - A)$$

$$N_3 = n(A - A - B) + n(A - O - B) + n(B - O - A) + n(B - A - A)$$

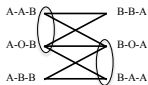
$$N_4 = n(B - B - A) + n(B - O - A) + n(B - A - A)$$



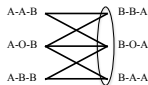
N_1



N_2



N_3



N_4



- Participation Lemma can be generalized to larger exchanges.
- In addition to the earlier types, some types with O blood type patients can be matched!

Lemma (Participation Lemma for All Exchanges)

Fix a multi-donor exchange problem and $n \geq 2$. Then, the only types that could be part of an n -way exchange are

$$O - Y - A, \quad O - Y - B, \quad A - Y - B, \quad \text{and} \quad B - Y - A$$

for all $Y \in \{O, A, B\}$. Furthermore, every n -way exchange must involve one A and one B patient.



- We will make the following assumption for the remaining results on multi-donor exchange.

Assumption (Long Run Assumption)

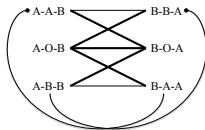
Regardless of the exchange technology available, there remains at least one “unmatched” patient from each of the two types $O - O - A$ and $O - O - B$.

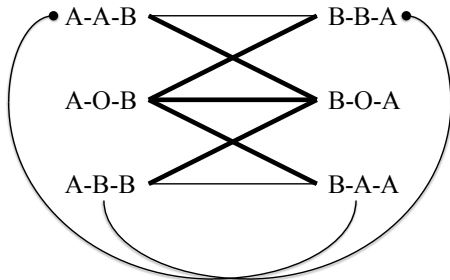


Proposition

Consider a multi-donor exchange problem that satisfies the long run assumption, and suppose $n = 3$. Then, there exists an optimal matching that consists of exchanges summarized in the following figure where:

- (1) A regular (non-bold/no dotted end) edge between two types represents a 2-way exchange involving those two types.
- (2) A bold edge between two types represents a 3-way exchange involving those two types and a $O - O - A$ or $O - O - B$ type.
- (3) An edge with a dotted end represents a 3-way exchange involving two types from the dotted end, and one type from the non-dotted end.







- with $A - O - B$ types (Kind 2 in Proposition)

$$\begin{array}{l} A - O - B \\ B - A - B \\ O - O - A \end{array} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{array}{l} A - O - B \\ B - A - A \\ O - O - B \end{array}$$

- with 1 $A - B - B$ and 2 $B - A - A$ types (Kind 3 in Proposition)

$$\begin{array}{l} A - B - B \\ B - B - A \\ B - B - A \end{array}$$

- Symmetrically defined for $B - O - A$ and $B - A - A$ types

Step 1: Carry out the 2 & 3-way exchanges in Proposition among $A - A - B$, $A - B - B$, $B - B - A$, and $B - A - A$ types to maximize the number of transplants subject to the following constraints (*):

(1) Leave at least a total of

$$\min \{n(A - A - B) + n(A - B - B), n(B - O - A)\}$$

$A - A - B$ and $A - B - B$ types unmatched.

(2) Leave at least a total of

$$\min \{n(B - B - A) + n(B - A - A), n(A - O - B)\}$$

$B - B - A$ and $B - A - A$ types unmatched.

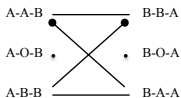
Two & Three-Way Multi-Donor Exchange Algorithm



Step 2: Carry out the maximum number of 3-way exchanges in Proposition involving $A - O - B$ types and the remaining $B - B - A$ or $B - A - A$ types.

Carry out the maximum number of 3-way exchanges in Proposition involving $B - O - A$ types and the remaining $A - A - B$ or $A - B - B$ types.

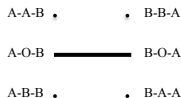
Step 3: Carry out the maximum number of 3-way exchanges in Proposition involving the remaining $A - O - B$ and $B - O - A$ types.



Step 1
subject to (*)



Step 2



Step 3



Theorem (Optimal Two & Three-way Multi-Donor Exchange)

Given a multi-donor exchange problem satisfying the long run assumption, the sequential two & three-way multi-donor exchange algorithm maximizes the number of transplants through two and three-way exchanges.



Theorem (6-way Sufficiency Theorem)

Consider a multi-donor exchange problem satisfying the long run assumption. Then, there exists an optimal matching which consists only of exchanges involving at most 6-way exchanges.



Example

There are

3 blood type O patients and 6 blood type O donors,
2 blood type B patients and 4 blood type B donors, and
1 blood type A patient and 2 blood type A donors.

Hence, for optimality, each patients receives a graft from each of two donors of exactly his own blood type, and all are matched.

Triple types are:

1. $A - O - B$ needs to be in the same exchange as both Patients 2 & 3
2. $B - O - A$
3. $B - O - A$
4. $O - O - B$ needs to be in the same exchange as one of Patients 1, 2, 3
5. $O - O - B$ needs to be in the same exchange as one of Patients 1, 2, 3
6. $O - O - B$ needs to be in the same exchange as one of Patients 1, 2, 3

The blue argument along with the red arguments imply that a 6-way exchange is necessary. [▶ Simulations](#)



Theorem (Maximum Number of Patients Matched)

The number of patients matched in an optimal matching is given by

$$\bar{m} - \mathbf{i} + \min\{n(A - O - B), \bar{s}_B\} + \min\{n(B - O - A), \bar{s}_A\},$$

where $\mathbf{i} \in \{0, 1\}$, and

$\bar{m} := \bar{m}_A + \bar{m}_B$ where

$\bar{m}_A := \min\{p_A, \lfloor \frac{d_A + d_O}{2} \rfloor, \bar{s}_B\}$

$\bar{s}_B := 2n(B - O - A) + n(B - A - B) + 2n(B - A - A)$

\bar{m}_B and \bar{s}_A symmetrically defined.

\bar{m}_A : #A patients that can be matched,

\bar{s}_B : Max. #A patients that can be potentially matched with the help of B patients,

p_A : #A patients, and d_X : #X donors



Dual-Graft Liver Exchange Simulations					
Sample Size	1-Donor Direct		1-Donor Exchange	2-Donor Direct	2-Donor Exchange
250	59.998 (6.9937)	2-way	+35.032 (7.5297)	+48.818 (7.1265)	+26.096 (5.8167)
		2&3-way	+49.198 (10.37)	+43.472 (7.1942)	+34.796 (8.2052)

Table: Using Korean data, 500 simulations



Lung Exchange Simulations						
Sample Size	Direct Donation	Exchange Technology				
		2-way	2&3-way	2-4-way	2-5-way	Unrestricted
10	1.256 (1.0298)	+0.292 (0.72925)	or +0.452 (1.0668)	or +0.506 (1.1987)	or +0.52 (1.2445)	or +0.524 (1.2604)
20	2.474 (1.4919)	+1.128 (1.4183)	or +1.818 (2.0798)	or +2.176 (2.4701)	or +2.396 (2.7273)	or +2.668 (3.1403)
50	6.31 (2.2962)	+4.956 (2.9759)	or +8.514 (4.5191)	or +10.814 (5.3879)	or +12.432 (5.9609)	or +16.506 (7.1338)

Table: Using Japanese Data, 500 simulations

Welfare Gains from Simultaneous Liver-Kidney Exchange

Simultaneous Liver-Kidney Exchange Simulations												
SLK Patient Fraction in Liver Pool	Sample Sizes			Direct Donation			Exchange Regime					
							Isolated			Integrated		
	KA	SLK	LA	KA	SLK	LA	KA	SLK	LA	KA	SLK	LA
7.5%	535	35	430	244.09 (11.783)	2.426 (1.5222)	67.982 (7.8642)	+151.34 (14.841)	+1.352 (1.5128)	+53.26 (9.5101)	or +154.48 (14.919)	+7.468 (2.4366)	+54.264 (9.5771)
15%	518	72	410	236.23 (11.605)	5.076 (2.2646)	64.874 (7.5745)	+146.18 (14.758)	+4.108 (2.6883)	+50.084 (9.3406)	or +152.17 (14.986)	+14.74 (3.5175)	+52.376 (9.3117)

Table: Using Korean Data, 500 Simulations



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- Incentive problems in liver exchange
- Dual-graft liver exchange/single-lobe exchange integration: model, ethical issues.
- Implementation: **Japan**