# Simple Games

• Last time:

• Today:

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- Last time:
  - Inference in Bayesian networks
  - Learning Bayesian networks
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# Simple Games

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- Inference in Bayesian networks
- Learning Bayesian networks

### Today:

- Games: a mathematical formalism for rational interaction
- Nash and other equilibria

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**Markov Decision Process** 

**Alleatory** 

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**Markov Decision Process** 

**Epistemic (Static)** 

**Alleatory** 

**Epistemic (Static)** 



**Markov Decision Process** 



**Reinforcement Learning** 

**Alleatory** 

**Markov Decision Process** 

**Epistemic (Static)** 



**Reinforcement Learning** 

**Epistemic (Dynamic)** 



**POMDP** 

**Alleatory** 

Ca Contract

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**POMDP** 

Interaction

**Alleatory** 

CE COLLEGE

**Markov Decision Process** 

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**POMDP** 

Interaction



Game

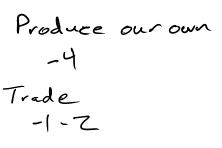
Both Britain and Portugal need textiles and wine

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- Britain:
  - Producing wine: -3
  - Producing textiles: -1

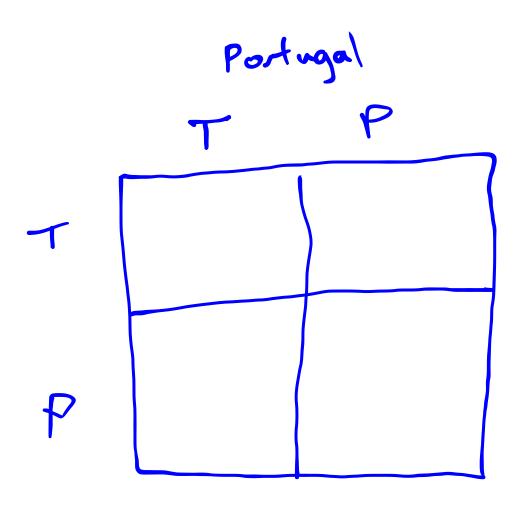
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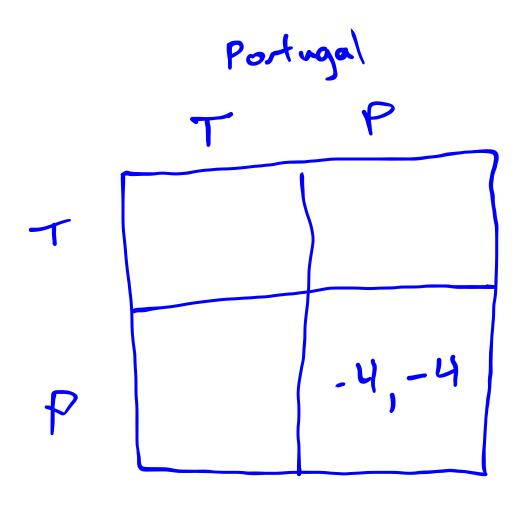
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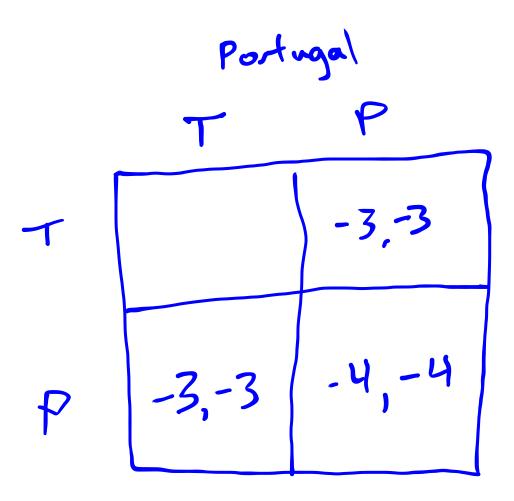
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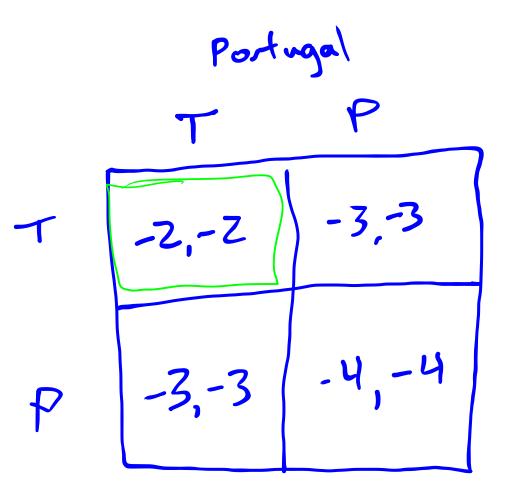
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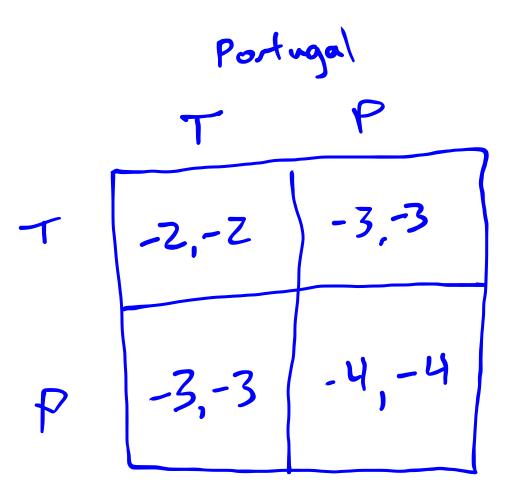
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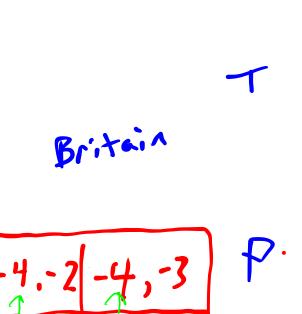
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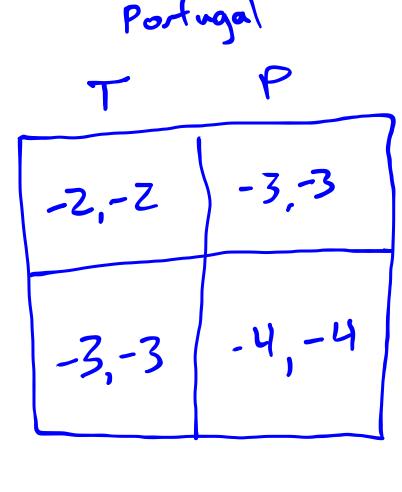


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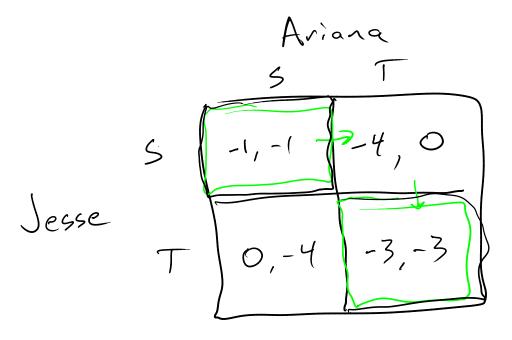
# A more surprising example: The Prisoner's Dilemma

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- 2 Alleged criminals are captured
- Each can either keep silent or testify
  - other keeps silent -> minor conviction (1 year)
  - other testifies -> major conviction: 4 years
  - testify -> 1 year removed from sentence



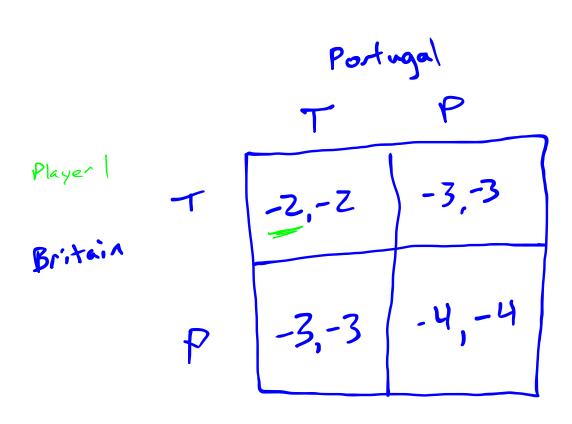
## Vocabulary

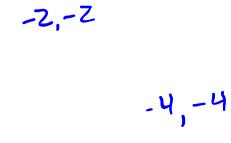
- Action,  $a^i \in A^i$
- Policy,  $\pi^i$  (strategy)
- Joint action, a
- Joint policy,  $\pi$  (strategy profile)
- Reward,  $R^i(a)$
- Joint reward, R(a)
- Joint utility,  $U(\pi) = \sum_a R(a)\pi(a)$

**Best Response**: Given a joint policy of all other agents,  $\underline{\pi}^{-i}$ , a best response is a policy  $\pi^i$  that satisfies

$$\left|U^{i}\left(\pi^{i},ec{\pi^{i}}
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ight|$$

for all other  $\pi^{i'}$ .





**Dominant Strategy Equilibrium** 

-2,-2

-4,-4

#### **Dominant Strategy Equilibrium**

• A *dominant strategy* is a policy that is a best response to all other possible agent policies.

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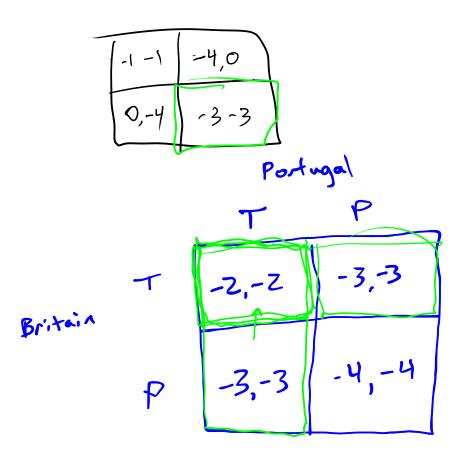
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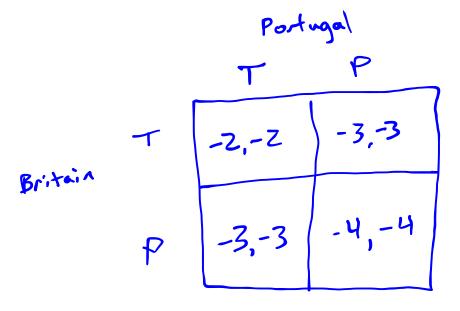
#### **Dominant Strategy Equilibrium**

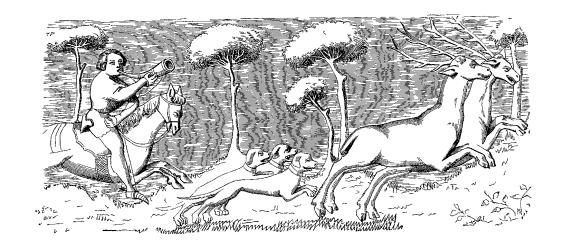
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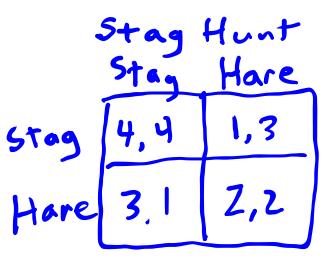


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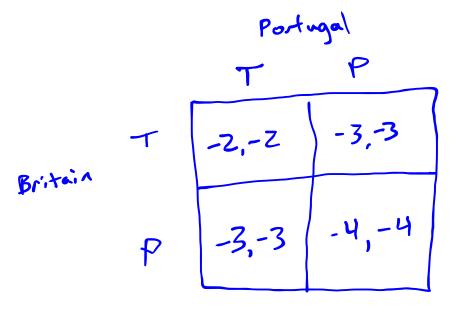


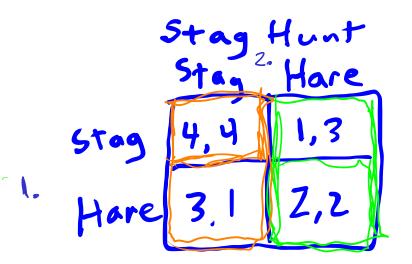


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### Nash Equilibrium



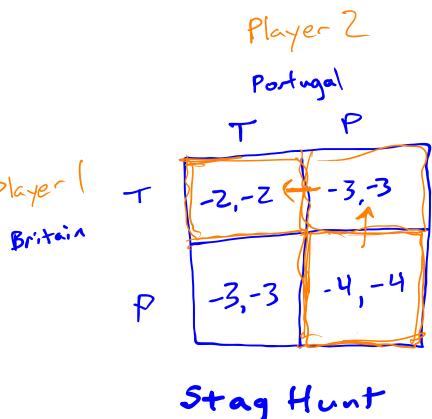


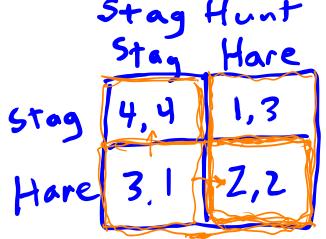
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### Nash Equilibrium

 A Nash equilibrium is a joint policy in which all agents are following a best response





## Geopolitics

Soviet Union

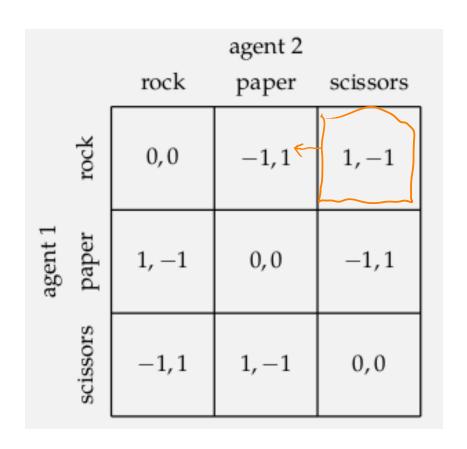
Attack Deter Disarm

NE -100,-100 -100,-101 +1,-100

Deter -101,700 -1,-1 -1,-2

Disarm -100,+1 -2,-1 0,0

## Rock-paper scissors



A two-player game is **zero sum** if  $\sum R^i(a) = 0 \quad orall a$ 

- Pure strategy:  $\pi^i(a) \in \{0,1\}$
- Mixed strategy: all other strategies

$$\pi^{i}(a^{i}) = \frac{1}{3}$$
 $0.5(1) + 0.25(-1) + 0.25(0)$ 

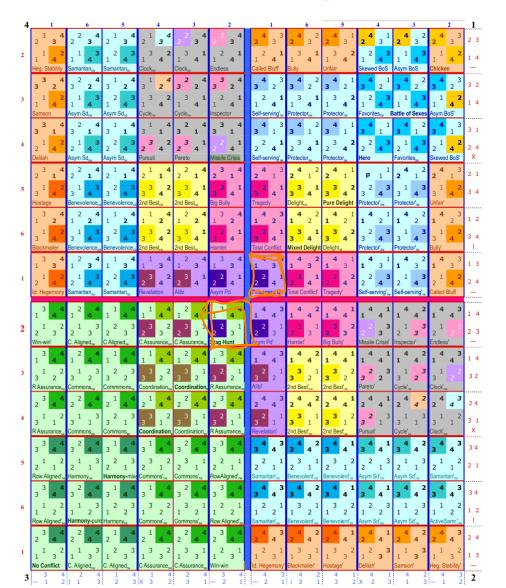
# General approach to find Nash Equilibria

## General approach to find Nash Equilibria

minimize 
$$\sum_{i} \left( U^{i} - U^{i}(\pi) \right) \text{ policies of all other players}$$
 subject to 
$$U^{i} \geq U^{i}(a^{i}, \pi^{-i}) \text{ for all } i, a^{i}$$
 
$$\sum_{a^{i}} \pi^{i}(a^{i}) = 1 \text{ for all } i$$
 
$$\pi^{i}(a^{i}) \geq 0 \text{ for all } i, a^{i}$$

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#### EQUILIBRIUM POINTS IN N-PERSON GAMES

By John F. Nash, Jr.\*

#### PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Communicated by S. Lefschetz, November 16, 1949

One may define a concept of an *n*-person game in which each player has a finite set of pure strategies and in which a definite set of payments to the *n* players corresponds to each *n*-tuple of pure strategies, one strategy being taken for each player. For mixed strategies, which are probability distributions over the pure strategies, the pay-off functions are the expectations of the players, thus becoming polylinear forms in the probabilities with which the various players play their various pure strategies.

Any n-tuple of strategies, one for each player, may be regarded as a point in the product space obtained by multiplying the n strategy spaces of the players. One such n-tuple counters another if the strategy of each player in the countering n-tuple yields the highest obtainable expectation for its player against the n-1 strategies of the other players in the countered n-tuple. A self-countering n-tuple is called an equilibrium point.

The correspondence of each n-tuple with its set of countering n-tuples gives a one-to-many mapping of the product space into itself. From the definition of countering we see that the set of countering points of a point is convex. By using the continuity of the pay-off functions we see that the graph of the mapping is closed. The closedness is equivalent to saying: if  $P_1, P_2, \ldots$  and  $Q_1, Q_2, \ldots, Q_n, \ldots$  are sequences of points in the product space where  $Q_n \to Q$ ,  $P_n \to P$  and  $Q_n$  counters  $P_n$  then Q counters P.

Since the graph is closed and since the image of each point under the mapping is convex, we infer from Kakutani's theorem<sup>1</sup> that the mapping has a fixed point (i.e., point contained in its image). Hence there is an equilibrium point.

In the two-person zero-sum case the "main theorem" and the existence of an equilibrium point are equivalent. In this case any two equilibrium points lead to the same expectations for the players, but this need not occur in general.

<sup>\*</sup> The author is indebted to Dr. David Gale for suggesting the use of Kakutani's theorem to simplify the proof and to the A. E. C. for financial support.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Kakutani, S., Duke Math. J., 8, 457-459 (1941).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Von Neumann, J., and Morgenstern, O., The Theory of Games and Economic Behaviour, Chap. 3, Princeton University Press, Princeton, 1947.

#### Kakutani's fixed-point theorem

- X is a non-empty, closed, bounded, and convex set.
- (2)  $f(\mathbf{x})$  is non-empty for any  $\mathbf{x}$ .
- (3) f(x) is convex for any x.
- (4) The set  $\{(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \mid \mathbf{y} \in f(\mathbf{x})\}$  is closed.

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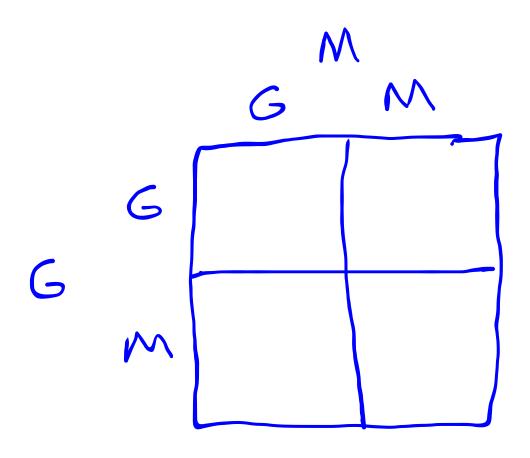
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- ullet BR has a fixed point for every finite game, i.e. every finite game has a Nash Equilibrium

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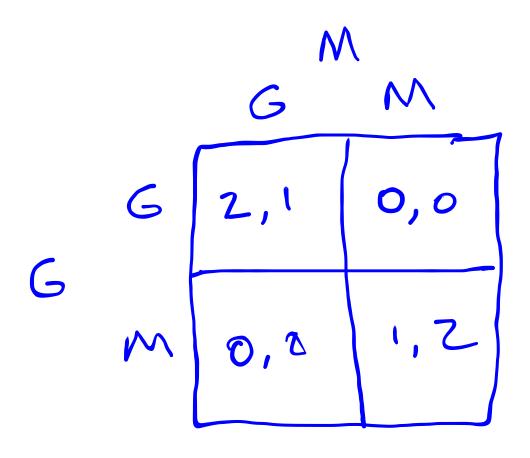
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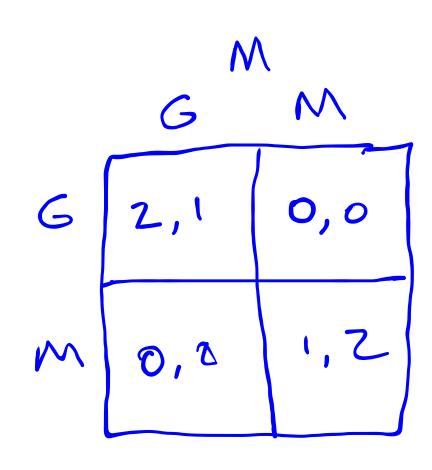
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#### **Correlated Equilibrium**

- A *correlated joint policy* is a single distribution over the joint actions of all agents.
- A *correlated equilibrium* is a correlated joint policy where no agent *i* can increase their expected utility by deviating from their current action to another.



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- If every player is playing a best response, that policy profile is a Nash Equilibrium
- Every finite game has at least one Nash Equilibrium (pure or mixed)