



# Lecture 17

## Game Theory



# Game Theory

Game theory models **strategic behavior** by agents who understand that their actions affect the payoffs and therefore actions of other agents.

个体在决策时考虑其他个体会采取什么行动、以及他们的行动会对自己产生怎样影响的行为叫做策略性行为。

# What is a Game?

A **game** consists of

- a set of **players** (参与者)
- a set of **strategies** (策略) for each player
- the **payoffs** (收益) to each player for every possible combination of strategy choices by the players.

# A Two-Player Game in Class

Two student volunteers, A and B

They **simultaneously** determine how to allocate money between them

Each student has two actions: split (平分) and steal (独吞)

# A Two-Player Game in Class

If both students choose to **split** (平分),  
each receives ¥ 5

If both students choose to **steal** (独吞),  
each receives ¥ 0

# A Two-Player Game in Class

If both students choose to **split** (平分),  
each receives ¥ 5

If both students choose to **steal** (独吞),  
each receives ¥ 0

If student A chooses to **steal** (独吞)  
and B chooses to **split** (平分), A  
receives ¥ 10 and B receives ¥ -5

If student A chooses to **split** (平分) and  
B chooses to **steal** (独吞), A receives  
¥ -5 and B receives ¥ 10

# A Two-Player Game in Class

- a set of **players**: A and B (non-cooperative)
- a set of **strategies** for each player:  
平分、独吞
- the **payoffs** to each player for every possible combination of strategy choices by the players

# A Two-Player Game in Class

4 possible **outcomes / strategy profiles**:


(平分, 平分)

(平分, 独吞)

(独吞, 平分)

(独吞, 独吞)

A strategy profile (**策略组合**) is a pair of strategies  $(s_A, s_B)$  where the 1st element is the strategy chosen by Player A and the 2nd is the strategy chosen by Player B.





# A Two-Player Game in Class

Each outcome corresponds to a pair of **payoffs**.

Player A's payoff is shown first.

Player B's payoff is shown second.

$$\Pi(\text{平分}, \text{平分}) = (5, 5)$$

$$\Pi(\text{平分}, \text{独吞}) = (-5, 10)$$

$$\Pi(\text{独吞}, \text{平分}) = (10, -5)$$

$$\Pi(\text{独吞}, \text{独吞}) = (0, 0)$$

# The Pay-off Matrix

Player B

		Player B		
		平分	独吞	
Player A	平分	(5,5)	(-5,10)	收益矩阵
	独吞	(10,-5)	(0,0)	

4 possible **outcomes**. Each outcome corresponds to a pair of **payoffs**.

Player A's payoff is shown **first**.

Player B's payoff is shown **second**.

# The Pay-off Matrix

Player B

		平分	独吞
Player A	平分	(5,5)	(-5,10)
	独吞	(10,-5)	(0,0)

E.g. if A plays “平分” and B plays “独吞” then A’s payoff is -5 and B’s payoff is 10.

# The Pay-off Matrix

Player B

		平分	独吞
		平分	独吞
Player A	平分	(5,5)	(-5,10)
	独吞	(10,-5)	(0,0)

What outcomes are we likely to see for this game?

# The Pay-off Matrix

Player B

平分

独吞

平分

(5,5)

(-5,10)

Player A

独吞

(10,-5)

(0,0)

If B plays 平分, A's **best response** is to play 独吞

# The Pay-off Matrix

Player B

平分

独吞

平分

(5,5)

(-5,10)

Player A

独吞

(10,-5)

(0,0)

If B plays 独吞, A's **best response** is still to play 独吞

# The Pay-off Matrix

Player B

		平分	独吞
Player A	平分	(5,5)	(-5,10)
	独吞	(10,-5)	(0,0)

No matter what B plays, “独吞” yields a higher payoff for player A

“独吞” is a **dominant strategy** (占优策略) for player A

# The Pay-off Matrix

Player B

平分

独吞

平分

(5,5)

(-5,10)

Player A

独吞

(10,-5)

(0,0)

If A plays 平分, B's **best response** is to play 独吞



# The Pay-off Matrix

Player B

平分

独吞

平分

(5,5)

(-5,10)

Player A

独吞

(10,-5)

(0,0)

If A plays 独吞, B's **best response** is still to play 独吞

# The Pay-off Matrix

Player B

		Player B	
		平分	独吞
Player A	平分	(5,5)	(-5,10)
	独吞	(10,-5)	(0,0)

No matter what A plays, “独吞” yields a higher payoff for player B

“独吞” is a **dominant strategy** for player B

# The Pay-off Matrix

Player B

平分

独吞

平分

(5,5)

(-5,10)

Player A

独吞

(10,-5)

(0,0)

In this example, we would expect (独吞, 独吞) to be an **equilibrium** outcome. In equilibrium, both players receive a payoff of 0.

# Dominant Strategy Equilibrium

If all players have a dominant strategy, then there is a dominant strategy equilibrium.

A **dominant strategy equilibrium** is an outcome in which all players play their dominant strategies (占优策略均衡)

# Dominant Strategy Equilibrium

Not every game has a **dominant strategy equilibrium**.

We need a more general **solution concept**.



# An Example of a Two-Player Game

The players are called A and B.

Player A has two strategies, called “Up” and “Down”.

Player B has two strategies, called “Left” and “Right”.

The table showing the payoffs to both players for each of the four possible strategy combinations is the game’s **payoff matrix**.

# An Example of a Two-Player Game

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	(3,9)	(1,8)
	D	(0,0)	(2,1)

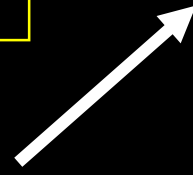
When **B plays L**, A's best response (最优应对策略) is to play **U**;

When **B plays R**, A's best response is to play **D**.

# An Example of a Two-Player Game

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	(3,9)	(1,8)
	D	(0,0)	(2,1)

No dominant strategy for Player A.



When **B plays L**, A's best response is to play **U**;

When **B plays R**, A's best response is to play **D**.



# An Example of a Two-Player Game

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	(3,9)	(1,8)
	D	(0,0)	(2,1)

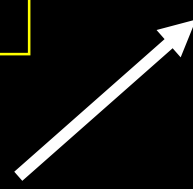
When A plays U, B's best response is to play L;

When A plays D, B's best response is to play R.

# An Example of a Two-Player Game

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	(3,9)	(1,8)
	D	(0,0)	(2,1)

No dominant strategy for Player B.



When A plays U, B's best response is to play L;

When A plays D, B's best response is to play R.

# An Example of a Two-Player Game

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	(3,9)	(1,8)
	D	(0,0)	(2,1)

**No dominant strategy equilibrium.  
What could be an equilibrium outcome  
for this game?**

# Nash Equilibrium

A strategy profile  $(s_A, s_B)$  is a Nash Equilibrium if  $s_A$  and  $s_B$  are **mutual best responses** to each other.

i.e. given player B's strategy  $s_B$ ,  $s_A$  is optimal for player A; and given player A's strategy  $s_A$ ,  $s_B$  is optimal for player B.

**互为最优**的策略组合被称作纳什均衡。当A选择  $s_A$  时，B的最优策略是  $s_B$ ；当B选择  $s_B$  时，A的最优策略是  $s_A$ ；那么  $(s_A, s_B)$  被称作博弈的一个纳什均衡。

# Nash Equilibrium

The Nash Equilibrium is a state where **no player has an incentive to deviate** from his chosen strategy after knowing the strategies of the other players.

在纳什均衡处，没有任何一个参与者有单方面偏离均衡策略的动机。

# An Example of a Two-Player Game

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	(3,9)	(1,8)
	D	(0,3)	(2,1)

Is (U,R) a  
N.E.?

# An Example of a Two-Player Game

		Player B		
		L	R	
Player A	U	(3,9)	(1,8)	Is (U,R) a N.E.?
	D	(0,3)	(2,1)	

If B plays Right then A's best reply is Down since this improves A's payoff from 1 to 2.

So (U,R) is not a Nash Equilibrium.

# An Example of a Two-Player Game

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	(3,9)	(1,8)
	D	(0,0)	(2,1)

Is (D,R) a  
N.E.?



# An Example of a Two-Player Game

		Player B		
		L	R	
Player A	U	(3,9)	(1,8)	Is (D,R) a N.E.?
	D	(0,0)	(2,1)	

If B plays Right then A's best reply is Down.  
If A plays Down then B's best reply is Right.  
So **(D,R) is a Nash Equilibrium.**

# An Example of a Two-Player Game

		Player B		
		L	R	
Player A	U	(3,9)	(1,8)	Is (D,L) a N.E.?
	D	(0,0)	(2,1)	

# An Example of a Two-Player Game

		Player B		
		L	R	
Player A	U	(3,9)	(1,8)	Is (D,L) a N.E.?
	D	(0,0)	(2,1)	

If A plays Down then B's best reply is Right,  
so (D,L) is not a Nash Equilibrium.

# An Example of a Two-Player Game

		Player B		
		L	R	
Player A	U	(3,9)	(1,8)	Is (U,L) a N.E.?
	D	(0,0)	(2,1)	

# An Example of a Two-Player Game

		Player B		
		L	R	
Player A	U	(3,9)	(1,8)	Is (U,L) a N.E.?
	D	(0,0)	(2,1)	

If A plays Up then B's best reply is Left.  
If B plays Left then A's best reply is Up.  
So **(U,L) is a Nash Equilibrium.**

# An Example of a Two-Player Game

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	(3,9)	(1,8)
	D	(0,0)	(2,1)

(U,L) and (D,R) are both Nash equilibria for the game.

一个博弈可能存在多个纳什均衡

Nash equilibrium does not say anything about which one should / will be played

# Finding Nash Equilibria

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	( <u>3</u> ,9)	(1,8)
	D	(0,0)	(2,1)

When B plays L, A's best reply is U.  
Underline the payoff for A when the  
strategy profile is (U,L)

# Finding Nash Equilibria

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	( <u>3</u> ,9)	(1,8)
	D	(0,0)	( <u>2</u> ,1)

When B plays R, A's best reply is D.  
Underline the payoff for A when the  
strategy profile is (D,R)



# Finding Nash Equilibria

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	( <u>3</u> , <u>9</u> )	(1, 8)
	D	(0, 0)	( <u>2</u> , 1)

When A plays U, B's best reply is L.  
Underline the payoff for A when the  
strategy profile is (U,L)

# Finding Nash Equilibria

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	( <u>3</u> , <u>9</u> )	(1, 8)
	D	(0, 0)	( <u>2</u> , <u>1</u> )

When A plays D, B's best reply is R.  
Underline the payoff for A when the  
strategy profile is (D,R)

# Finding Nash Equilibria

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	( <u>3</u> , <u>9</u> )	(1,8)
	D	(0,0)	( <u>2</u> , <u>1</u> )

Nash Equilibria are strategy profiles where payoffs are both underlined.

# Nash Equilibrium

**A dominant strategy equilibrium must be a Nash Equilibrium**

占优策略均衡一定是纳什均衡

**A Nash Equilibrium is not necessarily a dominant strategy equilibrium**

纳什均衡不一定是占优策略均衡

# Dominant Strategy Equilibrium Must Be a Nash Equilibrium

**Suppose  $(s_A, s_B)$  is a dominant strategy equilibrium**

**$s_A$  is A's best strategy regardless of B's strategies  $\Rightarrow s_A$  is A's best reply when B plays  $s_A$**

**Similarly,  $s_B$  is B's best strategy regardless of A's strategies  $\Rightarrow s_B$  is B's best reply when A plays  $s_A$**

**$(s_A, s_B)$  are mutual best response to each other. By definition, it is a NE.**

# Dominant Strategy Equilibrium Must Be a Nash Equilibrium

		Player B	
		平分	独吞
Player A	平分	(5,5)	(-5, <u>10</u> )
	独吞	(10,-5)	(0,0)

# Dominant Strategy Equilibrium Must Be a Nash Equilibrium

		Player B	
		平分	独吞
Player A	平分	(5,5)	(-5, <u>10</u> )
	独吞	(10,-5)	(0, <u>0</u> )

# Dominant Strategy Equilibrium Must Be a Nash Equilibrium

**Player B**

平分

独吞

平分

**(5,5)**

**(-5,10)**

**Player A**

独吞

**(10,-5)**

**(0,0)**





# Dominant Strategy Equilibrium Must Be a Nash Equilibrium

**Player B**

平分

独吞

平分

**(5,5)**

**(-5,10)**

**Player A**

独吞

**(10,-5)**

**(0,0)**



# Dominant Strategy Equilibrium Must Be a Nash Equilibrium

		Player B	
		平分	独吞
Player A	平分	(5,5)	(-5, <u>10</u> )
	独吞	( <u>10</u> , -5)	( <u>0</u> , <u>0</u> )

Nash Equilibrium

# The Prisoner's Dilemma

**Nash Equilibria are not necessarily Pareto efficient.**

纳什均衡不一定是帕累托有效率的

**To see an example, consider a famous game called the Prisoner's Dilemma (囚徒困境).**

# The Prisoner's Dilemma

赵四

S

C

刘能

S

$(-5, -5)$

$(-30, -1)$

C

$(-1, -30)$

$(-10, -10)$

What outcomes are we likely to see for this game?

# The Prisoner's Dilemma

赵四

S

C

刘能

S

$(-5, -5)$

$(-30, -1)$

C

$(-1, -30)$

$(-10, -10)$

If 刘能 plays Silence (沉默) then 赵四's best reply is Confess (坦白).

If 刘能 plays Confess then 赵四's best reply is Confess.

# The Prisoner's Dilemma

赵四

S

C

刘能

S

$(-5, -5)$

$(-30, -1)$

C

$(-1, -30)$

$(-10, -10)$

So no matter what 刘能 plays, 赵四's best reply is always **Confess**.

Confess is a **dominant strategy** for 赵四.

# The Prisoner's Dilemma

赵四

		S	C
刘能	S	$(-5, -5)$	$(-30, -1)$
	C	$(-1, -30)$	$(-10, -10)$

Similarly, no matter what 赵四 plays, 刘能's best reply is always **Confess**. Confess is a **dominant strategy** for 刘能 also.

# The Prisoner's Dilemma

赵四

S

C

刘能

S

$(-5, -5)$

$(-30, -1)$

C

$(-1, -30)$

$(-10, -10)$

So the only Nash equilibrium for this game is (C,C), even though (S,S) gives both 刘能 and 赵四 better payoffs. The only Nash equilibrium is inefficient.



# Who Plays When?

In all above examples the players chose their strategies simultaneously. Such games are **simultaneous play games** (同时行动博弈)

# Who Plays When?

But there are games in which one player plays before another player.

Such games are **sequential play games** (序贯博弈)

The player who plays first is the **leader**. The player who plays second is the **follower**.

# A Sequential Game Example

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	(3,9)	(1,8)
	D	(0,0)	(2,1)

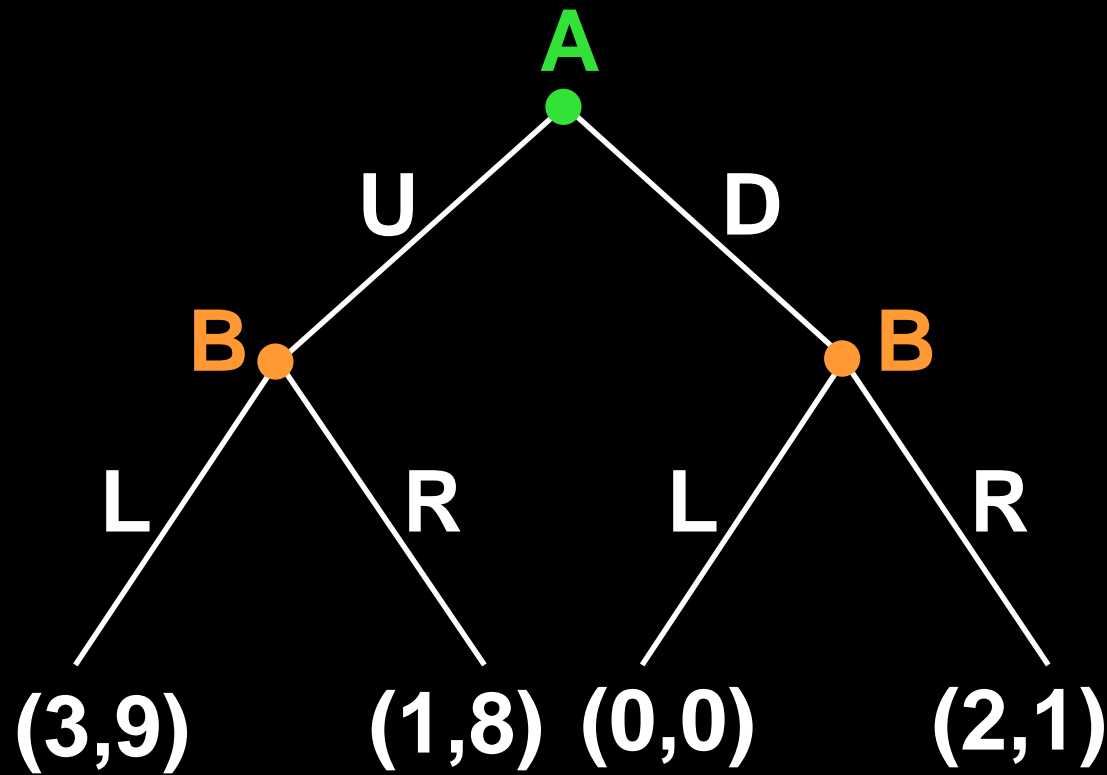
(U,L) and (D,R) are both Nash equilibria when this game is played simultaneously.

# A Sequential Game Example

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	(3,9)	(1,8)
	D	(0,0)	(2,1)

Suppose instead that the game is played sequentially, with A leading and B following. We can rewrite the game in its **extensive form** (扩展形式).

# A Sequential Game Example



**A plays first.**  
**B plays second.**

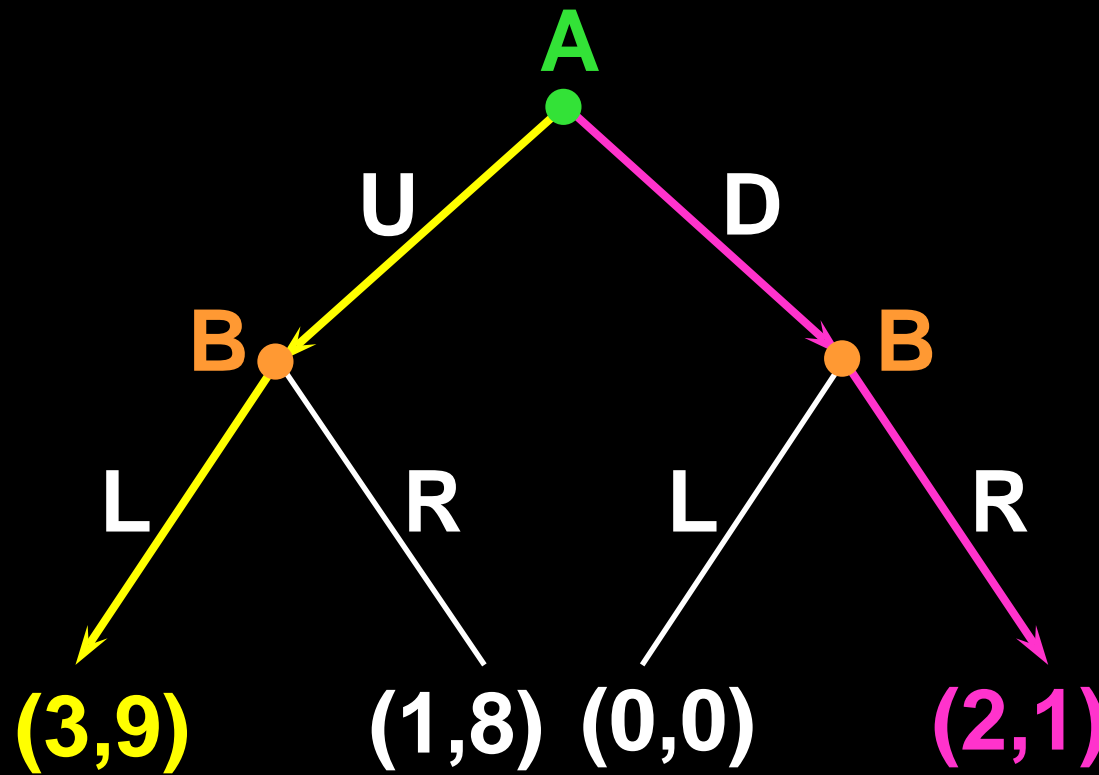
# Solving Sequential Games

We use **backward induction** (逆向归纳法) to solve sequential games.

We start at the “end” of the game tree, and work “back” up the tree by solving for optimal behavior at each node.

从扩展式的最终节点出发，找出参与者在每个节点的最优策略，然后向上递推，找出参与者在上层节点处的最优策略，直到扩展式的初始点

# A Sequential Game Example



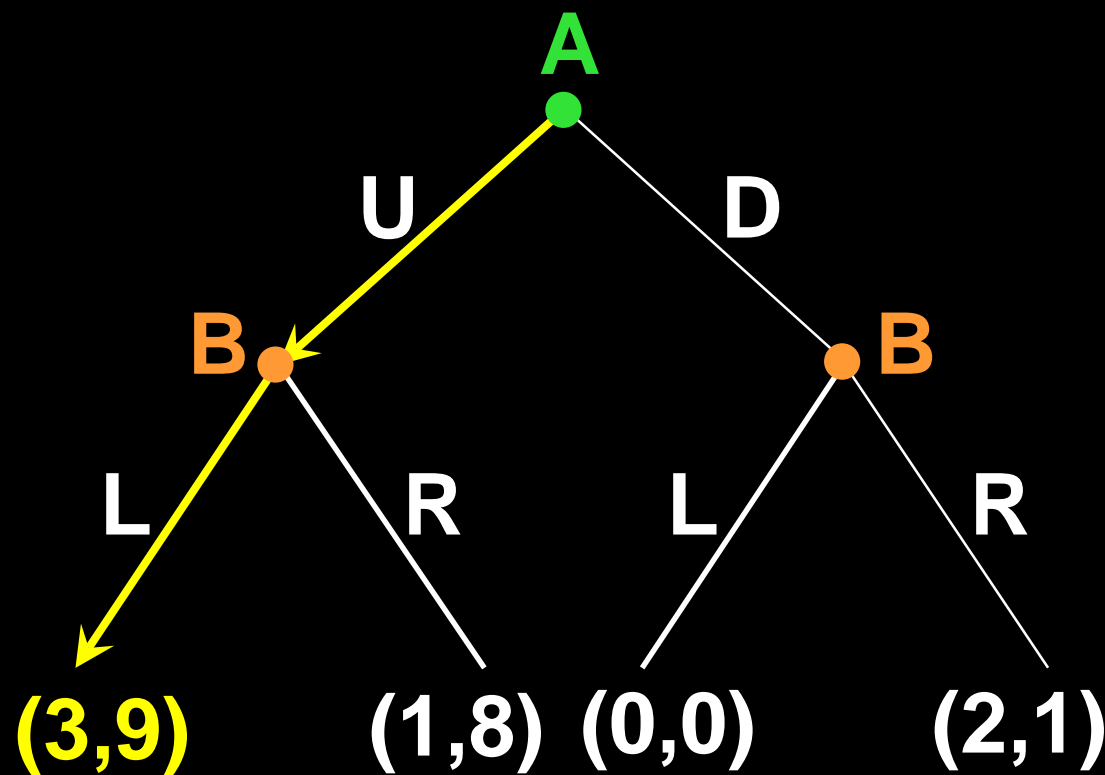
A plays first.  
B plays second.

First, figure out B's optimal strategy  
when it is his/her time to play

If A plays U, B will play L;

If A plays D, B will play R;

# A Sequential Game Example



**(U,L) is the likely Nash equilibrium.**

**Backward induction: figure out A's optimal strategy at the original node.**

**If A plays U then B plays L; A gets 3.**

**If A plays D then B plays R; A gets 2.**



# Pure Strategies

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	(3,9)	(1,8)
	D	(0,0)	(2,1)

This is our original example once more.  
Suppose again that play is **simultaneous**.  
We discovered that the game has two Nash equilibria; (U,L) and (D,R).

# Pure Strategies

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	(3,9)	(1,8)
	D	(0,0)	(2,1)

Player A's has been thought of as choosing to play either U or D, but no combination of both; that is, as playing **purely** U or D.

U and D are Player A's **pure strategies** (纯策略).

# Pure Strategies

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	(3,9)	(1,8)
	D	(0,0)	(2,1)

Similarly, L and R are Player B's **pure strategies**.

# Pure Strategies

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	(3,9)	(1,8)
	D	(0,0)	(2,1)

Consequently, (U,L) and (D,R) are **pure strategy Nash equilibria** (纯策略纳什均衡).

Must every game have at least one pure strategy Nash equilibrium?

# Pure Strategies

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	(1,2)	(0,4)
	D	(0,5)	(3,2)

Here is a new game. Are there any pure strategy Nash equilibria?

# Pure Strategies

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	( <u>1</u> ,2)	(0,4)
	D	(0,5)	(3,2)

# Pure Strategies

Player B

L

R

Player A

U

(1,2)

(0,4)

D

(0,5)

(3,2)



# Pure Strategies

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	( <u>1</u> ,2)	(0, <u>4</u> )
	D	(0,5)	( <u>3</u> ,2)



# Pure Strategies

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	( <u>1</u> ,2)	(0, <u>4</u> )
	D	(0, <u>5</u> )	( <u>3</u> ,2)

# Pure Strategies

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	(1,2)	(0,4)
	D	(0,5)	(3,2)

So the game has no Nash equilibria in pure strategies. Even so, the game does have a Nash equilibrium, but in **mixed strategies**.

该博弈不存在纯策略纳什均衡，但是存在混合策略那时均衡。

# Mixed Strategies

Instead of playing purely Up or Down, Player A selects a probability distribution  $(\pi_U, 1-\pi_U)$ , meaning that with probability  $\pi_U$  Player A will play Up and with probability  $1-\pi_U$  will play Down.

Player A is **mixing** over the pure strategies Up and Down.

**The probability distribution  $(\pi_U, 1-\pi_U)$  is a mixed strategy** for Player A.

A以 $\pi_U$ 的概率选择U,  $1-\pi_U$ 的概率选择D

# Mixed Strategies

Similarly, Player B selects a probability distribution  $(\pi_L, 1-\pi_L)$ , meaning that with probability  $\pi_L$  Player B will play Left and with probability  $1-\pi_L$  will play Right.

Player B is **mixing** over the pure strategies Left and Right.

**The probability distribution  $(\pi_L, 1-\pi_L)$  is a mixed strategy for Player B.**

B以 $\pi_L$ 的概率选择L， $1-\pi_L$ 的概率选择R

# Mixed Strategies

		Player B	
		L	R
Player A	U	(1,2)	(0,4)
	D	(0,5)	(3,2)

This game has no pure strategy Nash equilibria but it does have a Nash equilibrium in **mixed strategies**. How is it computed?

# Mixed Strategies

Player B

L,  $\pi_L$

R,  $1-\pi_L$

U,  $\pi_U$

(1,2)

(0,4)

Player A

D,  $1-\pi_U$

(0,5)

(3,2)



# Mixed Strategies

		Player B	
		L, $\pi_L$	R, $1-\pi_L$
Player A	U, $\pi_U$	(1,2)	(0,4)
	D, $1-\pi_U$	(0,5)	(3,2)

If B plays Left her expected payoff is  
 $2\pi_U + 5(1 - \pi_U)$

# Mixed Strategies

		Player B	
		L, $\pi_L$	R, $1-\pi_L$
Player A	U, $\pi_U$	(1,2)	(0,4)
	D, $1-\pi_U$	(0,5)	(3,2)

If B plays Left her expected payoff is  
 $2\pi_U + 5(1 - \pi_U)$ .

If B plays Right her expected payoff is  
 $4\pi_U + 2(1 - \pi_U)$ .



# Mixed Strategies

		Player B	
		L, $\pi_L$	R, $1-\pi_L$
Player A	U, $\pi_U$	(1,2)	(0,4)
	D, $1-\pi_U$	(0,5)	(3,2)

If  $2\pi_U + 5(1 - \pi_U) > 4\pi_U + 2(1 - \pi_U)$  then B would play only **Left**. But there are no Nash equilibria in which B plays only Left.

# Mixed Strategies

		Player B	
		L, $\pi_L$	R, $1-\pi_L$
Player A	U, $\pi_U$	(1,2)	(0,4)
	D, $1-\pi_U$	(0,5)	(3,2)

If  $2\pi_U + 5(1 - \pi_U) < 4\pi_U + 2(1 - \pi_U)$  then B would play only **Right**. But there are no Nash equilibria in which B plays only Right.

# Mixed Strategies

		Player B	
		L, $\pi_L$	R, $1-\pi_L$
Player A	U, $\pi_U$	(1,2)	(0,4)
	D, $1-\pi_U$	(0,5)	(3,2)

So for there to exist a Nash equilibrium, B must be indifferent between playing Left or Right; i.e.  $2\pi_U + 5(1 - \pi_U) = 4\pi_U + 2(1 - \pi_U)$

# Mixed Strategies

		Player B	
		L, $\pi_L$	R, $1-\pi_L$
Player A	U, $\pi_U$	(1,2)	(0,4)
	D, $1-\pi_U$	(0,5)	(3,2)

So for there to exist a Nash equilibrium, B must be indifferent between playing Left or Right; i.e.  $2\pi_U + 5(1 - \pi_U) = 4\pi_U + 2(1 - \pi_U)$

$$\Rightarrow \pi_U = 3/5.$$

# Mixed Strategies

		Player B	
		L, $\pi_L$	R, $1-\pi_L$
Player A	U, $\frac{3}{5}$	(1,2)	(0,4)
	D, $\frac{2}{5}$	(0,5)	(3,2)

So for there to exist a Nash equilibrium, B must be indifferent between playing Left or Right; i.e.  $2\pi_U + 5(1 - \pi_U) = 4\pi_U + 2(1 - \pi_U)$

$$\Rightarrow \pi_U = 3/5.$$

# Mixed Strategies

Player B

L,  $\pi_L$

R,  $1-\pi_L$

Player A

U,  $\frac{3}{5}$

D,  $\frac{2}{5}$

(1,2)	(0,4)
(0,5)	(3,2)

# Mixed Strategies

		Player B	
		L, $\pi_L$	R, $1-\pi_L$
Player A	U, $\frac{3}{5}$	(1,2)	(0,4)
	D, $\frac{2}{5}$	(0,5)	(3,2)

If A plays Up his expected payoff is  
 $1 \times \pi_L + 0 \times (1 - \pi_L) = \pi_L.$

# Mixed Strategies

		Player B	
		L, $\pi_L$	R, $1-\pi_L$
Player A	U, $\frac{3}{5}$	(1,2)	(0,4)
	D, $\frac{2}{5}$	(0,5)	(3,2)

If A plays Up his expected payoff is  
 $1 \times \pi_L + 0 \times (1 - \pi_L) = \pi_L$ .

If A plays Down his expected payoff is  
 $0 \times \pi_L + 3 \times (1 - \pi_L) = 3(1 - \pi_L)$ .



# Mixed Strategies

		Player B	
		L, $\pi_L$	R, $1-\pi_L$
Player A	U, $\frac{3}{5}$	(1,2)	(0,4)
	D, $\frac{2}{5}$	(0,5)	(3,2)

If  $\pi_L > 3(1 - \pi_L)$  then A would play only **Up**.

But there are no Nash equilibria in which A plays only Up.

# Mixed Strategies

		Player B	
		L, $\pi_L$	R, $1-\pi_L$
Player A	U, $\frac{3}{5}$	(1,2)	(0,4)
	D, $\frac{2}{5}$	(0,5)	(3,2)

If  $\pi_L < 3(1 - \pi_L)$  then A would play only **Down**. But there are no Nash equilibria in which A plays only Down.

# Mixed Strategies

		Player B	
		L, $\pi_L$	R, $1-\pi_L$
Player A	U, $\frac{3}{5}$	(1,2)	(0,4)
	D, $\frac{2}{5}$	(0,5)	(3,2)

So for there to exist a Nash equilibrium, A must be indifferent between playing Up or Down; i.e.  $\pi_L = 3(1 - \pi_L)$

# Mixed Strategies

		Player B	
		L, $\pi_L$	R, $1-\pi_L$
Player A	U, $\frac{3}{5}$	(1,2)	(0,4)
	D, $\frac{2}{5}$	(0,5)	(3,2)

So for there to exist a Nash equilibrium, A must be indifferent between playing Up or Down; i.e.  $\pi_L = 3(1 - \pi_L) \Rightarrow \pi_L = 3/4$ .

# Mixed Strategies

		Player B	
		L, $\frac{3}{4}$	R, $\frac{1}{4}$
Player A	U, $\frac{3}{5}$	(1,2)	(0,4)
	D, $\frac{2}{5}$	(0,5)	(3,2)

So for there to exist a Nash equilibrium, A must be indifferent between playing Up or Down; i.e.  $\pi_L = 3(1 - \pi_L) \Rightarrow \pi_L = 3/4$ .

# Mixed Strategies

		Player B	
		L, $\frac{3}{4}$	R, $\frac{1}{4}$
Player A	U, $\frac{3}{5}$	(1,2)	(0,4)
	D, $\frac{2}{5}$	(0,5)	(3,2)

So the game's only Nash equilibrium has A playing the mixed strategy  $(\frac{3}{5}, \frac{2}{5})$  and has B playing the mixed strategy  $(\frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{4})$ .

# Mixed Strategies

		Player B	
		L, $\frac{3}{4}$	R, $\frac{1}{4}$
Player A	U, $\frac{3}{5}$	(1,2) 9/20	(0,4)
	D, $\frac{2}{5}$	(0,5)	(3,2)

The payoffs will be (1,2) with probability

$$\frac{3}{5} \times \frac{3}{4} = \frac{9}{20}$$

# Mixed Strategies

		Player B	
		L, $\frac{3}{4}$	R, $\frac{1}{4}$
Player A	U, $\frac{3}{5}$	(1,2) 9/20	(0,4) 3/20
	D, $\frac{2}{5}$	(0,5)	(3,2)

The payoffs will be (0,4) with probability

$$\frac{3}{5} \times \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{20}$$



# Mixed Strategies

		Player B	
		L, $\frac{3}{4}$	R, $\frac{1}{4}$
Player A	U, $\frac{3}{5}$	(1,2) 9/20	(0,4) 3/20
	D, $\frac{2}{5}$	(0,5) 6/20	(3,2)

The payoffs will be (0,5) with probability

$$\frac{2}{5} \times \frac{3}{4} = \frac{6}{20}$$

# Mixed Strategies

		Player B	
		L, $\frac{3}{4}$	R, $\frac{1}{4}$
Player A	U, $\frac{3}{5}$	(1,2) 9/20	(0,4) 3/20
	D, $\frac{2}{5}$	(0,5) 6/20	(3,2) 2/20

The payoffs will be (3,2) with probability

$$\frac{2}{5} \times \frac{1}{4} = \frac{2}{20}$$

# Mixed Strategies

		Player B	
		L, $\frac{3}{4}$	R, $\frac{1}{4}$
Player A	U, $\frac{3}{5}$	(1,2) 9/20	(0,4) 3/20
	D, $\frac{2}{5}$	(0,5) 6/20	(3,2) 2/20

A's expected Nash equilibrium payoff is

$$1 \times \frac{9}{20} + 0 \times \frac{3}{20} + 0 \times \frac{6}{20} + 3 \times \frac{2}{20} = \frac{3}{4}.$$

# Mixed Strategies

		Player B	
		L, $\frac{3}{4}$	R, $\frac{1}{4}$
Player A	U, $\frac{3}{5}$	(1,2) 9/20	(0,4) 3/20
	D, $\frac{2}{5}$	(0,5) 6/20	(3,2) 2/20

A's expected Nash equilibrium payoff is

$$1 \times \frac{9}{20} + 0 \times \frac{3}{20} + 0 \times \frac{6}{20} + 3 \times \frac{2}{20} = \frac{3}{4}.$$

B's expected Nash equilibrium payoff is

$$2 \times \frac{9}{20} + 4 \times \frac{3}{20} + 5 \times \frac{6}{20} + 2 \times \frac{2}{20} = \frac{16}{5}.$$

# How Many Nash Equilibria?

**A game with a finite number of players, each with a finite number of pure strategies, has at least one Nash equilibrium.**

如果一个博弈的参与者有限，且每个参与者的纯策略数量有限，那么这个博弈至少存在一个纳什均衡。

# How Many Nash Equilibria?

**So if the game has no pure strategy Nash equilibrium then it must have at least one mixed strategy Nash equilibrium.**

如果有限参与者、有限纯策略的博弈不存在纯策略纳什均衡，那么它至少存在一个混合策略纳什均衡。

# Some Applications of Game Theory

**The study of oligopolies (industries containing only a few firms)**

**The study of bidding and auctions**

**The study of externalities; e.g. using a common resource such as a fishery.**

**The study of social interaction and human behavior**