

Applied Algorithms. Prof. Tami Tamir

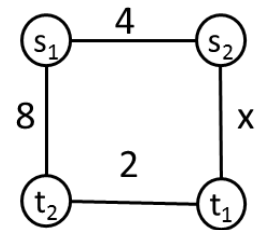
Missing Proofs, lecture 8. July 10th.

A Network Formation Game – Example.

Consider the following undirected network.

For every value of $x \geq 0$ determine

1. The social optimum.
2. The routings that form a NE
3. The PoA and the PoS.



Solution: Every player has two strategies. The possible profiles and utilizations:

Player 1 \ Player 2	$s_2-t_1-t_2$	$s_2-s_1-t_2$
$s_1-s_2-t_1$	R1 $4+x/2, x/2+2$	R2 $2+x, 10$
$s_1-t_2-t_1$	R3 $9, x+1$	R4 $6, 8$

1. The total costs are R1: $x+6$, R2: $x+12$, R3: $x+10$, R4: 14.

Calculating the social optimum: The minimum total cost is either $x+6$ or 14.

For $x \leq 8$, $SO = x+6$. For $x > 8$, $SO = 14$.

2. Calculating stable profiles:

R1 is a NE if $4+x/2 \leq 9$ and $x/2+2 \leq 10$

$$\underline{x \leq 10} \text{ and } x \leq 16.$$

R2 is a NE if $2+x \leq 6$ and $10 \leq x/2+2$

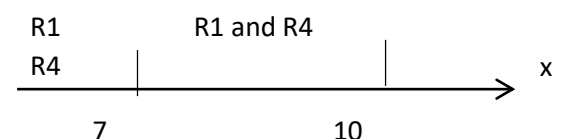
$$x \leq 4 \text{ and } x \geq 16. \text{ NEVER}$$

R3 is a NE if $9 \leq 4+x/2$ and $x+1 \leq 8$

$$10 \leq x \text{ and } x \leq 7. \text{ NEVER}$$

R4 is a NE if $6 \leq 2+x$ and $8 \leq x+1$

$$4 \leq x \text{ and } \underline{7 \leq x}.$$



3. Equilibrium inefficiency:

For $x < 7$, R1 is the only one NE. $PoA = PoS = (x+6)/(x+6) = 1$

For $x > 10$, R4 is the only NE. $PoA = PoS = 14/14 = 1$

For $7 \leq x \leq 10$ R1 and R4 are NE, $SO = x+6$

$$PoS = \min\{(x+6), 14\} / (x+6) = (x+6) / (x+6) = 1.$$

$$PoA = \max\{(x+6), 14\} / (x+6) = 14 / (x+6).$$

For $8 \leq x \leq 10$ R1 and R4 are NE, $SO=14$

$$PoS = \min\{(x+6), 14\} / 14 = (x+6) / (x+6) = 1.$$

$$PoA = \max\{(x+6), 14\} / 14 = x+6 / 14.$$

Hardness proof of Min-cost NE profile - Reduction to 3-D matching.

Claim: there exists a 3-dim matching of size n if and only if the NFG has a Nash equilibrium of cost $3n$.

Proof: Let T' be a 3-dim matching of size n . For every element in $X \cup Y \cup Z$ there exists a triplet in T' to which it belongs. Consider the profile in which every element-note route to t through its corresponding triplet-node in T' . The total cost of this profile is $3|T'| = 3n$. Every player has cost $3/3=1$. This is a NE profile, since a player can only deviate to paths in which his cost will be 3.

Let p be a NE profile of cost $3n$. The social cost consists of n edges of cost 3. Therefore, exactly n triplet-nodes are included in the selected paths. Since every triplet-node can participate in the strategy of at most three players, we get that the profile induces a partition of the $3n$ players into n triplets, which form a 3-d matching.