

ascending price auction (English auction) - Second price auction (SPA)  
 dynamic, learning sth. about competition  $\rightarrow$  consider static

descending price auction (Deutsch) - first - - - - (FPA)  
 raise when have the highest price.

Proof: Ascending  $\equiv$  Second.

$\hookrightarrow$  decide when to raise (flashhold)

optimal at beginning  $\Rightarrow$  optimal when learning.

assume: drop out price

$\hookrightarrow$  pay the highest than others drop out

second highest drop out price.

decide simultaneously (submit), don't know what opponent doing).  
 static auctions

strategy for player (bidder)  $i$  is to submit a bid  $b_i \in \mathbb{R}_+ \setminus \{0\}$

$n$  bidders  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$

$(b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n)$  = bid profile

rule of auction determines as a function of bid profile  
 who gives the goods and what everybody pays.

## First Price Auction

utility for

$$M_i(b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n | v_i) = \begin{cases} v_i - b_i & \text{(surplus)} \\ \frac{1}{\# \{j: b_j = b_i\}} (v_i - b_i) & \text{(the number of)} \\ 0 & \end{cases}$$

$$b_i \text{ (highest bid)} > \max_{j \neq i} b_j$$

$$b_i = \max_{j \neq i} b_j$$

$$b_i < \max_{j \neq i} b_j$$

## Second Price Auction

$$\begin{cases} v_i - \frac{\max_{j \neq i} b_j}{\# \{j: b_j \geq b_i\}} (v_i - b_i) & b_i > \max_{j \neq i} b_j \\ 0 & b_i = \max_{j \neq i} b_j \\ & \dots < \dots \end{cases}$$

equilibrium, incomplete information

## Dominant Strategy Equilibrium.

Bid  $b_i$  is a DS for bidder  $i$  of valuation  $v_i$

if bidding  $b_i$  is optimal for this bidder, regardless of what other bidders submit

$$(b_1, b_2, \dots, \underbrace{b_i}_{(b-i)}, \dots, b_n)$$

$$\Delta M_i(b_i, b_{-i} | v_i) \geq M_i(b_i', b_{-i} | v_i), \forall b_i', \forall b_{-i}$$

most games do not have a DSE

"battle of the sexes" Jack

decide independently, simultaneously.

base on guess of what the other do.

no DSE.

Bu	Ba	4, 3	0, 0
		0, 0	3, 4
		Bu	Ba

(go together)  
2 optimal.

most auction do not have DSE.

However, SPA has DSE  $\Rightarrow$  goal: maximize the surplus Xwin!

It is a dominant strategy for bidder  $i$  of valuation  $v_i$  to bid  $v_i$   
the truthful bidding is a DSE.

Proof:

$$\Delta v_i > \max_{j \neq i} b_j$$

$$\text{if bid } v_i \quad M_i(v_i, b_{-i} | v_i) = v_i - \max_{j \neq i} b_j.$$

$$\text{suppose } b_i' > \max_{j \neq i} b_j \Rightarrow M(b_i', b_{-i} | v_i) = v_i - \max_{j \neq i} b_j \quad (\text{not improve}).$$

$$b_i' < \max_{j \neq i} b_j \Rightarrow 0$$

$$b_i = \max_{j \neq i} b_j \Rightarrow \overline{\{j: b_j = i\}} (v_i - \max_{j \neq i} b_j) \quad \text{worse}$$

$$\Delta \quad v_i < \max_{j \neq i} b_j$$

if bidder  $i$  bid  $v_i \Rightarrow 0$

$$b_i' < \max_{j \neq i} b_j \Rightarrow 0 \quad \text{not improve}$$

$$b_i' > \max_{j \neq i} b_j \Rightarrow < 0 \quad (v_i - b_i') < 0 \quad \text{negative} \Rightarrow \text{lose}$$

Intuition