

# GAME THEORY

J. von Neumann  
'Theory of Games  
and  
Economic  
Behavior'

## Game of Move

$P_1$  (1,1), (1,2), (2,1), (2,2).

$P_2$  (1,1), (1,2), (2,1), (2,2)

$$P_1 \begin{matrix} & P_2 \\ & (1,1) & (1,2) & (2,1) & (2,2) \\ (1,1) & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & -3 & 0 \\ -2 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 & -4 \\ 0 & -3 & 4 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ (1,2) & \\ (2,1) & \\ (2,2) & \end{matrix} = A = -A^T$$

him:  $P_1$  wants to  
maximize his/her  
avg. and  $P_2$  wants to  
minimize the same.

Payoff

Matrix w/ot  $P_1$

David Blackwell

Question: Does  $\exists$  a real number  $v$  for the given

payoff matrix  $A$  of order  $m \times n$ , such that  
 $P_1$  has a 'strategy' which will fetch him/her  
on the average  $v$ , no matter what  $P_2$  does  
and can you say  $P_2$  has a 'strategy' s.t.  
which will restrict  $P_1$ 's avg. to at most  
 $v$  no matter what  $P_1$  does.

David Gale

Suppose  $A = -A^T$ , then  $v = 0$ .

Suppose  $\exists$  a fork vector  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

such that  $Ax \leq 0$ .  $\Rightarrow x^T A x \leq 0$ .  $x^T A^T x \geq 0$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} \leq \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n \leq 0$$

$$a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n \leq 0$$

$$a_{m1}x_1 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n \leq 0$$



John von Neumann  
Theory of Games  
and  
Economic  
Behavior

$$-A = -A^T$$

x6

The  
machine gave  
the given  
such that  
fitted him/her  
what T. does  
'strategy' s.t.  
to almost

A700

(0  
0  
0)

that is called a mixed strategy.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & -3 & 0 \\ -2 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 & -4 \\ 0 & -3 & 4 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1-x_1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -2x_1 + 3(1-x_1) \\ 3x_1 - 4(1-x_1) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} -5x_1 + 3 &= 0 \Rightarrow x_1 = 3/5 \\ 3x_1 - 4 &= 0 \Rightarrow x_1 = 4/3 \\ x_1 &= 0 \text{ or } 1 \\ \frac{3}{5} < x_1 < \frac{4}{3} & \text{ - not possible} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ x_1 \\ 1-x_1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2x_1 - 3(1-x_1) \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ -3x_1 + 4(1-x_1) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 5x_1 &\leq 3 \\ x_1 &\leq 3/5 \\ 4 &\leq 3x_1 \\ x_1 &\geq 4/3 \\ \frac{3}{5} &\leq x_1 \leq \frac{4}{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$x_1 \in \left[ \frac{3}{5}, \frac{4}{3} \right] \text{ is optimal}$$

G. Dantzig

[Simplex method] R

$$\begin{matrix} & R & P & S \\ R & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & -3 \\ -2 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} = A = -A^T$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & -3 \\ -2 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & 3/6 \\ x_2 & 4/6 \\ 1-x_1-x_2 & 4/6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$(3/6, 4/6, 4/6)$  is the unique optimal strategy.

I. Kadlansky.

Defn: Call  $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m)$  is a mixed strategy if  $x_i \geq 0 \forall i=1, 2, \dots, m$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^m x_i = 1$ .

Call  $x$  a completely mixed strategy if  $x_i > 0 \forall i=1, 2, \dots, n$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^n x_i = 1$ .

Call a matrix game  $A$  completely mixed if every optimal for either player is completely mixed.



## GMTH (Lec 2)

$$P_1: \{1, 2, \dots, m\} = I, \quad i \in I, j \in J.$$

$$P_2: \{1, 2, \dots, n\} = J.$$

$$x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m), \quad x_i \geq 0, \quad \sum_{i=1}^m x_i = 1.$$

(mixed strategy)

$$y = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n), \quad y_j \geq 0, \quad \sum_{j=1}^n y_j = 1.$$

$A(x, y)$  = Expected payoff to  $P_1$

$$\stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m a_{ij} x_i y_j.$$

$$X = \{x: x \text{ is a mixed strategy to } P_1\}$$

$$Y = \{y: y \text{ is a mixed strategy to } P_2\}$$

obs:

(1)  $X$  and  $Y$  are nonempty convex sets in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  and  $\mathbb{R}^n$  respectively.

(2)  $X$  &  $Y$  are closed and bounded.

(3)  $A(x, y)$  is jointly cts over  $X \times Y$ .

↑ upper value of the game.

$$U = \min_{y \in Y} \max_{x \in X} A(x, y).$$

$$L = \max_{x \in X} \min_{y \in Y} A(x, y).$$

Lemma:  $U \geq L$ .

Fundamental result (two person matrix games).

Minimax theorem (John von Neumann)

$$U = L.$$

Remark: This common value  $v = U = L$  is called the value of the game and it is unique.



$$v = \min_y \max_x A(x, y) = \max_x \min_y A(x, y)$$

$$= \max_x A(x, y^*) = \min_y A(x^*, y) = A(x^*, y^*)$$

Call  $y^*$  optimal for  $P_2$  if  $A(x, y^*) \leq v \forall x$ .

Call  $x^*$  optimal for  $P_1$  if  $A(x^*, y) \geq v \forall y$ .

Dantzig's way of looking at minimax theorem

Result of von Neumann:  $\exists$  a unique real number  $v$  and a pair  $(x^*, y^*)$  such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^m a_{ij} x_i^* \geq v \quad \forall j = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

$$\text{and } \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} y_j^* \leq v \quad \forall i = 1, 2, \dots, m$$

$x, x'$

$$\sum_{i=1}^m a_{ij} x_i \geq \lambda_j \quad \forall j. \quad \text{Suppose } \lambda_1 > \lambda_2$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} x_j' \geq \lambda_2 \quad \forall i$$

Wlog assume  $a_{ij} > 0 \quad \forall i, j$ .

$\max \lambda$

subject to

$$\sum_{i=1}^m a_{ij} x_i \geq \lambda \quad \forall j = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

$$x_i \geq 0$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^m x_i = 1$$

$$\lambda \geq 0$$

$\max \lambda$

$$\sum_{i=1}^m a_{ij} \left( \frac{x_i}{\lambda} \right) \geq 1 \quad \forall j$$

$$\sum a_{ij} \xi_i \geq 0, \quad \xi_i \geq 0$$

$$\xi_i = \frac{x_i}{\lambda}$$

$$\sum \xi_i = \frac{1}{\lambda}$$



Reformulation:-

$$\begin{aligned} \min \sum \xi_i \\ \text{subject to} \\ \sum a_{ij} \xi_i \geq 1 \\ \xi_i \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Kaplan'sky Reference  
(A contribution to  
Von Neumann)

Call  $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m)$  a completely mixed strategy if  $x_i > 0 \forall i = 1, 2, \dots, m$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^m x_i = 1$ .

Call the matrix game  $A$  is completely mixed if every optimal (for either player) is completely mixed.

Lemma 1: Let  $x^0$  be an optimal strategy which is completely mixed.

Let  $y^0$  be any optimal for  $P_2$ . then,

$$\sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} y_j^0 = v \quad \forall i = 1, 2, \dots, m.$$

Proof: Since  $y^0$  is optimal for  $P_2$ ,  $\sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} y_j^0 \leq v \quad \forall i$ .

$$\text{Suppose } \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} y_j^0 < v.$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} y_j^0 \leq v \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, i_0-1, i_0+1, \dots, m.$$

$$A(x, y^0) = \sum \sum a_{ij} y_j^0 x_i^0 < v. \quad \text{— Contradiction}$$

since  $A(x, y^0) = v$ .

Lemma 2: Assume every optimal of  $P_1$  to be completely mixed.

$$\text{Suppose } v = 0.$$

$$\text{then } m-1 \leq r(A) \leq (n-1).$$

" $r(A) \leq (n-1)$ " follows from the previous lemma.

Corollary:

not

Lemma

not

which

Main



Corollary:-

If  $m > n$ , then  $P_1$  has an optimal which is not completely mixed.

Lemma 3:- Suppose  $m = n$ . If  $P_1$  has an optimal which is not completely mixed then  $P_2$  also has an optimal which is not completely mixed.

$$\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}_{2 \times 3}$$

$\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$  is optimal and completely mixed.

$y' = (0, 0, 1)$  is optimal for  $P_2$ .

Main Theorem (Kaplansky)

Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ . Assume  $v = 0$ .

Then the game is completely mixed if

- (i)  $m = n$ .
- (ii)  $\sigma(A) = n - 1$
- (iii) all the cofactors  $A_{ij}$  (of  $a_{ij}$ ) are diff from zero and are of the same sign.

Ex: Let  $A = -A^T$   
Assume  $A$  is of even order  
Show that  $A$  is not completely mixed