

1. (a) Provide definitions for the following terms:

- Normal form game.
- Strictly dominated strategy.
- Weakly dominated strategy.
- Best response strategy.
- Mixed strategy Nash equilibrium.

[5]

(b) State and prove a theorem giving a condition for which a strategy of the row player is a best response to a given strategy of the column player. [8]

(c) Consider the following Normal Form Game defined by:

$$M_r = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -2 \\ -1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad M_c = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 \\ -3 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

State and justify which pairs of strategies are best responses to each other:

- (i)  $\sigma_r = (1, 0)$  and  $\sigma_c = (0, 1)$
- (ii)  $\sigma_r = (1/5, 4/5)$  and  $\sigma_c = (0, 1)$
- (iii)  $\sigma_r = (5/9, 4/9)$  and  $\sigma_c = (1/2, 1/2)$

[9]

(d) Using your answer to (c) or otherwise, find all Nash equilibria for the game. [4]

2. Consider the donation game defined by:

$$M_r = \begin{pmatrix} b+c & c \\ b+2c & 2c \end{pmatrix} \quad M_c = \begin{pmatrix} b+c & b+2c \\ c & 2c \end{pmatrix}$$

- (a) Show that if  $b > c > 0$  then this game is a Prisoner's Dilemma. [3]
- (b) Obtain all Nash equilibrium for this game assuming the constraints of (a). [2]
- (c) Consider a Moran Process on this game. Obtain an expression for the fixation probability of  $i$  mutants: playing the first strategy in a population of size  $N$  as a function of  $b, c$  and  $N$ .

You may use the following expression for the fixation probability in the general two type Moran process:

$$\rho_i = \frac{1 + \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \prod_{k=1}^j \gamma_k}{1 + \sum_{j=1}^{N-1} \prod_{k=1}^j \gamma_k}$$

where:

$$\gamma_k = \frac{f_R(i)}{f_M(i)}$$

Where  $f_R(i)$  and  $f_M(i)$  is the fitness of a resident/mutant respectively in a population with  $i$  mutants. [8]

- (d) Obtain the probability of a single mutant taking over for  $N \in \{2, 3, 4\}$ . [6]
- (e) For  $N = 4$  consider the limit as  $b \rightarrow \infty$  and as  $b \rightarrow c$ . Comment on the implications of these results. [6]

3. (a) Define a characteristic function game  $G = (N, v)$ .

[2]

- (b) Define the Shapley value.

[2]

- (c) Obtain the Shapley value for the following characteristic function games:

$$v_1(c) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } c = \emptyset \\ 8, & \text{if } c = \{1\} \\ 5, & \text{if } c = \{2\} \\ 9, & \text{if } c = \{3\} \\ 10, & \text{if } c = \{1, 2\} \\ 11, & \text{if } c = \{2, 3\} \\ 18, & \text{if } c = \{1, 3\} \\ 30, & \text{if } c = \{1, 2, 3\} \end{cases} \quad v_2(c) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } c = \emptyset \\ 80, & \text{if } c = \{1\} \\ 10, & \text{if } c = \{2\} \\ 12, & \text{if } c = \{3\} \\ 80, & \text{if } c = \{1, 2\} \\ 12, & \text{if } c = \{2, 3\} \\ 80, & \text{if } c = \{1, 3\} \\ 80, & \text{if } c = \{1, 2, 3\} \end{cases}$$

[8]

- (d) Given a game  $G = (N, v)$ , a payoff vector  $\lambda$  satisfies the symmetry property if, for any pair of players  $i, j$ :

If  $v(C \cup i) = v(C \cup j)$  for all coalitions  $C \subseteq \Omega \setminus \{i, j\}$ , then:

$$\lambda_i = \lambda_j$$

Prove that the Shapley value satisfies the symmetry property.

[6]

- (e) The additivity property is:

Given two games  $G_1 = (N, v_1)$  and  $G_2 = (N, v_2)$ , define their sum  $G^+ = (N, v^+)$  by:

$$v^+(C) = v_1(C) + v_2(C) \quad \text{for all } C \subseteq \Omega$$

A payoff vector  $\lambda$  satisfies the additivity property if:

$$\lambda_i^{(G^+)} = \lambda_i^{(G_1)} + \lambda_i^{(G_2)}$$

Using the two games from part (c), demonstrate that the Shapley value has the additivity property.

[7]

4. (a) Define a **social welfare function**.

[2]

- (b) State **Arrow's Impossibility Theorem**. Briefly discuss the implications of this theorem and ways in which the **Borda** or **Condorcet** methods respond to this impossibility.

[5]

- (c) Consider the following preference profile over the set of alternatives  $X = \{A, B, C\}$ :

Number of voters	1st choice	2nd choice	3rd choice
4	A	B	C
3	B	C	A
2	C	A	B

- (i) Construct the pairwise majority contests among the three alternatives.
- (ii) Determine if there is a **Condorcet winner**.
- (iii) Explain whether the collective preference relation using this approach is transitive.

[8]

- (d) Apply the **Borda count** method to the same profile.

- (i) Compute the Borda scores for each alternative.
- (ii) Identify the Borda winner.
- (iii) Does the Borda method select the same outcome as the Condorcet method?

[7]

- (e) Define what it means for a voting rule to satisfy the **Independence of Irrelevant Alternatives (IIA)** property. Then, using the Borda count, give an example or explanation of how IIA may fail.

[3]