

Empirical-evidence Equilibria in Stochastic Games

Nicolas Dudebout

Context

Multiagent problems

- stock market
- group of robots

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Multiagent problems

- stock market
- group of robots
- predictive
- prescriptive

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Multiagent problems

- stock market
- group of robots
- predictive
- prescriptive

Game-theoretic approach

- selfish agents
- different solution concepts

Empirical-evidence Equilibrium (EEE)

Motivation

Definition

Existence

Comparison

Characterization

Predictive Use

Prescriptive Use

Graphical convention

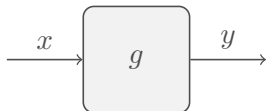


$$y^+ \sim f(x)$$

Graphical convention



$$y^+ \sim f(x)$$

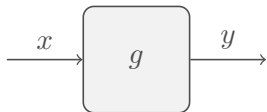


$$y^{t+1} \sim g(x^1, \dots, x^t, y^1, \dots, y^t)$$

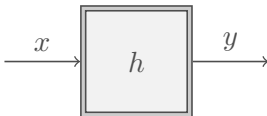
Graphical convention



$$y^+ \sim f(x)$$



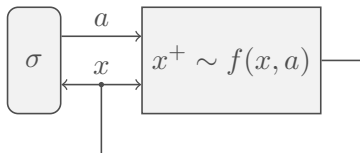
$$y^{t+1} \sim g(x^1, \dots, x^t, y^1, \dots, y^t)$$



$$y^+ \sim h(y, x)$$

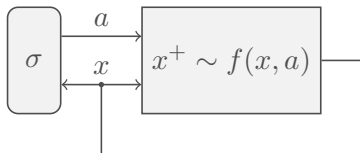
Markov Decision Process (MDP)

$$\max_{\sigma} \mathbb{E}_{\sigma} \left[\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \delta^t \cdot u(x^t, a^t) \right]$$

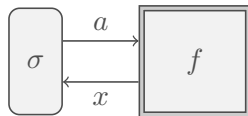


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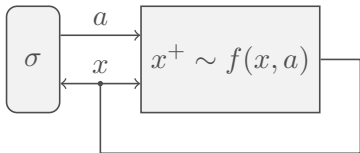


$$u(x, a), \delta$$

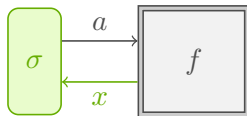


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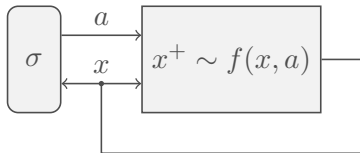


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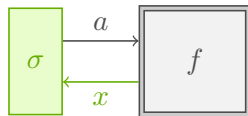


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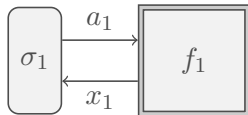


$$u(x, a), \delta$$

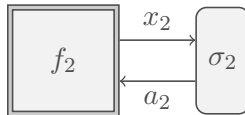


Stochastic Game

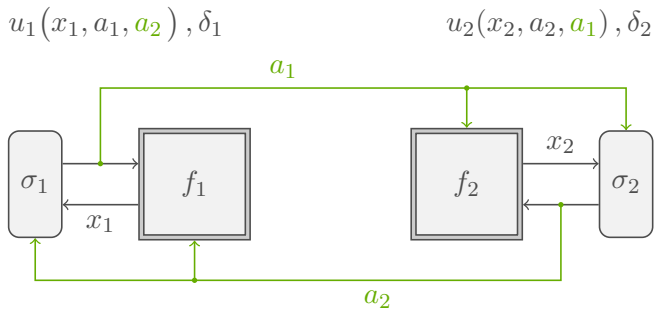
$$u_1(x_1, a_1), \delta_1$$



$$u_2(x_2, a_2), \delta_2$$

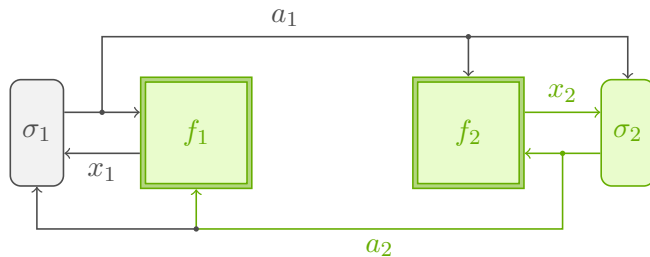


Stochastic Game



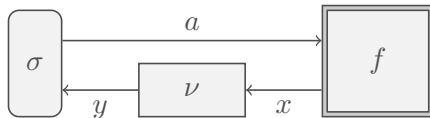
Stochastic Game

$$u_1(x_1, a_1, a_2), \delta_1$$



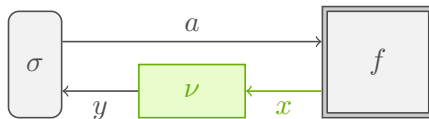
Partially Observable Markov Decision Process (POMDP)

$$u(x, a), \delta$$

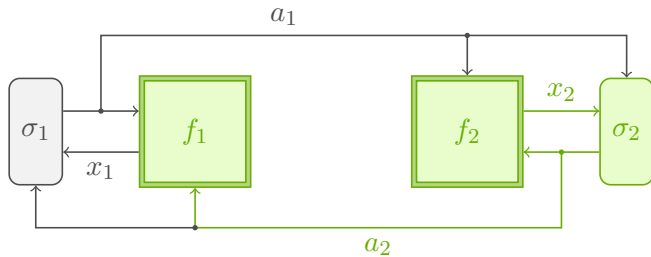


Partially Observable Markov Decision Process (POMDP)

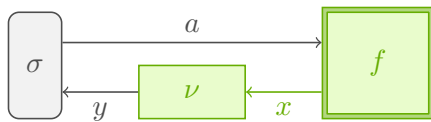
$$u(x, a), \delta$$



$$u_1(x_1, a_1, a_2), \delta_1$$



$$u(x, a), \delta$$



Recap

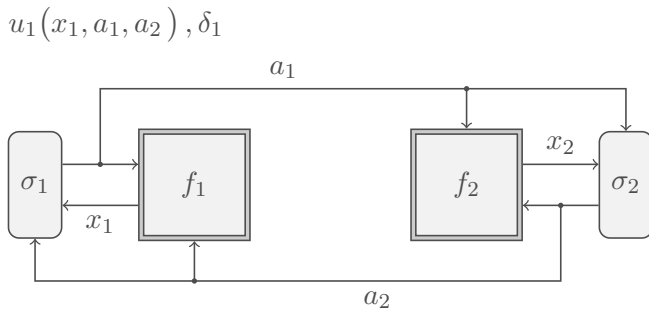
- Multiagent problems
- Game-theoretic approach
- Nash equilibrium in stochastic game \iff unknown POMDPs

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POMDP intractable

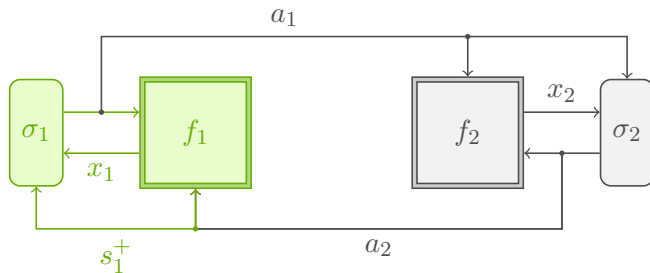
MDP solved

Stochastic Game

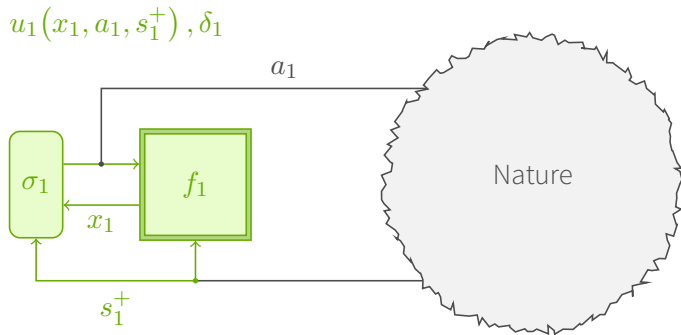


Stochastic Game

$$u_1(x_1, a_1, s_1^+), \delta_1$$

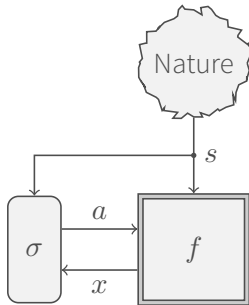


Stochastic Game



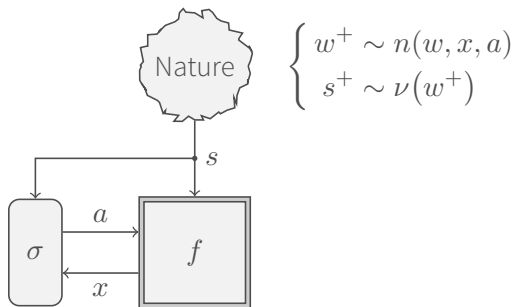
Nature

$$u(x, a, s^+), \delta$$



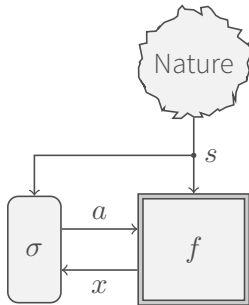
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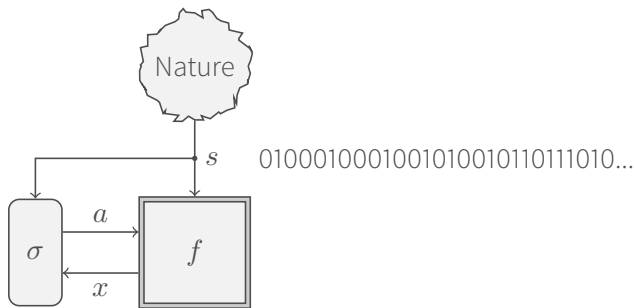
Nature

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Simple Consistency

0100010001001010010110111010...

Simple Consistency

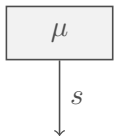
0100010001001010010110111010...

$\mathbb{P}[0], \mathbb{P}[1]$

Simple Consistency

0100010001001010010110111010...

$\mathbb{P}[0], \mathbb{P}[1]$

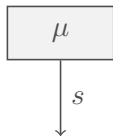


$$\mu[s] = \mathbb{P}[s]$$

Simple Consistency

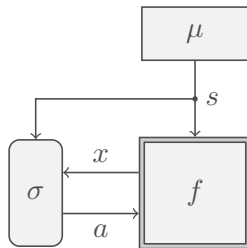
0100010001001010010110111010...

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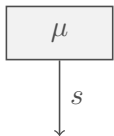
$u(x, a, s^+), \delta$



Simple Consistency

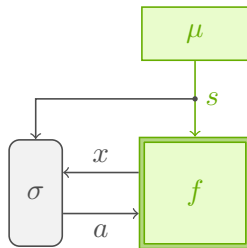
0100010001001010010110111010...

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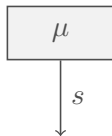
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Simple Consistency

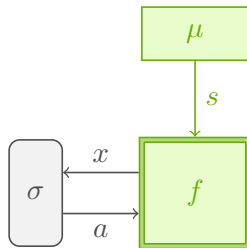
0100010001001010010110111010...

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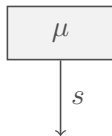
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Simple Consistency

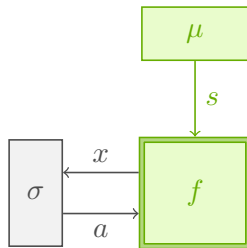
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$\mathbb{P}[0], \mathbb{P}[1]$



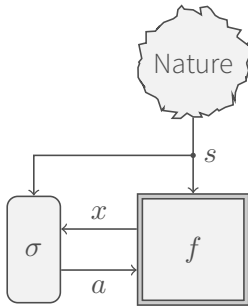
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$u(x, a, s^+), \delta$



Two Systems

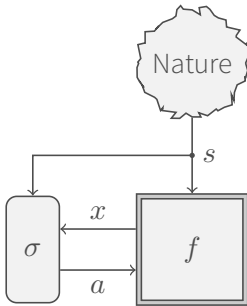
$$u(x, a, s^+), \delta$$



Real System: **R**

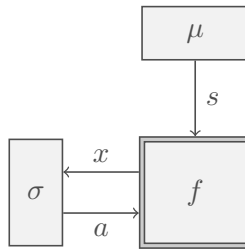
Two Systems

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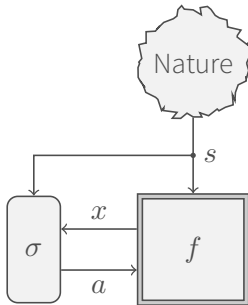
Real System: \mathbf{R}

$$u(x, a, s^+), \delta$$



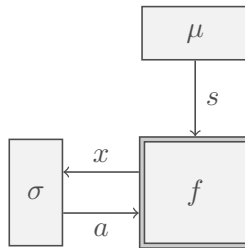
Mockup System: \mathbf{M}

Two Systems



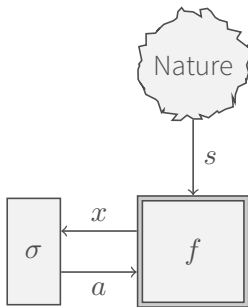
Real System: \mathbf{R}

$$u(x, a, s^+), \delta$$



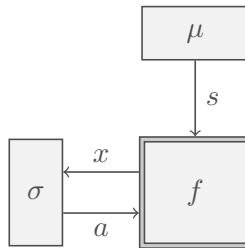
Mockup System: \mathbf{M}

Two Systems



Real System: **R**

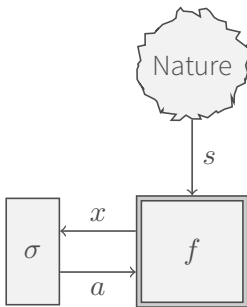
$$u(x, a, s^+), \delta$$



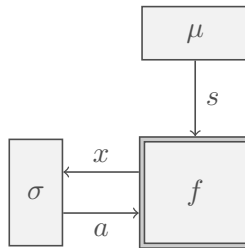
Mockup System: **M**

Two Systems

$$u(x, a, s^+), \delta$$



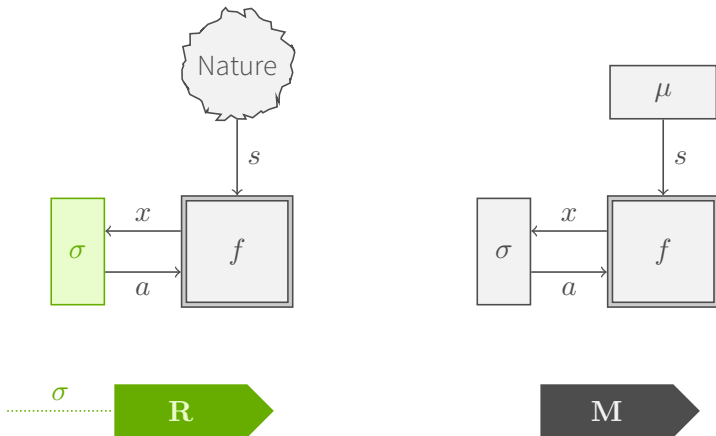
R



M

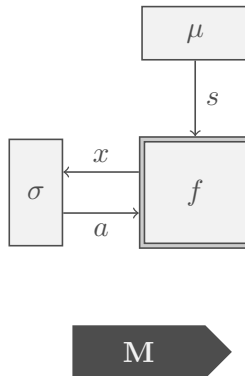
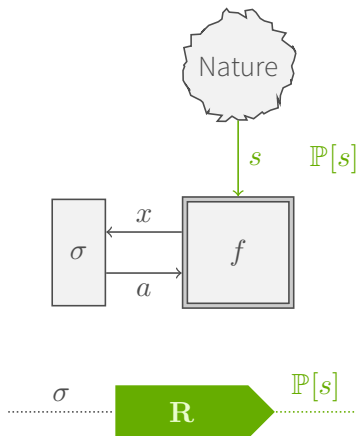
Two Systems

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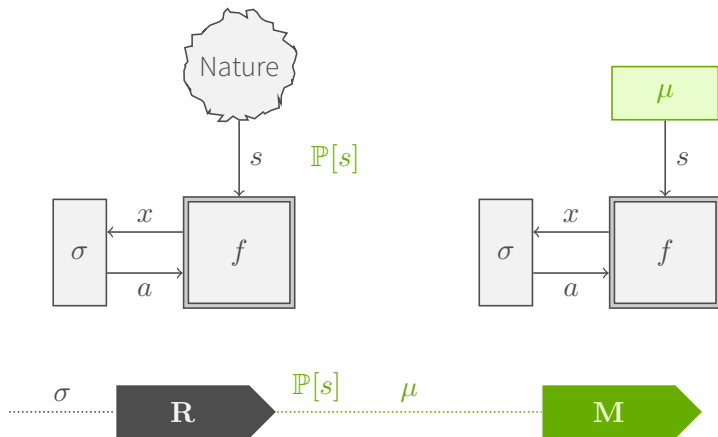
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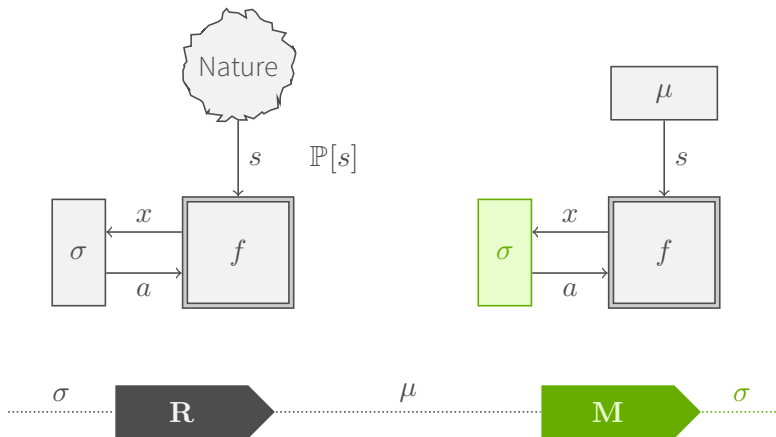
Two Systems

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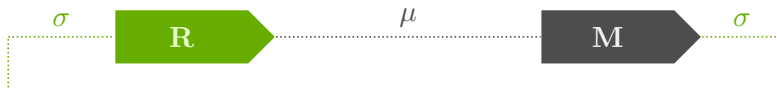
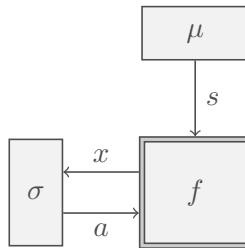
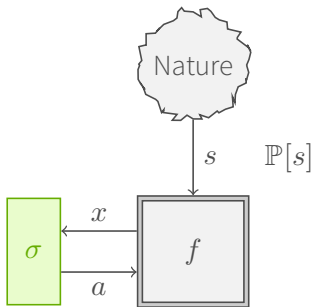
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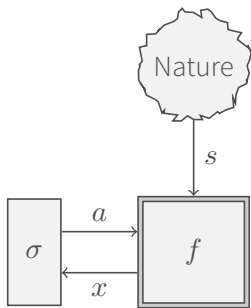


Two Systems

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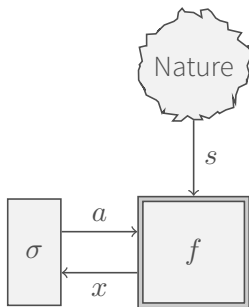


Consistency



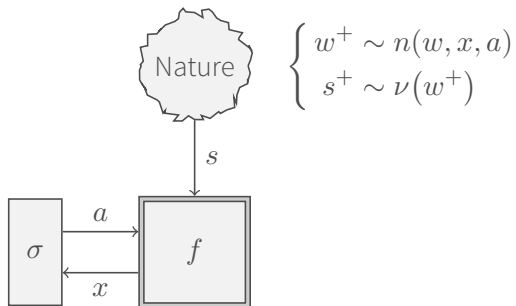
$$\mu[s^+] = \mathbb{P}[s^+]$$

Consistency



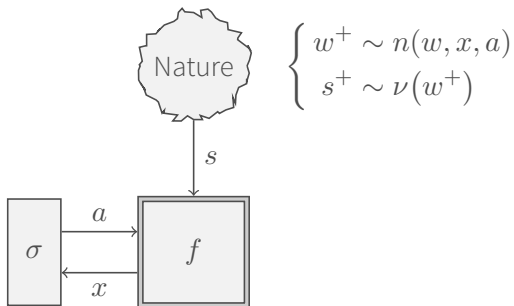
$$\begin{aligned}\mu[s^+] &= \mathbb{P}[s^+] \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}[S^{t+1} = s^+]\end{aligned}$$

Consistency



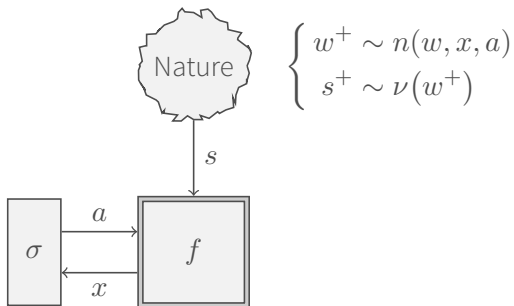
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Consistency



$$\begin{aligned} \mu[s^+] &= \mathbb{P}[s^+] \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}[S^{t+1} = s^+] \\ &= \sum_{w^+, w, x, a} \nu(w^+)[s^+] \cdot \pi[w, x] \cdot \sigma(x)[a] \cdot n(w, x, a)[w^+] \end{aligned}$$

Consistency



$$\begin{aligned}
 \mu[s^+] &= \mathbb{P}[s^+] \\
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 &= \sum_{w^+, w, x, a} \nu(w^+)[s^+] \cdot \pi[w, x] \cdot \sigma(x)[a] \cdot n(w, x, a)[w^+]
 \end{aligned}$$

Depth-1 Consistency

01010101010101010101010101...

Depth-1 Consistency

01010101010101010101010101...

$\mathbb{P}[00], \mathbb{P}[01], \mathbb{P}[11], \mathbb{P}[10]$

Depth-1 Consistency

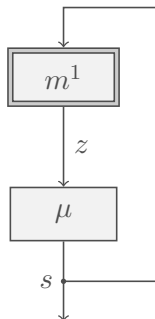
01010101010101010101010101...

$$\mathbb{P}[00], \mathbb{P}[01], \mathbb{P}[11], \mathbb{P}[10] \iff \mathbb{P}[0 \mid 0], \mathbb{P}[1 \mid 0], \mathbb{P}[0 \mid 1], \mathbb{P}[1 \mid 1]$$

Depth-1 Consistency

01010101010101010101010101...

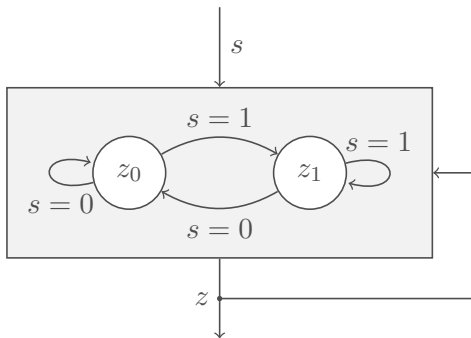
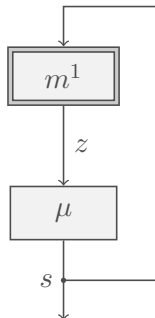
$$\mathbb{P}[00], \mathbb{P}[01], \mathbb{P}[11], \mathbb{P}[10] \iff \mathbb{P}[0 | 0], \mathbb{P}[1 | 0], \mathbb{P}[0 | 1], \mathbb{P}[1 | 1]$$



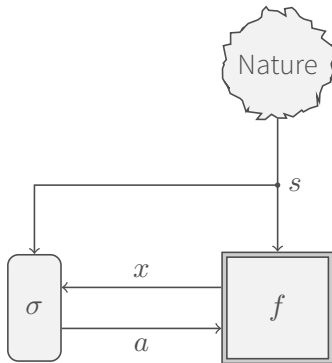
Depth-1 Consistency

0101010101010101010101010101...

$$\mathbb{P}[00], \mathbb{P}[01], \mathbb{P}[11], \mathbb{P}[10] \iff \mathbb{P}[0 | 0], \mathbb{P}[1 | 0], \mathbb{P}[0 | 1], \mathbb{P}[1 | 1]$$

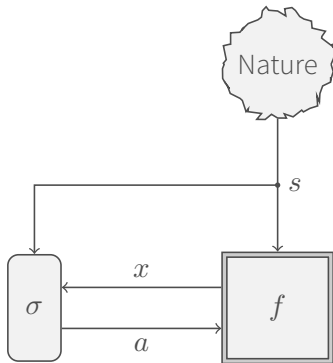


Two Systems

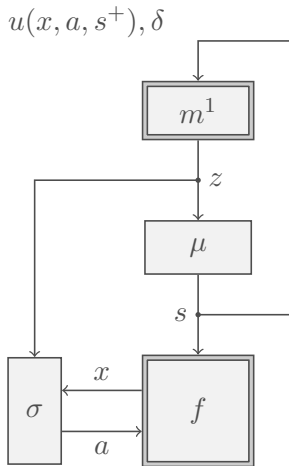


Real System: **R**

Two Systems

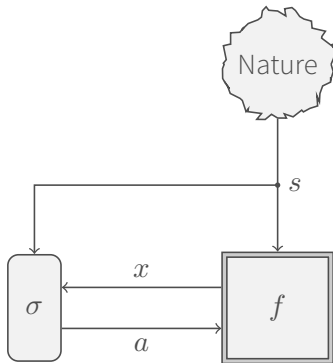


Real System: \mathbf{R}

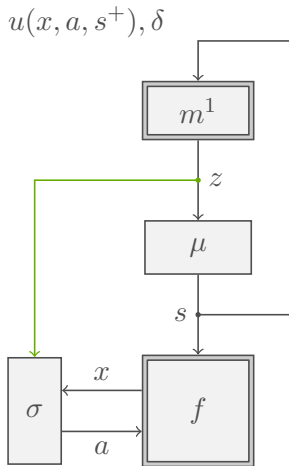


Mockup System: \mathbf{M}

Two Systems

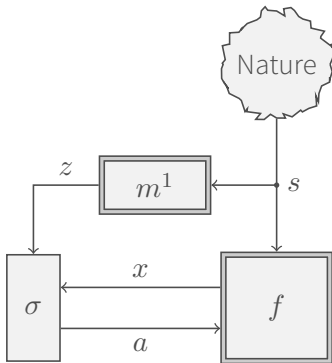


Real System: \mathbf{R}

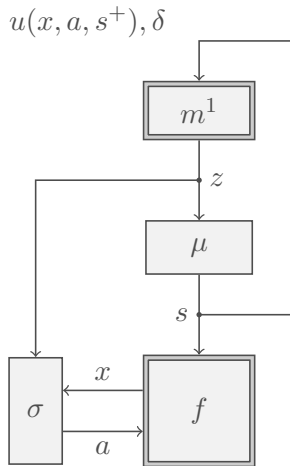


Mockup System: \mathbf{M}

Two Systems

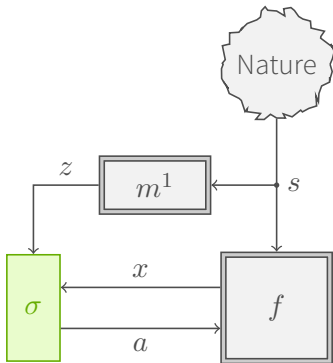


Real System: \mathbf{R}

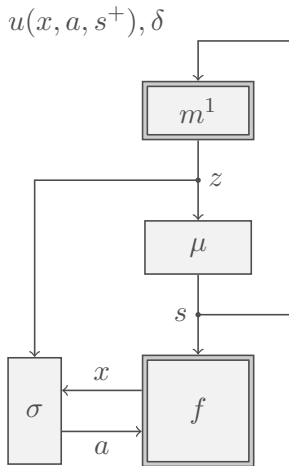


Mockup System: \mathbf{M}

Two Systems

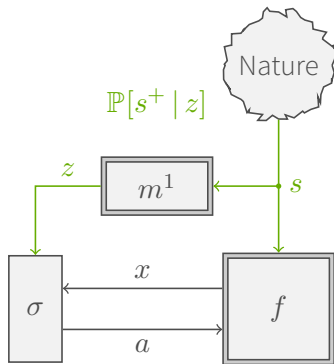


Real System: \mathbf{R}

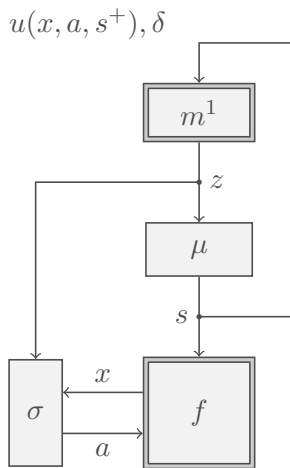


Mockup System: \mathbf{M}

Two Systems

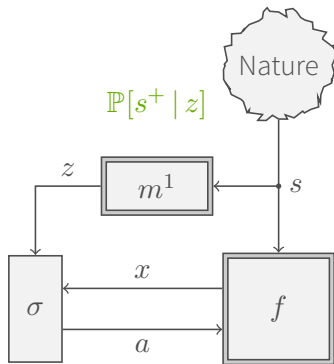


Real System: \mathbf{R}

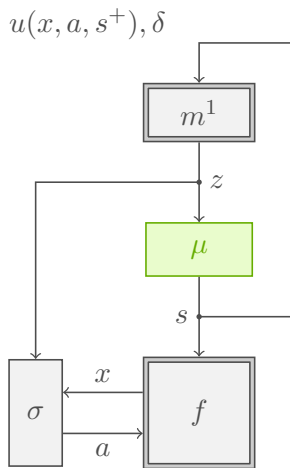


Mockup System: \mathbf{M}

Two Systems

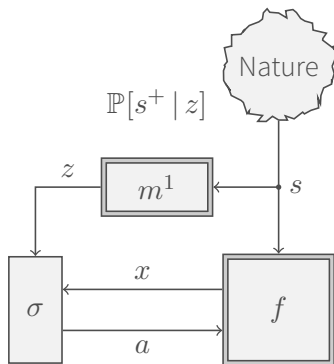


Real System: \mathbf{R}

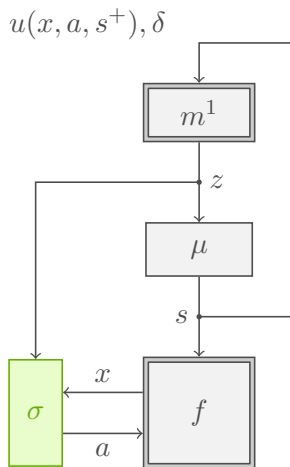


Mockup System: \mathbf{M}

Two Systems

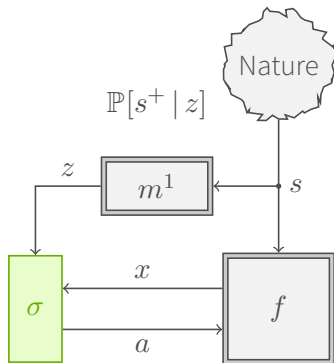


Real System: \mathbf{R}

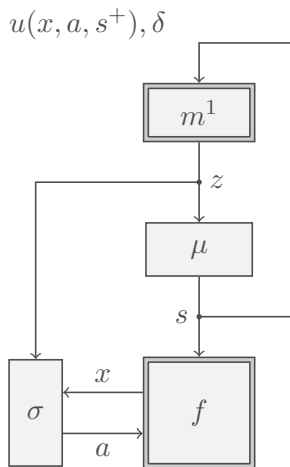


Mockup System: \mathbf{M}

Two Systems

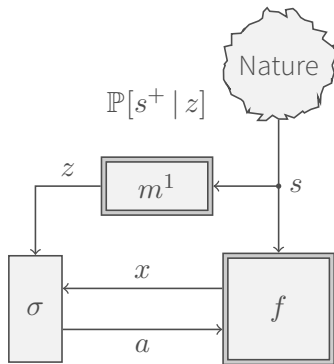


Real System: \mathbf{R}

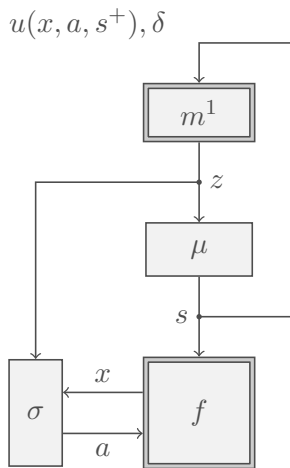


Mockup System: \mathbf{M}

Two Systems

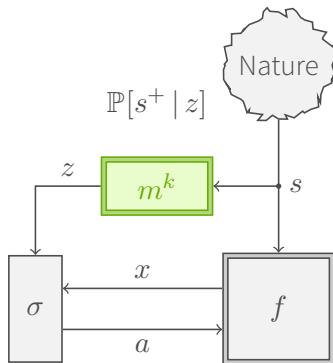


Real System: \mathbf{R}

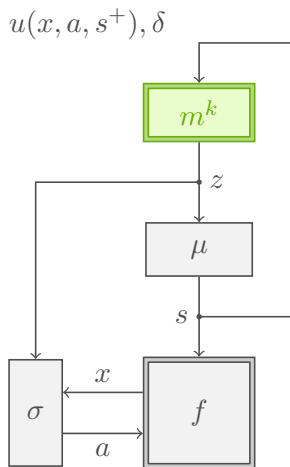


Mockup System: \mathbf{M}

Two Systems

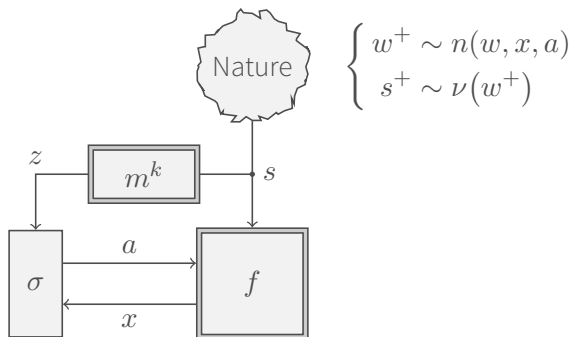


Real System: \mathbf{R}



Mockup System: \mathbf{M}

Depth-k Consistency



$$\begin{aligned} \mu(z)[s^+] &= \mathbb{P}[s^+ | z] \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}[S^{t+1} = s^+ | Z^t = z] \end{aligned}$$

Recap

Start with one agent

Arbitrarily fix a model m^k

Split hard problem:

- Markov chain \mathbf{R}
 \implies consistent predictor μ
- MDP \mathbf{M}
 \implies optimal strategy σ

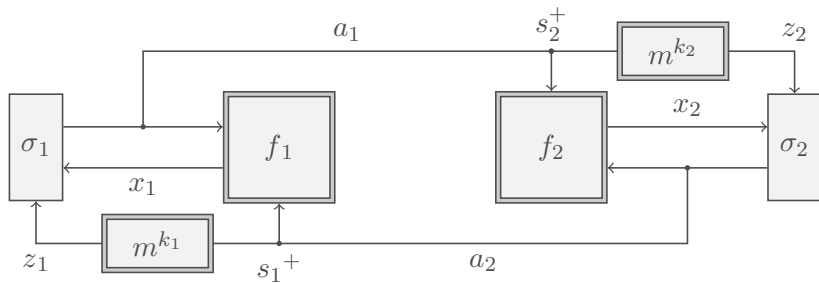
EEEs are fixed points of:



Stochastic Game

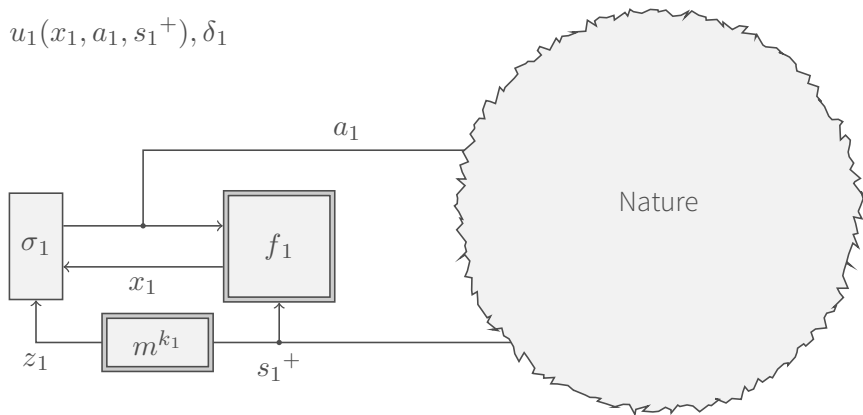
$$u_1(x_1, a_1, s_1^+), \delta_1$$

$$u_2(x_2, a_2, s_2^+), \delta_2$$



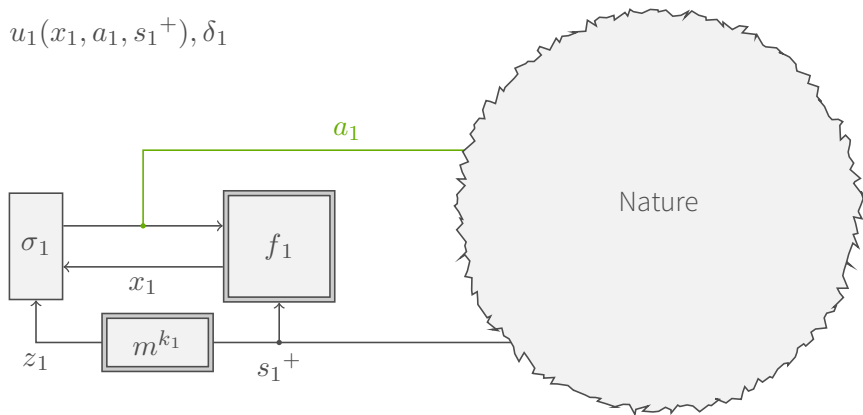
Stochastic Game

$$u_1(x_1, a_1, s_1^+), \delta_1$$



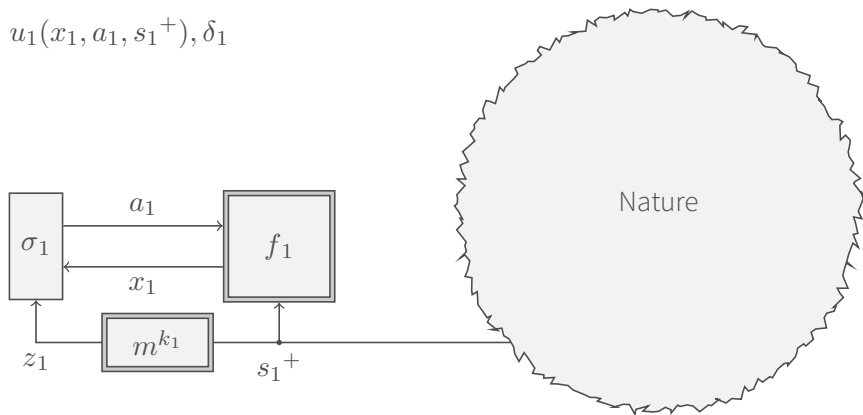
Stochastic Game

$$u_1(x_1, a_1, s_1^+), \delta_1$$



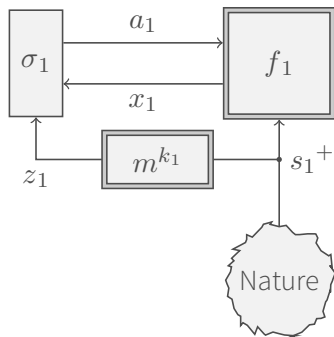
Stochastic Game

$$u_1(x_1, a_1, s_1^+), \delta_1$$



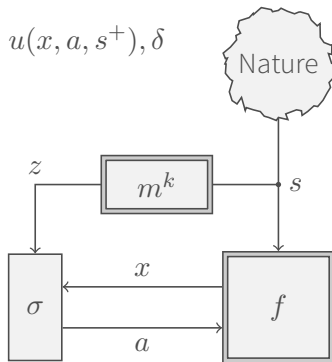
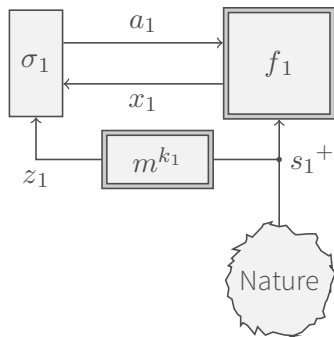
Stochastic Game

$$u_1(x_1, a_1, s_1^+), \delta_1$$



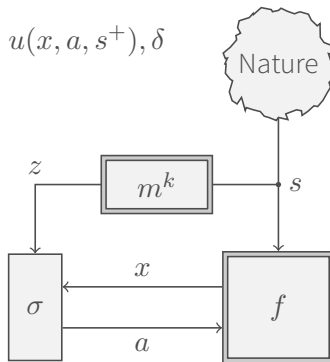
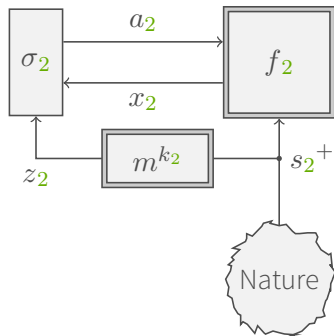
Stochastic Game

$$u_1(x_1, a_1, s_1^+), \delta_1$$



Stochastic Game

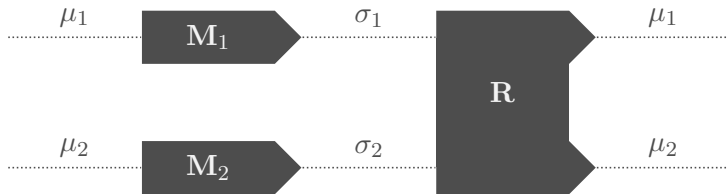
$$u_2(x_2, a_2, s_2^+), \delta_2$$



$$u(x, a, s^+), \delta$$

Empirical-evidence Equilibrium

m^{k_1} and m^{k_2} fixed

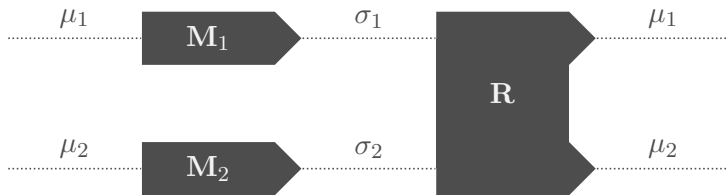


$(\mu_1, \sigma_1, \mu_2, \sigma_2)$ is an empirical-evidence equilibrium (EEE) if:

- μ_1 is consistent with \mathbf{R}
- μ_2 is consistent with \mathbf{R}
- σ_1 is optimal for \mathbf{M}_1
- σ_2 is optimal for \mathbf{M}_2

Empirical-evidence Equilibrium

m^{k_1} and m^{k_2} fixed



$(\mu_1, \sigma_1, \mu_2, \sigma_2)$ is an ε empirical-evidence equilibrium (ε EEE) if:

- μ_1 is consistent with \mathbf{R}
- μ_2 is consistent with \mathbf{R}
- σ_1 is ε optimal for \mathbf{M}_1
- σ_2 is ε optimal for \mathbf{M}_2

EEE vs Nash

- optimization complexity fixed by agent not opponents
- always implementable
- each agent knows when at equilibrium
- less intrinsic to the problem

Existence of ε EEEs

Theorem

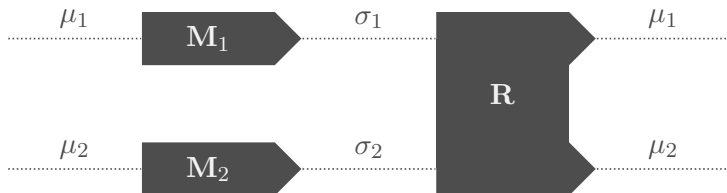
For any m^{k_1} and m^{k_2} , there exists an ε EEE.

Existence of ε EEEs

Theorem

For any m^{k_1} and m^{k_2} , there exists an ε EEE.

Proof.



- ε and Gibbs distribution $\implies \mu_i \mapsto \sigma_i$ is a function
- $\mu \mapsto \mu$ is a continuous function
- set of predictors is compact and convex
- Brouwer's fixed point theorem



Existence of EEEs

Theorem

For any m^{k_1} and m^{k_2} , there exists a EEE.

Existence of EEEs

Theorem

For any m^{k_1} and m^{k_2} , there exists a EEE.

Proof.

- $\mu \mapsto \mu$ is a closed-graph correspondence
- set of predictors is compact and convex
- Kakutani's fixed point theorem



Characterization of EEEs

Theorem

Exogenous EEEs in perfect-monitoring repeated games yield correlated equilibria of the underlying one-shot game.

Repeated game:

Stochastic game without a state

Correlated equilibrium:

Nash equilibrium with common source of randomness

Recap

- multiagent EEE identical to single agent
- each agent arbitrarily picks a model m^k
- EEEs always exist
- EEEs induce correlated equilibria in repeated games

Asset Management Example

State holdings $x_i \in \llbracket 0, M \rrbracket$

Action sell one, hold, or buy one $a_i \in \{-1, 0, 1\}$

Signal price $p \in \{\text{Low}, \text{High}\}$

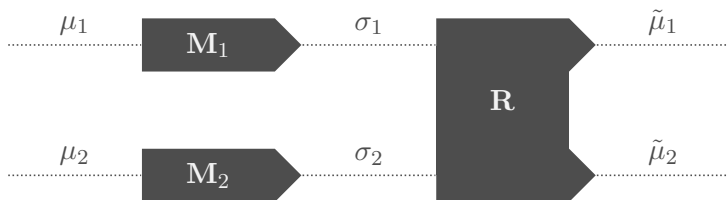
Dynamic $x_i^+ = x_i + a_i$

Stage cost $p \cdot a_i$

Nature market trend $w \in \{\text{Bull}, \text{Bear}\}$

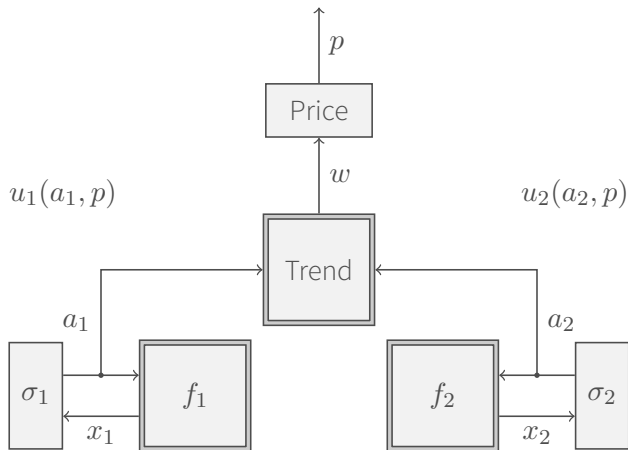
Model depth 0

Iterative Process

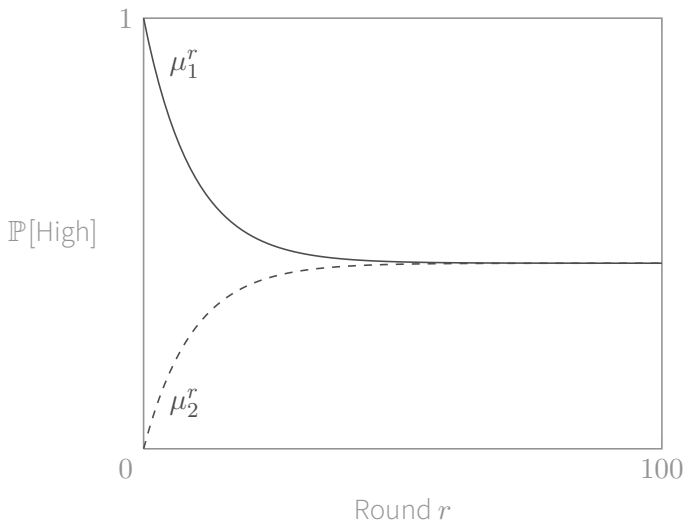


Update Rule
$$\mu_i^{r+1} = (1 - \alpha^r) \mu_i^r + \alpha^r (\tilde{\mu}_i - \mu_i^r)$$

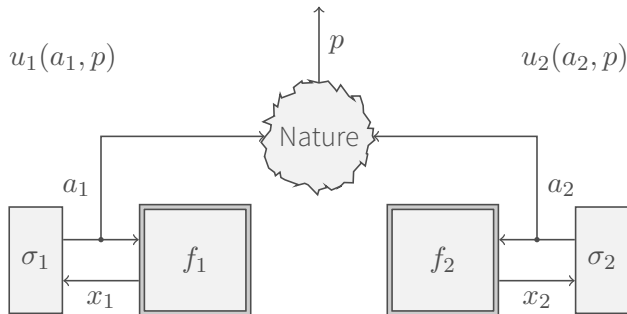
Theoretical Predictor



Update Rule $\mu_i^{r+1} = (1 - \alpha)\mu_i^r + \alpha(\tilde{\mu}_i - \mu_i^r)$



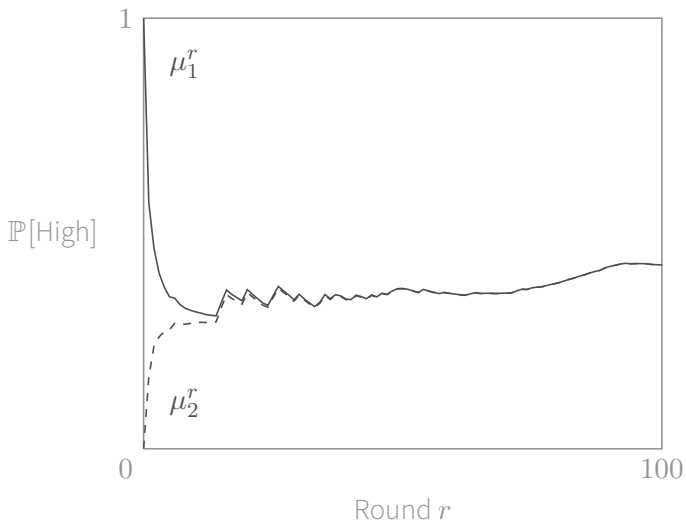
Empirical Predictor



Update Rule

$$\mu_i^{r+1} = (1 - \alpha^r) \mu_i^r + \alpha^r (\tilde{\mu}_i^T - \mu_i^r)$$

α^r non-summable, square-summable



Hawk-dove Game

Repeated game

	h	d
H	-1, -1	6, 0
D	0, 6	3, 3

Nash equilibria (H, d) and (D, h)

Want correlated equilibrium alternating between the two

Hawk-dove Game

Depth-2 models

Strategies:

$$\sigma_1(d, h) = 0.999 H + 0.001 D$$

$$\sigma_1(h, d) = 0.999 D + 0.001 H$$

$$\sigma_1(h, h) = 0.5H + 0.5D$$

$$\sigma_1(d, d) = 0.5H + 0.5D$$

Associated predictors:

$$\mu_1(d, h) = 0.996 d + 0.004 h$$

$$\mu_1(h, d) = 0.996 h + 0.004 d$$

$$\mu_1(h, h) = 0.5 h + 0.5 d$$

$$\mu_1(d, d) = 0.5 h + 0.5 d$$



Strategy approximately optimal as δ close enough to one

Generalizes to any convex combination of pure Nash equilibria

Recap

Predictive given models and adaptation rule a EEE emerges
Prescriptive implement desired outcome as a EEE

Extensions

- n agents
- endogenous models $z^+ \sim m(z, x, a, s)$
- notions of consistency: approximate, weak, and eventual 
- convergence of empirical iterative process when theoretical one converges 

Empirical-evidence Equilibrium (EEE)

Motivation intractable problem

Definition split into Markov chain and consistent MDPs

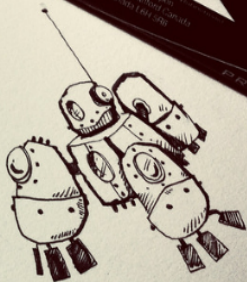
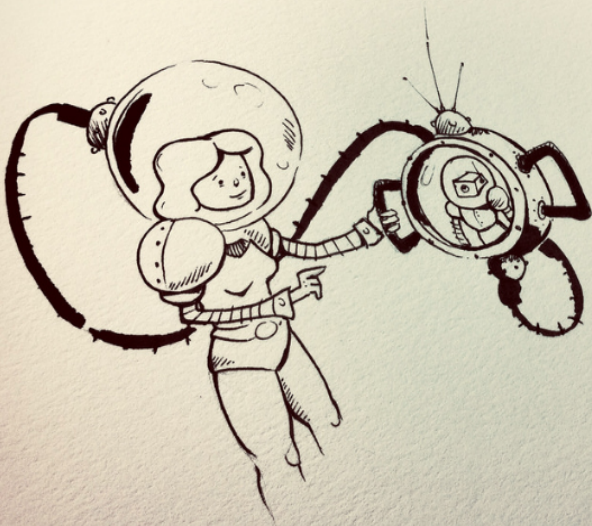
Existence fixed-point theorems

Comparison lower computational requirements

Characterization correlated equilibrium in repeated game

Predictive Use model to understand stock price

Prescriptive Use desired outcome encoded as EEE



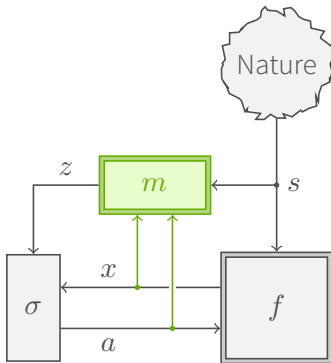
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Publications

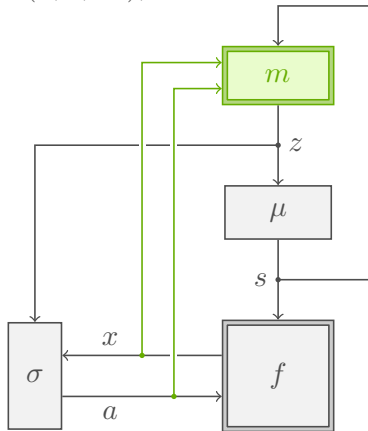
- N. Dudebout and J. S. Shamma, “Empirical Evidence Equilibria in Stochastic Games,” in *51st IEEE Conference on Decision and Control*, Dec. 2012, pp. 5780–5785
- N. Dudebout and J. S. Shamma, “Exogenous Empirical-evidence Equilibria in Perfect-monitoring Repeated Games Yield Correlated Equilibria,” in *53rd IEEE Conference on Decision and Control*, Submitted
- N. Dudebout and J. S. Shamma, “Empirical-evidence Equilibrium,” in *Games and Economic Behavior*, In Preparation

Endogenous Model



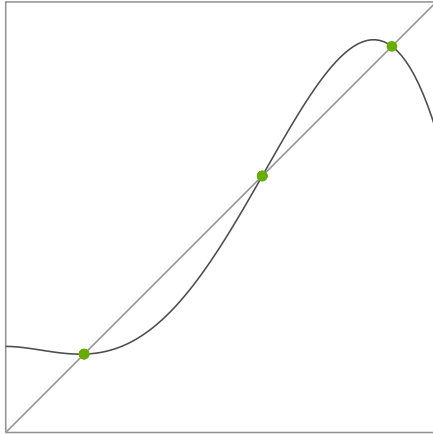
Real System: \mathbf{R}

$$u(x, a, s^+), \delta$$

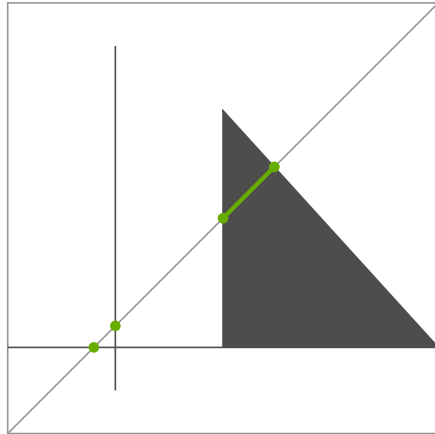


Mockup System: \mathbf{M}

Brouwer's Fixed-point Theorem



Kakutani's Fixed-point Theorem



Consistency Formula

$$\mu(z)[s^+] = \sum_{w^+} \nu(w^+)[s^+] \frac{\sum_{w,x,a} \pi_\sigma[w, x, z] \cdot \sigma(z)[a] \cdot n(w, x, a)[w^+]}{\sum_{w,x} \pi_\sigma[w, x, z]}$$

Consistency

Strong Consistency

$$\mu(z)[s^+] = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}[S^{t+1} = s^+ \mid Z^t = z]$$

Weak Consistency

$$\mu(z)[s^+] = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{P}[S^{t+1} = s^+ \mid Z^t = z]$$

Eventual Consistency

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}[Z^t = z] > 0 \implies \mu(z)[s^+] = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}[S^{t+1} = s^+ \mid Z^t = z]$$

Learning Result

Theorem

Suppose the theoretical learning dynamic has a Lyapunov function. For a large enough observation window, the empirical learning dynamic converges.

Proof.

- ODE method for stochastic approximation
- Lyapunov stability of perturbed systems

