

## ANSWERS TO PRACTICE PROBLEMS 2

- 1.** In each of the six games (whether they are played by you or by the police) Not Pay strictly dominates Pay. Hence, since there are only two strategies, Not Pay is a strictly dominant strategy.

For the Nice Freelance dognapper, Not Kill is a strictly dominant strategy, for the Nasty Freelance Kill is a strictly dominant strategy, while for the Professional dognapper neither strategy dominates the other.

Thus: in the game played against a Nice Freelance (Not Pay, Not Kill) is a dominant strategy equilibrium,

in the game against a Nasty Freelance (Not Pay, Kill) is a dominant strategy equilibrium.  
In the game against a Professional dognapper there is no dominant strategy equilibrium.

- 2.** For Yvette (row player) a shorter route dominates a longer route that goes through the same segments, thus:

b weakly dominates each of the following: bac, bacd, ab, dcab,

bac weakly dominates bacd and dcab

ab weakly dominates bac, bacd and dcab,

ac weakly dominates each of the following: bac, acd, dcab and bacd

acd weakly dominates bacd and dcab

dc weakly dominates each of the following: bacd, acd, dcab

d weakly dominates each of the following: dc, bacd, acd, dcab

For Zoe (column player) a longer route dominates a shorter route that goes through the same segments, thus ba weakly dominates b, cd weakly dominates d

- 3.**

- (a) Player 1 does not have a dominant strategy.
- (b) For Player 2 c is a weakly dominant strategy.
- (c) There is no dominant strategy equilibrium.
- (d) For Player 1 D is weakly dominated by C (and A and B are equivalent to each other).
- (e) For Player 2 a is weakly dominated by b or c, b is weakly dominated by c, d is strictly dominated by b or c and weakly dominated by a or e or f, e is weakly dominated by c or b or f, f is weakly dominated by c. Thus the dominated strategies are: a, b, d, e and f (obviously, since c is a dominant strategy!).

- 4. Game A.** For Antonia: 4 strictly dominates both 0 and 1 and weakly dominates 2 and 3.

Thus 4 is a weakly dominant strategy. 0 and 1 are equivalent.

2 weakly dominates both 0 and 1. 3 weakly dominates 2.

For Bob: 1 weakly dominates 2, 0 weakly dominates both 1 and 2. Thus 0 is a weakly dominant strategy.

The dominant-strategy equilibrium is thus (4, 0).

**Game B.** For Antonia: 0 weakly dominates 1, 4 weakly dominates 2, and nothing else.

Thus Antonia does not have a dominant strategy.

For Bob: 0 weakly dominates 2, 1 weakly dominates 2, and nothing else. Thus Bob does not have a dominant strategy.

There is no dominant-strategy equilibrium.

**Game C.** For Antonia: 6 strictly dominates 2, 4 weakly dominates 2, and nothing else. Thus Antonia does not have a dominant strategy.

For Bob: 1 strictly dominates both 0 and 2, 0 weakly dominates 2. Thus 1 is a strictly dominant strategy for Bob. There is no dominant-strategy equilibrium.