



*Introduction
to*
**GAME
THEORY**

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MATCHING PENNIES

- You and your friend simultaneously reveal a penny
 - If both pennies show heads or both show tails, your friend has to pay you \$1
 - If one penny shows head and other tail, you have to pay your friend \$1



Matching
pennies

Your friend

Head

Tail

You

Head
Tail

1 -1	-1 1
-1 1	1 -1



NASH THEOREM

- There must be at least one Nash equilibrium for all finite games
 - But here there are no equilibria in pure strategies
- But there is another type of equilibrium



Bar Scene



Question: Understand the situation and find out if the situation explained in this scene is a Nash equilibrium or not?



MIXED STRATEGY NASH EQUILIBRIUM

- If no equilibrium exists in pure strategies, one must exist in mixed strategy
- A mixed strategy is a probability distribution over two or more pure strategies
 - That is players choose randomly among their options in equilibrium.
 - If mixtures are mutual best responses, the set of strategies is a mixed Nash equilibrium.



MATCHING PENNIES 2.0

- Suppose you are playing the game against Mind reader.
- How can you avoid losing?
- Answer: Flip the coin
- - At best, the mind reader could only win half the time.



Matching
pennies

You

(.5)

Head(.5)
Tail

Your friend

Head (.5) Tail (.5)

1 -1	-1 1
-1 1	1 -1



Weighted
Matching
pennies

Player 1

(Pd)

Up (Pu)
Down

Player 2

Left (Pl) Right (Pr)

3 -3	-2 2
-1 1	0 0

Zero-Sum
Mixed
Strategy game



SOLVING FOR PLAYER I'S MIXED STRATEGY

$$EU(l) = EU(r)$$

$$EU(l) = f(P_u)$$

$$EU(r) = f(P_u)$$

Three equations
three variables

		Left (P _l)	Right (P _r)
(P _d)	Up (P _u)	3 -3	-2 2
	Down	-1 1	0 0



SOLVING FOR PLAYER 1'S MIXED STRATEGY

- What is $EU(1) = f(P_u)$
- Some % of time, Player 2 gets -3
- The rest of the time she gets 1.

		Left (P _l)	Right (P _r)
(P _d)	Up (P _u)	3 -3	-2 2
	Down	-1 1	0 0



SOLVING FOR PLAYER 1'S MIXED STRATEGY

- What is $EU(1) = f(P_u)$
- Some % of time, Player 2 gets -3
- The rest of the time she gets 1.
- $EU(1) = P_u(-3) + (1-P_u)(1)$

		Left (P _l)	Right (P _r)
(P _d)	Up (P _u)	3 -3	-2 2
	Down	-1 1	0 0



SOLVING FOR PLAYER 1'S MIXED STRATEGY

- What is $EU(r) = f(P_u)$
- Some % of time, Player 2 gets 2.
- The rest of the time she gets 0.
- $EU(r) = P_u(2) + (1-P_u)(0)$

		Left (P1)		Right (Pr)	
(Pd)	Up (Pu)	3	-3	-2	2
	Down	-1	1	0	0



SOLVING FOR PLAYER I'S MIXED STRATEGY

- $EU(1) = EU(r)$
- $EU(1) = P_u(-3) + (1 - P_u)(1)$
- $EU(r) = P_u(2) + (1 - P_u)(0)$
- $P_u(-3) + (1 - P_u)(1) = P_u(2) + (1 - P_u)(0)$
 - >> $-3P_u + 1 - P_u = 2P_u$
 - >> $6P_u = 1$
 - >> $P_u = 1/6$



SOLVING FOR PLAYER 2'S MIXED STRATEGY

$$EU(u) = EU(d)$$

$$EU(u) = f(P_l)$$

$$EU(d) = f(P_l)$$

Three equations
three variables

		Left (P_l)	Right (P_r)
(P_d)	Up (P_u)	3 -3	-2 2
	Down	-1 1	0 0



SOLVING FOR PLAYER 2'S MIXED STRATEGY

- What is $EU(u) = f(P_1)$
- Some % of time, Player 2 gets 3.
- The rest of the time she gets -2.
- $EU(u) = P_1(3) + (1-P_1)(-2)$

		Left (P_1)	Right (P_r)
(Pd)	Up (P_u)	3 -3	-2 2
	Down	-1 1	0 0



SOLVING FOR PLAYER 2'S MIXED STRATEGY

- What is $EU(d) = f(P_1)$
- Some % of time, Player 2 gets -1
- The rest of the time she gets 0
- $EU(d) = P_u(-1) + (1-P_u)(0)$

		Left (P_1)	Right (P_r)
(P_d)	Up (P_u)	3 -3	-2 2
	Down	-1 1	0 0



SOLVING FOR PLAYER I'S MIXED STRATEGY

- $EU(u) = EU(d)$
- $EU(u) = P_I(3) + (1 - P_I)(-2)$
- $EU(d) = P_I(-1) + (1 - P_I)(0)$
- $P_I(3) + (1 - P_I)(-2) = P_I(-1) + (1 - P_I)(0)$
 - >> $3P_I - 2 + 2P_I = -P_I$
 - >> $6P_I = 2$
 - >> $P_I = 1/3$



THE MIXED STRATEGY NASH EQUILIBRIUM

$$P_l = 1/3, P_u = 1/6$$

		Left (P_l)	Right (P_r)
(Pd)	Up (P_u)	3 -3	-2 2
	Down	-1 1	0 0



BATTLE OF THE SEXES

- A man and a woman want to get together for an evening of entertainment, but they have no means of communication.
- They can either go to the ballet or the fight.
 - the man prefers going to the fight
 - The woman prefers going to the ballet
 - But they prefer being together than being alone



Battle of Sexes

Man

Ballet
Fight

Woman

Ballet

Fight

1 2	0 0
0 0	2 1



Battle of Sexes

Player 1

Up

Down

Player 2

Left

Right

1 2	0 0
0 0	2 1



SOLVING FOR PLAYER 1'S MIXED STRATEGY

- What is $EU(1) = f(P_u)$
- Some % of time, Player 2 gets 2
- The rest of the time she gets 0
- $EU(1) = P_u(2) + (1-P_u)(0)$

	Left	Right
Up	1 2	0 0
Down	0 0	2 1



SOLVING FOR PLAYER 1'S MIXED STRATEGY

- What is $EU(r) = f(P_u)$
- Some % of time, Player 2 gets 0
- The rest of the time she gets 1
- $EU(r) = P_u(0) + (1-P_u)(1)$

	Left	Right
Up	1 2	0 0
Down	0 0	2 1



SOLVING FOR PLAYER I'S MIXED STRATEGY

- $EU(l) = EU(r)$
- $EU(l) = P_u(2) + (1 - P_u)(0)$
- $EU(d) = P_u(0) + (1 - P_u)(1)$
- $P_u(2) + (1 - P_u)(0) = P_u(0) + (1 - P_u)(1)$
 - >> $2P_u = 1 - P_u$
 - >> $3P_u = 1$
 - >> $P_u = 1/3$



SOLVING FOR PLAYER 2'S MIXED STRATEGY

$$EU(u) = EU(d)$$

$$EU(u) = f(P1)$$

$$EU(d) = f(P1)$$

Three equations
three variables

		Left	Right
Up Down	Up	1 2	0 0
	Down	0 0	2 1



SOLVING FOR PLAYER 2'S MIXED STRATEGY

- What is $EU(u) = f(P1)$
- Some % of time, Player 2 gets 1.
- The rest of the time she gets 0.
- $EU(u) = P1(1) + (1-P1)(0)$

	Left	Right
Up	1 2	0 0
Down	0 0	2 1



SOLVING FOR PLAYER 2'S MIXED STRATEGY

- What is $EU(d) = f(P1)$
- Some % of time, Player 2 gets 0.
- The rest of the time she gets 2.
- $EU(d) = P1(0) + (1-P1)(2)$

	Left	Right
Up	1 2	0 0
Down	0 0	2 1



SOLVING FOR PLAYER 2'S MIXED STRATEGY

- $EU(u) = EU(d)$
- $EU(u) = P_1(1) + (1 - P_1)(0)$
- $EU(d) = P_1(0) + (1 - P_1)(2)$
- $P_1(1) + (1 - P_1)(0) = P_1(0) + (1 - P_1)(2)$
 - >> $P_1 = 2 - 2P_1$
 - >> $3P_1 = 2$
 - >> $P_1 = 2/3$



Battle of Sexes

Player 1

Player 2

Ballet(2/3) Fight(1/3)

Ballet
(1/3)
Fight
(2/3)

1 2	0 0
0 0	2 1



HOW TO CALCULATE PAYOFFS

1. Find the probability of each outcome occurs in equilibrium.
2. For each outcome, multiply that probability by a particular player's payoff.
3. Sum all of those numbers together.



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Battle of Sexes

Player 1

Player 2

Ballet(2/3) Fight(1/3)

Ballet
(1/3)

Fight
(2/3)

1 2 2/9	0 0 1/9
0 0 4/9	2 1 2/9



HOW TO CALCULATE PAYOFFS

1. Find the probability of each outcome occurs in equilibrium.
2. For each outcome, multiply that probability by a particular player's payoff.
3. Sum all of those numbers together.



Battle of Sexes

Player 1

Player 2

Ballet(2/3) Fight(1/3)

Ballet
(1/3)

$1 * 2/9$

$0 * 1/9$

Fight
(2/3)

$0 * 4/9$

$2 * 2/9$



HOW TO CALCULATE PAYOFFS

1. Find the probability of each outcome occurs in equilibrium.
2. For each outcome, multiply that probability by a particular player's payoff.
3. Sum all of those numbers together.



Battle of Sexes

Player 2

Ballet(2/3) Fight(1/3)

Player 1

Ballet
(1/3)

Fight
(2/3)

$1 * 2/9$	$0 * 1/9$
$0 * 4/9$	$2 * 2/9$

**Sum=6/9
=2/3**



Battle of Sexes

Player 1

Ballet
(1/3)
Fight
(2/3)

Player 2 Ballet(2/3) Fight(1/3)	
Ballet	$2 * 2/9$ $0 * 1/9$
Fight	$0 * 4/9$ $1 * 2/9$

**Sum=6/9
=2/3**