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Computing two-person zero sum games at multiple times the speed of Linear Programming solvers

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Abstract

It has been proposed in the paper ‘Reducing the complexity of computing the values of a Nash Equilibrium’ by the authors that the optimal row and column strategies and value of a two-person, zero sum game can be more efficiently computed than by linear programming optimization and other existing methods. That paper had described the algorithm for achieving such a result. The present paper presents a computational validation of the claimed result of the algorithm by test of the speed of its performance in comparison with the speed achieved by the GLOP linear programming solver. Evidence is also adduced in favor of the algorithm’s performance much exceeding that of other open-source and commercial LP solvers. While the framework of the Colonel Blotto game has been adopted to carry out the performance tests, the results achieved by the algorithm is generalizable and valid for all two-person, zero sum games.

1. Introduction

A Colonel Blotto game is a two person, zero sum game where the players are required to simultaneously distribute limited resources over more than one object of contest. The player allocating greater resources to the object wins it. Formulated by the French Emile Borel in 1921, it was published by Borel and Jean Ville as an application of the Theory of Probability and of the Game of Chance in 1938. While in Borel’s game, the players assign symmetrical resources over a finite number of “battlefields”, Gross and Wagner in 1950 characterized the game with asymmetrical resources between the two players. They described the game between the two players where the number of battlefields $n = 2$.

Discrete distribution of resource units across 2 battlefields is daily fare in many security scenarios: thus if Hamas has 4000 attack missiles and Israel has to defend 2 equally important cities with 6000 Iron Dome interceptor missiles, with what probabilities should it allocate its missiles at each city for its defence? What would be the optimal allocation of 500 policemen to the defense of 2 establishments (“battlefields”) in a disturbed district to each of which target (the establishment) insurgents will also allocate their strength of, say, 300 optimally? And what would be the value of the game, indicating the probability of the attacker winning? If 5000 peacekeepers in a disturbed territory with 3000 insurgents have to divide between the two tasks of neutralizing insurgents via encounters on the one hand and defusing improvised explosive

devices and taking down insurgent supply chains on the other, what will be the optimal allocation of the peacekeepers for these two tasks (“battlefields”) to each of which the insurgents will also allocate their numbers optimally?

Colonel Blotto games are, therefore, pivotal to the strategic allocation of resources by two adversaries to two battlefields, as originally formulated by Borel. As in all two-person, zero sum games with large payoff matrices, however, their computation had hitherto been impeded by inefficient algorithms. In the paper, ‘Reducing the complexity of computing the value of a Nash equilibrium’ presented at the 36th International Conference of Game Theory, the following algorithm was proposed to compute the value of two person, zero sum games, including Colonel Blotto games, much more efficiently than existing algorithms, including Linear Programming solvers:

$$u_i(a^*) = u_i(a_i, a_{-i}^*) \text{ for every action } a_i \text{ of player } i \quad (1)$$

where,

the row player R (attacker) adheres to his action a_j^* in the action profile a^*

Column player C (defender) represent player i ; a_i is a set of active strategies n in a mixed strategy game such that each element of the set of active strategies $a_i = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ is played with the probability $1/n$; and

a^* is the action profile of each player given by the Nash equilibrium wherein the active strategies of each player are spread over a probability distribution *determined by the Nash equilibrium*.

We called the above the Equal Probabilities Approach (EPA). In that paper, we also defined a Probabilities Summing to 1 Approach (PSA) wherein:

$$u_i(a^*) = u_i(a_i, a_{-i}^*) \text{ for every action } a_i \text{ of player } i \quad (2)$$

where,

the row player R (attacker) adheres to his action a_j^* in the action profile a^* ;

Column player C represents player i ; a_i is a set of active strategies n in a mixed strategy game such that each element of the set of active strategies $a_i = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ is played with a probability such that $\sum_{i=1}^n x_n = 1$; and

a^* is the action profile of each player given by the Nash equilibrium wherein the active strategies of each player are spread over a probability distribution *determined by the Nash equilibrium*.

We proved in the above referred conference paper that our proposed algorithm (that played each active column strategy with equal probability while each active row strategy was played with a probability determined by the Nash equilibrium) was computationally less complex and therefore, more efficient than Linear Programming solvers, the Lemke Howson algorithm and the PSA approach while calculating the same value as the Nash equilibrium. The theoretical proofs of the above claim are repeated here:

Let's denote the EPA approach as σ_{EPA} , where $\sigma_{EPA,i} = 1/n$ for all i column strategies.

The mathematical complexity of the EPA approach can be measured by the number of calculations required to compute $\sigma_{EPA,i} = 1/n$. The complexity is thus $O(1)$. Column does not solve a best-response LP or compute a Nash Equilibrium.

In the PSA approach, Column plays each active strategy with a random probability, subject to the constraint that the probabilities sum to 1:

$$\sum_{j=1}^m q_j = 1$$

$$q_j \geq 0, \forall j$$

Where q_j is the probability of column player's strategy. The computational complexity of generating random probabilities that satisfy these constraints is $O(m)$.

Thus, the PSA approach requires more calculations than the EPA approach, *especially when the number of strategies is large*, and is, therefore, more computationally complex than EPA.

Linear programming based complexity of computing the optimal column strategy in a two-person, zero sum game has a bound that is $O((n+m)^{3.5} \cdot \log L)$, according to Karmarkar,

where,

m represents the number of rows (strategies for the row player i.e. attacker),

n represents the number of columns (strategies for the column player i.e. defender),

L represents the number of bits required to represent the input data such as the payoffs in the game matrix.

This complexity formula thus indicates that as **m** and **n** increase (more rows and columns due to larger resource units of row and column player), the complexity grows polynomially. However, as **L** increases (more bits required to represents the input data), *the complexity grows exponentially with respect to L*.

Thus for large, two person zero sum games, including large Colonel Blotto games, the complexity of computing the optimal column (defender) strategy, using Karmarkar algorithm, indeed increases significantly both due to the polynomial growth with respect to **m** and **n** and the *exponential* growth with respect to **L**.

The complexity of eliminating dominated strategies from the payoff matrix of two person zero sum games, including Colonel Blotto games, required by our Equal Probabilities algorithm however, grows *quadratically* with respect to the number of rows and columns, but since the number of comparisons depends on both **m** and **n**, *the overall complexity grows polynomially, specifically O(m * n * (m + n))*. Although still a significant growth, *our algorithm does not trigger an exponential growth of complexity that linear programming implies as the games grow larger*.

Hence the EPA approach has a lower computational complexity than linear programming for computing the Nash Equilibrium value of a two-person, zero sum game, particularly large games, as its computation of the column strategy is the simplest possible one, requiring no algebraic optimization that LP needs.

The aim of the present paper is to *experimentally validate the above theoretical claim and prove that our algorithm drastically outperforms many competing algorithms, including LP solvers like GLOP, GLPK or Karmarkar, in computing the value of two person zero sum games*. It is true that commercial LP solvers like Gurobi may be faster than GLOP, GLPK or KARMARKAR; however, as (unlike in our EPA algorithm) L would likely play a role in its performance similar to its role in Karmarkar's algorithm or in GLPK, Gurobi's performance would inevitably degrade with the increased size of the inputs. Although the experimental proof is furnished in the framework of the Colonel Blotto game, the implementation of the EPA algorithm in python code and its encapsulation in the python library `debtoru_solver` makes the algorithm available for use across all two person zero sum games. *Thus the performance results, cited in the Colonel Blotto games context, are generalizable to all two person zero sum games.*

The rest of the paper are as follows: section 2 repeats the description of the Colonel Blotto game contained in the conference paper, to show the functioning of our algorithm viz-a-viz the traditional computation of the Nash equilibrium strategies of both row (attacker) and column (defender) players. Section 3 tabulates the *speed of performance* in seconds of our proposed algorithm as well as those of the Linear Programming solver, GLOP, implemented by *Pyspiel*, and the PSA approach, to facilitate comparison. We have not included the Lemke Howson algorithm, which uses a Pivoting Path method in computing the row-column strategies and game value for comparison as it is not in the race anyway, having been outshone by many LP solvers.

The full python code implementation of our proposed algorithm (encapsulated in `debtoru_solver`) in solving Colonel Blotto games is given in Appendix 'A', that of PSA in Appendix 'B' and that of an LP implementation (*Pyspiel*) for solving the CB game in Appendix 'C'. Section 4 summarizes the results and indicates the direction of further research.

2. The Colonel Blotto game

The following example is taken from the Colonel Blotto games given by Philip D. Straffin (Straffin 1993) under the name of 'Guerrillas vs. Police'. A model is constructed consisting of g guerrillas, p policemen and two government arsenals which the guerrillas seek to capture and the police needs to defend. The guerrillas win if they capture any one of the two arsenals. (They can thus increase their arms to sustain their conflict with government forces). The police, however, win only if they are able to successfully defend both arsenals.

The guerrillas win if $g > p$. The police win when $p \geq 2g$ as they need to defend each of the two arsenals with a force of at least g . The outcomes when $g \leq p < 2g$ are examined below.

Assuming $g = 4$ and $p = 4$, Straffin depicts the following payoffs to the guerrillas (1 for a win 0 for a loss):

Table 1: Symmetric mixed strategy Colonel Blotto game

		4 Police		
		4-0	3-1	2-2
4 Guerrillas	4-0	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1
	3-1	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	1
	2-2	1	1	0

The guerrillas can opt to divide 4-0, 3-1, 2-2, its three active strategies. Police can similarly divide 4-0, 3-1 and 2-2 to protect the arsenal(s). The payoffs to the guerrillas are calculated as follows:

Case 1: Guerrillas divide 4-0 and police divide 4-0. The expected payoff is $\frac{1}{2}$, since the guerrillas attack the defended arsenal with probability 0.5 and lose. But also they attack the undefended arsenal with a probability of 0.5 and win.

Case 2: Guerrillas divide 4-0 and police divide 3-1. Here too the expected payoff for guerrillas is 1. They win both the arsenals each of which they attack with a probability of $\frac{1}{2}$.

Case 3: Guerrillas divide 4-0 and police divide 2-2. The guerrillas get a payoff of 1. They win both the arsenals each of which they attack with a probability of $\frac{1}{2}$.

Case 4: Guerrillas divide 3-1 and the police divide 4-0. The guerrillas get a payoff of 1. They win when they attack, with probability of $\frac{1}{2}$, the undefended arsenal with a party of 3 guerrillas and when they attack, with a probability of $\frac{1}{2}$, the undefended arsenal with a party of 1 guerrilla.

Case 5: Guerrillas divide 3-1 and the police divide 3-1. The guerrillas get a payoff of $\frac{1}{2}$. They win when the party of 3 guerrillas attacks the arsenal defended by 1 policeman with a probability of $\frac{1}{2}$.

Case 6: Guerrillas divide 3-1 and police divide 2-2. The guerrillas get a payoff of 1. They win when they attack each arsenal with a probability of $\frac{1}{2}$.

Case 7: Guerrillas divide 2-2 and police divide 4-0. The guerrillas get a payoff of 1. Each party of 2 guerrillas wins by attacking the undefended arsenal with a probability of $\frac{1}{2}$.

Case 8: Guerrillas divide 2-2 and police divide 3-1. The guerrillas get a payoff of 1. Each party of 2 guerrillas wins by attacking the arsenal defended by 1 policeman.

Case 9: Guerrillas divide 2-2 and police divide 2-2. The guerrillas get a payoff of 0. Each party of 2 guerrillas is defeated by 2 policemen at each arsenal.

The value of the game is calculated by multiplying each payoff by the Nash equilibrium-determined probability with which the guerrillas and police will play their relevant row and column strategy respectively and then summing the products. In this Colonel Blotto game, the value of the game indicates the probability with which the guerrillas would win. For the above game, the strategies (resource distributions across battlefields) of each player, the Nash equilibrium-determined probabilities with which each player will play each of his or her strategies, and the value of the game are given below:

```

1 # 4 Guerillas and 4 Policemen
2 import nashpy as nash
3 import numpy as np
4
5 # Define the game
6 A = np.array([[0.5, 1, 1],
7               [1, 0.5, 1],
8               [1, 1, 0]
9               ])
10 rps = nash.Game(A)
11
12 # Find Nash equilibria
13 eqs = rps.support_enumeration()
14
15 # Extract and print the first equilibrium
16 row_player_strategy, column_player_strategy = next(eqs)
17 print("Row Player Strategy:", row_player_strategy)
18 print("Column Player Strategy:", column_player_strategy)
19
20 # Calculate the value of the game
21 value_of_game = row_player_strategy.dot(A).dot(column_player_strategy)
22
23 print("Value of the Game:", value_of_game)

→ Row Player Strategy: [0.4 0.4 0.2]
Column Player Strategy: [0.4 0.4 0.2]
Value of the Game: 0.8000000000000002

```

Fig.1: Nash Equilibrium Analysis for a 3x3 Game Matrix: 4 Guerillas vs. 4 Policemen
Or

Computation of Nash Equilibrium and Game Value in a 4 Guerillas vs. 4 Policemen Strategic Scenario

Nash equilibrium computes a probability of 0.4, 0.4 and 0.2 to each of the guerrillas' 3 strategies. It also computes a probability of 0.4, 0.4 and 0.2 to each of the 3 police strategies and computes the value of the game as 0.80.

As per the proposition, the police (the defender) ought to play each of its *active* strategies with a probability of $1/n$, where n is the number of active strategies. Hence, in the above game, Police ought to play each of its 3 active strategies with a probability of 0.33 (rounded off to 0.34 for any one of the three strategies. The number of decimal places may be extended without affecting the result computed to any significant decimal place). Using this proposition, the value of the game is recalculated as follows, retaining the payoffs to the guerrillas and the Nash equilibrium-determined probabilities with which the latter (guerrillas) plays each of its strategies:

Table 2: Expected Payoff Components and Total Game Value Calculation
Or

Breakdown of Expected Payoff Calculation for Nash Equilibrium in 4 Guerillas vs. 4 Policemen Game

0.5 x 0.4 x 0.33	=	0.066
1 x 0.4 x 0.33	=	0.132
1 x 0.4 x 0.34	=	0.136
1 x 0.4 x 0.33	=	0.132

$0.5 \times 0.4 \times 0.33$	=	0.066
$1 \times 0.4 \times 0.34$	=	0.136
$1 \times 0.2 \times 0.33$	=	0.066
$1 \times 0.2 \times 0.33$	=	0.066
Total	=	0.8

It is thus seen that our proposed algorithm dispenses with the requirement of the Police to separately compute the Nash-equilibrium probabilities of its strategies and yet achieves the same value of the game while the Guerilla adheres to his Nash-equilibrium strategy.

We now demonstrate that the proposed algorithm is robust to a larger Colonel Blotto game involving dominating and dominated strategies Assuming $g = 8$ and $p = 9$, the payoffs to the guerrillas are depicted in the following table:

Table 3 Asymmetric mixed strategy Colonel Blotto game

		9 Police					
		9 Police					
8 Guerrillas	9-0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	1	
	8-0	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	
	7-1	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	
	6-2	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	
	5-3	1	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	
	4-4	1	1	1	1	1	0

Inputting the payoffs to the guerrilla in the payoffs matrix of the *Nashpy* program, the probabilities attached to the different strategies of the guerrillas and police and the value of the game are computed as follows:

```

1 # 8 Guerillas and 9 Policemen
2 import nashpy as nash
3 import numpy as np
4
5 # Define the game
6 A = np.array([[0.5, 0.5, 1, 1, 1],
7                 [1, 0.5, 0.5, 1, 1],
8                 [1, 1, 0.5, 0.5, 1],
9                 [1, 1, 1, 0.5, 0.5],
10                [1, 1, 1, 1, 0]])
11 rps = nash.Game(A)
12
13 # Find Nash equilibria
14 eqs = rps.support_enumeration()
15
16 # Extract and print the first equilibrium
17 row_player_strategy, column_player_strategy = next(eqs)
18 print("Row Player Strategy:", row_player_strategy)
19 print("Column Player Strategy:", column_player_strategy)
20
21 # Calculate the value of the game
22 value_of_game = row_player_strategy.dot(A).dot(column_player_strategy)
23
24 print("Value of the Game:", value_of_game)

Row Player Strategy: [0.4 0. 0.4 0. 0.2]
Column Player Strategy: [0. 0.4 0. 0.4 0.2]
Value of the Game: 0.8000000000000002

```

Fig.2: Nash Equilibrium and Game Value Computation for 5x5 Matrix: 8 Guerillas vs. 9 Policemen Scenario
Or

Strategic Game Simulation: Nash Equilibrium for 8 Guerillas and 9 Policemen Using Payoff Matrix

After crossing out dominated strategies (implemented in our python code in Appendix ‘A’ for eliminating weakly dominated strategies) it is seen that the police are left with 3 *active* strategies and the guerrillas are also left with 3 active strategies. The resultant payoff matrix exactly represents the payoff matrix depicted in Table 1. Applying the probability of 1/n to each of n *active* strategies of police and retaining the Nash equilibrium-determined probabilities attached to the strategies of the guerrillas, the same value of the game of 0.80 is achieved.

The table below is a small sample of Colonel Blotto games, both symmetric and asymmetric, and including games with and without dominating strategies. The value of the game achieved by the Nash solution and the proposed algorithm are the same in each case, demonstrating the robustness of the algorithm:

Table 4: Value of Colonel Blotto game

	Proposed algorithm	Nash solution
9 Policemen and 8 Guerillas	0.80	0.80
5 Policemen and 5 Guerillas	0.83	0.83
4 Policemen and 4 Guerillas	0.80	0.80
6 Policemen and 5 Guerillas	0.66	0.66
8 Policemen and 8 Guerillas	0.88	0.88
11 Policemen and 10 Guerillas	0.83	0.83
7 Policemen and 6 Guerillas	0.75	0.75

7 Policemen and 7 Guerillas	0.875	0.875
6 Policemen and 6 Guerillas	0.857	0.857
9 Policemen and 9 Guerillas	0.90	0.90
10 Policemen and 9 Guerillas	0.80	0.80

3. Computation of CB game values: A comparison of performance of algorithms

As already mentioned above, for the full python code implementation of our proposed algorithm (encapsulated in `debtoru_solver`) in solving Colonel Blotto games with two battlefields, the reader is referred to Appendix ‘A’. Appendix ‘B’ shows the PSA implementation, using a randomizer, for computing the value of such Colonel Blotto games. An LP (GLOP) implementation (*Pyspiel*) for solving the CB game is at Appendix ‘C’. The three algorithms have been nested within the python code for the game, with a function to also calculate the time taken for computing the values of the Nash Equilibrium in each game (including the optimal row-column strategies). The results for 50 guerrillas attacking 70 policemen tasked with defending two arsenals are also indicated as examples. *They show our algorithm computing the same value as the Nash Equilibrium at a small fraction of the time taken by linear programming solver of Pyspiel i.e. GLOP (Google Linear Optimization Package) and the PSA approach.*

For running the code, the GPU selected is T4. The code is flexible to include any number of battlefields as one of its inputs.

A table indicating the performance metrics of our algorithm vis-à-vis the other algorithms across different samples of police-guerrilla numbers (row-column resources) is given below:

Table 5: Scalability and Performance Evaluation of LP Solver, PSA Approach, and
Debtoru_Solver in Computing Game Values

Or

Performance Comparison of Game Solving Algorithms Across Varying Input Sizes in Guerilla-Policemen Strategic Games

Or

Algorithm Efficiency and Game Value Analysis for Large-Scale Guerilla-Policemen Games

Input sizes	Algorithm	Value of Game	Average Time to compute	debtoru_solver speed vs LP	debtoru_solver speed vs PSA
50 Guerillas and 70 Policemen	LP solver	0.667	0.0151	5.03 times faster	1.53 times faster
	PSA approach	0.667	0.0046		
	debtoru_solver	0.667	0.0030		
80 Guerillas and 110 Policemen	LP solver	0.667	0.038172	11.8 times faster	1.09 times faster
	PSA approach	0.667	0.003546		
	debtoru_solver	0.667	0.003225		
100 Guerillas and 140 Policemen	LP solver	0.667	0.142467	40.32 times faster	1.07 times faster
	PSA approach	0.667	0.003806		
	debtoru_solver	0.667	0.003533		
180 Guerillas and	LP solver	0.5	0.501703	883.27 times faster	1.01 times faster
	PSA approach	0.5	0.000577		

290 Policemen	debtoru_solver	0.5	0.000568		
586 Guerillas and 792 Policemen	LP solver	0.667	22.07438	1410.68 times faster	1.08 times faster
	PSA approach	0.667	0.016929		
	debtoru_solver	0.667	0.015648		
923 Guerillas and 1418 Policemen	LP solver	0.5	169.28742	265757.33 times faster	1.21 times faster
	PSA approach	0.5	0.000776		
	debtoru_solver	0.5	0.000637		
1810 Guerillas and 2999 Policemen	LP solver	0.5	2929.15	4131382.22 times faster	1.13 times faster
	PSA approach	0.5	0.000805		
	debtoru_solver	0.5	0.000709		
3052 Guerillas and 5001 Policemen	LP solver	0.5	Not competitive	times faster	1.05 times faster
	PSA approach	0.5	0.000826		
	debtoru_solver	0.5	0.000785		

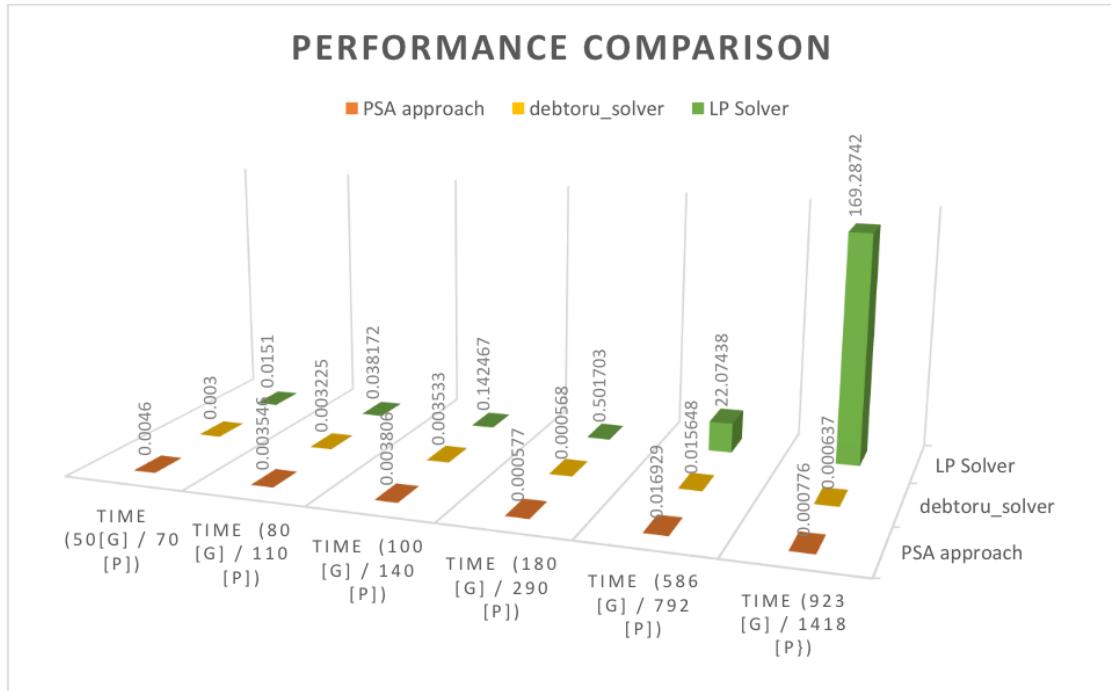


Fig.3: Execution Time Comparison of PSA, Debtoru, and LP Solvers Across Varying Game Sizes
Or
Scalability of Game-Solving Algorithms: PSA vs Debtoru vs LP Solver

4. Discussion

As may be seen from the table, `debtoru_solver`, implementing our equal probabilities algorithm outclasses the LP solver used by *Pyspiel*, namely GLOP. Yet GLOP has no exponent in a theoretical complexity formula, unlike Karmarkar. GLPK resembles GLOP as it uses the simplex method (with unpredictable iteration counts) and its performance can therefore be considered

comparable to GLOP. On the other hand, GLOP, though based on simplex, is often faster than Karmarkar, especially in zero-sum matrix games. Though Karmarkar has a better worst case complexity than GLOP, GLOP may be actually faster than Karmarkar due to low overhead (avoidance of matrix factorization), lesser number of simplex pivots, warm start by the reuse of previous LP solutions and avoidance of precision-tuning overheads required by Karmarkar.

While the performance of debtoru_solver exceeded that of the PSA approach by between 1% and 21% in the sample, the authors have already proved the superiority of the EPA approach (implemented by debtoru_solver) over the PSA approach on other counts as well in the conference paper “Reducing the complexity of computing the values of a Nash Equilibrium”, namely: maximum entropy, robustness to mistakes (Selten’s Trembling Hands), minimax regret and robustness to incomplete information (Aumann)

5. Conclusion and further research

Although Gurobi has been reported to be twice as fast as GLPK and sometimes upto 10,000 times faster than open source solvers, we have already seen in our experiment that debtoru_solver outperformed GLOP (which is comparable in performance to GLPK) by over 4131382 times in just a mid-sized zero sum matrix game. According to Netlib LP benchmarks, Gurobi is between 10 to 1000 times faster than GLOP, depending on instance size. This suggests that debtoru_solver, implementing the EPA approach, is probably far more efficient than Gurobi as debtoru_solver has outperformed GLOP by a far bigger margin than has Gurobi, even in our small sample of cases. However, as game structures could be widely divergent in their characteristics, a direct comparison of the two on the same two-person, zero sum games would tender firmer evidence of their respective capabilities.

Appendix

Appendix-A

```
1 # New Approach
2
3 # Date Jul 02, 2025
4 # Colonel Blotto Game for 'n' Battlefields, displaying Row and Column Strategies in Wrapped Format
5 # logic for debtoru_solver as per paper, uniform column probabilities for undominated strategies
6
7 import numpy as np
8 import pyspiel
9 from open_spiel.python.algorithms import lp_solver
10 import textwrap
11 import time
12
13 from itertools import product
14 from open_spiel.python.algorithms.lp_solver import LinearProgram, OBJ_MAX, CONS_TYPE_EQ, CONS_TYPE_EQ
15 import cvxopt
16
17 def extract_row_payoff_matrix(game):
18     return np.array(game.row_utilities())
19
20 def weakly_dominated_rows(matrix):
21     keep = [1] * matrix.shape[0]
22     for i in range(matrix.shape[0]):
23         for j in range(matrix.shape[0]):
24             if i == j:
25                 continue
26             if np.all(matrix[i, :] <= matrix[j, :]) and np.any(matrix[i, :] < matrix[j, :]):
27                 keep[i] = 0
28             break
29     return keep
30
31 def weakly_dominated_columns(matrix):
32     keep = [1] * matrix.shape[1]
33     for j in range(matrix.shape[1]):
34         for k in range(matrix.shape[1]):
35             if j == k:
36                 continue
```

```

37         if np.all(matrix[:, j] >= matrix[:, k]) and np.any(matrix[:, j] > matrix[:, k]):
38             keep[j] = 0
39             break
40     return keep
41
42 def ieds_zero_sum_weak_flags(matrix):
43     """
44     Iterated Elimination of Weakly Dominated Strategies (IEDS) for 2-player zero-sum games.
45
46     Args:
47         matrix (np.ndarray): Row player's payoff matrix (m x n)
48
49     Returns:
50         reduced_matrix (np.ndarray): Matrix after IEDS
51         row_flag (List[int]): 0 if row was eliminated, 1 if retained
52         col_flag (List[int]): 0 if column was eliminated, 1 if retained
53     """
54     # print("\nMatrix input inside IEDS")
55     # print(matrix)
56     A = matrix.copy()
57     orig_rows, orig_cols = matrix.shape
58     row_flag = [1] * orig_rows
59     col_flag = [1] * orig_cols
56
59     active_rows = list(range(orig_rows))
60     active_cols = list(range(orig_cols))
61
62     changed = True
63     while changed:
64
65         changed = False
66
67         # Eliminate weakly dominated rows
68         current_matrix = A[np.ix_(active_rows, active_cols)]
69         row_keep = weakly_dominated_rows(current_matrix)
70         if sum(row_keep) < len(row_keep):
71             new_active_rows = [r for r, keep in zip(active_rows, row_keep) if keep == 1]
72             for r in active_rows:
73                 if r not in new_active_rows:
74                     row_flag[r] = 0
75             active_rows = new_active_rows
76             changed = True
77
78         # Eliminate weakly dominated columns
79         current_matrix = A[np.ix_(active_rows, active_cols)]
80         col_keep = weakly_dominated_columns(current_matrix)
81         if sum(col_keep) < len(col_keep):
82             new_active_cols = [c for c, keep in zip(active_cols, col_keep) if keep == 1]
83             for c in active_cols:
84                 if c not in new_active_cols:
85                     col_flag[c] = 0
86             active_cols = new_active_cols
87             changed = True
88
89         reduced_matrix = A[np.ix_(active_rows, active_cols)]
90         return reduced_matrix, row_flag, col_flag
91
92
93 def compute_column_player_value(p0_sol, p1_sol, payoff_matrix):
94     """
95     Computes the expected value of the game for the row player.
96
97     Parameters:
98         p0_sol (np.ndarray): Row player's strategy (size: [num_rows])
99         p1_sol (np.ndarray): Column player's strategy (size: [num_cols])
100        payoff_matrix (np.ndarray): Row player's payoff matrix (shape: [num_rows x num_cols])

```

```

101
102     Returns:
103         float: Expected value of the game for the row player
104     """
105     p0 = np.array(p0_sol).reshape(-1, 1) # Column vector
106     p1 = np.array(p1_sol).reshape(1, -1) # Row vector
107     return float(np.sum(p0 * payoff_matrix * p1))
108
109 def expand_strategy(short_strategy, flag):
110     """
111     Expands a strategy vector to full size using a flag vector.
112
113     Parameters:
114         short_strategy (List[float]): Strategy values for undominated strategies.
115         flag (List[int]): Binary flag (1 = keep, 0 = dominated).
116
117     Returns:
118         np.ndarray: Full strategy with 0s in dominated positions.
119     """
120     full_strategy = np.zeros(len(flag))
121     idx = 0
122     for i, keep in enumerate(flag):
123         if keep == 1:
124             full_strategy[i] = short_strategy[idx]
125         idx += 1
126     return full_strategy
127
128 def solve_with_debtorsu_solver(game, row_flag, dominance_mask):
129     assert isinstance(game, pyspiel.MatrixGame)
130     assert game.get_type().information == pyspiel.GameType.Information.ONE_SHOT
131     assert game.get_type().utility == pyspiel.GameType.Utility.ZERO_SUM
132
133     num_rows = game.num_rows()
134     num_cols = game.num_cols()
135     cvxopt.solvers.options["show_progress"] = False
136
137     # -----
138     # Row player's LP (OpenSpiel version)
139     # -----
140     lp0 = LinearProgram(OBJ_MAX)
141     for r in range(num_rows):
142         lp0.add_or_reuse_variable(r, lb=0)
143     lp0.add_or_reuse_variable(num_rows) # V
144     lp0.set_obj_coeff(num_rows, 1.0) # max V
145
146     for c in range(num_cols):
147         lp0.add_or_reuse_constraint(c, CONS_TYPE_GEQ)
148         for r in range(num_rows):
149             lp0.set_cons_coeff(c, r, game.player_utility(0, r, c))
150             lp0.set_cons_coeff(c, num_rows, -1.0) # -V >= 0
151
152     lp0.add_or_reuse_constraint(num_cols + 1, CONS_TYPE_EQ)
153     lp0.set_cons_rhs(num_cols + 1, 1.0)
154     for r in range(num_rows):
155         lp0.set_cons_coeff(num_cols + 1, r, 1.0)
156
157     sol = lp0.solve()
158     p0_sol = sol[:-1] # row strategy
159     p0_sol_val = sol[-1] # game value for row player
160
161     # -----
162     # Column strategy (modified)
163     # -----
164     matrix = extract_row_payoff_matrix(game)
165     # reduced_matrix, row_flag, dominance_mask = ieds_zero_sum_weak_flags(matrix)
166     # print("\nRow Mask\n",row_flag)
167     # print("\nColumn Mask\n",dominance_mask)
168     num_undominated = sum(dominance_mask)

```

```

169
170     if num_undominated == 0:
171         raise ValueError("All column strategies are dominated – no valid strategy remains.")
172
173     p1_sol = np.zeros(num_cols)
174     uniform_prob = 1.0 / num_undominated
175     for i in range(num_cols):
176         p1_sol[i] = uniform_prob
177
178     # print("\nnp0_sol\n", p0_sol)
179     # print("\nnp1_sol\n", p1_sol)
180     #
181     # Return as in original OpenSpiel
182     #
183     p1_sol_val = compute_column_player_value(p0_sol, p1_sol, matrix) # skipped LP for column player
184
185     p0_sol_full = expand_strategy(p0_sol, row_flag)
186     p1_sol_full = expand_strategy(p1_sol, dominance_mask )
187
188     return p0_sol_full, p1_sol_full, p0_sol_val, p1_sol_val
189
190 def generate_strategies(num_agents, num_arsenals):
191     """
192     Generate all unique descending allocations (canonical form) of num_agents across num_arsenals.
193     Each allocation is a tuple of non-negative integers that sum to num_agents,
194     sorted in descending order. No repeated permutations.
195     The result is sorted in reverse lexicographical order.
196     """
197     strategies = set()
198
199     # Generate all possible combinations
200     for combo in product(range(num_agents + 1), repeat=num_arsenals):
201         if sum(combo) == num_agents:
202             strategies.add(tuple(sorted(combo, reverse=True))) # enforce canonical form
203
204     return sorted(strategies, reverse=True)
205
206 def compute_payoff_matrix(num_guerrillas, num_police, num_arsenals):
207     g_strategies = generate_strategies(num_guerrillas, num_arsenals)
208     p_strategies = generate_strategies(num_police, num_arsenals)
209     print("\nRow Player (Guerrilla) Allocation:\n", textwrap.fill(str(g_strategies), width=100))
210     print("\nColumn Player (Police) Allocation:\n", textwrap.fill(str(p_strategies), width=100))
211     num_g = len(g_strategies)
212     num_p = len(p_strategies)
213     payoff_matrix = np.zeros((num_g, num_p))
214     win_count = 0
215
216     for i, g_strat in enumerate(g_strategies):
217         for j, p_strat in enumerate(p_strategies):
218
219             # Compare each guerrilla (row) group against each police (column) group
220             comparisons = [(g, p) for g in g_strat for p in p_strat]
221             win_count = sum(1 for g, p in comparisons if g > p)
222
223             payoff = round(win_count / num_arsenals, 2)
224             if payoff > 1.0:
225                 payoff = 1.0
226
227             payoff_matrix[i, j] = payoff

```

```

228     return payoff_matrix
229
230
231 def compute_nash_equilibrium(num_guerrillas, num_police, num_arsenals):
232     """
233     Compute and display the Nash equilibrium strategies and game value for the Colonel Blotto game.
234     """
235     payoff_matrix = compute_payoff_matrix(num_guerrillas, num_police, num_arsenals)
236     print(f"\nPayoff Matrix for {num_guerrillas} Guerrillas and {num_police} Police:")
237     print(payoff_matrix)
238
239     reduced_matrix, row_flag, dominance_mask = ieds_zero_sum_weak_flags(payoff_matrix)
240     # print("\nreduced_matrix\n", reduced_matrix)
241     # print("\nRow Mask\n", row_flag)
242     # print("\nColumn Mask\n", dominance_mask)
243
244
245
246     # Create OpenSpiel matrix game
247     row_utilities = reduced_matrix.tolist()
248     col_utilities = [[-cell for cell in row] for row in row_utilities] # zero-sum version
249     game = pyspiel.create_matrix_game(row_utilities, col_utilities)
250
251     start_time = time.time()
252     # Solve using LP solver
253     row_strategy, col_strategy, game_value_r, game_value_c = solve_with_debtoru_solver(game, row_flag, dominance_mask)
254     end_time = time.time()
255     elapsed = end_time - start_time
256
257     # Output strategies and game value
258     row_strategy_rounded = [round(p, 3) for p in row_strategy]
259     col_strategy_rounded = [round(p, 3) for p in col_strategy]
260     game_value_r_rounded = round(game_value_r, 3)
261     game_value_c_rounded = round(game_value_c, 3)
262
263     print("\nNash Equilibrium:")
264     formatted_row_strategy = [f"{float(x):.3f}" for x in row_strategy]
265
266     print("\nRow Player (Guerrilla) Strategy:\n", textwrap.fill(str(formatted_row_strategy), width=100))
267
268     # print("\nColumn Player (Police) Strategy:\n", textwrap.fill(str(col_strategy_rounded), width=100))
269     formatted_col_strategy = [f"{float(x):.3f}" for x in col_strategy]
270     print("\nColumn Player (Police) Strategy:\n", textwrap.fill(str(formatted_col_strategy), width=100))
271
272     # print("\nValue of the Game (According to Row strategies of LP_Solver):", game_value_r)
273     print("\nValue of the Game (According to Row Prob from LP_Solver and uniform column prob):", game_value_c)
274     print(f"\nExecution time of debtoru_solver: {elapsed:.6f} seconds")
275
276 if __name__ == "__main__":
277     num_guerrillas = int(input("Enter the number of guerrillas (row): "))
278     num_police = int(input("Enter the number of police (column): "))
279     num_arsenals = int(input("Enter the number of arsenals (battlefield): "))
280
281     #payoff_matrix_test = compute_payoff_matrix(num_guerrillas, num_police)
282     #print("Payoff Matrix for {} Guerrillas and {} Police:".format(num_guerrillas, num_police))
283     #print(payoff_matrix_test)
284     compute_nash_equilibrium(num_guerrillas, num_police, num_arsenals)

```

→ Enter the number of guerrillas (row): 50
 Enter the number of police (column): 70
 Enter the number of arsenals (battlefield): 2

Row Player (Guerrilla) Allocation:

$$[(50, 0), (49, 1), (48, 2), (47, 3), (46, 4), (45, 5), (44, 6), (43, 7), (42, 8), (41, 9), (40, 10), (39, 11), (38, 12), (37, 13), (36, 14), (35, 15), (34, 16), (33, 17), (32, 18), (31, 19), (30, 20), (29, 21), (28, 22), (27, 23), (26, 24), (25, 25)]$$

Column Player (Police) Allocation:

$$[(70, 0), (69, 1), (68, 2), (67, 3), (66, 4), (65, 5), (64, 6), (63, 7), (62, 8), (61, 9), (60, 10), (59, 11), (58, 12), (57, 13), (56, 14), (55, 15), (54, 16), (53, 17), (52, 18), (51, 19), (50, 20), (49, 21), (48, 22), (47, 23), (46, 24), (45, 25), (44, 26), (43, 27), (42, 28), (41, 29), (40, 30), (39, 31), (38, 32), (37, 33), (36, 34), (35, 35)]$$

Nash Equilibrium:

Row Player (Guerrilla) Strategy:

Column Player (Police) Strategy:

```
['0.000', '0.000', '0.000', '0.000', '0.000', '0.000', '0.000', '0.000', '0.000', '0.000', '0.000', '0.000',  
'0.000', '0.000', '0.000', '0.000', '0.000', '0.000', '0.000', '0.000', '0.000', '0.125', '0.000',  
'0.000', '0.000', '0.000', '0.000', '0.000', '0.000', '0.000', '0.000', '0.125', '0.125', '0.125', '0.125',  
'0.125', '0.125', '0.125']
```

Value of the Game (According to Row Prob from LP_Solver and uniform column prob): 0.6666666816837485

Execution time of debtoru_solver: 0.002876 seconds

Appendix-B

```
1 422# New Approach
2
3 # Date Jul 02, 2025
4 # Colonel Blotto Game for 'n' Battlefields, displaying Row and Column Strategies in Wrapped Format
5 # logic for PSA=1 for undominated strategies
6 import numpy as np
7 import pyspiel
8 from open_spiel.python.algorithms import lp_solver
9 import textwrap
10 import time
11
12 from itertools import product
13 from open_spiel.python.algorithms.lp_solver import LinearProgram, OBJ_MAX, CONS_TYPE_GEQ, CONS_TYPE_EQ
14 import cvxopt
15
16 def extract_row_payoff_matrix(game):
17     return np.array(game.row_utilities())
18
19 def weakly_dominated_rows(matrix):
20     keep = [1] * matrix.shape[0]
21     for i in range(matrix.shape[0]):
22         for j in range(matrix.shape[0]):
23             if i == j:
24                 continue
25             if np.all(matrix[i, :] <= matrix[j, :]) and np.any(matrix[i, :] < matrix[j, :]):
26                 keep[i] = 0
27                 break
28     return keep
29
30 def weakly_dominated_columns(matrix):
31     keep = [1] * matrix.shape[1]
32     for j in range(matrix.shape[1]):
33         for k in range(matrix.shape[1]):
34             if j == k:
35                 continue
36             if np.all(matrix[:, j] >= matrix[:, k]) and np.any(matrix[:, j] > matrix[:, k]):
```

```

37         keep[j] = 0
38     break
39 return keep
40
41 def ieds_zero_sum_weak_flags(matrix):
42     """
43     Iterated Elimination of Weakly Dominated Strategies (IEDS) for 2-player zero-sum games.
44
45     Args:
46         matrix (np.ndarray): Row player's payoff matrix (m x n)
47
48     Returns:
49         reduced_matrix (np.ndarray): Matrix after IEDS
50         row_flag (List[int]): 0 if row was eliminated, 1 if retained
51         col_flag (List[int]): 0 if column was eliminated, 1 if retained
52     """
53     # print("\nMatrix input inside IEDS")
54     # print(matrix)
55     A = matrix.copy()
56     orig_rows, orig_cols = matrix.shape
57     row_flag = [1] * orig_rows
58     col_flag = [1] * orig_cols
59
60     active_rows = list(range(orig_rows))
61     active_cols = list(range(orig_cols))
62
63     changed = True
64     while changed:
65         changed = False
66
67         # Eliminate weakly dominated rows
68         current_matrix = A[np.ix_(active_rows, active_cols)]
69         row_keep = weakly_dominated_rows(current_matrix)
70         if sum(row_keep) < len(row_keep):
71             new_active_rows = [r for r, keep in zip(active_rows, row_keep) if keep == 1]

```

```

72             for r in active_rows:
73                 if r not in new_active_rows:
74                     row_flag[r] = 0
75             active_rows = new_active_rows
76             changed = True
77
78         # Eliminate weakly dominated columns
79         current_matrix = A[np.ix_(active_rows, active_cols)]
80         col_keep = weakly_dominated_columns(current_matrix)
81         if sum(col_keep) < len(col_keep):
82             new_active_cols = [c for c, keep in zip(active_cols, col_keep) if keep == 1]
83             for c in active_cols:
84                 if c not in new_active_cols:
85                     col_flag[c] = 0
86             active_cols = new_active_cols
87             changed = True
88
89         reduced_matrix = A[np.ix_(active_rows, active_cols)]
90     return reduced_matrix, row_flag, col_flag
91
92 def compute_column_player_value(p0_sol, p1_sol, payoff_matrix):
93     """
94     Computes the expected value of the game for the row player.
95
96     Parameters:
97         p0_sol (np.ndarray): Row player's strategy (size: [num_rows])
98         p1_sol (np.ndarray): Column player's strategy (size: [num_cols])
99         payoff_matrix (np.ndarray): Row player's payoff matrix (shape: [num_rows x num_cols])
100
101    Returns:
102        float: Expected value of the game for the row player
103    """
104    p0 = np.array(p0_sol).reshape(-1, 1) # Column vector
105    p1 = np.array(p1_sol).reshape(1, -1) # Row vector
106    return float(np.sum(p0 * payoff_matrix * p1))

```

```

107
108 def expand_strategy(short_strategy, flag):
109     """
110     Expands a strategy vector to full size using a flag vector.
111
112     Parameters:
113         short_strategy (List[float]): Strategy values for undominated strategies.
114         flag (List[int]): Binary flag (1 = keep, 0 = dominated).
115
116     Returns:
117         np.ndarray: Full strategy with 0s in dominated positions.
118     """
119     full_strategy = np.zeros(len(flag))
120     idx = 0
121     for i, keep in enumerate(flag):
122         if keep == 1:
123             full_strategy[i] = short_strategy[idx]
124             idx += 1
125     return full_strategy
126
127 def generate_strictly_positive_probabilities(n: int, min_value=0.000000001) -> list[float]:
128     """
129     Generate a random probability vector of length n where:
130     - All probabilities are strictly > 0
131     - Sum is exactly 1.0 (within rounding error)
132     - Probabilities are rounded to 4 decimal places
133
134     Parameters:
135         n (int): Length of the vector
136         min_value (float): Minimum value for any individual probability (default: 0.01)
137
138     Returns:
139         List[float]: A probability vector of length n
140     """
141     if n <= 0:

```

```

142         return []
143     if n == 1:
144         return [1.0]
145
146     # Ensure that we can assign at least `min_value` to each of n entries
147     remaining_mass = 1.0 - n * min_value
148     if remaining_mass < 0:
149         raise ValueError(f"min_value too large for vector of length {n}.")
150
151     # Generate n random values that sum to remaining_mass
152     raw = np.random.rand(n)
153     raw_sum = np.sum(raw)
154     scaled_raw = (raw / raw_sum) * remaining_mass
155
156     # Add minimum value to each entry and round
157     probs = [np.round(val + min_value, 4) for val in scaled_raw]
158
159     # Fix rounding drift
160     total = sum(probs)
161     diff = np.round(1.0 - total, 4)
162     if diff != 0:
163         i = np.argmax(probs)
164         probs[i] = np.round(probs[i] + diff, 4)
165         if probs[i] <= 0:
166             probs[i] = min_value # Ensure it's still positive
167
168     return probs
169
170 def solve_with_debtotoru_solver(game, row_flag, dominance_mask):
171     assert isinstance(game, pyspiel.MatrixGame)
172     assert game.get_type().information == pyspiel.GameType.Information.ONE_SHOT
173     assert game.get_type().utility == pyspiel.GameType.Utility.ZERO_SUM
174
175     num_rows = game.num_rows()
176     num_cols = game.num_cols()

```

```

177 cvxopt.solvers.options["show_progress"] = False
178
179 # -----
180 # Row player's LP (OpenSpiel version)
181 # -----
182 lp0 = LinearProgram(OBJ_MAX)
183 for r in range(num_rows):
184     lp0.add_or_reuse_variable(r, lb=0)
185 lp0.add_or_reuse_variable(num_rows) # V
186 lp0.set_obj_coeff(num_rows, 1.0) # max V
187
188 for c in range(num_cols):
189     lp0.add_or_reuse_constraint(c, CONS_TYPE_GEQ)
190     for r in range(num_rows): (variable) r: int
191         lp0.set_cons_coeff(c, r, game.player_utility(0, r, c))
192         lp0.set_cons_coeff(c, num_rows, -1.0) # -V >= 0
193
194 lp0.add_or_reuse_constraint(num_cols + 1, CONS_TYPE_EQ)
195 lp0.set_cons_rhs(num_cols + 1, 1.0)
196 for r in range(num_rows):
197     lp0.set_cons_coeff(num_cols + 1, r, 1.0)
198
199 sol = lp0.solve()
200 p0_sol = sol[:-1] # row strategy
201 p0_sol_val = sol[-1] # game value for row player
202
203 # -----
204 # Column strategy (modified)
205 # -----

```

```

206 matrix = extract_row_payoff_matrix(game)
207 # reduced_matrix, row_flag, dominance_mask = ieds_zero_sum_weak_flags(matrix)
208 # print("\nRow Mask\n",row_flag)
209 # print("\nColumn Mask\n",dominance_mask)
210 num_undominated = sum(dominance_mask)
211
212 if num_undominated == 0:
213     raise ValueError("All column strategies are dominated – no valid strategy remains.")
214
215 p1_sol = np.zeros(num_cols)
216 p1_sol = generate_strictly_positive_probabilities(num_cols)
217
218 # print("\nnp0_sol\n", p0_sol)
219 # print("\nnp1_sol\n", p1_sol)
220 #
221 # Return as in original OpenSpiel
222 #
223 p1_sol_val = compute_column_player_value(p0_sol, p1_sol, matrix) # skipped LP for column player
224
225 p0_sol_full = expand_strategy(p0_sol, row_flag)
226 p1_sol_full = expand_strategy(p1_sol, dominance_mask )
227
228 return p0_sol_full, p1_sol_full, p0_sol_val, p1_sol_val
229
230 def generate_strategies(num_agents, num_arsenals):
231     """
232     Generate all unique descending allocations (canonical form) of num_agents across num_arsenals.
233     Each allocation is a tuple of non-negative integers that sum to num_agents,
234     sorted in descending order. No repeated permutations.
235     The result is sorted in reverse lexicographical order.

```

```

236 """
237     strategies = set()
238
239     # Generate all possible combinations
240     for combo in product(range(num_agents + 1), repeat=num_arsenals):
241         if sum(combo) == num_agents:
242             strategies.add(tuple(sorted(combo, reverse=True))) # enforce canonical form
243
244     return sorted(strategies, reverse=True)
245
246 def compute_payoff_matrix(num_guerrillas, num_police, num_arsenals):
247     g_strategies = generate_strategies(num_guerrillas, num_arsenals)
248     p_strategies = generate_strategies(num_police, num_arsenals)
249     print("\nRow Player (Guerrilla) Allocation:\n", textwrap.fill(str(g_strategies), width=100))
250     print("\nColumn Player (Police) Allocation:\n", textwrap.fill(str(p_strategies), width=100))
251     num_g = len(g_strategies)
252     num_p = len(p_strategies)
253     payoff_matrix = np.zeros((num_g, num_p))
254     win_count = 0
255
256     for i, g_strat in enumerate(g_strategies):
257         for j, p_strat in enumerate(p_strategies):
258
259             # Compare each guerrilla (row) group against each police (column) group
260             comparisons = [(g, p) for g in g_strat for p in p_strat]
261             win_count = sum(1 for g, p in comparisons if g > p)
262
263             payoff = round(win_count / num_arsenals, 2)
264             if payoff > 1.0:
265                 payoff = 1.0
266
267             payoff_matrix[i, j] = payoff
268
269     return payoff_matrix
270

```

```

271 def compute_nash_equilibrium(num_guerrillas, num_police, num_arsenals):
272     """
273     Compute and display the Nash equilibrium strategies and game value for the Colonel Blotto game.
274     """
275     payoff_matrix = compute_payoff_matrix(num_guerrillas, num_police, num_arsenals)
276     print(f"\nPayoff Matrix for {num_guerrillas} Guerrillas and {num_police} Police:")
277     print(payoff_matrix)
278
279     reduced_matrix, row_flag, dominance_mask = ieds_zero_sum_weak_flags(payoff_matrix)
280     # print("\nreduced_matrix\n", reduced_matrix)
281     # print("\nRow Mask\n", row_flag)
282     # print("\nColumn Mask\n", dominance_mask)
283
284
285     # Create OpenSpiel matrix game
286     row_utilities = reduced_matrix.tolist()
287     col_utilities = [[-cell for cell in row] for row in row_utilities] # zero-sum version
288     game = pyspiel.create_matrix_game(row_utilities, col_utilities)
289
290     start_time = time.time()
291     # Solve using LP solver
292     row_strategy, col_strategy, game_value_r, game_value_c = solve_with_debtors_solver(game, row_flag, dominance_mask)
293     end_time = time.time()
294     elapsed = end_time - start_time
295
296     # Output strategies and game value
297     row_strategy_rounded = [round(p, 3) for p in row_strategy]
298     col_strategy_rounded = [round(p, 3) for p in col_strategy]
299     game_value_r_rounded = round(game_value_r, 3)
300     game_value_c_rounded = round(game_value_c, 3)
301
302     print("\nNash Equilibrium:")
303     formatted_row_strategy = [f"{float(x):.3f}" for x in row_strategy]
304     print("\nRow Player (Guerrilla) Strategy:\n", textwrap.fill(str(formatted_row_strategy), width=100))

```

```
306
307 # print("\nColumn Player (Police) Strategy:", textwrap.fill(str(col_strategy_rounder), width=100))
308 formatted_col_strategy = [f"{float(x):.3f}" for x in col_strategy]
309 print("\nColumn Player (Police) Strategy:", textwrap.fill(str(formatted_col_strategy), width=100))
310
311 # print("\nValue of the Game (According to Row strategies of LP_Solver):", game_value_r)
312 print("\nValue of the Game (According to Row Prob from LP_Solver and PSA=1):", game_value_c)
313 print(f"\nExecution time of PSA: {elapsed:.6f} seconds")
314 if __name__ == "__main__":
315     num_guerrillas = int(input("Enter the number of guerrillas (row): "))
316     num_police = int(input("Enter the number of police (column): "))
317     num_arsenals = int(input("Enter the number of arsenals (battlefield): "))
318     #payoff_matrix_test = compute_payoff_matrix(num_guerrillas, num_police)
319     #print("Payoff Matrix for {} Guerrillas and {} Police:".format(num_guerrillas, num_police))
320     #print(payoff_matrix_test)
321     compute_nash_equilibrium(num_guerrillas, num_police, num_arsenals)
```

```
→ Enter the number of guerrillas (row): 50
Enter the number of police (column): 70
Enter the number of arsenals (battlefield): 2

Row Player (Guerrilla) Allocation:
[(50, 0), (49, 1), (48, 2), (47, 3), (46, 4), (45, 5), (44, 6), (43, 7), (42, 8), (41, 9), (40, 10),
(39, 11), (38, 12), (37, 13), (36, 14), (35, 15), (34, 16), (33, 17), (32, 18), (31, 19), (30, 20),
(29, 21), (28, 22), (27, 23), (26, 24), (25, 25)]

Column Player (Police) Allocation:
[(70, 0), (69, 1), (68, 2), (67, 3), (66, 4), (65, 5), (64, 6), (63, 7), (62, 8), (61, 9), (60, 10),
(59, 11), (58, 12), (57, 13), (56, 14), (55, 15), (54, 16), (53, 17), (52, 18), (51, 19), (50, 20),
(49, 21), (48, 22), (47, 23), (46, 24), (45, 25), (44, 26), (43, 27), (42, 28), (41, 29), (40, 30),
(39, 31), (38, 32), (37, 33), (36, 34), (35, 35)]
```

Nash Equilibrium:

Row Player (Guerrilla) Strategy:

Column Player (Police) Strategy:

Value of the Game (According to Row Prob from LP_Solver and PSA=1): 0.6666666803086407

Execution time of PSA: 0.004614 seconds

Appendix-C

```
1 23# Date Jul 02, 2025
2 # Colonel Blotto Game for 'n' Battlefields, displaying Row and Column Strategies in Wrapped Format
3 #LP_Solver
4 import numpy as np
5 import pyspiel
6 from open_spiel.python.algorithms import lp_solver
7 import textwrap
8 import time
9
10 from itertools import product
11
12 def generate_strategies(num_agents, num_arsenals):
13     """
14     Generate all unique descending allocations (canonical form) of num_agents across num_arsenals.
15     Each allocation is a tuple of non-negative integers that sum to num_agents,
16     sorted in descending order. No repeated permutations.
17     The result is sorted in reverse lexicographical order.
18     """
19     strategies = set()
20
21     # Generate all possible combinations
22     for combo in product(range(num_agents + 1), repeat=num_arsenals):
23         if sum(combo) == num_agents:
24             strategies.add(tuple(sorted(combo, reverse=True))) # enforce canonical form
25
26     return sorted(strategies, reverse=True)
27
28 def compute_payoff_matrix(num_guerrillas, num_police, num_arsenals):
29     g_strategies = generate_strategies(num_guerrillas, num_arsenals)
30     p_strategies = generate_strategies(num_police, num_arsenals)
31     print("\nRow Player (Guerrilla) Allocation:\n", textwrap.fill(str(g_strategies), width=100))
32     print("\nColumn Player (Police) Allocation:\n", textwrap.fill(str(p_strategies), width=100))
33     num_g = len(g_strategies)
34     num_p = len(p_strategies)
35     payoff_matrix = np.zeros((num_g, num_p))
36     win_count = 0
```

```

37
38     for i, g_strat in enumerate(g_strategies):
39         for j, p_strat in enumerate(p_strategies):
40
41             # Compare each guerrilla (row) group against each police (column) group
42             comparisons = [(g, p) for g in g_strat for p in p_strat]
43             win_count = sum(1 for g, p in comparisons if g > p)
44
45             payoff = round(win_count / num_arsenals, 2)
46             if payoff > 1.0:
47                 payoff = 1.0
48
49             payoff_matrix[i, j] = payoff
50
51     return payoff_matrix
52
53 def compute_nash_equilibrium(num_guerrillas, num_police, num_arsenals):
54     """
55     Compute and display the Nash equilibrium strategies and game value for the Colonel Blotto game.
56     """
57     payoff_matrix = compute_payoff_matrix(num_guerrillas, num_police, num_arsenals)
58     print(f"\nPayoff Matrix for {num_guerrillas} Guerrillas and {num_police} Police:")
59     print(payoff_matrix)
60
61     # Create OpenSpiel matrix game
62     row_utilities = payoff_matrix.tolist()
63     col_utilities = [[-cell for cell in row] for row in row_utilities] # zero-sum version
64     game = pyspiel.create_matrix_game(row_utilities, col_utilities)
65
66     # Solve using LP solver
67     start_time = time.time()
68     row_strategy, col_strategy, game_value_r, game_value_c = lp_solver.solve_zero_sum_matrix_game(game)
69     end_time = time.time()
70     elapsed = end_time - start_time

```

```

71     # Output strategies and game value
72     row_strategy_rounded = [round(p, 3) for p in row_strategy]
73     col_strategy_rounded = [round(p, 3) for p in col_strategy]
74     game_value_r_rounded = round(game_value_r, 3)
75     game_value_c_rounded = round(game_value_c, 3)
76
77     print("\nNash Equilibrium:")
78     print("\nRow Player (Guerrilla) Strategy:\n", textwrap.fill(str(row_strategy_rounded), width=100))
79     print("\nColumn Player (Police) Strategy:\n", textwrap.fill(str(col_strategy_rounded), width=100))
80     print("\nValue of the Game (Expected Guerrilla Payoff_Row):", game_value_r_rounded)
81     print("\nValue of the Game (Expected Guerrilla Payoff_Col):", game_value_c_rounded)
82     print(f"Execution time of pure lp_solver: {elapsed:.6f} seconds")
83
84 if __name__ == "__main__":
85     num_guerrillas = int(input("Enter the number of guerrillas (row): "))
86     num_police = int(input("Enter the number of police (column): "))
87     num_arsenals = int(input("Enter the number of arsenals (battlefield): "))
88     #payoff_matrix_test = compute_payoff_matrix(num_guerrillas, num_police)
89     #print("Payoff Matrix for {} Guerrillas and {} Police:".format(num_guerrillas, num_police))
90     #print(payoff_matrix_test)
91     #compute_nash_equilibrium(num_guerrillas, num_police, num_arsenals)
92

```

→ Enter the number of guerrillas (row): 50
 Enter the number of police (column): 70
 Enter the number of arsenals (battlefield): 2

Row Player (Guerrilla) Allocation:
 [(50, 0), (49, 1), (48, 2), (47, 3), (46, 4), (45, 5), (44, 6), (43, 7), (42, 8), (41, 9), (40, 10),
 (39, 11), (38, 12), (37, 13), (36, 14), (35, 15), (34, 16), (33, 17), (32, 18), (31, 19), (30, 20),
 (29, 21), (28, 22), (27, 23), (26, 24), (25, 25)]

Column Player (Police) Allocation:
 [(70, 0), (69, 1), (68, 2), (67, 3), (66, 4), (65, 5), (64, 6), (63, 7), (62, 8), (61, 9), (60, 10),
 (59, 11), (58, 12), (57, 13), (56, 14), (55, 15), (54, 16), (53, 17), (52, 18), (51, 19), (50, 20),
 (49, 21), (48, 22), (47, 23), (46, 24), (45, 25), (44, 26), (43, 27), (42, 28), (41, 29), (40, 30),
 (39, 31), (38, 32), (37, 33), (36, 34), (35, 35)]

Nash Equilibrium:

Row Player (Guerrilla) Strategy:

```
[0.238, 0.088, 0.065, 0.054, 0.048, 0.042, 0.039, 0.039, 0.054, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, -0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.122, 0.065, 0.055, 0.049, 0.044]
```

Column Player (Police) Strategy:

$[-0.0, -0.0, -0.0, -0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.02, 0.026, 0.03, 0.034, 0.037, 0.041, 0.045, 0.047, 0.049, 0.053, 0.061, 0.078, 0.146, 0.0, 0.0, -0.0, -0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.071, 0.052, 0.047, 0.044, 0.042, 0.04, 0.037]$

Value of the Game (Expected Guerrilla Payoff_Row): 0.667

Value of the Game (Expected Guerrilla Payoff_Col): -0.667
Execution time of pure lp_solver: 0.015649 seconds

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