

HW-2 SOLUTIONS

Prob. 1

(a) Let us denote Colonel Blotto as "B"  
and Folk Militra as "M".

B has 3 regiments  $\Rightarrow$  B's strategies:  $(3,0), (2,1), (1,2), (0,3)$

M has 2 regiments  $\Rightarrow$  M's strategies:  $(2,0), (1,1), (0,2)$

Say,  $\{b, m\}$  represents a strategy profile where

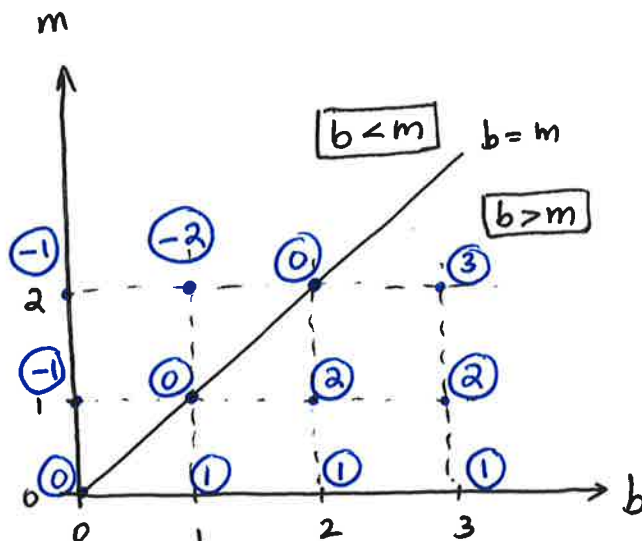
\* B deploys  $(b, 3-b)$

\* M deploys  $(m, 2-m)$ .

Let  $U_i$  denote the utility obtained by B due to deployments in post- $i$ .

$\Rightarrow$

$$U_i(\{b, m\}) = \begin{cases} m+1 & \text{if } b > m \\ 0 & \text{if } b = m \\ -b-1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

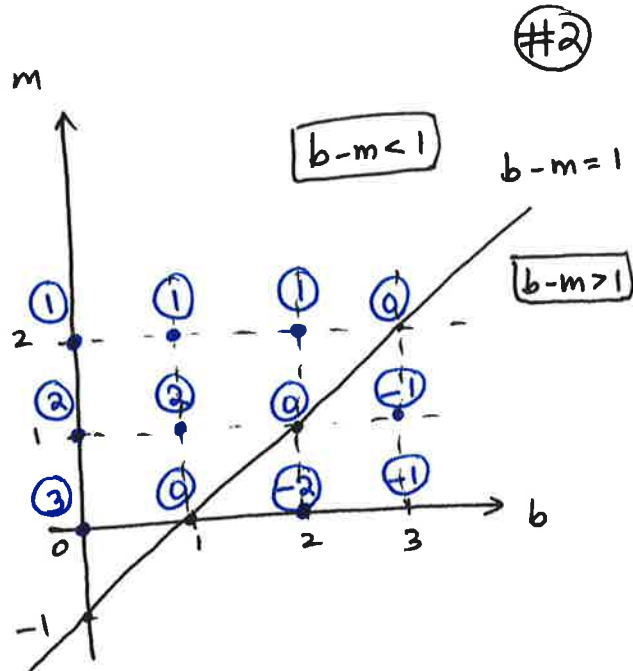


And

$$V_2(\{b, m\}) = \begin{cases} (2-m)+1 = 3-m & \text{if } \boxed{b-m < 1} \\ 0 & \text{if } b-m=1 \\ -(3-b)-1 = -4+b & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow V = V_1 + V_2$$

|        | (0, 2)              | (1, 1)              | (2, 0)               |
|--------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| (0, 3) | $\overset{0+3}{3}$  | $\overset{-1+2}{1}$ | $\overset{-1+1}{0}$  |
| (1, 2) | $\overset{1+0}{1}$  | $\overset{0+2}{2}$  | $\overset{-2+1}{-1}$ |
| (2, 1) | $\overset{1-2}{-1}$ | $\overset{2+0}{2}$  | $\overset{0+1}{1}$   |
| (3, 0) | $\overset{1-1}{0}$  | $\overset{2-1}{1}$  | $\overset{3+0}{3}$   |



III<sup>dy</sup>, let  $V_i$  represent the utility obtained by M due to deployments in post- $i$ .

$$\Rightarrow V_1(\{b, m\}) = \begin{cases} -m-1 & \text{if } b > m \\ 0 & \text{if } b = m \\ b+1 & \text{if } b < m \end{cases}, V_2(\{b, m\}) = \begin{cases} -3+m & \text{if } b-m < 1 \\ 0 & \text{if } b-m=1 \\ 4-b & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow V = V_1 + V_2 = -U.$$

NOTE: This is a zero-sum game.

#3

In summary, the normal-form (bi-matrix) game is

| B \ M  |        |        |        |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|        | (0, 2) | (1, 1) | (2, 0) |
| (0, 3) | 3, -3  | 1, -1  | 0, 0   |
| (1, 2) | 1, -1  | 2, -2  | -1, 1  |
| (2, 1) | -1, 1  | 2, -2  | 1, -1  |
| (3, 0) | 0, 0   | 1, -1  | 3, -3  |

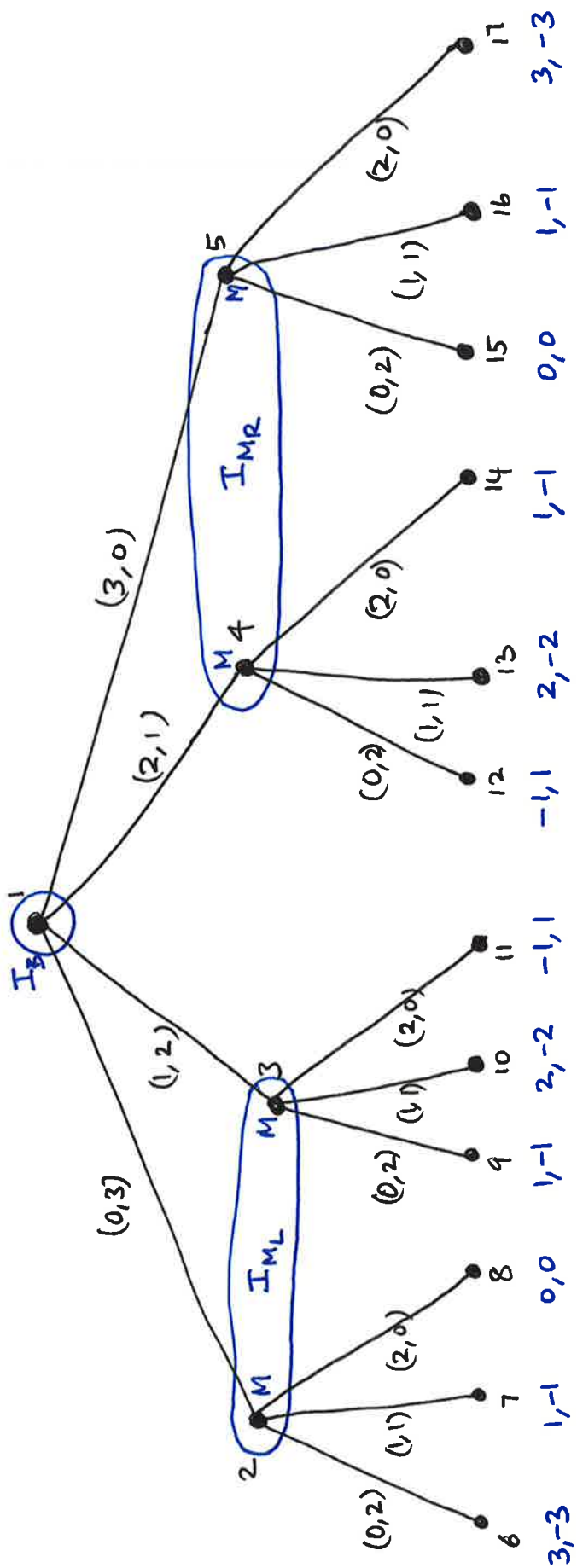
- (b) The best responses of B are represented by circles, and those of M by squares.

| B \ M  |        |        |        |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|        | (0, 2) | (1, 1) | (2, 0) |
| (0, 3) | 3, -3  | 1, -1  | 0, 0   |
| (1, 2) | 1, -1  | 2, -2  | -1, 1  |
| (2, 1) | -1, 1  | 2, -2  | 1, -1  |
| (3, 0) | 0, 0   | 1, -1  | 3, -3  |

$\Rightarrow$  No PSNE.

(c), (d) are programming assignments.

e



#4

(f)

B has one info set  $I_B \Rightarrow$  B's choices:  $(0,3), (1,2), (2,1), (3,0)$

M has two info. sets  $I_{M_L}$  and  $I_{M_R}$

$\Rightarrow$  M's choices:  $\{(0,2)_L, (0,2)_R\}, \{(0,2)_L, (1,1)_R\}, \{(0,2)_L, (2,0)_R\},$   
 $\{(1,1)_L, (0,2)_R\}, \{(1,1)_L, (1,1)_R\}, \{(1,1)_L, (2,0)_R\},$   
 $\{(2,0)_L, (0,2)_R\}, \{(2,0)_L, (1,1)_R\}, \{(2,0)_L, (2,0)_R\}.$

Let  $(0,2)$  be  $x$ ,  $(1,1)$  be  $y$  and  $(2,0)$  be  $z$ . Then, we have the foll. bimatrix game.

|         | $(x_L, y_R)$<br>$(x_L, z_R)$ | $(y_L, x_R)$<br>$(y_L, z_R)$ | $(z_L, x_R)$<br>$(z_L, y_R)$ | $(z_L, z_R)$ |
|---------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| $(0,3)$ | 3,-3                         | 3,-3                         | 1,-1                         | 0,0          |
| $(1,2)$ | 1,-1                         | 1,-1                         | 2,-2                         | -1,1         |
| $(2,1)$ | -1,1                         | 2,-2                         | 1,-1                         | 2,-2         |
| $(3,0)$ | 0,0                          | 1,-1                         | 3,-3                         | 1,-1         |

Prob. 2

(a)

|              | L               | C               | R               |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| U            | 1, 1            | 2, 0            | 2, 2            |
| <del>M</del> | <del>0, 3</del> | <del>1, 5</del> | <del>4, 4</del> |
| D            | 2, 4            | 3, 6            | 3, 0            |

STEP 1: Since D dominates U,  
eliminate U.

STEP 2: Since C dominates R,  
eliminate R.

STEP 3: Since D dominates M,  
eliminate M.

STEP 4: Since C dominates L,  
eliminate L.

Solution: D 

|      |
|------|
| C    |
| 3, 6 |

Prob. 3

(a)

|   | r     | p     | s     |
|---|-------|-------|-------|
| R | 0, 0  | -1, 1 | 1, -1 |
| P | 1, -1 | 0, 0  | -1, 1 |
| S | -1, 1 | 1, -1 | 0, 0  |

 $\Rightarrow$  No PSNE.

(b)

Let  $x$  denote the row player's mixed strategy, and  $y$  denote that of column player.

$\Rightarrow$  Utility of the row player  $u(x, y) = x^T U y$

where  $U = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\therefore u(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 \\ \text{"} & \text{"} & \text{"} \\ & 1-x_1-x_2 & \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \\ \text{"} \\ 1-y_1-y_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= x_1 - x_2 - y_1 + y_2 - 3x_1y_2 + 3x_2y_1$$

$$\nabla u = \begin{bmatrix} \nabla_x u \\ \nabla_y u \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1-3y_2 \\ -1+3y_1 \\ -1+3x_2 \\ 1-3x_1 \end{bmatrix} = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} x_1 &= x_2 = \frac{1}{3} \\ y_1 &= y_2 = \frac{1}{3} \end{aligned}$$

In other words,  $x = \left(\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\right)$  and  $y = \left(\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\right)$

is a candidate solution.

But, why is this a saddle point?

NOTE: The second derivative test for  $n$  variables (for  $n \geq 3$ )

is as follows:

(\*) Let  $H$  denote the Hessian matrix of  $f$ , i.e.

$$H = \nabla_x^2 f \quad \text{where } x = (x_1, \dots, x_n).$$

Let  $|H| \neq 0$ .

(\*) Let  $D_k$  = determinant of Hessian in variables  $x_1, \dots, x_k$ .

$$\text{i.e. } D_k = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1^2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_k \partial x_1} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_k} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_k^2} \end{vmatrix}$$

(a) If  $D_k > 0 \quad \forall k = 1, \dots, n$ , then minimum.

(b) If  $(-1)^k D_k > 0 \quad \forall k = 1, \dots, n$ , then maximum.

(c) ~~If~~ Otherwise, saddle point.



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In other words,

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ -3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow D_1 = 0, \quad D_2 = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 0, \quad D_3 = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

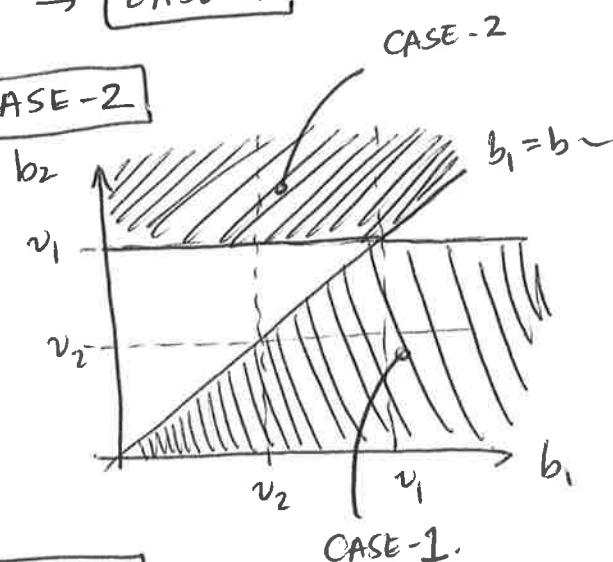
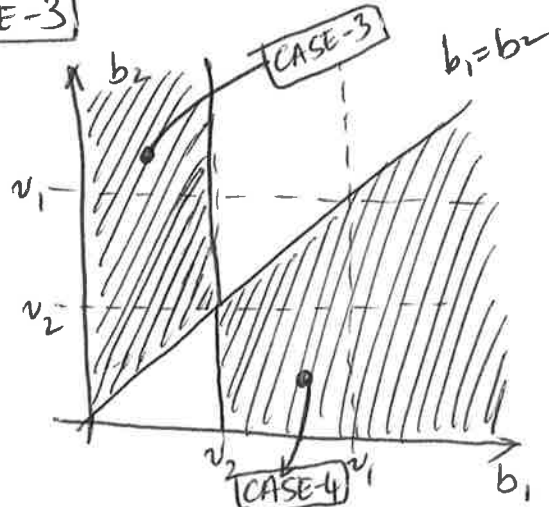
$$\text{and } D_4 = |H| = 81 \Rightarrow \underline{\text{SADDLE POINT}}$$

Prob. 4(a) Player 1's BR :

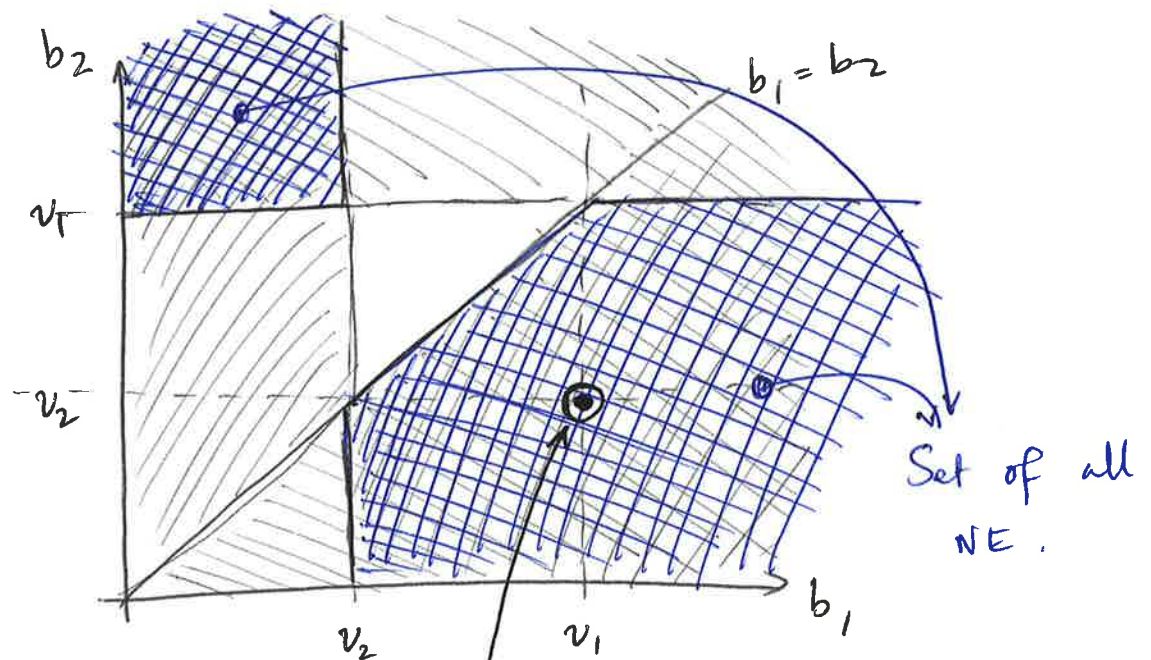
$$\text{Player 1's utility } u_1 = \begin{cases} v_1 - b_2 & \text{if } b_1 > b_2 \\ \frac{1}{2}(v_1 - b_2) & \text{if } b_1 = b_2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

 $\Rightarrow \text{Choose } b_1 > b_2 \text{ if } v_1 - b_2 > 0 \rightarrow \boxed{\text{CASE-1}}$ 
 $\text{Else, choose } b_1 < b_2 \rightarrow \boxed{\text{CASE-2}}$ 
Player 2's BR :

$$\text{Player 2's utility } u_2 = \begin{cases} v_2 - b_1 & \text{if } b_2 > b_1 \\ \frac{1}{2}(v_2 - b_1) & \text{if } b_2 = b_1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$


 $\Rightarrow \text{Choose } b_2 > b_1 \text{ if } v_2 - b_1 > 0 \rightarrow \boxed{\text{CASE-3}}$ 
 $\text{Else, choose } b_2 < b_1 \rightarrow \boxed{\text{CASE-4}}$ 


(b) NE  $\Rightarrow$  Intersection of both players' BR regions.



NOTE: If Player  $i$  cannot observe  $v_i$  and assumes that  $v_i \sim U[0,1]$ , then, this is the Bayes' Nash equilibrium.