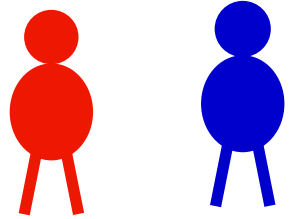






# Prisoner's Dilemma



Two thieves caught for burglary

Two options: {confess, remain silent}

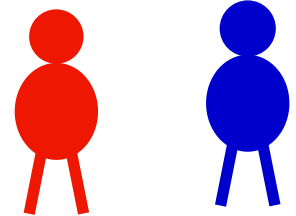
# Prisoners' dilemma

Prisoners' dilemma		prisoner B			
		confess		remain silent	
prisoner A	confess	 5 years    5 years	 0 year    20 years		
	remain silent	 20 years    0 year	 1 year    1 year		

# Prisoner's Dilemma

Two thieves caught for burglary.

Two options: {confess, remain silent}

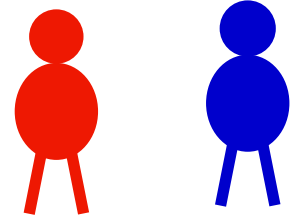


	C	S
C	-5 -5	0 -20
S	-20 0	-1 -1

# Prisoner's Dilemma

Two thieves caught for burglary.

Two options: {confess, remain silent}



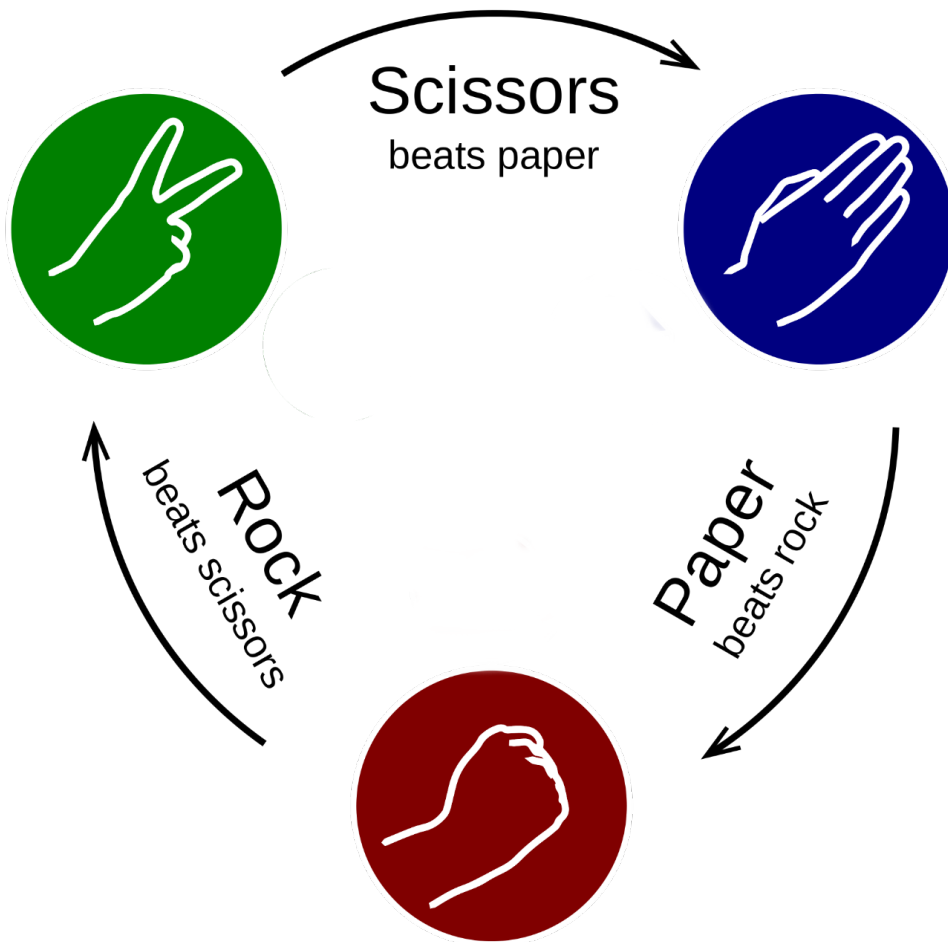
	C	S
C	-5 -5	0 -20
S	-20 0	-1 -1

Only stable state

# Rock-Paper-Scissors



# Rock-Paper-Scissors



# Rock-Paper-Scissors

	R	P	S
R	0 0	-1 1	1 -1
P	1 -1	0 0	-1 1
S	-1 1	1 -1	0 0

No pure stable state!

Both playing  $(1/3, 1/3, 1/3)$  is  
the only stable state.

Why?



# Two Player Finite Games

- Each player has finitely many strategies to play
  - Need not be same





# Two Player Finite Games

- Each player has finitely many strategies to play
  - Need not be same
- Example of infinite set of strategies?



# Two Player Finite Games

- Each player has finitely many strategies to play
  - Need not be same
- Example of infinite set of strategies?
- What should be assume about the players?
  - Rational, selfish, intelligent

# Two Player Finite Games

- For finite games,
  - $S_1 = \{1, \dots, m\}$  denote the set of  $m$  strategies of player 1
  - $S_2 = \{1, \dots, n\}$  denote the set of  $n$  strategies of player 2
- We can write the payoffs in a matrix form  $(A, B)$

# Two Player Finite Games

- For finite games,
  - $S_1 = \{1, \dots, m\}$  denote the set of  $m$  pure strategies of player 1
  - $S_2 = \{1, \dots, n\}$  denote the set of  $n$  pure strategies of player 2
- We can write the payoffs in a matrix form  $(A, B)$ 
  - Player 1 is called row player
  - Player 2 is called column player
- **Assumption:** The payoff matrix is known to both the players

$$A = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & \dots & n \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ \vdots \\ m \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$\cdot A_{ij}$

$$B = \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & \dots & n \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ \vdots \\ m \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$\cdot B_{ij}$

# Best Response

- Best strategy against the opponent strategy

- Example:

	R	B	S
R	0,0	-1,1	1,-1
B	1,-1	0,0	-1,1
S	-1,1	1,-1	0,0

# Equilibrium in Pure Strategies

- $(i, j), i \in S_1, j \in S_2$  is called an equilibrium if  $i$  is a best response to  $j$  for row player and  $j$  is a best response to  $i$  for column player

Equilibrium.

	C	S
C	$(-5, 5)$	$(0, -20)$
S	$(-20, 0)$	$(-1, 1)$

# Equilibrium in Pure Strategies

- $(i, j), i \in S_1, j \in S_2$  is called an equilibrium if  $i$  is a best response to  $j$  for row player and  $j$  is a best response to  $i$  for column player
- Existence? *No, Rock-Paper-Scissors.*

# Mixed Strategies

- Randomly select pure strategies
- $\Delta(S_1) := \{x \in R_+^m \mid x_i \geq 0; \sum_i x_i = 1\}$
- $\Delta(S_2) := \{y \in R_+^n \mid y_j \geq 0; \sum_j y_j = 1\}$



# Mixed Strategies

- Randomly select pure strategies
- $\Delta(S_1) := \{x \in R_+^m \mid x_i \geq 0; \sum_i x_i = 1\}$
- $\Delta(S_2) := \{y \in R_+^n \mid y_j \geq 0; \sum_j y_j = 1\}$
- Pure strategies are also mixed strategies
- How many mixed strategies? infinite

# Mixed Strategies

- Randomly select pure strategies
- $\Delta(S_1) := \{x \in R_+^m \mid x_i \geq 0; \sum_i x_i = 1\}$
- $\Delta(S_2) := \{y \in R_+^n \mid y_j \geq 0; \sum_j y_j = 1\}$
- Pure strategies are also mixed strategies
- How many mixed strategies?
- What are the players' expected payoffs when they play  $(x, y)$ ?

# Mixed Strategies

- Randomly select pure strategies
- $\Delta(S_1) := \{x \in R_+^m \mid x_i \geq 0; \sum_i x_i = 1\}$
- $\Delta(S_2) := \{y \in R_+^n \mid y_j \geq 0; \sum_j y_j = 1\}$
- What are the payoffs of players when they play  $(x, y)$ ?

$$(x^T \cdot A \cdot y, x^T \cdot B \cdot y).$$

$$A: \begin{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & \dots & n \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ \vdots \\ m \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix} \cdot A_{ij}$$

player 1:  $x^T \cdot A \cdot y$

player 2:  $x^T \cdot B \cdot y$

# Best Response

- What are the best mixed strategies against the opponent mixed strategy?

Given opponent mixed strategy y,

$$\underline{\underline{A \cdot y}} = \begin{bmatrix} A_1 y \\ A_2 y \\ \vdots \\ A_m y \end{bmatrix}$$

find  $x$  s.t

$$x \in \underset{x}{\operatorname{argmax}} x^T A \cdot y$$

# Equilibrium in Mixed Strategies

- $(x, y) \in (\Delta(S_1), \Delta(S_2))$  is called a (mixed) equilibrium if  $y$  is a best response to  $x$  and  $x$  is a best response to  $y$ 
  - $x^T A y \geq \tilde{x}^T A y, \forall \tilde{x} \in \Delta(S_1)$
  - $x^T B y \geq x^T B \tilde{y}, \forall \tilde{y} \in \Delta(S_2)$

# Equilibrium in Mixed Strategies

- $(x, y) \in (\Delta(S_1), \Delta(S_2))$  is called a (mixed) equilibrium if  $y$  is a best response to  $x$  and  $x$  is a best response to  $y$ 
  - $x^T A y \geq \tilde{x}^T A y, \forall \tilde{x} \in \Delta(S_1)$
  - $x^T B y \geq x^T B \tilde{y}, \forall \tilde{y} \in \Delta(S_2)$
- Existence? Yes!

# Equilibrium in Mixed Strategies

- $(x, y) \in (\Delta(S_1), \Delta(S_2))$  is called a (mixed) equilibrium if  $y$  is a best response to  $x$  and  $x$  is a best response to  $y$ 
  - $x^T A y \geq \tilde{x}^T A y, \forall \tilde{x} \in \Delta(S_1)$
  - $x^T B y \geq x^T B \tilde{y}, \forall \tilde{y} \in \Delta(S_2)$
- **John Nash (1951)** showed that there always exists a (mixed) equilibrium in any finite game

# Equilibrium in Mixed Strategies

- $(x, y) \in (\Delta(S_1), \Delta(S_2))$  is called a (mixed) equilibrium if  $y$  is a best response to  $x$  and  $x$  is a best response to  $y$

- $x^T A y \geq \tilde{x}^T A y, \forall \tilde{x} \in \Delta(S_1)$

- $x^T B y \geq x^T B \tilde{y}, \forall \tilde{y} \in \Delta(S_2)$

- **John Nash (1951)** showed that there always exists a (mixed) equilibrium in any finite game

- We now call this a Nash equilibrium of the game

- Proof? (“fixed point theorem”)

∴ Suppose there are 101 numbers for {1, 2, ..., 100}  
→ Can we say that there exists at least two same numbers? Yes.



# Equilibrium in Mixed Strategies

- $(x, y) \in (\Delta(S_1), \Delta(S_2))$  is called a (mixed) equilibrium if  $y$  is a best response to  $x$  and  $x$  is a best response to  $y$ 
  - $x^T A y \geq \tilde{x}^T A y, \forall \tilde{x} \in \Delta(S_1)$
  - $x^T B y \geq x^T B \tilde{y}, \forall \tilde{y} \in \Delta(S_2)$
- **John Nash (1951)** showed that there always exists a (mixed) equilibrium in any finite game
  - We now call this a **Nash equilibrium** of the game
- Proof? *The existence proof doesn't give a clue how*
- Computation? *to compute a Nash Equilibrium!*

# Zero-Sum Game

- Rock-Paper-Scissor
- Player 1's profit = Player 2's loss
- $A + B = 0$  or  $B = -A$
- **Goal:** Find an equilibrium  $(x, y)$  of game  $(A, -A)$

*Only need one matrix this time.*



# Maximin Payoff

- How much payoff row player can ensure to herself?

# Maximin Payoff

- How much payoff row player can ensure to herself?

$$\pi_1 = \max_{x \in \Delta(S_1)} \min_{y \in \Delta(S_2)} x^T A y$$

- Let  $x^*$  be the strategy which gives a payoff of at least  $\pi_1$  to the row player

# Minimax Payoff

- How much payoff column player can ensure to himself?

$$\pi_2 = \min_{y \in \Delta(S_2)} \max_{x \in \Delta(S_1)} x^T A y$$

- Let  $y^*$  be the strategy which gives a payoff of at least  $\pi_2$  to the column player

# Minimax Theorem

**Theorem** [von-Neumann'28]

$$\pi_1 = \max_{x \in \Delta(S_1)} \min_{y \in \Delta(S_2)} x^T A y = \min_{y \in \Delta(S_2)} \max_{x \in \Delta(S_1)} x^T A y = \pi_2.$$

This implies that  $(x^*, y^*)$  are best response to each other, hence an equilibrium

**Proof:**

# Minimax Theorem

## Theorem [von-Neumann'28]

$$\max_{x \in \Delta(S_1)} \min_{y \in \Delta(S_2)} x^T A y = \min_{y \in \Delta(S_2)} \max_{x \in \Delta(S_1)} x^T A y$$

This implies that  $(x^*, y^*)$  are best response to each other, hence an equilibrium

## Proof:

- $\pi_1 \leq \pi_2$

- $\pi_2 \leq \pi_1$

# Minimax Theorem

## Theorem [von-Neumann'28]

$$\pi_1 = \max_{x \in \Delta(S_1)} \min_{y \in \Delta(S_2)} x^T A y = \min_{y \in \Delta(S_2)} \max_{x \in \Delta(S_1)} x^T A y = \pi_2$$

This implies that  $(x^*, y^*)$  are best response to each other, hence an equilibrium

## Proof:

■  $\pi_1 \leq \pi_2$

$$\pi_1 = \underbrace{x^{*T} A y_1}_{\substack{\text{minimum about } y. \\ y_1 \text{ minimize } \{x^T A y\} \\ \text{a function of } x. \\ \text{肯定比给个 } y^* \text{ 小.}}} \leq x^{*T} A y^* \leq \underbrace{x_2^T A y^*}_{\substack{\text{maximum about } x. \\ x_2 \text{ maximize } \{x^T A y\} \\ \text{a function of } y \\ \text{肯定比给个 } x^* \text{ 大.}}} = \pi_2$$



# Minimax Theorem

## Theorem [von-Neumann'28]

$$\max_{x \in \Delta(S_1)} \min_{y \in \Delta(S_2)} x^T A y = \min_{y \in \Delta(S_2)} \max_{x \in \Delta(S_1)} x^T A y$$

This implies that  $(x^*, y^*)$  are best response to each other, hence an equilibrium

## Proof:

■  $\pi_1 \leq \pi_2$

$$\pi_1 = x^{*T} A y_1 \leq x^{*T} A y^* \leq x_2 A y^* = \pi_2$$

■  $\pi_2 \leq \pi_1$  (We will use the fact that there exists a NE: say  $(x', y')$ )

↓

$$\pi_2 \leq \underline{x'^T A y'} \leq \pi_1$$

player 2 wants to minimize it.

output player 1 wants to maximize it.

# Minimax Theorem using LP Duality

- Let  $A_i$  denote the  $i^{th}$  row of  $A$
- Let  $A^j$  denote the  $j^{th}$  column of  $A$
- Given  $y$ , what is the payoff from  $i^{th}$  strategy of row player?

Best - Worst - Case.

①.

(can't be mixed strategy if given  $x$ )

player 2 chooses a pure strategy, decides  $A_j$

Worst case for player 1.

$$\min \{ (x^T A^1), (x^T A^2), (x^T A^3), \dots, (x^T A^n) \} = \bar{\pi}_1.$$

(Given  $y$ )

player 1 choose a mixed strategy that maximizes  $\bar{\pi}_1$ .

Best-worst-case

$$\max_x \bar{\pi}_1$$

$$\text{s.t. } x^T A^j \geq \bar{\pi}_1, \forall j \in S_2.$$

$$\sum_i x_i = 1; x_i \geq 0, \forall i \in S_1.$$

②. Worst-Best-case

player 1 chooses a pure strategy, decides  $A_i$ .

Best case for player 1.

$$\max \{ (A_1 \cdot y), (A_2 \cdot y), \dots, (A_m \cdot y) \}.$$

(Given  $x$ )

player 2 choose a mixed strategy to minimize  $\bar{\pi}_2$ .

Worst-Best-case

$$\max_y \bar{\pi}_2$$

$$\text{s.t. } A_i \cdot y \leq \bar{\pi}_2, \forall i \in S_1.$$

$$\sum_j y_j = 1; y_j \geq 0 \forall j \in S_2.$$

# Minimax Theorem using LP Duality

- Let  $A_i$  denote the  $i^{th}$  row of  $A$
- Given  $y$ , what is the payoff from  $i^{th}$  strategy of row player?
  - $A_i y$
- Payoff from  $x$ ?

# Minimax Theorem using LP Duality

- Let  $A_i$  denote the  $i^{th}$  row of  $A$
- Given  $y$ , what is the payoff from  $i^{th}$  strategy of row player?
  - $A_i y$
- Payoff from  $x$ ?
  - $x^T A y$
- Is there any strategy that gives more payoff than  $\max_i A_i y$ ?

# Minimax Theorem using LP Duality

$$\underbrace{\max_{x \in \Delta(S_1)} \min_{y \in \Delta(S_2)} x^T A y}_{\text{Player 1}} = \underbrace{\min_{y \in \Delta(S_2)} \max_{x \in \Delta(S_1)} x^T A y}_{\text{Player 2}}$$


- Consider the following linear programs (LP):

$$\begin{aligned} \max \quad & \pi_1 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & x^T A^j \geq \pi_1, \forall j \in S_2 \\ & \sum_i x_i = 1 \\ & x_i \geq 0, \forall i \in S_1 \end{aligned}$$

*dual*

$$\begin{aligned} \min \quad & \pi_2 \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \pi_2 \geq A_i y, \forall i \in S_1 \\ & \sum_j y_j = 1 \\ & y_j \geq 0, \forall j \in S_2 \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow \pi_1 = \pi_2$  for LP duality.



# Equivalence of Zero-Sum Games and LP