

Assessment 1
Part 4

a) Represent the game as a payoff matrix.

1: {C, B}

2: {E, D}

| | | Player 1 | |
|----------|---|----------|--------|
| | | C | B |
| Player 2 | E | 20, 10 | 10, 20 |
| | D | 10, 0 | 0, 10 |

b) Provide dominant strategy for player 1 and justify your answer.

The dominant strategy is the strategy that is best regardless of what the other player does. The dominant strategy for player 1 is B, this is because when player 1 always chooses B regardless of whether player 2 chooses E or D; it will always get a utility of a minimum = 10, whilst, if it chooses C, then it will always get an outcome at a minimum of 0 increasing the chance to get nothing, therefore, B is the ideal decision.

c) Provide a dominant strategy for player 2 and justify your answer.

The dominant strategy for player 2 is E, because if player 2 chooses to constantly play E, regardless of the choices player 1 makes, it will always get a minimum of 10. While if it chooses D, regardless of what player 1 chooses to play, it'll get 0 at a minimum making the bar lower, there's a chance it might get 0. Making E the best answer.

d) Provide the (pure strategy) Nash Equilibria (if there are any) and justify your answer.

The justification of the Nash Equilibrium should consider all action profiles and carry out an analysis to identify whether other actions give better output and increase payoff:

- (B, E): When player 1 takes move B, player 2 has no better option than E. Although when player 2 takes move E, it leaves player 1 with no better option than B. This is a payoff dominant Nash Equilibrium.
- (C, E): Player 1 can increase its payoff by choosing action B instead. This action not a Nash Equilibrium
- (B, D): Player 2 can increase its payoff by choosing action B instead. This action not a Nash Equilibrium
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