

Lecture 14


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Lecture14

Lecture 14: Game Theory // Nash equilibrium


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Lecture 14: Game Theory // Nash equilibrium

Mixed strategies


Examples



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Mixed strategies

Consider rock/paper/scissors

	Rock	Paper	Scissors
Rock	0,0	-1,1	1,-1
Paper	1,-1	0,0	-1,1
Scissors	-1,1	1,-1	0,0

- ▶ This game is entirely stochastic (ability has nothing to do with your chances of winning)

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Mixed strategies

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- ▶ The probability of winning with every strategy is the same
- ▶ Thus, people *tend* choose randomly which of the three options to play
- ▶ We would like the concept of Nash equilibrium to reflect this

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Mixed strategies

Definition

A mixed strategy σ_i is a function $\sigma_i : S_i \rightarrow [0, 1]$ such that

$$\sum_{s_i \in S_i} \sigma_i(s_i) = 1.$$

- ▶ $\sigma_i(s_i)$ represents the probability with which player i plays s_i

$\sigma_i(s_i) \rightarrow$ PROBABILIDAD DE JUGAR s_i

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- ▶ A **pure strategy** is simply a mixed strategy σ_i that plays some strategy $s_i \in S_i$ with probability one
- ▶ We will denote the set of all mixed strategies of player i by Σ_i

Mixed strategies

- ▶ Given a mixed strategy profile $(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_n)$, we need a way to define how players evaluate payoffs of mixed strategy profiles

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$$u_i(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_n) = \sum_{s \in S} u_i(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n) \sigma_1(s_1) \sigma_2(s_2) \dots \sigma_n(s_n)$$

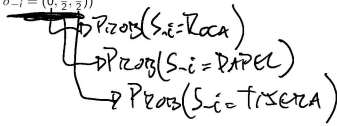
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Mixed strategies

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- ▶ For instance, assume my opponent is playing randomizing over paper and scissors with probability $\frac{1}{2}$ (i.e., $\sigma_{-i} = (0, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$)



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- ▶ The expected utility of playing "rock" is

$E(U_i(\text{rock}, \sigma_{-i})) = -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 0$
 $U(\text{ROCA}, \text{ROCA}) = 0 \rightarrow \text{Prob} = 0$
 $U(\text{ROCA}, S_{-i} = \text{PAPEL})$
 $U(\text{ROCA}, \text{TRISERAS})$

operador de esperanza

Mixed strategies

- ▶ Given a mixed strategy profile $(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_n)$, we need a way to define how players evaluate payoffs of mixed strategy profiles

$$u_i(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_n) = \sum_{s \in S} u_i(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n) \sigma_1(s_1) \sigma_2(s_2) \dots \sigma_n(s_n)$$

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- ▶ The expected utility of playing "rock" is

$$E(U_i(\text{rock}, \sigma_{-i})) = -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 0$$

- ▶ If I'm randomizing over rock and scissors (i.e., $\sigma_i = (\frac{1}{2}, 0, \frac{1}{2})$) then

$$E(U_i(\sigma, \sigma_{-i})) = \underbrace{-\frac{1}{4}}_{\text{rock vs paper}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{4}}_{\text{rock vs scissors}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{4}}_{\text{scissors vs paper}} + \underbrace{\frac{0}{4}}_{\text{scissors vs scissors}} = \frac{1}{4}$$

rock vs paper, rock vs scissors, scissors vs paper, scissors vs scissors

Mixed strategies

Definition

A (possibly mixed) strategy profile $(\sigma_1^*, \sigma_2^*, \dots, \sigma_n^*)$ is a Nash equilibrium if and only if for every i ,

$$u_i(\sigma_i^*, \sigma_{-i}^*) \geq u_i(\sigma_i, \sigma_{-i}^*)$$

for all $\sigma_i \in \Sigma_i$.

Mixed strategies

Definition (Mixed Strategy Dominance Definition A)

Let σ_i, σ_i' be two mixed strategies of player i . Then σ_i strictly dominates σ_i' if for all mixed strategies of the opponents, σ_{-i} ,

$$u_i(\sigma_i, \sigma_{-i}) > u_i(\sigma_i', \sigma_{-i}) \quad \forall \sigma_{-i} \in \Sigma_{-i}$$

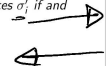
Mixed strategies

If σ_i is better than σ_i' no matter what **pure strategy** opponents play, then σ_i is also strictly better than σ_i' no matter what **mixed strategies** opponents play

Theorem

Let σ_i and σ_i' be two mixed strategies of player i . Then σ_i strictly dominates σ_i' if and only if for all $s_{-i} \in S_{-i}$,

$$u_i(\sigma_i, s_{-i}) > u_i(\sigma_i', s_{-i})$$



Proof- Part 1

(\rightarrow) σ_i DOMINATES σ_i'

$$\forall i (\sigma_i, \sigma_{-i}) > u_i(\sigma_i', \sigma_{-i})$$

$\forall \sigma_{-i}$

Since $S_{-i} \subseteq \Sigma_{-i}$, if σ_i strictly dominates σ_i'

Proof - Part 1

- ▶ Since $S_{-i} \subseteq \Sigma_{-i}$, if σ_i strictly dominates σ'_i

- ▶ Then for all $s_{-i} \in S_{-i}$,

$$u(\sigma_i, s_{-i}) > u(\sigma'_i, s_{-i}).$$

Proof - Part 2

- ▶ To prove the other direction, suppose that for all $s_{-i} \in S_{-i}$,

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- ▶ For any σ_{-i} ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 u(\sigma_i, \sigma_{-i}) &= \sum_{s_{-i} \in S_{-i}} \sum_{s_i \in S_i} \sigma_i(s_i) \sigma_{-i}(s_{-i}) u(s_i, s_{-i}) \\
 &= \sum_{s_{-i} \in S_{-i}} \sigma_{-i}(s_{-i}) \sum_{s_i \in S_i} \sigma_i(s_i) u(s_i, s_{-i}) \\
 &= \sum_{s_{-i} \in S_{-i}} \sigma_{-i}(s_{-i}) u(\sigma_i, s_{-i}) \\
 &= \sum_{s_{-i} \in S_{-i}} u(\sigma_i, s_{-i}) \sigma_{-i}(s_{-i})
 \end{aligned}$$

$\sum_{s_{-i} \in S_{-i}} u(\sigma_i, s_{-i}) \sigma_{-i}(s_{-i})$

Proof - Part 2

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 &= \sum_{s_{-i} \in S_{-i}} \sigma_{-i}(s_{-i}) \sum_{s_i \in S_i} \sigma_i(s_i) u(s_i, s_{-i}) \\
 &= \sum_{s_{-i} \in S_{-i}} \sigma_{-i}(s_{-i}) u(\sigma_i, s_{-i})
 \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ So

$$u(\sigma_i, \sigma_{-i}) = \sum_{s_{-i} \in S_{-i}} \sigma_{-i}(s_{-i}) u(\sigma_i, s_{-i}) > \sum_{s_{-i} \in S_{-i}} \sigma_{-i}(s_{-i}) u(\sigma'_i, s_{-i}) = u(\sigma'_i, \sigma_{-i})$$

$\forall \sigma_{-i}$

Mixed strategies

Definition (Mixed Strategy Dominance Definition B)

Let σ_i, σ'_i be two mixed strategies of player i . Then σ_i strictly dominates σ'_i if for all pure strategies of the opponents, $s_{-i} \in S_{-i}$,

$$u_i(\sigma_i, s_{-i}) > u_i(\sigma'_i, s_{-i}).$$

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Lecture 14: Game Theory // Nash equilibrium

Mixed strategies

Examples

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Battle of the sexes

$\begin{matrix} & \text{♂} & \text{♀} \\ \text{♂} & \begin{matrix} 2,1 \\ 1,0 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 0,0 \\ 0,0 \end{matrix} \\ \text{♀} & \begin{matrix} 0,0 \\ 0,0 \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} 1,2 \\ 1,2 \end{matrix} \end{matrix}$

$\rightarrow \text{EU} = \left\{ (G, G), (P, P) \right\}$

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Battle of the sexes

	G	P
G	2,1	0,0
P	0,0	1,2

- There are two pure strategy equilibria (G, G) and (P, P)

Battle of the sexes

	G	P
G	2,1	0,0
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- There are two pure strategy equilibria (G, G) and (P, P)
- We now look for Nash equilibria that involve randomization by the players

Battle of the sexes

- Let λ be the probability with which player 1 chooses G and q be the probability with which player 2 plays G

$$\sigma_1 = (\lambda, 1-\lambda) \quad \sigma_2 = (q, 1-q)$$

Battle of the sexes

- Let λ be the probability with which player 1 chooses G and q be the probability with which player 2 plays G

$$U_1(\lambda, q) = \lambda q + (1-\lambda)(1-q) + \lambda(1-q) + (1-\lambda)q$$

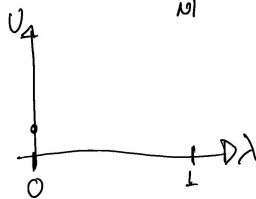
$\underbrace{\lambda q}_{U(G,G)} + \underbrace{(1-\lambda)(1-q)}_{U(P,P)} + \underbrace{\lambda(1-q)}_{U(G,P)} + \underbrace{(1-\lambda)q}_{U(P,G)}$

$$U_1(\sigma_1, \sigma_2) = 2\lambda q + (1-\lambda)(1-q)$$

$$= 2\lambda q + 1 - \lambda - q + \lambda q$$

$$= 3\lambda q - \lambda - q + 1$$

$$U_1(\sigma_1, \sigma_2) = \lambda \underbrace{(3q-1)}_{N_1} + \underbrace{1-q}_{N_2}$$



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↓ PREDIENIE

$$N_1 > 0 \cdot (3q - 1 > 0) \Rightarrow \lambda = 1$$

$$N_1 = 0 \cdot (3q - 1 = 0) \Rightarrow \lambda \in [0, 1]$$

$$N_1 < 0 \cdot (3q - 1 < 0) \Rightarrow \lambda = 0$$

P(G|G) P(P|G)

$$\sigma_2 = (q, 1-q) \quad q > 1/3$$

Battle of the sexes

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Battle of the sexes

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Battle of the sexes

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- Case 3:** If $q < 1/3$, then $2q < 2/3 < 1 - q$ and therefore the best response is $\lambda = 0$

Battle of the sexes

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- Case 3:** If $q < 1/3$, then $2q < 2/3 < 1 - q$ and therefore the best response is $\lambda = 0$
- Thus, the best response function is given by:

$$BR_1(q) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } q > 1/3 \\ [0, 1] & \text{if } q = 1/3 \\ 0 & \text{if } q < 1/3. \end{cases}$$



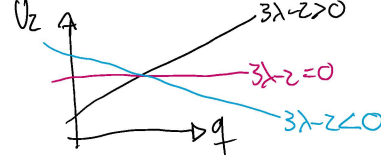
$$N_1 < 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = 0$$

$$MR_1(\sigma_2 = (q, 1-q)) = \begin{cases} \sigma_1 = (1, 0) & q > 1/3 \\ \sigma_1 = (\lambda, 1-\lambda) & q = 1/3 \\ \sigma_1 = (0, 1) & q < 1/3 \end{cases}$$

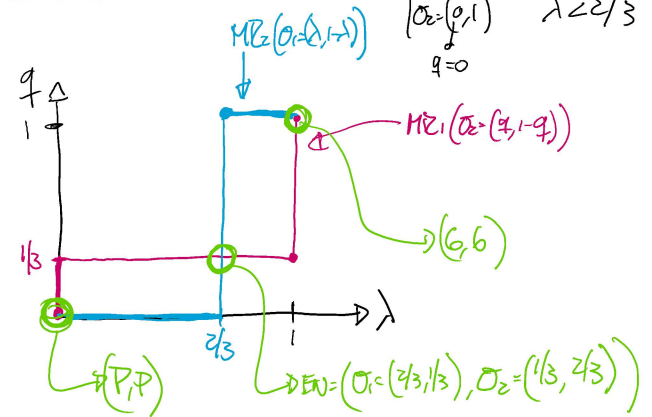
$$U_2(\sigma_1 = (\lambda, 1-\lambda), \sigma_2 = (q, 1-q)) = \underset{U_2(G,G)}{\lambda \cdot \lambda q} + \underset{U_2(G,P)}{0 \cdot \lambda(1-q)} + \underset{U_2(P,G)}{0 \cdot (1-\lambda)q} + \underset{U_2(P,P)}{2 \cdot (1-\lambda)(1-q)}$$

$$= \lambda q + 2 - 2\lambda - 2q + 2\lambda q = 3\lambda q - 2\lambda + 2 - 2q$$

$$U_2(\sigma_1, \sigma_2) = q(3\lambda - 2) + 2 - 2\lambda$$



$$MR_2(\sigma_1 = (\lambda, 1-\lambda)) = \begin{cases} \sigma_2 = (1, 0) & \lambda > 2/3 \\ \sigma_2 = (q, 1-q) & \lambda = 2/3 \\ \sigma_2 = (0, 1) & \lambda < 2/3 \end{cases}$$



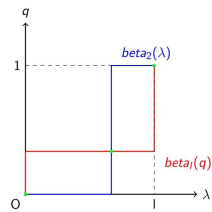
Battle of the sexes

Similarly we can calculate the best response function for player 2 and we get:

$$BR_2(\lambda) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \lambda > 2/3 \\ [0, 1] & \text{if } \lambda = 2/3 \\ 0 & \text{if } \lambda < 2/3. \end{cases}$$

Navigation icons

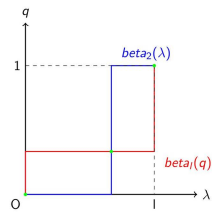
Battle of the sexes



- ▶ There are three points where the best response curves cross: $(1, 1), (0, 0), (\frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3})$

Navigation icons

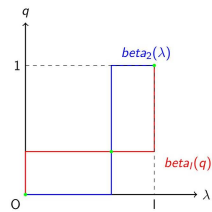
Battle of the sexes



- ▶ There are three points where the best response curves cross: $(1, 1), (0, 0), (\frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3})$
- ▶ First two are the pure strategy NE we had found before

Navigation icons

Battle of the sexes



- ▶ There are three points where the best response curves cross: $(1, 1), (0, 0), (\frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{3})$
- ▶ First two are the pure strategy NE we had found before
- ▶ Last is a strictly mixed NE: both players randomize

Navigation icons

Consider the following game

S_2

S_1

	E	G
A	5, 10	3, 4
C	4, 2	3, 8
D	2, 4	8, 4

G DOMINA
D DOMINA

F
B

	E	G
A	5, 10	3, 4
C	4, 2	3, 8
D	2, 4	8, 4

► Consider $\sigma_1 = (\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{6})$

► Consider $\sigma_1 = (\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{6})$

► $\mathbb{E}U(E, \sigma_1) = 10 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + 4 \cdot \frac{1}{4} + 2 \cdot \frac{1}{4} + 4 \cdot \frac{1}{6} = 5.5$

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► $\mathbb{E}U(F, \sigma_1) = 3 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + 2 \cdot \frac{1}{4} + 4 \cdot \frac{1}{4} + 3 \cdot \frac{1}{6} = 3$

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► $\mathbb{E}U(G, \sigma_1) = 4\frac{1}{3} + 6\frac{1}{4} + 8\frac{1}{4} + 4\frac{1}{6} = 5.5$

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► $\mathbb{E}U(G, \sigma_1) = 4\frac{1}{3} + 6\frac{1}{4} + 8\frac{1}{4} + 4\frac{1}{6} = 5.5$

► Then $BR_2(\sigma_1) = \{(p, 0, 1-p), p \in [0, 1]\}$

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► G dominates F (player 2)

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► G dominates F (player 2)

► D dominates B (player 1)

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Reduced game

	E	G
A	5, 10	3, 4
D	2, 4	8, 4

$$\sigma_i = (p, 0, 1-p)$$

Prob(C)

σ_i Domina a C.

$$U(\sigma_i, E) > U(C, E) \quad \vee \quad U(\sigma_i, G) > U(C, G)$$

$$5p + 2(1-p) > 4 \quad \vee \quad 3p + 8(1-p) > 3$$

$$5p + 2 - 2p > 4 \quad \vee \quad 3p + 8 - 8p > 3$$

$$3p > 2$$

$$p > 2/3$$

$$5 > 5p$$

$$p < 1$$

$$\sigma_i = (p, 0, 1-p) \quad p \in (2/3, 1)$$

- Note that $\sigma_1 = (p, 0, 1-p)$ with $p > \frac{2}{3}$ dominates C
- $EU(\sigma_1, E) = 5p + 2(1-p) = 3p + 2$
- $EU(\sigma_1, G) = 3p + 8(1-p) = 8 - 5p$

$$EU(\sigma_1, E) > U(C, E)$$

$$3p + 2 > 4$$

$$p > \frac{2}{3}$$

$$EU(\sigma_1, G) > EU(C, G)$$

$$8 - 5p > 3$$

$$p < \frac{5}{5} = 1$$

σ_2

Reduced game

	E	G
A	5, 10	3, 4
D	2, 4	8, 4

$$\sigma_1 = (p, 1-p)$$

$$\sigma_2 = (q, 1-q)$$

$$U_i(A, \sigma_2) = 5 \cdot q + 3(1-q) = 3 + 2q$$

$$U_i(D, \sigma_2) = 2 \cdot q + 8(1-q) = 8 - 6q$$

$$BR_1(\sigma_2) \text{ es } A \text{ si } 3 + 2q > 8 - 6q$$

$$8q > 5$$

$$q > 5/8$$

$$BR_1(\sigma_2) \text{ es } D \text{ si } 3 + 2q < 8 - 6q$$

$$q < 5/8$$

$$BR_1(\sigma_2) \text{ es Indiferente entre A y D}$$

$$q = 5/8$$

$$\sigma_i = (1, 0) \text{ es } A \quad q > 5/8$$

- Lets find $BR_1(\sigma_2 = (q, 1-q))$

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- ▶ Lets find $BR_1(\sigma_2 = (q, 1-q))$
- ▶ $EU(A, \sigma_2) = 5q + 3(1-q) = 2q + 3$

LIFE A / $\frac{1}{p} \sigma_2$

$$MR_1(\sigma_2) = \begin{cases} \sigma_1 = (1, 0) = A & q > 5/8 \\ \sigma_1 = (1-p, p) \in [0, 1] & q = 5/8 \\ \sigma_1 = (0, 1) = D & q < 5/8 \end{cases}$$

$$U_2(\sigma_1 = (1-p, p), E) = 10p + 4(1-p) = 4 + 6p$$

$$U_2(\sigma_1 = (1-p, p), G) = 4p + 4(1-p) = 4$$

$$MR_2(\sigma_1) \quad E \quad \text{SI} \quad 4 + 6p > 4$$

$$\boxed{p > 0}$$

$$MR_2(\sigma_1) \quad G \quad \text{SI} \quad 4 > 4 + 6p$$

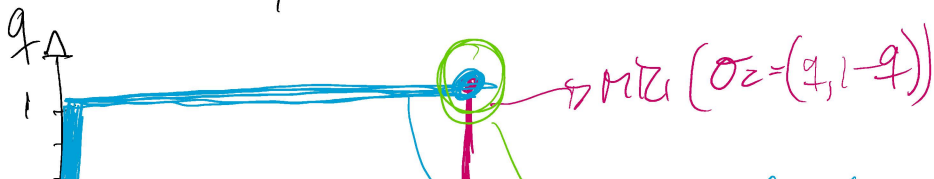
$$\boxed{\text{NEVER}}$$

$$MR_2(\sigma_1) \quad \text{Indifferent} \quad \text{SI} \quad 4 = 4 + 6p$$

$$\text{entre } E \text{ et } G$$

$$\boxed{p = 0}$$

$$MR_2(\sigma_1) = \begin{cases} \sigma_2 = (1, 0) & p > 0 \\ \sigma_2 = (q, 1-q) \quad q \in [0, 1] & p = 0 \end{cases}$$



- ▶ Lets find $BR_1(\sigma_2 = (q, 1-q))$
- ▶ $EU(A, \sigma_2) = 5q + 3(1-q) = 2q + 3$
- ▶ $EU(D, \sigma_2) = 2q + 8(1-q) = 8 - 6q$

- ▶ Lets find $BR_1(\sigma_2 = (q, 1-q))$
- ▶ $EU(A, \sigma_2) = 5q + 3(1-q) = 2q + 3$
- ▶ $EU(D, \sigma_2) = 2q + 8(1-q) = 8 - 6q$
- ▶ $8 - 6q > 2q + 3$ if $\frac{5}{8} > q$

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- ▶ Lets find $BR_1(\sigma_2 = (q, 1-q))$

- ▶ Lets find $BR_2(\sigma_1 = (p, 1 - p))$
- ▶ $\mathbb{E}U(\sigma_1, E) = 10p + 4(1 - p) = 6p + 4$
- ▶ $\mathbb{E}U(\sigma_1, G) = 4p + 4(1 - p) = 4$
- ▶ $6p + 4 > 4$ if $p > 0$

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- ▶ Lets find $BR_2(\sigma_1 = (p, 1 - p))$
- ▶ $\mathbb{E}U(\sigma_1, E) = 10p + 4(1 - p) = 6p + 4$
- ▶ $\mathbb{E}U(\sigma_1, G) = 4p + 4(1 - p) = 4$
- ▶ $6p + 4 > 4$ if $p > 0$
- ▶ $6p + 4 < 4$ if $p < 0$.

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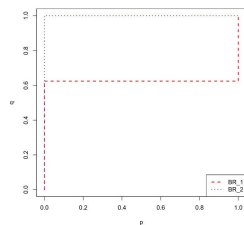
- ▶ Lets find $BR_2(\sigma_1 = (p, 1 - p))$
- ▶ $\mathbb{E}U(\sigma_1, E) = 10p + 4(1 - p) = 6p + 4$
- ▶ $\mathbb{E}U(\sigma_1, G) = 4p + 4(1 - p) = 4$
- ▶ $6p + 4 > 4$ if $p > 0$
- ▶ $6p + 4 < 4$ if $p < 0$.

▶ Thus

$$BR_2(p, 1 - p) = \begin{cases} \sigma_2 = (1, 0) & \text{if } p > 0 \\ \sigma_2 = (q, 1 - q) & \text{if } p = 0 \end{cases}$$

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Best responses



$NE = \{(A, E), (D, \sigma_2^q)\}$ where $\sigma_2^q = (q, 1 - q)$ and $0 \leq q \leq \frac{5}{9}$

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