Lecture 11
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Lecture11

Lecture 11: Game Theory // Preliminaries and dominance

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Lecture 11: Game Theory // Preliminaries and dominance

Introduction-Continued

Static games with complete information

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Introduction - Continued

Static games with complete information

Lecture 10: Game Theory // Preliminaries and dominance

Introduction - Continued
Normal or extensive form
Some important remarks
Some examples
What's next
Static games with complete information
Dominance of Strategies

- We will represent games in two different ways


$A N A \rightarrow 1_{A} \bullet(1000,-1000)$

Prisoner's Dilemma

There are two players $I=\{1,2\}$ that are members of a drug cartel who are both arrested an imprisoned. Each prisoner is in solitary confinement with no means of arrested an imprisoned. Each prisoner is in solitary confinement with no means of
communicating with the other. The prosecutors lack enough evidence to convict the communicating with the other. The prosecutors lack enough evidence to convict the pair on the principal charge so they must settle for a lesser charge. Simultaneously, the prosecutor offers each prisoner a deal. Each prisoner is given the opportunity to either 1) betray the other by testifying the other committed the crime or to 2) cooperate with the other prisoner and stay silent.

Prisoner's Dilemma

The strategies of player 1 :
$S_{1}=\left\{\right.$ betray $_{1}$, silent $\left._{1}\right\}$

Prisoner's Dilemma

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The strategies of player 2
$S_{2}=\left\{\right.$ betray $_{2}$, silent $\left._{2}\right\}$



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To represent the game in extensive form you need

- A list of players
- The information available to each player in each point in time
- The actions available to each player in each point in time


## Extensiva

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- Each node where a branch begins is a decision node, where a player needs to choose an action
- If two nodes are connected by a dotted line, it means they are in the same information set (ie., the player is not sure in which node she is in)


Pares o Nones I



Theorem
Every game can be represented in both forms (extensive and normal). The representation you choose will nil alter the analysis, but it may be simpler to do the analysis with one form or another. A normal form game may have several extensive representations (but every extensive form has a single normal form equivalent to it): however, all of the results we will see/use are robust to the representation used.

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Centipede Game

Suppose there are two individuals Ana and Bernardo. Ana is given a chocolate. She can stop the game and keep the chocolate or she can continue. If she continues, Ana's can stop the game and keep the chocolate or she can continue. If she continues, Ana's
chocolate is taken away and Bernardo is given two. Bernardo can then stop the game chocolate is taken away and Bernardo is given two. Bernardo can then stop the game
and keep two chocolates (and Ana will get zero) or can continue. If he continues, a and keep two chocolates (and Ana will get zero) or can continue. If he continues, a
chocolate is taken away from him and Ana is given four. Ana can stop the game and keep 4 chocolates (and Bernardo will keep one), or she can continue, in which case the game ends with three chocolates for each one

$S_{2}=\{c, p 4$.


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- Solution concepts will look for "stable" situations
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- That is, strategies where no individual has incentives to deviate or to do something different, given what others do
- We would like to know how people are going to behave in strategic situations
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Solution concepts will look for "stable" situations
That is, strategies where no individual has incentives to deviate or to do something different, given what others do

- This is a concept equivalent to general equilibrium, where given market prices everyone is optimizing, markets empty, and therefore no one has incentives to deviate, but nobody told us how we got there .. . pause (the Walrasian auctioneer?)

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Static games with complete information

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Static games with complete information

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Games where all players move simultaneously and only once

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- Games where all players move simultaneously and only once
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- Only consider games of complete information (all players know the objective functions of their opponents)
- These are very restrictive conditions but they will allow us to present very important concepts that will be easy to extend to more complex games
- As each player faces one contingency, the strategies are identical to the actions

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- Intuitively if a strategy $s_{i}$ always results in a greater utility than $s_{i,}^{\prime}$, regardless of the strategy followed by the other players then the strategy $s_{i}^{\prime}$ snould never be chosen by individual $i$

Dominance
$s_{i}$ strictly dominates $s_{i}$ if no matter what the opponent does, $s_{i}$ gives a better payoff
to $i$ than $s_{i}^{\prime}$
Definition
Let $s_{i}, s_{i}^{\prime}$ _wone_strategies_ Then we say that $s_{i}$ strictly dominates $s_{i}^{\prime}$ if for all
Let $s_{i}, s_{i}^{\prime}$
$\left.s_{-i} \in S_{-i, i}^{u_{i}\left(s_{i}, s_{-i}\right)}\right\rangle_{i}^{u_{i}\left(s_{i}^{\prime}, s_{-i}\right)}$

Dominance

A pure strategy $s_{i}$ is strictly dominant if $s_{i}$ strictly dominates every other strategy $s_{i}^{\prime}$
Definition
Let $s_{i}$ be a pure strategy of player $i$. Then $s_{i}$ is strictly dominant if for all $s_{i}^{\prime} \neq s_{i}, s_{i}$
strictly dominates $s_{i}^{\prime}$

Dominance

Intuitively if a strategy $s_{i}$ always results in a greater utility than $s_{i}$, regardless of he strategy followed by the other players then the strategy $s_{i}$ should never be chosen by individual $i$

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Intuitively if a strategy $s_{i}$ always results in a greater utiity than $s_{i}$, regardess of the strategy followed by the other players then the strategy $s_{i}^{\prime}$ should never be chosen by individual $i$

- We can eliminate any strategy that is strictly dominated

Dominance in the prisoners dilemma


- NC dominates $C$ for both individuals

Dominance in the prisoners dilemma


- NC dominates $C$ for both individuals
$\rightarrow(N C, N C)$ is not a Pareto Optimum. $\Rightarrow(C, C)$ Pareto DonNA (L) CNC)

Dominance in the prisoners dilemma


Dominance (iterated)
Consider this game

|  | a | b | c |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A | 5,5 | 0,10 | 3,4 |
| B | 3,0 | 2,2 | 4,5 |

- Player 1 has no strategy that is strictly dominated
- b dominates a for player 2, thus we can eliminate a

Dominance (iterated)
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- Player 1 has no strategy that is strictly dominated
- b dominates a for player 2, thus we can eliminate a
- Player 1 would foresee this.

Dominance (iterated)

$$
\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}
\hline & \mathrm{b} & \mathrm{c} \\
\hline \mathrm{~A} & 0,10 & 3,4 \\
\hline \mathrm{~B} & 2.2 & 4.5 \\
\hline
\end{array}
$$

- $B$ now dominates $A$ for player 1

Dominance (iterated)


- B now dominates $A$ for player 1
- Player 2 would foresee this (that player 1 foresees that 2 will not play a, and thus he will not play B)

- Player 2 would play $c$ and player 1 would play $B$

Dominance (iterated)

$$
\begin{array}{|c|c|c|}
\hline & \text { b } & \text { c } \\
\hline \text { B } & 2,2 & 4,5 \\
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- Player 2 would play $c$ and player 1 would play $B$
- We have reached a solution $(B, C)$

Dominance (iterated)

|  | b | c |
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| B | 2,2 | 4,5 |

- Player 2 would play $c$ and player 1 would play $B$
- We have reached a solution $(B, C)$
- This is known as Iterated Deletion of Strictly Dominated Strategies (IDSDS)

Dominance (iterated)

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\hline
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- Player 2 would play $C$ and player 1 would play $B$
- We have reached a solution $(B, C)$
- This is known as Iterated Deletion of Strictly Dominated Strategies (IDSDS)
- The equilibrium is the set of strategies, not the payoff!

IDSDS

Definition (Solvable by IDSDS)
A game is solvable by Iterated Deletion of Strictly Dominated Strategies if the result of the iteration is a single strategy profile (one strategy for each player)

## IDSDS

- Two key assumptions:

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Is the order of elimination of the strategies important? No

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Is the order ofelimination of the strategies important? No

- Not all games are solvable by IDSDS

Battle of the sexes


No strategy is dominated for either player

