

Extensive-Form Games

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Game Theory

Games

- Players
- Actions
- States
- Utility
- Knowledge

Different representations

- Normal-form Games
- Extensive-form Games
- Stochastic Games

Game Theory: Extensive-Form Games

Different representations

- Normal-form Games
 - one-shot games
 - visually represented as matrix games

Extensive-form Games

- sequential games that evolve in time
- the concept of time is implicitly integrated into the model
- visually represented as trees

Game Theory: Extensive-Form Games



Game Theory: Extensive-Form Games

Definition:

A (finite) perfect-information game in the extensive form is defined as a tuple $(N, A, H, Z, \chi, \rho, \sigma, u)$, where:

- Players N = {1, 2, ... }
- Actions A
- Choice nodes and label for these nodes
 - Choice nodes: *H*
 - Action function: $\chi : H \to 2^A$
 - Player function: $\rho : H \rightarrow N$
- Terminal nodes Z
- Successor function $\sigma : H \times A \rightarrow H \cup Z$
- Utility function $u = (u_1, \dots, u_n); u_i : Z \to \mathbb{R}$

EFGs: Actions and Strategies

Pure strategy: an assignment of an action for each state Action is uniquely identified by the state, in which it is taken.



$$\begin{split} A_1 &= \{2-0, 1-1, 0-2\} \quad A_2 = \{no_{\{2-0\}}, yes_{\{2-0\}}, no_{\{1-1\}}, yes_{\{1-1\}}, no_{\{0-2\}}, yes_{\{0-2\}}\} \\ S_1 &= \{2-0, 1-1, 0-2\} \quad S_2 = \{\{no_{\{2-0\}}, no_{\{1-1\}}, no_{\{0-2\}}\}, \{no_{\{2-0\}}, no_{\{1-1\}}, yes_{\{0-2\}}\}, \dots\} \end{split}$$

Pure Strategies in EFGs



Induced Normal Form



(C,E)	(C,F)	(D,E)	(D,F)

(A,G)	3,8	3,8	8,3	8,3
(A,H)	3,8	3,8	8,3	8,3
(B,G)	5,5	2,10	5,5	2,10
(B,H)	5,5	1,0	5,5	1,0

Nash Equilibrium in EFGs



1, 0

Nash Equilibrium in EFGs







(C,E)(C,F) (D,E) (D,F) 3,8 (A,G) 3,8 8,3 8,3 3,8 (A,H) 3,8 8,3 8,3 (B,G) 5,5 2,10 5,5 2,10 5,5 (B,H) 1,0 5,5 1,0

Nash Equilibrium in EFGs - threats



Solution Concepts in EFGs

- Refinements of NE
 - Solution concepts that pose further assumptions on the strategy profile
 - Sub-game-perfect equilibria
 - Sequential equilibria
 - Quasi-perfect equilibria
 - • • •
- Sub-game perfect
 - sub-game of *G* rooted at some node *h* is the restriction of *G* to the descendants of *h*
 - Strategy profile is a sub-game perfect NE, if it is a NE for every sub-game of *G*
 - Every SPE is NE



Nash Equilibrium in EFGs – SPE?







(C,E) (C,F) (D,E) (D,F) 3,8 (A,G) 3,8 8,3 8,3 3,8 (A,H) 3,8 8,3 8,3 (B,G)5,5 2,10 5,5 2,10 5,5 (B,H) 1,0 5,5 1,0

Nash Equilibrium in EFGs – SPE?





	(C,E)	(C,F)	(D,E)	(D,F)
(A,G)	3,8	3,8	8,3	8,3
(A,H)	3,8	3,8	8,3	8,3
(B ,G)	5,5	2,10	5,5	2, 10
(B,H)	5,5	1,0	5,5	1,0

Computing SPE: Backward Induction

function BACKWARDINDUCTION (node h) returns u(h)if $h \in Z$ then $\lfloor return u(h)$ $best_util \leftarrow -\infty$ forall $a \in \chi(h)$ do $\lfloor util_at_child \leftarrow BACKWARDINDUCTION(\sigma(h, a))$ if $util_at_child_{\rho(h)} > best_util_{\rho(h)}$ then $\lfloor best_util \leftarrow util_at_child$ return $best_util$



- works for general-sum n-players games
- for 2 players zero-sum games:
 - Minimax algorithm
 - Alpha-Beta, NegaScout, ...
- Computes pure strategy subgame-perfect equilibrium

Imperfect Information EFGs



Imperfect Information EFGs

Definition:

A (finite) imperfect-information game in the extensive form is defined as a tuple $(N, A, H, Z, \chi, \rho, \sigma, u, I)$, where:

- tuple $(N, A, H, Z, \chi, \rho, \sigma, u)$ is a perfect-information extensive-form game
- $I = (I_1, ..., I_n)$, where $I_i = (I_{i,1}, ..., I_{i,k})$ is a set of equivalence classes on (i.e., a partition of) choice nodes of a player i with the property that $\chi(h) = \chi(h')$ and $\rho(h) = \rho(h')$, whenever $h \in I_{i,j}$ and $h' \in I_{i,j}$ for some j

II EFGs: Actions and Strategies

Pure strategy: an assignment of an action for each **information set** Action is uniquely identified by the **information set**, in which it is taken.



 $A_1 = \{2 - 0, 1 - 1, 0 - 2\} \ A_2 = \{no, yes\}$

 $S_1 = \{2-0, 1-1, 0-2\} \ S_2 = \{no, yes\}$

Strategies in EFGs

Existence of a pure NE is no longer guaranteed for imperfect-information EFGs

Mixed strategies

Probabilistic distribution over pure strategies

Behavioral Strategies

Probabilistic distribution over actions to play for each information set

There is a broad class of imperfect-information games in which the expressive power of mixed and behavioral strategies coincides. This is the class of games of **perfect recall**. Intuitively speaking, in these games no player forgets any information he previously knew.

Perfect vs. Imperfect Recall



Remembering all information induces very large game trees

Easier to solve

Strategies can be compactly represented



Smaller trees, unnecessary information can be forgotten

Much harder to solve

Equilibrium in behavior strategies might not exist