

Ex Zero-sum game with payoff matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{separable?}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix} \stackrel{!}{=} \begin{pmatrix} u+x & u+y \\ v+x & v+y \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{I} & u+x = a \\ \text{II} & u+y = 0 \\ \text{III} & v+x = 0 \\ \text{IV} & v+y = d \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{III} & \Rightarrow v = -x \\ \text{IV} & \Rightarrow u = -y \end{array}$$

$$\text{Plug in } \begin{array}{l} \text{I, IV} \\ \text{II, III} \end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{ll} -y+x = a & -x+y = d \\ & x-y = -d \end{array}$$

$$\Rightarrow a = -d \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} -y+x = a \\ -x+y = -a \\ \underline{y = x-a} \end{array} \right. \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} -y+x = a \\ -x+y = -a \\ \underline{y = x-a} \end{array}} \right\} \text{equiv}$$

In example: \*  $a=1; d=2$   
 $\Rightarrow a \neq -d$   
 $\Rightarrow$  not separable

\*  $a > 0, d > 0$   
 $\Rightarrow$  No dominant moves

# Comments and extensions to slides

## Prisoner's dilemma

Lecture notes/slides show, by giving an explicit form for  $r_1, r_2, s_1, s_2$ , that the prisoner's game is separable. Note that while this is correct for the matrix used for rewards of the prisoner's game in the lecture notes/slides, there are other representations of this game in the literature which are not necessarily separable. In fact, we will define a general form of the game below and show that separability has implications on the choice of the coefficients, in other words, necessary conditions for separability.

General form of the R-matrix:

$$\begin{bmatrix} b & d \\ a & c \end{bmatrix} \text{ with } 0 \leq a < b < c < d$$

Need to find  $u = r_1(d_1), v = r_1(d_2), x = r_2(d_1), y = r_2(d_2)$

$$\begin{bmatrix} b & d \\ a & c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} u+x & u+y \\ v+x & v+y \end{bmatrix}$$

This corresponds to a system of equations

$$\text{I } u+v=b \quad \text{II } u+y=d \quad \text{III } v+x=a \quad \text{IV } v+y=c$$

which imply

$$\text{I-III } u-v=b-a \quad \text{II-IV } u-v=d-c$$

$$\text{I-II } x-y=b-d \quad \text{III-IV } x-y=a-c$$

So, ~~two~~ necessary conditions for the game to be separable are:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} b-a = d-c \\ \text{and } b-d = a-c \end{array} \right\} \text{ actually equiv.}$$

An example for representations of the prisoner's game that does not fulfill these conditions is

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 10 \\ 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

and there are many more. (In fact, it is more typical for this story to be represented by a non-separable game than by a separable game.)

Similar reasoning can be done for S (player 2).

We may come back to this and further discussion on the prisoner's game (and dilemma) in homework questions.

## Example for a game with dominant moves

Dominant moves can be used to construct optimal strategies using the assumption of common knowledge of rationality. Not all games have dominant moves. Here is a reward matrix  $(R(d_i, s_j), S(d_i, s_j))$  of a game that does have some ...

		$s_1$	$s_2$	$s_3$	Player 2
Player 1	$d_1$	(4, 3)	(5, 1)	(6, 2)	$D = \{d_1, d_2, d_3\}$ $\Delta = \{s_1, s_2, s_3\}$
	$d_2$	(2, 1)	(8, 4)	(3, 6)	
	$d_3$	(3, 0)	(9, 6)	(2, 8)	

Player 1 has no dominant moves: no  $d_i \in D$  is dominant

Player 2 has dominant move:

$s_2$  is dominated by  $s_3$  because (checking second values in pairs!)

$$S(d_i, s_2) < S(d_i, s_3) \text{ for } i=1, 2, 3$$

Player 2 eliminates  $s_2$  because it would be irrational to use it. Player 1 knows because of the common knowledge of rationality that Player 2 will not use  $s_2$ . Hence considers the reduced game with  $D$  unchanged, but  $\Delta = \{s_1, s_3\}$ . Now, Player 1 has dominant moves:  $d_1 > d_2$  and  $d_1 > d_3$  and removes both  $d_2$  and  $d_3$ .

The remaining game is just with  $D = \{d_1, 3\}$ ,  
so the matrix is

	$d_1$	$d_3$
$d_1$	(4, 3)	(6, 2)

Player 2 knows Player 1 use  $d_1$ , so Player 2  
uses  $d_1$ . The strategy is  $(d_1, d_1)$  with pay-offs  
4 for Player 1 and 3 for Player 2.

- C Notes:
- not all games have dominant moves
  - not all games with dominant moves lead to a unique strategy
  - the assumption of common knowledge of rationality may not be always true for humans

C Example for a zero-sum game with dominant

Now,  $S = -R$ .  $R$  is given by matrix: moves:

	$d_1$	$d_2$	$d_3$	$d_4$	$d_5$
$d_1$	4	5	6	4	4
$d_2$	4	2	3	4	4
$d_3$	2	4	5	5	5

Reduce move by removing moves that are dominated by others (or redundant)

Note: Player 1 wants big number in the matrix,  
Player 2 wants small ones ( $S = -R$ ).

More on Friday.