



SCSG

- Strictly Competitive Strategic Game
- if $G = \langle \{1, 2\}, (A_i), (\geq_i) \rangle$,
- and $\forall a, b \in A: a \geq_1 b \Leftrightarrow b \geq_2 a$



SCSG

- Strictly Competitive Strategic Game
- if $G = \langle \{1, 2\}, (A_i), (\geq_i) \rangle$,
- and $\forall a, b \in A: a \geq_1 b \Leftrightarrow b \geq_2 a$
- zero-sum game if:
 - $\forall x \ u_1(x) + u_2(x) = 0$



Finding a strategy: maximizer

- let $G = \langle \{1, 2\}, (A_i), (\geq_i) \rangle$ be a SCSG
- action $x^* \in A_1$ is maximizer for 1:
- $\forall x \in A_1 \min_{y \in A_2} u_1(x^*, y) \geq_1 \min_{y \in A_2} u_1(x, y)$



maxminimizers

- solve $\max_x \min_y$ for 1

$$u_1(x, y) =$$

- $\max\{$
- $\min\{u_1(x, y) \mid y \in A_2\}$
- $\mid x \in A_1\} =$

...	y_1	y_2	y_k
x_1
x_2
...

...
x_n



maxminimizers

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$$x_1: \min_y u(x_1, y) = a_1$$

...	y_1	y_2	y_k
x_1	a_1
x_2
...

...
x_n



maxminimizers

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$$u_1(x, y) =$$

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$$x_1: \min_y u(x_1, y) = a_1$$

$$x_2: \min_y u(x_2, y) = a_2$$

...	y_1	y_2	y_k
x_1	a_1
x_2	a_2
...

...
x_n



maxminimizers

- solve $\max_x \min_y$ for 1

$$u_1(x, y) =$$

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$$x_1: \min_y u(x_1, y) = a_1$$

$$x_2: \min_y u(x_2, y) = a_2$$

...: = ..

$$x_n: \min_y u(x_n, y) = a_n$$

...	y_1	y_2	y_k
x_1	a_1
x_2	a_2
...	...	a
	a
...	a
x_n	...	a_n

maxminimizers

- solve $\max_x \min_y$ for 1

$$u_1(x, y) =$$

- $\max\{$
- $\min\{u_1(x, y) \mid y \in A_2\}$
- $\mid x \in A_1\} =$

$$x_1: \min_y u(x_1, y) = a_1$$

$$x_2: \min_y u(x_2, y) = a_2$$

$$\dots: \dots \dots = \dots$$

$$x_n: \min_y u(x_n, y) = a_n$$

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...	y_1	y_2	y_k
x_1	a_1
x_2	a_2
...	...	a
x^*	a^*
...	a
x_n	...	a_n

max = a^* for x^*



maxminimizers

- solve $\max_x \min_y$ for 1

$$u_1(x,y) =$$

- $\max\{$
- $\min\{u_1(x,y) \mid y \in A_2\}$
- $\mid x \in A_1\} =$

...	y_1	y_2	y_3	y_4	y_5
x_1	2,-2	2,-2	3,-3	1,-1	1,-1
x_2	3,-3	5,-5	4,-4	6,-6	4,-4
x_3	5,-5	2,-2	4,-4	3,-3	3,-3
x_4	6,-6	8,-8	5,-5	7,-7	6,-6
x_5	3,-3	5,-5	4,-4	2,-2	3,-3
x_6	4,-4	3,-3	7,-7	5,-5	4,-4



maxminimizers

- solve $\max_x \min_y$ for **1**

$$u_1(x,y) =$$

- $\max\{$
- $\min\{u_1(x,y) \mid y \in A_2\}$
- $\mid x \in A_1\} =$

$$x_1: \min_y u(x_1,y) = \mathbf{1}$$

...	y_1	y_2	y_3	y_4	y_5
x_1	2,-2	2,-2	3,-3	1,-1	1,-1
x_2	3,-3	5,-5	4,-4	6,-6	4,-4
x_3	5,-5	2,-2	4,-4	3,-3	3,-3
x_4	6,-6	8,-8	5,-5	7,-7	6,-6
x_5	3,-3	5,-5	4,-4	2,-2	3,-3
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maxminimizers

- solve $\max_x \min_y$ for **1**

$$u_1(x,y) =$$

- $\max\{$
- $\min\{u_1(x,y) \mid y \in A_2\}$
- $\mid x \in A_1\} =$

$$x_1: \min_y u(x_1,y) = \mathbf{1}$$

$$x_2: \min_y u(x_2,y) = \mathbf{3}$$

...	y_1	y_2	y_3	y_4	y_5
x_1	2,-2	2,-2	3,-3	1,-1	1,-1
x_2	3,-3	5,-5	4,-4	6,-6	4,-4
x_3	5,-5	2,-2	4,-4	3,-3	3,-3
x_4	6,-6	8,-8	5,-5	7,-7	6,-6
x_5	3,-3	5,-5	4,-4	2,-2	3,-3
x_6	4,-4	3,-3	7,-7	5,-5	4,-4

maxminimizers

- solve $\max_x \min_y$ for 1

$$u_1(x,y) =$$

- $\max\{$
- $\min\{u_1(x,y) \mid y \in A_2\}$
- $\mid x \in A_1\} =$

$$x_1: \min_y u(x_1,y) = 1$$

$$x_2: \min_y u(x_2,y) = 3$$

$$\dots: \dots \dots \dots = \dots$$

$$x_n: \min_y u(x_n,y) = 3$$

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...	y_1	y_2	y_3	y_4	y_5
x_1	2,-2	2,-2	3,-3	1,-1	1,-1
x_2	3,-3	5,-5	4,-4	6,-6	4,-4
x_3	5,-5	2,-2	4,-4	3,-3	3,-3
x_4	6,-6	8,-8	5,-5	7,-7	6,-6
x_5	3,-3	5,-5	4,-4	2,-2	3,-3
x_6	4,-4	3,-3	7,-7	5,-5	4,-4

max = 5 for $x^* = x_4$



maxminimizers

- solve $\max_x \min_y$ for **1**

$$u_1(x,y) =$$

- $\max\{$
- $\min\{u_1(x,y) \mid y \in A_2\}$
- $\mid x \in A_1\} = 5$

- solve $\max_x \min_y$ for **2**

$$u_2(x,y) =$$

- $\max\{$
- $\min\{u_1(x,y) \mid x \in A_1\}$
- $\mid y \in A_2\} =$

...	y_1	y_2	y_3	y_4	y_5
x_1	2,-2	2,-2	3,-3	1,-1	1,-1
x_2	3,-3	5,-5	4,-4	6,-6	4,-4
x_3	5,-5	2,-2	4,-4	3,-3	3,-3
x_4	6,-6	8,-8	5,-5	7,-7	6,-6
x_5	3,-3	5,-5	4,-4	2,-2	3,-3
x_6	4,-4	3,-3	7,-7	5,-5	4,-4



maxminimizers

- solves $\max_x \min_y$ for **1**

$$u_1(x,y) =$$

- $\max\{$
- $\min\{u_1(x,y) | y \in A_2\}$
- $|x \in A_1\} = 5$

- solves $\max_x \min_y$ for **2**

$$u_2(x,y) =$$

- $\max\{$
- $\min\{u_2(x,y) | x \in A_1\}$
- $|y \in A_2\} = -6!$

- Equilibrium (6,-6)

...	y_1	y_2	y_3	y_4	y_5
x_1	2,-2	2,-2	3,-3	1,-1	1,-1
x_2	3,-3	5,-5	4,-4	6,-6	4,-4
x_3	5,-5	2,-2	4,-4	3,-3	3,-3
x_4	6,-6	8,-8	5,-5	7,-7	6,-6
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x_6	4,-4	3,-3	7,-7	5,-5	4,-4



maximizer

- let $G = \langle \{1, 2\}, (A_i), (\geq_i) \rangle$ be a SCSG
- action $x^* \in A_1$ is maximizer for 1:
- $\forall x \in A_1 \min_{y \in A_2} u_1(x^*, y) \geq_1 \min_{y \in A_2} u_1(x, y)$
- action $y^* \in A_2$ is maximizer for 2:
- $\forall y \in A_2 \min_{x \in A_1} u_2(x, y^*) \geq_2 \min_{x \in A_1} u_2(x, y)$



maximizer

- action $x^* \in A_1$ is maximinimizer for **1**:
- $\forall x \in A_1 \min_{y \in A_2} u_1(x^*, y) \geq_1 \min_{y \in A_2} u_1(x, y)$
- solves $\max_x \min_y u_1(x, y)$ for **1**
- solves $\max_y \min_x u_1(x, y)$ for **2**
- 'maximizes minimum that i can guarantuee'



maxminimizers

- solves $\max_x \min_y u_1(x,y)$ for $1 =$
- $\max\{ \quad \mid x \in A_1 \} =$



maxminimizers

- solves $\max_x \min_y u_1(x, y)$ for $\mathbf{1} =$
- $\max\{ \min\{u_1(x, y) \mid y \in A_2\} \mid x \in A_1\} =$



maxminimizers

- solves $\max_x \min_y u_1(x, y)$ for **1** =
- $\max\{ \min\{u_1(x, y) \mid y \in A_2\} \mid x \in A_1\} =$
- $\max_{x \in A_1} \min_{y \in A_2} u_1(x, y) =$

- $\max_x \min_y u_1(x, y)$
- The solution x^* is called the 'security strategy' for 1



Lemma

- assume $u_1 = -u_2$
- then:
 - $\max_{Y \in A_2} \min_{X \in A_1} u_2(x, y) =$
 - $-\min_{Y \in A_2} \max_{X \in A_1} u_1(x, y)$



Equilibria and maxminimizers

- if (x^*, y^*) is a N.eq for G , then
 - x^* is a maximizer for 1;
 - y^* is a minimizer for 2

	y_1	y_2	y_3
x_1	2,-2	1,-1	3,-3
x_2	5,-5	3,-3	4,-4
x_3	1,-1	-2,2	-1,1



Equilibria and maxminimizers

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x_3	1,-1	-2,2	-3,3



Equilibria and maxminimizers

- if (x^*, y^*) is a N.eq for G , then
 - x^* is a maximizer for 1;
 - y^* is a minimizer for 2
 - $\max_x \min_y u_1(x, y) =$
 - $\min_y \max_x u_1(x, y) = u_1(x^*, y^*)$

Equilibria and maxminimizers

- if (x^*, y^*) is a N.eq for G , then
 - x^* is a maximizer for 1;
 - y^* is a minimizer for 2
 - $\max_x \min_y u_1(x, y) =$
 - $\min_y \max_x u_1(x, y)$
 - $= u_1(x^*, y^*) = 3$

	y_1	y_2	y_3
x_1	2, -2	1, -1	5, -5
x_2	5, -5	3, -3	4, -4
x_3	1, -1	-2, 2	-3, 3



Equilibria and maxminimizers

- if (x^*, y^*) is a N.eq for G , then
 - x^* is a maximizer for 1;
 - y^* is a minimizer for 2

C	y_1	y_2	y_3
x_1	2, -2	1, -1	6, -6
x_2	7, -7	3, -3	4, -4
x_3	1, -1	5, -5	-3, 3



Equilibria and maxminimizers

- if (x^*, y^*) is a N.eq for G , then
 - x^* is a maximizer for 1;
 - y^* is a minimizer for 2

C	y_1	y_2	y_3
x_1	2,-2	1,-1	6,-6
x^*	7,-7	3,-3	4,-4
x_3	1,-1	5,-5	-3,3



Equilibria and maxminimizers

- if (x^*, y^*) is a N.eq for G , then
 - x^* is a maximizer for 1;
 - y^* is a minimizer for 2

c	y_1	y^*	y_3
x_1	2, -2	1, -1	6, -6
x^*	7, -7	3, -3	4, -4
x_3	1, -1	5, -5	-3, 3

Equilibria and maxminimizers 2



- if
 - $\max_x \min_y u_1(x, y) = \min_y \max_x u_1(x, y)$
 - x^* and y^* are maxminimizers
- then
 - (x^*, y^*) is Nash equilibrium



security level vs equilibria

- Consider cooperative game G

	L	R
l	2,2	0,0
r	1,1	1,1



security level vs equilibria

- consider cooperative game G
- $(2,2)$ seems the optimal solution

	L	R
I	2,2	0,0
r	1,1	1,1



security level vs equilibria

- consider cooperative game G
- $(2,2)$ seems the optimal solution
- security strategy of 1 is r , gives 1!
- Nash equilibria?

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l	2,2	0,0
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security level vs equilibria

- consider cooperative game G
- $(2,2)$ seems the optimal solution
- security strategy of 1 is r , gives 1!
- Nash equilibria?

	L	R
l	2,2	0,0
r	1,1	1,1



bimatrix games

- $m \times n$ matrix
- 1 has strategies s_1 and s_2 , 2 has t_1 , t_2 and t_3
- payoff $\pi_1(s_i, t_j) = i * j$
 - $\pi_2(s_i, t_j) = (i-2)(j-2)$

	t_1	t_2	t_3
s_1	1,1	2,0	3,-1
s_2	2,0	4,0	6,0



bimatrix games

- $m \times n$ matrix
- 1 has strategies s_1 and s_2 , 2 has t_1 , t_2 and t_3
- Nash equilibrium (σ, τ) :
 - $\forall s, t \pi_1(\sigma, \tau) \geq \pi_1(s, \tau)$
 - $\forall s, t \pi_2(\sigma, \tau) \geq \pi_2(\sigma, t)$

	t_1	t_2	t_3
s_1	1,1	2,0	3,-1
s_2	2,0	4,0	6,0



domination

- strategy s_d of 1
strongly dominates s_i :
- $\forall t \pi_1(s_d, t) > \pi_1(s_i, t)$



domination

- strategy s_d of 1 strongly dominates s_i :
- $\forall t \pi_1(s_d, t) > \pi_1(s_i, t)$
- s_2 strongly dominates s_1

	t_1	t_2	t_3
s_1	1,1	2,0	3,-1
s_2	2,0	4,0	6,0



domination

- strategy s_d of 1 strongly dominates s_i :
- $\forall t \pi_1(s_d, t) > \pi_1(s_i, t)$
- And weak if:
 - $\forall t \pi_1(s_d, t) \geq \pi_1(s_i, t)$
 - $\exists t \pi_1(s_d, t) > \pi_1(s_i, t)$

	t_1	t_2	t_3
s_1	1,1	2,0	3,-1
s_2	2,0	4,0	6,0



domination

- strategy s_d of 1 strongly dominates s_i :
- $\forall t \pi_1(s_d, t) > \pi_1(s_i, t)$
- And weak if:
 - $\forall t \pi_1(s_d, t) \geq \pi_1(s_i, t)$
 - $\exists t \pi_1(s_d, t) > \pi_1(s_i, t)$
- t_1 weakly dominates t_2

	t_1	t_2	t_3
s_1	1,1	2,0	3,-1
s_2	2,0	4,0	6,0



iterated elimination

- s_2 strongly dominates s_1

	t_1	t_2	t_3
s_1	1,1	2,0	3,-1
s_2	2,0	4,0	6,0



iterated elimination

- s_2 strongly dominates s_1

	t_1	t_2	t_3
s_1	1,1	2,0	3,-1
s_2	2,0	4,0	6,0



iterated elimination

- s_2 strongly dominates s_1
- t_1 weakly dominates t_2

	t_1	t_2	t_3
s_1	1,1	2,0	3,-1
s_2	2,0	4,0	6,0



iterated elimination

- s_2 strongly dominates s_1
- t_1 weakly dominates t_2

	t_1	t_2	t_3
s_1	1,1	2,0	3,-1
s_2	2,0	4,0	6,0



iterated elimination

- s_2 strongly dominates s_1
- t_1 weakly dominates t_2
- In the new game t_1 and t_3 are not weakly dominated
- (s_2, t_1) and (s_2, t_3) N.eq!

	t_1	t_2	t_3
s_1	1,1	2,0	3,-1
s_2	2,0	4,0	6,0

	t_1	t_2	t_3
s_1	1,1	2,0	3,-1
s_2	2,0	4,0	6,0



Order of elimination

	C	D
AE	2,0	1,1
AF	0,2	1,1
BE	3,3	3,3
BF	3,3	3,3



Order of elimination

	C	D
AE	2,0	1,1
AF	0,2	1,1
BE	3,3	3,3
BF	3,3	3,3

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AE	2,0	1,1
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Order of elimination

	C	D
AE	2,0	1,1
AF	0,2	1,1
BE	3,3	3,3
BF	3,3	3,3

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AE	2,0	1,1
AF	0,2	1,1
BE	3,3	3,3
BF	3,3	3,3

	C	D
AE	2,0	1,1
AF	0,2	1,1
BE	3,3	3,3
BF	3,3	3,3

equilibrium gone!



elimination: conclusions

- strict strategies: no problem
- With weakly dominated strategies:
 - subgame perfect equilibrium can be lost
 - Order of elimination matters

Order of elimination

	C	D
AE	2,0	1,1
AF	0,2	1,1
BE	3,3	3,3
BF	3,3	3,3

	C	D
AE	2,0	1,1
AF	0,2	1,1
BE	3,3	3,3
BF	3,3	3,3

	C	D
AE	2,0	1,1
AF	0,2	1,1
BE	3,3	3,3
BF	3,3	3,3

equilibrium gone!

	C	D
AE	2,0	1,1
AF	0,2	1,1
BE	3,3	3,3
BF	3,3	3,3

	C	D
AE	2,0	1,1
AF	0,2	1,1
BE	3,3	3,3
BF	3,3	3,3



Example: BoS

- $N = \{1,2\}$
- $A_1 = \{B,S\}$
- $A_2 = \{B,S\}$
- u_1, u_2 see figure
 - B: Bach
 - S: Strawinsky
- Battle of the Sexes

	B	S
B	2,1	0,0
S	0,0	1,2

No dominant strategies

(two) Nash equilibira



ex: coordination game

- Mozart of Mahler?
- Equal preferences

No dominant strategy

two Nash equilibria

	Mo	Ma
Mo	2,2	0,0
Ma	0,0	1,1



ex: prisoner's dilemma

- C: cooperate and be silent
- D: testify against the other

	C	D
C	0,0	-2,3
D	3,-2	-1,-1



ex: prisoner's dilemma

- C: cooperate and be silent
- D: testify against the other
- **D** dominates **C**

	C	D
C	0,0	-2,3
D	3,-2	-1,-1



ex: prisoner's dilemma

- C: cooperate and be silent
- D: testify against the other
- D dominates C
- D dominates C

	C	D
C	0,0	-2,3
D	3,-2	-1,-1



ex: prisoner's dilemma

- C: cooperate and be silent
- D: testify against the other
- D dominates C
- D dominates C
- Gives Nash equilibrium $(-1, -1)$

	C	D
C	0,0	-2,3
D	3,-2	-1,-1



ex: hawk-dove

- preferences:
 - hawkish if other is dovish
 - dovish if other is hawkish

no dominant strategy

(two) Nash equilibria

	D	H
D	3,3	1,4
H	4,1	0,0



ex: Matching Pennies

- Head and Tail
- If matching 2 pays one euro to 1, otherwise 1 pays 2

	H	T
H	1,-1	-1,1
T	-1,1	1,-1

no dominant strategy

No Nash equilibrium