

MATH4250 Game-Theory

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- 1. Sequential and combinatorial games
- 2. Two-person zero sum games
- 3. Linear programming and matrix games
- 4. Non-zero sum games
- 5. Cooperative games

Prisoner's dilemma

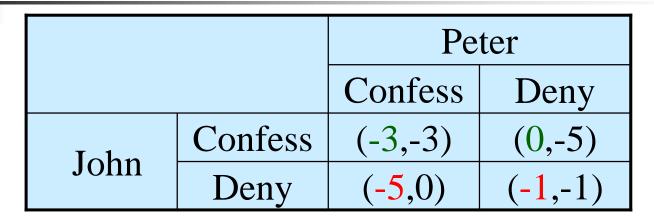
- John and Peter have been arrested for possession of guns. The police suspects that they are going to commit a major crime.
- If no one confesses, they will both be jailed for 1 year.
- If only one confesses, he'll go free and his partner will be jailed for 5 years.
- If they both confess, they both get 3 years.



Prisoner's dilemma

		Peter	
		Confess	Deny
	Confess	(-3,-3)	(0,-5)
John	Deny	(-5,0)	(-1,-1)





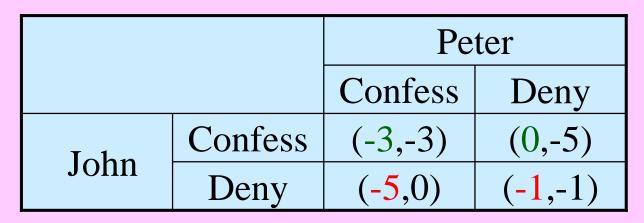
• If Peter confesses:

John "confess" (3 years) better than "deny" (5 years).

• If Peter deny:

John "confess" (0 year) better than "deny" (1 year).

Prisoner's dilemma



- Thus John should confess whatever Peter does.
- Similarly, Peter should also confess.

Conclusion: Both of them should confess



Prisoner's dilemma

		Peter	
		Confess	Deny
	Confess	(-3,-3)	(0,-5)
John	Deny	(-5,0)	(-1,-1)



Vickrey auction

The highest bidder wins, but the price paid is the second-highest bid.



Vickrey auction



明報 再論以博弈論打破勾地困局

政府可考慮,如勾地者最終成功投得地皮,可讓他們享有 3至5%的折扣優惠,如此建議獲接納,發展商會甘心做 「出頭鳥」,搶先以高價勾地。 …其他發展商,如出價不及勾出地皮的發展商,已考慮了 市場情況和財政計算,他們亦知其中一個對手享有折扣優 惠,所以要打敗對手,出價只有更進取。…

也可考慮將最終成交價訂為拍賣地皮的<mark>第二最高出價。</mark>」 撰文:陸振球 (明報地產版主管)



Nobel laureates related to game theory

- 1994: Nash, Harsanyi, Selten
- 1996: Vickrey
- 2005: Aumann, Schelling
- 2007: Hurwicz, Maskin, Myerson
- 2012: Shapley, Roth
- 2014: Tirole



Two supermarkets PN and WC are engaging in a price war.



VS



- Each supermarket can choose: high price or low price.
- If both choose high price, then each will earn \$4 (million).
- If both choose low price, then each will earn \$2 (million).
- If they choose different strategies, then the supermarket choosing high price will earn \$0 (million), while the one choosing low price will earn \$5 (million).



		WC	
		Low	High
DNI	Low	(2,2)	(5,0)
PN	High	(0,5)	(4,4)



		WC	
		Low	High
DAI	Low	(2,2)	(3,0)
PN	High	<u>(0,5)</u>	A

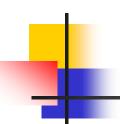


Price war vs Prisoner dilemma

		Peter	
		Confess	Deny
T 1	Confess	(-3,-3)	(0,-5)
John	Deny	(-5,0)	(-1,-1)

		WC	
		Low	High
DNI	Low	(2,2)	(5,0)
PN	High	(0,5)	(4,4)

These are called dominant strategy equilibrium.



Dominant strategy equilibrium

- A strategy of a player is a dominant strategy if the player has the best return no matter how the other players play.
- If every player chooses its dominant strategy, it is called a dominant strategy equilibrium.



Dominant strategy equilibrium

- Not every game has dominant strategy equilibrium.
- A player of a game may have no dominant strategy.

Dating game



Roy and Connie would like to go out on Friday night.

Roy prefers to see football, while Connie prefers to watch drama.

However, they would rather go out together than be alone.

Dating game



		Connie	
		Football	Drama
Dow	Football	(20,5)	(0,0)
Roy	Drama	(0,0)	(5,20)

Both Roy and Connie do not have dominant strategy. Therefore dating game does not have dominant strategy equilibrium.



- A choice of strategies of the players is a pure Nash equilibrium if no player can increase its gain given that *all other players do not change their strategies*.
- A dominant strategy equilibrium is always a pure Nash equilibrium.



Pure Nash equilibrium

Prisoner's dilemma

		Peter	
		Confess	Deny
Talan	Confess	(-3,-3)	(0,-5)
John	Deny	(-5,0)	(-1,-1)

Prisoner's dilemma has a pure Nash equilibrium because it has a dominant strategy equilibrium.



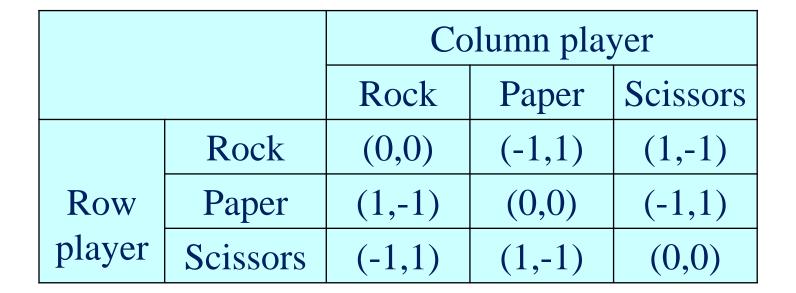
Pure Nash equilibrium

Dating game

		Connie	
		Football	Drama
Dov	Football	(20,5)	(0,0)
Roy	Drama	(0,0)	(5,20)

Dating game has no dominant strategy equilibrium but has two pure Nash equilibria.





Rock-paper-scissors has no pure Nash equilibrium.



Pure strategy

Using one strategy constantly.

Mixed strategy

Using varies strategies according to certain probabilities.

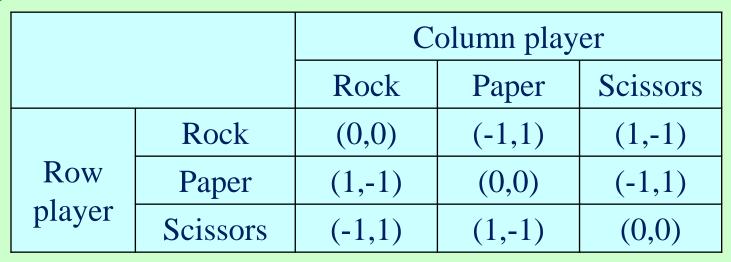
(Note that a pure strategy is also a mixed strategy where one of the strategies is used with probability 1 and all other strategies are used with probability 0.)



Mixed Nash equilibrium

- A choice of mixed strategies of the players is called a mixed Nash equilibrium if no player has anything to gain by changing his own strategy alone while all other players do not change their strategies.
- We will simply call a mixed Nash equilibrium Nash equilibrium.

Rock-paper-scissors



The mixed Nash equilibrium is both players use mixed strategy (1/3,1/3,1/3), that means all three gestures are used with the same probability 1/3.



Mixed Nash equilibrium



Pure Nash equilibrium

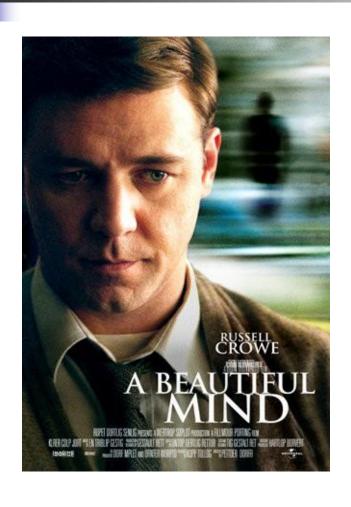
Dominant strategy equilibrium

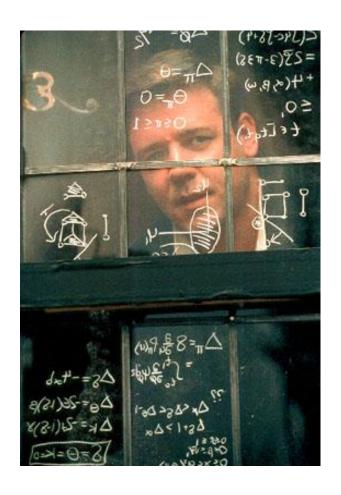


Mixed Nash equilibrium

Game	Dominant strategy equilibrium	Pure Nash equilibrium	Mixed Nash equilibrium
isoner's ilemma	√	✓	✓
Dating game	*	✓	✓
ck-paper- cissors	*	*	✓

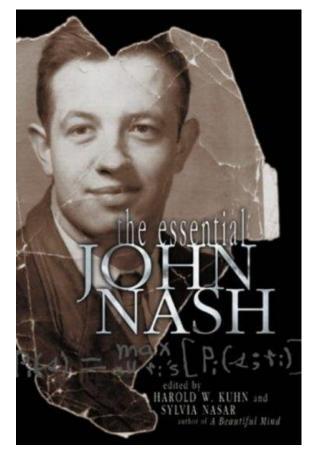
A Beautiful Mind





John Nash

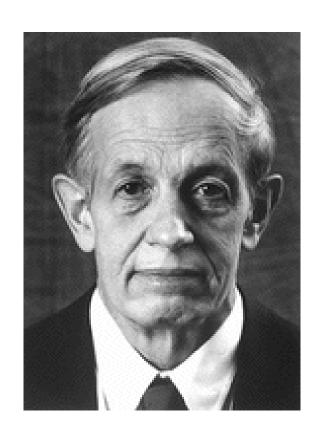






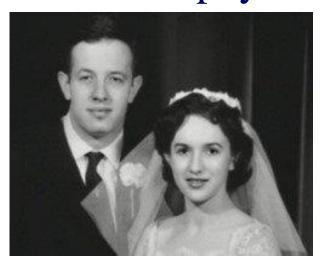
John Nash

- Born in 1928
- Earned a PhD from
 Princeton in 1950 with a
 28-page dissertation on
 non-cooperative games.





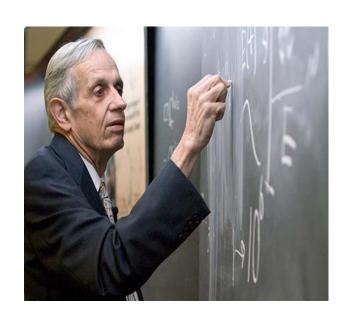
 Married Alicia Larde, Nash's former student in physics at MIT, in 1957





• The couple divorced in 1963 and remarried in 2001

John Nash



In 1959, Nash gave a lecture at Columbia University intended to present a proof of Riemann hypothesis. However the lecture was completely incomprehensible.

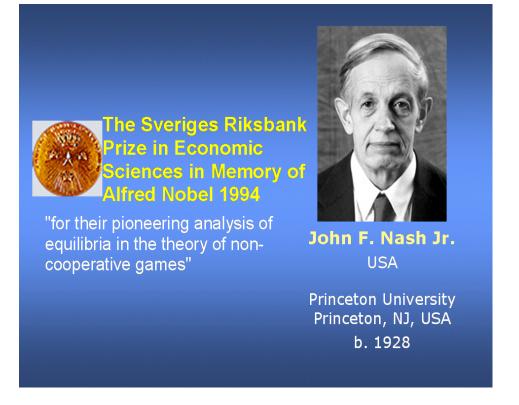
John Nash



- Nash was later diagnosed as suffering from paranoid schizophrenia.
- It is a miracle that he can recover twenty years later.



• In 1994, Nash shared the Nobel Prize in **Economics** with John Harsanyi and Reinhard Selten





John Nash

Notable awards

- John von Neumann Theory Prize (1978)
- Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences (1994)
- Leroy P. Steele Prize (1999)
- Abel Prize (2015)









On May 23, 2015, Nash and his wife Alicia were killed in a collision of a taxicap. The couple were on their way home at New Jersey after visiting Norway where Nash had received the Abel Prize.

A Beautiful Mind



Nash's theory in the film

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zskVcFJ86o4&t=20s

(19:00-21:45)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bbNMTbcuitA







"In competition, individual ambition serves the common good."

A Beautiful Mind



"Adam Smith said the best result comes from everyone in the group doing what's best for him, right?"

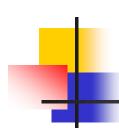
"Incomplete, because the best result will come from everyone in the group doing what's the best for himself and the group.



Nash equilibrium



The example in the film is not a Nash equilibrium.



Nash embedding theorem

Any closed Riemannian nmanifold has a C^1 isometric
embedding into R^{2n} .



Minimax theorem

von Neumann (Math Annalen 1928)

Minimax theorem:

For every two-person, zero-sum finite game, there exists a value *v* such that

- Player 1 has a mixed strategy to guarantee that his payoff is not less than *v* no matter how player 2 plays.
- Player 2 has a mixed strategy to guarantee that his payoff is not less than -v no matter how player 1 plays.

The Imitation Game



Minimax problem in the film







The minimal number of actions it would take for us to win the war but the maximum number we can take before the Germans get suspicious.



Nash's Theorem

John Nash (Annals of math 1957) **Theorem:** Every finite *n*-player non-cooperative game has a mixed Nash equilibrium.

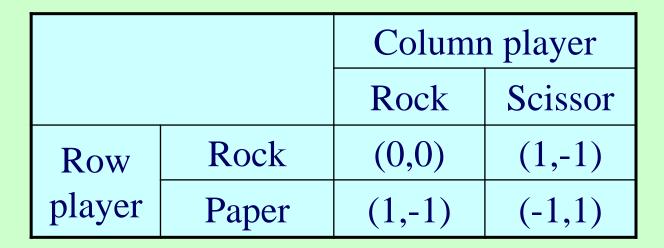


Modified rock-paper-scissors

		Column player	
		Rock	Scissor
Row player	Rock	(0,0)	(1,-1)
	Paper	(1,-1)	(-1,1)

What is the mixed Nash equilibrium?

Modified rock-paper-scissors



Mixed Nash equilibrium:

Row player: (2/3,1/3)

Column player: (2/3,1/3)

Nash's Proof

Brouwer fixed-point theorem

pieces of algebraic varieties, cut out by other algebraic varieties.

Existence of Equilibrium Points

A proof of this existence theorem based on Kakutani's generalized fixed point theorem was published in Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. U. S. A., 36, pp. 48–49. The proof given here is a considerable improvement over that earlier version and is based directly on the Brouwer theorem. We proceed by constructing a continuous transformation T of the space of n-tuples such that the fixed points of T are the equilibrium points of the game.

Theorem 1. Every finite game has an equilibrium point.

PROOF. Let $\mathfrak s$ be an n-tuple of mixed strategies, $p_i(\mathfrak s)$ the corresponding pay-off to player i, and $p_{i\alpha}(\mathfrak s)$ the pay-off to player i if he changes to his α^{th} pure strategy $\pi_{i\alpha}$ and the others continue to use their respective mixed strategies from $\mathfrak s$. We now define a set of continuous functions of $\mathfrak s$ by

$$\varphi_{i\alpha}(\mathbf{s}) = \max(0, p_{i\alpha}(\mathbf{s}) - p_i(\mathbf{s}))$$

and for each component s_i of s we define a modification s'_i by

$$s_i' = \frac{s_i + \sum_{\alpha} \varphi_{i\alpha}(\mathbf{s}) \pi_{i\alpha}}{1 + \sum_{\alpha} \varphi_{i\alpha}(\mathbf{s})},$$

calling \mathbf{s}' the *n*-tuple $(s_1', s_2', s_3' \cdots s_n')$.

We must now show that the fixed points of the mapping $T: \mathfrak{s} \to \mathfrak{s}'$ are the equilibrium points.

First consider any *n*-tuple **s**. In **s** the *i*th player's mixed strategy s_i will use certain of his pure strategies. Some one of these strategies, say $\pi_{i\alpha}$, must be "least profitable" so that $p_{i\alpha}(\mathbf{s}) \leq p_i(\mathbf{s})$. This will make $\varphi_{i\alpha}(\mathbf{s}) = 0$.

Now if this *n*-tuble \mathfrak{s} happens to be fixed under T the proportion of $\pi_{i\alpha}$ used in s_i must not be decreased by T. Hence, for all $\beta's_i$, $\varphi_{i\beta}(\mathfrak{s})$ must be zero to prevent the denominator of the expression defining s_i' from exceeding 1.

Thus, if \mathbf{s} is fixed under \mathbf{X} for any i and $\beta \varphi_{i\beta}(\mathbf{s}) = 0$. This means no player can improve his pay-off by mixing to a pure strategy $\pi_{i\beta}$. But this is just a criterion for an eq. pt. [see (2)].

Conversely, if \mathfrak{s} is an eq. pt. it immediate that all φ 's vanish, making \mathfrak{s} a fixed point under T.

Since the space of n-tuples is a cell the Brouwer fixed point theorem requires that T must have at least one fixed point s, which must be an equilibrium point.

Symmetries of Games

An automorphism, or symmetry, of a game will be a permutation of its pure strategies which satisfies certain conditions, given below.



Brouwer's fixed-point theorem

Fixed-point theorem:

Any continuous function from the *n*-dimensional closed unit ball to itself has at least one fixed-point.

Consequence of fixed-point theorem

- Everybody has at least one bald spot.
- There is at least one place on earth with no wind.





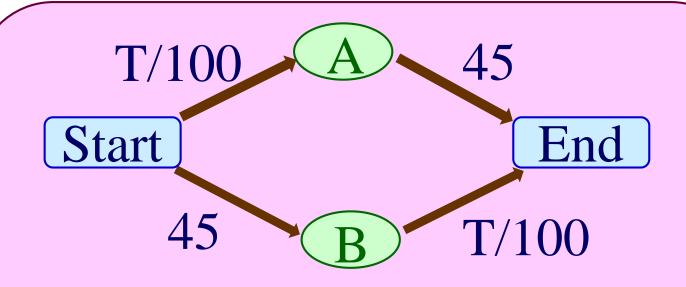
Braess paradox

Building a new road always good?





Braess paradox



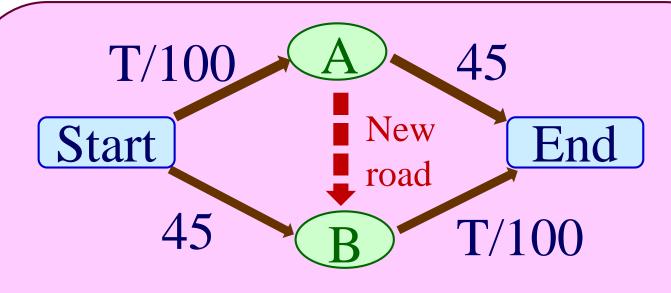
Number of vehicles:4000

Vehicles via A: 2000; Vehicles via B:2000

Expected time: 65 mins



Braess paradox

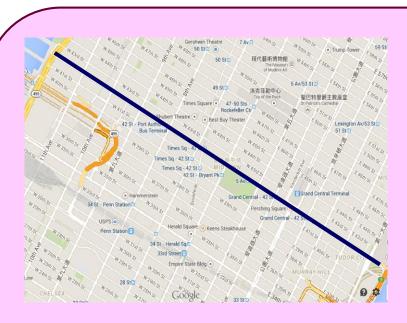


Number of vehicles:4000

All vehicles via A and B

Expected time: 80 mins

Braess paradox in traffic network



New York City 42nd Street



Boston
Main Street

Hotelling model



Hotelling model:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jILgxeNBK_8

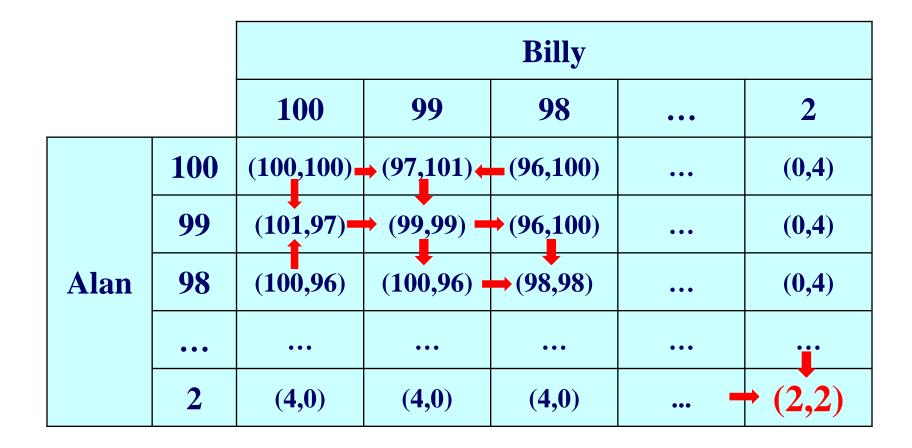
An airline manager asks two travelers, who lost their suitcases, to write down an amount between \$2 and \$100 inclusive. If both write down the same amount, the manager will reimburse both travelers that amount. However, if one writes down a smaller number, it will be taken as the true dollar value, and both travelers will receive that amount along with a bonus: \$2 extra to the traveler who wrote down the lower value and \$2 deduction from the person who wrote down the higher amount.



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Kauchik Basu,
"The Traveler's Dilemma: Paradoxes of
Rationality in Game Theory";

American Economic Review, Vol. 84,
No. 2, pages 391-395; May 1994.
```

		Billy				
		100	99	98	•••	2
	100	(100,100)	(97,101)	(96,100)	•••	(0,4)
	99	(101,97)	(99,99)	(96,100)	•••	(0,4)
Alan	98	(100,96)	(100,96)	(98,98)	•••	(0,4)
	• • •	•••	•••	•••	•••	•••
	2	(4,0)	(4,0)	(4,0)	•••	(2,2)



When the upper limit is 3, the Traveler's dilemma is similar to Prisoner's dilemma

		Billy	
		3	2
Alan	3	(3,3)	(0,4)
	2	(4,0)	(2,2)

		Peter	
		Not	Con
John	Not	(1,1)	(5,0)
	Con	(0,5)	(3,3)

Traveler's dilemma

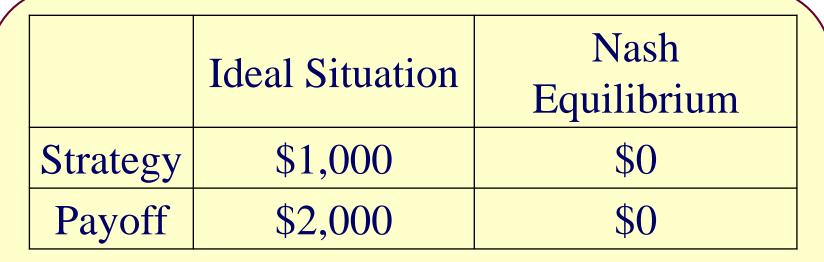
Prisoner's dilemma



Money sharing game

- 1. Five players put certain amount of money from \$0 to \$1,000 to a pool.
- 2. The total amount of money in the pool will be multiplied by 3.
- 3. The money in the pool is then distributed evenly to the players.





No one will put money to the pool because every dollar a player puts become 3 dollars but will share evenly with 5 players.



Environment protection

The money sharing game explains why every country is blaming others instead of putting more resources to environmental protection.

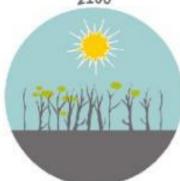
Paris climate agreement

The Paris climate agreement: key points

The historic pact, approved by 195 countries, will take effect from 2020

Temperatures

2100



 Keep warming "well below 2 degrees Celsius".
 Continue all efforts to limit the rise in temperatures to 1.5 degrees Celsius"

Finance

2020-2025



- Rich countries must provide 100 billion dollars from 2020, as a "floor"
- Amount to be updated by 2025

Differenciation



- Developed countries must continue to "take the lead" in the reduction of greenhouse gases
- Developing nations are encouraged to "enhance their efforts" and move over time to cuts

Emissions objectives

2050



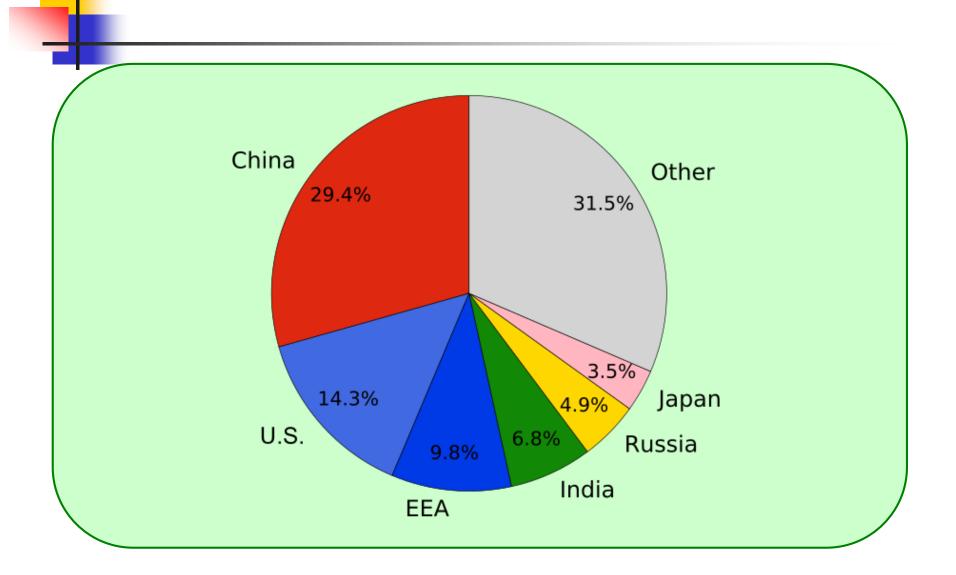
- Aim for greenhouse gases emissions to peak "as soon as possible"
- From 2050: rapid reductions to achieve a balance between emissions from human activity and the amount that can be captured by "sinks"

US exit Paris agreement



Trump (1 June 2017): The United State will withdraw from Paris climate accord.

Global carbon dioxide emission





Cooperative game with transferable utility:

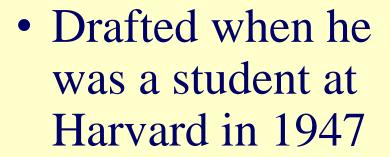
- A player can transfer its utility (payoff) to other players.
- The total payoff of the players is maximized.
- The players decide how to split the maximum total payoff.

Lloyd Stowell Shapley

- Born: 2 June 1923
 Dead: 12 March 2016
- His father Harlow
 Shapley is known for determining the position of the Sun in the Milky Way Galaxy





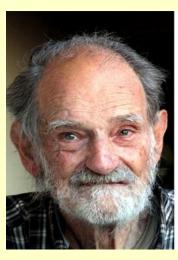




 Served in the Army in Chengdu, China and received the Bronze Star decoration for breaking the Soviet weather code

Nobel Prize in Economic 2012

- A value for *n*-person Games (1953)
- College Admissions and the Stability of Marriage (with Davis Gale 1962)
- Awarded Nobel
 Memorial Prize
 in Economic
 Sciences with
 Alvin Elliot Roth
 in 2012





Shapley

Roth

Nobel Prize in Economic 2012

This year's Prize concerns a central economic problem: how to match different agents as well as possible. For example, students have to be matched with schools, and donors of human organs with patients in need of a transplant. How can such matching be accomplished as efficiently as possible? What methods are beneficial to what groups? The prize rewards two scholars who have answered these questions on a journey from abstract theory on stable allocations to practical design of market institutions.

Nobel Prize in Economic 2012

• I consider myself a mathematician and the award is for economics. I never, never in my life took a course in economics.

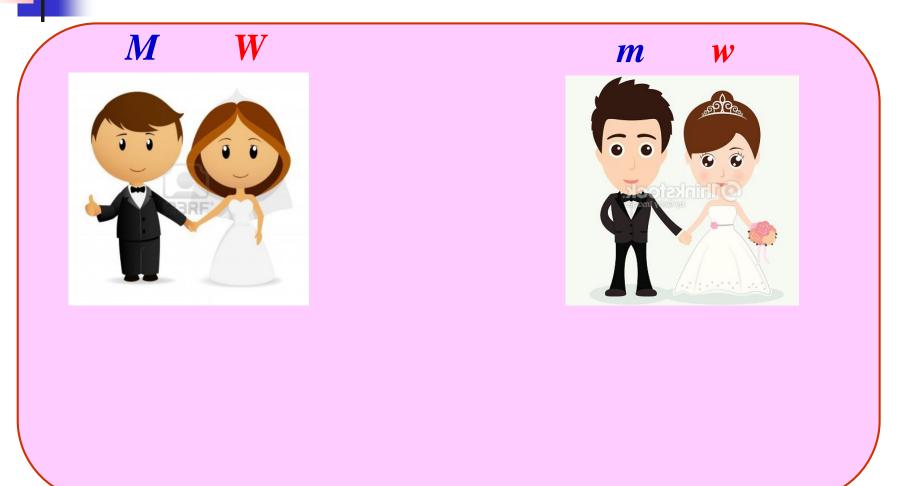


• The paper "College Admissions and the Stability of Marriage" was published after two initial rejections (for being too simple), and fifty years later in 2012 he won the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences for the theory of stable allocation.



A set of marriages is unstable if there are two men M and m who are married to two women W and w, respectively, although W prefers m to M and m prefers W to w. A set of marriages is stable if it is not unstable.

Unstable set of marriages



Unstable set of marriages



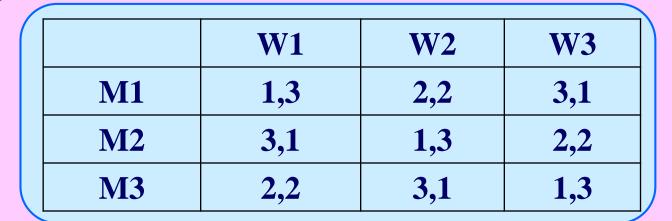
Existence of stable marriage



Shapley's Theorem:

Suppose there are *n* men and *n* women. There always exists a stable set of marriages.

Ranking matrix



- {(M1,W1), (M2,W2), (M3,W3)} is stable. (All men with their first choices.)
- {(M1,W3), (M2,W1), (M3,W2)} is stable. (All women with their first choices.)
- {(M1,W1), (M2,W3), (M3,W2)} is unstable. (Consider (M3,W1).)



	W1	W2	W3	W4
M1	1,2	2,1	3,2	4,1
M2	2,4	1,2	3,1	4,2
M3	2,1	3,3	4,3	1,4
M4	1,3	4,4	3,4	2,3

Alternation of

- Men propose to their favorite women.
- Women reject unfavorable men.

	W1	W2	W3	W4
M1	1,2	2,1	3,2	4,1
M2	2,4	1,2	3,1	4,2
M3	2,1	3,3	4,3	1,4
M4	1,3	4,4	3,4	2,3

Step 1: Men propose to their favorite women. (M1,W1),(M2,W2),(M3,W4),(M4,W1)

	W1	W2	W3	W4
M1	1,2	2,1	3,2	4,1
M2	2,4	1,2	3,1	4,2
M3	2,1	3,3	4,3	1,4
M4	43	4,4	3,4	2,3

Step 2: Women reject unfavorable men. (M1,W1),(M2,W2),(M3,W4),(M4,W1)

	W1	W2	W3	W4
M1	1,2	2,1	3,2	4,1
M2	2,4	1,2	3,1	4,2
M3	2,1	3,3	4,3	1,4
M4	13	4,4	3,4	2,3

Step 3: Men propose to their favorite women. (M1,W1),(M2,W2),(M3,W4),(M4,W4)

	W1	W2	W3	W4
M1	1,2	2,1	3,2	4,1
M2	2,4	1,2	3,1	4,2
M3	2,1	3,3	4,3	1,4
M4	1,3	4,4	3,4	2,3

Step 4: Women reject unfavorable men. (M1,W1),(M2,W2),(M3,W4),(M4,W4)

	W1	W2	W3	W4
M1	1,2	2,1	3,2	4,1
M2	2,4	1,2	3,1	4,2
M3	2,1	3,3	4,3	1,4
M4	13	4,4	3,4	2,3

Step 5: Men propose to their favorite women. (M1,W1),(M2,W2),(M3,W1),(M4,W4)

	W1	W2	W3	W4
M1	1,2	2,1	3,2	4,1
M2	2,4	1,2	3,1	4,2
M3	2,1	3,3	4,3	1,4
M4	133	4,4	3,4	2,3

Step 6: Women reject unfavorable men.

-(M1,W1), (M2,W2), (M3,W1), (M4,W4)

	W1	W2	W3	W4
M1	1,2	2,1	3,2	4,1
M2	2,4	1,2	3,1	4,2
M3	2,1	3,3	4,3	1,4
M4	1,3	4,4	3,4	2,3

Step 7: Men propose to their favorable women. (M1,W2),(M2,W2),(M3,W1),(M4,W4)

	W1	W2	W3	W4
M1	1,2	2,1	3,2	4,1
M2	2,4	1.2	3,1	4,2
M3	2,1	3,3	4,3	1,4
M4	43	4,4	3,4	2,3

Step 8: Women reject unfavorable men.

(M1,W2),(M2,W2),(M3,W1),(M4,W4)

	W1	W2	W3	W4
M1	1,2)	2,1	3,2	4,1
M2	2,4	12	3,1	4,2
M3	2,1	3,3	4,3	1,4
M4	43	4,4	3,4	2,3

Step 9: Men propose to their favorite women. (M1,W2),(M2,W1),(M3,W1),(M4,W4)



Step 10: Women reject unfavorable men. (M1,W2),(M2,W2),(M3,W1),(M4,W4)

	W1	W2	W3	W4
M1	1,2	2,1	3,2	4,1
M2	2,4	12	3,1	4,2
M3	2,1	3,3	4,3	1,4
M4	(F3)	4,4	3,4	2,3

Step 11: Men propose to their favorite women. (M1,W2),(M2,W3),(M3,W1),(M4,W4)



A stable set of marriages is

(M1,W2),(M2,W3),(M3,W1),(M4,W4)

Note: This example has only one stable set.

	W1	W2	W3	W4
M1	3,1	1,3	4,1	2,4
M2	1,4	3,1	2,4	4,1
M3	4,2	1,2	2,3	3,2
M4	3,3	1,4	4,2	2,3

	W1	W2	W3	W4
M1	3,1	1,3	4,1	2,4
M2	1,4	3,1	2,4	4,1
M3	4,2	1,2	2,3	3,2
M4	3,3	1,4	4,2	2,3

	W1	W 2	W3	W4
M1	3,1	13	4,1	2,4
M2	1,4	3,1	2,4	4,1
M3	4,2	1,2	2,3	3,2
M4	3,3	1,4	4,2	2,3











A stable set of stable marriages is (M1,W1),(M2,W3),(M3,W2),(M4,W4)

	W1	W2	W3	W4
M1	3,1	1,3	4,1	2,4
M2	1,4	3,1	2,4	4,1
M3	4,2	1,2	2,3	3,2
M4	3,3	1,4	4,2	2,3

Of course, we may ask the women to propose first.

	W1	W2	W3	W4
M1	3,1	1,3	4,1	2,4
M2	1,4	3,1	2,4	4.1
M3	4,2	1,2	2,3	3,2
M4	3,3	1,4	4,2	2,3

Then the men reject their unfavorable women.

	W1	W2	W3	W4
M1	3,1	1,3	4,1	2,4
M2	1,4	3,1	2,4	
M3	4,2	1,2	2,3	3,2
M4	3,3	1,4	4,2	2,3

We obtain another stable set of marriages (M1,W1),(M2,W2),(M3,W4),(M4,W3)

	W1	W2	W3	W4
M1	3,1	1,3	4,1	2,4
M2	1,4	3,1	2,4	4,1
M3	4,2	1,2	2,3	3,2
M4	3,3	1,4	4,2	2,3

We see that stable set of marriages is not unique (M1,W1),(M2,W2),(M3,W4),(M4,W3) (M1,W1),(M2,W3),(M3,W2),(M4,W4)

Problem of roommates

An even number of boys are divided up into pairs of roommates.

	B 1	B2	В3	B4
B 1		1,2	2,1	3,1
B2	2,1		1,2	3,2
В3	1,2	2,1		3,3
B4	1,3	2,3	3,3	

The boy pairs with B4 will have a better option. Stable set of pairing does not always exist.

Shapley value

The Shapley value of player k is defined as

$$\phi_k = \sum_{S \subset N} \frac{\left(|S|-1\right)! \left(n-|S|\right)!}{n!} \mathcal{S}(k,S)$$

where

$$\delta(k,S) = v(S) - v(S \setminus \{k\})$$



is the contribution of player *k* to coalition *S*.

Shapley's value of player *k* is the average contribution of player *k* to all orders of coalitions.