

TN326 GAME THEORY

- www.math.hcmuns.edu.vn/~nvthuy/TN326.html
- Tài liệu tham khảo
 - [1] Thomas S. Ferguson, *Game Theory*, UCLA, 2005. ([PDF](#))
 - [2] Guillermo Owen, *Game Theory*, Academic Press, 1995.
- Điểm môn học
 - Bài tập: 20%
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 - Thi cuối kỳ: 50%



1. Introduction to Games

- What is game theory ?
- Examples
- Representation of game
- Types of games
- Application of game theory



1.1 What is game theory ?

- Ten of you go to a restaurant
- If each of you pays for your own meal...
 - This is a decision problem
- If you all agree to split the bill...
 - Now, this is a game



1.1 What is game theory ?

- studies decisions made in an environment in which players interact
- studies choice of optimal behavior when costs and benefits of each option depend upon the choices of other individuals
- J. von Neumann and O.Morgenstern (1944) *The Theory of Games and Economic Behavior*, Princeton University Press.
- Nobel Prize:
 - 1994: John Nash,
 - 2005: Thomas Schelling, Robert Aumann



1.1 What is game theory ?

■ Players

- Everyone who has an effect on your earnings

■ Strategies

- Actions available to each player
- Define a plan of action for every contingency

■ Payoffs

- Numbers associated with each outcome
- Reflect the interests of the players



1.1 What is game theory ?

- **Timing of moves**
 - Are moves simultaneous or sequential?
- **Nature of conflict and interaction**
 - Are players' interests in conflict?
 - Will players interact once or repeatedly?
- **Informational conditions**
 - Are some players better informed?
- **Enforceability of agreements**
 - Can contracts be enforced?

1.2 The Prisoner's Dilemma

- If neither confesses then both will be convicted of a minor offense and sentenced to one month in jail.
- If both confess then both will be sentenced to jail for 3 months.
- If one confesses but the other does not, then the confessor will be released but the other will be sentenced to jail for 4 months.

		Prisoner 2	
		cooperate	defect
Prisoner 1	cooperate	3 , 3	0 , 4
	defect	4 , 0	1 , 1

1.2 Matching pennies

- Each of the two players has a penny.
- Two players must **simultaneously** choose whether to show the Head or the Tail.
- Both players know the following rules:
 - If two pennies match (both heads or both tails) then player 2 wins player 1's penny.
 - Otherwise, player 1 wins player 2's penny.

		Player 2	
		Head	Tail
Player 1	Head	-1 , 1	1 , -1
	Tail	1 , -1	-1 , 1

1.2 Games of Chicken



		Firm 2	
		Stay	Swerve
Firm 1	Stay	-50 , -50	100 , 0
	Swerve	0 , 100	50 , 50



1.2 Tourists & Natives

- Only two bars (bar 1, bar 2) in a city
- Can charge price of \$2, \$4, or \$5
- 6000 tourists pick a bar randomly
- 4000 natives select the lowest price bar

- Example 1: Both charge \$2
 - each gets 5,000 customers and \$10,000
- Example 2: Bar 1 charges \$4, Bar 2 charges \$5
 - Bar 1 gets $3000+4000=7,000$ customers and \$28,000
 - Bar 2 gets 3000 customers and \$15,000



1.2 One More Example

- Each of n players selects a number between 0 and 100 simultaneously. Let x_i denote the number selected by player i .
- Let y denote the average of these numbers
- Player i 's payoff = $x_i - 3y/5$



1.3 Representation of game

- Normal form
- Extensive form

Normal-form or strategic-form

- The *normal-form* (or *strategic-form*) representation of a game G specifies:
 - A finite set of players $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$,
 - players' strategy spaces $S_1 S_2 \dots S_n$ and
 - their payoff functions $u_1 u_2 \dots u_n$
where $u_i : S_1 \times S_2 \times \dots \times S_n \rightarrow R$.

Normal-form: 2-player game

- Bi-matrix representation

- 2 players: Player 1 and Player 2
- Each player has a finite number of strategies

- Example:

$$S_1 = \{s_{11}, s_{12}, s_{13}\} \quad S_2 = \{s_{21}, s_{22}\}$$

Player 2

		Player 2	
		s_{21}	s_{22}
Player 1	s_{11}	$u_1(s_{11}, s_{21}), u_2(s_{11}, s_{21})$	$u_1(s_{11}, s_{22}), u_2(s_{11}, s_{22})$
	s_{12}	$u_1(s_{12}, s_{21}), u_2(s_{12}, s_{21})$	$u_1(s_{12}, s_{22}), u_2(s_{12}, s_{22})$
	s_{13}	$u_1(s_{13}, s_{21}), u_2(s_{13}, s_{21})$	$u_1(s_{13}, s_{22}), u_2(s_{13}, s_{22})$

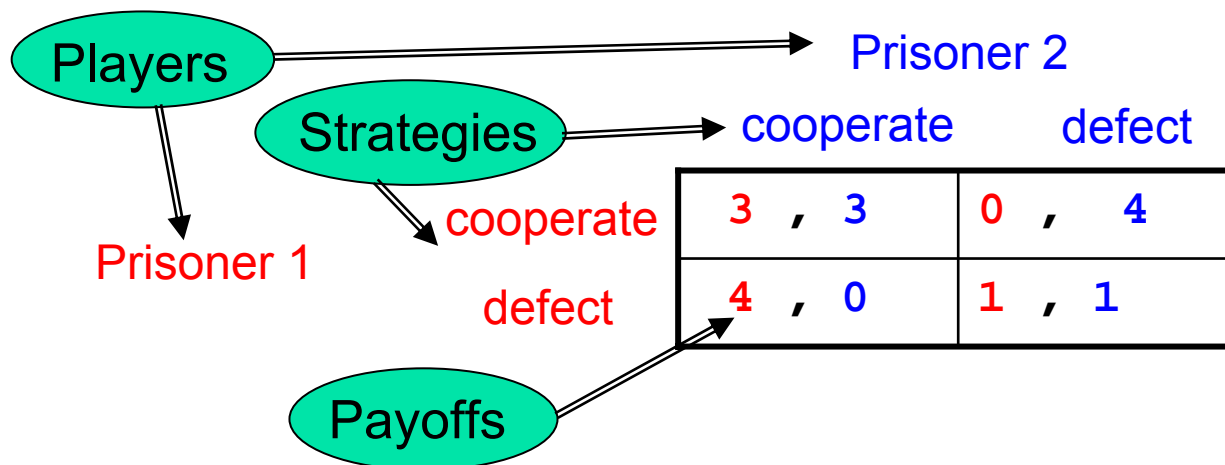
Prisoners' Dilemma in normal-form

- Set of players: {Prisoner 1, Prisoner 2}
- Sets of strategies: $S_1 = S_2 = \{\text{Cooperate, Defect}\}$

- Payoff functions:

$$u_1(\text{C}, \text{C})=3, u_1(\text{C}, \text{D})=0, u_1(\text{D}, \text{C})=4, u_1(\text{D}, \text{D})=1;$$

$$u_2(\text{C}, \text{C})=3, u_2(\text{C}, \text{D})=4, u_2(\text{D}, \text{C})=0, u_2(\text{D}, \text{D})=1$$



Example: Matching pennies

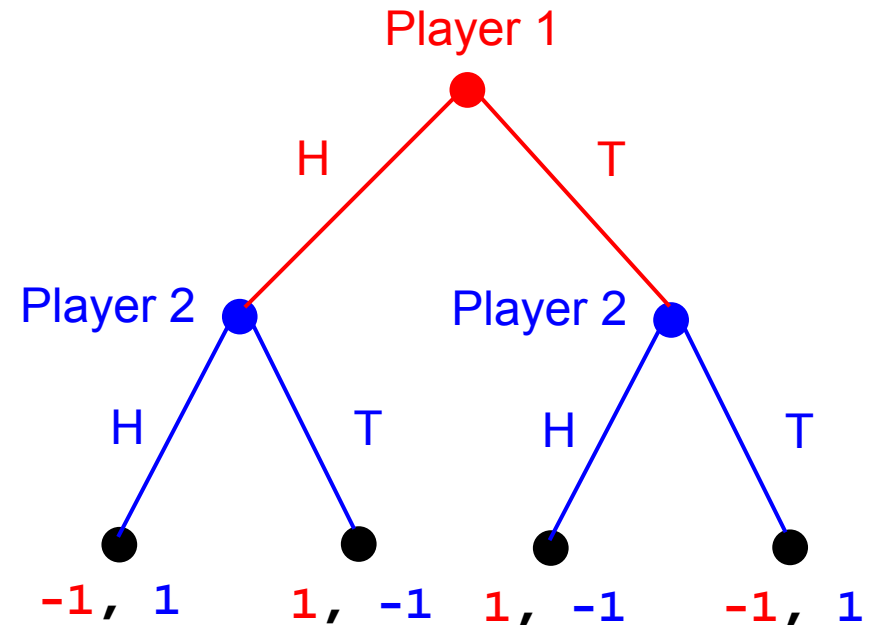
		Player 2	
		Head	Tail
Player 1	Head	-1 , 1	1 , -1
	Tail	1 , -1	-1 , 1

■ Normal (or strategic) form representation:

- Set of players: { **Player 1**, **Player 2** }
- Sets of strategies: $S_1 = S_2 = \{ \underline{H}ead, \underline{T}ail \}$
- Payoff functions:
 $u_1(\underline{H}, \underline{H}) = -1, u_1(\underline{H}, \underline{T}) = 1, u_1(\underline{T}, \underline{H}) = 1, u_1(\underline{T}, \underline{T}) = -1;$
 $u_2(\underline{H}, \underline{H}) = 1, u_2(\underline{H}, \underline{T}) = -1, u_2(\underline{T}, \underline{H}) = -1, u_2(\underline{T}, \underline{T}) = 1$

Extensive form

- Each of the two players has a penny.
- Player 1 first chooses whether to show the Head or the Tail.
- After observing player 1's choice, player 2 chooses to show Head or Tail
- Both players know the following rules:
 - If two pennies match (both heads or both tails) then player 2 wins player 1's penny.
 - Otherwise, player 1 wins player 2's penny.





1.4 Types of games

- Cooperative or noncooperative
- Symmetric and asymmetric
- Zero sum and non-zero sum
- Simultaneous and sequential
- Perfect information and imperfect information
- Infinitely long games



1.5 Application of game theory

- Political science
- Economics and business
- Biology
- Computer science and logic
- Philosophy