

Game Theory

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Exercise set 3

Exercise 1 Consider a duopoly in case of two producers with price function

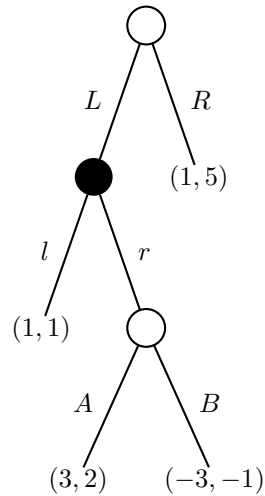
$$p(X) = 200 - \frac{1}{4}X$$

and with cost functions

$$c_1(x_1) = 20x_1, \quad c_2(x_2) = 10x_2.$$

- Determine the profit functions $\pi_1(x_1, x_2)$ and $\pi_2(x_1, x_2)$.
- Determine both reaction functions $R_1(x_2)$ and $R_2(x_1)$.
- Determine the Cournot-equilibrium (i.e. quantities and price).

Exercise 2 Consider the following 2-player extensive form game given by the game tree



- Determine a normalisation of this game.
- Show that there are four Nash equilibria.
- Which Nash equilibrium is “the best”?

Exercise 3 Consider the following game between two (rational and intelligent) players. There is a pillow with 100 matches. They alternately remove 1, 2 or 4 matches from it. (Player 1 begins.) The player who makes the last move wins. What is the value of this game?

Short solutions.

Solution 1 a. $\pi_1(x_1, x_2) = 180x_1 - \frac{1}{4}x_1^2 - \frac{1}{4}x_1x_2$, $\pi_2(x_1, x_2) = 190x_2 - \frac{1}{4}x_2^2 - \frac{1}{4}x_1x_2$.
 b. $R_1(x_2) = 360 - \frac{1}{2}x_2$, $R_2(x_1) = 380 - \frac{1}{2}x_1$.
 c. $x_1 = 680/3$, $x_2 = 800/3$, $p = 230/3$.

Solution 2 a. A normal form is
$$\begin{pmatrix} & l & r \\ LA & 1; 1 & 3; 2 \\ LB & 1; 1 & -3; -1 \\ RA & 1; 5 & 1; 5 \\ RB & 1; 5 & 1; 5 \end{pmatrix}$$
 b. Nash equilibria: (LA, r) , (RA, l) , (RB, l)

and (LB, l) .

c. (LA, r) . Reason: if player 1 has to move for the second time, then he plays A . Player 2 is aware of this, and therefore, if he has to move, plays r . Player 1 is aware of this and therefore plays L as first move.

Solution 3 The losing positions are those with number of matches that when divided by 3 has remainder 0. As 100 divided by 3 has remainder 1, player 1 can win. So the value is +1.