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Differential games

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$[0, T)$ Programming interval $T < +\infty$, $T = +\infty$

N players $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$

$u^i(t) : [0, T) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$u^i \in \mathcal{U}^i(x(t), u^{-i}(t), t) \subset \mathcal{R}^{m_j}$ Player's strategies

Strategies based on the **information** revealed during all times $t \in [0, T)$ when the game takes place.

At any t players have the knowledge of all the previous actions.

Perfect information

Differential game

$\underline{x}(t) : [0, T) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ state function

The system varies according to a differential equation

$$\dot{\underline{x}}(t) = \underline{f}(\underline{x}(t), \underline{u}(t), t)$$

$$\underline{x}(t_0) = \underline{x}^0$$

$$\underline{x}(t) \in X \subset \mathcal{R}^2$$

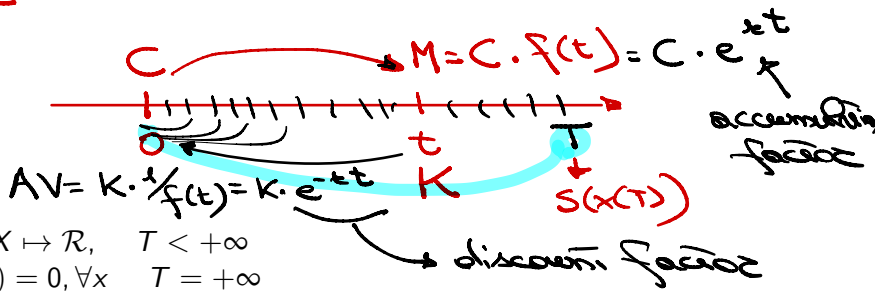
Payoffs

$$J^i(u^i(\cdot)) = \int_0^T e^{-r^i t} F^i(x(t), u^1(t), \dots, u^N(t), t) dt + e^{-r^i T} S^i(x(T))$$

• Scrap Value
 • Salvage

discount factors

C



$$S^i : X \mapsto \mathbb{R}, \quad T < +\infty$$

$$S^i(x) = 0, \quad \forall x \quad T = +\infty$$

Problem for each player i

$$\forall i \in \{1, \dots, N\}$$

(Dockner et al p.86)

$$\max_{J_{\Phi^{-i}}^i(u^i(\cdot))} = \int_0^T e^{-r^i t} F_{\Phi^{-i}}^i(x(t), u^i(t), t) dt + e^{-r^i T} S^i(x(T))$$

$$\text{subject to } \begin{cases} \dot{x}(t) = f_{\Phi^{-i}}^i(x(t), u^i(t), t) \\ x(0) = x^0 \\ u^i(t) \in \mathcal{U}_{\Phi^{-i}}^i(x(t), t) \end{cases}$$

$$i \in \{1, \dots, N\}$$

$$F_{\Phi^{-i}}^i(x, u^i, t) = F^i(x(t), \Phi^1(\cdot), \dots, \Phi^{i-1}(\cdot), u^i, \Phi^{i+1}(\cdot), \dots, \Phi^N(\cdot), t)$$

$$f_{\Phi^{-i}}^i$$

$$\mathcal{U}_{\Phi^{-i}}^i$$

player "i" cannot control x or $J_{\Phi^{-i}}^i$

Different types of strategies Φ_i

A) OPEN-LOOP $\Phi_i = \Phi_i(t)$

B) CLOSED-LOOP WITH MEMORY $\Phi_i = \Phi_i(t, x(\tau), 0 \leq \tau \leq t)$ future depends on the past

C) CLOSED-LOOP WITHOUT MEMORY (no-memory) MARKOVIAN STRATEGY $\Phi_i = \Phi_i(t, x(t)), \forall t$ all payoffs depend on the present

C1) $T = +\infty$: STATIONARY MARKOVIAN (autonomous) $\Phi_i = \Phi_i(x(t))$

Observations

- INFORMATION: Different information is required for the implementation
Markovian strategy is more demanding from the informative point of view
If Information is either Irrelevant or Inaccessible \implies OPEN-LOOP
- COMMITMENT: Players can deviate from the declared strategy \implies MARKOVIAN

consistent strategy

Nash equilibrium for a differential game

The N – tuple

$$(\Phi^1, \Phi^2, \dots, \Phi^i, \dots, \Phi^N)$$

constitutes a Nash equilibrium iff for all players, $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$

$$J^i(\Phi^1, \Phi^2, \dots, \Phi^i, \dots, \Phi^N) \geq J^i(\Phi^1, \Phi^2, \dots, u^i, \dots, \Phi^N) \quad \forall u^i \in \mathcal{U}^i$$

FIXED Φ^{-i} we need to compute the **best response strategy** of player i

$$\max_{J_{\Phi^{-i}}^i(u^i(\cdot))} = \int_0^T e^{-r^i t} F_{\Phi^{-i}}^i(x(t), u^i(t), t) dt + e^{-r^i T} S^i(x(T))$$

$$\text{subject to } \dot{x}(t) = f_{\Phi^{-i}}^i(x(t), u^i(t), t)$$

$$x(0) = x^0$$

$$u^i(t) \in \mathcal{U}_{\Phi^{-i}}^i(x(t), t)$$

$$i \in \{1, \dots, N\}$$

Nash equilibrium for a differential game

Finding a **Nash equilibrium** in a differential game with N players is equivalent to **solve N Optimal Control problems**.

- OPEN-LOOP NASH EQUILIBRIUM (OLNE)
Pontryagin's Maximum Principle (1962) **PMP**

$$(\Phi^1(t), \Phi^2(t), \dots, \Phi^i(t), \dots, \Phi^N(t))$$

- MARKOVIAN NASH EQUILIBRIUM (MNE)
Hamilton Jacobi Bellman ('50s) **HJB**

$$(\Phi^1(t, x(t)), \Phi^2(t, x(t)), \dots, \Phi^i(t, x(t)), \dots, \Phi^N(t, x(t)))$$

OPEN-LOOP NASH EQUILIBRIUM (OLNE)

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Nash equilibrium for a differential game

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OPEN-LOOP NASH EQUILIBRIUM (OLNE)

Definition 4.2 The N -tuple $(\phi^1, \phi^2, \dots, \phi^N)$ of functions $\phi^i : [0, T] \mapsto \mathbb{R}^{m^i}$, $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$, is called an open-loop Nash equilibrium if, for each $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$, an optimal control path $u^i(\cdot)$ of the problem (4.1) exists and is given by the open-loop strategy $u^i(t) = \phi^i(t)$.

OPEN-LOOP NASH EQ. (OLNE)

Pontryagin Maximum Principle (1962)

Hamiltonian function

$$H^i(x, u^i, p, t) = e^{-r^i t} F^i(\cdot) + p \cdot f^i(\cdot)$$

$p(t) : [0, T] \mapsto \mathbb{R}^n$ co-state function (piece wise C^1)

Current Value Hamiltonian

$$H^{iC}(x, u^i, \lambda, t) = F^i(\cdot) + \lambda \cdot f^i(\cdot)$$

$$x(t) = f^i(\cdot)$$

$n = \#$ of state functions

So co-state p is associated to each state

(discount factor is not included in H^C)

Discount

$$H = e^{-\lambda t} F + p f = \underbrace{e^{-\lambda t}}_r \left(F + \underbrace{e^{\lambda t}}_r p f \right) = \underbrace{e^{-\lambda t}}_r H^c$$

argmax $H \approx$ argmax H^c

$$\dot{\lambda} = \lambda e^{\lambda t} p f$$

Differential game Example: OPEN-LOOP NASH EQ.

(Dockner p.87)

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{u \geq 0} J^1(u(\cdot)) &= \int_0^T e^{-rt} \left[v(t) - x(t) - \frac{\alpha}{2} u^2(t) \right] dt \\ \max_{v \in [0,1]} J^2(v(\cdot)) &= \int_0^T e^{-rt} [v(t) - x(t)] dt \\ \text{s.t. } \dot{x}(t) &= 1 + v(t) - u(t)\sqrt{x(t)}, \\ x(0) &= x^0 \end{aligned}$$

Assume $v(t) = \psi(t)$ for P2, find best response strategy for P1

$$H^{C1}(x, u, \lambda, t) = p_0 \left(\psi - x - \frac{\alpha}{2} u^2 \right) + \lambda (1 + \psi - u \sqrt{x})$$

(P₀=1)

Assume $u(t) = \Phi(t)$ for P1, find best response strategy for P2

$$H^{C2}(x, v, \lambda, t) = p_0 (v - x) + \lambda (1 + v - \Phi \sqrt{x})$$

(P₀=1)

Pontryagin's Maximum Principle approach (discount factor) $\rho \geq 0$

maximize $J(\underline{u}) = \int_0^T \underbrace{e^{-\rho t} F_0(\underline{x}(t), \underline{u}(t), t)}_{\text{running} \sim \text{instantaneous}} dt + \underbrace{e^{-\rho T} S(\underline{x}(T))}_{S(\underline{x}(T), \underline{u}(T))}$

subject to $\dot{\underline{x}}(t) = \underline{f}(\underline{x}(t), \underline{u}(t), t)$

$\underline{x}(0) = \underline{x}^0$

$x_i(T) = x_i^1 \quad i = 1, \dots, l$

$x_i(T) \geq x_i^1 \quad i = l+1, \dots, m$

$x_i(T) \in \mathfrak{R} \quad i = m+1, \dots, n$

$\underline{u}(t) \in \Omega$

Terminal Cost!

associated **current value** Hamiltonian function

$$H^C(\underline{x}, \underline{u}, \underline{\lambda}, t) = p_0 F_0(\underline{x}(t), \underline{u}(t), t) + \underline{\lambda} \cdot \underline{f}(\underline{x}(t), \underline{u}(t), t)$$

$$H^C(\underline{x}, \underline{u}, \underline{\lambda}, t) = p_0 F_0(\underline{x}(t), \underline{u}(t), t) + \sum_{i=1}^{i=n} \lambda_i f_i(\underline{x}(t), \underline{u}(t), t)$$

Pontryagin Maximum Principle (discount factor)

Theorem

Let $u^*(t)$ be a piecewise continuous control defined on $[0, T]$ which solves problem (DOC) and let $x^*(t)$ be the associated optimal path. Then \exists $n + 1$ constants $p_0, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n \in \mathbb{R}$ and a continuous and piecewise continuously differentiable function $\lambda(t) = (\lambda_1(t), \dots, \lambda_n(t))$ such that $\forall t \in [0, T]$

- $(p_0, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n) \neq (0, 0, \dots, 0)$
- $u^*(t)$ maximizes $H^C(x^*(t), u, \lambda(t), t)$ for all $u \in \Omega$
- Excepts at the points of discontinuities of $u^*(t)$ co-state equation (ODE)

$$\dot{\lambda}_i(t) = - \frac{\partial H^C(x^*(t), u^*(t), \lambda(t), t)}{\partial x_i} + \rho \lambda_i(t)$$

- $p_0 \in \{0, 1\}$ for $i = 1, \dots, n$
- Transversality conditions (\rightarrow next page)

Theorem

- Transversality conditions

$$\lambda_i(T) = p_0 \frac{\partial S(x^*(T))}{\partial x_i} + \gamma_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

where

$$\gamma_i \in \mathbb{R}, \quad i = 1, \dots, l \quad \text{if } x_i^*(T) = x_i'$$

$$\gamma_i \geq 0, \quad i = l + 1, \dots, m \quad \text{if } x_i^*(T) \geq x_i'$$

complementary
condition KKT

$$\gamma_i (x_i^*(T) - x_i') = 0$$

$$\gamma_i = 0, \quad i = m + 1, \dots, n \quad \text{if } x_i^*(T) \in \mathbb{R}$$

Player 1

$$H^{C1}(x, u, \lambda, t) = 0 - x - \frac{d}{2} u^2 + \lambda(t + \sigma - u\sqrt{x})$$

ii) $u \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow \max_{u \geq 0} H^{C1}$

$$\frac{\partial H^{C1}}{\partial u} = -du - \lambda\sqrt{x} = 0 \Rightarrow \hat{u}(t) = \frac{-\lambda(t)\sqrt{x(t)}}{d}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 H^{C1}}{\partial u^2} = -d < 0$$

H^{C1} concave

 $U = [0, +\infty)$

iii) COSTATE EQ

$$\dot{\lambda}(t) = -\frac{\partial H^{C1}}{\partial x} + \rho\lambda(t) = 1 + \frac{\lambda(t)u}{2\sqrt{x}} + \rho\lambda(t)$$

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \dot{\lambda}(t) &= 1 - \frac{\lambda^2(t)}{2\sqrt{x}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{x}}{d} + \rho\lambda(t) \\ \lambda(T) &= 0 \end{aligned} \right.$$

Riccati eq

$$x(t) \in \mathbb{R} \text{ free } S(x(T)) = 0$$

Player 1

$$H^c(x, u, \lambda, t) = 0 - x - \frac{d}{2} u^2 + \lambda (1 + \delta - u \sqrt{x})$$

$$u^* = \underset{u \geq 0}{\text{argmax}} H^c(x)$$

$$\frac{\partial H^c}{\partial u} = -d u - \lambda \sqrt{x} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 H^c}{\partial u^2} = -d < 0 \quad \text{concave}$$

$$u^*(t) = - \frac{\lambda(t) \sqrt{x(t)}}{d}$$

$$\dot{\lambda}(t) = - \frac{\partial H^c}{\partial x} + \lambda \lambda(t) = 1 + \frac{\lambda(t) u}{2 \sqrt{x}} + \lambda \lambda(t)$$

CO-STATE SYSTEM PDE backward

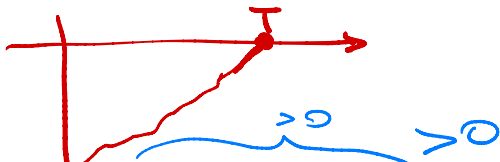
$$\begin{cases} \dot{\lambda}(t) = 1 - \frac{\lambda^2(t) \sqrt{x}}{2 \sqrt{x} d} + \lambda \lambda(t) & \text{Riccati eq} \\ \underline{\lambda(T)} = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} S(x(T)) = 0 \\ x(T) \in \mathbb{R} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \delta = 0$$

Player 1

$$\dot{\lambda}(T) = 1$$

$$\dot{\lambda} > 0$$



$$\exists! \lambda(t) = \frac{e \left(1 - e^{-\sqrt{x^2 + 2/d} (T-t)} \right)}{\left(x - \sqrt{x^2 + 2/d} \right) e^{-c(T-t)} - \left(x + \sqrt{x^2 + 2/d} \right)} \leq 0$$

$< (x - \sqrt{\quad}) < (x + \sqrt{\quad})$

$$\phi(t) = \dot{u}^* = - \frac{\lambda \sqrt{x}}{d} \geq 0$$

best response

$\lambda(t) = 0 \Leftrightarrow t = T$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}(t) = 1 + \psi(t) + \frac{\lambda(t)x(t)}{d} & \text{Linear ODE} \\ x(0) = x_0 \end{cases}$$

$x(t) = \dots$? \rightarrow strategy of P2 ?!

Such a ϕ is only a candidate

Apply ARROW'S sufficiency Theorem

$$(H^{c1})^* = H^{c2}(x, u^*, \lambda, t) = \sigma - x - \frac{d}{2} \left(\frac{-\lambda \sqrt{x}}{d} \right)^2 + \lambda \left(1 + \sigma + \frac{\lambda \sqrt{x}}{d} \sqrt{x} \right)$$

$$= \sigma - x - \frac{\lambda^2 x}{2d} + \lambda + \lambda \sigma + \frac{\lambda^2 x}{d}$$

\Rightarrow linear in x
 \Rightarrow concave in x

$\Rightarrow \phi$ is optimal strategy. \Rightarrow ARROW ✓

Player 2

$u(t) = \phi(t)$ player 1

$H^{c2}(x, \sigma, \mu, t) = \sigma - x + \mu (1 + \sigma - \phi \sqrt{x})$ linear in σ

• argmax $H^{c2} = (1 + \mu) \sigma - x + \mu (1 - \phi \sqrt{x})$
 $\sigma \in [0, 1]$

$\phi^* = \sigma^* = \begin{cases} 0, & \mu < -1 \\ 1, & \mu > -1 \end{cases}$

bang-bang
 top

• $\dot{\mu}(t) = - \frac{\partial H^{c2}}{\partial x} + \mu(t) = 1 + \frac{\mu \phi}{2\sqrt{x}} + \mu(t)$
 $\phi = -\frac{\lambda \sqrt{x}}{a}$
 $= 1 + \mu(t) - \frac{\mu \lambda}{2a}$

• $\mu(\tau) = 0$

Player 2

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\lambda} = 1 + \kappa \lambda - \frac{1}{2a} \lambda^2 & \lambda(\tau) = 0 \\ \dot{\mu} = 1 + \kappa \mu - \frac{1}{2a} \mu^2 & \mu(\tau) = 0 \end{cases}$$

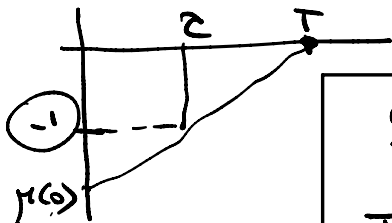
$$\dot{\lambda} - \dot{\mu} = \frac{1}{2a} \lambda (\mu - \lambda) + \kappa (\lambda - \mu)$$

$$y(t) = \lambda - \mu$$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{y}(t) = \frac{\lambda y}{2a} + \kappa y = \left(\frac{\lambda}{2a} + \kappa \right) y \Rightarrow y(t) = 0 \\ y(\tau) = 0 \end{cases}$$

\Downarrow
 $\lambda(t) = \mu(t)$

Player 2



$$\mu(0) < -1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow T > \frac{1}{c} \ln \left(\frac{2 - (z - \sqrt{z^2 + 2/d})}{2 - (z + \sqrt{z^2 + 2/d})} \right) = z$$

$$\mu(0) > -1 \Rightarrow z = 0$$

$$u(t) = \psi(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & t \in [0, z) \\ 1, & t \in [z, T] \end{cases}$$

degenerate
strategies
not depending
on the current
state

Check optimality

$$H^{c2}(x, \sigma^*, \mu, t) = \underbrace{\sigma^*}_{0 \leq \sigma^* \leq 1} x + \mu \left(x + \underbrace{\sigma^*}_{0 \leq \sigma^* \leq 1} - \underbrace{\phi(\sqrt{x})}_{-\frac{\lambda \sqrt{x}}{\alpha}} \right)$$

Linear in $x \Rightarrow$ Arrow's Theorem holds

Open-Loop Nash EQ

$$(\phi^*, \psi^*) \quad \underline{\phi^*(t)} = -\frac{\lambda(t) \sqrt{x(t)}}{\alpha}$$

$$\underline{\psi^*(t)} = \begin{cases} 0 & t \in [0, \tau) \\ 1 & t \in [\tau, T] \end{cases}$$

τ, τ see above

$x^*(t)$ state function

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}(t) = 1 + \sigma^*(t) - a(t)\sqrt{x(t)} \\ x(0) = x_0 \end{cases}$$

$$a^* = -\frac{\lambda\sqrt{x}}{a}$$

In $[0, \tau)$ $\sigma^* = 0 = \psi^*$

$$\dot{x}(t) = 1 + \frac{\lambda}{a}x(t)$$

$$x(t) = e^{\int_0^t \frac{\lambda}{a} ds} \left\{ x_0 + \int_0^t (1 + \psi) e^{-\int_0^s \frac{\lambda}{a} ds} ds \right\}$$



Player 2

$$\text{Im } [\tau, \tau] \quad \sigma^* = 1 = \psi^*$$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}(t) = 2 + \frac{\lambda(t)x(t)}{d} \\ x(\tau) = x_2 \end{cases}$$

$$x(t) = e^{\int_{\tau}^t \frac{\lambda(s)}{d} ds} \left[x_2 + \int_{\tau}^t 2 e^{-\int_{\tau}^s \frac{\lambda(s)}{d} ds} ds \right]$$