

Fast Algorithms for Rank-1 Bimatrix Games

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joint with

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Bimatrix games (A, B)

		2	
		<i>l</i>	<i>r</i>
1			
<i>T</i>		1	-2
	1		0
<i>B</i>		-1	0
	0		1

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		<i>l</i>	<i>r</i>
1	<i>T</i>	1 -2	
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$$A, B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

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pure Nash equilibria (T, l), (B, r)

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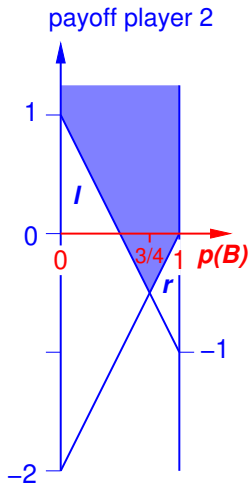
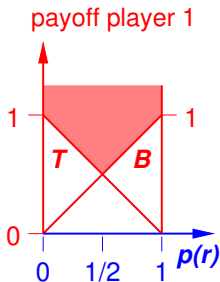
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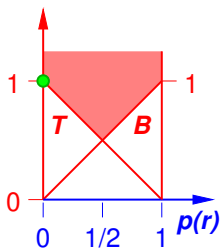
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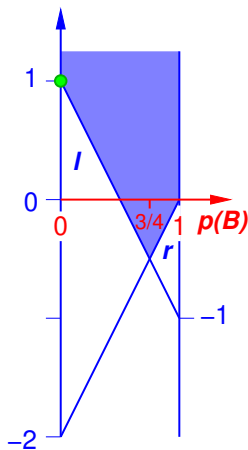
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		<i>l</i>	<i>r</i>
1	<i>T</i>	1, 1	0, -2
	<i>B</i>	0, -1	1, 0

payoff player 1



payoff player 2



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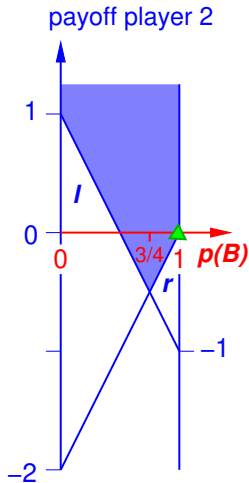
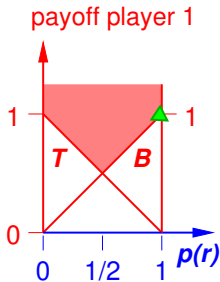
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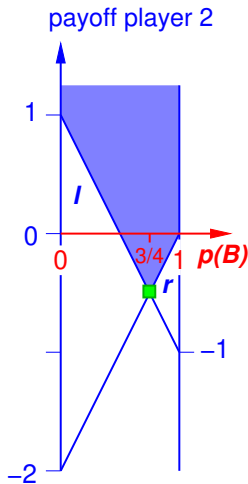
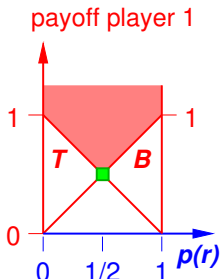
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Solving bimatrix games

The algorithmic problem

- Input: An $m \times n$ bimatrix game (A, B)
- Output: All its Nash equilibria, or just **one** equilibrium

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Approaches and challenges

- small games ($m, n < 30$): enumerate and match vertices of best-response polytopes defined by A and B
- deciding if more than one Nash equilibrium is NP-hard
- finding **one** Nash equilibrium: path-following, class PPAD, PPAD-complete (but may in practice work for $m, n \sim 1000$)

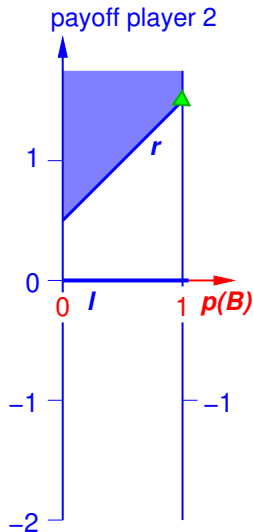
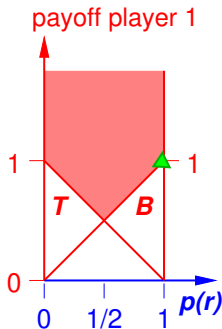
Nash equilibria of games with parameter λ

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 + \lambda \\ 0 & 1 + \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{2} :$$

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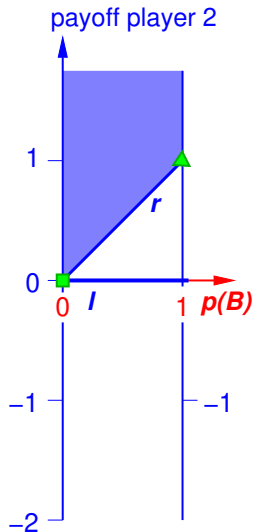
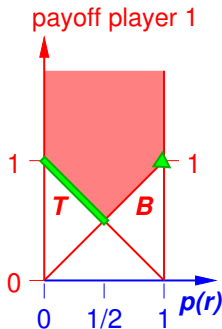
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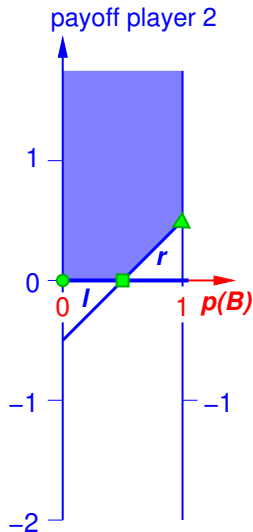
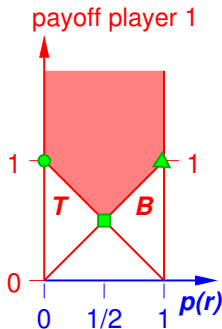
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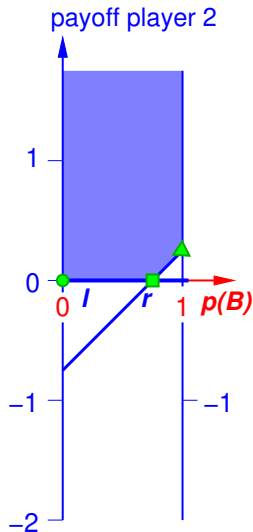
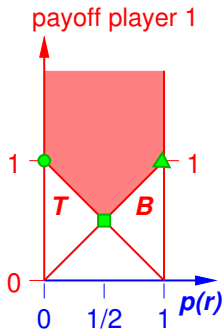
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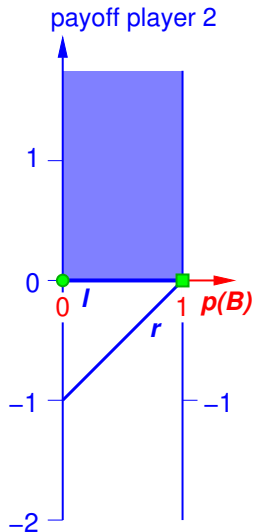
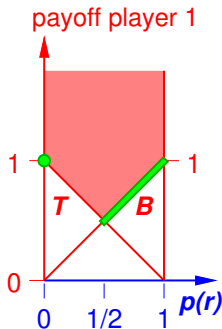
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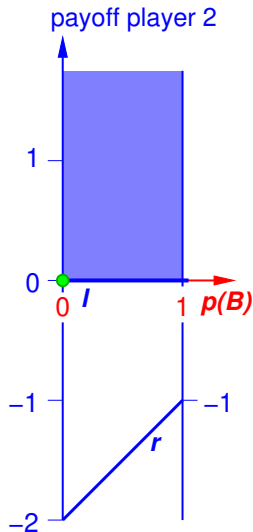
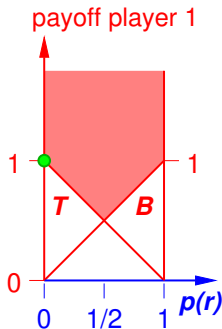
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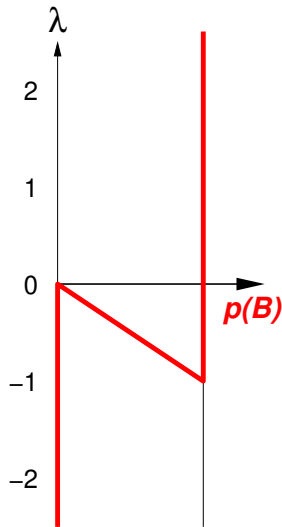
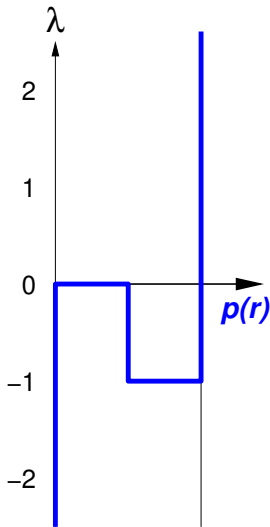
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Path of equilibrium strategies parameterized by λ

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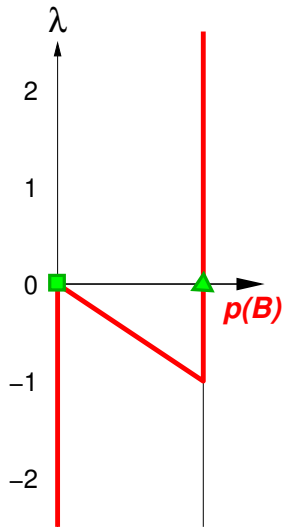
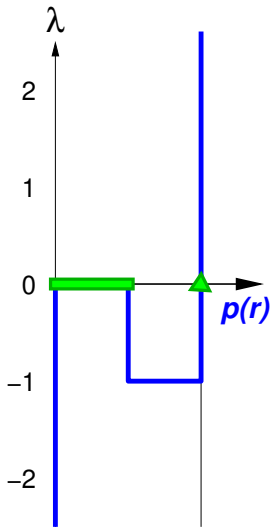
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Global Newton Method [Govindan/Wilson 2003]

- $m \times n$ game (\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}) , $\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^m$, $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\mathbf{1} = (1, 1, \dots, 1)^\top$
- trace equilibria of $(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{c}\lambda\mathbf{1}^\top, \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{1}\lambda\mathbf{b}^\top)$ for $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$, that is, of

$$(\mathbf{A} + \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{c}_1 & \mathbf{c}_1 & \cdots & \mathbf{c}_1 \\ \mathbf{c}_2 & \mathbf{c}_2 & \cdots & \mathbf{c}_2 \\ \vdots & & & \\ \mathbf{c}_m & \mathbf{c}_m & \cdots & \mathbf{c}_m \end{pmatrix} \lambda, \mathbf{B} + \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{b}_1 & \mathbf{b}_2 & \cdots & \mathbf{b}_n \\ \mathbf{b}_1 & \mathbf{b}_2 & \cdots & \mathbf{b}_n \\ \vdots & & & \\ \mathbf{b}_1 & \mathbf{b}_2 & \cdots & \mathbf{b}_n \end{pmatrix} \lambda)$$

- \mathbf{b}_j unique maximum of $\mathbf{b} \Rightarrow$ for large λ the pure strategy j is dominant, with best response to j get Nash equilibrium (NE)
- follow this NE (using *complementary pivoting* = Lemke's algorithm for Linear Complementarity Problems) until $\lambda = 0$

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- = Lemke-Howson algorithm if $(\mathbf{c}, \mathbf{b}) = (0, \dots, 0, 1, 0, \dots, 0)$

Zero-sum games ($A, -A$)

		2	
		<i>l</i>	<i>r</i>
1	<i>T</i>	1 -1 0	0
	<i>B</i>	0 0	-1 1

unique mixed equilibrium $((\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}), (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}))$

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		2									
		<i>l</i>	<i>r</i>								
1	<i>T</i>	<table border="1"><tr><td></td><td>-1</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr></table>		-1	1	0	<table border="1"><tr><td></td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>0</td><td></td></tr></table>		0	0	
		-1									
1	0										
	0										
0											
<i>B</i>	<table border="1"><tr><td></td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>0</td><td></td></tr></table>		0	0		<table border="1"><tr><td></td><td>-1</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td></td></tr></table>		-1	1		
	0										
0											
	-1										
1											

unique mixed equilibrium $((\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}), (\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}))$

in general:

- convex equilibrium set (generically: singleton)
- solution to a linear program (LP)

Rank- k games

rank of game $(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}) = \text{rank}(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B})$

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An exact NE of a rank-1 game can be found in polynomial time.

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An exact NE of a rank-1 game can be found in polynomial time.

$$\text{rank}(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}) = k$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{a}^1 \mathbf{b}^1{}^\top + \dots + \mathbf{a}^k \mathbf{b}^k{}^\top \text{ for } \mathbf{a}^j \in \mathbb{R}^m, \mathbf{b}^j \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

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$\Rightarrow (\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}) = (\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{C} + \mathbf{a} \mathbf{b}^\top)$ where (\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{C}) has rank $k - 1$

game of rank 1: $(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}) = (\mathbf{A}, -\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{a} \mathbf{b}^\top)$

Rank reduction by intersection with hyperplane

The following are equivalent:

$$(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \text{ NE of } (\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{C} + \mathbf{a}\mathbf{b}^\top)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \text{ NE of } (\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{C} + \mathbb{1}\lambda\mathbf{b}^\top) \text{ and } \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{a} = \lambda$$

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Proof

Row payoffs: \mathbf{A} unchanged, \mathbf{x} stays best response to \mathbf{y}

Column payoffs: If $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{a} = \lambda$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}^\top (\mathbf{C} + \mathbf{a}\mathbf{b}^\top) &= \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{C} + \lambda\mathbf{b}^\top = \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{C} + \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbb{1}\lambda\mathbf{b}^\top \\ &= \mathbf{x}^\top (\mathbf{C} + \mathbb{1}\lambda\mathbf{b}^\top) \end{aligned}$$

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$\Leftrightarrow (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ NE of $(\mathbf{A} - \mathbb{1}\lambda\mathbf{b}^\top, \mathbf{C} + \mathbb{1}\lambda\mathbf{b}^\top)$ and $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{a} = \lambda$

... where $(\mathbf{A} - \mathbb{1}\lambda\mathbf{b}^\top, \mathbf{C} + \mathbb{1}\lambda\mathbf{b}^\top)$ has rank $k - 1$!

Example of rank-1 game

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= -A + \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= -A + \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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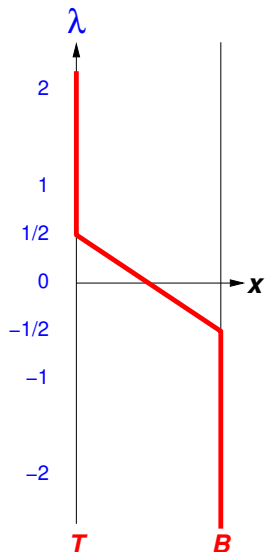
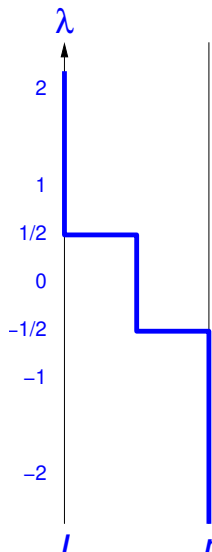
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$$= -A + \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} (1 \quad -1)$$

Now consider

$$= -A + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \lambda (1 \quad -1)$$



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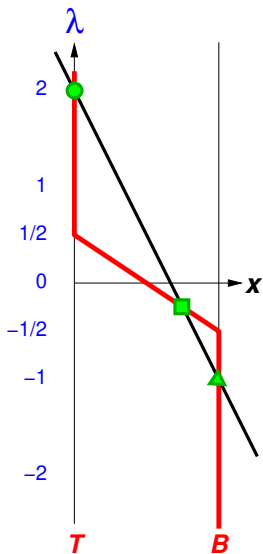
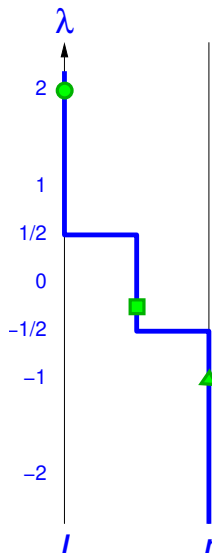
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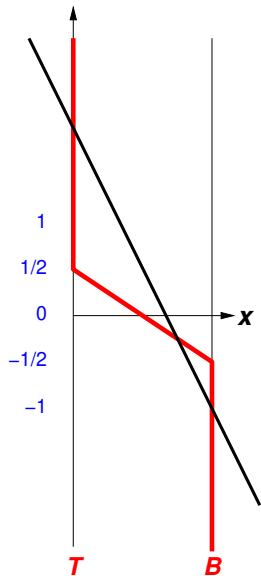
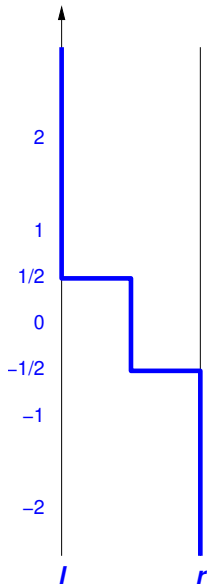
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$$= -A + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \lambda (1 \quad -1)$$

$$\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{a} = \mathbf{x}^\top \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \lambda$$

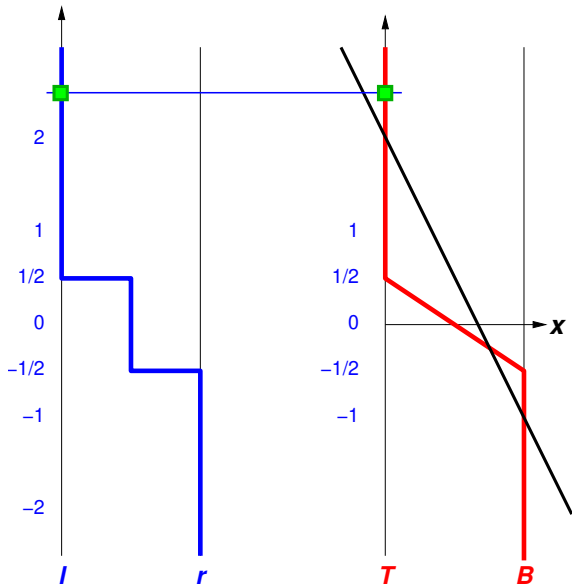


Binary search for λ

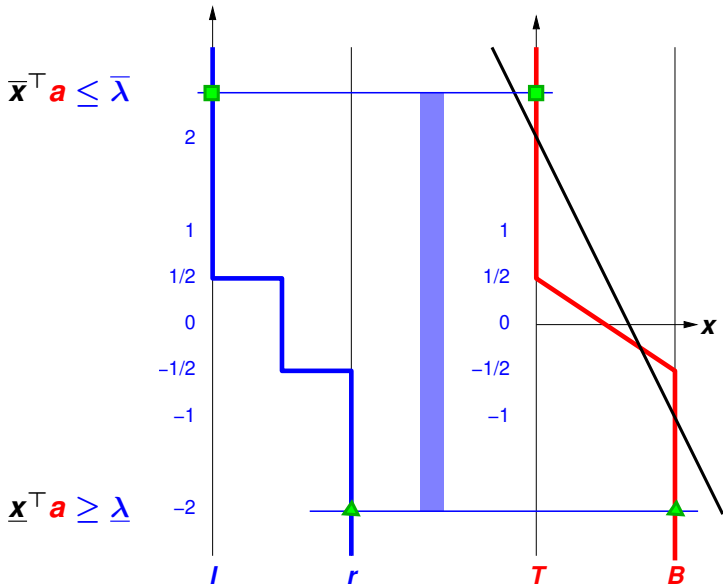


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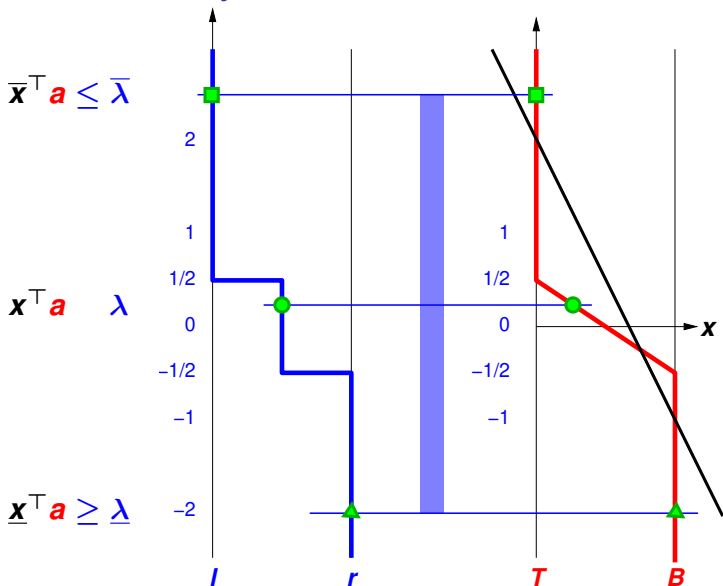
$$\bar{\mathbf{x}}^T \mathbf{a} \leq \bar{\lambda}$$



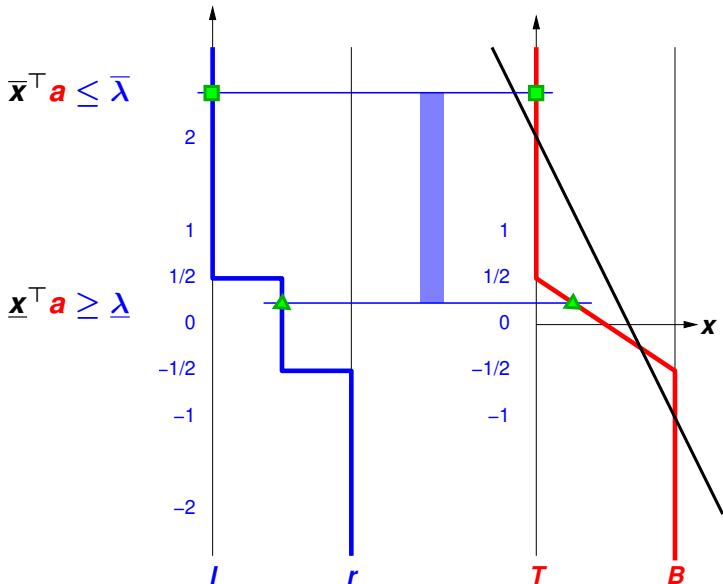
Binary search for λ



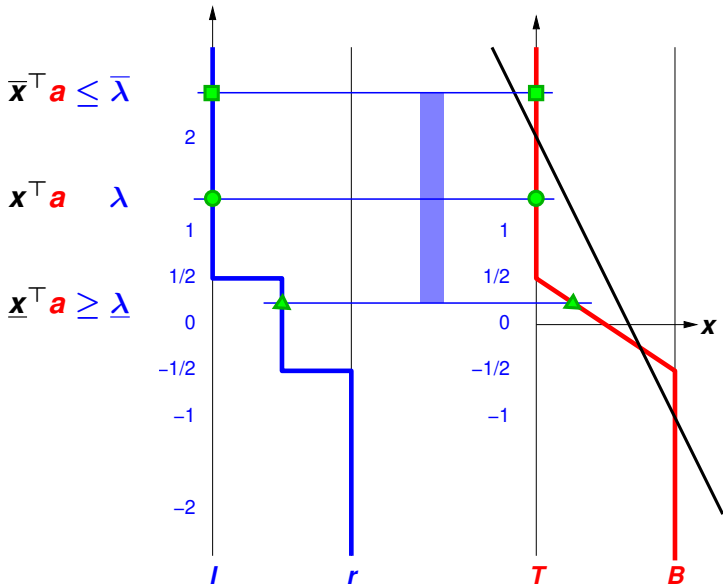
Binary search for λ



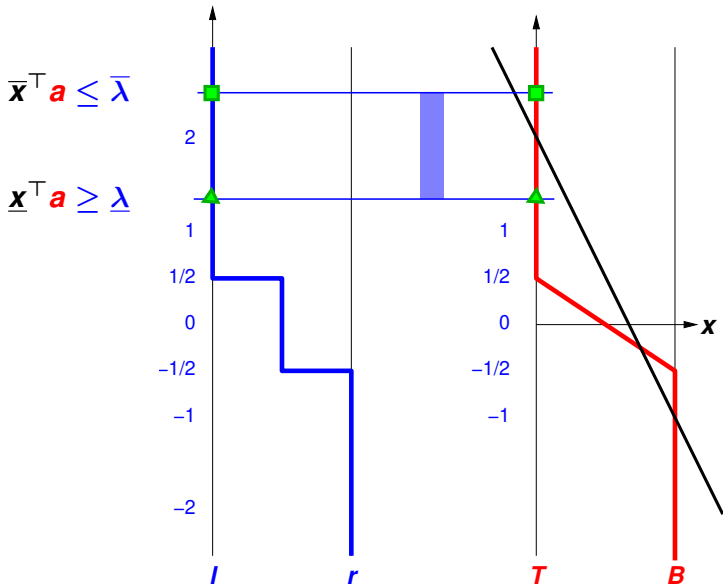
Binary search for λ



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Binary search for λ



Binary search for λ

$$\bar{\mathbf{x}}^\top \mathbf{a} \leq \bar{\lambda}$$

$$\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{a} = \lambda$$

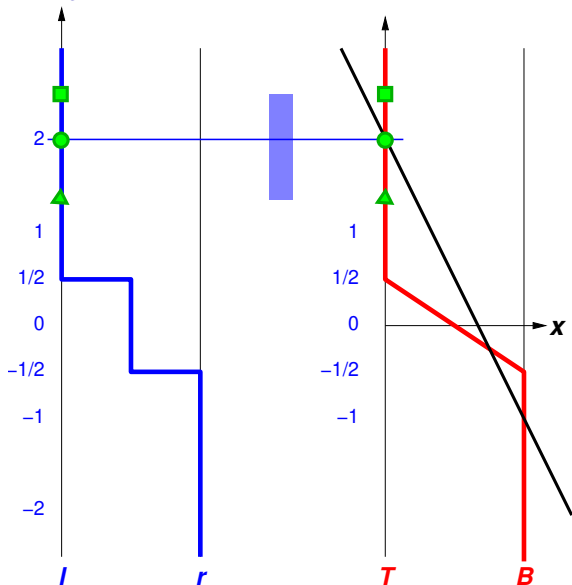
$$\underline{\mathbf{x}}^\top \mathbf{a} \geq \underline{\lambda}$$

$(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, \bar{\mathbf{y}})$ and $(\underline{\mathbf{x}}, \underline{\mathbf{y}})$

on same

path segment:

solve $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{a} = \lambda$



Binary search for λ

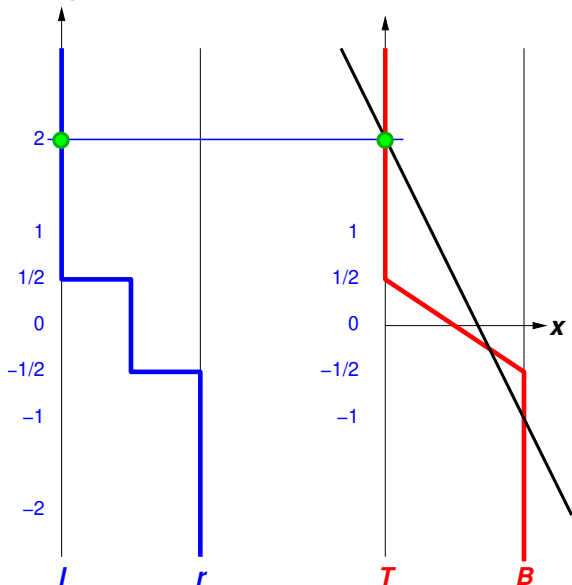
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$(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, \bar{\mathbf{y}})$ and $(\underline{\mathbf{x}}, \underline{\mathbf{y}})$

on same

path segment:

solve $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{a} = \lambda$



Algorithm: binary search for λ

want: λ with NE (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) of $(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{C} + \mathbb{1}\lambda\mathbf{b}^\top)$ and $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{a} = \lambda$

($\Rightarrow \lambda \in \text{conv}\{\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_m\}$)

initialize: $\bar{\lambda} = \max\{\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_m\} + 1$, $\underline{\lambda} = \min\{\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_m\} - 1$

repeat $\lambda \leftarrow (\bar{\lambda} - \underline{\lambda})/2$

$(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \leftarrow \text{NE of } (\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{C} + \mathbb{1}\lambda\mathbf{b}^\top)$

if $\lambda \leq \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{a}$: $(\underline{\lambda}, \underline{\mathbf{x}}, \underline{\mathbf{y}}) \leftarrow (\lambda, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$

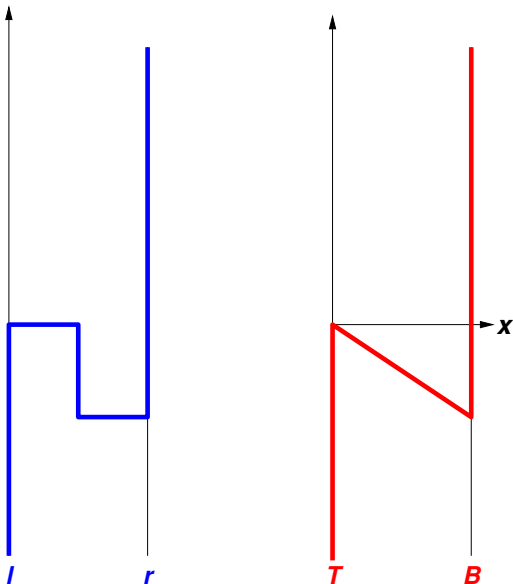
else $(\bar{\lambda}, \bar{\mathbf{x}}, \bar{\mathbf{y}}) \leftarrow (\lambda, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$

invariant: $\underline{\lambda} < \bar{\lambda}$, $\underline{\lambda} \leq \underline{\mathbf{x}}^\top \mathbf{a}$, $\bar{\mathbf{x}}^\top \mathbf{a} \leq \bar{\lambda}$

until $(\underline{\mathbf{x}}, \underline{\mathbf{y}})$ and $(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, \bar{\mathbf{y}})$ are on same path segment

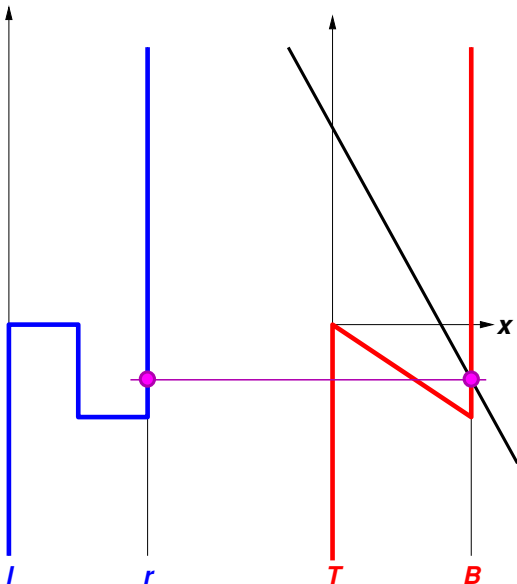
finish: solve for $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{a} = \lambda$ on that segment.

Does this work for $C \neq -A$ (higher rank)?



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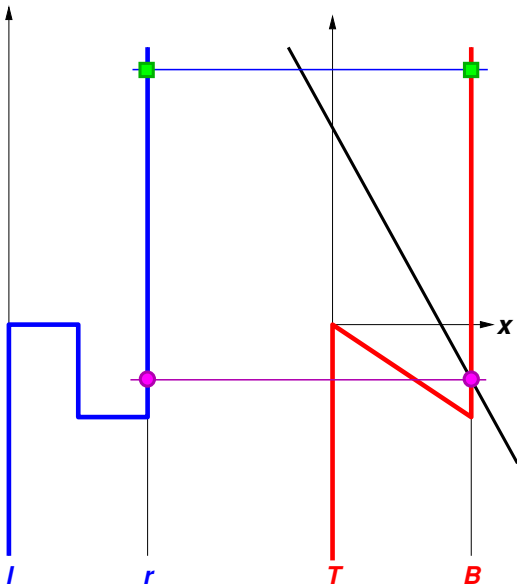
one NE



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$$\bar{x}^T a \leq \bar{\lambda}$$

one NE

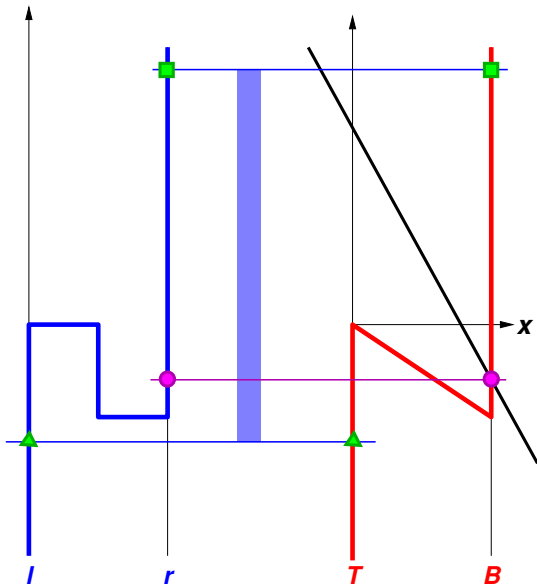


Does this work for $C \neq -A$ (higher rank)?

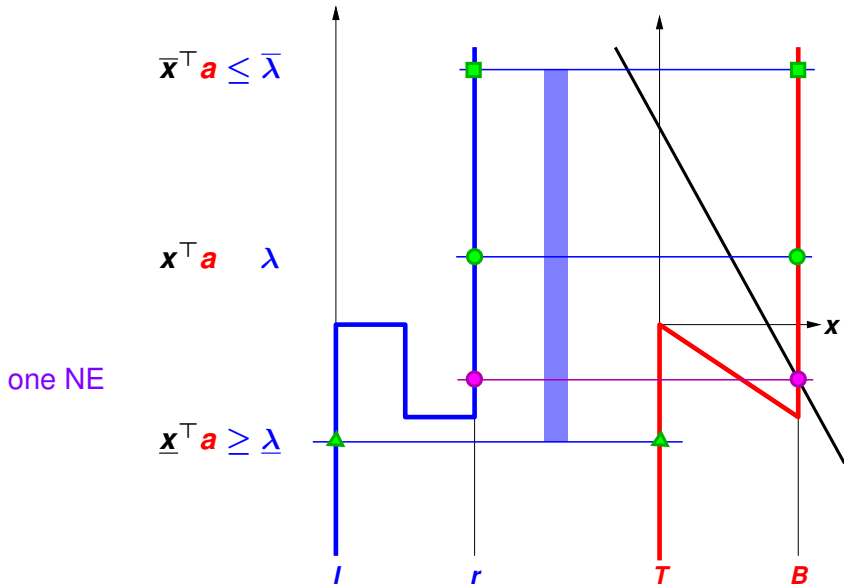
$$\bar{x}^T a \leq \bar{\lambda}$$

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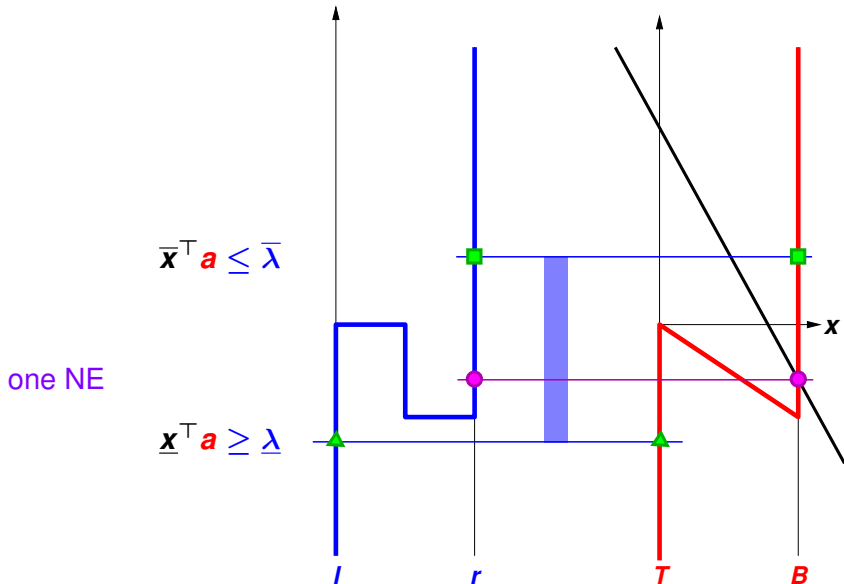
$$\underline{x}^T a \geq \underline{\lambda}$$



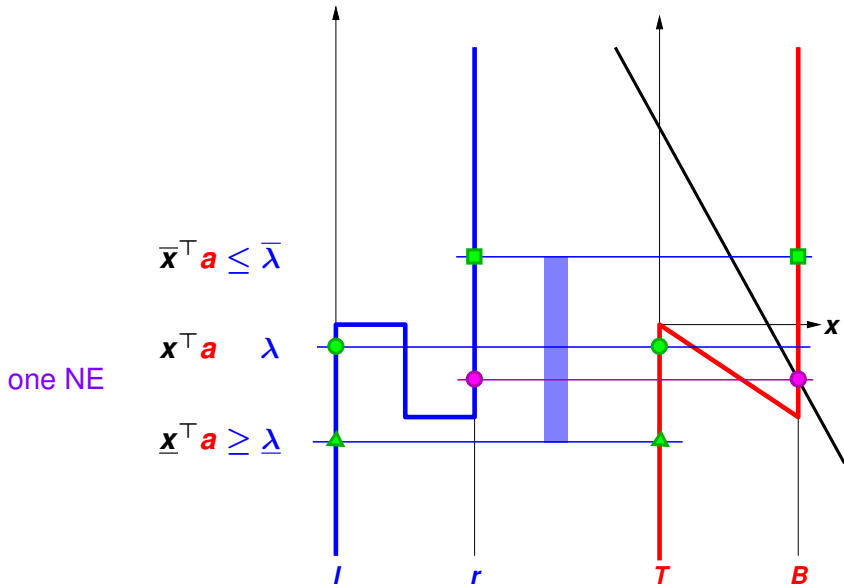
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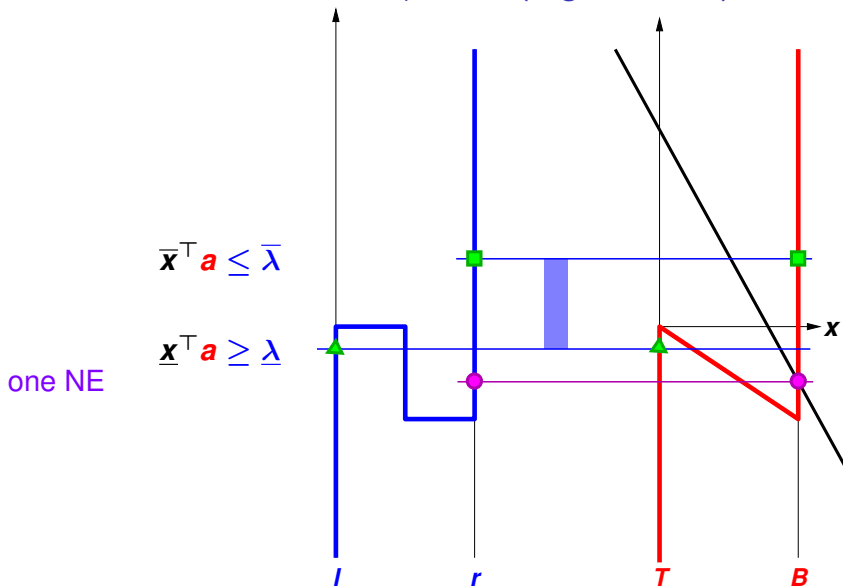
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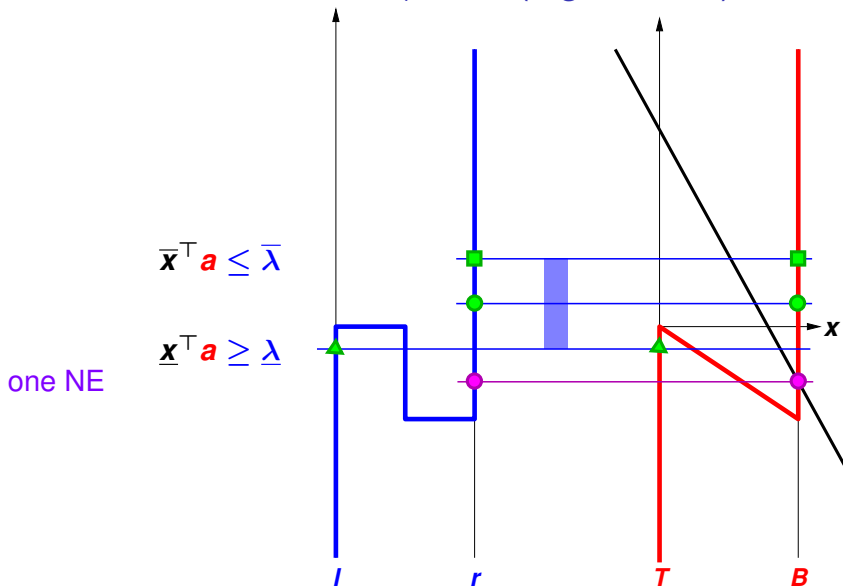
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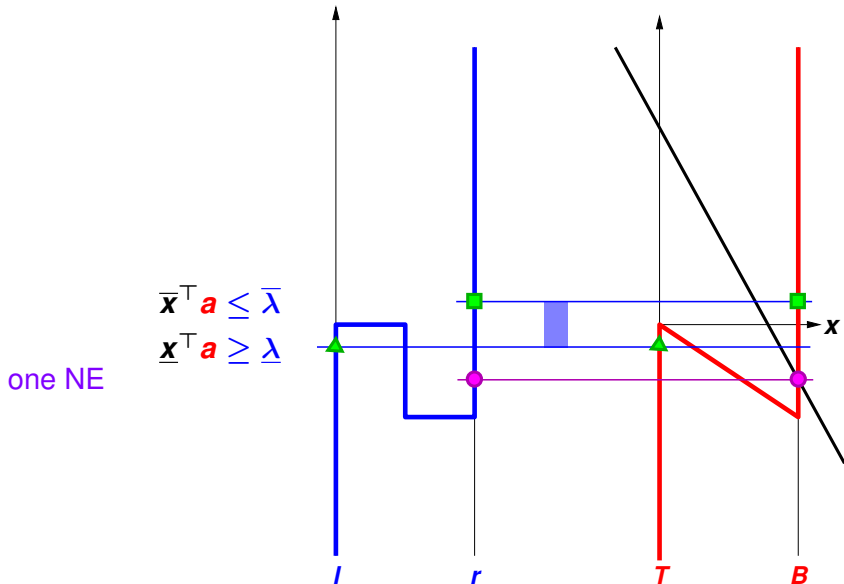
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Problem:

NE of $(A, C + \mathbb{1}\lambda b^\top)$

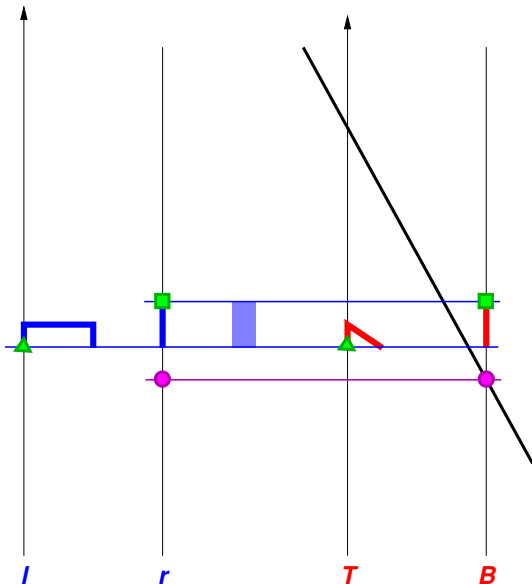
are **disconnected**

because $C \neq -A$

$$\bar{\mathbf{x}}^\top \mathbf{a} \leq \bar{\lambda}$$

$$\underline{\mathbf{x}}^\top \mathbf{a} \geq \underline{\lambda}$$

one NE



Monotone paths

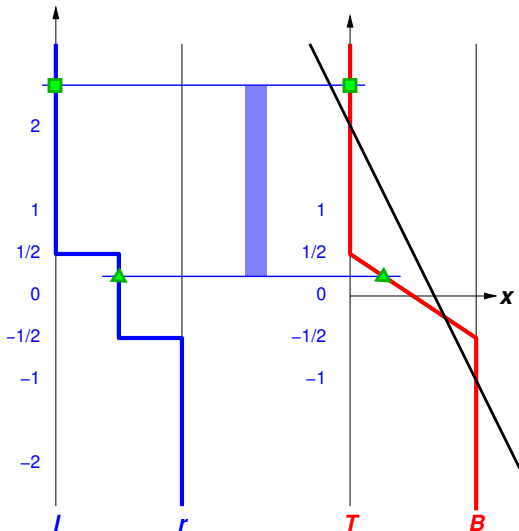
The game

$$(\mathbf{A}, -\mathbf{A} + \mathbb{1}\lambda\mathbf{b}^\top)$$

has the same
convex NE set
as the zero-sum game

$$(\mathbf{A} - \mathbb{1}\lambda\mathbf{b}^\top, -\mathbf{A} + \mathbb{1}\lambda\mathbf{b}^\top)$$

\Rightarrow the λ -path
is monotone



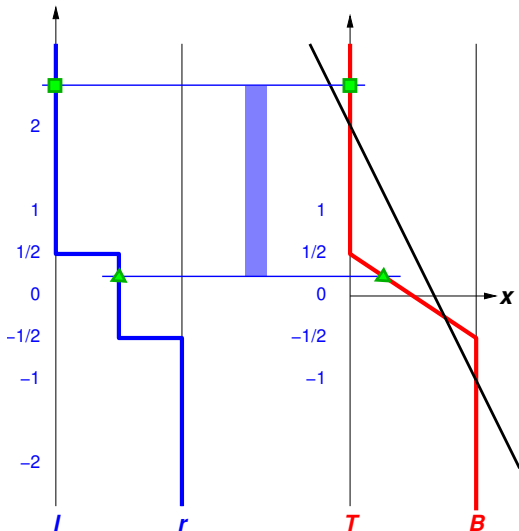
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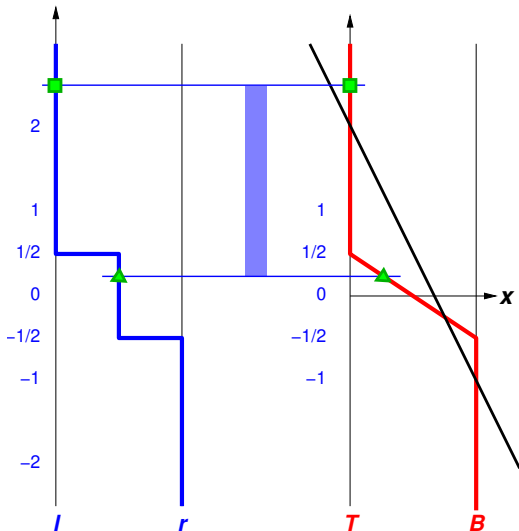
\Rightarrow binary search
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Monotone paths

The game $(A, -A + \mathbb{1}\lambda b^\top)$ has the same convex NE set as the zero-sum game $(A - \mathbb{1}\lambda b^\top, -A + \mathbb{1}\lambda b^\top)$

- \Rightarrow the λ -path is monotone
- \Rightarrow binary search works for rank 1 in polynomial time



It would have been too good to be true

- ... if binary search to find one NE of a rank- k game worked (recursively) with the general rank reduction.

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Theorem [Mehta, *STOC* 2014]

Rank-3 bimatrix games are PPAD-hard.

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Theorem [Mehta, *STOC* 2014]

Rank-**3** bimatrix games are PPAD-hard.

Announcement [Chen, Orfanou, Paparas, Yannakakis 2016]

Rank-**2** bimatrix games are PPAD-hard.

Rank-1 game

(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) NE of $(\mathbf{A}, -\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{a}\mathbf{b}^\top)$

$\Leftrightarrow (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ NE of $(\mathbf{A}, -\mathbf{A} + \mathbb{1}\lambda\mathbf{b}^\top)$ and $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{a} = \lambda$

$\Leftrightarrow (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ NE of $(\mathbf{A} - \mathbb{1}\lambda\mathbf{b}^\top, -\mathbf{A} + \mathbb{1}\lambda\mathbf{b}^\top)$ and $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{a} = \lambda$

parameterized zero-sum game,

parameterized LP

LP for zero-sum game

NE (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) of zero-sum game $(\mathbf{A}, -\mathbf{A})$

\Leftrightarrow \mathbf{y} minmax strategy of column player

\Leftrightarrow \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{u} solve LP

minimize \mathbf{u} subject to $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{y} \leq \mathbf{1}\mathbf{u}$

$$\mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{1}$$

$$\mathbf{y} \geq \mathbf{0}$$

dual solution \mathbf{x} : maxmin strategy of row player

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write LP as

minimize \mathbf{u} subject to $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{y} \leq \mathbf{1}\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}$

LP for parameterized zero-sum game

NE (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) of zero-sum game $(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{1}\lambda\mathbf{b}^\top, -\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{1}\lambda\mathbf{b}^\top)$

$\Leftrightarrow \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{u}$ solve LP

minimize \mathbf{u} subject to $(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{1}\lambda\mathbf{b}^\top)\mathbf{y} \leq \mathbf{1}\mathbf{u}, \quad \mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}$

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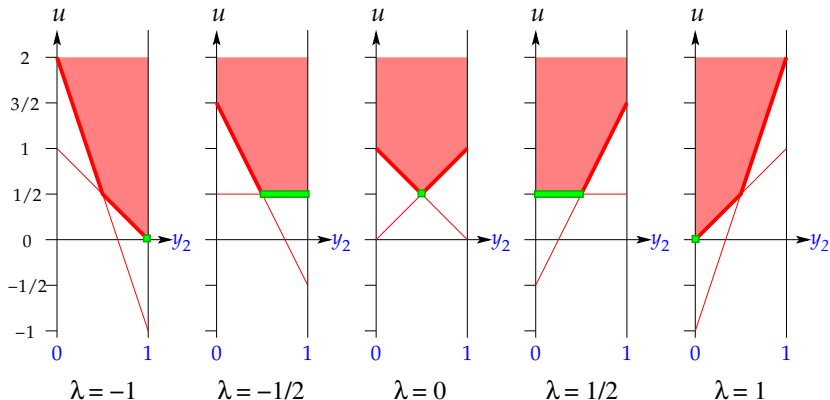
$\Leftrightarrow \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{t}$ solve LP

minimize $\mathbf{t} - \lambda\mathbf{b}^\top\mathbf{y}$ ($= \mathbf{u}$)

subject to $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{y} \leq \mathbb{1}\mathbf{t}, \quad \mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}$

Parameterized matrix (column bonuses)

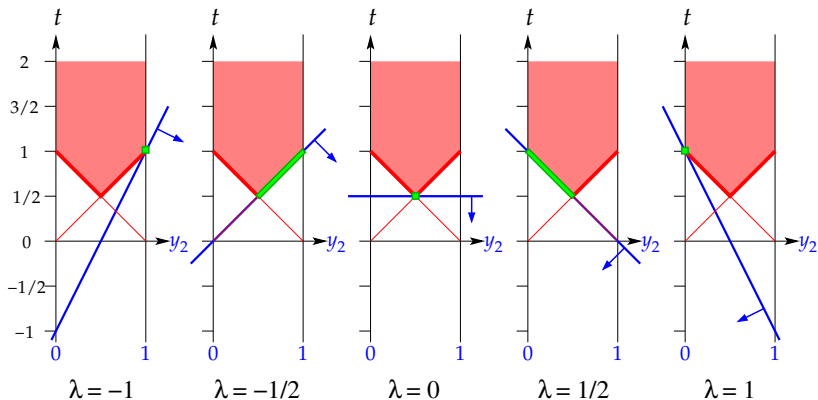
minimize \mathbf{u} subject to $(\mathbf{A} - \mathbb{1}\lambda\mathbf{b}^\top)\mathbf{y} \leq \mathbb{1}\mathbf{u}$, $\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{Y}$



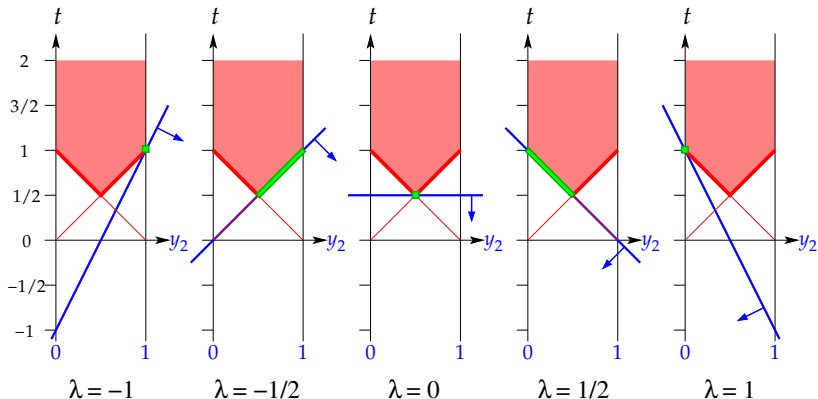
Equivalent: Parameterized objective function

minimize $t - \lambda \mathbf{b}^\top \mathbf{y}$ ($= \mathbf{u}$)

subject to $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{y} \leq \mathbf{1}t$, $\mathbf{y} \in Y$



“Wrap-around” hyperplane defines the path



Hyperplane with normal vector $\mathbf{t} - \lambda \mathbf{b}^\top$ “wrapping around” upper-envelope polyhedron defines path-connected set

Algorithm 1: Binary search to find one NE

Input: Rank-1 game $(\mathbf{A}, -\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{a}\mathbf{b}^\top)$. Consider

$$\text{minimize } t - \lambda \mathbf{b}^\top \mathbf{y}$$

$$\text{subject to } \mathbf{A}\mathbf{y} \leq \mathbb{1}t, \quad \mathbf{y} \in Y$$

Parameterized by λ , the path (generically), or sequence of faces (general case) on the polyhedron $\{(\mathbf{y}, t) \mid \mathbf{A}\mathbf{y} \leq \mathbb{1}t\}$ defines strategies \mathbf{y} for the zero-sum game with row payoffs $\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbb{1}\mathbf{b}^\top$, and dual solutions \mathbf{x} .

Want intersection with hyperplane $\{(\mathbf{x}, \lambda) \mid \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{a} = \lambda\}$.

- binary search on λ via conditions $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{a} \leq \lambda$ or $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{a} \geq \lambda$ finds $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{a} = \lambda$ in polynomial time, and thus one NE (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) .

Algorithm 2: Enumeration of all NE

- Following the path by pivoting on the parameterized LP with alternate constraints $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{a} \leq \lambda$ or $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{a} \geq \lambda$ finds all NE.
(Non-generically: get faces rather than edges.)

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(Non-generically: get faces rather than edges.)

⇒ For rank-1 games, **path-following** gives **all** NE rather than just one NE.

Number of NE of a rank-1 game

One NE of a rank-1 game can be found in polynomial time.

Are these games “less complex”?

Do they have fewer NE (e.g., polynomially many – asked by [Kannan & Theobald]) than general bimatrix games?

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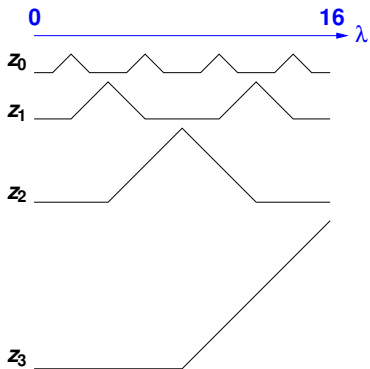
How many times can the path of solutions to a parameterized LP intersect a hyperplane?

Answer: Exponentially often!

Parameterized LP [Murty 1980]

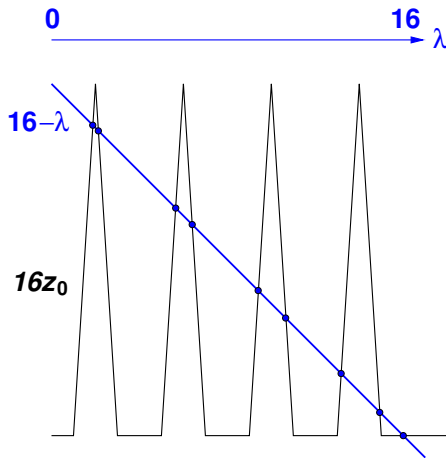
z_3	z_2	z_1	z_0	\geq	$0, 0, 0, 0$
1	0	0	0	\geq	$-8 + \lambda$
2	1	0	0	\geq	$-4 + \lambda$
2	2	1	0	\geq	$-2 + \lambda$
2	2	2	1	\geq	$-1 + \lambda$
64	16	4	1	\rightarrow	minimize

optimal z :



Game with $2^{n-1} + 1$ equilibria

Hyperplane using only \mathbf{z}_0 with $\mathbf{a}^\top = (0, 0, 0, 16)$



Inspired by Murty

$n \times n$ rank-1 games with $2^n - 1$ many NE :

Let $p > 2$.

$$A = B^T = \begin{pmatrix} p^0 & 2p^1 & 2p^2 & \dots & 2p^{0+j} & \dots \\ 0 & p^2 & 2p^3 & \dots & 2p^{1+j} & \dots \\ \vdots & & \ddots & & & \\ 0 & 0 & p^{2i} & \dots & 2p^{i+j} & \dots \\ \vdots & & & \ddots & & \\ \vdots & & & & \ddots & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & p^{2n} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A + B = a2b^T, a^T = b^T = (p^0, p^1, \dots, p^{n-1})$$

Any set of columns (same set for rows) as NE support

Example $n = 3, p = 3$

fully mixed NE

1	6	18
0	9	54
0	0	81

Any set of columns (same set for rows) as NE support

Example $n = 3, p = 3$

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1

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81

Any set of columns (same set for rows) as NE support

Example $n = 3, p = 3$

fully mixed NE

	3	1	
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0	9	54	81
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Example $n = 3, p = 3$

fully mixed NE

45	3	1	
1	6	18	81
0	9	54	81
0	0	81	81

Any set of columns (same set for rows) as NE support

Example $n = 3, p = 3$

fully mixed NE

45 **3** **1** **/49**

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45 **3** **1** **/49**

1	6	18	81/49
0	9	54	81/49
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support = last row/column

1

1	6	18	
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0 **1**

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Example $n = 3, p = 3$

fully mixed NE

45 **3** **1** **/49**

1	6	18	81/49
0	9	54	81/49
0	0	81	81/49

support = first & last row/column

63 **0** **1**

1	6	18	81
0	9	54	54
0	0	81	81

Any set of columns (same set for rows) as NE support

Example $n = 3$, $p = 3$

fully mixed NE

45 **3** **1** /**49**

1	6	18	81/49
0	9	54	81/49
0	0	81	81/49

support = first & last row/column

63 **0** **1** /**64**

1	6	18	81/64
0	9	54	54/64
0	0	81	81/64

Output efficiency

Given: game of rank **1**. It may have exponentially many equilibria.

Can all NE be computed in **polynomial time** in the size of input and **output**?

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Conjecture

Deciding if a rank-**1** game has more than one NE is NP-complete.

PPAD- versus NP-hardness

PPAD-hardness of NE **seems independent** of co-NP-hardness of uniqueness

rank **0**: zero-sum games, convex equilibrium set

rank **1**: one NE in polynomial time, exponentially many NE,
conjecture: uniqueness co-NP-hard

rank \geq **2**: PPAD-hard (**proved for \geq 3**)

rank **k**: ϵ -approximate NE in time polynomial in input size and
 $k^{2k} / \sqrt{\epsilon}$

Further open problems

- Rank-1 games can be solved **really fast**.
- Can they be used in **applications** of **really large** games?
- **Economic interpretation** of rank 1 payoffs?

E.g. discretized Cournot games:
players choose quantities x , y , get payoffs

$$x \cdot (1 - x - y), \quad y \cdot (1 - x - y)$$

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E.g. discretized Cournot games:
players choose quantities x, y , get payoffs

$$x \cdot (1 - x - y), \quad y \cdot (1 - x - y),$$

same best responses as rank-1 game

$$x - x^2 - xy \boxed{-y + y^2}, \quad y - xy - y^2 \boxed{-x + x^2}$$

(but no algorithm needed here).

Suggested example of a rank-1 game

[References / comments very welcome]

row player 1 = seller with quality levels $i = 1, \dots, m$

column player 2 = buyer with quantities bought $j = 1, \dots, n$

price p_{ij} (paid by buyer to seller), quality level a_i , quantity b_j

payoff to player 1: $p_{ij} - \alpha a_i b_j$ (+ γ_j)

payoff to player 2: $-p_{ij} + \beta a_i b_j$ (+ δ_i)

γ_j and δ_i irrelevant for best responses and Nash equilibria, omit.

\Rightarrow **payoff sum** $(-\alpha + \beta) a_i b_j$ has rank 1.

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- But: how to interpret mixed Nash equilibria?

The Kohlberg-Mertens structure theorem (2 players)

Theorem The NE correspondence for $m \times n$ games is homeomorphic to the space of $m \times n$ games.

$((A, B), \text{NE}(x, y))$



(C, D)

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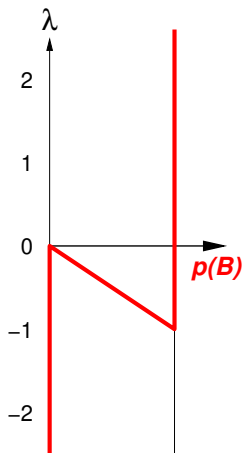
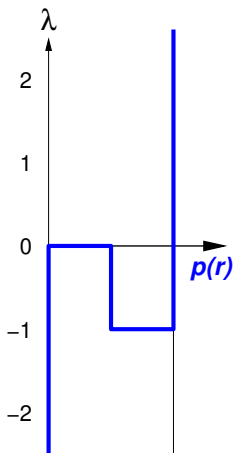


$$(C, D)$$

A “slice” of the NE correspondence:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 + \lambda \\ 0 & 1 + \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$



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$$\left((A, B), \text{NE}(x, y) \right)$$

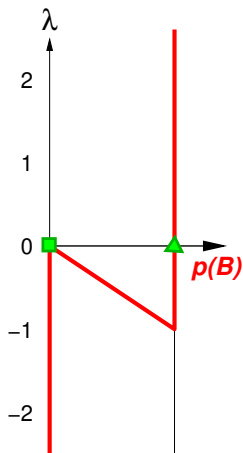
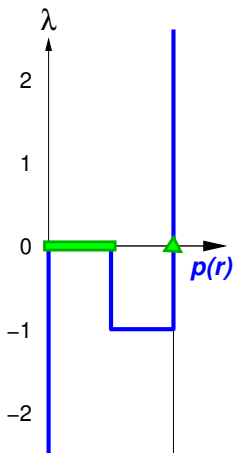


$$(C, D)$$

A “slice” of the NE correspondence:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 + \lambda \\ 0 & 1 + \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$



Main trick: parameterize game with $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^m$, $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{a}\mathbf{1}^\top + \tilde{\mathbf{A}} \quad (\tilde{\mathbf{A}}\mathbf{1} = \mathbf{0})$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 8 \\ 4 & 6 \\ 6 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 4 \\ 5 & 5 \\ 3 & 3 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -4 & 4 \\ -1 & 1 \\ 3 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{B} &= \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 \\ -15 & -18 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} -4 & -6 \\ -4 & -6 \\ -4 & -6 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 8 & 6 \\ 3 & 6 \\ -11 & -12 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

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$(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}), \text{NE}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \leftrightarrow (\mathbf{C}, \mathbf{D})$
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$$\mathbf{C} = (\mathbf{A}\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{x})\mathbf{1}^\top + \tilde{\mathbf{A}}$$

$$\mathbf{D} = \mathbf{1}(\mathbf{x}^\top\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{y}^\top) + \tilde{\mathbf{B}}$$

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$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 8 \\ 4 & 6 \\ 6 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{y}^\top = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{3}{4} & \frac{1}{4} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 \\ -15 & -18 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{3}{4} \\ \frac{1}{4} \end{pmatrix}$$

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$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{x} =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4.5 \\ 4.5 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{3}{4} \\ \frac{1}{4} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 5.25 \\ 4.75 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{D} = \mathbf{1}(\mathbf{x}^\top\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{y}^\top) + \tilde{\mathbf{B}}$$

$$\mathbf{x}^\top\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{y}^\top$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{18}{4}, -\frac{18}{4} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{4} \end{pmatrix}$$

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$$= \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{18}{4}, -\frac{18}{4} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{4} \end{pmatrix}$$

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The KM homeomorphism does not preserve $A + B$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 8 \\ 4 & 6 \\ 6 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 \\ -15 & -18 \end{pmatrix}, \quad A + B = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 8 \\ 3 & 6 \\ -9 & -18 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$A + B \neq C + D.$$

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Theorem

There is a homeomorphism

$$(A, B), \text{ NE } (x, y) \Leftrightarrow (C, D)$$

so that always $A + B = C + D$.

Parameterize **only** A with $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ and $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$

Parameterize **only** \mathbf{A} with $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ and $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{1}\gamma\mathbf{1}^\top + \mathbf{a}\mathbf{1}^\top + \mathbf{1}\mathbf{b}^\top + \hat{\mathbf{A}}$$

$$\left(\mathbf{1}^\top \mathbf{a} = \mathbf{0}, \quad \mathbf{b}^\top \mathbf{1} = \mathbf{0}, \quad \hat{\mathbf{A}}\mathbf{1} = \mathbf{0}, \quad \mathbf{1}^\top \hat{\mathbf{A}} = \mathbf{0}^\top \right)$$

Parameterize **only** \mathbf{A} with $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ and $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$

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$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 8 \\ 4 & 6 \\ 6 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 4 \\ 4 & 4 \\ 4 & 4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -4 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 \\ 2 & -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

Parameterize **only** \mathbf{A} with $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ and $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$

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$$= \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 4 \\ 4 & 4 \\ 4 & 4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -4 & 4 \\ -1 & 1 \\ 3 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Parameterize **only** \mathbf{A} with $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ and $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$

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$$= \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 4 \\ 4 & 4 \\ 4 & 4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -2/3 & 2/3 \\ -2/3 & 2/3 \\ -2/3 & 2/3 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -10/3 & 10/3 \\ -1/3 & 1/3 \\ 11/3 & -11/3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Parameterize **only** \mathbf{A} with $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ and $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$

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$$= \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 4 \\ 4 & 4 \\ 4 & 4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -2/3 & 2/3 \\ -2/3 & 2/3 \\ -2/3 & 2/3 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -10/3 & 10/3 \\ -1/3 & 1/3 \\ 11/3 & -11/3 \end{pmatrix}$$

new homeomorphism

$$(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}), \text{NE } (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \Leftrightarrow (\mathbf{C}, \mathbf{D})$$

$$\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{1}\gamma\mathbf{1}^\top + \rho(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{x})\mathbf{1}^\top + \mathbf{1}\sigma(\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{y}^\top) + \hat{\mathbf{A}}$$

$$\mathbf{D} = (\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}) - \mathbf{C}$$

Thank you!