

Game Plan

- Game theory review
- Review of some basics
- Questions before the final

Answering GT Questions

- Equilibrium is a set of strategies, not payoffs

- Ex: The Nash equilibrium is (Up, Left), NOT (4, 3)

| | Left | Right |
|------|------|-------|
| Up | 4, 3 | 5, 2 |
| Down | 2, 2 | 1, 1 |

- Mixed equilibrium example: "Row plays Up with probability $3/4$ and Down with probability $1/4$. Column plays Left with probability $1/2$ and Right with probability $1/2$."

Answering GT Questions

- Nash equilibria can be either pure or mixed strategy equilibria

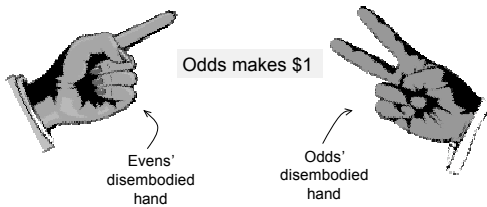
Why do you need to make other person indifferent?

- "Odds and Evens"
 - Two people: "Odds" and "Evens"
 - Each hold out 1 or 2 fingers, if total number is odd, Evens gives Odds a dollar, otherwise Odds gives Evens a dollar

| | | | |
|-------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| | | Odds | |
| | | 1 finger | 2 fingers |
| Evens | 1 finger | 1, -1 | -1, 1 |
| | 2 fingers | -1, 1 | 1, -1 |

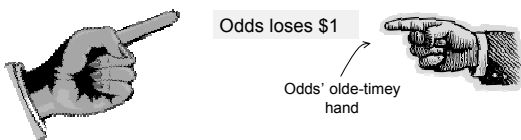
Why do you need to make other person indifferent?

- Obviously, mixing is necessary
- Let's say "Evens" plays 1 finger 3/4 of the time, 2 fingers 1/4 of the time



Why do you need to make other person indifferent?

- Expected value to Odds of playing 2 fingers: $3/4 (1) + 1/4 (-1) = 1/2$
- Expected value to Odds of playing 1 finger: $3/4 (-1) + 1/4 (1) = -1/2$



Why do you need to make other person indifferent?

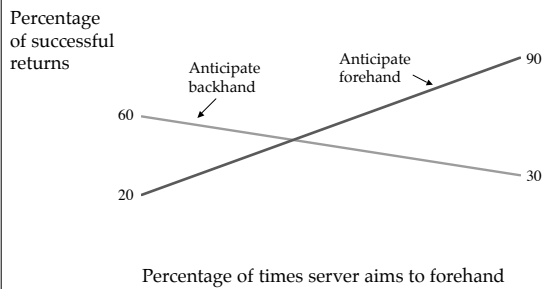
- Expected value to Odds of playing 2 fingers: $3/4 (1) + 1/4 (-1) = 1/2$
- Expected value to Odds of playing 1 finger: $3/4 (-1) + 1/4 (1) = -1/2$
- So Odds would always play 2 fingers
- But then, Evens would always want to play 2, and we know this isn't an equilibrium

Another way to think of it

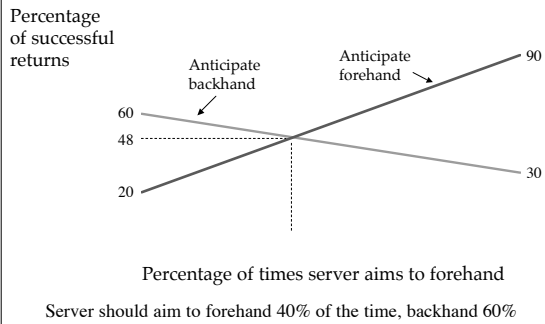
- Tennis: Server deciding to serve to the forehand or backhand
- Probability that receiver returns serve:

| | | Server's Aim | |
|-----------------|----------|--------------|----------|
| | | Forehand | Backhand |
| Receiver's Move | Forehand | 90% | 20% |
| | Backhand | 30% | 60% |

Another way to think of it



Another way to think of it



Another way to think of it

- Examples taken from Thinking Strategically by Avinash K. Dixit and Barry J. Nalebuff

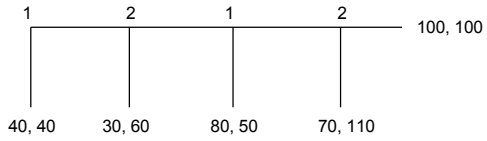
Tips for simultaneous move games

- If you find only one pure strategy equilibrium, there shouldn't be a mixed eq.
- If you find two pure strategy equilibria (like in Battle of the Sexes), look for a mixed one
- In a given square, ask if anyone could do better by moving if the other guy stays

| | | |
|----------|----------|--------|
| | Baseball | Ballet |
| Baseball | 3, 2 | 1, 1 |
| Ballet | 0, 0 | 2, 3 |

Sequential games

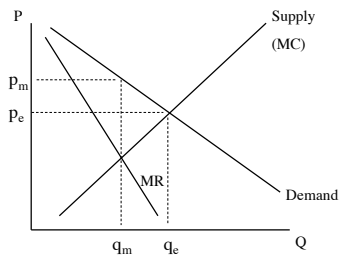
- Work your way backwards!



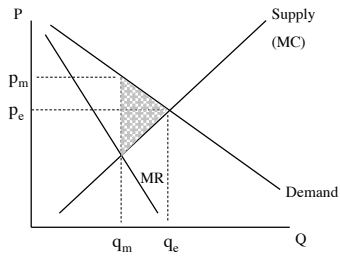
Comparison of Industry Types

| | Perfect Competition | Monopoly | Cournot Oligopoly |
|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| # of Firms | Large | 1 | Small |
| Price | Given | Function of q | Function of Q (industry total) |
| How quantity is chosen | Choose q s.t. $p = MC$ | Choose q s.t. $MR = MC$ | Max profit, given what other firm(s) does (do) |
| Profit function | $pq - c(q)$ | $p(q)q - c(q)$ | $p(Q)q_i - c_i(q_i)$ |
| Profit level | 0 in long run | High | Between PC and monopoly |
| Dead weight loss | None | Triangle from q_m to q_e , below p_m and above MR at q_m | Triangle between Q_o and Q_e and p_o and p_e , plus production inefficiency |

Monopoly Deadweight Loss



Monopoly Deadweight Loss



Cournot Example

- 2 firms, with marginal costs $MC_1 = 3, MC_2 = 2$
- $p(Q) = 5 - 2Q$ (Q is total quantity)
- Want to find q_1 and q_2 , total quantity, and price
- Steps:
 - Find FOC's for firms 1 and 2
 - Solve for q_1 in terms of q_2 and vice versa
 - Plug one quantity into the expression for the other

Cournot Example

- What is Deadweight Loss?
- Efficient solution occurs where price = lowest marginal cost
- Two components:
 - Lost gains from trade
 - Excess cost paid for quantity of goods made by higher cost producer

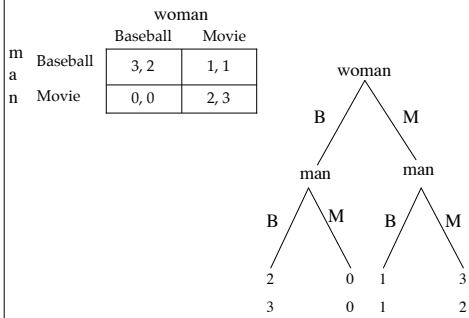
Remember!

- Read questions carefully
- Make sure you answer all parts of a question
- Show us your work, explain thought process



(Extra slides; not used in recitation)

Sequential Battle of the Sexes



Monopoly problem (last year's final)

- Consider a monopolist with constant marginal cost facing linear demand. A unit tax of t is imposed on the monopolist. By how much does the price rise?
- Linear demand: $q(p) = a - bp$
- Let marginal cost be " c "
- Without tax, profits are $(p-c)q(p) = (p-c)(a-bp)$

Monopoly problem (last year's final)

$$\pi = (p-c)(a-bp)$$

$$d\pi/dp = a-2bp+cb = 0$$

$$2bp = a+cb$$

$$p = 1/2 (c + a/b)$$

Tax is part of marginal cost, so imagine
 $c = c + t$.

Then price rises by $1/2 t$.

Could also write out $\pi = (p-c-t)(a-bp)$ and
solve as above.
