

Game Theory

Example 10.1. Suppose that Rosemary and Colin each have 2 cards, labelled with a 1 and a 2. Each selects a card and then both reveal their selected cards. If the sum s of the numbers on their cards is even, then Rosemary wins and Colin must pay her this s . Otherwise, Colin wins and Rosemary must pay him s .

Example 12.1. Suppose that Rosemary and Colin are working on a joint project. Each of them can choose to “work hard” or “goof off.” Both of them must work hard together to receive a high mark for the project. Both have utility 3 for receiving a high mark utility 1 for goofing off (regardless of what mark they receive) and utility 0 for working hard but not receiving a high mark. Give the payoff matrix for this game.

One more example

Example 10.3. Rosemary and Colin each have a £1 and a £2 coin. They each select one of them and hold it in their hand, then Colin calls out “even” or “odd” and they reveal their coins. Let s be the sum of the values of the coins. If Colin correctly guessed whether s was even or odd, he wins both coins. Otherwise, Rosemary wins both coins.

What are the strategies for each player?

Write down payoff matrix?

Is this a zero-sum game?

Example 10.4. Suppose we seek a pair of strategies (r_i, c_j) that form a Nash equilibrium for the game with the following payoff matrix:

	c_1	c_2	c_3	c_4	c_5
r_1	2	-3	-3	12	-5
r_2	2	7	2	9	11
r_3	-1	4	0	1	0
r_4	-3	5	1	2	-3

Can you find a Nash equilibrium?
How many can you find

Example matching pennies

Example 10.5. Rosemary and Colin each have a 1p coin. Simultaneously, they place their coins on the table with either heads or tails showing. If the coins match, Rosemary wins £1 from Colin. Otherwise, Colin wins £1 from Rosemary.

