



the
abdus salam
international centre for theoretical physics

ICTP 40th Anniversary

SMR.1573 - 4

***SUMMER SCHOOL AND CONFERENCE
ON DYNAMICAL SYSTEMS***

**Evolutionary Dynamics
(Lecture 1)**

**Karl Sigmund
Institute of Mathematics
University of Vienna
Vienna
Austria**

These are preliminary lecture notes, intended only for distribution to participants

The image shows a spiral-bound notebook with a light brown, textured cover. The spiral binding is on the left side. The text is centered on the cover.

Evolutionary Game Dynamics

Minicourse 1

Nash equilibria

player I uses strategy $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$

player II uses strategy $j \in \{1, \dots, m\}$

payoff a_{ij} for I, b_{ij} for II

mixed strategies :

player I uses $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in S_n$ (unit simplex)

player II uses $y \in S_m$

payoff $x^T Ay = \sum a_{ij} x_i y_j$ for I, $x^T By$ for II

Nash equilibria


x best reply to y ($x \in BR(y)$) if

$$z^T Ay \leq x^T Ay$$

for all $z \in S_n$

$(x, y) \in S_n \times S_m$ Nash equilibrium if

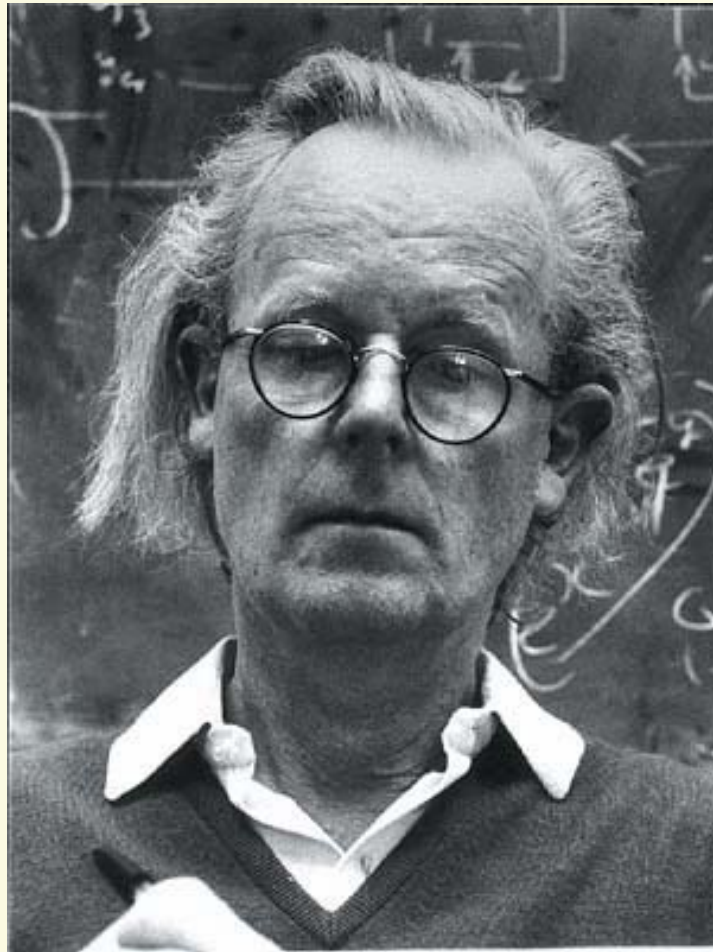
$$x \in BR(y) \text{ and } y \in BR(x)$$



The greatest conceptual revolution in biology...the replacement of typological thinking by population thinking.

Ernest Mayer

John Maynard Smith



Symmetric Games

players I and II interchangeable in population

$$a_{ij} = b_{ji} \quad A = B^T$$

consider only symmetric pairs (x, x)

$x \in S_n$ Nash equilibrium if $x \in BR(x)$

$$z^T Ax \leq x^T Ax$$

for all $z \in S_n$

Chicken Game

to swerve or not to swerve?

my payoff

	if co - player escalates	if co - player swerves
if I escalate	-10	1
if I swerve	-1	0

Nash : swerve with 90 percent

Population setting

large population, n types

x_i frequency of type i

$x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in S_n$ state of population

$(Ax)_i = \sum_j a_{ij} x_j$ average payoff for type i

$x^T Ax$ mean payoff in population

$\frac{\dot{x}_i}{x_i}$ per capita rate of growth

Replicator equation

$$\dot{x}_i = x_i((Ax)_i - x^T Ax)$$

S_n and boundary faces $S_n(J)$ invariant

$$S_n(J) = \{x : x_i \geq 0, x_i = 0 \text{ if } i \in J, \sum x_i = 1\}$$

adding constants to columns of A leaves equ. invariant

$$\left(\frac{\dot{x}_i}{x_j}\right) = \left(\frac{x_i}{x_j}\right)((Ax)_i - (Ax)_j)$$

Replicator dynamics and Nash equilibria

$$\dot{x}_i = x_i ((Ax)_i - x^T Ax)$$

rest point : $z_i = 0$ or $(Az)_i = z^T Az$

(generically one or none in $\text{int}S_n$)

z Nash equ. iff rest point and saturated

$$\text{i.e. } z_i = 0 \Rightarrow (Az)_i \leq z^T Az$$

Folk theorem of evolutionary game theory

- ☞ Nash equilibria are rest points
- ☞ strict Nash equilibria are attractors
- ☞ stable rest points are Nash equilibria
- ☞ limits of interior orbits are Nash equilibria

Existence of Nash equilibria:

$$\dot{x}_i = x_i((Ax)_i - x^T Ax - n\varepsilon) + \varepsilon$$

flow on boundary points into interior of S_n

fixed point $z(\varepsilon)$

$$(Az(\varepsilon))_i - z(\varepsilon)^T Az(\varepsilon) = \varepsilon\left(n - \frac{1}{z_i(\varepsilon)}\right)$$

accumulation point z saturated rest point

Replicator equation for $n=2$

$$x_1 = x, \quad x_2 = 1 - x$$

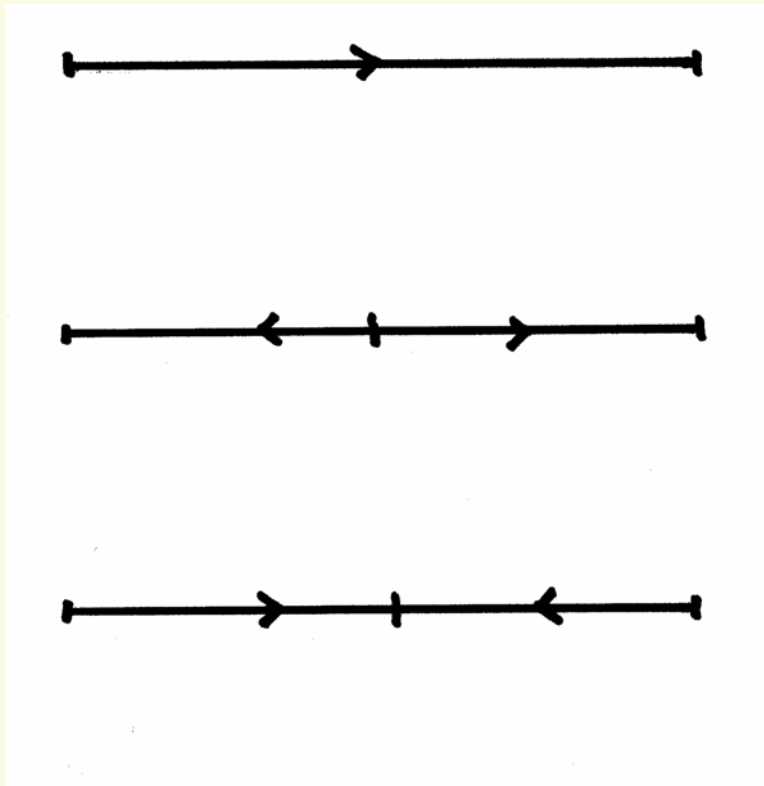
$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{or equivalently} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a \\ b & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\dot{x} = x(1-x)[a - (a+b)x]$$

rest points for $x = 0$, $x = 1$ and $x = \frac{a}{a+b}$

(provided $ab > 0$)

Replicator equations for $n=2$:



☰ Dominance

☰ Bistability

☰ stable coexistence

Example dominance

Prisoner's Dilemma

$$\begin{bmatrix} 10 & -5 \\ 15 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

or equivalently

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -5 \\ 5 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x \rightarrow 0$ (freq. of cooperators)

Example bistability

Iterated Prisoner's Dilemma

$$\begin{bmatrix} 60 & -5 \\ 15 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

or equivalently

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -5 \\ -15 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x \rightarrow 0$ or $x \rightarrow 1$ (frequ. of Tit For Tat)

Example coexistence

Chicken (or Snowdrift game):

$$\begin{bmatrix} -10 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

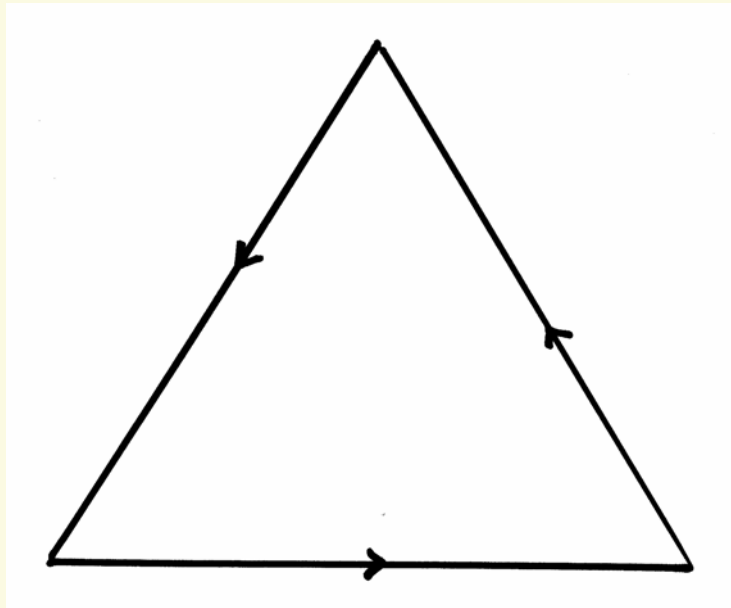
or equivalently

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 9 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x \rightarrow \frac{1}{10}$ (frequ. of escalation)

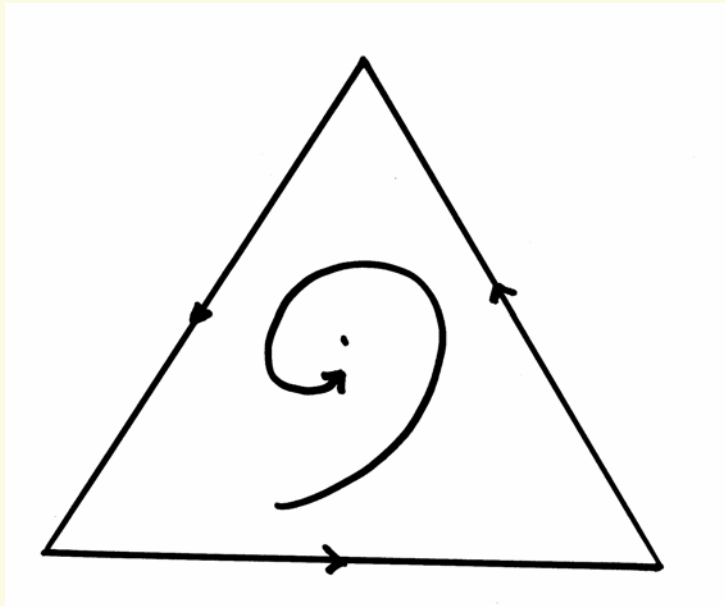
self - regulation!

Replicator equations for $n=3$:



Possibility for
rock-scissors-paper
heteroclinic cycles

Rock-Scissors-Paper



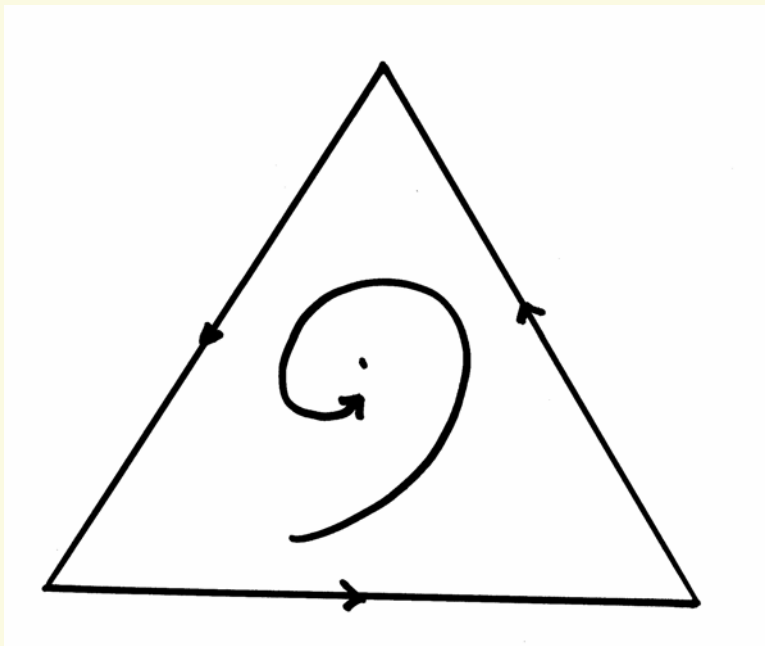
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -a_2 & b_3 \\ b_1 & 0 & -a_3 \\ -a_1 & b_2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 1$$

corners e_i saddles (not Nash)

eigenvalues b_i and $-a_i$

Rock-Scissors-Paper

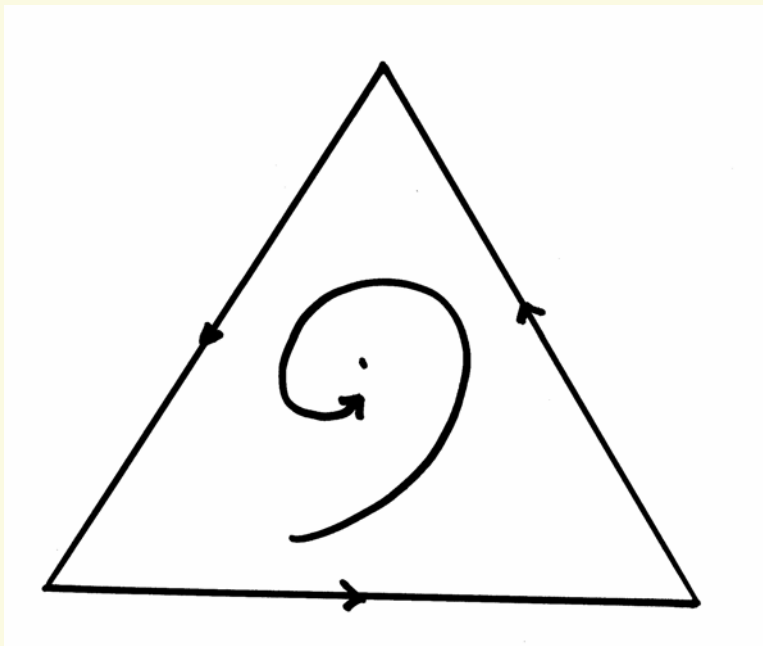


$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -a_2 & b_3 \\ b_1 & 0 & -a_3 \\ -a_1 & b_2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 1$$

$z \in \text{int } S_n$ unique Nash

Rock-Scissors-Paper



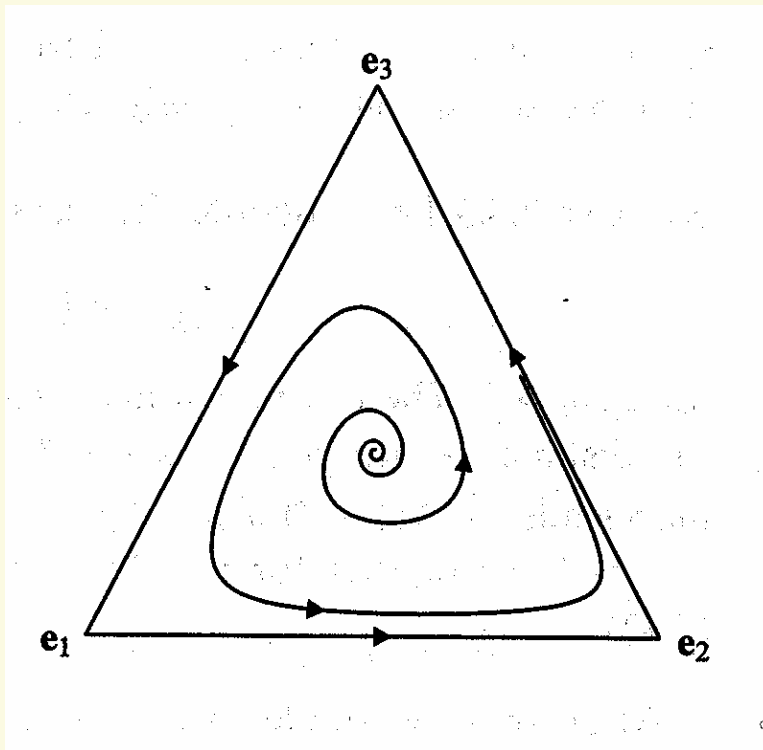
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -a_2 & b_3 \\ b_1 & 0 & -a_3 \\ -a_1 & b_2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

z solution of

$$(Az)_1 = (Az)_2 = (Az)_3$$

$$\text{common value} = z^T Az$$

Rock-Scissors-Paper



E.C. Zeeman, Josef Hofbauer :

Equivalent :

- (a) z locally stable
- (b) z globally stable
- (c) $\det A > 0$
- (d) $z^T A z > 0$

if not, $\text{bd}S_3$ heteroclinic cycle

Rock-Scissors-Paper

z satisfies $(Az)_1 = (Az)_2 = (Az)_3$

$$(Az)_i = -a_{i+1}z_{i+1} + b_{i-1}z_{i-1}$$

$$z = \sigma(b_2b_3 + b_2a_3 + a_2a_3, \dots, \dots)$$

with σ s.t. $z \in S_n$, $\sigma > 0$

$$z^T Az = \sigma \det A$$

Rock-Scissors-Paper

$$P(x) := \prod x_i^{z_i}$$

$$t \rightarrow x(t) \rightarrow P(x(t))$$

$$\text{satisfies } \dot{P} = P(z^T Ax - x^T Ax) = -P(\xi^T Ax)$$

$$\text{(with } \xi = x - z)$$

$$= -P(\xi^T Ax - \xi^T Az) = -P(\xi^T A\xi)$$

$$= -P[\xi_1\xi_2(b_1 - a_2) + \xi_2\xi_3(b_2 - a_3) + \xi_3\xi_1(b_3 - a_1)]$$

no restriction of generality to assume $b_i - a_{i+1} = c$

(projective change of coords., c has sign of $\det A$)

Rock-Scissors-Paper

$$\dot{P} = -cP(\xi_1\xi_2 + \xi_2\xi_3 + \xi_3\xi_1) = cP(\xi_1^2 + \xi_2^2 + \xi_3^2)$$

because

$$\xi_1\xi_2 + \xi_2\xi_3 + \xi_3\xi_1 = \frac{1}{2}(\xi_1 + \xi_2 + \xi_3)^2 - (\xi_1^2 + \xi_2^2 + \xi_3^2)$$

hence P is Lyapunov function

Rock-Scissors-Paper in nature

- Uta stansburiana (lizards)
- males: 3 morphs (inheritable)
- monogamous, guards female
- polygamous, guards harem (less efficiently)
- loose males, sneaky matings

Rock-Scissors-Paper in nature

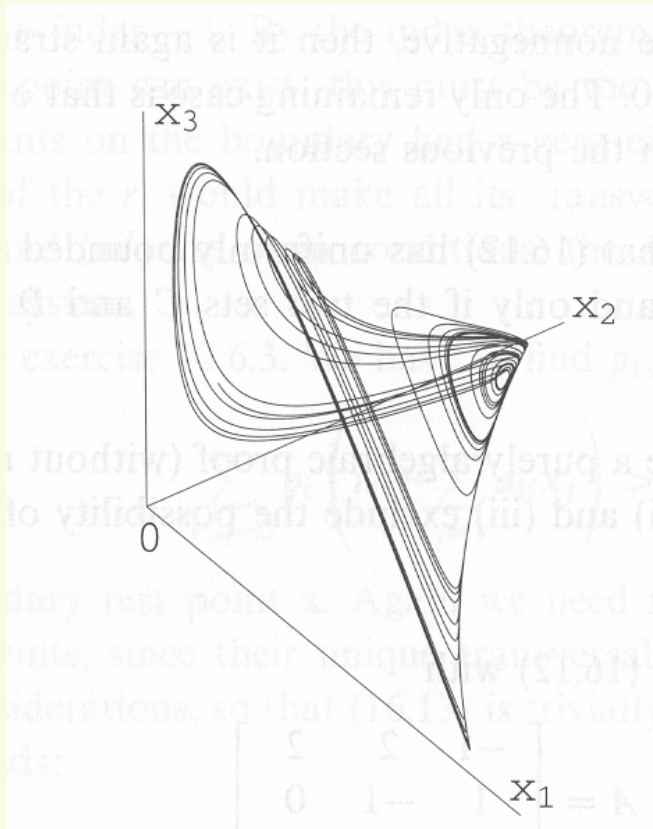
Escherichia coli (bacteria)

can produce colicin (toxic) and immunity protein

can produce only immunity

can produce neither nor

Phase portraits of Replicator equations:



for $n \geq 4$ no classif.

equiv. with Lotka - Volterra

$$\dot{y}_i = y_i (r_i + \sum b_{ij} y_j)$$

$$i = 1, \dots, n - 1$$

one or several limit cycles

chaotic attractors

-
- Replicator dynamics assumes clonal replication (like begets like)
 - other derivation from models of learning and imitation

Imitation Dynamics

input - output

$$\dot{x}_i = x_i \sum [f_{ij}(x) - f_{ji}(x)] x_j$$

where f_{ij} rate for switch $j \rightarrow i$

if payoff dependence

$$f_{ij}(x) = f((Ax)_i, (Ax)_j)$$

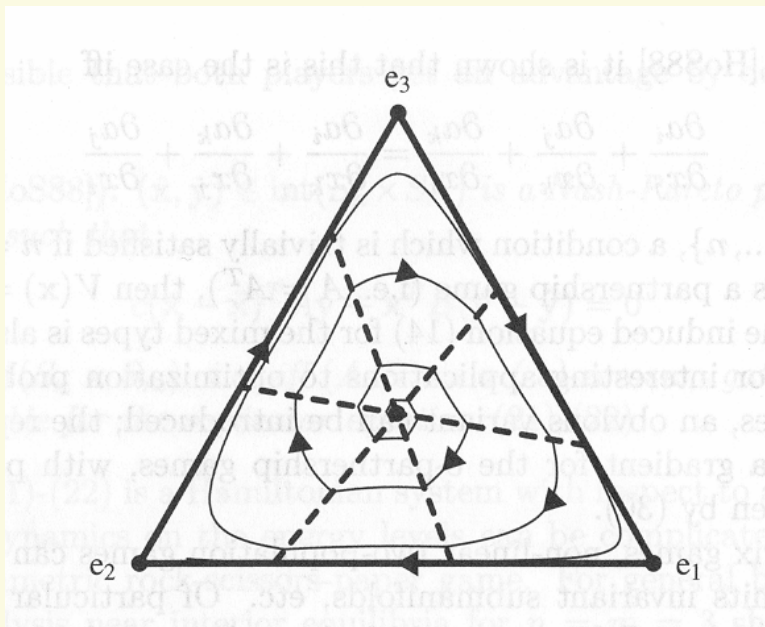
imitate the better : $f(u, v) = 0$ if $u \leq v$

$$= 1 \quad \text{if } u > v$$

i increases if payoff better than median

Imitation Dynamics

📄 Piecewise replicator-like



Imitation Dynamics

input - output

$$\dot{x}_i = x_i \sum [f_{ij}(x) - f_{ji}(x)] x_j$$

where f_{ij} rate for switch $j \rightarrow i$

if f increasing and $f_{ij} = f([(Ax)_i - (Ax)_j]_+)$

$$\dot{x}_i = x_i [f((Ax)_i) - \bar{f}]$$

similarly if $f_{ij} = f((Ax)_i)$ or $= -f((Ax)_j)$

if f linear \Rightarrow replicator

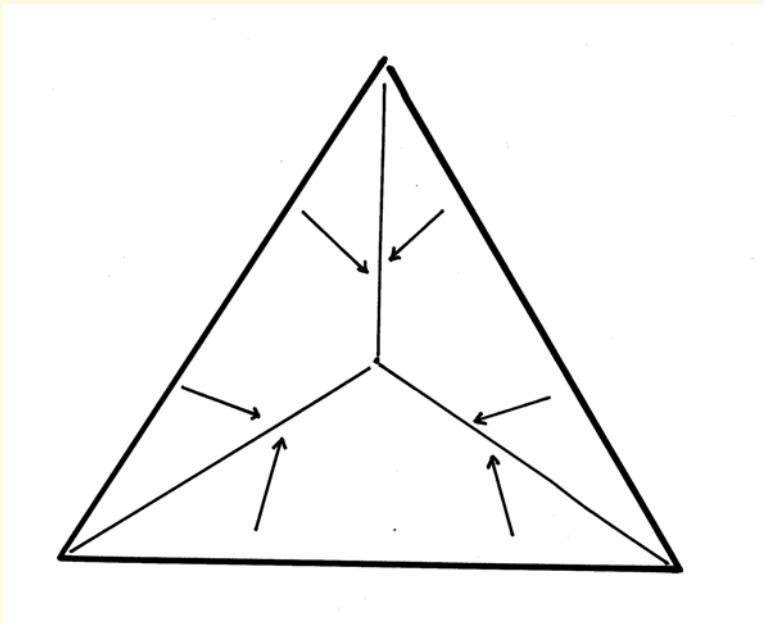
Best Reply Dynamics

$BR(x)$ best reply when in state x

players update by adopting best reply(ies)

$$\dot{x} = BR(x) - x$$

Best reply Dynamics



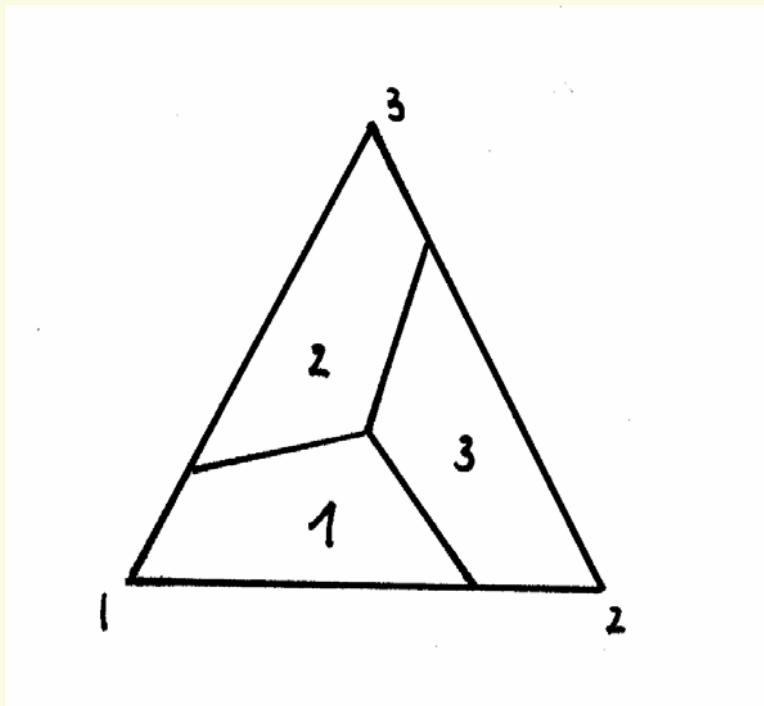
$$\dot{x} \in BR(x) - x$$

piecewise linear orbits

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

rational but myopic players

Best reply Dynamics

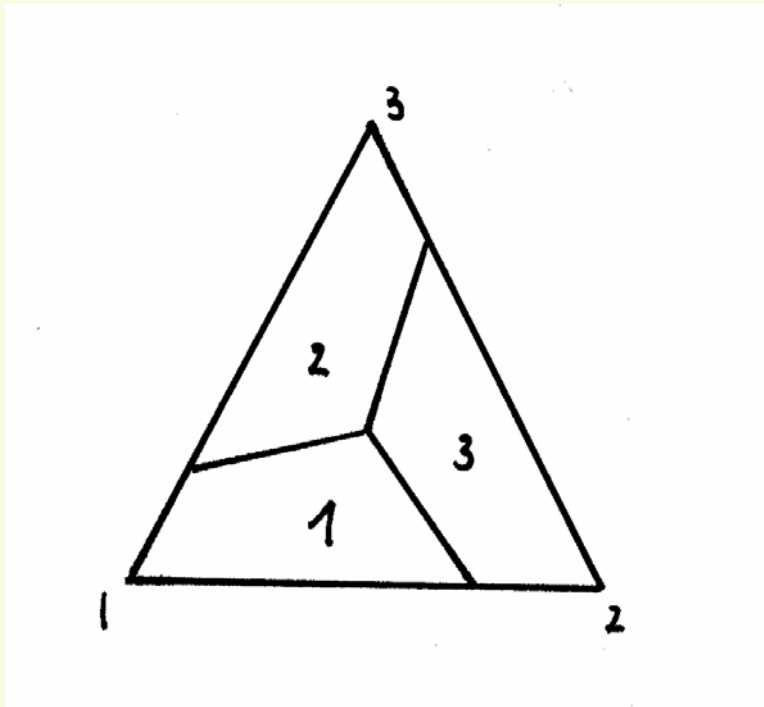


rock - scissors - paper

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -a_2 & b_3 \\ b_1 & 0 & -a_3 \\ -a_1 & b_2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

for $\det A < 0$ convergence
to Nash equ. point
(same with rep. dynamics)

Best reply Dynamics



rock - scissors - paper

$$V(x) := \max(Ax)_i$$

minimal value $z^T Az$ at z

if i best reply,

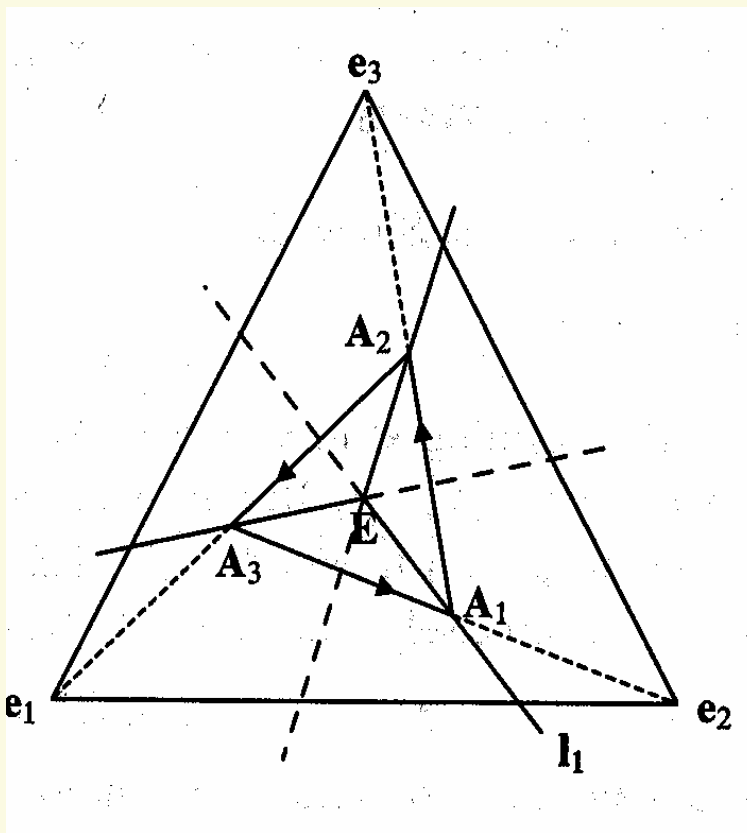
$$\dot{V} = (A\dot{x})_i = (Ae_i)_i - (Ax)_i$$

(because $\dot{x} = e_i - x$ and

$$(Ae_i)_i = a_{ii} = 0)$$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{V} = -V(x)$$

Best reply Dynamics



rock - scissors - paper

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -a & b \\ b & 0 & -a \\ -a & b & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

for $\det A > 0$

Shapley - triangle

(rep. dynamics \rightarrow $\text{bd}S_n$)

but time average

$$z_i(T) = \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T x_i(t) dt \rightarrow \text{Shapley}$$