Algorithmic game theory

Martin Balko

5th lecture

November 9th 2023



Nash equilibria in bimatrix games

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- All these algorithms have exponential running time in the worst case.



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- Is there a chance to get an efficient algorithm?
- NASH = the problem of finding NE in bimatrix games.
- Today, we discuss the computational complexity of NASH.

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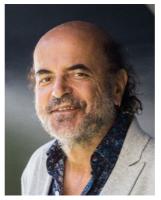


Figure: Christos Papadimitriou (born 1949).

Source: https://cs.columbia.edu

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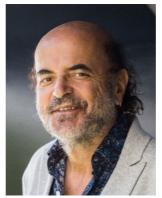


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• Abbreviation for "Polynomial Parity Arguments on Directed graphs".

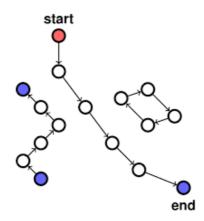
Problems from PPAD: End-of-the-line

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For an oriented graph G with max. indegree and outdegree 1 and a source in G, find a target in G. The graph is given by a polynomial-time computable function f(v) that returns predecessor and successor of v.

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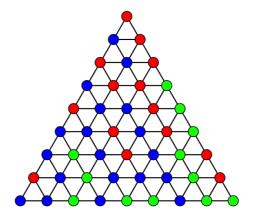
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Source: R. Savani "Polymatrix Games" Tutorial at WINE 2015

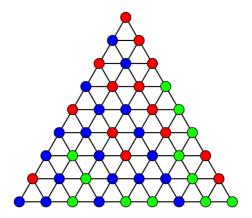
• Given a legal 3-coloring of a triangulated triangle, find a triangle with vertices colored by all 3 colors.

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• Discrete version of the Brouwer's fixed point theorem.

Problems from PPAD: Brouwer's fixed point theorem

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An approximate version of the following theorem is in PPAD: For each d ∈ N, a non-empty compact convex set K in R^d, and a continuous mapping f: K → K, there exists x₀ ∈ K such that f(x₀) = x₀.



Figure: L. E. J. Brouwer (1881–1966).

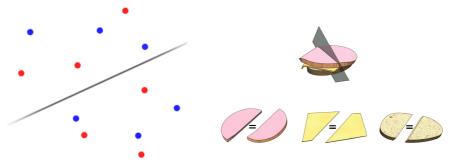
Source: https://arxiv.org/pdf/1612.06820.pdf



Source: https://www.seekpng.com/

 Given n sets of 2n points in ℝⁿ, find a hyperplane H that contains exactly n points from each of the sets in each open halfspace determined by H.

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Sources: https://ejarzo.github.io and https://curiosamathematica.tumblr.com

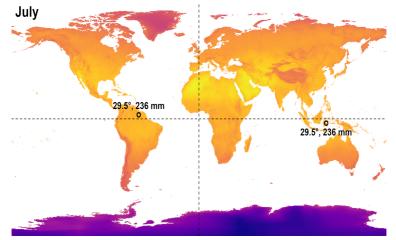
Problems from PPAD: The Borsuk–Ulam theorem

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Source: https://scientificgems.wordpress.com/

Other notions of equilibria

• The concept of correlated equilibria was introduced by Robert Aumann, who received a Nobel prize in economics for his work in game theory.





Figure: Robert Aumann (born 1930).

Sources: https://en.wikipedia.org and https://slideslive.com/38910863/strategic-information-theory

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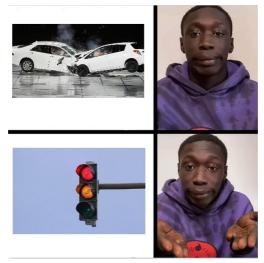


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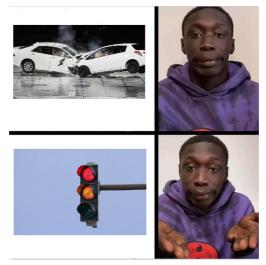
 In 2018, Robert Aumann visited Prague and gave a lecture at Prague mathematical colloquium. You can see the lecture here: https: //slideslive.com/38910863/strategic-information-theory.

• "P=NP" is one of the most important problems in computer science. The website https://www.win.tue.nl/~gwoegi/P-versus-NP.htm contains a collection of over 100 attempts to solve it. • "P=NP" is one of the most important problems in computer science. The website https://www.win.tue.nl/~gwoegi/P-versus-NP.htm contains a collection of over 100 attempts to solve it.



Source: Students of MFF UK

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Thank you for your attention.