

# Algorithmic Game Theory

## Practice Problems: Correlated and Coarse Correlated Equilibrium Concepts, Price of Anarchy

Palash Dey  
Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur

September 29, 2021

1. Let  $\Gamma = \langle N, (S_i)_{i \in N}, (u_i)_{i \in N} \rangle$  be a game in strategic form. Let  $\sigma_i \in \Delta(S_i)$  be mixed strategies of the players and  $\sigma = \prod_{i \in N} \sigma_i$ . Prove that  $\sigma$  is a CE if and only if  $(\sigma_i)_{i \in N}$  is an MSNE.
2. Let  $\Gamma = \langle N, (S_i)_{i \in N}, (u_i)_{i \in N} \rangle$  be a game in strategic form. Prove that a distribution  $\sigma \in \Delta(\prod_{i \in N} S_i)$  is a CE if and only if the following holds for every  $i \in N$  and every  $\delta_i : S_i \rightarrow S_i$ .

$$\mathbb{E}_{s \sim \sigma}[u_i(s)] \geq \mathbb{E}_{s \sim \sigma}[u_i(\delta_i(s_i), s_{-i})]$$

3. Give an example of a game which has a PSNE but the best response dynamics can run forever.
4. Let  $\alpha$  be a correlated equilibrium of a matrix game. Prove that  $u_1(\alpha)$  (the utility of the row player) is equal to the value of the game in mixed strategies.
5. Compute all correlated equilibrium of the following coordination game.

- ▷ The set of players (N) : {1, 2}
- ▷ The set of strategies:  $S_i = \{A, B\}$  for every  $i \in [2]$

▷ Payoff matrix:

		Player 2	
		A	B
Player 1	A	(2, 2)	(0, 6)
	B	(6, 0)	(1, 1)

6. Compute all correlated equilibrium of the following coordination game.

- ▷ The set of players (N) : {1, 2}
- ▷ The set of strategies:  $S_i = \{A, B\}$  for every  $i \in [2]$

▷ Payoff matrix:

		Player 2	
		A	B
Player 1	A	(2, 2)	(0, 0)
	B	(0, 0)	(1, 1)

7. Prove that as the degree  $p$  of the cost function in the bottom link of Pigou's network goes to  $\infty$ , the price of anarchy of Pigou's network tends to  $\infty$  as  $\frac{p}{\ln p}$ .
8. Prove that in a selfish load balancing game with 3 tasks and 2 identical machines, the PoA with respect to PSNE is 1.