



Title	Strategic Reasoning in Extensive Games with Short Sight
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Citation	Proceedings of SOCREAL 2013 : 3rd International Workshop on Philosophy and Ethics of Social Reality 2013, 132-138
Issue Date	2013-10-25
Doc URL	<a href="http://hdl.handle.net/2115/54937">http://hdl.handle.net/2115/54937</a>
Type	proceedings
Note	SOCREAL 2013 : 3rd International Workshop on Philosophy and Ethics of Social Reality 2013. Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Japan, 25-27 October 2013. Session 5 : Games, Knowledge, and Interaction
File Information	15Chanjuan_SOCREAL2013.pdf



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# Strategic Reasoning in Extensive Games with Short Sight

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SOCREAL 2013  
Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Japan  
October 27th, 2013

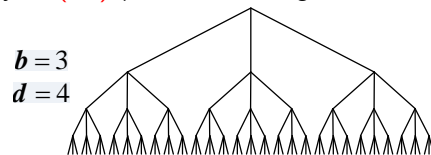
## Outline

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## A calculation

In a game like Chess, game tree's size grows exponentially with both its depth and its branching factor.

Time complexity:  $O(b^d)$  ( $b$  for branching factor,  $d$  for depth)



Branching factor:  $b \approx 35$ , depth:  $d \approx 100$ .

Number of paths in the game tree:  $35^{100} \approx 10^{135}$  - Much too big for a normal game tree search.

Comparison: Number of particles in the universe  $\approx 10^{87}$

- Strong assumption:  
Entire structure of a game is common knowledge to all players.
- Solution:  
Grossi and Turrini proposed the concept of *games with short sight* (Grossi and Turrini, 2012), in which players can only see part of the game tree.



Figure: Short-sighted people

- Contribution:  
A modal Logic system for reasoning about games with short sight.

## Extensive game: an example

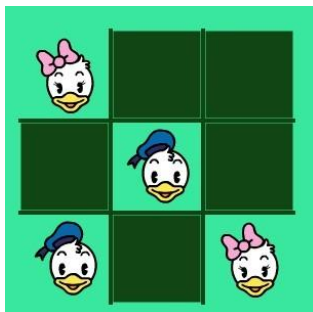


Figure: Tic-Tac-Toe game

Rule: Two players take turns to mark the spaces in a  $3 \times 3$  grid. The player who succeeds in placing three respective marks in a horizontal, vertical, or diagonal row wins the game.

- $\Sigma_i$  is a non-empty set of strategies.  $\Sigma_i = \{\sigma_i\}$ .
- $\sigma_i$  is a strategy of player  $i$ , which is a function :  $\{v \in V \setminus Z \mid t(v) = i\} \rightarrow V \setminus v$ , assigning a successor  $v'$  of  $v$  to each non-terminal node  $v$  when it is  $i$ 's turn to move. (where  $V \setminus v$  is the set of nodes extending  $v$ .)
- $\sigma = (\sigma_i)_{i \in N}$  represents a strategy profile which is a combination of strategies from all players and  $\Sigma$  represents the set of all strategy profiles.
- $\sigma_{-i}$  denotes the collection of strategies in  $\sigma$  excluding those for player  $i$ .
- $O(\sigma)$  is the outcome if the strategy profile  $\sigma$  is followed by all players.
- $O(\sigma'_i, \sigma_{-i})$  is the outcome if player  $i$  use strategy  $\sigma'_i$  while all other players employ  $\sigma$ .
- $\succeq_i$  is a preference relation over  $V^2$  for each player  $i$ .

## Extensive game(Con'd)

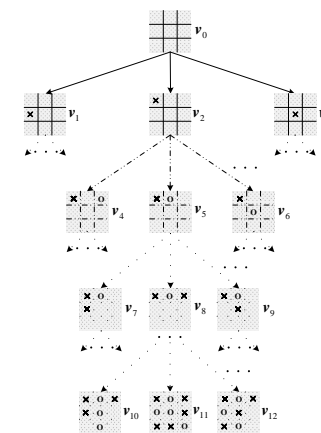
### Definition

An extensive game is a tuple  $G=(N, V, A, t, \Sigma_i, \succeq_i)$ , where

- $N$  is a non-empty set of the players,
- $V$  a set of nodes or vertices including a root  $v_0$
- $A \subseteq V^2$  a set of arcs. If  $(v, v') \in A$ , we call  $v'$  a successor of  $v$ . Leaves are the nodes that have no successors, denoted by  $Z$ .
- $t$  is turn function assigning a member of  $N$  to each non-terminal node.  $t(v) = i$ ;

### Example

Two players: player 1(x) and player 2(o).  
 Solid arrows: the moves of player 1,  
 dotted arrows: moves of player 2.  
 The initial state is  $v_0$ .  
 $v_1, v_2, v_3$  are all successors of  $v_0$ .  
 $v_{10}, v_{11}, v_{12}$  are the terminal nodes (leaves).



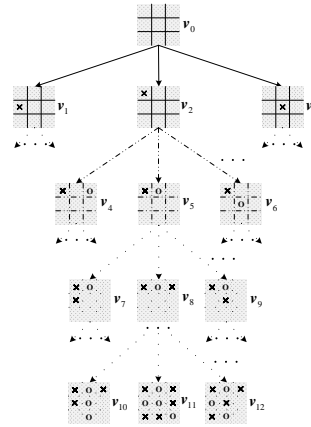
Example

Formally,  $G=(N, V, A, t, \Sigma_i, \geq_i)$

- $N = \{1, 2\};$
- $V = \{v_0, v_1, v_2, \dots\};$
- $(v_0, v_1), (v_0, v_2), (v_0, v_3) \in A;$
- $v_{10}, v_{11}, v_{12} \in Z;$
- $t(v_0) = 1, t(v_2) = 2, j, \dots$
- a  $\sigma_1$  such that  $\sigma_1(v_0) = v_2, \sigma_1(v_5) = v_8, \dots$
- a  $\sigma_2$  such that  $\sigma_2(v_2) = v_5, \dots$

Thus, a strategy profile  $\sigma = (\sigma_1, \sigma_2)$  such that  $O(\sigma) = v_{11}$ .

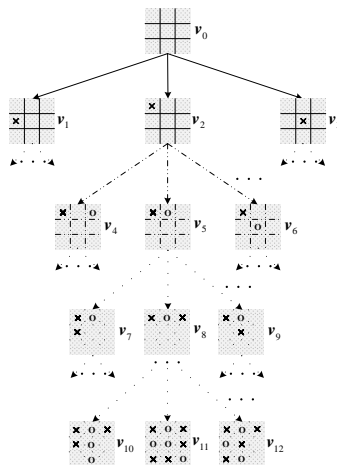
- $v_{12} \geq_1 v_{11} \geq_1 v_{10}$ . (since player 1 **wins** the game in  $v_{12}$ , **loses** it in  $v_{10}$ , and gains a **draw** in  $v_{11}$ ).



Sight function

Definition

(sight function). Let  $G = (N, V, A, t, \Sigma_i, \geq_i)$  be an extensive game. A short sight function for  $G$  is a function  $s : V \setminus Z \rightarrow 2^{V \setminus Z} \setminus \emptyset$ , associating to each non-terminal node  $v$  a finite subset of all the available nodes at  $v$ .



- Two steps:  $s(v_0) = \{v_0, v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4, v_5, v_6\}$

Definition

(Extensive game with short sight). An extensive game with short sight (Egss) is a tuple  $S = (G, s)$  where  $G$  is a finite extensive game and  $s$  a sight function.

- Endowing an extensive game with a sight function.

## Sight-filtrated extensive game

At each node  $v$ , players can see a subgame  $S \uparrow_v$  of the whole game. This subgame is determined by their sight:

$$S \uparrow_v = (N \uparrow_v, V \uparrow_v, A \uparrow_v, t \uparrow_v, \Sigma_i \uparrow_v, \succeq_i \uparrow_v)$$

- $N \uparrow_v = N$ ;
- $V \uparrow_v = s(v)$ , which is the set of nodes within the sight of  $s(v)$ .
- $A \uparrow_v = A \cap (V \uparrow_v)^2$ ;
- $t \uparrow_v = V \uparrow_v \setminus Z \uparrow_v \rightarrow N$  so that  $t \uparrow_v(v') = t(v')$ ;
- $\Sigma_i \uparrow_v$  is the set of strategies for each player available at  $v$  and restricted to  $s(v)$ . It consists of elements  $\sigma_i \uparrow_v$  such that  $\sigma_i \uparrow_v(v') = \sigma_i(v')$  for each  $v' \in V \uparrow_v$  with  $t \uparrow_v(v') = i$ ;
- $\succeq_i \uparrow_v = \succeq_i \cap (V \uparrow_v)^2$ .

### Example

- $N \uparrow_{v_0} = N$ ;
- $V \uparrow_{v_0} = \{v_0, v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4, v_5\}$ ;
- $Z \uparrow_{v_0} = \{v_1, v_3, v_4, v_5\}$ ;
- $A \uparrow_{v_0} = \{(v_0, v_1), (v_2, v_4), (v_2, v_4), \dots\}$ ;
- $\sigma \uparrow_{v_0} = (\sigma_1 \uparrow_{v_0}, \sigma_2 \uparrow_{v_0})$  such that  $O \uparrow_{v_0}(\sigma \uparrow_{v_0}) = v_5$ , with  $\sigma_1 \uparrow_{v_0}(v_0) = v_2$  and  $\sigma_2 \uparrow_{v_0}(v_2) = v_5$

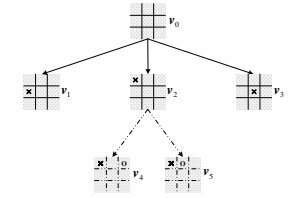
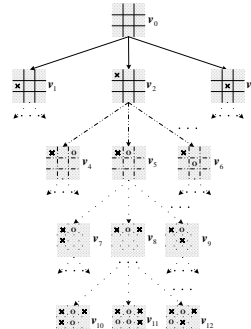


Figure: Sight-filtrated extensive game  $S \uparrow_{v_0}$

## Syntax and Semantics

$$\varphi ::= p \mid \neg\varphi \mid \varphi_0 \wedge \varphi_1 \mid \langle \leq_i \rangle \varphi \mid \langle \hat{\sigma} \rangle \varphi \mid \langle \hat{\sigma}_{-i} \rangle \varphi \mid \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \varphi \mid \langle \hat{\sigma}^S \rangle \varphi \mid \langle \hat{\sigma}_{-i}^S \rangle \varphi$$

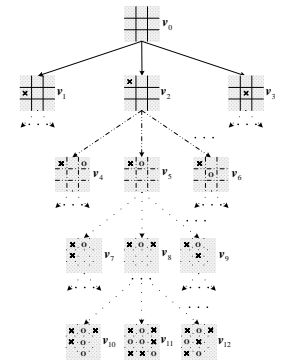
- The label  $\leq_i$  denotes player  $i$ 's preference relation.
- The label  $\hat{\sigma}$  stands for the outcomes of strategy profiles.  
 $(v, v') \in R_{\hat{\sigma}}$  iff  $v'$  is the terminal node reached from  $v$  by following  $\sigma$ .  
 $(v_0, v_{11}) \in R_{\hat{\sigma}}$



## Syntax and Semantics

$$\varphi ::= p \mid \neg\varphi \mid \varphi_0 \wedge \varphi_1 \mid \langle \leq_i \rangle \varphi \mid \langle \hat{\sigma} \rangle \varphi \mid \langle \hat{\sigma}_{-i} \rangle \varphi \mid \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \varphi \mid \langle \hat{\sigma}^S \rangle \varphi \mid \langle \hat{\sigma}_{-i}^S \rangle \varphi$$

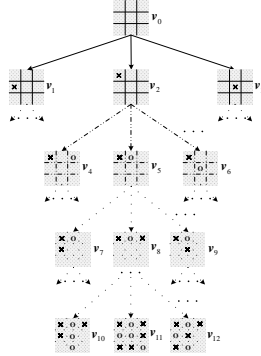
- $(v, v') \in R_{\hat{\sigma}_{-i}}$  iff  $v'$  is one of the leaf nodes extending  $v$  that player  $i$  can enforce provided that the other players strictly follow their strategies in  $\sigma$ .  
 $O(\sigma_{-1}, \sigma'_1) = v_{12}$ ,  
 $(v_0, v_{12}) \in R_{\hat{\sigma}_{-1}}$



## Syntax and Semantics

$\varphi ::= p \mid \neg\varphi \mid \varphi_0 \wedge \varphi_1 \mid \langle \leq_i \rangle \varphi \mid \langle \hat{\sigma} \rangle \varphi \mid \langle \hat{\sigma}_{-i} \rangle \varphi \mid \langle \triangleleft \rangle \varphi \mid \langle \hat{\sigma}^s \rangle \varphi \mid \langle \hat{\sigma}_{-i}^s \rangle \varphi$

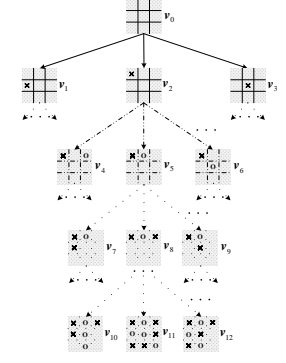
- The label  $\triangleleft$  is sight function for the current node, and  $(v, v') \in R_{\triangleleft}$  means “node  $v'$  is within the sight at the present node  $v$ .”



## Syntax and Semantics

$\varphi ::= p \mid \neg\varphi \mid \varphi_0 \wedge \varphi_1 \mid \langle \leq_i \rangle \varphi \mid \langle \hat{\sigma} \rangle \varphi \mid \langle \hat{\sigma}_{-i} \rangle \varphi \mid \langle \triangleleft \rangle \varphi \mid \langle \hat{\sigma}^s \rangle \varphi \mid \langle \hat{\sigma}_{-i}^s \rangle \varphi$

- $(v, v') \in R_{\hat{\sigma}^s}$  if “state  $v'$  is the outcome of  $\sigma \upharpoonright_v$  in  $S \upharpoonright_v$  that is reachable from the starting point  $v$ , i.e.,  $v' = O \upharpoonright_v(\sigma \upharpoonright_v)$ .”  
 $(v_0, v_5) \in R_{\hat{\sigma}^s}$
- The interpretation for  $R_{\hat{\sigma}_{-i}^s}$  is similar.



## Syntax and Semantics

Frame  $F: (V, R_{\leq_i}, R_{\hat{\sigma}}, R_{\hat{\sigma}_{-i}}, R_{\triangleleft}, R_{\hat{\sigma}^s}, R_{\hat{\sigma}_{-i}^s})$ , where

$vR_{\leq_i}v'$	iff	$v' \geq_i v$
$vR_{\hat{\sigma}}v'$	iff	$v' = O \upharpoonright_v(\sigma \upharpoonright_v)$
$vR_{\hat{\sigma}_{-i}}v'$	iff	$v' \in O \upharpoonright_v(\sigma_{-i} \upharpoonright_v)$
$vR_{\triangleleft}v'$	iff	$v' \in s(v)$
$vR_{\hat{\sigma}^s}v'$	iff	$v' = O \upharpoonright_v(\sigma \upharpoonright_v)$
$vR_{\hat{\sigma}_{-i}^s}v'$	iff	$v' \in O \upharpoonright_v(\sigma_{-i} \upharpoonright_v)$

## Syntax and Semantics

Model:  $M = (V, R, I)$

$M, v \models \langle \leq_i \rangle \varphi$	iff	$M, u \models \varphi$ for some $u \in V$ with $vR_{\leq_i}u$ .
$M, v \models \langle \hat{\sigma} \rangle \varphi$	iff	$M, u \models \varphi$ for some $u \in V$ with $vR_{\hat{\sigma}}u$ .
$M, v \models \langle \hat{\sigma}_{-i} \rangle \varphi$	iff	$M, u \models \varphi$ for some $u \in V$ with $vR_{\hat{\sigma}_{-i}}u$ .
$M, v \models \langle \triangleleft \rangle \varphi$	iff	$M, u \models \varphi$ for some $u \in V$ with $vR_{\triangleleft}u$ .
$M, v \models \langle \hat{\sigma}^s \rangle \varphi$	iff	$M, u \models \varphi$ for some $u \in V$ with $vR_{\hat{\sigma}^s}u$ .
$M, v \models \langle \hat{\sigma}_{-i}^s \rangle \varphi$	iff	$M, u \models \varphi$ for some $u \in V$ with $vR_{\hat{\sigma}_{-i}^s}u$ .

N	Modality	Schema	Property
T	$[\leq_i]$	$[\leq_i]\varphi \rightarrow \varphi$	reflexivity
	$[\prec_i]$	$[\prec_i]\varphi \rightarrow \varphi$	
4	$[\leq_i]$	$[\leq_i]\varphi \rightarrow [\leq_i][\leq_i]\varphi$	transitivity
D	$[\hat{\sigma}]$	$[\hat{\sigma}]\varphi \leftrightarrow \langle \hat{\sigma} \rangle \varphi$	determinism
	$[\hat{\sigma}^s]$	$[\cdot]\varphi \leftrightarrow \langle \cdot \rangle \varphi$	
I	$([\hat{\sigma}], [\hat{\sigma}_{-i}])$	$[\hat{\sigma}_{-i}]\varphi \rightarrow [\hat{\sigma}]\varphi$	inclusiveness
	$([\hat{\sigma}^s], [\hat{\sigma}_{-i}^s])$	$[\hat{\sigma}_{-i}^s]\varphi \rightarrow [\hat{\sigma}^s]\varphi$	
M	$[\hat{\sigma}]$	$[\hat{\sigma}](\varphi \leftrightarrow \varphi')$	terminating
	$[\hat{\sigma}_{-i}]$	$[\hat{\sigma}_{-i}](\varphi \leftrightarrow \varphi')$	
Y	$([\prec_i], [\hat{\sigma}^s])$	$[\prec_i]\varphi \rightarrow [\hat{\sigma}^s]\varphi$	visibility
	$([\prec_i], [\hat{\sigma}_{-i}^s])$	$[\prec_i]\varphi \rightarrow [\hat{\sigma}_{-i}^s]\varphi$	

LEGS is sound and complete w.r.t. the class of all games with short sight.

**Definition**

(Best response and Nash equilibrium)  
A best response for player  $i$  of an extensive game is a strategy profile  $\sigma^*$  such that  $O(\sigma_i^*, \sigma_{-i}^*) \geq_i O(\sigma_i, \sigma_{-i}^*)$  for every strategy  $\sigma_i$  of player  $i$ . A strategy profile  $\sigma^*$  is a Nash equilibrium of an extensive game if it is a best response for every player  $i$ .

**Definition**

(Sight-compatible best response and Nash equilibrium).  
Let  $S = (G, s)$  be an Egss and  $S \upharpoonright_v$  be the sight-filtrated extensive game at  $v$ . A strategy profile  $\sigma^*$  is a sight-compatible best response for  $i$  if for every nonterminal node  $v$ , it holds that  $O \upharpoonright_v(\sigma_i^* \upharpoonright_v, \sigma_{-i}^* \upharpoonright_v) \geq_i \upharpoonright_v O \upharpoonright_v(\sigma_i \upharpoonright_v, \sigma_{-i}^* \upharpoonright_v)$  for any strategy  $\sigma_i \upharpoonright_v$  available to  $i$ .  
 $\sigma^*$  is a *sight-compatible Nash equilibrium*(SCNE) of  $S$  if it is a sight-compatible best response for every player  $i \in N$ .


## Characterize solution concepts

### Theorem

Let  $S$  be an Egss given by  $(N, V, A, t, \Sigma_i, \succeq_i, s)$ . Then for any player  $i$ , any strategy profiles  $\sigma$  in  $S$  and any formulas  $\varphi$  of  $\mathcal{LS}$ :

- (a)  $\sigma$  is a sight-compatible best response (SCBR) of  $S$  for  $i$  iff  $F_S \models [\sigma^s] \varphi \rightarrow [\sigma_{-i}^s] \langle \leq_i \rangle \varphi$ .
- (b)  $\sigma$  is a sight-compatible Nash equilibrium (SCNE) of  $S$  iff  $F_S \models \bigwedge_{i \in N} ([\sigma^s] \varphi \rightarrow [\sigma_{-i}^s] \langle \leq_i \rangle \varphi)$ .
- (c)  $\sigma$  is a subgame perfect equilibrium (SPE) of  $S \upharpoonright v$  iff for any  $u \in V \upharpoonright_v \setminus Z \upharpoonright_v$ ,  $F_{S \upharpoonright_v}, u \models \bigwedge_{i \in N} ([\sigma] \varphi \rightarrow [\sigma_{-i}] \langle \leq_i \rangle \varphi)$ .
- (d) A strategy profile  $\sigma$  is a sight-compatible SPE of  $S$  iff for all  $v \in V \setminus Z$ ,  $F_{S \upharpoonright_v}, v \models \langle \leq \rangle (\bigwedge_{i \in N} ([\sigma] \varphi \rightarrow [\sigma_{-i}] \langle \leq_i \rangle \varphi))$ .

**Thank you!**

 Davide Grossi and Paolo Turrini.  
 Short sight in extensive games.  
 In *AAMAS*, pages 805–812, 2012.