

Audenberg, Levine, Maskin (Erma '94): folk thm for imperfect public monitoring.

I an example where the folk theorem "fails"

II conditions for which it doesn't

III pure strategy SPEs are outcome equivalent to PPE.

Example:

• 2 players,  $i \in \{1, 2\}$

•  $e \in \{0, 1\}$

•  $y \in \{0, 1, 2\}$

•  $u_i(e_i, y) = \frac{1}{2}y - 3e$

•  $y | (e_i, e_{-i})$

distribution of output  
conditional on effort

end result: when you can identify  
deviations from the dist. of  $y$ , then  
folk theorem will hold.

•  $\Pr[y=0 | (e_i, e_{-i}) = (1, 1)] = \frac{1}{3}$   
 •  $\Pr[y=1, 2 | (e_i, e_{-i}) = (1, 1)] = \frac{2}{3}$  } never mind, these probs.  
 are in the table below

$\Pr[y=1, 2   \cdot]$	$e_1 = 1$	$e_1 = 0$
$e_2 = 1$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$
$e_2 = 0$	$\frac{1}{3}$	0

	$E[u_1]$	
$E[u_2]$	$e_1=1$	$e_1=0$
$e_2=1$	1, 1	-1, 2
$e_2=0$	2, -1	0, 0

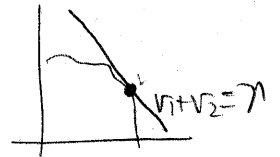
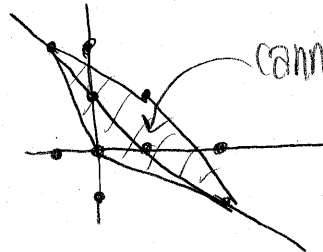
UPPE( $\delta$ )

Recall: If  $v$  is sustainable by a SPE in pure strategies, then  $v$  is sustainable for some PPE,

Hence, if cannot get the Folk Theorem in PPE, you cannot get it in pure SPE.

Define  $\lambda = \max \{v_1 + v_2 : (v_1, v_2) \in \text{UPPE}(\delta)\}$

Result:  $\lambda \leq 1$



Assume  $\lambda > 1$ . Pick PPE that gives  $\lambda$

Let  $\alpha = (\alpha_i, \alpha_{-i})$  be (potentially mixed) actions at  $h^0$ ,

$v_i(0), v_i(12)$  continuation values ( $i \in \{1, 2\}$ )

$$v_i^* = (1-\delta)u_i(\alpha) + \delta \{ \Pr[y=12|\alpha] v_i(12) + \Pr[y=01|\alpha] v_i(0) \}$$

$$v_1^* + v_2^* = \lambda$$

Step 1:  $\alpha_i$  must put prob  $> 0$  on  $e_i = 1$ . Otherwise,

$$u_1(\alpha) + u_2(\alpha) \leq 1 \Rightarrow v_1^* + v_2^* \leq (1-\delta) \cdot 1 \leq \gamma$$

$$+ \delta (\Pr[y=12|\alpha] \underbrace{(v_1(12) + v_2(12))}_{\leq \gamma} + \Pr[y=0|\alpha] \underbrace{(v_1(0) + v_2(0))}_{\leq \gamma})$$

by stationarity of PPE  
and defn of  $\gamma$ .

$$\Rightarrow \gamma \equiv v_1^* + v_2^* \leq (1-\delta) \cdot 1 + \delta \gamma < (1-\delta)\gamma + \delta\gamma = \gamma \rightarrow \leftarrow$$

Thus,  $\alpha_i$  must put prob  $> 0$  on  $e_i = 1$ .

Step 2: What does  $\alpha_i(e_i = 1) > 0$  mean? It means it is weakly optimal for  $i$  to play  $e_i = 1$ .

Define  $\mu_2 \equiv \alpha_2(e_2 = 1)$ ,  $\mu_1 \equiv \alpha_1(e_1 = 1)$

$$\mu_i > 0 \Rightarrow E[\text{payoff of } e_i = 1] \geq E[\text{payoff of } e_i = 0]$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (1-\delta)(\mu_2 + (1-\mu_2)(-1)) + \delta \left[ \left( \frac{2}{3}\mu_2 + \frac{1}{3}(1-\mu_2) \right) v_1(12) + \left( \frac{1}{3}\mu_2 + \frac{2}{3}(1-\mu_2) \right) v_1(0) \right]$$

$$= (1-\delta)(2\mu_2 - 1) + \delta \left[ \left( \frac{1}{3}\mu_2 + \frac{1}{3} \right) v_1(12) + \left( -\frac{1}{3}\mu_2 + \frac{2}{3} \right) v_1(0) \right]$$

$$\geq (1-\delta)(2\mu_2) + \delta \left[ \underbrace{\mu_2 \frac{1}{3} v_1(12) + \left( \frac{2}{3}\mu_2 + (1-\mu_2) \right) v_1(0)}_{\text{payoff if shirk}} \right]$$

$$= (1-\delta)2\mu_2 + \delta \left[ \mu_2 \frac{1}{3} v_1(12) + \left( -\frac{1}{3}\mu_2 + 1 \right) v_1(0) \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow -(1-\delta) + \delta \left[ \frac{1}{3} v_1(12) - \frac{1}{3} v_1(0) \right] \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow v_1(12) \geq v_1(0) + \frac{3(1-\delta)}{\delta}$$

ie there needs to be a minimal gap between those continuation payoffs

Step 3:  $v_1^* \leq (1-\delta)u_1(\alpha) + \delta \left[ \frac{2}{3}v_1(12) + \frac{1}{3}(v_1(12) - \frac{3(1-\delta)}{\delta}) \right]$

since  $\Pr[y=12|\alpha] \leq \frac{2}{3}$

$$\leq (1-\delta)u_1(\alpha) + (1-\delta) + \delta v_1(12)$$

$$v_2^* \leq (1-\delta)u_2(\alpha) + (1-\delta) + \delta v_2(12)$$

$$\Rightarrow v_1^* + v_2^* = (1-\delta) \underbrace{(u_1(\alpha) + u_2(\alpha) - 2)}_{< 0} + \delta \underbrace{(v_1(12) + v_2(12))}_{\leq \gamma}$$

$= \gamma$

$\leq \delta \gamma < \gamma \quad \rightarrow$

Thus,  $\gamma \leq 1$ .

### Identifiability

Condition for FT:  $\forall \alpha = (\alpha_i, \alpha_{-i})$

1]  $\alpha$  is individually identifiable if  $y|\alpha_i, \alpha_{-i} \neq y|\alpha_i', \alpha_{-i}$  whenever  $\alpha_i \neq \alpha_i'$

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{rank} \begin{bmatrix} \Pr[y=y_1|\alpha_i, \alpha_{-i}] & \dots & \Pr[y=y_m|\alpha_i, \alpha_{-i}] \\ \Pr[y=y_1|\alpha_i', \alpha_{-i}] & \dots & \Pr[y=y_m|\alpha_i', \alpha_{-i}] \end{bmatrix} = m_i \quad \forall i$$

$\equiv \Pi_i$

2]  $\alpha$  is pairwise identifiable if  $\forall j \neq i, \forall \alpha_i \neq \alpha_i', \forall \alpha_j \neq \alpha_j', y|\alpha_j, \alpha_j' \neq y|\alpha_i, \alpha_i'$