

Repeated games notation

In the stage game $G = \{I, \{A_i\}_{i \in I}, \{u_i\}_{i \in I}\}$, recall that:

- $a_i \in A_i$ is a pure strategy
- $\alpha_i \in \Delta A_i$ is a mixed strategy
- $\alpha \in \prod_i \Delta A_i$ is mixed strategy profile

In the *finitely repeated game* G^T ,

- the stage game G is repeated $T + 1$ times, beginning in period 0 and ending in period T .
- Before playing period t , the results of all previous periods are observed.
- Payoffs are the discounted sum of stage game payoffs; all players share the same discount factor.
- Notation:
 - $h^t \in H^t = \{(a^0, a^1, \dots, a^{t-1}) : a^\tau \in A\}$ gives histories at the beginning of period $t \geq 1$
 - $H^0 = \{h^0\}$ is the null history
 - $H = \bigcup_{t=0}^T H^t$ is the set of all possible histories
 - $s_i : H \rightarrow A_i$ is a pure strategy
 - $\sigma_i : H \rightarrow \Delta A_i$ is a behavior strategy
 - H^{T+1} is the set of terminal histories (all possible ways the game can be played out over periods $0, 1, \dots, T$)
 - $\delta \in (0, 1)$ is the common discount rate.
 - $\pi : H^{T+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $\pi_i(h^{T+1}) = \sum_{t=0}^T \delta^t u_i(a^t)$ is player i 's payoff function

In the *infinitely repeated game* G^∞ ,

- Same rules as G^T except game either never ends or has an uncertain ending.
- Notation:
 - $H = \bigcup_{t=0}^\infty H^t$ is the set of histories
 - $H^\infty = \{(a^0, a^1, \dots) : a^\tau \in A\}$
 - $s_i : H \rightarrow A_i$ is a pure strategy
 - $\sigma_i : H \rightarrow \Delta A_i$ is a behavior strategy
 - $\delta \in (0, 1)$ is the common discount rate
 - $\pi_i : H^\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $\pi_i(h^\infty) = (1 - \delta) \sum_{t=0}^\infty \delta^t u_i(a^t)$ is i 's payoff function