

Solution to problem set 2

1. This question is taken from Martin Osborne and Ariel Rubinstein's *A Course in Game Theory*.

The choice function is monotonic since $a \succeq_1 c$ and $c \succ'_1 a$, and $b \succeq'_2 c$ and $c \succ_2 b$. Suppose that a game form G with outcome function g Nash-implements f . Then (G, \succeq) has a Nash equilibrium, say (s_1, s_2) , for which $g(s_1, s_2) = a$. Since (s_1, s_2) is a Nash equilibrium, $g(s_1, s'_2) \preceq_2 a$ for all actions s'_2 of player 2, so that $g(s_1, s'_2) = a$ for all actions s'_2 of player 2. That is, by choosing s_1 , player 1 guarantees that the outcome is a . Since $a \succeq'_1 b$, it follows that (G, \succeq') has no Nash equilibrium (t_1, t_2) for which $g(t_1, t_2) = b$. Hence, f is not Nash-implementable.

2. This question is based on Jean Pierre Benoit and Efe A. Ok. "Nash Implementation Without No-Veto Power." forthcoming in *Games and Economic Behavior*.

Let F be a monotonic and weakly unanimous SCR. Let G be a normal game-form with outcome function g in which every agent i announces a triple $a_i = (\succeq_i, c_i, k_i)$, where \succeq_i is a preference profile in P , c_i is a consequence in C , and k_i is an integer. For any profile of actions a , define g as follows:

- (i) if $(p_i, c_i) = (\succeq, c)$ for all $i \in N$ and $c \in F(\succeq)$, then $g(a) = c$,
- (ii) if there exists $j \in N$ such that $(p_i, c_i) = (\succeq, c)$ for all $i \in N \setminus \{j\}$ with $c \in F(\succeq)$, and $(p_j, c_j) \neq (\succeq, c)$, then

$$g(a) = \begin{cases} l(c, c_j) & \text{if } c \not\succeq_j c_j \\ c & \text{if } c \succeq_j c_j \end{cases}$$

- (iii) if neither the antecedent of (i) nor (ii) applies, then $g(a) = c_{i^*}$ where i^* is the smallest indexed agent who announces the highest integer k_i .

Fix any $\succeq \in P$ and any monotonic extension of it, \succeq^* . Note first that for any $c \in F(\succeq)$, we have $c = g(a) \in NE(G, \succeq^*)$, where $a_i = (\succeq, c, 1)$ for all $i \in N$. Conversely, take any $a \in NE(G, \succeq^*)$, we need to show that $g(a) \in F(\succeq)$.

Suppose first that case (i) applies. Assume, by contradiction, that $g(a) = c \notin F(\succeq)$. Because $a \in NE(G, \succeq^*)$, no $j \in N$ has any incentive to unilaterally alter the outcome from c to $l(c, c_j)$, for any $c_j \preceq_j c$. This means that for any such c_j , $c \succeq_j^* l(c, c_j)$, which by the definition of a monotonic extension, implies that $c \succeq_j^* c_j$. Hence, by Maskin monotonicity, $c \in F(\succeq)$.

Suppose next that case (ii) applies. Assume $g(a) = l(c, c_j)$. If $c \succ_i c_j$ for some $i \in N \setminus \{j\}$, then $c \succ_i^* l(c, c_j)$ and i can unilaterally deviate to some (\cdot, c, \hat{k}_i) , where $\hat{k}_i > \max_{j \neq i} k_j$, such that the outcome is determined according to case (iii) and i wins the integer game implementing c . Similarly, it cannot be the case that $c_j \succ_i c$ for any $i \in N \setminus \{j\}$. If, on the other hand, $c \sim_i c_j$ for all $i \in N \setminus \{j\}$, then by the top coincidence condition, neither c nor c_j belong to $\max_{\succeq_l} C$ for some $l \in N \setminus \{j\}$. But then there exists some $b \in C$ such that $b \succ_l c \sim_l^* l(c, c_j)$ implying that player l has a profitable deviation, a contradiction. It follows that $g(a) \neq l(c, c_j)$. Therefore, $g(a) = c$. But then a cannot be an equilibrium

of $\langle G, \succeq^* \rangle$ unless c is a top choice for every $i \in N \setminus \{j\}$ since each $i \neq j$ can force the mechanism to choose any alternative in C by a unilateral deviation. Hence, $c \in \max_{\succeq_i} C$ for all $i \in N \setminus \{j\}$. But then given that $g(a) = c$ and $a \in NE(G, \succeq^*)$, it is also an equilibrium for all agents to send the message $(\succeq, c, 1)$. Therefore, by the argument of the previous paragraph, $c \in F(\succeq)$.

Finally, assume that case (iii) applies, Then $g(a) \in \max_{\succeq_i} C$ for all i . By the top coincidence condition, $g(a) \in \cap \{\max_{\succeq_i} C : i \in N\}$, and by weak unanimity of F , we have that $g(a) \in F(\succeq)$.

3. This question is based on Jean Pierre Benoit, Efe A. Ok and M.Remzi Sanver. "On Combining Implementable Social Choice Rules." forthcoming in *Games and Economic Behavior*.

Let G^H be a game form with outcome function g^H that Nash-implements $H \in \{F, G\}$. For each $i \in N$, define $A_i \equiv A_i^F \times A_i^G \times \{F, G\}$. Moreover, let $A \equiv A_1 \times \dots \times A_n$ and define the outcome function $h : A \rightarrow C$ as follows:

$$h[(a_1^F, a_1^G, H_1), \dots, (a_n^F, a_n^G, H_n)] = \begin{cases} g^H(a_1^H, \dots, a_n^H) & \text{if } |i \in N : H_i = H \text{ for some } H \in \{F, G\}| \geq n - 1 \\ g^F(a_1^F, \dots, a_n^F) & \text{if } |i \in N : H_i = H \text{ for some } H \in \{F, G\}| < n - 1 \end{cases}$$

Let $G \equiv \langle A, h \rangle$. Take any $\succeq \in P$, and let $[(a_1^F, a_1^G, H_1), \dots, (a_n^F, a_n^G, H_n)] \in NE(G, \succeq)$. By the definition of h , there must exist $H \in \{F, G\}$ such that

$$h[(a_1^F, a_1^G, H_1), \dots, (a_n^F, a_n^G, H_n)] = g^H(a_1^H, \dots, a_n^H)$$

It follows that a_i^H is a best response in the game G^H to a_{-i}^H for each i . Then $(a_1^H, \dots, a_n^H) \in NE(G^H, \succeq)$. Hence,

$$h[(a_1^F, a_1^G, H_1), \dots, (a_n^F, a_n^G, H_n)] \in NE(G^H, \succeq) = H(\succeq) \subseteq F(\succeq) \cup G(\succeq)$$

Conversely, let $c \in F(\succeq) \cup G(\succeq)$. Then $c \in H(\succeq)$ for some $H \in \{F, G\}$. Take any $(a_i^F, a_i^G) \in A_i^F \times A_i^G$, $i \in N$, with $(a_1^H, \dots, a_n^H) \in NE(G^H, \succeq)$, and define

$$\hat{a} \equiv [(a_1^F, a_1^G, H), \dots, (a_n^F, a_n^G, H)] \in A$$

Clearly, $\hat{a} \in NE(G, h)$ and $h(\hat{a}) = g^H(a_1^H, \dots, a_n^H) = c$.

4. This question is based on John Duggan and Joanne Roberts. "Implementing the Efficient Allocation of Pollution." *American Economic Review*, Sep. 2002, 92(4), 1070-1078.

- (a) See the proof of Proposition 1.
- (b) See Section 3(a), p.1073
- (c) See Section 3(b), pp.1073-1074
- (d) See Section 3(b), p.1074