Recall the Candidate-Voter Model:

▶ Have a political spectrum (0 − 100)

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Win by random draw if candidates tie

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- Have a political spectrum (0 100)
- Any voter can become a candidate
- Voter's place on the spectrum is fixed
- Voters will vote for the candidate who holds the closest views

- Win by random draw if candidates tie
- Payoffs:
  - Utility of 200 for winning
  - Cost of 100 to run
  - Cost of |x y| for y winning (for x)

If 50 is the only person running, is this a Nash equilibrium?

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If 30 and 70 run, is this a Nash equilibrium?

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- So a Nash equilibrium occurs when:
  - All candidates who run tie
  - No one can opt to run and tie or win

Properties of this model:



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There are many Nash equilibria

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- Properties of this model:
  - There are many Nash equilibria
  - Not all equilibria have candidates crowded at the median

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Problems?

- Everyone decides whether or not to run at once
- Not everyone can practically run
- Still assumes that politics lie on a single spectrum

Consider the following outcome matrix:

	R	Р	$\mathbf{S}$
R	0, 0	-1, 1	1, -1
Р	1, -1	0, 0	-1, 1
$\mathbf{S}$	-1, 1	1, -1	0, 0

Consider the following outcome matrix:



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What's the name of this game?

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- Are there any Nash equilibria?

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This is an example of a mixed strategy

#### **Expected** Payout



• What is the expected payout of  $(\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3})$  against (1, 0, 0)?  $(u((\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}), (1, 0, 0)))$ 

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#### **Expected** Payout



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 0

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  ▶ 0
- Note that the expected payout is weighted average of the payouts of the pure strategies (with positive probabilities)

How can you raise the average batting average of a baseball team?

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► If p<sub>i</sub> is a best response to the other strategies, all the pure strategies used in p<sub>i</sub> are best responses to p<sub>-i</sub>

- How can you raise the average batting average of a baseball team?
  - By cutting people with a low batting average
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• Is  $(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$  a best response to (0, 1)?

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- ► If p<sub>i</sub> is a best response to the other strategies, all the pure strategies used in p<sub>i</sub> are best responses to p<sub>-i</sub>
- Consider this modified Battle of the Sexes game:



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Is (<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>) a best response to (0, 1)?
 No - you should drop C

Mixed strategies (p<sub>1</sub>,..., p<sub>n</sub>) are a Nash equilibrium if p<sub>i</sub> is a best response to p<sub>-i</sub>

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- ► Mixed strategies (p<sub>1</sub>,..., p<sub>n</sub>) are a Nash equilibrium if p<sub>i</sub> is a best response to p<sub>-i</sub>
  - Each player asks "if the other players stuck with their strategies, am I better off mixing the ratio of strategies?"

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- ► Mixed strategies (p<sub>1</sub>,..., p<sub>n</sub>) are a Nash equilibrium if p<sub>i</sub> is a best response to p<sub>-i</sub>
  - Each player asks "if the other players stuck with their strategies, am I better off mixing the ratio of strategies?"
  - ► If p<sub>i</sub> is a best response to p<sub>-i</sub>, the payouts of the pure strategies in p<sub>i</sub> are equal

- ► Mixed strategies (p<sub>1</sub>,..., p<sub>n</sub>) are a Nash equilibrium if p<sub>i</sub> is a best response to p<sub>-i</sub>
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- ► If p<sub>i</sub> is a best response to p<sub>-i</sub>, the payouts of the pure strategies in p<sub>i</sub> are equal
- Note that pure Nash equilibria are still Nash equilibria