

Paying Taxes:

Game between
Tax Payers (T)
Auditors (A)

Taxpayers

Honest (H)
Cheat (C)

Auditors

Audit (A)
Not Audit (N)

No intersection of best response in pure strategies

Auditor \ Tax Payer	A	N
H	0, 20	0, 40
C	-100, 40	40, 0

No pure strategy NE

q $1-q$

Auditor \ Tax Payer	A	N
H	0, 20	0, 40
C	-100, 40	40, 0

P
1-P

$$U_A(A) = 20p + 40(1-p) \\ = 40 - 20p$$

$$U_A(N) = 40p + 0(1-p) \\ = 40p$$

Auditor will employ
a mixed strategy
only when
 $40 - 20p = 40p$

$$40 - 20p = 40p$$

$$\Rightarrow 60p = 40$$

$$\Rightarrow p = \frac{40}{60} = \frac{2}{3}$$

Mixture of Tax Payer

$$\text{is } p = \frac{2}{3}, 1-p = \frac{1}{3}$$

Pay taxes with prob $p = \frac{2}{3}$
Cheat prob $1-p = \frac{1}{3}$

We can think of this
mixed strategy NE
as across a population.

i.e. if you randomly pick
a person, with prob $p = \frac{2}{3}$
you encounter a honest
tax payer and prob $1-p = \frac{1}{3}$
you encounter a person
cheating on taxes.

Therefore, the mixture
across the population is

$$p = \frac{2}{3}, 1-p = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$U_T(H) = 0q + 0(1-q) \\ = 0$$

$$U_T(C) = -100q + 40(1-q) \\ = 40 - 140q$$

$$0 = 40 - 140q$$

$$q = \frac{40}{140} = \frac{2}{7}$$

$$1 - q = \frac{5}{7}$$

Therefore, auditor is using the mixed strategy

$$\left(\frac{2}{7}, \frac{5}{7}\right)$$

Therefore, mixed strategy
NE of the game is,

Mixed
strategy
NE of
Taxpayer

$$\left(\frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{3} \right), \left(\frac{2}{7}, \frac{5}{7} \right)$$

Taxpayer Auditor