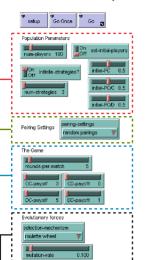
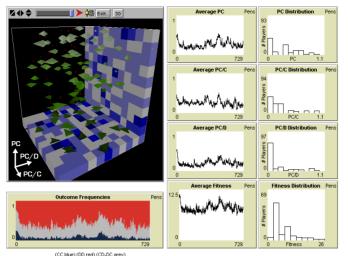


EVO-2x2 - A MODELLING FRAMEWORK TO STUDY THE EVOLUTION OF STRATEGIES IN 2X2 SYMMETRIC GAMES UNDER VARIOUS COMPETING ASSUMPTIONS

Luis R. Izquierdo¹, Segismundo S. Izquierdo², J. Gary Polhill¹

¹The Macaulay Institute, Aberdeen, UK, ²Department of Industrial Organization, University of Valladolid, Spain • email: luis@izquierdo.name





EVO-2x2 is a computer simulation modelling framework designed to formally investigate the evolution of strategies in 2-player 2-strategy (2x2) symmetric games under various competing assumptions. EVO-2x2 enables the user to explore the implications of alternative assumptions (all of which are fully consistent with the essence of the theory of evolution) in a coherent and systematic way. It thus provides a single framework within which results obtained using different assumptions can be contrasted and compared with analytical approaches.

POPULATION PARAMETERS

ALLD

num-players is the number of players in the population. Each player has a strategy, defined by:

PC: Probability to cooperate in the first round.

PC/C: Probability to cooperate in round n (n > 1) given that the opponent has cooperated in round n - 1.

PC/D: Probability to cooperate in round n (n > 1)

given that the opponent has defected in round n-1.

infinite-strategies? defines the strategy space (possible values for PC, PC/C, PC/D).



○ • • • • • • 1

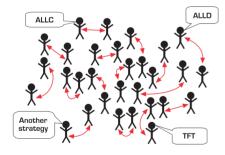
infinite-strategies? = off (num-strategies)

set-initial-players is used to set the initial population of strategies.

(initiaHPC, initiaHPC/C, initiaHPC/D)

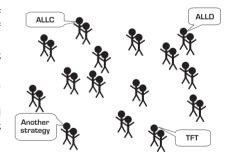
PAIRING SETTINGS

Another



pairing-settings determines the algorithm used to form pairs of players. Each pair of players play one match, which consists of a series of rounds:

- random pairings: Pairs are made at random.
- round robin: Every player is paired with every other player once.
- children together: Players are paired preferably with their siblings (and at random among siblings).



THE GAME: ROUNDS AND PAYOFFS

rounds-per-match: Number of rounds in a match. Each round is a one-stage game in which each player plays according to its strategy (defined by the values of *PC*, *PC/C*, *PC/D*).



Player

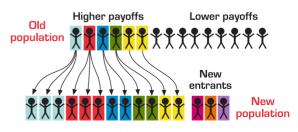
	Cooperate	Defect
Cooperate	CC-payoff	CD-payoff
Defect	DC-payoff	DD-payoff

Opponent

EVOLUTIONARY FORCES: THE FOLLOWING POPULATION

selection-mechanism determines the algorithm used to create the new generation.

- roulette wheel: num-players replications are conducted; in each replication, the probability of being selected for each player is proportional to its payoff.
- Moran process: In each generation, one player is chosen for replication with a probability proportional to its payoff. The offspring replaces a randomly chosen player.
- winners take all: The player(s) with the highest total payoff (i.e. the "winners")
 are identified. Then, for num-players times a random winner is chosen to
 be replicated.
- tournament: For num-players times, two players are selected at random and the one with the higher payoff is replicated. Ties are resolved at random.



mutation-rate: Probability that the strategy of any newly created player is determined at random.