

GAME THEORY

Game:- A competitive situation is called a game if it has the following properties.

- (i). there are finite number of participants (players),
- (ii). Each player has finite number of strategies available to him,
- (iii). Every game results in an outcome.

Number of players:- If a game involves only two players, then it is called two-person game.

If the numbers of players are more than two, the game is known as n-person game.

Sum of gains and losses:- If in a game the gains of one player are exactly the losses to another player, such that sum of gains and losses equals zero, then the game is said to be a zero-sum game.

otherwise it is said to be non-zero sum game.

Strategy:- The list of all possible actions (moves) (courses of action) that the player will take for every pay off (outcome) is called a strategy.

optimal strategy:- The particular strategy (or complete plan) by which a player optimises his gains or losses without knowing the competitor's strategies is called optimal strategy.

Value of the game:- The expected outcome per play when players follow their optimal strategy is called as value of the game.

Pure strategy:- It is the decision rule which is always used by the player to select particular strategy (course of action)

Thus, each player knows in advance of all strategies.

Mixed strategy:- The courses of action that are to be selected on a particular occasion with some fixed probability are called mixed strategies.

Thus, there is a probabilistic situation in selecting the mixed strategies.

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### Two-Person zero-sum games:-

A game with only two players is called a Two-Person zero-sum game, if one player's gain is equal to the loss of other player so that total sum is zero.

### Payoff Matrix:-

A quantitative measure of satisfaction a player gets at the end of the play is called as payoff of the game.

The payoffs in terms of gains or losses, when players select their particular strategies (courses of action) can be represented in the form of a matrix. Such matrix is called as payoff matrix.

Since the game is zero-sum, the gain of one player is equal to the loss of other player. Hence, one player's payoff table would contain the same amounts in payoff table of other player with the change of sign.

If player A has m strategies  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_m$  and player B has n strategies  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n$ .

The total number of possible outcomes is  $m \times n$ .

Let  $a_{ij}$  be the payoff which player A gains from player B if player A chooses strategy i and B chooses strategy j.

Then the payoff matrix will be as follows.

		Player B strategies			
Player A strategies					
$A_1$		$B_1$	$B_2$	$\dots$	$B_n$
$A_2$		$a_{21}$	$a_{22}$	$\dots$	$a_{2n}$
$\vdots$		$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$A_m$		$a_{m1}$	$a_{m2}$	$\dots$	$a_{mn}$

### Assumptions of the game

- (1). Each player has available to him a finite number of pure strategies (courses of action). The list may not be same for each player.
- (2). Players act rationally and intelligently.
- (3). The amount of gain or loss on an individual's choice of strategy is known to each player in advance.
- (4). List of strategies of each player is known in advance.
- (5). One player attempts to Maximize gains and other attempts to minimize losses.
- (6). Both players make their decisions individually prior to the play without direct communication between them.
- (7). The payoff is fixed and determined in advance.

### Pure strategies - Games with saddle point:-

consider the payoff matrix of the game which represents pay off of player A.

The objective of the study is to know how these players must select their respective strategies so that they may optimise their pay off.

such a decision-making criterion is referred to as the Minimax - Maximin principle.

Maximin principle:- For player A, the minimum value in each row represents least gain (pay off) to him. These are written in the matrix by row minima. He then select largest gain among the row minimum values. This choice of player A is called Maximin principle. The corresponding gain is called Maximin Value of the game.

Minimax Principle:- Player B is assumed to be the losser. The maximum value in each column represents the maximum loss to him. These are written in the matrix by Column Maxima. He will then select minimum loss among the column Maximum values.

This choice of player B is called minimax principle. The corresponding loss is the minimax value of the game.

Optimal strategy:- A course of action which puts the player in the most preferred position, irrespective of the course of action his competitor(s) adopt, is called as optimal strategy.

Saddle point:- If the Maximin value is equals to the Minimax value, then the game is said to have a saddle (equilibrium) point.

(v).  
Value of the game:- The amount of payoff at a saddle point is called as value of the game.

Remarks:- (1). A game may have more than one saddle point.

(2). If  $V$  is the value of the game,

$$\text{Maximin value} \leq V \leq \text{Minimax value}.$$

(3). If the Maximin and Minimax values both equals to zero, then the game is said to be a fair game.

(4). If the Maximin and Minimax values of the game are equal and both equal to the value of the game, then the game is said to be strictly determinable.

### Method of finding saddle point:-

To determine the saddle point in the payoff matrix, we follow the following steps.

i). select the minimum (lowest) element in each row of the payoff matrix and write them under 'row minima' heading.

Then select the largest among these elements and enclose it in a rectangle.  $\square$ .

ii). select the Maximum (largest) element in each column of the payoff Matrix and write them under 'column Maxima' heading. Then select the lowest element among these elements and enclose it in a circle.  $O$ .

iii). Find out the element(s) which is same in the circle as well as rectangle.

This element represents the value of the game and is called the saddle (equilibrium) point.

Problems :-

- (1). The Payoff matrix of a game is given below.

Player A	Player B		
	B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>
A <sub>1</sub>	-1	2	-2
A <sub>2</sub>	6	4	-6

Determine the optimal strategies for players A and B.

Also determine the value of the game.

Is the game (i). fair? (ii). strictly determinable?

Sol:-

Player A	Player B			Row minimum
	B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>	
A <sub>1</sub>	-1	2	(-2)	(-2) Maximin
A <sub>2</sub>	6	4	-6	-6

column maximum	6	4	(-2)	Minimax
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(A<sub>1</sub>, B<sub>3</sub>) is the saddle point

and the value of the game is -2.

The game is strictly determinable.

- (2). Solve the following game by using Maximin, Minimax principle, whose payoff matrix is given below.

Player A	Player B				Row minimum
	B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>	B <sub>4</sub>	
A <sub>1</sub>	1	7	3	4	1
A <sub>2</sub>	5	6	(4)	5	(4) Maximin
A <sub>3</sub>	7	2	0	3	0

Column maximum	7	7	(4)	5	Minimax
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The optimal strategy for A is A<sub>2</sub>

for B is B<sub>3</sub>

and the value of the game = 4.

(3). A company management and the labour union are negotiating a new three-year statement.

The costs to the company are given for every pair of strategy choice.

Union strategies	Company strategies			
	I	II	III	IV
I	20	15	12	35
II	25	14	8	10
III	40	2	10	5
IV	-5	4	11	0

What strategy will the two sides adopt?

Also determine the value of the game.

Sol: Maximin = Minimax = 12.

∴ Company will always adopt strategy III

and Union will always adopt strategy I.

The value of the game = 12.

(4). Find the range of values of p and q which will render the entry (2,2) a saddle point for the game:

Player A	Player B		
	B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>
A <sub>1</sub>	2	4	5
A <sub>2</sub>	10	7	9
A <sub>3</sub>	4	p	6

Sol: Ignoring the values of p and q in the payoff matrix, we determine maximin and minimax values.

Player A	Player B			Row minimum
	B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>	
A <sub>1</sub>	2	4	5	2
A <sub>2</sub>	10	7	9	7
A <sub>3</sub>	4	p	6	4

Saddle point will exist at the position (2,2) only when  $p \leq 7$  and  $9 > 7$ .

Column maximum      10    7    6  
Minimax

Saddle point is not unique.

5. Find the strategy selection for each player and the value of game.

		Player B				Row Minimum
		B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>	B <sub>4</sub>	
Player A	A <sub>1</sub>	-5	3	1	10	-5
	A <sub>2</sub>	5	5	4	6	4 Maximin ,
	A <sub>3</sub>	4	-2	0	-5	-5
Column Maximum		5	5	4	10	Minimax

saddle point is 4 at (A<sub>2</sub>, B<sub>3</sub>) position,

Value of the game = 4.

## Mixed strategies and Games without saddle point:-

In certain cases, the saddle point does not exist. To find the solution of such games, both the players must determine optimal mixed strategies.

A mixed strategy game can be solved by the following methods.

- 1). Algebraic Method
- 2). Analytical or calculus Method
- 3). Matrix Method
- ✓ 4). Graphical method
- 5). Linear programming Method.

## The Rules (Principle) of Dominance:-

The rules of dominance are used to reduce the size of the payoff matrix.

The Dominance principles are stated as follows.

(1). For player A who is assumed to be the gainer, if each element in a row  $R_s$  is less than or equal to the corresponding element in other row  $R_t$ , then  $R_s$  is said to be dominated by  $R_t$ .

Then  $R_s$  can be deleted from the payoff matrix.

The player A will never use the strategy corresponding to the row  $R_s$ .

(2). For player B who is assumed to be the loser, if each element in a column,  ~~$C_s$~~   $C_s$  is greater than or equal to the corresponding element in a column  $C_t$ , then  $C_s$  is said to be dominated by  $C_t$ .

Then  $C_s$  can be deleted from the payoff matrix.

The player B will never use the strategy corresponding to the  ~~$C_s$~~  column  $C_s$ .

(3). Some strategies also be dominated if it is inferior (less attractive) to an average or more other pure strategies.

Eg:- The pay off matrix for A is

		Player B			Row Minima
		B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>	
Player A	A <sub>1</sub>	-5	10	20	-5 Maximin
	A <sub>2</sub>	5	-10	-10	-10
	A <sub>3</sub>	5	-20	-20	-20
		(5)	10	20	Minimax

There is no saddle point for the game.

Every element of B<sub>3</sub> ≥ every element of B<sub>2</sub>.  
 $\therefore B_3$  is dominated by B<sub>2</sub>.

so we delete B<sub>3</sub> from pay off Matrix.

		Player B	
		B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>
Player A	A <sub>1</sub>	-5	10
	A <sub>2</sub>	5	-10
	A <sub>3</sub>	5	-20

Every element of A<sub>3</sub> ≤ every element of A<sub>2</sub>.

$\therefore A_3$  is dominated by A<sub>2</sub>.

so we delet A<sub>3</sub> from the pay off Matrix.

		Player B	
		B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>
Player A	A <sub>1</sub>	-5	10
	A <sub>2</sub>	5	-10

{ From this problem }  
 $V = 0$

After getting the  $2 \times 2$  pay off Matrix, we find the saddle point by any one of the above methods.

### Algebraic Method :-

Consider the game with the payoff matrix as follows.

		Player B		Probability
		B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	
Player A	A <sub>1</sub>	a <sub>11</sub>	a <sub>12</sub>	P <sub>1</sub>
	A <sub>2</sub>	a <sub>21</sub>	a <sub>22</sub>	P <sub>2</sub>
Probability	q <sub>1</sub>	q <sub>2</sub>		

Let P<sub>1</sub>, P<sub>2</sub> are the probabilities when player A select the strategies A<sub>1</sub>, A<sub>2</sub> respectively.

Let q<sub>1</sub>, q<sub>2</sub> are the probabilities when player B select the strategies B<sub>1</sub>, B<sub>2</sub> respectively.

Let V is the value of the game.

Since player A is the gainer, A expects atleast V.

∴ We must have 
$$\begin{cases} a_{11}P_1 + a_{21}P_2 \geq V \\ a_{12}P_1 + a_{22}P_2 \geq V \end{cases} \rightarrow \textcircled{1}$$

where P<sub>1</sub> + P<sub>2</sub> = 1

Since player B is the loser, B expects atmost V.

∴ We must have 
$$\begin{cases} a_{11}q_1 + a_{12}q_2 \leq V \\ a_{21}q_1 + a_{22}q_2 \leq V \end{cases} \rightarrow \textcircled{2}$$

where q<sub>1</sub> + q<sub>2</sub> = 1

Consider the inequalities in eqs ①, ② as equalities, solve for the values P<sub>1</sub>, P<sub>2</sub>, q<sub>1</sub>, q<sub>2</sub>. and find the value of the game.

Nov 13

Problems.

- (i). solve the game whose payoff matrix is given below .

Player A	Player B				Row minimum
	B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>	B <sub>4</sub>	
A <sub>1</sub>	3	2	4	0	0
A <sub>2</sub>	3	4	2	4	2 - Maximin .
A <sub>3</sub>	4	2	4	0	0
A <sub>4</sub>	0	4	0	8	0

Column maximum	4	4	4	8	Minimax .
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The game has no saddle point.

We reduce the size of the given payoff matrix by using dominance principles.

For player A, first row is dominated by third row .

i.e every element of A<sub>1</sub>  $\leq$  every element of A<sub>3</sub> .

∴ We delete first row .

Player A	Player B			
	B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>	B <sub>4</sub>
A <sub>2</sub>	3	4	2	4
A <sub>3</sub>	4	2	4	0
A <sub>4</sub>	0	4	0	8

For player B, each element of B<sub>1</sub>  $\geq$  each element of B<sub>3</sub> .

$\Rightarrow$  first column is dominated by third column .

∴ We delete first column .

Player A	Player B		
	B <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>	B <sub>4</sub>
A <sub>2</sub>	4	2	4
A <sub>3</sub>	2	4	0
A <sub>4</sub>	4	0	8

Here, none of the strategies of players A and B is inferior to any of their other strategies .

The average payoffs of B<sub>3</sub>, B<sub>4</sub> are  $\frac{2+4}{2}$ ,  $\frac{4+0}{2}$ ,  $\frac{0+8}{2}$  = 3, 2, 4

Then every element of  $B_2 \geq$  average payoff of  $B_3, B_4$ .

$\therefore$  The strategy  $B_2$  may be deleted.

Player A	Player B	
	$B_3$	$B_4$
$A_2$	2	4
$A_3$	4	0
$A_4$	0	8

The averages for  $A_3, A_4$  are 2, 4 is same as  $A_2$ .

$\therefore$  we delete strategy  $A_2$ .

Player A	Player B		Probability
	$B_3$	$B_4$	
$A_3$	4	0	$P_1$
$A_4$	0	8	$P_2$

Probabilities  $q_1$      $q_2$

$$4P_1 + 0P_2 = 0P_1 + 8P_2$$

$$4P_1 = 8P_2$$

$$4P_1 = 8(1-P_1) \therefore P_1 + P_2 = 1$$

$$4P_1 = 8 - 8P_1 \quad P_2 = 1 - P_1$$

$$12P_1 = 8$$

$$P_1 = \frac{2}{3}, P_2 = \frac{1}{3}.$$

$$4q_1 + 0q_2 = 0q_1 + 8q_2$$

$$4q_1 = 8(1-q_1)$$

$$q_1 = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$q_2 = \frac{1}{3}.$$

The value of the game

$$= 4P_1 + 0P_2$$

$$= 4\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) + 0 = \frac{8}{3}.$$

The optimal strategies for A are  $\{0, 0, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\}$ .

The optimal strategies for B are  $\{0, 0, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\}$ .

(8)

- (2). Using dominance rules to reduce the size of the following payoff matrix to  $(2 \times 2)$  size and hence find the optimal strategies and value of the game.

		Player B			Column Max	Row Min
		B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>		
Player A	A <sub>1</sub>	3	-2	4	3	-2
	A <sub>2</sub>	-1	4	2	4	-1
	A <sub>3</sub>	2	-2	6	6	-2

no saddle point.

Sol:- For player B  
each element in B<sub>3</sub>  $\geq$  each element in B<sub>1</sub>,  
B<sub>3</sub> is dominated by B<sub>1</sub>.

so we delete B<sub>3</sub>.

		Player B	
		B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>
Player A	A <sub>1</sub>	3	-2
	A <sub>2</sub>	-1	4
	A <sub>3</sub>	2	-2

For player A, each element in A<sub>3</sub>  $\leq$  each element in A<sub>1</sub>.  
 $\therefore$  A<sub>3</sub> is dominated by A<sub>1</sub>.

$\therefore$  We delete A<sub>3</sub>.

Player A		Player B		Probabilities
		B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	
A <sub>1</sub>	3	-2	P <sub>1</sub>	Hence also, there is no saddle point.
	-1	4	P <sub>2</sub>	
Probability	q <sub>1</sub>	q <sub>2</sub>		

$$3P_1 - P_2 = -2P_1 + 4P_2$$

$$5P_1 = 5P_2 \Rightarrow 5(P_1 - P_2) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 10P_1 = 5, \boxed{P_1 = \frac{1}{2}}, \boxed{P_2 = \frac{1}{2}}$$

$$3q_1 - 2q_2 = -q_1 + 4q_2$$

$$4q_1 = 6q_2 \Rightarrow 4q_1 = 6(1-q_1)$$

$$\Rightarrow 10q_1 = 6, \boxed{q_1 = \frac{3}{5}}, \boxed{q_2 = \frac{2}{5}}$$

$$\text{The Value of the game} = 3P_1 - P_2 = \frac{3}{2} - \frac{1}{2} = 1.$$

		Player B	
		B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>
Player A	A <sub>1</sub>	1	-1/2
	A <sub>2</sub>	-1/2	0

Sol:-  $V = \frac{-1}{8}$ .

JUNE '12

4. Reduce the following game by dominance property and find the value of the game.

		Player B				
		I	II	III	IV	V
Player A	I	1	3	2	7	4
	II	3	4	1	5	6
	III	6	5	7	6	5
	IV	2	0	6	3	1

Sol:- This will be reduced to

		I	II	III
		III	6	5
			7	

The optimal strategies for A is  $\frac{1}{3}$   
B is  $\frac{1}{2}$  {5 is min. loss}.

and value of the game = 5.

(OR)  
Directly the saddle point = 5.

5. For the following payoff matrix of the game,  
Determine the optimal strategies and value of the game.

		Player B		
		B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>
Player A	A <sub>1</sub>	30	40	-80
	A <sub>2</sub>	0	15	-20
	A <sub>3</sub>	90	20	50

Sol:- The reduced payoff matrix is

		B <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>	
		40	-80 <th><math>P_1 = \frac{1}{3}</math></th>	$P_1 = \frac{1}{3}$
A <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>1</sub>			$P_2 = \frac{4}{5}$
	B <sub>3</sub>			$q_1 = \frac{13}{15}$

$$\text{and } V = 24.$$

The optimal strategies for A are  $\left\{ \frac{1}{3}, 0, \frac{4}{5} \right\}$ .

" " B are  $\left\{ 0, \frac{13}{15}, \frac{2}{15} \right\}$ .

6. Solve the game whose payoff matrix is given by

		Player B			
		I	II	III	
Player A	I	(-2)	15	(-2)	(-2)
	II	-5	-6	-4	-6
	III	-5	20	-8	-8
		(-2)	20	(-2)	

Sol:- The saddle point is -2.

The value of the game  $V = -2$ .

The optimum strategy for A is I.

" B is I and III.

7. Solve the game whose payoff matrix is

		B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>	
A <sub>1</sub>	A <sub>2</sub>	(6)	8	(5)	5
	A <sub>2</sub>	4	12	12	4
		6	12	6	

value of the game  $V = 6$ .

The optimum strategy for A is A<sub>1</sub>,

" for B is B<sub>1</sub> and B<sub>3</sub>.

8. Find the value & optimal strategies for the two players game whose payoff matrix is given below.

		B			
A	I	II	III		
		I	-1	-1	-1
I	II	-1	-1	3	-1
	III	-1	2	-1	-1
		1	2	3	

Sol:-

There is no saddle point.

So we reduce the size of the matrix by dominance rules.

There is no possibility to reduce the size by dominance rules.

So we take probabilities.

Player B			Probabilities	
I	II	III		
Player A	I	1	-1	-1
	II	-1	-1	3
	III	-1	2	-1
		$p_1$	$p_2$	$p_3$
		$q_1$	$q_2$	$q_3$

For player A :-

$$P_1 - P_2 - P_3 \geq V$$

$$-P_1 - P_2 + 2P_3 \geq V$$

$$-P_1 + 3P_2 - P_3 \geq V$$

and  $P_1 + P_2 + P_3 = 1$

For player B

$$q_1 - q_2 - q_3 \leq V$$

$$-q_1 - q_2 + 3q_3 \leq V$$

$$-q_1 + 2q_2 - q_3 \leq 1$$

and  $q_1 + q_2 + q_3 = 1$ .

$$P_1 - P_2 - P_3 = -P_1 - P_2 + 2P_3$$

$$2P_1 - 3P_3 = 0$$

$$\cancel{-P_1 - P_2 + 2P_3} = \cancel{-P_1 + 3P_2 - P_3}$$

$$-4P_2 + 3P_3 = 0$$

9. Solve the game with payoff matrix

Player B			
	I	II	
Player A	I	-1	-2
	II	1	1
	III	2	-1
		2	-1

Sol:-

There is no saddle point.

For player A, I is dominated by III

so we delete I

Player B			
	I	II	
Player A	I	-1	1
	II	2	-1

For player B, III is dominated by II.

so we delete III

Player B			
	I	II	
Player A	I	-1	1
	II	2	-1
	III	q <sub>1</sub>	q <sub>2</sub>

$$-P_1 + 2P_2 = P_1 - P_2$$

$$-q_1 + q_2 = 2q_1 - q_2$$

$$-2P_1 + 3P_2 = 0$$

$$-3q_1 = -2q_2$$

$$-2P_1 + 3(1-P_1) = 0$$

$$3q_1 = 2(1-q_1)$$

$$-2P_1 + 3 - 3P_1 = 0$$

$$3q_1 + 2q_1 = 2$$

$$-5P_1 = -3$$

$$5q_1 = 2$$

$$P_1 = \frac{3}{5} \quad P_2 = \frac{2}{5}$$

$$q_1 = \frac{2}{5} \quad q_2 = \frac{3}{5}$$

Value of the game  $V = -P_1 + 2P_2$

$$= -\frac{3}{5} + \frac{4}{5} = \frac{1}{5}$$

The optimum strategies for A are  $\left\{0, \frac{3}{5}, \frac{2}{5}\right\}$ .

" B are  $\left\{\frac{2}{5}, \frac{3}{5}, 0\right\}$ .

(10). Solve the following game by using the principle of dominance.

		Player B					
		I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Player A		1	4	2	0	2	1
2		4	3	1	3	2	2
3		4	3	7	-5	1	2
4		4	3	4	-1	2	2
5		4	3	3	-2	2	2

Sol:-

		III	IV
2	1	3	
3	7	-5	

$$A : \left\{ 0, \frac{6}{7}, \frac{1}{7}, 0, 0 \right\}.$$

$$B : \left\{ 0, 0, \frac{4}{7}, \frac{3}{7}, 0, 0 \right\}.$$

$$\text{and } V = \frac{13}{7}.$$

(ii). Use dominance rules to reduce the size of the matrix and hence find the optimal strategies and values of the game.

		Player B			
		B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>	
Player A		A <sub>1</sub>	3	-2	4
		A <sub>2</sub>	-1	4	2
		A <sub>3</sub>	2	2	5

Sol:- For player B, B<sub>3</sub> is dominated by B<sub>1</sub>.

		Player B		
		B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	
Player A		A <sub>1</sub>	3	-2
		A <sub>2</sub>	-1	4
		A <sub>3</sub>	2	2

$$\frac{3-1}{2}, \frac{-2+4}{2} = 1, 1.$$

(11)

(ii) By dominance theory, solve the following game.

		Player B				
		B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>	B <sub>4</sub>	
Player A		A <sub>1</sub>	8	10	9	14
		A <sub>2</sub>	10	11	8	12
		A <sub>3</sub>	13	12	14	13

Ans. — V = 12.

### Graphical Method :-

This method is useful for the game where the payoff matrix is of the size  $2 \times n$  or  $m \times 2$ .

Consider the following  $2 \times n$  payoff matrix of a game without saddle point.

		Player B				Probability
		B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>	.....	
Player A	A <sub>1</sub>	a <sub>11</sub>	a <sub>12</sub>	a <sub>13</sub>	.....	a <sub>1n</sub>
	A <sub>2</sub>	a <sub>21</sub>	a <sub>22</sub>	a <sub>23</sub>	.....	a <sub>2n</sub>
Probability	q <sub>1</sub>	q <sub>2</sub>	q <sub>3</sub>	.....	q <sub>n</sub>	

Player A has two strategies  $A_1, A_2$  with selection probabilities  $P_1, P_2$  respectively, such that  $P_1 + P_2 = 1$ . and  $P_1, P_2 \geq 0$

The pure strategies available to player B and expected payoff for player A would be as follows.

B's Pure Strategies	A's Expected Payoff
$B_1$	$\alpha_{11}P_1 + \alpha_{21}P_2$
$B_2$	$\alpha_{12}P_1 + \alpha_{22}P_2$
$B_3$	$\alpha_{13}P_1 + \alpha_{23}P_2$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$B_n$	$\alpha_{1n}P_1 + \alpha_{2n}P_2$

Plot the straight lines on the graph representing player A's expected payoff values.

Player A should select the value of probability  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  so as to maximize the minimum expected payoff.

i.e. maximin value.

Hence, we select <sup>(maximum)</sup> highest point on the lower boundary of these lines.

By solving the corresponding lines which passes through this point, we can find the value of the game.

For  $m \times 2$  games also, we follow the same procedure and select Minimum (lowest) point on the upper boundary of the lines and find the value of the game.

Problems

- (1). Use graphical method to solve the following game and hence find value of the game.

		Player B				
		B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>	B <sub>4</sub>	
Player A		A <sub>1</sub>	2	2	3	-2
		A <sub>2</sub>	4	3	2	6

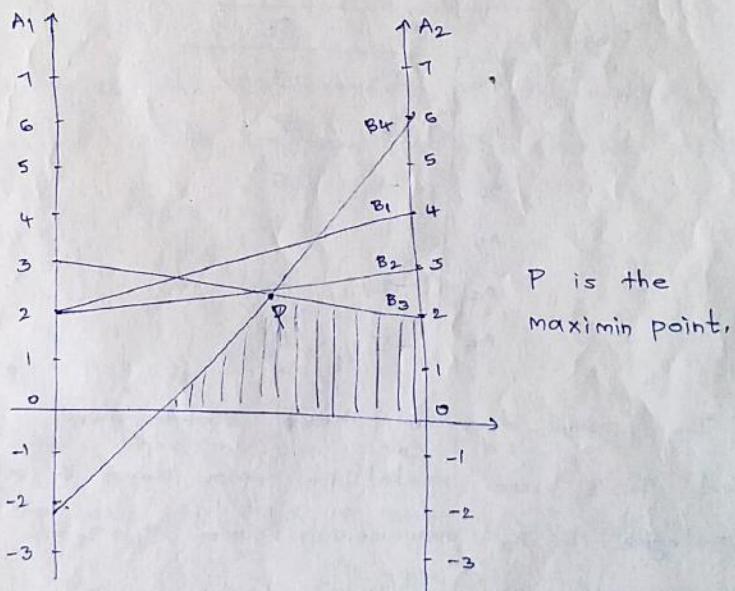
Sol:— There is no saddle point for the game.

Let  $P_1, P_2$  be the probabilities of player A in selecting A<sub>1</sub>, A<sub>2</sub> strategies respectively. and  $P_1 + P_2 = 1$

The expected payoff (gain) to player A will be as follows.

B's pure strategies	A's expected payoff
B <sub>1</sub>	$2P_1 + 4P_2$
B <sub>2</sub>	$2P_1 + 3P_2$
B <sub>3</sub>	$3P_1 + 2P_2$
B <sub>4</sub>	$-2P_1 + 6P_2$

We plot the straight lines of A's expected payoff values on the graph.



The Maximin point is the intersection of B<sub>3</sub> and B<sub>4</sub>.

∴ The payoff matrix will be reduced to (2x2) matrix as given below.

		Player B	
		B <sub>3</sub>	B <sub>4</sub>
Player A		A <sub>1</sub>	3      -2
		A <sub>2</sub>	2      6

$P_1$        $P_2$

$Q_1$        $Q_2$

$$3P_1 + 2P_2 = -2P_1 + 6P_2$$

$$5P_1 = 4P_2$$

$$5P_1 = 4(1-P_1)$$

$$9P_1 = 4$$

$$P_1 = \frac{4}{9}, P_2 = \frac{5}{9}$$

$$3q_1 - 2q_2 = 2q_1 + 6q_2$$

$$q_1 = 8q_2$$

$$q_1 = 8(1-q_1)$$

$$9q_1 = 8$$

$$q_1 = \frac{8}{9}, q_2 = \frac{1}{9}$$

$$\therefore \text{Value of the game } V = 3P_1 + 2P_2$$

$$= 3\left(\frac{4}{9}\right) + 2\left(\frac{5}{9}\right)$$

$$= \frac{12+10}{9} = \frac{22}{9}$$

The optimum strategies for A are  $\left\{\frac{4}{9}, \frac{5}{9}\right\}$ .

" for B are  $\left\{0, 0, \frac{8}{9}, \frac{1}{9}\right\}$ .

- (2). Obtain the optimal strategies for both persons and find value of the game for the two-person zero-sum game whose payoff matrix is as follows.

		Player B	
		B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>
Player A	A <sub>1</sub>	1	-3
	A <sub>2</sub>	3	5
	A <sub>3</sub>	-1	6
	A <sub>4</sub>	4	1
	A <sub>5</sub>	2	2
	A <sub>6</sub>	-5	0

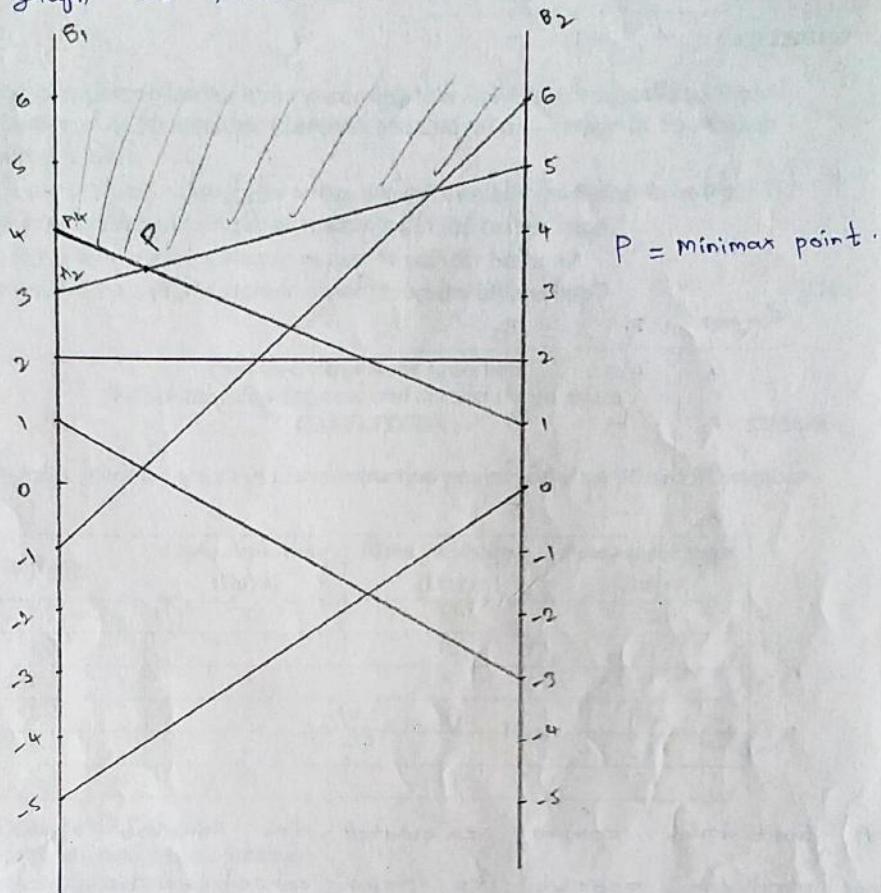
Sol:- The game does not have saddle point.

Let  $q_1, q_2$  are probabilities for player B in selecting the strategies B<sub>1</sub>, B<sub>2</sub> respectively, and  $q_1 + q_2 = 1$ .

The expected payoff (loss) to player B will be as follows.

A's pure strategies	B's expected payoff
A <sub>1</sub>	$q_1 - 3q_2$
A <sub>2</sub>	$3q_1 - 5q_2$
A <sub>3</sub>	$-q_1 + 6q_2$
A <sub>4</sub>	$4q_1 + q_2$
A <sub>5</sub>	$2q_1 + 2q_2$
A <sub>6</sub>	$-5q_1 + 0q_2$

We plot the straight lines of B's expected payoff values on the graph as follows.



$P = \text{minimax point}$

The minimax point is the intersection of  $A_2$  and  $A_4$ .

∴ The payoff matrix will be reduced to  $(2 \times 2)$  matrix as follows.

Player A		Player B		$P_1$	
		$B_1$	$B_2$		
$A_2$	3	5	$P_1$	$P_2$	
	4	1			
		$q_1$	$q_2$		

By solving, we get, Value of the game  $V = \frac{17}{5}$ .

The optimum strategies for player A are  $\left\{0, \frac{3}{5}, 0, \frac{2}{5}, 0, 0\right\}$ ,  
 " " B are  $\left\{\frac{4}{5}, \frac{1}{5}\right\}$ .

(3).

		Player B		
		B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>
Player A	A <sub>1</sub>	1	3	11
	A <sub>2</sub>	8	5	2

Sol:- A :  $\left( \frac{3}{11}, \frac{8}{11} \right)$  B :  $\left( 0, \frac{2}{11}, \frac{9}{11} \right)$  and V =  $\frac{49}{11}$ .

(4).

		Player B	
		B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>
Player A	A <sub>1</sub>	-6	7
	A <sub>2</sub>	4	-5
Player A	A <sub>3</sub>	-1	-2
	A <sub>4</sub>	-2	5
Player A	A <sub>5</sub>	7	-6

Sol:- A :  $\left\{ 0, 0, 0, \frac{13}{20}, \frac{7}{20} \right\}$ .

B :  $\left\{ \frac{11}{20}, \frac{9}{20} \right\}$ , and V =  $\frac{23}{20}$ .

(5). A soft drink company calculated the market share of two products against its major competitor having three products and found out the impact of additional advertisement in any one of its products against the other.

		Company B		
		B <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>
Company A	A <sub>1</sub>	6	7	15
	A <sub>2</sub>	20	12	10

What is the best strategy as well as the competitor?

What is the payoff obtained by the company and the competitor in the long run?

Use graphical method to obtain the solution.

Sol:- A :  $\left( \frac{2}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, 0 \right)$  B :  $\left( \frac{7}{12}, \frac{5}{12} \right)$  and V =  $\frac{1}{3} \cdot \{ 11 \}$ .