

Information in networked world

Economic theory for CPS researchers

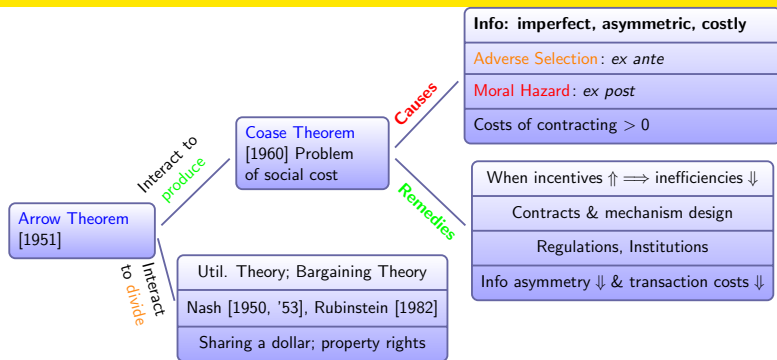
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Lecture 1 - 2: Hurwicz, Maskin, Myerson (2008)
Asymmetric Information and Implementation



Arrow impossibility theorem & its progenies



We will make no distinction between **TRANSACTION COSTS** & **CONTRACT COSTS**

Our focus: column III

- modeling asymmetric info and costly contracts
Asymmetric info and contractual costs: any relationship?
- risk & decision making under uncertainty

Travel through Time I

From prehistoric era: Nobel'71

- **Paul Samuelson** Equilibrium theory (partial & general eq.)

To ancient times: Nobel'72, '91

- **Arrow** Impossibility Theorem
- **Coase** Transaction costs, property rights, institutions

To modern times: Nobel'94 Nash, Harsanyi, Selten

- **Nash** Equilibria, Bargaining Theory, Game Theory
- **Harsanyi** Bayesian games [tools for richer info structures]
- **Selten** Equilibrium refinements, multi-stage games

Time Travel II: our coming journey

Past spring (2015)

We discussed Nobel'72,91,94 and started asymmetric information

To reaching XXI century: Nobel'2001 – our coming travel

- **Akerlof** Information Imperfections [Lemons]
 - Missing Markets
- **Stiglitz** Markets with Asymmetric Info
 - Grossman-Stiglitz impossibility result
- **Spence** Signaling

Time Travel III: we will make excursions to

To Nobel'2007 – Today's lecture

- Maskin Implementation
- Myerson Mechanism Design
- Hurwicz Enforcement

Nobel'2014 Analyzing Institutions, Markets and Information

- Tirole A footprint on everything [no unifying theory yet]
 - Regulatory economics: market power and public goods
 - Incomplete contracts
 - Platforms (networked environments)

Time Travel IV: Economic Institutions (applications)

Valuation of Derivatives: [attn Pricing Risks]

- **Scholes'97** Valuation of derivatives
 - from Ito calculus to Black-Scholes formula [Samuelson was close ...]
- **Merton'97** Applications of Black-Scholes

From Coase to Institutions to Governance

- **North'93** Theory of economic institutions
- **Williamson'2009** The firm and its boundaries
- **Ostrom'2009** Organization of commons
 - public infrastructures & property rights

Time Travel and Hot Topics

Nobel'72, 91, 94, then Nobel'97, 2001, 93 & 2009, 2007 & 2014

- Merton, Scholes'97 Value of Derivatives [= Pricing Risk]
- Akerlof, Stiglitz, Spence'2001 Asymmetric information
- North'93, Williamson & Ostrom'2009 Institutions: theory, design and governance
- Maskin, Myerson, Hurwicz'2007 Implementation, Mechanism Design, Enforcement
- Tirole'2014 Regulations, market power, networks, contracts

Hot topics today & tomorrow: Information and risks in networked world

- Practical Issues in implementation, robust implementation
- Limits of Mechanism design
- Information in Games, global games
- Tomorrow? Risks in networks, institutions [why?]

Time Travel: Glancing into the future

On route to Nobel?: Information and risks in networked world

- **Contracts, Enforcement, Institutions** Costly contracts revisited
- **Institutional design** from theory ['96,2009,2014] to practice
 - Infrastructures (CPS): design in networked world
 - Cyber security (CPS): pricing information in networked world
 - Resilience to risks (CPS): Liability for information goods
- **Cyber-risks** from valuing the derivatives ('97) & information ('2001) to managing cyber-risks
 - cyber-risks (CPS): evaluating and pricing risks in networks
 - cyber-risks (CPS): management & liability assignment
 - cyber-risks (CPS): management via cyber insurance

Hurwicz quest

Designing resource allocation mechanisms

Hurwicz: Let us characterize environments for which informationally decentralized, incentive compatible, & Pareto satisfactory (i.e., efficient) mechanisms can be designed.

Classical environment

- well behaved utility functions
- no externalities (interdependencies)
- no indivisibilities
- pure exchange economy

Standard imposition: Anonymity (to be defined)

Desirable eq. features

- Pareto efficient [PE]
- Individually rational [IR]
- Incentive compatible [IC]

Hurwicz'72 Impossibility Theorem

Theorem (Hurwicz'72)

For any classical private goods environment E with $n > 1$ individuals, and $l > 1$ goods, there exists no (i) incentive-compatible direct revelation mechanism \mathcal{M} whose dominant strategy equilibrium outcomes are (ii) Pareto efficient and (iii) individually rational.

where

$e^i = (u^i, \omega^i)$, $e \in E$ – a space of all possible environments

u^i – utility function, ω^i – endowment of individual i

$\mathcal{M} = (E, \delta, h)$, δ – message correspondence, h – outcome function

$\delta : E \rightarrow \rightarrow M$, $h : M \rightarrow \rightarrow A$

$$\text{Feasible set } A = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}_+^{nl} : \sum_{i=1}^n x^i \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \omega^i \right\}.$$

Preliminaries: Definitions and Notation

Notation

n	# of players	$n \geq 2$
I	a finite set of players, player i , $i \in I$	$I = \{1, \dots, i, \dots, n\}$
l	private goods	$l \geq 2$
\mathbb{R}_+^l	commodity space	
ω^i	endowment of i	$\omega^i \in \mathbb{R}_+^l$
u^i	utility function of i	$u^i \in \mathbb{R}_+^l$
e^i	characteristic of i	$e^i = (u^i, \omega^i)$
E^i	a set of admissible characteristics for i	$e^i \in E^i$
$e \in E$	a pure exchange economy	$e = (e^1, \dots, e^n)$
E	a space of all possible economies	$E = \prod_{i \in I} E^i$
A	the set of feasible allocations	

$$A = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}_+^{nl} : \sum_{i=1}^n x^i \leq \sum_{i=1}^n \omega^i \right\}.$$

Preliminaries: Definitions and Notation (cont.)

φ	PEIR correspondence (social goal)	$\varphi : E \rightarrow \rightarrow A$
\mathcal{M}	mechanism (a triple)	(M, δ, h)
M	message space (Cartesian product)	of $\{M^1, \dots, M^n\}$
M^i	agent i individual message space	
δ	eq. message correspondence	$\delta : E \rightarrow \rightarrow M$
h	outcome function	$h : M \rightarrow \rightarrow A$
m	message vector $m = (m_1, \dots, m_n)$	$m \in M$
\hat{m}	equilibrium message vector	
if $\hat{m}^i = \hat{m}^j$	\implies identical eq. allocation for $i \neq j$	= anonymity

Definition (PEIR social goal)

A correspondence $\varphi : E \rightarrow \rightarrow A$ is PEIR social goal if for each $e \in E$ the allocations in A are PE and IR.

Definition (Anonymous mechanism)

Mechanism \mathcal{M} is anonymous if for identical eq. messages $\hat{m}^i = \hat{m}^j, i \neq j$, equilibrium allocations for individuals i and j are identical.

Implementing social goals via mechanisms

Definition (PEIR implementation via mechanism \mathcal{M})

If for any $e \in E$ every dominant strategy equilibrium of $\mathcal{M} = (M, \delta, h)$ results in PE and IR allocations, then \mathcal{M} weakly implements the PEIR social goal φ .

[i.e., for every $e \in E$ and every $m \in \delta(e)$, we have $h(m) \in \varphi(e)$]

Definition (Direct revelation mechanism)

Direct revelation mechanism $\mathcal{M} = (E, \delta, h)$, i.e., $M^i = E^i \forall i \in I$.

Definition (Incentive compatibility (IC))

For any given environment E and direct revelation mechanism $\mathcal{M} = (E, \delta, h)$, the mechanism is IC if truth-telling is a dominant strategy equilibrium of \mathcal{M} , i.e., if all $e \in E$, $e \in \delta(e)$.

Proof (by contradiction)

Two person two good economy, with 2 possible utilities, Cobb-Douglas and Linear:

$$u_C^i(x_1^i, x_2^i) = x_1^i * x_2^i \quad \text{and} \quad u_L^i(x_1^i, x_2^i) = 2x_1^i + x_2^i.$$

Let

$$\omega_1 = (1/2, 0) \quad \text{and} \quad \omega_2 = (1/2, 1).$$

Let player 1 and 2 utilities be C and L, resp. Assume the truth telling eq. with eq. allocation (x_C, x_L) . From anonymity, if both agents lie: (x_L, x_C) .

		Player 2	
		false u_C^2	true u_L^2
Player 1	true u_C^1	?	(x_C, x_L)
	false u_L^1	(x_L, x_C)	?

IC constraints

$$u_C^1(x_C) \geq u_C^1(x_L)$$

$$u_L^2(x_L) \geq u_L^2(x_C)$$

Proof (cont.)

IR constraints are:

$$u_C^1(x_C) \geq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad u_L^2(x_L) \geq 2$$

Truth-telling inducing IC constraints are:

$$u_C^1(x_C) \geq u_C^1(x_L) \quad \text{and} \quad u_L^2(x_L) \geq u_L^2(x_C)$$

or

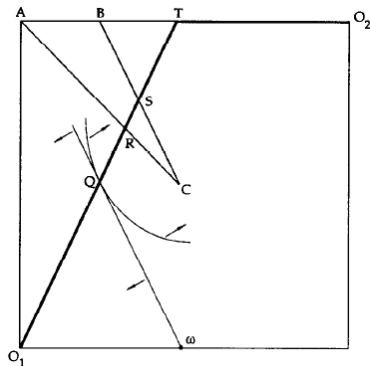
$$x_2^1 \geq 1 - x_1^1 \quad \text{and} \quad x_2^1 \leq 3/2 - 2x_1^1 \quad [\text{IC}].$$

We used total endowment ($x_1 = 1, x_2 = 1$) to have $x_1^1 = 1 - x_2^1$ and $x_2^1 = 1 - x_2^2$

Note: For the original Hurwicz'72 proof see [Jackson \[2001\]](#)

Proof of Hurwicz impossibility result: an illustration

Edgeworth box



PEIR and IC segments:
no common points

The PE line segments ($[O_1, T]$ and $[T, Q_2]$) and the IR (interval $[O_1, Q]$) do not intersect with IC segment (interval $[RS]$), which is a contradiction. \square

- example is general
- easy to construct similar ones
- strong and robust result

Fig.1, Banerjee [1994]

Discussion: What drives Hurwicz impossibility result?



"Psst! If you have any stock tips to pass on, I can probably lighten your sentence for insider trading."

Hurwicz impossibility theorem is driven by INCENTIVES [to hide info]

Discussion: Explaining Hurwicz impossibility result

Would you reveal your true valuation

- when haggle with a car dealer?
- when haggle at Eastern bazaars?



Sometimes truth telling is not an eq.

HOW TO HAGGLE



For Travelers



Don't be shy, give it a try

Remember that haggling is common practice in many countries. The more you practice, the better you get!



Do research

Ask around at different shops or ask a local for a rough estimate of the price of your item.



Act nonchalant

Show your interest for other items in the shop. Don't be too enthusiastic about your item. Put on your best poker face.



Respect



Respect your haggling competitor

Remember that the person your haggling with has a boss and/or a family with the matching responsibilities.

The walk-away move

Act uninterested and slowly walk away. Big chance the owner will call you back.

Don't carry too much cash on you

Sometimes it works to show some small bills and say: this is all I have.



Learn the language

Learn basic sentences and how to count in the local language. It is often highly appreciated!



Be happy once you closed a deal

Maybe you've paid a bit too much (or more than the local price), but it doesn't matter. You have your item and the vendor has some profit. Be happy!



Smile!

Haggling should be fun! Don't take it too seriously!

Congrats!
You're a haggling pro!



Brought to you by:

Discussion: What drives Hurwicz impossibility result?

With hidden info truth telling is infrequent.

- IR and IC constraints differ (in general)
- for efficiency, both constraints should be binding

Intuition (informal): why to give up a valuable good (information) for free?

- exchange \approx surplus sharing \approx bargaining
[bargaining, auctions, & pricing are tools to share surplus]
- hidden info could improve bargaining position
- truth telling \approx giving up one's hidden info

info is a good. when it is valuable, it could have a non-zero price.



"Psst! If you have any stock tips to pass on, I can probably lighten your sentence for insider trading."

Hurwicz impossibility is driven by INCENTIVES

Revelation Principle: from Mechanisms to Direct Revelation Mechanism

Theorem (Revelation principle)

If there exists some mechanism $\mathcal{M} = (M, \delta, h)$, which weakly implements any social goal $\varphi : E \rightarrow A$ for any E , then there is a direct revelation mechanism $\tilde{\mathcal{M}} = (E, \tilde{\delta}, \tilde{h})$ s.t. truth-telling is a dominant strategy for $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}$.

Revelation principle is as powerful. It allows to limit the search by truth telling mechanisms. Dasgupta, Hammond & Maskin [1979], Myerson [1979].

Intuition of the proof (formal proof: F&T [p. 255-256])

Assume there exists a (hypothetical) trusted mechanism coordinator (mediator) that has everyone's confidential info. First, the mediator would compute the dishonest eq. behavior (dishonest reports and disobedient actions). Then, the mediator will prescribe each player the plan with behavior that would have been chosen by that player in a dishonest equilibrium. The prescriptions will be followed. Such implementation is incentive compatible and truthful.

Revelation Principle

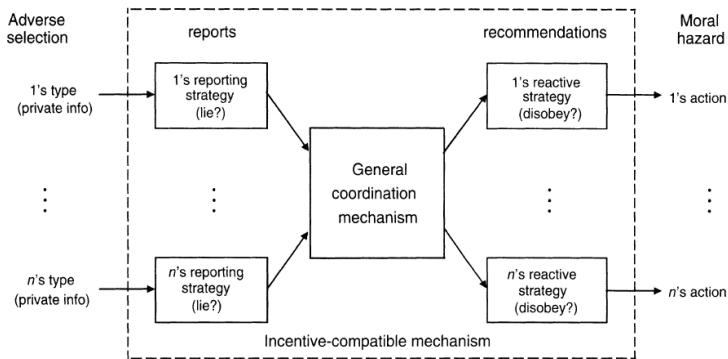


Fig.1, Myerson [2008]

For any given eq. mechanism with dishonest reporting and disobedient actions mediator can implement the same eq. via equivalent incentive-compatible plan.

Amplifying Hurwicz theorem by Revelation Principle

Theorem (Revelation Principle)

Given any E and any social goal φ , if there exists a mechanism $\mathcal{M} = (M, \delta, h)$ that weakly implements φ in dominant strategies, then there exists a direct revelation mechanism $\tilde{\mathcal{M}} = (E, \tilde{\delta}, \tilde{h})$ and truth-telling is a dominant strategy for $\tilde{\mathcal{M}}$.

Theorem (Hurwicz'72)

For any classical private goods environment E with $n > 1$ individuals, and $l > 1$ goods, there exists no IC direct revelation mechanism $\mathcal{M}(E, \delta, h)$, whose dominant strategy equilibrium outcomes are PE and IR.

Corollary (Hurwicz theorem + revelation principle)

For any classical private goods environment with $n > 1$ players, there is no mechanism $\mathcal{M} = (M, \delta, h)$ which weakly implements PEIR social goal in dominant strategies.

Information, power, control

- Information: the negative reciprocal value of probability. **Claude Shannon**
- Information is power. But like all power, there are those who want to keep it for themselves. **Aaron Swartz**
- As a general rule, the most successful man in life is the man who has the best information. **Benjamin Disraeli**
- Information is power. Disinformation is abuse of power. **Newton Lee**
- Information, knowledge, is power. If you can control information, you can control people. **Tom Clancy**
- To live effectively is to live with adequate information. **Norbert Wiener**

Hurwicz: From formal proof of no truth-telling with hidden info to
Focus on enforcement

No truth-telling: a profound shift in thinking

rules of the (legal) game =
 game-form =
 strategies-outcomes
 = mechanism
 = implementation

true game strategies =
 feasible strategies =
 legal strategies + illegal strategies
 true game \neq
 legal game

Hurwicz:

If it is possible to violate legal rules, must enforce them



Successful Implementation and Enforcement

A profound shift in thinking: focus on institutions

Hurwicz'2008:

- Truth is not Nash equal. Nash equal. is not self-enforcing
- People can use “illegal strategies” (not prescribed by the mechanism)
- Hence, focus on institutions / enforcement (of legal rules)

Implementation =

mechanism design =

rules of the game =

institutional choices =

the rules and their enforcement

Institutional choices = market, non-market (central planning, regulations)

Successful implementation requires enforcement

Enforcement = oversight to ensure compliance with the mechanism

Impossibility Theorems: from Arrow'51 to Hurwitz'72

Theorem (Arrow'51)

Any constitution (aka social choice rule) that respects transitivity, independence of irrelevant alternatives and unanimity is a dictatorship.

Theorem (Hurwicz'72)

In any classical private goods environment with two or more players, Pareto efficiency is not achievable via incentive-compatible, individually rational direct revelation mechanism with dominant strategy eq. outcomes.

Hurwicz on mechanisms: if IC and IR then no efficiency

If Arrow Theorem is a disappointment, Hurwicz Theorem is a misfortune.

Positive spin on Hurwicz'72

Design of constrained-efficient optima remains an active research area.

(Pareto) efficiency goes South, but research papers proliferation goes on.

Usefulness of Hurwitz'72

Reviewing papers: When authors claim to reach efficiency. If setup

- has hidden info = the results are too good to be true.
- has no hidden info = the results are not robust if hidden info added
- How to find errors: where to look?
hint: check the constraints. in many cases, IC and IR do not bind simultaneously

For research with strategic agents (with IC and IR constraints)

- Search for constrained efficiency only
- When truth telling fails: Design other tools
alter info structure (at a cost); mandatory info revelation (with enforcement)
- Are there more impossibility results? – yes. many more
Akerlof'70, Grossman & Stiglitz'80 ← to be covered, Hammond'79, Jordan'82

Mechanism design: incentive compatibility perspective

Maskin's quest for incentive compatibility

- A When designing incentive compatible mechanisms is possible?
- B If mechanisms exist, what form might they take?
- C When the existence of such mechanisms is ruled out theoretically?

Maskin's quest formalized

- A' Under what conditions can a social choice rule be implemented?
- B' What form does a mechanism take?
- C' Which social choice rules cannot be implemented?

Example 1: Social choice rule and its implementation

World has 2 states. Alice & Bob know the state; but Authority does not.

$$Alice \begin{cases} gas \succ oil \succ coal \succ nuclear & \text{if st. 1} \\ nuclear \succ gas \succ coal \succ oil & \text{if st. 2} \end{cases}$$

$$Bob \begin{cases} nuc \succ oil \succ coal \succ gas & \text{if st. 1} \\ oil \succ gas \succ coal \succ nuc & \text{if st. 2} \end{cases}$$

- Social choice rule: $f(1) = oil$, and $f(2) = gas$
- state 1 & state 2, with resp. low & high discounting
in st. 1 – care for present, in st. 2 – for future
- Alice – pref. for convenience now, anticipates tech advances
Bob – safe & clean now, afraid of nuclear waste in the future
Maskin: reasonably happy, for ex. getting one's 1st or 2nd choice

Example 1: Implementation

Naive mechanism is not incentive compatible.

Authority asks consumers to report state. Alice always will report state 2, and Bob – state 1. → No truthful revelation of the state.

Table 1			
state 1		state 2	
Alice	Bob	Alice	Bob
gas	nuc	nuc	oil
oil	oil	gas	gas
coal	coal	coal	coal
nuc	gas	oil	nuc
$f(1) = oil$		$f(2) = gas$	

Incentive compatible mechanism

Energy authority (mechanism designer) requests the consumers to participate in the mechanism:

		Bob	
		L	R
Alice	T	oil, coal	coal, coal
	B	nuc, gas	gas, gas

		Bob	
		state 1	state 2
Alice	st. 1	oil, oil	coal, coal
	st. 2	nuc, nuc	gas, gas

Nash eq. of the game coincides with social choice. i.e., the mechanism *implements* social choice rule in Nash equilibrium.

Social choice rule & implementation: formal definitions

Definition

Social choice rule $f : \Theta$ is a correspondence from each state θ into the set of optimal outcomes \mathbf{a} , where $\mathbf{a} \subset A$.

Designing an incentive compatible mechanism

Authority should suggest a protocol (a game), such that consumers reveal the true state and social choice rule is implemented as a Nash equilibrium.

Definition

Let S_i denote player i strategy space. A mechanism for a society with n individuals is a mapping $g : S_1 \times \dots \times S_n \rightarrow A$, where $g(s_1, \dots, s_n)$ is the outcome prescribed by the mechanism when player strategies are (s_1, \dots, s_n) . Mechanism g implements social choice rule f in Nash equilibrium if for all θ we have: $f(\theta) = NE_g(\theta)$, where $NE_g(\theta)$ is the set of Nash eq. outcomes of g in state θ .

Implementation and monotonicity

Definition

Let $f(\theta) = a$. If a does not fall in anyone's ranking relative to other alternatives when θ goes to θ' , then monotonicity requires $f(\theta') = a$.

If for someone, the ranking of a falls (relative to some b), monotonicity imposes no restriction.

Theorem (Maskin'77)

If a social choice rule implementable, it must be monotonic.

Definition

Let all players (but one) agree that outcome a is the best. Then, if social choice rule satisfies no veto power, a must be socially optimal.

Theorem (Maskin'77)

When there are at least 3 individuals, and social choice rule satisfies monotonicity and no veto power, it is implementable.

With 3 or more individuals, monotonicity guarantees implementation.

Example 2: Social choice rule with no implementation

World has 2 states. Alice & Bob know the state; but Authority does not.

example 2

example 1

$$\text{Alice} \begin{cases} \text{gas} \succ \text{oil} \succ \text{coal} \succ \text{nuclear} & \text{if st. 1} \\ \text{gas} \succ \text{oil} \succ \text{nuc} \succ \text{coal} & \text{if st. 2} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Alice} \begin{cases} \text{gas} \succ \text{oil} \succ \text{coal} \succ \text{nuc} & \text{if st. 1} \\ \text{nuc} \succ \text{gas} \succ \text{coal} \succ \text{oil} & \text{if st. 2} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Bob} \begin{cases} \text{nuc} \succ \text{oil} \succ \text{coal} \succ \text{gas} & \text{if st. 1} \\ \text{nuc} \succ \text{oil} \succ \text{coal} \succ \text{gas} & \text{if st. 2} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Bob} \begin{cases} \text{nuc} \succ \text{oil} \succ \text{coal} \succ \text{gas} & \text{if st. 1} \\ \text{oil} \succ \text{gas} \succ \text{coal} \succ \text{nuc} & \text{if st. 2} \end{cases}$$

- Social choice rule: $f(1) = o$, and $f(2) = n$
- state 1 is identical in both examples, state 2 – differs
- example 2:
 - Bob's prefs. are identical in both states
 - Alice's prefs. differ by the order of coal and nuc only

Example 2: social choice rule is not implementable

state 1		state 2	
Alice	Bob	Alice	Bob
g	n	n	o
o	o	g	g
c	c	c	c
n	g	o	n
$f(1) = o$		$f(2) = g$	

st. 1		st. 2	
Alice	Bob	Alice	Bob
g	n	g	n
o	o	o	o
c	c	n	c
n	g	c	g
$f(1) = o$		$f(2) = n$	

Proof that no implementation exists

Assume there exists an implementation and let strategies (s_A, s_B) be Nash eq. in state 1 inducing oil. Claim: then, (s_A, s_B) must be Nash eq. in state 2. Bob will not deviate, 'cause his prefs. are identical in states 1 & 2. Alice would only deviate to induce gas, but then, she would have deviated in state 1 as well. But if (s_A, s_B) is Nash eq. in state 2, it will induce oil, but social optimum requires nuclear.

Example 2 violates (Maskin's) monotonicity

Proof: From monotonicity, oil must remain optimal in state 2, but social choice rule prescribes $f(2) = n$.

Example 1 re-interpreted: FBI & Apple encryption dispute

World has 2 states. Apple & FBI know the state; but CA Judge does not.

How should the Judge rule in **FBI and Apple encryption dispute**?

gas	g	Good to go (Apple wins)	G
oil	o	Order to Apple (unlocking is cheap & fast)	O
coal	c	Order to Apple (has a key; C an unlock)	C
nuclear	n	Order to Apple (has N o key; unlocking is pricey & slow)	N

Table 1

state 1		state 2	
Alice	Bob	Alice	Bob
g	n	n	o
o	o	g	g
c	c	c	c
n	g	o	n
$f(1) = o$		$f(2) = g$	

Alice & Bob
lower-case letters

Apple & FBI
upper-case letters

Table 1 Apple & FBI

st. 1 insecure		st. 2 secure	
Apple	FBI	Apple	FBI
G	N	N	O
O	O	G	G
C	C	C	C
N	G	O	N
$f(1) = O$		$f(2) = G$	

Example 1: Implementation for Apple and FBI?

Naive mechanism is not incentive compatible.

The Judge asks the public to report state. Apple always will report state 2, and FBI – state 1. → No truthful revelation of the state.

Note: FBI announced obtaining the key from own source: Cellebrite (Sun's subsidiary). But FBI eq. action is to report having a key in all states.

st. 1		st. 2	
Apple	FBI	Apple	FBI
G	N	N	O
O	O	G	G
C	C	C	C
N	G	O	N
$f(1) = O$		$f(2) = G$	



Incentive compatible mechanism

Could the Judge (mech. designer) request Apple & FBI to participate in the mechanism?

		FBI	
		L	R
Apple	T	O	C
	B	N	G

		FBI	
		state 1	state 2
Apple	st. 1	O, O	C, C
	st. 2	N, N	G, G

The mechanism *implements* social choice rule in Nash equilibrium.

Example 2: as Apple vs FBI

Then, social choice rule is not implementable

Not implementable:
monotonicity violated

state 1		state 2	
Apple	FBI	Apple	FBI
G	N	N	O
O	O	G	G
C	C	C	C
N	G	O	N
$f(1) = O$		$f(2) = G$	

st. 1		st. 2	
Apple	FBI	Apple	FBI
G	N	G	N
O	O	O	O
C	C	N	C
N	G	C	G
$f(1) = O$		$f(2) = N$	

Let FBI vs Apple dispute be identical to example 2

FBI vs Apple dispute as example 2		
g	Good to go (Apple wins)	G
o	Order to Apple (unlocking is cheap & fast)	O
c	Order to Apple (has a key; Can unlock)	C
n	Order to Apple (No key; unlocking is pricey & slow)	N
Social choice rule: $f(1) = O$, and $f(2) = N$		



Maskin on Implementation: when is it possible

When market is the best [aka when Libertarian doctrine is correct]

I.e., when implementation via market is possible?

Hammond [1979], Jordan [1982] Maskin [2008] formulates the conditions

If these conditions are violated



Mechanisms improving market allocation are generally possible.

FORCES task = design the mechanisms to improve market allocation.

Q: Is Coase Theorem (mostly) correct after all !?

Answer: more or less, if certain (strict) conditions imposed.

We will cover the conditions later

Afterthoughts and plans

The weakest link in the problems of robust mechanism design?

- Humans

Standard human preferences revisited

interesting \succ *informed* \succ *reasonable* \succ *lucid* S. Illing, Feb. 1 2016. ... calculated con job.

As far as an individual human is concerned

- Societal efficiency \neq individual objective
- So called market failures are frequent

The challenge

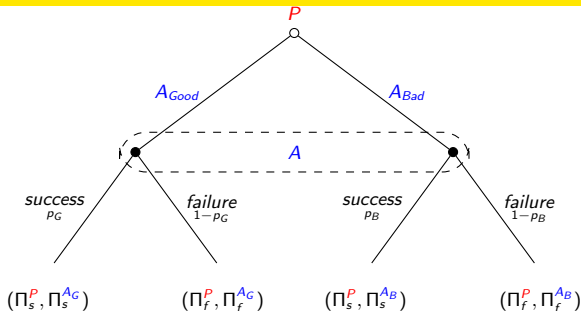
Design robust institutions (mechanisms) with objective to min

- conflicts between the society and individuals?
- inefficiencies?
- occurrences of market failures?

Myerson [2008] Game 1 Moral Hazard

Extensive form game with hidden information: $P \& A$

K capital
 R revenue
 p_G success prob. if A_G
 p_B success prob. if A_B
 B A 's hidden benefit
 w A 's wage if success
 A A 's collateral



Numerical example

K 100
 R 240
 p_G 1/2
 p_B 1/4
 B 30

$$\Pi^P = p_G(R - w) + (1 - p_G)A - K$$

$$\Pi^A = \begin{cases} p_G w - (1 - p_G)A & \text{if } A_G \\ B + p_B w - (1 - p_B)A & \text{if } A_B \end{cases}$$

$$p_B R + B < K < p_G R, \quad A < K \text{ [makes Game interesting]}$$

Myerson Game 1 MH: Solution

A's IC and IR constraints are:

$$p_G w - (1 - p_G)A \geq p_B w - (1 - p_B)A + B \quad [IC]$$

$$p_G w - (1 - p_G)A \geq 0 \quad [IR]$$

then, in eq.

$$w^* = w_{IC}^{\min} = \frac{B}{[p_G - p_B]} - A > B \frac{[1 - p_G]}{[p_G - p_B]} = w_{IR}^{\min},$$

A expects positive rent $\Pi^A > 0$ if

$$\Pi^A = p_G w^* - (1 - p_G)A = p_G \left\{ \frac{B}{[p_G - p_B]} - A \right\} - (1 - p_G)A$$

$$A < p_G \frac{B}{[p_G - p_B]} \Leftrightarrow \Pi^A > 0.$$

Myerson Game 1 MH: Discussion

Numerical example

K	100
R	240
p_G	1/2
p_B	1/4
B	30

$$A < p_G \frac{B}{[p_G - p_B]} \Leftrightarrow \Pi^A > 0$$

If A 's assets are below 60, his has rents: $\Pi^A > 0$

Q: Will A be truthful if $A = 65$? Or some $A \in [60, 100]$?

A: No, if A could, he will pretend that $A < 60$.

P contracts with A only if expects non-negative profit Π^P

$$\Pi^P = p_G R - \frac{p_G B}{[p_G - p_B]} + A - K = \{p_G R - K\} - \left\{ \frac{B p_G}{[p_G - p_B]} - A \right\}_{>0}$$

$$\Pi^P > 0 \Leftrightarrow A > \frac{B p_G}{[p_G - p_B]} - \{p_G R - K\}$$

Myerson Game 1 MH: implementation

In our numerical example:

$$\Pi^P \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow A \leq \frac{Bp_G}{[p_G - p_B]} - \{p_G R - K\} \Leftrightarrow A \leq 40.$$

With collateral below 40, mechanism fails: project is non-viable. To sum:

$$\Pi^P = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \Pi^A = 0, \quad \text{if} \quad A \in [0, 40)$$

$$\Pi^P = A - 40 \quad \text{and} \quad \Pi^A = 60 - A, \quad \text{if} \quad A \in [40, 60]$$

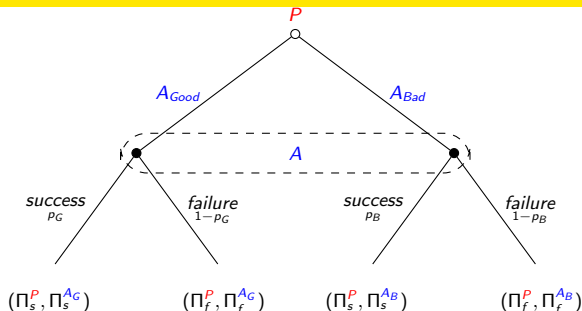
$$\Pi^P = 20 \quad \text{and} \quad \Pi^A = 0, \quad \text{if} \quad A \in [60, 100)$$

Next – another instrument: punishing A for failures.

Myerson Game 2

MH with collateral and punishment

- K capital
 R revenue
 p_G success prob. if A_G
 p_B success prob. if A_B
 B A 's hidden benefit
 w A 's wage if success
 A A 's collateral
 z A 's punishment



$$\Pi^P = p_G(R - w) + (1 - p_G)A - K$$

$$\Pi^A = \begin{cases} p_G w - (1 - p_G)(A + z) & \text{if } A_G \\ B + p_B w - (1 - p_B)(A + z) & \text{if } A_B \end{cases}$$

$$p_B R + B < K < p_G R, \quad A < K \text{ [makes Game interesting]}$$

Myerson Game 2 MH: Solution

P has to choose w and z to maximize his objective Π^P

$$\Pi^P = p_G(R - w) + (1 - p_G)A - K, \quad \text{s.t. } w \geq A \text{ and } z \geq 0,$$

constrained by [IC] and [IR]:

$$p_G w - (1 - p_G)(A + z) \geq p_B w - (1 - p_B)(A + z) + B \quad [\text{IC}]$$

$$p_G w - (1 - p_G)(A + z) \geq 0 \quad [\text{IR}]$$

Similar to Game 1:

$$w^* = w_{IC}^{\min} = \frac{B}{[p_G - p_B]} - (A + z) \geq w_{IR} = \frac{(1 - p_G)}{p_G} (A + z)$$

Myerson Game 2 MH: Results

$$\Pi^A = p_G w - (1 - p_G)(A + z) = p_G \left\{ \frac{B}{[p_G - p_B]} - (A + z) \right\} - (1 - p_G)(A + z)$$

$$\Pi^A \geq 0 \iff z + A < \frac{p_G B}{(p_G - p_B)} = 60,$$

To keep $\Pi^A = 0$, P will set

$$z = \frac{p_G B}{(p_G - p_B)} - A = 60 - A,$$

which gives eq. wage w^*

$$w^* = w_{IC}^{min} = \frac{(1 - p_G)B}{(p_G - p_B)}$$

Myerson Game 2 MH: Discussion

In Game 2, P profit Π^P becomes non-positive if

$$\Pi^P = p_G \left\{ R - \frac{(1 - p_G)B}{(p_G - p_B)} \right\} + (1 - p_G)A - K < 0 \Leftrightarrow,$$

$$A < \frac{p_G B}{(p_G - p_B)} - \frac{\{p_G R - K\}}{(1 - p_G)} = 60 - 40 = 20.$$

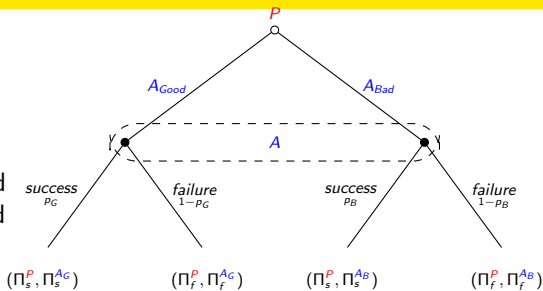
When A 's collateral falls below 20, P 's profit becomes negative.

Next, let $A = 0$ (egalitarian society). Then, could implement only if IR is violated. Then, eq. is driven by the threat of punishment only:

$$w^* = 0 \text{ and } z^* = 120.$$

Myerson Game 3 Adverse Selection with production risk

- K capital
 R revenue
 p_G success prob. if type A_G
 p_B success prob. if type A_B
 g_G project prob. if A_G reported
 g_B project prob. if A_B reported
 w A 's wage if success
 α prob. of good type A_G



$$\Pi^P = \alpha q_G [p_G(R - w_G) + (1 - p_G)A - K] + (1 - \alpha)q_B [p_B(R - w_B) + (1 - p_B)A - K]$$

$$\Pi^{A_G} = \begin{cases} p_G w_G - (1 - p_G)A & \text{if } A_G \text{ reports } A_G \\ p_G w_B - (1 - p_G)A & \text{if } A_G \text{ reports } A_B \end{cases}$$

$$\Pi^{A_B} = \begin{cases} p_B w_G - (1 - p_B)A & \text{if } A_B \text{ reports } A_G \\ p_B w_B - (1 - p_B)A & \text{if } A_B \text{ reports } A_B \end{cases}$$

$$p_B R + B < K < p_G R, \quad A < K \text{ [makes Game interesting]}$$

Myerson Game 3 AS: Solution

P choice variables are (q_G, w_G, q_B, w_B) to max his payoff Π^P

$$\alpha q_G [p_G(R - w_G) + (1 - p_G)A - K] + (1 - \alpha)q_B [p_B(R - w_B) + (1 - p_B)A - K]$$

Resource constraints

$$w_G \geq -A \text{ and } w_B \geq -A \text{ and } q_G, q_B \in [0, 1].$$

Participation constraints:

$$p_G w_G - (1 - p_G)A \geq 0 \text{ and } p_B w_B - (1 - p_B)A \geq 0$$

Information incentive constraints (truth telling)

$$q_G [p_G w_G - (1 - p_G)A] \geq q_B [p_G w_G - (1 - p_G)A]$$

$$q_B [p_B w_B - (1 - p_B)A] \geq q_G [p_B w_B - (1 - p_B)A]$$

In optimum [even with no collateral ($A = 0$)]

$$q_G = 1, q_B = 0 \text{ and } w_G = w_B = 0.$$

Myerson's interpretation of results

Societal property rights (Collectivism / Public goods properties)

- Help with adverse selection
facilitate honest communication
- Hurt with moral hazard*** (CPS)

Individual property rights

- Help with moral hazard [for some parameter ranges]
- Hurt with adverse selection

Comments: complex trade-offs

No perfect remedy for info asymmetry. Instruments:

- info rents and punishments [sticks and carrots]
- risk reallocation

Implementation: yesterday, today and tomorrow

Summary

root Arrow = impossibility theorem

- Maskin = yes, we can implement (when?)
[in search for possibilities: necessary & sufficient conditions?]
- Hurwicz = If IC and IR then no Efficiency
have to incentivize to share info & follow social (choice) rule
- Myerson = designing the mechanisms [to be continued next lecture]

Literature ∞ unbounded and increasing

- The interest in mechanism design and implementation continues

Implementation literature: yesterday and today

Literature ∞

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Mechanism design literature: yesterday and today

Literature ∞

- Myerson, R. Incentive Compatibility and the Bargaining Problem. *Econometrica*, 47(1), 61 – 73. 1979. <http://doi.org/10.2307/1912346>
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Afterthoughts and plans

Standard human preferences revisited

Humans are the weakest link in the problems of robust mechanism design.

interesting \succ *informed* \succ *reasonable* \succ *lucid* S. Illing, Feb. 1 2016. ... calculated con job.

Next Lecture

Volkswagen emissions scandal from agency theory perspective.

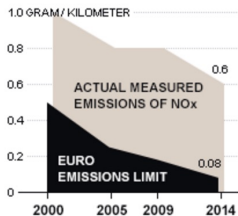
We will demonstrate how P & A framework applies to complex engineering problems.

WV scandal from P&A perspective

The gap between ex ante (required) and ex post (real)

THE GAP BETWEEN RULES AND REALITY

NOx emissions have been dropping in Europe. But the difference between the legal limits (dark shading) — which auto companies comply with in their lab tests — and the actual on-road emissions (light shading) has persisted.



Source: European Environment Agency

Nested P&A settings

- $P1 = R$ (EPA, CARB)
- $A1 = VW$ (hidden info)
 - $P2 = VW$ (top) management
 - $As = VW$ engineers (from separate divisions):
 - engine electronics
 - diesel motor development
 - motor testing

