

Private and Truthful Equilibrium Selection for Aggregative Games

Rachel Cummings, Michael Kearns, Aaron Roth, Zhiwei Steven Wu
Caltech and University of Pennsylvania

Aggregative Games

- Succinct representation of players' actions
- Can summarize an n -dimensional action profile with a d -dimensional vector, for $d \ll n$
- Generalizes weighted congestion games and anonymous games
- Require additional "largeness" assumptions:
 - Each player has a bounded influence on the summarization vector
 - Player's utility (for a fixed action) is Lipschitz in the summarization vector

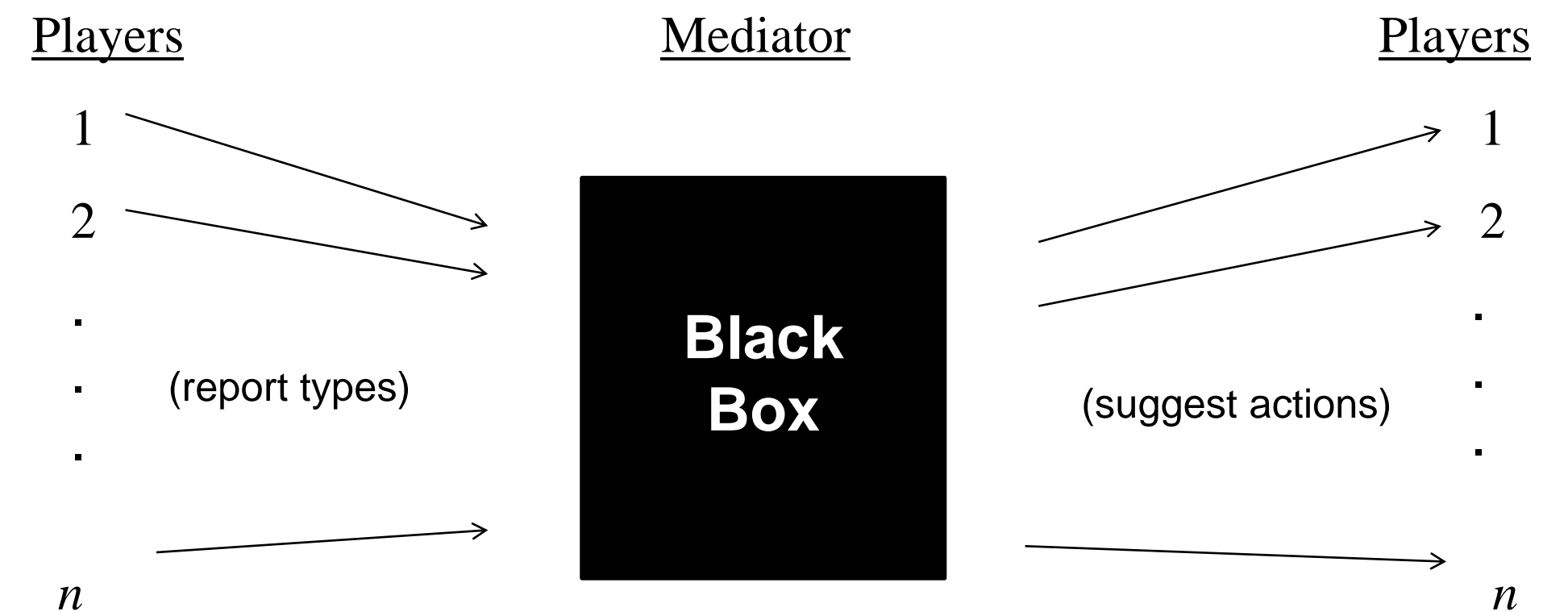
Inside the Black Box

- Exhaustive search (time exponential in d , polynomial in n)
- For each summarization value s and each objective value y , check if it's an approximate equilibrium:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & \text{approx factor } a \\ \text{s.t.} & \text{exists action profile } x \text{ that is a BR} \\ & \text{summarization of } x \text{ is } a\text{-close to } s \\ & \text{objective value at } x \text{ is } a\text{-close to } y \end{array}$$

- In math, this is an LP
- We develop novel techniques to solve LPs under the constraint of privacy, using a distributed version of MW

Direct Revelation Mechanisms



Privacy and Truthfulness

- **Privacy** ensures that if a player misreports her type, she can't change the equilibrium that is computed (by too much)
- Regardless of your report, other players will take (approximately) the same actions
- No incentive to misreport \rightarrow Mediator computes Nash equilibrium of the *true* game
- If all other players faithfully follow their suggested action, they form a Nash equilibrium
- Your BR is also play equilibrium strategy (i.e. your suggested action)