On the existence of population monotonic allocation schemes for families of operations research games

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23/10/2023

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## **Operations Research Games**

(P. Borm, H. Hamers, and R. Hendrickx. Operations research games: A survey. Top, 9 (2001): 139-199.)

- Cooperative games based on a (discrete) structure that underlies a combinatorial optimisation problem.
- Players control parts of the underlying system (e.g., vertices, edges, resource bundles, jobs)
- In working together the players can possibly create extra gains or save costs.
- how to share the extra revenues or cost savings?

# Population Monotonic Allocation Schemes

(Y. Sprumont (1990) Population monotonic allocation schemes for cooperative games with transferable utility. Games and Economic behavior 2.4: 378-394.).

- Objective of a PMAS: providing a condition of dynamic stability to guarantee that once a coalition S has decided upon an allocation of u(S), no player wish to form a coalition included in S
- our goal: prove whether a PMAS exists (or not) for many ORGs.

# Outline

### Cooperative games in short

### Generalized Additive Games and PMAS

### 3 ORGs as GAGs

- Weighted glove games
- Link connection games
- Weighted minimum coloring games

### 4 Furture directions (games on matroids)

# Basics

A Transferable Utility (TU) game is a tuple (N, v) where

- $N = \{1, 2, ..., n\}$  is the set of players
- $v: 2^N \to \mathbb{R}$  is its characteristic function

By convention,  $v(\emptyset) = 0$ . A game (N, v) is called

- monotonic if  $v(S) \le v(T)$  for all  $S, T \in 2^N$  with  $S \subseteq T$ ;
- superadditive if  $v(S) + v(T) \le v(S \cup T)$  for all  $S, T \in 2^N$  with  $S \cap T = \emptyset$ .

The subgame corresponding to some coalition  $\mathcal{T} \subseteq \mathcal{N}$  is the game

 $(T, v_T)$ 

with  $v_T(S) = v(S)$  for all  $S \subseteq T$ .

## Basics

The core of a TU game (N, v) is the set

$$C(v) := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^N : \sum_{i \in N} x_i = v(N), \quad \sum_{i \in S} x_i \ge v(S) \text{ for all } S \subset N\}$$

- A game (N, v) is called
  - balanced if it has a nonempty core;
  - totally balanced if the core of every subgame is nonempty;
  - convex if  $v(S \cup \{i\}) v(S) \le v(T \cup \{i\}) v(T)$  for all  $S \subseteq T$  and  $i \in N \setminus T$ , or, equivalently, supermodular if

$$v(S \cup T) + v(S \cap T) \ge v(S) + v(T)$$

for all  $S, T \in 2^N$ .

## PMAS

Given a TU game (N, v), the table

$$x = (x_i^S)_{\emptyset \neq S \in 2^N, i \in S}$$

is said to be a Population Monotonic Allocation Scheme (PMAS) (Sprumont (1990)) if

- (i) efficiency: For all  $S \subseteq N$ ,  $S \neq \emptyset$ ,  $\sum_{i \in S} x_i^S = v(S)$ .
- (ii) monotonicity: For all  $S \subseteq T$  and for all  $i \in S$ ,  $x_i^S \leq x_i^T$ .

Observe that each row  $(x_i^S)$  of a PMAS is in the core of the subgame  $v_S$  for all S.

So, a game with a PMAS is also a totally balanced game.

## Convex games and PMAS

Convex games have PMAS (Sprumont (1990); see also Ichiishi (1981), Shapley (1971)).

#### Example

Consider the game  $(\{1, 2, 3\}, v)$  such that v(1) = v(3) = 0, v(2) = 3, v(1, 2) = 3, v(1, 3) = 1, v(2, 3) = 4, v(1, 2, 3) = 5.

/ <b>/</b> /	· · · ·	/ /	( / /
S	$\phi_1^{\sigma}(\mathbf{v})$	$\phi_2^{\sigma}(\mathbf{v})$	$\phi_3^{\sigma}(v)$
$\{1, 2, 3\}$	0	3	2
{1,2}	0	3	*
{1,3}	0	*	1
{2,3}	*	3	1
{1}	0	*	*
{2}	*	3	*
{3}	*	*	0

# Convex games and PMAS

Convex games have PMAS (Sprumont (1990); direct consequences of previous results Ichiishi (1981), Shapley (1971)).

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S & \phi_1^{\sigma}(v) & \phi_2^{\sigma}(v) \\
\hline
\{1,2,3\} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{7}{2} & 1 \\
\end{array}$ 

$\{1, 2, 3\}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{7}{2}$	1
{1,2}	0	3	*
{1,3}	$\frac{1}{2}$	*	$\frac{1}{2}$
{2,3}	*	$\frac{7}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
{1}	0	*	*
{2}	*	3	*
{3}	*	*	0

The Shapley value of convex games is PMAS extendible.

# A totally balanced (ToBa) game without PMAS

Consider  $(\{1,2,3,4\}, v)$  such that v(1,2,3,4) = 2, v(S) = 1 if |S| = 3, v(1,3) = v(1,4) = v(2,3) = v(2,4) = 1 and v(S) = 0 otherwise (check it is ToBa; Sprumont (1990)). Suppose the following scheme: Suppose a PMAS exists:

S	1	2	3	4
$\{1, 2, 3, 4\}$	<i>x</i> <sub>1</sub>	<i>x</i> <sub>2</sub>	<i>x</i> 3	<i>X</i> 4
$\{1, 2, 3\}$	0	0	1	*
$\{1, 2, 4\}$	0	0	*	1
$\{1, 3, 4\}$	1	*	0	0
$\{2, 3, 4\}$	*	1	0	0

 $x_1 \ge 1, x_2 \ge 1, x_3 \ge 1, x_4 \ge 1 \implies x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 \ge 4 > v(1, 2, 3, 4)$ 

Impossible!

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### A game with PMAS that is not convex

Consider  $(\{1,2,3\}, v)$  such that v(1,2,3) = v(1,3) = v(2,3) = 1 and v(S) = 0 otherwise This game is not convex: v(1,2,3) - v(2,3) = 1 - 1 and v(1,3) - v(3) = 1 - 0. The unique PMAS is:

S	$\phi_1^\sigma(\mathbf{v})$	$\phi_2^{\sigma}(\mathbf{v})$	$\phi_3^{\sigma}(v)$
$\{1, 2, 3\}$	0	0	1
$\{1, 2\}$	0	0	*
$\{1, 3\}$	0	*	1
{2,3}	*	0	1
{1}	0	*	*
{2}	*	0	*
{3}	*	*	0

# TU-games



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# Generalized Additive Games (Cesari et al. IJGT(2017))

### Definition

We shall call *Generalized Additive Situation* (GAS) any triple  $\langle N, w, M \rangle$ , where:

- N is a set of players;
- $w \in \mathbb{R}^{N}_{+}$  a vector of positive real numbers;
- $\mathcal{M}: 2^N \to 2^N$ , is a coalitional map, which assigns a coalition  $\mathcal{M}(S)$  to each coalition  $S \subseteq N$  of players (with  $\mathcal{M}(\emptyset) = \emptyset$ ).

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### Definition

Given the GAS  $\langle N, w, \mathcal{M} \rangle$ , the associated *Generalized Additive Game* (GAG) is the TU-game  $(N, v_{\mathcal{M}, w})$  such that  $v_{\mathcal{M}, w}(\emptyset) = 0$  and for  $S \neq \emptyset$ :

$$v_{\mathcal{M},w}(S) = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{M}(S)} w_i$$

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# Many ORGs from the literature are GAGs

### Examples

- airport games (Littlechild and Owen (1973); Littlechild and Thompson (1977)); generalized airport games (Norde et al. (2002))
- maintenance games (Koster (1999))
- peer games (Branzei et al. 2002)
- link-connection games (Nagamochi et al. (1997), Moretti (2017))
- minimum coloring games (Deng et al. (2000), Hamers et al. (2014))
- games on mountain situations (Moretti et al. 2002)
- argumentation games (Bonzon et al. 2014)
- connectivity games (Amer and Giménez 2004; Lindelauf et al. 2013
- "centrality" games (Michalak et al. (2013))
- Simple mcst games (Norde et al. (2004))
- many other TU-games (simple games, weighted glove games, etc...)

# Properties for coalitional maps

A coalitional map  $\mathcal{M}: 2^N \to 2^N$  such that  $\mathcal{M}(\emptyset) = \emptyset$  is called:

- 1) monotonic if  $\mathcal{M}(S) \subseteq \mathcal{M}(T)$  for every  $S, T \in 2^N$  with  $S \subseteq T$ ;
- 2) proper if  $\mathcal{M}(S) \cap \mathcal{M}(T) = \emptyset$  for every  $S, T \in 2^N$  with  $S \cap T = \emptyset$ ;
- 3) veto-rich if for every  $i \in N$  we either have  $i \notin \mathcal{M}(S)$  for every  $S \in 2^N$ or  $i \in \mathcal{M}(N)$  and  $\cap \{S : i \in \mathcal{M}(S)\} \neq \emptyset$ ;
- 4) supermodular if  $\mathcal{M}(S) \cap \mathcal{M}(T) = \mathcal{M}(S \cap T)$  for every  $S, T \in 2^{N}$ .

# Characterization for PMAS

Moretti, S., Norde, H. (2021) Some new results on generalized additive games. Int J Game Theory. https://doi.org/10.1007/s00182-021-00786-w

#### Theorem

The following statements are equivalent:

- 1)  $\mathcal{M}$  is veto-rich and monotonic;
- II)  $(N, v_{\mathcal{M}, w})$  admits a pmas for every  $w \in \mathbb{R}^{N}_{+}$ ;
- III)  $(N, v_{\mathcal{M}, w})$  is totally balanced for every  $w \in \mathbb{R}^{N}_{+}$ .

# Euler diagram

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#### (a) sets of coalitonal maps $\mathcal{M}$

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# Euler diagram



#### (a) sets of coalitonal maps $\mathcal{M}$



#### (b) corresponding classes of GAGs $\mathcal{G}^{\mathcal{M}}$

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# Weighted glove games

### Glove games

Ingredients:

- a partition  $\{L, R\}$  of the set of players N
- a weight vector  $w \in \mathbb{R}^N_+$  (each player *i* in *L* owns  $w_i$  left gloves, each player *j* in *R* owns  $w_j$  right ones)
- a characteristic function  $v(S) = \min\{\sum_{i \in S \cap L} w_i, \sum_{j \in S \cap R} w_j\}$ representing the profit obtained by members in S selling their pairs of gloves (sold at selling price of 1)
- Note that players are allowed to have a non-integer number of gloves
- If  $w_i = 1$  for every  $i \in N$  the game is a standard glove game.

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We can represent this game as a GAG  $v_{\mathcal{M},w}$  by assigning by defining a coalitional map  $\mathcal{M}$  such that for each coalition  $S \in 2^N$ :

$$\mathcal{M}(S) = \begin{cases} S \cap L & \text{if } \sum_{i \in S \cap L} w_i \leq \sum_{i \in S \cap R} w_i; \\ S \cap R & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Let (N, v) be a weighted glove game with positive weight vector w (so  $w_i > 0$  for every  $i \in N$ ) and let  $\{L, R\}$  be the partition of N in 'left glove' and 'right glove' players. Then (N, v) is supermodular if and only if L contains precisely one player  $I^*$  and  $w_{I^*} \ge \sum_{j \in R} w_j$  or R contains precisely one player  $r^*$  and  $w_{r^*} \ge \sum_{i \in L} w_i$ .

#### See

Moretti, S., Norde, H. (2021) A note on weighted multi-glove games. Soc Choice Welf. https://doi.org/10.1007/s00355-021-01337-8 for a generalisation of this results to weighted multi-glove games.

# Using GAGs to prove the if part

$$\mathcal{M}(S) = \begin{cases} S \cap L & \text{if } \sum_{i \in S \cap L} w_i \leq \sum_{j \in S \cap R} w_j \\ S \cap R & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$
(1)

Suppose  $\{L, R\}$  is a partition of the player set N with |L| = 1 (the case |R| = 1 can be treated in a similar way).

Let  $I^*$  be the unique element of L.

Observe that  $\mathcal{M}(S) = S \cap R$  if  $I^* \in S$  and  $\mathcal{M}(S) = \emptyset$  otherwise.

It is straightforward to check that  $\mathcal{M}$  is supermodular:  $\mathcal{M}(S) \cap \mathcal{M}(T) = \mathcal{M}(S \cap T)$ 

### From costs to revenues

Given a cost game (N, c), with cost function  $c : 2^N \to IR$ , one can also consider the corresponding cost saving game  $(N, v^c)$  such that

$$v^{c}(S) = \sum_{i \in S} c(\{i\}) - c(S),$$

for each coalition  $S \in 2^N$ , where the difference  $v^c(S)$  between the total cost in the situation where all members of S work alone and the cost in the situation where all members of S cooperate is interpreted as a profit of coalition S.

In alternative, one can also define the corresponding  $dual \ game \ (N, c^*)$  such that

$$c^*(S) = c(N) - c(N \setminus S),$$

for each coalition  $S \in 2^N$ , where the rest  $c^*(S)$  obtained from the cost of the grand coalition N after the complement of coalition S pays its entire cost in the original game is also interpreted as a profit of coalition S.

# Some well-known facts

### Proposition

Let (N, c) be a cost game and let  $(N, v^c)$  be the corresponding cost saving game. Then the following statements hold true:

- (i) c is submodular iff  $v^c$  is supermodular;
- (ii) c is subadditive iff  $v^c$  is superadditive;
- (iii) c is (totally) balanced iff  $v^c$  is (totally) balanced;
- (iv) c admits a PMAS iff  $v^c$  admits a PMAS.

### Proposition

Let (N, c) be a cost (profit) game and let its dual  $(N, c^*)$  be a profit (cost) game. Then the following statements hold true:

- i) c is monotonic iff c\* is monotonic;
- ii)  $C(c) = C(c^*)$  (c and  $c^*$  have the same core);

iii) c is submodular iff c\* is supermodular.

### Link connection games

Let  $\Gamma = (N, E)$  be an undirected graph and  $w \in \mathbb{N}^N$  a nonnegative integer weight vector. Edges will be denoted by *ij* instead of  $\{i, j\}$ 

### Definition

The link connection game associated with (V, E) and w is the cost game (E, c), such that

$$c(S) = \min\{W(T) \mid T \subseteq S \text{ and } \mathcal{P}_T = \mathcal{P}_S\}$$
(2)

for every  $S \subseteq E$ , where

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- $W(T) = \sum_{e \in T} w_e$  and
- $\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{T}}$  denotes the set of all connected components in graph  $(V_S, \mathcal{T})$  for any  $\mathcal{T} \subseteq S$  (here,  $V_S$  is the set of all nodes of edges in S).

The corresponding cost saving game  $(E, v^c)$  is defined as follows:

$$v^{c}(S) = \sum_{e \in S} w_{e} - c(S),$$
 (3)

## Link connection games



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# Coalitional map for cost saving game

- Start with listing the edges in E in some order
   E = {e<sub>1</sub>, e<sub>2</sub>, e<sub>3</sub>, ..., e<sub>|E|</sub>} (not yet having a cost vector w ∈ ℝ<sup>E</sup><sub>+</sub> in mind).
- For every S ⊆ E an edge e<sub>k</sub> ∈ S, (k ∈ {1,..., |E|}) is called superfluous in S if it forms a cycle with its predecessors in S, more precisely, if (V, {e<sub>1</sub>,..., e<sub>k-1</sub>} ∩ S) and (V, {e<sub>1</sub>,..., e<sub>k</sub>} ∩ S) have the same connected components.
- Selects the collection of superfluous edges in any coalition:

$$\mathcal{M}(S) = \{ e \in S : e \text{ is superfluous in } S \}, \tag{4}$$

for every  $S \subseteq E$ .

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- Selects the collection of superfluous edges in any coalition:

$$\mathcal{M}(S) = \{ e \in S : e \text{ is superfluous in } S \}, \tag{4}$$

for every  $S \subseteq E$ .

#### Proposition

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be the coalitional map as defined in (4). Then  $\mathcal{M}$  is monotonic, proper and veto-rich.

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- Choose the ordering of the edges in *E* according to increasing costs, i.e.  $E = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_{|E|}\}$  such that  $w_{e_1} \leq w_{e_2} \leq \dots \leq w_{e_{|E|}}$
- Let S ⊆ E. The graph (V, S) partitions the vertex set V into components. Some components may be singletons, some may be trees and the other components are connected components containing cycles.
- In order to find a subset T ⊆ S of minimal cost that results in the same partition of V into components we can use the well-known algorithm of Prim: reduce any component in (V, S) with a cycle to a tree by removing edges that form a cycle with the cheaper edges in S.
- Since we have chosen the order of E with respect to increasing costs this process boils down to removing the superfluous edges in S, i.e. removing the edges in  $\mathcal{M}(S)$ . So an optimal network for coalition S is  $(V, S \setminus \mathcal{M}(S))$  and the cost saving, going from (V, S) to  $(V, S \setminus \mathcal{M}(S))$ , is equal to  $\sum_{e \in \mathcal{M}(S)} w_e = v_{\mathcal{M},w}(S)$ .
- As this is true for every  $S \subseteq E$  we get  $(E, v^c) = (E, v_{\mathcal{M}, w})$ .

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Consider a graph with set of edges E:



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Take a coalition  $S \subseteq E$ 



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If edges are ordered in increasing way, superfluous edges are those who form a cycle with cheaper ones



The sum of the weights of superfluous give the total saving for coalition S. So,  $(E, v^c) = (E, v_{\mathcal{M}, w})$ .

## Link connection games

(4)

### Example

A graph 
$$(V, E)$$
 with  $V = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  and  $E = \{12, 23, 14, 24\}$ :

The corresponding link connection game game is

5	Ø	{12}	{23}	<b>{14}</b>	{24}	{12, 23}	$\{12, 14\}$	$\{12, 24\}$	$\{23, 14\}$	{23, 24}	{14, 24}
c(S)	0	2	6	4	4	8	6	6	10	10	8
$\mathcal{M}(S)$	0	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
$v^{c}(S)$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

S	{12, 23, 24}	{12, 23, 14}	{12, 14, 24}	{23, 14, 24}	E
c(S)	12	12	6	14	12
$\mathcal{M}(S)$	Ø	Ø	{24}	Ø	{24}
$v^{c}(S)$	0	0	4	0	4

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Let (V, E) be an undirected graph and  $\mathcal{M}$  the coalitional map as defined in (4). Then  $(E, v_{\mathcal{M}, w})$  is monotonic, superadditive, (totally) balanced and PMAS-admissible for every  $w \in \mathbb{R}_+^E$ .

#### Proposition

Cost saving games corresponding to link connection games are monotonic, superadditive, (totally) balanced and PMAS-admissible.

#### Proposition

Link connection games are subadditive, (totally) balanced and PMAS-admissible.

### Weighted minimum coloring games Let $\Gamma = (N, E)$ be an undirected graph and $w \in \mathbb{N}^N$ a nonnegative integer

Let I = (W, E) be an undirected graph and  $w \in \mathbb{N}^{n}$  a nonnegative integer weight vector.

A k-coloring of graph  $\Gamma$  wrt weight vector w is a function  $h: N \to 2^{\{1,...,k\}}$ that assigns a set of  $w_i$  different colors to every vertex  $i \in N$  such that adjacent vertices receive disjoint sets of colors and at most k colors are used  $(|h(i)| = w_i$  for all  $i \in N$  and  $h(i) \cap h(j) = \emptyset$  for all  $ij \in E$ .

weighted chromatic number  $\chi_w(\Gamma)$ : the minimum number k such that a k-coloring of  $\Gamma$  with respect to w.

#### Definition

The weighted minimum coloring game (Hamers et al. 2019) on  $\Gamma = (N, E)$  with weight vector  $w \in \mathbb{N}^N$  is the cost game  $(N, c^{\Gamma, w})$  defined by

$$c^{\Gamma,w}(S) = \chi_{w_S}(\Gamma_{|S})$$

for every  $S \in 2^N$ .

The unweighted case  $(w_i = 1 \text{ for all } i \in N)$ 



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The unweighted case for complete multipartite graphs

- A graph G = (N, E) is complete multipartite if there is a partition  $\{P_1, P_2, \ldots, P_r\}$  of the vertex set N such that for any two vertices  $i \in P_k$ ,  $j \in P_l$  we have  $\{i, j\} \in E$  if and only if  $k \neq l$ .
- For every k ∈ {1,...,r} let p<sub>k</sub> be the element of P<sub>k</sub> with the smallest index. Define the coalitional map M by

$$\mathcal{M}(S) = \{ p_k | k \in \{1, \dots, r\}, P_k \subseteq S \}$$
(5)

• Then, the dual game  $c^{\Gamma*}$  coincides with  $v_{\mathcal{M},w}(S)$ 

## The unweighted case $(w_i = 1 \text{ for all } i \in N)$

$\frac{5   \emptyset   \{1\}   \{2\}   \{3\}   \{4\}   \{1,2\}   \{1,3\}   \{1,4\}   \{2,3\}   \{2,4\}   \{3,4\}   \\ c(5)   \emptyset   1   1   1   1   1   2   2   2   2   2$	Example									
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## Matroids

A matroid is a pair  $M = (E, \mathcal{I})$  where E is a finite set and  $\mathcal{I} \subseteq 2^E$  such that

- $| ) \quad \emptyset \in \mathcal{I};$
- II) if  $T \in \mathcal{I}$  and  $S \subseteq T$ , then  $S \in \mathcal{I}$  (*independent set*);
- III) if  $S, T \in \mathcal{I}$  with |S| < |T|, then there exists  $i \in T \setminus S$  such that  $S \cup \{i\} \in \mathcal{I}$ .

As an example of matroid, consider the graphic matroid  $M_G = (E_G, \mathcal{I}_G)$  on a graph (V, E)

- The set  $E_G$  is defined to be E, the set of edges of graph G.
- A subset A ⊆ E is an independent set (A ∈ I<sub>G</sub>) if and only if the subgraph G<sub>A</sub> = (V<sub>A</sub>, A) forms a forest.

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## Minimum base games on matroids

- We can add a vector of weights to the elements of E of a matroid  $M = (E, \mathcal{I})$ , so we have a weighted matroid.
- In Nagamochi, H., Zeng, D. Z., Kabutoya, N., Ibaraki, T. (1997) Complexity of the minimum base game on matroids. Mathematics of Operations Research, 22(1), 146-164.
- The authors consider a minimum base game on a weighted matroid where the cost of each coalition  $S \subseteq E$  is the total weight of a minimum base on S, where a base on S is defined as a maximal (wrt inclusion) subset of S that is also independent set.
- In the case of a graphic matroid, a minimum base game is a link connection games.

- Nagamochi et al. (1997) have shown that a minimum base game has a nonempty core if and only if the weighted matroid has no all-negative circuits.
- Q.: What about PMAS?
- Work in progress:
  - we generalize the coalitional map for link connection games to weighted matroids
  - so minimum base games are GAGs (note that weights can be negative, but "superfluous" are positive under the condition of no all-negative circuits)
  - using the machinery of GAGs we can prove that minimum base games on weighted matroids with no all-negative circuits are subadditive, (totally) balanced and PMAS-admissible
  - ▶ and the way around using the result in Nagamochi et al. (1997)

Thank you for your attention

- Moretti, S., Norde, H. (2021) Some new results on generalized additive games. Int J Game Theory. https://doi.org/10.1007/s00182-021-00786-w
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