Vol. 27 No. 3

## AN EFFECTIVE PUNISHMENT FOR AN *n*-PERSON PRISONER'S DILEMMA ON A NETWORK

## A. L. Grinikh, L. A. Petrosyan

The paper considers an *n*-person prisoner's dilemma game. We present a modification of this model for the network interaction of players. A set of grim trigger strategies is a Nash equilibrium in the repeated *n*-person prisoner's dilemma on a network, just as in the two-player game. However, even a slight deviation leads to the case where players get low payoffs in perpetuity without the possibility of returning to the Pareto optimal payoffs. A solution to this problem is proposed. The players' payoff functions in a game of an *n*-person prisoner's dilemma type on a network are described. A strategy involving a punishment on a limited interval of the game is proposed. The number of steps required for an effective punishment is found. An example of a network for this game is given. The number of steps for an effective punishment is found for the given example.

Keywords: prisoner's dilemma, network game, effective punishment.

## REFERENCES

- Hamburger H. N-person prisoner's dilemma. Journal of Mathematical Sociology, 1973, vol. 3, no. 1, pp. 27–48. doi: 10.1080/0022250X.1973.9989822.
- Straffin Philip D. Jr. Game theory and strategy, Part III, Chapter 21: N-person prisoners dilemma, Ser. Anneli Lax New Mathematical Library, vol. 36, MAA Press, 1993, pp. 139–144.
- Grinikh A.L. Stochastic n-person Prisoner's dilemma: the time-consistency of core and Shapley value. In: Contributions to Game Theory and Management, 2019, vol. 12, pp. 151–158.

Received April 2, 2021 Revised May 2, 2021 Accepted August 2, 2021

**Funding Agency**: This work was supported by the Russian Science Foundation, the grant "Optimal Behavior in Conflict-Controlled Systems" (project no. 17-11-01079).

Aleksandra Leonidovna Grinikh, PhD student, Saint Petersburg State University, St. Petersburg, 198504 Russia, e-mail: st062331@student.spbu.ru.

Leon Aganesovich Petrosyan, Dr. Phys.-Math. Sci., Prof., Saint Petersburg State University, St. Petersburg, 198504 Russia, e-mail: l.petrosyan@spbu.ru.

Cite this article as: A. L. Grinikh, L. A. Petrosyan. An Effective Punishment for an *n*-Person Prisoner's Dilemma on a Network, *Trudy Instituta Matematiki i Mekhaniki UrO RAN*, 2021, vol. 27, no. 3, pp. 256–262.

2021