

ϵ -Nash Mean Field Game Theory for Nonlinear Stochastic Dynamical Systems with Major and Minor Agents

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Parts II and III

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Major-Minor ϵ -Nash Mean Field Game (MM ϵ -NMFG)

- In this work we extend the **Minyi Huang's linear quadratic Gaussian (LQG) model** [Huang'10, Nguyen-Huang'11] for major and minor (MM) **agents** with uniform parameters to the case of a nonlinear stochastic dynamic game formulation of controlled McKean-Vlasov (MV) type [HMC'06].
- We consider a large population dynamic game involving **nonlinear stochastic dynamical systems** with agents of the following mixed types: (i) **a major agent**, and (ii) **a large N population of minor agents**.
- The MM agents are coupled via both: (i) their individual nonlinear stochastic dynamics, and (ii) their individual finite time horizon nonlinear cost functions.
- **Applications:** Social opinion models with a finite number of leaders, Power markets involving large consumers/utilities and domestic consumers (smart meters and small scale generating units).

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- **Key Notion of the MM MFG Theory** [H'10, NH'11]: Even asymptotically (as $N \rightarrow \infty$) the noise process of the major agent causes random fluctuation of the mean field behaviour of the minor agents.
- The overall asymptotic ($N \rightarrow \infty$) MFG problem is decomposed into:
 - (i) two non-standard stochastic optimal control problems (SOCs) with random coefficient processes, and
 - (ii) two stochastic (coefficient) McKean-Vlasov (SMV) equations which characterize the state distribution measure of the major agent and the measure determining the mean field behaviour of the minor agents.
- **Feedback coupling**: The forward adapted stochastic best response control processes determined from the solution of the (backward in time) stochastic Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman (SHJB) equations in (i) depend upon the state distribution measures generated by the SMV equations in (ii) which in turn depend upon (i).

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Problem Formulation:

- Subscript 0 for the major agent \mathcal{A}_0 and an integer valued subscript for minor agents $\{\mathcal{A}_i : 1 \leq i \leq N\}$.
- The states \mathcal{A}_0 and \mathcal{A}_i are denoted by $z_0^N(t)$ and $z_i^N(t)$.

Dynamics of the Major and Minor Agents:

$$\begin{aligned} dz_0^N(t) &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N f_0[t, z_0^N(t), u_0^N(t), z_j^N(t)] dt \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \sigma_0[t, z_0^N(t), z_j^N(t)] dw_0(t), \quad z_0^N(0) = z_0(0), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \\ dz_i^N(t) &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N f[t, z_i^N(t), u_i^N(t), z_0^N(t), z_j^N(t)] dt \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \sigma[t, z_i^N(t), z_0^N(t), z_j^N(t)] dw_i(t), \quad z_i^N(0) = z_i(0), \quad 1 \leq i \leq N. \end{aligned}$$

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Cost Functions for the Major and Minor Agents: The objective of each agent is to minimize its finite time horizon nonlinear cost function given by

$$J_0^N(u_0^N; u_{-0}^N) := E \int_0^T \left((1/N) \sum_{j=1}^N L_0[t, z_0^N(t), u_0^N(t), z_j^N(t)] \right) dt,$$

$$J_i^N(u_i^N; u_{-i}^N) := E \int_0^T \left((1/N) \sum_{j=1}^N L[t, z_i^N(t), u_i^N(t), z_0^N(t), z_j^N(t)] \right) dt.$$

- The major agent has **non-negligible influence** on the mean field (mass) behaviour of the minor agents due to presence of z_0^N in the dynamics and cost function of each minor agent.
- Note that the coupling terms in the dynamics and the costs of the MM agents may be written as functionals of the empirical distribution of the minor agents $\delta_t^N := (1/N) \sum_{i=1}^N \delta_{z_i^N(t)}$, $0 \leq t \leq T$.

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Assumptions: Let the empirical distribution of N minor agents' initial states be defined by $F_N(x) := (1/N) \sum_{i=1}^N 1_{\{Ez_i(0) < x\}}$.

(A1) The initial states $\{z_j(0) : 0 \leq j \leq N\}$ are \mathcal{F}_0 -adapted random variables mutually independent and independent of all Brownian motions, and there exists a constant k independent of N such that $\sup_{0 \leq j \leq N} E|z_j(0)|^2 \leq k < \infty$.

(A2) $\{F_N : N \geq 1\}$ converges weakly to the probability distribution F .

(A3) U_0 and U are compact metric spaces.

(A4) The functions $f_0[t, x, u, y]$, $\sigma_0[t, x, y]$, $f[t, x, u, y, z]$ and $\sigma[t, x, y, z]$ are continuous and bounded with respect to all their parameters, and Lipschitz continuous in (x, y, z) . In addition, their first and second order derivatives (w.r.t. x) are all uniformly continuous and bounded with respect to all their parameters, and Lipschitz continuous in (y, z) .

(A5) $f_0[t, x, u, y]$ and $f[t, x, u, y, z]$ are Lipschitz continuous in u .

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Assumptions (cnt):

(A6) $L_0[t, x, u, y]$ and $L[t, x, u, y, z]$ are continuous and bounded with respect to all their parameters, and Lipschitz continuous in (x, y, z) . In addition, their first and second order derivatives (w.r.t. x) are all uniformly continuous and bounded with respect to all their parameters, and Lipschitz continuous in (y, z) .

(A7) (Non-degeneracy Assumption) There exists a positive constant α such that

$$\sigma_0[t, x, y]\sigma_0^T[t, x, y] \geq \alpha I, \quad \sigma[t, x, y, z]\sigma^T(t, x, y, z) \geq \alpha I, \quad \forall(t, x, y, z).$$

Notation: Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \{\mathcal{F}_t\}_{t \geq 0}, P)$ be a complete filtered probability space. We denote:

- $\mathcal{F}_t := \sigma\{z_j(0), w_j(s) : 0 \leq j \leq N, 0 \leq s \leq t\}$.
- $\mathcal{F}_t^{w_0} := \sigma\{z_0(0), w_0(s) : 0 \leq s \leq t\}$.

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A Preliminary Nonlinear SOCP with Random Coefficients: Let $(W(t))_{t \geq 0}$ and $(B(t))_{t \geq 0}$ be mutually independent standard Brownian motions in \mathbb{R}^m . Denote

$$\mathcal{F}_t^{W,B} := \sigma\{W(s), B(s) : s \leq t\}, \quad \mathcal{F}_t^W := \sigma\{W(s) : s \leq t\}.$$

Dynamics and cost function for a "single agent":

$$dz(t) = f[t, \omega, z, u]dt + \sigma[t, \omega, z]dW(t) + \varsigma[t, \omega, z]dB(t), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T,$$

$$\inf_{u \in \mathcal{U}} J(u) := \inf_{u \in \mathcal{U}} E \left[\int_0^T L[t, \omega, z(t), u(t)]dt \right],$$

where the coefficients f, σ, ς and L are \mathcal{F}_t^W -adapted stochastic processes.

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The value function [Peng'92]:

$$\phi(t, x) := \inf_{u \in \mathcal{U}} E_{\mathcal{F}_t^W} \left[\int_t^T L[s, \omega, z(s), u(s)] ds \mid z(t) = x \right],$$

which is a \mathcal{F}_t^W -adapted process for any fixed x .

A semimartingale representation for $\phi(t, x)$ [Peng'92]: Following Peng we assume that the continuous semimartingale $\phi(t, x)$ has the representation

$$\phi(t, x) = \int_t^T \Gamma(s, x) ds - \int_t^T \psi^T(s, x) dW(s), \quad (t, x) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n,$$

where, for each x , $\phi(s, x)$, $\Gamma(s, x)$ and $\psi(s, x)$ are \mathcal{F}_s^W -adapted stochastic processes.

Question: What are $\Gamma(t, x)$ and $\psi(t, x)$ processes?

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Theorem (Itô-Kunita formula (Peng'92))

Let $F(t, x)$ be a stochastic process continuous in (t, x) almost surely (a.s.), such that (i) for each t , $F(t, \cdot)$ is a $C^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ map a.s., (ii) for each x , $F(\cdot, x)$ is a continuous semimartingale represented as

$$F(t, x) = F(0, x) + \sum_{j=1}^m \int_0^t f_j(s, x) dY_s^j,$$

where Y_s^j , $1 \leq j \leq m$, are continuous semimartingales, $f_j(s, x)$, $1 \leq j \leq m$, are stochastic processes that are continuous in (s, x) a.s., such that (i) for each s , $f_j(s, \cdot)$ is a $C^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ map a.s., (ii) for each x , $f_j(\cdot, x)$ is an adapted process. Let $X_t = (X_t^1, \dots, X_t^n)$ be continuous semimartingale. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} F(t, X_t) &= F(0, X_0) + \sum_{j=1}^m \int_0^t f_j(s, X_s) dY_s^j + \sum_{i=1}^n \int_0^t \partial_{x_i} F(s, X_s) dX_s^i \\ &+ \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^n \int_0^t \partial_{x_i} f_j(s, X_s) d \langle Y^j, X^i \rangle_s + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n \int_0^t \partial_{x_i x_j}^2 F(s, X_s) d \langle X^i, X^j \rangle_s, \end{aligned}$$

where $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_s$ stands for the quadratic variation of semimartingales. □

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A stochastic Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman (SHJB) equation for the nonlinear SOCP with random coefficients [Peng'92]:

Using the Itô-Kunita formula and the Principle of Optimality, Peng showed if $\phi(t, x)$, $\Gamma(t, x)$ and $\psi(t, x)$ are a.s. continuous in (x, t) and are smooth enough with respect to x , then the pair $(\phi(s, x), \psi(s, x))$ satisfies the following backward in time SHJB equation:

$$\begin{aligned} -d\phi(t, \omega, x) = & \left[H[t, \omega, x, D_x\phi(t, \omega, x)] + \langle \sigma[t, \omega, x], D_x\psi(t, \omega, x) \rangle \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}(a[t, \omega, x] D_{xx}^2\phi(t, \omega, x)) \right] dt - \psi^T(t, \omega, x) dW(t, \omega), \quad \phi(T, x) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

in $[0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n$, where $a[t, \omega, x] := \sigma[t, \omega, x]\sigma^T[t, \omega, x] + \varsigma[t, \omega, x]\varsigma^T(t, \omega, x)$, and the stochastic Hamiltonian H is given by

$$H[t, \omega, z, p] := \inf_{u \in \mathcal{U}} \left\{ \langle f[t, \omega, z, u], p \rangle + L[t, \omega, z, u] \right\}.$$

The solution of the backward in time SHJB equation is a unique forward in time \mathcal{F}_t^W -adapted pair $(\phi, \psi)(t, x) \equiv (\phi(t, \omega, x), \psi(t, \omega, x))$

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Assumptions:

(H1) $f[t, x, u]$ and $L[t, x, u]$ are a.s. continuous in (x, u) for each t , a.s. continuous in t for each (x, u) , $f[t, 0, 0] \in L^2_{\mathcal{F}_t}([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^n)$ and $L[t, 0, 0] \in L^2_{\mathcal{F}_t}([0, T]; \mathbb{R}_+)$. In addition, they and all their first derivatives (w.r.t. x) are a.s. continuous and bounded.

(H2) $\sigma[t, x]$ and $\varsigma[t, x]$ are a.s. continuous in x for each t , a.s. continuous in t for each x and $\sigma[t, 0], \varsigma[t, 0] \in L^2_{\mathcal{F}_t}([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^{n \times m})$. In addition, they and all their first derivatives (w.r.t. x) are a.s. continuous and bounded.

(H3) (Non-degeneracy Assumption) There exist non-negative constants α_1 and α_2 such that

$$\sigma[t, \omega, x]\sigma^T[t, \omega, x] \geq \alpha_1 I, \quad \varsigma[t, \omega, x]\varsigma^T(t, \omega, x) \geq \alpha_2 I, \quad a.s., \quad \forall(t, \omega, x),$$

where α_1 or α_2 (but not both) can be zero.

Theorem (Peng'92)

Assume **(H1)**-**(H3)** hold. Then the SHJB equation has a unique solution $(\phi(t, x), \psi(t, x))$ in $(L^2_{\mathcal{F}_t}([0, T]; \mathbb{R}), L^2_{\mathcal{F}_t}([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^m))$. □

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The optimal control process [Peng'92]:

$$\begin{aligned} u^\circ(t, \omega, x) &:= \arg \inf_{u \in U} H^u[t, \omega, x, D_x \phi(t, \omega, x), u] \\ &= \arg \inf_{u \in U} \{ \langle f[t, \omega, x, u], D_x \phi(t, \omega, x) \rangle + L[t, \omega, x, u] \}. \end{aligned}$$

which is a forward in time \mathcal{F}_t^W -adapted process for any fixed x .

- By a **verification theorem** approach, Peng showed that if a unique solution $(\phi, \psi)(t, x)$ to the SHJB equation exists, and if it satisfies:
 - (i) for each t , $(\phi, \psi)(t, x)$ is a $C^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ map,
 - (ii) for each x , $(\phi, \psi)(t, x)$ and $(D_x \phi, D_{xx}^2 \phi, D_x \psi)(t, x)$ are continuous F_t^W -adapted stochastic processes,then $\phi(x, t)$ coincides with **the value function** of the SOCP.

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Major and Minor Mean Field Convergence Theorem:

- A probabilistic approach to show a "decoupling effect" result such that a generic minor agent's statistical properties can effectively approximate the distribution produced by all minor agents as the number of minor agents N goes to infinity (based on the HMC'06).

Let $\varphi_0(\omega, t, x)$ and $\varphi(\omega, t, x)$ be two arbitrary $\mathcal{F}_t^{w_0}$ -measurable stochastic processes. We introduce the following assumption:

(H4) $\varphi_0(\omega, t, x)$ and $\varphi(\omega, t, x)$ are Lipschitz continuous in x , and $\varphi_0(\omega, t, 0) \in L^2_{\mathcal{F}_t^{w_0}}([0, T]; U_0)$ and $\varphi(\omega, t, 0) \in L^2_{\mathcal{F}_t^{w_0}}([0, T]; U)$.

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Assume that $\varphi_0(t, x) \equiv \varphi_0(\omega, t, x)$ and $\varphi(t, x) \equiv \varphi(\omega, t, x)$ are respectively used by the Major and Minor agents as their control laws. Then we have the following closed-loop equations with random coefficients:

$$\begin{aligned}d\hat{z}_0^N(t) &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N f_0[t, \hat{z}_0^N(t), \varphi_0(t, \hat{z}_0^N(t)), \hat{z}_j^N(t)]dt \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \sigma_0[t, \hat{z}_0^N(t), \hat{z}_j^N(t)]dw_0(t), \quad \hat{z}_0^N(0) = z_0(0), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \\d\hat{z}_i^N(t) &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N f[t, \hat{z}_i^N(t), \varphi(t, \hat{z}_i^N(t)), \hat{z}_0^N(t), \hat{z}_j^N(t)]dt \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \sigma[t, \hat{z}_i^N(t), \hat{z}_0^N(t), \hat{z}_j^N(t)]dw_i(t), \quad \hat{z}_i^N(0) = z_i(0), \quad 1 \leq i \leq N.\end{aligned}$$

Under **(A4)**-**(A5)** and **(H4)** there exists a unique solution $(\hat{z}_0^N, \dots, \hat{z}_N^N)$ to the above system.

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We now introduce the **McKean-Vlasov (MV) SDE** system

$$\begin{aligned}d\bar{z}_0(t) &= f_0[t, \bar{z}_0(t), \varphi_0(t, \bar{z}_0(t)), \mu_t]dt + \sigma_0[t, \bar{z}_0(t), \mu_t]dw_0(t), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \\d\bar{z}(t) &= f[t, \bar{z}(t), \varphi(t, \bar{z}(t)), \mu_t^0, \mu_t]dt + \sigma[t, \bar{z}(t), \mu_t^0, \mu_t]dw(t),\end{aligned}$$

with initial condition $(\bar{z}_0(0), \bar{z}(0))$, where for an arbitrary function g and probability distributions μ_t and μ_t^0 in \mathbb{R}^n denote

$$g[t, z, \mu_t] := \int g(t, z, x)\mu_t(dx), \quad g[t, z, \mu_t^0] := \int g(t, z, x)\mu_t^0(dx).$$

- In the above MV system $(\bar{z}_0, \bar{z}, \mu^0, \mu)$ is a **consistent solution** if (\bar{z}_0, \bar{z}) is a solution to the above SDE system, and μ_t^0 and μ_t are the corresponding distributions (laws of the processes \bar{z}_0 and \bar{z}) at time t (HMC'06).
- Under **(A4)**-**(A5)** and **(H4)** there exists a unique solution $(\bar{z}_0, \bar{z}, \mu^0, \mu)$ to the above MV SDE system.

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We also introduce the equations

$$\begin{aligned}d\bar{z}_0(t) &= f_0[t, \bar{z}_0(t), \varphi_0(t, \bar{z}_0(t)), \mu_t]dt + \sigma_0[t, \bar{z}_0(t), \mu_t]dw_0(t), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \\d\bar{z}_i(t) &= f[t, \bar{z}_i(t), \varphi(t, \bar{z}_i(t)), \mu_t^0, \mu_t]dt + \sigma[t, \bar{z}_i(t), \mu_t^0, \mu_t]dw_i(t), \quad 1 \leq i \leq N,\end{aligned}$$

with initial conditions $\bar{z}_j(0) = z_j(0)$ for $0 \leq j \leq N$, which can be viewed as N independent samples of the MV SDE system above.

- We develop the decoupling result such that each \hat{z}_i^N , $1 \leq i \leq N$, has the natural limit \bar{z}_i in the infinite population limit (HMC'06).

Theorem

Assume **(A1)**, **(A3)**-**(A5)** and **(H4)** hold. Then we have

$$\sup_{0 \leq j \leq N} \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} E|\hat{z}_j^N(t) - \bar{z}_j(t)| = O(1/\sqrt{N}),$$

where the right hand side may depend upon the terminal time T . □

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The Stochastic Mean Field (SMF) System

- The noise process of the **major agent** w_0 causes random fluctuation of the mean-field behaviour of the minor agents \implies the **mean field behaviour of the minor agents is stochastic** [H'10, NH'11].

The Major Agent's SMF System: We construct the major agent's SMF system in the following steps.

Step 1 (Major Agent's Stochastic Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman (SHJB) Equation):

By the decoupling result we shall approximate the empirical distribution of minor agents $\delta_{(\cdot)}^N$ with a stochastic probability measure $\mu_{(\cdot)}$.

Let $\mu_t(\omega)$, $0 \leq t \leq T$, be a **given exogenous stochastic process**. Then we define the following SOCP with $\mathcal{F}_t^{w_0}$ -adapted random coefficients from the major agent's model in the infinite population limit:

$$dz_0(t) = f_0[t, z_0(t), u_0(t), \mu_t(\omega)]dt + \sigma_0[t, z_0(t), \mu_t(\omega)]dw_0(t, \omega), \quad z_0(0),$$

$$\inf_{u_0 \in \mathcal{U}_0} J_0(u_0) := \inf_{u_0 \in \mathcal{U}_0} E \left[\int_0^T L_0[t, z_0(t), u_0(t), \mu_t(\omega)]dt \right],$$

where we explicitly indicate the dependence of random measure $\mu_{(\cdot)}$ on the sample point $\omega \in \Omega$.

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The value function [based on Peng'92]:

$$\phi_0(t, x) := \inf_{u_0 \in \mathcal{U}_0} E_{\mathcal{F}_t^{w_0}} \left[\int_t^T L_0[s, z_0(s), u_0(s), \mu_s(\omega)] ds \mid z_0(t) = x \right],$$

which is a $\mathcal{F}_t^{w_0}$ -adapted process for any fixed x .

A semimartingale representation for $\phi_0(t, x)$ [based on Peng'92]:

$$\phi_0(t, x) = \int_t^T \Gamma_0(s, x) ds - \int_t^T \psi_0^T(s, x) dw_0(s), \quad (t, x) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n,$$

where $\phi_0(s, x)$, $\Gamma_0(s, x)$ and $\psi_0(s, x)$ are $\mathcal{F}_s^{w_0}$ -adapted stochastic processes.

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SHJB equation for the Major agent: If $\phi_0(t, x)$, $\Gamma_0(t, x)$ and $\psi_0(t, x)$ are a.s. continuous in (x, t) and are smooth enough with respect to x , then the pair $(\phi_0(s, x), \psi_0(s, x))$ satisfies the backward in time SHJB equation

$$\begin{aligned} -d\phi_0(t, \omega, x) &= \left[H_0[t, \omega, x, D_x \phi_0(t, \omega, x)] + \langle \sigma_0[t, x, \mu_t(\omega)], D_x \psi_0(t, \omega, x) \rangle \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}(a_0[t, \omega, x] D_{xx}^2 \phi_0(t, \omega, x)) \right] dt - \psi_0^T(t, \omega, x) dw_0(t, \omega), \quad \phi_0(T, x) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

in $[0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n$, where $a_0[t, \omega, x] := \sigma_0[t, x, \mu_t(\omega)]\sigma_0^T[t, x, \mu_t(\omega)]$, and the stochastic Hamiltonian H_0 is given by

$$H_0[t, \omega, x, p] := \inf_{u \in \mathcal{U}_0} \left\{ \langle f_0[t, x, u, \mu_t(\omega)], p \rangle + L_0[t, x, u, \mu_t(\omega)] \right\}.$$

The solution of the backward in time SHJB equation is a forward in time $\mathcal{F}_t^{w_0}$ -adapted pair $(\phi_0(t, x), \psi_0(t, x)) \equiv (\phi_0(t, \omega, x), \psi_0(t, \omega, x))$.

- Note that the appearance of the term $\langle \sigma_0[t, x, \mu_t(\omega)], D_x \psi_0(t, \omega, x) \rangle$ is due to the quadratic variation of the major agent's Brownian motion w_0 in the Itô-Kunita formula for the composition of $\mathcal{F}_t^{w_0}$ -adapted stochastic processes $\phi_0(t, \omega, x)$ and $z_0(t, \omega)$.

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The best response control process of the major agent:

$$\begin{aligned} u_0^o(t, \omega, x) &\equiv u_0^o(t, x | \{\mu_s(\omega)\}_{0 \leq s \leq T}) := \arg \inf_{u_0 \in U_0} H_0^{u_0}[t, \omega, x, u_0, D_x \phi_0(t, \omega, x)] \\ &\equiv \arg \inf_{u_0 \in U_0} \{ \langle f_0[t, x, u_0, \mu_t(\omega)], D_x \phi_0(t, \omega, x) \rangle + L_0[t, x, u_0, \mu_t(\omega)] \}. \end{aligned}$$

is a forward in time $\mathcal{F}_t^{w_0}$ -adapted process which depends on the Brownian motion w_0 via the stochastic measure $\mu_t(\omega)$, $0 \leq t \leq T$.

Step II (Major Agent's Stochastic Coefficients McKean-Vlasov (SMV) and Stochastic Fokker-Planck-Kolmogorov (SFPK) Equations): By substituting u_0^o into the major agent's dynamics we get the SMV dynamics with random coefficients:

$$dz_0^o(t, \omega) = f_0[t, z_0^o(t, \omega), u_0^o(t, \omega, z_0), \mu_t(\omega)]dt + \sigma_0[t, z_0^o(t, \omega), \mu_t(\omega)]dw_0(t, \omega),$$

where f_0 and σ_0 are random processes via the stochastic measure μ and u_0^o .

- We denote the corresponding random probability measure (law) of the major agent $z_0^o(t, \omega)$ by $\mu_t^0(\omega)$, $0 \leq t \leq T$.

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Stochastic Fokker-Planck-Kolmogorov (SFPK) equation: An equivalent method to characterize the SMV equation. Let $p^0(t, \omega, x) := p^0(t, \omega, x) | \mathcal{F}_t^{w_0}$:

$$\begin{aligned} dp^0(t, \omega, x) = & \left(- \langle D_x, f_0[t, x, u_0^o(t, \omega, x), \mu_t(\omega)] p^0(t, \omega, x) \rangle \right. \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \langle D_{xx}^2, a_0[t, \omega, x] p^0(t, \omega, x) \rangle \Big) dt \\ & - \langle D_x, \sigma_0[t, x, \mu_t(\omega)] p^0(t, \omega, x) dw_0(t, \omega) \rangle, \quad p^0(t, 0) = p_0^0. \end{aligned}$$

The density function $p^0(t, \omega, x)$ generates the random measure of the major agent $\mu_t^0(\omega)$ such that $\mu_t^0(t, \omega, dx) = p^0(t, \omega, x) dx$ (a.s.), $0 \leq t \leq T$.

The **weak solution** to the SFPK equation is

$$\begin{aligned} (g(t, \omega, x), p^0(t, \omega, x)) = & (g(0, \omega, x), p^0(0, x)) \\ & + \int_0^t (A_0(s, \omega, x) g(s, \omega, x), p^0(s, \omega, x)) ds \\ & + \int_0^t (\sigma_0[s, x, \mu_t(\omega)]^T D_x g(s, \omega, x), p^0(s, \omega, x)) dw_0(s, \omega), \end{aligned}$$

where $(h(t, \omega, x), p^0(t, \omega, x)) := \int h(t, \omega, x) p^0(t, \omega, x) dx$, and A_0 is

$$A_0(t, \omega, x) h(x) := \langle f_0[t, x, u_0^o(t, \omega, x), \mu_t(\omega)], D_x h(x) \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}(a_0[t, \omega, x] D_{xx}^2 h(x)).$$

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- We note that the major agent's SOCP may be written with respect to the random mean field density of minor agents $p(t, \omega, x)$ instead of since $\mu(t, \omega, dx)$ by the fact that $\mu(t, \omega, dx) = p(t, \omega, x)dx$ (a.s.), $0 \leq t \leq T$.

The Major Agent's Stochastic Mean Field (SMF) System:

$$\begin{aligned} -d\phi_0(t, \omega, x) &= \left[H_0[t, \omega, x, D_x\phi_0(t, \omega, x)] \right. \\ &+ \left. \langle \sigma_0[t, x, \mu_t(\omega)], D_x\psi_0(t, \omega, x) \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}(a_0[t, \omega, x] D_{xx}^2\phi_0(t, \omega, x)) \right] dt \\ &- \psi_0^T(t, \omega, x) dw_0(t, \omega), \quad \phi_0(T, x) = 0, \end{aligned} \quad \text{[MF-SHJB]}$$

$$\begin{aligned} u_0^o(t, \omega, x) &\equiv u_0^o(t, x | \{\mu_s(\omega)\}_{0 \leq s \leq T}) \quad \text{[MF-SBR]} \\ &:= \arg \inf_{u_0 \in U_0} \left\{ \langle f_0[t, x, u_0, \mu_t(\omega)], D_x\phi_0(t, \omega, x) \rangle + L_0[t, x, u_0, \mu_t(\omega)] \right\}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} dz_0^o(t, \omega) &= f_0[t, z_0^o(t, \omega), u_0^o(t, \omega, z_0), \mu_t(\omega)] dt \\ &+ \sigma_0[t, z_0^o(t, \omega), \mu_t(\omega)] dw_0(t, \omega), \quad z_0^o(0) = z_0(0), \end{aligned} \quad \text{[MF-SMV]}$$

- The solution of the SMF system above consists of **4-tuple $\mathcal{F}_t^{w_0}$ -adapted random processes** $(\phi_0(t, \omega, x), \psi_0(t, \omega, x), u_0^o(t, \omega, x), z_0^o(t, \omega))$, for a given exogenous stochastic process $\mu_t(\omega)$, where $z_0^o(t, \omega)$ generates the random measure $\mu_t^o(\omega)$.

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The Minor Agents' Stochastic Mean Field (SMF) System: We construct the SMF stochastic mean field (SMF) system for a “generic” minor agent i in the following steps.

Step 1 (Minor Agent's Stochastic Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman (SHJB) Equation):

- By the decoupling result we may approximate the empirical distribution of minor agents $\delta_{(\cdot)}^N$ with a stochastic probability measure $\mu_{(\cdot)}$.
- As in major player's case let μ_t , $0 \leq t \leq T$, be the exogenous stochastic process approximating δ_t^N in the infinite population limit. We let $\mu_t^0(\omega)$, $0 \leq t \leq T$, be the random measure of the major agent obtained from the major agent's SMF system.

We define the following SOCP with $\mathcal{F}_t^{w_0}$ -adapted random coefficients from the minor agent's model in the infinite population limit:

$$dz_i(t) = f[t, z_i(t), u_i(t), \mu_t^0(\omega), \mu_t(\omega)]dt + \sigma[t, z_i(t), \mu_t^0(\omega), \mu_t(\omega)]dw_i(t, \omega),$$

$$\inf_{u_i \in \mathcal{U}} J_i(u_i) := \inf_{u_i \in \mathcal{U}} E \left[\int_0^T L[t, z_i(t), u_i(t), \mu_t^0(\omega), \mu_t(\omega)]dt \right], \quad z_i(0),$$

where we explicitly indicate the dependence of random measures $\mu_{(\cdot)}^0$ and $\mu_{(\cdot)}$ on the sample point $\omega \in \Omega$.

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The value function [based on Peng'92]:

$$\phi_i(t, x) := \inf_{u_i \in \mathcal{U}_0} E_{\mathcal{F}_t^{w_0}} \left[\int_t^T L[s, z_i(s), u_i(s), \mu_s^0(\omega), \mu_s(\omega)] ds \mid z_i(t) = x \right],$$

which is a $\mathcal{F}_t^{w_0}$ -adapted process for any fixed x .

A semimartingale representation for $\phi_i(t, x)$ [based on Peng'92]:

$$\phi_i(t, x) = \int_t^T \Gamma_i(s, x) ds - \int_t^T \psi_i^T(s, x) dw_0(s), \quad (t, x) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n,$$

where $\phi_0(s, x)$, $\Gamma_0(s, x)$ and $\psi_0(s, x)$ are $\mathcal{F}_s^{w_0}$ -adapted stochastic processes.

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SHJB equation for the generic Minor agent: If $\phi_i(t, x)$, $\Gamma_i(t, x)$ and $\psi_i(t, x)$ are a.s. continuous in (x, t) and are smooth enough with respect to x , then the pair $(\phi_i(s, x), \psi_i(s, x))$ satisfies the backward in time SHJB equation

$$\begin{aligned} -d\phi_i(t, \omega, x) &= \left[H[t, \omega, x, D_x \phi_i(t, \omega, x)] + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}(a[t, \omega, x] D_{xx}^2 \phi_i(t, \omega, x)) \right] dt \\ &\quad - \psi_i^T(t, \omega, x) dw_0(t, \omega), \quad \phi_i(T, x) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

in $[0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n$, where $a[t, \omega, x] := \sigma[t, x, \mu_t^0(\omega), \mu_t(\omega)] \sigma^T[t, x, \mu_t^0(\omega), \mu_t(\omega)]$, and the stochastic Hamiltonian H is given by

$$H[t, \omega, x, p] := \inf_{u \in \mathcal{U}} \left\{ \langle f[t, x, u, \mu_t^0(\omega), \mu_t(\omega)], p \rangle + L[t, x, u, \mu_t^0(\omega), \mu_t(\omega)] \right\}.$$

The solution of the backward in time SHJB equation is a forward in time $\mathcal{F}_t^{w_0}$ -adapted pair $(\phi_i(t, x), \psi_i(t, x)) \equiv (\phi_i(t, \omega, x), \psi_i(t, \omega, x))$.

- Since the coefficients of the minor agent's SOCP are $\mathcal{F}_t^{w_0}$ -adapted random processes we have the major agent's Brownian motion w_0 in the SHJB equation above.
- Unlike the major agent's SHJB equation we do not have the term $\langle \sigma[t, x, \mu_t^0(\omega), \mu_t(\omega)] D_x \psi_i(t, \omega, x) \rangle$ since the coefficients in the minor agent's SOCP are $\mathcal{F}_t^{w_0}$ -adapted random processes depending upon (w_0) which is independent of (w_i) (see the Itô-Kunita formula).

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The best response control process of the generic minor agent:

$$\begin{aligned} u_i^o(t, \omega, x) &\equiv u_i^o(t, x | \{\mu_s^0(\omega), \mu_s(\omega)\}_{0 \leq s \leq T}) := \arg \inf_{u \in U} H^u[t, \omega, x, u, D_x \phi_i(t, \omega, x)] \\ &\equiv \arg \inf_{u \in U} \left\{ \langle f[t, x, u, \mu_t^0(\omega), \mu_t(\omega)], D_x \phi_i(t, \omega, x) \rangle + L[t, x, u, \mu_t^0(\omega), \mu_t(\omega)] \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

is a forward in time $\mathcal{F}_t^{w_0}$ -adapted process which depends on the Brownian motion w_0 via the stochastic measures $\mu_t^0(\omega)$ and $\mu_t(\omega)$, $0 \leq t \leq T$.

Step II (The Generic Minor Agent's Stochastic Coefficients McKean-Vlasov (SMV) and Stochastic Fokker-Planck-Kolmogorov (SFPK) Equations): By substituting u_i^o into the minor agent's dynamics we get the SMV dynamics with random coefficients:

$$\begin{aligned} dz_i^o(t, \omega) &= f[t, z_i^o(t, \omega), u_i^o(t, \omega, z_i), \mu_t^0(\omega), \mu_t(\omega)] dt \\ &\quad + \sigma[t, z_i^o(t, \omega), \mu_t^0(\omega), \mu_t(\omega)] dw_i(t, \omega), \quad z_i^o(0) = z_i(0), \end{aligned}$$

where f and σ are random processes via the stochastic measures μ^0 and μ , and the best response control process u_i^o which all depend on the Brownian motion of the major agent w_0 .

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- Based on the **decoupling effect** the generic minor agent's statistical properties can effectively approximate the empirical distribution produced by all minor agents in a large population system.
- From the minor agent's SMV equation we obtain a **new stochastic measure $\hat{\mu}_t(\omega)$ for the mean field behaviour of minor agents** from the statistical behaviour of the generic minor agent $z_i^o(t, \omega)$. We characterize $\hat{\mu}_t(\omega)$, $0 \leq t \leq T$, as the law of $z_i^o(t, \omega)$.

The mean field games (MFG) or Nash certainty equivalence (NCE) consistency [HCM'03, HMC'06, LL'06] is now imposed by letting $\hat{\mu}_t(\omega) = \mu_t(\omega)$ a.s., $0 \leq t \leq T$.

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Stochastic Fokker-Planck-Kolmogorov (SFPK) equation: An equivalent method to characterize the SMV equation. Let $\hat{p}(t, \omega, x) := \hat{p}(t, \omega, x) | \mathcal{F}_t^{w_0}$:

$$d\hat{p}(t, \omega, x) = \left(- \langle D_x, f[t, x, u_i^o(t, \omega, x), \mu_t^0(\omega), \mu_t(\omega)] \hat{p}(t, \omega, x) \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \langle D_{xx}^2, a[t, \omega, x] \hat{p}(t, \omega, x) \rangle \right) dt, \quad \hat{p}(t, 0) = p_0,$$

The density function $\hat{p}(t, \omega, x)$ generates the random measure of the minor agents's mean field behaviour $\hat{\mu}_t(\omega)$ such that $\hat{\mu}_t(t, \omega, dx) = \hat{p}(t, \omega, x) dx$ (a.s.), $0 \leq t \leq T$.

The weak solution to the SFPK equation is

$$(g(t, \omega, x), \hat{p}(t, \omega, x)) = (g(0, \omega, x), \hat{p}(0, x)) + \int_0^t (A(s, \omega, x)g(s, \omega, x), \hat{p}(s, \omega, x)) ds,$$

where $(h(t, \omega, x), \hat{p}(t, \omega, x)) := \int h(t, \omega, x) \hat{p}(t, \omega, x) dx$, and A is

$$A(t, \omega, x)h(x) := \langle f[t, x, u^o(t, \omega, x), \mu_t^0(\omega), \mu_t(\omega)], D_x h(x) \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} (a[t, \omega, x] D_{xx}^2 h(x)).$$

- The reason that the generic minor agent's SFPK equation does not include the Itô integral term with respect to w_i is due to the fact that the independent Brownian motions of individual minor agents are averaged out in their mean field behaviour.

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The MFG or NCE consistency is imposed in: (i) the major agent's stochastic mean field (SMF) system together with (ii) the following SMF system for the minor agents below.

The Minor Agents' Stochastic Mean Field (SMF) System:

$$-d\phi(t, \omega, x) = \left[H[t, \omega, x, D_x\phi(t, \omega, x)] + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}(a[t, \omega, x] D_{xx}^2\phi(t, \omega, x)) \right] dt - \psi^T(t, \omega, x) dw_0(t, \omega), \quad \phi(T, x) = 0, \quad [\text{MF-SHJB}]$$

$$u^o(t, \omega, x) \equiv u^o(t, x | \{\mu_s^0(\omega), \mu_s(\omega)\}_{0 \leq s \leq T}) \quad [\text{MF-SBR}] \\ \equiv \arg \inf_{u \in U} \left\{ \langle f[t, x, u, \mu_t^0(\omega), \mu_t(\omega)], D_x\phi(t, \omega, x) \rangle + L[t, x, u, \mu_t^0(\omega), \mu_t(\omega)] \right\},$$

$$dz^o(t, \omega) = f[t, z^o(t, \omega), u^o(t, \omega, z), \mu_t^0(\omega), \mu_t(\omega)] dt + \sigma[t, z^o(t, \omega), \mu_t^0(\omega), \mu_t(\omega)] dw(t, \omega), \quad [\text{MF-SMV}]$$

in $[0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^n$, where $z^o(0)$ has the measure $\mu_0(dx) = dF(x)$ where F is defined in **(A2)**.

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The Major-Minor Stochastic Mean Field (SMF) System:

- The SMF system is given by the major and minor agents' coupled SMF systems.
- The solution of the major-minor SMF system consists of 8-tuple $\mathcal{F}_t^{w_0}$ -adapted random processes

$$(\phi_0(t, \omega, x), \psi_0(t, \omega, x), u_0^o(t, \omega, x), z_0^o(t, \omega), \phi(t, \omega, x), \psi(t, \omega, x), u^o(t, \omega, x), z^o(t, \omega)),$$

where $z_0^o(t, \omega)$ and $z^o(t, \omega)$ respectively generate the random measures $\mu_t^0(\omega)$ and $\mu_t(\omega)$.

- The solution to the major-minor SMF system is a **public stochastic mean field** in contrast to the **public deterministic mean field** of the standard MFG problems (HCM'03,HMC'06,LL'06).

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Existence and uniqueness of Solution to the Major and Minor (MM) Agents' Stochastic Mean Field (SMF) System: A fixed point argument with random parameters in the space of stochastic probability measures.

- On the Banach space $C([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^n)$ we define the metric $\rho_T(x, y) := \max_{0 \leq t \leq T} |x(t) - y(t)| \wedge 1$ where \wedge denotes minimum.
- $C_\rho := (C([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^n), \rho_T)$ forms a separable complete metric space.
- Let $\mathcal{M}(C_\rho)$ be the space of all Borel probability measures μ on $C([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^n)$ such that $\int |x| d\mu(x) < \infty$.
- We also denote $\mathcal{M}(C_\rho \times C_\rho)$ as the space of probability measures on the product space $C([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^n) \times C([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^n)$.
- Let the **canonical process** x be a random process with the sample space $C([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^n)$, i.e., $x(t, \omega) = \omega(t)$ for $\omega \in C([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^n)$ [HMC'06].
- $\mathcal{C}_{\text{Lip}(x)}$: the class of a.s. continuous functions which are a.s. Lipschitz continuous in x

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Based on the metric ρ , we introduce the **Wasserstein (or Vasershtein) metric** on $\mathcal{M}(C_\rho)$:

$$D_T^\rho(\mu, \nu) := \inf_{\gamma \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)} \left[\int_{C_\rho \times C_\rho} \rho_T(x(\omega_1), x(\omega_2)) d\gamma(\omega_1, \omega_2) \right],$$

where $\Pi(\mu, \nu) \subset \mathcal{M}(C_\rho \times C_\rho)$ is the set of Borel probability measures γ such that $\gamma(A \times C([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^n)) = \mu(A)$ and $\gamma(C([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^n) \times A) = \nu(A)$ for any Borel set $A \in C([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^n)$. The metric space $\mathcal{M}_\rho := (\mathcal{M}(C_\rho), D_T^\rho)$ is a separable and complete metric space since $C_\rho \equiv (C([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^n), \rho_T)$ is a separable complete metric space.

Definition

A stochastic probability measure $\mu_t(\omega)$, $0 \leq t \leq T$, in the space \mathcal{M}_ρ is in \mathcal{M}_ρ^β if μ is a.s. **uniformly Hölder continuous with exponent $0 < \beta < 1/2$** , i.e., there exists $\beta \in (0, 1/2)$ and constant c such that for any bounded and Lipschitz continuous function ϕ on \mathbb{R}^n ,

$$\left| \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \phi(x) \mu_t(\omega, dx) - \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \phi(x) \mu_s(\omega, dx) \right| \leq c(\omega) |t - s|^\beta, \quad a.s.,$$

for all $0 \leq s < t \leq T$, where c may depend upon the Lipschitz constant of ϕ and the sample point $\omega \in \Omega$.

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Assumption:

(A8) For any $p \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $\mu, \mu^0 \in \mathcal{M}_\rho^\beta$, the sets

$$S_0(t, \omega, x, p) := \arg \inf_{u_0 \in U_0} H_0^{u_0}[t, \omega, x, u_0, p],$$

$$S(t, \omega, x, p) := \arg \inf_{u \in U} H^u[t, \omega, x, u, p],$$

are singletons and the resulting u and u_0 as functions of $[t, \omega, x, p]$ are a.s. continuous in t , Lipschitz continuous in (x, p) , uniformly with respect to t and $\mu, \mu^0 \in \mathcal{M}_\rho^\beta$. In addition, $u_0[t, \omega, 0, 0]$ and $u[t, \omega, 0, 0]$ are in the space $L^2_{\mathcal{F}_t}([0, T]; \mathbb{R}^n)$.

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The Analysis of the Major Agent's SMF System: Assume **(A3)**-**(A8)** holds. Then we have the following well-defined maps:

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma_0^{\text{SHJB}} : M_\rho^\beta &\longrightarrow C_{\text{Lip}(x)}([0, T] \times \Omega \times \mathbb{R}^n; U_0), & 0 < \beta < 1/2, \\ \Gamma_0^{\text{SHJB}}(\mu_{(\cdot)}(\omega)) &= u_0^o(t, \omega, x) \equiv u_0^o(t, x | \{\mu_s(\omega)\}_{0 \leq s \leq T}).\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma_0^{\text{SMV}} : C_{\text{Lip}(x)}([0, T] \times \Omega \times \mathbb{R}^n; U_0) &\longrightarrow M_\rho^\beta, & 0 < \beta < 1/2, \\ \Gamma_0^{\text{SMV}}(u_0^o(t, \omega, x)) &= \mu_{(\cdot)}^0(\omega),\end{aligned}$$

which together give

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma_0 : M_\rho^\beta &\longrightarrow M_\rho^\beta, & 0 < \beta < 1/2, \\ \Gamma_0(\mu_{(\cdot)}(\omega)) &:= \Gamma_0^{\text{SMV}}\left(\Gamma_0^{\text{SHJB}}(\mu_{(\cdot)}(\omega))\right) = \mu_{(\cdot)}^0(\omega).\end{aligned}$$

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The Analysis of the Generic Minor Agent's SMF System: Assume **(A3)**-**(A8)** holds. Then we have the following well-defined maps:

$$\Gamma_i^{\text{SHJB}} : M_\rho^\beta \times M_\rho^\beta \longrightarrow C_{\text{Lip}(x)}([0, T] \times \Omega \times \mathbb{R}^n; U), \quad 0 < \beta < 1/2,$$
$$\Gamma_i^{\text{SHJB}}(\mu_{(\cdot)}(\omega), \mu_{(\cdot)}^0(\omega)) = u_i^o(t, \omega, x) \equiv u_i^o(t, x | \{\mu_s^0(\omega), \mu_s(\omega)\}_{0 \leq s \leq T}).$$

$$\Gamma_i^{\text{SMV}} : M_\rho^\beta \times C_{\text{Lip}(x)}([0, T] \times \Omega \times \mathbb{R}^n; U) \longrightarrow M_\rho^\beta, \quad 0 < \beta < 1/2,$$
$$\Gamma_i^{\text{SMV}}(\mu_{(\cdot)}^0(\omega), u_i^o(t, \omega, x)) = \mu_{(\cdot)}(\omega).$$



Hence, we obtain the following well-defined map:

$$\Gamma : M_\rho^\beta \longrightarrow M_\rho^\beta, \quad 0 < \beta < 1/2,$$
$$\Gamma(\mu_{(\cdot)}(\omega)) = \Gamma_i^{\text{SMV}}\left(\Gamma_0(\mu_{(\cdot)}(\omega)), \Gamma_i^{\text{SHJB}}(\mu_{(\cdot)}(\omega), \Gamma_0(\mu_{(\cdot)}(\omega)))\right).$$

Subsequently, the problem of existence and uniqueness of solution to the SMF system is translated into a **fixed point problem with random parameters** for the map Γ on the separable complete metric space \mathcal{M}_ρ^β , $0 < \beta < 1/2$.

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Assumptions:

(A9) We assume that σ_0 does not contain z_0^N and z_i^N for $1 \leq i \leq N$.

(A10) Feedback Regularity Assumptions:

(i) There exists a constant c_1 such that

$$\sup_{(t,x) \in [0,T] \times \mathbb{R}^n} |u_0(t, \omega, x) - u'_0(t, \omega, x)| \leq c_1 D_T^\rho(\mu(\omega), \nu(\omega)), \quad a.s.,$$

where u_0, u'_0 are induced by the map Γ_0^{SHJB} using $\mu_{(\cdot)}(\omega)$ and $\nu_{(\cdot)}(\omega)$.

(ii) There exists a constant c_2 such that

$$\sup_{(t,x) \in [0,T] \times \mathbb{R}^n} |u(t, \omega, x) - u'(t, \omega, x)| \leq c_2 D_T^\rho(\mu(\omega), \nu(\omega)), \quad a.s.,$$

where u, u' are induced by the map Γ_i^{SHJB} using $\mu_{(\cdot)}(\omega)$ and $\nu_{(\cdot)}(\omega)$.

(iii) There exists a constant c_3 such that

$$\sup_{(t,x) \in [0,T] \times \mathbb{R}^n} |u(t, \omega, x) - u'(t, \omega, x)| \leq c_3 D_T^\rho(\mu^0(\omega), \nu^0(\omega)), \quad a.s.,$$

where u, u' are induced by the map Γ_i^{SHJB} using $\mu_{(\cdot)}^0(\omega)$ and $\nu_{(\cdot)}^0(\omega)$.

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- The feedback regularity assumptions may be shown under some conditions by a sensitivity analysis of the major and minor agents' SHJB equations with respect to the stochastic measures (based on the analysis in [Kolokoltsov, Li, Yang, 2011])

Theorem (Existence and Uniqueness of the Solution)

Assume (A3)-(A10) hold. Under a contraction gain condition there exists a unique solution for the map Γ , and hence a unique solution to the major and minor agents' SMF system.

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ϵ -Nash Equilibria:

Given $\epsilon > 0$, the set of controls $\{u_j^0; 0 \leq j \leq N\}$ generates an **ϵ -Nash equilibrium** w.r.t. the costs $J_j^N, 1 \leq j \leq N$ if, for each j ,

$$J_j^N(u_j^0, u_{-j}^0) - \epsilon \leq \inf_{u_j \in \mathcal{U}_j} J_j^N(u_j, u_{-j}^0) \leq J_j^N(u_j^0, u_{-j}^0).$$



The decentralized admissible control sets:

$\mathcal{U}_j := \{u_j(\cdot, \omega, x) \in C_{\text{Lip}(x)} : u_j(t, \omega, x) \text{ is adapted to the sigma-field}$

$$\sigma\{z_j(\tau), \omega_0(\tau) : 0 \leq \tau \leq t\} \text{ such that } E \int_0^T |u_j(t)|^2 dt < \infty\}.$$

(A11) We assume that functions f and σ in the minor agents' "dynamics" do not contain the state of the major agent z_0 .

Theorem

Assume **(A1)**-**(A8)** and **(A11)** hold, and there exists a unique solution to the SMF system such that the MF best response control processes (u_0^0, \dots, u_N^0) satisfies the Lipschitz condition. Then $\{u_j^0 \in \mathcal{U}_j : 0 \leq j \leq N\}$ generates an ϵ_N -Nash equilibrium where $\epsilon_N = O(1/\sqrt{N})$.

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Example: Consider the MM MF-LQG model of (SLN,MYH'11) with uniform parameters

Dynamics:

$$\mathcal{A}_0 : dz_0(t) = (a_0 z_0(t) + b_0 u_0(t) + c_0 z^{(N)}(t))dt + \sigma_0 dw_0(t),$$

$$\mathcal{A}_i : dz_i(t) = (a z_i(t) + b u_i(t) + c z^{(N)}(t))dt + \sigma dw_i(t), \quad 1 \leq i \leq N,$$

where $z^{(N)}(\cdot) := (1/N) \sum_{i=1}^N z_i(\cdot)$ is the average state of minor agents.

Costs:

$$\mathcal{A}_0 : J_0(u_0, u_{-0}) = E \int_0^T \left[\left(z_0(t) - (\lambda_0 z^{(N)}(t) + \eta_0) \right)^2 + r_0 u_0^2(t) \right] dt,$$

$$\mathcal{A}_i : J_i(u_i, u_{-i}) = E \int_0^T \left[\left(z_i(t) - (\lambda z^{(N)}(t) + \lambda_1 z_0(t) + \eta) \right)^2 + r u_i^2(t) \right] dt,$$

where $r_0, r > 0$.

Major-Minor ϵ -Nash Mean Field Game (MM ϵ -NMFG)

Let $z^*(\cdot)$ be the stochastic mean field of the minor agents

The Major Agent's SMF LQG System:

$$[\text{Back. SDE}] : -dp_0(t) = (a_0 p_0(t) + \lambda_0 z^*(t) + \mu_0 - z_0^*(t))dt - q_0(t)dw_0(t),$$

$$[\text{SBR}] : u_0^*(t) = (b_0/r_0)p_0(t),$$

$$[\text{Forw. SDE}] : dz_0^*(t) = (a_0 z_0^*(t) + b_0 u_0^*(t) + c_0 z^*(t))dt + \sigma_0 dw_0,$$

with $p_0(T) = 0$ and $z_0^*(0) = z_0(0)$.

The Minor Agent's SMF LQG System:

$$[\text{Back. SDE}] : -dp(t) = (ap(t) + (\lambda - 1)z^*(t) + \lambda_1 z_0^*(t) + \mu)dt - q(t)dw_0(t),$$

$$[\text{SBR}] : u^*(t) = (b/r)p(t),$$

$$[\text{Forw. SDE}] : dz^*(t) = ((a + c)z^*(t) + bu^*(t))dt,$$

with $p(T) = 0$ and $z^*(0) = \bar{z}(0)$.

The solution of the above SMF systems of equations consist of
 $(p_0(\cdot), q_0(\cdot), u_0^*(\cdot), z_0^*(\cdot))$ and $(p(\cdot), q(\cdot), u^*(\cdot), z^*(\cdot))$

Major-Minor ϵ -Nash Mean Field Game (MM ϵ -NMFG)

In the MM MF-LQG model of (NH'11):

- A Gaussian mean field approximation is used for the average state of minor agents:

$$(z^{(N)}(t) \approx) z^*(t) = f_1(t) + f_2(t)z_0(0) + \int_0^t g(t, s)dw_0(s),$$

where f_1 , f_2 and g are continuous functions.

- Consistency conditions are imposed for the mean field approximations