

# Optimal Interdiction of Urban Criminals with the Aid of Real-Time Information

## Appendix A Proofs

### A.1 Proof of Proposition 1

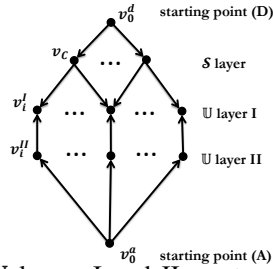
*Proof.* We extend the example in Figure 1 to a more general form. That is, there are  $|O| = n$  different paths from the adversary's initial location to the external world through  $n$  different exit nodes with two time steps. Specifically, any two paths do not intersect. On the other hand, there are  $n$  different paths starting from the defender resource's initial location  $v_0$  to different exit nodes by one time step. Similar to the toy example in Figure 1, the probability of catching the adversary is  $U_d = \frac{1}{n}$  by the optimal non-real-time strategy under the NE, while the probability of catching the adversary is  $U_d^* = 1$  by the optimal real-time strategy under the NE. Then,  $\frac{U_d^*}{U_d} = n$ , can be made arbitrarily large by increasing  $n$ .  $\square$

### A.2 Proof of Theorem 1

*Proof.* We reduce the Set Cover problem to computing the NE of NEST, which is described as follows: given a set  $\mathbb{U}$  of elements, a collection  $\mathcal{S} \subseteq 2^{\mathbb{U}}$  of subsets of  $\mathbb{U}$ , and an integer  $m$ , determine whether there exists a set  $\mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathcal{S}$  of size  $m$  or less, such that  $\cup_{C \in \mathcal{C}} C = \mathbb{U}$ .

**Reduction:** The network structure in NEST is demonstrated by the right figure, where  $v_0^a$  and  $v_0^d$  are starting points for the adversary and the defender respectively. Between them, there are three layers of nodes. The  $\mathcal{S}$  layer is fully connected to  $v_0^d$  where each node  $v_C$  corresponds to the set  $C$  in  $\mathcal{S}$ .  $\mathbb{U}$  layers I and II are two identical layers representing all the elements in the ground set  $\mathbb{U}$ . These two layers are connected with each other in an element-wise manner. Each node  $v_i^I$  in layer I is linked with  $v_C$  in the  $\mathcal{S}$  layer if  $i \in C$ . On the other hand, the adversary can move from  $v_0^a$  to any node in the layer II. Moreover, the defender has  $m$  resources, all located at  $v_0^d$  initially. The time horizon  $t_{\max}$  is set to 2, and the nodes in  $\mathbb{U}$  layer I are characterized as exit nodes. It is easy to verify that this is a polynomial-time reduction.

With a horizon of two time steps, suppose that the adversary reaches  $v_i^{II}$  at the first time step, and the defender is aware of exit node  $v_i^I$  chosen by the adversary. If any one of the defender's resources reaches  $v_C$  in the  $\mathcal{S}$  layer with  $i \in C$  at the first time step, the adversary will be captured for sure. On the other hand, if there is no set cover, then it is easy to show that there is a positive probability that the adversary will move to a  $v_i^{II}$  such that the corresponding  $v_i^I$  is not protected by any defender resources and thus, the adversary can escape. Thus, the NE of NEST answers the Set Cover problem: there exists a set  $\mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathcal{S}$  of size  $m$  or less covering the ground set  $\mathbb{U} \Leftrightarrow$  in NE, the defender captures the adversary



with probability 1, which requires the defender to move the  $m$  resources to nodes at  $\mathcal{S}$  layer which fully protect  $\mathbb{U}$  layer I.  $\square$

### A.3 Proof of Theorem 2

*Proof.* Given  $\mathbf{x}$ , we first show that conditions (3a)-(3c) are satisfied. By Eq.(4), we have:

$$\sum_{l \in A_{s_0}} f_{s_0, l} = \sum_{l \in A_{s_0}} P_{\mathbf{x}}(s_0) x_{s_0, l} = \sum_{l \in A_{s_0}} x_{s_0, l} = 1,$$

which is Eq.(3a). By Eq.(2c),  $P_{\mathbf{x}}(s) = \sum_{l \in A_s} x_{s, l} P_{\mathbf{x}}(s)$  ( $\forall s \in \mathcal{S} \setminus \mathcal{S}_t$ ). Moreover, by Eq.(1),  $\forall s \in \mathcal{S} \setminus (\{s_0\} \cup \mathcal{S}_t)$ ,

$$\sum_{s' \in \mathcal{S} \setminus \mathcal{S}_t : s \in S_{s', l_s}} P_{\mathbf{x}}(s') x_{s', l_s} = \sum_{l \in A_s} P_{\mathbf{x}}(s) x_{s, l}.$$

Further, by Eq.(4),  $\forall s \in \mathcal{S} \setminus (\{s_0\} \cup \mathcal{S}_t)$ ,

$$\sum_{s' \in \mathcal{S} \setminus \mathcal{S}_t : s \in S_{s', l_s}} f_{s', l_s} = \sum_{l \in A_s} f_{s, l},$$

which is Eq.(3b). Obviously, Eq.(3c) is obtained from Eqs.(1), (2d) and (4). For each  $o \in O$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} U_d(\mathbf{x}, o) &= \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}_c : h_s \sqsubseteq o} P_{\mathbf{x}}(s) \\ &= \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}_c : h_s \sqsubseteq o} \sum_{s' \in \mathcal{S} \setminus \mathcal{S}_t : s \in S_{s', l_s}} P_{\mathbf{x}}(s') x_{s', l_s} \\ &= \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}_c : h_s \sqsubseteq o} \sum_{s' \in \mathcal{S} \setminus \mathcal{S}_t : s \in S_{s', l_s}} f_{s', l_s}, \\ &= U_d(\mathbf{f}, o). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $\forall \mathbf{x}$ ,  $\exists \mathbf{f}$  defined by Eq.(4) such that  $U_d(\mathbf{x}, o) = U_d(\mathbf{f}, o)$  ( $\forall o \in O$ ).

Given  $\mathbf{f}$ , we define  $\mathbf{x}$  in Eq. (5). Obviously,  $P_{\mathbf{x}}(s) x_{s, l} = f_{s, l}$ , and then  $U_d(\mathbf{f}, o) = U_d(\mathbf{x}, o)$ . Therefore,  $\forall \mathbf{f}$ ,  $\exists \mathbf{x}$  defined by Eq. (5) such that  $U_d(\mathbf{f}, o) = U_d(\mathbf{x}, o)$  ( $\forall o \in O$ ).  $\square$

### A.4 Proof of Theorem 3

*Proof.* After calling our *BR* algorithm, we can obtain the best response policy starting from  $s_0$  against  $\mathbf{y}$  in  $G(S, A)$ . Note that  $V(s_0)$  is the defender utility by the best response against  $\mathbf{y}$  in  $G(S, A)$  by our *BR* algorithm. Then  $V(s_0) \geq U_d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \geq 0$ . If  $V(s_0) > U_d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ ,  $\pi$ , i.e., the output at Line 4, must contain some states  $s$  with  $V(s) > 0$  or their actions that are not in  $G(S', A')$ . Consequently, new states and actions will be added to  $G(S', A')$ , and then  $G(S', A')$  is expanded. In the worst case,  $G(S', A') = G(S, A)$ , where *IGRS* will stop and  $V(s_0) = U_d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ . Therefore, *IGRS* will converge with  $V(s_0) = U_d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$  with a finite number of iterations because the number of states and actions in  $G(S, A)$  is finite. Therefore,  $U_d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \geq U_d(\mathbf{x}', \mathbf{y})$  ( $\forall \mathbf{x}'$ ). Note that  $U_a(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \geq U_a(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}')$  ( $\forall \mathbf{y}'$ ). Then,  $(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$  is an NE.  $\square$

### A.5 Proof of Theorem 4

*Proof.* Because  $O_{h_{s_1}}$  in  $G_{s_1}$  is similar to  $O_{h_{s_2}}$  in  $G_{s_2}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} V^{\pi_{s_1 \rightarrow s_2}}(s_2) &= \sum_{P_{\pi_{s_1 \rightarrow s_2}}(s_c)=1, s_c \in \mathcal{S}_c \cap \mathcal{S}_{G_{s_2}} : h_{s_c} \sqsubseteq o \in O_{h_{s_2}}} y'_o \\ &= \sum_{P_{\pi_{s_1}}(s_c)=1, s_c \in \mathcal{S}_c \cap \mathcal{S}_{G_{s_1}} : h_{s_c} \sqsubseteq o \in O_{h_{s_1}}} y_o \\ &= V^{\pi_{s_1}}(s_1). \end{aligned}$$

Suppose  $\pi_{s_1 \rightarrow s_2}$  is not the best response in  $G_{s_2}$  against  $\mathbf{y}'$ . Then, there is a best response strategy  $\pi'_{s_2}$  against  $\mathbf{y}'$  such that  $V^{\pi'_{s_2}}(s_2) > V^{\pi_{s_1 \rightarrow s_2}}(s_2)$ . Let  $O_{\mathbf{y}'}$  be the support set of  $\mathbf{y}'$ . If  $O_{\mathbf{y}'} \cap O_{h_{s_2}} = \emptyset$ , then  $V^{\pi'_{s_2}}(s_2) = V^{\pi_{s_1 \rightarrow s_2}}(s_2) = 0$ , which leads to a contradiction. If  $O_{\mathbf{y}'} \cap O_{h_{s_2}} = O^* \neq \emptyset$ , then  $V^{\pi'_{s_2} \rightarrow s_1}(s_1) = V^{\pi'_{s_2}}(s_2) > V^{\pi_{s_1 \rightarrow s_2}}(s_2) = V^{\pi_{s_1}}(s_1)$ , i.e.,  $\pi_{s_1}$  is not the best response in  $G_{s_1}$  against  $\mathbf{y}$ , which causes a contradiction. Therefore,  $\pi_{s_1 \rightarrow s_2}$  is the best response in  $G_{s_2}$  against  $\mathbf{y}'$ .  $\square$

## A.6 Proof of Lemma 1

*Proof.* If there is a strategy  $\mathbf{y}$  such that  $V^{\pi_s^*}(s) = \sum_{o \in O_{h_s}} y_o \sum_{s_c \in S_c \cap S_{G_s}: h_{s_c} \sqsubseteq o} P_{\pi_s^*}(s_c) < \sum_{o \in O_{h_s}} y_o$  under  $\pi_s^*$ , then there is a path  $o^* \in O_{h_s}$  such that  $\sum_{s_c \in S_c \cap S_{G_s}: h_{s_c} \sqsubseteq o^*} P_{\pi_s^*}(s_c) = 0$ . Therefore, if  $\pi_s^*$  is played against  $\mathbf{y}$  with  $y_o > 0$  ( $\forall o \in O_{h_s}$ ),  $V^{\pi_s^*}(s) = \sum_{o \in O_{h_s}} y_o \sum_{s_c \in S_c \cap S_{G_s}: h_{s_c} \sqsubseteq o} P_{\pi_s^*}(s_c) = \sum_{o \in O_{h_s} \setminus \{o^*\}} y_o \sum_{s_c \in S_c \cap S_{G_s}: h_{s_c} \sqsubseteq o} P_{\pi_s^*}(s_c) < \sum_{o \in O_{h_s}} y_o$ , which contradicts the definition of  $\pi_s^*$  in Eq.(9).  $\square$

## A.7 Proof of Theorem 5

*Proof.* Suppose  $\pi_s^*$  is not optimal in NEST. Then, there is a strategy  $\mathbf{y}$ , and  $\pi_s$  is the best response in  $G_s$  such that with  $V^{\pi_s}(s) > V^{\pi_s^*}(s)$ . Let  $O_{\mathbf{y}}$  be  $\mathbf{y}$ 's support set. If  $O_{\mathbf{y}} \cap O_{h_s} = \emptyset$ , then  $V^{\pi_s}(s) = V^{\pi_s^*}(s) = 0$ , which leads to a contradiction. If  $O_{\mathbf{y}} \cap O_{h_s} = O^* \neq \emptyset$ , then, by Lemma 1,  $V^{\pi_s}(s) = \sum_{o \in O_{h_s}} y_o = \sum_{o \in O^*} y_o \geq V^{\pi_s^*}(s)$ , which also causes a contradiction.  $\square$

## A.8 Proof of Theorem 6

*Proof.* Suppose  $\pi_{s_1 \rightarrow s_2}^*$  is not optimal in  $G_{s_2}$ . Then, there is a strategy  $\mathbf{y}$ , and  $\pi_{s_2}^*$  is the best response in  $G_{s_2}$  such that with  $V^{\pi_{s_2}^*}(s_2) > V^{\pi_{s_1 \rightarrow s_2}^*}(s_2)$ . Let  $O_{\mathbf{y}}$  be  $\mathbf{y}$ 's support set. If  $O_{\mathbf{y}} \cap O_{h_{s_2}} = \emptyset$ , then  $V^{\pi_{s_2}^*}(s_2) = V^{\pi_{s_1 \rightarrow s_2}^*}(s_2) = 0$ , which leads to a contradiction. If  $O_{\mathbf{y}} \cap O_{h_{s_2}} = O^* \neq \emptyset$ , by the assumption  $V^{\pi_{s_2}^*}(s_2) > V^{\pi_{s_1 \rightarrow s_2}^*}(s_2)$ , then there is a path  $o' \in O_{h_{s_2}}$  which is not interdicted by  $\pi_{s_1 \rightarrow s_2}^*$ , i.e.,  $P_{\pi_{s_1 \rightarrow s_2}^*}(s_c) = 0$  ( $\forall s_c \in S_c \cap S_{G_{s_2}}$  with  $h_{s_c} \sqsubseteq o'$ ). Note that, given a deterministic policy  $\pi_s$  in  $G_s$ , for each path  $o \in O_{h_s}$ , there is at most one capture state  $s_c$  such that  $P_{\pi_s^*}(s_c) = 1$  and  $h_{s_c} \sqsubseteq o$ . For each  $o_1 \in O_{h_{s_1}}$ , if there is a capture state  $s_c$  with  $P_{\pi_{s_1}^*}(s_c) = 1$  and  $h_{s_c} \sqsubseteq o_1$ , then for its similar  $o_2$  in  $O_{h_{s_2}}$  such that  $q(h_{s_1}, o_1) = q(h_{s_2}, o_2)$ , there is a capture state  $s'_c$  with  $P_{\pi_{s_1 \rightarrow s_2}^*}(s'_c) = 1$  and  $h_{s'_c} \sqsubseteq o_2$  because resources at the key locations take the same actions in semi-similar states in both subgames by Eq.(10). Therefore,  $o^* \in O_{h_{s_1}}$  with  $q(h_{s_1}, o^*) = q(h_{s_2}, o')$  does not generate the history in any capture state reached from  $s_1$  by  $\pi_{s_1}^*$ , i.e.,  $P_{\pi_{s_1}^*}(s_c) = 0$  ( $\forall s_c \in S_c \cap S_{G_{s_1}}$  with  $h_{s_c} \sqsubseteq o^*$ ). It means that, for  $\mathbf{y}'$  with  $y'_o > 0$  ( $\forall o \in O_{h_{s_1}}$ ),  $V^{\pi_{s_1}^*}(s_1) = \sum_{o \in O_{h_{s_1}}} y'_o \sum_{s_c \in S_c \cap S_{G_{s_1}}: h_{s_c} \sqsubseteq o} P_{\pi_{s_1}^*}(s_c) = \sum_{o \in O_{h_{s_1}} \setminus \{o^*\}} y'_o \sum_{s_c \in S_c \cap S_{G_{s_1}}: h_{s_c} \sqsubseteq o} P_{\pi_{s_1}^*}(s_c) < \sum_{o \in O_{h_{s_1}}} y'_o$ ,

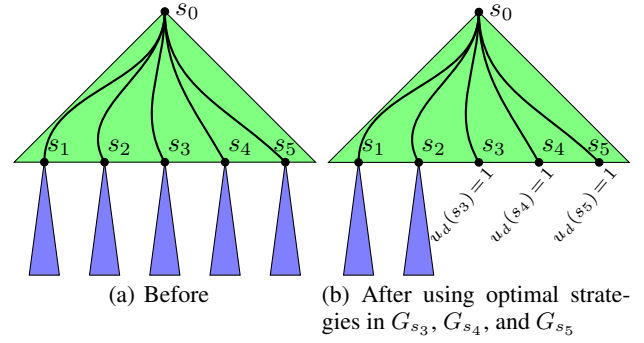


Figure 3: The full game before and after using the optimal strategies in subgames.

which contradicts Lemma 1 for  $\pi_{s_1}^*$ . Therefore,  $V^{\pi_{s_1 \rightarrow s_2}^*}(s_2) = \sum_{o \in O_{h_{s_2}}} y_o$  for  $\mathbf{y}$  with  $y_o > 0$  ( $\forall o \in O_{h_{s_2}}$ ), and  $\pi_{s_1 \rightarrow s_2}^*$  is optimal in NEST by Theorem 5.  $\square$

## A.9 Proof of Theorem 7

*Proof.* This theorem is implied by Theorems 3–6.  $\square$

## B Illustration for Two Techniques

### B.1 Mapping Between Subgames

As shown in Figure 3(a), in the full game, the defender's strategy space  $(S, A)$  includes all states and actions, while the adversary's strategy space  $O$  includes all escaping paths. Subgames of  $G_{s_1}$ ,  $G_{s_2}$ ,  $G_{s_3}$ ,  $G_{s_4}$ , and  $G_{s_5}$  are part of the full game starting from states  $s_1$ ,  $s_2$ ,  $s_3$ ,  $s_4$ , and  $s_5$ , respectively.

To illustrate the characteristic of subgames, we analyze the scenario shown in the right figure. The adversary arrives at  $v_{12}$  through two different directions generating history  $h_1$  ( $= \langle v_0^a, v_{13}, v_{12} \rangle$ ) and history  $h_2$  ( $= \langle v_0^a, v_{14}, v_{12} \rangle$ ), respectively. Exit nodes are  $v_1$  and  $v_2$ .

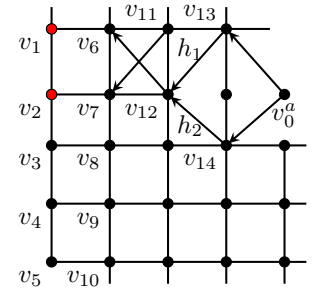


Figure 4: Scenario

We consider three initial locations for two defender resources:  $l_1 = (v_{11}, v_5)$ ,  $l_2 = (v_3, v_4)$ , and  $l_3 = (v_3, v_5)$ . By combining the observed adversary history with the locations of two defender resources, we consider five states  $s_1 = ((v_{11}, v_5), h_1)$ ,  $s_2 = ((v_{11}, v_5), h_2)$ ,  $s_3 = ((v_3, v_4), h_1)$ ,  $s_4 = ((v_3, v_4), h_2)$ , and  $s_5 = ((v_3, v_5), h_2)$ , which are the initial states of five subgames:  $G_{s_1}$ ,  $G_{s_2}$ ,  $G_{s_3}$ ,  $G_{s_4}$ , and  $G_{s_5}$ .

We consider time horizon  $t_{\max} = 4$ . Then, the set of paths generating  $h_1$  is  $O_{h_1} = \{o_1, o_2\}$  with  $o_1 = h_1 \cup \langle v_6, v_1 \rangle = h_{13}$  and  $o_2 = h_1 \cup \langle v_7, v_2 \rangle = h_{14}$ , while  $CH_{h_1} = \{h_{11}, h_{12}\}$  with  $h_{11} = h_1 \cdot v_6$  and  $h_{12} = h_1 \cdot v_7$ ,  $CH_{h_{11}} = \{h_{13}\}$ , and  $CH_{h_{12}} = \{h_{14}\}$ . The set of paths generating  $h_2$  is  $O_{h_2} = \{o_3, o_4\}$  with  $o_3 = h_2 \cup \langle v_6, v_1 \rangle = h_{23}$  and  $o_4 = h_2 \cup \langle v_7, v_2 \rangle = h_{24}$ , while  $CH_{h_2} = \{h_{21}, h_{22}\}$  with  $h_{21} = h_2 \cdot v_6$  and  $h_{22} =$

$h_2 \cdot v_7$ ,  $CH_{h_{21}} = \{h_{23}\}$ , and  $CH_{h_{22}} = \{h_{24}\}$ . Then,  $O_{h_1}$  and  $O_{h_2}$  are similar after  $v_{12}$  because  $\eta(h_1) = \eta(h_2) = v_{12}$ ,  $q(h_1, o_1) = \langle v_6, v_1 \rangle = q(h_2, o_3)$ , and  $q(h_1, o_2) = \langle v_7, v_2 \rangle = q(h_2, o_4)$ .

$O_{h_1}$  is the adversary's strategy space of  $G_{s_1}$  and  $G_{s_3}$ , and  $O_{h_2}$  is the adversary's strategy space of  $G_{s_2}$ ,  $G_{s_4}$ , and  $G_{s_5}$ . Thus,  $G_{s_1}$  and  $G_{s_2}$  are similar because  $(11, 5) = l_{s_1} = l_{s_2}$ , and  $O_{h_1}$  and  $O_{h_2}$  are similar after node  $\eta(h_{s_1}) = v_{12}$  ( $h_{s_1} = h_1$ ). After we compute the best response in  $G_{s_1}$  (i.e.,  $\pi_{s_1}$  with  $\pi_{s_1}(s_1) = (v_6, v_5)$ ) transiting to a capture state  $((6, 5), h_{11})$  such that  $V^{\pi_{s_1}}(s_1) = 0.2$  against the adversary strategy  $\mathbf{y}$  with  $y_{o_1} = 0.2$  and  $y_{o_2} = 0.1$ , we can map it to  $G_{s_2}$  against the adversary strategy with  $y_{o_3} = 0.2$  and  $y_{o_4} = 0.1$  (Theorem 4). That is, the best response strategy for state  $s_1$  is taking  $l = (v_6, v_5)$ , which is also the best response strategy for its similar state  $s_2$  after the mapping.

Some computed strategies in subgames are the best response against any adversary strategy. The defender strategy in  $G_{s_3}$  against the adversary strategy with  $y_{o_1} = 0.2$  and  $y_{o_2} = 0.1$  is  $\pi_{s_3}$  such that  $V^{\pi_{s_3}}(s_3) = 0.3$ :  $\pi_{s_3}(s_3) = (v_2, v_3)$  transiting to states  $s_{31} = ((v_2, v_3), h_{11})$  and  $s_{32} = ((v_2, v_3), h_{12})$ ,  $\pi_{s_3}(s_{31}) = (v_1, v_2)$  transiting to capture state  $s_{33} = ((v_1, v_2), h_{13})$ , and  $\pi_{s_3}(s_{32}) = (v_2, v_3)$  transiting to capture state  $s_{34} = ((v_2, v_3), h_{14})$ . Indeed, by  $\pi_{s_3}$  in  $G_{s_3}$ , given any adversary strategy, we have  $V^{\pi_{s_3}}(s_3) = y_{o_1} + y_{o_2}$  (Lemma 1). That is, starting from  $s_3$ , the adversary will be captured certainly. This strategy is denoted as  $\pi_{s_3}^*$ , which is optimal in NEST (Theorem 5). Then, we can define the payoff 1 for the defender in state  $s_3$  as shown in Figure 3(b), i.e., the defender's expected utility in subgame  $G_{s_3}$  is  $y_{o_1} + y_{o_2}$ . Then, if this subgame is reached again, the defender's expected utility  $y_{o_1} + y_{o_2}$  is returned immediately.

$\pi_{s_3}^*$  in  $G_{s_3}$  can also be mapped to its semi-similar subgame  $G_{s_5}$ . In  $G_{s_3}$  and  $G_{s_5}$ , the adversary has the same move space and the first defender resource in  $G_{s_3}$  and the first defender resource in  $G_{s_5}$  has the same initial location ( $v_3$ ) in their initial states  $s_3$  and  $s_5$ , respectively. For strategy  $\pi_{s_3}^*$ , the first resource will finally catch the adversary in state  $s_{33}$  or state  $s_{34}$  by moving to  $v_2$  first, then moving to  $v_1$  if she observes the adversary history  $h_{11}$  (i.e., in state  $s_{31}$ ), or staying at  $v_2$  if she observes the adversary history  $h_{12}$  (i.e., in state  $s_{32}$ ). That is,  $v_3$  is the key location in  $G_{s_3}$ . Therefore, given the mapping of  $\pi_{s_3}^*$  guaranteeing that the first defender resource in  $G_{s_3}$  and the first defender resource in  $G_{s_5}$  take the same action after observing the adversary's same move in both subgames, this mapping can guarantee optimality (Theorem 6). That is, the first defender resource in  $G_{s_5}$  will finally catch the adversary in state  $s_{53} = ((v_1, v_5), h_{23})$  or state  $s_{54} = ((v_2, v_5), h_{24})$  if she moves to  $v_2$  first, then moves to  $v_1$  if she observes the adversary history  $h_{21}$  (i.e., in state  $s_{51} = ((v_2, v_5), h_{21})$ ), or stays at  $v_2$  if she observes the adversary history  $h_{22}$  (i.e., in state  $s_{52} = ((v_2, v_5), h_{22})$ ) when the first resource does not move. More specifically, the optimal strategy for state  $s_{31} = ((v_2, v_3), h_{11})$  (note that  $P_{\pi_{s_{31}}} = 1$ ) is taking  $l = (v_1, v_2)$ , i.e., the first resource in  $s_{31}$ , locating at the key location  $v_2$  that is reached from  $v_3$  in  $s_1$ , moves to  $v_1$ ; and then the mapping strategy for its semi-similar state  $s_{51} = ((v_2, v_5), h_{21})$  is taking  $l' = (v_1, v_5)$ , i.e., the first resource in  $s_{51}$ , locating at the key location  $v_2$

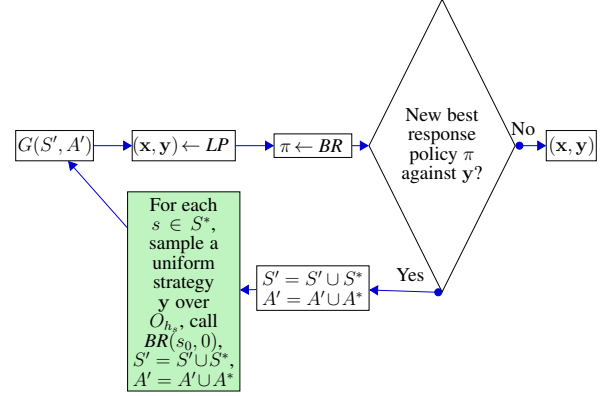


Figure 5: Adding multiple best response strategies at one iteration.

that is reached from  $v_3$  in  $s_5$ , moves to  $v_1$  while the second resource in  $s_{51}$  stays at the current node by Eq.(10). This  $\pi_{s_3 \rightarrow s_5}^*$  defined by Eq.(10) in  $G_{s_5}$  is optimal in the full game. By  $\pi_{s_3 \rightarrow s_5}^*$ , as shown in Figure 3(b), we define the payoff 1 for the defender in state  $s_5$ , i.e., the defender's expected utility in subgame  $G_{s_5}$  is  $y_{o_3} + y_{o_4}$ . Similarly,  $G_{s_3}$  and  $G_{s_4}$  are semi-similar and  $\pi_{s_3 \rightarrow s_4}^*$  in  $G_{s_4}$  by Eq.(10) is optimal in NEST.

## B.2 Adding Multiple Strategies at One Iteration

For using our technique to add multiple best response strategies at one iteration, the procedure of *IGRS* is shown in Figure 5. Specifically, before the convergence, we sample the uniform adversary strategies based on the states that are part of the best response and then call  $BR(s_0, 0)$  at Line 4 in *IGRS* to compute the best response strategies against them. Here,  $S^*$  is the set of the states involved in the best response,  $A^*$  is the set of actions involved in the best response, and a uniform strategy over  $O_{h_s}$  means  $y_o = 1/|O_{h_s}|$  ( $\forall o \in O_{h_s}$ ). Especially, we sample a strategy with  $y_o = 1/|O|$  ( $\forall o \in O$ ) at the initial step in *IGRS* (i.e., after  $s_0$  is added to  $S'$ ) because we can compute the best response efficiently by using our effective pruning techniques including the mapping technique. Each strategy will be sampled at most once.

## C The Reason to Consider Similar Subgames

We consider the scenario shown in Figure 4 again. For subgame  $G_{s_1}$  we know that  $\pi_{s_1}(\pi_{s_1}(s_1) = (6, 5)$  transiting to a capture state  $s_{11} = ((6, 5), h_{11})$  such that  $V^{\pi_{s_1}}(s_1) = 0.2$  is the best response in  $G_{s_1}$  against the adversary strategy with  $y_{o_1} = 0.2$  and  $y_{o_2} = 0.1$ . Here, only the first resource contributes to the interdiction, i.e., interdicting the adversary in  $s_{11}$  due to  $\eta(h_{11}) = 6$ . Now we consider subgame  $G_{s_6}$  with initial state  $s_6 = ((11, 8), h_2)$ . Obviously,  $G_{s_1}$  and  $G_{s_6}$  are semi-similar on  $\bar{l} = (11)$  that is also the key location of  $G_{s_1}$ . Let us define the mapping strategy of  $\pi_{s_1}$  as  $\pi_{s_1 \rightarrow s_6}$  by Eq.(10). That is,  $\pi_{s_1 \rightarrow s_6}(s_6) = (6, 8)$ . However,  $\pi_{s_1 \rightarrow s_6}$  is not the best response in  $G_{s_6}$  against the adversary strategy with  $y_{o_3} = 0.2$  and  $y_{o_4} = 0.1$  because taking action  $(6, 7)$  in  $s_6$  will result in  $V(s_6) = 0.3$  (larger than

$V^{\pi_{s_1 \rightarrow s_6}}(s_6) = 0.2$ ). That is, given a best response (non-optimal) strategy in  $G_{s_1}$  with the key location set  $l_{s_1}^*$ , resources in a semi-similar subgame  $G_{s_6}$  of  $G_{s_1}$  who are not initially at nodes in  $l_{s_1}^*$  may contribute to the interdiction, which results in a better strategy than its mapping strategy. Therefore, we cannot have the property similar to Theorem 4 between semi-similar subgames. However, Theorem 4 holds between similar subgames.