

# A Game-Theoretic Analysis of the Social Impact of Connected and Automated Vehicles

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**Abstract**—In this paper, we address the much-anticipated deployment of connected and automated vehicles (CAVs) in society by modeling and analyzing the social-mobility dilemma in a game-theoretic approach. We formulate this dilemma as a normal-form game of players making a binary decision for their mobility and construct an intuitive payoff function inspired by the socially beneficial outcomes of a mobility system consisting of CAVs. We show that the game is equivalent to the Prisoner’s dilemma, which implies that the rational collective decision is the opposite of the socially optimum. We present two different solutions to tackle this phenomenon: one with a preference structure and the other with institutional arrangements. We conclude by showcasing our last result with a numerical study.

## I. INTRODUCTION

The reality of connected and automated vehicles (CAVs) is coming fast to realization [1]. CAVs promise to be a disruptive innovation with vast technological, commercial, and regulatory dimensions [2]. Although CAVs will transform the transportation system of today and revolutionize mobility, one expects social consequences, for example, CAVs may reshape urban mobility in the sense of altered tendency-to-travel, and thus, trigger a high increase in traffic demand. In other words, the deployment of CAVs in society will most likely have unexpected outcomes, in the form of rebound effects (e.g., traffic congestion, energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions etc.) Although there have been numerous studies that provide qualitative analysis for the social impacts of CAVs [3], [4], our game-theoretical approach aims to provide a formal analysis of the human decision-making regarding the expected social-mobility dilemma of the future travelers.

One of the main arguments in this paper is that the social interaction of humans and CAVs can be modeled as a “social dilemma.” That is, we are only concerned with the impact of the human decision before the vehicle’s engine is even turned on. Informally, a social dilemma is any situation where there is a subtle yet unwanted discrepancy between individual and collective interest. It is for this reason why the authors of this paper argue that social dilemmas are the appropriate models to be looking at instead of, for example, congestion games. We want to emphasize that we are interested in the human

choice of commute and not the selfish routing on a road network.

A key observation that motivates the work of this paper and which is evident in many different studies and analyses in transportation problems is that of Arthur Cecil Pigou who argued that “if a system’s decision-makers take autonomous decisions, then the resulting collective outcome most probably will be inefficient.” In addition, social dilemmas have been extensively studied for systems that exhibit overpopulation, resource depletion, gridlock, and pollution [5], [6], while the Prisoner’s dilemma (PD) game has been used to model vehicle congestion in a transportation network [7], [8] where travelers decide to continue driving their vehicles in congested and polluted cities. Although the social effect of selfish-mobility behavior in routing networks of regular and autonomous vehicles has been studied [9], it seems that the problem of how CAVs will affect human tendency-to-travel and mobility frequency has not been adequately approached yet. On the other hand, analytical frameworks have been proposed to quantify and evaluate the impacts of CAVs from the technological perspective only [10], [11]. Furthermore, coordination of CAVs at different traffic scenarios, e.g., intersections or vehicle-following, have been extensively evaluated in the literature [12], [13]. Recently, there has been research done on the rebound effects which might arise from the introduction of automation in a transportation system [14], [15]. For a detailed analysis of the effects of CAVs technologies on travel demand, see [16]. Recently, in the literature, it has been recognized that further research is required to identify and understand the potential impacts of emerging mobility [17], [18].

The contributions of this paper are: (i) we provide a game-theoretic analysis of the conflict of interest and model the social-mobility dilemma as a social dilemma, and (ii) we apply two different in mindset mechanisms and approaches that attempt to prevent the emergence of negative outcomes, e.g., a high increase of CAV usage. Several research efforts reported in the literature have focused on studying social behavior regarding semi-autonomous driving and the selfish social decision-making of choosing a route to commute in a transportation network [19]. A key difference between our work and the frameworks already reported in the literature is that we focus on modeling the human decision-making of which mode of transportation to be used rather than modeling selfish routing. Our analysis will complement these efforts by providing a framework that attempts to integrate the human social behavior in a mobility system consisting of CAVs.

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The remaining of the paper proceeds as follows. In Section II, we provide an overview of Game Theory. In Section III, we present our proposed social-mobility dilemma and show that it is equivalent to a PD game. In Section IV, we introduce a preference structure, and in Section V, we apply a framework of institutions and provide a numerical study of the results. Finally, we discuss concluding remarks and future work in Section VI.

## II. MATHEMATICAL PRELIMINARIES

In this section, we present a brief overview of important notions from non-cooperative Game Theory. First, we assume that the players of the game are *rational*, in the sense that each player's objective is to maximize the expected value of her own payoff. In addition, we assume that the players are *intelligent*, i.e., each player has full knowledge of the game and has the ability to make any inferences about the game that we, the designers, can make.

**Definition 1.** A finite normal-form game is a tuple  $\mathcal{G} = \langle \mathcal{I}, \mathcal{S}, (u_i)_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \rangle$ , where  $\mathcal{I} = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  is a finite set of  $n$  players with  $n \geq 2$ ;  $\mathcal{S} = S_1 \times \dots \times S_n$ , where  $S_i$  is a finite set of actions available to player  $i \in \mathcal{I}$  with  $s = (s_1, \dots, s_n) \in \mathcal{S}$  being the action profile; and  $u = (u_1, \dots, u_n)$ , where  $u_i : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , is a real-valued utility function for player  $i \in \mathcal{I}$ .

**Definition 2.** Let  $S_i$  be the strategy profile of player  $i$ ,  $s_i, s'_i \in S_i$  be two strategies of player  $i$ , and  $S_{-i}$  be the set of all strategy profiles of the remaining players. Then,  $s_i$  strictly dominates  $s'_i$  if, for all  $s_{-i} \in S_{-i}$ , we have  $u_i(s_i, s_{-i}) > u_i(s'_i, s_{-i})$ . Also, a strategy is strictly dominant if it (strictly) dominates any other strategy.

**Definition 3.** A player  $i$ 's best response to the strategy profile  $s_{-i} = (s_1, \dots, s_{i-1}, s_{i+1}, \dots, s_n)$  is the strategy  $s_i^* \in S_i$  such that  $u_i(s_i^*, s_{-i}) \geq u_i(s_i, s_{-i})$  for all  $s_i \in S_i$ . A strategy profile  $s$  is a Nash equilibrium (NE) if, for each player  $i$ ,  $s_i$  is a best response to  $s_{-i}$ .

Next, for completeness, we define the notion of Pareto domination. First, an "outcome" of a game is any strategy profile  $s \in \mathcal{S}$ . Intuitively, an outcome that Pareto dominates some other outcome improves the utility of at least one player without reducing the utility of any other.

**Definition 4.** Let  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $s', s \in \mathcal{S}$ . Then a strategy profile  $s'$  Pareto dominates strategy  $s$  if,  $u_i(s') \geq u_i(s)$ , for all  $i$ , and there exists some  $j \in \mathcal{I}$  for which  $u_j(s') > u_j(s)$ .

Pareto domination is a useful notion to describe the social dilemma in a game. However, Pareto-dominated outcomes are often not played in Game Theory; a NE will always be preferred by rational players. For further discussion of the notions presented above, see [20].

## III. GAME-THEORETICAL FORMULATION

We consider a society of  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n > 2$ , travelers who seek to commute on a city's transportation network. We consider the road infrastructure as the common, yet limited, resource that is open-access and shared with all travelers.

Each traveler has the option to utilize the roads by traveling in a CAV, which in turn contributes to the capacity of the roads. We expect each traveler to utilize the roads selfishly.

**Assumption 1.** We assume full CAV-penetration, and so each traveler may choose either to travel in a CAV or use another mode of transportation, e.g., train, light rail, bicycling, or walking, thereby not contributing to congestion.

In a game-theoretic context, each traveler represents a rational player who has two possible actions, namely either  $NC$  for not traveling in a CAV (non-CAV travel) or  $C$  for traveling in a CAV (CAV travel). From now on, we shall use the terms "player" and "traveler," interchangeably. All players receive a benefit  $c \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$  for deciding to commute in the society. On the other hand, traveling using CAVs conveys benefits arising from flexibility, privacy, convenience, etc. So, if a player chooses to travel in a CAV, then they receive a benefit of  $c + d$ , where  $d \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$  with  $d \cdot (n - 2) > 2$  (this ensures that  $d$  provides a significant incentive for CAV travel yet the lower bound decreases as  $n$  increases). However, traveling in a CAV is naturally the selfish choice as it exploits the society's resources. Hence, for each player that decides to travel in a CAV, a cost of  $e \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$  is imposed to the society as a whole and is paid out equally by all players, i.e., we define  $\phi = e/n$  as the damage done to society. Without losing any theoretical insight, let us define  $e = d + 1$  and assume that the original benefit  $c$  is strictly greater than  $e$ .

**Remark 1.** In our formulation, we want to capture the potential consequence of the players' decision to travel in a CAV. For this reason, contributing to the capacity of the roads (creating congestion, pollution, etc.) is represented by the cost and overall by the damage done to society.

We can write the final form of player's  $i$  payoff for traveling in a CAV as  $(c + d) - (n - k)\phi$ , and accordingly, player's  $i$  payoff for not traveling in a CAV as  $c - (n - k - 1)\phi$ , where  $k$  is the number of players who choose not to travel in a CAV other than player  $i$ . Thus, the payoff function is

$$f_i(s_i, k) = \begin{cases} c - (n - k - 1)\phi, & \text{if } s_i = NC, \\ c + d - (n - k)\phi, & \text{if } s_i = C. \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

For player  $i$  the benefit of traveling in a CAV is denoted by  $f_i(C, k)$  and the benefit of not traveling in a CAV by  $f_i(NC, k)$ , where  $k$  is the number of players who decide to non-CAV travel other than player  $i$ . Note that (1) depends not only on player  $i$ 's own action but also on  $k$ .

At this point, we can formally formulate our game denoted by  $\mathcal{G}$ . We have the finite set of players  $\mathcal{I} = \{1, \dots, n\}$  with  $n > 2$ ; for each player  $i$  the action set is  $s_i \in \{NC, C\}$ , and  $f_i(s_i, k)$  with  $k = 0, 1, \dots, n - 1$  is the payoff function of player  $i$ . Thus, our game can be represented by the tuple  $\mathcal{G} = \langle \mathcal{I}, (S_i = \{NC, C\})_{i \in \mathcal{I}}, (f_i(s_i, k))_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \rangle$ .

**Lemma 1.** The payoff difference  $\alpha = f_i(C, k) - f_i(NC, k)$  is positive and constant for all values  $k \in [0, n - 1]$  and for all players  $i \in \mathcal{I}$ . Furthermore,  $f_i(NC, k)$  and  $f_i(C, k)$  are strictly increasing in  $k$ .

Due to space limitations, we have omitted the proof but may be found in [21].

From now on, the payoff difference is denoted by  $\alpha$ . We observe that the payoff difference, interpreted as the non-CAV travel cost, increases as  $n$  increases. Interestingly enough, the payoff difference is independent of how many players choose not to travel in a CAV. In game-theoretic terms, we can interpret this as the strategy CAV travel dominating strategy non-CAV travel with a degree that is constant and independent of the other players who choose to CAV travel.

**Lemma 2.** *The payoff function (1) is non-negative for all  $k \in [0, n-1]$ , i.e.,  $f_i \geq 0$  for all  $i \in \mathcal{I}$ . Furthermore, mutual non-CAV travel is preferred to mutual CAV travel, i.e.,  $f_i(NC, n-1) > f_i(C, 0)$  is a Pareto relation.*

*Proof.* We have  $f_i(NC, 0) = c - (n-1)\phi = c - (d+1)\phi$  and  $f_i(C, 0) = c + d - n \cdot \phi = c - 1$ . As  $f_i(NC, k)$  and  $f_i(C, k)$  are increasing in  $k$ , the result follows. Also, we have  $f_i(C, 0) = c - 1$  and  $f_i(NC, n-1) = c - (n - (n-1) - 1)\phi = c$  leading to  $f_i(NC, n-1) > f_i(C, 0)$  for all  $i \in \mathcal{I}$ .  $\square$

Lemma 2 establishes the fact that game  $\mathcal{G}$  induces a Pareto relation, which implies that the equilibrium of mutual CAV travel is Pareto inferior to the alternative outcome, i.e., all players choose to non-CAV travel. This is significant since Pareto relations are directly associated with social dilemmas.

**Theorem 1.** *Game  $\mathcal{G}$  is equivalent to a PD game as both games share an equivalent incentive structure. Furthermore, both game  $\mathcal{G}$  and PD game provide equivalent incentives to the players, and thus, they result in equivalent outcomes.*

*Proof.* By Lemma 1, we have  $f_i(NC, k) < f_i(C, k)$  for all  $k \in [0, n-1]$  which implies that the dominant strategy by rational players in the game is CAV travel no matter how many players decide to non-CAV travel. By Lemma 2, the social dilemma induced structure is equivalent to that of the Prisoner's dilemma.  $\square$

Next, we show that by construction of the payoff function (1), non-CAV travel is more attractive from both the societal and the player's perspective.

**Proposition 1.** *Consider the game  $\mathcal{G}$ . Note that the benefit of CAV travel is given by  $f_i(C, k)$  and the cost of non-CAV travel given by  $\alpha$  (i.e., the payoff difference). Then the strategy non-CAV travel is socially desirable:  $n f_i(C, k+1) - (k+1)\alpha > n f_i(C, k) - k\alpha$ , and also individually desirable:  $f_i(NC, k+1) > f_i(NC, k)$  for all  $i \in \mathcal{I}$ .*

Due to space limitations, we have omitted the proof but may be found in [21].

Before we continue, let us introduce the notation  $\lfloor x \rfloor$ , which denotes the greatest integer that is less than  $x$ .

**Proposition 2.** *Consider game  $\mathcal{G}$ . There exists a unique integer  $2 \leq k^* \leq n$  given by  $k^* = \lfloor \frac{nd}{d+1} \rfloor + 1$  such that  $f_i(NC, k^* - 2) < f_i(C, 0) < f_i(NC, k^* - 1)$  where  $k^*$  is the minimum number of non-CAV travelers.*

Due to space limitations, we have omitted the proof but may be found in [21].

Proposition 2 intuitively implies that we need at least  $k^*$  non-CAV travelers so that the benefit a player receives when they decide non-CAV travel will be greater than the dominant strategy  $f(C, 0)$ .

Next, we seek a way to characterize an outcome of the game in terms of preference. Now, in most cases, identifying the "best" outcome is not possible, but there are certain situations that might be better from a societal standpoint.

**Proposition 3.** *The strategy of universal CAV travel,  $f(C, 0)$ , is Pareto dominated by outcomes with  $k' \geq k^* - 1$ .*

Due to space limitations, we have omitted the proof but may be found in [21].

We note that by construction, the payoff function (1) mutual non-CAV travel is the social optimum but, as a consequence of Proposition 3, the decision to non-CAV travel is worthwhile to a player only if there are  $k^*$  or more non-CAV travelers. Otherwise, everyone is no worse off at the dominant strategy of universal CAV travel. This gives rise to the notion of the state of *minimally effective non-CAV travel*.

**Definition 5.** The state of minimally effective non-CAV travel is the minimum number of non-CAV travelers,  $k^*$ , such that an outcome Pareto dominates the universal CAV travel equilibrium.

Clearly, the state of minimally effective non-CAV travel is given by Propositions 2 and 3. This is an important notion that can help in the derivation of the optimal utilization of CAVs in the emerging transportation systems.

Next, we discuss two solution approaches applied in our game  $\mathcal{G}$ . Our goal is to derive conditions that ensure a coalition of non-CAV travel, which are at least as large as the minimum state of non-CAV travel.

#### IV. NASH EQUILIBRIA AND THE POPULATION THRESHOLD

##### A. Preference Structure

Usually, in Game Theory, we assume that players are only interested in their own payoff. One of our goals is to study, in a more realistic setting, the players' social behavior, and so we impose to our game  $\mathcal{G}$  a "preference structure."

A preference structure allows us to model a particularly interesting scenario: the rational players are interested not only on their own payoff but also on the relative payoff share they receive, i.e., how their standing compares to that of others [22]. The authors in [23] designed the "equity, reciprocity, and competition (ERC)" model which is a simple model capable of handling a large population of players with an "adjusted utility" function constructed on the premise that players are motivated by both their pecuniary payoff and their relative payoff standing. Notice that we changed our terminology of payoff function to adjusted utility function here. We do this to differentiate the difference between the absolute payoffs that players get from (1) and the adjusted payoffs players will get in a preference structure. One of

the reasons we use the ERC model is because it has been successful in explaining the behavior of selfish players in social experiments than other standard modeling techniques.

Now, we observe that players rarely play against the same other players, and so it is reasonable enough to analyze each game as one-shot. To further justify this, we only have to argue that it is highly unlikely to “meet” other travelers in a major metropolitan city. Let the absolute payoff of player  $i$  be given by  $f_i$  from (1). Each player  $i$  seeks to maximize the expected utility of her motivation function  $v_i = v_i(f_i, \sigma_i)$ , where  $\sigma_i = \sigma_i(f_i, \gamma, n) = f_i/\gamma$  for  $\gamma > 0$  or  $\sigma_i = \sigma_i(f_i, \gamma, n) = 1/n$  for  $\gamma = 0$  is player  $i$ 's relative share of the payoff and  $\gamma = \sum_{j=1}^n f_j$  is the total pecuniary payout. We can think of the motivation function  $v_i$  as the expected benefits that drive the players' behavior. We assume that  $v_i$  is twice differentiable.

Next, we allow each player  $i$  to be characterized by  $a_i/b_i$  which is the ratio of weights that are attributed to the pecuniary and relative components of the motivation function. For example, strict relativism is represented by  $a_i/b_i = 0$ , so  $\arg \max_{\sigma_i} v_i(\gamma \sigma_i, \sigma_i) = \pi = 1/2$ , where  $\pi_i(\gamma)$  is implicitly defined by  $v_i(\gamma \pi_i, \pi_i) = v_i(0, 1/n)$  for  $\pi_i \leq 1/n$ . Strict narrow self-interest is the limiting case  $a_i/b_i \rightarrow \infty$ , so  $\arg \max_{\sigma_i} v_i(\gamma \sigma_i, \sigma_i) = 1$  and  $\pi \rightarrow 0$  [23]. Based on the above, the adjusted utility function then is given by:  $u_i(f_i, \sigma_i) = a_i q(f_i) + b_i r(\sigma_i)$ , where  $q(\cdot)$  is strictly increasing, strictly concave, and differentiable;  $r(\cdot)$  is differentiable, concave, and has its maximum at  $\sigma_i = 1/n$ .

### B. Analysis for the Nash Equilibria and the Threshold of Non-CAV Travel

Our analysis in this subsection follows [22], but we apply it to our game  $\mathcal{G}$  along with the preference structure. Our goal is to study what influences strategic agents to non-CAV travel in our game  $\mathcal{G}$ .

We start our analysis by looking at the necessary and sufficient conditions for player  $i$  to non-CAV travel, i.e.,  $u_i(f_i(NC, k+1)) \geq u_i(f_i(NC, k))$ . Equivalently, we have from [22] that  $a_i/b_i \leq \delta(k)$ , where

$$\delta(k) = \frac{r\left(\frac{f_i(NC, k+1)}{n f_i(C, k+1) - (k+1)\alpha}\right) - r\left(\frac{f_i(C, k)}{n f_i(C, k) - k\alpha}\right)}{q(f_i(C, k)) - q(f_i(NC, k+1))}. \quad (2)$$

From (2), we can deduce that player  $i$  will non-CAV travel if, and only if, there is overcompensation for the loss in absolute gain by moving closer to the average gain [22]. Hence, we can state the general conditions of a NE:

$$a_i/b_i \leq \delta(k-1), \quad \text{for } k \text{ players non-CAV travel,} \quad (3)$$

$$a_i/b_i \geq \delta(k), \quad \text{for } n-k \text{ players CAV travel.} \quad (4)$$

We now have a better understanding of how the number of other non-CAV travelers, and its value can make non-CAV travel a rational strategy.

**Lemma 3.** *For a given distribution of ERC-types,  $\delta(k-1) > 0$  is necessary but not sufficient to get a coalition size of  $k$  where  $n-k$  players free-ride. For a given payoff structure*

*with  $\delta(k-1) > 0$ , there exist ERC-types such that  $k$  is an equilibrium coalition size.*

Due to space limitations, we have omitted the proof but may be found in [21].

**Proposition 4.** *By construction of the game  $\mathcal{G}$  together with the ERC preference structure, there always exists a NE of universal CAV travel.*

Due to space limitations, we have omitted the proof but may be found in [21].

Proposition 4 follows directly from Lemma 3. We are though interested in finding a threshold of players that decide to non-CAV travel. The next proposition will help us do that.

**Proposition 5.** *The necessary condition for an equilibrium of non-CAV travel  $\delta(k-1) > 0$  is equivalent to*

$$n[(k-1)f_i(C, k) - kf_i(C, k-1)] + [nf_i(C, k-1) - (k-1)\alpha][2k-n] > 0. \quad (5)$$

Due to space limitations, we have omitted the proof but may be found in [21].

**Theorem 2.** *For any given vector of types, a rational player chooses to non-CAV travel when at least half of the players non-CAV travel.*

*Proof.* We only have to check on what conditions relation (5) is positive. By construction the payoff functions are non-negative, and thus  $nf_i(C, k-1) - (k-1)\alpha > 0$ , i.e.,

$$nf_i(C, k-1) - (k-1)\alpha = n(c-1) + (k-1)(1+\phi) \quad (6)$$

which is clearly positive for all values of  $n, c$ , and  $k$ . Hence, the second component of (5) is positive for  $2k-n > 0$ . Next, we look at the first component of (5). By substituting the payoff function from (1), we get

$$(k-1)f_i(C, k) - kf_i(C, k-1) = 1-c, \quad (7)$$

which is negative for all values of  $c$ . We observe though that the second component is much bigger and dominates the first component as long as  $2k-n > 0$ . Hence, relation (5) is positive and we have  $\delta(k-1) > 0$  for  $2k > n$ . Therefore, for any given vector of types, if a player cooperates at the equilibrium, then at least half of the players cooperate.  $\square$

The interpretation of Theorem 2 is that for any coalition to exist with size  $k \geq 2$ , a minimum of  $n/2$  players must join. We showed that given the specific payoff structure of our game  $\mathcal{G}$  and along with the ERC preference structure, a coalition of players choosing strategy non-CAV travel could be formed provided that it is rather large. Thus, even if we impose a social mechanism that enforces strategy non-CAV travel in a society of travelers and satisfying (5), a coalition of at least size  $n/2$  must be formed to create an equilibrium of non-CAV travel. Therefore, the social mechanism will require significant influence over the players' behaviors in order to create a state of effective non-CAV travel. On the other hand, this result is promising as it shows that a social

solution can potentially prevent self-centered and destructive behavior towards society.

## V. CREATING AN INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT

In this section, we take advantage of the equivalency of our game  $\mathcal{G}$  to the Prisoner's dilemma in order to use the non-cooperative game model of institutional arrangements framework of [24]. We prove in Theorem 3 that the ratio of non-CAV travel and CAV travel in a deregulated society as the number of players increases, tends to zero. In other words, as the society becomes larger and larger, the incentive to cooperatively agree not to travel in a CAV tends to zero.

Players are free to create a social institution that binds them by selecting their actions. In other words, players agree to have an institutional arrangement with the purpose of enforcing an agreement of non-CAV travel. The first stage is the creation of a social institution, and this is done through participation negotiations, and thus the first stage is called "participation decision stage." All players have to decide whether they will participate in negotiations for collective decision making, or not, without any knowledge of each others' decisions. The outcome of the game at this first stage is either that some group of players is formed or not. All players decide to participate in negotiations or not based on their expectations about what will happen in the rest of the game. The possibility of non-CAV travel is significantly affected by the number of players. That means that the outcome of the institutional arrangements depends on the players' decisions in the first stage [24].

**Remark 2.** *In contrast to Cooperative Game Theory, there is no external binding enforcement, and players are free to make their decisions (whether it is beneficial to them only). Thus, we treat the institutional arrangements framework as a non-cooperative game.*

The goal here is to investigate the question: *does the number of travelers affect the possibility of non-CAV travel?*

**Proposition 6.** ([24]) *Let  $d_i = 1$  denote a player  $i$ 's decision to participate in bargaining for installing an enforcement agency; otherwise  $d_i = 0$ . When  $k^* = n$ , the participation decision stage has a unique solution  $d^* = (1, \dots, 1)$ .*

Due to space limitations, we have omitted the proof but may be found in [21].

It is interesting enough that in the special case  $n = 2$ , both players agree to create an enforcement agency and also to non-CAV travel in the institutional arrangements.

**Definition 6.** The incentive ratio of non-CAV travel and CAV travel can be defined as a positive number given by:

$$\beta = \frac{f_i(NC, k^* - 1) - f_i(C, 0)}{f_i(C, k^* - 1) - f_i(NC, k^* - 1)}. \quad (8)$$

In words,  $\beta$  represents the ratio of players' incentive to form the minimum group for non-CAV travel, i.e., the group of  $k^*$  non-CAV travelers, over their incentive to deviate

unilaterally from the minimum group for non-CAV travel. Given our game  $\mathcal{G}$ , we have

$$\beta = \frac{k^*\phi - d}{d - \phi} = \frac{k^*(d + 1) - nd}{d(n - 1) - 1}. \quad (9)$$

**Proposition 7.** ([24]) *The uncooperative solution of the institutional arrangements for our game  $\mathcal{G}$  prescribes the following player behavior:*

- 1) *If  $n = \lfloor \frac{nd}{d+1} \rfloor + 1 = k^*$ , then all players participate in bargaining and they agree to non-CAV travel.*
- 2) *If  $n \geq \lfloor \frac{nd}{d+1} \rfloor + 2$ , then every player participates in bargaining with probability  $t(n)$  satisfying:*

$$\beta = \sum_{k^* \leq k \leq n-1} \frac{(n - k^*) \cdot \dots \cdot (n - k)}{k^* \cdot \dots \cdot k} \left( \frac{t}{1 - t} \right)^{k - k^* + 1},$$

where  $k^*$  and  $\beta$  are given by Proposition 2 and (9), respectively.

Due to space limitations, we have omitted the proof but may be found in [21].

**Theorem 3.** *As the number of players increases, the incentive ratio of non-CAV travel and CAV travel vanishes, i.e.,  $\beta$  tends to zero as  $n$  tends to infinity.*

*Proof.* Substitute  $k^* = \lfloor \frac{nd}{d+1} \rfloor + 1$  into  $\beta$  to get

$$\beta = \frac{\left( \lfloor \frac{nd}{d+1} \rfloor + 1 \right) (d + 1) - nd}{d(n - 1) - 1}. \quad (10)$$

By Proposition 2,  $\frac{nd}{d+1}$  is not an integer, thus we can write  $\lfloor \frac{nd}{d+1} \rfloor = \frac{nd}{d+1} - \varepsilon$ , where  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Now taking the limit of  $\beta$  as  $n$  goes to infinity gives

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\left( \left\lfloor \frac{nd}{d+1} \right\rfloor + 1 \right) (d + 1) - nd}{d(n - 1) - 1}, \quad (11)$$

or equivalently

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\left( \frac{nd}{d+1} - \varepsilon + 1 \right) (d + 1) - nd}{d(n - 1) - 1} \quad (12)$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{nd + (-\varepsilon + 1)(d + 1) - nd}{d(n - 1) - 1} \quad (13)$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(-\varepsilon + 1)(d + 1)}{d(n - 1) - 1}. \quad (14)$$

We divide both numerator and denominator by  $1/n$  and using the standard limit  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x} = 0$  gives the result, i.e.,

$$\frac{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(-\varepsilon + 1)(d + 1)}{n}}{d - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{d}{n} - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n}} = 0. \quad (15)$$

Thus, we conclude that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta = 0$ .  $\square$

To complement our understanding, we performed a numerical study of the limiting behavior of  $t(n)$ , given in Table I. In the table, we have included the additional probabilities:  $p_A(n)$  shows the probability of some group of size  $k^*$  or greater reaching an agreement,  $p_I(n)$  the probability of each

player being an insider of some group with at least  $k^*$  non-CAV travelers, and  $p_F(n)$  is the probability of each player being a free rider, i.e., existing outside of a group of at least  $k^*$  non-CAV travelers.

$n$	$k^*$	$\beta$	$t(n)$	$p_A(n)$	$p_I(n)$	$p_F(n)$
3	3	0.930	1.000	1.000	1.000	0.000
4	3	0.166	0.333	0.111	0.086	0.025
5	4	0.253	0.503	0.192	0.160	0.032
6	5	0.302	0.602	0.236	0.204	0.031
7	5	0.066	0.139	0.001	0.001	0.000
8	6	0.129	0.269	0.006	0.005	0.001
9	7	0.175	0.363	0.014	0.011	0.003
10	7	0.037	0.078	0.000	0.000	0.000
11	8	0.083	0.174	0.000	0.000	0.000
12	9	0.120	0.252	0.000	0.000	0.000
13	9	0.023	0.048	0.000	0.000	0.000
14	10	0.059	0.124	0.000	0.000	0.000
15	11	0.089	0.188	0.000	0.000	0.000
20	14	0.034	0.072	0.000	0.000	0.000
25	17	0.002	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.000
30	21	0.033	0.070	0.000	0.000	0.000
35	24	0.011	0.023	0.000	0.000	0.000
40	28	0.033	0.069	0.000	0.000	0.000
45	31	0.016	0.033	0.000	0.000	0.000
50	34	0.002	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.000

TABLE I  
NUMERICAL STUDY FOR GAME  $\mathcal{G}$  WITH THE INSTITUTIONAL  
ARRANGEMENTS WHERE  $d \approx 2$ .

From Theorem 3, the incentive ratio goes to zero as the number of players increases. In addition, from the numerical study summarized in Table I, the likelihood of bargaining for an institution,  $t(n)$  and probability of being an insider,  $p_A(n)$  approach zero as  $n$  gets large. This implies that for large societies, the impact of self-realized non-CAV travel is non-existent, and the universal CAV travel strategy dominates. For small societies with  $k^* = n$ , it is a certainty that players agree to bargain and create an institution for CAV travel (which is not ideal).

## VI. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we addressed the problem of the social consequences of decision making of human interaction with connectivity and automation in a game-theoretic setting. We formulated the problem as a multiplayer normal-form game and showed that the incentive structure is equivalent to a PD game. The proposed approach has the benefit of capturing the social dilemma that is expected to arise from the future social-mobility dilemma. We considered two different approaches: one was with a preference structure and one with institutions. We investigated and derived conditions for the unselfish strategy, i.e., non-CAV travel, to appear in the game. In the first case, we came up with conditions for a NE and derived a threshold for non-CAV travel; in the second case, we allowed players to create an institution that can enforce non-CAV travel. We concluded that the incentive ratio of non-CAV travel over CAV travel tends to zero as the number of players increases.

Ongoing work includes the design of a framework that analyzes the impact of decision-making by relaxing the

assumptions of complete information (e.g., inducing a Bayesian setting) aiming to capture the informational limitations of players in the game.

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