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# Differential games with asymmetric information and without Isaacs condition\*

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**Abstract.** We investigate a two-player zero-sum differential game with asymmetric information on the payoff and without Isaacs condition. The dynamics is an ordinary differential equation parametrised by two controls chosen by the players. Each player has a private information on the payoff of the game, while his opponent knows only the probability distribution on the information of the other player.

We show that a suitable definition of random strategies allows to prove the existence of a value in mixed strategies. Moreover, the value function can be characterised in term of the unique viscosity solution in some dual sense of a Hamilton–Jacobi–Isaacs equation. Here we do not suppose the Isaacs condition which is usually assumed in differential games.

**Key words.** zero-sum differential game; asymmetric information; Isaacs condition; viscosity solution; subdynamic programming principle; dual game

**AMS subject classifications.** 49N70, 49L25, 91A23, 60H10

## 1 Introduction

We consider a two-player differential game which dynamic is given by the following differential equation

$$\frac{dX_s}{ds} = f(X_s, u_s, v_s), \quad s \in [t, T]$$

parametrised by two controls  $u : [t, T] \mapsto U$  and  $v : [t, T] \mapsto V$  chosen by the Players 1 and 2, respectively. Here the function  $f : \mathbb{R}^d \times U \times V \mapsto \mathbb{R}^d$  satisfies standard assumptions, and  $U$  and  $V$  denote two compact metric spaces.

The final cost involves  $I \times J$  payoffs  $g_{ij}(X_T)$   $i = 1, 2 \dots I$ ,  $j = 1, 2 \dots J$ , where the  $g_{ij} : \mathbf{R}^d \mapsto \mathbf{R}$  are given bounded functions. The first player aims to minimize the cost, while the second player's objective is to maximize it.

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Let us now describe the rules how the game is played. For this let us fix an initial time  $t \in [0, T]$ .

- Before the game starts, a pair  $(i, j)$  is chosen randomly according to a probability measure  $p \otimes q \in \Delta(I) \otimes \Delta(J)$  ( Here  $\Delta(I)$  denotes the set of probabilities  $p = (p_i)_{i=1, \dots, I}$  on  $\{1, \dots, I\}$ ;  $\Delta(J)$  is similarly defined);
- The choice of  $i$  is communicated to Player 1 but not to Player 2, while  $j$  is communicated to Player II but not to Player I;
- The game is played on the time interval  $[t, T]$ ;
- Both players know the probability  $p \otimes q$  and observe their opponents controls.

Note that the players do not know which  $g_{ij}$  they are actually optimising, because they have only a part of the information on the pair  $(i, j)$ . Nevertheless they can try to guess their missing information by observing what their opponent does. Indeed, in order to use his information, a player necessarily reveals at least a part of it, and any piece of information he reveals can be later exploited by his opponent.

Such a game with asymmetric information was first introduced by Aumann and Maschler [1] in the framework of repeated games, where the first player has a private information not available for the second player. This was extended by Mertens and Zamir [20] to the case where both players have a private information not available for their opponents. Models with asymmetric information in economics have been investigated extensively, for instance in [2, 3, 4, 25]. They study the case that participants in a market have private information not public to the others.

A milestone in the literature of differential games is the article [17] which has been later extended to stochastic differential games in [18]. It was shown there that under the following Isaacs condition

$$\inf_{u \in U} \sup_{v \in V} f(x, u, v) \cdot \xi = \sup_{v \in V} \inf_{u \in U} f(x, u, v) \cdot \xi,$$

the value function of a differential game is given as the unique viscosity solution of a Hamilton–Jacobi–Isaacs (HJI in short) equation. For two-person zero-sum stochastic differential games, we also refer the reader to [5] for an overview and a more complete description. Differential games with incomplete/asymmetric information on the payoff were studied first by Cardaliaguet in [8] ( see also [10, 12] ). The case where the incomplete or asymmetric information concerns the initial position was studied in [14]. The extension to stochastic differential games was investigated in [11, 13]. The proof was accomplished by introducing the notion of dual viscosity solutions to the HJI equation of a usual differential game, where the probability  $(p, q)$  just appear as additional parameters. Such a notion of dual solution was introduced in [8] for differential games and in [15] for repeated games. A different unique characterisation via the viscosity solution of the HJI equation with double obstacles in the form of constraints in  $(p, q)$  was given in [9] .

Recently, the article [6] considered zero-sum differential games with complete information without Isaacs condition by imposing on the underlying controls for both players a conditional independence property. We also refer the reader to [19] for another approach of differential games without Isaacs condition. More recently the article ([7]) generalized this method to stochastic differential games using the approach of backward stochastic differential equations.

The present paper introduces this method to differential games with asymmetric information. We randomise nonanticipative strategies (cf [16, 22, 24] ) directly only on a single probability space. By using a suitable notion of random non-anticipative strategies with delay, we finally show that the limit value of the game exists and is the unique dual viscosity solution of the

following HJI equation

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial V}{\partial t}(t, x) + \inf_{\mu \in \mathcal{P}(U)} \sup_{\nu \in \mathcal{P}(V)} H(x, DV(t, x, \mu, \nu)) = 0, & \text{in } [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d, \\ V(T, x) = \sum_{ij} p_i q_j g_{ij}(x), \end{cases} \quad (1.1)$$

where

$$H(x, \xi, \mu, \nu) = \int_{U \times V} f(x, u, v) \mu(du) \nu(dv) \cdot \xi.$$

Here  $\mathcal{P}(U)$  denotes the space of all probability measures on  $U$ ,  $\mathcal{P}(V)$  that on  $V$ . Since both control state spaces  $U$  and  $V$  are supposed to be compact and metric, also  $\mathcal{P}(U)$  and  $\mathcal{P}(V)$  have these properties, and from the bi-linearity of  $H(x, \xi, \mu, \nu)$  in  $(\mu, \nu)$ , we deduce that the following Isaacs condition is automatically satisfied:

$$\inf_{\mu \in \mathcal{P}(U)} \sup_{\nu \in \mathcal{P}(V)} H(x, DV(t, x), \mu, \nu) = \sup_{\nu \in \mathcal{P}(V)} \inf_{\mu \in \mathcal{P}(U)} H(x, DV(t, x), \mu, \nu).$$

The organisation of the paper is as follows. In the next section we present necessary definitions. Section 3 shows the convexity (concavity) of the value of the game along a partition and considers its dual game. A subdynamic programming principle is established for the dual game in section 4. In section 5, we prove that the lower value function and the upper value function are a viscosity subsolution and a viscosity supersolution respectively of the associated HJI equation. In section 6, we show by a special comparison principle of partial differential equations that the limit value of the game along partitions exists as the mesh of partitions tends to zero, and the limit value function is characterized as the dual solution of some HJI equation. In the last section we consider the case of lack of information on the dynamics.

## 2 Settings of the game

Throughout the paper we work with the following probability space:

$$(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P) := ([0, 1], \mathcal{B}([0, 1]), dx),$$

where the interval  $[0, 1]$  is endowed with the Borel  $\sigma$ -field  $\mathcal{B}([0, 1])$  and the Borel measure  $dx$ . Let  $\{\zeta_{j,l}, l \geq 1, j = 1, 2\}$  be a family of independent random variables following all a uniform distribution on  $[0, 1]$ . Let us consider two compact metric spaces  $U$  and  $V$  representing the control state spaces used by player 1 and 2, respectively.  $\mathcal{P}(U)$  and  $\mathcal{P}(V)$  denote the space of all probability measures over  $U$  and  $V$ , endowed with Borel  $\sigma$ -field  $\mathcal{B}(U)$  and  $\mathcal{B}(V)$ , respectively. It is an immediate consequence of Skorohod's Representation Theorem that  $\mathcal{P}(U)$  (resp.,  $\mathcal{P}(V)$ ) coincides with the set of the laws of all  $U$ -valued (resp.,  $V$ -valued) random variables defined over  $([0, 1], \mathcal{B}([0, 1]), dx)$ .

Let us now introduce the admissible controls for both players.

**Definition 2.1** (*Admissible controls*) *Given the initial time  $t \in [0, T]$ , we define the sets of admissible controls for player 1 and player 2 by*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{U}_{t,T} &= \left\{ \text{all } U\text{-valued and Lebesgue measurable functions } (u_s)_{s \in [t, T]} \right\}, \\ \mathcal{V}_{t,T} &= \left\{ \text{all } V\text{-valued and Lebesgue measurable functions } (v_s)_{s \in [t, T]} \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

*Both spaces are endowed with the topology generated by the convergence in  $L^1([t, T])$ .*

The dynamics of the game is given by

$$\begin{cases} dX_s^{t,x,u,v} = f\left(X_s^{t,x,u,v}, u_s, v_s\right) ds, & s \in [t, T], (u, v) \in \mathcal{U}_{t,T} \times \mathcal{V}_{t,T}, \\ X_t^{t,x,u,v} = x, \end{cases} \quad (2.1)$$

where  $f : \mathbf{R}^d \times U \times V \mapsto \mathbf{R}^d$  is bounded, continuous, and Lipschitz continuous in  $x \in \mathbf{R}^d$ , uniformly with respect to  $u$  and  $v$ . Standard estimates show that there exists a constant  $C > 0$  such that, for all  $(t, x), (t', x') \in [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d$  and all  $s \in [t \vee t', T]$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)} \quad & \left| X_s^{t,x,u,v} - x \right| \leq C(s - t), \\ \text{(ii)} \quad & \left| X_s^{t,x,u,v} - X_s^{t',x',u,v} \right| \leq C(|t - t'| + |x - x'|). \end{aligned}$$

While player 1 tries to minimise a given cost functional, the objective of player 2 is to maximise it. For this they have at their disposal the above introduced spaces of admissible controls. But can they play the game ‘‘control against control’’? As it is by now well-known, apart from rather particular cases, differential games of the type ‘‘control against control’’ don’t, in general, admit the dynamic programming principle and don’t have a value. This is why in the literature approaches studying games of the type ‘‘strategy against control’’ and ‘‘non anticipative strategy with delay (NAD-strategy) against NAD-strategy’’ have imposed. This latter type has turned out to be the best adapted one for the study of differential games with asymmetric information. Taking into account the asymmetry of the information, the players aim to hide a part of their private knowledge. To do this they randomise their strategies. From a technical point of view, this randomness is also the key argument to get a value of our game without Isaacs condition.

Let us consider now a partition  $\pi = \{0 = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_N = T\}$  and let us fix arbitrarily the initial time of the game  $t \in [t_{k-1}, t_k]$ , for some  $0 \leq k \leq N$ .

**Definition 2.2** (Random NAD strategies along the partition  $\pi$ ) *A random NAD-strategy along the partition  $\pi$  for player 1 is a mapping  $\alpha : \Omega \times \mathcal{V}_{t,T} \mapsto \mathcal{U}_{t,T}$  of the form*

$$\alpha(\omega, v)(s) = \alpha_l((\zeta_{1,k}, \dots, \zeta_{1,l})(\omega), v)(s),$$

$\omega \in \Omega$ ,  $s \in [t \vee t_{l-1}, t \vee t_l]$ ,  $k \leq l \leq N$ , with a Borel measurable mapping  $\alpha_l : \mathbf{R}^{l-k+1} \times \mathcal{V}_{t,T} \mapsto \mathcal{U}_{t,T}$  satisfying the following: For all  $v, v' \in \mathcal{V}_{t,T}$ , it holds that, whenever  $v = v'$  a.e. on  $[t, t_{l-1}]$ , we have for all  $x \in \mathbf{R}^{l-k+1}$ ,  $\alpha_l(x, v) = \alpha_l(x, v')$ , a.e. on  $[t \vee t_{l-1}, t \vee t_l]$ .

Similarly, a random NAD strategy along the partition  $\pi$  for player 2 is a mapping  $\beta : \Omega \times \mathcal{U}_{t,T} \mapsto \mathcal{V}_{t,T}$  of the form

$$\beta(\omega, u)(s) = \beta_l((\zeta_{2,k}, \dots, \zeta_{2,l})(\omega), u)(s),$$

$\omega \in \Omega$ ,  $s \in [t \vee t_{l-1}, t \vee t_l]$ ,  $k \leq l \leq N$ , with a Borel measurable mapping  $\beta_l : \mathbf{R}^{l-k+1} \times \mathcal{U}_{t,T} \mapsto \mathcal{V}_{t,T}$  satisfying the following: For all  $u, u' \in \mathcal{U}_{t,T}$ , it holds that, whenever  $u = u'$  a.e. on  $[t, t_{l-1}]$ , we have for all  $x \in \mathbf{R}^{l-k+1}$ ,  $\beta_l(x, u) = \beta_l(x, u')$ , a.e. on  $[t \vee t_{l-1}, t \vee t_l]$ .

We denote by  $\mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T)$  the set of all such random NAD strategies for player 1, and by  $\mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, T)$  that for player 2. Sometimes we will use pure (i.e. deterministic) strategies: Let  $\mathcal{A}^\pi(t, T)$  (resp.  $\mathcal{B}^\pi(t, T)$ ) denote the subset of strategies in  $\mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T)$  (resp.  $\mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, T)$ ) which do not depend on  $\omega \in \Omega$ .

**Remark 2.1** *Given  $t \in [t_{k-1}, t_k]$ , for  $s \in [t, T]$ ,  $(u, v) \in \mathcal{U}_{t,T} \times \mathcal{V}_{t,T}$ , we have*

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(\omega, v)(s) &= \alpha_k(\zeta_{1,k}(\omega), v) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{[t, t_k]}(s) + \sum_{l=k+1}^N \alpha_l((\zeta_{1,k}, \dots, \zeta_{1,l})(\omega), v) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{[t_{l-1}, t_l]}(s), \\ \beta(\omega, u)(s) &= \beta_k(\zeta_{2,k}(\omega), u) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{[t, t_k]}(s) + \sum_{l=k+1}^N \beta_l((\zeta_{2,k}, \dots, \zeta_{2,l})(\omega), u) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{[t_{l-1}, t_l]}(s). \end{aligned} \quad (2.2)$$

Thanks to the delay of the strategies, we have the following property.

**Lemma 2.1** *For any  $(\alpha, \beta) \in \mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T) \times \mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, T)$  there is a unique (up to a null set) mapping  $\Omega \ni \omega \mapsto (u_\omega, v_\omega) \in \mathcal{U}_{t,T} \times \mathcal{V}_{t,T}$  such that, for all  $\omega \in \Omega$ ,*

$$\alpha(\omega, v_\omega) = u_\omega, \beta(\omega, u_\omega) = v_\omega, \text{ a.e. on } [t, T].$$

The proof of this lemma uses standard arguments. However since the special form of the random NAD-strategies which we use here is new, we prefer to give the proof for the convenience of the reader.

**Proof** Let  $t \in [t_{k-1}, t_k]$ ,  $0 \leq k \leq N$ . For each  $\omega \in \Omega$ ,  $\alpha(\omega, v)$  and  $\beta(\omega, u)$  restricted to  $[t, t_k]$  depend only on  $v \in \mathcal{V}_{t,T}$  and  $u \in \mathcal{U}_{t,T}$  restricted to  $[t, t_{k-1}]$ . But  $[t, t_{k-1}]$  is empty or a singleton, so that  $\alpha(\omega, v)$ ,  $\beta(\omega, u)$  on  $[t, t_k]$  do not depend on  $v$  and  $u$ . Thus, for any  $v^0 \in \mathcal{V}_{t,T}$  and  $u^0 \in \mathcal{U}_{t,T}$ , we can define  $u_\omega^1 = \alpha(\omega, v^0)$ ,  $v_\omega^1 = \beta(\omega, u^0)$ . We observe that this definition guarantees the measurability of the mapping  $\Omega \ni \omega \mapsto (u_\omega^1, v_\omega^1) \in \mathcal{U}_{t,T} \times \mathcal{V}_{t,T}$ . Moreover, from this definition we have

$$\alpha(\omega, v^1) = u^1, \beta(\omega, u^1) = v^1, \text{ a.e., on } [t, t_k].$$

Assume that for  $j \geq 2$ ,  $\Omega \ni \omega \mapsto (u_\omega^{j-1}, v_\omega^{j-1}) \in \mathcal{U}_{t,T} \times \mathcal{V}_{t,T}$  is measurable and such that  $\alpha(\omega, v_\omega^{j-1}) = u_\omega^{j-1}$ ,  $\beta(\omega, u_\omega^{j-1}) = v_\omega^{j-1}$ , a.e., on  $[t, t_{k+j-2}]$ . Then we set  $u_\omega^j = \alpha(\omega, v_\omega^{j-1})$ ,  $v_\omega^j = \beta(\omega, u_\omega^{j-1})$ . Obviously, the thus defined mapping  $\omega \mapsto (u_\omega^j, v_\omega^j)$  is measurable and  $(u_\omega^j, v_\omega^j) = (u_\omega^{j-1}, v_\omega^{j-1})$ , a.e., on  $[t, t_{k+j-2}]$ . Then by the NAD property of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ ,  $u_\omega^j = \alpha(\omega, v_\omega^j)$ ,  $v_\omega^j = \beta(\omega, u_\omega^j)$ , a.e., on  $[t, t_{k+j-1}]$ . Iterating the above steps, we can obtain the desired result. The uniqueness is an immediate consequence of the above construction.  $\square$

**Remark 2.2** *We observe that, for all  $1 \leq l \leq N - 1$ , the processes  $u$  and  $v$  constructed in the above proof and restricted to the time interval  $[t, t_l]$  are conditionally independent knowing  $\zeta_k = (\zeta_{1,k}, \zeta_{2,k}), \dots, \zeta_{l-1} = (\zeta_{1,l-1}, \zeta_{2,l-1})$ . Indeed, the processes  $u$  and  $v$  are of the following form:*

$$\begin{cases} u(s) = u^k(s, \zeta_{1,k}) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{[t, t_k]}(s) + \sum_{l=k+1}^n u^l(s, \zeta_k, \dots, \zeta_{l-1}, \zeta_{1,l}) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{[t_{l-1}, t_l]}(s), \\ v(s) = v^k(s, \zeta_{2,k}) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{[t, t_k]}(s) + \sum_{l=k+1}^n v^l(s, \zeta_k, \dots, \zeta_{l-1}, \zeta_{2,l}) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{[t_{l-1}, t_l]}(s), \end{cases}$$

where  $(u^l, v^l)$  are measurable functions of  $s$ ,  $\zeta_{j,m}$ ,  $j = 1, 2$ ,  $k \leq m \leq l - 1$  and  $\zeta_l = (\zeta_{1,l}, \zeta_{2,l})$ , for  $l \geq 1$ .

The description of the game involves  $I \times J$  terminal payoffs (where  $I, J \geq 1$ ):  $g_{ij} : \mathbf{R}^d \mapsto \mathbf{R}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, I$  and  $j = 1, \dots, J$ , which are supposed to Lipschitz continuous and bounded throughout the paper.

We now define the lower and the upper value functions.

**Definition 2.3** *Let  $(p, q) \in \Delta(I) \times \Delta(J)$ ,  $(t, x) \in [0, T) \times \mathbf{R}^d$ . For  $t \in [t_{k-1}, t_k)$ ,  $\hat{\alpha} = (\alpha_i)_{i=1, \dots, I} \in (\mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T))^I$ ,  $\hat{\beta} = (\beta_j)_{j=1, \dots, J} \in (\mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, T))^J$ , we define the cost functional*

$$\mathcal{J}(t, x, \hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}, p, q) = \sum_{i=1}^I \sum_{j=1}^J p_i q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t,x, \alpha_i, \beta_j} \right) \right], \quad (2.3)$$

the upper value function

$$W^\pi(t, x, p, q) = \inf_{\hat{\alpha} \in (\mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T))^I} \sup_{\hat{\beta} \in (\mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, T))^J} \mathcal{J}(t, x, \hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}, p, q), \quad (2.4)$$

as well as the lower value function

$$V^\pi(t, x, p, q) = \sup_{\hat{\beta} \in (\mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, T))^J} \inf_{\hat{\alpha} \in (\mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T))^I} \mathcal{J}(t, x, \hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}, p, q). \quad (2.5)$$

### 3 Convexity and Fenchel transforms

One main argument in approaches for games with asymmetric information is based on the convexity (resp. concavity) of the value functions with respect to the probabilities  $p$  (resp. to  $q$ ). In this section we study this property and introduce the Fenchel transform of the value functions.

The proofs of the following three lemmas are inspired by [8]. We just remark that, in order to take into account the missing Isaacs' assumption, our notion of strategy is much more explicit and, therefore, more restrictive than the one defined in [8]. This explains additional difficulties in the proofs.

**Lemma 3.1** *The value functions  $W^\pi$  and  $V^\pi$  are Lipschitz continuous with respect to  $(t, x, p, q)$ , uniformly with respect to  $\pi$ .*

**Proof** We only give the proof for  $V^\pi$ . By the definition of  $V^\pi$  and the boundness of  $g_{ij}$ , it is easy to see that  $V^\pi$  is Lipschitz with respect  $p$  and  $q$ . For every  $t \in [0, T]$  and  $(u, v) \in \mathcal{U}_{t, T} \times \mathcal{V}_{t, T}$ , we can show that  $x \rightarrow g_{ij}(X_T^{t, x, u, v})$  is Lipschitz uniformly w.r.t.  $(t, u, v)$  and, hence, for any  $(\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}) \in (\mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T))^I \times (\mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, T))^J$ , the mapping

$$x \mapsto \mathcal{J}(t, x, \hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}, p, q)$$

is Lipschitz continuous with a Lipschitz constant  $C$  (for short,  $C$ -Lipschitz) independent of  $(t, p, q) \in [0, T] \times \Delta(I) \times \Delta(J)$  and  $\pi$ . Therefore, we deduce that  $V^\pi$  is  $C$ -Lipschitz with respect to  $x$ .

Now we show that  $V^\pi$  is Lipschitz in  $t$ . Let  $x \in \mathbf{R}^d$ ,  $(p, q) \in \Delta(I) \times \Delta(J)$  and  $t < t' < T$  be fixed. Let  $\hat{\beta} = (\beta_j)_{j=1, \dots, J} \in (\mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, T))^J$  be  $\varepsilon$ -optimal for  $V^\pi(t, x, p, q)$ . We have to associate with each  $\beta_j$  a strategy  $\beta'_j \in \mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t', T)$ . To this aim, we fix some arbitrary constant control  $\bar{u} \in U$  and set

$$\tilde{\beta}_j(\omega, u) = \beta_j(\omega, \tilde{u}), \text{ where } \tilde{u}(s) = \begin{cases} \bar{u}, & s \in [t, t'], \\ u(s), & s \in [t', T]. \end{cases}$$

If  $t' < t_k$ , then  $\tilde{\beta}_j \in \mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t', T)$  and we set  $\beta'_j = \tilde{\beta}_j$ .

Otherwise, let  $l > k$  such that  $t_{l-1} \leq t' < t_l$ . We consider now  $l - k + 1$  random variables  $\kappa_k, \dots, \kappa_l$  on  $([0, 1], \mathcal{B}([0, 1]), dx)$  with  $\kappa_l(x) = x, x \in [0, 1]$ , which are uniformly distributed on  $[0, 1]$ , mutually independent, and independent of  $\zeta_{i, m}, (i, m) \neq (2, l)$ . We remark that then also the composed random variables  $\kappa_k \circ \zeta_{2, l}, \dots, \kappa_l \circ \zeta_{2, l}$  are mutually independent, uniformly distributed random variables, which are moreover independent of all  $\zeta_{i, m}, (i, m) \neq (2, l)$ . Indeed, recall that the  $\zeta_{i, l}$ 's themselves are also i.i.d. and obey a uniform distribution over the interval

$[0, 1]$ .

Now we set, for any  $u \in \mathcal{U}_{t', T}$ ,  $l \leq m \leq N$ , and  $s \in [t' \vee t_{m-1}, t_m)$ ,

$$\beta'_j(\omega, u)(s) = \tilde{\beta}_{j,m}(\kappa_k \circ \zeta_{2,l}, \dots, \kappa_l \circ \zeta_{2,l}, \zeta_{2,l+1}, \dots, \zeta_{2,m})(\omega, u)(s).$$

Then  $\beta'_j \in \mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t', T)$ . Moreover, for all  $u \in \mathcal{U}_{t', T, \beta'_j}(u)$  and  $\tilde{\beta}_j(u)$  obey the same law knowing  $\zeta_{2,l}, \zeta_{2,l+1}, \dots, \zeta_{2,n}$ , if  $t_{l-1} \leq t' < t_l$ . Thus

$$E[g(X_T^{t', x, u, \beta'_j(u)})] = E[g(X_T^{t', x, u, \tilde{\beta}_j(u)})],$$

and, hence, for all  $\hat{\alpha} = (\alpha_i) \in (\mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t', T))^I$ ,

$$\mathcal{J}(t', x, \hat{\alpha}, (\beta'_j), p, q) = \mathcal{J}(t', x, \hat{\alpha}, (\tilde{\beta}_j), p, q).$$

Next, to every  $\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t', T)$ , we associate some new strategy  $\alpha' \in \mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T)$  by setting, for all  $v \in \mathcal{V}_{t, T}$ ,

$$\alpha'(\omega, v)(s) = \begin{cases} \bar{u}(s), & s \in [t, t'), \\ \alpha(\omega, v|_{[t', T]})(s), & s \in [t', T]. \end{cases}$$

By construction, if  $t_{l-1} \leq t' \leq t_l$  ( $k \leq l \leq n$ ), the couples of random controls associated by Lemma 2.1 to the couples of strategies  $(\alpha', \beta_j)$  and  $(\alpha, \beta_j)$  coincide on the time interval  $[t', T]$  under the conditional law  $P[\cdot | \zeta_{2,l}, \zeta_{l+1}, \dots, \zeta_n]$ . Therefore the standard estimate applies :

$$E \left[ |X_s^{t, x, \alpha', \beta_j} - X_s^{t', x, \alpha, \tilde{\beta}_j}| \right] \leq M |t' - t|, s \in [t', T],$$

where  $M$  is a constant depending on the bound of  $f$  as well as the Lipschitz constants of  $f$  and the functions  $g_{ij}$ , but not on  $\pi$ . Hence, for any  $\hat{\alpha} = (\alpha_i)_{i=1, \dots, I} \in (\mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t', T))^I$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{J}(t', x, \hat{\alpha}, (\beta'_j), p, q) &= \mathcal{J}(t', x, \hat{\alpha}, (\tilde{\beta}_j), p, q) \geq \mathcal{J}(t, x, \hat{\alpha}', \hat{\beta}, p, q) - LM |t' - t| \\ &\geq \inf_{\hat{\alpha}'' \in (\mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T))^I} \mathcal{J}(t, x, \hat{\alpha}'', \hat{\beta}, p, q) - LM |t' - t| \\ &\geq V^\pi(t, x, p, q) - \varepsilon - LM |t' - t| \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the fact that  $\hat{\beta}$  is  $\varepsilon$ -optimal for  $V^\pi(t, x, p, q)$ . Consequently,

$$V^\pi(t', x, p, q) \geq V^\pi(t, x, p, q) - \varepsilon - LM |t' - t|. \quad (3.1)$$

To prove the reverse inequality, we associate in a symmetric way to above to a vector of strategies  $\hat{\beta} = (\beta_j)_{j=1, \dots, J} \in (\mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t', T))^J$  which is  $\varepsilon$ -optimal for  $V^\pi(t', x, p, q)$  and each arbitrary  $\hat{\alpha} \in (\mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T))^I$  some vectors of strategies  $\hat{\beta}' \in (\mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, T))^J$  and  $\hat{\alpha}' \in (\mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t', T))^I$ , in order to get the inequality

$$\mathcal{J}(t, x, \hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}', p, q) \geq \mathcal{J}(t', x, \hat{\alpha}', \hat{\beta}, p, q) - LM |t - t'| \geq V^\pi(t', x, p, q) - \varepsilon - LM |t' - t|$$

and, thus,

$$V^\pi(t, x, p, q) \geq V^\pi(t', x, p, q) - \varepsilon - LM |t' - t|. \quad (3.2)$$

Finally, thanks to the arbitrariness of  $\varepsilon > 0$ , from (3.1) and (3.2) we get the Lipschitz continuity for  $V^\pi$  in  $t$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.2** *For any  $(t, x) \in [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d$ , the mappings  $W^\pi(t, x, p, q)$ ,  $V^\pi(t, x, p, q)$  are convex in  $p$  and concave in  $q$  on  $\Delta(I)$  and  $\Delta(J)$ , respectively.*

**Proof** We only present the proof for  $V^\pi$ . Observing that

$$V^\pi(t, x, p, q) = \sup_{(\beta_j) \in (\mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, T))^J} \sum_{i=1}^I p_i \inf_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T)} \sum_{j=1}^J q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t, x, \alpha, \beta_j} \right) \right], \quad (3.3)$$

the convexity of  $p \mapsto V^\pi(t, x, p, q)$  becomes obvious.

Let us now prove the concavity of  $q \mapsto V^\pi(t, x, p, q)$ . Let  $(t, x, p) \in [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d \times \Delta(I)$ ,  $q^0, q^1 \in \Delta(J)$ ,  $\lambda \in (0, 1)$ , and let  $\hat{\beta}^0 = \left( \beta_j^0 \right)_{j=1, \dots, J} \in (\mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, T))^J$  and  $\hat{\beta}^1 = \left( \beta_j^1 \right)_{j=1, \dots, J} \in (\mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, T))^J$  be  $\varepsilon$ -optimal for  $V^\pi(t, x, p, q^0)$  and  $V^\pi(t, x, p, q^1)$ , respectively ( $\varepsilon > 0$ ). We set  $q^\lambda = (1 - \lambda)q^0 + \lambda q^1 \in \Delta(J)$  and  $c_j = \frac{(1-\lambda)q_j^0}{q_j^\lambda}$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq J$ . For  $\omega \in \Omega$ ,  $u \in \mathcal{U}_{t, T}$ ,  $s \in [t \vee t_{l-1}, t \vee t_l]$ ,  $k \leq l \leq N$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, J$ , let us define the following strategies

$$\beta_j^\lambda(\omega, u)(s) = \beta_{l_j}((\zeta_{2, k}, \dots, \zeta_{2, l})(\omega), u)(s)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_{l_j}((y_1, \dots, y_{l-k+1}), u) &= \beta_{l_j}^0 \left( \frac{1}{c_j} y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{l-k+1}, u \right) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{[0, c_j]}(y_1) \\ &\quad + \beta_{l_j}^1 \left( \frac{1}{1 - c_j} (y_1 - c_j), y_2, \dots, y_{l-k+1}, u \right) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{[c_j, 1]}(y_1). \end{aligned}$$

The mappings  $\beta_{l_j}^0$  and  $\beta_{l_j}^1$ ,  $k \leq l \leq N$ , are associated with  $\beta_j^0$  and  $\beta_j^1$  through Definition 2.2. It is easy to see that  $(\beta_j^\lambda) \in (\mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, T))^J$ .

Then a straight forward computation yields

$$\begin{aligned} \inf_{\hat{\alpha} \in (\mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T))^I} \mathcal{J}(t, x, \hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}^\lambda, p, q^\lambda) &= \sum_{i=1}^I p_i \inf_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T)} \sum_{j=1}^J q_j^\lambda E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t, x, \alpha, \beta_j^\lambda} \right) \right] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^I p_i \inf_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T)} \sum_{j=1}^J q_j^\lambda \left( \int_{[0, c_j]} E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t, x, \alpha, \beta_j^0} \left( \left( \frac{1}{c_j} y_1, \zeta_{2, k+1}, \dots, \zeta_{2, N} \right) (\omega, \cdot) \right) \right) \right] dy_1 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \int_{[c_j, 1]} E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t, x, \alpha, \beta_j^1} \left( \left( \frac{1}{1-c_j} (y_1 - c_j), \zeta_{2, k+1}, \dots, \zeta_{2, N} \right) (\omega, \cdot) \right) \right) \right] dy_1 \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^I p_i \inf_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T)} \sum_{j=1}^J q_j^\lambda \left[ \frac{(1-\lambda)q_j^0}{q_j^\lambda} E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t, x, \alpha, \beta_j^0} \right) \right] + \frac{\lambda q_j^1}{q_j^\lambda} E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t, x, \alpha, \beta_j^1} \right) \right] \right] \\ &\geq (1-\lambda) \sum_{i=1}^I p_i \inf_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T)} \sum_{j=1}^J q_j^0 E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t, x, \alpha, \beta_j^0} \right) \right] \\ &\quad + \lambda \sum_{i=1}^I p_i \inf_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T)} \sum_{j=1}^J q_j^1 E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t, x, \alpha, \beta_j^1} \right) \right] \\ &\geq (1-\lambda) V^\pi(t, x, p, q^0) + \lambda V^\pi(t, x, p, q^1) - \varepsilon, \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the fact that  $\hat{\beta}^0$  and  $\hat{\beta}^1$  are  $\varepsilon$ -optimal strategies respectively for  $V^\pi(t, x, p, q^0)$  and  $V^\pi(t, x, p, q^1)$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} V^\pi(t, x, p, q^\lambda) &\geq \inf_{\hat{\alpha} \in (\mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T))^I} \mathcal{J}(t, x, \hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}^\lambda, p, q^\lambda) \\ &\geq (1 - \lambda) V^\pi(t, x, p, q^0) + \lambda V^\pi(t, x, p, q^1) - \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Taking into account the arbitrariness of  $\varepsilon > 0$ , we obtain the stated result.  $\square$

Let us now introduce the Fenchel transforms: Given a mapping  $w : [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d \times \Delta(I) \times \Delta(J) \mapsto \mathbf{R}$  convex in  $p$  and concave in  $q$  on  $\Delta(I)$  and  $\Delta(J)$ , respectively, we denote by  $w^*$  its convex conjugate with respect to variable  $p$ :

$$w^*(t, x, \hat{p}, q) := \sup_{p \in \Delta(I)} \{ \langle \hat{p}, p \rangle - w(t, x, p, q) \}, \quad (t, x, \hat{p}, q) \in [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d \times \mathbf{R}^I \times \Delta(J),$$

and  $w^\#$  its concave conjugate with respect to variable  $q$ :

$$w^\#(t, x, p, \hat{q}) := \inf_{q \in \Delta(J)} \{ \langle \hat{q}, q \rangle - w(t, x, p, q) \}, \quad (t, x, p, \hat{q}) \in [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d \times \Delta(I) \times \mathbf{R}^J.$$

In coherence with these notations, we write  $V^{\pi*}$  ( $W^{\pi\#}$ ) for the convex (resp. concave) conjugate of  $V^\pi$  ( $W^\pi$ ) with respect to  $p$  (resp.  $q$ ). We now reformulate the formula for  $V^{\pi*}$ . In the dual game, after this reformulation, player 1 has no private information anymore. Thus, he can play pure strategies.

**Lemma 3.3** (*Reformulation of  $V^{\pi*}$* ) For all  $(t, x, \hat{p}, q) \in [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d \times \mathbf{R}^I \times \Delta(J)$ , (i) we have

$$V^{\pi*}(t, x, \hat{p}, q) = \inf_{(\beta_j) \in (\mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, T))^J} \sup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}^\pi(t, T)} \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, I\}} \left\{ \hat{p}_i - \sum_{j=1}^J q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t, x, \alpha, \beta_j} \right) \right] \right\}, \quad (3.4)$$

(ii) Player 1 can play pure strategies in  $V^{\pi*}$ :

$$V^{\pi*}(t, x, \hat{p}, q) = \inf_{(\beta_j) \in (\mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, T))^J} \sup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}^\pi(t, T)} \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, I\}} \left\{ \hat{p}_i - \sum_{j=1}^J q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t, x, \alpha, \beta_j} \right) \right] \right\} \quad (3.5)$$

**Proof** (i) Let us put

$$z(t, x, \hat{p}, q) = \inf_{(\beta_j) \in (\mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, T))^J} \sup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}^\pi(t, T)} \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, I\}} \left\{ \hat{p}_i - \sum_{j=1}^J q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t, x, \alpha, \beta_j} \right) \right] \right\}.$$

We first show that  $z(t, x, \hat{p}, q)$  is convex with respect to  $\hat{p}$ .

The proof uses the same type of transformation of strategies as that in the proof of Lemma 3.2. For  $(t, x, q) \in [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^n \times \Delta(J)$ ,  $\hat{p}^0, \hat{p}^1 \in \mathbf{R}^I$ ,  $\lambda \in (0, 1)$ , we choose  $(\beta_j^0) \in (\mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, T))^J$  and  $(\beta_j^1) \in (\mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, T))^J$  as  $\varepsilon$ -optimal strategies for  $z(t, x, \hat{p}^0, q)$  and  $z(t, x, \hat{p}^1, q)$ , respectively, where  $\varepsilon > 0$  is fixed arbitrarily. We set  $\hat{p}^\lambda = (1 - \lambda)\hat{p}^0 + \lambda\hat{p}^1$  and

$$\beta_j^\lambda(\omega, u)(s) = \beta_{i,j}(\zeta_{2,k}, \dots, \zeta_{2,l})(\omega, u)(s), \quad s \in [t \vee t_{l-1}, t \vee t_l],$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_{l,j}((y_1, \dots, y_{l-k+1}), u) &= \beta_{l,j}^1 \left( \left( \frac{1}{\lambda} y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{l-k+1} \right), u \right) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{[0,\lambda]}(y_1) \\ &\quad + \beta_{l,j}^0 \left( \left( \frac{1}{1-\lambda} (y_1 - \lambda), y_2, \dots, y_{l-k+1} \right), u \right) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{[\lambda,1]}(y_1); \end{aligned}$$

for the functions  $\beta_{l,j}^0$  and  $\beta_{l,j}^1$  associated with  $\beta_j^0$  and  $\beta_j^1$ , respectively, we refer to Definition 2.2. It is easy to see that  $(\beta_j^\lambda) \in (\mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, T))^J$ . By the convexity of the mapping  $(s_i) \mapsto \max_i \{s_i\}$ , we have that, for all  $\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} &\max_{i \in \{1, \dots, I\}} \left\{ \hat{p}_i^\lambda - \sum_{j=1}^J q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t,x,\alpha, \beta_j^\lambda} \right) \right] \right\} \\ &= \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, I\}} \left\{ (1-\lambda) \left( \hat{p}_i^0 - \sum_{j=1}^J q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t,x,\alpha, \beta_j^0} \right) \right] \right) + \lambda \left( \hat{p}_i^1 - \sum_{j=1}^J q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t,x,\alpha, \beta_j^1} \right) \right] \right) \right\} \\ &\leq (1-\lambda) \sup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T)} \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, I\}} \left\{ \left( \hat{p}_i^0 - \sum_{j=1}^J q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t,x,\alpha, \beta_j^0} \right) \right] \right) \right\} \\ &\quad + \lambda \sup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T)} \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, I\}} \left\{ \left( \hat{p}_i^1 - \sum_{j=1}^J q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t,x,\alpha, \beta_j^1} \right) \right] \right) \right\} \\ &\leq (1-\lambda) z(t, x, \hat{p}^0, q) + \lambda z(t, x, \hat{p}^1, q) + \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} z(t, x, \hat{p}^\lambda, q) &\leq \sup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T)} \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, I\}} \left\{ \hat{p}_i^\lambda - \sum_{j=1}^J q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t,x,\alpha, \beta_j^\lambda} \right) \right] \right\} \\ &\leq (1-\lambda) z(t, x, \hat{p}^0, q) + \lambda z(t, x, \hat{p}^1, q) + \varepsilon, \end{aligned}$$

and from the arbitrariness of  $\varepsilon > 0$ , the convexity follows.

For the proof of the equality between  $z(t, x, \hat{p}, q)$  and  $V^{\pi^*}$ , (3.4), we use a by now standard argument (see [23]). For the reader's convenience we give it here. For this we observe that

$$\begin{aligned} z^*(t, x, p, q) &= \sup_{\hat{p}} \left\{ p \cdot \hat{p} - \inf_{(\beta_j)_{j \in \{1, \dots, I\}}} \max_{\alpha} \left\{ \hat{p}_i - \inf_{\alpha} \sum_{j=1}^J q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t,x,\alpha, \beta_j} \right) \right] \right\} \right\} \\ &= \sup_{(\beta_j)} \sup_{\hat{p}} \min_{i \in \{1, \dots, I\}} \left\{ p \cdot \hat{p} - \hat{p}_i + \inf_{\alpha} \sum_{j=1}^J q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t,x,\alpha, \beta_j} \right) \right] \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $f_i := \inf_{\alpha} \sum_{j=1}^J q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t,x,\alpha, \beta_j} \right) \right]$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{\hat{p}} \min_{i \in \{1, \dots, I\}} \{p \cdot \hat{p} - \hat{p}_i + f_i\} &= \sup_{\hat{p}} \inf_{\bar{p} \in \Delta(I)} \{\hat{p} \cdot (p - \bar{p}) + f \cdot \bar{p}\} \\ &= \inf_{\bar{p} \in \Delta(I)} \sup_{\hat{p}} \{\hat{p} \cdot (p - \bar{p}) + f \cdot \bar{p}\}, \end{aligned}$$

where the latter equality follows from the bilinearity of  $\hat{p} \cdot (p - \bar{p}) + f \cdot \bar{p}$  with respect to  $\hat{p}$  and  $\bar{p}$ . Consequently

$$\sup_{\hat{p}} \min_{i \in \{1, \dots, I\}} \{p \cdot \hat{p} - \hat{p}_i + f_i\} = \inf_{\bar{p} \in \Delta(I)} \left\{ f \cdot \bar{p} + \sup_{\hat{p}} (\hat{p} \cdot (p - \bar{p})) \right\} = f \cdot p,$$

because, for all  $\bar{p} \in \Delta(I) \setminus \{p\}$ ,  $\sup_{\hat{p}} (\hat{p} \cdot (p - \bar{p})) = +\infty$ . It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} z^*(t, x, p, q) &= \sup_{(\beta_j)} \sum_{i=1}^I p_i \inf_{\alpha} \sum_{j=1}^J q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t,x,\alpha,\beta_j} \right) \right] \\ &= V^{\pi}(t, x, p, q). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $z$  is convex in  $\hat{p}$ , we have  $V^{\pi*} = z^{**} = z$ .

(ii) The inequality “ $\geq$ ” in (3.5) is obvious, because  $\mathcal{A}^{\pi}(t, T) \subset \mathcal{A}_r^{\pi}(t, T)$ . Now we prove the converse relation. Note that for any  $\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_r^{\pi}(t, T)$  (of the form given by (2.2)), for any  $y = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{N-k+1}) \in \mathbf{R}^{N-k+1}$  and any  $l \in \{k+1, \dots, N\}$ ,  $\alpha_l(y, \cdot) \in \mathcal{A}^{\pi}(t, T)$ . Let us fix arbitrarily  $(\beta_j) \in (\mathcal{B}_r^{\pi}(t, T))^J$ . From the convexity of the mapping  $(s_i) \mapsto \max_i \{s_i\}$ , we have thanks to Definition 2.2 (See also Remark 2.1)

$$\begin{aligned} & \sup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_r^{\pi}(t, T)} \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, I\}} \left\{ \hat{p}_i - \sum_{j=1}^J q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t,x,\alpha,\beta_j} \right) \right] \right\} \\ & \leq \sup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_r^{\pi}(t, T)} \int_{[0,1]^{N-k+1}} \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, I\}} \left\{ \hat{p}_i - \sum_{j=1}^J q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t,x,\alpha((y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{N-k+1}), \cdot), \beta_j} \right) \right] \right\} dy_1 \dots dy_{N-k+1} \\ & \leq \sup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_r^{\pi}(t, T)} \sup_{y \in [0,1]^{N-k+1}} \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, I\}} \left\{ \hat{p}_i - \sum_{j=1}^J q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t,x,\alpha((y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{N-k+1}), \cdot), \beta_j} \right) \right] \right\} \\ & \leq \sup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}^{\pi}(t, T)} \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, I\}} \left\{ \left( \hat{p}_i - \sum_{j=1}^J q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t,x,\alpha,\beta_j} \right) \right] \right) \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, by taking the infimum over  $(\beta_j) \in (\mathcal{B}_r^{\pi}(t, T))^J$  we obtain (3.5).  $\square$

## 4 The subdynamic programming principle

For games with asymmetric information, we do not have the dynamic programming principle. In fact, if the dynamic programming principle held, we would obtain a Hamilton-Jacobi equation corresponding to classical differential games without private information. However, for the dual game we can prove a subdynamic programming principle.

**Lemma 4.1** (*Subdynamic programming principle*) *For any  $(t, x, \hat{p}, q) \in [t_{k-1}, t_k) \times \mathbf{R}^d \times \mathbf{R}^I \times \Delta(J)$  and for all  $l$  ( $k \leq l \leq N$ ), we have*

$$V^{\pi*}(t, x, \hat{p}, q) \leq \inf_{(\beta_j) \in \mathcal{B}_r^{\pi}(t, t_l)} \sup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}^{\pi}(t, t_l)} E \left[ V^{\pi*} \left( t_l, X_{t_l}^{t,x,\alpha,\beta}, \hat{p}, q \right) \right] \quad (4.1)$$

$$\leq \inf_{(\beta_j) \in \mathcal{B}_r^{\pi}(t, t_l)} \sup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_r^{\pi}(t, t_l)} E \left[ V^{\pi*} \left( t_l, X_{t_l}^{t,x,\alpha,\beta}, \hat{p}, q \right) \right]. \quad (4.2)$$

**Proof** The second inequality is obvious. Let us prove the first one. For this, we let  $V^{\pi^*}(t, t_l, x, \hat{p}, q)$  denote the right side of (4.1). For arbitrarily given  $\varepsilon > 0$ , let  $\beta^0 \in \mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, t_l)$  be an  $\varepsilon$ -optimal strategy for  $V^{\pi^*}(t, t_l, \hat{p}, q)$ . For any  $z \in \mathbf{R}^d$ , let  $\hat{\beta}^z = (\beta_j^z) \in (\mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t_l, T))^J$  be an  $\varepsilon$ -optimal strategy for player 2 in the dual game with value function  $V^{\pi^*}(t_l, z, \hat{p}, q)$ . From the uniform Lipschitz continuity of the mappings

$$y \mapsto \sup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t_l, T)} \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, I\}} \left\{ \hat{p}_i - \sum_{j=1}^J q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t_l, y, \alpha, \beta_j^x} \right) \right] \right\}$$

and, hence, also that of  $y \mapsto V^{\pi^*}(t_l, y, \hat{p}, q)$ , it follows that  $\hat{\beta}^z$  is a  $(2\varepsilon)$ -optimal strategy for  $V^{\pi^*}(t_l, y, \hat{p}, q)$ , if  $z$  belongs to the ball  $B_r(y)$ , for some radius  $r > 0$  small enough but not depending on  $y \in \mathbf{R}^d$ . Because the coefficient  $f$  is bounded,  $X_{t_l}^{t, x, \alpha, \beta}$  takes all its values in some ball  $B_R(0)$ , for  $R > 0$  large enough. We choose a finite sequence  $(x_n)_{n=1, \dots, n_0} \subset \mathbf{R}^d$  such that  $B_R(0) \subset \cup_{n=1}^{n_0} B_r(x_n)$ . This allows to construct a Borel partition  $(A_n)_{n=1, \dots, n_0}$  of the ball  $B_R(0)$  such that, for all  $1 \leq n \leq n_0$ ,  $x_n \in A_n \subset B_r(x_n)$ . To simplify the notation, we write  $\beta_j^n := \beta_j^{x_n}$ . We observe that on the event  $\{X_{t_l}^{t, x, \alpha, \beta} \in B_r(x_n)\}$  the strategy  $\beta_j^n$  is  $(2\varepsilon)$ -optimal for  $V^{\pi^*}(t_l, X_{t_l}^{t, x, \alpha, \beta}, \hat{p}, q)$ .

For any  $\omega \in \Omega$  and  $u \in \mathcal{U}_{t, T}$ , we set

$$\beta_j(\omega, u)(s) = \begin{cases} \beta^0(\omega, u)(s), & s \in [t, t_l), \\ \beta_j^n(\omega, u|_{[t_l, T]}), & s \in [t_l, T] \text{ and } X_{t_l}^{t, x, u, \beta^0} \in A_n. \end{cases}$$

Since, for all  $1 \leq n \leq n_0$ ,  $(\omega, u) \mapsto \mathbf{1}_{A_n}(X_{t_l}^{t, x, u, \beta^0}(\omega))$  is  $\sigma\{\zeta_{2, k}, \dots, \zeta_{2, l}, u|_{[t, t_l]}\}$ -measurable, there are Borel functions  $f^n : \mathbf{R}^{l-k+1} \times \mathcal{U}_{t, t_l} \mapsto \mathbf{R}$  such that  $\mathbf{1}_{A_n}(X_{t_l}^{t, x, u, \beta^0}) = f^n(\zeta_{2, k}, \dots, \zeta_{2, l}, u|_{[t, t_l]})$ . Note also that, by the definition of  $\beta_j^n \in \mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t_l, T)$ ,

$$\beta_j(\omega, u)(s) = \left( \beta^0(\omega, u)(s) \mathbf{1}_{[t, t_l)}(s) + \left( \sum_{n=1}^{n_0} \beta_j^n(\omega, u)(s) f^n(\zeta_{2, k}(\omega), \dots, \zeta_{2, l}(\omega), u|_{[t, t_l]}) \right) \mathbf{1}_{[t_l, T]}(s) \right).$$

Thus  $\beta_j \in \mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, T)$ .

For any  $\alpha \in \mathcal{A}^\pi(t, T)$ , we have

$$g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t, x, \alpha, \beta_j} \right) = \sum_{n=1}^{n_0} g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t_l, X_{t_l}^{t, x, \alpha, \beta^0}, \tilde{\alpha}, \beta_j^n} \right) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{A_n} \left( X_{t_l}^{t, x, u, \beta^0} \right),$$

where  $\tilde{\alpha} \in \mathcal{A}^\pi(t_l, T)$  is a restriction of  $\alpha$  to  $[t_l, T]$  defined by

$$\tilde{\alpha}(v)(s) = \alpha(v')(s), \quad \forall v \in \mathcal{V}_{t, T}, \text{ where } v'(s) = \begin{cases} \bar{v}(s), & s \in [t, t_l), \\ v(s), & s \in [t_l, T], \end{cases}$$

with the controls  $(\bar{u}, \bar{v})$  being associated with  $(\alpha, \beta^0)$  through Lemma 2.1.

We observe now that  $X_{t_l}^{t, x, \alpha, \beta^0}$  is independent of  $\beta_j^n$  (Indeed, while  $\beta_j^n$  depends only on

$(\zeta_{2,l}, \dots, \zeta_{2,N})$ ,  $X_{t_l}^{t,x,\alpha,\beta^0} = X_{t_l^-}^{t,x,\alpha,\beta^0}$  only depends on  $(\zeta_{2,k}, \dots, \zeta_{2,l-1})$ . It follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
& \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, I\}} \left\{ \hat{p}_i - \sum_{j=1}^J q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t,x,\alpha,\beta_j} \right) \right] \right\} \\
&= \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, I\}} \left\{ \hat{p}_i - \sum_{j=1}^J q_j E \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{n_0} g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t_l, X_{t_l}^{t,x,\alpha,\beta^0}, \tilde{\alpha}, \beta_j^n} \right) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{A_n} \left( X_{t_l}^{t,x,\alpha,\beta^0} \right) \right] \right\} \\
&= \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, I\}} \left\{ \hat{p}_i - \sum_{j=1}^J q_j E \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{n_0} E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t_l, y, \tilde{\alpha}, \beta_j^n} \right) \right]_{y=X_{t_l}^{t,x,\alpha,\beta^0}} \cdot \mathbf{1}_{A_n} \left( X_{t_l}^{t,x,\alpha,\beta^0} \right) \right] \right\} \\
&\leq E \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{n_0} \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, I\}} \left\{ \hat{p}_i - \sum_{j=1}^J q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t_l, y, \tilde{\alpha}, \beta_j^n} \right) \right]_{y=X_{t_l}^{t,x,\alpha,\beta^0}} \right\} \cdot \mathbf{1}_{A_n} \left( X_{t_l}^{t,x,\alpha,\beta^0} \right) \right] \\
&\leq E \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{n_0} \sup_{\alpha' \in \mathcal{A}_T^\pi(t_l, T)} \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, I\}} \left\{ \hat{p}_i - \sum_{j=1}^J q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t_l, y, \alpha', \beta_j^n} \right) \right]_{y=X_{t_l}^{t,x,\alpha,\beta^0}} \right\} \cdot \mathbf{1}_{A_n} \left( X_{t_l}^{t,x,\alpha,\beta^0} \right) \right] \\
&\leq E \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{n_0} V^{\pi^*} \left( t_l, X_{t_l}^{t,x,\alpha,\beta^0}, \hat{p}, q \right) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{A_n} \left( X_{t_l}^{t,x,\alpha,\beta^0} \right) \right] + 2\varepsilon \\
&\leq V^{\pi^*} \left( t, t_l, x, \hat{p}, q \right) + 3\varepsilon.
\end{aligned}$$

The latter inequality is due to the fact that  $\beta^0$  is  $\varepsilon$ -optimal for  $V^{\pi^*} \left( t, t_l, x, \hat{p}, q \right)$ . Then we conclude that  $V^{\pi^*} \left( t, x, \hat{p}, q \right) \leq V^{\pi^*} \left( t, t_l, x, \hat{p}, q \right)$ .  $\square$

## 5 Viscosity solutions of the dual game

Let  $(\pi_n)_{n \geq 1}$  be a given sequence of partitions of the time interval  $[0, T]$  such that the mesh of the partition  $|\pi_n|$  tends to zero, when  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . We prove in this section that  $(V^{\pi_n^*})$  converges to some function  $\tilde{V}$  as  $|\pi_n| \rightarrow 0$  and that, for fixed  $(\hat{p}, q)$ , the limit function  $\tilde{V}$  is a viscosity subsolution of the following HJI equation,

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial \tilde{V}}{\partial t} (t, x) + H^* \left( x, D\tilde{V} (t, x) \right) = 0, & \text{in } [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d, \\ \tilde{V} (T, x) = \sum_{ij} p_i q_j g_{ij} (x), \end{cases} \quad (5.1)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
H(x, \xi) &= \sup_{\nu \in \mathcal{P}(V)} \inf_{\mu \in \mathcal{P}(U)} \left( \int_{U \times V} f(x, u, v) \mu(du) \nu(dv) \cdot \xi \right) \\
&= \inf_{\mu \in \mathcal{P}(U)} \sup_{\nu \in \mathcal{P}(V)} \left( \int_{U \times V} f(x, u, v) \mu(du) \nu(dv) \cdot \xi \right)
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
H^*(x, \xi) &= -H(x, -\xi) \\
&= \inf_{\nu \in \mathcal{P}(V)} \sup_{\mu \in \mathcal{P}(U)} \left( \int_{U \times V} f(x, u, v) \mu(du) \nu(dv) \cdot \xi \right) \\
&= \sup_{\mu \in \mathcal{P}(U)} \inf_{\nu \in \mathcal{P}(V)} \left( \int_{U \times V} f(x, u, v) \mu(du) \nu(dv) \cdot \xi \right). \quad (5.2)
\end{aligned}$$

The following lemma is obtained directly from the boundedness of  $f$  and the Lipschitz continuity of  $f(\cdot, u, v)$  and of  $g(\cdot)$ .

**Lemma 5.1** *There is some constant  $L \in \mathbf{R}^+$ , depending only on the bound of  $f$  and the Lipschitz constant of  $f(\cdot, u, v)$  and of  $g$ , such that, for all partition  $\pi$  of the interval  $[0, T]$  and for all  $(t, x, \hat{p}, q), (t', x', \hat{p}', q') \in [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d \times \mathbf{R}^I \times \Delta(J)$ ,*

$$|V^{\pi*}(t, x, \hat{p}, q) - V^{\pi*}(t', x', \hat{p}', q')| \leq L(|t - t'| + |x - x'| + |\hat{p} - \hat{p}'| + |q - q'|),$$

and for all  $(t, x, p, \hat{q}), (t', x', p', \hat{q}') \in [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d \times \Delta(I) \times \mathbf{R}^J$ ,

$$|W^{\pi\#}(t, x, p, \hat{q}) - W^{\pi\#}(t', x', p', \hat{q}')| \leq L(|t - t'| + |x - x'| + |p - p'| + |\hat{q} - \hat{q}'|).$$

By the above equi-Lipschitz continuity of the family of lower and upper dual value functions, applying the Arzelà-Ascoli Theorem, we have

**Lemma 5.2** *There exists a subsequence of partitions, still denoted by  $(\pi_n)_{n \geq 1}$  and there are two bounded Lipschitz functions  $\tilde{V} : [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d \times \mathbf{R}^I \times \Delta(J) \mapsto \mathbf{R}$  and  $\tilde{W} : [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d \times \Delta(I) \times \mathbf{R}^J \mapsto \mathbf{R}$  such that*

$$(V^{\pi_n*}, W^{\pi_n\#}) \rightarrow (\tilde{V}, \tilde{W}) \text{ uniformly on compacts in } [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d \times \Delta(I) \times \Delta(J) \times \mathbf{R}^I \times \mathbf{R}^J.$$

We deduce from Lemma 5.1 that also the functions  $(\tilde{V}, \tilde{W})$  in Lemma 5.2 are Lipschitz continuous with respect to all their variables. More precisely, we get the following corollary:

**Corollary 5.1** *For the constant  $L$  introduced in Lemma 5.1, we have, for all  $(t, x, \hat{p}, q), (t', x', \hat{p}', q') \in [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d \times \mathbf{R}^I \times \Delta(J)$ ,*

$$|\tilde{V}(t, x, \hat{p}, q) - \tilde{V}(t', x', \hat{p}', q')| \leq L(|t - t'| + |x - x'| + |\hat{p} - \hat{p}'| + |q - q'|),$$

and for all  $(t, x, p, \hat{q}), (t', x', p', \hat{q}') \in [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d \times \Delta(I) \times \mathbf{R}^J$ ,

$$|\tilde{W}(t, x, p, \hat{q}) - \tilde{W}(t', x', p', \hat{q}')| \leq L(|t - t'| + |x - x'| + |p - p'| + |\hat{q} - \hat{q}'|).$$

**Proposition 5.1** (*viscosity subsolution*) *The function  $\tilde{V}(t, x, \hat{p}, q)$  is a viscosity subsolution of HJI equation (5.1).*

**Proof** For fixed  $(\hat{p}, q)$ , we denote  $\tilde{V}(t, x, \hat{p}, q)$  by  $\tilde{V}(t, x)$  for short. Let  $(t, x) \in [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d$  and  $\varphi \in C_b^1([0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d)$  be any test function such that, for any  $(s, y) \in [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d$ ,  $\tilde{V}(s, y) \leq \varphi(s, y)$  and  $\tilde{V}(t, x) = \varphi(t, x)$  at  $(t, x)$ .

Recall that  $V^{\pi_n*} \rightarrow \tilde{V}$  uniformly on compacts. Thus, for any  $\rho > 0$  and  $M > 0$  with  $|x| < M$ , we can find a positive integer  $N_{\rho, M}$  such that, for all  $n \geq N_{\rho, M}$ ,

$$|\varphi(t, x) - V^{\pi_n*}(t, x)| \leq \rho \text{ and } V^{\pi_n*}(s, y) \leq \varphi(s, y) + \rho, \text{ for all } s \in [0, T], |y| \leq M.$$

Let  $n \geq N_{\rho, M}$ ,  $\pi_n = \{0 = t_0^n < t_1^n < \dots < t_{N_n}^n = T\}$  and  $k = k_n$  such that  $t_{k-1}^n \leq t \leq t_k^n$ . Since  $V^{\pi_n*}$  is bounded by some constant  $C_0$ , uniformly with respect to  $n \geq 1$ , we have from the subdynamic programming principle (Lemma 4.1) with respect to the partition  $\pi_n$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(t, x) - \rho &\leq V^{\pi_n*}(t, x) \\ &\leq \inf_{\beta \in \mathcal{B}_r^{\pi_n}(t, t_k^n)} \sup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_r^{\pi_n}(t, t_k^n)} E \left[ V^{\pi_n*} \left( t_k^n, X_{t_k^n}^{t, x, \alpha, \beta}, \hat{p}, q \right) \right] \\ &\leq \inf_{\beta \in \mathcal{B}_r^{\pi_n}(t, t_k^n)} \sup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_r^{\pi_n}(t, t_k^n)} \left\{ E \left[ \varphi \left( t_k^n, X_{t_k^n}^{t, x, \alpha, \beta} \right) + (2C_0 + \rho) \cdot P \left\{ X_{t_k^n}^{t, x, \alpha, \beta} > M \right\} \right] \right\} + \rho. \end{aligned}$$

We observe that

$$P \left\{ X_{t_k^n}^{t,x,\alpha,\beta} > M \right\} \leq \frac{1}{M} E \left| X_{t_k^n}^{t,x,\alpha,\beta} \right| \leq \frac{1}{M} (|x| + TC_f),$$

where  $C_f$  denotes the bound of  $f$ . Hence, by choosing  $M = M_\rho$  large enough such that  $\frac{C}{M} (|x| + TC_f) \leq \rho$  and recalling the equation for the dynamics of  $X_r^{t,x,\alpha,\beta}$ , we have for  $n \geq N_{\rho,M}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} -3\rho &\leq \inf_{\beta \in \mathcal{B}_r^{\pi_n}(t, t_k^n)} \sup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_r^{\pi_n}(t, t_k^n)} E \left[ \varphi \left( t_k^n, X_{t_k^n}^{t,x,\alpha,\beta} \right) - \varphi(t, x) \right] \\ &\leq \inf_{\beta \in \mathcal{B}_r^{\pi_n}(t, t_k^n)} \sup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_r^{\pi_n}(t, t_k^n)} E \left[ \int_t^{t_k^n} \left( \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial r} \left( r, X_r^{t,x,\alpha,\beta} \right) + f \left( X_r^{t,x,\alpha,\beta}, \alpha_r, \beta_r \right) \cdot D\varphi \left( r, X_r^{t,x,\alpha,\beta} \right) \right) dr \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (5.3)$$

For  $(u, v) \in \mathcal{U}_{t,T} \times \mathcal{V}_{t,T}$ , we introduce the continuity modulus

$$m(\delta) := \sup_{|r-t|+|y-x| \leq \delta, u \in U, v \in V} \left| \left( \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial r} (r, y) + f(y, u, v) \cdot D\varphi(r, y) \right) - \left( \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t} (t, x) + f(x, u, v) \cdot D\varphi(t, x) \right) \right|.$$

Then  $m(\delta)$  is increasing and  $m(\delta) \rightarrow 0$ , as  $\delta \downarrow 0$ . Taking into account that

$$\left| X_r^{t,x,\alpha,\beta} - x \right| \leq C_f |r - t| \leq C_f |t_k^n - t|, r \in [t, t_k^n],$$

we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &\left| \left( \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial r} \left( r, X_r^{t,x,\alpha,\beta} \right) + f \left( X_r^{t,x,\alpha,\beta}, \alpha_r, \beta_r \right) \cdot D\varphi \left( r, X_r^{t,x,\alpha,\beta} \right) \right) - \left( \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t} (t, x) + f(x, \alpha_r, \beta_r) \cdot D\varphi(t, x) \right) \right| \\ &\leq m(C |t_k^n - t|), r \in [t, t_k^n], \end{aligned}$$

where  $C$  depends on  $x$  which is fixed here. Consequently, by (5.3),

$$\begin{aligned} &-3\rho - (t_k^n - t) \left( \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t} (t, x) + m(C |t_k^n - t|) \right) \\ &\leq \inf_{\beta \in \mathcal{B}_r^{\pi_n}(t, t_k^n)} \sup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_r^{\pi_n}(t, t_k^n)} E \left[ \int_t^{t_k^n} f(x, \alpha_r, \beta_r) \cdot D\varphi(t, x) dr \right] \\ &\leq \sup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_r^{\pi_n}(t, t_k^n)} E \left[ \int_t^{t_k^n} f(x, \alpha_r, \tilde{\beta}_r) \cdot D\varphi(t, x) dr \right], \end{aligned}$$

where we take  $\tilde{\beta} := \sum_{j=k}^{N_n} \tilde{v}_j(\zeta_{2,j}) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{[t \vee t_{j-1}^n, t \vee t_j^n]}$ ,  $\tilde{v}_j$  is a measurable,  $V$ -valued functional of  $\zeta_{2,j}$ .

There is a  $\rho$ -optimal strategy  $\alpha^\rho$  (depending on  $\tilde{\beta}$ ) such that

$$\begin{aligned} &-4\rho - (t_k^n - t) \left( \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t} (t, x) + m(C |t_k^n - t|) \right) \\ &\leq E \left[ \int_t^{t_k^n} f(x, \alpha_r^\rho, \tilde{\beta}_r) \cdot D\varphi(t, x) dr \right] \\ &\leq E \left[ \int_t^{t_k^n} f(x, \alpha^\rho(\zeta_{1,k}, \tilde{v})_r, \tilde{v}_k(\zeta_{2,k})) \cdot D\varphi(t, x) dr \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Then we have, thanks to the independence of  $\zeta_{1,k}$  and  $\zeta_{2,k}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
& -4\rho - (t_k^n - t) \left( \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t}(t, x) + m(C|t_k^n - t|) \right) \\
& \leq E \left[ \int_t^{t_k^n} f(x, \alpha^\rho(\zeta_{1,k}, \tilde{v})_r, \tilde{v}_k(\zeta_{2,k})) \cdot D\varphi(t, x) dr \right] \\
& \leq (t_k^n - t) \cdot \sup \int_U E[f(x, u, \tilde{v}_k(\zeta_{2,k})) \cdot D\varphi(t, x)] \mu(du). \tag{5.4}
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, thanks to the arbitrariness of  $\tilde{v}_k$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned}
& -4\rho - (t_k^n - t) \left( \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t}(t, x) + m(C|t_k^n - t|) \right) \\
& \leq (t_k^n - t) \cdot \inf_{\nu \in \mathcal{P}(V)} \sup_{\mu \in \mathcal{P}(U)} \int_{U \times V} f(x, u, v) \cdot D\varphi(t, x) \mu(du) \nu(dv).
\end{aligned}$$

Let now  $\varepsilon > 0$  be arbitrarily chosen,  $\rho = \varepsilon^2$  and  $n \geq N_{\rho, M} (= N_{\varepsilon^2, M})$  large enough such that the mesh of  $\pi_n$  is less to  $\varepsilon$ . Then  $0 \leq t_k^n - t \leq \varepsilon$  and, from (5.4) it follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
& -4(t_k^n - t)^2 - (t_k^n - t) \left( \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t}(t, x) + m(C|t_k^n - t|) \right) \\
& \leq (t_k^n - t) \cdot \inf_{\nu \in \mathcal{P}(V)} \sup_{\mu \in \mathcal{P}(U)} \int_{U \times V} f(x, u, v) \cdot D\varphi(t, x) \mu(du) \nu(dv).
\end{aligned}$$

Finally dividing by  $(t_k^n - t)$  on both sides of the above inequality and taking limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , we get

$$\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t}(t, x) + \inf_{\nu \in \mathcal{P}(V)} \sup_{\mu \in \mathcal{P}(U)} \int_{U \times V} f(x, u, v) \cdot D\varphi(t, x) \mu(du) \nu(dv) \geq 0.$$

Thus,  $\tilde{V}$  is a viscosity subsolution of HJI (5.1).  $\square$

Note that

$$-W^\pi(t, x, p, q) = \sup_{(\alpha_i) \in (\mathcal{A}_T^\pi(t, T))^I} \inf_{(\beta_j) \in (\mathcal{B}_T^\pi(t, T))^J} \sum_{i=1}^I \sum_{j=1}^J p_i q_j E \left[ -g_{ij} \left( X_T^{t, x, \alpha_i, \beta_j} \right) \right].$$

The right side of this equation has the same form as  $V^\pi$ , only the role of players changes. Hence, the convex conjugate of  $(-W^\pi)$  with respect to  $q$ , i.e.,  $-W^{\pi\#}(-\hat{q})$  satisfies a subdynamic programming principle. Then, as a consequence of the above result for  $\tilde{V}$ , we can deduce easily the following:

**Corollary 5.2** (*viscosity supersolution*) For any  $(t, x, p, \hat{q}) \in [0, T) \times \mathbf{R}^d \times \Delta(I) \times \mathbf{R}^J$ , and for all  $l$  ( $k \leq l \leq n$ ), we have

$$W^{\pi_n\#}(t, x, p, \hat{q}) \geq \sup_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_T^\pi(t, t_k^n)} \inf_{(\beta_j) \in \mathcal{B}_T^\pi(t, t_k^n)} E \left[ W^{\pi_n\#} \left( t_k^n, X_{t_k^n}^{t, x, \alpha, \beta}, p, \hat{q} \right) \right], \tag{5.5}$$

and  $\tilde{W}$ , the uniform limit on compacts of  $(W^{\pi_n\#})$  is a supersolution of the HJI equation (5.1).

Here we have used equality (5.2). Actually  $\tilde{W}$  is a supersolution of (5.1) with Hamiltonian

$$H^*(x, \xi) = \sup_{\mu \in \mathcal{P}(U)} \inf_{\nu \in \mathcal{P}(V)} \int_{U \times V} f(x, u, v) \mu(du) \nu(dv) \cdot \xi.$$

## 6 Existence of the value

In this section we show that the limit of the game along partitions has a value. This value can be characterised by dual solutions of some HJI equation.

We now recall the definition of dual solutions for the following HJI equation:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial V}{\partial t}(t, x) + H(x, DV(t, x)) = 0, & \text{in } [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d, \\ V(T, x) = \sum_{ij} p_i q_j g_{ij}(x), \end{cases} \quad (6.1)$$

where

$$H(x, \xi) = \inf_{\mu \in \mathcal{P}(U)} \sup_{\nu \in \mathcal{P}(V)} \left( \int_{U \times V} f(x, u, v) \mu(du) \nu(dv) \cdot \xi \right).$$

**Definition 6.1** *A function  $w : [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d \times \Delta(I) \times \Delta(J) \mapsto \mathbf{R}$  is a dual subsolution of (6.1) if  $w$  is Lipschitz continuous, convex with respect to  $p$ , and concave with respect to  $q$  and if for any  $(p, \hat{q}) \in \Delta(I) \times \Delta(J)$ ,  $(t, x) \mapsto w^\#(t, x, p, \hat{q})$  is a supersolution of the dual HJ equation*

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial t}(t, x) + H^*(x, DV(t, x)) = 0, \quad \text{in } [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d, \quad (6.2)$$

where  $H^*(x, \xi) = -H(x, -\xi)$ .

We call  $w : [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d \times \Delta(I) \times \Delta(J) \mapsto \mathbf{R}$  a dual supersolution of (6.1), if  $w$  is Lipschitz continuous, convex with respect to  $p$ , and concave with respect to  $q$  and if for any  $(\hat{p}, q) \in \Delta(I) \times \Delta(J)$ ,  $(t, x) \mapsto w^*(t, x, \hat{p}, q)$  is a subsolution of (6.2).

The function  $w$  is called the dual solution of (6.1) if  $w$  is at the same time a dual subsolution and a dual supersolution of (6.2).

Note that  $\mathcal{P}(U)$  and  $\mathcal{P}(V)$  are compact spaces. The measures  $\mu \in \mathcal{P}(U)$  and  $\nu \in \mathcal{P}(V)$  can be interpreted as control variables. Therefore, the comparison principle applies here in the sense of Cardaliaguet [8].

**Lemma 6.1** (*comparison principle*) *Let  $w_1, w_2 : [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d \times \Delta(I) \times \Delta(J) \mapsto \mathbf{R}$  a dual subsolution and a dual supersolution of HJ (6.1), respectively. If, for all  $(x, p, q) \in \mathbf{R}^d \times \Delta(I) \times \Delta(J)$ ,  $w_1(T, x, p, q) \leq w_2(T, x, p, q)$ , then we have  $w_1 \leq w_2$  on  $[0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d \times \Delta(I) \times \Delta(J)$ .*

We now state the main result of the paper.

**Theorem 6.1** (*uniqueness and existence of the value*) *For all sequences of partitions  $(\pi_n)$  with  $|\pi_n| \rightarrow 0$ , the sequences  $(V^{\pi_n})$  and  $(W^{\pi_n})$  converge uniformly on compacts to a same Lipschitz continuous function  $V$ , which is the unique dual solution of the HJ equation (6.1).*

We will establish an, in appearance, weaker result :

**Proposition 6.1** *For all sequences of partitions  $(\pi_n)$  with  $|\pi_n| \rightarrow 0$ , there exists a subsequence of partitions, still denoted by  $(\pi_n)_{n \geq 1}$ , such that  $(v^{\pi_n})$  and  $(w^{\pi_n})$  converges uniformly on compacts to a couple  $(V, V)$ , where the function  $V$  is the unique solution of the HJ equation (6.1).*

But we remark that, if Proposition 6.1 is true for the partition  $(\pi_n)$ , it holds also for all subsequence of  $(\pi_n)$ : there exists a sub-subsequence  $(\pi_{n_l})$  such that  $(V^{\pi_{n_l}}, W^{\pi_{n_l}})$  converges uniformly on compacts. But Proposition 6.1 characterizes the limit  $V(= W)$  as the unique dual solution of the Hamilton-Jacobi-equation (6.2). Consequently, all converging sub-subsequences

have the same limit, and the Theorem 6.1 follows.

### Proof of Proposition 6.1

Step 1. We know since Lemma 3.1 that, for all  $n$ ,  $V^{\pi_n}$  and  $W^{\pi_n}$  are Lipschitz continuous in all their variables, with the same Lipschitz constant depending only on  $f$  and  $g$ . It follows that there are a subsequence of partitions, still denoted by  $(\pi_n)_{n \geq 1}$  and two bounded Lipschitz functions  $V, W: [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d \times \Delta(I) \times \Delta(J) \mapsto \mathbf{R}$  such that  $(V^{\pi_n}, W^{\pi_n}) \rightarrow (V, W)$  uniformly on compacts in  $[0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d \times \Delta(I) \times \Delta(J)$  and, obviously, the functions  $V, W$  are also Lipschitz continuous with respect to all their variables, convex in  $p$ , concave in  $q$  (see Lemma 3.2).

Step 2. Recall that  $\tilde{W} = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} (W^{\pi_n})^\#$ ,  $\tilde{V} = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} (V^{\pi_n})^*$ . Due to our results in Section 5,  $w_1 := \tilde{W}^\#$  and  $w_2 = \tilde{V}^*$  are, respectively, a dual subsolution and a dual supersolution of HJI equation (6.1) and  $\tilde{W}^\#(T, x, p, q) = \tilde{V}^*(T, x, p, q) = \sum_{ij} p_i q_j g_{ij}(x)$ . Then, by the comparison principle (Lemma 6.1), we have

$$\tilde{W}^\# \leq \tilde{V}^* \text{ on } [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d \times \Delta(I) \times \Delta(J). \quad (6.3)$$

Step 3. Since  $V^{\pi_n}$  converges to  $V$  uniformly on compacts, for any  $\varepsilon, M > 0$ , there is a positive integer  $N_{\varepsilon, M}$  such that for all  $n \geq N_{\varepsilon, M}$ ,  $t \in [0, T]$  and  $|x| \leq M$ ,  $(p, q) \in \Delta(I) \times \Delta(J)$ ,

$$|V^{\pi_n}(t, x, p, q) - V(t, x, p, q)| \leq \varepsilon.$$

Here  $\varepsilon > 0$  is arbitrarily given. Consequently, we have for all  $n \geq N_{\varepsilon, M}$ ,  $t \in [0, T]$ ,  $|x| \leq M$  and  $(\hat{p}, q) \in \mathbf{R}^I \times \Delta(J)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} |V^{\pi_n^*}(t, x, \hat{p}, q) - V^*(t, x, \hat{p}, q)| &\leq \left| \sup_{p \in \Delta(I)} \{\hat{p} \cdot p - V^{\pi_n}(t, x, \hat{p}, q)\} - \sup_{p \in \Delta(I)} \{\hat{p} \cdot p - V(t, x, p, q)\} \right| \\ &\leq \sup_{p \in \Delta(I)} |V^{\pi_n}(t, x, \hat{p}, q) - V(t, x, p, q)| \\ &\leq \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $\tilde{V} = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} V^{\pi_n^*} = V^*$ , and, consequently, since  $V$  is convex in  $p$ ,  $V = V^{**} = \tilde{V}^*$ .

In a symmetric way, it is easy to get that  $\tilde{W}^\# = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} W^{\pi_n} = W$ .

As a consequence of (6.3), we have  $W \leq V$  in  $[0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d \times \Delta(I) \times \Delta(J)$ . Observing that  $W = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} W^{\pi_n} \geq \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} V^{\pi_n} = V$ , we obtain that the game has a limit value

$$W = V \text{ in } [0, T] \times \mathbf{R}^d \times \Delta(I) \times \Delta(J).$$

From the above proof we deduce that the value  $V (= W)$  is the unique dual solution of HJ equation (6.1).  $\square$

## 7 The case of lack of information on the dynamics

In this section, we consider a game in which the players have also an asymmetric information on the dynamics: In each of the scenarios  $(i, j) \in \{1, \dots, I\} \times \{1, \dots, J\}$  the game has a different dynamic given by

$$\begin{cases} dX_{ij}^{t, x_{ij}, u, v}(s) = f_{ij} \left( X_{ij}^{t, x_{ij}, u, v}(s), u(s), v(s) \right) ds, & s \in [t, T], (u, v) \in \mathcal{U}_{t, T} \times \mathcal{V}_{t, T} \\ X_{ij}^{t, x, u, v}(t) = x_{ij} \in \mathbf{R}^d, \end{cases} \quad (7.1)$$

where  $f_{ij} : \mathbf{R}^d \times U \times V \mapsto \mathbf{R}^d$  is bounded, continuous and Lipschitz continuous in  $x$ , uniformly with respect to  $(u, v)$ . The possible payoffs are still given by  $g_{ij} \left( X_{ij}^{t, x_{ij}, u, v}(T) \right)$ , with  $g_{ij}$  bounded and Lipschitz.

As already in the sections before, for some fixed  $(p, q) \in \Delta(I) \times \Delta(J)$ , at time  $t$ , a scenario  $(i, j)$  is chosen at random with the probability  $p_i q_j$ ; the choice of  $i$  is communicated only to player 1, while the choice of  $j$  is communicated only to player 2. The players observe their opponent's behavior and try to deduce from it their missing information. Player 1 aims to minimize, Player 2 to maximize the payoff. We remark that, in the case with Isaacs' assumption but with correlated information, the case of lack of information on the dynamics has been considered by Oliu Barton [21].

As in the previous chapters, we fix a partition  $\pi = \{t_0 = t < \dots < t_N = T\}$ . Keeping the same definitions for the sets of strategies  $\mathcal{A}_r^\pi$  and  $\mathcal{B}_r^\pi$ , the upper and lower values of the game associated to  $\pi$  are then, respectively, for  $(p, q) \in \Delta(I) \times \Delta(J)$ ,  $(t, \mathbf{x}) \in [0, T] \times (\mathbf{R}^d)^{IJ}$ ,

$$W^\pi(t, \mathbf{x}, p, q) = \inf_{(\alpha_i) \in (\mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T))^I} \sup_{(\beta_j) \in (\mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, T))^J} \sum_{i=1}^I \sum_{j=1}^J p_i q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_{ij}^{t, x_{ij}, \alpha_i, \beta_j}(T) \right) \right], \quad (7.2)$$

and

$$V^\pi(t, \mathbf{x}, p, q) = \sup_{(\beta_j) \in (\mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, T))^J} \inf_{(\alpha_i) \in (\mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T))^I} \sum_{i=1}^I \sum_{j=1}^J p_i q_j E \left[ g_{ij} \left( X_{ij}^{t, x_{ij}, \alpha_i, \beta_j}(T) \right) \right]. \quad (7.3)$$

The idea to solve this case of asymmetric information is to blow up the dynamics: We introduce the following auxiliary dynamic with values in  $\mathbf{R}^{d \times I \times J}$ :

$$\begin{cases} d\mathbf{X}^{t, \mathbf{x}, u, v}(s) = \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{X}^{t, \mathbf{x}, u, v}(s), u(s), v(s)) ds, & s \in [t, T], \\ \mathbf{X}^{t, \mathbf{x}, u, v}(t) = \mathbf{x}, \end{cases} \quad (7.4)$$

with  $\mathbf{F} = (f_{ij})$ ,  $\mathbf{x} = (x_{ij})$  and a new family of payoffs  $G_{ij}(\mathbf{x}) = g_{ij}(x_{ij})$ . This permits us to rewrite the value functions as

$$W^\pi(t, \mathbf{x}, p, q) = \inf_{(\alpha_i) \in (\mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T))^I} \sup_{(\beta_j) \in (\mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, T))^J} \sum_{i=1}^I \sum_{j=1}^J p_i q_j E \left[ G_{ij} \left( \mathbf{X}_T^{t, \mathbf{x}, \alpha_i, \beta_j} \right) \right]$$

and

$$V^\pi(t, \mathbf{x}, p, q) = \sup_{(\beta_j) \in (\mathcal{B}_r^\pi(t, T))^J} \inf_{(\alpha_i) \in (\mathcal{A}_r^\pi(t, T))^I} \sum_{i=1}^I \sum_{j=1}^J p_i q_j E \left[ G_{ij} \left( \mathbf{X}_T^{t, \mathbf{x}, \alpha_i, \beta_j} \right) \right],$$

and we recover the case of asymmetric information solved in the previous chapters. As a consequence we have the following result:

**Theorem 7.1** *The limit value of the game exists, as the mesh of partitions tends zero, and it is the dual solution of the following HJI equation:*

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial V}{\partial t}(t, \mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{x}, DV(t, \mathbf{x})) = 0, & \text{in } [0, T] \times (\mathbf{R}^d)^{IJ}, \\ V(T, \mathbf{x}) = \sum_{ij} p_i q_j g_{ij}(x_{ij}), \end{cases} \quad (7.5)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{H}(\mathbf{x}, \xi) &= \inf_{\mu \in \mathcal{P}(U)} \sup_{\nu \in \mathcal{P}(V)} \sum_{ij} \int_{U \times V} f_{ij}(\mathbf{x}_{ij}, u, v) \mu(du) \nu(dv) \cdot \xi_{ij} \\ &= \sup_{\nu \in \mathcal{P}(V)} \inf_{\mu \in \mathcal{P}(U)} \sum_{ij} \int_{U \times V} f_{ij}(\mathbf{x}_{ij}, u, v) \mu(du) \nu(dv) \cdot \xi_{ij}. \end{aligned}$$

**Remark 7.1** *In the present paper the incomplete information structure concerns a number of finite types of the payoffs  $g_{ij}(X_T)$ ,  $i = 1, 2 \dots I$ ,  $j = 1, 2 \dots J$ . An interesting question would concern the case where the set of types is infinite : typically each player, instead knowing a probability measure with finite support which represent the information on its opponents knowledge, would know a probability measure which support is an arbitrary subset of some  $\mathbf{R}^q$ .*

*In this direction the results of the present paper could be extended using methods of [12] and [14].*

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