



# Foundations of Game Theory for Electrical and Computer Engineering

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1393



# Contents

- A Simple Definition
  - Rationality, Values, Beliefs, and Limitations
- A Formal Definition and Brief History
- Game Theory for Electrical and Computer Engineering
- Course Outlines and Administrations
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# Game Theory: A Simple Definition



# Game Theory: Predict The Future



# Game Theory: Main Assumption

People are looking out for  
what's good for them

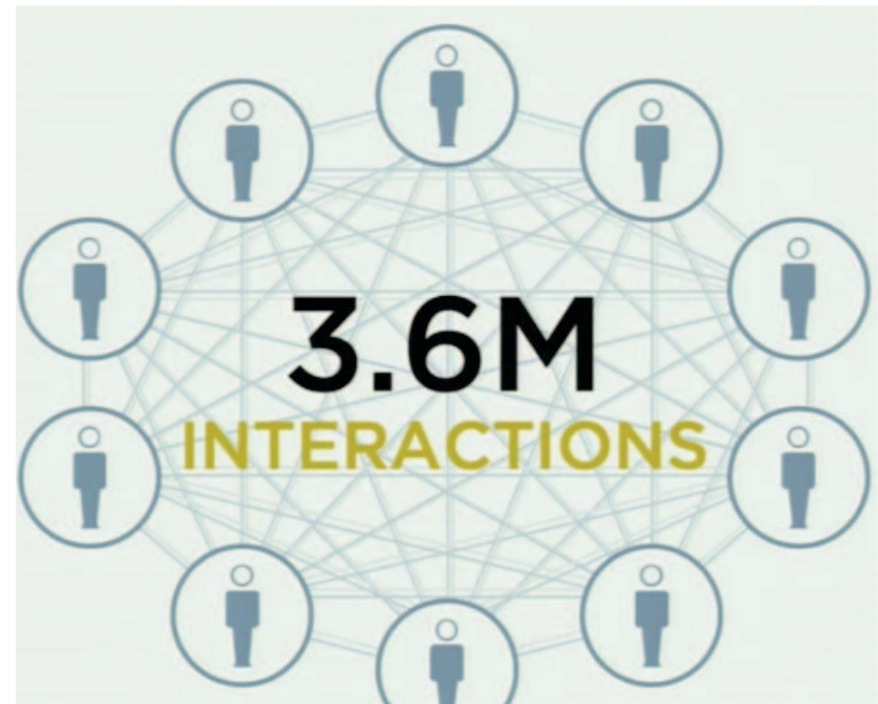
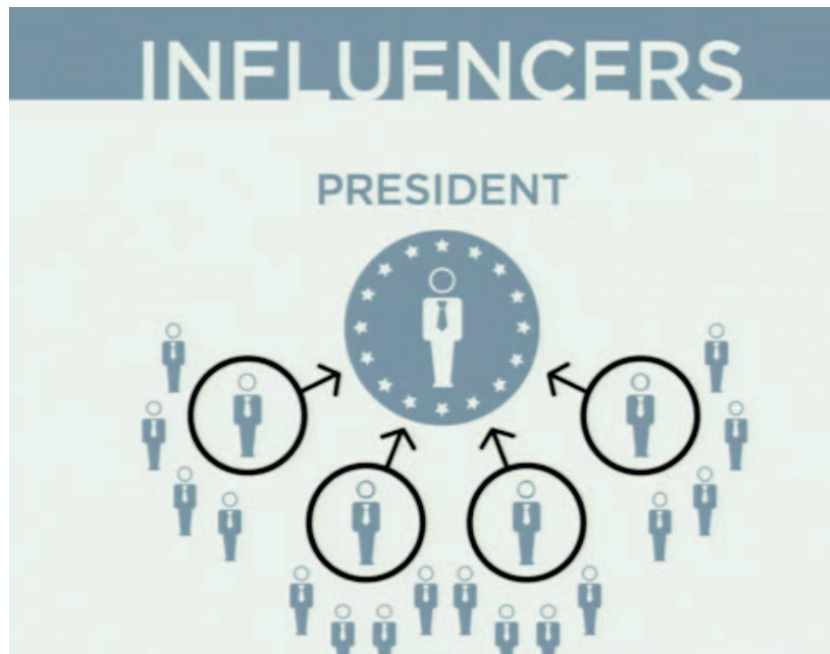
# Game Theory: Rationality (Self-Interested)



**RATIONAL PEOPLE**

**[ DO WHAT THEY THINK IS IN THEIR BEST INTEREST ]**

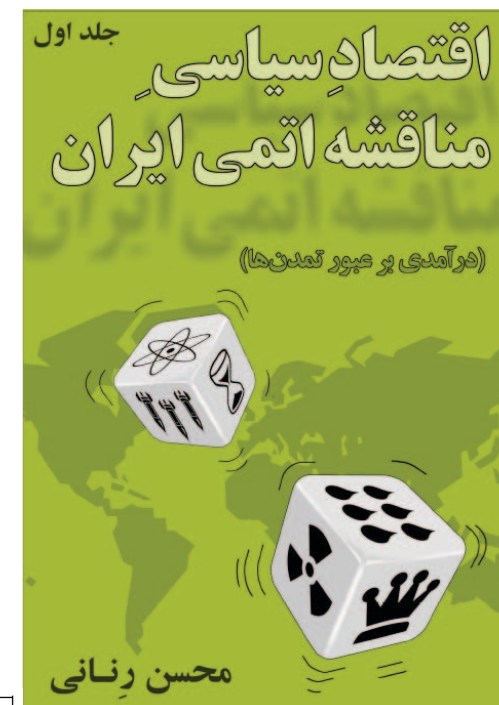
# Game Theory: Values and Beliefs





# More Recent Event: 5+1 and IRAN Talks

		شرب		
		سازش (مذاکره/تشویق)	پایداری (فشار همه جانبه)	کج دار و مریز
ایران	سازش (توقف شنی سازی)	$W_1$ ( $H \leq W_1 \leq W_0$ ) $H \geq I_0$	$W_0 = \max W$ $\min I$	??? ( $\min I \leq B \leq H$ )
	پایداری (ادامه قاطع شنی سازی)	$W_0 \leq S$ $I_1$ ( $S \leq I_1 \leq I_0$ )	$\min W$ $I_0 = \max I$	??? $C \leq I_1$
	کج دار و مریز	??? $a_1 \leq I_1$	??? $a_2 \geq p(I_0)$	??? $a_3 \geq C$



		بازیگر مدافع (ب)	
		سازش یا پذیرش شکست	مقاومت تا پیروزی
بازیگر مهاجم (الف)	سازش یا پذیرش شکست	(صفر) ، (صفر)	(+۵۰) ، (-۵۰)
	مقاومت تا پیروزی	(+۱۰۰) ، (-۱۰۰)	(-۲۰۰) ، (-۲۰۰)



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# Game Theory Definition

## [Apple Dictionary]

The branch of mathematics concerned with the analysis of strategies for dealing with competitive situations where the outcome of a participant's choice of action depends critically on the actions of other participants. Game theory has been applied to contexts in **war**, **business**, and **biology**.

# Game Theory Definition

## [Wikipedia]

Game theory is a mathematical method for analyzing **calculated circumstances**, such as in games, where a **person's success is based upon the choices of others**. More formally, it is "the study of **mathematical models of conflict and cooperation** between intelligent rational decision-makers." An alternative term suggested "as a more descriptive name for the discipline" is **interactive decision theory**.

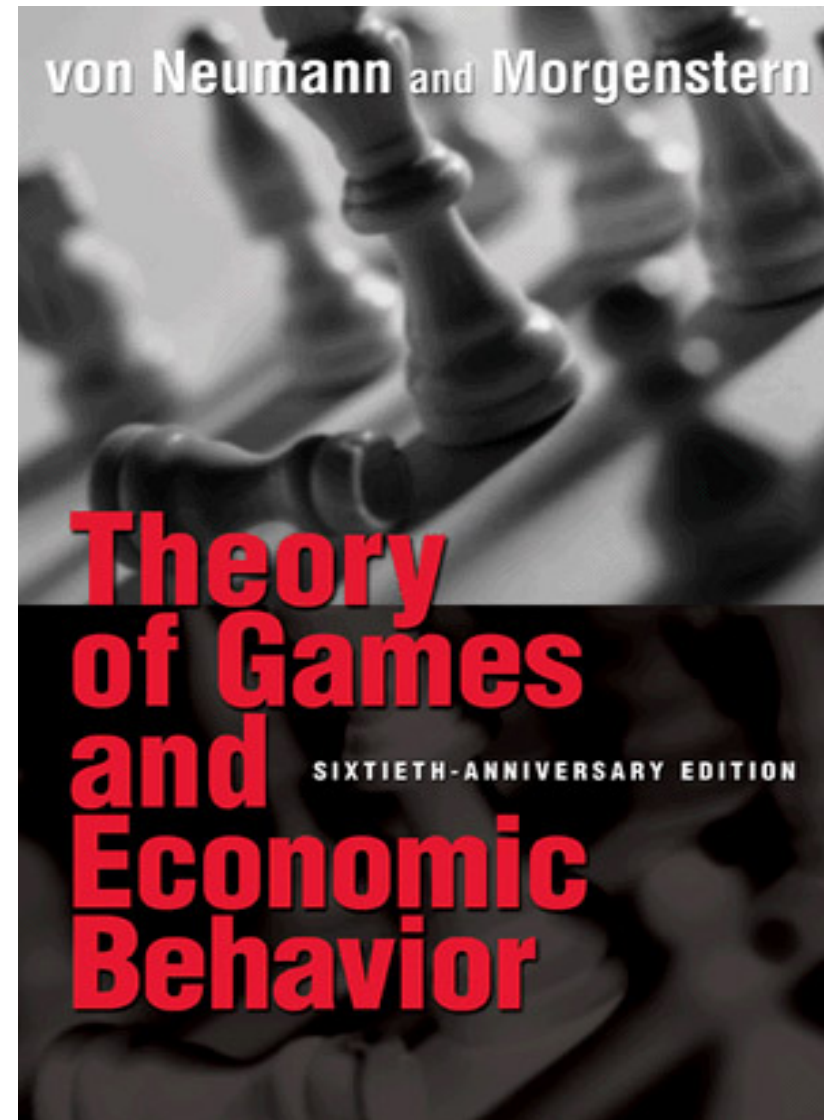
# History of Game Theory

- **1713, James Waldegrave:** First known discussion of game theory occurred in a letter, provides a minimax mixed strategy solution to a two-person version of the card game “le Her”.
- **1787, James Madison:** A game-theoretic analysis of the ways states can be expected to behave under different **systems of taxation**.
- **1838, Antoine Augustin:** Considered duopoly in “Recherches sur les principes mathématiques de la théorie des richesses Cournot”

# History of Game Theory (cont.)

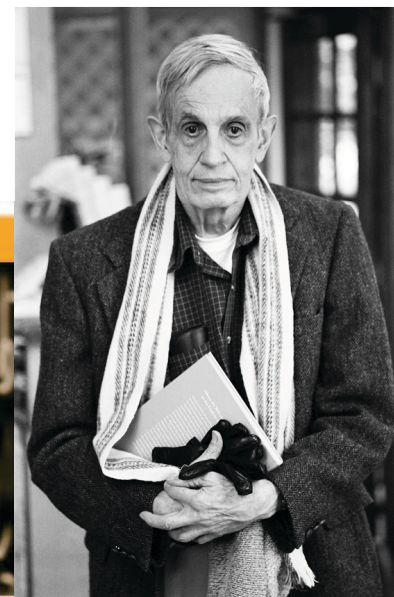


- Early papers by
  - Zermelo (1912, perfect information),
  - Borel (1927, mixed strategies),
  - von Neumann (1928, minimax theorem)
- Von Neumann and Morgenstern, *Theory of Games and Economic Behavior* (1944)



# History of Game Theory (cont.)

- General development of mathematical theory of games
  - At Fine Hall [Princeton Mathematics Department] and RAND Corporation
  - Late 1940s onwards
  - Work of John Nash on non-cooperative games and [Nash] equilibrium
  - Possible applications to Cold War nuclear strategy



# History of Game Theory (cont.)

- Game theory was brought to attention of **social scientists** in mid-1950s:
  - Luce and Raiffa, *Games and Decisions*, 1957
- Some **political** applications by non-political scientists at this time:
  - Arrow, *Social Choice and Individual Values*, 1951
  - Black, *Theory of Committees and Elections*, 1958
  - Downs, *An Economic Theory of Democracy*, 1957
  - Schelling, *The Strategy of Conflict*, 1960
  - Buchanan & Tullock, *The Calculus of Consent*, 1962



# History of Game Theory (cont.)

- Earliest work by a **political scientist**:
  - Riker, *The Theory of Political Coalitions* (1962)
  - Followed by much further work by Riker and his students who constituted the “Rochester school” (late 1960s to early 1970s)
- Game theory enters mainline **political science** (late-1970s)
- Game theory (and “number crunching”) allegedly dominates mainstream political science, provoking the “**Perestroika Movement**” within the discipline

# Nobel Winners

1. John Nash, 1994
2. Reinhard Selten, 1994
3. John Harsanyi , 1994
4. Robert Aumann, 2005
5. Thomas Schelling, 2005
6. Leonid Hurwicz, 2007
7. Eric Maskin, 2007
8. Roger Myerson, 2007

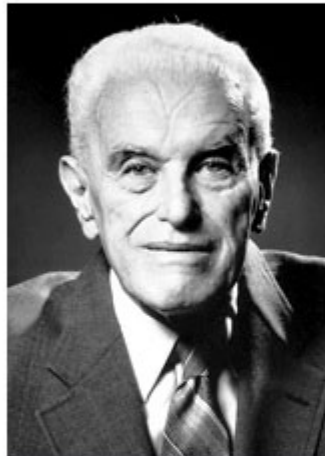
# More Noble Prizes on Game Theory

- **Eight game-theorists** have won the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences
- **William Spencer Vickrey** was awarded the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economics with James Mirrlees for their research into the economic theory of incentives under asymmetric information.
- **John Maynard Smith** was awarded the Crafoord Prize for his application of game theory to biology



## The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 1994

"for their pioneering analysis of equilibria in the theory of non-cooperative games"



**John C. Harsanyi**

🕒 1/3 of the prize

USA

University of California  
Berkeley, CA, USA

b. 1920  
(in Budapest, Hungary)  
d. 2000



**John F. Nash Jr.**

🕒 1/3 of the prize

USA

Princeton University  
Princeton, NJ, USA

b. 1928



**Reinhard Selten**

🕒 1/3 of the prize

Federal Republic of  
Germany

Rheinische Friedrich-  
Wilhelms-Universität  
Bonn, Federal Republic of  
Germany

b. 1930

# Thomas Schelling: Nobel Winner in 2005



- Schelling worked on dynamic models, early examples of evolutionary game theory.
- Professor of *foreign affairs, national security, nuclear strategy, and arms control* at the School of Public Policy at University of Maryland, College Park

# Cold War!



		Country 2	
		Reduce military investment	Increase military investment
Country 1	Reduce military investment	(1, 1)	(-1, 2)
	Increase military investment	(2, -1)	(0, 0)

## Payoffs:

- ✧ **2:** I have weaponry superior to the one of the opponent
- ✧ **1:** We have equivalent weaponry and managed to reduce it on both sides
- ✧ **0:** We have equivalent weaponry and did not managed to reduce it on both sides
- ✧ **-1:** My opponent has weaponry that is superior to mine

# Robert Aumann

## Nobel Winner in 2005

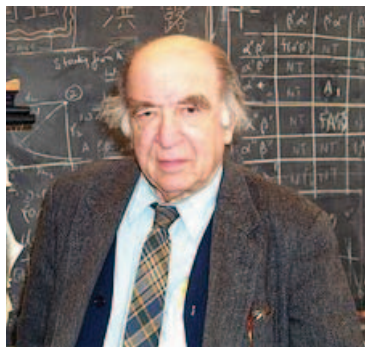


- Professor at the Center for the Study of Rationality
- Contributed more to the equilibrium school, introducing an **equilibrium coarsening**, **correlated equilibrium**, and developing an extensive formal analysis of the assumption of **common knowledge** and of its consequences.



# Leonid Hurwicz, Eric Maskin and Roger Myerson: Nobel Winners in 2007

- For having laid the foundations of **mechanism design** theory
- Myerson's contributions include the notion of **proper equilibrium**
- Hurwicz introduced and formalized the concept of **incentive compatibility**

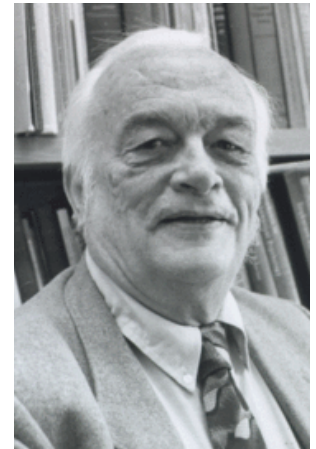


# John Maynard Smith



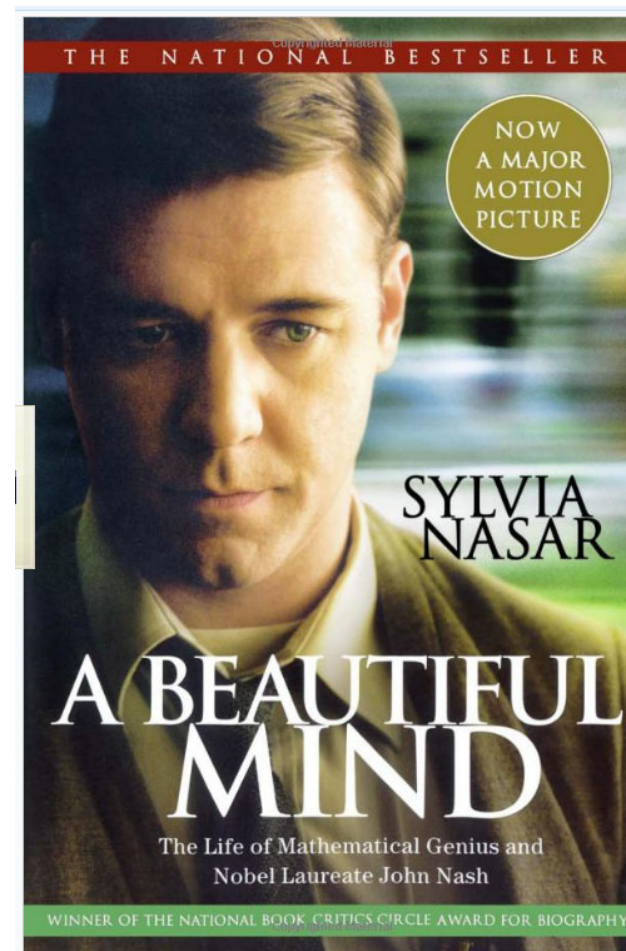
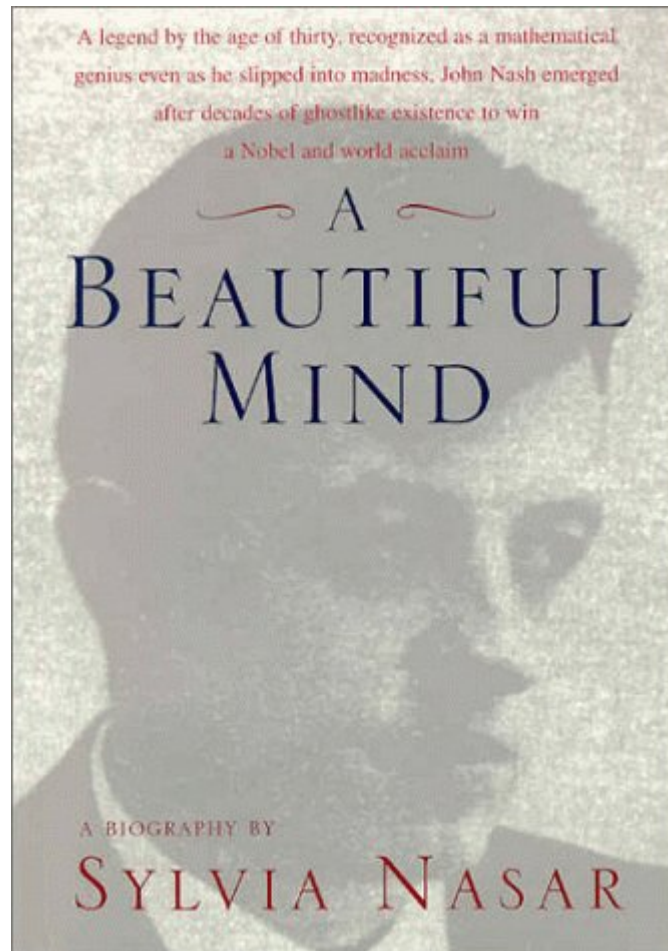
- A British theoretical evolutionary biologist and geneticist
- In the 1970s, game theory was extensively applied in **biology**, largely as a result of the work of John Maynard Smith and his **evolutionarily stable strategy**.
- The ESS is to explain the emergence of animal communication

# William Vickrey



- Vickrey was awarded the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economics with James Mirrlees for their research into **the economic theory of incentives under asymmetric information**.
- The announcement of the prize was made just three days prior to his death

# Game theory publicized by *A Beautiful Mind* biography (and later movie) about John Nash



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Let's focus on Engineering Applications!

# **GAME THEORY IN ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING**

# Recent Engineering Applications

## 1. Networked-systems

- Communication, Transportation networks, Electricity markets
- Nagle, RFC 970, 1985 (“datagram networks as a multi-player game”)
- Paper in first volume of IEEE/ACM ToN (1993)
- Wider interest starting around 2000

## 2. Large-scale networks (Internet)

- Interconnections of smaller networks rely on various degrees of **competition** and **cooperation**.

## 3. Online advertising on the Internet: Sponsored search **auctions**.

## 4. Information evolution and belief propagation in **social networks**.

## 5. Sustainability and smart grids.

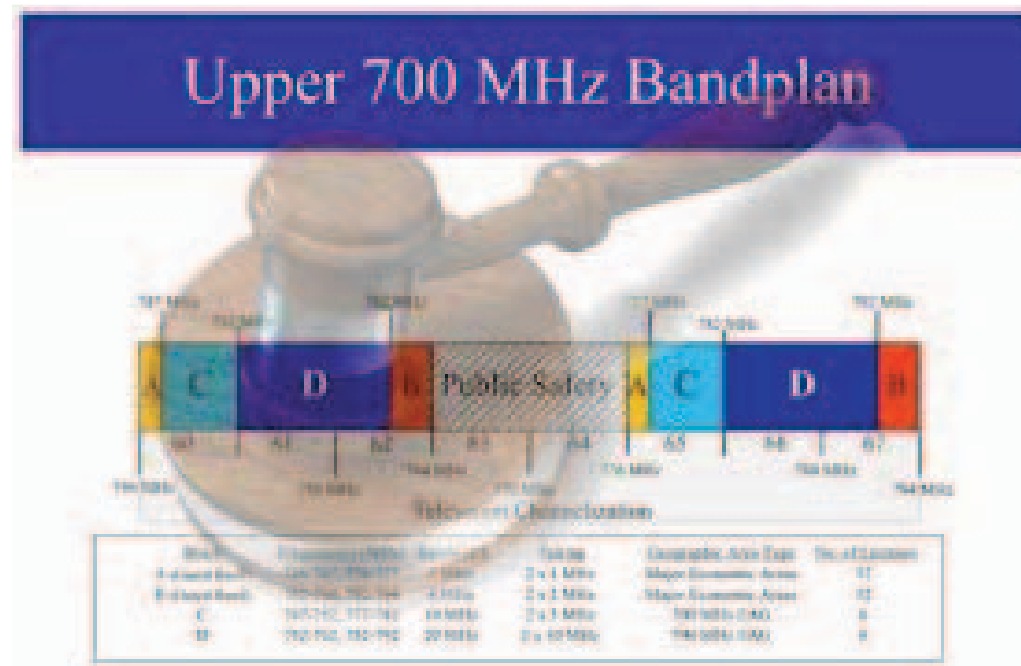
## 6. **Distributed control** of competing heterogeneous users.



# Spectrum Auction



- The main application of game theory in communications
- Used by FCC to sell spectrum to operators



# Game Theory For Security (2007 LAX)

Many Targets

Few Resources



How to assign limited resources to defend the targets?  
***Game Theory: Bayesian Stackelberg Games***

# Bit Torrent

- Bam Cohen (born October 12, 1975)
- Author of the peer-to-peer (P2P) BitTorrent protocol
- Use a simple Tit for Tat protocol to share chunk of files between peers



# Other Engineering Applications

1. Communications
2. Wireless/Mobile
3. Spectrum/Channel Allocation
4. Control
5. Cloud Computing
6. Networking
7. Security/Privacy
8. Cryptography (MPC)
9. Cognitive Radios
10. AI
11. Bioinformatics

# Limitations of Game Theory

- No unified solution to general conflict resolution
  - ❑ Real-world conflicts are complex
    - models can at best capture important aspects
  - ❑ Players are (usually) considered rational
    - Determine what is best for them given that others are doing the same
  - ❑ No unique prescription
    - Not clear what players should do
- ❑ **But it can provide intuitions, suggestions and partial prescriptions**
  - **best mathematical tool we currently have**

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# Intended Learning Outcome

1. Model your **engineering** problems with a game-theoretic approach
2. **Analyze** defined games
3. Use the game results to design protocols (i.e., **mechanism design**)



# Main Concepts

1. Strategy, Payoffs, Actions
2. Strictly Dominance
3. Non-Cooperative Behavior
4. Dilemma
5. Coordination
6. Knowledge/Information
7. Rationality
8. Thinking Strategically
9. Nash Equilibrium
10. Pareto Optimality
11. Cournot Duopoly
12. Zero-Sum Games
13. Mixed Strategy
14. Dynamic Games
15. Backward Induction
16. Moral Hazard
17. Incentive Design
18. Imperfect Information
19. Subgame Perfect Nash Equilibrium
20. Repeated Games
21. Perfect Bayesian NE
22. Mechanism Design
23. Auction Theory
24. Evolutionary Stable Strategy

What about this course!?

# **COURSE ADMINISTRATIONS**

# IUT Web Course

## **Foundations of Game Theory for Electrical and Computer Engineering**

1. Slides
2. Homework
3. Project Lists
4. Any question, drop me an email  
([manshaei@gmail.com](mailto:manshaei@gmail.com)) please!

# Assessment

- Written Midterm ~ 25%
- Written Final Exam ~ 50%
- Homework ~ 10% (Around 6-8 Homework)
- Projects ~ 15%

# Projects: Important Dates

- First Definition of Project: Esfand 12<sup>th</sup>, 1393
  - Subject, Abstract, References: One page definition should be uploaded in the course website
- Final Definition of Project: Last week of 1393
- Submission of Project Report: Last week of Ordibehesht 1394
- A few selected projects will be presented in the last week of semester

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- **Course:**

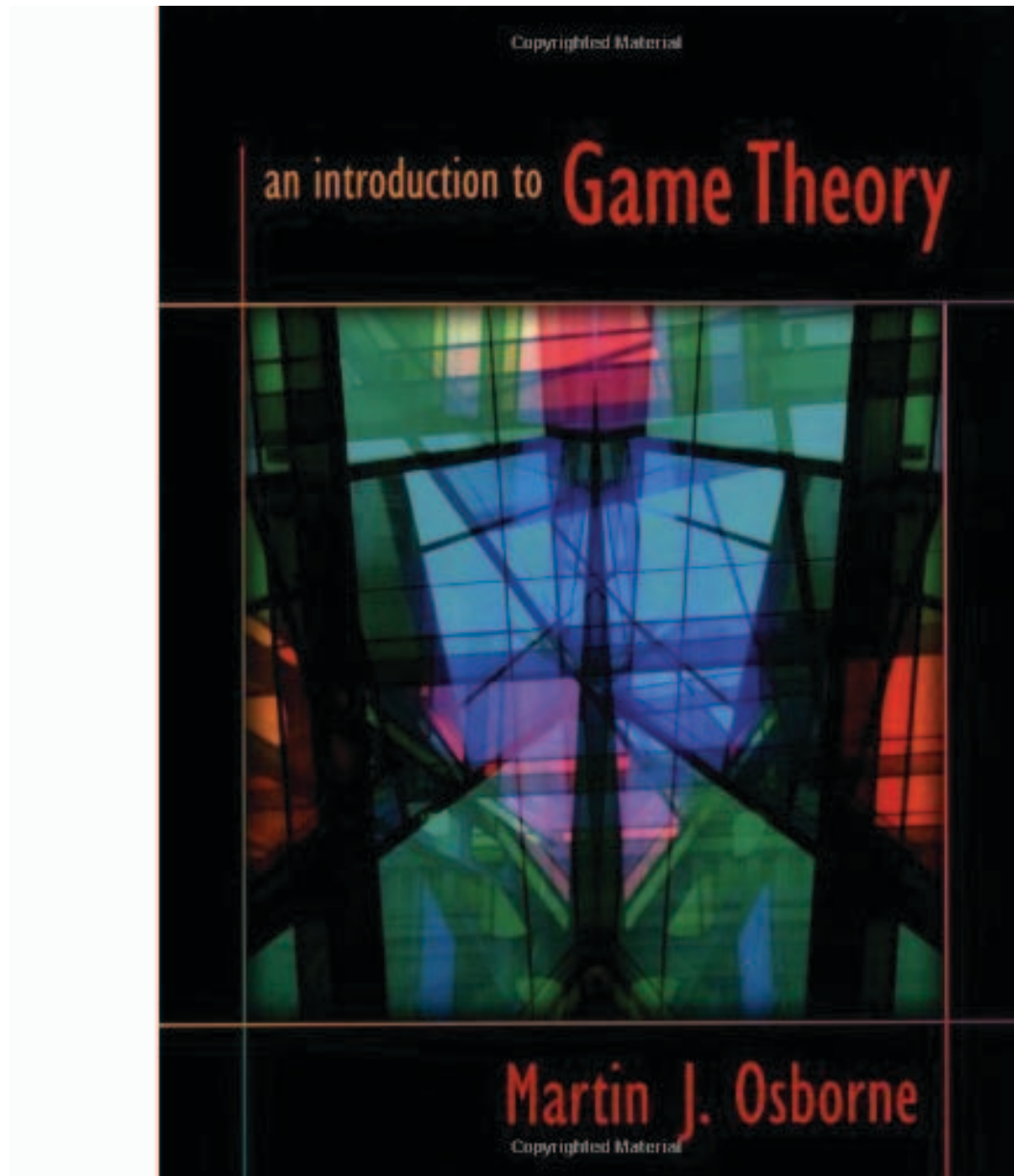
- Dr. Benjamin Polak, “Game Theory”, Open Yale Course (<http://oyc.yale.edu>)
- Dr. Pietro Michiardi, “Applied Game Theory”, Eurecom

- **Books**

- Martin J. Osborne, “An introduction to game theory” Oxford University Press, 2004.
- G. Owen, “*Game Theory*,” 3rd edition, Academic Press, 1995
- D. Fudenberg and J. Tirole, “*Game Theory*,” MIT Press, 1991
- “*The Work of John Nash in Game Theory*,” Nobel Seminar, December 8, 1994
- Tamer Başar and G.J. Olsder, “*Dynamic Noncooperative Game Theory*,” 2nd edition, Classics in Applied Mathematics, SIAM, Philadelphia, 1999.
- L. Buttyan, J.-P. Hubaux, “*Security and Cooperation in Wireless Networks*,” Cambridge University Press , 2007
- E. Altman, “*The Theory of Network Engineering Games*,” 2011.

# An Introduction to Game Theory

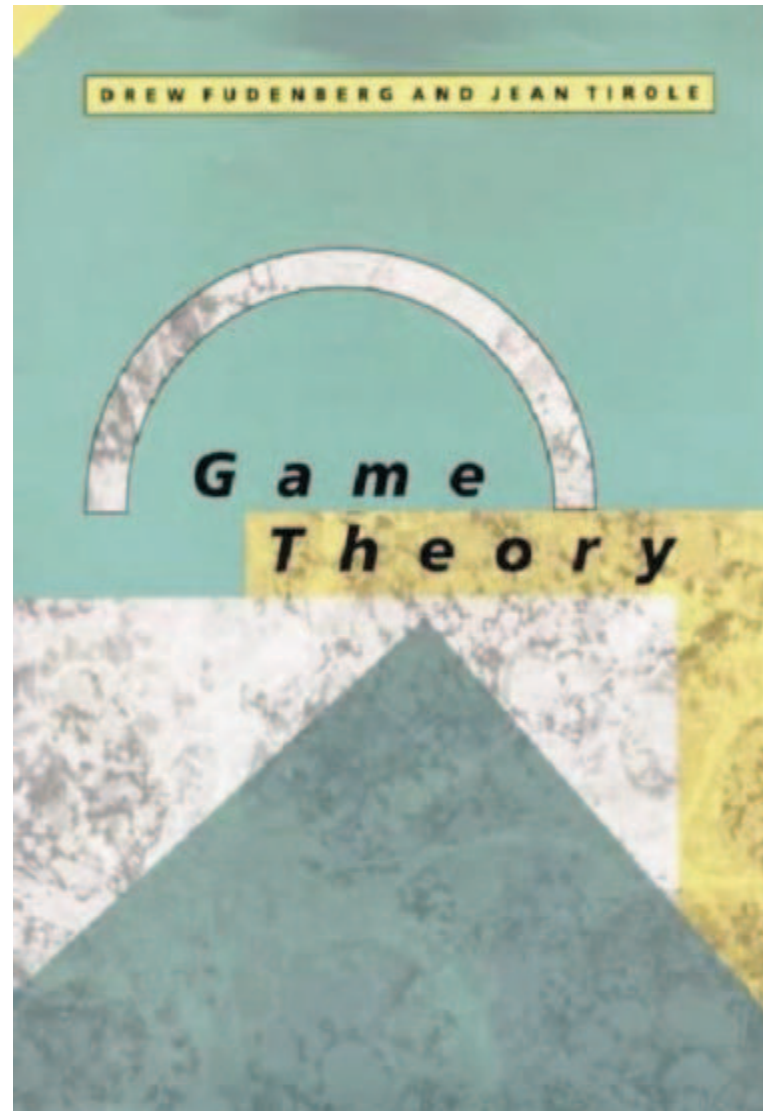
M. J. Osborne





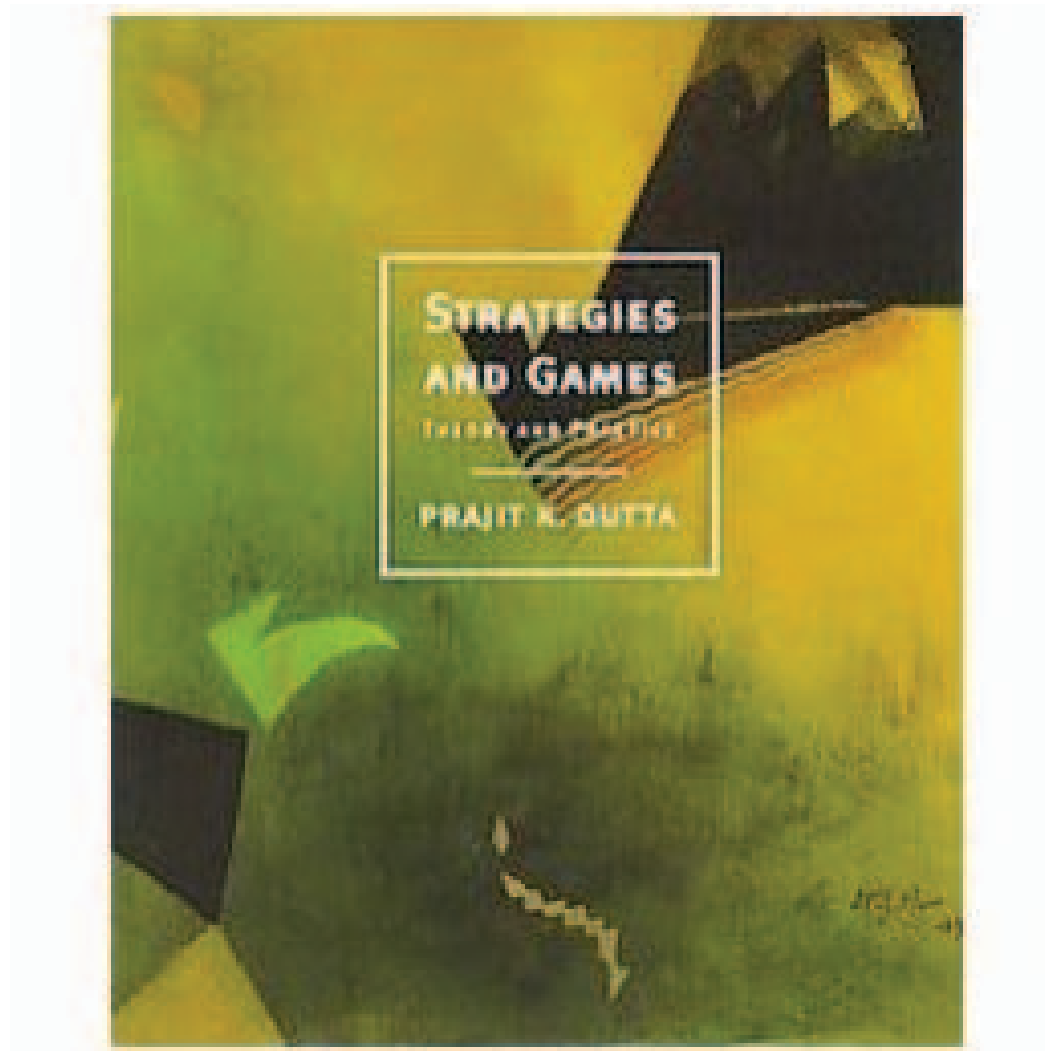
# Game Theory

Drew Fudenberg and Jean Tirole



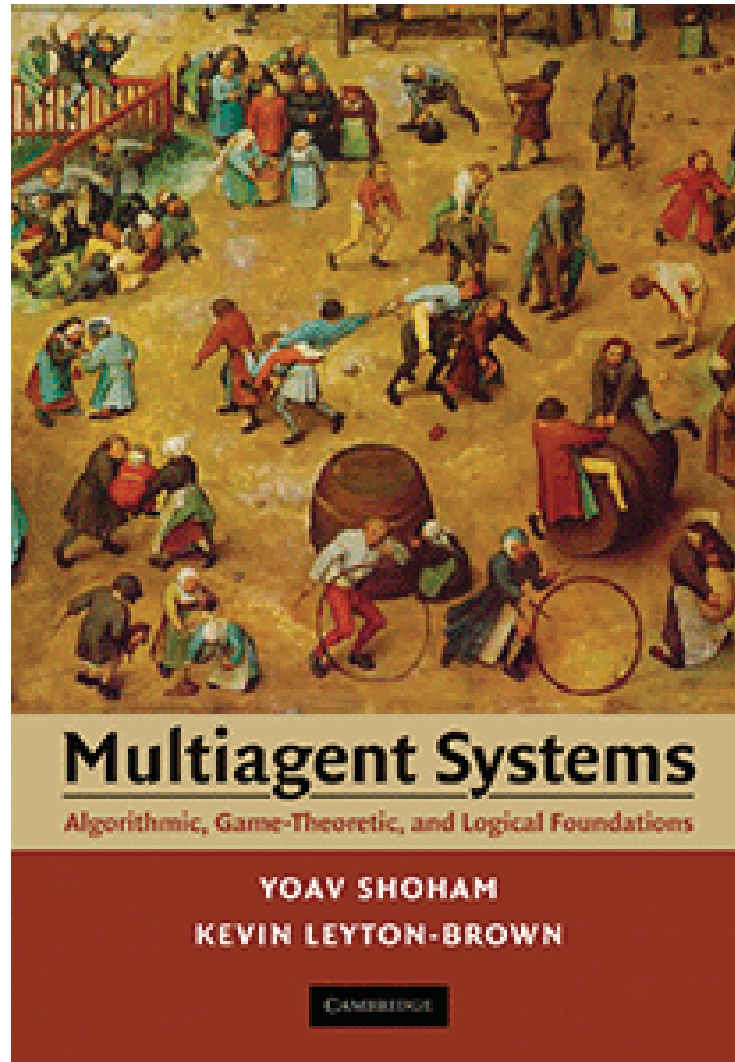
# Strategies and Games

P. N. Dutta



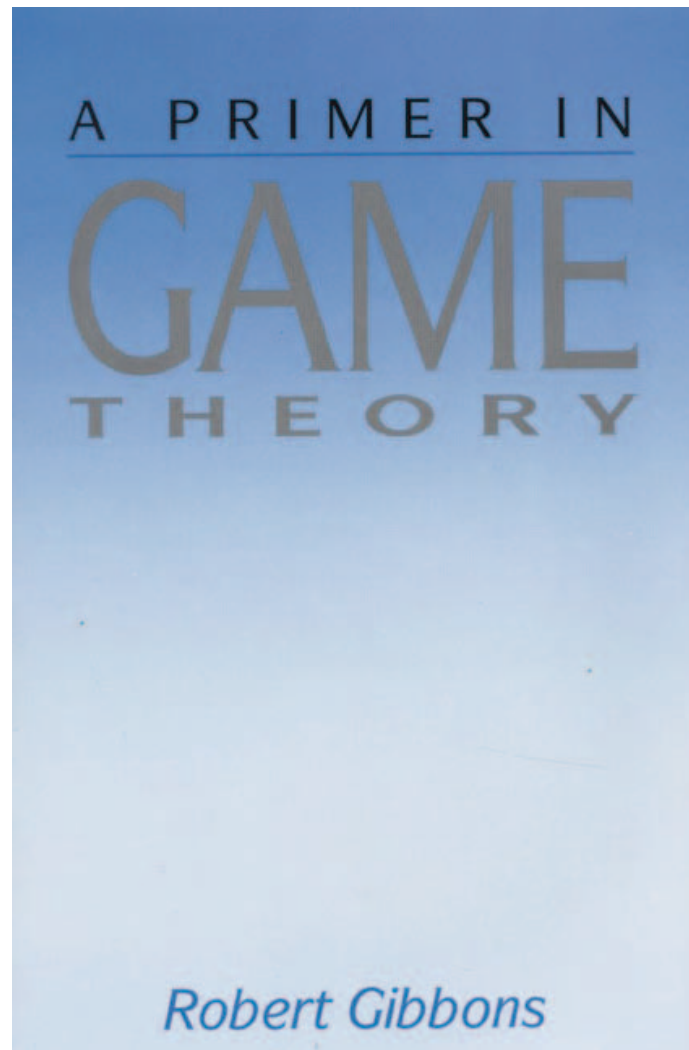
# Multiagent Systems

Y. Shoham and K. L. Brown



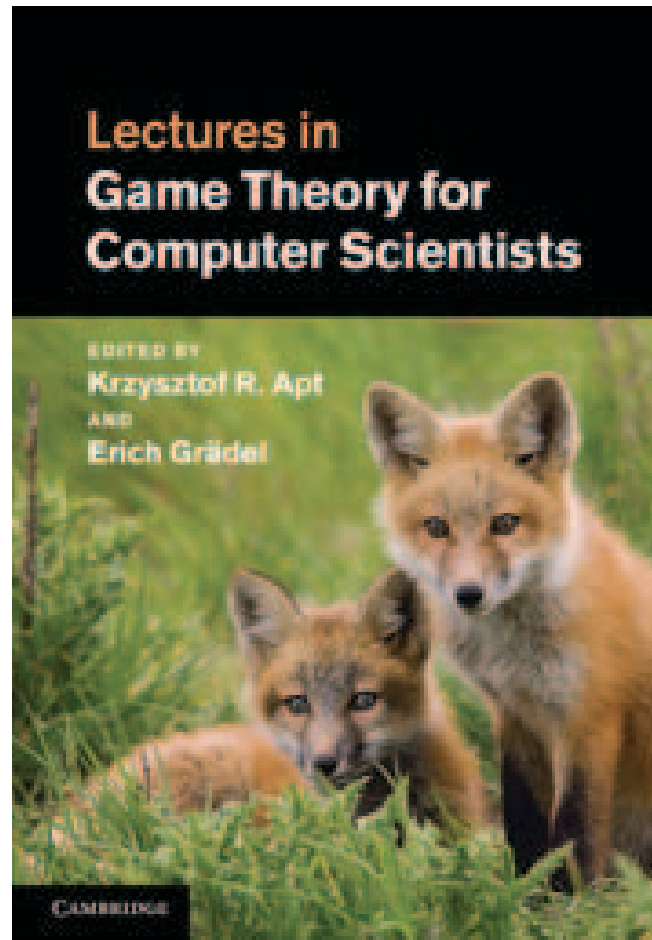
# A Primer In Game Theory

R. Gibbons



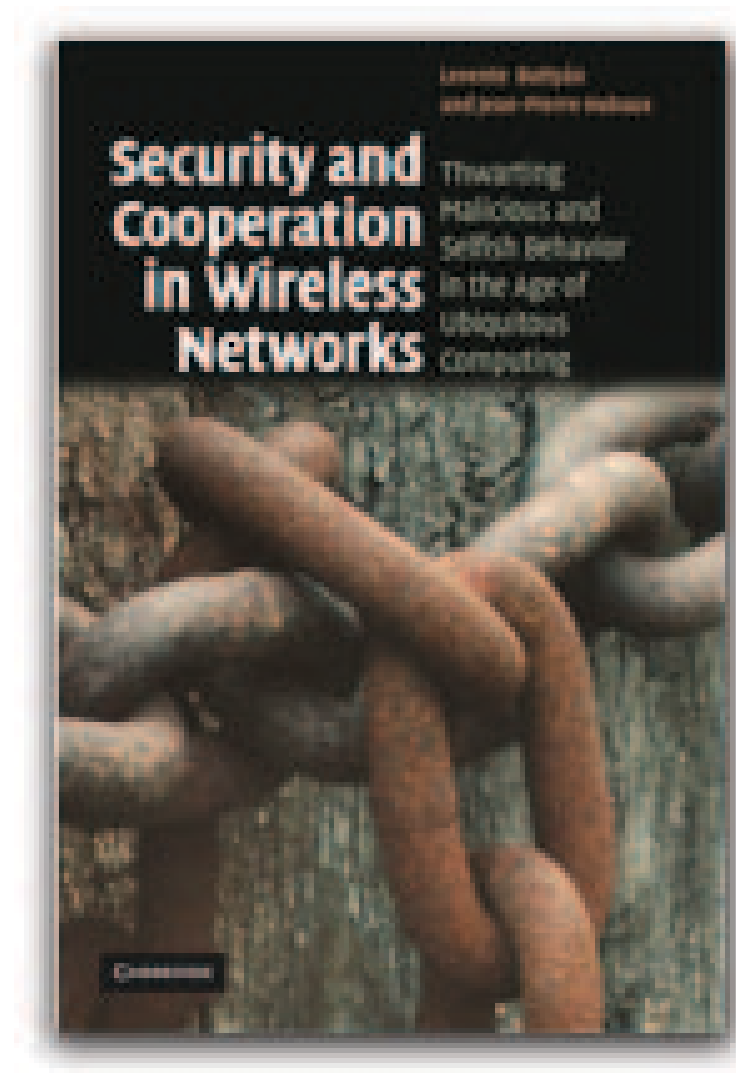
# Lectures in Game Theory for Computer Scientists

Krzysztof R. Apt and Erich Grädel



# Security and Cooperation in Wireless Networks

L. Buttyan and J.-P. Hubaux



# References

- **Journal and Conferences**

- Infocom (IEEE conference on International Conference on Computer Communications)
- GameNets (Game Theory for Networks)
- AAI and AAMAS (Artificial Intelligence)
- WEIS (Workshop on the Economics of Information Security)
- GameSec (Conference on Decision and Game Theory for Security)
- IEEE Journal on Selected Areas in Communications (JSAC):
  - Cooperative Communications in MIMO Cellular Networks, December 2010
  - Game Theory in Communication Systems, September 2008
  - Non-Cooperative Behavior in Networking, August 2007
  - Cooperative Communications and Networking, February 2007