

The Prisoner's Dilemma

You and your buddy have been arrested for pirating software.

> You are both guilty.

> The police speak to you separately and offer you a deal.

> If you both independently claim innocence (ie lie) then you both get a 3 year sentence.

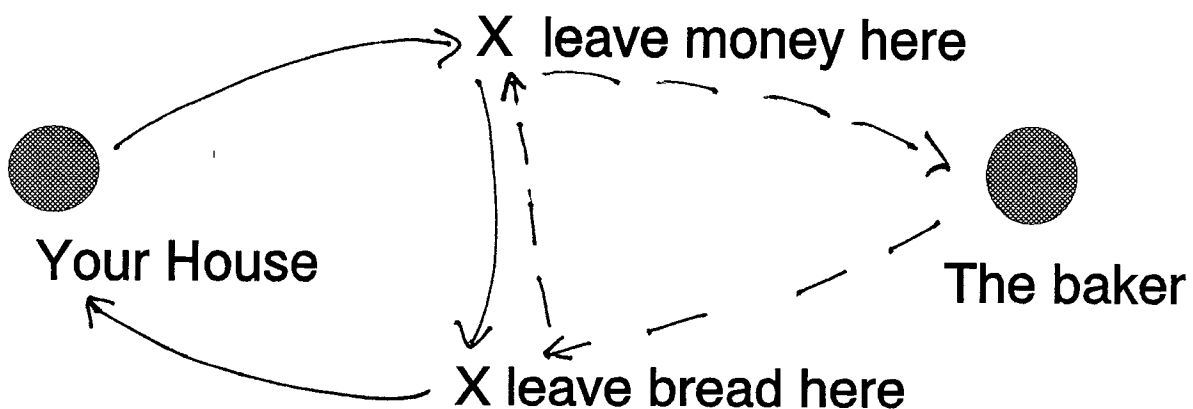
> If you both plead guilty (the truth), then you both get 1 year.

> If you claim innocence (lie) and your buddy claims guilty (the truth), then you get off free and buddy gets 5 years (and vice versa).

> Would you plead innocent or guilty?

The Baker's Dilemma

- > You buy bread from a baker.
- > The exchange of bread and money takes place at separate spots at the same time.
- > Thus you leave the money at the same time as the baker leaves the bread.
- > What are you going to do? Leave money or not?



The Law of the Commons

- > You and the other shepards in your village use common land (called "the commons") for grazing sheep.
- > The commons is being over grazed.
- > Thus everyone is asked to cut grazing in half.
- > It is hard to tell the sheep apart.
- > What will you do?

Payoff Matrix

		Column Player	
		Cooperate	Defect
Row Player	Cooperate	$R=3, R=3$ Reward for mutual cooperation	$S=0, T=5$ Sucker's payoff, and temptation to defect
	Defect	$T=5, S=0$ Temptation to defect and sucker's payoff	$P=1, P=1$ Punishment for mutual defection

NOTE: The payoffs to the row chooser are listed first.

$$T > R > P > S$$

$$R > (T + S) / 2$$

- > Open or closed game?
- > How big a shadow does the future cast?
- > Discount factor, w , between 1 and infinity. The promises of tomorrow are not worth as much as the spoils of today.
- > Future worth = Current worth / w .
- > So what is the best strategy?

What is your objective?

**> to prevent the other from winning?
(if I can't win then you won't either)**

**> to maximize your gains? (I don't
care what you get as long as I get the
most I can)**

**> to maximize the differential in your
gain over his? (I want more than you)**

**> to maximize the gain of the system?
(I can't win if that means you lose)**

> Who is the enemy?

> Is there an enemy?

Given the choice of :

win - win

win - lose

lose - lose

we would probably agree that win - win is the most desirable.

le: We desire the emergence of cooperative strategies.

Thus, we need a strategy, call it "S", that:

can emerge (S can invade the host, S is a minority)

can thrive (S lives in a heterogeneous society)

can protect itself from invasion (S is the host)

The Computer Tournaments

Round 1:

- > Each entry was paired with each other entry (Round Robin), itself and RANDOM
- > 200 moves
- > 14 entries

Result:

- > TIT for TAT won.
- > T-T simplest and best.
- > Many of the strategies were variants on T-T.

Analysis:

- > T-T is nice. This property distinguishes high scores from low ones.
- > Performance depends on environment.
- > TIT for 2 TATS would have won if entered.
- > Results published.

NICE
PROVOCATIVE
FORGIVING
CLEAR

The Contestants: Round One

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Discipline (if faculty)</i>	<i>Length of Program</i>	<i>Score</i>
1	Anatol Rapoport	Psychology	4	504.5
2	Nicholas Tideman & Paula Chieruzzi	Economics	41	500.4
3	Rudy Nydegger	Psychology	23	485.5
4	Bernard Grofman	Political Sci.	8	481.9
5	Martin Shubik	Economics	16	480.7
6	William Stein & Amnon Rapoport	Mathematics Psychology	50	477.8
7	James W. Friedman	Economics	13	473.4
8	Morton Davis	Mathematics	6	471.8
9	James Graaskamp		63	400.7
10	Leslie Downing	Psychology	33	390.6
11	Scott Feld	Sociology	6	327.6
12	Johann Joss	Mathematics	5	304.4
13	Gordon Tullock	Economics	18	300.5
14	Name withheld		77	282.2
15	RANDOM		5	276.3

The Computer Tournaments

Round 2:

> 62 entries

Result:

> TIT for TAT won again.

Analysis:

> Apparently, some people looked at Round 1 and concluded:

Be nice and forgiving (lesson 1)

> Others concluded:

If others are going to be nice and forgiving, take advantage of them (lesson 2)

> Those who drew lesson 1 suffered under those who drew lesson 2.

> But lesson 2 codes didn't do very well (mutual punishment).

> T-T got along well with almost everyone, ie is ROBUST

The Computer Tournaments

Round 3: Simulation of Life

> Growth / death based on scores.

Result:

> T-T wins again.

Analysis:

> T-T wins because:

Niceness prevents it from getting into unnecessary trouble.

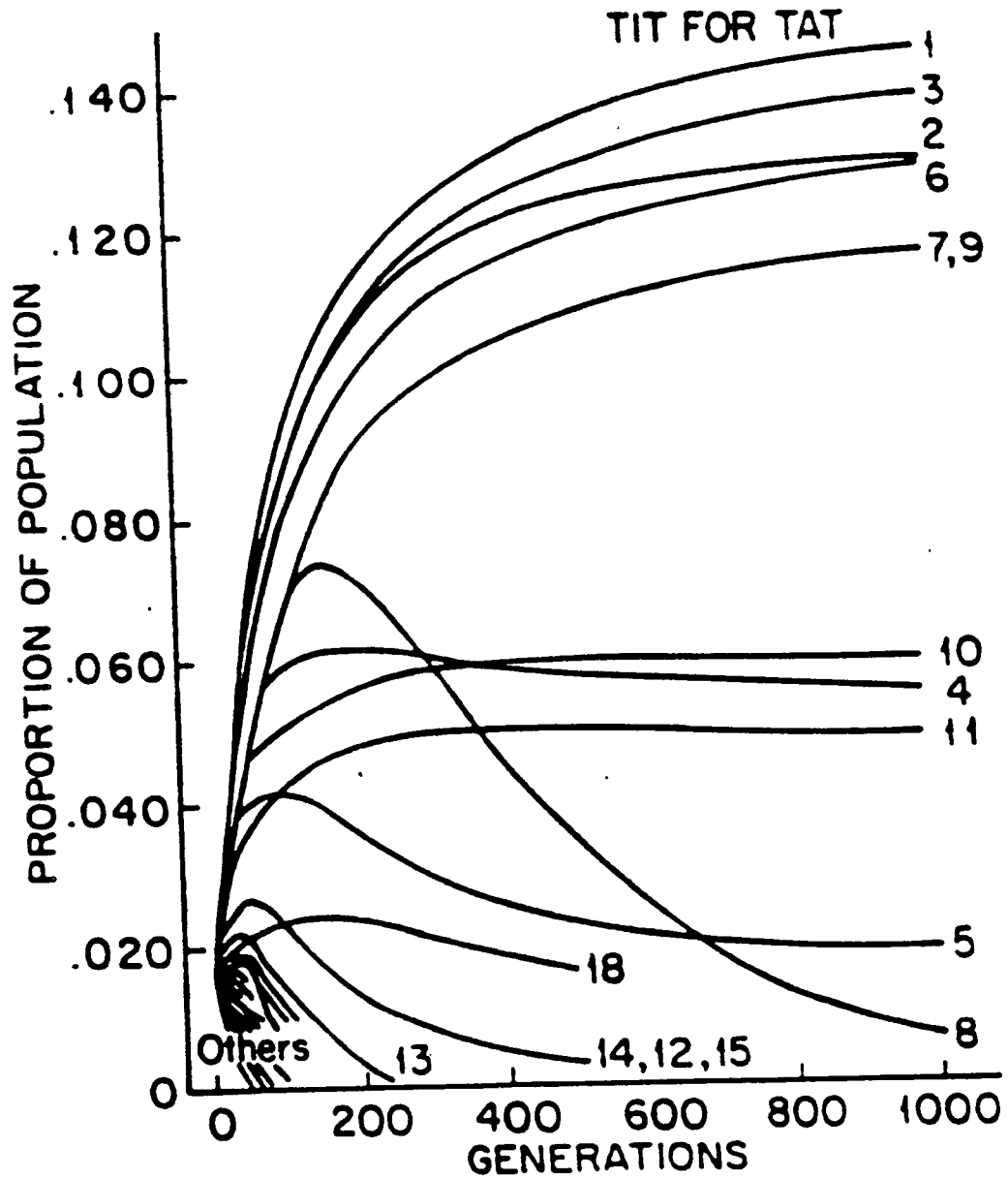
Retaliation discourages defection.

Forgiveness helps restore long-term cooperation.

Clarity elicits long-term cooperation.

> All this makes T-T robust.

Simulated Ecological Success of the Decision Rules



Conclusions, etc.

- > T-T has been seen in:
 - Trench Warfare
 - Biological Systems
- > Cooperation can get started by even a small cluster of individuals who are prepared to reciprocate cooperation, even in a world where no one else will cooperate.
- > The players do not need to exchange messages or commitments. They do not need words because their deeds speak for themselves.
- > There is no need to assume trust.
- > Altruism is not needed.
- > No central authority is needed: cooperation based on reciprocity can be self-policing.