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there are payoffs for each eventual outcome

 \blacktriangleright Everyone write your name and either α or β

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 - If you both put β , you both get B+

The outcome matrix:

You
$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Other} \\ \alpha & \beta \\ \alpha & \text{B-,B- } \text{A, F} \\ \beta & \text{F, A } \text{B+,B+} \end{array}$$

► Is this a game?

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 - No we don't know the players' payoffs

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- For real world games, this is often the case:
 - Countries in an arms race
 - Making a bid at an auction
 - A company and a union negotiating a contract
 - prosecution and defense deciding which arguments to put before the jury

Selfish Strategy:

If you only value your own grade, you might assign values:

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► A is 3, B+ is 2, B- is 1, F is 0

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Suppose two such people play against one another.

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- One strategy strongly dominates the other if your payoff from one is higher than the payoff from the other, regardless of others' strategies.



- Note that you shouldn't choose β:
 - If your opponent chooses β, you're better off choosing α (3 > 2)
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- One strategy strongly dominates the other if your payoff from one is higher than the payoff from the other, regardless of others' strategies.
- Moral: you should never pick a dominated strategy



The other person also shouldn't choose a dominated strategy, and should also choose α



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- ▶ You both get *B*−.
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- ▶ You both get *B*−.
- ► Moral: rational play can lead to bad outcomes (both players would prefer (B+, B+) to (B-, B-))
- > This time of game is called **Prisoners' Dilema**

Altruistic Strategy

You might value A less, since it means that someone in the class fails. You might assign values:

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- A is 1, B+ is 3, B- is 2, F is 0
- Suppose two such people play against one another.

Altruistic Strategy

- You might value A less, since it means that someone in the class fails. You might assign values:
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 - ► No:
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 - If the other chooses β , you should also choose β
- This is called a coordination game

What if you are selfish, and you know that the other is altruistic?

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Do you have a dominated strategy?

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Does your opponent have a dominated strategy?
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- Does your opponent have a dominated strategy?
 - No
- Suppose that the other knows that you are selfish What should they do?



Does your opponent have a dominated strategy?

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 - \blacktriangleright If they are rational, and they think you're rational, they'll know that you'll play α
 - \blacktriangleright So they should play α
- Moral: If you don't have a dominated strategy, try to predict your opponents' choice

Grading Scheme

Fact: in Prisoners' Dilema situation, roughly 30% choose β

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Example:

- Everyone in class write down their name and a number between 1 and 100
- We will take $\frac{2}{3}$ the average of everyones' numbers
- Whoever is closest wins $5 (.01) \cdot (\text{how far they are off})$

- Example:
 - Suppose that there are three people in class

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- Example:
 - Suppose that there are three people in class

• They choose 5, 30, 55
•
$$\frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{5+30+55}{3} = 20$$

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30 wins \$4.90