

Fair division problems are concerned with fairly dividing goods among parties

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- Privacy: splitting should occur without parties knowing other parties' preferences

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How do you do this?

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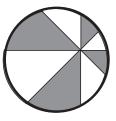
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- This problem is similar to splitting assets of failed partnerships, ...

A similar example: splitting a pizza

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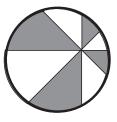
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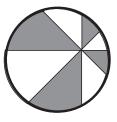
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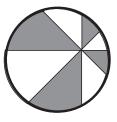
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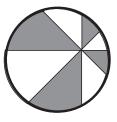
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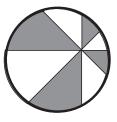
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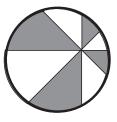
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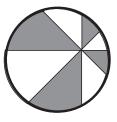
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- How can we fairly divide the pizza between two people?If:
 - All cuts go through a common point (center)
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 - Angles between cuts are the same
- The area of the grey slice equals the area of white slices

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 - Doesn't lend itself well to other situations
 - Doesn't allow parties to act rationally (timed event)

Another method (lone divider method):

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- Albert, Beatrice and Clyde are trying to divide a cake

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- Another method (lone divider method):
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- ▶ Step 1: Albert cuts the cake into three pieces p₁, p₂, p₃

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Step 2: Albert, Beatrice and Clyde (privately) bid on their valuation of each piece:

	Shares			
	p_1	p_2	<i>p</i> 3	
Albert	$33\frac{1}{3}\%$	$33\frac{1}{3}\%$	$33\frac{1}{3}\%$	
Beatrice	20%	40%	40%	
Clyde	40%	30%	30%	

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- Rows will add up to 100%
- Albert's row should be $33\frac{1}{3}\%$
- Everybody has some piece of value $\geq 33\frac{1}{3}\%$

Step 3: Each player declares which pieces they think are fair

	Shares			
	p_1	p_2	<i>p</i> 3	Bid
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Step 4: Give each player a piece that they want

- Albert: p_2 , Beatrice: p_3 , Clyde: p_1 OR
- Albert: p₃, Beatrice: p₂, Clyde: p₁

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- ▶ Give Albert *p*₃
- Step 5: Recombine p₁ and p₂

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- Fact: if we can't distribute the pieces, there is a piece that Albert wants that nobody else does
- Give Albert p_3
- Step 5: Recombine p_1 and p_2
 - ▶ $p_1 + p_2$ is worth 70% > $66\frac{2}{3}$ to Beatrice ▶ $p_1 + p_2$ is worth 75% > $66\frac{2}{3}$ to Clyde

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- Step 6: Use divider-chooser method

Recap:

1. Divider cuts cake into three pieces

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- $1. \ \mbox{Divider}$ cuts cake into three pieces
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Recap:

- 1. Divider cuts cake into three pieces
- 2. Parties declare which pieces they consider fair
- 3. 3.1 If possible, give each person a fair piece
 - 3.2 Else, give divider a piece nobody else wants, recombine pieces, and repeat

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 - It's inefficient