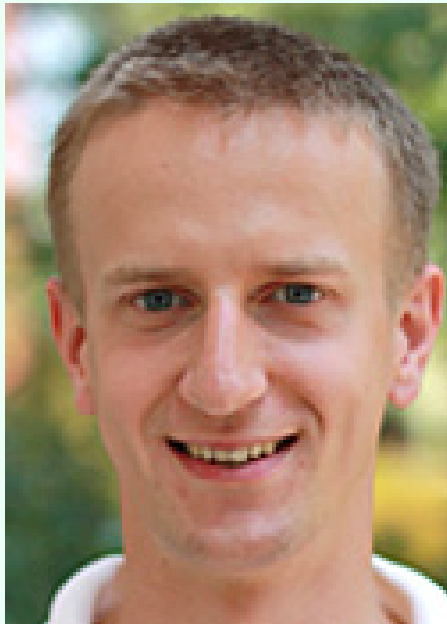


# Computing Game-Theoretic Solutions for Security

Vincent Conitzer



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*overview article:* V. Conitzer. Computing Game-Theoretic Solutions and Applications to Security. *Proc. AAAI'12*.

# Real-world security applications



*Milind Tambe's TEAMCORE group (USC)*

## Airport security

- Where should checkpoints, canine units, etc. be deployed?

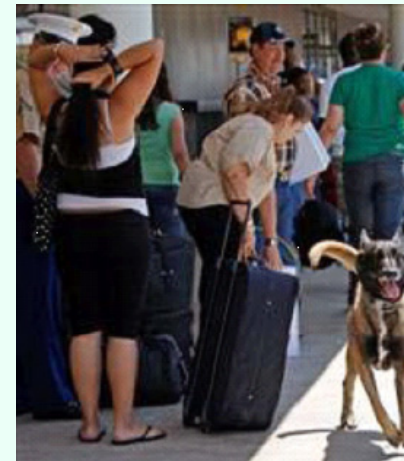
## Federal Air Marshals

- Which flights get a FAM?



## US Coast Guard

- Which patrol routes should be followed?



The diagram illustrates a decision-making process involving two agents and their beliefs about each other's actions.

**Top Agent (Blue Body):** This agent is shown on the left, with a thought bubble containing a blue oval. An arrow labeled "action" points from this agent towards the right.

**Bottom Agent (Black Body):** This agent is shown on the left, with a thought bubble containing a white circle. An arrow labeled "action" points from this agent towards the right.

**Central Agent (Black Body):** This agent is shown in the center, with a thought bubble containing a white circle. An arrow labeled "action" points from this agent towards the right.

**Beliefs (Thought Bubbles):**

- The top agent's belief (blue oval) is associated with a probability of .7 (indicated by an arrow pointing to the oval).
- The bottom agent's belief (white circle) is associated with a probability of .3 (indicated by an arrow pointing to the circle).
- The central agent's belief (white circle) is associated with a probability of 1 (indicated by an arrow pointing to the circle).

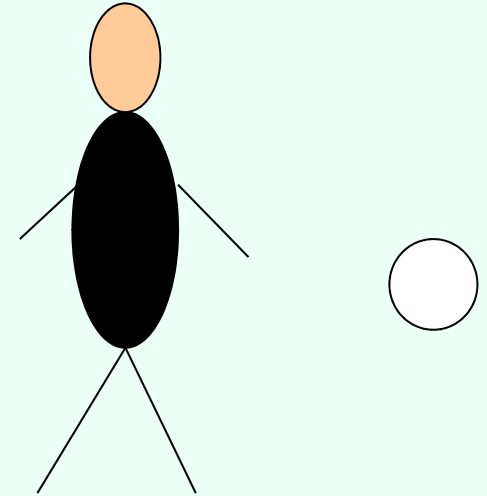
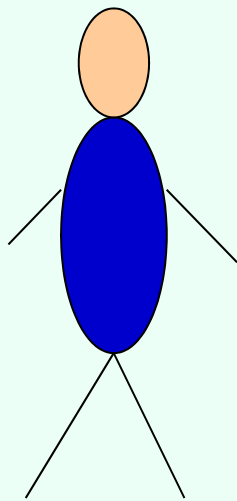
**Outcome (Bottom Right):** A thought bubble contains a white circle with an arrow pointing to it, labeled "probability 1".

**Question:** *Is this a "rational" outcome? If not, what is?*

***Is this a  
“rational”  
outcome?  
If not, what  
is?***

# Penalty kick

(also known as: matching pennies)



.5  
L

.5  
R

.5 L

0, 0

-1, 1

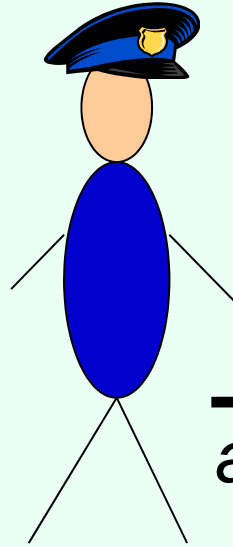
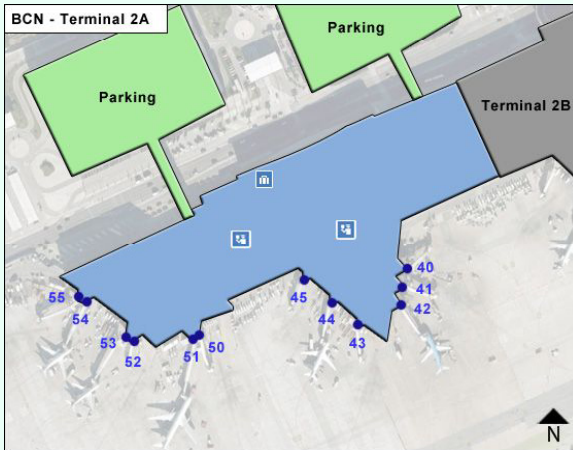
.5 R

-1, 1

0, 0

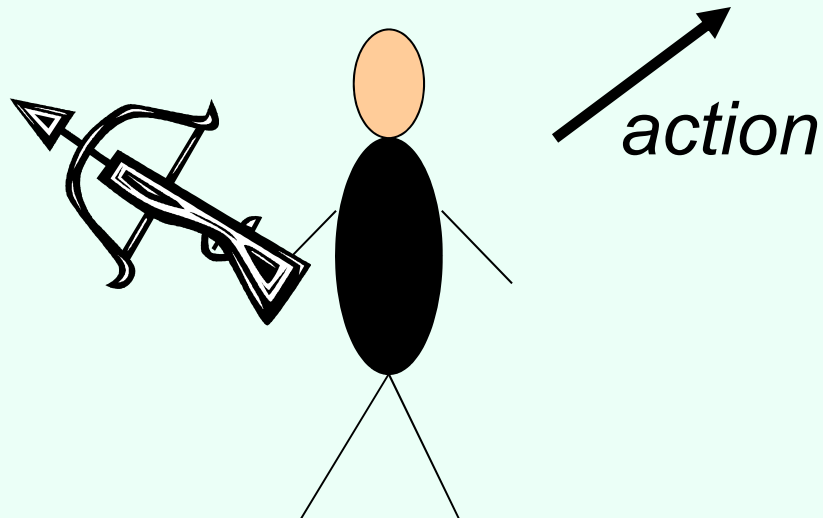
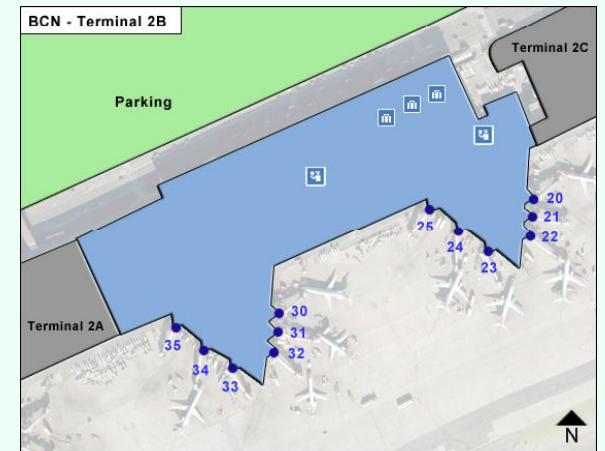
# Security example

Terminal A

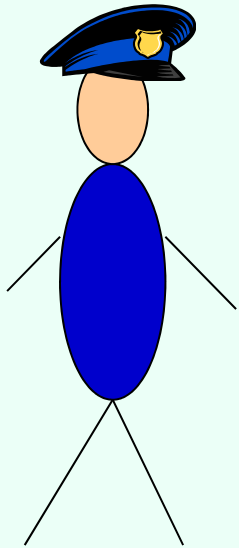
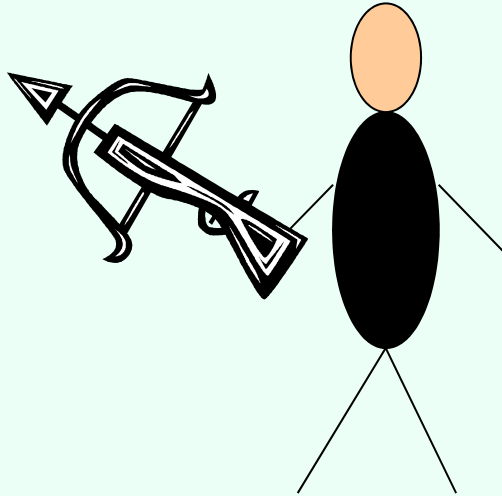


*action*

Terminal B



# Security game



	A	B
A	0, 0	-1, 2
B	-1, 1	0, 0

# Modeling and representing games

**THIS TALK**  
(unless  
specified  
otherwise)

2, 2	-1, 0
-7, -8	0, 0

*normal-form games*

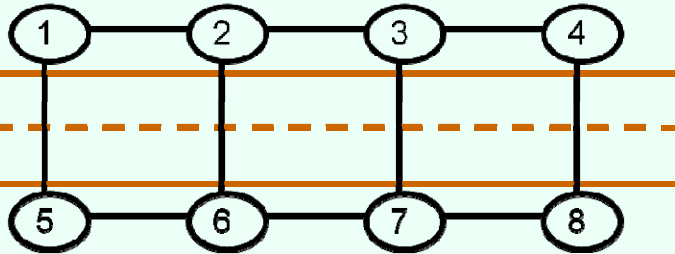
		L	R
row player	U	4	6
type 1 (prob. 0.5)	D	2	4

		L	R
column player	U	4	6
type 1 (prob. 0.5)	D	4	6

		L	R
row player	U	2	4
type 2 (prob. 0.5)	D	4	2

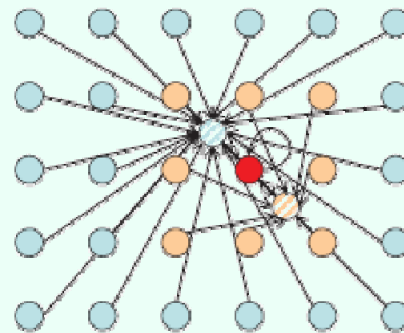
		L	R
column player	U	2	2
type 2 (prob. 0.5)	D	4	2

*Bayesian games*



*graphical games*

[Kearns, Littman, Singh UAI'01]



*action-graph games*

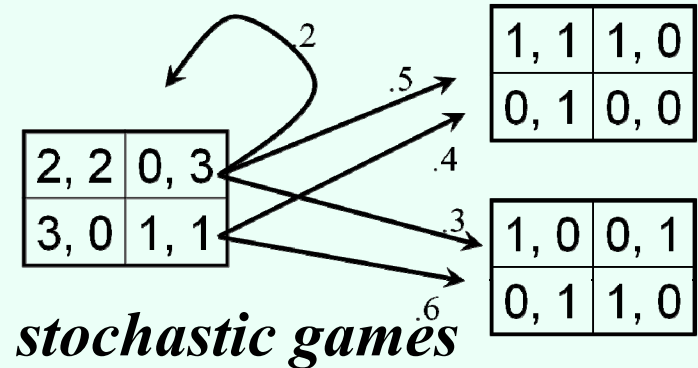
[Leyton-Brown & Tennenholtz IJCAI'03]

[Bhat & Leyton-Brown, UAI'04]

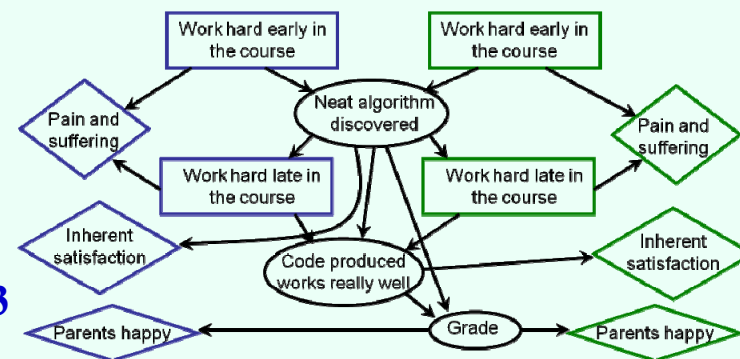
[Jiang, Leyton-Brown, Bhat GEB'11]



*extensive-form games*



*stochastic games*



*MAIDs*

[Koller & Milch. IJCAI'01/GEB'03]

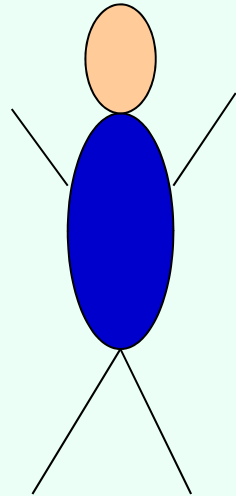
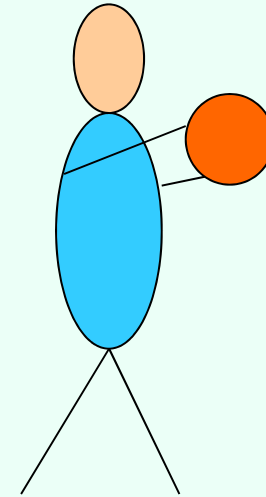
# How to defend penalties

		<i>Them</i>	
		L	R
<i>Us</i>	L	0, 0	-1, 1
	R	-1, 1	0, 0

- Assume opponent **knows our strategy...**
  - **hopeless?**
- ... but we can use **randomization**
- If we play L 60%, R 40%...
- ... opponent will play R...
- ... we get  $.6*(-1) + .4*(0) = -.6$
- Better: L 50%, R 50% guarantees  $-.5$  (optimal)



# A locally more popular sport



defend the 3

defend the 2

go for 3   go for 2

	go for 3	go for 2
defend the 3	0, 0	-2, 2
defend the 2	-3, 3	0, 0

# Solving basketball

		<i>Them</i>	
		3	2
<i>Us</i>	3	0, 0	-2, 2
	2	-3, 3	0, 0

- If we 50% of the time defend the 3, opponent will shoot 3
  - We get  $.5*(-3) + .5*(0) = -1.5$
- Should defend the 3 more often: 60% of the time
- Opponent has choice between
  - Go for 3: gives them  $.6*(0) + .4*(3) = 1.2$
  - Go for 2: gives them  $.6*(2) + .4*(0) = 1.2$
- We get -1.2 (the **maximin** value)

# Let's change roles

		<i>Them</i>	
		3	2
<i>Us</i>	3	0, 0	-2, 2
	2	-3, 3	0, 0

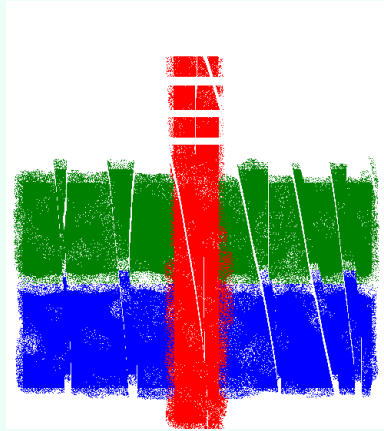
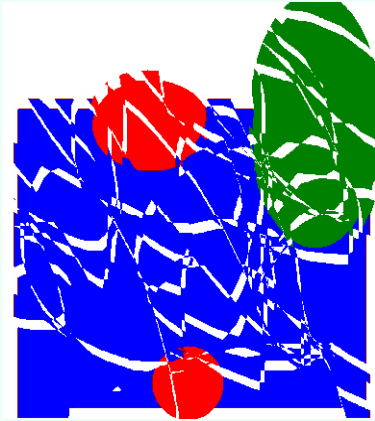
- Suppose **we** know **their** strategy
- If 50% of the time they go for 3, then we defend 3
  - We get  $.5*(0)+.5*(-2) = -1$
- Optimal for them: 40% of the time go for 3
  - If we defend 3, we get  $.4*(0)+.6*(-2) = -1.2$
  - If we defend 2, we get  $.4*(-3)+.6*(0) = -1.2$
- This is the **minimax** value

von Neumann's minimax theorem [1928]: maximin value = minimax value

(~ linear programming duality)

# Example linear program

- We make reproductions of two paintings



- Painting 1 sells for \$3, painting 2 sells for \$2
- Painting 1 requires 4 units of blue, 1 green, 1 red
- Painting 2 requires 2 blue, 2 green, 1 red
- We have 16 units blue, 8 green, 5 red

*maximize*  $3x + 2y$

*subject to*

$$4x + 2y \leq 16$$

$$x + 2y \leq 8$$

$$x + y \leq 5$$

$$x \geq 0$$

$$y \geq 0$$

# Solving the linear program graphically

*maximize*  $3x + 2y$

*subject to*

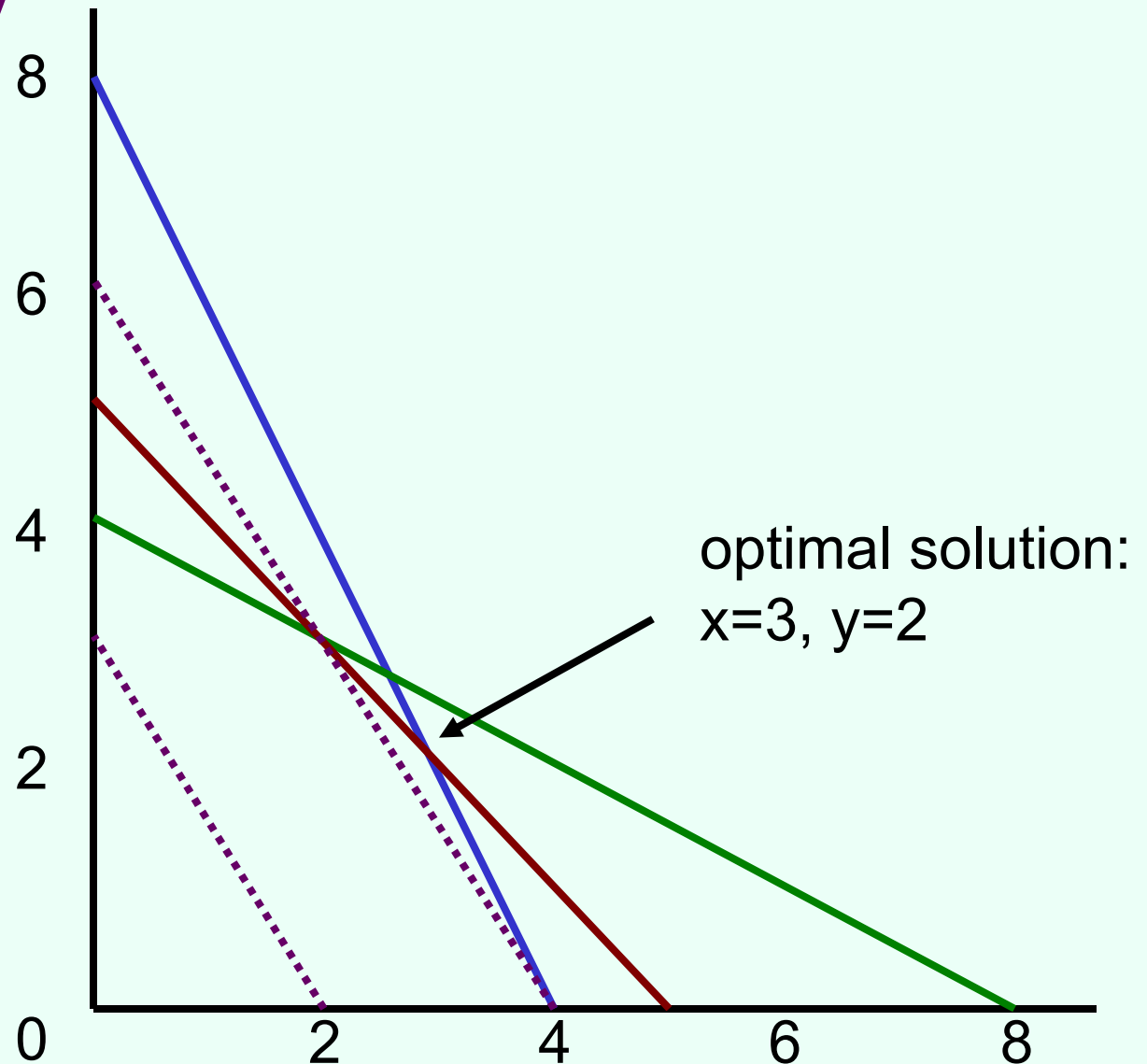
$$4x + 2y \leq 16$$

$$x + 2y \leq 8$$

$$x + y \leq 5$$

$$x \geq 0$$

$$y \geq 0$$



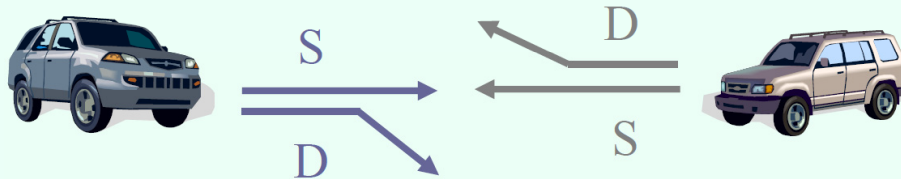
# Solving for minimax strategies using linear programming

- maximize  $u$
- subject to  
for any  $c$ ,  $\sum_r p_r u_R(r, c) \geq u$   
 $\sum_r p_r = 1$

Can also convert linear programs to two-player zero-sum games, so they are equivalent

# Some of the questions raised

- Equilibrium **selection**?



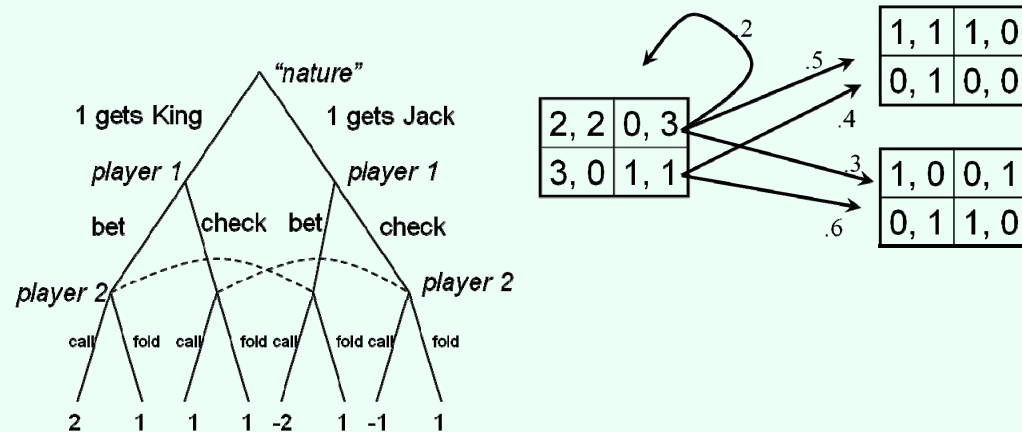
	D	S
D	0, 0	-1, 1
S	1, -1	-5, -5

- How should we model **temporal / information structure**?

2, 2	-1, 0
-7, -8	0, 0

		L	R			L	R
row player	U	4	6	column player	U	4	6
type 1 (prob. 0.5)	D	2	4	type 1 (prob. 0.5)	D	4	6

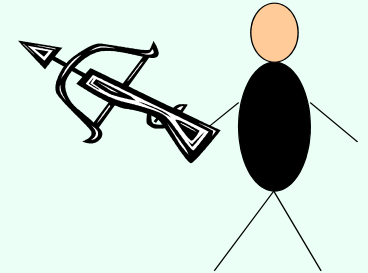
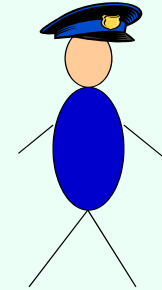
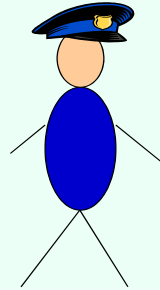
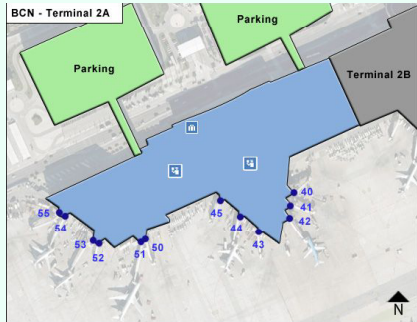
		L	R			L	R
row player	U	2	4	column player	U	2	2
type 2 (prob. 0.5)	D	4	2	type 2 (prob. 0.5)	D	4	2



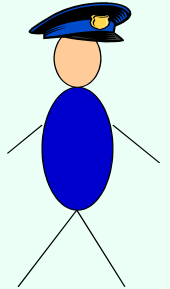
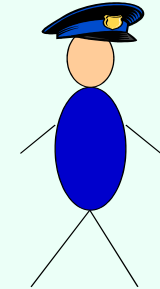
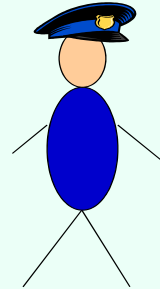
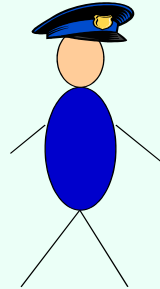
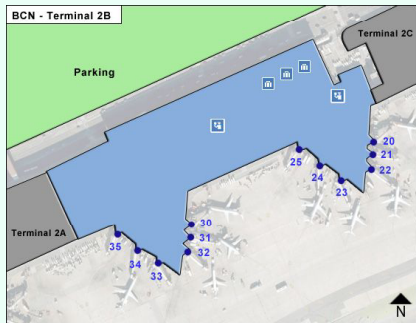
- What structure should **utility functions** have?
- Do our algorithms **scale**?

# Observing the defender's distribution in security

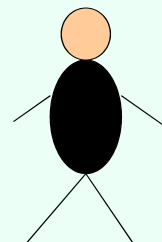
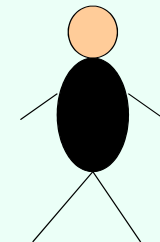
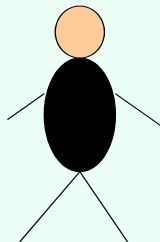
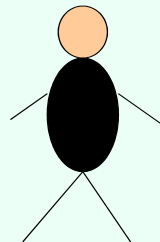
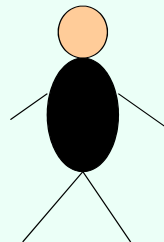
Terminal A



Terminal B



*observe*



Mo

Tu

We

Th

Fr

Sa

***This model is not uncontroversial...*** [Pita, Jain, Tambe, Ordóñez, Kraus  
AIJ'10; Korzhyk, Yin, Kiekintveld, C., Tambe JAIR'11; Korzhyk, C., Parr AAMAS'11]



# Commitment

Unique Nash equilibrium →

1, 1	3, 0
0, 0	2, 1

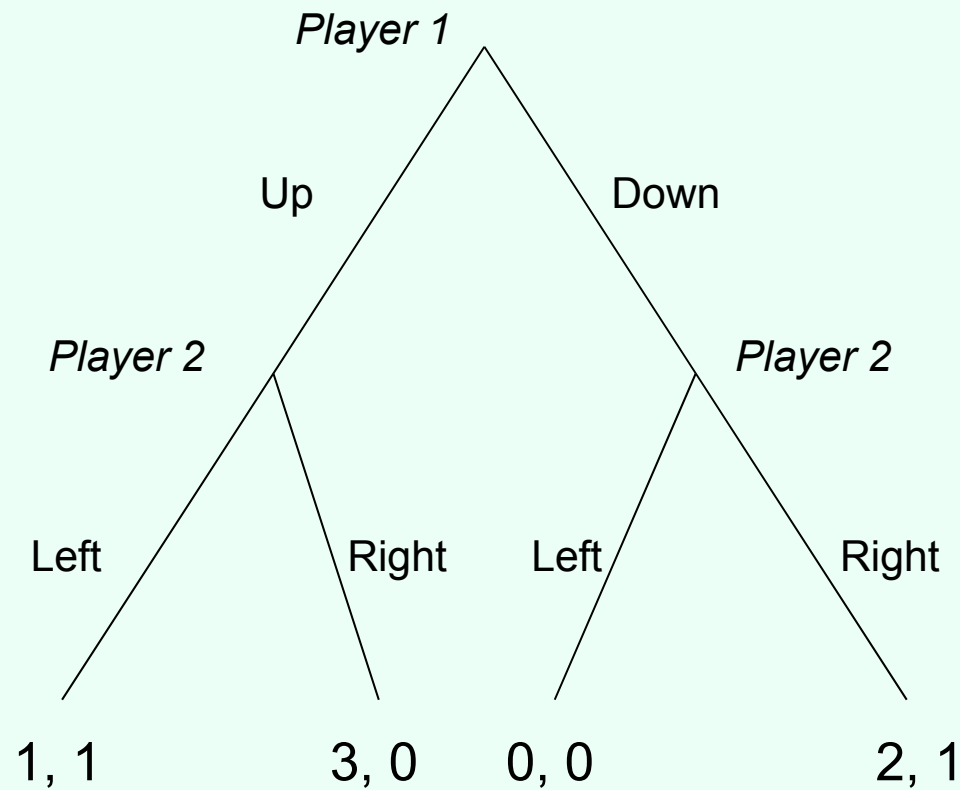


*von Stackelberg*

- Suppose the game is played as follows:
  - Player 1 **commits** to playing one of the rows,
  - Player 2 observes the commitment and then chooses a column
- Optimal strategy for player 1: commit to Down

# Commitment as an extensive-form game

- For the case of committing to a pure strategy:



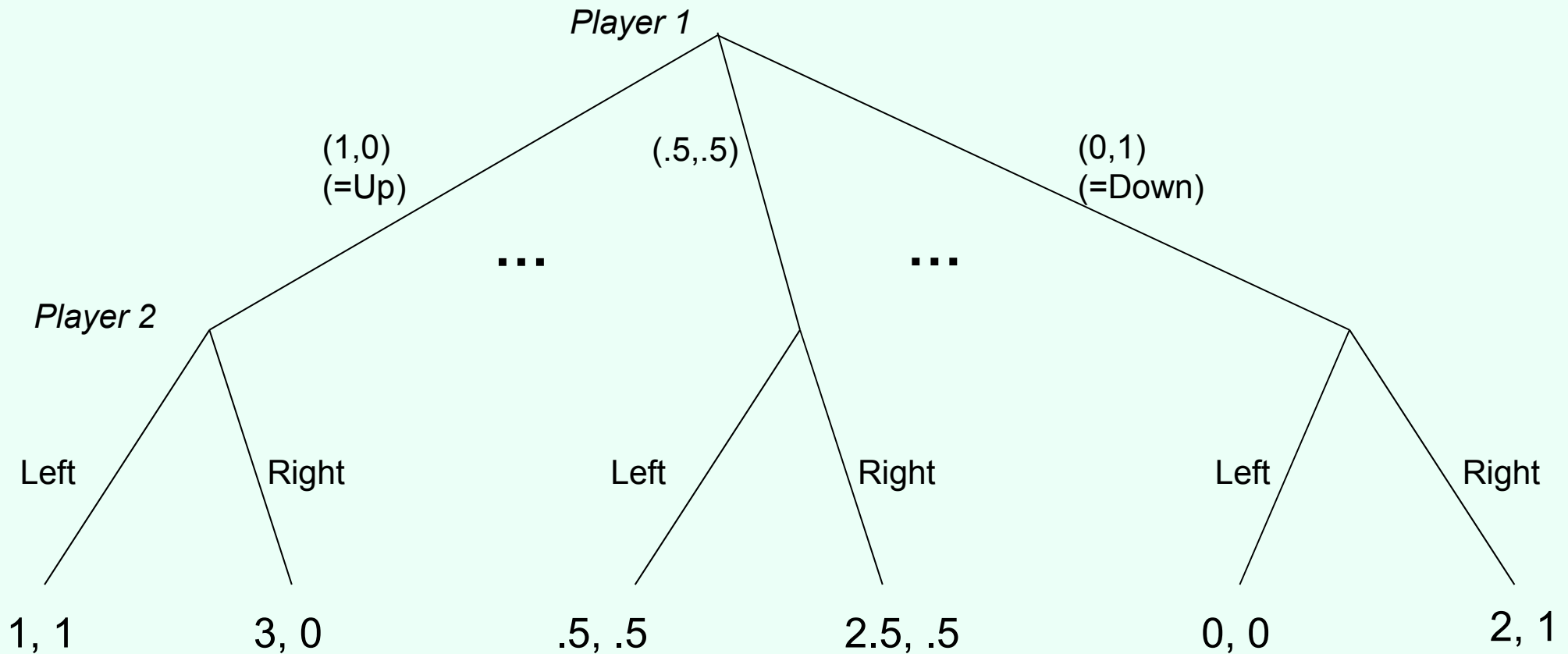
# Commitment to mixed strategies

	0	1
.49	1, 1	3, 0
.51	0, 0	2, 1

- Sometimes also called a **Stackelberg (mixed) strategy**

# Commitment as an extensive-form game...

- ... for the case of committing to a mixed strategy:



- Economist: Just an extensive-form game, nothing new here
- Computer scientist: **Infinite-size game!** Representation matters

# Computing the optimal mixed strategy to commit to

[C. & Sandholm EC'06, von Stengel & Zamir GEB'10]

- Separate LP for every column  $c^*$ :

maximize  $\sum_r p_r u_R(r, c^*)$  leader utility

subject to

for all  $c$ ,  $\sum_r p_r u_C(r, c^*) \geq \sum_r p_r u_C(r, c)$  follower optimality

$\sum_r p_r = 1$  distributional constraint

... applied to the previous game

p	1, 1	3, 0
q	0, 0	2, 1

*maximize*  $1p + 0q$

*subject to*

$$1p + 0q \geq 0p + 1q$$

$$p + q = 1$$

$$p \geq 0$$

$$q \geq 0$$

*maximize*  $3p + 2q$

*subject to*

$$0p + 1q \geq 1p + 0q$$

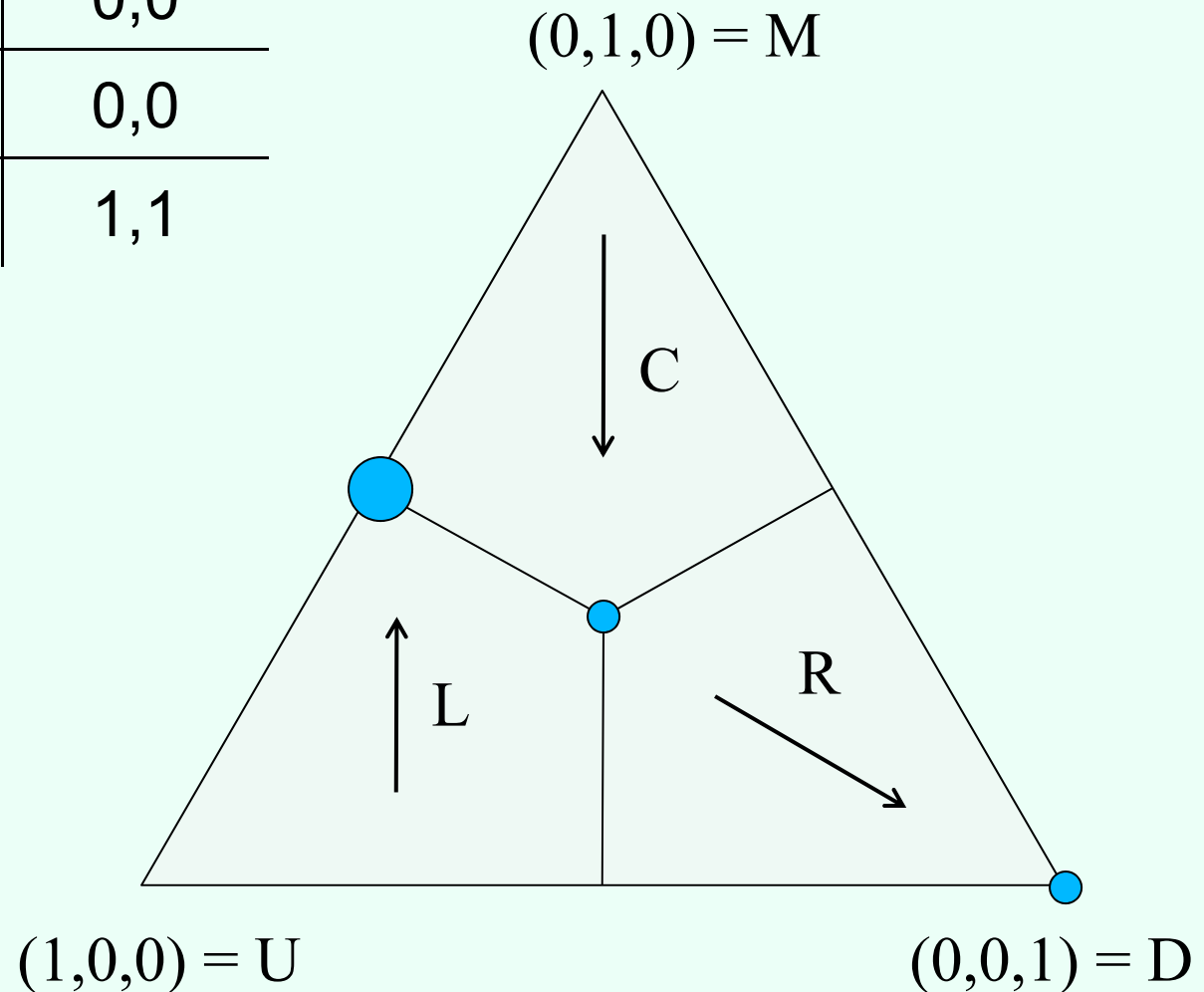
$$p + q = 1$$

$$p \geq 0$$

$$q \geq 0$$

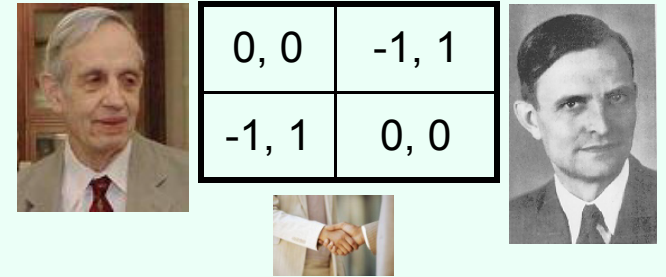
# Visualization

	L	C	R
U	0,1	1,0	0,0
M	4,0	0,1	0,0
D	0,0	1,0	1,1

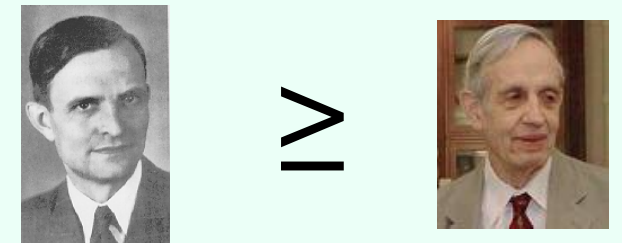


# Other nice properties of commitment to mixed strategies

- Agrees w. **Nash** in zero-sum games



- Leader's payoff **at least as good as** any Nash eq. or even correlated eq.  
(von Stengel & Zamir [GEB '10]; see also C. & Korzhyk [AAAI '11], Letchford, Korzhyk, C. [JAAMAS '14])
- No **equilibrium selection** problem



	0, 0	-1, 1
	1, -1	-5, -5



# Example security game

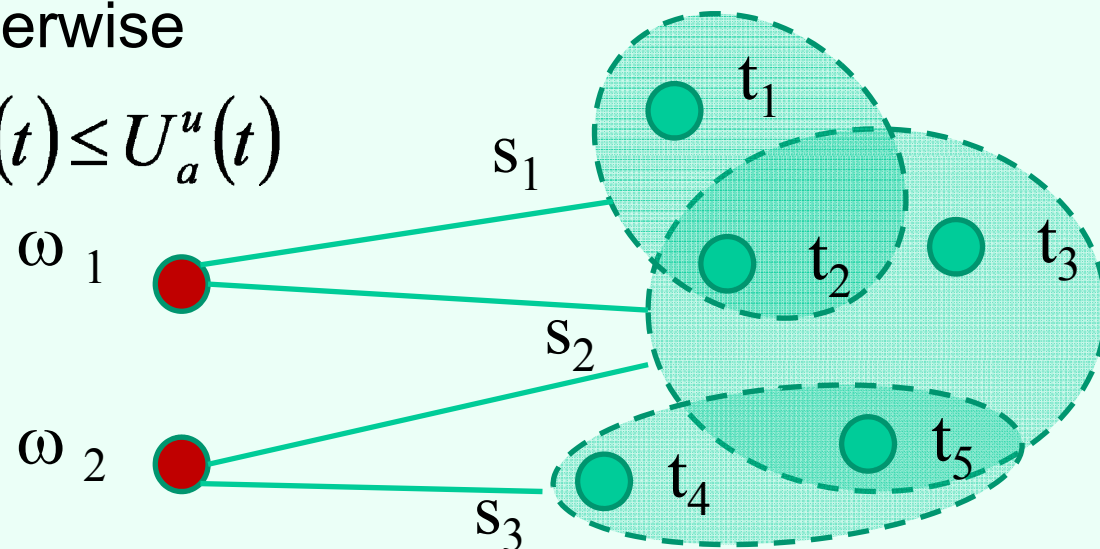
- 3 airport terminals to defend (A, B, C)
- Defender can place checkpoints at 2 of them
- Attacker can attack any 1 terminal

	A	B	C
{A, B}	0, -1	0, -1	-2, 3
{A, C}	0, -1	-1, 1	0, 0
{B, C}	-1, 1	0, -1	0, 0

# Security resource allocation games

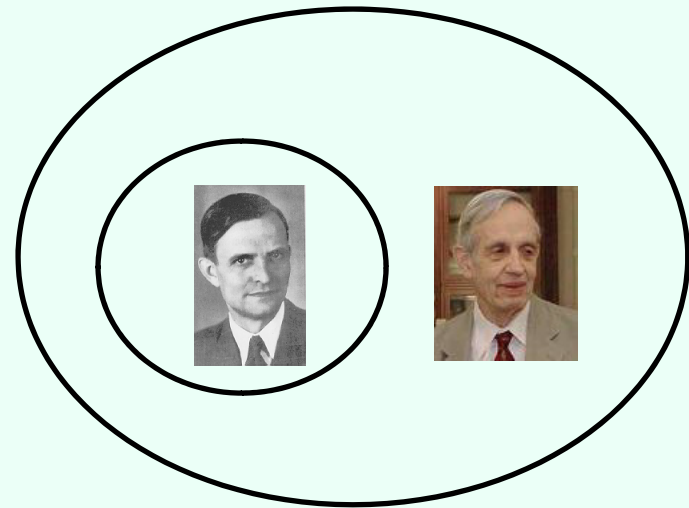
[Kiekintveld, Jain, Tsai, Pita, Ordóñez, Tambe AAMAS'09]





- Set of targets  $T$
- Set of security resources  $\Omega$  available to the defender (leader)
- Set of schedules  $S \subseteq 2^T$
- Resource  $\omega$  can be assigned to one of the schedules in  $A(\omega) \subseteq S$
- Attacker (follower) chooses one target to attack
- Utilities:  $U_d^c(t), U_a^c(t)$  if the attacked target is defended,  
 $U_d^u(t), U_a^u(t)$  otherwise
- $U_d^c(t) \geq U_d^u(t); U_a^c(t) \leq U_a^u(t)$



# Game-theoretic properties of security resource allocation games [Korzhyk, Yin, Kiekintveld, C., Tambe JAIR'11]

- For the defender:  
Stackelberg strategies are also Nash strategies
    - minor assumption needed
    - not true with multiple attacks
  - Interchangeability property for Nash equilibria (“solvable”)
    - no equilibrium selection problem
    - still true with multiple attacks
- [Korzhyk, C., Parr IJCAI'11]



		
	1, 2	1, 0
	1, 1	1, 0
	0, 1	0, 0

# Compact LP

- Cf. ERASER-C algorithm by [Kiekintveld et al. \[2009\]](#)
- Separate LP for every possible  $t^*$  attacked:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{Maximize } U_d^c(t^*) \sum_{\omega} \sum_{s:t^* \in s} c_{\omega,s} + U_d^u(t^*) \left( 1 - \sum_{\omega} \sum_{s:t^* \in s} c_{\omega,s} \right) && \text{Defender utility} \\
 & \text{Subject to} \\
 & \forall \omega : \sum_s c_{\omega,s} \leq 1 \\
 & \forall t : \sum_{\omega} \sum_{s:t \in s} c_{\omega,s} \leq 1 \\
 & \forall t : U_a^c(t) \sum_{\omega} \sum_{s:t \in s} c_{\omega,s} + U_a^u(t) \left( 1 - \sum_{\omega} \sum_{s:t \in s} c_{\omega,s} \right) \\
 & \leq U_a^c(t^*) \sum_{\omega} \sum_{s:t^* \in s} c_{\omega,s} + U_a^u(t^*) \left( 1 - \sum_{\omega} \sum_{s:t^* \in s} c_{\omega,s} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

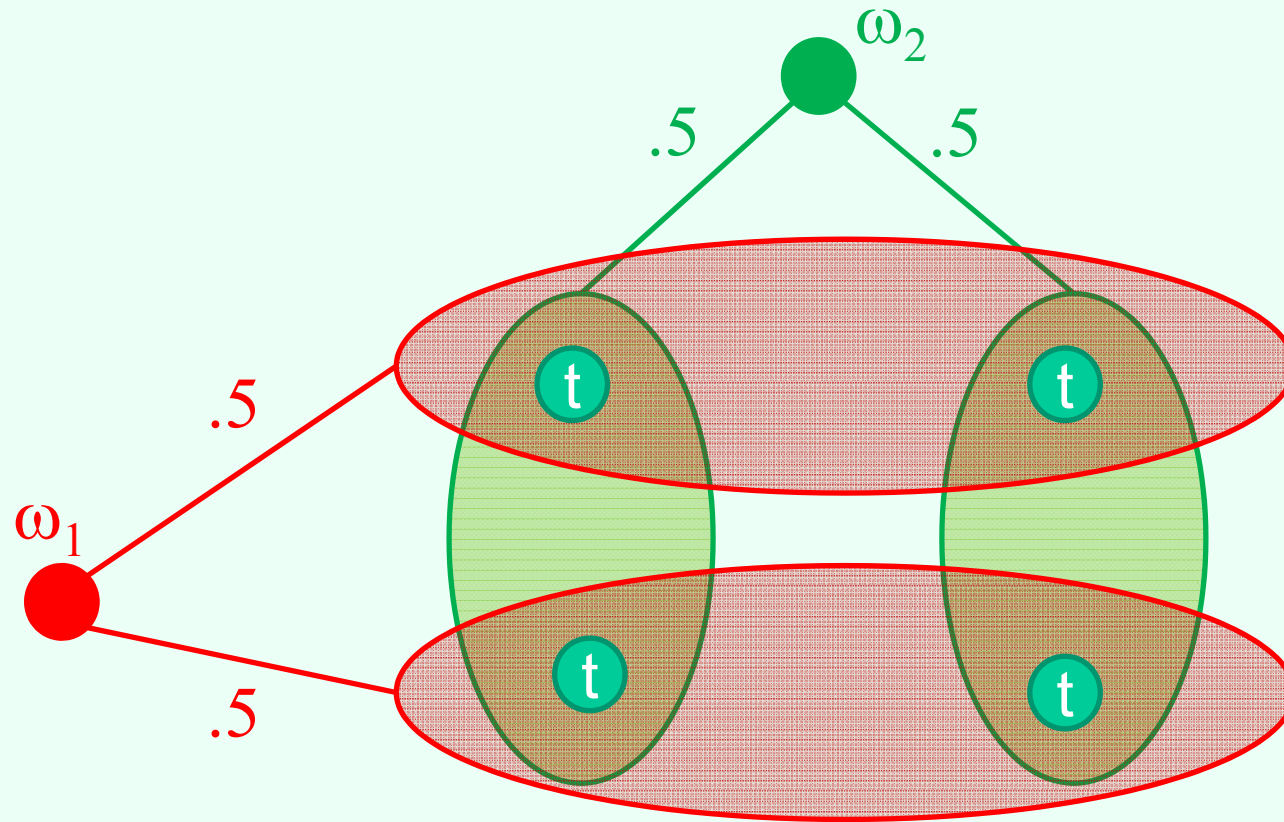
Diagram illustrating the Compact LP formulation for a defender utility maximization problem, subject to distributional constraints and attacker optimality.

The objective function is the Defender utility, which is a function of the marginal probability of  $t^*$  being defended (?).

The constraints are categorized into two groups:

- Distributional constraints:** These constraints ensure that the marginal probability of  $t^*$  being defended (?) is consistent with the distributional constraints.
- Attacker optimality:** These constraints ensure that the attacker's utility is maximized for every possible  $t^*$  attacked.

# Counter-example to the compact LP



- LP suggests that we can cover every target with probability 1...
- ... but in fact we can cover at most 3 targets at a time

# Birkhoff-von Neumann theorem

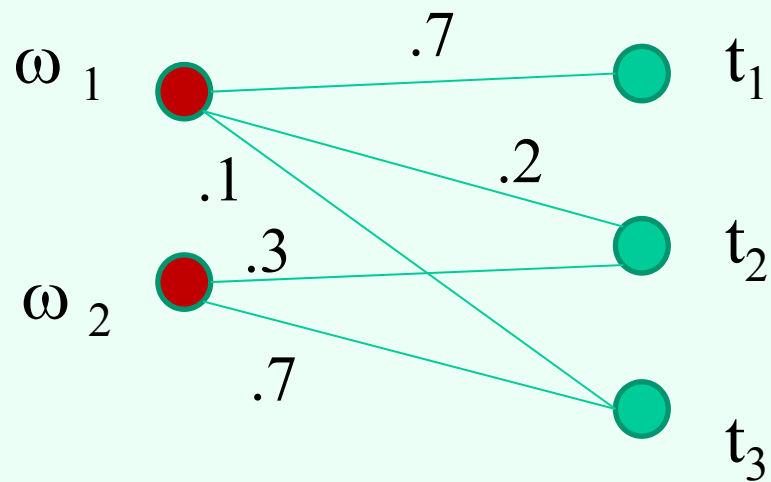
- Every *doubly stochastic*  $n \times n$  matrix can be represented as a convex combination of  $n \times n$  permutation matrices

.1	.4	.5
.3	.5	.2
.6	.1	.3

$$= .1 \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \hline 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \hline \end{array} + .1 \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \hline 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline \end{array} + .5 \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \hline 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \hline 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline \end{array} + .3 \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \hline 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

- Decomposition can be found in polynomial time  $O(n^{4.5})$ , and the size is  $O(n^2)$  [Dulmage and Halperin, 1955]
- Can be extended to *rectangular* doubly *substochastic* matrices

# Schedules of size 1 using BvN



	$t_1$	$t_2$	$t_3$
$\omega_1$	.7	.2	.1
$\omega_2$	0	.3	.7

.1

0	0	1
0	1	0

.2

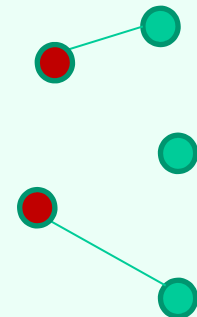
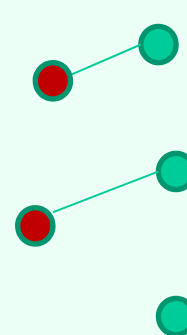
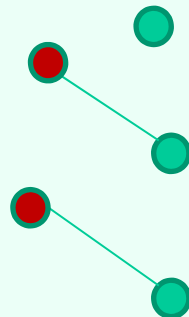
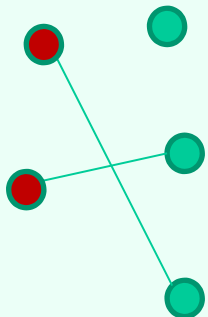
0	1	0
0	0	1

.2

1	0	0
0	1	0

.5

1	0	0
0	0	1



# Algorithms & complexity

[Korzhyk, C., Parr AAI'10]

		Homogeneous Resources	Heterogeneous resources
Schedules	Size 1	P	P (BvN theorem)
	Size $\leq 2$ , bipartite	P (BvN theorem)	NP-hard (SAT)
	Size $\leq 2$	P (constraint generation)	NP-hard
	Size $\geq 3$	NP-hard (3-COVER)	NP-hard

Also: security games on graphs

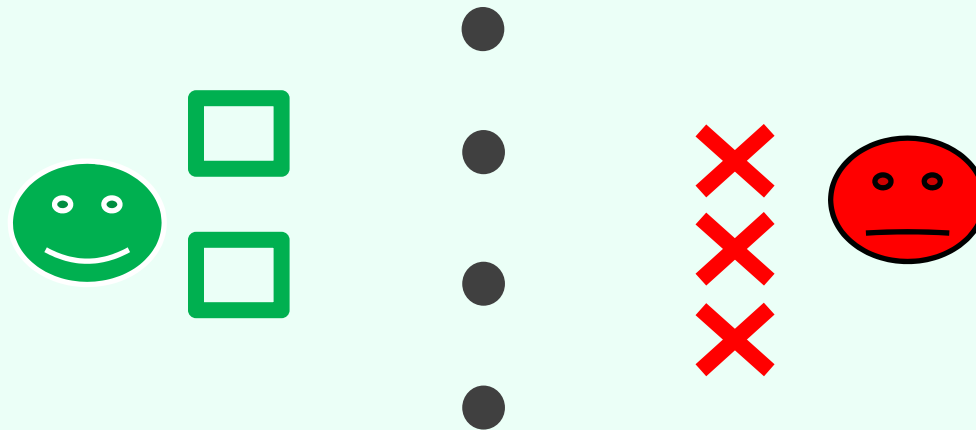
[Letchford, C. AAI'13]



# Security games with multiple attacks

[Korzhyk, Yin, Kiekintveld, C., Tambe JAIR'11]

- The attacker can choose multiple targets to attack



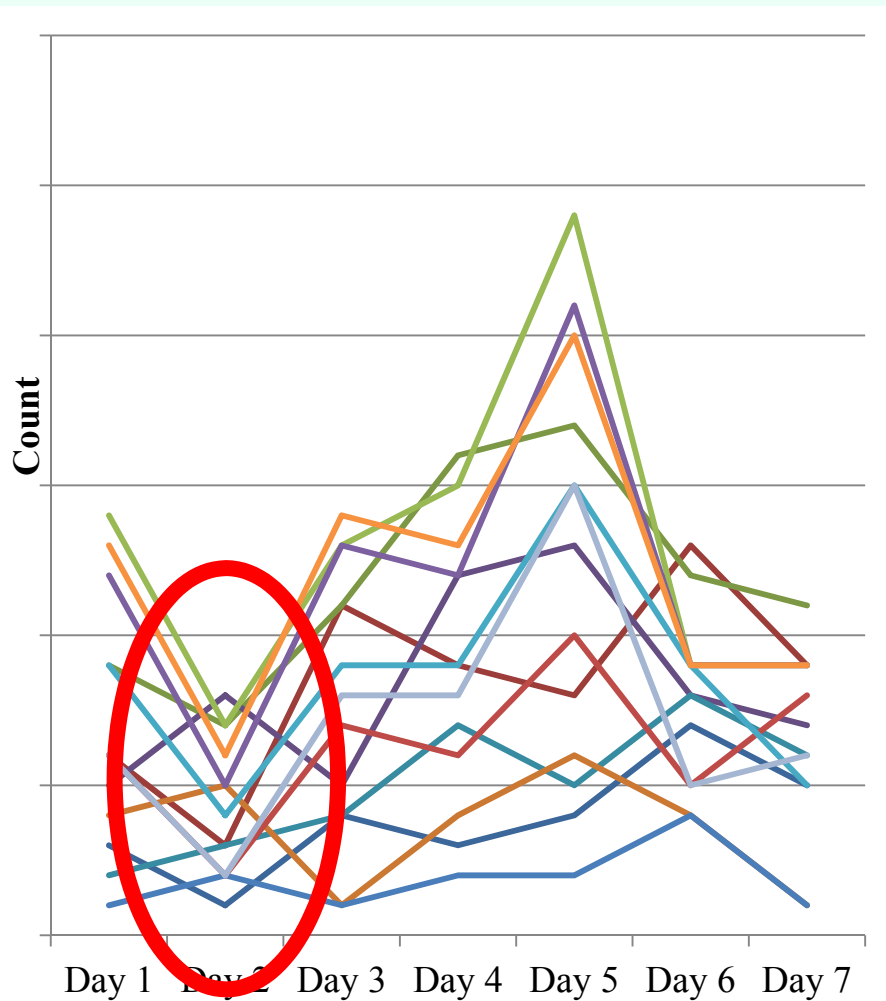
- The utilities are added over all attacked targets
- Stackelberg NP-hard; Nash polytime-solvable and interchangeable [Korzhyk, C., Parr IJCAI'11]
  - Algorithm generalizes ORIGAMI algorithm for single attack [Kiekintveld, Jain, Tsai, Pita, Ordóñez, Tambe AAMAS'09]

# Actual Security Schedules: Before vs. After

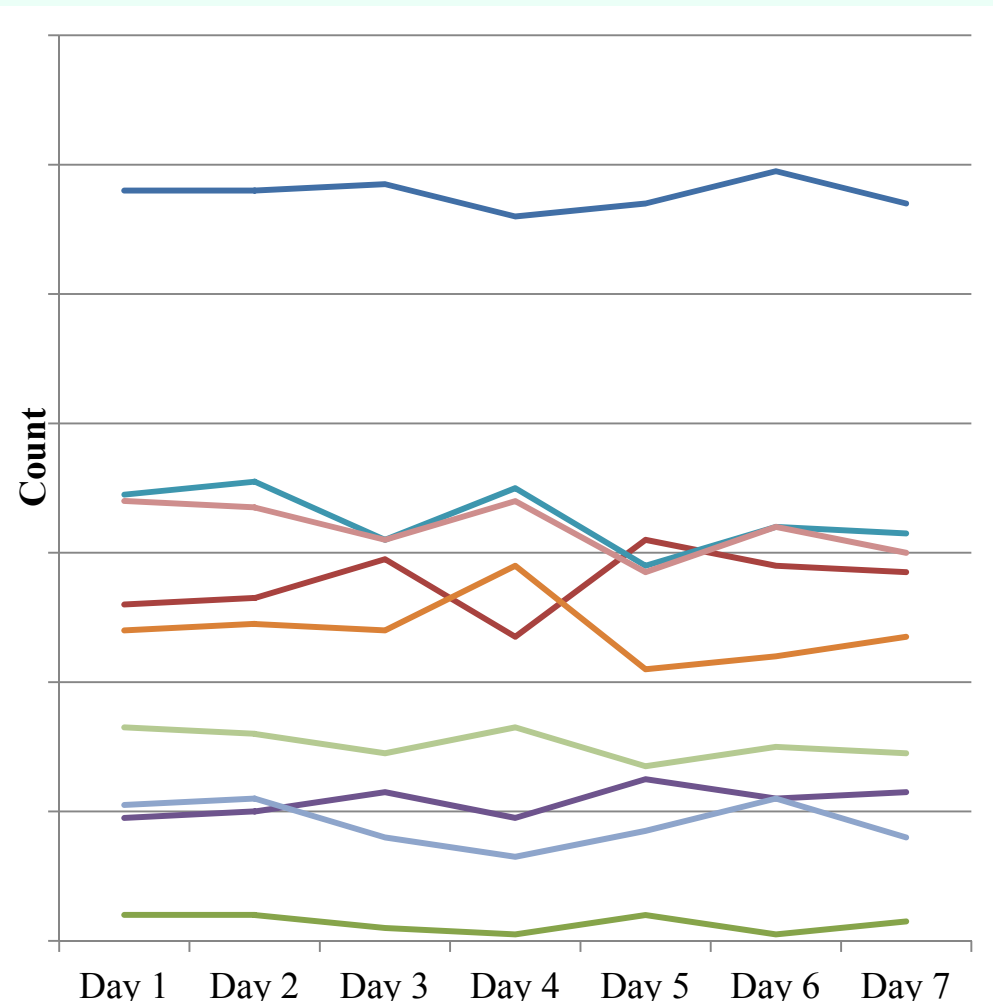
Boston, Coast Guard – “PROTECT” algorithm

*slide courtesy of Milind Tambe*

## Before PROTECT



## After PROTECT

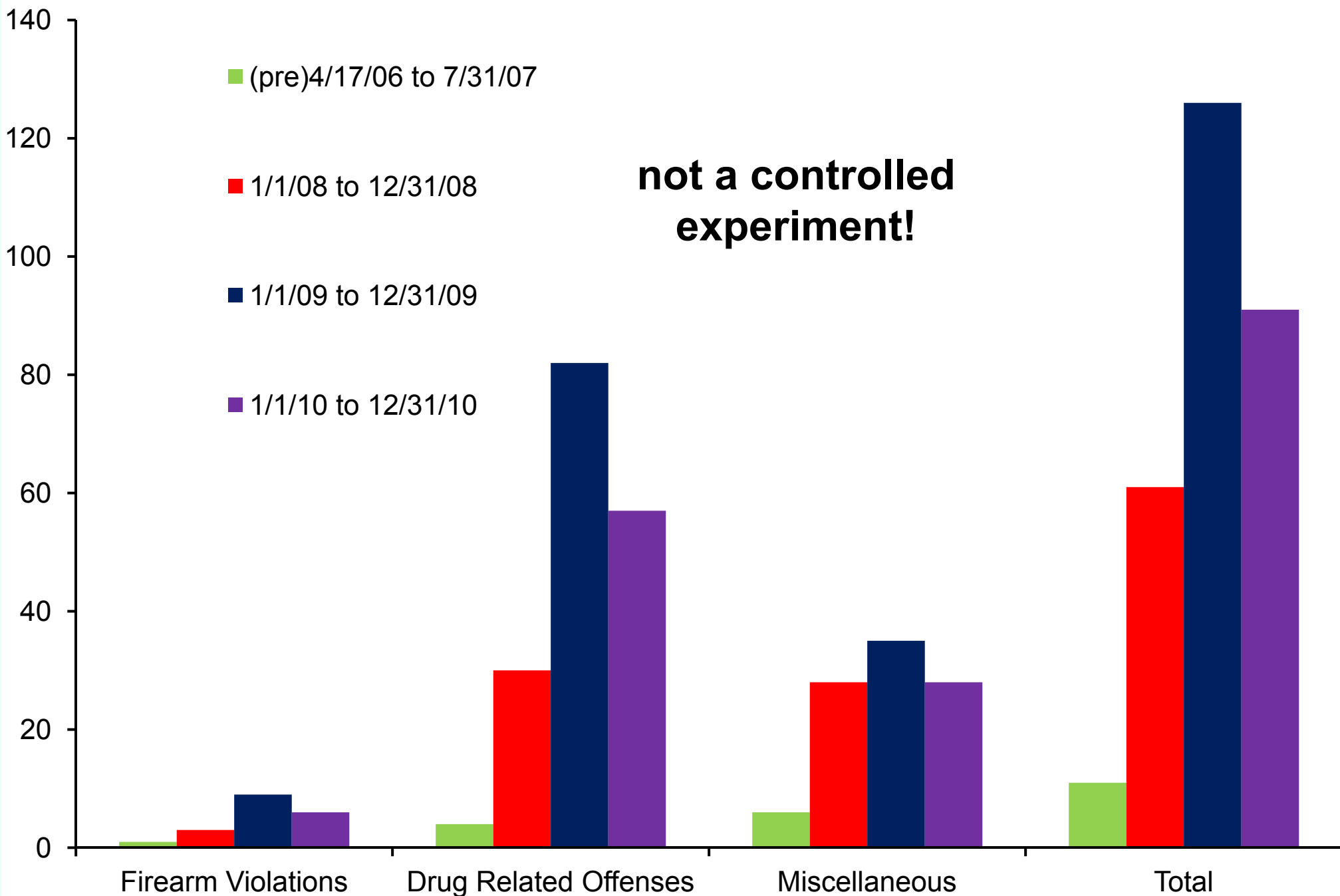


Industry port partners comment:

**“The Coast Guard seems to be everywhere, all the time.”**

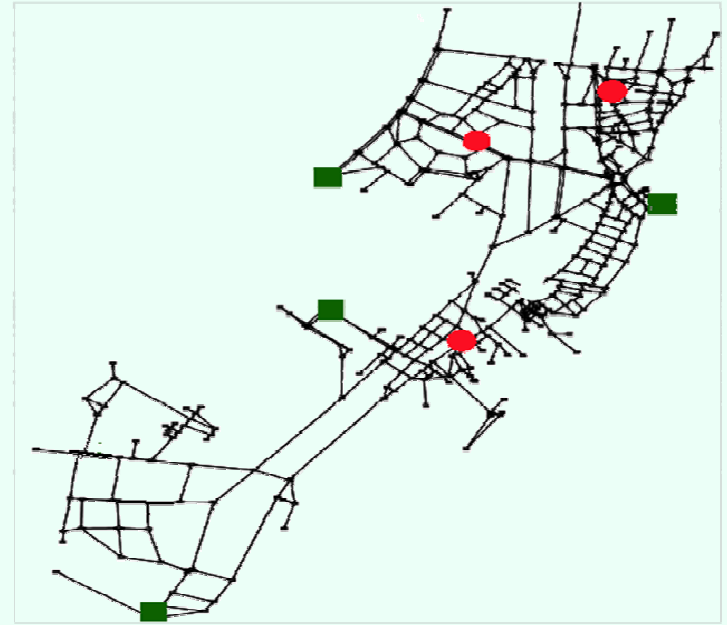
# Data from LAX checkpoints before and after “ARMOR” algorithm

*slide courtesy of  
Milind Tambe*



# Placing checkpoints in a city

[Tsai, Yin, Kwak, Kempe, Kiekintveld, Tambe AAI'10; Jain, Korzhyk, Vaněk, C., Pěchouček, Tambe AAMAS'11; Jain, C., Tambe AAMAS'13]



# In summary: CS pushing at some of the boundaries of game theory

