



The Joy of Game Theory: An Introduction to Strategic Thinking

By Presh Talwalkar

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This book is a selection of the best articles from Game Theory Tuesdays, a column from the blog Mind Your Decisions. Articles from Game Theory Tuesdays have been referenced in *The Freakonomics Blog*, *Yahoo Finance*, and *CNN.com*. Game theory is the study of interactive decision making--that is, in situations where each person's action affects the outcome for the whole group. Game theory is a beautiful subject and this book will teach you how to understand the theory and practically implement solutions through a series of stories and the aid of over 30 illustrations. This book has two primary objectives. (1) To help you recognize strategic games, like the Prisoner's Dilemma, Bertrand Duopoly, Hotelling's Game, the Game of Chicken, and Mutually Assured Destruction. (2) To show you how to make better decisions and change the game, a powerful concept that can transform no-win situations into mutually beneficial outcomes. You'll learn how to negotiate better by making your threats credible, sometimes limiting options or burning bridges, and thinking about new ways to create better outcomes. As these goals indicate, game theory is about more than board games and gambling. It all seems so simple, and yet that definition belies the complexity of game theory. While it may only take seconds to get a sense of game theory, it takes a lifetime to appreciate and master it. This book will get you started.

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The Joy of Game Theory: An Introduction to Strategic Thinking By Presh Talwalkar Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #228349 in Books
- Published on: 2014-08-08
- Original language: English
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x .35" w x 6.00" l,
- Binding: Paperback
- 154 pages

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Presh Talwalkar runs the YouTube channel and blog Mind Your Decisions, which features videos and articles about math and game theory that have been viewed millions of times. He studied Economics and Mathematics at Stanford University.

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