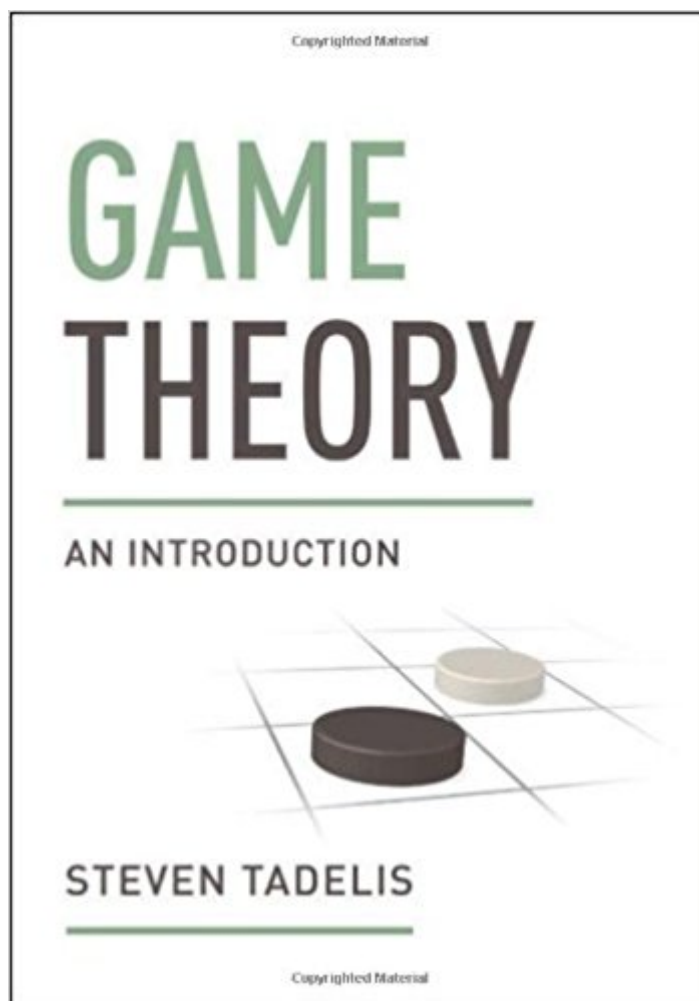


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# Game Theory: An Introduction



## Synopsis

This comprehensive textbook introduces readers to the principal ideas and applications of game theory, in a style that combines rigor with accessibility. Steven Tadelis begins with a concise description of rational decision making, and goes on to discuss strategic and extensive form games with complete information, Bayesian games, and extensive form games with imperfect information. He covers a host of topics, including multistage and repeated games, bargaining theory, auctions, rent-seeking games, mechanism design, signaling games, reputation building, and information transmission games. Unlike other books on game theory, this one begins with the idea of rationality and explores its implications for multiperson decision problems through concepts like dominated strategies and rationalizability. Only then does it present the subject of Nash equilibrium and its derivatives. Game Theory is the ideal textbook for advanced undergraduate and beginning graduate students. Throughout, concepts and methods are explained using real-world examples backed by precise analytic material. The book features many important applications to economics and political science, as well as numerous exercises that focus on how to formalize informal situations and then analyze them. Introduces the core ideas and applications of game theory Covers static and dynamic games, with complete and incomplete information Features a variety of examples, applications, and exercises Topics include repeated games, bargaining, auctions, signaling, reputation, and information transmission Ideal for advanced undergraduate and beginning graduate students Complete solutions available to teachers and selected solutions available to students

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"The book is enjoyable to read and truly an enrichment in game theory. It is widely well-structured and well-written and mathematically correct. The purpose is given perfectly. I recommend the book for researchers and graduate students who wants to get some insight in the area of game theory."--Sirma Zeynep, Zentralblatt MATH

"The book aims to be precise and rigorous, yet accessible and reader-friendly, and, to a great extent, it does hit these apparently conflicting targets. . . . The depth of the book is intermediate, with a conventional, yet clear, style of writing. It will please mainstream economists. . . . It can help advanced undergraduates and also students at honors or master's levels. It can also be used by PhD students seeking a fast, not so mathematized introduction to the field."--Jose Rodrigues-Neto, Economic Record

"Concise, lucid and highly readable. . . . Describing a textbook as 'reader-friendly' is often something of a platitude, but here one does feel that the author is always on your side. It is a rigorous, precise and accessible account of the subject which will no doubt be an invaluable resource for students of the subject."--David Vaccaro, Mathematical Gazette

"Steve Tadelis's Game Theory is an ideal textbook for advanced undergraduates, and great preparation for graduate work. It provides a clear, self-contained, and rigorous treatment of all the key concepts, along with interesting applications; it also introduces key technical tools in a straightforward and intuitive way."--Drew Fudenberg, Harvard University

"Steven Tadelis is a leading scholar in applied game theory, and his expertise shines through in this excellent new text. Aimed at intermediate to advanced undergraduates, it presents and discusses the theory remarkably clearly, at both the intuitive and formal levels. One novel feature I like is its serious consideration of the decision theoretic foundations of game theory. Another is its transparent presentation of relatively recent topics and applications, such as reputations in asymmetric information games, legislative bargaining, and cheap talk communication."--Steve Matthews, University of Pennsylvania

"Steve Tadelis has written an up-to-date, comprehensive, yet reader-friendly introductory textbook to game theory. He explains difficult concepts in an exceptionally clear and simple way, making the book accessible to students with a minimal background in mathematics. The abundance of examples and illustrations, drawing from economics, political science, and business strategy, not only shows the wide range of applications of game theory, but also makes the book attractive and fun to read. Tadelis's book will undoubtedly become a reference textbook for a first course in game

theory."--Francis Bloch, *École Polytechnique*"These days, game theory plays an essential role not only in economics, but in many other branches of social and engineering science, as well as philosophy, biology, psychology, even law. In all these disciplines, students and instructors alike should welcome this excellent resource for mastering the key tools of modern game theory."--Peter Hammond, University of Warwick"It's hard to write a game theory textbook that strikes a good balance between precision and accessibility. But Steve Tadelis has accomplished this juggling act, with style and humor besides."--Eric S. Maskin, Nobel Laureate in Economics, Harvard University"Game theory is a powerful tool for understanding strategic behavior in business, politics, and other settings. Steve Tadelis's text provides an ideal guide, taking you from first principles of decision theory to models of bargaining, auctions, signaling, and reputation building in a style that is both rigorous and reader-friendly."--Jonathan Levin, Stanford University"Game Theory fills a void in the literature, serving as a text for an advanced undergraduate--or masters-level class. It has more detail than most undergraduate texts, while still being accessible to a broad audience and stopping short of the more technical approach of PhD-level texts. This is a valuable book, written by a meticulous scholar who is an expert in the field."--Matthew O. Jackson, author of *Social and Economic Networks*"This is a great text, just at the right level for fourth-year undergraduates. The style is just right and the exercises are of high quality. Flow and organization are major strengths of the book--I can follow the text almost as is for the class I teach."--Luca Anderlini, Georgetown University

I was 'recommended' (not required) to purchase this book for a grad-level Game Theory class. I'm so glad I did!Our class textbook is a little too complex and it's easy to miss the bigger picture, but in this book by Tadelis, the concepts are thoroughly explained for the novice reader AND it has the details which provide the necessary depth to understand the topics. I like the examples, the manner of writing (on your level, not above or at you), and it's made understanding Game Theory much more practical. Overall, I highly recommend this book for a student (or an intellectually curious learner) to help understand the complexity (and fun) that is Game Theory.

This book expects the reader to understand derivatives, integrals, and probability distributions. If you've learned about those topics and you want to learn about game theory, then this book is perfect. It gives plenty of thorough mathematical examples alongside detailed yet concise analogous written descriptions. Some concepts are described with set theory, but the author is careful to explain what each symbol means to unfamiliar readers. I think that this book is informative

and well written, and I'm fairly picky about what I complement.

Steve Tadelis's "Game Theory" is an amazing textbook that combines accessibility and rigor with many nice applications. It is ideal for advanced undergraduate and beginning graduate students. This book is an excellent first step before venturing into an advanced book like Fudenberg and Tirole (Game Theory).

It formalizes logic that can be used in games. I would imagine it may be a difficult read if the reader doesn't have a foundation in mathematics and probability. If the reader does have a mathematical background, then they will appreciate the author's treatment of the subject area.

It's pretty good

good

Fantastic. Good combines rigor with an introductory approach very well.

excellent

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