

# Robust Coin Flipping

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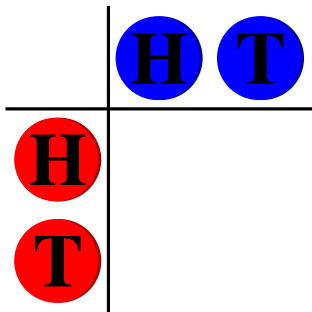
*jwiltshiregordon@umich.edu*

April 15, 2012

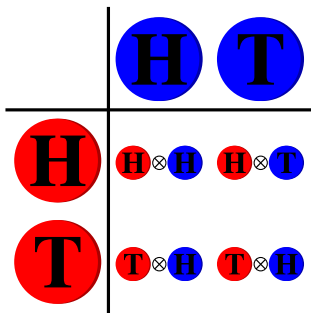
# Sport Match



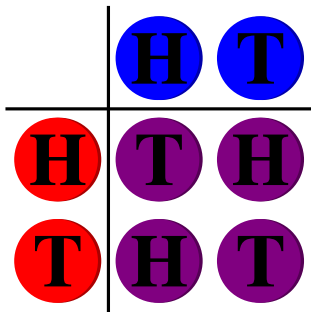
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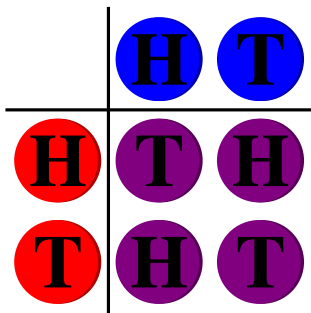
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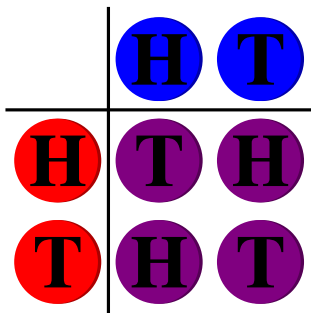


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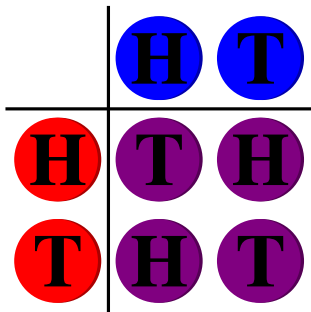
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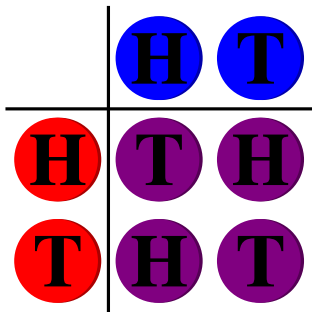


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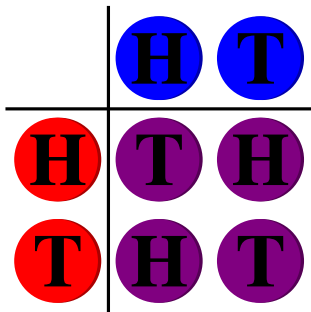
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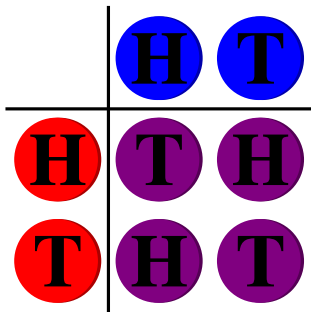
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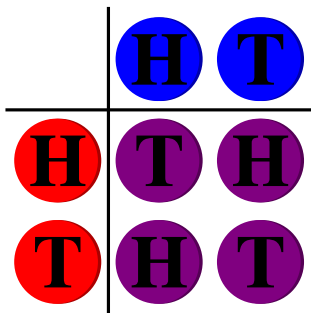


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Once you discover  $A$  the problem is easy.

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2. Recast problem in terms of multilinear algebra:  
“Does there exist a multilinear operator with these properties? If so, can I construct one?”
3. Draw on a rich array of techniques in algebraic geometry to find or disprove the key multilinear operator

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We hope to convince you that  
the techniques are *serious* and *practical*.

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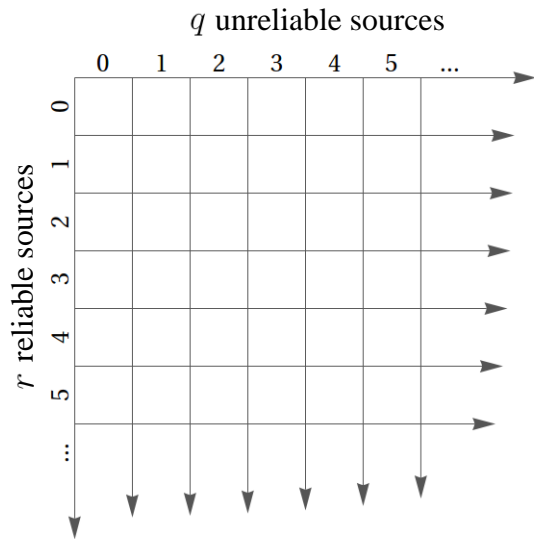
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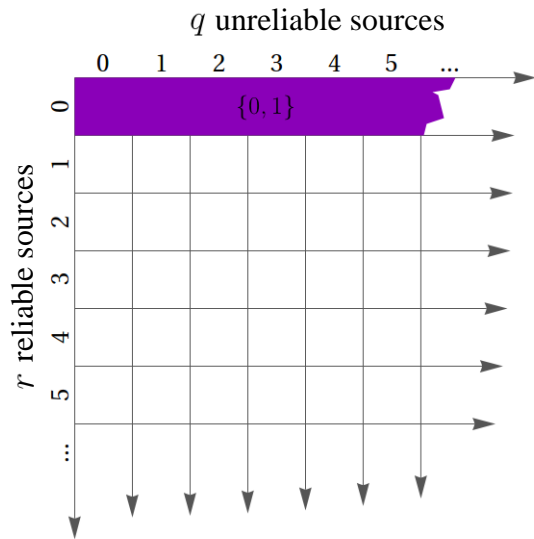
the probability of tails is  $1 - \alpha$ .



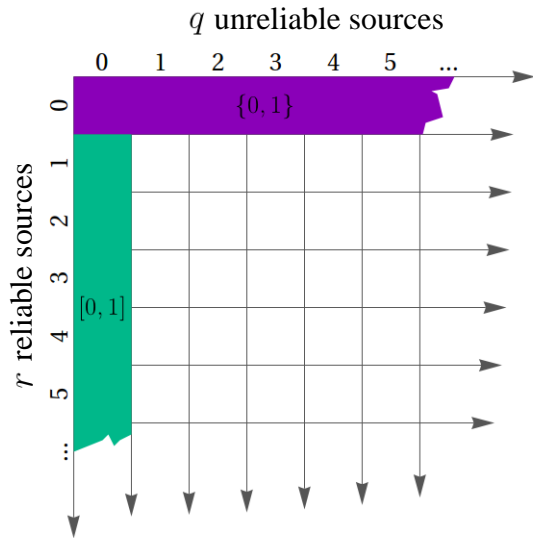
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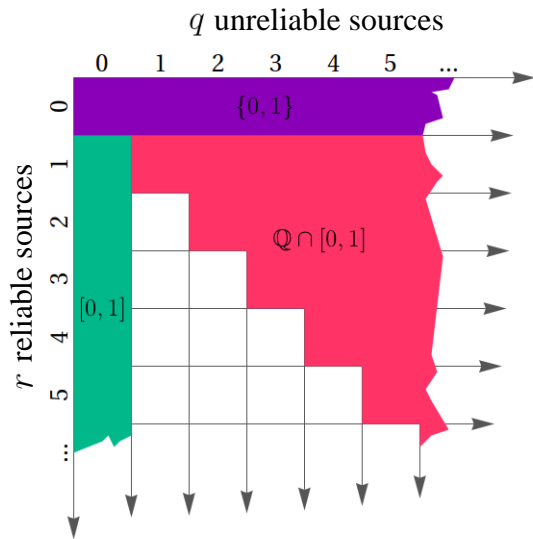
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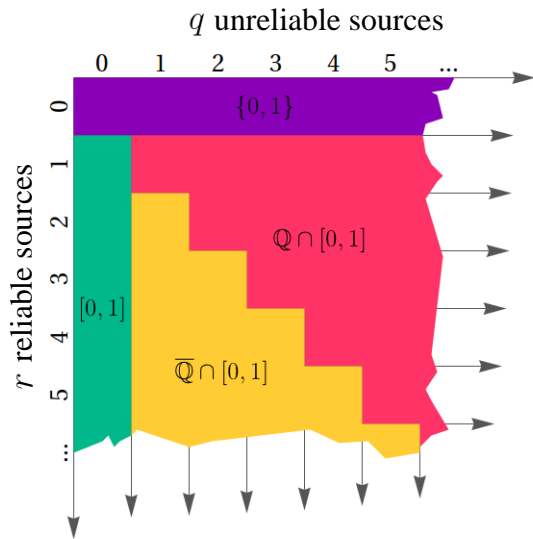
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Works if even one source is reliable (i.e. if  $r \geq 1$ )

# When $p = 2$ , Every $\alpha$ is Rational

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- But any nontrivial Galois conjugate of  $\alpha$  would violate the lemma!

# Restatement using Multilinear Algebra

For  $p = 3$ ,  $q = 1$ , we want to find a  $\{0, 1\}$ -hypermatrix  $A$  and probability vectors  $\beta^{(i)}$  such that, for all probability vectors  $x^{(i)}$ ,

$$\alpha = A(x^{(1)}, \beta^{(2)}, \beta^{(3)}) = A(\beta^{(1)}, x^{(2)}, \beta^{(3)}) = A(\beta^{(1)}, \beta^{(2)}, x^{(3)}).$$

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So  $\alpha J - A$  satisfies the degeneracy conditions:

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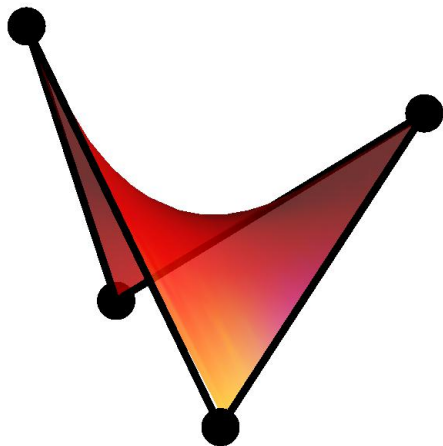
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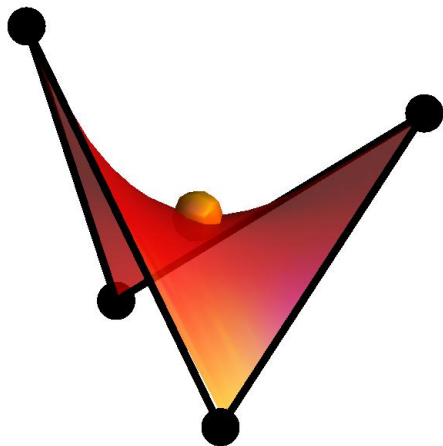
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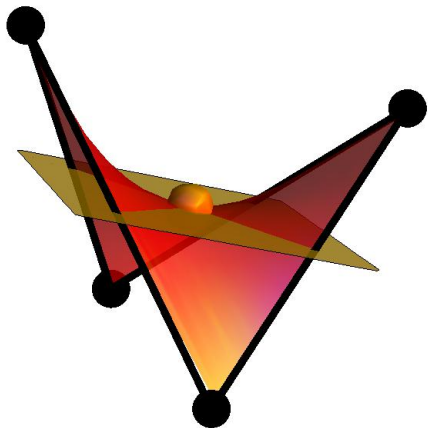
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$$\iff \text{Det}(\alpha J - A) = 0$$







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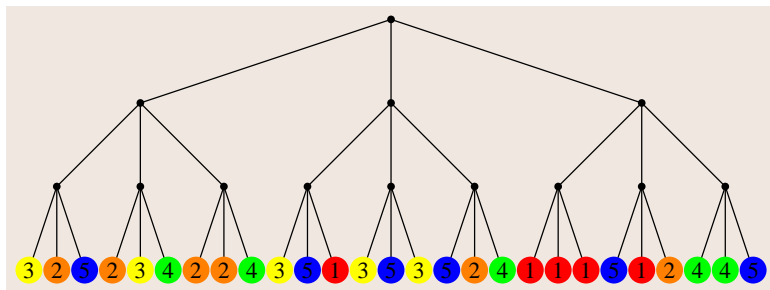
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Proof in two steps:

- Use algebraic geometry to produce a point on the variety
- Use Diophantine approximation and analysis to wiggle the solution into the positive cone

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- Deduce general case from  $p = 3, q = 1$  case using the Bureaucracy Lemma.



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- Thank you!