



TCC 2018 (Goa)

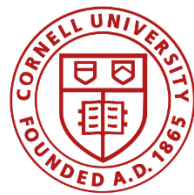
# Game Theoretic Notions of Fairness in Multi-Party Coin Toss

Kai-Min Chung, Yue Guo, **Wei-Kai Lin**, Rafael Pass, and Elaine Shi

Nov 13, 2018



中央研究院  
ACADEMIA SINICA



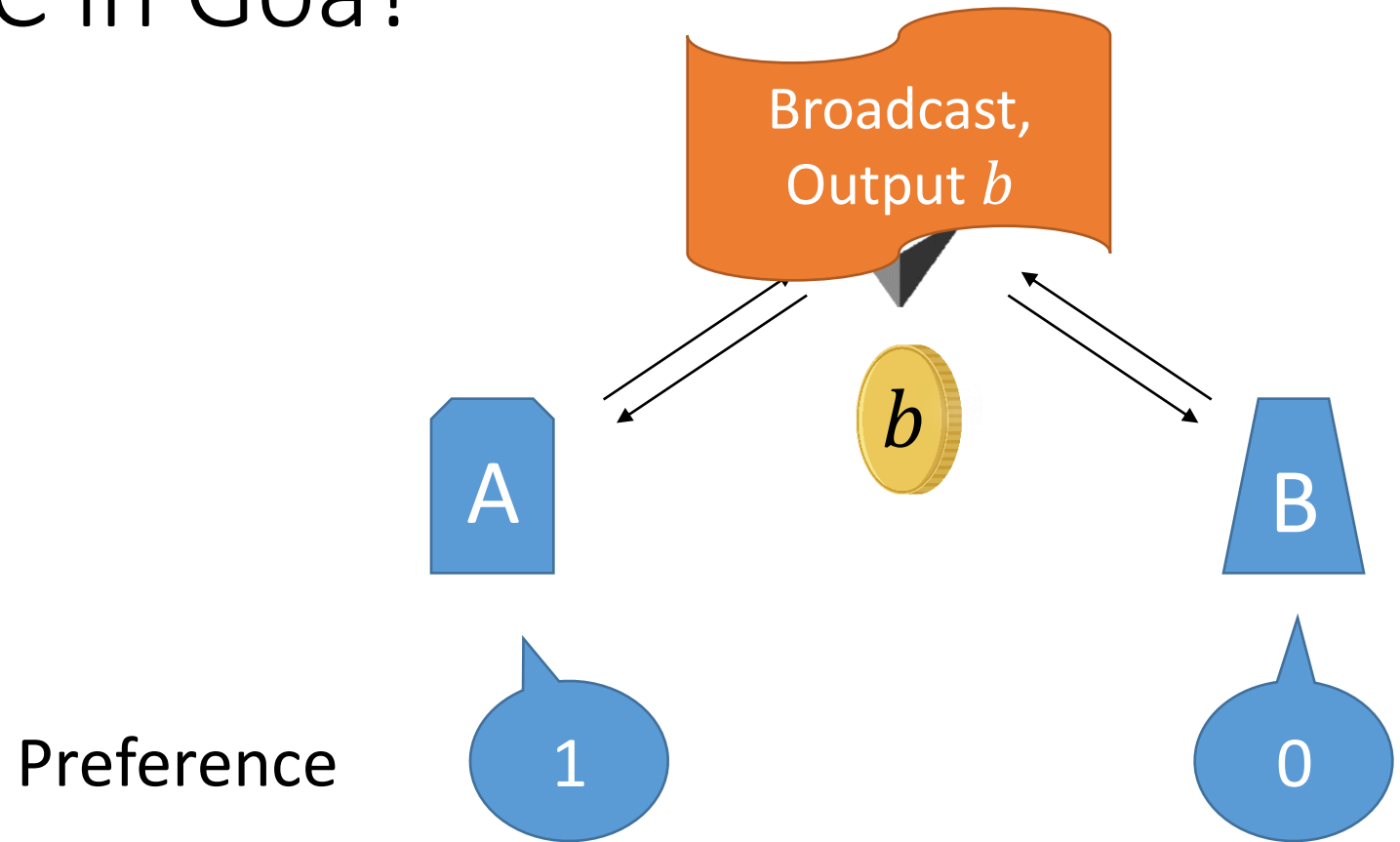
Cornell University

**CORNELL  
TECH**

HOME OF THE JACOBS  
TECHNION-CORNELL  
INSTITUTE

# Who Gets to TCC in Goa?

- Soft merge of A and B
- Only one gets to present



---

|        |         |   |   |
|--------|---------|---|---|
| Payoff | $b = 0$ | 0 | 1 |
|        | $b = 1$ | 1 | 0 |

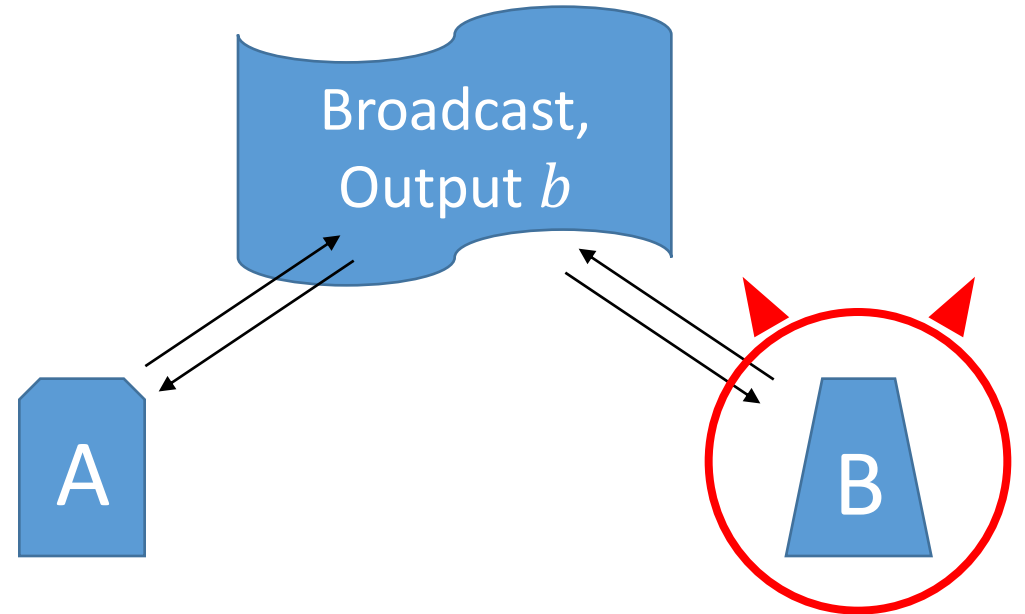
# Strong Fairness of Coin Toss

Expected **output** of honest = 0.5

Corrupt majority, aborts early

[Cleve'86] Any  $n$ -party,  $n \geq 2$ ,  
**Impossible** even adversary is  
comp-bounded and fail-stop

fail-stop:  
aborts early,  
otherwise honest



Preference

1

0

Payoff

$b = 0$

0

1

$b = 1$

1

0

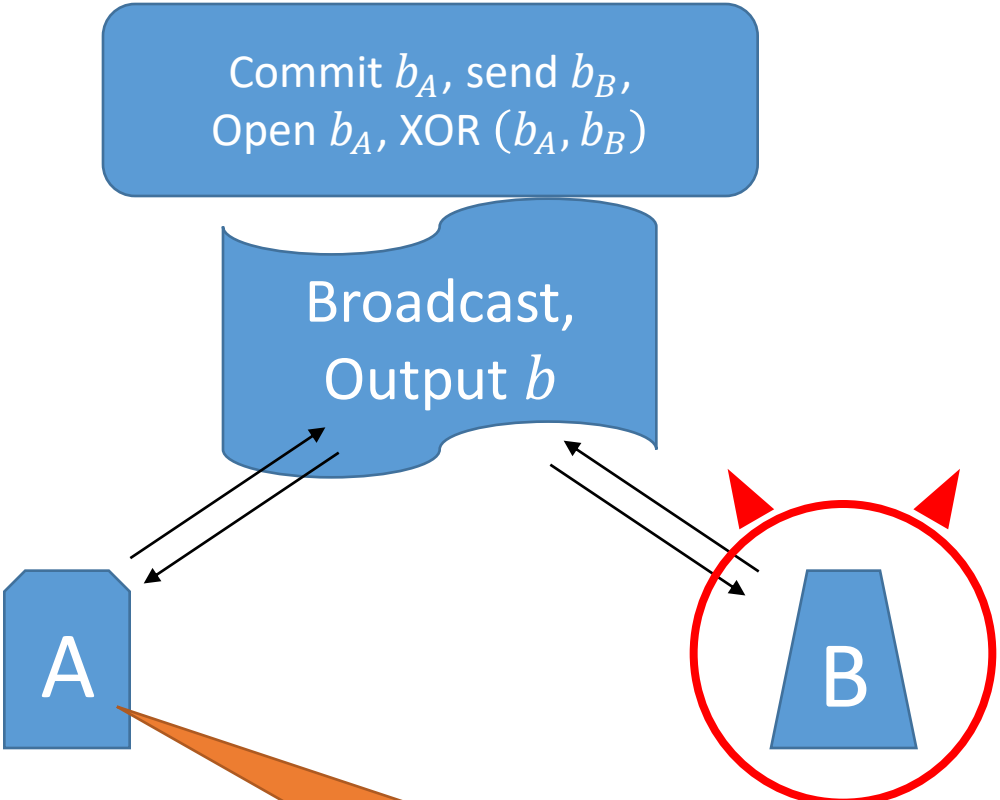
# Blum's Coin Toss

Intuition: no harm to honest

Expected **payoff** of honest  $\geq 0.5$

[Blum'81]  
**2-party protocol** from  
 crypto commitments

Preference

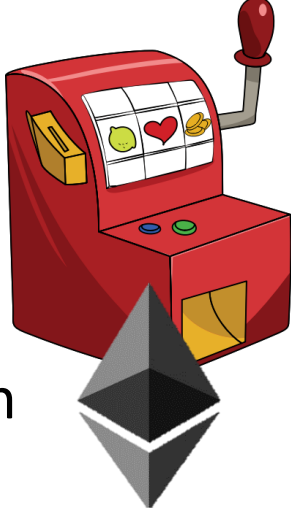
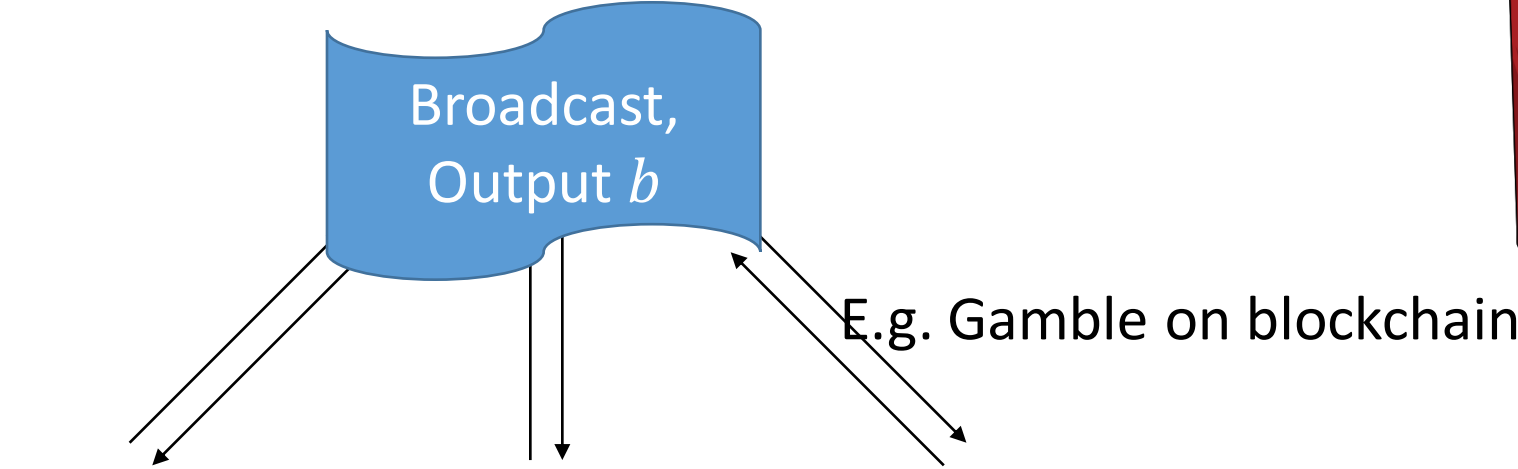


If B aborts early,  
 then A outputs 1

|        |         |   |   |
|--------|---------|---|---|
| Payoff | $b = 0$ | 0 | 1 |
|        | $b = 1$ | 1 | 0 |

# Definition of 3-Party Weak Fairness?

Public-identifiable abort



Public

Preference

|            |   |                |                  |
|------------|---|----------------|------------------|
|            | A | B              | C                |
|            |   | Static corrupt | Corrupt majority |
| Preference | 1 | 0              | 1                |

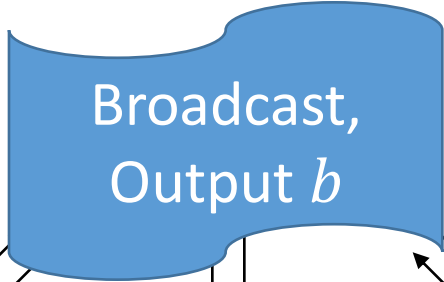
Payoff

$b = 0$   
 $b = 1$

|         |   |   |   |
|---------|---|---|---|
|         | A | B | C |
| Payoff  |   |   |   |
| $b = 0$ | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| $b = 1$ | 1 | 0 | 1 |

# Definition of Maximin Fairness

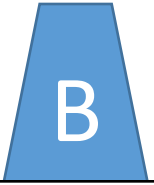
Public-identifiable abort



Expected **payoff** of honest  $\geq 0.5$

No harm to honest payoff

There are several "natural extensions"



Static corrupt

Corrupt majority

Public

Preference

1

0

1

Payoff

$b = 0$

0

1

0

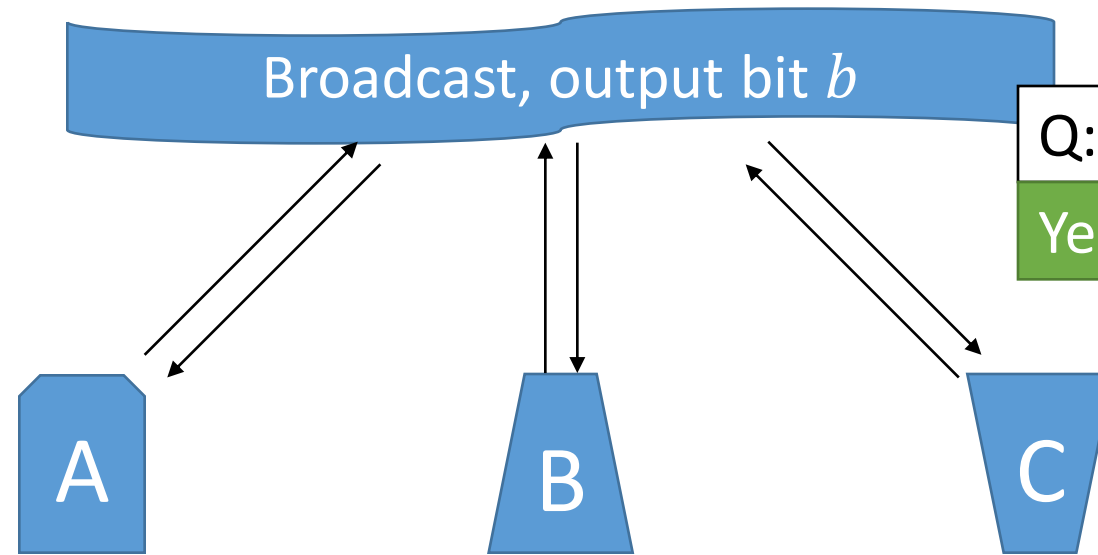
$b = 1$

1

0

1

# Maximin Fairness of 3-Party, Unanimous



Q: Weak fairness?  
Yes, Just output preference

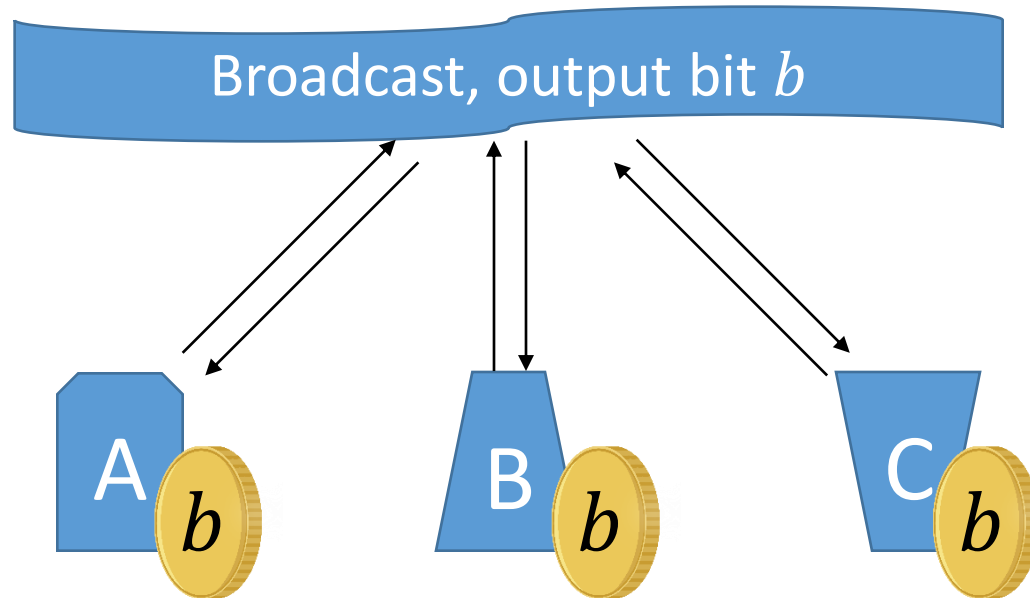
Public

|            |   |   |   |
|------------|---|---|---|
| Preference | 1 | 1 | 1 |
|------------|---|---|---|

|        |         |   |   |   |
|--------|---------|---|---|---|
| Payoff | $b = 0$ | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|        | $b = 1$ | 1 | 1 | 1 |

# Maximin Fairness of 3-Party, Fail-Stop

abort early,  
otherwise honest



Q: Weak fairness?

Yes:

1. B sample bit  $b$ , sends  $b$  to A, C
2. A, C output  $b$  if received, output 1 if not received; B output  $b$

Public  
Preference

1

0

1

Payoff

$b = 0$

0

1

0

$b = 1$

1

0

1



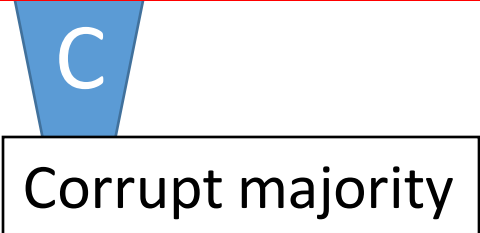
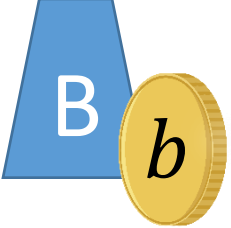
# Maximin Fairness of 3-Party, Malicious?

abort early & tamper random tape

Broadcast, output bit  $b$

No harm to honest payoff

Maximin fairness is **impossible**  
Even **comp-bounded** adversary



Public Preference

1

0

1

Payoff

$b = 0$

0

1

0

$b = 1$

1

0

1

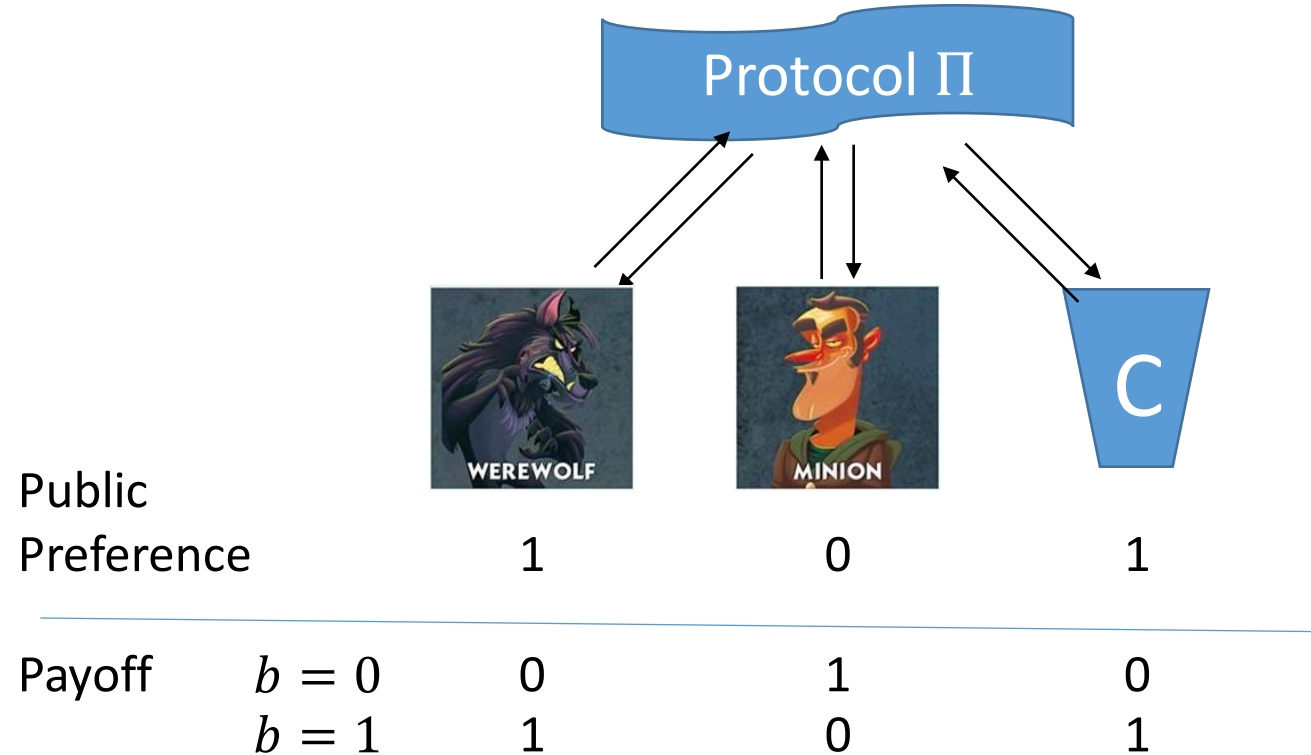
# Proof of Impossibility

Impossible even comp-bounded adversary

No harm to honest payoff

Proof roadmap:

1. [Lone-wolf] Single corrupt A (or C)
2. [Lone-minion] Single corrupt B
3. [Wolf-minion] Corrupt A+B (or C+B)



# Proof of Impossibility

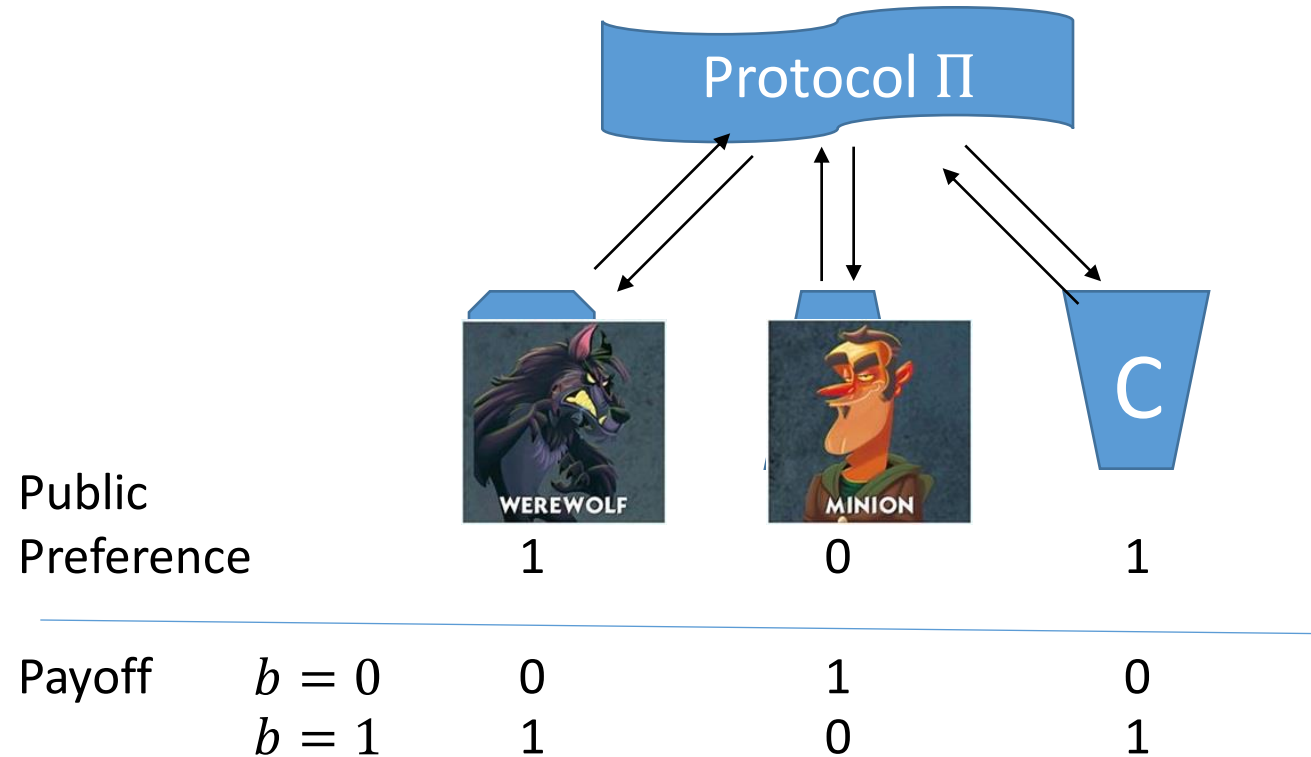
Impossible even comp-bounded adversary

No harm to honest payoff

Proof roadmap:

1. [Lone-wolf] Single corrupt A (or C)
2. [Lone-minion] Single corrupt B
3. [Wolf-minion] Corrupt A+B (or C+B)

Cleve's Attackers



# Lone-Wolf Condition

Claim:

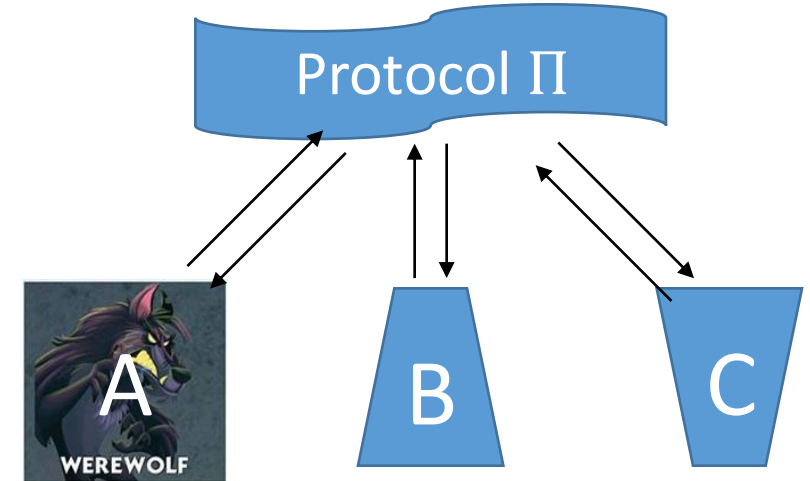
Single-corrupt lone-wolf A (or C) cannot make any bias

$$E[b] = 0.5$$

Proof.

By fairness, cannot harm honest B and C.

No harm to honest payoff



Public Preference

1

0

1

Payoff

$b = 0$

0

1

0

$b = 1$

1

0

1

# Lone-Minion Condition

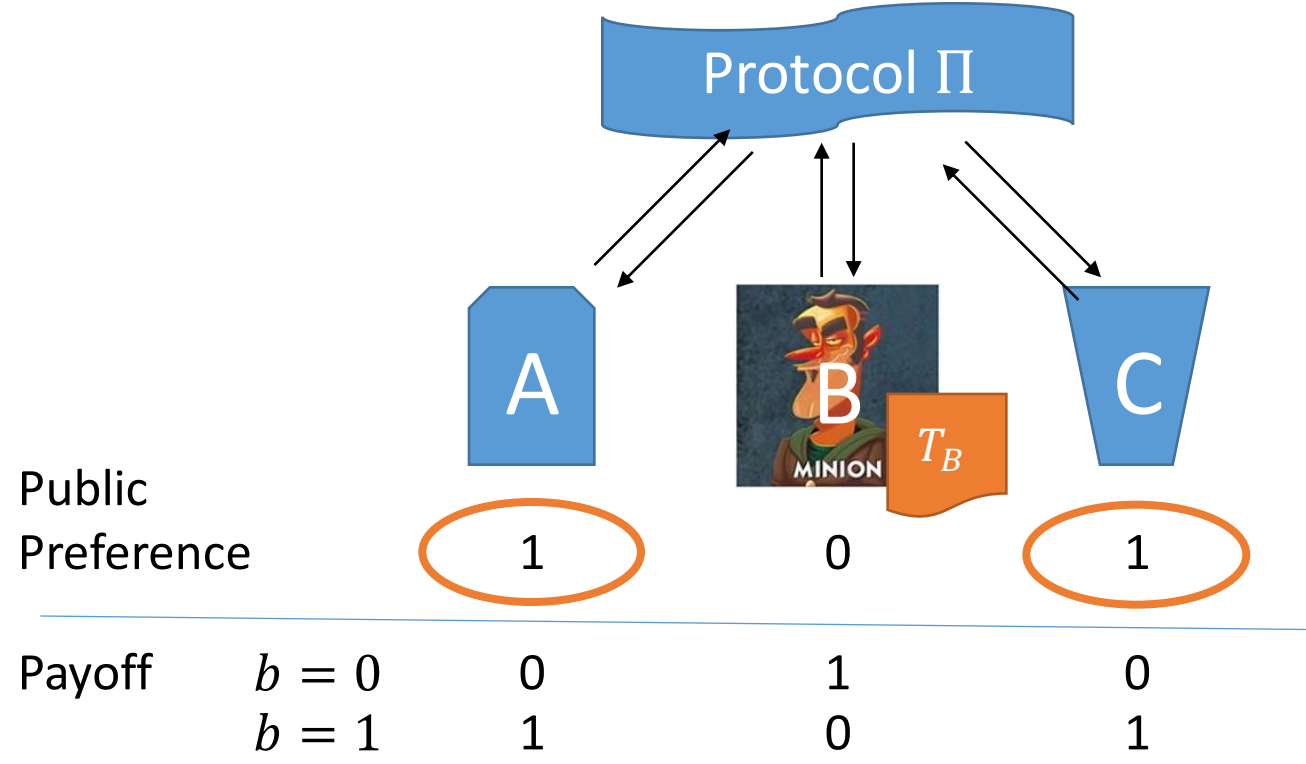
Claim:  
 Almost all random tapes  $T_B$  of B are equal

$E[b | T_B] = 0.5$

Proof.

- If not, then some  $T_B$  bias toward 1 by fairness
- But, average over all  $T_B$  is 0.5
- Then, exists some  $T_B$  bias toward 0 not fair to A and C

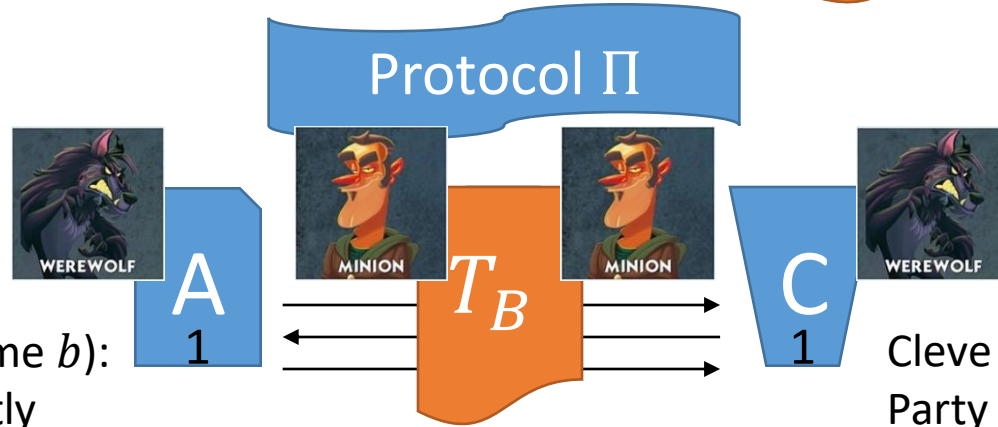
No harm to honest payoff



Fixed = Public

# Cleve Attackers, Fixed Equal $T_B$

4R attackers  
R: # of rounds



Cleve attacker  $\mathcal{A}_i^b$  (round  $i$ , outcome  $b$ ):  
Party B: always follow  $\Pi, T_B$  honestly

Party A:

1. Follow  $\Pi$  until round  $i$
2. Given transcript  $\tau_i$ ,  $\Pi$ -outcome  $\alpha_i$
3.  $\alpha_i = b$ , abort after  $i$ -th msg;  
 $\alpha_i \neq b$ , abort (no  $i$ -th msg)

Cleve attacker  $\mathcal{C}_i^b$  (round  $i$ , outcome  $b$ ):  
Party B: always follow  $\Pi, T_B$  honestly

Party C:

1. Follow  $\Pi$  until round  $i$
2. Given transcript  $\tau_i$ ,  $\Pi$ -outcome  $\beta_i$
3.  $\beta_i = b$ , abort after  $i$ -th msg;  
 $\beta_i \neq b$ , abort (no  $i$ -th msg)

[Cleve'86]:

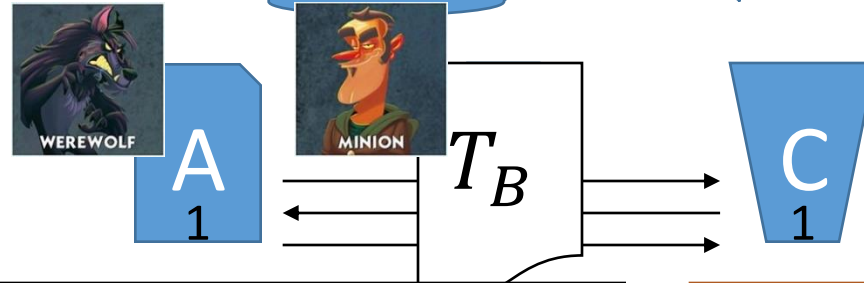
Average bias of attackers  $(\mathcal{A}_i^b, \mathcal{C}_i^b)$  is  $\Omega\left(\frac{1}{4R}\right)$

# Cleve Attackers, Fixed Good $T_B$

Fixed = Public

Protocol  $\Pi$

$4R$  attackers  
 $R$ : # of rounds



[Cleve'86]:

Average bias of attackers  $(\mathcal{A}_i^b, \mathcal{C}_i^b)$  is  $\Omega\left(\frac{1}{4R}\right)$

Maximin fair (no harm to 1)

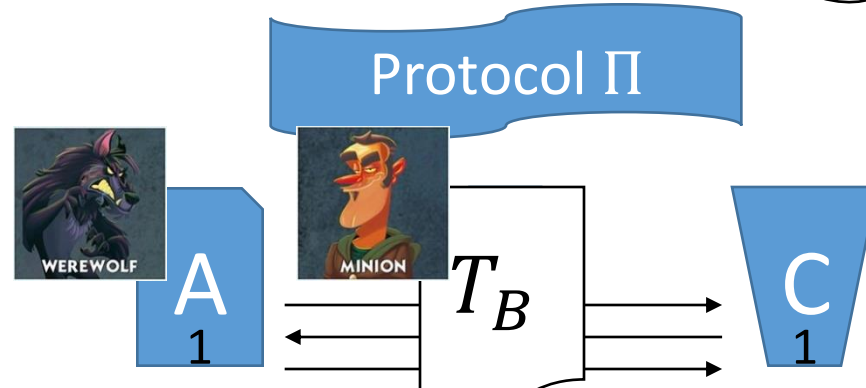
$\Rightarrow$  Exist  $Adv_{T_B} \in (\mathcal{A}_i^1, \mathcal{C}_i^1)$  toward 1

Almost all  $T_B$

Let such  $T_B$  be Good

# Cleve Attackers, Uniform Rand $T_B$

4R attackers  
R: # of rounds



Weak fair (no harm to 1)  $\Rightarrow$  For each Good  $T_B$ , Exist  $Adv_{T_B} \in (\mathcal{A}_i^1, \mathcal{C}_i^1)$  toward 1

Almost all

"Benign"

$Adv$  (some round  $i$ ):

Party B: always follow  $\Pi$  Unif. Rand.  $T_B$

Party A:

1. Follow  $\Pi$  until round  $i$
2. Given transcript  $\tau_i$ ,  $\Pi$ -outcome  $\alpha_i$
3.  $\alpha_i = 1$ , abort after  $i$ -th msg;  
 $\alpha_i \neq 1$ , abort (no  $i$ -th msg)

Averaging over all  $T_B$   
 $\Rightarrow$  Exist  $Adv$  toward 1

"Benign"



# Wolf-Minion Attackers

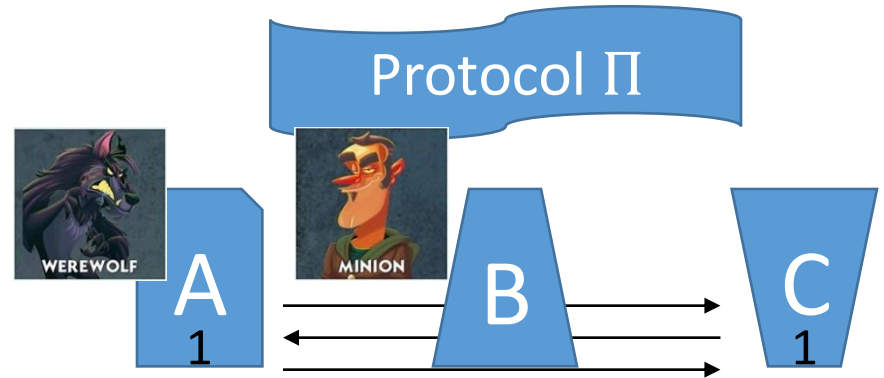
“Benign”  $Adv$  toward 1

$Adv$  (some round  $i$ ):

Party B: always follow  $\Pi$ , Unif. Rand.  $T_B$

Party A:

1. Follow  $\Pi$  until round  $i$
2. Given transcript  $\tau_i$ ,  $\Pi$ -outcome  $\alpha_i$
3.  $\alpha_i = 1$ , abort after  $i$ -th msg;  
 $\alpha_i \neq 1$ , abort (no  $i$ -th msg)



$\overline{Adv}$  (some round  $i$ ):

Party B: always follow  $\Pi$ , Unif. Rand.  $T_B$

Party A:

1. Follow  $\Pi$  until round  $i$
2. Given transcript  $\tau_i$ ,  $\Pi$ -outcome  $\alpha_i$
3.  $\alpha_i = 1$ , abort (no  $i$ -th msg)  
 $\alpha_i \neq 1$ , abort after  $i$ -th msg

Expected outcome:

$$E[Adv] + E[\overline{Adv}]$$

= 0.5

+ 0.5 (by lone-wolf condition)

$\Rightarrow \overline{Adv}$  toward 0

$\Pi$  is not  
maximin fair

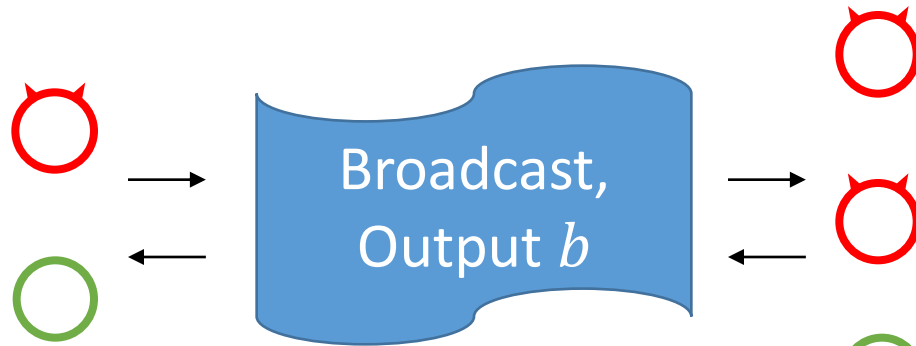
No harm to  
honest payoff

# Summary of Maximin Fairness, $n \geq 3$

|   | Fail-Stop                                  | Malicious                       |
|---|--|---------------------------------|
| Unanimous<br>Preference (1, 1, 1, ...)        | Yes  |                                 |
| Almost Unanimous<br>Preference (0, 1, 1, ...) | Yes  | Impossible<br>reduce to 3-party |
| Other<br>Preference (0, 0, 1, ...)            | Impossible<br>reduce to 2-party [Cleve'86] |                                 |

# Strong-Nash-Equilibrium (SNE) Fairness

Public-identifiable  
abort



Maximin:  
No harm to **honest** payoff

SNE:  
No adversary **increases**  
**every corrupt** expected  
payoff significantly

No incentive to  
deviate

Public

Preference

1

0

Payoff

$b = 0$

0

1

$b = 1$

1

0

Equivalent in Blums' 2-party

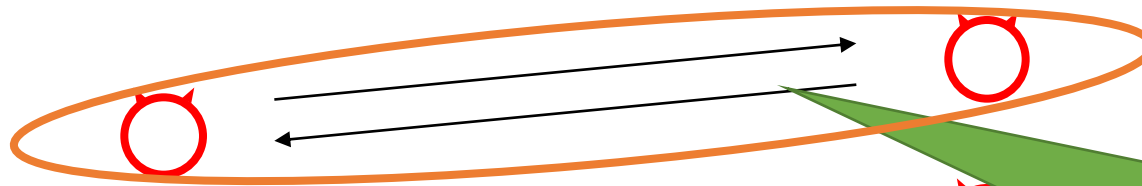
# Feasibility of SNE Fairness

Public-identifiable  
abort

Commit  $b_A$ , send  $b_B$ ,  
Open  $b_A$ , XOR ( $b_A, b_B$ )

No adversary **increases**  
**every corrupt** expected  
payoff significantly

No incentive to  
deviate



Pick any two  
opposites,  
Run Blum's 2-party

Public

Preference



1



0



Payoff

$b = 0$

0

1

$b = 1$

1

0

# Fairness Notions of Coin Toss

Maximin

Impossible (except for simple cases)

Group Maximin

Total loss/gain  
of honest/corrupt

Coalition-Strategy-Proof (CSP)

Strong Nash Equilibrium (SNE)

Fair protocol against malicious adv.

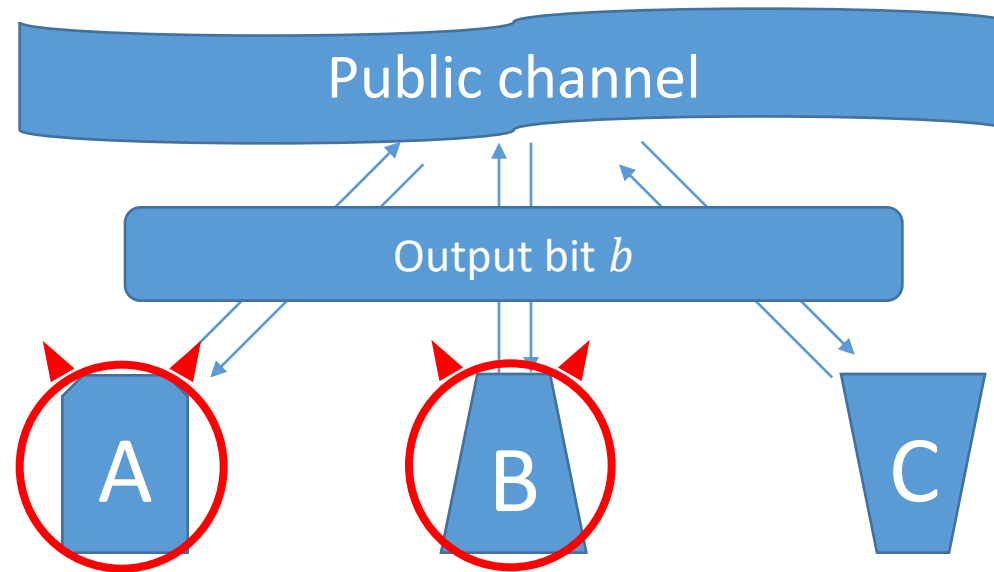
All are equivalent in 2-party (Blum)

# More Settings/Problems

- More game-theoretic notions (e.g. [self-enforcing](#))
- [Private preference](#), non-public abort, adaptive adversary
- Gap between upper & lower bounds
- Payoff functions (e.g. [zero-sum](#))
- Other functionalities:
  - Finite random variable
  - Functions imply coin toss
  - ...
- Composition of functionalities

Thank you!

# Private Preference



Harder to achieve fairness

**Impossibility follows**

Preference

1

0

Payoff

$b = 0$

0

1

$b = 1$

1

0

