asymmetric coordination problems

If two people coordinate, one is better off. If they don't coordinate, both are worse off.

Sarah and Alison each prefer different food, but also want to go to dinner together.

Neither goes out for dinner	Sarah and Alison go to Chinese
Sarah and Alison go to Indian	Sarah goes to Chinese and Alison goes to Indian

Sonia and Liana have a group project. At least one person has to do a detailed check.

Neither does detailed check	Sonia does detailed check
Liana does detailed check	Each one does detailed check independently

Over iterated actions, two solutions to asymmetric payoffs are **alternating** or **repeating** roles.

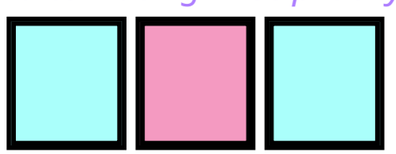
Our question: How do people know which type of solution to expect?

experiment 1

from iterated actions, infer relationship

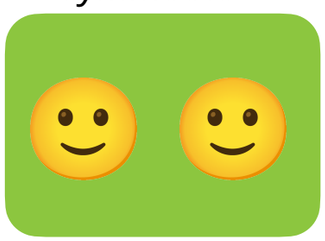
hypotheses

alternating / reciprocity

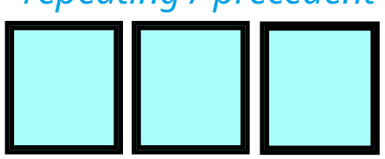


...

symmetric

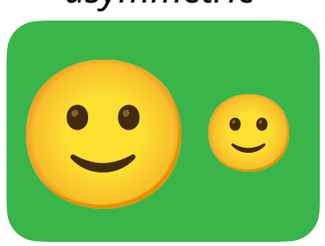


repeating / precedent



...

asymmetric

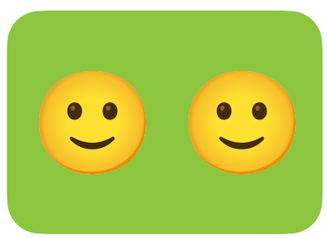


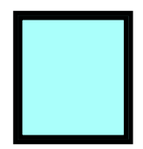
experiment 2

from relationship and one action, infer next action

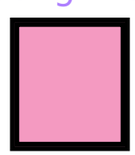
hypotheses

symmetric

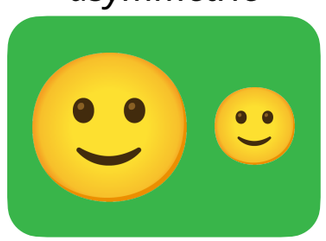


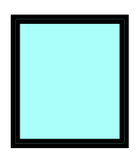


alternating / reciprocity



asymmetric





repeating / precedent