

# [Tit-for-Tat] Strategy Identification and Payoff Analysis

Hana Kwon

Oct 27, 2024

## Introduction

This document details the approach used to identify player strategies (*Tit-for-Tat*, *Grim*, *Always Cooperate*, and *Always Defect*) and calculate payoffs in an experimental dataset.

## Definitions and Assumptions

- **Payoff Values**

- **r**: (*Reward*) Payoff for mutual cooperation
- **s**: (*Sucker*) Payoff when one cooperates and the other defects
- **t**: (*Temptation*) Payoff for defection when the other cooperates
- **p**: (*Punishment*) Payoff for mutual defection

- **Strategies**

1. **Always Cooperate**: Player cooperates in all rounds.
2. **Always Defect**: Player defects in all rounds.
3. **Grim**: Player starts by cooperating and defects permanently if the opponent defects.
4. **Tit-for-Tat**: Player mirrors the opponent's previous move.

- **Dataset Information**

- **session**: Experiment session number.
- **id**: Participant ID.
- **oid**: Partner's ID.
- **supergame**: Match number.
- **round**: Round number within a supergame.
- **horizon**: Length of supergame.
- **coop**: Cooperation indicator (1 if cooperated, 0 otherwise).
- **r, s, t, p**: Payoff values based on cooperation and defection as described above.

## Analysis Overview

- **Core Analysis**

1. Data Loading and Initial Exploration
2. Data Preparation and Preprocessing

3. Payoff Analysis
    - 3.1 Calculate Payoff Based on Actions
    - 3.2 Round-by-Round Average Payoff Calculation
    - 3.3 Average Payoff and Variance by Player
    - 3.4 Calculation and Visualization of T Value
    - 3.5 Cross-Tabulation of T Values by Game Length
  4. Strategy Identification
  5. Strategy Payoff Analysis
- **Extended Analysis**
    5. Frequency-Weighted Payoff Calculation
    6. Performance Against Non-Fixed Strategies
    7. Expected Payoff Simulation for Hypothetical Tit-for-Tat Player
    8. Visualizations and Graphical Analysis
- 

## Core Analysis

### Step 1: Data Loading, Initial Exploration, and Preparation

- **Objective:** Load the dataset and examine its structure to ensure successful data import and check for any missing values.

```
### 1.1 Load Necessary Libraries and Dataset
library(dplyr)
```

```
##
## Attaching package: 'dplyr'

## The following objects are masked from 'package:stats':
##
##   filter, lag

## The following objects are masked from 'package:base':
##
##   intersect, setdiff, setequal, union
```

```
library(readr)
library(ggplot2)

file_path <- "~/Desktop/[Tit for Tat] Prof.MacLeod_Hana Kwon/Embrey_2018a_new_data.txt"
data <- read.table(file_path, header = TRUE, sep = "\t", stringsAsFactors = FALSE)

### 1.2 Initial Data Exploration
str(data)      # Check the structure of the data
```

```
## 'data.frame': 33360 obs. of 14 variables:
## $ id : int 73 73 73 73 73 73 73 73 73 73 ...
## $ oid : int 77 80 75 78 81 86 83 85 74 82 ...
## $ supergame: int 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ...
## $ round : int 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 ...
## $ horizon : int 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 ...
## $ r : int 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 ...
## $ s : int 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 ...
## $ t : int 63 63 63 63 63 63 63 63 63 63 ...
## $ p : int 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 ...
## $ g : int 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 ...
## $ l : num 1.42 1.42 1.42 1.42 1.42 ...
## $ sizebad : num 0.191 0.191 0.191 0.191 0.191 ...
## $ session : int 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 ...
## $ coop : int 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 ...
```

```
summary(data) # Summary of data to examine distributions and any NA values
```

```
##           id           oid           supergame           round
## Min.      : 1.0      Min.      : 1.0      Min.      : 1.00      Min.      :1.000
## 1st Qu.: 98.0      1st Qu.: 98.0      1st Qu.: 7.00      1st Qu.:2.000
## Median :150.0      Median :150.0      Median :14.00      Median :3.000
## Mean      :152.3      Mean      :152.3      Mean      :14.28      Mean      :3.785
## 3rd Qu.:212.0      3rd Qu.:212.0      3rd Qu.:21.00      3rd Qu.:5.000
## Max.      :284.0      Max.      :284.0      Max.      :30.00      Max.      :8.000
##
##           horizon           r           s           t           p
## Min.      :4.000      Min.      :51      Min.      : 5.0      Min.      :63.00      Min.      :39
## 1st Qu.:4.000      1st Qu.:51      1st Qu.: 5.0      1st Qu.:63.00      1st Qu.:39
## Median :8.000      Median :51      Median : 5.0      Median :87.00      Median :39
## Mean      :6.571      Mean      :51      Mean      :13.4      Mean      :75.14      Mean      :39
## 3rd Qu.:8.000      3rd Qu.:51      3rd Qu.:22.0      3rd Qu.:87.00      3rd Qu.:39
## Max.      :8.000      Max.      :51      Max.      :22.0      Max.      :87.00      Max.      :39
##
##           g           l           sizebad           session
## Min.      :1.000      Min.      :1.417      Min.      :0.191      Min.      : 1.000
## 1st Qu.:1.000      1st Qu.:1.417      1st Qu.:0.415      1st Qu.: 5.000
## Median :3.000      Median :2.833      Median :0.415      Median : 7.000
## Mean      :2.012      Mean      :2.133      Mean      :0.504      Mean      : 6.954
## 3rd Qu.:3.000      3rd Qu.:2.833      3rd Qu.:0.415      3rd Qu.: 9.000
## Max.      :3.000      Max.      :2.833      Max.      :1.000      Max.      :12.000
##
## NA's      :27700
##
##           coop
## Min.      :0.0000
## 1st Qu.:0.0000
## Median :0.0000
## Mean      :0.3589
## 3rd Qu.:1.0000
## Max.      :1.0000
##
```

## Step 2: Data Preparation and Preprocessing

- **Objective:** Prepare player and opponent data frames to align cooperation values and payoff values for each round.

```
### 2.1 Create Player and Opponent Data Frames
df_self <- data %>%
  select(id, oid, supergame, round, horizon, coop, r, s, t, p) %>%
  rename(player_id = id, opponent_id = oid, player_coop = coop)

df_opp <- data %>%
  select(id, oid, supergame, round, horizon, coop) %>%
  rename(opponent_id = id, player_id = oid, opponent_coop = coop)

### 2.2 Merge Player and Opponent Data
df_merged <- df_self %>%
  left_join(df_opp, by = c("player_id", "opponent_id", "supergame", "round", "horizon"))

# Check structure of merged dataframe
str(df_merged)
```

```
## 'data.frame': 33360 obs. of 11 variables:
## $ player_id : int 73 73 73 73 73 73 73 73 73 73 ...
## $ opponent_id : int 77 80 75 78 81 86 83 85 74 82 ...
## $ supergame : int 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ...
## $ round : int 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 ...
## $ horizon : int 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 ...
## $ player_coop : int 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 ...
## $ r : int 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 ...
## $ s : int 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 22 ...
## $ t : int 63 63 63 63 63 63 63 63 63 63 ...
## $ p : int 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 39 ...
## $ opponent_coop: int 0 0 1 1 1 0 1 1 1 1 ...
```

## Step 3: Descriptive Payoff Analysis

### 3.1 Payoff Calculation Based on Actions

- **Objective:** Calculate the payoff based on cooperation and defection combinations for each round and assign values to the `payoff` column.

```
df_merged <- df_merged %>%
  mutate(payoff = case_when(
    player_coop == 1 & opponent_coop == 1 ~ r, # Both Cooperate
    player_coop == 1 & opponent_coop == 0 ~ s, # Only Player Cooperates
    player_coop == 0 & opponent_coop == 1 ~ t, # Only Player Defects
    player_coop == 0 & opponent_coop == 0 ~ p, # Both Defect
    TRUE ~ NA_real_ # Default value for any unspecified cases
  ))
```

### 3.2 Round-by-Round Average Payoff Calculation

- **Objective:** Calculate the round-by-round average payoff for each player and visualize changes in performance over each round.

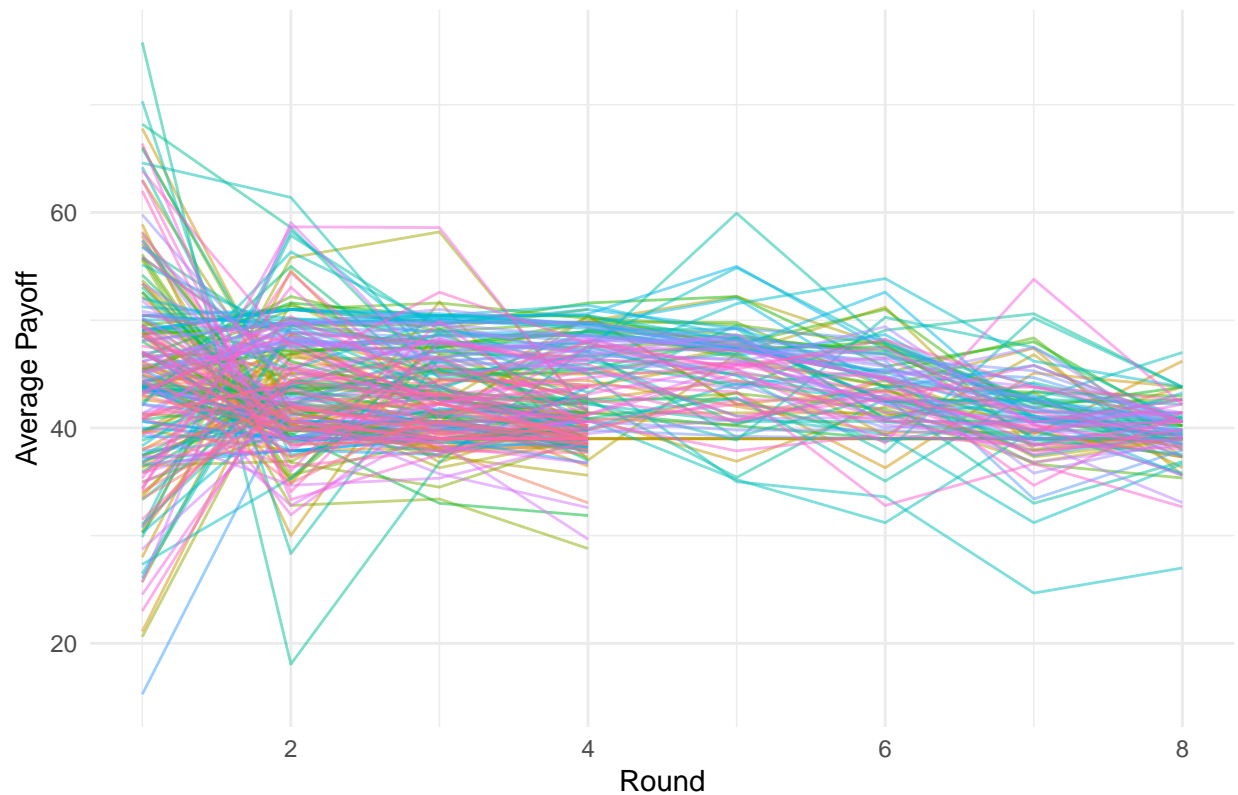
```
round_avg_payoff <- df_merged %>%
  group_by(player_id, round) %>%
  summarize(avg_round_payoff = mean(payoff, na.rm = TRUE), .groups = "drop")

print(round_avg_payoff)
```

```
## # A tibble: 1,248 x 3
##   player_id round avg_round_payoff
##       <int> <int>         <dbl>
## 1         1     1           49.0
## 2         1     2           40.0
## 3         1     3           38.2
## 4         1     4           38.2
## 5         2     1           44.4
## 6         2     2           43.6
## 7         2     3           44.2
## 8         2     4           38.5
## 9         3     1           43.9
## 10        3     2           40.6
## # i 1,238 more rows
```

```
# Visualization: Round-by-Round Payoff Distribution for Each Player with Grouping and Color
ggplot(round_avg_payoff, aes(x = round, y = avg_round_payoff, color = factor(player_id), group = player_id)) +
  geom_line(alpha = 0.5) +
  labs(title = "Round-by-Round Average Payoff for Each Player", x = "Round", y = "Average Payoff") +
  theme_minimal() +
  theme(legend.position = "none")
```

## Round-by-Round Average Payoff for Each Player



### 3.3 Average Payoff and Variance Calculation per Player

- **Objective:** Calculate the overall average payoff and payoff variance for each player to understand the distribution of player performance.

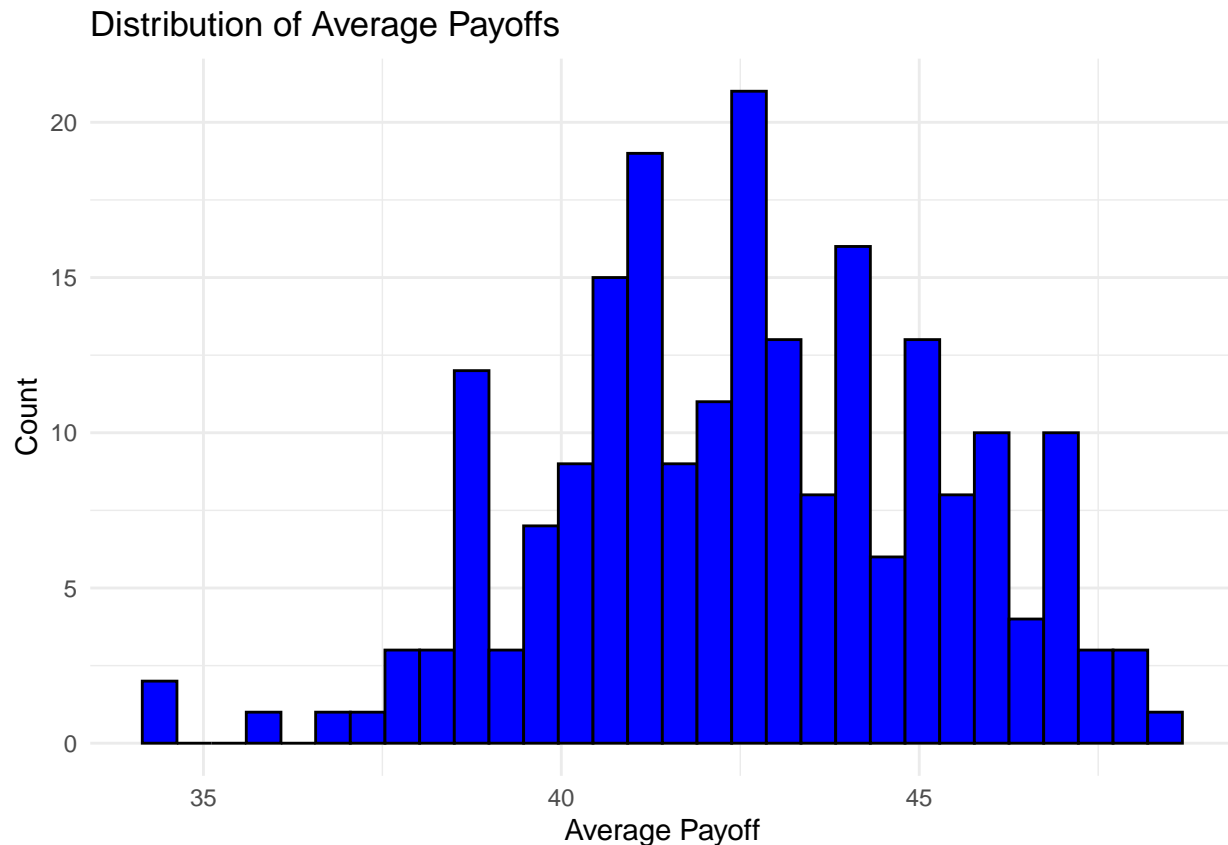
```
avg_payoff_variance <- df_merged %>%
  group_by(player_id) %>%
  summarize(
    avg_payoff = mean(playoff, na.rm = TRUE),
    payoff_variance = var(playoff, na.rm = TRUE)
  )

print(avg_payoff_variance)
```

```
## # A tibble: 212 x 3
##   player_id avg_payoff payoff_variance
##   <int>      <dbl>      <dbl>
## 1         1         41.3         104.
## 2         2         42.7         145.
## 3         3         41.0          94.4
## 4         4         42.2         105.
## 5         5         37.9         150.
## 6         6         43.4         115.
## 7         7         42.9          79.4
## 8         8         40.4          85.5
```

```
## 9          9          41.8          68.7
## 10         10         42.6          74.4
## # i 202 more rows
```

```
# Visualization: Distribution of Average Payoffs
ggplot(avg_payoff_variance, aes(x = avg_payoff)) +
  geom_histogram(bins = 30, fill = "blue", color = "black") +
  labs(title = "Distribution of Average Payoffs", x = "Average Payoff", y = "Count") +
  theme_minimal()
```



### 3.4 'T' Value Calculation and Distribution Visualization

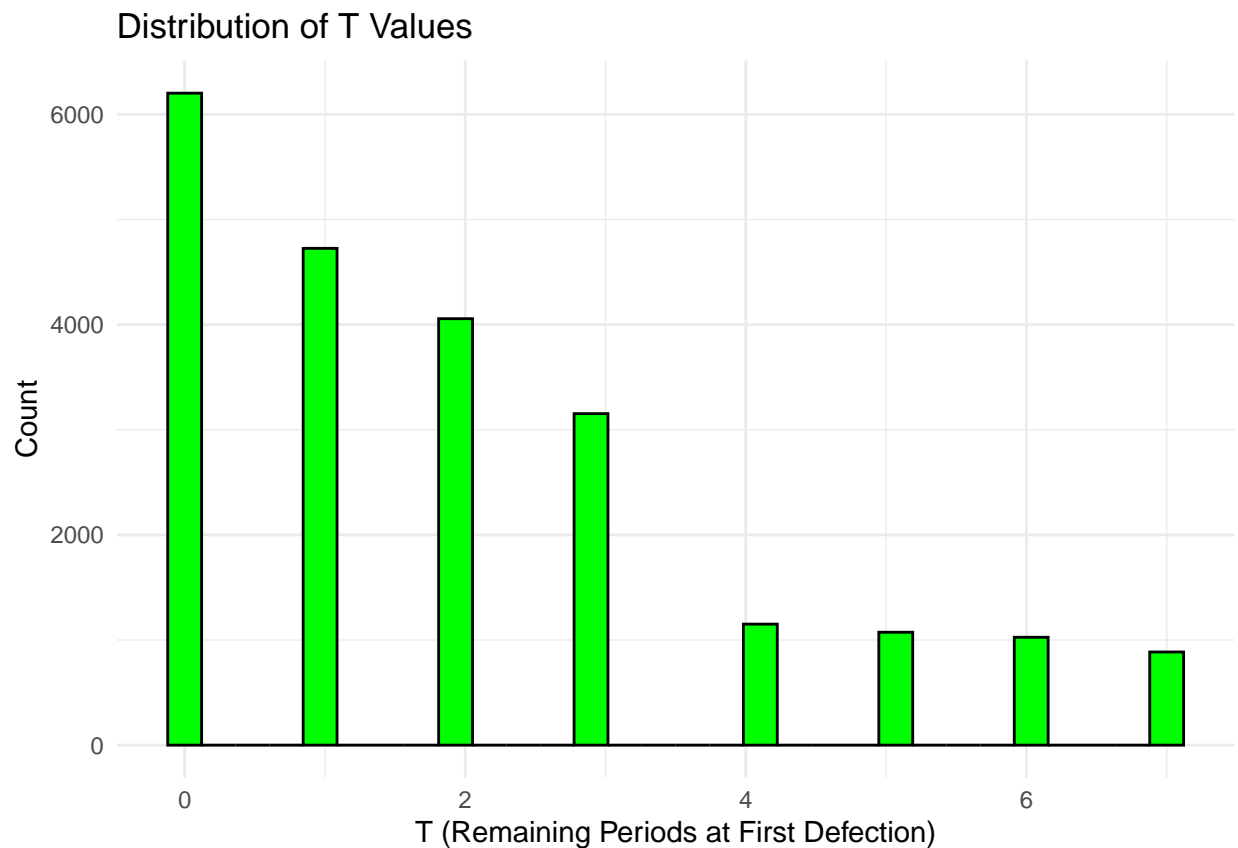
- **Objective:** Calculate T value (the number of remaining rounds when a player first defects) and visualize the distribution of T values.

```
df_merged <- df_merged %>%
  group_by(player_id, supergame) %>%
  mutate(
    first_defect_round = ifelse(player_coop == 0 & !is.na(player_coop), round, NA),
    T = ifelse(!is.na(first_defect_round), horizon - first_defect_round, ifelse(all(player_coop == 1, n
  ) %>%
  ungroup()

print(df_merged %>% select(player_id, supergame, round, player_coop, horizon, T))
```

```
## # A tibble: 33,360 x 6
##   player_id supergame round player_coop horizon    T
##   <int>     <int> <int>     <int>     <int> <dbl>
## 1         73         1     1         0         8     7
## 2         73         2     1         0         8     7
## 3         73         3     1         0         8     7
## 4         73         4     1         0         8     7
## 5         73         5     1         1         8     0
## 6         73         6     1         1         8    NA
## 7         73         7     1         0         8     7
## 8         73         8     1         0         8     7
## 9         73         9     1         1         8    NA
## 10        73        10     1         1         8    NA
## # i 33,350 more rows
```

```
# Visualization: Distribution of T Values
ggplot(df_merged %>% filter(!is.na(T)), aes(x = T)) +
  geom_histogram(bins = 30, fill = "green", color = "black") +
  labs(title = "Distribution of T Values", x = "T (Remaining Periods at First Defection)", y = "Count")
  theme_minimal()
```



### 3.5 Cross-Tabulation of T Values by Game Length

- **Objective:** Summarize T values by game length (horizon) to show mean and standard deviation of T for each horizon and visualize these statistics.



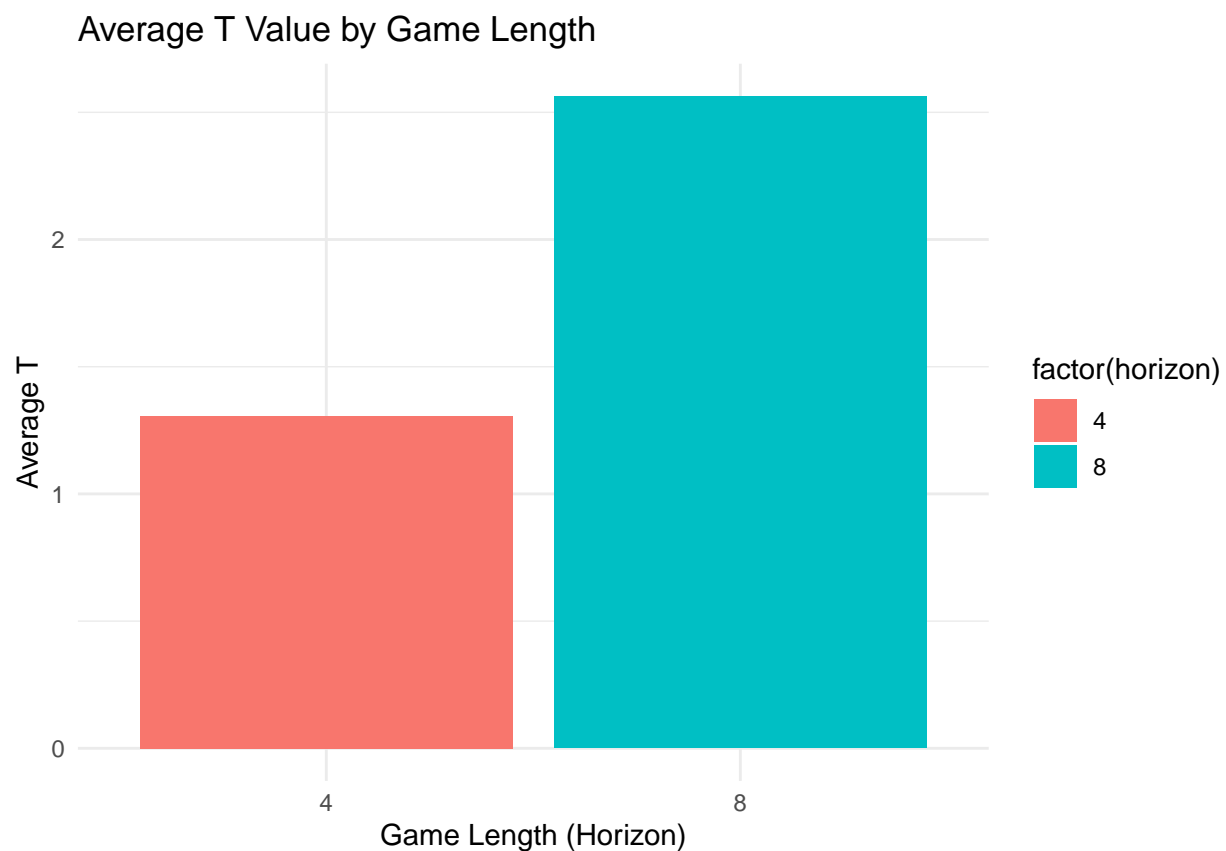
```
T_summary <- df_merged %>%
  group_by(horizon) %>%
  summarise(
    mean_T = mean(T, na.rm = TRUE),
    sd_T = sd(T, na.rm = TRUE),
    count = n()
  )

print(T_summary)
```

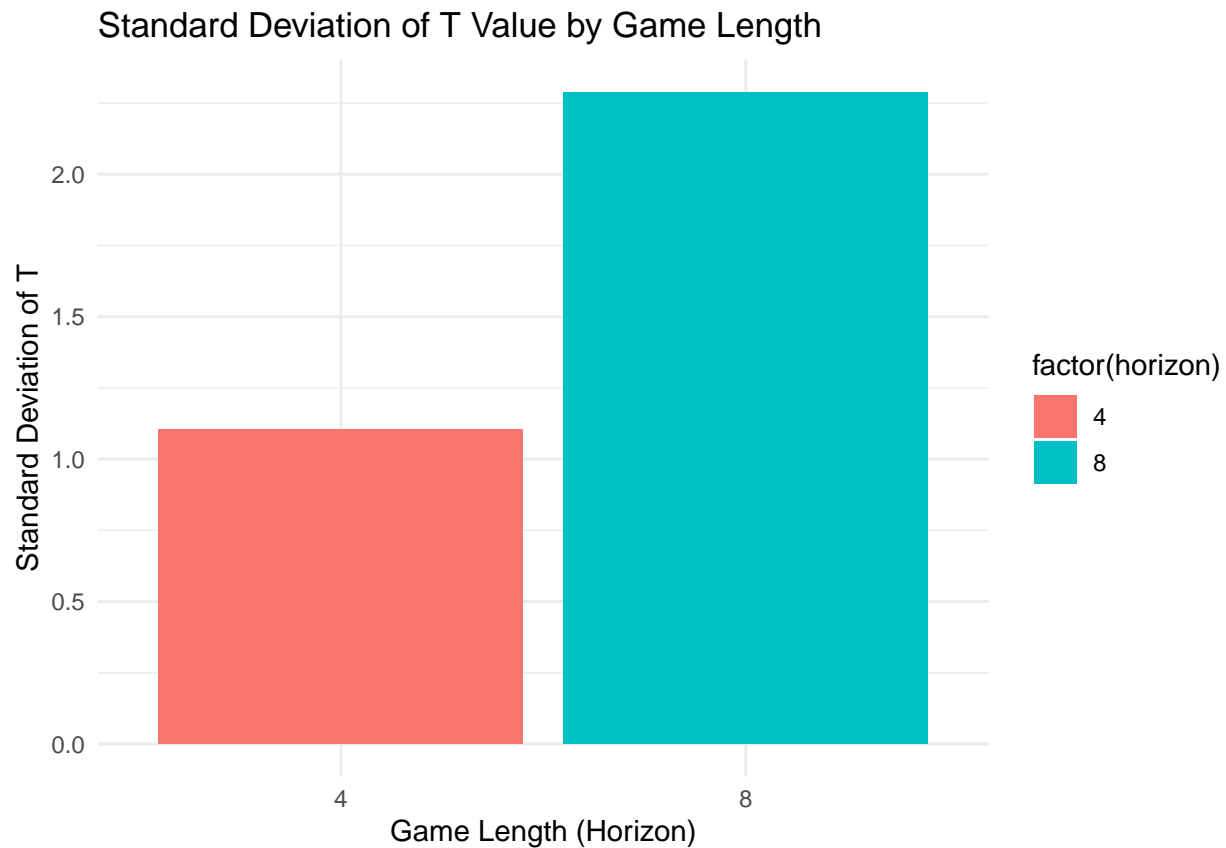
```
## # A tibble: 2 x 4
##   horizon mean_T sd_T count
##   <int>   <dbl> <dbl> <int>
## 1     4     1.31  1.10 11920
## 2     8     2.56  2.29 21440
```

```
### Visualization:
```

```
# Average T Value by Game Length Visualization
ggplot(T_summary, aes(x = factor(horizon), y = mean_T, fill = factor(horizon))) +
  geom_bar(stat = "identity") +
  labs(title = "Average T Value by Game Length", x = "Game Length (Horizon)", y = "Average T") +
  theme_minimal()
```



```
# Standard Deviation of T Value by Game Length Visualization
ggplot(T_summary, aes(x = factor(horizon), y = sd_T, fill = factor(horizon))) +
  geom_bar(stat = "identity") +
  labs(title = "Standard Deviation of T Value by Game Length", x = "Game Length (Horizon)", y = "Standard Deviation of T")
  theme_minimal()
```



#### Step 4: Strategy Identification

- **Objective:** Define a function to classify player strategies, and then merge the identified strategies with the main dataset and calculate the average payoff and payoff variance for each strategy.

```
# Load ggplot2 library for visualization
library(ggplot2)

### 4.1 Define Strategy Identification Function
identify_strategy <- function(player_coop, opponent_coop) {
  # Tit for Tat
  tit_for_tat <- if (length(player_coop) > 1) all(player_coop[-1] == lag(opponent_coop)[-1], na.rm = TRUE)
  # Grim Strategy
  grim <- all((player_coop == 1) | (cumsum(opponent_coop == 0) > 0), na.rm = TRUE)
  # Always Cooperate
  always_cooperate <- all(player_coop == 1)
  # Always Defect
  always_defect <- all(player_coop == 0)
```

```

## Determine Strategy
if (tit_for_tat) return("Tit for Tat")
else if (grim) return("Grim")
else if (always_cooperate) return("Always Cooperate")
else if (always_defect) return("Always Defect")
else return("Other")
}

# Apply Strategy Identification to df_merged
df_merged <- df_merged %>%
  group_by(player_id, supergame) %>%
  mutate(strategy_label = identify_strategy(player_coop, opponent_coop)) %>%
  ungroup()

# Group by strategy_label and count
strategy_counts <- df_merged %>%
  group_by(strategy_label) %>%
  summarize(count = n())

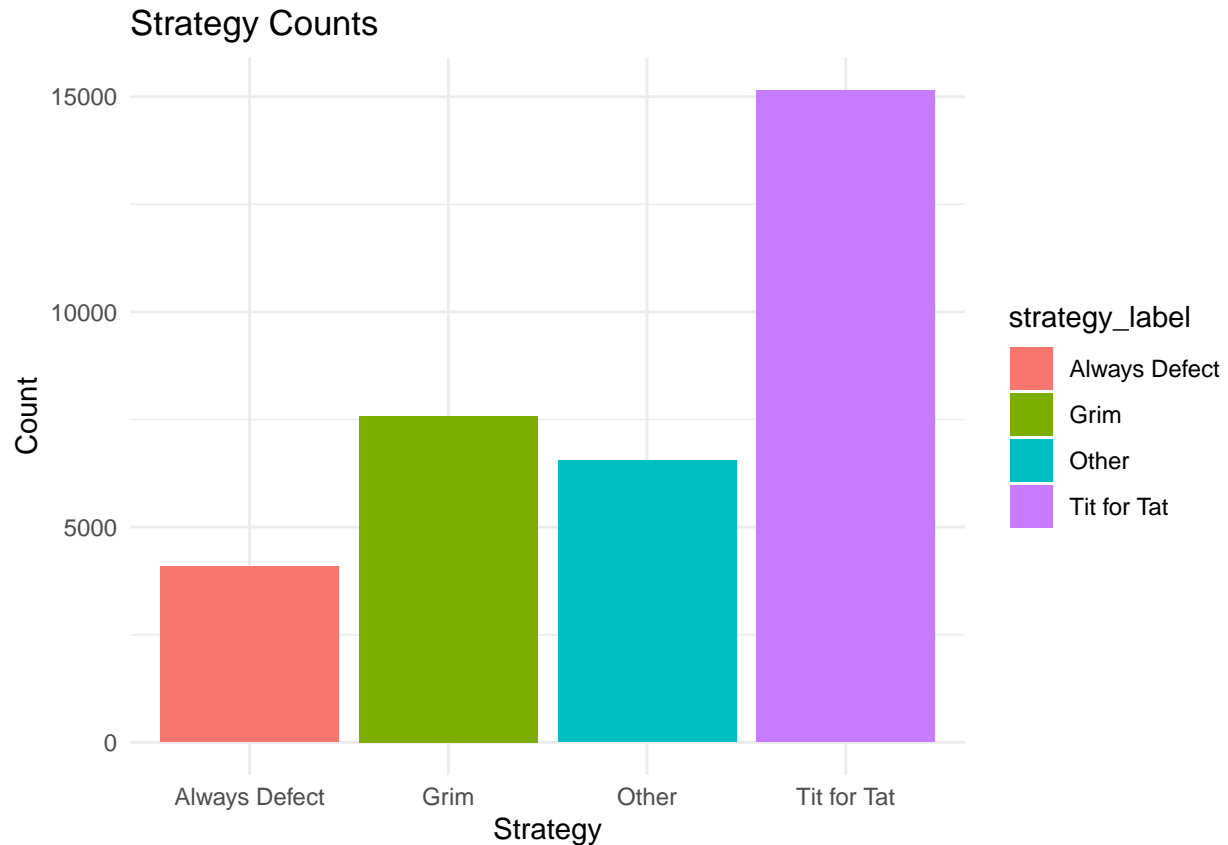
print(strategy_counts)

## # A tibble: 4 x 2
##   strategy_label count
##   <chr>          <int>
## 1 Always Defect  4088
## 2 Grim          7576
## 3 Other         6548
## 4 Tit for Tat   15148

#=====#

# Visualize Strategy Counts
ggplot(strategy_counts, aes(x = strategy_label, y = count, fill = strategy_label)) +
  geom_bar(stat = "identity") +
  labs(title = "Strategy Counts", x = "Strategy", y = "Count") +
  theme_minimal()

```



### Step 5: Strategy Payoff Analysis

- **Objective:** Merge the identified strategies with the main dataset and calculate the average payoff and payoff variance for each strategy.

```
### 5.1 Apply Strategy Identification to Each Player and Supergame
df_strategies <- df_merged %>%
  group_by(player_id, supergame) %>%
  summarise(strategy = identify_strategy(player_coop, opponent_coop), .groups = 'drop')

### 5.2 Merge Identified Strategies with Original Data
df_merged <- df_merged %>%
  left_join(df_strategies, by = c("player_id", "supergame"))

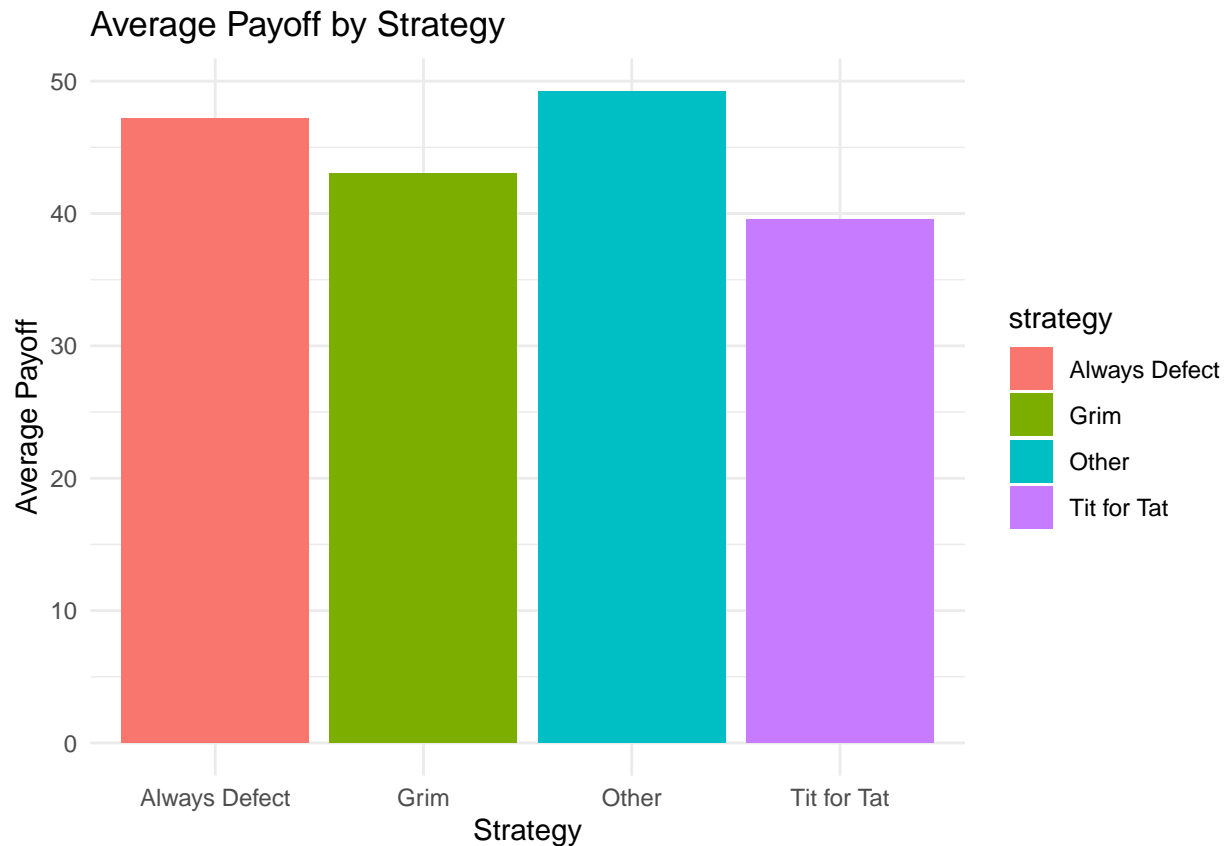
### 5.3 Calculate Average Payoff by Strategy
strategy_payoff_summary <- df_merged %>%
  group_by(strategy) %>%
  summarise(
    avg_strategy_payoff = mean(payload, na.rm = TRUE),
    payoff_variance = var(payload, na.rm = TRUE),
    count = n()
  )

# View Results
print(strategy_payoff_summary)
```

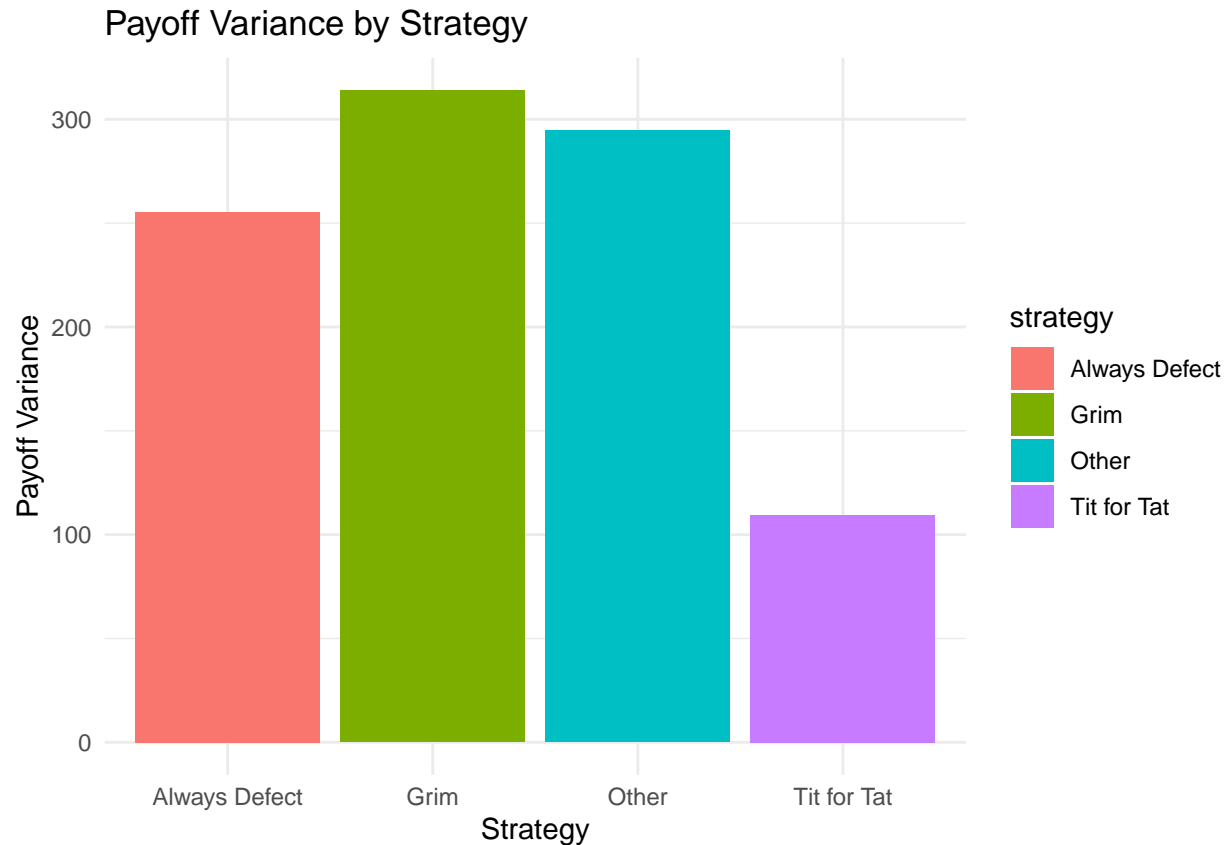
```
## # A tibble: 4 x 4
##   strategy      avg_strategy_payoff payoff_variance count
##   <chr>          <dbl>          <dbl> <int>
## 1 Always Defect      47.2            255.  4088
## 2 Grim              43.0            314.  7576
## 3 Other             49.3            295.  6548
## 4 Tit for Tat       39.5            109. 15148
```

```
#####
## Visualize Average Payoff by Strategy & Payoff Variance by Strategy

# Average Payoff by Strategy
ggplot(strategy_payoff_summary, aes(x = strategy, y = avg_strategy_payoff, fill = strategy)) +
  geom_bar(stat = "identity") +
  labs(title = "Average Payoff by Strategy", x = "Strategy", y = "Average Payoff") +
  theme_minimal()
```



```
# Payoff Variance by Strategy
ggplot(strategy_payoff_summary, aes(x = strategy, y = payoff_variance, fill = strategy)) +
  geom_bar(stat = "identity") +
  labs(title = "Payoff Variance by Strategy", x = "Strategy", y = "Payoff Variance") +
  theme_minimal()
```



## Extended Analysis

### Step 6: Frequency-Weighted Payoff Calculation

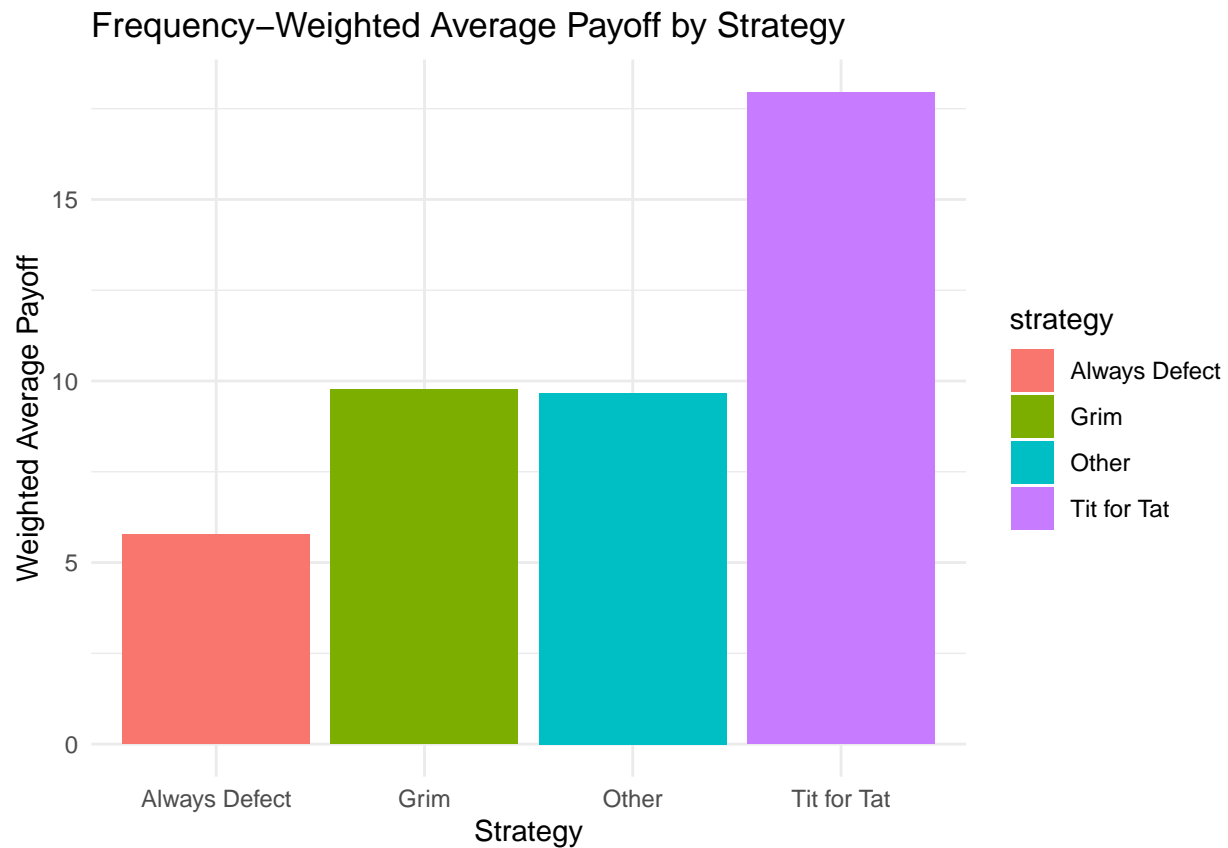
- **Objective:** This calculation weights each strategy's average payoff by its frequency, providing a clearer view of strategy effectiveness.

```
### 6 Frequency-Weighted Average Payoff Calculation
weighted_payoff_summary <- strategy_payoff_summary %>%
  mutate(weighted_avg_payoff = avg_strategy_payoff * (count / sum(count)))

# Print Weighted Results
print(weighted_payoff_summary)
```

```
## # A tibble: 4 x 5
##   strategy      avg_strategy_payoff payoff_variance count weighted_avg_payoff
##   <chr>          <dbl>          <dbl> <int>          <dbl>
## 1 Always Defect      47.2            255.  4088           5.78
## 2 Grim              43.0            314.  7576           9.78
## 3 Other             49.3            295.  6548           9.67
## 4 Tit for Tat       39.5            109. 15148          18.0
```

```
# Visualization
ggplot(weighted_payoff_summary, aes(x = strategy, y = weighted_avg_payoff, fill = strategy)) +
  geom_bar(stat = "identity") +
  labs(title = "Frequency-Weighted Average Payoff by Strategy", x = "Strategy", y = "Weighted Average Payoff") +
  theme_minimal()
```



## Step 7: Performance Against Non-Fixed Strategies

- **Objective:** This analysis compares each fixed strategy's performance when interacting with non-fixed strategies, highlighting adaptability.

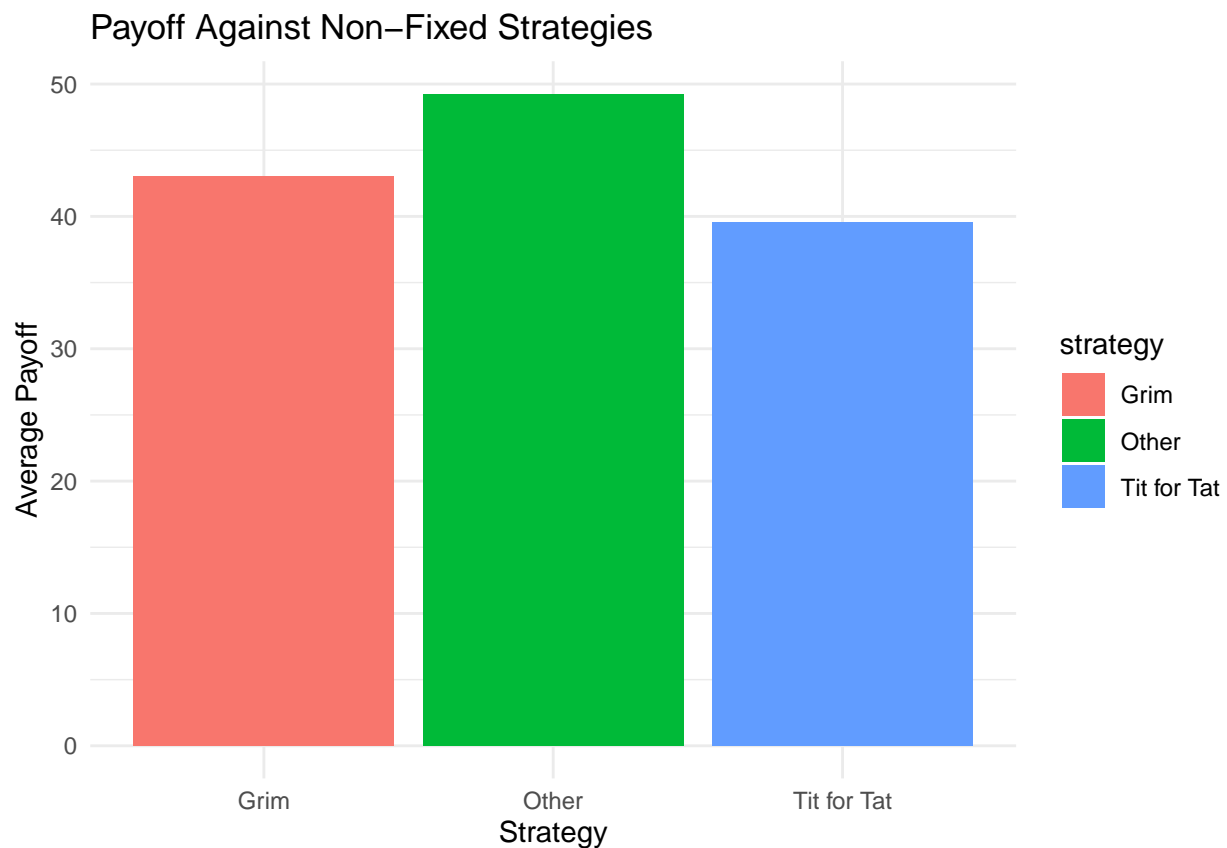
```
### 7 Payoff Analysis Against Non-Fixed Strategies
non_fixed_performance <- df_merged %>%
  filter(strategy != "Always Cooperate" & strategy != "Always Defect") %>%
  group_by(strategy) %>%
  summarise(
    avg_payoff_against_non_fixed = mean(payload, na.rm = TRUE),
    variance_against_non_fixed = var(payload, na.rm = TRUE)
  )

# Print Non-Fixed Performance Results
print(non_fixed_performance)
```

```
## # A tibble: 3 x 3
```

```
## strategy    avg_payoff_against_non_fixed variance_against_non_fixed
## <chr>                <dbl>                <dbl>
## 1 Grim                43.0                314.
## 2 Other                49.3                295.
## 3 Tit for Tat         39.5                109.
```

```
# Visualization
ggplot(non_fixed_performance, aes(x = strategy, y = avg_payoff_against_non_fixed, fill = strategy)) +
  geom_bar(stat = "identity") +
  labs(title = "Payoff Against Non-Fixed Strategies", x = "Strategy", y = "Average Payoff") +
  theme_minimal()
```



## Step 8: Expected Payoff Simulation for Hypothetical Tit-for-Tat Player

- **Objective:** In this step, we estimate the expected payoff for a hypothetical Tit-for-Tat player when competing against various other strategies. This analysis provides insights into how a Tit-for-Tat strategy might perform on average against other identified strategies.

```
### 8 Simulating Tit-for-Tat Performance

# Calculating Expected Payoff for Tit-for-Tat vs Opponent Strategies
hypothetical_tft_performance <- df_merged %>%
  filter(strategy == "Tit for Tat") %>%
  group_by(opponent_strategy = strategy) %>%
```



```

summarise(
  avg_expected_payoff = mean(payload, na.rm = TRUE),
  variance_expected_payoff = var(payload, na.rm = TRUE),
  count = n()
)

# View Results as a Table
print(hypothetical_tft_performance)

```

```

## # A tibble: 1 x 4
##   opponent_strategy avg_expected_payoff variance_expected_payoff count
##   <chr>              <dbl>              <dbl> <int>
## 1 Tit for Tat        39.5              109. 15148

```

## Step 9: Visualizations and Graphical Analysis

- **Objective:** Provides a visualization of strategy payoff distributions and strategy counts, offering a visual comparison of each strategy's performance and popularity.

### ### 9 Visualizations

```

library(ggplot2)
library(ggthemes)

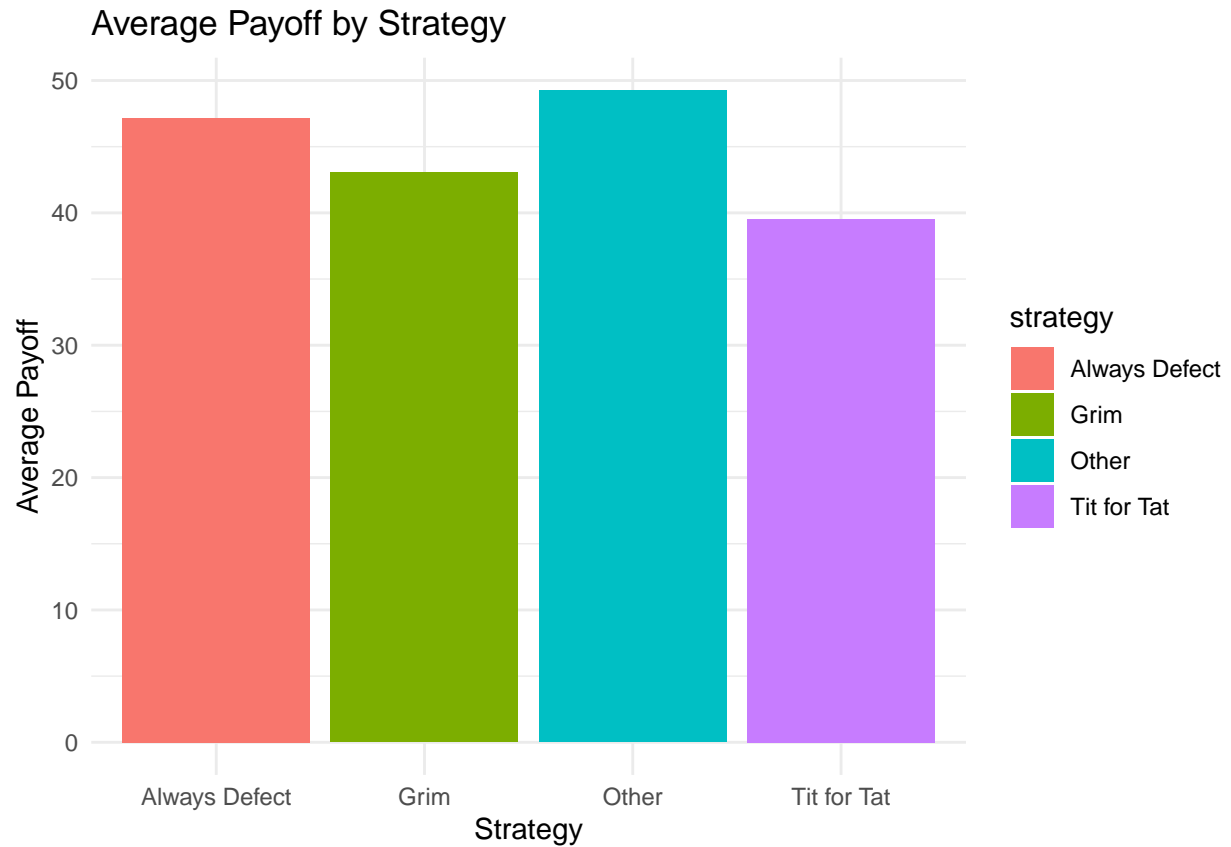
```

#### # 1. Bar Plot: Average Payoff by Strategy

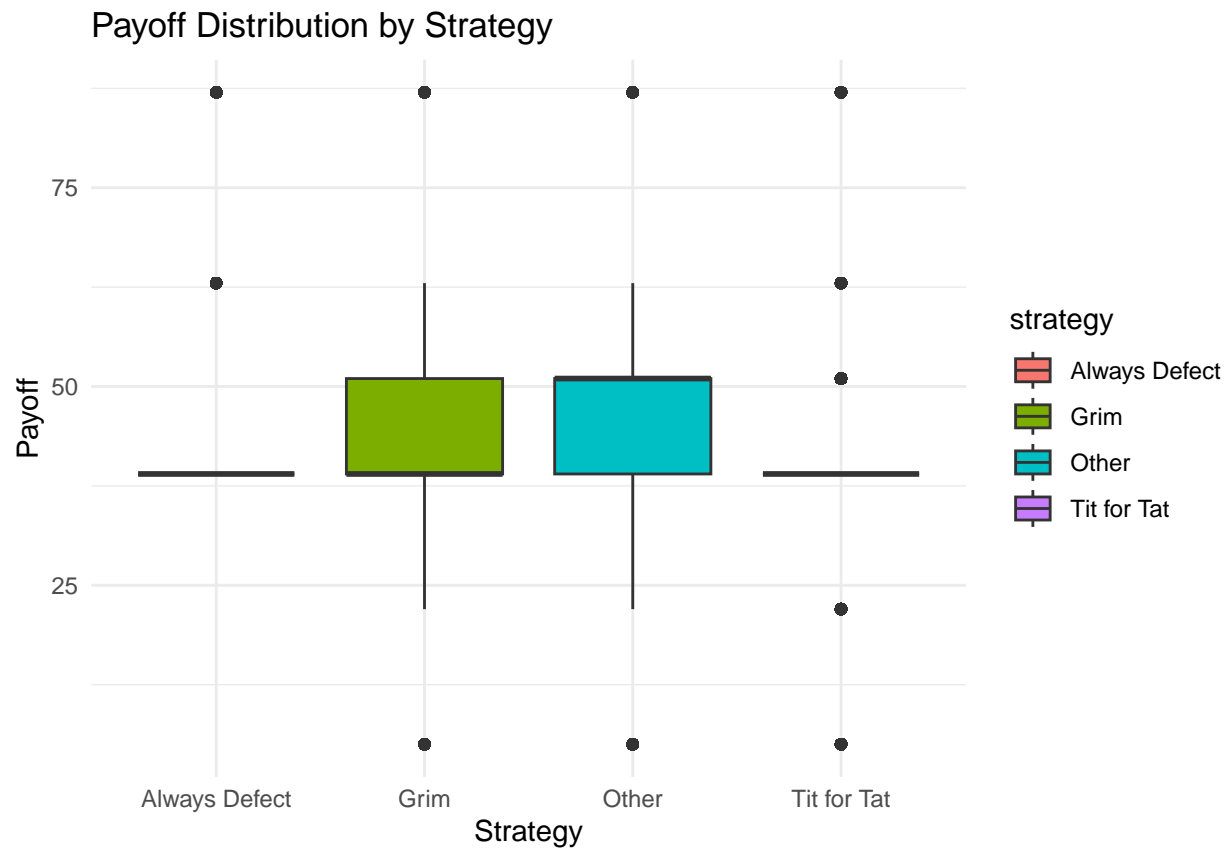
```

# This bar plot shows the average payoff for each strategy, allowing a straightforward comparison of av
ggplot(strategy_payoff_summary, aes(x = strategy, y = avg_strategy_payoff, fill = strategy)) +
  geom_bar(stat = "identity") +
  labs(title = "Average Payoff by Strategy", x = "Strategy", y = "Average Payoff") +
  theme_minimal()

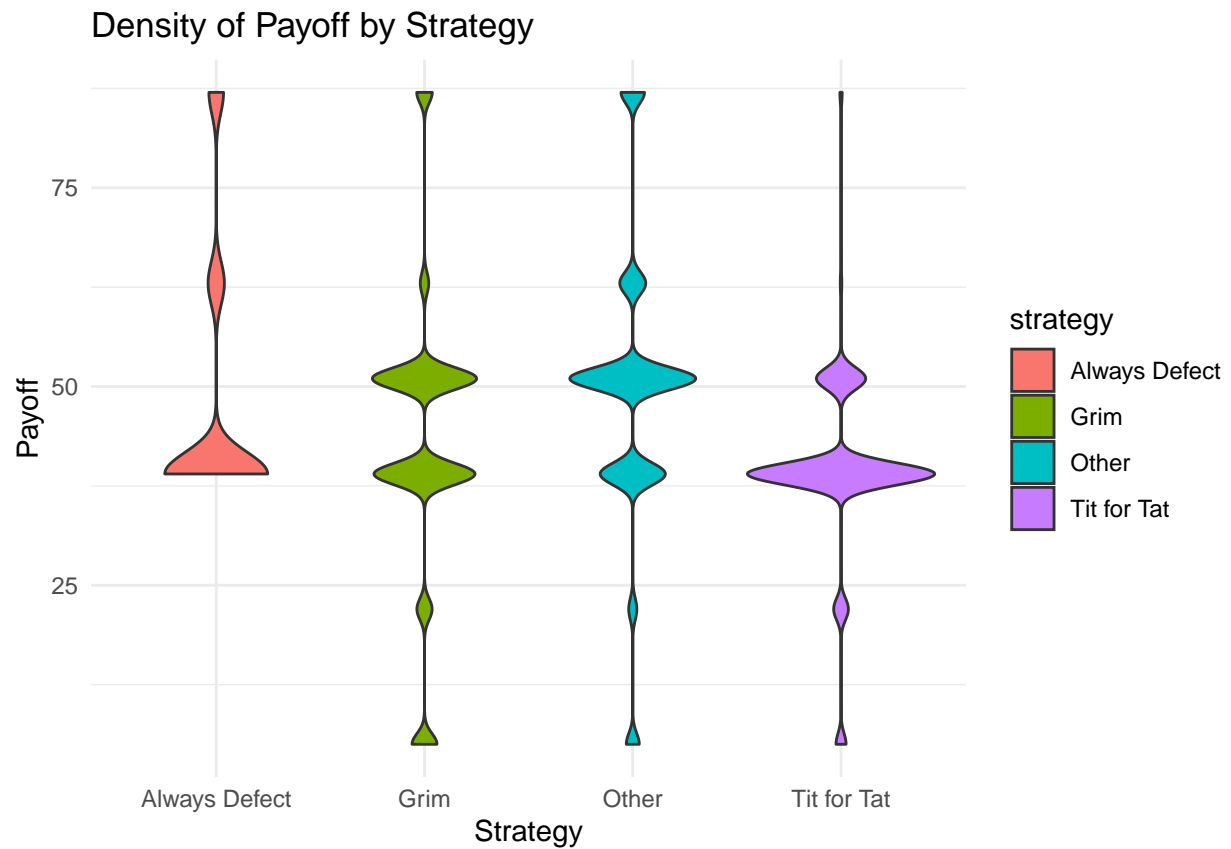
```



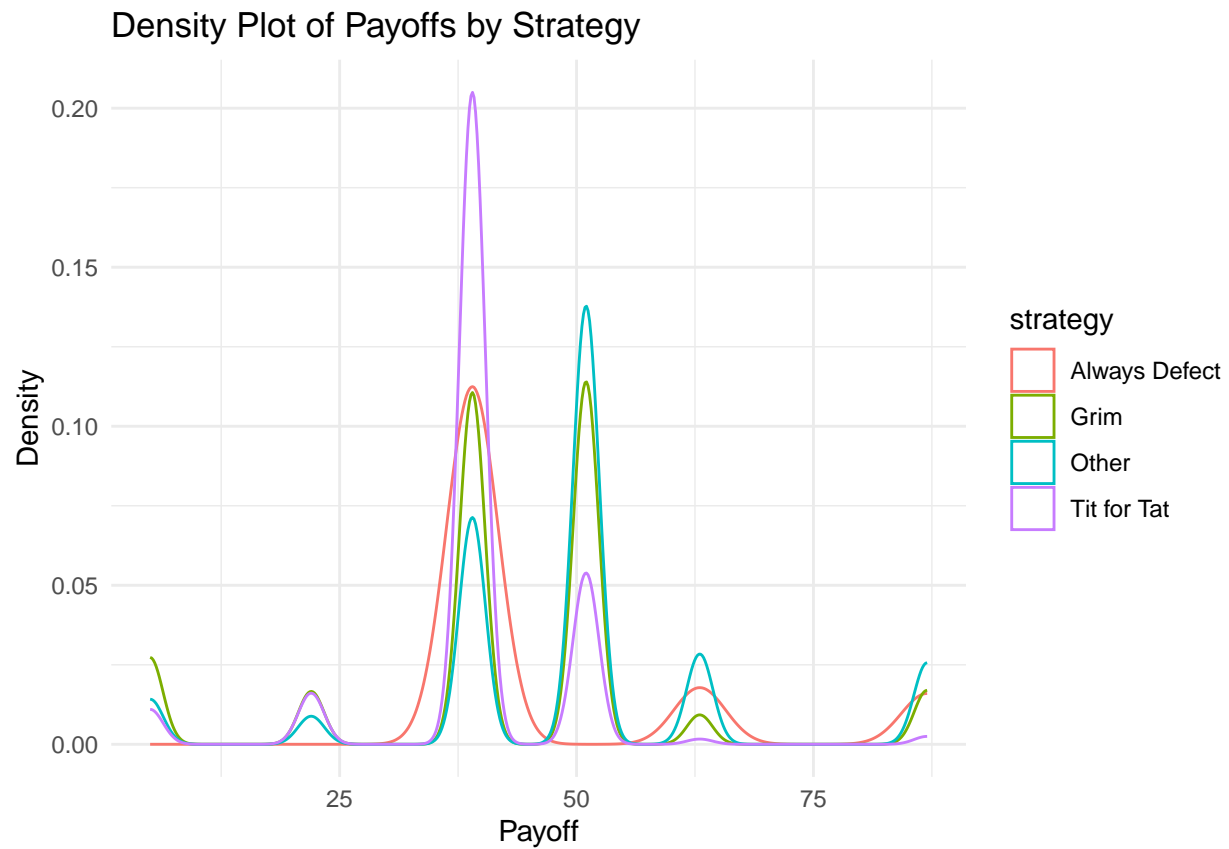
```
# 2. Box Plot: Payoff Distribution by Strategy  
# This box plot displays the distribution of payoffs for each strategy, highlighting median, quartiles,  
ggplot(df_merged, aes(x = strategy, y = payoff, fill = strategy)) +  
  geom_boxplot() +  
  labs(title = "Payoff Distribution by Strategy", x = "Strategy", y = "Payoff") +  
  theme_minimal()
```



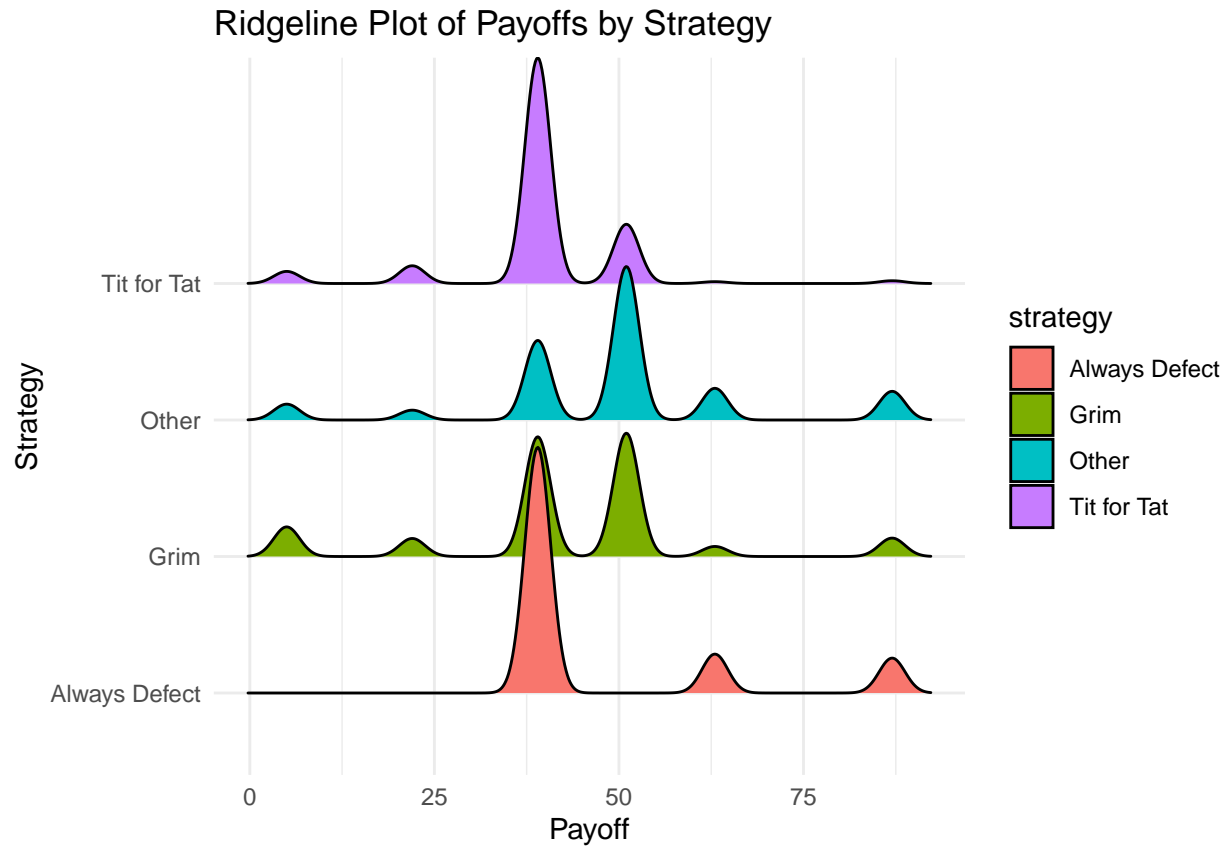
```
# 3. Violin Plot: Density of Payoff by Strategy
# The violin plot shows the density distribution of payoffs for each strategy, combining box plot and density plot
ggplot(df_merged, aes(x = strategy, y = payoff, fill = strategy)) +
  geom_violin() +
  labs(title = "Density of Payoff by Strategy", x = "Strategy", y = "Payoff") +
  theme_minimal()
```



```
# 4. Density Plot: Density of Payoffs by Strategy
# This density plot presents the probability density of payoffs across strategies, allowing visual comp
ggplot(df_merged, aes(x = payoff, color = strategy)) +
  geom_density() +
  labs(title = "Density Plot of Payoffs by Strategy", x = "Payoff", y = "Density") +
  theme_minimal()
```



```
# 5. Ridgeline Plot: Payoffs by Strategy
# The ridgeline plot provides a layered view of payoff distributions by strategy, making it easier to c
ggplot(df_merged, aes(x = payoff, y = strategy, fill = strategy)) +
  geom_density_ridges(bandwidth = 1.75) +
  labs(title = "Ridgeline Plot of Payoffs by Strategy", x = "Payoff", y = "Strategy") +
  theme_minimal()
```



*# 6. Scatter Plot: Payoffs by Strategy*

*# This scatter plot shows individual payoff points for each strategy, adding some noise with width to r*

```
ggplot(df_merged, aes(x = strategy, y = payoff, color = strategy)) +  
  geom_jitter(width = 0.2) +  
  labs(title = "Scatter Plot of Payoffs by Strategy", x = "Strategy", y = "Payoff") +  
  theme_minimal()
```

