

GEQ1000  
Economics  
(Social Science)

## 2.3 Experimenting with the Model

# Recap

**Prisoner's Dilemma**

**Players, strategies, outcomes**

**Nash Equilibrium**

# Experimenting with the Model

**What will happen  
if we change an assumption?**

# The Prisoner's Dilemma

**Player 2**

**Cooperate**

**Defect**

**Cooperate**

**4 , 4**

**0 , 6**

**Player  
1**

**Defect**

**6 , 0**

**2 , 2**

		Cooperate	Defect
Cooperate		4 , 4	0 , 6
Defect		6 , 0	2 , 2

# Change the pay-offs

**Player 2**

**Cooperate**

**Defect**

**Cooperate**

4 , 4

0 , 6

**Defect**

6 , 0

2 , 2

**Player  
1**

		Cooperate	Defect
Player 1	Cooperate	4 , 4	0 , 6
	Defect	6 , 0	2 , 2

# Change the pay-offs

**Player 2**

**Cooperate**

**Defect**

**Cooperate**

4 , 4

0 , 3

**Player  
1**

**Defect**

6 , 0

2 , 2

		Cooperate	Defect
Player 1	Cooperate	4 , 4	0 , 3
	Defect	6 , 0	2 , 2

# Change the pay-offs

**Player 2**

**Cooperate**

**Defect**

**Cooperate**

**Player  
1**

**Defect**

		Cooperate	Defect
	Cooperate	4 , 4	0 , 3
	Defect	3 , 0	2 , 2

At (Cooperate, Cooperate)  
Player 1 won't change his strategy

**Player 2**

		Cooperate	Defect
Player 1	Cooperate	4 , 4	0 , 3
	Defect	3 , 0	2 , 2



At (Cooperate, Cooperate)  
Player 2 won't change his strategy

**Player 2**

**Cooperate**

**Defect**

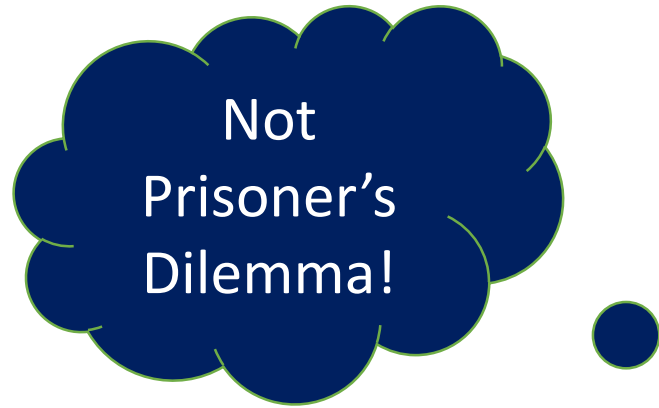
**Cooperate**

**Player  
1**

**Defect**

		Cooperate	Defect
Cooperate		4 , 4	0 , 3
Defect		3 , 0	2 , 2

# (Cooperate, Cooperate) is a Nash Equilibrium



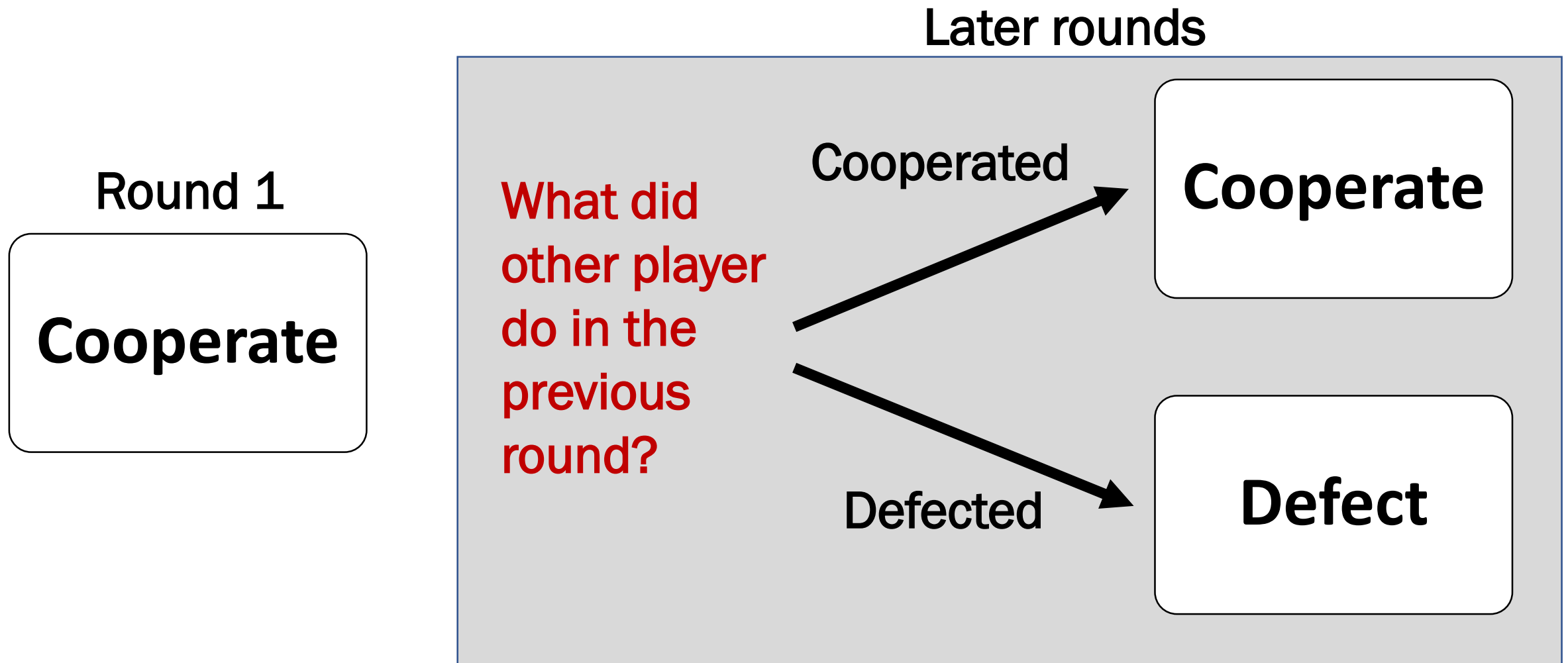
		Player 2	
		Cooperate ✓	Defect
Player 1	Cooperate ✓	4 , 4	0 , 3
	Defect	3 , 0	2 , 2

# Repeating the Game

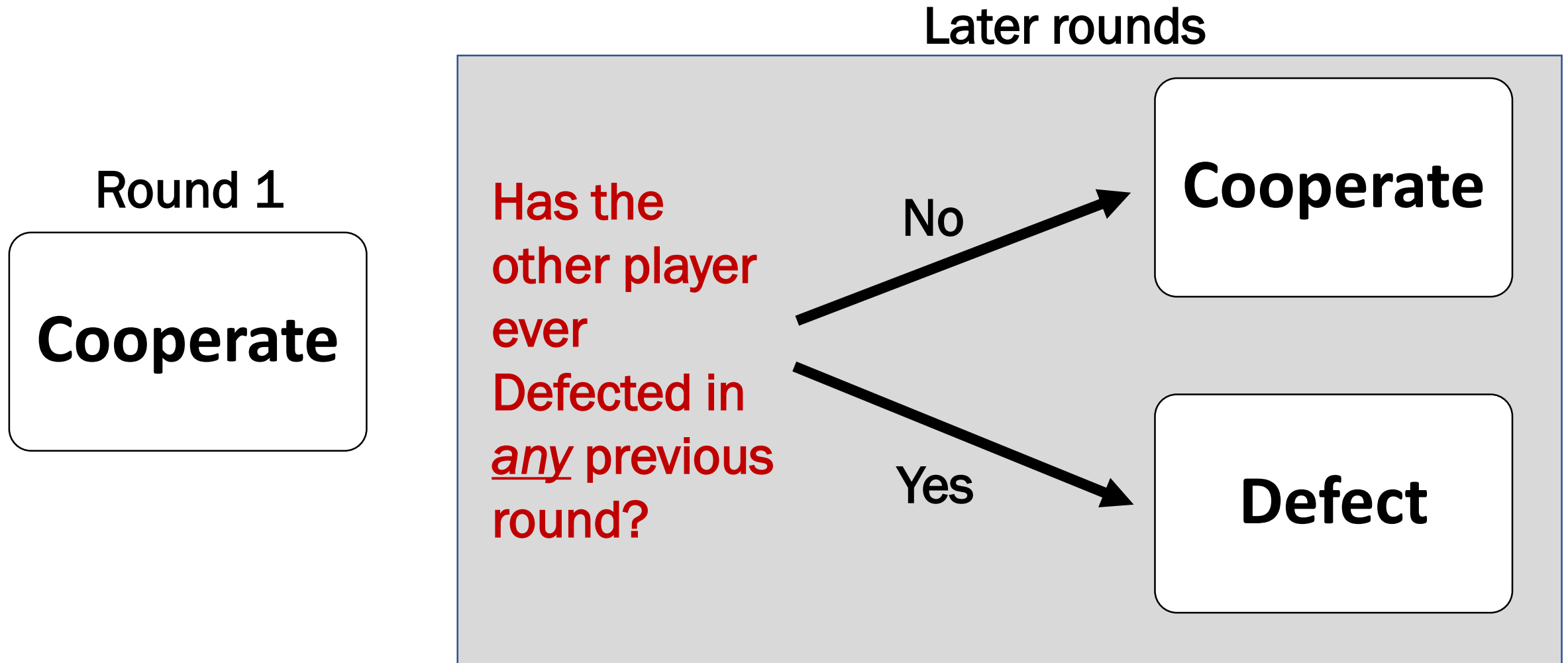
Play Prisoner's Dilemma multiple times (*Iterated Prisoner's Dilemma*)

Can observe what other player did in previous rounds

# Possible strategy: Tit-for-Tat



# Possible strategy: Grim-Trigger



# Repeating the Game

With Iterated Prisoner's Dilemma

Cooperation is now possible

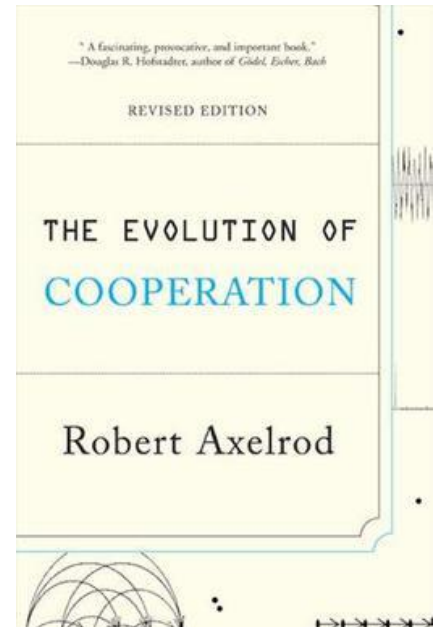
# Repeating the Game

In a famous 1980 repeated Prisoner's Dilemma tournament ...



## Robert Axelrod

Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy  
735 S. State St.  
University of Michigan, Weill Hall  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109  
(734) 764-3490 (phone)  
(734) 763-9181 (fax)  
[axe@umich.edu](mailto:axe@umich.edu)



... the winning strategy was *tit-for-tat*





**Next up:  
Applying the Model**