

KIEVAL LECTURE

Probability Paradoxes

Probability Theory has a unique distinction among mathematical fields: it is often at odds with human intuition, sometimes very sharply so. Beyond setting up various apparent "paradoxes" of intuition or logic, those counterintuitive aspects sometimes have quite dramatic manifestations in real-life situations. In this talk, we will test our intuition on various elementary probability problems, and survey some ways in which such paradoxes have crept into scientific research, executive board rooms and the courts.



Alon Amit

Alon Amit is co-founder of a Silicon-Valley start-up, Origami Logic, and has previously worked at Google and Facebook, as well as Compugen, a biotechnology firm. He is on the board of trustees of Proof School, a new San Francisco-based school for kids who love math, and is a frequent speaker at the Math Circles at Stanford, Berkeley, SJSU and many others around the SF Bay Area. Alon holds a Ph.D. in mathematics from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel, and a B.Sc. in Computer Science and Physics from the same institute.

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