HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR ODDS OF WINNING A LUXURY CAR

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CLAIMS FOR THIS PARADOX

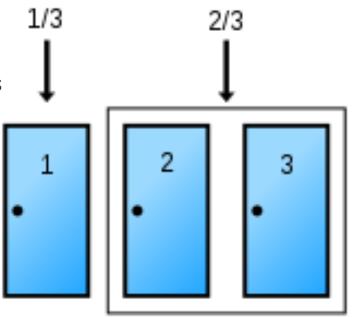
- "... no other statistical puzzle comes so close to fooling all the people all the time"
- "...even Nobel physicists systematically give the wrong answer, and ... they insist on it, and they are ready to berate in print those who propose the right answer."

THE CHALLENGE

A Game Show Host present 3 Doors

Behind one is a Luxury Car

Behind the other two are Goats



THE CHOICE

- The Host allows you to choose a Door
- You pick, say, Door I [but it's not opened]
- The host [knowing what's behind each Door] opens Door 3, which has a Goat







THE OFFER

- He then asks, "Do you want to pick Door 2 instead?"
- You really want to win that Luxury Car
- Can you improve your chances by switching?

YES!

You have a better chance of winning the luxury car by switching doors.

A DECISION TREE

(ASSUMING THE PLAYER HAS PICKED DOOR I)

Car locatio		Host opens:	Total probability:	Stay:	Switch:
D 1	1/2	Door 2	1/6	Car	Goat
Door	1/2	Door 3	1/6	Car	Goat
1/3 Door	2 — 1	- Door 3	1/3	Goat	Car
1/3 Door LYTTON ADVISORY – ECONOMICS IN © 2015, ALL RIGHTS RESERVED		- Door 2	1/3	Goat	Car 7

THINK LARGE

- Suppose there were a million doors
- Your first choice is a million to one
- Suppose the Host kindly opens 999,998 for you, leaving the one with the prize
- Who would keep their first choice rather than open 999,999 doors?
- Isn't switching a better strategy?
- Irrespective of whether N=3 or N=1 million

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