

Topic: **Games**

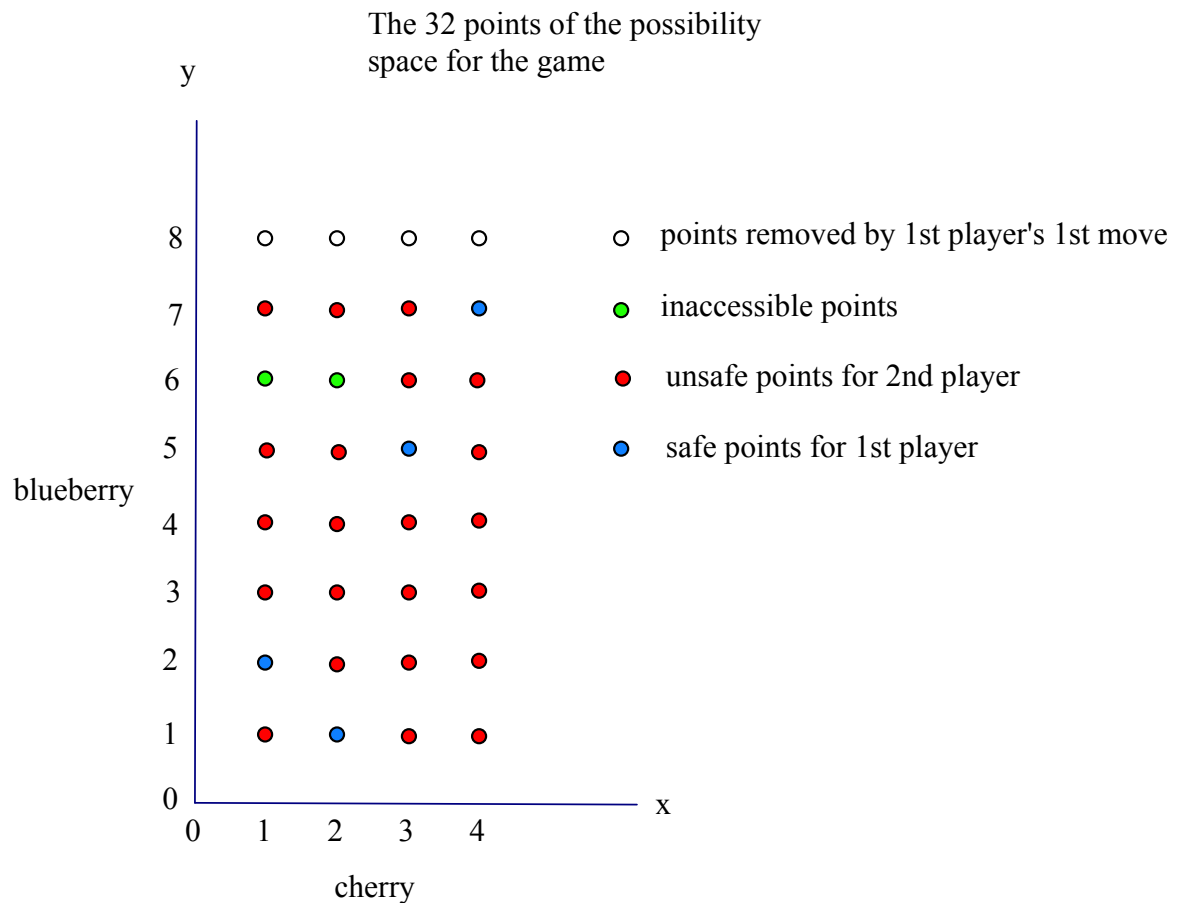
Station: **The last slice**

We can analyse the game by turning the removal of slices into movements on a grid.

To take blueberry slices is to move down a line $x = k$.

To take cherry slices is to move left along a line $y = k$.

To take a mixture is to move down a line $y = x + k$.



To win, the 1st player takes a single blueberry slice. Thereafter, whatever the 2nd player does, the 1st player can either move to a safe point or to the origin, thereby winning. The significance of the safe points is that they are two moves apart and (2,1) and (1,2) are two moves from the origin.