

The example is from the Encyclopedia of Bridge (5<sup>th</sup> edition by Francis, Truscott and Francis).



According to the book the best plan is to lead small to the eight and if this loses to a high honor then finesse the jack next. The chances for 2 tricks are 39%.

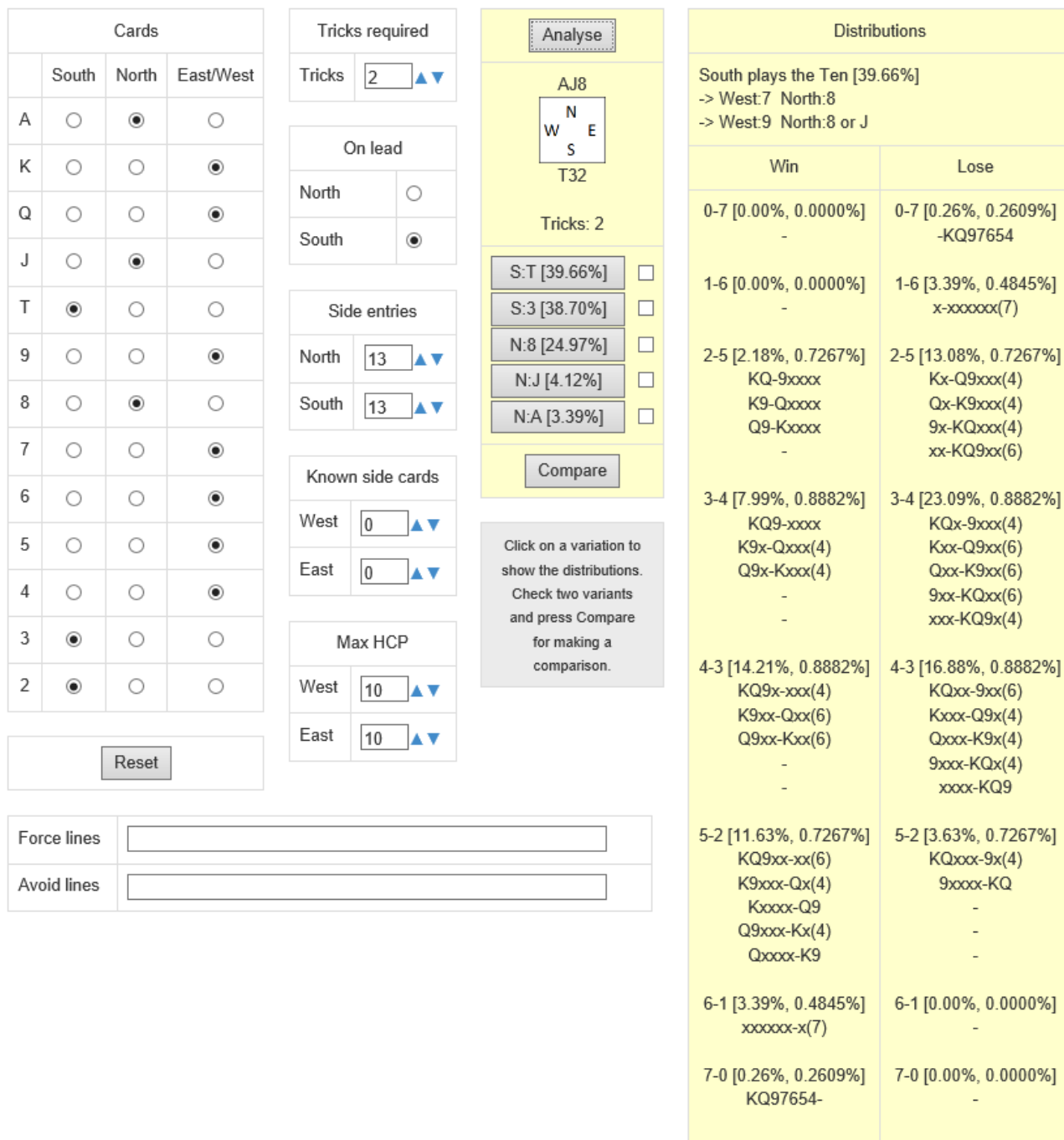


Figure 1

As can be seen from Figure 1 the analysis agrees on the 39% for the mentioned plan (38.70%). But more interestingly the analysis also shows that it is a better chance to run the ten in trick one: If the ten is covered by an honor in West it is won in dummy by the Ace followed by a finesse with a low

card from the hand to the eight. If the ten loses to an honor in East the last honor is finessed by a low card from the hand to the Jack in the next round.

Comparing the two lines gives the following result.

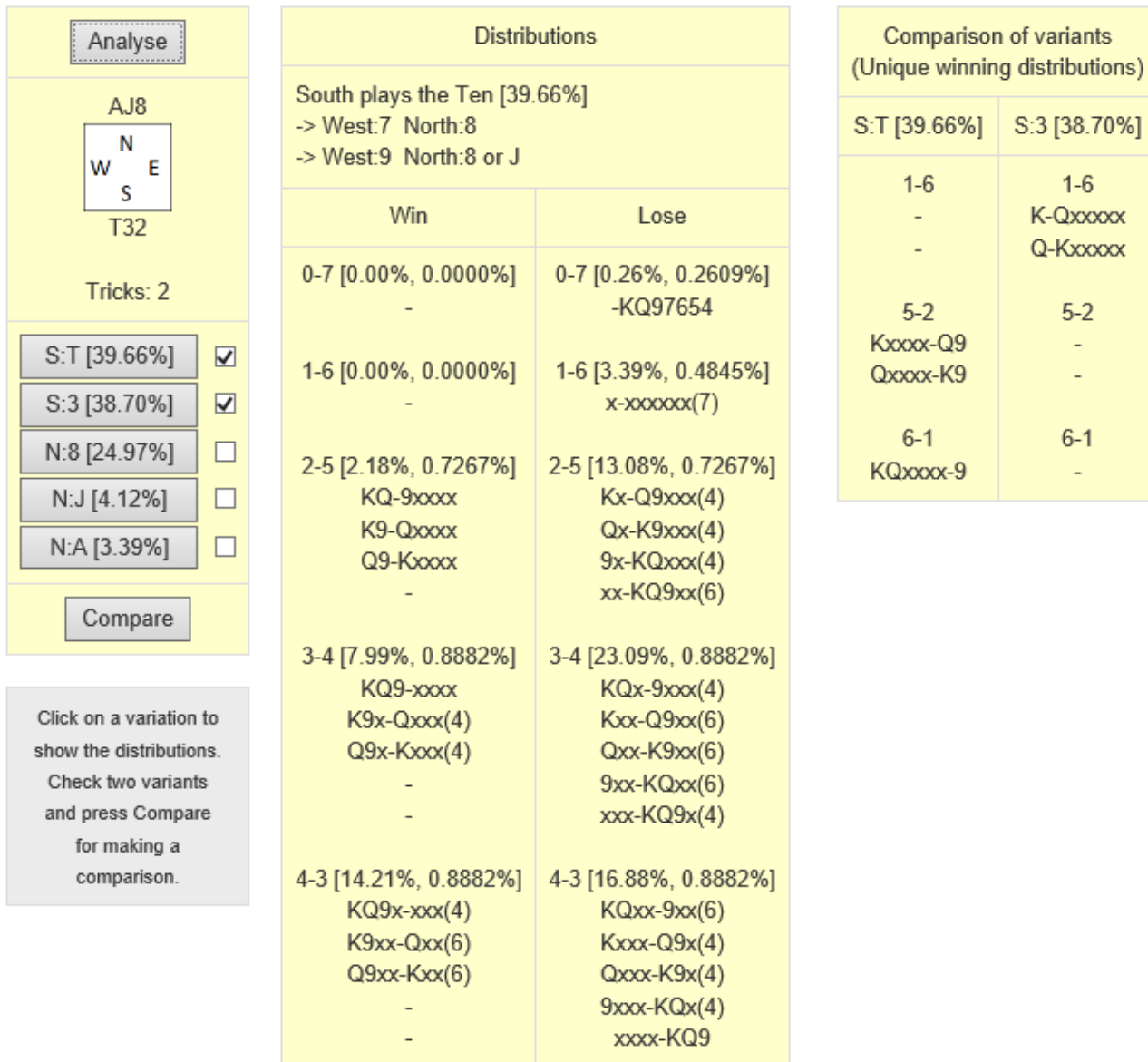


Figure 2

Running the T loses to K or Q single in West but wins against Q9 or K9 double in East or 9 single in East improving the chances for success with 0.97% to 39.66%.