Belief Revision: An Introduction

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1 THE PROBLEMS OF BELIEF REVISION

1.1 An Example

Suppose that you have a database that contains, among other things, the following pieces of information (in some form of code):

- α: All European swans are white.
- β: The bird caught in the trap is a swan.
- γ: The bird caught in the trap comes from Sweden.
- δ: Sweden is part of Europe.

If your database is coupled with a program that can compute logical inferences in the given code, the following fact is derivable from α - δ :

ε: The bird caught in the trap is white.

Now suppose that, as a matter of fact, the bird caught in the trap turns out to be black. This means that you want to add the fact $\neg \varepsilon$, i.e., the negation of ε , to the database. But then the database becomes *inconsistent*. If you want to keep the database consistent, which is normally a sound methodology, you need to revise it. This means that some of the beliefs in the original database must be retracted. You don't want to give up all of the beliefs since this would be an unnecessary loss of valuable information. So you have to choose between retracting α , β , γ or δ .

The problem of belief revision is that logical considerations alone do not tell you which beliefs to give up, but this has to be decided by some other means. What makes things more complicated is that beliefs in a database have *logical consequences*, so when giving up a belief you have to decide as well which of the consequences to retain and which to

Belief Revision

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Belief Revision:

Belief Revision Peter Gärdenfors, 2003-12-04 Belief revision is a topic of much interest in theoretical computer science and logic and it forms a central problem in research into artificial intelligence This book contains a collection of research articles on belief revision that are right up to date and an introductory chapter that presents a survey of current research in the area and the fundamentals of the theory Frontiers in Belief Revision M. Williams, Hans Rott, 2001-06-30 Frontiers in Belief Revision is a unique collection of leading edge research in Belief Revision It contains the latest innovative ideas of highly respected and pioneering experts in the area including Isaac Levi Krister Segerberg Sven Ove Hansson Didier Dubois and Henri Prade The book addresses foundational issues of inductive reasoning and minimal change generalizations of the standard belief revision theories strategies for iterated revisions probabilistic beliefs multiagent environments and a variety of data structures and mechanisms for implementations This book is suitable for students and researchers interested in knowledge representation and in the state of the art of the theory and practice of belief revision **Frontiers in Belief Revision** M. Williams, Hans Rott, 2013-04-17 Frontiers in Belief Revision is a unique collection of leading edge research in Belief Revision It contains the latest innovative ideas of highly respected and pioneering experts in the area including Isaac Levi Krister Segerberg Sven Ove Hansson Didier Dubois and Henri Prade The book addresses foundational issues of inductive reasoning and minimal change generalizations of the standard belief revision theories strategies for iterated revisions probabilistic beliefs multiagent environments and a variety of data structures and mechanisms for implementations This book is suitable for students and researchers interested in knowledge representation and in the state of the art of the Conditionals in Nonmonotonic Reasoning and Belief Revision Gabriele theory and practice of belief revision Kern-Isberner, 2003-06-29 Conditionals are omnipresent in everyday life as well as in scientific environments they represent generic knowledge acquired inductively or learned from books They tie a flexible and highly interrelated network of connections along which reasoning is possible and which can be applied to different situations. Therefore conditionals are important but also quite problematic objects in knowledge representation This book presents a new approach to conditionals which captures their dynamic non proportional nature particularly well by considering conditionals as agents shifting possible worlds in order to establish relationships and beliefs This understanding of conditionals yields a rich theory which makes complex interactions between conditionals transparent and operational Moreover it provides a unifying and enhanced framework for knowledge representation nonmonotonic reasoning belief revision and even for knowledge discovery

<u>Changes of Mind</u> Neil Tennant,2012-06-14 An account of how a rational agent should revise beliefs in the light of new evidence Computationally implementable it provides rigorous mathematical theory of dependency networks and investigates the complexity of algorithms for rational agents revising beliefs **Ceteris Paribus in Conservative Belief Revision**Frank Zenker,2009 This work contrasts conservative or minimally mutilating revisions of empirical theories as they are

identified in the presently dominant AGM model of formal belief revision and the structuralist program for the reconstruction of empirical theories. The aim is to make understandable why both approaches only partly succeed in substantially informing and formally restraining the issue With respect to the rationality of minimal change the overall result is negative Readers with an interest in formal epistemology are provided with application cases mercury anomaly revision of early thermo dynamics introduction of the neutrino the historically inclined reader is offered a systematic perspective. The discussion can largely be followed without a background in formal logic Belief Revision meets Philosophy of Science Erik J Olsson, Sebastian Engvist, 2010-10-27 Belief revision theory and philosophy of science both aspire to shed light on the dynamics of knowledge on how our view of the world changes typically in the light of new evidence Yet these two areas of research have long seemed strangely detached from each other as witnessed by the small number of cross references and researchers working in both domains One may speculate as to what has brought about this surprising and perhaps unfortunate state of affairs One factor may be that while belief revision theory has traditionally been pursued in a bottom up manner focusing on the endeavors of single inquirers philosophers of science inspired by logical empiricism have tended to The Laws of Belief Wolfgang be more interested in science as a multi agent or agent independent phenomenon Spohn, 2012-03-29 Wolfgang Spohn presents the first full account of the dynamic laws of belief by means of ranking theory This book is his long awaited presentation of ranking theory and its ramifications He motivates and introduces the basic notion of a ranking function which recognises degrees of belief and at the same time accounts for belief simpliciter He provides a measurement theory for ranking functions accounts for auto epistemology in ranking theoretic terms and explicates the basic notion of a deductive or non deductive reason. The rich philosophical applications of Spohn's theory include a new account of lawlikeness an account of ceteris paribus laws a new perspective on dispositions a rich and detailed theory of deterministic causation an understanding of natural modalities as an objectification of epistemic modalities an account of the experiential basis of belief and thus a restructuring of the debate on foundationalism and coherentism and externalism and contextualism and finally a revival of fundamental a priori principles of reason fathoming the basics of empiricism and the relation between reason and truth and concluding in a proof of a weak principle of causality All this is accompanied by thorough comparative discussions on a general level as well as within each topic and in particular with **Agent and Multi-Agent Systems: Technologies and Applications** Anne respect to probability theory Hakansson, Ronald Hartung, 2009-05-25 This book constitutes the proceedings of the Third International Symposium on Agent and Multi Agent Systems Technologies and Applications held in Uppsala Sweden during June 3 5 2009 The 86 papers contained in this volume were carefully reviewed and selected from numerous submissions There are 13 main tracks covering the methodology and applications of agent and multi agent systems and 8 special sessions on specific topics within the field The papers are divided in topical sections on social and organizational structures of agents negotiation protocols

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Uncover the mysteries within is enigmatic creation, **Belief Revision**. This downloadable ebook, shrouded in suspense, is available in a PDF format (*). Dive into a world of uncertainty and anticipation. Download now to unravel the secrets hidden within the pages.

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