## Multidimensional Possible world models

**Richard Bradley** 

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Image: Image:

• Possible worlds

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- Possible worlds
- Counteractual worlds

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- Possible worlds
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- A small-world model of prospects

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  - Set of worlds:  $W = \{w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4\}$

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  - Set of events:  $\Omega = \wp(W)$  containing  $A = \{w_1, w_2\}, B = \{w_1, w_3\},$  etc.

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  - Space of possibilities:  $W imes W_A$

Conditional Events		
Events	$B_A$	$B_A'$
$A \cap B$	$\langle w_1, w_1  angle$	_
$A\cap B'$	_	$\langle w_2$ , $w_2  angle$
$A' \cap B$	$\langle w_3, w_1 \rangle$	$\langle w_3$ , $w_2  angle$
$A'\cap B'$	$\langle w_4, w_1  angle$	$\langle w_4$ , $w_2  angle$

#### • Centring condition

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- Centring condition
- Prospects

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• Factuals: e.g. A has truth conditions  $\{\langle w_1, w_1 \rangle, \langle w_2, w_2 \rangle\}$ 



• Conditionals: e.g.  $A \rightarrow B$  has truth conditions  $\{\langle w_1, w_1 \rangle, \langle w_3, w_1 \rangle, \langle w_4, w_1 \rangle\}$ 

• Two kinds of uncertainty

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- Two kinds of uncertainty
- Measuring uncertainty of worlds

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Factual: p<sub>w</sub>

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- Two kinds of uncertainty
- Measuring uncertainty of worlds
  - Factual: p<sub>w</sub>
  - <sup>(2)</sup> Counterfactual:  $p_A$

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- Two kinds of uncertainty
- Measuring uncertainty of worlds



- Joint: p

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- Two kinds of uncertainty
- Measuring uncertainty of worlds
  - 1 Factual:  $p_w$
  - Counterfactual: p<sub>A</sub>
  - Joint: p

### • Corresponding measures of uncertainty on events: $P_w$ , $P_A$ and P

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- Two kinds of uncertainty
- Measuring uncertainty of worlds
  - Factual: p<sub>w</sub>
     Counterfactual: p<sub>A</sub>
     Joint: p
- Corresponding measures of uncertainty on events:  $P_w$ ,  $P_A$  and P
- (*Marginalisation*):

$$p_{A}(w_{j}) = \sum_{w_{i} \in W} p(\langle w_{i}, w_{j} \rangle)$$
$$p_{w}(w_{i}) = \sum_{w_{j} \in W_{A}} p(\langle w_{i}, w_{j} \rangle)$$

	Conditional Events	
Events	$B_A$	$B_A'$
$A \cap B$	$p(w_1)$	0
$A\cap B'$	0	$p(w_2)$
$A'\cap B$	$p(w_3, w_1)$	$p(w_3, w_2)$
$A'\cap B'$	$p(w_4, w_1)$	$p(w_4, w_2)$

### • Confirm that:

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$A'\cap B'$	$p(w_4, w_1)$	$p(w_4, w_2)$

- Confirm that:
  - P is a probability function
     P<sup>\*</sup><sub>A</sub> is suppositional probability (P\*3 in virtue of Centring)

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	Conditional Events	
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- Confirm that:
  - P is a probability function
  - 2  $P_A^*$  is suppositional probability (P\*3 in virtue of Centring)
  - Satisfaction of the Ramsey Test hypothesis i.e.  $P(A \rightarrow B) = P_A^*(B)$

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• Measuring desirability of worlds by normalised utility measures.

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Factual: v<sub>w</sub>

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- Measuring desirability of worlds by normalised utility measures.
  - Factual: v<sub>w</sub>
     Counterfactual: v<sub>A</sub>
  - 3 Joint: v
- Corresponding measures of desirability on events:  $V_w$ ,  $V_A$  and V defined by:

$$V(\alpha) := \sum_{\omega_{ij} \in \alpha} \frac{v(\omega_{ij}) \cdot p(\omega_{ij})}{P(\alpha)}$$

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• Marginalisation implies that:

$$V_w(X) = j.V(X)$$
  
$$V_A(X) = k_A.V(A \to X)$$

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	Conditional Events		
Events	B <sub>A</sub>	$B_A'$	
$A \cap B$	$p(w_1), v(w_1)$	_	
$A\cap B'$	—	$p(w_2)$ , $v(w_2)$	
$A'\cap B$	$p(w_3, w_1), v(w_3, w_1)$	$p(w_3, w_2), v(w_3, w_2)$	
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#### • Confirm that:

V is a desirability function
 V<sup>\*</sup><sub>A</sub> is suppositional probability

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#### • Confirm that:

V is a desirability function
 V<sup>\*</sup><sub>A</sub> is suppositional probability
 Satisfaction of the Ramsey Test for desire i.e. V(A→B) = k<sub>A</sub>.V<sup>\*</sup><sub>A</sub>(B)

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• Ethical Actualism: Given the true state of the world, it is a matter of indifference as to what might have been.

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- World Actualism:  $\forall w_j \in W_A, \forall w_i \in A', v(\langle w_i, w_j \rangle) = v(w_i)$

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		Conditional Events		
	Events	BA	$B_A'$	
	$A \cap B$	$p(w_1), v(w_1)$	_	
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• Partition-independent versions of Ethical Actualism:

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• Partition-independent versions of Ethical Actualism:

**9** Prospect Actualism:  $\forall X \subseteq A', \forall Y_A \in W_A, V(X, \{w_j\}) = V(X)$ 

Image: Image:

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- Partition-independent versions of Ethical Actualism:
  - Prospect Actualism:  $\forall X \subseteq A', \forall Y_A \in W_A, V(X, \{w_j\}) = V(X)$ Restricted Actualism:  $\forall w_j \in W_A, V(A', \{w_j\}) = V(A')$

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- From the assumption of Restricted Actualism it follows that:

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- From the assumption of Restricted Actualism it follows that:
  V(W, X<sub>A</sub>) = V(X|A).P(A)

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- Partition-independent versions of Ethical Actualism:
  - **9** Prospect Actualism:  $\forall X \subseteq A', \forall Y_A \in W_A, V(X, \{w_j\}) = V(X)$  **9** Restricted Actualism:  $\forall w_j \in W_A, V(A', \{w_j\}) = V(A')$
- From the assumption of Restricted Actualism it follows that:
  - $V(W, X_A) = V(X|A).P(A)$ • Bradley's Thesis:  $V(A \mapsto X) = V(X|A).P(A)$

• Extend model to allow for supposition that  $\neg A$ .

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- Space of possibilities now given by  $W \times W_A \times W_{A'}$ .

Conditional A-Events		
$B_A$	$B'_A$	
$A:\langle w_1$ , $w_1$ , $w_3 angle$	$A:\langle w_2, w_2, w_3\rangle$	
$\mathit{A}':\langle \mathit{w}_3, \mathit{w}_1, \mathit{w}_3 angle$	$A':\langle w_3,w_2,w_4 angle$	
$A:\langle w_1$ , $w_1$ , $w_4 angle$	$A:\langle w_2, w_2, w_4\rangle$	
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$\mathit{A}':\langle \mathit{w}_3, \mathit{w}_1, \mathit{w}_3 angle$	$A':\langle w_3,w_2,w_4 angle$
$A:\langle w_1$ , $w_1$ , $w_4 angle$	$A:\langle w_2, w_2, w_4\rangle$
$A':\langle w_4$ , $w_1$ , $w_4 angle$	$A':\langle w_4,w_3,w_4 angle$

• From the assumption of Restricted Actualism and Prospect Actualism it follows that:

- Extend model to allow for supposition that  $\neg A$ .
- Space of possibilities now given by  $W \times W_A \times W_{A'}$ .

Conditional A-Events		
$B_A$	$B'_A$	
$A:\langle \mathit{w}_1, \mathit{w}_1, \mathit{w}_3 angle$	$A:\langle w_2, w_2, w_3\rangle$	
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• From the assumption of Restricted Actualism and Prospect Actualism it follows that:

• Additivity: 
$$V(B_A, C_{A'}) = V(B_A) + V(C_{A'})$$

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- Space of possibilities now given by  $W \times W_A \times W_{A'}$ .

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$A:\langle w_1$ , $w_1$ , $w_4 angle$	$A:\langle w_2, w_2, w_4 \rangle$	
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• From the assumption of Restricted Actualism and Prospect Actualism it follows that:

• Additivity: 
$$V(B_A, C_{A'}) = V(B_A) + V(C_{A'})$$

3 Independence:  $V((A \mapsto B) | (\neg A \mapsto C)) = V(A \mapsto B)$ 

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• Three actions prescriptions

- Three actions prescriptions
  - Jeffrey: Maximise desirability

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- Three actions prescriptions
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- What relationship holds between them?

- Three actions prescriptions
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- What relationship holds between them?
- SEU Hypothesis: Let  $\{\alpha_i\}$  be an n-fold partition. Then:

$$V((\alpha_1 \mapsto \beta_1)(\alpha_2 \mapsto \beta_2)...(\alpha_n \mapsto \beta_n)) = \sum_{i=1}^n V(\alpha_i \beta_i).P(\alpha_i)$$

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#### Theorem

Assume Desirabilism. Then the conjunction of Bradley's Thesis and the Independence condition is equivalent to the SEU hypothesis.

• Auspiciousness versus efficacy of acts

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- Causal expected utility:

 $CU(A) = \sum v(w_i).P_A(w_i)$ 

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• Problem of partition independence

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- Problem of partition independence
- Joyce: CU is desirability on the supposition of action's performance

$$V_A(X) = \sum_{w_i \in W} v(w_i) . P_A(w_i | X)$$
$$CU(A) = V_A(A)$$

- Auspiciousness versus efficacy of acts
- Causal expected utility:

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- Problem of partition independence
- Joyce: CU is desirability on the supposition of action's performance

$$V_A(X) = \sum_{w_i \in W} v(w_i) P_A(w_i | X)$$
$$CU(A) = V_A(A)$$

• An alternative proposal: Maximise expected desirability gain, i.e.

$$V^{*A}(X) = \sum_{w_i \in X} v(w_i) . (\frac{p_A^*(w_i) - p(w_i)}{P_A^*(X)})$$