

Rationality and the Bayesian Paradigm

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- **Defense**

Objectivity and Subjectivity

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- Objectivity as second-order subjectivity

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- Clearly, $\succ^* \subset \succ^{\wedge}$

The Bayesian Approach

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- **P5** $\exists f \succ g$
- **P6** $f \succ g \exists$ a partition of S , $\{A_1, \dots, A_n\}$ $f_{A_i}^h \succ g$ and $f \succ g_{A_i}^h$

Savage's Theorem

- Assume that X is finite. Then \succsim satisfies P1-P6 if and only if there exist a non-atomic finitely additive probability measure μ on S ($=(S, 2^S)$) and a non-constant function $u : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that, for every $f, g \in F$

$$f \succsim g \quad \text{iff} \quad \int_S u(f(s)) d\mu(s) \geq \int_S u(g(s)) d\mu(s)$$

Furthermore, in this case μ is unique, and u is unique up to positive linear transformations.

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- A problem for a behavioral derivation
- Where would the probability come from?

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- The Bayesian approach is good at representing knowledge, poor at representing ignorance

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- Rule-based approaches: logit
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- But none extends to the cases of wars, stock market crashes...

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- Schmeidler (1989): non-additive probabilities (capacities)

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- Maxmin EU: there exists a set of probabilities C such that

$$V(f) = \min_{P \in C} \int_S u(f(s)) dP(s)$$

Other Multiple-Priors Models

- Nau, Klibanoff-Marinacci-Mukerji: “smooth preferences”

$$\varphi : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\int_{\Delta(S)} \varphi \left(\int u(f) dp \right) d\mu$$

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- Maccheroni-Marinacci-Rustichini: “variational preferences”

$$V(f) = \min_{P \in \Delta(S)} \left\{ \int_S u(f(s)) dP(s) + c(P) \right\}$$

Incomplete Preferences

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- Fits the “objective rationality” notion
- Can be combined with the maxmin criterion as “subjective rationality”