

Desirable sets of things and their logic

Gert de Cooman* Arthur Van Camp Jasper De Bock

Foundations Lab for imprecise probabilities (FLIP)
Ghent University

ISIPTA 2023, 14 July 2023

ARTHUR VAN CAMP



JASPER DE BOCK

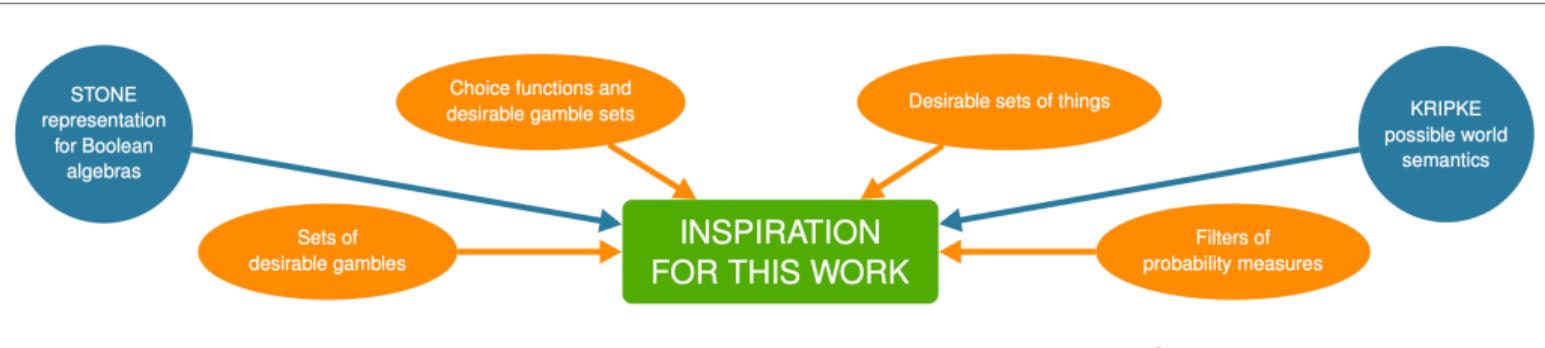


CATRIN CAMPBELL-MOORE



FLip — FOUNDATIONS LAB (for imprecise probabilities)





Desirable things

Consider a set of things T , some of which have an abstract property called **desirability**.

$S \subseteq T$ is a **set of desirable things (SDT)** to You if You state that *all things in S* desirable.

There is an **inference mechanism** associated with desirability via a *finitary* closure operator

$$\text{Cl}_D: \mathcal{P}(T) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(T): S \mapsto \text{Cl}_D(S).$$

D₁. if all things in S are desirable, then so are all things in $\text{Cl}_D(S)$.

There's a set of **forbidden** things T_- :

D₂. no thing in T_- is desirable.

The **coherent** SDTs are:

$$\bar{D} := \{D \subseteq T: D = \text{Cl}_D(D) \text{ and } D \cap T_- = \emptyset\}.$$

Things in $T_+ := \text{Cl}_D(\emptyset)$ are always desirable.

D₃. $T_+ \cap T_- = \emptyset$, or equivalently, $\bar{D} \neq \emptyset$.

CONJUNCTION



Desirable sets of things

Desirable sets of things

$S \subseteq T$ is a **desirable set of things** to You if You state that *at least one thing in S* is desirable.

$K \subseteq \mathcal{P}(T)$ is Your **set of desirable sets of things (SDS)** if each $W \in K$ is a desirable set of things to You.

\bar{K}_{fin} is the set (intersection structure) of all finitely coherent SDSes, and leads to a closure operator $\text{Cl}_{\bar{K}_{\text{fin}}}$, defined by

$$\text{Cl}_{\bar{K}_{\text{fin}}}(W) := \bigcap \{K \in \bar{K}_{\text{fin}}: W \subseteq K\}.$$

DISJUNCTION

The structure $\langle \bar{D}, \subseteq \rangle$ can be **embedded** in $\langle \bar{K}_{\text{fin}}, \subseteq \rangle$ by the endomorphism

$$D \mapsto K_D$$

with

$$K_D := \{S \subseteq T: D \cap S \neq \emptyset\}.$$

EMBEDDING

An SDS $K \subseteq \mathcal{P}(T)$ is **finitely coherent** if:

K₁. $\emptyset \notin K$;

K₂. if $S_1 \in K$ and $S_1 \subseteq S_2$ then $S_2 \in K$, for all $S_1, S_2 \in \mathcal{P}(T)$;

K₃. if $S \in K$ then $S \setminus T_- \in K$, for all $S \in \mathcal{P}(T)$;

K₄. $\{t_+\} \in K$ for all $t_+ \in T_+$;

K₅. if $t_\sigma \in \text{Cl}_D(\sigma(W))$ for all $\sigma \in \Phi_W$, then $\{t_\sigma: \sigma \in \Phi_W\} \in K$, for all $\emptyset \neq W \in K$.

Here ' \subseteq ' means 'is a finite subset of', and Φ_W is the set of all selection maps σ on W , so $\sigma(S) \in S$ for all $S \in W$.

LIFTING

Possible worlds models

You have a 'true' set of desirable things D_T , which assessments $W \in \mathcal{P}(T)$ provide information about. \bar{D} is a **set of possible 'worlds'**.

Each desirable set $S \in W$ leads to an **event**

$$D_S := \{D \in \bar{D}: S \cap D \neq \emptyset\} \subseteq \bar{D},$$

and the assessment $W \subseteq \mathcal{P}(T)$ to the **event**

$$\mathcal{E}(W) := \bigcap_{S \in W} D_S := \bigcap_{S \in W} \{D \in \bar{D}: S \cap D \neq \emptyset\} \subseteq \bar{D},$$

the set of all worlds that remain possible after Your assessment W .

The set of events $\mathcal{E}_{\text{fin}} := \{\mathcal{E}(W): W \in \mathcal{P}(T)\}$ is a bounded distributive lattice with top \bar{D} and bottom \emptyset .

Proper filters of events $\mathcal{F} \in \bar{F}(\mathcal{E}_{\text{fin}})$ correspond to consistent and deductively closed sets of propositional statements about D_T .

PROPOSITIONAL LOGIC



Complete SDSes

A finitely coherent SDS $K \in \bar{\mathbf{K}}_{\text{fin}}$ is **complete** if

$$\mathbf{C}. (\forall S_1, S_2 \subseteq T) (S_1 \cup S_2 \in K \Rightarrow (S_1 \in K \text{ or } S_2 \in K)).$$

$\bar{\mathbf{K}}_{\text{fin},c}$ is the set of all complete and finitely coherent SDSes.

The established order isomorphism allows us to translate the **Prime Filter Representation Theorem** into:

An SDS K is finitely coherent if and only if it is the *non-empty* intersection of all the complete and finitely coherent SDSes it is included in:

$$K = \bigcap_{\neq \emptyset} \{K' \in \bar{\mathbf{K}}_{\text{fin},c} : K \subseteq K'\}.$$

REPRESENTATION

The structures $(\bar{\mathbf{K}}_{\text{fin}}, \subseteq)$ and $(\bar{\mathbb{F}}(\mathbf{E}_{\text{fin}}), \subseteq)$ are **order isomorphic**, via the **order isomorphisms**

$$\phi_{\mathbf{D}}^{\text{fin}}(K) := \{\mathcal{E}(W) : W \in K\},$$

and

$$\kappa_{\mathbf{D}}^{\text{fin}}(\mathcal{F}) := \{S \subseteq T : \bar{\mathbf{D}}_S \in \mathcal{F}\}.$$

ORDER ISOMORPHISM

Prime filters

A proper filter $\mathcal{F} \in \bar{\mathbb{F}}(\mathbf{E}_{\text{fin}})$ is **prime** if

$$\mathbf{PF}. (\forall E_1, E_2 \in \mathbf{E}_{\text{fin}}) (E_1 \cup E_2 \in \mathcal{F} \Rightarrow (E_1 \in \mathcal{F} \text{ or } E_2 \in \mathcal{F})).$$

$\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p(\mathbf{E}_{\text{fin}})$ is the set of all prime filters.

The well-known **Prime Filter Representation Theorem** states that:

A set of events \mathcal{F} is a proper filter if and only if it is the *non-empty* intersection of all the prime filters it is included in:

$$\mathcal{F} = \bigcap_{\neq \emptyset} \{\mathcal{G} \in \bar{\mathbb{F}}_p(\mathbf{E}_{\text{fin}}) : \mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{G}\}.$$

REPRESENTATION

Finitary SDSes

We concentrate on the *finite sets of things* in

$$\mathcal{Q}(T) := \{S \in \mathcal{P}(T) : S \subseteq T\}.$$

For any SDS $W \subseteq \mathcal{P}(T)$, we call

$$\text{fin}(W) := W \cap \mathcal{Q}(T)$$

its **finite part**, and collect all its sets with finite desirable subsets in

$$\text{fty}(W) := \{S \in \mathcal{P}(T) : (\exists \hat{S} \in W \cap \mathcal{Q}(T)) \hat{S} \subseteq S\},$$

its **finitary part**.

An SDS $W \subseteq \mathcal{P}(T)$ is called **finitary** if all its desirable sets have finite desirable subsets, so

$$W \subseteq \text{fty}(W).$$

A finitely coherent SDS K is finitary iff $K = \text{fty}(K)$.

Conjunctive SDSes

A **conjunctive** SDS $W \subseteq \mathcal{P}(T)$ is a finitary SDS all of whose minimal elements are singletons:

$$(\forall S \in W)(\exists t \in S) \{t\} \in W.$$

A finitely coherent SDS K is conjunctive if and only if there is some coherent SDT D such that $K = K_D$ and then necessarily:

$$D = \{t \in T : \{t\} \in K\}.$$

The finitary part of any finitely coherent and complete SDS is finitely coherent and conjunctive; consequently, any finitary and finitely coherent SDS is complete if and only if it is conjunctive.

Note: the paper also discusses and studies stronger, infinitary versions of the lifting axioms K_1 – K_5 .

A **finitary** SDS K is finitely coherent if and only if it is the *non-empty* intersection of all the finitely coherent conjunctive SDSes it is included in:

$$K = \bigcap_{\neq \emptyset} \{K_D : D \in \bar{\mathbf{D}} \text{ and } K \subseteq K_D\}.$$

REPRESENTATION

Desirable sets of things and their logic

Gert de Cooman + Arthur Van Camp + Jasper De Bock

Foundations Lab (FLab), Ghent University, Belgium + Department of Philosophy, University of Bristol, UK

