

- ▶ I believe *that Bayern Munich wins the Champions League next year.*
- ▶ I hope *that Bayern Munich wins the Champions League next year.*
- ▶ I desire *that Bayern Munich wins the Champions League next year.*
- ▶ Others fear *that Bayern Munich wins the Champions League next year.*
- ▶ \vdots

First role of propositions:

- ▶ They are the meanings of descriptive sentences:

‘Bayern Munich wins the Champions League next year’ expresses the same proposition as ‘Bayern München gewinnt die Champions League nächstes Jahr’.

Both express *that Bayern Munich wins the Champions League next year*.

Second role of propositions:

- ▶ They are bearers of truth values:

That Bayern Munich wins the Champions League next year is true or false.

Third role of propositions:

- ▶ They are the contents of belief:

I believe *that Bayern Munich wins the Champions League next year.*

The proposition *that Socrates is a philosopher* is true at the actual world, but it is not true at every possible world.

- ▶ ($\text{Id}_{\text{Worlds}}$) For all possible worlds w , for all possible worlds w' :
 $w = w'$ if and only if for all propositions X : X is true at w if and only if X is true at w' .
- ▶ (Id_{Prop}) For all propositions X , for all propositions Y :
 $X = Y$ if and only if for all possible worlds w : X is true at w if and only if Y is true at w .

Definition:

Let W be a given non-empty set of possible worlds.

- (i) X is a proposition (over W) if and only if X is a subset of W .
- (ii) If X is a proposition (over W) and w is a world in W , then X is true at w if and only if w is a member of X .

Definition:

Let W be a given non-empty set of possible worlds.

- (i) X is a proposition (over W) if and only if X is a subset of W .
- (ii) If X is a proposition (over W) and w is a world in W , then X is true at w if and only if w is a member of X .

$$X = \{w: w \text{ is a member of } X\}$$

Definition:

Let W be a given non-empty set of possible worlds.

- (i) X is a proposition (over W) if and only if X is a subset of W .
- (ii) If X is a proposition (over W) and w is a world in W , then X is true at w if and only if w is a member of X .

$$X = \{w: w \text{ is a member of } X\}$$

$$X = \{w: X \text{ is true at } w\}$$

- ▶ ($\text{Id}'_{\text{Worlds}}$) For all members w of W , for all members w' of W :
 $w = w'$ if and only if for all subsets X of W : w is a member of X if and only if w' is a member of X .
- ▶ (Id'_{Prop}) For all subsets X of W , for all subsets Y of W :
 $X = Y$ if and only if for all members w of W : w is a member of X if and only if w is a member of Y .

If X is a proposition, that is, a subset of W , let us denote its *negation* by:

$$\neg X$$

$\neg X$ is the set of possible worlds in W that are not members of X .

Set-theoretically: $\neg X$ is the complement of X (with respect to W)

Equivalently: $\neg X = \{w \text{ in } W: w \text{ is not a member of } X\}$

Equivalently: $\neg X = W \setminus X$ (read: ‘ W without X ’)

If X and Y are propositions, that is, subsets of W , let us denote their *conjunction* by:

$$X \wedge Y$$

$X \wedge Y$ is the set of possible worlds in W that are members of both X and Y .

Set-theoretically: $X \wedge Y$ is the intersection of X and Y

Equivalently: $X \wedge Y = \{w \text{ in } W: w \text{ is a member of } X \text{ and } w \text{ is a member of } Y\}$

Equivalently: $X \wedge Y = X \cap Y$ (read: ' X intersected with Y ')

If X and Y are propositions, that is, subsets of W , let us denote their *disjunction* by:

$$X \vee Y$$

$X \vee Y$ is the set of possible worlds in W that are members of X or Y

Set-theoretically: $X \vee Y$ is the union of X and Y .

Equivalently: $X \vee Y = \{w \text{ in } W: w \text{ is a member of } X \text{ or } w \text{ is a member of } Y\}$

Equivalently: $X \vee Y = X \cup Y$ (read: ‘ X united with Y ’)

- ▶ *negation* (of descriptive sentences) corresponds to *complement* (of propositions/sets)
- ▶ *conjunction* (of descriptive sentences) corresponds to *intersection* (of propositions/sets)
- ▶ *disjunction* (of descriptive sentences) corresponds to *union* (of propositions/sets)

Prop(A): the proposition expressed by sentence *A*

$Prop(A)$: the proposition expressed by sentence A

► $Prop(\neg A) = \neg Prop(A) = W \setminus Prop(A)$

$Prop(A)$: the proposition expressed by sentence A

- ▶ $Prop(\neg A) = \neg Prop(A) = W \setminus Prop(A)$
- ▶ $Prop(A \wedge B) = Prop(A) \wedge Prop(B) = Prop(A) \cap Prop(B)$
- ▶ $Prop(A \vee B) = Prop(A) \vee Prop(B) = Prop(A) \cup Prop(B)$

$$W = \{w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4, w_5, w_6, w_7, w_8\}$$

$$W = \{w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4, w_5, w_6, w_7, w_8\}$$

$$X = \{w_1, w_2, w_4, w_5\}$$

$$Y = \{w_2, w_3, w_5, w_6\}$$

$$Z = \{w_4, w_5, w_6, w_7\}$$

$$W = \{w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4, w_5, w_6, w_7, w_8\}$$

$$X = \{w_1, w_2, w_4, w_5\}$$

$$Y = \{w_2, w_3, w_5, w_6\}$$

$$Z = \{w_4, w_5, w_6, w_7\}$$

$$\neg X = \{w_3, w_6, w_7, w_8\}$$

$$W = \{w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4, w_5, w_6, w_7, w_8\}$$

$$X = \{w_1, w_2, w_4, w_5\}$$

$$Y = \{w_2, w_3, w_5, w_6\}$$

$$Z = \{w_4, w_5, w_6, w_7\}$$

$$\neg X = \{w_3, w_6, w_7, w_8\}$$

$$X \wedge Y = \{w_2, w_5\}$$

$$X \vee Y = \{w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4, w_5, w_6\}$$

$$\neg X \wedge Z = \{w_6, w_7\}$$

$$(X \wedge Y) \wedge Z = \{w_5\}$$

$$\neg X \wedge \neg Y \wedge \neg Z = \{w_8\}$$

$$X \vee \neg X = X \cup \neg X = W$$

$$X \vee \neg X = X \cup \neg X = W$$

$$X \wedge \neg X = X \cap \neg X = \{\}$$

(P1) ...

(P2) ...

⋮

(P*n*) ...

(C) ...

The argument

P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n . Therefore: C

is logically valid.

Equivalently:

P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n logically imply C .

The argument

P . Therefore: C

is logically valid.

Equivalently:

P logically implies C .

A logically implies $A \vee B$

A logically implies $A \vee B$

X is a subset of $X \cup Y$

- ▶ *negation* (of descriptive sentences) corresponds to *complement* (of propositions/sets)
- ▶ *conjunction* (of descriptive sentences) corresponds to *intersection* (of propositions/sets)
- ▶ *disjunction* (of descriptive sentences) corresponds to *union* (of propositions/sets)
- ▶ *logical implication* (of descriptive sentences) corresponds to the *subset relation* (between propositions/sets)

A logically implies B if and only if $Prop(A)$ is a subset of $Prop(B)$.

A logically implies B if and only if $Prop(A)$ is a subset of $Prop(B)$.

For all propositions X, Y :

X logically implies Y if and only if X is a subset of Y .

$A \wedge B$ logically implies A

$X \cap Y$ is a subset of X

Belief aims at the truth.

X : that the weather will be nice tomorrow

- ▶ Believed: X

X : that the weather will be nice tomorrow

Y : that the weather will be nice on the day after tomorrow

- ▶ Believed: X
- ▶ Believed: $\neg X \vee (X \wedge \neg Y)$

X : that the weather will be nice tomorrow

Y : that the weather will be nice on the day after tomorrow

- ▶ Believed: X
- ▶ Believed: $\neg X \vee (X \wedge \neg Y)$
- ▶ Believed: $X \wedge \neg Y$

X : that the weather will be nice tomorrow

Y : that the weather will be nice on the day after tomorrow

- ▶ Believed: X
- ▶ Believed: $\neg X \vee (X \wedge \neg Y)$
- ▶ Believed: $X \wedge \neg Y$
- ▶ Believed: $\neg Y$

- ▶ Rational Belief 1: If a person is inferentially perfectly rational (with W as her set of entertainable possible worlds), then she believes W .

- ▶ Rational Belief 1: If a person is inferentially perfectly rational (with W as her set of entertainable possible worlds), then she believes W .
- ▶ Rational Belief 2: If a person is inferentially perfectly rational, then she does not believe $\{\}$.

- ▶ Rational Belief 1: If a person is inferentially perfectly rational (with W as her set of entertainable possible worlds), then she believes W .
- ▶ Rational Belief 2: If a person is inferentially perfectly rational, then she does not believe $\{\}$.
- ▶ Rational Belief 3: If a person is inferentially perfectly rational, if she believes X , and if X is a subset of Y , then she also believes Y .

- ▶ Rational Belief 1: If a person is inferentially perfectly rational (with W as her set of entertainable possible worlds), then she believes W .
- ▶ Rational Belief 2: If a person is inferentially perfectly rational, then she does not believe $\{\}$.
- ▶ Rational Belief 3: If a person is inferentially perfectly rational, if she believes X , and if X is a subset of Y , then she also believes Y .
- ▶ Rational Belief 4: If a person is inferentially perfectly rational, if she believes X , and if she believes Y , then she also believes $X \cap Y$.

Theorem:

Let W be a finite, non-empty set of possible worlds.

If the Rational Belief postulates 1–4 are the case (for the given set W of possible worlds), then for every inferentially perfectly rational person p (for whom W is the set of entertainable possible worlds), there is a non-empty proposition B_W , such that the following holds:

For all propositions X (over W),

person p believes X if and only if B_W is a subset of X .

Proof:

Let B_W be the conjunction of all propositions believed by p .

Proof:

Let B_W be the conjunction of all propositions believed by p .

(By postulate Rational Belief 1, person p believes at least one proposition.)

Law of commutativity:

- ▶ $X \cap Y = Y \cap X$

Law of associativity:

- ▶ $X \cap (Y \cap Z) = (X \cap Y) \cap Z$

Law of commutativity:

$$\blacktriangleright X \cap Y = Y \cap X$$

Law of associativity:

$$\blacktriangleright X \cap (Y \cap Z) = (X \cap Y) \cap Z$$

Compare:

$$2 \cdot 3 = 3 \cdot 2$$

$$2 \cdot (3 \cdot 5) = (2 \cdot 3) \cdot 5$$

$$X_1 \cap X_2 \cap \dots \cap X_n$$

$$X_1 \cap X_2 \cap \dots \cap X_n$$

$$X_2 \cap X_1 \cap \dots \cap X_n$$

$$X_n \cap X_{n-1} \cap \dots \cap X_1$$

We need to show:

For all propositions X (over W),

person p believes X if and only if B_W is a subset of X .

Assume the left-hand side: person p believes X .

We need to show: B_W is a subset of that X .

If X_1, \dots, X_n are all the propositions believed by p , then

$$B_W = X_1 \cap X_2 \cap \dots \cap X_n$$

where one of X_1, \dots, X_n is X .

If X_1, \dots, X_n are all the propositions believed by p , then

$$B_W = X_1 \cap X_2 \cap \dots \cap X_n$$

where one of X_1, \dots, X_n is X .

E.g.:

$$B_W = X \cap X_2 \cap \dots \cap X_n$$

In any case: B_W is a subset of X . ✓

Now for the other direction of:

For all propositions X (over W),

person p believes X if and only if B_W is a subset of X .

Assume the right-hand side: B_W is a subset of X .

We need to show: person p believes X .

We have:

$$B_W = X_1 \cap X_2 \cap X_3 \cap \dots \cap X_n$$

where X_1, \dots, X_n are all the propositions believed by p .

We can reformulate this:

$$B_W = (\dots ((X_1 \cap X_2) \cap X_3) \cap \dots \cap X_n)$$

$$B_W = (\dots ((X_1 \cap X_2) \cap X_3) \cap \dots \cap X_n)$$

By postulate Rational Belief 4:

- ▶ Since X_1 is believed by p , X_2 is believed by p , also $(X_1 \cap X_2)$ is believed by p .
- ▶ Since $X_1 \cap X_2$ is believed by p , and X_3 is believed by p , also $((X_1 \cap X_2) \cap X_3)$ is believed by p .
- ▶ Since $((X_1 \cap X_2) \cap X_3)$ is believed by p , and X_4 is believed by p , also $((((X_1 \cap X_2) \cap X_3) \cap X_4))$ is believed by p .
- ▶ \vdots
- ▶ $\underbrace{(\dots ((X_1 \cap X_2) \cap X_3) \cap \dots \cap X_n)}_{B_W}$ is believed by p .

By postulate Rational Belief 3:

Since B_W is believed by p , and B_W is a subset of X , also X is believed by p . ✓

By postulate Rational Belief 3:

Since B_W is believed by p , and B_W is a subset of X , also X is believed by p . ✓

Additionally, by postulate Rational Belief 2: $\{\}$ is not believed by p .

Therefore, B_W is not the empty set.

$$X = \{w_1, w_2, w_4, w_5\}$$

$$Y = \{w_2, w_3, w_5, w_6\}$$

$$Z = \{w_4, w_5, w_6, w_7\}$$

E.g., assume belief to be generated by $B_W = X \cap Y = \{w_2, w_5\}$.

Believed: $X, Y, X \cup Y, \dots$

$$X = \{w_1, w_2, w_4, w_5\}$$

$$Y = \{w_2, w_3, w_5, w_6\}$$

$$Z = \{w_4, w_5, w_6, w_7\}$$

E.g., assume belief to be generated by $B_W = X \cap Y = \{w_2, w_5\}$.

Believed: $X, Y, X \cup Y, \dots$

Not believed: $Z, \{w_5\}, \{w_8\}, \dots$

Assume belief to be generated by B_W .

If X is a proposition (a subset of W), then there are three possible cases:

- ▶ B_W is a subset of X : X is believed.
- ▶ $B_W \cap X = \{\}$: $\neg X$ is believed (X is disbelieved).
- ▶ B_W is not a subset of X , $B_W \cap X \neq \{\}$:

Neither X is believed, nor $\neg X$ is believed.

$$X = \{w_1, w_2, w_4, w_5\}$$

$$Y = \{w_2, w_3, w_5, w_6\}$$

$$Z = \{w_4, w_5, w_6, w_7\}$$

E.g., assume belief to be generated by $B_W = X \cap Y = \{w_2, w_5\}$.

Believed: e.g., X

Disbelieved: e.g., $\{w_4, w_7\}$

Neither believed nor disbelieved: e.g., $Z, \neg Z$

Boolean algebra of sets

Boolean algebra of sets

Filter

Boolean algebra of sets

Filter

Ultrafilter

- ▶ Area 1: $A(W) = 1$.

- ▶ Area 1: $A(W) = 1$.
- ▶ Area 2: For all propositions (regions) X , $0 \leq A(X) \leq 1$.

- ▶ Area 1: $A(W) = 1$.
- ▶ Area 2: For all propositions (regions) X , $0 \leq A(X) \leq 1$.
- ▶ Area 3: For all propositions (regions) X , for all propositions (regions) Y , if $X \cap Y = \{\}$, then $A(X \cup Y) = A(X) + A(Y)$.

- ▶ Area 1: $A(W) = 1$.
- ▶ Area 2: For all propositions (regions) X , $0 \leq A(X) \leq 1$.

- Area 3: For all propositions (regions) X , for all propositions (regions) Y , if $X \cap Y = \{\}$, then $A(X \cup Y) = A(X) + A(Y)$.

$$X \cap \neg X = \{\}.$$

$$X \cup \neg X = W.$$

$$A(X \cup \neg X) = A(W) = 1.$$

$$\text{By Area 3: } A(X \cup \neg X) = A(X) + A(\neg X).$$

$$\text{Therefore: } 1 = A(X) + A(\neg X).$$

$$\text{Equivalently: } A(\neg X) = 1 - A(X).$$

- ▶ Rational Degree of Belief 1: If a person is inferentially perfectly rational (with W as her set of entertainable possible worlds), then her degree of belief function P is such that: $P(W) = 1$.
- ▶ Rational Degree of Belief 2: If a person is inferentially perfectly rational (with W as her set of entertainable possible worlds), then her degree of belief function P is such that:
For all propositions X (for all subsets X of W): $P(X)$ is a real number, such that $0 \leq P(X) \leq 1$.

- ▶ Rational Degree of Belief 3: If a person is inferentially perfectly rational (with W as her set of entertainable possible worlds), then her degree of belief function P is such that:
For all propositions X (for all subsets X of W), for all propositions Y (for all subsets Y of W):
if $X \cap Y = \{\}$, then $P(X \cup Y) = P(X) + P(Y)$.

Different kinds of probability:

- ▶ Statistical probability.
- ▶ Objective single-case probability.
- ▶ Geometrical probability.
- ▶ \vdots

Different kinds of probability:

- ▶ Statistical probability.
- ▶ Objective single-case probability.
- ▶ Geometrical probability.
- ▶ \vdots
- ▶ Subjective probability.

- (i) $P(\neg X) = 1 - P(X)$.
- (ii) $P(\{\}) = 0$.
- (iii) $P(Y) = P(X \cap Y) + P(\neg X \cap Y)$.
- (iv) If X is a subset of Y , then $P(X) \leq P(Y)$.

(i) Show: $P(\neg X) = 1 - P(X)$.

By Rational Degree of Belief 3: $P(W) = P(X) + P(\neg X)$.

By Rational Degree of Belief 1: $P(W) = 1$.

Hence: $1 = P(X) + P(\neg X)$.

That is: $P(\neg X) = 1 - P(X)$.

(ii) Show: $P(\{\}) = 0$.

Plug in ' W ' for ' X ' in (i): $P(\neg X) = 1 - P(X)$.

$P(\neg W) = 1 - P(W)$.

Since $\neg W = \{\}$, and $P(W) = 1$ by Rational Degree of Belief 1:

$P(\{\}) = 1 - 1 = 0$.

(iii) Show: $P(Y) = P(X \cap Y) + P(\neg X \cap Y)$.

Since $(X \cap Y) \cap (\neg X \cap Y) = \{\}$, it follows from Rational Degree of Belief 3:

$$P((X \cap Y) \cup (\neg X \cap Y)) = P(X \cap Y) + P(\neg X \cap Y).$$

$$P(Y) = P(X \cap Y) + P(\neg X \cap Y).$$

(iv) Show: If X is a subset of Y , then $P(X) \leq P(Y)$.

By (iii): $P(Y) = P(X \cap Y) + P(\neg X \cap Y)$.

If X is a subset of Y , then $X \cap Y = X$.

So: $P(Y) = P(X) + P(\neg X \cap Y)$.

By Rational Degree of Belief 2: $0 \leq P(\neg X \cap Y) \leq 1$.

Hence: $P(Y) = P(X) + P(\neg X \cap Y) \geq P(X)$.

That is: $P(X) \leq P(Y)$.

Theorem:

Let W be a finite, non-empty set of possible worlds.

If the Rational Degree of Belief postulates 1–3 are the case (for the given set W of possible worlds), then for every inferentially perfectly rational person's degree of belief function P (on W as her set of entertainable possible worlds), there is a function B , such that the following holds:

- B assigns to each world w in W a non-negative real number $B(w)$.
- The sum of all the values of B on worlds in W is 1: that is, if $W = \{w_1, \dots, w_n\}$, then $B(w_1) + \dots + B(w_n) = 1$.
- For all propositions X (over W), $P(X)$ is the sum of the values of B on worlds in X ; that is:

$$P(X) = \sum_{w \text{ in } X} B(w).$$

E.g., assume P to be generated by:

$$B(w_1) = 1/15$$

$$B(w_2) = 1/3$$

$$B(w_3) = 1/15$$

$$B(w_4) = 1/15$$

$$B(w_5) = 1/3$$

$$B(w_6) = 1/15$$

$$B(w_7) = 1/15$$

$$B(w_8) = 0$$

E.g., assume P to be generated by:

$$B(w_1) = 1/15$$

$$B(w_2) = 1/3$$

$$B(w_3) = 1/15$$

$$B(w_4) = 1/15$$

$$B(w_5) = 1/3$$

$$B(w_6) = 1/15$$

$$B(w_7) = 1/15$$

$$B(w_8) = 0$$

$$P(\{w_1\}) = B(w_1) = 1/15$$

E.g., assume P to be generated by:

$$B(w_1) = 1/15$$

$$B(w_2) = 1/3$$

$$B(w_3) = 1/15$$

$$B(w_4) = 1/15$$

$$B(w_5) = 1/3$$

$$B(w_6) = 1/15$$

$$B(w_7) = 1/15$$

$$B(w_8) = 0$$

$$P(\underbrace{\{w_1, w_2, w_4, w_5\}}_X) = B(w_1) + B(w_2) + B(w_4) + B(w_5) =$$

$$= 2/3 + 2/15 = 0.8$$

I buy a bet on the proposition X :

- ▶ First of all, I pay $q \cdot S$ Euro.
- ▶ If X is false, my net loss is $q \cdot S$ Euro.
- ▶ If X is true, my net profit is $S - q \cdot S$ Euro.

I buy a bet on the proposition X :

- ▶ First of all, I pay $q \cdot S$ Euro.
- ▶ If X is false, my net loss is $q \cdot S$ Euro.
- ▶ If X is true, my net profit is $S - q \cdot S$ Euro.

S : *stake* of the bet; $S = (S - q \cdot S) + q \cdot S$.

I buy a bet on the proposition X :

- ▶ First of all, I pay $q \cdot S$ Euro.
- ▶ If X is false, my net loss is $q \cdot S$ Euro.
- ▶ If X is true, my net profit is $S - q \cdot S$ Euro.

S : *stake* of the bet; $S = (S - q \cdot S) + q \cdot S$

q : *betting quotient* of the bet; $q = \frac{q \cdot S}{S}$

I regard a bet on X as fair if and only if my degree of belief $P(X)$ in X equals the betting quotient q of the bet:

$$q = P(X)$$

I regard a bet on X as fair if and only if my degree of belief $P(X)$ in X equals the betting quotient q of the bet:

$$q = P(X)$$

E.g., $P(X) = 1/2$, $q = 1/2$:

- ▶ First of all, I pay $q \cdot S = S/2$ Euro.
- ▶ If X is true, my net profit is $S - q \cdot S = S/2$ Euro.
- ▶ If X is false, my net loss is $q \cdot S = S/2$ Euro.

I regard a bet on X as fair if and only if my degree of belief $P(X)$ in X equals the betting quotient q of the bet:

$$q = P(X)$$

E.g., $P(X) = 1$, $q = 1$:

- ▶ First of all, I pay $q \cdot S = S$ Euro.
- ▶ If X is true, my net profit is $S - q \cdot S = 0$ Euro.
- ▶ If X is false, my net loss is $q \cdot S = S$ Euro.

If I sell a bet on the proposition X , things are reversed:

- ▶ First of all, my opponent pays $q \cdot S$ Euro.
- ▶ If X is true, my net loss is $S - q \cdot S$ Euro.
- ▶ If X is false, my net profit is $q \cdot S$ Euro.

Assume two propositions X and Y to have empty intersection, and:

$$P(X) = 0.4, P(Y) = 0.4, \text{ but } P(X \cup Y) = 0.7 (!)$$

Assume two propositions X and Y to have empty intersection.

$P(X) = 0.4$, $P(Y) = 0.4$, but $P(X \cup Y) = 0.7$ (!)

- Bet on X : $P(X) = 0.4$, $S_X = 1$ Euro, $q_X = 0.4$.

X is true: my net profit is $S_X - q_X \cdot S_X = 1 - q_X = 0.6$ Euro.

$\neg X$ is true: my net loss is $q_X \cdot S_X = q_X = 0.4$ Euro.

Assume two propositions X and Y to have empty intersection.

$P(X) = 0.4$, $P(Y) = 0.4$, but $P(X \cup Y) = 0.7$ (!)

- Bet on Y : $P(Y) = 0.4$, $S_Y = 1$ Euro, $q_Y = 0.4$.

Y is true: my net profit is $S_Y - q_Y \cdot S_Y = 1 - q_Y = 0.6$ Euro.

$\neg Y$ is true: my net loss is $q_Y \cdot S_Y = q_Y = 0.4$ Euro.

Assume two propositions X and Y to have empty intersection.

$P(X) = 0.4$, $P(Y) = 0.4$, but $P(X \cup Y) = 0.7$ (!)

- ▶ Bet on $X \cup Y$: $P(X \cup Y) = 0.7$, $S_{X \cup Y} = 1$ Euro, $q_{X \cup Y} = 0.7$.

$X \cup Y$ is true: my net loss is $S_{X \cup Y} - q_{X \cup Y} \cdot S_{X \cup Y} = 1 - q_{X \cup Y} = 0.3$ Euro.

$\neg(X \cup Y)$ is true: my net profit is $q_{X \cup Y} \cdot S_{X \cup Y} = q_{X \cup Y} = 0.7$ Euro.

Say, I bet on X , I bet on Y , and someone else bets on $X \cup Y$ against me; my degrees of belief tell me that all of these bets are fair.

- ▶ Case 1: X is true and Y is true, hence $X \cup Y$ is true:
logically impossible, since X and Y have empty intersection!
- ▶ Case 2: X is true and Y is false, and hence $X \cup Y$ is true:
 $0.6 - 0.4 - 0.3 = -0.1$. Overall I lose 0.1 Euro.
- ▶ Case 3: X is false and Y is true, and hence $X \cup Y$ is true:
 $-0.4 + 0.6 - 0.3 = -0.1$. Overall I lose 0.1 Euro.
- ▶ Case 4: X is false and Y is false, and hence $X \cup Y$ is false:
 $-0.4 - 0.4 + 0.7 = -0.1$. Overall I lose 0.1 Euro.



(Attribution: E-Journal of Philosophy and Culture to
philosophy-e.com CC BY 3.0)



(Copyright: Institut of Mathematical Statistics)

Consider a lottery with 1000000 tickets:

(P1)

$$P(\text{not ticket 1 wins} \wedge \text{not ticket 2 wins} \wedge \dots \wedge \text{not ticket 1000000 wins}) = 0.$$

Consider a lottery with 1000000 tickets:

(P1)

$$P(\text{not ticket 1 wins} \wedge \text{not ticket 2 wins} \wedge \dots \wedge \text{not ticket 1000000 wins}) = 0.$$

(P2)

$$P(\text{ticket 1 wins}) = 1/1000000$$

$$P(\text{ticket 2 wins}) = 1/1000000$$

\vdots

$$P(\text{ticket 1000000 wins}) = 1/1000000$$

(P3) For every proposition X :

I believe X if and only if $P(X) \geq 0.9$.

(P3) For every proposition X :

I believe X if and only if $P(X) \geq 0.9$.

(P4) For every proposition X , for every proposition Y :

if I believe X and I believe Y , then (if I am perfectly rational) I also believe $X \wedge Y$.

(P3) For every proposition X :

I believe X if and only if $P(X) \geq 0.9$.

(P4) For every proposition X , for every proposition Y :

if I believe X and I believe Y , then (if I am perfectly rational) I also believe $X \wedge Y$.

(P5) For every proposition X :

$P(\neg X) = 1 - P(X)$.

(And: $P(X) = 1 - P(\neg X)$.)

(C)

$P(\text{not ticket 1 wins} \wedge \text{not ticket 2 wins} \wedge \dots \wedge \text{not ticket 1000000 wins}) \geq 0.9,$

and

$P(\text{not ticket 1 wins} \wedge \text{not ticket 2 wins} \wedge \dots \wedge \text{not ticket 1000000 wins}) = 0.$

The two premises

(P2)

$$P(\text{ticket 1 wins}) = 1/1000000$$

\vdots

$$P(\text{ticket 1000000 wins}) = 1/1000000$$

(P5) For every proposition X :

$$P(\neg X) = 1 - P(X).$$

taken together entail:

for each i , $P(\text{not ticket } i \text{ wins}) = 999999/1000000$.

Therefore, by premise

(P3) For every proposition X :

I believe X if and only if $P(X) \geq 0.9$.

it follows:

I believe that not ticket 1 wins.

\vdots

I believe that not ticket 1000000 wins.

So, by applying premise

(P4) For every proposition X , for every proposition Y :

if I believe X and I believe Y , then (if I am perfectly rational) I also believe $X \wedge Y$.

multiple times, it follows:

- ▶ I believe that (not ticket 1 wins \wedge not ticket 2 wins $\wedge \dots \wedge$ not ticket 1000000 wins).

- ▶ I believe that (not ticket 1 wins \wedge not ticket 2 wins $\wedge \dots \wedge$ not ticket 1000000 wins).

with the two premises

(P1)

$P(\text{not ticket 1 wins} \wedge \text{not ticket 2 wins} \wedge \dots \wedge \text{not ticket 1000000 wins}) = 0.$

(P3) For every proposition X :

I believe X if and only if $P(X) \geq 0.9.$

leads to the contradiction C.

(P1) $P(\text{not ticket 1 wins} \wedge \text{not ticket 2 wins} \wedge \dots$
 $\wedge \text{not ticket 1000000 wins}) = 0.$

(P2)

$P(\text{ticket 1 wins}) = 1/1000000$

\vdots

$P(\text{ticket 1000000 wins}) = 1/1000000$

(P3) For every proposition X :

I believe X if and only if $P(X) \geq 0.9$.

(P4) For every proposition X , for every proposition Y :

if I believe X and I believe Y , then I believe $X \wedge Y$.

(P5) For every proposition X :

$P(\neg X) = 1 - P(X).$