



UCDAVIS

ECS 188 – Spring 2025

[Week 7]

KANTIANISM

Mohammad Sadoghi



Mohammad Sadoghi
Exploratory Systems Lab
Department of Computer Science



Pure Practical Reason

Moral Law
(objective principle)

Universalization

End-in-itself
(worth of Rational Being / objective ground)

Self-Legislative

Maxim
(subjective principle)

Subjective
(belief)

Outcome

Inclination

Qualified Good

Practical Reason
(what ought I to do?)

reason

Pure Reason
(what is?)

Balance

Innate

Why Vote?

Autonomous
(human condition)

Respect

Means
(action)

Intention

Right

(co-exist with everyone's freedom)

Power of Choice
(freedom)

Will

(practical reason)

Purpose

Ends
(humanity)

Duty

Virtue

(duty's as its end)

Epistemology

Ontological

Thing-in-itself
(Knowledge)

Objective
(belief)

Moral Value

Good Will

Good-in-itself
(quality of will)

Moral Worth

Unqualified Good

Nothing can possibly be conceived in the world, or even out of it, which can be called **good without qualification**, except a **good will**.

Duty is the necessity of an action done out of **respect** for the **law**.

Act only in accordance with that **maxim** through which you can at the same time will that it become a **universal law**.

A maxim is the **subjective principle** of **volition**; the **objective principle** (i.e., the practical law) would be the rule that would serve all **rational beings** as the **objective ground** of a maxim.

Immanuel Kant

[Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals Ak 4:393, 4:400, 4:421, 4:421]

Autonomy of the will is the property of the will by which it is a **law to itself** (independently of all properties of the objects of volition).

So act that you use **humanity**,
whether in your own person or in the person of any other,
always at the same time as an **end**, never merely as a **means**.

A rational being belongs to the **kingdom of ends** as a member,
when he **legislates** in it **universal laws**
while also being himself subject to these laws.

Immanuel Kant
[Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals Ak 4:440, 4:429, 4:439–440]

Virtue is the **moral strength** of the will in fulfilling its duty.

Any action is **right** if it can coexist with **everyone's freedom** according to a universal law.

Right is concerned only with the external and indeed practical relation of one person to another, in so far as their actions, as deeds, can exert influence on each other.
...**Virtue**, by contrast, has inner freedom, i.e. the **conformity of actions** to duty from the motive of **duty itself**, as **its end**.

Immanuel Kant
[Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals Ak , 6:397, 6:230, 6:213]