

Two Kinds of Purposive Action

- 1) Try to demonstrate how two ways of accounting for action in terms of belief vs in terms of purpose function
- 2) If actions whose purposiveness can't be explained in terms of content & vice versa.

2) Two models of action explanations: not overlapping

4) From models of action explanation to kinds of action

5) Two domains of action: unreflective domain is related to copying

6) Two principles to explain, two explanations
belief vs. function

7) Teleology: must distinguish:-

- a) Purpose function (history) = Millikan
- b) Shust's purpose functioning (not historical, not biological).

Comment: rel. of means-goals explained in terms of efficacy / most suitable way to action simulating.

II. Why does this help us?

1) Starting from another explanation we focus on purposiveness of action.

2) What makes an action a purposive action?

3) $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{teleo-purposive} \\ \text{mechanist-purposive} \end{array} \right.$

4) These models of action explanation are exhaustive?

Can we explain every purposive action in these terms?

(Integrate the two models)

5) [nb: teleo-mechanism is not about complexity]

6) i.e. there is no action that cannot be explained either in mentalistic or teleological terms.

7) It's to do with the status of reasons:

- as things the agent identifies
- as functions

8) Grasping a piece of food

- notion of reasons in a broader sense
- not just in terms of belief
- a motor action cannot be characterized in terms of belief-desire : buying flowers example.

10) Explain why subj. is making a motor action
 Explain what kind of action he is achieving: eg grasping for drinking

11) Ability to grasp object doesn't depend on grasp of reasons for it.

It's an unreflective action — doesn't help us to characterise motor action as such.

12) Goal of drinking coffee is not a motor goal.

13) Eg 1 (of 2) : Millikan push mi-pull you representation paper.
 Ignores motor goals and motor actions
 Notion of function is broken

14) Eg 2 (of 2): Gergely + Csibra barrier experiments



They explain this in a teleological way in the same way as the teleologists' approach

- Most suitable sequence is key explanation (means no variation plea).

- Means that in less optimal cases you don't have purposiveness

15) At the basic level, purposiveness & efficiency are the same (G+C). But this is not true.

16) If you don't include efficacy constraint, how is action linked to its goal

17) To be aware of. ---
To be efficient in...

18) Imagine there is a ball behind the barrier and you are trying to grasp it.
What is most suitable, most efficient?

— Ball must shape your hand

— So there are multiple dimensions of efficiency

This level of action description is nec to explain
1) capabilities to act; 2) ontogeny & phyly. This makes possible explanation of capabilities to act; how are infants or cats able to select the most suitable means to achieve a goal

19) Why do we have two constraints
— include purposiveness to goal via efficiency


20) Motor action cannot be described
a) in terms of belief content
b) in terms of the technology to approach

21) Motor goal is a level of action that is required for actions involving beliefs

22) Meaning of grasping action does not depend on belief

23) ~~Why do we have to~~ Why must we add this motor action notion to the notion of action?
Why is it this just for science?

24) There are theoretical + empirical reasons why we need this notion of action

The subject knows 
or is aware of, the suitable actions that enable them to achieve what store has in mind. i.e. can grasp, give, ...

This makes possible explanation of capabilities to act; how are infants or cats able to select the most suitable means to achieve a goal

25) ~~Can't start with the notion of reason if~~

~~want to~~

25) The teleological approach forgets what is special about action: the movement.

The movement needs to be selected via motor goal representation

26) Can we teleological approach only because we can

27) \sum w/o motor action, it seems bizarre that we are able to act; and that such abilities could have evolved or developed.

28) Eg: w/o capability to act at motor level, you could not have a plan.

29) Leave aside immediate reference to neurophysiology

30) Use theoretical coherence first, then empirical restriction

31) The motor action is not just a third kind of action in the sense that there are ... It is not that there are actions that stay apart from form.

It is not just an external distinction; it is also a level of distinction. (Utterance of a word involves utterance of phonetic components).

32) It is not a matter of complexity — motor act can be quite large chunks; intentional actions can be very small.

33). 7000

34) Involuntariness does not really mean one thing. Now: Motor goals does not mean selecting movement in order to satisfy a generic goal

35) Paper by Moser + Mele 1997
Paul

"exactly how deep rep: context of intention was is a difficult q"....

motor schemata run quite deep

are such schemata included in plans (eg to write).

36) They confound motor reps in terms of goals w. motor representable in terms of muscular activity required to achieve it.

Reasons enter explanation

37) E

38). Still have norms, reasons at level of motor intentionality

Normal driving plan includes muscular activity required to shift the gears.... actions are intentional in virtue of subtlety guided by an intention

How to understand what suitable means
Motor goal enables us to represent suitable conditions

Low-level reps can "minute muscle movements"

How to relate low level reps of minute muscle movements with intention, why? &c.

3a). Where do we start?

exercise

"~~the~~

Use Davidson quite

What does 'move our bodies' mean

What are mere movements?

Q: What is motor in action?

Q:

⑥

40) 'dog' — meaning — 'I'm saying "dog" ^{as if}
|
mouth movements

spee cannot understand what you're saying

— massive tolerance in range of movements
you can perform in order to pronounce the
word — means their flexibility
wrt kinematics and mouth movements

41) The phonetic gesture — ~~about~~
|
motor gesture

Language can be as an example but the context
as base case.

How can we attribute to an actor that
we know is not able to speak English,
how we can perceive in their actions,
that they are speaking English and not
just moving the mouth. (Immediately see
that he's not speaking — mouth movements look
very different to speak).

42) phonetic gesture as example of motor act.

(Good example of action you can't explain without motor intentionality)

→ motor acts need intentionality, otherwise there isn't a suitable way of producing the action.

43)

a) Datum: there is a suitable way of grasping a cup (eg).

b) Explanation: suitability exists because there are motor goals.

relates to awareness (but excludes awareness of minute muscle movements).

If we assume there

Classic objections to motor theory B

44)

45) What are motor actions?

→ modeling explⁿ...

- 1) Not BD
- 2) Not teleology
- 3) not just patterns of muscle activation

46) But what about the bandwagon quote.

47) [Where do we need a notion of action that is neither intentional action nor mere bodily movement.]

Philosophy of Science

We find it in science: needs clarification

vs
P. Science in philosophy of action

48) If you have ~~not~~ intentional action + bodily movement there are some problems—

- 1) execution
- 2) perception
- 3) awareness

Can't fully explain what actions really are.

49) [What kind of paper?]

make same point in terms of neurophysiology

Paper by Elisabeth Pachurik - context of intention
→ we can use neuro in order to integrate phil. act of action

* * * send exrads Cyber paper

so) put idea of this kind of intentionality on the agenda.

"The intentionality of motor action"
What must the phil. of action explain

51) Use 2 KPA as a model for this paper.

Purely philosophical intro + ~~mathematical~~ theoretical foundation.

52) ~~Corrado's~~ Friday pbc

£3m.



Change Corrado's part.

"From sharing to joining action"

Vittorio Gallone: PI

me - main co-investigator
Guthrie - main co-investigator

Corrado will help me