

# Plan for Interest-Relativity Book

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## Introduction

What the view is:

- An interest-relative theory of belief
- An interest-relative theory of knowledge
- Used to hope that the second was solely derived from the first; now not so clear

What's distinctive about the view:

- Invariantist
- Grounded in a theory of belief
- Integrated with game theory and decision theory; supports, and supported by, an epistemic interpretation of some problematic parts of game theory and decision theory.

## 1 Belief

- Defining the Target
  - Not ordinary “I believe”
  - More like settled the question
- Problems about conjunction
- Problems about long-shot bets

Inputs: ss1,2 of CWD; intro of KBI, intro of GBC

## 2 Belief and Interests

- Setting out Interest-Relative Account
- Importance of theoretical as well as practical interests; responses to Brown and to Ross&Schroeder
- How to handle impractical propositions
- Caveats about modals - need to fuss about updating for epistemic modals, need to fuss about conditional values claims for

Inputs: ss2,3 of CWD; s2 of KBI; part of s1 of GBC (updating), part of s3 of GBC (theoretical interests part)

### **3 Conjunctions and Prefaces**

- Prove that we keep a form of conjunction closure
- Argue that's closure enough
- Reject Christensen's arguments that preface shows we should have less closure

Inputs: ss4,5,6 of CWD

### **4 Beliefs and Action**

- Interest-relative explanation of the high-stakes/long-shot cases
- Note that it is odds, not stakes, that matter.
- Respond to Fantl&McGrath's objections to this way of doing things
- Respond to Ross&Schroeder's Stability objection

Input: s6,7 of CWD; intro of DIRI; part of s3 of GBC (stability)

### **5 Games, Decisions and Knowledge**

- How Knowledge enters into decision theory (s1 of KBI)
- How Knowledge enters into game theory (s1 of GBC)

Inputs: s1 of KBI, s1 of GBC

### **6 Knowledge and Justification**

- How games show knowledge has its own interest-relativity, not reducible to interest-relativity of belief (s3 of KBI)
- Williamson's argument that JTB without knowledge is everywhere (s1 of M&E)
- How this shows everything ever said about "Gettier cases" is wrong (s2, 3 of M&E)

Inputs: s3 of KBI, s1-3 of M&E

### **7 Objections to Interest-Relativism**

- Whack-a-mole on objections

Input: DIRI

## 8 Credences

- Big project of chapter: defend use of credences in epistemology
- Show how to reduce credences to comparative confidence
- Perhaps, respond to Ben Levinstein's accuracy-based objections to doing this
- Show that the reduction supports probabilism

Inputs: s2 of GBC, chapter 3 of dissertation

## 9 Contextualism

- Some people try to explain some of the data I've used with contextualist tools
- Lots of reason to think that won't work
- Ordinary language data about questions doesn't support contextualism
- And contextualism doesn't help resolve good arguments for scepticism

Inputs: QC, some stuff from scepticism papers

## Conclusion

Wrap it all up!

## Abbreviations

- CWD - Can We Do Without Pragmatic Encroachment?
- KBI - Knowledge, Bets and Interests
- GBC - Games, Beliefs and Credences
- DIRI - Defending Interest-Relative Invariantism
- M&E - Margins and Errors
- QC - Questioning Contextualism