

Methodology

This section presents the core methodological contribution: a (2×2) matrix structure for understanding Active Inference as a meta-pragmatic and meta-epistemic methodology. The structure organizes cognitive processing along two dimensions: Data/Meta-Data and Cognitive/Meta-Cognitive, revealing four distinct quadrants of cognitive operation. Each quadrant represents a different combination of processing level (cognitive vs. meta-cognitive) and data type (data vs. meta-data), enabling systematic analysis of how Active Inference operates across multiple levels of abstraction.

The (2×2) Matrix Framework

Active Inference's meta-level operation becomes apparent when analyzed through a structure that distinguishes between data processing and meta-data processing, as well as cognitive and meta-cognitive levels of operation (Figure ??). This (2×2) organization reveals how Active Inference operates simultaneously across multiple levels, from basic data processing to framework-level reasoning.