

Conclusion

This paper has presented a framework for understanding Active Inference as a meta-(pragmatic/epistemic) methodology. Through the 2×2 matrix analysis of Data/Meta-Data \times Cognitive/Meta-Cognitive processing, we have demonstrated how Active Inference operates across multiple levels of cognitive abstraction, enabling researchers to specify not just current beliefs and goals, but the very frameworks within which cognition occurs.

Summary of Contributions

Theoretical Framework

We introduced a systematic framework for analyzing Active Inference's meta-level operation:

1. **Quadrant 1 (Data, Cognitive):** Baseline EFE computation with direct sensory processing
2. **Quadrant 2 (Meta-Data, Cognitive):** Enhanced processing with meta-information integration
3. **Quadrant 3 (Data, Meta-Cognitive):** Self-reflective processing and adaptive control
4. **Quadrant 4 (Meta-Data, Meta-Cognitive):**