



Translation & Implication

Ani Guerdjikova
University of Grenoble-Alpes

Evan Piermont
Royal Holloway, University of London

John Quiggin
University of Queensland

Centre d'Économie de la Sorbonne (CES) --- February 2026



Mechanism design / contract theory is the design of incentive structures.

This requires:

- ◇ explaining rules/game/outcomes to agents
- ◇ interpreting the messages of the agents

Economists like to model uncertainty via state-spaces

Real communication (contracts, messages, etc) regards **statements** not states

- ◇ This is dependent of language of the decision maker
- ◇ Awareness complicates the picture
- ◇ But, what if agents speak different languages or are differentially aware?

This paper is a theory of translation

- ◇ How agents' language represents their understanding of uncertainty
- ◇ How this might be communicated between agents
- ◇ When can different agent's views be unified into a universal perspective



Model: Languages



A language is a bounded distributive algebra \mathcal{L} representing sets of statements that can be true or false:

- ◇ **T** and **F** are distinguished elements
- ◇ closed under disjunction \vee
 - ◇ if λ and η are statements in \mathcal{L} , then so is $\lambda \vee \eta$
 - ◇ interpreted as OR; at least one of λ and η is true
- ◇ closed under conjunction \wedge
 - ◇ if λ and η are statements in \mathcal{L} , then so is $\lambda \wedge \eta$
 - ◇ interpreted as AND; both λ and η are true

Formally, \mathcal{L} must satisfy the following properties:

◇ **Commutativity**

◇ $\lambda \vee \eta = \eta \vee \lambda$

◇ $\lambda \wedge \eta = \eta \wedge \lambda$

◇ **Associativity**

◇ $(\lambda \vee \eta) \vee \mu = \lambda \vee (\eta \vee \mu)$

◇ $(\lambda \wedge \eta) \wedge \mu = \lambda \wedge (\eta \wedge \mu)$

◇ **Absorption**

◇ $\lambda \vee (\lambda \wedge \eta) = \lambda$

◇ $\lambda \wedge (\lambda \vee \eta) = \lambda$

◇ **Bounds**

◇ $\lambda \vee \mathbf{F} = \lambda$

◇ $\lambda \wedge \mathbf{T} = \lambda$

◇ **Distributivity**

◇ $\lambda \wedge (\eta \vee \mu) = (\lambda \wedge \eta) \vee (\lambda \wedge \mu)$

◇ $\lambda \vee (\eta \wedge \mu) = (\lambda \vee \eta) \wedge (\lambda \vee \mu)$

The operations \vee and \wedge induce a natural partial order on \mathcal{L}

$$\lambda \Rightarrow_{\mathcal{L}} \eta \quad \text{iff} \quad \lambda \wedge \eta = \lambda \quad (\text{iff} \quad \lambda \vee \eta = \eta)$$

- ◇ captures implication: whenever λ is true, η is also true
- ◇ $\Rightarrow_{\mathcal{L}}$ is reflexive, antisymmetric, and transitive
- ◇ $\mathbf{F} \Rightarrow_{\mathcal{L}} \lambda \Rightarrow_{\mathcal{L}} \mathbf{T}$ for all $\lambda \in \mathcal{L}$

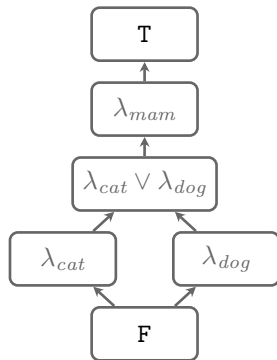
Example

\mathcal{L} is constructed from the primitive statements

- ◇ $\lambda_{cat} = \text{"Martin is a cat"}$
- ◇ $\lambda_{dog} = \text{"Martin is a dog"}$
- ◇ $\lambda_{mam} = \text{"Martin is a mammal"}$

under the axioms / presumption that:

- ◇ $(\lambda_{cat} \wedge \lambda_{dog}) \Rightarrow_{\mathcal{L}} \mathbf{F}$
 - ◇ It is not possible to be a dog and a cat
- ◇ $(\lambda_{cat} \vee \lambda_{dog}) \Rightarrow_{\mathcal{L}} \lambda_{mam}$
 - ◇ If Martin is a dog or is a cat, he is a mammal



A truth assignment for \mathcal{L} is a function

$$w : \mathcal{L} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$$

such that for all $\lambda, \eta \in L$:

- ◇ $w(\mathbf{T}) = 1$ and $w(\mathbf{F}) = 0$
- ◇ $w(\lambda \vee \eta) = \max\{w(\lambda), w(\eta)\}$
- ◇ $w(\lambda \wedge \eta) = \min\{w(\lambda), w(\eta)\}$

Truth assignments preserve the implication ordering:

$$\begin{array}{lll} \lambda \Rightarrow_{\mathcal{L}} \eta & \text{iff} & \lambda = \lambda \wedge \eta \\ & \text{iff} & w(\lambda) = \min\{w(\lambda), w(\eta)\} \\ & \text{iff} & w(\lambda) \leq w(\eta) \end{array}$$

Let $W(\mathcal{L})$ is the set of truth assignments for \mathcal{L} ; $W(\mathcal{L})$ is a state-space for \mathcal{L} :

- ◇ The event corresponding to λ is $\mathbf{E}(\lambda) = \{w \in W \mid w(\lambda) = 1\}$
- ◇ Implication is containment: $\lambda \Rightarrow \eta$ if and only if $\mathbf{E}(\lambda) \subseteq \mathbf{E}(\eta)$
- ◇ Tautology (**T**) maps to entire state-space, Contradiction (**F**) to empty-set
- ◇ $\mathbf{E}(\lambda \vee \eta) = \mathbf{E}(\lambda) \cup \mathbf{E}(\eta), \quad \mathbf{E}(\lambda \wedge \eta) = \mathbf{E}(\lambda) \cap \mathbf{E}(\eta)$

Example

$\lambda_{cat} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{dog} = 0$	$\lambda_{dog} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{cat} = 0$	$\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{cat} = 0$ $\lambda_{dog} = 0$	$\lambda_{cat} = 0$ $\lambda_{dog} = 0$ $\lambda_{mam} = 0$
w_1^i	w_2^i	w_3^i	w_4

Example

$\lambda_{cat} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{dog} = 0$	$\lambda_{dog} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{cat} = 0$	$\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{cat} = 0$ $\lambda_{dog} = 0$	$\lambda_{cat} = 0$ $\lambda_{dog} = 0$ $\lambda_{mam} = 0$
w_1^i	w_2^i	w_3^i	w_4

Event $\mathbf{E}(\lambda_{cat}) = \text{"Martin is a cat"}$

Example

$\lambda_{cat} = 1$	$\lambda_{dog} = 1$	$\lambda_{mam} = 1$	$\lambda_{cat} = 0$
$\lambda_{mam} = 1$	$\lambda_{mam} = 1$	$\lambda_{cat} = 0$	$\lambda_{dog} = 0$
$\lambda_{dog} = 0$	$\lambda_{cat} = 0$	$\lambda_{dog} = 0$	$\lambda_{mam} = 0$
w_1^i	w_2^i	w_3^i	w_4

Event $\mathbf{E}(\lambda_{mam}) = \text{“Martin is a mammal”}$

Example

$\lambda_{cat} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{dog} = 0$	$\lambda_{dog} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{cat} = 0$	$\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{cat} = 0$ $\lambda_{dog} = 0$	$\lambda_{cat} = 0$ $\lambda_{dog} = 0$ $\lambda_{mam} = 0$
w_1^i	w_2^i	w_3^i	w_4

$\mathbf{E}(\lambda_{cat}) \subseteq \mathbf{E}(\lambda_{mam})$, cat implies mammal



Model: Translation



There are two agents, 1 and 2, each endowed with a language \mathcal{L}_1 and \mathcal{L}_2

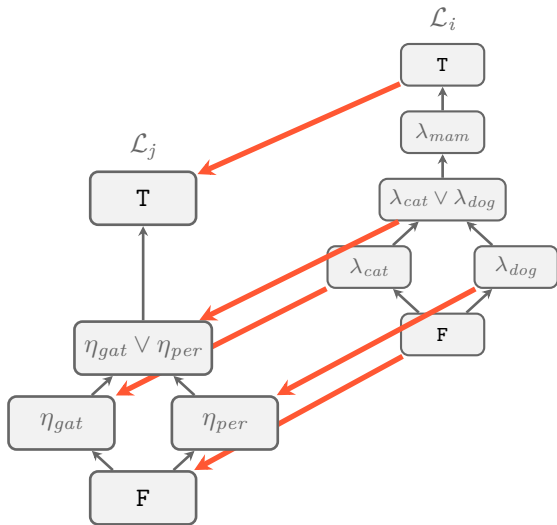
- ◇ let \Rightarrow_i denote implication in i 's language
- ◇ let \mathbf{T}_i and \mathbf{F}_i denote the tautology and contradiction
- ◇ A translation operator (from i to j) is a function from i 's language to j 's

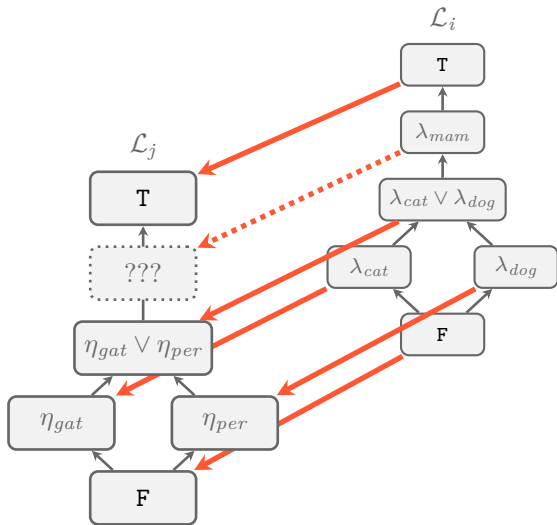
Example

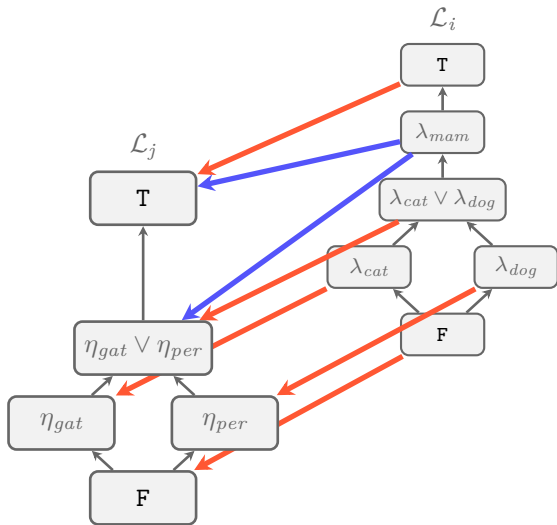
Consider a Spanish speaker, \mathcal{L}_j , who is never heard of ‘mammals’

- ◇ $\eta_{gat} = \text{“Martin es un gato”}$
- ◇ $\eta_{per} = \text{“Martin es un perro”}$

$\eta_{gat} = 1$ $\eta_{per} = 0$	$\eta_{per} = 1$ $\eta_{gat} = 0$	$\eta_{gat} = 0$ $\eta_{per} = 0$
\hat{w}_1	\hat{w}_2	\hat{w}_3







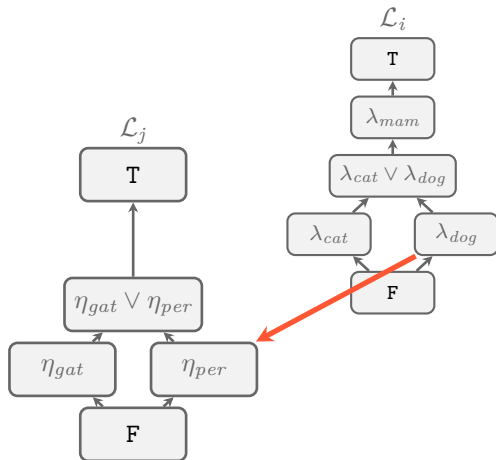
We consider two kinds of translations

- ◇ Inner Translation operator $T_{i \rightarrow j}^-$
 - ◇ From ‘below’
 - ◇ Provides a *more specific* approximation
- ◇ Outer Translation operator $T_{i \rightarrow j}^+$
 - ◇ From ‘above’
 - ◇ Provides a *more general* approximation

Translation of λ_{dog}

$$T_{i \rightarrow j}^-(\lambda_{dog}) = \eta_{per} = T_{i \rightarrow j}^+(\lambda_{dog})$$

- ◇ No gap between $T_{i \rightarrow j}^-$ and $T_{i \rightarrow j}^+$
- ◇ This is a ‘perfect’ translation



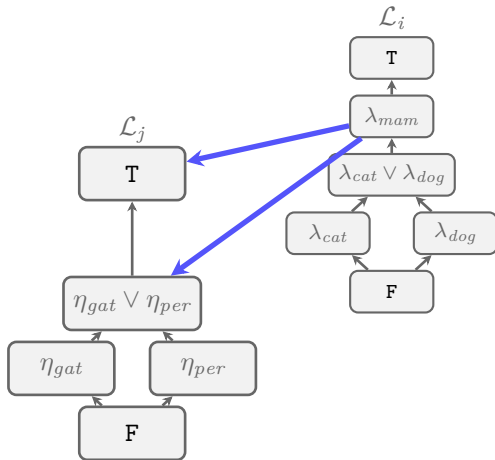
Translation of λ_{mam}

- ◇ j has never heard of a mammals,
- ◇ no statement captures it exactly
- ◇ All cats and dogs are mammals:

$$T_{i \rightarrow j}^-(\lambda_{mam}) = (\eta_{gat} \vee \eta_{per})$$

- ◇ All mammals are something:

$$T_{i \rightarrow j}^+(\lambda_{mam}) = T_j$$



Consider a set of ‘translation’ operators

$$\mathbf{T} = \langle T_{1 \rightarrow 2}^-, T_{1 \rightarrow 2}^+, T_{2 \rightarrow 1}^-, T_{2 \rightarrow 1}^+ \rangle$$

When does \mathbf{T} behave like a translation?

- ◇ serves as the ‘best approximations’
- ◇ preserves logical structure

For a (complete) distributive lattice, ‘best approximations’ would mean

$$\tau_{i \rightarrow j}^{-}(\lambda_i) = \bigvee \{ \eta_j \in \mathcal{L}_j \mid \eta_j \text{ implies } \lambda_i \}$$

$$\tau_{i \rightarrow j}^{+}(\lambda_i) = \bigwedge \{ \eta_j \in \mathcal{L}_j \mid \lambda_i \text{ implies } \eta_j \}$$

Two issues:

1. What does it mean for η_j to imply λ_i ?
2. Infinite joins / meets might not exist



Cross Language Implication



- ◇ *j* is trying to ascertain whether *perro* (dog) implies *mammal*.
 - ◇ *j* could point to various *perros*
 - ◇ *i* affirm that these are all also *mammals*
 - ◇ exhibits the implication holds
- ◇ now *i* is trying to ascertain whether *mammal* implies *perro*:
 - ◇ *i* could point to various *mammals*
 - ◇ when pointing at a *cat*, *j* can deny that it is a *mammal*
 - ◇ refutes the implication holds

Consider a binary relation \Rightarrow^* over $\mathcal{L}_i \cup \mathcal{L}_j$

- ◇ represents when one statement implies another, *across* languages
- ◇ this is, in principle, observable to some outside modeler (as above)
- ◇ \Rightarrow^* must satisfy some consistency properties to maintain the logic of distributive lattices

I1: Within Language Consistency

For all $\lambda_i, \lambda'_i \in \mathcal{L}_i$:

$$\lambda_i \Rightarrow^* \lambda'_i \quad \text{if and only if} \quad \lambda_i \Rightarrow_i \lambda'_i.$$

I2: Transitivity

\Rightarrow^* is transitive

I3: Connective Consistency

Let $\eta_j, \eta'_j \in \mathcal{L}_j$ and $\lambda_i \in \mathcal{L}_i$. Then:

(i) $\lambda_i \Rightarrow^* \eta_j$ and $\lambda_i \Rightarrow^* \eta'_j$ implies $\lambda_i \Rightarrow^* (\eta_j \wedge \eta'_j)$

(ii) $\eta_j \Rightarrow^* \lambda_i$ and $\eta'_j \Rightarrow^* \lambda_i$ implies $(\eta_j \wedge \eta'_j) \Rightarrow^* \lambda_i$

* if you have a complete lattice, you could ask for arbitrary meets/joins

I4: Principle of Explosion

For all $\lambda_j \in \mathcal{L}_j$,

$$f_i \Rightarrow^* \lambda_j$$

Given a (complete) lattice, if \Rightarrow^* satisfies I1-4, then

$$\tau_{i \rightarrow j}^-(\lambda_i) = \bigvee \{ \eta_j \in \mathcal{L}_j \mid \eta_j \Rightarrow^* \lambda_i \}$$

$$\tau_{i \rightarrow j}^+(\lambda_i) = \bigwedge \{ \eta_j \in \mathcal{L}_j \mid \lambda_i \Rightarrow^* \eta_j \}$$

is well defined.

Given a (complete) lattice, if \Rightarrow^* satisfies I1-4, then

$$\tau_{i \rightarrow j}^-(\lambda_i) = \bigvee \{ \eta_j \in \mathcal{L}_j \mid \eta_j \Rightarrow^* \lambda_i \}$$

$$\tau_{i \rightarrow j}^+(\lambda_i) = \bigwedge \{ \eta_j \in \mathcal{L}_j \mid \lambda_i \Rightarrow^* \eta_j \}$$

is well defined. However,

$$\{ \eta_j \in \mathcal{L}_j \mid \lambda_i \Rightarrow^* \eta_j \}$$

might be empty.

Given a (complete) lattice, if \Rightarrow^* satisfies I1-4, then

$$\tau_{i \rightarrow j}^-(\lambda_i) = \bigvee \{ \eta_j \in \mathcal{L}_j \mid \eta_j \Rightarrow^* \lambda_i \} \in \mathcal{L}_j$$

$$\tau_{i \rightarrow j}^+(\lambda_i) = \bigwedge \{ \eta_j \in \mathcal{L}_j \mid \lambda_i \Rightarrow^* \eta_j \} \in \mathcal{L}_j \cup \{*\}$$

is well defined. However,

$$\{ \eta_j \in \mathcal{L}_j \mid \lambda_i \Rightarrow^* \eta_j \}$$

might be empty. Define $\bigwedge \emptyset = *$.

Example

\mathcal{L}_1

$\lambda_{egg} = \text{"Tonya lays eggs"}$

$\lambda_{mam} = \text{"Tonya is a mammal"}$

$\lambda_{plat} = \text{"Tonya is a platypus"}$

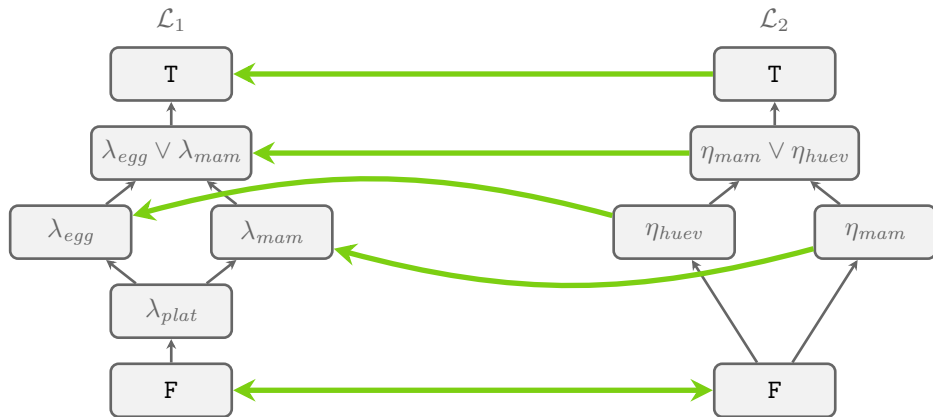
\mathcal{L}_2

$\eta_{huev} = \text{"Tonya pone huevos"}$

$\eta_{mam} = \text{"Tonya es un mamífero"}$

- ◇ 1 is aware of platypus, so $(\lambda_{egg} \wedge \lambda_{mam}) \Rightarrow_1 \lambda_{plat}$
- ◇ 2 is not aware of platypus, so $(\eta_{huev} \wedge \eta_{mam}) \Rightarrow_2 f_2$

The additional components of \Rightarrow^* :



Example

How should we translate λ_{mam} from $1 \rightarrow 2$?

- ◇ η_{mam} is more specific than λ_{mam} , so $T_{1 \rightarrow 2}^{-}(\lambda_{mam}) = \eta_{mam}$ makes sense
- ◇ But there is *no* element in \mathcal{L}_2 more general
 - ◇ Nothing in 2's language allows for platypus
- ◇ So, we can set $T_{1 \rightarrow 2}^{+}(\lambda_{mam}) = *$
- ◇ $*$ represents the inclusion of something the target language is unaware of



Abstract Translation



We can return to our original question: given

$$T = \langle T_{1 \rightarrow 2}^-, T_{1 \rightarrow 2}^+, T_{2 \rightarrow 1}^-, T_{2 \rightarrow 1}^+ \rangle$$

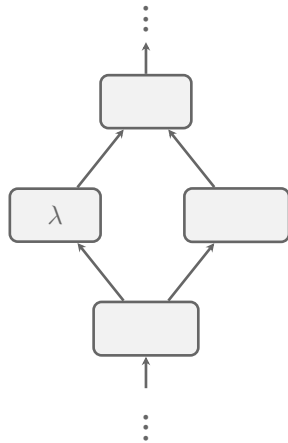
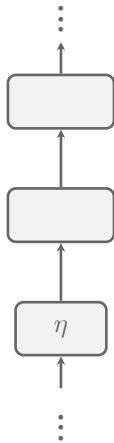
When does T behave like a translation?

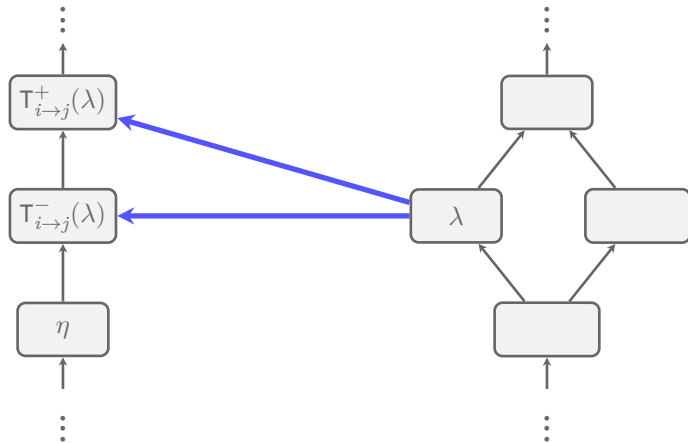
- ◇ Each $T_{i \rightarrow j} : \mathcal{L}_i \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_j^*$ (where $\mathcal{L}_j^* = \mathcal{L}_j \cup \{*\}$)
- ◇ We require two axioms on T

C1: Galois

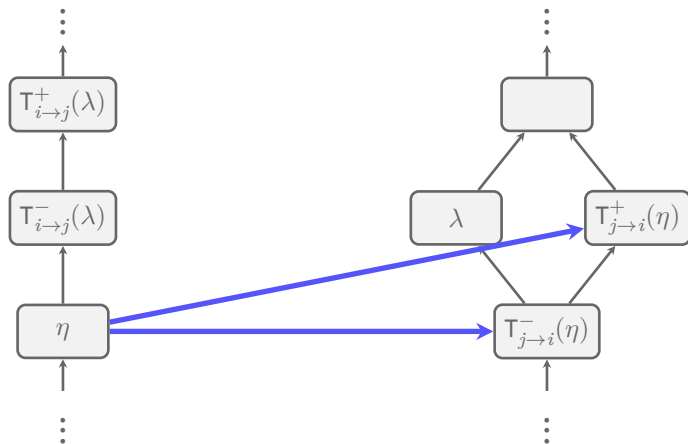
For all $\lambda \in \mathcal{L}_i^*$ and $\eta \in \mathcal{L}_j^*$:

$$\eta \Rightarrow_j T_{i \rightarrow j}^-(\lambda) \quad \text{if and only if} \quad T_{j \rightarrow i}^+(\eta) \Rightarrow_i \lambda.$$

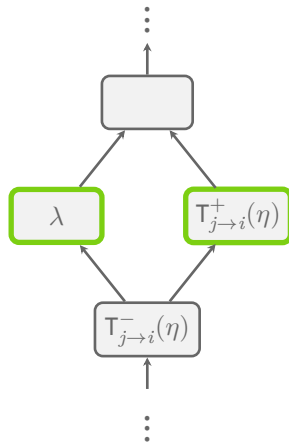
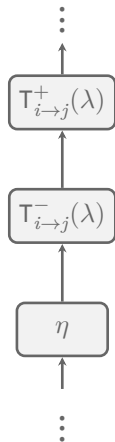




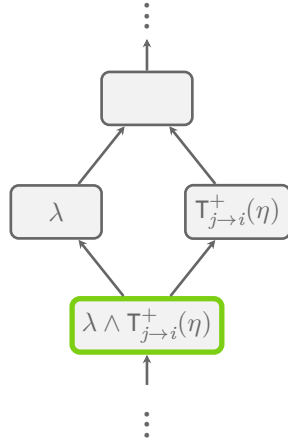
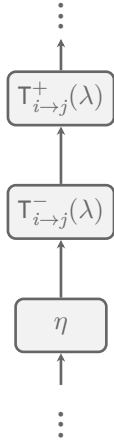
$\eta \Rightarrow_j T_{i \rightarrow j}^-(\lambda)$; thus λ is more general than η



If T violates **C1** then $T_{j \rightarrow i}^+(\eta) \not\equiv_i \lambda$



So both λ and $T_{j \rightarrow i}^{+}(\eta)$ are more general than η



Then $\lambda \wedge T_{j \rightarrow i}^+(\eta)$ is *better* approximation of η from above

C2: Monotone Approximation

For all $\lambda_i \in \mathcal{L}_i^*$ we have $T_{i \rightarrow j}^-(\lambda_i) \Rightarrow_j T_{i \rightarrow j}^+(\lambda_i)$.

- ◇ The inner translation should be more specific than the outer translation

Theorem

The following are equivalent:

(1) T satisfies C1 and C2

(2) There exists a (unique) \Rightarrow^* satisfying I1—I4 such that¹

$$\begin{array}{llll} \eta_j \Rightarrow^* \lambda_i & \text{if and only if} & \eta_j \Rightarrow_j T_{i \rightarrow j}^-(\lambda_i), & \text{and} \quad (\star^-) \\ \lambda_i \Rightarrow^* \eta_j & \text{if and only if} & T_{i \rightarrow j}^+(\lambda_i) \Rightarrow_j \eta_j & (\star^+) \end{array}$$

¹Where $\lambda \Rightarrow_i *$ and $* \not\Rightarrow_i \lambda$ for all $\lambda \in \mathcal{L}_i$

C1 is abstract in nature, we can characterize it via ‘structural’ properties

T1. T^- and T^+ *preserve contradiction*:

$$T_{i \rightarrow j}^-(f_i) = T_{i \rightarrow j}^+(f_i) = f_j$$

T2. T^- and T^+ *preserves implication*:

$$\lambda \Rightarrow_i \lambda' \text{ implies } \begin{cases} T_{i \rightarrow j}^-(\lambda) \Rightarrow_j T_{i \rightarrow j}^-(\lambda') \text{ and} \\ T_{i \rightarrow j}^+(\lambda) \Rightarrow_j T_{i \rightarrow j}^+(\lambda') \end{cases}$$

T3. $T_{i \rightarrow j}^-$ *preserves conjunction*:

$$T_{i \rightarrow j}^-(\lambda \wedge \lambda') = T_{i \rightarrow j}^-(\lambda) \wedge T_{i \rightarrow j}^-(\lambda')$$

T4. $T_{i \rightarrow j}^+$ *preserves disjunction*:

$$T_{i \rightarrow j}^+(\lambda \vee \lambda') = T_{i \rightarrow j}^+(\lambda) \vee T_{i \rightarrow j}^+(\lambda')$$

- ◇ $W(\mathcal{L}_i)$ and $W(\mathcal{L}_j)$ act as ‘local’ state-spaces
- ◇ If W^\star is some ‘global’ state-space that nests both:
 - ◇ Then translation operators appear as inner and outer approximation
 - ◇ As in measure theory, etc

Example

W^*	$\lambda_{cat} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\eta_{gat} = 1$ $\lambda_{dog} = 0$ $\eta_{per} = 0$	$\lambda_{dog} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\eta_{per} = 1$ $\lambda_{cat} = 0$ $\eta_{gat} = 0$	$\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{cat} = 0$ $\lambda_{dog} = 0$ $\eta_{gat} = 0$ $\eta_{per} = 0$	$\lambda_{cat} = 0$ $\lambda_{dog} = 0$ $\lambda_{mam} = 0$ $\eta_{gat} = 0$ $\eta_{per} = 0$
W_2	$\eta_{gat} = 1$ $\eta_{per} = 0$	$\eta_{per} = 1$ $\eta_{gat} = 0$	$\eta_{gat} = 0$ $\eta_{per} = 0$	

Example

W^*	$\lambda_{cat} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\eta_{gat} = 1$ $\lambda_{dog} = 0$ $\eta_{per} = 0$	$\lambda_{dog} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\eta_{per} = 1$ $\lambda_{cat} = 0$ $\eta_{gat} = 0$	$\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{cat} = 0$ $\lambda_{dog} = 0$ $\eta_{gat} = 0$ $\eta_{per} = 0$	$\lambda_{cat} = 0$ $\lambda_{dog} = 0$ $\lambda_{mam} = 0$ $\eta_{gat} = 0$ $\eta_{per} = 0$
W_2	$\eta_{gat} = 1$ $\eta_{per} = 0$	$\eta_{per} = 1$ $\eta_{gat} = 0$	$\eta_{gat} = 0$ $\eta_{per} = 0$	

Example

W^*	$\lambda_{cat} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\eta_{gat} = 1$ $\lambda_{dog} = 0$ $\eta_{per} = 0$	$\lambda_{dog} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\eta_{per} = 1$ $\lambda_{cat} = 0$ $\eta_{gat} = 0$	$\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{cat} = 0$ $\lambda_{dog} = 0$ $\eta_{gat} = 0$ $\eta_{per} = 0$	$\lambda_{cat} = 0$ $\lambda_{dog} = 0$ $\lambda_{mam} = 0$ $\eta_{gat} = 0$ $\eta_{per} = 0$
W_2	$\eta_{gat} = 1$ $\eta_{per} = 0$	$\eta_{per} = 1$ $\eta_{gat} = 0$	$\eta_{gat} = 0$ $\eta_{per} = 0$	

Example

W^*	$\lambda_{cat} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\eta_{gat} = 1$ $\lambda_{dog} = 0$ $\eta_{per} = 0$	$\lambda_{dog} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\eta_{per} = 1$ $\lambda_{cat} = 0$ $\eta_{gat} = 0$	$\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{cat} = 0$ $\lambda_{dog} = 0$ $\eta_{gat} = 0$ $\eta_{per} = 0$	$\lambda_{cat} = 0$ $\lambda_{dog} = 0$ $\lambda_{mam} = 0$ $\eta_{gat} = 0$ $\eta_{per} = 0$
W_2	$\eta_{gat} = 1$ $\eta_{per} = 0$	$\eta_{per} = 1$ $\eta_{gat} = 0$	$\eta_{gat} = 0$ $\eta_{per} = 0$	

Example

W^*	$\lambda_{cat} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\eta_{gat} = 1$ $\lambda_{dog} = 0$ $\eta_{per} = 0$	$\lambda_{dog} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\eta_{per} = 1$ $\lambda_{cat} = 0$ $\eta_{gat} = 0$	$\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{cat} = 0$ $\lambda_{dog} = 0$ $\eta_{gat} = 0$ $\eta_{per} = 0$	$\lambda_{cat} = 0$ $\lambda_{dog} = 0$ $\lambda_{mam} = 0$ $\eta_{gat} = 0$ $\eta_{per} = 0$
W_2	$\eta_{gat} = 1$ $\eta_{per} = 0$	$\eta_{per} = 1$ $\eta_{gat} = 0$	$\eta_{gat} = 0$ $\eta_{per} = 0$	

W^\star

$\eta_{huev} = 1$ $\eta_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{egg} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{plat} = 1$	$\eta_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\eta_{huev} = 0$ $\lambda_{egg} = 0$ $\lambda_{plat} = 0$	$\eta_{huev} = 1$ $\lambda_{egg} = 1$ $\eta_{mam} = 0$ $\lambda_{mam} = 0$ $\lambda_{plat} = 0$	$\eta_{huev} = 0$ $\eta_{mam} = 0$ $\lambda_{egg} = 0$ $\lambda_{mam} = 0$ $\lambda_{plat} = 0$
---	---	---	---

$W(\mathcal{L}_j)$

$\eta_{mam} = 1$ $\eta_{huev} = 0$	$\eta_{huev} = 1$ $\eta_{mam} = 0$	$\eta_{huev} = 0$ $\eta_{mam} = 0$
---------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	---------------------------------------

W^*

$\eta_{huev} = 1$ $\eta_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{egg} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{plat} = 1$	$\eta_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\eta_{huev} = 0$ $\lambda_{egg} = 0$ $\lambda_{plat} = 0$	$\eta_{huev} = 1$ $\lambda_{egg} = 1$ $\eta_{mam} = 0$ $\lambda_{mam} = 0$ $\lambda_{plat} = 0$	$\eta_{huev} = 0$ $\eta_{mam} = 0$ $\lambda_{egg} = 0$ $\lambda_{mam} = 0$ $\lambda_{plat} = 0$
---	---	---	---

$W(\mathcal{L}_j)$

$\eta_{mam} = 1$ $\eta_{huev} = 0$	$\eta_{huev} = 1$ $\eta_{mam} = 0$	$\eta_{huev} = 0$ $\eta_{mam} = 0$
---------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	---------------------------------------

W^*

$\eta_{huev} = 1$ $\eta_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{egg} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{plat} = 1$	$\eta_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\eta_{huev} = 0$ $\lambda_{egg} = 0$ $\lambda_{plat} = 0$	$\eta_{huev} = 1$ $\lambda_{egg} = 1$ $\eta_{mam} = 0$ $\lambda_{mam} = 0$ $\lambda_{plat} = 0$	$\eta_{huev} = 0$ $\eta_{mam} = 0$ $\lambda_{egg} = 0$ $\lambda_{mam} = 0$ $\lambda_{plat} = 0$
---	---	---	---

$W(\mathcal{L}_j)$

$\eta_{mam} = 1$ $\eta_{huev} = 0$	$\eta_{huev} = 1$ $\eta_{mam} = 0$	$\eta_{huev} = 0$ $\eta_{mam} = 0$
---------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	---------------------------------------

W^*

$\eta_{huev} = 1$	$\eta_{mam} = 1$	$\eta_{huev} = 1$	$\eta_{huev} = 0$
$\eta_{mam} = 1$	$\lambda_{mam} = 1$	$\lambda_{egg} = 1$	$\eta_{mam} = 0$
$\lambda_{egg} = 1$	$\eta_{huev} = 0$	$\eta_{mam} = 0$	$\lambda_{egg} = 0$
$\lambda_{mam} = 1$	$\lambda_{egg} = 0$	$\lambda_{mam} = 0$	$\lambda_{mam} = 0$
$\lambda_{plat} = 1$	$\lambda_{plat} = 0$	$\lambda_{plat} = 0$	$\lambda_{plat} = 0$

$W(\mathcal{L}_j)$


$*$

$\eta_{mam} = 1$ $\eta_{huev} = 0$	$\eta_{huev} = 1$ $\eta_{mam} = 0$	$\eta_{huev} = 0$ $\eta_{mam} = 0$
---------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	---------------------------------------

W^*

$\eta_{huev} = 1$ $\eta_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{egg} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{plat} = 1$	$\eta_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\eta_{huev} = 0$ $\lambda_{egg} = 0$ $\lambda_{plat} = 0$	$\eta_{huev} = 1$ $\lambda_{egg} = 1$ $\eta_{mam} = 0$ $\lambda_{mam} = 0$ $\lambda_{plat} = 0$	$\eta_{huev} = 0$ $\eta_{mam} = 0$ $\lambda_{egg} = 0$ $\lambda_{mam} = 0$ $\lambda_{plat} = 0$
---	---	---	---

$W(\mathcal{L}_j)$

	$\eta_{mam} = 1$ $\eta_{huev} = 0$	$\eta_{huev} = 1$ $\eta_{mam} = 0$	$\eta_{huev} = 0$ $\eta_{mam} = 0$
---	---------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	---------------------------------------

W^*

$\eta_{huev} = 1$ $\eta_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{egg} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{plat} = 1$	$\eta_{mam} = 1$ $\lambda_{mam} = 1$ $\eta_{huev} = 0$ $\lambda_{egg} = 0$ $\lambda_{plat} = 0$	$\eta_{huev} = 1$ $\lambda_{egg} = 1$ $\eta_{mam} = 0$ $\lambda_{mam} = 0$ $\lambda_{plat} = 0$	$\eta_{huev} = 0$ $\eta_{mam} = 0$ $\lambda_{egg} = 0$ $\lambda_{mam} = 0$ $\lambda_{plat} = 0$
---	---	---	---

$W(\mathcal{L}_j)$

	$\eta_{mam} = 1$ $\eta_{huev} = 0$	$\eta_{huev} = 1$ $\eta_{mam} = 0$	$\eta_{huev} = 0$ $\eta_{mam} = 0$
---	---------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	---------------------------------------

Does such a state-space W^* always exist?

Example

\mathcal{L}_1

\mathcal{L}_2

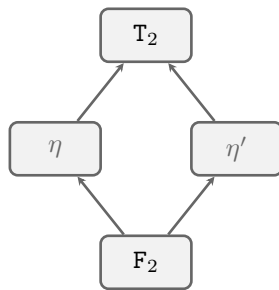
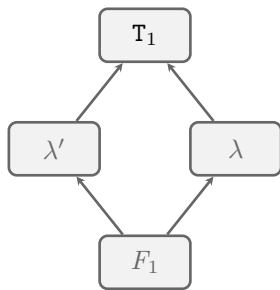
$\lambda = \text{"God exists"}$

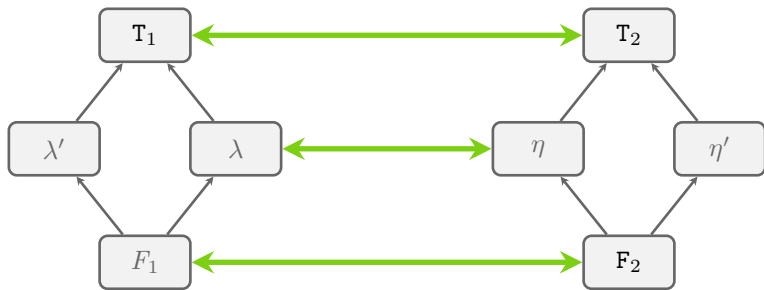
$\eta = \text{"Dios es bueno"}$

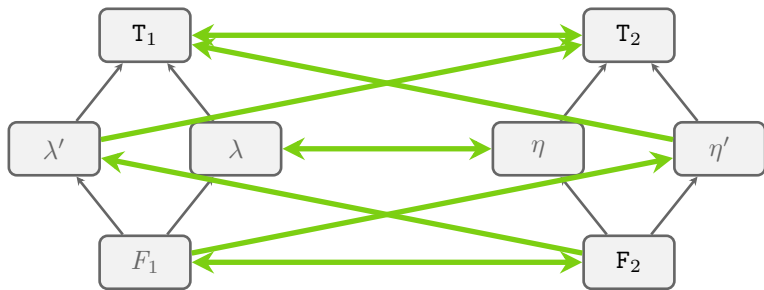
$\lambda' = \text{"God does not exist"}$

$\eta' = \text{"Dios es malvado"}$

- ◇ 1 cannot conceive of an evil God, but is unsure a benevolent God exists
 - ◇ $\mathbf{T}_1 \Rightarrow_1 (\lambda \vee \lambda'), (\lambda \wedge \lambda') \Rightarrow_1 \mathbf{F}_1$
- ◇ 2 defines God as what is in the universe, but is unsure its moral character
 - ◇ $\mathbf{T}_2 \Rightarrow_2 (\eta \vee \eta'), (\eta \wedge \eta') \Rightarrow_2 \mathbf{F}_2$







Example

\mathcal{L}_i

\mathcal{L}_j

$\lambda = \text{"God exists"}$

$\eta = \text{"Dios es bueno"}$

$\lambda' = \text{"God does not exist"}$

$\eta' = \text{"Dios es malvado"}$

$$T_{1 \rightarrow 2}^-(f_i) = f_j$$

$$T_{1 \rightarrow 2}^-(\lambda) = \eta$$

$$T_{1 \rightarrow 2}^-(\lambda') = f_j$$

$$T_{1 \rightarrow 2}^-(t_i) = t_j$$

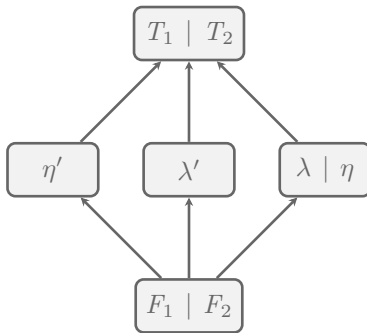
$$T_{1 \rightarrow 2}^+(f_i) = f_j$$

$$T_{1 \rightarrow 2}^+(\lambda) = \eta$$

$$T_{1 \rightarrow 2}^+(\lambda') = t_j$$

$$T_{1 \rightarrow 2}^+(t_i) = t_j$$

This satisfies our axioms but admits no state-space representation. The induced graph, i.e., $(\mathcal{L}_i \cup \mathcal{L}_j) / \Rightarrow^*$:



is not distributive.

Open question:

what additional axioms does T (equivalently, \Rightarrow^*) need to satisfy to ensure existence of state-space representation?

We can answer this for Boolean languages:

- ◇ Assume \mathcal{L}_i and \mathcal{L}_j are Boolean algebras
- ◇ Closed under *negation*: if $\lambda \in \mathcal{L}$ then $\neg\lambda \in \mathcal{L}$:
 - ◇ $\lambda \wedge \neg\lambda = \mathbf{F}$,
 - ◇ $\lambda \vee \neg\lambda = \mathbf{T}$

C3: Duality

For $\lambda_i \in \mathcal{L}_i$ and $\eta_j \in \mathcal{L}_j$ such that $\mathsf{T}_{i \rightarrow j}^+(\lambda_i) \neq *$:

$$\mathsf{T}_{i \rightarrow j}^-(\neg \lambda_i) = \neg \mathsf{T}_{i \rightarrow j}^+(\lambda_i) \wedge \mathsf{T}_{i \rightarrow j}^-(\mathsf{T}_i).$$

If agents share a view of truth: $\mathsf{T}_{i \rightarrow j}^-(\mathsf{T}_i) = \mathsf{T}_j = \mathsf{T}_{i \rightarrow j}^+(\mathsf{T}_i)$ then we can simplify:

$$\mathsf{T}_{i \rightarrow j}^-(\neg \lambda_i) = \neg \mathsf{T}_{i \rightarrow j}^+(\lambda_i),$$

for all statements.

I5: Negation Consistency

For $\lambda_i \in \mathcal{L}_i$ and $\eta_j \in \mathcal{L}_j$ such that $\lambda_i \rightarrow^* \mathbf{T}_j$:

$$\eta_j \Rightarrow^* \neg \lambda_i \quad \text{implies} \quad \lambda_i \Rightarrow^* \neg \eta_j.$$

Theorem

The following are equivalent:

- (1) T satisfies C1-3
- (2) There exists a (unique) \Rightarrow^* satisfying I1-5 that defines it (via \star^- and \star^+).
- (3) There exists a joint state-space representation of \mathcal{L}_i and \mathcal{L}_j :

State-space is 'locally' Boolean

- ◇ \wedge and \vee map to \cap and \cup , respectively
- ◇ F maps to \emptyset
- ◇ \neg maps to *relative* complementation w.r.t. T



Thank You

