

Acting

Decision Making

Value of
Perfect
Information

Value of Information

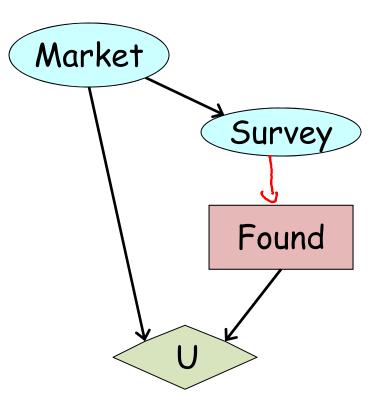
- alue of perfect information
- $VPI(A \mid X)$ is the value of observing X A before choosing an action at A
- \mathcal{D} = original influence diagram
- $\mathcal{D}_{X \to A}$ = influence diagram with edge $X \to A$

$$\mathrm{VPI}(A \mid X) := \mathrm{MEU}(\mathcal{D}_{X \rightarrow A}) - \mathrm{MEU}(\mathcal{D})$$

Finding MEU Decision Rules

$$neu(0_{s\to F}) - Meu(0)$$

3.25 2 = 1.25



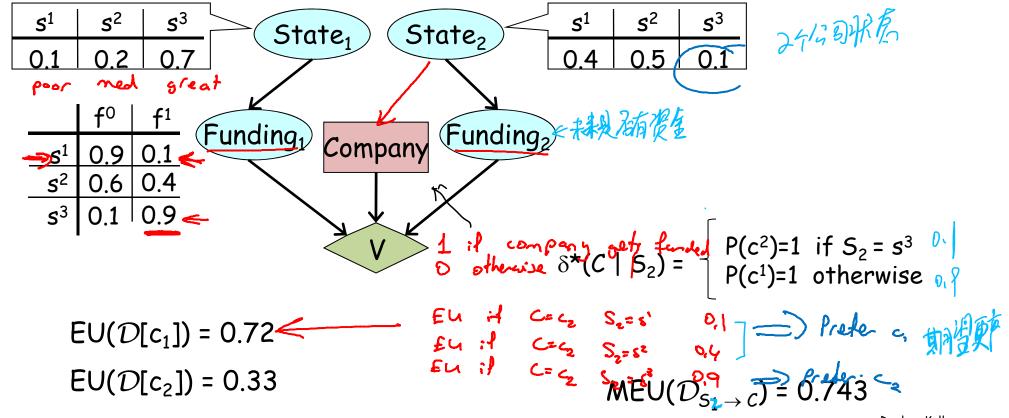
Value of Information

 $VPI(A \mid X) := MEU(\mathcal{D}_{X \to A}) - MEU(\mathcal{D})$

- Theorem:
 - $-VPI(A \mid X) \geq 0$
 - $VPI(A \mid X) = 0$ if and only if the optimal decision rule for \mathcal{D} is still optimal for $\mathcal{D}_{X \to A}$

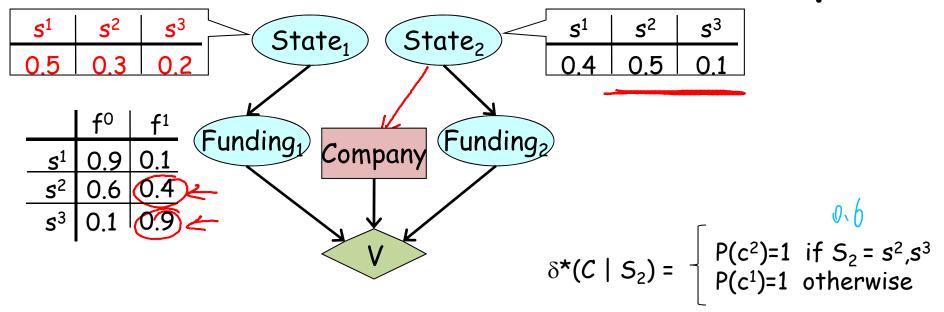
optimizing S(A | 2

Value of Information Example



Daphne Koller

Value of Information Example



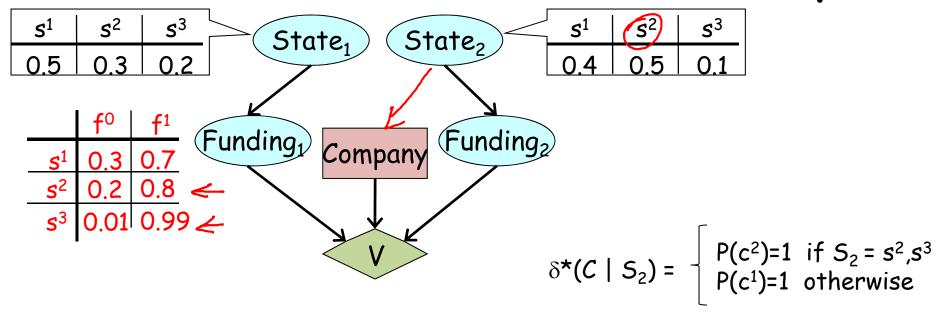
$$EU(\mathcal{D}[c_1]) = 0.35$$

$$EU(\mathcal{D}[c_2]) = 0.33$$

$$\mathsf{MEU}(\mathcal{D}_{\mathsf{S}_2 \to \mathcal{C}}) = 0.43$$

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Value of Information Example



$$EU(D[c_1]) = 0.788$$

$$EU(\mathcal{D}[c_2]) = 0.779$$

$$MEU(\mathcal{D}_{\rightarrow C}) = 0.8142$$
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Summary

- Influence diagrams provide clear and coherent semantics for the value of making an observation
 - Difference between values of two IDs
- Information is valuable if and only if it induces a change in action in at least one context