

# STUDYING DELIBERATED JUDGEMENTS

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## Context and goal of this poster

- Context

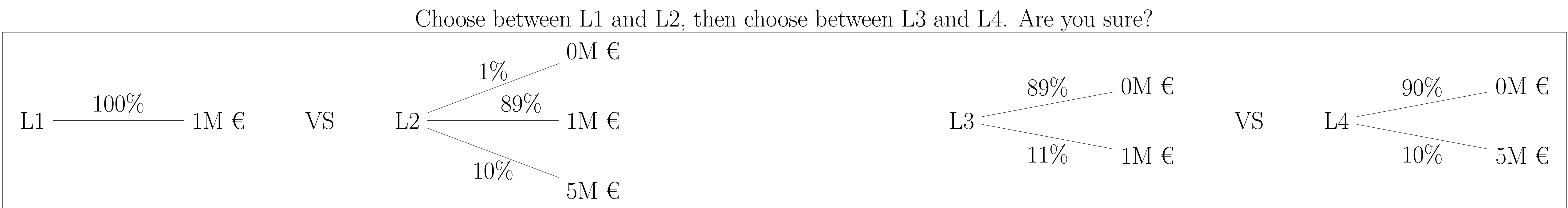
  - Internal deliberation facing a decision problem
  - Considering an individual  $i$
- Goal

  - Introduce the notion of Deliberated Judgement
  - Motivate studying it
  - Sketch how

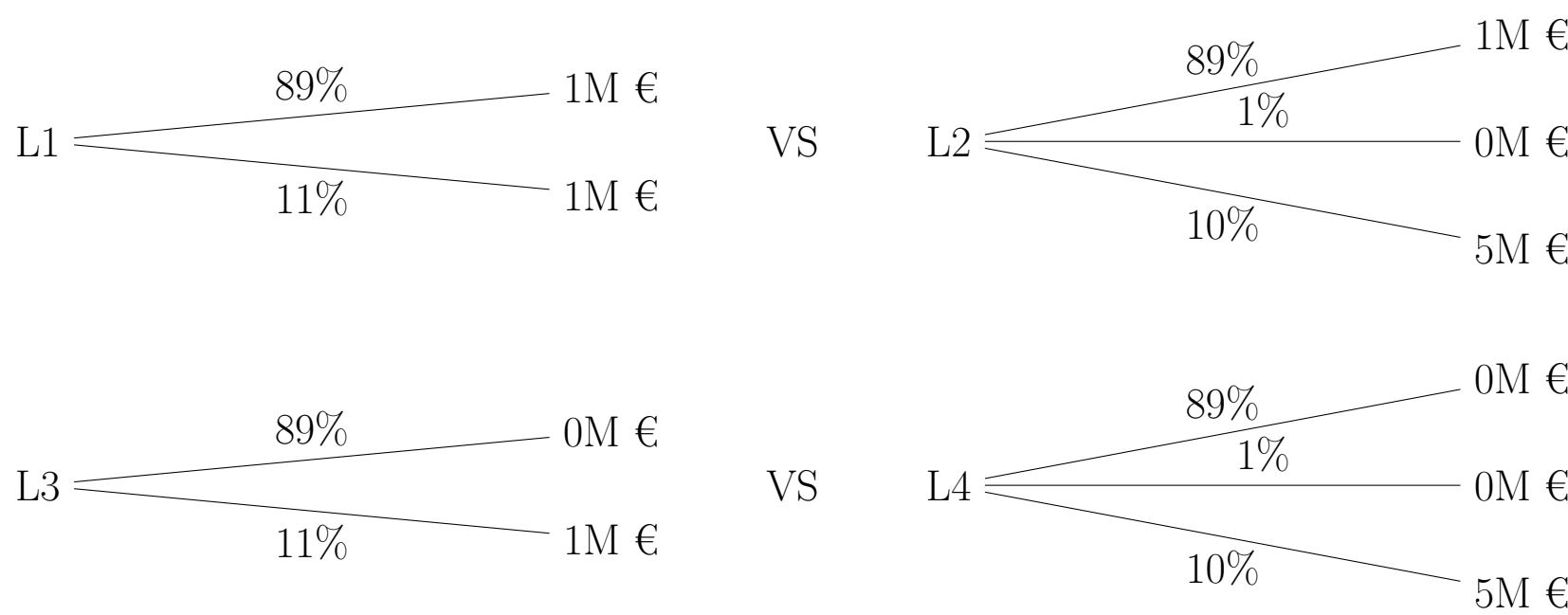
## Deliberated judgement: a missing conception of “preference”

- Descriptive approach
  - Observe people’s epistemic position / choice without interference
- Normative approach
  - How you ought to reason / choose
  - Can’t be validated through observation of individuals
- Deliberated* judgement (or preference)
  - $i$ ’s position after having considered all arguments

## Deliberation can change your mind



- First observation (Bernouilli): don’t be content with maximizing (untransformed) expected revenue!
  - Second observation:  $i$  could be intuitively attracted by  $L1 \succ L2$  and  $L3 \succ L4$  (Allais’s problem)
  - Including Savage
  - And might change her mind when given a reasoning pro expected utility
  - “There is, of course, an important sense in which preferences, being entirely subjective, cannot be in error”
  - ... “but in a different, more subtle sense they can be.” (Savage, *The Foundations of Statistics*)
- ⇒ Systematic decision principles might help deliberate



## Study deliberated judgement

- The proposed research program aims at the following.
- Define Deliberated Judgment (DJ) formally
    - Given a set of arguments
    - Of an individual  $i$

⇒ The position that is stable facing counter-arguments
  - Define the concept of a model of someone’s DJ
 

⇒ A model articulates claims concerning  $i$ ’s DJ and argues for its claim
  - Define validity of a model
 

⇒ Correctly captures  $i$ ’s DJ
  - Study conditions for falsifying models using observable data only
 

⇒ Let models debate, use  $i$  as a judge

## Example of a situation and a model of it

Notation	Here	Description
$T$	$\{t\}$	The topic, containing propositions about which $i$ deliberates
$S$	$\{s, s_1, s_2, s_3\}$	The arguments
$\rightsquigarrow \subseteq S \times T$	$\{(s, t), (s_1, t)\}$	Support as considered by $i$
$\triangleright \exists \subseteq S \times S$	$\{(s_2, s_1)\}$	Attacks as considered by $i$ in some perspective
$\triangleright_{\eta} \subseteq S \times S$	$\{(s_3, s_2)\}$	Attacks as considered by the model $\eta$

weather f. predicts so ( $s_1$ )  $\rightsquigarrow$  rain tomorrow ( $t$ )  $\rightsquigarrow$  complex arg. ( $s$ )

|  $\triangleright \exists$

weather forecast is often wrong ( $s_2$ )

|  $\triangleright_{\eta}$

weather forecast is more often right ( $s_3$ )

## Application: test axioms of decision theory

- Axioms considered appropriate normatively?
  - But some (Allais, Ellsberg) disagree
- Proposal: build models resting on those axioms
- Test models: their convincing power will give us indications about the reasonableness of the axioms for “normal” people (meaning, not scientists studying decision theory)

## Application: test conceptions of justice

- Philosophers have proposed sophisticated conceptions of justice (Rawls, Nozick, ...)
- Individual’s shallow intuitions about justice are observed and used to confront Rawls or others (Experimental Social Choice)
- Proposal: study reactions of individuals to arguments of philosophers rather than just shallow intuitions
- Move towards Reflective equilibrium (Goodman, Rawls)