

# Probabilistic Update Logic and Semantic Concept Learning

(based on joint work with Shalom Lappin)

Jan van Eijck

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Kutaisi  
September 27, 2011

# Outline

## Quick Intro to Dynamic Epistemic Logic (DEL)

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Bayes' Law as a Learning Algorithm

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Conclusions

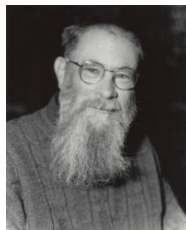
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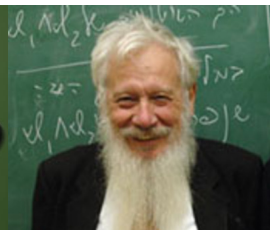
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David Lewis

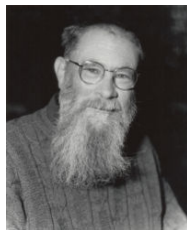


Jaakko Hintikka



Robert Aumann

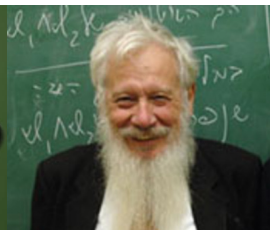
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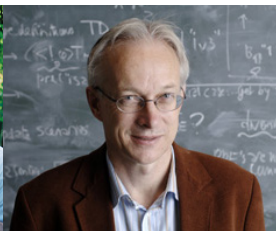
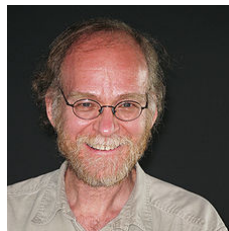
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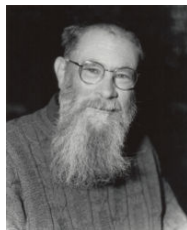
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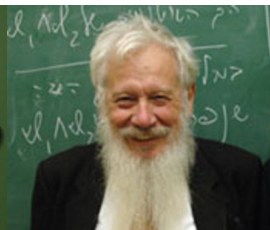
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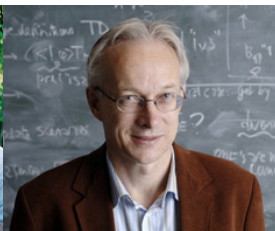
Joe Halpern



Jan Plaza

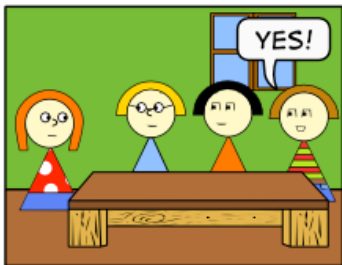
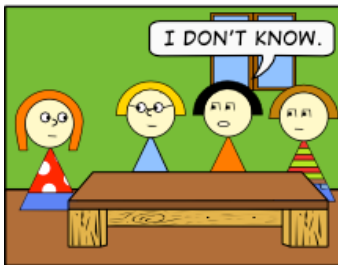
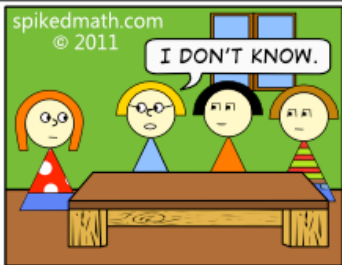


A. Baltag



Johan van Benthem

## THREE LOGICIANS WALK INTO A BAR...





picture by  
Marco Swaen

# The Muddy Children Puzzle

*a* clean, *b*, *c* and *d* muddy.

	a	b	c	d
at least one of you is muddy	○	●	●	●

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## The Muddy Children (2)

*a*, *b*, *c* clean, *d* muddy.

	<b>a</b>	<b>b</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>d</b>
at least one of you is muddy	○	○	○	●

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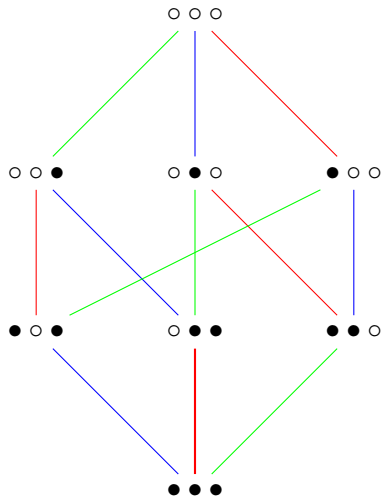
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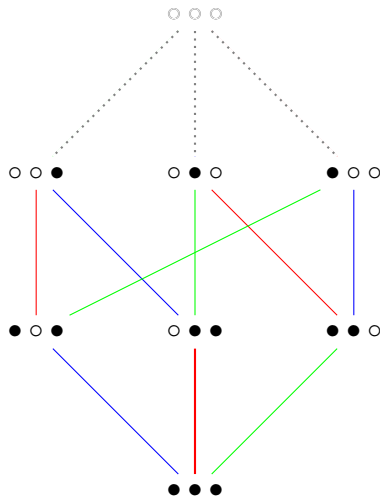
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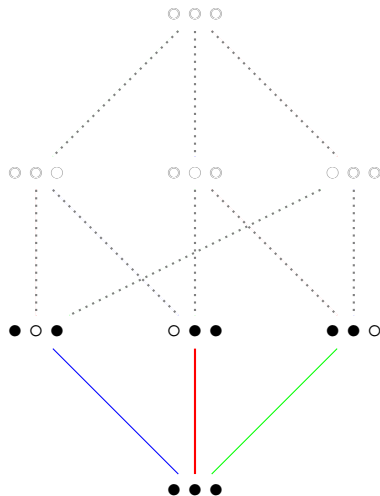
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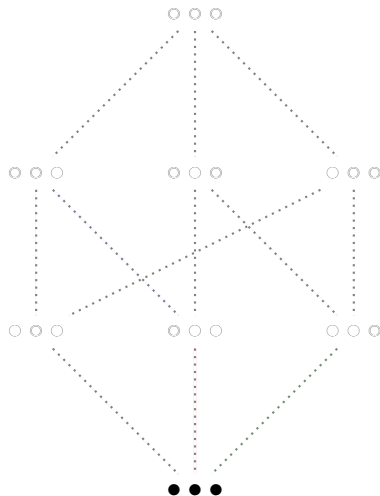
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# Some New Heroes

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Rev Thomas Bayes



Rudolph Carnap



Bruno de Finetti

## Laws of Conditional Probability

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Since the  $AH_i$  are mutually exclusive, their probabilities add:

$$P(A) = \sum_{j=1}^n P(AH_j) \cdot P(H_j).$$

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Bayes' law can be viewed as a learning algorithm: how probable is hypothesis  $H_j$ , given the data  $A$  that were observed using  $H_j$ ?

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- Persistent question in epistemic model checking: how to get a reasonable initial epistemic model?



# Probabilistic DEL

- Based on Van Benthem, Gerbrandy, Kooi [2].
- Compare also: Kooi's PhD Thesis [7], Baltag and Smets [1], Gierasimuszuk [4], Halpern [5], ...
- For simplicity, take the single agent case.

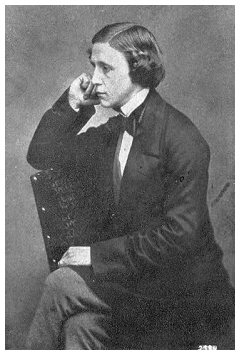
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  - This means:  $P(w) \in \{p \mid 0 \leq p \leq 1\}$ ,  $\sum_{w \in W} P(w) = 1$ .

## A Puzzle of Lewis Carroll



An urn contains a single marble, either white or black. Mr A puts another marble in the urn, a white one. The urn now contains two marbles. Next, Mrs B draws one of the two marbles from the urn. It turns out to be white. What is the probability that the other marble is also white? (Gardner [3])

# Discussion: Representation of the Mrs B Update

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  1.  $b \wedge w'$ :  $b$  is taken out,
  2.  $b \wedge w$ :  $w$  is taken out,
  3.  $w \wedge w'$ :  $w$  is taken out,
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- Revealing the colour boils down to the public observation of  $\neg(b \text{ out})$ .
- Lumping the two parts of the action together, and normalizing gives:
  - $b \wedge w'$ :  $w'$  is taken out,  $\frac{1}{3}$ ,
  - $w \wedge w'$ :  $w$  is taken out,  $\frac{1}{3}$ ,
  - $w \wedge w'$ :  $w'$  is taken out,  $\frac{1}{3}$ .



Initial Situation  $b : \frac{1}{2}, w : \frac{1}{2}$ .

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**Mrs B Update** “takes a white marble out”

- $b \wedge w' : \text{take } w' \text{ out} : \frac{1}{3},$
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$$w', w \text{ out} : \frac{1}{3} \times \frac{1}{2}$$

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Probability of  $w \vee w' : \frac{2}{3}$ .



# The Puzzle of Monty Hall



## Form of the Monty Hall Update

precondition	action	probability
$A \wedge \text{choice} = A$	$!\neg B$	$\frac{1}{2}$
$A \wedge \text{choice} = A$	$!\neg C$	$\frac{1}{2}$
$A \wedge \text{choice} = B$	$!\neg C$	1
$A \wedge \text{choice} = C$	$!\neg B$	1

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$A \wedge \text{choice} = C$	$!\neg B$	1
$B \wedge \text{choice} = A$	$!\neg C$	1
$B \wedge \text{choice} = B$	$!\neg A$	$\frac{1}{2}$
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## Form of the Monty Hall Update

precondition	action	probability
$A \wedge \text{choice} = A$	$!\neg B$	$\frac{1}{2}$
$A \wedge \text{choice} = A$	$!\neg C$	$\frac{1}{2}$
$A \wedge \text{choice} = B$	$!\neg C$	1
$A \wedge \text{choice} = C$	$!\neg B$	1
$B \wedge \text{choice} = A$	$!\neg C$	1
$B \wedge \text{choice} = B$	$!\neg A$	$\frac{1}{2}$
$B \wedge \text{choice} = B$	$!\neg C$	$\frac{1}{2}$
$B \wedge \text{choice} = C$	$!\neg A$	1
$C \wedge \text{choice} = A$	$!\neg B$	1
$C \wedge \text{choice} = B$	$!\neg A$	1
$C \wedge \text{choice} = C$	$!\neg A$	$\frac{1}{2}$
$C \wedge \text{choice} = C$	$!\neg B$	$\frac{1}{2}$

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- It is clear I should reconsider my choice.

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- “This is a rose”
- “Dit is een roos”
- Do we learn the use of a word? Do we update our knowledge about roses? Or both?



# Modelling Uncertainty About Basic Predications

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- Here we assume a single variable  $x$ , a finite number of proper names  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m$  and a finite number of basic unary predicates  $Q_1, Q_2, \dots, Q_n$ .

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- Any  $\phi$  that contains occurrences of  $x$  is called a *predication*. Use  $\phi(x)$  for predications, and  $\phi(a/x)$  for the result of replacing  $x$  by  $a$  everywhere in a predication.

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- A probabilistic model  $M$  is a tuple  $(D, W, P)$  with  $D$  a domain,  $W$  a set of worlds for that domain (predicate interpretations in that domain), and  $P$  a probability function over  $W$ , i.e., for all  $w \in W$ ,  $P(w) \in [0, 1]$ , and  $\sum_{w \in W} P(w) = 1$ .

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- The probabilities in a model  $M$  represent the priors of an idealized semantic learner.

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- Tautologies have probability 1, contradictions probability 0.

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- If the probability of each of the cases is completely unknown, each of these worlds has probability  $\frac{1}{16}$ .

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- Then  $W = \{w_1, w_2\}$  with  $w_1(Q_1) = \{a, b\}$ ,  $w_2(Q_1) = \{a\}$ ,  
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- Therefore  $\llbracket \neg Q_1(b) \rrbracket = \frac{1}{3}$ .

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- Note that the probability function  $P$  of the model does not change.

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- $\frac{1}{X}$  (the normalization factor) is given by

$$X = \sum_{w \in W_\phi} P(w) \times q + \sum_{w \in W_{\neg\phi}} P(w) \times (1 - q).$$

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- Then the resulting model has again 2 worlds, but now the probability of  $w_2$  has gone up from  $\frac{1}{3}$  to

$$\frac{\frac{2}{3} \times \frac{1}{3}}{\frac{1}{3} \times \frac{2}{3} + \frac{2}{3} \times \frac{1}{3}} = \frac{1}{2}$$

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- Consider again the example with the two objects and the two properties, where nothing is known. A learning event for this could be:

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- Then the resulting model has again 2 worlds, but now the probability of  $w_2$  has gone up from  $\frac{1}{3}$  to

$$\frac{\frac{2}{3} \times \frac{1}{3}}{\frac{1}{3} \times \frac{2}{3} + \frac{2}{3} \times \frac{1}{3}} = \frac{1}{2}$$

- The probability of  $w_1$  has gone down from  $\frac{2}{3}$  to

$$\frac{\frac{1}{3} \times \frac{2}{3}}{\frac{4}{9}} = \frac{1}{2}.$$

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- $I(\text{Some}) = \lambda p \lambda q \lambda d \lambda w. \text{some}(\lambda x. p x d w)(\lambda y. q y d w)$ .
- Here **some** is the familiar constant function for existential quantification, of type  $(e \rightarrow t) \rightarrow (e \rightarrow t) \rightarrow t$ .

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# Experiments with Semantic Concept Learning





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Most learners do not: Kemp, Perfors and Tenenbaum 2007 [6].

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Most learners do not: Kemp, Perfors and Tenenbaum 2007 [6].
- Program: Hierarchical version of concept learning, using hierarchical Bayesian models; see Kemp, Perfors and Tenenbaum [6].

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- To do: Close the gap between the computational semantics tradition based on type theory, logic, and Montague grammar, and the statistical tradition in natural language processing.

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