

# Desirable sets of things and their logic

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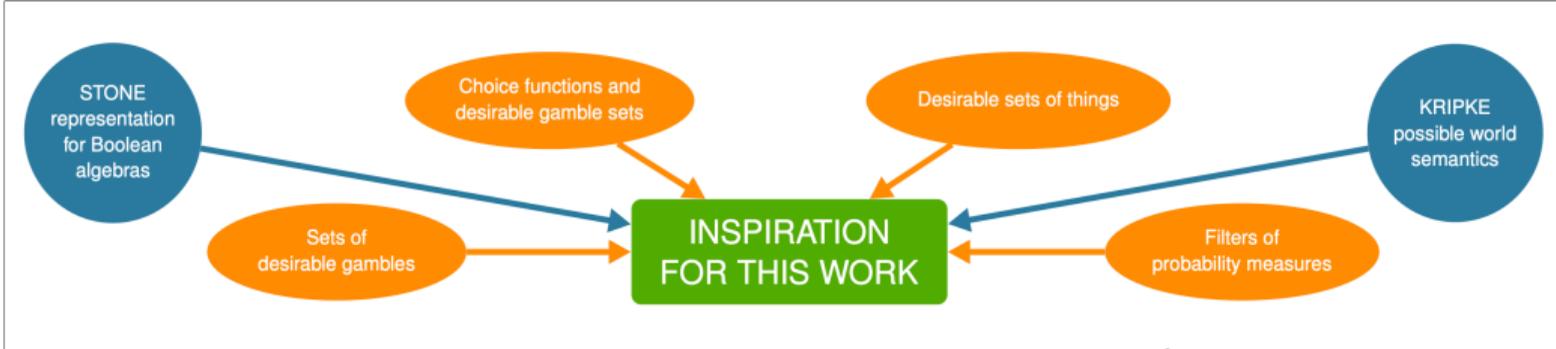


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## FLip — FOUNDATIONS LAB (for imprecise probabilities)





## Desirable things

Consider a set of things  $T$ , some of which have an abstract property called **desirability**.

$S \subseteq T$  is a **set of desirable things (SDT)** to You if You state that *all things in  $S$  desirable*.

There is an **inference mechanism** associated with desirability via a *finitary* closure operator

$$\text{Cl}_D: \mathcal{P}(T) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(T): S \mapsto \text{Cl}_D(S).$$

$D_1$ . if all things in  $S$  are desirable, then so are all things in  $\text{Cl}_D(S)$ .

There's a set of **forbidden things**  $T_-$ :

$D_2$ . no thing in  $T_-$  is desirable.

The **coherent** SDTs are:

$$\bar{D} := \{D \subseteq T: D = \text{Cl}_D(D) \text{ and } D \cap T_- = \emptyset\}.$$

Things in  $T_+ := \text{Cl}_D(\emptyset)$  are always desirable.

$D_3$ .  $T_+ \cap T_- = \emptyset$ , or equivalently,  $\bar{D} \neq \emptyset$ .

## CONJUNCTION

## Desirable sets of things

$S \subseteq T$  is a **desirable set of things** to You if You state that *at least one thing in  $S$  is desirable*.

$K \subseteq \mathcal{P}(T)$  is Your **set of desirable sets of things (SDS)** if each  $W \in K$  is a desirable set of things to You.

$\bar{K}_{\text{fin}}$  is the set (intersection structure) of all finitely coherent SDSes, and leads to a closure operator  $\text{Cl}_{\bar{K}_{\text{fin}}}$ , defined by

$$\text{Cl}_{\bar{K}_{\text{fin}}}(W) := \bigcap \{K \in \bar{K}_{\text{fin}}: W \subseteq K\}.$$

## DISJUNCTION

The structure  $(\bar{D}, \subseteq)$  can be **embedded** in  $(\bar{K}_{\text{fin}}, \subseteq)$  by the endomorphism

$$D \mapsto K_D$$

with

$$K_D := \{S \subseteq T: D \cap S \neq \emptyset\}.$$

## EMBEDDING

An SDS  $K \subseteq \mathcal{P}(T)$  is **finitely coherent** if:

$K_1$ .  $\emptyset \notin K$ ;

$K_2$ . if  $S_1 \in K$  and  $S_1 \subseteq S_2$  then  $S_2 \in K$ , for all  $S_1, S_2 \in \mathcal{P}(T)$ ;

$K_3$ . if  $S \in K$  then  $S \setminus T_- \in K$ , for all  $S \in \mathcal{P}(T)$ ;

$K_4$ .  $\{t_+\} \in K$  for all  $t_+ \in T_+$ ;

$K_5$ . if  $t_\sigma \in \text{Cl}_D(\sigma(W))$  for all  $\sigma \in \Phi_W$ , then  $\{t_\sigma: \sigma \in \Phi_W\} \in K$ , for all  $\emptyset \neq W \in K$ .

Here ' $\in$ ' means 'is a finite subset of', and  $\Phi_W$  is the set of all **selection maps**  $\sigma$  on  $W$ , so  $\sigma(S) \in S$  for all  $S \in W$ .

## LIFTING

## Possible worlds models

You have a **'true' set of desirable things**  $D_T$ , which assessments  $W \in \mathcal{P}(T)$  provide information about.  $\bar{D}$  is a **set of possible 'worlds'**.

Each desirable set  $S \in W$  leads to an **event**

$$D_S := \{D \in \bar{D}: S \cap D \neq \emptyset\} \subseteq \bar{D},$$

and the assessment  $W \subseteq \mathcal{P}(T)$  to the **event**

$$\mathcal{E}(W) := \bigcap_{S \in W} D_S := \bigcap_{S \in W} \{D \in \bar{D}: S \cap D \neq \emptyset\} \subseteq \bar{D},$$

the set of all worlds that remain possible after Your assessment  $W$ .

The set of events  $\mathcal{E}_{\text{fin}} := \{\mathcal{E}(W): W \subseteq \mathcal{P}(T)\}$  is a bounded distributive lattice with top  $\bar{D}$  and bottom  $\emptyset$ .

**Proper filters of events**  $\mathcal{F} \in \mathbb{F}(\mathcal{E}_{\text{fin}})$  correspond to consistent and deductively closed sets of propositional statements about  $D_T$ .

## PROPOSITIONAL LOGIC

Syntax  
Semantics

## Complete SDSes

A finitely coherent SDS  $K \in \overline{\mathbf{K}}_{\text{fin}}$  is **complete** if  
C.  $(\forall S_1, S_2 \subseteq T) (S_1 \cup S_2 \in K \Rightarrow (S_1 \in K \text{ or } S_2 \in K))$ .

$\overline{\mathbf{K}}_{\text{fin,c}}$  is the set of all complete and finitely coherent SDSes.

The established order isomorphism allows us to translate the **Prime Filter Representation Theorem** into:

An SDS  $K$  is finitely coherent if and only if it is the *non-empty* intersection of all the complete and finitely coherent SDSes it is included in:

$$K = \bigcap_{\neq \emptyset} \{K' \in \overline{\mathbf{K}}_{\text{fin,c}} : K \subseteq K'\}.$$

REPRESENTATION

The structures  $(\overline{\mathbf{K}}_{\text{fin,c}}, \subseteq)$  and  $(\overline{\mathbf{F}}(\mathbf{E}_{\text{fin}}), \subseteq)$  are **order isomorphic**, via the **order isomorphisms**

$$\phi_{\mathbf{D}}^{\text{fin}}(K) := \{\mathcal{E}(W) : W \in K\},$$

and

$$\kappa_{\mathbf{D}}^{\text{fin}}(\mathcal{F}) := \{S \subseteq T : \overline{\mathbf{D}}_S \in \mathcal{F}\}.$$

ORDER ISOMORPHISM

## Prime filters

A proper filter  $\mathcal{F} \in \overline{\mathbf{F}}(\mathbf{E}_{\text{fin}})$  is **prime** if  
PF.  $(\forall E_1, E_2 \in \mathbf{E}_{\text{fin}}) (E_1 \cup E_2 \in \mathcal{F} \Rightarrow (E_1 \in \mathcal{F} \text{ or } E_2 \in \mathcal{F}))$ .

$\overline{\mathbf{F}}_{\text{p}}(\mathbf{E}_{\text{fin}})$  is the set of all prime filters.

The well-known **Prime Filter Representation Theorem** states that:

A set of events  $\mathcal{F}$  is a proper filter if and only if it is the *non-empty* intersection of all the prime filters it is included in:

$$\mathcal{F} = \bigcap_{\neq \emptyset} \{\mathcal{G} \in \overline{\mathbf{F}}_{\text{p}}(\mathbf{E}_{\text{fin}}) : \mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathcal{G}\}.$$

REPRESENTATION

## Finitary SDSes

We concentrate on the *finite sets of things* in

$$\mathcal{Q}(T) := \{S \in \mathcal{P}(T) : S \in T\}.$$

For any SDS  $W \subseteq \mathcal{P}(T)$ , we call

$$\text{fin}(W) := W \cap \mathcal{Q}(T)$$

its **finite part**, and collect all its sets with finite desirable subsets in

$$\text{fty}(W) := \{S \in \mathcal{P}(T) : (\exists \mathcal{S} \in W \cap \mathcal{Q}(T)) \mathcal{S} \in S\},$$

its **finitary part**.

An SDS  $W \subseteq \mathcal{P}(T)$  is called **finitary** if all its desirable sets have finite desirable subsets, so

$$W \subseteq \text{fty}(W).$$

A **finitely coherent** SDS  $K$  is **finitary** iff  $K = \text{fty}(K)$ .

## Conjunctive SDSes

A **conjunctive** SDS  $W \subseteq \mathcal{P}(T)$  is a finitary SDS all of whose minimal elements are singletons:

$$(\forall S \in W)(\exists t \in S)\{t\} \in W.$$

A **finitely coherent** SDS  $K$  is **conjunctive** if and only if there is some coherent SDT  $D$  such that  $K = K_D$  and then necessarily:

$$D = \{t \in T : \{t\} \in K\}.$$

The finitary part of any finitely coherent and complete SDS is finitely coherent and conjunctive; consequently, any finitary and finitely coherent SDS is complete if and only if it is conjunctive.

Note: the paper also discusses and studies stronger, infinitary versions of the lifting axioms  $K_1$ – $K_5$ .

A **finitary** SDS  $K$  is **finitely coherent** if and only if it is the **non-empty** intersection of all the finitely coherent conjunctive SDSes it is included in:

$$K = \bigcap_{\neq \emptyset} \{K_D : D \in \bar{\mathbf{D}} \text{ and } K \subseteq K_D\}.$$

**REPRESENTATION**

# Desirable sets of things and their logic

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