

Logic, Cognition, and Rational Agency

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Logic and cognitive science have had a lively but also tumultuous interface. Following Frege, logicians have often retreated toward normative views of their theories, inspired by the facts of cognition only in the distant sense in which some actual casual encounter may induce great romantic literature. In this lecture, I will discuss some current logical theories of rational agency, that are influenced by computer science and game theory, and their status vis-a-vis cognitive reality. In particular, I identify a number of challenges that occur at fault lines between disciplines, namely, interaction between agents with different abilities, creation of new agents through technology, and the still not crystal-clear relation between logical and probabilistic methods. In doing so, I also try to show that logic and cognitive science can have fruitful interactions, where a transition from competition to cooperation is easily made.

References

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