# Characterizing Multipreference Closure with System W

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SUM 2022 October 17–19 **Conditional:** (B|A), intuition:

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 $\rightarrow$  Different approaches to draw inferences, e.g., p-entailment, system Z, ...

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- background on conditionals and preferential models
- recall system W
- recall MP-closure
- provide semantical characterization of MP-closure with system W (which is less involved than the original definition/characterization of system W)

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 $\Delta = \{(b|p), (f|b), (\neg f|p)\} \qquad \text{``Penguin triangle''}$ 

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Reasoning: Given a belief base, find all conditionals entailed by it.

A triple  $\mathcal{M} = \langle S, l, \prec \rangle$  consisting of

- $\blacktriangleright$  a set S of *states*,
- a function  $l: S \to \Omega$ , and
- $\blacktriangleright$  a strict partial order on S

such that for every  $A \in \mathcal{L}_{\Sigma}$ :  $\hat{A} = \{s \mid s \in S, l(s) \models A\}$  is smooth.

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Every preferential model induces an inference relation:

 $A \vdash_{\mathcal{M}} B$  iff for any s minimal in  $\hat{A}$  it holds that  $l(s) \models B$ .

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 ${\mathcal M}$  is a model for belief base  $\Delta$  if  ${\mathcal M}$  accepts all conditionals in  $\Delta.$ 

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- inference relation based on a partial ordering on worlds

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$$\begin{split} & \text{For } \Delta = \{(b|p), (f|b), (\neg f|p)\}:\\ & OP(\Delta) = (\Delta_0, \Delta_1) \text{ with }\\ & \Delta_0 = \{(b|p), (f|b)\} \text{ and }\\ & \Delta_1 = \{(\neg f|p)\} \end{split}$$

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# System W, $\succ {}^{w}_{\Delta}$ [Komo Beierle 2022]

 $A \models {}^{\mathsf{w}}_{\Delta} B$ 

 $\text{ if for every } \omega' \in \Omega_{A\overline{B}} \text{ there is an } \omega \in \Omega_{AB} \text{ such that } \omega <^{\sf w}_{\Delta} \omega'.$ 

Belief base:

 $\Delta = \{ (b|a), (\overline{a}\overline{b}|\overline{a} \vee \overline{b}), (c|\top) \}$ 

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Ordered partition:

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Preferred structure on worlds  $<^{w}_{\Delta}$ :



Entailment: e.g.  $\overline{a}b \lor a\overline{b} \sim {\overset{\mathsf{w}}{\Delta}} \overline{a}b$ 

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## Definition (system W preferential model $\mathcal{M}^{\mathsf{w}}(\Delta)$ )

The system W preferential model (for belief base  $\Delta$ ) is

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## Proposition

For consistent 
$$\Delta$$
:  $A \vdash_{\mathcal{M}^{w}(\Delta)} B$  iff  $A \vdash_{\Delta}^{w} B$ .

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- ► To check if a conditional is entailed
  - $\blacktriangleright$  find maximal subsets of  $\Delta$  that are classically logical consistent with the antecedent
  - sceptical reason about these sets

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- $\blacktriangleright$  strict partial ordering  $\prec^{MP}_\Delta$  on subsets of  $\Delta$
- based on the notion of exceptionality
- ▶ sets containing fewer exceptional conditionals are lower in  $\prec^{MP}_{\Delta}$

# MP-closure – Definition

## Definition (MP-basis [Giordano Gliozzi 2021])

A set  $D \subseteq \Delta$  is an *MP-basis* for A if

- A is consistent with  $\tilde{D} = \{B \rightarrow C \mid (C|B) \in D\}$ , and
- $\blacktriangleright$  D is maximal with respect to the MP-seriousness ordering

Set of models based

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#### MP-model:

Set of models based

### Definition (MP-closure [Giordano Gliozzi 2021])

 $A \mathop{\sim}\limits^{MP} \Delta B$ 

if for all MP-bases D of A it holds that  $\tilde{D} \cup \{A\} \models B$ .

 $\rightarrow$  Similar construction as in the definition of lexicographic inference [Lehmann 1995].

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Step 1: Characterization of MP-closure with MP-models [Giordano Gliozzi 2021].

Step 2: Show system W preferential models are MP-models.

Step 3: Prove main theorem.

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## Proposition (MP-closure representation theorem [GG21])

 $A \sim \Delta^{MP} B$  iff (B|A) is accepted by every MP-model of  $\Delta$ 

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#### Proposition

The system W preferential model  $\mathcal{M}^{w}(\Delta)$  is an MP-model of  $\Delta$ .

## Proposition ([Giordano Gliozzi 2021])

Let  $\mathcal{N}, \mathcal{N}'$  be MP-models of  $\Delta$ .

 $A \succ_{\mathcal{N}} B$  iff  $A \succ_{\mathcal{N}'} B$ .

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#### Theorem

For a consistent belief base  $\Delta$  and  $A, B \in \mathcal{L}_{\Sigma}$ :  $\blacktriangleright A \succ^{MP}_{\Delta} B$  iff  $A \succ_{\mathcal{M}^{\mathbf{w}}(\Delta)} B$ .

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 $\blacktriangleright A \vdash {}^{MP}_{\Delta} B \quad iff \quad A \models {}^{w}_{\Delta} B.$ 

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This result yields

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#### Future work:

Further investigate the relations among inductive inference operators

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- ▶ Further investigate the connections to reasoning with first-order-conditionals
- Generalize system W for belief bases containing strict knowledge (i.e. belief bases enforcing impossible worlds)