CIFREM SEMINARS

A COHERENCE-BASED APPROACH TO INFERENCE FORMATION IN INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP DECISION-MAKING: COMPUTATIONAL MODELS, FIELD AND EXPERIMENTAL EVIDENCE

Speaker

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4PM, DISA Seminar Room

Via Inama, 5

We focus on the process of inference formation in individual decision-making settings. We consider a broad class of non-repetitive problems (in which knowledge based on previous experience is unavailable or of limited help) and we study how subjects attach interpretations to observed phenomena by linking causal hypotheses to environmental evidence. We model this process through computational models of causal inference (Thagard 1992, 2000) in which subjects select a dominant theory from a set of competing ones on the basis of an explanatory coherence principle.
We provide several empirical tests of these computational models by way of field case studies in managerial decision-making and through laboratory experiments and we propose extensions of these models in order to account for dynamics decision-making settings and group decisions by teams of agents. --

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