

# On the axiomatisation of logics for approximate reasoning

Thomas Vetterlein

Department of Knowledge-Based Mathematical Systems  
Johannes Kepler University (Linz, Austria)

January 2014

*Model:*

$W$ , a set of worlds,

together with a Boolean algebra  $\mathcal{B}$  of subsets of  $W$ .

*Model:*

$W$ , a set of worlds,

together with a Boolean algebra  $\mathcal{B}$  of subsets of  $W$ .

*Meaning:*

$W$  is the set of distinguished situations;

each  $A \in \mathcal{B}$  represents a property.

# Classical propositional logic (CPL)

*Language:*

**Propositional formulas** are built up from  $\varphi_0, \varphi_1, \dots, \top, \perp$   
by means of  $\wedge, \vee, \neg$ .

# Classical propositional logic (CPL)

*Language:*

**Propositional formulas** are built up from  $\varphi_0, \varphi_1, \dots, \top, \perp$  by means of  $\wedge, \vee, \neg$ .

**Conditional formulas** are of the form

$$\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k \rightarrow \beta.$$

# Classical propositional logic (CPL)

*Language:*

**Propositional formulas** are built up from  $\varphi_0, \varphi_1, \dots, \top, \perp$  by means of  $\wedge, \vee, \neg$ .

**Conditional formulas** are of the form

$$\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k \rightarrow \beta.$$

*Interpretation:*

An **evaluation**  $v$  maps propositional formulas to  $\mathcal{B}$ , interpreting  $\wedge, \vee, \neg$  by  $\cap, \cup, \mathbf{C}$ .

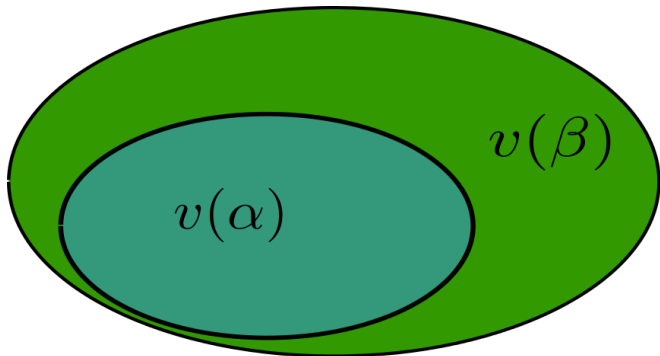
The above statement is **satisfied** if

$$v(\alpha_1) \cap \dots \cap v(\alpha_k) \subseteq v(\beta).$$

$$\alpha \rightarrow \beta$$

is satisfied in CPL by an evaluation  $v$  if

$$v(\alpha) \subseteq v(\beta).$$



# Approximate reasoning

(ENRIQUE RUPINI)

*Model:*

$W$  is endowed with a **similarity relation**  $s: W \times W \rightarrow [0, 1]$ :

$$(S1) \quad s(u, u) = 1 \text{ (reflexivity),}$$

$$(S2) \quad s(u, v) = 1 \text{ implies } u = v \text{ (separability),}$$

$$(S3) \quad s(u, v) = s(v, u) \text{ (symmetry).}$$

$$(S4) \quad s(u, v) \odot s(v, w) \leq s(u, w) \text{ } (\odot\text{-transitivity}).$$



# Approximate reasoning

(ENRIQUE RUPINI)

*Model:*

$W$  is endowed with a **similarity relation**  $s: W \times W \rightarrow [0, 1]$ :

$$(S1) \quad s(u, u) = 1 \text{ (reflexivity),}$$

$$(S2) \quad s(u, v) = 1 \text{ implies } u = v \text{ (separability),}$$

$$(S3) \quad s(u, v) = s(v, u) \text{ (symmetry).}$$

$$(S4) \quad s(u, v) \odot s(v, w) \leq s(u, w) \text{ (\odot-transitivity).}$$

*Meaning:*

Two worlds  $v, w \in W$  **resemble each other to the degree**  $s(v, w)$ .

# Logic of Approximate Entailment (LAE)

(LL. GODO, F. ESTEVA, D. DUBOIS, H. PRADE, R. RODRÍGUEZ, ...)

*Language:*

Propositional formulas are built up from  $\varphi_0, \varphi_1, \dots, \top, \perp$   
by means of  $\wedge, \vee, \neg$ .

Conditional formulas are of the form

$$\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k \xrightarrow{d} \beta, \quad \text{where } d \in [0, 1].$$

# Logic of Approximate Entailment (LAE)

(LL. GODO, F. ESTEVA, D. DUBOIS, H. PRADE, R. RODRÍGUEZ, ...)

*Language:*

Propositional formulas are built up from  $\varphi_0, \varphi_1, \dots, \top, \perp$  by means of  $\wedge, \vee, \neg$ .

Conditional formulas are of the form

$$\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k \xrightarrow{d} \beta, \quad \text{where } d \in [0, 1].$$

*Interpretation:*

An evaluation  $v$  maps propositional formulas to  $\mathcal{B}$ , interpreting  $\wedge, \vee, \neg$  by  $\cap, \cup, \complement$ .

The above statement is satisfied if

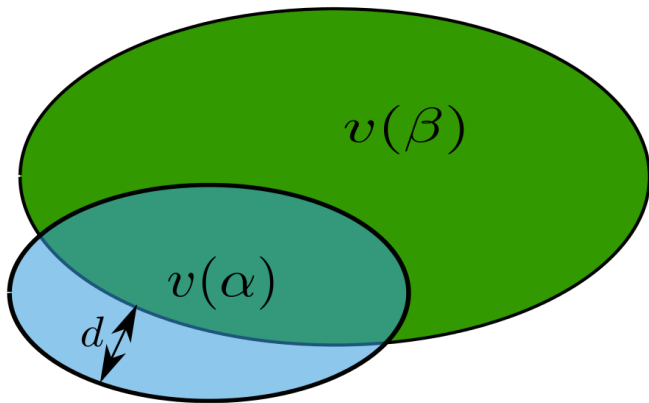
$$v(\alpha_1) \cap \dots \cap v(\alpha_k) \subseteq U_d(v(\beta)).$$

# Illustration of LAE

$$\alpha \xrightarrow{d} \beta$$

is satisfied in LAE by an evaluation  $v$  if

$$v(\alpha) \subseteq U_d(v(\beta)).$$



# Rules for LAE

$$\frac{\Gamma, \alpha, \beta \xrightarrow{d} \gamma}{\Gamma, \alpha \wedge \beta \xrightarrow{d} \gamma} \quad \frac{\Gamma \xrightarrow{d} \beta}{\Gamma, \alpha \xrightarrow{d} \beta} \quad \frac{\Gamma, \alpha \xrightarrow{d} \gamma \quad \Gamma, \beta \xrightarrow{d} \gamma}{\Gamma, \alpha \vee \beta \xrightarrow{d} \gamma} \quad \frac{\Gamma \xrightarrow{d} \alpha}{\Gamma \xrightarrow{d} \alpha \vee \beta}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \xrightarrow{c} \alpha \quad \alpha \xrightarrow{d} \gamma}{\Gamma \xrightarrow{c \ominus d} \gamma}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \xrightarrow{c} \alpha}{\Gamma \xrightarrow{d} \alpha}, \text{ where } d \leq c \quad \frac{\Gamma \xrightarrow{d} \perp}{\Gamma \xrightarrow{1} \perp}, \text{ where } d > 0$$

$$\alpha \xrightarrow{0} \beta \quad \frac{\alpha \xrightarrow{1} \beta}{\alpha \wedge \neg \beta \xrightarrow{1} \perp} \quad \alpha \xrightarrow{1} \beta, \text{ where } \neg \alpha \vee \beta \text{ is a CPL tautology}$$

# Rules for LAE

$$\frac{\Gamma, \alpha, \beta \xrightarrow{d} \gamma}{\Gamma, \alpha \wedge \beta \xrightarrow{d} \gamma} \quad \frac{\Gamma \xrightarrow{d} \beta}{\Gamma, \alpha \xrightarrow{d} \beta} \quad \frac{\Gamma, \alpha \xrightarrow{d} \gamma \quad \Gamma, \beta \xrightarrow{d} \gamma}{\Gamma, \alpha \vee \beta \xrightarrow{d} \gamma} \quad \frac{\Gamma \xrightarrow{d} \alpha}{\Gamma \xrightarrow{d} \alpha \vee \beta}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \xrightarrow{c} \alpha \quad \alpha \xrightarrow{d} \gamma}{\Gamma \xrightarrow{c \ominus d} \gamma}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \xrightarrow{c} \alpha}{\Gamma \xrightarrow{d} \alpha}, \text{ where } d \leq c \quad \frac{\Gamma \xrightarrow{d} \perp}{\Gamma \xrightarrow{1} \perp}, \text{ where } d > 0$$

$$\alpha \xrightarrow{0} \beta \quad \frac{\alpha \xrightarrow{1} \beta}{\alpha \wedge \neg \beta \xrightarrow{1} \perp} \quad \alpha \xrightarrow{1} \beta, \text{ where } \neg \alpha \vee \beta \text{ is a CPL tautology}$$

## Open problem

How can LAE be axiomatised?

The above rules are sound;

are these few rules actually already complete?

# Two technical difficulties of the completeness proof

*A standard completeness proof:*

# Two technical difficulties of the completeness proof

*A standard completeness proof:*

We take a theory  $\mathcal{T}$  and an implication  $\alpha \xrightarrow{t} \beta$  such that

$$\mathcal{T} \not\vdash \alpha \xrightarrow{t} \beta.$$

We then construct a model satisfying  $\mathcal{T}$  but not  $\alpha \xrightarrow{t} \beta$ .



# Two technical difficulties of the completeness proof

*A standard completeness proof:*

We take a theory  $\mathcal{T}$  and an implication  $\alpha \xrightarrow{t} \beta$  such that

$$\mathcal{T} \not\vdash \alpha \xrightarrow{t} \beta.$$

We then construct a model satisfying  $\mathcal{T}$  but not  $\alpha \xrightarrow{t} \beta$ .

To this end, we take the Boolean algebra  $\mathcal{B}$  of 1-similar propositional formulas.

# Two technical difficulties of the completeness proof

*A standard completeness proof:*

We take a theory  $\mathcal{T}$  and an implication  $\alpha \xrightarrow{t} \beta$  such that

$$\mathcal{T} \not\vdash \alpha \xrightarrow{t} \beta.$$

We then construct a model satisfying  $\mathcal{T}$  but not  $\alpha \xrightarrow{t} \beta$ .

To this end, we take the Boolean algebra  $\mathcal{B}$  of 1-similar propositional formulas.

We then define a similarity between two propositions by

$$d(\alpha, \beta) = \sup\{t \in [0, 1] : \mathcal{T} \vdash \alpha \xrightarrow{t} \beta\}.$$

# The technical difficulties

“Symmetry” problem:

From  $\varphi \xrightarrow{d} \psi$ ,  
nothing follows  
concerning  
 $\psi \xrightarrow{d'} \varphi$ .

# The technical difficulties

“Symmetry” problem:

From  $\varphi \xrightarrow{d} \psi$ ,  
nothing follows  
concerning  
 $\psi \xrightarrow{d'} \varphi$ .

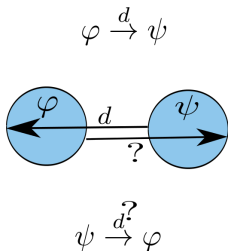
“Conjunction” problem:

From  $\varphi \xrightarrow{t} \alpha \vee \beta$ ,  
we cannot conclude  
that there are  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2$  such that  
 $\varphi_1 \xrightarrow{t} \alpha$ ,  $\varphi_2 \xrightarrow{t} \beta$ ,  $\varphi \xrightarrow{1} \varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2$ .

# The technical difficulties

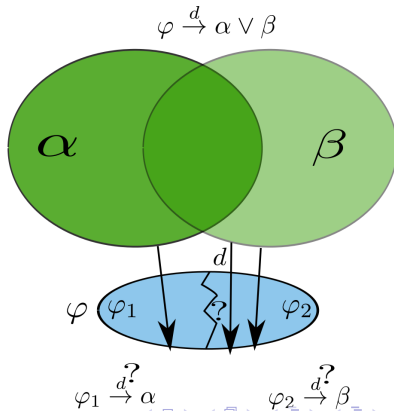
“Symmetry” problem:

From  $\varphi \xrightarrow{d} \psi$ ,  
nothing follows  
concerning  
 $\psi \xrightarrow{d'} \varphi$ .



“Conjunction” problem:

From  $\varphi \xrightarrow{t} \alpha \vee \beta$ ,  
we cannot conclude  
that there are  $\varphi_1, \varphi_2$  such that  
 $\varphi_1 \xrightarrow{t} \alpha$ ,  $\varphi_2 \xrightarrow{t} \beta$ ,  $\varphi \xrightarrow{1} \varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2$ .



# First approach: finiteness

(L. GODO, R. RODRÍGUEZ)

We assume that there is a **fixed finite number  $n$  of variables**.

# First approach: finiteness

(LL. GODO, R. RODRÍGUEZ)

We assume that there is a **fixed finite number  $n$  of variables**.

We include to our axioms:

$$(\chi \xrightarrow{c} \chi') \rightarrow (\chi' \xrightarrow{c} \chi) \text{ if } \chi \text{ and } \chi' \text{ are m.e.c.'s}$$

$$(\chi \xrightarrow{c} \varphi \vee \psi) \leftrightarrow (\chi \xrightarrow{c} \varphi) \vee (\chi \xrightarrow{c} \psi) \text{ if } \chi \text{ is a m.e.c.}$$

A m.e.c. is of the form  $(\neg)\varphi_1 \wedge \dots \wedge (\neg)\varphi_n$ .

Theorem (GODO, RODRÍGUEZ)

“LAEf is complete.”



Theorem (GODO, RODRÍGUEZ)

“LAEf is complete.”

- LAEf solves both problems:  
“symmetry” and “conjunction”;

## Theorem (GODO, RODRÍGUEZ)

“LAEf is complete.”

- LAEf solves both problems:  
“symmetry” and “conjunction”;
- LAEf depends on a fixed finite number of variables.

## Second approach: a further connective

We extend the language by a new connective:

$$\alpha \nearrow \beta$$

is interpreted by

$$\{w \in W : s(w, \alpha) \geq s(w, \beta)\},$$

i.e. those worlds that are **more similar to  $\alpha$  than to  $\beta$** .

## Second approach: a further connective

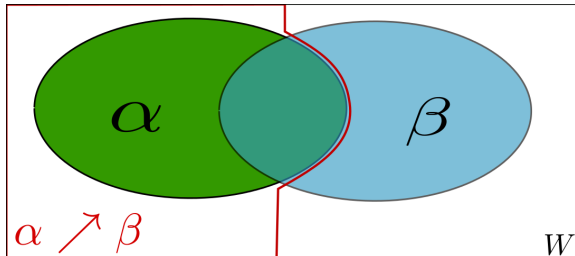
We extend the language by a new connective:

$$\alpha \nearrow \beta$$

is interpreted by

$$\{w \in W : s(w, \alpha) \geq s(w, \beta)\},$$

i.e. those worlds that are **more similar to  $\alpha$  than to  $\beta$** .



*Model:*

$W$  is endowed with a quasi-similarity relation

$s: W \times W \rightarrow [0, 1]$ :

$$(S1) \quad s(u, u) = 1 \text{ (reflexivity),}$$

$$(S2) \quad s(u, v) = 1 \text{ implies } u = v \text{ (separability),}$$

$$(S4) \quad s(u, v) \odot s(v, w) \leq s(u, w) \text{ } (\odot\text{-transitivity}).$$

# The logic LAEC

*Model:*

$W$  is endowed with a quasi-similarity relation

$s: W \times W \rightarrow [0, 1]$ :

$$(S1) \quad s(u, u) = 1 \text{ (reflexivity),}$$

$$(S2) \quad s(u, v) = 1 \text{ implies } u = v \text{ (separability),}$$

$$(S4) \quad s(u, v) \odot s(v, w) \leq s(u, w) \text{ } (\odot\text{-transitivity}).$$

The logic LAEC:

*Language:* Propositional formulas from  $\varphi_0, \varphi_1, \dots$  by  $\wedge, \vee, \neg$ .

Conditional formulas of the form  $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k \xrightarrow{d} \beta$ .

*Interpretation:* in  $\mathcal{B}$ , interpreting  $\wedge, \vee, \neg$  by  $\cap, \cup, \mathbf{C}$ ;

$$v(\alpha \nearrow \beta) = \{w \in W : s(w, v(\alpha)) \geq s(w, v(\beta))\}.$$

Satisfaction if  $v(\alpha_1) \cap \dots \cap v(\alpha_k) \subseteq U_d(v(\beta))$ .

# Proof system for LAEC

$$\frac{\Gamma, \alpha, \beta \xrightarrow{d} \gamma}{\Gamma, \alpha \wedge \beta \xrightarrow{d} \gamma} \quad \frac{\Gamma \xrightarrow{d} \beta}{\Gamma, \alpha \xrightarrow{d} \beta} \quad \frac{\Gamma, \alpha \xrightarrow{d} \gamma \quad \Gamma, \beta \xrightarrow{d} \gamma}{\Gamma, \alpha \vee \beta \xrightarrow{d} \gamma} \quad \frac{\Gamma \xrightarrow{d} \alpha}{\Gamma \xrightarrow{d} \alpha \vee \beta}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \xrightarrow{c} \beta \nearrow \alpha \quad \Gamma \xrightarrow{d} \alpha}{\Gamma \xrightarrow{c^2 \odot d} \beta} \quad \frac{\alpha \xrightarrow{1} \beta}{\top \xrightarrow{1} \beta \nearrow \alpha}$$

$$\alpha \xrightarrow{1} \alpha \nearrow \beta \quad \alpha \nearrow \beta, \beta \nearrow \gamma \xrightarrow{1} \alpha \nearrow \gamma$$

$$\frac{\Gamma, \alpha \nearrow \beta \xrightarrow{d} \gamma \quad \Gamma, (\neg \alpha \wedge \beta) \nearrow \alpha \xrightarrow{d} \gamma}{\Gamma \xrightarrow{d} \gamma} \quad \frac{\Gamma \xrightarrow{c} \alpha \quad \alpha \xrightarrow{d} \gamma}{\Gamma \xrightarrow{c \odot d} \gamma}$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \xrightarrow{c} \alpha}{\Gamma \xrightarrow{d} \alpha}, \text{ where } d \leq c \quad \frac{\Gamma \xrightarrow{d} \perp}{\Gamma \xrightarrow{1} \perp}, \text{ where } d > 0$$

$$\alpha \xrightarrow{0} \beta \quad \frac{\alpha \xrightarrow{1} \beta}{\alpha \wedge \neg \beta \xrightarrow{1} \perp} \quad \alpha \xrightarrow{1} \beta, \text{ where } \neg \alpha \vee \beta \text{ is a CPL tautology}$$

Call a theory  $\mathcal{T}$  *consistent* if  $\mathcal{T} \not\vdash \top \xrightarrow{1} \perp$ .

## Theorem (Th.V.)

Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a consistent finite theory of LAEC;  
let  $\alpha \xrightarrow{d} \beta$  be a conditional formula.

Then  $\mathcal{T}$  proves  $\alpha \xrightarrow{d} \beta$   
if and only if  
 $\mathcal{T}$  semantically entails  $\alpha \xrightarrow{d} \beta$ .



Call a theory  $\mathcal{T}$  *consistent* if  $\mathcal{T} \not\vdash \top \xrightarrow{1} \perp$ .

## Theorem (Th.V.)

Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a consistent finite theory of LAEC;  
let  $\alpha \xrightarrow{d} \beta$  be a conditional formula.

Then  $\mathcal{T}$  proves  $\alpha \xrightarrow{d} \beta$   
if and only if  
 $\mathcal{T}$  semantically entails  $\alpha \xrightarrow{d} \beta$ .

- LAEC solves “division”; it evades “symmetry”.

Call a theory  $\mathcal{T}$  *consistent* if  $\mathcal{T} \not\vdash \top \xrightarrow{1} \perp$ .

## Theorem (Th.V.)

Let  $\mathcal{T}$  be a consistent finite theory of LAEC;  
let  $\alpha \xrightarrow{d} \beta$  be a conditional formula.

Then  $\mathcal{T}$  proves  $\alpha \xrightarrow{d} \beta$   
if and only if  
 $\mathcal{T}$  semantically entails  $\alpha \xrightarrow{d} \beta$ .

- LAEC solves “division”; it evades “symmetry”.
- LAEC depends on an additional connective.

# Third approach: an embedding theorem

Recall the “symmetry” problem:

When constructing a model from a theory,  
we cannot assure the symmetry of the similarity relation.

# Third approach: an embedding theorem

Recall the “symmetry” problem:

When constructing a model from a theory,  
we cannot assure the symmetry of the similarity relation.

## Question

Can we embed in some sense a **quasi-similarity space**  
into a similarity space?

# Hausdorff quasi-similarity in similarity spaces

## Definition

Let  $(Y, d)$  be a similarity space.

For  $A, B \subseteq Y$ , we call

$$q_d(A, B) = \sup_{a \in A} \inf_{b \in B} d(a, b)$$

the **Hausdorff quasi-similarity** of  $B$  from  $A$ .

# Hausdorff quasi-similarity in similarity spaces

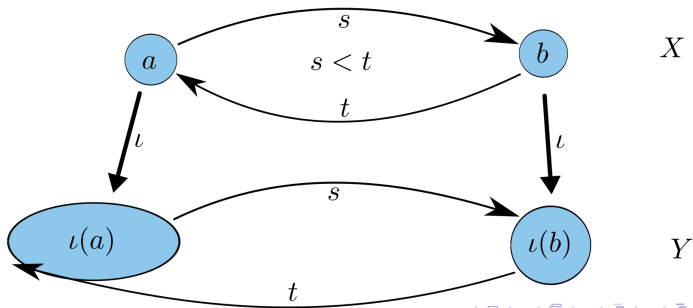
## Definition

Let  $(Y, d)$  be a similarity space.

For  $A, B \subseteq Y$ , we call

$$q_d(A, B) = \sup_{a \in A} \inf_{b \in B} d(a, b)$$

the **Hausdorff quasi-similarity** of  $B$  from  $A$ .



# Embedding theorem

## Theorem (Th.V.)

Let  $(X, q)$  be a quasi-similarity space.

Then there is a similarity space  $(Y, d)$  and a mapping

$$\iota: X \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Y),$$

such that distinct points map to disjoint subsets and

$$q(a, b) = q_d(\iota(a), \iota(b))$$

for any  $a, b \in X$ .

# Idea of the proof

Let  $(X, q)$  be the quasi-similarity space.



# Idea of the proof

Let  $(X, q)$  be the quasi-similarity space.

Let  $Y = X \times^U 2$ , where

$$U = \{(a, b) \in X^2 : q(a, b) \leq q(b, a)\}.$$

# Idea of the proof

Let  $(X, q)$  be the quasi-similarity space.

Let  $Y = X \times^U 2$ , where

$$U = \{(a, b) \in X^2 : q(a, b) \leq q(b, a)\}.$$

We define

$$\iota : X \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Y), \quad a \mapsto \{(a, (\dots))\}.$$

# Idea of the proof

Let  $(X, q)$  be the quasi-similarity space.

Let  $Y = X \times {}^U 2$ , where

$$U = \{(a, b) \in X^2 : q(a, b) \leq q(b, a)\}.$$

We define

$$\iota : X \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Y), \quad a \mapsto \{(a, (\dots))\}.$$

We let  $d$  be the largest similarity on  $Y$  such that:

$$d((a, (i_1, \dots)), (b, (i_1, \dots))) = q(a, b) \vee q(b, a);$$

$$d((a, (\dots, 0, \dots)), (b, (\dots, 1, \dots))) = q(a, b) \text{ if } (a, b) \in U$$

$$\uparrow \text{ position } (a, b) \uparrow$$

- LAE, the Logic of Approximate Entailment, is probably the most straightforward logic in the field of Approximate Reasoning.

- LAE, the Logic of Approximate Entailment, is probably the most straightforward logic in the field of Approximate Reasoning.

But in its standard version, it lacks an axiomatisation.

Two problems need to be overcome.

- LAE, the Logic of Approximate Entailment, is probably the most straightforward logic in the field of Approximate Reasoning.

But in its standard version, it lacks an axiomatisation.

Two problems need to be overcome.

- A modification: we restrict the number of variables.

- LAE, the Logic of Approximate Entailment, is probably the most straightforward logic in the field of Approximate Reasoning.

But in its standard version, it lacks an axiomatisation.

Two problems need to be overcome.

- A modification: we restrict the number of variables.
- An extension: we add a comparative connective.

- LAE, the Logic of Approximate Entailment, is probably the most straightforward logic in the field of Approximate Reasoning.

But in its standard version, it lacks an axiomatisation.

Two problems need to be overcome.

- A modification: we restrict the number of variables.
- An extension: we add a comparative connective.
- An embedding: we enlarge quasi-similarity spaces to similarity spaces.



# What remains to do

- Concerning LAEC:
  - The completeness proof should be simplified.

# What remains to do

- Concerning LAEC:
  - The completeness proof should be simplified.
  - The embedding theorem should help to get rid of the “asymmetry”.

# What remains to do

- Concerning LAEC:
  - The completeness proof should be simplified.
  - The embedding theorem should help to get rid of the “asymmetry”.
- Ultimate aim:
  - an axiomatisation of the unmodified LAE.