Seminar Winter Term 2015
Beliefs and Causality

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What is this seminar about?

- Robots etc. usually don’t know everything
- Sometimes their beliefs are wrong
- Things happen in the world, things change
- What changes? How do beliefs change?
- Logical reasoning

Your task:

- Read paper(s) about a topic
- Write and talk about it
- Read and listen to the others
Five stages:

1. Understand literature; explain to me  
   - 5 weeks

2. Write and submit the seminar paper  
   - 8 weeks

3. Review two fellow students’ seminar papers  
   - 3 weeks

4. Prepare final seminar paper and slides  
   - 2 weeks

5. Give talk, listen to others, ask questions  
   - 11 February 2016
Given literature is a **starting point for own literature search**. You need to read a number of references to complete the picture!

- Develop your own examples to show deep understanding
- Criticize where appropriate; compare to other approaches
- Write about 20 pages (including references)
- English mandatory; \LaTeX\ highly recommended
- Use the template from the seminar website
Your review should help your fellow student to improve his seminar paper and prove that you read it thoroughly!

- Summary of the seminar paper (≈ 3 sentences)
- Things you liked about it (≈ 1 paragraph)
- Major comments (e.g., what’s hard to understand?)
- Minor comments (e.g., typos)

- Reviewing should be **anonymous**
- **Plain text** following the above structure
- Do **not** annotate the seminar paper inline (no attachments)
Your talk should convey the idea and intuition as well as the major results, and show that you know what you’re talking about.

- Use examples and pictures and abstract from formal details
- Try to offer something for everybody:
  - start gently with informal examples to motivate problem and sketch solution (first 40%)
  - then go deeper into details (next 30%)
  - conclude at a high level of abstraction (last 10%)
- Slides should be in PDF; \LaTeX{} recommended

- Talk: 35 minutes (do not exceed!)
- Discussion: 10 minutes
- Practice your talk
- Be prepared for questions (perhaps with back-up slides)
We use a conference system (EasyChair) for the seminar

- Seminar paper must be submitted there
- Reviews must be submitted there
- Revised seminar paper must be submitted there

- Deadlines are **firm**
- You can update your submission until the deadline
- There’s no excuse for missing deadlines

- [https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=sembc2015](https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=sembc2015)
Up to three weeks from now on you are allowed to recede from the seminar without any consequences. A later rescission will be graded as a failed attempt!
1. Belief Revision by Sets of Formulas
2. Argumentation Theory and Belief Revision
3. Pearl–Halpern Model of Causality
4. Approximate Probabilistic Reasoning
5. Planning with Beliefs and Sensing
2015-10-05: Introductory meeting

2015-10-05: Get an EasyChair account

until 2015-11-06: Discuss literature with me

2016-01-01: Paper submission deadline

2016-01-22: Review deadline

2016-02-05: Paper camera-ready version

2016-02-11: Seminar talks

Keep the deadlines: (re)submit early and often!

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1 https://www.easychair.org/conferences/?conf=sembc2015

2 By this date you must have submitted

3 By this date you must have written and submitted your reviews

4 By this date you must have submitted your final seminar paper