

On the Difference between Updating a Knowledge Base and Revising it:

Survey Talk on the KR '1991 Paper by
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Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Revision and Update
 - KB Revision
 - KB Update
- 3 Contraction and Erasure
 - Contraction
 - Erasure
- 4 Unifying Revision and Update Operations: Time Aspect

KB Evolution: Revision vs. Update

A Knowledge Base (KB) can eventually become inadequate and require change.

Notation

- ψ is a KB. Models, $Mod(\psi)$, of ψ describe *possible worlds*.
- μ specifies the **change** to be incorporated into ϕ .
- The authors argue that change caused by adding μ to ψ are mainly of two different kinds.

Possible Causes for KB Evolution

- The world described by the KB ψ changes.
 μ is called **update** in this case. Notation: $\psi \diamond \mu$.
- New knowledge about the world becomes available.
 ψ requires **revision** μ , denoted as $\psi \circ \mu$.

Update

Make each possible world a model of μ by some minimal change.

Revision

Invalidate possible worlds which are far enough from μ .

Possible Causes for KB Evolution

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Example

ψ = “Joe’s GF often cancels their dates lately”

\wedge “She is 30 minutes late now”

\wedge (\heartsuit : “She is serious about Joe” \vee \clubsuit : “. . . far less than about her cat”)

μ = “Came late because she was at a movie with another guy.”

$\mu \Rightarrow \neg \heartsuit$:-)

Update: doesn’t allow you to infer \clubsuit

Revision: allows you to also infer \clubsuit

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KB Revision

Suppose old KB is given by ψ and new knowledge μ , the knowledge revision operator \circ is defined as:

Definition (KB Revision)

$\psi \circ \mu$ is the propositional theory s.t. $Mod(\psi \circ \mu)$ are the set of models of μ that are **closest** to the set of models of ψ

Closeness could be defined using Dalal's [Dalal, 1988] notion of distance, hence,

$$Mod(\psi \circ \mu) = \{I \in Mod(\mu) \mid \nexists I' \in Mod(\mu) \text{ s.t.} \\ distance(Mod(\psi), I') < distance(Mod(\psi), I)\}$$

Distance [Dalal, 1988]

$$\begin{aligned} \text{diff}(I_1, I_2) &= \{p \in \mathbb{P} \mid I_1(p) \neq I_2(p)\}, \\ \text{distance}(I_1, I_2) &= |\text{diff}(I_1, I_2)|. \end{aligned}$$

For a set of models M ,

$$\text{distance}(M, I_1) = \min\{\text{distance}(I_2, I_1) \mid I_2 \in M\}.$$

Example

5 objects A, B, C, D, E and a *table* are in a room. The 5 Objects may be **on** or **off** the table. The sentence **a** intuitively means “Object A is on the table”. Similarly **b, c, d, e** are interpreted. Suppose old KB ψ is the sentence

$$\psi = (a \wedge \neg b \wedge \neg c \wedge \neg d \wedge \neg e) \vee (\neg a \wedge \neg b \wedge c \wedge d \wedge e)$$

Example (Contd.)

$$\mu = (a \wedge b \wedge c \wedge d \wedge e) \vee (\neg a \wedge \neg b \wedge \neg c \wedge \neg d \wedge \neg e)$$

$$\text{Mod}(\psi) = \{l_1, l_2\}, \text{ where } l_1 = \{a\}, l_2 = \{c, d, e\}$$

$$\text{Mod}(\mu) = \{l_3, l_4\}, \text{ where } l_3 = \{a, b, c, d, e\}, l_4 = \{\}.$$

$$\text{diff}(l_1, l_3) = \{b, c, d, e\}, \text{ diff}(l_2, l_3) = \{a, b\},$$

$$\text{distance}(l_1, l_3) = 4, \quad \text{distance}(l_2, l_3) = 2,$$

$$\text{hence, } \text{distance}(\text{Mod}(\psi), l_3) = \min\{4, 2\} = 2.$$

$$\text{diff}(l_1, l_4) = \{a\}, \text{ diff}(l_2, l_4) = \{c, d, e\},$$

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Example (Contd.)

$$\mathit{distance}(I_1, I_4) = 1, \mathit{distance}(I_2, I_4) = 3,$$

$$\text{hence, } \mathit{distance}(\mathit{Mod}(\psi), I_4) = \min\{1, 3\} = 1.$$

$$\text{Recall, } \mathit{distance}(\mathit{Mod}(\psi), I_3) = 2$$

$$\text{which means } \mathit{Mod}(\psi \circ \mu) = I_4.$$

$$\text{Hence, } \psi \circ \mu \equiv \neg a \wedge \neg b \wedge \neg c \wedge \neg d \wedge \neg e.$$

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Revision Postulates [Alchourrón et al. 1985]

R1 $\psi \circ \mu$ implies μ .

R2 If $\psi \wedge \mu$ is satisfiable then $\psi \circ \mu \equiv \psi \wedge \mu$.

R3 If μ is satisfiable then $\psi \circ \mu$ is satisfiable.

R4 If $\psi_1 \equiv \psi_2$ and $\mu_1 \equiv \mu_2$ then $\psi_1 \circ \mu_1 \equiv \psi_2 \circ \mu_2$.

R5 If $(\psi \circ \mu) \wedge \phi$ implies $\psi \circ (\mu \wedge \phi)$.

R6 If $(\psi \circ \mu) \wedge \phi$ is satisfiable then $\psi \circ (\mu \wedge \phi)$ implies $(\psi \circ \mu) \wedge \phi$.

Orders between interpretations

Let \mathcal{I} be the set of all interpretations over a language \mathcal{L} .
 A *preorder* \leq over \mathcal{I} is a *reflexive* and *transitive* relation on \mathcal{I} .
 Define $<$ as $I < I'$ iff $I \leq I'$ and $I' \not\leq I$.

Suppose we assign every formula ψ , a preorder \leq_ψ over \mathcal{I} .
 This assignment is **faithful** iff:

- 1 If $I, I' \in \text{Mod}(\psi)$ then $I <_\psi I'$ does not hold.
- 2 If $I \in \text{Mod}(\psi)$ and $I' \notin \text{Mod}(\psi)$ then $I <_\psi I'$ holds.
- 3 If $\psi \equiv \phi$ then $\leq_\psi = \leq_\phi$.

For any $M \subseteq \mathcal{I}$, $\text{Min}(M, \leq_\psi)$ be the set of all interpretations I s.t.
 I is minimal in M w.r.t. \leq_ψ .

Soundness and Completeness

Theorem (Soundness and Completeness)

Revision operator \circ satisfies postulates (R1)-(R6) iff there exists a faithful assignment that maps each KB ψ to a total preorder \leq_ψ s.t. $\text{Mod}(\psi \circ \mu) = \text{Min}(\text{Mod}(\mu), \leq_\psi)$.

KB Update

Suppose old KB is given by ψ and new knowledge μ , the knowledge update operator \diamond is defined as:

Definition (KB Update)

$\psi \diamond \mu$ is the propositional theory s.t.

$$\text{Mod}(\psi \diamond \mu) = \bigcup_{I \in \text{Mod}(\psi)} \text{closest}(\text{Mod}(\mu), I)$$

Closeness could be the following notion: for any interpretations I, J_1, J_2 , $J_1 \leq_I J_2$ iff $\text{diff}(J_1, I) \subseteq \text{diff}(J_2, I)$.

$\text{closest}(\text{Mod}(\mu), I) = \text{Min}(\text{Mod}(\mu), \leq_I)$, i.e the set of all minimal elements in $\text{Mod}(\mu)$ w.r.t. \leq_I relation.

Example

Suppose now there are only two objects A, B , and the table. Proposition a means “object A is on the table”, similarly for b . Now our KB ψ is s.t.

$$\psi \equiv (a \wedge \neg b) \vee (\neg a \wedge b),$$

and the new knowledge μ is s.t. $\mu \equiv b$.

$Mod(\psi) = \{I_1, I_2\}$, where $I_1 = \{a\}$, $I_2 = \{b\}$, and

$Mod(\mu) = \{I_3, I_4\}$, where $I_3 = \{b\}$, $I_4 = \{a, b\}$.

$diff(I_1, I_3) = \{a, b\}$, $diff(I_1, I_4) = \{b\}$, hence, $I_4 \leq_{I_1} I_3$

$diff(I_2, I_3) = \emptyset$, $diff(I_2, I_4) = \{a\}$, hence, $I_3 \leq_{I_2} I_4$

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Example (Contd.)

Hence, we have

$closest(Mod(\mu), I_1) = I_4$, and $closest(Mod(\mu), I_2) = I_3$.

Hence, $Mod(\psi \diamond \mu) = \bigcup_{I \in Mod(\psi)} closest(Mod(\mu), I) = \{I_3, I_4\}$,

and hence, updated KB $\psi \diamond \mu \equiv b$

Whereas $Mod(\psi \circ \mu) = I_3$, and

hence, revised KB $\psi \circ \mu \equiv \neg a \wedge b$.

Update Postulates

- U1** $\psi \diamond \mu$ implies μ
- U2** If ψ implies μ then $\psi \diamond \mu$ is equivalent to ψ
- U3** If both ψ and μ are satisfiable then $\psi \diamond \mu$ is also satisfiable.
- U4** If $\psi_1 \equiv \psi_2$ and $\mu_1 \equiv \mu_2$ then $\psi_1 \diamond \mu_1 \equiv \psi_2 \diamond \mu_2$.
- U5** $(\psi \diamond \mu) \wedge \phi$ implies $\psi \diamond (\mu \wedge \phi)$.
- U6** If $\psi \diamond \mu_1$ implies μ_2 and $\psi \diamond \mu_2$ implies μ_1 then $\psi \diamond \mu_1 \equiv \psi \diamond \mu_2$.
- U7** If ψ is complete then $(\psi \diamond \mu_1) \wedge (\psi \diamond \mu_2)$ implies $\psi \diamond (\mu_1 \vee \mu_2)$.
- U8** $(\psi_1 \vee \psi_2) \diamond \mu \equiv (\psi_1 \diamond \mu) \vee (\psi_2 \diamond \mu)$.

Lemma

If ψ is inconsistent, then $\psi \diamond \mu$ is inconsistent for any μ .

Orders between interpretations

Let \mathcal{I} be the set of all interpretations over a language \mathcal{L} .
 Suppose we assign, to each interpretation I , a partial preorder \leq_I over \mathcal{I} . This assignment is said to be **faithful** iff:

- For any $J \in \mathcal{I}$, If $J \neq I$ then $I <_I J$.

Theorem (Soundness and Completeness)

The update operator \diamond satisfies postulates U1-U8 iff there exists a faithful assignment that maps each interpretation I to a partial pre-order \leq_I s.t.

$$\text{Mod}(\psi \diamond \mu) = \bigcup_{I \in \text{Mod}(\psi)} \text{Min}(\text{Mod}(\mu), \leq_I).$$

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Example (Now Joe is certain.)

ψ = “Joe’s GF often cancels their dates lately”

\wedge “She is 30 minutes late now”

$\wedge \heartsuit$: “She is serious about Joe”

μ = “Late because she was at a movie with another guy.”

- $\psi \circ \mu = \psi \wedge \mu \wedge \neg \heartsuit$ makes $\psi \circ \mu$ inconsistent.
- **Contraction** operator: give up compromised beliefs (\heartsuit in our case).

Contraction

Eliminating sentences from the KB which are no longer trusted.

Postulates [Alchourrón et al. 1985]

$$\text{C1 } \psi \implies \psi \bullet \mu$$

$$\text{C2 } \psi \not\vdash \mu \implies \psi \bullet \mu \equiv \psi$$

$$\text{C3 } \mu \not\equiv \top \implies \psi \bullet \mu \not\vdash \mu$$

$$\text{C4 } \psi_1 \equiv \psi_2 \wedge \mu_1 \equiv \mu_2 \implies \psi_1 \bullet \mu_1 \equiv \psi_2 \bullet \mu_2$$

$$\text{C5 } (\psi \bullet \mu) \wedge \mu \implies \psi$$

Contraction vs. Revision [Alchourrón et al. 1985]

$$R1 \quad \psi \circ \mu \implies \mu.$$

$$R2 \quad \psi \wedge \mu \not\equiv \perp \implies \psi \circ \mu \equiv \psi \wedge \mu.$$

$$R3 \quad \mu \not\equiv \perp \implies \psi \circ \mu \not\equiv \perp.$$

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$$C1 \quad \psi \implies \psi \bullet \mu$$

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$$C5 \quad (\psi \bullet \mu) \wedge \mu \implies \psi$$

Revision \Rightarrow Contraction

- If \circ is a revision operator satisfying properties (R1)–(R4), then \bullet defined as $\psi \bullet \mu \equiv \psi \vee (\psi \circ \neg\mu)$ satisfies (C1)–(C5)

Contraction \Rightarrow Revision

- If \bullet is a contraction operator satisfying (C1)–(C5), then \circ defined as $\psi \circ \mu \equiv (\psi \bullet \neg\mu) \wedge \mu$ satisfies (P1)–(P4)

Erasure: Contracting All Possible Worlds

Contraction only works for facts known for sure:

- Recall the postulate (C2) $\psi \not\vdash \mu \implies \psi \bullet \mu \equiv \psi$

Example (Original version)

ψ = “Joe’s GF often cancels their dates lately”

\wedge “She is 30 minutes late now”

$\wedge (\heartsuit : \text{“She is serious about Joe”} \vee \clubsuit : \text{“...far less than about her cat”})$

Contraction of \heartsuit does nothing here: $\psi \bullet \heartsuit = \psi$, since $\psi \not\vdash \heartsuit$. That is, \heartsuit is not part of all possible worlds.

Suppose Joe is fed up and decides to break up. He is determined and therefore sure that \heartsuit should not be implied by any possible world.

The version of contraction that works on all possible worlds is called erasure. It is a form of *update*.

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Erasure: Contraction-like Counterpart to Update

Postulates of the Erasure operator

$$E1 \quad \psi \implies \psi \blacklozenge \mu$$

$$E2 \quad \psi \rightarrow \neg \mu \implies \psi \blacklozenge \mu \equiv \psi$$

$$(C2) \quad \psi \nrightarrow \mu \implies \psi \bullet \mu \equiv \psi$$

$$E3 \quad \psi \not\equiv \perp \wedge \mu \not\equiv \top \implies \psi \blacklozenge \mu \nrightarrow \mu$$

$$(C3) \quad \mu \not\equiv \top \implies \psi \bullet \mu \nrightarrow \mu$$

$$E4 \quad (\psi_1 \equiv \psi_2) \wedge (\mu_1 \equiv \mu_2) \implies \psi_1 \blacklozenge \mu_1 \equiv \psi_2 \blacklozenge \mu_2$$

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$$E8 \quad (\psi_1 \vee \psi_2) \blacklozenge \mu \iff (\psi_1 \blacklozenge \mu) \vee (\psi_2 \blacklozenge \mu)$$

Example (Erasure works on every possible world = disjunct)

Let $\psi = \theta \wedge (\heartsuit \vee \clubsuit)$.

$$\psi \blacklozenge \heartsuit \stackrel{(E8)}{=} ((\theta \wedge \heartsuit) \blacklozenge \heartsuit) \vee ((\theta \wedge \clubsuit) \blacklozenge \heartsuit) \stackrel{(E3)}{=} \theta \vee (\theta \wedge \clubsuit) \blacklozenge \heartsuit$$

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Erasure vs. Update

$$U1 \quad \psi \diamond \mu \implies \mu$$

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Theorem

1 If an update operator \diamond satisfies (U1)–(U4) and (U8), then the erasure operator \blacklozenge defined by $\psi \blacklozenge \mu \equiv \psi \vee (\psi \diamond \neg \mu)$ satisfies (E1)–(E5) and (E8).

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Theorem

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Theorem

- 3 Suppose that an update operator \diamond satisfies (U1)–(U4) and (U8). Then, we can define an erasure operator by $\psi \blacklozenge \mu \equiv \psi \vee (\psi \diamond \neg \mu)$. The update operator obtained from the erasure operator by $\psi \diamond \mu \equiv (\psi \blacklozenge \neg \mu) \wedge \mu$ is equal to the original update operator.

Erasure vs. Update

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Theorem

- ④ *Suppose that an erasure operator \blacklozenge satisfies (E1)–(E5) and (E8). Then, we can define an update operator by $\psi \diamond \mu \equiv (\psi \blacklozenge \neg \mu) \wedge \mu$. The erasure operator obtained from the update operator by $\psi \blacklozenge \mu \equiv \psi \vee (\psi \diamond \neg \mu)$ is equal to the original erasure operator.*

Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Revision and Update
 - KB Revision
 - KB Update
- 3 Contraction and Erasure
 - Contraction
 - Erasure
- 4 Unifying Revision and Update Operations: Time Aspect

How to tell if μ is a revision or an update?

- Time parameter: t .
- Parameterized KB has the form $\langle \psi, t \rangle$.
- New operator: $Tell(\mu, t') \langle \psi, t \rangle = \begin{cases} \langle \psi \circ \mu, t \rangle & \text{if } t' = t \\ \langle \psi \diamond \mu, t' \rangle & \text{if } t' > t \end{cases}$

In this framework, the type of the change is done automatically based on the relationship between the time instant of the KB and that of the change:

- Change now ($t' = t$) \implies That's about the knowledge.
- Change in the future ($t' > t$) \implies That's about the world.

Example

Recall the example with two objects A, B on the table.

- $\langle \psi = (a \wedge \neg b) \vee (\neg a \wedge b), 10:00 \rangle$.
- New knowledge: **it's surely the object B on the table.**
 $Tell(b, 10:00) \langle \psi, 10:00 \rangle$
 $\implies \langle \psi \circ b, 10:00 \rangle = \langle (b \wedge \neg a), 10:00 \rangle$
- Sent robot to put the object B on the table.
 $Tell(b, 10:05) \langle \psi, 10:00 \rangle$
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THANKS

Thanks for your attention
Questions?



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