

國立中正大學哲學系學術演講

【講者】

張寄冀

香港中文大學哲學系教授

【講題】

Selection Effect and Interventionist Decision Theory

The debate over causal versus evidential decision theory usually centers on variations of Newcomb's paradox. In a typical instance of such scenarios, a common cause of choice and outcome induces a 'spurious correlation' that renders choice evidentially but not causally relevant to the outcome. Recently, the so-called 'exotic choice' scenarios are used to pose an extra challenge to the interventionist version of causal decision theory. These scenarios are called 'exotic' because they feature fantastic foreknowledge of states in the causal downstream of the choice, which is employed to generate selection-induced correlation. In this paper, I show that there are more realistic decision scenarios that advance the same challenge. Instead of relying on foreknowledge to create a selection effect, these cases build selection directly into the payoff structure itself. I argue that these novel decision problems are more effective in posing the alleged challenge, but they also suggest a perspective that ultimately disarms it.

【時間】

2025/12/24 (三) 15:10~17:00

【地點】

文學院 412 研討室