

令和元年6月26日現在

機関番号：33402

研究種目：基盤研究(C) (一般)

研究期間：2016～2018

課題番号：16K02110

研究課題名(和文) Vagueness in Decision-Making: Bringing Philosophy and Social Sciences Together

研究課題名(英文) Vagueness in Decision-Making: Bringing Philosophy and Social Sciences Together

研究代表者

ディーツ リチャード (DIETZ, Richard)

山梨学院大学・国際リベラルアーツ学部・特任准教授

研究者番号：10625651

交付決定額(研究期間全体)：(直接経費) 3,500,000円

研究成果の概要(和文)：私の研究の結果は以下の2点です。曖昧さと確率に関する論文集。曖昧な分類の確率的性質と合理的帰納推論に対する曖昧な確率の影響について議論します。あいまいさと合理性に関する論文集。あいまいさの合理性と合理的な意思決定に対する曖昧な好みの影響が議論されている。論文では、私は曖昧なカテゴリー化をグレーディング行動と密接に結びつける曖昧さの新しい説明を展開しています。曖昧さはある種の満足のいく行動、すなわち有界合理性の種です。別の論文では、私は曖昧さを含む合理的選択に対する異なる規範的制約と価値関係の異なる概念との間の関連を描く、曖昧な選好の規範的理論への多元論的アプローチを擁護する。

研究成果の学術的意義や社会的意義

My research brought approaches from social sciences to vagueness fruitfully to bear on the philosophical discussion of vagueness; and likewise, the metaphysics of value relations to questions of value theory.

研究成果の概要(英文)：My research resulted in the publication of two major editorial projects: first, a collection of papers on vagueness and probability, in which the probabilistic nature of vague categorization and implications of vague probabilities for rational inductive inference are discussed; second, a collection of papers on vagueness and rationality, in which the rationality of vagueness and the impact of vague preferences on rational decision making are discussed. In a paper (under review), I develop a novel account of vagueness that ties vague categorisation closely with grading behaviour: according to this, vagueness is a kind of satisficing behaviour, that is, a species of bounded rationality. In another paper (under review), I defend a pluralistic approach to the normative theory of vague preferences, drawing a connection between different normative constraints on rational choice involving vagueness and different conceptions of value relations

研究分野：Formal Epistemology, Decision Theory. etc

キーワード：Vagueness Higher-order vagueness Paradox Rationality Decision-Making Communication

様式 C - 19、F - 19 - 1、Z - 19、CK - 19 (共通)

1. 研究開始当初の背景

I got interested in the philosophy of vagueness during my time as a graduate student at the University of Oxford, where I wrote a PhD thesis on the epistemology and semantics of vague languages under the supervision of Prof. Timothy Williamson. My first research project on vagueness that was funded by JSPS focused on the foundations of vagueness. The main result of this project were a number of papers on the psychological foundations of vagueness in categorisation.

2. 研究の目的

The philosophical discussion on vagueness, which goes back to antiquity, has been centered on conceptual problems relating to paradoxes that vagueness gives rise to. The more recent literature on vagueness in social sciences (psychology, economics, linguistics), by contrast, has provided new insights into vagueness as a phenomenon in practical decision-making. This 2nd project on vagueness funded by JSPS aimed to bring these traditions together and thereby shed new light on the conceptual problem of vagueness and on vagueness as a rational behaviour of decision-makers. The objectives of my project were two-fold: (1) To discuss the impact of vagueness in probability and vagueness in preferences on the theory of rational decision making. (2) To give an account of vagueness in terms of decision making and to show how to resolve paradoxes of vagueness in terms of decision theory.

3. 研究の方法

The discussion of problem (1) took its methodological guideline from formal epistemology, specifically from Bayesianism (as the major paradigm in the theory of probability) and expected utility theory (as the major paradigm of decision theory). This strand of my research focused on plausible extensions of standard utility theory for a case where preferences are not precise but vague. The discussion of problem (2) took its methodological guideline from the previous philosophical discussion of vagueness, which is very much framed in terms of logical consequence and in terms of linguistic intuitions about the use of vague expressions.

4. 研究成果

The Kakenhi research Grant was a great help for me in allowing me to support research talks at and visits to departments in Japan and abroad. My domestic research talks were given at the Department of Philosophy at the University of Tokyo (June 2016, July 2016, November 2017, and December 2017), the Institute for Cultural and Linguistic Studies at Keio University (December 2016), at Tokyo Metropolitan University (October 2016), the University of Hokkaido, Sapporo (October 2016) and the Department of Philosophy at Hiroshima University (July 2016, and July 2018). Abroad, I gave research talks at Seoul National University (August 2016), the University of Hamburg (February 2017, March 2018, and August 2018), Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (August 2018), and National University of Singapore (August 2018). A further research visit abroad led to me the Hebrew University of Jerusalem where I had extensive discussions about my research with Dr Aviv Hoffmann (March 2018).

As a result, I could carry out and complete a number of projects, some of which have been published. The first project was an editorial project on vagueness and probability, which appeared as a special issue in the international peer-reviewed journal *Synthese*. In this project, I brought together a team of international experts with contributions on the connection between vagueness and probability. The project offers various perspectives for one, the impact of vague gradable belief on expectations, for another on probabilistic conceptions of vague categorisation. My contributed introduction to this volume gives a survey of various models of vague probability and of probabilistic approaches to vagueness.

As another major result was another editorial project on vagueness and rationality. The project brought together ten leading experts on the subject; its title is *Vagueness and Rationality: Trends in Current Research on Rationality in Vague Language Language Use and Cognition*, and it is in print with the international publishing house Springer (Heidelberg/Berlin, Germany), with the official publication date being in September 2019. The project offers various perspectives for one, on the impact of vague preferences on decision-making, for another on models of vague categorization as a species of rational behavior.

As a further publication, my paper “Epistemic disagreement” investigates the thesis that vague questions may allow for truth-valuations that may vary with assessment perspectives. In this paper, I defend a contextualist approach to vagueness in truth-valuations against a truth-relativist challenge.

Some other projects led to papers that have been meanwhile completed and are now under review.

In my submitted paper “Why there is no vagueness (in the Russellian sense)” (long version: ~ 37.000 words; shortened version: ~ 20.000 words). I develop a philosophical account of the paradox of vagueness from the perspective of rational decision-making. I present and defend the thesis that the notion of vagueness, in its full-fledged philosophical sense, is a theoretical artifact and should be revised by a more realistic, praxis-oriented notion—which is not susceptible to paradox.

In my further submitted paper “Maximisation, competitiveness, and the structure of value relations”, I study the structural implications of vagueness for decision-making. I give a novel unified account of two problems of choice-worthiness: for one, the problem of maximization (how to choose rationally between options if evaluative comparisons of their “goodness” involve vagueness?); for another, the problem of competitiveness (how to choose rationally between options if we are uncertain about their outcomes?). I present and defend the view that depending on whether we adopt a scarce, substantive or an abundant, derivative notion of value relations, different answers are suggested.

To discuss some of my work more intensively with researchers from Japan and abroad, I organised two conference events at the University of Tokyo. At the start, in June 2016, I organised a conference with the title “Language and Reality”, which brought together a number of domestic researchers from Japan and researchers from the University of Hamburg, Germany. To conclude my project, I organised the conference “Rationality, Representation, and Reality” in December 2019.

Lastly, my Kakenhi Grant made it also possible for me to fund the research visits by two international researchers: Dr Aviv Hoffmann (Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Nov 28-Dec 19, 2018) and Prof. Nicholas J.J. Smith (University of Sydney, Feb 11-24, 2019).

I am most grateful to the Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science for having supported my three years project on vagueness and rationality, which bore out many fruits. I am very much indebted to your institution.

5 . 主な発表論文等

[雑誌論文](計3件)

Dietz, R. (2017): Vagueness and probability: introduction. *Synthese* 194: 3693-3698.

Dietz, R. (2017): Epistemic disagreement, *Tetsugaku-Zashi* 131: 98-135. URL: <http://www.yuhikaku.co.jp/books/detail/9784641499096>

Dietz, R. (2019): Introduction. In Dietz, R. (ed.), *Vagueness and Rationality: Trends in Current Research on Rationality in Vague Language Language Use and Cognition*, Berlin/Heidelberg: Springer. (in print)
[<https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783030159306>]

[学会発表](計14件)

Confirmation and aboutness, Language & Reality conference, University of Tokyo, June 25, 2016.

Natural Language semantics of gradability and value theory, Hiroshima University, July 5, 2016.

Gradability, vagueness, and parity, Tokyo Forum for Analytic Philosophy, University of Tokyo, July 15, 2016.

Notes on delineationism, Conference for Contemporary Philosophy in East Asia, Seoul National University, August 20.

Comment on Franz Berto's "Modal Meinongianism: Conceiving the Impossible", Workshop on Meinongianism: Non-existence, Contradiction, and Meta-Ontology, Tokyo Metropolitan University, Oct 15, 2016.

Gradability, vagueness, and parity, SOCREAL, Hokkaido University, Sapporo, October 30, 2016.

Gradability, vagueness, and parity, Semantics Research Group, Keio University, December 9, 2016.

Plans, Reasons, Values: Reconceptualising Vagueness, Conference in honour of Professor Masaki Ichinose, University of Tokyo, December 23, 2017.

Reconceptualising vagueness, Representation in Mind & Language Symposium, Philosophy of Science Society of Japan conference, University of Tokyo, November 18, 2017.

Decision Making with Imprecise Preferences: Revisiting the Opaque Sweetening Problem, Knowledge & Decisions Workshop, Dept. of Philosophy, University of Hamburg, March 19, 2018.

Self-talk without self-communication, Setouchi Philosophy Forum, Hiroshima University, June 30-July 1, 2019.

Confirmation and aboutness, Hamburg-Japan Philosophy Workshop, August 24, 2018, University of Hamburg.

Confirmation and aboutness, National University of Singapore, August 30, 2018.

Confirmation and aboutness, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, August 31, 2018.

[図書] (計 2 件)

Dietz, R., (ed.) (2017): Vagueness and Probability. Special issue, Synthese volume 194 issue 10.

Dietz, R., (ed.) (2019): Vagueness and Rationality: Trends in Current Research on Rationality in Vague Language Language Use and Cognition, Berlin/Heidelberg: Springer. (in print) [<https://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783030159306>]

[産業財産権]

出願状況 (計 0 件)

名称 :

発明者 :

権利者 :

種類 :

番号 :

出願年 :

国内外の別 :

取得状況 (計 件)

名称 :

発明者 :

権利者 :

種類 :

番号 :

取得年：
国内外の別：

〔その他〕
ホームページ等

6. 研究組織

(1) 研究分担者

研究分担者氏名：

ローマ字氏名：

所属研究機関名：

部局名：

職名：

研究者番号（8桁）：

(2) 研究協力者

研究協力者氏名：

ローマ字氏名：

科研費による研究は、研究者の自覚と責任において実施するものです。そのため、研究の実施や研究成果の公表等については、国の要請等に基づくものではなく、その研究成果に関する見解や責任は、研究者個人に帰属されます。