Conference
Decision, Games and Logic 2009

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The third edition of the workshop on Decision, Games and Logic was held in Switzerland, at HEC in Lausanne, from the 15th to the 17th of June. It was coordinated by an excellent organizing committee composed of Christian Bach and Alessandro Facchini from the local institute, Conrad Heilmann from LSE (London School of Economics) and Olivier Roy from the University of Groningen. The format of the workshop reflected the scope of the past two editions: three high profile tutorials and very participated comment sessions aimed at fostering interaction between graduate students and young researchers in the areas of decision theory, game theory and logic. New features of this edition has been a panel on "What is Rationality?" and the "P. van Emde Boas Swap Session", during which various researchers presented each other's work in a joint presentation.

The first tutorial was given by Jaques Duparc, Professor of Formal Logic at HEC Lausanne, and aimed at introducing the basis of μ-calculus, an extension of modal logic that has a great potential in modeling fixed-point related notions in epistemic logic and in game theory. On the second day of the workshop Pierpaolo Battigalli from Bocconi University gave a detailed lesson on type structures. He presented in detail the mathematical assumptions underlying this model, widely used in game theory to represent interactive beliefs, and outlined the formal characterisation of backward and forward induction using these structures. The argument of the third and last tutorial, given by Luc Bovens from LSE, was an introduction to Bayesian epistemology. The main scope of the lesson was to show how much probabilistic models have to offer to formal philosophy, a scope successfully accomplished trough the use of many insightful examples.

The "PVeB Swap Session" was the main activity during the second part of the days. The idea of this session, originated during the last edition of DGL in Amsterdam, was to have two researchers presenting the main ideas of each other's work, with comments and questions for a final reply of the author. Many talks gave rise to long discussions with the audience. Examples include an exchange between Groningen and Paris (where the next DGL will be held) where Olivier Roy presented a work on dynamic epistemic logic for vague information by Paul Egre, who replied presenting Olivier's work on agreements theorems using weaker assumptions of common belief.

The amount of contributed talks was very much reduced with respect to the previous edition. Between them it is worth noting a presentation by Julien Dutant from the University of Geneva, who proposed a more general model for knowledge as belief based on a safe method, and a thorough formal study in the area of peer disagreement by Giacomo Sillari from the University of Pennsylvania. During the first day of the workshop a very successful poster session provided various young researcher with useful comments.

For a list of all talks and posters consult the programme on the website of the workshop (http:// www.meansandends.com/workshop09/?body=programme).

The last event of the second day of the conference was a very successful panel on rationality chaired by M. Tomassini. Three researchers, representing the full spectrum of opinions about rationality, developed an interesting discussion with good interaction from the audience. Richard Bradley from the LSE presented his middle point view of rationality as

coherence, and has fought hard ("*biting the bullet*" as he have repeatedly said) against his two opponents: Ulrich Hoffrage from HEC Lausanne, whose concept of rationality as adaptation allows inconsistency as an adaptive strategy, and Pascal Engel from the University of Geneve, more entrenched on more classical rationalist positions, stressing the importance of truth side by side with coherence. The day closed with an excellent dinner enjoying a superb view on the lake of Lausanne.

The workshop has been highly successful in fostering interaction between researchers of different communities and institutions. The tutorials were of high quality and very technical, whereas the main approach of the conference remains philosophical. Some areas, however, were not extensively covered,

i.e. foundational and epistemic aspects of decision and game theory, where logic plays a more explicit role, and topics that include interactions from computational logic. The "PvEB Swap Session" was the main focus of the workshop, and resulted in insightful comments for the speakers and interesting discussions for the audience. One defect is that it was sometimes hard to listen to a work not directly from the source. Moreover, this session also limited sharply external contributions to four talks and a poster session. Nevertheless, a great compliment is due to the organizing committee, who succeeded in preparing a high profile programme and an enjoyable social event. The next edition of the workshop has already been announced and will be held in Paris in 2010.