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Today

Camilla Schwind today answers a question by Hector Geffner about her ETAI submitted article. (The concurrent discussion with Judea Pearl about the same article is calm for the moment).

ETAI Publications

Discussion about received articles

Causality in Action Theories

by **Camilla Schwind**

Answer to Hector Geffner, who raised the following questions:

> *1. are the inference rules considered particularly relevant to causal reasoning?*
>
> *2. are there significant inference rules that are not in the list?*

First, let me point out that my main purpose has been to compare existing approaches and not to define postulates. I prefer the term "comparison criteria". This is what I formulated and NOT postulates.

ad 1. The criteria have been formulated with respect to the comparison task of several action theories which integrated causality; in this respect they are relevant as I think.

ad 2. It happened to me to use other criteria, which are not in the list and which are more related to causality and update. Since NO one of the formalisms I reported could be compared along those criteria, I found it moderately interesting to include them.

I think indeed that causality is a nonmonotonic inference relation (see my criterion 1). But there are properties of nonmonotonic inference which I reject for causlity (e.g. reflexivity).

Camilla Schwind

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