Logics for Social Behaviour

Workshop: 10 - 14 November 2014, Leiden, the Netherlands

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Research interests

- Mathematical Finance
- Social Choice
- Decision Theory
- Ultraproducts
- Nonstandard Analysis
- Convex analysis
- Macroeconomics and Microeconomics

What we have done

We apply ultraproducts to a problem of macroeconomic theory.

Modern macroeconomic theory looks for microeconomic foundations.

 It considers how these microeconomic entities in an economy make their decisions and then how these many individuals' choices give rise to economy-wide macroeconomic outcomes. Since in realistic models, consumers and firms are heterogeneous, an accurate and comprehensive mathematical description of the aggregate behaviour is typically an intractable Problem.

One solution is to assume the existence of a representative agent.

 The assumption of a representative agent is ubiquitous in mathematical models of macroeconomics. We construct a representative utility function for infinite-dimensional social decision problems, based on an bounded ultrapower construction with respect to a non-principal ultrafilter (via the Kirman and Sondermann correspondence in 1972).

• We also provide sufficient conditions for our new results to be satisfied in economic applications.

Working paper

 Bedrosian, G. and Herzberg, F., Microeconomic foundations of representative agent models by means of ultraproducts, Working paper number 514 in Center for Mathematical Economics, Bielefeld University, July 2014.



Thank you for your attention!