Empowering Data-driven AI by Argumentation



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Argumentation aims at increasing acceptability of claims by supporting them with arguments

Argument is a set of *premises* intended to establish a *claim*



- Categorical arguments (X is a Y)
- Definitional arguments (X is a Y; the definition of Y is contested)
- Cause/Consequence arguments (X causes Y; Y is a consequence of X)
- Resemblance arguments (X is like Y)
- Evaluation arguments (X is good or bad; X is true or false)
- Proposal arguments (One should do X)

 \implies Several Arguments Schemes



. . .

Practical applications

- Diagnosis in medical domain
- Online dispute resolution (e.g., CyberSettle)
- Online debate (e.g., DebateGraph, debate.org)
- Committees
- ...

Theoretical applications

- · Reasoning with (inconsistent, defeasible) information
- Decision making
- Negotiation
- Classification
- ...

Argumentation Process

Given a **problem** (making a decision, classifying an object, ...)

- Construct arguments
- Identify their basic strengths + their interactions



Example of Arguments

Let Σ be a finite propositional knowledge base.

Definition

An argument is a pair $\langle \Psi, \psi \rangle$ such that

- $\Psi \subseteq \Sigma$
- Ψ is consistent
- $\bullet \Psi \vdash \psi$

. . .

• $\nexists \Psi'$ s.t. $\Psi' \subset \Psi$ and $\Psi' \vdash \psi$

$\Sigma = \{ \boldsymbol{p} \wedge \boldsymbol{q}, \neg \boldsymbol{p} \wedge t \}$

$$\blacksquare A = \langle \{ p \land q \}, p \lor \neg t \rangle$$

$$B = \langle \{p \land q\}, q \rangle$$

 $\bullet C = \langle \{\neg p \land t\}, t \lor p \rangle$

Definition

 (Ψ, ψ) attacks (Ψ', ψ') iff $\exists \phi \in \Psi'$ such that $\psi \vdash \neg \phi$.

$\Sigma = \{ p \land q, \neg p \land t \}$

$$\mathbf{A} = \langle \{ \mathbf{p} \land \mathbf{q} \}, \mathbf{p} \lor \neg t \rangle \text{ attacks } \mathbf{C} = \langle \{ \neg \mathbf{p} \land t \}, t \lor \mathbf{p} \rangle$$

Given a problem (making a decision, classifying an object, ...)

- Construct arguments
- Identify their **basic strengths** + their **interactions** ⇒ Graph
- Analyse the arguments ⇒ Semantics
- Conclude (the chosen option, the class of the object, ...)

Individual arguments

 Strength concerns the quality of argument's components (premises, link, conclusion)
 Characteristics: Uniqueness, Precise vs Vague

 Acceptability states whether an argument can be accepted so that its claim can safely be used for drawing conclusions, ...
 Characteristics: Uniqueness, Binary (Accepted, Rejected)

Collections of arguments

Coalitions Prevailing viewpoints expressed in an arg. graph
 Characteristics: Multiple sets

• A semantics is a function π that assigns to every $\mathbf{G} = \langle \mathcal{A}, \mathbf{w}, \mathcal{R}, \pi \rangle$,

- a set $\operatorname{Ext}_{\mathbf{G}}^{\pi} \in 2^{2^{\mathcal{A}}}$
- a weighting $\text{Deg}_{\mathbf{G}}^{\pi}:\mathcal{A}\to\mathcal{D}$
- a preorder $\succeq_{\mathbf{G}}^{\pi} \subseteq \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A}$

 $\ensuremath{\mathcal{D}}$ is a totally ordered scale.

(Extension Semantics) (Weighting Semantics) (Ranking Semantics)



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Weighting semantics

Let $\mathbf{G} = \langle \mathcal{A}, w, \mathcal{R}, \pi \rangle$, $a \in \mathcal{A}$, b_1, \dots, b_n its attackers.

 $\texttt{Deg}(a) = f(w(a), g(h(\pi((b_1, a)), \texttt{Deg}(b_1)), \dots, h(\pi((b_n, a)), \texttt{Deg}(b_n))))$

■
$$h: [0,1] \times [0,1] \to [0,1]$$

■ $g: \bigcup_{n=0}^{+\infty} [0,1]^n \to [0,+\infty)$ such that g is symmetric
■ $f: [0,1] \times \operatorname{Range}(g) \to [0,1]$



Examples of Functions

$f_{comp}(x_1, x_2) = x_1(1 - x_2)$	$g_{sum}(x_1,\ldots,x_n) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$	$h_{prod}(x_1, x_2) = x_1 x_2$
$f_{exp}(x_1, x_2) = x_1 e^{-x_2}$	$g_{sum,\alpha}(x_1,\ldots,x_n) = (\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i)^{\alpha})^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}$	$h_{prod,\alpha}(x_1,x_2) = x_1^{\alpha}x_2, \ \alpha > 0$
$f_{frac}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{x_1}{1+x_2}$	$g_{max}(x_1,\ldots,x_n)=\max\{x_1,\ldots,x_n\}$	$h_{min}(x_1, x_2) = \min\{x_1, x_2\}$
$f_{min}(x_1, x_2) = \min\{x_1, 1 - x_2\}$	$g_{psum}(x_1,\ldots,x_n) = x_1 \oplus \cdots \oplus x_n,$ where $x_1 \oplus x_2 = x_1 + x_2 - x_1 x_2$	$h_{Ham}(x_1, x_2) = \frac{x_1 x_2}{x_1 + x_2 - x_1 x_2};$ $h_{Ham}(x_1, x_2) = 0 \text{ if } x_1 = x_2 = 0$

The choice of functions depends on axioms that need to be satisfied by a semantics

Example of a Weighting Semantics

h-Categorize

Let $\mathbf{G} = \langle \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{R} \rangle$ and $\mathbf{a} \in \mathcal{A}$.

$$\mathtt{Deg}^{\pi}_{\mathbf{G}}(a) = rac{1}{1 + \sum\limits_{(b,a) \in \mathcal{R}} \mathtt{Deg}^{\pi}_{\mathbf{G}}(b)}$$

$$\begin{cases} g_{sum}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \\ f_{frac}(x) = \frac{1}{1+x_2} \\ \mathcal{D} = [0, 1] \end{cases}$$



Example of a Weighting Semantics



- Argumentative counterparts of data-driven models
- Explanation theory and persuasion

- Define argumentative view of existing data-driven models, namely NNs
- Improve predictions by incorporating arguments given by experts
- Reduce the need for large amounts of data. The new arguments introduce crucial domain knowledge,
- Improve search performance. The new arguments will constrain the combinatorial search among possible hypotheses

- Links between explanation and argument
- Explanation schemes
- Evaluation of explanations
- Persuasive explanation
- Which explanation to present to users and under which format ?

- 2 PhD thesis (one for each part of the project)
- 1 (or 2) postdoc on the first part

- Joao Marques-Silva
- Louise Travé-Massouyès
- Jean-Michel Loubes