

A Corrective to Bovens and Hartmann's Measure of Coherence

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Abstract

Bovens and Hartmann (2003a, 2003b) propose to analyze coherence as a confidence-boosting property. On the basis of this idea, they construct a new probabilistic theory of coherence. In this paper, I will attempt to show that the resulting measure of coherence clashes with some of the intuitions that motivate it. Also, I will try to show that this clash is not due to the view on coherence as a confidence-boosting property or to the general features of the model that Bovens and Hartmann use to analyze coherence. It will turn out that there is at least one other measure that is similarly based on the concept of a confidence-boosting property, but does not have the same counterintuitive results.

Keywords: Coherence, measures of coherence, Luc Bovens, Stephan Hartmann, confidence-boosting property

Subjects: [General Issues: Confirmation/Induction](#)

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