

## The Weight of Competence under a Realistic Loss Function

Hartmann, Stephan and Sprenger, Jan (2009) The Weight of Competence under a Realistic Loss Function.

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## **Abstract**

In many scientific, economic and policy-related problems, pieces of information from different sources have to be aggregated. Typically, the sources are not equally competent. This raises the question of how the relative weights and competences should be related to arrive at an optimal final verdict. Our paper addresses this question under a more realistic perspective of measuring the practical loss implied by an inaccurate verdict.

**Keywords:** Collective decision-making, information pooling, loss functions

Specific Sciences: Probability/Statistics

Subjects: General Issues: Decision Theory

General Issues: Confirmation/Induction

General Issues: Science Policy

**ID Code**: 4955

Deposited By: Hartmann, Stephan

Deposited On: 17 October 2009

**Additional Information:** The paper will appear in the Logic Journal of the IGPL

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