

# Reasoning about Chance: Proof Theory for Aleatoric Logic

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## Abstract

Aleatoric Logic is a logic of chance, where the interpretation of propositional atoms is modelled as the flip of a coin, or a marble drawn from an urn. Propositions correspond to these chance events and consequently their interpretation is inherently probabilistic. Propositions are not evaluated as true or false, but instead are evaluated as likelihoods, giving a many-valued logic similar to fuzzy logics. An equational theory is given through an equivalence relation that associates two propositions with identical likelihood: for example the chance of a coin landing heads and then tails, will be the same as the chance of the coin landing tails and then heads, regardless of the coin's bias. In this paper we present a refined syntax for aleatoric logic and provide a proof system for the equational theory.

## Keywords

Probabilistic Reasoning, Aleatoric Logic, Proof Theory

## 1. Introduction

When our knowledge is lacking, we often defer to chance. For example, if we are unsure which route may be faster we may have an imaginary coin that we flip, where the outcome determines the choice. When we have knowledge, or experience, this might inform the chance so we may think there is an 80% chance that the second route is faster, and this associates a bias on our imaginary coin (or epistemic uncertainty). We may not have direct experience of the routes in question, but we might have related experience (rain slows traffic, traffic is busier leaving the city in the afternoon, trains are more frequent in the evening etc). These experiences can be combined into a complex proposition to determine the chance that one route is better than another.

This kind of everyday reasoning with course probabilities is the focus of this paper. We will present a logic of chance events, *aleatoric logic*, which is a refinement of earlier work [1, 2]. Our focus is on the reasoning process, and particularly proof theory. As aleatoric logic is many-valued (so propositions are evaluated as likelihoods), we will focus on its equational theory, and present an axiomatization for when two propositions necessarily have the same likelihood. We will discuss key properties of this axiomatization and show that it is sound.

## 2. Related work

There has been a considerable number of works that have examined the semantics of probability. Early work includes Kolmogorov [3], Ramsey [4] and de Finetti [5], who produced axioms for reasoning about probabilities of events. There have been a number of very good works that have examined logics of probabilistic reasoning, including [6, 7, 8, 9]. These approaches include a modality for the probability of some event occurring. As the probabilities are explicit in the syntax, these approaches reason *about* the probabilities of events: compare the certain statement *route 1 is faster 80% of the time* to the uncertain statement *route 1 is faster*. The first is about an explicit probability and is always true or false, whilst the second is a probabilistic statement that may be sometimes true and sometimes false.

Fuzzy logics and many valued logics take a similar many valued approach to reason about linguistic variables in the presence of vagueness [10, 11, 12, 13], where the semantics allow for the increasing

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NMR'25: 23rd International Workshop of Nonmonotonic Reasoning, November 11-14, 2025, Melbourne, Australia

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or decreasing of plausibility, without necessarily committing to the absolute certainty of a proposition. When the *product semantics* are used (so the plausibility of two propositions taken together are multiplied) there is some correspondence with independent random events like the flipping of coins, although the semantics are not entirely probabilistic: the residual operator has no probabilistic analogue and complementation does not represent the failure of an event to occur. An axiomatization of the Basic Logic **BL** is given and extended to various settings and forms including first order logics. While the underlying fuzzy logic is many valued, **BL** axiomatises the set of propositions whose interpretation is necessarily *true* (or equal to 1). Rational Pavelka Logic [14] introduces a set of rational constants between 0 and 1 to the language, and is able to extend the axiomatization **BL** to the set of propositions necessarily greater than some threshold. In [13] Majer and Sedlár introduce a many valued probabilistic modal logic, that is an extension of Łukasiewicz logic.

An equational proof theory has previously been presented for the aleatoric calculus and aleatoric modal calculus. These logics are substantially simpler than the one we investigate here, as they do not include the fixed point operator introduced in [1].

### 3. Aleatoric Propositions

Here we present a syntax and semantics for describing aleatoric propositions, and their probabilities.

The essential elements of the language are a set of propositional atoms corresponding to some proposition, and operations describing propositions built from these elements (negation, conjunction, iteration).

#### 3.1. Syntax

For the syntax we assume a set of *propositional atoms*  $\mathcal{A} = \{A, B, C, \dots\}$ , corresponding to propositions.

**Definition 1.** *The syntax for  $\mathcal{L}$ , the language of aleatoric propositions, is given by the Backus-Naur form:*

$$\mathcal{L} = \alpha ::= X \mid \neg\alpha \mid \alpha \wedge \alpha \mid \alpha \bowtie \alpha \mid \mathbb{F}X.\alpha$$

where  $X \in \mathcal{A}$ , and in the proposition  $\mathbb{F}X.\alpha$ ,  $X$  must be linear in  $\alpha$ : an atomic proposition  $X \in \mathcal{A}$  is linear in  $\alpha$  if and only if for every sub-formula  $\beta \wedge \gamma$  of  $\alpha$ ,  $X$  does not appear in  $\beta$ . Any propositional atom  $X$  that does not only appear within the scope of  $\mathbb{F}X$  operators in  $\alpha$  is free in  $\alpha$  and we let  $\text{fr}(\alpha)$  refer to the set of free variables in  $\alpha$ . Parentheses will be used to indicate precedence.

The propositions are conceived of as events of chance: every separate occurrence of an atom is considered as a flip of a biased coin, or a *Bernoulli test*. The operations are built recursively so that every proposition may be considered to be a complex Bernoulli test, as follows:

- $\neg\alpha$  (*not*  $\alpha$ ) inverts the outcome of the test, so success is replaced by failure and vice-versa
- $\alpha \wedge \beta$  ( $\alpha$  *and*  $\beta$ ) is a test that passes if and only if the test for  $\alpha$  passes *and* the test for  $\beta$  passes.
- $\alpha \bowtie \beta$ , ( $\alpha$  *or*  $\beta$ ) is a test that randomly and fairly chooses either  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$  to test, and passes if and only if the chosen test passes<sup>1</sup>.
- $\mathbb{F}X.\alpha$ , corresponding to a test where every evaluation of the atom  $X$  is replaced by the original proposition,  $\mathbb{F}X.\alpha$ .

The *fixed point operator*,  $\mathbb{F}X.\alpha$ , required that  $X$  is linear in  $\alpha$ , and this is to ensure that the fixed point is unique and non-ambiguous. This is a similar notion to monotonicity, which is used when defining fixed points in discrete domains.

We use the abbreviations  $\alpha \vee \beta$  for  $\neg(\neg\alpha \wedge \neg\beta)$  and  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$  for  $\neg(\alpha \wedge \neg\beta)$ .

<sup>1</sup>The choice of the term “or” will no doubt be controversial as it clashes with the familiar term for logical disjunction. However, arguably the common usage of the term is just as good a match for this *aleatoric or*.

For example, consider the proposition:

$$\mathbb{F}X.((A \wedge X) \bowtie (A \rightarrow X))$$

This is interpreted as a test where a random choice is made between the left and right arguments of  $\bowtie$ . If  $A \wedge X$  is chosen then the test  $A$  is performed. If it fails, the whole proposition fails, while if it passes, we must test  $X$  which is a proxy for repeating the test from the beginning. On the other hand, if the right argument,  $A \rightarrow X$  is chosen, then if the test for  $A$  fails, the whole proposition passes, while if  $A$  passes then we must test  $X$  so we repeat the test from the start.

### 3.2. Semantics

The semantics describe the likelihood of a proposition given an interpretation, where an interpretation simply assigns likelihoods to atoms.

**Definition 2.** An interpretation is a map  $\mathfrak{I} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow [0, 1]$  that assigns a probability to each variable. Given an interpretation,  $\mathfrak{I}$ , let  $\mathfrak{I}^{[X \leftarrow x]}$  be the interpretation where for all  $Y \in \mathcal{A}$ ,  $\mathfrak{I}^{[X \leftarrow x]}(Y) = \mathfrak{I}(Y)$  if  $Y \neq X$ , and  $\mathfrak{I}^{[X \leftarrow x]}(X) = x$ .

**Definition 3.** The interpretation,  $\mathfrak{I}$  may be extended to the whole of  $\mathcal{L}$  as follows<sup>2</sup>:

$$\begin{aligned} X^{\mathfrak{I}} &= \mathfrak{I}(X) \\ (\neg\alpha)^{\mathfrak{I}} &= 1 - \alpha^{\mathfrak{I}} \\ (\alpha \wedge \beta)^{\mathfrak{I}} &= \alpha^{\mathfrak{I}} \cdot \beta^{\mathfrak{I}} \\ (\alpha \bowtie \beta)^{\mathfrak{I}} &= (\alpha^{\mathfrak{I}} + \beta^{\mathfrak{I}})/2 \\ (\mathbb{F}X.\alpha)^{\mathfrak{I}} &= 1/2 \text{ if } \alpha^{\mathfrak{I}^{[X \leftarrow 1/2]}} = 1/2, \text{ and} \\ (\mathbb{F}X.\alpha)^{\mathfrak{I}} &= p \text{ where } \alpha^{\mathfrak{I}^{[X \leftarrow p]}} = p, \text{ otherwise.} \end{aligned}$$

We call  $\alpha^{\mathfrak{I}}$  the  $\mathfrak{I}$ -likelihood of  $\alpha$ , or just likelihood of  $\alpha$  when  $\mathfrak{I}$  is clear from context.

The semantics are similar to fuzzy logic [10, 11], with the product T-norm, but there is no notion of a residual, and the negation operator is quite different. The operators and propositions act as elements in a chance driven protocol, with atomic propositions being elements of pure chance,  $\neg\alpha$  is the chance of the test  $\alpha$  failing,  $\alpha \wedge \beta$  is the chance of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  passing, noting that each occurrence of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  is an independent event,  $\alpha \bowtie \beta$  is the chance of a random choice of  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$  passing, and  $\mathbb{F}X.\alpha$  is the chance of  $\alpha$ , where  $X$  is interpreted as having the same chance as  $\mathbb{F}X.\alpha$ . The fact that  $X$  is linear in  $\alpha$  is sufficient to ensure that  $(\mathbb{F}X.\alpha)^{\mathfrak{I}}$  is always uniquely determined.

**Lemma 4.** In all interpretations  $\mathfrak{I}$ , for all propositions  $\mathbb{F}X.\alpha$ , the  $\mathfrak{I}$ -likelihood of  $\mathbb{F}X.\alpha$  is always uniquely defined.

**Proof:** (Sketch) To see this, it is enough to notice that when  $X$  is linear in  $\alpha$ , and  $\alpha$  does not contain any fixed point operators, then  $\alpha^{\mathfrak{I}}$  may always be written as

$$f(Y_1^{\mathfrak{I}}, \dots, Y_n^{\mathfrak{I}}) + g(Y_1^{\mathfrak{I}}, \dots, Y_n^{\mathfrak{I}}) \cdot X^{\mathfrak{I}}$$

where the  $Y_1, \dots, Y_n, X$  are the variables of  $\alpha$ , and  $f$  and  $g$  are polynomial functions, such that for all interpretations  $f(Y_1^{\mathfrak{I}}, \dots, Y_n^{\mathfrak{I}}) + g(Y_1^{\mathfrak{I}}, \dots, Y_n^{\mathfrak{I}}) \leq 1$ . Therefore, the evaluation of  $(\mathbb{F}X.\alpha)^{\mathfrak{I}}$  is the solution to the equation:

$$x = f(Y_1^{\mathfrak{I}}, \dots, Y_n^{\mathfrak{I}}) + g(Y_1^{\mathfrak{I}}, \dots, Y_n^{\mathfrak{I}}) \cdot x, \text{ so, } (\mathbb{F}X.\alpha)^{\mathfrak{I}} = \frac{f(Y_1^{\mathfrak{I}}, \dots, Y_n^{\mathfrak{I}})}{1 - g(Y_1^{\mathfrak{I}}, \dots, Y_n^{\mathfrak{I}})}.$$

<sup>2</sup>The split for  $(\mathbb{F}X.\alpha)^{\mathfrak{I}}$  is to account for the case where  $\alpha = X$ , and there are infinitely many fixed points. See the proof of Lemma 4.

**Table 1**

Some useful abbreviations for aleatoric propositions.

Operator	Expression	Description
$1/2$	$\mathbb{F}X.X$	<i>half</i>
$\perp$	$\mathbb{F}X.(1/2 \wedge X)$	<i>fail/No</i>
$\top$	$\neg\perp$	<i>pass/Yes</i>
$\alpha \vee \beta$	$\neg(\neg\alpha \wedge \neg\beta)$	$\alpha$ <i>disjunct</i> $\beta$
$\alpha \rightarrow \beta$	$\neg\alpha \vee \beta$	$\alpha$ <i>implies</i> $\beta$
$(\alpha? \beta : \gamma)$	$\mathbb{F}X. \left( \begin{array}{c} (\alpha \wedge \beta) \vee X \\ \boxtimes \\ (\neg\alpha \wedge \gamma) \vee X \end{array} \right) \boxtimes \left( \begin{array}{c} (\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \wedge X \\ \boxtimes \\ (\neg\alpha \rightarrow \gamma) \wedge X \end{array} \right)$	<i>if</i> $\alpha$ <i>then</i> $\beta$ <i>else</i> $\gamma$
$\alpha \stackrel{0}{m}$	$\top$	$\alpha$ <i>0 out of</i> $m$ .
$\alpha \stackrel{n}{0}$	$\perp$	$\alpha$ <i>n out of</i> $0$ .
$\alpha \stackrel{n}{m}$	$(\alpha? \alpha \stackrel{n-1}{m-1} : \alpha \stackrel{n}{m-1})$	$\alpha > n$ <i>out of</i> $m$ .
$\uparrow \alpha$	$\mathbb{F}X.(\alpha \rightarrow X)$	<i>always</i> $\alpha$ ( <i>suf.</i> )
$\downarrow \alpha$	$\mathbb{F}X.(\uparrow \alpha \vee X)$	<i>always</i> $\alpha$ ( <i>nec.</i> )
$\square \alpha$	$\mathbb{F}X((\uparrow \alpha \vee X) \boxtimes (\downarrow \alpha \wedge X))$	<i>always</i> $\alpha$

Note if the denominator of this equation is 0, then the equation is effectively  $x = x$ , so every value is a solution, and particularly  $x = 1/2$  is a solution, so we would have  $(\mathbb{F}X.\alpha)^{\mathcal{J}} = 1/2$ . If alpha does contain fix point operators, then we can apply this argument inductively, where  $f$  and  $g$  are now rational functions, noting that the linearity constraint is enough to ensure that the denominator would always be functionally independent of  $X^{\mathcal{J}}$ .  $\square$

Given these semantics we are able to define some familiar concepts as aleatoric propositions with  $\mathcal{L}$ . Table 1 contains some useful abbreviations.

Of particular note is the abbreviation  $(\alpha? \beta : \gamma)$ , which was taken as a primitive in the earlier work. The semantic interpretation is

$$(\alpha? \beta : \gamma)^{\mathcal{J}} = \alpha^{\mathcal{J}} \cdot \beta^{\mathcal{J}} + (1 - \alpha^{\mathcal{J}}) \cdot \gamma^{\mathcal{J}}, \quad (1)$$

so  $\alpha$  is tested, and if it holds, the proposition is interpreted as  $\beta$  and if it fails the proposition is interpreted as  $\gamma$ . It is non-trivial to deduce this interpretation so we derive it here. The subformulas are evaluated as:

$$\begin{aligned} ((\alpha \wedge \beta) \vee X)^{\mathcal{J}} &= \alpha^{\mathcal{J}} \cdot \beta^{\mathcal{J}} + (1 - \alpha^{\mathcal{J}} \cdot \beta^{\mathcal{J}}) \cdot X^{\mathcal{J}} \\ ((\neg\alpha \wedge \gamma) \vee X)^{\mathcal{J}} &= \gamma^{\mathcal{J}} - \alpha^{\mathcal{J}} \cdot \gamma^{\mathcal{J}} + (1 - \gamma^{\mathcal{J}} + \alpha^{\mathcal{J}} \cdot \gamma^{\mathcal{J}}) \cdot X^{\mathcal{J}} \\ ((\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \wedge X)^{\mathcal{J}} &= (1 - \alpha^{\mathcal{J}} + \alpha^{\mathcal{J}} \cdot \beta^{\mathcal{J}}) \cdot X^{\mathcal{J}} \\ (((\neg\alpha \rightarrow \gamma) \wedge X)^{\mathcal{J}} &= (\alpha^{\mathcal{J}} + \gamma^{\mathcal{J}} - \alpha^{\mathcal{J}} \cdot \gamma^{\mathcal{J}}) \cdot X^{\mathcal{J}} \end{aligned}$$

The aleatoric or operators take a uniformly weighted sum of the formulas (each is multiplied by 1/4):

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \begin{array}{c} ((\alpha \wedge \beta) \vee X) \boxtimes ((\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \wedge X) \\ \boxtimes \\ ((\neg\alpha \wedge \gamma) \vee X) \boxtimes ((\neg\alpha \rightarrow \gamma) \wedge X) \end{array} \right)^{\mathcal{J}} &= \sum \left[ \begin{array}{c} \alpha^{\mathcal{J}} \cdot \beta^{\mathcal{J}} + (1 - \alpha^{\mathcal{J}} \cdot \beta^{\mathcal{J}}) \cdot X^{\mathcal{J}} \\ \gamma^{\mathcal{J}} - \alpha^{\mathcal{J}} \cdot \gamma^{\mathcal{J}} + (1 - \gamma^{\mathcal{J}} + \alpha^{\mathcal{J}} \cdot \gamma^{\mathcal{J}}) \cdot X^{\mathcal{J}} \\ (1 - \alpha^{\mathcal{J}} + \alpha^{\mathcal{J}} \cdot \beta^{\mathcal{J}}) \cdot X^{\mathcal{J}} \\ (\alpha^{\mathcal{J}} + \gamma^{\mathcal{J}} - \alpha^{\mathcal{J}} \cdot \gamma^{\mathcal{J}}) \cdot X^{\mathcal{J}} \end{array} \right] \quad (2) \\ &= (\alpha^{\mathcal{J}} \cdot \beta^{\mathcal{J}} + (1 - \alpha^{\mathcal{J}}) \cdot \gamma^{\mathcal{J}} + 3 \cdot X)/4 \quad (3) \end{aligned}$$

Solving for the fix point we have:

$$\left( \mathbb{F}X \begin{array}{c} ((\alpha \wedge \beta) \vee X) \boxtimes ((\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \wedge X) \\ \boxtimes \\ ((\neg\alpha \wedge \gamma) \vee X) \boxtimes ((\neg\alpha \rightarrow \gamma) \wedge X) \end{array} \right)^{\mathcal{J}} = \frac{(\alpha^{\mathcal{J}} \cdot \beta^{\mathcal{J}} + (1 - \alpha^{\mathcal{J}}) \cdot \gamma^{\mathcal{J}})/4}{1 - 3/4}. \quad (4)$$

as required.

Within the minimal language,  $\mathcal{L}$ , we are able to describe some interesting non-aleatoric properties. Particularly  $\top$  is the event that always happens, or in traditional terms: true. Correspondingly  $\perp$  is the event that never happens, or false. These abbreviations are then important in defining logical operators such as conjunction, disjunction, and implication, although care must be taken with these operators as their operands *are* aleatoric. For example,  $\phi = \alpha \wedge (\alpha \rightarrow \beta)$  is not equivalent to  $\beta$ , since  $\alpha$  is an event that must occur twice in this equation. Indeed, expanding it out we find  $\phi^{\mathfrak{J}} = \alpha^{\mathfrak{J}} \cdot (\alpha^{\mathfrak{J}} \cdot \beta^{\mathfrak{J}} + 1 - \alpha^{\mathfrak{J}}) \neq \beta^{\mathfrak{J}}$ .

On the other hand  $1/2$  is entirely aleatoric and represents pure random chance. Finally, the operation  $\Box\alpha$  allows us to determine whether a formula is always Yes. We use the operator and language of modal logic here, using the box operator to indicate that alpha is necessary. This is not a modal interpretation, and there are no possible worlds, although one could make the analogy that each time an atom is sampled corresponds to a possible world.

## 4. Aleatoric Logic

The aleatoric propositions described so far do not conform to the standard definition of a logic, which is, roughly, a set of true statements in a given language. The aleatoric propositions given an inherently probabilistic many valued logic. In the case of Fuzzy Logics like the Basic Logic [11], MTL ([15] and RPL [14] have provided recursive axiomatisations of the sets of propositions that are always true. However in the context of aleatoric logic, such a set would not be very interesting, as none of these propositions would contain an element of chance.

To build a logic of aleatoric propositions we must introduce an unambiguous relationship between propositions, and the simplest relationship is equivalence, to mean that two propositions have identical chance.

### 4.1. Identities

**Definition 5.** An aleatoric identity is a pair of aleatoric propositions  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{L}$ , and is denoted  $\alpha \simeq \beta$ , with the intended meaning that  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  have exactly the same likelihood. Let  $\Xi$  be the set of all aleatoric identities.

Given some interpretation,  $\mathfrak{J}$ , we say  $\mathfrak{J}$  satisfies the identity  $\alpha \simeq \beta$  if  $\alpha^{\mathfrak{J}} = \beta^{\mathfrak{J}}$ . If an identity is satisfied by all interpretations, we say it is a valid identity.

With the concept of identity we are able to go beyond the extensional interpretation of what is observed, to the intensional interpretation of which propositions are equivalent.

Some valid identities are:

- $\alpha \simeq \neg\neg\alpha$ : Expanding the semantics we have  $(\neg\neg\alpha)^{\mathfrak{J}} = 1 - (1 - \alpha^{\mathfrak{J}}) = \alpha^{\mathfrak{J}}$ .
- $\alpha \wedge \beta \simeq \beta \wedge \alpha$ :  $(\alpha \wedge \beta)^{\mathfrak{J}} = \alpha^{\mathfrak{J}} \cdot \beta^{\mathfrak{J}} = \beta^{\mathfrak{J}} \cdot \alpha^{\mathfrak{J}} = (\beta \wedge \alpha)^{\mathfrak{J}}$ .
- $\mathbb{F}X.(\alpha \bowtie X) \simeq \alpha$ : solving for  $x = (\alpha^{\mathfrak{J}} + x)/2$  we get  $\mathbb{F}X.(\alpha \bowtie X)^{\mathfrak{J}} = \alpha^{\mathfrak{J}}$ .
- $\mathbb{F}X.(A \wedge X) \bowtie (A \rightarrow X) \simeq 1/2$ : as discussed in Section 3, this expression is as likely to be true as it is to be false.

The first is familiar as double negation, and the second is the commutativity of conjunction. Both are typical of Boolean reasoning. The third one is a combined property of the  $\bowtie$  operation and the fixed point. If we repeatedly sample a fair coin, it will eventually land heads.

### 4.2. Theories

Having established a notion of true logical statements via identities, we can consider more than just the set of valid identities; we can consider systems that conform to a set of given identities.

Given a set of identities,  $\Theta \subseteq \Xi$ , we may ask whether it is necessary that some identity holds in any interpretation where every identity in  $\Theta$  holds.

**Definition 6.** We refer to a set of identities as a theory, and given a theory  $\Theta$  and some interpretation  $\mathfrak{I}$ , such that every identity in  $\Theta$  is satisfied by  $\mathfrak{I}$ , we say  $\mathfrak{I}$  satisfies  $\Theta$ , written  $\mathfrak{I} \models \Theta$ .

The notion of satisfiability and validity may be extended to theories.

**Definition 7.** If there is some interpretation  $\mathfrak{I}$  where  $\mathfrak{I} \models \Theta$  we say  $\Theta$  is satisfiable and if every interpretation satisfies  $\Theta$  we say  $\Theta$  is valid. For every identity,  $\alpha \simeq \beta$ , if every interpretation  $\mathfrak{I}$  that satisfies  $\Theta$  also satisfies  $\alpha \simeq \beta$ , we say  $\Theta$  validates  $\alpha \simeq \beta$ , written  $\Theta \models \alpha \simeq \beta$ .

Theories impose constraints on the probabilities that atoms can represent. For example  $X \simeq X \wedge X$  requires that  $\mathfrak{I}(X) = \mathfrak{I}(X)^2$ , which only has the solutions 0 and 1, so this identities requires  $X$  to be certain (always Yes or always No).

### 4.3. Deductive systems

We would like to be able to describe a system of natural deduction for aleatoric identities, so that given a theory of known aleatoric identities, we are able to infer all consequential identities. To do this we require the notion of a substitution.

**Definition 8.** Given  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{L}$  and  $X \in \mathcal{A}$  the substitution of  $\beta$  for  $X$  in  $\alpha$  (written  $\alpha[X \setminus \beta]$ ) is defined recursively as follows:  $Y[X \setminus \beta] = Y$  (where  $Y \neq X$ ),  $X[X \setminus \beta] = \beta$ ,  $(\neg\alpha)[X \setminus \beta] = \neg(\alpha[X \setminus \beta])$ ,  $\alpha_1 \wedge \alpha_2[X \setminus \beta] = \alpha_1[X \setminus \beta] \wedge \alpha_2[X \setminus \beta]$ ,  $\alpha_1 \bowtie \alpha_2[X \setminus \beta] = \alpha_1[X \setminus \beta] \bowtie \alpha_2[X \setminus \beta]$ ,  $(\mathbb{F}Y\alpha)[X \setminus \beta] = \mathbb{F}Y\alpha[X \setminus \beta]$ , where  $X \neq Y$ , and  $Y$  does not occur free in  $\beta$ , and  $(\mathbb{F}X\alpha)[X \setminus \beta] = \mathbb{F}X\alpha$ .

Substitutions can be applied sequentially, so given  $\bar{X} = (X_0, \dots, X_{n-1}) \in \mathcal{A}^n$  and  $\bar{\beta} = (\beta_0, \dots, \beta_{n-1}) \in \mathcal{L}^n$ , we write  $\alpha[\bar{X} \setminus \bar{\beta}]$  as an abbreviation for  $\alpha[X_0 \setminus \beta_0] \dots [X_{n-1} \setminus \beta_{n-1}]$ .

If a substitution is defined we say it is a valid substitution.

Note that the substitutions account for the free variables, so fixed point operators in  $\alpha$  will not affect the interpretation of  $\beta$  in the substitution  $\alpha[X \setminus \beta]$ . The deductive system consists of inference rules.

**Definition 9.** An aleatoric rule  $\alpha_1 \simeq \beta_1, \dots, \alpha_n \simeq \beta_n \vdash \alpha \simeq \beta$  is a pair consisting of a finite set of identities,  $\{\alpha_1 \simeq \beta_1, \dots, \alpha_n \simeq \beta_n\} \subset \Xi$  (the antecedent); and a single identity  $\alpha \simeq \beta$  (the consequent). When the antecedent is the empty set we write  $\vdash \alpha \simeq \beta$  and refer to it as an aleatoric axiom. We refer to a set of aleatoric rules as a deductive system.

Entailment follows from the repeated application of rules, closed under substitution:

**Definition 10.** Given a deductive system,  $\Delta$ , and a theory,  $\Theta$ , the  $\Delta$ -closure of  $\Theta$  is  $\Theta^\Delta$ , the smallest theory where:  $\Theta \subseteq \Theta^\Delta$ ; and for any rule  $\alpha_1 \simeq \beta_1, \dots, \alpha_n \simeq \beta_n \vdash \alpha \simeq \beta$ , such that  $\alpha_1 \simeq \beta_1, \dots, \alpha_n \simeq \beta_n \in \Theta^\Delta$  we have  $\alpha \simeq \beta \in \Theta^\Delta$ .

Given some deductive system  $\Delta$  and a theory,  $\Theta$ , we say  $\Theta$  entails  $\alpha \simeq \beta$  in  $\Delta$  if  $\alpha \simeq \beta \in \Theta^\Delta$

With these definitions we can now define the logical concepts: *consistent*, *sound* and *complete*.

**Definition 11.** A theory  $\Theta$  is consistent for a deductive system  $\Delta$ , if  $\top \simeq \perp \notin \Theta^\Delta$ .

A deductive system  $\Delta$  is consistent if  $\emptyset$  is consistent for  $\Delta$ .

**Definition 12.** A deductive system  $\Delta$  is sound if for every theory  $\Theta$ , and every identity  $\alpha \simeq \beta \in \Theta^\Delta$ , we have for every interpretation  $\mathfrak{I}$  that satisfies  $\Theta$ ,  $\alpha^\mathfrak{I} = \beta^\mathfrak{I}$ .

**Definition 13.** A deductive system  $\Delta$  is complete for a theory  $\Theta$ , if for every identity  $\alpha \simeq \beta$  where  $\Theta \models \alpha \simeq \beta$ , we have  $\alpha \simeq \beta \in \Theta^\Delta$ . A deductive system  $\Delta$ : is complete if it is complete for every finite theory; is strongly complete if it is complete for every theory; and is complete for validity if it is complete for the empty theory.

Note, in many proof systems being “complete” and “complete for validity” are synonymous, since implication and conjunction allow entailment from a finite theory to be represented in a single proposition (at least for compact logics). However, implication and conjunction over identities are not available in this setting, so “complete” and “complete for validity” are quite different concepts.

We are now able to formulate the following questions:

1. Can we define a sound deductive system that is complete for validity?
2. Can we give a sound a complete deductive system for all theories?

The difference between these two questions is non-trivial. A sound deductive system that is complete for validity only needs to generate identities that are necessarily true, for example  $\alpha \wedge \beta \simeq \beta \wedge \alpha$ . However, there is no concept of a negative identity, or inequality, so there is no requirement to generate  $\top \not\simeq \perp$  for example.

This becomes important when we consider complete deductive systems for all theories. For example, the identity  $X \vee \neg X \simeq X \wedge \neg X$  is not satisfiable in any interpretation<sup>3</sup>, so  $\{X \vee \neg X \simeq X \wedge \neg X\}$  would entail  $\top \simeq \perp$  in a complete deductive system.

#### 4.4. A characterisation of valid identities

In this section we present a substitution schema of axioms and rules to characterise the valid identities of aleatoric logic.

**Definition 14.** *The deductive system, aleatory logic,  $(\mathfrak{A}\mathfrak{L})$  consists of the following rules, where  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta$  are any aleatoric propositions such that rules are well formed.*

<b>id</b>	$\vdash \alpha \simeq \alpha$
<b><math>\wedge</math>-comm</b>	$\vdash \alpha \wedge \beta \simeq \beta \wedge \alpha$
<b><math>\wedge</math>-assoc</b>	$\vdash (\alpha \wedge \beta) \wedge \gamma \simeq \alpha \wedge (\beta \wedge \gamma)$
<b>dn</b>	$\vdash \neg\neg\alpha \simeq \alpha$
<b>dist-<math>\neg</math></b>	$\vdash \neg(\alpha \boxtimes \beta) \simeq (\neg\alpha) \boxtimes (\neg\beta)$
<b>dist-<math>\wedge</math></b>	$\vdash (\alpha \boxtimes \beta) \wedge \gamma \simeq (\alpha \wedge \gamma) \boxtimes (\beta \wedge \gamma)$
<b>swap</b>	$\vdash (\alpha \boxtimes \beta) \boxtimes (\gamma \boxtimes \delta) \simeq (\beta \boxtimes \delta) \boxtimes (\alpha \boxtimes \gamma)$
<b>same</b>	$\vdash \alpha \boxtimes \alpha \simeq \alpha$
<b>simp</b>	$\vdash (\alpha \wedge \beta) \boxtimes \neg(\neg\alpha \wedge \neg\beta) \simeq \alpha \boxtimes \beta$
<b>half</b>	$\vdash \neg\mathbb{F}X.X \simeq \mathbb{F}X.X$
<b>amp</b>	$\vdash \neg(\alpha \wedge \beta) \wedge \mathbb{F}X.X \simeq \neg\alpha \boxtimes (\alpha \wedge \neg\beta)$
<b>fp-elim</b>	$\vdash \mathbb{F}X.\alpha \simeq \alpha[X \setminus \mathbb{F}X.\alpha]$
<b>subst</b>	$\alpha \simeq \beta \vdash \gamma[X \setminus \beta] \simeq \gamma[X \setminus \alpha]$
<b>trans</b>	$\alpha \simeq \beta, \beta \simeq \gamma \vdash \alpha \simeq \gamma$
<b>fp-intro</b>	$\alpha \simeq \beta[X \setminus \alpha] \vdash \alpha \simeq \mathbb{F}X.(\beta), \text{ where } \beta \not\equiv X$
<b>order</b>	$\alpha \boxtimes \gamma \simeq \beta \boxtimes \gamma \vdash \alpha \simeq \beta.$

**The condition on fp-intro** The condition on **fp-intro** is in some sense circular and deserves discussion. It requires that  $\beta$  is not identical to  $X$ , as in such a case we would have (through the **id** axiom) that for every proposition  $\alpha, \alpha \simeq X[X \setminus \alpha]$  and so for every proposition  $\alpha, \vdash \alpha \simeq \mathbb{F}X.X$  and the whole system would collapse to a trivial singleton. Due to the linearity constraint, the only way this collapse might occur is if  $\beta$  is identical to  $X$ . It is not enough to say that  $\beta$  is not equal to  $X$ , because  $\beta$  could take trivially equivalent forms like  $X \boxtimes X$ .

There are several possible ways to enforce this: syntactically we could require that  $\beta$  has the form  $\gamma_1 \boxtimes \gamma_2$  where  $X$  does not occur in  $\gamma_2$ . This would suffice, but it is not clear that it would be general enough and it certainly complicates some otherwise simple proofs. We have included the condition for

<sup>3</sup>Substituting into Definition 3, this would require us to find a solution for  $1 - 2x + 2x^2 = 0$  with  $x \in [0, 1]$ , which does not have any real solutions.

now, as it is the simplest compromise, and may be treated as an oracle. However, more work needs to be done to ensure that it is sound and well defined. The concern is that some identity  $\vdash \alpha \simeq \gamma$  might be inferred through an application of **fp-elim** assuming  $\beta \not\simeq X$ , but only from the identity  $\vdash \alpha \simeq \gamma$ , we are able to infer  $\beta \simeq X$ . A careful argument needs to be given to justify that such a situation cannot arise.

We provide some example derivations to demonstrate the deductive system  $\mathfrak{AL}$  and establish some useful theorems.

1.  $\mathbb{F}X.\alpha \simeq \neg\mathbb{F}X.\neg\alpha[X \setminus \neg X]$ . That is the fixed point operator is self dual.

$$\begin{array}{ll}
\mathbb{F}X.\alpha \simeq \alpha[X \setminus \mathbb{F}X.\alpha] & \text{fp-elim} \\
\mathbb{F}X.\alpha \simeq \neg\neg\alpha[X \setminus \neg X][X \setminus \neg\mathbb{F}X.\alpha] & \text{dn} \\
\neg\mathbb{F}X.\alpha \simeq \neg\alpha[X \setminus \neg X][X \setminus \neg\mathbb{F}X.\alpha] & \text{id, subs, dn} \\
\neg\mathbb{F}X.\alpha \simeq \mathbb{F}X.\neg\alpha[X \setminus \neg X] & \text{fp-intro, if } \alpha \not\simeq X \\
\neg\mathbb{F}X.\alpha \simeq \mathbb{F}X.\neg\alpha[X \setminus \neg X] & \text{half, if } \alpha \simeq X \\
\mathbb{F}X.\alpha \simeq \neg\mathbb{F}X.\neg\alpha[X \setminus \neg X] & \text{dn}
\end{array}$$

2.  $A \simeq \mathbb{F}X.((A \wedge X) \bowtie (A \vee X))$ . This equivalence is akin to a Bernoulli race: where given a test two outcomes (say heads and tails) we run the test to see if a randomly chosen outcome (heads or tails, chosen fairly) occurs, and if it does not occur, we repeat the process. The outcome of the process is identical to the original test. The proof is below:

$$\begin{array}{ll}
A \simeq A \bowtie A & \text{same} \\
A \simeq (A \wedge A) \bowtie (A \vee A) & \text{simp} \\
A \simeq ((A \wedge X) \bowtie (A \vee X))[X \setminus A] & \text{rewriting} \\
A \simeq \mathbb{F}X.((A \wedge X) \bowtie (A \vee X)) & \text{fp-intro}
\end{array}$$

3.  $\alpha \bowtie \neg\alpha \simeq \mathbb{F}X.X$ . A fair choice between a test or its negation is the same as a fair coin flip.

$$\begin{array}{ll}
(\alpha \bowtie \neg\alpha) \simeq \neg\neg(\alpha \bowtie \neg\alpha) & \text{dn} \\
(\alpha \bowtie \neg\alpha) \simeq \neg(\neg\alpha \bowtie \alpha) & \text{dn dist-}\neg \\
(\alpha \bowtie \neg\alpha) \simeq \neg((\neg\alpha \bowtie \alpha) \bowtie (\neg\alpha \bowtie \alpha)) & \text{same, subs} \\
(\alpha \bowtie \neg\alpha) \simeq \neg((\alpha \bowtie \neg\alpha) \bowtie (\alpha \bowtie \neg\alpha)) & \text{swap, subs} \\
(\alpha \bowtie \neg\alpha) \simeq \neg(\alpha \bowtie \neg\alpha) & \text{same, subs} \\
(\alpha \bowtie \neg\alpha) \simeq \mathbb{F}X.\neg X & \text{fp-intro} \\
(\alpha \bowtie \neg\alpha) \simeq \mathbb{F}X.X & (1), \text{ half}
\end{array}$$

## 5. Soundness

We show the soundness of the rules and axioms of  $\mathfrak{AL}$ , and provide a discussion of the axioms.

**Lemma 15.** *The deductive system  $\mathfrak{AL}$  is sound.*

**Proof:** We will also give some discussion of each axiom as we address them in turn.

- **id:**  $\vdash \alpha \simeq \alpha$ . This follows trivially since for all interpretations  $\mathfrak{I}$ ,  $\alpha^{\mathfrak{I}} = \alpha^{\mathfrak{I}}$ .
- **$\wedge$ -comm:**  $\vdash \alpha \wedge \beta \simeq \beta \wedge \alpha$ . This follows directly from the commutativity of multiplication: for all interpretations  $(\alpha \wedge \beta)^{\mathfrak{I}} = \alpha^{\mathfrak{I}} \cdot \beta^{\mathfrak{I}} = \beta^{\mathfrak{I}} \cdot \alpha^{\mathfrak{I}} = (\beta \wedge \alpha)^{\mathfrak{I}}$ .
- **$\wedge$ -assoc:**  $\vdash (\alpha \wedge \beta) \wedge \gamma \simeq \alpha \wedge (\beta \wedge \gamma)$ . This follows from the associativity of multiplication:  $((\alpha \wedge \beta) \wedge \gamma)^{\mathfrak{I}} = \alpha^{\mathfrak{I}} \cdot \beta^{\mathfrak{I}} \cdot \gamma^{\mathfrak{I}} = (\alpha \wedge (\beta \wedge \gamma))^{\mathfrak{I}}$ .
- **dn:**  $\vdash \neg\neg\alpha \simeq \alpha$ . This is the standard double negation axiom:  $(\neg\neg\alpha)^{\mathfrak{I}} = 1 - (1 - \alpha^{\mathfrak{I}}) = \alpha^{\mathfrak{I}}$ .
- **dist- $\neg$ :**  $\vdash \neg(\alpha \bowtie \beta) \simeq (\neg\alpha) \bowtie (\neg\beta)$ . Negation distributes over the aleatoric or operator:  $(\neg(\alpha \bowtie \beta))^{\mathfrak{I}} = 1 - (\alpha^{\mathfrak{I}} + \beta^{\mathfrak{I}})/2 = ((1 - \alpha^{\mathfrak{I}}) + (1 - \beta^{\mathfrak{I}}))/2 = ((\neg\alpha) \bowtie \neg\beta)^{\mathfrak{I}}$ .



- **dist- $\wedge$** :  $\vdash (\alpha \boxtimes \beta) \wedge \gamma \simeq (\alpha \wedge \gamma) \boxtimes (\beta \wedge \gamma)$ . Conjunction also distributes over aleatoric or:  $((\alpha \boxtimes \beta) \wedge \gamma)^{\mathcal{J}} = ((\alpha^{\mathcal{J}} + \beta^{\mathcal{J}})/2) \cdot \gamma^{\mathcal{J}} = (\alpha^{\mathcal{J}} \cdot \gamma^{\mathcal{J}} + \beta^{\mathcal{J}} \cdot \gamma^{\mathcal{J}})/2 = ((\alpha \wedge \gamma) \boxtimes (\beta \wedge \gamma))^{\mathcal{J}}$
- **swap**:  $\vdash (\alpha_1 \boxtimes \alpha_2) \boxtimes (\beta_1 \boxtimes \beta_2) \simeq (\alpha_2 \boxtimes \beta_2) \boxtimes (\alpha_1 \boxtimes \beta_1)$ . This axiom captures the limited associativity and commutativity of the aleatoric or operator. As the aleatoric or operation is essentially a weighted sum (in fact an average), we can change the order of the operands, provided we preserve the depth of nesting. For all interpretations  $\mathcal{J}$ ,  $((\alpha_1 \boxtimes \alpha_2) \boxtimes (\beta_1 \boxtimes \beta_2))^{\mathcal{J}} = (\alpha_1^{\mathcal{J}} + \alpha_2^{\mathcal{J}} + \beta_1^{\mathcal{J}} + \beta_2^{\mathcal{J}})/4 = ((\alpha_2 \boxtimes \beta_2) \boxtimes (\alpha_1 \boxtimes \beta_1))^{\mathcal{J}}$ .
- **same**:  $\vdash \alpha \boxtimes \alpha \simeq \alpha$ . As aleatoric or works as an average, it is idempotent:  $(\alpha \boxtimes \alpha)^{\mathcal{J}} = (\alpha^{\mathcal{J}} + \alpha^{\mathcal{J}})/2 = \alpha^{\mathcal{J}}$ .
- **simp**:  $\vdash (\alpha \wedge \beta) \boxtimes \neg(\neg\alpha \wedge \neg\beta) \simeq \alpha \boxtimes \beta$ . This *simplification* rule is interesting, and not obvious. It reflects an interesting logic puzzle, where you are given a coin with an unknown bias, and you can choose to flip it once (winning if it lands heads), or flip it twice, but if you flip it twice you will only win if it lands heads  $x$  times, where  $x$  is randomly chosen to be 1 or 2 (with equal chance). It can be shown that your chance of winning remains the same regardless of your choice. In terms of this axiom:

$$\begin{aligned} ((\alpha \wedge \beta) \boxtimes \neg(\neg\alpha \wedge \neg\beta))^{\mathcal{J}} &= ((\alpha^{\mathcal{J}} \cdot \beta^{\mathcal{J}}) + (\alpha^{\mathcal{J}} + \beta^{\mathcal{J}} - \alpha^{\mathcal{J}} \cdot \beta^{\mathcal{J}}))/2 \\ &= (\alpha^{\mathcal{J}} \cdot \beta^{\mathcal{J}})/2 \\ &= (\alpha \boxtimes \beta)^{\mathcal{J}}. \end{aligned}$$

- **half**:  $\vdash \mathbb{F}X.X \simeq \neg\mathbb{F}X.X$ . As mathematically every value is a fixed point of  $X$ , this axiom defines the fixed point in this case to be  $1/2$ . Note that the semantics could have also been defined to use a greatest fixed point  $((\mathbb{F}X.X)^{\mathcal{J}} = 1)$ , or a least fixed point  $((\mathbb{F}X.X)^{\mathcal{J}} = 0)$ , and these semantics could also remove the linearity constraint on fixed point variables, so in the greatest fixed point semantics  $(\mathbb{F}X.X)^{\mathcal{J}} = (3 - \sqrt{5})/2$ . Such semantic variations are left to future work. The soundness of the axiom is a direct application of the semantics.
- **amp**:  $\vdash \neg(\alpha \wedge \beta) \wedge \mathbb{F}X.X \simeq \neg\alpha \boxtimes (\alpha \wedge \neg\beta)$ . This is an interesting axiom, named **amp** for *aleatoric modus ponens*, as it may be rewritten as  $(\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \wedge \mathbb{F}X.X \simeq \neg\alpha \boxtimes (\alpha \wedge \beta)$  (substituting  $\beta$  for  $\neg\beta$ ). Ignoring the factor of a half on the left side  $(\mathbb{F}X.X)$  this could be read as  $\alpha$  implies  $\beta$  is the same as either  $\neg\alpha$  or  $\alpha \wedge \beta$ , where *or* is interpreted aleatorically. In this way, it gives a sense of a deductive operation similar to modus ponens. The soundness follows as:

$$\begin{aligned} (\neg(\alpha \wedge \beta) \wedge \mathbb{F}X.X)^{\mathcal{J}} &= (1 - \alpha^{\mathcal{J}} \cdot \beta^{\mathcal{J}}) \cdot 1/2 \\ &= (1 - \alpha^{\mathcal{J}} + \alpha^{\mathcal{J}} - \alpha^{\mathcal{J}} \cdot \beta^{\mathcal{J}})/2 \\ &= ((1 - \alpha^{\mathcal{J}}) + (\alpha^{\mathcal{J}}) \cdot (1 - \beta^{\mathcal{J}}))/2 \\ &= (\neg\alpha \boxtimes (\alpha \wedge \neg\beta))^{\mathcal{J}}. \end{aligned}$$

- **fp-elim**:  $\vdash \mathbb{F}X.\alpha \simeq \alpha[X \setminus \mathbb{F}X.\alpha]$ . This is the standard fixed point definition. Note that in Definition 8,  $\alpha[X \setminus \mathbb{F}X.\alpha]$  is only defined if  $\alpha$  is free for  $X$  in  $\alpha$ . That is, no free variable of  $\alpha$  can become bound in the substitution. Soundness follows since  $(\mathbb{F}X.\alpha)^{\mathcal{J}} = p$  where  $\alpha^{\mathcal{J}[X \leftarrow p]} = p$ . As the semantics are recursive and  $(\mathbb{F}X.\alpha)^{\mathcal{J}} = p$ ,  $\alpha^{\mathcal{J}[X \leftarrow p]} = \alpha[X \setminus \mathbb{F}X.\alpha]^{\mathcal{J}}$  as required.
- **subst**:  $\alpha \simeq \beta \vdash \gamma[X \setminus \beta] \simeq \gamma[X \setminus \alpha]$ . As the semantics are given recursively, substituting equivalent propositions into the same form will give equivalent propositions. Note that a substitution  $\gamma[X \setminus \alpha]$  is only defined if  $\alpha$  is free for  $X$  in  $\gamma$ . Also, note that the order of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are switched so this axiom also establishes the symmetry of the  $\simeq$  relation. From  $\alpha \simeq \beta$ , and the substitution instance of **id**:  $X \simeq X$ , the **subst** rule allows us to derive  $\beta \simeq \alpha$ .
- **trans**:  $\alpha \simeq \beta, \beta \simeq \gamma \vdash \alpha \simeq \gamma$ . This rule simply establishes  $\simeq$  as a transitive relation, which follows trivially from the transitivity of equality. This rule along with the axiom **id** and the **subst** rule is enough to ensure that  $\simeq$  is an equivalence relation.
- **fp-intro**:  $\alpha \simeq \beta[X \setminus \alpha] \vdash \alpha \simeq \mathbb{F}X.(\beta)$ , where  $\beta \not\approx X$ . This rule allows a fixed point operator to be introduced, where a fixed point has been deduced. That is, if  $\alpha^{\mathcal{J}} = \beta[X \setminus \alpha]^{\mathcal{J}}$ , then  $\alpha^{\mathcal{J}}$  is

a fixed point of  $X$  in  $\beta$ . However, there is a problem in that  $\alpha$  may not be the only fixed point in (and exclusively in) the case that  $\beta$  is identical to  $X$  (see Lemma 4). As discussed above, the condition that  $\beta \neq X$  is somewhat problematic, but it is the best compromise we have for now.

- **order:**  $\alpha \bowtie \gamma \simeq \beta \bowtie \gamma \vdash \alpha \simeq \beta$ . This rule is sound since if  $(\beta^\top + \gamma^\top)/2 = (\alpha^\top + \gamma^\top)/2$ , then multiplying both sides of the equation by 2 and subtracting  $\gamma^\top$  is enough to show  $\beta^\top = \alpha^\top$ . This rule is required particularly for showing completeness for theories, where equivalences may be stated without being able to be reduced to common elements. That is, we can derive such equivalences where they necessarily hold in all interpretations, but give a theory that specifies  $X \bowtie Y \simeq Z \bowtie Y$ , we will have  $X^\top/2 + Y^\top/2 = Z^\top/2 + Y^\top/2$  so can derive  $X^\top = Z^\top$ .

We have shown all the rules of  $\mathfrak{AL}$  to be sound. □

## 6. Completeness for Validity

The completeness of the system  $\mathfrak{AL}$  is conjectured, but remains an open question.

**Conjecture 16.** *The deductive system  $\mathfrak{AL}$  is complete for the validity of aleatoric logic.*

The proposed proof of completeness for validity will proceed with the following steps:

1. Introduce a normal form for aleatoric propositions, referred to as aleatoric normal form (anf).
2. Show that every aleatoric proposition is provably equivalent to a proposition in anf.
3. Show a partial correspondence between anf and the rational functions from  $[0, 1]^A$  to  $[0, 1]$ .
4. Show that when two propositions in anf correspond to the same rational function, then they are provably equivalent.

### 6.1. Aleatoric Normal Form

*Aleatoric Normal Form* shows that every proposition can be effectively represented by repeated Bernoulli Tests over a finite set of propositional atoms. This normal form has previously been exploited to give an expressiveness completeness result in [1].

**Definition 17.** *Let  $X$  be a reserved atom in  $\mathcal{L}$ . The set of propositions in  $X$ -aleatoric normal form is generated by the following Backus-Naur form:*

$$\begin{aligned} \text{conj} &= A \mid \neg A \mid \text{conj} \wedge \text{conj} \\ \text{clause} - X &= X \mid (\neg \text{conj} \wedge X) \mid (\text{conj} \vee X) \mid \text{clause} \bowtie \text{clause} \\ \text{anf} - X &= \mathbb{F}X.\text{clause} \end{aligned}$$

Where  $X$  is clear from context we just refer to aleatoric normal form, anf.

This normal form is closely related to the  $k$ -block normal form of [1], which was applied to show that aleatoric logic was expressively complete for the set of rational functions from  $[0, 1]^A$  to  $(0, 1)$ .

**Definition 18.** *A rational function,  $f : (0, 1)^{\mathcal{X}} \rightarrow (0, 1)$  is a  $k$ -block-function if there exists polynomials  $\ell$  and  $m$ :*

$$\begin{aligned} \ell(\mathcal{X}) &= \sum_{a \in \rho_{\mathcal{X}}^k} \ell_a \prod_{x \in \mathcal{X}} x^{a(x,+)} \cdot (1-x)^{a(x,-)} \\ m(\mathcal{X}) &= \sum_{a \in \rho_{\mathcal{X}}^k} m_a \prod_{x \in \mathcal{X}} x^{a(x,+)} \cdot (1-x)^{a(x,-)} \end{aligned}$$

where  $\rho_{\mathcal{X}}^k = \{\bar{a} \in \{0, \dots, k\}^{\mathcal{X} \times \{+,-\}} \mid \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} a(x,+) + a(x,-) = k\}$ , for all  $a \in \rho_{\mathcal{X}}^k$ ,  $\ell_a$  and  $m_a$  are integers such that  $\ell_a < m_a$  and  $f(\mathcal{X}) = \ell(\mathcal{X})/m(\mathcal{X})$ .

A  $k$ -block function is designed to correspond to the notion of  $k$ -block normal form aleatoric propositions, and also has an elegant correspondence to rational functions  $f : [0, 1]^{\mathcal{X}} \rightarrow (0, 1)$ .

**Lemma 19.** *Given some rational function  $f : [0, 1]^{\mathcal{X}} \rightarrow (0, 1)$ , there is some  $k$ -block function  $f' : [0, 1] \rightarrow (0, 1)$  such that  $f(\mathcal{X}) = f'(\mathcal{X})$ .*

This is applied in [1] to give the following theorem.

**Theorem 20.** 1. *For every aleatoric proposition  $\alpha \in \mathcal{L}$  defined over the free variables in  $\mathcal{X}$ ,  $f_\alpha(\mathcal{X})$  is a rational function from  $(0, 1)$  to  $(0, 1)$ .*  
 2. *For  $k$ -block-function  $f(\mathcal{X})$  from  $(0, 1)^{\mathcal{X}}$  to  $(0, 1)$ , there is some aleatoric proposition  $\alpha$  such that  $f_\alpha(\mathcal{X}) = f(\mathcal{X})$ .*  
 3. *For every rational function  $f(\mathcal{X})$  from  $[0, 1]^{\mathcal{X}}$  to  $(0, 1)$ , there is some aleatoric proposition  $\alpha$  such that  $f_\alpha(\mathcal{X}) = f(\mathcal{X})$ .*

This motivates the proposed proof structure that we have given. While the result in [1] is a purely semantic argument, the aim here is to formalise it in the deductive system  $\mathfrak{AL}$ . The reduction to rational functions gives both a notion of equivalence (that of being functionally equivalent) and also a notion of irreducibility: an aleatoric proposition in aleatoric normal form is irreducible if the numerator and denominator of the corresponding rational function are co-prime.

The first conjecture required for the completeness proof is as follows:

**Conjecture 21.** *Every aleatoric proposition,  $\alpha$ , is equivalent to some proposition  $\hat{\alpha}$  in aleatoric normal form, where  $\alpha \simeq \hat{\alpha}$  is provable in  $\mathfrak{AL}$ .*

This is likely to be shown via an inductive transformation, showing each step is provably correct. One of the more difficult steps is applying a version of the distributivity property required for the clause- $X$  normal form. It can be shown that

$$\alpha \wedge \neg(\beta \wedge \gamma) \simeq \mathbb{F}X \left[ \begin{array}{c} ((\alpha \wedge \neg\beta) \vee X) \bowtie ((\alpha \wedge \beta \wedge \neg\gamma) \vee X) \\ \bowtie \\ (\alpha \wedge X) \bowtie (\neg(\alpha \wedge \beta \wedge \gamma) \wedge X) \end{array} \right]$$

Given  $\alpha$  is in aleatoric normal form, it can be written as

$$\alpha \cong \mathbb{F}X \bowtie \left[ \begin{array}{c} (a_{11} \wedge \dots \wedge a_{1x_1}) \vee X \\ \dots \\ (a_{n1} \wedge \dots \wedge a_{nx_n}) \vee X \\ \neg(b_{11} \wedge \dots \wedge b_{1y_1}) \wedge X \\ \dots \\ \neg(b_{m1} \wedge \dots \wedge b_{my_m}) \wedge X \end{array} \right]$$

where  $a_{ij}$  and  $b_{ij}$  are of the form  $A$  or  $\neg A$  where  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ . Here, the aleatoric-or operation ( $\bowtie$ ) is applied uniformly to a set of propositions, so for example,  $\mathbb{F}X \bowtie [\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3]$  is an abbreviation for  $\mathbb{F}X \cdot ((\alpha_1 \bowtie \alpha_2) \bowtie (\alpha_3 \bowtie X))$ . This representation is reminiscent of a truth table representation used in Boolean propositional logic: the  $a_i$  rows are the combinations of variables that are specified as *true*; and the  $b_i$  rows are the combinations of variables that are specified as *false*. However, the nature of aleatoric logic replaces the ‘‘combinations of variables’’ with multi-sets of positive and negative atoms.

Letting  $\bar{A}$  be an arithmetical variable, and  $\overline{\neg A}$  be  $(1 - \bar{A})$ , we can show that the semantic interpretation of  $\alpha$  is equivalent to the multivariate rational function:

$$\bar{\alpha} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n \prod_{j=1}^{n_i} \bar{a}_{ij}}{\sum_{i=1}^n \prod_{j=1}^{n_i} \bar{a}_{ij} + \sum_{i=1}^m \prod_{j=1}^{m_i} \bar{b}_{ij}}$$

Now it is possible that the numerator and denominator of this rational function have a common factor. The following conjecture is required:

**Conjecture 22.** *Every aleatoric proposition,  $\alpha$ , is equivalent to some proposition  $\alpha^*$  in aleatoric normal form, where  $\alpha \simeq \alpha^*$  is provable in  $\mathfrak{AL}$ , and  $\overline{\alpha^*}$  is an irreducible rational function, in the sense that the numerator and the denominator are relatively prime.*

The completeness then follows from the following conjecture:

**Conjecture 23.** *Given two propositions,  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , where:*

1.  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are in aleatoric normal form;
2.  $\overline{\alpha}$  and  $\overline{\beta}$  are equivalent, irreducible rational functions;
3.  $\overline{\alpha}$  and  $\overline{\beta}$  are equivalent rational function;

*we can show  $\alpha \simeq \beta$  in  $\mathfrak{AL}$ .*

This conjecture follows from the **swap**,  **$\wedge$ -comm** and  **$\wedge$ -assoc** axioms.

These conjectures are sufficient to give the completeness of  $\mathfrak{AL}$ : by Conjecture 22, any two semantically equivalent propositions,  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , must have irreducible aleatoric normal form variants  $\alpha^*$  and  $\beta^*$  where  $\alpha \simeq \alpha^*$ ,  $\beta \simeq \beta^*$  such that  $\overline{\alpha^*}$  and  $\overline{\beta^*}$  are functionally equivalent. By Conjecture 23, we have  $\alpha^* \simeq \beta^*$ , and the result follows by the **trans** rule.

## Declaration on Generative AI

The author(s) have not employed any Generative AI tools.

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