



# **Computational Arguments** and their application in Computational Sociology

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# Outline of the talk

- The future
- Argumentation
- Social networks
- Two applications
- What you can do with us

# THE FUTURE





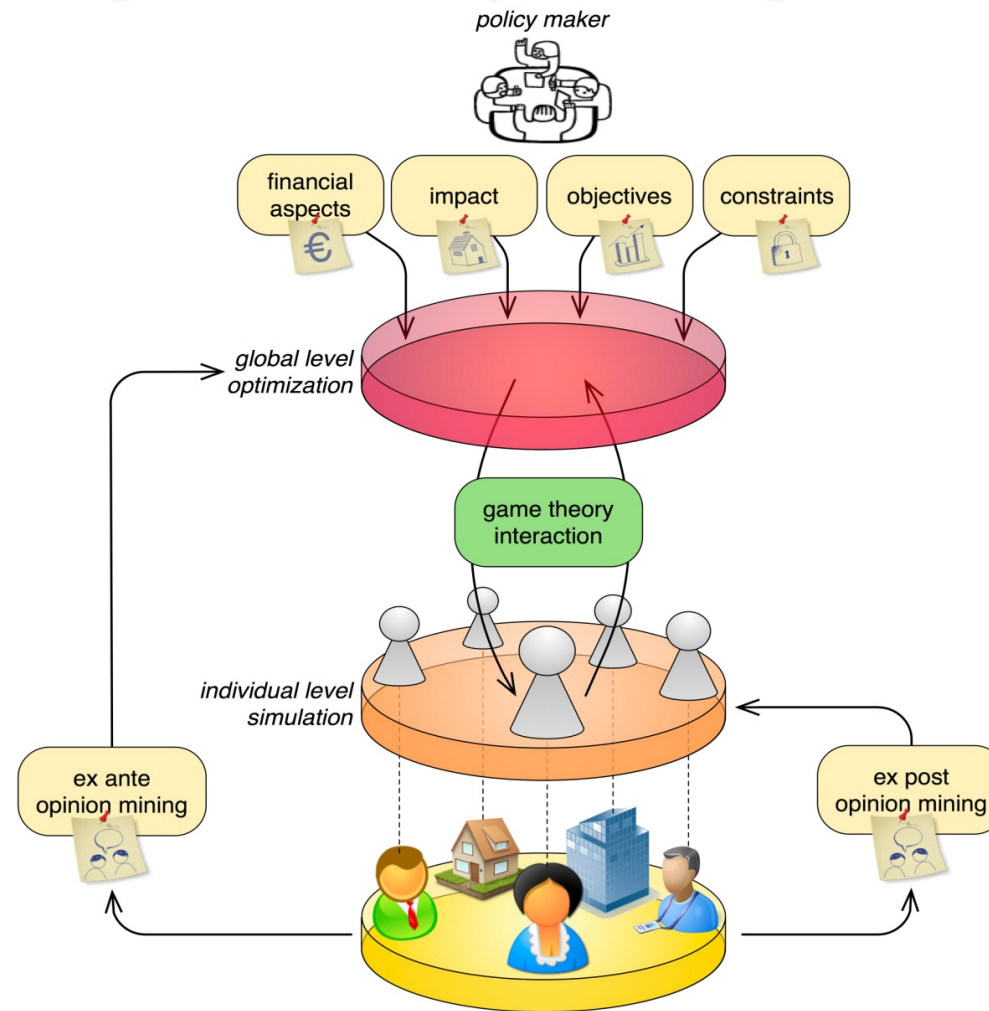
# The Answer to the Ultimate Question of Life, The Universe, and Everything

- “The ultimate goal of the **FuturICT** project is to understand and manage complex, global, socially interactive systems, with a focus on sustainability and resilience.”
- “FuturICT will build a Living Earth Platform, a **simulation, visualization and participation platform to support decision-making of policy-makers, business people and citizens**”
- “Integrating ICT, Complexity Science and the Social Sciences will create a paradigm shift, facilitating a symbiotic co-evolution of ICT and society”
- “**Everything might happen to us**, from a Big Brother Society to a Participatory Market Society. We will have to take the right decisions - but our society is not well prepared for these choices. To prevent our society from running into a Dark Age of Information, a public debate is urgently needed”

[FutureICT.eu]

# E-Policy

## Engineering the POLicy-making Lfe CYcle



Next set of slides courtesy of **Massimiliano Giacomini**  
<http://www.ing.unibs.it/~giacomini/>

# ARGUMENTATION



# What's argumentation? (1)

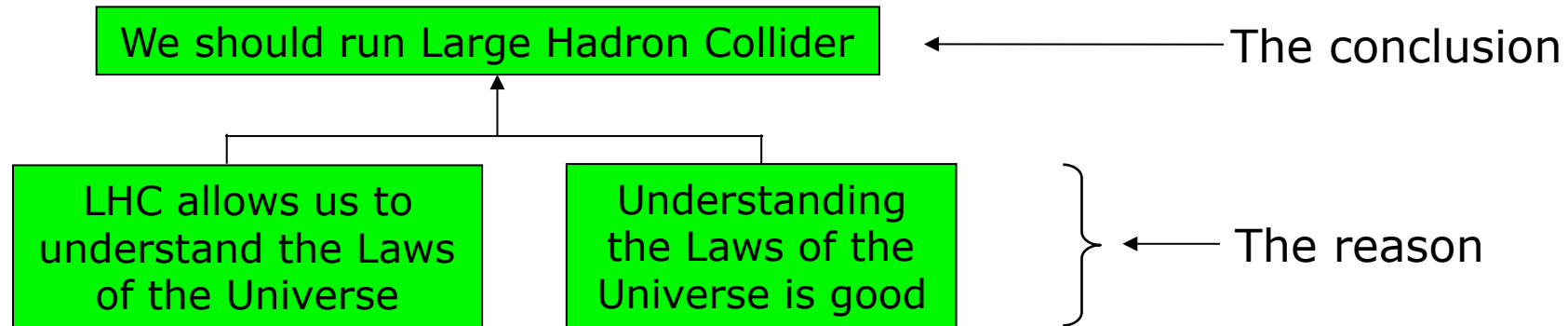
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- A framework for practical and uncertain reasoning able to cope with partial and inconsistent knowledge
  - philosophical roots: Aristotle, Toulmin (1958)
  - in AI: R.P. Loui (1987), J. Pollock (1987), G. Simari & Loui (1992)
- Reasoning consists in two main activities:
  - construction of arguments
    - Argument = a conclusion (belief, action, goal, etc.) and a reason (premises) supporting the conclusion itself
  - evaluation of arguments
    - Arguments may conflict:  
decide the set of arguments and conclusions “justified”  
(w.r.t. available knowledge)

# An informal example (1)

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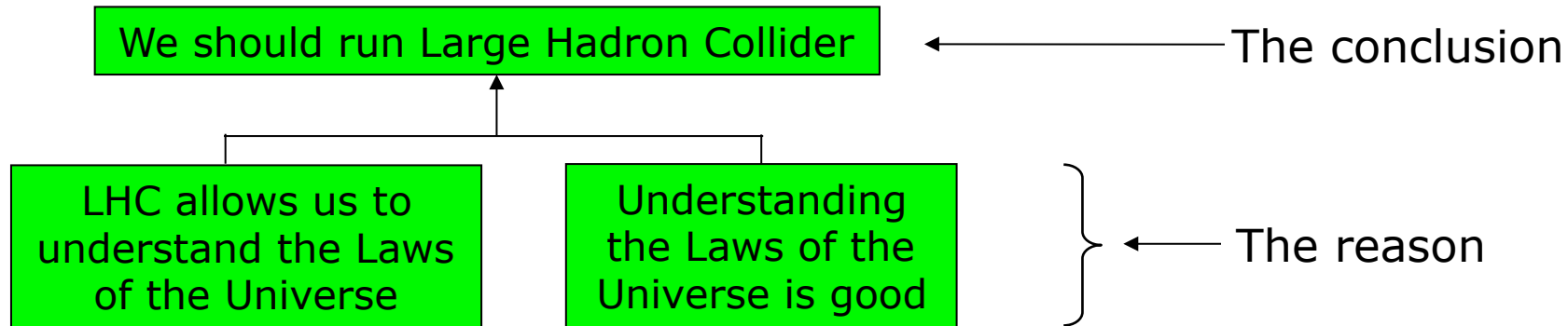
We are justified in believing that we should run LHC 😊



## An informal example (2)

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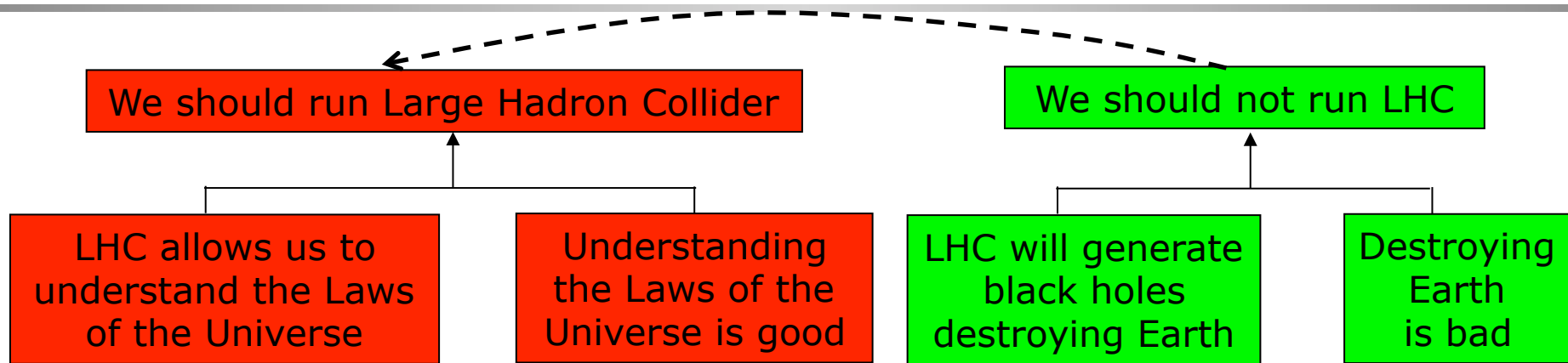
We are justified in believing that we should run LHC 😊

### **BUT**

In Argumentation (and in real life as well):

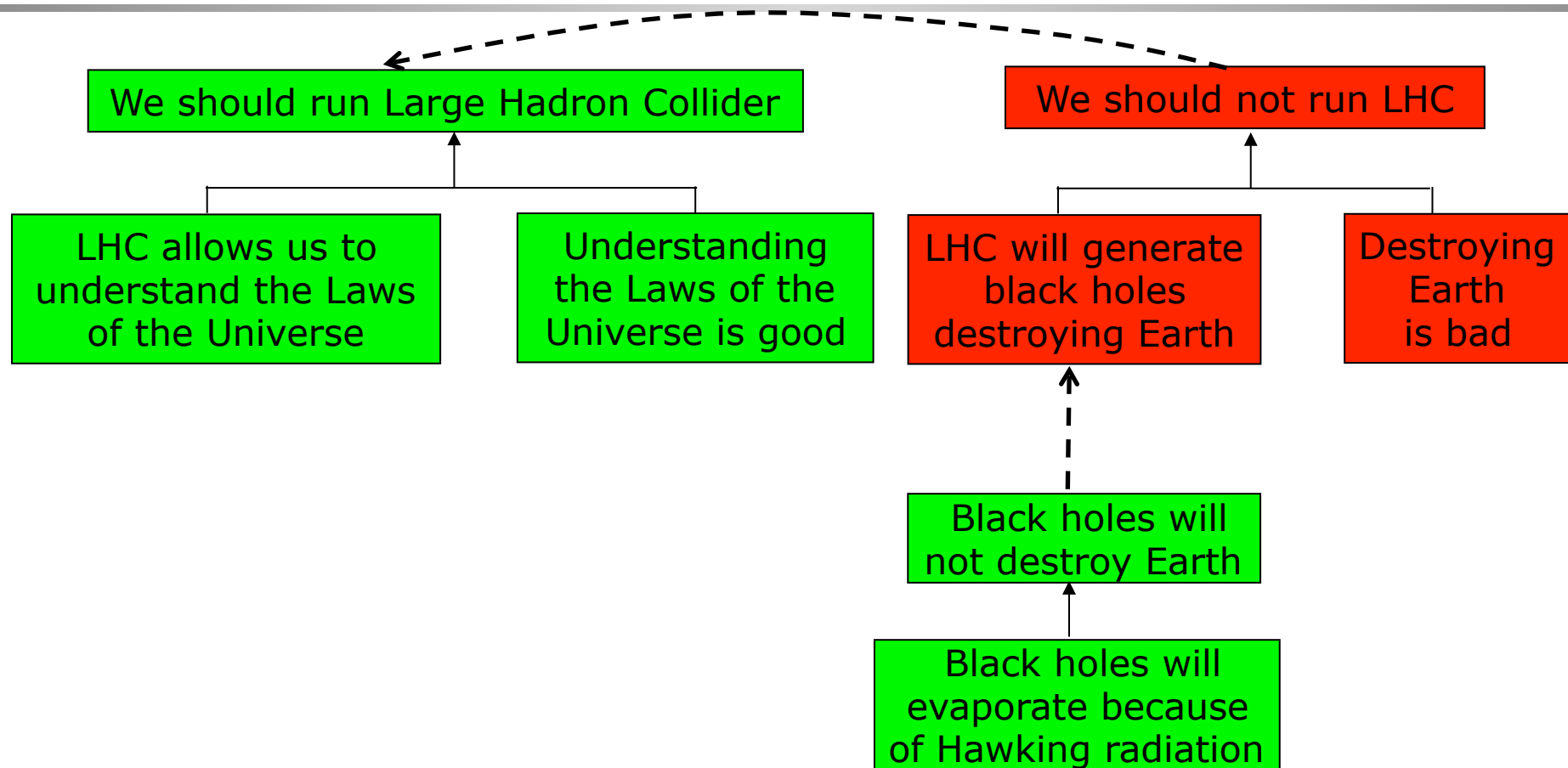
- reasons are not necessary "conclusive"  
(they don't logically entail conclusions)
- arguments and conclusions can be "retracted"  
in front of new information, i.e. counterarguments

## An informal example (3)



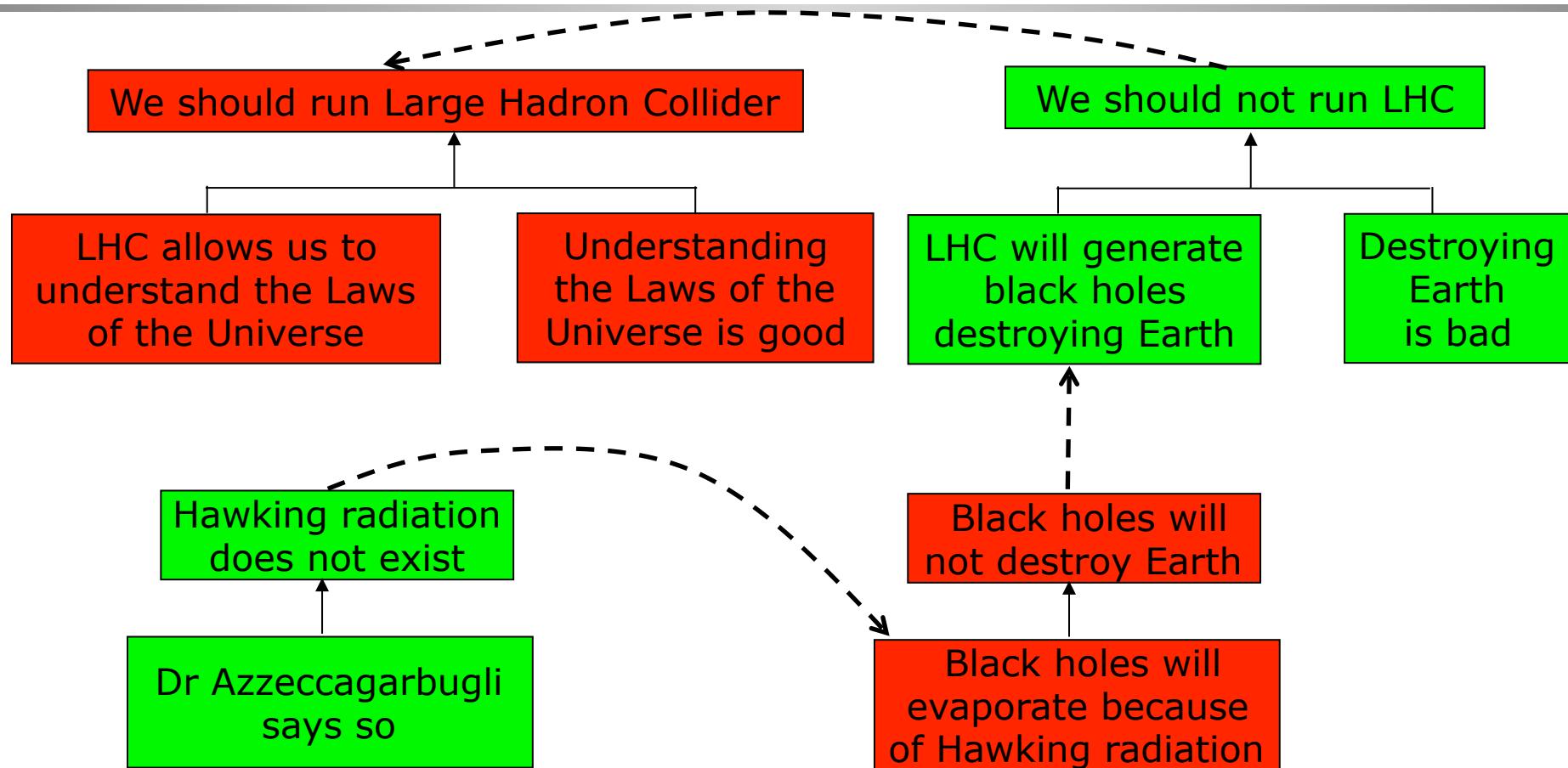
Now we are justified in believing that we should not run LHC ☹️

# An informal example (4)



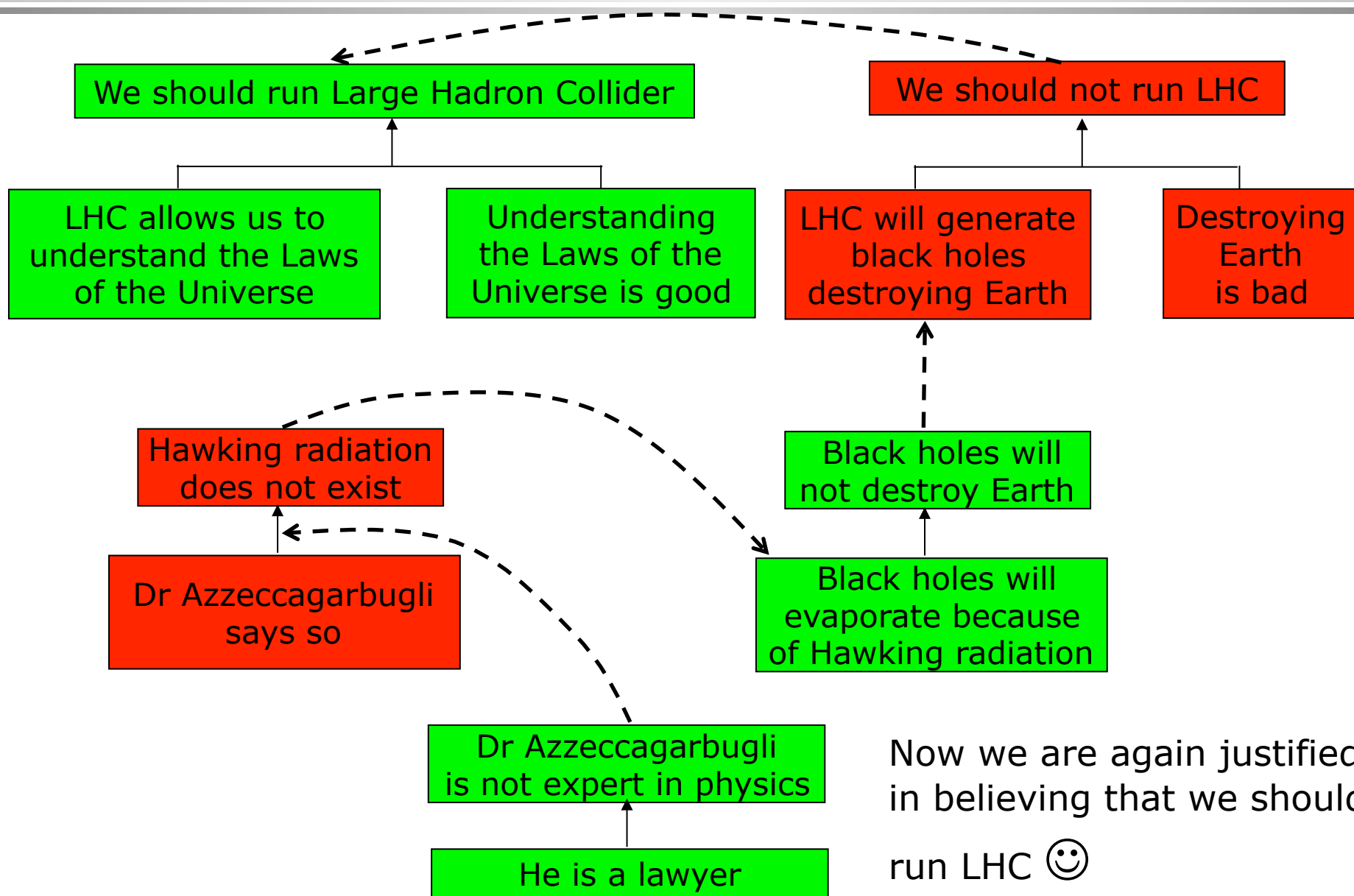
Now we are again justified in believing that we should run LHC 😊

# An informal example (5)



Now we are again justified in believing that we should not run LHC ☹️

# An informal example (6)



# What's argumentation? (2)

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## **The elements of an argumentation system**

- The definition of argument  
(possibly including an underlying logical language + a notion of logical consequence)
- The notion of conflict between arguments
- The notion of defeat (successful attack)
- An argumentation semantics selecting acceptable (justified) arguments

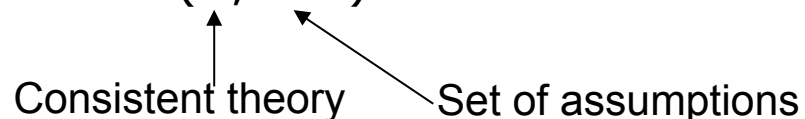
# Definition of argument: several possibilities (1)

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- ASSUMPTION-BASED ARGUMENTATION

Given a knowledge base  $(K, Ass)$



ARGUMENT for  $p$ :

$(A, p)$  such that

- $A \subseteq Ass$
- $A \cup K$  is consistent and entails  $p$
- There is no  $A' \subset A$  such that  $A' \cup K$  entails  $p$

ATTACKS to an argument: on its assumptions

[see Besnard&Hunter, Dung-Kowalski-Toni]

# Definition of argument: several possibilities (2)

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- ARGUMENT SCHEMES

- correspond to recurring patterns of reasoning
- have associated “critical questions”

## **Example: Expert Testimony**

[WALTON 1996]

E is expert on D

E says P

P is in D

Therefore, P is the case

### Critical questions:

Is E biased?

Is P consistent with what other experts say?

Is P consistent with known evidence?



# Definition of argument: several possibilities (3)

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- ARGUMENT SCHEMES IN A MEDICAL APPLICATION

## Viability Scheme

Organ **O** of donor **D** is available

No contraindications are known for donating **O** to recipient **R**

Therefore, organ **O** is viable

### *CRITICAL QUESTIONS:*

Does donor **D** have a contraindication for donating organ **O**?

## Nonviability Scheme

Donor **D** of organ **O** has condition **C**

**C** is a contraindication are for donating **O**

Therefore, organ **O** is nonviable

[Tolchinsky et al, 2006]

# Definition of argument: several possibilities (4)

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- STABLE MARRIAGE PROBLEM

- Arguments of the kind  $\langle \text{Alice}, \text{John} \rangle$
- $\langle \text{Barbara}, \text{John} \rangle$  attacks  $\langle \text{Alice}, \text{John} \rangle$  if John prefers Barbara to Alice

... ..

## In general

Arguments take different forms

(domain-independent vs. domain dependent)

Concern different kinds of conclusions

(beliefs, goals, intentions, ...)

In the examples we will refer to rule-based approaches...

# Rule-based approaches

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- ARGUMENT

a tree made up of rules of inference constructed from a set of premises to reach a conclusion

- Two kinds of rules:

$A \rightarrow B$ : deductive - “indefeasible”

$A \Rightarrow B$ : non-deductive - “defeasible”

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} A (0.7) \\ B (0.9) \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow \neg C (0.7)$$

$$D (0.9) \Rightarrow C (0.8)$$

- A strength value may be associated to premises and rules, giving rise to argument strength

See [J.Pollock, 1992], [G. Vreeswijk, 1997], ...

# Rule-based approaches (2)

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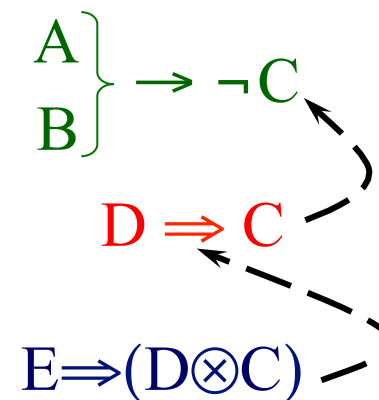
## Notion of conflict

- Rebutting:  
an argument attacks another one by denying its [possibly intermediate] conclusion
- Undercutting:  
an argument attacks the applicability of a defeasible rule of inference

## Notion of defeat

An argument  $\alpha$  defeats  $\beta$  iff:

- $\alpha$  undercuts  $\beta$ , or
- $\alpha$  rebuts  $\beta$  and  $\alpha$  is not weaker than  $\beta$

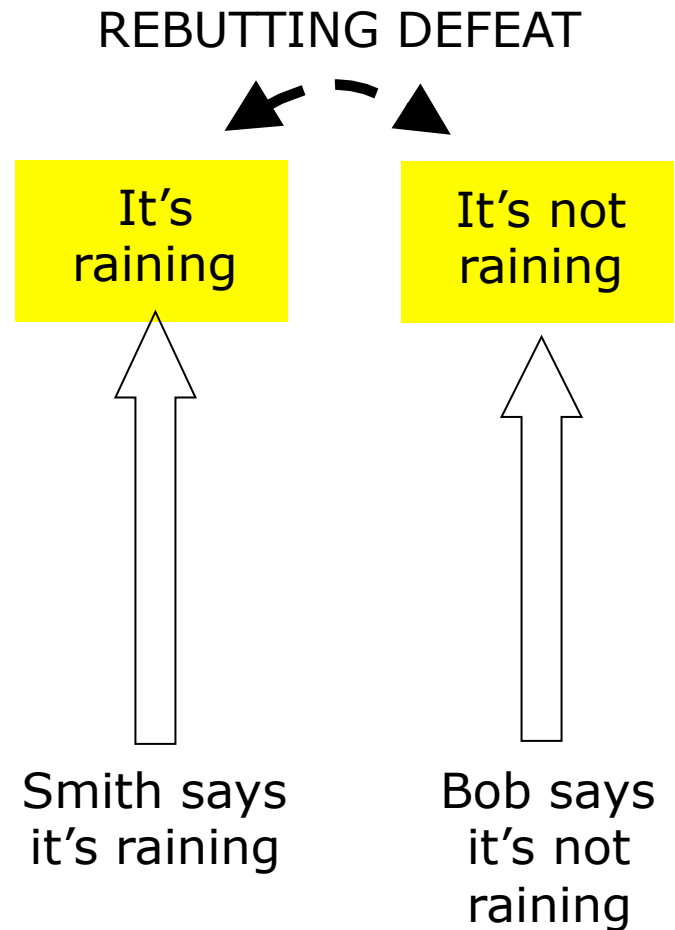


[Pollock 92]

# Rule-based approaches (3)

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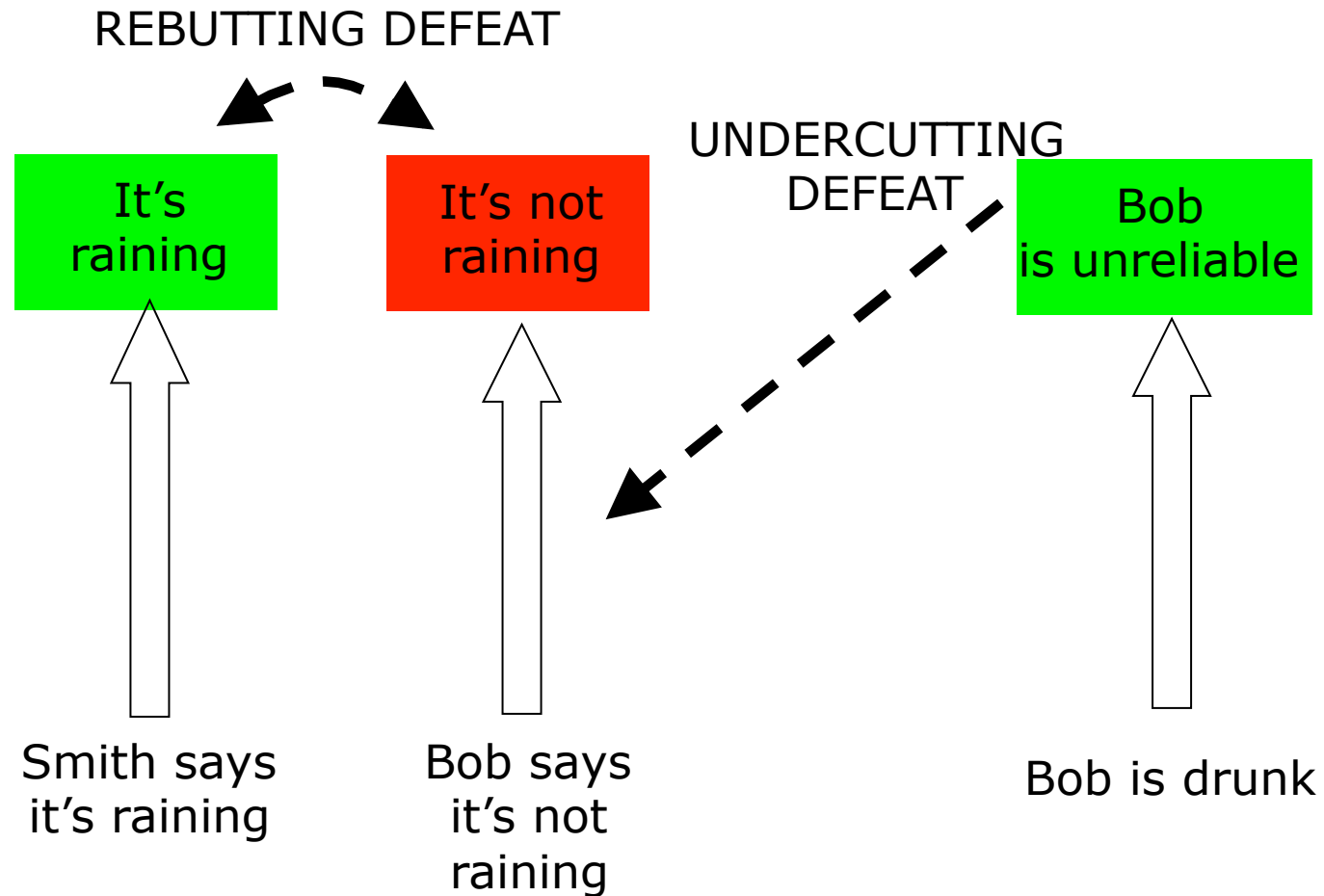
## EXAMPLE



# Rule-based approaches (4)

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## EXAMPLE



# An argumentation spot

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## Advantageous features

- Different kinds of arguments can be represented
  - Able to handle uncertain and inconsistent knowledge
  - A “natural” representation + justification of choices
- 
- Internal **reasoning** of single agents  
(reasoning about beliefs, goals, ...)
  - Negotiation and **dialogue** between agents
  - **Applications:** Decision Support, Medical Reasoning, Legal Reasoning, E-democracy, Social Simulations, Sentiment Analysis ...

# What's abstract argumentation?

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*Usually "abstract" stands for a difficult thing... Here it means "simple"!*



# What's abstract argumentation?

---

*Usually "abstract" stands for a difficult thing... Here it means "simple"!*

## **The elements of an argumentation system**

- ~~• An underlying logical language + a notion of logical consequence~~
- ~~• The definition of argument~~
- ~~• The notion of conflict between arguments~~
- ~~• The notion of defeat (successful attack)~~
- An argumentation semantics that select acceptable (justified) arguments



Abstract argumentation focuses on this aspect

# Dung's argumentation framework

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[Dung '95]

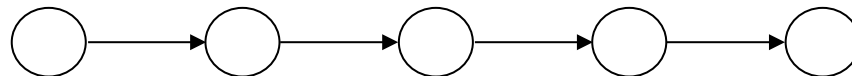
$$AF = \langle A, \rightarrow \rangle$$

attack (or defeat) relation  
[unspecified definition]

Arguments [origin and structure not specified]

- Graphical representation as a directed graph [defeat graph], e.g.

*Representation of LHC example*



# Dung's argumentation framework

[Dung '95]

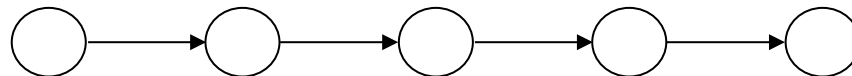
$$AF = \langle A, \rightarrow \rangle$$

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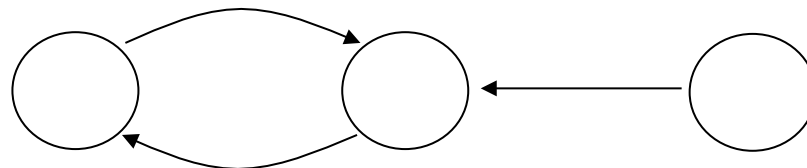
Arguments [origin and structure not specified]

- Graphical representation as a directed graph [defeat graph], e.g.

*Representation of LHC example*



*Representation of weather example*



# Dung's argumentation framework (2)

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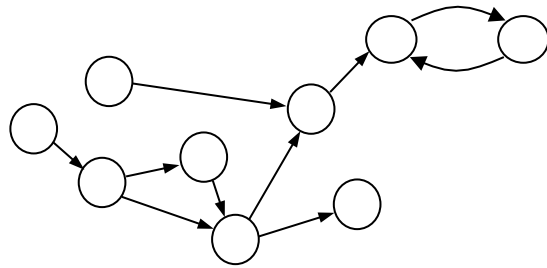
 So, what remains to be done?

ARGUMENT EVALUATION:

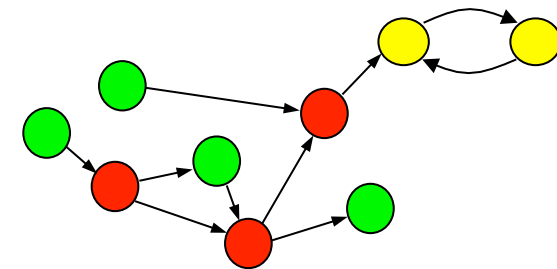
**GIVEN AN ARGUMENTATION FRAMEWORK,**  
DETERMINE THE JUSTIFICATION STATE  
(ALSO CALLED DEFEAT STATUS) OF ARGUMENTS,  
IN PARTICULAR: **WHAT ARGUMENTS** EMERGE UNDEFEATED  
FROM THE CONFLICT, I.E. **ARE ACCEPTABLE?**

# Argumentation semantics

- Specification of a method for argument evaluation, or of criteria to determine, given a set of arguments, their “defeat status”

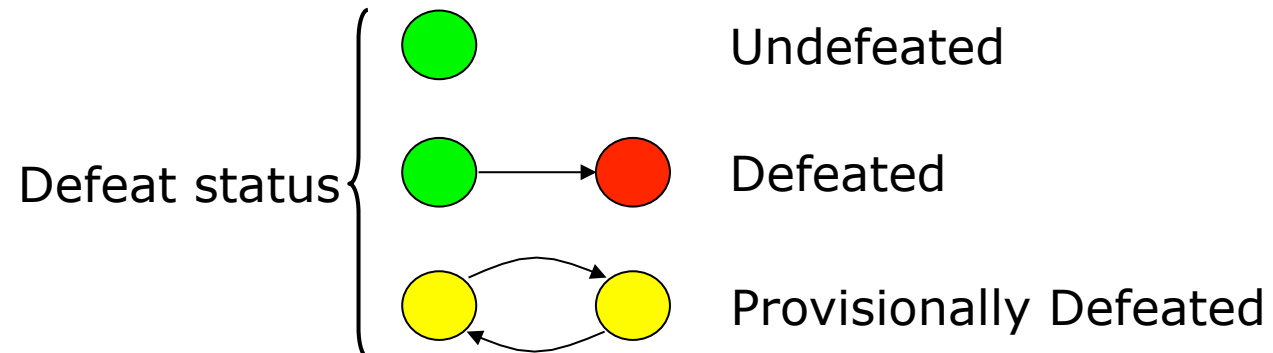


➔  
*Semantics*



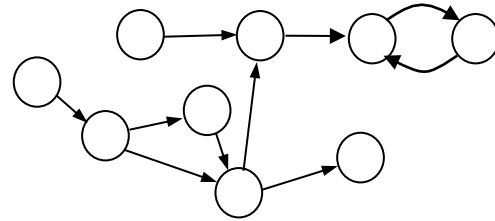
*Argumentation Framework*

*Defeat status*



# Extension-based semantics

- Given AF

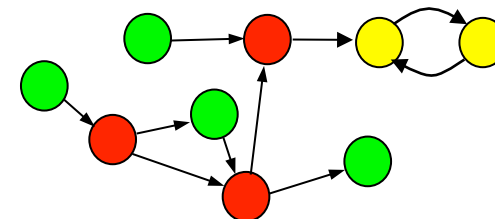
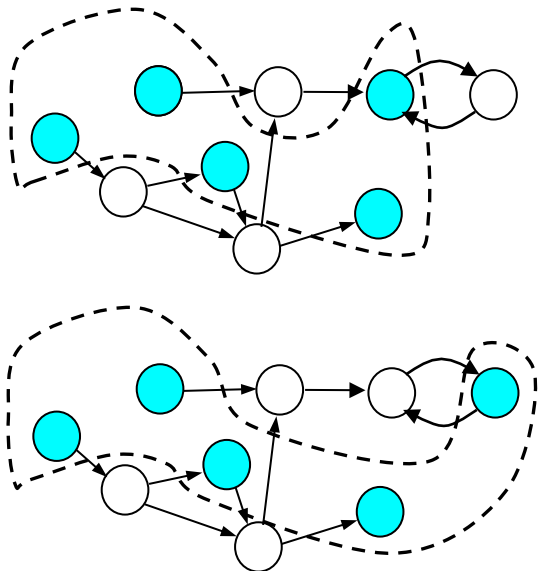


a semantics  $S$  identify

Set of extensions  $\mathcal{E}_S(\text{AF})$



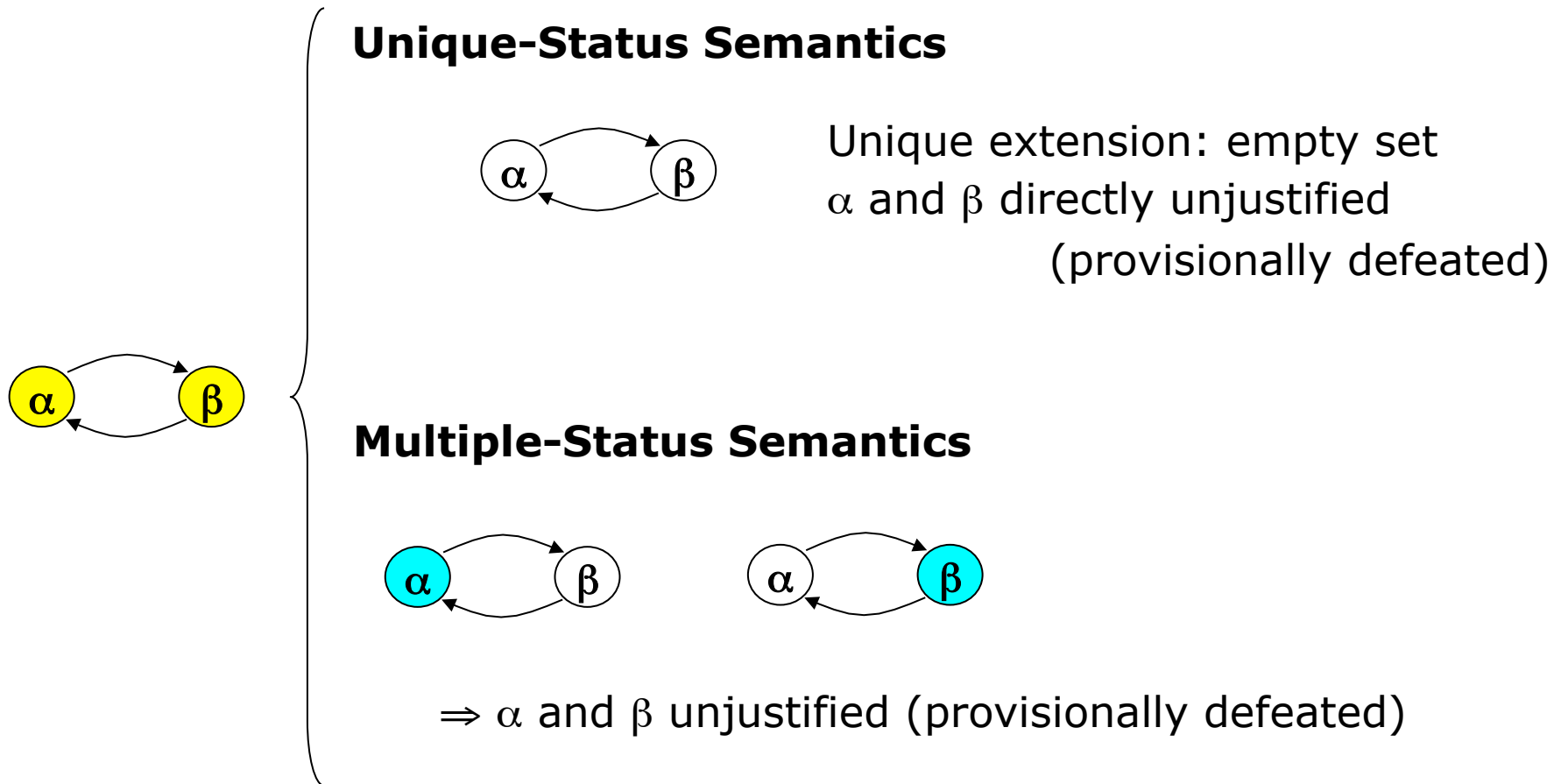
Defeat Status  
(Justification Status)



[Justified arguments:  
belong to all extensions]

# Unique-status vs. multiple-status semantics

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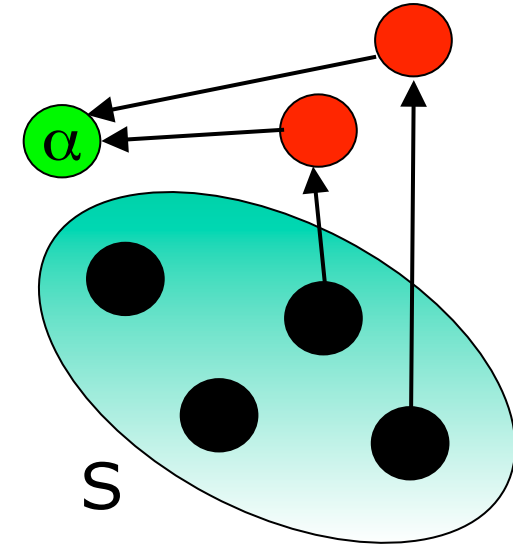


# The core of Dung's theory: complete "semantics"

## Acceptability

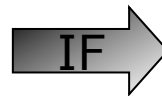
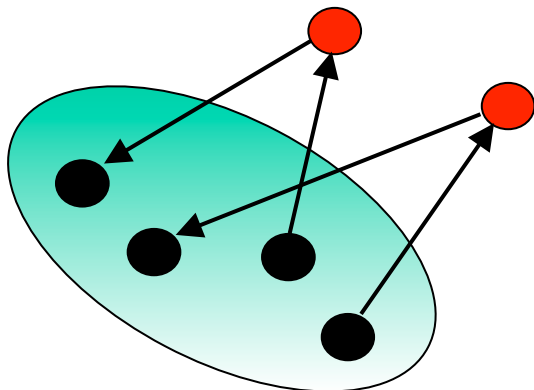
$\alpha$  acceptable w.r.t. ("defended by")  $S$

- all attackers of  $\alpha$  are attacked by  $S$



## Admissible set $S$

- conflict-free
- every element acceptable w.r.t.  $S$   
(defends all of its elements)



also includes all  
acceptable elements  
w.r.t. itself

## Complete semantics

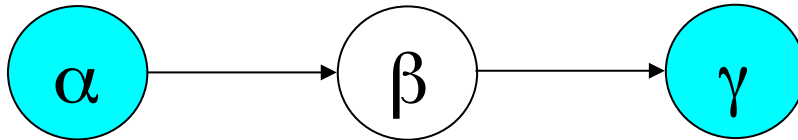


All traditional semantics  
select complete extensions



# Complete "semantics": examples

## Chain



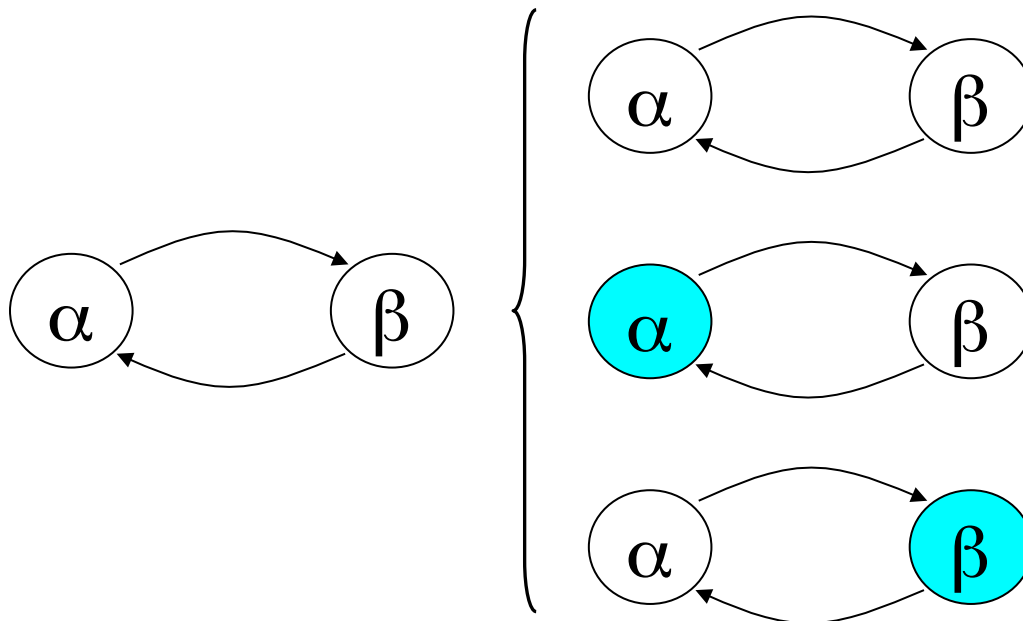
Admissible sets:

$\emptyset, \{\alpha\}, \{\alpha, \gamma\}$

Only one complete extension:

$$\mathcal{E}_{CO}(AF) = \{\{\alpha, \gamma\}\}$$

## Nixon Diamond

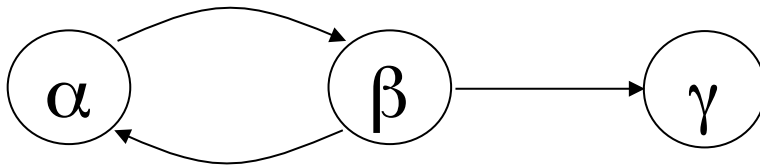


All admissible sets  
are complete

$$\mathcal{E}_{CO}(AF) = \{ \emptyset, \{\alpha\}, \{\beta\} \}$$

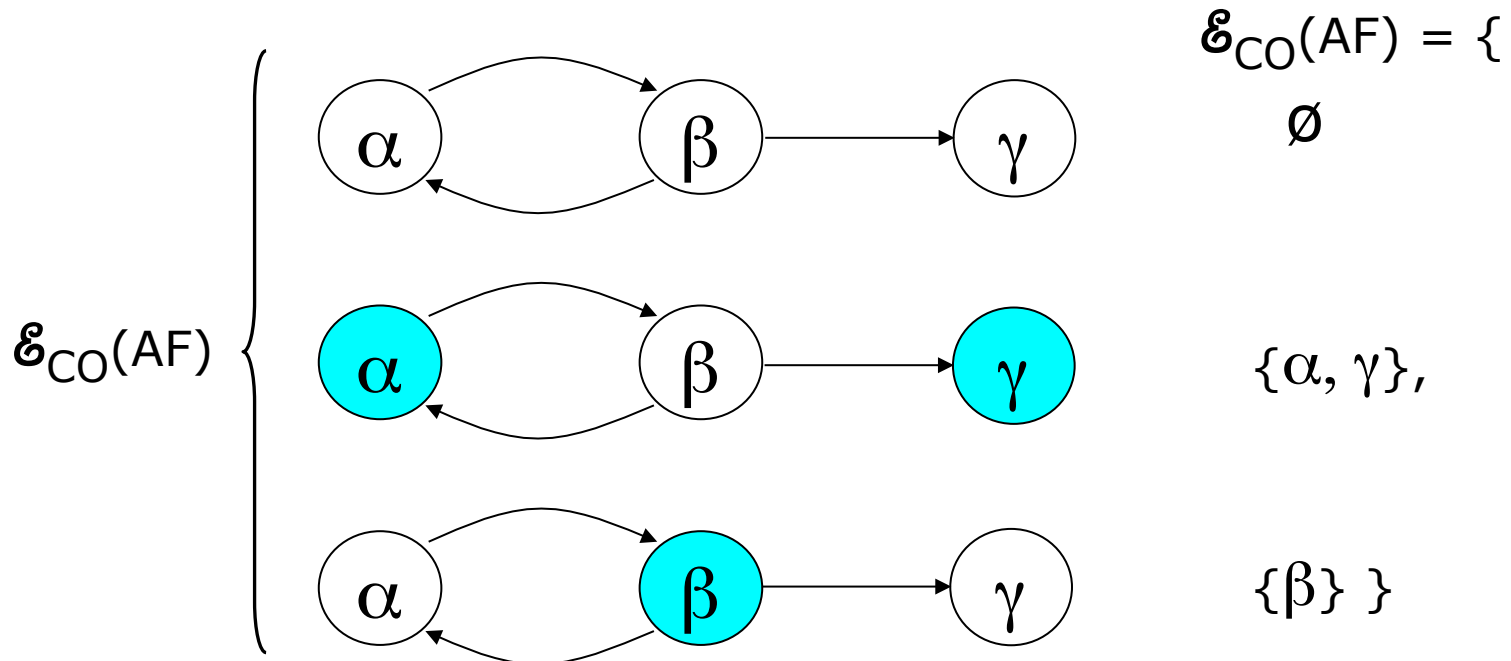
# Complete "semantics": examples (2)

## Nixon Diamond + node

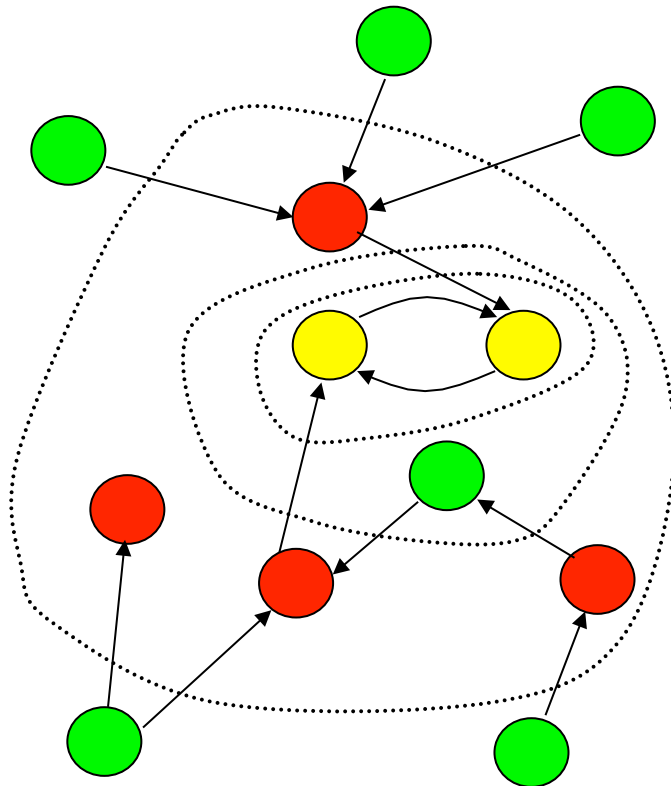


Admissible sets:

$\emptyset, \{\alpha\}, \{\beta\}, \{\alpha, \gamma\}$



# The Grounded Semantics: a unique status approach

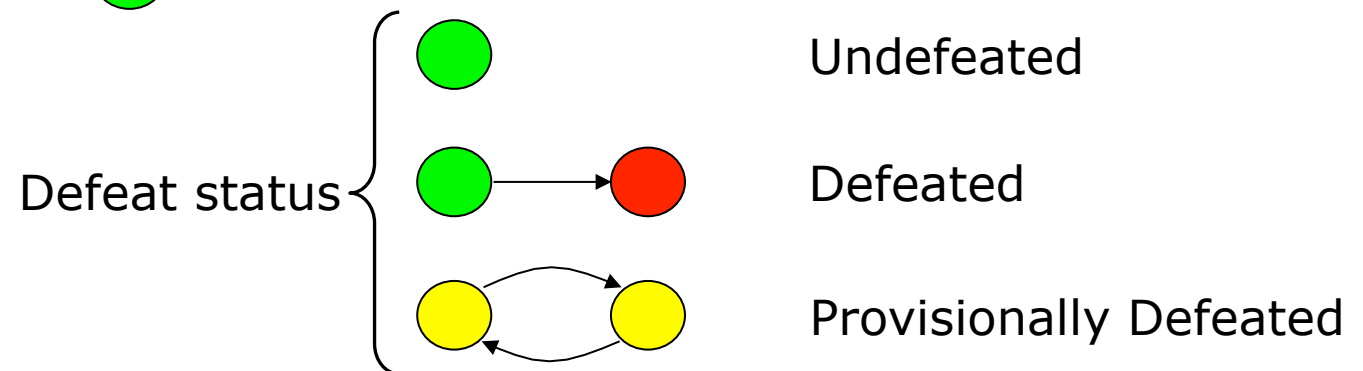


Grounded extension  $GE(AF)$ :

Least complete extension

➔ included in all extensions of any traditional semantics

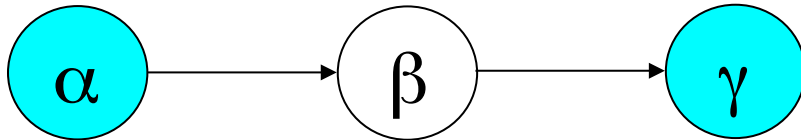
➔ Grounded semantics is the "most skeptical" one



# Grounded semantics: examples

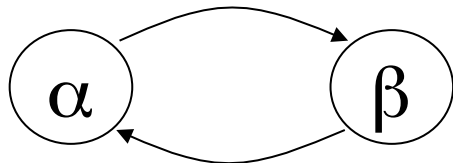
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## Chain



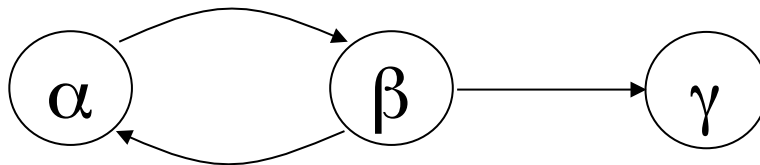
$$GE(AF) = \{\alpha, \gamma\}$$

## Nixon Diamond



$$GE(AF) = \emptyset$$

## Nixon Diamond + node



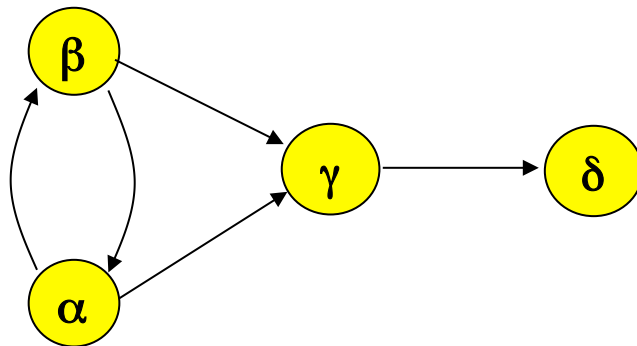
$$GE(AF) = \emptyset$$

# Floating arguments: a problem for grounded semantics

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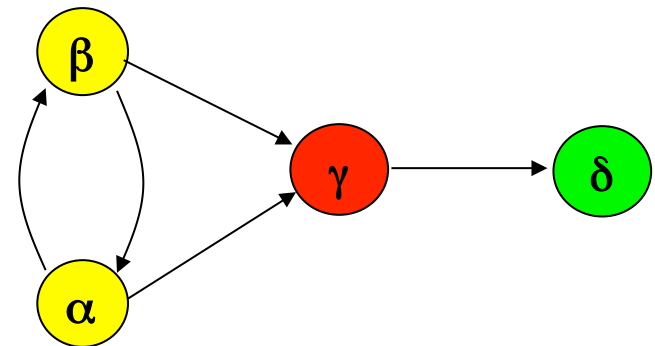
- Actually, grounded semantics is polynomially computable
- But sometimes we want a more discriminative behavior

## THE CASE OF FLOATING ARGUMENTS



Grounded Semantics

VS



What we want (?)

- A problem for all possible unique status approaches

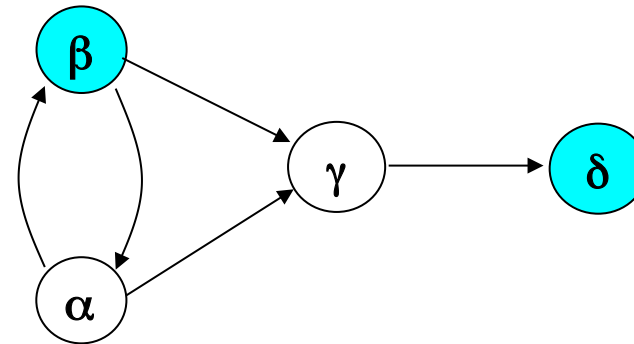
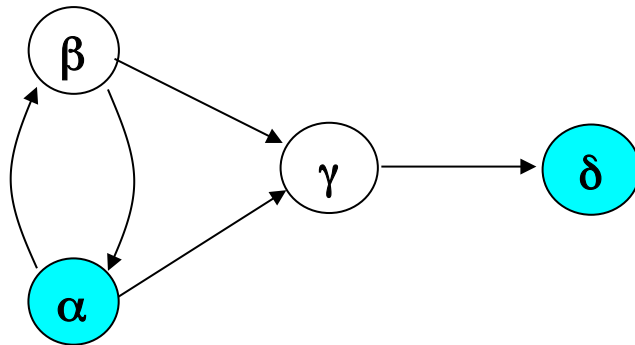


Let us consider multiple status approaches!

# Stable Semantics

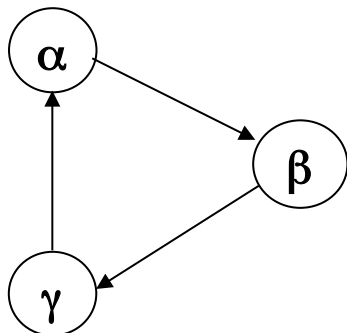
Stable extension = conflict-free set attacking all outside arguments

## THE CASE OF FLOATING ARGUMENTS



$$\mathcal{E}_{ST}(AF) = \{ \{ \alpha, \delta \}, \{ \beta, \delta \} \} \Rightarrow \delta \text{ is justified}$$

## ODD-LENGTH CYCLES: A PROBLEM FOR STABLE SEMANTICS



No stable extension exists!

(and also imposing  $\emptyset$  is not satisfactory)

# Preferred semantics

Stable extensions are maximal complete extensions

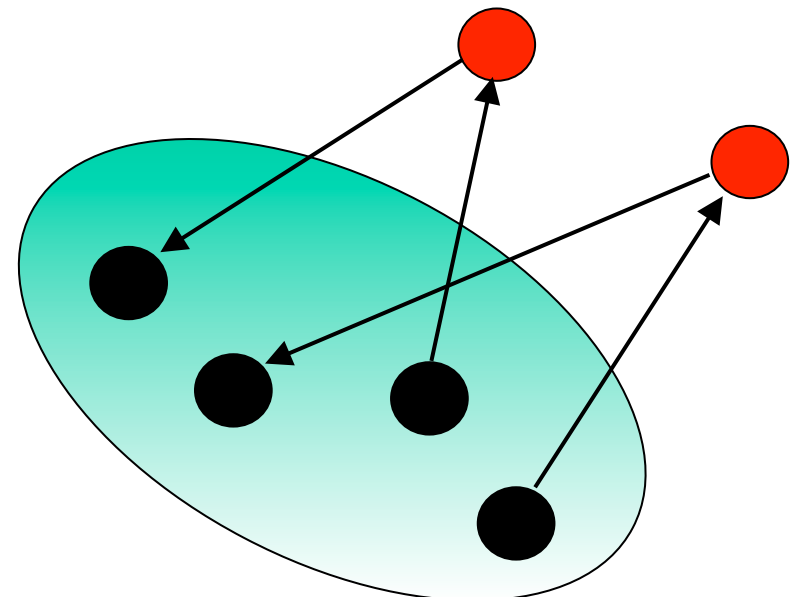
- conflict-free: by definition
- admissible: every argument attacking an extension is outside  
⇒ attacked by the extension itself
- maximal: no argument can be included!

**Preferred semantics** [P.M. Dung, '95]

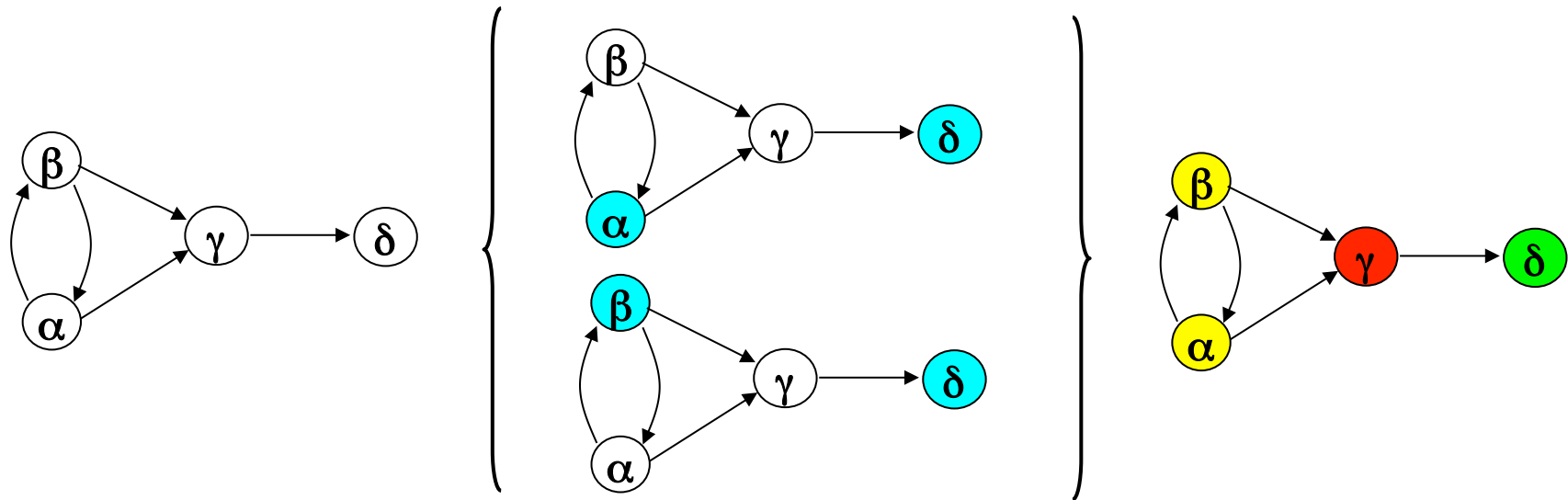
Preferred extension

**Maximal complete extension** = max Set:

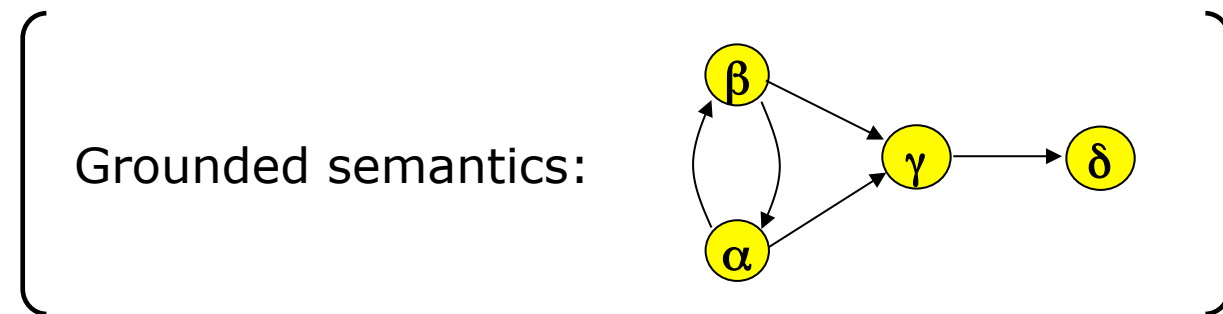
- is conflict-free
- defends all of its elements



# Preferred semantics and floating arguments

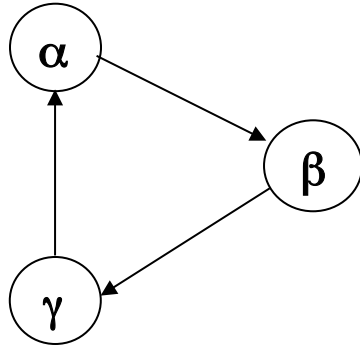


$$\mathcal{E}_{PR}(AF) = \mathcal{E}_{ST}(AF) = \{ \{ \alpha, \delta \}, \{ \beta, \delta \} \} \Rightarrow \delta \text{ is justified}$$





# Preferred semantics and odd-length cycles



$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{PR}}(\text{AF}) = \{\emptyset\}$$

A big difference, isn't it?

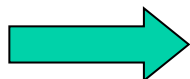
$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{ST}}(\text{AF}) = \emptyset$$

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{GE}}(\text{AF}) = \{\emptyset\}$$

No argument justified w.r.t. grounded and preferred semantics



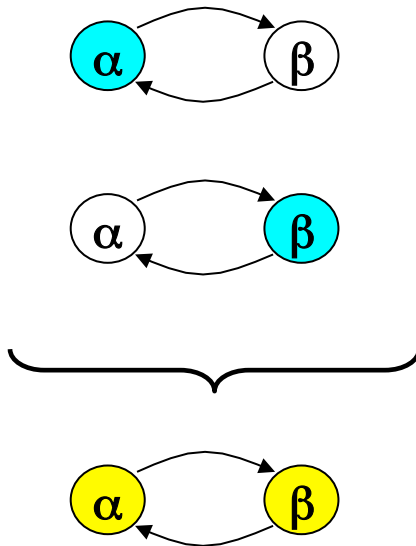
- Like stable semantics, preferred semantics handles the case of floating arguments (differently than grounded semantics)
- W.r.t. stable semantics it behaves "better" in the case of odd-length cycles (like grounded semantics)



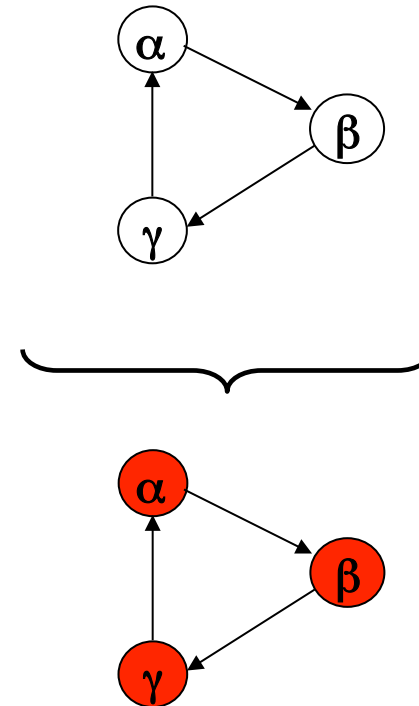
So, what remains to be done?

# Preferred Semantics and cycles

## Even-length cycle



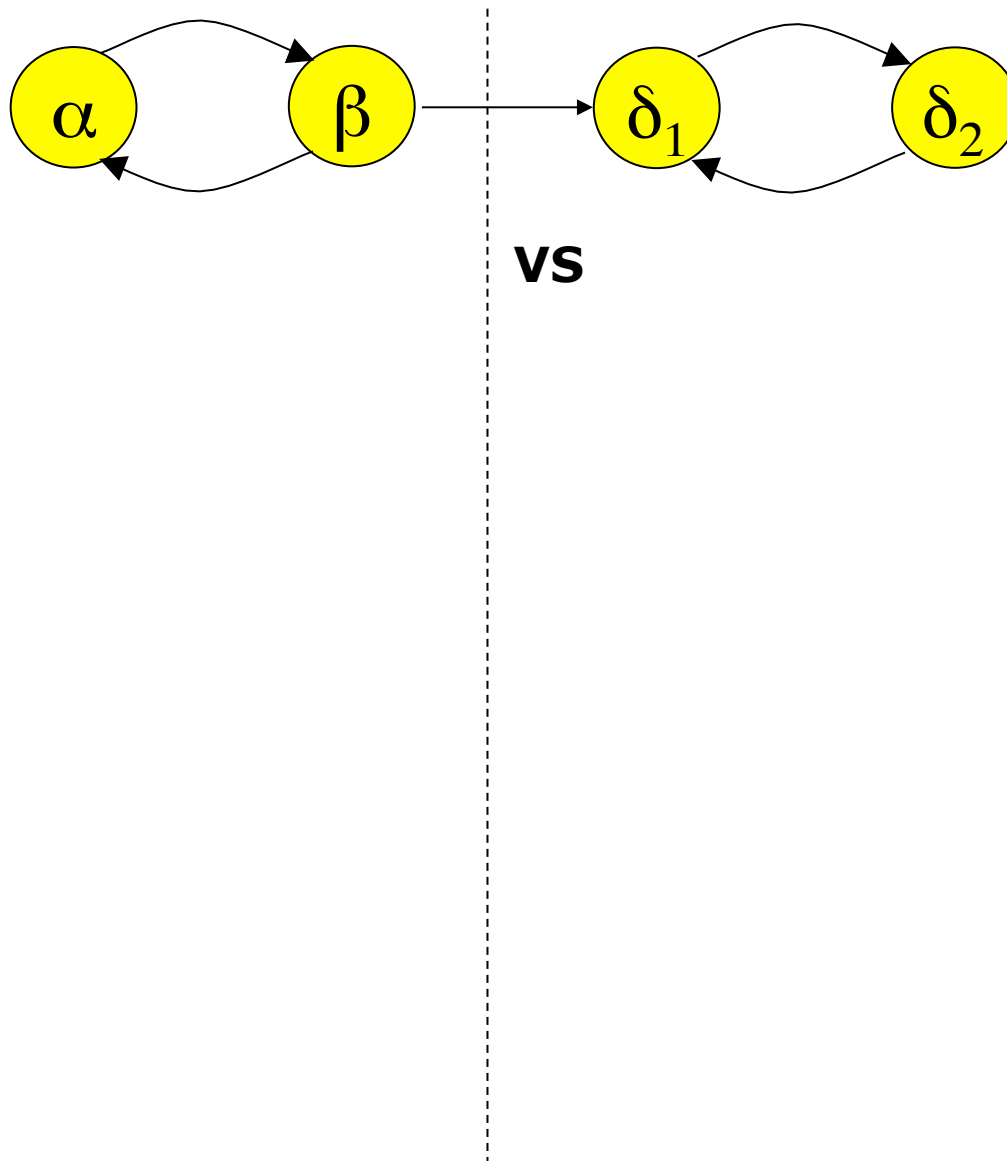
## Odd-length cycle



A different treatment for even and odd-length cycles.  
Is it just a matter of symmetry and elegance?

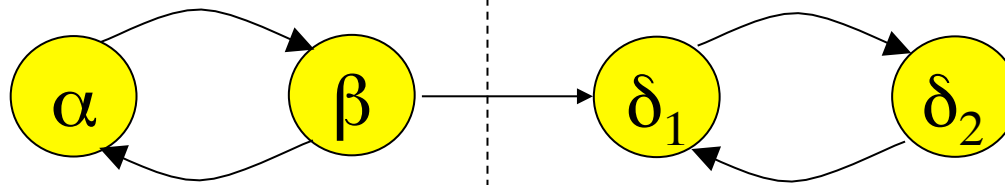
## Preferred Semantics and cycles (continued)

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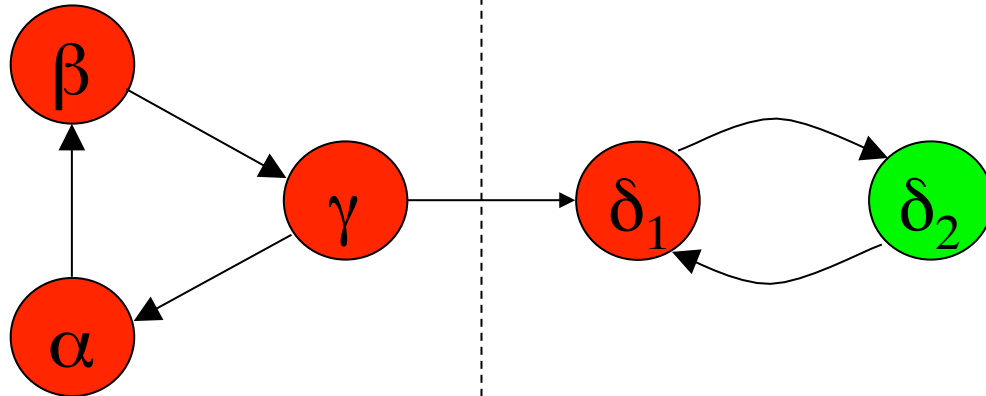


$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{PR}}(\text{AF}) =$$
$$\{ \{ \alpha, \delta_1 \}, \{ \alpha, \delta_2 \},$$
$$\{ \beta, \delta_2 \} \}$$

# Preferred Semantics and cycles (continued)



**VS**

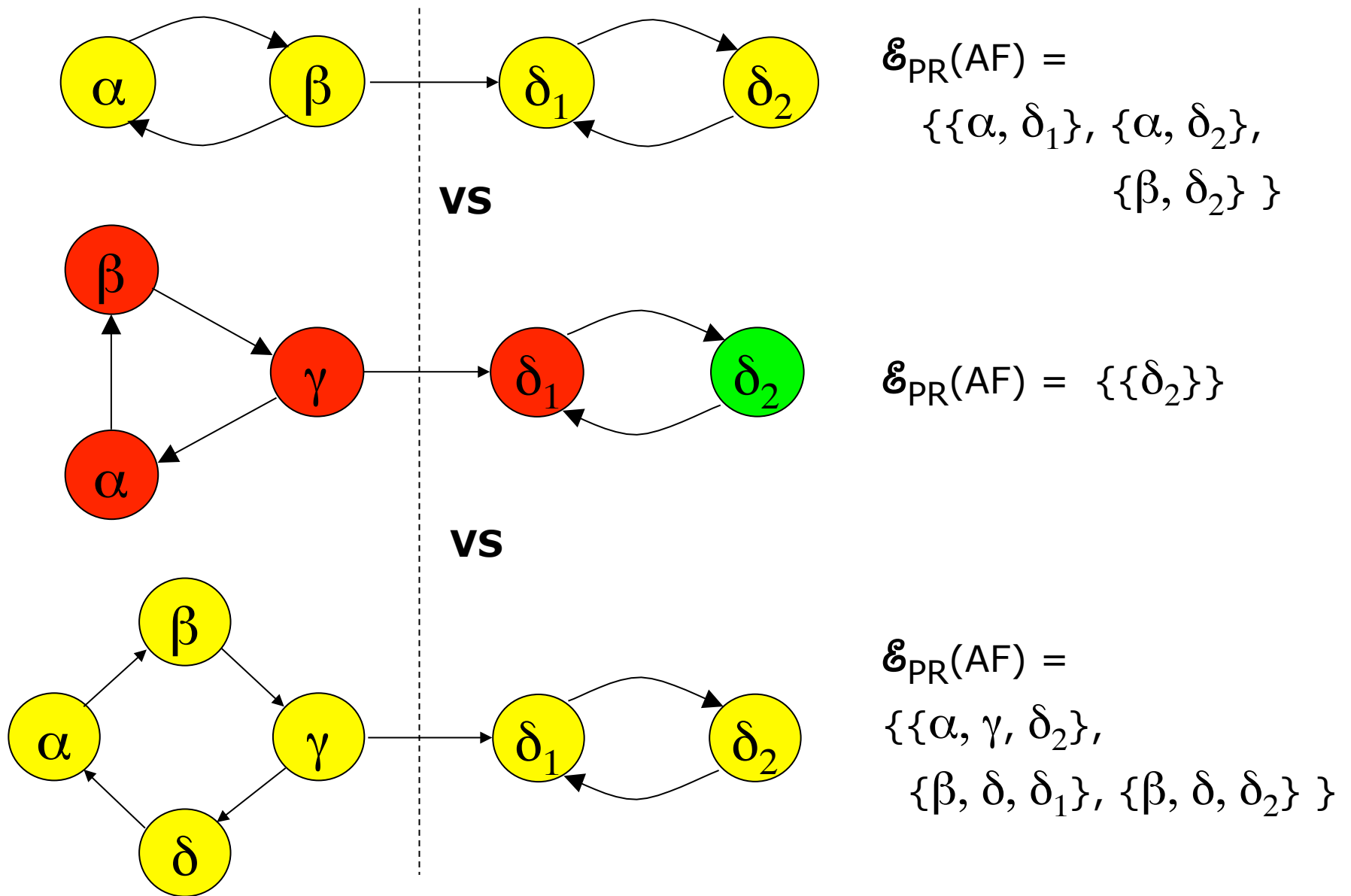


**VS**

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{PR}}(\text{AF}) = \{ \{ \alpha, \delta_1 \}, \{ \alpha, \delta_2 \}, \{ \beta, \delta_2 \} \}$$

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{PR}}(\text{AF}) = \{ \{ \delta_2 \} \}$$

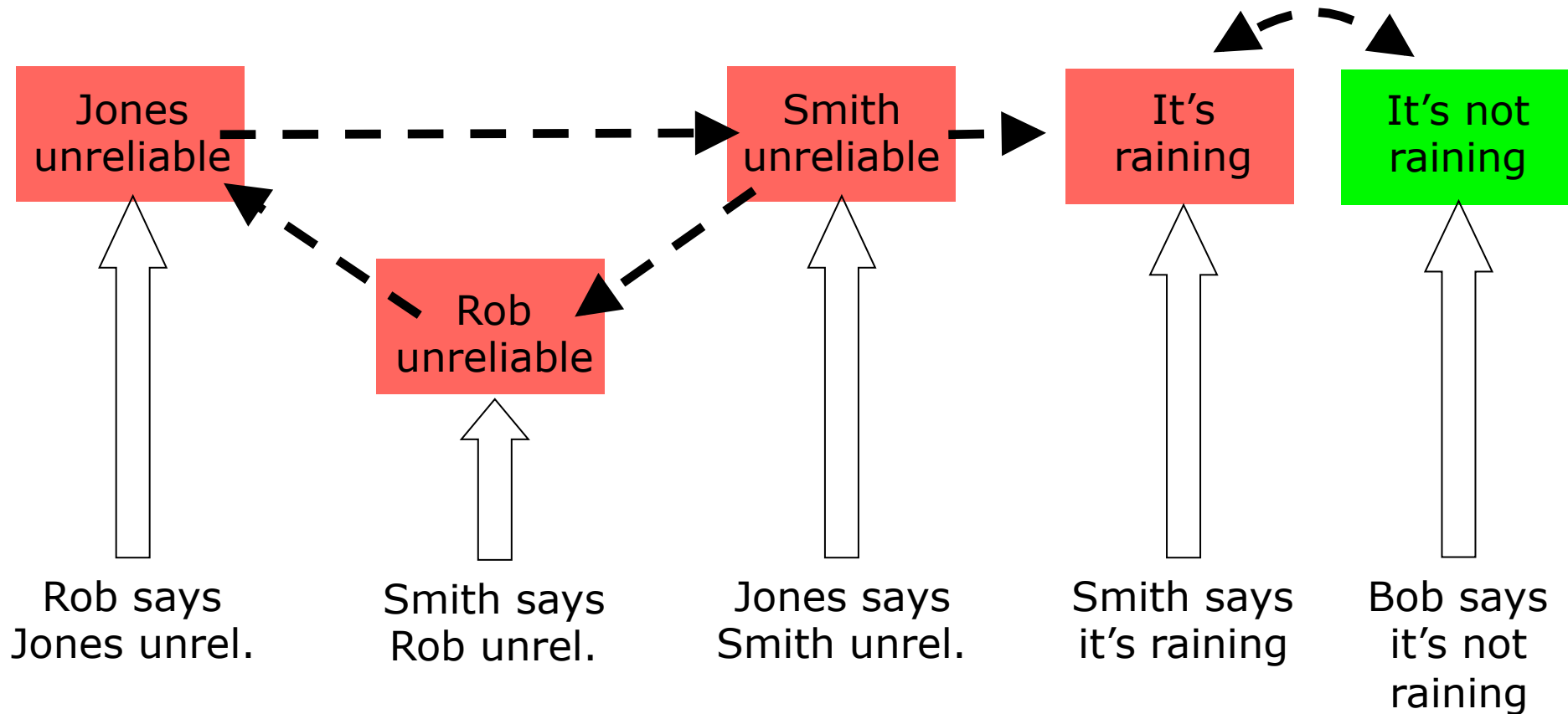
# Preferred Semantics and cycles (continued)



NB: grounded semantics yields the empty set in all cases

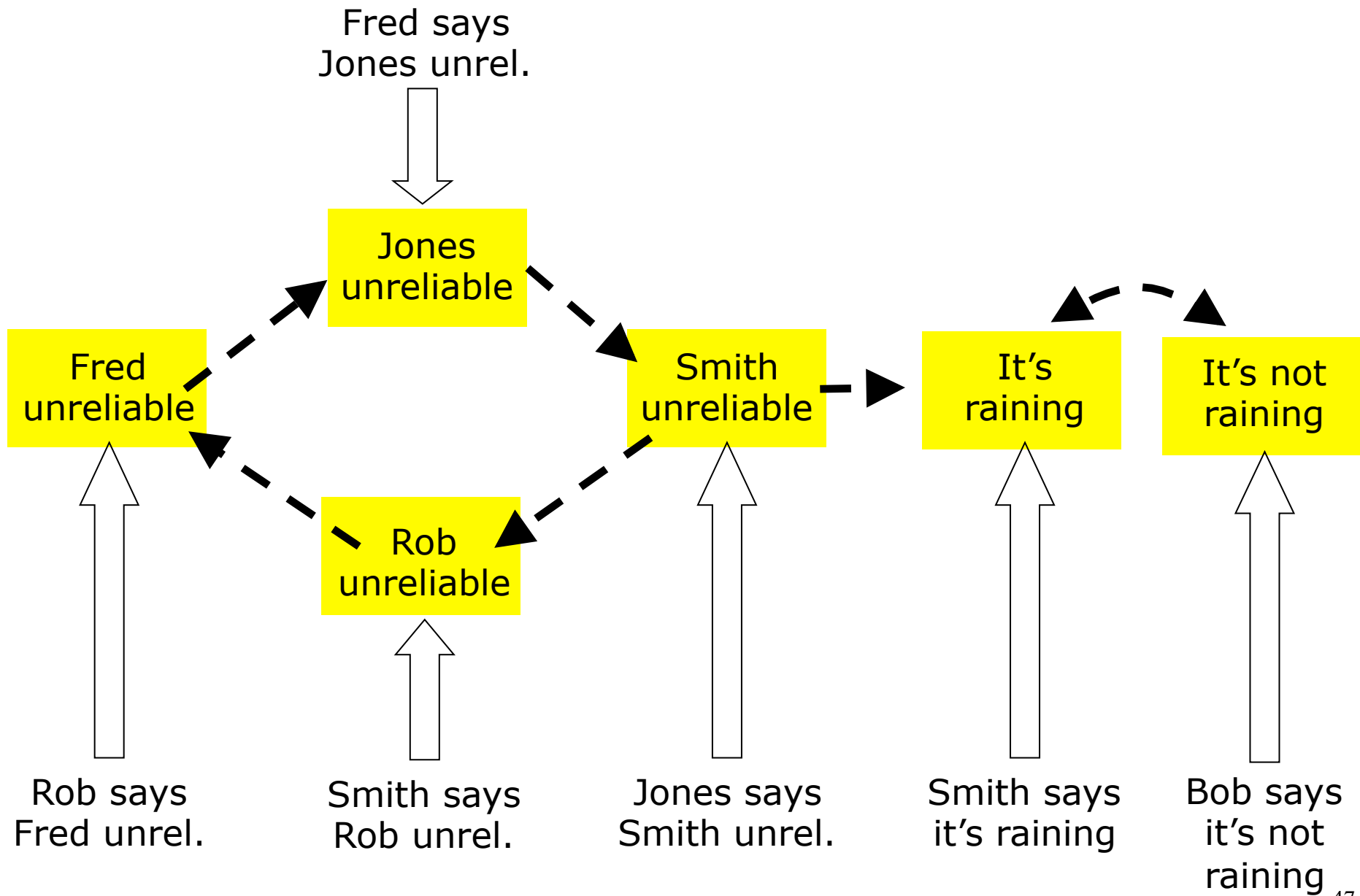
# Pollock example revisited (1)

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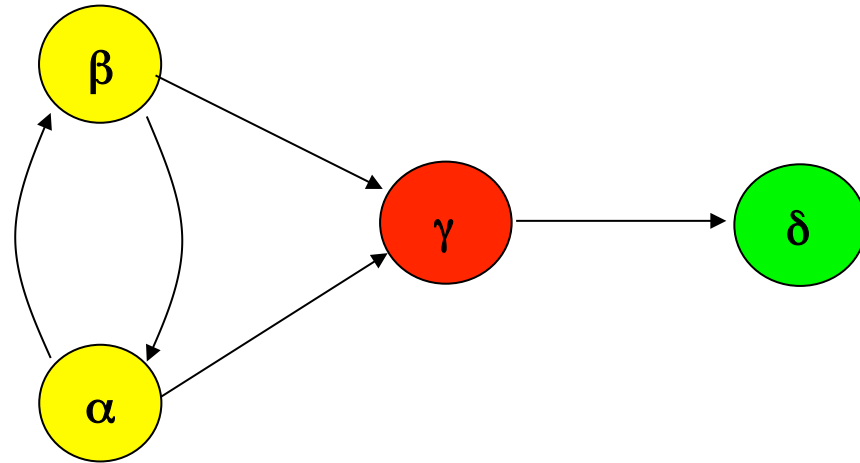
## Pollock example revisited (2)

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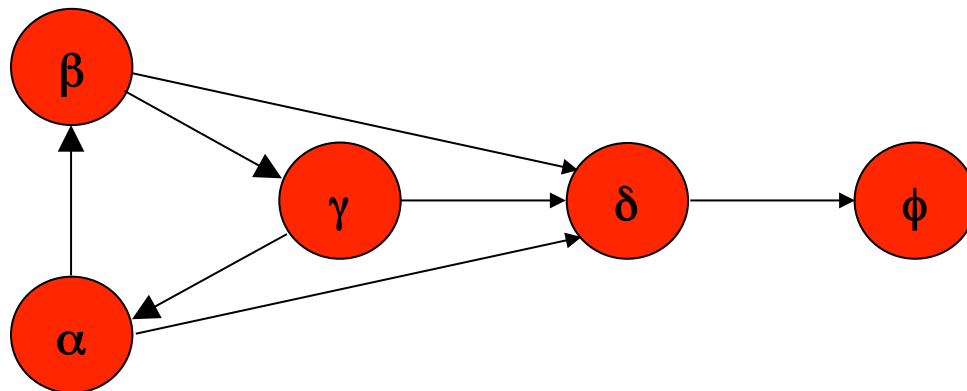
# Preferred Semantics and Floating Arguments again...

---



[two preferred extensions]

**VS**



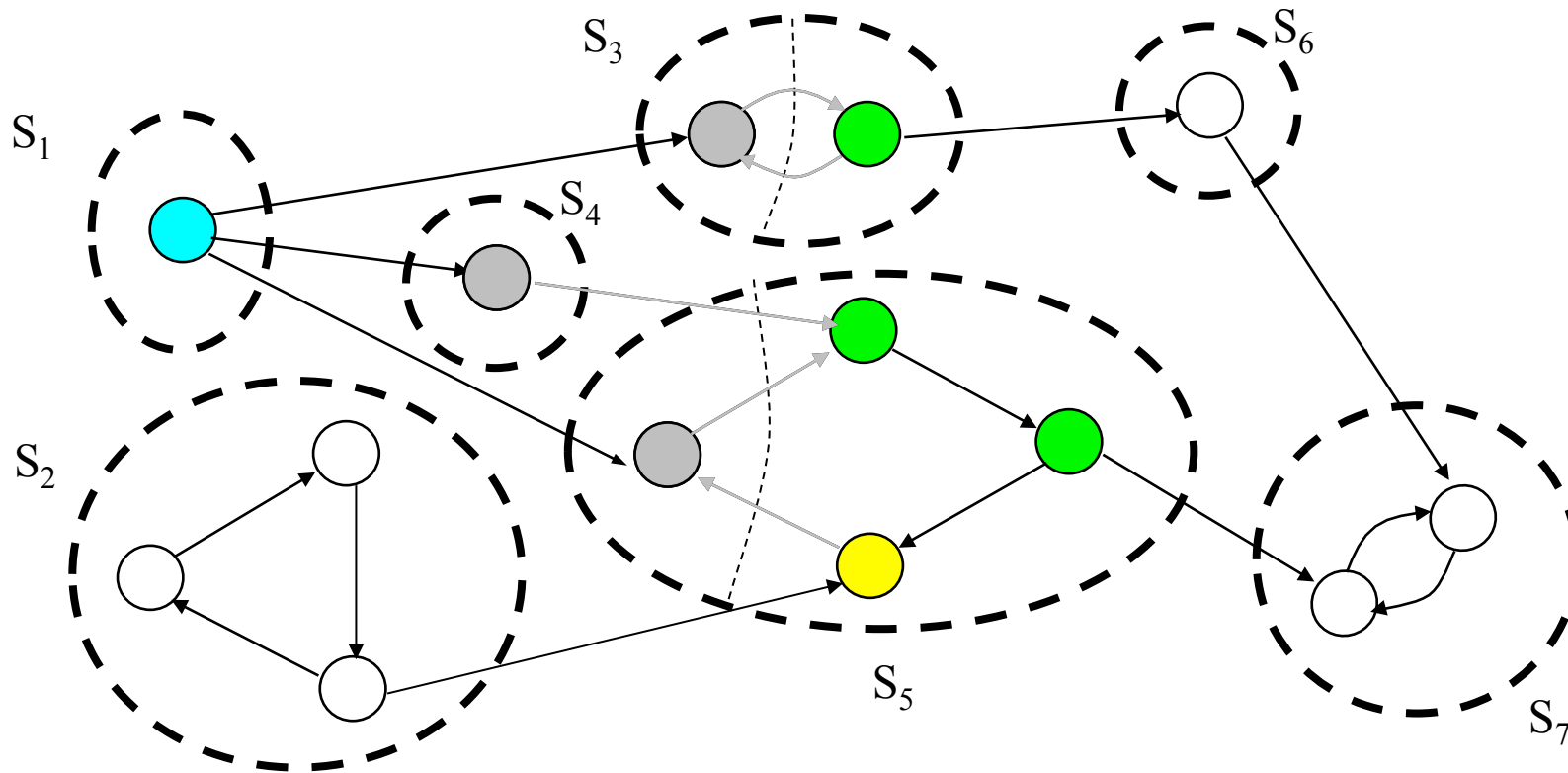
[empty set is the unique preferred extension]

NB: grounded semantics yields the empty set in both cases

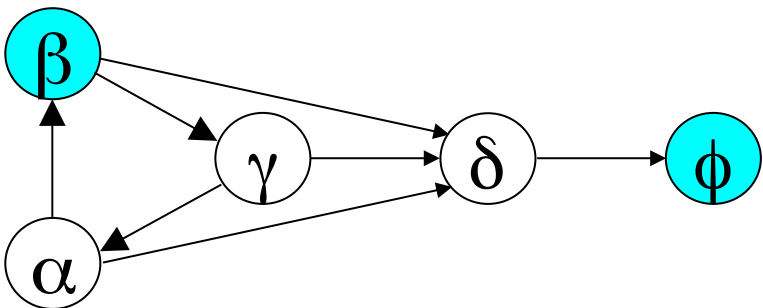
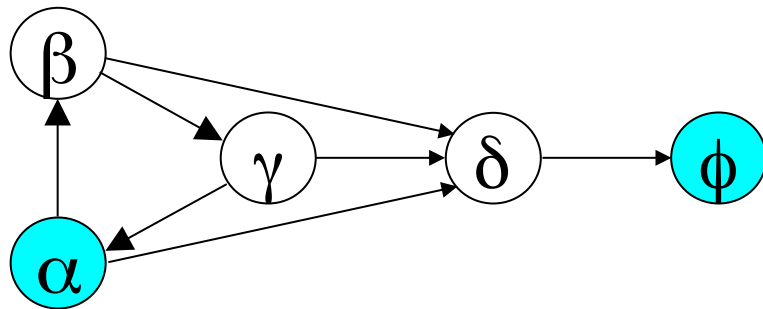
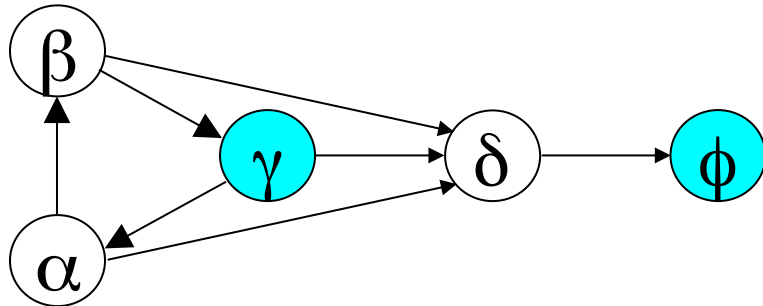


# A possible solution: SCC and CF2 Semantics

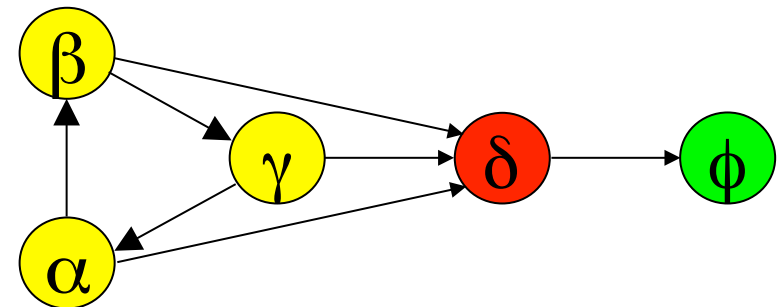
---



# Floating arguments with a three-length cycle



CF2 Extensions:  $\{\gamma, \phi\}$ ,  $\{\alpha, \phi\}$ ,  $\{\beta, \phi\}$



Defeat status

# Other semantics...

---

- Semi-stable semantics [Verheij'96, Caminada'06]
- Stage semantics [Verheij'96]
- Two approaches to the problems of self-attacking arguments and general odd-length cycles of attack [G. Bodanza, F. Tohmé '08]
- Ideal semantics [Dung, Mancarella, Toni'06]
- The family of prudent semantics [Coste-Marquis, Devred, Marquis'05]
- Robust semantics [H. Jakobovits, D. Vermeir '99]
- AD1, AD2, CF1 semantics [Baroni&Giacomin'04 and '05]
- Resolution-based version of any semantics [Baroni&Giacomin'08]

# Semantics evaluation

---

- What principle-based criteria for semantics evaluation?
  - > Sample properties of individual extensions
  - > Sample properties of sets of extensions

# Conflict-freeness, admissibility, reinstatement

## Conflict-free principle (satisfied by all semantics)

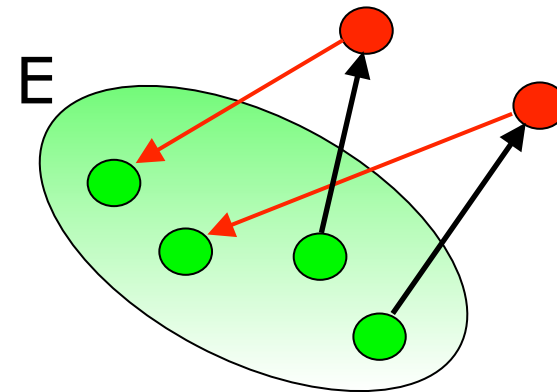
A semantics  $S$  satisfies the "conflict-free principle" iff

$$\forall AF, \forall E \in \mathcal{E}_S(AF) \text{ } E \text{ is conflict-free}$$

## Admissibility

$$\forall AF, \forall E \in \mathcal{E}_S(AF)$$

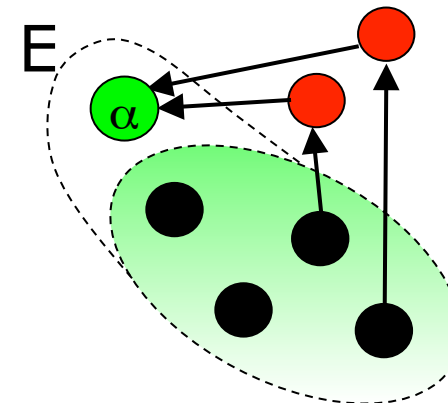
- $E$  is conflict-free
- $E$  defends all of its arguments



## Reinstatement

$$\forall AF, \forall E \in \mathcal{E}_S(AF)$$

- if  $E$  "defends"  $\alpha$  then  $\alpha \in E$



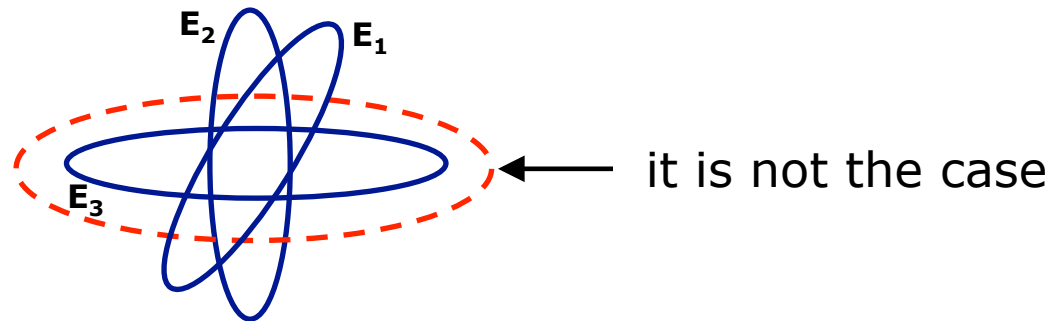
# I-maximality principle

---

## I-maximality principle

A semantics  $S$  satisfies the “I-maximality principle” iff

$$\forall AF, \forall E_1, E_2 \in \mathcal{E}_S(AF) \text{ if } E_1 \subseteq E_2 \text{ then } E_1 = E_2$$



- Grounded and preferred semantics satisfy I-maximality
- Complete semantics do not

# Directionality principle

---

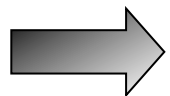
## Basic idea

Extension membership of an argument is determined by its ancestors, while it is not affected by the arguments it defeats

## Definition

$\forall AF, \forall U$  "unattacked set" of  $AF$ ,

$$\{(E \cap U) \mid E \in \mathcal{E}_s(AF)\} = \mathcal{E}_s(AF \downarrow_U)$$



Extensions can be constructed "incrementally" along the graph

# Skepticism related criteria

---

## The informal notion of skepticism

Making “less|more committed choices” for arguments,  
i.e. assigning to them “less|more decided” justification states.

## Two kinds of skepticism relations

A *basic skepticism relation*  $\preceq^E$  between sets of extensions:

$\mathcal{E}_1 \preceq^E \mathcal{E}_2$  denotes that  $\mathcal{E}_1$  is “at least as skeptical as”  
(or “not more committed” than)  $\mathcal{E}_2$

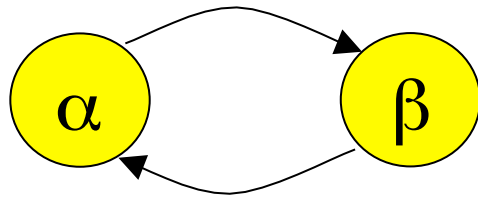
A *skepticism relation*  $\preceq^A$  between argumentation frameworks:

$AF_1 \preceq^A AF_2$  denotes that  $AF_1$  is “at least as skeptical as”  $AF_2$



# Skepticism relation between argumentation frameworks

## The Basic idea



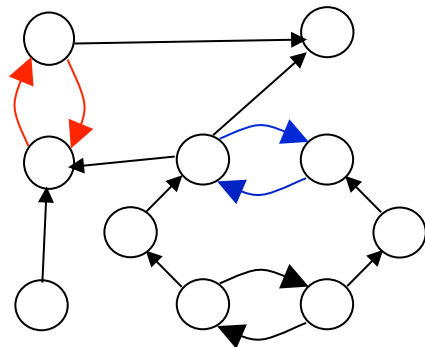
More skeptical  
(less committed)

**vs.**

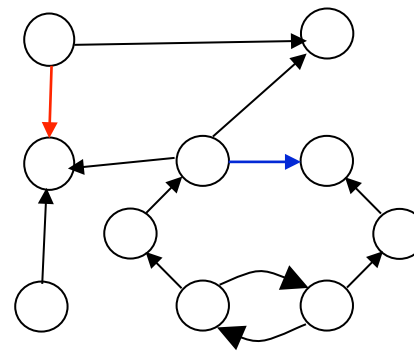


Less skeptical  
(more committed)

## The General relation



AF<sub>1</sub>



AF<sub>2</sub>

$AF_1 \preceq^A AF_2$

[partial order]



# Abstract vs Natural Arguments

- No methodology for defining a mapping
- Problem with evaluation of semantics
  - What are “acceptable” arguments in concrete domains?
    - Cognitive perspective
    - Social perspective
  - Are abstract argumentation frameworks a “good” way to represent knowledge?

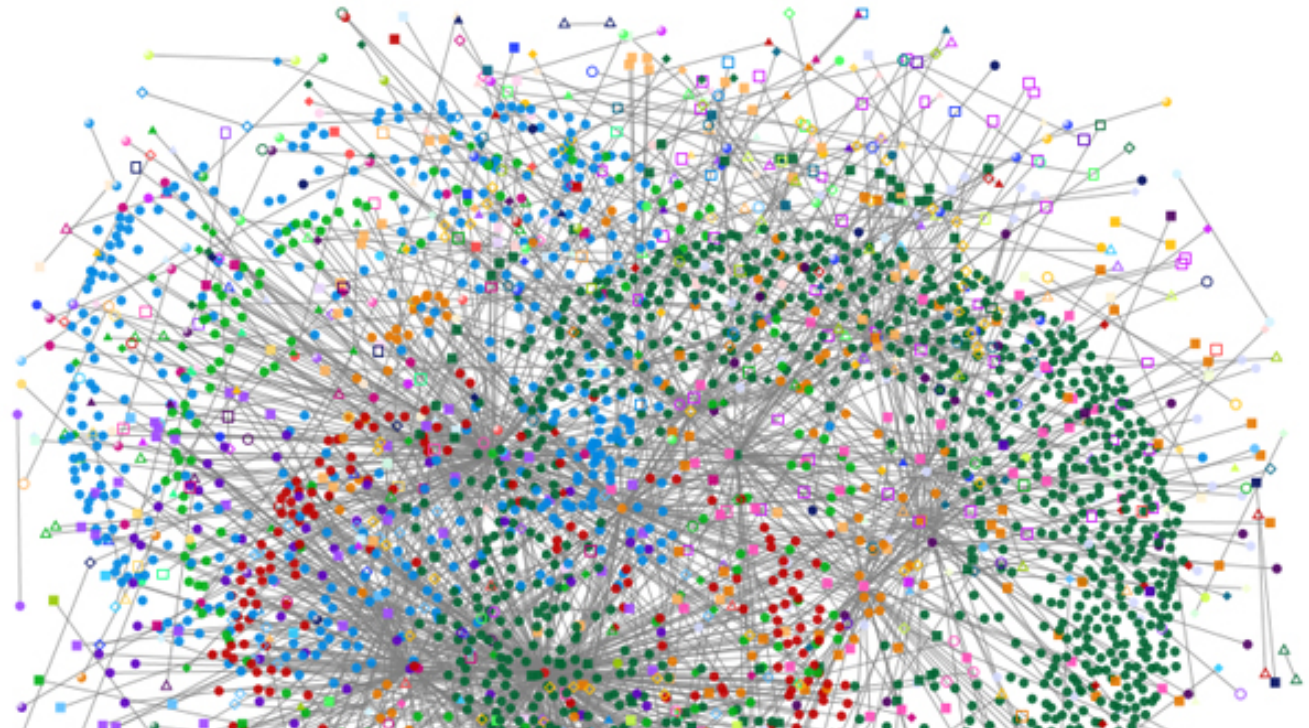


# Arguments and social networks

- Argumentation to model social networks debates
- Trend: convergence of many research activities
  - Argumentation in multi-agent systems
  - Formal dialogues (e.g., persuasion)
  - Argumentation and trust
  - Abstract vs natural argumentation
  - Social simulations
  - Many issues in collective reasoning
    - Bottom-up argumentation
    - Argumentation and voting, social abstract argumentation
    - Weighted argumentation systems
    - Outcomes of multi-party persuasion
    - Argumentation to formalize/help/support/... online debates



# SOCIAL NETWORKS

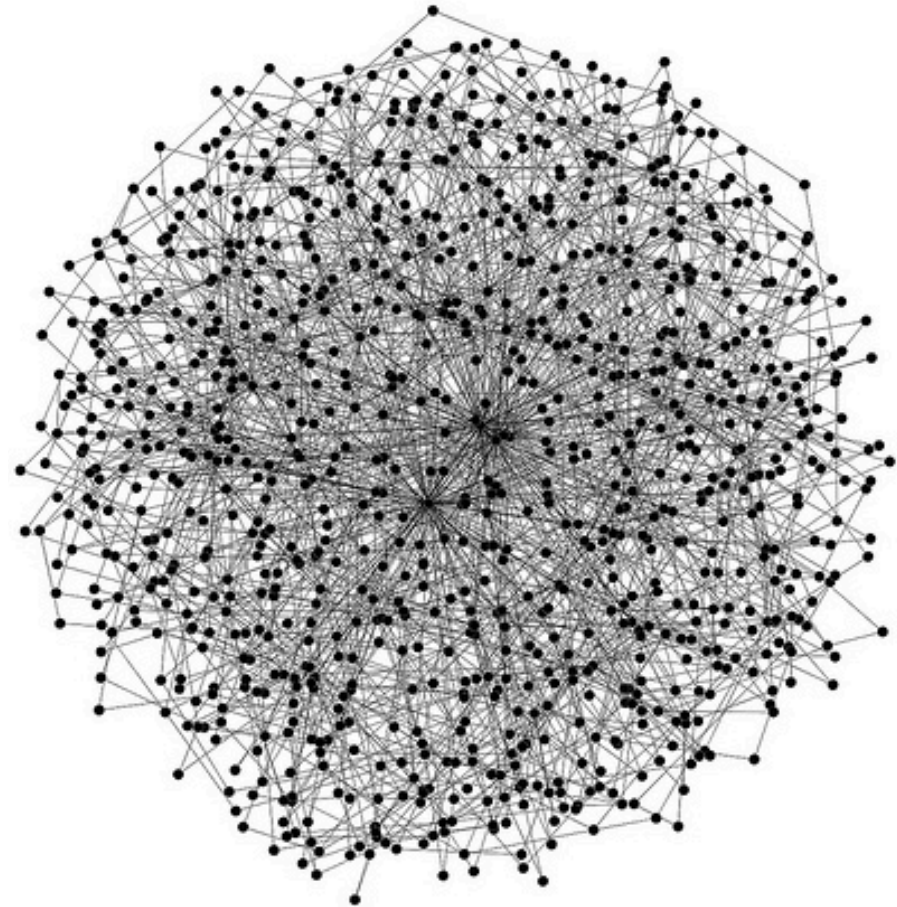


# Social Network Analysis

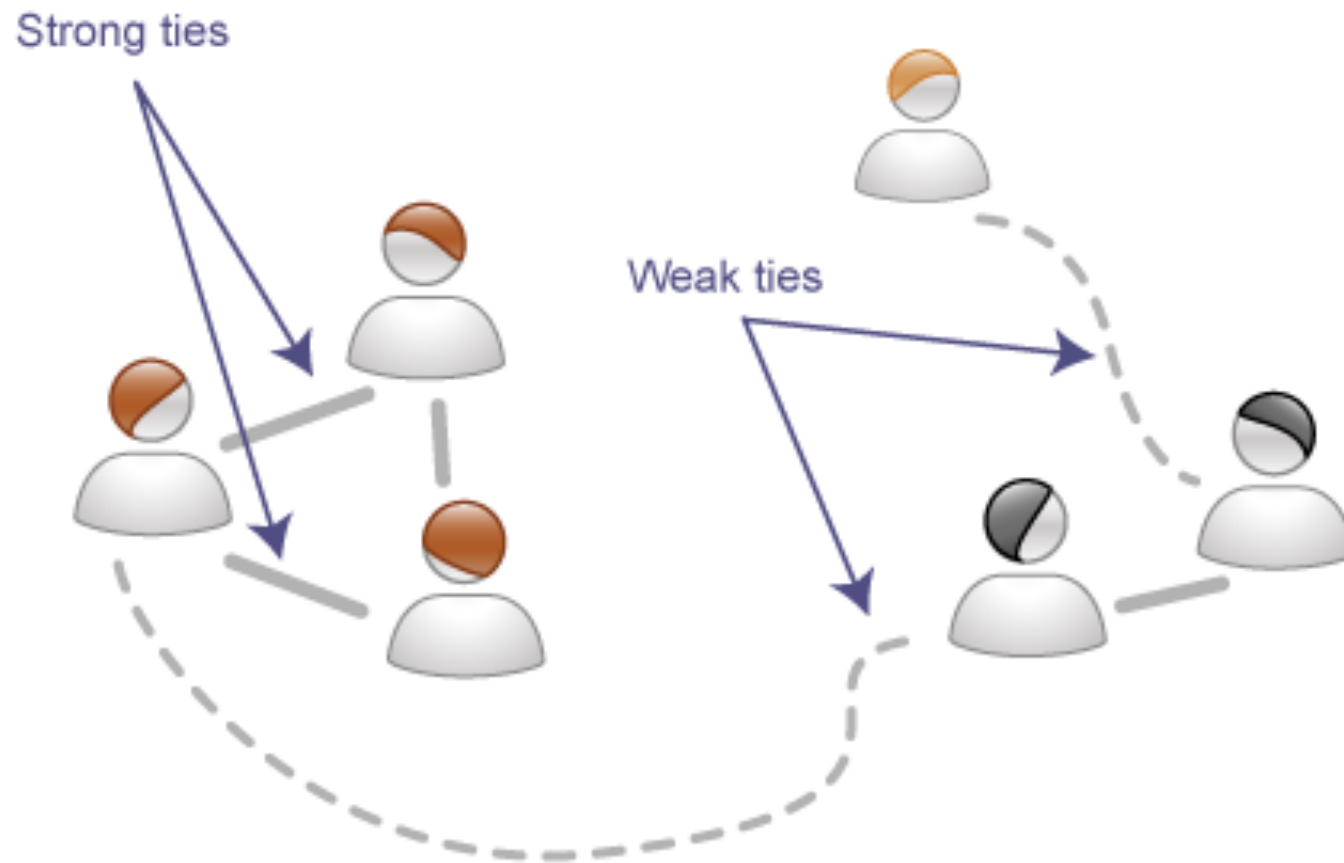
- SNA studies social actors by means of graph theory
- A graph is an object  $G=(V,E)$ , where vertex are represented as a vector:
  - $V = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\}$
- And links as a vector:
  - $E = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_m\}$ .
- **What does it make social networks so special?**

# Random networks

- First attempt to model social relations: random models (Erdos e Renyi).
- Pseudocode:  
  foreach pair [  
    if random  $1 < \text{prob}$  [  
      create-a-link ]  
  ]



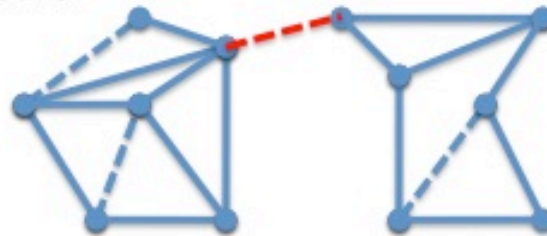
# Think about you and your friends



# Why all bridges are weak ties



Time 2: A Weak Tie Forms Between Groups  
Creating No Forbidden Triads and Triadic  
Closure



Time 1: Two Distinct Groups



Group A

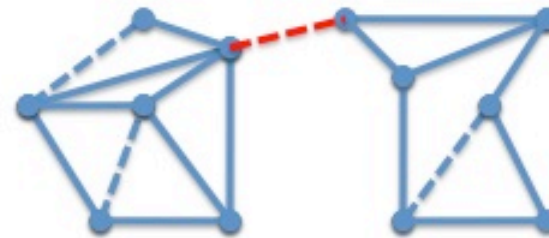


Group B

Group A

Group B

Time 3: Weak Tie as "Bridge," the  
Only Link Between Groups



Group A

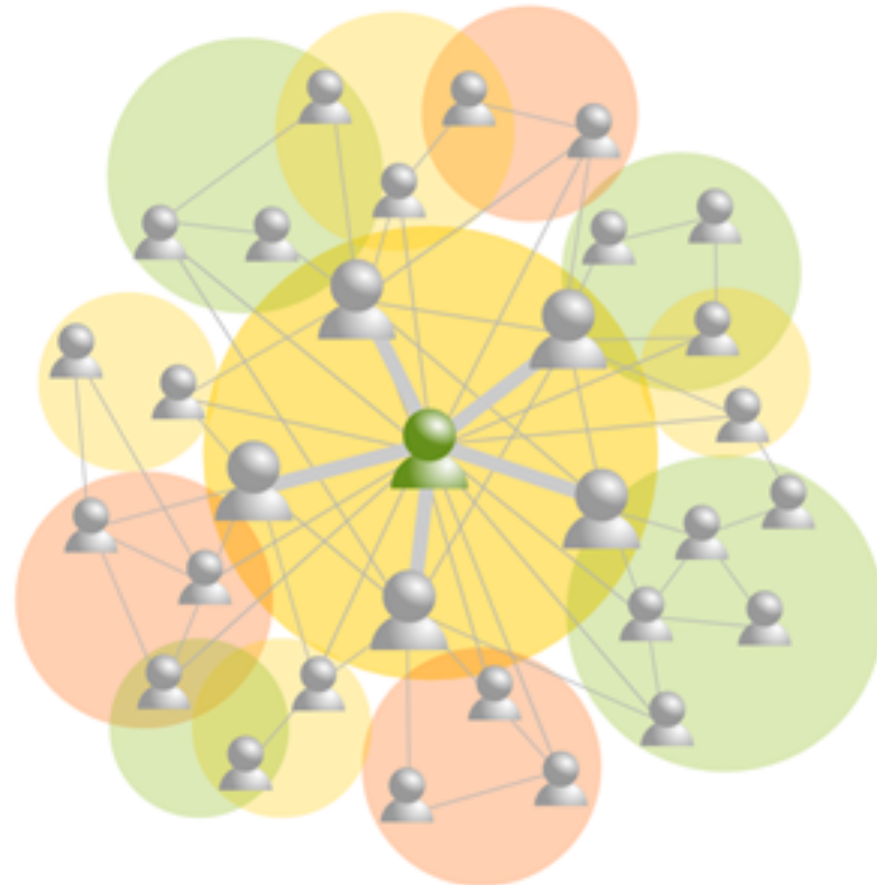
Group B



# The strength of weak ties

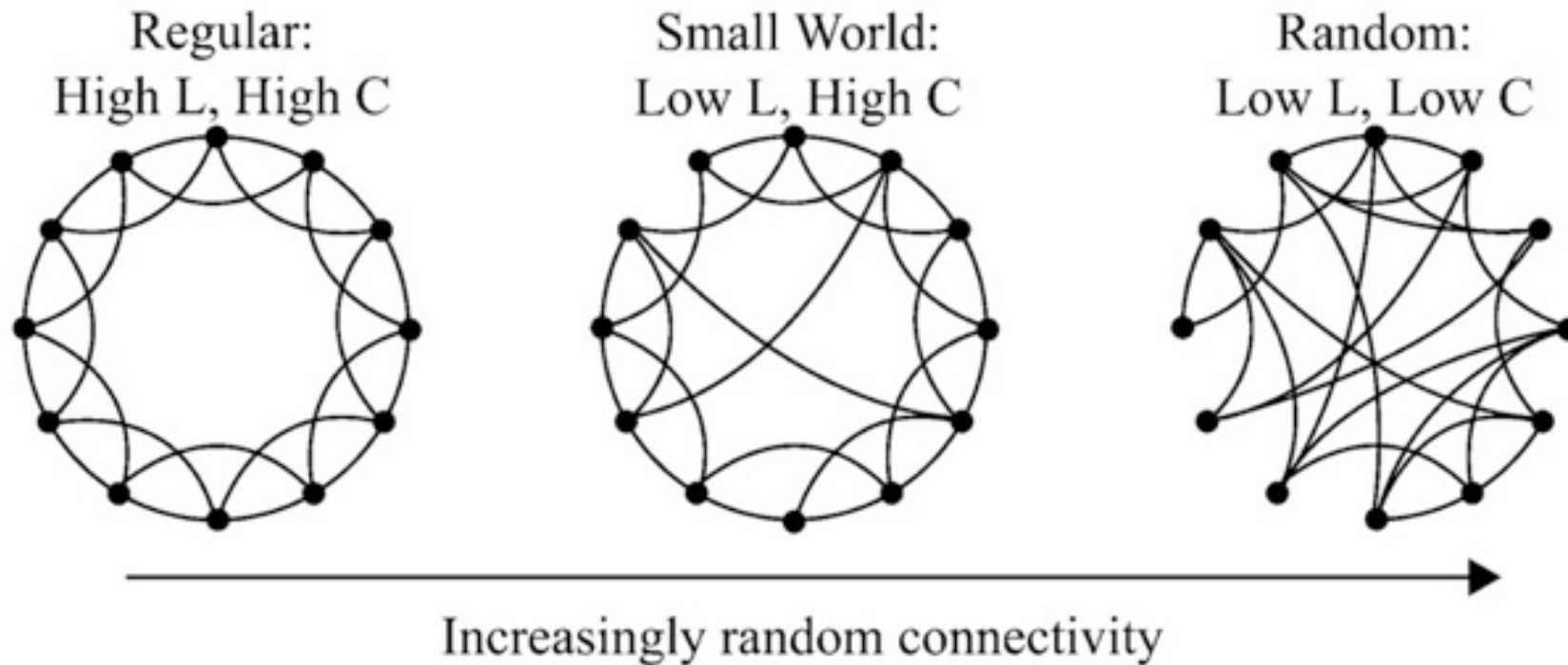


CONNECTIONS THROUGH STRONG TIES



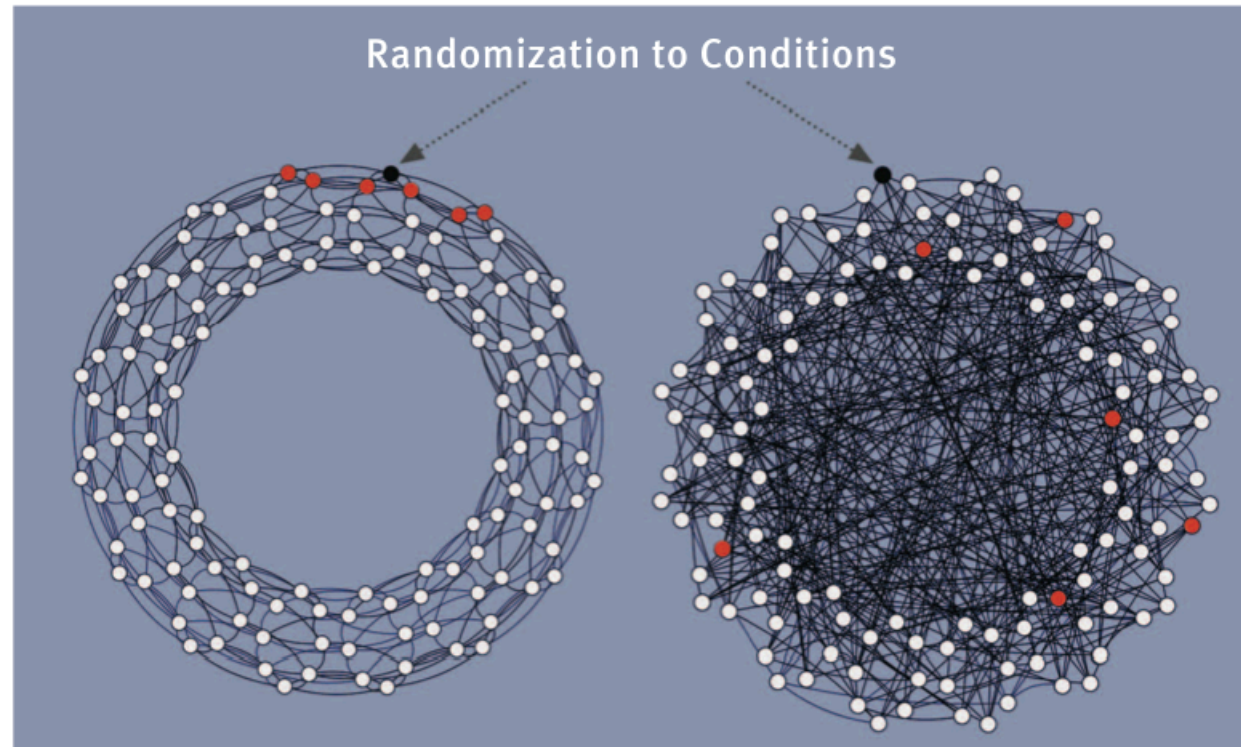
CONNECTIONS THROUGH WEAK TIES

# Small World Model



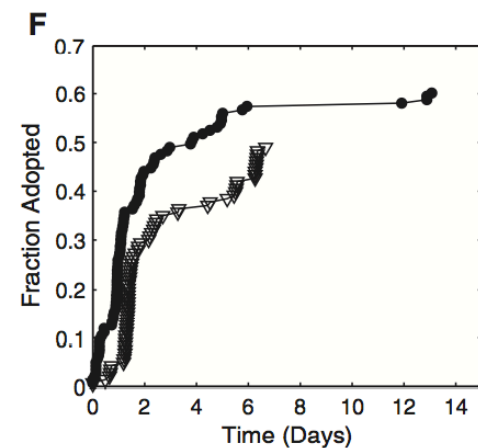
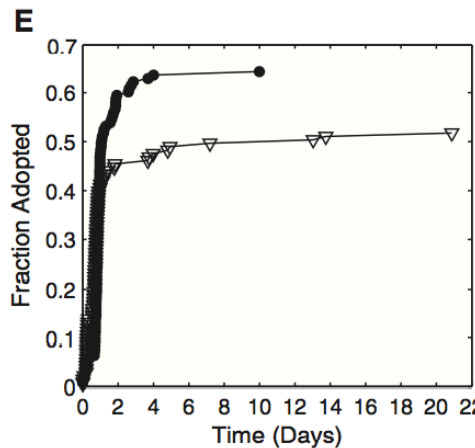
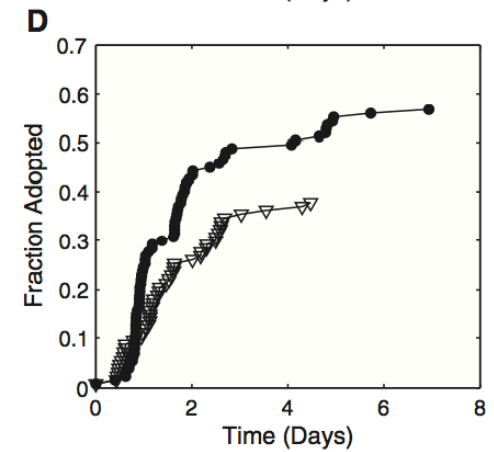
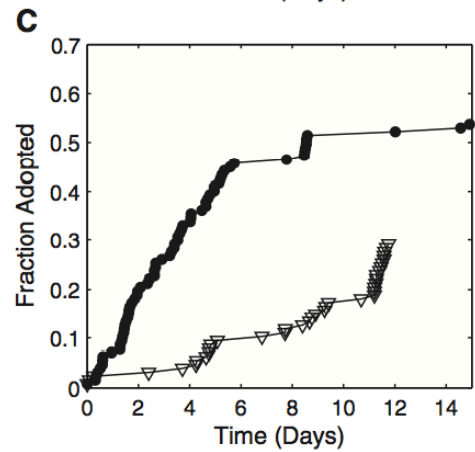
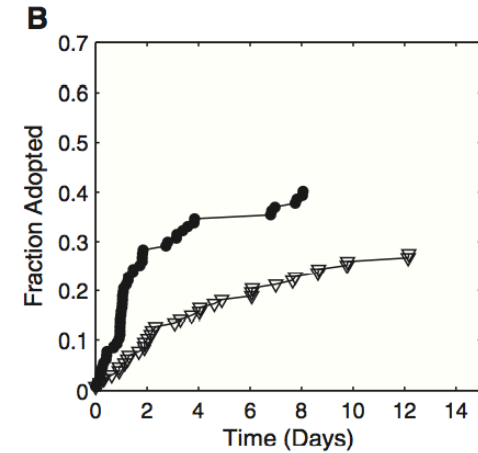
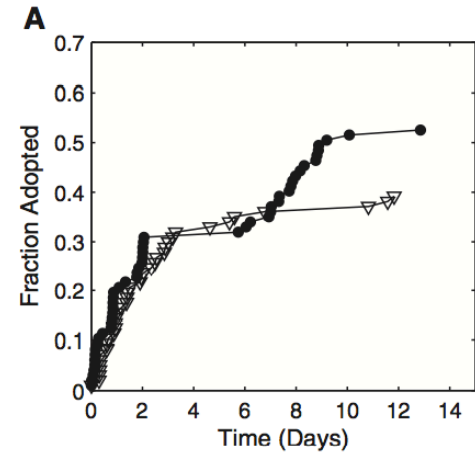
# Diffusion and network topologies

**Fig. 1.** Randomization of participants to clustered-lattice and random-network conditions in a single trial of this study ( $N = 128$ ,  $Z = 6$ ). In each condition, the black node shows the focal node of a neighborhood to which an individual is being assigned, and the red nodes correspond to that individual's neighbors in the network. In the clustered-lattice network, the red nodes share neighbors with each other, whereas in the random network they do not. White nodes indicate individuals who are not connected to the focal node.



# Results

- adoption typically spread to a greater fraction of the population in the clustered networks (solid black circles) than in the random networks
- the behavior diffused more quickly (4 times faster) in the clustered networks than in the random networks
- redundant signals significantly increased the likelihood of adoption;
- social reinforcement from multiple health buddies made participants much more willing to adopt the behavior



# References

- Centola, D: The Spread of Behavior in an Online Social Network Experiment, *Science*, 329, 1194-1197, (2010)
- Erdős, P and Rényi, A: On Random Graph, *Publ. Math. Debrecen*, (1959)
- Granovetter, M.: The strength of weak ties: a network theory revisited. *Sociological Theory* 1, 201–233 (1983)
- Watts, D.J., Strogatz, S.H.: Collective dynamics of small-world networks. *Nature*, 393, 440–442 (1998)

# TWO APPLICATIONS



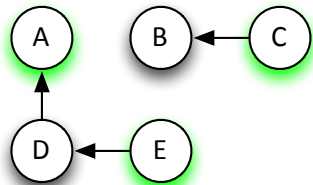
# NetArg

The screenshot displays the NetArg software interface, which is used for simulating network dynamics. The interface is divided into several sections:

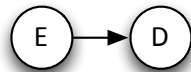
- Top Bar:** Contains menu options (Interface, Info, Code, example\_3448d.nls), a speed control slider set to "normal speed", and checkboxes for "view updates on ticks" and "Settings...".
- Control Panels (Left):**
  - Parameters:** Includes fields for "cave-size" (5), "seed?" (123456789), "steps-without-update" (500), and "selected-semantic" (complete).
  - Options:** Checkboxes for "allow-random-ties?", "single-giant?", and "exact-AF1-AF2-proportion?".
  - Sliders:** "fract-agents-with-AF1" (0.50) and "prob-change-mind" (0.5).
  - Statistics:** "size of giant component" (100), "clustering" (0.7817), "polarization" (0.086521), and "density" (0.0467).
  - Buttons:** "setup", "go", and "step".
- Network Graph (Center):** A circular network graph with 20 nodes (caves) and edges. Nodes are represented by small human figures in various colors (green, blue, yellow, white). The graph shows a complex, interconnected structure.
- Data Plots (Right):**
  - extensions popularity:** A bar chart showing the popularity of extensions. The y-axis is labeled "popularity" (0 to 52) and the x-axis is labeled "ext" (0 to 140).
  - favorite extension popularity:** A bar chart showing the popularity of favorite extensions. The y-axis is labeled "popularity" (0 to 50) and the x-axis is labeled "ext" (0 to 140).
- Command Center (Bottom):** A text area for commands, currently showing "observer>".

# Agent reasoning and interaction

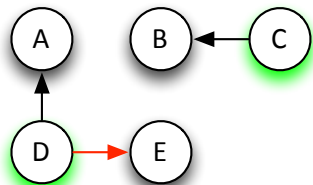
A1's Argumentation Framework



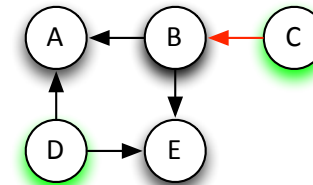
A1 says:



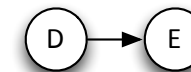
A1 trusts A2 and revises its AF:



A2's Argumentation Framework



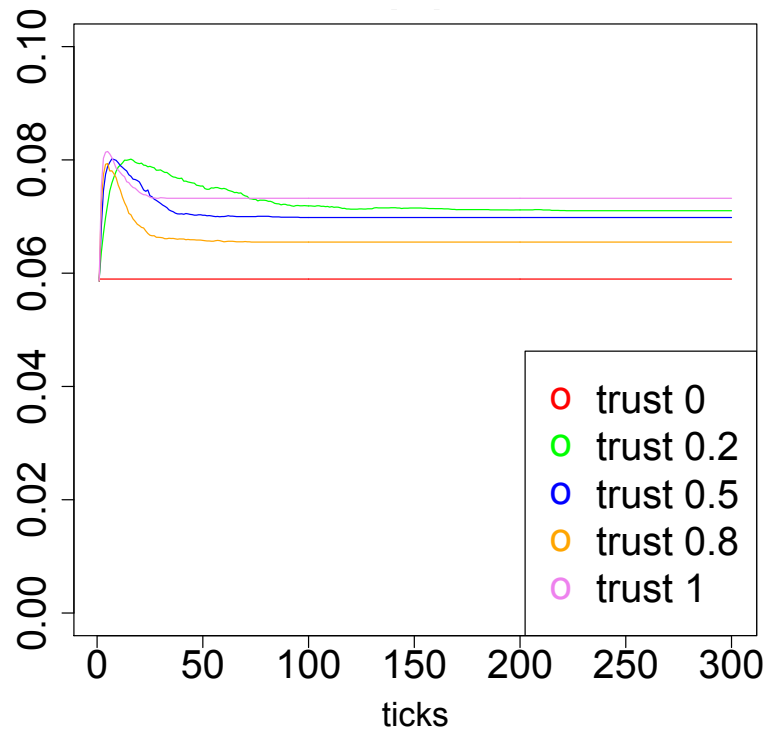
A2 does not trust A1 and rebuts:



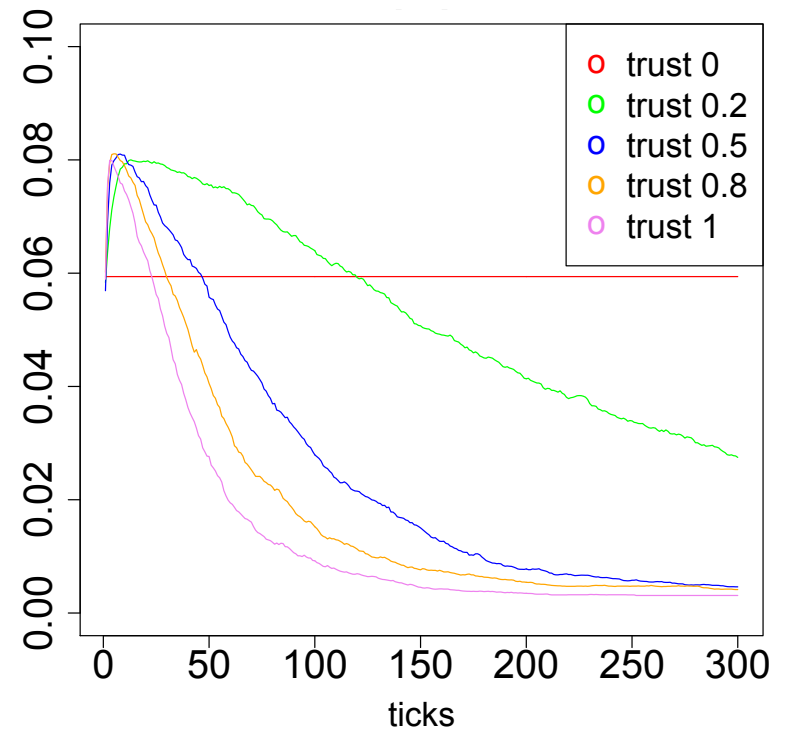


# Experiments...

- No weak ties

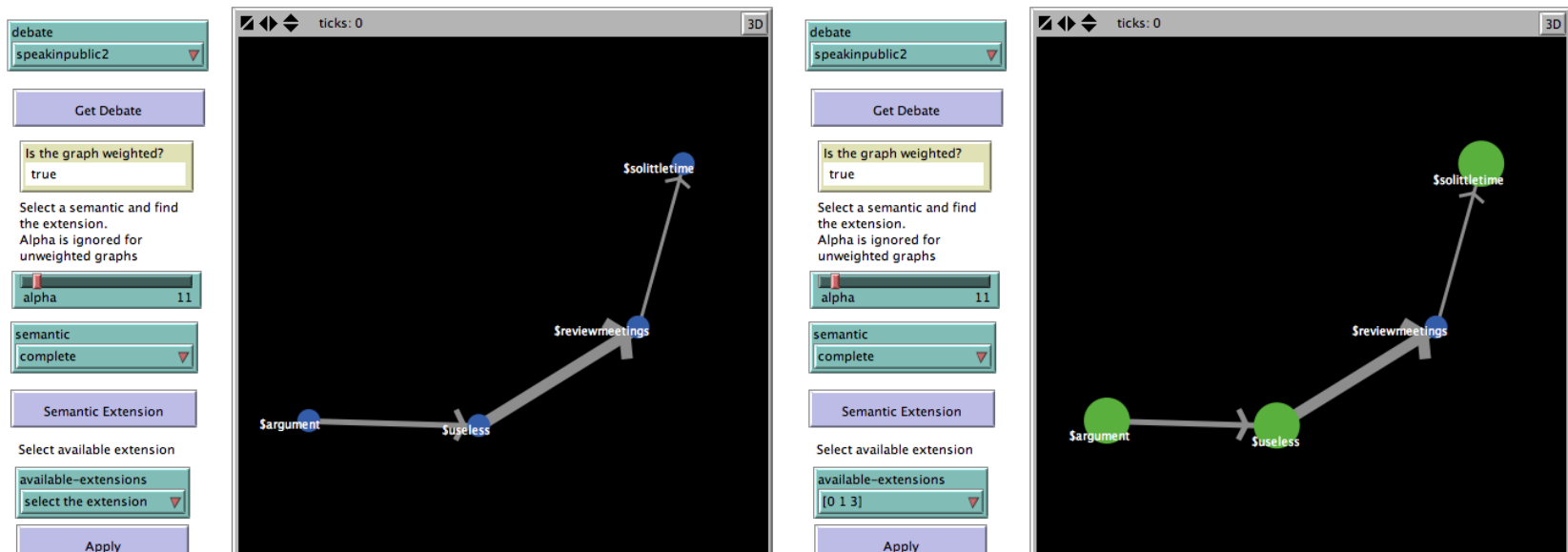


- Weak ties



# TwitterArg

- Microdebates = Debates on Twitter
- *Can users argue better for their own reasons if they can better the others' reasons?*
- Simple syntax that allows us to visualize contrasting positions in a microdebate
- Re-tweet increases support to opinions





# WHAT YOU CAN DO WITH US



# Shorter-term future

- Crowdsourcing for argument tagging
- Argumentation dialogues and trust calibration in social networks
- What makes an argument strong?
- Engineering micro-debates
- Argument mining using COGITO
- You name it 😊



# Crowdsourcing argument tagging

- **The DARPA Network Challenge**
- A competition to explore how social networking could be used to tackle broad problems and issues.

**WE HAVE A WINNER!**

**MIT RED BALLOON CHALLENGE TEAM**

[Read about the winner of the DARPA Network Challenge.](#)





# Trust calibration

- Many trust & reputation models in P2P networks
- Trust in social networks
  - Effect of social interaction on trust?
  - Effect of trust on social interaction?
- Simulations

# What makes an argument strong?

$AF_A$ $b \leftarrow c$ $e$	(b) $a \leftarrow b \leftarrow c$ $\uparrow$ $d \leftarrow e$	(c) $a \leftarrow b \leftrightarrow c$ $\uparrow$ $d \leftarrow e$	(d) $a \leftarrow b \leftrightarrow c$ $\uparrow \quad \downarrow$ $d \leftarrow e$	(e) $a \leftarrow b \cdot$ $\uparrow \quad \downarrow$ $d \leftrightarrow e$
(f) $b \quad c$ $e$	(g) $a \leftarrow b \quad c$ $\uparrow$ $d \leftarrow e$	(h) $a \leftarrow b \rightarrow c$ $\uparrow$ $d \leftarrow e$	(i) $a \leftarrow b \rightarrow c$ $\uparrow \quad \downarrow$ $d \leftarrow e$	(j) $a \leftarrow b \cdot$ $\uparrow \quad \downarrow$ $d \leftrightarrow e$
(k) $b \quad c$ $e$	(l) $a \leftarrow b \quad c$ $\uparrow$ $d \quad e$	(m) $a \leftarrow b \rightarrow c$ $\uparrow$ $d \quad e$	(n) $a \leftarrow b \rightarrow c$ $\uparrow \quad \downarrow$ $d \quad e$	(o) A. $a \leftarrow b \cdot$ $\uparrow \quad \downarrow$ $d \rightarrow e$

# Engineering micro-debates

- Server-side: Web service
- Client-side: Web vs Mobile/App
- Integration (Medium.com, Liquid Feedback, ...)



**Cliff Watson**

*Living a Venn diagram of  
runner, writer & Dad.*

**Published**  
May 2, 2013

Understandings & Epiphanies

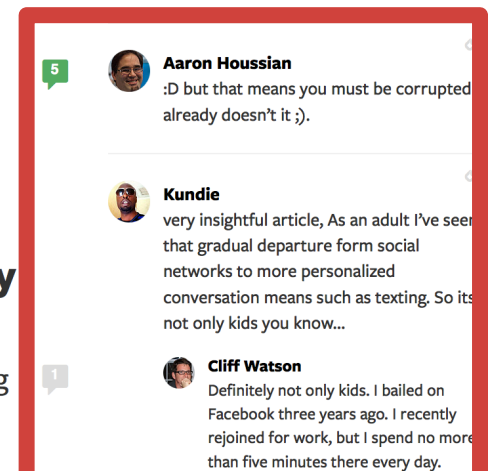
## Teens aren't abandoning “social.” They're just using the word correctly.

Advertisers are perplexed and a little angst-y.

I know this, because I work in advertising. Wait. Don't stop reading because I admitted that. This isn't about advertising. It just happens to start there.

### “Teens Are Leaving Social Media in Droves Oh My God We're Doomed Hold Me”

A few weeks ago, that was basically the subject line in every advertising industry newsletter. The source of the panic was a just-released study by Piper Jaffray that asked 5,000 teens to name their “Most Important





# Argument mining with COGITO





**THANKS!**

# Argumentation: selected references (1)

---

## **Landmark argumentation papers and books**

S. Toulmin, "The Uses of Argument"

*Cambridge University Press, 1958.*

R. P. Loui, "Defeat Among Arguments: a System of Defeasible Inference",  
*Computational Intelligence*, vol. 3(3), 1987.

J. Pollock, "Defeasible Reasoning",  
*Cognitive Science*, vol. 11(4), 1987.

G. Simari & R. P. Loui, "A mathematical treatment of defeasible reasoning and its implementation", *Artificial Intelligence*, vol. 53(2-3), 1992.

## **Argumentation surveys**

H. Prakken & G.A.W. Vreeswijk, "Logics for Defeasible Argumentation",  
in *Handbook of Philosophical Logic*, 2nd Edition, *Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2001.*

C.I. Chesnevar, A.G. Maguitman, R.P. Loui, "Logical models of argument",  
*ACM Computing Surveys*, vol. 32(4), 2000.

# Argumentation: selected references (2)

---

## **Books**

D. Walton, "Fundamentals of critical argumentation",  
*Cambridge University Press*, 2006.

P. Besnard & A. Hunter, "Elements of Argumentation", *MIT Press*, 2008.

"Argumentation in Artificial Intelligence", edited by I. Rahwan and G. R. Simari,  
*Springer*, August 2009.

## **Dung's influential paper on abstract argumentation**

P.M. Dung, "On the Acceptability of Arguments and Its Fundamental Role in Nonmonotonic Reasoning, Logic Programming, and n-Person Games",  
*Artificial Intelligence*, vol. 77(2), 1995.