

Semantic Change and Extension Enforcement in Abstract Argumentation

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Background

- Dung's Framework
- Extension Enforcement

Using Semantic Change for Extension Enforcement

- Motivational Example
- Generalizing Enforcement Operators
- Empirical Evaluation

Conclusion

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Dung's Framework [Dung 1995]

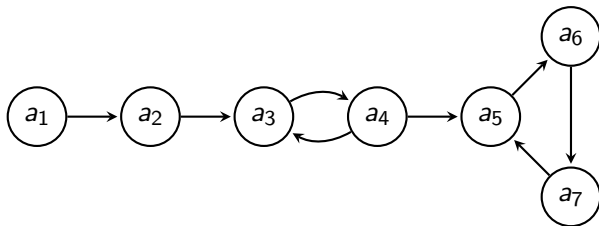
- ▶ **AF** are digraphs $F = (A, R)$, with A the arguments and $R \subseteq A \times A$ the attacks
- ▶ **Extension-based semantics** : determining sets of jointly acceptable arguments

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- ▶ **Extension-based semantics** : determining sets of jointly acceptable arguments

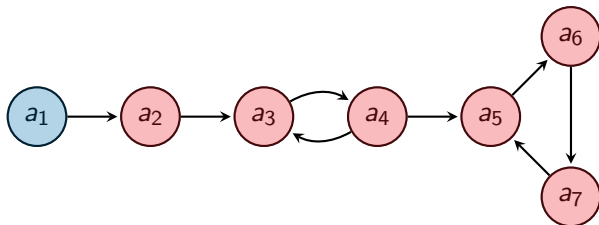
Many semantics. A set $E \subseteq A$ is

- ▶ **cf** w.r.t. F if $\nexists a_i, a_j \in S$ s.t. $(a_i, a_j) \in R$;
- ▶ **ad** w.r.t. F if S is cf and S defends each $a_i \in S$;
- ▶ **na** w.r.t. F if S is a maximal cf set (w.r.t. \subseteq);
- ▶ **co** w.r.t. F if S is ad and S contains all the arguments that it defends;
- ▶ **pr** w.r.t. F if S is a maximal co extension (w.r.t. \subseteq);
- ▶ **st** w.r.t. F if S is cf and $S_R^+ = A$;
- ▶ **gr** w.r.t. F if S is a minimal co extension (w.r.t. \subseteq);

Example

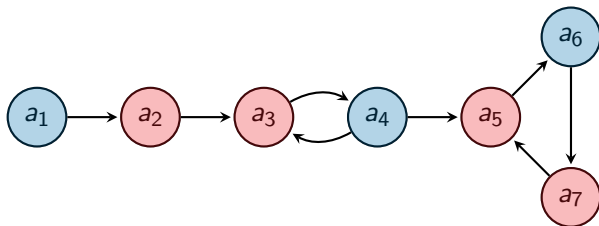


Example



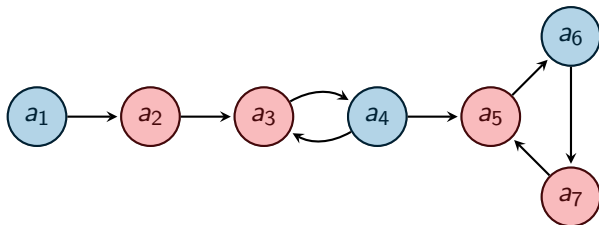
$$Ext_{gr}(F) = \{\{a_1\}\}$$

Example



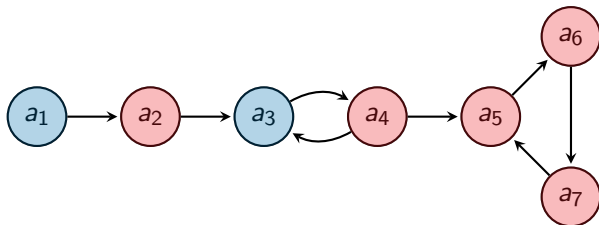
$$Ext_{st}(F) = \{\{a_1, a_4, a_6\}\}$$

Example



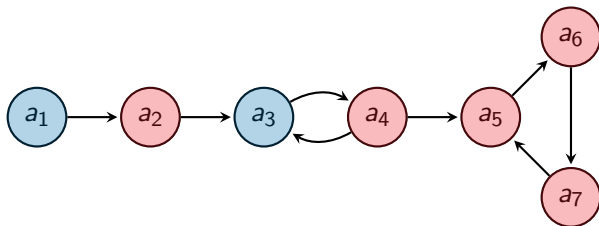
$$Ext_{pr}(F) = \{\{a_1, a_4, a_6\}, \{a_1, a_3\}\}$$

Example



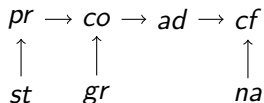
$$Ext_{pr}(F) = \{\{a_1, a_4, a_6\}, \{a_1, a_3\}\}$$

Example



$$Ext_{co}(F) = \{\{a_1, a_4, a_6\}, \{a_1, a_3\}, \{a_1\}\}$$

$Inc(\Sigma)$ with $\Sigma = \{cf, ad, na, st, pr, co, gr\}$.



Σ -Inclusion Difference Measure

$\delta_{Inc, \Sigma}(\sigma_i, \sigma_j)$ is the length of the **shortest non-oriented path** between σ_i and σ_j in $Inc(\Sigma)$

- e.g. $\delta_{Inc, \Sigma}(st, ad) = 3$, $\delta_{Inc, \Sigma}(pr, gr) = 2$, and $\delta_{Inc, \Sigma}(co, pr) = 1$

Strict (resp. Non-Strict) Enforcement

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} F = \langle A, R \rangle \\ E \subseteq A \end{array} \right\} \implies F' = \langle A', R' \rangle$$

such that E is an extension (resp. included in an extension) of F'

Given $F = \langle A, R \rangle$, $F' = \langle A', R' \rangle$,

- ▶ F' is a **normal expansion** of F iff $A \subset A'$ and $R' \cap (A \times A) = R$
- ▶ F' is a **weak expansion** of F iff F' is a normal expansion of F s.t. $\forall (a_i, a_j) \in R' \setminus R, a_j \notin A$
- ▶ F' is a **strong expansion** of F iff F' is a normal expansion of F s.t. $\forall (a_i, a_j) \in R' \setminus R, a_i \in A' \setminus A$

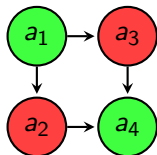
Strict (resp. Non-Strict) Normal (resp. Weak, Strong) Enforcement

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such that E is an extension (resp. included in an extension) of F and F' is a normal (resp. weak, strong) expansion of F

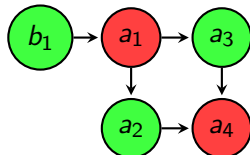
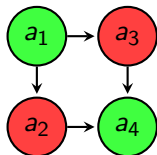
Example of Strong Enforcement

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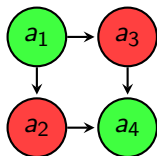


Argument-Fixed and General Enforcement [Coste-Marquis et al 2015]

- ▶ **Argument-fixed enforcement** : perform a strict or non-strict enforcement without modifying the set of arguments (modifying attacks is possible)
- ▶ **General enforcement** : perform a strict or non-strict enforcement by any possible means (adding arguments, modifying attacks)

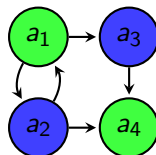
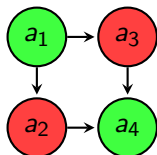
Example of Argument-Fixed (General) Enforcement

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Example of Argument-Fixed (General) Enforcement

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- ▶ **Minimal enforcement** : F' must be as close as possible from F , closeness is measured with Hamming distance

$$d_H(F, F') = |(R \setminus R') \cup (R' \setminus R)|$$

- ▶ Characteristics : given an enforcement operator Op , a semantics σ , and AF $F = \langle A, R \rangle$ and $E \subseteq A$, $\mathbf{V}_{\sigma, Op}^F(\mathbf{E})$ is the function which computes the minimal change to enforcement E in F w.r.t. σ

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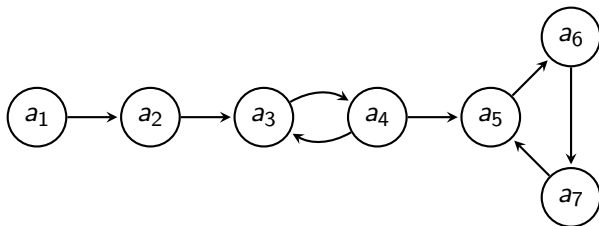
Conclusion

- ▶ Existing enforcement methods consider that
 - ▶ either the semantics doesn't change
 - ▶ or the new semantics is given as a parameter of the operator
no justification of *why* it changes nor *how* the new one is chosen

Idea of Semantic Change for Enforcement

- ▶ Define enforcement operators equipped with a set of possible semantics
- ▶ Choose the best new semantics in this set to obtain minimal change enforcement

Example



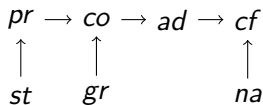
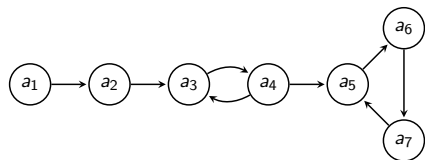
- ▶ Current semantics : $\sigma = st$, $Ext_{st}(F) = \{\{a_1, a_4, a_6\}\}$
- ▶ Goal : enforcing $E = \{a_1, a_3\}$
- ▶ Without semantic change : the graph has to be modified
- ▶ With semantic change : switch semantics from st to pr , since $E \in Ext_{pr}(F) = \{\{a_1, a_3\}, \{a_1, a_4, a_6\}\}$. **No change of the graph at all**

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} F = \langle A, R \rangle \\ \sigma \\ \Sigma = \{\sigma'_1, \dots, \sigma'_k\} \\ E \subseteq A \end{array} \right\} \implies \left\{ \begin{array}{l} F' = \langle A', R' \rangle \\ \sigma' \in \Sigma \end{array} \right.$$

such that

- ▶ E is a σ' -extension (resp. included in an extension) of F'
- ▶ F' is as close as possible from F
- ▶ σ' is as close as possible from σ

Example



- ▶ $\sigma = st$, $Ext_{st}(F) = \{\{a_1, a_4, a_6\}\}$, $E = \{a_1, a_3\}$
- ▶ $F = F'$, so $d_H(F, F') = 0$ is minimal
- ▶ $\delta_{Inc, \Sigma}(st, pr) = 1 < \delta_{Inc, \Sigma}(st, co) = 2 < \delta_{Inc, \Sigma}(st, ad) = 3 < \delta_{Inc, \Sigma}(st, cf) = 4$

Question : When is it useful/successful to use semantic change?

- ▶ Useful when it guarantees that enforcement with σ_j can be realized with strictly less changes of the graph than with σ_i
 - ▶ A threshold can be considered : useful when the change with σ_j is at least $\tau\%$ “easier” than with σ_i

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- ▶ Guarantee : our method can't give a worse result than “classical” enforcement
- ▶ How to determine when it gives a better result ?

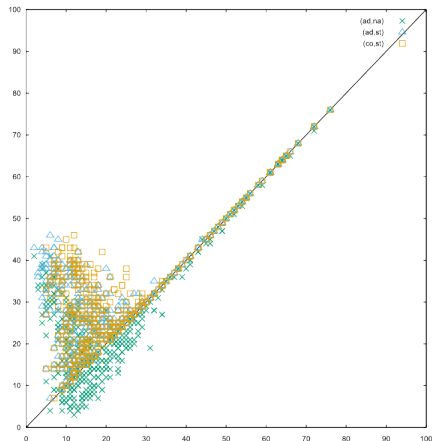
General Idea

- ▶ For a large set of F and E , enforce E in F for $\sigma \in \Sigma$
- ▶ For each instance, compute $V_{\sigma, Op}^F(E)$ for all $\sigma \in \Sigma$
- ▶ For each pair of semantics (σ_i, σ_j) , it is useful to change the semantics when $V_{\sigma_j, Op}^F(E) \leq 0.9 \times V_{\sigma_i, Op}^F(E)$

Details

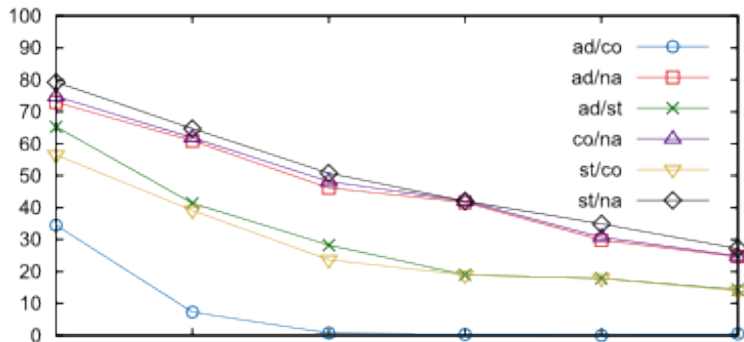
- ▶ The instances come from [Wallner et al, AAAI 2016] : 400 instances for each $|A| \in \{50, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300\}$
- ▶ Enforcement operator : strict argument-fixed operator, $\{ad, st, co\}$ come from [Wallner et al], home-made implementation for na

Representative Sample of the Results



- ▶ $|A| = 50$
- ▶ Similar results for (st, na) and (na, co) , only (ad, co) gives a lot of instances close to the diagonal
- ▶ Similar results for other $|A|$

Influence of $|A|$



- ▶ Percentage of success depending on $|A|$

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- ▶ Generalizing enforcement operators to benefit from semantic change
 - ▶ Experimental evaluation shows that semantic change brings better results in a lot of situations
- ▶ Not in the talk : we have extended Baumann's study of characteristics

About characteristics

- ▶ Some characteristics are still unknown for several semantics and enforcement operators

About the experimental evaluation

- ▶ Conduct similar studies with other semantics and operators
- ▶ Success rate with other values than 0.9

About implementations

- ▶ Generalize the software systems : compute the characteristics for different semantics and operators before performing enforcement, to be able to choose the best one (w.r.t. change of the graph)

Deeper questions on extension enforcement

- ▶ The success rate seems to decrease when $|A|$ increases. Does it decrease to 0 or is there a minimal ?
- ▶ Our evaluation of success is only experimental. Are there properties related to success ?
 - ▶ Some graphs structures, pattern, etc which would guarantee that semantic change is/isn't successful

Semantic change for other operations

- ▶ Revision of AFs [Coste-Marquis et al, KR'14] returns a set of AFs, with two notions of minimality (difference of the graph and cardinality of the result)
- ▶ Can we use semantic change to improve the minimality w.r.t. one (or both) of these notions ?