

# *James P. Bennett on Subjunctive Reasoning, Policy Analysis And Political Argument*

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This article was developed from materials in a paper by Dr. James P. Bennett titled "No Second Thoughts about 'No First Use'—How Can the Policy Analyst Undertake Subjunctive Reasoning in Political Argument?", dated March 1984. It contains a number of new, basic ideas regarding political arguments and policy analysis. The authors, judging that these ideas should be presented early, even in preliminary form, have taken upon themselves the task to develop them in a consistent, orderly fashion. We have done this despite the fact that Bennett still considers his ideas to be first, rough statements. In interpreting Bennett the authors have undoubtedly missed some of his important points, and in certain instances may have misrepresented his argument. They take full responsibility for these omissions and misrepresentations.

In what follows we shall quote extensively from the Bennett manuscript. When we do so, the reader should bear in mind that these quotations are only preliminary statements, some of which Bennett may have already modified.

# Subjunctive Reasoning

**Yijin Wang**



## **Subjunctive Reasoning:**

Subjunctive Reasoning J.L. Pollock, 2012-12-06 I am indebted to many people for the help they gave me in the writing of this book. I owe a large debt to David Lewis and Robert Stalnaker on both general and specific grounds. As becomes apparent from reading the notes, the book would not have been possible without their pioneering work on subjunctive conditionals. In addition, both were kind enough to provide specific comments on earlier versions of different parts of the book and Stalnaker read and commented on the entire manuscript. Closer to home, I am indebted to my colleagues Rolf Eberle and Henry Kyburg. If my erstwhile colleague Keith Lehrer and numerous graduate students for their helpful comments on various parts of the manuscript. Some of the material contained herein appeared first in the form of journal articles and I wish to thank the journals in question for allowing the material to be reprinted here. Chapter One contains material taken from *The Possible Worlds Analysis of Counterfactuals* published in *Philosophical Studies* 29 (1976) 469. Reidel. Chapter Two contains material much revised from *Four Kinds of Conditionals* *Am Philosophical Quarterly* 12 (1975) and Chapter Three contains much revised material from *Subjunctive Generalizations* *Synthese* 28 (1974) 199. Reidel. CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION 1 SUBJUNCTIVE REASONING There exists quite a variety of statements which are in some sense subjunctive. The Oxford Handbook of Philosophical Methodology Herman Cappelen, Tamar Szabó Gendler, John Hawthorne, 2016-06-23 This is the most comprehensive book ever published on philosophical methodology. A team of thirty-eight of the world's leading philosophers present original essays on various aspects of how philosophy should be and is done. The first part is devoted to broad traditions and approaches to philosophical methodology including logical empiricism, phenomenology, and ordinary language philosophy. The entries in the second part address topics in philosophical methodology such as intuitions, conceptual analysis, and transcendental arguments. The third part of the book is devoted to essays about the interconnections between philosophy and neighbouring fields including those of mathematics, psychology, literature, and film, and neuroscience. **Essays on A Priori Knowledge and Justification** Albert Casullo, 2012-02-20 This book is a collection of essays concerning the concept and existence of a priori knowledge and the relationship between a priori knowledge and the related concepts of necessary truth and analytic truth. **Subjunctive Reasoning**, 1976 *The Architecture of the Imagination* Shaun Nichols, 2006-09-07 This volume presents new essays on the propositional imagination by leading researchers. The propositional imagination, the mental capacity we exploit when we imagine that everyone is colour blind or that Hamlet is a procrastinator, plays an essential role in philosophical theorizing, engaging with fiction, and indeed in everyday life. Yet only recently has there been a systematic attempt to give a cognitive account of the propositional imagination. These thirteen essays, specially written for the volume, capitalize on this recent work, extending the theoretical picture of the imagination and exploring the philosophical implications of cognitive accounts of the imagination. The book also investigates broader philosophical issues surrounding the propositional imagination. The first section addresses the nature of the imagination, its role in emotion production, and its

sophistication manifestation in childhood The essays in the second section focus on the nature of pretence and how pretence is implicated in adult communication The third section addresses the problem of imaginative resistance the striking fact that when we encounter morally repugnant assertions in fiction we seem to resist imagining them and accepting them as fictionally true In the final section contributors explore the relation between imagining conceiving and judgements of possibility and impossibility The Architecture of the Imagination will be an essential resource for the growing number of philosophers and psychologists studying the nature of the imagination and on its role in philosophy aesthetics and everyday life

*Subjunctive reasoning* John L. Pollock, 1976     *Meaning, Mind, and Knowledge* Christopher S. Hill, 2014 Acting together requires collective intentions The contributions to this volume seek to critically assess or to enrich theories of collective intentionality by exploring topics such as collective belief mutual coordination and the explanation of group behavior

**Foundations of Rational Agency** Michael Wooldridge, A. Rao, 2013-03-09 Over the past decade rational agency has come to be recognised as a central theme in artificial intelligence Drawing upon research on rational action and agency in philosophy logic game theory decision theory and the philosophy of language this volume represents an advanced comprehensive state of the art survey of the field of rational agency as it stands today It covers the philosophical foundations of rational agency logical and decision theoretic approaches to rational agency multi agent aspects of rational agency including speech acts joint plans and cooperation protocols and finally describes a number of approaches to programming rational agents Although written from the standpoint of artificial intelligence this interdisciplinary text will be of interest to researchers in logic mainstream computer science the philosophy of rational action and agency and economics

**College English Grammar** George Oliver Curme, 1925     **The Journal of Symbolic Logic** Alonzo Church, Cooper Harold Langford, 1981 Includes lists of members     **A grammar of the German language designed for a thorough and practical...** George Oliver Curme, 1913     [A Grammar of the German Language](#) George Oliver Curme, 1905     *The Development of Modal Reasoning* Gilberte Piérault-Le Bonniec, 1980     **The Theory of Thought** Noah Knowles Davis, 1880

[The Editor](#), 1917     **Pavel Tichý's Collected Papers in Logic and Philosophy** Pavel Tichý, 2004 Pavel Tichy was an original gifted logician and philosopher of language He developed what he called Transparent Intensional Logic a semantic theory within which to analyze both natural and artificial languages This theory is devoted to the central problem of saying exactly what it is that we learn know and can communicate when we come to understand what a sentence means The theory remains one of the most inspiring and controversial doctrines of contemporary philosophical logic attracting passionate defenders and equally fierce opponents More than forty papers are collected together in this book to trace the development of Tichy s ideas They include his earliest papers hitherto available only in Czech the papers that informed his important 1998 monograph *The Foundations of Frege s Logic* through to the mature doctrines that he was still elaborating at his untimely death in 1994 Also included are several acclaimed polemical pieces in which Tichy criticized the leading and he thought

mistaken ideas of influential contemporary thinkers     The Cum-constructions William Gardner Hale,1889     Cornell  
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**Functions** William Gardner Hale,1887

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### **Subjunctive Reasoning Introduction**

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