Mechanical rationality, decision making and emotions

Abstract

Descartes and many philosophers afterwards think that rationality can not be explained within the physicalist framework. It will be argued that although the computational theory of mind provides in principle solution to the problem of mechanical rationality and thus opens the way to AI, there remain at least two hard questions. First, it is questionable whether it is possible to achieve mechanical rationality in practice, and second, results in neuroscience show that rationality alone does not suffice for real world decision making, we have to take into account also emotions.

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