

## Refutation of Dempster-Shafer belief and plausibility theory

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**Abstract:** We evaluate Dempster-Shafer belief and plausibility functions. Three definitions are *not* tautologous. This refutes Dempster-Shafer belief and plausibility theory.

We assume the method and apparatus of Meth8/VL4 with Tautology as the designated *proof* value, **F** as contradiction, **N** as truthity (non-contingency), and **C** as falsity (contingency). For results, the 16-valued truth table is row-major and horizontal, or repeating fragments of 128-tables, sometimes with table counts, for more variables. (See ersatz-systems.com.)

LET p, q, r, s: P, bel(ief) or support, pl(ausibility), A;  
 ~ Not, ¬; + Or, ∨, ∪; - Not Or; & And, ∧, ∩; \ Not And;  
 > Imply, greater than, →, ⊃, ⊃; < Not Imply, less than, ∈;  
 = Equivalent, ≡, ≡, :=, ⇔, ↔; @ Not Equivalent, ≠;  
 % possibility, for one or some, ∃, ∃, M; # necessity, for every or all, ∀, □, L;  
 (z=z) T as tautology; (z@z) F as contradiction, ∅, Null;  
 (%z<#z) C as contingency, Δ, ordinal 1;  
 (%z>#z) N as non-contingency, ∇, ordinal 2;  
 ~(y < x) (x ≤ y), (x ⊆ y).

From: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dempster-Shafer\_theory

Belief and plausibility functions:

$$\text{bel}(A) \leq P(A) \leq \text{pl}(A) \tag{1.1}$$

$$\sim((r \& s) < (\sim(p \& s) < (q \& s))) = (p = p) ; \quad \text{TTTT TTTT TTTT TFFF} \tag{1.2}$$

$$\text{pl}(A) = (1 - \text{bel}(\sim A)) \tag{2.1}$$

$$(r \& s) = ((\%s > \#s) - (q \& \sim s)) ; \quad \text{NNTT NNTT NNNN CCCC} \tag{2.2}$$

$$\text{bel}(A) \leq P(A) \leq (1 - \text{bel}(\sim A)) \tag{3.1}$$

$$\sim(((\%s > \#s) - (q \& \sim s)) < (\sim(p \& s) < (q \& s))) = (p = p) ; \quad \text{TTTT TTTT TNNN TNNN} \tag{3.2}$$

Dempster-Shafer generalization of Bayesian theory:

LET p, q, r, s: B, bel(ief) or support, pl(ausibility), A

$$\text{If } (A \text{ And } B) = \text{Null}, \text{ then } \text{bel}(A \text{ Or } B) = \text{bel}(A) \text{ Or } \text{bel}(B). \tag{4.1}$$

$$((s \& p) = (s \& s)) > ((q \& (s + p)) = ((q \& s) + (q \& p))) ; \quad \text{TTTT TTTT TTTT TTTT} \tag{4.2}$$

**Remark 4.2:** Because we show elsewhere that Bayes' theorem is *not* tautologous, we expect Dempster-Shafer, as *not* tautologous from Eq. 3.2, to be an equivalence.

Eqs. 1.2-3.2 as rendered are not tautologous. This refutes Dempster-Shafer theory as plausibility and belief functions.