

Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	xi
<i>List of Tables</i>	xiii
1. Introduction	1
1.1 The Nature of Belief	2
1.2 Concepts of Belief	8
1.3 Elimination, Reduction, Irreducibility	11
1.3.1 The Elimination (without Reduction) Option (i): At Least One of the Two Concepts of Belief is Empty	13
1.3.2 The Reduction Option (ii): Both Concepts of Belief Refer, and they Refer to the Same Phenomenon	16
1.3.3 The Irreducibility Option (iii): Both Concepts of Belief Refer, But Not to the Same Phenomenon	20
1.4 Norms for Belief: How Should Beliefs Cohere?	27
1.5 The Route to an Answer	32
1.6 Bridge Principles for Rational Belief and Rational Degrees of Belief	41
1.6.1 The <i>Certainty</i> or <i>Probability 1 Proposal</i>	42
1.6.2 The <i>Lockean Thesis</i>	44
1.6.3 <i>Decision-Theoretic Accounts</i>	45
1.6.4 The <i>Nihilistic Proposal</i>	47
1.7 What is to Come	48
Appendix A. The Review Argument: On the Diachronic Costs of Not Closing Rational Belief under Conjunction	54
A.1 Closing Rational Belief under Conjunction	54
A.2 The Argument	55
A.3 A Variation	63
A.4 Conclusions	65
2. The Humean Thesis on Belief	69
2.1 Introduction	69
2.2 Explicating the Humean Thesis	73
2.3 The Consequences of the Humean Thesis	89
2.3.1 Consequence 1: Doxastic Logic	89
2.3.2 Consequence 2: The Lockean Thesis	96
2.3.3 Consequence 3: Decision Theory	100
2.4 Conclusions	104
Appendix B. Where Does Stability Come from? Stability through Repetition	106
3. Logical Closure and the Lockean Thesis	112
3.1 The Lockean Thesis and Closure of Belief under Conjunction	112
3.2 <i>P</i> -Stability	117

3.3	The Theory and its Costs	127
3.4	Application to the Lottery Paradox	148
3.5	A First Shot at the Preface Paradox	151
3.6	An Application in Formal Epistemology	153
3.7	Summary	157
4.	Conditional Belief and Belief Dynamics	159
4.1	A Stability Theory of Conditional Belief and Belief Dynamics: Introduction and Synopsis	160
4.1.1	Conditional Probability and Conditionalization	160
4.1.2	Conditional Belief and Belief Revision	162
4.1.3	Conditionalization vs Belief Revision: A Preview	171
4.1.4	Some Closely Related Theories	176
4.2	A Stability Theory of Conditional Belief and Belief Dynamics: The Formal Details	179
4.2.1	Probabilistic Postulates	180
4.2.2	Restricted Conditional Belief and a Bridge Postulate	181
4.2.3	Conditional Belief in General	214
4.3	Some Examples with a Concrete Interpretation	225
	Appendix C. Does Rational Belief Reduce to Subjective Probability? Does it Supervene?	230
C.1	The First Argument Against Supervenience	232
C.2	The Second Argument Against Supervenience	234
5.	Stability and Epistemic Decision Theory	237
5.1	Belief's Aiming at the Truth	240
5.2	Belief's Aiming at Subjective Probability	250
5.2.1	Probabilistic Order vs Doxastic Order over Worlds	250
5.2.2	Accuracy for Orders over Worlds	256
5.2.3	Error-Free Doxastic Orders of Worlds	260
5.2.4	Conclusions on Rational Belief	262
6.	Action, Assertability, Acceptance	265
6.1	Action	267
6.2	Assertability	274
6.3	Acceptance	302
6.4	The Preface Paradox Reconsidered	313
	Appendix D. On Counterfactuals and Chance	319
D.1	A New Paradox	320
D.2	The Derivation	324
D.3	Related Arguments	325
D.4	Diagnosis	330
D.5	A New Way Out	335
D.6	Evaluation and Prospects	344
	<i>Bibliography</i>	349
	<i>Index</i>	361