

# Value-Based decisions : situational influences and neural mechanisms

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## PROPOSITIONS BELONGING TO THE THESIS

### **VALUE-BASED DECISIONS: SITUATIONAL INFLUENCES AND NEURAL MECHANISMS**

BY EVA MARTINA WÖLBERT

1. Economic decisions are influenced by the presence of irrelevant stimuli that are associated with reward (Chapter 2).
2. Many people appear to have flexible valuations for consumer goods (Chapter 3).
3. Although individual time and risk preferences regarding money are stable over time, they are not generalizable to other contexts (Chapter 4).
4. The brain computes an abstract subjective value that enables comparison and choice even among dissimilar options (Chapter 6).
5. Although predicting choice from brain activity is possible, the cost-benefit ratio is currently not very favourable.
6. Whether and how understanding the neural mechanism underlying decision making will enrich economic theory is an empirical question.
7. Scientists tend to resist interdisciplinary inquiries into their own territory (Hannes Alfvén).
8. Life is the sum of all your choices (Albert Camus).
9. Doing a PhD is like riding a bicycle. To get there you must keep going (freely adapted from Albert Einstein).
10. Dutch is a delightfully cute language, that is, until you try to master it.