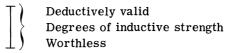
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## FREQUENCIES AND BELIEFS

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Brian Skyrms, in his *Choice and Chance*: An Introduction to Inductive Logic,\* characterizes degrees of inductive strength as lying on the following scale:



I will argue here that the scale holds only for one of two types of frequency argument discussed below, and that certain other arguments do not hold on this kind of scale but do hold on a scale of degrees of doubt. The net result of all this will be that it is a mistake to regard inductive arguments as lying on a continuum with deductive validity. I gather that the following example by Skyrms—

Ninety per cent of the Oriental rug dealers in the United States are Armenian. <u>Mr. X is an Oriental rug dealer in the United States.</u> <u>Mr. X is an Armenian.</u>

-the inductive probability of which he says is "quite high", will illustrate that he is construing such arguments as parts of an ascending series of inductive strength. Accordingly, let us consider the following series of arguments:

I. 8 out of 10 A's are B's. <u>This x is an A.</u> This x is a B.
II. 9 out of 10 A's are B's. <u>This x is an A.</u> This x is a B.

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<sup>\*</sup>Dickenson Publishing Company; Belmont, California (1966). The references in this paper are to Chapter I.