**Transcript**

As we go through life, what we want changes. A child might want to become a firefighter, but as an adult choose a career as tax accountant instead. Some of these changes are due to us receiving new information, learning about the world. Perhaps in going from child to adult, we learn that firefighters are paid much less than tax accounts. Such information-driven changes of preferences can be well-explained using standard methods in decision theory. But some motivational changes cannot be explained by learning information. These fundamental preference changes are the topic of our Element and we investigate them by addressing three questions:

1. What constitutes fundamental preference change?
2. How should we model fundamental preference change?
3. How should we make rational choices in light of fundamental preference change?

These questions follow a progression. Initially, we aim to identify the phenomenon of interest: How does fundamental preference change fit into the picture of practical rationality offered by decision theory? We defend the place of fundamental preference change and address classic arguments denying its existence.

Then, we delve into how preference change can be modelled, considering the descriptive and normative constraints on its dynamics. We argue that preferences can be strong without being robust. Sometimes teenagers fall in love head over heels, but lose all interest a few weeks later. Despite its strength, the preference for a partner is easily lost again --- a distinction between strength and robustness that is lacking in standard decision theory and we propose to model.

Having discussed models of fundamental preference change, the question arises how we can make rational decisions as our preferences evolve. How can we decide if we are aware that what we want might change? For example, if I believe that having a child will change my preferences for or against having children, how should I include that in my deliberations? Such questions have been heavily debated in the literature on transformative experience and choosing for changing selves. We summarise the state of this literature and evaluate it.

Decision theory, even if it provides idealised models of rational agents, should have some application to breathing and, more importantly, evolving human agents. Writing our Element, we combined insights across the disciplines and emphasised the importance of engaging with human agents as they really are.