Foundations of Artificial Intelligence

CS472/3 — Fall 1999
Lecture #13

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Today's Lecture

Intro. Knowledge Representation & Reasoning

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Knowledge Representation

- Human intelligence relies on a lot of background knowledge (the more you know, the easier many tasks become / **"knowledge is power"**)
- E.g. SEND + MORE = MONEY puzzle.
  — **Time flies like an arrow.**
  — **Fruit flies like bananas.**

  The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak. (English)
  The vodka is good but the meat is rotten. (Russian)

OR:
Plan a trip to L.A.

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- Q. How did we encode (domain) knowledge so far?
  Search knowledge?

Fine for limited amounts of knowledge / well-defined domains.

Otherwise: **knowledge-based systems approach**.

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Knowledge-Based Systems / Programs

General idea: represent knowledge in declarative statements
use inference / reasoning machismn to derive new information / make decisions.

Natural candidate: logical language (propositional / first-order) combined with a logical inference mechanism

How close to human thought? (mental-models / Johnson-Laird)
In any case, appears reasonable strategy for machines

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"Advice-Taker"

1958 / 1968 — John McCarthy: "Programs with Common Sense" — agents use logical reasoning to mediate between percepts and actions.

Idea: Impart knowledge to a program in the form of declarative (logical) statements ("what" instead of "how"); program uses general reasoning mechanisms to process and act on this information.

E.g. Formalize *"x is at y"* using predicate *at*, i.e., *at(x,y)*
at **defined** by its properties, e.g., $at(x, y) \wedge at(y, z) \rightarrow at(x, z)$

Problems??

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Agent / Intelligent System Design

p. 13 R&N. Craik (1943) *The Nature of Explanation*

> If the organism carries a "small-scale model" of external reality and of its own small possible actions within its head, it is able to try out various alternatives, conclude which is the best of them, react to future situations before they arise, utilize the knowledge of the past events in dealing with the present and future, and in every way to react in a much fuller, safer, and more competent manner to the emergencies which face it.

Alt. view: against representations — Brooks (1989)

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Representation Language

preferably:

— expressive and concise

— unambiguous and independent of context

— have an effective procedure to derive new information

not easy to meet these goals ...

propositional and first-order logic meet some of the criteria

incompleteness / uncertainty is key — contrast with programming languages. (see p 161 R&N).

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```
   printColor(snow) :- !, write("It’s white.").
   printColor(grass) :- !, write("It’s green.").
   printColor(sky) :- !, write("It’s blue.").
   printColor(X) :- write("Beats me.").

Knowledge-based alternative:
   printColor(X) :-
        color(X,Y), !, write("It’s "), write(Y), write(".").

   color(snow,white).    (‘‘KB’’)
   color(grass,green).
   color(sky,yellow).
```

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Logical Representation

Three components:

syntax

semantics (link to the world)

proof theory ("pushing symbols")

To make it work: **soundness** and **completeness**.

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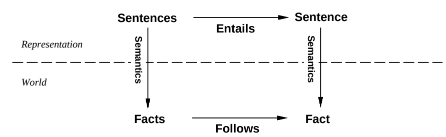
Connecting Sentences to the World



Somewhat misleading: formal semantics brings sentence down only to the primitive components (propositions). (later)

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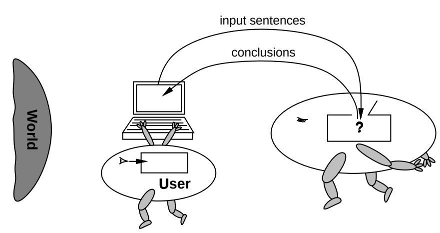
Tenuous Link to Real World



All computer has are sentences (hopefully about the world).
Sensors can provide some grounding.
Hope KB unique model / interpretation: the real-world.
Often many more... (Aside: consider arithmetic.)

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More Concrete: Propositional Logic

Syntax: build sentences from atomic propositions, using connectives $\wedge, \vee, \neg, \Rightarrow, \Leftrightarrow$.
(and / or / not / implies / equivalence (biconditional))

E.g.: $((\neg P) \vee (Q \wedge R)) \Rightarrow S$

p. 167 R&N.

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Semantics

P	Q	$\neg P$	$P \wedge Q$	$P \vee Q$	$P \Rightarrow Q$	$P \Leftrightarrow Q$
False	*False*	*True*	*False*	*False*	*True*	*True*
False	*True*	*True*	*False*	*True*	*True*	*False*
True	*False*	*False*	*False*	*True*	*False*	*False*
True	*True*	*False*	*True*	*True*	*True*	*True*

Note: $\Rightarrow$ somewhat counterintuitive.
What's the truth value of "5 is even implies Sam is smart"?

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Validity and Inference

P	H	$P \vee H$	$(P \vee H) \wedge \neg H$	$((P \vee H) \wedge \neg H) \Rightarrow P$
False	*False*	*False*	*False*	*True*
False	*True*	*True*	*False*	*True*
True	*False*	*True*	*True*	*True*
True	*True*	*True*	*False*	*True*

Truth table for: *Premises* $\Rightarrow$ *Conclusion*.

Shows $((P \vee H) \wedge (\neg H)) \Rightarrow P$ is valid

(True in all interpretations)

We write $\models ((P \vee H) \wedge (\neg H)) \Rightarrow P$

Models

A **model** of a set of sentences (KB) is a truth-assign.
in which each of the KB sentences evaluates to *True*.

With more and more sentences, the models of KB start looking
more and more like the "real-world" (or isomorphic to it).

If a sentence α holds (is *True*) in **all** models
of a KB, we say that α is **entailed** by the KB.

α is of interest, because *whenever KB is true in a world* *α will also be True.*

We write: $KB \models \alpha$.

Proof Theory

Purely syntactic rules for deriving the logical consequences of a set of sentences.

We write: $KB \vdash \alpha$, i.e., α can be **deduced** from KB or α is **provable** from KB.

Key property:
Both in propositional and in first-order logic we have a proof theory ("calculus") such that:

$\vdash$ **and** $\models$ **are equivalent.**

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Proof Theory

If $KB \vdash \alpha$ implies $KB \models \alpha$, we say the proof theory is **sound**.

If $KB \models \alpha$ implies $KB \vdash \alpha$, we say the proof theory is **complete**.

Why so remarkable / important?

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Soundness and Completeness

Allows computer to ignore semantics and "just push symbols"!

In propositional logic, truth tables cumbersome (at least).

In first-order, models can be infinite!

Proof theory: One or more **inference rules** with

zero or more axioms (tautologies / to get things "going.").

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Example Proof Theory

One rule of inference: **Modens Ponens**

From α and $\alpha \Rightarrow \beta$ it follows that β.

Semantic soundness easily verified. (truth table)

Axiom schemas:

(Ax. I) $\alpha \Rightarrow (\beta \Rightarrow \alpha)$

(Ax. II) $((\alpha \Rightarrow (\beta \Rightarrow \gamma)) \Rightarrow ((\alpha \Rightarrow \beta) \Rightarrow (\alpha \Rightarrow \gamma)))$.

(Ax. III) $(\neg\alpha \Rightarrow \beta) \Rightarrow (\neg\alpha \Rightarrow \neg\beta) \Rightarrow \alpha$.

Note: α, β, γ stand for arbitrary sentences. So, infinite collection of axioms.

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Now, α can be **deduced** from a set of sentences Φ
iff there exists a sequence of applications of **modens ponens**
that leads from Φ to α (possibly using the axioms).

One can prove that:
Modens ponens with the above axioms will generate exactly
all (and only those) statements logically **entailed** by Φ.
So, we have a way of generating entailed statements
in a purely syntactic manner!
(Sequence is called a proof. Finding it can be hard ...)

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Example Proof

Lemma. For any α, we have $\vdash (\alpha \Rightarrow \alpha)$.
Proof.

$(\alpha \Rightarrow (\alpha \Rightarrow \alpha) \Rightarrow \alpha) \Rightarrow (\alpha \Rightarrow \alpha \Rightarrow \alpha) \Rightarrow \alpha \Rightarrow \alpha$, (Ax. II)
$\alpha \Rightarrow (\alpha \Rightarrow \alpha) \Rightarrow \alpha$, (Ax. I)
$(\alpha \Rightarrow \alpha \Rightarrow \alpha) \Rightarrow \alpha \Rightarrow \alpha$, (M. P.)
$\alpha \Rightarrow \alpha \Rightarrow \alpha)$ (Ax. I)
$\alpha \Rightarrow \alpha$ (M.P.)

Next time: more efficient using resolution.

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