Lecture 1: Logical Agents

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1 Intro

The slides are very similar to the content of the book. See chapter 7.

2 Knowledge Bases

Knowledge base Set of sentences in a formal language.

The declarative approach to building an agent (or other system) is to tell it what it needs to know. Then it can ask itself what to do and the answers should follow from the KB. Agents can be viewed:

- At the knowledge level: what they know, regardless of how they are implemented
- At the implementation level: data structures in KB and algorithms that manipulate them

3 Logic in General

- Logics are formal languages for representing information such that conclusions can be drawn.
- Syntax defines the sentences in the language.
- **Semantics** define the *meaning* of the sentences; i.e define truth of a sentence in a world.

4 Entailment

• Entailment means that one thing follows from another:

$$KB \models \alpha$$
 (1)

This means knowledge base KB entails sentence α if and only if α is true in all worlds where KB is true. E.g. x+y=4 entails 4=x+y Entailment is a relationship between sentences (i.e. syntax) that is based on semantics.

5 Models

Logicians typically think of **models**, which are formally structured worlds with respect to which truth can be evaluated. We say m is a **model of** a sentence α if α is true in m. $M(\alpha)$ is the set of all models of α

6 Inference

In logic an inference is a procedure by which you can deduce that something does follow from something else.