

Questions 5: Knowledge Representation

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Question 1

Describe four approaches to knowledge representation according to Mylopoulos & Levesque (1984).

Answer:

Logical calculus is used, such as first-order predicate calculus, modal, temporal logics.

Procedural or algorithmic representations can encode how to solve particular problems (e.g. rule-based systems).

Networks are used to represent objects and relations (associations) between them (e.g. semantic networks).

Structured data is used to represent classes of objects and relations between them (e.g. frames, ontologies).

Question 2

What is an OAV-triplet? Give examples.

Answer: OAV stands for Object-Attribute-Value. OAV-triplet is an association of an object $o \in O$ with a value $v \in V$ of an attribute $a \in A$:

$$\text{object} \xrightarrow{a} \text{value}$$

For example, the facts that an ostrich cannot fly and ostrich is a bird can be represented by OAV-triplets:

object	attribute	value
ostrich	flies	false
ostrich	category	bird

Question 3

What is a frame? Give examples.

Answer: *Frames are structured knowledge representations used to represent objects and concepts by sets of attributes or properties. For example, attributes locomotion, habitat and diet can be used to represent animals, and locomotion, cargo and fuel type can be used to represent vehicles.*

Question 4

Describe stages of the knowledge engineering process.

Answer:

Knowledge acquisition : *the process of obtaining the knowledge from experts (by interviewing and/or observing human experts, reading specific books, etc).*

Knowledge representation : *selecting the most appropriate structures to represent the knowledge (lists, sets, scripts, decision trees, object-attribute-value triplets, etc).*

Knowledge validation : *testing that the knowledge of ES is correct and complete.*