

**CS378**  
**Autonomous Multiagent Systems**  
**Spring 2004**

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The University of Texas at Austin

Week 5b: Thursday, February 19th

# Good Afternoon, Colleagues

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Are there any questions?

# Logistics

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- Programming assignment 4 - any questions?

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- Final project

# ACL Desiderata

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**Environment:** interoperability with other languages

**Reliability:** reliable, secure, authentication possible, error handling

# Three-layer organization

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(tell

:sender *stock-server*  
:content **(PRICE IBM 14)**  
:receiver *joe*  
:in-reply-to *ibm-stock*  
:language *LPROLOG*  
:ontology *NYSE-TICKS*)

# ACLs – Current Landscape

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- Sample FIPA applications on resources page

# Class Discussion

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Mark Lewis on Team Communication

# {Per,Il}locution - p.14

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**Locution:** What is said (physical)

# {Per,I}locution - p.14

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Example: "Please close the window."

# BDI

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## Beliefs, Desires, Intentions

- Beliefs: What the agent thinks to be true
- Desires: What it wants to be true
- Intentions: What it plans to do

# BDI

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## Beliefs, Desires, Intentions

- Beliefs: What the agent thinks to be true
- Desires: What it wants to be true
- Intentions: What it plans to do
  
- A way of organizing an agent
- Not a well-defined method

# Soccer server communication

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- What is the soccer server communication protocol?
- How does it relate?

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An example protocol next week

# STEAM

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- An implementation/extension of joint intentions
- Goals
  - Anticipate teamwork failures
  - Flexibility and re-use

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# STEAM

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- An implementation/extension of joint intentions
- Goals
  - Anticipate teamwork failures
  - Flexibility and re-use
- Joint intentions doesn't do it all, though
  - Coherence: all use same plan, commitment protocols
  - Communication cost — decision theoretic
  - Replanning — role dependencies

# Team Operators

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- Have preconditions, effects, termination rules
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- Agents maintain “team state:” model of team’s mutual beliefs

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How should teams be formed initially?

# Domains

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- Attack:
  - Fly to holding point
  - Send out scouts
  - Shoot at enemy
- Transport:
  - Escorts protect transports
- RoboCup

# Observed Problems

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Solved generally with STEAM

# Evaluation

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- Used in 3 domains with different characteristics
- STEAM rules can be re-used
- Flexibility: solves initial problems, can deal with small changes to environment
- Communication efficiency
- Encoding and modification effort

# Pursuit Activity

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**Group 1:** homogeneous, non-communicating

**Group 2:** homogeneous, communicating

**Group 3:** heterogeneous, non-communicating

**Group 4:** heterogeneous, communicating