CS378 Autonomous Multiagent Systems Spring 2005

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Department of Computer Sciences
The University of Texas at Austin

Week 8a: Tuesday, March 8th

Good Afternoon, Colleagues

Are there any questions?

Logistics

Anyone at the job talk?

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- Surveys due Thursday

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- Next week's readings posted

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- My comments in black, Mazda's in blue

• Will	I be stricter on progress reports	
TIRES	Department of Computer Sciences The University of Toyas at Austin	

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 - Have something implemented and evaluated

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 - Decision nodes, chance nodes ⇒
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Implemented in an airport!

Class Discussion

Will Rogers on BDI

Non-deterministic (⇒ beliefs)

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Can't just use decision theory

Decision Theory

- Choice nodes: system gets to choose
- Chance nodes: environment selects randomly

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Deliberation Functions

- Maximin: aim for a best, worst case
- Expected utility: aim for a best expected case

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Example

Air-traffic Management

70–80 agents at a time

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- Wind modeller
- Coordinator
- Trajectory checker

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Keep schedule until complete or impossible

BDI

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Desires: Pruned to only keep the right ETA

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Desires: Pruned to only keep the right ETA

Intentions: Pruned further to keep only the best in terms of fuel consumption, etc.

Electric Elves: Human Org. Support

- Proxy agents for meeting scheduling
- Activities within an individual research project
- Meeting planning with participants outside the organization

Challenges

- Adjustable autonomy
- Reliable information access
- Capability matching
- Agent coordination
- Scaling up to continual, reliable usability

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Used continuously for several months

Question

Are we ready for free flight and automatic proxy agents?