

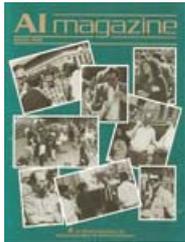
The Truth, the Whole Truth, and Nothing But the Truth

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Abstract

Truth maintenance is a collection of techniques for doing belief revision. A truth maintenance system's task is to maintain a set of beliefs in such a way that they are not known to be contradictory and no belief is kept without a reason. Truth maintenance systems were introduced in the late seventies by Jon Doyle and in the last five years there has been an explosion of interest in this kind of systems. In this paper we present an annotated bibliography to the literature of truth maintenance systems, grouping the works referenced according to several classifications.



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Truth cannot be suppressed, and is always the ultimate victor. – the Yajur Veda. The calmed say that what is well-spoken is best; second, that one should say what is right, not unrighteous; third, what's pleasing, not displeasing; fourth, what is true, not false. – The Buddha, from the Sutta Nipata. Those two fundamental human tasks—telling the truth and knowing the truth—have a close, symbiotic relationship to one another. When you tell the truth, you practice the essentially spiritual skill of knowing it first. When you lie, either to others or to yourself, you blur the boundaries of the truth. Lying robs you of that internal truth-recognition barometer we all naturally have from childhood, and diminishes your ability to recognize the truth when you see it