Discussing the Future of Episodic Memory in Soar

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Next Steps Encoding

Research

 How to provide effective episodic capabilities for continuous modalities (e.g. visual LTM)?

Features

- Indicate features to/not encode in episodes
- Indicate episodes to/not encode
- Hyperedges (i.e. identifiers as attributes)

Next Steps Storage

Research

- How to bound episodicmemory growth while maintaining effective retrievals and support for other processes (e.g. recognition, semantic learning)?
- Consolidation
- How to properly index structures to support diverse similarity queries? (e.g. numbers, red ~ orange)

Features

 Populate episodic memory with "engineered" episodes (ala epmem --add)

Next Steps Retrieval

Research

- Beyond cardinality [and WMA], what are effective indicators of relevance across a variety of tasks (e.g. appraisals, LTI spread)? Efficient support?
- What are effective methods to bound per-decision episodic processing (e.g. heuristic search, anytime)?
- What are useful & efficient forms of spontaneous retrievals/ recognition?
- How to efficiently support more complex retrieval constraints (e.g. mixed hard/soft, numeric ranges)

<u>Features</u>

- Provide next/previous via cue in order to support "taskspecific" event structures
- Reverse temporal bias to support "when was the first time..." queries
- Asynchronous queries w.r.t. decision cycle
- Cyclic queries
- Command line queries

Next Steps Agents

Reasoning

- How does an agent learn to utilize and weight retrievals with other sources of [possibly conflicting] knowledge?
 - Meta-knowledge about [possibly flawed] retrieval processes?
- How can an agent build up, reason about, and describe "events" from primitive episodes (could be architecture)?

Efficiency

 What are useful types of episodic queries across a variety of tasks? Better task/cue analysis -> better heuristics/ approximations!

Discuss!

- Typical uses of epmem
 - Kinds of queries/domains
 - Engineering "hacks"
- Problems with current implementation
 - Speed
 - Limitations
- Research issues