The Hidden Treasure

Ernst Buchberger

Austrian Research Institute for Artificial Intelligence (ÖFAI)
Schottengasse 3, A-1010 Vienna, Austria

Abstract

Starting from general observations on form and substance, we take a closer look at knowledge representation and how this field has been treated in Artificial Intelligence research. We argue for directing more attention to the 'substance' of knowledge and find similar views expressed in Lenat and Guha's (*Building Large Knowledge-Based Systems.* Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley, 1989). Contrary to their view, however, we argue for not dismissing prior work like research concerning thesauri, and stress the importance of an interdisciplinary and intercultural approach in general. We also note some caveats and observations concerning the distinction between representing the world and its representation by means of language.