



# Independent LifeStyle Assistant™ (I.L.S.A.)

*A NIST ATP Program*

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- ï Janet Myers



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# In a Nutshell

## Program Objective

Develop an intelligent home automation system with situation awareness and decision-making capability based on integration of diverse sensors, devices, and appliances to support caregivers and enable elderly users to live independently at home.

### Programmatics:

- A NIST Advanced Technology Program
  - » 2.5 years (Nov 00 ñ Mar 03)
  - » \$5.3 Million
- Lead by Honeywell
  - » Behavioral Informatics, Inc.
  - » SIFT, LLC
  - » United Health Group EverCare
  - » University of Minnesota School of Nursing

### Benefits:

- Support elder independent living
- Provide peace of mind to caregivers
- Support efficient quality care for caregiving organizations
- Cost savings for government and industry
- Market growth for in-home product producers



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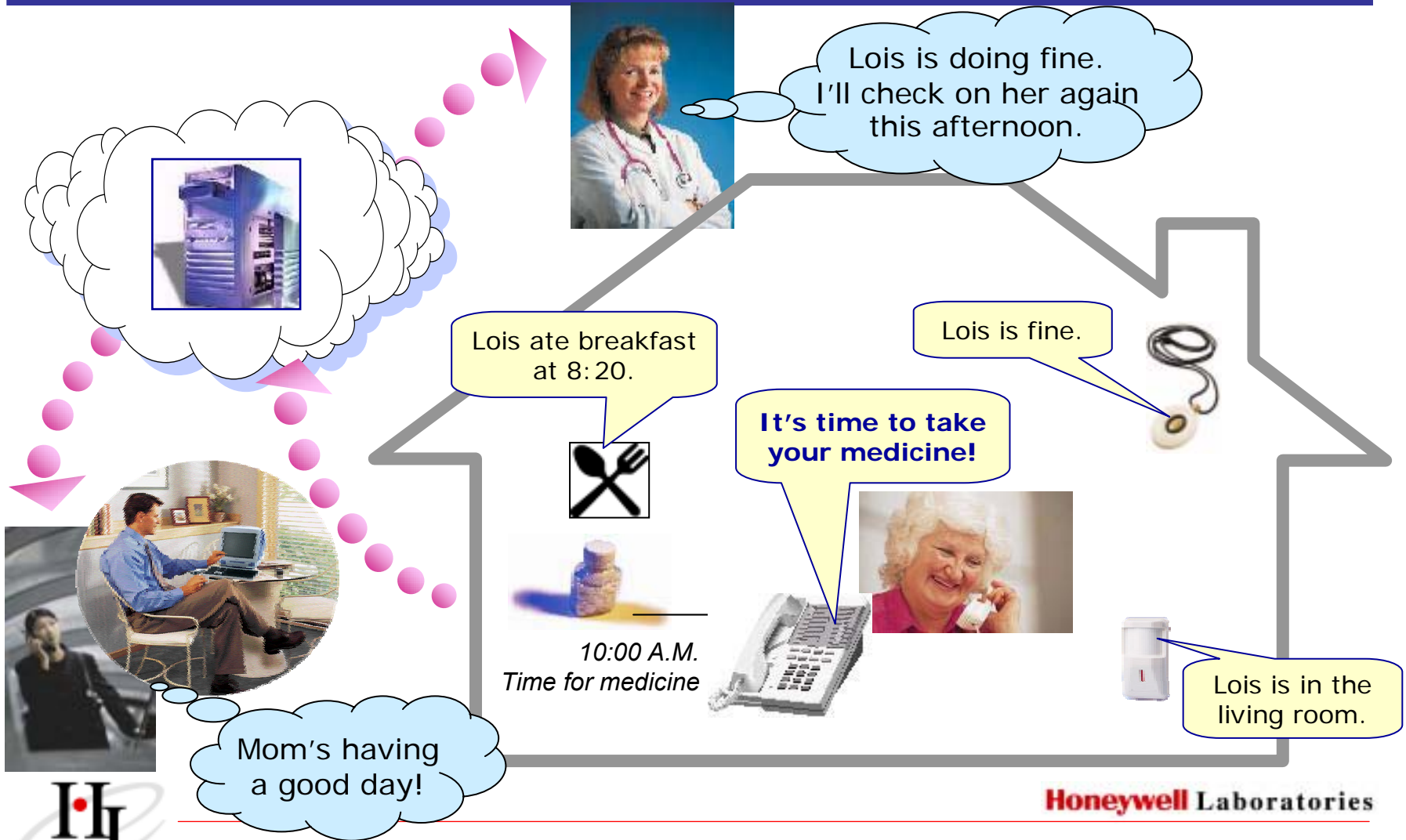


# The Vision

- **Gather** information about elder, activity, and home status by listening to the home and communicating with devices
- **Assess** the need for assistance based on the system's understanding of the elder's condition and what activities are going on inside the home
- **Respond** to a given situation by providing assistance to the elder and getting help when necessary
- **Share** health and status information with authorized caregivers to help improve the quality and timely delivery of care



# The Vision





# Finding Relevant Features

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## Factors contributing to institutionalization

- caregiver burnout
- medication mgmt, medical monitoring
- mobility, wandering, toileting, dementia, safety
- usability

## Technological feasibility & match

- demonstrable in 30 months
- fits I.L.S.A. vision of passive monitoring & support





# Initial Feature Set

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## Monitoring Functions

- Mobility (general activity level)
- Verify medication taken
- Panic button activation
- Toileting
- Eating
- Environment (comfort/intrusion)

## Response Functions

- Alarms
- Alerts
- Notifications
- Activity Reports

## Service Features

- Reminders
- Internet & phone access to elder activity
- Caregiver to-do lists
- Coordinate multiple caregivers

## Usability Features

- Password-free elder interactions
- Operational modes
- Queries to elders
- Feature Controls

## User Interfaces

- Elder: Phone, webpad, eFrame
- Caregiver: Web, phone, email

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# Software Architecture Requirements

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Each ILSA client and home will be very different and have specialized needs, so the system must be:

- rapidly deployable,
- easily configurable,
- highly modular, and
- adaptive to the environment.

Modularity is critical both to functionality as well as expandability for a number of reasons:

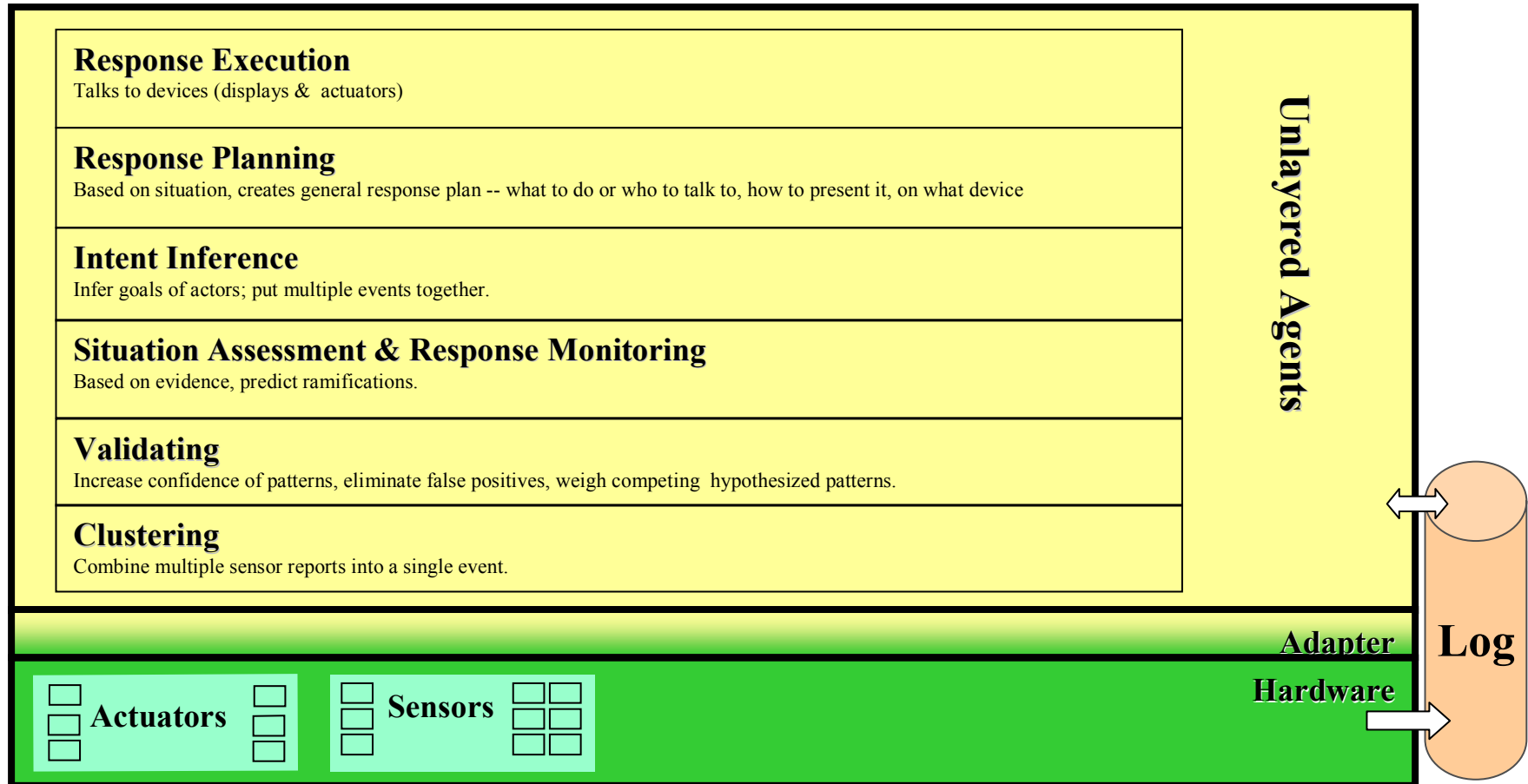
- Integrate 3rd party functional units
- Flexibility of sensor and actuator suites
- Expansion of ILSA capabilities over time





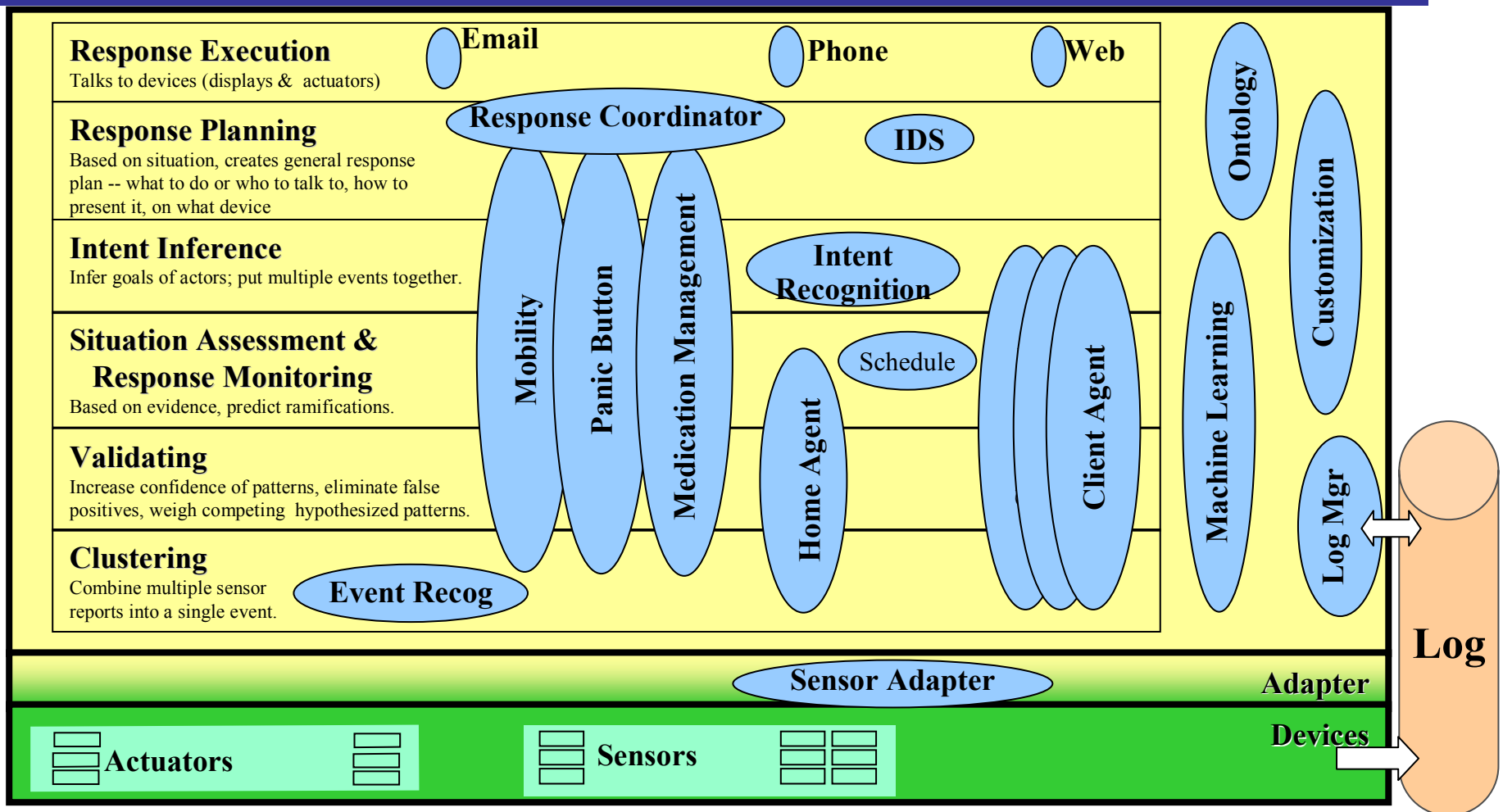


# Layered Agents





# Agents





# ILSA Agents

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## Agents group functionality, e.g.

- Mobility monitor
- Medication monitor
- Client interaction module
- Device controllers

## Agents group technical capability, e.g.

- Machine Learning
- Task tracking
- Response Planning





# Device Agents

Intelligent, coordinated integration of multiple sensors, effectors and displays

- Use standard communication protocols and the Ontology to seamlessly incorporate new devices
  - » sensing into the situation-aware infrastructure
  - » actuation / displays from response planner
- Cluster information from low cost, fault-vulnerable devices of disparate types to provide information about the client's behaviour





# Task Tracking

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## Recognize what the client is doing:

- Considers all hypotheses and actively reweights them as new evidence is added
- Can recognize that one sensor sequence may mean two different things (competing possibilities),
- Be aware of how confident it is in the recognized sequence (e.g. competing possibilities, or noisy sensors),
- Handle missed actions (e.g. when a sensor failed)
- Recognize what the person was TRYING to do, even if they didn't actually succeed or have not yet completed the task





# Domain Agents

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For each user function:

- Assess the situation
  - » Current state of world (devices and actors)
- Provide plan libraries for task tracking
  - » Models of client activities that are of interest
- Propose response
  - » *What*: gather more evidence, interact
  - » *Who*: which type of devices (house, external) or which people (client, caregiver)
  - » *When*: degree of intrusiveness (severity) (AARN)





# Response Coordination

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Given a set of proposed interactions

- whom/what to contact, severity
- generated from many *independent* domain agents

coordinate responses without overloading resources (device or human)

- *where*: location of devices (actuator or display)
- *how*: presentation format (adaptive interfaces)
- e.g.: do not issue reminders when in alarm state





# Machine Learning

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Learn models of the actors and environment to automatically improve the performance of the system:

- what is normal / unusual, for elder, caregiver and other environmental factors
- what is the most effective technique to use
- understand sensor reliability
- etc







## Domain agent example: Medication

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Situation assessment from sensor events

Asks Task Tracker for client intent

Requests alerts and notifications for  
anomalous events

Reminds according to schedule and recent  
activity

Uses machine learning to adjust schedule,  
and likely task performance





# Domain Ontology

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A common vocabulary that lets agents communicate with precision about the world

It provides standard interpretations for words

- that might otherwise be dangerously ambiguous

It structures the domain knowledge in ways that allow it to be analyzed,

- making assumptions more explicit

Currently undergoing review with 3rd parties

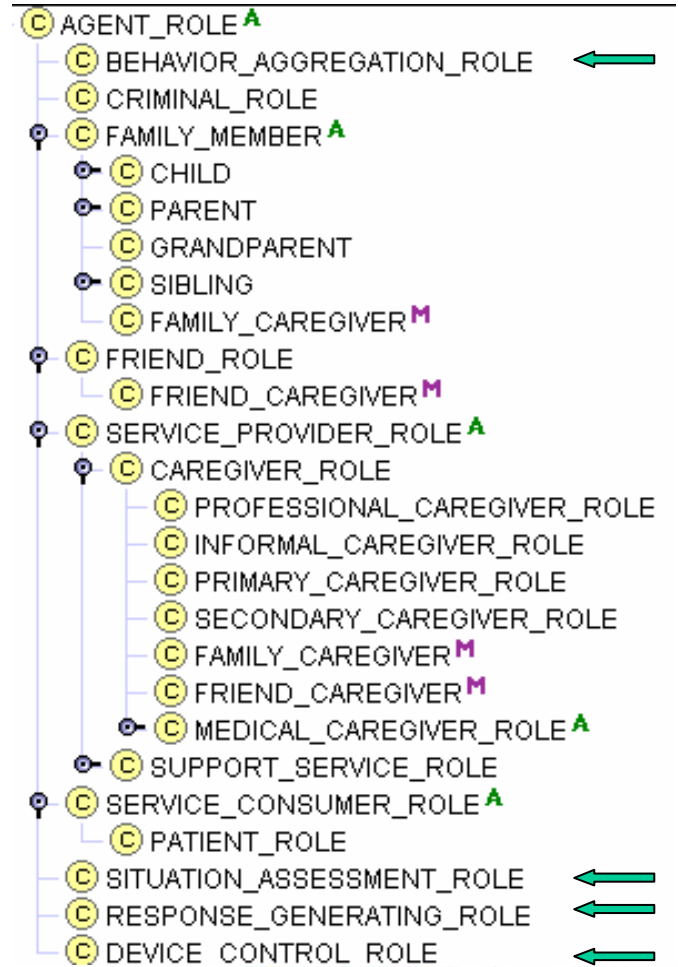




# Domain Ontology (II)

1000 classes, in hierarchy,  
top levels include:

- AGENT
- AGENT\_ROLE
- COMMUNICATION\_ACT
- PHYSICAL\_OBJECT
- MEASURABLE\_ATTRIBUTE\_TYPE
- PLACE
- PREDICATE
- PROCESS
- RELATION\_TYPE
- TEMPORAL\_OBJECT



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# Field Tests

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Installations for 20 elders, mix of

- independent homes
- independent elders in communal living facilities

Hardware installed August 2002

I.L.S.A. tests running Sept - December





# Publications

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Christopher W. Geib and Robert P. Goldman, 2001.  
**"Probabilistic Plan Recognition for Hostile Agents,"**  
Proceedings of the FLAIRS 2001 Conference, October  
2001. Pages 580-584.

Several papers to appear at AAI-02 Workshop on  
Automation as Caregiver, July 2002.

K. Z. Haigh, J. Phelps and C. W. Geib, 2002. **"An Open Agent  
Architecture for Assisting Elder Independence,"** AAMAS  
July 2002.



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Karen Haigh, AAI workshop iAutomation as Caregiverf, July 2002.