New and improved features in ErgoAl 2.0 (Myia)

This release addresses a number of stability issues and also introduces additional features and extensions -- primarily in the packages (see the <u>Guide to ErgoAl Packages</u>) for more information. Updated manuals and tutorials can be accessed from the <u>Ergo Suite</u> <u>Documentation</u> page on the <u>Coherent Knowledge</u> website. The new features are listed below. <u>ErgoAl was formerly known as Ergo Suite.</u> ErgoAl includes the Ergo reasoner (also known as ErgoAl Reasoner), the ErgoAl Studio, and the various connectors and interfaces to external software and formats.

- 1. A Python to Ergo interface. Allows Python programs to query and update Ergo knowledge bases. Works with Python 2.7.x and 3.x. Details are in the Guide to ErgoAl Packages, Chapter 3. A <u>runnable example</u> is given in the <u>ErgoAl Example Bank</u>.
- 2. A new *HTTP* and *Web Services* package (\http), which simplifies the job of accessing the Web and talking to Web services. See Chapter 4 of the Guide to ErgoAl Packages.
- Enhancements to the Ergo-to-Java package (\e2j), which lets one invoke methods on Java classes from within Ergo Reasoner. In this way, it is possible to use Ergo to script the invocation of various Java methods. Details are in the Guide to ErgoAl Packages, Chapter 2.
- 4. Improvements in the display of and control over the floating point (doubles) numbers. See Section 50.1.3 of the ErgoAl Reasoner User's Manual.
- 5. Enhancements in the package for obtaining explanations (\why), including a simplified JSON representation. See sections 52.3 and 52.6 of the ErgoAl Reasoner User's Manual.
- 6. New syntax for combining binary operators like <, >, !=, ~, and others with frames (like it was previously possible with : and ::). For instance, ?p:person[age->?A>30] is a shorthand query for ?p:person[age->?A] \and ?A>30.
- 7. A new system{?prop=?value} primitive, which allows KBs to get information about the ErgoAl installation and the host OS.
- 8. The once{query} and random{query} primitives. The first ensures that the query will return only one of the answers (always the same on each call); the second is similar, but it will return a randomly chosen answer each time. This can be useful in implementing intelligent chatbots. See ErgoAl Reasoner User's Manual, Section 24.3.
- 9. Typed variables are now allowed in quantifiers, e.g., forall(?X^^person)^(...). This added flexibility simplifies translation of certain sentences from natural language to Ergo.
- 10. The random{...} primitive for generation of random numbers. See Section 33 in ErgoAl Reasoner User's Manual.