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If you know what I mean

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Propositions accompanying the thesis

If You Know What I Mean

Agent-Based Models for Understanding
The Function of Higher-Order Theory of Mind

1. Using higher-order theory of mind can help to obtain a competitive advantage over a competitor that merely reacts to observed behavior. (Chapter 2, this PhD thesis)
2. Higher-order theory of mind can help to speed up the process of reaching a cooperative solution to a problem. (Chapter 4, this PhD thesis)
3. Higher-order theory of mind can help to avoid a breakdown of cooperative efforts when motives are mixed. (Chapter 6, this PhD thesis)
4. Humans can be encouraged to make use of higher-order theory of mind by the behavior of software agents. (Chapter 7, this PhD thesis)
5. There are diminishing returns to reasoning at increasingly higher orders of theory of mind. (Chapter 9, this PhD thesis)
6. Mixed-motive settings explain the emergence of higher-order theory of mind in humans better than purely competitive settings or purely cooperative settings. (Chapter 9, this PhD thesis)
7. The human ability for higher-order theory of mind has emerged as a way of dealing with a complex environment, in which social interactions are sometimes cooperative, sometimes competitive, and sometimes involve mixed motives. (Chapter 9, this PhD thesis)
8. The ability to reason at higher orders of theory of mind does not necessarily lead to better choices. (Chapter 4, this PhD thesis)
9. Theory of mind allows you to enjoy inside jokes better.