

Course: Common Sense Reasoning

# 15. Other Applications of Common Sense Reasoning

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# The “Discrete Event Calculus Reasoner” has been applied to multiple problems

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## Software engineering

Validate specifications, check consistency of diagrams and problem descriptions

## Robotics

Reason about knowledge and sensed information

## Security

Threat and confidentiality analyses

## Virtual cinematography

Spatial reasoning for virtual cinematography

## Video games

Simulate game playing and answer questions about a game

## Web services and business processes

Verify specifications, develop consistent contractual policy

# Common sense can be used to extend knowledge bases

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- ConcepNet has been used to help complete the content of knowledge bases
- Examples:
  - [Li, et al., 2019]
  - [Malaviya, et al., 2019]

# Forbus suggests multiple applications of qualitative reasoning

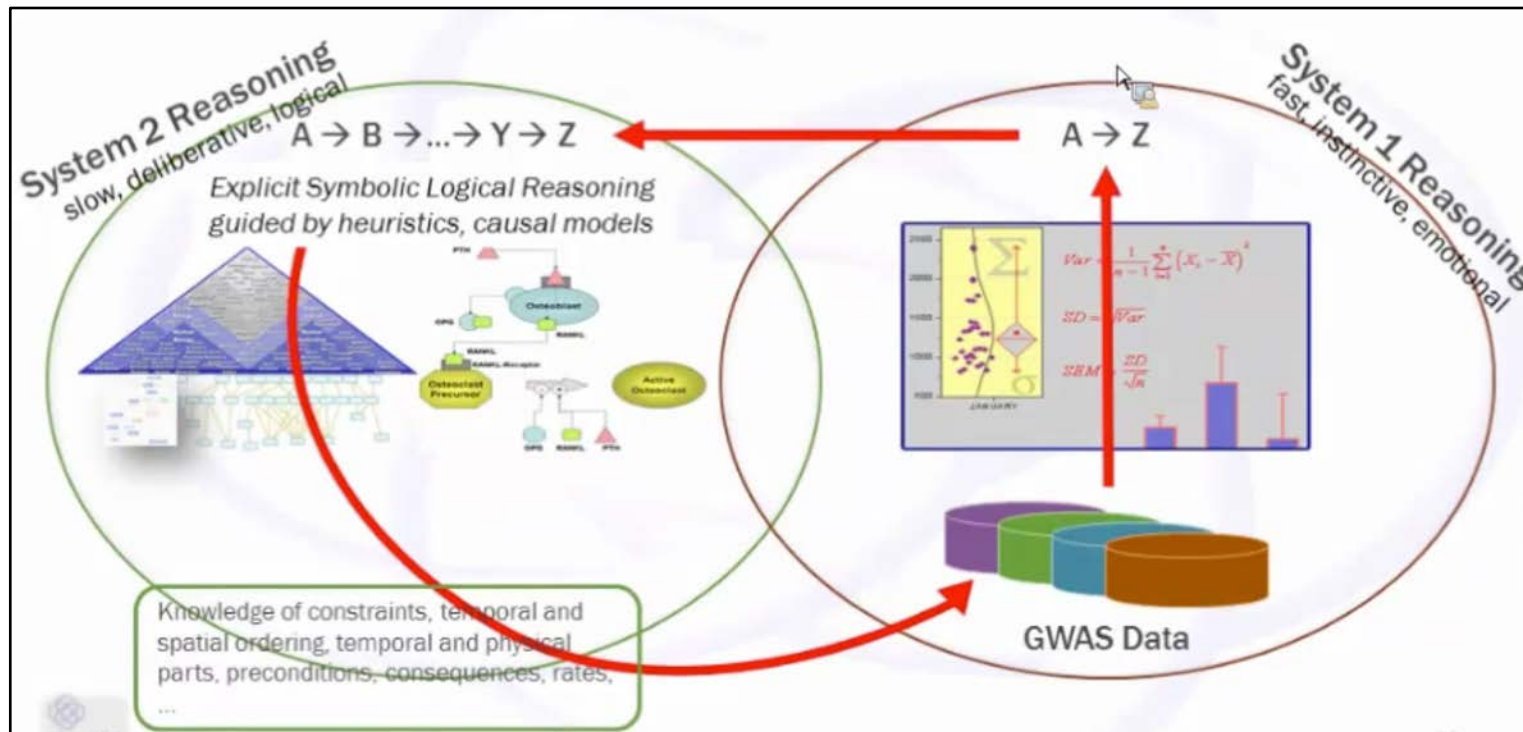
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[Forbus, 2008]

- Automating or assisting professional reasoning:
  - Engineering problem solving (e.g., mechanical design)
  - Economics and decision support
  - Ecology and bioinformatics
- Education
  - Modeling environments for education
  - Self explanatory simulators
  - Conceptual tutoring
- Cognitive modeling
  - Mental models reasoning
  - Natural language semantics

# Lenat suggests that common sense can be used to generate and confirm scientific hypothesis

- Cyc technology can take data correlations and try to put together a rationalization (a causal argument).
- The generated rationalization can be used to confirm or reject correlations and to generate testable hypothesis



Video: [https://youtu.be/2w\\_ekB08ohU](https://youtu.be/2w_ekB08ohU)

Video: <https://youtu.be/4mv0nCS2mik>

# Cyc has been used to learn how to classify spaces by virtual characters



Cyc has been used to generate expectations of the objects that can be found in a room (in the context of computer games)

[Li, Allbeck, 2012]

# Johnston suggests multiple practical applications of common sense reasoning

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[Johnston, 2009]

- Assist human users by identifying and correcting commonsense errors and omissions:
  - A spreadsheet application that detects valid but nonsensical formulas
- Provide intelligent and context-sensitive assistance to users:
  - An online travel agent that infers the user's budget, travel objectives and preferences
- Increase the autonomy and initiative of artificial systems:
  - Calendar software that attempts to reschedule non-critical appointments if a flight is delayed
- Enable mass customization of digital artifacts:
  - Generate legal contracts by identifying appropriate paragraphs
- Appropriately respond to outlier or exceptional data:
  - A credit authorization system that recognizes the child of a wealthy or important customer

Course “Common sense reasoning”.  
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