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Title: Semantic decomposition in commonsense reasoning

Abstract: Unlike computers, people usually do not have problems with comprehending a natural language text and can easily answer questions for which there are no direct answers in the text. We can do that because we understand the meaning of the words and have knowledge about the world. In our lab we are developing a deep semantic analyzer SemETAP, which we try to feed with this type of commonsense knowledge. SemETAP is able to build a semantic structure of the text and represent implicit information explicitly. A crucial component in this process is the semantic concept decomposition rules, which, like explanatory dictionary entries, provide detailed elaboration of concepts and thus allow making inferences. In this talk I will discuss how the semantic decompositions along with an inference engine will help a computer to understand the text.