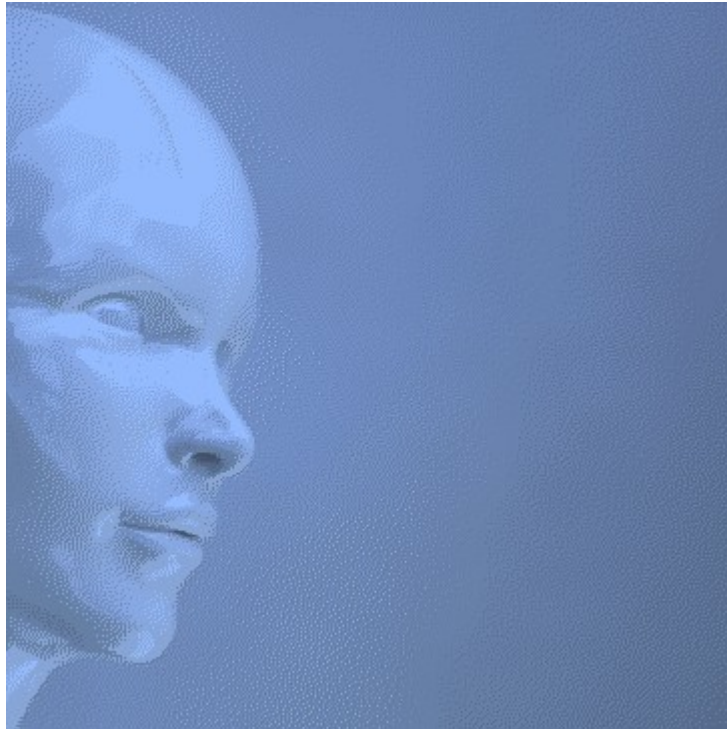


Scientific challenge:

Beat the simplest results of my Controlled Natural Language (CNL) reasoner



Introduction

Everything in nature is bound by natural laws, and proceeds according to natural laws. However, scientists are unable – or unwilling – to define intelligence as a set of natural laws (while I succeeded). Not being based on laws of nature, Artificial Intelligence (AI) is not an artificial implementation of natural intelligence. Therefore, AI is not a fundamental science, but a field of engineering.

A [fundamental science](#) delivers generic solutions, while a field of engineering is limited to specific solutions to specific problems. And engineered solutions are limited to perform routine tasks. So, being a field of engineering, AI is limited to perform routine tasks.

However, it is possible to uplift this field of engineering towards a fundamental science, similar to the field of electromagnetism, which is based on laws of nature. Thanks to research on the natural laws of electromagnetism, we are able to close the loop for electricity, magnetism, light and movement. As a result, we are able to apply these conversions to daily life. We are able:

- to convert electricity to magnetism, and to convert magnetism back to electricity;
- to convert electricity to light, and to convert light back to electricity;
- to convert electromagnetism to movement, and movement back to electromagnetism.

I am using [fundamental science / basic research](#) (logic and laws of nature) instead of [cognitive science](#) (simulation of behavior), because:

- Autonomous reasoning requires both natural intelligence and natural language;
- Intelligence and language are natural phenomena;
- Natural phenomena obey laws of nature;
- Laws of nature and logic are investigated using fundamental science.

By defining [intelligence](#) as a set of natural laws – and researching the laws of nature involved with [intelligence in grammar](#) – I am able to close the loop for natural intelligence and natural language, which extends [Aristotelian Logic](#). As a result, my system is able:

- to convert readable sentences – with a limited grammar – to a logic that isn't described by scientists yet;
- to autonomously derive new knowledge from previously unknown knowledge, using my extended logic;
- and to express the derived knowledge in readable and autonomously – word by word – constructed sentences, with a limited grammar.

The logical rules of my autonomous reasoner are (almost) language-independent. So, I can add any language, just by configuring my reasoner for this new language, and a little programming. As such, my reasoner is already able to read, to autonomously reason and to autonomously write the derived knowledge in [English](#), [Spanish](#), [French](#), [Dutch](#) and [Chinese](#), while scientists are unable to develop a proper multilingual reasoner.

Through this document, I defy anyone to beat the simplest results of my [Controlled Natural Language](#) (CNL) reasoner in a generic way: from natural language, through algorithms, back to natural language, without programmed knowledge, without human-written output sentences, and without the use of extensive words lists.

Of course, this reasoner is available free of charge, and published as [open source software](#).

Autonomous reasoning

Autonomous reasoning requires both [natural intelligence](#) and natural language. Without knowing, [Aristotle](#) applied natural intelligence to natural language roughly 2,400 years ago:

> Given: “All men are mortal.”

> Given: “Socrates is a man.”

•

• Logical conclusion:

< “Socrates is mortal.”

Roughly 200 years ago, such reasoning constructions were formalized through [Predicate Logic](#). And since the start of this century, these reasoning constructions are implemented in software through [Controlled Natural Language](#) (CNL) reasoners. CNL reasoners are able to autonomously derive new knowledge from previously unknown knowledge, and to express the derived knowledge in readable sentences (with a limited grammar).

Problem description 1: Reasoning in the past tense

The reasoning example mentioned above was true during the life of [Socrates](#). But now, after the ultimate proof of his morality – his death in the year 399 BC – we should use the past tense form:

> Given: “All men are mortal.”

> Given: “Socrates was a man.”

•

• Logical conclusion:

< “Socrates was mortal.”

The tense of a verb tells us about the state of the involved statement:

- “Socrates is a man” tells us that Socrates is still alive;
- “Socrates was a man” tells us that Socrates is no more among the living.

In regard to the conclusion:

- “Socrates is mortal” tells us that the death of Socrates is inevitable, but that his mortality isn't proven yet by hard evidence;
- “Socrates was mortal” tells us that his mortality is proven by hard evidence.

In the past 2,400 years, scientists have "forgotten" to define algebra for the past tense. So, reasoning in the past tense form is not described in any scientific paper, while it is implemented in my CNL reasoner.

Problem description 2: Possessive reasoning

Also possessive reasoning – reasoning using possessive verb “[has/have](#)” – is not supported by predicate logic (algebra):

> Given: “[Paul](#) [is](#) [a son of](#) [John](#).”

•

• Logical conclusion:

< “[John](#) [has](#) [a son](#), [called](#) [Paul](#).”

Or the other way around:

> Given: “[John](#) [has](#) [a son](#), [called](#) [Paul](#).”

•

• Logical conclusion:

< “[Paul](#) [is](#) [a son of](#) [John](#).”

Why doesn't predicate logic (algebra) support possessive reasoning in a natural way? Why should any predicate – that can't be expressed using verb “[is/are](#)” in the present tense – be described in an artificial way, like [has_son\(john,paul\)](#)? Why is algebra still not equipped for natural language, after those centuries of scientific research?

Problem description 3: Generation of questions

Algebra describes the [Exclusive OR](#) (XOR) function, while [CNL reasoners](#) don't implement its linguistic equivalent: conjunction “[or](#)”. CNL reasoners are therefore unable to generate the following question:

> Given: “[Every person is a man](#) [or](#) [a woman](#).”

> Given: “[Addison is a person](#).”

•

• Logical question:

< “[Is Addison a man](#) [or](#) [a woman](#)?”

Everything in nature is connected. However, it seems as if linguists and mathematicians have never wondered how their respective fields are connected. Because almost 2400 years after [Aristotle](#), scientists haven't made any progress in understanding the logic of language.

In my experience, linguists are willing to research the logic of language, but mathematicians aren't. Mathematicians think that logic is about numbers. They are wrong. Logic is about natural intelligence. And [laws of intelligence](#) are found in for example natural language.

Like a programming language, also natural language has structure words and variables. The structure words of language – which in this document are printed in blue – have a naturally intelligent, logical, structure-providing function in language. The following structure words of language will be illustrated in this challenge document:

Possessive verb “[has/have](#)” (Block 1, Block 2 and Block 3), past tense verbs “[was/were](#)” and “[had](#)” (Block 4), conjunction “[or](#)” (Block 5) and definite article “[the](#)” (Block 6).

Generally accepted workaround

The generally accepted workaround in the field of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and knowledge technology (NLP), to enter knowledge containing verb “**have**”, is to program it directly into a reasoner, like: **has_son(john,paul)**. However, this is **not** a generic solution (=science), but a specific solution to a specific problem (=engineering). Because it requires to program each and every noun directly into the reasoner (**has_daughter**, **has_father**, **has_mother**, and so on), and for each and every new language. As a consequence, there is no technique available to convert a sentence like “**Paul is a son of John**” to “**John has a son, called Paul**” in a generic way – from natural language, through an algorithm, to natural language – by which noun “**son**” and proper nouns “**Paul**” and “**John**” don’t have to be programmed into the reasoner. It is just the first example of this challenge (see Block 1).

Below, a contribution I received from a student, in an attempt to solve this problem. With his permission, his Excel implementation for the English language:

```
= IF(ISERROR(SEARCH("has a";A1));MID(A1;SEARCH("of";A1)+3;999) & " has a" &
IF(ISERROR(SEARCH("is an";A1));" "; "n ") & MID(SUBSTITUTE(A1;"is an";"is a");SEARCH("is a";
SUBSTITUTE(A1;"is an";"is a"))+5;SEARCH("of"; SUBSTITUTE(A1;"is an";"is a"))-
SEARCH("is";SUBSTITUTE(A1;"is an";"is a"))-6) & " called " & LEFT(A1;SEARCH("is";SUBSTITUTE(A1;"is
an";"is a"))-1);MID(SUBSTITUTE(A1;"has an";"has a");SEARCH("called";SUBSTITUTE(A1;"has an";"has a"))
+7;999) & " is a" & IF(ISERROR(SEARCH("has an";A1));" "; "n ") & MID(SUBSTITUTE(A1;"has an";"has
a");SEARCH("has a"; SUBSTITUTE(A1;"has an";"has a"))+6;SEARCH("called"; SUBSTITUTE(A1;"has
an";"has a"))-SEARCH("has";SUBSTITUTE(A1;"has an";"has a"))-7) & " of " &
LEFT(A1;SEARCH("has";SUBSTITUTE(A1;"has an";"has a"))-1))
```

This solution doesn't check for word types, as explained in paragraph [1.6.2. The function of word types in reasoning](#) of [my fundamental document](#). Besides that, this logic needs to be copied for each language, while a generic solution has only one logical implementation. Moreover, this implementation can't be expanded to process for example multiple specifications words, like in: “**Paul is a son of John and Anna**” or “**John has two sons, called Paul and Joe**”. So, this implementation is not flexible. Therefore, it is not generic, and thus not scientific.

The field of AI and NLP is “inspired by nature”. But it has no foundation in nature. Therefore, this field is limited to deliver specific solutions to specific problems (=engineering), like Excel implementation mentioned above. However, this challenge is about uplifting this field of engineering towards a [fundamental science](#), by developing generic solutions, based on a foundation in nature, like I am developing:

My fundamental approach shows that verb “**has/have**” is complementary to verb “**is/are**”. So, verb “**has/have**” can also be used in predicate logic. In order to utilize the naturally intelligent function of non-keywords (structure words), I have defined [natural intelligence](#) first. Then I have identified a few [Natural Laws of Intelligence embedded in Grammar](#). And by implementing these laws of nature as a set of structuring algorithms is my system able to structure the knowledge of the system autonomously.

The rules of this challenge

- There are 6 blocks to beat the most basic techniques of my system. Your implementation should deliver the results of at least one block listed below;
- Your implementation should not have any prior knowledge. Instead, it should derive its knowledge from the input sentences of the examples listed below, from natural language, through an algorithm, to natural language;
- Preferable: The nouns and proper nouns of the listed examples are unknown upfront. (I use grammar definitions and an algorithm instead of a words list);
- Your implementation should be implemented as generic as can be, in such a way that all examples of this challenge can be integrated into one single system. The [reasoning screen shots](#) of my CNL reasoner illustrate how multiple reasoning constructions reinforce each other. The Screen shots of this challenge – which are added at the end of this document – show the execution by my software of the examples listed below;
- Your implementation should be published as open source software, so that its functionality is transparent. [My software is open source too](#);
- Your implementation should be accepted by a scientific committee (conference or journal);
- In case your results are slightly different, you need to explain why you have chosen differently;
- It is an on-going challenge, until all blocks have been scientifically accepted;
- I am the jury.

Your rewards

- A small gesture from me: € 250 for each scientifically accepted block;
- You will be the first one to have described in a scientifically accepted way, the logic of language that I have discovered.

You can contact me via the [contact page of my website](#), or via [LinkedIn](#).

Block 1: Direct conversions

Definition 1:

“{proper noun 1} is a/an/the {singular noun} of {proper noun 2}”

equals to

“{proper noun 2} has a/an {singular noun}, called {proper noun 1}”

Examples:

Variables: proper noun 1 = “Paul”, proper noun 2 = “John”, singular noun = “son”

> Given: “Paul is a son of John.”

•

• Generated conclusion:

< “John has a son, called Paul.”

Variables: proper noun 1 = “Anna”, proper noun 2 = “Laura”, singular noun = “daughter”

> Given: “Anna has a daughter, called Laura.”

•

• Generated conclusion:

< “Laura is a daughter, called Anna.”

Definition 2:

“Every {singular noun 1} has a/an {singular noun 2}”

equals to

“A/An {singular noun 2} is part of every {singular noun 1}”

Examples:

Variables: singular noun 1 = “car”, singular noun 2 = “engine”

> Given: “Every car has an engine.”

•

• Generated conclusion:

< “An engine is part of every car.”

Variables: singular noun 1 = “sail”, singular noun 2 = “sailboat”

> Given: “A sail is part of every sailboat.”

•

• Generated conclusion:

< “Every sailboat has a sail.”

Block 2: Indirect conversions

Definition 3a:

“Every {singular noun 1} has a/an {singular noun 2} and a/an {singular noun 3}”

from which can be concluded

“A/An {singular noun 2} and a/an {singular noun 3} are part of every {singular noun 1}”

Example:

Variables: singular noun 1 = “family”, singular noun 2 = “parent”, singular noun 3 = “child”

> Given: “Every family has a parent and a child.”

•

• Generated conclusion:

< “A parent and a child are part of every family.”

Definition 3b:

“Every {singular noun 1} has a/an {singular noun 2} and a/an {singular noun 3}”

and

“{proper noun} is a/an {singular noun 2 or 3}”

from which can be concluded

“{proper noun} is part of a/an {singular noun 1}”

Definition 3c:

“Every {singular noun 1} has a/an {singular noun 2} and a/an {singular noun 3}”

and

“{proper noun} is a/an {singular noun 2}”

from which can be assumed

“{proper noun} has probably a/an {singular noun 3}”

“Every {singular noun 1} has a/an {singular noun 2} and a/an {singular noun 3}”

and

“{proper noun} is a/an {singular noun 3}”

from which can be assumed

“{proper noun} has probably a/an {singular noun 2}”

Examples:

Variables: proper noun = “Michael”, singular noun 1 = “family”, singular noun 2 = “parent”, singular noun 3 = “child”

> Given: “Michael is a parent.”

•

• Generated conclusion:

< “Michael is part of a family.” (generated by Definition 3b)

•

• Generated assumption:

< “Michael has probably a child.” (generated by Definition 3c)

Variables: proper noun = “Adam”, singular noun 1 = “family”, singular noun 2 = “parent”, singular noun 3 = “child”

> Given: “Adam is a child.”

•

• Generated conclusion:

< “Adam is part of a family.” (generated by Definition 3b)

•

• Generated assumption:

< “Adam has probably a parent.” (generated by Definition 3c)

Definition 3d:

“Every {singular noun 1} has a/an {singular noun 2} and a/an {singular noun 3}”

and

“{proper noun} has a/an {singular noun 2 or 3}”

from which can be assumed

“{proper noun} is probably part of a/an {singular noun 1}”

Definition 3e:

“Every {singular noun 1} has a/an {singular noun 2} and a/an {singular noun 3}”

and

“{proper noun} has a/an {singular noun 2}”

from which can be assumed

“{proper noun} is probably a/an {singular noun 3}”

“Every {singular noun 1} has a/an {singular noun 2} and a/an {singular noun 3}”

and

“{proper noun} has a/an {singular noun 3}”

from which can be assumed

“{proper noun} is probably a/an {singular noun 2}”

Examples:

Variables: proper noun = “Peter”, singular noun 1 = “family”, singular noun 2 = “parent”, singular noun 3 = “child”

> Given: “Peter has a parent.”

•

• Generated assumptions:

< “Peter is probably a child.” (generated by Definition 3e)

< “Peter is probably part of a family.” (generated by Definition 3d)

Variables: proper noun = “Ronald”, singular noun 1 = “family”, singular noun 2 = “parent”, singular noun 3 = “child”

> Given: “Ronald has a child.”

•

• Generated assumptions:

< “Ronald is probably a parent.” (generated by Definition 3e)

< “Ronald is probably part of a family.” (generated by Definition 3d)

Block 3: Grouping of knowledge

Definition 4:

“{proper noun 1} has a/an {singular noun}, called {proper noun 2}”
and
“{proper noun 1} has a/an {singular noun}, called {proper noun 3}”
equals to
“{proper noun 1} has {number: 2} {plural form of singular noun}, called {proper noun 2}
and {proper noun 3}”

Example:

Variables: proper noun 1 = “Paul”, proper noun 2 = “John”, proper noun 3 = “Anna”, singular noun = “parent”

> Given: “John is a parent of Paul.”
•
• Generated conclusion:
< “Paul has a parent, called John.” (generated by Definition 1)
>
> Given: “Anna is a parent of Paul.”
•
• Generated conclusion:
< “Paul has 2 parent [plural of 'parent' is unknown], called John and Anna.”
>
> Given: “Paul has 2 parents, called John and Anna.”
•
• Detected that the generated conclusion is confirmed:
< “Paul has 2 parent [plural of 'parent' is unknown], called John and Anna.”
•
• Detected: You have entered plural noun “parents”, which was unknown to me.

Block 4: Past tense reasoning

Definition 5:

“{proper noun 1} was a/an/the {singular noun} of {proper noun 2}”

from which can be concluded

“{proper noun 2} has no {singular noun} anymore”

“{proper noun 1} was a/an/the {singular noun} of {proper noun 2}”

from which can be concluded

“{proper noun 2} had a/an {singular noun}, called {proper noun 1}”.

Example:

Variables: proper noun 1 = “James”, proper noun 2 = “Peter”, singular noun = “father”

> Given: “James was the father of Peter.”

•

• Generated conclusions:

< “Peter has no father anymore.”

< “Peter had a father, called James.”

Definition 6:

“Every {singular noun 1} is a/an {singular noun 2}”

and

“{proper noun} was a/an {singular noun 1}”¹

from which can be concluded

“{proper noun} was a/an {singular noun 2}”

Example:

Variables: singular noun 1 = “father”, singular noun 2 = “man”, proper noun = “James”

> Given: “Every father is a man.”

•

• Generated conclusion:

< “James was a man.”

1 Sentence “James was the father of Peter” of the previous example should be recognized as “James was a father”.

Block 5: Detection of a conflict and generation of a question

Definition 7:

“Every {singular noun 1} is a/an {singular noun 2} or a/an {singular noun 3}”

is in conflict with

“{proper noun} is a/an {singular noun 2} and a/an {singular noun 3}”

“Every {singular noun 1} is a/an {singular noun 2} or a/an {singular noun 3}”

and

“{proper noun} is a/an {singular noun 1}”

from which can be concluded

“{proper noun} is a/an {singular noun 2} or a/an {singular noun 3}”

“{proper noun} is a/an {singular noun 2} or a/an {singular noun 3}”

equals to

“Is {proper noun} a/an {singular noun 2} or a/an {singular noun 3}?”

Example:

Variables: singular noun 1 = “person”, singular noun 2 = “man”, singular noun 3 = “woman”, proper noun = “Addison”

> Given: “Every person is a man or a woman.”

> Given: “Addison is a man and a woman.”

!

! Detected conflict. This sentence is not accepted, because it is in conflict with:

< “Every person is a man or a woman.”

<

> Given: “Addison is a person.”

•

• Generated question:

< “Is Addison a man or a woman?”

Definition 8:

“Is {proper noun} a/an {singular noun 1} or a/an {singular noun 2}?”

and

“{proper noun} is not a/an {singular noun 1}”

from which can be concluded

“{proper noun} is a/an {singular noun 2}”

“Is {proper noun} a/an {singular noun 1} or a/an {singular noun 2}?”

and

“{proper noun} is not a/an {singular noun 2}”

from which can be concluded

“{proper noun} is a/an {singular noun 1}”

Example:

Variables: proper noun = “Addison”, singular noun 1 = “man”, singular noun 2 = “woman”

> Given: “Addison is not a woman.”

•

• Detected that the generated question has been answered:

< “Is Addison a man or a woman?”

•

• Generated conclusion:

< “Addison is a man.”

Block 6: Archiving of knowledge

Definition 9:

“{proper noun 1} is the {singular noun} of {proper noun 2}”

and

“{proper noun 3} is the {singular noun} of {proper noun 2}”

from which can be concluded

“{proper noun 2} has a new {singular noun}, called {proper noun 3}”

and

“{proper noun 2} has a previous {singular noun}, called {proper noun 1}”

Example:

Variables: proper noun 1 = “Barack Obama”, proper noun 2 = “the United States”, proper noun 3 = “Donald Trump”, singular noun = “president”

> Given: “Barack Obama is the president of the United States.”

•

• Generated conclusion:

< “The United States has a president, called Barack Obama.” (generated by Definition 1)

>

> Given: “Donald Trump is the president of the United States.”

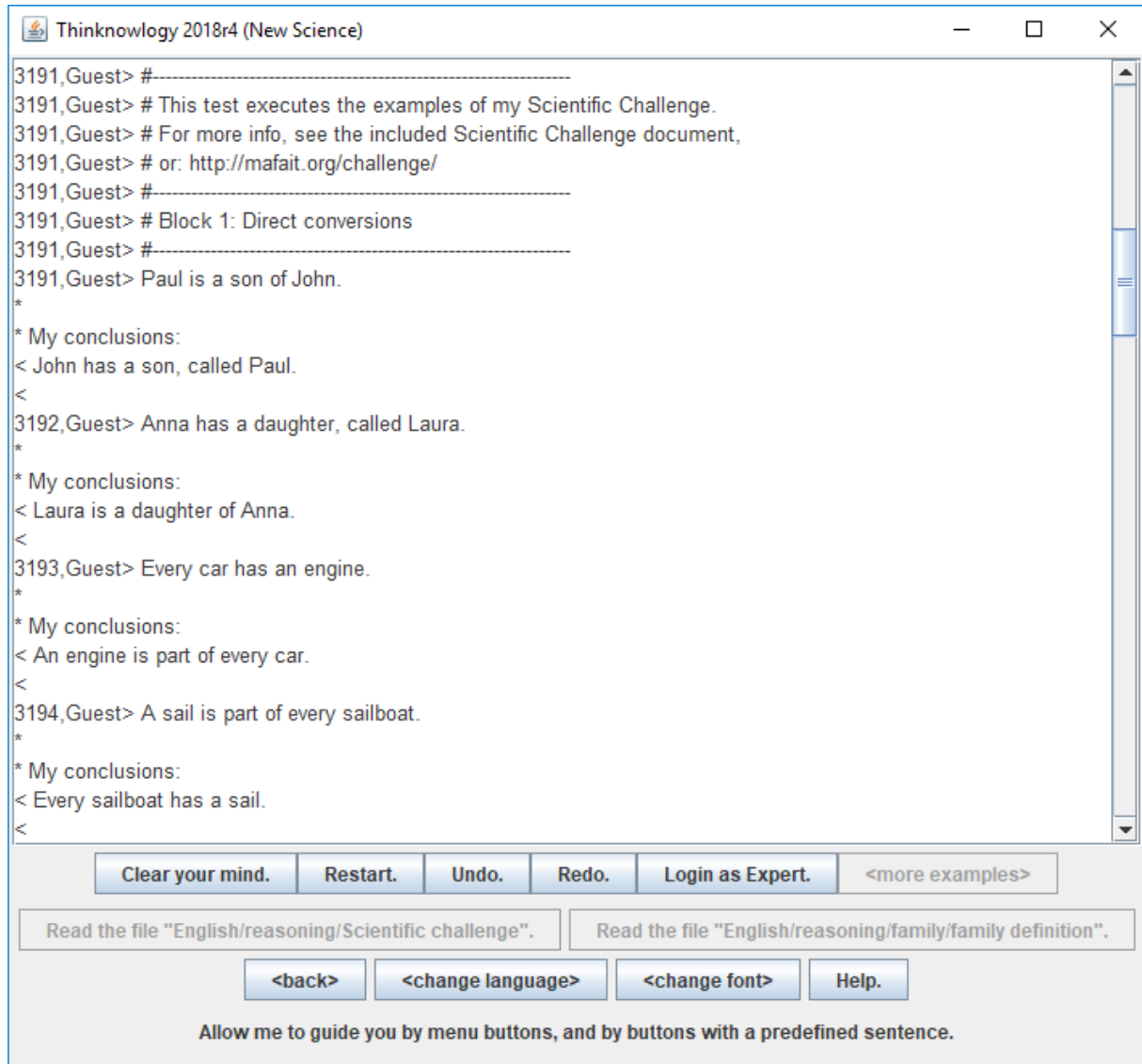
•

• Generated conclusions:

< “The United States has a new president, called Donald Trump.”

< “The United States has a previous president, called Barack Obama.”

Screen shots of this challenge



3195, Guest> #-----

3195, Guest> # Block 2: Indirect conversions

3195, Guest> #-----

3195, Guest> Every family has a parent and a child.

*

* My conclusions:

< A parent and a child are part of every family.

<

3196, Guest> Michael is a parent.

*

* My conclusions:

< Michael is part of a family.

*

* My assumptions:

< Michael has probably a child.

<

3197, Guest> Adam is a child.

*

* My conclusions:

< Adam is part of a family.

*

* My assumptions:

< Adam has probably a parent.

<

3198, Guest> Peter has a parent.

*

* My assumptions:

< Peter is probably a child.

< Peter is probably part of a family.

<

3199, Guest> Ronald has a child.

*

* My assumptions:

< Ronald is probably a parent.

< Ronald is probably part of a family.

<

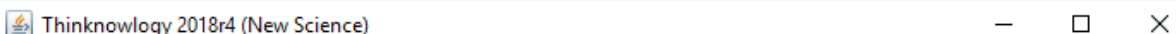
Clear your mind.
Restart.
Undo.
Redo.
Login as Expert.
<more examples>

Read the file "English/reasoning/Scientific challenge".

Read the file "English/reasoning/family/family definition".

<back>
<change language>
<change font>
Help.

Allow me to guide you by menu buttons, and by buttons with a predefined sentence.



3200, Guest> #-----
3200, Guest> # Block 3: Grouping of knowledge
3200, Guest> #-----
3200, Guest> John is a parent of Paul.
*
* My conclusions:
< John is part of a family.
< Paul has a parent, called John.
*
* My assumptions:
< John has probably a child, called Paul.
< Paul is probably a child of John.
< Paul is probably part of a family.
<
3201, Guest> Anna is a parent of Paul.
*
* My conclusions:
< Anna is part of a family.
< Paul has 2 parent [plural of 'parent' is unknown], called John and Anna.
*
* My assumptions:
< Anna has probably a child, called Paul.
< Paul is probably a child of John and Anna.
<
3202, Guest> Paul has 2 parents, called John and Anna.
*
* My conclusions that are confirmed:
< Paul has 2 parent [plural of 'parent' is unknown], called John and Anna.
*
* You have entered plural noun "parents", which was unknown to me.
*

Clear your mind. Restart. Undo. Redo. Login as Expert. <more examples>

Read the file "English/reasoning/Scientific challenge".

Read the file "English/reasoning/family/family definition".

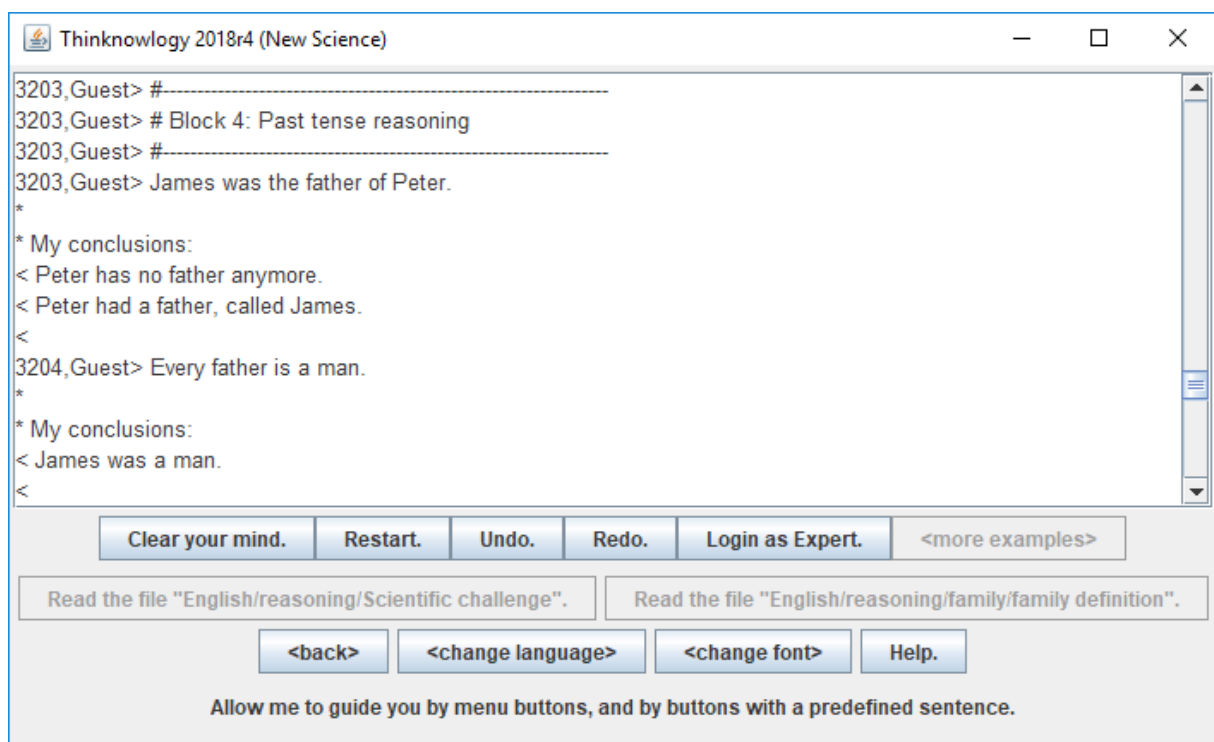
<back>


<change language>

<change font>

Help.

Allow me to guide you by menu buttons, and by buttons with a predefined sentence.



Thinknowlogy 2018r4 (New Science)

3205, Guest> #-----
3205, Guest> # Block 5: Detection of a conflict and generation of a question
3205, Guest> #-----
3205, Guest> Every person is a man or a woman.
3206, Guest> Addison is a man and a woman.
!
! This sentence is not accepted, because it is in conflict with:
< Every person is a man or a woman.
<
3206, Guest> Addison is a person.
*
* My questions:
< Is Addison a man or a woman?
<
3207, Guest> Addison is not a woman.
*
* My questions that are answered:
< Is Addison a man or a woman?
*
* My conclusions:
< Addison is a man.
<

Clear your mind. Restart. Undo. Redo. Login as Expert. <more examples>

Read the file "English/reasoning/Scientific challenge". Read the file "English/reasoning/family/family definition".

<back> <change language> <change font> Help.

Allow me to guide you by menu buttons, and by buttons with a predefined sentence.

Thinknowlogy 2018r4 (New Science)

3208, Guest> #-----
3208, Guest> # Block 6: Archiving of knowledge
3208, Guest> #-----
3208, Guest> Barack Obama is the president of the United States.
*
* My conclusions:
< The United States has a president, called Barack Obama.
<
3209, Guest> Donald Trump is the president of the United States.
*
* My conclusions:
< The United States has a new president, called Donald Trump.
< The United States has a previous president, called Barack Obama.
<
3210, Guest> # To continue, click button «Clear your mind.» or «Restart.».
3209, Guest>

Clear your mind. Restart. Undo. Redo. Login as Expert. <more examples>

Read the file "English/reasoning/Scientific challenge".

Read the file "English/reasoning/family/family definition".

<back>

<change language>

<change font>

Help.

Allow me to guide you by menu buttons, and by buttons with a predefined sentence.

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Menno Mafait (<http://mafait.org/challenge/>)

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