

From: Ben Goertzel <[REDACTED]>

To: Jeffrey Epstein <jeevacation@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Brainfood...

Date: Thu, 31 Mar 2016 09:39:28 +0000

Attachments: OpenCog_Plan_Slides_v4.pptx; Budget_and_Teams.xlsx

And a bit more project-planning stuff for our envisioned 3-year OpenCog initiative (courtesy of Cassio) ...

On Tue, Mar 29, 2016 at 11:37 PM, Ben Goertzel <[REDACTED]> wrote:

> Hi Jeffrey,

>

> So, here is some food for thought and discussion...

>

> We are working on getting OpenCog to control the Hanson Robotics robot

> heads for embodied (or at least "emheadied"!) natural language

> dialogue. This should be working in Summer 2016, maybe sooner. We

> hope to demonstrate this to some extent at AGI-16 which will be in New

> York this July. To give you some flavor of this work I attach our

> Hanson Robotics / OpenCog software plan for the next few months (this

> is work funded by Hanson Robotics).

>

> In parallel with that, we have been finally getting some examples of

> cognitive synergy to work in OpenCog.

>

> This paper of ours from AGI-14 ended with a bit of a whimper

>

> <http://agi-conf.org/2014/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/harrigan-guiding-agi14.pdf>

>

> however we have recently actually gotten this to work. I.e. we have

> gotten ECAN (neural net type activation spreading) to successfully

> prune the PLN inference tree. If all goes well we will submit a paper

> on this to AGI-16 next week. This shows attention allocation and

> inference working together. Yay!

>

> This paper of ours from AGI-15 shows PLN being used to estimate the

> truth value of a pattern recognized in data by MOSES (our evolutionary

> program learning algorithm)

>

> http://agi-conf.org/2015/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/agi15_goertzel_speculative.pdf

>

> It takes about 24 hours to run in the current OpenCog version.

> Obviously this is not OK but it's a start.

>

> Next step is to put these two things together, and use ECAN to help

> PLN inference pruning on nontrivial examples like the one from the

> above AGI-15 paper.

>

> The attached PPT on some of our biology work contains two parts

>

> -- first part is "straightforward" AI-wise but has quite interesting

> results biology-wise: i.e. we used MOSES to figure out genes that
> distinguish supercentenarians from healthy 80 year olds
>
> -- second part is more interesting AI-wise ... using PLN to generalize
> from MOSES models
>
> Between these papers we see the first concrete examples of "cognitive
> synergy" in OpenCog. They are a bit "toy" but they are also real and
> actually work in the codebase now ;)
>
> Finally, the other PPT attached shows the plan that Jim Rutt and
> Cassio and I are aiming to carry out over the next 3 years. I am
> not sure if you intersected with Jim at SFI or not...
>
> <http://www.santafe.edu/about/people/profile/Jim%20Rutt>
>
> We are aiming to raise \$6M for 3 years of work, but I imagine we could
> do it for \$4M over 3 years if we made copious use of inexpensive
> overseas folks. Jim will put in at least \$500K of the funds himself
> (his foundation gives out \$500K/year, and he is willing to put at
> least 1/3 of that into OpenCog, maybe more).
>
> The goal of this plan is to make OpenCog-based embodied NLP dialogue
> work extremely well and hold a conversation demonstrating obvious
> understanding of itself and its environment and situation. At the
> core this will require getting cognitive synergy between ECAN, MOSES
> and PLN to work in the context of visual/auditory perception and NLP
> dialogue. This will be both a huge AGI advance and an amazing demo
> that will open pretty much any door we want.
>
> Jim Rutt was a good find, not only because he has been donating a bit
> of \$\$ (about \$150K last year, none to me personally but he has funded
> Nil Geisweiller and Cassio), but because he bring a management and
> organization and business sensibility/experience that complements me
> well. And he knows enough science and CS and has put in enough time
> to thoroughly understand the OpenCog/CogPrime design...
>
> thx!
> Ben
>
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> --
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> <http://goertzel.org>

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"I am Ubik. Before the universe was, I am. I made the suns. I made the
worlds. I created the lives and the places they inhabit; I move them
here, I put them there. They go as I say, then do as I tell them. I am

the word and my name is never spoken, the name which no one knows. I am called Ubik, but that is not my name. I am. I shall always be." --
Ubik