

On Modeling Wisdom, Intuition, and Reason

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Editorial

People usually use intuition when conscious reasoning fails in order to voice out an opinion, to answer a question, or to make a decision. When reason fails, intuition gives us confidence to answer or make decisions based on how we feel. We sometimes refer to intuition as gut feeling and thus we start our sentence by saying, "I feel...".

But the question is: how do we trace the basis of intuition? What is this "feeling" that leads to our instinctive answer or decision? How do we model this "feeling" so that we can process it and predict an instinctive response? Or simply put, how do we model intuition? Our instinctive response cannot be random answers because there is this something that gives us confidence on how we answer. And so what is the source of this confidence and how do we model it?

Wisdom based on knowledge and previous experiences gives us confidence to answer or make decisions. But wisdom itself can be handed down through genetics, just as certain breeds of dogs are good at certain tricks, wisdom based on genetics can be applied to humans as well. However, this can be less obvious to humans because of our ability to learn and adapt.

Thus we say wisdom is the foundation of intuition. Our Intuition can be wrong and sometimes we are too lazy to think that we pick out random answers. Discounting random answers, wisdom gives us "confidence" to give out answers when reason fails.

If intuition is based on wisdom, then how do we model wisdom? What about the spark of idea or the sudden appearance of a solution? At first "we feel" that it is a solution to a problem and we test it to reason if it is indeed a solution. Thus we say that this sudden burst of a problem solution is based on intuition, and not through reason.

And so how do we model intuition, wisdom, and reason? Just like how our ancestors determine the cure for some illnesses without fully understanding the connection between the cause and the effect, statistical evidence can help us trace the root cause of an outcome. We say that the best available method to model wisdom, intuition, and reason is through machine learning.

We can model wisdom as the machine learning tool. The formation of wisdom through knowledge and experience is the learning process that establishes the machine learning model. The initial model is genetically inherited. Wisdom through intuition sparks creativity. Reason tests the truth of creative ideas that paves way to learning, and learning updates wisdom.