CSNePS USER'S MANUAL¹

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Chapter 1

Syntax

1.1 Notation

The syntax is given in this chapter using Extended Backus-Naur Form (EBF). Terminal symbols are surrounded by the quotation marks "v" and "r". Sequences of items are separated by commas, ",". Parentheses "(" and ")" are used as grouping brackets. Alternatives are separated by "|". Optional symbols are surrounded by "[" and "]". Material that can be repeated zero or more times is followed by "*". Material that can be repeated one or more times is followed by "+". Each syntactic rule is terminated by ";". Material starting with "//" and extending to the end of the line is a comment. The symbol \not b appearing instead of a comma indicates that the two surrounding items are to appear without whitespace separating them; otherwise consecutive items must be identifiable to the reader as separate tokens. Items in *italics* are expected to be understood without definition herein. The characters i, j, and k stand for any non-negative integers such that $i \le j \le k$. Material in red has not yet been implemented.

1.2 Syntax of Well-Formed Terms

The language in which CSNePS well-formed terms are expressed is a version of Common Logic Interchange Format (CLIF) (?).

CHAPTER 1. SYNTAX

```
wft
                   = atomicwft
                      | 'wft' b i
                        '(' , function , argument + , ')'
                        '(' , binaryop , argument , argument , ')'
                       '(' , naryop , wft* , ')'
                       `(' , param2op , `(' , i , j , `)' wft^+ , `)' 
 `(' , `thresh' , `(' , i , `)' wft^+ , `)'
                       '(', 'close', (atomicname | ('(', atomicname+ , ')')),
                           wft , ')'
                       '(', 'every', atomicname, wft*, ')'
                        '(', 'some', atomicname, '(', atomicname, ')', wft*, ')'
                       (', ?') atomicname, wft*, (')
                      Generalized quantifiers to replace nexists;
                   = 'if' | i b '=>' | 'v=>' ;
binaryop
                     'and' | 'or' | 'not' | 'nor' | 'thnot' | 'thnor' | 'nand'
naryop
                      | 'xor' | 'iff' ;
                   = 'andor' | 'thresh';
param2op
                   = atomicname | Lisp string | Lisp number ;
atomicwft
                   = Clojure symbol other than wfti;
atomicname
function
                   = wft // other than reservedWord;
                      wft | 'nil' | '(' , argumentFunction , wft* , ')' ;
argument
argumentFunction =
                     'setof';
                     'every' | 'some' | 'close' | '?' b atomicname
reservedWord
                      | binaryop | naryop | param2op ;
```

Every non-atomic wft (that is, a wft other than an atomicwft) is given a wft-name when it is stored into the SNePS knowledge base. The wft-name of every stored term may be seen by evaluating the user command (list-terms). The user expression wfti is a syntactic abbreviation of the wft that was assigned wfti as its wft-name. If no wft has yet been assigned that wft-name, wfti is syntactically illegal.

1.3 Syntax of Paths

In this section is presented the syntax of path expressions used in definePath and defineSlot.

1.4 Rule Engine Syntax¹

CSNePS implements a rule language loosely based on a subset of the syntax of CLIPS (?), and using concepts from the GLAIR Cognitive Architecture (?). A rule definition takes the following general form:

```
rule = '(defrule', rulename, LHS, '=>' RHS ')';
```

where rulename is a unique name for a rule, LHS is the Left Hand Side of the rule (the "pattern matching" component²), and RHS is the Right Hand Side of the rule (the firing component). The LHS and RHS are discussed in more detail in Sections 1.4.1 and 1.4.2.

1.4.1 The Left Hand Side

The LHS of a rule is a collection of generic terms that must be matched for the rule to fire. This portion of the rule is special in that the quantified terms used take wide scope over the entire rule. Continuing the formal definition of the rule language, the LHS is defined as follows:

```
LHS = genericterm+;
```

where is the definition of a generic term is a term containing an arbitrary term.

1.4.2 The Right Hand Side

The RHS of a rule may contain both Clojure forms and subrules. The set of Clojure forms will be executed in order, and the bindings from the LHS will be substituted in to them. Subrules are rules that are unnamed, and are only executed when the RHS of a rule fires. The subrule is provided the set of LHS bindings, which it may use in its own LHS/RHS. Subrules may themselves have subrules, with no constraint on depth.

Again continuing the formal definition of the rule language, the RHS is defined as follows:

```
RHS = RHSLine+;
RHSLine = clojureform | subrule;
subrule = '(:subrule', subrulename?, LHS, '=>', RHS ')';
```

¹This section adapted from (?)

²Really, inference is performed to derive patterns.

CHAPTER 1. SYNTAX

Chapter 2

Getting and Running CSNePS

CSNePS is implemented in the Clojure programming language, a recently developed dialect of lisp which runs (primarily) on the Java Virtual Machine.

2.1 Pre-Requisites

- git is a versioning system which will be required. Install it by following the appropriate directions for your operating system at http://git-scm.com/downloads.
- **Leiningen** (aka **lein**) is a dependency manager for Clojure projects. To install Leiningen, follow the directions at https://github.com/technomancy/leiningen.

2.2 Getting CSNePS

CSNePS will be cloned from its repository using the git tool.

- 1. At the terminal, change directories into the directory which you would like to be the parent of the CSNePS directory.
- 2. Run the command git clone https://github.com/SNePS/CSNePS.git. This will copy CSNePS to your local machine.

2.3 Initial Configuration

- 1. At the command line, run chmod 755 /path/of/csneps/csneps.sh.
- 2. At the command line, run chmod 755 /path/of/csneps/csnepsgui.sh.

2.4 Running CSNePS at the Command Line

A script has been provided with the CSNePS distribution which loads CSNePS using leiningen.

- 1. At the command prompt, run the command /path/of/csneps/csneps.sh.
- 2. Clojure will load, and you will be presented a Clojure prompt, csneps.core.snuser=>, indicating that CSNePS has loaded and we are in the 'csneps.core.snuser' namespace.

2.5 Running the CSNePS GUI

The CSNePS GUI may be started with or without pre-loading CSNePS. If you choose to pre-load CSNePS you will also have access to the command prompt in your terminal window. This will not be available of you choose not to pre-load CNSePS.

2.5.1 By Pre-Loading CSNePS

- 1. Follow the directions from Section 2.4.
- 2. Type (startGUI) from the prompt and press enter. This will load the CSNePS GUI.

2.5.2 Without Pre-Loading CSNePS

- 1. At the command prompt, run the command /path/of/csneps/csnepsgui.sh.
- 2. CSNePS and its GUI will then load.

2.6 Using Eclipse to Run CSNePS

Before getting started with Eclipse, be sure to check out the Sneps3-Clojure project, change directories to that project, and run lein deps to be sure the project and its dependencies are up to date.

In order to run and develop CSNePS in Eclipse, you will require a version of Eclipse which includes Java support. The version on the CSE servers seems somehow incompatable with CounterClockwise, so I recommend installing the latest version from http://www.eclipse.org in your home directory.

First we must install the CounterClockwise plugin, which lets us run Clojure apps from Eclipse.

- 1. Click the Help menu, then "Install New Software..."
- In the "Work With:" field, enter http://ccw.cgrand.net/updatesite/ and click the "Add..." button.
- 3. Enter "CounterClockwise" (or whatever text you like) in the "Name" field and click "OK".
- 4. Check the box next to "Clojure Programming" in the list that appears, and click the "Next" button.
- 5. In the dialogs that follow click Next, agree to the license agreement, and click Finish.
- 6. Agree to any warnings about unsigned content, and agree to restart Eclipse when installation has finished.

Now we will import our project.

- 1. Choose "Import..." from the File menu.
- 2. Cloose "Existing Project or Workspace" under the "General" node in the tree shown.
- 3. With the "Select root directory" radio button selected, click browse and browse to the SNePS3-Clojure directory.
- 4. Click next and follow the dialogs until it is imported.

Now the project is imported into Eclipse and we can run it. In the project explorer on the left side of the workspace, expand the SNePS3-Clojure node and then the src node, right click on core.clj, and choose to run it as a Clojure Application. Once the repl loads, run (loadsneps3).

2.7 Using Emacs to Run CSNePS

2.7.1 Configuring Emacs

There are multiple methods for configuring Emacs to run and edit Clojure code. The method described here is the most desirable as of the time of this writing. These instructions require emacs 24, as it has a package facility we will use.

First, add the following to your emacs initialization file (by default /.emacs.d/init.el).

```
(require 'package)
(add-to-list 'package-archives
  '("marmalade" . "http://marmalade-repo.org/packages/"))
(add-to-list 'package-archives
  '("melpa-stable" . "http://melpa-stable.milkbox.net/packages/"))
(package-initialize)
```

Evaluate the buffer with the initialization file, then run M-x package-refresh-contents to pull in the contents of the added package repositories.

Now, add the following to your initialization file after what you added above.

Evaluate the buffer with the initialization file in order to download the required packages.

2.7.2 Loading and Running the Project in Emacs

- 1. Load Emacs and switch the current directory to the CSNePS directory. This is the directory containing the project.clj file which will be used to load the project.
- 2. Type M-x cider-jack-in. A Clojure REPL will be started in a new buffer, and you will be presented with a Clojure prompt, csneps.core.snuser=>, indicating we have started in the 'csneps.core.snuser' namespace.
- 3. CSNePS is now loaded and is ready to be used.

Chapter 3

User Commands

(adopt-rule rule-name)

[Function]

Adopts the rule with the symbol rule-name as its name.

(adopt-rules rule-names)

[Function]

Takes a list of symbolic rule names to be adopted in order, one after the other. Rows may take the form of a single rule name, or a vector of rule names. A vector of rule names will be adopted simultaneously.

(allTerms) [Function]

Returns a set of all the terms in the knowledge base.

(ask expr) [Function]

Attempts to derive the term expr or its negation. Returns the derived term, or nil if it is not derivable in the current context. If the term is not derivable, focused inference is left running until it is derived, or the task is canceled using *cancel-infer-of* or *cancel-focused-infer*.

(askif expr) [Function]

Attempts to derive the term expr. Returns the derived term, or nil if it is not derivable in the current context. If the term is not derivable, focused inference is left running until it is derived, or the task is canceled using *cancel-infer-of* or *cancel-focused-infer*.

(askifnot expr) [Function]

Attempts to derive the negation of the term expr. Returns the derived term, or nil if it is not derivable in the current context. If the term is not derivable, focused inference is left running until it is derived, or the task is canceled using *cancel-infer-of* or *cancel-focused-infer*.

(askwh exprpat) [Function]

Returns a set of substitutions for variable placeholders for the term pattern <code>exprpat</code> that are currently derivable in the current context; or the empty set if there are none. If no instances are derivable, focused inference is left running until an instance is derivable, or the task is canceled using <code>cancel-infer-of</code> or <code>cancel-focused-infer</code>.

(assert expr) [Function]

Asserts the term expressed by expr in the current context.

(assert! expr) [Function]

Asserts the term expressed by expr in the current context, and triggers forward inference.

(attach-primaction term primfun)

[Function]

Puts the function named primfun in the primaction slot of the given term, which must be an Act or an Action. If term is an Act, it can then be performed; if it is an Action, an Act can then be performed whose Action is term.

(cancel-focused-infer)

[Function]

Cancels all focused inference tasks.

(cancel-infer-from exprpat)

[Function]

Cancels any forward focused reasoning tasks deriving from exprpat.

(cancel-infer-of exprpat)

[Function]

Cancels any focused reasoning tasks attempting to derive *exprpat*.

(clearkb &optional (clearall nil))

[Function]

Reinitializes the SNePS knowledge base. If *clearall* is non-nil also reinitializes all slots, caseframes, and semantic types.

(currentContext)

[Function]

Returns the current context.

(defineCaseframe type frame &key docstring fsymbols)

[Function]

Defines a caseframe, where: type is the name of a SNePS semantic type; frame is either (slot1 ... slotn) or ('function-symbol slot1 ... slotn); docstring is a caseframe documentation string; fsymbols is a list of function symbols required if first of the frame is not quoted.

(defineContext name & key (docstring "") (parents '(BaseCT)) hyps) [Function] Defines a new context with the given name, docstring, parent contexts, and initial hypotheses. If dosctring is omitted, it defaults to the empty string. If parents is omitted, it defaults to '(BaseCT). If hyps is omitted, it defaults to the empty list.

(definePath slotname path)

[Function]

Given a slot name, slotname, and a path expression, path (see §1.3), generate the functions that will compute that path and its converse, and store them in the slot named slotname.

(define-primaction primactionfun vars &body forms)

[Macro]

Creates the primitive action function named primactionfun. vars should be a (possibly empty) vector of slot names that get bound to the appropriate node sets. However, if any var is enclosed in parentheses, it gets bound to a member of the appropriate node set. forms syntax is just as it is for defn. Returns the function built.

(defineSlot name &key type docstring posadjust negadjust min max path)[Macro]

Defines the slot named name. type must be a semantic type. It defaults to Entity. docstring must be a string. It defaults to the empty string. posadjust must be either reduce (default), expand, or none. negadjust must be either reduce, expand (default), or none. min must be a positive integer.

It defaults to 1. max must be either nil (default) or an integer equal to or greater than min. path must be either nil (default) or a path ($see \S 1.3$).

(defineTerm term &optional (semtype 'Entity))

[Function]

If term is not already a term in the SNePS knowledge base, it is added to the KB with the semantic type semtype, which defaults to Entity. If term is already a term in the KB with semantic type currenttype:

- if current type is a subtype of semtype, the type of term is left as is;
- if semtype is a subtype of currenttype, the semantic type of term is lowered to semtype;
- if currenttype and semtype have one greatest common subtype, the semantic type of term is changed to that type;
- if *currenttype* and *semtype* have several greatest common subtypes, the user is asked which one (s)he wants *term* to be, and *term*'s semantic type is changed to that type;
- otherwise, an error is generated.

The term is returned.

(defineType newtype supers &optional docstring)

[Macro]

Defines newtype to be a SNePS semantic type, and a subtype of the types listed in the list supers. Internally converts types to keywords, but accepts either keywords or symbols as arguments to maintain compatibility with SNePS 3. If docstring is given, it is set as the documentation string of the new type. Prints a message, either of success or what the problem was. Returns nil.

(demo &key file pause failonerror)

[Function]

Echoes and evaluates the forms in the file. If pause is non-nil (the default is nil), will pause after echoing each form, but before evaluating it. If the file is omitted, a menu will be presented of available demos. By default, an erroneous form will not stop the demo from continuing, but this may be changed by setting failonerror to a non-nil value.

(defrule rulename &rest body)

[Macro]

Defines a rule in the CSNePS rule engine, as described in Section 1.4.

(find exprpat)

[Function]

Returns a list of vector pairs. In each pair, the first element is an instance of *exprpat* in the knowledge base, and the second is a substitution, which when applied to *exprpat* would give that instance. *exprpat* may be any wft with variables, symbols starting with a "?", in the place of any subterms.

(find-frame fsym)

[Function]

Returns the caseframe associated with the given function symbol. If the frame has only a single function symbol, or has multiople through fsymbols it returns the appropriate one.

(findTerm name)

[Function]

Returns the term named *name*, or nil if there isn't one. The name of an atomic term is a symbol, string, or number. The name of a molecular term is its wftname.

(krnovice boolean)

[Function]

If set to true (the default value is false), slots and caseframes will automatically be created whenever a

function symbol is used that is not already associated with a caseframe. The slots will be named fn, arg1, arg2, etc., and both slots and caseframes will have their default parameters. This should only be used by novices, or for very quick tests, as the careful modeling required by defining types, slots, and caseframes might be ignored.

(list-caseframes)

[Function]

Prints all the caseframes.

(listContexts)

[Function]

Prints a list of all the contexts.

(list-focused-reasoning-tasks)

[Function]

Prints a list of all of the focused reasoning tasks, backward and forward.

(list-slots)

[Function]

Prints a list of all the SNePS slots.

(list-terms &key (:asserted nil) (:types nil) (:originsets nil) (:properties nil) (:ontology nil)) [Function]

Prints a list of all the terms in the KB, except ontological terms in the OntologyCT context. These may be seen by setting <code>:ontology</code> non-nil. If <code>:asserted</code> is non-nil, only asserted propositions will be printed. If <code>:types</code> is non-nil, the type of each term will also be printed. If <code>:originsets</code> is non-nil, the origin sets of each term will also be printed, and if <code>:properties</code> is non-nil, additional properties of the terms will be printed.

(listkb)

[Function]

Prints the current context and all propositions asserted in it.

(noverboserules)

[Function]

Disables verbose output for condition-action rules, as enabled through the *verboserules* function.

(pathsfrom terms path)

[Function]

Returns the set of terms at the end of the given path (see §1.3) from terms, which must be a term, the name of a term, a list of terms or names of terms, or a set of terms.

(perform actform)

[Function]

Performs the Act expressed by the form actform.

PRECISION

[Variable]

A positive integer: a floating point number will be rounded to this number of decimal places before being converted to a term.

(remove-from-context term ctx)

[Function]

Removes the provided *term* from the context *ctx*. The term will still be asserted in contexts it isn't removed from.

(sameFrame newf oldf)

[Function]

Associates the same frame associated with the function symbol old f with the symbol, or list of symbols, new f.

(setCurrentContext ctx)

[Function]

If ctx is a context name, makes the context named ctx the current context. If ctx is a context, makes it the current context. Else raises an error.

(showTypes)

[Function]

Graphically displays all the defined semantic types.

(startGUI &rest terms)

[Macro]

Starts the CSNePS GUI. Takes a variable number of terms to display on the graph. Each term is either found or defined using defineTerm. If no terms are given, the entire graph will be displayed.

(unassert prop &optional (cntxt (currentContext)))

[Function]

Unasserts the proposition prop in the given context and all ancestor contexts. Currently there is no belief revision, so propositions derived using prop might still be asserted, and prop, itself, might be rederivable.

(verboserules)

[Function]

When a condition-action rule fires, this function enables output of the rule name and set of substitutions sent to the RHS of the rule. It may be disabled with the *noverboserules* function.

(writeKBToTextFile file &optional headerfile)

[Function]

Writes the KB to the given text file, so that when that file is loaded, all the propositions asserted in the current KB will be asserted in the new KB. If the headerfile is included, a load of that file will be written before any of the asserts.

Chapter 4

Debug Commands

The commands listed in this chapter may be useful if you experience issues with CSNePS and wish to attempt to resolve the problem.

(build/print-all-trees)

[Function]

Prints all unification term trees to the terminal in a human-readable format.

(build/print-channel-and-msgs from to)

[Function]

Given the names of two terms, *from* and *to*, prints the channel (if it exists) from the *from* term to the *to* term. Also prints all messages which are waiting in that channel.

(snip/ig-status)

[Function]

Prints all channels in the Inference Graph, including their type, number of waiting messages, and any valve selectors.

(snip/print-waiting-msgs &optional term)

[Function]

Prints messages waiting in channels incoming to *term*, or if *term* is not specified, prints all messages waiting in any channels in the IG.

(snip/print-ptree ptree)

[Function]

Given a P-Tree, *ptree*, prints it to the terminal in a human readable form.

Chapter 5

Java API

CSNePS has a Java API, residing within the csneps.api package and used internally by the GUI, which allows a user to easily integrate CSNePS into a Java program.

5.1 The CSNePS class

The main class used for interacting with CSNePS is the CSNePS class in the csneps.api package.

static void adoptRule(ITerm rule)

[Method]

Adopts the provided Term instance which is a rule.

static ITerm assertTerm(String expr)

[Method]

Defines and asserts a term in the current context provided as a CSNePS expression.

static void clearkb(boolean clearall)

[Method]

Clear the knowledgebase. If *clearall* is true, clear types, slots, and caseframes as well as terms. If false, clear only terms.

[Method]

[Method]

Defines a caseframe of the provided type, with the given name, and with the provided slots.

static ICaseframe defineCaseframe(String type, ArrayList<Slot> slots

Defines a caseframe of the provided type, with the provided slots, and using the provided fsymbols.

Define a new context with the provided name, inheriting hypotheses from parents, and having its own hypotheses (hyps).

static ICaseframe findFrame(String sym)

ArrayList<Slot> fsymbols)

[Method]

Returns the caseframe with the given string as either the name of the frame (if it has only a single function symbol), or with the string as one of the multiple fsymbols if defined in that way.

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static void sameFrame (String newFrame, String oldFrame)

[Method]

Add the function symbol newFrame to the frame associated with the function symbol oldFrame.

static void setCurrentContext(IContext c)

[Method]

Change the current context to c.

static ISlot defineSlot(String name, ISemanticType type, Integer min,
Integer max, String posadjust, String negadjust) [Method]

static ITerm defineTerm(String expr)

[Method]

Defines (but does not assert) a term provided as a CSNePS expression.

[Method]

Define a new semantic type with the provided name and parents.

static Set<ITerm> find(String pattern)

[Method]

Returns terms which match the provided pattern.

static Boolean isAsserted(ITerm term, IContext context)

static Set<ITerm> pathsFrom(ITerm term, String path)

[Method]

Returns true if *term* is asserted in *context* and false otherwise.

static void load(String filename)

[Method]

Load a file. Intended to be used to load assertions into the knowledge base, this technically can be used to load individual Clojure files as well.

static Set<Term> partOfTerms(ITerm term)

[Method]

Return the terms which the given term is immediately part of. Follows the up-cableset one step.

Follows the given path from term and returns all nodes at the end of the path.

[Method]

static void startGUI()

[Method]

Start the CSNePS user interface.

static void unadoptRule(ITerm rule)

[Method]

Unadopts the provided Term instance which is a rule.

static ITerm unassertTerm(ITerm term)

[Method]

Unasserts a term in the current context.

5.2 The ICaseframe interface

Set<String> getFSymbols()
Return this caseframe's fsymbols.

[Method]

String getName() [Method]

Returns the name of a claseframe.

ISemanticType getType()
[Method]

Returns the semantic type of the caseframe.

List<ISlot> getSlots() [Method]

Return the slots for this caseframe.

5.3 The IContext interface

Set<ITerm> getHyps() [Method]

Return the set of terms which are hypothesized in this context.

String getName() [Method]

; Return the name of the context.

List<IContext> getParents() [Method]

; Return the parents of the context.

5.4 The ISemanticType interface

Set<ISemanticType> getAncestors() [Method]

Return all of the ancestors of this semantic type.

String getName() [Method]

Return the name of this semantic type.

List<ISemanticType> getParents() [Method]

Return the parents of this semantic type.

boolean hasAncestor(SemanticType type) [Method]

Returns true if this semantic type has type as an ancestor, otherwise false.

boolean hasParent (SemanticType type) [Method]

Returns true if this semantic type has type as a parent, otherwise false.

5.5 The ISlot interface

Long getMax() [Method]

Returns the maximum number of fillers this slot can hold.

Long getMin() [Method]

Returns the minimum number of fillers this slot can hold.

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String getName()

[Method]

Returns the name of the slot.

ISemanticType getType()

[Method]

Returns the semantic type of the slot.

5.6 The ITerm interface

ICaseframe getCaseframe()

[Method]

Returns the caseframe this term is an instance of.

Set<ITerm> getDependencies()

[Method]

Return the dependencies in this term (only if it is an indefinite).

String getFSymbol()

[Method]

Return the function symbool (predicate or caseframe fsymbol) for this term.

String getDescription()

[Method]

Return the textual description of the term using the docstring provided to the caseframe when it was defined.

String getName()

[Method]

Return the name of the term (either the term itself, or if molecular, the wft name).

Set<ITerm> getRestrictionset()

[Method]

Return the restriction set if this is an arbitrary or indefinite term.

ISemanticType getSemanticType()

[Method]

Returns the current semantic type of the term.

String getSyntacticType()
Returns the syntactic type of the term.

[Method]

Map<ISlot, Set<ITerm>> getUpCableset()
Return the up cableset for this term.

[Method]

List<ITerm> getUpCablesetTerms()

Return the terms in the up cableset of this term.

[Method]

boolean isAnalytic()

True if this term is analytic, otherwise false.

[Method]

[Method]

True if this term is an arbitrary, otherwise false.

boolean isGeneric()

boolean isArbitrary()

[Method]

True if this term is generic, otherwise false.

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boolean isIndefinite() [Method]

True if this term is an indefinite, otherwise false.

Boolean isMolecular() [Method]

True if this term is molecular, otherwise false.

Boolean isVariable() [Method]

True if this term is a variable, otherwise false.

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