

Constraint-Based Narrative Consistency Checking

Kharagpur Data Science Hackathon 2026 – Track A

1. Introduction

This task evaluates whether a hypothetical backstory for a character is globally consistent with a long-form narrative. The problem is treated as a decision task over long contexts rather than a text generation problem.

2. Core Idea

We treat backstories as a set of constraints that restrict what can plausibly occur later in the story. The system checks whether events in the narrative violate these constraints.

3. System Design

The system extracts beliefs, commitments, fears, capabilities, and identity constraints from the backstory. Each constraint is evaluated against the full narrative using deterministic rules. Hard violations immediately invalidate consistency.

4. Long Context Handling

The entire narrative is processed without truncation. Temporal ordering ensures that early noise does not override later causal signals.

5. Decision Logic

Constraints are weighted by normative precedence. Voluntary irreversible actions override all other evidence. If no effective violation exists, the backstory is considered consistent.

6. Limitations

The system relies on keyword-based extraction and does not learn from data. This design prioritizes transparency, robustness, and reproducibility.