

# Formalizing expert knowledge through machine learning

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## Introduction

- Why this is an important task
- How traditional approaches failed

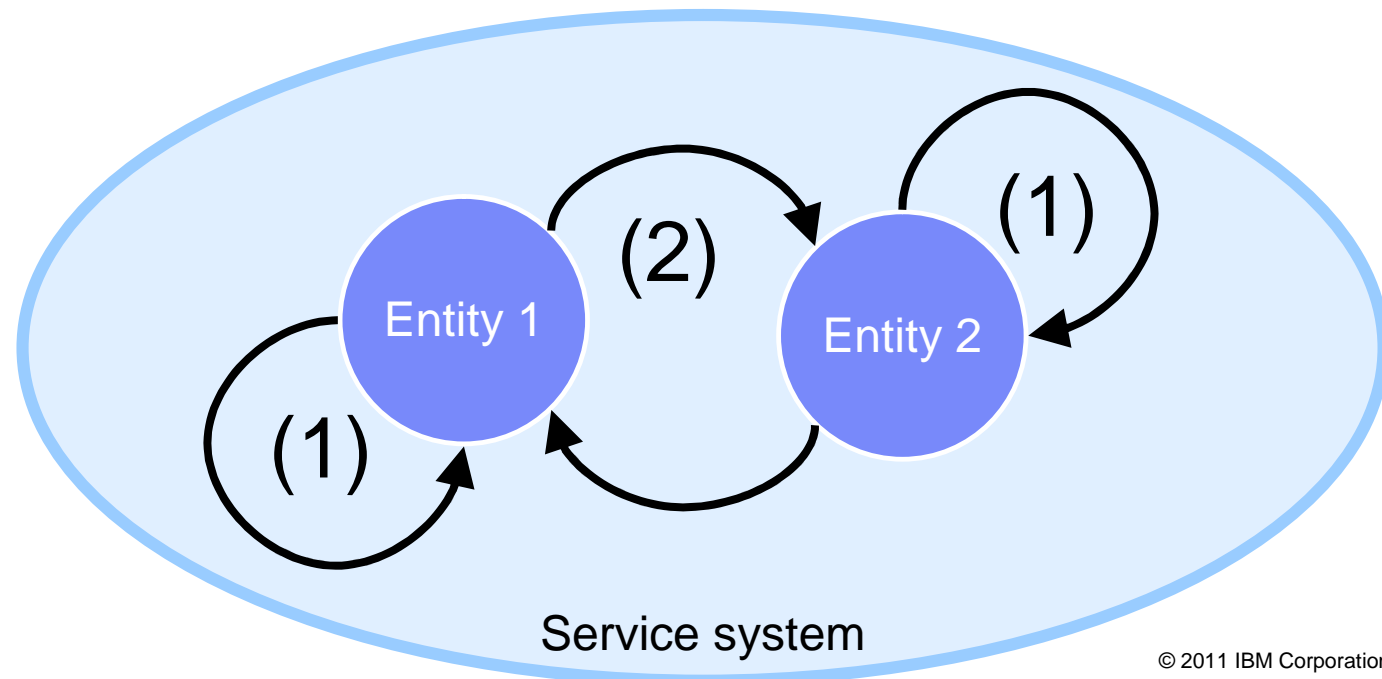
## Case study: condition-based maintenance in the rail industry

## Summary



# Value co-creation is the key concept of service systems

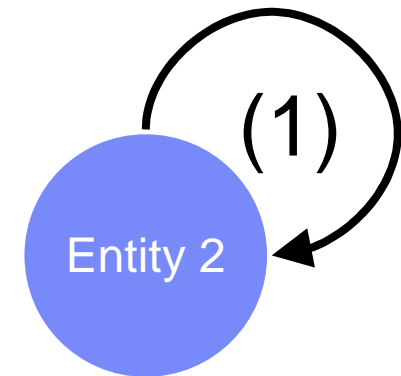
- **Two basic steps in value co-creation:**
- **(1) transformation**
  - Transform information by adding a value typically based on expert knowledge
- **(2) transfer**
  - Transfer the information to trigger further transformation





# Formalizing expert knowledge is a key task in service science

- **The transformation step is a major source of value creation**
- **This is usually triggered by certain expert knowledge**
- **Interesting question:**
  - What experts are doing in this step?



- What kind of language is appropriate for knowledge representation?
- How can we construct useful rules from experience?



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# Expert systems: failure and success

## The failure of MYCIN

### □ **MYCIN (1970s)**

- Medical expert system developed in Stanford
- Used a large repository of IF-THEN rules
- Seemingly good results in academic benchmarks
  
- Never been used in practice

### □ **Issue: knowledge acquisition bottleneck**

- “Who prepares the complete knowledge base?”



# Expert systems: failure and success

## The victory of DeepQA

### □ **DeepQA (2011)**

- Beat human quiz champions
- Capable of handling open-domain questions
  - i.e. handles an infinite number of queries

### □ **New technologies?**

- Rely on digitalized encyclopedia data like Wikipedia
- Used machine learning to make a decision



## Lessons learned from the history of expert system

- **(Hopefully automatically) capturing expert knowledge is essential in practice**
- **The extracted decision rules must satisfy at least three criteria:**

- **Generalizeability**

- Must be capable of handling unseen situations

- **Learnability**

- Must capture the decision patterns automatically

- **Actionability**

- Must provide insights understandable to humans

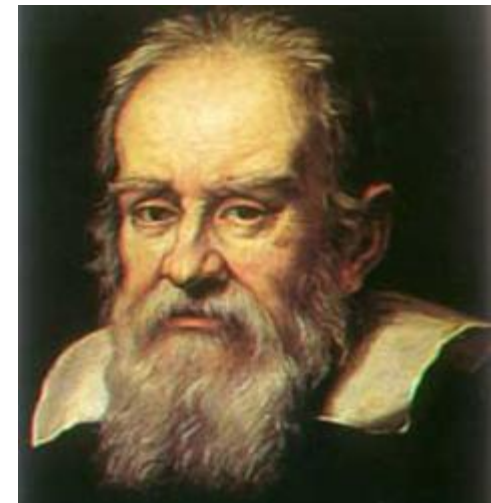




(For ref.) Mathematics is a powerful language.  
Galileo's comment may apply to service systems

- “Philosophy is written in this grand book, the universe....”
- “It is **written in the language of mathematics**, and its characters are triangles, circles, and other geometric figures;....”

"The Assayer", Galileo Galilei, 1623.



- **This may be true in service systems!**



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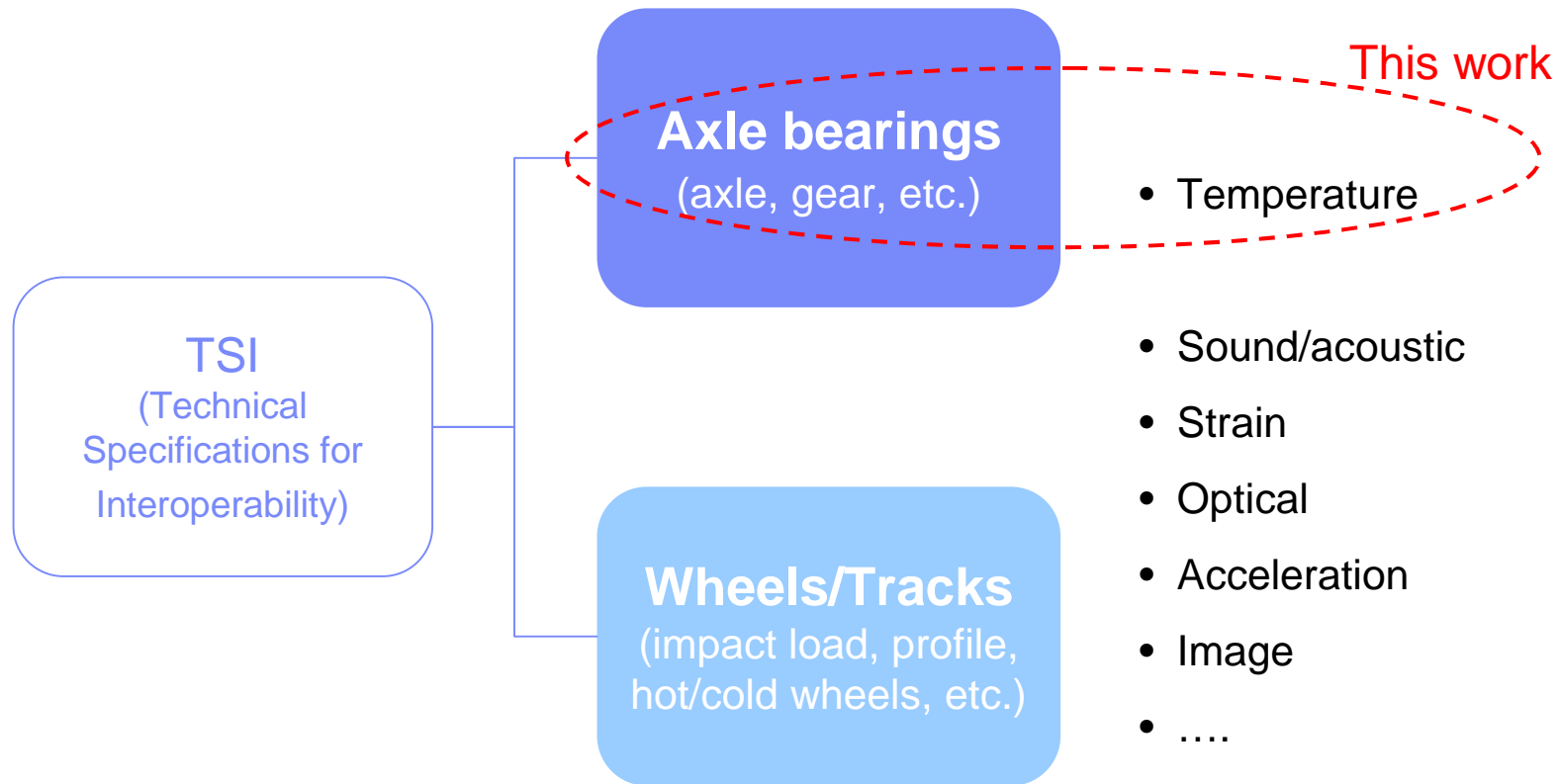
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# Wheel axle anomaly detection is a major topic in condition-based monitoring



\* TSI: European specification for high-speed trains



Monitoring temperature is a common approach, but anomaly detection is known to be very hard

□ **Temperatures are very much dependent on external disturbances**

- Weather: rainfall, wind, sunlight
- Train speed, braking, ...
- Equipment configuration

□ **Example: two wheel axles in different cars**

- Dependencies on Car # and rainfall are clear



## Technical challenges in hot box detection

### □ How to eliminate the effect of climate

– Rainfall, wind, ...

### □ How to handle temperature differences in car positions

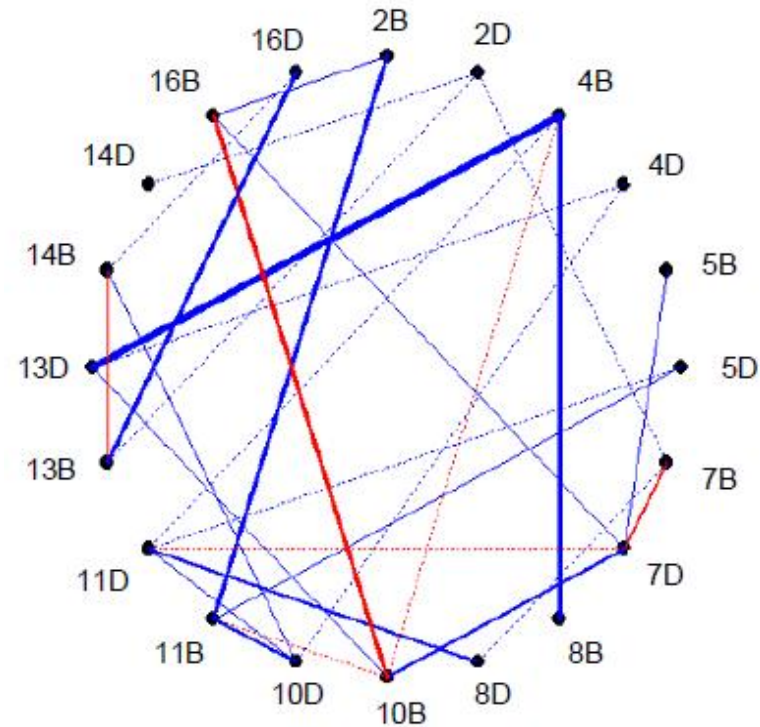
– Different cars may give different temperatures

### □ How to handle temperature differences in axle positions

– Even in the same car, different axles may give different temperatures

# Basic idea: relative comparison among dependent axes

- **Step 1: Discover the dependency between axes**
  - Dependency is automatically identified using a machine learning technique
  
- **Step 2: Perform relative comparison with dependent axes**
  - “Comparison” is mathematically performed in a probabilistic fashion



Note: Apart from mathematical expression, this approach shares the original idea of relative comparison with expert engineers.

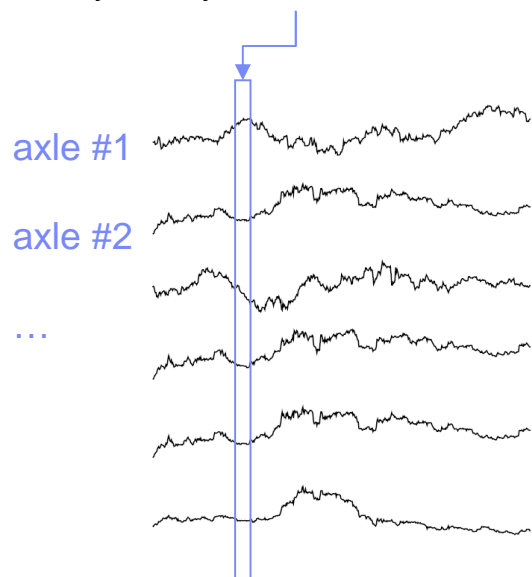
# Step1: Dependency discovery for anomaly detection

\* IBM Anomaly Analyzer for Correlational Data

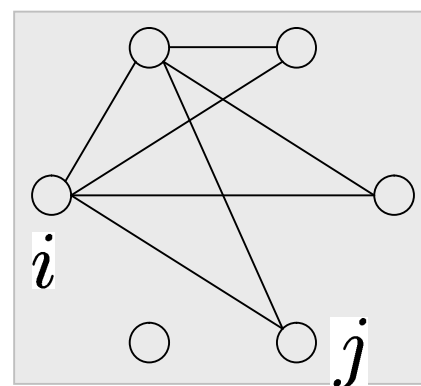


- The ANACONDA algorithm uses a *sparse structure learning* technique, which automatically finds a hidden dependency between variables
  - Dependencies are identified based only on the previous recordings
  - Detailed knowledge of the system is not used

One measurement given by a wayside detector

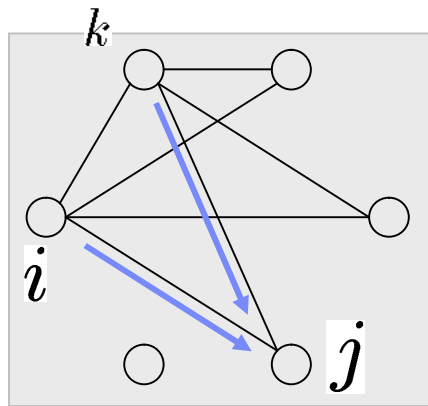


Dependency between variables



“Axle  $i$  is dependent on  $j$ ”

# Step 2: How much does a temperature deviate from its expected value, given dependent variables?



## Example:

- $j$ -th axle is dependent on axles  $i$  and  $k$
- The  $j$ -th temp. should be predicted by  $i$  and  $k$
- Negative conditional log likelihood -  $p(x_j | x_i, x_k)$  gives a measure of how much  $x_j$  deviates from its expectation

$$(\text{anomaly score of the } j^{\text{th}} \text{ variable}) = - \log p(x_j | x_i, x_k)$$



Conditional probability density function of the graphical Gaussian model





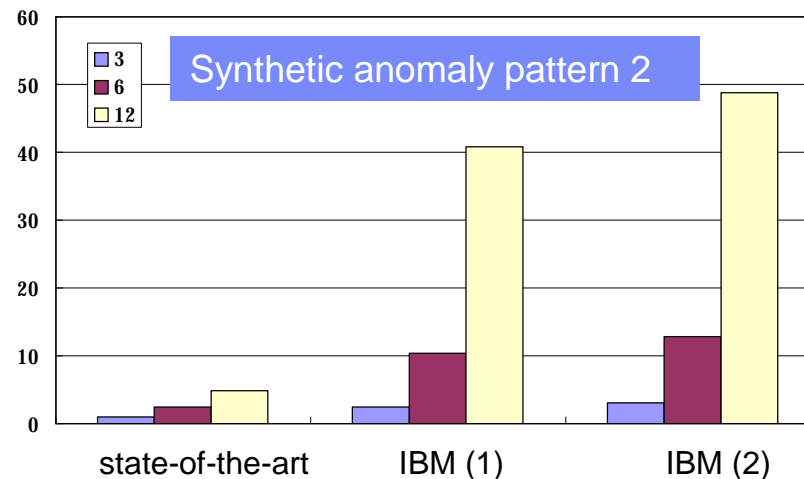
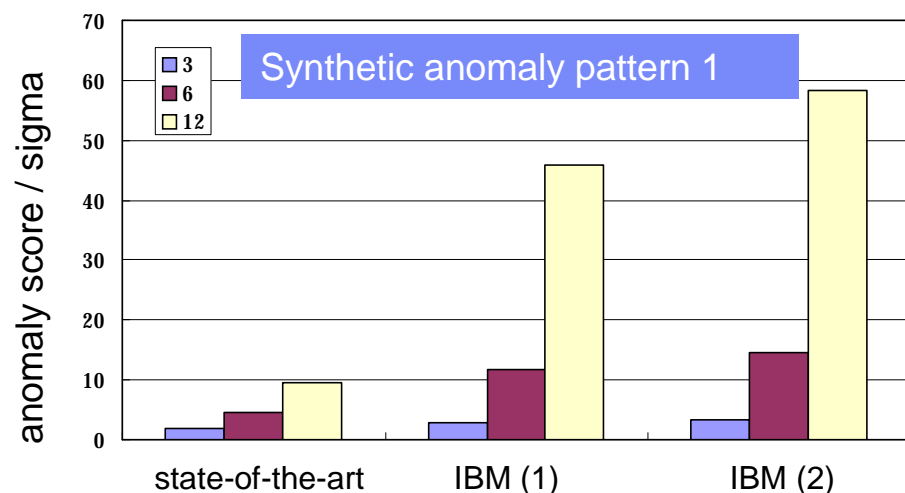
## Wheel axle and gear box temperature data

- **We are given a set of about 100 dimensional temperature vectors**
  - Typically measured using a wayside hot box detector
  - Each temperature vector is a recording at a single detector

# Result: Our method showed much better detectability of known anomalies

- **Compared with a state-of-the-art method**
  - It is based on hard-coded expert knowledge
- **Performance measure: higher is better**

(mean anomaly score of anomalous samples) / (std. dev. of anomaly scores of normal samples)
- **Results with synthetic as well as real anomalies clearly shows better performance of our method**
  - About one order of magnitude better





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## Summary

- **Formalizing expert knowledge is a key problem in service science**
- **The use of mathematics is a natural way for knowledge representation**
- **Machine learning is a systematic method for rule discovery**
- **As an example, we construct a rule for anomaly detection to encode expert knowledge in the rail industry**



Thank you!



## Example: outsourced maintenance of high-speed trains

### □ **Entity 1: train operator**

- Provides technical information
- Receive a guarantee of safety

### □ **Entity 2: maintenance company**

- Has expert engineers perform inspection
- Trivially observed quantities are transformed based on expert knowledge



Mathematical and probabilistic representation is important for generalizability

□ **General knowledge representation: IF-THEN rule**

–IF (predicate) THEN (consequent) ELSE (alternative) END IF

□ **Our claim:**

• **Natural language is not a good starting point to represent the predicates and consequents**

• **One “natural” representation of a rule looks like:**

$$y = f(x|\mathcal{D})$$

Decision variable ↑ observables ↑ previous data ↘



## Example: anomaly detection of wheel axles

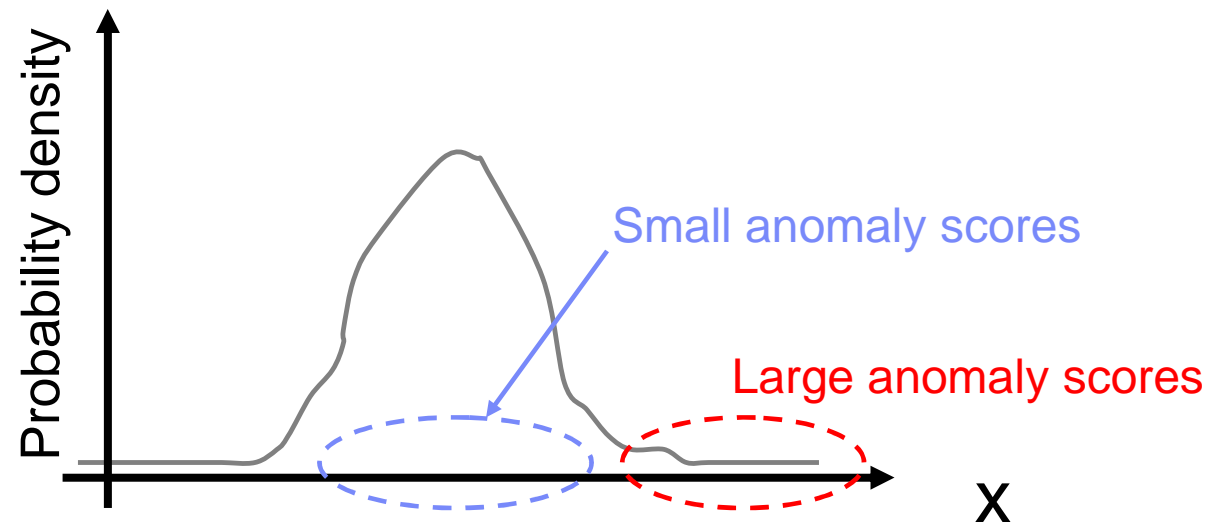
- **Decision variable  $y$ : anomaly score of each axle**
  - Representing how much anomalous an axle is
- **Observables  $x$ : temperatures of wheel axle boxes**
- **Data  $D$ :**
  - A set of previous measurements on the temperature under normal and abnormal conditions



Probabilistic approach is useful to build the rule

- **General strategy to build the rule  $f(x|D)$  is to use probability distributions of the data  $D$**
- **Example: anomaly detection**

  - The anomaly score  $f(x|D)$  can be defined based on the probability density of  $x$  given the data  $D$





Machine learning give a systematic way to constructing mathematical rules

□ **(Statistical) machine learning is based on probabilistic distribution**

–e.g.  $p(x|\mathcal{D})$  in the anomaly detection example

□ **Machine learning is data-driven**

–Decision functions are defined using the probability functions, which is identified in a data-driven fashion

**•Machine learning, which is data-driven in nature, is a useful framework for rule discovery**



# Service Science Research Forum (May 10, 2012)

## Program agenda

- **14:00-14:05 Opening and Welcome**
  - Spohrer and Sawatani, Book editor
- **Session Chair Dr. Uchihira**
- **14:05-14:20 TBD**
  - Arai, Shibaura Institute of Technology
- **14:20-14:35 Community based participatory service engineering: case studies and technologies**
  - Motomura, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST)
- **14:35-14:50 Methodology of Workshop-Based Innovative System Design based on Systems engineering and design thinking**
  - Yasui, Keio University
- **14:50-15:05 Human Behavior Observation for Service Science**
  - Matsunami, Osaka Gas CO. Ltd.
- **15:05-15:20 Value Co-Creation Process and Value Orchestration Platform**
  - Kijima, Tokyo Institute of Technology
- **15:20-15:35 Service design in tourism: Encouraging a cooperative relationship between professional design and non-professional design**
  - Hara, The University of Tokyo
- **15:35-16:00 Break**
- **Session Chair Dr. Hara**
- **16:00-16:15 Temporal-Spatial Communication for Nursing and Caregiving**
  - Uchihira, Toshiba Corp.
- **16:15-16:30 Formalizing expert knowledge through machine learning**
  - Ide, IBM Japan, Ltd.
- **16:30-17:10 Overall and Latest update**
  - Jim Spohrer, Book Editor
- **17:10-17:30 Discussion/Closing**