

AI and Common Sense

French philosopher Voltaire famously said that common sense is “not so common.”

He’s probably right, but at least most humans have it to varying degrees.

Experts in the field of artificial general intelligence (AI), though, consider common sense a *necessary condition*. Erik J. Larson in *The Myth of Artificial Intelligence* (2022), argues that it’s the one property AI can never have: No amount or size of data sets, no amount of contextual knowledge, no amount of deductive or inductive reasoning, no amount of learning capability, and no amount of system optimization will be enough to enable the “knowledge of the world” intuition and insight that general intelligence requires. Artificial general intelligence will not have common sense in varying degrees; it will not have it at all.