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# Effective Semantics for Engineering NLP Systems

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André Freitas

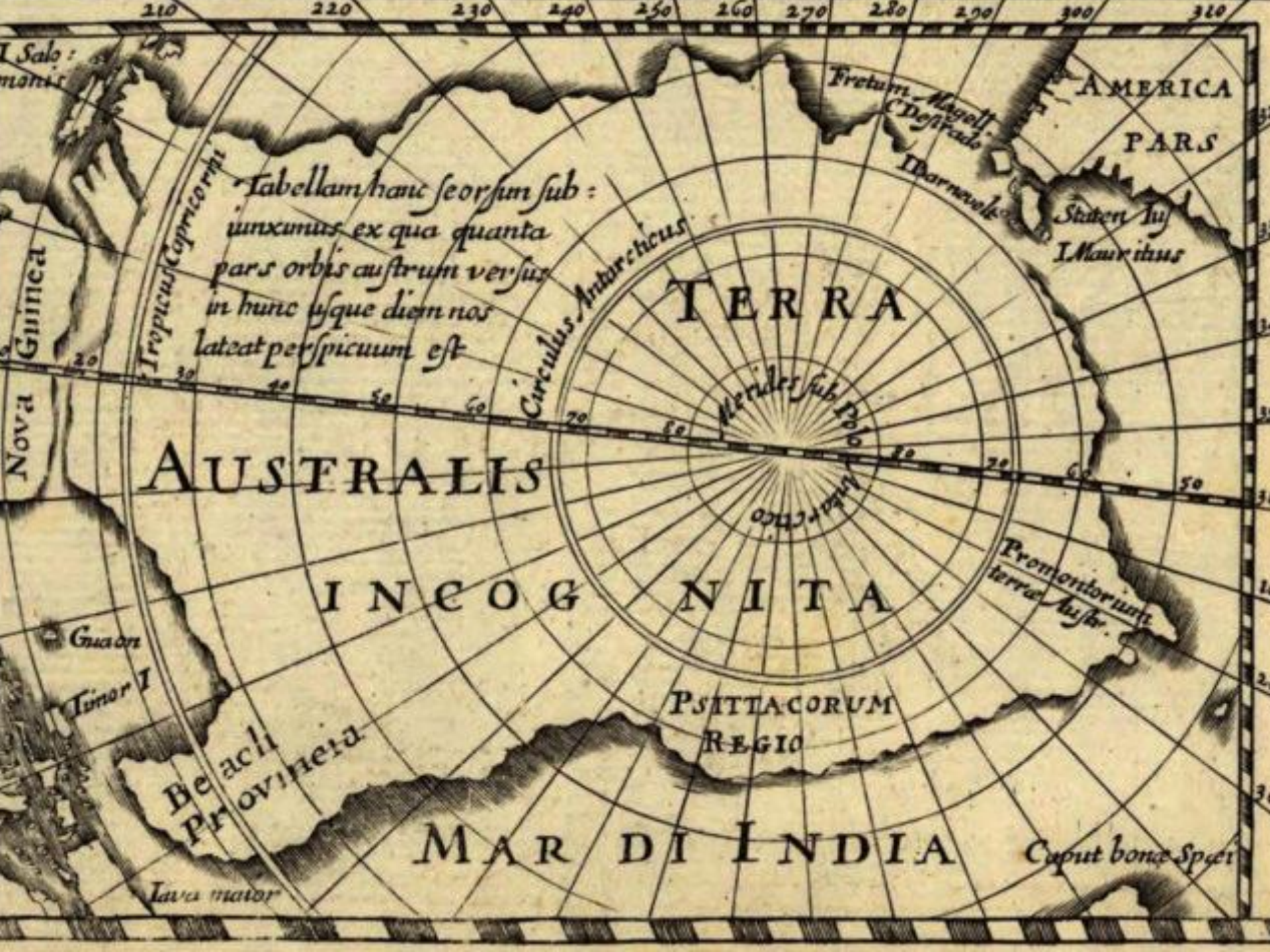
Lancaster, May 2018

# Goals of this Talk

Provide a synthesis of the emerging representation trends behind NLP systems.

## Shift in perspective:

- Effective engineering (task driven, scalable) instead of sound formalism.
- Best-effort representation.



Tabellam hanc seorsim sub:  
iunximus ex qua quanta  
pars orbis austrum versus  
in hunc usque diem nos  
lateat perspicuum est

AUSTRALIS

INCOGNITA

PSITTACORUM  
REGIO

MAR DI INDIA

AMERICA  
PARS

NOVA  
GUINEA

Tropicus Capricorni

Circulus Antarcticus

Merides sub Pol

Antarctica

Fretum Magell  
C. Desstrade

I. Barnaboe

Statens I.  
I. Mauritius

Premontorium  
terra Austr.

Guadon  
Tumor I

Beachi  
Provinea

Java maior

Caput bonae Spei

# Outline

- Knowledge Graphs (Frege revisited)
- Information Extraction & Text Classification
- Distributional Semantic Models
- Knowledge Graphs & Distributional Semantics
  - (Distributional-Relational Models)
- Applications of DRMs
  - KG Completion
  - Semantic Parsing
  - Natural Language Inference

# “On our best behaviour”

Levesque, 2013

“We need to return to our roots in Knowledge Representation and Reasoning *for* language and *from* language.”

“We should not treat English text as a monolithic source of information.”

“Instead, we should carefully study how simple knowledge bases might be used to make sense of the simple language needed to build slightly more complex knowledge bases...”



# Knowledge Graphs (Frege Revisited)



# Some Perspectives on “What”

*“The **Knowledge Graph** is a knowledge base used by Google to enhance its search engine's search results.”*

*“A Knowledge graph (i) mainly describes real world entities and interrelations, organized in a graph (ii) defines possible classes and relations of entities in a schema (iii) allows potentially interrelating arbitrary entities with each other...” [Paulheim H.]*

*“We define a Knowledge Graph as an RDF graph consists of a set of RDF triples where each RDF triple (s,p,o)....” [Pujara J. al al.]*

# Some Perspectives on “What”

Dan Bennett, TR

- Open world representation of information.
- Every entry point is equal cost.
- Underpin Cortana, Google Assistant, Siri, Alexa.
- Typically (but doesn't have to be) expressed in RDF.
- No longer a solution in search of a problem!



# Some Perspectives on “Why”

- “Knowledge is Power” Hypothesis (the Knowledge Principle): “If a program is to perform a complex task well, **it must know a great deal about the world** in which it operates.”
- The Breadth Hypothesis: “To behave intelligently in unexpected situations, an agent must be capable of falling back on **increasingly general knowledge.**”

# Some Perspectives on “Why”

- We’re surrounded by **entities**, which are connected by **relations**.
- We need to store them somehow, e.g., using a **DB** or a **graph**.
- **Graphs** can be processed **efficiently** and offer a convenient **abstraction**.

# Some Perspectives on “Why”

- Knowledge models such as Linked Data and many problems in machine learning have a natural representation as relational data.
- Relations between entities are often more important for a prediction task than attributes.
- For instance, can be easier to predict the party of a vice-president from the party of his president than from his attributes.



# Building Knowledge Graphs

# Open Information Extraction

- Extracting **unstructured** facts from text.
- **TextRunner** [Banko et al., IJCAI '07], **WOE** [Wu & Weld, ACL '10].
- **ReVerb** [Fader et al., EMNLP '11].
- **OLLIE** [Mausam et al., EMNLP '12].
- **OpenIE** [Mausam et al., IJCAI '16].
- **Graphene** [Niklaus et al, COLING 17].

# Graphene

- Captures contextual relations.
- Extends the default Open IE representation in order to capture inter-proposition relationships.
- Include rhetorical relations.

*Cetto et al., Creating a Hierarchy of Semantically-Linked Propositions in Open Information Extraction, COLING (2018).*

*Niklaus et al., A Sentence Simplification System for Improving Relation Extraction, COLING (2017)*

# Transformation Stage

**non-restrictive relative clauses** e.g. “*The city’s top tourist attraction was the Notre Dame Cathedral, which welcomed 14 million visitors in 2013.*”

**non-restrictive appositive phrases** e.g. “*He plays basketball, a sport he participated in as a member of his high school’s varsity team.*”

**restrictive appositive phrases** e.g. “*He met with former British Prime Minister Tony Blair.*”

**participial phrases offset by commas** e.g. “*The deal, titled Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, saw the removal of sanctions.”*

**adjective and adverb phrases delimited by punctuation** e.g. “*Overall, the economy expanded at a rate of 2.9 percent in 2010.”*

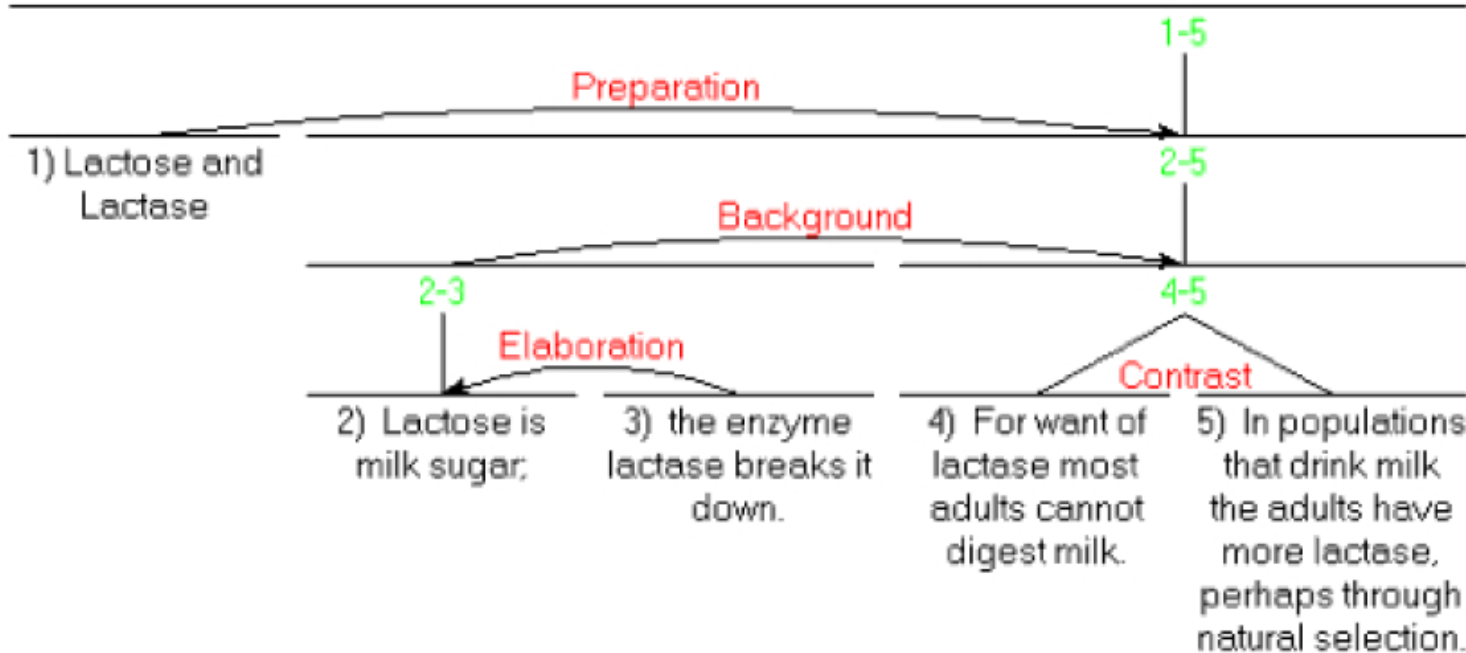
**particular prepositional phrases** e.g. “*In December 2008 and in 2012, Time magazine named Obama as its Person of the Year.”*

**lead noun phrases** e.g. “*Six weeks later, Alan Keyes accepted the Republican nomination.”*

**intra-sentential attributions** e.g. “*He said that both movements seek to bring justice and equal rights to historically persecuted peoples.*”

**parentheticals** e.g. “*He signed the reauthorization of the State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP).*”

# Rhetorical Relations



Scientific  
American,  
October 1972.



# Extracting Rhetorical Relations

Rhetorical Relation / Inverse Rel.	Coordinations	
	Core Span	Following Core Span
Unknown-Coordination / Unknown-Coordination	a syntactically coordinated span (default)	a syntactically coordinated span (default)
Contrast / Contrast	one alternative	the other alternative
Cause / Result	a situation	another situation which causes that one
Result / Cause	a situation	another situation which is caused by that one
List / List	a listed element	the next listed element
Disjunction / Disjunction	a listed element	a listed, alternative element
Temporal-After / Temporal-Before (Sequence)	a situation	a situation that occurs after that
Temporal-Before / Temporal-After (Inverted-Sequence)	a situation	a situation that occurs before that

# Extracting Rhetorical Relations

Rhetorical Relation	Subordinations	
	Core Span	Context Span
Unknown Subordination	the syntactically superordinated span (default)	the syntactically subordinated span (default)
Attribution	the reported message	the source of the attribution
Background	text whose understanding is being facilitated	text for facilitating understanding
Cause	a situation	another situation which causes that one
Result	a situation	another situation which is caused by that one
Condition	action or situation whose occurrence results from the occurrence of the conditioning situation	conditioning situation
Elaboration	basic information	additional information
Purpose	an intended action	the intent behind the situation
Temporal-After	a situation	a situation that occurs after that
Temporal-Before	a situation	a situation that occurs before that

<b>Classified Contextual Relations</b>		
Relation	Core	Context
Unknown	a situation (default)	contextual information (default)
Noun Based	a situation	additional information about entities that are mentioned in the situation
Spatial	a situation	spatial information that describes where the situation took place
Temporal	a situation	temporal information that describes when the situation happened

# Clausal & Phrasal Disembedding

input: NL text

"A few hours later, Matthias Goerne, a German baritone, offered an all-German program at the Frick Collection."

syntax-based sentence simplification

- *core sentence*: Matthias Goerne offered an all-German program.
- *context sentence*: Matthias Goerne was a German baritone.
- *context sentence*: This was a few hours later.
- *context sentence*: This was at the Frick Collection.

relation extraction (using the Open IE system from UW)

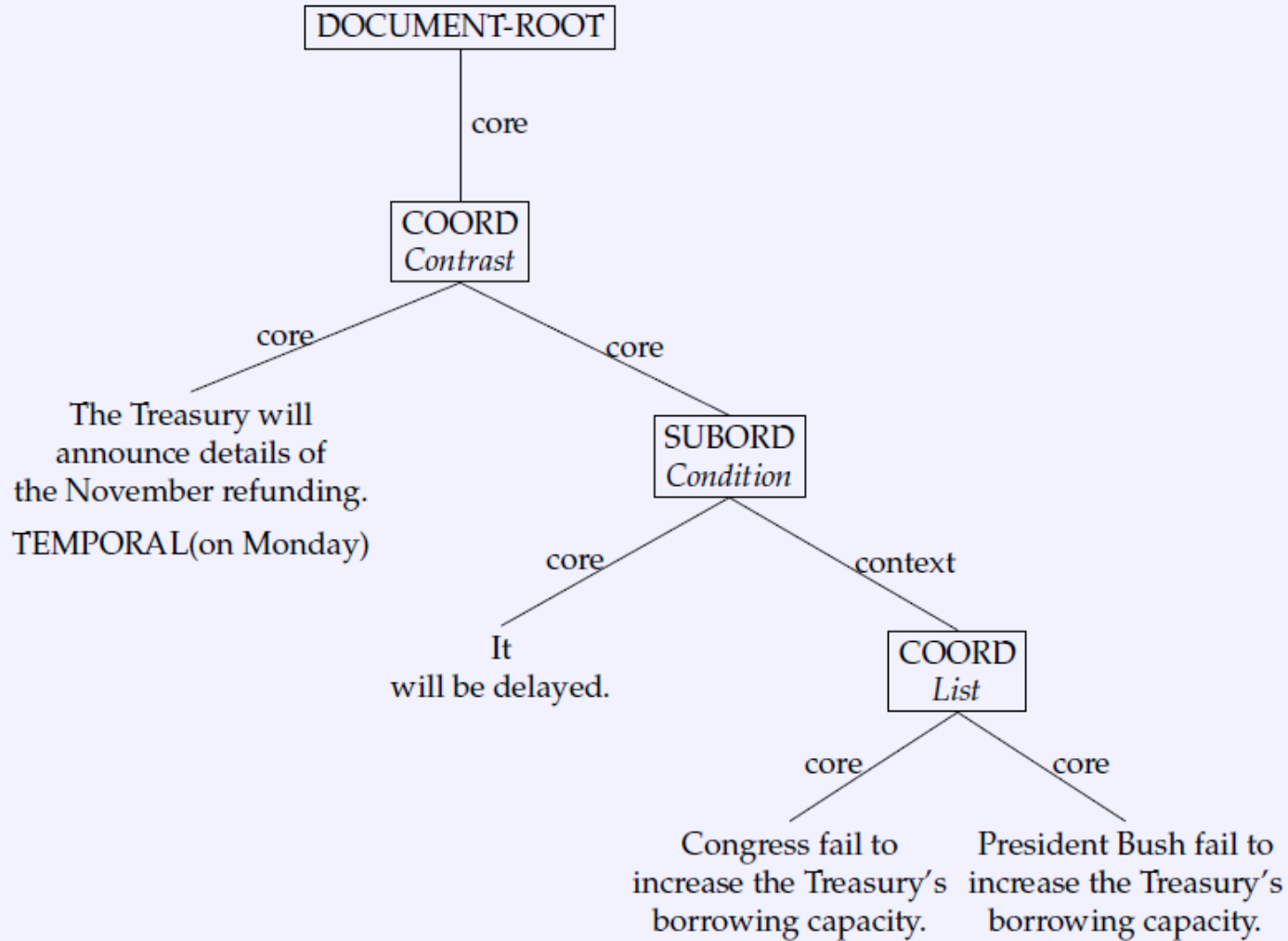
output: extractions (in JSON format)

- *core fact*: offered (Matthias Goerne; an all-German program)
- *context 1*: was (Matthias Goerne; a German baritone)
- *context 2*: was (CORE FACT; at the Frick Collection)
- *context 3*: was (CORE FACT; a few hours later)

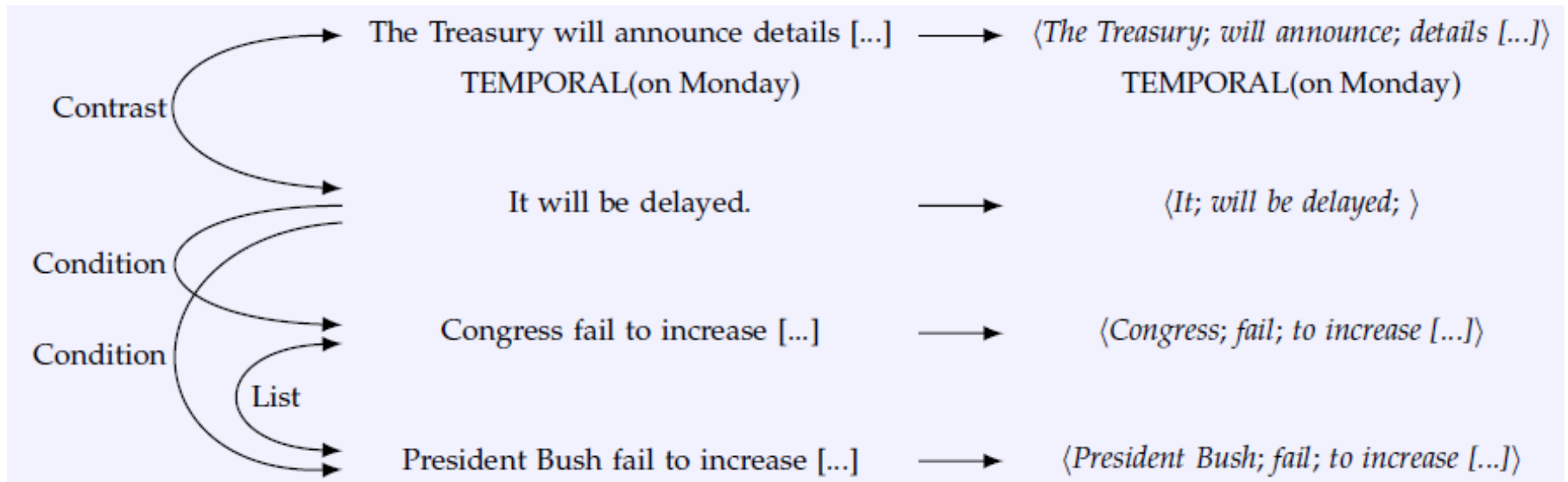
# Input Document

[...] Although the Treasury will announce details of the November refunding on Monday, it will be delayed if Congress and President Bush fail to increase the Treasury's borrowing capacity. [...]

# Transformation Stage



# Relation Extraction



# Output

```
#1      0      the Treasury      will announce      details [...]
S:TEMPORAL      on Monday
L:CONTRAST      #2

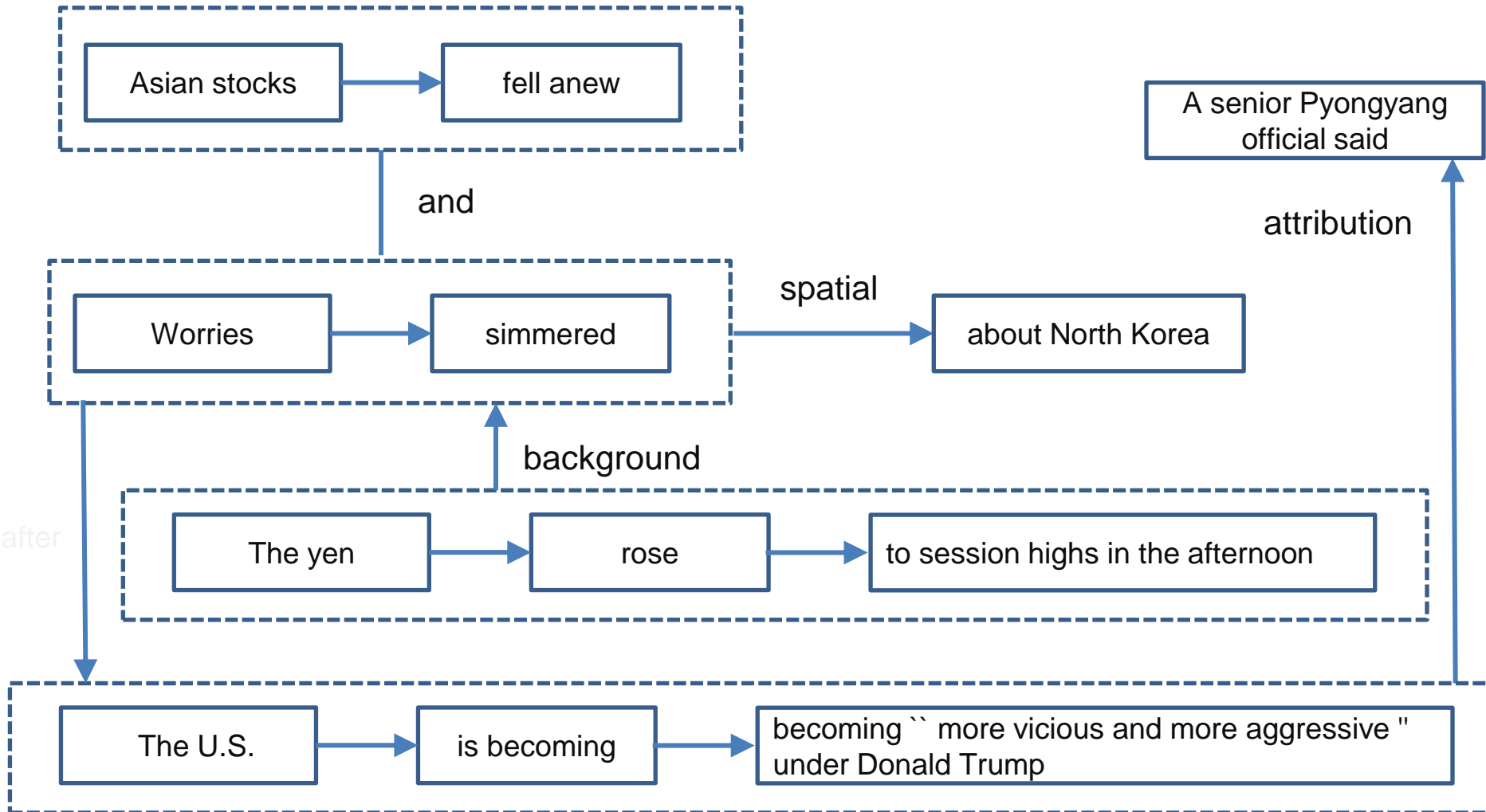
#2      0      it      will be delayed
L:CONTRAST      #1
L:CONDITION      #3
L:CONDITION      #4

#3      1      Congress      fail      to increase [...]
L:LIST      #4

#4      1      president Bush      fail      to increase [...]
L:LIST      #3
```



Asian stocks fell anew and the yen rose to session highs in the afternoon as worries about North Korea simmered, after a senior Pyongyang official said the U.S. is becoming "more vicious and more aggressive" under President Donald Trump .



He nominated Sonia Sotomayor on May 26, 2009 to replace David Souter; she was confirmed on August 6, 2009, becoming the first Supreme Court Justice of Hispanic descent.

OLLIE:

(1) she	was confirmed on	August 6, 2009
(2) He	nominated Sonia Sotomayor on	May 26
(3) He	nominated Sonia Sotomayor	2009
(4) He	nominated 2009 on	May 26
(5) Sonia Sotomayor	be nominated 2009 on	May 26
(6) He	nominated 2009	Sonia Sotomayor
(7) 2009	be nominated Sonia Sotomayor on	May 26

ClausIE:

(8) He	nominated	Sonia Sotomayor on May 26 2009 to replace David Souter
(9) she	was confirmed	on August 6 2009 becoming the first Supreme Court Justice of Hispanic descent
(10) she	was confirmed	becoming the first Supreme Court Justice of Hispanic descent

Graphene:

(11) #1	0	he	nominated	Sonia Sotomayor
("a)	S:PURPOSE		to replace David Souter	
("b)	S:TEMPORAL		on May 26, 2009	
(12) #2	0	she	was confirmed	
("a)	S:TEMPORAL		on August 6, 2009	
(13) #3	0	she	was becoming	the first Supreme Court Justice of Hispanic descent

Although the Treasury will announce details of the November refunding on Monday, the funding will be delayed if Congress and President Bush fail to increase the Treasury's borrowing capacity.

**OLLIE:**

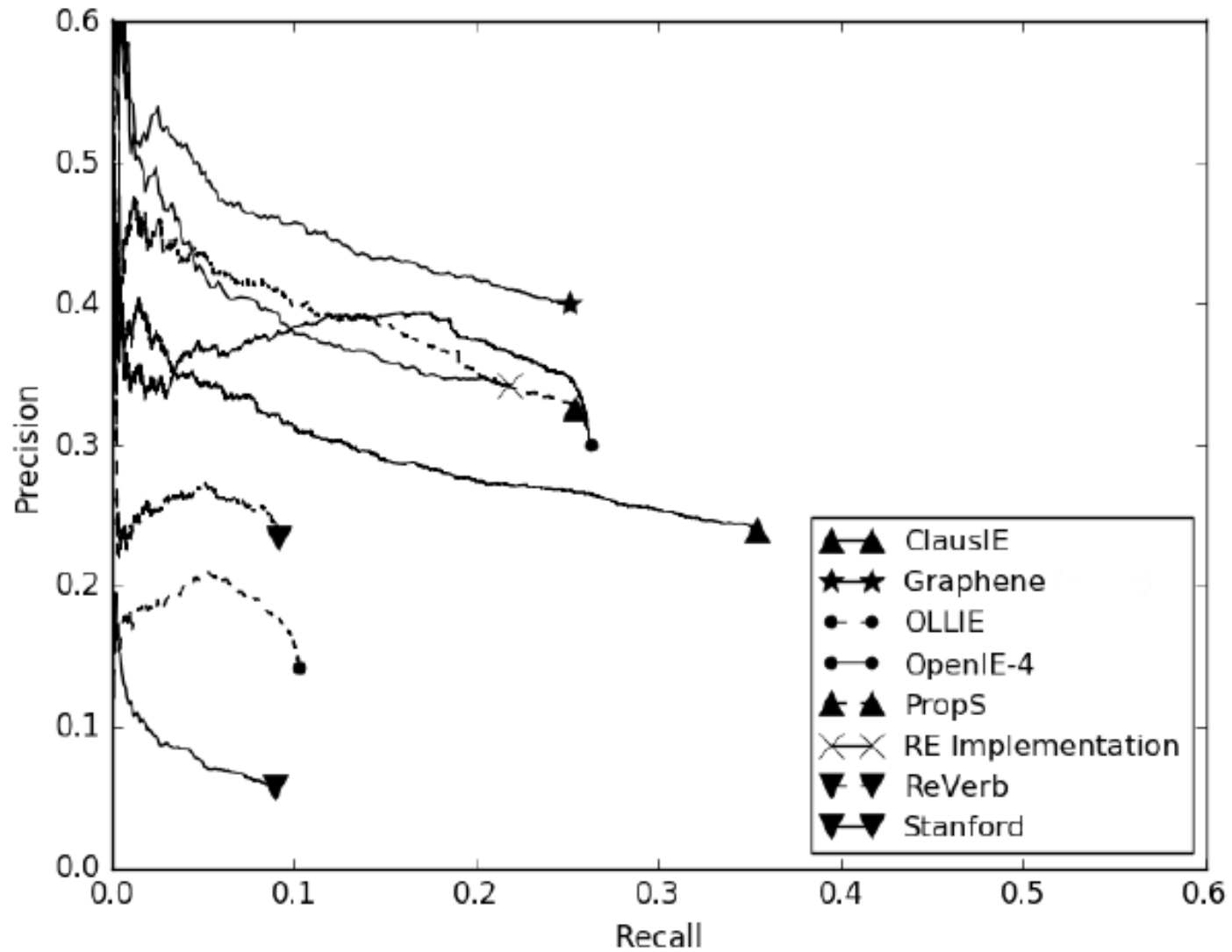
(14) the Treasury will announce details of the November refunding  
(15) Congress and President Bush fail to increase the Treasury's borrowing capacity

**ClausIE:**

(16) the Treasury will announce details of the November refunding on Monday  
(17) the Treasury will announce details of the November refunding  
(18) the funding will be delayed if Congress and President Bush fail to increase the Treasury 's [...]  
(19) the funding will be delayed if Congress and President Bush fail to increase the Treasury 's [...] Although the Treasury will announce details of the November [...]  
(20) Congress and President Bush fail to increase the Treasury 's borrowing capacity  
(21) the Treasury has borrowing capacity

**Graphene:**

(22) #1 0 the Treasury will announce details of the November refunding  
("a) S:TEMPORAL on Monday  
("b) L:CONTRAST #2  
(23) #2 0 the funding will be delayed  
("a) L:CONTRAST #1  
("b) L:CONDITION #3  
("c) L:CONDITION #4  
(24) #3 1 Congress fail to increase the Treasury 's borrowing capacity  
(25) #4 1 president Bush fail to increase the Treasury 's borrowing capacity



# What to expect? (Wikipedia & Newswire)

## Precision:

System	# Extractions		Accuracy			Minimality			Limitation to core information	Context allocation	Accuracy & Minimality	All
	T	C	T	T & C	C	T	T & C	C	T	C	T & C	T & C
Graphene	182	<b>192</b>	<b>0.82</b>	<b>0.82</b>	<b>0.81</b>	<b>0.74</b>	<b>0.79</b>	<b>0.84</b>	<b>0.87</b>	<b>0.91</b>	<b>0.66</b>	<b>0.61</b>
OLLIE	438	12	0.42	0.43	0.58	0.64	0.64	0.58	0.50	0.58	0.31	0.19
ClausIE	535	0	0.52	0.52	—	0.57	0.57	—	0.36	—	0.24	0.14
Stanford OIE	<b>1073</b>	0	0.26	0.26	—	0.63	0.63	—	0.53	—	0.19	0.13

## Recall:

System	accurate		accurate & minimal	
	P	P & A	P	P & A
Graphene	0.78	0.69	0.80	0.77
OLLIE	0.69	0.55	0.70	0.63
ClausIE	<b>0.83</b>	<b>0.83</b>	<b>0.84</b>	<b>0.83</b>
Stanford OIE	0.62	0.46	0.63	0.54

*Improving Open Relation Extraction using Clausal and Phrasal Disembedding, Under Review, (2017)*

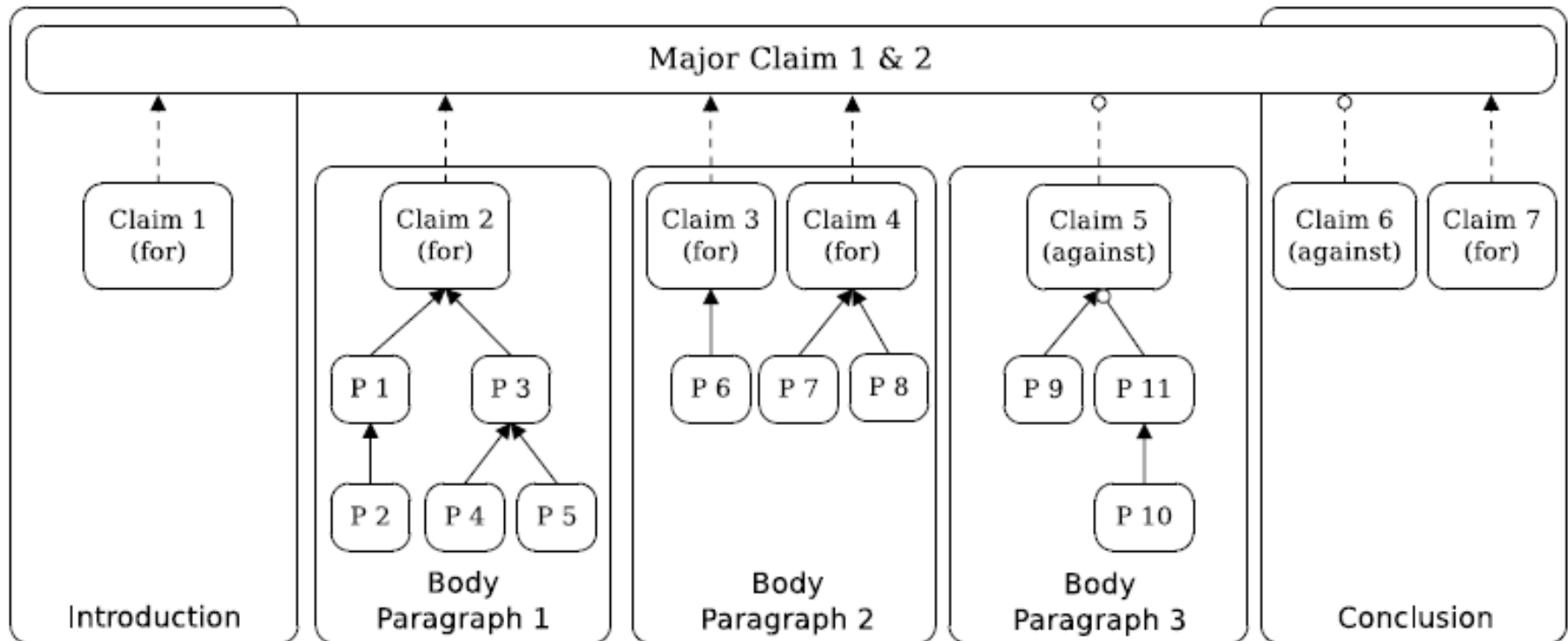
# Software: Extracting Knowledge Graphs from Text



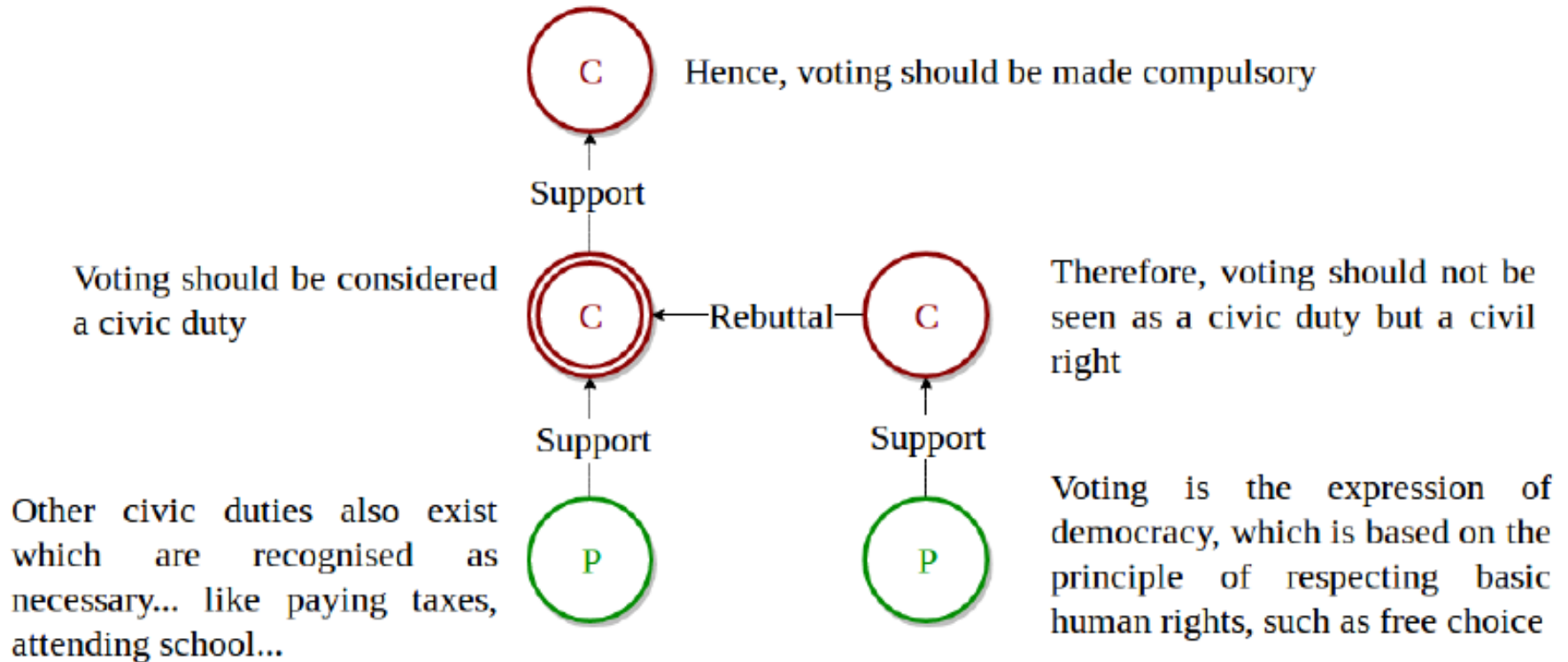
<https://github.com/Lambda-3/Graphene>

*Niklaus et al., A Sentence Simplification System for Improving Relation Extraction, COLING (2017)*

# Argumentation Structures



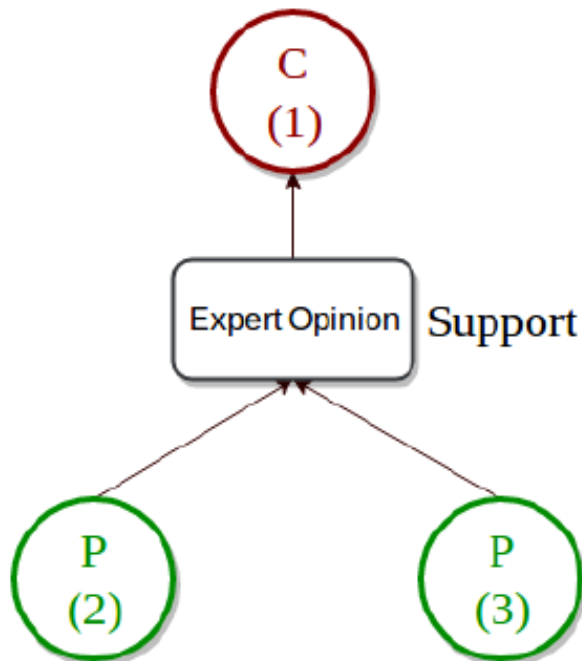
# Argumentative Discourse Unit Classification





# Argumentation Schemes

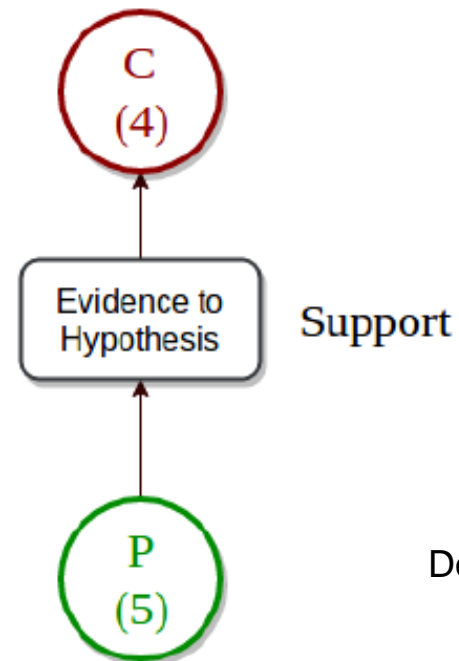
The lack of young ents was due to balrog predation.



Professor Otis Gandalf is a respected authority on the balrog-ent-predator-prey mode.

Gandalf stated that balrogs were known to prey on young ents.

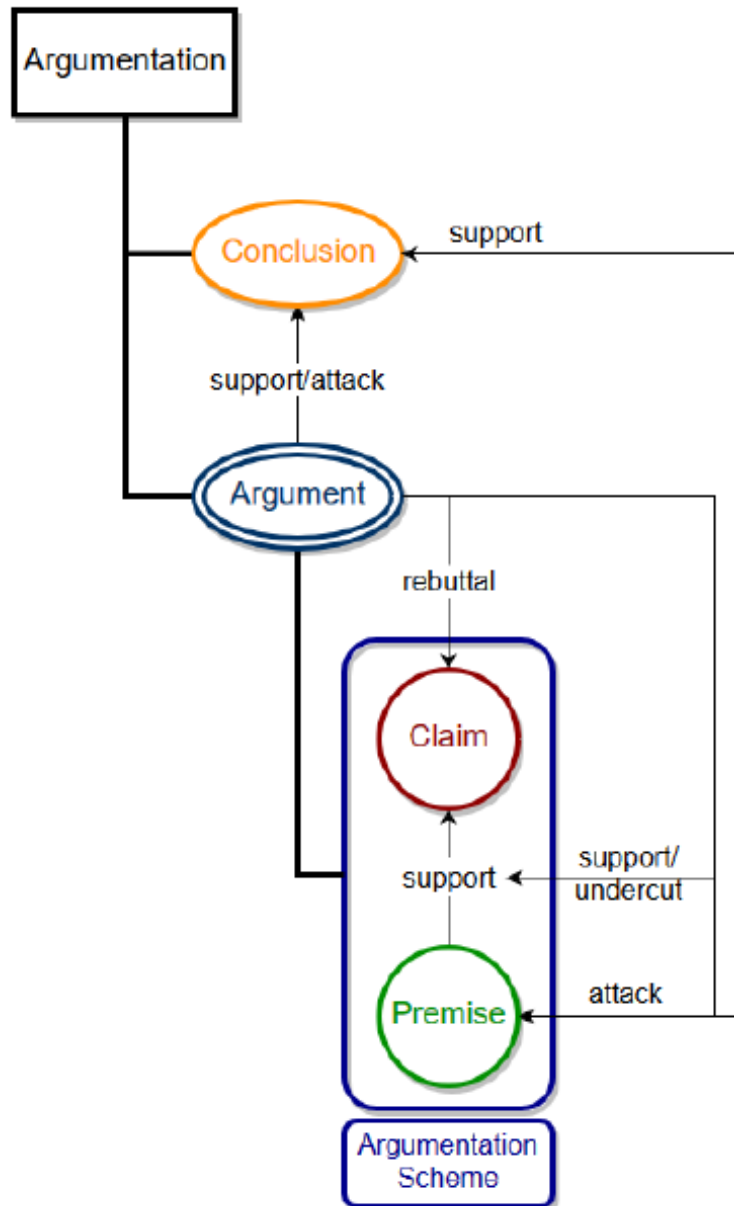
Balrogs were present in the forest.



Forest ranger Phil Aragorn noted that he had observed track on the forest and singe marks on trees.

Douglas Walton

# Unified Schema



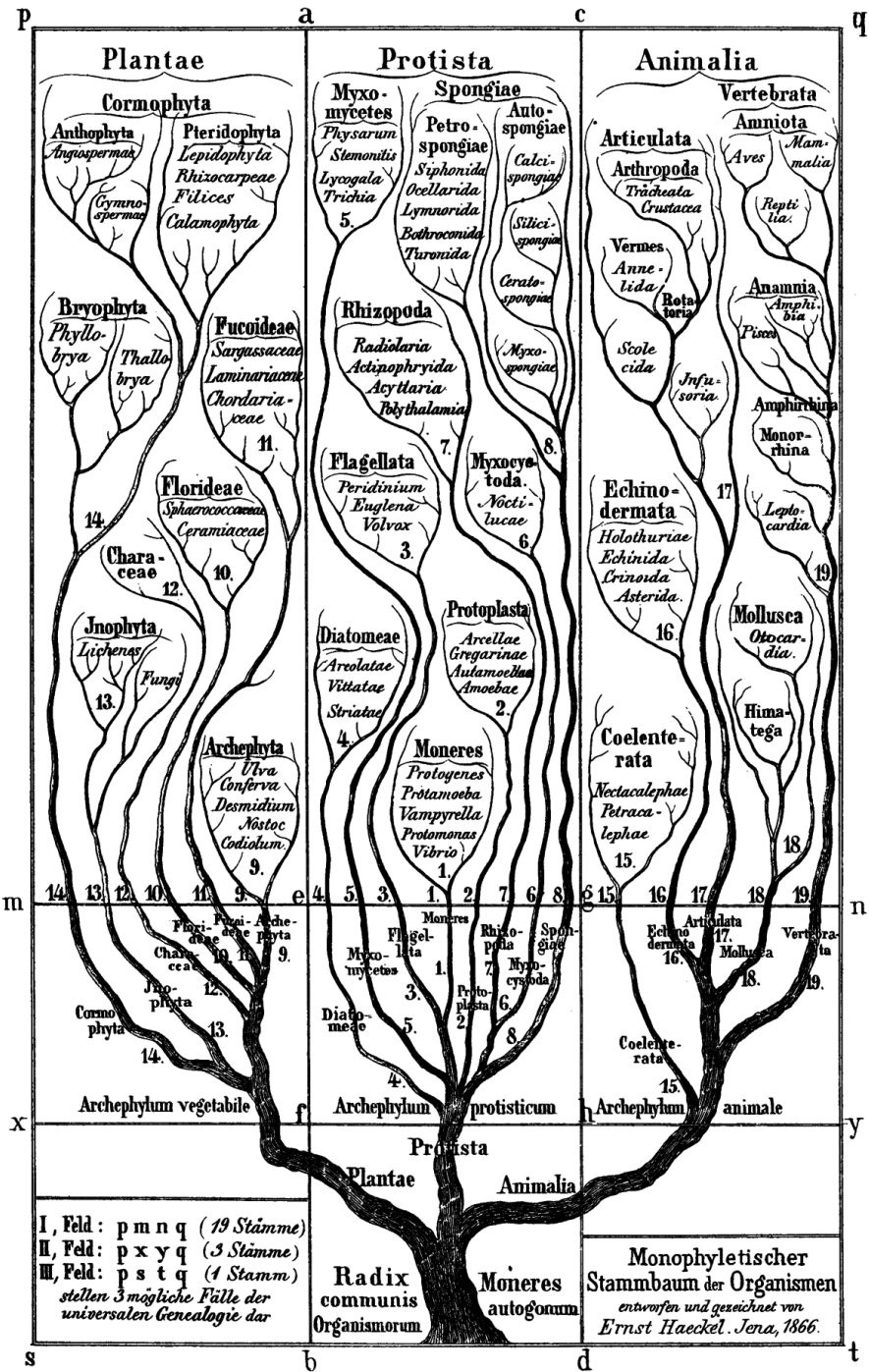
# Argument Mining Approaches

What to expect?

F1-score: 0.74

Stab & Gurevych, Parsing Argumentation Structures in Persuasive Essays, 2016.

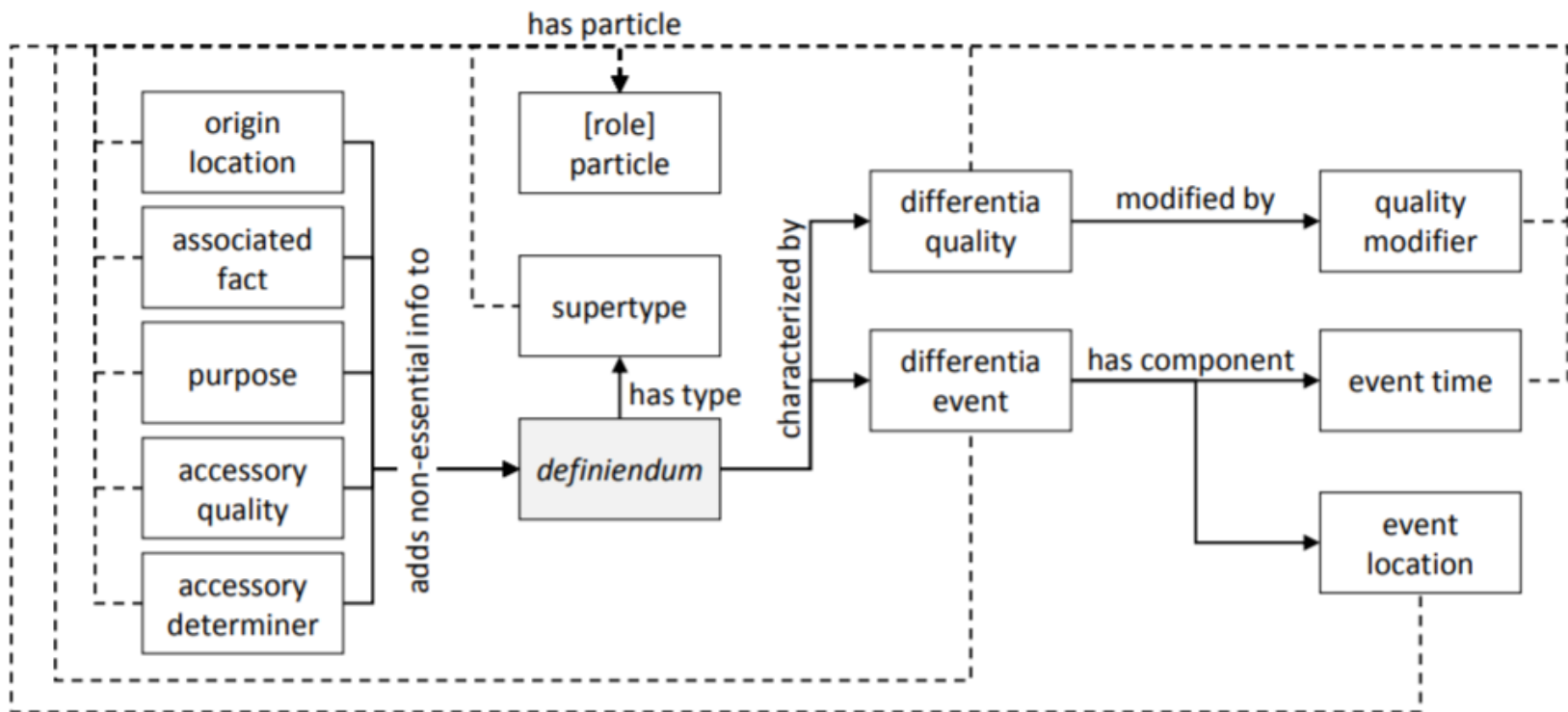
Task	AM System	Classifier	Corpus
1	Moens et al. 2007 [32]	Multinomial Naïve Bayes	AraucariaDB
1	Rooney et al. 2012 [40]	Convolution Kernel Methods	AraucariaDB
1	Florou et al. 2013 [13]	Decision Tree	Greek Corpus
1-2	Levy et al. 2014 [28]	Multi-Classifer Pipeline	Wikipedia
1-2	Lippi and Torroni 2015 [29]	SVM	IBM Corpus
1-2	Rinott et al. 2015 [39]	Multi-Classifer Pipeline	Wikipedia
2	Palau and Moens 2009 [34]	Max. Entropy and SVM	AraucariaDB & ECHR
2	Biran and Rambow 2011 [4]	Rule based + Naïve Bayes	RST Treebank, Wikipedia, blog threads from LiveJournal <sup>1</sup>
2	Habernal and Gurevych 2015 [20]	SVM-HMM	User Generated Content & Newspaper editorials
2-3	Stab and Gurevych 2014 [46]	SVM	Student Essays
1-2-3	Mochales and Moens 2011 [31]	Max. Entropy and SVM and CFG	AraucariaDB & ECHR
1-2-3	Stab and Gurevych 2016 [47]	Classifier Pipeline (CRF, SVM)	Student Essays
1-2-3	Daxenberger et al. 2017	RNN-LSTM-ER	Student Essays
4	Feng and Hirst 2011 [12]	C4.5 Decision Tree	AraucariaDB (subset)
4	Lawrence and Reed 2016 [26]	Naïve Bayes, SVM, Decision Tree	AraucariaDB (subset)



# Definition-based Models

# Semantic Roles for Lexical Definitions

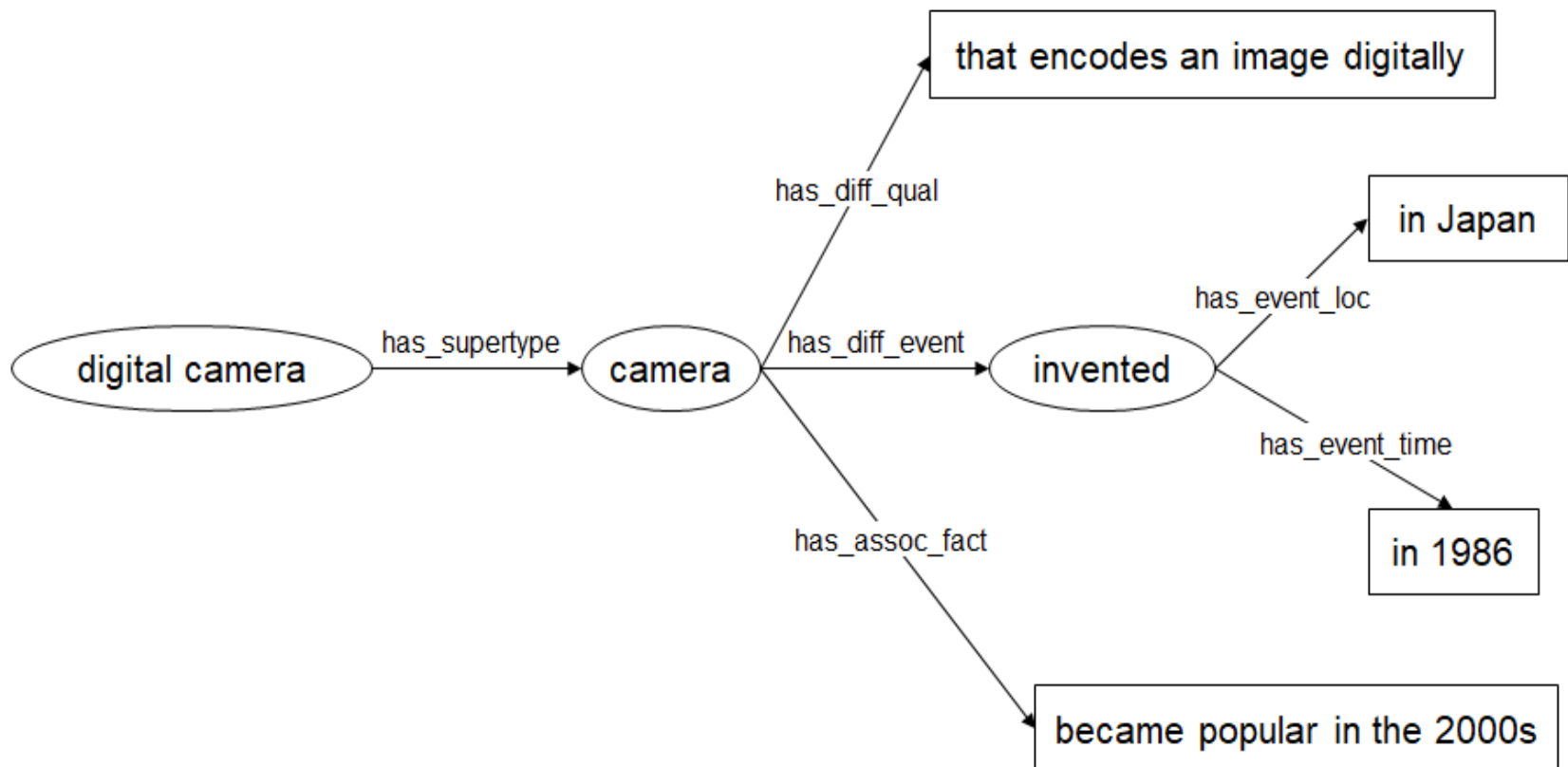
Aristotle's classic theory of definition introduced important aspects such as the **genus-differentia definition pattern** and the **essential/non-essential property differentiation**.



# Building the Definition Graph

Dictionary definitions are split into *entity-centered semantic roles* and converted to RDF

**digital camera:** a camera invented in Japan in 1986 that encodes an image digitally and became popular in the 2000s



# Data: WordNetGraph

RDF graph generated from WordNet.

<https://github.com/Lambda-3/WordnetGraph>

Silva et al., Categorization of Semantic Roles for Dictionary Definitions.  
Cognitive Aspects of the Lexicon CogALex@COLING, 2017.

# Emerging perspectives

- The evolution of parsing and classification methods in NLP is inducing a new lightweight semantic representation.
- This representation dialogues with elements from logics, linguistics and the Semantic/Linked Data Web (especially RDF).
- However, they relax the semantic constraints of previous models (which were operating under assumptions for deductive reasoning or databases).

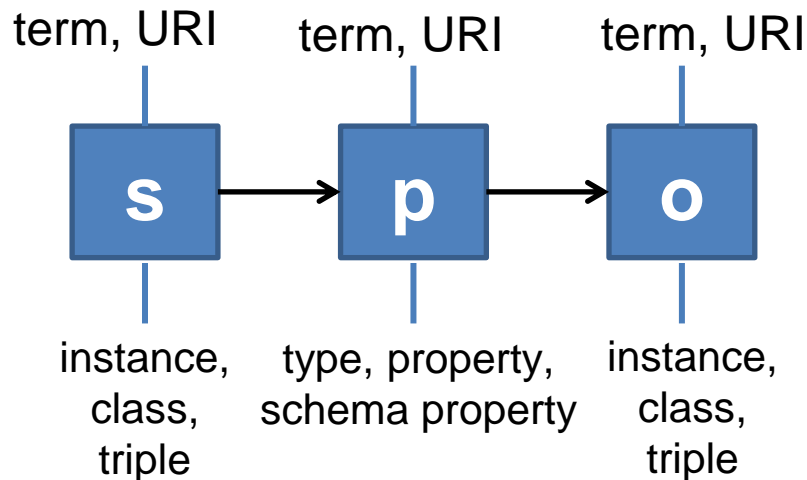


# Emerging perspectives

- Knowledge graphs as lexical semantic models operating under a semantic best-effort mode (canonical identifiers when possible, otherwise, words).
- Possibly closer to the surface form of the text.
- Priority is on segmenting, categorizing and when possible, integrating.
- A representation (data model) convenient for AI engineering.

# Categorization

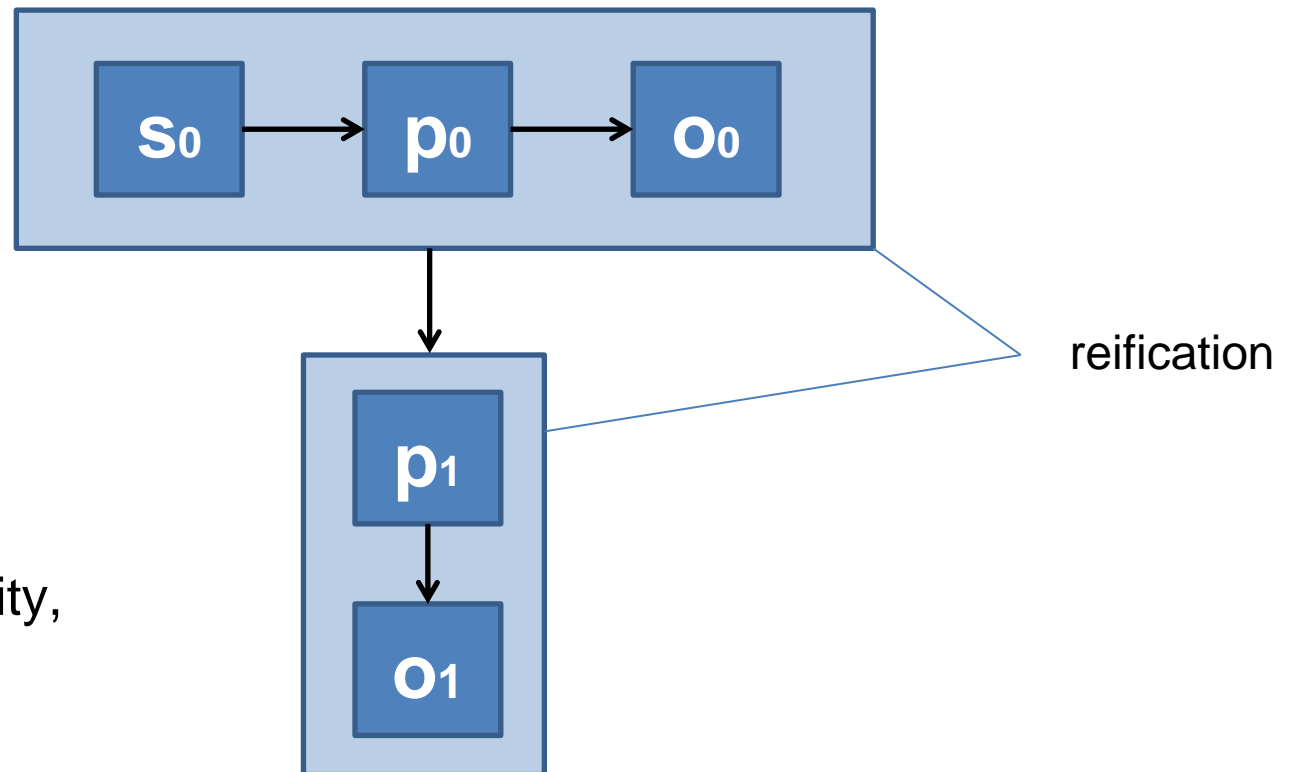
A fact (main clause):



\* Can be a taxonomic fact.

# Categorization

A fact with a context:

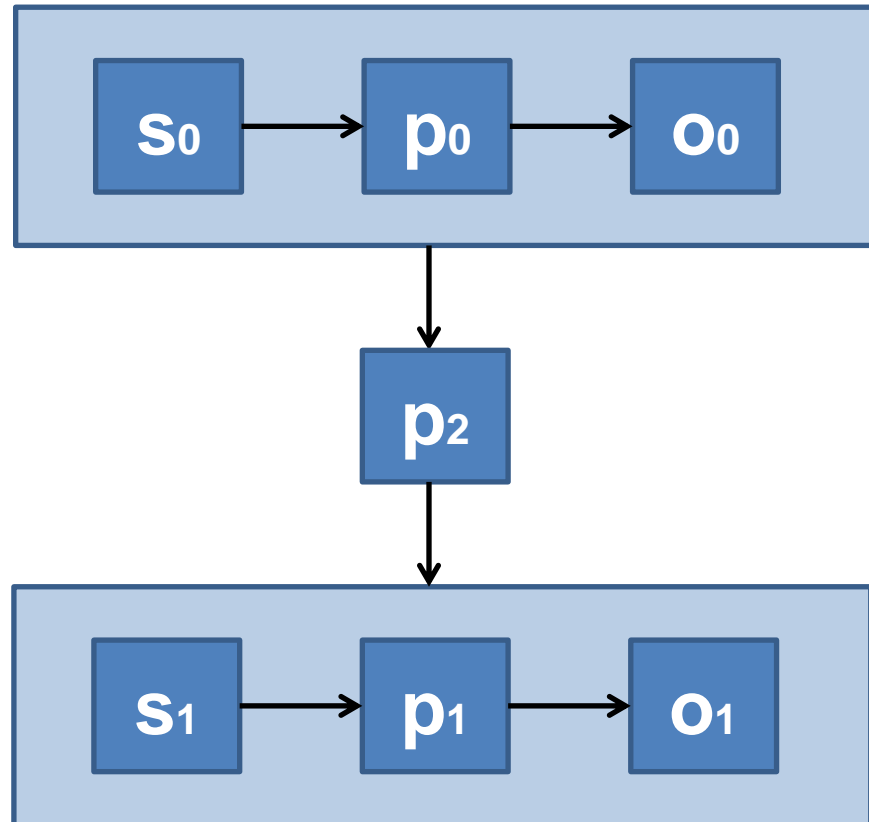


e.g.

- subordination (modality, temporality, spatiality, RSTs)
- fact probability
- polarity

# Categorization

Coordinated facts:

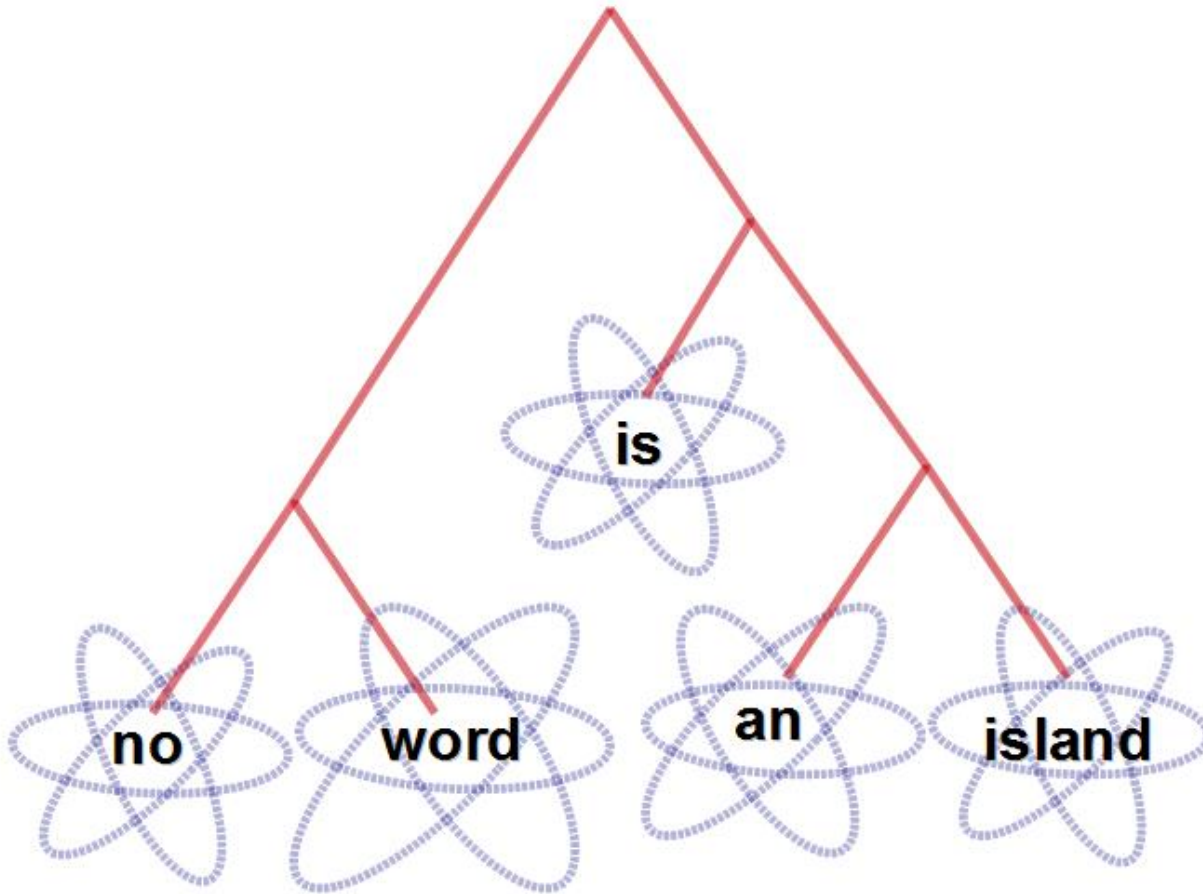


e.g.

- coordination
- RSTs
- ADU



# Knowledge Graphs & Distributional Semantics (A marriage made in heaven?)

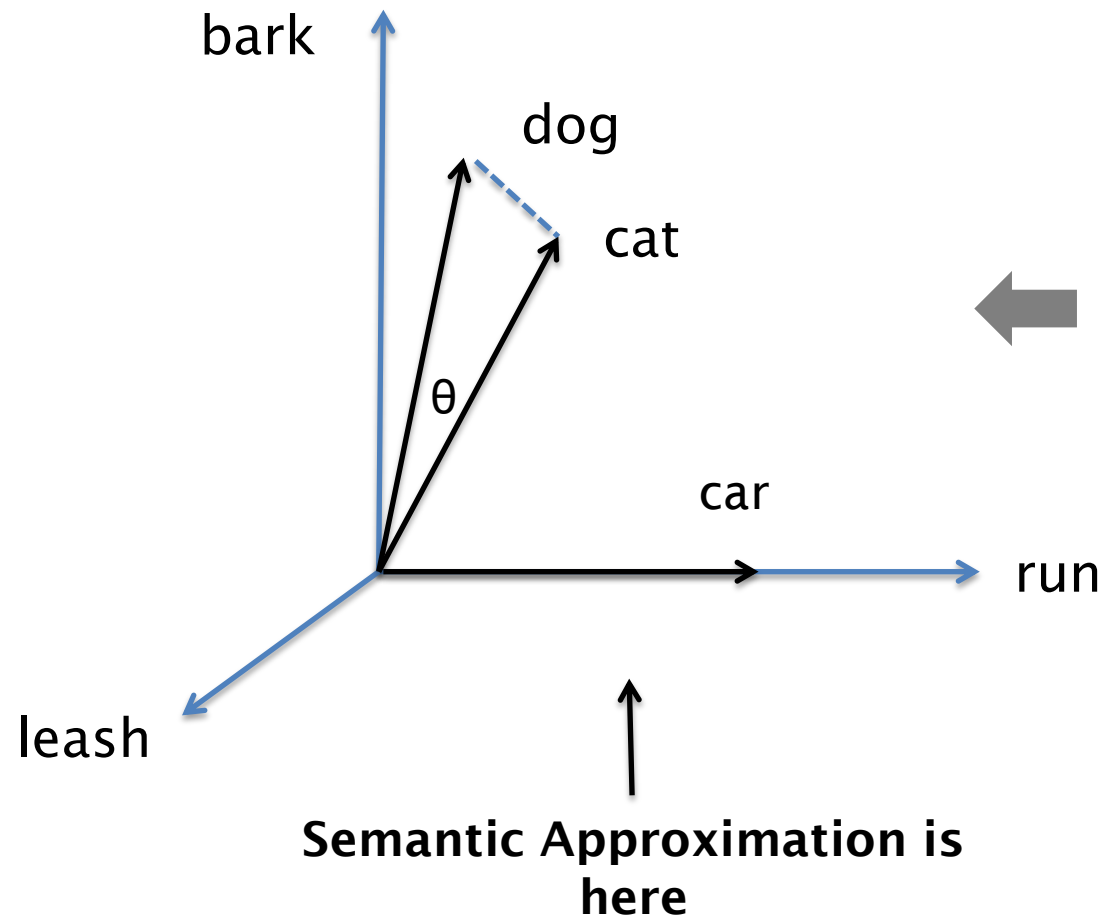


## Distributional Semantics

# Distributional Semantic Models (Word Vector Models)

- Computational models that build contextual semantic representations from corpus data.
- **Semantic context** is represented by a **vector**.
- Vectors are obtained through the statistical analysis of the linguistic contexts of a word.
- Salience of contexts (cf. context weighting scheme).
- Semantic similarity/relatedness as the core operation over the model.

# Distributional Semantics as Commonsense Knowledge



Commonsense is here

Semantic Model with low  
acquisition effort



Measure	Definition
Euclidean	$\frac{1}{1 + \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (u_i - v_i)^2}}$
Cityblock	$\frac{1}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^n  u_i - v_i }$
Chebyshev	$\frac{1}{1 + \max_i  u_i - v_i }$
Cosine	$\frac{u \cdot v}{ u  v }$
Correlation	$\frac{(u - \mu_u) \cdot (v - \mu_v)}{ u  v }$
Dice	$\frac{2 \sum_{i=0}^n \min(u_i, v_i)}{\sum_{i=0}^n u_i + v_i}$
Jaccard	$\frac{u \cdot v}{\sum_{i=0}^n u_i + v_i}$
Jaccard2	$\frac{\sum_{i=0}^n \min(u_i, v_i)}{\sum_{i=0}^n \max(u_i, v_i)}$
Lin	$\frac{\sum_{i=0}^n u_i + v_i}{ u  +  v }$
Tanimoto	$\frac{u \cdot v}{ u  +  v  - u \cdot v}$
Jensen-Shannon Div	$1 - \frac{\frac{1}{2}(D(u  \frac{u+v}{2}) + D(v  \frac{u+v}{2}))}{\sqrt{2 \log 2}}$
$\alpha$ -skew	$1 - \frac{D(u  \alpha v + (1-\alpha)u)}{\sqrt{2 \log 2}}$

X

## Similarity Measures

Kiela & Clark, 2014

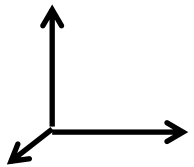
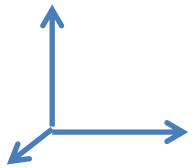
Scheme	Definition
None	$w_{ij} = f_{ij}$
TF-IDF	$w_{ij} = \log(f_{ij}) \times \log(\frac{N}{n_j})$
TF-ICF	$w_{ij} = \log(f_{ij}) \times \log(\frac{N}{f_j})$
Okapi BM25	$w_{ij} = \frac{f_{ij}}{0.5 + 1.5 \times \frac{f_j}{\bar{f}} + f_{ij}} \log \frac{N - n_j + 0.5}{f_{ij} + 0.5}$
ATC	$w_{ij} = \frac{(0.5 + 0.5 \times \frac{f_{ij}}{\max_f}) \log(\frac{N}{n_j})}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^N [(0.5 + 0.5 \times \frac{f_{ij}}{\max_f}) \log(\frac{N}{n_j})]^2}}$
LTU	$w_{ij} = \frac{(\log(f_{ij}) + 1.0) \log(\frac{N}{n_j})}{0.8 + 0.2 \times f_j \times \frac{1}{f_j}}$
MI	$w_{ij} = \log \frac{P(t_{ij} c_j)}{P(t_{ij})P(c_j)}$
PosMI	$\max(0, \text{MI})$
T-Test	$w_{ij} = \frac{P(t_{ij} c_j) - P(t_{ij})P(c_j)}{\sqrt{P(t_{ij})P(c_j)}}$
$\chi^2$	see (Curran, 2004, p. 83)
Lin98a	$w_{ij} = \frac{f_{ij} \times f}{f_i \times f_j}$
Lin98b	$w_{ij} = -1 \times \log \frac{n_j}{N}$
Gref94	$w_{ij} = \frac{\log f_{ij} + 1}{\log n_j + 1}$

## Context Weighting Measures

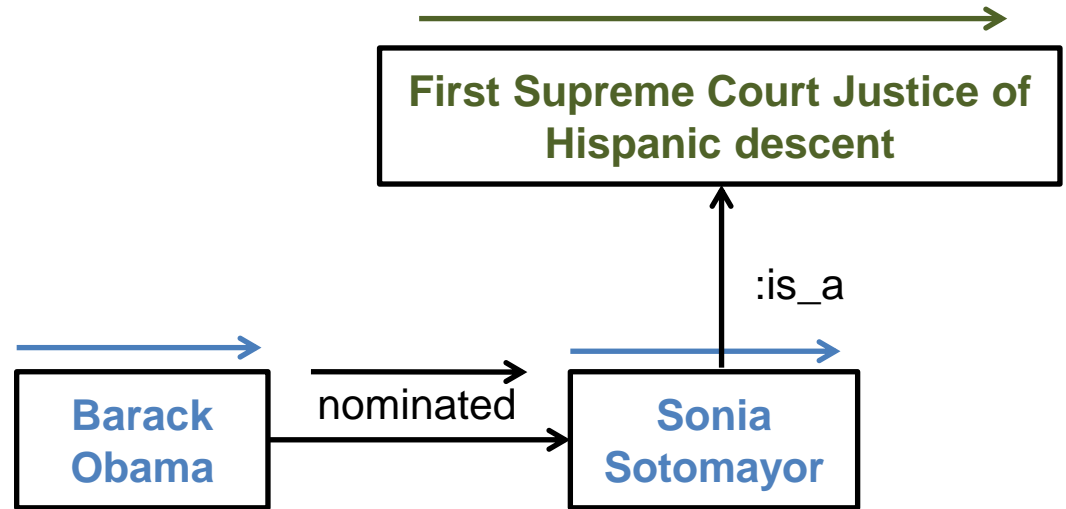
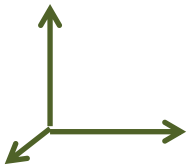
... and of course, Glove and W2V

# Distributional-Relational Models

LSA, ESA, W2V, GLOVE, ...

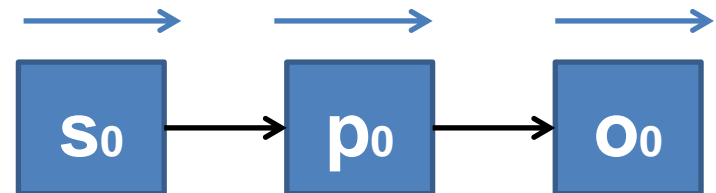


...

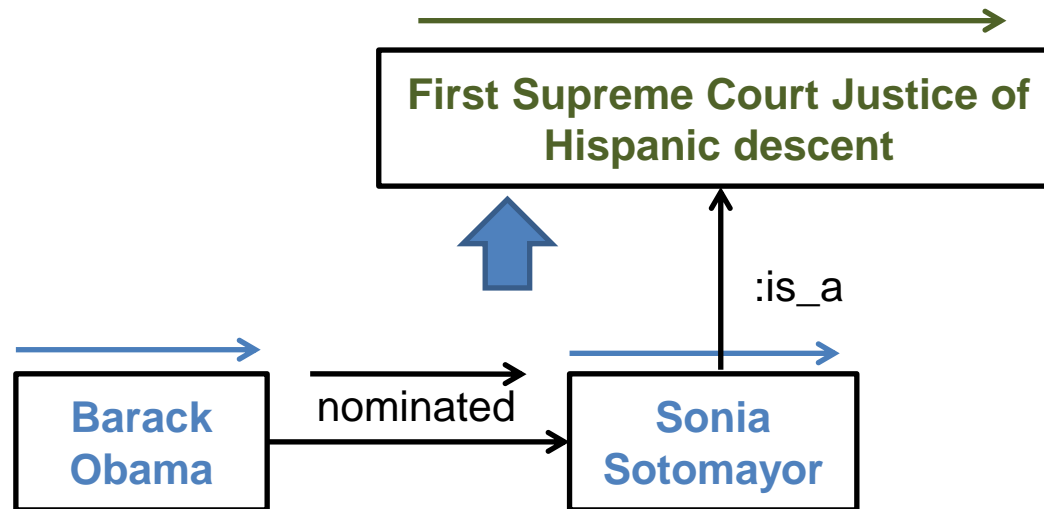


*Distributional Relational Networks, AAAI Symposium (2013).*

*A Compositional-Distributional Semantic Model for Searching Complex Entity Categories, ACL \*SEM (2016)*

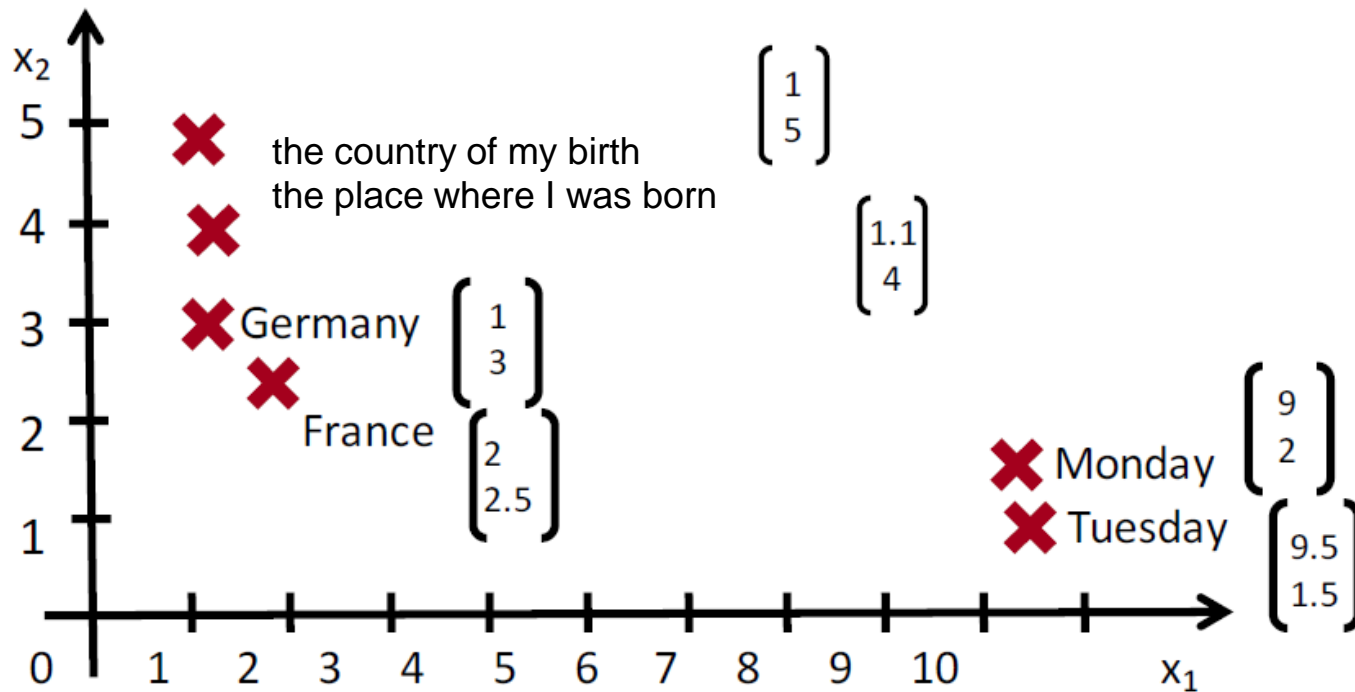


# Compositionality of Complex Nominals



<i>Original</i>	<i>Paraphrased</i>
Prehistoric Canines	Ancestral Wolves
Soviet Pop Music Groups	Popular Musical Bands in the USSR
American Architectural Styles	Fashions of American Building Design
Defunct Companies of Finland	Bankrupt Finnish Businesses

# Building on Word Vector Space Models



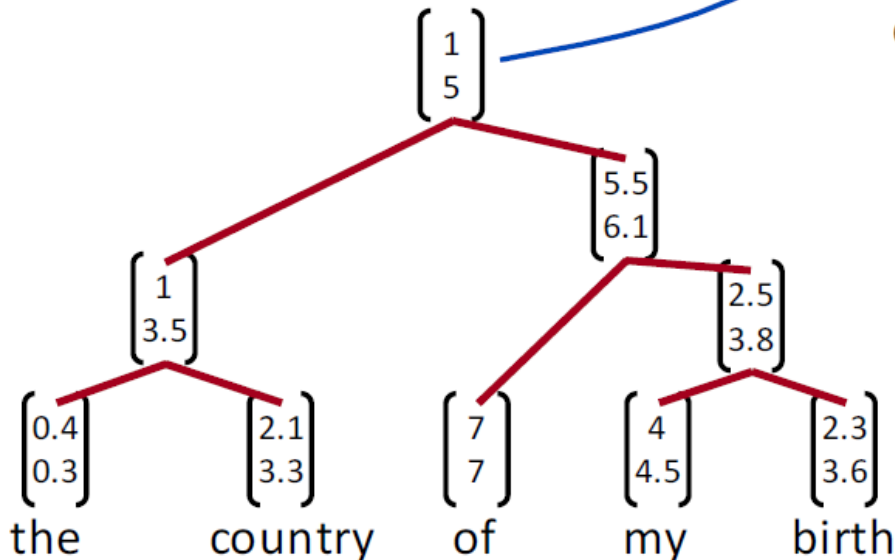
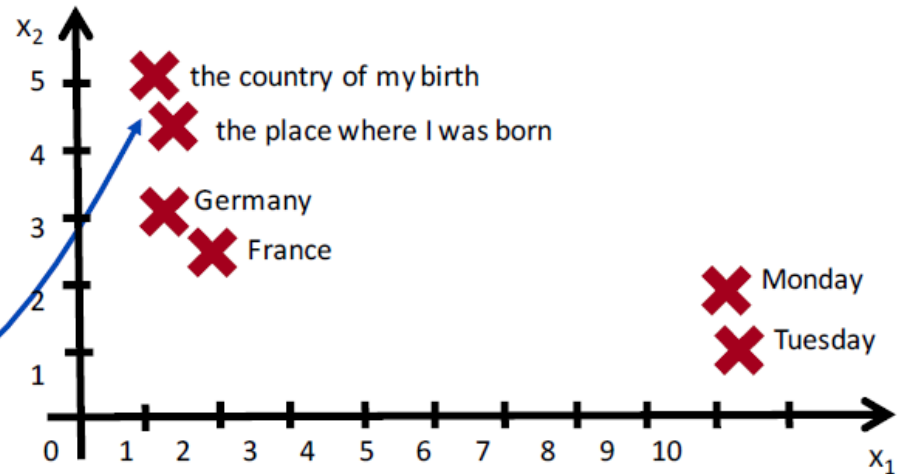
- But how can we represent the meaning of longer phrases?
- By mapping them into the same vector space!

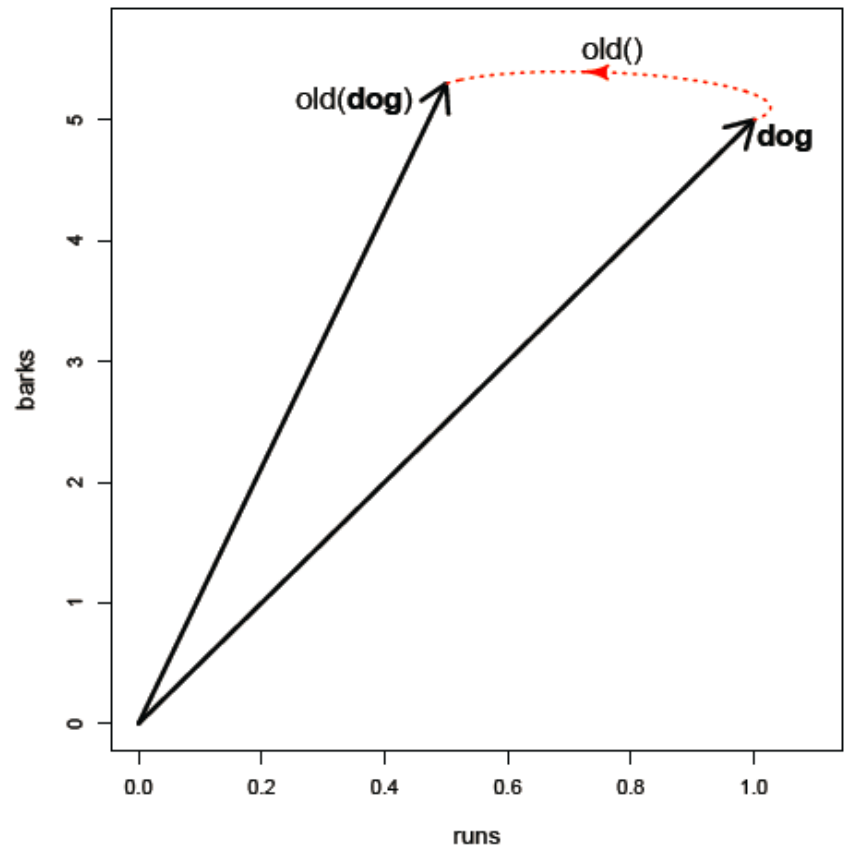
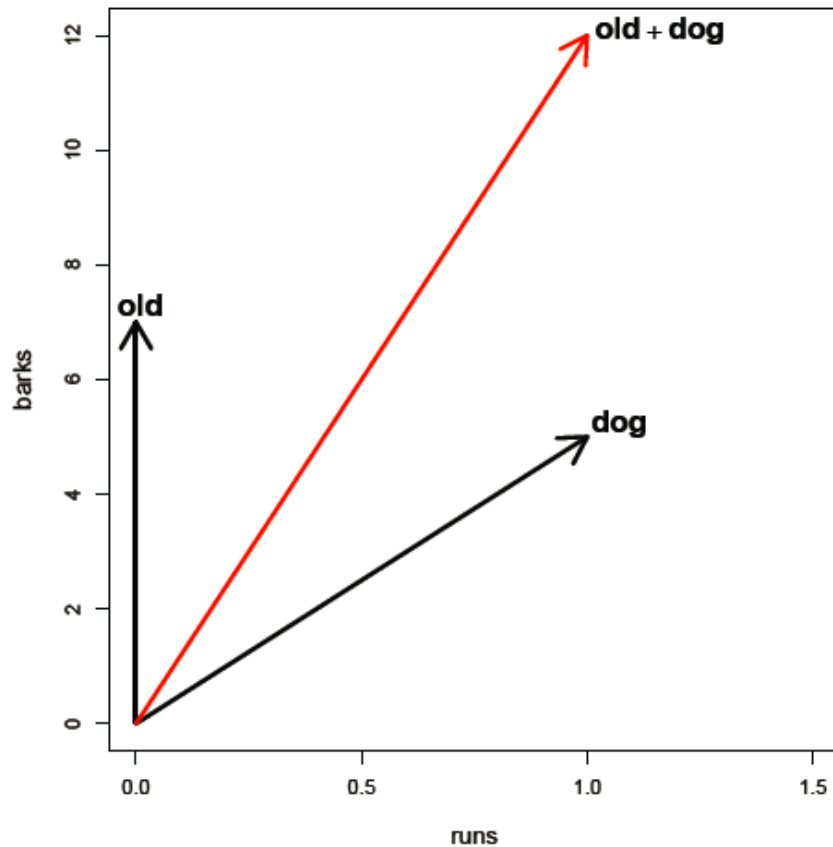
# Recursive Neural Networks

Use principle of compositionality

The meaning (vector) of a sentence is determined by

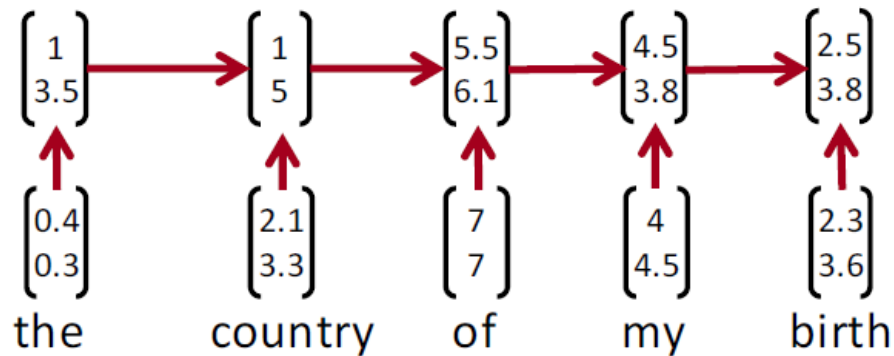
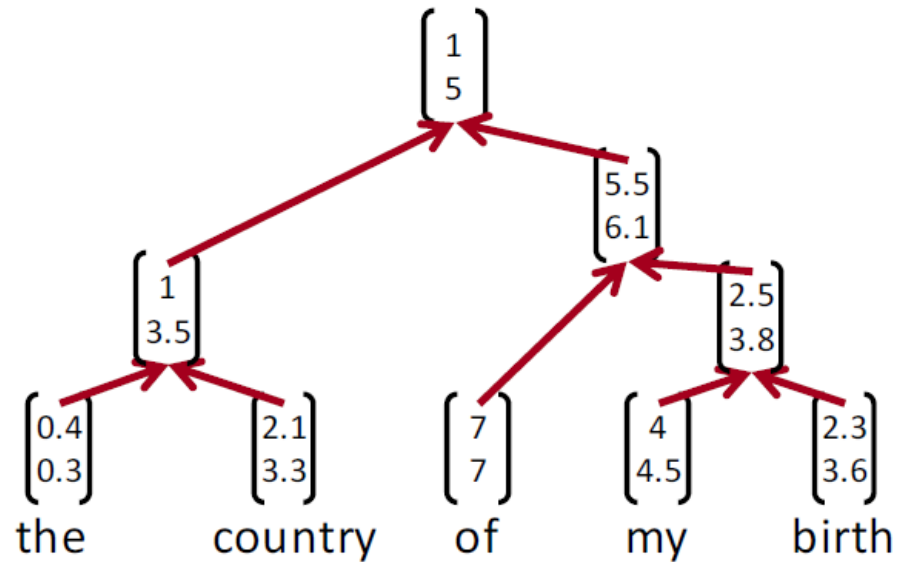
- (1) the meanings of its words and
- (2) the rules that combine them.



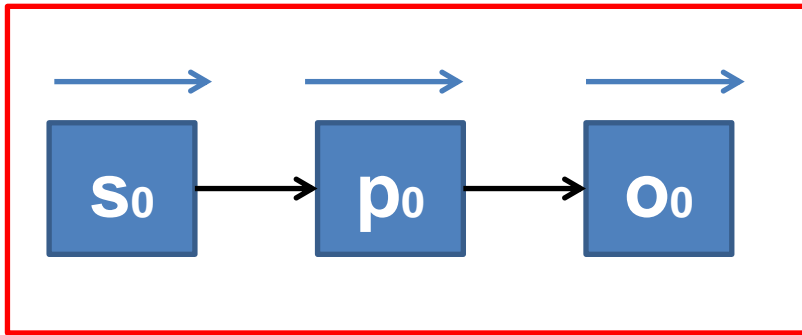


*A Compositional-Distributional Semantic Model for Searching Complex Entity Categories, \*SEM (2016)*

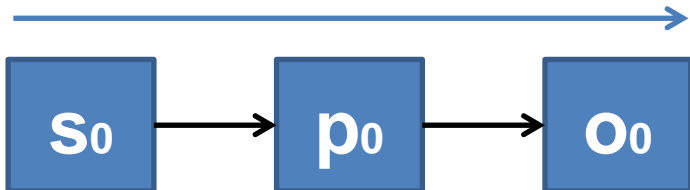
# Recursive vs recurrent neural networks



# Segmented Spaces vs Unified Space



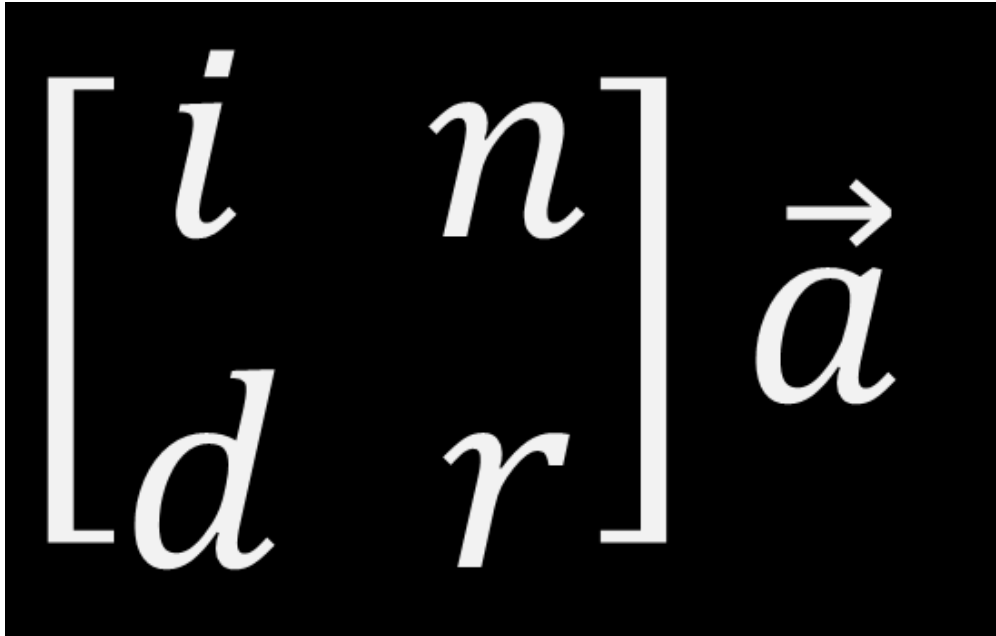
- Assumes is  $\langle s, p, o \rangle$  naturally irreconcilable.
- Inherent dimensional reduction mechanism.
- Facilitates the specialization of embedding-based approximations.



- Easier to compute identity.
- Requires complex and high-dimensional tensorial model.



# Software: Indra



- Semantic approximation server
- Multi-lingual (12 languages)
- Multi-domain
- Different compositional models

<https://github.com/Lambda-3/indra>

*Semantic Relatedness for All (Languages): A Comparative Analysis of Multilingual Semantic Relatedness using Machine Translation, EKAW, (2016).*

# “On our best behaviour”

Levesque, 2013

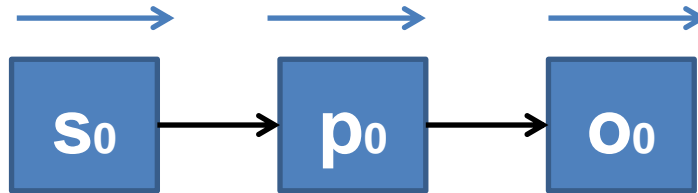
“It is not enough to build knowledge bases without paying closer attention to the demands arising from their use.”

“We should explore more thoroughly **the space of computations between fact retrieval and full automated logical reasoning.**”

# How to access Distributional-Knowledge Graphs efficiently?

- Depends on the target operations in the Knowledge Graphs (more on this later).

# How to access Distributional-Knowledge Graphs efficiently?



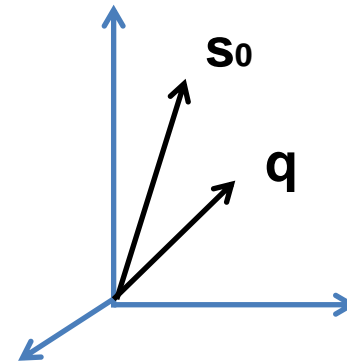
Database + IR

## Structured Queries

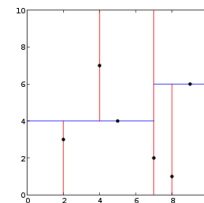


Query planning  
Cardinality  
Indexing  
Skyline  
Bitmap indexes  
...

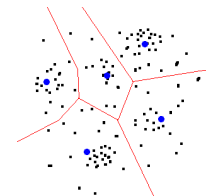
## Approximation Queries



Inverted index  
sharding  
disk access  
optimization  
...

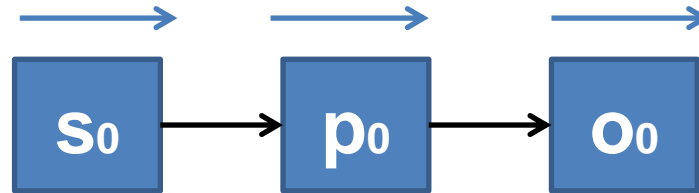


Multiple Randomized  
K-d Tree Algorithm



The Priority Search  
K-Means Tree algorithm

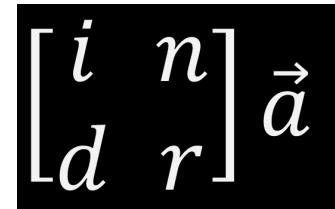
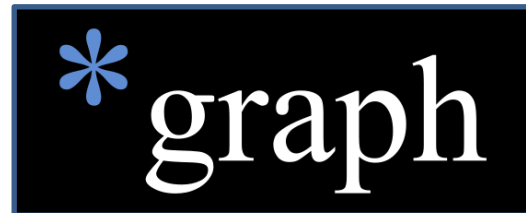
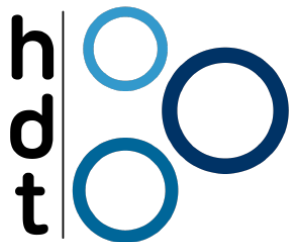
# How to access Distributional-Knowledge Graphs efficiently?



Database + IR

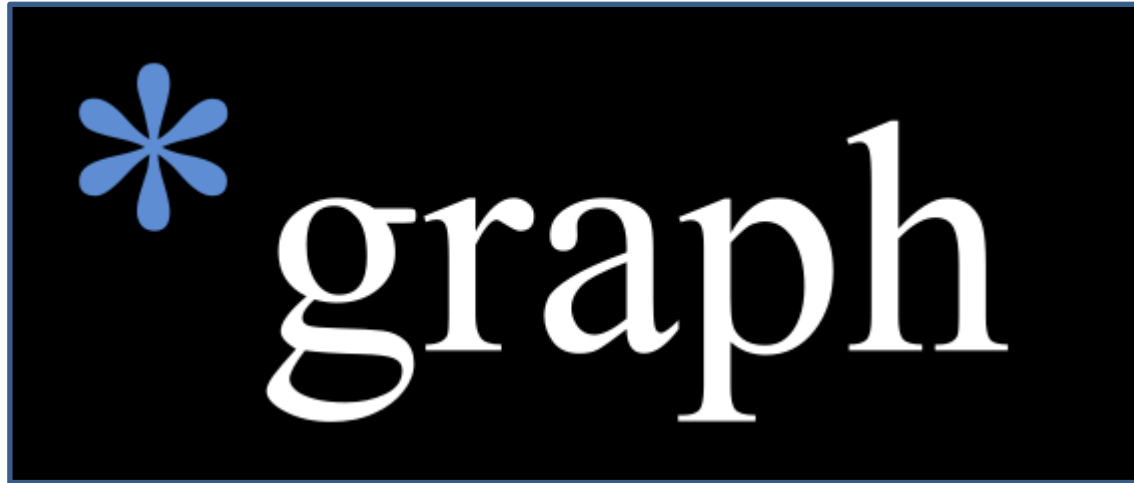
Structured Queries

Approximation Queries



# Software: StarGraph

- Distributional Knowledge Graph Database.
- Word embedding Database.



<https://github.com/Lambda-3/Stargraph>

Freitas et al., Natural Language Queries over Heterogeneous Linked Data Graphs: A Distributional-Compositional Semantics Approach, 2014.

# Emerging perspectives

- Graph-based data models + Distributional Semantic Models (Word embeddings) have complementary semantic value.
- Graph-based Data Models:
  - Facilitates querying, integration and rule-based reasoning.
- Distributional Semantic Models:
  - Supports semantic approximation, coping with vocabulary variation.

# Emerging perspectives

- AI systems require access to comprehensive background knowledge for semantic interpretation tasks.
- Inheriting from Information Retrieval and Databases:
  - General Indexing schemes,
  - Particular Indexing schemes,
    - Spatial, temporal, topological, probabilistic, causal, ...
  - Query planning,
  - Data compression,
  - Distribution,
  - ... even supporting hardware strategies.



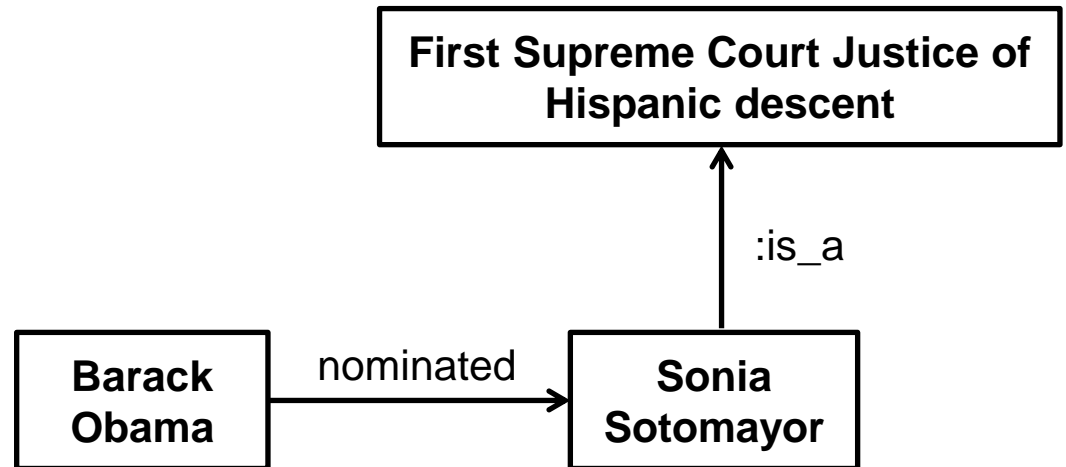
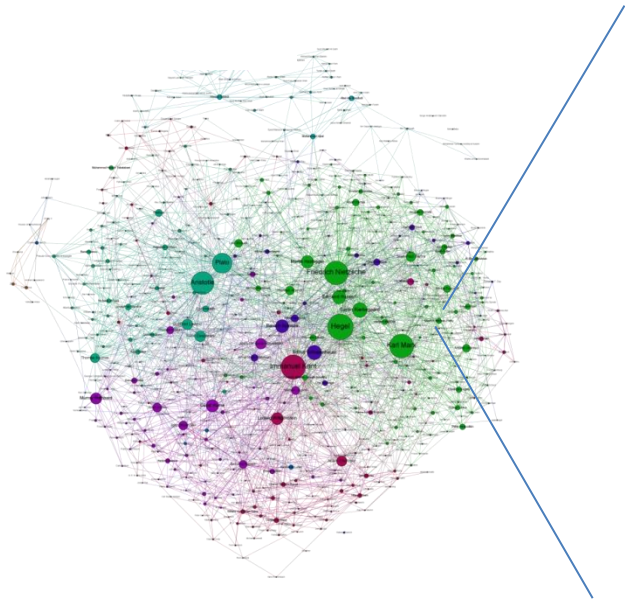
# Emerging perspectives

- **One size of embedding does not fit all:** Operate with multiple distributional + compositional models for different data model types (I, C, P), different domains and different languages.

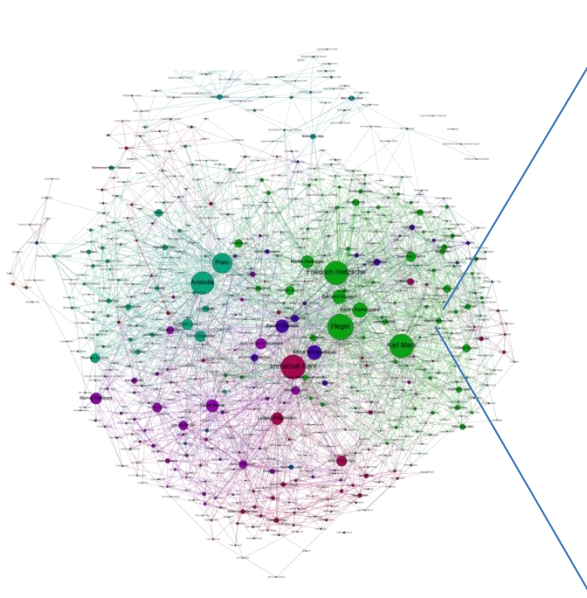


# Effective Semantic Parsing for Large KBs

# The Vocabulary Problem



# The Vocabulary Problem



Last US president

Obama

Barack  
Obama

nominated

selected

Latino origins

Sonia  
Sotomayor

:is\_a

High

Judge

First Supreme Court Justice of  
Hispanic descent

# Vocabulary Problem for KGs

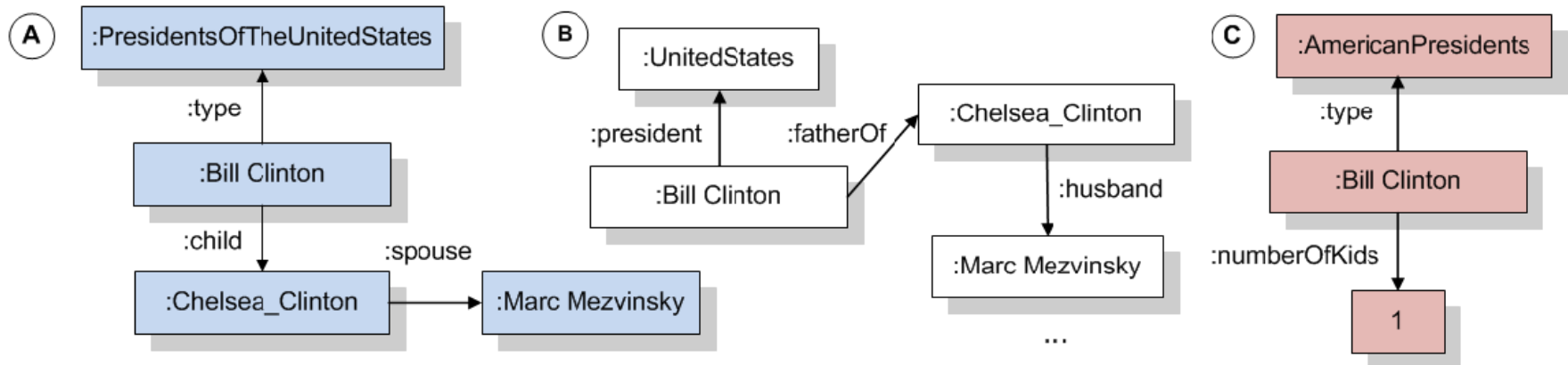
Query: Who is the daughter of Bill Clinton married to?



Semantic Gap

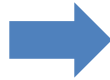
Schema-agnostic  
query mechanisms

## Possible representations



- Abstraction level differences
- Lexical variation
- Structural (compositional) differences

Question



Semantic Parser



Learn to Rank



Answers



Query Plan

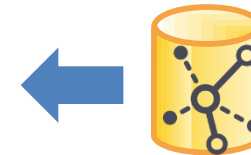
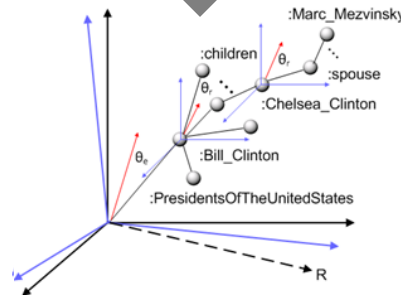
Distributional  
Inverted Index

Scalable semantic  
parsing



Core semantic approximation  
& composition operations

Distributional-  
Relational Model



Reference  
Commonsense  
corpora



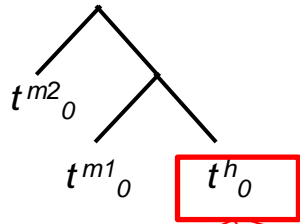
# Minimizing the Semantic Entropy for the Semantic Matching

Definition of a semantic pivot: first query term to be resolved in the database.

- Maximizes the reduction of the semantic configuration space.
- Less prone to more complex synonymic expressions and abstraction-level differences.
- Semantic pivot serves as interpretation context for the remaining alignments.
- proper nouns >> nouns >> complex nominals >> adjectives , verbs.

$$\Gamma = \{I, P, C, V\}$$

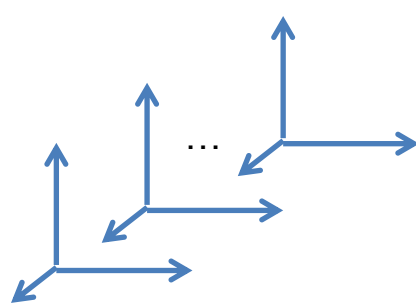
$$\vec{q} = \bar{t}^{\Gamma_0}, \dots, \bar{t}^{\Gamma_n}$$



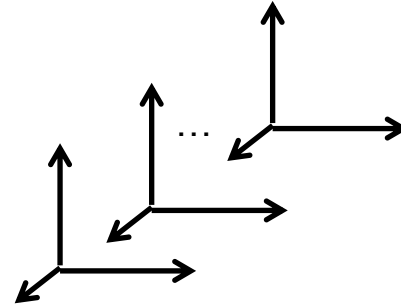
lexical specificity

# of senses

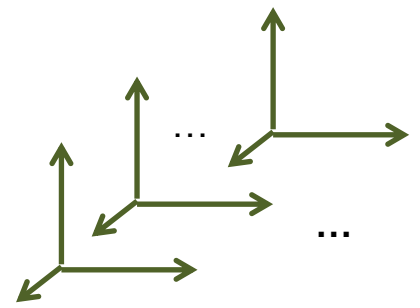
lexical category



I



P

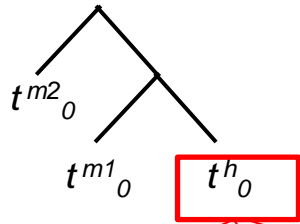


C



$$\Gamma = \{I, P, C, V\}$$

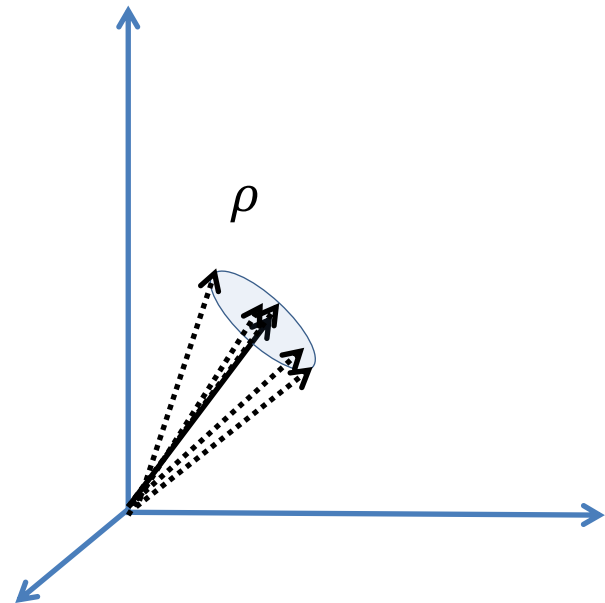
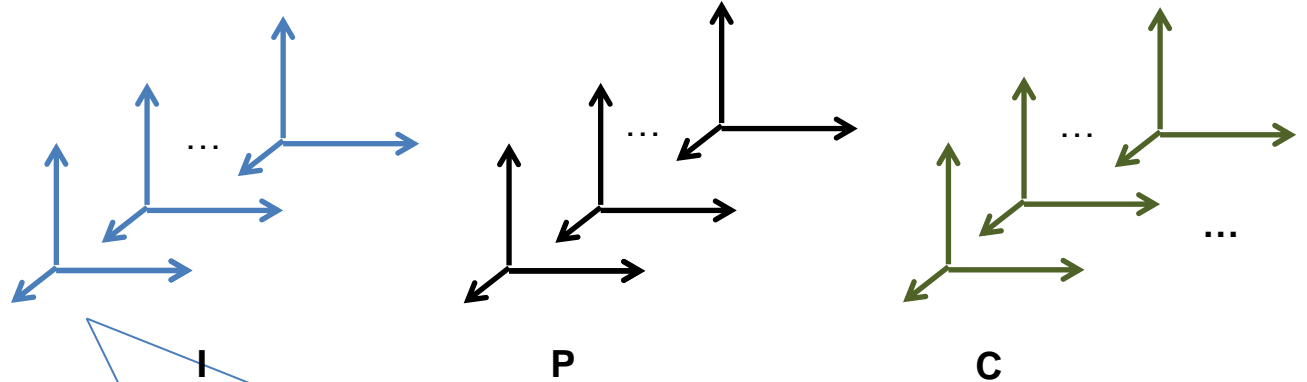
$$\vec{q} = \bar{t}^{\Gamma_0}, \dots, \bar{t}^{\Gamma_n}$$



lexical specificity    # of senses    lexical category

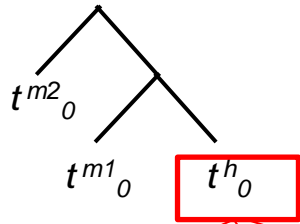
- Vector neighborhood density

- Semantic differential



$$\Gamma = \{I, P, C, V\}$$

$$\vec{q} = \bar{t}^I_0, \dots, \bar{t}^V_n$$

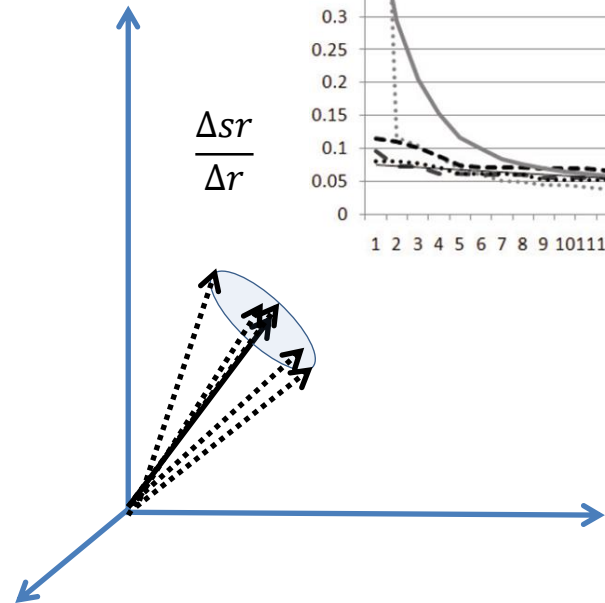
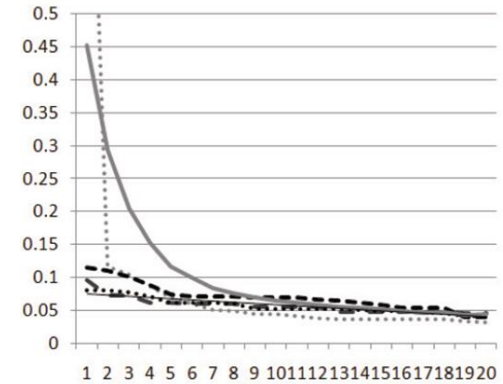
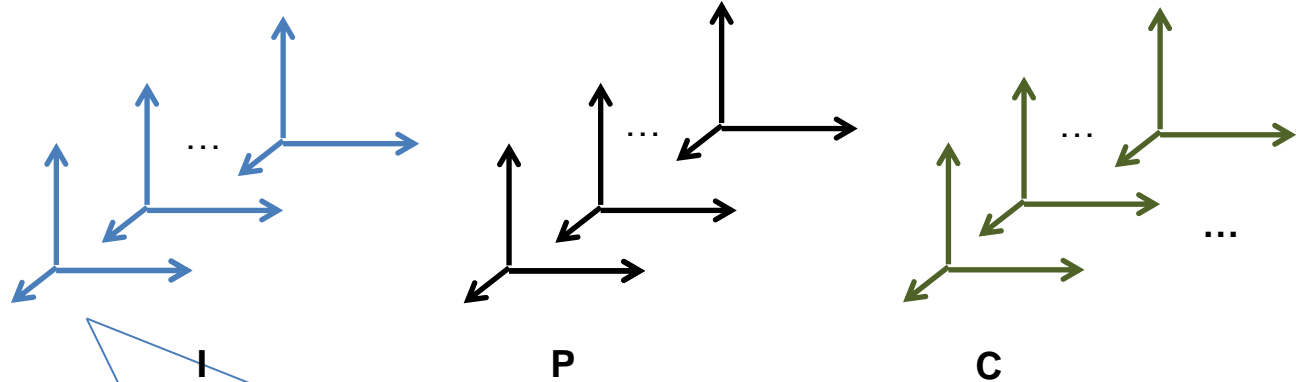


lexical specificity    # of senses    lexical category

- Vector neighborhood density

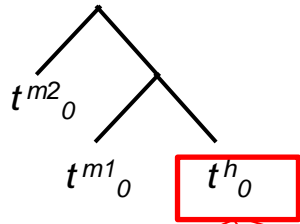
- **Semantic differential**

Semantic pivoting



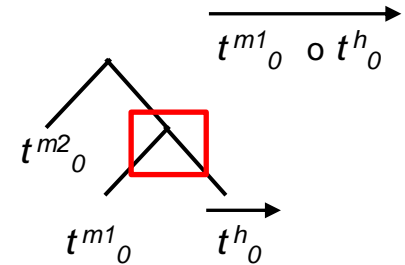
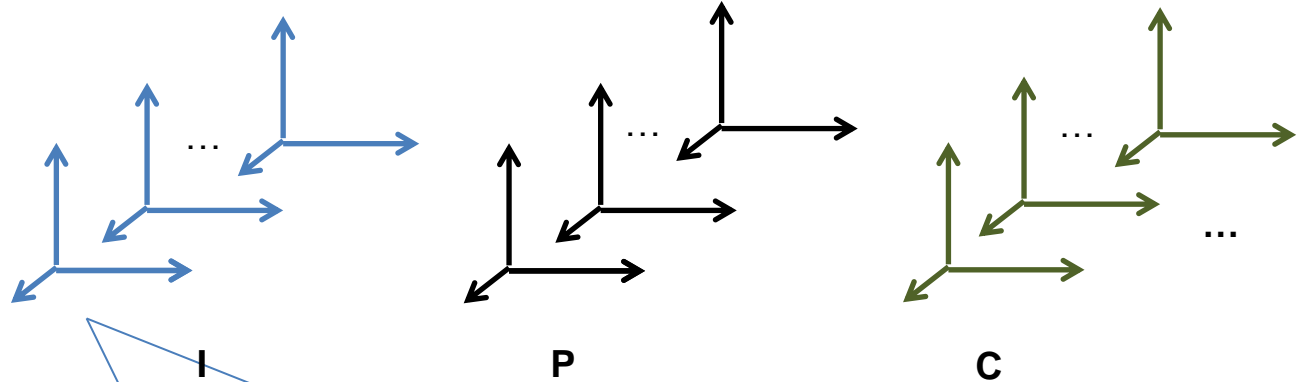
$$\Gamma = \{I, P, C, V\}$$

$$\vec{q} = \bar{t}^I_0, \dots, \bar{t}^V_n$$

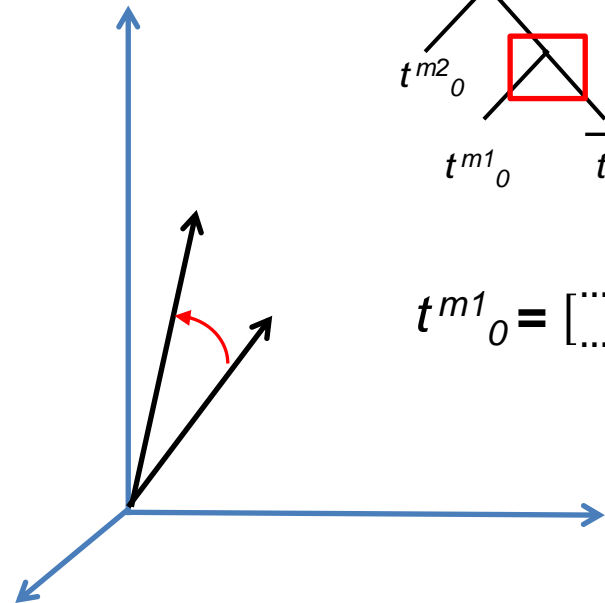


lexical specificity    # of senses    lexical category

- Vector neighborhood density
- Semantic differential
- **Distributional compositionality**



$$t^{m1}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} \dots & \dots \end{bmatrix}$$



# Search and Composition Operations

- Instance search
  - Proper nouns
  - String similarity + node cardinality
- Class (unary predicate) search
  - Nouns, adjectives and adverbs
  - String similarity + Distributional semantic relatedness
- Property (binary predicate) search
  - Nouns, adjectives, verbs and adverbs
  - Distributional semantic relatedness
$$sr(\vec{q}'_1, \vec{p}_0) \geq \eta$$
- Navigation
 
$$\langle (\vec{q}'_1 - \vec{p}_1), (\vec{q}'_2 - \vec{p}_2), \dots, (\vec{q}'_n - \vec{p}_n) \rangle$$
- Extensional expansion
  - Expands the instances associated with a class.
- Operator application
  - Aggregations, conditionals, ordering, position
- Disjunction & Conjunction
- Disambiguation dialog (instance, predicate)

**What to expect (@ QALD1)**

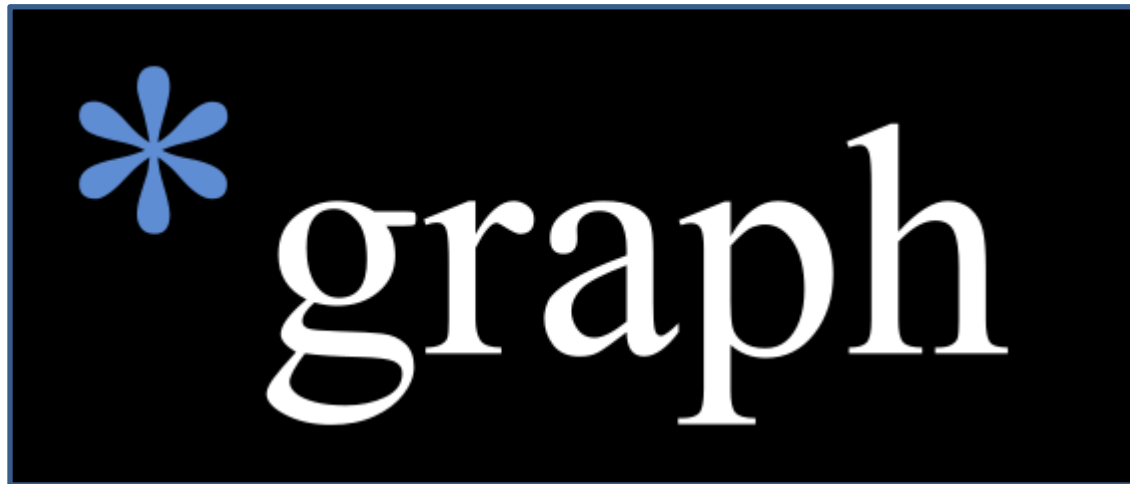
**F1-Score: 0.72**

**MRR: 0.5**

*Freitas & Curry, Natural Language Queries over Heterogeneous Linked Data Graphs, IUI (2014).*

# Software: StarGraph

- Semantic parsing.



<https://github.com/Lambda-3/Stargraph>

Freitas et al., Natural Language Queries over Heterogeneous Linked Data Graphs: A Distributional-Compositional Semantics Approach, 2014.

## Semantic Parsing:

- Structured queries over KGs as explanations.
- Semantic pivoting heuristics.
- Diversity of distributional/compositional models as key.
- End-to-end vs componentised architectures.

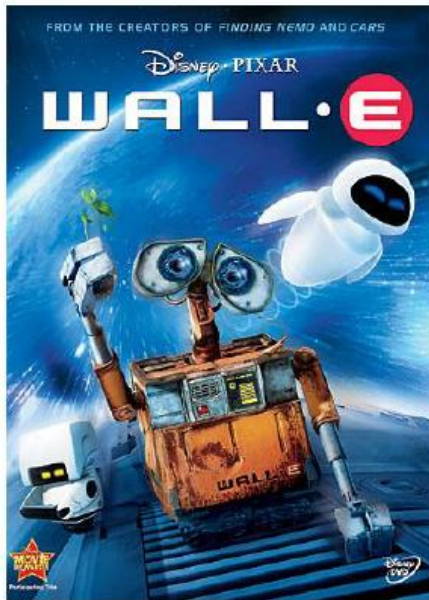


# Knowledge Graph Completion



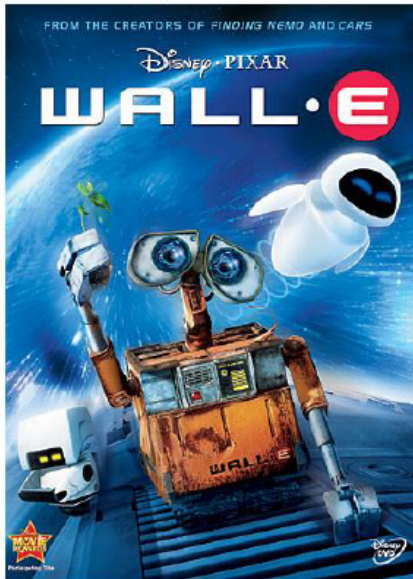
# The Problem

WALL-E \_has\_genre ?



# The Problem

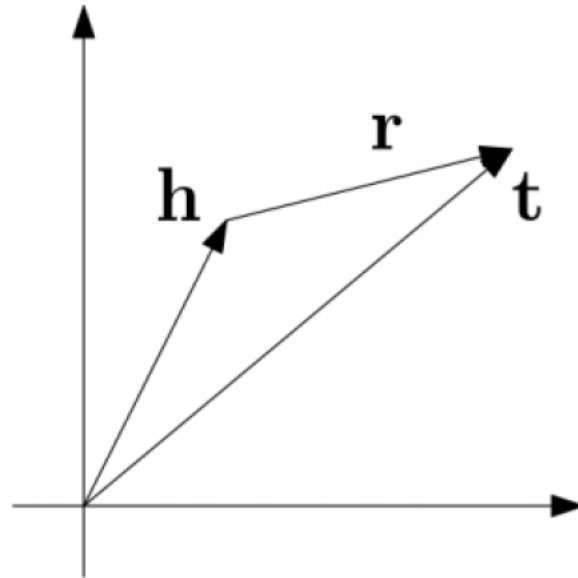
WALL-E    \_has\_genre



Animation  
Computer animation  
Comedy film  
Adventure film  
Science Fiction  
Fantasy  
Stop motion  
Satire  
Drama  
Connecting

# Formulating the Distributional-Relational Representation

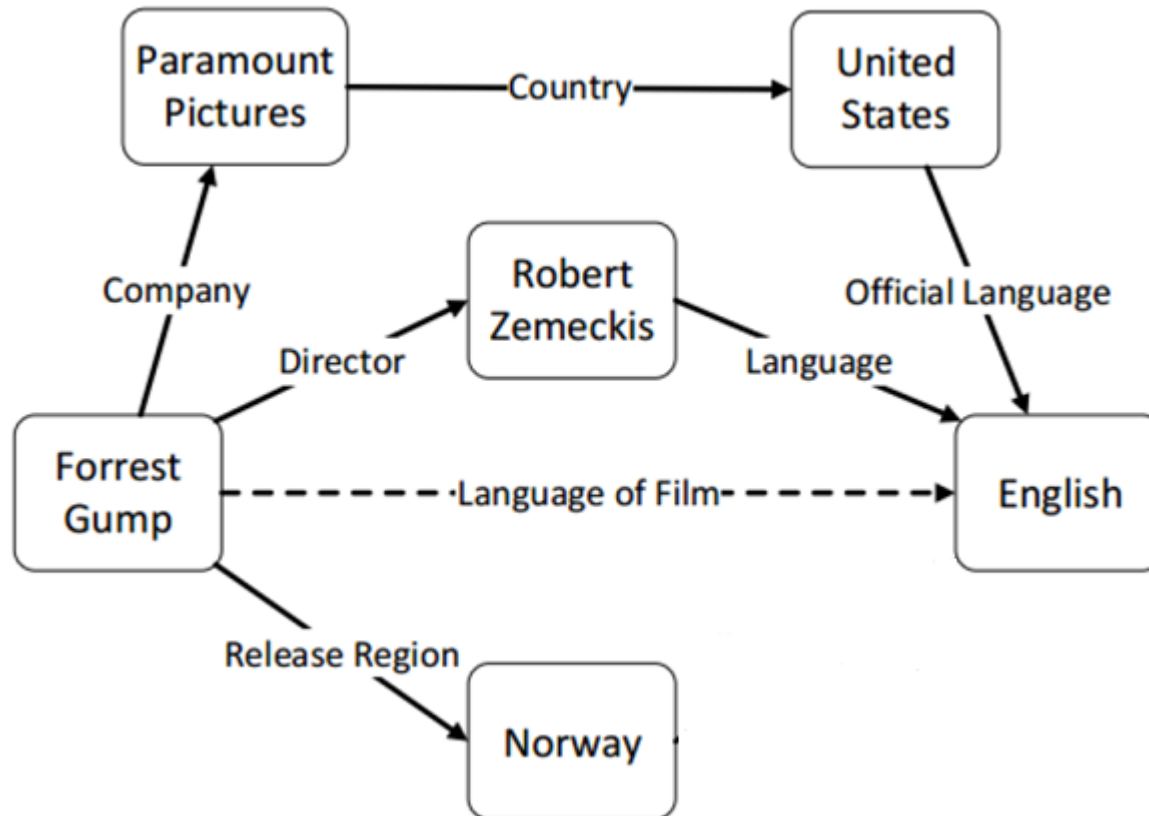
For each triple (head, relation, tail), relation as a **translation** from head to tail



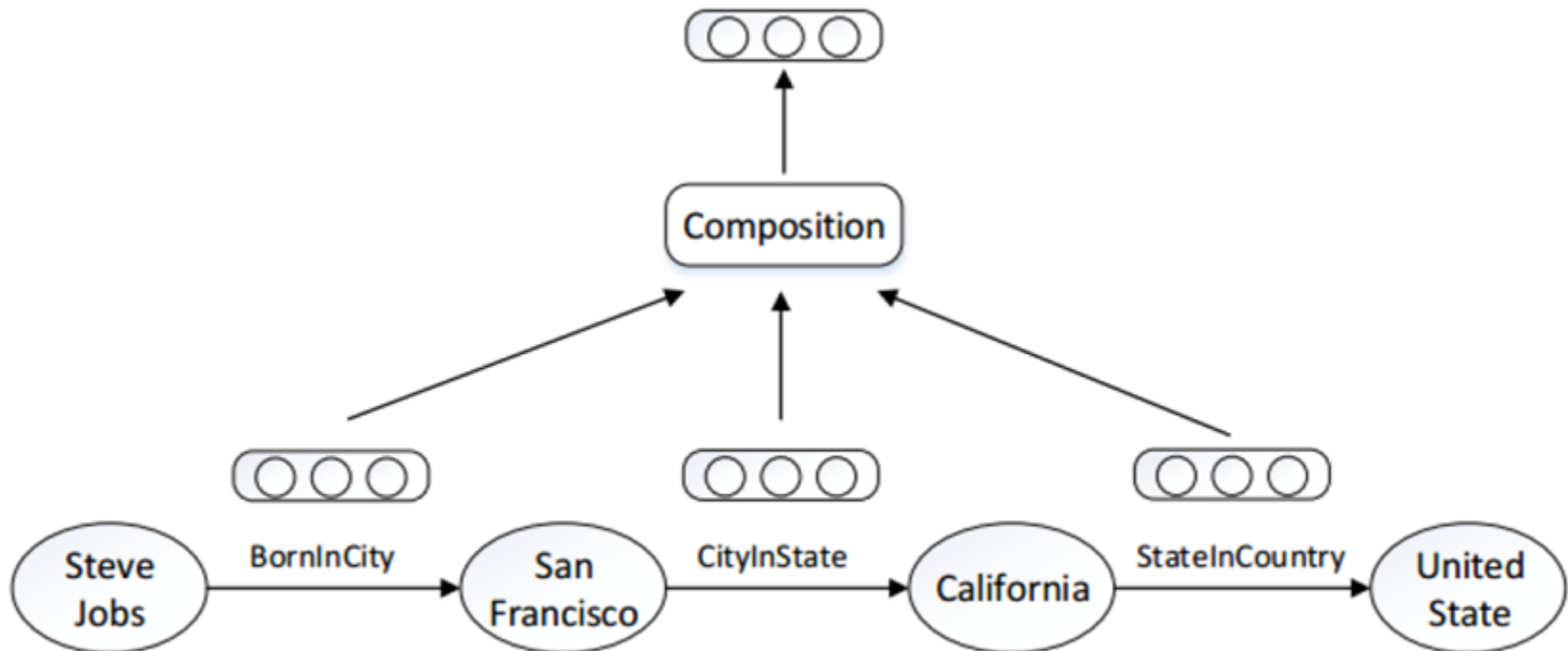
Learning objective:  **$h + r = t$**

# Relation Paths

- Complex Inference patterns for composition.



# Representation of Relation Paths



Gardner, et al. (2013). Improving learning and inference in a large knowledge-base using latent syntactic cues. EMNLP.

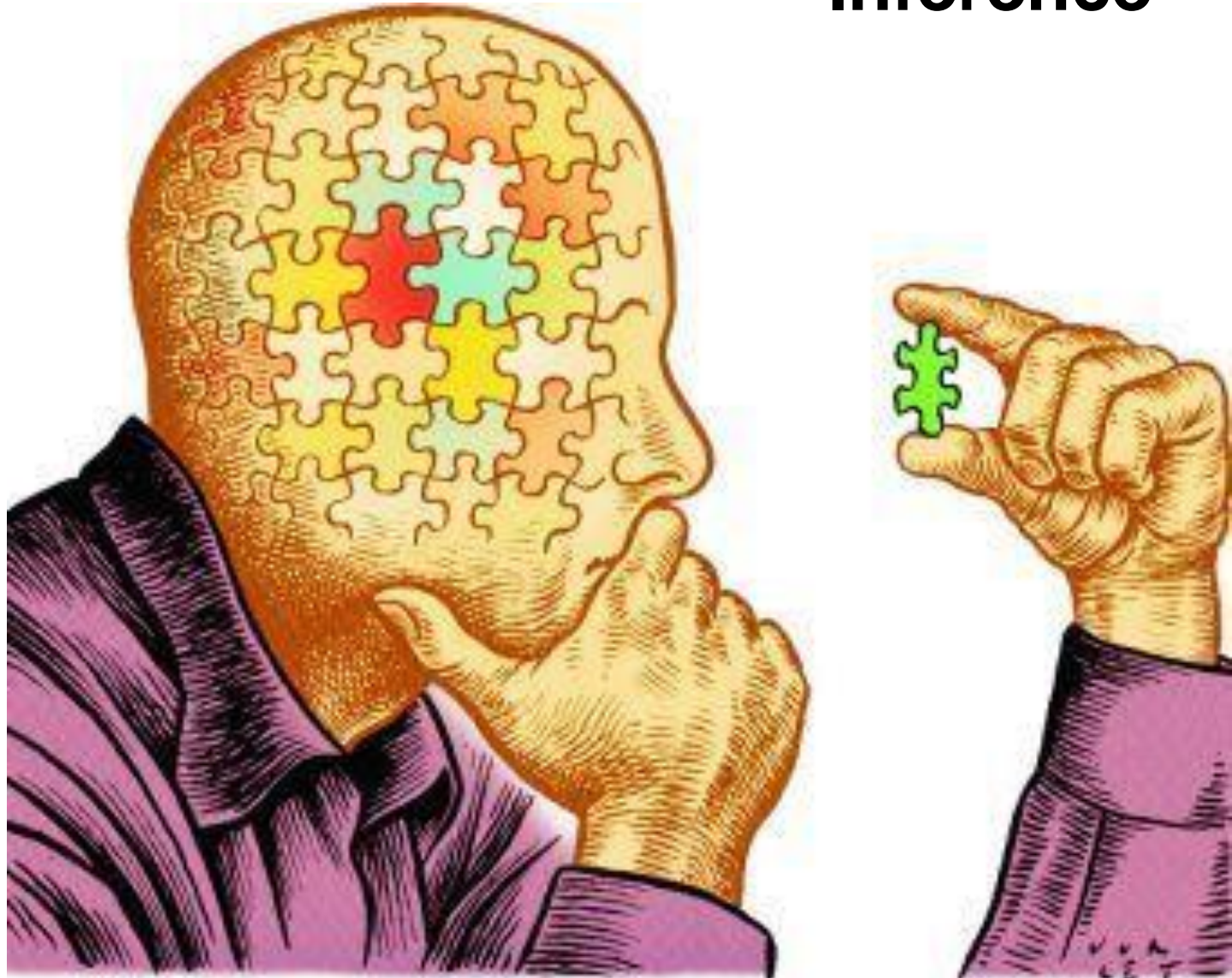
# What to expect (PTransE@FB15K)

## Relation Prediction

Metric	Mean Rank		Hits@1 (%)	
	Raw	Filter	Raw	Filter
TransE	2.8	2.5	65.1	<b>84.3</b>
+Rev	2.6	2.3	67.1	86.7
+Rev+Path	2.4	1.9	65.2	89.0
PTransE (ADD, 2-step)	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.2</b>	69.5	93.6
-TransE	135.8	135.3	51.4	78.0
-Path	2.0	1.6	<b>69.7</b>	89.0
PTransE (MUL, 2-step)	2.5	2.0	66.3	89.0
PTransE (RNN, 2-step)	1.9	1.4	68.3	93.2
PTransE (ADD, 3-step)	1.8	1.4	68.5	<b>94.0</b>

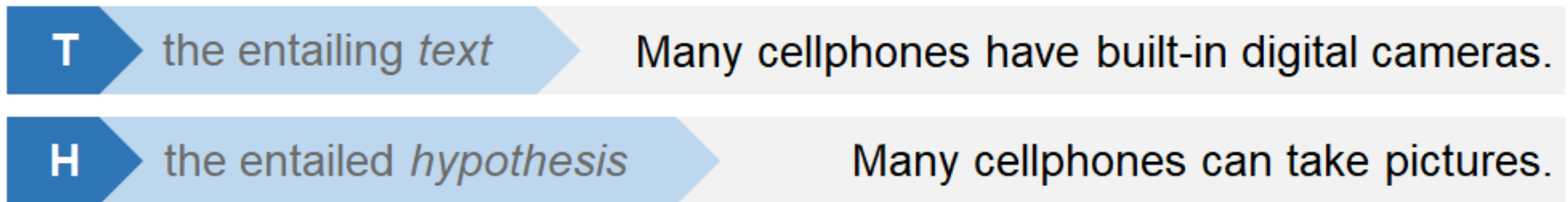
**+10%**

# Natural Language Inference



# Recognizing and Justifying Text Entailments (TE) using Definition KGs

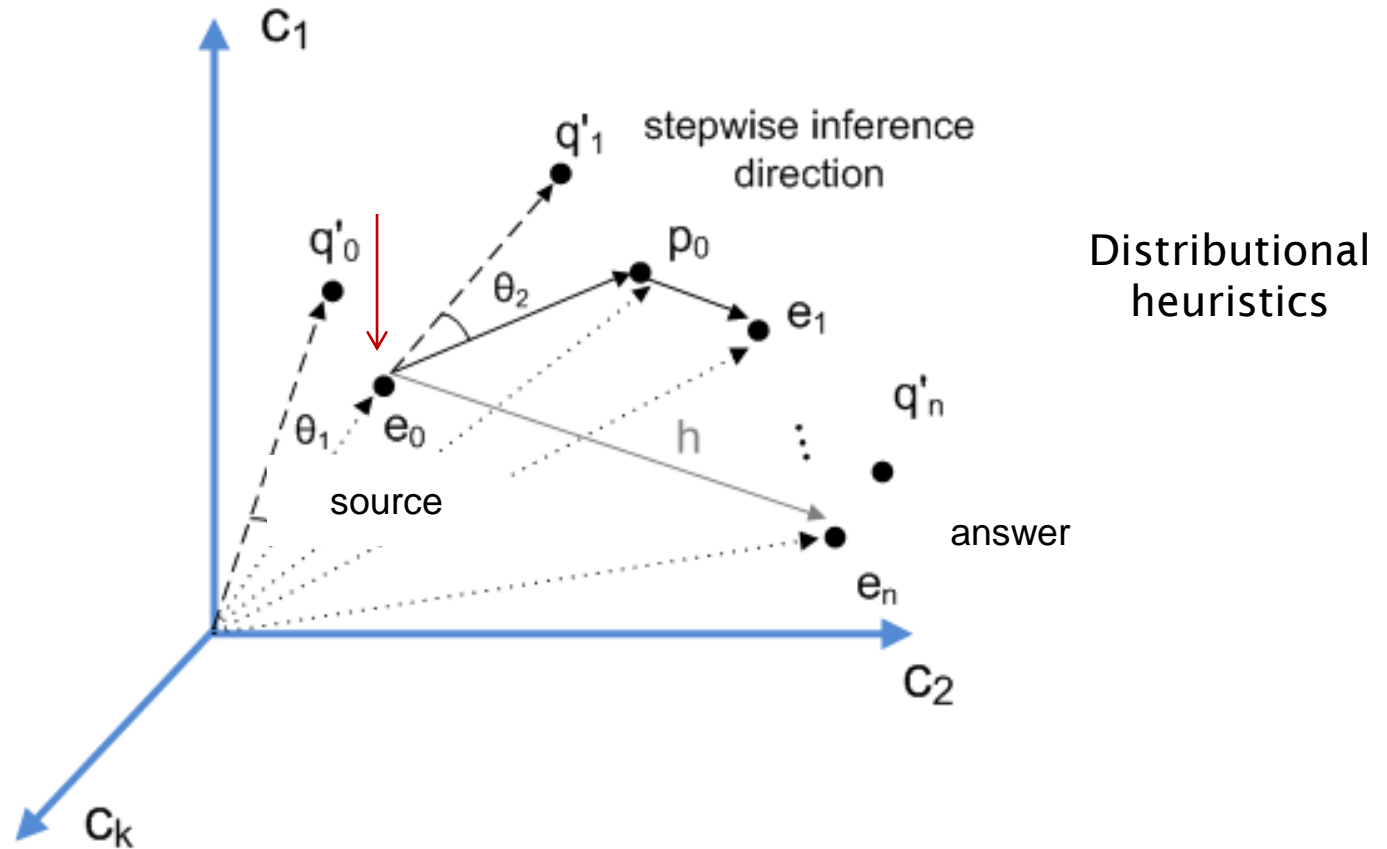
Text Entailment (TE) is a directional relationship between a pair of expressions:



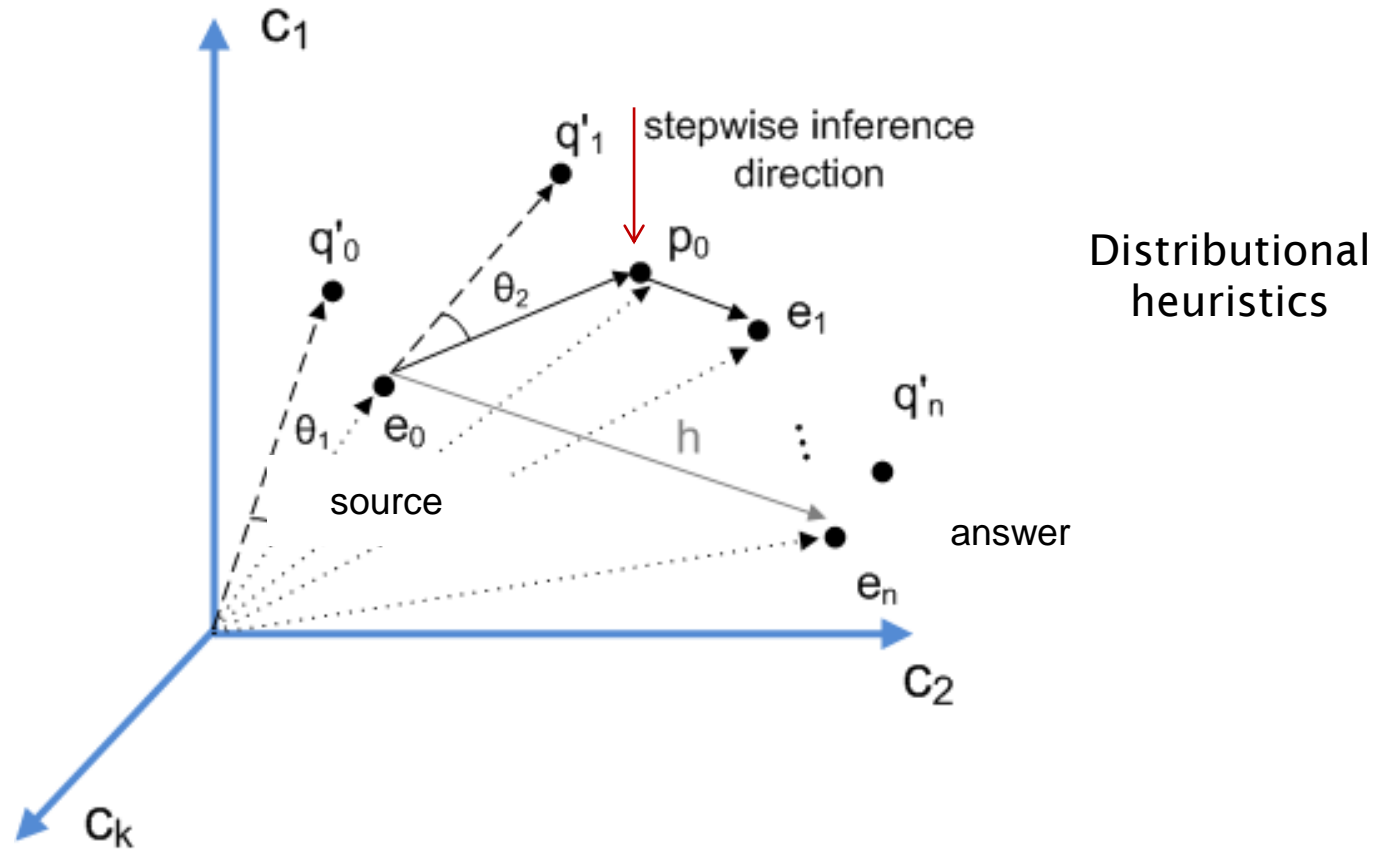
T entails H if a human reading T can infer that H is true

**Proposed Approach:** besides answering *if* the entailment is true, also tell *why* it is true

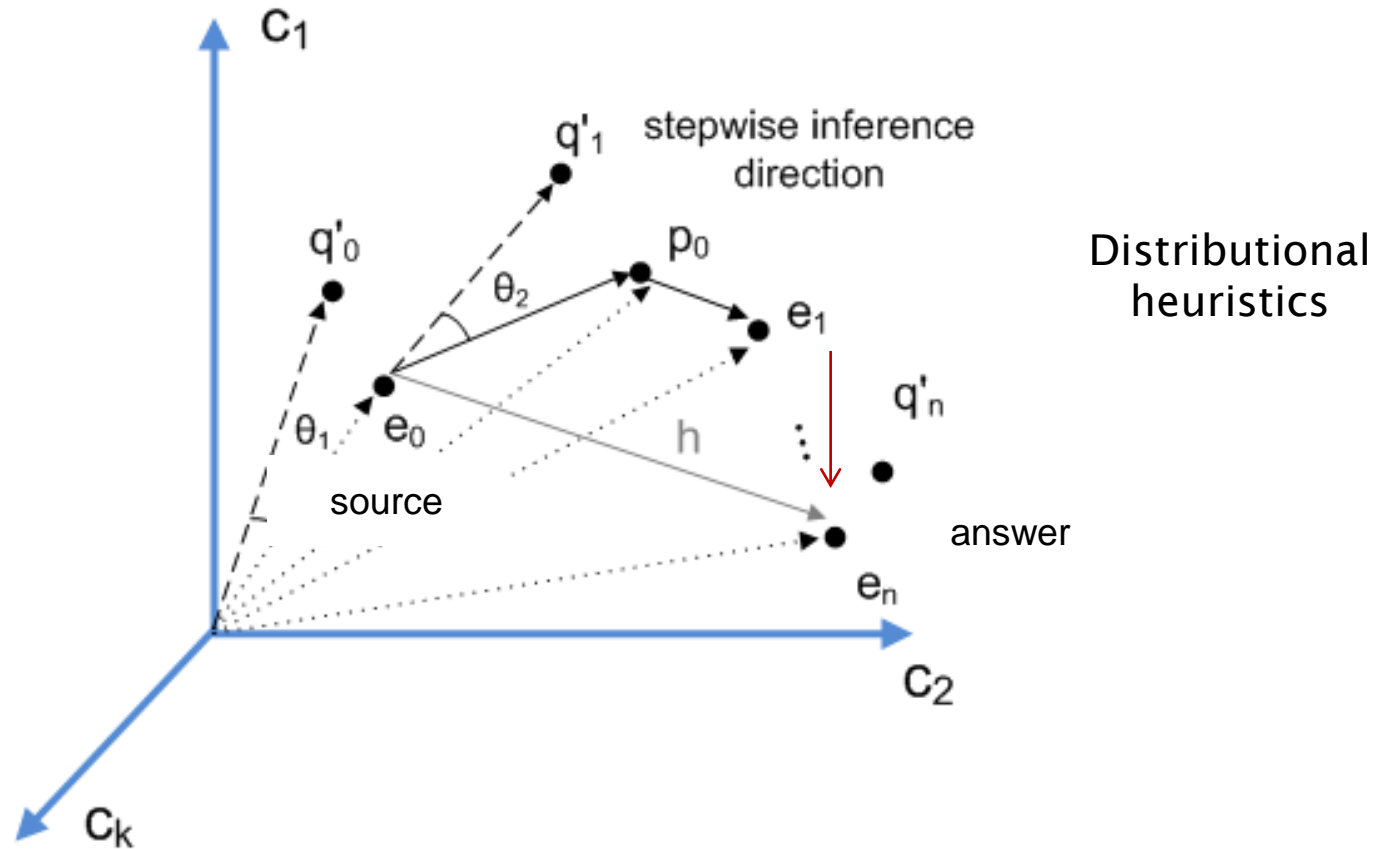




## Distributional semantic relatedness as a Selectivity Heuristics



# Distributional semantic relatedness as a Selectivity Heuristics



## Distributional semantic relatedness as a Selectivity Heuristics

# Pre-Processing

## 1 Text Sentence Simplification

T: Many cellphones have built-in digital cameras, which are very robust.

T<sub>1</sub>: Many cellphones have built-in digital cameras.

T<sub>2</sub>: Built-in digital cameras are very robust.

H: Many cellphones can take pictures.

*edit\_dist(T<sub>1</sub>, H) < edit\_dist(T<sub>2</sub>, H)  
then the new pair is composed  
by T<sub>1</sub> and H*

## 2 Core Words and Input Pairs Selection

T: Many cellphones **have** built-in **digital cameras**.

*discard overlapping words    main verb    verb complements*

H: Many cellphones can **take** **pictures**.

*Combine all words, compute the semantic relatedness and select the pairs with the highest scores:*

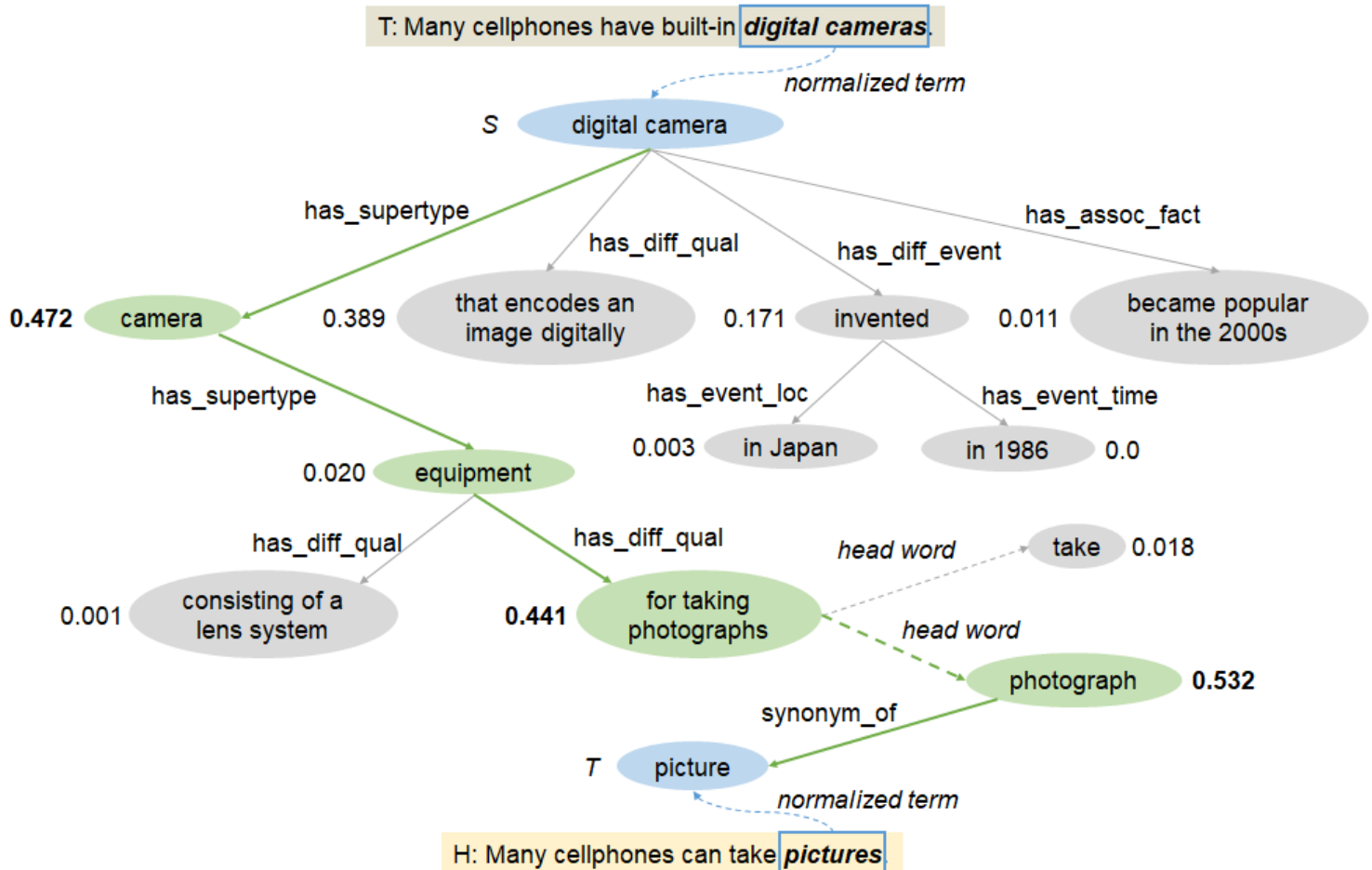
- ✓ [digital cameras, pictures]
- ✓ [digital cameras, take]
- ✗ [have, take]
- ✗ [have, pictures]

# Abductive Inference

## 3 Path Search through DNA on the Definition Graph

Take the pairs found in the previous step as input and perform a depth first search in the graph

Reasoning



# Generation

Explanation

4

## Explanation Generation

*Write the justification, using the text in the nodes in the path found by DNA:*

A digital camera is a kind of camera

A camera is an equipment for taking photographs

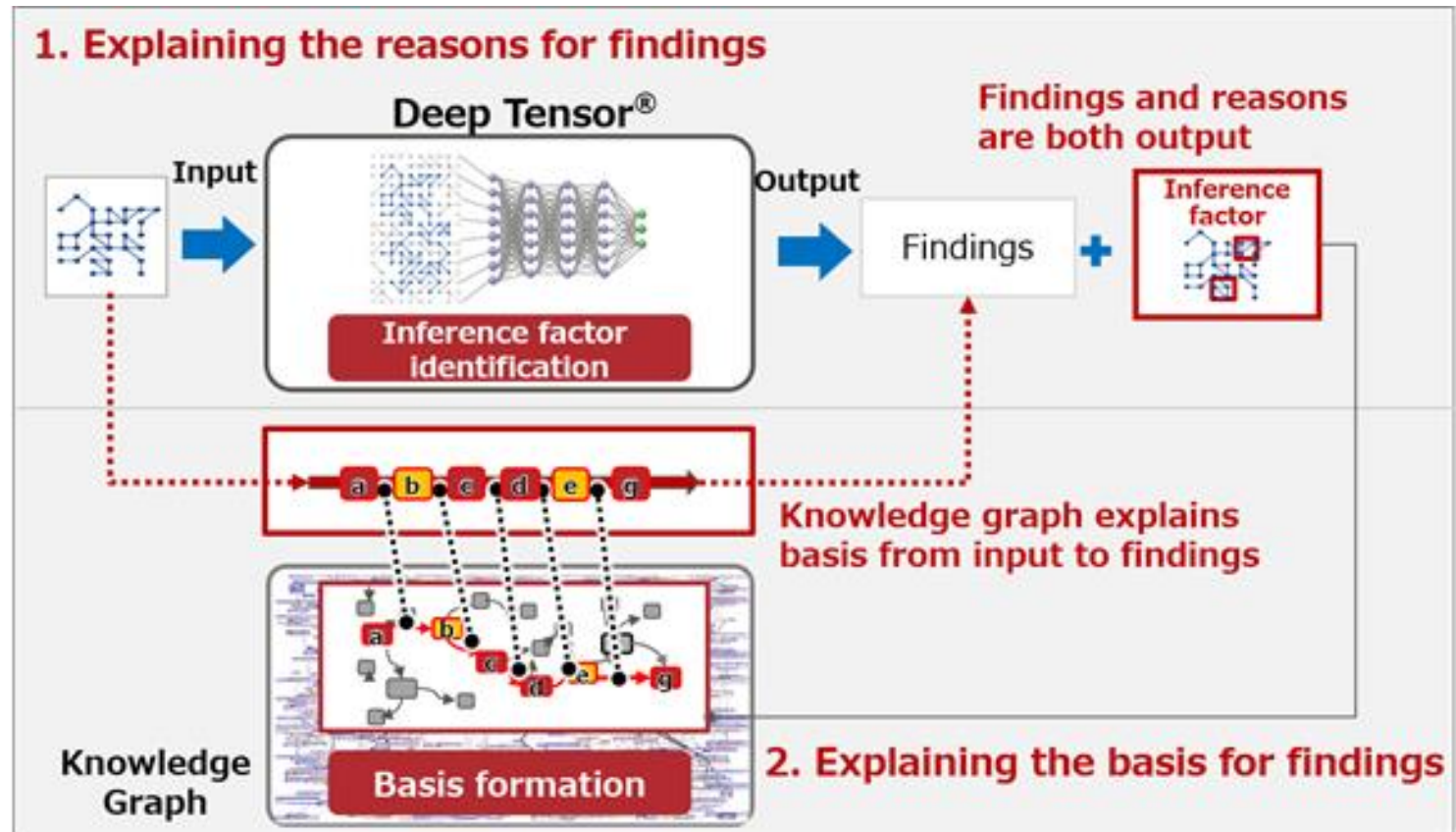
Photograph is synonym of picture

**What to expect (TE@Boeing-Princeton-ISI)**  
**F1-Score: 0.59**

**What to expect (TE@Guardian Headline Samples)**  
**F1-Score: 0.53**

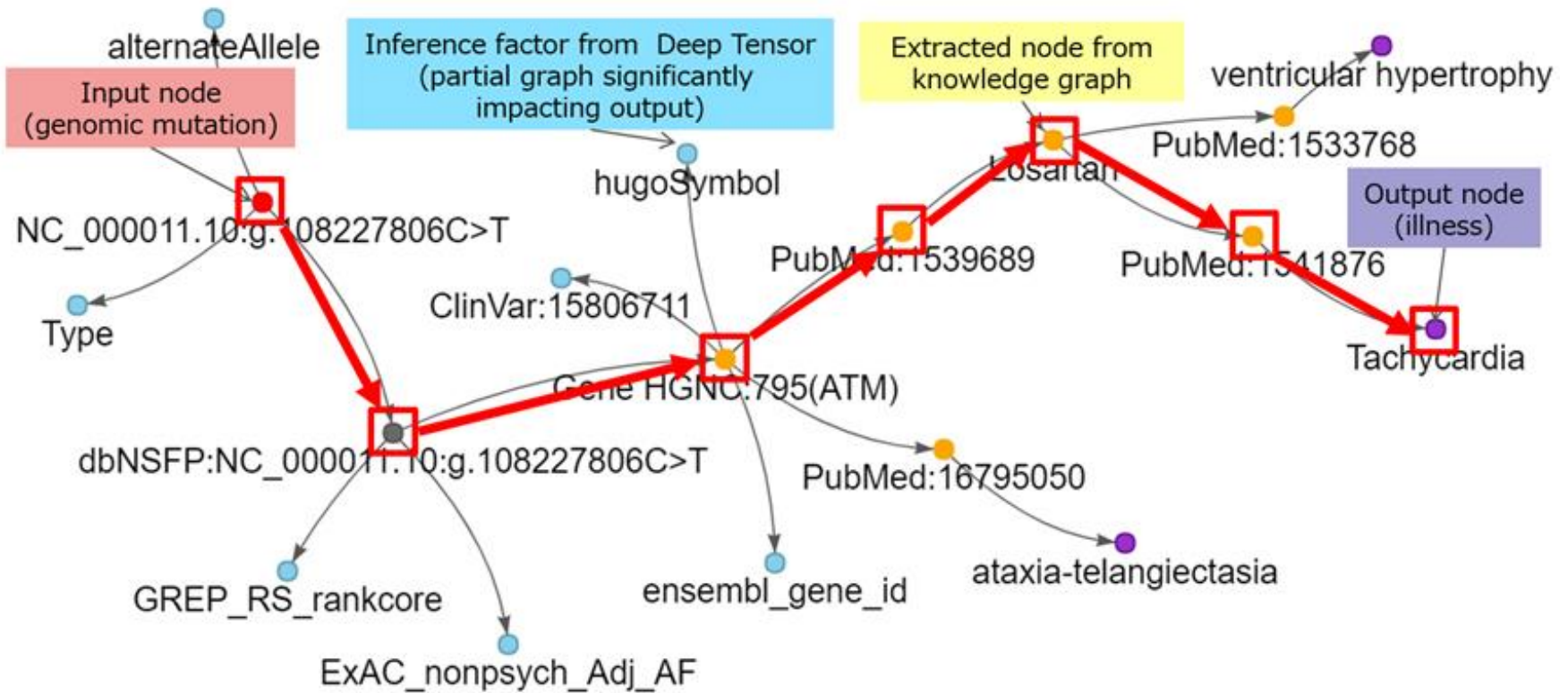
Santos et al., Recognizing and Justifying Text Entailment through Distributional Navigation on Definition Graphs, AAI, 2018.

# Explainable Findings From Tensor Inferences Back to KGs





# Explainable Findings From Tensor Inferences Back to KGs



## LINKQ

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### 3 number of pinned articles

#### [BRIEF-Avio receives EUR 40 mln financing from European Investment Bank <SPA2.MI>](#)

Companies: Avio SPA 80%, Avio SPA 80%, Avio SPA 80%

Topics: Business Finance, Contracts / Business Deals Events: ContactDetails

Industry: Spacecraft Manufacturing

Publication date: Oct 6, 2017 10:24:02 AM

Airbus SE

BAE Systems PLC

Boeing Co

#### [BRIEF-Airtelis orders three H215 Airbus Helicopters<AIR.PA><AIRG.DE>](#)

Companies: Airbus Helicopters SAS 50%, Airbus Helicopters SAS 50%, Airbus Helicopters SAS 50%

Topics: N/A Events: BusinessRelation

Industry: Aerospace & Defense - NEC, Aircraft Parts Manufacturing - NEC

Publication date: Oct 4, 2017 10:46:00 AM

Raytheon Co

BAE Systems PLC

Boeing Co

#### [BRIEF-British Airline Pilots' Association - pilots union calls for investigation into collapse of Monarch Airlines<MONA.UL>](#)

Companies: Monarch Airlines Ltd 80%, Monarch Airlines Ltd 80%, Monarch Airlines Ltd 80%

Topics: Other Events: N/A

Industry: Airlines - NEC

Publication date: Oct 9, 2017 1:55:13 PM

Raytheon Co

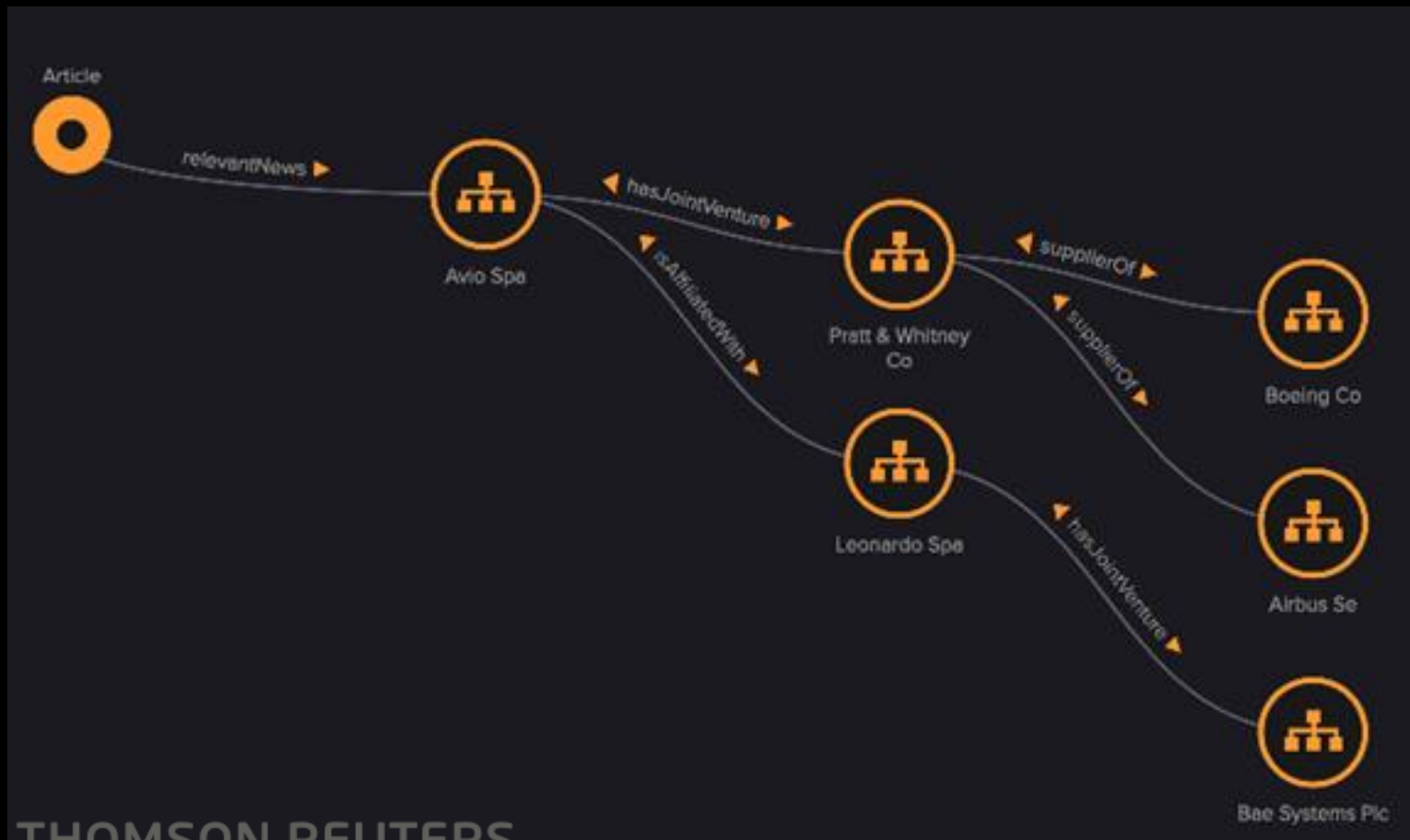
BAE Systems PLC

Boeing Co



BRIEF-Avio receives EUR 40 mln financing from European Investment Bank <SPA2.MI>

Oct 5 (Reuters) - AVIO SPA <SPA2.MI> \* SAYS SIGNED WITH EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK CONTRACT FOR EUR 40 MILLION FINANCING Source text for Eikon: [ID:nBIA5D9Ntk] Further company coverage: [SPA2.MI] (Gdynia Newsroom) ((gdynia.newsroom@thomsonreuters.com; +48 58 772 0920 ;))



# Emerging perspectives

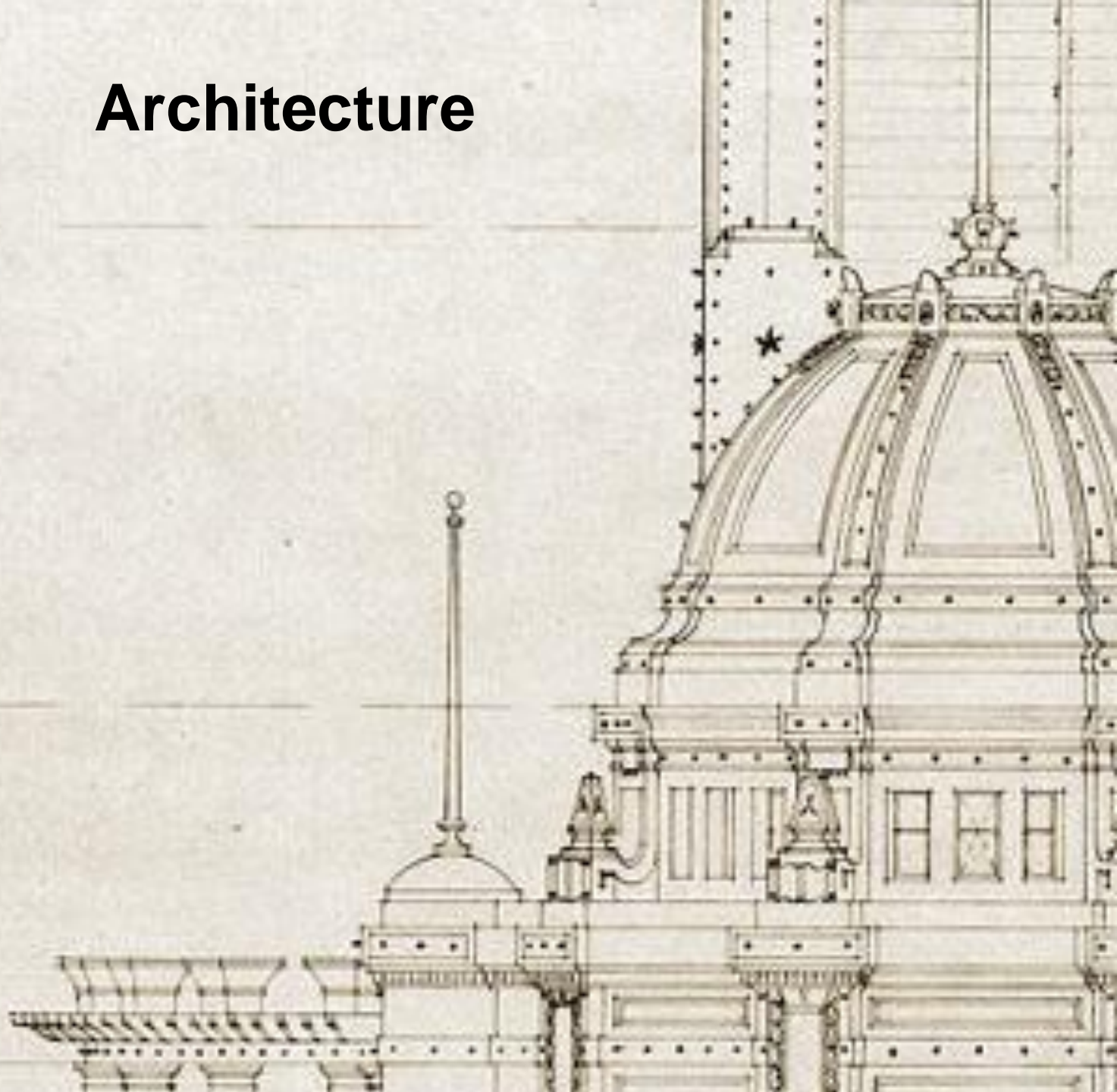
- Distributional-relational models in KB completion explored a large range of representation paradigms.
  - Opportunity for exporting these representation models to other tasks.
- Definition-based models can provide a corpus-viable, low-data and explainable alternative to embedding-based models.

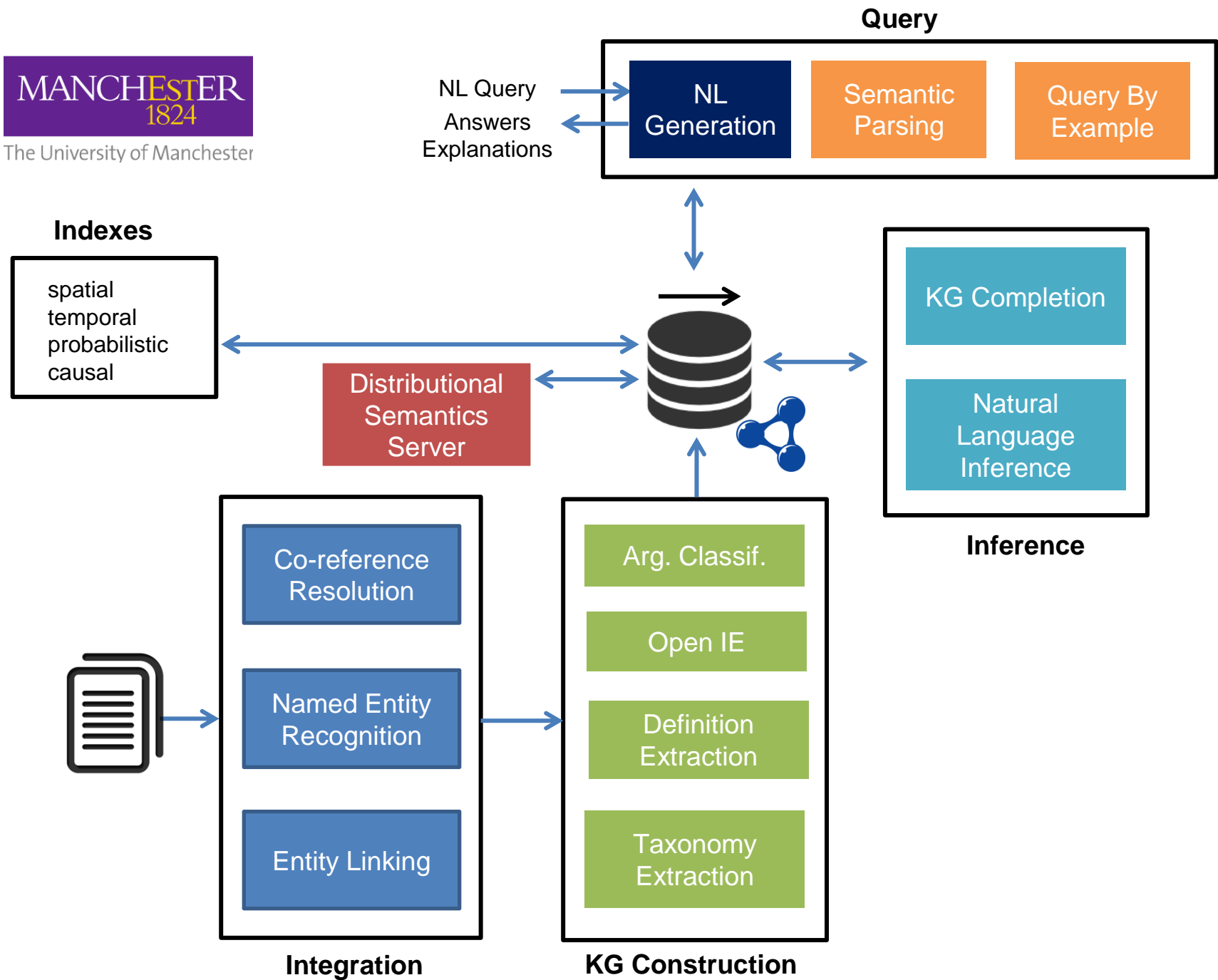
# Architecture

12'-10"

20'-9"

15'-0"







NL Query  
Answers  
Explanations



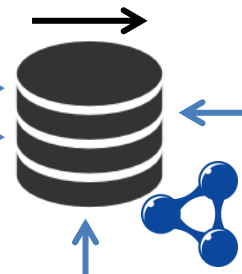
**Query**

NL Generation    Semantic Parsing    Query By Example

**Indexes**

spatial  
temporal  
probabilistic  
causal

Distributional Semantics Server



KG Completion  
Natural Language Inference

**Inference**

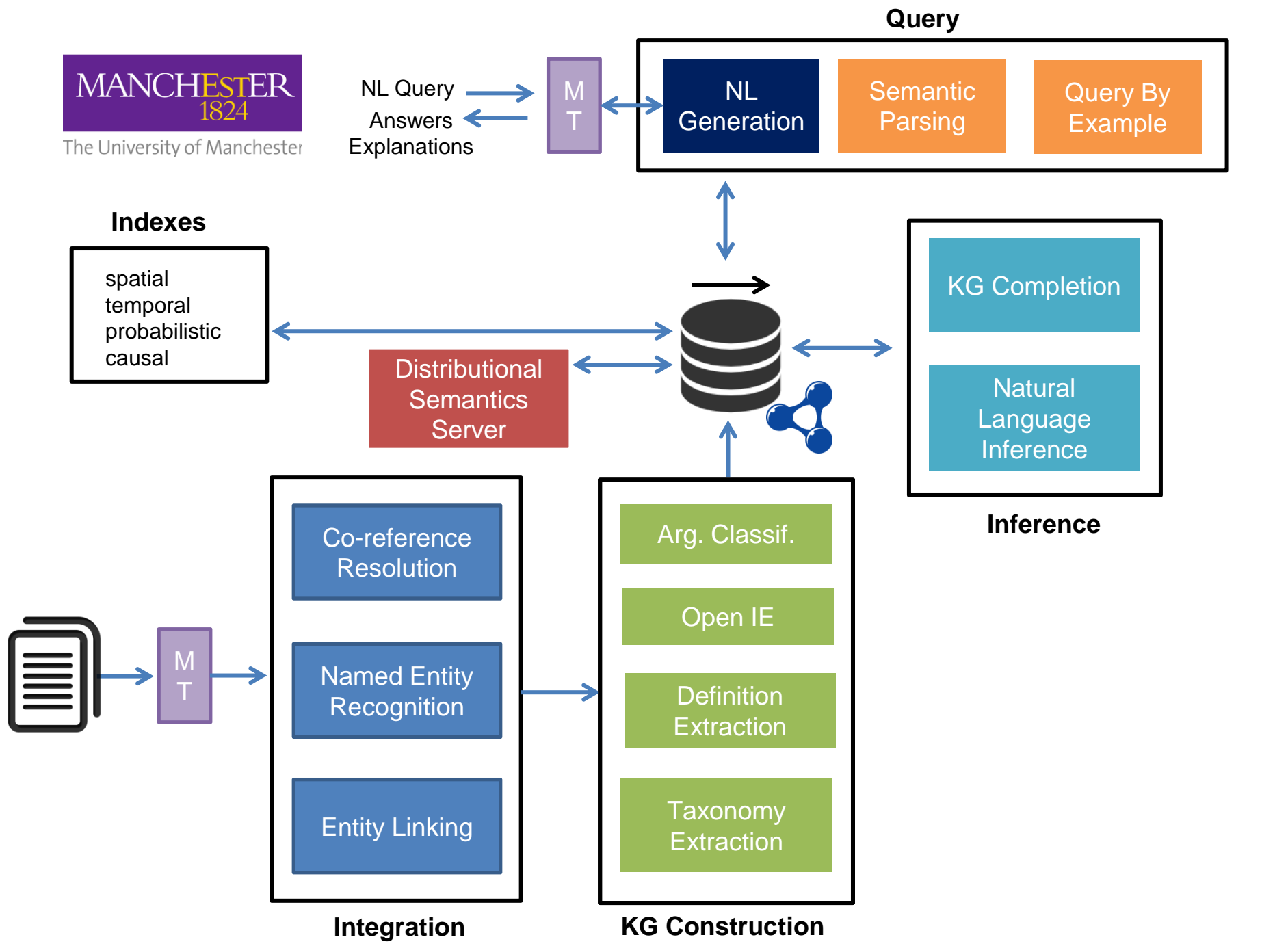
MT

Co-reference Resolution  
Named Entity Recognition  
Entity Linking

**Integration**

Arg. Classif.  
Open IE  
Definition Extraction  
Taxonomy Extraction

**KG Construction**



# THE TEAM



**Take  
Home  
Message**



# Take Home Message

- The evolution of methods, tools and the availability of data in NLP creates the demand for knowledge representation models to support complex AI systems.
- A relaxed version of RDF (RDF-NL) can provide this answer.
  - Establishes a dialogue with a standard (with existing data).
  - Inherits optimization aspects from Databases.
- Word-vectors (DSMs) + compositional models + RDF-NL.
- Moving beyond facts and taxonomies: rhetorical structures, arguments, polarity, stories.

# Take Home Message

- Syntactic and lexical features can go a long way for structuring text.
  - Context-preserving open information extraction.
- Integration (entity reconciliation) as semantic-best effort.
  - Embrace schema on read.
- KGs can support explainable AI:
  - Meeting point between extraction, reasoning and querying.
  - Definition-based models.
- Inherit infrastructures from DB and IR.

# Take Home Message

## Opportunities:

- ML orchestrated pipelines with:
  - Richer discourse-representation models.
  - Explicit semantic representations (centered on KGs).
  - Different compositional/distributional models (beyond W2V & Glove)
- KGs and impact on explainability.
- Quantifying domain and language transportability.

# Acknowledgements



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