

Neurosymbolic Knowledge Bases

10/29/2024
CMSC 491/691 - INTERACTIVE FICTION AND TEXT GENERATION
DR. LARA J. MARTIN

SLIDES ADAPTED FROM THE [ACL 2020 COMMONSENSE TUTORIAL](#) BY YEJIN CHOI,
VERED SHWARTZ, MAARTEN SAP, ANTOINE BOSSELUT, AND DAN ROTH

Learning Objectives

- Recall how neural networks and symbolic methods can be combined
- Follow examples of integrated and post-hoc knowledge graph integration

Review: Definition of Common Sense

The basic level of **practical knowledge** and **reasoning** concerning **everyday situations** and events that are **commonly shared** among **most** people.

It's OK to keep the closet door open

It's not OK to keep the refrigerator door open because the food might go bad

Essential for humans to live and interact with each other in a reasonable and safe way

Essential for AI to understand human needs and actions better

Review: Desirable properties for a commonsense resource

Coverage

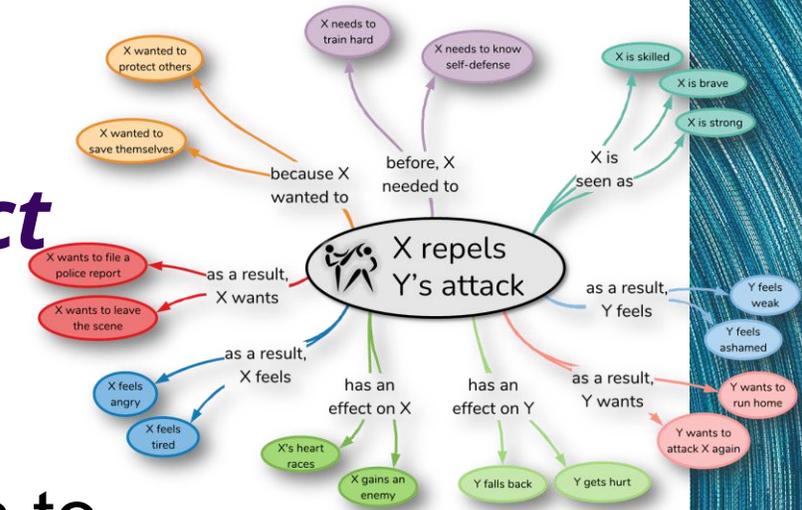
Large scale
Diverse knowledge types

Useful

High quality knowledge
Usable in downstream tasks

Multiple resources tackle different
knowledge types

Review: ATOMIC: knowledge of *cause and effect*



Humans have **theory of mind**, allowing us to

- make inferences about **people's mental states**
- understand **likely events** that precede and follow (Moore, 2013)

AI systems struggle with ***inferential*** reasoning

- only find **complex correlational patterns** in data
- **limited to the domain** they are trained on

(Pearl; Davis and Marcus 2015; Lake et al. 2017; Marcus 2018)

Review: Ways of categorizing existing knowledge bases

Represented in **symbolic logic**
(e.g., LISP-style logic)

Represented in **natural language**
(how humans *talk* and *think*)

NELL
(Mitchell et al., 2015)

OpenCyc 4.0
(Lenat, 2012)

ConceptNet 5.5
(Speer et al., 2017)

Knowledge of “**what**”
(taxonomic: A *isA* B)

Knowledge of “**why**” and
“**how**”
(inferential: *causes* and *effects*)

ATOMIC
(Sap et al., 2019)

Review:

Some commonsense cannot be extracted

Text is subject to reporting bias
(Gordon & Van Durme, 2013)

Noteworthy events

- Murdering 4x more common than exhaling

Commonsense is not often written

- Grice's maxim of quantity



found when extracting commonsense knowledge on four large corpora using Knext (Gordon & Van Durme, 2013)

When communicating, people try to be as informative as they possibly can, and give as much information as is needed, and no more.

Review:

Why combine [neural and symbolic methods]?

Neural Networks

Statistical patterns over data
Easy to generate new text from
Need a lot of data to train (and might need to be labeled)
Hard to control

Examples: sequence-to-sequence networks, transformers (LLMs)

Symbolic Methods

Structured information
Easy for people to understand (interpretable)
Hard to make

- Need experts or a lot of time

Limited set of information

Examples: knowledge bases, planning domains/problems, scripts

Ways of combining them

- During training
 - Such as in reinforcement learning or retrieval-augmented generation (RAG)
- After training
 - Like a symbolic “wrapper” – helps validate what the NN is doing
- Others??

Ways of combining them

- During training
 - Such as in reinforcement learning or retrieval-augmented generation (RAG)
- After training
 - Like a symbolic “wrapper” – helps validate what the NN is doing
- Others??

Adding neural networks to knowledge bases



Katrina had the financial means to afford a new car while Monica did not, since _____ had a high paying job.



WINOGRANDE: An Adversarial Winograd Schema Challenge at Scale.
Keisuke Sakaguchi, Ronan Le Bras, Chandra Bhagavatula, and Yejin Choi. AAAI 2020.

Neural Architecture

[CLS] Katrina had the financial means to afford a new car while Monica did not, since [SEP] **Katrina** had a high paying job.

[CLS] Katrina had the financial means to afford a new car while Monica did not, since [SEP] **Monica** had a high paying job.



0.51

0.49

Masked Language Models

Sentence:

Katrina had the financial means to afford a new car while Monica did not, since [MASK] had a high paying job.

Predictions:

11.8% ↵

8.8% **She**

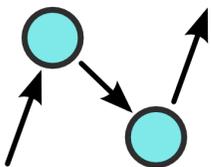
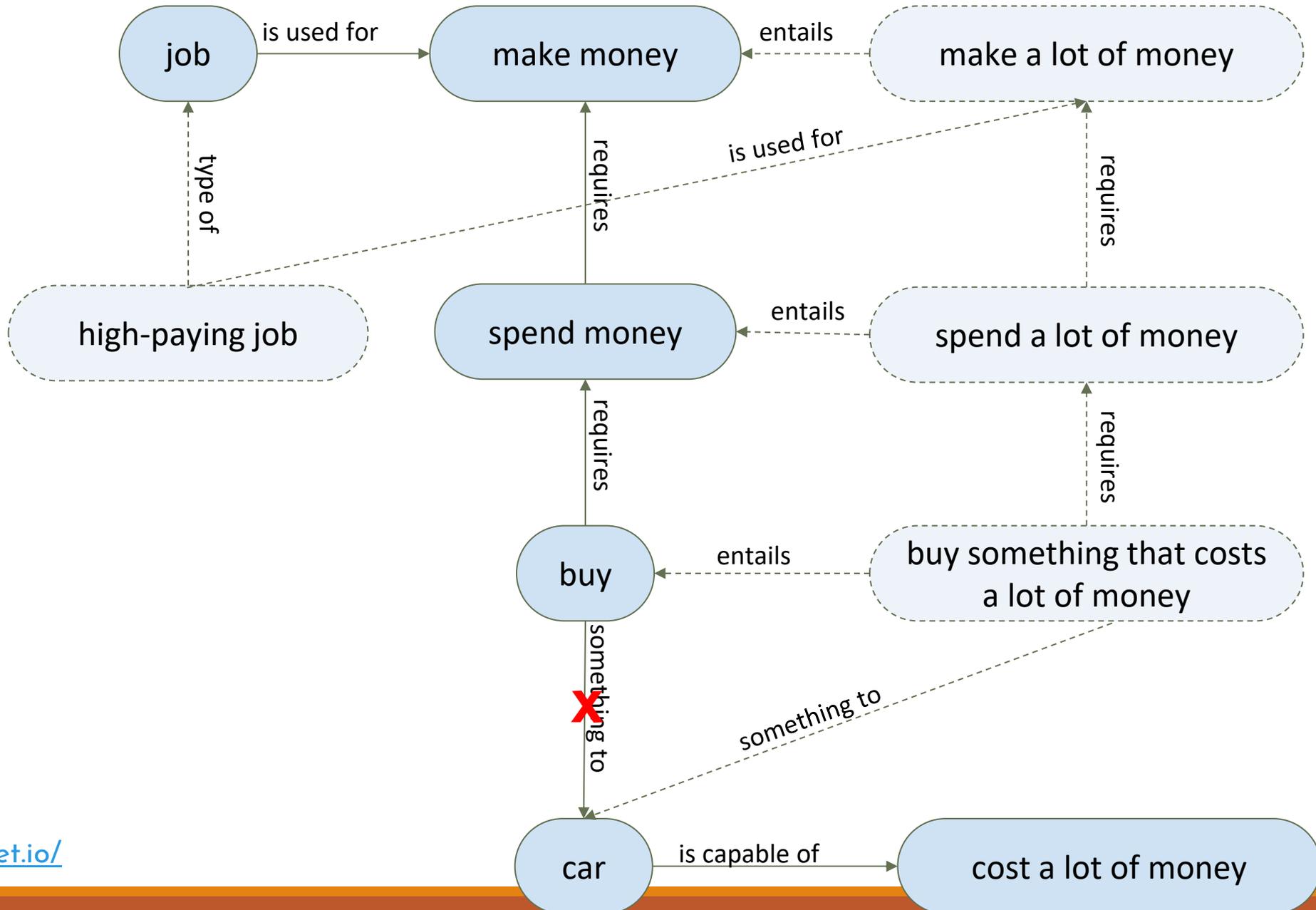
6.3% **I**

6.2% **So**

5.2% **Monica**

← **Undo**

<https://demo.allennlp.org/masked-lm>

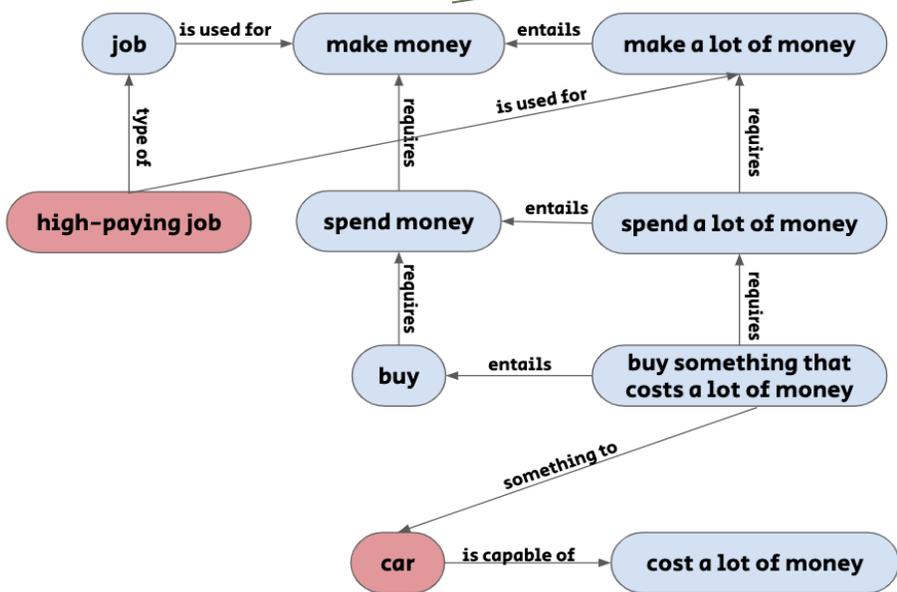
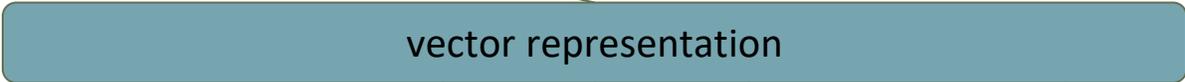
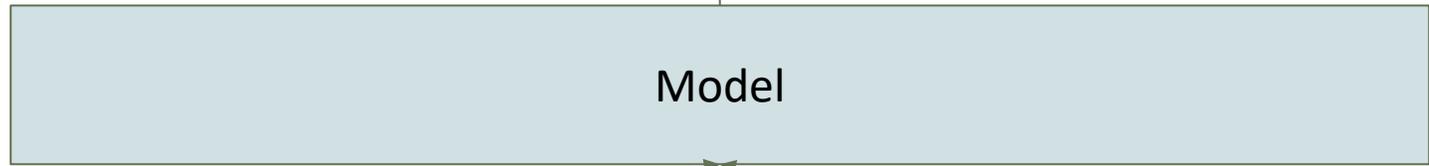


<https://conceptnet.io/>

Incorporating External Knowledge into Neural Models

General Idea

0.57 | 0.43



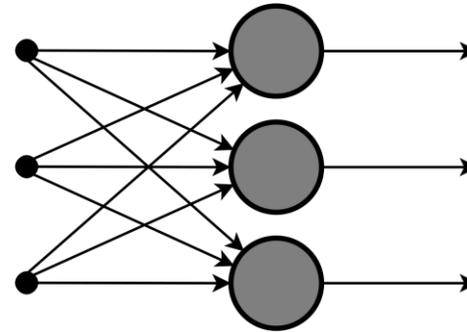
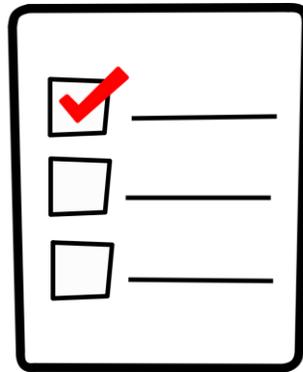
Katrina had the financial means to afford a new car while Monica did not, since _____ had a high paying job.

Incorporating External Knowledge into Neural Models

Recipe

Task

Story ending,
Machine Comprehension
Social common sense
NLI

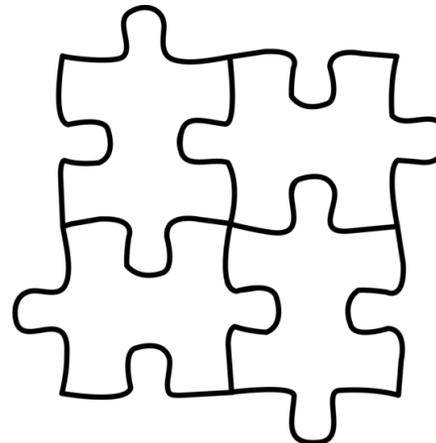


Neural Component

Pre/post pre-trained
language models

Knowledge Source

Knowledge bases,
extracted from text,
hand-crafted rules



Combination Method

Attention, pruning,
word embeddings,
multi-task learning

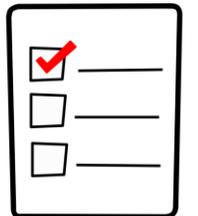
Story Ending Task (RocStories)

Agatha had always **wanted** **pet** birds.
So one day **she** **purchased** two **pet** finches.
Soon **she** **couldn't stand** their constant **noise**.
And even worse was their constant **mess**.



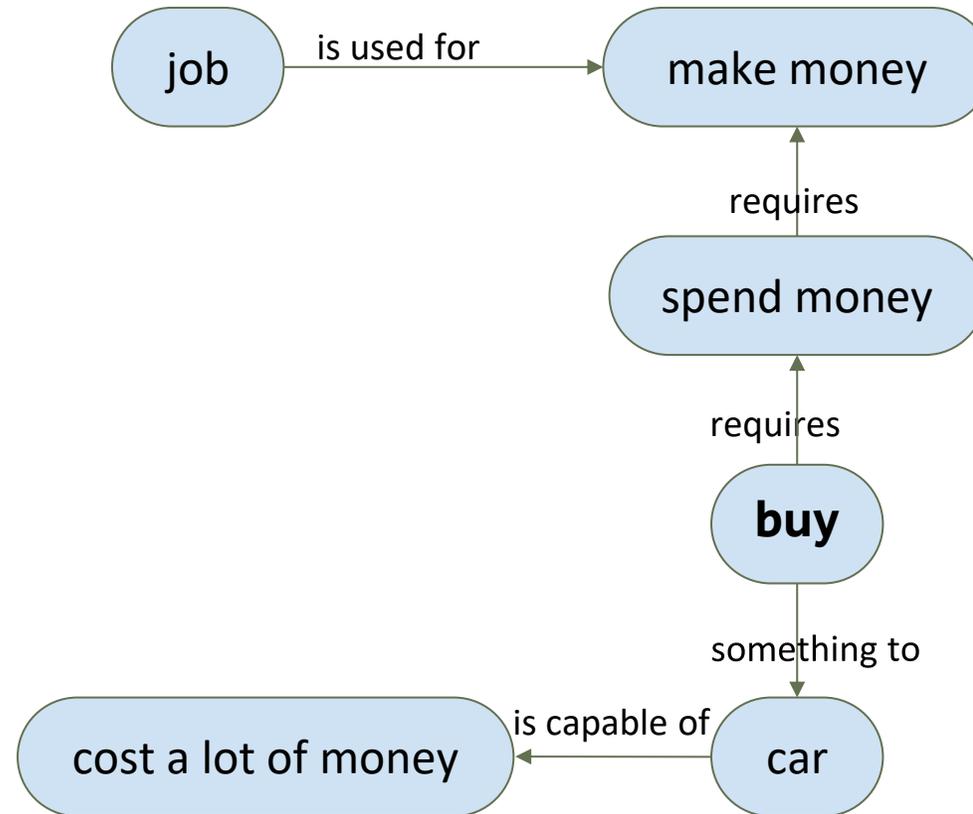
Agatha decided to **buy** **two** more. (Wrong)
Agatha decided to **return** **them**. (Right)

Task



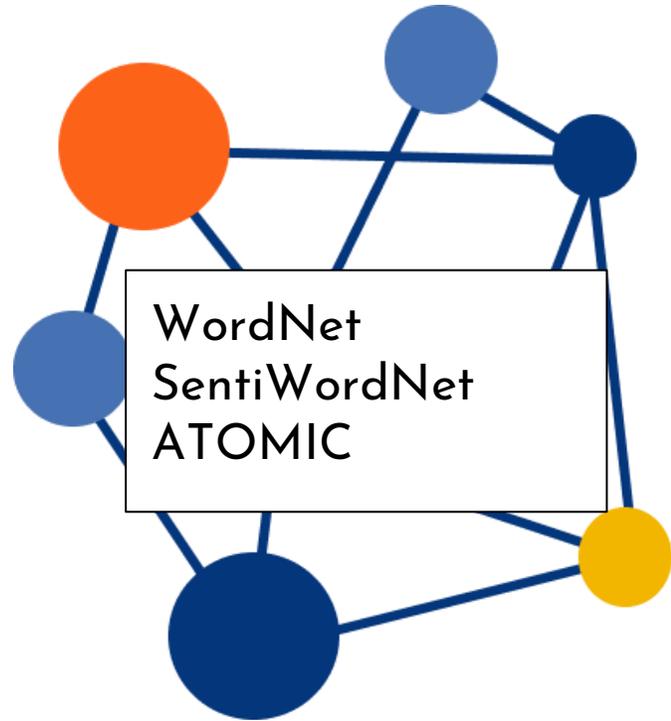
A Corpus and Cloze Evaluation for Deeper Understanding of Commonsense Stories. *Nasrin Mostafazadeh, Nathanael Chambers, Xiaodong He, Devi Parikh, Dhruv Batra, Lucy Vanderwende, Pushmeet Kohli, and James Allen.* NAACL 2016.

ConceptNet

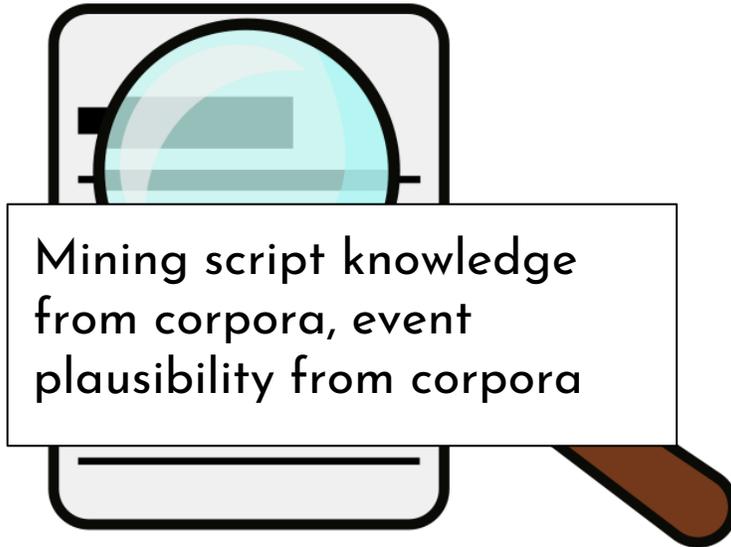


Conceptnet 5.5: An open multilingual graph of general knowledge. *Robyn Speer, Joshua Chin, and Catherine Havasi. AAAI 2017.*

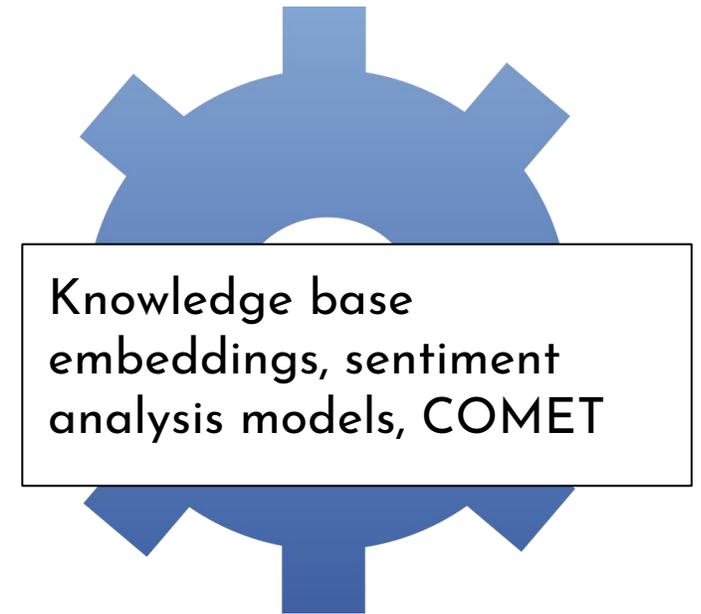
Other Knowledge Sources



Mining from Text



Knowledge Bases



Tools

Neural Component

[CLS] Katrina had the financial means to afford a new car while Monica did not, since [SEP] **Katrina** had a high paying job.

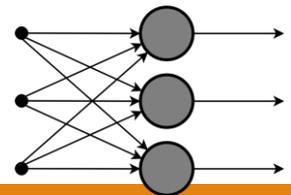
[CLS] Katrina had the financial means to afford a new car while Monica did not, since [SEP] **Monica** had a high paying job.



0.51

0.49

Neural



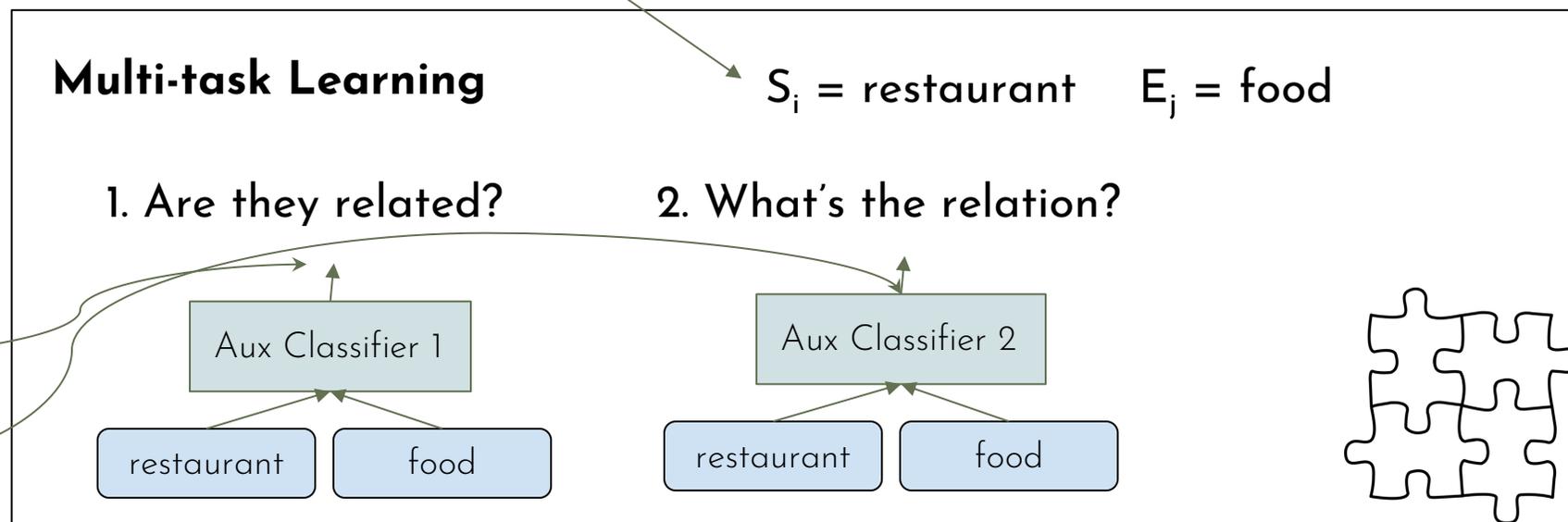
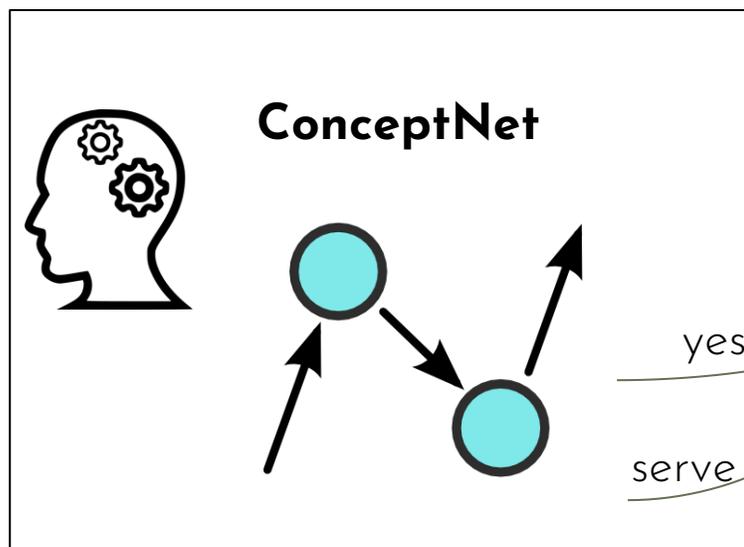
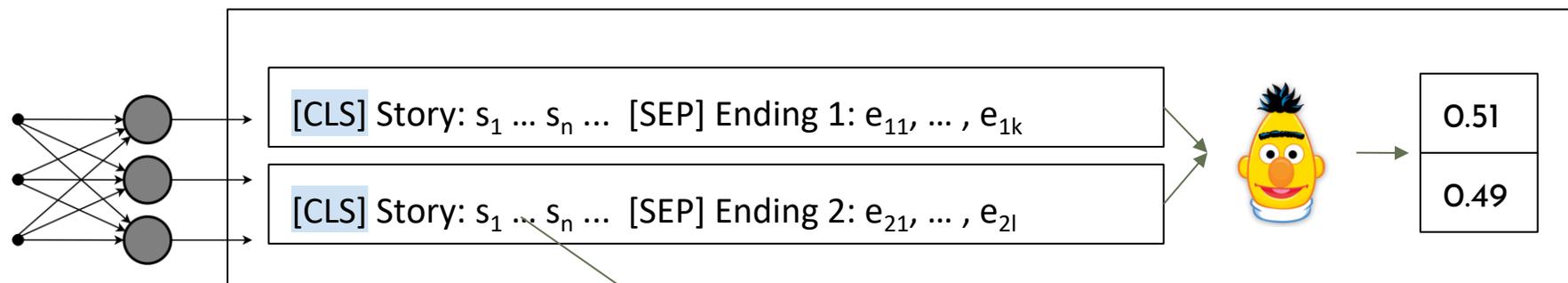
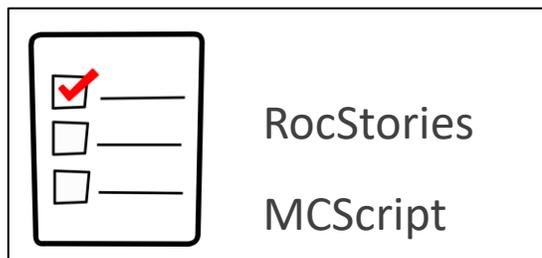
Combination Method

- Incorporate into scoring function
- Symbolic \rightarrow vector representation
(+attention)
- Multi-task learning



Incorporating External Knowledge into Neural Models

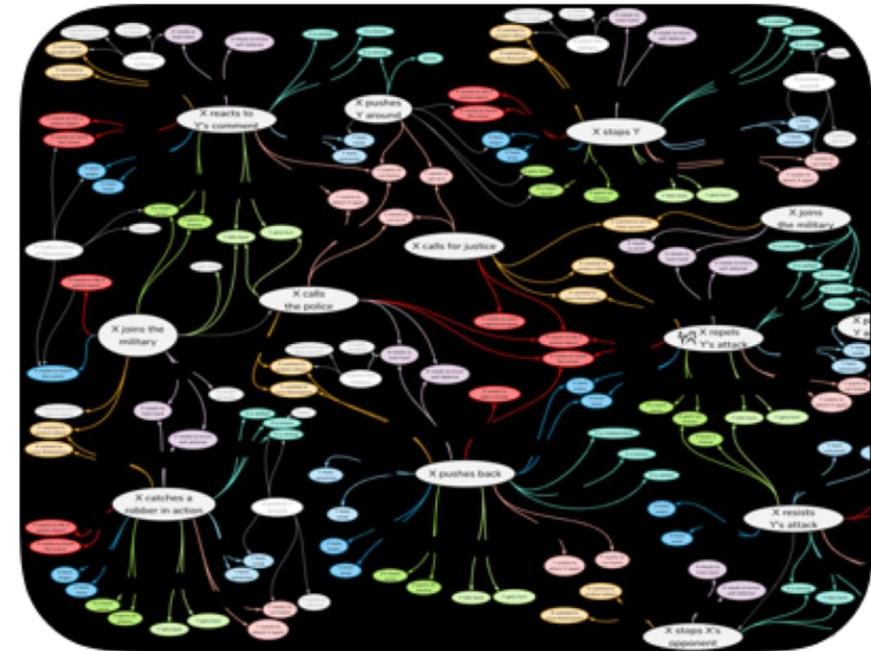
Example



Incorporating Commonsense Reading Comprehension with Multi-task Learning. *Jiangnan Xia, Chen Wu, and Ming Yan*. CIKM 2019.

Limitations of Knowledge Graphs

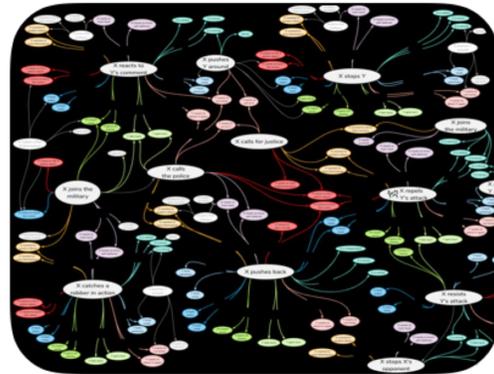
- Insufficient Coverage
- Not 100% Accurate
- Limited expressivity



Limitations of Knowledge Graphs

- Situations rarely found **as-is** in commonsense knowledge graphs

ATOMIC



(Sap et al., 2019)

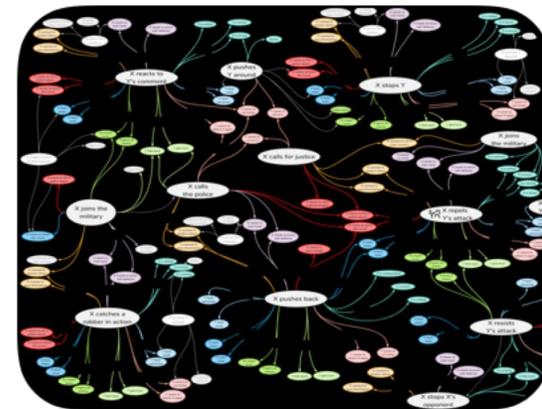
(X goes to the mall,
Effect on X, buys
clothes)

(X goes the mall,
Perception of X, rich)

(X gives Y some money,
Reaction of Y, grateful)

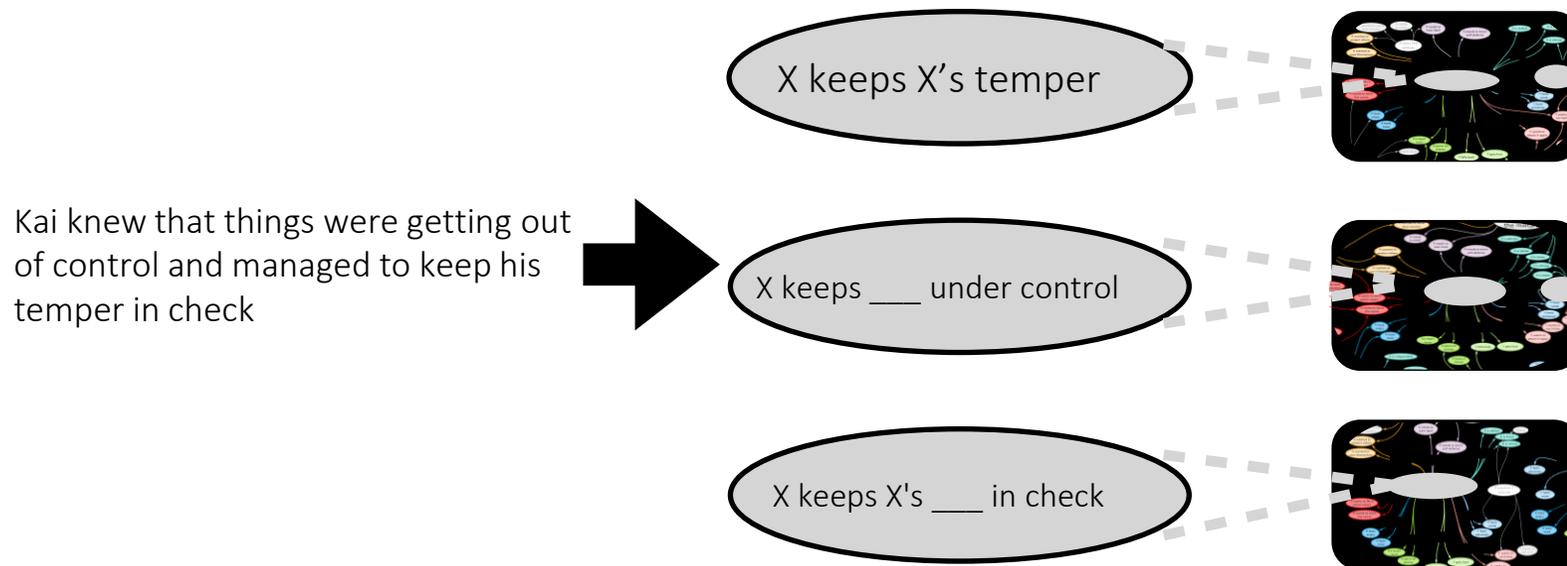
Limitations of Knowledge Graphs

Kai knew that things were getting out of control and managed to keep his temper in check



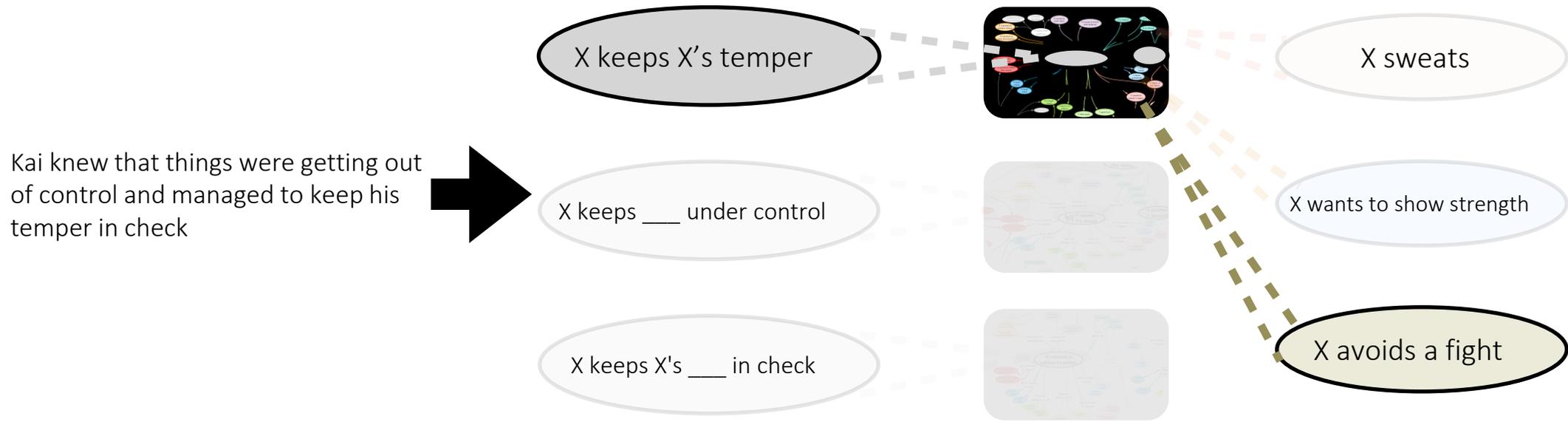
Limitations of Knowledge Graphs

- Situations rarely found **as-is** in commonsense knowledge graphs
- Connecting to knowledge graphs can yield **incorrect** nodes



Limitations of Knowledge Graphs

- Situations rarely found **as-is** in commonsense knowledge graphs
- Connecting to knowledge graphs can yield **incorrect** nodes
- Suitable nodes are often **uncontextualized**



Challenge

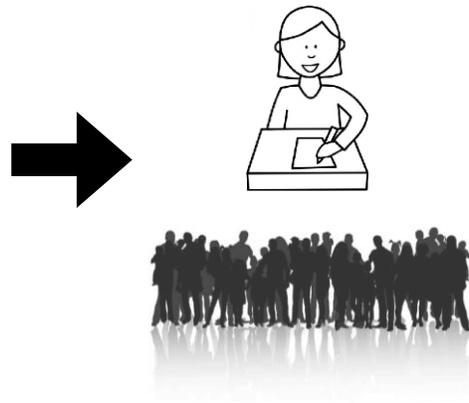
- How do we provide machines with large-scale commonsense knowledge?

Constructing Knowledge Graphs

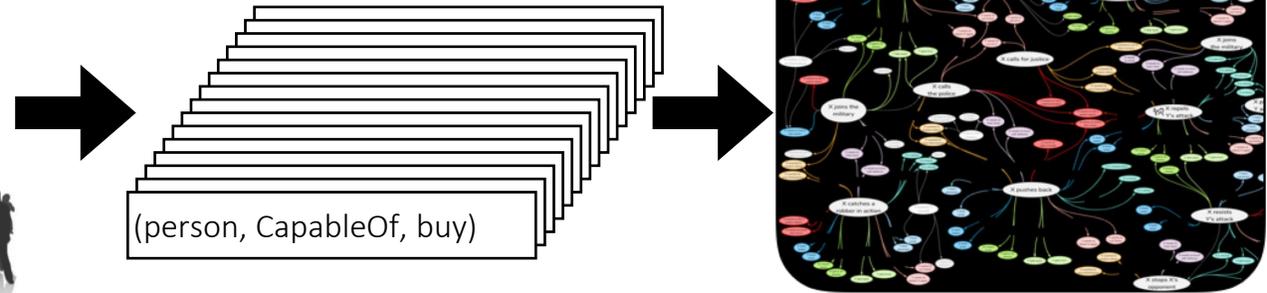
Observe world



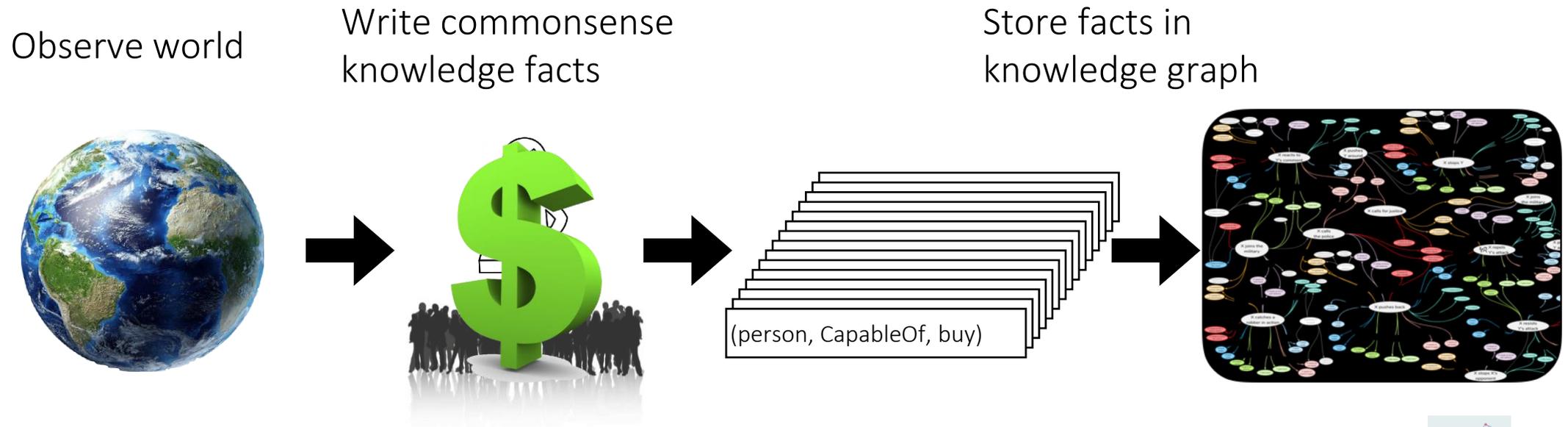
Write commonsense
knowledge facts



Store facts in
knowledge graph



Constructing Symbolic Knowledge Graphs



(Miller, 1995)



(Singh et al., 2002)



(Lenat, 1995)



(Sap et al., 2019)

Challenges of Prior Approaches

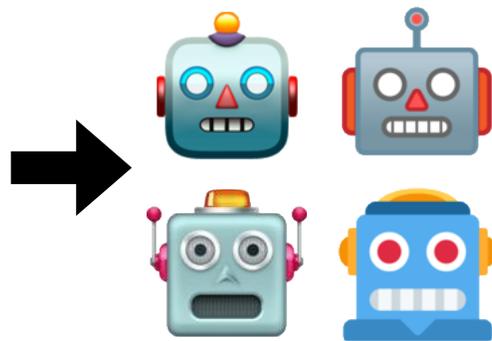
- Commonsense knowledge is immeasurably vast, making it impossible to manually enumerate

Constructing Knowledge Graphs Automatically

Gather Textual Corpus

John went to the grocery store to buy some steaks. He was going to prepare dinner for his daughter's birthday. She was turning 5 and would be starting elementary school soon.

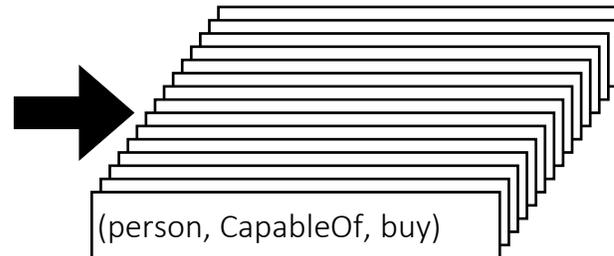
Automatically extract knowledge



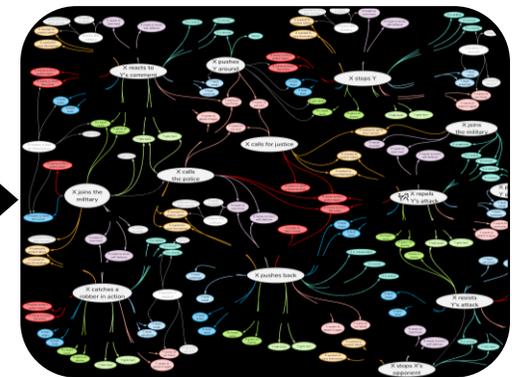
(Schubert, 2002)

(Banko et al., 2007)

(Zhang et al., 2020)



Store in knowledge graph



ConceptNet

An open, multilingual knowledge graph

(Speer et al., 2017)

Webchild



(Tandon et al., 2019)

Encyclopedic vs. Commonsense Knowledge

Encyclopedic Knowledge

Commonsense Knowledge

Explicitly written in text

Often assumed

Grice's Maxim of Quantity

Ontological Mentions

Deviations rarely written

Encyclopedic vs. Commonsense Knowledge

Encyclopedic Knowledge

Explicitly written in text

Ontological Mentions

Deviations rarely written

Commonsense Knowledge

Often assumed

Grice's Maxim of Quantity

Complex Mentions

e.g., Causal If-Then Knowledge

Encyclopedic vs. Commonsense Knowledge

Encyclopedic Knowledge

Explicitly written in text

Ontological Mentions

Deviations rarely written

Commonsense Knowledge

Often assumed

Grice's Maxim of Quantity

Complex Mentions

e.g., Causal If-Then Knowledge

Reporting Bias

murders 4x more common than breating

Challenges of Prior Approaches

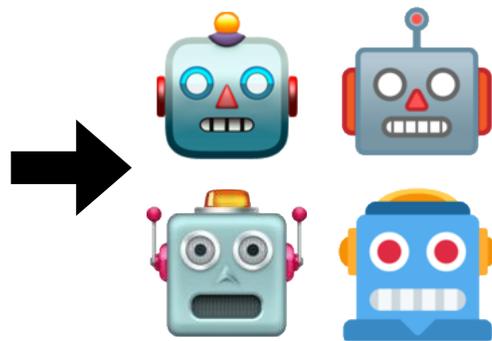
- Commonsense knowledge is immeasurably vast, making it impossible to manually enumerate
- Commonsense knowledge is often implicit, and often can't be directly extracted from text

Constructing Knowledge Graphs Automatically

Gather Textual Corpus

John went to the grocery store to buy some steaks. He was going to prepare dinner for his daughter's birthday. She was turning 5 and would be starting elementary school soon.

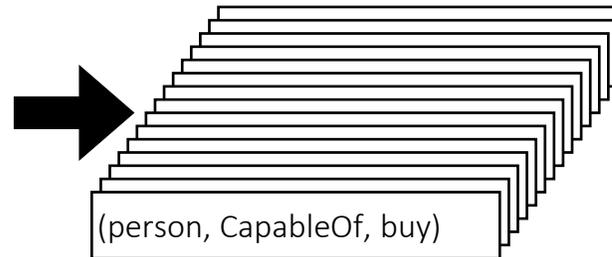
Automatically extract knowledge



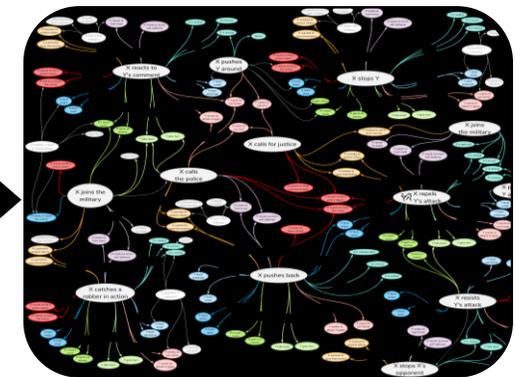
(Schubert, 2002)

(Banko et al., 2007)

(Zhang et al., 2020)



Store in knowledge graph



ConceptNet

An open, multilingual knowledge graph

(Speer et al., 2017)

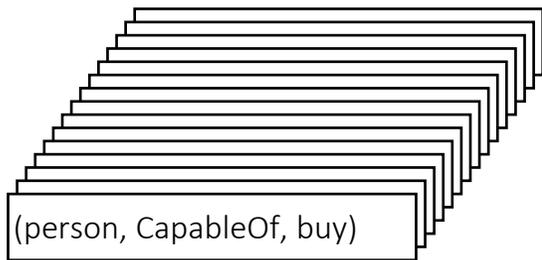
Webchild



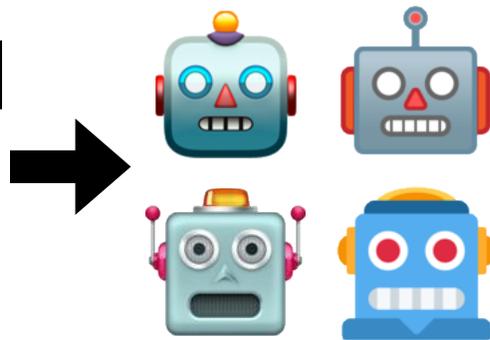
(Tandon et al., 2019)

Knowledge Base Completion

Gather training set of knowledge tuples



Learn relationships among entities

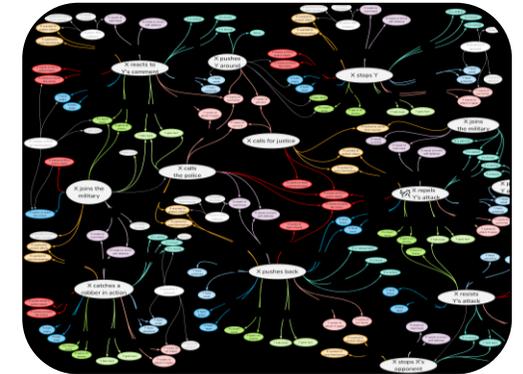


- (Socher et al., 2013)
- (Bordes et al., 2013)
- (Riedel et al., 2013)
- (Toutanova et al., 2015)
- (Yang et al., 2015)
- (Trouillon et al., 2016)
- (Nguyen et al., 2016)
- (Dettmers et al., 2018)

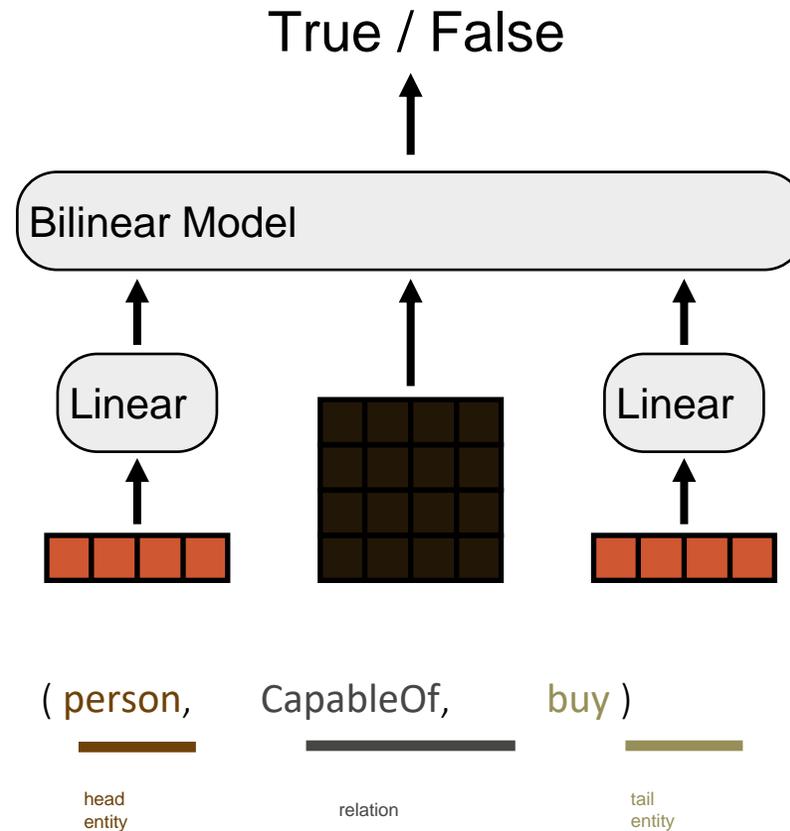
Predict new relationships

(person, CapableOf,)?

Store in knowledge graph



Commonsense Knowledge Base Completion



Only high confidence predictions are validated



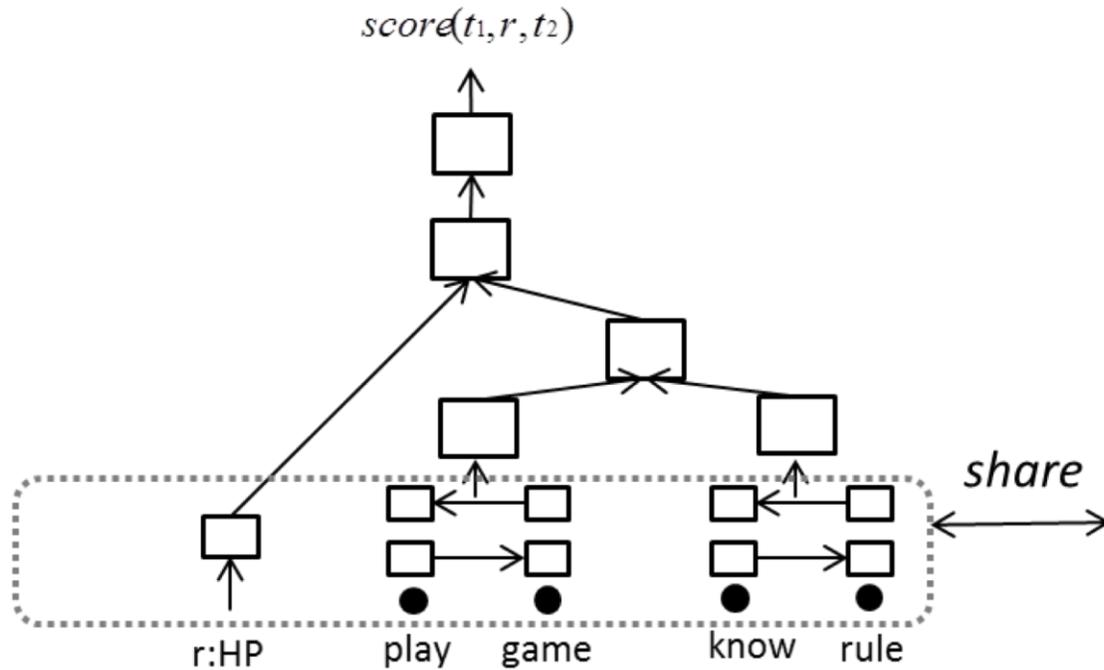
Low Novelty

Li et al., 2016

Jastrzebski et al., 2018

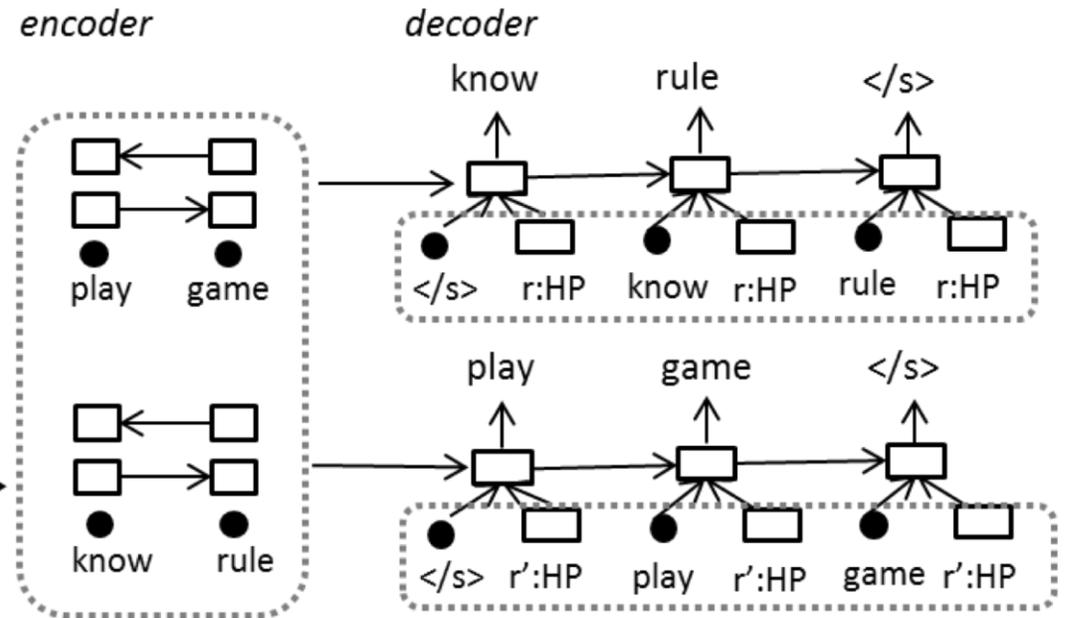
Commonsense Knowledge Base Completion and Generation!

Knowledge base **completion** model



Knowledge base **generation** model

Attention-based encoder-decoder model

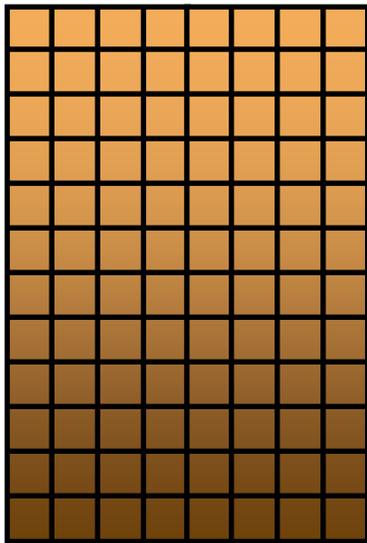


Challenges of Prior Approaches

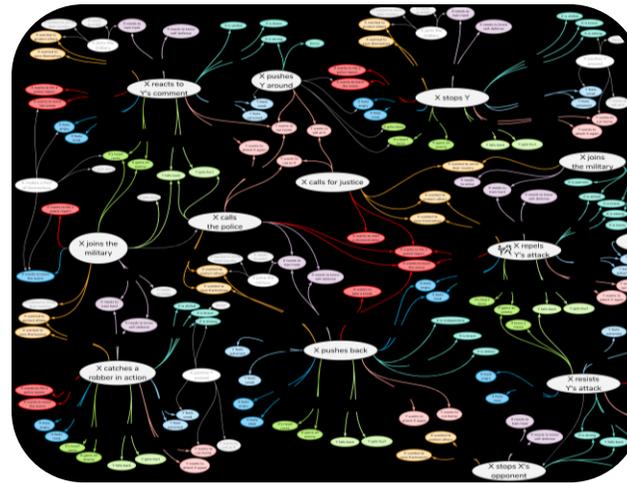
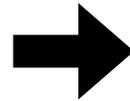
- Commonsense knowledge is immeasurably vast, making it impossible to manually enumerate
- Commonsense knowledge is often implicit, and often can't be directly extracted from text
- Commonsense knowledge resources are quite sparse, making them difficult to extend by only learning from examples

Solution Outline

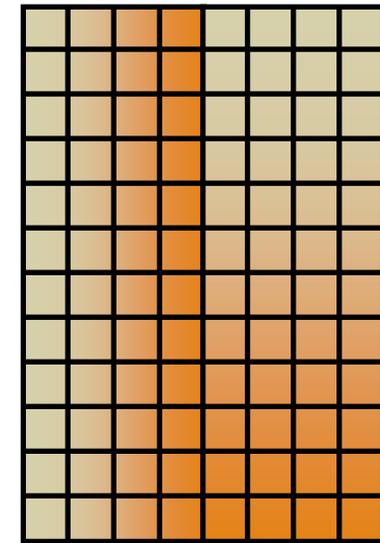
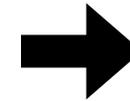
- Leverage manually curated commonsense knowledge resources
- Learn from the examples to induce new relationships
- Scale up using language resources



Learn word embeddings from language corpus

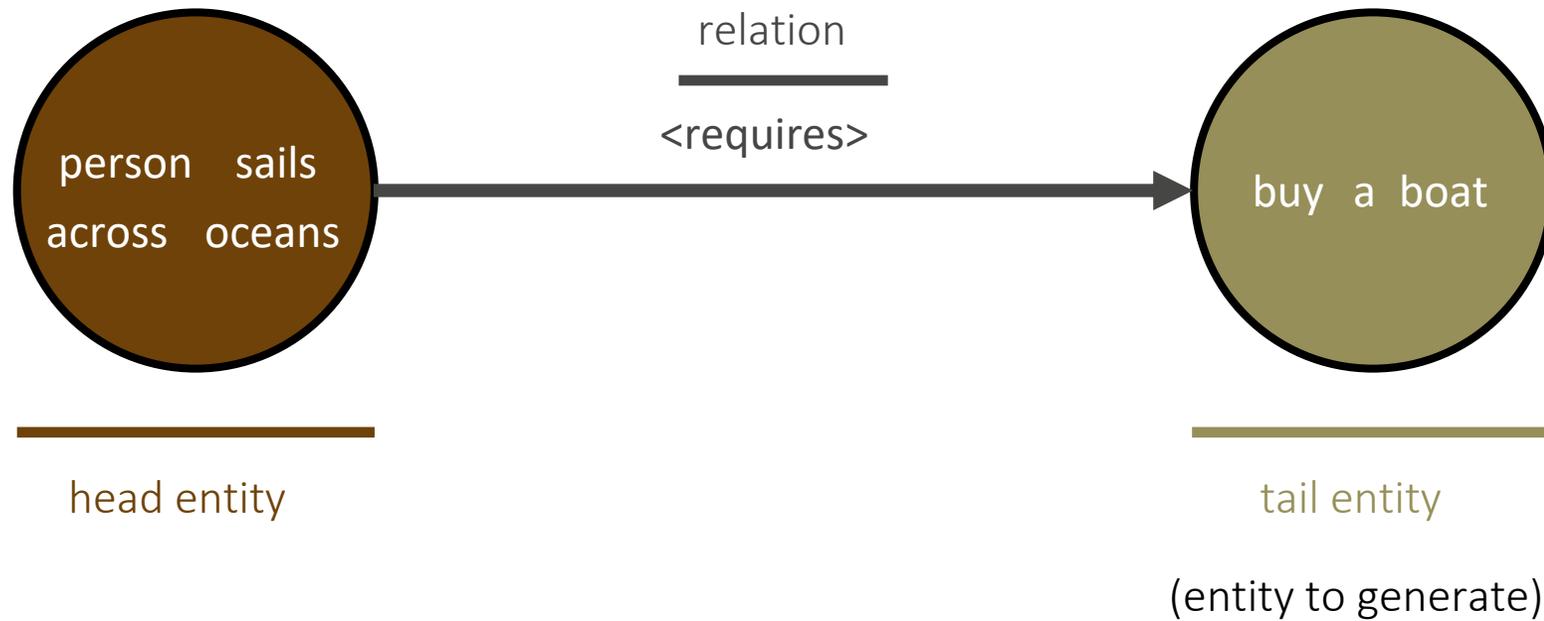


Retrofit word embeddings on semantic resource



Learn knowledge-aware embeddings

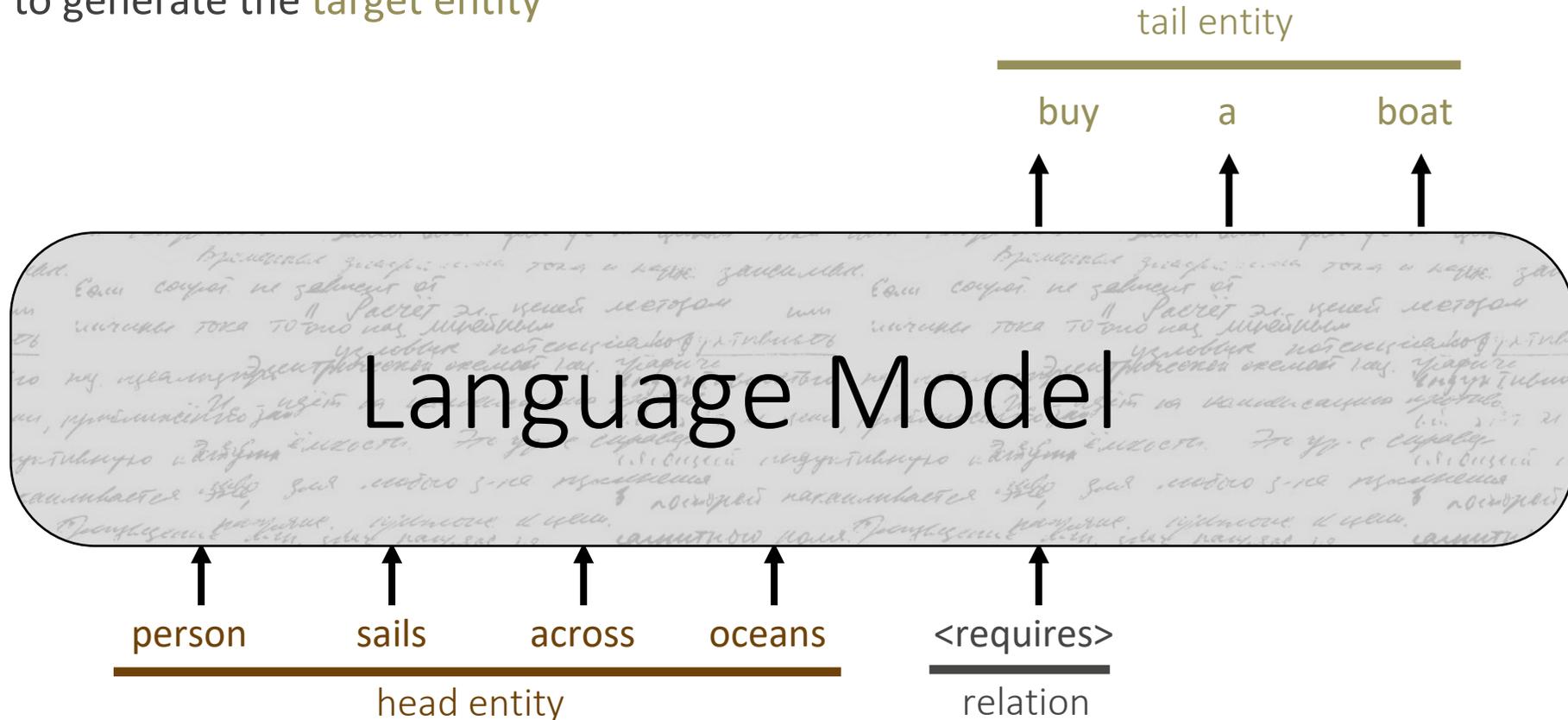
Structure of Knowledge Tuple



Learning Structure of Knowledge

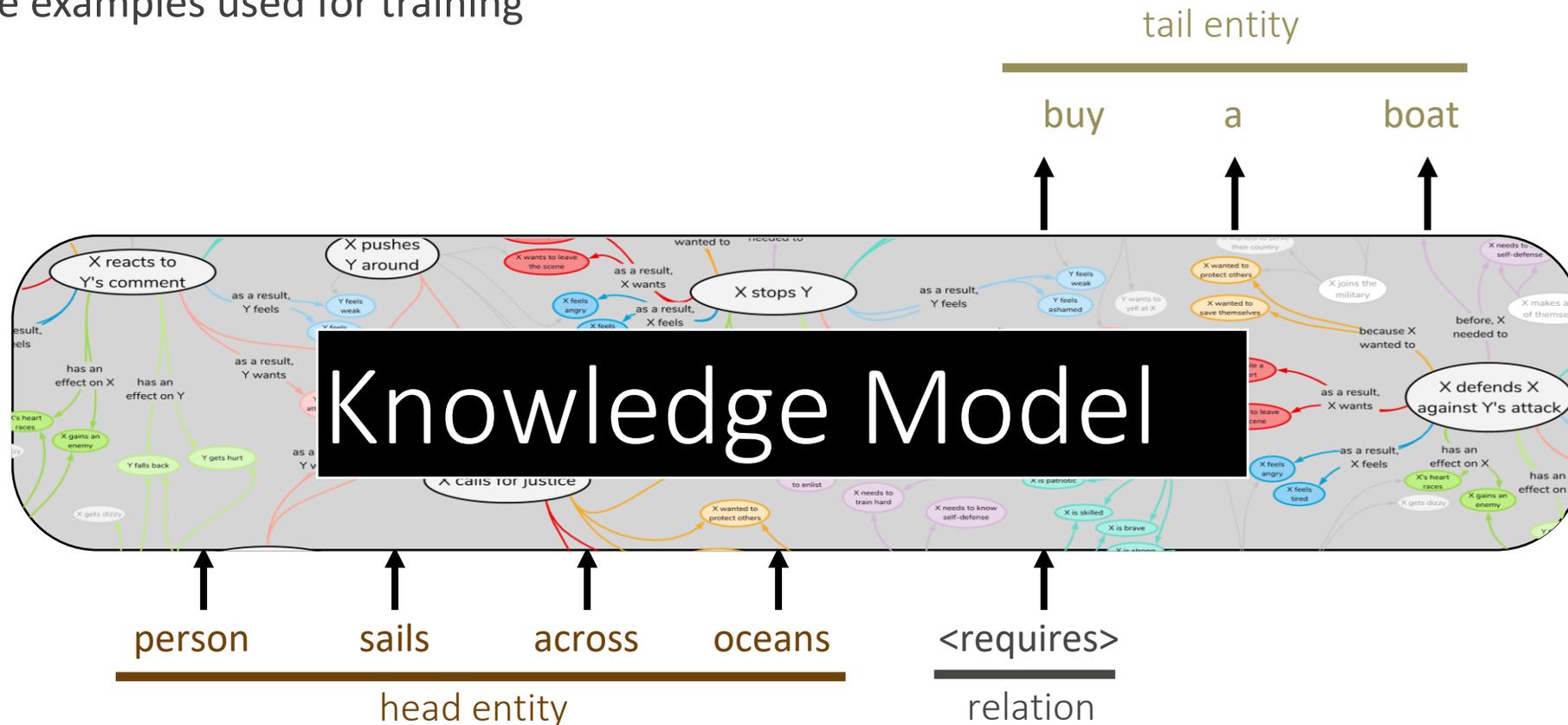
- Given a **seed entity** and a relation, learn to generate the **target entity**

$$\mathcal{L} = -\sum \log P(\text{target words} | \text{seed words}, \text{relation})$$



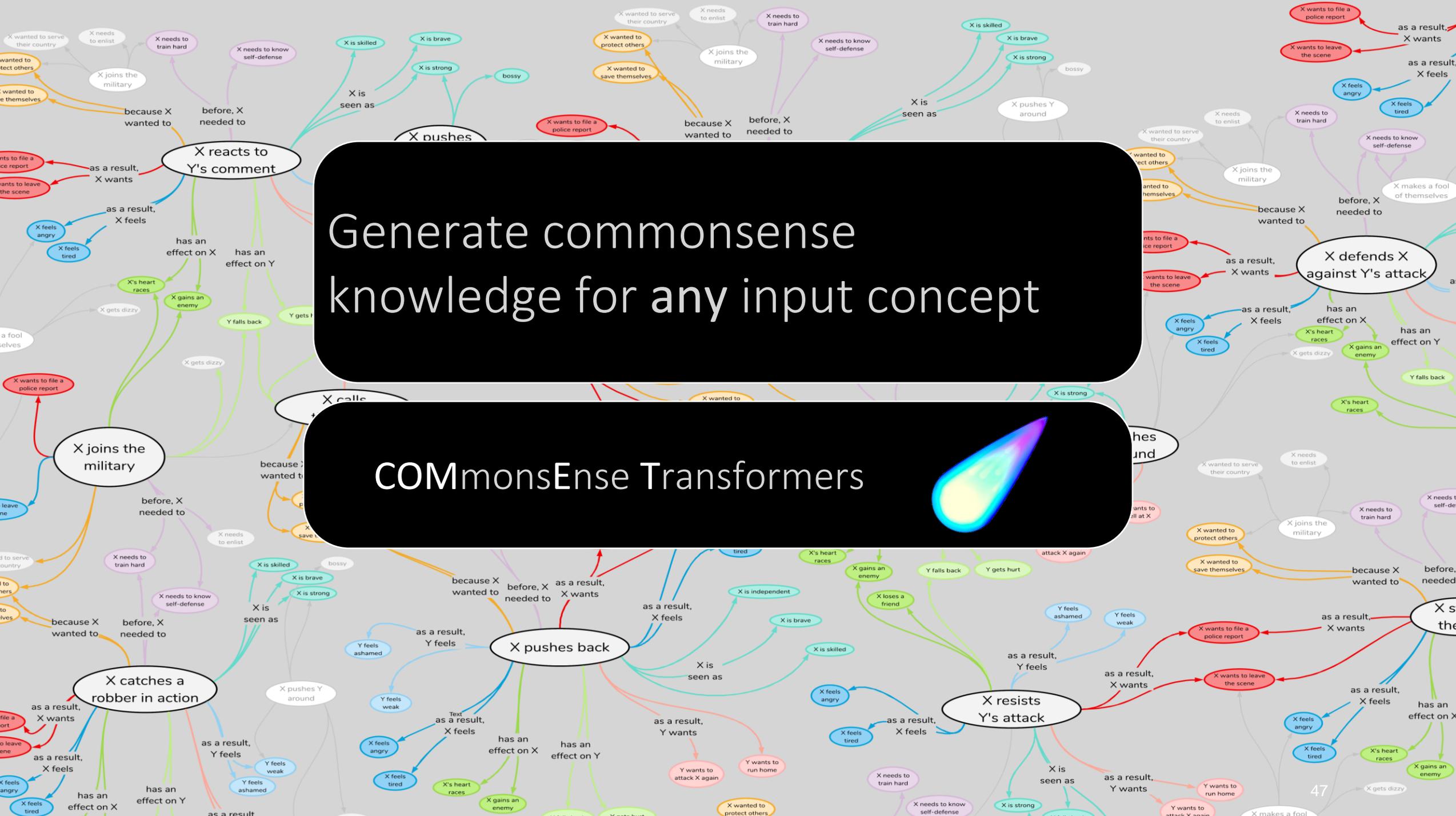
Learning Structure of Knowledge

- Language Model → Knowledge Model: generates knowledge of the structure of the examples used for training

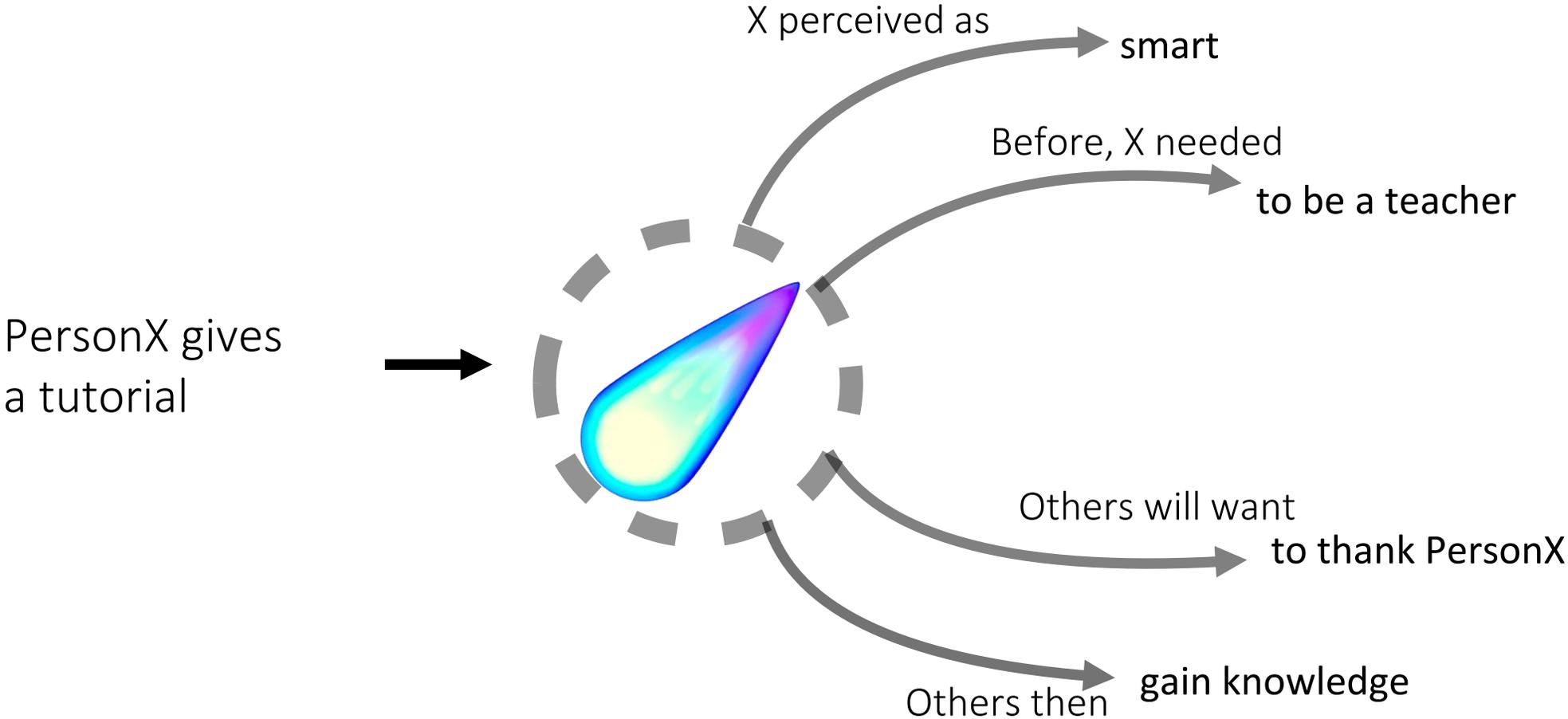


Generate commonsense knowledge for any input concept

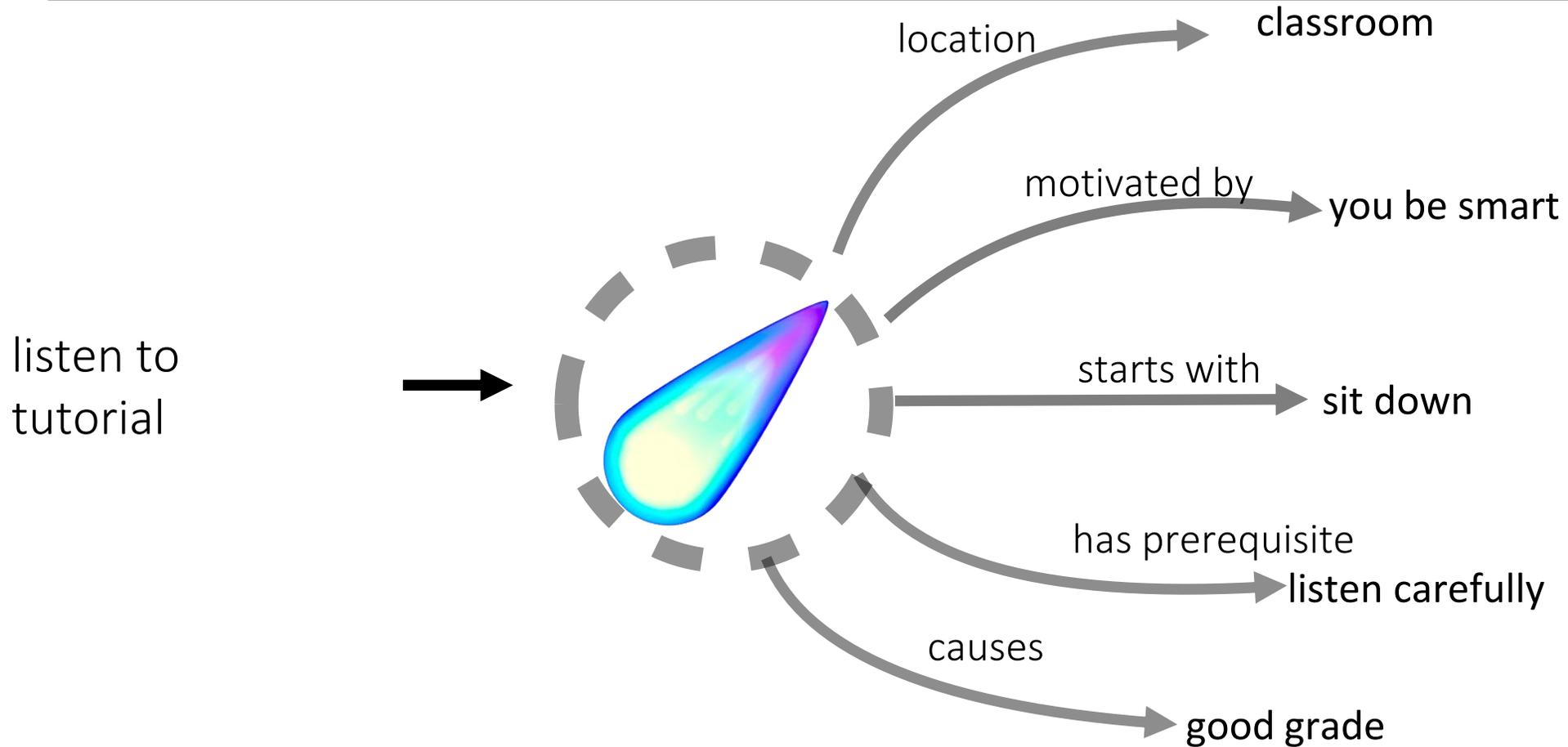
COMMONSENSE TRANSFORMERS



COMET - ATOMIC



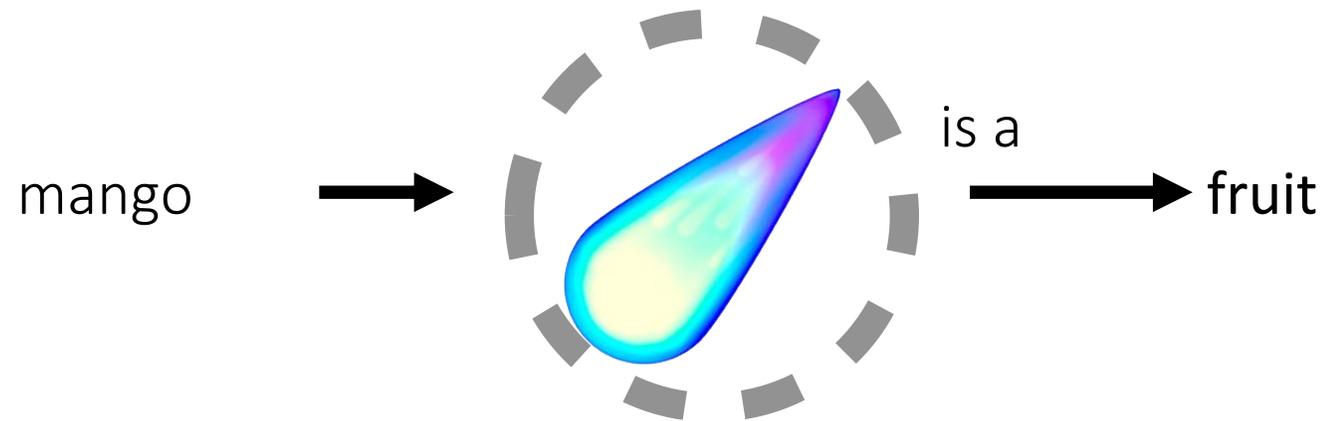
COMET - ConceptNet



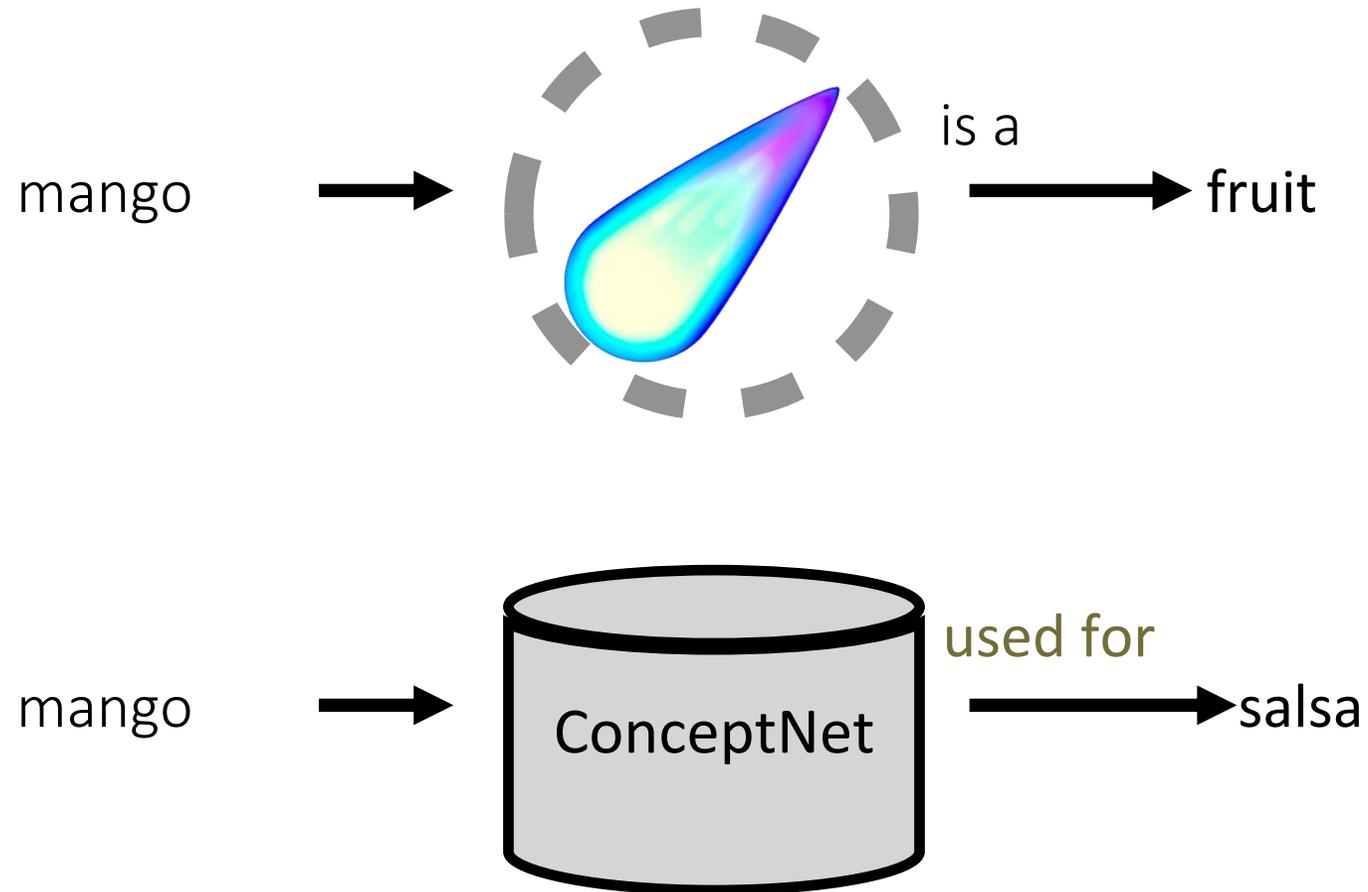
Question

Why does this work?

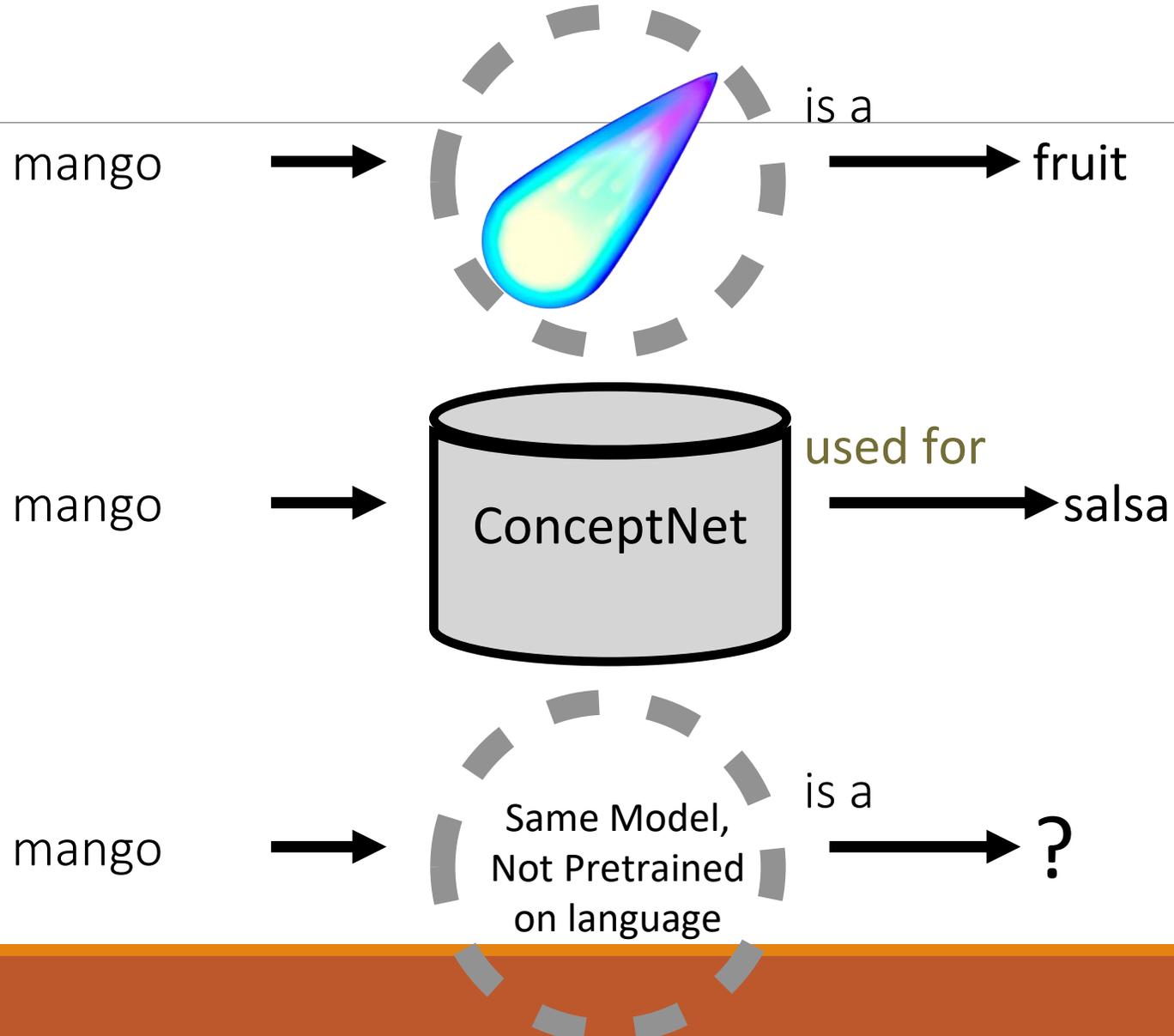
Transfer Learning from Language



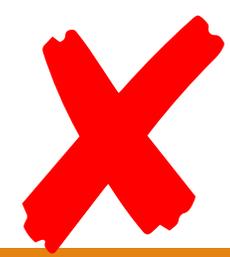
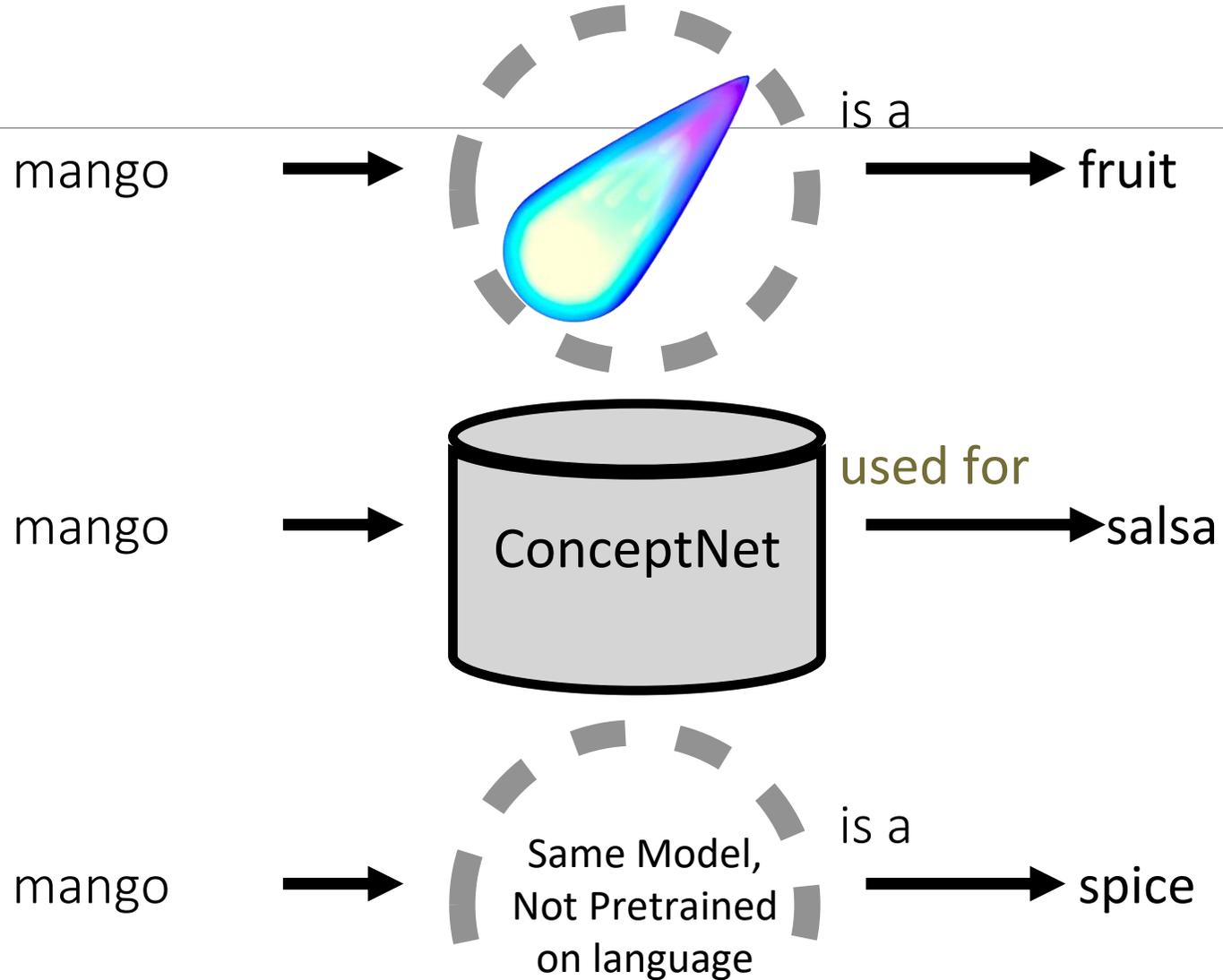
Transfer Learning from Language



Transfer Learning from Language



Transfer Learning from Language



Question

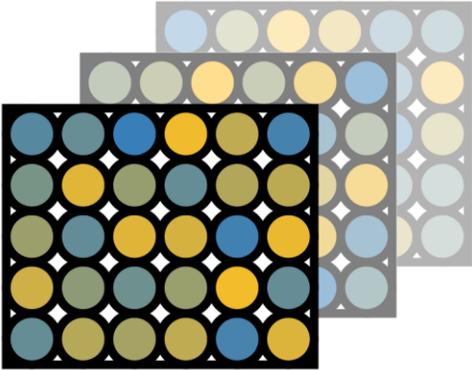
Can't a off-the-shelf language model do the same thing?

Unsupervised Commonsense Probing

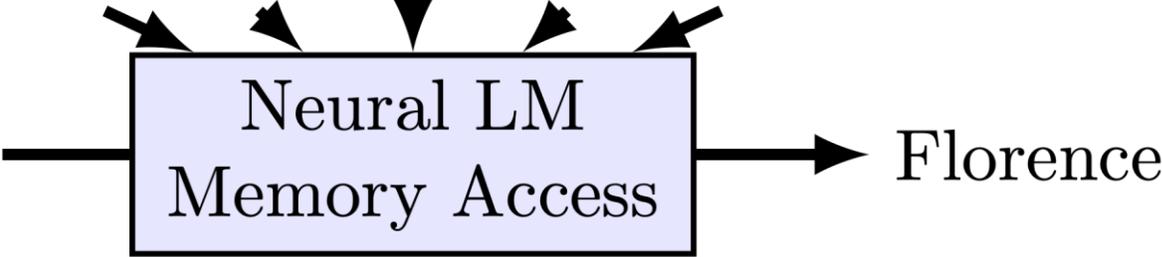
(Dante, <born_in>, ?)



LM



“Dante was born in [MASK].”



e.g. ELMo/BERT

Petroni et al., 2019; Feldman et al., 2019

Do Language Models know this?

Sentence:

mango is a

Predictions:

2.1% **great**

1.9% **very**

1.2% **new**

1.0% **good**

1.0% **small**

← Undo

Do Language Models know this?

Sentence:

mango is a

a mango is a

Predictions:

2.1% **great**
1.9% **very**
1.2% **new**
1.0% **good**
1.0% **small**
← Undo

4.2% **good**
4.0% **very**
2.5% **great**
2.4% **delicious**
1.8% **sweet**
← Undo

Do Language Models know this?

Sentence:

mango is a

Predictions:

2.1% **great**

1.9% **very**

1.2% **new**

1.0% **good**

1.0% **small**

← Undo

Sentence:

a mango is a

Predictions:

4.2% **good**

4.0% **very**

2.5% **great**

2.4% **delicious**

1.8% **sweet**

← Undo

Sentence:

A mango is a

Predictions:

4.2% **fruit**

3.5% **very**

2.5% **sweet**

2.2% **good**

1.5% **delicious**

← Undo

Do *Masked* Language Models know this?

Sentence:

mango is a [MASK]

Mask 1 Predictions:

- 69.7% .
- 9.3% ;
- 1.7% !
- 0.8% vegetable
- 0.7% ?

Sentence:

mango is a [MASK].

Mask 1 Predictions:

- 7.6% staple
- 7.6% vegetable
- 4.6% plant
- 3.5% tree
- 3.5% fruit

Sentence:

A mango is a [MASK].

Mask 1 Predictions:

- 16.0% banana
- 12.1% fruit
- 5.9% plant
- 5.5% vegetable
- 2.5% candy

Sensitivity to cues

Candidate Sentence S_i	$\log p(S_i)$
“musician can playing musical instrument”	−5.7
“musician can be play musical instrument”	−4.9
“musician often play musical instrument”	−5.5
“a musician can play a musical instrument”	− 2.9

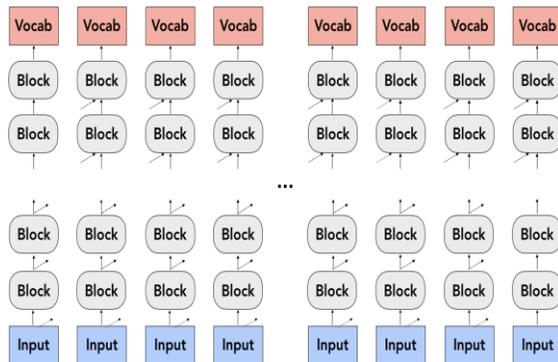
Feldman et al., 2019

Prompt	Model Predictions
<i>A ___ has fur.</i>	dog, cat, fox, ...
<i>A ___ has fur, is big, and has claws.</i>	cat, bear , lion, ...
<i>A ___ has fur, is big, has claws, has teeth, is an animal, eats, is brown, and lives in woods.</i>	bear , wolf, cat, ...

Weir et al., 2020

Commonsense Transformers

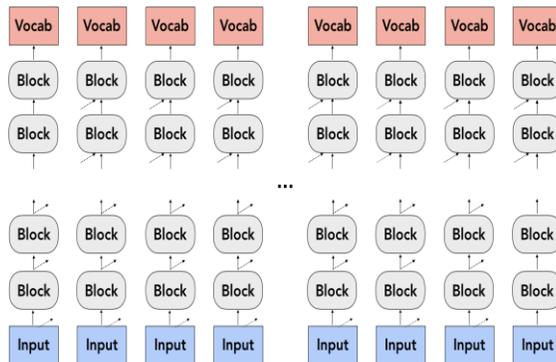
- Language models implicitly represent knowledge



Pre-trained
Language Model

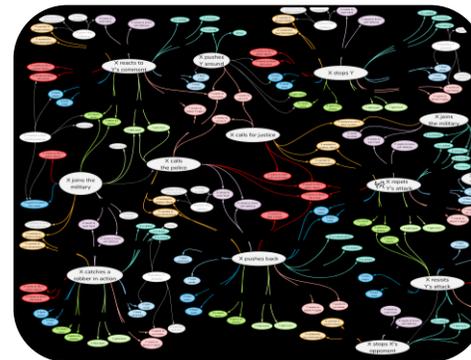
Commonsense Transformers

- Language models implicitly represent knowledge
- Re-train them on knowledge graphs to learn structure of knowledge



Pre-trained
Language Model

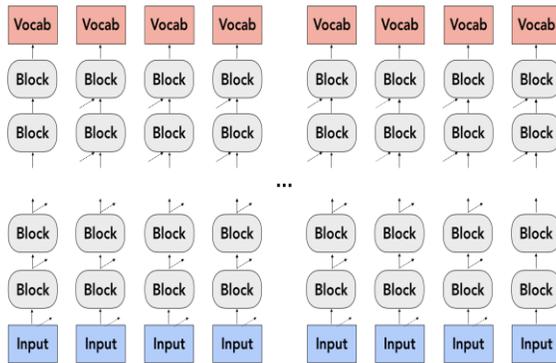
+



Seed Knowledge
Graph Training

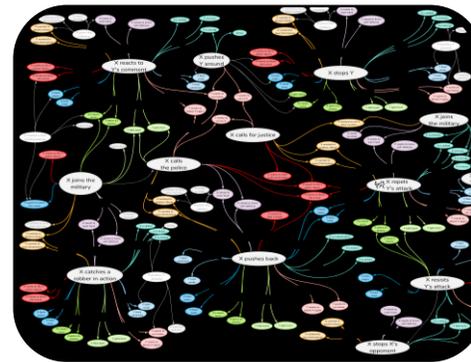
Commonsense Transformers

- Language models implicitly represent knowledge
- Re-train them on knowledge graphs to learn structure of knowledge
- Resulting knowledge model generalizes structure to other concepts



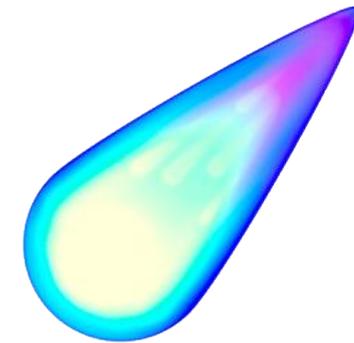
Pre-trained
Language Model

+



Seed Knowledge
Graph Training

=



COMET

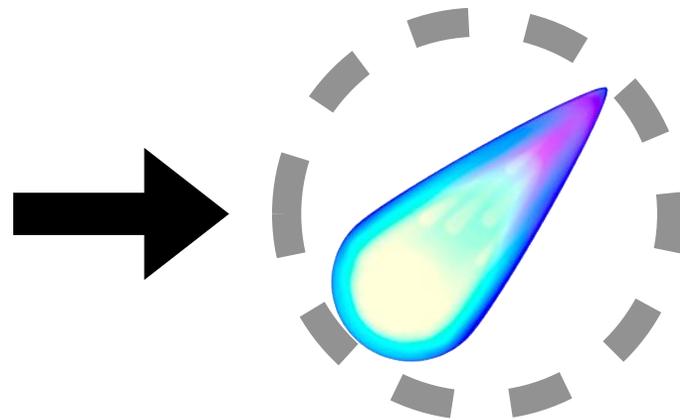
Question

What are the implications of this knowledge representation?

Commonsense Knowledge for any Situation

- transformer-style architecture — input format is natural language
 - event can be fully parsed

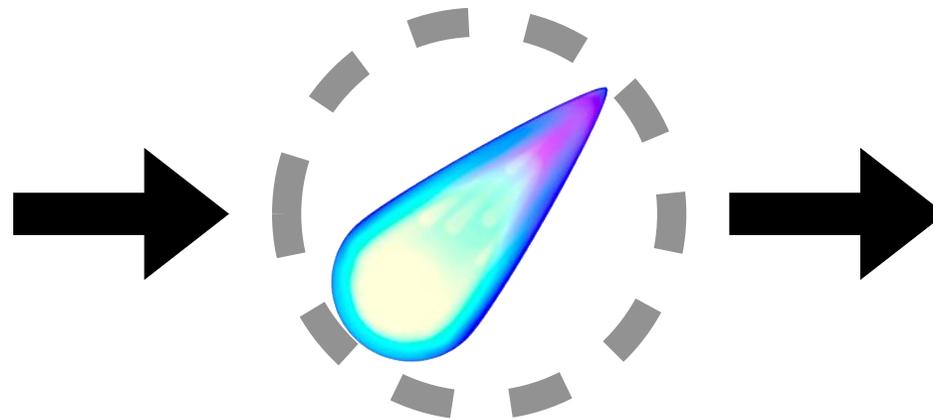
Kai knew that things were getting out of control and managed to keep his temper in check



Commonsense Knowledge for any Situation

- transformer-style architecture — input format is natural language
 - event can be fully parsed
 - knowledge generated **dynamically** from neural knowledge model

Kai knew that things were getting out of control and managed to keep his temper in check



Kai wants to avoid trouble
Kai intends to be calm
Kai stays calm
Kai is viewed as cautious

But sometimes LMs can't be trusted

BREAKING

Lawyer Used ChatGPT In Court—And Cited Fake Cases. A Judge Is Considering Sanctions

Molly Bohannon Forbes Staff

Molly Bohannon has been a Forbes news reporter since 2023.

Follow



Jun 8, 2023, 02:06pm EDT

Updated Jun 8, 2023, 03:42pm EDT

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/mollybohannon/2023/06/08/lawyer-used-chatgpt-in-court-and-cited-fake-cases-a-judge-is-considering-sanctions/>

Ways of combining them

- During training
 - Such as in reinforcement learning or retrieval-augmented generation (RAG)
- After training
 - Like a symbolic “wrapper” – helps validate what the NN is doing
- Others??

VerbNet v3.4

- <https://verbs.colorado.edu/verbnet/>
- Verb classes based on Beth Levin (1993)
- **Data Source:** hand-crafted
- **Languages:** English
- **Use:** [raw data](#) or my code
- **Demo:** https://uvi.colorado.edu/uvi_search

Full Class View

get-13.5.1
get-13.5.1-1

Class Hierarchy

Members

Member Verb Lemmas:

ATTAIN	BOOK	BUY	CALL	CATCH	CHARTER	CHOOSE	FIND	GATHER
HIRE	LEASE	ORDER	PHONE	PICK	PLUCK	PROCURE	PULL	REACH
RENT	RESERVE	TAKE	WIN					

Roles

ROLES:
 Agent [+animate | +organization]
 Theme
 Source [+concrete]
 Beneficiary [+animate | +organization]
 Asset [-location & -region]

Frames

NP V NP
NP V NP PP.source
NP V NP PP.beneficiary
NP V NP.beneficiary NP
NP V NP PP.asset
NP.asset V NP
NP V NP PP.source NP.asset

EXAMPLE:
Carmen bought a dress.

SYNTAX:
Agent VERB Theme **Syntax of this frame (NP V NP) with roles**

SEMANTICS:
 HAS_POSSESSION(e1 , ?Source , Theme)
 ¬ HAS_POSSESSION(e1 , Agent , Theme)
 TRANSFER(e2 , Agent , Theme , ?Source)
 CAUSE(e2 , e3)
 HAS_POSSESSION(e3 , Agent , Theme)
 ¬ HAS_POSSESSION(e3 , ?Source , Theme)

Predicates

K. Kipper Schuler, "VerbNet: A Broad-Coverage, Comprehensive Verb Lexicon," University of Pennsylvania, 2005.

Levin, B. (1993) "English Verb Classes and Alternations: A Preliminary Investigation", University of Chicago Press, Chicago, IL.

Using VerbNet

Jen sent the **book** to **Remy** from **Baltimore**.

ROLES **Agent**

Theme **Destination** **Initial_Location**

has_location(e1, **book**, **Baltimore**)

do(e2, **Jen**)

cause(e2, e3)

motion(e3, **book**)

!has_location(e3, **book**, **Baltimore**)

has_location(e4, **book**, **Remy**)

PREDICATES

Initial_Location : location

Theme : concrete

Agent : animate or organization

SELECTIONAL RESTRICTIONS

Pre-Conditions and Effects

Jen sent the **book** to **Remy** from **Baltimore**.

Pre-Conditions

has_location(e1, **book**, **Baltimore**)
do(e2, **Jen**)
cause(e2, e3)
motion(e3, **book**)
!has_location(e3, **book**, **Baltimore**)
has_location(e4, **book**, **Remy**)

Effects

~~**Baltimore** : location~~

book : concrete

Jen : animate or organization

Pre-Conditions and Effects

Jen sent the **book** to **Remy** from **Baltimore**.

Pre-Conditions

has_location(e1, **book**, **Baltimore**)

Baltimore : location

book : concrete

Jen : animate or organization

Effects

~~do(e2, **Jen**)~~

~~cause(e2, e3)~~

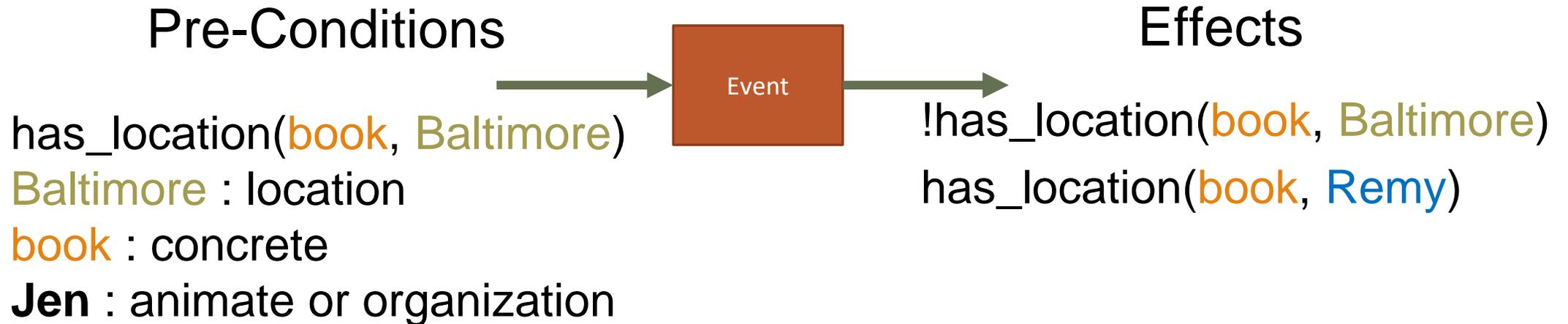
~~motion(e3, **book**)~~

!has_location(e3, **book**, **Baltimore**)

has_location(e4, **book**, **Remy**)

Pre-Conditions and Effects

Jen sent the **book** to **Remy** from **Baltimore**.



Resulting State Representation

Jen sent the **book** to **Remy** from **Baltimore**.

```
Baltimore : location  
book : concrete  
Jen : animate or organization  
!has_location(book, Baltimore)  
has_location(book, Remy)
```

How does a neural network fit in here?

