

PhD Defense

Extraction and normalization of simple and structured entities in medical documents

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Supervisors: **Xavier Tannier**¹, **Christel Daniel**²

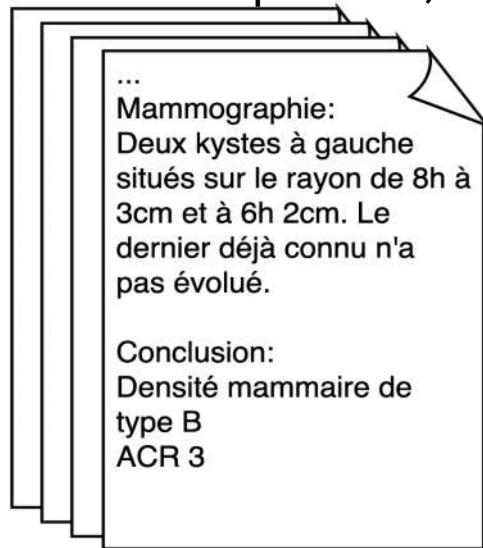
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Introduction

Information extraction

- A large quantity of information in **textual format**
- Medical research, patient care, hospital management need **structured data**
- to follow patients, build cohorts, manage services, perform statistical studies...

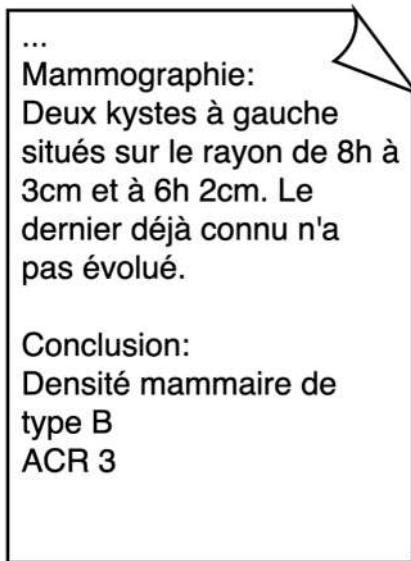


| | lesion ty. | angle | distance | | |
|--|------------|-------|----------|-----|-------|
| | cyst | 8h | 3cm | | |
| | cyst | 6h | 2cm | | |
| | mass | 1h | 4cm | | |
| | mass | | date | acr | side |
| | cyst | | 01/02/03 | 3 | left |
| | calcif | | 01/02/03 | 3 | right |
| | calcif | | 10/10/10 | 1 | left |
| | cyst | | 10/10/10 | 4 | right |
| | | | 08/04/12 | 2 | left |
| | | | 07/03/11 | 3 | left |
| | | | 07/03/11 | 3 | right |
| | | | 09/08/07 | 2 | right |



Information extraction

- To fill these structured databases, we **extract information** from documents
- Depending on the need, we extract more or less complex entities



Information extraction

→ “**Named entities**” used as is, or as building bricks for more complex objects

1

1

Simple entity recognition

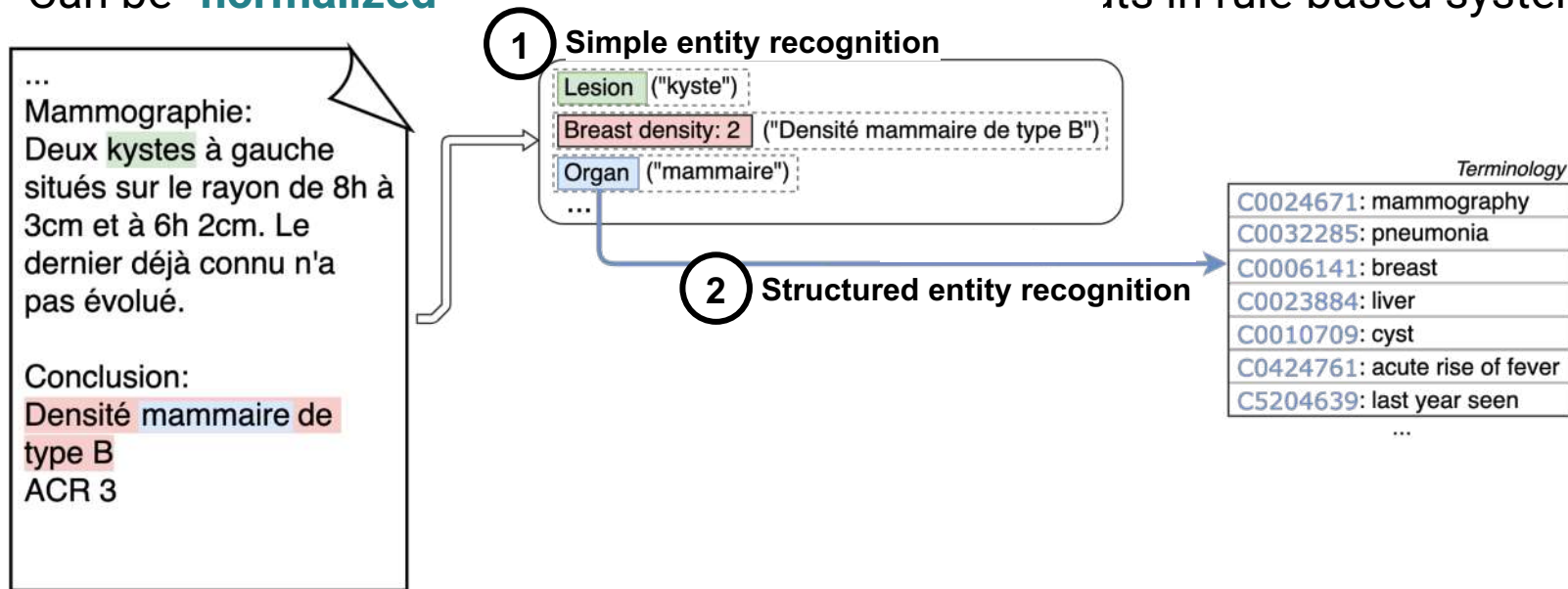
...
Mammographie:
Deux kystes à gauche
situés sur le rayon de 8h à
3cm et à 6h 2cm. Le
dernier déjà connu n'a
pas évolué.

Conclusion:
Densité mammaire de
type B
ACR 3

Lesion ("kyste")
Breast density: 2 ("Densité mammaire de type B")
Organ ("mammaire")
...

Information extraction

- “**Named entities**” used as is, or as building bricks for more complex objects
- Can be “**normalized**” to be queryable or used as inputs in rule-based systems



Information extraction

- For some needs, normalized named entities are not enough
- We extract **structured** entities with multiple parts and multiple labels

3

...
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2

Structured entity recognition

3

Structured entity recognition

Lesion ("kyste") Angle ("8h") Distance ("3 cm") Left ("gauche")
 Lesion ("kyste") Angle ("6h") Distance ("2 cm") Left ("gauche")
 BIRAD Score: 3 ("ACR 3")

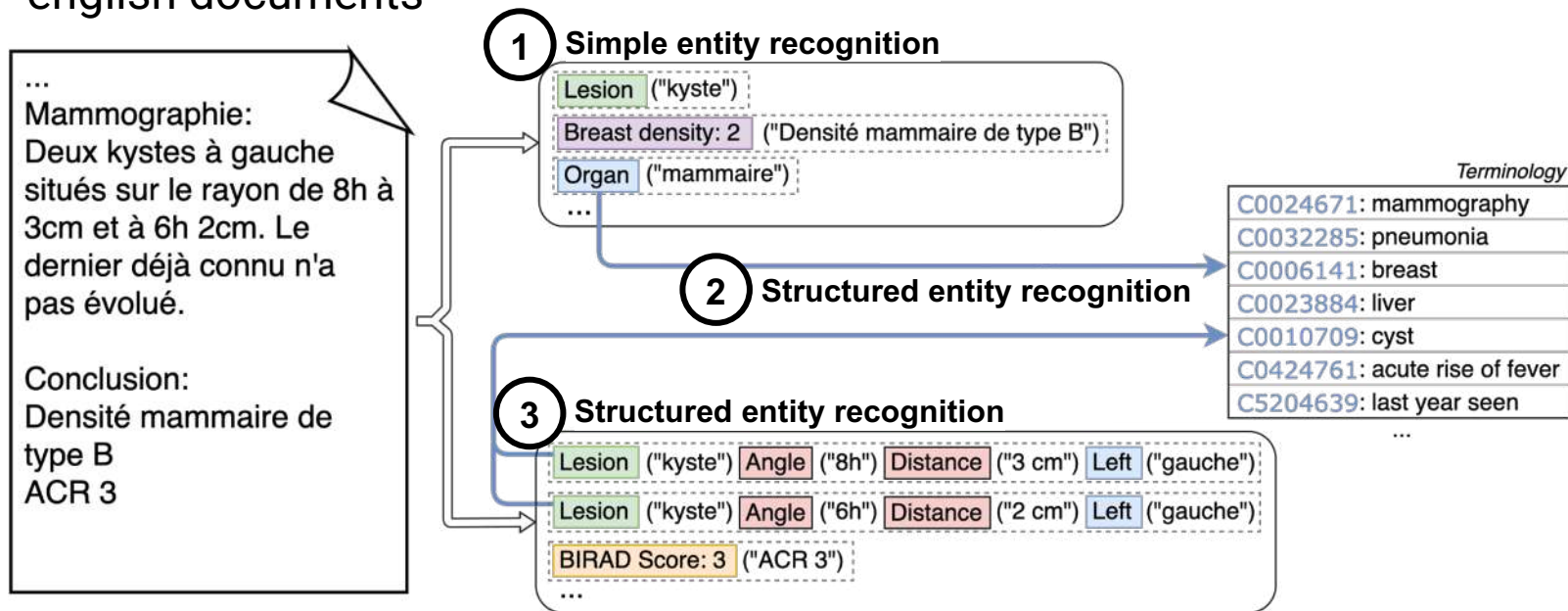
Terminology

| | |
|-----------|---------------------|
| C0024671: | mammography |
| C0032285: | pneumonia |
| C0006141: | breast |
| C0023884: | liver |
| C0010709: | cyst |
| C0424761: | acute rise of fever |
| C5204639: | last year seen |

...

Information extraction

→ We tackle these **three** tasks in the biomedical and clinical domain, with non-english documents



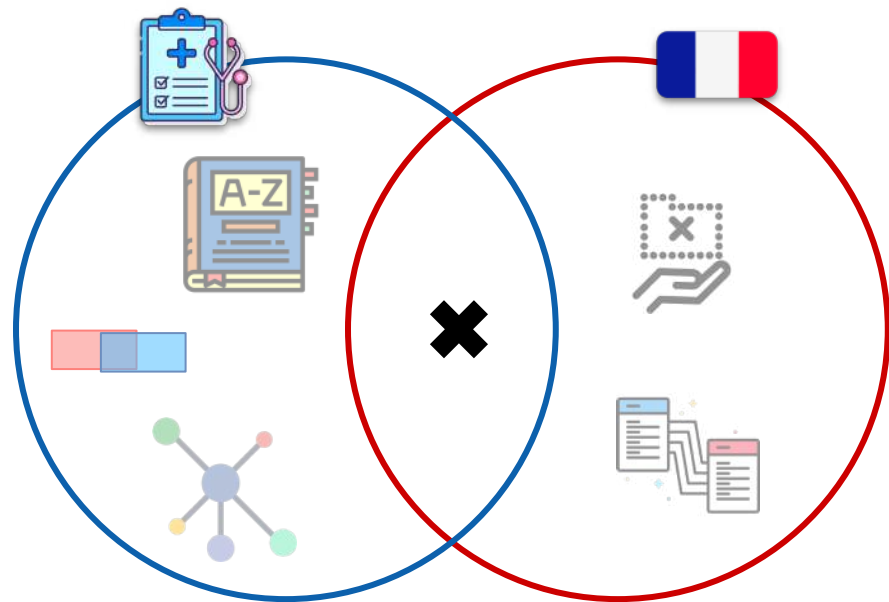
Domain

Medical domain

- Technical vocabulary
- Inherent semantic structure
- Overlapping information
- Textual structure (sections, lists...)

French domain

- Fewer available resources and tools
- Less research literature
- Need to be interoperable with widespread mainly English resources like terminologies & ontologies



Machine learning

Pros

- Automatic feature extraction and capture hidden patterns
- Better generalization (especially with pre-training e.g. BERT)
- Improvement through sample correction (i.e. more data)

Cons

- Requires complex architectures and lots of samples
- Hard to interpret: “blackboxes”

Research questions

- How do we cope with **overlapping** information in textual documents ?
- In **low-data** contexts, can we leverage resources in **other languages** or existing **medical knowledge** to bootstrap and improve our models ?
- How do we **represent** information to extract **complex entities** from clinical reports ?
- How do we extract structured entities composed of **different parts & labels** ?

Nested named entity recognition

Classic named entity recognition

- A named entity is a typed span of text
- Classically, we predict a tag for each word (e.g. using the BIOUL scheme)
- Example with two named entities in a sentence:

La patiente a un petit **nodule** dans le **quadrant sup. ext. du sein droit**.

(= The patient has a small nodule in the upper outer quadrant of the right breast.)

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----------|---|----|-------|----------|------|----|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---|
| La | patiente | a | un | petit | nodule | dans | le | quadrant | sup. | ext. | du | sein | droit | . |
| ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ |
| O | O | O | O | O | U-lesion | O | O | B-anat | I-anat | I-anat | I-anat | I-anat | L-anat | O |

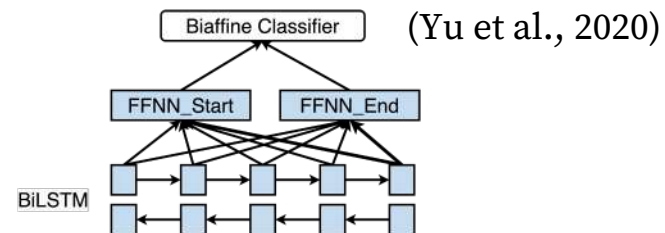
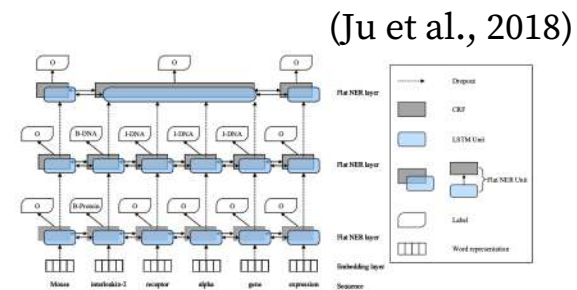
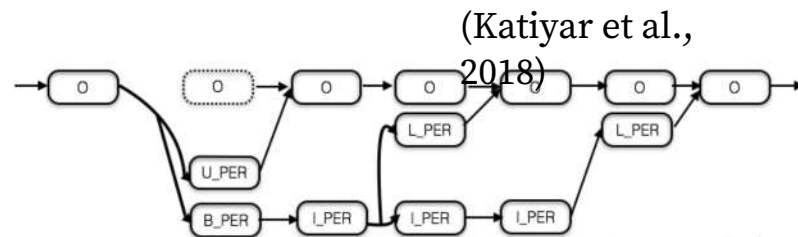
nodule
monocytes

Multiple options

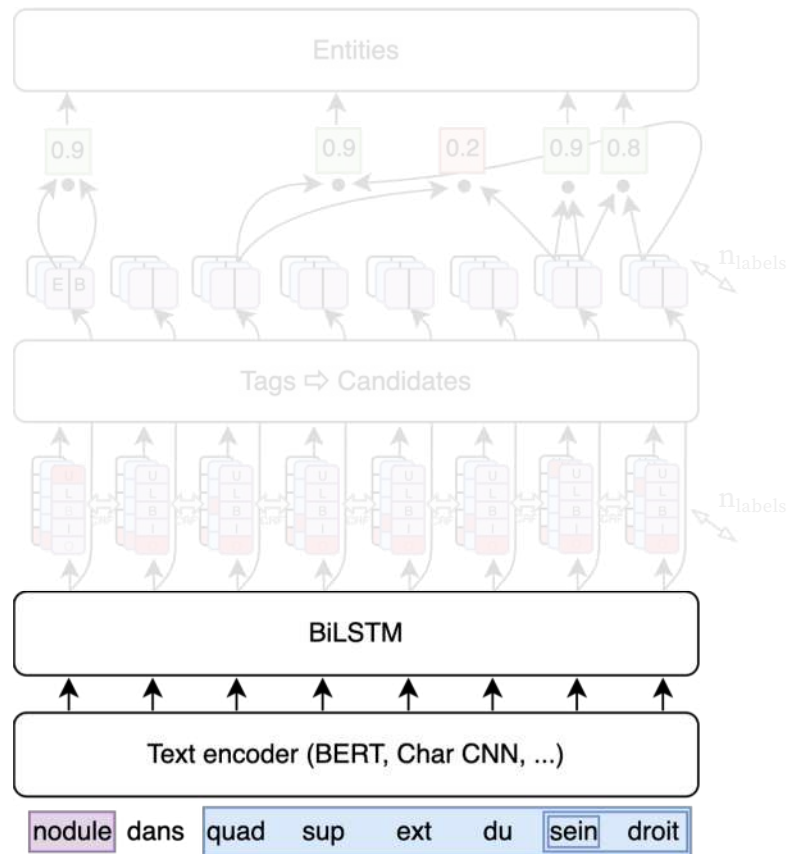
Nested named entity recognition

Several options to predict overlapping entities

- adapt the tagging scheme or but there are limitations
- predict non overlapping entities layer by layer (small first, then larger ...)
 - ◆ can we improve this approach by preventing layer specialization ?
- do away with token classification and classify each possible span instead
 - ◆ can we keep a token classification step ?

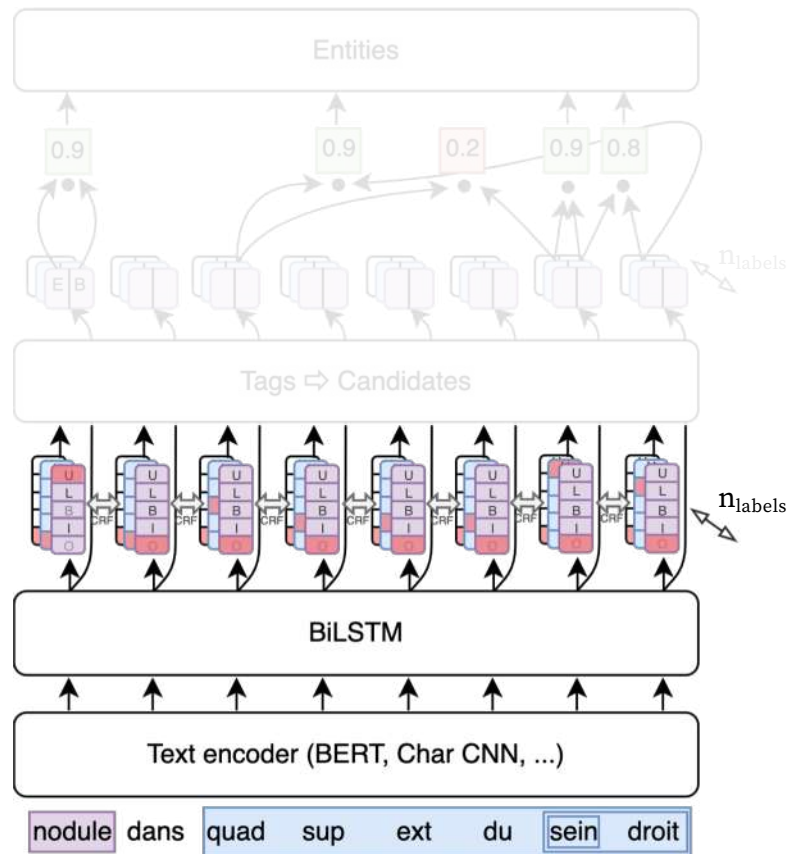


Method 1: tag and filter model



- Encode the text as embeddings
- Predict **multiple** labels per word
- Convert into candidate entities
- Filter these candidates, but keep at least one candidate for each non empty word

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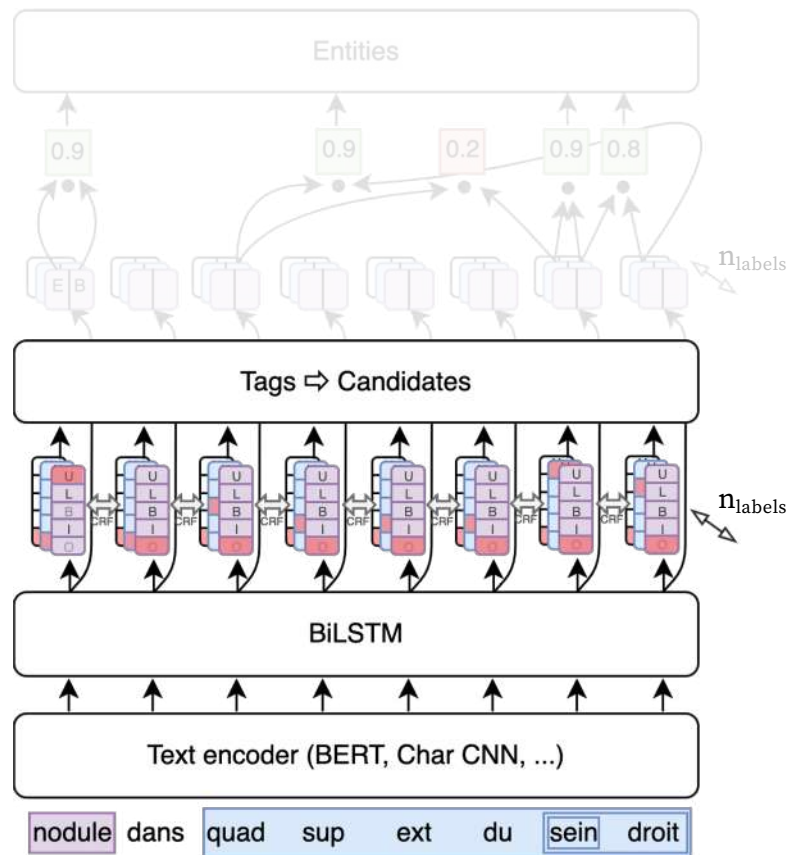
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| | | | | | | | |
|----------|-----|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| nodule | dan | quad. | sup. | ext. | du | sein | droit |
| ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ | ↓ |
| 0 | 0 | B-anat | I-anat | I-anat | I-anat | U-anat | L-anat |
| U-lesion | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

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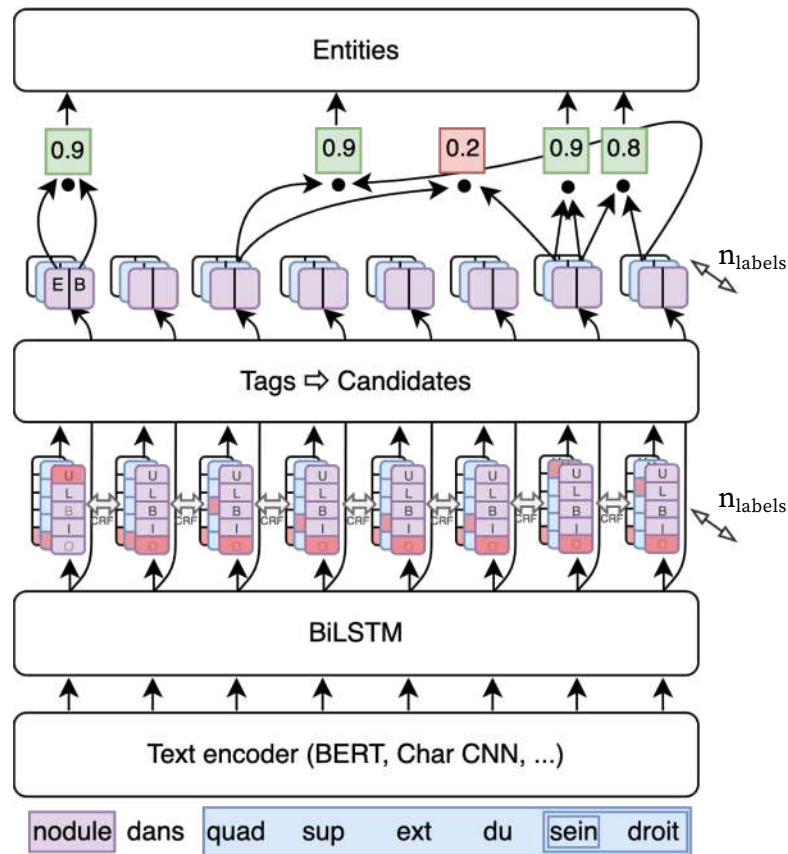
monocytes

quadrant sup ext du sein droit

quad sup ext du sein

sein

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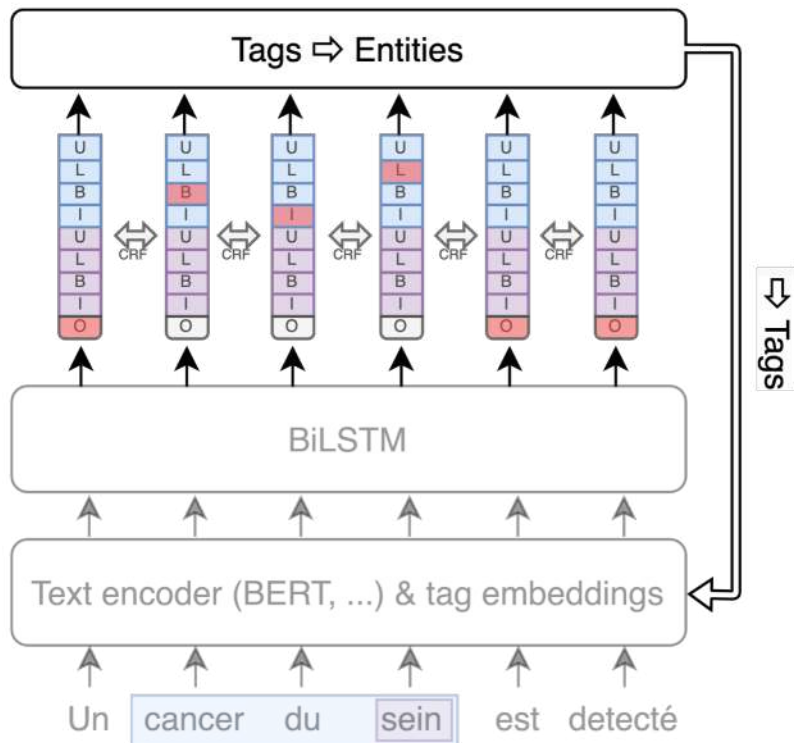
quadrant sup ext du sein droit



quad sup ext du sein



Method 2: autoregressive model



- Iteratively predict non overlapping entities
- Feed back predictions to the model to prevent repetition and improve next predictions
- Train the model with custom strategies

Example (train to predict large entities first)

Init:

no entities

Step 1: predict cancer du sein

Step 2: predict sein

Step 3: predict Ø → we stop

Experiments: datasets

| | DEFT 3.1 | | DEFT 3.2 | | GENIA | | | CONLL EN 2003 | | |
|-----------------------|----------|------|----------|------|------------|------|------|---------------|------|------|
| | train | test | train | test | train | val | test | train | val | test |
| Language | FR | | FR | | EN | | | EN | | |
| Domain | Clinical | | Clinical | | Biomedical | | | General | | |
| # docs | 100 | 67 | 100 | 67 | 1599 | 190 | 213 | 946 | 216 | 231 |
| # entities | 5677 | | 2167 | 1445 | 46185 | 4379 | 5515 | 23499 | 5942 | 5648 |
| avg length | 1.94 | 2.03 | 4.55 | 4.74 | 1.90 | 2.11 | 2.05 | 1.45 | 1.45 | 1.44 |
| # unique labels | 8 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| # unique texts | 3449 | 2179 | 1878 | 1320 | 15441 | 2141 | 2681 | 8082 | 2809 | 2637 |
| # nestings | 475 | 422 | 14 | 4 | 4524 | 436 | 658 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| # same label nestings | 8 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2430 | 234 | 331 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| # crossing overlaps | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| # same label crossing | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| # superpositions | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 43 | 12 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

→ French and English

→ General and medical

→ Small and large

→ With more or less overlap

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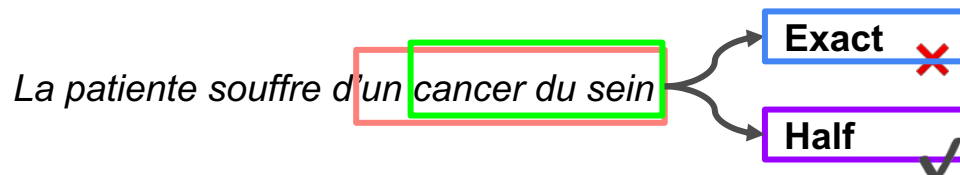
→ General and medical

→ ~~Small and large~~

→ With more or less overlap

Experiments: general results

| | | | GENIA (F1) | Exact | Half | CoNLL (F1) | Exact | Half |
|-------------------------------------|-------|------|------------------------------------|-------|------|------------------------|-------|------|
| | | | Lin et al. [2019] | 74.8 | | Lample et al. [2016] | 90.9 | |
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| Copara et al. [2020] | 70.7 | | Straková et al. [2019]* | 78.3 | | Straková et al. [2019] | 93.4 | |
| Copara et al. [2020] ($\times 3$) | 72.6 | | Wang et al. [2020]* | 79.3 | | Yu et al. [2020] | 93.5 | |
| BERT + softmax | 50.4 | 60.5 | BERT + softmax | 73.8 | 81.7 | BERT + softmax | 91.1 | 92.8 |
| Autoreg short→large | 74.1 | 84.5 | Autoreg large→short | 78.3 | 84.3 | Autoreg | 93.0 | 94.2 |
| BiTag w/o finetuning | 73.9 | 83.6 | BiTag w/o fine-tuning | 78.1 | 83.4 | BiTag w/o finetuning | 92.6 | 94.1 |
| Biaffine only | 73.5 | 82.1 | Biaffine-only | 78.5 | 83.8 | Biaffine-only | 92.8 | 94.0 |
| BiTag | 74.3 | 84.3 | BiTag | 78.4 | 84.3 | BiTag | 93.1 | 94.3 |
| Autoreg short→large ($\times 3$) | 75.4 | 85.2 | Autoreg large→short ($\times 3$) | 79.0 | 85.1 | Autoreg ($\times 3$) | 93.6 | 94.5 |
| BiTag ($\times 3$) | 75.3 | 85.4 | BiTag ($\times 3$) | 79.1 | 85.1 | BiTag ($\times 3$) | 93.4 | 94.7 |



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→ No noticeable difference between the two proposed models

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| BiTag ($\times 3$) | 75.3 | 85.4 | Biaffine-only | 78.5 | 83.8 | Biaffine-only | 92.8 | 94.0 |
| | | | BiTag | 78.4 | 84.3 | BiTag | 93.1 | 94.3 |
| | | | Autoreg large→short ($\times 3$) | 79.0 | 85.1 | Autoreg ($\times 3$) | 93.6 | 94.5 |
| | | | BiTag ($\times 3$) | 79.1 | 85.1 | BiTag ($\times 3$) | 93.4 | 94.7 |

→ The classic token classification model fails on nested datasets

→ No noticeable difference between the two proposed models

→ Discrepancy between **Exact** and **Half** and token classification helps **Half F1**

→ Ensembling improves the performance

Experiments: ablations

We document other findings by ablating parts of our models:

- finetuning the encoder weights can be beneficial
- adding surrounding context to BERT embeddings improves the performance
- optimal autoregressive order varies with the dataset
- BIOUL encoding scheme is best both for decoding and encoding entities

| | DEFT | | GENIA | | | DEFT | | GENIA | |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Exact | Half | Exact | Half | | Exact | Half | Exact | Half |
| base | 71.4 | 80.9 | 78.9 | 84.5 | large → short | 70.5 | 79.7 | 79.5 | 85.2 |
| – Tagging | 71.2 (−0.2) | 79.2 (−1.7) | 78.8 (−0.1) | 83.5 (−1.0) | greedy | 71.1 | 80.3 | 79.2 | 85.2 |
| – Doc context | 70.6 (−0.8) | 80.2 (−0.7) | 78.6 (−0.3) | 85.0 (−0.2) | short → large | 71.6 | 80.6 | 78.7 | 85.0 |
| – Char CNN | 71.0 (−0.4) | 80.2 (−0.7) | 78.8 (−0.1) | 84.4 (−0.1) | | | | | |
| – FastText | 71.8 (+0.4) | 81.1 (+0.2) | 78.8 (−0.1) | 84.4 (−0.1) | | | | | |
| + Finetuning | 73.3 (+1.9) | 82.4 (+1.5) | 78.9 (+0.0) | 84.5 (+0.0) | DEFT | BIO encoding | BIOUL encoding | | |
| | | | | | BIO decoding | 70.1 | 71.3 | | |
| | | | | | BIOUL decoding | 70.5 | 71.6 | | |

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| | DEFT | | GENIA | | | DEFT | | GENIA | |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Exact | Half | Exact | Half | | Exact | Half | Exact | Half |
| base | 71.4 | 80.9 | 78.9 | 84.5 | large → short | 70.5 | 79.7 | 79.5 | 85.2 |
| – Tagging | 71.2 (+0.2) | 79.2 (–1.7) | 78.8 (–0.1) | 83.5 (–1.0) | greedy | 71.1 | 80.3 | 79.2 | 85.2 |
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| | | | | | BIOUL decoding | 70.5 | 71.6 | | |

Key contributions & findings

- Two methods for overlapping NER
- Features matter: finetune BERT and add surrounding context
- Tag classification helps, especially w.r.t. relaxed match performance
- Optimal autoregressive order can vary depending on the dataset
- Exact match metric should be completed by a relaxed metric

Multilingual medical named entity normalization

A retrieval and translation problem

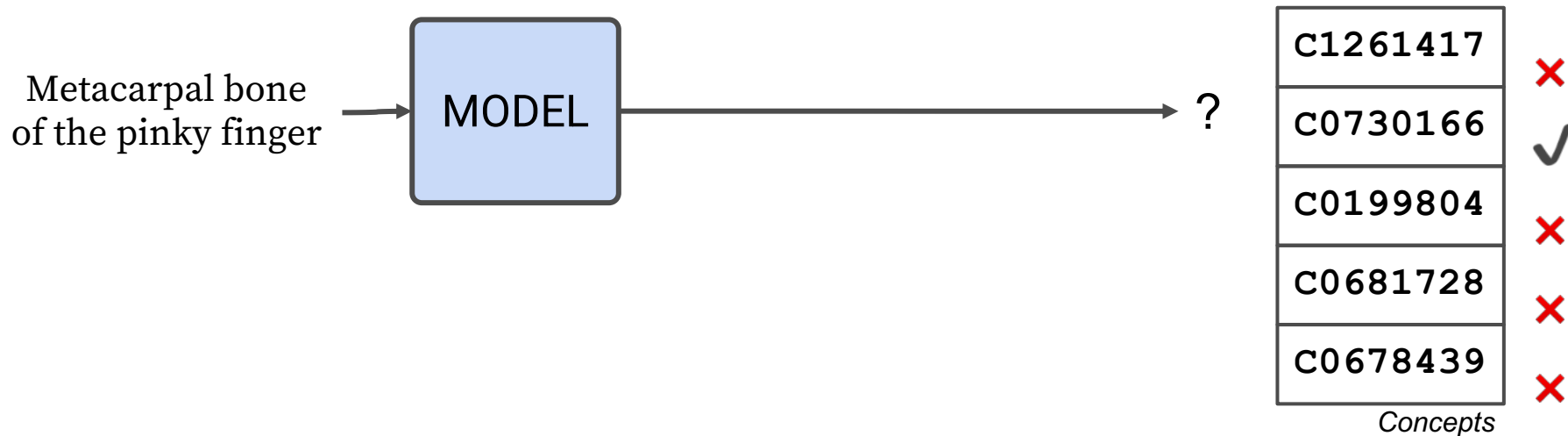
- A **terminology**, such as the **UMLS**, contains **concepts** and at least one example/**synonym** for each concept

| Synonyms | Concepts |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 5th metacarpal bone | C0730166 |
| bcg vaccination | C0199804 |
| kidney transplant | C1261317 |
| fifth metacarpal bone | C0730166 |
| bone of the 5th me... | C0730166 |
| café robusta | C0678439 |
| attention | C0004268 |

...

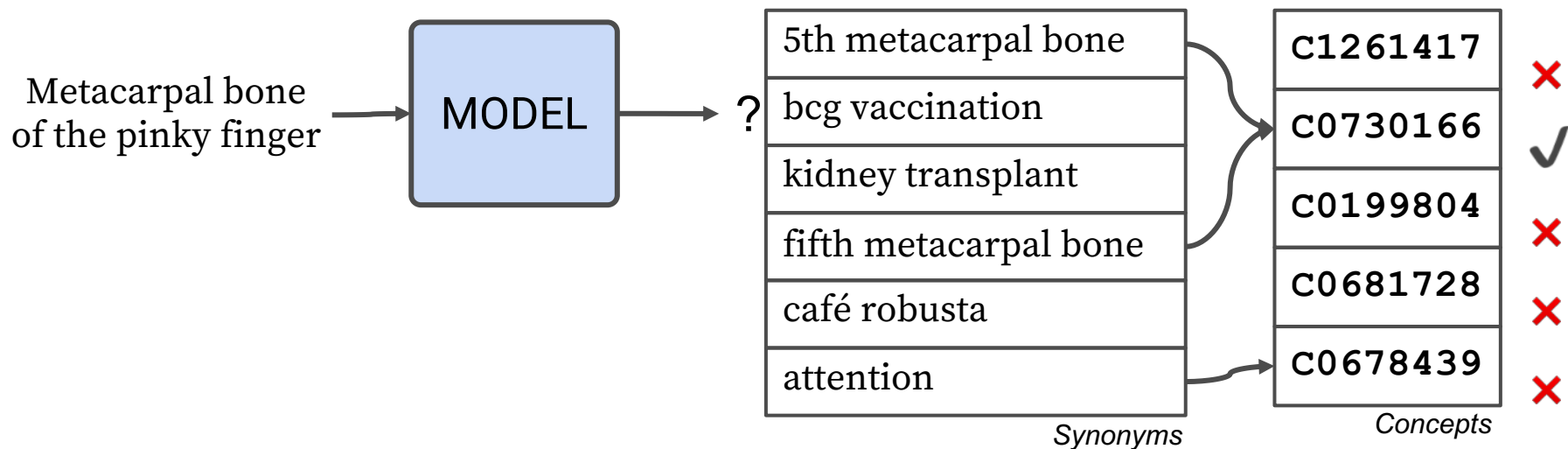
A retrieval and translation problem

- Given an **extracted named entity**, map it to the correct **concept** in a terminology
- Some methods directly classify the named entity
- But only English works and medium-sized terminologies < 160 000 concepts



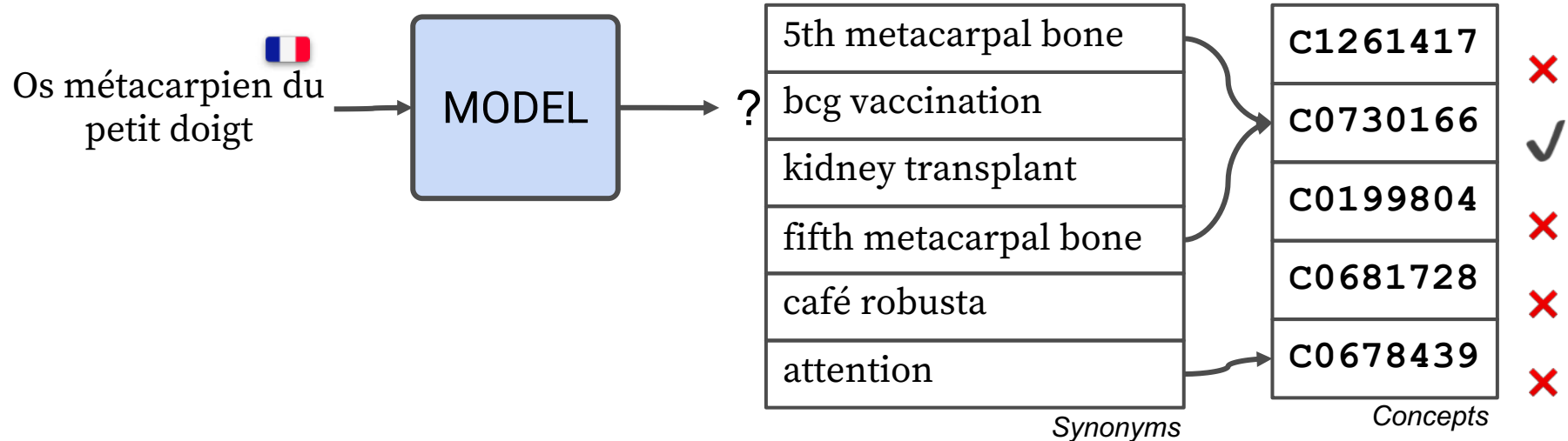
A retrieval and translation problem

- Most methods search the closest synonym and lookup its concept
- But this means **larger/slower** models since each synonym needs to be embedded



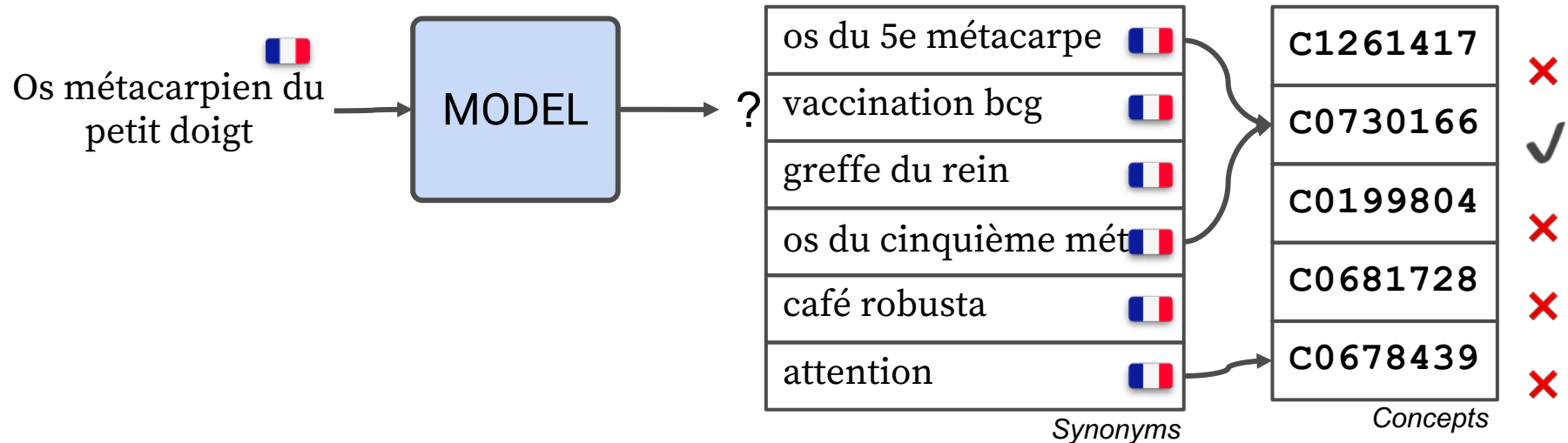
A retrieval and translation problem

→ What if the source and target **languages differ** ?



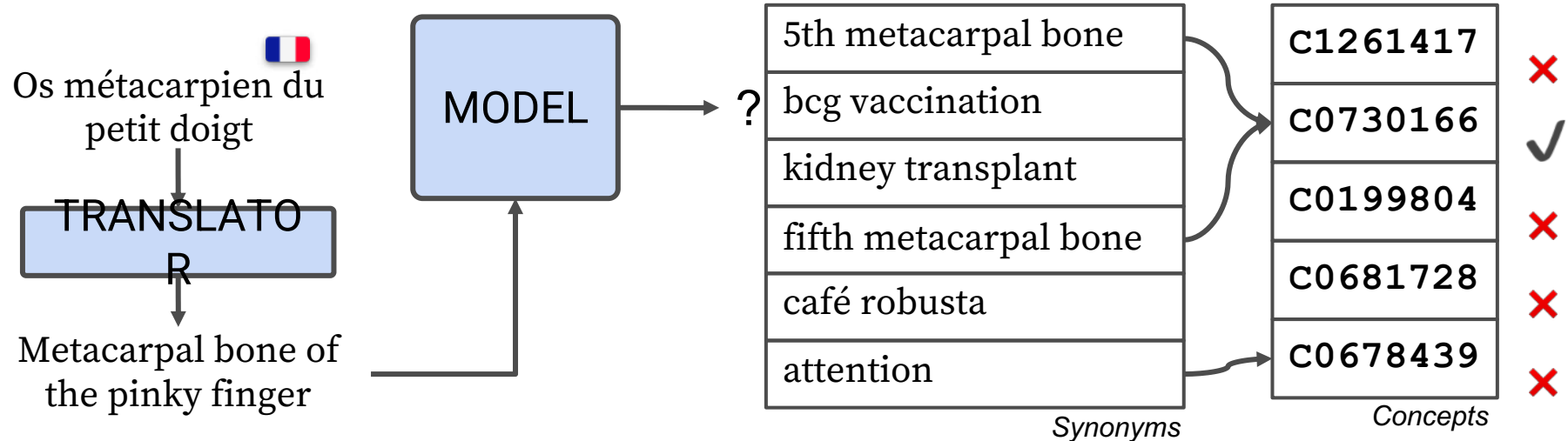
A retrieval and translation problem

- What if the source and target **languages differ** ?
- Existing literature relies synonym lookup with manual or machine **translation of terminologies**...



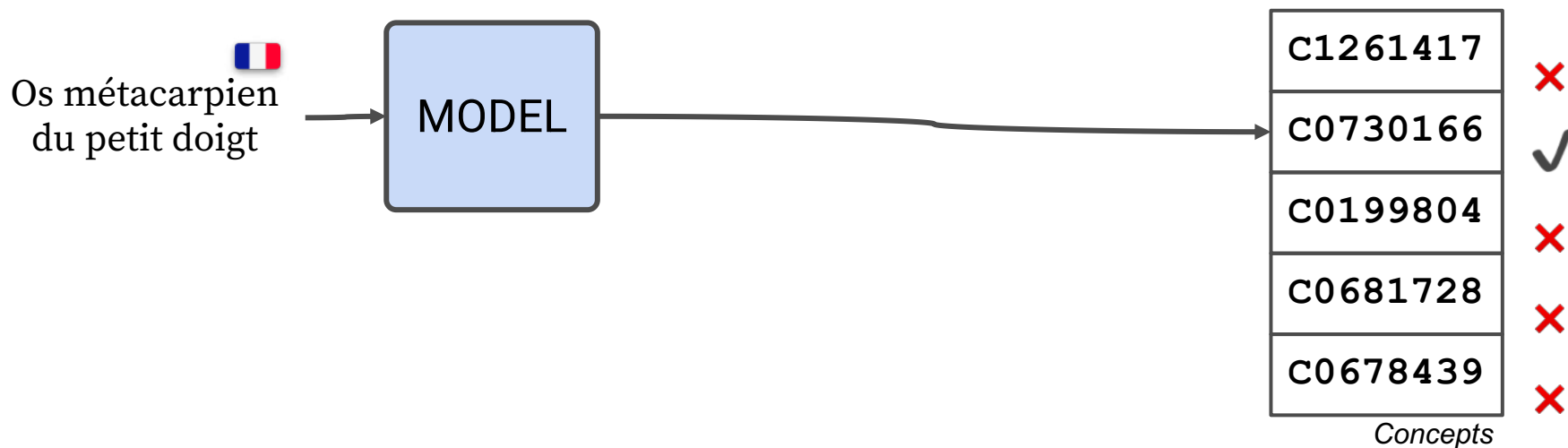
A retrieval and translation problem

- ... or the **translation of named entities** before normalizing them (*Roller et al., 2018*)
- However, doing this can be a **source of error** and makes models **more complex** or dependent on **external** services



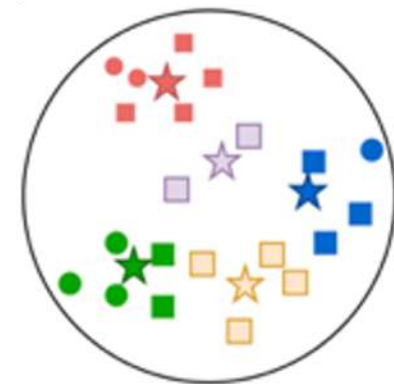
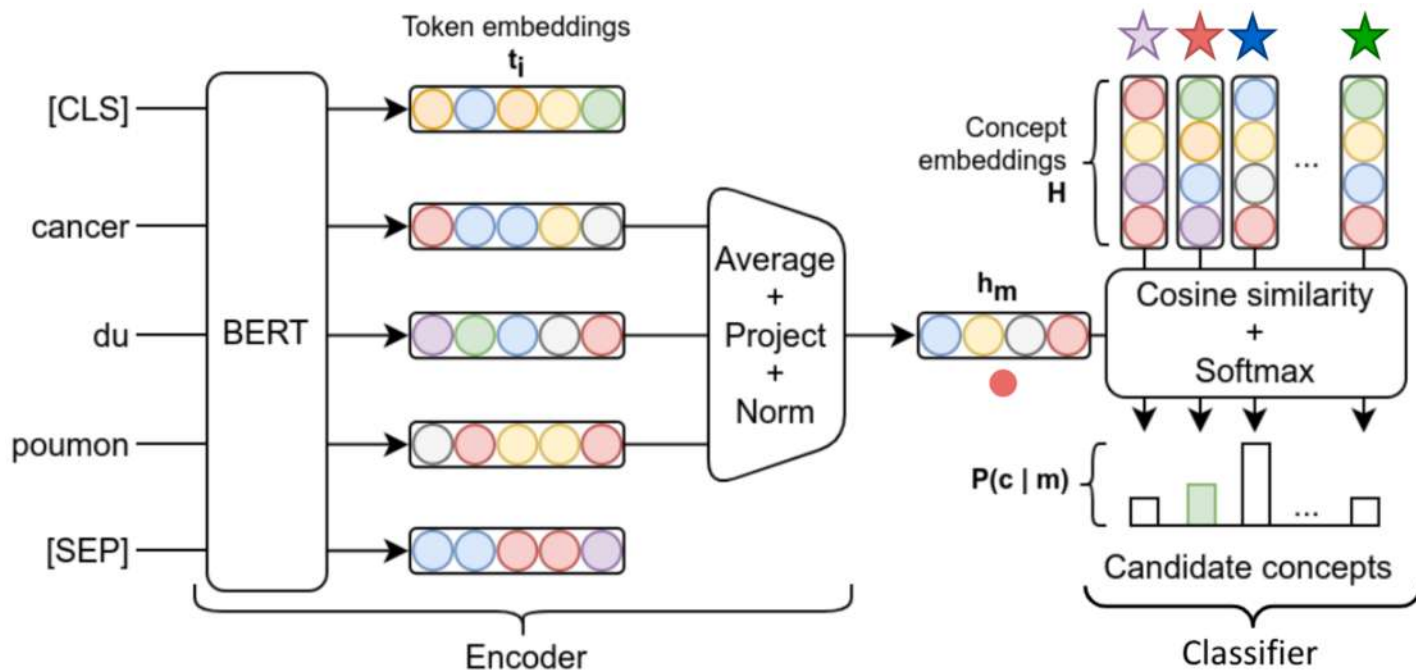
A retrieval and translation problem

- Could we **skip** all these steps and still normalize named entities in **non-English** languages against **large** terminologies ?



Architecture of our classifier

→ Embed synonyms and concepts in a shared and language-agnostic space



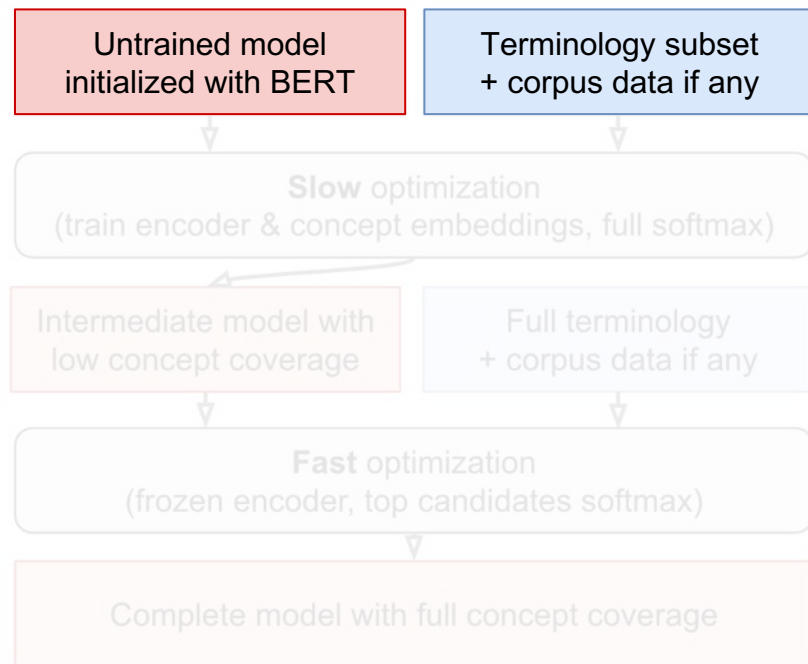
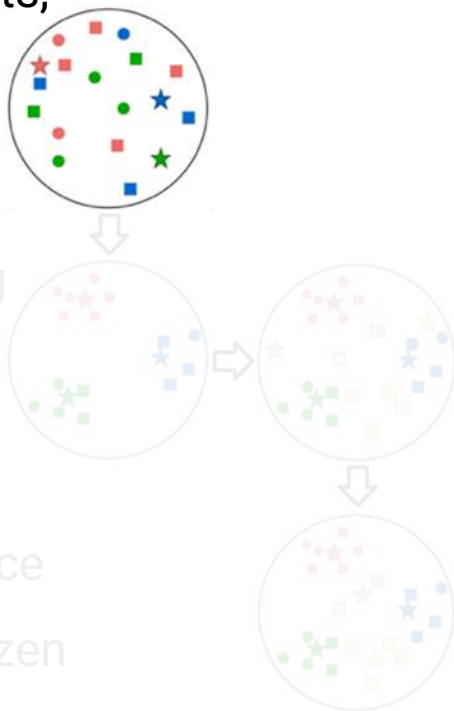
Latent shared language-agnostic space

Two steps training

→ Too many concepts,
so we train on a
subset first

→ Then, add missing
concepts

→ Benefits
optimizations, since
the encoder is frozen

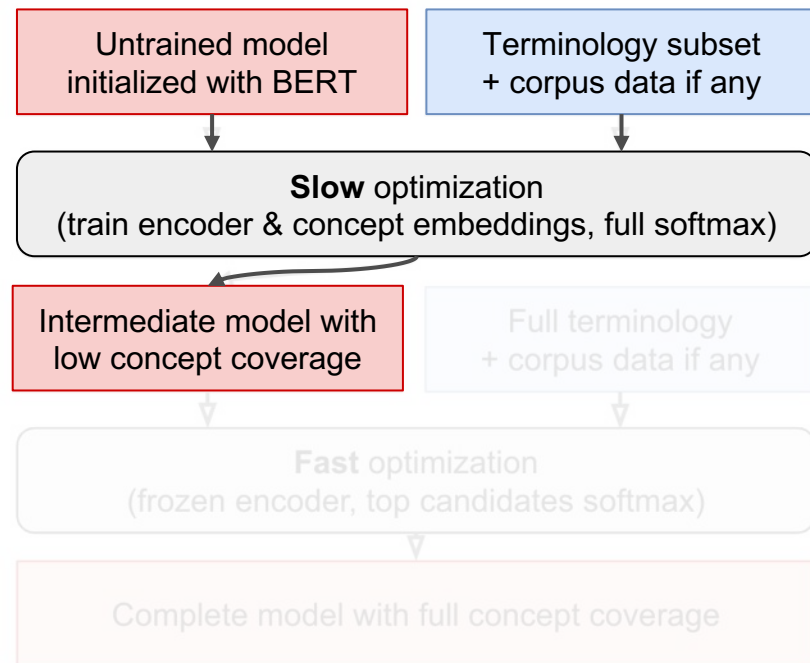
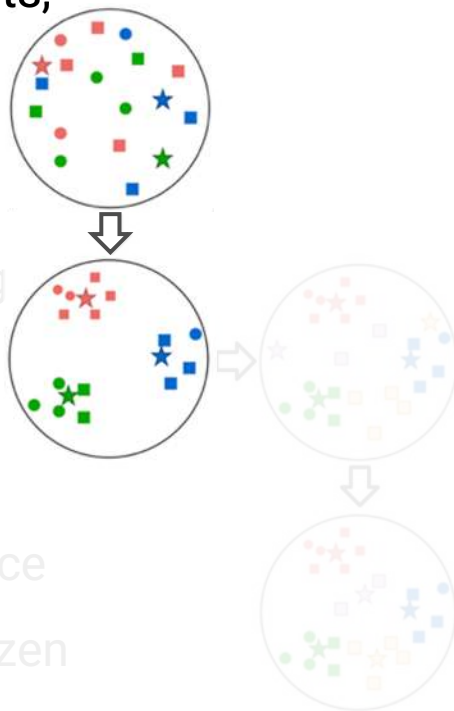


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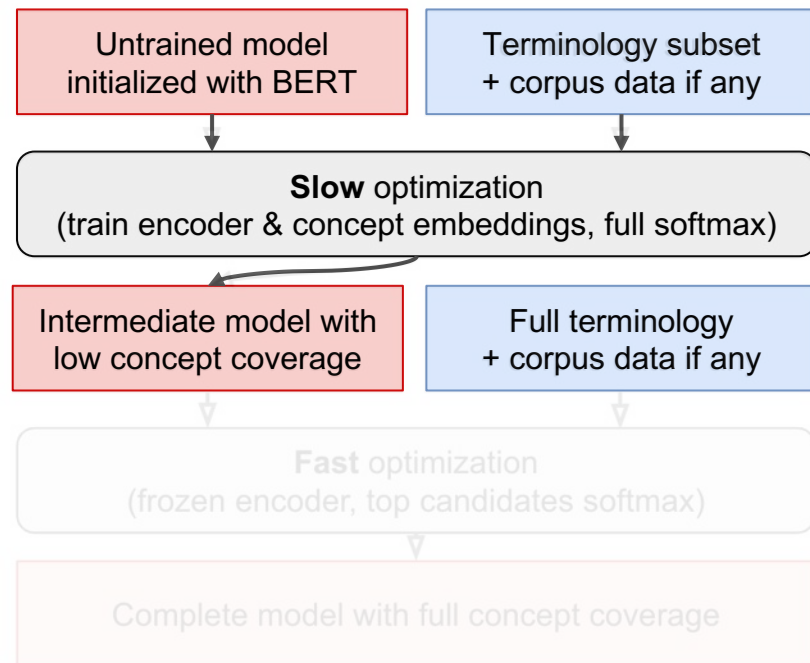
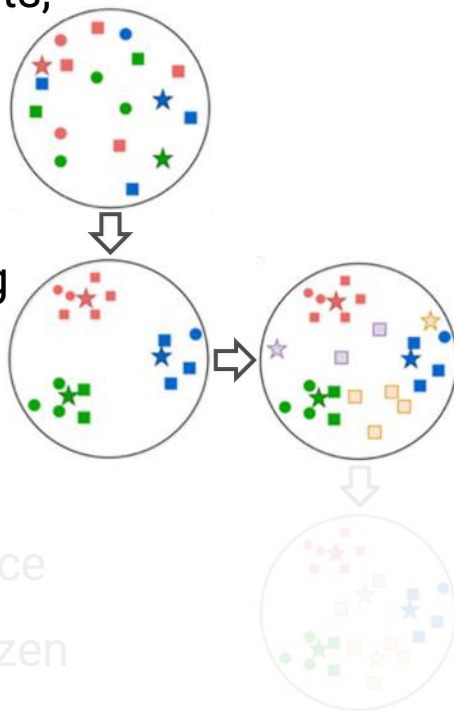


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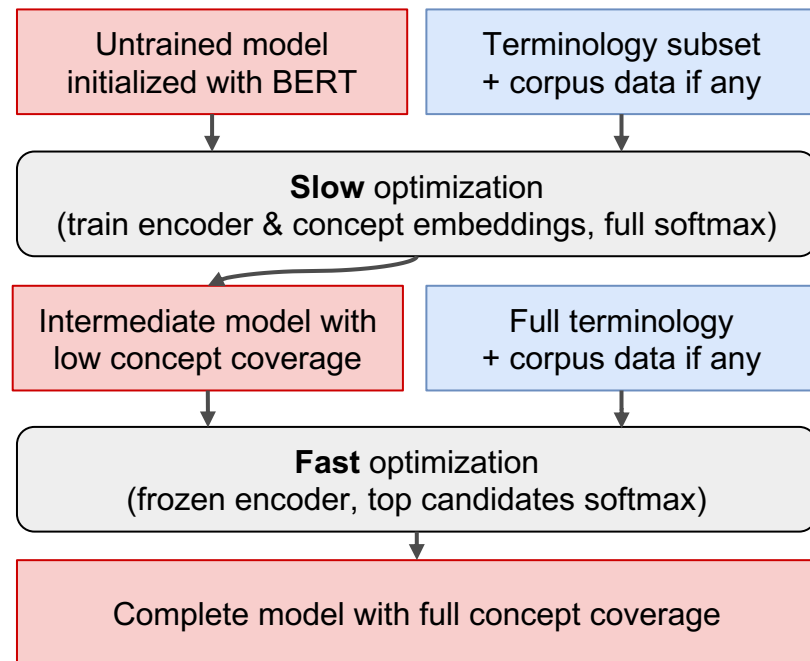
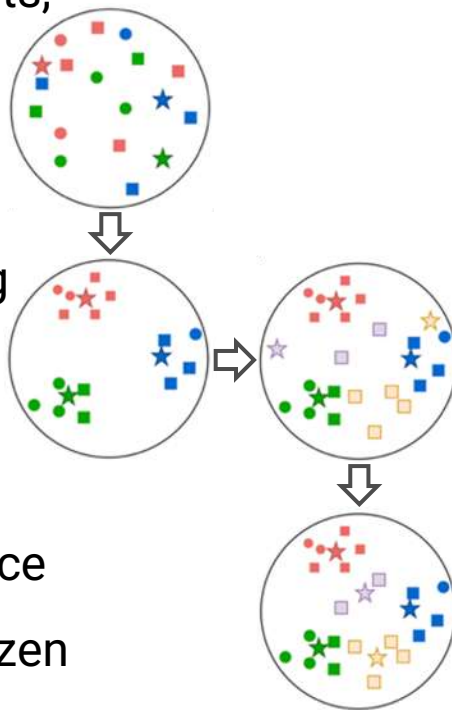


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Experiments: data

→ **Quaero dataset** (2015 & 2016 versions)

Language: *French*

Terminology: *Filtered UMLS = 766 548 concepts*

Coverage: *~70% of concepts in French*

Annotated training samples: 5695

→ **Mantra dataset:**

Languages: *English, French, Spanish, Dutch and German*

Terminology: *Mantra terminology = 591 918 concepts*

Coverage: *~65% in French/Dutch/German, 93% in Spanish, 100% for English*

Annotated training samples: 0

Experiments: general results

| Quaero (F1) | | Quaero 2015 | | Quaero 2016 | |
|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | MEDLINE | EMEA | MEDLINE | EMEA |
| Others | [Afzal et al., 2015] | 67.1 | 87.2 | — | — |
| | [Cabot et al., 2016] | — | — | 55.2 | 52.4 |
| | [Roller et al., 2018] | 73.6 | 83.5 | 71.3 | 73.4 |
| Our model | no corpus annotations | 73.7 | 76.5 | 75.4 | 72.7 |
| | with corpus annotations | 79.0 | 85.1 | 79.0 | 74.3 |

| Mantra Medline (F1) | English | Spanish | French | Dutch | German |
|-----------------------|---------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| [Roller et al., 2018] | — | 68.7 | 68.6 | 64.8 | 67.9 |
| Our model | 81.7 | 74.5 | 71.5 | 70.0 | 76.0 |

→ compares favorably to the state of the art on both datasets

→ even good results with no corpus training annotations for Quaero

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Auxiliary experiments

We document other findings:

- training with multilingual BERT does not improve performance vs English BERT
- English only model + machine translation < our bilingual model
- 2-step training does not degrade the performance, but reduces the training time

| Quaero (2015) F1 | MEDLINE | EMEA |
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| camemBERT (FR) | 73.5 | 75.5 |
| BERT (EN) | 73.7 | 76.8 |

| Quaero (2015) F1 | MEDLINE | EMEA |
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| Our model | 73.7 | 76.5 |
| with mBERT-MT | 71.8 | 76.5 |
| with BERT-MT | 72.4 | 75.5 |

| Quaero (2015) F1 | MEDLINE | EMEA |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| ~7h training 2 steps | 73.7 | 76.5 |
| ~15h training 1 step | 73.6 | 76.2 |

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Experiments: monolingual / bilingual / multilingual

Mantra

| Train ▼ Test ► | ENG | SPA | FRE | GER | DUT | All |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| ENG | 81.1 | 52.2 | 53.0 | 45.9 | 38.7 | 62.2 |
| ENG+SPA | 81.9 | <u>72.8</u> | 60.8 | 49.9 | 40.0 | 67.4 |
| ENG+FRE | 81.4 | 56.9 | <u>73.7</u> | 48.8 | 40.9 | 67.4 |
| ENG+GER | <u>81.8</u> | 55.5 | 56.6 | <u>70.9</u> | 45.2 | <u>68.3</u> |
| ENG+DUT | 81.4 | 55.7 | 55.1 | 51.7 | <u>66.1</u> | 66.6 |
| Multilingual | 81.0 | 73.4 | 74.1 | 72.9 | 68.8 | 75.7 |

Given the same set of concepts

→ **Bilingual > monolingual**

→ Multilingual > bilingual

→ Similar languages have better co-training performance

Quaero (2015)

| | MEDLINE 2015 | | | EMEA 2015 | | |
|------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | Prec. | Rec. | F1 | Prec. | Rec. | F1 |
| FR synonyms only | 73.8 | 52.8 | 61.5 | 82.4 | 52.8 | 64.4 |
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Some examples

| System | Example mention | Expected concept + synonyms | Predicted concept + synonyms |
|----------|---|---|---|
| MLNorm | greffon renal | C1261317 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [EN] transplanted kidney [EN] kidney transplant [EN] structure of transplanted kidney | ✓ |
| | cinquième métacarpien | C0730166 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [EN] bone structure of fifth metacarpal [EN] fifth metacarpal bone | ✓ |
| | vaccination par le b.c.g | C0199804 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [FR] immunisation contre la tuberculose [EN] bcg vaccination | ✓ |
| | in vitro | C0681828 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [EN] in vitro study [EN] study vitro | C3850137 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [EN] in vitro techniques [EN] technique in vitro [EN] in vitro as topic |
| | coffea robusta | C0678439 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [EN] coffea robusta (food) | C1138610 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [EN] coffea arabica |
| mBERT-MT | cellar (translated from the French “cave”) | C0042460 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [EN] vena cava structure [EN] venae cavae | C0007634 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [EN] cell [EN] cell structure |
| | be careful (translated from the French “attention”) | C0004268 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [EN] attention | C3257858 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [EN] my thinking is usually careful and purposeful |

Key contributions

- good results even without manually annotated data using knowledge from UMLS
- multilingual model > bilingual model > monolingual model
- pre-training embeddings matter less than expected
- two steps training can be used to speed up training

Structured entity extraction

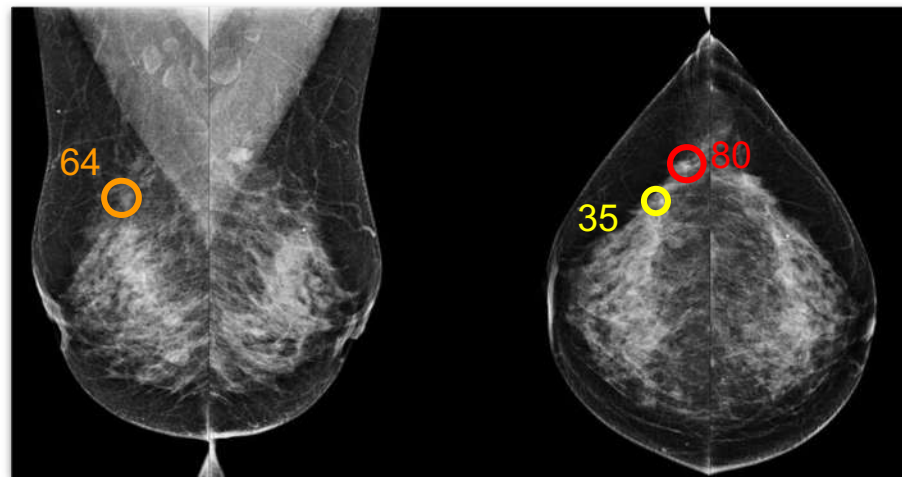
Medical context

Prevention

- Breast cancer detection using machine learning models on images
- Validate or train using existing data: need to extract it and make it queriable

Patient follow-ups

- Extract patient history
- Detect lesion evolutions
- Map different reports together



Complex entities...

| Frame type | Field | Field value |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Cancer Risk | score trigger | |
| | score type | type 0 / type 1 / ... type 6 |
| | laterality | left / right |
| | temporality | overlap / before doc time |
| Breast density | density trigger | |
| | density type | type 1 / type 2 / type 3 / type 4 |
| | laterality | left / right |
| | temporality | overlap / before doc time |
| Diagnostic procedure | diag. trigger | |
| | diag. type | mammography / ultrasound / ... |
| | organ | breast / other |
| | laterality | left / right |
| | temporality | overlap / before / after doc time |
| Therapeutic procedure | ther. trigger | |
| | ther. type | surgery / other |
| | organ | breast / other |
| | laterality | left / right |
| | temporality | overlap / before / after doc time |
| Radiological lesion | lesion trigger | |
| | organ | breast / other |
| | laterality | left / right |
| | temporality | overlap / before doc time |
| | quadrant | lower inner / axillary region / ... |
| | size | |
| | distance | |
| | angle | |

→ Different kinds of structured entities

→ **Multiple fields** per entity

→ **Justify** each field in the text

| Lesion 1 | Frame 1 | | Frame 2 | |
|-------------|---------|---------------------|---------|--------------------|
| | value | justification | value | justification |
| trigger | | [kystes], [nodules] | | Plusieurs [kystes] |
| organ | breast | [mammaire] | breast | |
| laterality | left | [Gauche]: | left | à [gauche] |
| temporality | overlap | | overlap | |
| quadrant | | | | |
| size | | [millimetrique] | | |
| distance | 30mm | [3 cm] | | |
| angle | 8 | [8h] | | |

... in complex documents

INDICATION:

Previous history of breast **neoplsia** in the sister at 54.
Personal history: notion of surgery for breast cyst.

Results :

Breasts of symmetrical volume, density graded II.
Dystrophic calcifications scattered in the left breast.

Complementary ultrasound:

Left breast: Multiple stable homogeneous hypoechoic nodular formations are found compared to previous ultrasound, compatible with **fibroadenomas** located as follows:

On the 10 o'clock and 11 o'clock position at 3 cm from the nipple two nodules of 3 x 8 mm.

On the 2 o'clock pos. at 2 cm measuring 3 x 8 mm.

Apparition of a 5 x 11 mm nodule in the LI quadrant on the 8 o'clock position at 2 cm from the nipple.

Right breast: **hypoechoic** microformations smaller than 5mm.

CONCLUSION :

Multiple nodules of the left breast compatible with stable fibroadenomas with this day appearance of a

HospitalName

123 Main Street City Cedex

centimetric lower-inner left nodule. **Further ultrasound surveillance is advised.** ACR 3 for both breasts.

Long documents

Typos

Ambiguous sections

Overlapping, elliptic structures

PDF→text artefacts

Implicit information (e.g. time)

...

Report annotation

→ Let's focus on an example and extract lesion entities

Echographie mammaire:

Gauche:

2 kystes situés à 8h 3cm et 2cm
sur le rayon de 6h. Ces nodules
sont millimétriques.

Droite:

Pas de masse suspecte.

CONCLUSION:

Plusieurs kystes à gauche.

Report annotation

→ We fill a first frame...

Echographie **mammaire**:

Gauche:

2 **kystes** situés à **8h 3cm** et 2cm
sur le rayon de 6h. Ces **nodules**
sont **millimétriques**.

Droite:

Pas de masse suspecte.

CONCLUSION:

Plusieurs kystes à gauche.

| Lesion 1 | Frame 1 | |
|-------------|---------|---------------------|
| field | value | justification |
| trigger | | [kystes], [nodules] |
| organ | breast | [mammaire] |
| laterality | left | [Gauche]: |
| temporality | overlap | |
| quadrant | | |
| size | | [millimétrique] |
| distance | | [3 cm] |
| angle | | [8h] |

Report annotation

- We fill a first frame...
- ... part of an object referred in 2 places

Echographie **mammaire**:

Gauche:

2 **kystes** situés à **8h 3cm** et 2cm
sur le rayon de 6h. Ces **nodules**
sont **millimétriques**.

Droite:

Pas de masse suspecte.

CONCLUSION:

Plusieurs **kystes** à **gauche**.

| Lesion 1 | Frame 1 | | Frame 2 | |
|-------------|---------|---------------------|---------|--------------------|
| field | value | justification | value | justification |
| trigger | | [kystes], [nodules] | | Plusieurs [kystes] |
| organ | breast | [mammaire] | breast | |
| laterality | left | [Gauche]: | left | à [gauche] |
| temporality | overlap | | overlap | |
| quadrant | | | | |
| size | | [millimétrique] | | |
| distance | | [3 cm] | | |
| angle | | [8h] | | |

Report annotation

→ There is a second lesion

Echographie **mammaire**:

Gauche:

2 **kystes** situés à 8h 3cm et **2cm**
sur le **rayon de 6h**. Ces **nodules**
sont **millimétriques**.

Droite:

Pas de masse suspecte.

CONCLUSION:

Plusieurs **kystes** à **gauche**.

| Lesion 2 | Frame 3 | | Frame 2 | |
|-------------|---------|---------------------|---------|--------------------|
| field | value | justification | value | justification |
| trigger | | [kystes], [nodules] | | Plusieurs [kystes] |
| organ | breast | [mammaire] | breast | |
| laterality | left | [Gauche]: | left | à [gauche] |
| temporality | overlap | | overlap | |
| quadrant | | | | |
| size | | [millimetrique] | | |
| distance | | [2 cm] | | |
| angle | | [6h] | | |

Report annotation

- There is a second lesion
- The 2 lesions overlap in many places

Echographie **mammaire**:

Gauche:

2 **kystes** situés à **8h 3cm** et **2cm**
sur le **rayon de 6h**. Ces **nodules**
sont **millimétriques**.

Droite:

Pas de masse suspecte.

CONCLUSION:

Plusieurs **kystes** à **gauche**.

| Lesion 1 | Frame 1 | | Frame 2 | |
|-------------|---------|---------------------|---------|--------------------|
| field | value | justification | value | justification |
| trigger | | [kystes], [nodules] | | Plusieurs [kystes] |
| organ | breast | [mammaire] | breast | |
| laterality | left | [Gauche]: | left | à [gauche] |
| temporality | overlap | | overlap | |
| quadrant | | | | |
| size | | [millimétrique] | | |
| distance | | [3 cm] | | |
| angle | | [8h] | | |

| Lesion 2 | Frame 3 | | Frame 2 | |
|-------------|---------|---------------------|---------|--------------------|
| field | value | justification | value | justification |
| trigger | | [kystes], [nodules] | | Plusieurs [kystes] |
| organ | breast | [mammaire] | breast | |
| laterality | left | [Gauche]: | left | à [gauche] |
| temporality | overlap | | overlap | |
| quadrant | | | | |
| size | | [millimétrique] | | |
| distance | | [2 cm] | | |
| angle | | [6h] | | |

Report annotation

→ We annotate other types of entities

Echographie mammaire:

Gauche:

2 kystes situés à 8h 3cm et 2cm
sur le rayon de 6h. Ces nodules
sont millimétriques.

Droite:

Pas de masse suspecte.

CONCLUSION:

Plusieurs kystes à gauche.

| Diag. proc. 1 | Frame 4 | | Frame 5 | |
|---------------|------------|---------------|------------|---------------|
| field | value | justification | value | justification |
| trigger | | [Echographie] | | [Echographie] |
| organ | breast | [mammaire] | breast | [mammaire] |
| laterality | left | [Gauche]: | right | [Droite] |
| temporality | maintenant | | maintenant | |
| diag type | ultrasound | [Echographie] | ultrasound | [Echographie] |

| Lesion 1 | Frame 1 | | Frame 2 | |
|-------------|---------|---------------------|---------|--------------------|
| field | value | justification | value | justification |
| trigger | | [kystes], [nodules] | | Plusieurs [kystes] |
| organ | breast | [mammaire] | breast | |
| laterality | left | [Gauche]: | left | à [gauche] |
| temporality | overlap | | overlap | |
| quadrant | | | | |
| size | | [millimétrique] | | |
| distance | | [3 cm] | | |
| angle | | [8h] | | |

| Lesion 2 | Frame 3 | | Frame 2 | |
|----------|---------|---------------------|---------|--------------------|
| field | value | justification | value | justification |
| trigger | | [kystes], [nodules] | | Plusieurs [kystes] |

Annotation result

Total objects/frames:

| | train | | test | |
|-----------------------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| | object | frame | object | frame |
| radiological lesion | 279 | 449 | 122 | 210 |
| diagnostic procedure | 285 | 795 | 141 | 379 |
| therapeutic procedure | 51 | 83 | 22 | 29 |
| BIRADS score | 152 | 152 | 82 | 82 |
| breast density | 98 | 98 | 52 | 52 |

Per document:

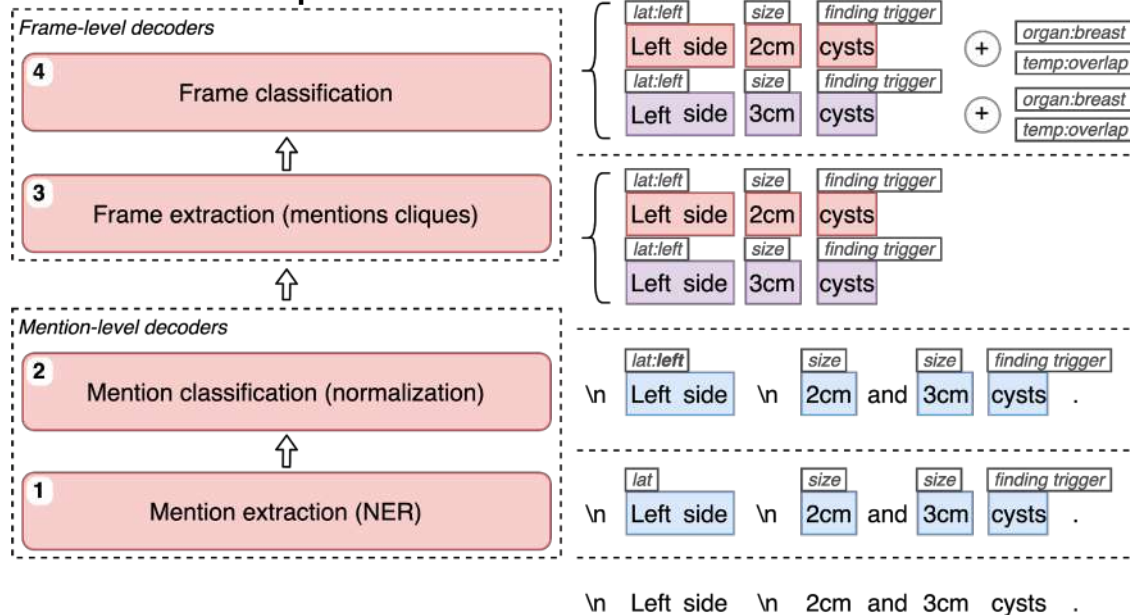
| | train | test |
|-----------------|--------|--------|
| count | 80 | 40 |
| average words | 361.08 | 362.18 |
| average lines | 45.74 | 45.48 |
| average frames | 19.48 | 18.42 |
| average objects | 10.81 | 10.48 |

BRAT annotation

The screenshot displays a BRAT annotation interface with two text segments. The first segment is "Échographie mammaire :" with annotations for "ultrasound" (green), "diag (overlap) (A)" (red), "breast" (blue), and "left" (blue). The second segment is "À gauche : Deux kystes situées sur le rayon de 8h à 3 cm, et à 2cm sur le rayon de 6h. Ces nodules sont millimétriques." with annotations for "finding (overlap)" (red), "angle" (purple), "distance (B)" (yellow), "distance (C)" (yellow), "size" (purple), and "right" (blue). Arrows labeled "same frames" connect related entities across the text. The third segment is "À droite: Aucune masse anormale à signaler." and the fourth is "CONCLUSION : Kystes multiples à gauche." with annotations for "finding (overlap) (B) (A)" (red) and "left" (blue).

The method

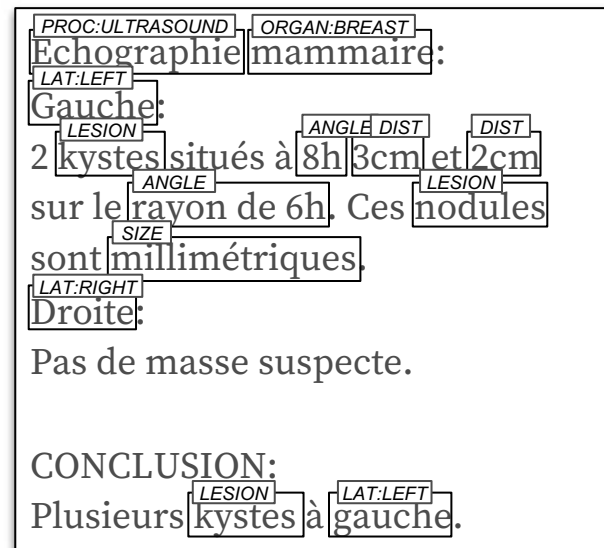
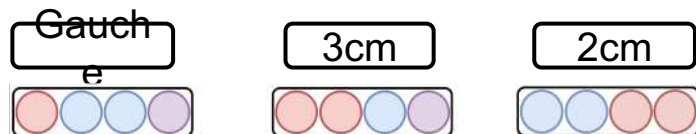
We split the problem in multiple subtasks



Simple bricks: normalized named entities

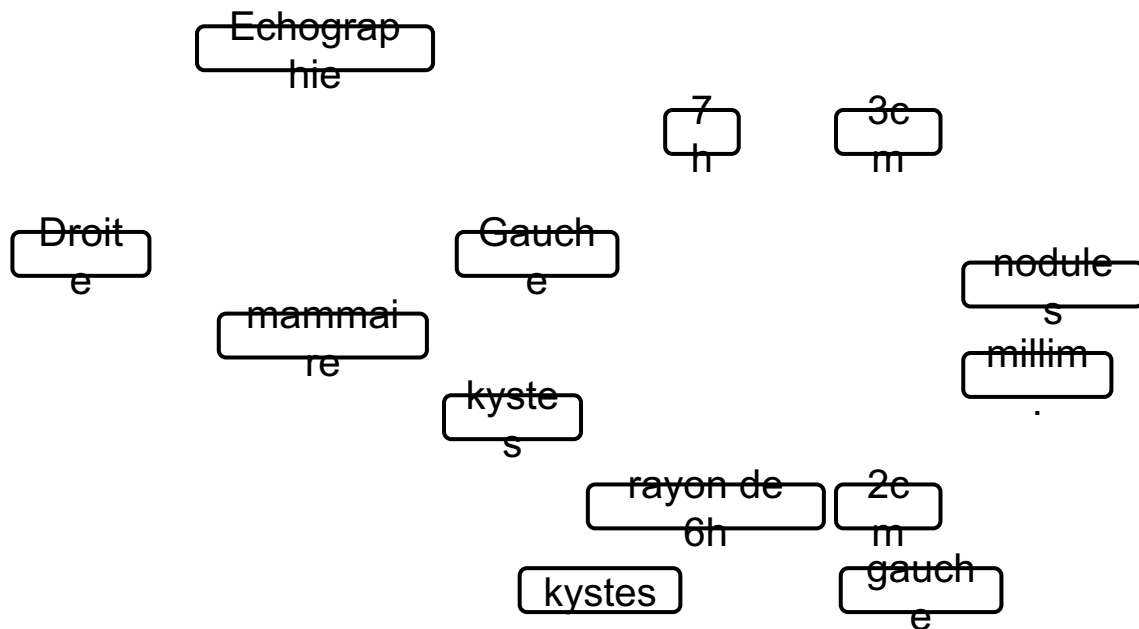
Build on the previously described tasks

- Extract named entities using a model as described earlier
- Normalize them using a classification model (some entities may have multiple concepts)
- Compute an embedding of mentions with the average of the embeddings for each word



Frame extraction

→ Build a graph by asking: “**Do these two entities belong to the same frame(s) ?**”



Echographie mammaire:

Gauche:

2 kystes situés à 8h 3cm et 2cm
sur le rayon de 6h. Ces nodules
sont millimétriques.

Droite:

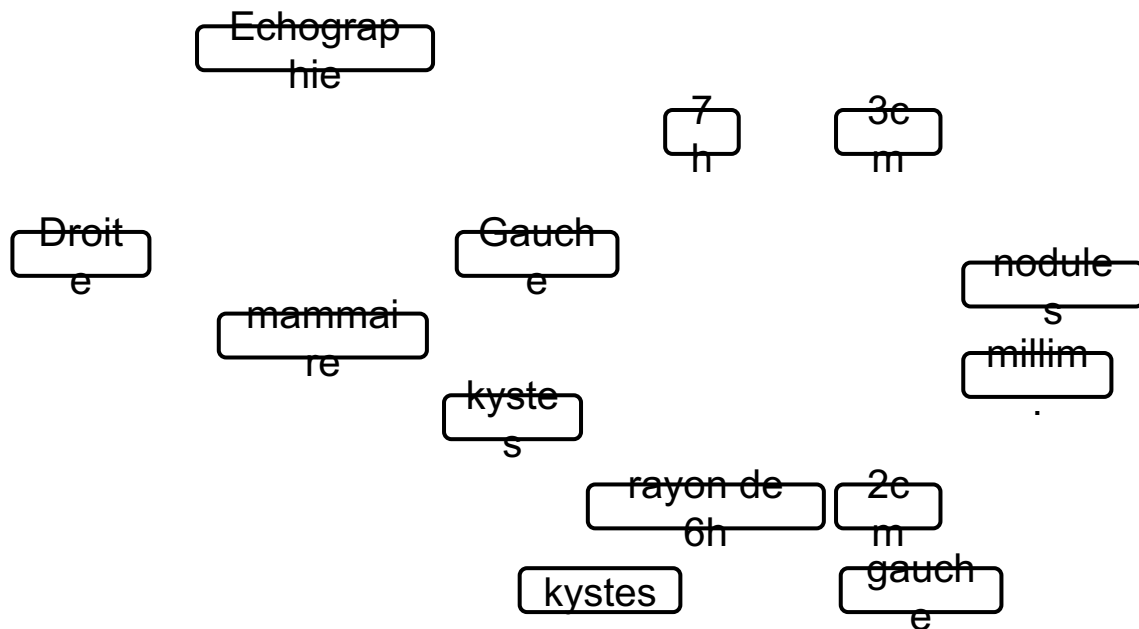
Pas de masse suspecte.

CONCLUSION:

Plusieurs kystes à gauche.

Frame extraction

→ Build a graph by asking: “**Do these two entities belong to the same frame(s) ?**”



Echographie mammaire:

Gauche:

2 kystes situés à 8h 3cm et 2cm
sur le rayon de 6h. Ces nodules
sont millimétriques.

Droite:

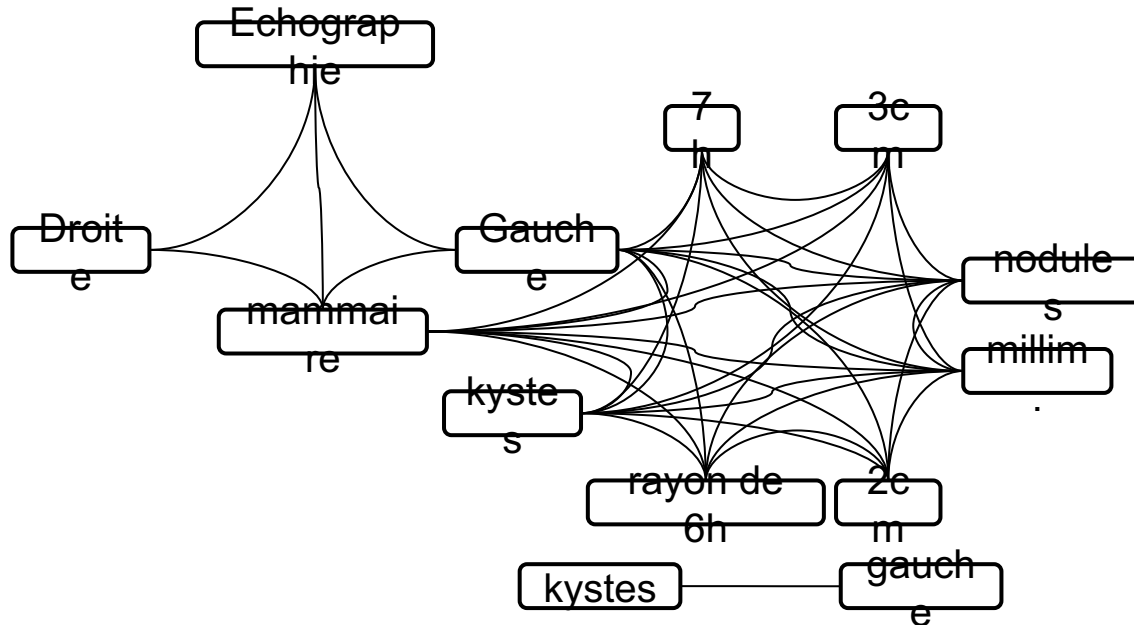
Pas de masse suspecte.

CONCLUSION:

Plusieurs kystes à gauche.

Frame extraction

→ Build a graph by asking: **“Do these two entities belong to the same frame(s) ?”**



Echographie mammaire:

Gauche:

2 kystes situés à 8h 3cm et 2cm sur le rayon de 6h. Ces nodules sont millimétriques.

Droite:

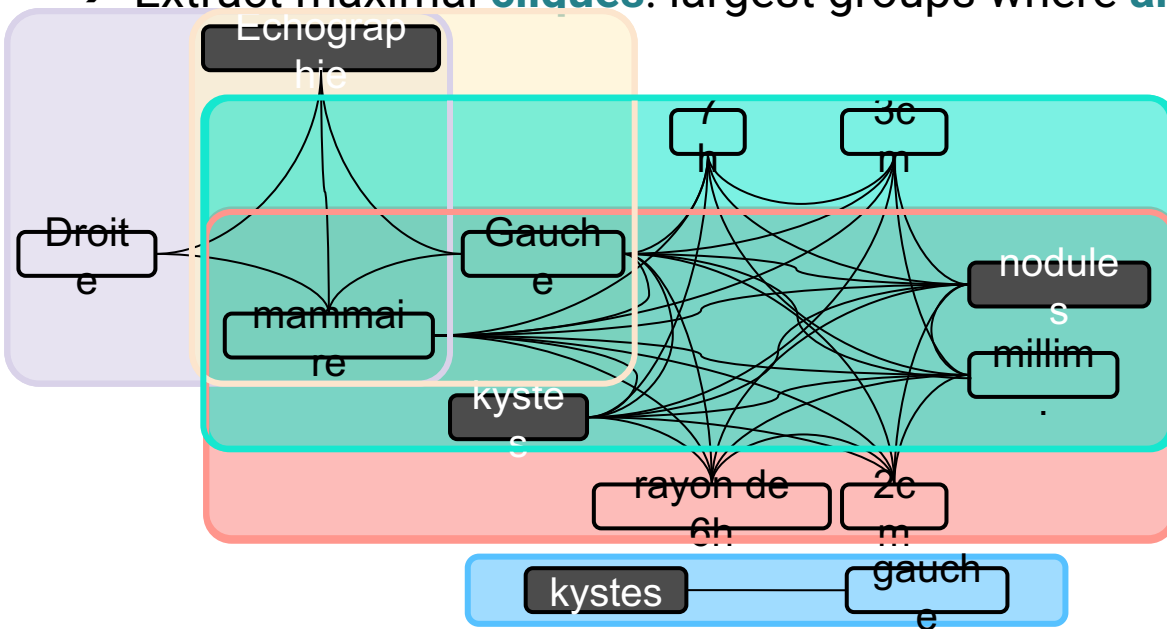
Pas de masse suspecte.

CONCLUSION:

Plusieurs kystes à gauche.

Frame extraction

- Build a graph by asking: “Do these two entities belong to the same frame(s) ?”
- Extract maximal **cliques**: largest groups where **all** entities agree with each other



Echographie mammaire:

Gauche:

2 kystes situés à 8h 3cm et 2cm sur le rayon de 6h. Ces nodules sont millimétriques.

Droite:

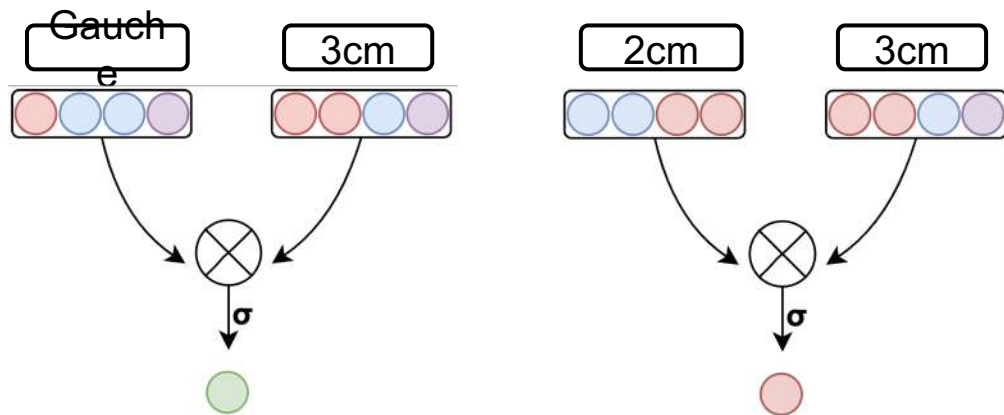
Pas de masse suspecte.

CONCLUSION:

Plusieurs kystes à gauche.

Frame extraction: simple relations

- How do we decide if two mentions should be linked ?
- Should we simply match embeddings together ?



Echographie mammaire: ?

Gauche: ?

2 kystes situés à 8h 3cm et 2cm
sur le rayon de 6h. Ces nodules
sont millimétriques.

Droite:

Pas de masse suspecte.

CONCLUSION:

Plusieurs kystes à gauche.

- Yes, but not only

Frame extraction: scope relations

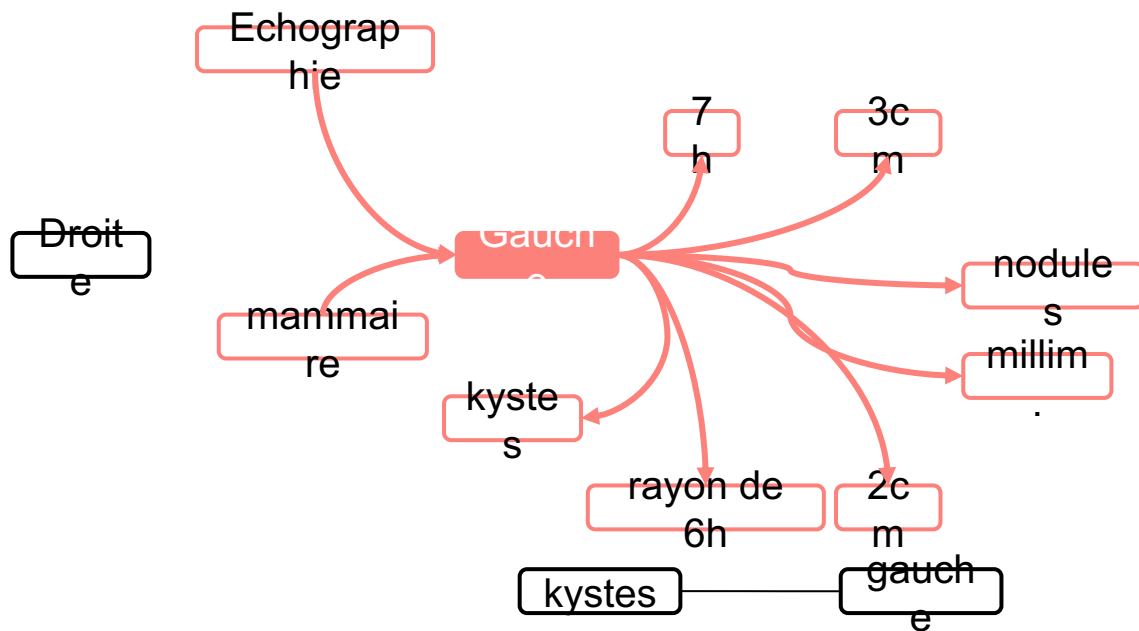
- Concept of **scope** relations: text area does an entity convey its meaning
- Mix “**scopes**” linking with simple “**matching**”
- **Assymetric** relation: special training procedure
- **Latent** scopes: the model learn the scopes on its own, since **no direct supervision** information about them: we only know which mentions should be together

Echographie mammaire:
Gauche:
2 kystes situés à 8h 3cm et 2cm
sur le rayon de 6h. Ces nodules
sont millimétriques.
Droite:
Pas de masse suspecte.

CONCLUSION:
Plusieurs kystes à gauche.

Frame extraction: scope relations

→ Connect pairs of entities that are part of the same frame(s)



Echographie mammaire:

Gauche:

2 kystes situés à 8h 3cm et 2cm
sur le rayon de 6h. Ces nodules
sont millimétriques.

Droite:

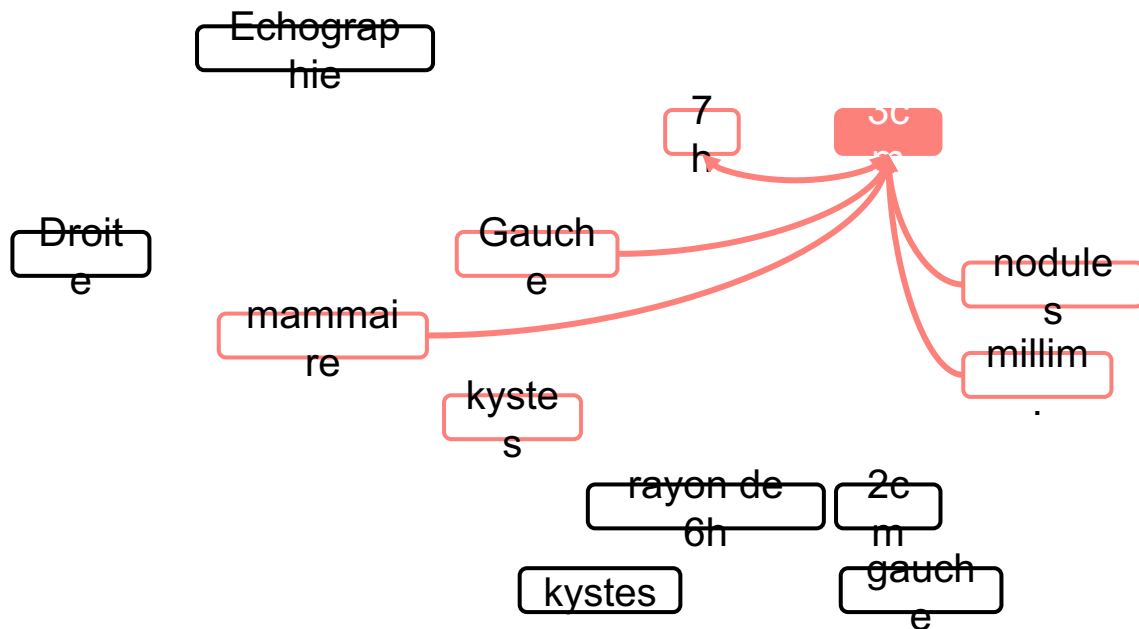
Pas de masse suspecte.

CONCLUSION:

Plusieurs kystes à gauche.

Frame extraction: scope relations

→ Connect pairs of entities that are part of the same frame(s)



Echographie mammaire:

Gauche:

2 kystes situés à 8h 3cm et 2cm
sur le rayon de 6h. Ces nodules
sont millimétriques.

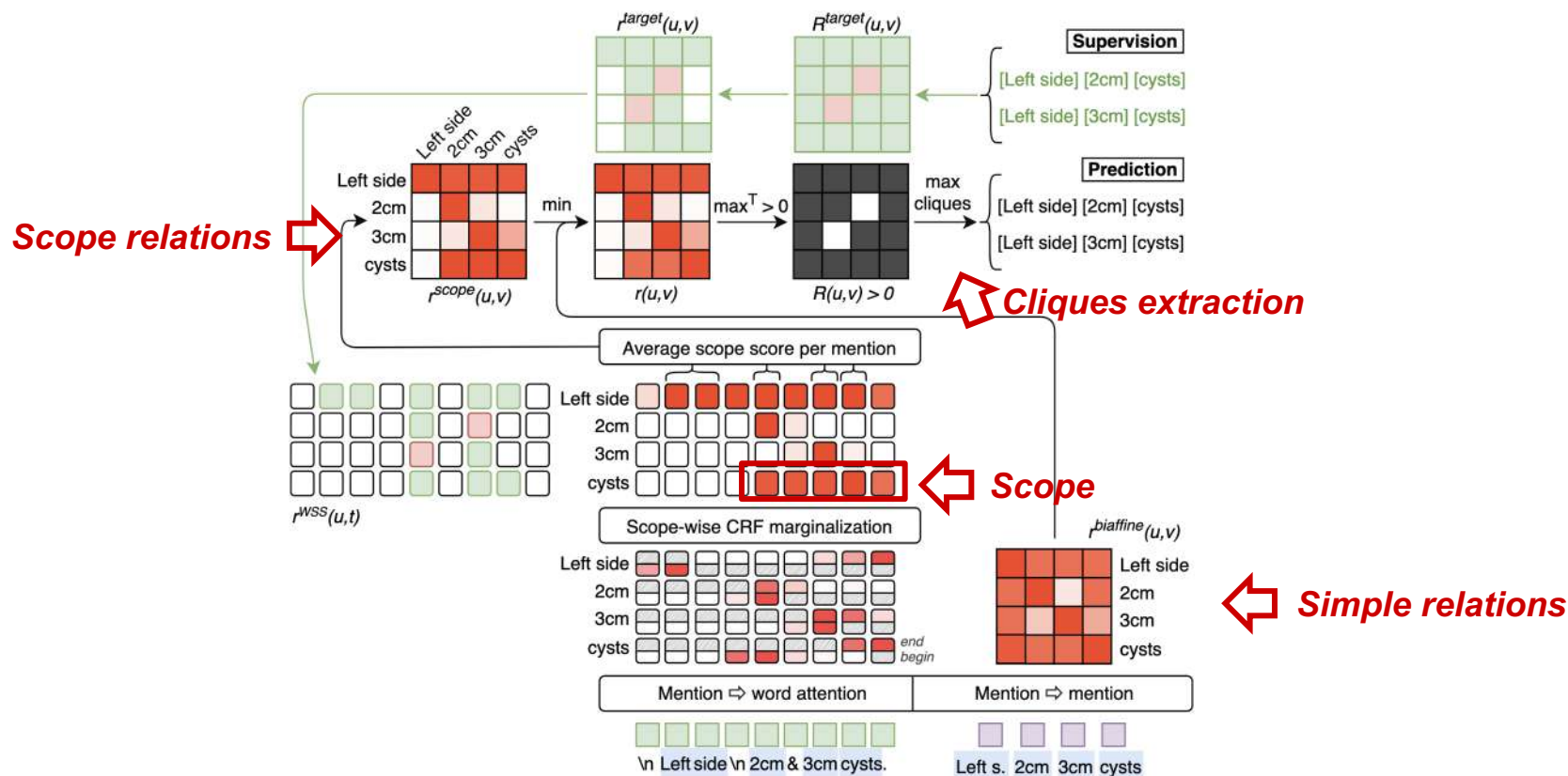
Droite:

Pas de masse suspecte.

CONCLUSION:

Plusieurs kystes à gauche.

Frame extraction: the architecture



Composition: frame classification

Finally, fill in the mandatory fields that were not explicitly found in the text using a constrained classification model

| Lesion 1 | | Frame 1 |
|-------------|--------|---------------------|
| field | value | justification |
| trigger | | [kystes], [nodules] |
| organ | breast | [mammaire] |
| laterality | left | [Gauche]: |
| temporality | ? | |
| quadrant | | |
| size | | [millimetrique] |
| distance | | [3 cm] |
| angle | | [8h] |

Echographie ^{ORGAN: BREAST} mammaire:
^{LAT: LEFT} Gauche:
^{LESION} 2 kystes situés à ^{ANGLE} 8h ^{DIST} 3cm et 2cm
 sur le rayon de 6h. Ces ^{LESION} nodules
 sont ^{SIZE} millimétriques.

Droite:
 Pas de masse suspecte.

CONCLUSION:
 Plusieurs kystes à gauche.

Knowledge injection: synthetic sentences

- Automatically build synthetic dummy sentences from a small **lexicon** to **bootstrap** the NER and normalization steps
- New sentences are mixed with the original corpus

| Synonyms | Concepts |
|------------|------------------------|
| de [6mm] | size |
| en [2014] | temporality_passe d |
| [nodule] | lesion_trigger |
| [mammaire] | organ_breast |

...



Le concept est de **[6mm]** .

Le concept est en **[2014]**.

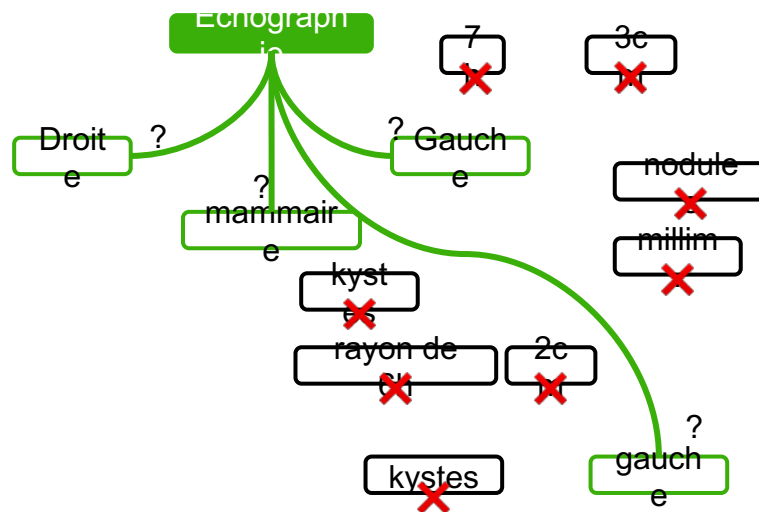
Il y a **[nodule]**.

Le concept est **[mammaire]**.

...

Knowledge injection: constraints

- Filter **legal relations** when building the graph
- Filter **legal frame labels combinations** during final frame classification



Experiments: general results

- Correct performance
given the small number
of documents and their
complexity
- Can be used to
pre-annotate
- Simpler entities obtain
better results

| Frame type / F1 | Mention Half | Frame Support | Frame Label |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| BIRADS score | | 92.5 | 83.3 |
| Breast density | | 90.5 | 88.1 |
| Diagnostic procedure | | 86.6 | 78.1 |
| Therapeutic procedure | | 86.6 | 68.6 |
| Lesion | | 78.0 | 62.9 |
| Overall | 96.2 | 85.3 | 72.2 |

| Query | F1 |
|--|------|
| Is mammography ? | 93.9 |
| Has passed surgery ? | 73.7 |
| Current BIRADS score | 97.1 |
| Current lateralized BIRADS score | 92.0 |
| Current breast density | 92.6 |
| Current lateralized breast density | 90.5 |
| Current lesion with quadrant | 83.2 |
| Current lesion with quadrant or radial position | 77.9 |
| Current lesion with quadrant or radial position & size | 77.5 |

Auxiliary experiments

| | | Mention | Frame support | Frame label |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| | Base | 96.2 | 85.3 | 72.2 |
| Neural net tricks | – input-residual | 95.2 (−0.9) | 83.9 (−1.4) | 69.3 (−2.9) |
| | – relative attention | 95.6 (−0.5) | 84.0 (−1.3) | 70.5 (−1.8) |
| Frame extraction | – relation heuristics supervision | 96.1 (−0.1) | 85.4 (+0.1) | 71.8 (−0.4) |
| | – word-level scope supervision | 96.1 (−0.1) | 82.1 (−3.2) | 69.5 (−2.7) |
| | – word-level – asymmetric scope sup. | 95.9 (−0.3) | 74.4 (−10.9) | 57.5 (−14.8) |
| | – scopes (only simple) | 96.2 (−0.0) | 80.4 (−4.9) | 66.9 (−5.3) |
| Knowledge injection | – doc splitting (1) | 96.1 (−0.0) | 85.3 (+0.1) | 71.5 (−0.7) |
| | – synthetic sentences (2) | 95.4 (−0.8) | 85.0 (−0.3) | 70.8 (−1.5) |
| | – data augmentations (1+2) | 95.4 (−0.8) | 85.0 (−0.3) | 69.9 (−2.3) |
| | – constraints during training | 96.2 (−0.0) | 84.0 (−1.3) | 69.4 (−2.8) |

→ architecture matters

→ procedure to train the model matters (especially scopes)

→ scope relations improve the performance

→ constraints improve the performance

→ augmentations improve the performance

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| | – scopes (only simple) | 96.2 (−0.0) | 80.4 (−4.9) | 66.9 (−5.3) |
| Knowledge injection | – doc splitting (1) | 96.1 (−0.0) | 85.3 (+0.1) | 71.5 (−0.7) |
| | – synthetic sentences (2) | 95.4 (−0.8) | 85.0 (−0.3) | 70.8 (−1.5) |
| | – data augmentations (1+2) | 95.4 (−0.8) | 85.0 (−0.3) | 69.9 (−2.3) |
| | – constraints during training | 96.2 (−0.0) | 84.0 (−1.3) | 69.4 (−2.8) |

→ architecture matters

→ procedure to train the model matters (especially scopes)

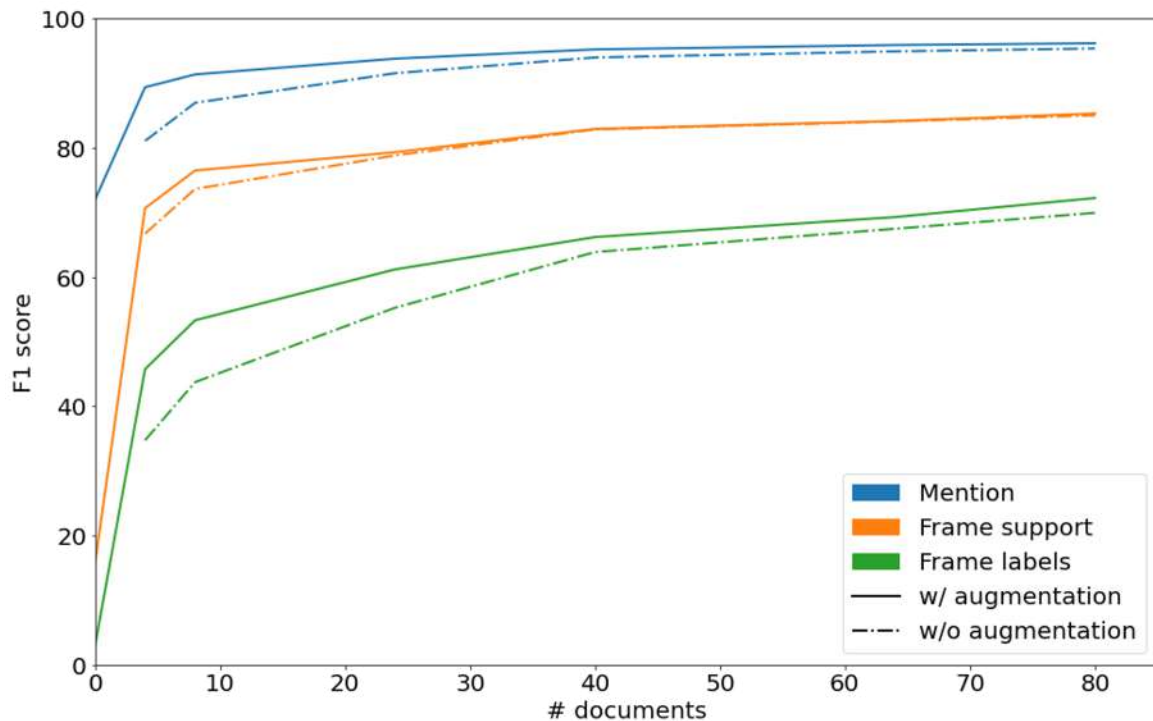
→ scope relations improve the performance

→ constraints improve the performance

→ augmentations improve the performance

Auxiliary experiments

- Knowledge injection helps, especially with low number of samples
- Non zero performance with no document
- Performance improves slowly so larger number of annotations is needed



Experiments: scopes visualization

→ Scopes capture the structure of the report

→ Can be used to interpret results



Key findings and contributions

- Formalized a framework to structure breast imaging reports
- New dataset of breast imaging reports
- **Knowledge injection** improves the performance in a low and no data contexts
- Novel method to extract overlapping structured entities
- Concept of scope relations to improve the extraction and interpretability

Conclusion and perspectives

Conclusion and perspectives

- Novel methods to extract simple or structured overlapping entities in texts
- Leveraged resources in other languages and existing medical and task knowledge to bootstrap and improve our models in low data settings
- Framework and corpus to structure complex objects in radiology reports
- Proposed a novel model using scope relations and cliques to compose named entities in frames

Conclusion and perspectives

- Improve the annotation phase with custom scheme for structured data

⇒ developed **Metanno**, a new a moduable and interactive annotation software

The screenshot displays the Metanno software interface, which is designed for document annotation and structured data extraction. It consists of several main components:

- Code Editor (Top Left):** Shows Python code for handling document spans and key presses. The code includes decorators like `@produce` and `@handle_key_press` to manage the state of spans and text during annotation.
- Document View (Top Right):** Displays a document with text and annotations. Annotations are represented by colored boxes (e.g., green for 'ANATOMIE', red for 'SOUS') and labels (e.g., 'tumeur', 'examen') are placed above the text. The text describes medical findings, such as 'étaient normaux. Une TDM thoraco-abdomino-pelvienne montrait la persistance de la collection hétérogène prostatique avec multiples nodules parenchymateux pulmonaires diffus en "lâcher de ballon" et adénopathies hilaires et médiastinales avec un épanchement pleural (Figure 2).
- Table View (Bottom):** A table showing structured data extracted from the document. The table has columns for 'doc_id', 'mention', 'labels', and 'custom_link'. The 'mention' column lists various medical terms, and the 'labels' column shows the corresponding categories (e.g., 'pathologie', 'anatomie', 'examen'). The 'custom_link' column provides additional context or links (e.g., 'type here', 'contage tuberculeux familiale', 'il y a 2 ans', 'pesanteur pelvienne', 'pelvienne', 'épreintes', 'dysurie').

The interface is user-friendly and allows for the creation of custom annotation schemes for different types of documents.

Conclusion and perspectives

- Connect frames together between same documents and different documents
 - ⇒ same- and cross-document structured entity coreference
- Knowledge injection using constraints
& how do extract implicit entities ? (no trigger word)
 - ⇒ use first order logic frameworks and knowledge from ontologies
- Latent scopes help structuration tasks
& large normalization training
 - ⇒ pretrain embedding models built on such inductive biases and knowledge

Thank you !

Appendix

Why machine learning

Rule based models

- Need lots of handcrafting and complex rule sets
- Usually interpretable
- Need manual feature extraction, sometimes very difficult
- Do not generalize well
- Need re-engineering to improve

Machine & deep learning models

- Need lots of samples and complex architectures
- Often blackboxes
- Automatic feature extraction and capture hidden patterns
- Better generalisability (pretraining++)
- Need more corrected samples

Medical context

Structured entity extraction

