

Graph REASoning Enhanced Language Models for Question Answering

(GreaseLM)

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Introduction



*** Question Answering**

- ☐ A challenging task that requires complex reasoning over both
 - Explicit constraints described in the textual context of the question
 - Unstated, relevant knowledge about the world (knowledge about the domain interest)

CommonsenseQA

* Complex Reasoning (Zhang, Xikun, et al.)

- ☐ The number of prepositional phrases in the questions
 - To easier burrow, after prey, in a what
- The presence of negation terms

• e.g. no, never

- ☐ The presence of hedging terms
 - Terms indicating uncertainty (e.g. sometimes; maybe)

(A) tree (B) mulberry bush (C) chicken coop (D) viking ship (E) rabbit warren

Which of these would let the most heat travel through?

OpenbookQA (A) a new pair of jeans (B) a steel spoon in a cafeteria (C) a cotton candy at a store (D) a calvin klein cotton hat

If it is not used for hair, a round brush is an example of what?

A. hair brush B. bathroom C. art supplies*

D. shower E. hair salon

OA context

A weasel has a thin body and short legs to easier burrow after prey in a what?

Foundation of Most Modern QA Systems



*** Large Pretrained Language Models**

- ☐ Fine-tuned on QA datasets for Question Answering Task
- ☐ After pre-training, learn to implicitly encode broad knowledge about the world
 - ◆ Able to leverage when fine-tuned on a domain-specific downstream task
- Struggle when given examples that are distributionally different from examples seen during fine-tuned
 - ◆ Learned behavior often relies on simple patterns to offer shortcuts to an answer
- Not perform well on structured reasoning (e.g. handling negation)



Foundation of Most Modern QA Systems (cont'd)



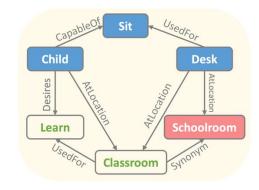
* Massive Knowledge Graphs (KGs)

- Capture external knowledge explicitly using triples
- Enable explainable predictions e.g. by providing reasoning paths (KagNet)
- Play in structured reasoning and query answering

Where does a child likely sit at a desk?

A. Schoolroom * B. Furniture store C. Patio

D. Office building E. Library



- Relational path:
 - O CHILD -> AtLocation -> CLASSROOM -> Synonym -> SCHOOLROOM

Foundation of Most Modern QA Systems (cont'd)



* Extending KG to general QA

- Questions and answers are expressed in natural language
 - Not easily mapped to strict logical queries
- Require finding the right integration
 - ◆ Knowledge from KG with information and constraints provided by QA example

MedQA-USMLE

A 57-year-old man presents to his primary care physician with a 2-month history of right upper and lower extremity weakness. He noticed the weakness when he started falling far more frequently while running errands. Since then, he has had increasing difficulty with walking and lifting objects. His past medical history is significant only for well-controlled hypertension, but he says that some members of his family have had musculoskeletal problems. His right upper extremity shows forearm atrophy and depressed reflexes while his right lower extremity is hypertonic with a positive Babinski sign. Which of the following is most likely associated with the cause of this patients symptoms?

- (A) HLA-B8 haplotype
- (B) HLA-DR2 haplotype
- (C) Mutation in SOD1
- (D) Mutation in SMN1

Previous Works



*** Integrating LMs and KGs**

- Two challenges: given a QA context, methods need to
 - Identify informative knowledge from a large KG
 - Capture the nuance of the QA context and the structure of the KGs
 to perform joint reasoning over these two sources of information

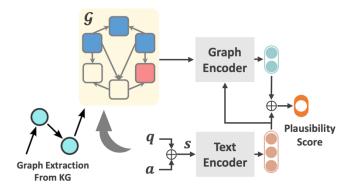


Figure 3: Overview of the knowledge-aware QA framework.

Integrating LMs and KGs



* Multi-Hop Graph Relation Network (MHGRN)

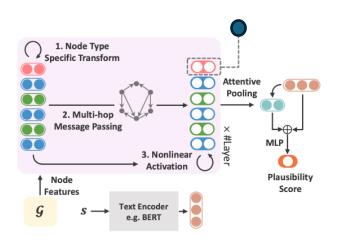
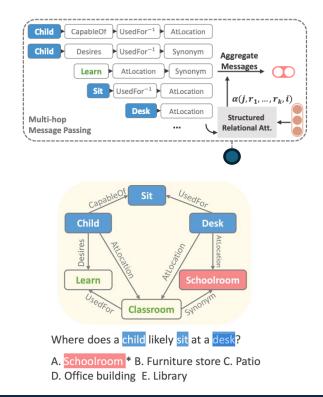


Figure 4: Our proposed MHGRN architecture for relational reasoning. MHGRN takes a multi-relational graph \mathcal{G} and a (question-answer) statement vector \mathbf{s} as input, and outputs a scalar that represent the plausibility score of this statement.



Integrating LMs and KGs

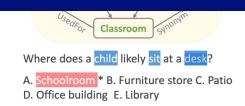


* Multi-Hop Graph Relation Network (MHGRN)



Encoding both modalities separately and fusing them at the output for a prediction

relational graph \mathcal{G} and a (question-answer) statement vector \mathbf{s} as input, and outputs a scalar that represent the plausibility score of this statement.

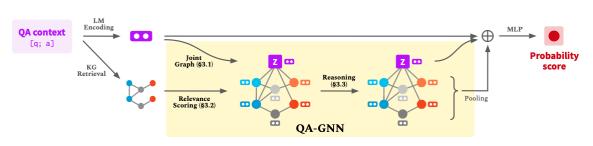


Integrating LMs and KGs



₩ QA-GNN

- ☐ Retrieving subgraph from KG with relevance score
 - ◆ Taking topic entities (KG entities mentioned in the given QA context) and their few hop neighbors
 - ◆ Using LM to estimate the importance of KG nodes relative to given QA context
- Joint reasoning
 - Connecting QA context and KG to form a joint graph
 - Mutually updating their representations through GNNs





QA-GNN



*** KG node relevance scoring**

☐ Irrelevant nodes may result in overfitting or introduced unnecessary difficulty in reasoning, especially sub-graph is large

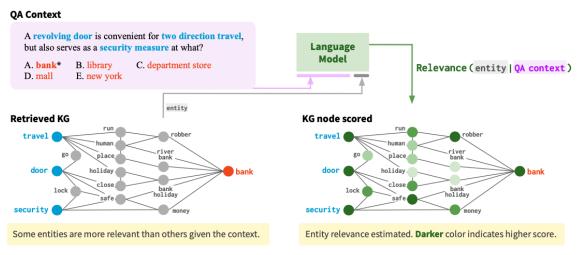


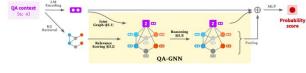
Figure 3: Relevance scoring of the retrieved KG: we use a pre-trained LM to calculate the relevance of each KG entity node conditioned on the QA context (§3.2).

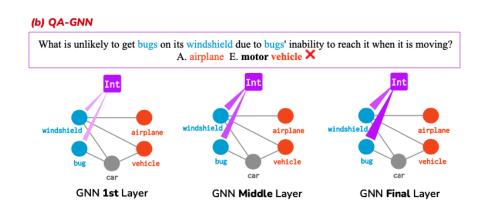
Problems



₩ QA-GNN

- Jointly updating the LM and GNN representation via message passing
- ☐ However, using a single pooled representation of the LM
 - ◆ To seed the textual component of this joint structure
- Limiting the updates that can be made to the textual representation





Problems



*** Solving QA tasks**

- Existing KG + LM models typically fuse the two modalities in a shallow and non-interactive manner
- ☐ Previous methods **restricted capacity to exchange** useful information between two modalities
- ☐ Effectively fusing the KG and LM representations is the key **interacting in a non-shallow way**

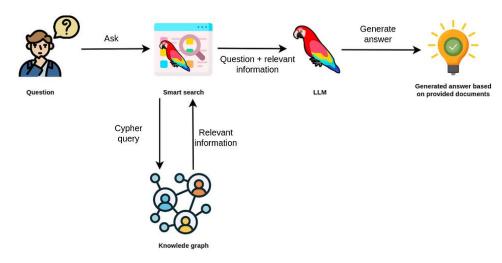


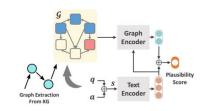
Image credit: neo4i

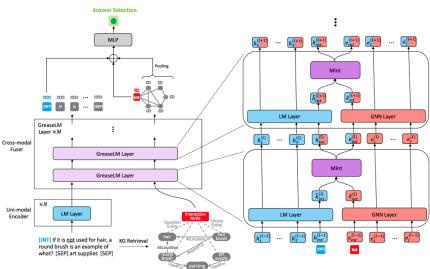
Proposed Method



*** GreaseLM**

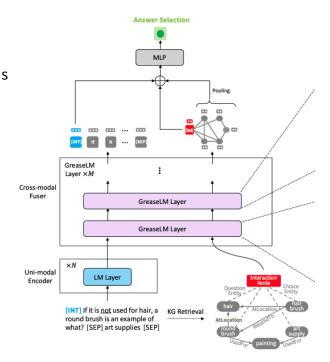
- ☐ Pre-trained Language Models + Knowledge Graphs
- ☐ Fusion each encoded representation in multiple layers of modality interaction operations
- Exchange information from both modalities
- ☐ Use benchmarks:
 - CommonsenseQA, OpenbookQA, MedQA-USMLE





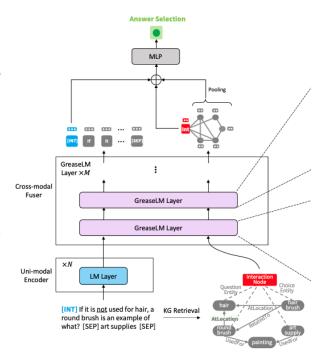


- ☐ GreaseLM consists of two stacked components
 - ◆ Unimodal LM Layers (N) ➡ initial representation of input tokens
 - ◆ Cross-modal GreaseLM Layers (M) → LM layers + GNN layers
- ☐ Total Layers = N + M





- Input Representation
 - Concatenate context paragraph c, question q and candidate answer a with separator tokens [c; q; a]
 - Tokenize into $\{w_1,...,w_r\}$
 - Use Input sequence to retrieve subgraph of KG
 - O Set of nodes in subgraph = $\{e_1, ..., e_i\}$
 - Each node in subgraph is assigned a type as {context, question, answer, neighbors}
 - Special interaction token $w_{\text{int}} \rightarrow \text{prepend}$ to token sequence
 - Special interaction node e_{int} \Longrightarrow connect to all linked nodes



KG Retrieval



* Retrieving Method

- ☐ A set of topic entities V_{linked} via entity liking to match the tokens in QA context to the entities in KG
- Add any bridge entities that are in a 2-hop path between any paired of linked entities
 - ◆ To get a set of retrieved entities
- ☐ Prune the set of retrieved nodes using relevance score computed for each node (QA-GNN)
 - Retaining the top 200 scores nodes and removing the remaining ones
- Retrieve all the edges that connect any two nodes in V_{sub}
- ☐ Form the retrieved subgraph G_{sub}



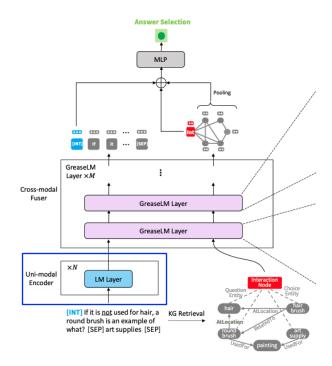


***** Architecture

- ☐ Language Pre-encoding (Unimodal Layer)
 - $h_{int}^0, h_1^0, ..., h_r^0$ = token + segment + positional embeddings

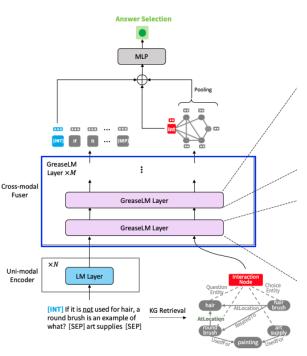
$$\{m{h}_{int}^{(\ell)},m{h}_{1}^{(\ell)},\ldots,m{h}_{T}^{(\ell)}\} = ext{LM-Layer}(\{m{h}_{int}^{(\ell-1)},m{h}_{1}^{(\ell-1)},\ldots,m{h}_{T}^{(\ell-1)}\})$$
 for $\ell=1,\ldots,N$

◆ LM-Layer = a single LM encoder layer





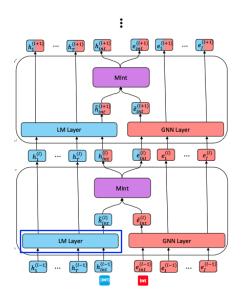
- GreaseLM Layer (Cross-Modal Layers)
 - What does
 - O Separately encode information from both modalities
 - O Fuse both representations using the special interaction token and node
 - Three components
 - A transformer LM encoder block → Continue to encode language text
 - A GNN layer → Reason over KG entities and relations
 - A Modality interaction layer → TAKE unimodal rep. of interaction token and node, and EXCHANGE information through them





- ☐ Language Representation (A transformer LM encoder block)
 - ◆ Continue to encode language text in l-th GreaseLM layer

$$\{\tilde{\boldsymbol{h}}_{int}^{(N+\ell)}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{h}}_{1}^{(N+\ell)}, \dots, \tilde{\boldsymbol{h}}_{T}^{(N+\ell)}\} = \text{LM-Layer}(\{\boldsymbol{h}_{int}^{(N+\ell-1)}, \boldsymbol{h}_{1}^{(N+\ell-1)}, \dots, \boldsymbol{h}_{T}^{(N+\ell-1)}\})$$
 for $\ell = 1, \dots, M$

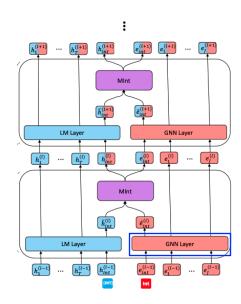




- Graph Representation (A GNN Layer)
 - Reasoning over KG entities and relations
 - Current node embeddings are fed into the layer to perform a round of information propagation between nodes in the graph
 - e_{int}^0 : initialized randomly

$$\begin{split} \{\tilde{\boldsymbol{e}}_{int}^{(\ell)}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{e}}_{1}^{(\ell)}, \dots, \tilde{\boldsymbol{e}}_{J}^{(\ell)}\} &= \text{GNN}(\{\boldsymbol{e}_{int}^{(\ell-1)}, \boldsymbol{e}_{1}^{(\ell-1)}, \dots, \boldsymbol{e}_{J}^{(\ell-1)}\}) \\ &\quad \text{for } \ell = 1, \dots, M \end{split}$$

$$egin{aligned} m{r}_{sj} &= f_r(ilde{r}_{sj}, \, m{u}_s, \, m{u}_j) \ m{m}_{sj} &= f_m(m{e}_s^{(\ell-1)}, \, m{u}_s, \, m{r}_{sj}) \end{aligned} \qquad m{\gamma}_{sj} &= rac{m{q}_s^{ op} m{k}_j}{\sqrt{D}} \ m{q}_s &= f_q(m{e}_s^{(\ell-1)}, \, m{u}_s) \ m{k}_j &= f_k(m{e}_j^{(\ell-1)}, \, m{u}_j, \, m{r}_{sj}) \end{aligned} \qquad m{lpha}_{sj} &= rac{\exp(\gamma_{sj})}{\sum_{e_s \in \mathcal{N}_{e_j} \cup \{e_j\}} \exp(\gamma_{sj})} \ m{\gamma}_{sj} = m{\gamma}_{sj} =$$



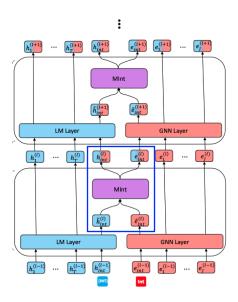


***** Architecture

- A modality interaction layer (MInt)
 - ◆ Concatenate pre-fused embeddings of *int* token and *int* node
 - Pass the joint representation through a mixing operation (MInt)
 - Split the output post-fused embeddings into int token and int node

$$[oldsymbol{h}_{int}^{(\ell)};oldsymbol{e}_{int}^{(\ell)}] = ext{MInt}([oldsymbol{ ilde{h}}_{int}^{(\ell)};oldsymbol{ ilde{e}}_{int}^{(\ell)}]),$$

Mint(.): A two-layer MLP

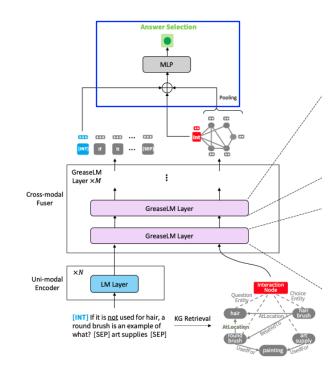




- Learning and Inference
 - Compute the probability of a being correct answer

$$p(a \mid q, c) \propto \exp(ext{MLP}(oldsymbol{h}_{int}^{(N+M)}, \ oldsymbol{e}_{int}^{(M)}, \ oldsymbol{g}))$$

- g:attention-based pooling
- Loss function : Cross Entropy Loss
- Inference time : predict the most plausible answer $rg \max_{a \in \mathcal{A}} \ p(a \mid q, c).$





* Setup

- ☐ Three datasets with two cross domains:
 - CommonsenseQA, OpenBookQA, and MedQA-USMLE
- ☐ Knowledge Graphs:
 - ConceptNet and self-constructed KG (Diseased Datavase portion of UMLS and DrugBank) for MedQA-USMLE
- ☐ Fine-tuned Language Models
 - ◆ RoBERTa-Large (CommonsenseQA), AristoRoBERTa (OpenBookQA), and SapBERT (MedQA-USMLE)
 - To allow model to better understand entity knowledge



★ GreaseLM Results

GreaseLM's multi-layer fusion is more expressive than others LM+KG methods

Table 2: Performance comparison on Commonsense QA in-house split (controlled experiments). As the official test is hidden, here we report the in-house Dev (IHdev) and Test (IHtest) accuracy, following the data split of Lin et al. (2019). Experiments are controlled using same seed LM.

Methods	IHdev-Acc. (%)	IHtest-Acc. (%)
RoBERTa-Large (w/o KG)	73.1 (±0.5)	$68.7 \ (\pm 0.6)$
RGCN (Schlichtkrull et al., 2018)	$72.7~(\pm 0.2)$	$68.4 (\pm 0.7)$
GconAttn (Wang et al., 2019)	$72.6 (\pm 0.4)$	$68.6 (\pm 1.0)$
KagNet (Lin et al., 2019)	$73.5 (\pm 0.2)$	$69.0 \ (\pm 0.8)$
RN (Santoro et al., 2017)	$74.6 (\pm 0.9)$	69.1 (± 0.2)
MHGRN (Feng et al., 2020)	74.5 (± 0.1)	$71.1~(\pm 0.8)$
QA-GNN (Yasunaga et al., 2021)	$76.5 (\pm 0.2)$	$73.4 (\pm 0.9)$
GREASELM (Ours)	78.5 (± 0.5)	74.2 (± 0.4)

for all LM+KG methods.

Model	Acc.
AristoRoBERTa (no KG)	78.4
+ RGCN	74.6
+ GconAttn	71.8
+ RN	75.4
+ MHGRN	80.6
+ QA-GNN	82.8
GreaseLM (Ours)	84.8

Table 3: Test Accuracy comparison Table 4: Test accuracy comparison to public Openon OpenBook QA. Experiments are Book QA model implementations. *Unified QA (11B controlled using the same seed LM params) and T5 (3B) are 30x and 8x larger than our model.

Model	Acc.	# Params
ALBERT (Lan et al., 2020) + KB	81.0	~235M
HGN (Yan et al., 2020)	81.4	≥355M
AMR-SG (Xu et al., 2021)	81.6	\sim 361M
ALBERT + KPG (Wang et al., 2020)	81.8	≥235M
QA-GNN (Yasunaga et al., 2021)	82.8	\sim 360M
T5* (Raffel et al., 2020)	83.2	~3 B
T5 + KB (Pirtoaca)	85.4	≥11 B
UnifiedQA* (Khashabi et al., 2020)	87.2	~11B
GREASELM (Ours)	84.8	~359M



*** GreaseLM Results**

☐ An effective augmentation of pretrained LMs for different domains and KGs

Table 6: Performance on MedQA-USMLE				
Methods	Acc. (%)			
Baselines (Jin et al., 2021)				
CHANCE	25.0			
PMI	31.1			
IR-ES	35.5			
IR-CUSTOM	36.1			
CLINICALBERT-BASE	32.4			
BIOROBERTA-BASE	36.1			
BIOBERT-BASE	34.1			
BIOBERT-LARGE	36.7			
Baselines (Our implementation)				
SapBERT-Base (w/o KG)	37.2			
QÂ-GNN	38.0			
GREASELM (Ours)	38.5			



*** GreaseLM Results**

- Quantitative Analysis
 - Perform better than the baselines across all questions with prepositional phrases
 - Perform comparably on questions with no prepositional phrases (QA-GNN)
 - Increasing complexity of questions requires deeper cross-modal fusion between language and knowledge representations

Table 5: Performance of GREASELM on the *CommonsenseQA* IH-dev set on complex questions with semantic nuance such as prepositional phrases, negation terms, and hedge terms.

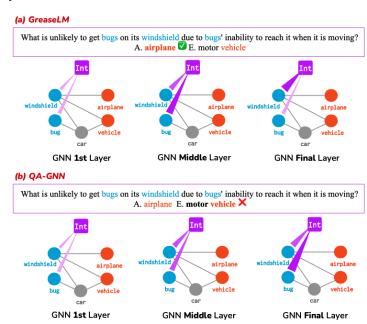
Model	#	# Prepositional Phrases				Negation	Hedge
Model	0	1	2	3	4	Term	Term
n	210	429	316	171	59	83	167
RoBERTa-Large	66.7	72.3	76.3	74.3	69.5	63.8	70.7
QA-GNN	76.7	76.2	79.1	74.9	81.4	66.2	76.0
GREASELM (Ours)	75.7	79.3	80.4	77.2	84.7	69.9	78.4



★ GreaseLM Results

- Qualitative Analysis
 - Examine node-to-node attention weights induced by GNN layers
 - Analyze whether reflecting more expressive reasoning

As "bug" is mentioned multiple times in the context, it may be well-represented in QA-GNN's context node initialization, which is never reformulated by language representations, unlike in GreaseLM.



Future Works



* Ethics Statement

- ☐ GreaseLM:
 - A method to fuse language rep. and KG rep. for effective reasoning about textual situations
 - Reflect many of the same biases and toxic behaviors exhibited by LMs and KGs that are used to initialize it
 - e.g. biases about race, gender, and other demographic attributes

- ☐ KG: encode stereotypes rather than completely clean commonsense knowledge
 - Unethical relationships in its knowledge resource to arrive at conclusions
 - ◆ E.g. ConceptNet encoding "women" as "emotional" or "men" as "strong."
 - O Question: "Who is likely to cook dinner?"
 - O Biased Answer: "A woman."

Conclusion



* GreaseLM: a new model that enables interactive fusion through joint information exchange between knowledge from language models and knowledge graphs

* Experimental results demonstrate superior performance compared to prior KG+LM and LM-only baselines

* Improved capability modeling questions exhibiting textual nuances, such as negation and hedging

- * Discussion about Ethical Concerns
 - Reflect many of the same biases and toxic behaviors exhibited by LMs and KGs



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