

Question Answering System

With NLP

1. Introduction
2. Knowledge-based
3. Information Retrieval based
4. Machine Comprehension by Deep Learning
5. Conclusion

Introduction

What is Question Answering?

- **Answer particular questions**
- **Colloquial approach**
- **One of the oldest NLP problem**
- **Away to evaluate** Reading Comprehension
 - **"Since questions can be devised to query any aspect of text comprehension, the ability to answer questions is the strongest possible demonstration of understanding."** **Wendy Lehnert, 1977**

Example - Google



Google

dimana ibukota indonesia

Q All Images News Maps Videos More Settings Tools








About 18,900,000 results (0.89 seconds)

Indonesia / Ibu kota

Jakarta

Orang lain juga menelusuri

Indonesia Kuala Lumpur Manila Bali Surabaya Singapura Bandung

Lihat 10+ lainnya

Feedback

[id.wikipedia.org > wiki > Pemindahan...](https://id.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pemindahan...) [Translate this page](#)

Pemindahan ibu kota Indonesia (2019–sekarang) - Wikipedia ...

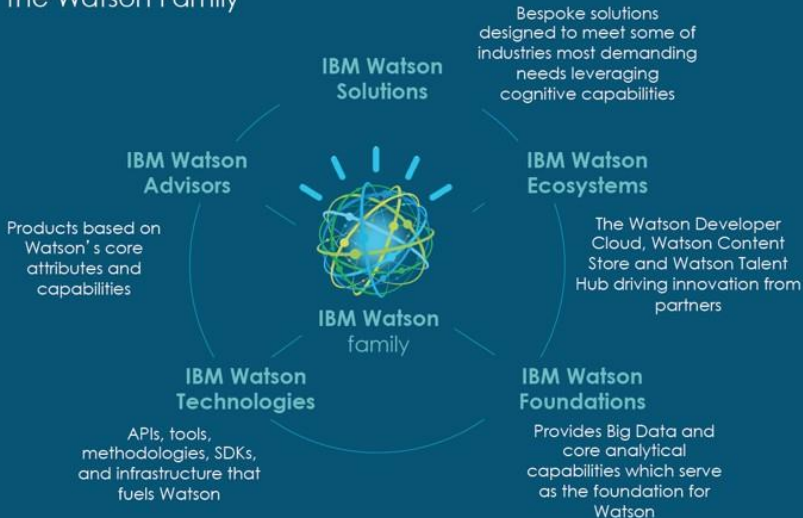
Pemindahan ibu kota ini tertuang dalam Rencana Pembangunan Jangka Menengah Nasional 2020-2024. Pada 26 Agustus 2019, Presiden Joko Widodo ...

Kabupaten Penajam Paser Utara · Kabupaten Kutai Kartanegara

Example - IBM Waston

Won Jeopardy on February 16, 2011!

The Watson Family





Look Good?

- Single **vs Multiple**
- Simple **vs Complex**
- Text **vs Visual**
- Open-domain **vs Closed-domain**
- IR-based **vs Knowledge-based**

Introduction

Single vs Multiple

- **A single document Q/A task involves questions associated with one particular document.**
- **In most cases, the assumption is that** the answer appears somewhere in the document **and probably once.**
- **Applications involve searching an individual resource, such as a book, encyclopedia, or manual.**
- **Reading comprehension tests are also a form of single document question answering.**
- **ex. SQuAD**

- **A multiple document Q/A task involves questions posed against a collection of documents.**
- **The answer may appear in the collection multiple times or may not appear at all!**
- **Applications include WWW search engines, and searching text repositories such as news archives, medical literature, or scientific articles.**
- **ex. MSMARCO**

Introduction

Simple vs Complex

- **Simple (factoid) questions (most commercial systems)**
 - Who wrote the Declaration of Independence?
 - What is the average age of the onset of autism?
 - Where is Apple Computer based?
 - ex. SQuAD
- **Complex (narrative) questions**
 - What do scholars think about Jefferson's position on dealing with pirates?
 - What is a Hajj?
 - In children with an acute febrile illness, what is the efficacy of single medication therapy with acetaminophen or ibuprofen in reducing fever?
 - ex. Narrative QA
- **Complex (opinion) questions**
 - Was the Gore/Bush election fair?

Introduction

Text vs Visual

Input Document and Question.

Output Answer.

Example

- University of Washington
- Allennlp

In meteorology, precipitation is any product of the condensation of atmospheric water vapor that falls under **gravity**. The main forms of precipitation include drizzle, rain, sleet, snow, **graupel** and hail... Precipitation forms as smaller droplets coalesce via collision with other rain drops or ice crystals **within a cloud**. Short, intense periods of rain in scattered locations are called "showers".

What causes precipitation to fall?

gravity

What is another main form of precipitation besides drizzle, rain, snow, sleet and hail?

graupel

Where do water droplets collide with ice crystals to form precipitation?

within a cloud

Input Picture or Video and Question.

Output Answer.

- What is in the image?
- Are there any humans?
- What sport is being played?
- Who has the ball?
- How many players are in the image?
- Who are the teams?
- Is it raining?

Example

- <http://vqa.clouddcv.org>



Introduction

IR-based vs Knowledge-based

- **Information Retrieval:**
QA can be viewed as short passage retrieval.
- **Information Extraction:**
QA can be viewed as open-domain information extraction.

- **Build a semantic representation of the query**
 - **Times, dates, locations, entities, numeric quantities**
- **Map from this semantics to query structured data or resources**
 - **Geospatial databases**
 - **Ontologies (Wikipedia infoboxes, dbPedia, WordNet, Yago)**
 - **Restaurant review sources and reservation services**
 - **Scientific databases**
- **Examples: Siri**

Hybrid based

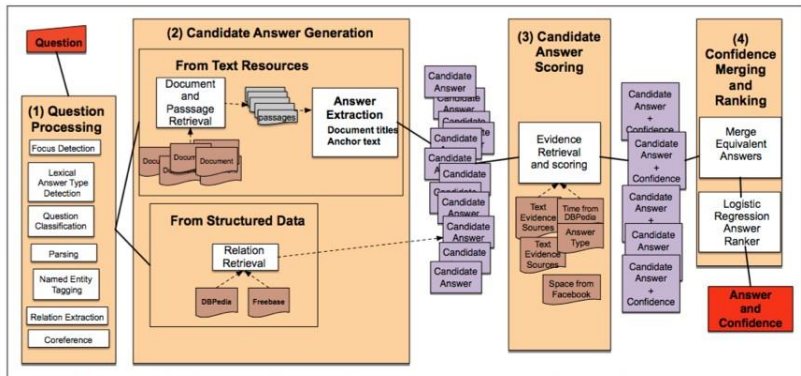


Figure 28.9 The 4 broad stages of Watson QA: (1) Question Processing, (2) Candidate Answer Generation, (3) Candidate Answer Scoring, and (4) Answer Merging and Confidence Scoring.

Knowledge-based

- **Semantic Pair**

Question	Logical form
When was Ada Lovelace born?	birth-year (Ada Lovelace, ?x)
What states border Texas?	$\lambda x.\text{state}(x) \wedge \text{borders}(x, \text{texas})$
What is the largest state	$\text{argmax}(\lambda x.\text{state}(x), \lambda x.\text{size}(x))$
How many people survived the sinking of the Titanic	$(\text{count } (!\text{fb:event.disaster.survivors fb:en.sinking_of_the_titanic}))$

Figure 23.9 Sample logical forms produced by a semantic parser for question answering. These range from simple relations like birth-year, or relations normalized to databases like Freebase, to full predicate calculus.

- **Data Base**

subject	predict	object
Ada Lovelace	birth-year	1815

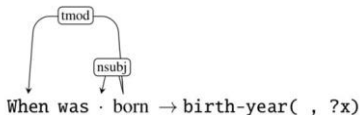
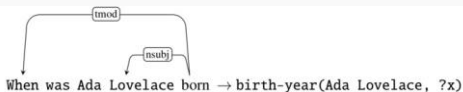
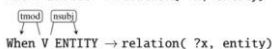
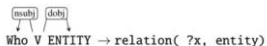
- **Rule-based Methods**

For example, to extract the birth-year relation, we could write patterns that search for the question word **When**, a main verb like **born** and that extract the named entity argument of the verb.

- **Supervised Methods**

Generally these systems bootstrap by having a small set of rules for building this mapping and an initial lexicon as well.

ex.



- **Semi-Supervised Methods** Because it is difficult to create training sets with questions labeled with their meaning representation, supervised datasets can't cover the wide variety of forms that even simple factoid questions can take.

ex. phrase align relation

capital of	capital city of	become capital of
capitol of	national capital of	official capital of
political capital of	administrative capital of	beautiful capital of
capitol city of	remain capital of	make capital of
political center of	bustling capital of	capital city in
cosmopolitan capital of	move its capital to	modern capital of
federal capital of	beautiful capital city of	administrative capital city of

Figure 23.10 Some phrases that align with the Freebase relation `country.capital` from Berant et al. (2013).

ex. Machine Translation

Q: What are the green blobs in plant cells?

Lemmaized synonyms from PARALEX:

what be the green blob in plant cell?

what be green part in plant cell?

what be the green part of a plant cell?

what be the green substance in plant cell?

what be the part of plant cell that give it green color?

what cell part do plant have that enable the plant to be give a green color?

what part of the plant cell turn it green?

part of the plant cell where the cell get it green color?

the green part in a plant be call?

the part of the plant cell that make the plant green be call?

Information Retrieval based

- 1. Question Processing**
- 2. Passage Retrieval**
- 3. Answer Processing**

- **Answer type:** the kind of entity the answer consists of (person, location, time, etc.)
- **Query:** the keywords that should be used for the IR system to use in searching for documents
- **Focus:** the string of words in the question that are likely to be replaced by the answer in any answer string found
- **ex.** Which US state capital has the largest population?
query: "US state capital has the largest population"
answer type: **city**
focus: **state capital**

- Query formulation is the task of **creating a query**-a list of tokens- to send to an information retrieval system to retrieve documents that might contain answer strings.
- “when was the laser invented?” might be reformulated as “the laser was invented”
- “where is the Valley of the Kings?” as “the Valley of the Kings is located in”
- hand-written rule
ex.
 wh-word **did** Averb **B** → **_A**verb+ed **B**
Where is A → **A is located in**

- Some systems make use of **question classification**, the task of finding the answer type, the named-entity categorizing the answer.

'Who founded Virgin Airlines?' expects an answer of type **PERSON**.

'What Canadian city has the largest population?' expects an answer of type **CITY**.

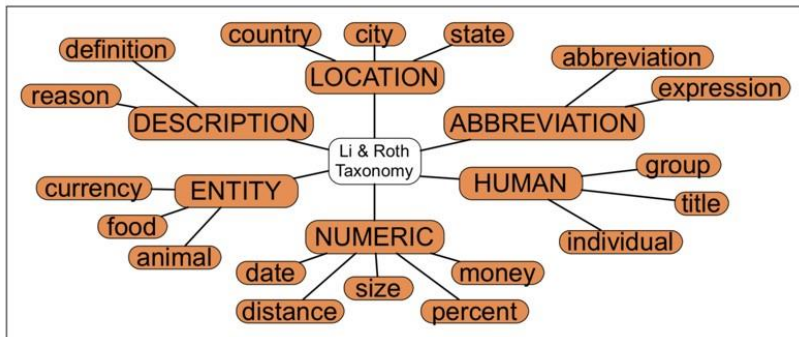


Figure 23.3 A subset of the Li and Roth (2005) answer types.

- The number of **named entities** of the right type in the passage
- The number of **question keywords** in the passage
- The **longest exact sequence of question keywords** that occurs in the passage
- The rank of the document from which the passage was extracted
- The proximity of the key words from the original query to each other
- The number of **n-grams** that overlap between the passage and the question

- **Feature-based Answer Extraction**
- **N-gram tiling answer Extraction**
- **Neural Answer Extraction**

"Who is the prime minister of India?"

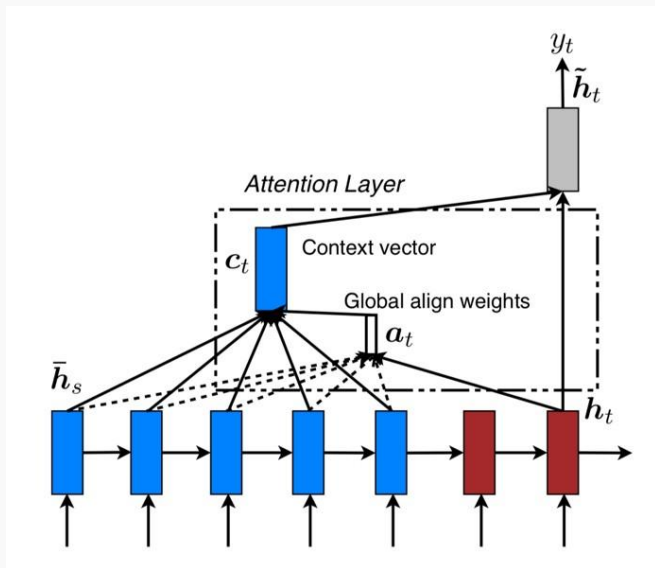
Manmoham Singh, Prime Minsiter of India, had told left leaders that the deal would not be renegotiated.

"How tall is Mt. Everest?"

The official height of Mount Everest is 29029 feet

Machine Comprehension by Deep Learning

Recap: Attention



Machine Comprehension by Deep Learning

End-To-End Memory Networks

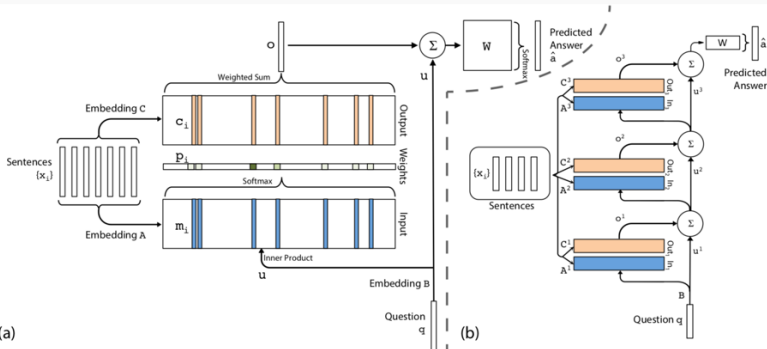
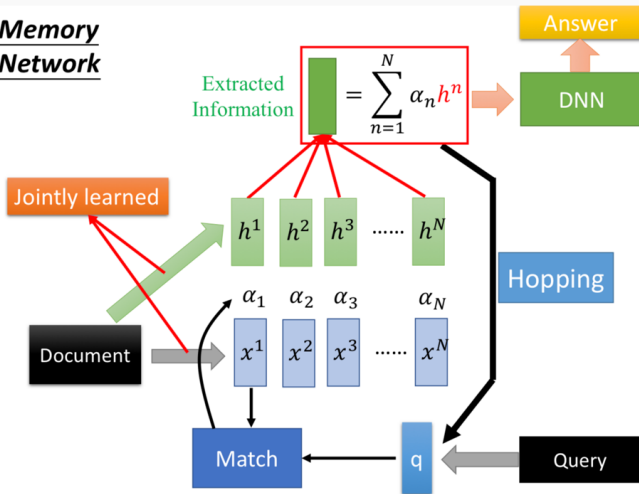


Figure 1: (a): A single layer version of our model. (b): A three layer version of our model. In practice, we can constrain several of the embedding matrices to be the same (see Section 2.2).

End-To-End Memory Networks (cont.)

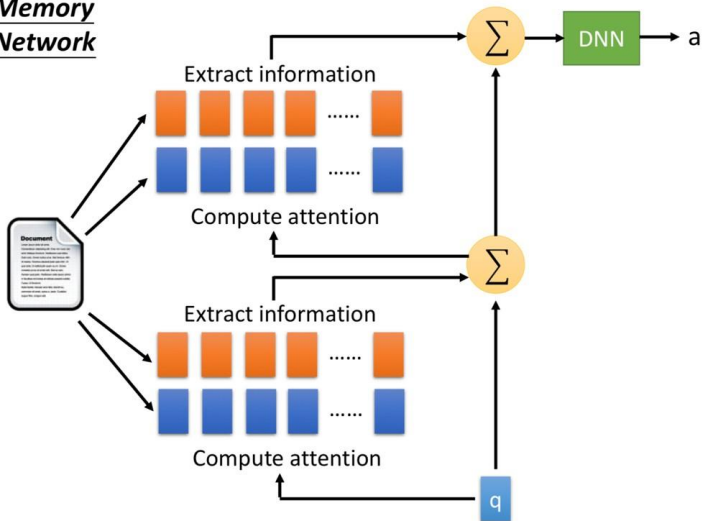
Memory Network



感謝李宏毅教授提供

End-To-End Memory Networks (cont.)

Memory Network



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End-To-End Memory Networks(cont.)

Story (1: 1 supporting fact)	Support	Hop 1	Hop 2	Hop 3
Daniel went to the bathroom.		0.00	0.00	0.03
Mary travelled to the hallway.		0.00	0.00	0.00
John went to the bedroom.		0.37	0.02	0.00
John travelled to the bathroom.	yes	0.60	0.98	0.96
Mary went to the office.		0.01	0.00	0.00

Where is John? Answer: bathroom Prediction: bathroom

Story (16: basic induction)	Support	Hop 1	Hop 2	Hop 3
Brian is a frog.	yes	0.00	0.98	0.00
Lily is gray.		0.07	0.00	0.00
Brian is yellow.	yes	0.07	0.00	1.00
Julius is green.		0.06	0.00	0.00
Greg is a frog.	yes	0.76	0.02	0.00

What color is Greg? Answer: yellow Prediction: yellow

Story (2: 2 supporting facts)	Support	Hop 1	Hop 2	Hop 3
John dropped the milk.		0.86	0.00	0.00
John took the milk there.	yes	0.88	1.00	0.00
Sandra went back to the bathroom.		0.00	0.00	0.00
John moved to the hallway.	yes	0.00	0.00	1.00
Mary went back to the bedroom.		0.00	0.00	0.00

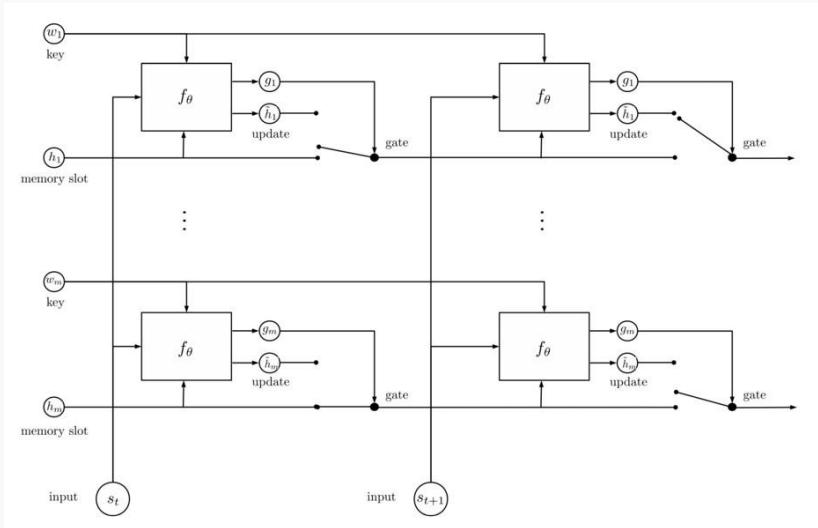
Where is the milk? Answer: hallway Prediction: hallway

Story (18: size reasoning)	Support	Hop 1	Hop 2	Hop 3
The suitcase is bigger than the chest.	yes	0.00	0.88	0.00
The box is bigger than the chocolate.		0.04	0.05	0.10
The chest is bigger than the chocolate.	yes	0.17	0.07	0.90
The chest fits inside the container.		0.00	0.00	0.00
The chest fits inside the box.		0.00	0.00	0.00

Does the suitcase fit in the chocolate? Answer: no Prediction: no

Task	Baseline			MemN2N								
	Strongly Supervised	LSTM [22]	MemNN WSH	BoW	PE	PE LS	PE LS RN	1 hop	2 hops	3 hops	PE	PE LS
	MemNN [22]							PE LS joint	PE LS joint	PE LS joint	LS RN joint	LW joint
1: 1 supporting fact	0.0	50.0	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1
2: 2 supporting facts	0.0	80.0	42.8	17.6	21.6	12.8	8.3	62.0	15.6	14.0	11.4	18.8
3: 3 supporting facts	0.0	80.0	76.4	71.0	64.2	58.8	40.3	76.9	31.6	33.1	21.9	31.7
4: 2 argument relations	0.0	39.0	40.3	32.0	3.8	11.6	2.8	22.8	2.2	5.7	13.4	17.5
5: 3 argument relations	2.0	30.0	16.3	18.3	14.1	15.7	13.1	11.0	13.4	14.8	14.4	12.9
6: yes/no questions	0.0	52.0	51.0	8.7	7.9	8.7	7.6	7.2	2.3	3.3	2.8	2.0
7: counting	15.0	51.0	36.1	23.5	21.6	20.3	17.3	15.9	25.4	17.9	18.3	10.1
8: lists/sets	9.0	55.0	37.8	11.4	12.6	12.7	10.0	13.2	11.7	10.1	9.3	6.1
9: simple negation	0.0	36.0	35.9	21.1	23.3	17.0	13.2	5.1	2.0	3.1	1.9	1.5
10: indefinite knowledge	2.0	56.0	68.7	22.8	17.4	18.6	15.1	10.6	5.0	6.6	6.5	2.6
11: basic coreference	0.0	38.0	30.0	4.1	4.3	0.0	0.9	8.4	1.2	0.9	0.3	3.3
12: conjunction	0.0	26.0	10.1	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.0
13: compound coreference	0.0	6.0	19.7	10.5	9.9	0.3	0.4	6.3	0.2	1.4	0.2	0.5
14: time reasoning	1.0	73.0	18.3	1.3	1.8	2.0	1.7	36.9	8.1	8.2	6.9	2.0
15: basic deduction	0.0	79.0	64.8	24.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	46.4	0.5	0.0	0.0	1.8
16: basic induction	0.0	77.0	50.5	52.0	52.1	1.6	1.3	47.4	51.3	3.5	2.7	51.0
17: positional reasoning	35.0	49.0	50.9	45.4	50.1	49.0	51.0	44.4	41.2	44.5	40.4	42.6
18: size reasoning	5.0	48.0	51.3	48.1	13.6	10.1	11.1	9.6	10.3	9.2	9.4	9.2
19: path finding	64.0	92.0	100.0	89.7	87.4	85.6	82.8	90.7	89.9	90.2	88.0	90.6
20: agent's motivation	0.0	9.0	3.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2
Mean error (%)	6.7	51.3	40.2	25.1	20.3	16.3	13.9	25.8	15.6	13.3	12.4	15.2
Failed tasks (err. > 5%)	4	20	18	15	13	12	11	17	11	11	11	10
On 10k training data												
Mean error (%)	3.2	36.4	39.2	15.4	9.4	7.2	6.6	24.5	10.9	7.9	7.5	11.0
Failed tasks (err. > 5%)	2	16	17	9	6	4	4	16	7	6	6	6

Recurrent Entity Networks



Recurrent Entity Networks (cont.)

Task	NTM	D-NTM	MemN2N	DNC	DMN+	EntNet
1: 1 supporting fact	31.5	4.4	0	0	0	0
2: 2 supporting facts	54.5	27.5	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.1
3: 3 supporting facts	43.9	71.3	2.1	1.8	1.1	4.1
4: 2 argument relations	0	0	0	0	0	0
5: 3 argument relations	0.8	1.7	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.3
6: yes/no questions	17.1	1.5	0.1	0	0	0.2
7: counting	17.8	6.0	2.0	0.6	2.4	0
8: lists/sets	13.8	1.7	0.9	0.3	0.0	0.5
9: simple negation	16.4	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.1
10: indefinite knowledge	16.6	19.8	0	0.2	0	0.6
11: basic coreference	15.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.3
12: conjunction	8.9	6.2	0	0	0.2	0
13: compound coreference	7.4	7.5	0	0	0	1.3
14: time reasoning	24.2	17.5	0.2	0.4	0.2	0
15: basic deduction	47.0	0	0	0	0	0
16: basic induction	53.6	49.6	51.8	55.1	45.3	0.2
17: positional reasoning	25.5	1.2	18.6	12.0	4.2	0.5
18: size reasoning	2.2	0.2	5.3	0.8	2.1	0.3
19: path finding	4.3	39.5	2.3	3.9	0.0	2.3
20: agent's motivation	1.5	0	0	0	0	0

Failed Tasks (> 5% error):

Mean Error:

16

9

3

2

1

0

20.1

12.8

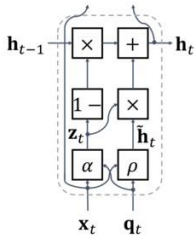
4.2

3.8

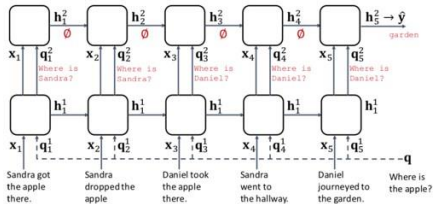
2.8

0.5

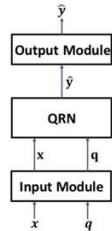
Query-Reduction Networks



(a) QRN unit



(b) 2-layer QRN



(c) Overview

Recurrent Entity Network (cont.)

	Layer 1			Layer 2		Layer 1			Layer 2
	z^1	\bar{r}^1	\bar{r}^{-1}	z^2		z^1	\bar{r}^1	\bar{r}^{-1}	z^2
Task 2: Two Supporting Facts					Task 15: Deduction				
Sandra picked up the apple there.	0.95	0.89	0.98	0.00	Mice are afraid of wolves.	0.11	0.99	0.13	0.78
Sandra dropped the apple.	0.83	0.05	0.92	0.01	Gertrude is a mouse.	0.77	0.99	0.96	0.00
Daniel grabbed the apple there.	0.88	0.93	0.98	0.00	Cats are afraid of sheep.	0.01	0.99	0.07	0.03
Sandra travelled to the bathroom.	0.01	0.18	0.63	0.02	Winona is a mouse.	0.14	0.85	0.77	0.05
Daniel went to the hallway.	0.01	0.24	0.62	0.83	Sheep are afraid of wolves.	0.02	0.98	0.27	0.05
Where is the apple?	hallway				What is Gertrude afraid of?	wolf			
	Layer 1			Layer 2		Layer 1			Layer 2
	z^1	\bar{r}^1	\bar{r}^{-1}	z^2		z^1	\bar{r}^1	\bar{r}^{-1}	z^2
Task 3: Displaying options					Task 6: DSTC2 dialog				
resto-paris-expen-frech-8stars?	0.00	1.00	0.96	0.91	Spanish food.	0.84	0.07	0.00	0.82
Do you have something else?	0.41	0.99	0.00	0.00	You are looking for a spanish restaurant right?	0.98	0.02	0.49	0.75
Sure let me find another option.	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.12	Yes.	0.01	1.00	0.33	0.13
resto-paris-expen-frech-5stars?	0.00	1.00	0.96	0.91	What part of town do you have in mind?	0.20	0.73	0.41	0.11
No this does not work for me.	0.00	0.00	0.14	0.00	I don't care.	0.00	1.00	0.02	0.00
Sure let me find an other option.	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.12	What price range would you like?	0.72	0.46	0.52	0.72
What do you think of this? resto-paris-expen-french-4stars					I don't care.	API CALL spanish R-location R-price			

Task	1k										10k									
	Previous works				QRN						Previous works				QRN					
	LSTM	N2N	DMN+	GMemN2N	1r	2	2r	3r	6r	6r200*	N2N	DMN+	GMemN2N	2r	2rv	3r	6r	6r200		
1: Single supporting fact	50.0	0.1	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
2: Two supporting facts	80.0	18.8	72.3	8.1	65.7	1.2	0.7	0.5	1.5	15.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
3: Three supporting facts	80.0	31.7	73.3	38.7	68.2	17.5	5.7	1.2	15.3	13.8	2.1	1.1	4.5	0.4	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
4: Two arg relations	39.0	17.5	26.9	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	9.0	13.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
5: Three arg relations	30.0	12.9	25.6	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.3	12.5	0.8	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
6: Yes/no questions	52.0	2.0	28.5	8.4	0.1	0.0	0.9	1.2	50.6	15.5	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
7: Counting	51.1	10.1	21.9	17.8	10.9	11.1	9.6	9.4	13.1	15.3	2.0	2.4	1.8	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
8: Lists/sets	55.0	6.1	21.9	12.5	6.8	5.7	5.6	3.7	7.8	15.1	0.9	0.0	0.3	1.4	0.6	0.8	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
9: Simple negation	36.0	1.5	42.9	10.7	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	32.7	13.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
10: Indefinite knowledge	56.0	2.6	23.1	16.5	0.8	0.6	0.0	0.0	3.5	12.9	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
11: Basic coreference	38.0	3.3	4.3	0.0	11.3	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.9	14.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
12: Conjunction	26.0	0.0	3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
13: Compound coreference	6.0	0.5	7.8	0.0	5.3	5.5	0.0	0.3	8.9	13.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
14: Time reasoning	73.0	2.0	61.9	1.2	20.2	1.3	0.8	3.8	18.2	14.5	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
15: Basic deduction	79.0	1.8	47.6	0.0	39.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	14.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
16: Basic induction	77.0	51.0	54.4	0.1	50.6	54.8	53.0	53.4	53.5	15.5	51.8	45.3	0.0	49.4	50.4	49.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
17: Positional reasoning	49.0	42.6	44.1	41.7	40.6	36.5	34.4	51.8	52.0	13.0	18.6	4.2	27.8	0.9	0.0	5.8	4.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
18: Size reasoning	48.0	9.2	9.1	9.2	8.2	8.6	7.9	8.8	47.5	14.9	5.3	2.1	8.5	1.6	8.4	1.8	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
19: Path finding	92.0	90.6	90.8	88.5	88.8	89.8	78.7	90.7	88.6	13.6	2.3	0.0	31.0	36.1	1.0	27.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
20: Agents motivations	9.0	0.2	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.3	5.5	14.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
# Failed	20	10	16	10	12	8	7	5	13	20	3	1	3	2	2	3	0	0	0	0
Average error rates (%)	51.3	15.2	33.2	12.7	20.1	11.7	9.9	11.3	20.5	14.2	4.2	2.8	3.7	4.6	3.2	4.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0