

# Babble Labble:

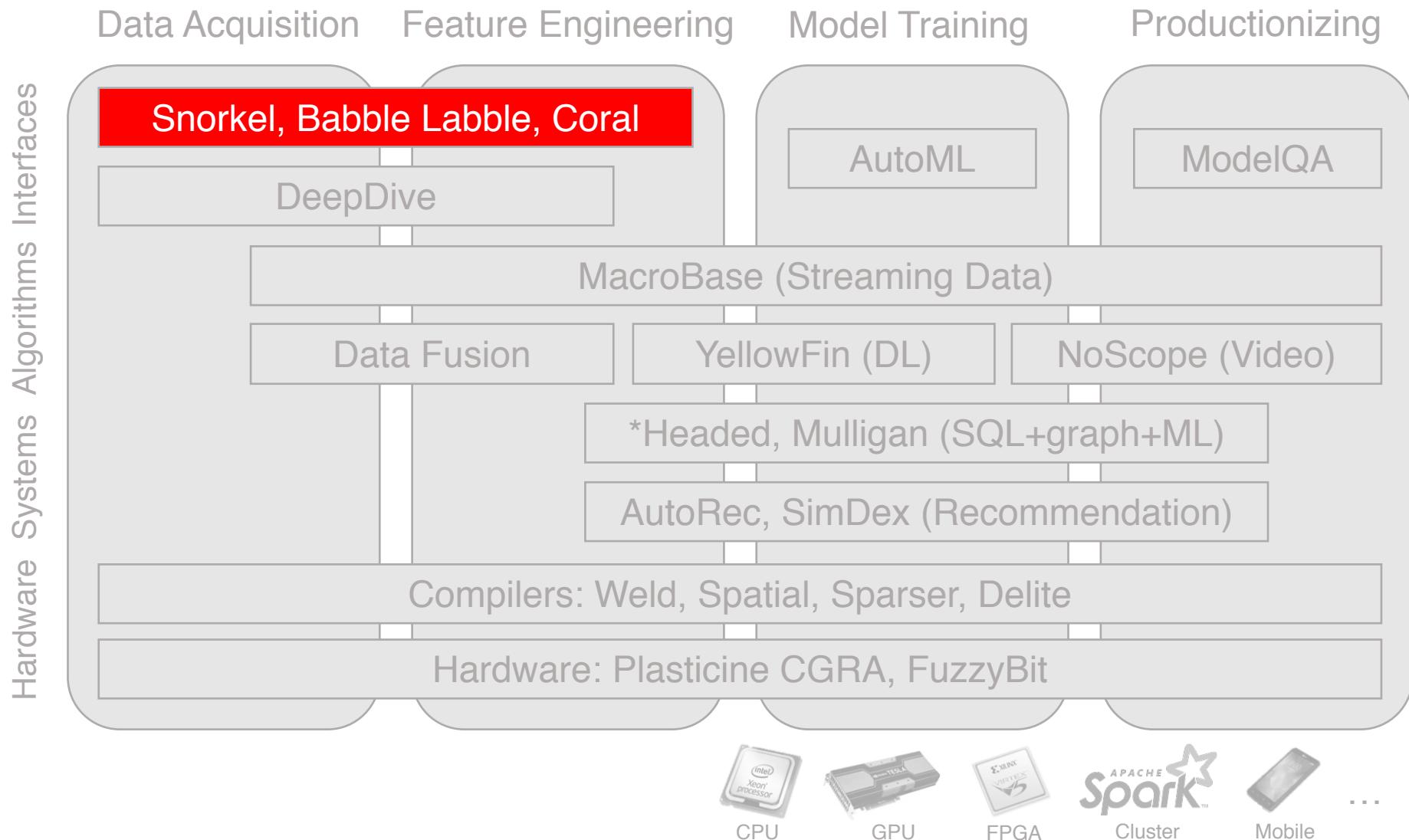
## Learning from Natural Language Explanations



**Braden Hancock**, Paroma Varma, Percy Liang, Chris Ré

DAWN Retreat 12 Sept 2017

# The DAWN Stack





Labeled data

+

Deep Learning

=

State of the Art

“How can I get enough labels?”



# Option 1: With Labels (One by One)

Barack and Michelle visited Stanford University with their daughter for a college visit.

Barack and Michelle are married?

- True
  - False
- Label

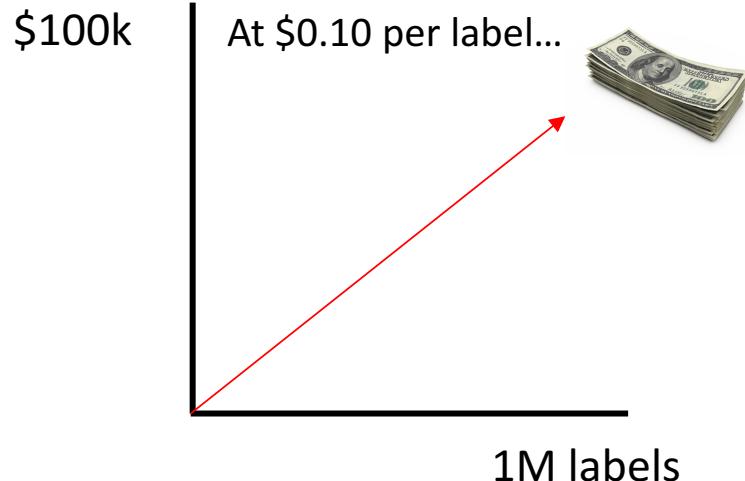
# Option 1: With Labels (One by One)

Barack and Michelle visited Stanford University with their daughter for a college visit.

Barack and Michelle are married?

- True
  - False
- Label

Not Scalable



Not Direct

- Person1 is 'Barack'
- Person2 is 'Michelle'
- 'visited' is after Person2
- 'Stanford University' is in the sentence
- 'and' is between Person1 and Person2
- Person1 is the first word in the sentence
- 'and' is the second word in the sentence
- Person3 is the third word in the sentence
- ...
- 'their daughter' is after Person1 and Person2
- ...

# Option 2: With Labeling Functions (DP)

Barack and Michelle visited Stanford University with their daughter for a college visit.

Write a simple program that labels +1 if the people in the example above are married, -1 if they are not married, and 0 if the program is unsure.

```
def lf(example):
    if (Between(example.person1, example.person2, 'and') and
        After(example.person2, 'their daughter')):
        return 1
    else:
        return 0
```

**Labeling Function**

# Option 2: With Labeling Functions (DP)

Pro:

- Labeling scales (label 1000 examples at a time)

Con:

- Not everyone can (or wants to) write programs!



# Option 3: With Explanations (Babble Labble)

Barack and Michelle visited Stanford University with their daughter for a college visit.

Barack and Michelle are married?

- True
- False

Why?

## Explanation

Because 'and' is between them and the words 'their daughter' occur after them in the sentence.

# Option 3: With Explanations (Babble Labble)

Pros:

- Ease of use
  - Conversational interfaces
  - Hands-free interfaces



- Faster supervision
  - No need to learn new syntax/libraries
  - No debugging of tabs, semicolons, etc.
- More sources of supervision

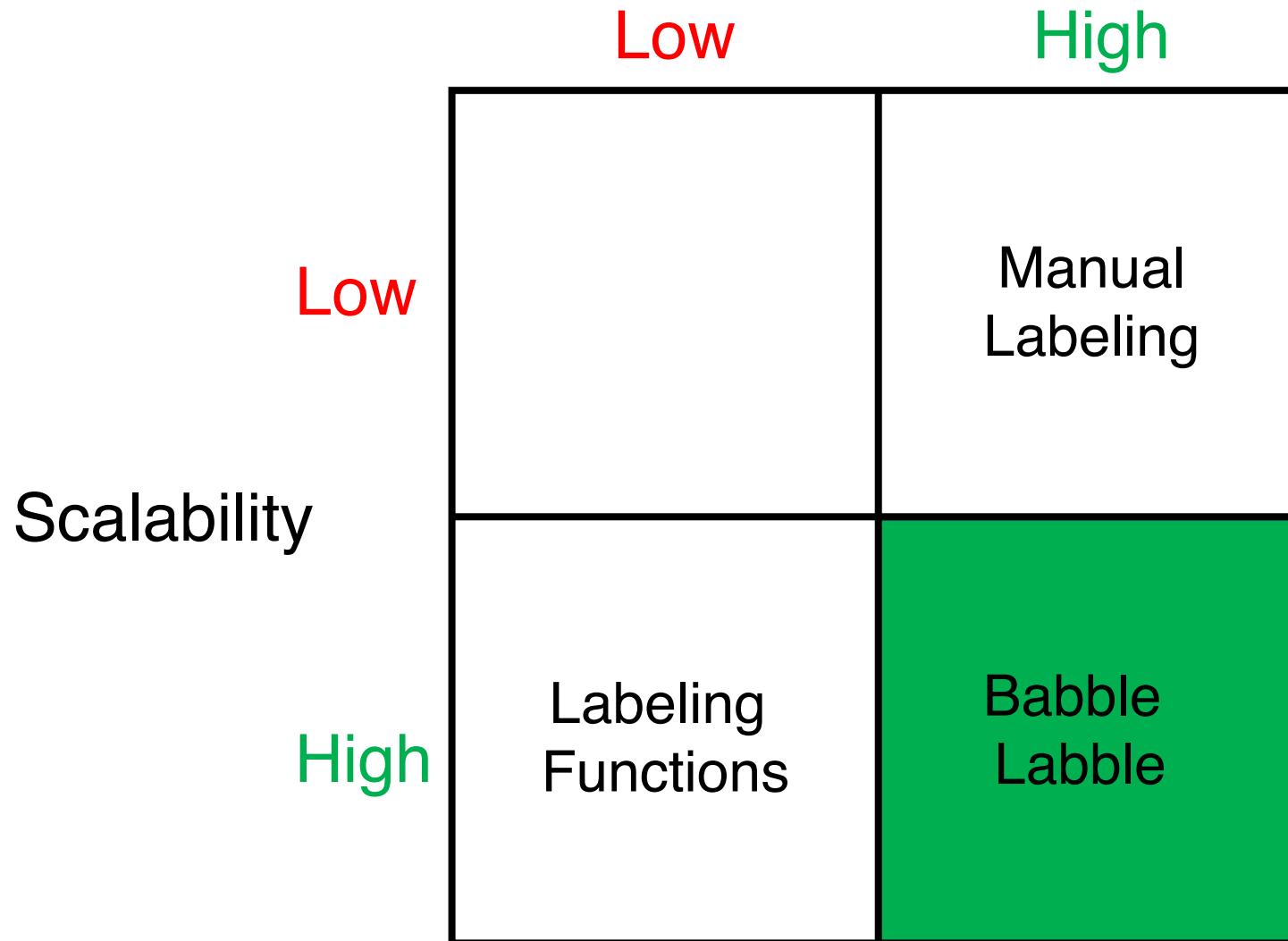
10x faster?

1000000x more?

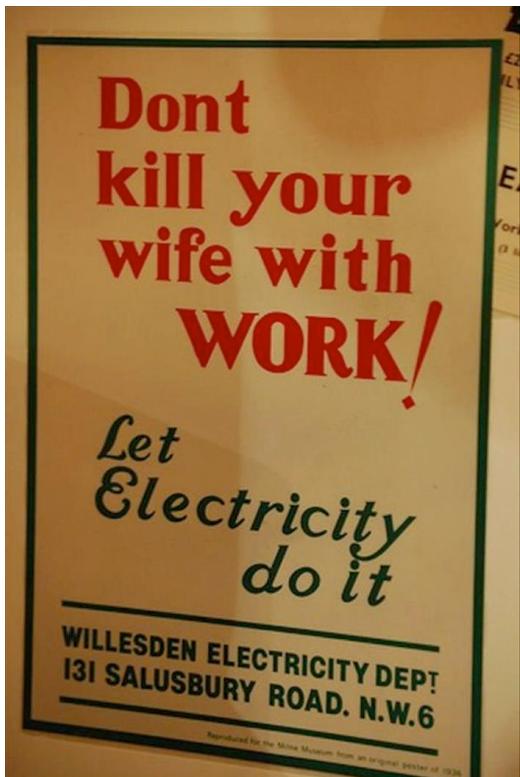
More people in the world can talk than can program  
More natural language in the world than programs



# Accessibility



# Natural Language is Ambiguous



Boy paralysed after  
tumour fights back  
to gain a black belt

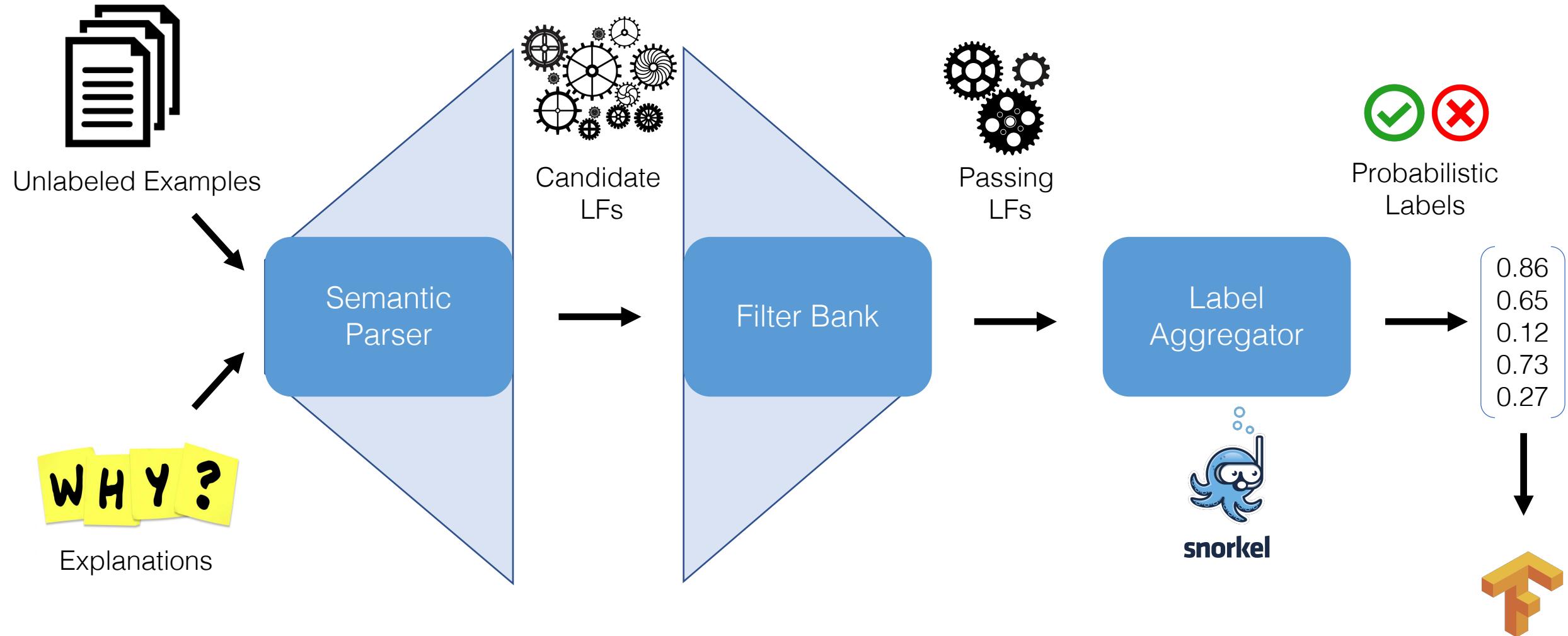


15 pit bulls  
rescued;  
2 arrested

*The Journal News (White Plains, NY) 3/6/08*



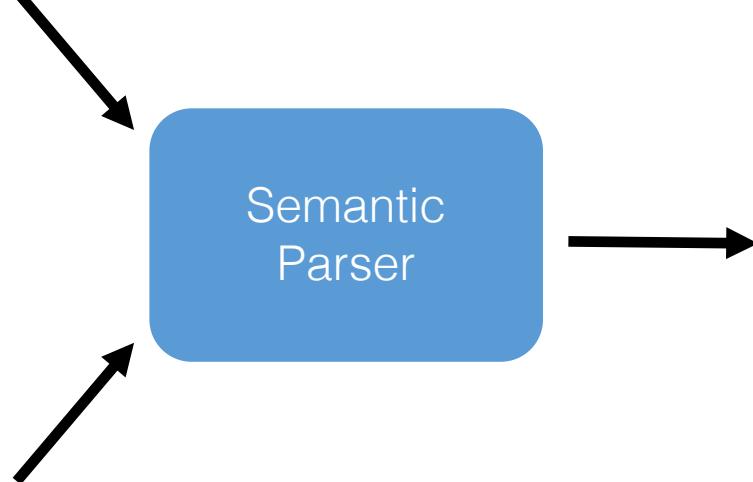
# Babble Labble Framework



# Spurious Programs

## Example X:

A  
B  
Barack and his wife Michelle live in the White House.



## Candidate Programs:

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Before('wife', B)                       | Intended |
| Before(B, 'wife')                       | Spurious |
| In(B, Sentence)                         |          |
| In("wife" precedes B, Sentence)         |          |
| And(Before('wife', B), In(B, Sentence)) |          |

## Explanation Y:

"True because 'wife' precedes B in the sentence"  
(for candidate (A, B))

# Filter Bank

- Uniform signature

LF 1: 

- Redundant signature

LF 1: 

LF 2: 

- Example consistency

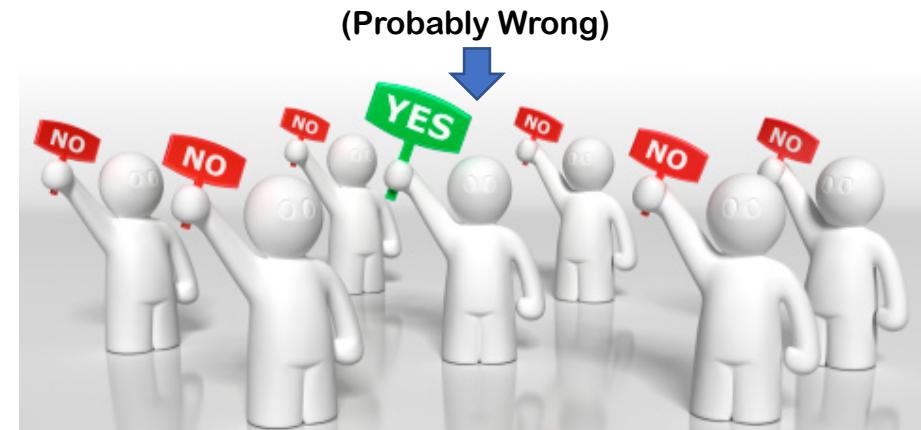
Input: X has label  because Y

Evaluate:  $LF_Y(X) = \text{red circle}$

Inconsistent:   $\neq$  

# Label Aggregator

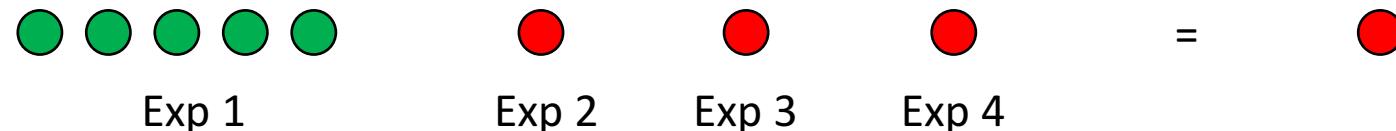
- Model the LFs' accuracies



- Model the LFs' dependencies



vs



# How Weak Can We Go?

Data Programming: Feed a larger set of “accurate enough” labels to the **discriminative** model

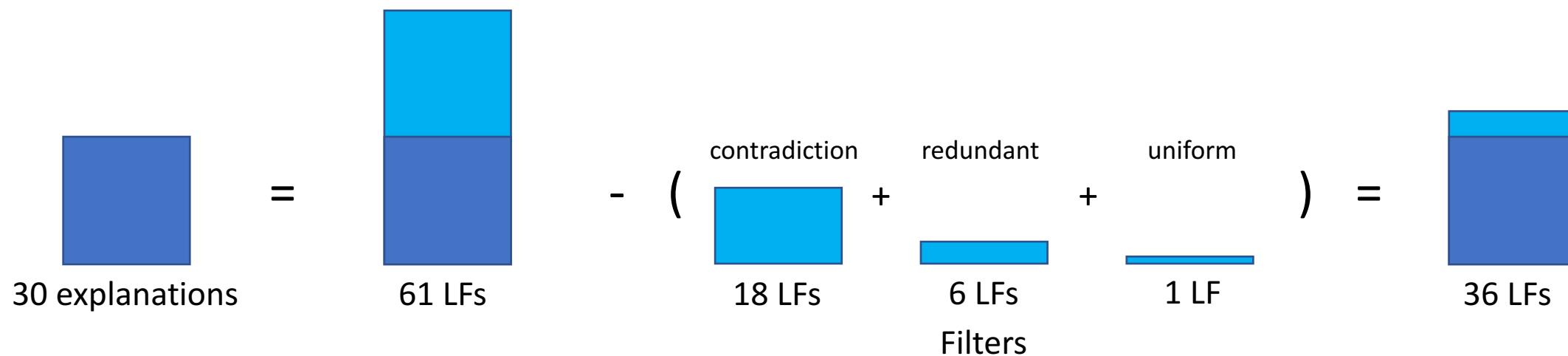
Babble Labble: Feed a larger set of “accurate enough” LFs to the generative model

# Experiment: Chemical-Disease Relations

**True** – “because ‘induced by’, ‘caused by’, or ‘due to’ is between the disease and the chemical”

**False** – “because a treatment word is between the chemical and the disease and the chemical is within 100 characters to the left of the disease”

**False** – “because the pair of canonical IDs of the chemical and the disease is in the therapeutic combinations dictionary”



# Experiment: Chemical-Disease Relations

1000  
gold  
labels

F1 = 0.53

=

30  
explanations



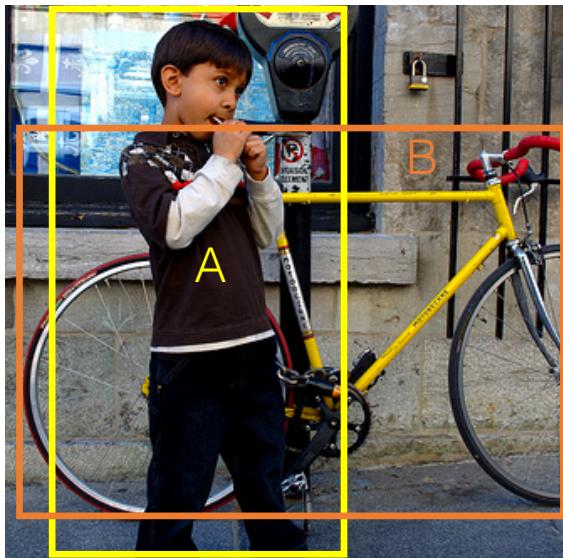
F1 = 0.53

**33x**

fewer inputs

# Expanding to More Domains

## Images



“Is person A riding bike B?”

## Text

A popular screen star, Lily, who is the daughter of British rocker [Phil Collins](#) and his American wife [Jill Tavelman](#) was the ideal guest at the film premiere. Her next project is an untitled Warren Beatty biopic on Howard Hughes that is due to be released in 2016.

## Tables

| MAXIMUM RATINGS  |                 |                |                                  |
|--|-----------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| Rating   | Symbol          | Value          | Unit                             |
| Collector - Emitter Voltage  | $V_{CEO}$       | 65<br>45<br>30 | Vdc                              |
| Collector - Base Voltage   | $V_{CBO}$       | 80<br>50<br>30 | Vdc                              |
| Emitter - Base Voltage   | $V_{EBO}$       | 6.0            | Vdc                              |
| Collector Current – Continuous   | $I_C$           | 100            | mAdc                             |
| Total Device Dissipation @ $T_A = 25^\circ\text{C}$<br>Derate above $25^\circ\text{C}$ | $P_D$           | 625<br>5.0     | mW<br>$\text{mW}/^\circ\text{C}$ |
| Total Device Dissipation @ $T_c = 25^\circ\text{C}$<br>Derate above $25^\circ\text{C}$ | $P_D$           | 1.5<br>12      | W<br>$\text{mW}/^\circ\text{C}$  |
| Operating and Storage Junction Temperature Range                                       | $T_J, T_{stg}$  | -55 to +150    | °C                               |
| THERMAL CHARACTERISTICS  |                 |                |                                  |
| Characteristic   | Symbol          | Max            | Unit                             |
| Thermal Resistance, Junction-to-Ambient  | $R_{\theta JA}$ | 200            | °C/W                             |
| Thermal Resistance, Junction-to-Case   | $R_{\theta JC}$ | 83.3           | °C/W                             |

“Are person A and Person B married?”

“Is Value A the collector-base voltage of Part B?”

**DEMO**

# What's Next?

- Applications!
- Where would natural interfaces be useful?
- Where would you like to see this used?

# Extra Slides

# Spurious LFs can still be helpful

Intended:

“their daughter” precedes A and B”



Misinterpreted as:

“A and B are preceded by ‘their daughter’”

Following the birth of their daughter Beyoncé and Jay-Z took to Twitter to celebrate.



# Babble Labble: Learning from Natural Language Explanations

Braden Hancock, Paroma Varma, Percy Liang, Chris Ré

**Bob** and his wife **Alice** visited Stanford University last Thursday.

Do you think **Bob** and **Alice** are married?

Yes  
 No

**Why?**

Because the words ‘his wife’ are immediately before Alice.

**30** explanations = **1000** labels  
 for identical F1 on a real-world biomedical task  
**(33x** fewer inputs)

