



# Towards **dynamic computation graphs** via **sparse latent structure**

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**Claire Cardie** Cornell University




[github.com/vene/sparsemap](https://github.com/vene/sparsemap)



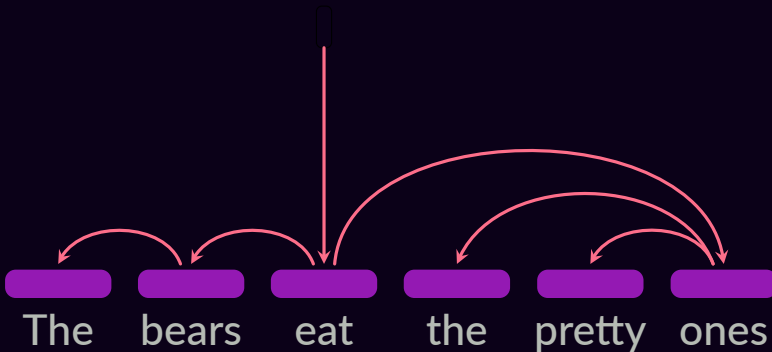
[@vnfrombucharest](https://twitter.com/avnfrombucharest)

# Dependency TreeLSTM

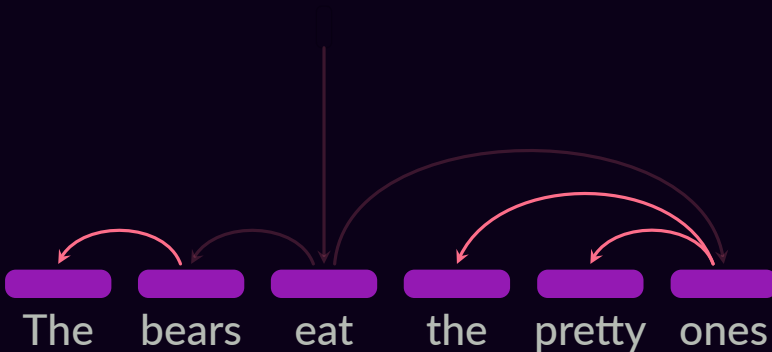


The bears eat the pretty ones

# Dependency TreeLSTM



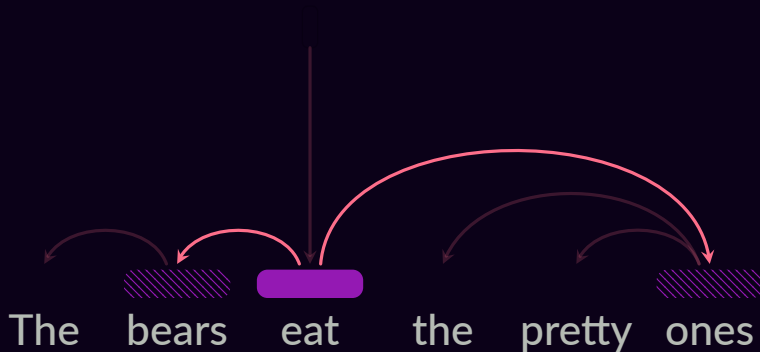
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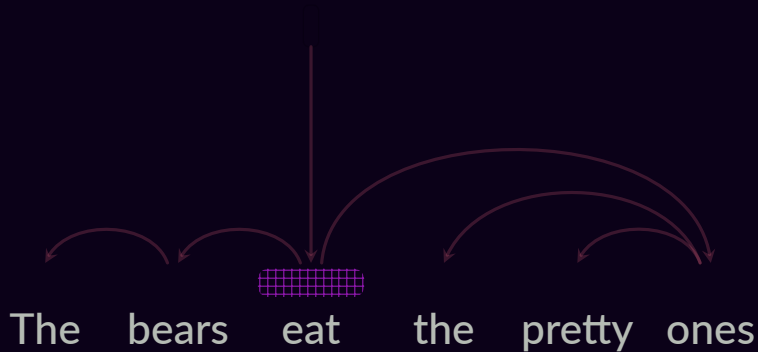
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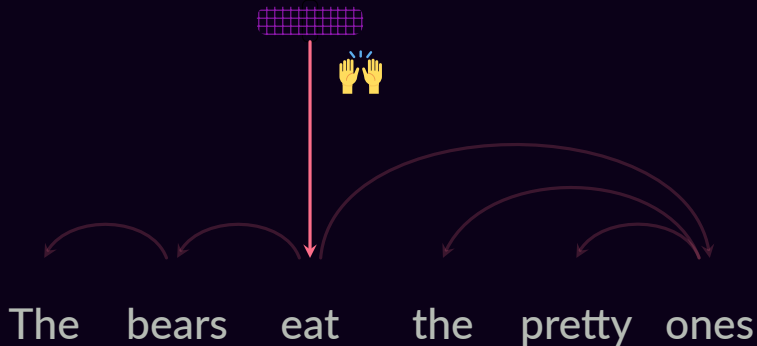
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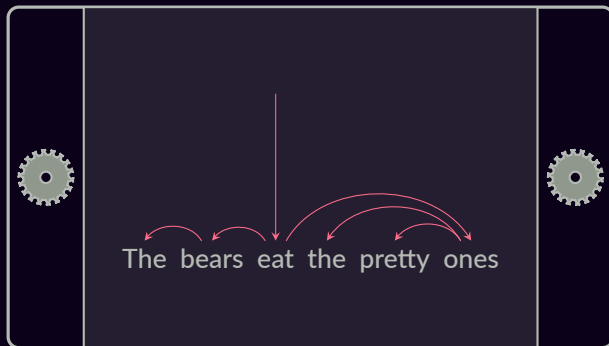




# Latent Dependency TreeLSTM

input

$x$



output

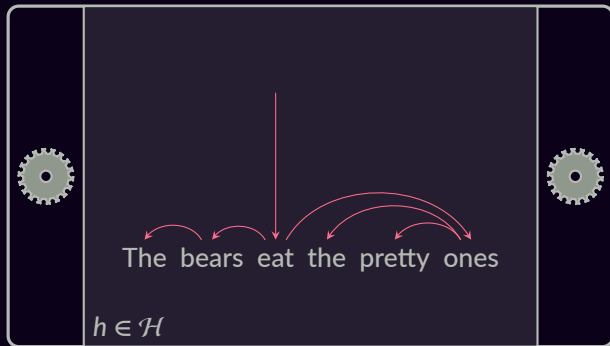
$y$

# Latent Dependency TreeLSTM

$$p(y|x) = \sum_{h \in \mathcal{H}} p(y | h, x) p(h | x)$$

input

$x$



output

$y$

# Structured Latent Variable Models

$$p(y | x) = \sum_{h \in \mathcal{H}} p(y | h, x) p(h | x)$$


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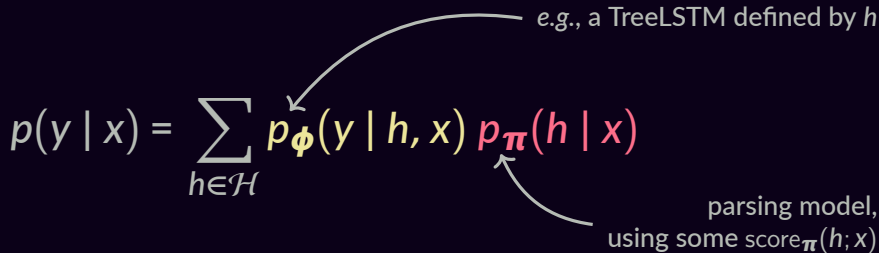


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parsing model,  
using some score  $\pi(h; x)$



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sum over  
all possible trees

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Exponentially large sum!

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How to define  $p_{\pi}$ ?

idea 1

idea 2

idea 3



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idea 1: 😊 (smiley face)  
idea 2: 😞 (frowny face)  
idea 3: 😊 (smiley face)

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SparseMAP



# SparseMAP Inference

(Niculae et al, ICML 2018)

 $= .7$

 $+ .3$



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(Niculae et al, ICML 2018)

$$\text{Diagram} = .7$$

$$\text{Diagram} + .3$$

$$\text{Diagram} + 0 \text{Diagram} + \dots$$

# SparseMAP Inference

(Niculae et al, ICML 2018)

$$\text{Diagram 1} = .7$$

$$\text{Diagram 2} + .3$$

$$\text{Diagram 3} + 0 \text{Diagram 4} + \dots$$

$$p(y | x) = .7 p_{\phi}(y | \text{Diagram 1}) + .3 p_{\phi}(y | \text{Diagram 2})$$

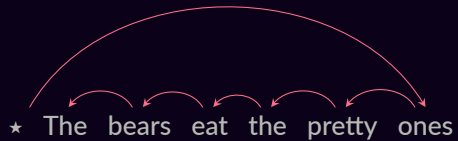
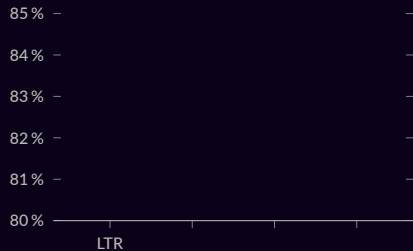
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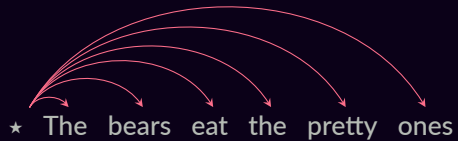
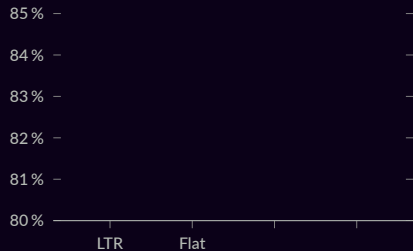
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Diagram 1} &= .7 & \text{Diagram 2} &+ .3 & \text{Diagram 3} &+ 0 & \text{Diagram 4} &+ \dots \\ p(y | x) &= .7 p_{\phi}(y | \text{Diagram 1}) + .3 p_{\phi}(y | \text{Diagram 2}) \end{aligned}$$

$\text{Diagram 1}$  is not a tree itself:  $p(y | x) \neq p_{\phi}(y | \text{Diagram 1})$ !



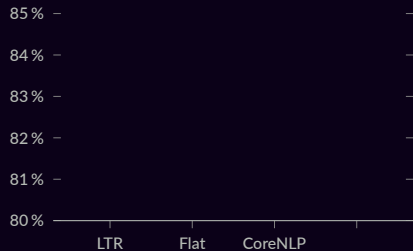


Left-to-right: regular LSTM



Flat: bag-of-words-like





★ The bears eat the pretty ones

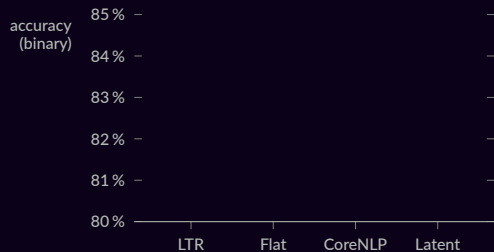
Diagram illustrating the dependency arcs for the sentence "The bears eat the pretty ones". The arcs are as follows:

- A long arc from "The" to "eat".
- A short arc from "bears" to "eat".
- A long arc from "eat" to "ones".
- A short arc from "the" to "eat".
- A short arc from "eat" to "pretty".
- A short arc from "eat" to "ones".

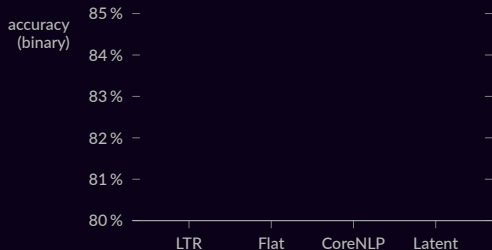
CoreNLP: off-line parser



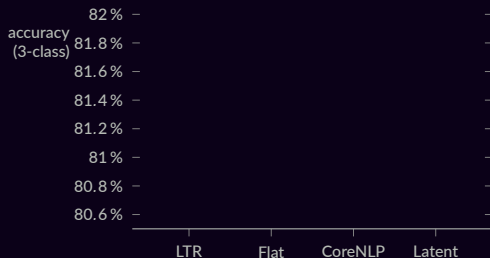
## Sentiment classification (SST)



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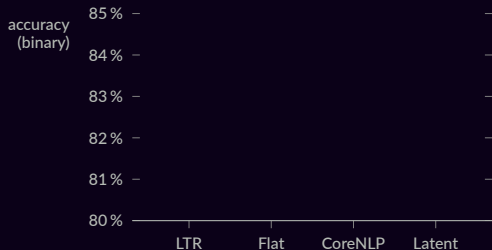
## Natural Language Inference (SNLI)



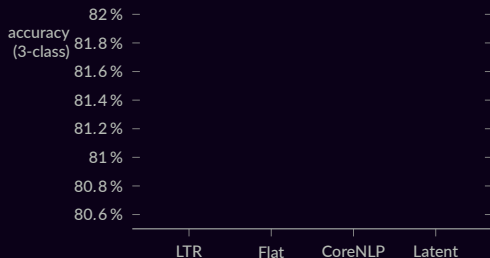
## Sentence pair classification ( $P, H$ )

$$p(y \mid P, H) = \sum_{h_P \in \mathcal{H}(P)} \sum_{h_H \in \mathcal{H}(H)} p_{\phi}(y \mid h_P, h_H) p_{\pi}(h_P \mid P) p_{\pi}(h_H \mid H)$$

## Sentiment classification (SST)



## Natural Language Inference (SNLI)

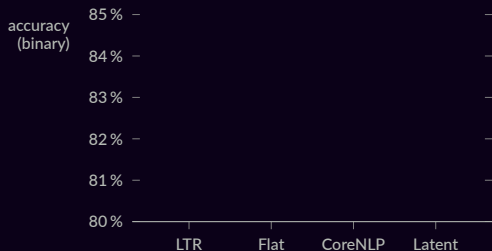


## Reverse dictionary lookup

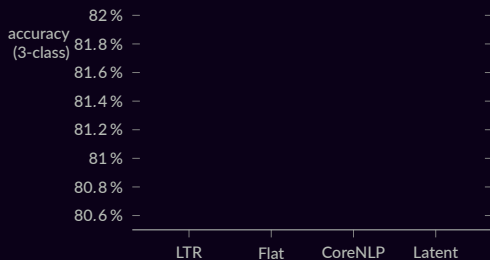
given word description, predict word embedding (Hill et al, 17)

instead of  $p(y | x)$ , we model  $\mathbb{E}_{p_{\pi}} \mathbf{g}(x) = \sum_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \mathbf{g}(x; h) p_{\pi}(h | x)$

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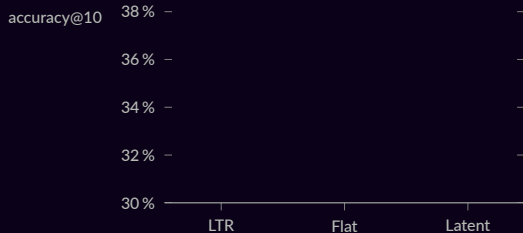


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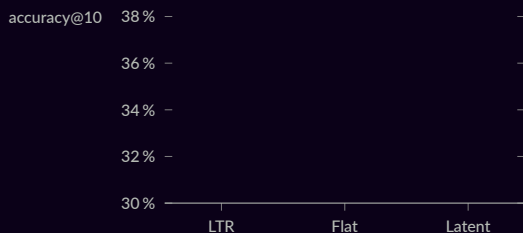


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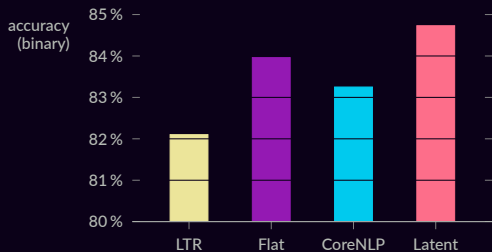
(definitions)



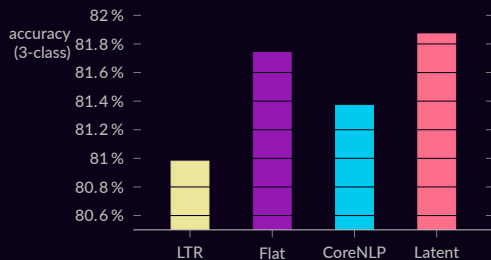
(concepts)



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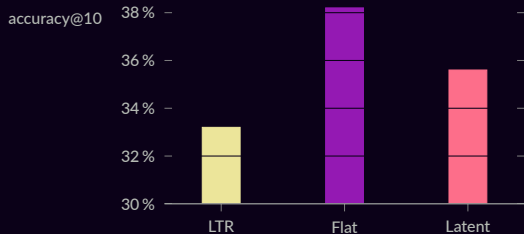


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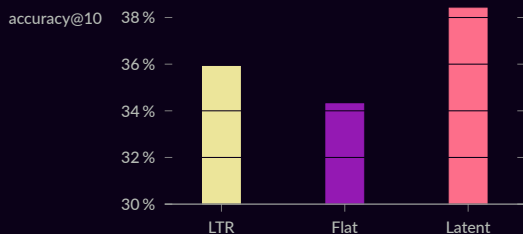


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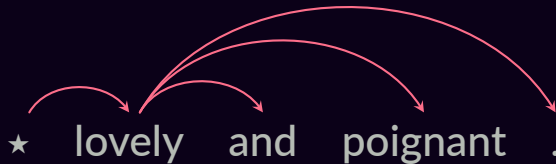


(concepts)



# Syntax vs. Composition Order

CoreNLP parse,  $p = 21.4\%$



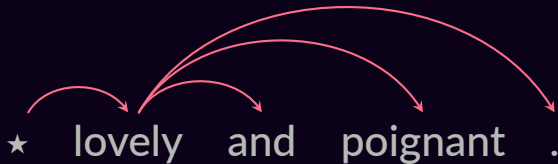


# Syntax vs. Composition Order

$p = 22.6\%$

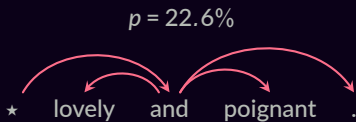


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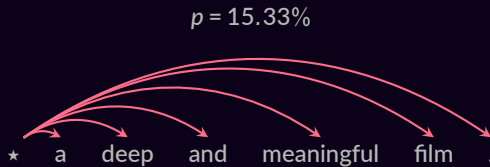
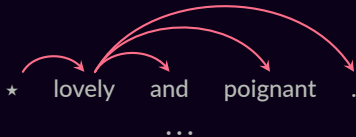


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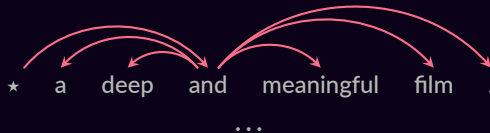
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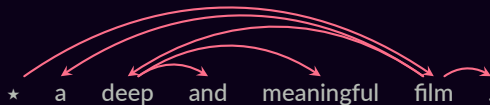
CoreNLP parse,  $p = 21.4\%$



$p = 15.27\%$



CoreNLP parse,  $p = 0\%$

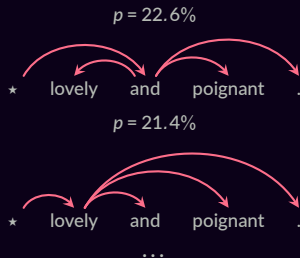
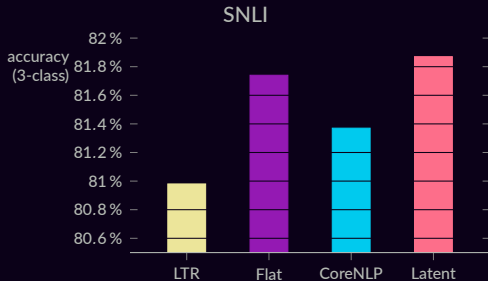


# Conclusions

Latent structured variables for  
uncertainty & compositionality

Tractable marginalization via  
SparseMAP inference

Flexible model: arbitrary function  
of discrete latent structures



✉ vlad@vene.ro

🏠 <https://vene.ro>

🐙 [github.com/vene/sparsemap](https://github.com/vene/sparsemap)

🐦 @avnfrombucharest

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