



max planck institut  
informatik

# What Computers Should Know

**Gerhard Weikum**

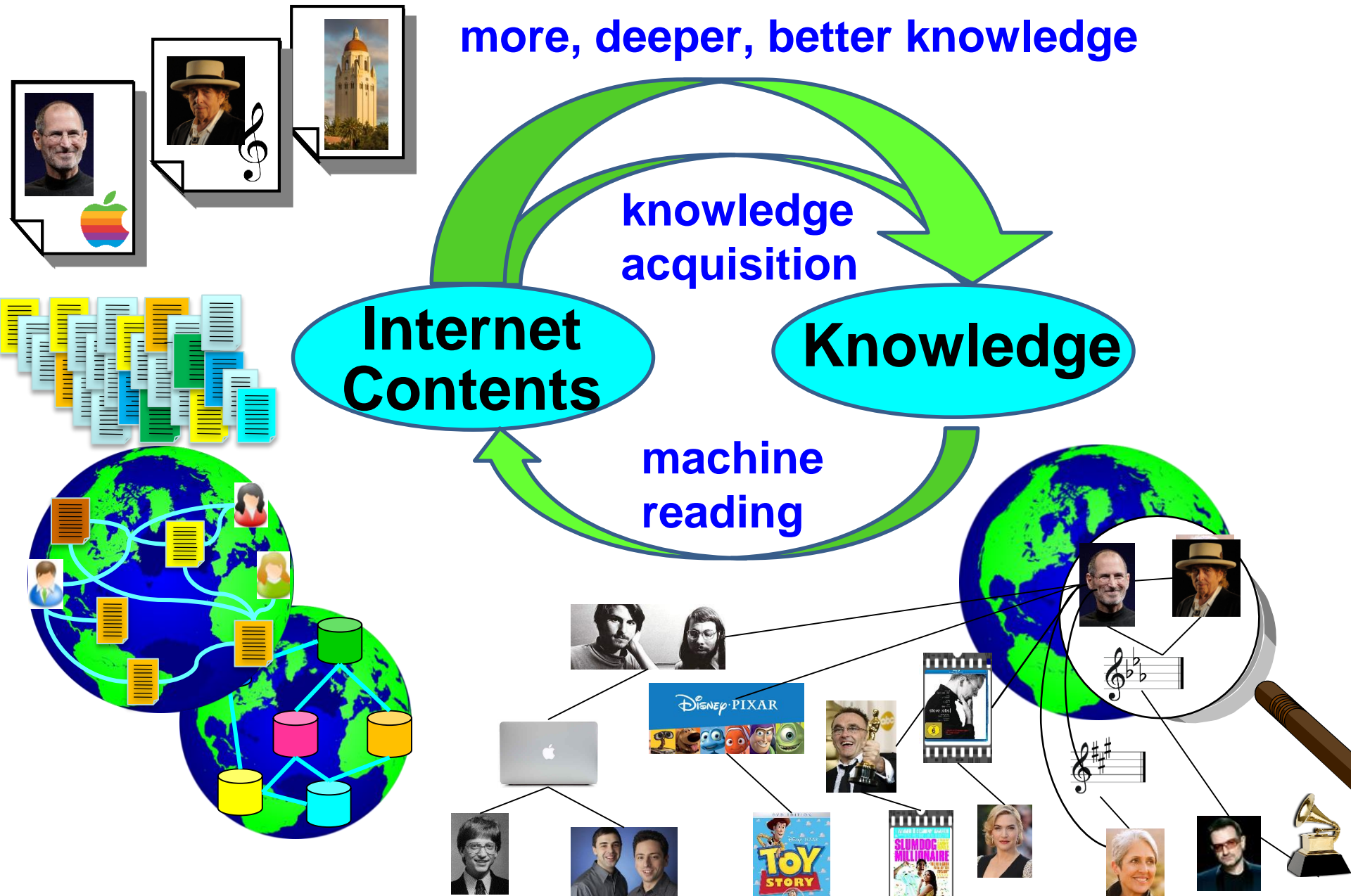
**Max Planck Institute for Informatics**

**Saarland Informatics Campus**

**<http://mpi-inf.mpg.de/~weikum>**

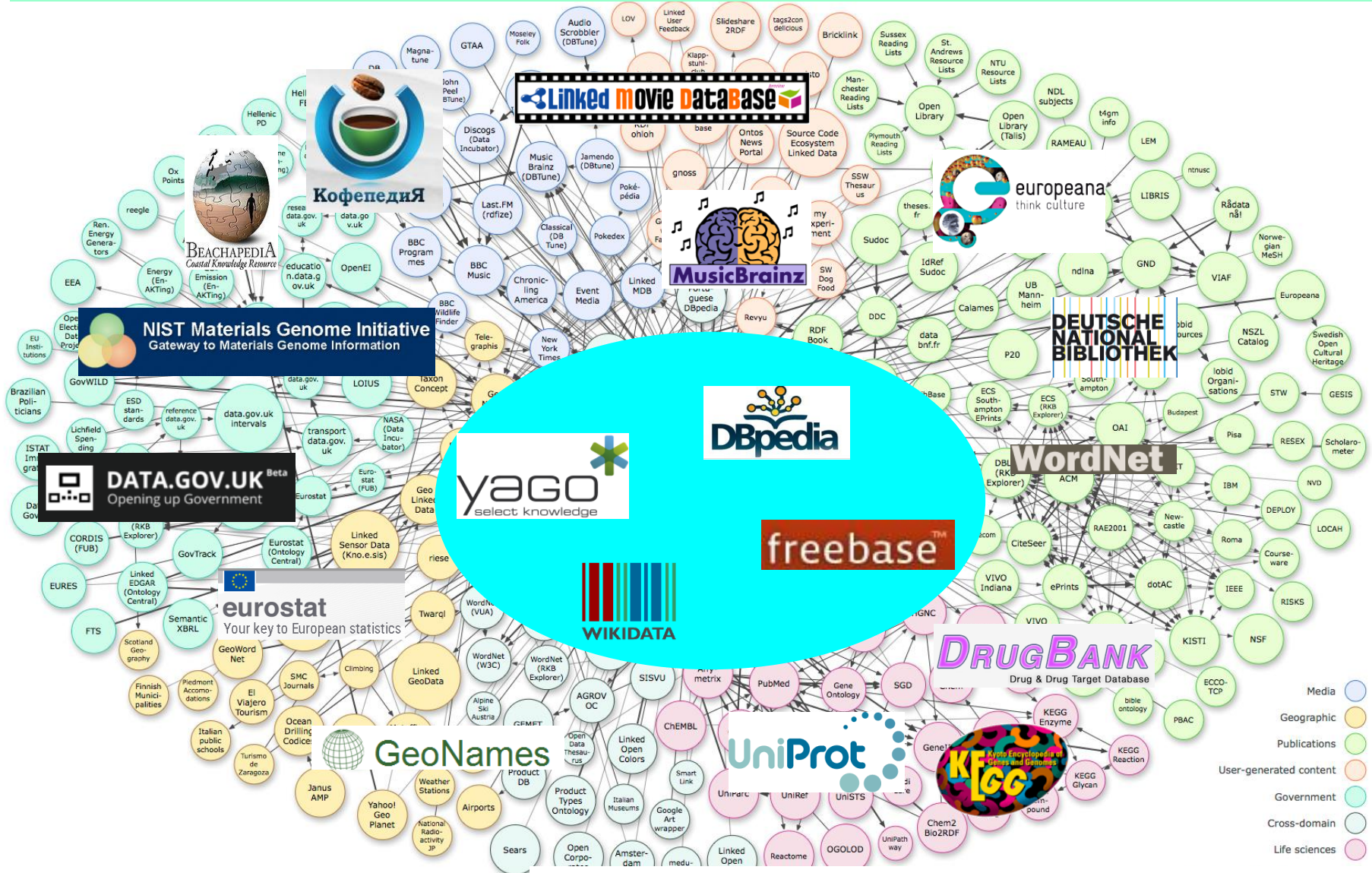
# Turn Text & Data into Knowledge

more, deeper, better knowledge



# Web of Knowledge and Open Data

> 100 Billion subject-predicate-object facts from > 1000 sources





# Web of Knowledge

- 10M entities in 350K types
- 200M facts
- 100 languages
- >95% accuracy

yAGO  
select knowledge

- 15 M entities
- 150 M facts

WIKIDATA

- 5M entities in 250 types
- 500M facts for 6000 relations

DBpedia

freebase

- 40M entities
- 1B facts for 4000 relations

- 600M entities
- 20B facts

Google  
Knowledge  
Graph

**Applications:**  
semantic search & question answering  
natural language understanding  
recommender systems  
text analytics, data cleaning, .....

# Web of Knowledge

> 100 Billion **subject-predicate-object** facts from > 1000 sources  
**predicate** (**subject**, **object**)



**type** (SteveJobs, entrepreneur)  
**type** (SteveJobs, computer architect)  
**subtypeOf** (entrepreneur, businessperson)

**hasFounded** (SteveJobs, Apple)  
**hasDaughter** (SteveJobs, LisaBrennan)  
**namedAfter** (AppleLisa, LisaBrennan)  
**diedOf** (SteveJobs, pancreatic cancer)

**hasSymptom** (pancreatic cancer, jaundice)  
**treats** (ErlotinibHydrochloride, pancreatic cancer)

taxonomic knowledge

factual knowledge

domain expert knowledge

# Machine Knowledge for Answer Engines

**Precise and concise answers  
for advanced information needs:**



**properties of entity**

★ **Nobel laureate who outlived two world wars and all his children?**

**sets of entities**

★ **Politicians who are also scientists?**



**relationships between entities**

★ **Commonalities & relationships among:  
Kepler, Henri Poincaré, Liu Cixin, Zhang Jingchu?**





# Machine Knowledge for Answer Engines

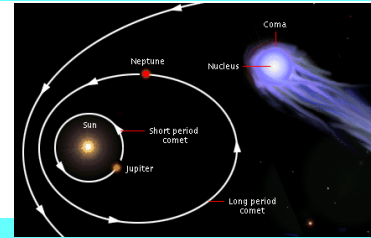
**Precise and concise answers  
for advanced information needs:**

**properties of entity**

★ Nobel laureate who outlived two world wars and all his children?

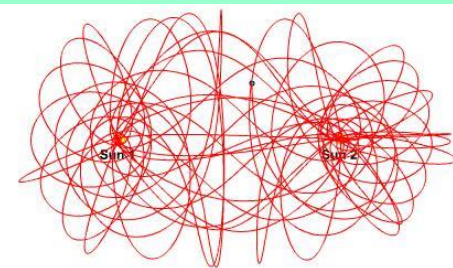
**sets of entities**

★ Politicians who are also scientists?



**relationships between entities**

★ Commonalities & relationships among:  
Kepler, Henri Poincaré, Liu Cixin, Zhang Jingchu?



# Machine Knowledge for Answer Engines

**Precise and concise answers  
for advanced information needs:**

**real applications**

- ★ **Proteins that bind to the Zika virus?**
- Antidepressants that interfere with thyroid drugs?**
- Polymer materials for super-capacitators?**
- German philosophers influenced by William of Ockham?**
- Books that influenced Liu Cixin?**
- Green politicians mentioned in Panama Papers?**



# Outline

✓ **What Computers Know**

★ **What Computers Don't Know ...**

★ **... and What Can Be Done About It**

★ **Conclusion**

# Missing on Predicates & Salient Facts

Which **salient facts** about an entity are in infoboxes?



WIKIPEDIA  
The Free Encyclopedia



	<b>Liu Cixin</b>
<b>Born</b>	23 June 1949 <a href="#">Yangquan</a>
<b>Occupation</b>	Science engineer
<b>Nationality</b>	Chinese
<b>Period</b>	1999–present
<b>Genre</b>	<a href="#">Hard science fiction</a>
<b>Notable works</b>	<i>Three-Body</i> trilogy



Chinese name	Liu Cixin
Foreign name	Liu, Cixin <sup>[10]</sup>
Alias	Liu electrician
Country of Cit...	China
place of birth	Beijing
date of birth	June 23, 1963
Occupation	Engineer, writer
graduated sc...	<a href="#">North China University of Water Res</a> <a href="#">Hydropower</a>
Major achiev...	From 1999 to 2006, he won consecutively the <a href="#">Hugo Award</a> and the <a href="#">Nebula Award</a>
Major achiev...	" <a href="#">Trisomy III</a> " won the 2011 <a href="#">Global Chinese Science Fiction Award</a> and the <a href="#">Fiction Nebula Award for Best Novel</a> . " <a href="#">Trisomy III</a> " won the " <a href="#">contemporary Chinese Science Fiction Award</a> " of 2011. <sup>[4]</sup> " <a href="#">three-body</a> " won the 2015 <a href="#">the West Lake · Type Literature Award</a> Gold. <sup>[4]</sup> " <a href="#">Trisomy III</a> " won the ninth <a href="#">China Excellent Children's Literature Award</a> (in the science fiction categories). <sup>[4]</sup>

**workedAs**

(Liu Cixin, computer engineer)

**translatedBy**

(Liu Cixin, Liu Ken)

**hasFavoriteBooks**

(Liu Cixin,  
{ Arthur C. Clarke: 2001,  
George Orwell: 1984 })

**locationInBook**

(Three Body, Tsinghua Univ)

**locationInBook**

(Three Body, AlphaCentauri)

**citesInBook**

(Liu Cixin, Dark Forest,  
Goethe:

"If I love you, what  
business is it of yours?"

**not in any KB !**

# Spectrum of Digital Knowledge (1): School Education for Computers

## taxonomic knowledge:

**type** (SteveJobs, entrepreneur), **subtypeOf** (entrepreneur, businessperson)

**type** (SteveJobs, inventor), **subtypeOf** (inventor, human)

**type** (SteveJobs, YogaPractitioner), **type** (SteveJobs, GratefulDeadFan)

long-tail  
classes

## factual knowledge:

**hasFounded** (SteveJobs, Apple), **CEO** (SteveJobs, Apple)

long-tail entities

**hasDaughter** (SteveJobs, LisaBrennan), **namedAfter** (AppleLisa, LisaBrennan)

**hasFavoriteSong** (SteveJobs, Imagine), **hasFavoriteSong** (SteveJobs, Truckin')

**dated** (SteveJobs, JoanBaez), **admired** (SteveJobs, BobDylan)

**composed** (JoanBaez, Diamonds&Rust), **lyricsAbout** (Diamonds&Rust, BobDylan)

**sangAt** (JoanBaez, memorialForSteveJobs)

long-tail relations

## spatial & temporal knowledge:

**diedOn** (SteveJobs, 5-Oct-2011), **diedIn** (SteveJobs, Palo Alto)

**happened** (**hasFounded** (SteveJobs, Apple), Cupertino, 1976)

**validDuring** (**CEO** (SteveJobs, Apple), 1997-2011)



# Spectrum of Digital Knowledge (2): Kindergarten and University

## commonsense properties:

**property** (lemon, yellow), **property** (lemon, juicy), **property** (lemon, sour),  
**ability** (fish, swim), **ability** (human, speak), **usedFor** (classroom, teaching),  
**maxHeight** (human, 2.5 m), **maxLength** (snake, 10 m)

## commonsense rules:

$\forall x: \text{human}(x) \Rightarrow (\exists y \text{ mother}(x,y)) \wedge (\exists z \text{ father}(x,z))$

$\forall x, y, z \text{ mother}(x,y) \wedge \text{mother}(x,z) \Rightarrow y = z$

## domain-specific expert knowledge:

**type** (Ubiquinone-8, coenzyme), **expresses** (COQ8, Ubiquinone-8)  
**causes** (lack of Ubiquinone-8, mitochondrial disorder)

# Spectrum of Digital Knowledge (3): Learned in Life

## socio-cultural and social knowledge:

**invented** (computer, Eckert and Mauchley, USA),

**invented** (computer, KonradZuse, Germany),

**invented** (computer, AlanTuring, UK), **invented** (computer, SteveJobs, young nerds)

**drink** (beer, Germany), **drink** (wine, California), **drink** (lassi, India)

**alleviates** (ice, bruises), **alleviates** (eucalyptusOil, sinusitis)

## belief knowledge:

**believe** (Ptolemy, **center** (world,earth), **believe** (Galileo, **center** (world, sun))

**believe** (Chinese, **badLuckNumber** (4)), **believe** (Germans, **badLuckNumber** (13))

**believe** (AustralianAborigines, **taboo** (photosOfDeadPeople))

## process knowledge:

**type** (changeTire, mechanicalTask)

**subtask** (changeTire, loosenBolts), **subtask** (changeTire, liftCar),

**requires** (loosenBolts, spiderWrench), **requires** (liftCar, jack)

**precedes** (loosenBolts, liftCar)

# Knowledge Gaps

**Temporal and Spatial Knowledge**

**Long-Tail Knowledge (on types and entities)**

**Dynamic Knowledge (events, emerging entities)**

**Open-Ended Knowledge (relation types)**

**On-the-Fly Knowledge**

**Visual Knowledge (on types and long-tail entities)**

**Cultural Knowledge**

**Commonsense Knowledge**

**Social Knowledge**

**Intensional Knowledge**

**Negative Knowledge**



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- **Social Knowledge**

# Open-Ended Relation Types



Ndapa  
Nakashole



Adam  
Grycner

**Goal:**  
**comprehensive repository of**  
**binary predicates** (and n-ary predicates)  
**with type signatures and paraphrases**

**Early work:**

- WordNet (Miller/Fellbaum), VerbNet (Palmer et al.)
- DIRT (Lin/Pantel: KDD'01)

**Recent work:**

- PATTY (Nakashole et al.: EMNLP'12)
- POLY (Grycner et al.: EMNLP'16)
- Biperpedia (Gupta et al.: VLDB'14)
- PPDB (Ganitkevich et al.: HLT-NAACL'13)
- DEFIE (Bovi et al.: TACL'15)
- FrameBase (Rouces et al.: ESWC'15)
- schema.org
- more at Google, Microsoft, Baidu, ... ?

# Paraphrases of Relations

Who performed or wrote music for which movie?

Morricone wrote the score for The Good, The Bad and The Ugly  
Morricone's Ecstasy of Gold is in the soundtrack of the Good, the Bad, the Ugly  
Beethoven's Elise is part of the score for Harry Potter 7  
The soundtrack of The Fall includes the 2nd movement of the 7th, by Beethoven  
Shakira gives her voice to Gazelle in the title song of Zootopia  
The Zootopia trailer includes Shakira's title song  
Zhang Ziyi's voice in the Beauty and the Beast appears in House of Flying Daggers  
Andy Lau performs the title song of What Women Want

score for:

(Morricone, TheGoodTheBadT  
(Beethoven, Harry Potter 7), ...

soundtrack of:

(Morricone, TheGoodTheBadT  
(Beethoven, Harry Potter 7), ...

voice in:

(Shakira, Zootopia), (ZhangZiyi

title song of:

(Shakira, Zootopia), (AndyLau, WhatWomenWant), ...

- frequent sequence mining for relational phrases
- support sets of entity pairs for paraphrases
- clustering for “synsets”

musicInMovies (<musician>, <movie>):

voice in, title song of, soundtrack of, score for, song appears in, ...



# Semantically Typed Paraphrases of Relations

[Nakashole et al.: EMNLP'12, VLDB'12  
Grycner et al.: EMNLP'15, EMNLP'16]

WordNet-style dictionary/taxonomy for **relational phrases**  
based on **SOL patterns** (syntactic-lexical-ontological)

Relational phrases are **typed**

*<person> graduated from <university>*

*<singer> covered <song>*

*<book> covered <event>*

Relational phrases can be **synonymous**

*“graduated from” ⇔ “obtained degree in \* from”*

*“and PRP ADJ advisor” ⇔ “under the supervision of”*

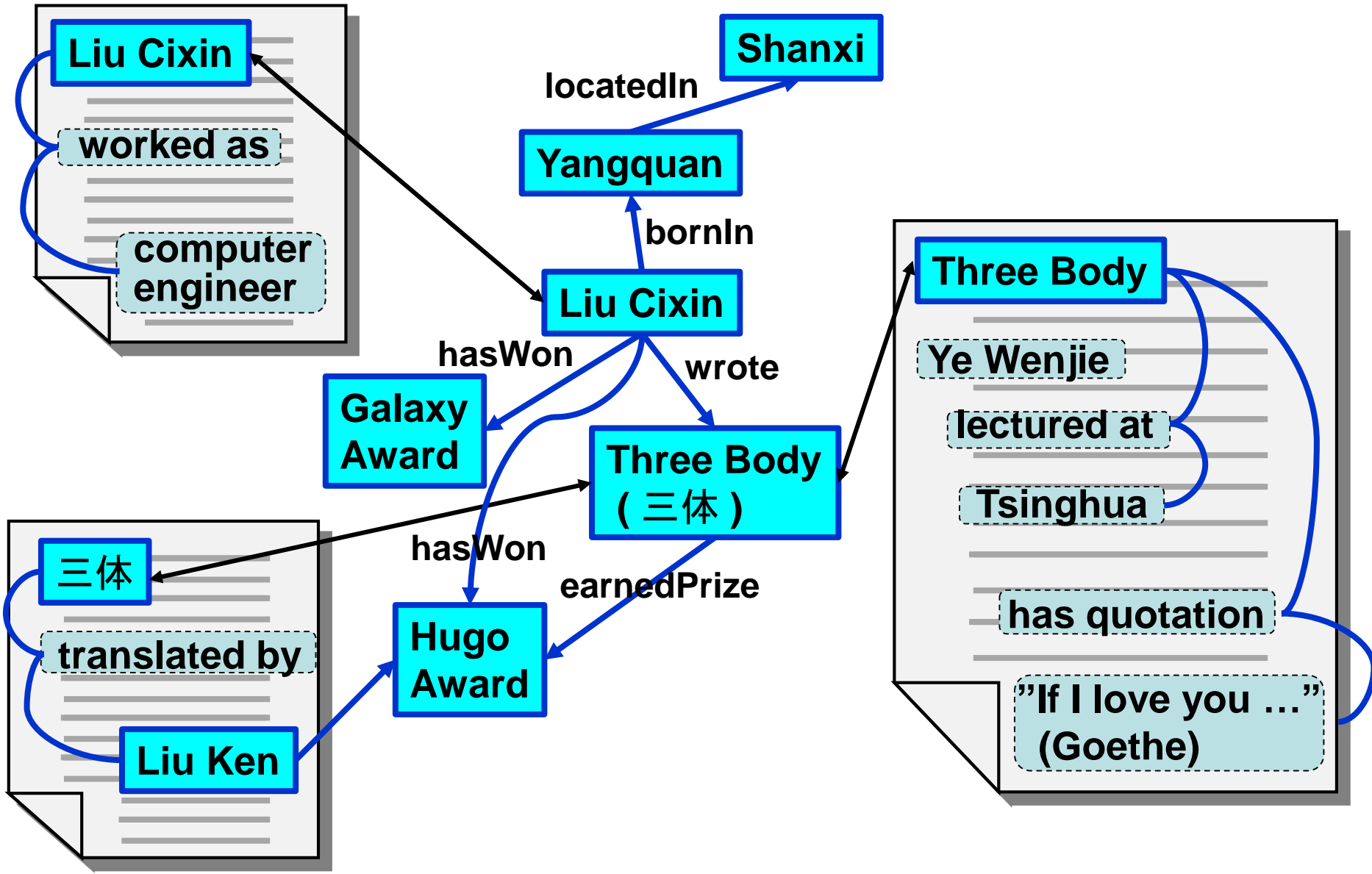
One relational phrase can **subsume** another

*“wife of” ⇒ “spouse of”*

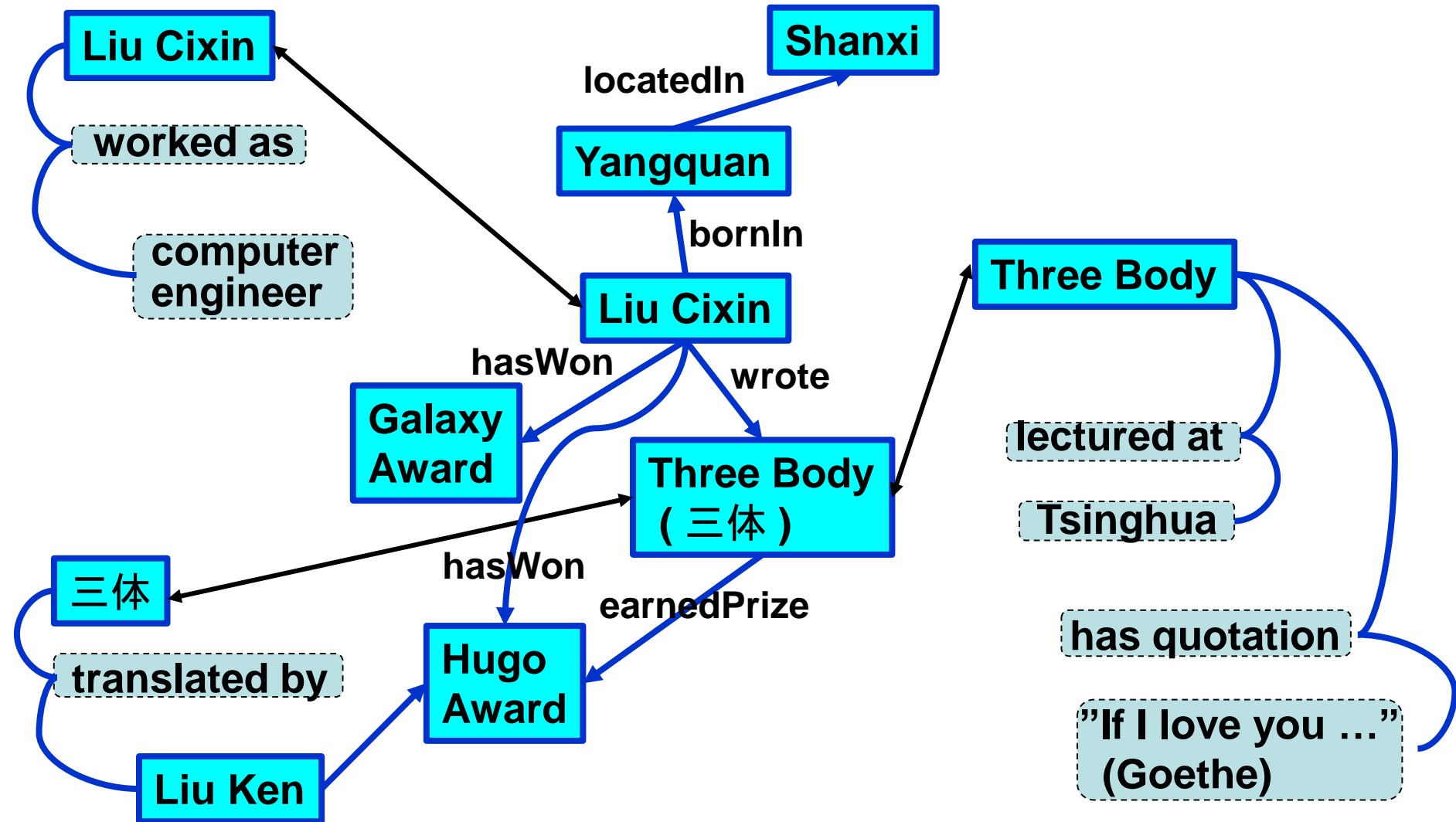
350 000 SOL patterns with 4 Mio. instances

accessible at: [www.mpi-inf.mpg.de/yago-naga/patty](http://www.mpi-inf.mpg.de/yago-naga/patty)

# Extended Knowledge Graph (XKG): Connecting Facts with Text

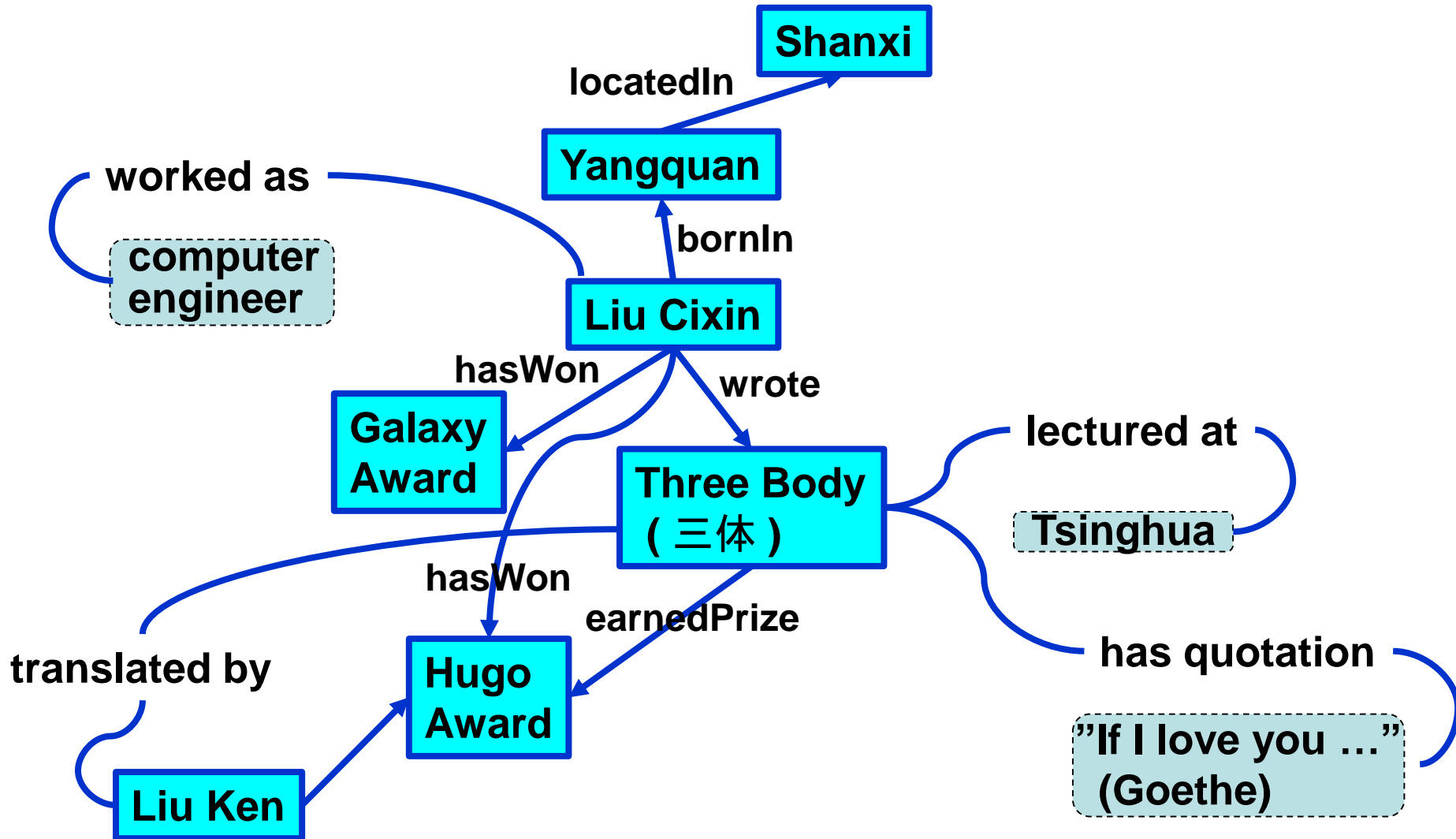


# Extended Knowledge Graph (XKG): Connecting Facts with Text





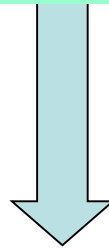
# Extended Knowledge Graph (XKG): Connecting Facts with Text



# Querying the XKG

(M. Yahya et al.: WSDM'16, VLDB'16)

engineers who wrote books that cite Goethe



automatically translate  
natural language question  
into structured query

```
Select ?x Where {  
  ?x          "work"          "engineer" .  
  ?x          wrote           ?y .  
  ?y          {"quote", "say"} ?t .  
  ?t          {"work of", "by"} "Goethe" . }
```

Triple patterns bind to S, P, O from KB or from text  
Relaxations are generated automatically

# Outline

✓ **What Computers Know**

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- **Open-Ended Knowledge**
- **Commonsense Knowledge**
- **Social Knowledge**

# Commonsense Knowledge: Not So Common

**Every child knows that**

apples are green, red, round, juicy, ...  
but not fast, funny, verbose, ...

pots and pans are in the kitchen or cupboard, on the stove, ...  
but not in the bedroom, in your pocket, in the sky, ...

children usually live with their parents

**But: commonsense is rarely stated explicitly**

**Plus: web and social media have reporting bias**

color of elephants ?

pink elephant: 0.9 Mio on Google

grey elephant: 0.4 Mio on Google



rich family: 27.8 Mio on Bing

poor family: 3.5 Mio on Bing

singers: 22.8 Mio on Bing

workers: 14.5 Mio on Bing



# Pattern-based Harvesting of Commonsense Properties



Gerard  
de Melo



Niket  
Tandon

Approach: Start with **seed facts**

**hasProperty** (apple, round)

**hasAbility** (dog, bark)

**hasLocation** (plate, table)

Learn **patterns** that express these relations, such as  
**X is very Y, X can Y, X put in/on Y, ...**

Apply patterns to Web, books, N-grams corpora, image tags, etc.  
→ **statistics**, semisupervised **learning**, constraint **reasoning**

**hasColor** (elephant, grey), **hasShape** (circle, round) ...

**hasAbility** (fish, swim), **hasAbility** (human, talk) ...

**usedFor** (book, learn), **usedFor** (computer, learn)

**partOf** (wheel, bike), **partOf** (wheel, car) ...

**hasTemperature** (oven, hot), **hasTaste** (chili, hot) .

**WebChild KB:**

5 Mio. assertions

semantically typed

sense-disambiguated

# Commonsense & Visual Contents

[N. Tandon et al.: WWW 15, CIKM 15, AAAI 16]



**Refined part-whole relations** from web&books text and image tags

→ 6.7 Mio sense-disambiguated triples for physicalPartOf, visiblePartOf, hasCardinality, memberOf, substanceOf

**trafficJam:...**



**Activity knowledge** from movie&TV scripts, aligned with visual scenes

→ 0.5 Mio activity types with attributes: location, time, participants, prev/next

# Human Activities in Movie Scripts

STAR WARS: THE FORCE AWAKENS

Written By Lawrence Kasdan & J.J. Abrams and Michael Arndt

INT. MAZ' CASTLE

Rey steps down into the basement corridor.

BB-8 nervous follows her.

...  
Rey OPENS THE BOX and sees inside  
Luke Skywalker's original lightsaber.

activity: follow  
agent: robot, AI  
participant: woman  
location: basement, indoor

activity: open box  
agent: woman  
participants: box, lightsaber  
location: basement, indoor



# Human Activities in Movie Scripts

STAR WARS: THE FORCE AWAKENS

Written By Lawrence Kasdan & J.J. Abrams and Michael Arndt

STARKILLER BASE - OSCILLATOR STRUCTURE – NIGHT

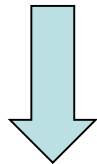
KYLO REN: I know what I have to do, but I don't know if I have the strength to do it. Will you help me?

HAN SOLO: Yes. Anything.

Kylo Ren unholsters his lightsaber and slowly extends it to Han.

Han actually smiles and reaches out for the dark weapon.

Kylo Ren ignites the lightsaber – THE FIERY BLADE SHOOTS  
SHOOTS RIGHT THROUGH HAN'S CHEST AND BACK!



<b>activity:</b>	<b>shoot, kill</b>
<b>agent:</b>	<b>son</b>
<b>participant:</b>	<b>father</b>
<b>participants:</b>	<b>lightsaber, weapon</b>

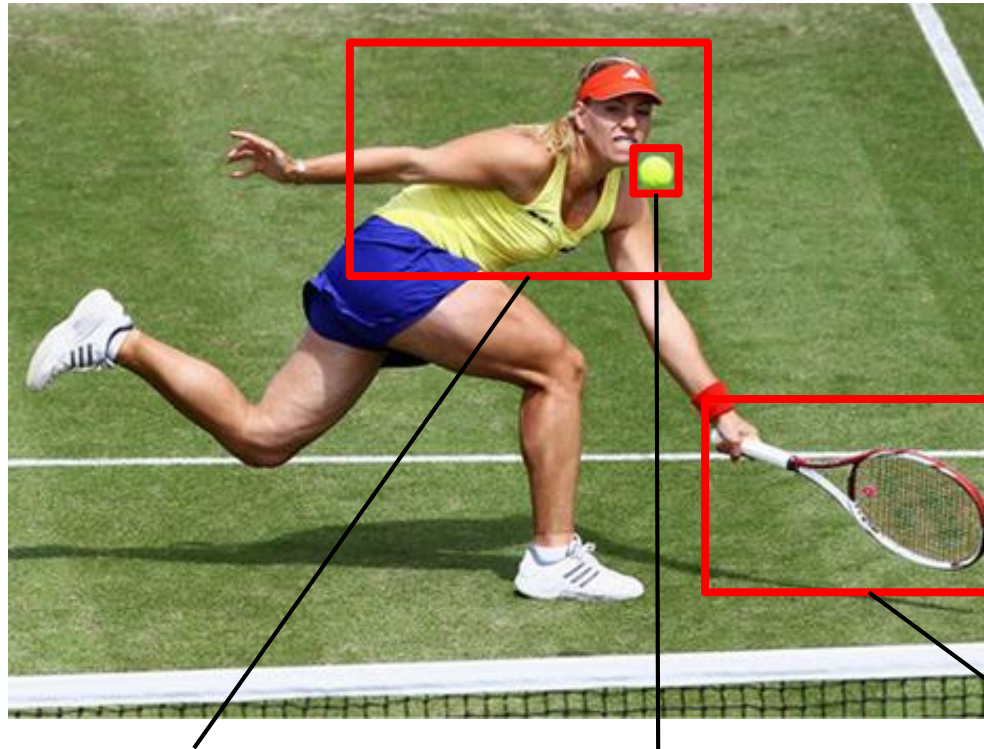


# Commonsense for Language Understanding

- **How-to queries:**  
repair a bike tire, pitch a tent, cross a river, ...
- **Scene search (over videos, books, ):**  
romantic dinner, dramatic climb, ...
- **Question disambiguation:**  
*jordan weather forecast*  
*Germany's keeper at the Euro ?*
- **Sentiment analysis:**  
*the hottest place on earth*  
*the hottest bar in town*



# Commonsense for Computer Vision



woman (o1)

? lemon (o2)

racket (o3)

+ commonsense  
knowledge:

hasColor (tennisball, yellow)

hasShape (tennisball, round)

occursAt (tennisball, tennis court)

occursAt (racket, tennis court)

⇒ tennisball(o2)



# Commonsense for Image Description



**cake, 9 boys, 6 girls, 17 crowns**  
**→ boys and girls with crowns around cake**

**+ commonsense  
knowledge:**

**→ children's birthday party**

# Challenge: Commonsense Rules

**Horn clauses:**

**can be learned by Inductive Logic Programming**

$\forall x,m,c: \text{type}(x,\text{child}) \wedge \text{mother}(x,m) \wedge \text{livesIn}(m,t) \Rightarrow \text{livesIn}(x,t)$

$\forall x,m,f: \text{type}(x,\text{child}) \wedge \text{mother}(x,m) \wedge \text{spouse}(m,f) \Rightarrow \text{father}(x,f)$

**Advanced rules beyond Horn clauses:  
specified by human experts**

$\forall x: \text{type}(x,\text{spider}) \Rightarrow \text{numLegs}(x)=8$

$\forall x: \text{type}(x,\text{animal}) \wedge \text{hasLegs}(x) \Rightarrow \text{even}(\text{numLegs}(x))$

$\forall x: \text{human}(x) \Rightarrow (\exists y: \text{mother}(x,y) \wedge \exists z: \text{father}(x,z))$

$\forall x: \text{human}(x) \Rightarrow (\text{male}(x) \vee \text{female}(x))$

$\forall x: \text{human}(x) \wedge \neg \text{adopted}(x) \Rightarrow \text{numParents}(x)=2$

$\forall x: \text{pope}(x) \Rightarrow \neg (\exists y: \text{father}(x,y))$

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# Social Knowledge: “Folk Wisdom”

Beliefs become like facts  
in specific **socio-cultural contexts**

**invented** (computer, Eckert and Mauchley, USA)

**invented** (computer, KonradZuse, Germany)

**invented** (computer, AlanTuring, UK)

**invented** (computer, SteveJobs, young nerds)

**invented** (Internet, Cerf and Kahn, computer scientists)

**invented** (Internet, Berners-Lee, laymen)

**invented** (Internet, Al Gore, Al Gore supporters)

**Need to tap  
riskier sources  
(social media  
posts etc.)**

Knowledge distilled from **subjective  
behavior / experience** of many people

- common habits on food, drinks, social behavior
- experience with electric/diesel/green cars, on the road
- grassroots insight on health, symptoms, therapies, ...

# Credibility and Trust: Where the Truth Lies



Subhabrata  
Mukherjee



Cristian  
Danescu



Kashyap  
Popat



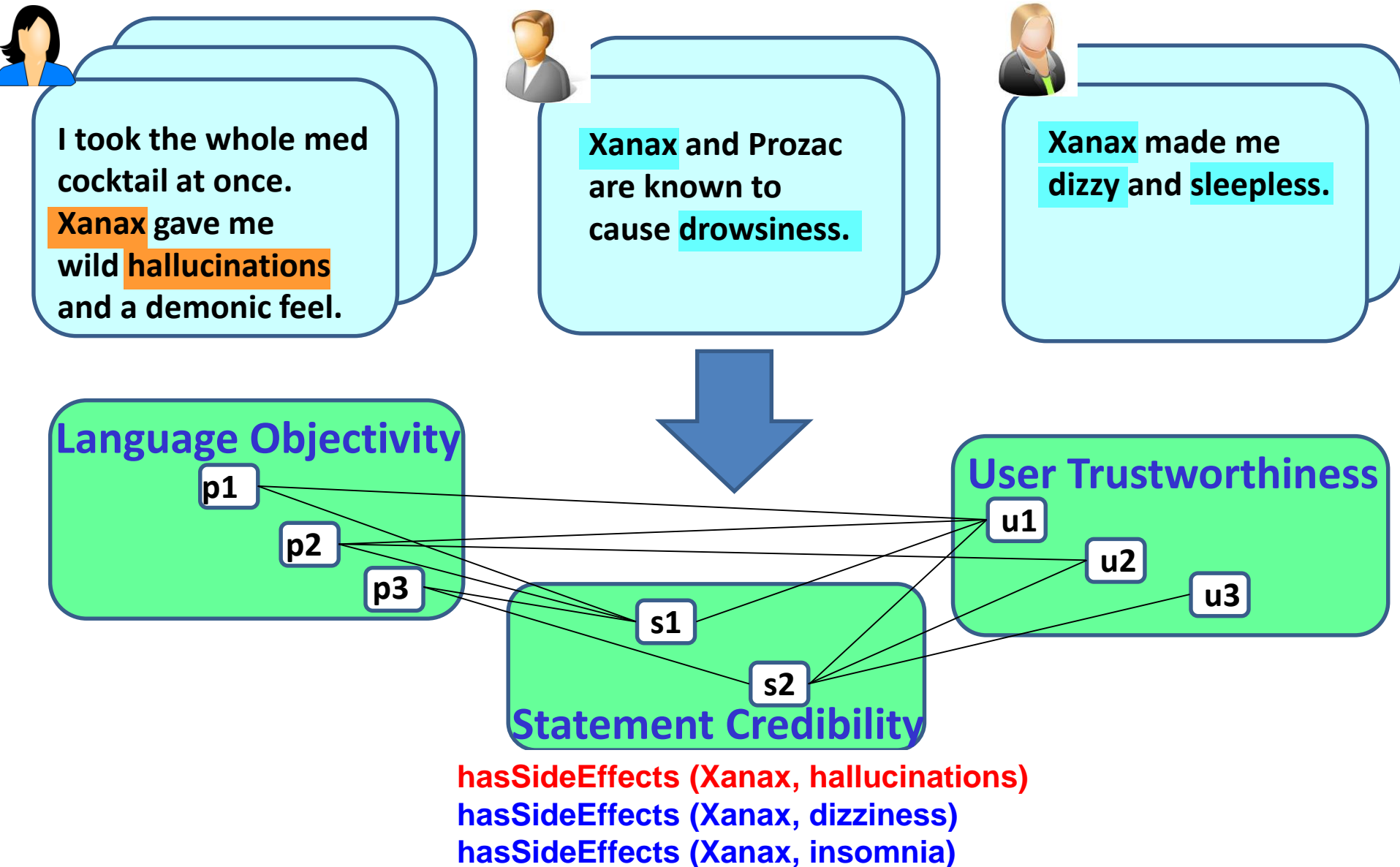
Jannik  
Strötgen

Assess **credibility** of statements / claims on the Internet  
and the **trustworthiness** of their sources

- Search results: *love affairs of Hillary Clinton ?*
- Biased news: *Merkel hates Greece*
- KB contents: *Berners-Lee & Al Gore invented the Internet*
- Social media: *Obamacare requires microchip implant*
- Health forums: *Xanax causes hallucinations*

Crucial for info extraction, KB curation, explanation,  
opinion mining, web contents analytics, etc.

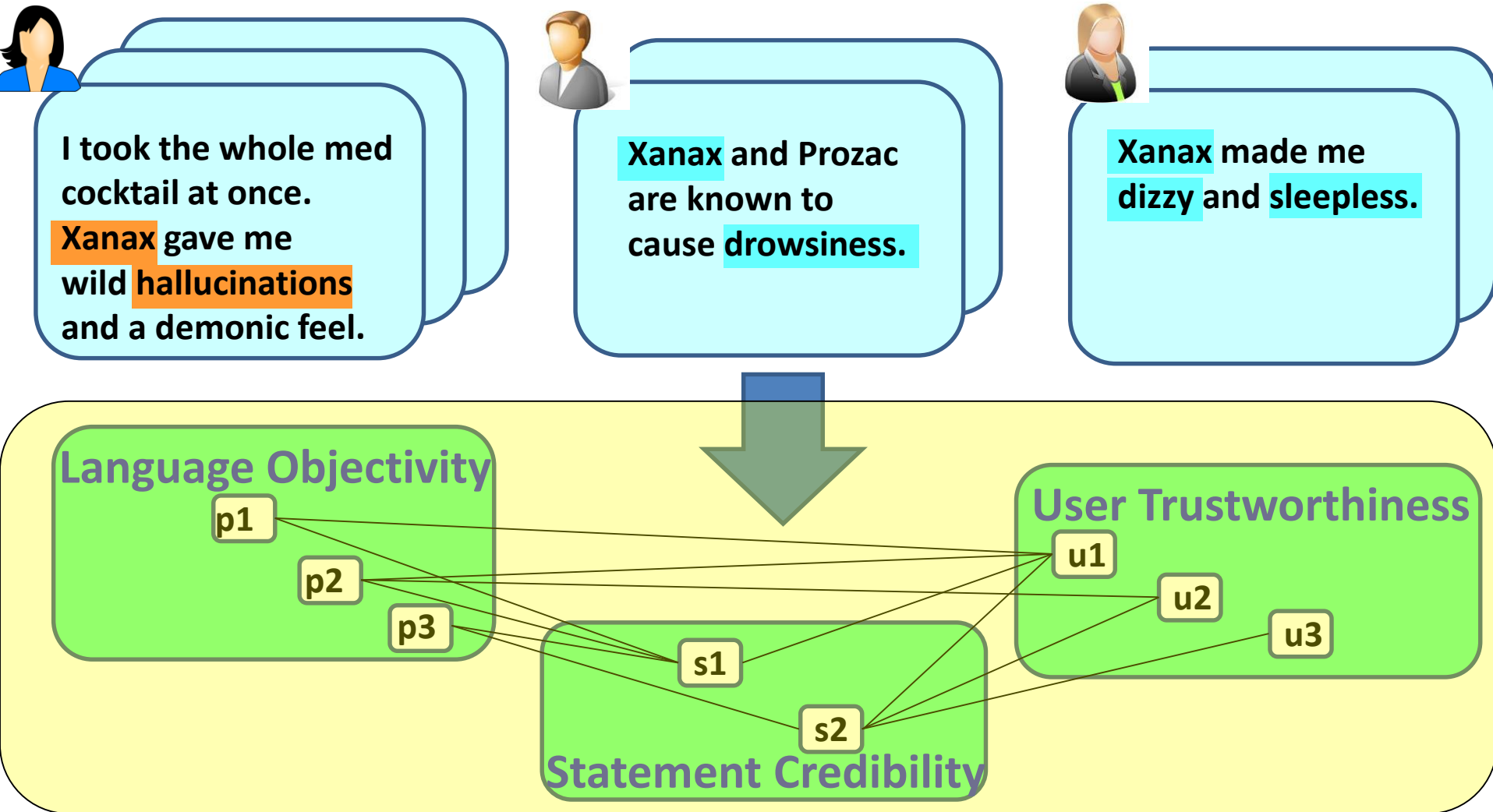
# Credibility & Trust in Health Communities





# Credibility & Trust in Health Communities

[KDD 2014]



**joint reasoning with probabilistic graphical model  
(semi-supervised heterogeneous CRF with EM-style learning)**

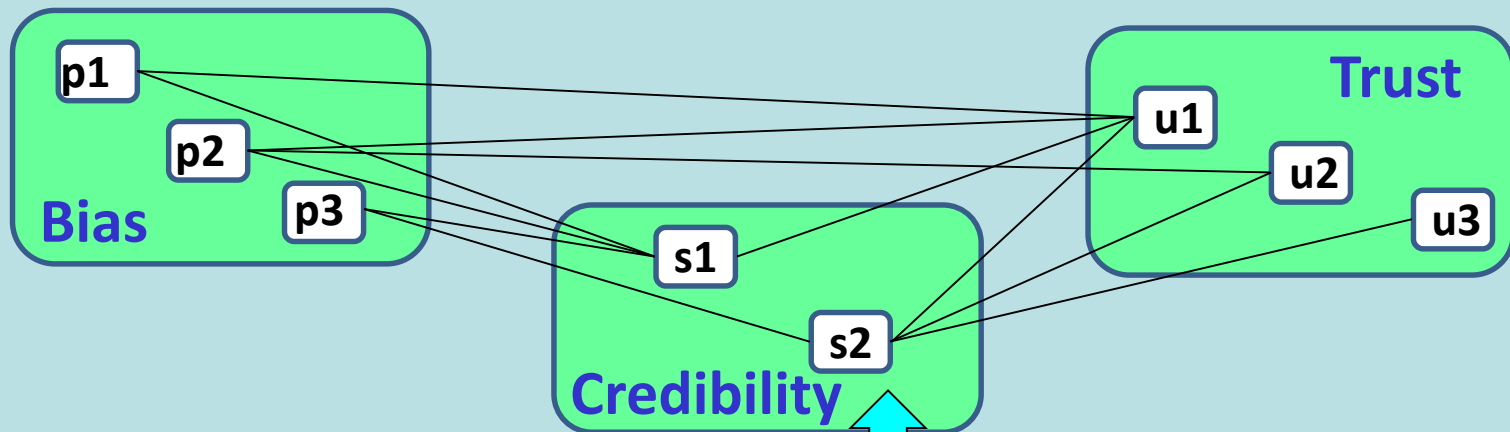
# Semi-Supervised Heterogeneous MRF for Joint Inference on Posts, Users, Statements

**Post language style:**  
modals, emotion adject.,  
first person pronouns,  
inferential conjunctions,  
etc.

**Observable  
Features**

**User activities:**  
#posts, #replies,  
#thanks received,  
etc.

**Joint Probabilistic Inference**



**Statement training labels:** true,false

# Credibility of Textual Claims

Jack Ma is the new owner of AC Milan

[K. Popat et al.: CIKM 2016]

➡ True or False ?

search Web for evidence

GAME ON

Chinese investors want to buy the legendary AC Milan soccer club from Silvio Berlusconi

By Zheping Huang | May 10, 2016



TIME

LATEST

MAGAZINE

VIDEOS



Legendary Italian Soccer Club AC Milan Is Now Chinese-Owned

SPORTS SOCCER

## Legendary Italian Soccer Club AC Milan Is Now Chinese-Owned

Charlie Campbell / Beijing @charliecampbell  
July 6, 2016

CNBC

HOME U.S. NEWS MARKETS INVESTING TECH MAKE IT VIDEO

FINANCE BANKS INVESTING WALL STREET HEDGE FUNDS M&A INSURANCE

## Alibaba founder Jack Ma laughs off AC Milan football club purchase rumors

CNBC.com staff | @CNBC  
Thursday, 28 Apr 2016 | 9:17 PM ET

CNBC



JACK MA  
SETTLES RUMORS

calciomercato.com

Italian News

ITALY'S FIRST FOOTBALL NEWS SITE



## CM EXCLUSIVE: Alibaba and Whampoa not interested in buying AC Milan. Is Robin LI the right man?



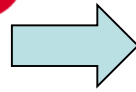
28 April at 12:50

Throug Weibo, the Chinese Twitter, Jack Ma dismissed the rumors regarding the possibility to buy AC Milan's shares.

Last night, some sources reported of the interest of Li Ka Shing -owner of the Hutchinson Whampoa Limited- in buying the Lombard club's stake, but Li Ka -contacted by calciomercato.com- has denied such interest.

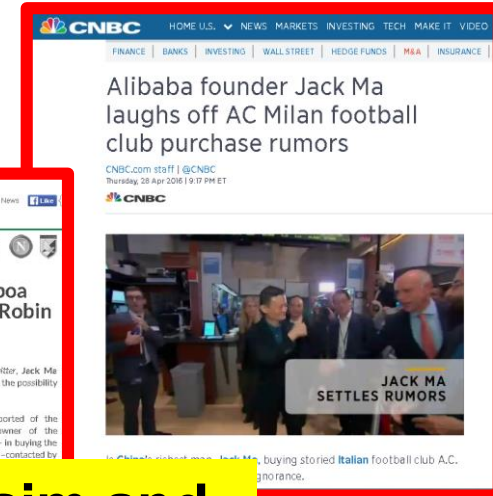
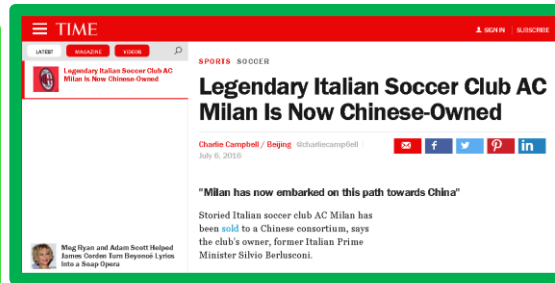
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Jack Ma is the new owner of AC Milan

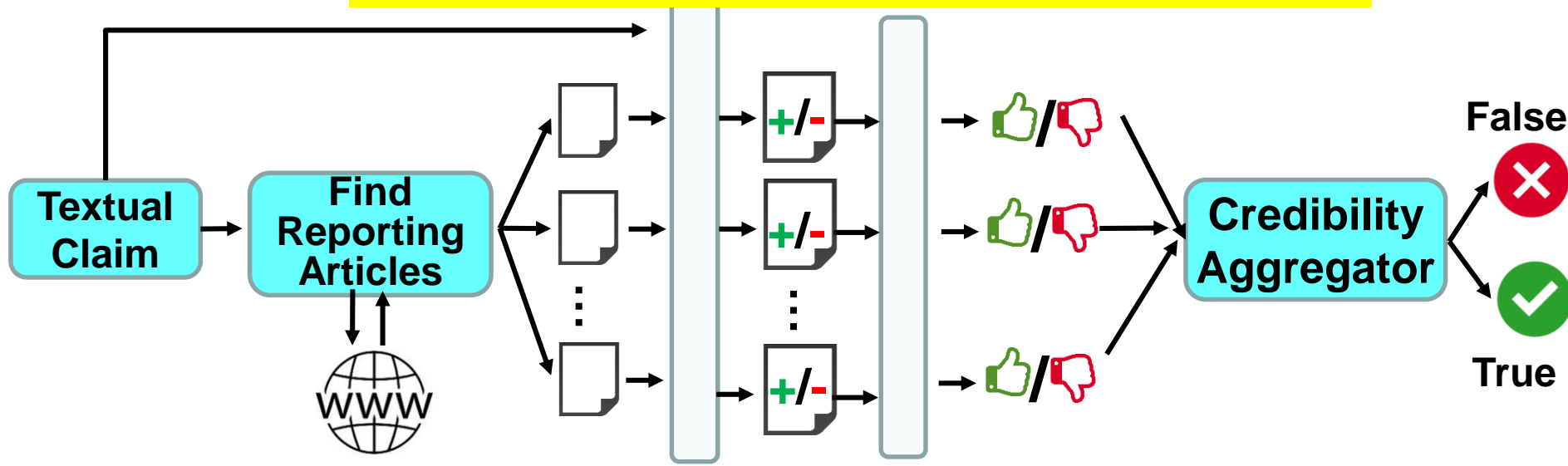


True or **False** !

[K. Popat et al.: CIKM 2016]



joint reasoning on credibility of claim and authority of supporting/refuting sources



# Research Opportunities:

- Understand & incorporate the influence of **attribution** in sources and **dissemination** across sources
- Consider **anonymous** sources (e.g. user posts in online communities)
- **Explain** veracity of claims in socio-cultural context

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★ **Conclusion**



# What Computers Should Know: Research Opportunities

**High-Coverage KB** and Open-Ended KB Growth  
need **Relational Paraphrases**

→ more predicates, more facts, XKG

**Commonsense Knowledge** crucial for  
Language Understanding & Visual / Multimodal Contents

→ tap into images, videos, scripts, books

**Socio-Cultural Knowledge**

needs to tap into risky sources

→ analyze, assess, explain **credibility & trust**

# Take-Home Message



more knowledge, analytics, insight



Computers shouldn't believe everything

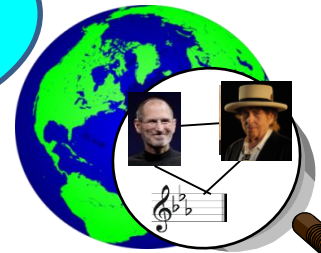
Computers need commonsense

Internet Contents

Digital Knowledge

knowledge acquisition

machine reading



Computers need more knowledge and socio-cultural knowledge

