

# VALSE



Phenomenon-centered testing of Vision and Language models



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Heidelberg  
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Group

# What is the state of SoTA in V&L?

Vision and Language (V&L) models

Multimodal Transformers

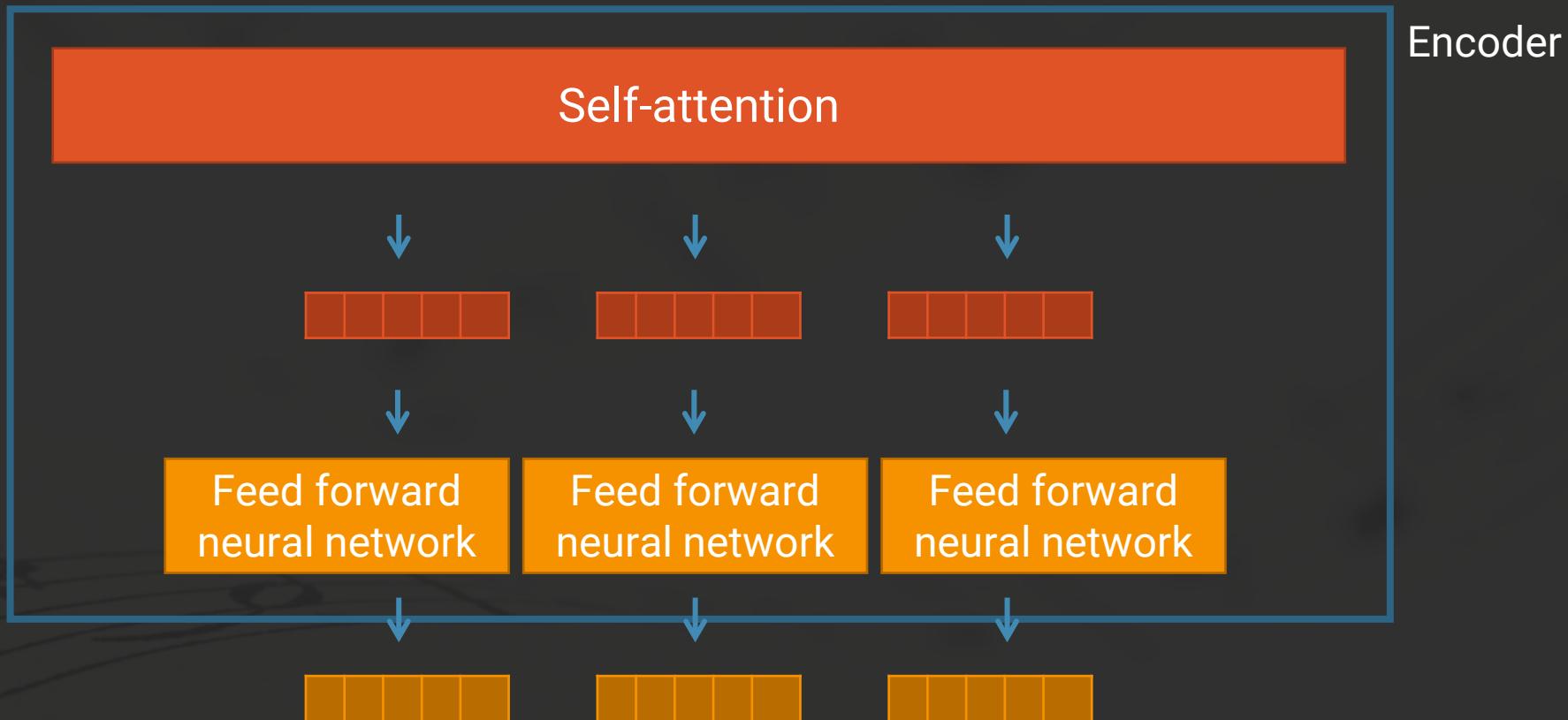
A

sailing boat

1 0 0 0 0

2 8 3 5 7

  |  |  |  |



A

sailing boat



1	0	0	0	0	0
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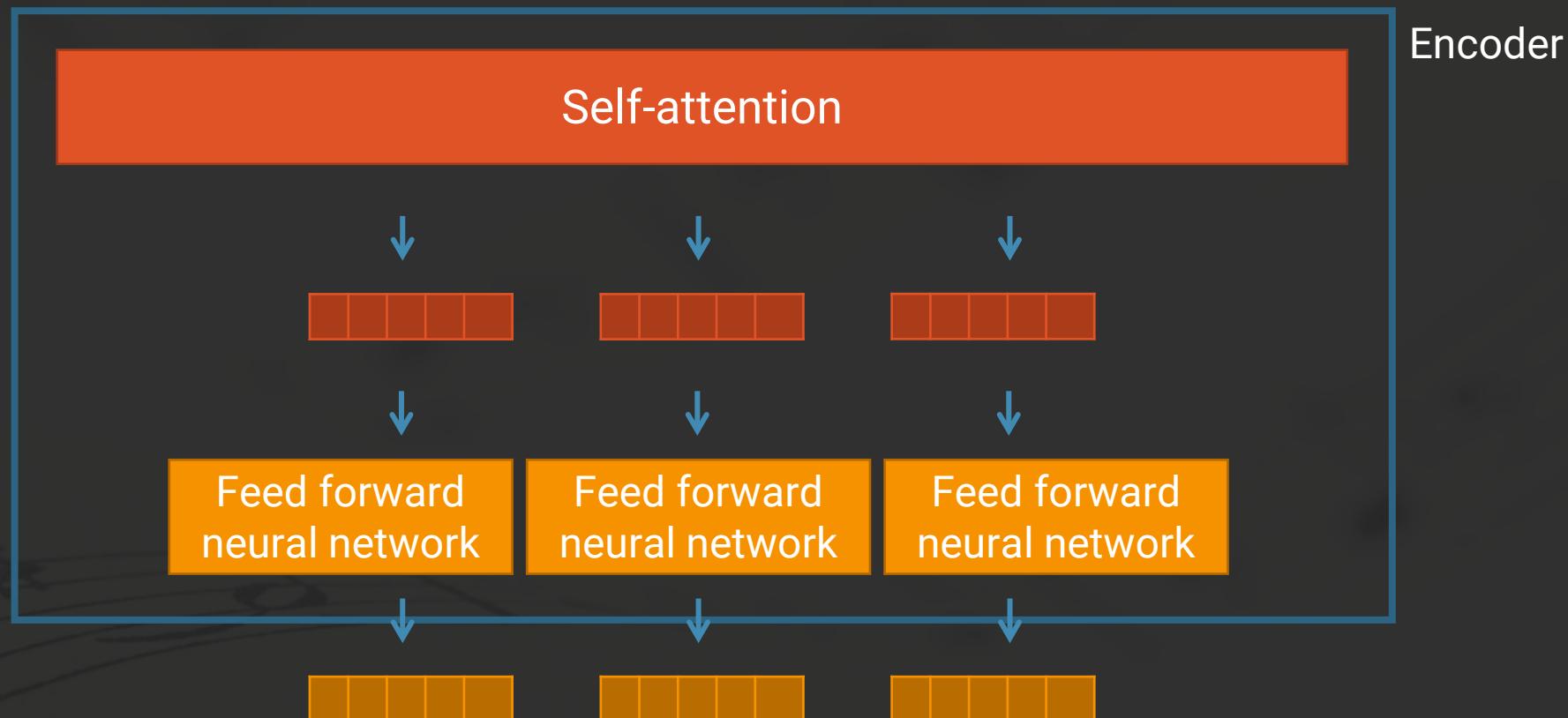
2	8	3	5	7
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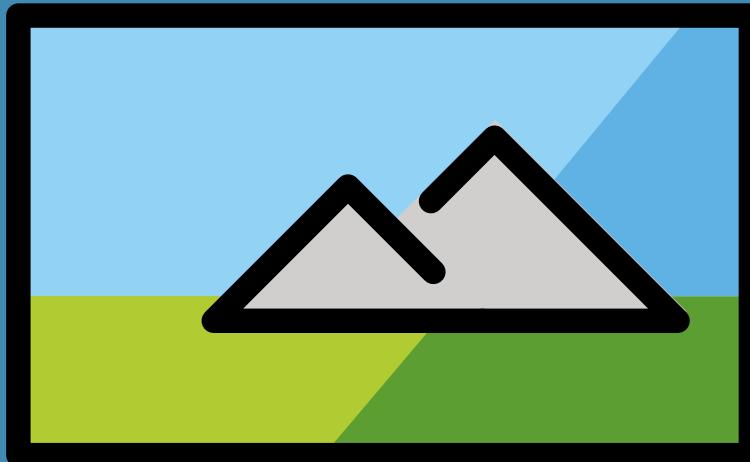
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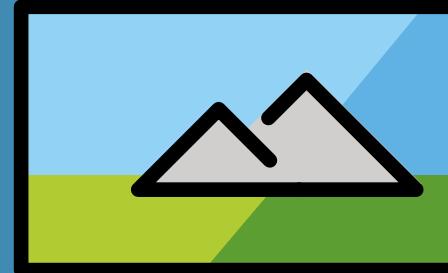
## Vision and Language Model



There are mountains in the image.

# Vision and Language Model

There are mountains in the image.



LXMERT

ViLBERT

ViLBERT 12-in-1

UNITER

VisualBERT

VL-BERT

Unicoder-VL

X-LXMERT

Oscar

VinLV

...



There are mountains in the image.



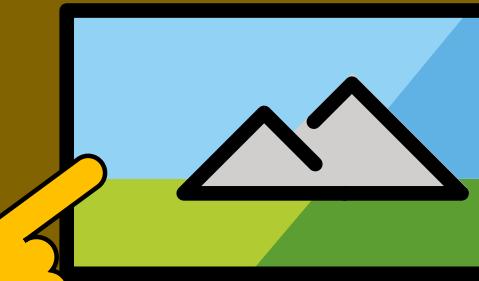
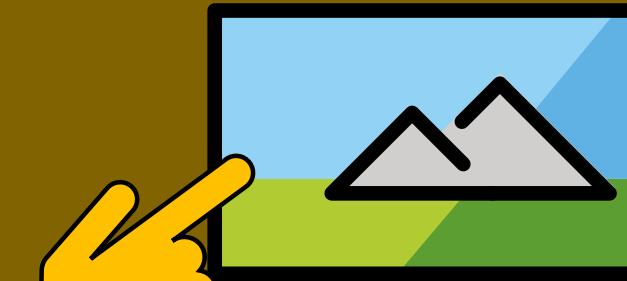
## Transformer Module



## Co-Attention Transformer Module



## Transformer Module



## Co-Attention Transformer Module

match!

## Transformer Module

Image-Sentence Alignment Score



ViLBERT





There is a **CAT.**



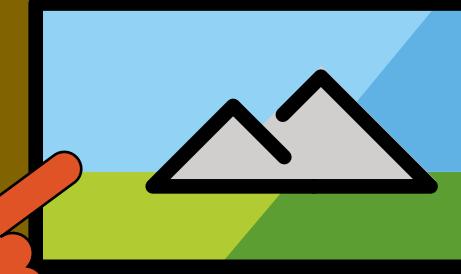
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## Transformer Module



## Co-Attention Transformer Module

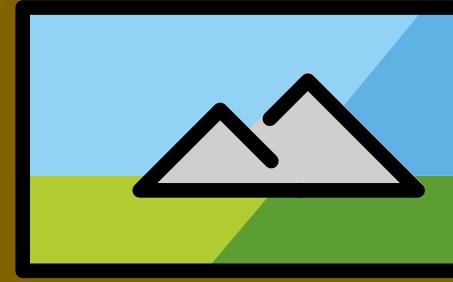
mismatch!

## Transformer Module

Image-Sentence Alignment Score

ViLBERT

There is a CAT.



## Transformer Module

## Co-Attention Transformer Module

## Transformer Module



## Co-Attention Transformer Module

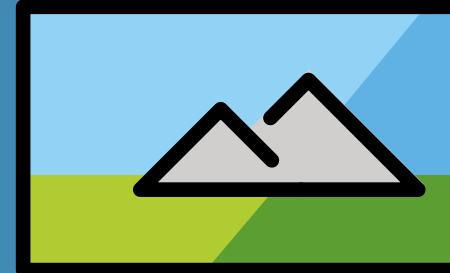
## Transformer Module

mismatch!

Image-Sentence Alignment Score

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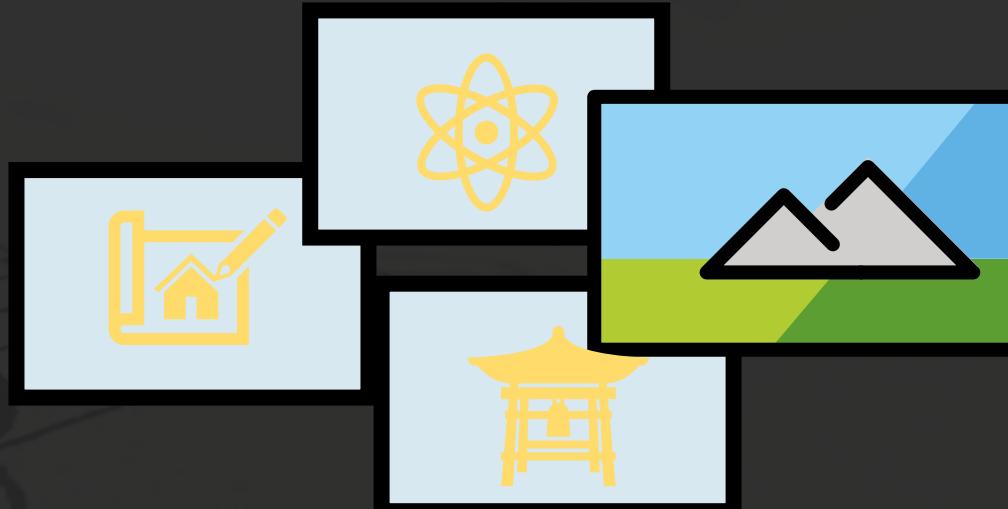
...

# VQA

Is this a mountain? Yes.  
How many mountains? Two.



# Image Retrieval



# Phrase Grounding

Where are mountains?

# VCR

Is this a mountain?  
Yes.  
Because it is taller than  
the horizon.

# Task-centrism in the V&L community

task A, task B, ..., task Z.

## ~~Vision~~ and Language Model

How many mountains are there  
in the image?





# Phenomenon-centrism

Let's FALSE!





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L-Università  
ta' Malta



# VALSE



A Task-Independent Benchmark for Vision and Language Models  
Centered on Linguistic Phenomena

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Heidelberg University

Iacer Calixto

New York University  
ILLC, University of  
Amsterdam

Albert Gatt

Institute of Linguistics and  
Language Technology  
University of Malta

# Phenomenon-centrism

# VALSE: a FOIL concerto of 6 pieces

## Plurality

*The greenhouse has **many plants**.*

*The greenhouse has **a single plant**.*

## Counting

*The man wears **one pair** of glasses.*

*The man wears **two pairs** of glasses.*

## Existence

*There is a **man** in the image.*

*There is **no** man in the image.*



## Coreference

*The **apron** looks clean. Is **it** white? **No**.*

*The apron looks clean. Is **it** white? **Yes**.*

## Actions

*The man **is watering** the plants.*

*The man **is cutting** the plants.*

## Relations

*There is a sink **behind** the man.*

*There is a sink **to the right of** the man.*

# Phenomenon-centrism

# VALSE: a FOIL concerto of 6 pieces

## FOIL it! Find One mismatch between Image and Language caption

Ravi Shekhar, Sandro Pezzelle, Yauhen Klimovich,  
Aurélie Herbelot, Moin Nabi, Enver Sangineto, Raffaella Bernardi  
University of Trento  
`{firstname.lastname}@unitn.it`

### Abstract

In this paper, we aim to understand whether current language and vision (LaVi) models truly grasp the interaction between the two modalities. To this end, we propose an extension of the MS-COCO dataset, FOIL-COCO, which associates images with both correct and ‘foil’ captions, that is, descriptions of the image that are highly similar to the original ones, but contain one single mistake (‘foil word’). We show that current LaVi models fall into the traps of this data and perform badly on three tasks: a) caption classification (correct vs. foil); b) foil word detection; c) foil word correction. Humans, in contrast, have near-perfect performance on those tasks. We demonstrate that merely utilising language cues is not enough to handle FOIL-COCO and that it’s

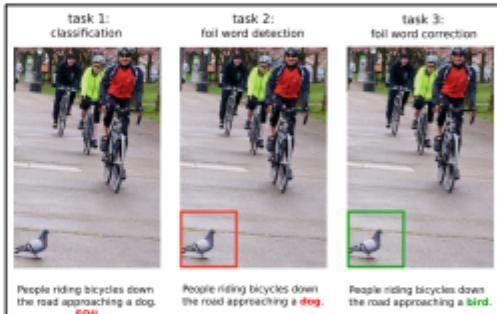


Figure 1: Is the caption correct or foil (T1)? If it is foil, where is the mistake (T2) and which is the word to correct the foil one (T3)?

models are actually learning. There is an emerging feeling in the community that the VQA task should be revisited, especially as many current datasets can be handled by ‘blind’ models which use language input only, or by simple concatenation of language and vision features. (Agrawal,

### Counting

The man wears **one** pair of glasses.  
The man wears **two** pairs of glasses.



### Relations

There is a sink **behind** the man.  
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### Actions

**watering** the plants.  
**cutting** the plants.

# Phenomenon-centered VALSE: a R

**FOIL it! Find One mis**

Ravi Shekh  
Aurélie Herbelot, M

{firs

## Abstract

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17 Jun 2021

## Seeing past words: Testing the cross-modal capabilities of pretrained V&L models on counting tasks

**Letitia Parcalabescu<sup>1</sup> Albert Gatt<sup>2</sup> Anette Frank<sup>1</sup> Iacer Calixto<sup>3,4</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Heidelberg University, Department of Computational Linguistics

<sup>2</sup>University of Malta, Institute of Linguistics and Language Technology

<sup>3</sup>New York University <sup>4</sup>ILLC, University of Amsterdam

{parcalabescu, frank}@cl.uni-heidelberg.de

albert.gatt@um.edu.mt, iacer.calixto@nyu.edu

## Abstract

We investigate the reasoning ability of pretrained vision and language (V&L) models in two tasks that require multimodal integration: (1) discriminating a correct image-sentence pair from an incorrect one, and (2) counting entities in an image. We evaluate three pretrained V&L models on these tasks: ViLBERT, ViLBERT 12-in-1 and LXMERT, in zero-shot and finetuned settings. Our results show that

models are actually learning. There is an emerging feeling in the community that the VQA task should be revisited, especially as many current datasets can be handled by 'blind' models which use language input only, or by simple concatenation of language and vision features (Agarwal

tasks, e.g. visual question answering (VQA); visual commonsense reasoning; grounding referring expressions; and image retrieval, among others.

Pretrained V&L models use a combination of masked multimodal modelling – i.e., masking out words and object bounding boxes from the input and predicting them – and image-sentence alignment, i.e., predicting whether an image-sentence pair is correctly aligned or not. Such models hold the promise of partially addressing the 'meaning

## Actions

watering the plants.

cutting the plants.

# VALSE: a FOIL concerto of 6 pieces

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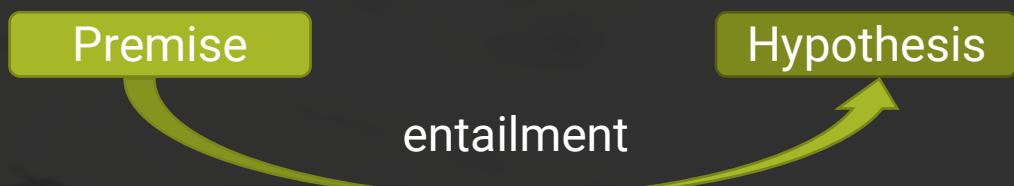
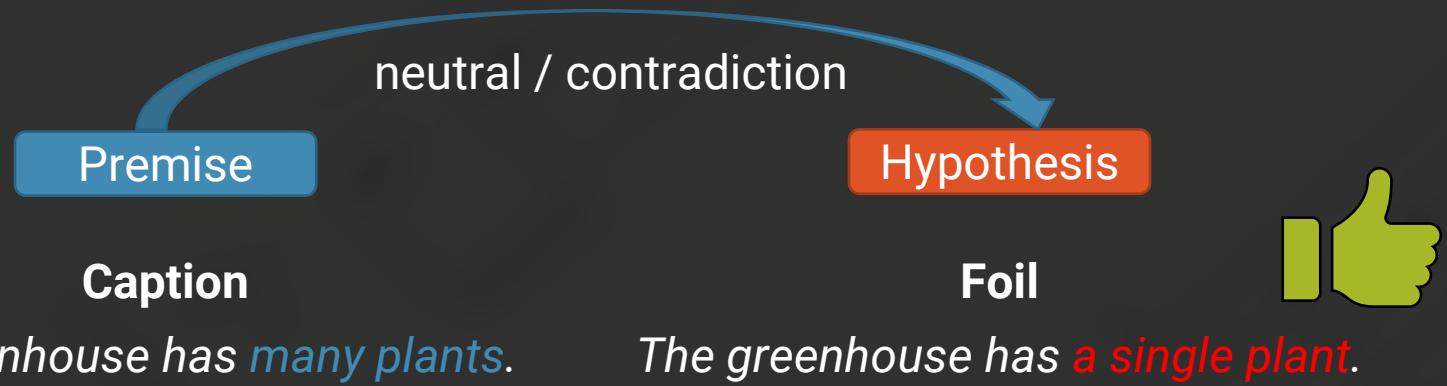
*The plants **are watering** the man.*

plausibility bias

# How to obtain valid foils?

- Language models for generating foil words (e.g., SpanBERT)
- Natural Language Inference (NLI)
- Human annotation

# Natural Language Inference filtering



# Natural Language Inference filtering



Premise

Premise

Hypothesis



Caption

*The greenhouse has many plants.*

Foil

*The greenhouse has a single plant.*

neutral / contradiction

*The greenhouse has many plants.*

*The greenhouse has some plants.*

entailment

Hypothesis

entailment



# Natural Language Inference filtering



Premise

Hypothesis

neutral / contradiction

Caption

*The greenhouse has many plants.*

Foil

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Premise

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entailment

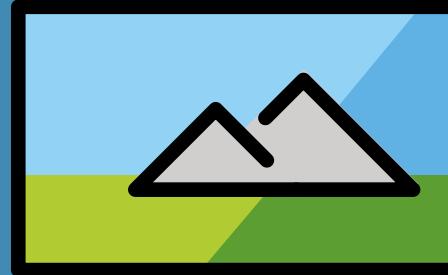
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	<b>pieces</b>	<b>existence</b>	<b>plurality</b>	<b>counting</b>	<b>relations</b>	<b>actions</b>	<b>coreference</b>
Data collection & metadata	instruments	<i>existential quantifiers</i>	<i>semantic number</i>	<i>balanced, adversarial, small numbers</i>	<i>prepositions</i>	<i>replacement, actant swap</i>	<i>standard, clean</i>
#examples <sup>†</sup>	505	851		2,459	535	1,633	812
foil generation method	nothing ↔ something	NP replacement (sg2pl; pl2sg) & quantifier insertion	numeral placement	re-	SpanBERT prediction	action replacement, actant swap	yes ↔ no
MLM	✗	✗	✗		✓	✓	✗
GRUEN	✗	✓	✗		✓	✗	✗
NLI	✗	✓	✗		✓	✗	✗
src. dataset	Visual7W	MSCOCO	Visual7W		MSCOCO	SWiG	VisDial v1.0
image src.	MSCOCO	MSCOCO	MSCOCO		MSCOCO	SituNet	MSCOCO
Example data	caption (blue) / foil (orange)	<i>There are no animals / animals shown.</i>	<i>A small copper vase with some flowers / exactly one flower in it.</i>	<i>There are four / six zebras.</i>	<i>A cat plays with a pocket knife on / underneath a table.</i>	<i>A man / woman shouts at a woman / man.</i>	<i>Buffalos walk along grass. Are they in a zoo? No / Yes.</i>
image							

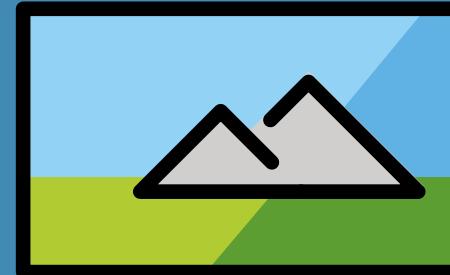
# Vision and Language Model

There are mountains in the image.



# Vision and Language Model

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LXMERT

CLIP

ViLBERT

ViLBERT 12-in-1

VisualBERT

zero-shot testing

# Pairwise accuracy

**Caption**

*The greenhouse has many plants.*



**Foil**

*The greenhouse has a single plant.*

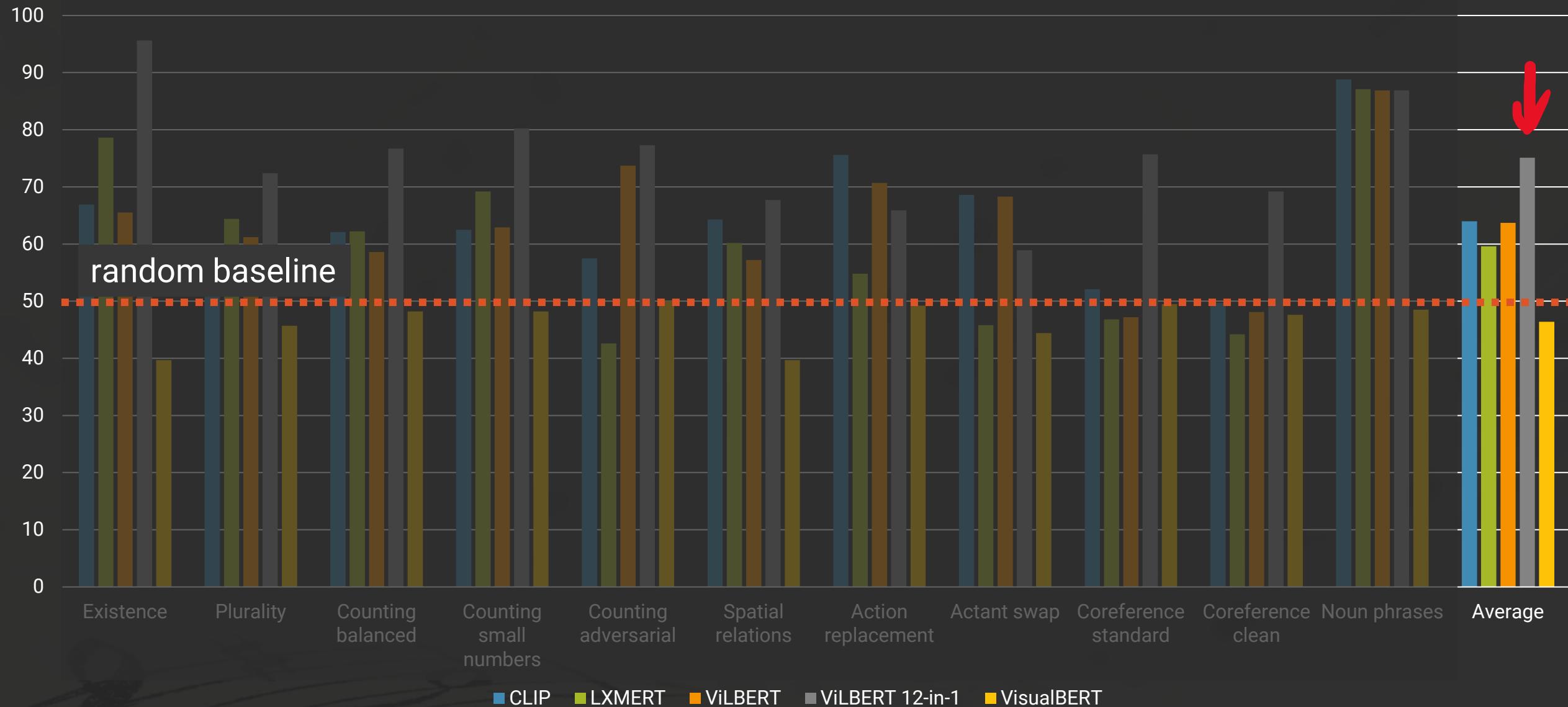
image-sentence alignment score

$\geq$  

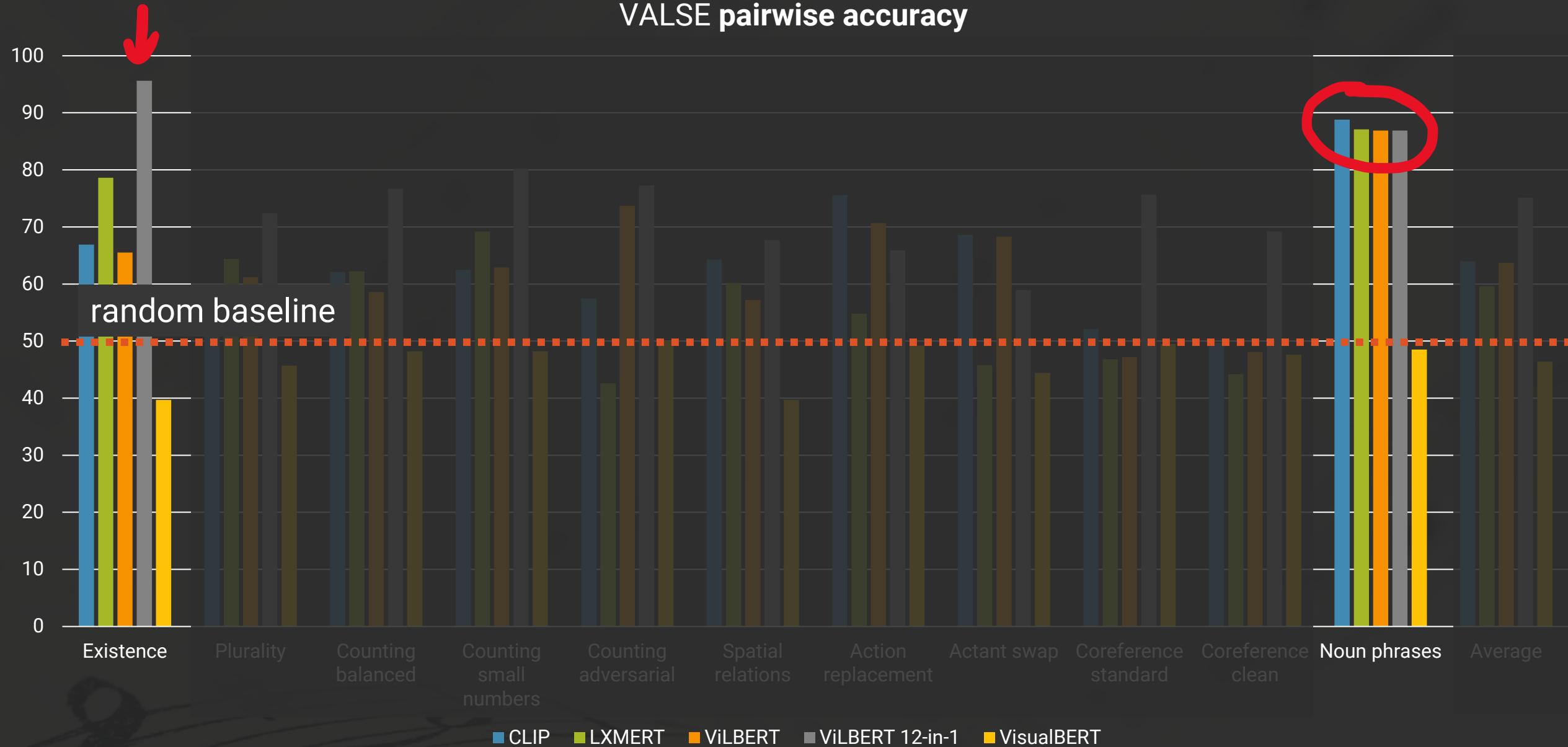
image-sentence alignment score

$<$  

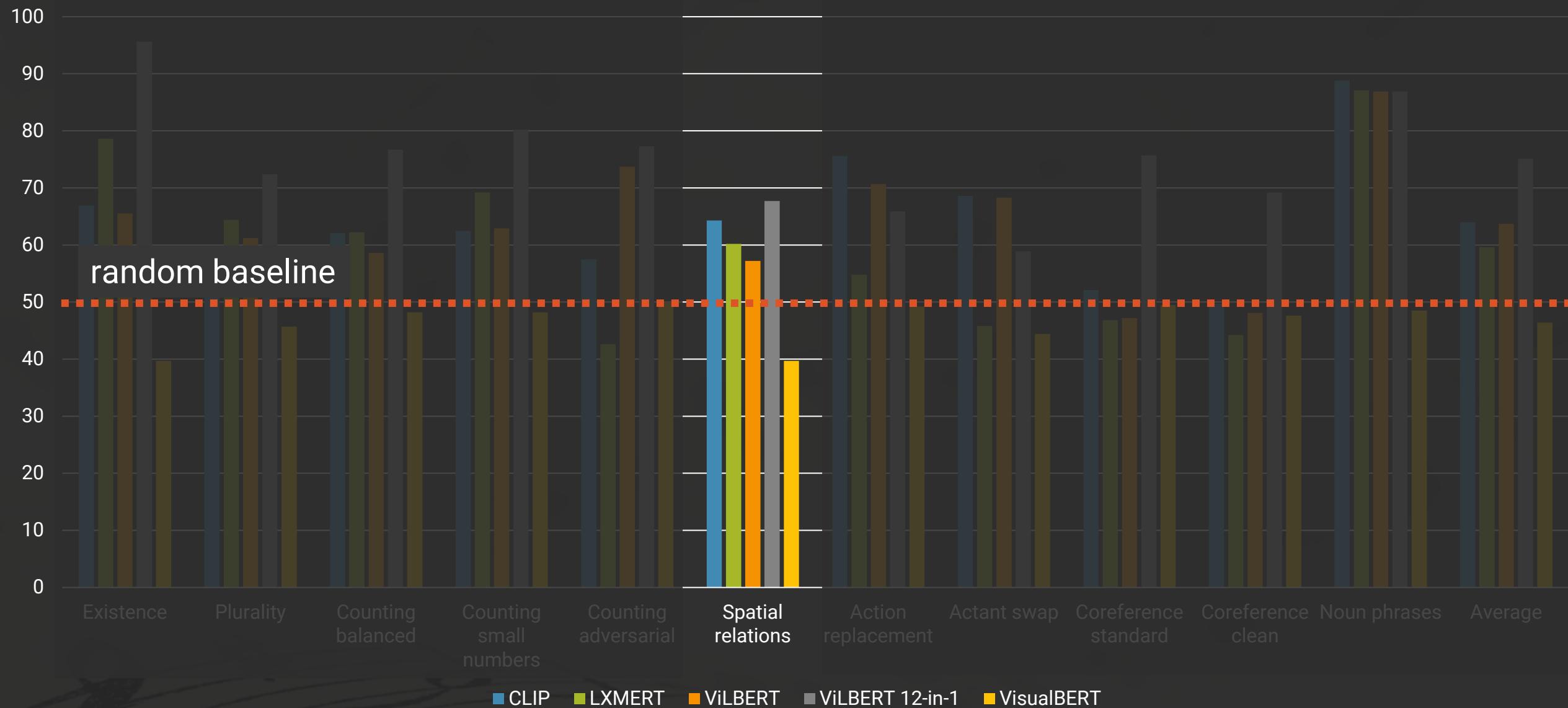
# VALSE pairwise accuracy



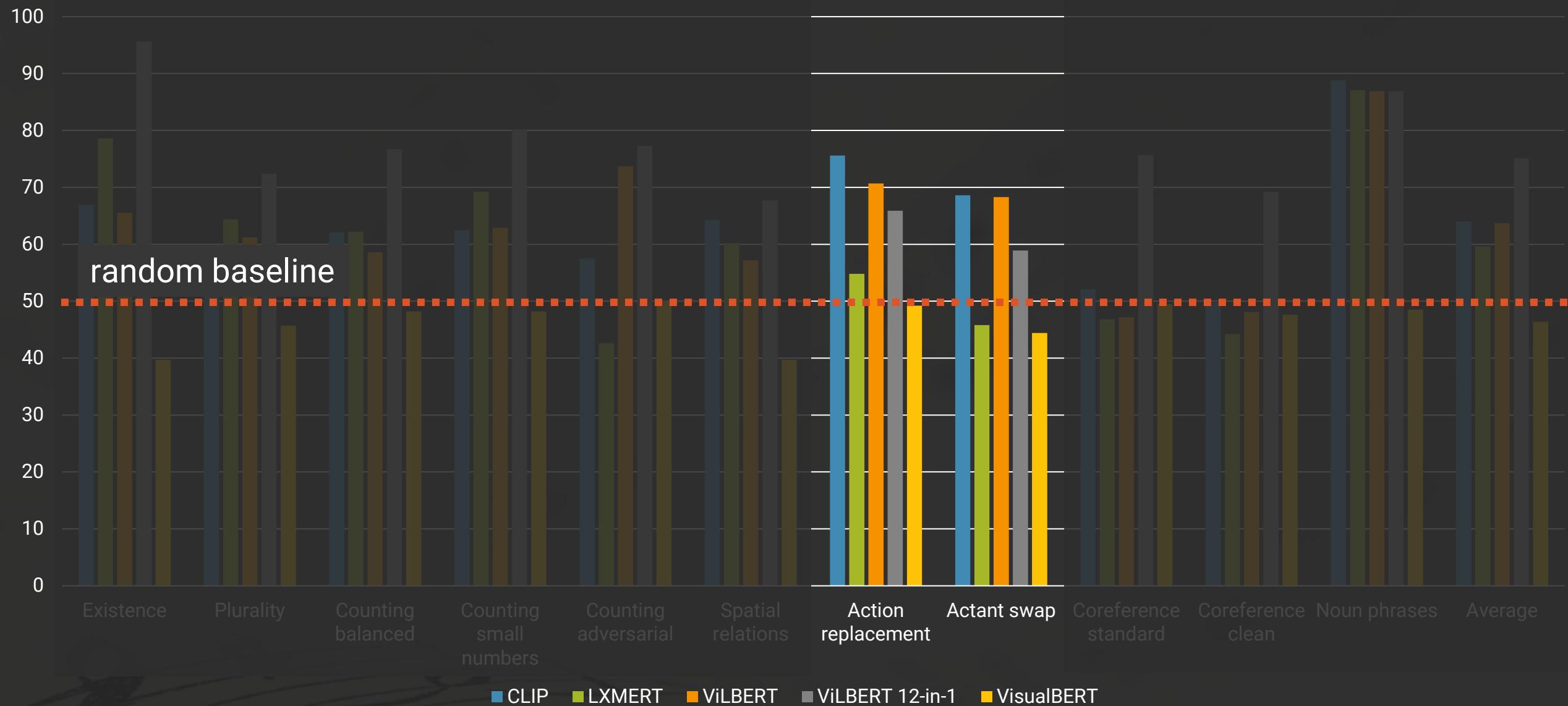
# VALSE pairwise accuracy



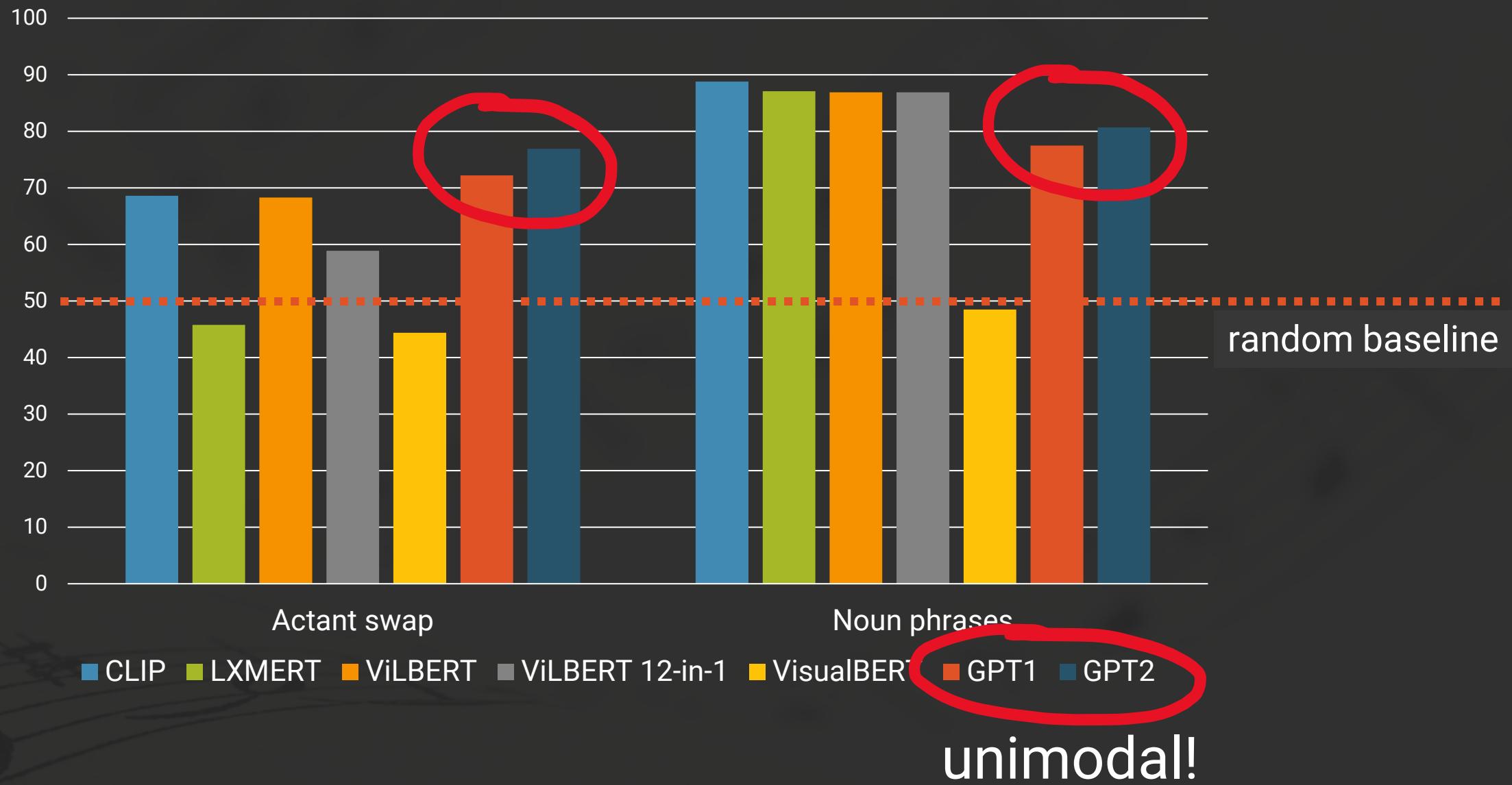
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<https://github.com/Heidelberg-NLP/VALSE>

