

# Learning Open Domain Knowledge from Text

Gabor Angeli

Stanford University

March 2, 2016



# Want: General Purpose AI



# Have: “Idiot Savants”



- Relation extractors can't predict sentiment.
- Sentiment analyzers can't produce parse trees.



# Have: “Idiot Savants”



- Relation extractors can't predict sentiment.
- Sentiment analyzers can't produce parse trees.
- Movie sentiment analyzers perform poorly on product reviews.



# Towards Intelligence

**Glue systems together ⇒ CoreNLP:** Great, but not “intelligence”



# Towards Intelligence

**Glue systems together ⇒ CoreNLP:** Great, but not “intelligence”



**Joint Models:** Difficult to scale



# How Are Humans Intelligent?



# How Are Humans Intelligent?

We leverage an immense amount of background knowledge.



# How Are Humans Intelligent?

We leverage an immense amount of background knowledge.

*“The Good Dinosaur was Pixar’s second best movie in 2015”*



# My Ph.D. Work: A Key First Step

**Knowledge = *Justified true beliefs***



# Harder for Computers than Humans

**...for a human**

**...for a computer**

*Born in Honolulu, Hawaii,  
Obama is a graduate of  
Columbia University and Har-  
vard Law School.*



# Harder for Computers than Humans

## ...for a human

*Born in Honolulu, Hawaii, Obama is a graduate of Columbia University and Harvard Law School.*

## ...for a computer

*Rattled for Austin, Alaska, Jesus is the mouse in Microsoft Google but Facebook Twitter Snapchat.*



# How do we Represent Knowledge?

## Unstructured Text



## Fixed-Schema Knowledge Bases

**Barack Obama**

A portrait of Barack Obama, the 44th President of the United States, standing in front of an American flag and the Oval Office. He is wearing a dark suit and a blue patterned tie, with his arms crossed.

**44th President of the United States**

**Personal details**

**Born** Barack Hussein Obama II  
August 4, 1961 (age 52)  
Honolulu, Hawaii, U.S.

**Political party** Democratic

**Spouse(s)** Michelle LaVaughn Robinson  
(m. 1992–present)

**Children** Malia Ann Obama (b. 1998)  
Natasha Obama (b. 2001)

# How do we Represent Knowledge?

## Unstructured Text



## Fixed-Schema Knowledge Bases

(OBAMA; born\_in; HONOLULU)  
(OBAMA; born\_in; HAWAII)  
(OBAMA; born\_on; 1961-8-4)  
(OBAMA; spouse; MICHELLE)  
(OBAMA; children; MALIA)  
(OBAMA; children; NATASHA)

# How do we Represent Knowledge?

## Active area of research:

- Supervised relation extractors  
[Doddington et al., 2004, Surdeanu and Ciaramita, 2007].
- Distantly supervised extractors  
[Wu and Weld, 2007, Mintz et al., 2009].
- Weakly+distantly supervised extractors  
[Hoffmann et al., 2011, Surdeanu et al., 2012].
- Partially+weakly+distantly supervised extractors  
[Angeli et al., 2014a, Angeli et al., 2014b].



# More to Life Than Fixed Relation Schema



# How do we Represent Knowledge?

## Unstructured Text

1. Fixed-Schema Knowledge Bases
2. Open-Domain KBs (Open IE)



(SUBJECT; relation; OBJECT)



# How do we Represent Knowledge?

## Unstructured Text

1. Fixed-Schema Knowledge Bases
2. Open-Domain KBs (Open IE)



(CATS; have; TAILS)

(RABBITS; eat; CARROTS)

(OBAMA; enjoys playing; BASKETBALL)



# How do we Represent Knowledge?

## Unstructured Text

1. Fixed-Schema Knowledge Bases
2. Open-Domain KBs (Open IE)
3. Unstructured Text



*cats have tails*  
*rabbits eat carrots*  
*Obama enjoys playing basketball*



# How do we Represent Knowledge?

## Unstructured Text

1. Fixed-Schema Knowledge Bases
2. Open-Domain KBs (Open IE)
3. Unstructured Text



*cats have tails*

*rabbits eat carrots*

*Obama enjoys playing basketball*

*A graduated cylinder is best to measure the volume of a liquid*



# Text is Knowledge

**Store Information as Text** (easier)  
**Query Information as Text** (hard!)



# Text is Knowledge

**Store Information as Text** (easier)

**Query Information as Text** (hard!)

**We need a system that:**

**Takes as input** a candidate textual statement.

**Produces as output** the truth of that statement.



# Text is Knowledge

**Store Information as Text** (easier)

**Query Information as Text** (hard!)

**We need a system that:**

**Takes as input** a candidate textual statement.

**Produces as output** the truth of that statement.

- Generalizes Fixed-Schema KBs

✓ *Obama was born in Hawaii*

✗ *Obama was born in Kenya*



# Text is Knowledge

**Store Information as Text** (easier)

**Query Information as Text** (hard!)

**We need a system that:**

**Takes as input** a candidate textual statement.

**Produces as output** the truth of that statement.

- Generalizes Fixed-Schema KBs
  - ✓ *Obama was born in Hawaii*
  - ✗ *Obama was born in Kenya*
- Generalizes Open IE
  - ✓ *Rabbits eat carrots*



# Text is Knowledge

**Store Information as Text** (easier)

**Query Information as Text** (hard!)

**We need a system that:**

**Takes as input** a candidate textual statement.

**Produces as output** the truth of that statement.

- Generalizes Fixed-Schema KBs
  - ✓ *Obama was born in Hawaii*
  - ✗ *Obama was born in Kenya*
- Generalizes Open IE
  - ✓ *Rabbits eat carrots*
- More precise than web search
  - ✗ *A stopwatch is best to measure the volume of a liquid.*



# Roadmap



## Common Sense Reasoning: *Cats have tails*

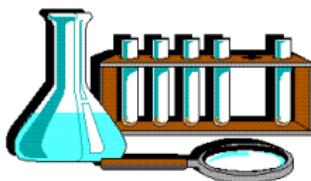
[Angeli and Manning, 2013, Angeli and Manning, 2014]



## Complex premises:

*Born in Hawaii, Obama is a graduate of Columbia*

[Angeli et al., 2015]



## Lexical + Logical Reasoning:

*A graduated cylinder would be best to measure the volume of a liquid*



# Reasoning About Common Sense Facts

- ✓ Kittens play with yarn
- ✗ Kittens play with computers

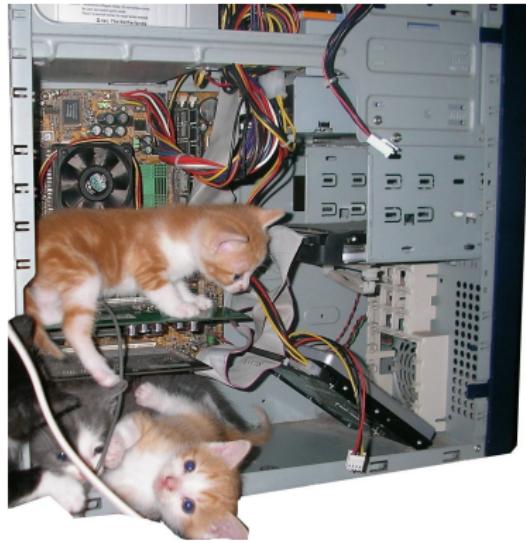


# Reasoning About Common Sense Facts

✓ Kittens play with yarn

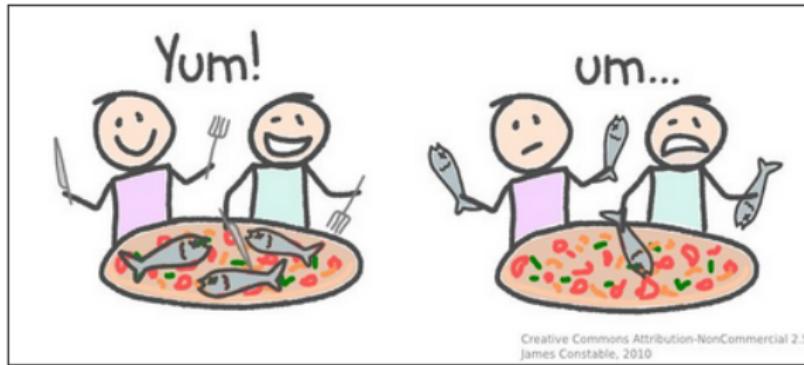


✗ Kittens play with computers



# Common Sense Reasoning for NLP

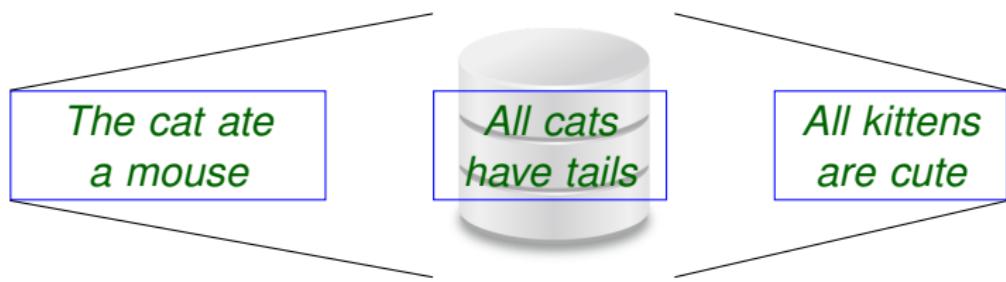
*They ate the pizza with anchovies*



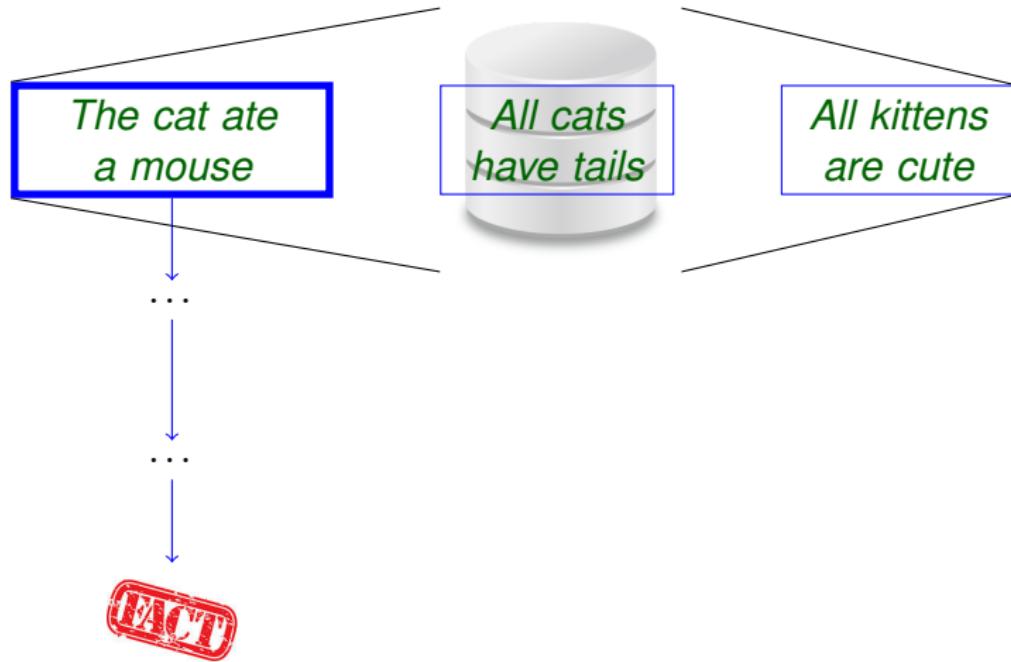
# Start with a large knowledge base (270M facts)



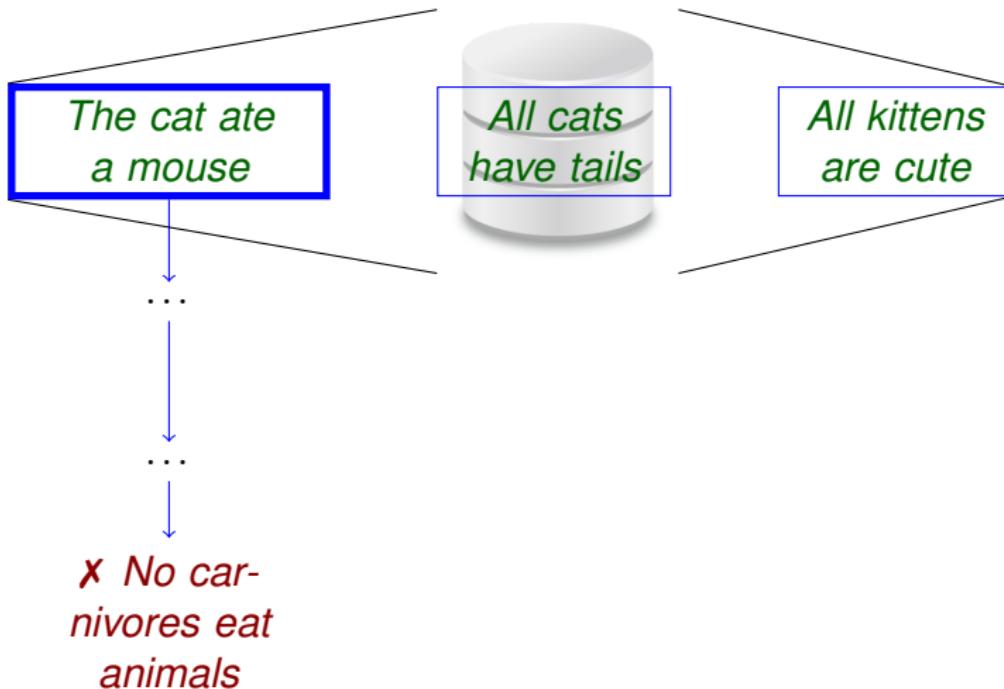
# Start with a large knowledge base (270M facts)



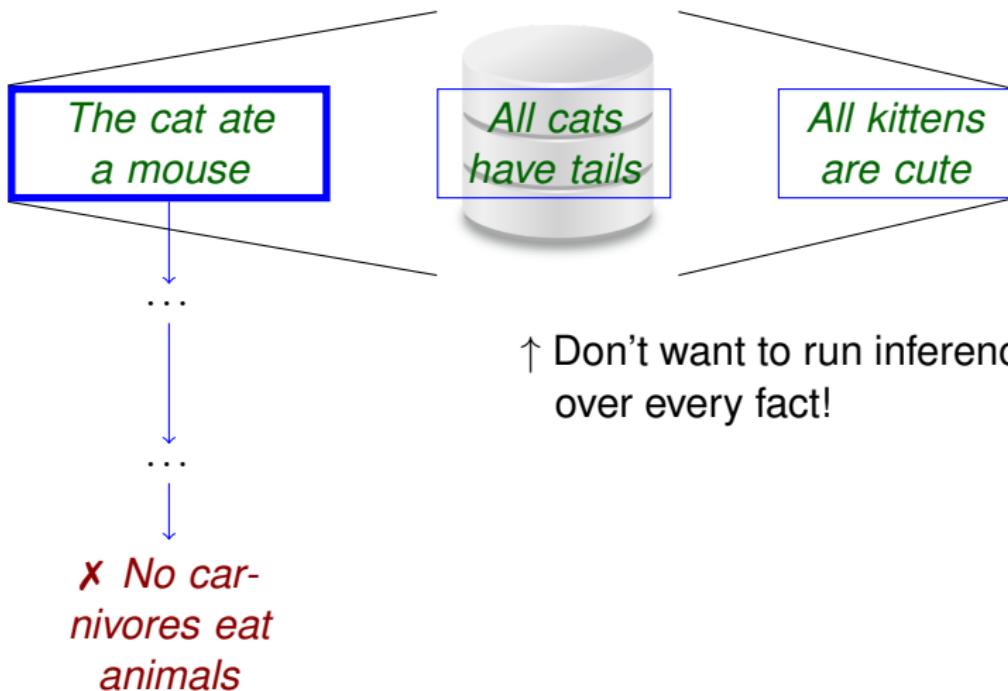
# Infer new facts...



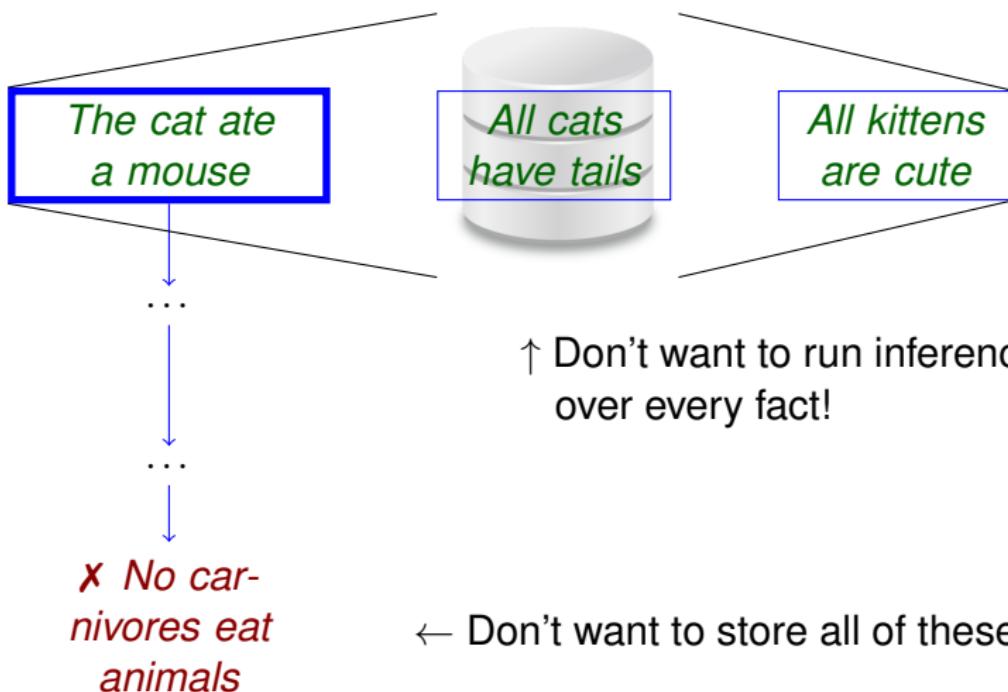
# Infer new facts...



# Infer new facts...

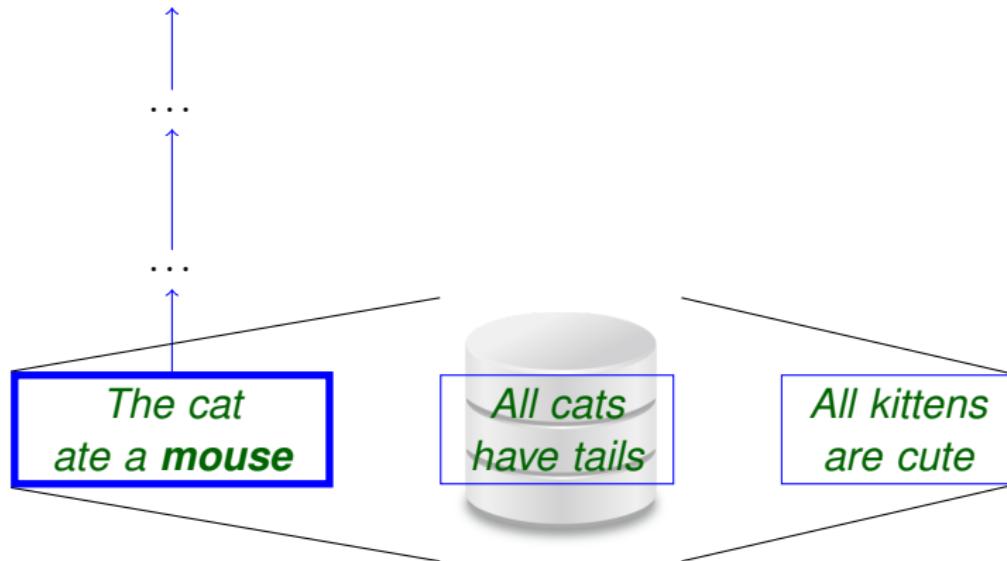


# Infer new facts...



# Infer new facts...on demand from a query...

No carnivores  
eat animals?



# ...Using text as the meaning representation...

*No carnivores  
eat animals?*



*The carnivores  
eat animals*

*The cat  
eats animals*

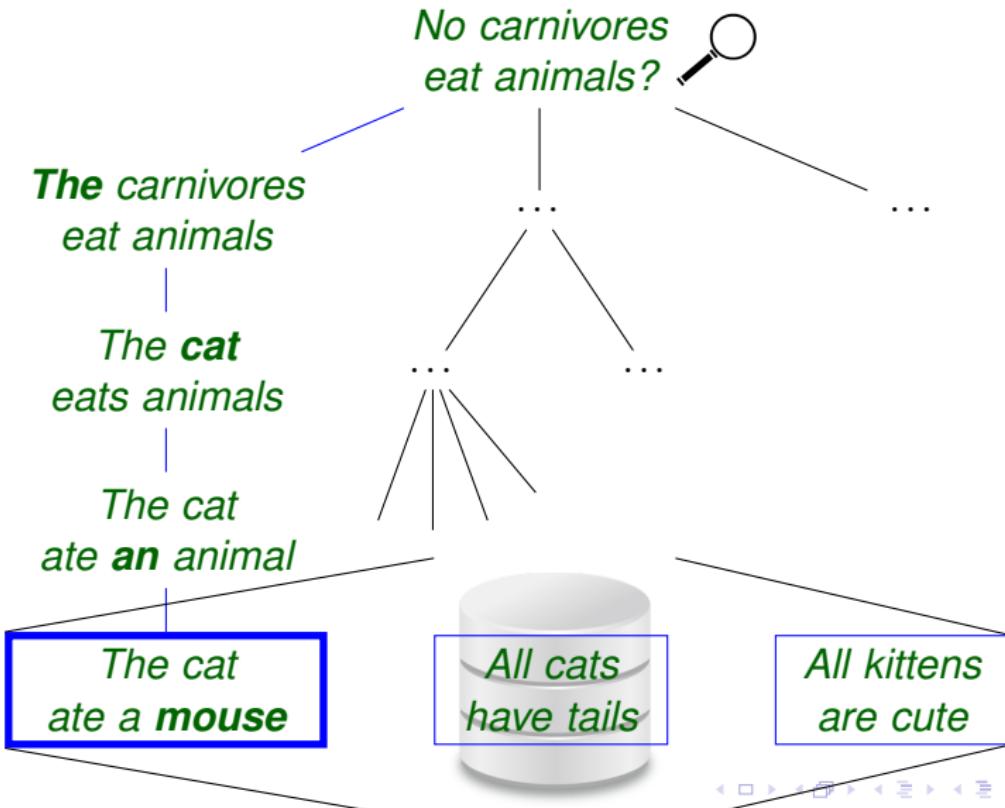
*The cat  
ate an animal*

***The cat  
ate a mouse***

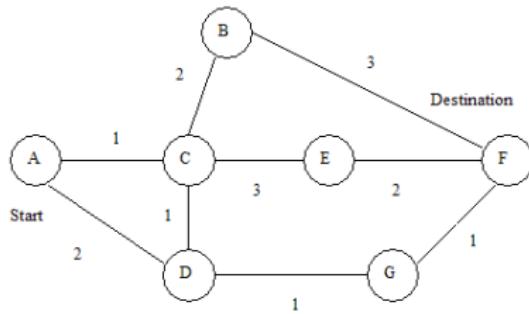
***All cats  
have tails***

***All kittens  
are cute***

...Without aligning to any particular premise.

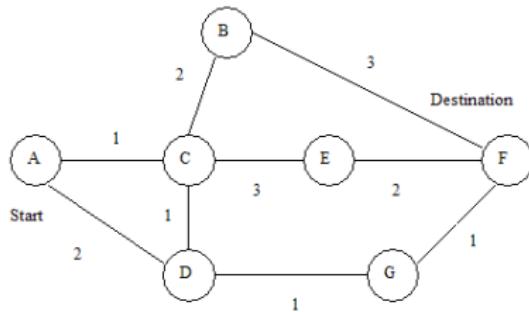


# A Search Problem



**Nodes** (*fact*, truth maintained  $\in \{\text{true}, \text{false}\}$ )

# A Search Problem



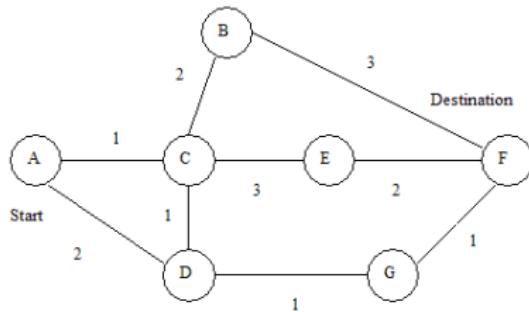
**Nodes** (*fact*, truth maintained  $\in \{\text{true}, \text{false}\}$ )

**Start Node** (*query fact, ✓ true*)

**End Nodes** *any known fact*



# A Search Problem



**Nodes** (*fact*, truth maintained  $\in \{\text{true}, \text{false}\}$ )

**Start Node** (*query fact, ✓ true*)

**End Nodes** *any known fact*

**Edges** Mutations of the current fact

**Edge Costs** How “wrong” an inference step is (learned)



# A Search Problem Over Valid Inferences

Transitions (mutations) have to be precise:

*The carnivores eat animals*

$\models \neg$

*No carnivores eat animals*

*The carnivores eat animals*

$\models$

*Some carnivores eat animals*



# A Search Problem Over Valid Inferences

**Transitions (mutations) have to be precise:**

*The carnivores eat animals*     $\models \neg$     *No carnivores eat animals*  
*The carnivores eat animals*     $\models$     *Some carnivores eat animals*

**Transitions have to respect logical entailment**

- Logic should be fast (visit 1M nodes / sec).
- Logic should operate over text.



# Natural Logics

A class of proof-theoretic logics over the syntax of natural language.



A class of proof-theoretic logics over the syntax of natural language.

## Perfect tool for large-scale logical inference

- Instantaneous and perfect semantic parsing
- Fast inference
- Plays nice with lexical methods
- Handles common non-first-order phenomena



# The Persians are Invading Greece

All heroes are Persian!



Clearly you are wrong. You see, all Gods live on Olympus. Some heroes are Gods. And no one who lives on Olympus is Persian.



# How Did You Solve This?

All heroes are Persian!



Clearly you are wrong. You see, all Gods live on Olympus. Some heroes are Gods. And no one who lives on Olympus is Persian.



# Show of Hands: First Order Logic?

1	$\forall x \text{ God}(x) \supset \text{LivesOnOlympus}(x)$	
2	$\exists x \text{ Hero}(x) \wedge \text{God}(x)$	
3	$\neg \exists x \text{ LivesOnOlympus}(x) \wedge \text{Persian}(x)$	
4	$\forall x \text{ Hero}(x) \supset \text{Persian}(x)$	
5	$a \mid \text{Hero}(a) \wedge \text{God}(a)$	$\exists E, 2$
6	$\text{Hero}(a)$	$\wedge E, 5$
7	$\text{Hero}(a) \supset \text{Persian}(a)$	$\forall E, 4$
8	$\text{Persian}(a)$	$\Rightarrow E, 6, 7$
9	$\text{God}(a)$	$\wedge E, 5$
10	$\text{God}(a) \supset \text{LivesOnOlympus}(a)$	$\forall E, 1$
11	$\text{LivesOnOlympus}(a)$	$\Rightarrow E, 9, 10$
12	$\text{LivesOnOlympus}(a) \wedge \text{Persian}(a)$	$\wedge I, 8, 11$
13	$\exists x \text{ LivesOnOlympus}(x) \wedge \text{Persian}(x)$	$\exists I, 12$
14	$\exists x \text{ LivesOnOlympus}(x) \wedge \text{Persian}(x)$	$R, 13$
15	$\perp$	$\perp I, 3, 14$
16	$\neg \forall x \text{ Hero}(x) \supset \text{Persian}(x)$	$\neg I, 4-15$



# Syllogisms: The First Natural Logic

1	<i>All Gods live on Mount Olympus</i>	
2	<i>Some heroes are Gods</i>	
3	<i>Nobody who lives on Mount Olympus is Persian</i>	
4	<i>Some heroes live on Mount Olympus</i>	All (Darii), 1, 2
5	<i>Some heroes are not Persian</i>	EIO (Ferio), 4, 3
6	$\neg$ <i>All heroes are Persian</i>	SaP $\perp$ SoP, 5



# Syllogisms: The First Natural Logic

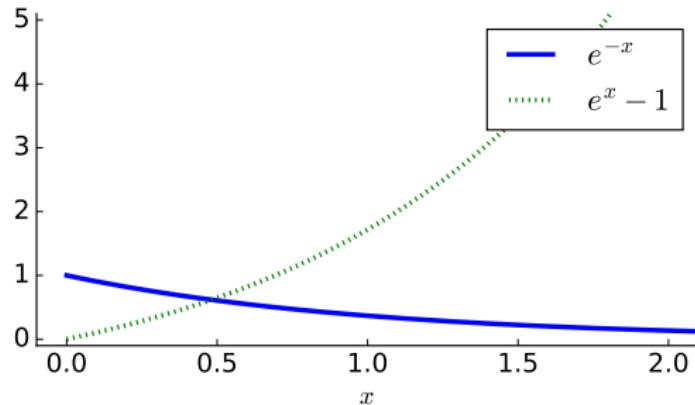
1	<i>All Gods live on Mount Olympus</i>	
2	<i>Some heroes are Gods</i>	
3	<i>Nobody who lives on Mount Olympus is Persian</i>	
4	<i>Some heroes live on Mount Olympus</i>	All (Darii), 1, 2
5	<i>Some heroes are not Persian</i>	EIO (Ferio), 4, 3
6	$\neg$ <i>All heroes are Persian</i>	SaP $\perp$ SoP, 5

...But syllogisms are cripplingly unexpressive



# Beyond Syllogisms: Monotonicity Calculus

$f : X \rightarrow Y$  is *monotone* w.r.t. partial orders  $\leq_X, \leq_Y$  iff  
 $\forall x_0 \forall x_1 \geq_X x_0; f(x_1) \geq_Y f(x_0).$



[Sánchez Valencia, 1991, Icard and Moss, 2014]

# Monotonicity Calculus

$f : X \rightarrow Y$  is *monotone* w.r.t. partial orders  $\leq_X, \leq_Y$  iff  
 $\forall x_0 \forall x_1 \geq_X x_0; f(x_1) \geq_Y f(x_0).$

**$f : \text{denotations} \rightarrow \text{truth values}$**



# Monotonicity Calculus

$f : X \rightarrow Y$  is *monotone* w.r.t. partial orders  $\leq_X, \leq_Y$  iff  
 $\forall x_0 \forall x_1 \geq_X x_0; f(x_1) \geq_Y f(x_0).$

$f : \text{denotations} \rightarrow \text{truth values}$

$\leq_Y$  for truth values:

P	Q	$P \leq_Y Q$
true	true	true
true	false	false
false	true	true
false	false	true



# Monotonicity Calculus

$f : X \rightarrow Y$  is *monotone* w.r.t. partial orders  $\leq_X, \leq_Y$  iff  
 $\forall x_0 \forall x_1 \geq_X x_0; f(x_1) \geq_Y f(x_0).$

$f : \text{denotations} \rightarrow \text{truth values}$

$\leq_Y$  for truth values:

P	Q	$P \leq_Y Q$	$P \supset Q$
true	true	true	true
true	false	false	false
false	true	true	true
false	false	true	true

$\leq_Y$  denotes entailment

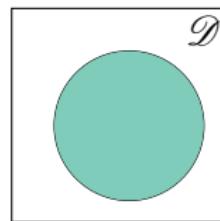
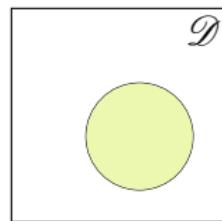


# Monotonicity in Language

$f : X \rightarrow Y$  is *monotone* w.r.t. partial orders  $\leq_X, \leq_Y$  iff  
 $\forall x_0 \forall x_1 \geq_X x_0; f(x_1) \geq_Y f(x_0).$

$f : \text{denotations} \rightarrow \text{truth values}$

$\leq_X$  for **denotations**: subset.



$\subseteq$

# Proofs in Natural Logic

**Quantifiers are functions with monotonicity.**

**Words are in either upward, downward, or non-monotone contexts.**



# Proofs in Natural Logic

Quantifiers are functions with monotonicity.

Words are in either upward, downward, or non-monotone contexts.

**Polarity** is the direction a lexical item can “move.”

animal

feline

cat

house cat



# Proofs in Natural Logic

Quantifiers are functions with monotonicity.

Words are in either upward, downward, or non-monotone contexts.

**Polarity** is the direction a lexical item can “move.”

animal

feline

↑ cat

house cat



# Proofs in Natural Logic

Quantifiers are functions with monotonicity.

Words are in either upward, downward, or non-monotone contexts.

**Polarity** is the direction a lexical item can “move.”

living thing

animal

↑ feline

cat



# Proofs in Natural Logic

Quantifiers are functions with monotonicity.

Words are in either upward, downward, or non-monotone contexts.

**Polarity** is the direction a lexical item can “move.”

thing

living thing

↑ animal

feline



# Proofs in Natural Logic

Quantifiers are functions with monotonicity.

Words are in either upward, downward, or non-monotone contexts.

**Polarity** is the direction a lexical item can “move.”

thing

living thing

↓ animal

feline



# Proofs in Natural Logic

Quantifiers are functions with monotonicity.

Words are in either upward, downward, or non-monotone contexts.

**Polarity** is the direction a lexical item can “move.”

living thing

animal

↓ feline

cat



# Proofs in Natural Logic

Quantifiers are functions with monotonicity.

Words are in either upward, downward, or non-monotone contexts.

**Polarity** is the direction a lexical item can “move.”

animal

feline

↓ cat

house cat



# An Example Inference

Quantifiers determines the **polarity** ( $\uparrow$  or  $\downarrow$ ) of words.



# An Example Inference

Quantifiers determines the *polarity* ( $\uparrow$  or  $\downarrow$ ) of words.

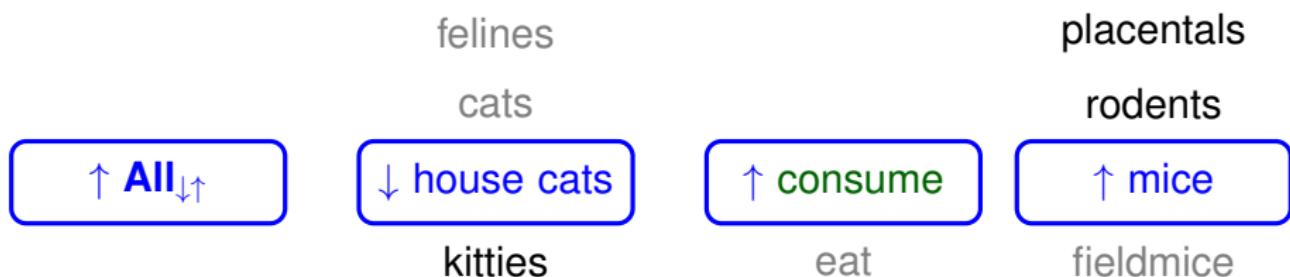
Mutations must respect *polarity*.



# An Example Inference

Quantifiers determines the *polarity* ( $\uparrow$  or  $\downarrow$ ) of words.

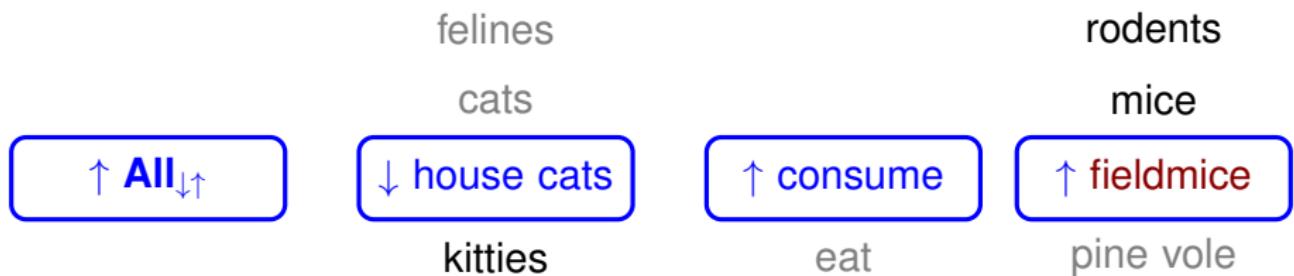
Mutations must respect *polarity*.



# An Example Inference

Quantifiers determines the *polarity* ( $\uparrow$  or  $\downarrow$ ) of words.

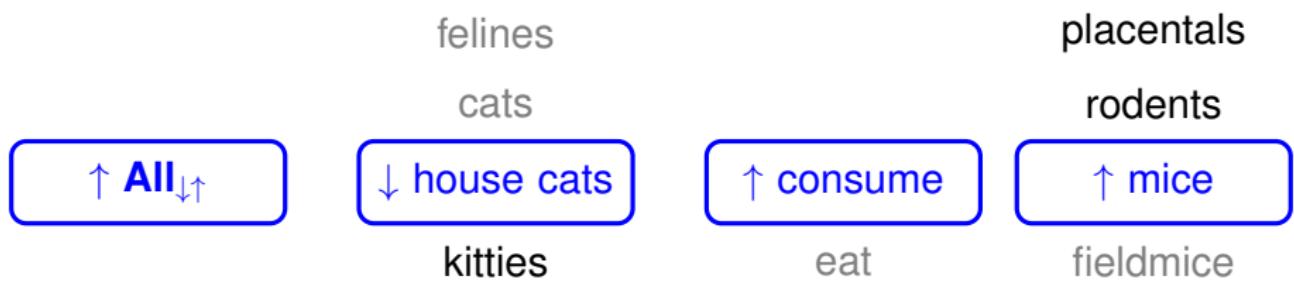
Mutations must respect *polarity*.



# An Example Inference

Quantifiers determines the *polarity* ( $\uparrow$  or  $\downarrow$ ) of words.

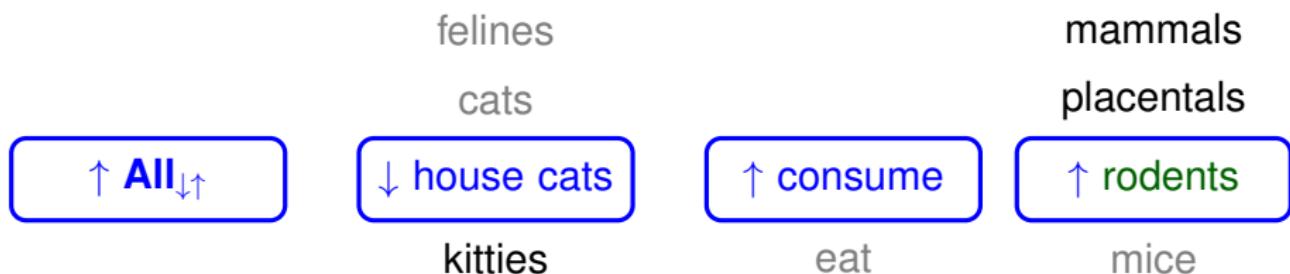
Mutations must respect *polarity*.



# An Example Inference

Quantifiers determines the *polarity* ( $\uparrow$  or  $\downarrow$ ) of words.

Mutations must respect *polarity*.

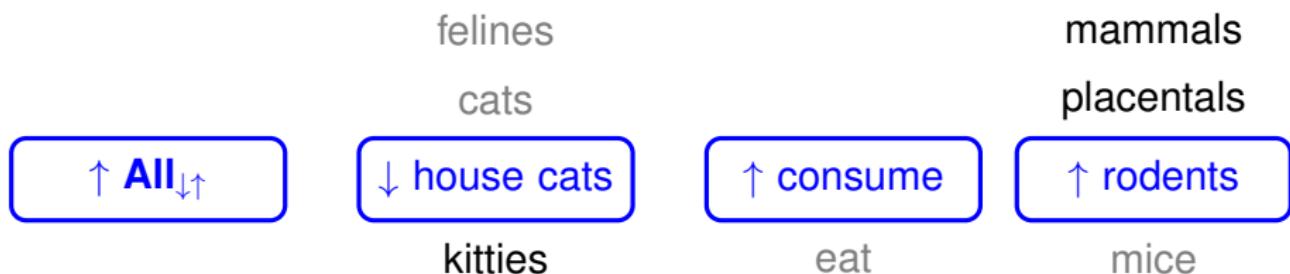


# An Example Inference

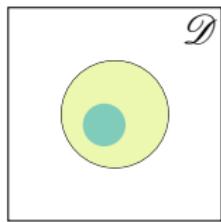
Quantifiers determines the *polarity* ( $\uparrow$  or  $\downarrow$ ) of words.

Mutations must respect *polarity*.

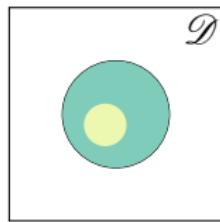
What about negation?



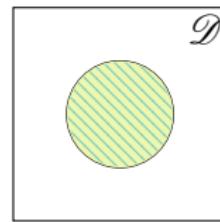
# Reasoning with Negation (Exclusion)



$\varphi \sqsubseteq \psi$   
*(forward entail.)*



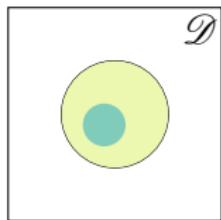
$\varphi \sqsupseteq \psi$   
*(reverse entail.)*



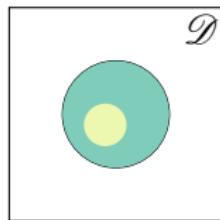
$\varphi \equiv \psi$   
*(equivalence)*

[MacCartney and Manning, 2008]

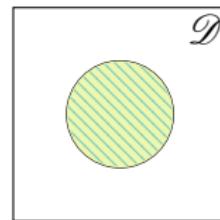
# Reasoning with Negation (Exclusion)



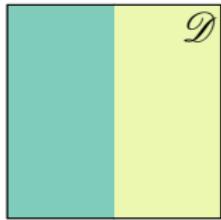
$\varphi \sqsubseteq \psi$   
(forward entail.)



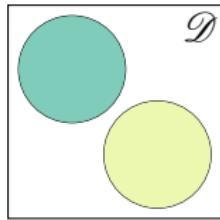
$\varphi \sqsupseteq \psi$   
(reverse entail.)



$\varphi \equiv \psi$   
(equivalence)



$\varphi \wedge \psi$   
(negation)



$\varphi \between \psi$   
(alternation)



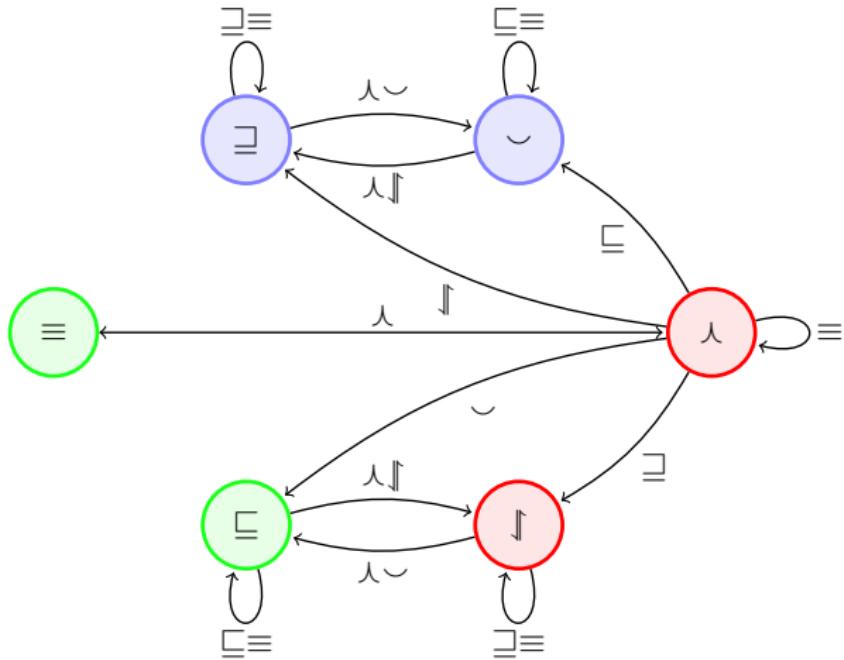
$\varphi \smile \psi$   
(cover)

[MacCartney and Manning, 2008]

# “Join Table”

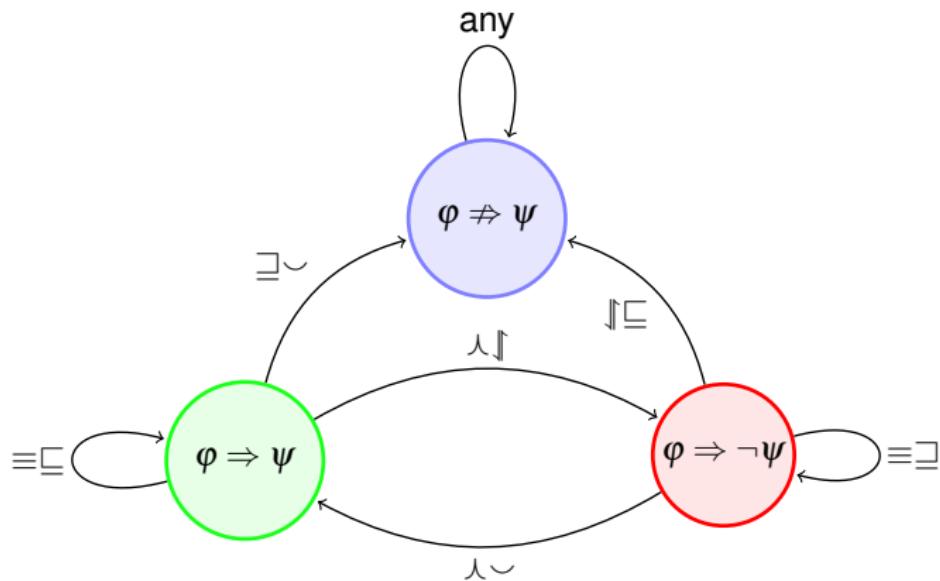
☒	☰	☱	☲	人	☱	☲	#
☰	☰	☱	☲	人	☱	☲	#
☱	☱	☱	#	☲	☱	#	#
☲	☲	#	☲	☲	#	☲	#
人	人	☲	☱	☰	☱	☱	#
☱	☱	#	☱	☱	#	☱	#
☲	☲	☲	#	☱	☲	#	#
#	#	#	#	#	#	#	#

# Contribution: Don't Need Join Table



[Angeli and Manning, 2014]

## Contribution: Don't Need Join Table



[Angeli and Manning, 2014]

## An Example Search

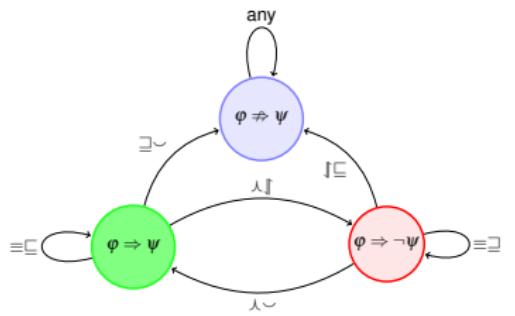
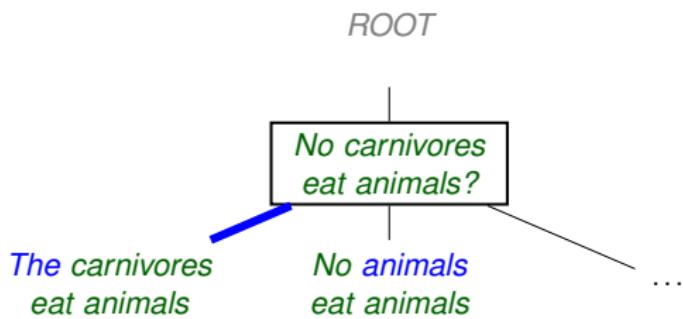
## Shorthand for a node:



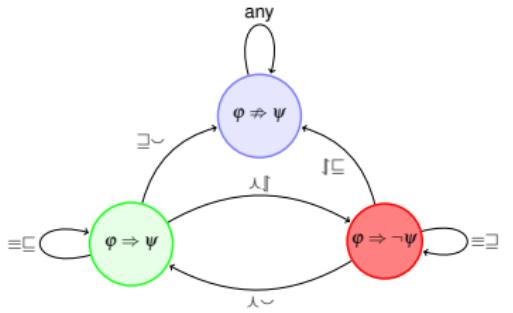
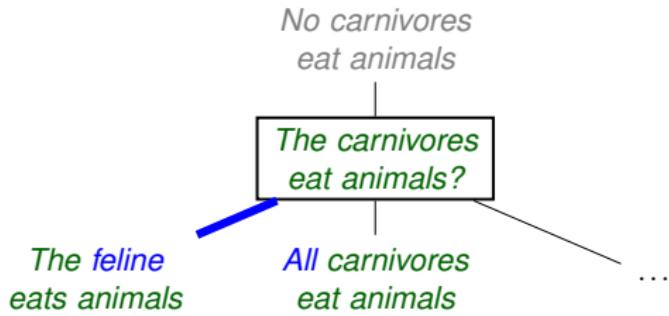
No carnivores  
eat animals?



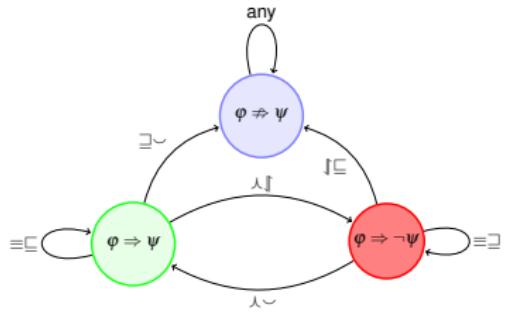
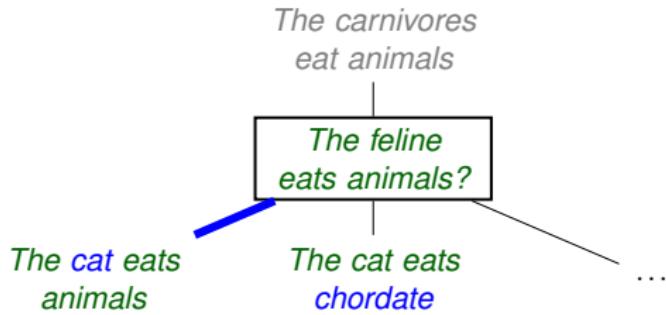
# An Example Search



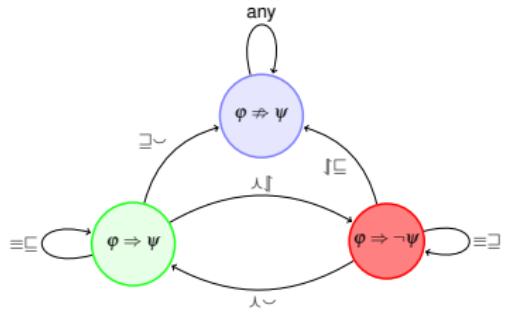
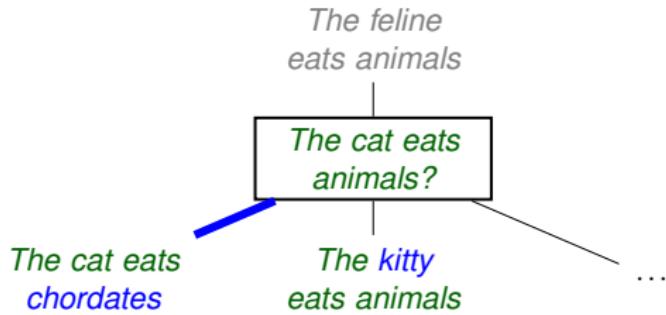
# An Example Search



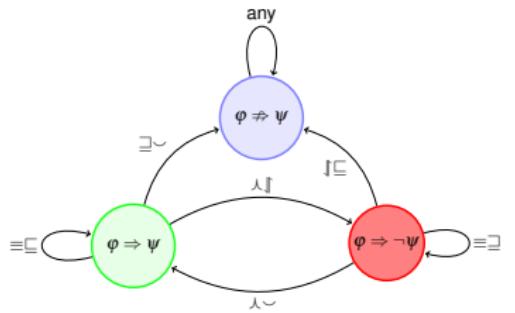
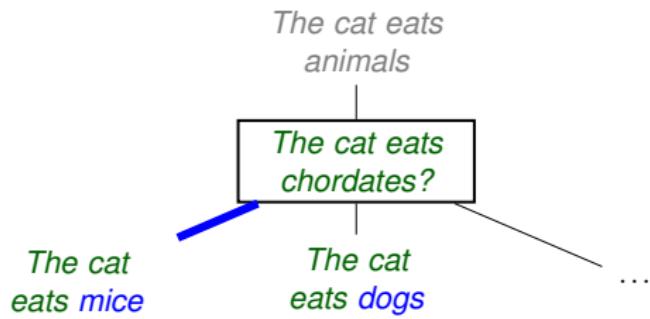
# An Example Search



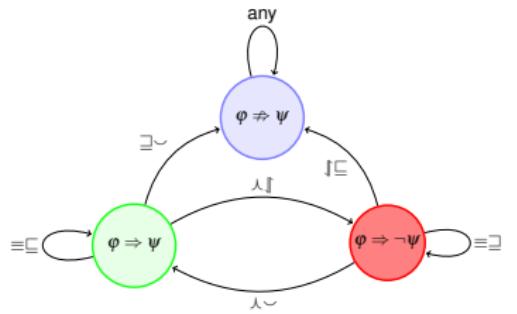
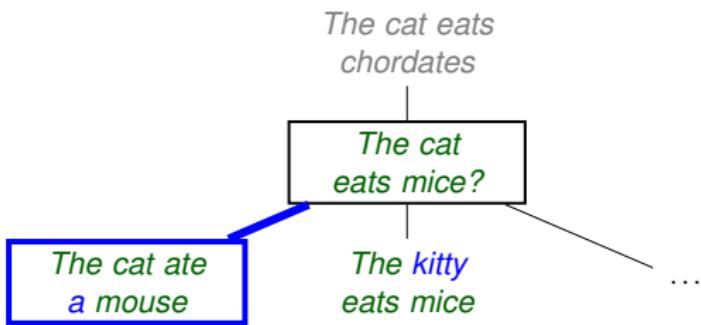
# An Example Search



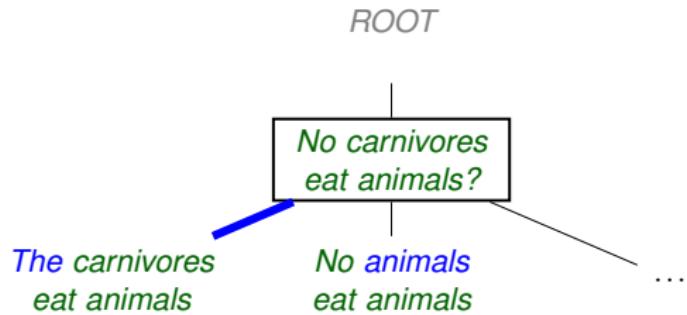
## An Example Search



# An Example Search



# An Example Search (with edges)



**Edge**

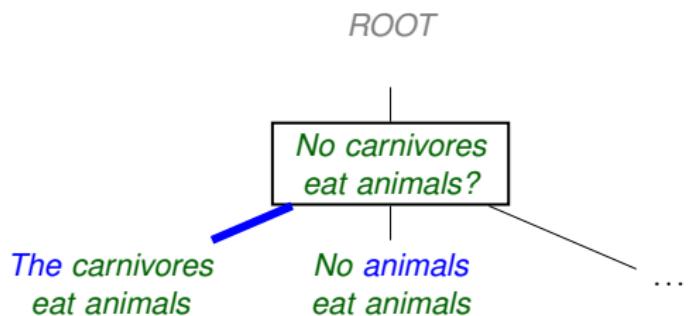
*No carnivores eat animals* →  
*The carnivores eat animals*

**Instance**

**Template**



# An Example Search (with edges)



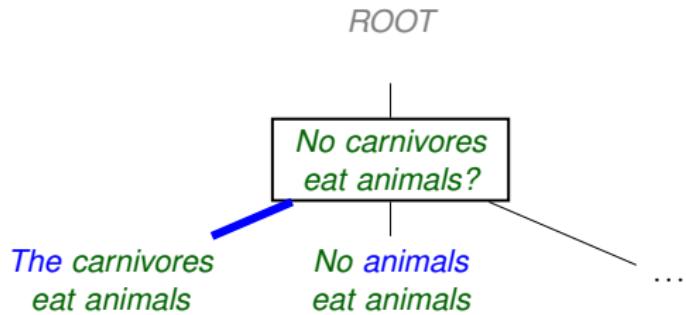
**Edge**  
*No carnivores eat animals* →  
*The carnivores eat animals*

**Instance**  
*No* → *The*

**Template**



# An Example Search (with edges)



**Edge**  
*No carnivores eat animals* →  
*The carnivores eat animals*

**Instance**  
*No* → *The*      **Template**  
Operator Negate



# Edge Templates

Template	Instance
Hypernym	<i>animal</i> → <i>cat</i>
Hyponym	<i>cat</i> → <i>animal</i>
Antonym	<i>good</i> → <i>bad</i>
Synonym	<i>cat</i> → <i>true cat</i>
Add Word	<i>cat</i> → .
Delete Word	. → <i>cat</i>
Operator Weaken	<i>some</i> → <i>all</i>
Operator Strengthen	<i>all</i> → <i>some</i>
Operator Negate	<i>all</i> → <i>no</i>
Operator Synonym	<i>all</i> → <i>every</i>
Nearest Neighbor	<i>cat</i> → <i>dog</i>



# “Soft” Natural Logic

**Want to make likely (but not certain) inferences.**

- Same motivation as Markov Logic, Probabilistic Soft Logic, etc.



# “Soft” Natural Logic

Want to make likely (but not certain) inferences.

- Same motivation as Markov Logic, Probabilistic Soft Logic, etc.
- Each *edge template* has a cost  $\theta \geq 0$ .

# “Soft” Natural Logic

**Want to make likely (but not certain) inferences.**

- Same motivation as Markov Logic, Probabilistic Soft Logic, etc.
- Each *edge template* has a cost  $\theta \geq 0$ .

**Detail:** Variation among *edge instances* of a template.

- WordNet: *cat* → *feline* **vs.** *cup* → *container*.
- Nearest neighbors distance.
- Each *edge instance* has a distance  $f$ .

# “Soft” Natural Logic

**Want to make likely (but not certain) inferences.**

- Same motivation as Markov Logic, Probabilistic Soft Logic, etc.
- Each *edge template* has a cost  $\theta \geq 0$ .

**Detail:** Variation among *edge instances* of a template.

- WordNet: *cat* → *feline* **vs.** *cup* → *container*.
- Nearest neighbors distance.
- Each *edge instance* has a distance  $f$ .

**Cost of an edge is**  $\theta_i \cdot f_i$ .



# “Soft” Natural Logic

**Want to make likely (but not certain) inferences.**

- Same motivation as Markov Logic, Probabilistic Soft Logic, etc.
- Each *edge template* has a cost  $\theta \geq 0$ .

**Detail:** Variation among *edge instances* of a template.

- WordNet: *cat* → *feline* **vs.** *cup* → *container*.
- Nearest neighbors distance.
- Each *edge instance* has a distance  $f$ .

**Cost of an edge is**     $\theta_i \cdot f_i$ .

**Cost of a path is**     $\theta \cdot \mathbf{f}$ .



# “Soft” Natural Logic

**Want to make likely (but not certain) inferences.**

- Same motivation as Markov Logic, Probabilistic Soft Logic, etc.
- Each *edge template* has a cost  $\theta \geq 0$ .

**Detail:** Variation among *edge instances* of a template.

- WordNet: *cat* → *feline* **vs.** *cup* → *container*.
- Nearest neighbors distance.
- Each *edge instance* has a distance  $f$ .

**Cost of an edge is**  $\theta_i \cdot f_i$ .

**Cost of a path is**  $\theta \cdot \mathbf{f}$ .

**Can learn parameters  $\theta$ .**



# Experiments

## ConceptNet:

- A semi-curated collection of common-sense facts.
  - ✓ *not all birds can fly*
  - ✓ *noses are used to smell*
  - ✓ *nobody wants to die*
  - ✓ *music is used for pleasure*
- Negatives: ReVerb extractions marked false by Turkers.
- Small (1378 train / 1080 test), but fairly broad coverage.



# Experiments

## ConceptNet:

- A semi-curated collection of common-sense facts.
  - ✓ *not all birds can fly*
  - ✓ *noses are used to smell*
  - ✓ *nobody wants to die*
  - ✓ *music is used for pleasure*
- Negatives: ReVerb extractions marked false by Turkers.
- Small (1378 train / 1080 test), but fairly broad coverage.

## Our Knowledge Base:

- 270 million lemmatized Ollie extractions.



# ConceptNet Results

## Systems

**Direct Lookup:** Lookup by lemmas.

**This Work.**



# ConceptNet Results

## Systems

**Direct Lookup:** Lookup by lemmas.

**This Work.**

**This Work - Lookup:** Remove query facts from KB.



# ConceptNet Results

## Systems

**Direct Lookup:** Lookup by lemmas.

**This Work.**

**This Work - Lookup:** Remove query facts from KB.

System	P	R
Direct Lookup	100.0	12.1



# ConceptNet Results

## Systems

**Direct Lookup:** Lookup by lemmas.

**This Work.**

**This Work - Lookup:** Remove query facts from KB.

System	P	R
Direct Lookup	100.0	12.1
This Work	90.6	49.1
This Work - Lookup	88.8	40.1



# ConceptNet Results

## Systems

**Direct Lookup:** Lookup by lemmas.

**This Work.**

**This Work - Lookup:** Remove query facts from KB.

System	P	R
Direct Lookup	100.0	<b>12.1</b>
This Work	90.6	<b>49.1</b>
This Work - Lookup	88.8	40.1

- 4x improvement in recall.



# New Solutions to Old Problems

**Old Problem:** Dozens of clever meaning representations for language.



# New Solutions to Old Problems

**Old Problem:** Dozens of clever meaning representations for language.

**New Solution:** Treat text as the meaning representation!



# New Solutions to Old Problems

**Old Problem:** Dozens of clever meaning representations for language.

**New Solution:** Treat text as the meaning representation!

**Old Problem:** Collect ontologies of true facts.



# New Solutions to Old Problems

**Old Problem:** Dozens of clever meaning representations for language.

**New Solution:** Treat text as the meaning representation!

**Old Problem:** Collect ontologies of true facts.



**New Solution:** Treat unstructured text as your ontology!



# Success?



# Not Yet!



**The Internet doesn't speak in atomic utterances**



# Not Yet!



## The Internet doesn't speak in atomic utterances

- Where was Obama born?
  - *Born in Hawaii, Obama is a graduate of Columbia University and Harvard Law School.*



# Not Yet!



## The Internet doesn't speak in atomic utterances

- Where was Obama born?
  - *Born in Hawaii, Obama is a graduate of Columbia University and Harvard Law School.*  
⇒ *Obama was born in Hawaii.*



# Not Yet!



## The Internet doesn't speak in atomic utterances

- Where was Obama born?
  - *Born in Hawaii, Obama is a graduate of Columbia University and Harvard Law School.*  
⇒ *Obama was born in Hawaii.*
- Let's store the inferred fact instead

# Roadmap



## Common Sense Reasoning: *Cats have tails*

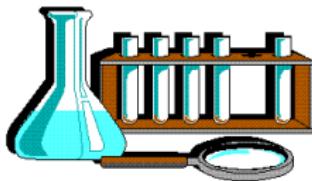
[Angeli and Manning, 2013, Angeli and Manning, 2014]



## Complex premises:

*Born in Hawaii, Obama is a graduate of Columbia*

[Angeli et al., 2015]



## Lexical + Logical Reasoning:

*A graduated cylinder would be best to measure the volume of a liquid*



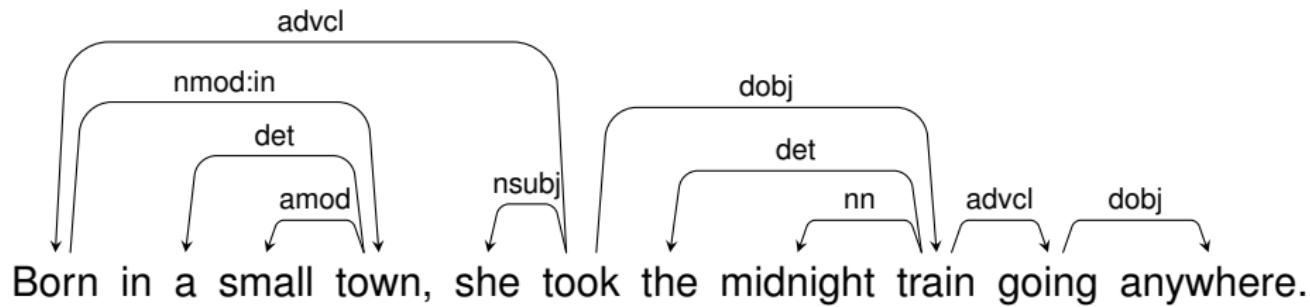
# Atomic Clauses from Sentences

**Input:** Long sentence.

*Born in a small town, she took the midnight train going anywhere.*

**Output:** Short clauses.

*she was born in a small town.*



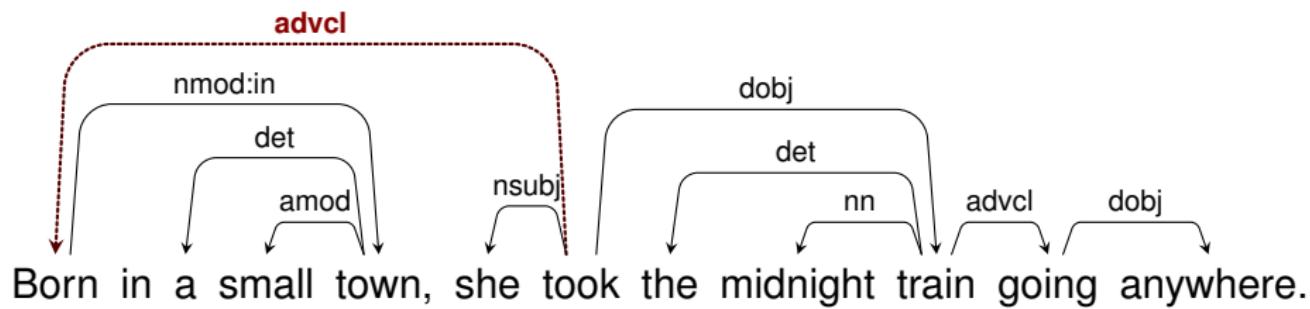
# Atomic Clauses from Sentences

**Input:** Long sentence.

*Born in a small town, she took the midnight train going anywhere.*

**Output:** Short clauses.

*she was born in a small town.*



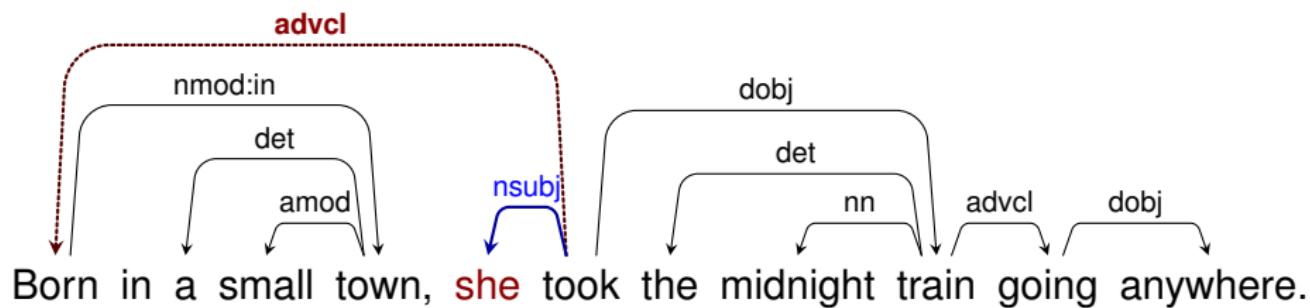
# Atomic Clauses from Sentences

**Input:** Long sentence.

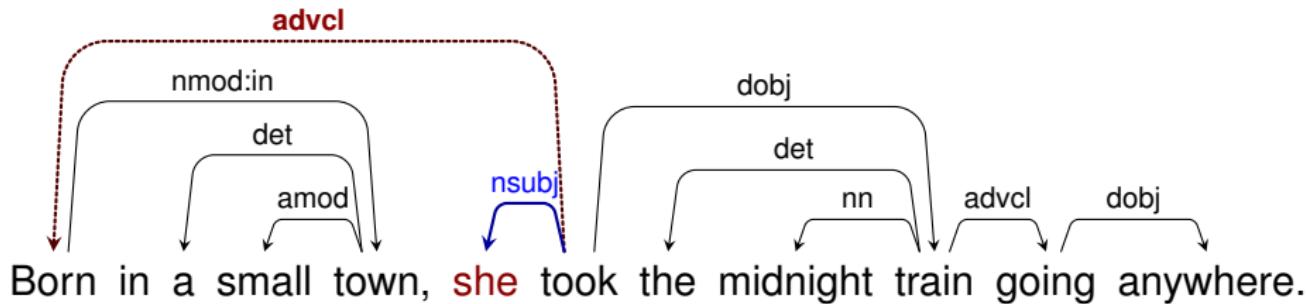
*Born in a small town, she took the midnight train going anywhere.*

**Output:** Short clauses.

*she was born in a small town.*



# Clause Classifier

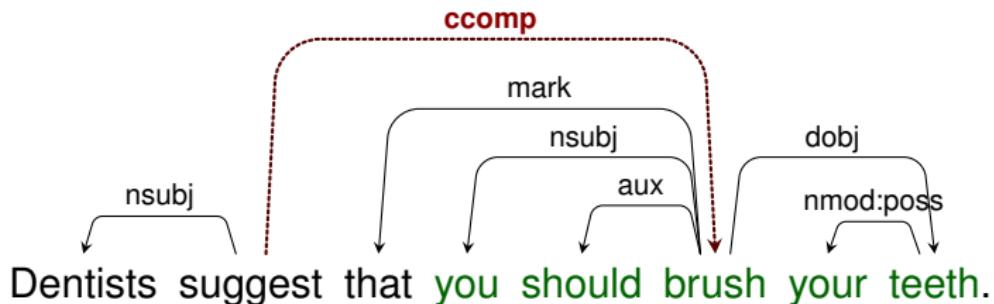


**Input:** Dependency arc.

**Output:** Action to take.



# Clause Classifier



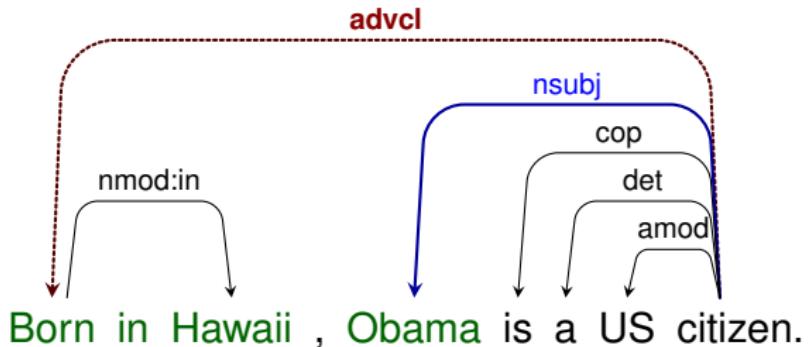
**Input:** Dependency arc.

**Output:** Action to take.

- **Yield** (*you should brush your teeth*)



# Clause Classifier



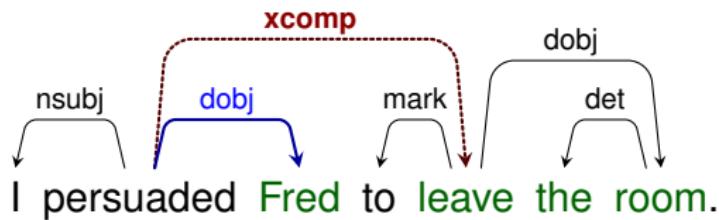
**Input:** Dependency arc.

**Output:** Action to take.

- **Yield** (*you should brush your teeth*)
- **Yield (Subject Controller)** (*Obama Born in Hawaii*)



# Clause Classifier



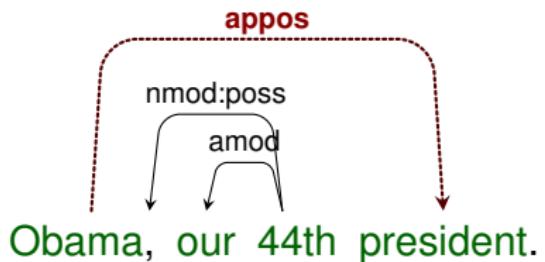
**Input:** Dependency arc.

**Output:** Action to take.

- **Yield** (*you should brush your teeth*)
- **Yield (Subject Controller)** (*Obama Born in Hawaii*)
- **Yield (Object Controller)** (*Fred leave the room*)



# Clause Classifier



**Input:** Dependency arc.

**Output:** Action to take.

- **Yield** (*you should brush your teeth*)
- **Yield (Subject Controller)** (*Obama Born in Hawaii*)
- **Yield (Object Controller)** (*Fred leave the room*)
- **Yield (Parent Subject)** (*Obama is our 44th president*)



# Classifier Training

## Training Data Generation

1. Label a constituency treebank with relation triples.
2. Run exhaustive search over possible clause splits.



# Classifier Training

## Training Data Generation

1. Label a constituency treebank with relation triples.
2. Run exhaustive search over possible clause splits.
3. **Positive Labels:** A sequence of actions which yields a relation (33.5k examples).  
**Negative Labels:** All other sequences of actions (1.1M examples).



# Classifier Training

## Training Data Generation

1. Label a constituency treebank with relation triples.
2. Run exhaustive search over possible clause splits.
3. **Positive Labels:** A sequence of actions which yields a relation (33.5k examples).  
**Negative Labels:** All other sequences of actions (1.1M examples).

## Features:

- Edge label; incoming edge label.
- Neighbors of governor + dependent; number of neighbors.
- Existence of subject/object edges at governor; dependent.
- POS tag of governor; dependent.

# Maximally Shorten Clauses

Some strange, nuanced function:

*Heinz Fischer of Austria*

⇒ ✓ *Heinz Fischer*

*United States president Obama*

⇒ ✓ *Obama*

*All young rabbits drink milk*

⇒ ✗ *All rabbits drink milk*

*Some young rabbits drink milk*

⇒ ✓ *Some rabbits drink milk*

*Enemies give fake praise*

⇒ ✗ *Enemies give praise*

*Friends give true praise*

⇒ ✓ *Friends give praise*



# Maximally Shorten Clauses

An entailment function:

*Heinz Fischer of Austria*

⇒ ✓ *Heinz Fischer*

*United States president Obama*

⇒ ✓ *Obama*

*All young rabbits drink milk*

⇒ ✗ *All rabbits drink milk*

*Some young rabbits drink milk*

⇒ ✓ *Some rabbits drink milk*

*Enemies give fake praise*

⇒ ✗ *Enemies give praise*

*Friends give true praise*

⇒ ✓ *Friends give praise*



# Maximally Shorten Clauses

A natural logic entailment function:

*Heinz Fischer of Austria*

⇒ ✓ *Heinz Fischer*

*United States president Obama*

⇒ ✓ *Obama*

*All young rabbits drink milk*

⇒ ✗ *All rabbits drink milk*

*Some young rabbits drink milk*

⇒ ✓ *Some rabbits drink milk*

*Enemies give fake praise*

⇒ ✗ *Enemies give praise*

*Friends give true praise*

⇒ ✓ *Friends give praise*

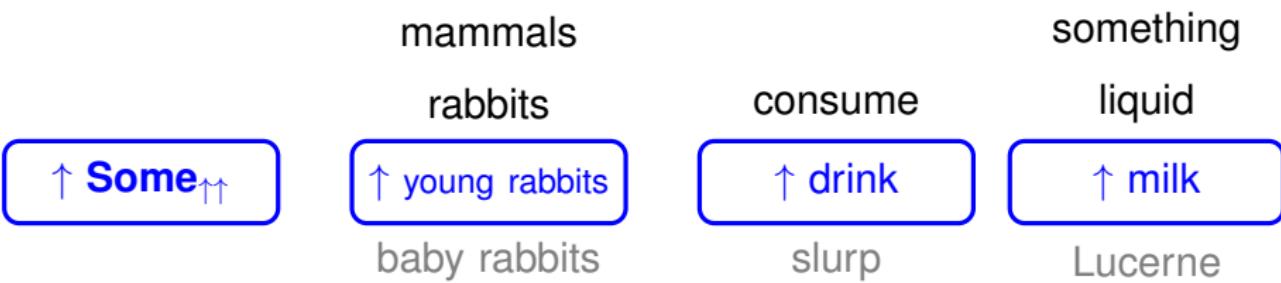


# Natural Logic For Clause Shortening

Quantifiers determines the *polarity* ( $\uparrow$  or  $\downarrow$ ) of words.

Mutations must respect *polarity*.

Polarity determines valid deletions.

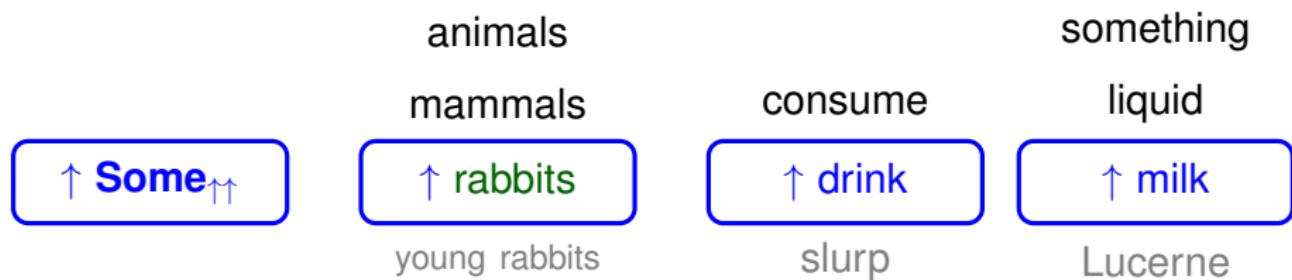


# Natural Logic For Clause Shortening

Quantifiers determines the *polarity* ( $\uparrow$  or  $\downarrow$ ) of words.

Mutations must respect *polarity*.

Polarity determines valid deletions.

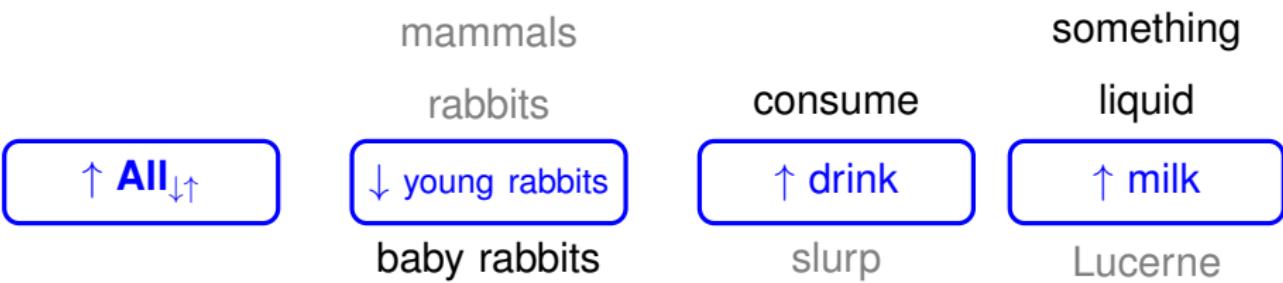


# Natural Logic For Clause Shortening

Quantifiers determines the *polarity* ( $\uparrow$  or  $\downarrow$ ) of words.

Mutations must respect *polarity*.

Polarity determines valid deletions.

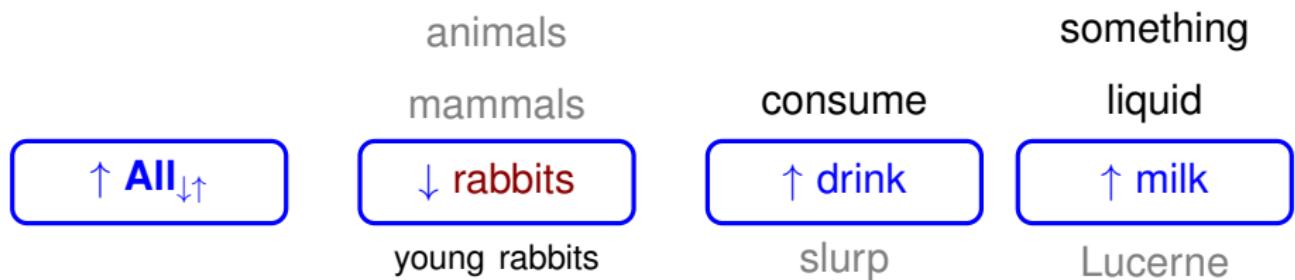


# Natural Logic For Clause Shortening

**Quantifiers determines the *polarity* ( $\uparrow$  or  $\downarrow$ ) of words.**

**Mutations must respect *polarity*.**

## Polarity determines valid deletions.



# Bonus: Knowledge Base Triples

*Heinz Fischer visited US*       $\implies$     (HEINZ FISCHER; visited; US)



# Bonus: Knowledge Base Triples

*Heinz Fischer visited US  
Obama born in Hawaii*

⇒ (HEINZ FISCHER; visited; US)  
⇒ (OBAMA; born in; HAWAII)



# Bonus: Knowledge Base Triples

*Heinz Fischer visited US*

⇒ (HEINZ FISCHER; visited; US)

*Obama born in Hawaii*

⇒ (OBAMA; born in; HAWAII)

*Cats are cute*

⇒ (CATS; are; CUTE)



# Bonus: Knowledge Base Triples

*Heinz Fischer visited US*

⇒ (HEINZ FISCHER; visited; US)

*Obama born in Hawaii*

⇒ (OBAMA; born in; HAWAII)

*Cats are cute*

⇒ (CATS; are; CUTE)

*Cats are sitting next to dogs*

⇒ (CATS; are sitting next to; DOGS)



# Bonus: Knowledge Base Triples

*Heinz Fischer visited US*

⇒ (HEINZ FISCHER; visited; US)

*Obama born in Hawaii*

⇒ (OBAMA; born in; HAWAII)

*Cats are cute*

⇒ (CATS; are; CUTE)

*Cats are sitting next to dogs*

⇒ (CATS; are sitting next to; DOGS)

...

**5 dependency tree patterns (+ 8 nominal patterns)**



# Extrinsic Evaluation: Knowledge Base Population

## Unstructured Text



## Structured Knowledge Base

 <b>Barack Obama</b>

<b>44th President of the United States</b>
<b>Personal details</b>
<b>Born</b> Barack Hussein Obama II August 4, 1961 (age 52) Honolulu, Hawaii, U.S.
<b>Political party</b> Democratic
<b>Spouse(s)</b> Michelle LaVaughn Robinson (m. 1992–present)
<b>Children</b> Malia Ann Obama (b. 1998) Natasha Obama (b. 2001)

# Extrinsic Evaluation: Knowledge Base Population

## Relation Extraction Task:

- Fixed schema of 41 relations.
- Precision: answers marked correct by humans.
- Recall: answers returned by any team (including LDC annotators).

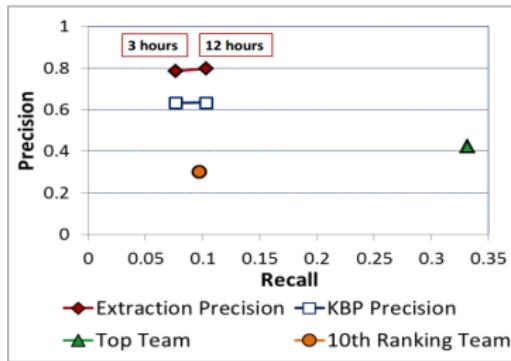


# Extrinsic Evaluation: Knowledge Base Population

## Relation Extraction Task:

- Fixed schema of 41 relations.
- Precision: answers marked correct by humans.
- Recall: answers returned by any team (including LDC annotators).

**Comparison:** *Open Information Extraction to KBP Relations in 3 Hours.* [Soderland et al., 2013]



# Map Triples to Structured Knowledge Base

KBP Relation	Text	PMI <sup>2</sup>
Per:Date_Of_Birth	<i>be bear on</i>	1.83
	<i>bear on</i>	1.28
Per:Date_Of_Death	<i>die on</i>	0.70
	<i>be assassinate on</i>	0.65
Per:LOC_Of_Birth	<i>be bear in</i>	1.21
Per:LOC_Of_Death	<i>*elect president of</i>	2.89
Per:Religion	<i>speak about</i>	0.67
	<i>popular for</i>	0.60
Per:Parents	<i>daughter of</i>	0.54
	<i>son of</i>	1.52
Per:LOC_Residence	<i>of</i>	1.48
	<i>*independent from</i>	1.18

# Results

## TAC-KBP 2013 Slot Filling Challenge:

- End-to-end task: includes IR + consistency.
- **Precision:** facts LDC evaluators judged as correct.  
**Recall:** facts other teams (including LDC annotators) also found.

System	P	R	F <sub>1</sub>
UW Submission	69.8	11.4	19.6
Ollie	57.7	11.8	19.6



# Results

## TAC-KBP 2013 Slot Filling Challenge:

- End-to-end task: includes IR + consistency.
- **Precision:** facts LDC evaluators judged as correct.  
**Recall:** facts other teams (including LDC annotators) also found.

System	P	R	F <sub>1</sub>
UW Submission	69.8	11.4	19.6
Ollie	57.7	11.8	19.6
Our System	61.9	13.9	22.7



# Results

## TAC-KBP 2013 Slot Filling Challenge:

- End-to-end task: includes IR + consistency.
- **Precision:** facts LDC evaluators judged as correct.  
**Recall:** facts other teams (including LDC annotators) also found.

System	P	R	F <sub>1</sub>
UW Submission	69.8	11.4	19.6
Ollie	57.7	11.8	19.6
Our System	61.9	13.9	22.7
Median Team			18.6
Our System +  + 	58.6	18.6	28.3
Top Team	45.7	35.8	40.2



# Roadmap



## Common Sense Reasoning: *Cats have tails*

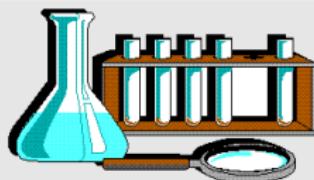
[Angeli and Manning, 2013, Angeli and Manning, 2014]



## Complex premises:

*Born in Hawaii, Obama is a graduate of Columbia*

[Angeli et al., 2015]

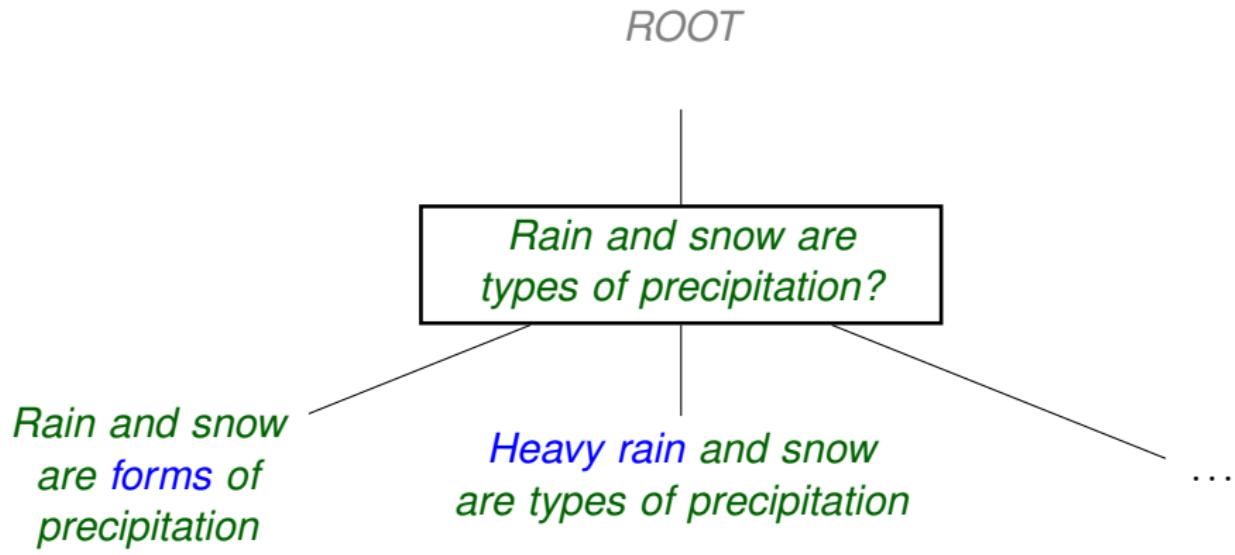


## Lexical + Logical Reasoning:

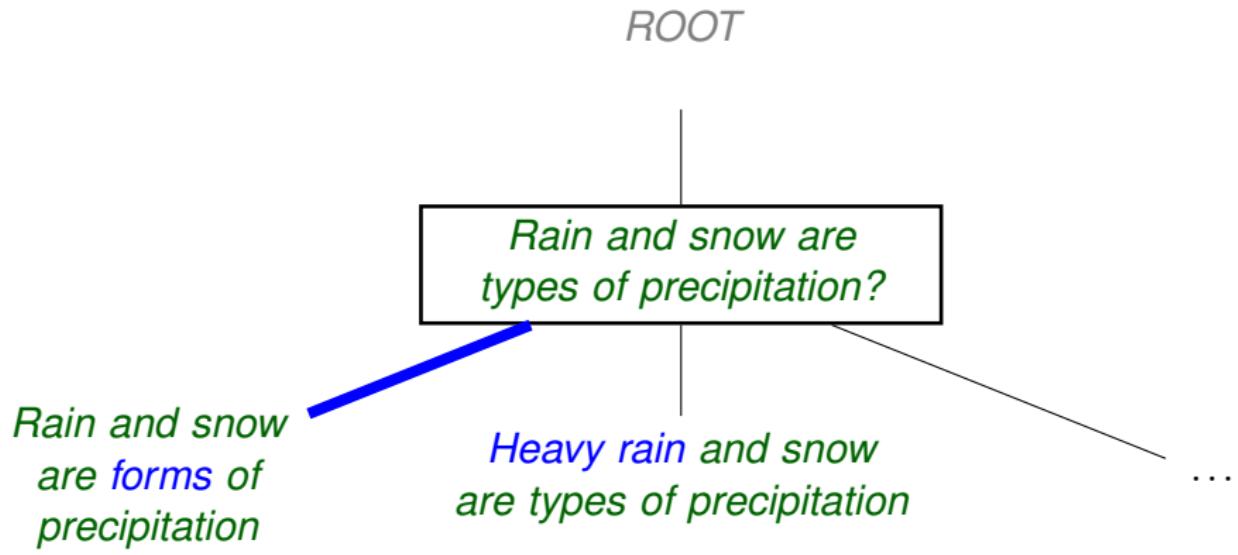
*A graduated cylinder would be best to measure the volume of a liquid*



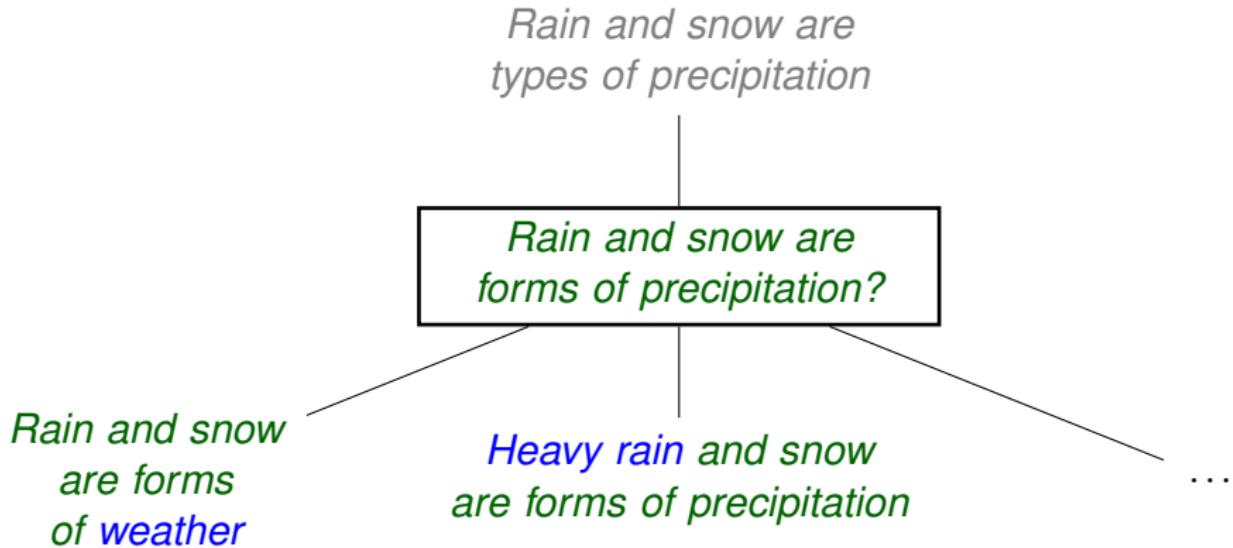
# An Example Search



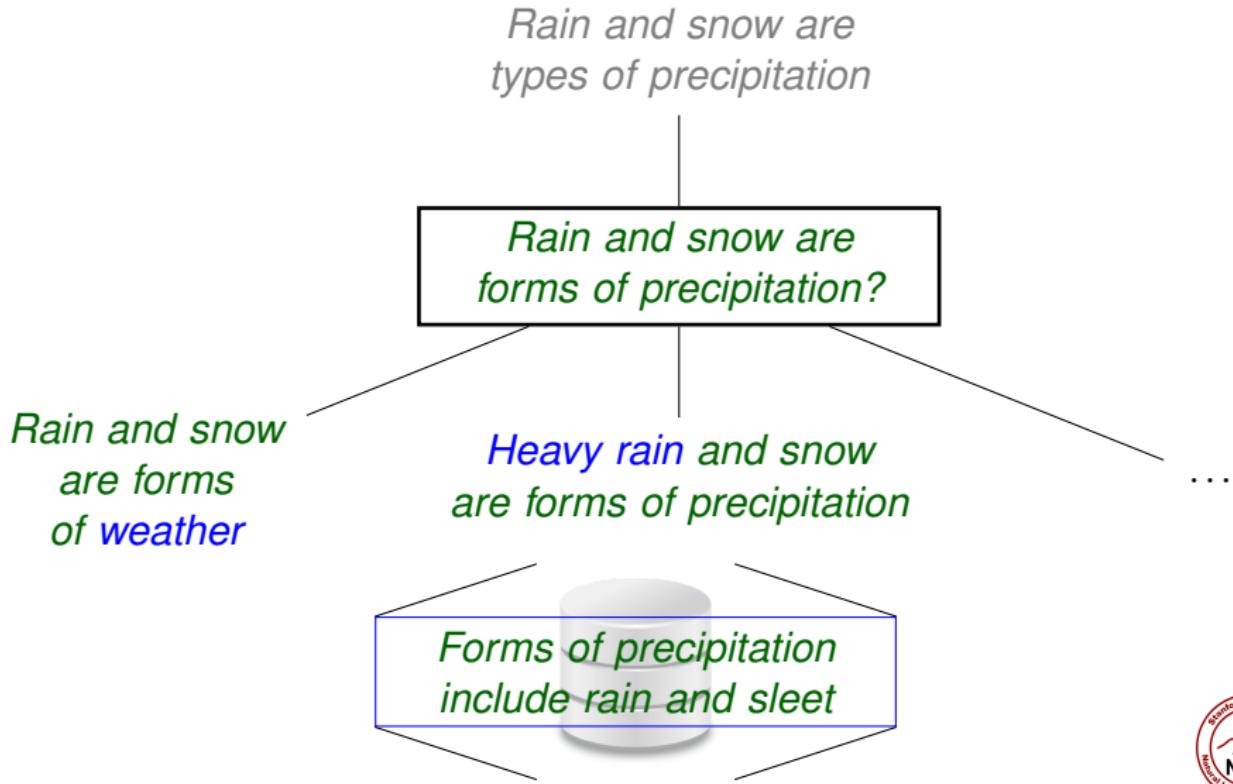
# An Example Search



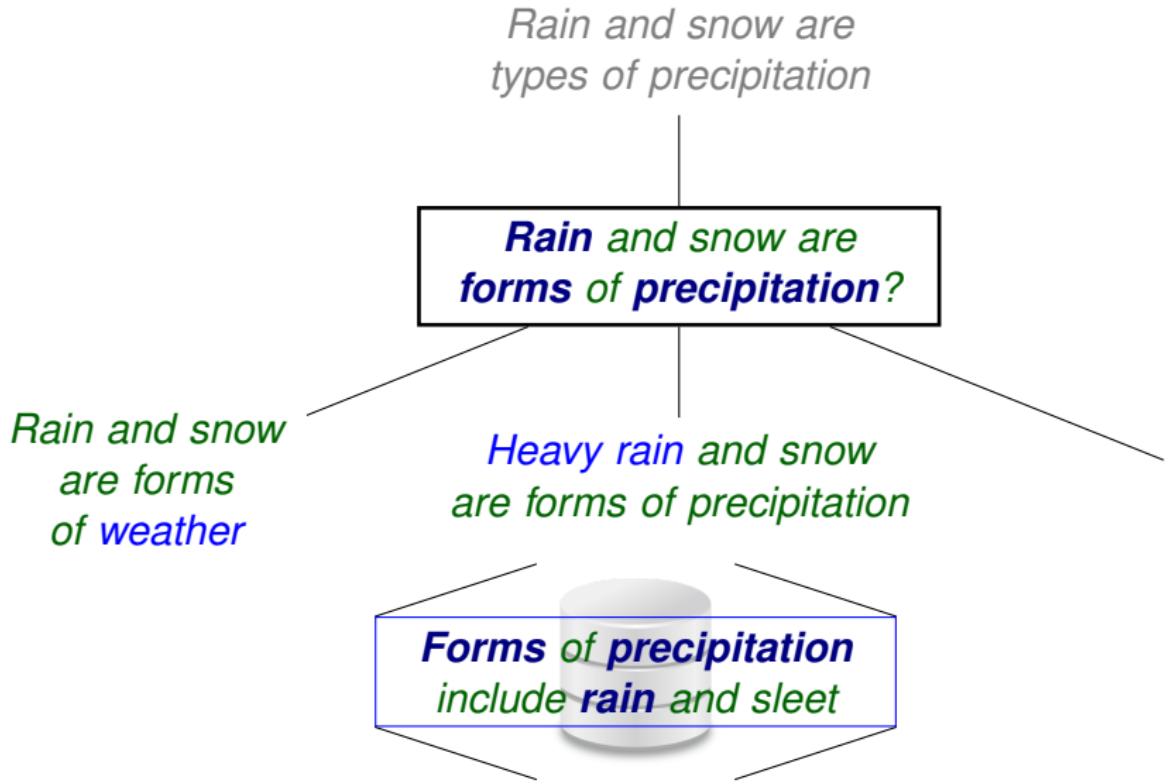
# An Example Search



# An Example Search



# An Example Search



# Lexical Alignment Classifier

*Forms of precipitation include rain and sleet*

*Rain and snow are forms of precipitation*

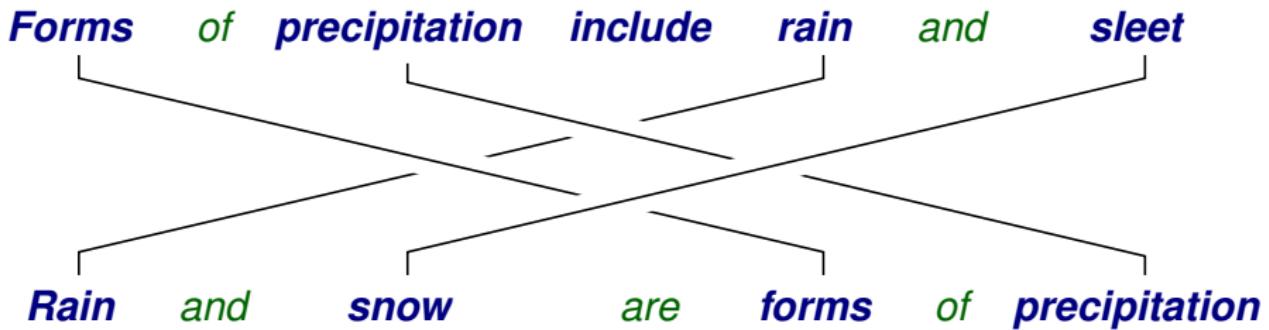
# Lexical Alignment Classifier

*Forms of precipitation include rain and sleet*

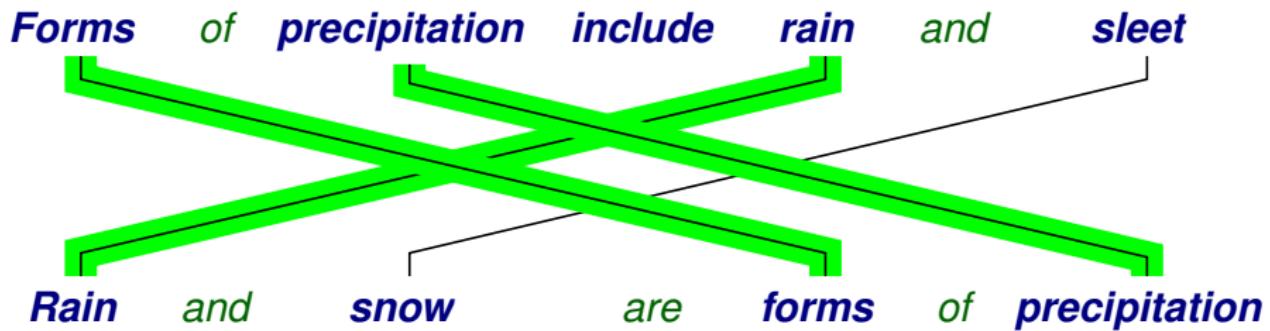
*Rain and snow are forms of precipitation*



# Lexical Alignment Classifier



# Lexical Alignment Classifier

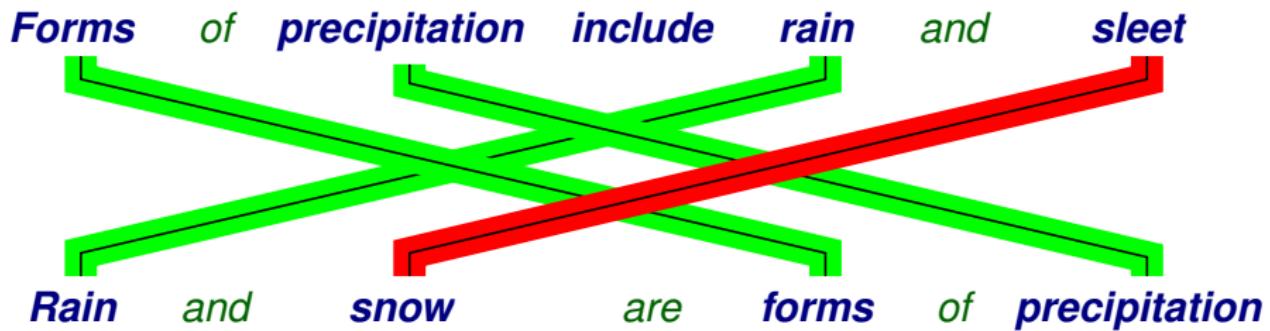


## Features

1. Matching words



# Lexical Alignment Classifier

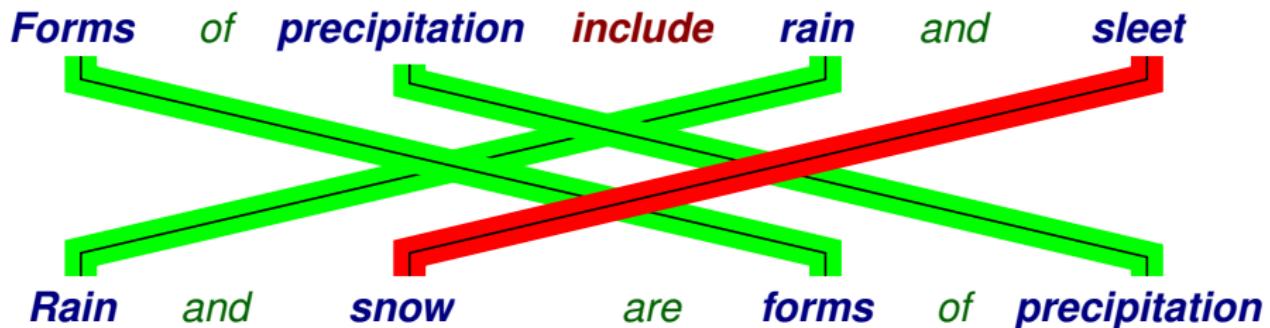


## Features

1. Matching words
2. Mismatched words



# Lexical Alignment Classifier

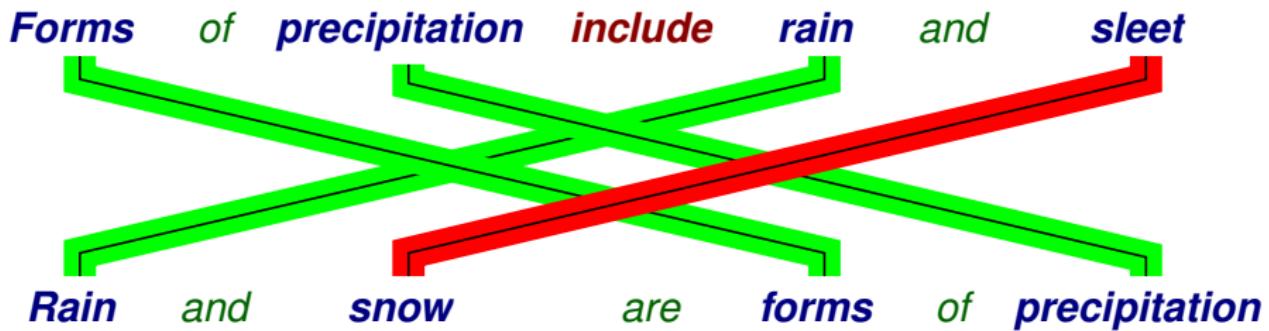


## Features

1. Matching words
2. Mismatched words
3. Unmatched words in premise/consequent



# Lexical Alignment Classifier



## Features

1. Matching words
2. Mismatched words
3. Unmatched words in premise/consequent

Competitive with Stanford RTE system (63% on RTE3)



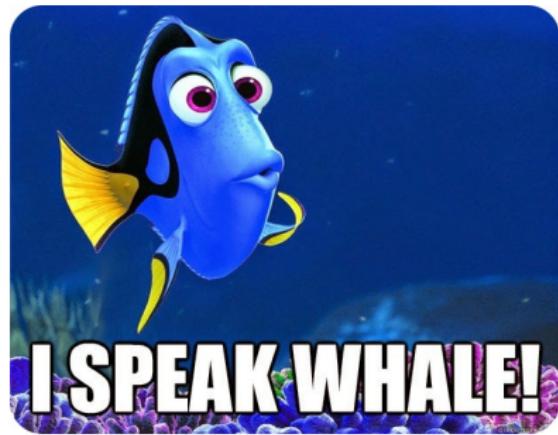
# Old Problem: Logic + Lexical Classifiers

FOL and lexical classifiers don't speak the same language



# Old Problem: Logic + Lexical Classifiers

FOL and lexical classifiers don't speak the same language  
...but natural logic does!



# Big Picture

## Run our usual search

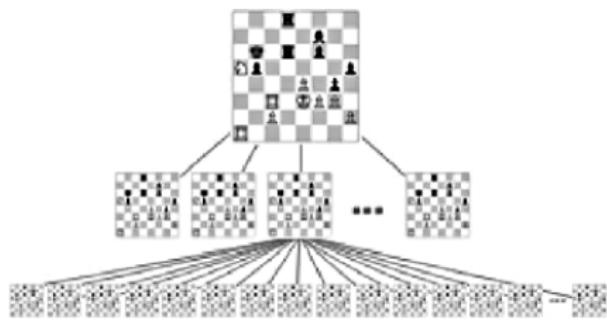
1. If we find a premise, great!



# Big Picture

## Run our usual search

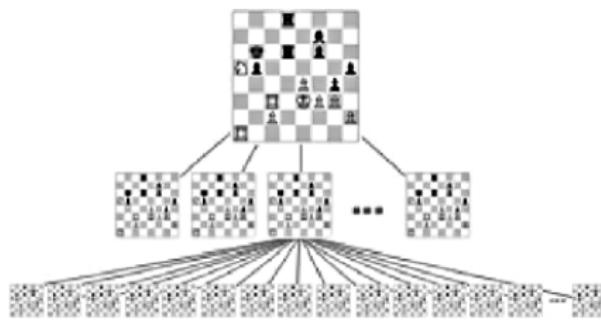
1. If we find a premise, great!
2. If not, use lexical classifier as an *evaluation function*



# Big Picture

## Run our usual search

1. If we find a premise, great!
2. If not, use lexical classifier as an *evaluation function*



**Visit 1M nodes / second:** We have to be fast!



# Dissecting Our Classifier

## Anatomy of a Classifier

- Features  $f$  (matching / mismatched / unmatched words)
- Weights  $w$
- Entailment pair  $x$

$$p(\text{entail} \mid x) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-w^T f(x))}$$



# Dissecting Our Classifier

## Anatomy of a Classifier

- Features  $f$  (matching / mismatched / unmatched words)
- Weights  $w$
- Entailment pair  $x$

$$p(\text{entail} \mid x) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-w^T f(x))}$$

$p(\text{entail} \mid x)$  monotone w.r.t.  $(w^T f(x))$



# Dissecting Our Classifier

## Anatomy of a Classifier

- Features  $f$  (matching / mismatched / unmatched words)
- Weights  $w$
- Entailment pair  $x$

$$p(\text{entail} \mid x) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-w^T f(x))}$$

$p(\text{entail} \mid x)$  monotone w.r.t.  $(w^T f(x))$

- Only need  $w^T f(x)$  during search to compute  $\max p(\text{entail} \mid x)$
- $w^T f(x)$  is our evaluation function



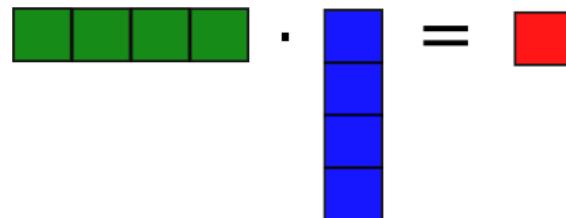
# Incorporating our Evaluation Function

## Anatomy of a Search Step

1. Mutate a word, or
2. Delete a word, or
3. Insert a word.

Each step updates a small number of features

$$w^T f(x) = v$$



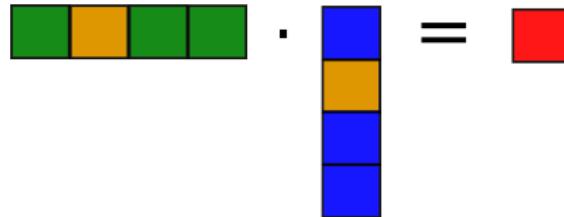
# Incorporating our Evaluation Function

## Anatomy of a Search Step

1. Mutate a word, or
2. Delete a word, or
3. Insert a word.

Each step updates a small number of features

$$w^T f(x) = v$$



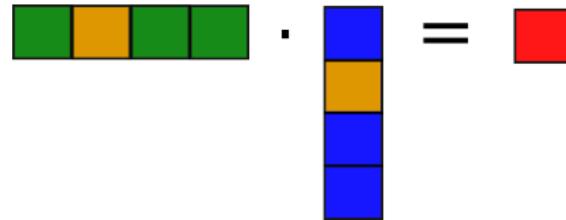
# Incorporating our Evaluation Function

## Anatomy of a Search Step

1. Mutate a word, or
2. Delete a word, or
3. Insert a word.

Each step updates a small number of features

$$v' = v - w_i \cdot f_i + w_i \cdot f_i$$



# Why is this Important?



## Faster Search $\Rightarrow$ Deeper Reasoning

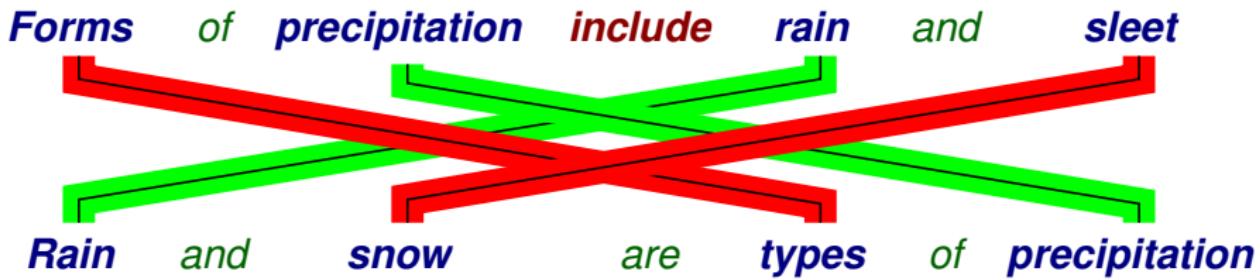
- **Speed:** Around 1M search states visited per second
- **Memory:** 32 byte search states

**Speed:** Don't re-featurize at every timestep.

**Memory:** Never store intermediate fact as String.



# An Example Search

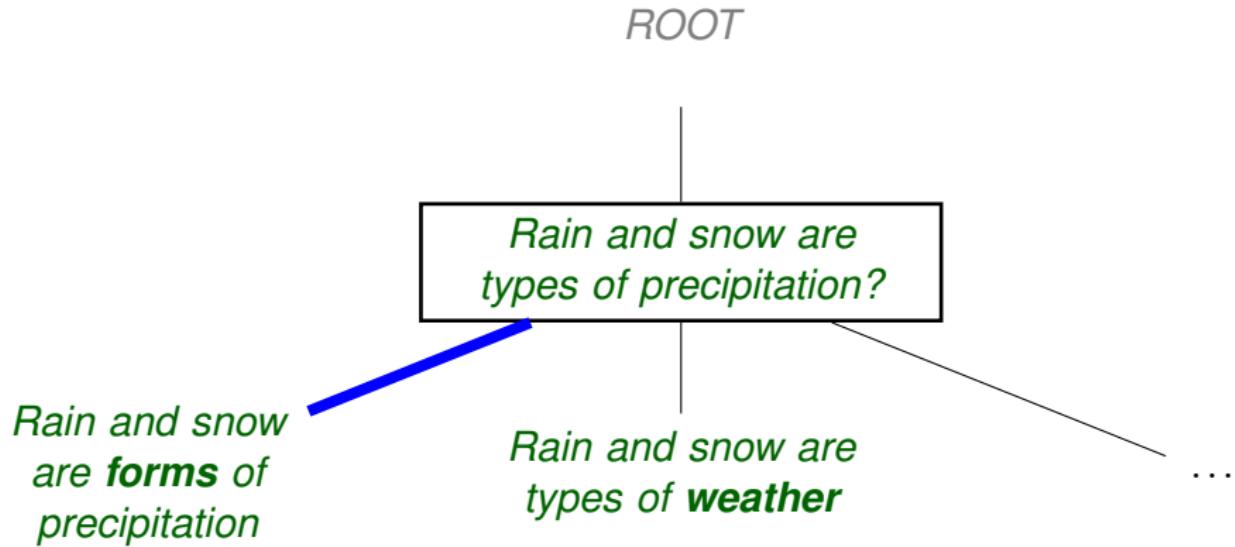


Score  $w^T f(x)$ : -0.5

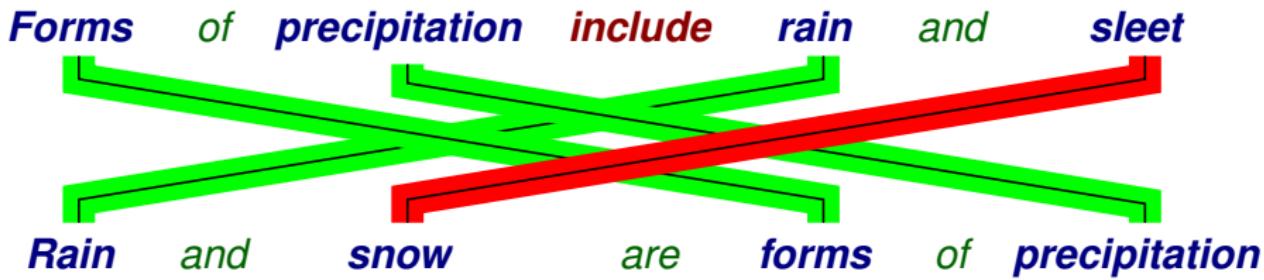
Feature	w	f(x)
Matching words	2.0	2
Mismatched words	-1.0	2
Unmatched premise	-0.5	1
Unmatched consequent	-0.75	0
Bias	-2.0	1



# An Example Search



# An Example Search

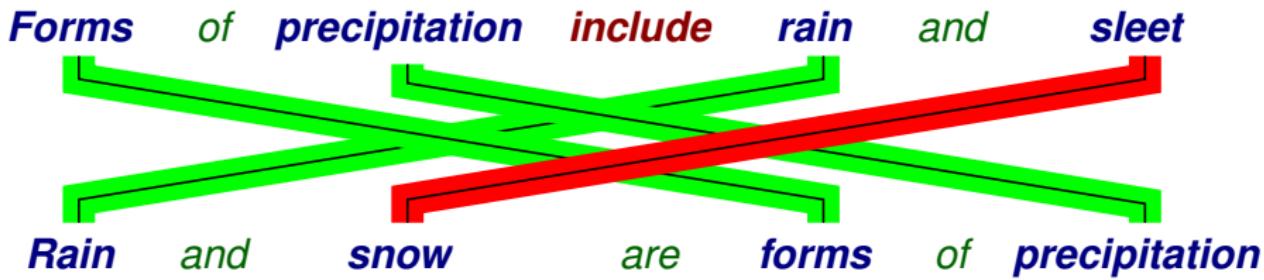


$$\text{Score } w^T f(x): -0.5 + 2 - -1$$

Feature	w	f(x)
Matching words	2.0	3
Mismatched words	-1.0	1
Unmatched premise	-0.5	1
Unmatched consequent	-0.75	0
Bias	-2.0	1



# An Example Search



Score  $w^T f(x)$ : 2.5

Feature	w	f(x)
Matching words	2.0	3
Mismatched words	-1.0	1
Unmatched premise	-0.5	1
Unmatched consequent	-0.75	0
Bias	-2.0	1



# Solving 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

**Multiple choice questions from real 4<sup>th</sup> grade science exams**



# Solving 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

## Multiple choice questions from real 4<sup>th</sup> grade science exams

Which activity is an example of a good health habit?

- (A) Watching television
- (B) Smoking cigarettes
- (C) Eating candy
- (D) Exercising every day

# Solving 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

## Multiple choice questions from real 4<sup>th</sup> grade science exams

Which activity is an example of a good health habit?

- (A) Watching television
- (B) Smoking cigarettes
- (C) Eating candy
- (D) Exercising every day

In our corpus:

- *Plasma TV's can display up to 16 million colors ... great for watching TV ... also make a good screen.*
- *Not smoking or drinking alcohol is good for health, regardless of whether clothing is worn or not.*
- *Eating candy for dinner is an example of a poor health habit.*
- *Healthy is exercising*

# Solving 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

Multiple choice questions from real 4<sup>th</sup> grade science exams

System	Train	Test
KNOWBOT	45	
KNOWBOT (ORACLE)	57	

[Hixon et al., 2015]

# Solving 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

Multiple choice questions from real 4<sup>th</sup> grade science exams

System	Train	Test
KNOWBOT	45	
KNOWBOT (ORACLE)	57	
IR Baseline	49	
This Work	52	

[Hixon et al., 2015]

# Solving 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

Multiple choice questions from real 4<sup>th</sup> grade science exams

System	Train	Test
KNOWBOT	45	
KNOWBOT (ORACLE)	57	
IR Baseline	49	
This Work	52	
More Data + IR Baseline	62	
More Data + This Work	65	

[Hixon et al., 2015]

# Solving 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

Multiple choice questions from real 4<sup>th</sup> grade science exams

System	Train	Test
KNOWBOT	45	—
KNOWBOT (ORACLE)	57	—
IR Baseline	49	42
This Work	52	51
More Data + IR Baseline	62	58
More Data + This Work	65	61

[Hixon et al., 2015]

# Solving 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

Multiple choice questions from real 4<sup>th</sup> grade science exams

System	Train	Test
KNOWBOT	45	—
KNOWBOT (ORACLE)	57	—
IR Baseline	49	42
This Work	52	51
More Data + IR Baseline	62	58
More Data + This Work	65	61
This Work +  + 	<b>74</b>	<b>67</b>

[Hixon et al., 2015]

# Solving 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

Multiple choice questions from real 4<sup>th</sup> grade science exams

System	Train	Test
KNOWBOT	45	—
KNOWBOT (ORACLE)	57	—
IR Baseline	49	42
This Work	52	51
More Data + IR Baseline	62	58
More Data + This Work	65	61
This Work +  + 	<b>74</b>	<b>67</b>

We're able to pass 4<sup>th</sup> grade science!

[Hixon et al., 2015]

# The Full System

## Common Sense Facts

- Text is knowledge
- Soft natural logic inference as search
- 4x improvement in recall



# The Full System

## Common Sense Facts

- Text is knowledge
- Soft natural logic inference as search
- 4x improvement in recall

## Complex Premises

- Split the premise into atomic clauses
- Shorten each clause w/ natural logic
- 3 F<sub>1</sub> improvement on knowledge base population



# The Full System

## Common Sense Facts

- Text is knowledge
- Soft natural logic inference as search
- 4x improvement in recall

## Complex Premises

- Split the premise into atomic clauses
- Shorten each clause w/ natural logic
- 3 F<sub>1</sub> improvement on knowledge base population

## Evaluation Function

- Use lexical classifier as evaluation function
- Detect likely entailment / contradictions
- 3% improvement on science exam questions

# Going Forward



## Before 1990's: Knowledge was a big deal

- Pitiful compute
- Pitiful quantities of data (e.g., no internet)  
⇒ Cyc (2.1M facts)

# Going Forward



## Before 1990's: Knowledge was a big deal

- Pitiful compute
- Pitiful quantities of data (e.g., no internet)  
⇒ Cyc (2.1M facts)



## 1990 – Now: Supervised machine learning

- Lots of compute
- Lots of data



# Going Forward



## Before 1990's: Knowledge was a big deal

- Pitiful compute
- Pitiful quantities of data (e.g., no internet)  
⇒ Cyc (2.1M facts)



## 1990 – Now: Supervised machine learning

- Lots of compute
- Lots of data  
⇒ “Idiot Savants”



# Going Forward



## Before 1990's: Knowledge was a big deal

- Pitiful compute
- Pitiful quantities of data (e.g., no internet)  
⇒ Cyc (2.1M facts)



## 1990 – Now: Supervised machine learning

- Lots of compute
- Lots of data  
⇒ “Idiot Savants”



## Future: Open-domain non-factoid knowledge

- Tackle hard science questions
- Dialog systems for knowledge acquisition
- Reinforcement / “never ending”  
language learning



# References I

-  Angeli, G., Chaganty, A., Chang, A., Reschke, K., Tibshirani, J., Wu, J. Y., Bastani, O., Siilats, K., and Manning, C. D. (2014a).  
Stanford's 2013 KBP system.  
In *TAC-KBP*.
-  Angeli, G. and Manning, C. D. (2013).  
Philosophers are mortal: Inferring the truth of unseen facts.  
In *CoNLL*.
-  Angeli, G. and Manning, C. D. (2014).  
Naturalli: Natural logic inference for common sense reasoning.  
In *EMNLP*.
-  Angeli, G., Premkumar, M. J., and Manning, C. D. (2015).  
Leveraging linguistic structure for open domain information extraction.  
In *ACL*.

## References II

-  Angeli, G., Tibshirani, J., Wu, J. Y., and Manning, C. D. (2014b). Combining distant and partial supervision for relation extraction. In *EMNLP*.
-  Doddington, G. R., Mitchell, A., Przybocki, M. A., Ramshaw, L. A., Strassel, S., and Weischedel, R. M. (2004). The automatic content extraction (ACE) program—tasks, data, and evaluation. In *LREC*.
-  Hixon, B., Clark, P., and Hajishirzi, H. (2015). Learning knowledge graphs for question answering through conversational dialog. *NAACL*.

# References III

-  Hoffmann, R., Zhang, C., Ling, X., Zettlemoyer, L., and Weld, D. S. (2011).  
Knowledge-based weak supervision for information extraction of overlapping relations.  
In *ACL-HLT*.
-  Icard, III, T. and Moss, L. (2014).  
Recent progress on monotonicity.  
*Linguistic Issues in Language Technology*.
-  MacCartney, B. and Manning, C. D. (2008).  
Modeling semantic containment and exclusion in natural language inference.  
In *Coling*.

# References IV

-  Mintz, M., Bills, S., Snow, R., and Jurafsky, D. (2009).  
Distant supervision for relation extraction without labeled data.  
In *ACL*.
-  Sánchez Valencia, V. M. S. (1991).  
*Studies on natural logic and categorial grammar.*  
PhD thesis, University of Amsterdam.
-  Soderland, S., Gilmer, J., Bart, R., Etzioni, O., and Weld, D. S. (2013).  
Open information extraction to KBP relations in 3 hours.  
In *Text Analysis Conference*.
-  Surdeanu, M. and Ciaramita, M. (2007).  
Robust information extraction with perceptrons.  
In *ACE07 Proceedings*.



# References V

-  Surdeanu, M., Tibshirani, J., Nallapati, R., and Manning, C. D. (2012).  
Multi-instance multi-label learning for relation extraction.  
In *EMNLP*.
-  Wu, F. and Weld, D. S. (2007).  
Autonomously semantifying wikipedia.  
In *Proceedings of the sixteenth ACM conference on information and knowledge management*. ACM.

