

# Symbolic Knowledge Distillation

From General Language Models to Commonsense Models

— NAACL 2022 —



Peter  
West

Chandra  
Bhagavatula



Jack  
Hessel



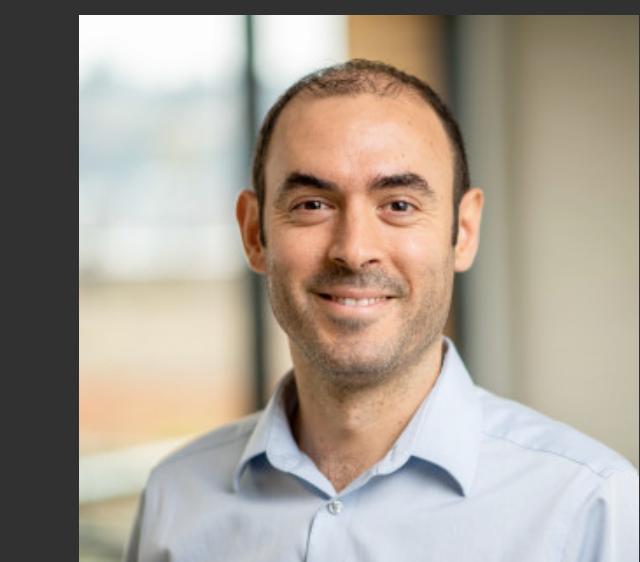
Jena  
Hwang



Liwei  
Jiang



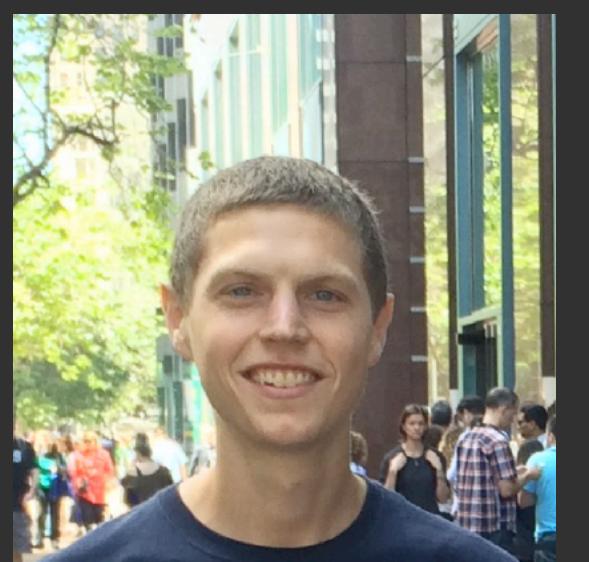
Ronan  
Le Bras



Ximing  
Lu



Sean  
Welleck



Yejin  
Choi



# Language models != knowledge models

ATOMIC: An  
Com  
for If-Th

Maarten Sap



Ronan  
LeBras



Emily  
Allaway



Chandra  
Bhagavatula



Jena  
Hwang



(COMET-) ATOMIC<sup>20</sup><sub>20</sub>:

On Symbolic and Neural Commonsense Knowledge Graphs

— wait, doesn't GPT-3 know everything? —

AAAI 2021

Ronan  
Le Bras



Jeff  
Da



Keisuke  
Sakaguchi



Antoine  
Bosseult



Me



Transformers for  
graph Construction

Haitanya  
Malaviya



Asli  
Çelikyilmaz



Me

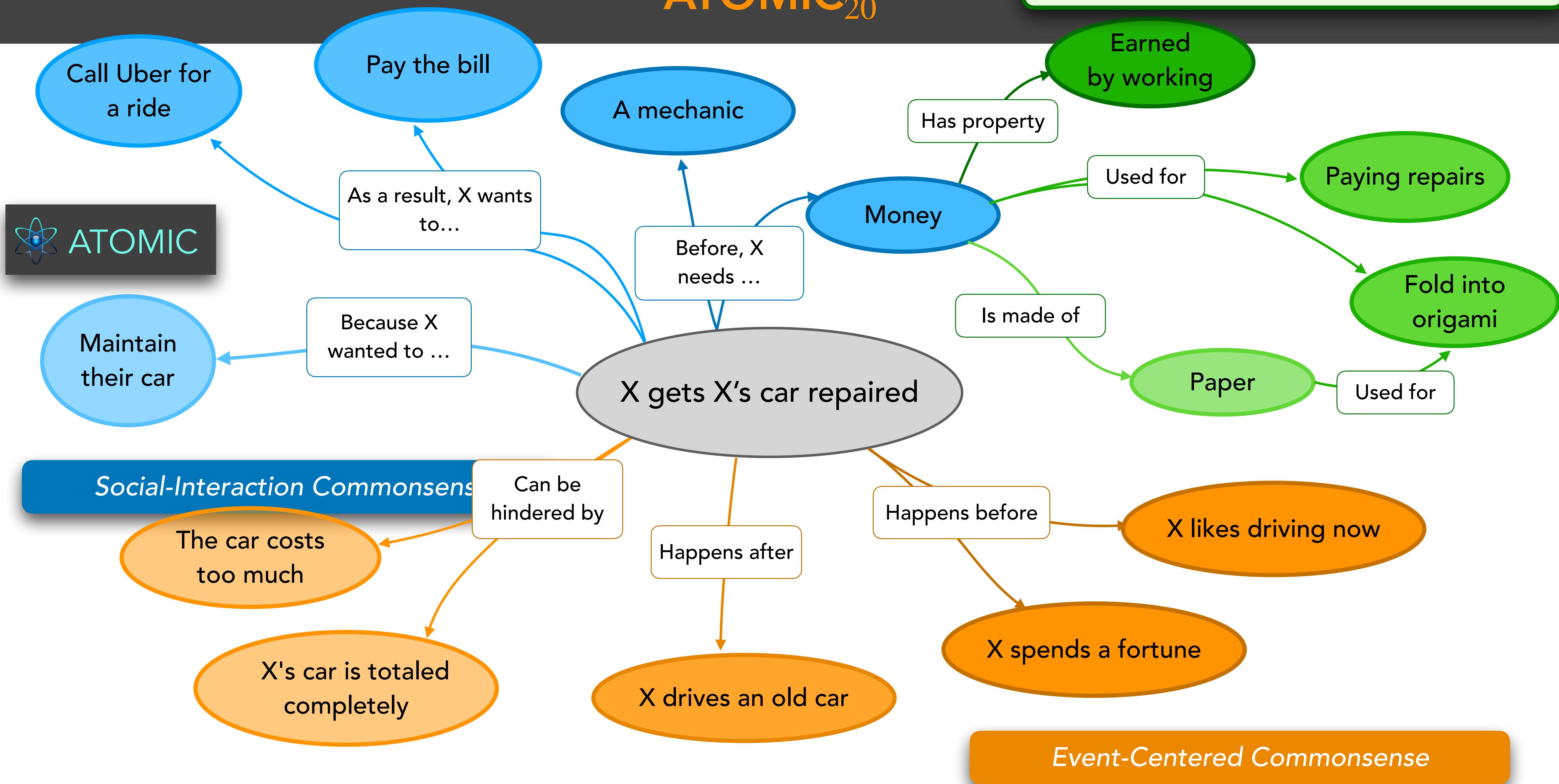


Fully crowdsourced by humans

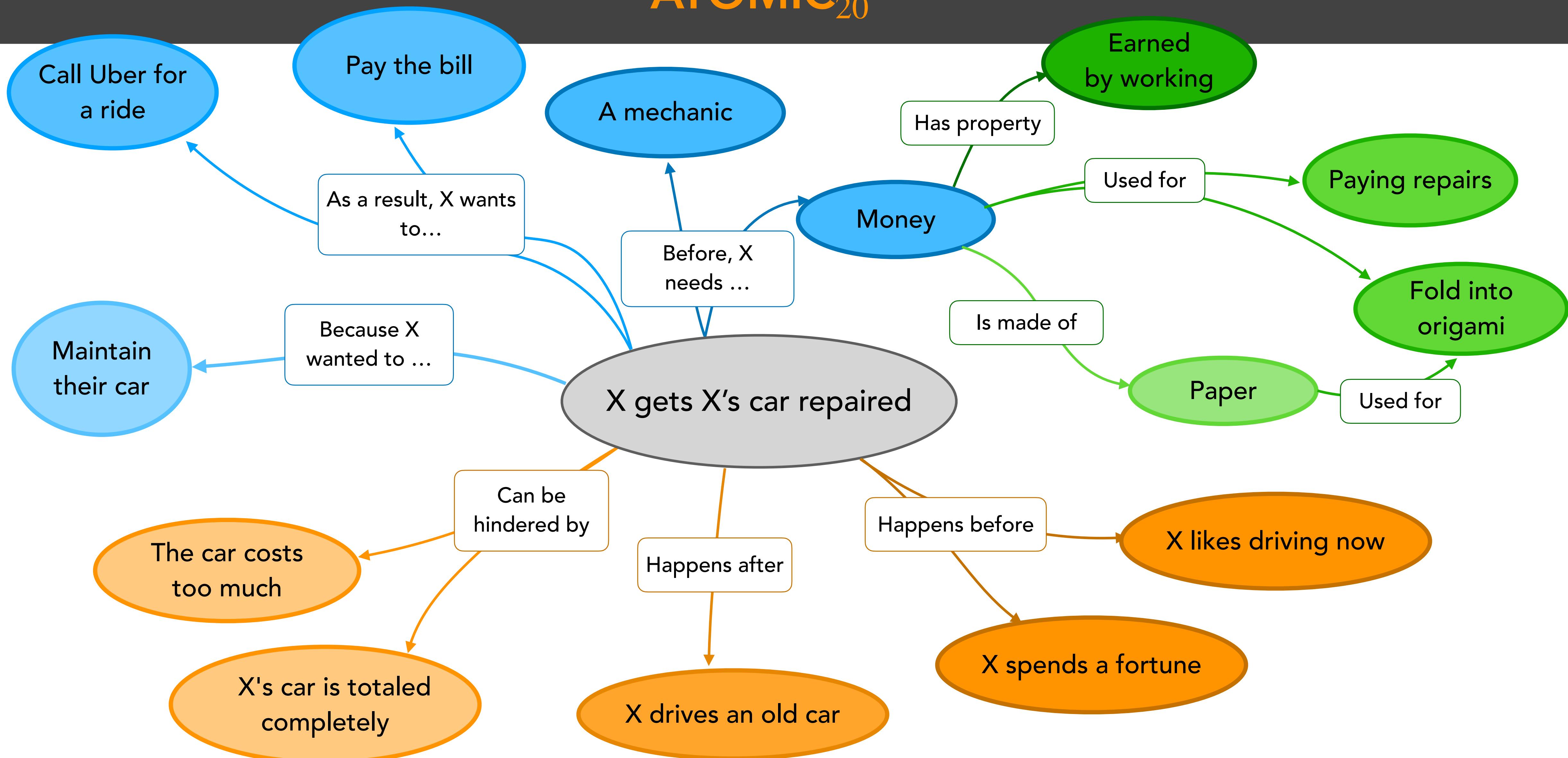
Symbolic commonsense  
knowledge graph

Neural commonsense model

# ATOMIC<sup>20</sup><sub>20</sub>

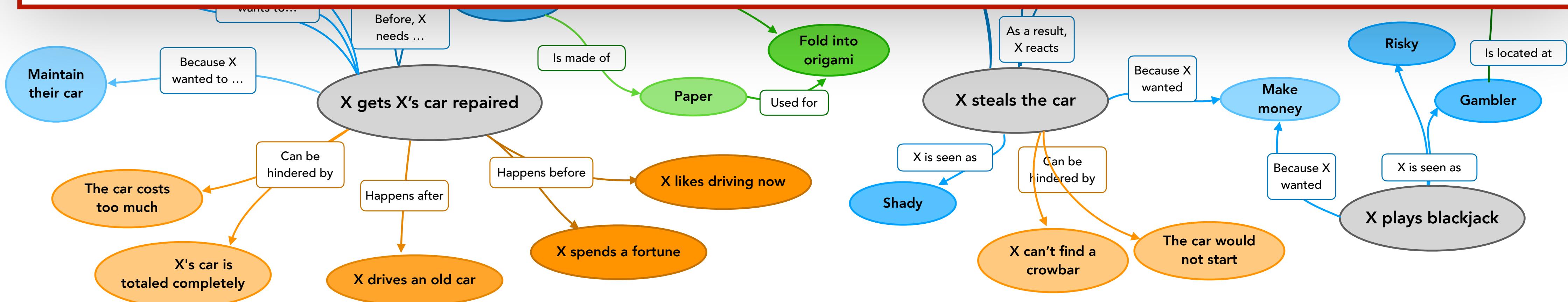


# ATOMIC<sup>20</sup><sub>20</sub>



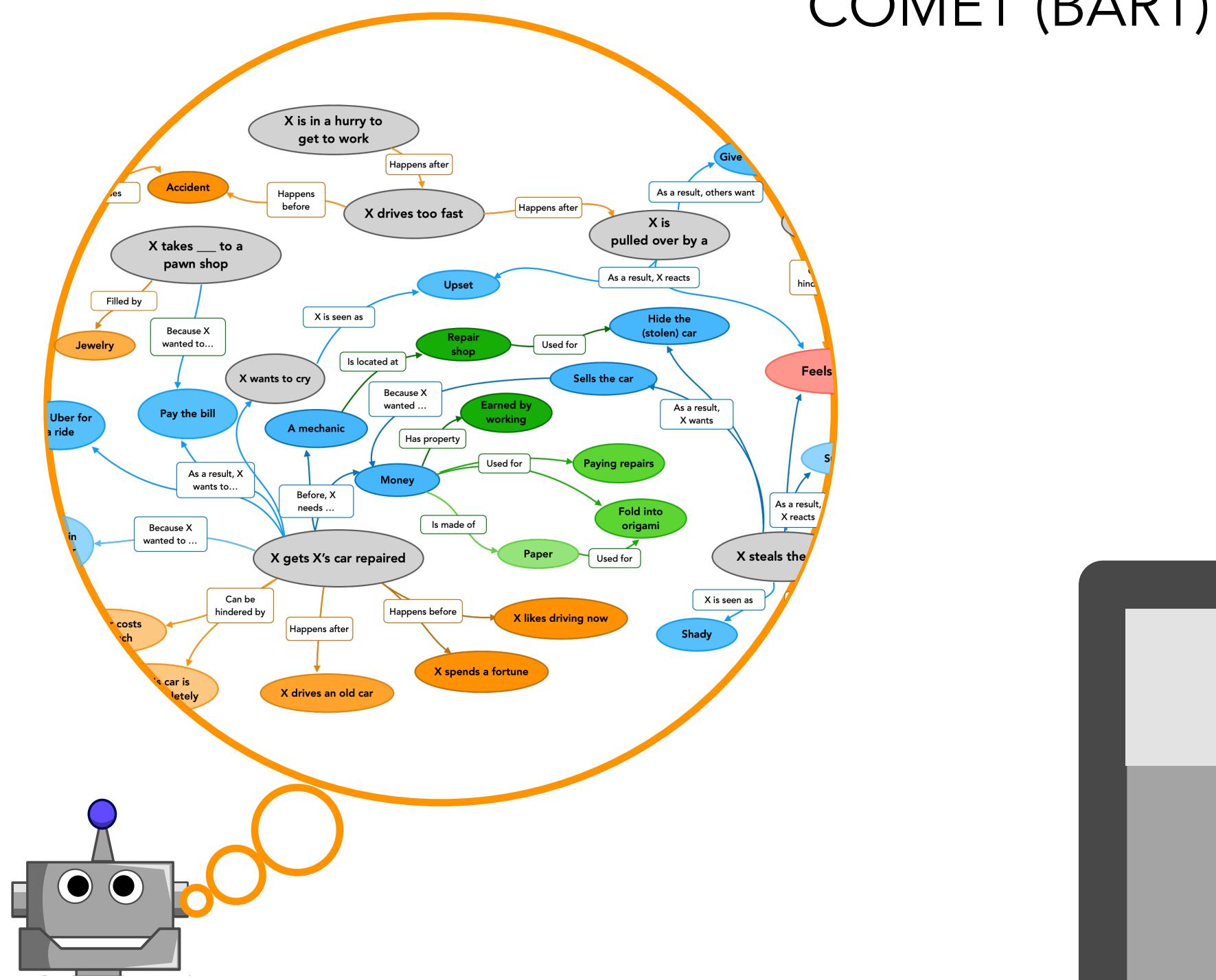
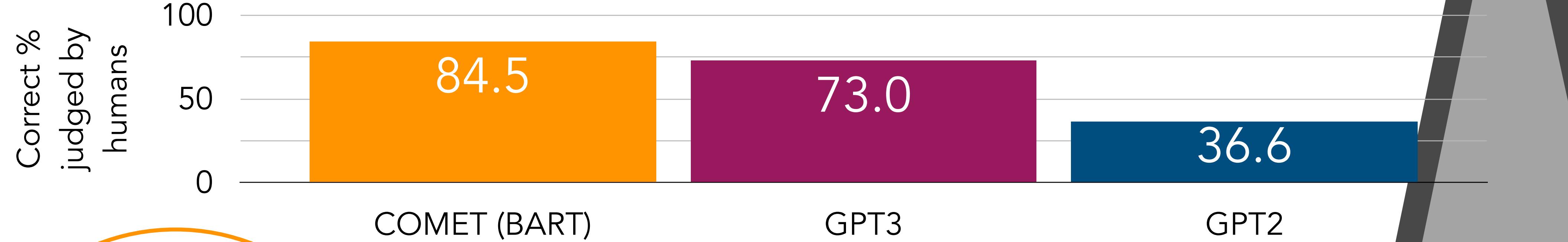


1.33M commonsense if-then inferences  
23 relations (or inference types)



## Knowledge Models

## Off-the-shelf Language Models



COMeT (BART): x435 smaller model (~400M parameters),  
informed by ATOMIC<sub>2020</sub><sup>20</sup>

GPT-3 (Few Shot): 175B parameters!!  
pre-trained with a ton of web text (~500B tokens)

## Persona-aware Conversations

Like Hiking? Person-grounded Dialog  
(Majumder et al, 2020)  
EMNLP '20

COSMIC: Emotion Identification in Conversations  
(Ghosal et al, 2020)  
EMNLP '20

Health Counseling Dialogue  
(Kearns et al, 2020)  
CHI EA '20

## Figurative Language Understanding

Metaphor Generation with Conceptual Mapping  
(Stowe et al, 2021)  
ACL '21

MERMAID:  
Metaphor Generation  
(Chakrabarty et al, 2021)  
NAACL '21

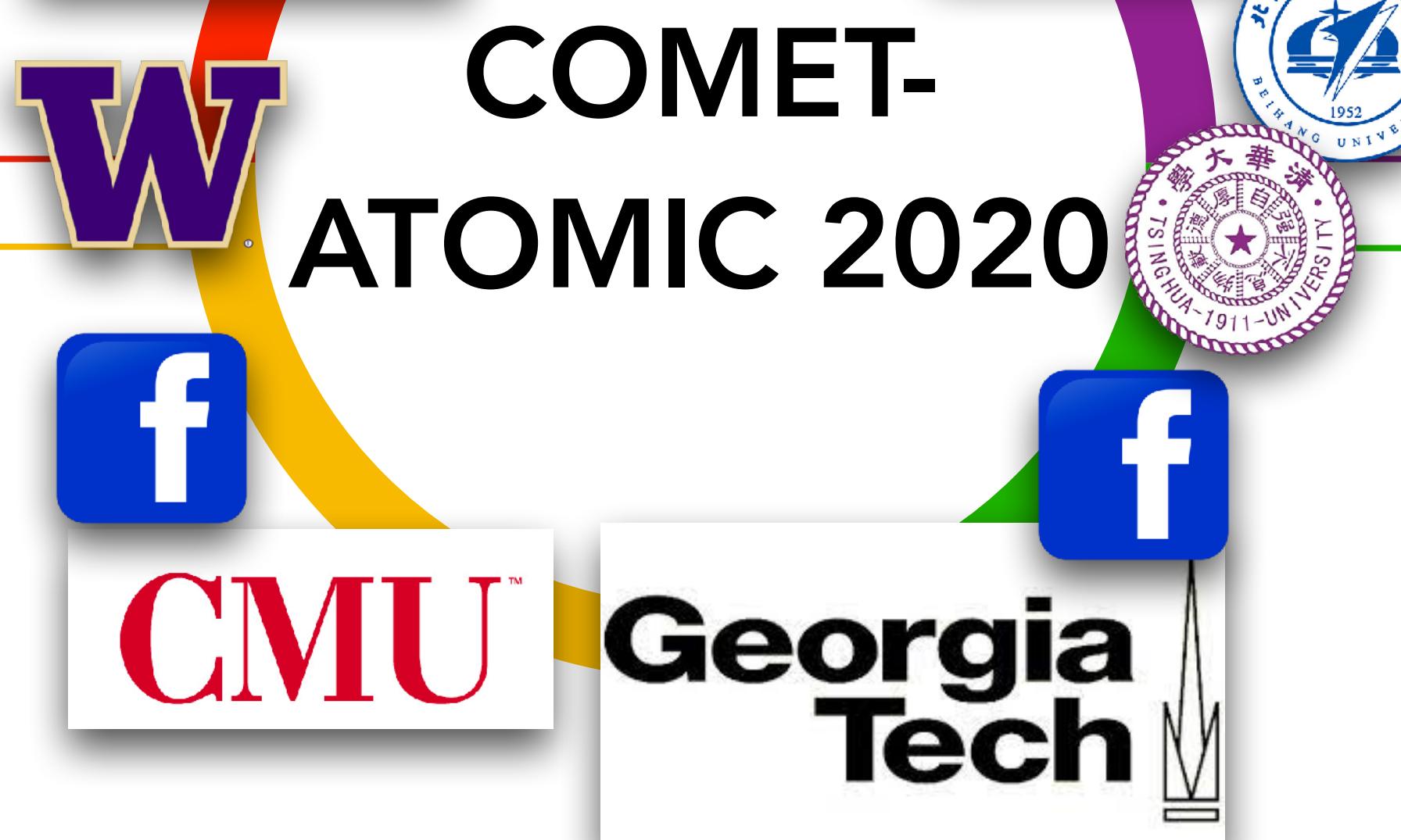
## Interactive Learning Enhancement

Conversation Multi-hop Reasoning through Neural Commonsense  
(Forough et al, 2021)  
EMNLP '21

## Storytelling and Fantasy Gaming

How to Motivate Your Dragon  
(Ammanabrolu et al, 2021)  
AAAI '21

Commonsense Story Generation  
(Guan et al, 2020)  
TACL '20



# Symbolic Knowledge Distillation

From Neural Language Models to **Causal Commonsense Models**



Peter  
West

New:

*ATOMIC-10x*  
*COMET-distill*

Chandra  
Bhagavatula



Jack  
Hessel



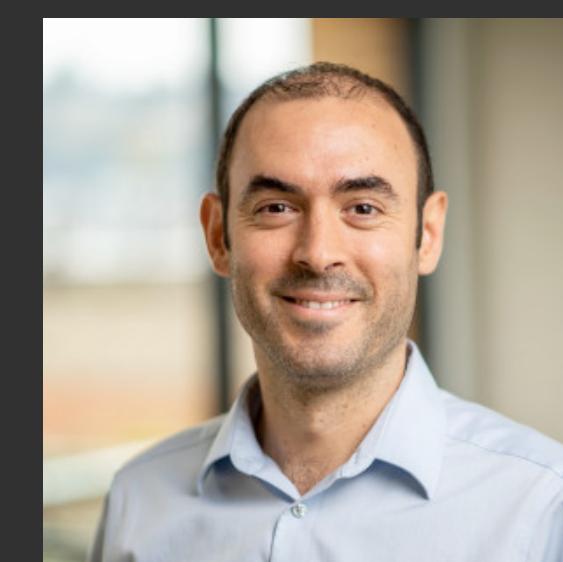
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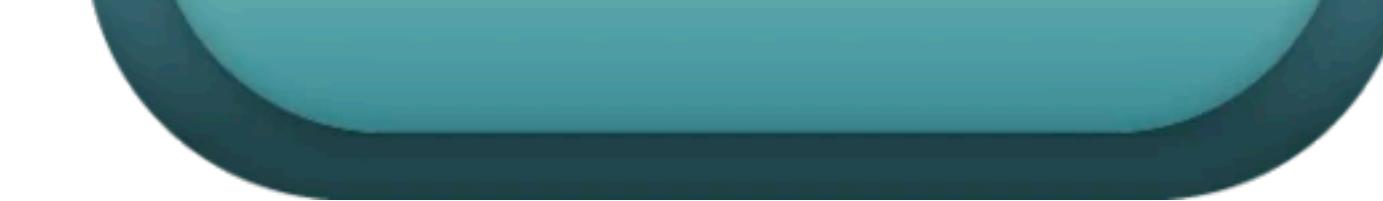


Yejin  
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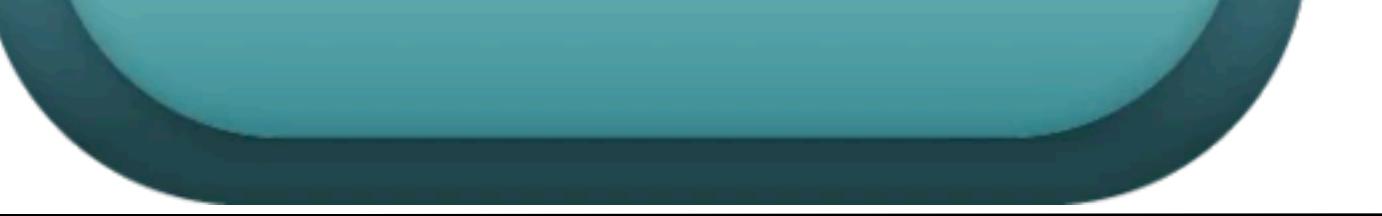


# GPT-3





Symbolic  
Knowledge  
Distillation

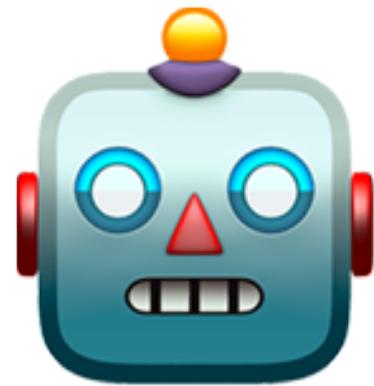


Symbolic  
Knowledge  
Distillation

**SMALLER**

**AND**

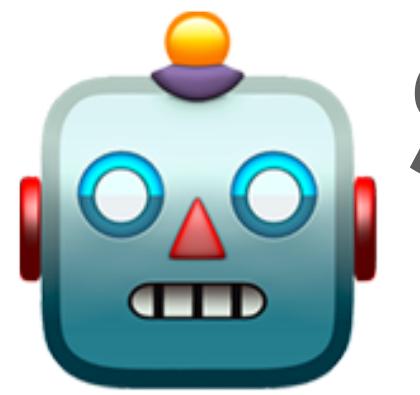
**BETTER**



**EVEN POSSIBLE**

**???**

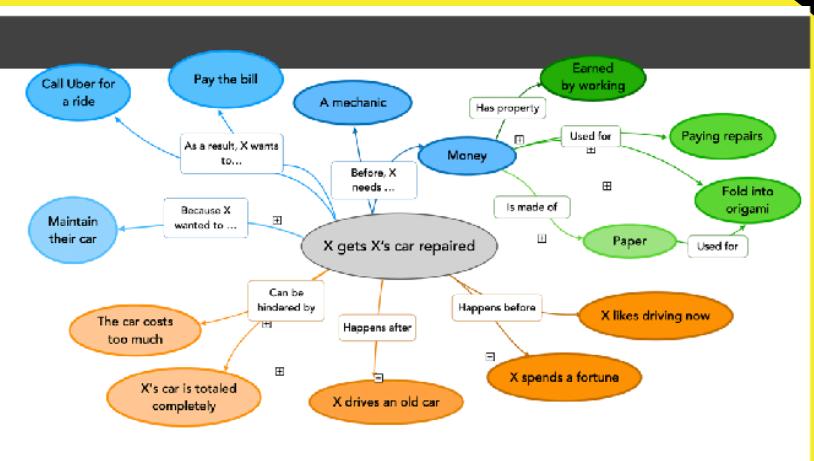
**Symbolic  
Knowledge  
Distillation**



# Student Model

smaller & better

Symbolic  
Knowledge  
Distillation



Knowledge Graph  
6.5M high quality examples

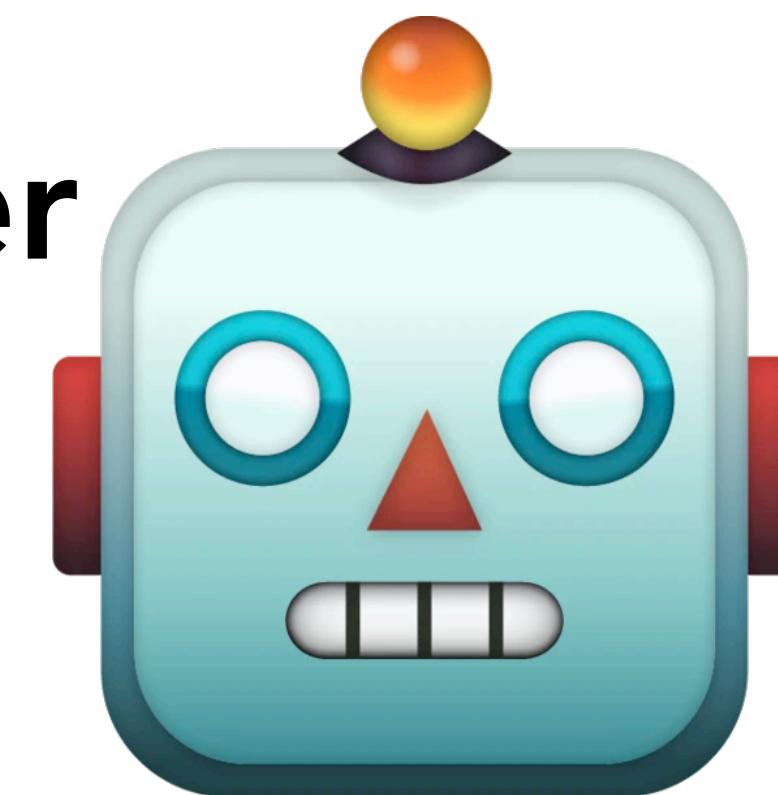


Critic  
sort **good** and  
**bad** knowledge

# Knowledge Distillation

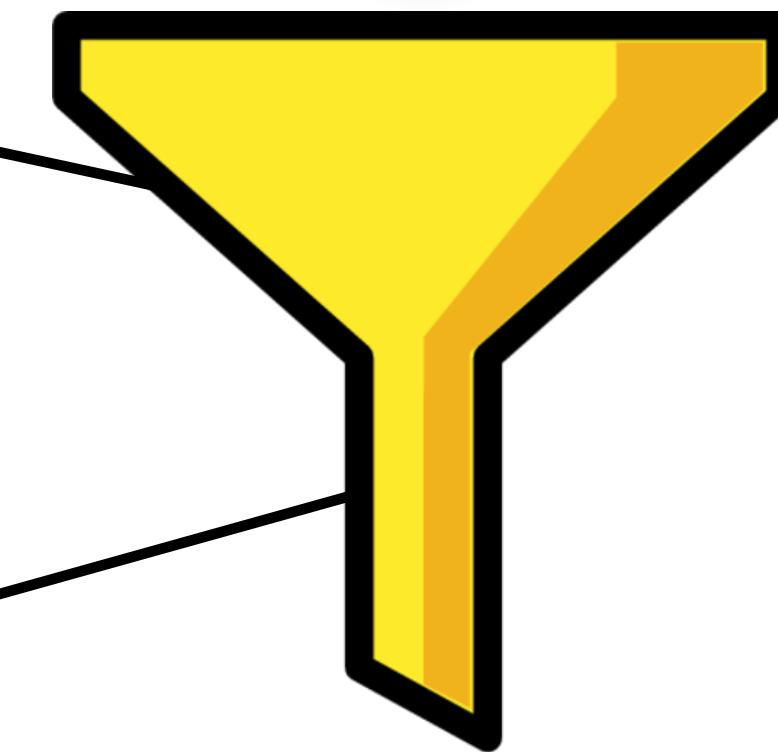
(Hinton et al. 2015)

Teacher

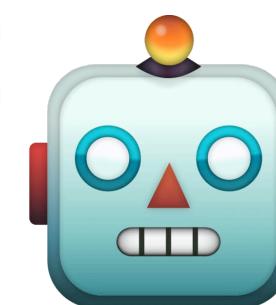


$$H(P_t, P_s) = - \sum_{y \in Y} P_t(y) \log P_s(y)$$

Train student to match  
teacher probabilities

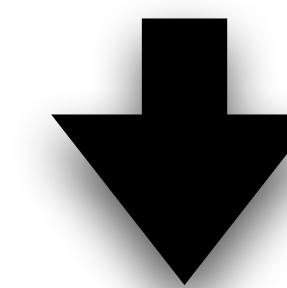
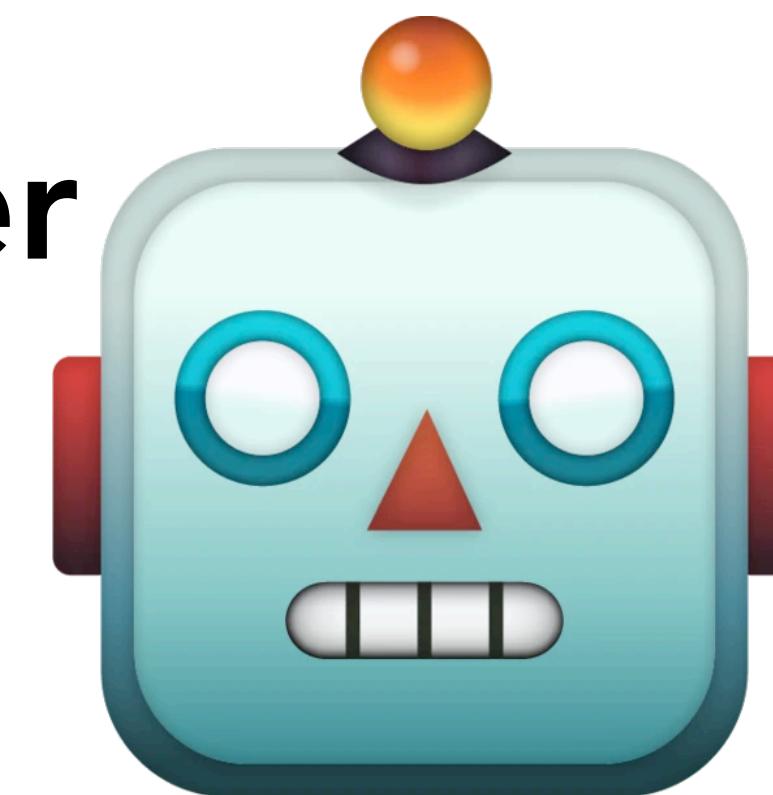


Student

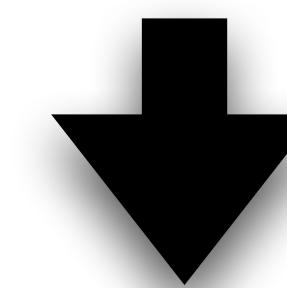
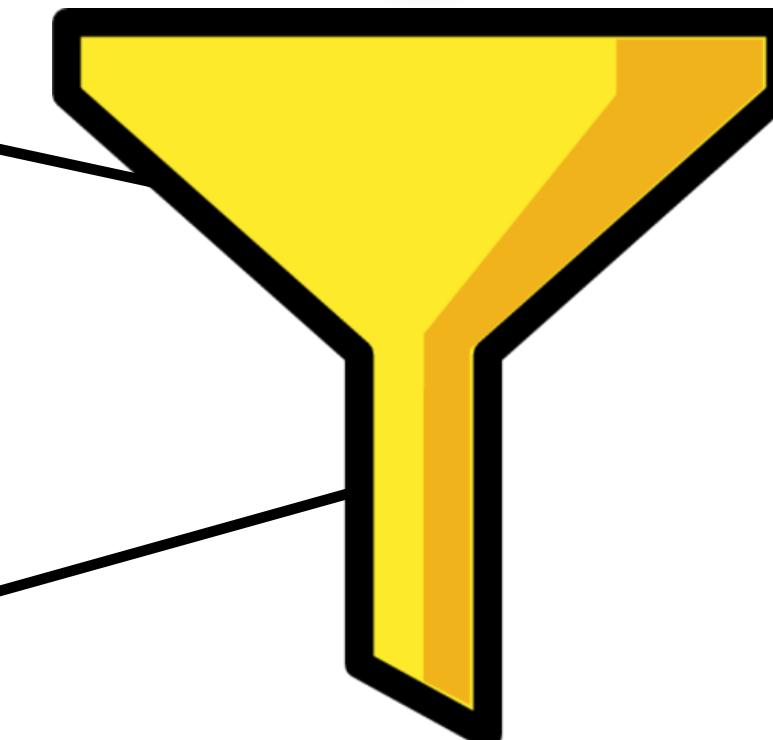


# Symbolic Knowledge Distillation

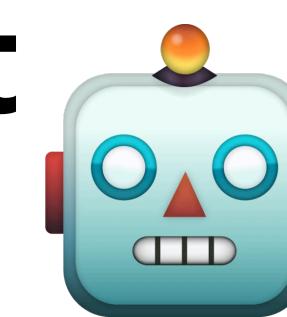
Teacher



$$\cancel{H(P_t, P_s) = - \sum_{y \in Y} P_t(y) \log P_s(y)}$$



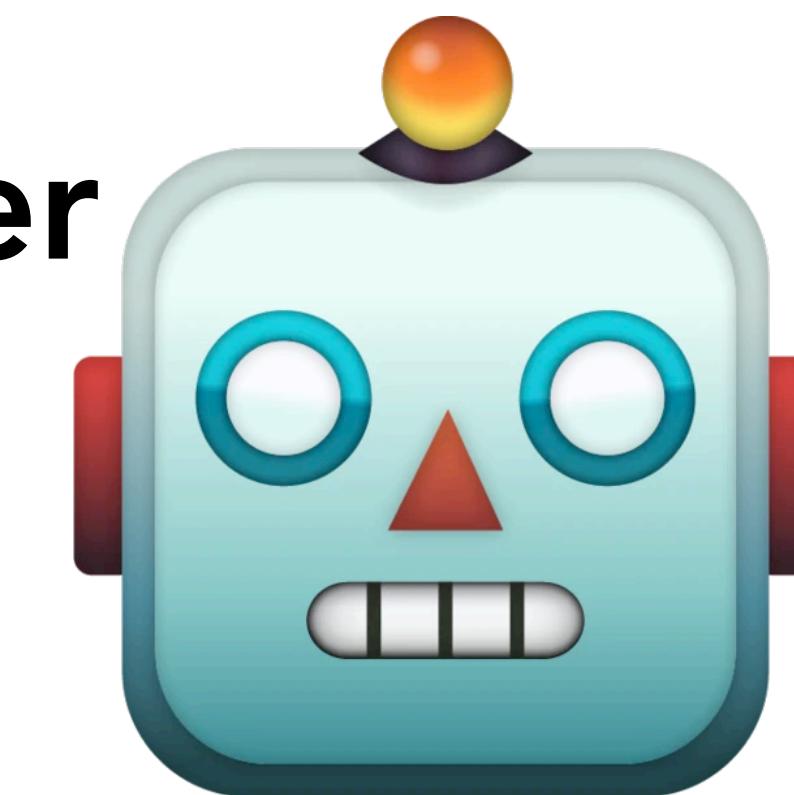
Student



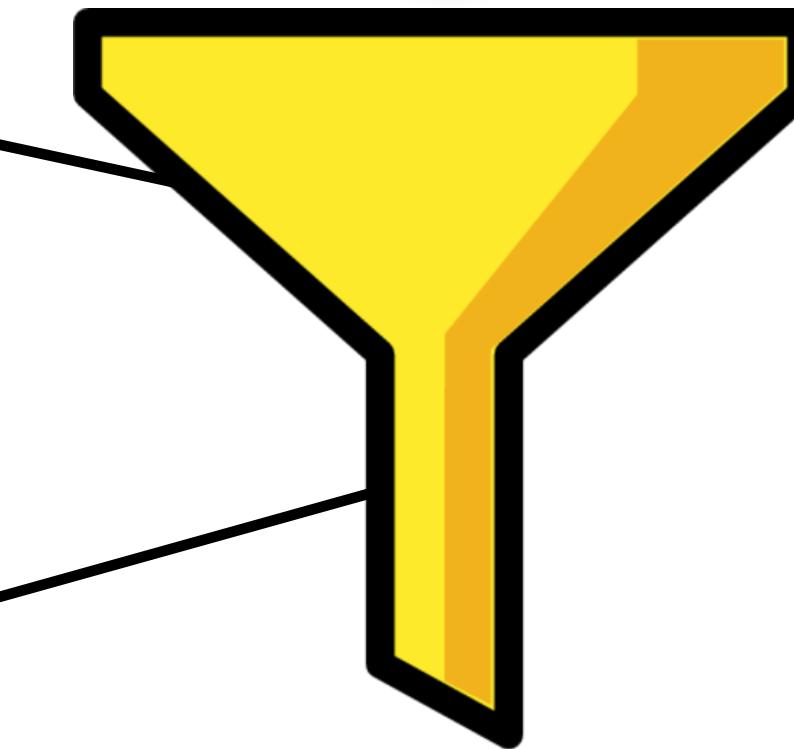
In generation, Y is all strings – intractable!

# Symbolic Knowledge Distillation

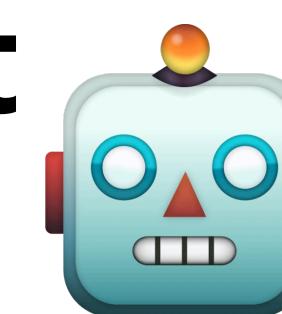
Teacher



$$H(P_t, P_s) = \mathbb{E}_{y \sim P_t(y)} [-\log P_s(y)]$$



Student

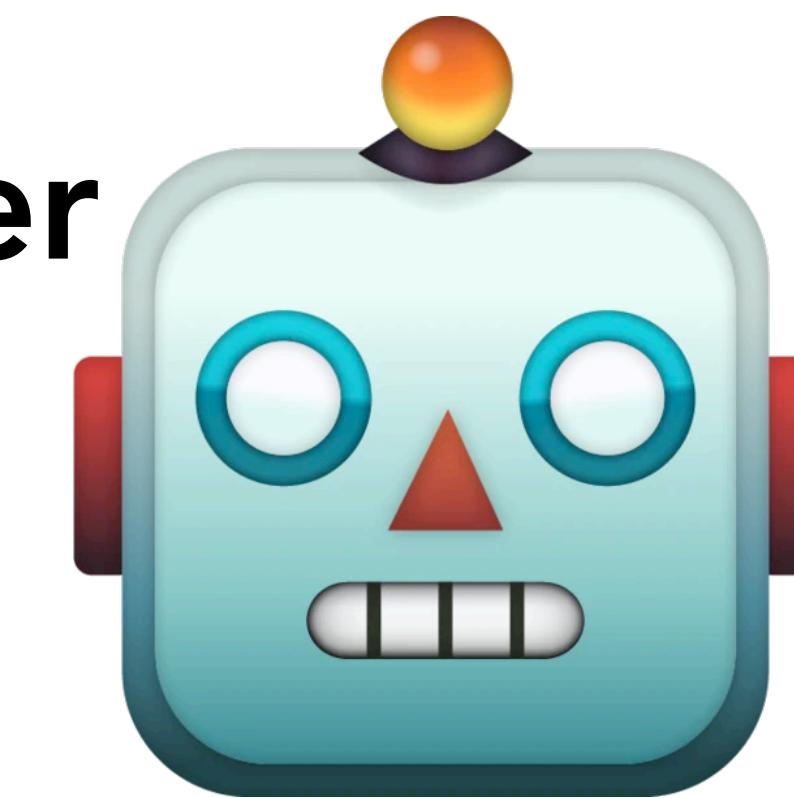


Estimate instead by generating examples!

Natural byproduct is a knowledge graph

# Symbolic Knowledge Distillation

Teacher



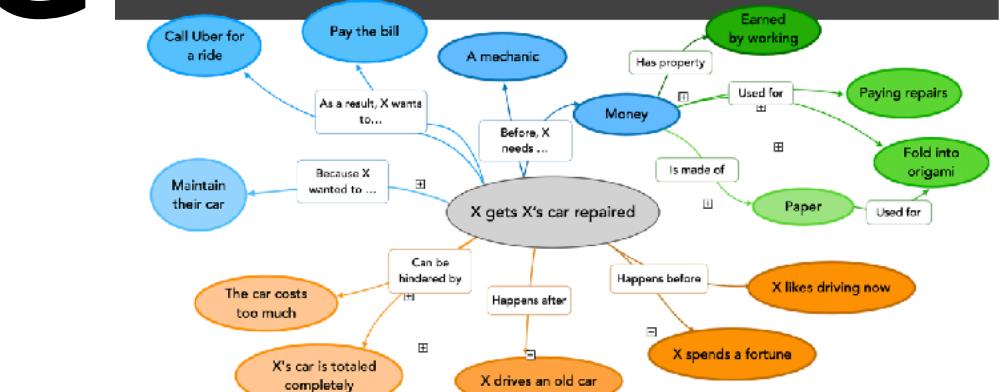
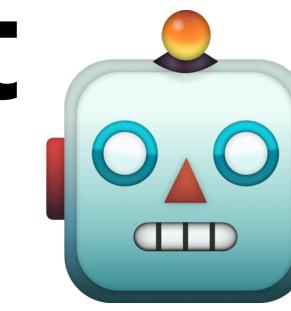
$$H(P_t, P_s) = \mathbb{E}_{y \sim P_t(y)} [-\log P_s(y)]$$

Estimate instead by generating examples!

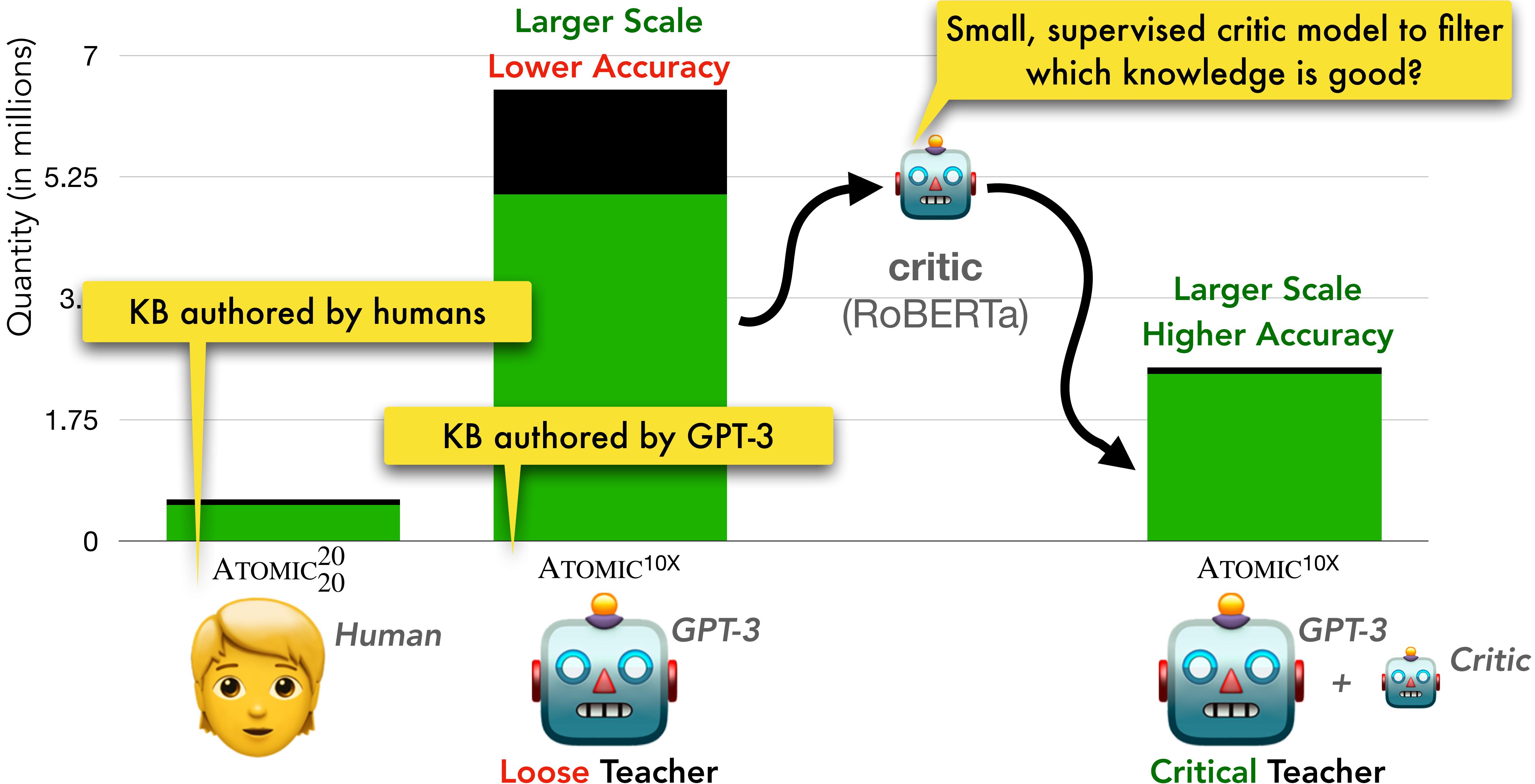
Natural byproduct is a knowledge graph

KG

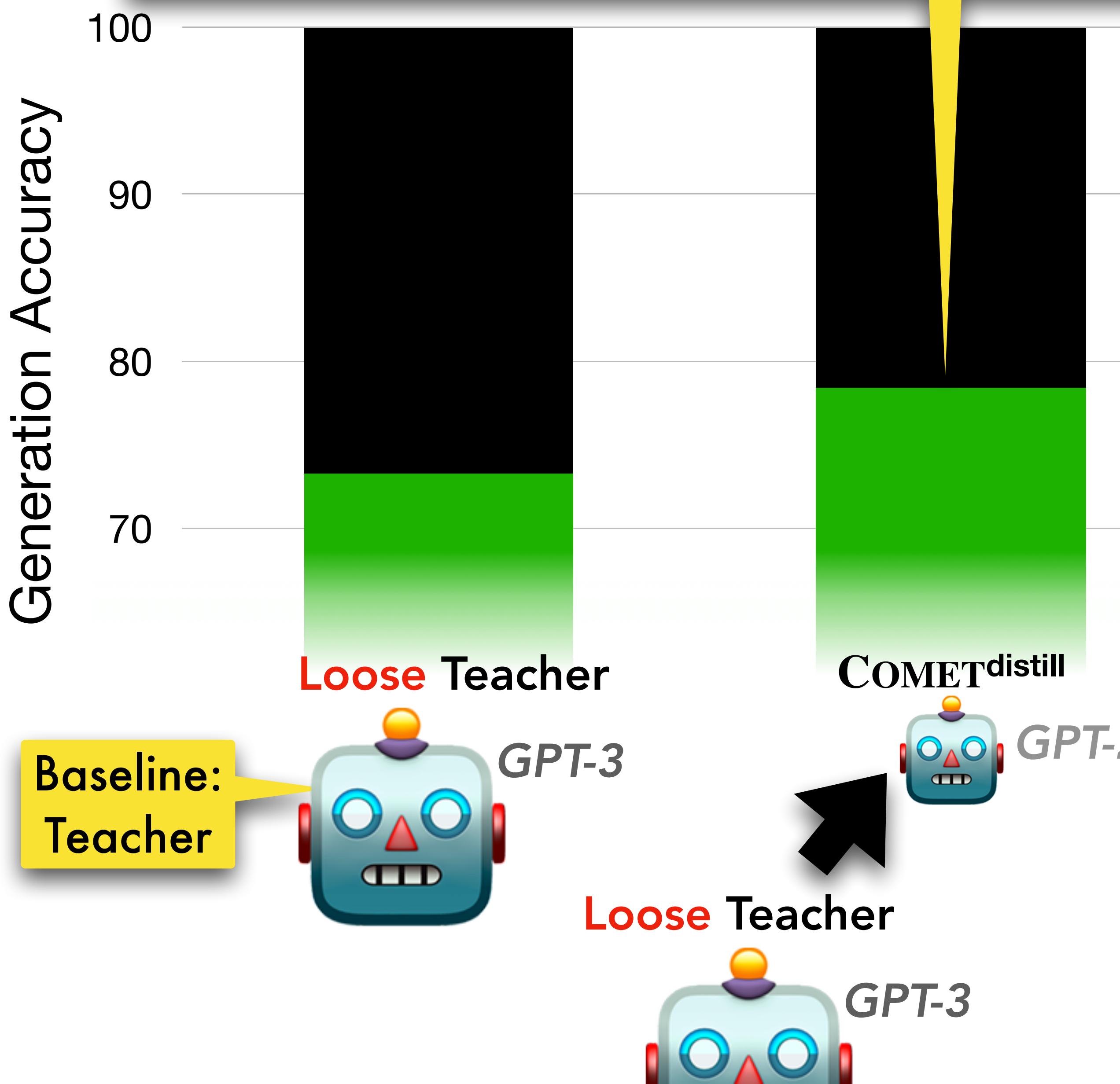
Student



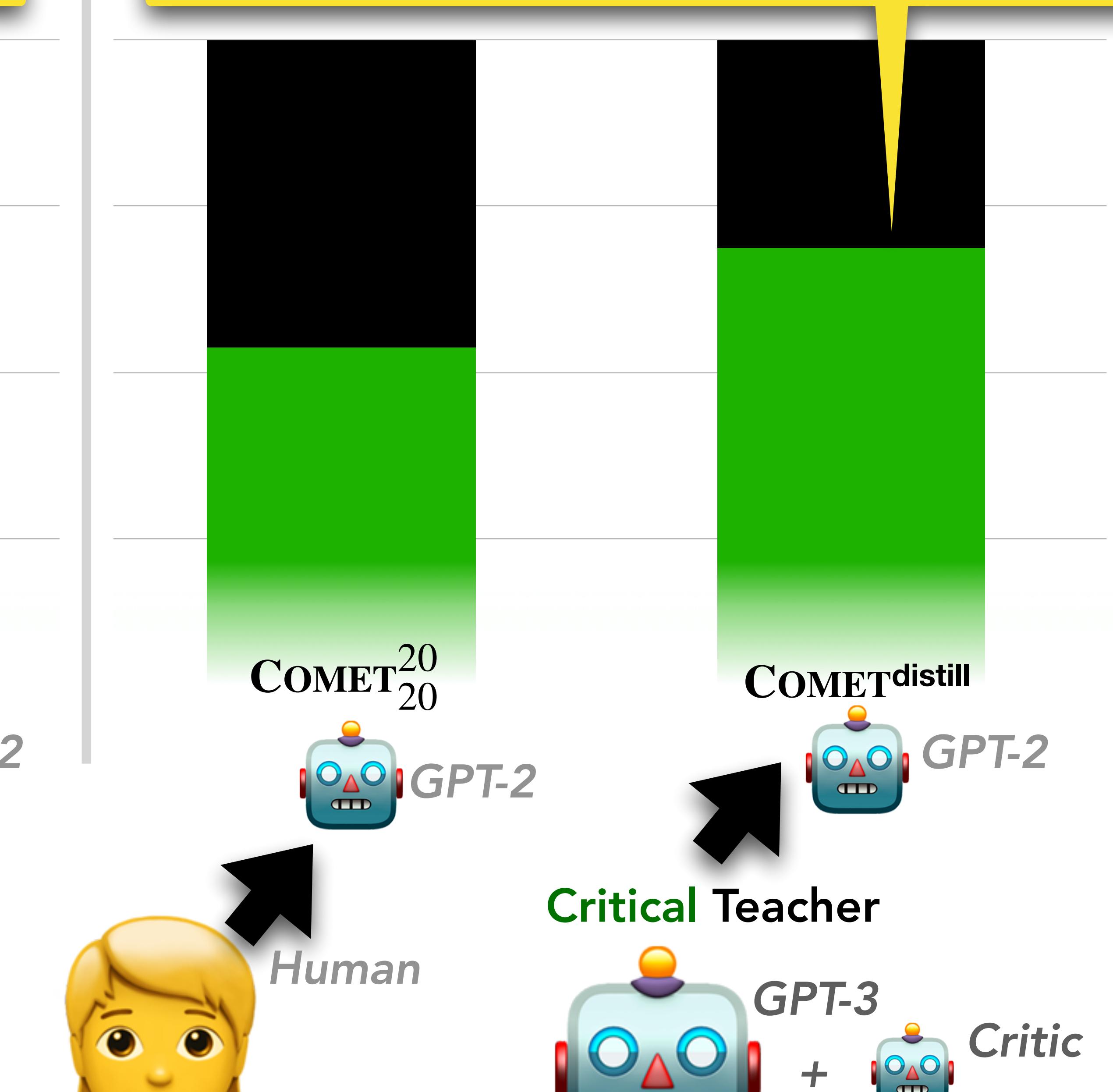
# Does Symbolic Knowledge Distillation Produce Good knowledge?

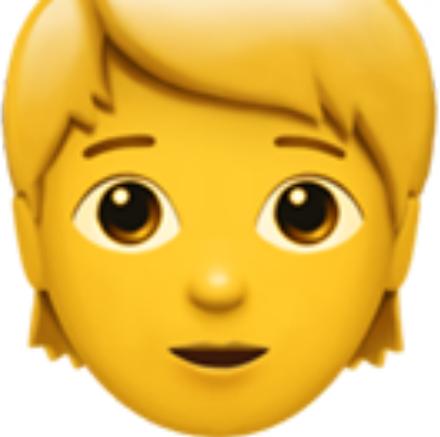


**Student COMET<sup>distill</sup> beats the teacher GPT-3 — smaller & better**



**Critical teacher results in a better student than human knowledge**



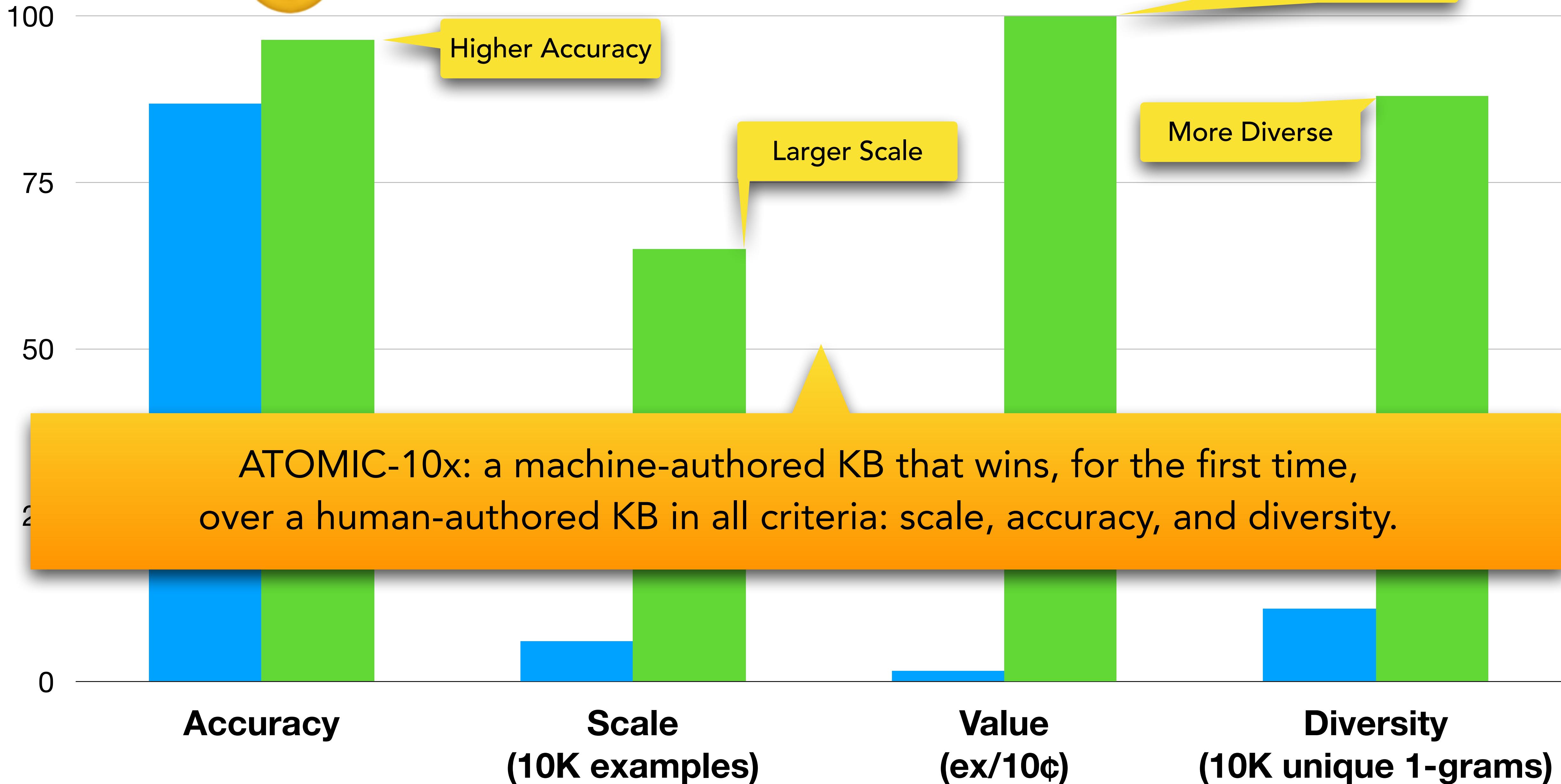


■ ATOMIC<sup>20</sup><sub>20</sub> VS



■ ATOMIC<sup>10X</sup>

Better Value





Thanks! Questions?