

# Compositional Questions Do Not Necessitate Multi-hop Reasoning

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# Multi-hop Question Answering

**Q:** What is the former name of the Bonobo Apes?



Single-hop QA

**Q:** What is the former name of the animal whose habitat the Reserve Naturelle Lomako Yokokala was established to protect?



Multi-hop QA

# Multi-hop Question Answering

**Compositional**

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Single-hop QA

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**Q:** What is the former name of the animal whose habitat the Reserve Naturelle Lomako Yokokala was established to protect?



**P1:** The Lomako Forest Reserve was established to protect the habitat of the Bonobo apes

# Multi-hop Question Answering

**Q:** What is the former name of the animal whose habitat the Reserve Naturelle Lomako Yokokala was established to protect?



**P1:** The Lomako Forest Reserve was established to protect the habitat of the Bonobo apes



**P2:** The bonobo, formerly called the pygmy chimpanzee, is an endangered great ape ...

# Multi-hop Question Answering

**Q:** What is the former name of the animal whose habitat the Reserve Naturelle Lomako Y

**Compositional Questions  
== Multi-hop Questions ???**



**P2:** The bonobo, formerly called the pygmy chimpanzee, is an endangered great ape ...



# Research Questions

1. Do compositional questions necessarily require multi-hop?
2. How many are solvable in single-hop?
3. What factors lead to single-hop?
4. Can we turn them into multi-hop?

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# Distractor Setting

**Q:** What is the former name of the animal whose habitat the Reserve Naturelle Lomako Yokokala was established to protect?

**P1:** The Lomako Forest Reserve was established to protect the habitat of the Bonobo apes.

**P2:** The bonobo, formerly called the pygmy chimpanzee is (...)

**P3** Nature Reserve of Saint Bartholomew

**P4** Grand Cote National Wildlife Refugei

**P5** La Tortue, Saint Barthelemy

**P6** Reserve Naturelle Lomoko Yokokala

**P7** Cereste

**P8** Guadeloupe National Park

**P9** Ile fourchue

**P10** La National Nature Reserve

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No other paragraph about an animal  
→ Can be Single hop in distractor setting

# Full-wiki Setting

**Q:** What is the former name of the animal whose habitat the Reserve Naturelle Lomako Yokokala was established to protect?



**WIKIPEDIA**  
The Free Encyclopedia

## Common wood pigeon

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

For other uses, see *Wood pigeon* (disambiguation).

The **common wood pigeon** (*Columba palumbus*) is a large species in the dove and pigeon family. It belongs to the genus *Columba* and, like all pigeons and doves, belongs to the family Columbidae. It is locally known in southeast England as the "coulver".<sup>[2]</sup> This name has given rise to several areas known for keeping pigeons to be named after it, such as *Culver Down*.

The genus name *Columba* is the Latin word meaning "pigeon, dove".<sup>[2]</sup> whose older etymology comes from the Ancient Greek κόλυμβος (*kolumbos*), "a diver", from κόλυβιδας (*kolumbas*), "dive, plunge headlong, swim".<sup>[2]</sup> *Aristophanes*

Common wood pigeon



Perched on a garden fence post  
England

## Roe deer

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **European roe deer** (*Capreolus capreolus*), also known as the **western roe deer**, *chevreuil*, or simply **roe deer** or **roe**, is a species of **deer**. The male of the species is sometimes referred to as a **roebuck**. The roe deer is relatively small, reddish and grey-brown, and well-adapted to cold environments. The species is widespread in Europe, from the **Mediterranean** to **Scandinavia**, from **Scotland** to the **Caucasus**, and east to northern Iran and Iraq. It is distinct from the somewhat larger **Siberian roe deer**.

## Asian golden cat

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Not to be confused with *African golden cat* or *Bay cat*.

It (*Catopuma temminckii*) is a medium-sized cat of the northeastern Indian subcontinent. It has been listed as **Near Threatened** on the IUCN Red List since 2008, and is threatened by **hunting** and **habitat loss**, since Southeast Asian forests are among the world's fastest regional deforestation.<sup>[1]</sup> Its scientific name honours the Dutch naturalist **Jacob Temminck**. It is also called **Asiatic golden cat**.<sup>[2]</sup>

Asian golden cat



Roe deer



Male (buck) and female (doe) roe deer

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**Roe deer**



Male (buck) and female (doe) roe deer

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**Asian golden cat**



Other articles about animals with former names  
→ Multi-hop in full-wiki setting

# Full-wiki Setting

**Q:** What is the former name of the animal whose habitat the Reserve Naturelle Lomak

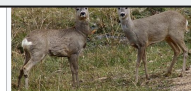
**Question can be multi-hop or single-hop depending on the evidence context**

**WIKIPEDIA**  
The Free Encyclopedia

[Greek κολυμβός \(kolumbos\), "a diver", from κολυμβάω \(kolumbao\), "dive, plunge headlong, swim".<sup>\[2\]</sup> \[Aristophanes\]\(#\)](#)

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Male (buck) and female (doe) roe deer

[Jacob Temminck](#). It is also called **Asiatic golden cat**.<sup>[2]</sup>



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# Research Questions

1. Do compositional questions necessarily require multi-hop?
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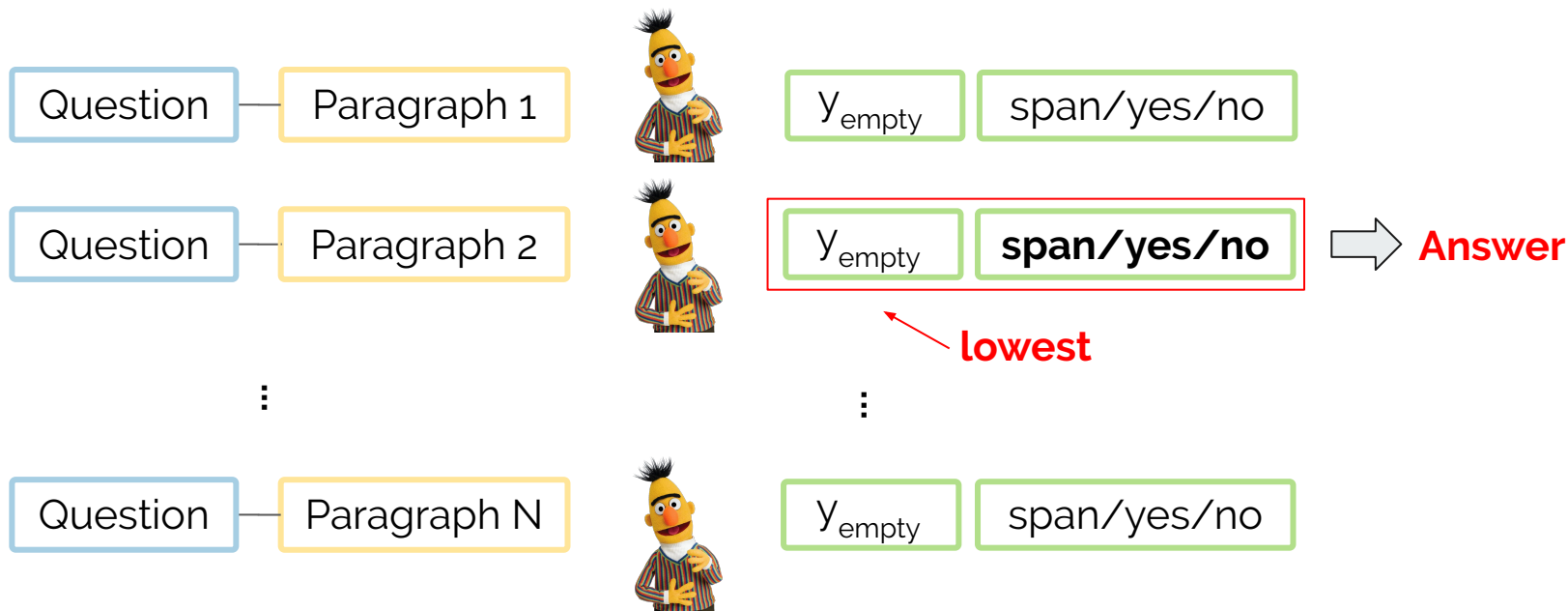
# Single-hop QA Model



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# Single-hop QA Model



# Single-hop QA Result

	Distractor	Full-Wiki
Single-hop QA Model *	67.1	38.4
BiDAF * (Seo et al 17)	58.3	34.4
BiDAF (Seo et al 17)	59.0	32.9
QFE (Nishida et al 19)	68.1	38.1
DecompRC (Min et al 19)	69.6	40.7
DFGN (Xiao et al 19)	<b>69.7</b>	
Cognitive Graph QA (Ding et al 19)	-	<b>48.9</b>

\* Official validation set; others are hidden test set  
Published models only

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# Humans with Multi-hop

**Q:** What is the former name of the animal whose habitat the Reserve Naturelle Lomako Yokokala was established to protect?

**P1:** The Lomako Forest Reserve was established in 1991 ...

**P2:** The bonobo, formerly called the pygmy chimpanzee is ...

P3

P4

P5

P6

P7

P8

P9

P10

87.4 F1



# Humans with Single-hop

**Q:** What is the former name of the animal whose habitat the Reserve Naturelle Lomako Yokokala was established to protect?

87.4 F1



82.1 F1

**P2:** The bonobo, formerly called the pygmy chimpanzee is ...

P3

P4

P5

P6

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P8

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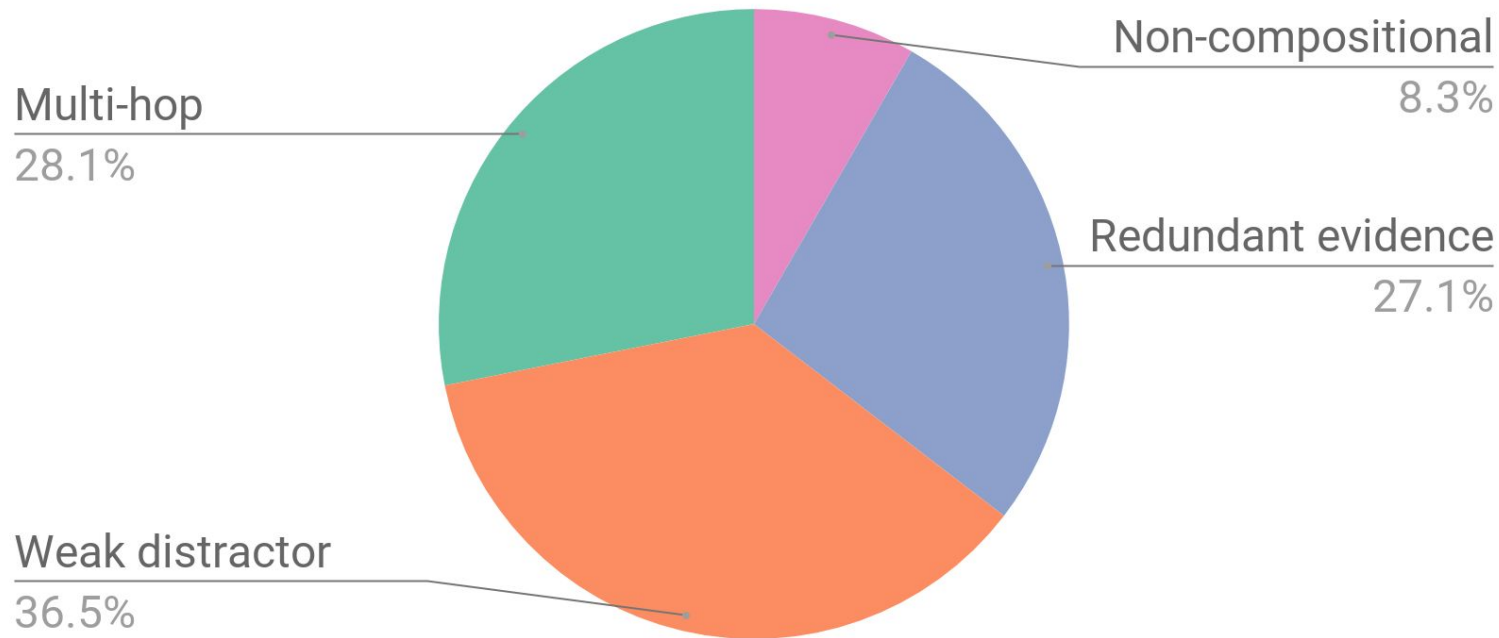
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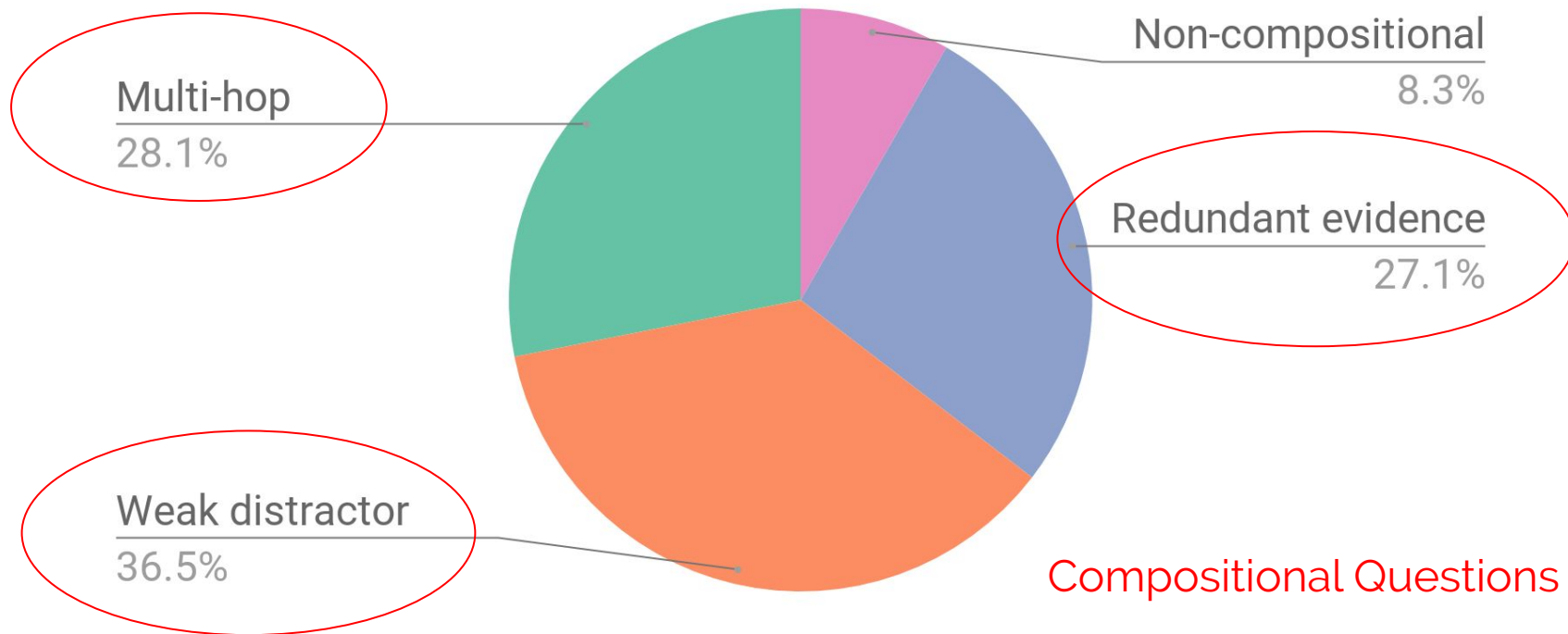
# What leads to single-hop?

Categorization of 100 random samples



# What leads to single-hop?

Categorization of 100 random samples



# What leads to single-hop?

Multi-hop

(27%)

Weak Distractor

(35%)

Redundant  
Evidence

(26%)

Non-compositional  
one-hop

(8%)

**Q:** Ralph Hefferline was a psychology professor at a university that is located in what city?

# What leads to single-hop?

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(27%)

Weak Distractor

(35%)

Redundant

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(26%)

Non-compositional

one-hop

(8%)

**Q:** Ralph Hefferline was a psychology professor at a university that is located in what city?

**P1:** Ralph Hefferline was a psychology professor at Columbia University.

**P2:** Columbia University is ... in New York City.

**P3:** Stanley Coren is a psychology professor at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, British Columbia.

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Distractor setting



Full-wiki setting



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(27%)

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**Q:** What government position was held by the woman who portrayed Corliss Archer in the film Kiss and Tell?

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**Q:** What government position was held by the woman who portrayed Corliss Archer in the film Kiss and Tell?

**P1:** Shirley Temple Black was an American actress, singer, dancer, businesswoman (..), she also served as **Chief of Protocol of the United States**.



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**P1:** Shirley Temple Black was an American actress, singer, dancer, businesswoman (..), she also served as **Chief of Protocol of the United States**.

**No other paragraphs are about actresses *with* government positions**



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(35%)

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(26%)

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one-hop

(8%)

**Q:** What government position was held by the woman who portrayed Carliss Archer in Shirley?

**P1:** Shirley  
business

Distractor setting



Full-wiki setting



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**Q:** Kaiser Ventures corporation was founded by an American industrialist who became known as the father of modern American shipbuilding ?

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Multi-hop

(27%)

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**Redundant  
Evidence**

**(26%)**

Non-compositional  
one-hop

(8%)

**Q:** Kaiser Ventures corporation was founded by an American industrialist who became known as the father of modern American shipbuilding?

**P1:** Kaiser Ventures corporation was founded by Henry J. Kaiser to provide steel plate for the Pacific Coast shipbuilding industry.

Only one founder of Kaiser Ventures; can ignore “American shipbuilding..”



# What leads to single-hop?

Multi-hop

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Distractor setting



Full-wiki setting



steel

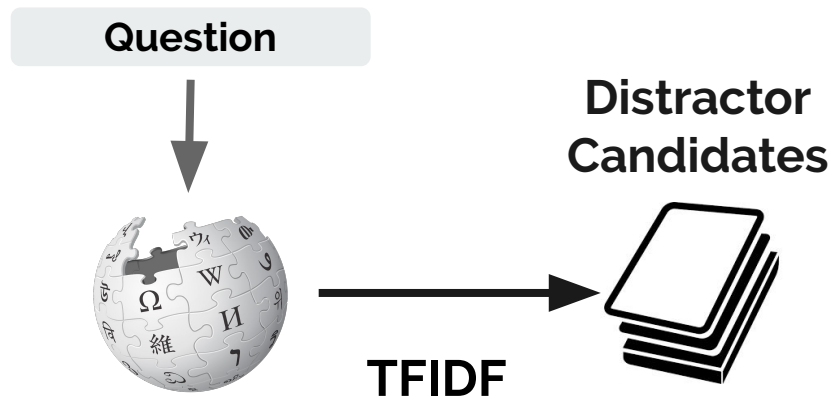
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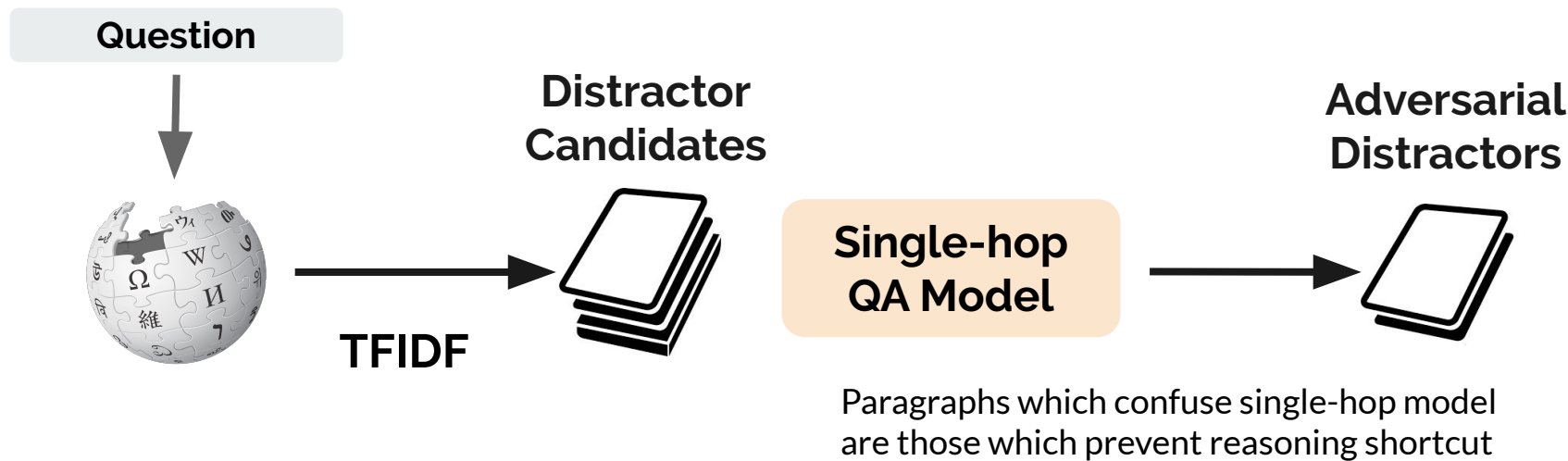
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# Can We Collect Stronger Distractors?

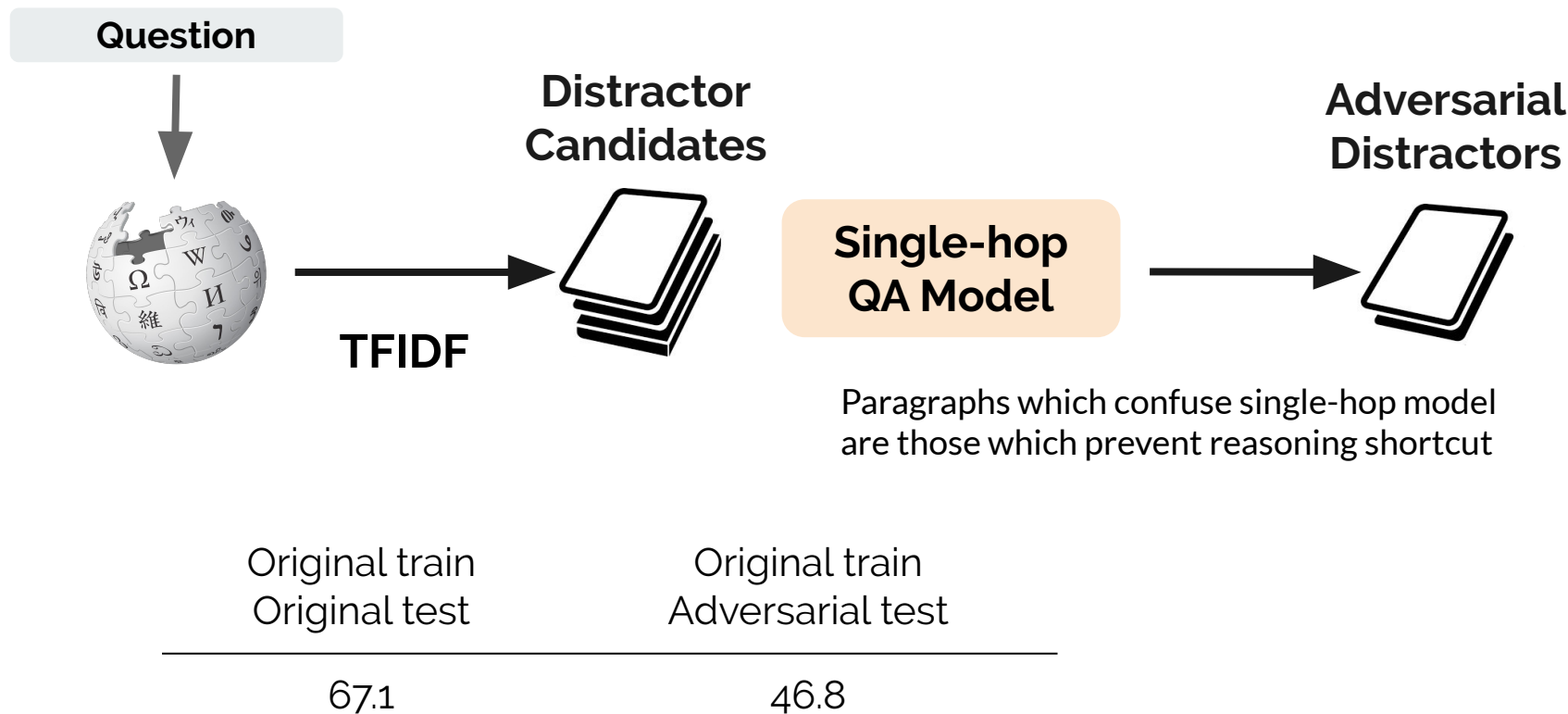


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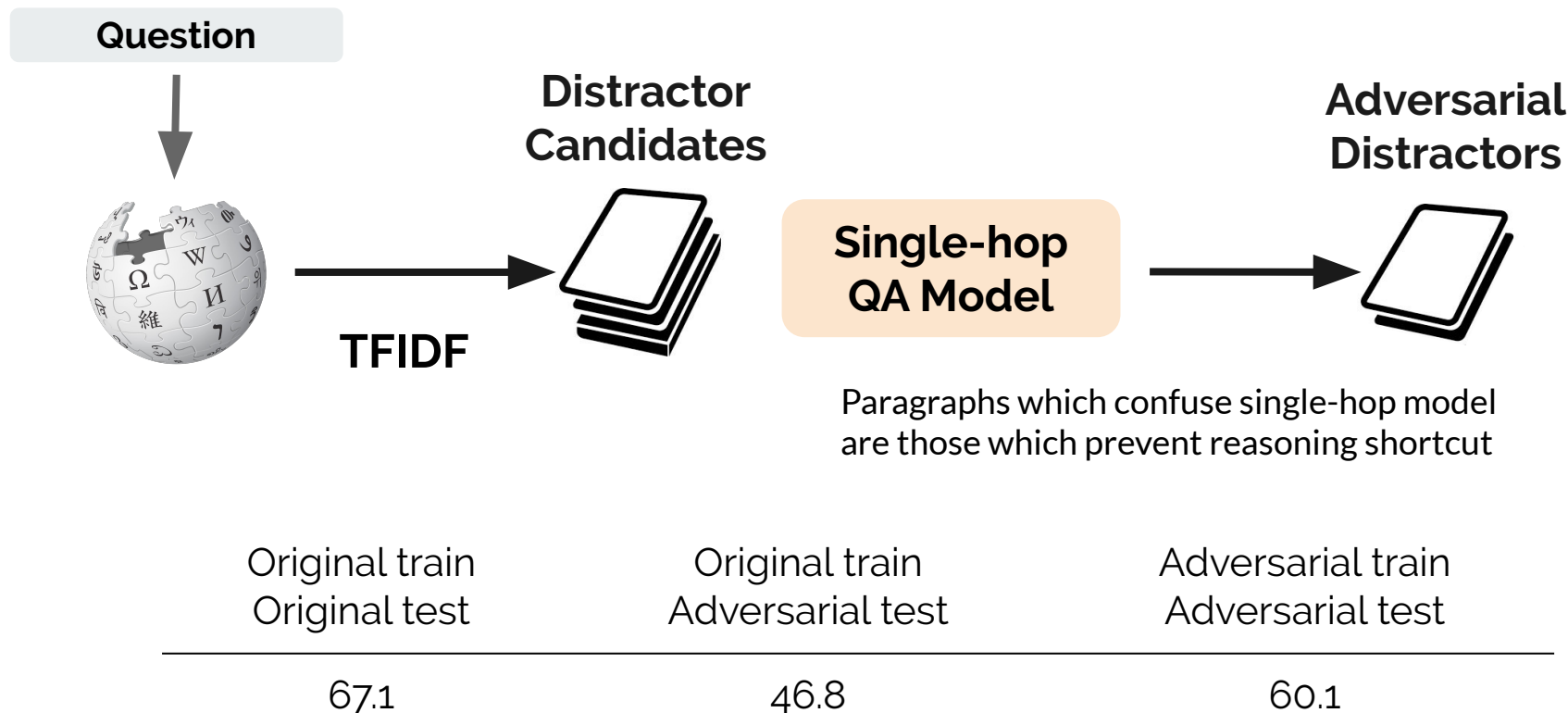




# Can We Collect Stronger Distractors?



# Can We Collect Stronger Distractors?



# Related Work

## Chen & Durrett (NAACL 2019)

- Show that single-hop-only QA model works on par with the state-of-the-art on HotpotQA and WikiHop.

## Jiang & Bansal (ACL 2019)

- Reveal reasoning shortcut, and create adversarial examples by editing the contents of the distractors..

Jifan Chen and Greg Durrett. 2019. "Understanding dataset design choices for multi-hop reasoning". NAACL.

Yichen Jiang, Mohit Bansal, 2019. "Avoiding Reasoning Shortcuts: Adversarial Evaluation, Training, and Model Development for Multi-Hop QA". ACL.

# Related Work

Ch

## **Our work is unique in that...**

- Reveal that multi-hop depends on the evidence context.
- Categorize different factors.
- Focus on real, retrieval-based adversarial distractors, and demonstrate standard IR system fails.

J

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# Takeaways

## Open-domain multi-hop QA

- Many single-hop Qs in distractor setting are multi-hop in open-domain setting
- Single-hop QA model is still far from SOTA

## Collecting strong distractors for multi-hop

- No obvious way to collect strong distractors
  - May be as difficult as solving open-domain multi-hop QA

# Thank you for listening!

**Code:** <https://github.com/shmsw25/single-hop-rc>

**Paper:** <https://arxiv.org/abs/1906.02900>

