



# An Ontology-Driven Probabilistic Soft Logic Approach to Improve NLP Entity Annotations

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# Context: Knowledge Extraction

Kia has hired Peter Schreyer as chief design officer.

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Organization



Kia has hired Peter Schreyer as chief design officer.

NLP Tasks:

- Named Entity Recognition and Classification (NERC)

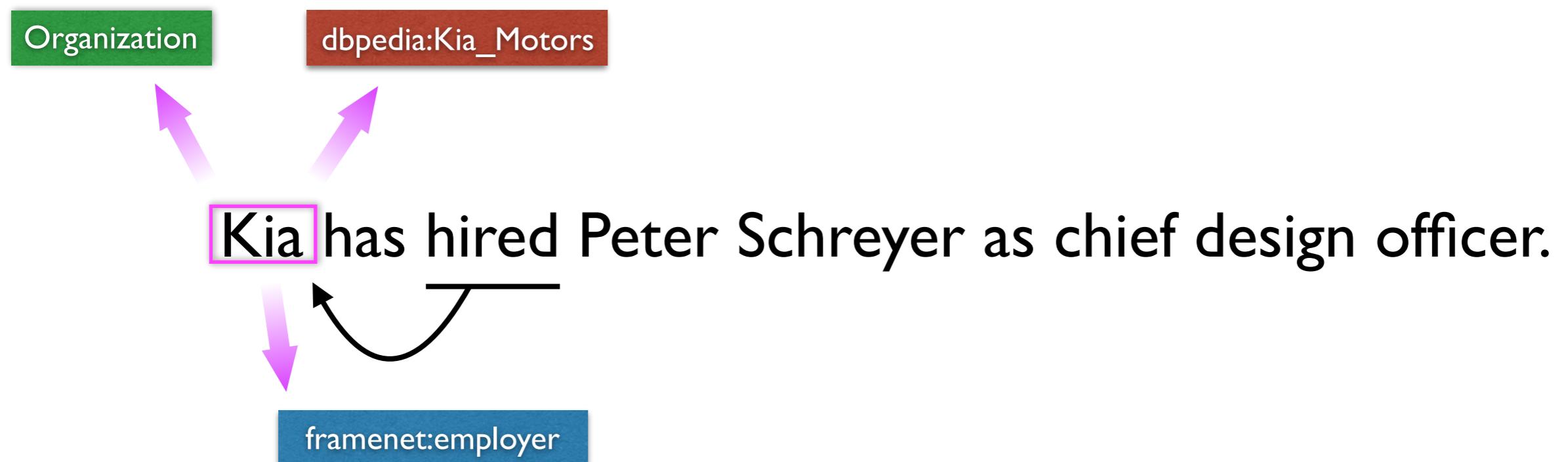
# Context: Knowledge Extraction



## NLP Tasks:

- Named Entity Recognition and Classification (NERC)
- Entity Linking (EL)

# Context: Knowledge Extraction



## NLP Tasks:

- Named Entity Recognition and Classification (NERC)
- Entity Linking (EL)
- Semantic Role Labeling (SRL)

...

# Motivating Examples

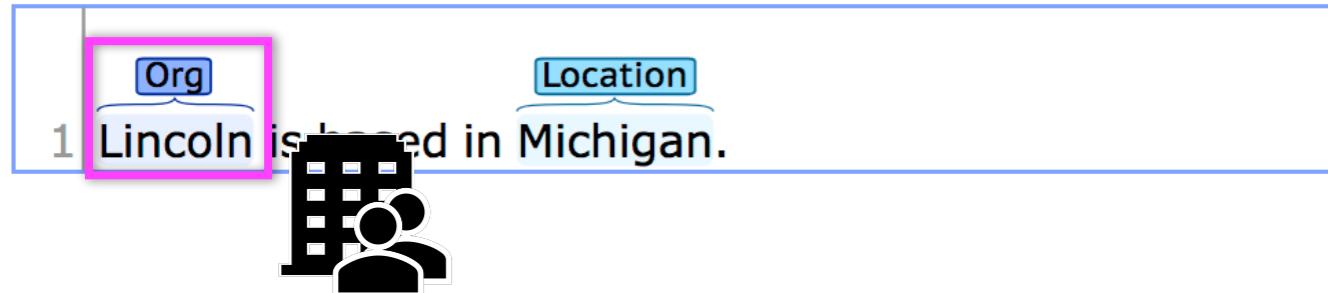
Lincoln is based in Michigan.

# Motivating Examples

Lincoln is based in Michigan.

## Stanford CoreNLP

<http://nlp.stanford.edu:8080/corenlp>

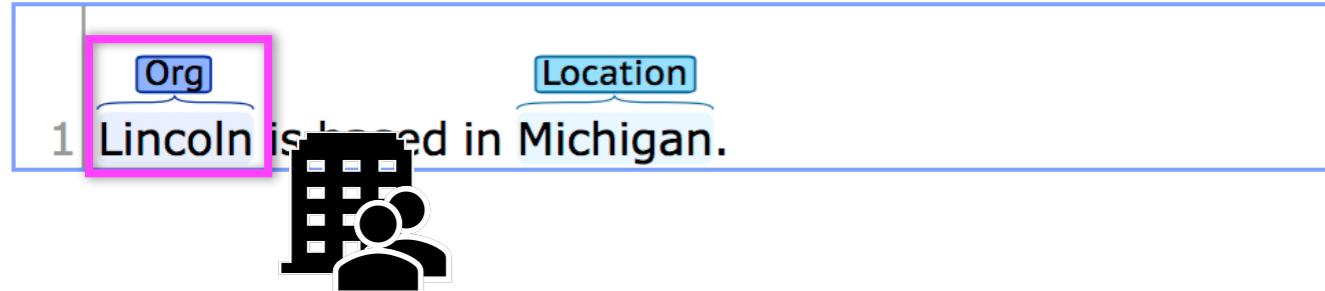


# Motivating Examples

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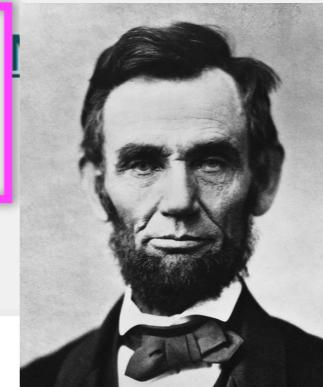
## Stanford CoreNLP

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<http://demo.dbpedia-spotlight.org>

[Lincoln is based in !](#)  
dbpedia:Abraham\_Lincoln

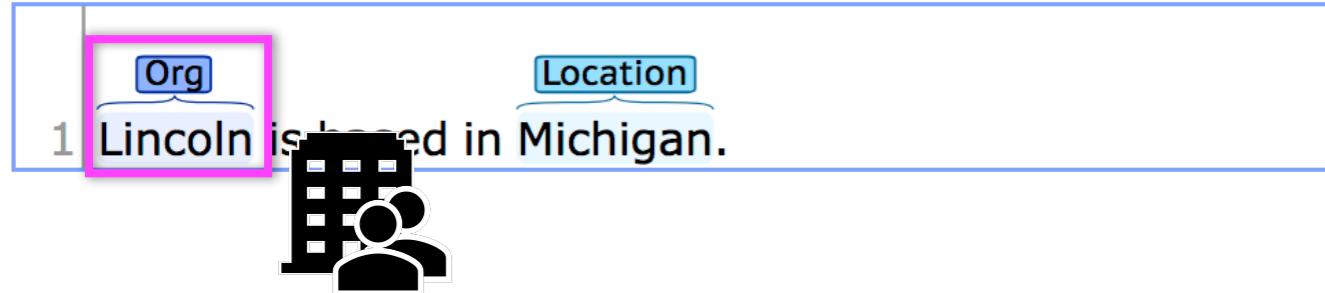


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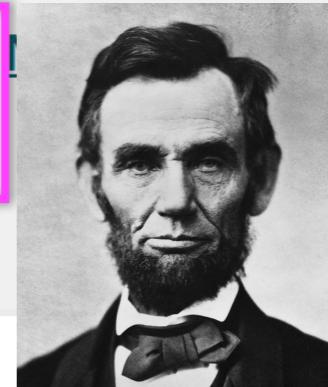
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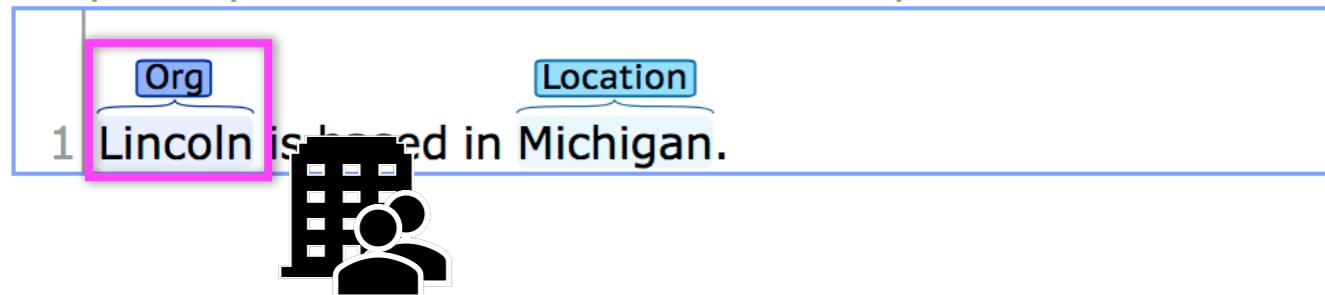
San Jose is one of the strongest hockey team.

# Motivating Examples

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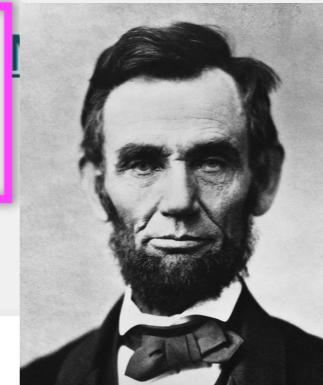
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dbpedia:San\_Jose\_Sharks

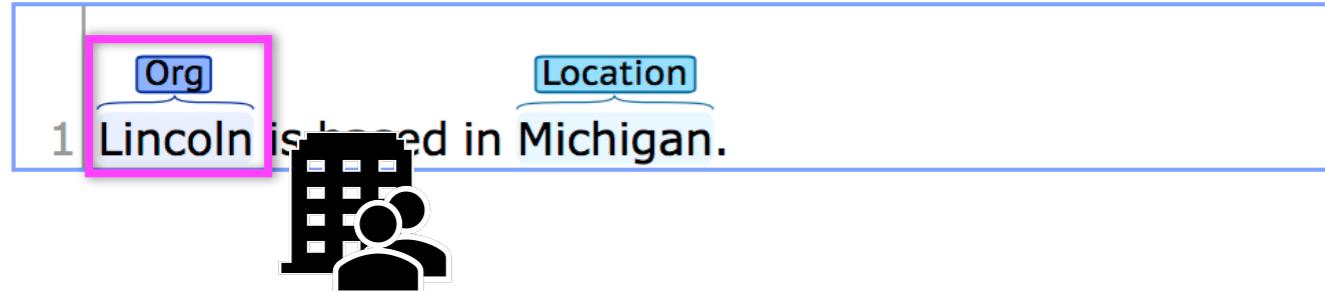


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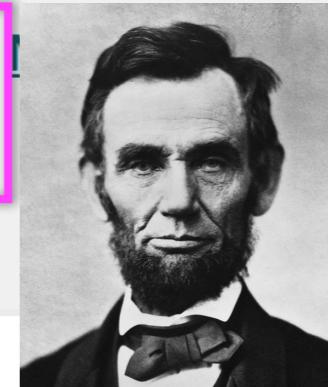
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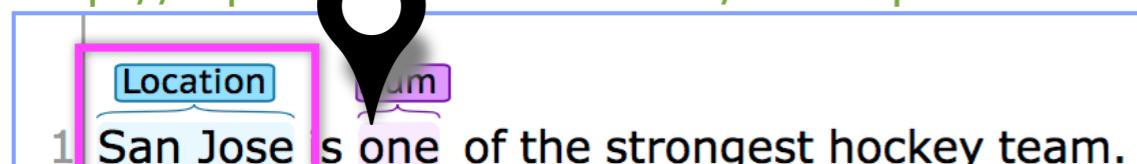
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# Abstracting

... token<sub>1</sub> token<sub>2</sub> token<sub>3</sub> token<sub>4</sub> token<sub>5</sub> token<sub>6</sub> ....

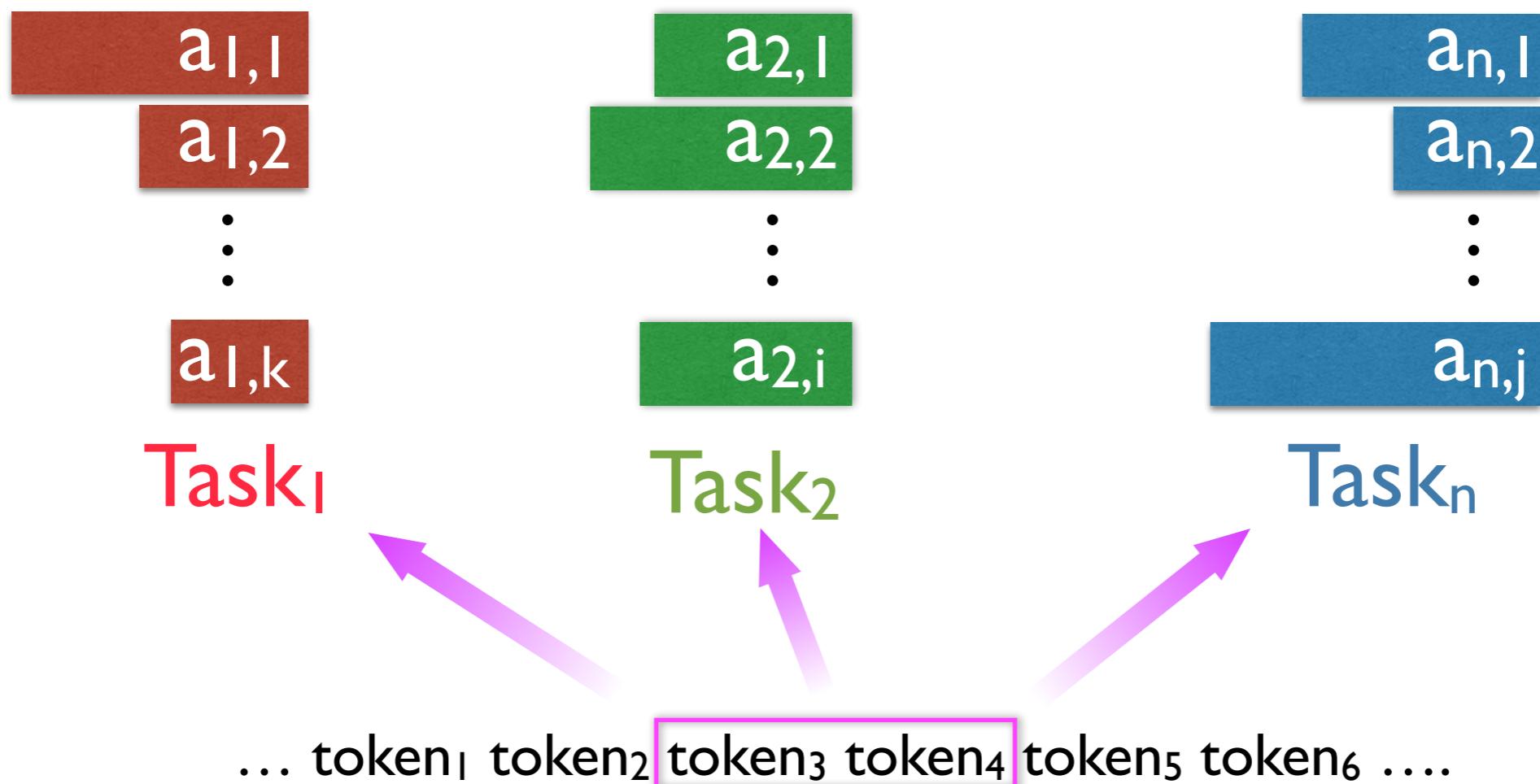
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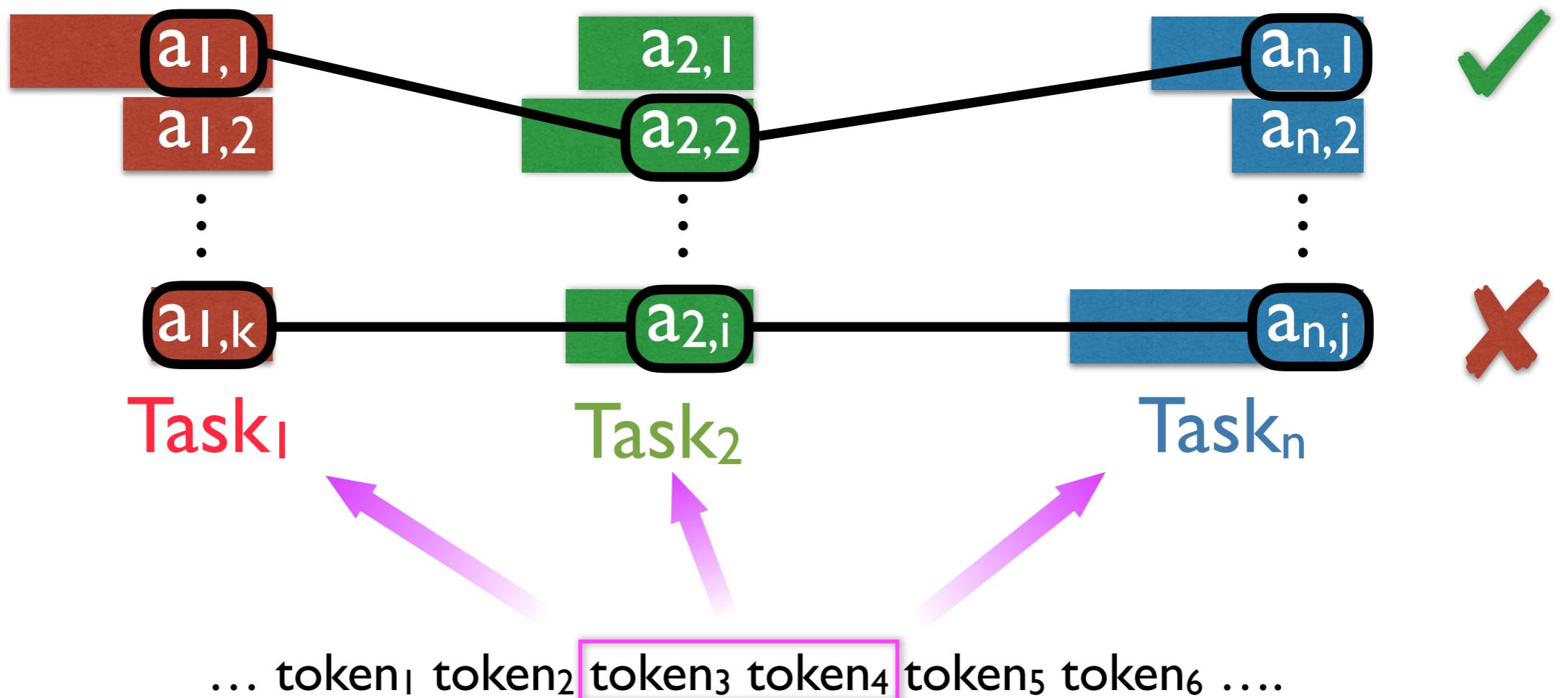
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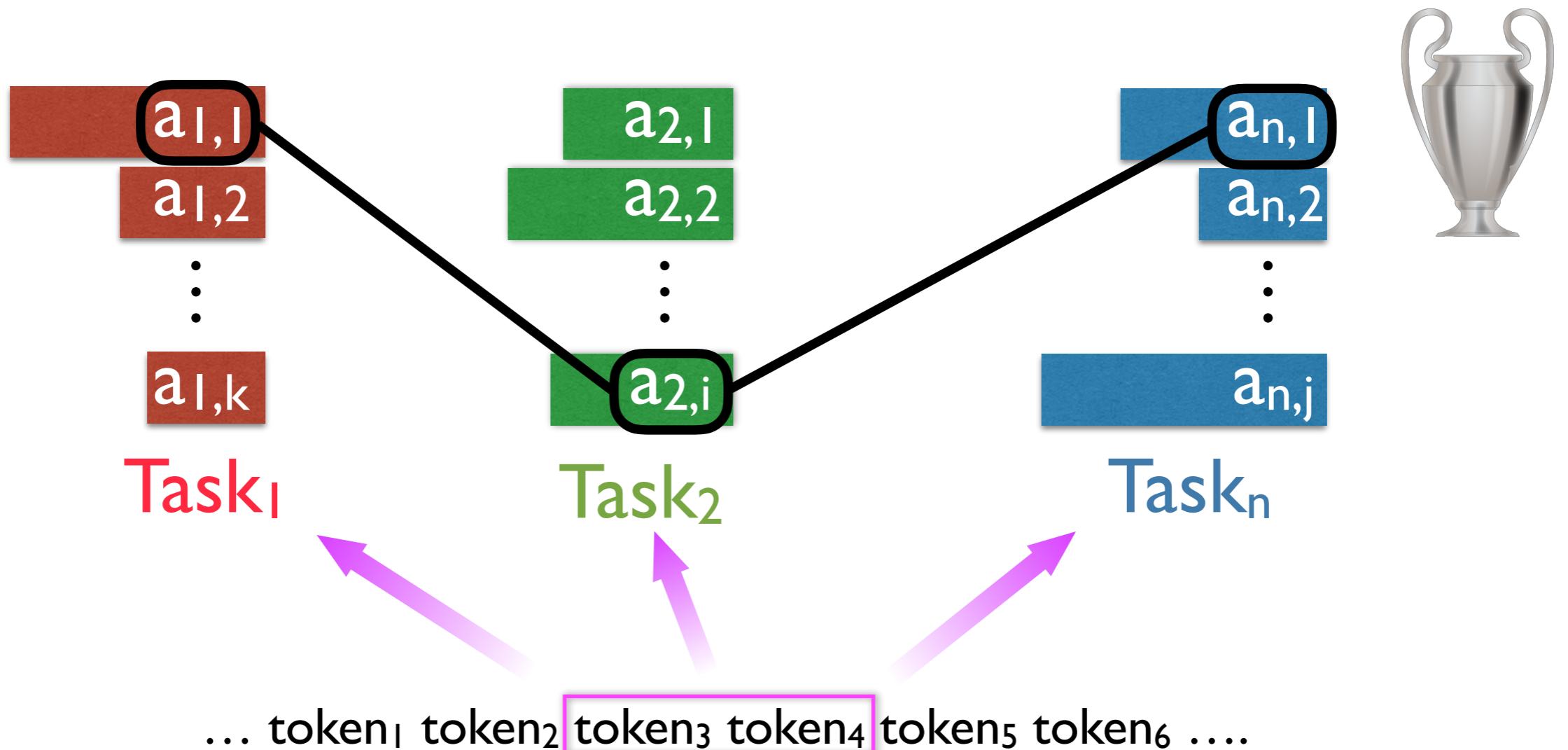
# Abstracting



# Abstracting



# Abstracting

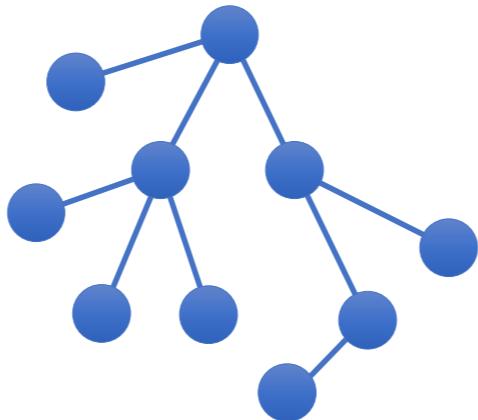


# **RESEARCH PROBLEM**

How can we assess and improve the coherence of the various NLP annotations on an entity mention?

# In a nutshell

ontological background knowledge



$a_{1,1}$

$a_{1,2}$

⋮

$a_{1,k}$

Task<sub>1</sub>

$a_{2,1}$

$a_{2,2}$

⋮

$a_{2,i}$

Task<sub>2</sub>

$a_{n,1}$

$a_{n,2}$

⋮

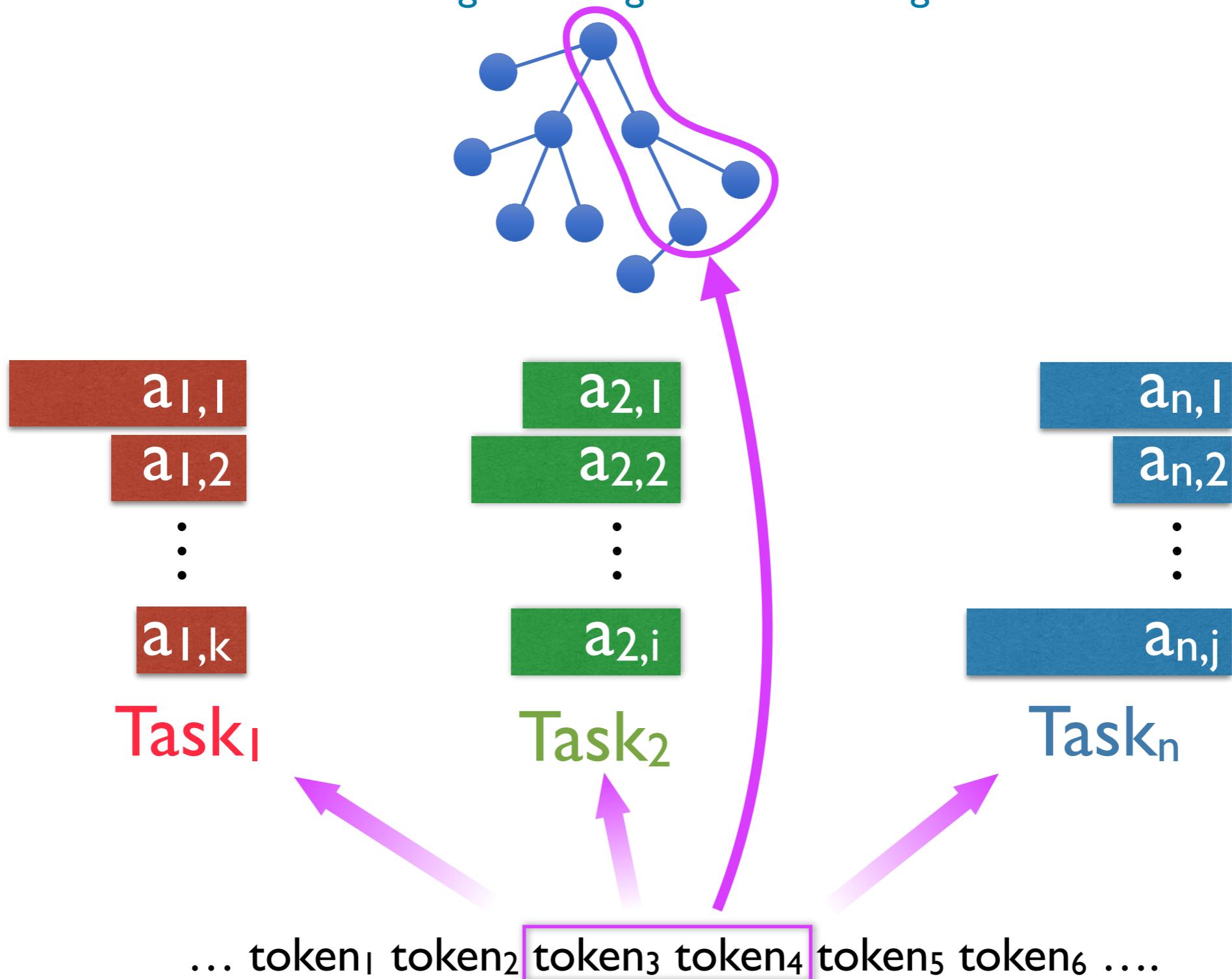
$a_{n,j}$

Task<sub>n</sub>

... token<sub>1</sub> token<sub>2</sub> token<sub>3</sub> token<sub>4</sub> token<sub>5</sub> token<sub>6</sub> ...

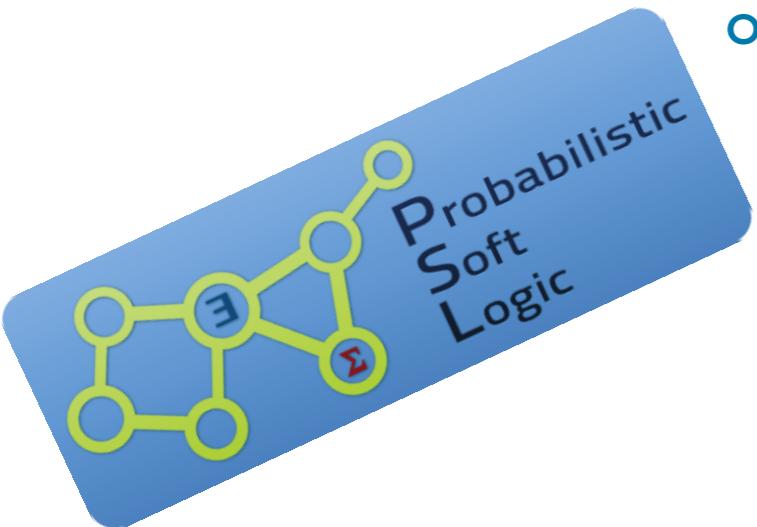
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$a_{1,k}$

Task<sub>1</sub>

$a_{2,1}$

$a_{2,2}$

⋮

$a_{2,i}$

Task<sub>2</sub>

$a_{n,1}$

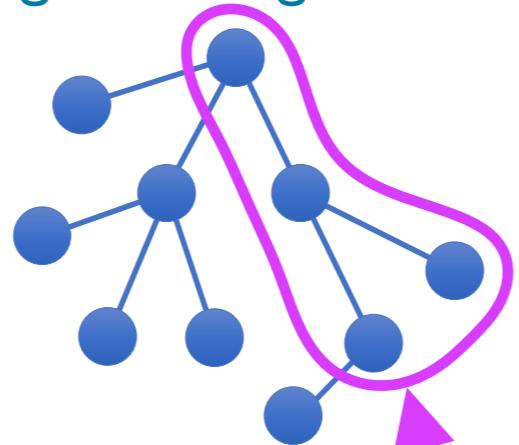
$a_{n,2}$

⋮

$a_{n,j}$

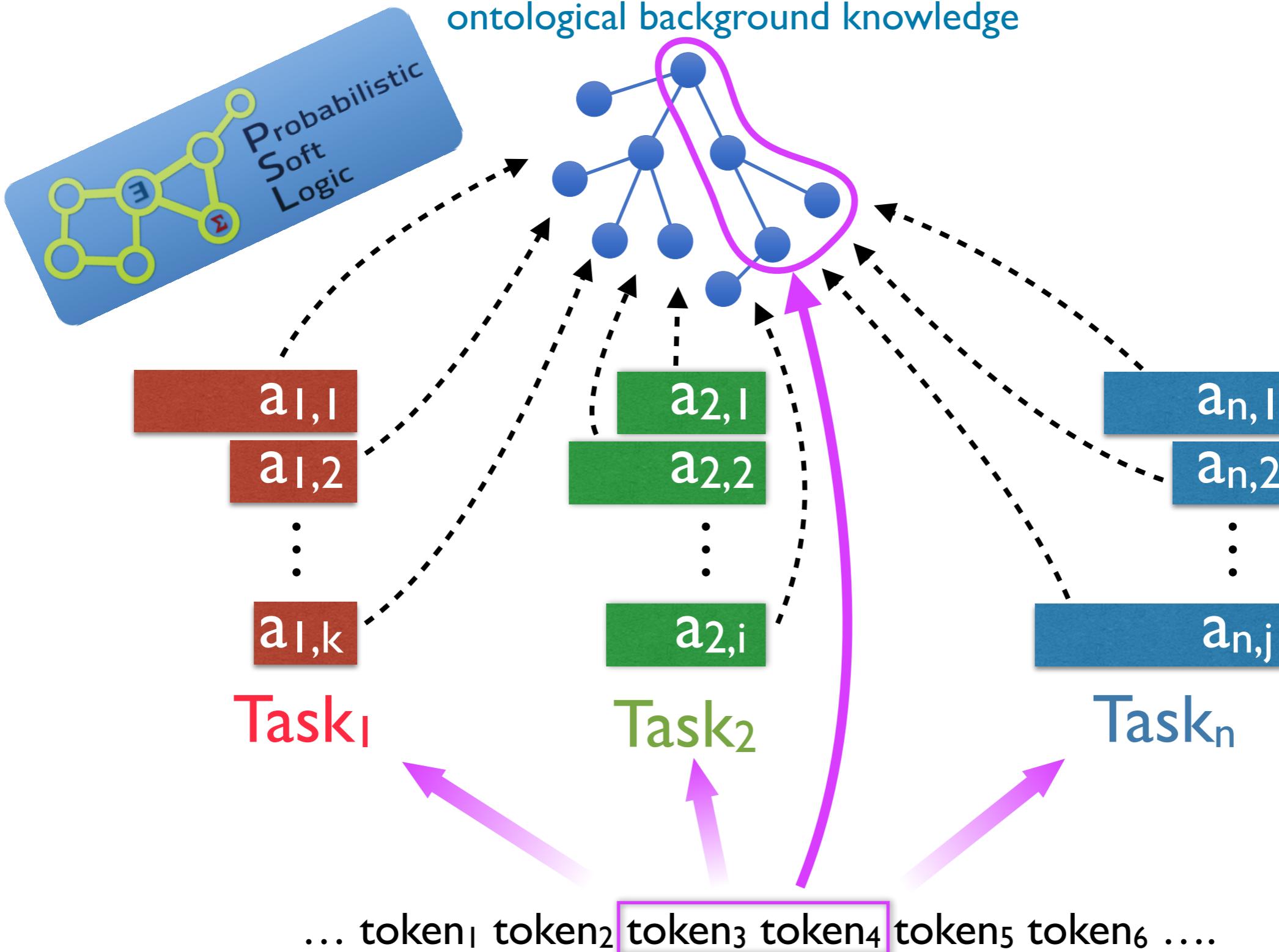
Task<sub>n</sub>

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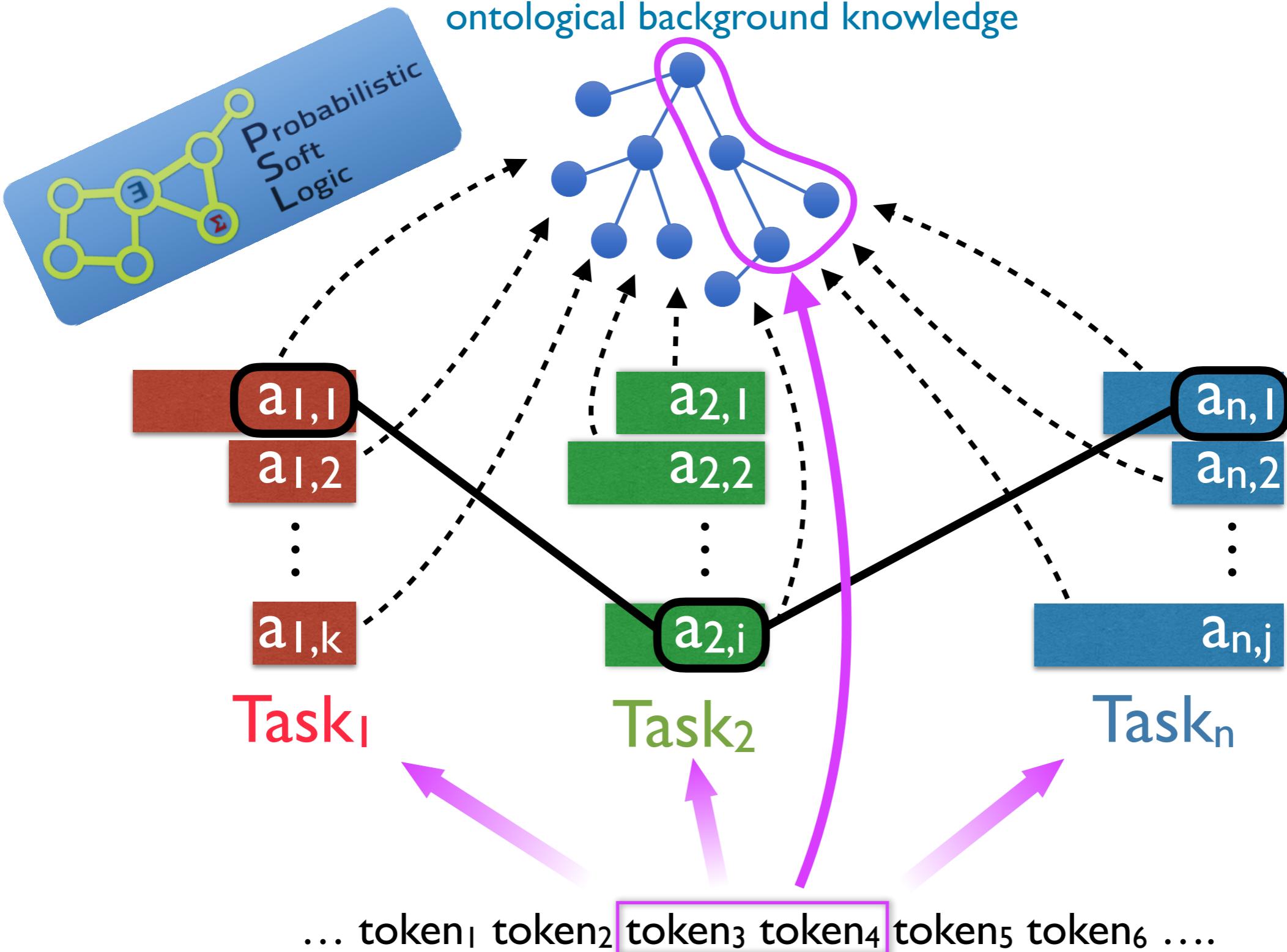
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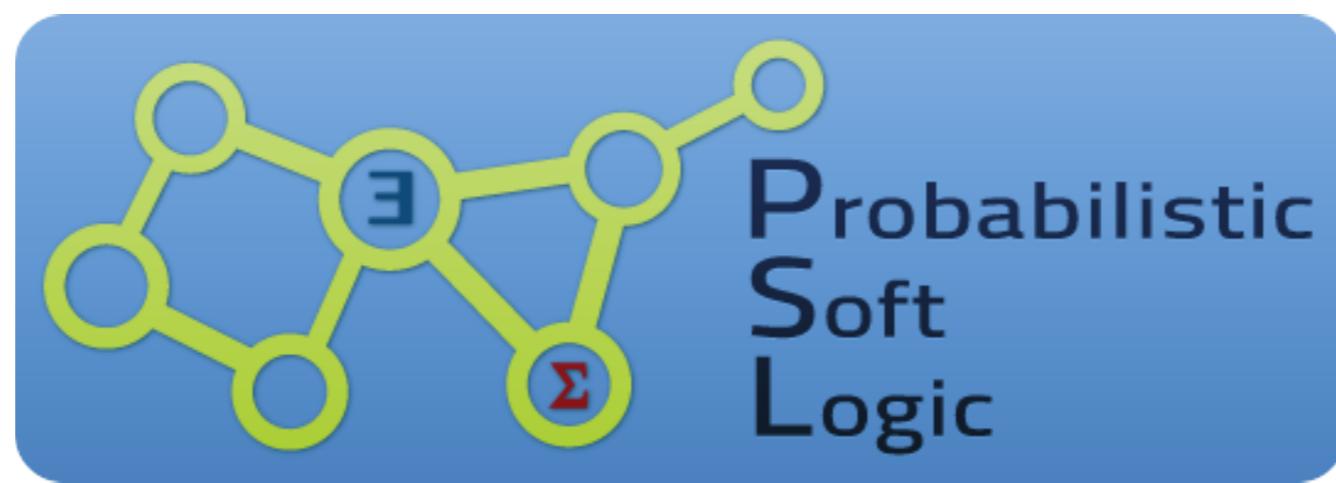
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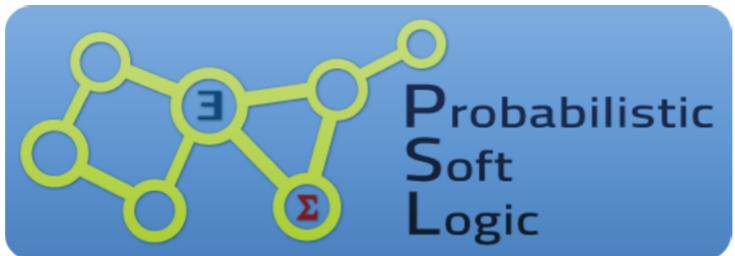
ontological background knowledge



# Contributions

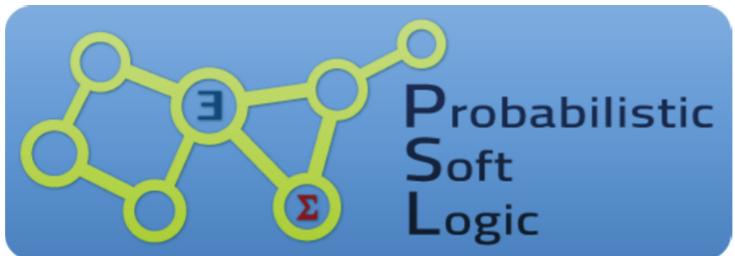
1. PSL4EA: a PSL model capable to estimate *a posteriori* the overall confidence of NLP annotations
2. A concrete instantiation of the model for NERC and EL (using YAGO as ontological knowledge)
3. Application of the NERC and EL model to revise the annotations of Stanford NER and DBpedia Spotlight





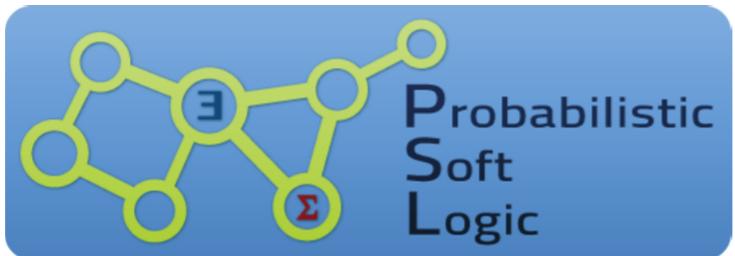
# in a nutshell (1/3)

1.2 :  $\text{WorksFor}(b,c) \wedge \text{BossOf}(b,e) \rightarrow \text{WorksFor}(e,c)$



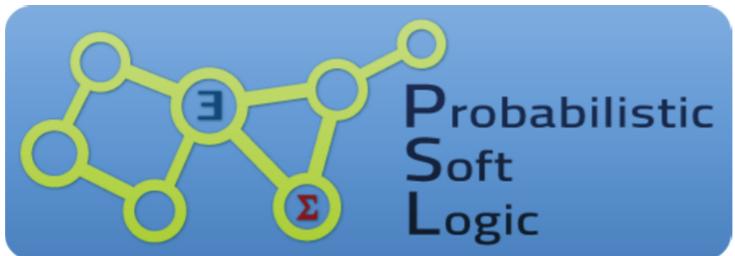
# in a nutshell (1/3)

1.2:  $\text{WorksFor}(b,c) \wedge \text{BossOf}(b,e) \rightarrow \text{WorksFor}(e,c)$   
weight



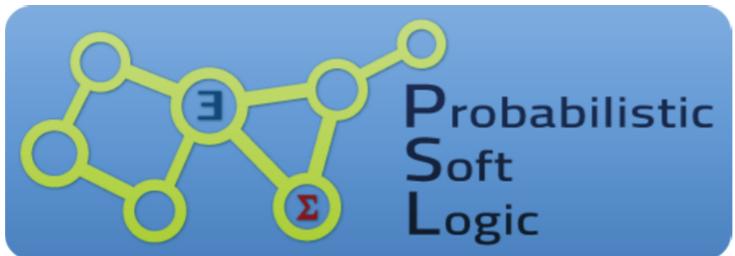
# in a nutshell (1/3)

1.2 : weight variable  $\text{WorksFor}(b, c) \wedge \text{BossOf}(b, e) \rightarrow \text{WorksFor}(e, c)$



# in a nutshell (1/3)

1.2 : weight variable predicate  $\text{WorksFor}(b, c) \wedge \text{BossOf}(b, e) \rightarrow \text{WorksFor}(e, c)$



# in a nutshell (1/3)

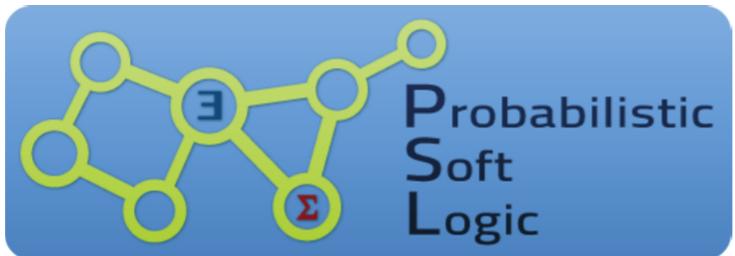
1.2: weight variable predicate atom  
 $\text{WorksFor}(b, c) \wedge \text{BossOf}(b, e) \rightarrow \text{WorksFor}(e, c)$



# in a nutshell (1/3)

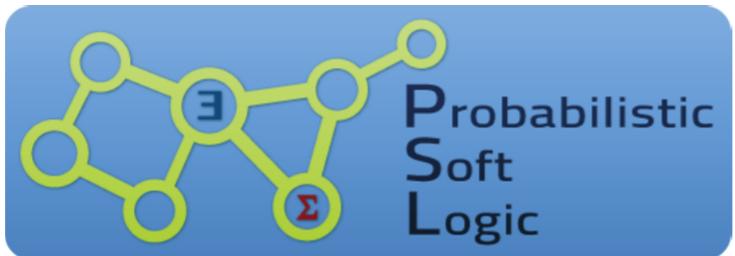
$$\frac{\text{body}}{1.2 : \text{WorksFor}(b,c) \wedge \text{BossOf}(b,e) \rightarrow \text{WorksFor}(e,c)}$$

weight      variable      predicate      atom



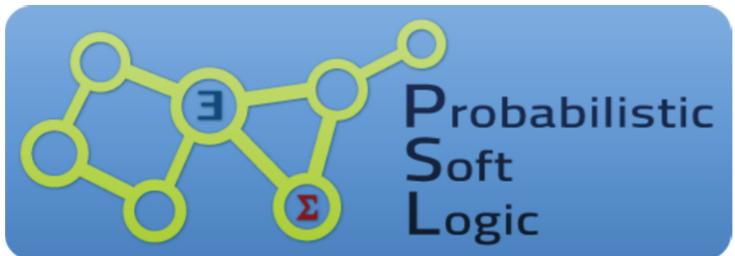
# in a nutshell (1/3)

$$1.2 : \frac{\text{body}}{\text{weight}} \quad \frac{\text{variable}}{\text{predicate}} \quad \frac{\text{head}}{\text{atom}}$$
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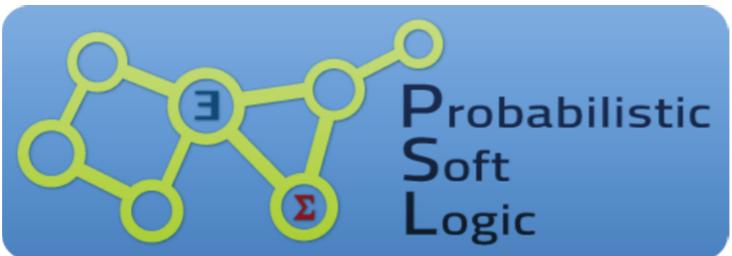
1.2 :  $\text{WorksFor}(b,c) \wedge \text{BossOf}(b,e) \rightarrow \text{WorksFor}(e,c)$   
grounding ↴  
 $\text{WorksFor}(\text{John}, \text{FBK})$



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soft-truth value  $\in [0, 1]$



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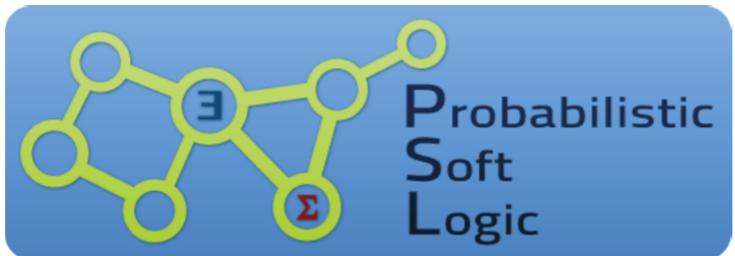
Interpretation  $I : \{\text{ground atoms}\} \rightarrow [0, 1]^n$



# in a nutshell (2/3)

## Lukasiewicz t-norm/co-norm

$$I(a_1) \wedge I(a_2) = \max\{I(a_1) + I(a_2) - 1, 0\}$$
$$I(a_1) \vee I(a_2) = \min\{I(a_1) + I(a_2), 1\}$$
$$\neg I(a_1) = 1 - I(a_1)$$

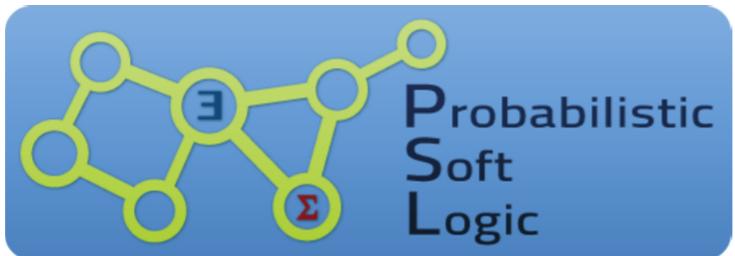


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rule is satisfied iff  $I(\text{body}) \leq I(\text{head})$



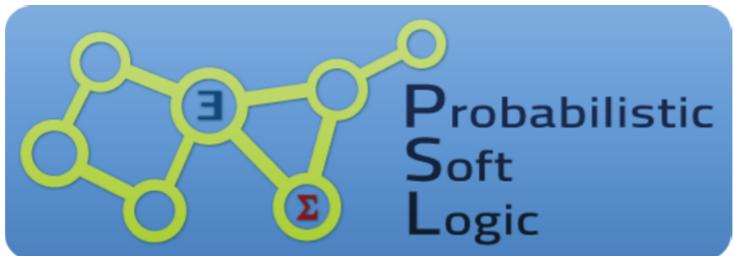
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distance to satisfaction  $d(r) = \max\{0, I(\text{body}) - I(\text{head})\}$



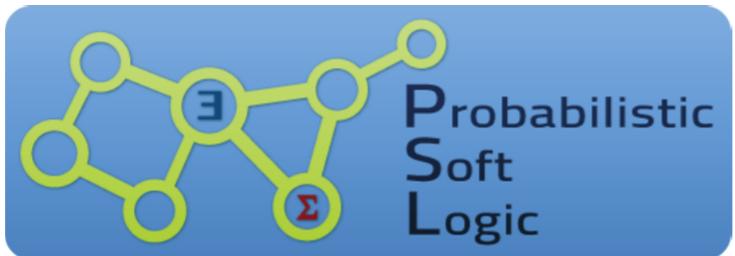
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**distance to satisfaction**  $d(r) = \max\{0, I(\text{body}) - I(\text{head})\}$

`WorksFor(John,FBK) ∧ BossOf(John,Jack) → WorksFor(Jack,FBK)`



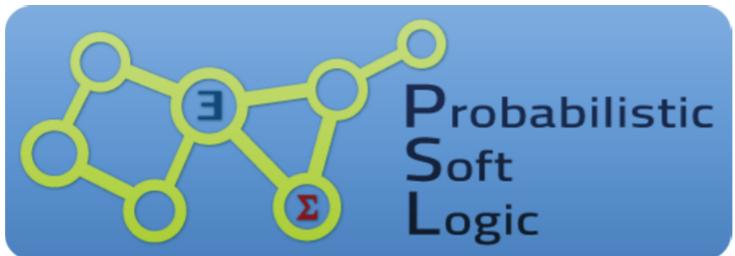
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0.6                    0.6                    0.5                    ✓  
WorksFor(John, FBK)  $\wedge$  BossOf(John, Jack)  $\rightarrow$  WorksFor(Jack, FBK)



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0.6	0.6	0.5	✓
WorksFor(John, FBK) $\wedge$ BossOf(John, Jack) $\rightarrow$ WorksFor(Jack, FBK)			
0.8	0.9	0.3	✗



## in a nutshell (2/3)

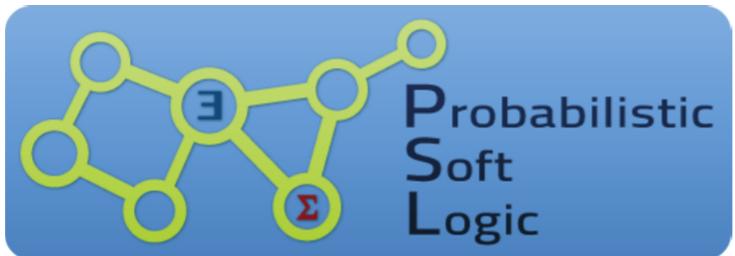
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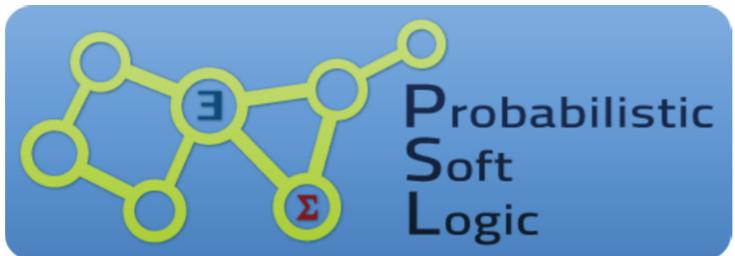
0.6	0.6	0.5	✓
WorksFor(John, FBK) $\wedge$ BossOf(John, Jack) $\rightarrow$ WorksFor(Jack, FBK)			
0.8	0.9	0.3	✗

$d(r) = 0.4$



# in a nutshell (3/3)

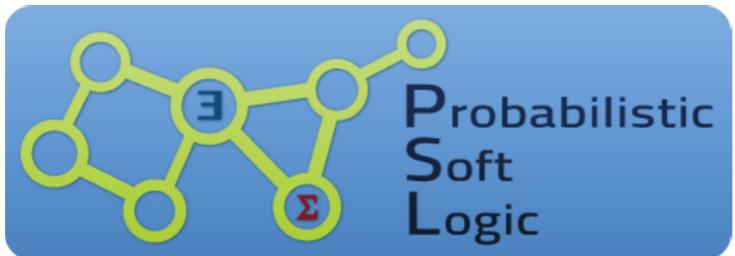
$$f(I) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp \left[ - \sum_{r \in R} w_r d(r)^p \right]$$



## in a nutshell (3/3)

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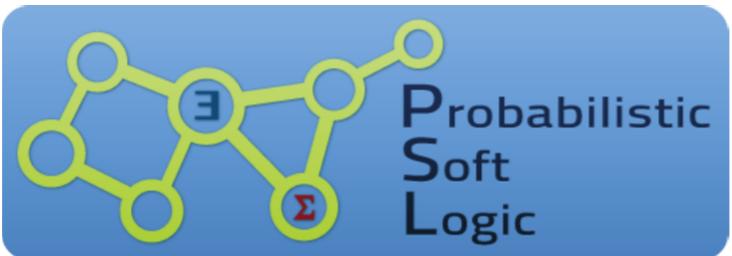
constant 



## in a nutshell (3/3)

$$f(I) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp \left[ - \sum_{r \in R} w_r d(r)^p \right]$$

constant      ↗  
all rules      ↙



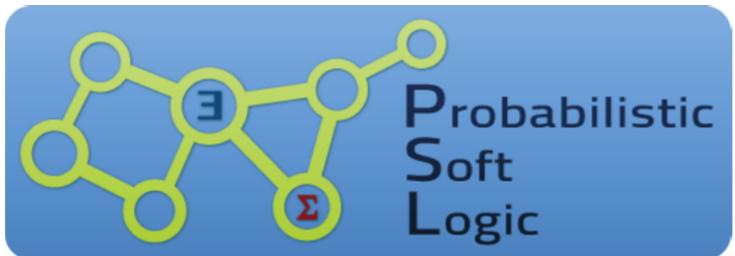
## in a nutshell (3/3)

$$f(I) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp \left[ - \sum_{r \in R} w_r d(r)^p \right]$$

constant

weight

all rules



## in a nutshell (3/3)

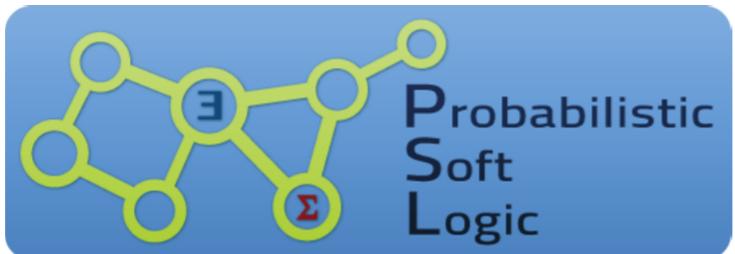
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constant

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## in a nutshell (3/3)

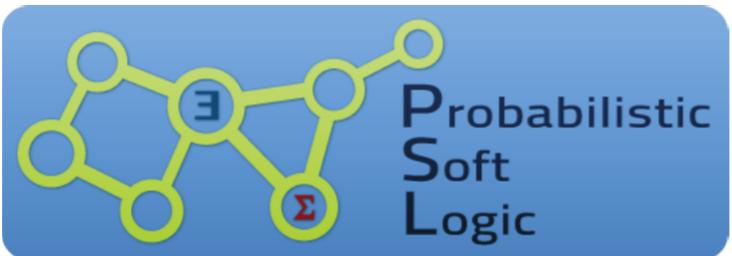
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{1,2}

all rules



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constant

weight

distance to satisfaction

{1,2}

all rules

**Most Probable Explanation (MPE):** overall interpretation with the maximum probability

PSI  
EA

# I. Classes implied by NLP annotations

$M$  mention

$A_i^T$  candidate annotation for task  $T$  on  $M$

$c$  ontological class from background knowledge  $K$

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$c$  ontological class from background knowledge  $K$

$$w(M, A_i^T) : \text{Ann}_T(M, A_i^T) \wedge \text{ImpCl}_T(A_i^T, c) \rightarrow \text{ClAnn}_T(M, A_i^T, c)$$

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NLP annotation

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$c$  ontological class from background knowledge  $K$

NLP annotation

$w(M, A_i^T) : \frac{\text{Ann}_T(M, A_i^T)}{\text{ImpCl}_T(A_i^T, c)} \wedge \text{ClAnn}_T(M, A_i^T, c)$

confidence score

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$M$  mention

$A_i^T$  candidate annotation for task  $T$  on  $M$

$c$  ontological class from background knowledge  $K$

NLP annotation

$w(M, A_i^T) : \frac{\text{Ann}_T(M, A_i^T)}{\text{confidence score}} \wedge \frac{\text{ImpCl}_T(A_i^T, c)}{\text{implied class}} \rightarrow \text{ClAnn}_T(M, A_i^T, c)$

confidence score

implied class

# I. Classes implied by NLP annotations

$M$  mention

$A_i^T$  candidate annotation for task  $T$  on  $M$

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NLP annotation	implied class annotation
$w(M, A_i^T) : \underline{\text{Ann}_T(M, A_i^T)} \wedge \underline{\text{ImpCl}_T(A_i^T, c)} \rightarrow \text{CIAnn}_T(M, A_i^T, c)$	
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implied class annotation

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$$\text{ImpCl}_{EL}(e, c) \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 1 & \text{entity } e \text{ is instance of } c \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{array} \right.$$

Leverage **alignments** between EL Knowledge Base and Background Knowledge  $K$

## 2. Annotation Coherence via Classes

$$w_1 : \text{CIAnn}_{NERC}(m, t, c) \wedge \text{CIAnn}_{EL}(m, e, c) \rightarrow \text{Ann}_{PSL}(m, t, e)$$
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### coherence estimation

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### hyperparameters

# MPE Inference

- Determine soft-truth value of  $\text{Ann}_{PSL}$  for all **combination of annotations for a given mention**
- Best combination: **highest soft-truth value** of  $\text{Ann}_{PSL}$
- Trust model prediction only if **above a given threshold**

# **Application and Evaluation**

# Background Knowledge



[Suchanek et al., 2007]

# Tools

- NERC: **Stanford CoreNLP** [Finkel et al., 2005]
- EL: **DBpediaSpotlight** [Daiber et al., 2013]

# NERC+EL Datasets

- AIDA CoNLL-YAGO [Hoffart et al., 2011]
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 $\text{ImpCI}_{NERC}$  learned from AIDA CoNLL-YAGO (**train**)
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# Research Question

Does the ontology-driven **PSL4EA** a posteriori joint revision of the annotations from Stanford NER and DBpedia Spotlight, **improve** their NERC and EL performances?

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# Results

		type			link			type+link		
		P	R	F <sub>1</sub>	P	R	F <sub>1</sub>	P	R	F <sub>1</sub>
AIDA (5616)	<i>standard</i>	.943	.875	.908	.662	.652	.656	.634	.625	.630
	<i>with PSL4EA</i>	.947	.879	.912	.670	.659	.665	.646	.635	.640
	Δ	<b>.004</b>	<b>.004</b>	<b>.004</b>	<b>.008</b>	<b>.007</b>	<b>.009</b>	<b>.012</b>	<b>.010</b>	<b>.010</b>
MEANTIME (792)	<i>standard</i>	.882	.695	.777	.703	.556	.621	.635	.502	.561
	<i>with PSL4EA</i>	.902	.711	.795	.714	.564	.630	.667	.527	.589
	Δ	<b>.020</b>	<b>.016</b>	<b>.018</b>	.011	.008	.009	<b>.032</b>	<b>.025</b>	<b>.028</b>
TAC-KBP (4969)	<i>standard</i>	.911	.652	.760	.401	.423	.412	.367	.386	.376
	<i>with PSL4EA</i>	.925	.662	.772	.408	.430	.419	.384	.404	.394
	Δ	<b>.014</b>	<b>.010</b>	<b>.012</b>	<b>.007</b>	<b>.007</b>	<b>.007</b>	<b>.017</b>	<b>.018</b>	<b>.018</b>

bold = statistical significant (approx. rand. test)

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# Conclusions

- PSL model, leveraging ontological knowledge, for improving NLP entity annotations
- Instantiation of the model for the NERC and EL tasks
- Empirical confirmation (3 datasets) of the capability of the model to improve the quality of the annotations
- Applicable to other NERC and EL tools
- Future Work: application to other tasks (e.g., SRL)



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