

# Towards a Compositional Typed Semantics for Universal Dependencies

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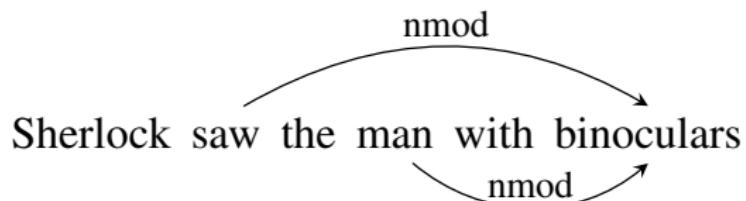
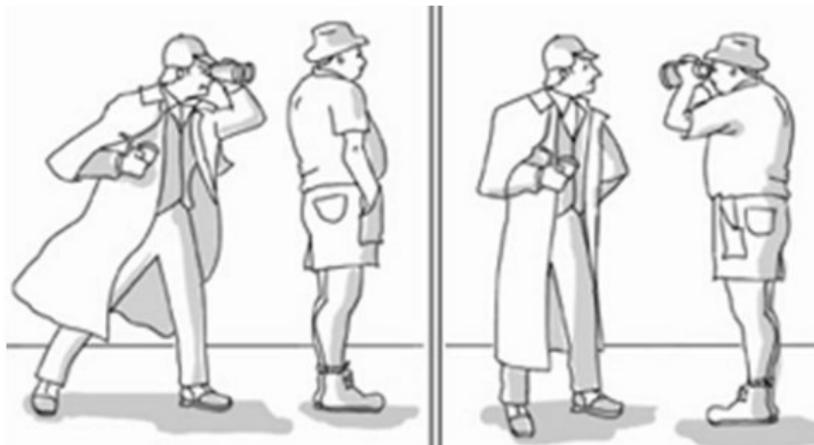


Michael Collins



Slav Petrov

# Syntax helps Semantics



# Syntax helps Semantics

kotini  
*monkey*

aratipandu  
*banana*

tinindi  
*eat*

# Syntax helps Semantics

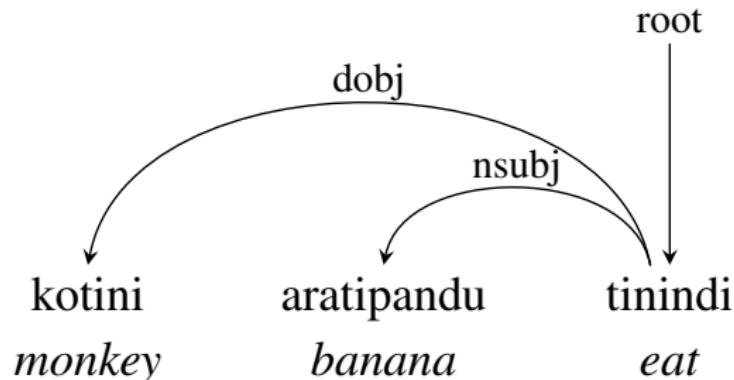
kotini  
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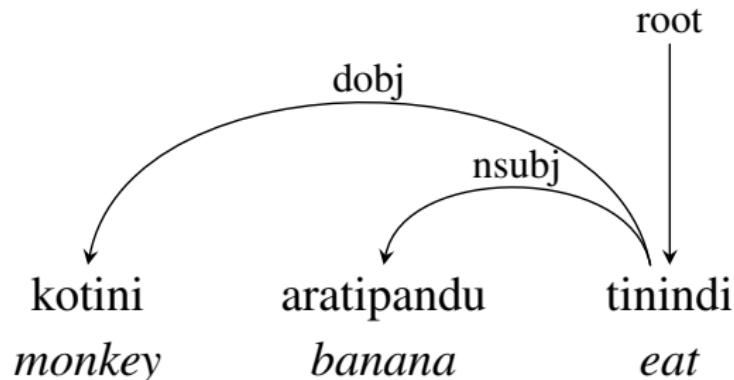
tinindi  
*eat*



# Syntax helps Semantics

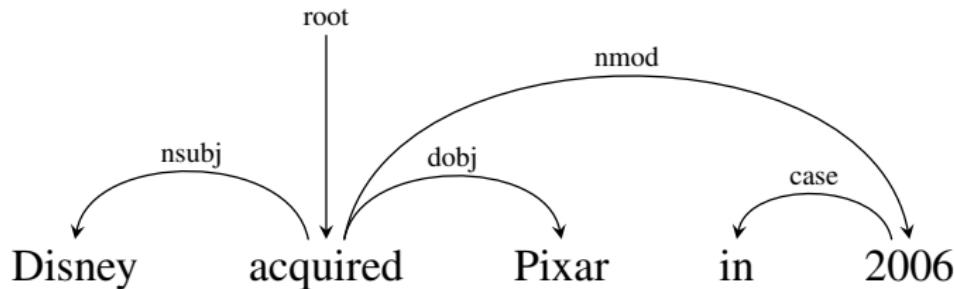


# Syntax helps Semantics



# Universal Dependencies

Homogeneous syntactic representation across languages



Pixarni  
*Pixar*

Disney  
*Disney*

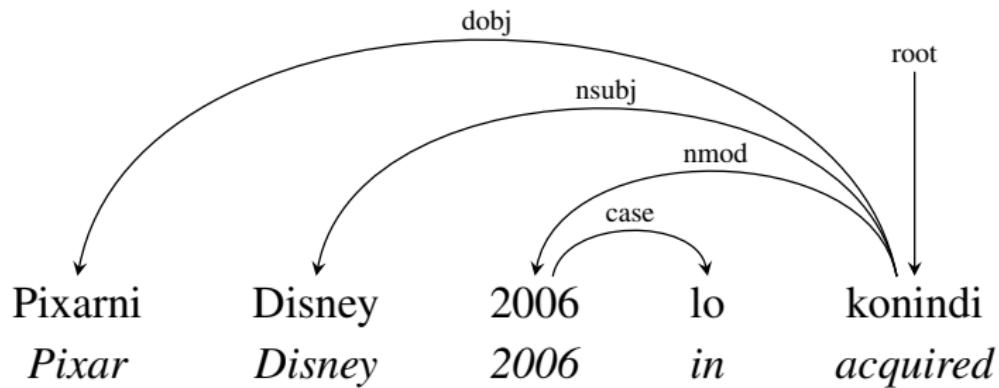
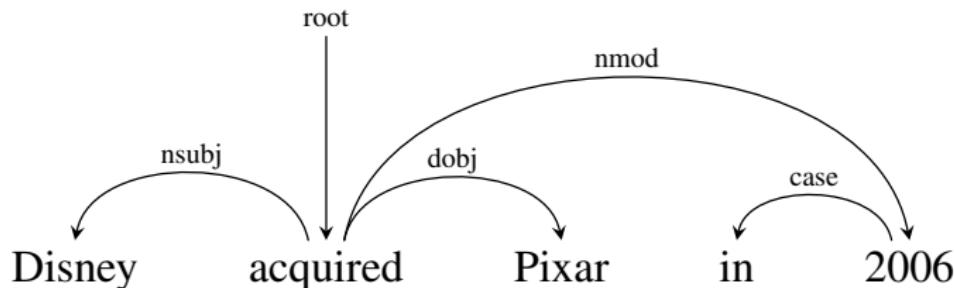
2006  
*2006*

lo  
*in*

konindi  
*acquired*

# Universal Dependencies

Homogeneous syntactic representation across languages



# Universal Dependencies

Dependency trees are human-friendly

Treebanks in 40 languages

40 dependency labels

# Dependency Tree to Semantics



Dependencies **lack** a formal theory of semantics

## This Talk

# A Compositional Typed Semantic Interface for Dependencies

## Dependency Tree to Semantics

**Principle of Compositionality:** the semantics of a complex expression is determined by the semantics of its constituent expressions and the rules used to combine them

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**Complex expression** is the dependency tree

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Principle of Compositionality: the semantics of a **complex expression** is determined by the semantics of its **constituent expressions** and the rules used to combine them

**Complex expression** is the dependency tree

**Constituent expressions** are subtrees

## Dependency Tree to Semantics

Principle of Compositionality: the semantics of a **complex expression** is determined by the semantics of its **constituent expressions** and the **rules** used to combine them

**Complex expression** is the dependency tree

**Constituent expressions** are subtrees

**Rules** are the dependency labels

# Existing Syntax-Semantics interfaces

**CCG** [Steedman, 2000; Bos et al., 2004]

**HPSG** [Copestake et al., 2001]

**LFG** [Dalrymple et al., 1995]

**TAG** [Joshi et al., 1995]

# CCG

Disney      acquired      Pixar  
 $\frac{NP}{NP}$        $\frac{}{S \setminus NP / NP}$        $\frac{}{NP}$

# CCG

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Disney} & \text{acquired} & \text{Pixar} \\ \hline NP & S \setminus NP/NP & NP \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Disney } \lambda y \lambda x \lambda e. \text{ acquired}(e) & & \text{Pixar} \\ & \wedge \text{arg}_1(e, x) & \\ & \wedge \text{arg}_2(e, y) & \end{array}$$

## Lambda Calculus

$$(\lambda x.M)N = M[x := N]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{sum}(2, 3) &= (\lambda x \lambda y. (+\ x\ y))(2)(3) \\ &= (\lambda y. (+\ 2\ y))(3) \\ &= (+\ 2\ 3) \\ &= 5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{TYPE}[\text{sum}] = \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int} \rightarrow \text{int}$$

$$\text{sum}(4, \text{sum}(2, 3)) = 9$$

# CCG

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Disney} & \text{acquired} & \text{Pixar} \\ \hline NP & S \setminus NP/NP & NP \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Disney } \lambda y \lambda x \lambda e. \text{ acquired}(e) & & \text{Pixar} \\ & \wedge \text{arg}_1(e, x) & \\ & \wedge \text{arg}_2(e, y) & \end{array}$$

# CCG

$$\frac{\text{Disney} \quad \text{acquired} \quad \text{Pixar}}{\overline{NP} \quad \overline{S \setminus NP / NP} \quad \overline{NP}}$$
$$\frac{\text{Disney } \lambda y \lambda x \lambda e. \text{ acquired}(e) \wedge \arg_1(e, x) \wedge \arg_2(e, y)}{\longrightarrow S \setminus NP} \quad \text{Pixar}$$

# CCG

$$\frac{\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Disney} & \text{acquired} & \text{Pixar} \\ \hline NP & S \setminus NP / NP & NP \end{array}}{\frac{\text{Disney } \lambda y \lambda x \lambda e. \text{ acquired}(e) \wedge \arg_1(e, x) \wedge \arg_2(e, y)}{\longrightarrow} S \setminus NP} \longrightarrow \lambda x \lambda e. \text{ acquired}(e) \wedge \arg_1(e, x) \wedge \arg_2(e, \text{ Pixar})$$

# CCG

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{Disney} & \text{acquired} & \text{Pixar} \\
 \hline
 NP & S \setminus NP / NP & NP \\
 \\ 
 \text{Disney } \lambda y \lambda x \lambda e. \text{ acquired}(e) & & \text{Pixar} \\
 & \wedge \text{arg}_1(e, x) & \\
 & \wedge \text{arg}_2(e, y) & \\
 \hline & & \longrightarrow S \setminus NP \\
 \\ 
 & \lambda x \lambda e. \text{ acquired}(e) & \\
 & \wedge \text{arg}_1(e, x) \wedge \text{arg}_2(e, \text{Pixar}) & \\
 \hline & S & \longleftarrow \\
 & \lambda e. \text{ acquired}(e) \wedge \text{arg}_1(e, \text{Disney}) \wedge \text{arg}_2(e, \text{Pixar}) &
 \end{array}$$

# CCG

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \text{Disney} & \text{acquired} & \text{Pixar} \\
 \hline
 NP & S \setminus NP / NP & NP \\
 \\ 
 \text{Disney } \lambda y \lambda x \lambda e. \text{ acquired}(e) & & \text{Pixar} \\
 & \wedge \text{arg}_1(e, x) & \\
 & \wedge \text{arg}_2(e, y) & \\
 \hline & & \rightarrow \\
 & S \setminus NP & \\
 \\ 
 & \lambda x \lambda e. \text{ acquired}(e) & \\
 & \wedge \text{arg}_1(e, x) \wedge \text{arg}_2(e, \text{Pixar}) & \\
 \hline & S & \leftarrow \\
 & \lambda e. \text{ acquired}(e) \wedge \text{arg}_1(e, \text{Disney}) \wedge \text{arg}_2(e, \text{Pixar}) &
 \end{array}$$

Typing and Combinator Rules allow  
Synchronous Syntax-Semantics interface

# Why from dependencies?

Treebanks in 40 languages

Very accurate parsers

[Andor et al., 2016, Dyer et al., 2015, Chen & Manning, 2014]

# Outline

DepLambda: Dependencies to Logical Forms

Freebase Semantic Parsing using DepLambda

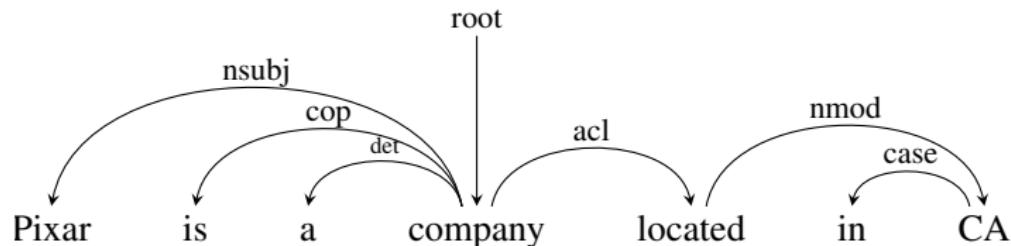
Results on English, German, and Spanish

- 
- Reddy, Täckström, Collins, Kwiatkowski, Das, Steedman, Lapata (TACL 2016)
  - Reddy, Lapata, Steedman (TACL 2014)

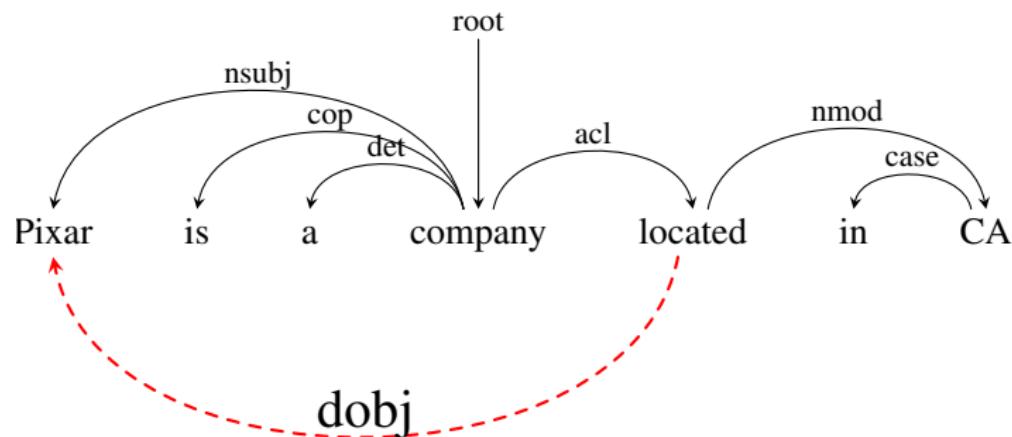
# DepLambda:

## Dependencies to Logical Forms

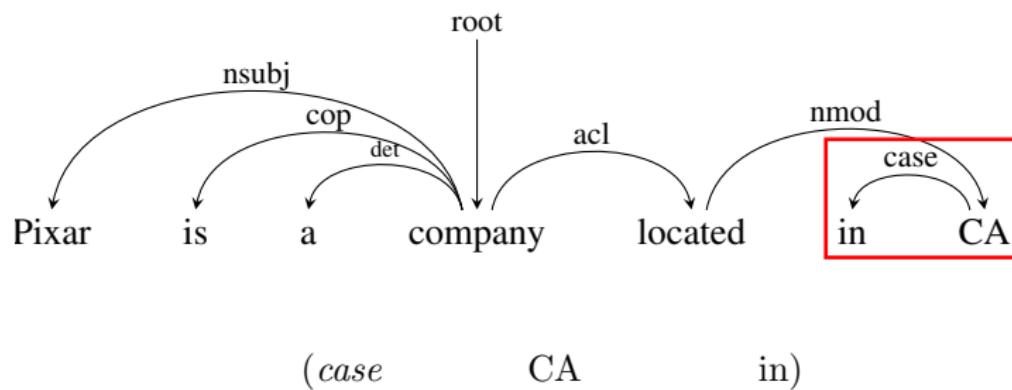
# Dependencies to Logical Forms


$$\exists z. \text{company}(z) \wedge \text{located}(z_e) \wedge \text{arg}_2(z_e, \text{Pixar}) \wedge \text{arg}_{\text{in}}(z_e, \text{CA})$$

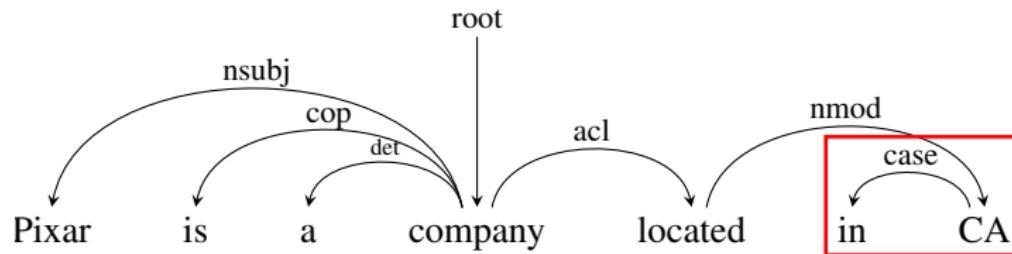
# Dependencies to Logical Forms


$$\exists z. \text{company}(z) \wedge \text{located}(z_e) \wedge \text{arg}_2(z_e, \text{Pixar}) \wedge \text{arg}_{\text{in}}(z_e, \text{CA})$$

# Dependencies to Logical Forms

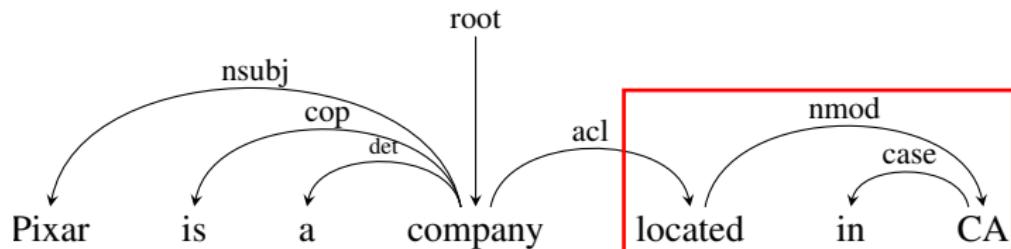


# Dependencies to Logical Forms



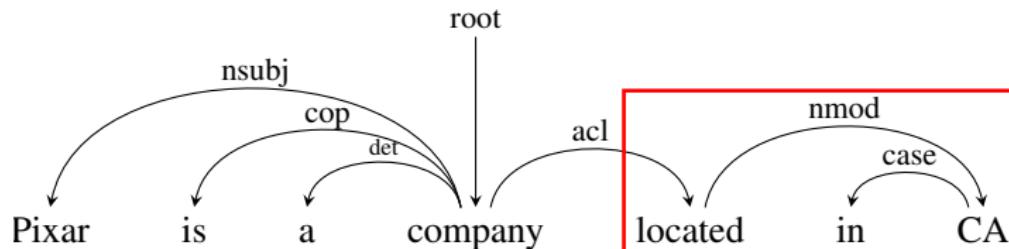
$$\begin{array}{c} (\text{case} \quad \text{CA} \quad \text{in}) \\ \lambda f g x. f(x) \quad \lambda x. \text{CA}(x_a) \quad \lambda x. \text{empty}(x) \\ \hline \lambda x. \text{CA}(x_a) \end{array}$$

# Dependencies to Logical Forms



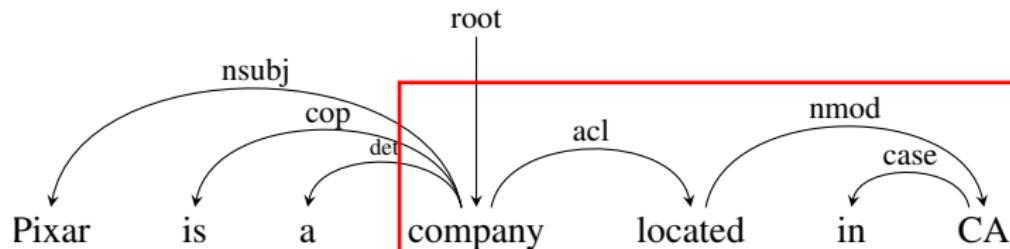
(*nmod*      located      in CA)

# Dependencies to Logical Forms



$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} (nmod \quad \text{located} \quad \text{in CA}) \\ \lambda f g z. \exists x. \quad \lambda x. \text{located}(x_e) \quad \hline \\ f(z) \wedge g(x) \wedge \\ \wedge \text{arg}_{\text{in}}(z_e, x_a) \end{array}}{\lambda z. \text{located}(z_e) \wedge \text{CA}(x_a) \wedge \text{arg}_{\text{in}}(z_e, x_a)}$$

# Dependencies to Logical Forms

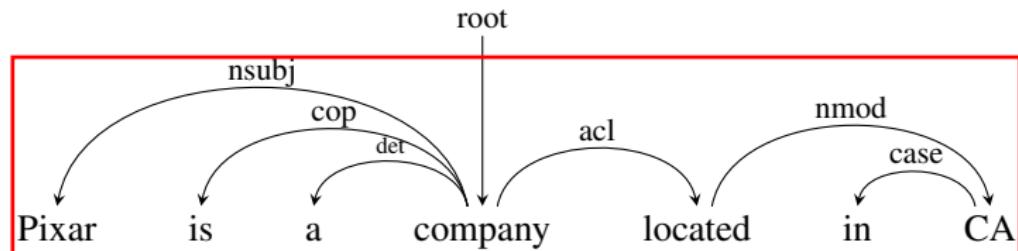


$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} (acl \quad \text{company} \quad \text{located in CA}) \\ \lambda f g x. \exists z. \quad \lambda x. \text{compay}(x_a) \quad \hline \\ f(x) \wedge g(x) \wedge \\ \arg_2(z_e, x_a) \end{array}}{\lambda g z. \exists x. \text{located}(z_e) \wedge \text{CA}(x_a) \wedge \arg_{\text{in}}(z_e, x_a)}$$

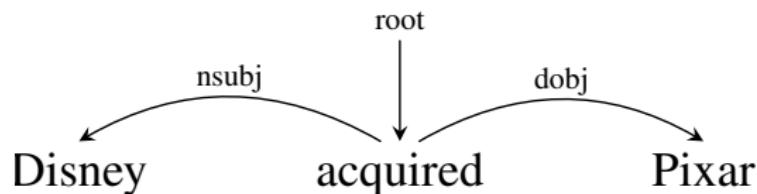
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$$\lambda x. \exists y z. \text{company}(x_a) \wedge \text{located}(z_e) \wedge \text{CA}(y_a) \wedge \arg_2(z_e, x_a) \wedge \arg_{\text{in}}(z_e, y_a)$$

# Dependencies to Logical Forms

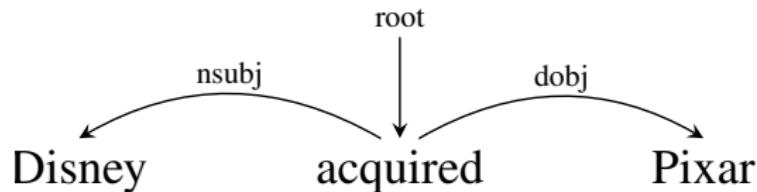

$$\exists z. \text{company}(z) \wedge \text{located}(z) \wedge \text{arg}_2(z, \text{Pixar}) \wedge \text{arg}_{\text{in}}(z, \text{CA})$$

# Dependencies to Logical Forms


$$\lambda z. \exists xy. \text{acquired}(z_e) \wedge \text{Pixar}(y_a) \wedge \text{Disney}(x_a) \wedge \\ \text{arg}_1(z_e, x_a) \wedge \text{arg}_2(z_e, y_a)$$

# Dependencies to Logical Forms

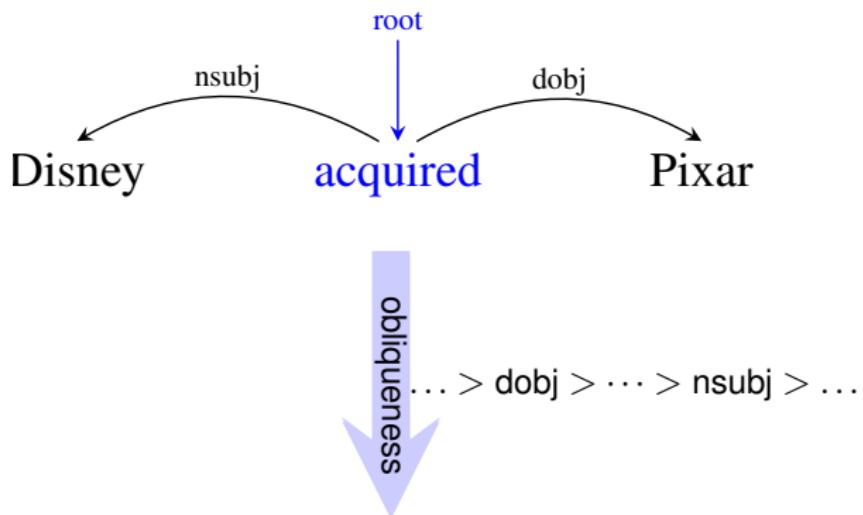
Our Approach



Let dependency labels drive the composition

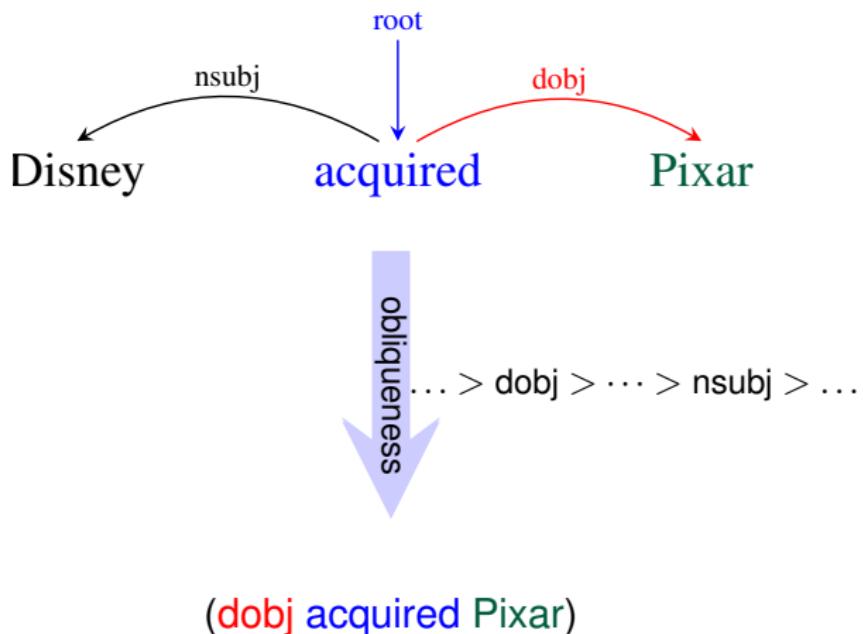
# Dependencies to Logical Forms

Our Approach



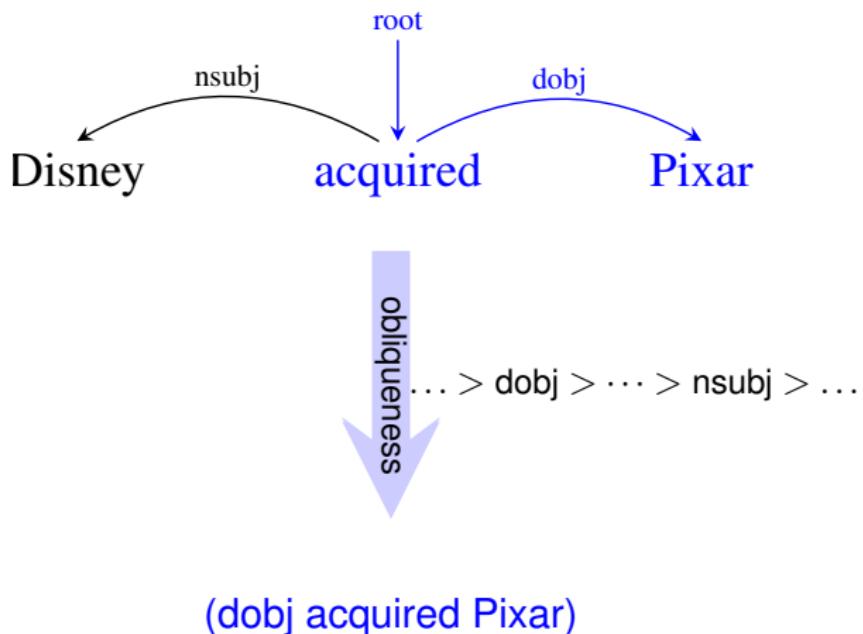
# Dependencies to Logical Forms

Our Approach



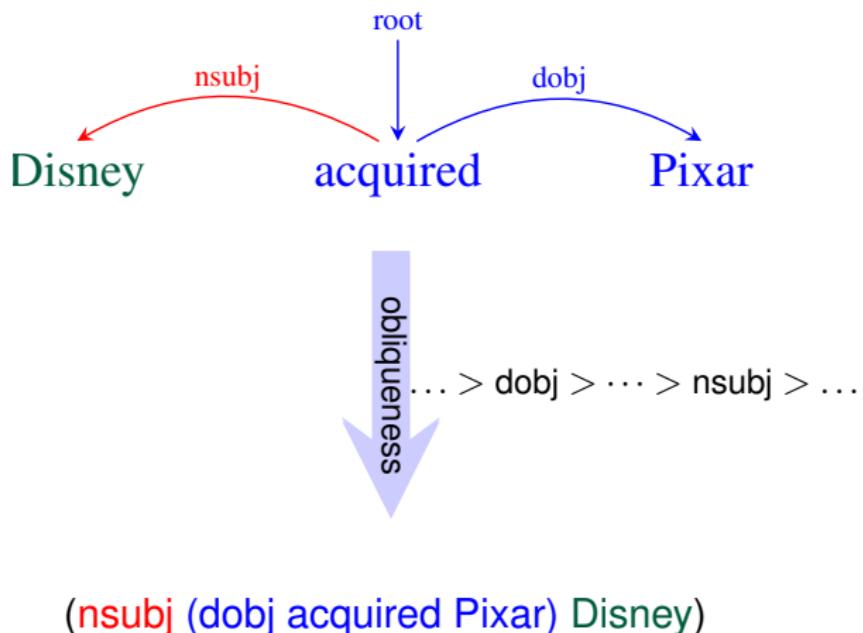
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Our Approach



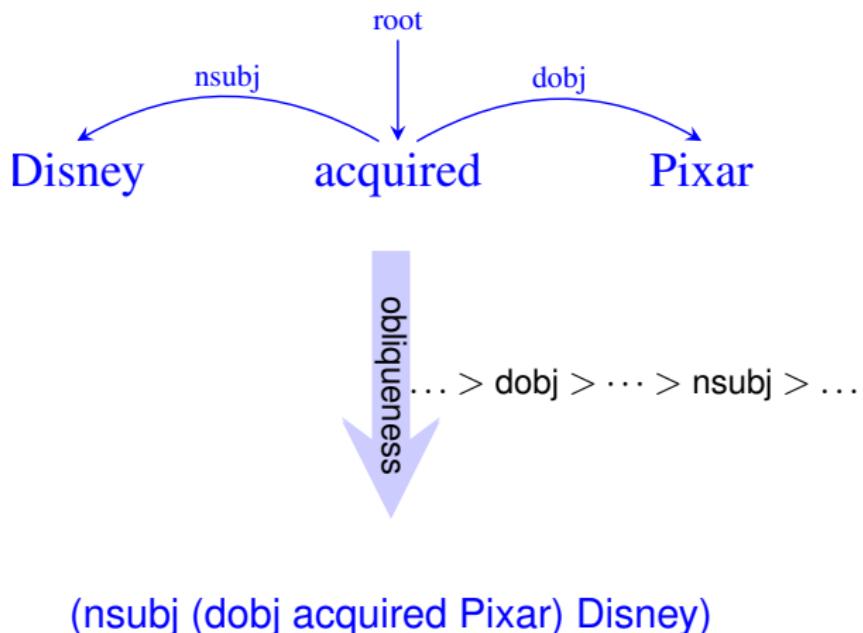
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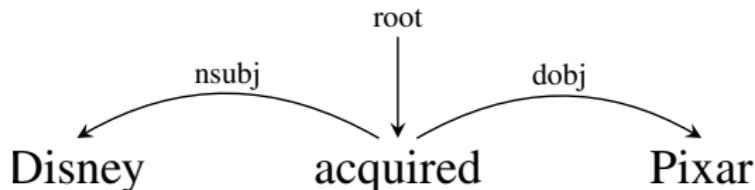
# Dependencies to Logical Forms

Our Approach



# Dependencies to Logical Forms

Our Approach

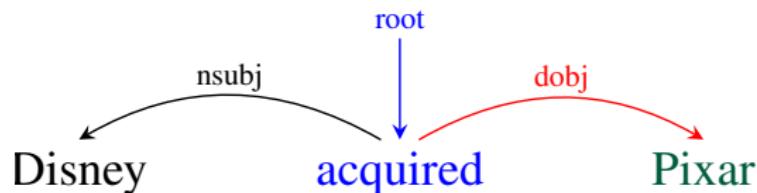


(nsubj (dobj acquired Pixar) Disney)

$$\lambda z. \exists xy. \text{acquired}(z_e) \wedge \text{Pixar}(y_a) \wedge \text{Disney}(x_a) \wedge \\ \text{arg}_1(z_e, x_a) \wedge \text{arg}_2(z_e, y_a)$$

# Dependencies to Logical Forms

## Lambda Calculus

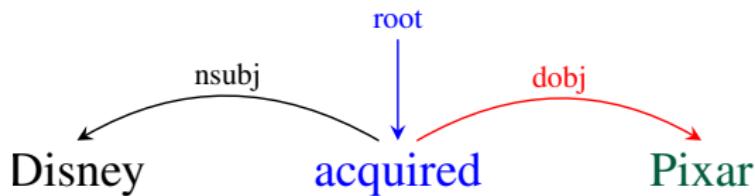


## Lambda Calculus Basic Types

- ▶ Individuals: **Ind** (also denoted by  $.a$ )
- ▶ Events: **Event** (also denoted by  $.e$ )
- ▶ Truth values: **Bool**

# Dependencies to Logical Forms

Lambda Calculus



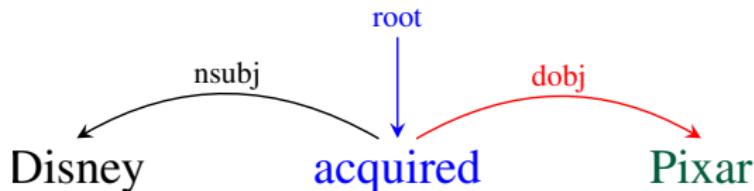
Lambda Expression for words

$$\text{acquired} \Rightarrow \lambda x. \text{acquired}(x_e)$$

$$\text{Pixar} \Rightarrow \lambda x. \text{Pixar}(x_a)$$

# Dependencies to Logical Forms

Lambda Calculus

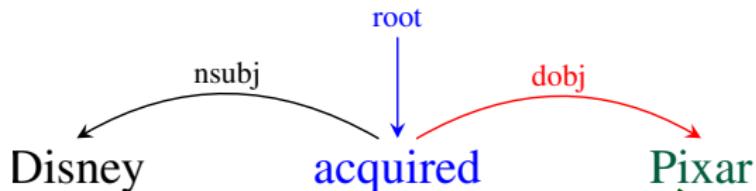


Lambda Expression for dependency labels

$$\text{dobj} \Rightarrow \lambda f\ g\ z. \exists x. f(z) \wedge g(x) \wedge \text{arg}_2(z_e, x_a)$$

# Dependencies to Logical Forms

Lambda Calculus

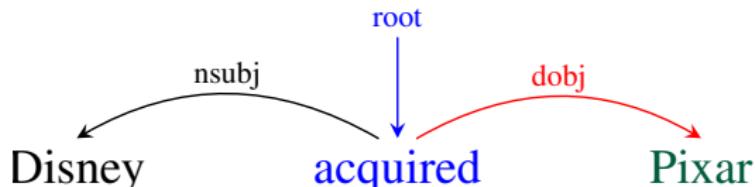


Lambda Expression for dependency labels

$$\text{dobj} \Rightarrow \lambda f\ g\ z. \exists x. f(z) \wedge g(x) \wedge \text{arg}_2(z_e, x_a)$$

# Dependencies to Logical Forms

Lambda Calculus



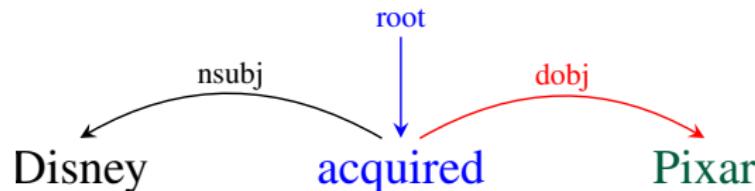
Lambda Expression for dependency labels

$$\text{dobj} \Rightarrow \lambda f\ g\ z. \exists x. f(z) \wedge g(x) \wedge \text{arg}_2(z_e, x_a)$$

This operation mirrors the tree structure

# Dependencies to Logical Forms

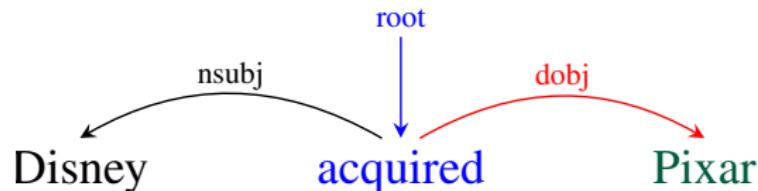
Composition



(**dobj**            **acquired**            **Pixar**)  
 $\lambda f g z. \exists y. f(z) \wedge g(y) \wedge \arg_2(z_e, y_a)$   
 $\lambda z. \text{acquired}(z_e)$   
 $\lambda y. \text{Pixar}(y_a)$

# Dependencies to Logical Forms

Composition



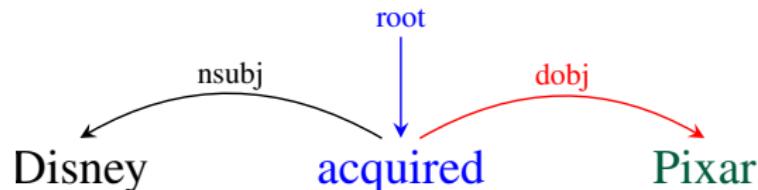
$$\begin{array}{ccc} (\mathbf{dobj}) & \mathbf{acquired} & \mathbf{Pixel} \\ \lambda f g z. \exists y. & \lambda z. \text{acquired}(z_e) & \lambda y. \text{Pixel}(y_a) \\ f(z) \wedge g(y) \wedge & & \\ \text{arg}_2(z_e, y_a) & & \end{array}$$

---

$$\begin{array}{c} \lambda g z. \exists y. \text{acquired}(z_e) \wedge g(y) \\ \wedge \text{arg}_2(z_e, y_a) \end{array}$$

# Dependencies to Logical Forms

Composition



$$\begin{array}{ccc} (\text{dobj} & \text{acquired} & \text{Pixar}) \\ \lambda fgz. \exists y. & \lambda z. \text{acquired}(z_e) & \lambda y. \text{Pixar}(y_a) \\ f(z) \wedge g(y) \wedge \\ \text{arg}_2(z_e, y_a) \end{array}$$

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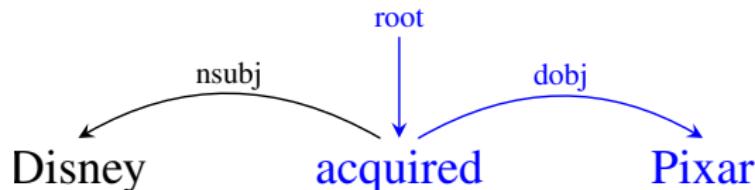
$$\begin{array}{c} \lambda gz. \exists y. \text{acquired}(z_e) \wedge g(y) \\ \wedge \text{arg}_2(z_e, y_a) \end{array}$$

---

$$\begin{array}{c} \lambda z. \exists y. \text{acquired}(z_e) \wedge \text{Pixar}(y_a) \\ \wedge \text{arg}_2(z_e, y_a) \end{array}$$

# Dependencies to Logical Forms

Composition



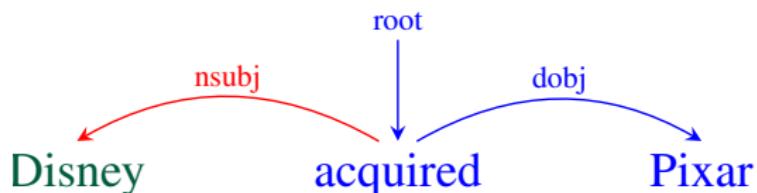
(**dobj**    **acquired**    **Pixar**)

---

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda z. \exists y. & \text{ acquired}(z_e) \wedge \text{Pixar}(y_a) \\ & \wedge \text{arg}_2(z_e, y_a) \end{aligned}$$

# Dependencies to Logical Forms

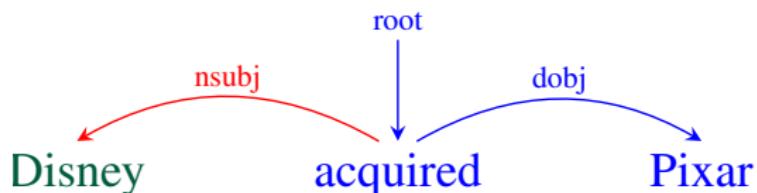
Composition



$$\begin{array}{cccc} \text{(nsubj} & \text{(dobj} & \text{acquired} & \text{Disney)} \\ \lambda f g z. \exists x. & \hline & \lambda z. \exists y. \text{acquired}(z_e) \wedge \text{Pixar}(y_a) \\ f(z) \wedge g(x) \wedge & & \wedge \text{arg}_2(z_e, y_a) \\ \text{arg}_1(z_e, x_a) & & & \lambda x. \text{Disney}(x_a) \end{array}$$

# Dependencies to Logical Forms

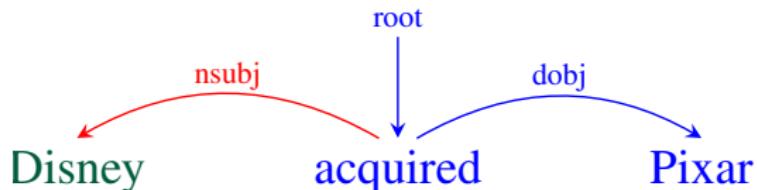
Composition



$$\begin{array}{cccc} (\text{nsubj} & (\text{dobj} & \text{acquired} & \text{Pixar}) & \text{Disney}) \\ \lambda f g z. \exists x. & \hline & \lambda z. \exists y. \text{acquired}(z_e) \wedge \text{Pixar}(y_a) & \lambda x. \text{Disney}(x_a) \\ f(z) \wedge g(x) \wedge & & \wedge \text{arg}_1(z_e, x_a) & \\ \text{arg}_1(z_e, x_a) & & \wedge \text{arg}_2(z_e, y_a) & \\ \hline & & & \\ \lambda g z. \exists x y. \text{acquired}(z_e) \wedge \text{Pixar}(y_a) \wedge g(x) \wedge & & & \\ & \text{arg}_1(z_e, x_a) \wedge \text{arg}_2(z_e, y_a) & & \end{array}$$

# Dependencies to Logical Forms

Composition



$$\begin{array}{cccc} \text{(nsubj} & \text{(dobj} & \text{acquired} & \text{Disney)} \\ \lambda f g z. \exists x. & \hline & \lambda z. \exists y. \text{acquired}(z_e) \wedge \text{Pixar}(y_a) \\ f(z) \wedge g(x) \wedge & & \wedge \text{arg}_1(z_e, x_a) & \lambda x. \text{Disney}(x_a) \\ \text{arg}_1(z_e, x_a) & & \text{arg}_2(z_e, y_a) & \end{array}$$

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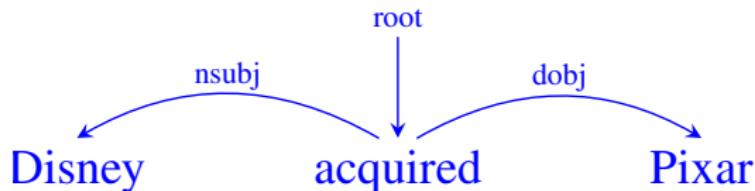
$$\begin{array}{c} \lambda g z. \exists x y. \text{acquired}(z_e) \wedge \text{Pixar}(y_a) \wedge g(x) \wedge \\ \text{arg}_1(z_e, x_a) \wedge \text{arg}_2(z_e, y_a) \end{array}$$

---

$$\begin{array}{c} \lambda z. \exists x y. \text{acquired}(z_e) \wedge \text{Pixar}(y_a) \wedge \text{Disney}(x_a) \wedge \\ \text{arg}_1(z_e, x_a) \wedge \text{arg}_2(z_e, y_a) \end{array}$$

# Dependencies to Logical Forms

Composition

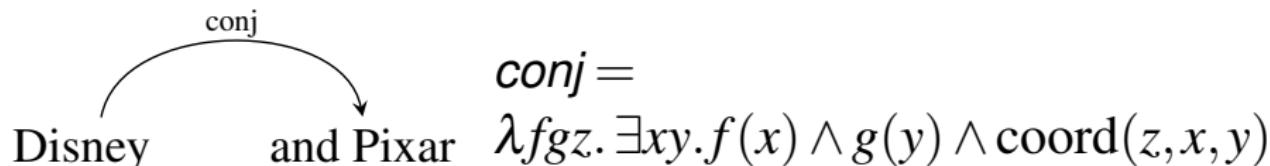
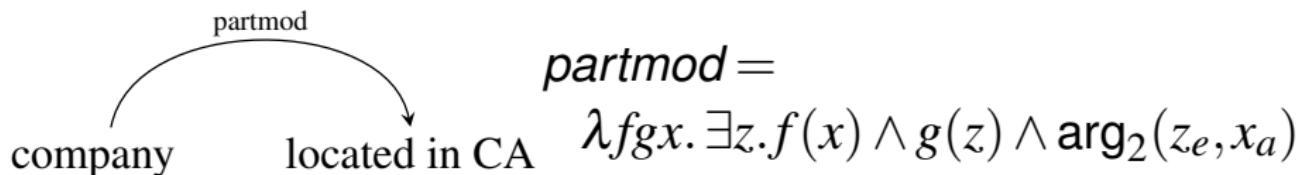


(**nsubj** (**dobj** **acquired** **Pixar**) **Disney**)

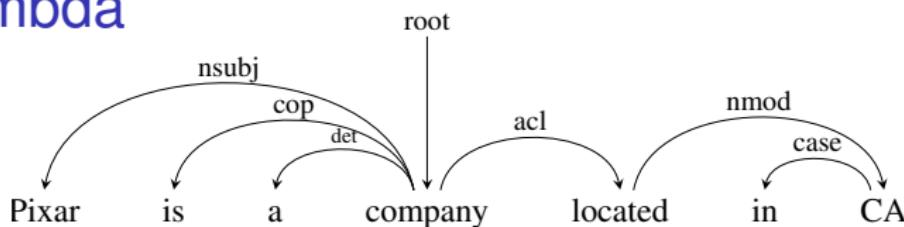
---

$$\lambda z. \exists xy. \text{acquired}(z_e) \wedge \text{Pixar}(y_a) \wedge \text{Disney}(x_a) \wedge \\ \text{arg}_1(z_e, x_a) \wedge \text{arg}_2(z_e, y_a)$$

# Dependencies to Logical Forms



# DepLambda



$\dots > \text{dobj} > \dots > \text{nsubj} > \dots$

$$\frac{\dots \quad (acl \quad \text{company} \quad (nmod \quad \text{located} \quad (case \quad \text{CA} \quad \text{in}) \quad )) \dots}{\lambda f g x. \exists z. \quad \lambda x. \text{compay}(x_a) \quad \lambda f g z. \exists x. \quad \lambda x. \text{located}(x_e) \quad \lambda f g x. f(x) \quad \lambda x. \text{CA}(x_a) \quad \lambda x. \text{empty}(x)} \\ \frac{f(x) \wedge g(z) \wedge \dots}{f(z) \wedge g(x)} \quad \frac{\arg_2(z_e, x_a) \quad \arg_{in}(z_e, x_a)}{\lambda x. \text{CA}(x_a)}$$

## lambda expression composition

$\exists z. \text{company}(z) \wedge \text{located}(z_e) \wedge \text{arg}_2(z_e, z) \wedge \text{arg}_{\text{in}}(z_e, \text{CA})$

## DepLambda in a nutshell

Dependency tree is a series of **compositions**

Dependency label defines the **composition function**

Each function takes two **typed**-semantic sub-expressions

Returns typed-semantics of the larger expression

# Freebase Semantic Parsing using DepLambda

# Freebase Semantic Parsing

[Berant et al., 2013, Kwiatkowski et al., 2013]

## Question

Who is the director of Titanic?

## Answer

{James Cameron}



## Titanic

1997 · Drama film/Romance · 3h 30m

7.7/10 · IMDb

88% · Rotten Tomatoes

James Cameron's "Titanic" is an epic, action-packed romance set against the ill-fated maiden voyage of the R.M.S. Titanic; the pride and joy of the White Star Line and, at the time, the larg... [More](#)

**Initial release:** November 18, 1997 ([London](#))

**Director:** James Cameron

**Featured song:** [My Heart Will Go On](#)

## Cast



Leonardo  
DiCaprio  
Jack Dawson



Kate  
Winslet  
Rose DeWitt  
Bukater



Billy Zane  
Caledon  
Hockley



Gloria  
Stuart  
Mrs. Thayer



Kathy Bates  
Cal's mother

# Freebase Semantic Parsing

[Berant et al., 2013, Kwiatkowski et al., 2013]

## Question

Who is the director of Titanic?

## Grounded Logical Form

$$\lambda x. \exists e. \text{film\_director}(x) \wedge \text{Latent} \text{film\_directed\_by}(e) \wedge \text{arg2}(y, x) \wedge \text{arg1}(e, \text{Titanic})$$

## Answer

{James Cameron}



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Kathy Bates  
Molly Brown

# End-to-End Semantic Parsing

[Zelle & Mooney, 1996; Zettlemoyer & Collins, 2005; Kwiatkowski et al., 2010; Liang et al., 2011;  
Artzi & Zettlemoyer, 2011; Krishnamurthy & Mitchell, 2012; Berant et al., 2013; Pasupat & Liang, 2015;  
Yih et al., 2015]

Grammar learning problem

## Question

Who is the director of Titanic?

## Grounded Logical Form

$$\lambda x. \exists e. \text{film.director}(x) \wedge \\ \text{film.directed\_by}(e) \wedge \\ \text{arg1}(e, \text{Titanic}) \wedge \text{arg2}(e, x)$$

# End-to-End Semantic Parsing

[Zelle & Mooney, 1996; Zettlemoyer & Collins, 2005; Kwiatkowski et al., 2010; Liang et al., 2011;  
Artzi & Zettlemoyer, 2011; Krishnamurthy & Mitchell, 2012; Berant et al., 2013; Pasupat & Liang, 2015;  
Yih et al., 2015]

## Grammar learning problem

- ▶ director →  $N : \lambda x. \text{film.director}(x)$
- ▶ of →  $(NP \setminus NP) / NP :$   
 $\lambda f \lambda g \lambda x. \exists y \exists e. f(y) \wedge g(x) \wedge$   
 $\text{film.directed\_by}(e) \wedge$   
 $\text{arg1}(e, y) \wedge \text{arg2}(e, x)$

### Question

Who is the director of Titanic?

### Grounded Logical Form

$$\lambda x. \exists e. \text{film.director}(x) \wedge$$
$$\text{film.directed\_by}(e) \wedge$$
$$\text{arg1}(e, \text{Titanic}) \wedge \text{arg2}(e, x)$$

# Intermediate Semantic Parsing

[Kwiatkowski et al., 2013; Reddy et al., 2014; Choi et al., 2015; Artzi et al., 2015]

Language to  
ungrounded logical form

Ungrounded logical form to  
grounded logical form

## Question

Who is the director of Titanic?

## Ungrounded Logical Form

$$\lambda x. \text{TARGET}(x_a) \wedge \text{director}(x_a) \wedge \\ \text{director\_event}(x_e) \wedge \\ \text{arg0}(x_e, x_a) \wedge \text{arg.of}(x_e, \text{Titanic})$$

## Grounded Logical Form

$$\lambda x. \exists e. \text{film.director}(x) \wedge \\ \text{film.directed\_by}(e) \wedge \\ \text{arg2}(e, x) \wedge \text{arg1}(e, \text{Titanic})$$

# Freebase Semantic Parsing: Task Setting

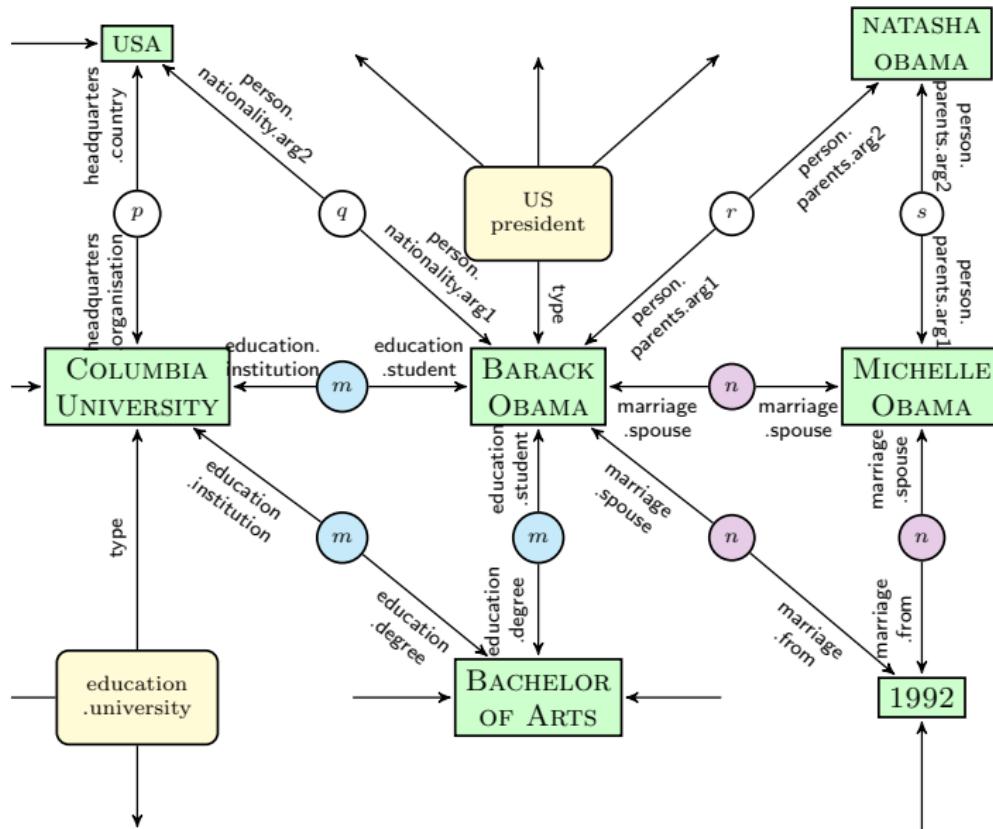
**Training Data:** Question and Answer Pairs

**Evaluation:** Question Answering on Freebase

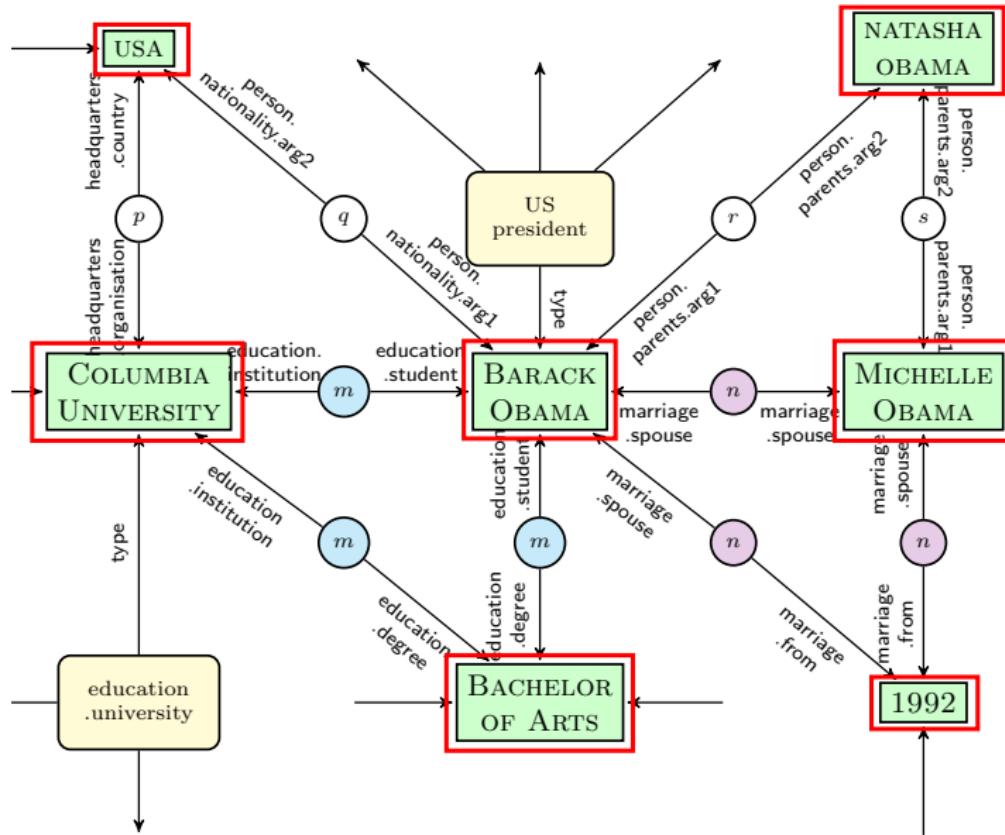
**Resources:** Dependency Parser, DepLambda

**Hypothesis:** DepLambda logical forms are useful

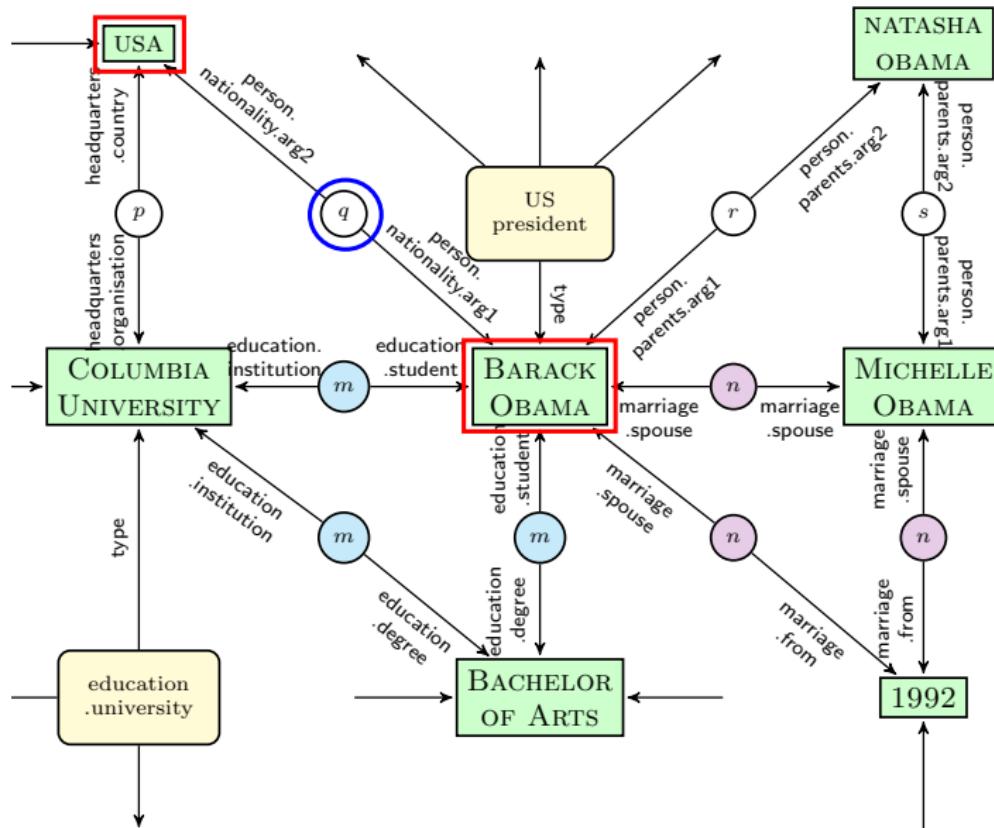
# Freebase is a Graph



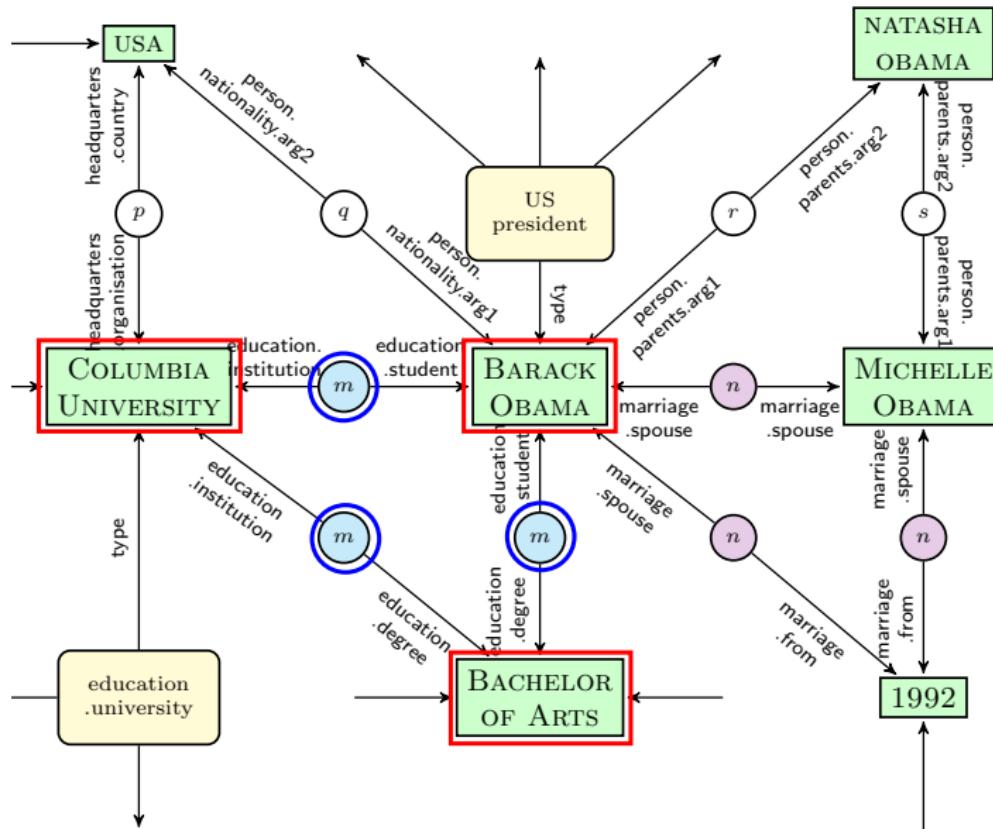
# Freebase is a Graph



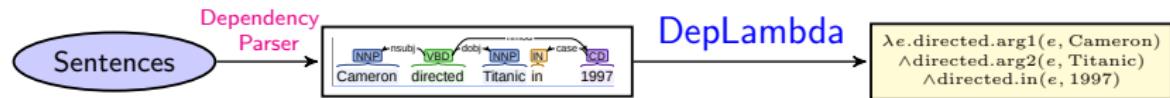
# Freebase is a Graph



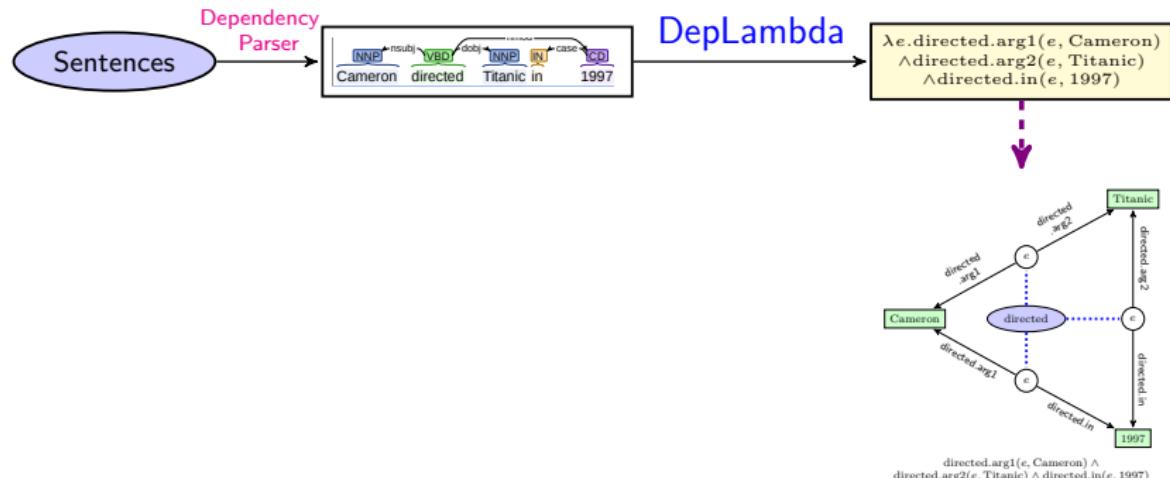
# Freebase is a Graph



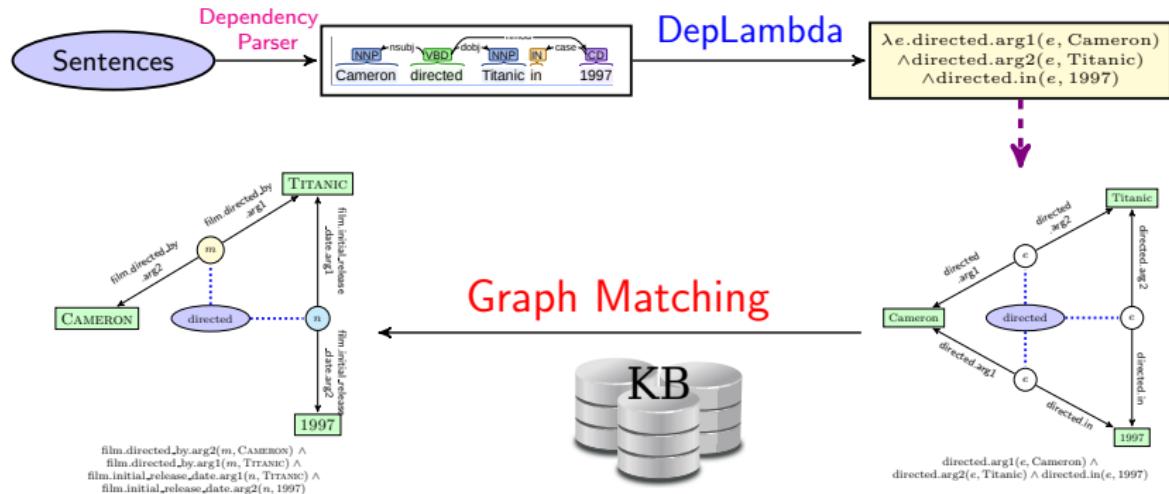
# Our Approach



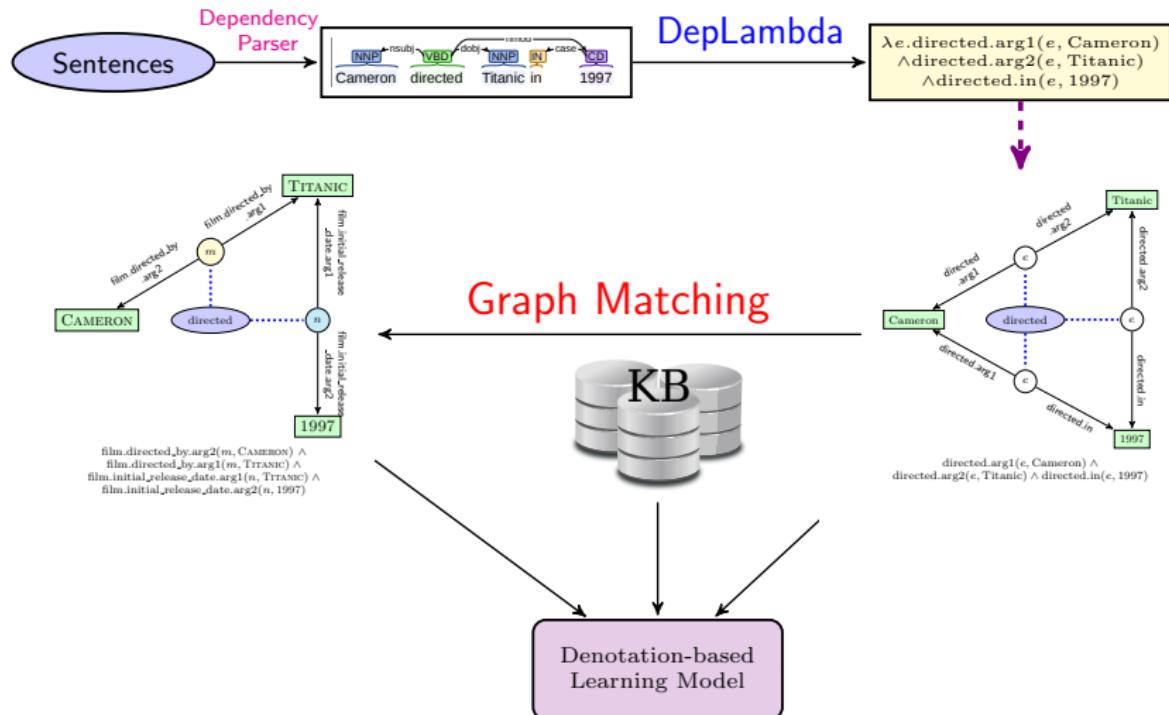
# Our Approach



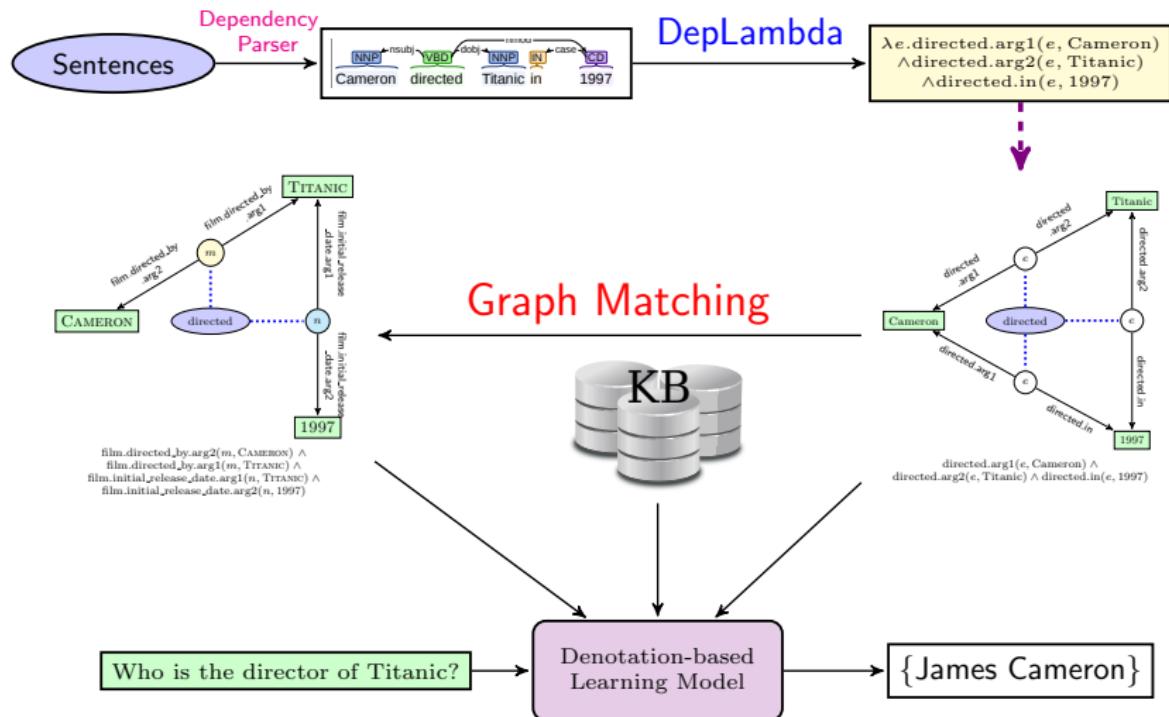
# Our Approach



# Our Approach



# Our Approach



# Logical Form to Ungrounded Graph

*Cameron directed Titanic in 1997*

$$\lambda e. \text{directed}.\text{arg1}(e, \text{Cameron}) \wedge \text{directed}.\text{arg2}(e, \text{Titanic}) \wedge \text{directed}.\text{in}(e, 1997)$$

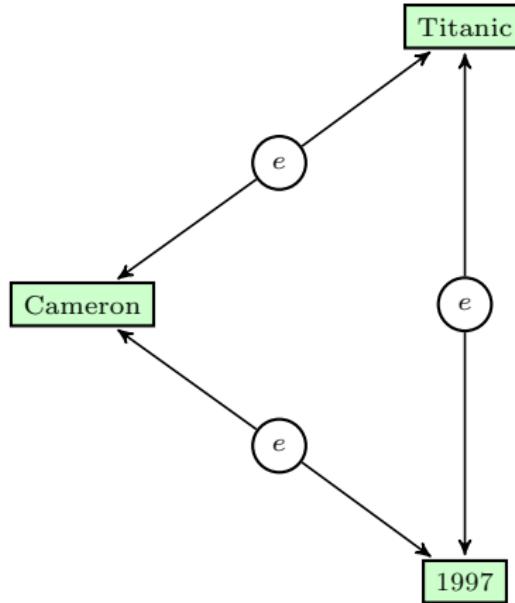
Titanic

Cameron

1997

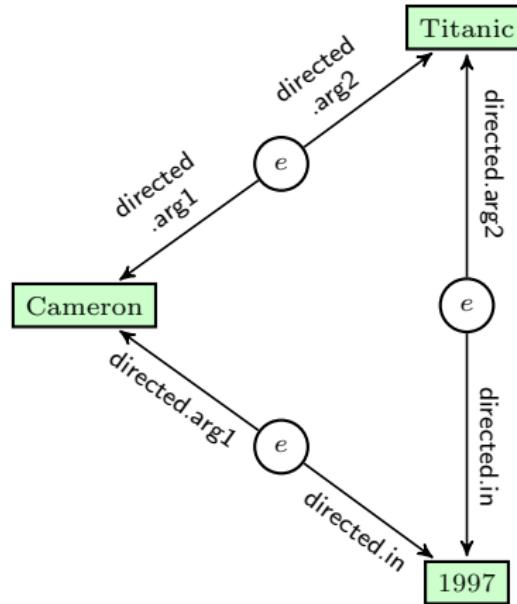
# Logical Form to Ungrounded Graph

*Cameron directed Titanic in 1997*

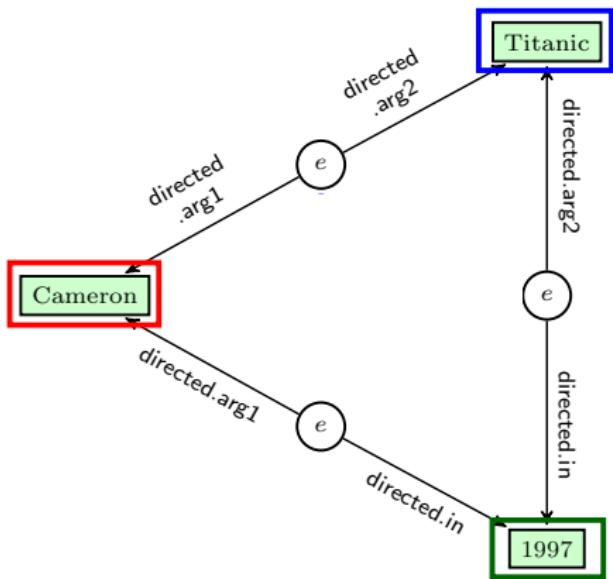
$$\lambda e. \text{directed}.\text{arg1}(e, \text{Cameron}) \wedge \text{directed}.\text{arg2}(e, \text{Titanic}) \wedge \\ \text{directed}.\text{in}(e, 1997)$$


# Logical Form to Ungrounded Graph

*Cameron directed Titanic in 1997*

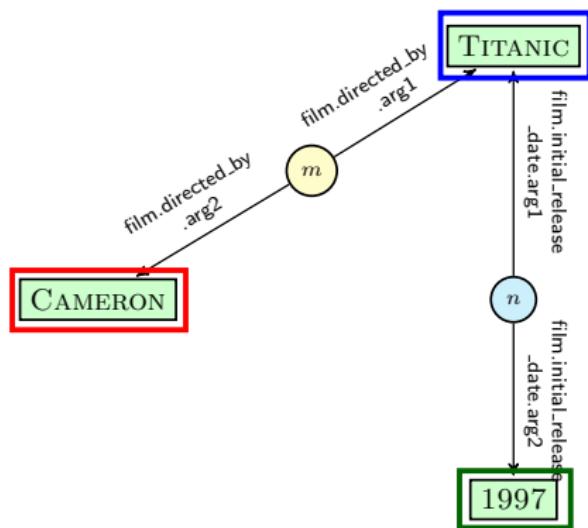
$$\lambda e. \text{directed.arg1}(e, \text{Cameron}) \wedge \text{directed.arg2}(e, \text{Titanic}) \wedge \\ \text{directed.in}(e, 1997)$$


# Graph Matching



$\text{directed.arg1}(e, \text{Cameron}) \wedge$   
 $\text{directed.arg2}(e, \text{Titanic}) \wedge \text{directed.in}(e, 1997)$

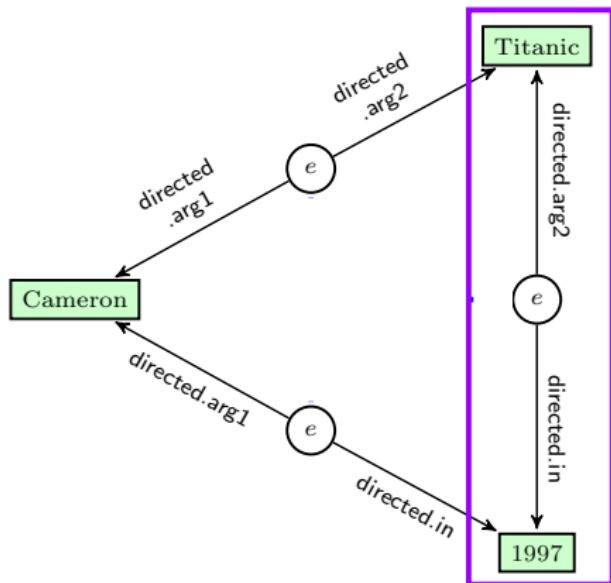
Ungrounded Graph



$\text{film.directed\_by.arg2}(m, \text{CAMERON}) \wedge$   
 $\text{film.directed\_by.arg1}(m, \text{TITANIC}) \wedge$   
 $\text{film.initial\_release\_date.arg1}(n, \text{TITANIC}) \wedge$   
 $\text{film.initial\_release\_date.arg2}(n, 1997)$

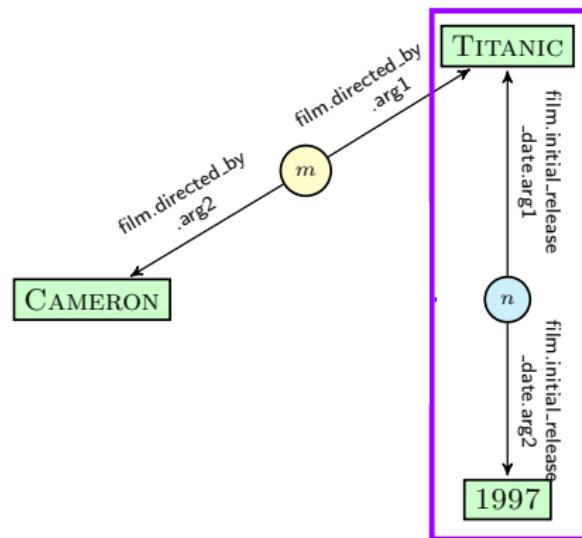
Grounded Graph

# Graph Matching



$\text{directed.arg1}(e, \text{Cameron}) \wedge$   
 $\text{directed.arg2}(e, \text{Titanic}) \wedge \text{directed.in}(e, 1997)$

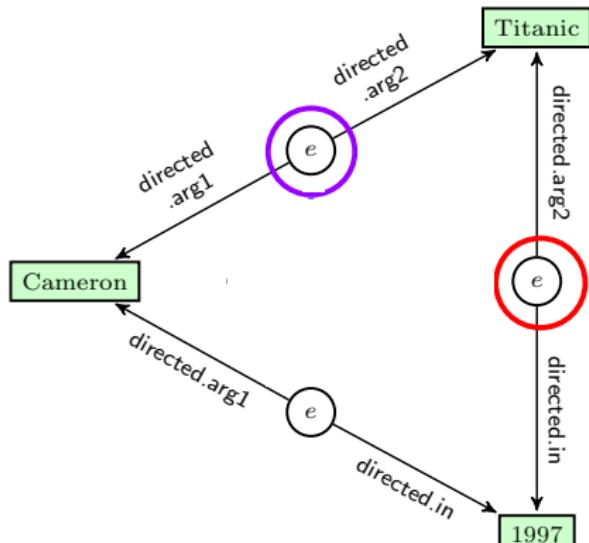
Ungrounded Graph



$\text{film.directed\_by.arg2}(m, \text{CAMERON}) \wedge$   
 $\text{film.directed\_by.arg1}(m, \text{TITANIC}) \wedge$   
 $\text{film.initial\_release\_date.arg1}(n, \text{TITANIC}) \wedge$   
 $\text{film.initial\_release\_date.arg2}(n, 1997)$

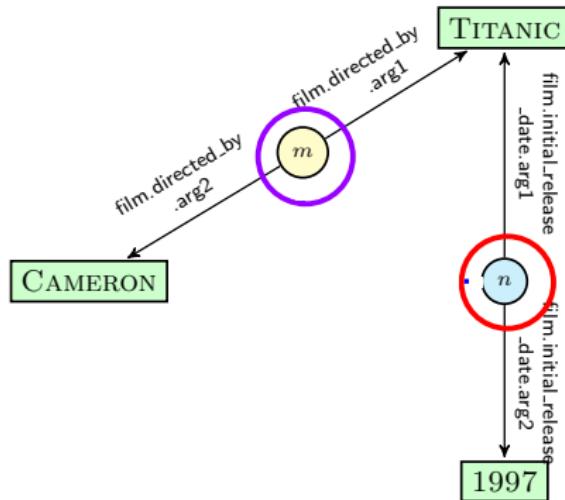
Grounded Graph

# Graph Matching



$\text{directed.arg1}(e, \text{Cameron}) \wedge$   
 $\text{directed.arg2}(e, \text{Titanic}) \wedge \text{directed.in}(e, 1997)$

Ungrounded Graph

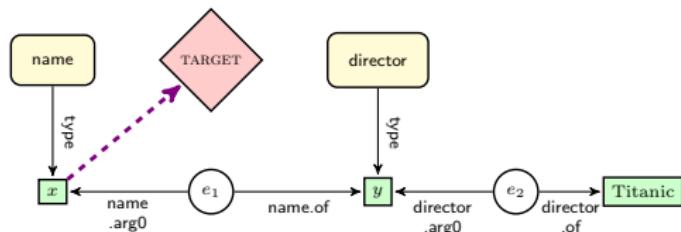


$\text{film.directed\_by.arg2}(m, \text{CAMERON}) \wedge$   
 $\text{film.directed\_by.arg1}(m, \text{TITANIC}) \wedge$   
 $\text{film.initial\_release\_date.arg1}(n, \text{TITANIC}) \wedge$   
 $\text{film.initial\_release\_date.arg2}(n, 1997)$

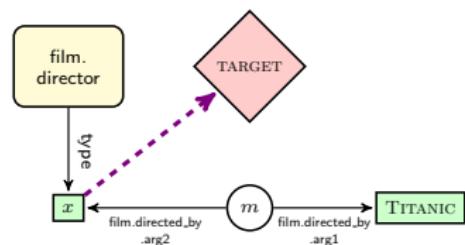
Grounded Graph

# Graph Mismatch

What is the name of the director of *Titanic*?



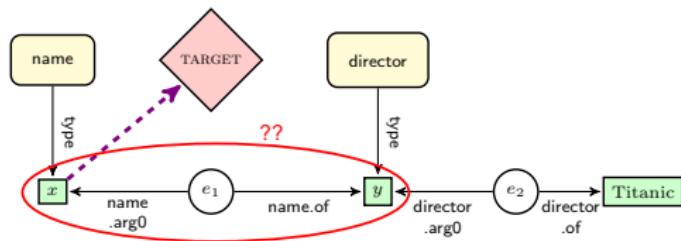
Ungrounded graph



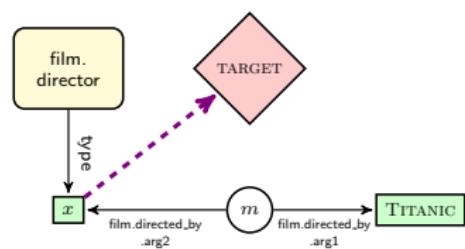
Grounded graph

# Graph Mismatch

What is the name of the director of Titanic?



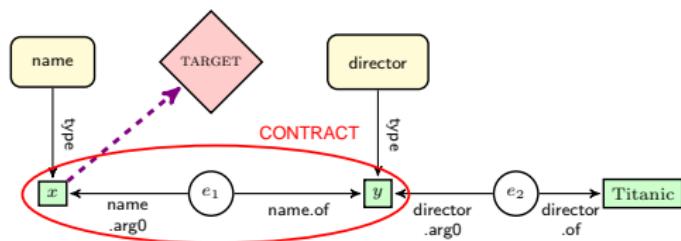
Ungrounded graph



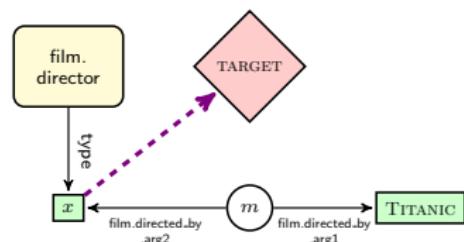
Grounded graph

# Graph Mismatch

What is the name of the director of *Titanic*?



Ungrounded graph



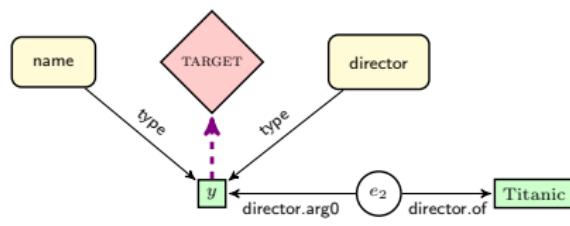
Grounded graph

- ▶ Paraphrasing is an alternative<sup>†</sup>

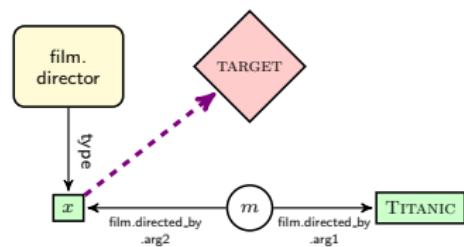
<sup>†</sup>Narayan, Reddy, Cohen (INLG 2016)

# Graph Mismatch

What is the name of the director of Titanic?



Ungrounded graph



Grounded graph

## Learning Model

Structured Perceptron: Ranks grounded and ungrounded graph pairs

$$(\hat{g}, \hat{u}) = \arg \max_{g,u} \Phi(g, u, q, KB) \cdot \theta$$

↓  
Feature Function

## Learning Model

Structured Perceptron: Ranks grounded and ungrounded graph pairs

$$(\hat{g}, \hat{u}) = \arg \max_{g, u} \Phi(g, u, q, KB) \cdot \theta$$


Grounded Graph

## Learning Model

Structured Perceptron: Ranks grounded and ungrounded graph pairs

$$(\hat{g}, \hat{u}) = \arg \max_{g, u} \Phi(g, u, q, KB) \cdot \theta$$



Ungrounded Graph

## Learning Model

Structured Perceptron: Ranks grounded and ungrounded graph pairs

$$(\hat{g}, \hat{u}) = \arg \max_{g, u} \Phi(g, u, q, KB) \cdot \theta$$


Question

## Learning Model

Structured Perceptron: Ranks grounded and ungrounded graph pairs

$$(\hat{g}, \hat{u}) = \arg \max_{g, u} \Phi(g, u, q, KB) \cdot \theta$$



Weight Vector

## Learning Model

Structured Perceptron: Ranks grounded and ungrounded graph pairs

$$(\hat{g}, \hat{u}) = \arg \max_{g, u} \Phi(g, u, q, KB) \cdot \theta$$



Weight Vector

Training: Use gold graph to update weights

$$\theta \leftarrow \theta + \Phi(g^+, u^+, q, KB) - \Phi(\hat{g}, \hat{u}, q, KB)$$

## Learning Model

- ★ We **do not** have access to gold graphs
- ★ Access only to the **answers** rather than the query
- ★ Solution: use a **surrogate** gold graph

# Learning Model

- ★ We **do not** have access to gold graphs
- ★ Access only to the **answers** rather than the query
- ★ Solution: use a **surrogate** gold graph

Surrogate Gold Graph:

$$(g^+, u^+) = \underset{(g, u) \in O(q)}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} \Phi(g, u, q, KB) \cdot \theta^t$$



Oracle Graphs

## Experimental Setup: Stanford Dependencies

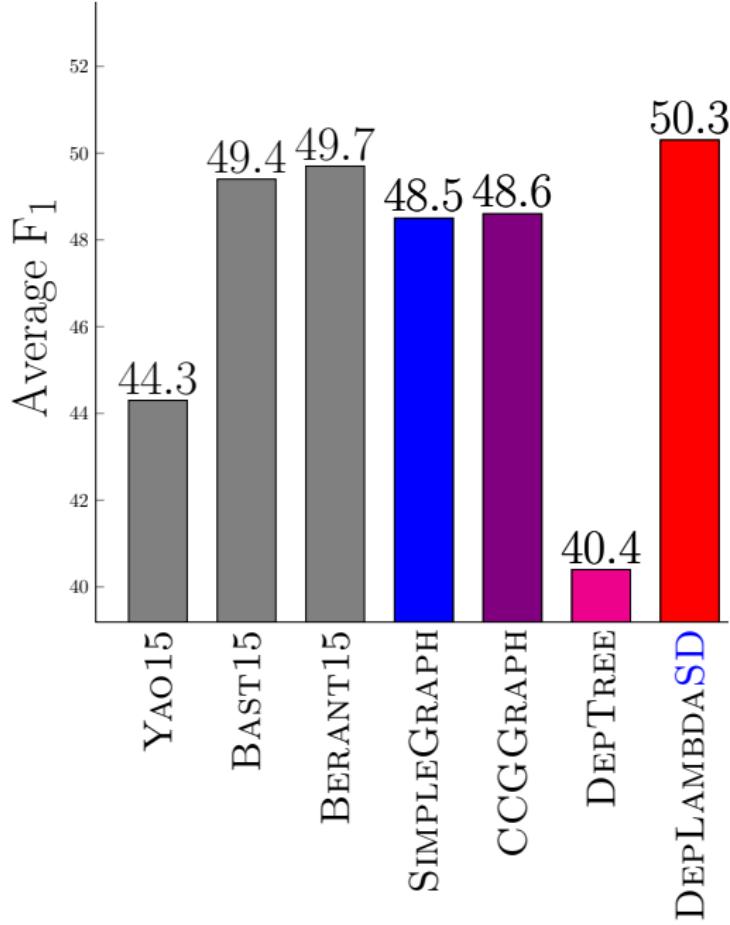
## Baselines

**SIMPLEGRAPH**: All entities connected to a single event  
bag of words

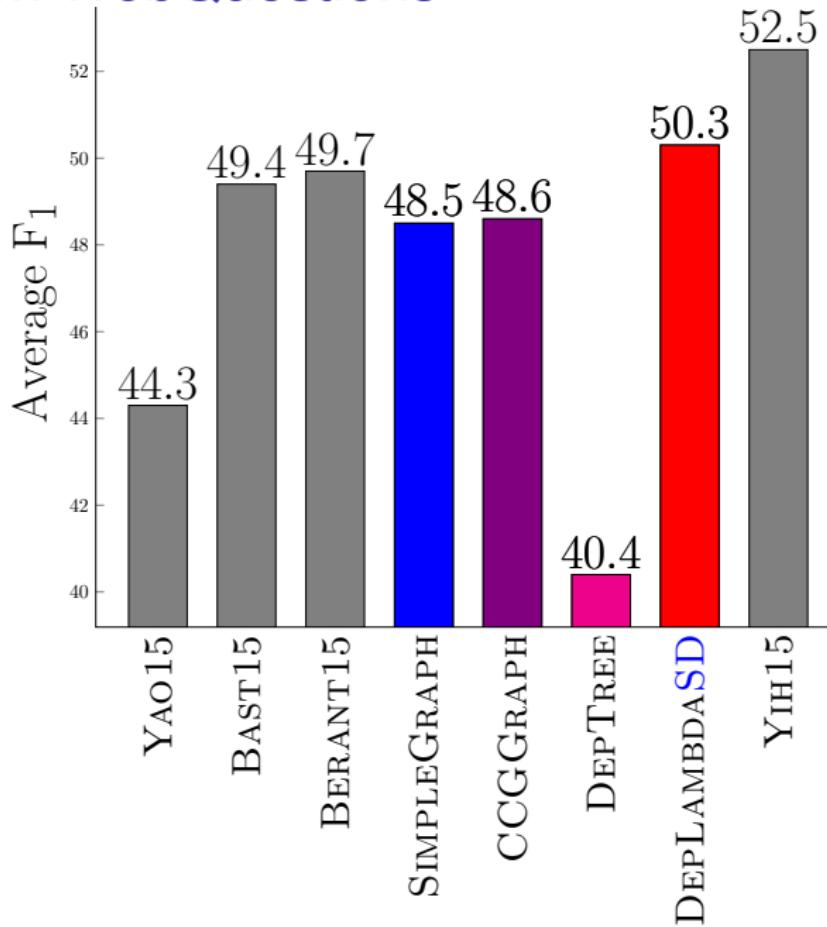
**CCGGRAFH**: CCG logical forms

**DEPTREE**: Transduce a dependency tree to target graph

# Results on WebQuestions



# Results on WebQuestions



## Experimental Setup: UD

69 lambda calculus formulae for Universal Dependencies

# WebQuestions in English, German, Spanish

## Results on Multilingual WebQuestions

Works for English, German,  
Spanish. Graph: TODO

## Error Analysis

CCGGGRAPH fails to produce logical forms for 4.5%.

- ▶ Sensitive to grammatical errors
- ▶ e.g., *what nestle owns?*

DepLambda fails only for 0.9%

- ▶ e.g., *what to do washington december*

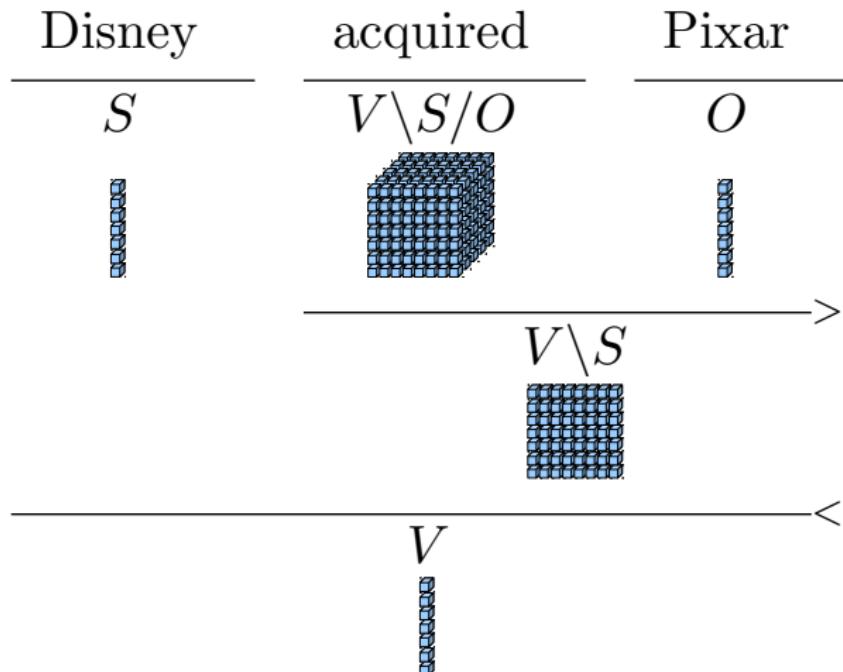
## Comparision with CCG

$$\frac{\text{Disney} \quad \text{acquired} \quad \text{Pixar}}{NP \quad S \setminus NP / NP \quad NP}$$
$$\frac{\text{Disney } \lambda y \lambda x \lambda e. \text{ acquired}(e) \wedge \arg_1(e, x) \wedge \arg_2(e, y) \quad \text{Pixar}}{S \setminus NP} \rightarrow$$
$$\frac{\lambda x \lambda e. \text{ acquired}(e) \wedge \arg_1(e, x) \wedge \arg_2(e, \text{Pixar})}{\lambda e. \text{ acquired}(e) \wedge \arg_1(e, \text{Disney}) \wedge \arg_2(e, \text{Pixar})} \leftarrow S$$

## Comparison with CCG

CCG	DepLambda
Lexicalized semantics $S \setminus NP/NP : \lambda y \lambda x \lambda e. \text{acquired}(e) \wedge \arg_1(e, x) \wedge \arg_2(e, y)$	Simple lexical semantics $\lambda x. \text{acquired}(x_e)$
Words drive composition	Dependencies drive composition
Language specific types	Mostly universal

## Comparision with CCG



# DepLambda: Present

Compositional Typed Semantics using Lambda Calculus

Two universal types

Output: General-purpose logical forms

## DepLambda: Towards ...

Compositional Typed Semantics using Lambda Calculus

Two universal types

Output: General-purpose logical forms

# DepLambda: Present

Compositional Typed Semantics using Lambda Calculus

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Output: General-purpose logical forms

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## DepLambda: Towards ...

Compositional Typed Semantics using Lambda Calculus

Two universal types

Output: General-purpose logical forms

## DepLambda: Towards ...

Richer universal context-sensitive types

Richer composition functions, e.g., neural networks

Output: Any target semantic representation

- ▶ Semantic Parsing
- ▶ Machine Translation

# This Talk

1. Dependencies to Logical Forms ✓
2. Freebase Semantic Parsing using Logical Forms ✓
3. Exploiting Text for Freebase Semantic Parsing

### 3. Exploiting Text for Freebase Semantic Parsing

- 
- Bisk, Reddy, Blitzer, Hockenmaier (EMNLP 2016)
  - Reddy, Lapata, Steedman (TACL 2014)

# Semantic Parsing without QA pairs

## Question

Who is the director of Titanic?

## Logical Form

$\lambda x. \text{film.directed-by}(\text{Titanic}, x)$

## Answer

{James Cameron}



## Titanic

1997 · Drama film/Romance · 3h 30m

7.7/10 · [IMDb](#)

88% · [Rotten Tomatoes](#)

James Cameron's "Titanic" is an epic, action-packed romance set against the ill-fated maiden voyage of the R.M.S. Titanic; the pride and joy of the White Star Line and, at the time, the larg... [More](#)

**Initial release:** November 18, 1997 ([London](#))

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## Cast



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DiCaprio  
Jack Dawson



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Billy Zane  
Caledon  
Hockley



Gloria  
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Kathy Bates  
Molly Brown

# Semantic Parsing without QA pairs

**Question**  
Who is the director of Titanic?

**Logical Form**  
 $\lambda x. \text{film}.\text{director}(Titanic, x)$

**Answer**  
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Stuart  
Mrs. Thayer



Kathy Bates  
Cal's mother

# Semantic Parsing without QA pairs

TL

Leonardo DiCaprio starred as Jack in Titanic which was directed by James Cameron.



KB

cast(TITANIC, DICAPRIO, JACK) ∧  
director(TITANIC, CAMERON)



TRUE



## Titanic

1997 · Drama film/Romance · 3h 30m

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Bukater



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Molly Brown

## Task Setup

Training Data: Web Corpus

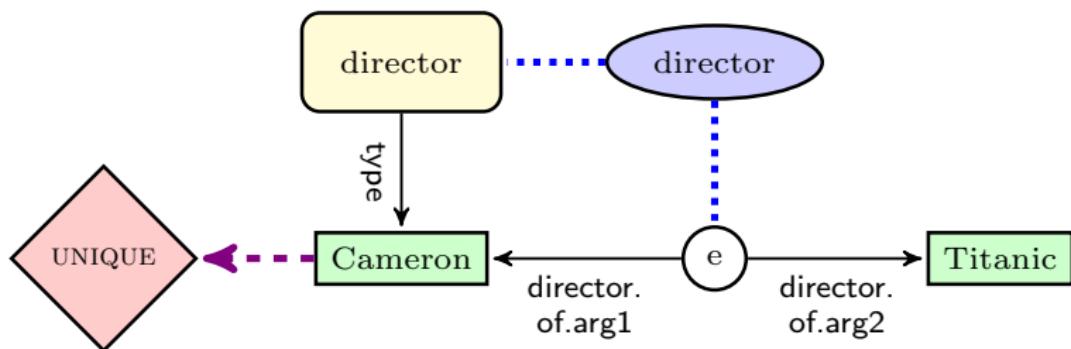
Evaluation: Question Answering on Freebase

Resources: Ungrounded Logical Forms

Hypothesis: We do not need manual question answer pairs

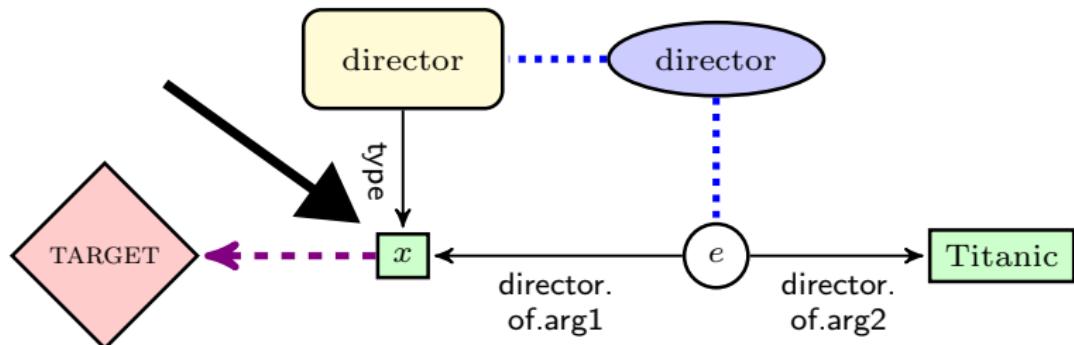
# Learning from Text

Cameron is the director of Titanic.


$$\text{UNIQUE}(\text{Cameron}) \wedge \text{director}(\text{Cameron}) \wedge \\ \text{director.of.arg1}(e, \text{Cameron}) \wedge \text{director.of.arg2}(e, \text{Titanic})$$

# Learning from Text

Cameron is the director of Titanic.

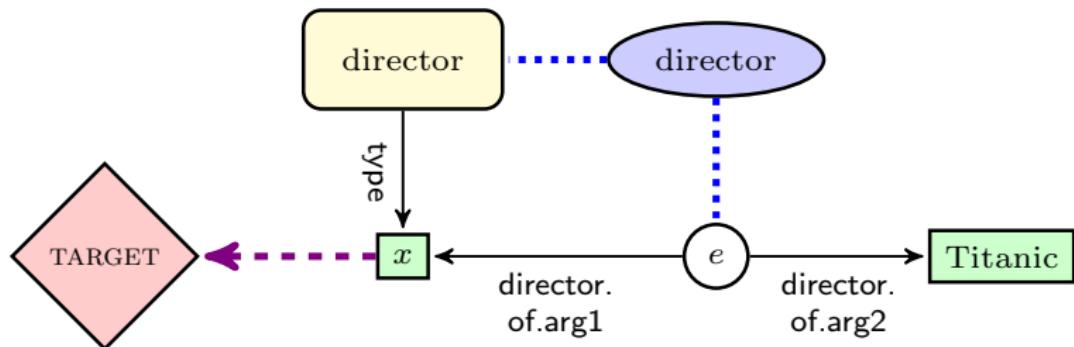


$\text{TARGET}(x) \wedge \text{director}(x) \wedge \text{director.of.arg1}(e, x) \wedge \text{director.of.arg2}(e, \text{Titanic})$

Select one of the entities as target and replace it with  $x$  (here *Cameron*).

# Learning from Text

Who is the director of Titanic?

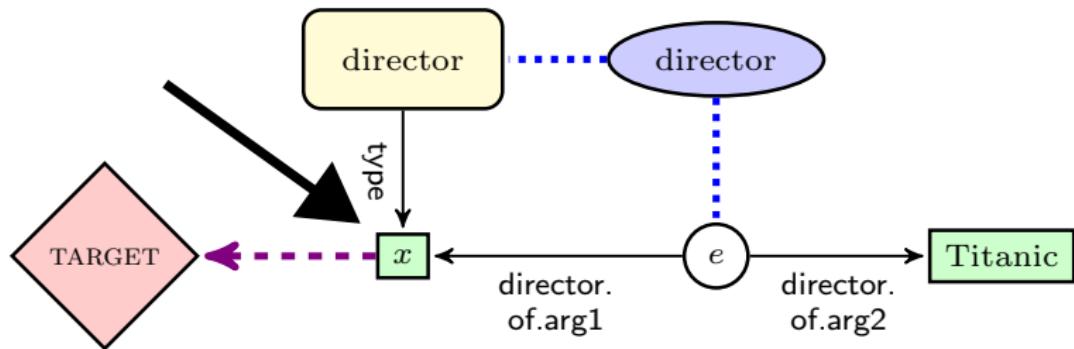


$\text{TARGET}(x) \wedge \text{director}(x) \wedge \text{director.of.arg1}(e, x) \wedge \text{director.of.arg2}(e, \text{Titanic})$

Build all knowledge base subgraphs with  $x$  uninstantiated.

# Learning from Text

Cameron is the director of Titanic.



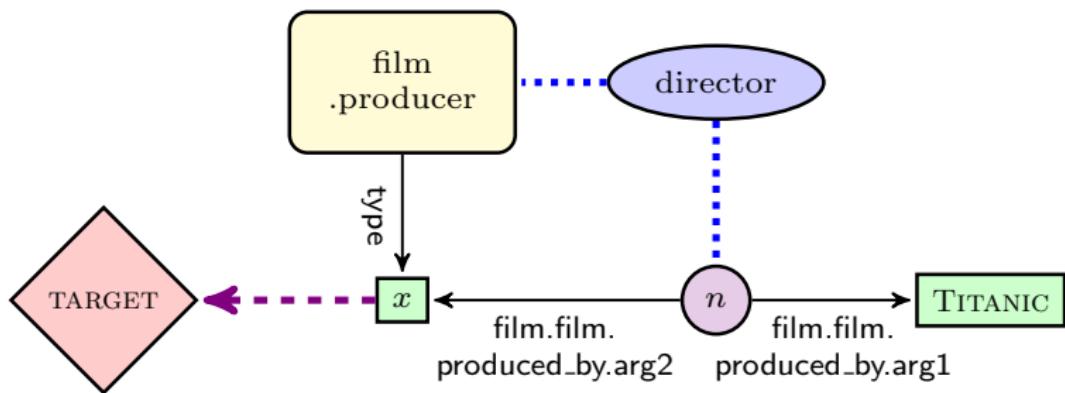
$\text{TARGET}(x) \wedge \text{director}(x) \wedge \text{director.of.arg1}(e, x) \wedge \text{director.of.arg2}(e, \text{Titanic})$

$$[[x]]_{NL} = \{\text{CAMERON}\}$$

Use denotations in NL and Freebase to select a surrogate gold graph.

# Learning from Text

Who is the director of Titanic?



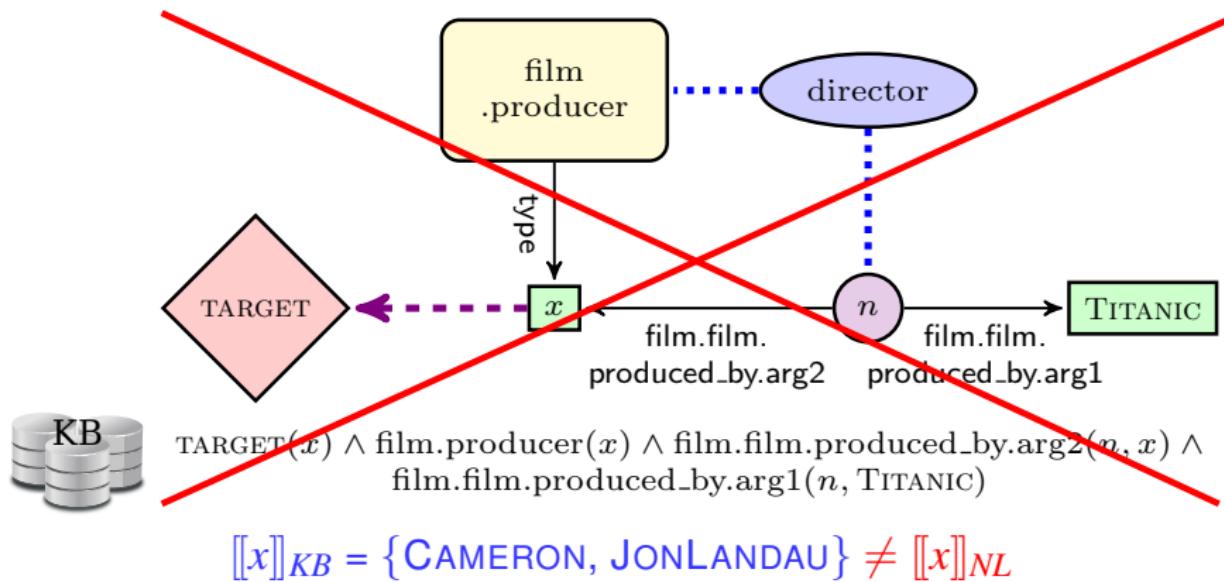
$\text{TARGET}(x) \wedge \text{film.producer}(x) \wedge \text{film.film.produced\_by}.arg2(n, x) \wedge \text{film.film.produced\_by}.arg1(n, \text{TITANIC})$

$$[[x]]_{KB} = \{\text{CAMERON}, \text{JON LANDAU}\}$$

Use denotations in NL and Freebase to select a surrogate gold graph.

# Learning from Text

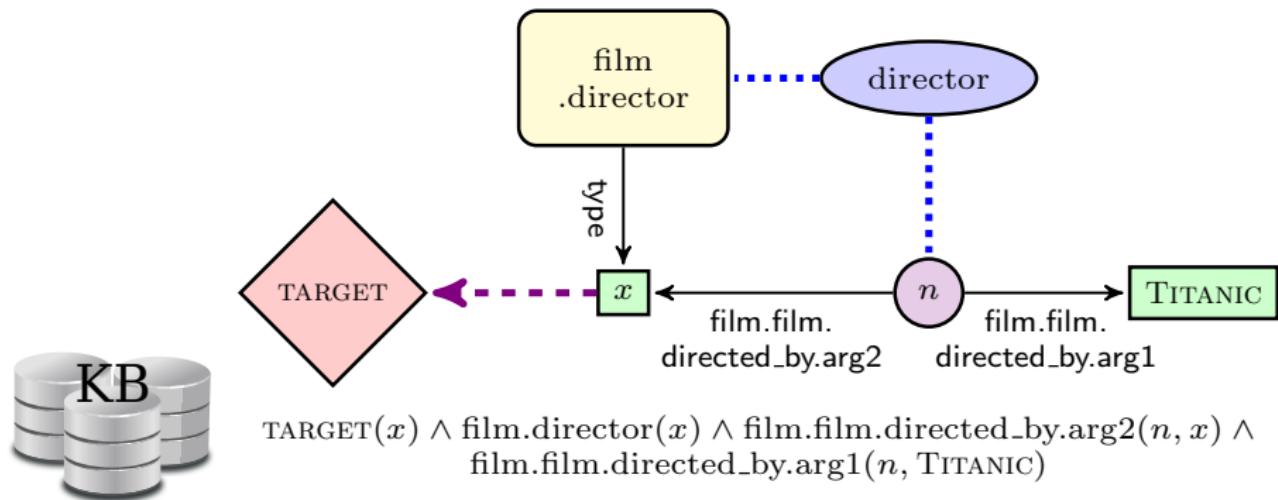
Who is the director of Titanic?



Use denotations in NL and Freebase to select a surrogate gold graph.

# Learning from Text

Who is the director of Titanic?

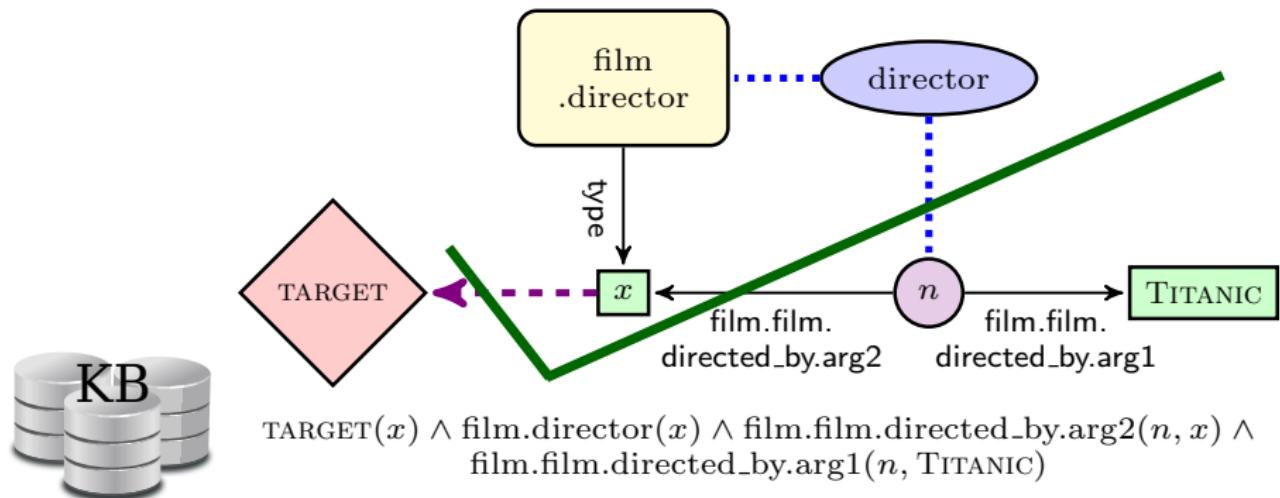


$$[[x]]_{KB} = \{\text{CAMERON}\}$$

Use denotations in NL and Freebase to select a surrogate gold graph.

# Learning from Text

Who is the director of Titanic?



$$[x]_{KB} = \{\text{CAMERON}\} = [x]_{NL}$$

Use denotations in NL and Freebase to select a surrogate gold graph.

## Learning from Text: Summary

Learning proceeds by creating **question-like graphs** by replacing named entities in logical forms mined from web text with a variable.

Then try to find the subgraph of the knowledge graph with the the most **similar denotation**.

# Results on Free917

System	Precision	Recall	F1
MWG	52.6	49.1	50.8
KCAZ13	72.6	66.1	69.2
This Work	<b>81.9</b>	<b>76.6</b>	<b>79.2</b> <b>+10.0</b>

- ▶ MWG: Greedy Maximum Weighted Graph
- ▶ KCAZ13: Kwiatkowski et al. 2013
  - ▶ Manually annotated QA pairs (612 pairs)
  - ▶ Wiktionary

# Results on WebQuestions

System	Precision	Recall	F1	<i>AvgF1</i> (BL14)
MWG	39.4	34.0	36.5	41.6
BL14	—	—	—	37.5
This Work	<b>41.9</b>	<b>37.0</b>	<b>39.3</b>	<b>47.7</b> <span style="color: blue;">+10.2</span>

- ▶ **MWG:** Greedy Maximum Weighted Graph
- ▶ **BL14:** Berant and Liang, 2014
  - ▶ Manually annotated QA pairs (1115 pairs)
  - ▶ Paraphrases and Web Corpus

# This Talk

1. Dependencies to Logical Forms ✓
2. Freebase Semantic Parsing using Logical Forms ✓
3. Exploiting Text for Freebase Semantic Parsing ✓

## QA without logical forms

- 
- Xu, Reddy, Feng, Huang, Zhao (ACL 2016)

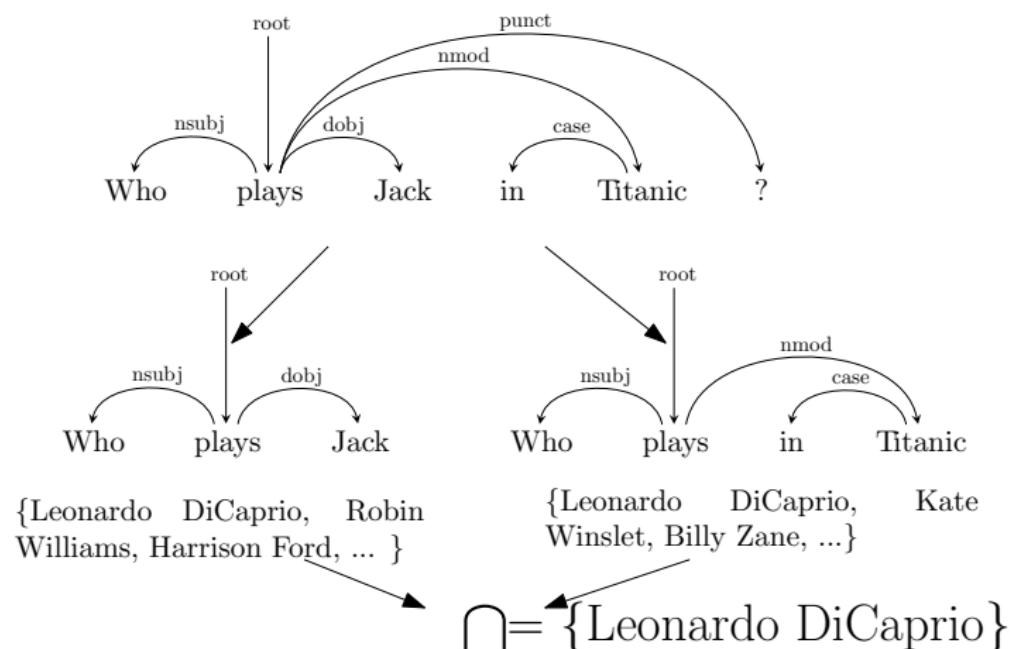
# Task Setting

**Training Data:** Question and Answer Pairs, Web Corpus

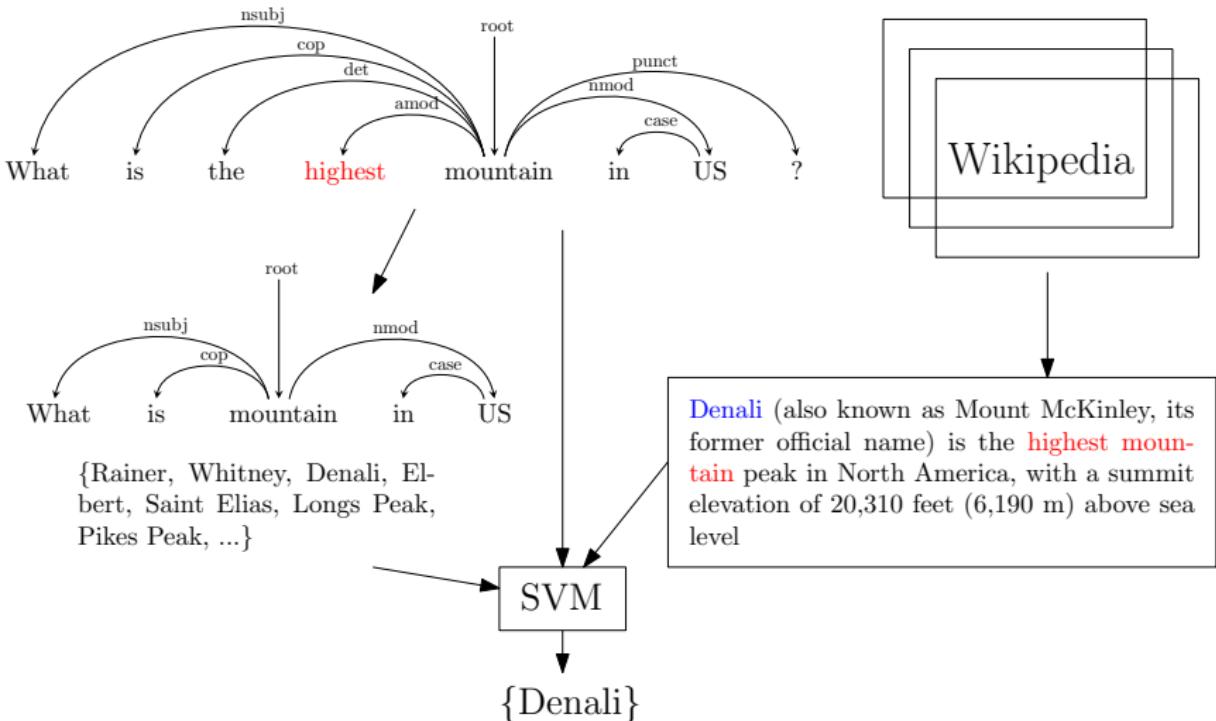
**Evaluation:** Question Answering on Freebase

**Resources:** Dependency Parser

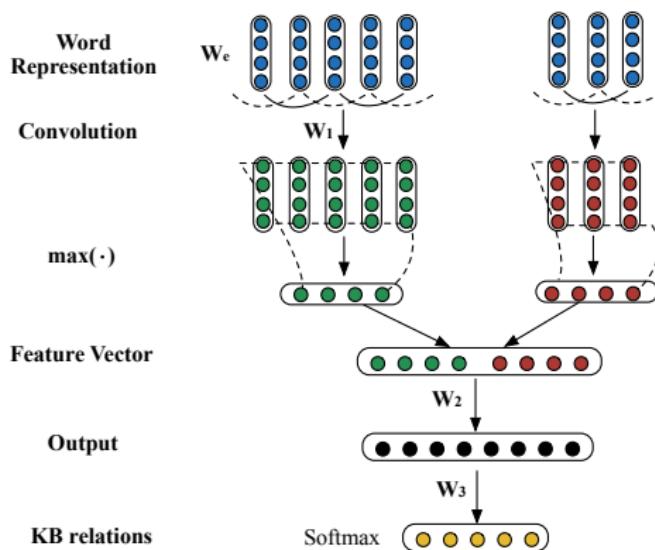
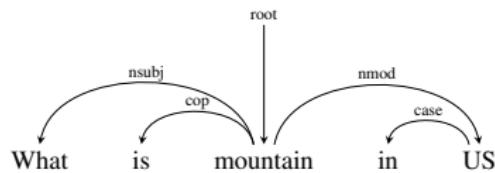
# QA with Relation Extraction and Text Evidence



# QA with Relation Extraction and Text Evidence



# QA with Relation Extraction and Text Evidence



## Summary

Compositional Typed Semantic interface for Dependencies

Dependencies to Logical Forms

Freebase Semantic Parsing using Logical Forms

Demo at

<https://sivareddy.in/deplambda.html>

Thank You!

# Syntax in humans?

*Studies on Peruvian Indian bilinguals  
indicate Quechua word order influences  
the local varieties of Spanish  
[Odlin, 1989]*



# Syntax in humans?

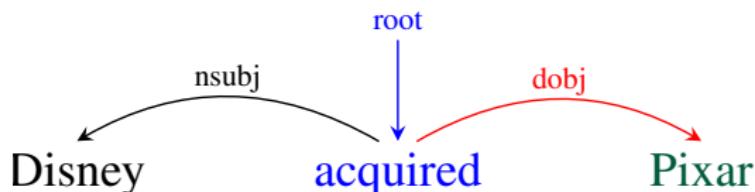
*Studies on Peruvian Indian bilinguals indicate Quechua word order influences the local varieties of Spanish  
[Odlin, 1989]*



*Arabs show strong preference for SVO in Dutch, whereas Turks for SOV  
[Jansen et al., 1981; Appel, 1984]*

# Dependencies to Logical Forms

Single Type System

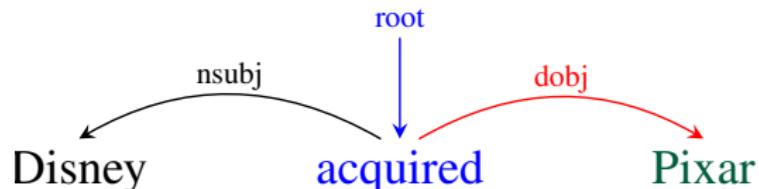


All constituents are of the same lambda expression type

$\text{TYPE}[\text{acquired}] = \text{TYPE}[\text{Pixar}] = \text{TYPE}[(\text{dobj} \text{ acquired} \text{ Pixar})]$

# Dependencies to Logical Forms

Single Type System

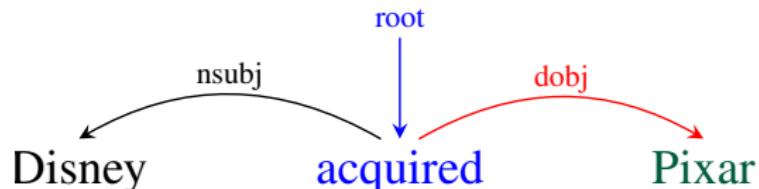


All **words** have a *lambda expression* of type  $\eta$

- ▶  $\text{TYPE}[\text{acquired}] = \eta$
- ▶  $\text{TYPE}[\text{Pixar}] = \eta$

# Dependencies to Logical Forms

Single Type System

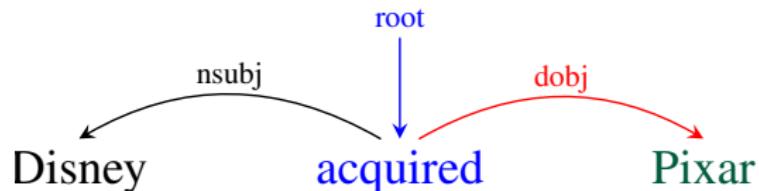


All **constituents** have a *lambda expression* of type  $\eta$

- ▶  $\text{TYPE}[\text{acquired}] = \eta$
- ▶  $\text{TYPE}[\text{Pixar}] = \eta$
- ▶  $\text{TYPE}[(\text{dobj acquired Pixar})] = \eta$

# Dependencies to Logical Forms

Single Type System

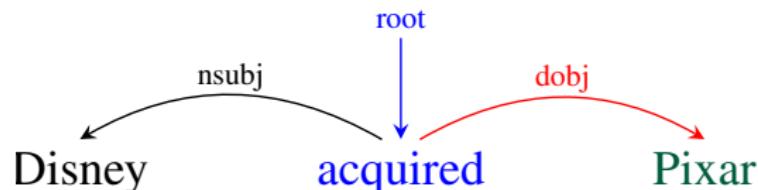


All **constituents** have a *lambda expression* of type  $\eta$

- ▶  $\text{TYPE}[\text{acquired}] = \eta$
  - ▶  $\text{TYPE}[\text{Pixar}] = \eta$
  - ▶  $\text{TYPE}[(\text{dobj} \text{ acquired } \text{Pixar})] = \eta$
- $\implies \text{TYPE}[\text{dobj}] = \eta \rightarrow \eta \rightarrow \eta$

# Dependencies to Logical Forms

Lambda Calculus for Single Type System



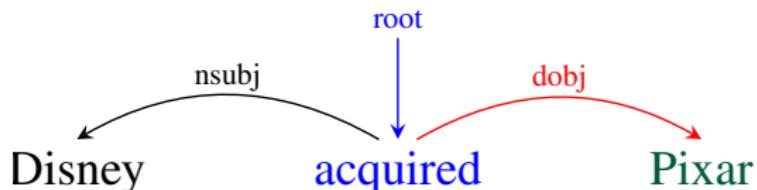
Lambda Expression for words

$$\text{acquired} \Rightarrow \lambda x_e. \text{acquired}(x_e)$$

$$\text{Pixar} \Rightarrow \lambda x_a. \text{Pixar}(x_a)$$

# Dependencies to Logical Forms

Lambda Calculus for Single Type System



## Lambda Expression for words

$$\text{acquired} \Rightarrow \lambda x_e. \text{acquired}(x_e)$$

$\Rightarrow \text{TYPE} = \text{Event} \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

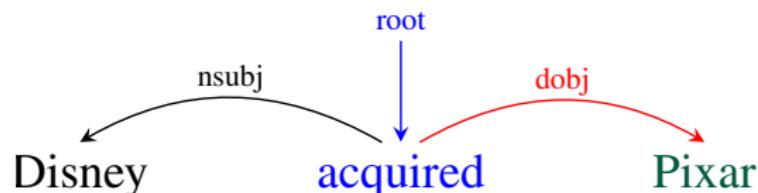
$$\text{Pixar} \Rightarrow \lambda x_a. \text{Pixar}(x_a)$$

$\Rightarrow \text{TYPE} = \text{Ind} \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

Here  $\text{TYPE}[\text{acquired}] \neq \text{TYPE}[\text{Pixar}]$   $\times$

# Dependencies to Logical Forms

Lambda Calculus for Single Type System



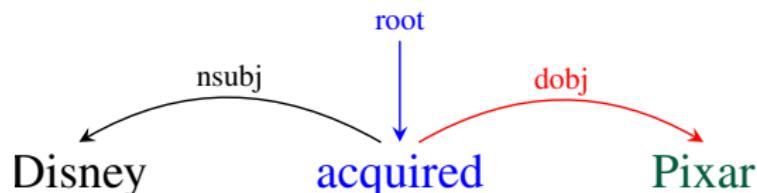
Lambda Expression for words

$$\text{acquired} \Rightarrow \lambda \mathbf{x_a} x_e. \text{acquired}(x_e)$$

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# Dependencies to Logical Forms

Lambda Calculus for Single Type System



## Lambda Expression for words

$\text{acquired} \Rightarrow \lambda \mathbf{x_a} x_e. \text{acquired}(x_e)$   $\Rightarrow \mathbf{TYPE} = \mathbf{Ind} \times \mathbf{Event} \rightarrow \mathbf{Bool}$

$\text{Pixar} \Rightarrow \lambda x_a \mathbf{x_e}. \text{Pixar}(x_a)$   $\Rightarrow \mathbf{TYPE} = \mathbf{Ind} \times \mathbf{Event} \rightarrow \mathbf{Bool}$

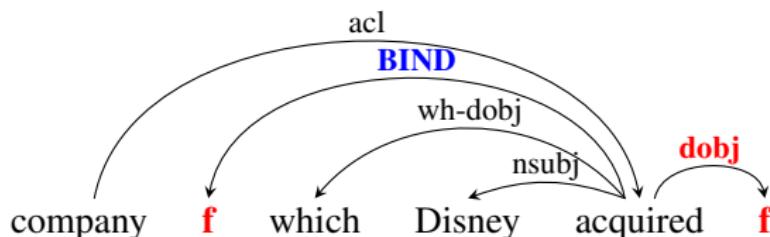
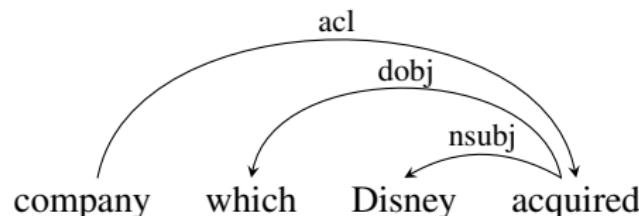
Here  $\eta = \mathbf{TYPE}[\text{acquired}] = \mathbf{TYPE}[\text{Pixar}] \checkmark$

# Relative Clause in CCG

company	which	Disney	acquired
N $\lambda x. company(x)$	$(N \setminus N)/(S_{dcl}/NP)$ $\lambda p \lambda q \lambda x. q(x) \wedge \exists e [p(x, e)]$	N $\lambda x \lambda y \lambda e. acquire(e) \wedge A0(y, e) \wedge A1(x, e)$	$(S_{dcl} \setminus NP)/NP$ $\lambda x \lambda y \lambda e. acquire(e) \wedge A0(y, e) \wedge A1(x, e)$
		NP <i>disney</i>	
		$S_X/(S_X \setminus NP)$ $\lambda p \lambda e. p(disney, e)$	
			$S_{dcl}/NP$ $\lambda x \lambda e. acquire(e) \wedge A0(disney, e) \wedge A1(x, e)$
		NN	
		$\lambda p \lambda x. p(x) \wedge \exists e [acquire(e) \wedge A0(disney, e) \wedge A1(x, e)]$	
		N	
		$\lambda x. company(x) \wedge \exists e [acquire(e) \wedge A0(disney, e) \wedge A1(x, e)]$	

# Relative Clause in DepLambda

following Carpenter (1998)



## Comparison with CCG

Handling of control verbs is painful.

### Sentence:

*John persuaded Jim to acquire Pixar.*

### Binarized Tree:

(nsubj (xcomp (dobj persuaded Jim) to\_acquire\_Pixar) John)

# Comparison with CCG

Handling of control verbs is painful.

## Sentence:

*John persuaded Jim to acquire Pixar.*

## Binarized Tree:

(nsubj (xcomp (dobj persuaded Jim) to\_acquire\_Pixar) John)

## Elegant handling in CCG

persuaded:  $((S[dcl] \setminus NP) / (S[to] \setminus NP_x)) / NP_x$

# Conjunctions

**Sentence:**

Eminem signed to Interscope and discovered 50 Cent.

**Binarized tree:**

(nsubj (conj-vp (cc s\_to\_I and) d\_50) Eminem)

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**Binarized tree:**

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**Substitution:**

$\text{conj-vp} \Rightarrow \lambda f g x. \exists y z. f(y) \wedge g(z) \wedge \text{coord}(x, y, z)$

**Logical Expression:**

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda w. \exists x y z. & \text{Eminem}(x_a) \wedge \text{coord}(w, y, z) \\ & \wedge \text{arg}_1(w_e, x_a) \wedge \text{s\_to\_I}(y) \wedge \text{d\_50}(z) \end{aligned}$$

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**Post processing:**

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda e. \exists x y z. & \text{Eminem}(x_a) \wedge \text{arg}_1(y_e, x_a) \\ & \wedge \text{arg}_1(z_e, x_a) \wedge \text{s\_to\_I}(y) \wedge \text{d\_50}(z) \end{aligned}$$

# Relative Clause

following Moortgat (1988); Pereira (1990); Carpenter (1998)

**Sentence:**

Apple which Jobs founded

**Binarized tree:**

(rcmod Apple  
  (wh-dobj (**BIND**  $f$  (nsubj (dobj founded  $f$ ) Jobs))  
    which))

# Relative Clause

following Moortgat (1988); Pereira (1990); Carpenter (1998)

## Sentence:

Apple which Jobs founded

## Binarized tree:

(rcmod Apple  
    (wh-dobj (**BIND**  $f$  (nsubj (dobj founded  $f$ ) Jobs))  
        which))

## Substitution:

$$\text{wh-dobj} \Rightarrow \lambda f g z. f(z)$$

$$\text{rcmod} \Rightarrow \lambda f g z. f(z) \wedge g(z)$$

## Logical Expression:

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda u. \exists xy. & \text{founded}(x_e) \wedge \text{Jobs}(y_a) \\ & \wedge \text{arg}_1(x_e, y_a) \wedge \text{arg}_2(x_e, u_a) \wedge \text{Apple}(u_a)\end{aligned}$$

# Expressivity

How isomorphic are the representations compared to Knowledge Graph?

Average Oracle  $F_1$  Table.

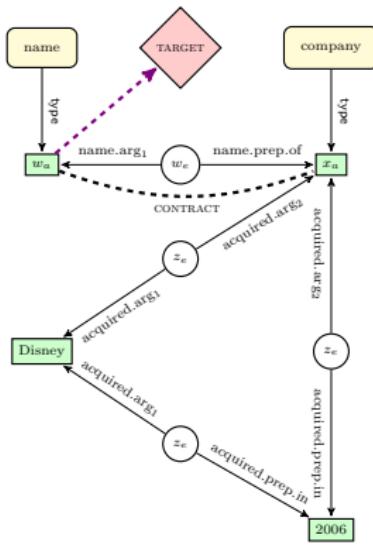
# Search Space

How many ways to reach an answer?

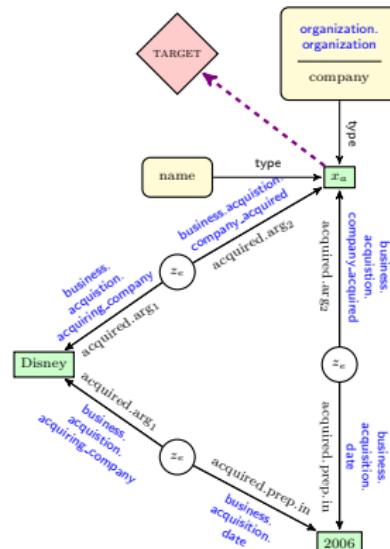
Average Oracle  $F_1$  Table.

# Graph Transformation: CONTRACT operation

What is the name of the company which Disney acquired in 2006?



Ungrounded graph



Grounded graph

# Graph Mismatch: EXPAND operation

What to do Washington DC December?

## Before EXPAND

- ▶  $\lambda z. \exists xyw. \text{TARGET}(x_a) \wedge \text{do}(z_e) \wedge \arg_1(z_e, x_a) \wedge \text{Washington\_DC}(y_a) \wedge \text{December}(w_a)$

## After EXPAND

- ▶  $\lambda z. \exists xyw. \text{TARGET}(x_a) \wedge \text{do}(z_e) \wedge \arg_1(z_e, x_a) \wedge \text{Washington\_DC}(y_a) \wedge \text{dep}(z_e, y_a) \wedge \text{December}(w_a) \wedge \text{dep}(z_e, w_a)$

# Experiments

Target Domains: Business, Film, People

- ▶ Largest domains of Freebase
- ▶ 120m triples, 411 relations and 210 types.

Training data: 99K sentences from ClueWeb09

# Experiments

## Test data:

- ▶ Free917 [Cai and Yates, 2013]
  - ▶ Syntactically well-formed queries
  - ▶ 124 queries for our target domains
- ▶ WebQuestions [Berant et al., 2013]
  - ▶ Google search queries starting with *wh* question words.
  - ▶ 570 queries for our target domains