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Course : Language & Thought (CS263A)

Topic   : Favorite Paper Proposal

Paper Details :

Abstract :

The paper focuses on the interpretation of answers to a particular class of polar questions: ones in which the main predication involves a gradable modifier (e.g., highly unusual, not good, little) and the answer either involves another gradable modifier or a numerical expression (e.g., seven years old, twenty acres of land).

Interpreting such question—answer pairs requires dealing with modifier meanings, specifically, learning context-dependent scales of expressions that determine how, and to what extent, the answer as a whole resolves the issue raised by the question. I find this aspect of the paper interesting. I feel it is a good paper to discuss in class as this is related to semantic natural language parsing.