

Tutorial at KDD, August 14th 2021

From Deep Learning to Deep Reasoning

Part B: Reasoning over unstructured and structured data

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<https://bit.ly/37DYQn7>

Agenda

- **Cross-modality reasoning, the case of vision-language integration.**
- Reasoning as set-set interaction.
- Relational reasoning
- Temporal reasoning
 - Video question answering.

Learning to Reason formulation

- Input:
 - A knowledge context C
 - A query q
- Output: an answer satisfying
$$\tilde{a} = \arg \max_{a \in \mathbb{A}} \mathcal{P}_\theta(a | C, q)$$
- C can be
 - structured: knowledge graphs
 - unstructured: text, image, sound, video



Q: “What affects her mobility?”

Q: Is it simply an optimization problem like recognition, detection or even translation?

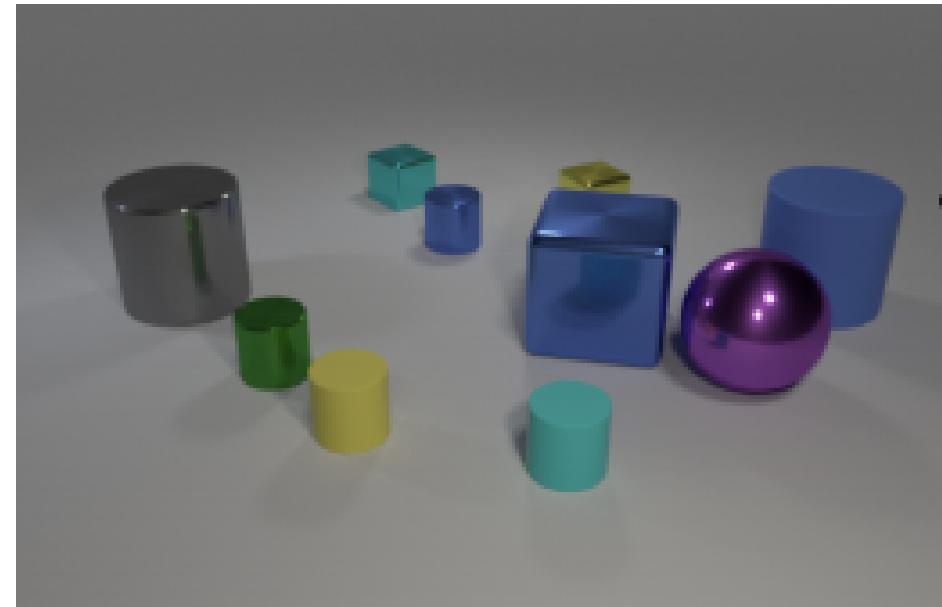
→ No, because the logics from C, q into a is more complex than other solved optimization problems

→ We can solve (some parts of) it with good structures and inference strategies

A case study: Image Question Answering

$$\tilde{a} = \arg \max_{a \in \mathbb{A}} \mathcal{P}_\theta(a \mid C, q)$$

- Realization
 - C : visual content of an image
 - q : a linguistic question
 - a : a linguistic phrase as the answer to q regarding K
- Challenges
 - Reasoning through facts and logics
 - Cross-modality integration



How many tiny yellow matte things are to the right of the purple thing in the front of the small cyan shiny cube?

Image QA: Question types



Open-ended

- Is this a vegetarian pizza?
- What is the red thing in the photo?

Multi-choice

- (Q) What is the red thing in the photo?
(A) (1) capsicum (2) beef
 (3) mushroom (4) cheese

Counting

- How many slices of pizza are there?

Image QA datasets

(VQA, Agrawal et al., 2015)



- (Q) What is in the picture?
- (Q) Is this a vegetarian pizza?

Perception

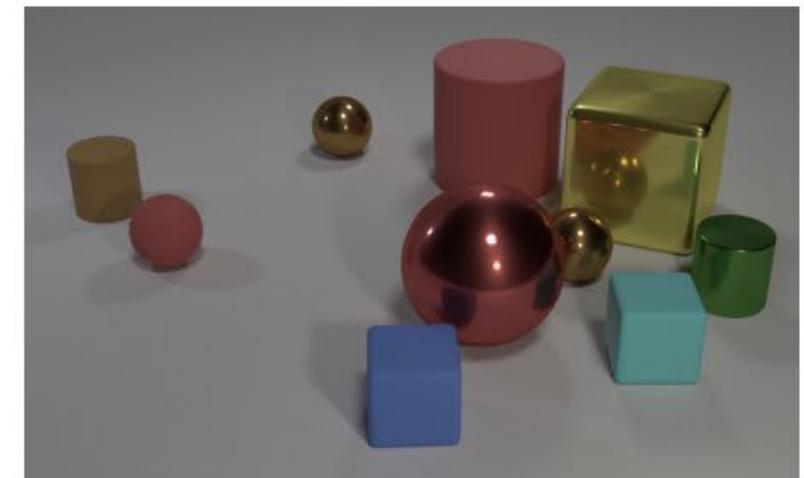
(GQA, Hudson et al., 2019)



- (Q) What is the brown animal sitting inside of?
- (Q) Is there a bag to the right of the green door?

**Relational
reasoning**

(CLEVR, Johnson et al., 2017)



- (Q) How many objects are either small cylinders or metal things?
- (Q) Are there an equal number of large things and metal spheres?

**Multi-step
reasoning**

The two main themes in Image QA

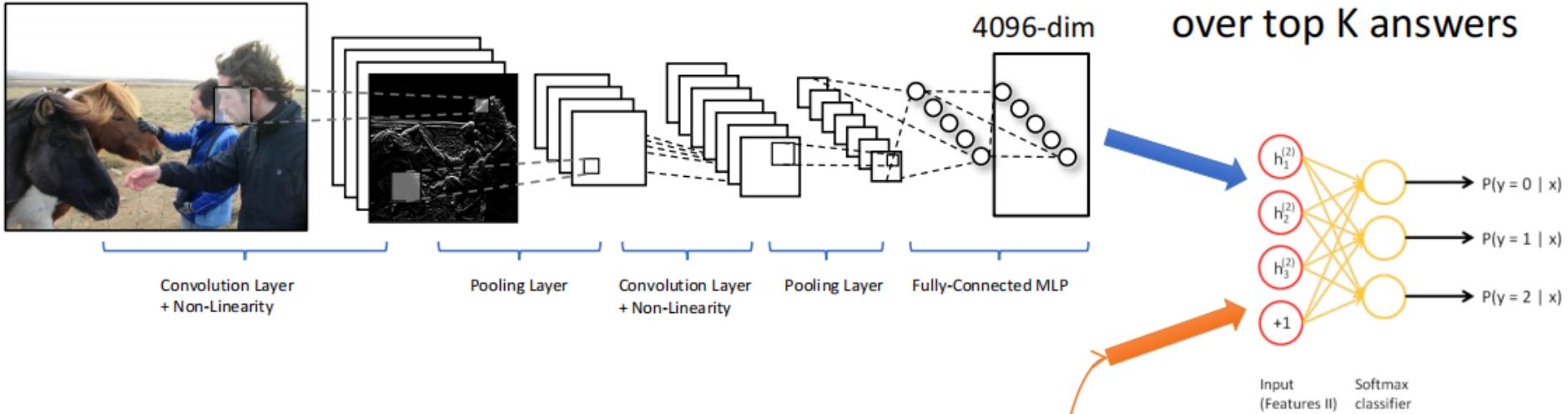
- Neuro-symbolic reasoning
 - Parse the question into a “program” of small steps
 - Learn the generic steps as neural modules
 - Use and reuse the modules for different programs
- **Compositional reasoning**
 - Extract visual and linguistic individual- and joint- representation
 - Reasoning happens on the structure of the representation
 - Sets/graphs/sequences
 - The representation got refined through multi-step compositional reasoning

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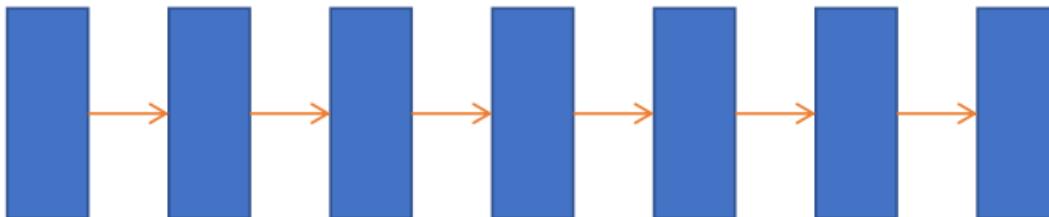
A simple approach

Image Embedding (VGGNet)



Question Embedding (LSTM)

"How many horses are in this image?"



→ Issue: This is very susceptible to the nuances of images and questions

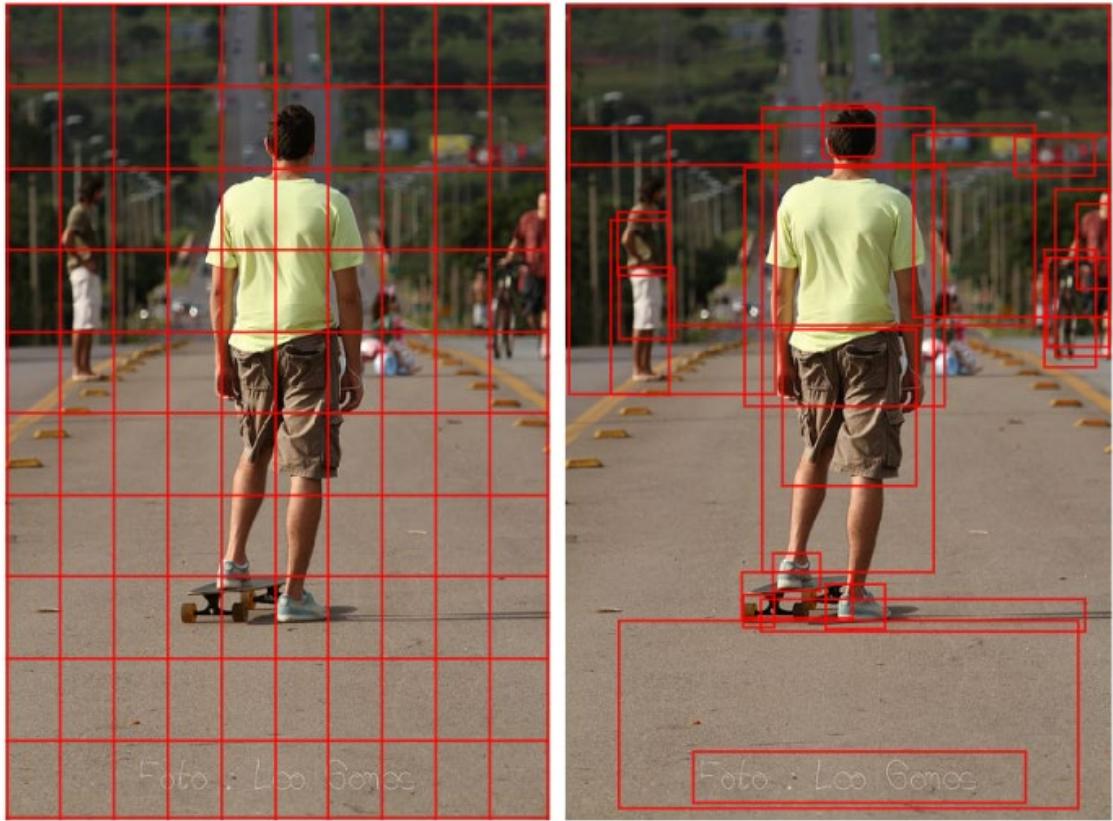
Reasoning as set-set interaction

- C : a set of context objects

$$C = \{o_1, o_2, \dots, o_n\}$$

- Faster-RCNN regions
 - CNN tubes
 - q : a set of linguistic objects L .
- $L = \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n\}$
- biLSTM embedding of q

$$\mathbf{w}_i^q = [\overrightarrow{\text{LSTM}}(\mathbf{e}_i^q); \overleftarrow{\text{LSTM}}(\mathbf{e}_i^q)]$$



→ Reasoning is formulated as the interaction between the two sets O and L for the answer a

Set operations

- Reducing operation (eg: sum/average/max)

$$\mathbf{c} = h_{\theta} (\{\mathbf{o}_1, \mathbf{o}_2, \dots, \mathbf{o}_N\})$$

- Attention-based combination ([Bahdanau et al. 2015](#))

$$\mathbf{c} = \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i \mathbf{o}_i \quad \alpha_i = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{W}^o \mathbf{o}_i)}{\sum_{j=1}^N \exp(\mathbf{W}^o \mathbf{o}_j)}$$

- Attention weights as query-key dot product ([Vaswani et al., 2017](#))

$$\mathbf{c} = \text{softmax} \left(\frac{\mathbf{Q} \mathbf{K}^\top}{\sqrt{d_k}} \right) \mathbf{V}$$

→ Attention-based set ops seem very suitable for visual reasoning

Attention-based reasoning

- Unidirectional attention
 - Find relation score between parts in the context C to the question q:
$$s_i = f(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{w}_j^c)$$

$$\text{Or } s_i = \tanh(\mathbf{W}^c \mathbf{w}_i^c + \mathbf{W}^q \mathbf{q})$$

$$\bullet \quad s_i = \mathbf{q}^\top \mathbf{W}^s \mathbf{w}_i^c$$

Hermann et al. (2015)

•

Chen et al. (2016)

- Normalized by

$$\alpha_i = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{W} s_i)}{\sum_j \exp(\mathbf{W} s_j)}$$

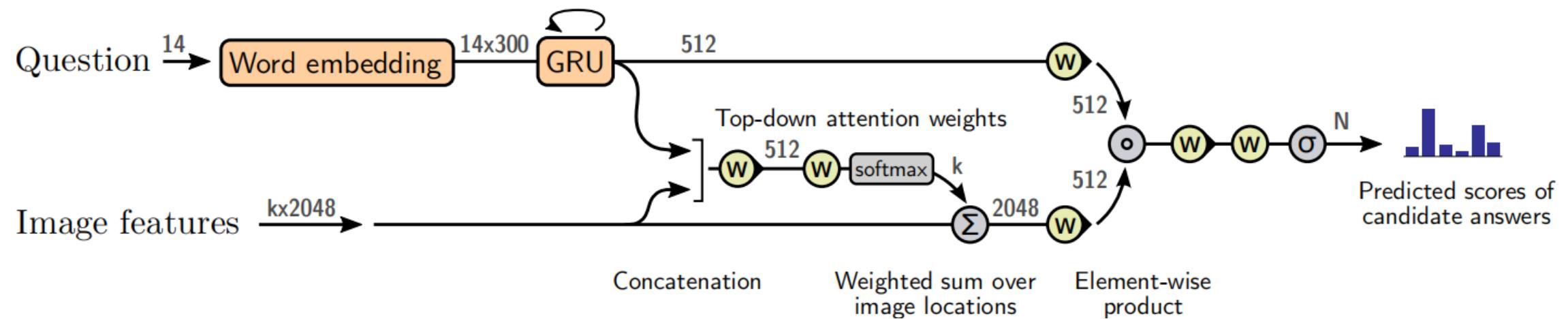
$$\mathbf{i} = \sum_i \alpha_i \mathbf{w}_i^c$$

- Attended context vector:

→ We can now extract information from the context that is “relevant” to the query

Bottom-up-top-down attention (Anderson et al 2017)

- Bottom-up set construction: Choosing Faster-RCNN regions with high class scores
- Top-down attention: Attending on visual features by question



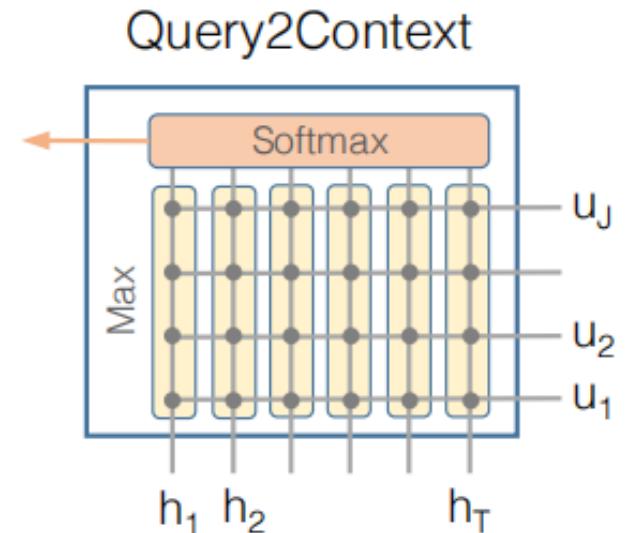
→ Q: How about attention from vision objects to linguistic objects?

Bi-directional attention

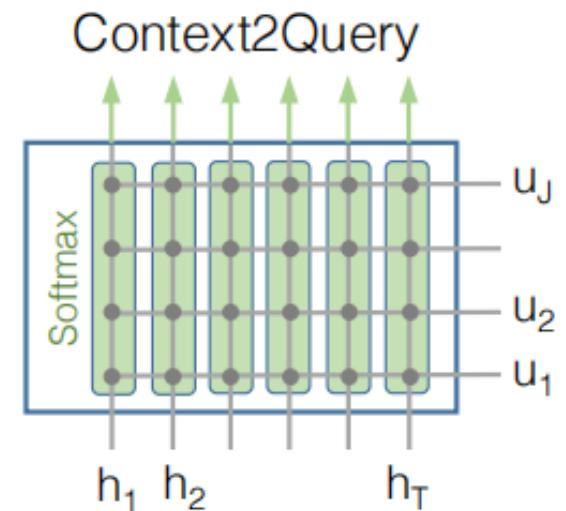
- Question-context similarity measure

$$s_i = f(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{w}_j^c)$$

- Question-guided context attention
 - Softmax across columns



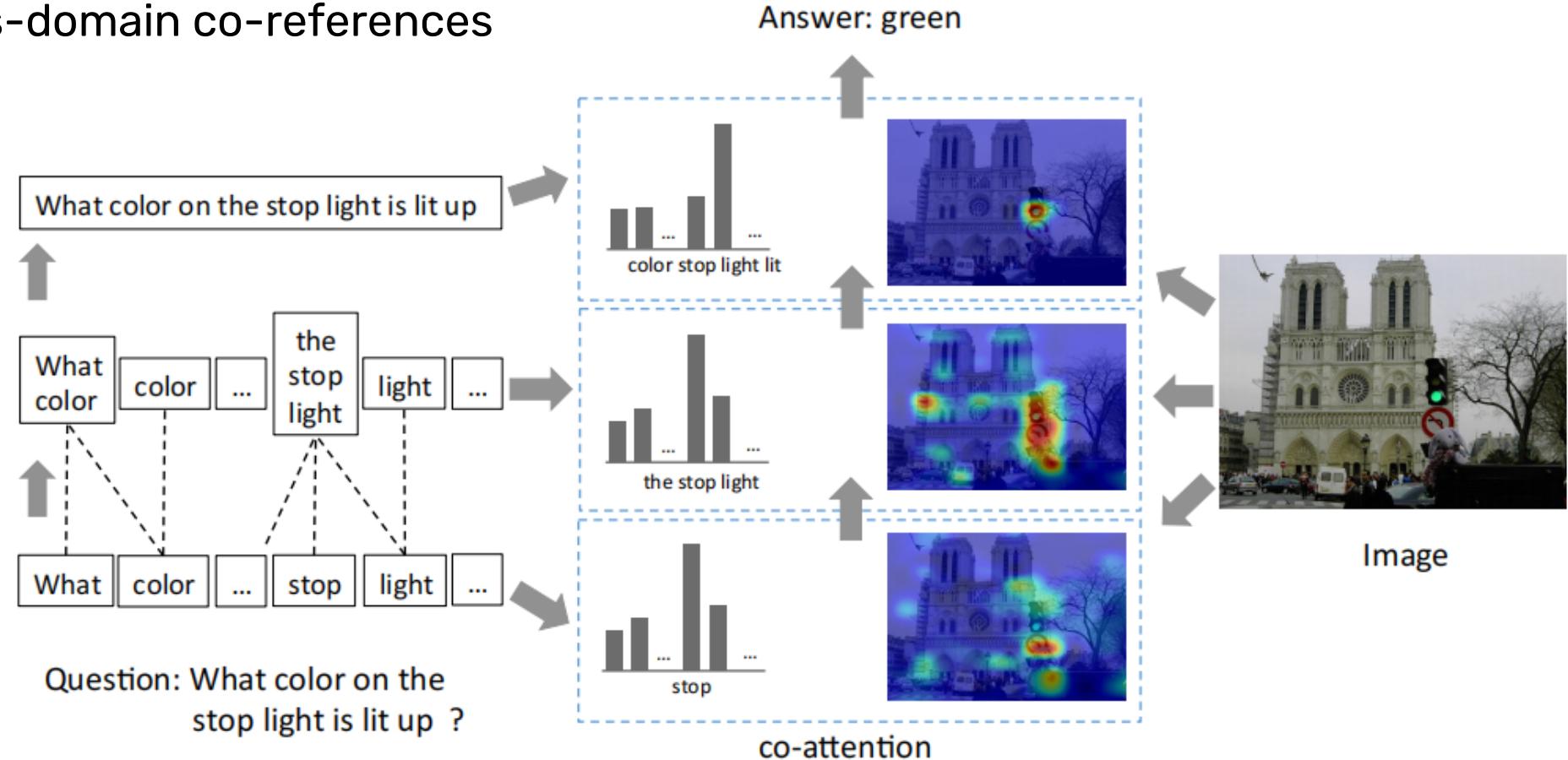
- Context-guided question attention
 - Softmax across rows



→ Q: Probably not working for image qa where single words does not have the co-reference with a region?

Hierarchical co-attention for ImageQA

- The co-attention is found on a word-phrase-sentence hierarchy
→ better cross-domain co-references



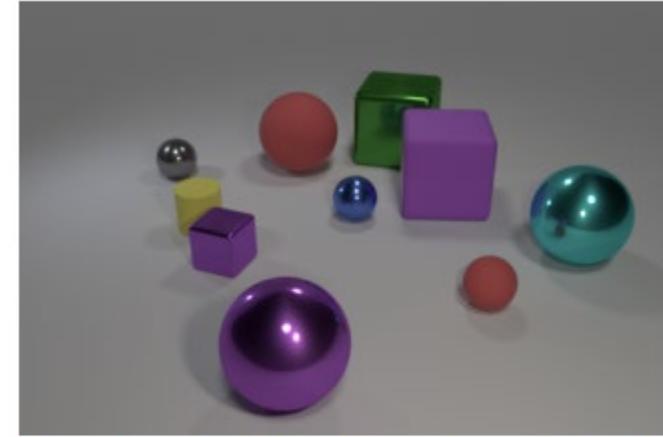
→ Q: Can this be done on text qa as well?

→ Q: How about questions with many reasoning hops?

Multi-step compositional reasoning

- Complex question need multiple hops of reasoning
- Relations inside the context are multi-step themselves
- Single shot of attention won't be enough
- Single shot of information gathering is definitely not enough

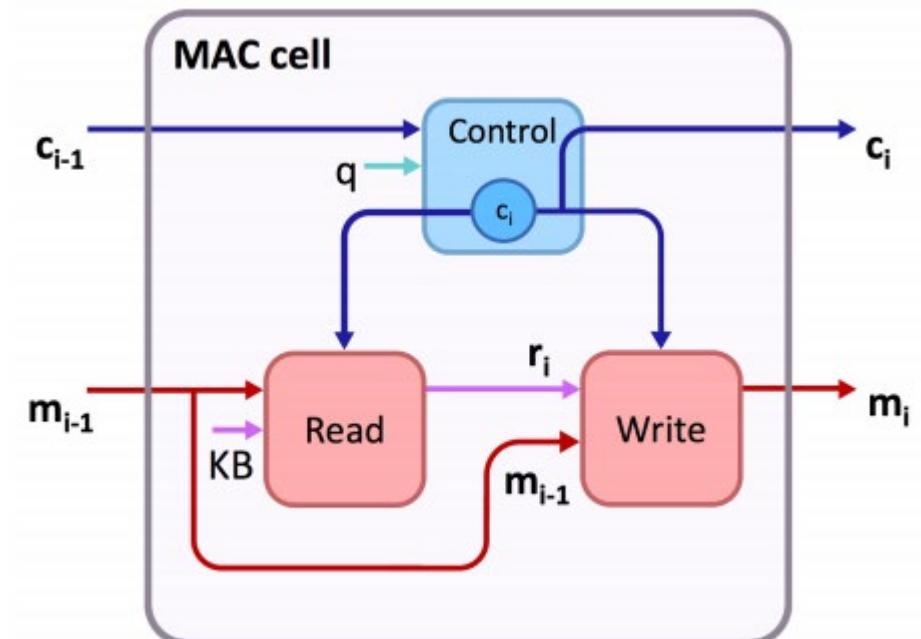
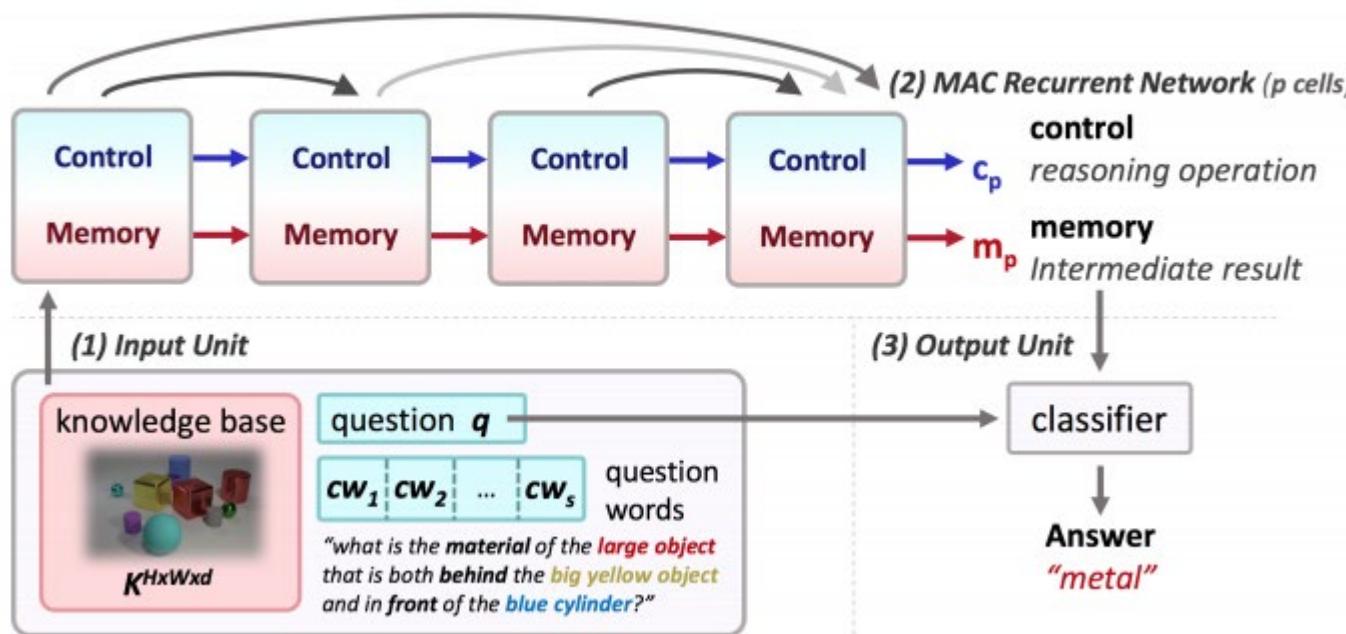
→ Q: How to do multi-hop attentional reasoning?



Q: Do the block in front of the tiny yellow cylinder and the tiny thing that is to the right of the large green shiny object have the same color? **A:** No

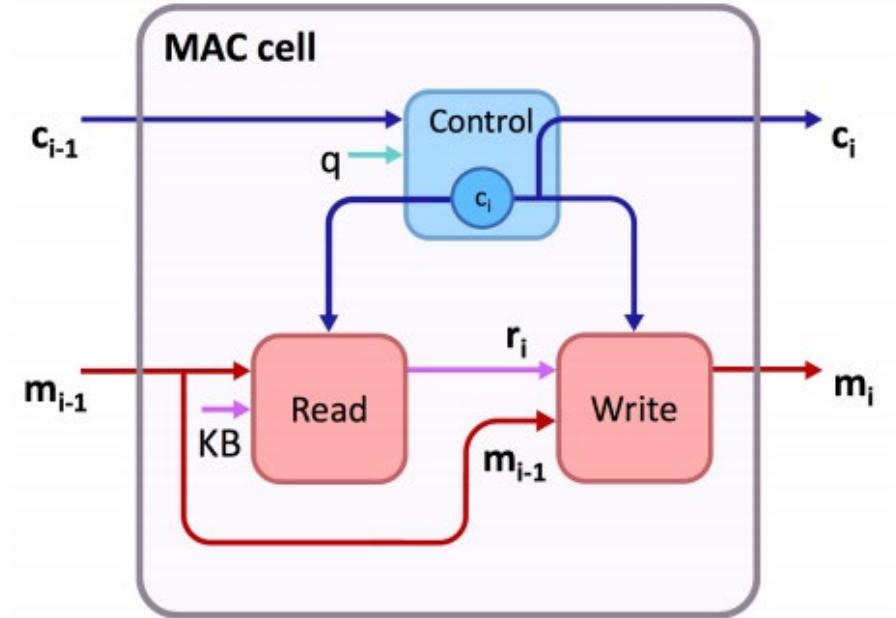
Multi-step reasoning - Memory, Attention, and Composition (MAC Nets)

- Attention reasoning is done through multiple sequential steps.
- Each step is done with a recurrent neural cell
- *What is the key differences to the normal RNN (LSTM/GRU) cell?*
 - *Not a sequential input, it is sequential processing on static input set.*
 - *Guided by the question through a controller.*



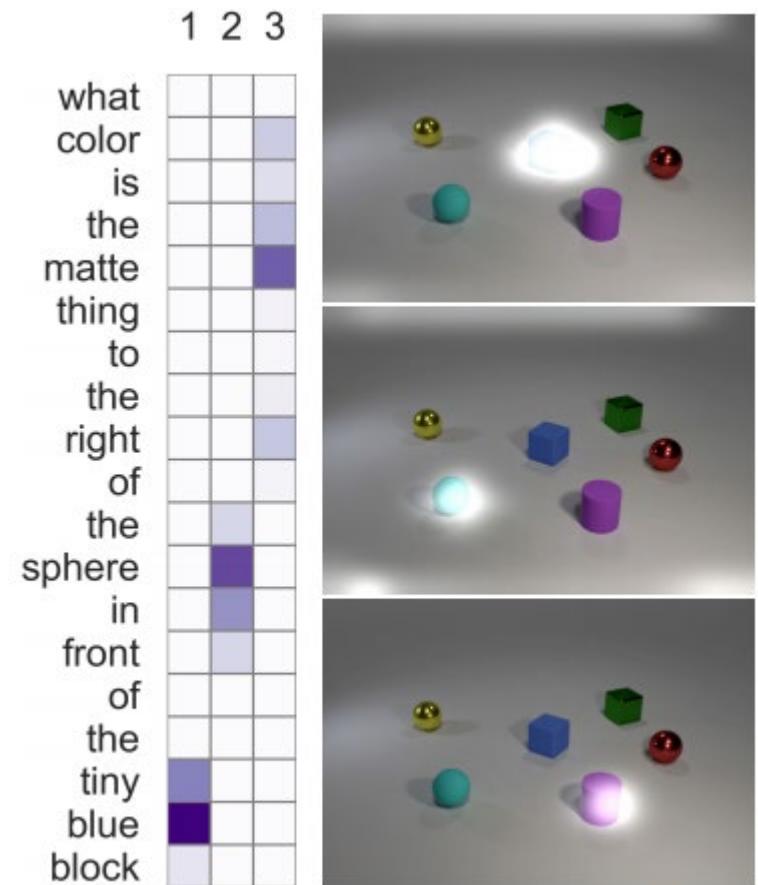
Multi-step attentional reasoning

- At each step, the controller decide what to look next
- After each step, a piece of information is gathered, represented through the attention map on question words and visual objects
- A common memory kept all the information extracted toward an answer



Multi-step attentional reasoning

- Step 1: attends to the “*tiny blue block*”, updating m_1
- Step 2: look for “*the sphere in front*” m_2 .
- Step3: traverse from the cyan ball to the final objective – *the purple cylinder*,



Reasoning as set-set interaction – a look back

- C : a set of context objects

$$C = \{o_1, o_2, \dots, o_n\}$$

- q : a set of linguistic objects

$$L = \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n\}$$

- Reasoning is formulated as the interaction between the two sets O and L for the answer a



Q: What is the brown animal sitting inside of?

→ Q: Set-set interaction falls short for questions about *relations between objects*

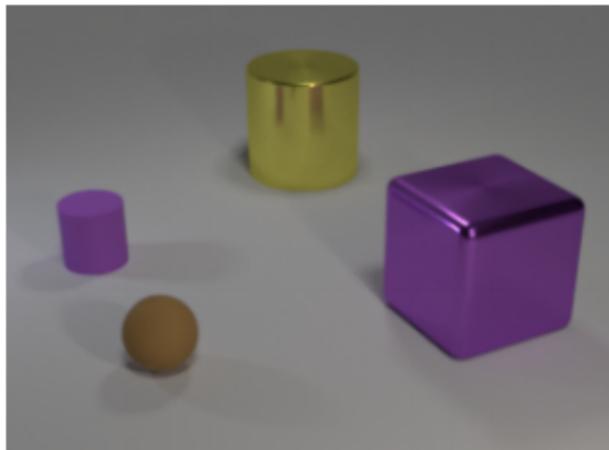
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Reasoning on Graphs

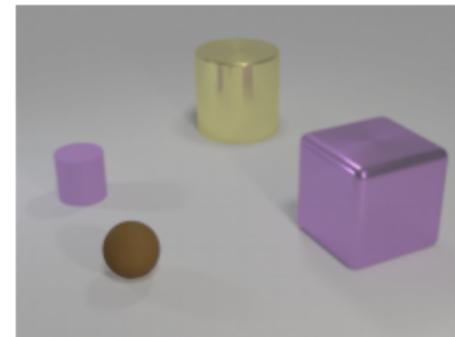
- Relational questions: requiring explicit reasoning about the relations between multiple objects

Original Image:



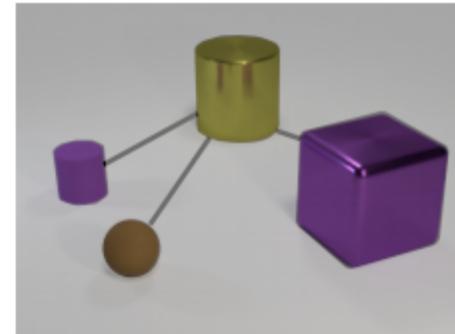
Non-relational question:

What is the size of
the brown sphere?



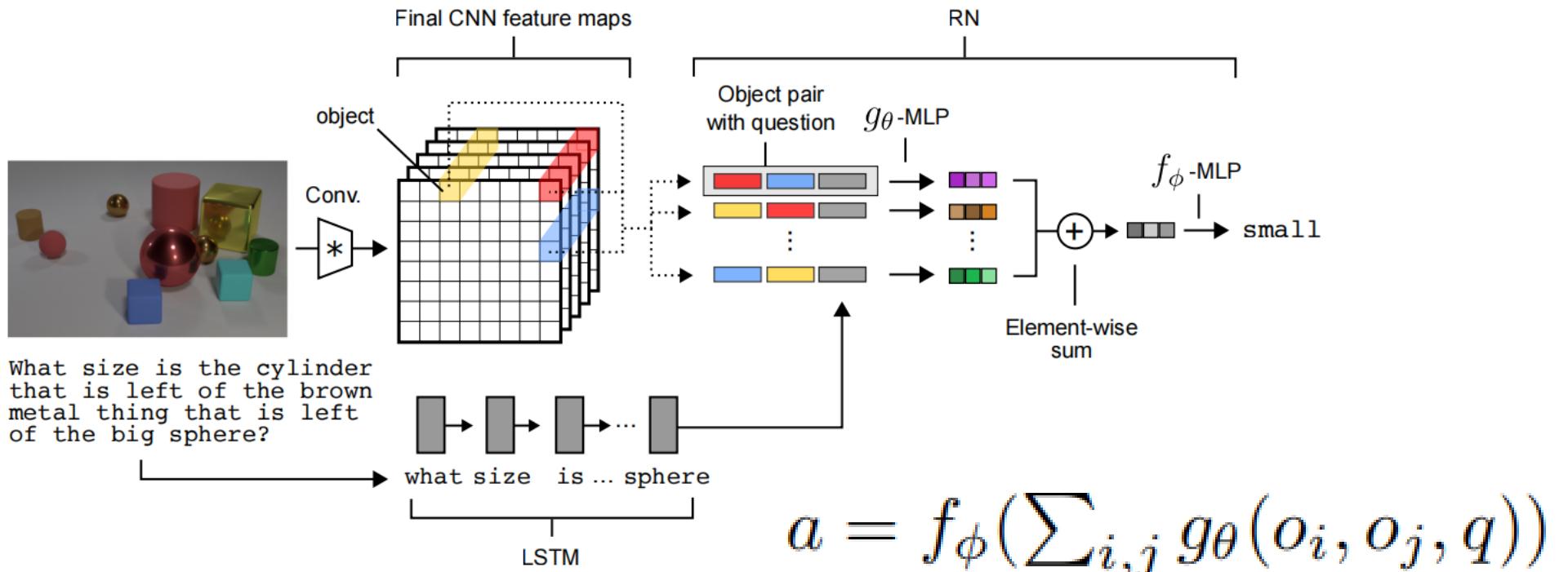
Relational question:

Are there any rubber
things that have the
same size as the yellow
metallic cylinder?



Relation networks (Santoro et al 2017)

- Relation networks $\text{RN}(O) = f_\phi \left(\sum_{i,j} g_\theta(o_i, o_j) \right)$
- f_ϕ and g_θ are neural functions
- g_θ generate “relation” between the two objects
- f_ϕ is the aggregation function

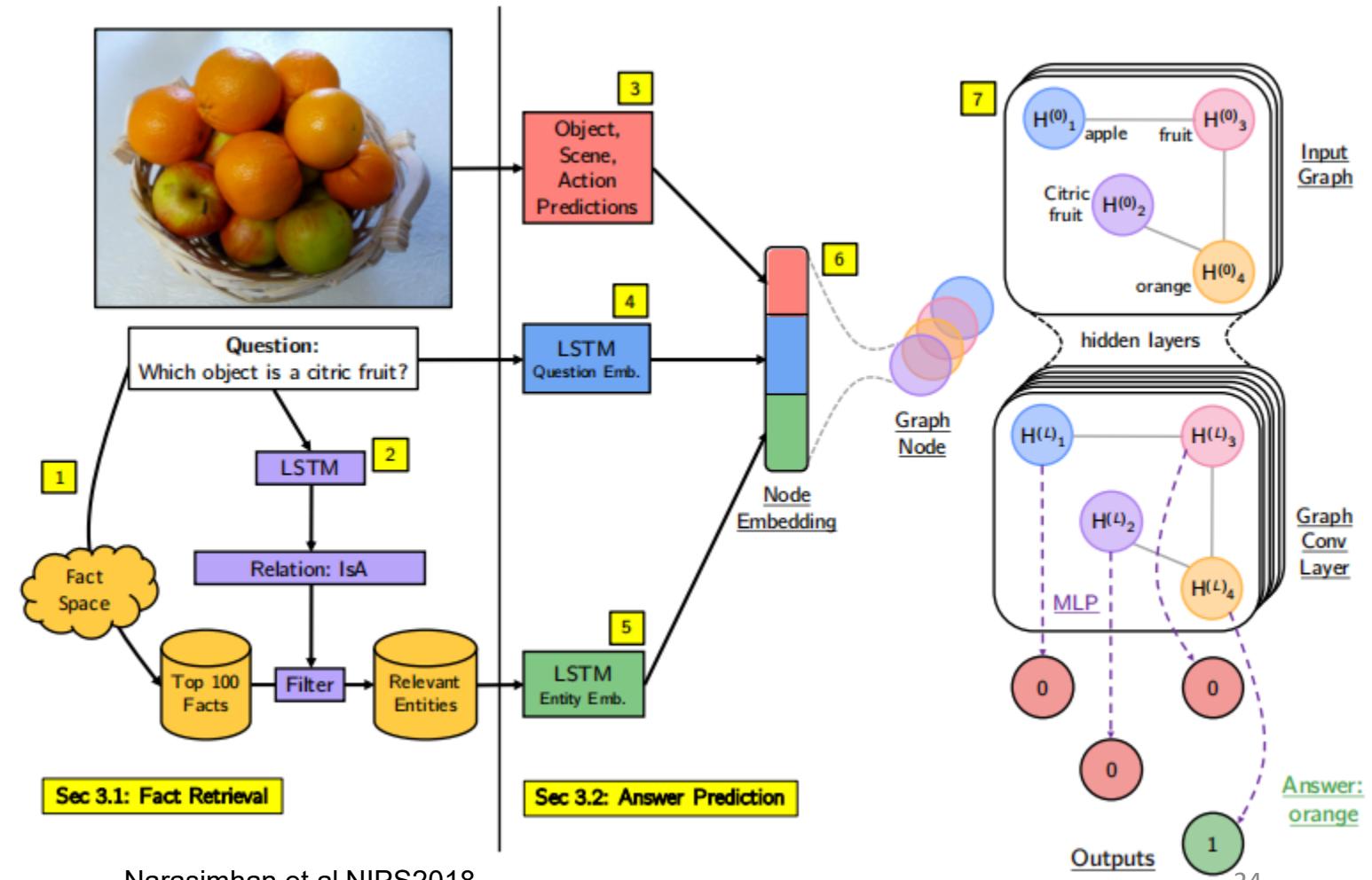


→ The relations here are implicit, complete, pair-wise – inefficient, and lack expressiveness

Reasoning with Graph convolution networks

- Input graph is built from image entities and question
- GCN is used to gather facts and produce answer

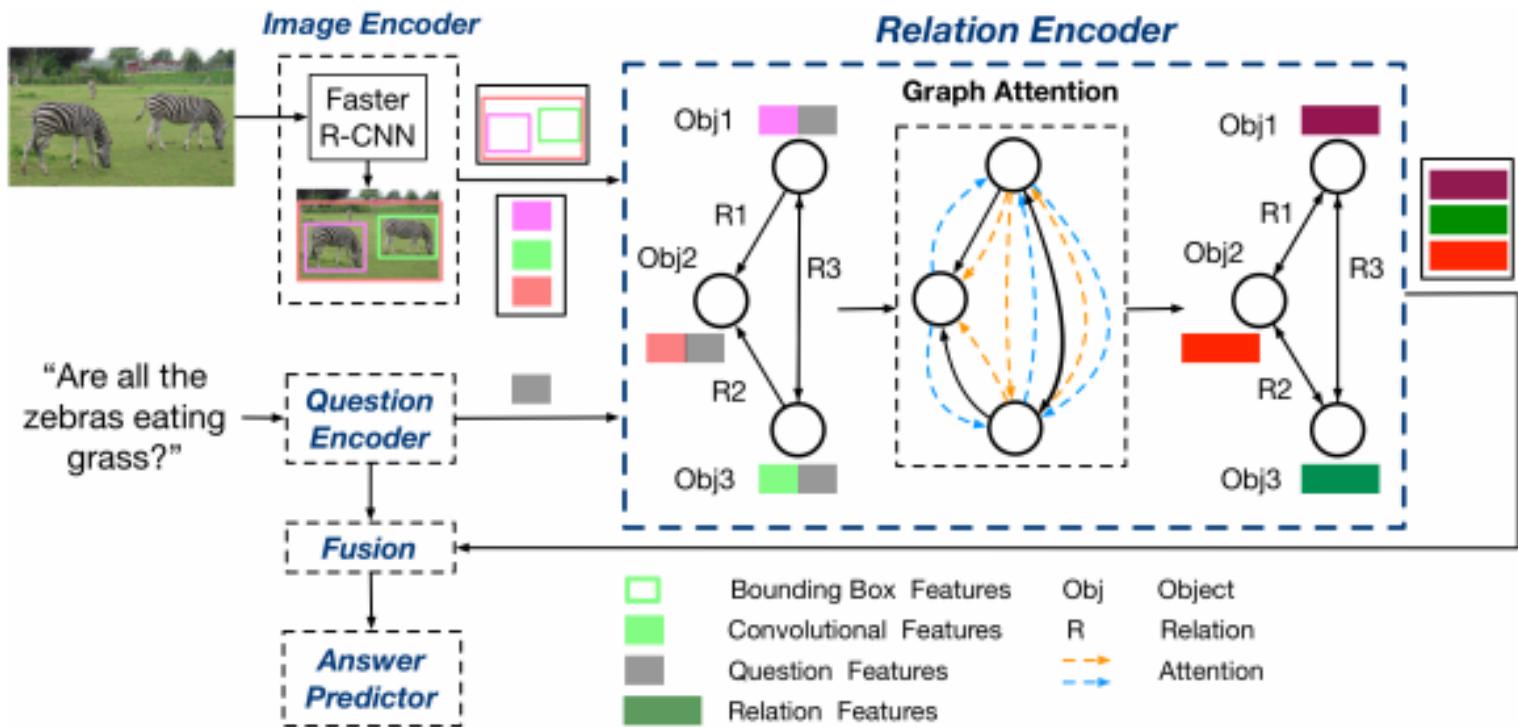
- The relations are now explicit and pruned
- But the graph building is very stiff:
 - Unrecoverable if it makes a mistake?
 - Information during reasoning are not used to build graphs



Reasoning with Graph attention networks

- The graph is determined during reasoning process with attention mechanism

→ The relations are now adaptive and integrated with reasoning
→ Are the relations singular and static?

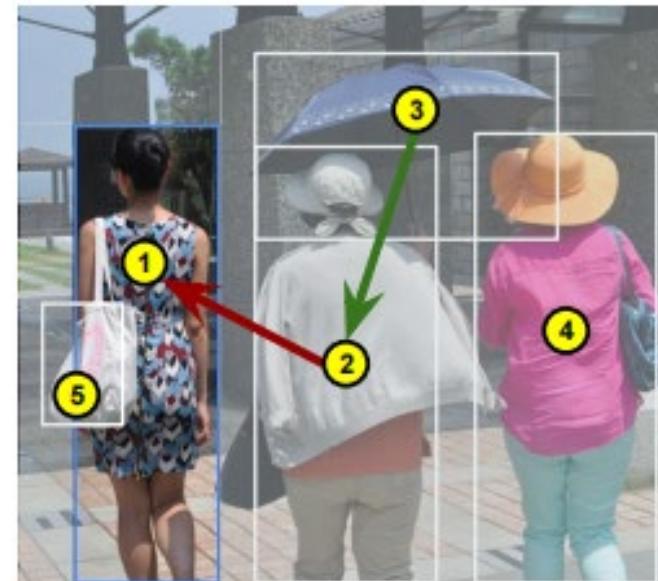


Dynamic reasoning graphs

- On complex questions, multiple sets of relations are needed
- We need not only multi-step but also multi-form structures
- Let's do multiple dynamically-built graphs!

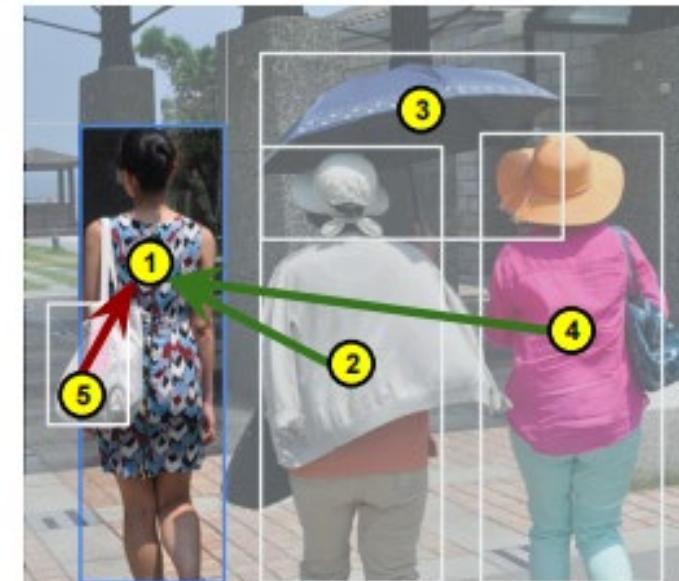
Question: Is there a person to the left of the woman holding a blue umbrella?

Answer: Yes



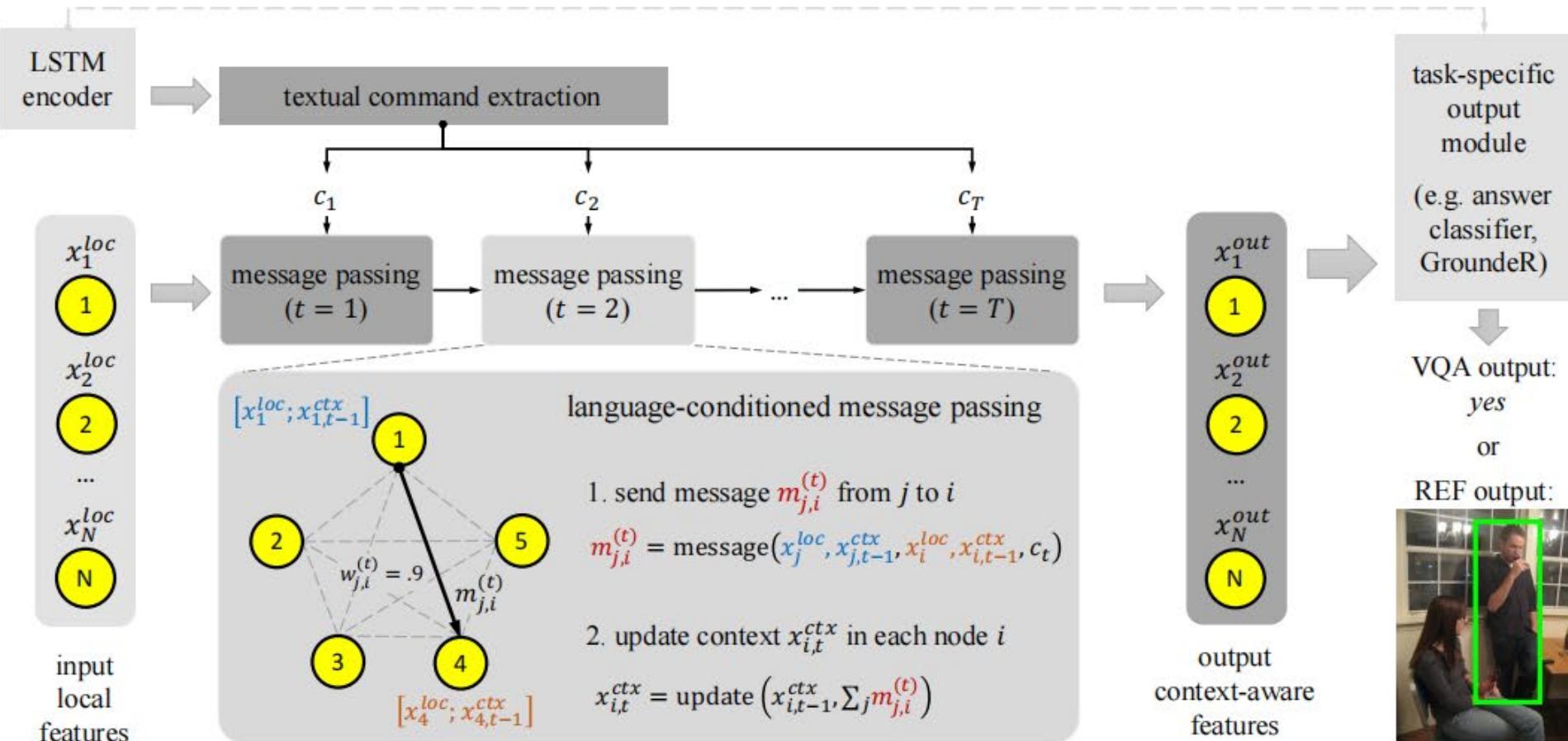
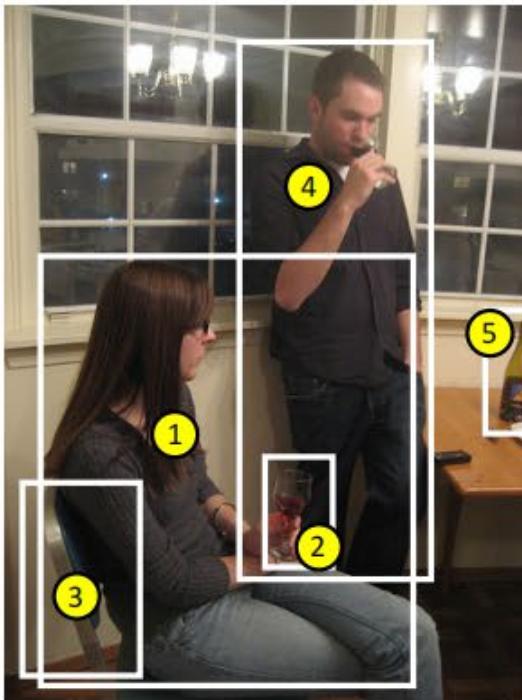
Question: Is the left-most person holding a red bag?

Answer: No



Dynamic reasoning graphs

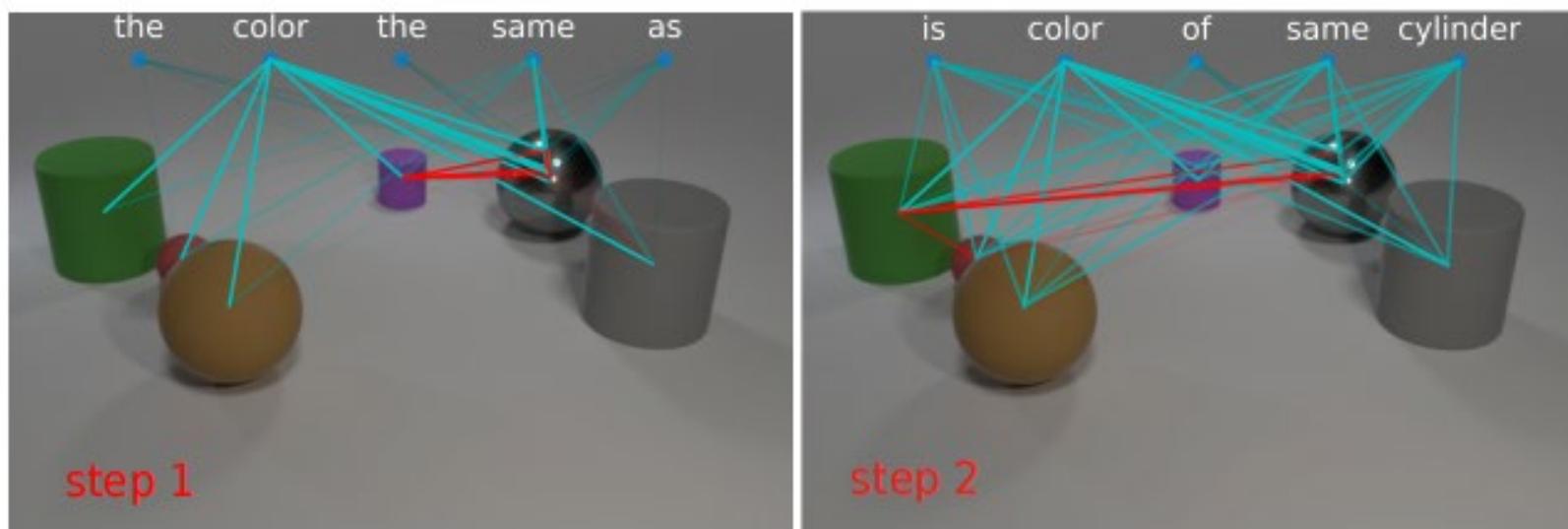
*Is there a man on the right
of a person sitting on a chair
holding a wine glass?*



→ The questions so far act as an unstructured command in the process
 → Aren't their structures and relations important too?

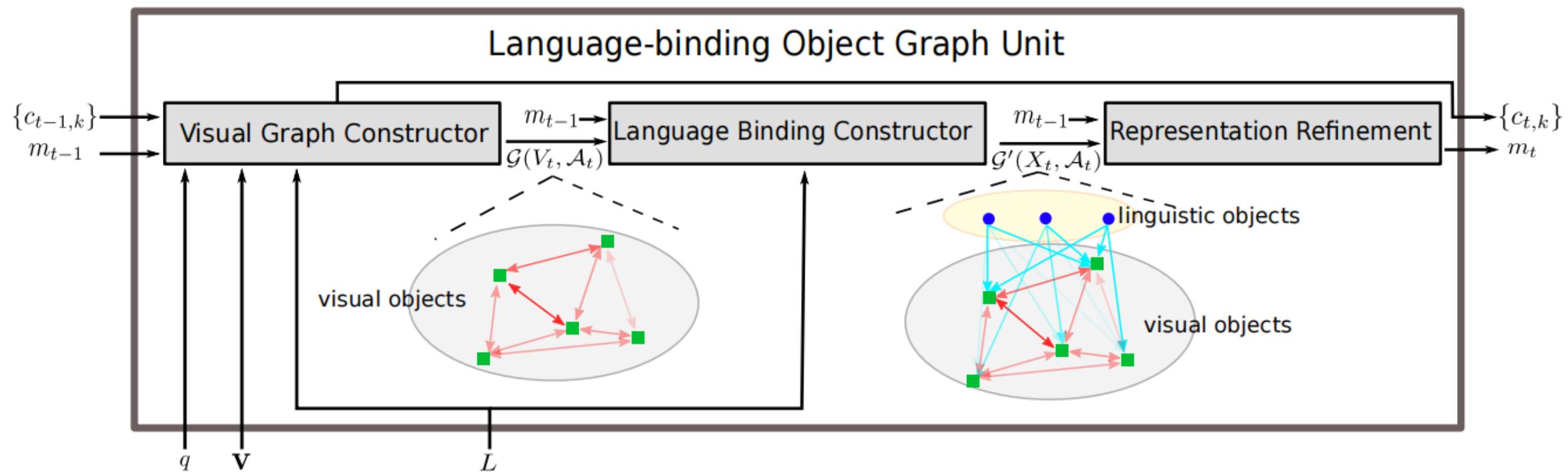
Reasoning on cross-modality graphs

- Two types of nodes: Linguistic entities and visual objects
- Two types of edges:
 - Visual
 - Linguistic-visual binding (*as a fuzzy grounding*)
- Adaptively updated during reasoning



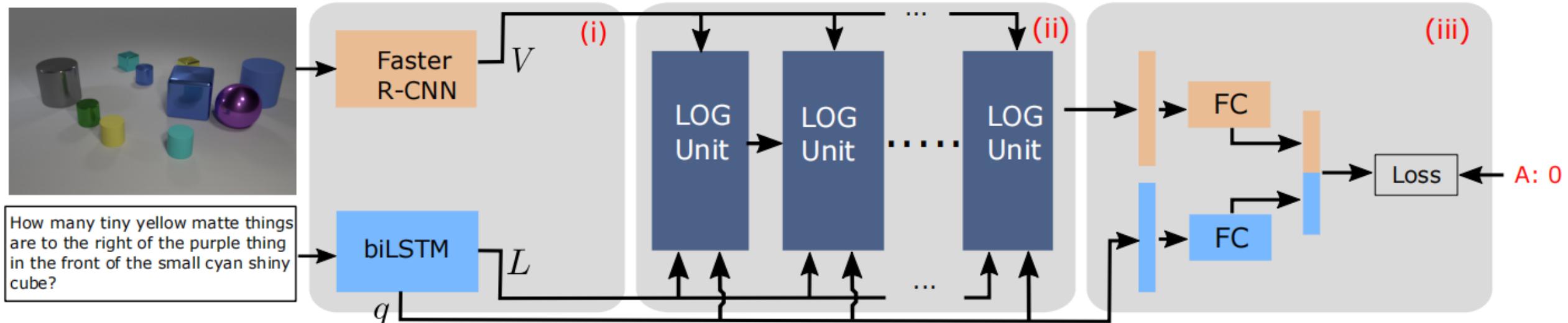
Language-binding Object Graph (LOG) Unit

- Graph constructor: build the dynamic vision graph
- Language binding constructor: find the dynamic L-V relations

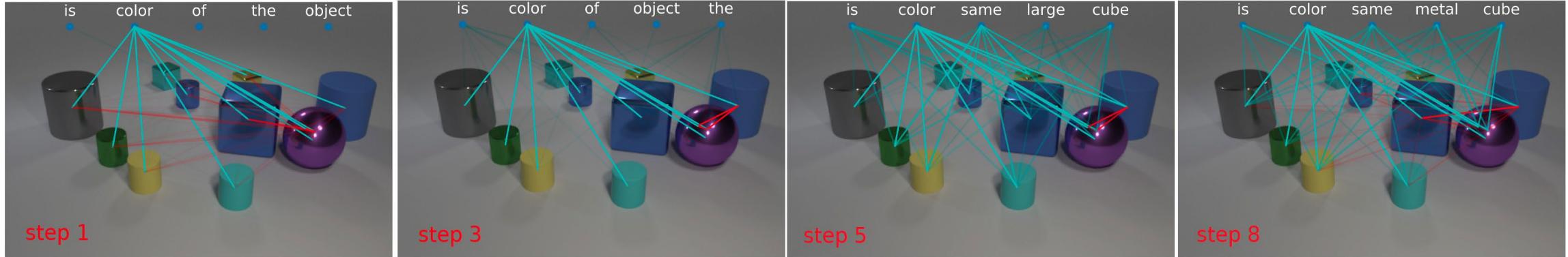


LOGNet: multi-step visual-linguistic binding

- Object-centric representation ✓
- Multi-step/multi-structure compositional reasoning ✓
- Linguistic-vision detail interaction ✓

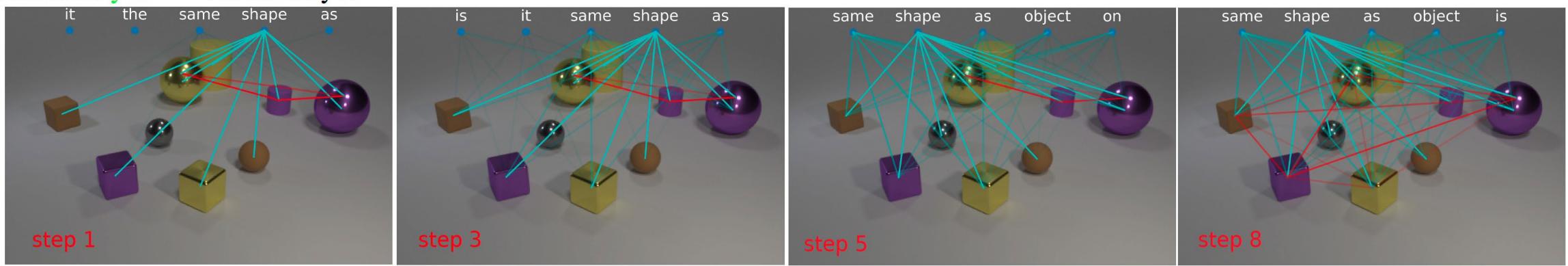


Dynamic language-vision graphs in actions



Question: Is the color of the big matte object the same as the large metal cube?

Prediction: yes **Answer:** yes



Question: There is a tiny purple rubber thing; does it have the same shape as the brown object that is on the left side of the rubber sphere?

Prediction: no **Answer:** no

We got sets and graphs, how about sequences?

- Videos pose another challenge for visual reasoning: the dynamics through time.
- Sets and graphs now becomes sequences of such.
- Temporal relations are the key factors
- The size of context is a core issue



(a) Question: What does the girl do 9 times?

Baseline: walk

HCRN: blocks a person's punch

Ground truth: blocks a person's punch



(b) Question: What does the man do before turning body to left?

Baseline: pick up the man's hand

HCRN: breath

Ground truth: breath

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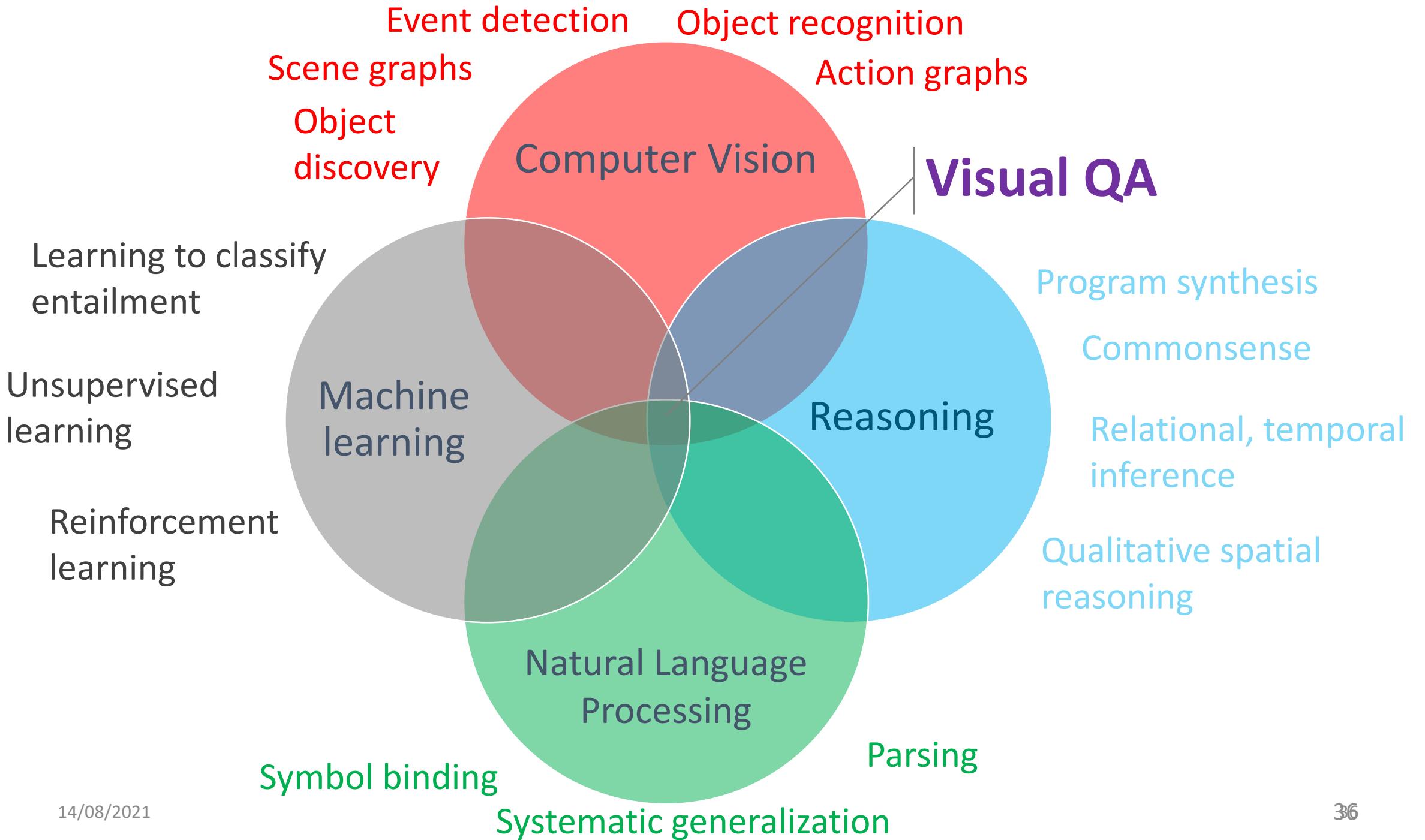
Overview

- **Goals of this part of the tutorial**
 - Understanding Video QA as a complete testbed of visual reasoning.
 - Representative state-of-the-art approaches for spatio-temporal reasoning.

Video Question Answering

Short-form Video Question Answering

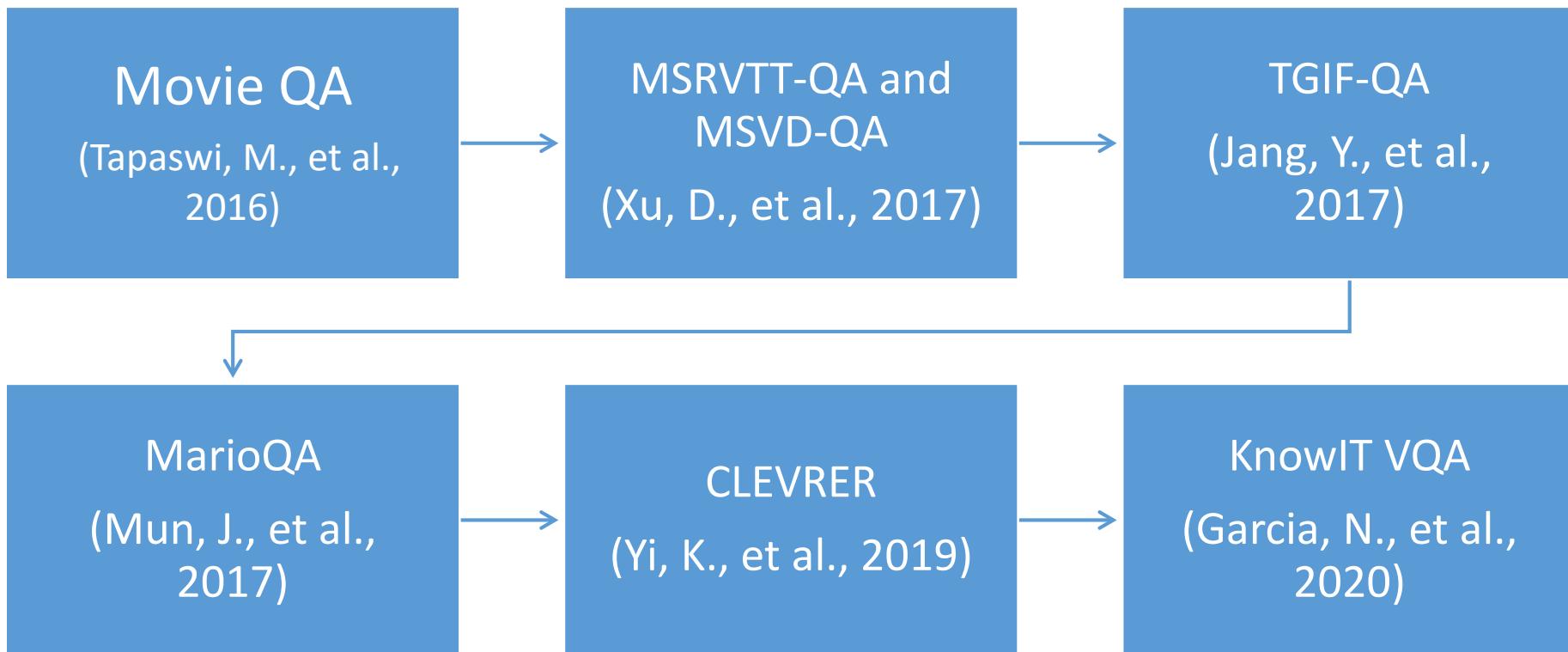
Movie Question Answering



Challenges

- Difficulties in data annotation.
- Content for performing reasoning spreads over space-time and multiple modalities (videos, subtitles, speech etc.)

Video QA Datasets



Video QA datasets

(TGIF-QA, Jang et al., 2018)



Q: What does the man do 5 times?

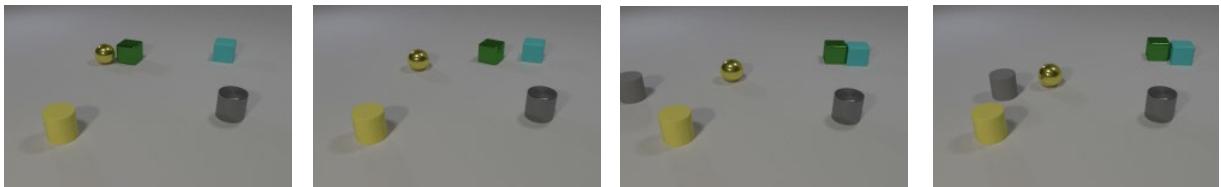
- A: (0) step (3) bounce
(2) sway head (4) knod head
(5): move body to the front



Q: What does the man do before turing body to left?

- A: (0) run a cross a ring (3) flip cover face with hand
(2) pick up the man's hand (4) raise hand
(5): breath

(CLEVRER, Yi, Kexin, et al., 2020)



Q: What color is the last object to collide with the green cube?

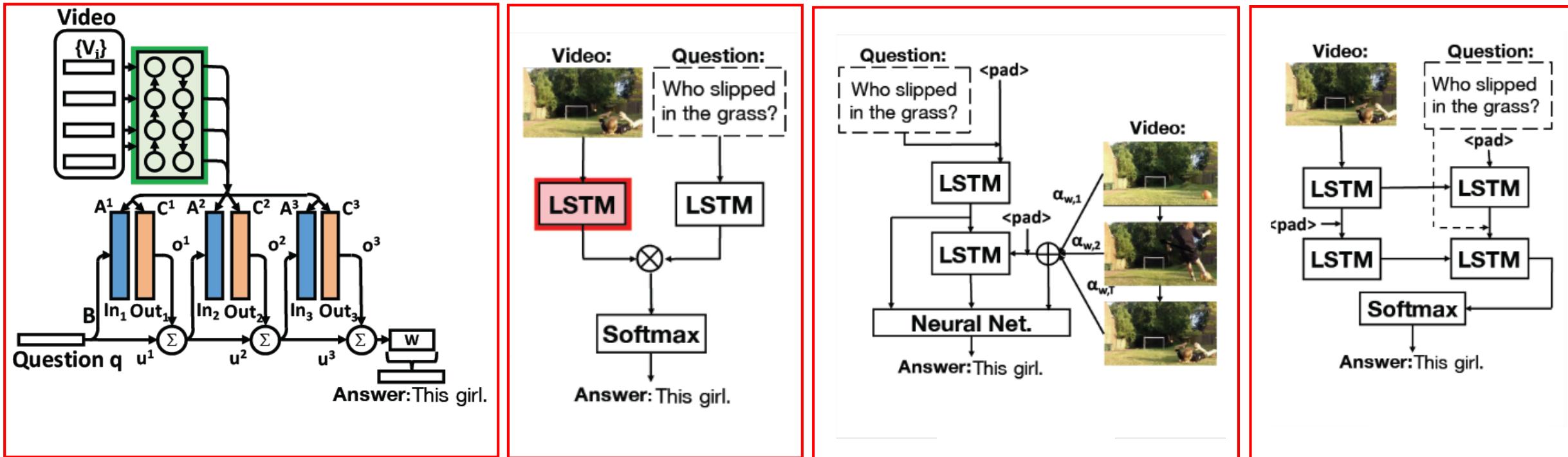
A: **cyan**



Q: Which of the following is responsible for the collision between the metal cube and the cylinder?

- A: (a) **The presence of the brown rubber cube**
(b) The sphere's colliding with the cylinder
(c) **The rubber cube's entrance**
(d) The collision between the metal cube and the sphere

Video QA as a spatio-temporal extension of Image QA



(a) Extended end-to-end
memory network

(b) Extended simple
VQA model

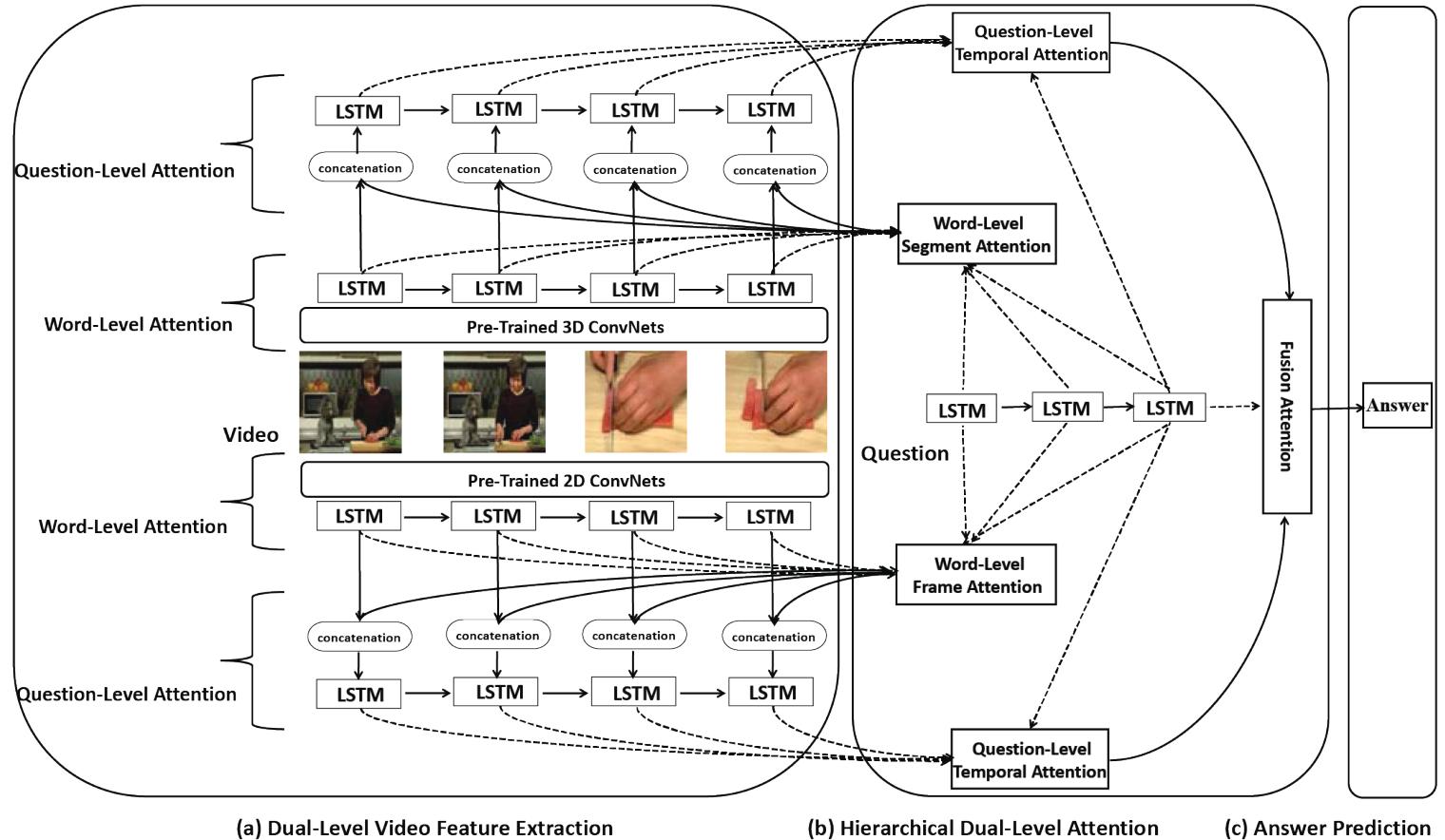
(c) Extended temporal
attention model

(d) Extended sequence-
to-sequence model

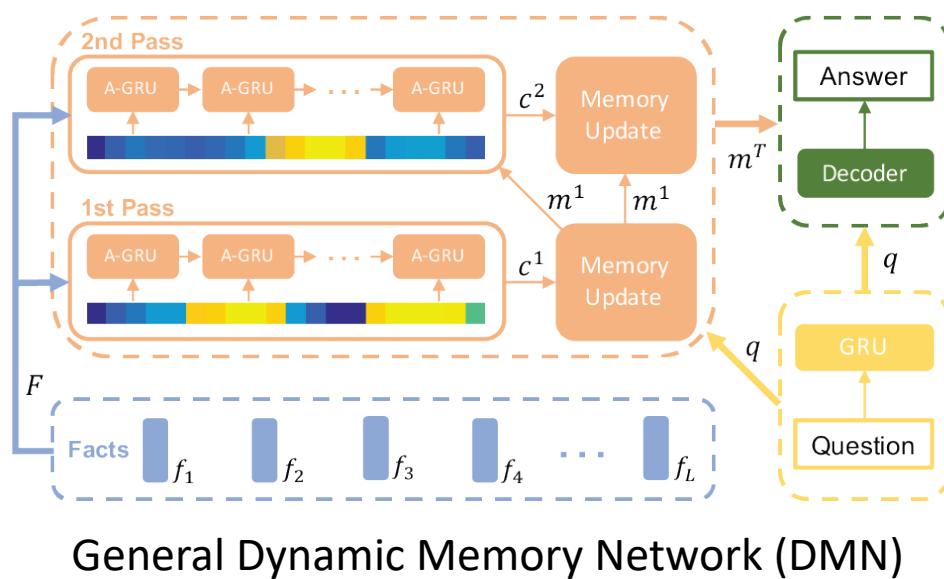
Spatio-temporal cross-modality alignment

Key ideas:

- Explore the correlation between vision and language via attention mechanisms.
- Joint representations are query-driven spatio-temporal features of a given video.



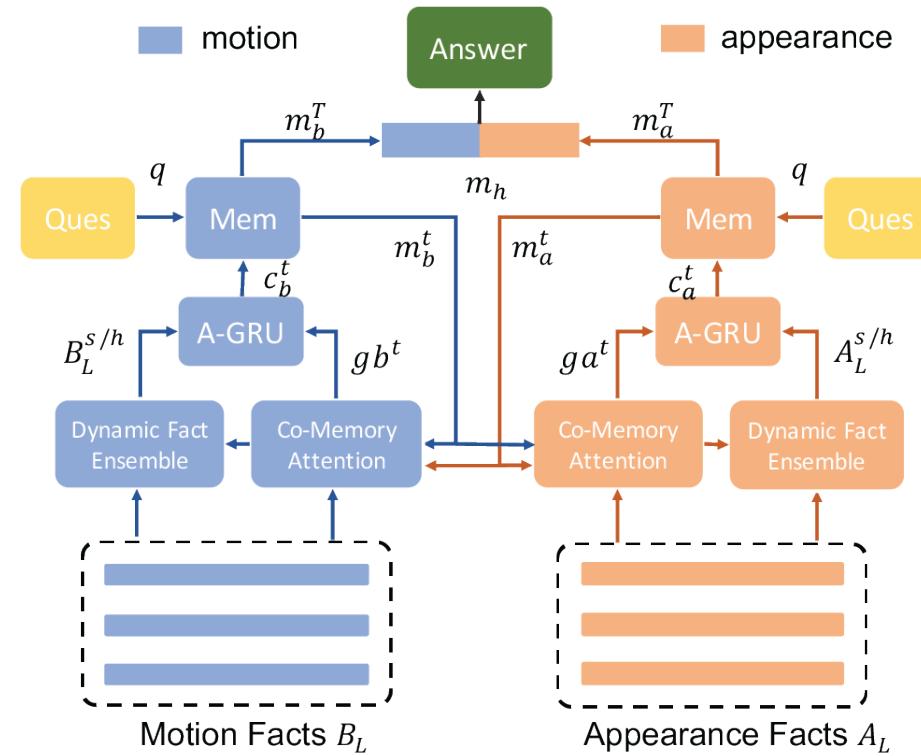
Memory-based Video QA



General Dynamic Memory Network (DMN)

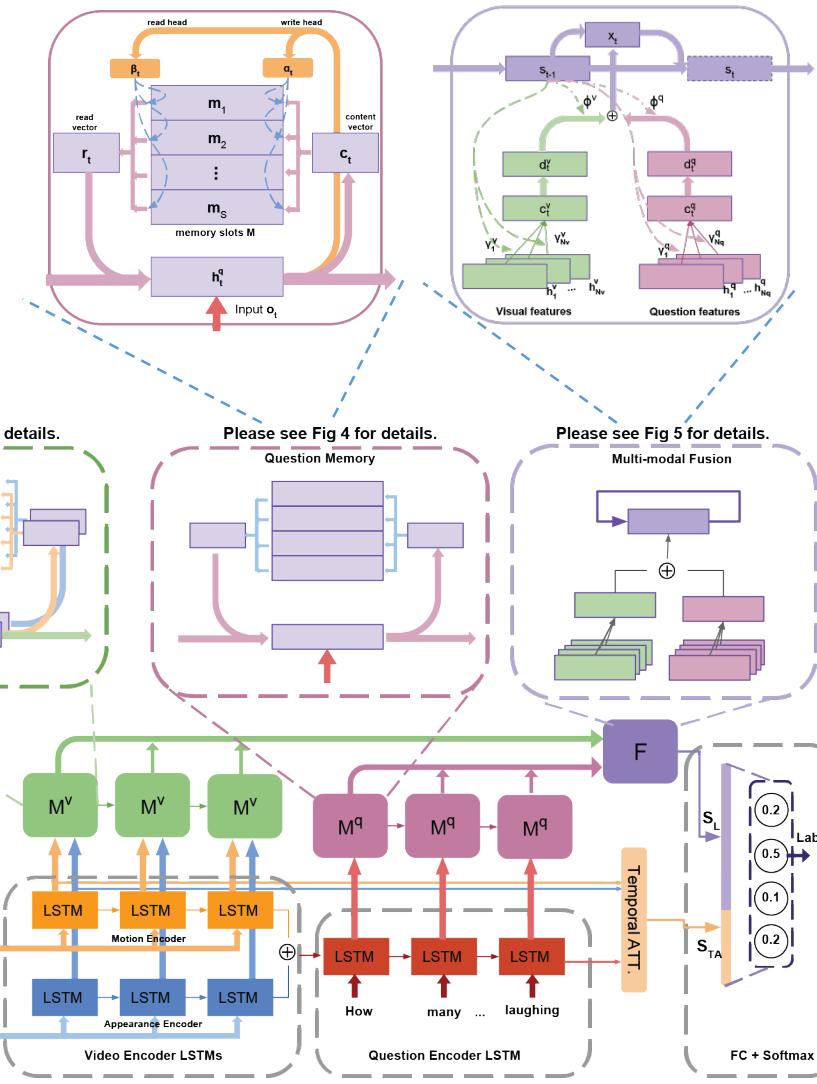
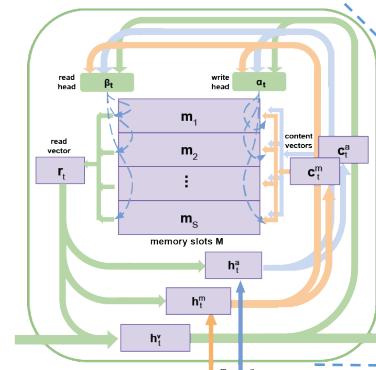
Key ideas:

- DMN refines attention over a set of facts to extract reasoning clues.
- Motion and appearance features are complementary clues for question answering.



Co-memory attention networks for Video QA

Memory-based Video QA

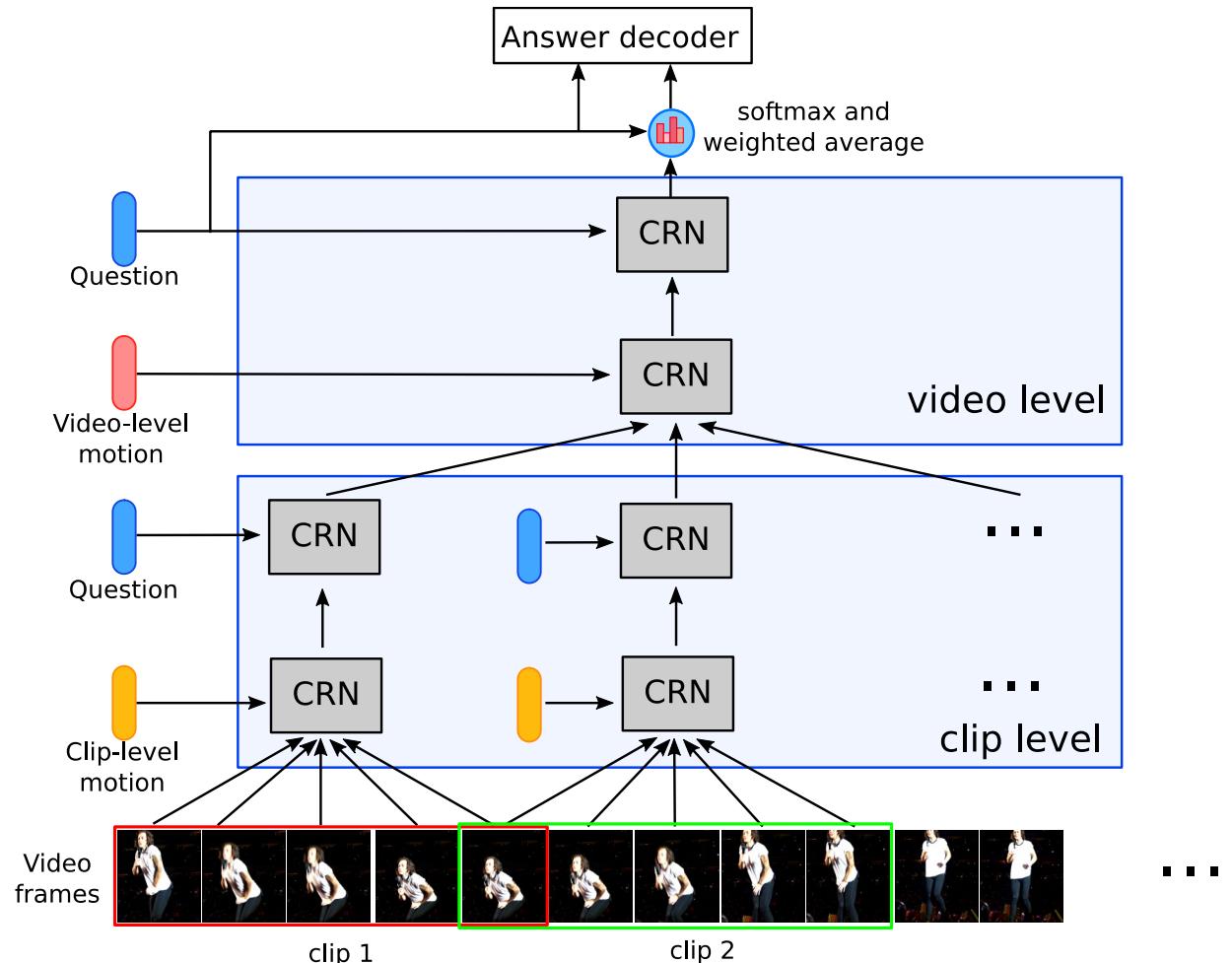


Key differences:

- Learning a joint representation of multimodal inputs at each memory read/write step.
- Utilizing external question memory to model context-dependent question words.

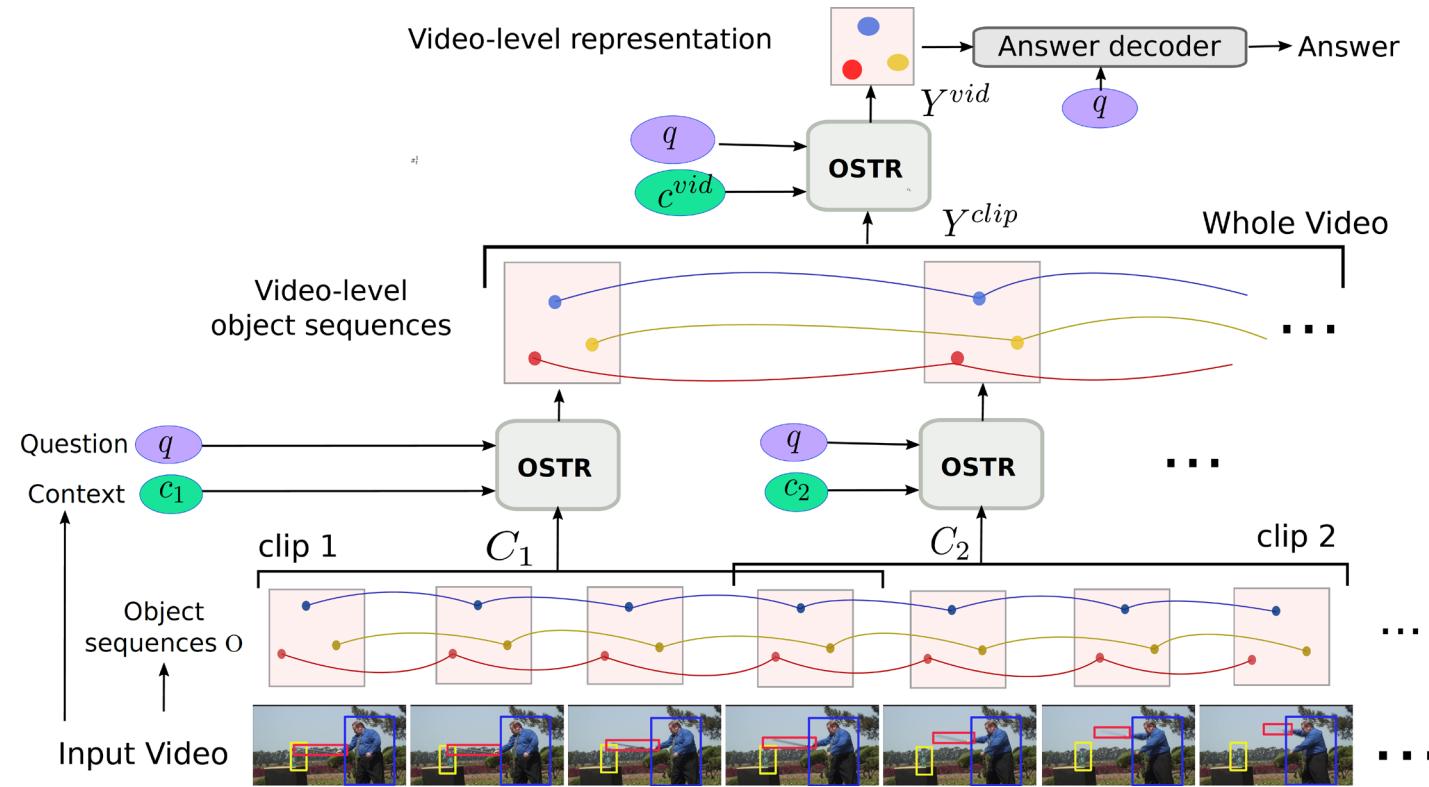
Multimodal reasoning units for Video QA

- CRN: Conditional Relation Networks.
- Inputs:
 - Frame-based appearance features
 - Motion features
 - Query features
- Outputs:
 - Joint representations encoding temporal relations, motion, query.

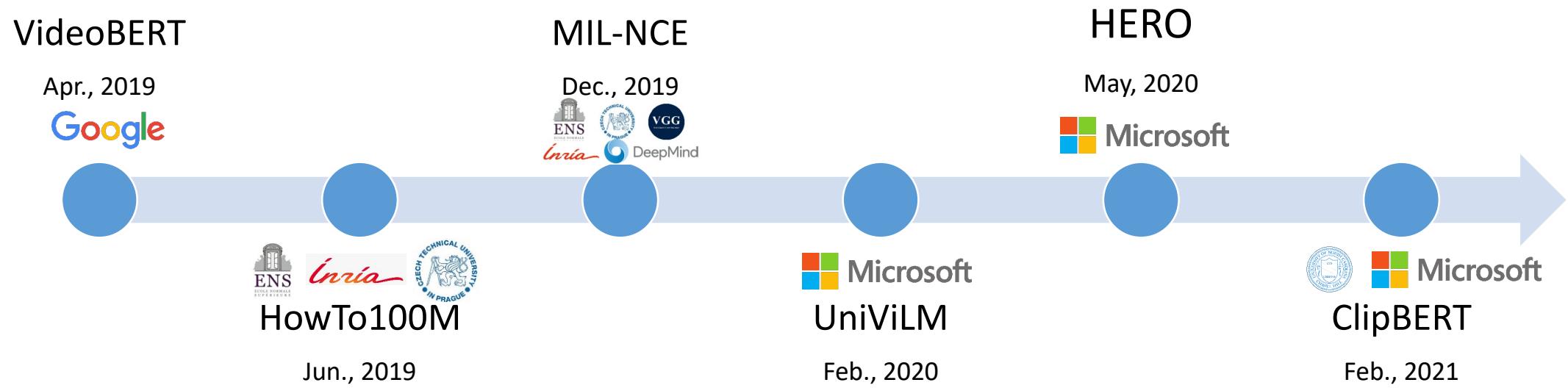


Object-oriented spatio-temporal reasoning for Video QA

- OSTR: Object-oriented Spatio-Temporal Reasoning.
- Inputs:
 - Object lives tracked through time.
 - Context (motion).
 - Query features.
- Outputs:
 - Joint representations encoding temporal relations, motion, query.

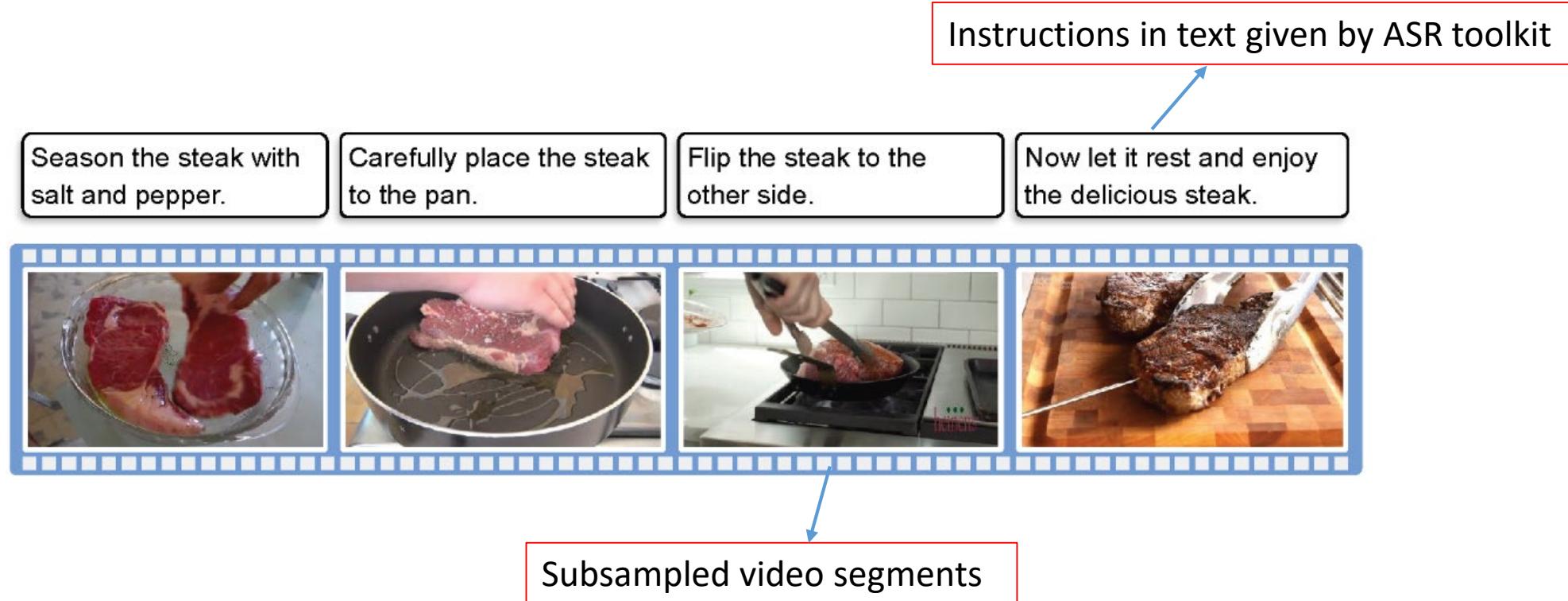


Video QA as a down-stream task of video language pre-training



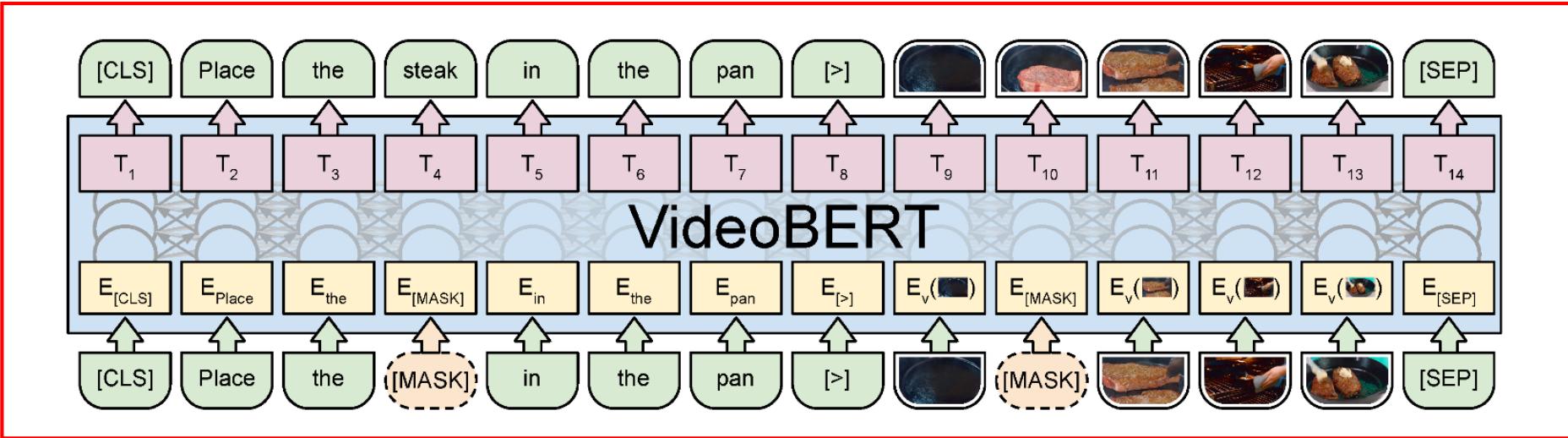
VideoBERT: a joint model for video and language representation learning

- Data for training: Sample videos and texts from YouCook II.



VideoBERT: a joint model for video and language representation learning

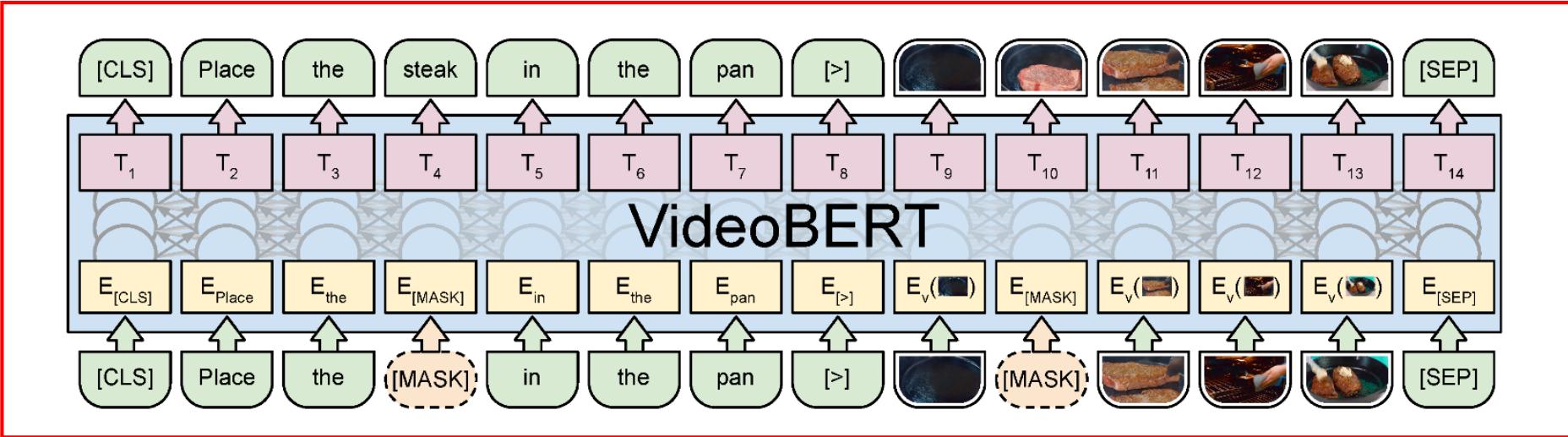
Pre-training



- Linguistic representations:
 - Tokenized texts into WordPieces, similar as BERT.
- Visual representations:
 - S3D features for each segmented video clips.
 - Tokenized into clusters using hierarchical k-means.

VideoBERT: a joint model for video and language representation learning

Pre-training



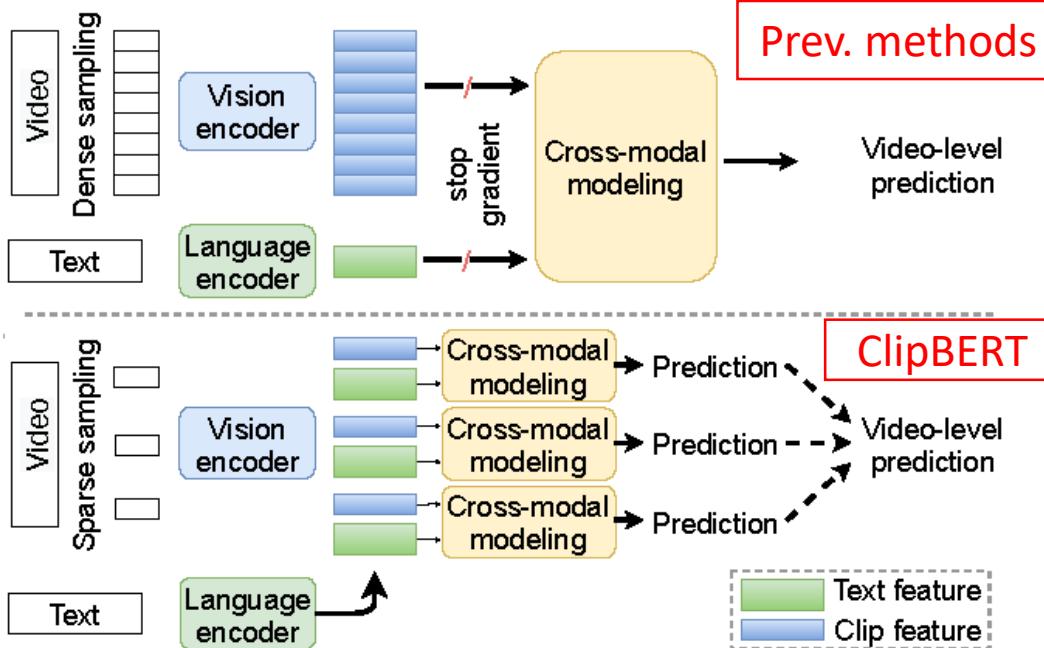
Down-stream
tasks

Video
captioning

Video question
answering

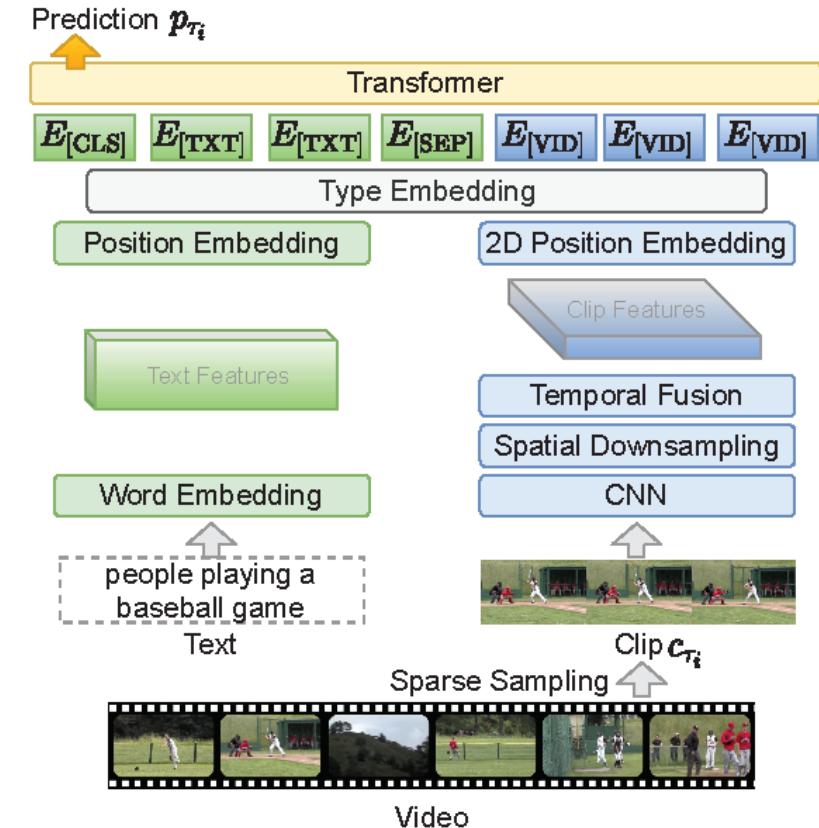
Zero-shot action
classification

CLIPBERT: video language pre-training with sparse sampling



Procedure:

- Pretraining on large-scale image-text datasets.
- Finetuning on video-text tasks.



ClipBERT overview

From short-form Video QA to Movie QA



Subtitle:

00:00:0.395 --> 00:00:1.896

(Keith:) I'm not gonna stand here and let you accuse me

00:00:1.897 --> 00:00:4.210

(Keith:) of killing one of my best friends, all right?

00:00:8.851 --> 00:00:10.394

(Castle:) You hear that sound?

Question: What did Keith do when he was on the stage?

Choice 1: Keith drank beer

Choice 2: Keith played drum

Choice 3: Keith sing to the microphone

Choice 4: Keith played guitar

Choice 5: Keith got off the stage and walked out

Baseline: **Keith played guitar**

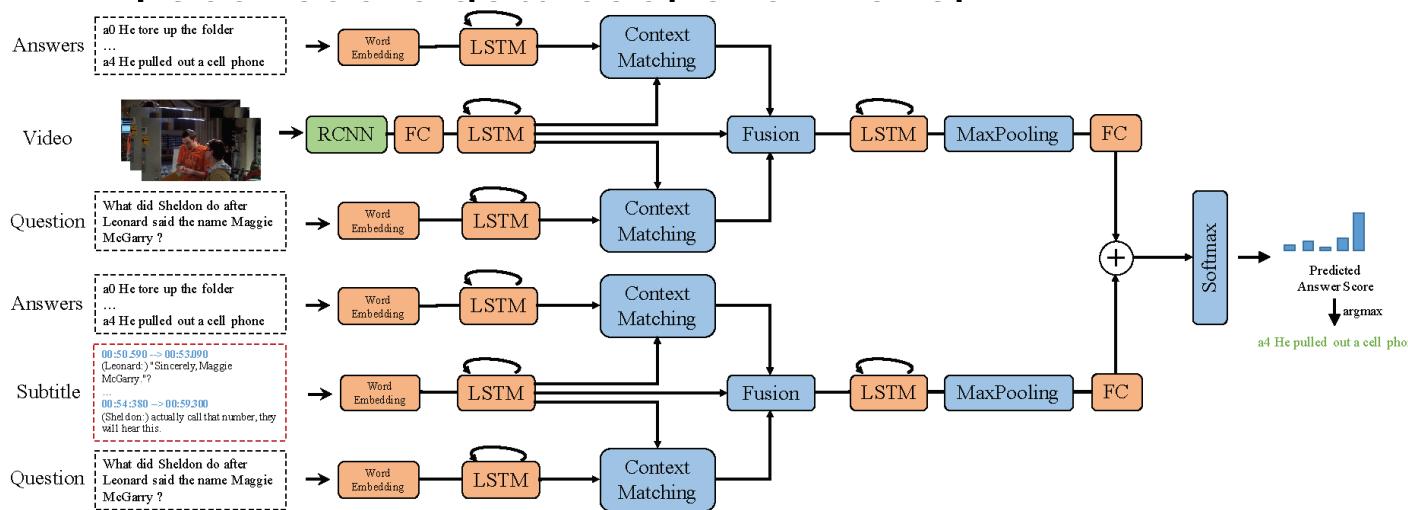
HCRN: **Keith got off the stage and walked out**

Ground truth: **Keith got off the stage and walked out**

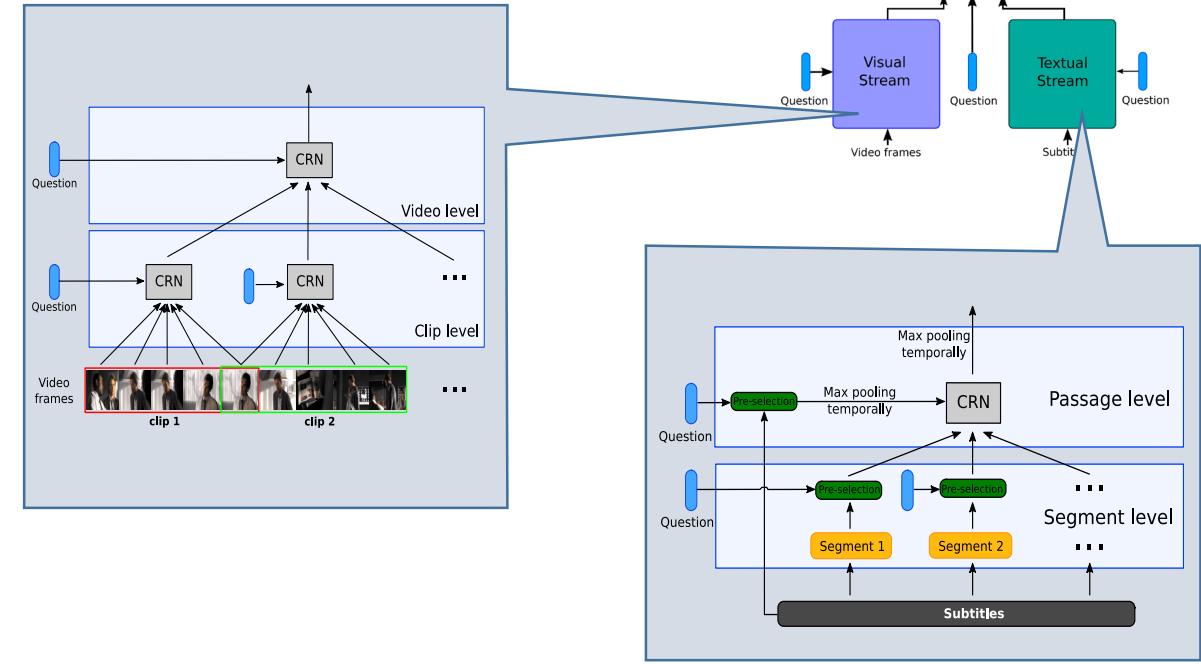
Conventional methods for Movie QA

Question-driven multi-stream models:

- Short-term temporal relationships are less important.
- Long-term temporal relationships and multimodal interactions are key.



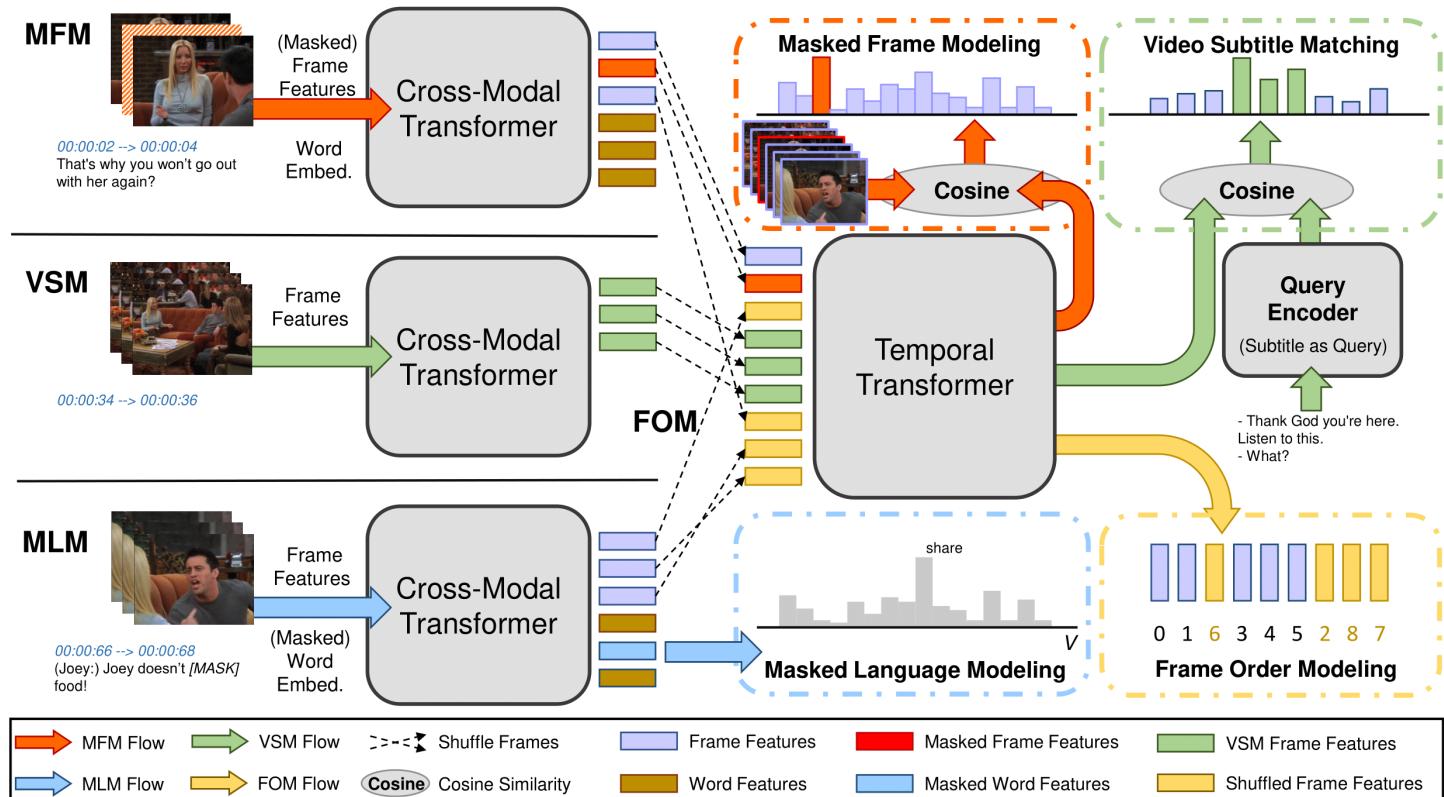
Lei, Jie, et al. "Tvqa: Localized, compositional video question answering." EMNLP'18.
14/08/2021



Le, Thao Minh, et al. "Hierarchical conditional relation networks for video question answering." IJCV'21.

HERO: large-scale pre-training for Movie QA

- Pre-trained on 7.6M videos and associated subtitles.
- Achieved state-of-the-art results on all datasets.



Method \ Task	TVR			How2R			TVQA	How2QA	VIOLIN	TVC			
	R@1	R@10	R@100	R@1	R@10	R@100				Bleu	Rouge-L	Meteor	Cider
SOTA Baseline	3.25	13.41	30.52	2.06	8.96	13.27	70.23	-	67.84	10.87	32.81	16.91	45.38
HERO	6.21	19.34	36.66	3.85	12.73	21.06	73.61	73.81	68.59	12.35	34.16	17.64	49.98

End of part B

<https://bit.ly/37DYQn7>