# Knowledge Base Reasoning with Convolutional-Based Recurrent Neural Networks

Qiannan Zhu<sup>0</sup>, Xiaofei Zhou<sup>0</sup>, Jianlong Tan, and Li Guo

Abstract—Recurrent neural network(RNN) has achieved remarkable performances in complex reasoning on knowledge bases, which usually takes as inputs vector embeddings of relations along a path between an entity pair. However, it is insufficient to extract local correlations of a path due to RNN is better at capturing global sequential information of a path. In this paper, we take full advantages of convolutional neural network that can effectively extract local features, and propose a convolutional-based RNN architecture denoted as C-RNN to perform reasoning. C-RNN first utilizes CNN to extract local high-level correlation features of a path, and then feeds the correlation features into recurrent neural network to model the path representation. Our C-RNN architecture is adaptable to obtain not only local features but also global sequential features of a path. Based on C-RNN architecture, we devise two models, the unidirectional C-RNN and bidirectional C-RNN. We empirically evaluate them on a large-scale FreeBase+ClueWeb prediction task. Experimental results show that C-RNN models achieve state-of-the-art predictive performance.

Index Terms—Knowledge base embedding, knowledge base reasoning, knowledge representation learning, knowledge graph completion

### 1 Introduction

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ECENTLY knowledge bases(KBs) constructed by reasoning  $\mathbf K$ on entities and relations have increasingly drawn attention in both industry and academia. Such knowledge bases like FreeBase [1], WordNet [2], YAGO [3], NELL [4] and DBPedia [5] are significant resources for numerous artificial intelligence applications including question answering [6], [7], named entity linking [8]. Although a typical KB contains billions of structured facts(triplets) as (h, r, t) representing that a relation r connects the head entity h to the tail entity t, it is factually far from completion, i.e., plenty of significant facts are missed. Currently many works based on embedding vector representations [9], [10], [11], [12], [13], [14], [15], [16] successfully fill in these missing facts only by one-step<sup>1</sup> paths. Factually more complex reasoning by leveraging multi-hop paths composed of two or more relations in the KB are more helpful for completing the knowledge bases. For instance, Obama-Nationality-USA can be inferred by observing the path Obama-BornInCity-Honolulu-CityInState-Hawaii-StateInCountry-USA from the KB.

Previous works about such complex reasoning mainly focused on learning symbolic and logical rules. SHERLOCK system [17] and Path Ranking Algorithm(PRA) [18] both

1. Washington-Located In-USA is implied via inferring Washington-IsCaptical Of-USA.

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utilize Horn clauses as features in a per-target-relation binary 37 classifier. However such models usually engender massive 38 distinct categories of Horn clauses as distinct features, which 39 restricts the availability of these models to populate large- 40 scale knowledge bases that contain billions of relations. An 41 emerging type of methods based on recurrent neural network 42 (RNN) such as Path-RNN [19] and Single-RNN [20] gains bet-43 ter generalization by reasoning about multi-hop paths. Path- 44 RNN [19] applies RNN to compose relation embeddings 45 along a variable-length path between two entities, inferring 46 new relation embeddings between them. Path-RNN trains a 47 separate model for each relation, and is inaccurate and 48 impractical for large-scale knowledge bases. For enhancing 49 the practicality of Path-RNN, Single-RNN [20] jointly takes as 50 input the relations, entities and entity types, and learns a 51 shared model for all relations by sharing the parameters of 52 relation-specific RNN across all target relations. Although the 53 traditional RNN-based reasoning models are skilled for dis-54 covering the sequential information along a path, they have 55 weakness in their ability to capture the local correction within 56 a path. An example is given in Fig. 1. The sequential information of the path Obama-BornInCity-Honolulu-CityInState- 58 Hawaii-StateInCountry-USA is easily to be extracted by RNN, 59 while the local correlation of the path, such as Obama- 60 BornInCity-Honolulu-CityInState- Hawaii and Honolulu- 61 CityInState- Hawaii-StateInCountry-USA, is usually ignored 62 for complex path reasoning. Fortunately, convolutional neu- 63 ral network(CNN) has the preeminent capabilities of captur- 64 ing local features at distinct positions in a sequence through 65 convolutional filters and learning higher-level correlations 66 through pooling operations.

In this paper, we propose a convolutional-based RNN 68 architecture namely C-RNN for complex reasoning over 69 knowledge bases, which takes the superiorities of CNN and 70 RNN. C-RNN constructs a unified architecture by stacking 71

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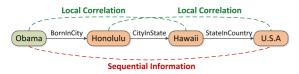


Fig. 1. An example of reasoning on knowledge graph.

the convolutional neural network(CNN) and recurrent neural network(RNN), where the output of one-layer CNN are fed into RNN. Specially, instead of directly applying path embedding to RNN in [19], [20], C-RNN first uses one-layer CNN to extract local higher-level features of the input path embedding, and then rearranges such local features as the input of RNN. Finally for all target relations, C-RNN adds a projection layer to connect the last output vector of RNN. Additionally, we take the entities, entity-types and context of entities into account to provide the richer semantic information for representing the input paths.

Our contributions are as follows:

- We propose a convolutional-based recurrent neural network architecture C-RNN which is the combination of convolutional neural network and recurrent neural network for reasoning on KBs.
- We present seven types of input paths for complex reasoning on KBs, which dynamically generate the entities, entity-types and the context of entities at every KG reasoning step.
- We empirically evaluate our C-RNN models on a large-scale FreeBase+ClueWeb prediction task. Experimental results show that our models achieve improvement on the MAP metric.

We organize the remainder of this paper as follows. In Section 2, we give the preliminaries of the recurrent neural network based reasoning models. Section 3 briefly introduces several basic types of input path. In Section 4, we elaborately describe the framework of C-RNN and devise several unidirectional and bidirectional C-RNN models. For both unidirectional and bidirectional C-RNN, we introduce the separated and shared C-RNN and discuss how such models can be trained on knowledge graphs in Section 5. Section 6 reports the experimental results on FreeBase+ClueWeb data set and undertake some discussions on C-RNN in Section 7. Further we review the applications of CNN (RNN) and the existing related reasoning techniques in Section 8, then followed by the concluding remarks in Section 9.

#### 2 **PRELIMINARY**

# The Architecture of CNN and RNN

As two widely used neural networks, convolutional neural networks and recurrent neural networks are usually combined and successfully applied in computer vision tasks [21], [22], speech recognition [23] and sentence and document representation [24], [25], sentiment classification [26], [27]. Most of these models train multi-layer CNN and RNN separately or throw the output of a fully connected layer of CNN into RNN as inputs. Our C-RNN architecture is not only different from such above models, but also it is the first work to apply to the knowledge graph research field. More details are illustrated in Section 4.

#### 2.2 RNN for Reasoning

Recurrent neural networks like Path-RNN [19] and Single- 124 RNN [20] models can be seen for complex reasoning over 125 knowledge bases. Both models have the similar basic RNN architecture. Following gives the detailed description:

Path-RNN [19] adopts RNN to reason on an arbitrary- 128 length path between two entities, and non-atomically predicts new relation types between them. Path-RNN gives the representation of path by the last hidden state of RNN 131 obtained after visiting all the relations in the path. Predic- 132 tion about the new relation types is performed by comput- 133 ing the similarity between the representation of the path 134 and query relation embedding.

Path-RNN defines a path  $\pi$  between an entity pair  $(e_h, e_t)$  136 as  $\pi = \{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_s\} \in S$  , and S denotes the set of paths 137 between  $e_h$  and  $e_t$ . Let  $\mathbf{v}(r_t) \in \mathbb{R}^d$  be the vector embedding 138 of relation  $r_t$ . In step k, the repeated module of Path-RNN 139 takes as input both the vector embedding representing 140 path-so-far  $\mathbf{h}_{k-1}$  and the k-step relation vector embedding 141  $\mathbf{v}(r_k)$ , and outputs an intermediate embedding representation  $h_k$ , given by:

$$\mathbf{h}_k = f(\mathbf{W}_1^r \mathbf{h}_{k-1} + \mathbf{W}_2^r \mathbf{v}^r(r_k)),$$

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where f = sigmoid,  $\mathbf{W}_1^r$  and  $\mathbf{W}_2^r$  are the relation-specific 146 parameters of Path-RNN, and r indicates the query relation. 147 Here, every relation that is predicted holds separate param- 148 eters  $\{\mathbf{v}^r(r_k), \mathbf{W}_1^r, \mathbf{W}_2^r\}$ . The last intermediate embedding 149 representation  $h_s$  is the representation of the path  $v(\pi)$ . The 150 similarity score is defined as:  $score(\pi, r) = \mathbf{v}(\pi) \cdot \mathbf{v}(r)$ . Usu- 151 ally there are multiple paths between an entity pair, Path- 152 RNN only selects the max-score path to participates in the 153 query relation r.

Different from Path-RNN, Single-RNN [20] considers enti- 155 ties and defines the path as  $\pi = \{e_1, r_1, e_2, r_2, \dots, r_s, e_t\}$  156  $(e_h = e_1)$ . Further Single-RNN shares the relation embedding 157 representations and the parameters of relation-specific RNN for all target relation types. Thus the hidden state is designed as 159

$$\mathbf{h}_k = f(\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{h}_{k-1} + \mathbf{W}_2 \mathbf{v}(r_k) + \mathbf{W}_3 \mathbf{v}(e_k)).$$

Moreover instead of selecting max-score path, Single-RNN 162 introduces the 'Top-k', 'Average' and 'LogSumExp' scoring 163 pooling methods for deciding which paths can participate 164 in querying relation r. Specifically, 'Top-k' is the average of 165 top-k score paths  $\frac{1}{k}\sum_{j} s_{j}$ , 'Average' is the average of scores 166 of all path  $\frac{1}{N}\sum_{j}^{N}s_{j}$ , and 'LogSumExp' is  $log(\sum_{j}exp(s_{j}))$ , 167  $s_j \in \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_N\}$  is the similarity scores of N paths 168 between an entity pair.

Although Path-RNN and Single-RNN achieve better per- 170 formances in complex reasoning because of capturing the 171 sequential information of a path, they ignore the local correlations along a path. Inspired by the successful use of the combination of convolutional neural networks and recurrent neural 174 networks for NLP tasks [24], [26], computer vision [21], [22] and speech recognition [23], we will apply CNN to RNN, and 176 devise a novel convolutional-based RNN architecture for complex reasoning over knowledge bases in next section.

#### INPUT PATH

This section defines seven types of input path for our pro- 180 posed C-RNN architecture. At first, we develop the context 181

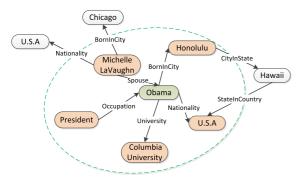


Fig. 2. Illustration of context of an entity in knowledge graph.

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information of entities. Usually it is limited that the only learned embedding is used to represent a single entity. In order to identify the position of entities in the path and knowledge base, the additional contextual information for each entity is extracted. We define the "context" of entity e as the set of its first-order neighbors in the knowledge graph, i.e.,

$$context(e) = \{e_i | (e_i, r, e) \in G \text{ or } (e, r, e_i) \in G\},\$$

where r is a relation and G is a knowledge base. The usage of context could provide more complementary evidence and assist in improving the identifiability of entities. That is because that the contextual entities related to the current entity usually contain the extra semantic and logic information. Here an example of the context information of the entity Obama is illustrated in Fig. 2. For the entity Obama, we use not only "Obama" itself but also its contexts to represent the entity. The context information of "Obama" are "Honolulu" (BornInCity), "U.S.A" (Nationality), "Michelle LaVaughn" (Spouse), "President" (Occupation), and "Columbia University" (University). There are many works like [28] on using the neighbors-aware context information to learn embeddings. In this paper, we calculate the context embedding as the average of the contextual entities of an entity  $\boldsymbol{e}$ 

$$\overline{\mathbf{e}} = \frac{1}{|context(e)|} \sum_{e_i \in context(e)} \mathbf{e}_i.$$

On the other hand, most KBs have annotated types for entities and each entity can have multiple types. For example, Obama has types such as President, Politician, Attorney, American Citizen etc. Taking full advantage of the entitytype information, we define T as the vocabulary of entity types, and T(e) as the entity-type collections of the entity e, i.e.,  $T(e) = \{e^{t_i}\}|e^{t_i} \in T, i \in [1, n].$  n is the maximum number of entity types for entity e and we set n = 8. Given the entity-type set of the entity e, we calculate the entity-type embedding of the entity e as the average of its entity types

$$\mathbf{e}^t = \frac{1}{|T(e)|} \sum_{e^{t_i} \in T(e)} \mathbf{e}^{t_i}.$$

Then we define the transformed entity-type embeddings as  $g(\mathbf{e}^t) = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{e}^t$  or  $g(\mathbf{e}^t) = f(\mathbf{M}\mathbf{e}^t + \mathbf{b})$ , where  $\mathbf{M} \in R^{d \times k}$ ,  $\mathbf{b} \in R^{d \times k}$  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , f can be sigmoid, tanh, d and k is respectively the dimension of entity(relation) and entity type.

Having established the context and types information of 225 the entities, we identify seven types of input path for an 226 entity pair  $(e_h, e_t)$ . The first type only involves the relations 227 in the path, thus it is defined as  $\pi = [\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_s]$ . The second type considers the intermediate entities and relations 229 along the path, which is given by  $\pi = [\mathbf{e}_h, \mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_s, \mathbf{e}_t]$ . 230 The third and forth types separately obtain the entity repre- 231 sentation by the contextual information and entity type, and 232 are defined as  $\pi = [\overline{\mathbf{e}}_h, \mathbf{r}_1, \overline{\mathbf{e}}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_s, \overline{\mathbf{e}}_t]$  and  $\pi = [g(\mathbf{e}_h^t), \mathbf{r}_1, 233]$  $g(\mathbf{e}_2^t), \dots, \mathbf{r}_s, g(\mathbf{e}_t^t)$  The fifth type takes the contextual infor- 234 mation of entity, entities and relations into account, and is 235 defined as  $\pi = [\overline{\mathbf{e}}_h, \mathbf{e}_h, \mathbf{r}_1, \overline{\mathbf{e}}_2, \mathbf{e}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_s, \overline{\mathbf{e}}_t, \mathbf{e}_t]$ . The sixth type 236 leverages the information from intermediate entity types, 237 entities and relations along the path, and is defined as 238  $\pi = [g(\mathbf{e}_h^t), \mathbf{e}_h, \mathbf{r}_1, g(\mathbf{e}_2^t), \mathbf{e}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_s, g(\mathbf{e}_t^t), \mathbf{e}_t]$ . The seventh type 239 jointly considers relations, entities, entity-types and contex- 240 tual information of entity and is defined as  $\pi = [g(\mathbf{e}_h^t), \overline{\mathbf{e}}_h, 241]$  $\mathbf{e}_h, \mathbf{r}_1, g(\mathbf{e}_2^t), \overline{\mathbf{e}}_2, \mathbf{e}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_s, g(\mathbf{e}_t^t), \overline{\mathbf{e}}_t, \mathbf{e}_t].$ 

For all above types of input path, we define their length as 243 the number of relations contained in the path. i.e.,  $len(\pi) = s$ . 244 Seven types respectively are fed into C-RNN architecture, 245 and the respective model are denoted as C-RNN, C-RNN+E, 246 C-RNN+C, C-RNN+T, C-RNN+E+C, C-RNN+E+T C-RNN 247 +E+C+T. "E", "C" and "T" respectively denote "Entity", 248 "Context" and "Types". For convenient notation, we set the 249 input path as  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_l\}$  (l is the number of entries in the 250 path), and the vector embedding of its ith element is  $\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . 251 We denote  $\mathbf{x} \in R^{l \times d}$  as the input path embedding for our C- 252 RNN architecture.

MODEL 254

This section provides two convolutional-based recurrent 255 neural networks for complex reasoning over knowledge 256 bases. The first one as described in Section 4.1 extracts the 257 local features of input path through one-layer convolutional 258 neural network, and then feeds such features into a unidi- 259 rectional recurrent neural network for learning the path 260 representation. Different from the unidirectional C-RNN, 261 the second one illustrated in Section 4.2 utilizes a bidirec- 262 tional recurrent neural network to represent the embedding 263 of input path. 264

#### 4.1 Unidirectional C-RNN

This subsection proposes a convolutional-based unidirec- 266 tional recurrent neural network named C-UiRNN for com- 267 plex reasoning over objects (relations and entities) of KGs. 268 As Fig. 3 shows, C-UiRNN is the combination of convolu- 269 tional neural network and unidirectional recurrent neural 270 network. The left box represents one-layer convolutional 271 neural network and the right box represents unidirectional 272 recurrent neural network.

#### CNN for Extracting Local Features 4.1.1

As the left box of Fig. 3 shows, the one-layer CNN includes 275 a convolutional layer and local max-pooling layer. The con-276 volutional layer extracts local correlations at different posi- 277 tions of a path by sliding over input path embedding 278 using multiple filters. The local max-pooling layer obtains 279 the valuable higher-order representations from the local 280 correlations.

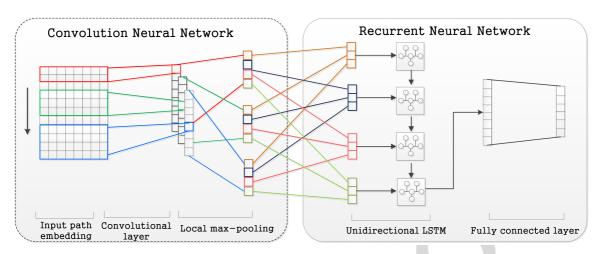


Fig. 3. Simple visualization of unidirectional C-RNN architecture.

Convolutional Layer. First at each position i of the path, we define a window  $\mathbf{W}_i$  of h vectors in the path as  $\mathbf{W}_i = [\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_{i+1}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{i+h-1}]$ , where the commas represent the concatenation of successive row vectors  $\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_{i+1}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{i+h-1}$ . Then a filter  $\mathbf{C} \in R^{h \times d}$  with size h for convolution operation is applied to ith window and produces a new feature  $m_i$ , which is given by

$$m_i = f(\mathbf{W}_i \cdot \mathbf{C} + b),$$

where  $\cdot$  is the element-wise multiplication,  $b \in R$  is a bias term and f is a nonlinear transformation function which can be sigmoid, hyperbolic tangent, etc. Therefore a feature map  $\mathbf{m}$  is generated by convoluting with each position of the path, i.e.,

$$\mathbf{m}=[m_1,m_2,\ldots,m_l].$$

Here we apply paddings to the input embedding x so that all feature maps m have the same number of entries, meanwhile we utilize n filters to generate n feature maps as

$$\mathbf{M} = {\mathbf{m}^1, \mathbf{m}^2, \dots, \mathbf{m}^n}.$$

*Pooling Layer.* We first devise a local max-pooling window with the size s, then we apply it with stride s on each feature map  $\mathbf{m}^i$  and generate the pooling feature representations. For example, applying 2-size with 2-strides max-pooling to [2,3,1,2,4,2] yields [3,2,4]. Thus for n feature maps in convolutional layer, we can get n respective pooling feature maps as  $\mathbf{p}^1, \mathbf{p}^2, \ldots, \mathbf{p}^n$ . Further we reorganize such pooling feature maps as

$$\mathbf{P} = [\mathbf{p}^1; \mathbf{p}^2; \dots; \mathbf{p}^n].$$

Here semicolons represent column vector concatenation and  $\mathbf{p}^i \in R^{\lceil l/s \rceil}$ . Each row  $\mathbf{P}_j$  of  $\mathbf{P} \in R^{\lceil l/s \rceil} \times n$  produced from n filters is regarded as the new feature representation. Then such new successive higher-order window representations  $\mathbf{P}_j(j \in [1, \lceil l/s \rceil])$  are fed into RNN, which preserve the original sequence properties of a path.

2.  $\lceil x \rceil$  returns the ceiling of x as a float, i.e., the smallest integer value greater than or equal to x.

# 4.1.2 Unidirectional RNN for Capturing Global Features 319

The second stage of C-UiRNN takes as input the sequence 320 of higher-order representations, which are the output of 321 convolutional neural network. Unidirectional recurrent 322 neural network utilizes Long Short-Term Memory(LSTM) 323 [29], [30] for relation prediction, thus it is better at finding 324 and exploiting long range dependencies in the path 325 sequence. The following gives more details.

Unidirectional RNN. As the right box of Fig. 3 illustrates, 327 in k-step cell of RNN, both the kth higher-order vector and 328 the output of k-1-step cell of RNN are taken as inputs, and 329 then it outputs an intermediate representation  $\mathbf{h}_k$  as

$$\mathbf{h}_k = g(\mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{h}\mathbf{h}}\mathbf{h}_{k-1} + \mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{i}\mathbf{h}}\mathbf{P}_k),$$

where  $\mathbf{W_{hh}} \in R^{d \times d}$ ,  $\mathbf{W_{ih}} \in R^{d \times n}$  are the parameters of RNN. 333  $\mathbf{h}_k$  is the input to the next step and the last output vector  $\tilde{\mathbf{h}}$ , 334 i.e.,  $\mathbf{h}_{\lceil l/s \rceil}$  is regarded as the representation of the input path. 335

# 4.2 Bidirectional C-RNN

Besides the unidirectional convolutional-based RNN, we 337 devise the bidirectional convolutional-based recurrent neural 338 network, named C-BiRNN. C-BiRNN has the aforementioned 339 convolutional neural network part and applies a bidirectional 340 LSTM network to make full use of past feature (via forward 341 states) and future features (via backward states). 342

Bidirectional RNN. As Fig. 4 illustrates, the bidirectional 343 RNN involves forward RNN and backward RNN, which 344 have respective weight parameters and intermediate states. 345 Forward RNN and backward RNN are two unidirectional 346 RNN that have input path with different directions. Therefore in k-step cell of RNN, there are two intermediate representation  $\mathbf{h}_k^I$  as following: 349

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{h}_{k}^{f} &= g(\mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{hh}}^{f} \mathbf{h}_{k-1}^{f} + \mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{ih}}^{f} \mathbf{P}_{k}) \\ \mathbf{h}_{k}^{w} &= g(\mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{hh}}^{w} \mathbf{h}_{k-1}^{w} + \mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{ih}}^{w} \mathbf{P}_{\lceil l/s \rceil - k + 1}), \end{aligned}$$

where the variables with the superscript f and w are respectively the parameters of forward and backward RNN, and 353  $\mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{hh}}^f, \mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{hh}}^w \in R^{d \times d}, \mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{ih}}^f, \mathbf{W}_{\mathbf{ih}}^w \in R^{d \times n}$ . The last vector representation  $\mathbf{h}_{\lceil l/s \rceil}^f$  and  $\mathbf{h}_{\lceil l/s \rceil}^w$  are separately the forward and 355 backward representation of the input path. We obtain the 356

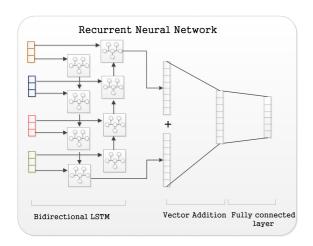


Fig. 4. Simple visualization of bidirectional C-RNN architecture.

path representation vector  $\hat{\mathbf{h}}$  by conducting add-vector operation on  $\mathbf{h}_{[l/s]}^{t}$  and  $\mathbf{h}_{[l/s]}^{w}$ , which is given by

$$\tilde{\mathbf{h}} = \mathbf{h}_{\lceil l/s \rceil}^f + \mathbf{h}_{\lceil l/s \rceil}^w.$$

For both C-UiRNN and C-BiRNN models, finally a fully connected layer is added on the top for predicting target relation, given by

$$\tilde{\mathbf{y}} = g(\mathbf{U}\tilde{\mathbf{h}} + \mathbf{b}),$$

where we adopt g = sigmoid, and U is the weight parameter. Generally C-UiRNN and C-BiRNN take full advantages of CNN for extracting the local features of sequences and RNN for capturing global information of any length of sequences.

#### 5 MODEL TRAINING

## 5.1 Training

For both unidirectional and bidirectional C-RNN, we respectively train two lines of our convolutional-based recurrent neural network. The first line trains a separate C-RNN model for each relation type, denoted as C-RNN(separated), the second line shares relation representations and the relation-specific parameters of C-RNN across all target relations, denoted as C-RNN(shared). C-RNN(shared) is the multitask learning among prediction of all target relations. Both C-RNN(separated) and C-RNN(shared) regard the output vector at the last step of C-RNN as the representation of a path, and finally connect a fully connected layer on top.

We use existing observed facts in the KB as positive samples and unobserved facts as negative samples [31], [32] to train our C-RNN(separated) and C-RNN(shared) models. For C-RNN(shared), we denote the query relation set as  $\mathbf{R} = \{r_1, r_2, \ldots, r_o\}$  (o is the number of target relations), the set of positive and negative samples as  $\Delta_{\mathbf{R}}^+$  and  $\Delta_{\mathbf{R}}^-$ . For each positive input sample  $\pi^+ = \{x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_l\}$ , we randomly replace  $o_1$  items in  $\pi^+$  with items that are selected from the entity set or relation set to construct a negative sample  $\pi^-$ , where  $o_1 = \lceil (1-\epsilon)l \rceil$ ,  $\lceil \cdot \rceil$  is the ceiling function and  $\epsilon \in [0,1)$ . Here we define the category label of a positive sample as  $y^+ \in [1,2,\ldots,o]$ , and that of a negative sample as  $y^- \in [1,2,\ldots,o]$ . After the fully connected layer of C-RNN (shared) model, each input sample has the estimated

probabilities  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}_i \in [0,1]$  for each label  $i \in \{1,2,\ldots,o\}$ . We minage the following negative log-likelihood to train our model 399

$$\begin{split} L(\Theta_{\mathbf{R}}, \Delta_{\mathbf{R}}^{+}, \Delta_{\mathbf{R}}^{-}) &= -\Big\{ \sum_{\pi^{+} \in \Delta_{\mathbf{R}}^{+}} log(\tilde{\mathbf{y}}_{y^{+}}) \\ &+ \sum_{\pi^{-} \in \Delta_{\mathbf{R}}^{-}} log(1 - \tilde{\mathbf{y}}_{y^{-}}) \Big\}, \end{split} \tag{1}$$

where  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}_{y^+}$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}_{y^-}$  are the  $y^+$ th and  $y^-$ th element of  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}}$ ,  $\Theta$  is 402 the set of all parameters of our C-RNN(shared) model. The 403 C-RNN(shared) neural network and classifier are optimized 404 using RMSPROP,<sup>3</sup> which is an adaptive learning rate 405 method proposed by Geoff Hinton.

For C-RNN(separated), we apply the above loss function  $_{407}$  for predicting each relation. It is a binary classification problem. Correspondingly the query relation set is defined as  $_{409}$   $\mathbf{R}=\{r_i\}(i\in[1,o])$ , the set of positive and negative samples  $_{410}$  as  $\Delta_{r_i}^+$  and  $\Delta_{r_i}^-$ , the category label as  $y^+=1,y^-=0$  and the  $_{411}$  set of parameters as  $\Theta_{\mathbf{r}_i}$ .

#### 5.2 Padding and Regularization

As fixed-length input is required in the convolution layer of 414 our C-RNN models, we pad all paths whose length are less 415 than *maxlen* with special symbols at the end of original path, 416 and filter out those paths which are longer than *maxlen*. We 417 define *maxlen* as the maximum length of path among training, 418 valid and testing sets. For each path  $\pi$  with length l (l < 419 maxlen), we will pad the path  $\pi$  with maxlen - l special 420 embeddings at the end of original path. For example, the first 421 type of path  $\pi$  with length l is set as  $\{r_1, r_2, \ldots, r_l\}$ , its embedding is  $[\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{r}_l]$ . Then maxlen - l special embeddings 423 are indicated by the padding relation  $u_r$ , then the padded path 424 is  $[\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{r}_l, \mathbf{u}_r, \ldots, \mathbf{u}_r]$ .

For regularization, two metrics are employed in our C- 426 RNN architecture: dropout and L2 weight regularization. 427 We only apply dropout to the output of CNN before feeding 428 into the RNN for preventing co-adaptation, and L2 regulari- 429 zation to the weight parameters of the fully connected layer. 430 We also initialize the embeddings of entities, entity types 431 and relations from the uniform distribution [-0.25, 0.25]. 432

### 6 EXPERIMENT

There are two lines of KG complex reasoning methods, 434 including separated models and shared models. The separated models train a separate model for predicting each target relation. The shared models train a shared model that 437 shares the relation embeddings and parameters of the relation-specific separated models. Therefore we evaluate our 439 C-RNN(separated) and C-RNN(shared) models on typical 440 predictive paths task with FreeBase+ClueWeb dataset, and 441 compare them with several baseline models. Experimental 442 results show that our models achieve consistent improvements on predictive paths task.

DataSets. FreeBase+ClueWeb<sup>4</sup> is released in [19], which is 445 a subset of FreeBase [1] enriched with information from 446 ClueWeb [33]. The dataset embodies 46 relation types in 447

<sup>3.</sup> http://www.cs.toronto.edu/~tijmen/csc321/slides/lecture slides lec6.pdf

<sup>4.</sup> http://iesl.cs.umass.edu/downloads/inferencerules/release.tar.gz

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TABLE 1 Statistics of the Dataset

Statistics	#
# FreeBase relation types	27,791
# textual relation types	23,599
# query relation types	46
# entity pairs	3.22M
# unique entity types	2218
Avg. path length	4.7
Max path Length	7
Total # paths	191M

FreeBase that have the most number of instances. For each relation type r, a set of triplet facts  $(e_h, r, e_t)$  and a set of paths between the entity pair  $(e_h, e_t)$  in the KB are extracted from ClueWeb sentences that contain two entities linked to FreeBase. The relation type is formed from the raw text between the two entities in the sentences. To limit the length of relation types, only two following words after the first entity and two words before the second entity are retained in FreeBase+ClueWeb. The entity type information is also collected from FreeBase. Table 1 demonstrates the important statistics of the dataset.

Baselines. Most KG reasoning methods are based on either path formulas or KG embedding. We explore methods from both of these two classes in our experiments. For embedding-based models, we mainly compare with several typical and promising methods for knowledge graph completion, including TransE [9], TransH [10], TransR [34], TransD [11], RESCAL [13], DistMult [35] and ComplEx [36]. Such models only learn from direct relations between entities but ignore multiple-step relation paths, which also contain rich inference patterns between entities. For those  $\{e_s, r_s, e_t\}$  involved in data set into some fact triplets as  $\{(e_h, r_1, e_2), (e_2, r_2, e_3), \dots, (e_s, r_s, e_t)\}$ , and then we train two lines of entity and relation embeddings. The first line learns separate entity and relation embeddings for each reasoning task, the second learns shared embeddings for all relation reasoning tasks. We rerun those models using the public available code<sup>5</sup> and each model is trained for 500 epochs. For path-based methods, aforementioned methods in "Related work" including PRA, PRA Classifier, Cluster PRA Classifier, Composition-Add, Path-RNN, PRA Classifier-b, Cluster PRA Classifier-b, Path-RNN+PRA Classifier, Path-RNN+PRA Classifier-b and Single-RNN are compared with our C-RNN methods.

Parameters Setup. We implement our models based on Tensorflow, which supports efficient symbolic differentiation and transparent use of a GPU. To benefit from the efficiency of parallel computation of the tensors, we train the model on a GPU. We adopt the same dataset used in [19], [20] to evaluate our C-RNN models. There are four convolutional-based recurrent neural networks for training, including C-UiRNN (separated), C-UiRNN(shared), C-BiRNN(separated) and C-BiRNN(shared). The word "separated" identifies such model

TABLE 2
Parameter Configuration on Convolutional Filter Size

Input Path	Relation	+E/+C/+T	+E+C/+E+T	+E+C+T
Filter Size	{2,3,4}	{3,4,5}	{5,6,8}	{7,8,11}

trains a separated model for each target relation. The word 492 "shared" means such model learns shared embeddings and 493 parameters across all target relations.

For our four C-RNN models, we select the dimension of 495 entity(relation) embeddings and RNN hidden states d from 496  $\{50, 100, 200, 300\}$ , the dimension of entity type k from 497  $\{50, 100, 200, 300\}$ , the size of convolutional filter h from 498  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12\}$ , the number of filters for 499 each h is set to 32, the size and stride of local max-pooling s 500 from  $\{1,2,4\}$ , and the probability of dropout p from  $\{0.2,501\}$ 0.5, 0.8, the weight of L2 regularization w from  $\{0.001, 0.01, 502\}$ 0.2, 0.5, 0.8, the learning rate  $\alpha$  from  $\{0.0001, 0.001, 503\}$ 0.01, 0.1}, the batch size b from  $\{128, 256, 512, 1200, 2400, 504\}$ 4800}. The optimal parameters that make our models 505 achieve the highest reasoning performance are determined 506 by validation set, i.e., in training stage, we use the validation 507 set to evaluate our C-RNN model every 100 epoch and pre- 508 serve the optimal parameters that achieves the best perfor- 509 mance on validation set. Each epoch of our model trains a 510 batch of the training set.

Metric. We use the average precision(AP) for our evaluation 512 metric. The MAP is the mean AP across all query types, which 513 approximates the area under the Precision Recall curve [37]. 514

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# 6.1 Results of Separated Models

In this experiment, to compare with many separated models, 516 we respectively run our separated unidirectional C-RNN and 517 bidirectional C-RNN with seven types of input path referred 518 in Section 3. The results of previous baselines are referred 519 from their report since the same data set is used. 520

Parameters. For unidirectional C-RNN models, the optimal parameter setting is  $\alpha=0.001$ , d=300, k=300, s=4, 522 p=0.5, w=0.001, b=4800. For bidirectional C-RNN modes, the optimal parameter setting is  $\alpha=0.001$ , d=200, 524 k=200, s=4, p=0.5, w=0.01, b=256. For both unidirectional and bidirectional C-RNN models with seven types of 526 input path, the configuration of convolutional filter size h 527 are shown in Table 2.

Analysis. Table 3 gives the experimental results, which 529 presents the comparison of our C-BiRNN, C-BiRNN +E+T+C and previous baselines in the top part, and the comparison of 531 our variants and state-of-the-art Path-RNN. The MAP in 532 Table 3 is the average value of MAP of 46 query relations since 533 each query relation has a MAP value. The column "Increase" 534 in Table 3 is the increase of MAP comparing our best model 535 with the baselines in the first column. From Table 3 we can see 536 that: (1) Our C-UiRNN and C-BiRNN separated models out- 537 perform state-of-the-art separated models Path-RNN and 538 PRT+T. It suggests that the combination of CNN and RNN 539 greatly improves performance on knowledge graph reason- 540 ing. (2) In our separated C-RNN models, the bidirectional 541 models C-BiRNN perform better than the unidirectional mod- 542 els C-UiRNN since C-BiRNN uses not only the past but also 543 the future input features for learning the path representation. 544

 $<sup>5. \</sup> https://github.com/thunlp/TensorFlow-TransX \ and \ https://github.com/mana-ysh/knowledge-graph-embeddings$ 

TABLE 3
Model Performance(SEPARATED)

TABLE 4
Model Performance(SHARED)

Model	MAP	Increase
TransE [9]	21.0	+64.6
TransH [10]	27.3	+58.3
TransR [34]	32.2	+53.4
TransD [11]	39.4	+46.2
RESCAL [13]	15.7	+69.9
DistMult [38]	45.9	+39.7
ComplEx [36]	50.5	+35.1
PRA [18]	49.6	+36.0
PRA Classifier [39]	51.3	+34.3
Cluster PRA Classifier [40]	53.2	+32.4
Composition-Add [41]	45.4	+40.2
Path-RNN-random [19]	56.9	+28.7
Path-RNN [19]	57.0	+28.6
PRA Classifier-b [19]	58.1	+27.5
Cluster PRA Classifier-b [19]	58.0	+27.6
Path-RNN+PRA Classifier [19]	58.4	+27.2
Path-RNN+PRA Classifier-b [19]	61.2	+24.4
ALL-PATH+NODES [42]	62.6	+23.0
PRA + T [19]	64.2	+21.4
C-BiRNN(separated)	68.5	+17.1
C-BiRNN+E+T+C(separated)	85.6	-
Variants of C-RNN(separated)	MAP	Increase
Path-RNN [19]	57.0	+28.6
PRA + T [19]	64.2	+21.4
C-UiRNN(separated)	66.9	+18.7
C-BiRNN(separated)	68.5	+17.1
C-UiRNN+E(separated)	80.8	+4.8
C-BiRNN+E(separated)	82.5	+3.1
C-UiRNN+C(separated)	80.3	+5.3
C-BiRNN+C(separated)	82.0	+3.6
C-UiRNN+T(separated)	79.4	+6.2
C-BiRNN+T(separated)	80.9	+4.7
C-UiRNN+E+Ĉ(separated)	81.8	+3.8
C-BiRNN+E+C(separated)	82.5	+3.1
C-UiRNN+E+T(separated)	82.3	+3.3
C-BiRNN+E+T(separated)	83.4	+2.2
C-UiRNN+E+T+C(separated)	84.1	+1.5
C-BiRNN+E+T+C(separated)	85.6	-

Detailedly seven separated C-BiRNN models have 1.59, 1.74, 1.69, 1.46, 0.72, 1.07 and 1.52 percent higher than respective separated C-UiRNN models. (3) Models that consider entities, the contextual information or entity types are more competitive than the shallow models that only consider the relations in the path. It indicates that entities, entity types and the contextual information can provide indispensable and effective characteristic information for learning path representation. (4) The path-based KG reasoning methods such as C-BiRNN are more promising and effective than embedding-based models such as TransE, ComplEx. The reason is that embeddingbased models do not use the multi-hop path information to perform KG reasoning. Even path-based model PRA with the lowest performance(49.6 percent) can be comparable with the embedding-based model ComplEx(50.5 percent) that has higher performance.

# 6.2 Results of Shared Models

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In this experiment, we run our shared C-RNN models with seven types of input path, and compare them with state-of-the-art shared model Single-RNN [20] and several

Model	MAP	Increase
TransE [9]	27.9	+52.5
TransH [10]	30.0	+ 50.4
TransR [34]	37.3	+ 43.1
TransD [11]	43.1	+37.3
RESCAL [13]	20.7	+59.7
DistMult [35]	54.5	+25.9
ComplEx [36]	65.4	+10.3
Single-RNN [20]	70.11	+9.0
Single-RNN+E [20]	71.4	+7.2
Single-RNN+T [20]	73.2	+8.2
Single-RNN+E+T [20]	72.2	+9.2
C-BiRNN(shared)	71.2	-
C-BiRNN+E+C+T(shared)	80.4	
Variants of C-RNN(shared)	MAP	Increase
C: 1 DNINI T [00]	F2 2	
Single-RNN+T [20]	73.2	+7.2
Single-RNN+E+T [20]	73.2 72.2	+7.2 +8.2
Single-RNN+E+T [20]	72.2	+8.2
Single-RNN+E+T [20] C-UiRNN(shared)	72.2 70.8	+8.2 +9.6
Single-RNN+E+T [20] C-UiRNN(shared) C-BiRNN(shared)	72.2 70.8 71.2	+8.2 +9.6 +9.2
Single-RNN+E+T [20] C-UiRNN(shared) C-BiRNN(shared) C-UiRNN+E(shared)	72.2 70.8 71.2 72.0	+8.2 +9.6 +9.2 +8.4
Single-RNN+E+T [20] C-UiRNN(shared) C-BiRNN(shared) C-UiRNN+E(shared) C-BiRNN+E(shared)	72.2 70.8 71.2 72.0 73.8	+8.2 +9.6 +9.2 +8.4 +6.6
Single-RNN+E+T [20] C-UiRNN(shared) C-BiRNN(shared) C-UiRNN+E(shared) C-BiRNN+E(shared) C-UiRNN+C(shared)	72.2 70.8 71.2 72.0 73.8 74.1	+8.2 +9.6 +9.2 +8.4 +6.6 +6.3
Single-RNN+E+T [20] C-UiRNN(shared) C-BiRNN(shared) C-UiRNN+E(shared) C-BiRNN+E(shared) C-UiRNN+C(shared) C-BiRNN+C(shared)	72.2 70.8 71.2 72.0 73.8 74.1 75.1	+8.2 +9.6 +9.2 +8.4 +6.6 +6.3 +5.3
Single-RNN+E+T [20] C-UiRNN(shared) C-BiRNN(shared) C-UiRNN+E(shared) C-BiRNN+E(shared) C-UiRNN+C(shared) C-BiRNN+C(shared) C-BiRNN+C(shared) C-UiRNN+T(shared)	72.2 70.8 71.2 72.0 73.8 74.1 75.1 74.7	+8.2 +9.6 +9.2 +8.4 +6.6 +6.3 +5.3
Single-RNN+E+T [20] C-UiRNN(shared) C-BiRNN(shared) C-UiRNN+E(shared) C-BiRNN+E(shared) C-UiRNN+C(shared) C-BiRNN+C(shared) C-BiRNN+T(shared) C-BiRNN+T(shared) C-BiRNN+E+C(shared)	72.2 70.8 71.2 72.0 73.8 74.1 75.1 74.7 76.8 76.2 77.5	+8.2 +9.6 +9.2 +8.4 +6.6 +6.3 +5.3 +5.7 +3.6 +4.2 +2.9
Single-RNN+E+T [20] C-UiRNN(shared) C-BiRNN(shared) C-UiRNN+E(shared) C-BiRNN+E(shared) C-UiRNN+C(shared) C-BiRNN+C(shared) C-UiRNN+T(shared) C-BiRNN+T(shared) C-UiRNN+E+C(shared) C-UiRNN+E+C(shared) C-UiRNN+E+C(shared)	72.2 70.8 71.2 72.0 73.8 74.1 75.1 74.7 76.8 76.2 77.5	+8.2 +9.6 +9.2 +8.4 +6.6 +6.3 +5.3 +5.7 +3.6 +4.2 +2.9 +3.2
Single-RNN+E+T [20] C-UiRNN(shared) C-BiRNN(shared) C-UiRNN+E(shared) C-BiRNN+E(shared) C-UiRNN+C(shared) C-UiRNN+C(shared) C-UiRNN+T(shared) C-UiRNN+T(shared) C-UiRNN+E+C(shared) C-UiRNN+E+C(shared) C-BiRNN+E+C(shared) C-BiRNN+E+T(shared)	72.2 70.8 71.2 72.0 73.8 74.1 75.1 74.7 76.8 76.2 77.5 77.2 78.1	+8.2 +9.6 +9.2 +8.4 +6.6 +6.3 +5.3 +5.7 +3.6 +4.2 +2.9 +3.2 +2.3
Single-RNN+E+T [20] C-UiRNN(shared) C-BiRNN(shared) C-UiRNN+E(shared) C-BiRNN+E(shared) C-UiRNN+C(shared) C-BiRNN+C(shared) C-UiRNN+T(shared) C-BiRNN+T(shared) C-UiRNN+E+C(shared) C-UiRNN+E+C(shared) C-UiRNN+E+C(shared)	72.2 70.8 71.2 72.0 73.8 74.1 75.1 74.7 76.8 76.2 77.5	+8.2 +9.6 +9.2 +8.4 +6.6 +6.3 +5.3 +5.7 +3.6 +4.2 +2.9 +3.2

embedding-based models, such as TransE [9], TransH [10], 565 TransR [34], TransD [11], RESCAL [13], DistMult [35] and 566 ComplEx [36]. 567

Parameters. For unidirectional C-RNN models, the optimal parameter setting is  $\alpha=0.001$ , d=300, k=300, s=2, 569 p=0.2, w=0.5, b=2400. For bidirectional C-RNN models, the optimal parameter setting is  $\alpha=0.001$ , d=300, 571 k=300, s=2, p=0.5, w=0.001, b=128. For both C-RNN 572 models, the configuration of convolutional filter size is 573 illustrated in Table 2.

Analysis. The results of our shared models are shown in 575 Table 4. Similar to Table 3, we also compare our C-BiRNN, 576 C-BiRNN+E+T+C with baselines on the top part of Table 4, 577 and compare the variants of our C-RNN with state-of-the- 578 art shared model Single-Path on the bottom part of Table 4. 579 From this table, we can observe that: (1) Both our shared C- 580 UiRNN and C-BiRNN models significantly outperform all 581 baselines. It indicates that cooperating the convolution neu- 582 ral network with the recurrent neural network is beneficial 583 for representing paths across all target relations. (2) Incorpo- 584 rating entities and its additional information into reasoning 585 methods are beneficial for complex reasoning on knowledge 586 bases, since entities and its additional information provide 587 rich sematic and logic information. Specifically, C-UiRNN 588 (shared) with +E, +C or +T is at least 1.1 percent higher than 589 C-UiRNN(shared), and C-BiRNN(shared) with +E, +C or 590 +T has at least 1.9 percent higher than C-BiRNN. (3) Each C- 591 UiRNN(shared) has worse performance than its respective 592

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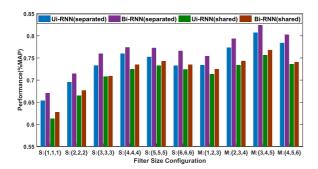


Fig. 5. Performance on different filter size configuration.

C-BiRNN(shared), which implies that the bidirectional RNN is helpful to improve the reasoning performance. (4) Even C-UiRNN(shared) and C-BiRNN(shared) are comparable with SingleRNN+E, SingleRNN+T and SingleRNN+E+T. This indicates the shared C-UiRNN and C-BiRNN models are more feasible and capable for learning the representations of paths. (5) For shared reasoning models, path-based reasoning methods have more desirable results than embedding-based methods. The lower performance of embedding-based models is caused by failing to utilize the multi-hop path for KG reasoning. The highest performance of embedding-based method is just 65.4 percent, which is at least 4.8 percent lower than those path-based reasoning methods.

In general, our separated and shared C-RNN models achieve at least 9 percent higher performance on MAP than other models. The three advantages of our model give its superiority of reasoning performance: (1) We consider the local correlation information and the sequential information of the paths for complex reasoning task. (2) We use the convolution neural network for extracting the local features and recurrent neural network for capturing the sequential features. (3) We incorporate the entities, entity-types and context knowledge to provide richer semantic characteristics of paths for reasoning.

# 7 DISCUSSION

#### 7.1 Performance in Using of CNN

This section discusses how the using of CNN for RNN is effective for capturing the local information of input paths.

In our C-RNN models, the filters of convolutional neural network are devised to capture the local n-gram information of input paths. Therefore we investigate the impact of different filter configurations in the convolutional layer on the model performance. There are two cases: (a) single convolutional layer with the same filter size, and (b) single convolutional layer with different size of filters. We investigate filter size h from  $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$  in above cases, and set the number of filters to 32, the filter length to 3. Each n-gram window is transformed into 3 \* 32 convoluted features after convolution, and the sequence of window representations after pooling operation is fed into RNN. We show in Fig. 5 the prediction performance on "+Entity" setting. In Fig. 5, S means single convolutional layer with the same filter size, and M means single convolutional layer with different filter sizes. Fig. 5 finds that (1) Filter configuration  $S : \{1, 1, 1\}$  has

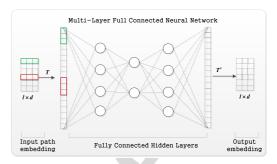


Fig. 6. Simple visualization of N-RNN framework.

the worst performance than any other filter configurations 638 due to the filter size as 1 only captures the local 1-gram information of the input path. (2) Single convolutional layer with 640 different filter sizes performs better than single convolutional layer with the same size filters. That is different filter sizes could exploit features of different local n-grams information. (3) Filter size as  $\{3,4,5\}$  achieves the highest performance. Since the path is Entity+Relation, then the sliding 645 window with size  $\{3,4,5\}$  can naturally capture the correlation among the sub-paths  $(e_1,r_1,e_2),(e_1,r_1,e_2,r_2),(e_1,r_1,647)$  e $_2,r_2,e_3$ . Note that we also observe the similar phenomenon in C-RNN model with the other types of input path.

Additionally, it is shown that the combination of CNN 650 and RNN has better superiority than other frameworks for 651 capturing the local information. We first devise another 652 framework named N-RNN for experiments that replaces 653 the CNN component of C-RNN with a multi-layer full con- 654 nected neural network. As the Fig. 6 shown, for the multi- 655 layer full connected neural network, N-RNN first takes the 656 embedding of path as input and feeds the output of the last 657 layer into RNN. In Fig. 6,  $T: \mathbf{A} \to \mathbf{a}$  represents that it 658 reshapes the matrix A into a vector a according to row- 659 major order.  $T': \mathbf{a} \to \mathbf{A}$  is the inverse operation of T, l is the 660 length of input path and d is the dimension of embedding. 661 In the experiment, we set the number of hidden layers as 662  $L = \{1, 2, 3\}$ , and denote the number of elements of a matrix 663 or a vector as ele(.). For  $L = \{1, 2, 3\}$ , we separately set the 664 size of hidden layers as  $\left\{\frac{ele(\mathbf{x})}{2}\right\}, \left\{\frac{ele(\mathbf{x})}{2}, \frac{ele(\mathbf{x})}{2}\right\}, \left\{\frac{ele(\mathbf{x})}{2}, \frac{ele(\mathbf{x})}{4}, \frac{ele(\mathbf{x})}{4}\right\}$  $\frac{ele(\mathbf{x})}{2}$ }.  $\mathbf{x}$  is the input embedding. For all above settings, we also train the separated N-RNN and shared N-RNN by 667 using the non-linearity activate function sigmoid. Experimental results illustrated in Table 5 can see that for both 669 separated and shared models, C-UiRNN and C-BiRNN 670 achieve consistently higher performance than N-RNN with 671 1, 2, 3 layer. It indicates that the combination of CNN and 672 RNN is more beneficial to capture local correlation of input 673 paths than fully connected neural network. Moreover, for a 674 more detailed and intuitive comparison of the experimental 675 results on these models, we separately give the performance 676 of 46 relations on separated and shared models under 677 "+Entity" setting in Fig. 7, which suggests that C-RNN 678 obtains better performance than N-RNN on each relation.

# 7.2 Performance in Different Length of Path

This section explores the effect of different length of path to 681 the performance in representing path embedding. In this 682 experiment, we compare the performance of our C-RNN 683

TABLE 5
Performance in Using of Convolutional Neural Network

Model		Relation	+E	+C	+T	+E+C	+E+T	+E+C+T
Separated Model	N-RNN(1-layer)	65.0	72.8	74.6	74.1	75.9	76.7	77.4
	N-RNN(2-layer)	62.8	70.1	71.2	73.7	73.4	75.8	76.9
	N-RNN(3-layer)	61.5	69.5	70.4	71.5	70.2	72.2	74.3
	C-UiRNN	<b>66.9</b>	<b>80.8</b>	<b>80.3</b>	<b>79.4</b>	<b>81.8</b>	<b>82.3</b>	<b>84.1</b>
	C-BiRNN	<b>68.5</b>	<b>82.5</b>	<b>82.0</b>	<b>80.9</b>	<b>82.5</b>	<b>83.4</b>	<b>85.6</b>
Shared Model	N-RNN(1-layer)	61.8	65.4	66.7	68.9	69.5	69.1	69.8
	N-RNN(2-layer)	60.3	63.2	65.1	67.5	69.0	68.9	68.7
	N-RNN(3-layer)	60.4	62.1	63.3	65.1	67.2	66.34	65.2
	C-UiRNN	<b>70.8</b>	<b>72.0</b>	<b>74.1</b>	<b>74.7</b>	76.2	77.2	<b>79.7</b>
	C-BiRNN	<b>71.2</b>	<b>73.8</b>	<b>75.1</b>	<b>76.8</b>	77.5	78.1	<b>80.4</b>

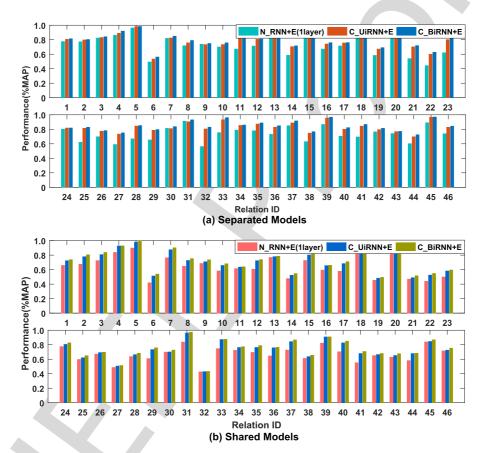


Fig. 7. Performance of 46 relations under "+Entity" setting.

models with state-of-the-art multi-hop separated and shared models, i.e., Path-RNN and SingleRNN+E+T. We generate the training, valid data according to different restrictions on length of paths. For example, we restrict the length as 3, only paths in training and valid set whose length are not more than 3 are selected, and other paths are removed. We give the restrictions of length as  $\{1,2,3,4,5,6,7\}$  and produce seven training and valid sets. Then we only evaluate our C-UiRNN(separated), C-BiRNN(separated), C-UiRNN(shared)+E+T and C-BiRNN(shared)+E+T models and get the respective performance in test data as Fig. 8. As the Fig. 8 shows, we can see that: (1) For separated and shared reasoning models in (a) and (b), our C-UiRNN

and C-BiRNN respectively outperform separated model 697 Path-RNN and shared model Single-RNN+E+T. (2) In both 698 (a) and (b), the bidirectional C-RNN models are also superior to the unidirectional C-RNN. (3) The performance is 700 increasing with growth of the length, i.e., the training set 701 with extra training examples of longer paths leads the better 702 performance.

On the other hand, we also evaluate the number distribu-  $^{704}$  tion of the true labeled samples on different lengths under  $^{705}$  the length restriction as 7. The results of separated and  $^{706}$  shared models are given in Fig. 9. From Fig. 9 we can see for  $^{707}$  all multi-hop reasoning models, the distribution peaks at  $^{708}$  lengths =  $\{3,4,5\}$ , i.e., the true labeled samples determined  $^{709}$ 

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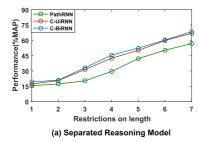
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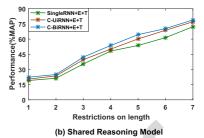
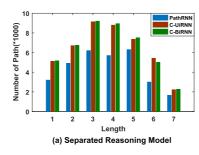


Fig. 8. Performance in training data with different length restrictions.



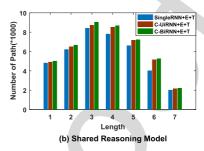


Fig. 9. Length distribution of true labeled relation prediction.

by the paths of lengths  $= \{3, 4, 5\}$  have a large proportion on the overall true labeled samples. Such all above observations from Figs. 8 and 9 suggest that methods which limit the length to a small value might restrict the performance and generalization.

7.3 Performance in Limited Data Regime

The dataset FreeBase+ClueWeb contains 46 relation types that are constructed from reasonable amounts of data. Usually we have very limited data in many important applications. To simulate this common scenario, we follow [19] to construct a small dataset to evaluate our model's performance. Specifically, we first randomly select 23 out of 46 relation types. Then we remove all but 1 percent of the positive and negative triplets previously used for training.

In this experiment, we also compare our models with state-of-the-art separated model Path-RNN and shared model Single-RNN. Therefore we rerun Path-RNN and SingleRNN<sup>6</sup> with our produced small data, and obtain the similar results to the results published in [20]. We also run our separated and shared C-UiRNN and C-BiRNN model with the generated small dataset. Experimental results are listed in Table 6. The observations from Table 6 are: (1) All our separated and shared models achieve much higher performance than Path-RNN and Single-RNN in the small data, which proves that our C-RNN architectures have stronger adaptability for sparse data. (2) With separated and shared settings, the bidirectional C-RNN has greater superiority than unidirectional C-RNN. This is mainly because that the bidirectional C-RNN not only utilizes the future information of path but also past information of path for reasoning on KGs. (3) Effectively under this sparse and small data, the shared models perform better than the separated models since the shared models provide additional regularization 743 with the multi-task learning. All observations indicate that 744 our C-RNN models have the practicality and reliability for 745 application to KBs with sparse triplet facts.

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### 7.4 Performance in Different Initialization of Embeddings

For all above experiment of our C-RNN models, we initial- 749 ize the embeddings of entities, entity types and relations 750 from the uniform distribution since all compared baselines 751 are initialized from random uniform distribution or normal 752 distribution. However, this section explores the influence of 753 input embedding with different initialization metrics on our 754

TABLE 6 Model Performance When Trained With a Small Fraction of the Data

Separated Model	MAP(%)
Path-RNN	21.9
C-UiRNN(separated)	44.3
C-BiRNN(separated)	45.9
Shared Model	MAP(%)
Single-RNN	42.86
C-UiRNN(shared)	50.7
C-BiRNN(shared)	51.3
Single-RNN+E	62.63
C-UiRNN(shared)+E	64.5
C-BiRNN(shared)+E	65.4
Single-RNN+T	64.24
C-UiRNN(shared)+T	66.1
C-BiRNN(shared)+T	67.8
Single-RNN+E+T	63.27
C-UiRNN(shared)+E+T	68.2
C-BiRNN(shared)+E+T	69.1

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TABLE 7

Model Performance on Different Initialization of Embeddings

Separated Model	MAP(%)
C-UiRNN(separated)+E-uniform C-BiRNN(separated)+E-uniform	80.8 82.5
C-UiRNN(separated)+E-TransE C-BiRNN(separated)+E-TransE	81.3 83.1
C-UiRNN(separated)+E-TransH C-BiRNN(separated)+E-TransH	83.4 84.1
C-UiRNN(separated)+E-TransD C-BiRNN(separated)+E-TransD	84.7 86.0
Shared Model	Performance
Shared Model C-UiRNN(shared)+E-uniform C-BiRNN(shared)+E-uniform	72.0 73.8
C-UiRNN(shared)+E-uniform	72.0
C-UiRNN(shared)+E-uniform C-BiRNN(shared)+E-uniform C-UiRNN(shared)+E-TransE	72.0 73.8 72.7

C-RNN models. Here we select three extra modes including TransE, TransH and TransD for initialization. Specifically TransE, TransH and TransD mode respectively indicate that the input embeddings are initialized with the embeddings pre-trained by TransE, TransH and TransD models. Among the three selected models, according to the definition of their score function referred in Section 8, TransE is very effective for 1-to-1 relation, but it has problems in complex relations such as n-to-1, 1-to-n and n-to-n relations. Although TransH introduces relation hyperplanes to extend modeling flexibility, but similar to TransE it still embeds entities and relations into the same vector space. TransD embeds entities and relations into distinct semantic spaces and simultaneously considers the multiple types of entities and relations. Intuitively, our C-RNN with TransD mode should have better performance than other two modes. Therefore for our C-RNN architecture we just select the separated and shared C-RNN + E for evaluation. Table 7 gives the results. Both separated and shared C-RNN + E models with TransD mode achieve the best performance. Compared with it, the C-RNN models under TransE and TransH modes has slightly worse performance.

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Based on all the above experiments, we make following conclusions: (1) For both separated and shared C-RNN models, the bidirectional C-RNN performs better than unidirectional C-RNN. (2) Although the separated C-RNN models have greater performance than shared C-RNN models, the shared C-RNN models have fewer parameters and better practicability for populating large-scale knowledge graphs. (3) The performance and practicability of our C-RNN models might be restricted by limiting the length of path to a small value. (4) Under sparse and small data, our C-RNN models still have reliability for application to KBs. (5) The performance of the model on complex reasoning can benefit from different initialization of relation and entity embeddings.

TABLE 8
Time Complexity

Model	Time Complexity
PRA C-RNN(separated) C-RNN(shared)	$O(N_r(N_ed + N_rd + \theta_1))$ $O(N_r(N_ed + N_rd + \theta_2))$ $O(N_ed + N_rd + \theta_3)$

#### 7.5 Time Complexity

The separated reasoning models like PRA train a separate 792 model for each relation type, and have the respective 793 parameters for each relation type. The shared reasoning 794 models, such as our C-RNN, train a shared model that 795 shares the parameters across all relation types. For the reasoning models, all embeddings of entities  $\{e_i\}_{i=1}^{N_e}$ , relations 797  $\{\mathbf{r}_k\}_{k=1}^{N_r}$  and relation-specific parameters  $\theta$  need to be 798 learned. Thus the time complexity of the separated and 799 shared reasoning models are respectively  $O(N_r(N_ed + N_rd + 800$  $\theta$ )) and  $O(N_e d + N_r d + \theta)$ . We make the comparison of time 801 complexity between our model and PRA in Table 8. In this 802 table,  $N_e$  and  $N_r$  are the number of entities and relations, d 803 is the dimension of entity and relation embeddings.  $\theta_1$ ,  $\theta_2$  804 and  $\theta_3$  are respectively the relation-specific parameters of 805 PRA, C-RNN(separated) and C-RNN(shared). After analy-806 sing, we have assumed that  $\theta_1 \gg \theta_2 \approx \theta_3$ . From Table 8, we 807 can see that the separated models have higher time com- 808 plexity with the increase of  $N_r$  than the shared models. On 809 the other hand, the gap of time complexity between PRA 810 and C-RNN(separated) also increases with  $N_r$  increasing 811 because of  $\theta_1 \gg \theta_2$ .

# 8 RELATED WORK

#### 8.1 Knowledge Graph Embeddings

As an emerging research direction, knowledge graph 815 embedding for modeling multi-relation data from knowl- 816 edge bases develops quickly in recent years [9], [10], [11], 817 [12], [13], [43], [44]. From a representation learning perspective, all these methods attempt to model entities and relations of a knowledge graph into continuous vector spaces 820 while preserving KGs inherent properties. Usually entities 821 are represented as vectors [9], [10], [11], [12], [45] or multi- 822 variate Gaussian distribution [46], relations as vectors [9], 823 [10], [11], matrices [47], tensors [12] or mixture of Gaussian 824 distribution [44], [46]. For each triplet in KGs, all these 825 methods customarily devise various scoring functions 826 defined by vector or matrix operation to measure the plausi- 827 bility of the triplet in that space. These models can be 828 roughly classified into two groups: (1) Translational Dis- 829 tance-Based (TD) Models [9], [10], [11], [43], [44], [48], [49], 830 [50], [51], (2) Semantic Matching-Based (SM) Models [12], 831 [13], [16], [36], [38], [52], [53], [54]. The former utilizes dis-832 tance between the latent representations of entities and relations to define score function, the latter utilizes similarity 834 ones. All models usually learn entity and relation embed- 835 dings by minimizing the total plausibility of all observed 836 triplets in a knowledge graph. Typically a margin-based 837 ranking loss is used to conduct the minimization optimization. Recently an upper-limited scoring loss [55] is proposed 839 to address the issue of margin-based ranking loss that can 840 not ensure enough lower scores for observed triples.

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Among TD-based models, TransE [9] regards relation embedding r as a translation operation from head entity embedding h to tail entity embedding t, its score function is  $f(h,r,t) = \|\mathbf{h} + \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{t}\|_{2}^{2}$ . TransH [10] projects entity embeddings into relation-determined hyper-planes to enable an entity to have distinct representations when involved in different relations. It models each relation r as a translation vector r between the projected head and tail entity embeddings, and the score function is  $f(h,r,t) = \|\mathbf{h}_{\perp} + \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{t}_{\perp}\|$  $\|\mathbf{u}_{r}^{2}, \mathbf{h}_{\perp} = \mathbf{h} - \mathbf{w}_{r}^{T} \mathbf{h} \mathbf{w}_{r}, \mathbf{t}_{\perp} = \mathbf{t} - \mathbf{w}_{r}^{T} \mathbf{t} \mathbf{w}_{r}, \|\mathbf{w}_{r}\| \in \mathbb{R}^{d}$  is the normal vector of the hyperplane. TransR [34] projects the entity embeddings h and t from the entity space to relations space with relation-specific transfer matrix  $\mathbf{M}_r \in R^{d \times k}$ , then its score function satisfies  $f(h, r, t) = \|\mathbf{h}\mathbf{M}_r + \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{t}\mathbf{M}_r\|_2^2$ . TransD [11] is an improvement of TransR, which considers the multiple types of entities and relations simultaneously, and the score function is defined as  $f(h, r, t) = \|\mathbf{h}\mathbf{M}_{rh} + \mathbf{r} - \mathbf{t}\mathbf{M}_{rt}\|_{2}^{2}$  $\mathbf{M}_{rh} = \mathbf{r}_p \mathbf{h}_p^T + \mathbf{I}^{d \times k}$ ,  $\mathbf{M}_{rt} = \mathbf{r}_p \mathbf{t}_p^T + \mathbf{I}^{d \times k}$  are the product of two projection vectors of an entity-relation pair.

Among SM-based models, RESCAL [13] models each entity as a vector to represent its latent semantics, and each relation r as a matrix  $\mathbf{M}_r \in R^{d \times d}$  to model pairwise interactions between latent semantics of entities. For each triplet (h,r,t), the score function is defined as  $f(h,r,t) = \mathbf{h}^T \mathbf{M}_r \mathbf{t} = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} [\mathbf{M}_r]_{ij} [\mathbf{h}]_i [\mathbf{t}]_j$ . DistMult [35] restricts  $\mathbf{M}_r$  as diagonal matrices to reduce the number of relation parameters. For each relation r, it introduces a vector embedding  $\mathbf{r}$  and requires  $\mathbf{M}_r = diag(\mathbf{r})$ . Its score function is  $f(h,r,t) = \mathbf{h}^T diag(\mathbf{r})\mathbf{t} = \sum_{i=0}^{d-1} [\mathbf{r}]_i \cdot [\mathbf{h}]_i \cdot [\mathbf{t}]_i$ . ComplEx [36] considers the asymmetric relations and introduces complex-valued embeddings, i.e., the embeddings of entities and relations lie in complex space, hence the score function is  $f(h,r,t) = Re(\mathbf{h}^T diag(\mathbf{r})\mathbf{\bar{t}}) = Re(\sum_{i=0}^{d-1} [\mathbf{r}]_i \cdot [\mathbf{h}]_i \cdot [\mathbf{\bar{t}}]_i)$ , where  $\mathbf{\bar{t}}$  is the conjugate of  $\mathbf{t}$  and  $Re(\cdot)$  means taking the real part of a complex value.

Although these methods have achieved great success in knowledge graph completion tasks, most of them fail to model multi-hop relation paths, which are indispensable for more complex reasoning tasks.

# 8.2 Multi-Hop Reasoning

PRA [18] utilizes random walks to extract the paths between an entity pair, and regards them as features for a per-target-relation binary classifier. PRA Classifier [39] is an extension of PRA, which exploits the observed text patterns to amplify the KB-scheme relations. PRA+T [19] is a method that incorporates the entity-types into PRA [18] for performing the random walks. Different from PRA Classifier, for the relation types from the ClueWeb triplets, Cluster PRA Classifier [40] replaces them with their respective cluster membership obtained by k-means clustering in KB. PRA Classifier-b [19] is an extension of PRA Classifier by additionally using bigrams in the path as features. The same strategy used in PRA Classifier applies to Cluster PRA Classifier and constructs a new model named Cluster PRA Classifier-b [19]. Composition-Add model [41] introduces a composition function defined by a simple element-wise additive interaction between relation matrices in the path. However Composition-Add ignores the fact that an entity pair usually contains multiple paths, and only models a single path. To address the issues, ALL-PATH+NODES [42] simultaneously both considers the intermediate enti- 902 ties in the path and performs relation reasoning on the 903 multiple paths between an entity pair.

Recently Path-RNN [19] outperforms the above models. It 905 learns the sequential information of paths with recurrent neural network(RNN), and models path representations as the last hidden state of RNN. Path-RNN + PRA Classifier [19] is the combination of predictions of RNN and PRA Classifier, which empowers the score of a triplet fact as the sum of their 910 ascending rank in the two models. Also Path-RNN + PRA Classifier-b [19] conducts the combination of the predictions 912 of RNN and PRA Classifier-b by using the above rule 913 described previously. However such above models train a 914 separate model for each relation and usually produce a large 915 number of parameters for training. Single-RNN [20] shares 916 the relation vector representations and parameters of rela- 917 tion-specific RNN to model a lesser number of parameters. Simultaneously it learns and reasons about the chains of relations, entities and entity types. Moreover Single-RNN introduces three score pooling methods as described in Section 2 921 to reduce the computation of parameters. To the best of our 922 knowledge, SingleRNN achieves state-of-the-art performance 923 in the relation extraction task.

### 9 CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

This paper proposes a convolutional-based recurrent neural 926 network architecture named C-RNN, which is an unified 927 architecture composed of convolutional neural network 928 (CNN) and recurrent neural network (RNN). C-RNN first 929 extracts the higher-order local correlation of a path through 930 CNN, and then feeds such correlation into RNN for modeling the representation of a path. Our C-RNN effectively cap-932 tures both the local correlation and global sequential 933 information of the input path. We evaluate our C-RNN 934 model on the typical dataset FreeBase+ClueWeb. Experimental results show that both C-RNN(separated) and C-800 RNN(shared) achieve improvement on reasoning over entities, entity types and relations in KBs.

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As future work, we would like to pursue the following 939 directions:

- Usually a large-scale knowledge base has multiple 941 paths between an entity pair, and such paths can 942 provide more evidence for inferring new predictions. In its current version, C-RNN just takes only a 944 single path as evidence for a prediction. In order to 945 address the diversity of paths between an entity 946 pair, a possible solution is that we can introduce an 947 attention mechanism on recurrent neural network to 948 conduct complex reasoning on multiple paths 949 between an entity pair.
- Instead of the convolutional neural network in our 951
   C-RNN models, we would use tree-structured con-952
   volutions or sequence-based convolutions for cap-953
   turing richer higher-level local correlation of paths. 954
   Intuitively, LSTM with the above local correlation 955
   will be more effective to conduct reasoning over 956
   multi-step paths. 957
- The information used in C-RNN is entities, relations, 958 entity types and the context of entities. We would try 959 to learn entity embeddings with fusion of external 960

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information from other data sources, e.g., incorporation of textual descriptions for entities, logical rules (first-order Horn clauses) or entity attributions.

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