

Multimodal Knowledge Graphs

Generation Methods, Applications, and Challenges

Shih-Fu Chang

*Alireza Zareian, Hassan Akbari, Brian Chen, Svebor Karaman,
Zhecan James Wang, and Haoxuan You
Columbia University*

*Prof. Heng Ji,
Manling Li, Di Lu, and Spencer Whitehead
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign*

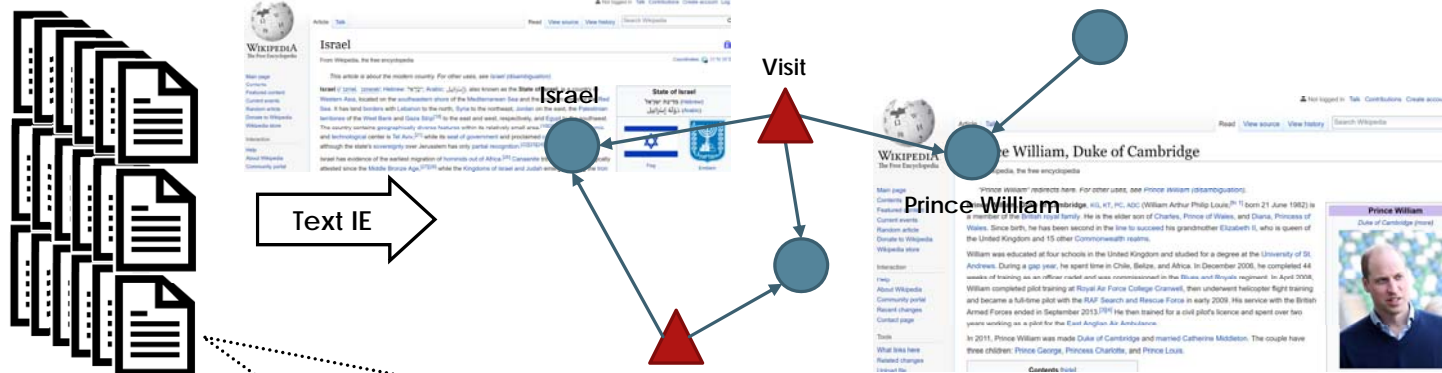


COLUMBIA | ENGINEERING
The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science



Knowledge Graphs

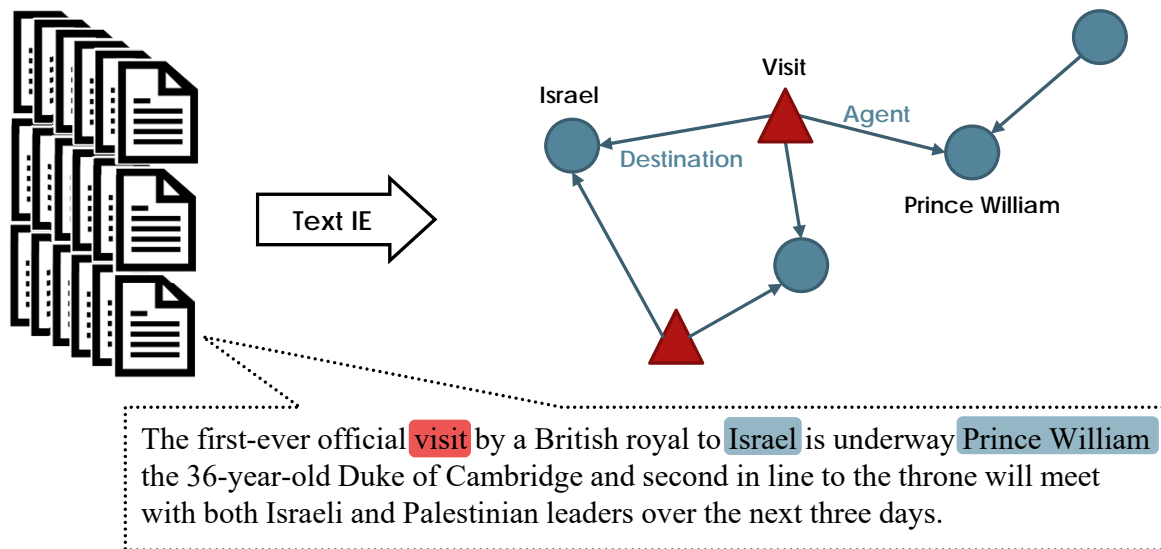
- ▶ Entities, events, relations, etc.



The first-ever official **visit** by a British royal to **Israel** is underway. **Prince William**, the 36-year-old Duke of Cambridge and second in line to the throne will meet with both Israeli and Palestinian leaders over the next three days.

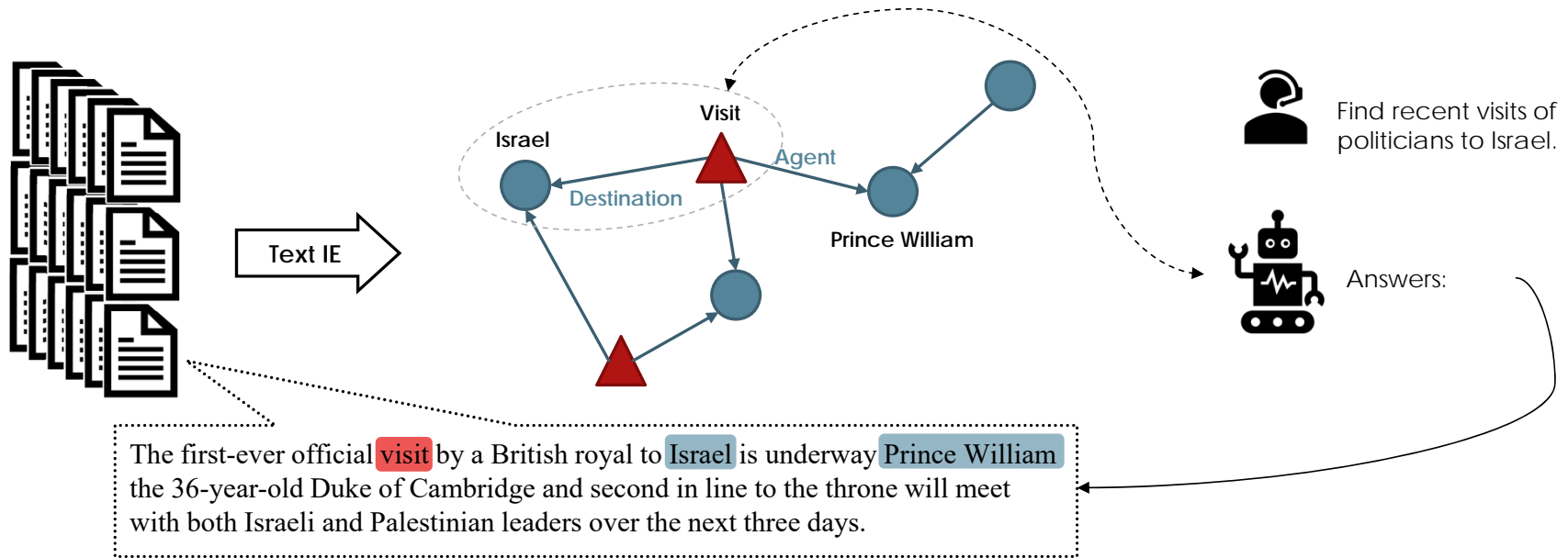
Knowledge Graphs

- ▶ Entities, events, relations, etc.
- ▶ Events describe what happens
 - ▶ Entities are characterized by the argument *role* they play in events



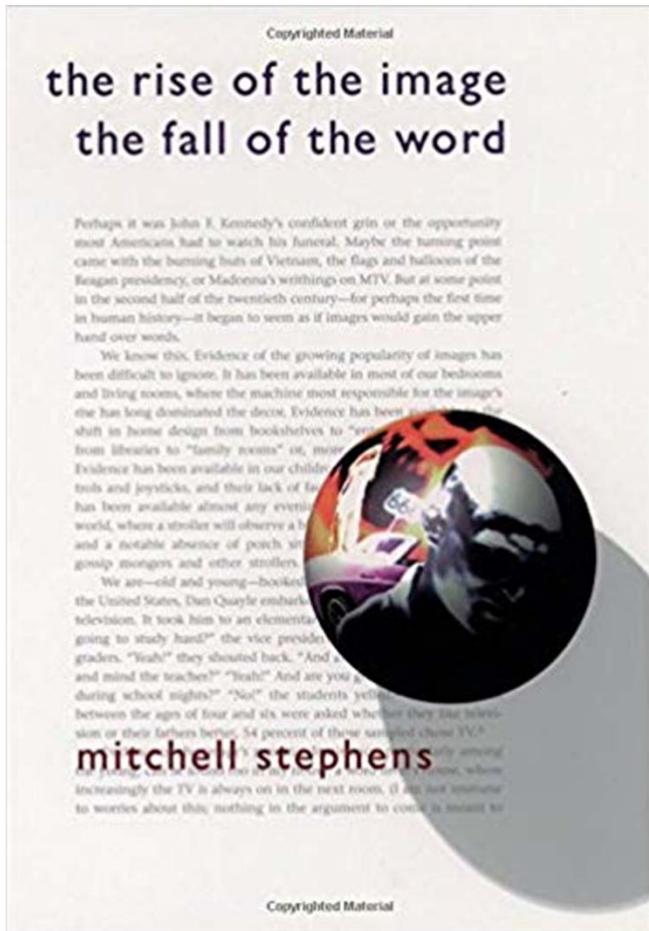
Knowledge Graphs

- ▶ Application: Question Answering, Reasoning, Hypothesis Verification and Discovery



Knowledge Beyond Text

- We communicate through **multimedia**
- Our experiment shows 34% of news images contain event arguments that are not mentioned in text



TransportPerson_Instrument = stretcher

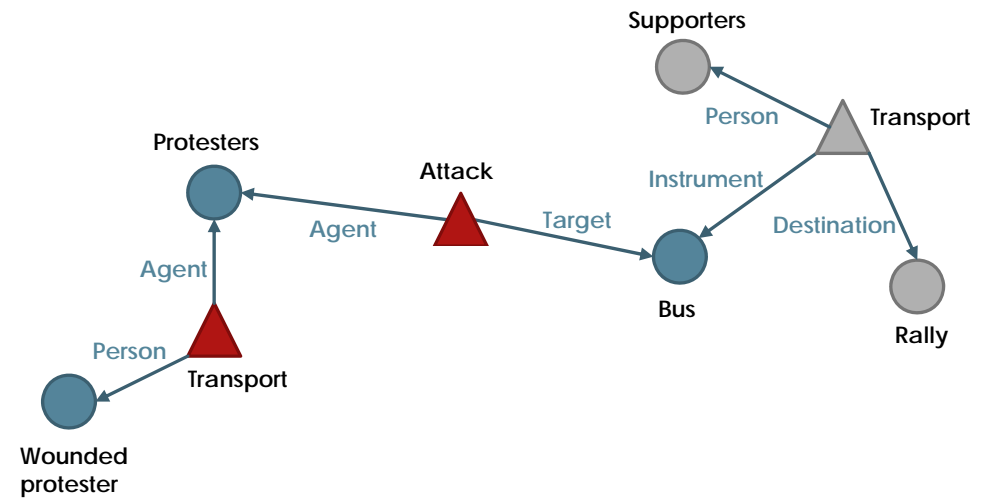
Why Multimodal?

- ▶ Visual data contains complementary data used for:
 - ▶ Visual Illustration
 - ▶ Disambiguation
 - ▶ Additional Details

News Article: Thai opposition **protesters**_[Attacker] **attack**_[Attack] a **bus**_[Target] carrying pro-government Red Shirt supporters on their way to a rally. **Protesters**_[Agent] are **carrying**_[TransportPerson] a **wounded protester**_[Person] to



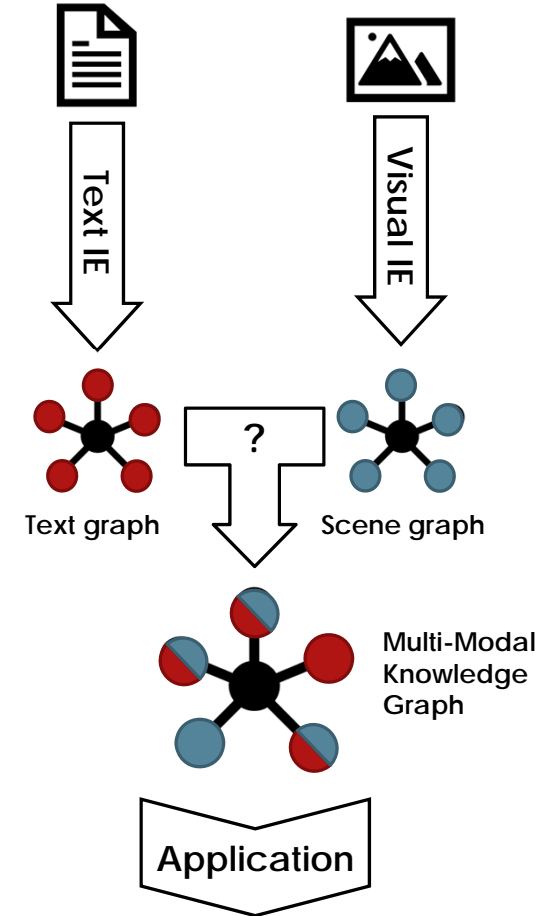
Multimodal KG



Challenges & Applications

▶ Challenges:

- ▶ Parsing images/videos to structures
- ▶ Grounding event/entities across modalities
- ▶ Extracting complementary multimodal arguments

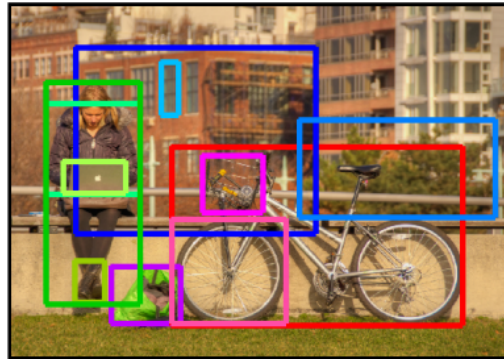


Challenge 1: Parsing Images to Scene Graphs

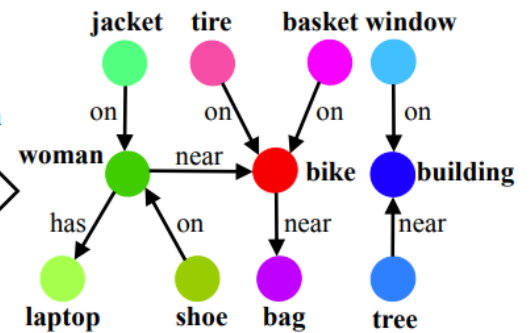
- ▶ Extract structured representation of a scene
 - ▶ Entities and their semantic relationships



Object
Detection

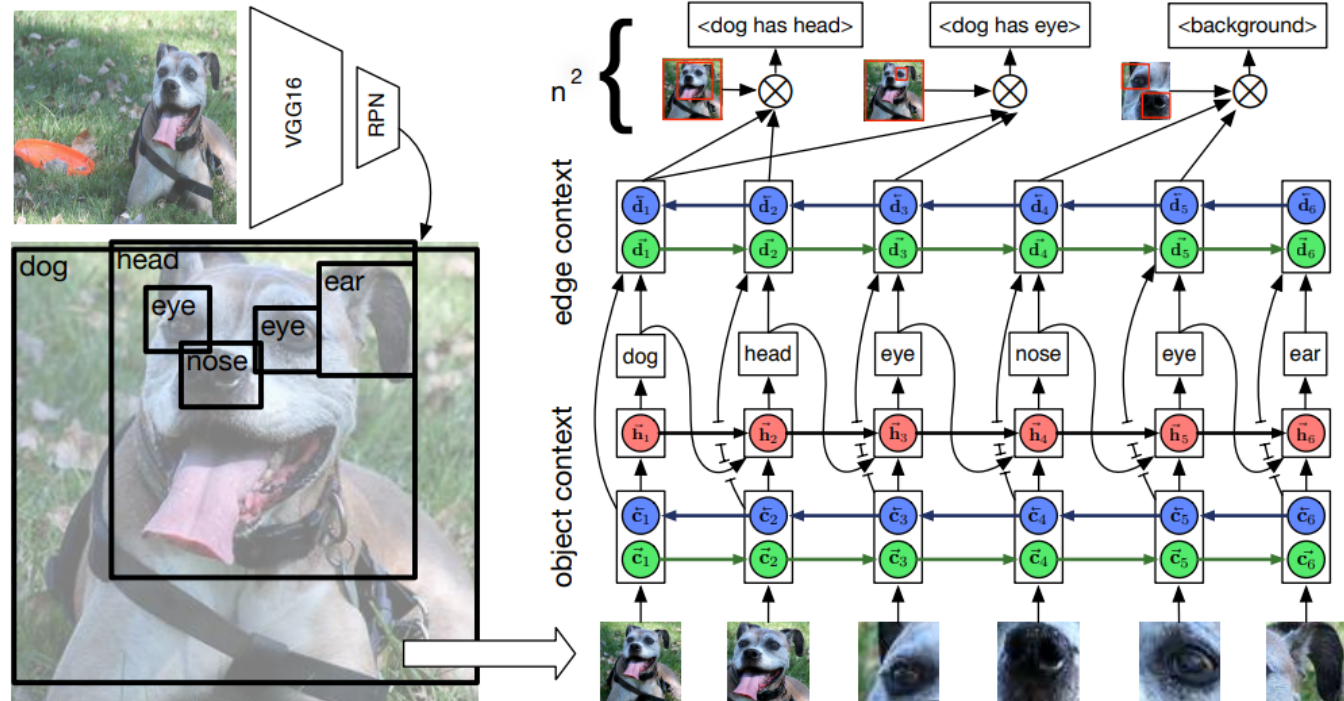


Scene Graph
Generation



Parsing Images to Scene Graphs

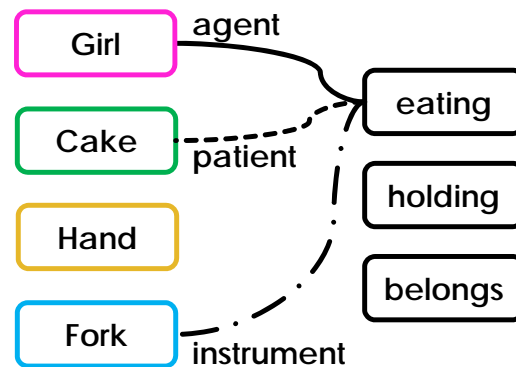
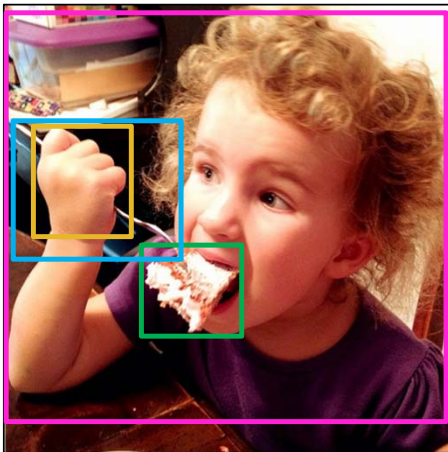
- ▶ Existing method
 - ▶ Extract object proposals
 - ▶ Contextualize features by RNN (or message passing)
 - ▶ Classify all nodes and pairs of nodes
- ▶ Limitations
 - ▶ Computationally exhaustive
 - ▶ $O(n^2)$ for $n \approx 100$ proposals
 - ▶ Difficult to model higher order relationships, e.g. *"girl eating cake with fork"*
 - ▶ Requires full supervision



Neural Motifs (Zellers, Yatskar, Thomson, Choi, CVPR 2018)
One of the SOTA methods for scene graph generation

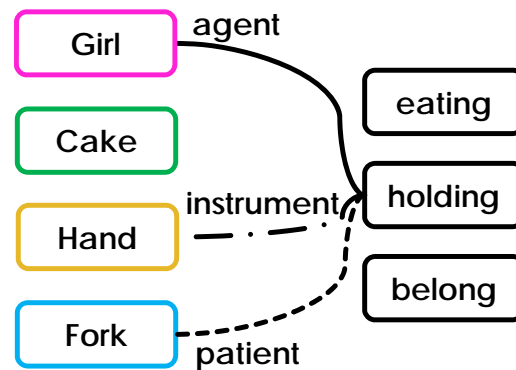
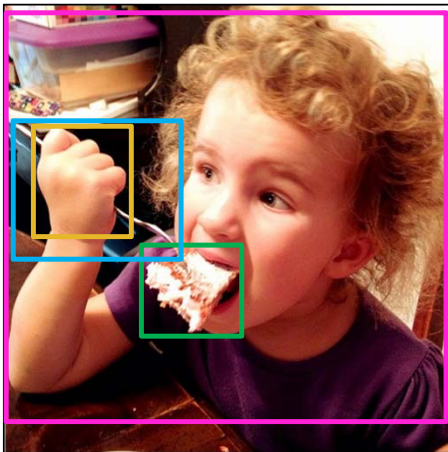
Reformulate as an Event-Centric Problem

- ▶ Our work: **Visual Semantic Parsing Network (Zareian et al. CVPR19)**
 - ▶ Generalized formulation of scene graph generation
 - ▶ Entity-centric → bipartite representation of predicates & entities
 - ▶ Reduce computational complexity from $O(n^2)$ to sub-quadratic
 - ▶ Model argument role relations beyond (subject, object), (agent, patient) relations

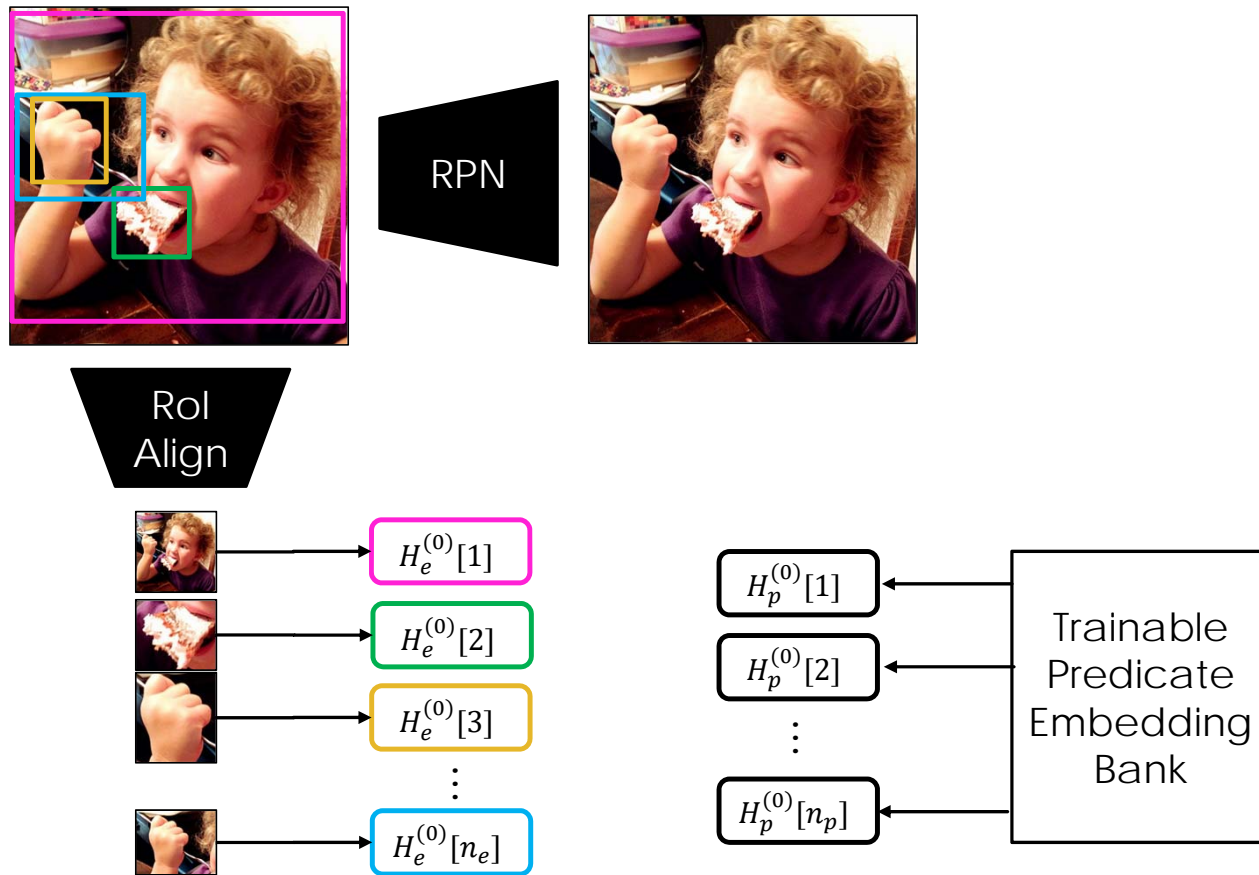


Reformulate as an Event-Centric Problem

- ▶ Our work: **Visual Semantic Parsing Network (Zareian et al. CVPR20)**
 - ▶ Generalized formulation of scene graph generation
 - ▶ Entity-centric \rightarrow bipartite representation of predicates & entities
 - ▶ Reduce computational complexity from $O(n^2)$ to sub-quadratic
 - ▶ Model argument role relations beyond (subject, object), (agent, patient) relations

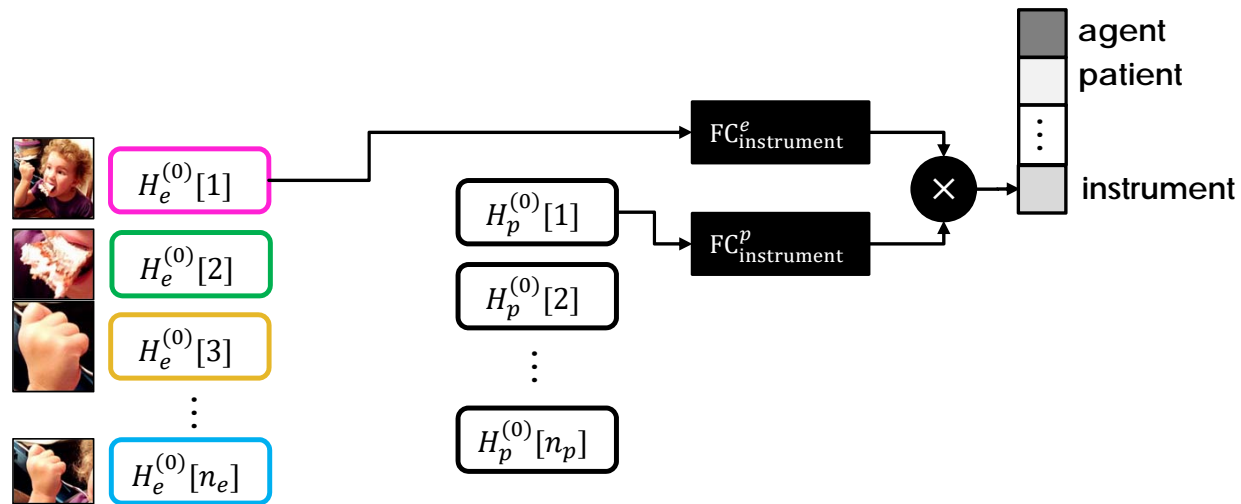


Bipartite Embeddings for Entity & Predicate



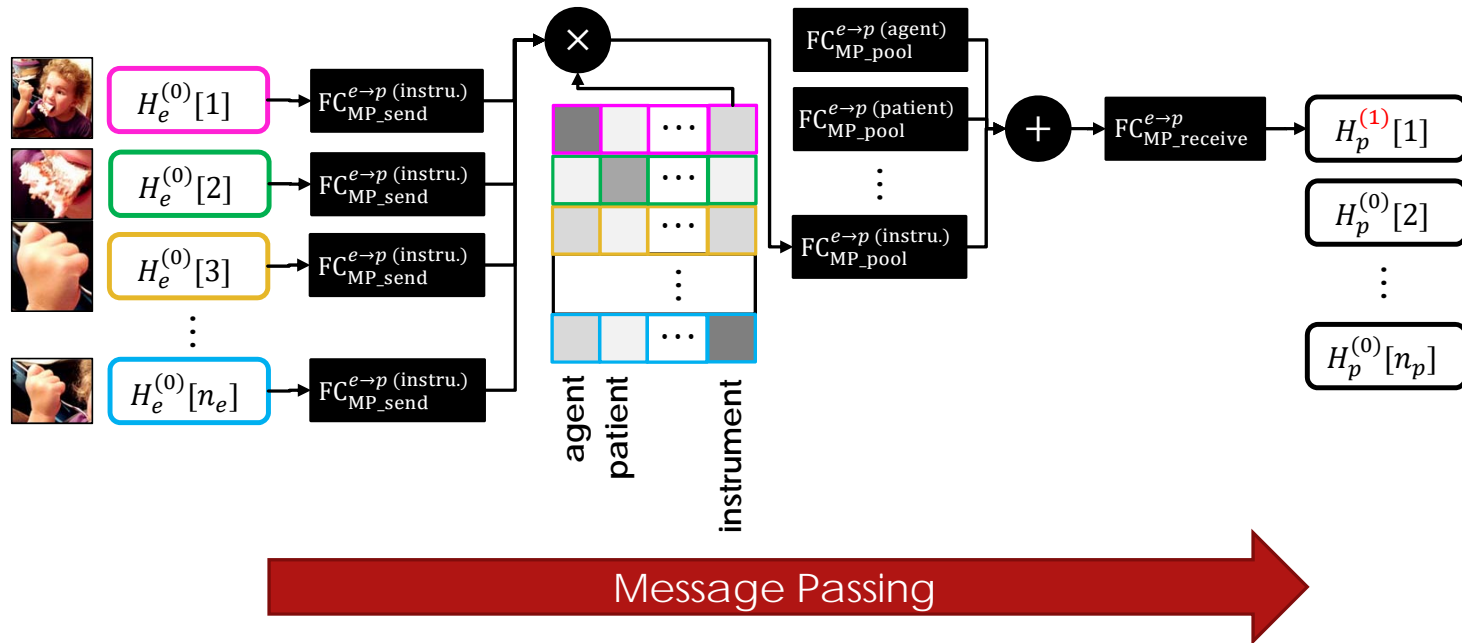
Argument Role Prediction

- ▶ Initialize entity and predicate nodes
- ▶ Compute role-specific attention scores
 - ▶ Input: entity-predicate feature pairs
 - ▶ Output: scalar for each thematic role



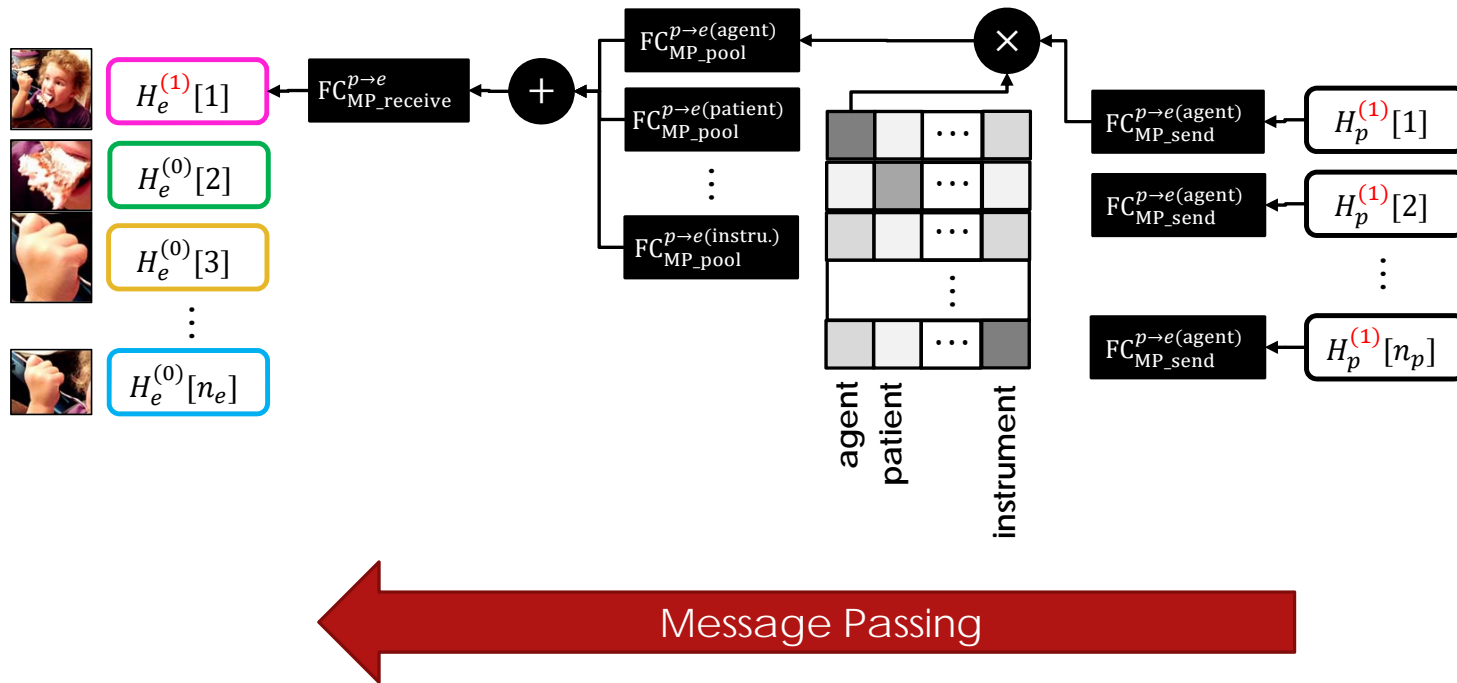
Role-Dependent Message Passing

- ▶ Bi-directional Message passing
- ▶ Entities \rightarrow Roles \rightarrow Predicates



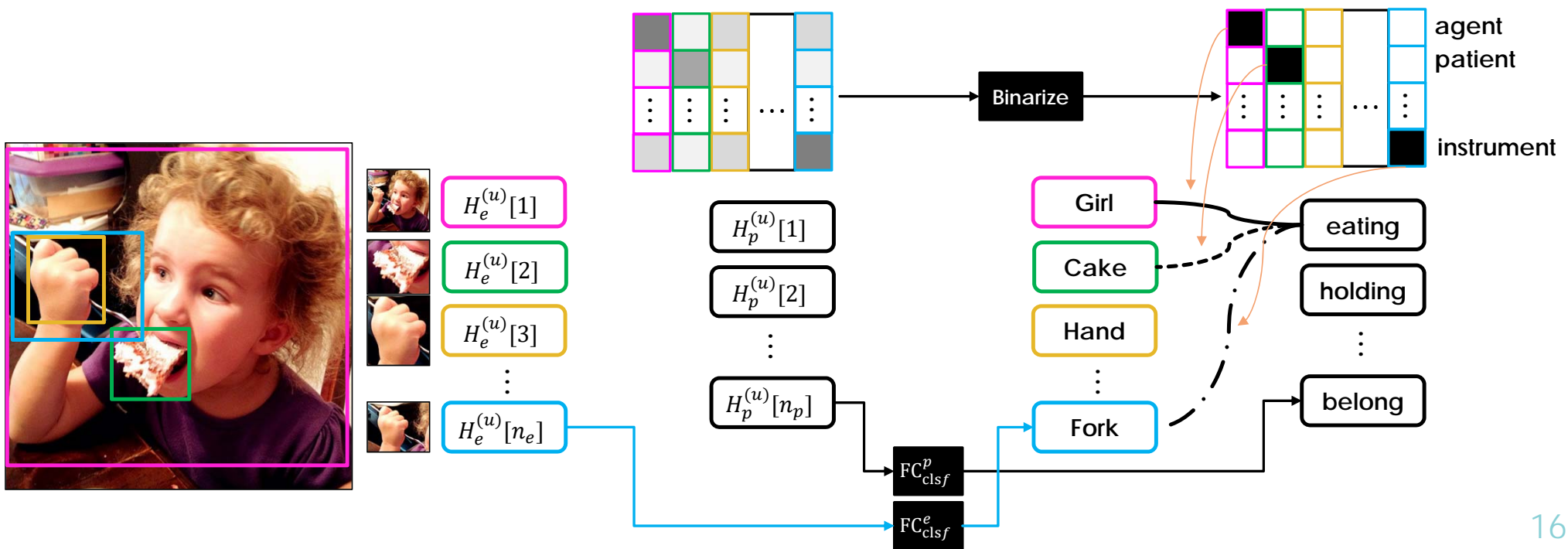
Role-Dependent Message Passing

- ▶ Bi-directional Message passing
- ▶ Entities \leftarrow Roles \leftarrow Predicates



Visual Semantic Parsing Network

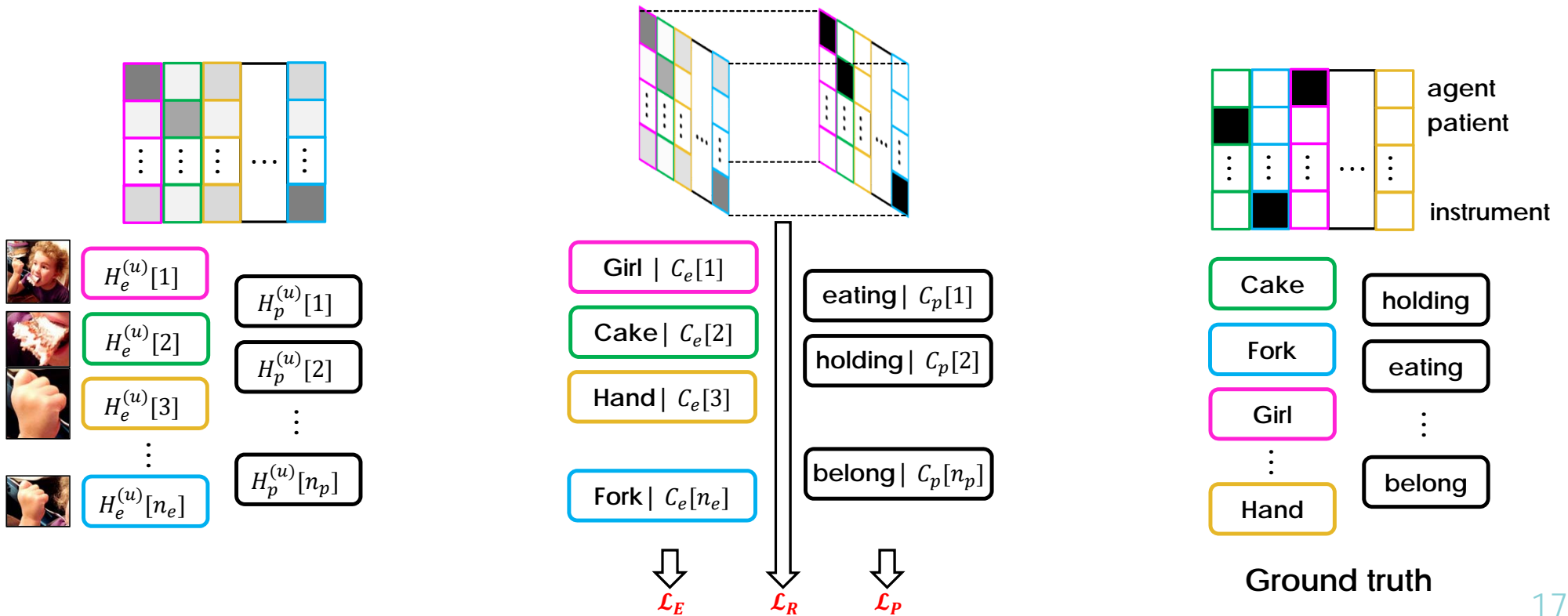
- ▶ Bi-directional Message passing
- ▶ Repeat for u iterations
- ▶ Classify nodes and edges



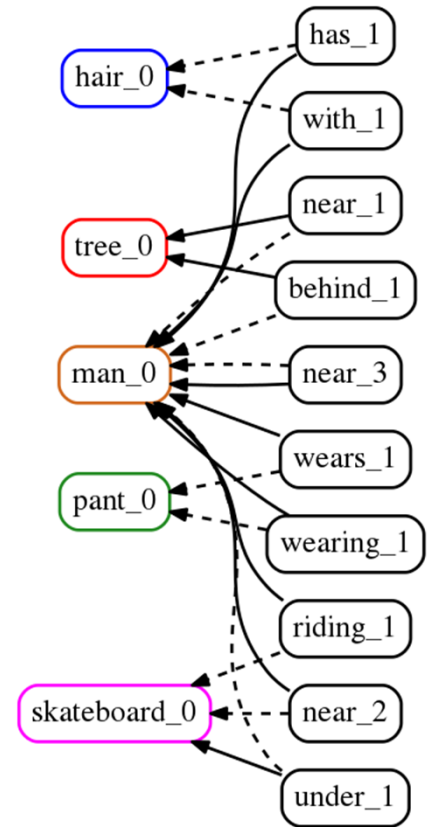
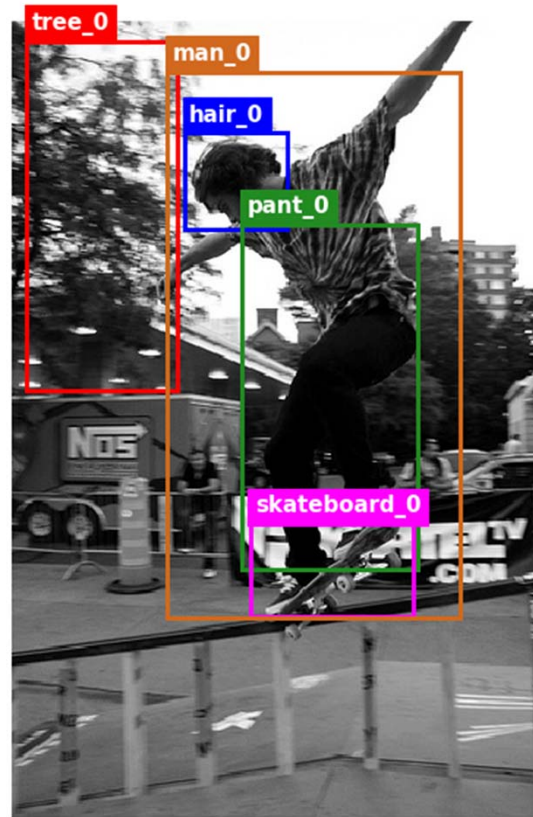
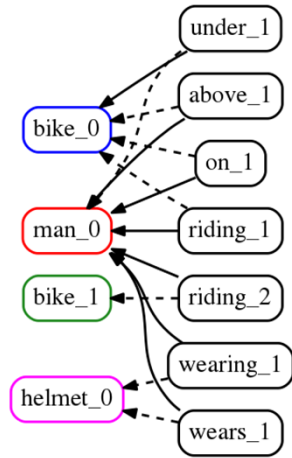
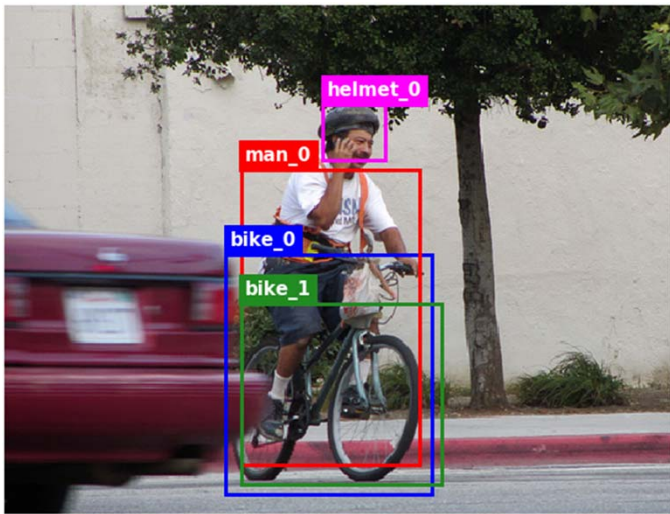
Visual Semantic Parsing Network

Weakly supervised training

- Unknown alignment between output and ground truth graphs

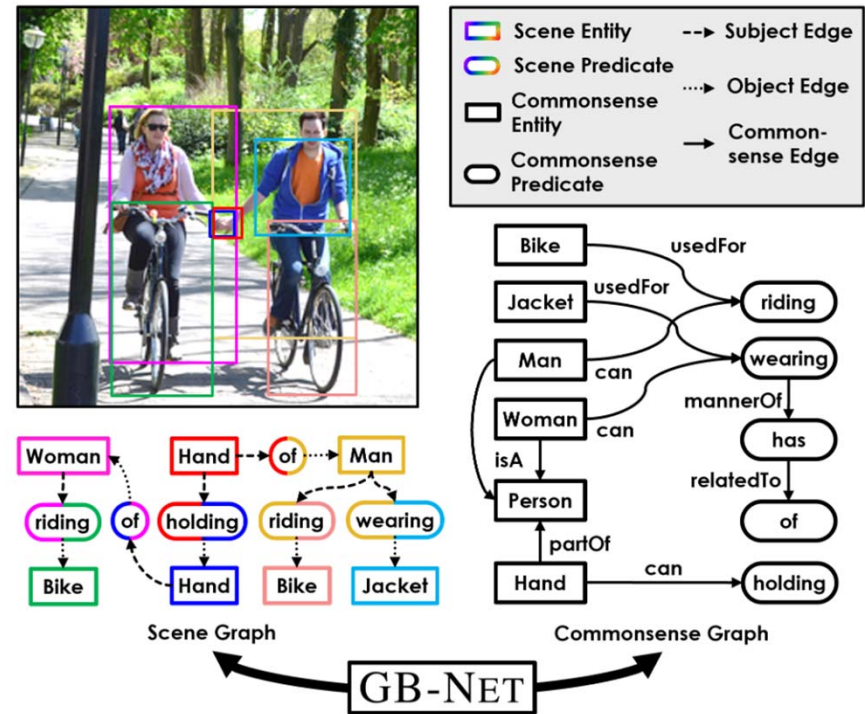


Visual Semantic Parsing Network



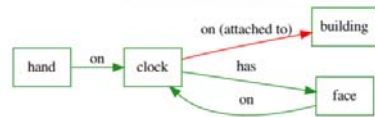
Incorporate External KB (Zareian, et al, ECCV20)

- ▶ Link concepts in scene graphs to external knowledge bases such as ConceptNet
- ▶ Pass messages over bridges between scene graphs and external graphs
- ▶ Refine bridges between graphs

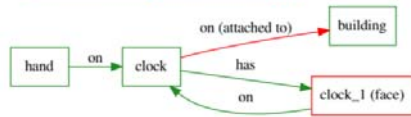
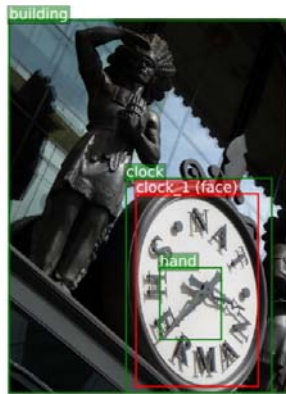


Task	Metric	GC	Method					
			IMP+	FREQ	SMN	KERN	GB-NET	GB-NET- β
SGGEN	mR@50	Y	3.8	4.3	5.3	6.4	6.1	7.1
		N	5.4	5.9	9.3	11.7	9.8	11.7
	mR@100	Y	4.8	5.6	6.1	7.3	7.3	8.5
		N	8.0	8.9	12.9	16.0	14.0	16.6
	R@50	Y	20.7	23.5	27.2	27.1	26.4	26.3
		N	22.0	25.3	30.5	30.9	29.4	29.3
	R@100	Y	24.5	27.6	30.3	29.8	30.0	29.9
		N	27.4	30.9	35.8	35.8	35.1	35.0

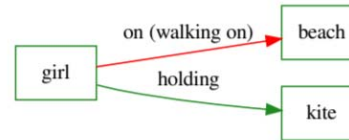
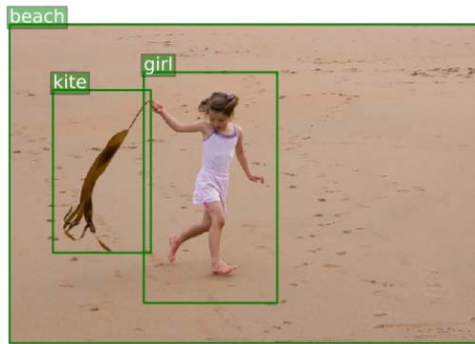
Scene Graph Examples of GB-NET



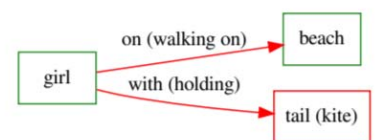
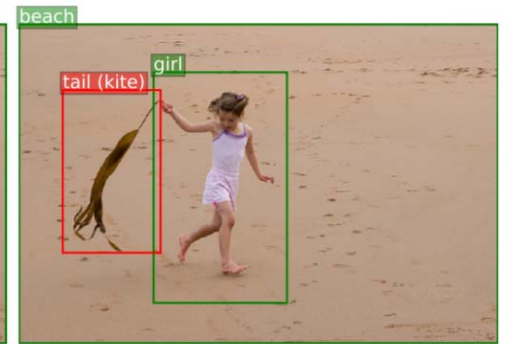
Ours (GB-Net)



Baseline (KERN)



Ours (GB-Net)



Baseline (KERN)

Challenge 2: Text-Visual Grounding (Akbari et al CVPR19)

- ▶ Localize text query in image
 - ▶ Bridge visual and text knowledge graphs
 - ▶ Without using predefined classifiers



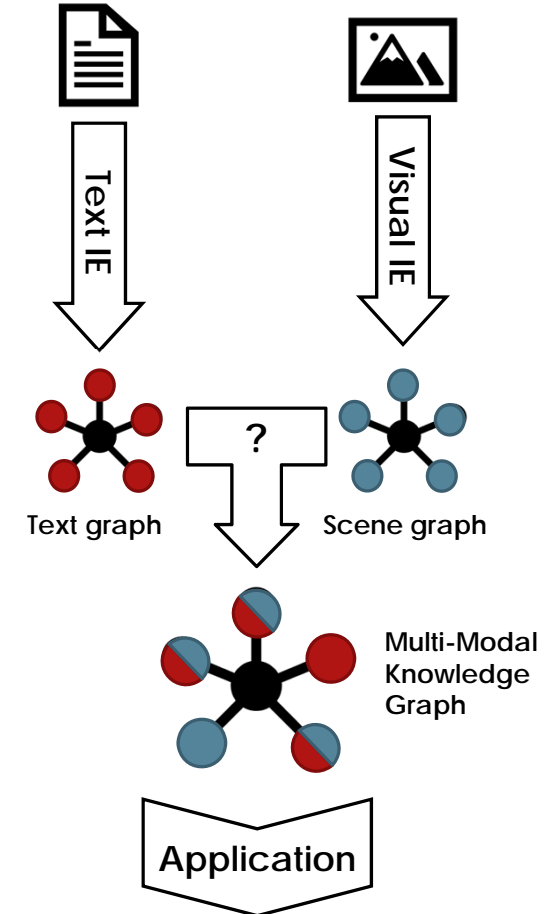
Figure 5. Image-sentence pair from Flickr30k with four queries (colored text) and corresponding heatmaps and selected max value (stars).

- ▶ Challenges
 - ▶ Sensitive to domain variations
 - ▶ Abstract concept not groundable

Challenge 3: Multimodal Event & Argument Extraction

▶ Challenges:

- ▶ Parsing images/videos to structures
- ▶ Grounding entities across modalities
- ▶ Joint extraction of multimodal argument

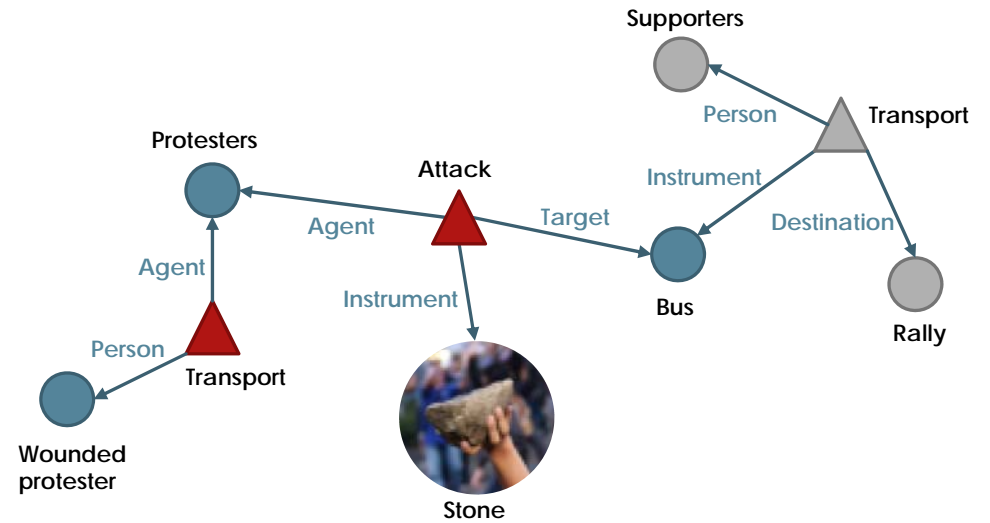


Multimodal KG Example

News Article: Thai opposition **protesters**_[Attacker] **attack**_[Attack] a **bus**_[Target] carrying pro-government Red Shirt supporters on their way to a rally. **Protesters**_[Agent] are **carrying**_[TransportPerson] a **wounded protester**_[Person] to . . .



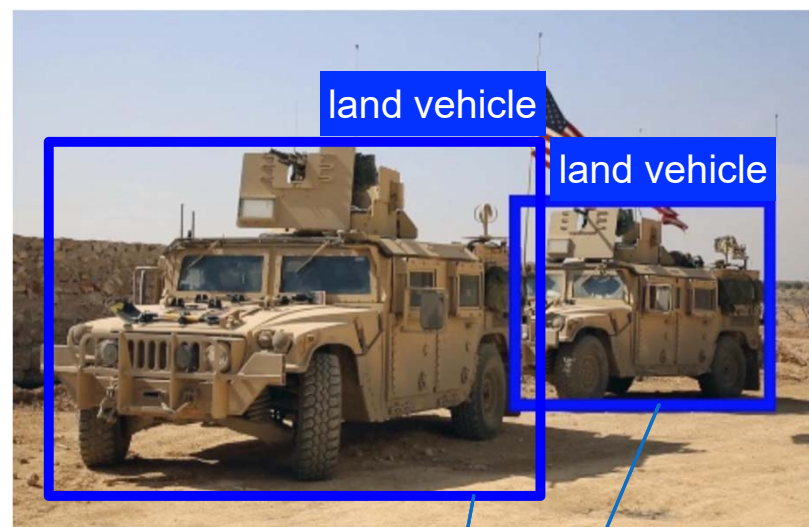
Multimodal KG



A New Task: Multimedia Event Extraction (M²E²)

Input: News article text and image

Last week , U.S . Secretary of State Rex Tillerson visited Ankara, the first senior administration official to visit Turkey, to try to seal a deal about the battle for Raqqa and to overcome President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's strong objections to Washington's backing of the Kurdish Democratic Union Party (PYD) militias. Turkish forces have attacked SDF forces in the past around Manbij, west of Raqqa, forcing the **United States** to **deploy** dozens of **soldiers** on the **outskirts** of the town in a mission to prevent a repeat of clashes, which risk derailing an assault on Raqqa.



Output: Image-related Events & Visual Argument Roles

Event	Movement.TransportPerson	deploy
Arguments	Transporter	United States
	Destination	outskirts
	Passenger	soldiers
	Vehicle	land vehicle
	Vehicle	land vehicle

A New Task: Multimedia Event Extraction (M²E²)

Input: News article text and image

In March , Turkish forces escalated attacks on the YPG in northern Syria , forcing U.S. to deploy a small number of forces in and around the town of Manbij to the northwest of Raqqa to “deter” Turkish - SDF clashes and ensure the focus remains on Islamic State. Meanwhile, Raqqa is being pummeled by **airstrikes** mounted by **U.S.-led coalition forces** and Syrian warplanes. Local anti-IS activists say the air raids fail to distinguish between military and non-military targets ...

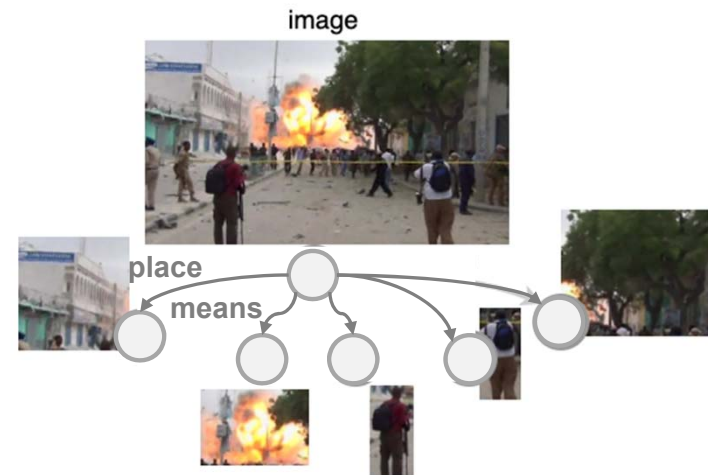
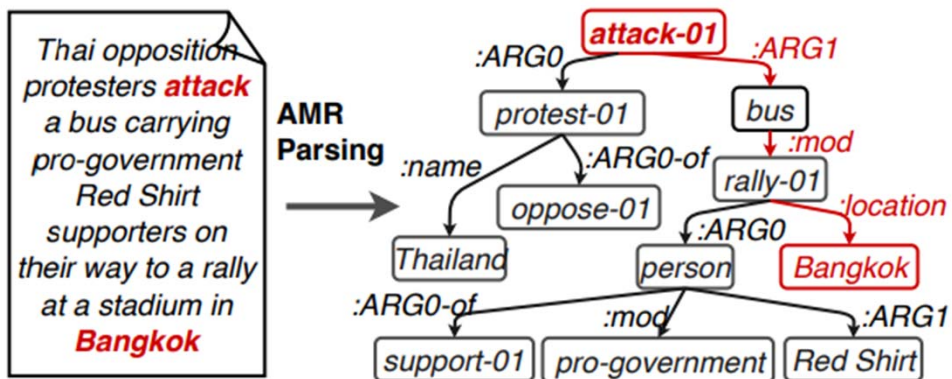


Output: Image-related Events & Visual Argument Roles

Event	Conflict.Attack	airstrikes
Arguments	Attacker	U.S.-led coalition forces
	Target	airplane
	Target	vehicle

Cross-media Structured Common Space

- Treat image as another language
- Represent it with a structure that is similar to AMR in text
- Can we find a common representation?

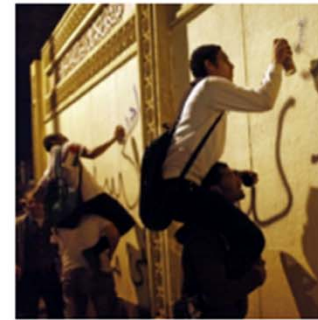


Linguistic Structure
(Abstract Meaning Representation (AMR) /
Dependency Tree)

Visual Semantic Graph
[Zareian et al. CVPR20]

Image to Event Graph

- ImSitu dataset: situation recognition (Yatskar et al., 2016)
 - Classify an image as one of 500+ FrameNet verbs (sharing part of ACE)
 - Identify 192 generic semantic roles



CLIPPING

ROLE	VALUE	ROLE	VALUE
AGENT	MAN	AGENT	VET
SOURCE	SHEEP	SOURCE	DOG
TOOL	SHEARS	TOOL	CLIPPER
ITEM	WOOL	ITEM	CLAW
PLACE	FIELD	PLACE	ROOM

JUMPING

ROLE	VALUE	ROLE	VALUE
AGENT	BOY	AGENT	BEAR
SOURCE	CLIFF	SOURCE	ICEBERG
OBSTACLE	-	OBSTACLE	WATER
DESTINATION	WATER	DESTINATION	ICEBERG
PLACE	LAKE	PLACE	OUTDOOR

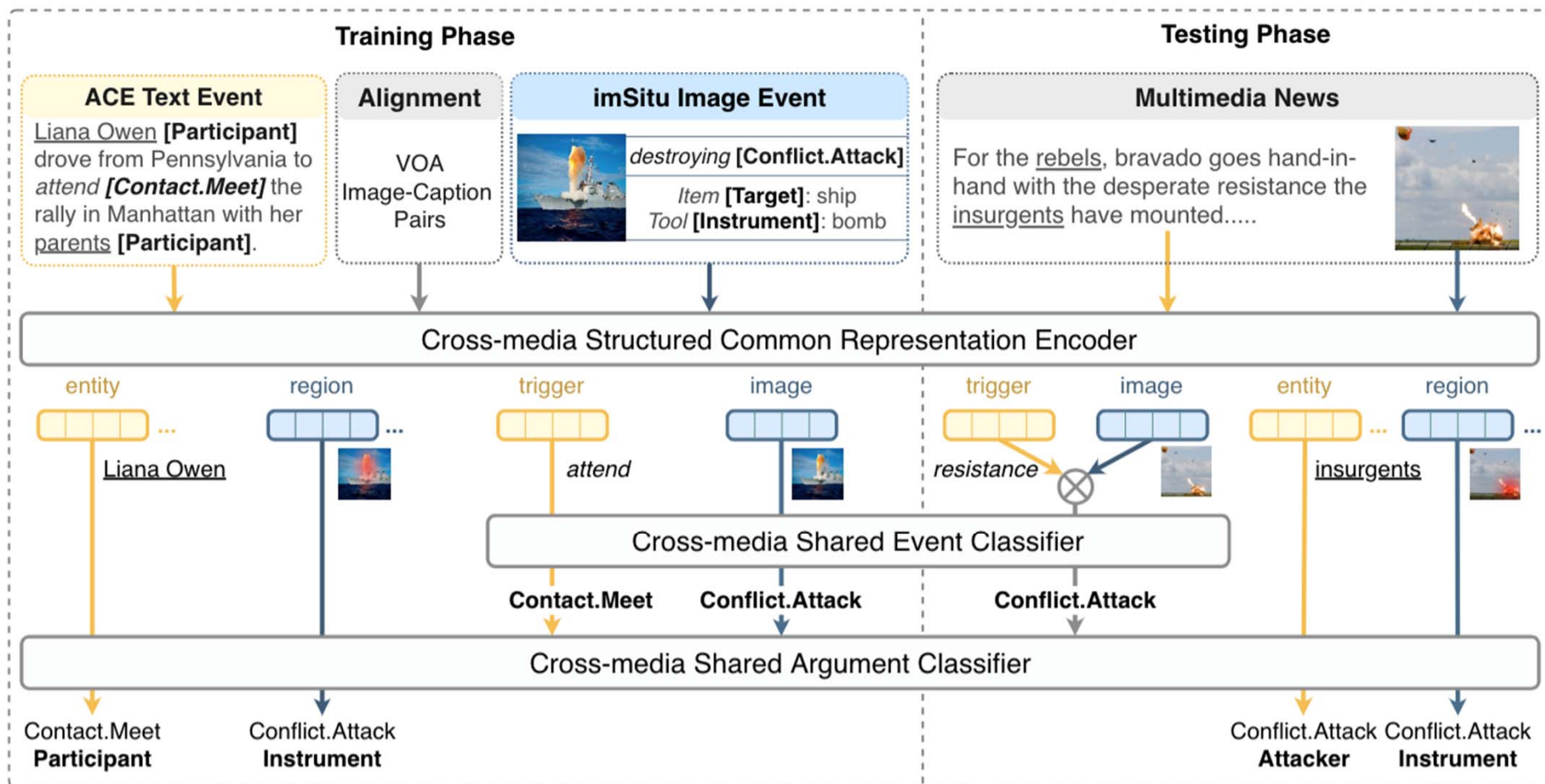
SPRAYING

ROLE	VALUE	ROLE	VALUE
AGENT	MAN	AGENT	FIREMAN
SOURCE	SPRAY CAN	SOURCE	HOSE
SUBSTANCE	PAINT	SUBSTANCE	WATER
DESTINATION	WALL	DESTINATION	FIRE
PLACE	ALLEYWAY	PLACE	OUTSIDE

Weakly Aligned Structured Embedding (WASE)

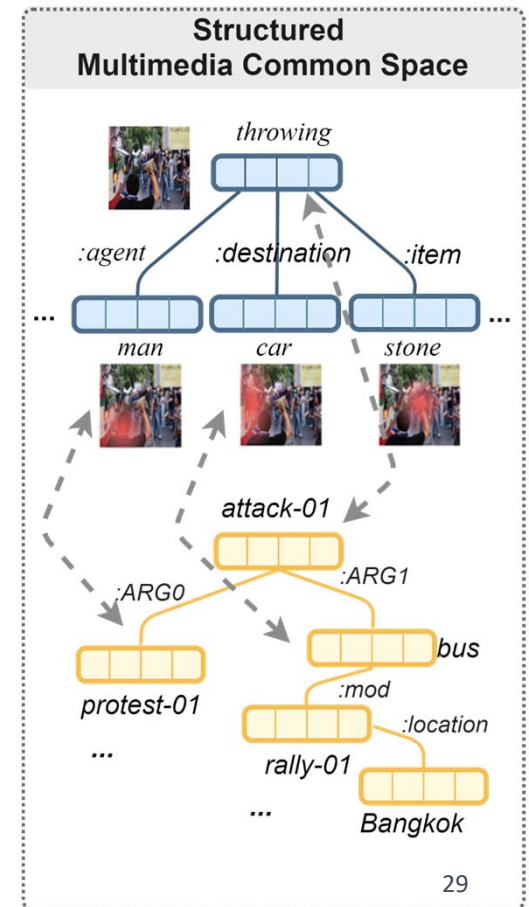
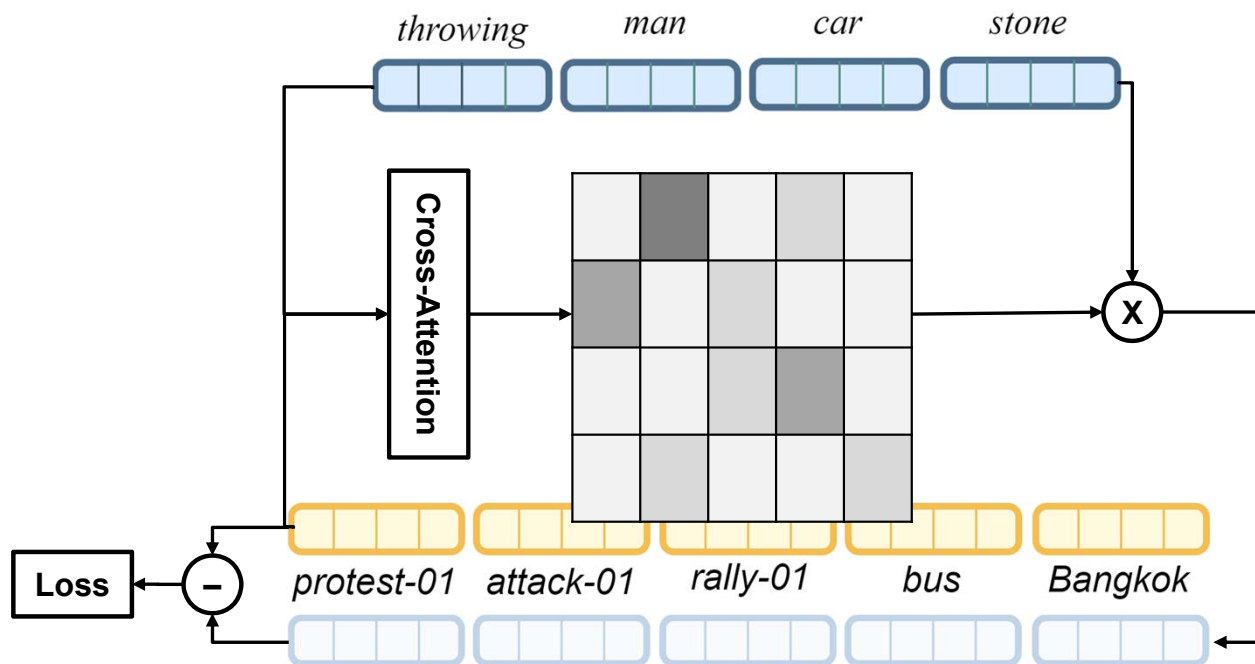
-- Cross-media shared representation and classifiers

(Li, Zareian, et al, ACL20)



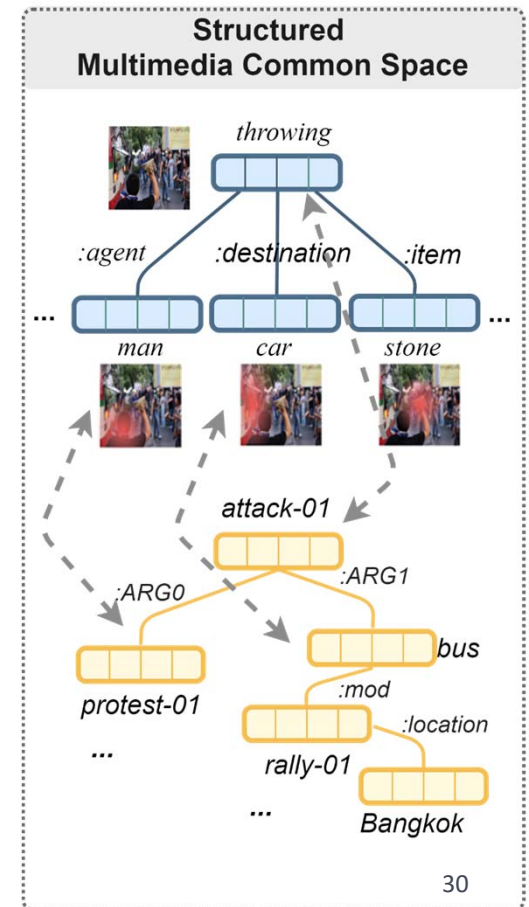
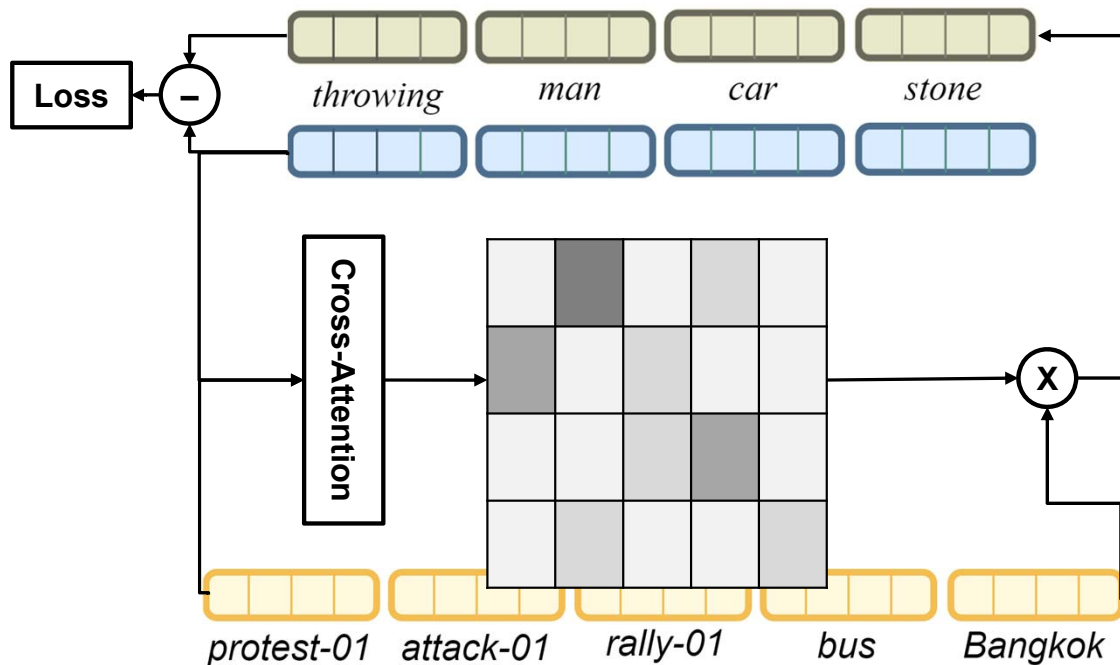
Use image-caption data for graph alignment

- Prior work aligns image-caption vectors by triplet loss.
- We want to align two graphs, not just single vectors.



Use image-caption data for graph alignment

- Prior work aligns image-caption vectors by triplet loss.
- We want to align two graphs, not just single vectors.



A New Multimodal Dataset for M2E2 Evaluation

(Li, Zareian, et al, ACL20)

- **Ontology:** shared between ACE and imSitu
 - **Event Types:** cover 52% of ACE event types
 - **Argument Roles:** Based on ACE argument roles, add additional detectable visual roles (marked in red)

Event Type	Argument Roles
Life.Die	Agent, Victim, Instrument, Place, Time
Transaction.TransferMoney	Giver, Recipient, Beneficiary, Money, Instrument , Place, Time
Conflict.Attack	Attacker, Instrument, Place, Target, Time
Conflict.Demonstrate	Demonstrator, Instrument , Police , Place, Time
Contact.Phone-Write	Participant, Instrument , Place, Time
Contact.Meet	Participant, Place, Time
Justice.ArrestJail	Agent, Person, Instrument , Place, Time
Movement.Transport	Agent, Artifact/Person, Instrument, Destination, Origin, Time

Experiment Results

Training	Model	Text-Only Evaluation						Image-Only Evaluation						Multimedia Evaluation					
		Event Mention			Argument Role			Event Mention			Argument Role			Event Mention			Argument Role		
		<i>P</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>F</i> ₁	<i>P</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>F</i> ₁	<i>P</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>F</i> ₁	<i>P</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>F</i> ₁	<i>P</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>F</i> ₁	<i>P</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>F</i> ₁
Text	JMEE	42.5	58.2	48.7	22.9	28.3	25.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	42.1	34.6	38.1	21.1	12.6	15.8
	GAIL	43.4	53.5	47.9	23.6	29.2	26.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	44.0	32.4	37.3	22.7	12.8	16.4
	WASE ^T	42.3	58.4	48.2	21.4	30.1	24.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	41.2	33.1	36.7	20.1	13.0	15.7
Image	WASE ^I _{att}	-	-	-	-	-	-	29.7	61.9	40.1	9.1	10.2	9.6	28.3	23.0	25.4	2.9	6.1	3.8
	WASE ^I _{obj}	-	-	-	-	-	-	28.6	59.2	38.7	13.3	9.8	11.2	26.1	22.4	24.1	4.7	5.0	4.9
Multimedia	VSE-C	33.5	47.8	39.4	16.6	24.7	19.8	30.3	48.9	26.4	5.6	6.1	5.7	33.3	48.2	39.3	11.1	14.9	12.8
	Flat _{att}	34.2	63.2	44.4	20.1	27.1	23.1	27.1	57.3	36.7	4.3	8.9	5.8	33.9	59.8	42.2	12.9	17.6	14.9
	Flat _{obj}	38.3	57.9	46.1	21.8	26.6	24.0	26.4	55.8	35.8	9.1	6.5	7.6	34.1	56.4	42.5	16.3	15.9	16.1
	WASE _{att}	37.6	66.8	48.1	27.5	33.2	30.1	32.3	63.4	42.8	9.7	11.1	10.3	38.2	67.1	49.1	18.6	21.6	19.9
	WASE _{obj}	42.8	61.9	50.6	23.5	30.3	26.4	43.1	59.2	49.9	14.5	10.1	11.9	43.0	62.1	50.8	19.5	18.9	19.2

Training with MM

Multimodal Task

Compare to Single Modality Extraction

- Image helps textual event extraction, and surrounding sentence helps visual event extraction



Iraqi security forces search **[Justice.Arrest]** a civilian in the city of Mosul.



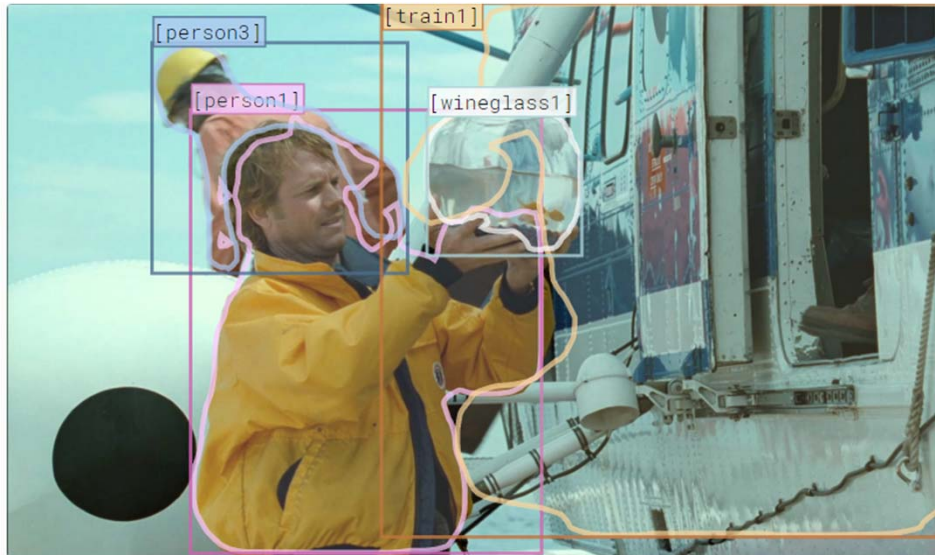
People celebrate Supreme Court ruling on Same Sex Marriage in front of the Supreme Court in Washington.

Missed by
text-only
model

Misclassified by
image-only
model as
“Demonstration”

Application 1: Visual Commonsense Reasoning (VCR)

- ▶ Understand semantics in images and language, explore commonsense
- ▶ Provide to-the-point answer

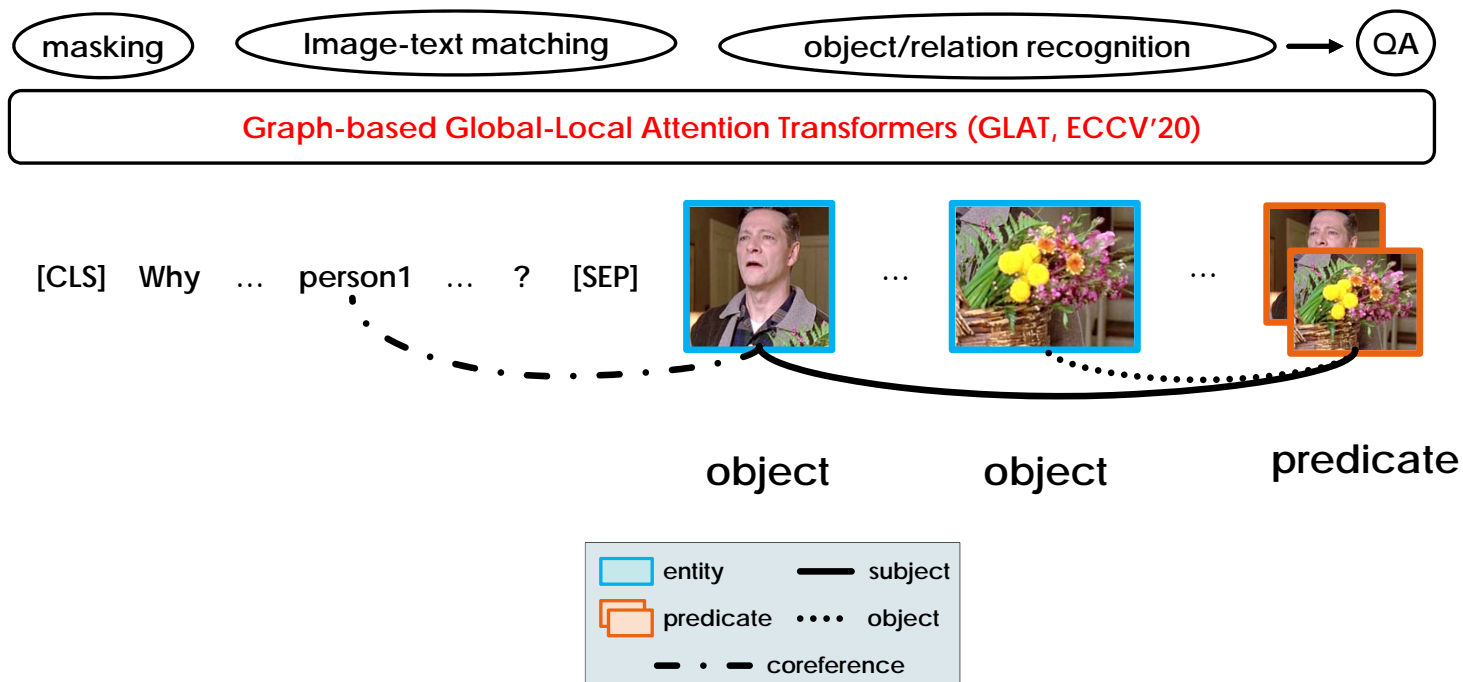


2. What is **[person1]** going to do next?

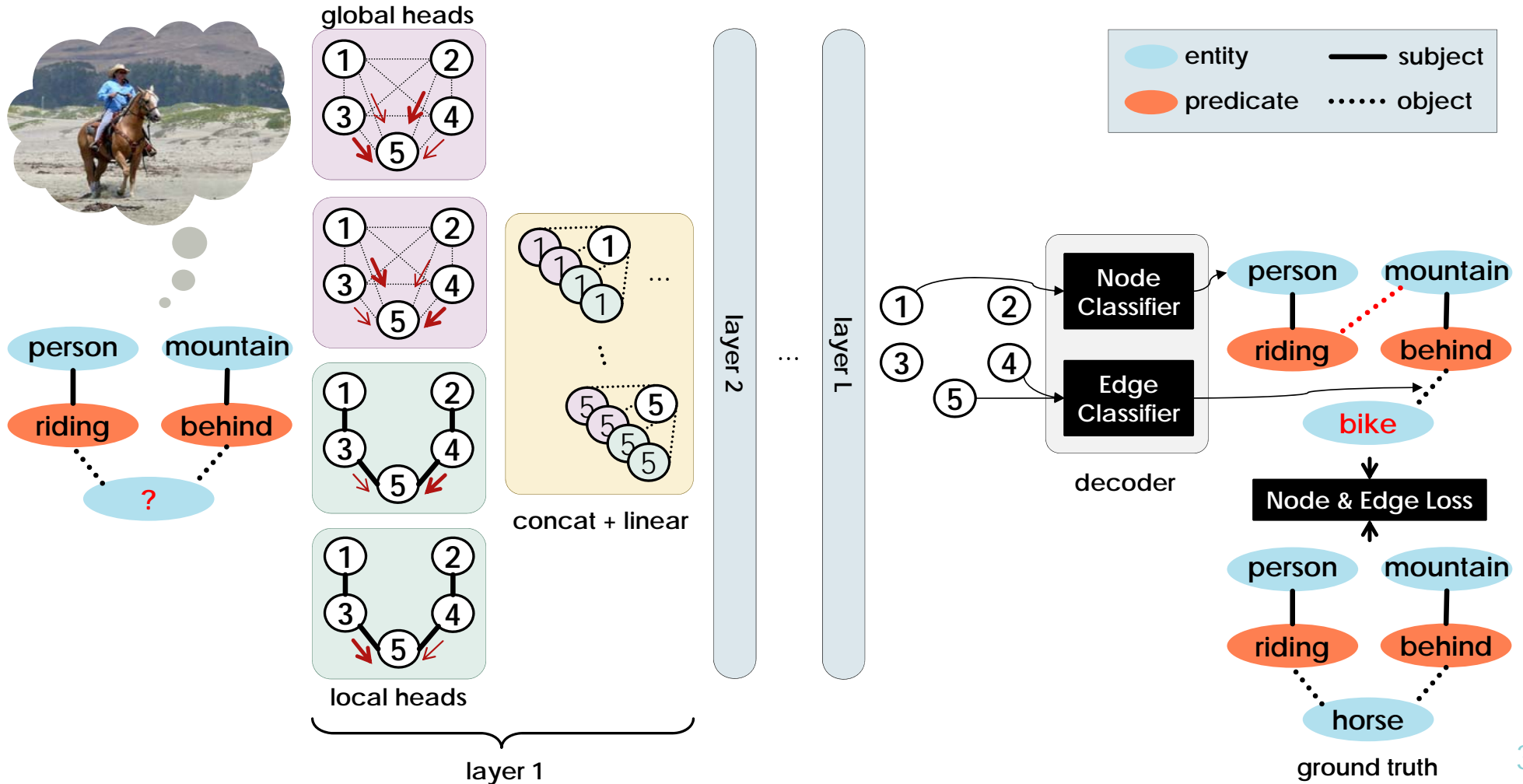
- | |
|--|
| a) [person1] is going to put his hand in his pocket. 23.9% |
| b) He is going to throw the paper on the ground and rant and rave at [person3] and [person2] . 11.2% |
| c) [person2] is going to decide to start following a person who is out of camera's range but in his view. 0.0% |
| d) He's going to put the fishbowl in the helicopter. 64.8% |

Combine Visual Scene Graphs with VCR

- ▶ Expand input to include objects and predicate relations in graph
- ▶ Attention transformers limited to sparse connections in scene graphs



Graph-based Global-Local Attention Transformers (Zareian, et al ECCV20)



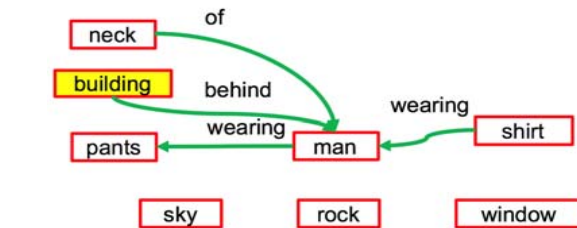
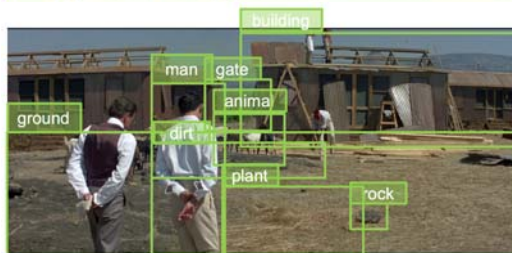
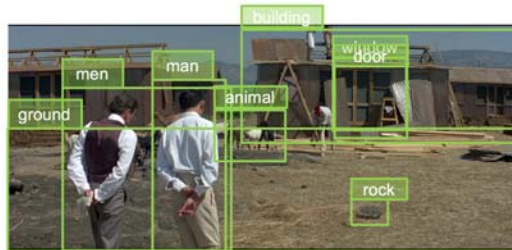
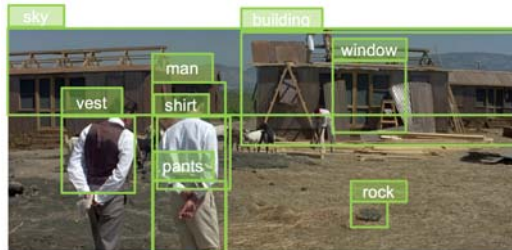
Scene Graph + Query-Adaptive Concept Selection

- For each question, select most relevant nodes on the scene graph

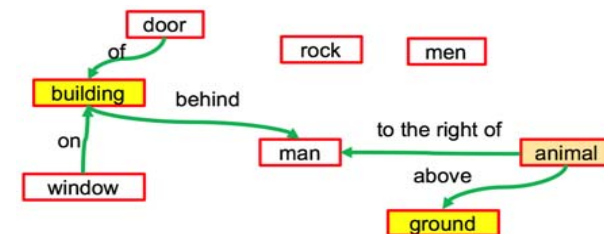
Model	Type	(Entity #, Predicate #)	Q -> A
LXMERT	Initial Graph	(36, 18)	65.09 (baseline)
	Relevance Sel.	(8, x)	74.04 (+8.95)
GLAT (LXMERT)	Initial Graph	(36, 18)	65.24 (baseline)
	Relevance Sel.	(26, x)	69.57 (+4.33)
	Relevance Sel.	(18, x)	72.33 (+7.09)
	Relevance Sel.	(8, x)	74.45 (+9.21)

Q: Why is sheep near the construction ?

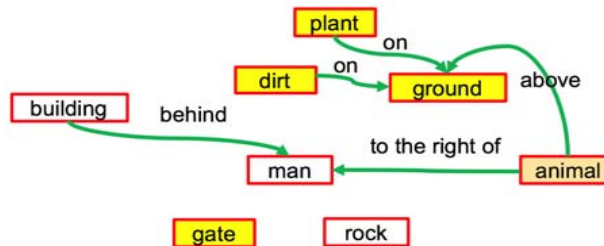
A: Sheep is near its natural habitat as well.



Initial Graph
 man, vest, pants, building, rock, sky, window, shirt
 (sorted by confidence score from SG)

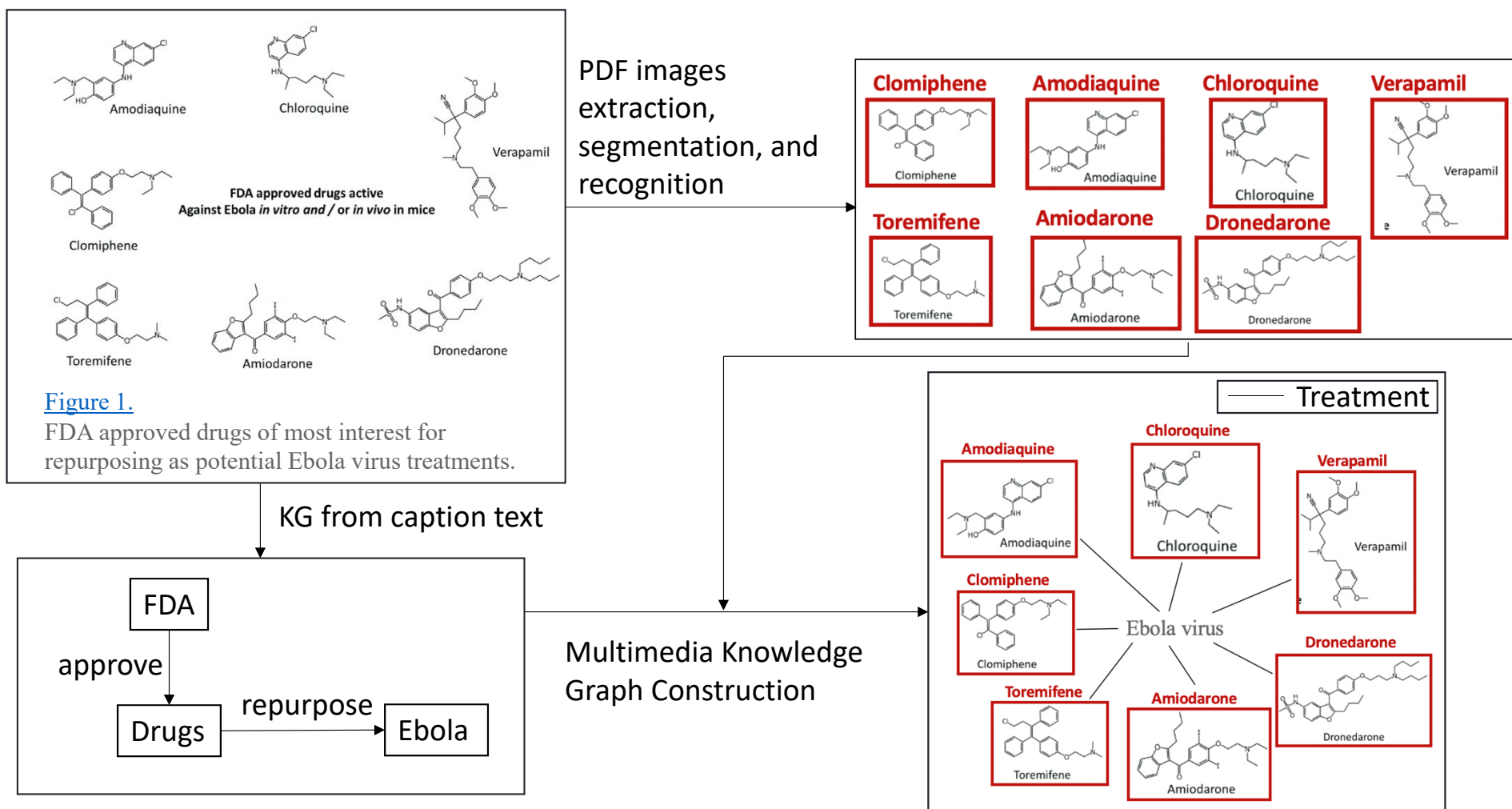


Relevance, Question
 building, door, man, men, window, rock, ground, animal
 (sorted by relevance score against question)



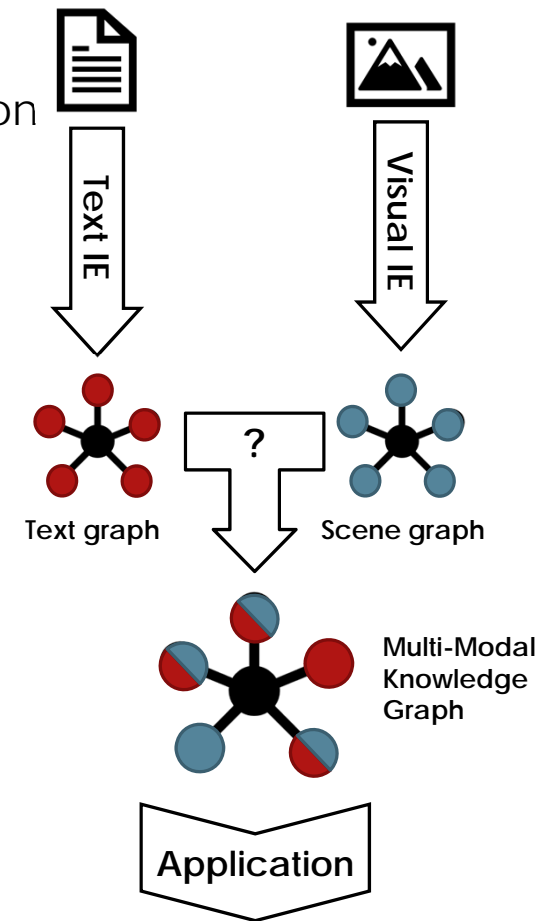
Relevance, Question + Answer Candidate
 man, building, animal, dirt, rock, gate, ground, plant
 (sorted by relevance score against question + answer candidate)

Application 2: Multimodal KG Extraction from COVID-19 Medical Papers



Conclusions

- ▶ Multimodal Knowledge Graphs
 - ▶ Understanding semantic structures in both language and vision
 - ▶ Joint representation and models
- ▶ Applications
 - ▶ Reasoning (VCR)
 - ▶ Discovery (COVID-19)
- ▶ Challenges
 - ▶ Open-vocabulary and Self-Supervised models
 - ▶ Knowledge graphs for video
 - ▶ Commonsense Extraction from MM KG
physics, behavior, causal/temporal



References

- ▶ Zareian, Alireza, Svebor Karaman, and Shih-Fu Chang. "Weakly Supervised Visual Semantic Parsing." Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition. CVPR 2020.
- ▶ Zareian, Alireza, Svebor Karaman, and Shih-Fu Chang. "Bridging knowledge graphs to generate scene graphs." arXiv preprint arXiv:2001.02314 (2020). ECCV 2020.
- ▶ Akbari, Hassan, Svebor Karaman, Surabhi Bhargava, Brian Chen, Carl Vondrick, and Shih-Fu Chang. "Multi-level multimodal common semantic space for image-phrase grounding." In *Proceedings of the IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition*. 2019.
- ▶ Li, Manling, Alireza Zareian, Qi Zeng, Spencer Whitehead, Di Lu, Heng Ji, and Shih-Fu Chang. "Cross-media Structured Common Space for Multimedia Event Extraction." *arXiv preprint arXiv:2005.02472* (2020). ACL 2020.
- ▶ Zareian, Alireza, Haoxuan You, Zhecan Wang, and Shih-Fu Chang. "Learning Visual Commonsense for Robust Scene Graph Generation." *arXiv preprint arXiv:2006.09623* (2020). ECCV 2020.