

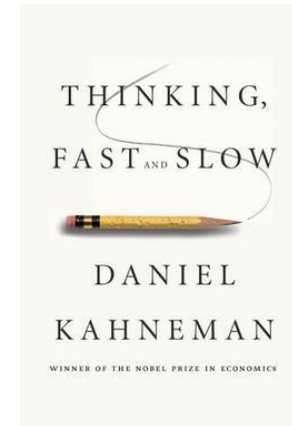
# Activity (or Process), State, and Event-based Knowledge Graphs

Yangqiu Song

Department of CSE, HKUST

# Why Do We (Still) Need Knowledge Graphs in the Era of Deep Learning?

- Deep Learning for **System II** Processing, as proposed by Yoshua Bengio
  - We need to equip machine learning systems with “**slow, logical, sequential, conscious, linguistic, algorithmic, planning, reasoning**”
    - Particularly, such a system requires the “**understanding of how actions**” (including events and activities/processes) “**interact with changes in distribution**” which can be reflected by states.
    - Need “new priors to help systematic & OOD generalization”
- Language models need **sensory grounding** for **meaning** and **understanding**, as argued by Yann LeCun
- Multi-objective federated learning, proposed by Qiang Yang
  - One of the utility sources to make sure federation follows common sense
- Abductive learning, proposed by Zhihua Zhou
  - KB plays an important role to provide weak labels



# Knowledge Graphs

- Many large-scale knowledge graphs about **entities** and their **attributes** (property-of) and **relations** (thousands of different predicates) have been developed since Google released its knowledge graph in **2012**
  - **Millions** of entities and concepts
  - **Billions** of relationships

Are they enough to  
characterize our mental world?

Knowledge Graph (2012)  
570 million entities and 18 billion facts

# Challenge 1: How to Grow a Mind?

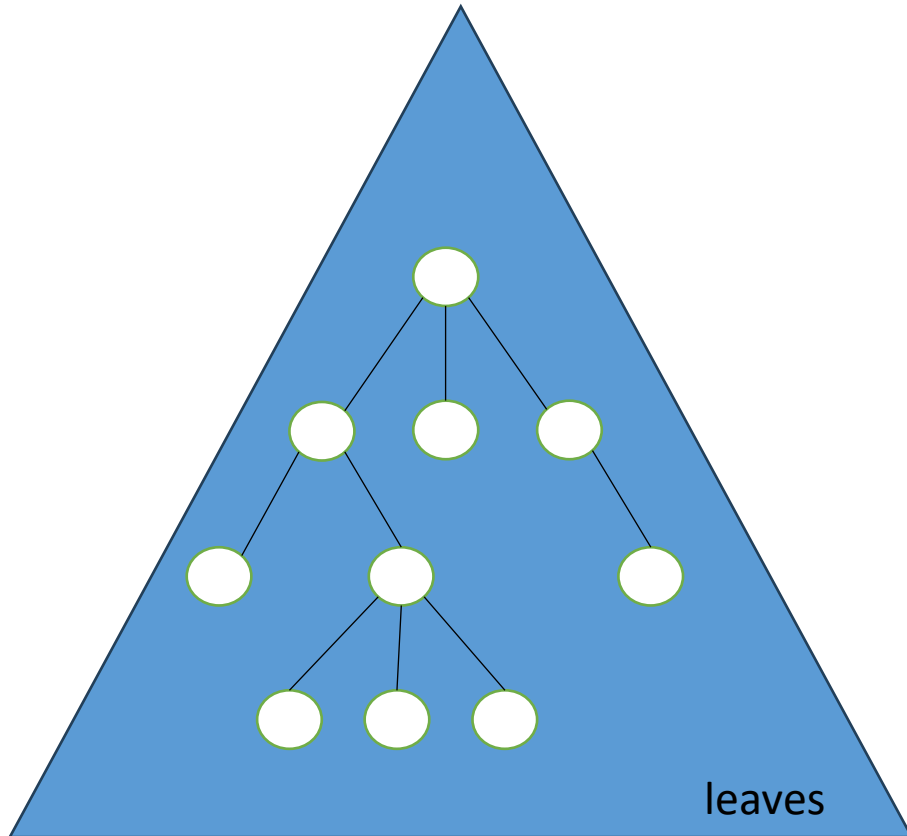
## --Statistics, Structure, and Abstraction

- “In coming to understand the world—in **learning concepts**, **acquiring language**, and **grasping causal relations**—our minds make inferences that appear to go far beyond the data available.”
- The ability of performing powerful **abstraction** is the key

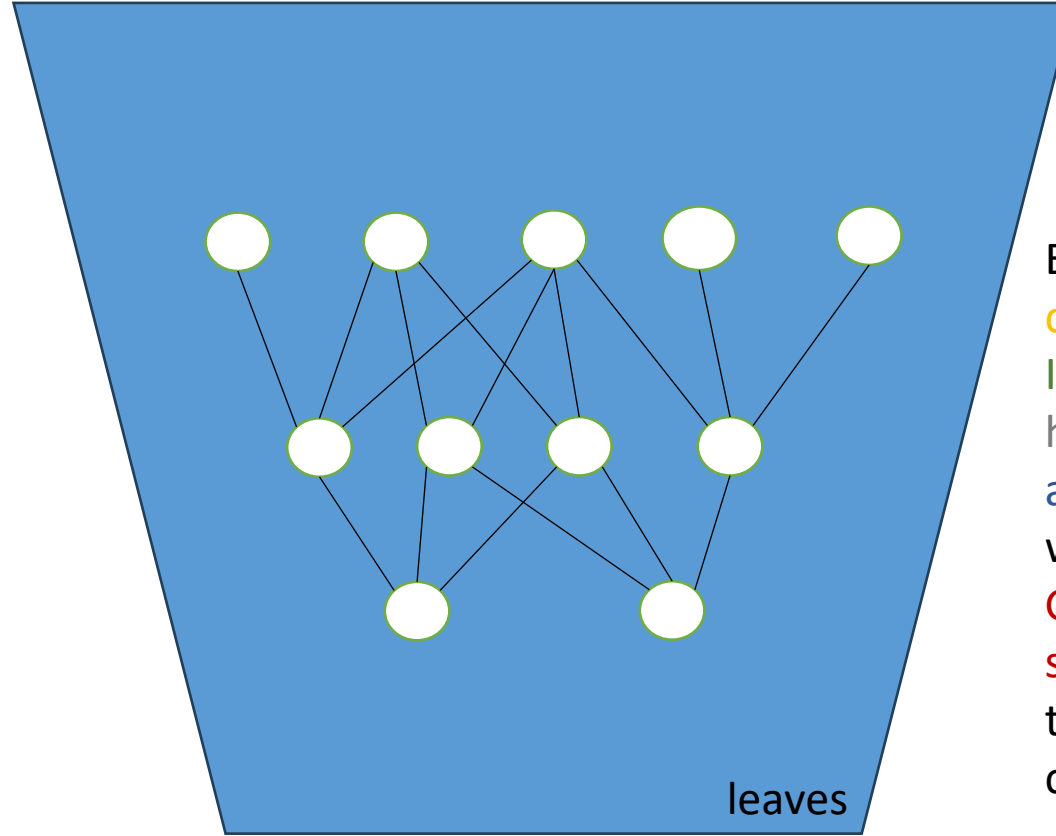


# The True Structure of Conceptualization

What you may think of



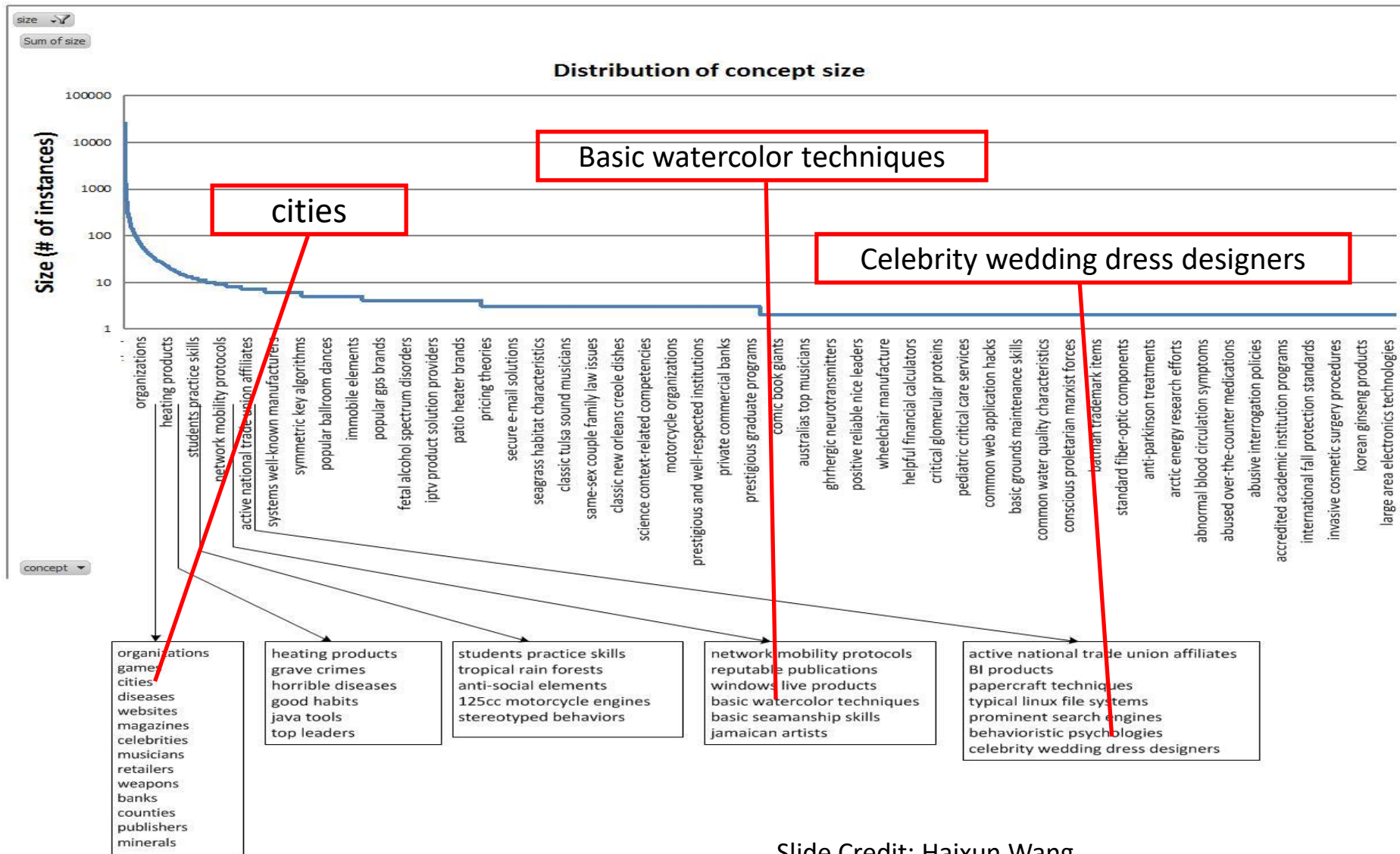
What it really likes



E.g., mapping **Tesla** to a **company**, **big company**, **IT company**, **AI company**, **high-tech company**, **automobile company**, when comparing it with **Google**, **Toyota**, **some small company**, needs the right level of comparison

The nature of **conceptual abstraction** (aggregation of objects' attributes) and the **(dynamic) compositionality** make the number of concepts grow vastly comparable to entities we have in the world

# ProBase (2011 at MSRA)



**Probase is a *large, universal, probabilistic* knowledge base with an **extremely large concept space****

Slide Credit: Haixun Wang

Data are available at <https://concept.research.microsoft.com/>

Wentao Wu, Hongsong Li, Haixun Wang, Kenny Qili Zhu: Probase: a probabilistic taxonomy for text understanding. SIGMOD Conference 2012: 481-492



# Challenge 2: Knowledge Graph or More General Mind Graphs to Describe Mental World?

- What is our knowledge?
  - Knowledge is often defined as justified true belief
- What makes us take actions?
  - **Beliefs** and **desires** are mediated by **intentions** which in turn controls human's actions (Kashima et al., 1998)
- Theory of Mind
  - Needs the reasoning about intents, feelings, mental states, and realities (actions or reactions) (Sap et al., 2022)

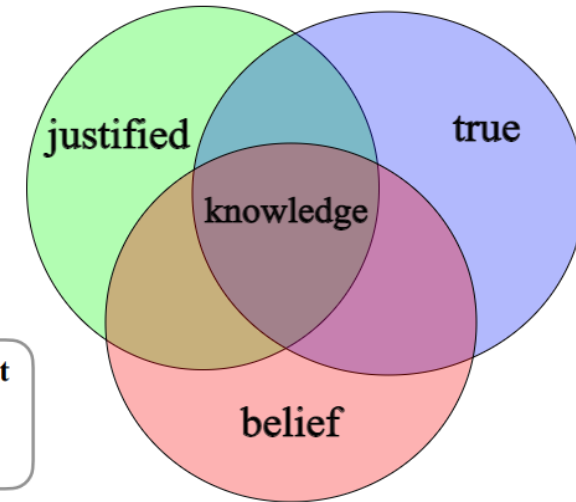


Figure taken from Wikipedia

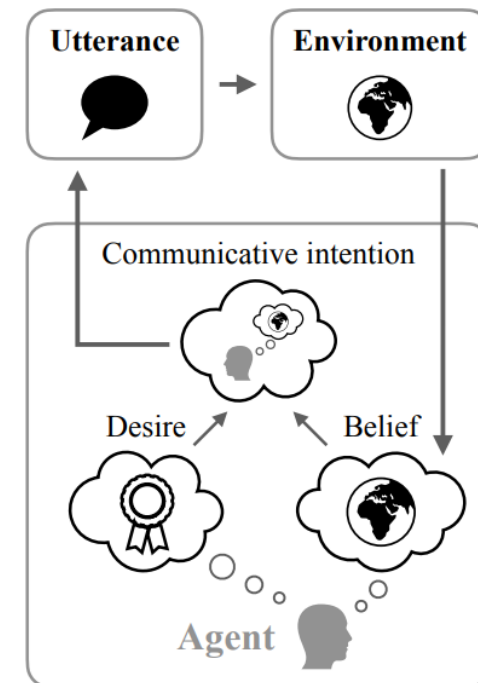


Figure taken from Andreas (2022)

# Challenge 3: Primitive Semantic Units in Our Mind

- Semantic meaning in our language can be described as ‘a finite set of mental primitives and a finite set of principles of mental combination (Jackendoff, 1990)’.
- The primitive units of semantic meanings include
  - Thing (or Object),
  - Activity (or Process),
  - State,
  - Event,
  - Place,
  - Path,
  - Property,
  - Amount,
  - etc.



Ray Jackendoff, Rumelhart Prize winner, studied under linguists Noam Chomsky

## Phase 1: Describe a Sequence that is Already Together (4 Steps)

**Instructions:** We can use the words ‘first’, ‘next’, ‘then’, and ‘last’ to describe the order of the steps in an activity or event. Take a look at the images below and describe the activity or event using the correct words.



<b>Baking a Cake:</b>	 Get your ingredients.	 Mix them together.	 Put it in the oven.	 Enjoy your cake.
<b>Doing Laundry:</b>	 Pick up the laundry.	 Put it in the washer.	 Put it in the dryer.	 Iron the clothes.
<b>Getting Ready for School:</b>	 Put on your clothes.	 Eat your breakfast.	 Get your backpack.	 Wait for the school bus.
<b>Having a Drink:</b>	 Find a glass.	 Pour some lemonade.	 Drink the lemonade.	 Wash your glass.

**Homework:**  
Time to practice this skill at home! You can help reinforce this skill at home by practicing this page. The more you practice this skill, the easier it will get. Place a checkmark in one box below for every time you practice this page. Try to work on it for five minutes, once or twice daily.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------



# Activities and Events can also be Conceptualized

What activities do you find relaxing?

## 25 Calming Activities to Do in Your House

- Take a hot bath or shower.
- Lay down with your legs elevated and watch your breathing rise and fall.
- Doodle or color.
- Look out a window or let in fresh air.
- Have a warm drink without caffeine or alcohol.
- Engage in a visualization of a place that makes you feel safe.

[More items...](#) • 22 Mar 2020

<https://www.psychologytoday.com> › [blog](#) › [friendship-20](#) ⋮


## 25 Calming Activities to Do in Your House - Psychology Today

Search for: [What activities do you find relaxing?](#)

 [OutofStress](#)  
<https://www.outofstress.com> › [things-stress-relief](#) ⋮

## 86 Fun Activities To Relax and De-Stress

23 May 2022 — 65 deeply **relaxing** activities that you can do anyplace and anytime. ... write about past **events** that have been on your mind.

 [Live Bold and Bloom](#)  
<https://liveboldandbloom.com> › [self-improvement](#) › [re...](#) ⋮

## 29 Relaxing Things To Do To DeStress And Recharge

16 Oct 2022 — 1. Read a book. 2. Take a hike. 3. Practice meditation. 4. Write something. 5. Listen to music. 6. Get a massage from a family member. 7. Play ...

## 20 ways to switch off the stress

8 Sept 2016

1. Sydney Float Centre
2. Hang upside down
3. Walk the Royal Na...
4. Get your shit toget...
5. Connect to countr...
6. Take a bath at ...

 [Eventbrite](#)  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk> › [blog](#) › [10-unusual-effe...](#) ⋮

## Pre-Event Chill: 10 Best Ways to Relax When Traditional ...

10 Apr 2021 — 2. Indulge in dark chocolate · 3. Repeat a mantra · 4. Smell an orange · 6. Play a **relaxing** video game · 8. Clean your desk · 9. Inflate a balloon.

 [pro-activ.com](#)  
<https://www.pro-activ.com> › ... › [Active Lifestyle](#) ⋮

## How to relieve stress: 10 fun & relaxing activities - Pro-Activ

10 ways to relieve stress: · Breathe deep: If your breathing is quick and shallow, rest a hand on your chest and watch it rise and fall. · Try a massage · Doodle ...

 [Apartment Therapy](#)  
<https://www.apartmenttherapy.com> › [rest-relaxation-id...](#) ⋮

## 83 Ways to Rest and Recharge, Whether You Have 5 ...

18 May 2021 — 1. Go on a walk. · 2. Do a body scan meditation. · 3. Focus on a hobby. · 4. Curate a book list. · 5. Start a dance party. · 6. Stand outside or near ...

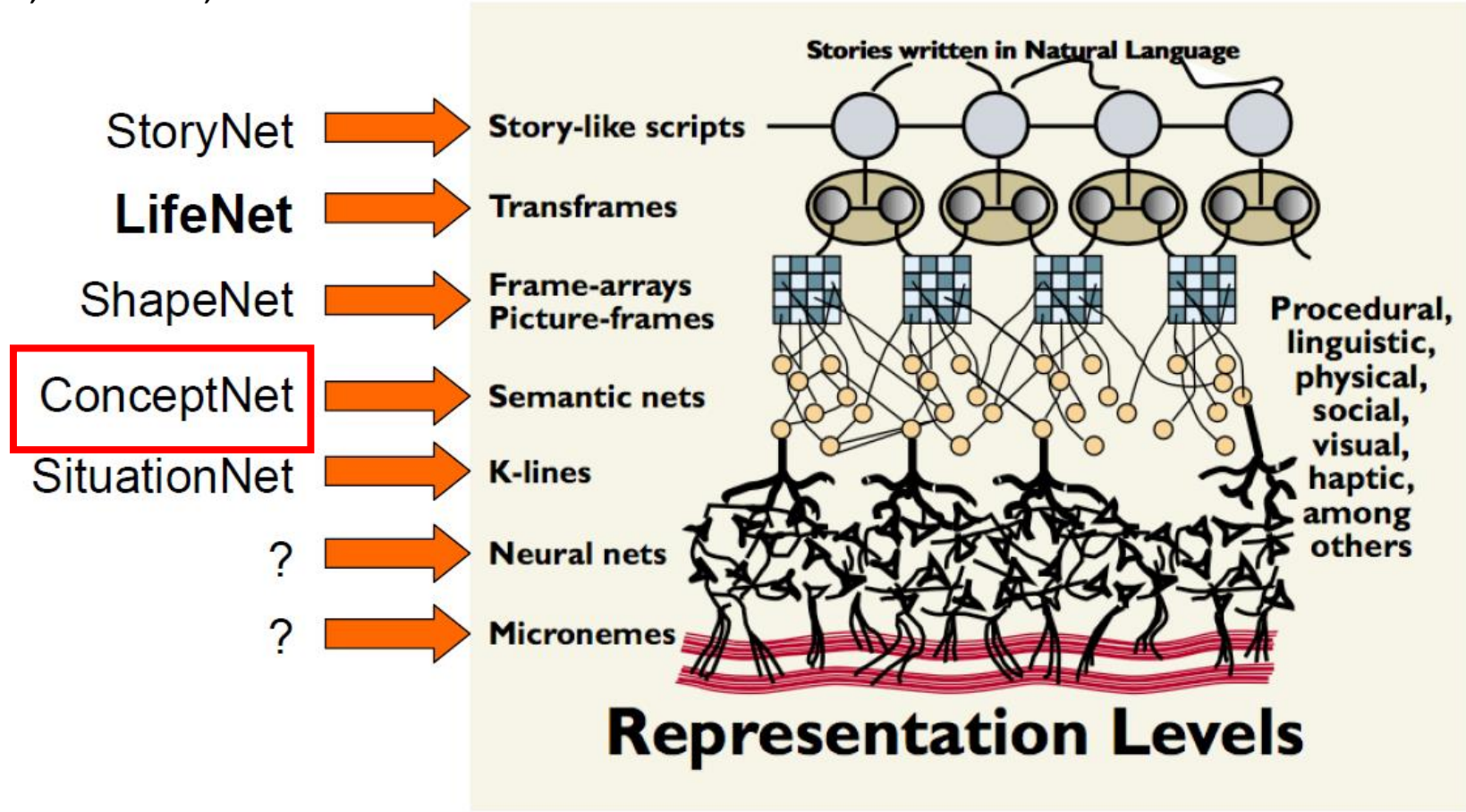
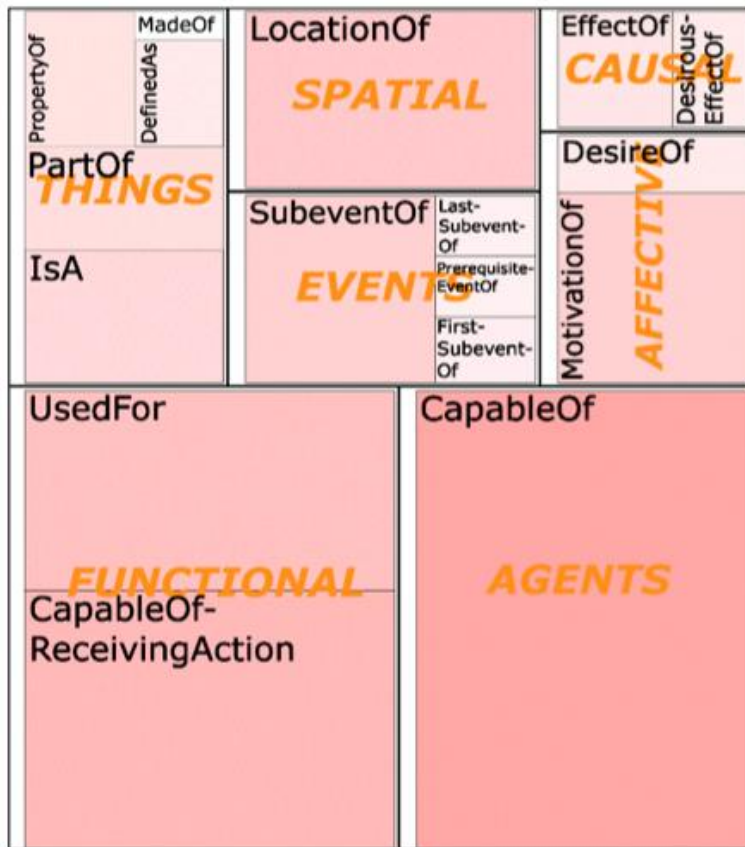
 [Declutter The Mind](#)  
<https://declutterthemind.com> › [Blog](#) ⋮

## 11 Relaxing Activities Before Bed to Fall Asleep Fast

1. Listen to ASMR · 2. Practice meditation · 3. Listen to sleep hypnosis audio recordings · 4.

# That's Why ConceptNet was Designed in Such a Way

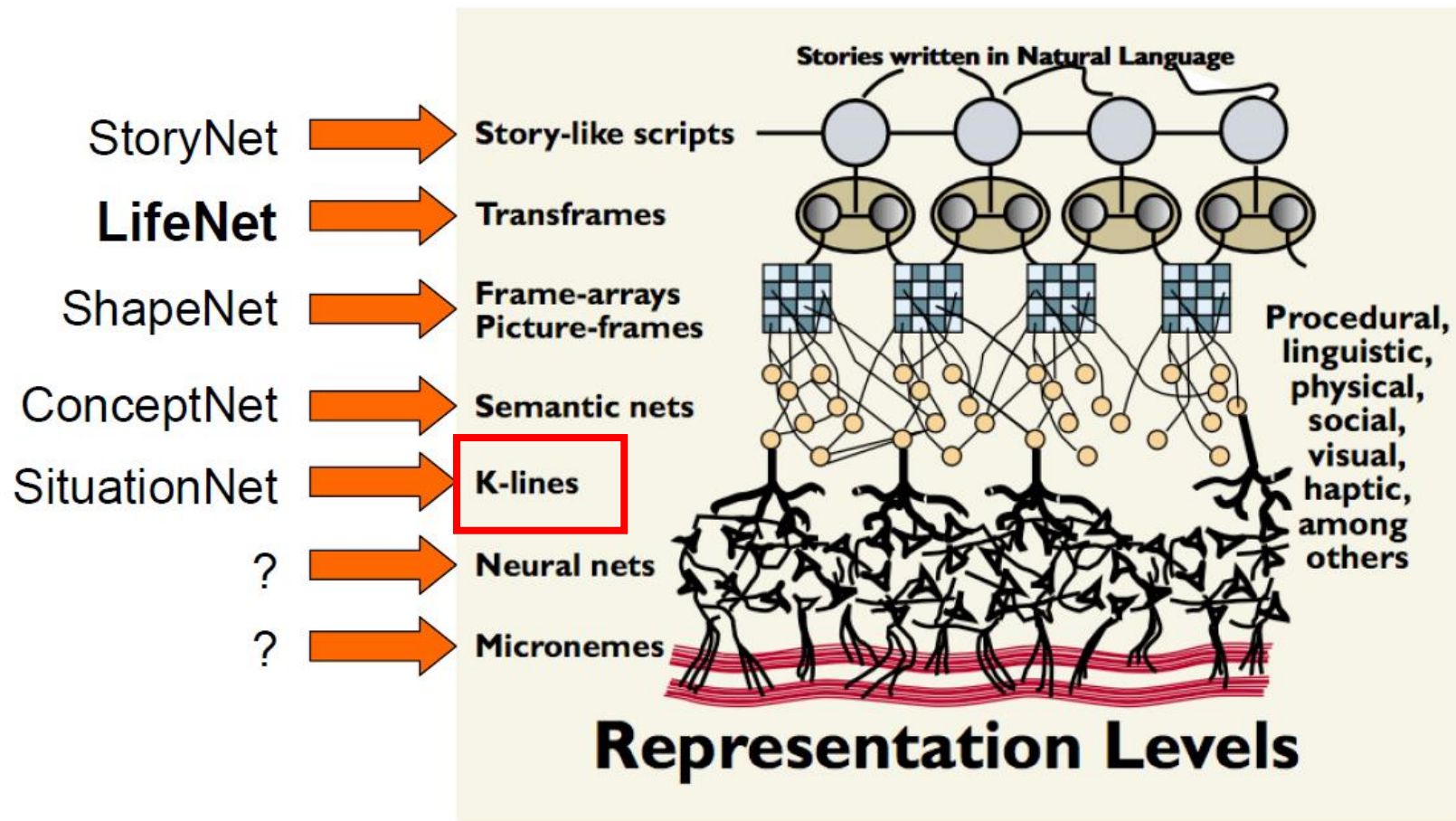
- Knowledge in ConceptNet
  - Things, Spatial, Location, Events, Causal, Affective, Functional, Agents





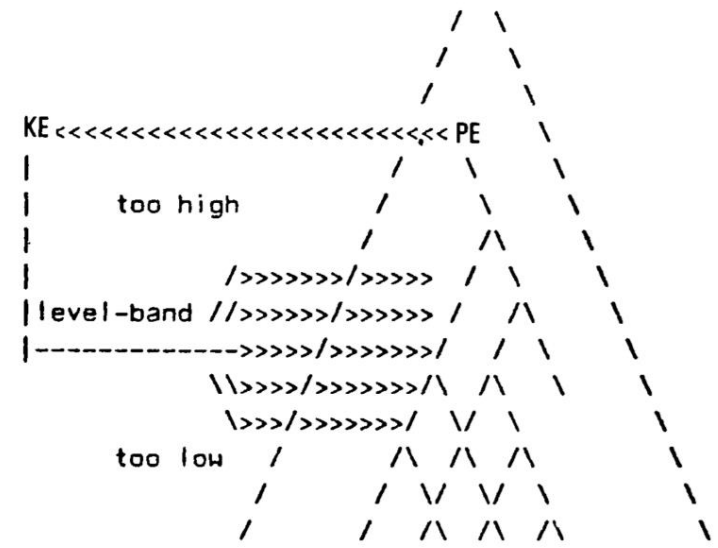
# A More Fundamental Layer is Called K-Line

- Encode memories in “**abstract**” form.
- Search all memory for the “**nearest match.**”
- Use **prototypes** with detachable defaults.



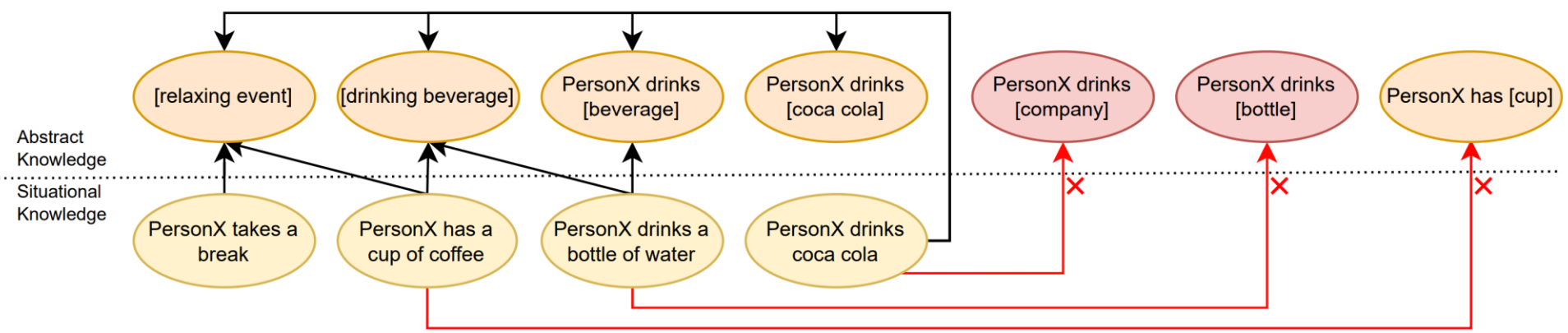
# The Implementation of K-Line Theory

- We need the **right level** and **right perspective** of conceptualization of events
  - Different levels of abstractness
    - “PersonX drinks coca cola” → “[drinking coca cola],” “[drinking beverage],” “[event]”
  - Different perspectives
    - “Coca cola” → “[sugary beverage],” “[phosphate containing beverage],” “[iced drink],” not in a strict hierarchical taxonomy
      - PersonX drinks [iced drink], xReact, refreshed
      - PersonX drinks [sugary beverage], xEffect, gain weight



Attach a K-node (a mental state, KE) to a “Pyramid” agent (PE) at a certain level  
 The pyramid is a **tree structure** that we use to conceptualize the world  
 The mapping has a **lower-band limit** and a **higher-band limit**, to compare the right common, non-conflicting properties

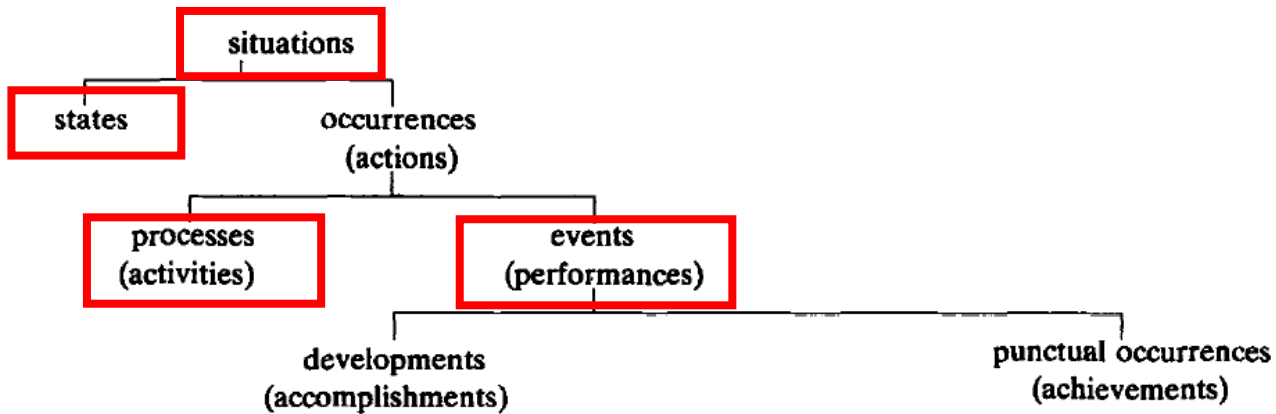
Figure taken from:  
M. Minsky (1980)



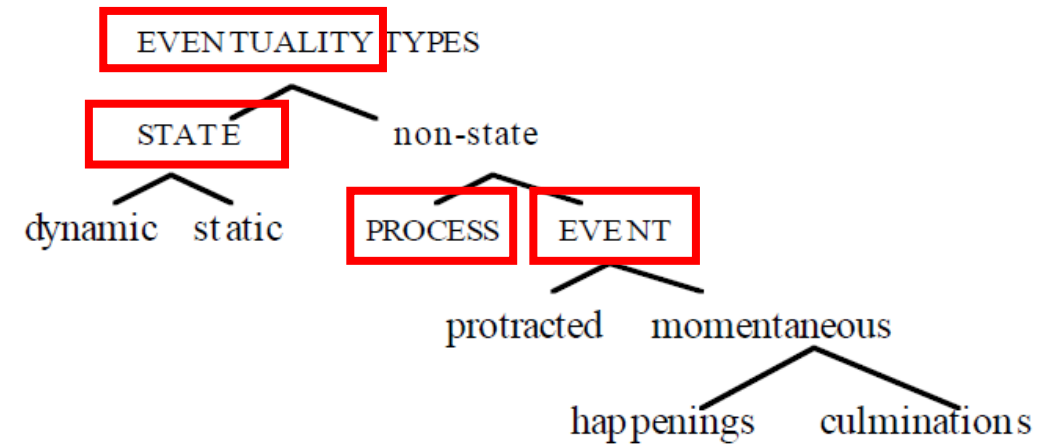
M. Minsky, “K-Lines: A theory of Memory,” Cognitive Science 4 (1980). 117-133.

# ASER (Activities, States, Events, and their Relations)

## Mourelatos' taxonomy (1978)



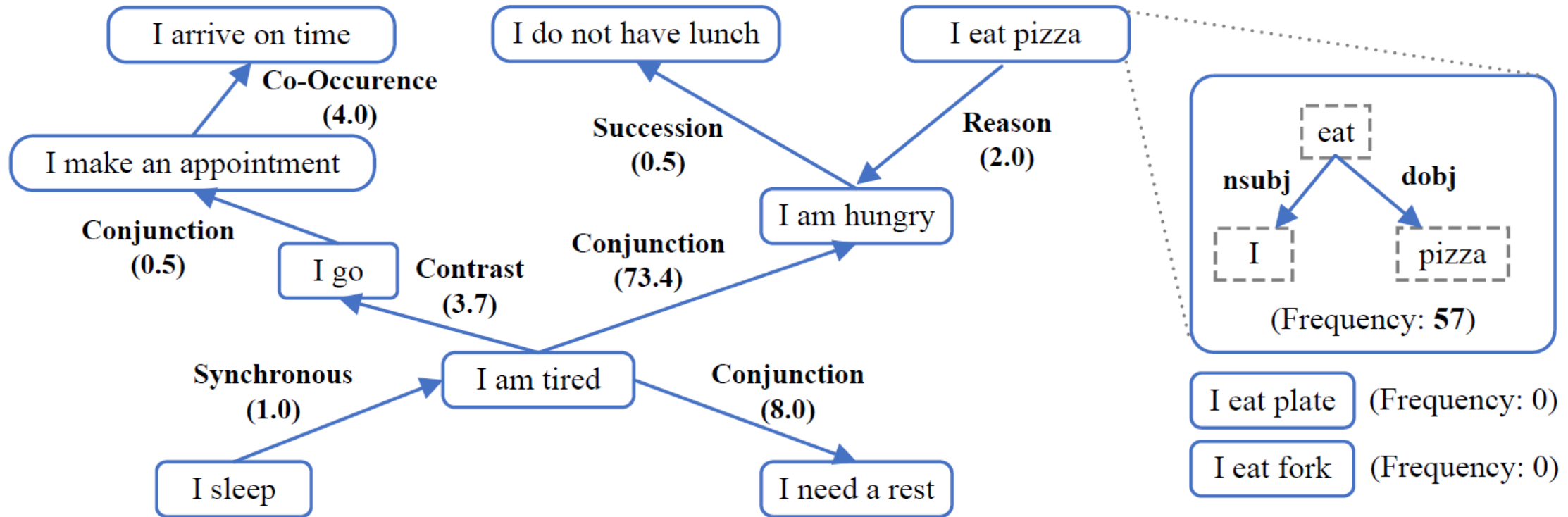
## Bach's taxonomy (1986)



- **State:** A state is usually described by a stative verb and cannot be qualified as actions.
  - “The coffee machine is ready for brewing coffee.”
- **Activity (or process):** Both activity and event are occurrences (actions) described by active verbs.
  - “The coffee machine is brewing coffee with following steps: ...”
- **Event:** An event is defined as an occurrence that is inherently countable.
  - “The coffee machine brews a cup of coffee once more” is an event because it admits a countable noun “a cup” and cardinal count adverbials “once”



# ASER (Activities, States, Events, and their Relations)



**Principle 1:** Comparing semantic meanings by fixing grammar (Katz and Fodor, 1963)

**Principle 2:** The need of language inference based on ‘**partial information**’ (Wilks, 1975)

WWW'20

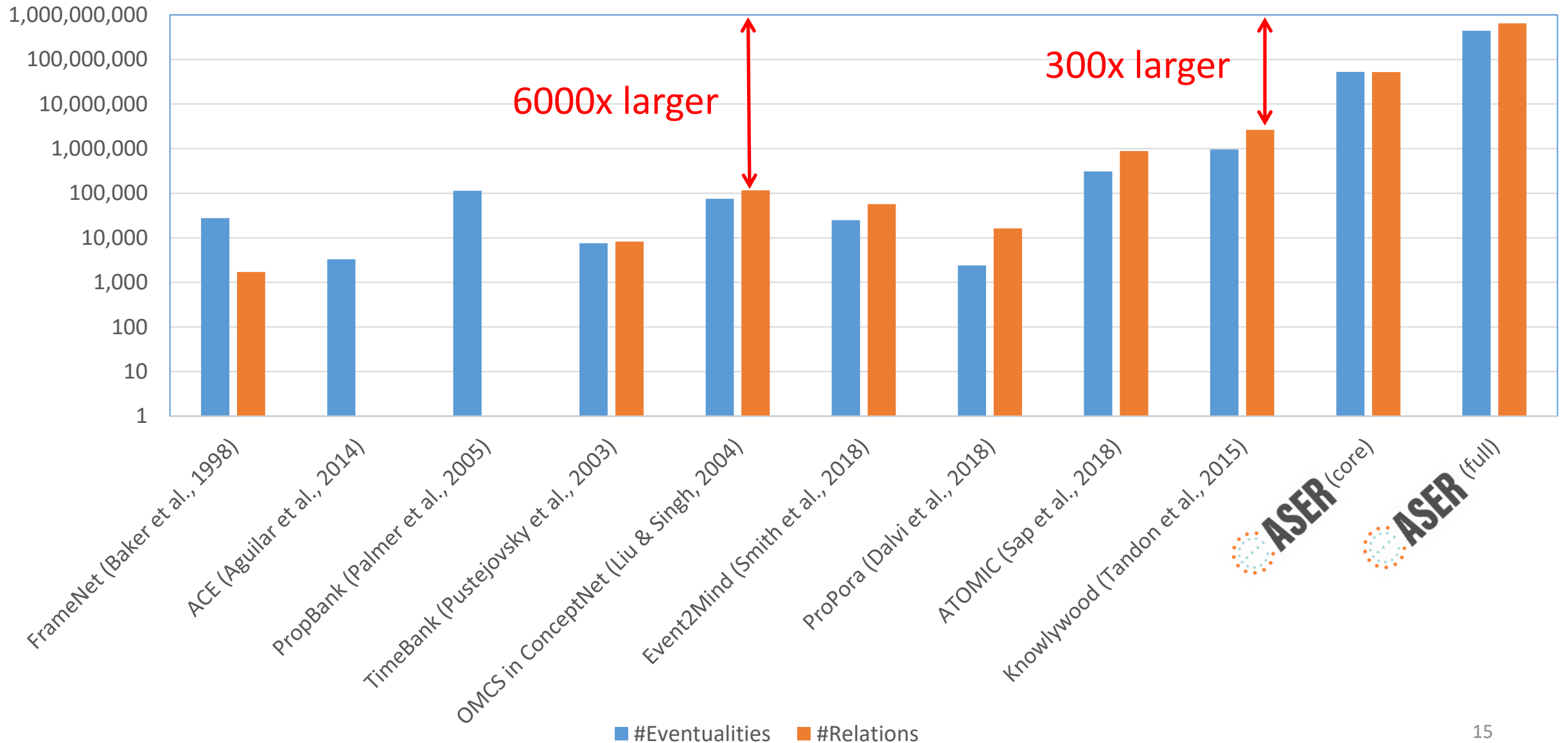
<https://github.com/HKUST-KnowComp/ASER>

Hongming Zhang, Xin Liu, Haojie Pan, Yangqiu Song, Cane Wing-Ki Leung: ASER: A Large-scale Eventuality Knowledge Graph. WWW 2020: 201-211

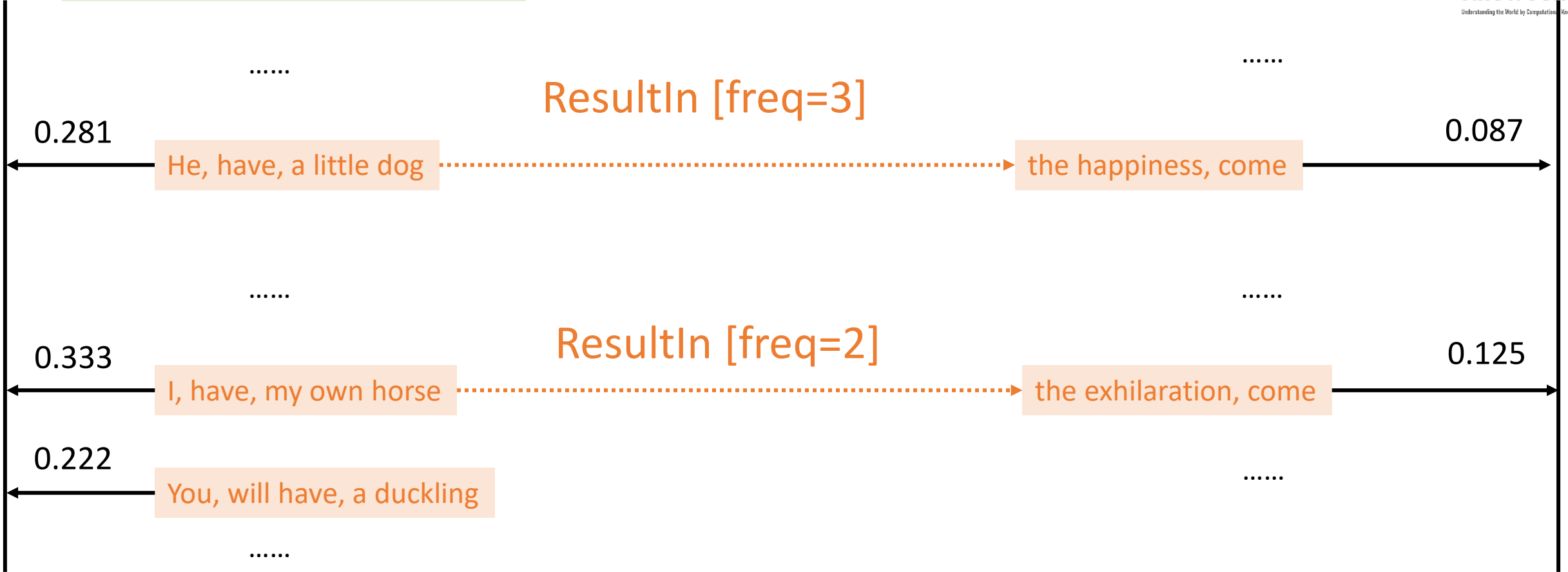
Katz, J. J., & Fodor, J. A. (1963). The structure of a semantic theory. *Language*, 39(2), 170–210.

Yorick Wilks. 1975. An intelligent analyzer and understander of English. *Communications of the ACM*, 18(5):264–274.

# Scales of Verb Related Knowledge Graphs



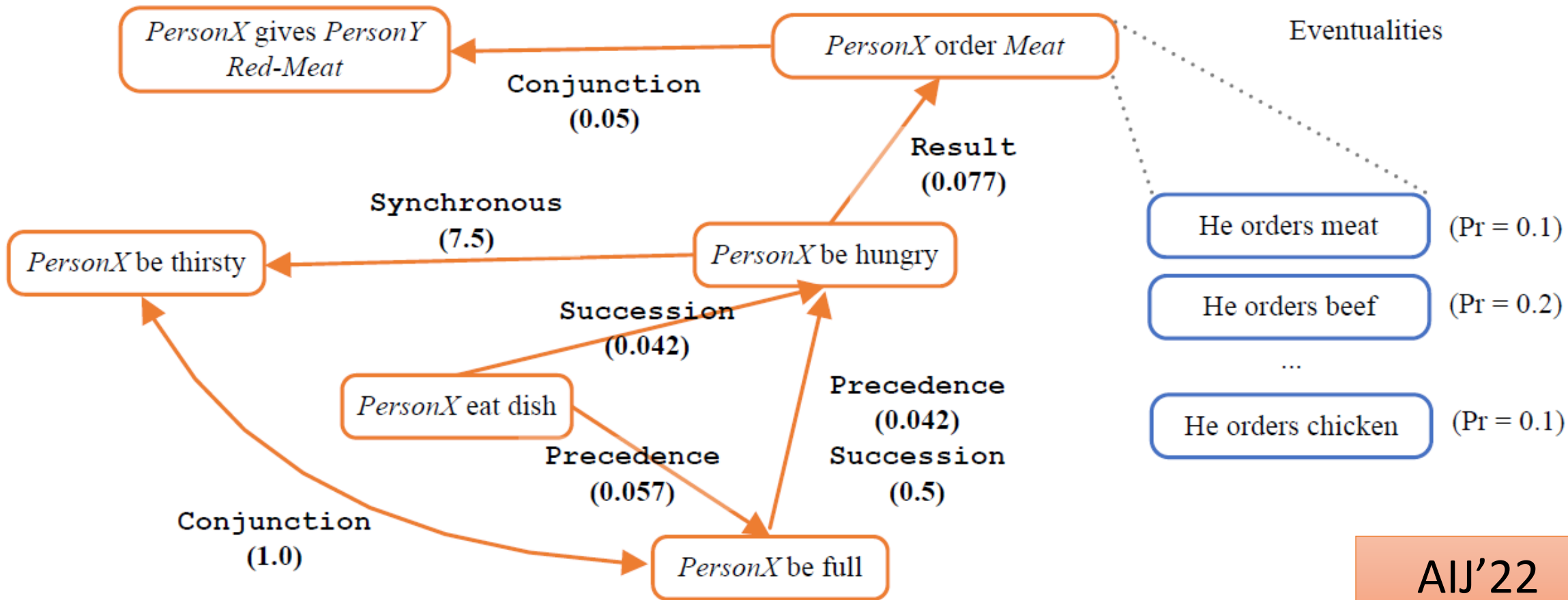
(person, have, animal) Conceptualization (positive-emotion, come)



$$P(\text{ResultIn} \mid (\text{person, have, animal}), (\text{positive-emotion, come})) = 0.281 \times 3 \times 0.087 + 0.333 \times 2 \times 0.125 = 0.157$$

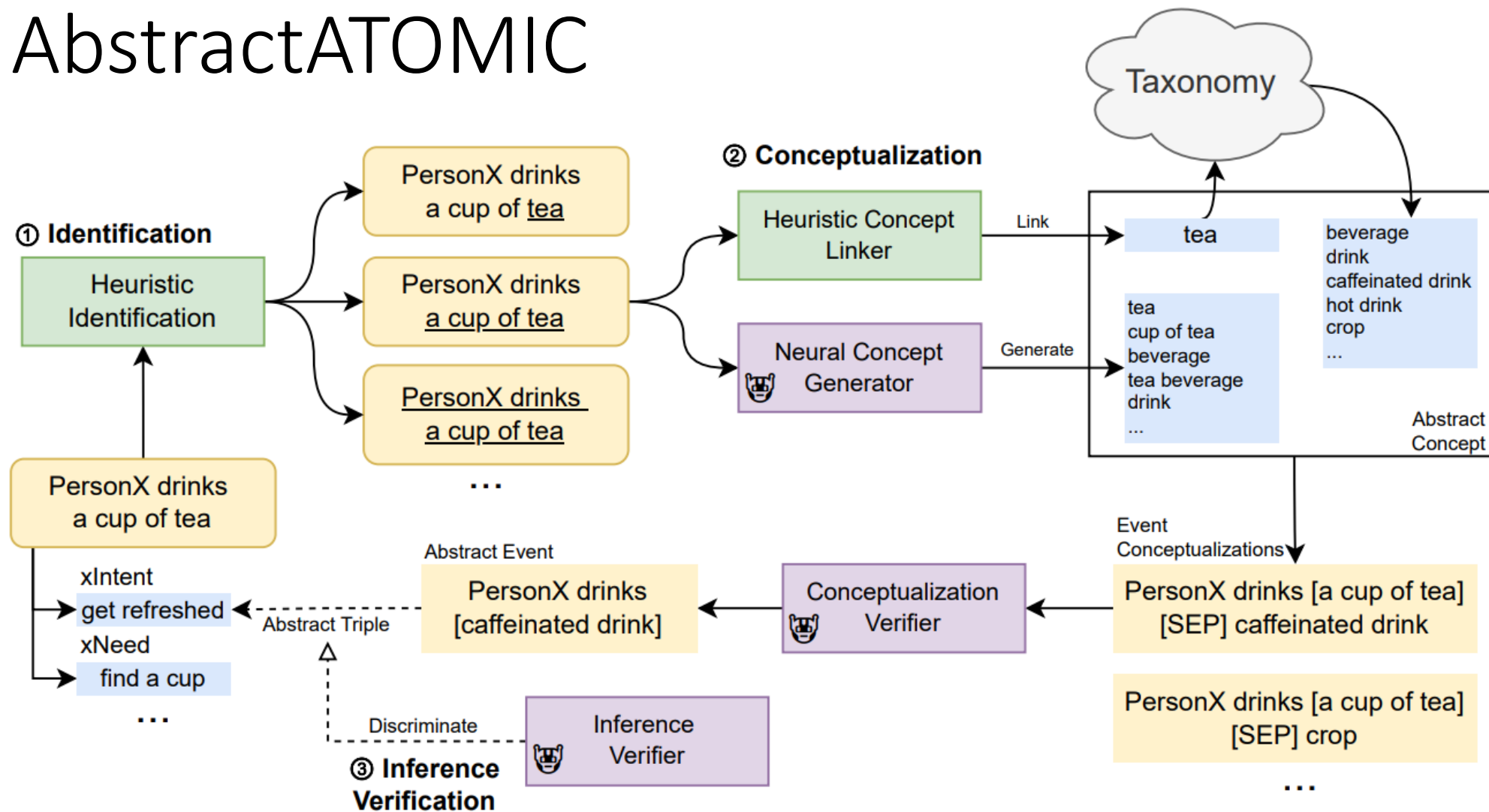
# Conceptualization Examples

## Conceptualized ASER



AIJ'22

# Apply the Same Tech to ATOMIC: AbstractATOMIC



Under Review by AIJ

3x Larger (about 2.95M triplets) than ATOMIC





Model	CSKB	a-NLI	CSQA	PIQA	SIQA	WG	Avg.
Random	-	50.0	20.0	50.0	33.3	50.0	40.7
Majority	-	50.8	20.9	50.5	33.6	50.4	41.2
RoBERTa-L (Liu et al., 2019)	-	65.5	45.0	67.6	47.3	57.5	56.6
DeBERTa-v3-L (He et al., 2023)	-	59.9	25.4	44.8	47.8	50.3	45.6
Self-talk (Shwartz et al., 2020)	-	-	32.4	70.2	46.2	54.7	-
COMET-DynGen (Bosselut et al., 2021)	ATOMIC	-	-	-	50.1	-	-
SMLM (Banerjee and Baral, 2020)	*	65.3	38.8	-	48.5	-	-
MICO (Su et al., 2022)	ATOMIC	-	44.2	-	56.0	-	-
STL-Adapter (Kim et al., 2022)	ATOMIC	71.3	66.5	71.1	64.4	60.3	66.7
<b>Backbone: RoBERTa-Large 340M</b>							
RoBERTa-L (MR) (Ma et al., 2021)	ATM <sub>10X</sub>	70.8	64.2	71.7	61.0	60.7	65.7
△ RoBERTa-L (MR) (Ma et al., 2021)	ATOMIC	70.8	64.2	72.1	63.1	59.2	65.9
◇ CAR-RoBERTa-L (Ours)	ATOMIC	72.3 <sub>↑1.5</sub>	64.8 <sub>↑0.6</sub>	73.2 <sub>↑1.1</sub>	64.8 <sub>↑1.7</sub>	61.3 <sub>↑2.1</sub>	67.3 <sub>↑1.4</sub>
◇ CAR-RoBERTa-L (Ours)	ATM <sup>C</sup>	72.7 <sub>↑1.9</sub>	66.3 <sub>↑2.1</sub>	73.2 <sub>↑1.1</sub>	64.0 <sub>↑0.9</sub>	62.0 <sub>↑2.8</sub>	67.6 <sub>↑1.7</sub>
<b>Backbone: DeBERTa-v3-Large 435M</b>							
DeBERTa-v3-L (MR) (Ma et al., 2021)	ATM <sub>10X</sub>	74.0	65.4	73.8	59.5	73.9	69.3
△ DeBERTa-v3-L (MR) (Ma et al., 2021)	ATOMIC	76.0	67.0	78.0	62.1	76.0	71.8
◇ CAR-DeBERTa-v3-L (Ours)	ATOMIC	<u>78.9</u> <sub>↑2.9</sub>	67.2 <sub>↑0.2</sub>	<b>78.6</b> <sub>↑0.6</sub>	63.8 <sub>↑1.7</sub>	<u>78.1</u> <sub>↑2.1</sub>	<u>73.3</u> <sub>↑1.5</sub>
◇ CAR-DeBERTa-v3-L (Ours)	ATM <sup>C</sup>	<b>79.6</b> <sub>↑3.6</sub>	69.3 <sub>↑2.3</sub>	<b>78.6</b> <sub>↑0.6</sub>	64.0 <sub>↑1.9</sub>	<b>78.2</b> <sub>↑2.2</sub>	<b>73.9</b> <sub>↑2.1</sub>
<b>Large Language Models</b>							
GPT-3.5 (text-davinci-003)	-	61.8	68.9	67.8	<u>68.0</u>	60.7	65.4
ChatGPT (gpt-3.5-turbo)	-	69.3	<b>74.5</b>	75.1	<b>69.5</b>	62.8	70.2
<b>Supervised Learning &amp; Human Performance</b>							
RoBERTa-L (Supervised)	-	85.6	78.5	79.2	76.6	79.3	79.8
DeBERTa-v3-L (Supervised)	-	89.0	82.1	84.5	80.1	84.1	84.0
Human Performance	-	91.4	88.9	94.9	86.9	94.1	91.2

Language models  
**finetuned by**  
**AbstractATOMIC**  
can significantly  
improve their  
**zero-shot ability**  
on downstream  
commonsense  
QA tasks.

ACL'23  
Arxiv'23

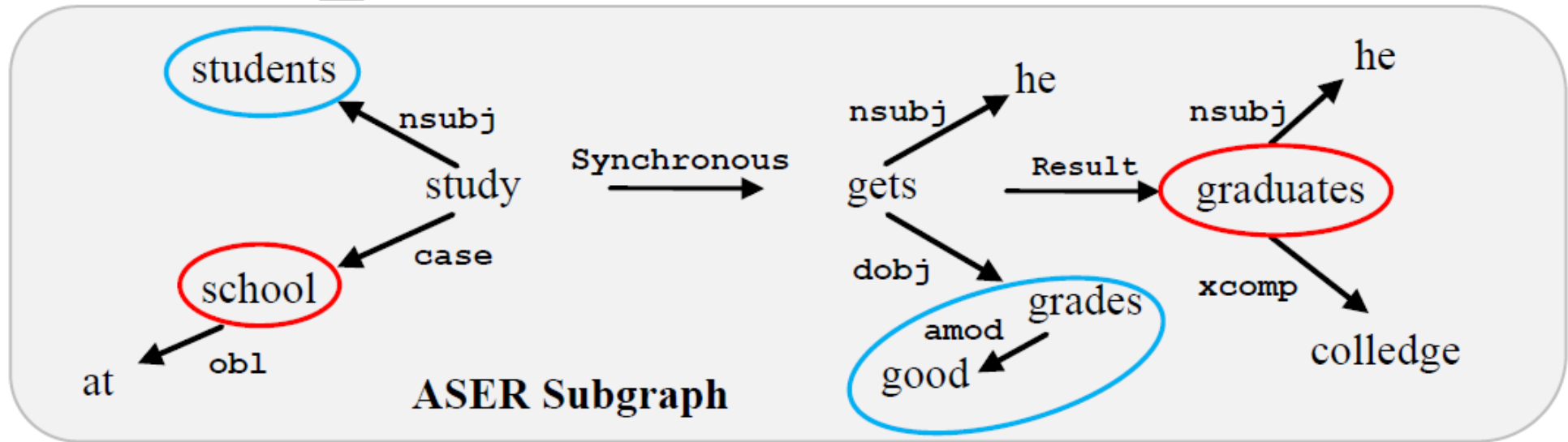
- 1.0 (in 2019): Rule based extraction (14 Eventuality Patterns)
  - 272 millions eventualities and 206 millions relations
- 2.0 (in 2021): Discourse Parser (18 Eventuality Patterns + Wang and Lan 2015)
  - 439 millions eventualities and 649 millions relations
- Conceptualization Core (Using top **5 concepts** for each detected instance):
  - Concepts: **15 millions** (based on **14 millions eventualities**, **1.X times**)
  - Concept Relations: **224 millions** (based on **53 millions eventuality** relations, **4.X times**)

# TransOMCS: Transform ASER to ConceptNet



Relation: AtLocation  
 Pattern: ( *H* ) <-nsubj<- ( ( *T* ) -obl- (at))  
 Knowledge: (Student, AtLocation, School)

Relation: Causes  
 Pattern: ( *H* ) <-dobj<- ( ) <-Result<- ( *T* )  
 Knowledge: (Good grades, Causes, Graduate)

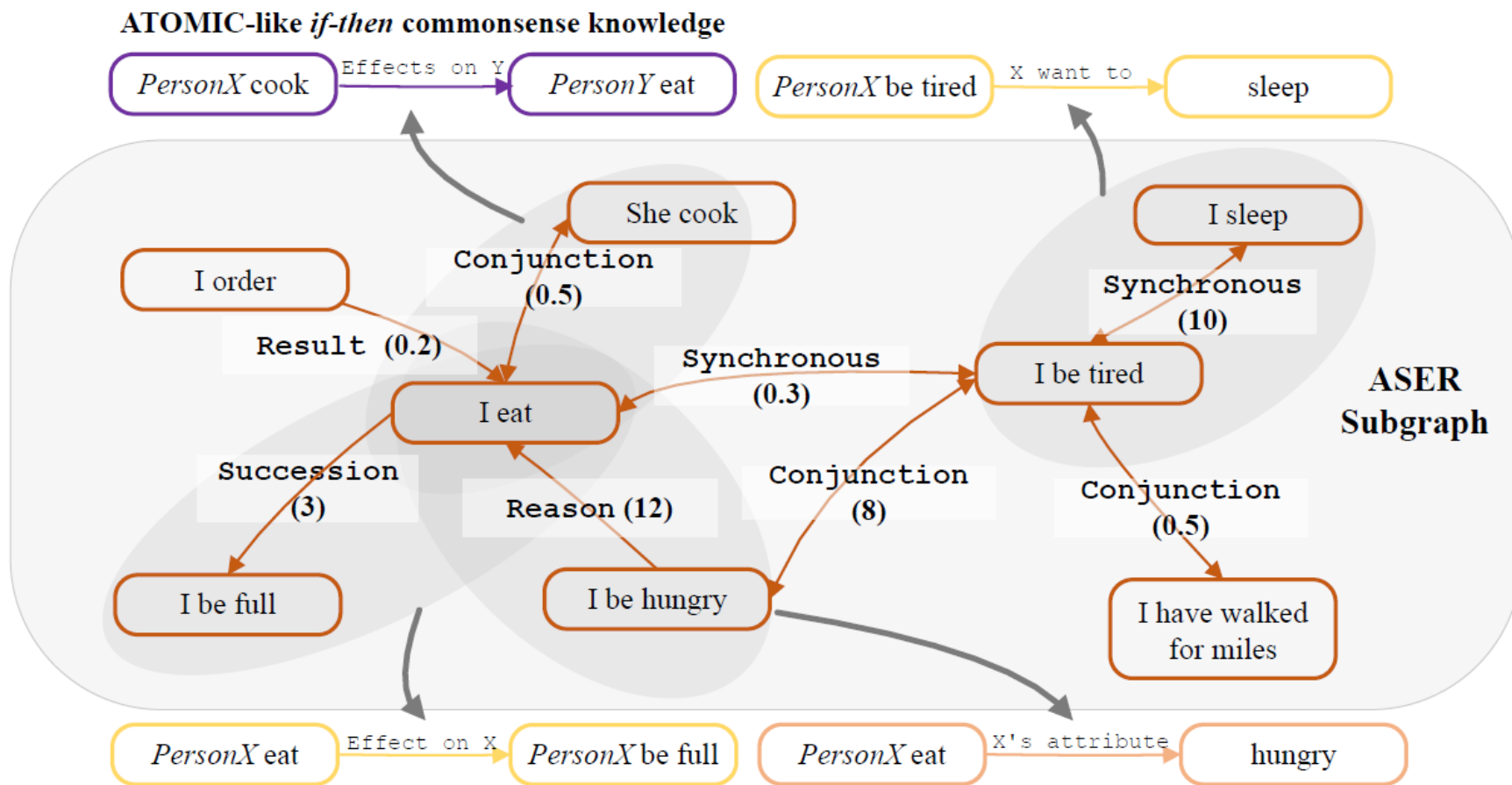


Knowledge Base Population (KBP)

IJCAI'20

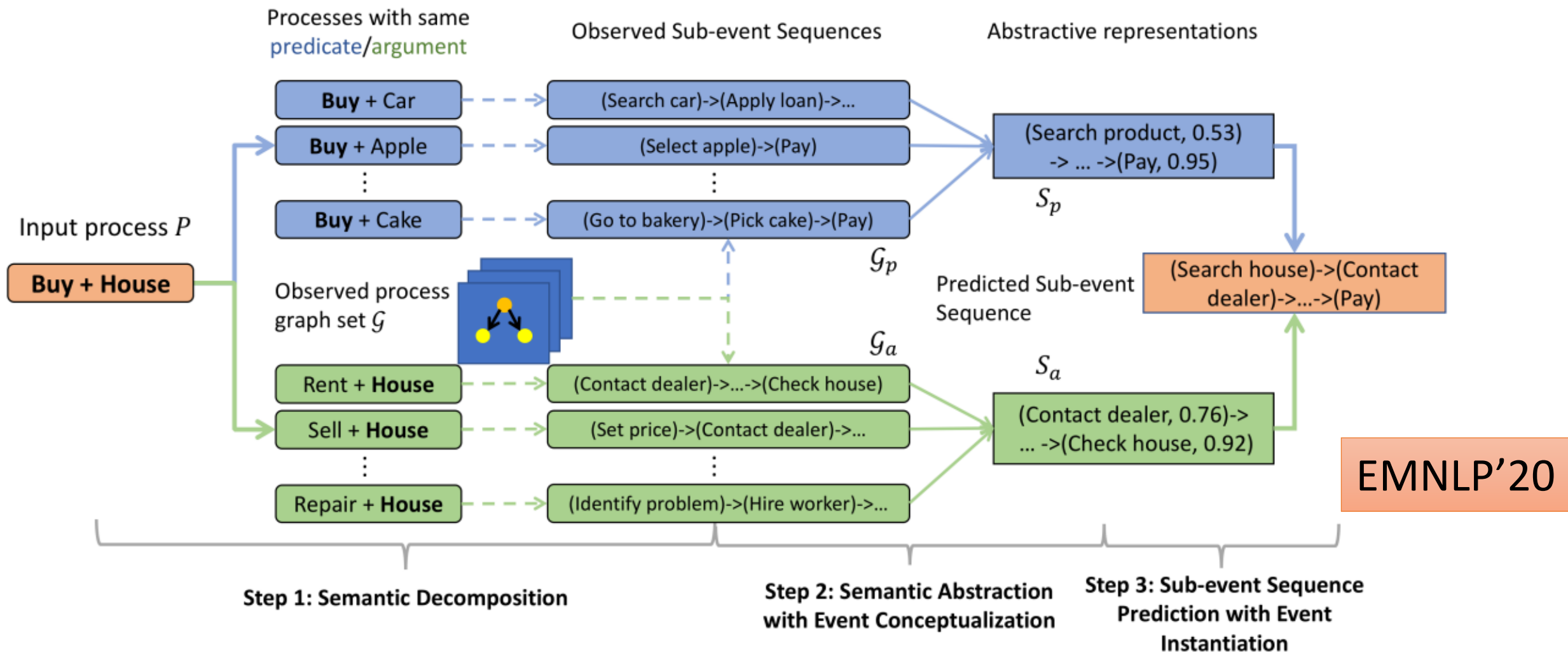
100x Larger (about 18M triplets) than OMCS in ConceptNet

# Transform ASER to ATOMIC



**3x Larger (about 3.4M triplets) than ATOMIC**

# Incorporating More Types: Process Induction

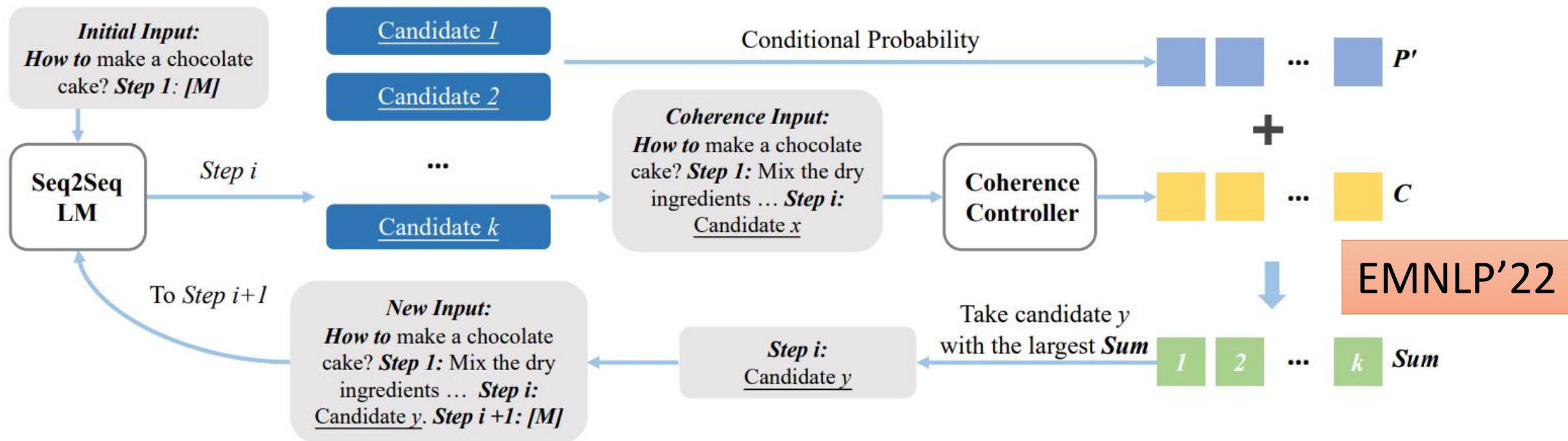




# Incorporating More Types: Process Generation

Coherence controller: a candidate is coherent with the process and prior generated sub-events

- **Local coherence**: randomly copy a sub-event in the current process and place it at a random location.
- **Global coherence**: randomly choose a sub-event from other processes with a different theme and insert it at a random location



# Beyond Belief/Knowledge Graph: FolkScope

- **Intention Knowledge Graph** for E-commerce Commonsense Discovery

**AIG-KG**

**Explainable recommendation**

UserU bought [A] because

**Query-item relevance**

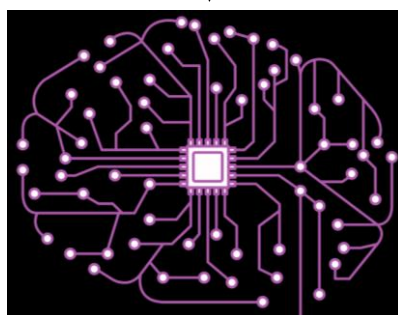
PersonX searches [Q] to

**User behavior rationalization**

PersonX bought [A] and [B] because

PersonX searched [A] and bought [B] because

Prompts



**AI Generator**



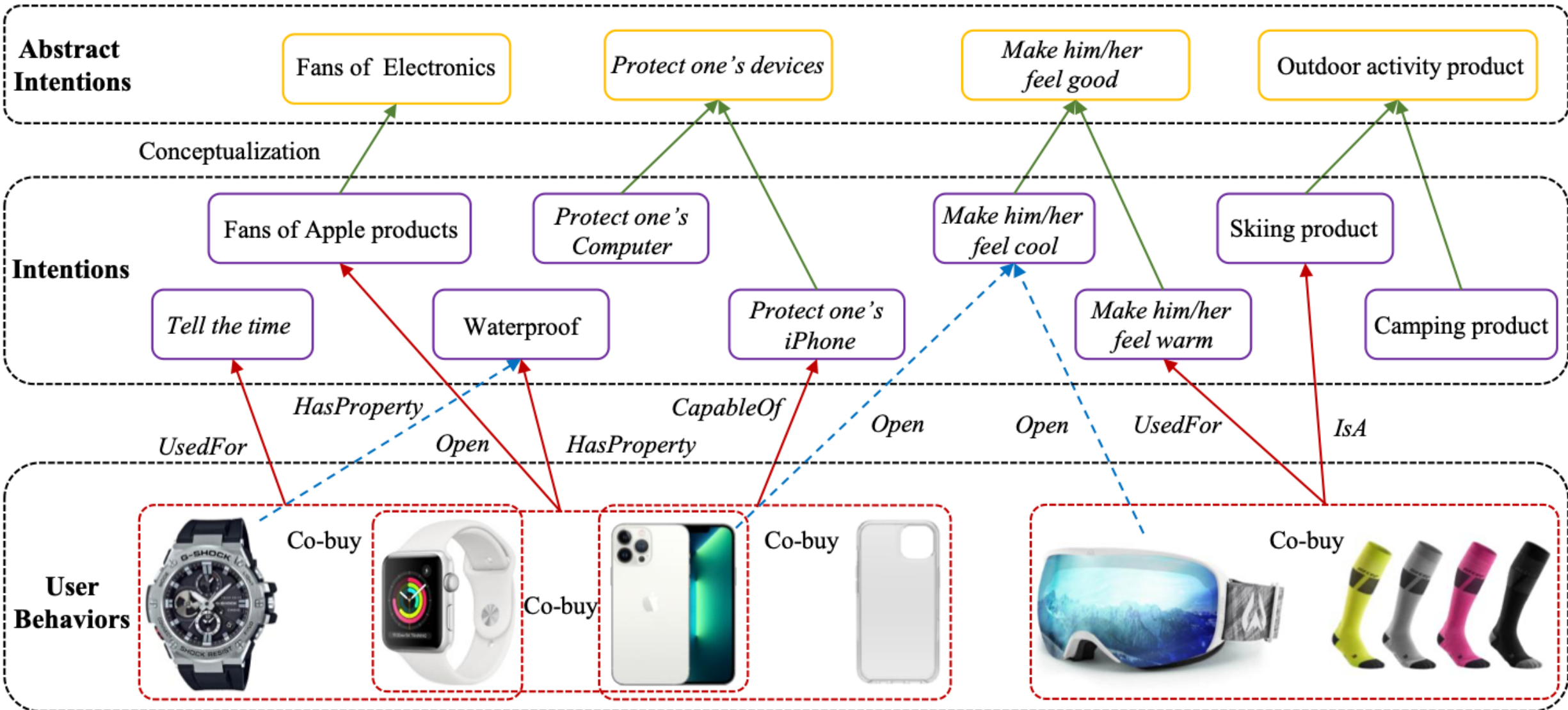
Pattern mining, Filtering,  
Normalization, Conceptualization



Intention KG

**ACL'23**

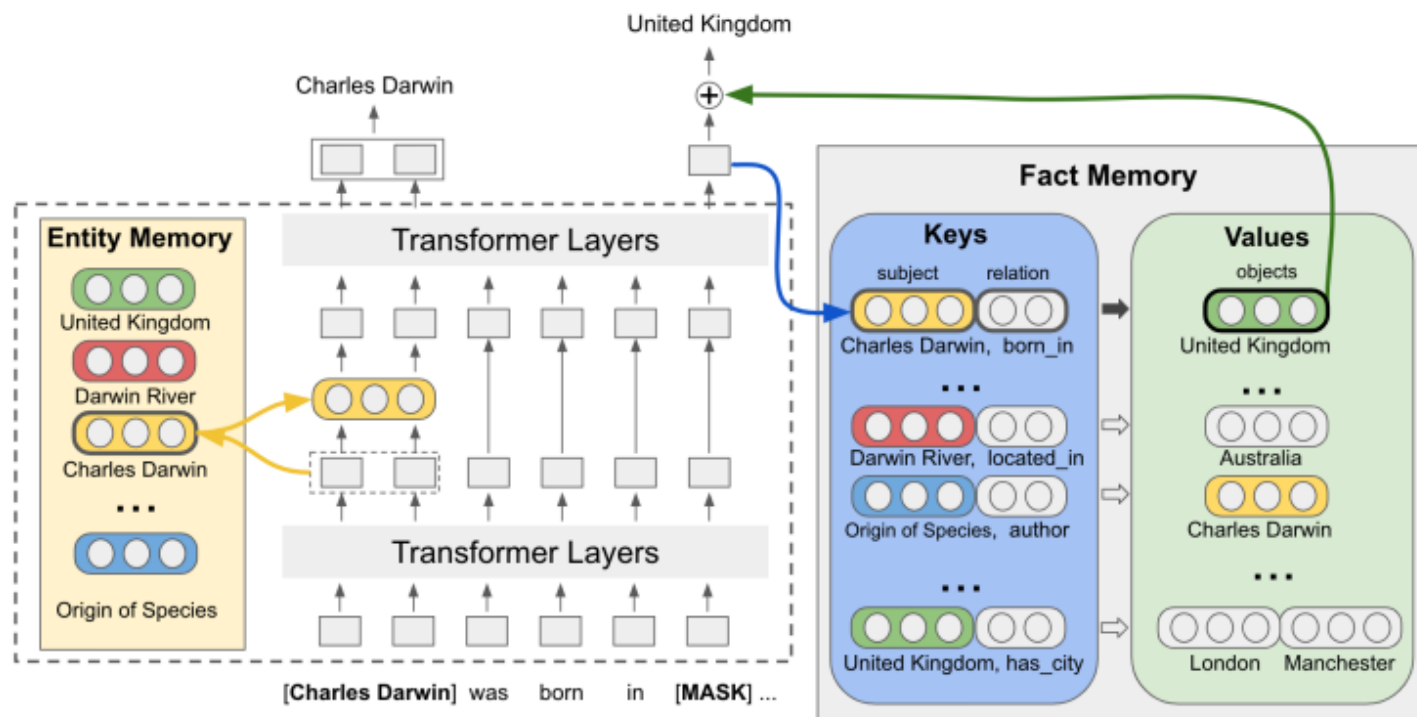
# Beyond Belief/Knowledge Graph: FolkScope



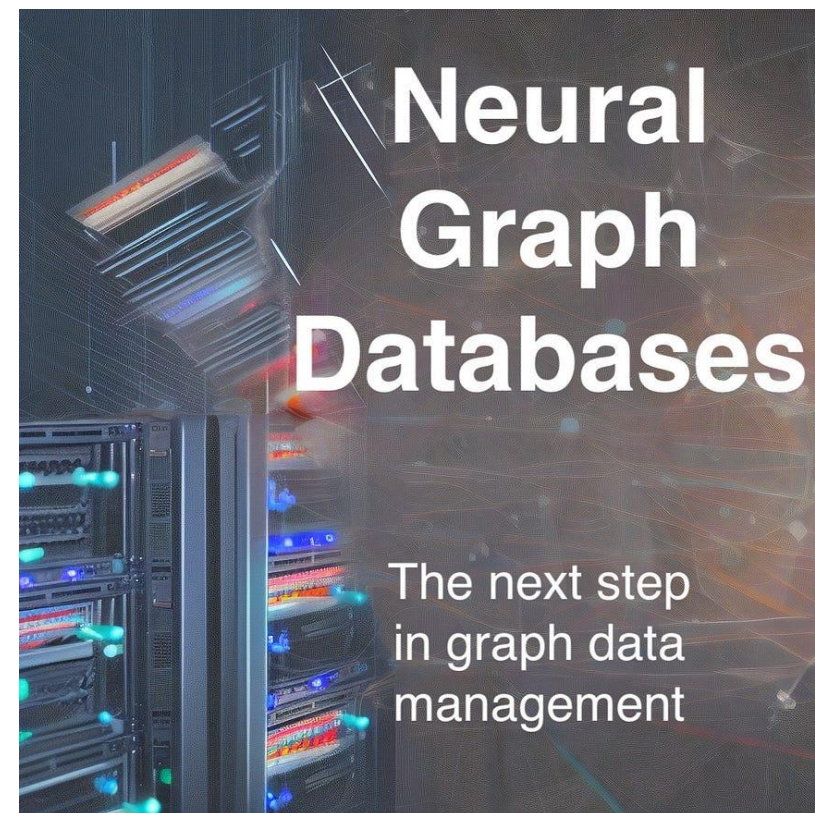


# How to help LLMs?

## Entities/Facts as Memories



## Neural Graph Databases



# Logical Queries over Knowledge Graphs

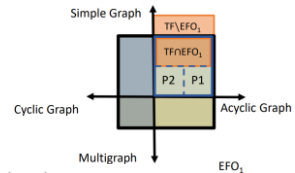
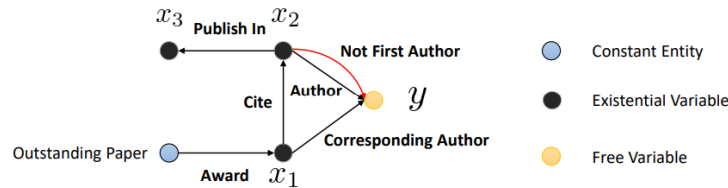


## Benchmarking EFO-1 (Existential First-Order Queries with Single Free Variable)

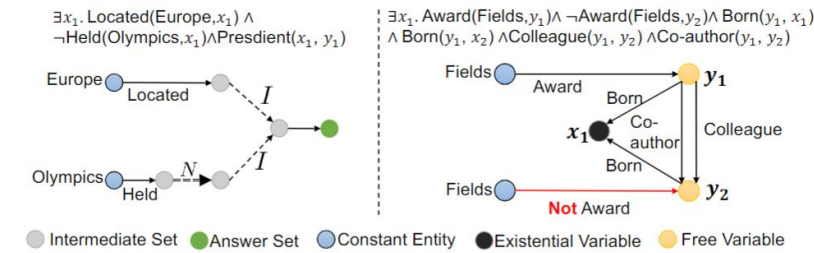
CQA Dataset	Support Operators									Support EPFO	Support EFO-1	Num. of Forms	Num. of Test Query Types
	e	p	i	I	u	U	n	d	D				
Q2B dataset [15]	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	1	9
HypE dataset [6]	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	1	9
BetaE dataset [16]	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	2	14
EFO-1-QA (ours)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	9	301

## EFO-1 queries with cycles

$\exists x_1 \exists x_2 \exists x_3. \text{Award}(\text{OutstandingPaper}, x_1) \wedge \text{CorrespondingAuthor}(x_1, y) \wedge \text{Cite}(x_1, x_2) \wedge \text{PublishIn}(x_2, x_3) \wedge \text{Author}(x_2, y) \wedge \neg \text{FirstAuthor}(x_2, y)$



## EFO-K more than one variables



Data

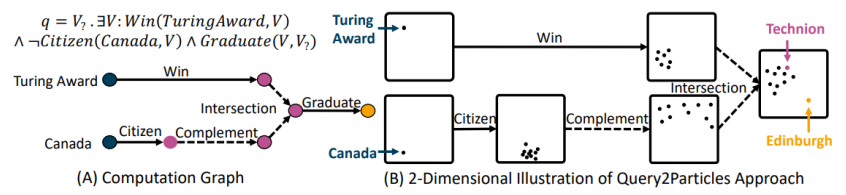
NeurIPS'21

Arxiv'23

Arxiv'23

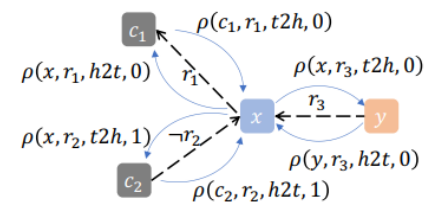
Models

## Particle filtering of logical sequential queries



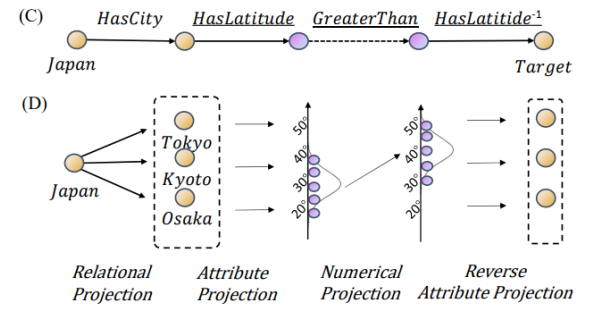
NAACL'22

## Learning in the inference step as a GNN (one-hop logical inference based MPNN)



ICLR'23

## Number and attribute queries



KDD'23

Hang Yin, Zihao Wang, and Yangqiu Song. EFO\_k-CQA: Towards Knowledge Graph Complex Query Answering beyond Set Operation. Arxiv 2023  
 Jiaxin Bai, Chen Luo, Zheng Li, Qingyu Yin, Bing Yin, Yangqiu Song. Knowledge Graph Reasoning over Entities and Numerical Values. KDD 2023  
 Hang Yin, Zihao Wang, and Yangqiu Song. Rethinking Existential First Order Queries and their Inference on Knowledge Graphs. Arxiv 2023  
 Zihao Wang, Yangqiu Song, Ginny Y. Wong, and Simon See. Logical Message Passing Networks with One-hop Inference on Atomic Formulas. In The Eleventh International Conference on Learning Representations, ICLR 2023  
 Jiaxin Bai, Zihao Wang, Hongming Zhang, and Yangqiu Song. Query2Particles: Knowledge Graph Reasoning with Particle Embeddings. In Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics: NAACL-HLT 2022, 2022  
 Zihao Wang, Hang Yin, and Yangqiu Song. Benchmarking the Combinatorial Generalizability of Complex Query Answering on Knowledge Graphs. In NeurIPS Datasets and Benchmarks Track, 2021

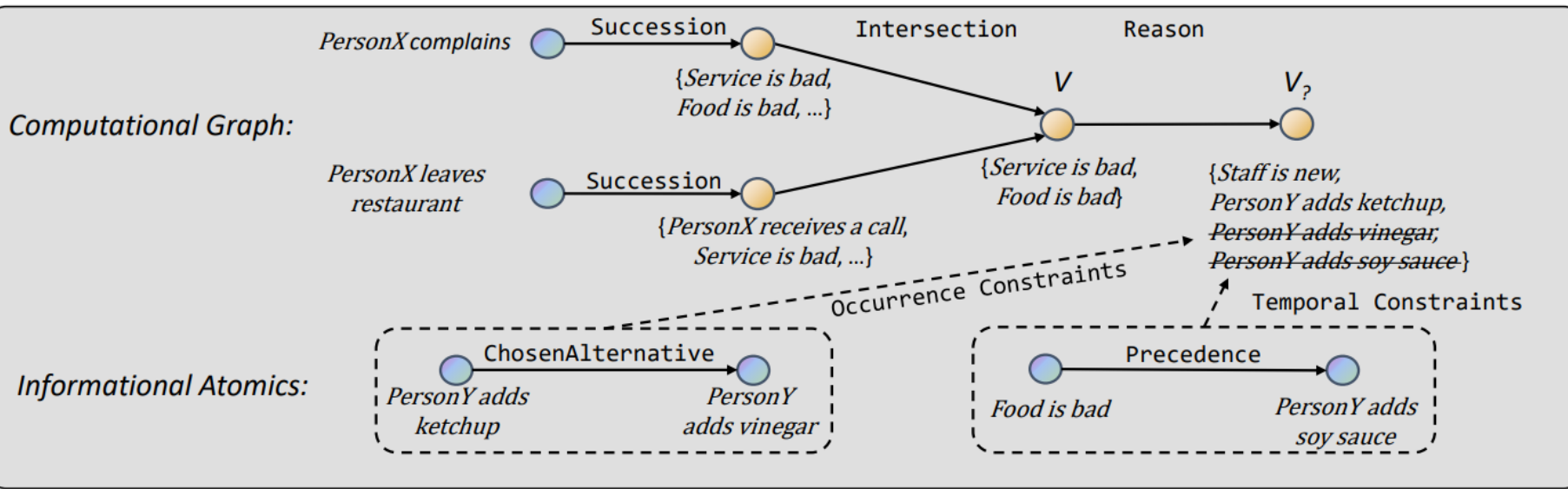
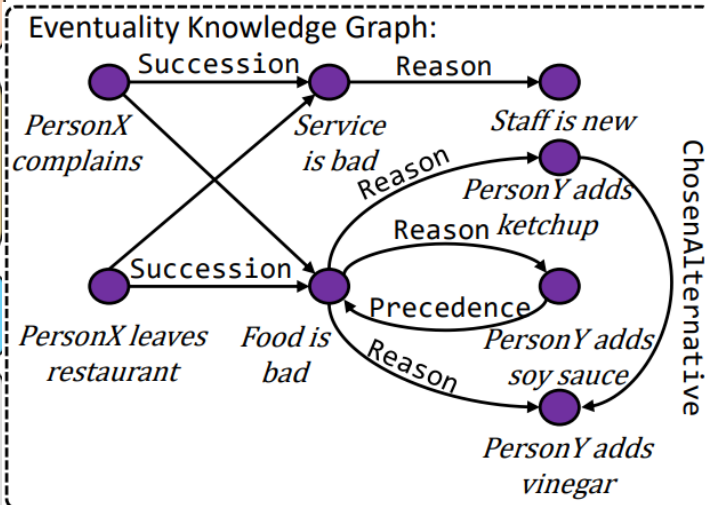


# Logical Queries on ASER with Logical Constraints

**Logical Query:**  $q = V_?, \exists V: \text{Succession}(\text{PersonX complains}, V) \wedge \text{Succession}(\text{PersonX leaves restaurant}, V) \wedge \text{Reason}(V, V_?) \wedge \text{Precedence}(\text{Food is bad}, \text{PersonY adds soy sauce}) \wedge \text{ChosenAlternative}(\text{PersonY adds ketchup}, \text{PersonY adds vinegar})$

**Implicit Constraints:**  
 $\tau(V) < \tau(\text{PersonX complains}) \wedge \eta(V) \wedge \eta(\text{PersonX complains})$   
 $\wedge \tau(V) < \tau(\text{PersonX leaves restaurant}) \wedge \eta(V) \wedge \eta(\text{PersonX leaves restaurant})$   
 $\wedge \eta(V) \wedge \eta(V_?) \wedge (\eta(V_?) \rightarrow \eta(V)) \wedge \tau(V) > \tau(V_?)$   
 $\wedge \eta(\text{Food is bad}) \wedge \eta(\text{PersonY adds soy sauce}) \wedge \tau(\text{Food is bad}) < \tau(\text{PersonY adds soy sauce})$   
 $\wedge \eta(\text{PersonY adds ketchup}) \wedge \neg \eta(\text{PersonY adds vinegar})$

**Query Types:**  $(p, (i, (p, (e)), (p, (e))))$



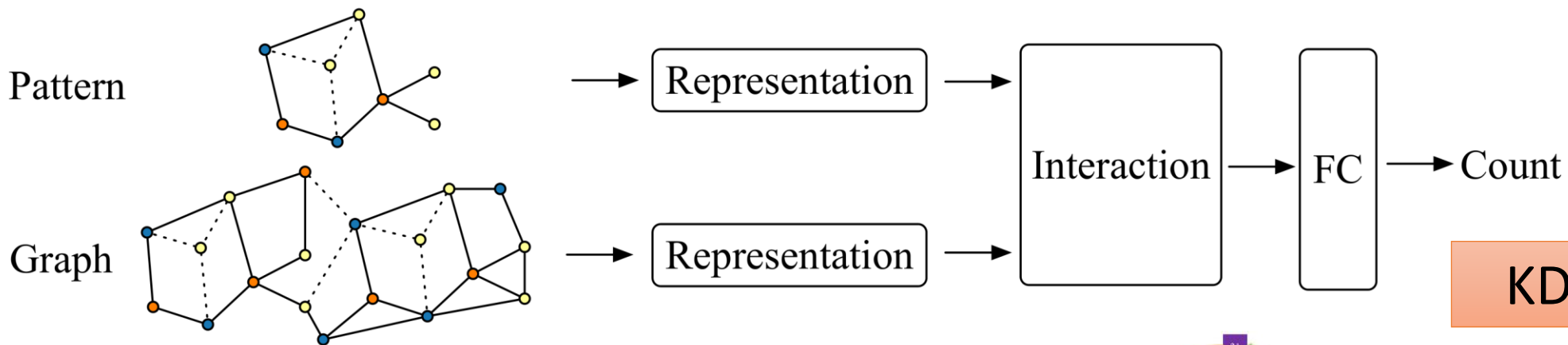
Precedence(V1, V2)  
V1 occurs before V2

ChosenAlternative(V1, V2)  
Instead of V2 occurs, V1 occurs

Arxiv'23

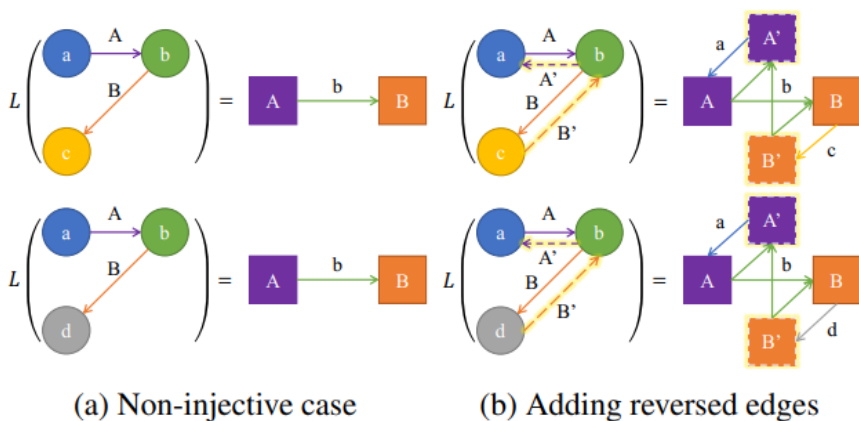
# Knowledge Logical Counting or Subgraph Counting

- Such KG query needs global memory and inference
- Subgraph counting is NP-Complete; Very Difficult for LLMs (Transformer) to conduct

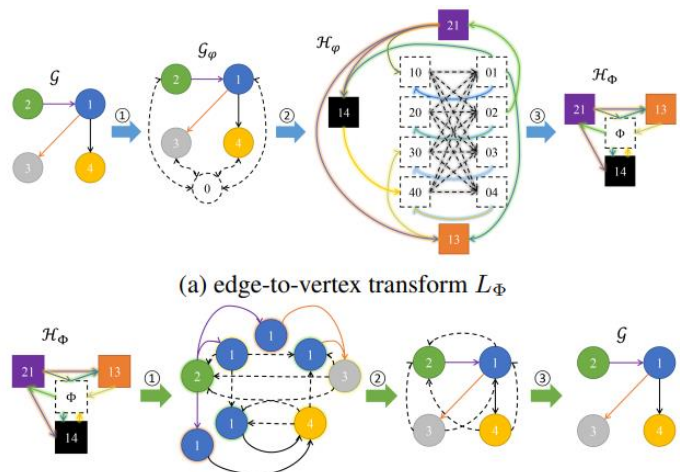


KDD'20

Dual graph counting



AAAI'22



Global dummy node

ICML'22

# To Conclude

- We build new types of graphs
  - Related to **activity (or process), state, and event**
  - Beyond **knowledge and believes**
- We develop data sources and packages to support
  - Knowledge grounding
  - Complex knowledge queries
  - Logical reasoning
  - Improved zero-shot learning or indirect supervision for LLMs
  - Trustworthy LLMs

# Thanks to Key Contributors



Hongming Zhang



Xin Liu



Haojie Pan



Tianqing Fang



Mutian He



Weiqi Wang



Jiaxin Bai



Zhaowei Wang



Changlong Yu



Zihao Wang



Hang Yin@THU

And many other PhD/MPhil students, UG interns, visiting students, and industrial collaborators!

Thank you for your attention! 😊