

Pragmatic reasoning in large-scale NLP systems

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Stanford Linguistics

Stanford NLP Grounding Reading Group, May 13, 2020

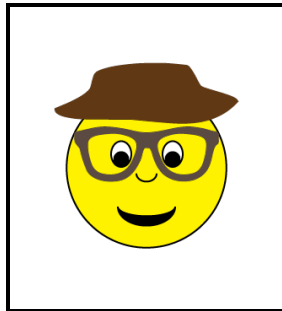


Informativity in context

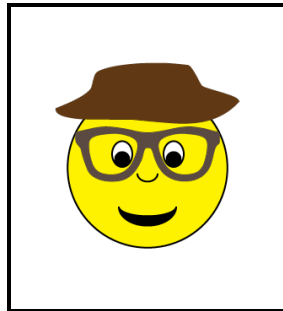
Generating referring expressions



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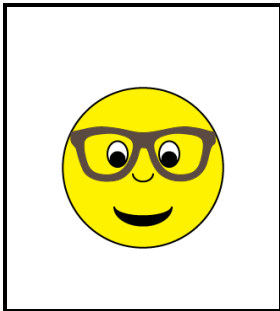


“The guy with a hat”

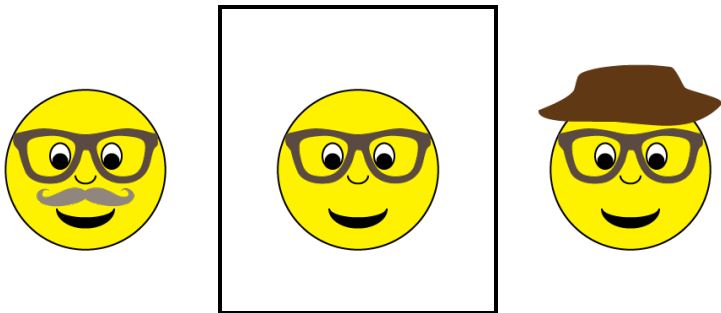
A conversational implicature



A conversational implicature

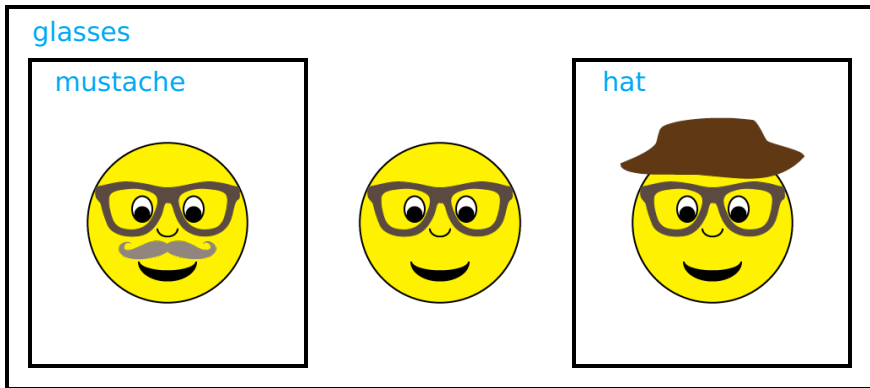


A conversational implicature



“The guy with glasses”

A conversational implicature



“The guy with glasses”

Interpreting complex descriptions

Stanford Colors in Context corpus
(Monroe et al. 2017)

Interpreting complex descriptions

Context

Utterance



blue

Stanford Colors in Context corpus
(Monroe et al. 2017)

Interpreting complex descriptions

Context

Utterance












blue



The darker blue one













Stanford Colors in Context corpus
(Monroe et al. 2017)

Interpreting complex descriptions

	Context		Utterance
			blue
			The darker blue one
			dull pink not the super bright one






Stanford Colors in Context corpus
(Monroe et al. 2017)

Interpreting complex descriptions

	Context		Utterance
			blue
			The darker blue one
			dull pink not the super bright one
			Purple

Stanford Colors in Context corpus
(Monroe et al. 2017)

Interpreting complex descriptions

	Context		Utterance
			blue
			The darker blue one
			dull pink not the super bright one
			Purple
			blue

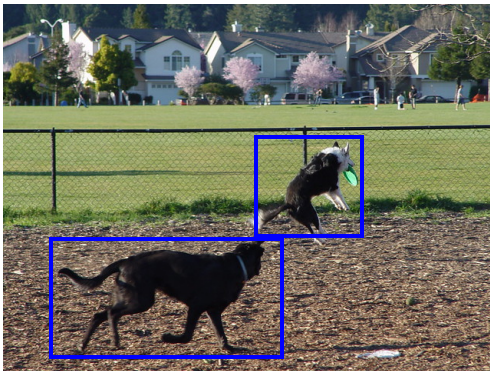
Stanford Colors in Context corpus
(Monroe et al. 2017)

Discriminative image labeling



Mao et al. 2016

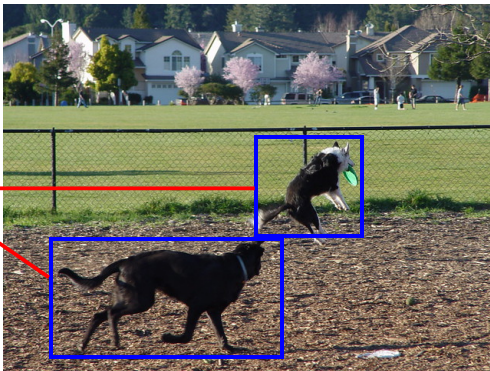
Discriminative image labeling



Mao et al. 2016

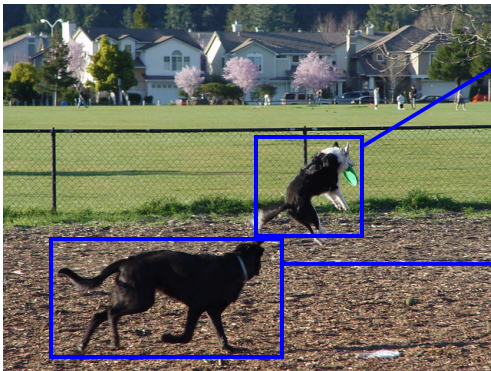
Discriminative image labeling

Dog



Mao et al. 2016

Discriminative image labeling



A little dog jumping and catching a frisbee

A big dog running

Mao et al. 2016

Google Refexp Dataset



Mao et al. 2016

Google Refexp Dataset



Mao et al. 2016

Google Refexp Dataset



S: "A backpack"

Mao et al. 2016

Google Refexp Dataset



S: "A backpack"

Listener

Mao et al. 2016

Google Refexp Dataset



~~S: "A backpack"~~

Listener

Mao et al. 2016

Google Refexp Dataset



Mao et al. 2016

Google Refexp Dataset



S: "A yellow and black backpack"

Mao et al. 2016

Google Refexp Dataset



S: "A yellow and black backpack"

Listener

Mao et al. 2016

Google Refexp Dataset

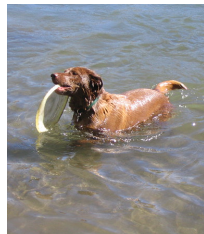
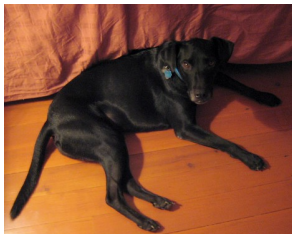


S: "A yellow and black backpack"

Listener

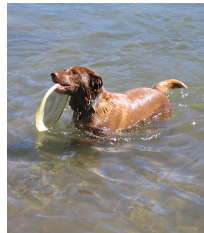
Mao et al. 2016

Discriminative image captioning



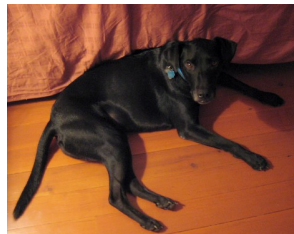
Vedantam et al. 2017; Cohn-Gordon et al. 2018

Discriminative image captioning



Vedantam et al. 2017; Cohn-Gordon et al. 2018

Discriminative image captioning



Vedantam et al. 2017; Cohn-Gordon et al. 2018

Issue sensitivity

In an article about recent campaign events:



Issue sensitivity

In an article about recent campaign events:



- “Politician Joe Biden speaking on stage”

Issue sensitivity

In an article about recent campaign events:



- “Politician Joe Biden speaking on stage”
- “Elderly, gray-haired politician Joe Biden speaking on stage”

Summarization

Tennis champion Serena Williams wobbled into the Third Round of the Australian Open on Thursday.



Serena Williams advances to Australian Open Third Round.

Ongoing work with Hanson Lu and Reuben Cohn-Gordon

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Serena Williams advances to Australian Open Third Round.

Sports Champion advances in tournament.

Ongoing work with Hanson Lu and Reuben Cohn-Gordon

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Olympic Gold Medalist Venus Williams advanced to the US Open Semi-Finals on Friday.

Sports Champion advances in tournament.

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Ongoing work with Hanson Lu and Reuben Cohn-Gordon

Summarization

Tennis champion Serena Williams wobbled into the Third Round of the Australian Open on Thursday.



Serena Williams advances to Australian Open Third Round.

Olympic Gold Medalist Venus Williams advanced to the US Open Semi-Finals on Friday.

Sports Champion advances in tournament.

Golfer Lydia Ko eliminated from British Open after finishing 12 over par.

Williams wobbled on Thursday.

Ongoing work with Hanson Lu and Reuben Cohn-Gordon

Machine translation

She chopped up the tree.



Elle coupa l'arbre.

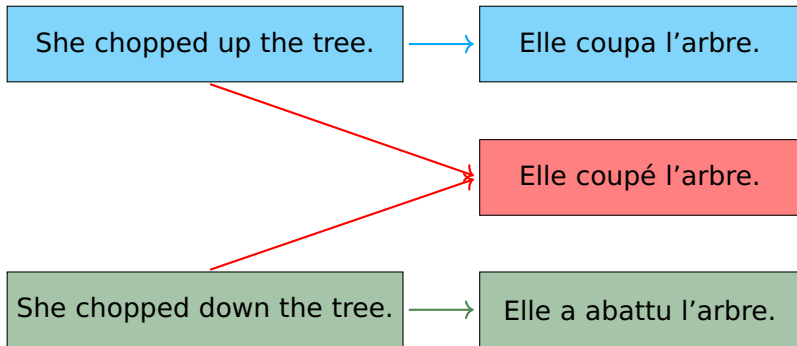
She chopped down the tree.



Elle a abattu l'arbre.

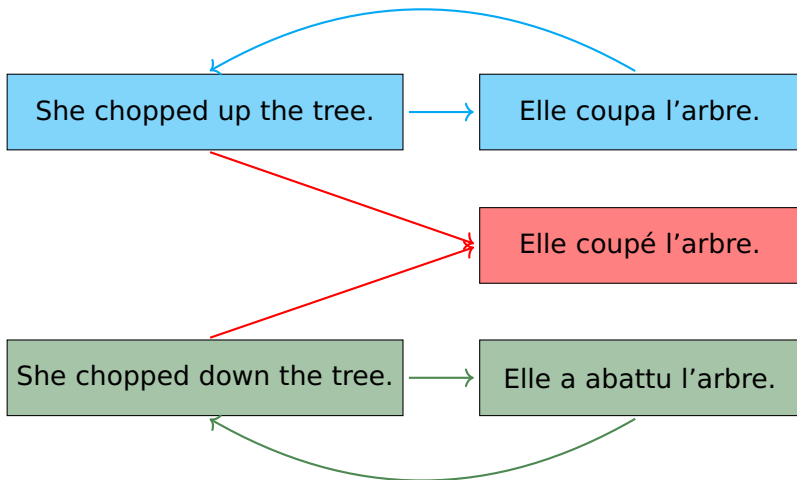
Cohn-Gordon and Goodman 2019

Machine translation



Cohn-Gordon and Goodman 2019

Machine translation



Cohn-Gordon and Goodman 2019

Generating and following instructions

Behavior



(a)

Base Speaker

walk forward four times

Rational Speaker

go forward four segments to the intersection with the bare concrete hall

Instruction

walk along the blue carpet and you pass two objects

(b)

Base Listener

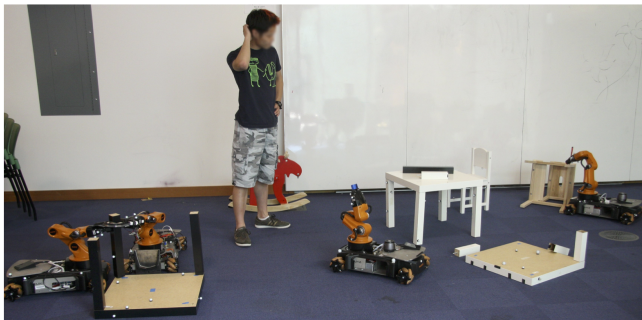


Rational Listener



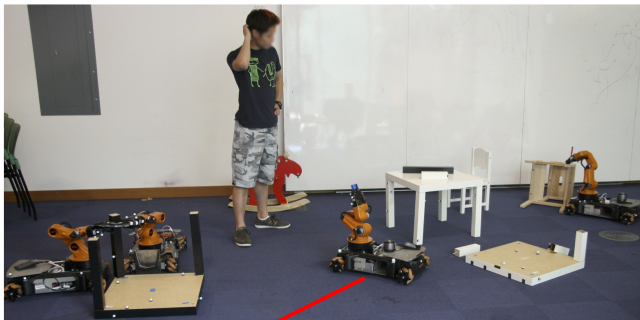
Fried et al. 2018

Collaborative problem solving



Tellex et al. 2014

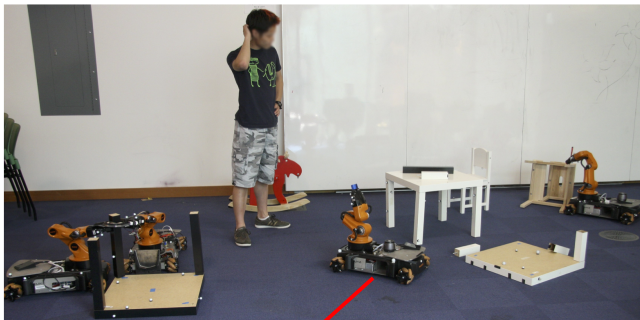
Collaborative problem solving



Help me!

Tellex et al. 2014

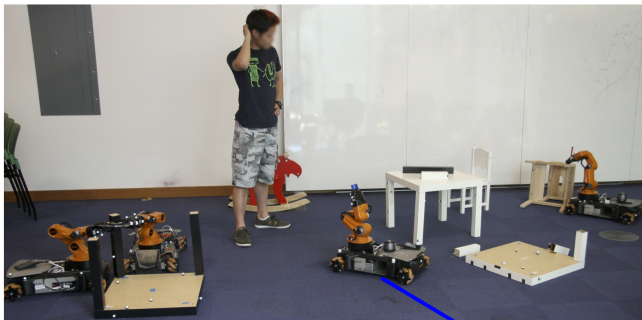
Collaborative problem solving



Hand me
the leg

Tellex et al. 2014

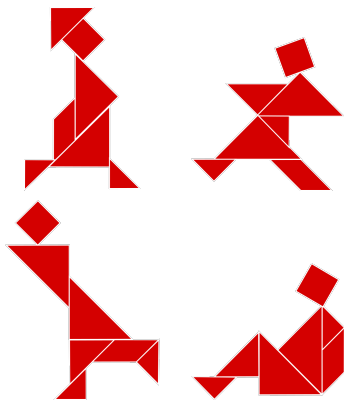
Collaborative problem solving



Hand me the white
leg on the table

Tellex et al. 2014

Continual adaptation



Round 1: All right, the next one looks like a person who's ice skating, except they're sticking their arms out in front.

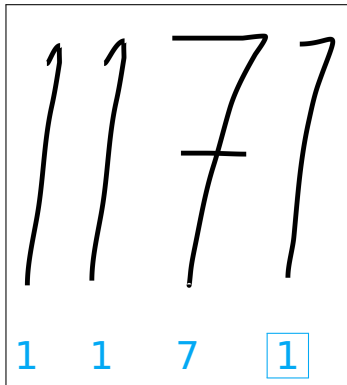
Round 2: Um, the next one's the person ice skating that has arms out.

[...]

Round 6: The ice skater.

Clark and Wilkes-Gibbs 1986; DeVault et al. 2005; Paetzel et al. 2014; Hawkins et al. 2017

Optical character recognition



The Rational Speech Acts model (RSA)

Origin story

- [Rosenberg and Cohen \(1964\)](#): early Bayesian model of production and comprehension
- [Lewis \(1969\)](#): signaling systems
- [Rabin \(1990\)](#): recursive strategic signaling
- [Camerer et al. \(2004\)](#): cognitive hierarchy models for games of conflict and coordination
- [Franke \(2009\) and Jäger \(2007\)](#): iterated best response
- [Golland et al. \(2010\)](#): pragmatic listeners and probabilistic compositionality
- [Frank and Goodman \(2012\)](#): very sophisticated pragmatic agents and a new Bayesian foundation

Pragmatic listeners

Pragmatic listeners

Literal listener

$$L_{\text{lit}}(\textit{state} \mid \textit{msg}) = \frac{\llbracket \textit{msg}, \textit{state} \rrbracket P(\textit{state})}{\sum_{\textit{state}'} \llbracket \textit{msg}, \textit{state}' \rrbracket P(\textit{state}')}$$

Pragmatic listeners

Pragmatic speaker

$$S_{\text{prag}}(\text{msg} \mid \text{state}) = \frac{\exp(\alpha(\log L_{\text{lit}}(\text{state} \mid \text{msg}) - C(\text{msg})))}{\sum_{\text{msg}'} \exp(\alpha(\log L_{\text{lit}}(\text{state} \mid \text{msg}') - C(\text{msg}'))))$$

Literal listener

$$L_{\text{lit}}(\text{state} \mid \text{msg}) = \frac{\llbracket \text{msg}, \text{state} \rrbracket P(\text{state})}{\sum_{\text{state}'} \llbracket \text{msg}, \text{state}' \rrbracket P(\text{state}')}$$

Pragmatic listeners

Pragmatic listener

$$L_{\text{prag}}(\text{state} | \text{msg}) = \frac{S_{\text{prag}}(\text{msg} | \text{state})P(\text{state})}{\sum_{\text{state}'} S_{\text{prag}}(\text{msg} | \text{state}')P(\text{state}')}$$

Pragmatic speaker

$$S_{\text{prag}}(\text{msg} | \text{state}) = \frac{\exp(\alpha(\log L_{\text{lit}}(\text{state} | \text{msg}) - C(\text{msg})))}{\sum_{\text{msg}'} \exp(\alpha(\log L_{\text{lit}}(\text{state} | \text{msg}') - C(\text{msg}'))))}$$

Literal listener

$$L_{\text{lit}}(\text{state} | \text{msg}) = \frac{\llbracket \text{msg}, \text{state} \rrbracket P(\text{state})}{\sum_{\text{state}'} \llbracket \text{msg}, \text{state}' \rrbracket P(\text{state}')}$$

Pragmatic listeners

Pragmatic listener

$$L_{\text{prag}}(\textit{state} \mid \textit{msg}) = \textbf{pragmatic speaker} \times \textit{state prior}$$

Pragmatic speaker

$$S_{\text{prag}}(\textit{msg} \mid \textit{state}) = \textbf{literal listener} - \textit{message costs}$$

Literal listener

$$L_{\text{lit}}(\textit{state} \mid \textit{msg}) = \textbf{lexicon} \times \textit{state prior}$$

A simple example



<i>beard</i>	1	0	0
<i>glasses</i>	1	1	0
<i>tie</i>	0	1	1

L_{prag}

S_{prag}

L_{lit}

[·]

A simple example



beard

1

0

0

glasses

.50

.50

0

tie

0

.50

.50




L_{prag}

S_{prag}

L_{lit}

$[\cdot]$

A simple example

	<i>beard</i>	<i>glasses</i>	<i>tie</i>
	.67	.33	0
	0	.50	.50
	0	0	1

 L_{prag}
 S_{prag}
 L_{lit}
 $[\cdot]$

A simple example



<i>beard</i>	1	0	0
<i>glasses</i>	.40	.60	0
<i>tie</i>	0	0.33	.67

L_{prag}

S_{prag}

L_{lit}

$[\cdot]$

Pragmatic speakers

Pragmatic speaker

$$S_{\text{prag}}(\text{msg} | \text{state}) = \frac{\exp(\alpha(\log L_{\text{prag}}(\text{state} | \text{msg}) - C(\text{msg})))}{\sum_{\text{msg}'} \exp(\alpha(\log L_{\text{prag}}(\text{state} | \text{msg}') - C(\text{msg}'))))}$$

Pragmatic listener

$$L_{\text{prag}}(\text{state} | \text{msg}) = \frac{S_{\text{lit}}(\text{msg} | \text{state})P(\text{state})}{\sum_{\text{state}'} S_{\text{lit}}(\text{msg} | \text{state}')P(\text{state}')}$$

Literal speaker

$$S_{\text{lit}}(\text{msg} | \text{state}) = \frac{\exp(\alpha(\log \llbracket \text{msg}, \text{state} \rrbracket - C(\text{msg})))}{\sum_{\text{msg}'} \exp(\alpha(\log \llbracket \text{msg}', \text{state} \rrbracket - C(\text{msg}'))))}$$

Pragmatic speakers

Pragmatic speaker

$$S_{\text{prag}}(\text{msg} \mid \text{state}) = \text{pragmatic listener} - \text{message costs}$$

Pragmatic listener

$$L_{\text{prag}}(\text{state} \mid \text{msg}) = \text{literal speaker} \times \text{state prior}$$

Literal speaker

$$S_{\text{lit}}(\text{msg} \mid \text{state}) = \text{lexicon} - \text{message costs}$$

Major achievements in linguistics

- [M-implicatures](#) (Bergen et al. 2016)
- [Implicature blocking](#) (Potts and Levy 2015)
- [Implicatures and compositionality](#) (Potts et al. 2016)
- [Hyperbole](#) (Kao et al. 2014b)
- [Metaphor](#) (Kao et al. 2014a)
- [Irony](#) (Cohn-Gordon and Bergen 2019)
- [Politeness](#) (Yoon et al. 2016, 2017)
- [Social meaning](#) (Burnett 2017; Qing and Cohn-Gordon 2019)
- [Adaptation](#) (Schuster and Degen 2019)

Joint inference

$$L_{\text{prag}}(\textit{state}, \textit{Context} \mid \textit{msg})$$

$$S_{\text{prag}}(\textit{msg} \mid \textit{state}, \textit{Context})$$

RSA/ML hybrids

Motivation

- Discriminative image labeling
- Image captioning
- Summarization
- Machine translation
- Collaborative problem solving
- Interpreting complex descriptions
- Optical Character Recognition
- Scalability
- Sensitivity to variation
- Bounded rationality
- New kinds of model assessment
- Impact

A formative challenge

$$S_{\text{prag}}(\text{msg} \mid \text{state}) = \frac{\exp(\alpha(\log L_{\text{lit}}(\text{state} \mid \text{msg}) - C(\text{msg})))}{\sum_{\text{msg}'} \exp(\alpha(\log L_{\text{lit}}(\text{state} \mid \text{msg}') - C(\text{msg}'))))$$

Notational conventions

Logical semantic agents

$$S_{\text{prag}}(\text{msg} \mid \text{state}; \text{Context}, [\cdot])$$

$$S_{\text{prag}}^{[\cdot]}(\text{msg} \mid \text{state})$$

Learned agents

$$S_{\text{prag}}(\text{msg} \mid \text{state}; \text{Context}, \theta)$$
















$$S_{\text{prag}}^{\theta}(\text{msg} \mid \text{state})$$

Modular neural RSA

Papers employing these general techniques

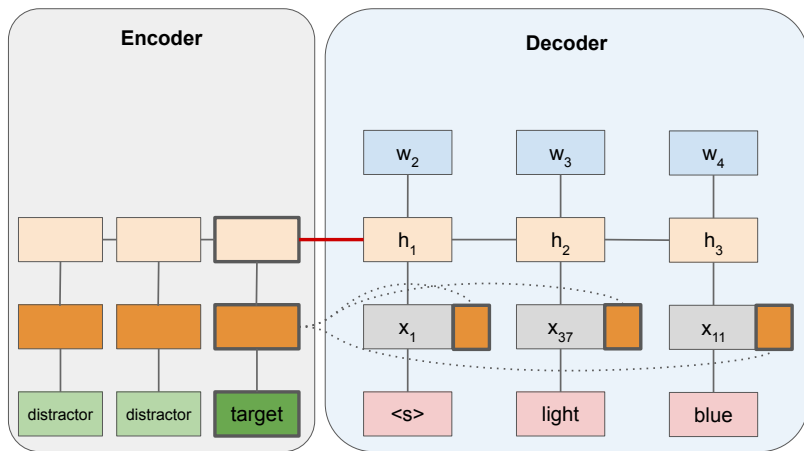
- Cohn-Gordon and Goodman. 2019. Lost in machine translation: a method to reduce meaning loss. *NAACL*.
- Cohn-Gordon, Goodman, Potts. 2018. Pragmatically informative image captioning with character-level inference. *SCiL*.
- Cohn-Gordon, Goodman, Potts. 2019. An incremental iterated response model of pragmatics. *SCiL*.
- Andreas and Klein. 2016. Reasoning about pragmatics with neural listeners and speakers. *EMNLP*.
- Fried, Andreas, Klein. 2018. Unified pragmatic models for generating and following instructions. *NAACL*.
- Monroe, Hawkins, Goodman, Potts. Colors in context: A pragmatic neural model for grounded language understanding. *TACL*.
- Monroe, Hu, Jong, Potts. 2018. Generating bilingual pragmatic color references. *NAACL*.

Stanford English Colors in Context corpus

	Context		Utterance
			blue
			The darker blue one
			dull pink not the super bright one
			Purple
			blue

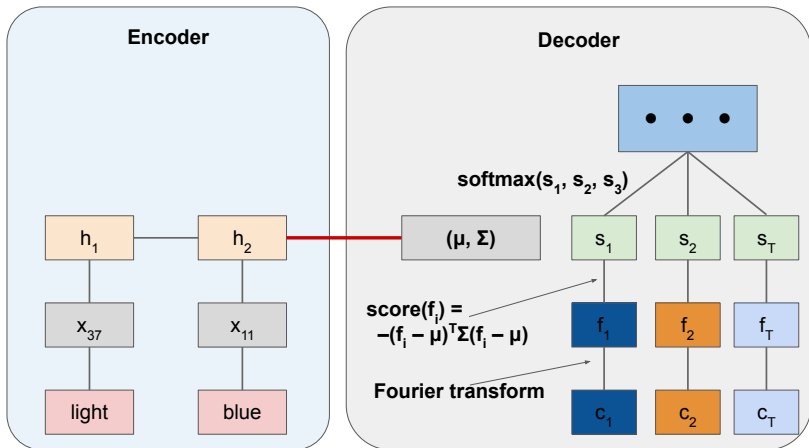
Stanford Colors in Context corpus (Monroe et al. 2017).
Chinese version available as well (Monroe et al. 2018)!

Literal neural speaker S_{lit}^{θ}



Monroe et al. 2017

Neural literal listener L_0^θ



Monroe et al. 2017

The formative challenge again

$$S_{\text{prag}}(\text{msg} \mid \text{state}) = \frac{\exp(\alpha(\log L_{\text{lit}}(\text{state} \mid \text{msg}) - C(\text{msg})))}{\sum_{\text{msg}'} \exp(\alpha(\log L_{\text{lit}}(\text{state} \mid \text{msg}') - C(\text{msg}'))))$$

Neural pragmatic agents

Neural pragmatic agents

Speaker (Andreas and Klein 2016)

$$\mathbf{s}_{\text{prag}}^{\theta}(msg | state) = \frac{\mathbf{L}_0^{\theta}(state | msg)}{\sum_{msg' \in X} \mathbf{L}_0^{\theta}(state | msg')}$$

with X a sample from $\mathbf{s}_{\text{lit}}^{\theta}(msg | state)$ such that $msg \in X$.

Neural pragmatic agents

Speaker (Andreas and Klein 2016)

$$\mathbf{s}_{\text{prag}}^{\theta}(msg | state) = \frac{\mathbf{L}_0^{\theta}(state | msg)}{\sum_{msg' \in X} \mathbf{L}_0^{\theta}(state | msg')}$$

with X a sample from $\mathbf{s}_{\text{lit}}^{\theta}(msg | state)$ such that $msg \in X$.

Listener

$$\mathbf{L}_1^{\theta}(state | msg) \propto \mathbf{s}_{\text{prag}}^{\theta}(msg | state)$$

Neural pragmatic agents

Speaker (Andreas and Klein 2016)

$$\mathbf{s}_{\text{prag}}^{\theta}(msg | state) = \frac{\mathbf{L}_0^{\theta}(state | msg)}{\sum_{msg' \in X} \mathbf{L}_0^{\theta}(state | msg')}$$

with X a sample from $\mathbf{s}_{\text{lit}}^{\theta}(msg | state)$ such that $msg \in X$.

Listener

$$\mathbf{L}_1^{\theta}(state | msg) \propto \mathbf{s}_{\text{prag}}^{\theta}(msg | state)$$

Blended neural pragmatic listener

Weighted combination of \mathbf{L}_0^{θ} and \mathbf{L}_1^{θ} .

An incremental alternative

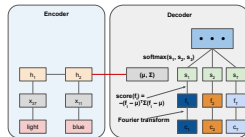
$$L_0^{\text{WORD}}(\text{state} \mid [\text{word}_1 \dots \text{word}_n], \text{word})$$

Cohn-Gordon et al. 2018, 2019; Cohn-Gordon and Goodman 2019

An incremental alternative



$$L_0^{\text{WORD}}(\text{state} \mid [\text{word}_1 \dots \text{word}_n], \text{word})$$

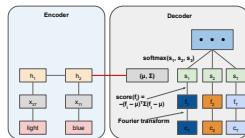


Cohn-Gordon et al. 2018, 2019; Cohn-Gordon and Goodman 2019

An incremental alternative

$$\llbracket \bullet \rrbracket$$

$$L_0^{\text{WORD}}(\text{state} \mid [\text{word}_1 \dots \text{word}_n], \text{word})$$

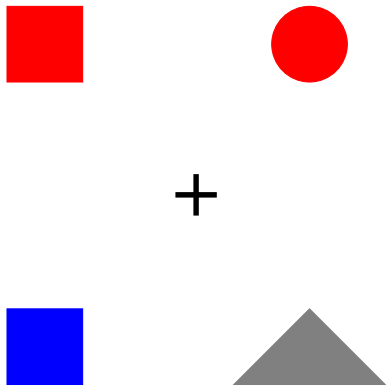


$$S_1^{\text{WORD}}(\text{word} \mid [\text{word}_1 \dots \text{word}_n], \text{state}) =$$

$$\frac{L_0^{\text{WORD}}(\text{state} \mid [\text{word}_1 \dots \text{word}_n], \text{word})}{\sum_{\text{word}' \in \mathbf{V}} L_0^{\text{WORD}}(\text{state} \mid [\text{word}_1 \dots \text{word}_n], \text{word}')}$$

Cohn-Gordon et al. 2018, 2019; Cohn-Gordon and Goodman 2019

Linguistic evidence for incremental pragmatics



Sedivy et al. 1999; Sedivy 2007; Grodner and Sedivy 2008

Linguistic evidence for incremental pragmatics

Touch

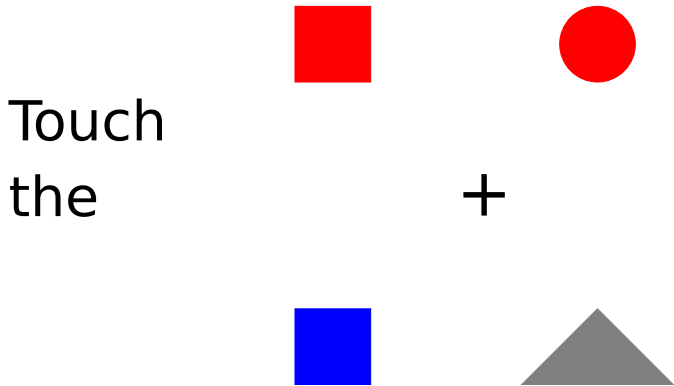


+



Sedivy et al. 1999; Sedivy 2007; Grodner and Sedivy 2008

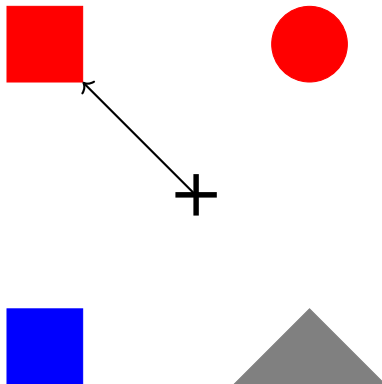
Linguistic evidence for incremental pragmatics



Sedivy et al. 1999; Sedivy 2007; Grodner and Sedivy 2008

Linguistic evidence for incremental pragmatics

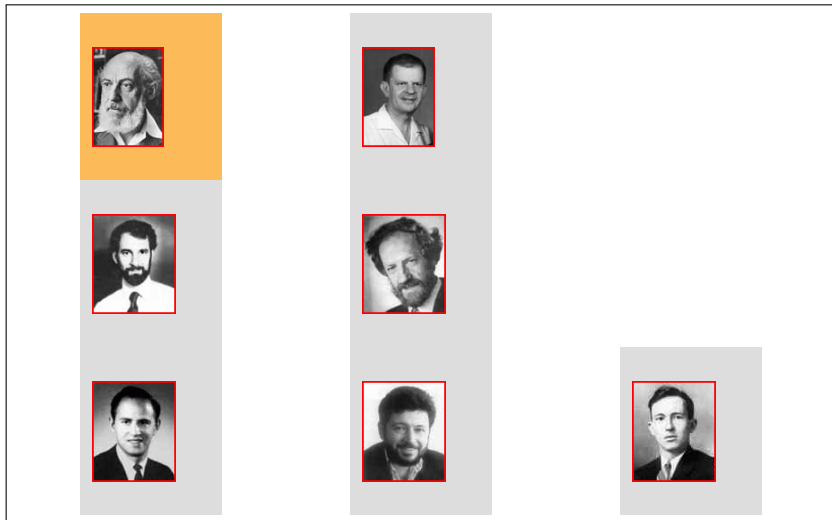
Touch
the
red



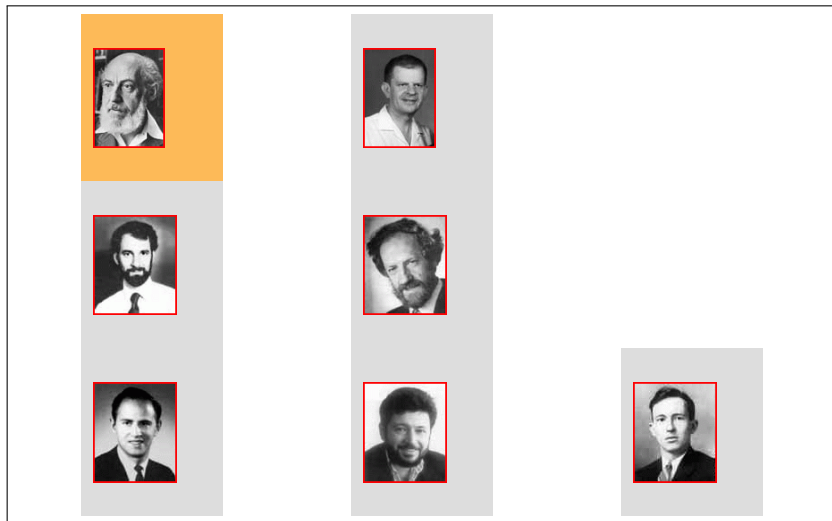
Sedivy et al. 1999; Sedivy 2007; Grodner and Sedivy 2008

RSA learning objectives

TUNA people example

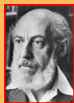


TUNA people example



Utterance: "The bald man with a beard"

TUNA people example



age:old
hairColour:light
hasBeard:1
hasGlasses:0
hasHair:0
hasShirt:1
hasSuit:0
hasTie:0
type:person



age:young
hairColour:dark
hasBeard:0
hasGlasses:0
hasHair:1
hasShirt:1
hasSuit:0
hasTie:0
type:person



age:young
hairColour:dark
hasBeard:1
hasGlasses:0
hasHair:1
hasShirt:1
hasSuit:0
hasTie:1
type:person



age:young
hairColour:dark
hasBeard:1
hasGlasses:0
hasHair:1
hasShirt:0
hasSuit:1
hasTie:1
type:person



age:young
hairColour:dark
hasBeard:0
hasGlasses:0
hasHair:1
hasShirt:0
hasSuit:1
hasTie:1
type:person



age:young
hairColour:dark
hasBeard:1
hasGlasses:0
hasHair:1
hasShirt:1
hasSuit:0
hasTie:0
type:person

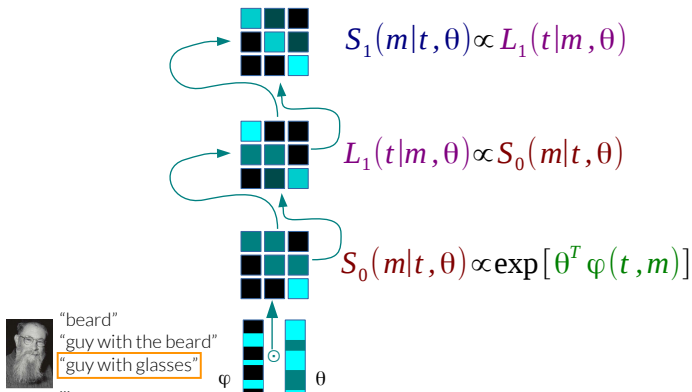


age:young
hairColour:dark
hasBeard:0
hasGlasses:0
hasHair:1
hasShirt:0
hasSuit:1
hasTie:1
type:person

Utterance: “The bald man with a beard”

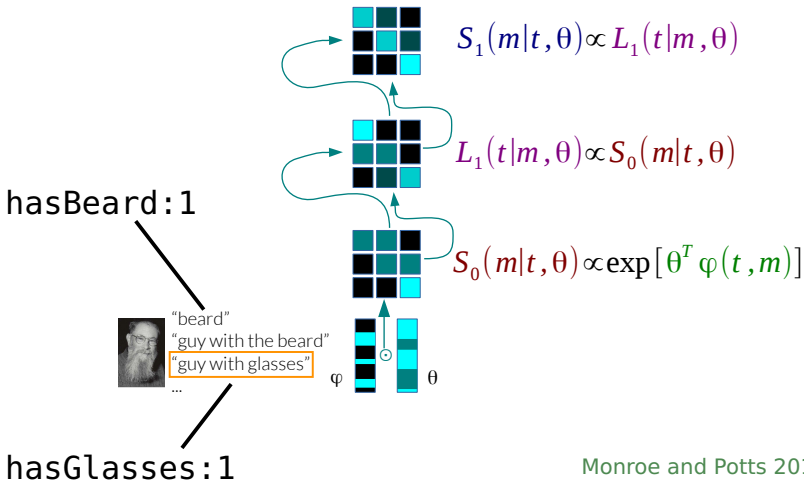
Utterance attributes: [*hasBeard:1*]; [*hasHair:0*]; [*type:person*]

Forward inference



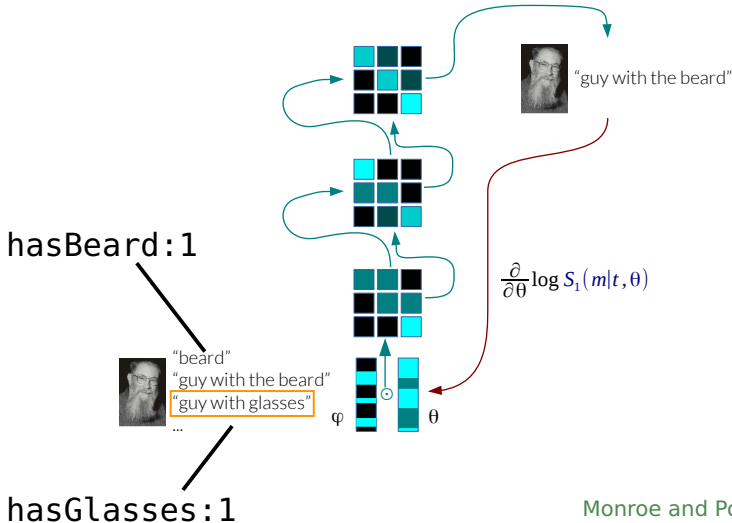
Monroe and Potts 2015

Forward inference



Monroe and Potts 2015

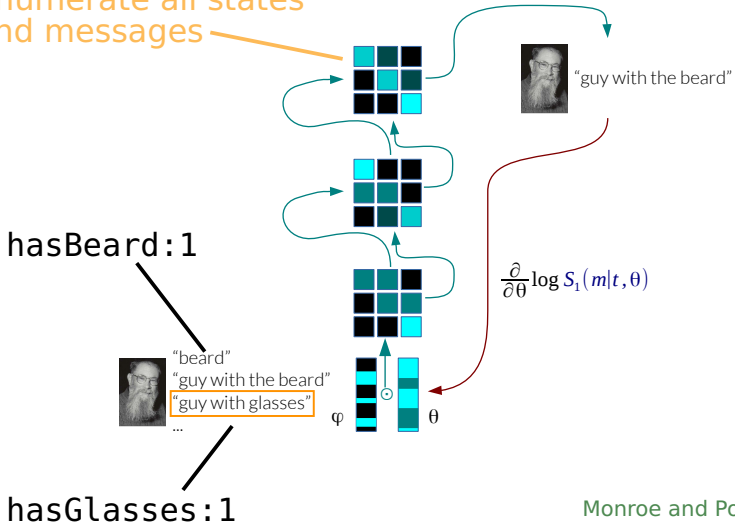
Optimization



Monroe and Potts 2015

Optimization

Enumerate all states and messages



Monroe and Potts 2015

Limitations

- Scalability
- Sensitivity to variation
- Bounded rationality
- New kinds of model assessment
- Impact



Introspective speakers from Google

Generation and Comprehension of Unambiguous Object Descriptions

Junhua Mao^{2*} Jonathan Huang¹ Alexander Toshev¹ Oana Camburu³ Alan Yuille^{2,4} Kevin Murphy¹

¹Google Inc. ²University of California, Los Angeles ³University of Oxford ⁴Johns Hopkins University

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Context-aware Captions from Context-agnostic Supervision

Ramakrishna Vedantam¹ Samy Bengio² Kevin Murphy² Devi Parikh³ Gal Chechik²

¹Virginia Tech ³Georgia Institute of Technology ²Google

¹vrama91@vt.edu ³parikh@gatech.edu ²{bengio, kpmurphy, gal}@google.com

Mao et al. 2016; Vedantam et al. 2017

Google Refexp Dataset

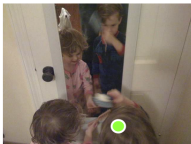


S: "A yellow and black backpack"

Listener

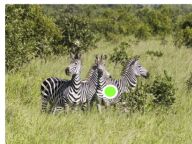
Mao et al. 2016

Google Refexp Dataset examples



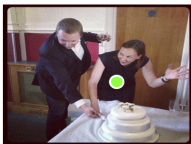
A boy brushing his hair while looking at his reflection.

A young male child in pajamas shaking around a hairbrush in the mirror.



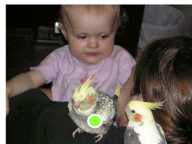
Zebra looking towards the camera.

A zebra third from the left.



The woman in black dress.

A lady in a black dress cuts a wedding cake with her new husband.



A bird that is close to the baby in a pink shirt.

A bird standing on the shoulder of a person with its tail touching her face.

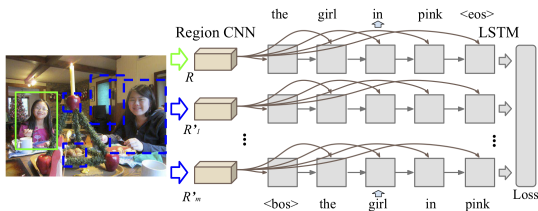
Mao et al. 2016

Maximum Mutual Information Training

Neural listener objective

Where an example is a message, a set of entities I , and a entity $ent \in I$:

$$J'(\theta) = - \sum_{n=1}^N \log \frac{\mathbf{s}_{lit}^{\theta}(msg_n | ent_n; I_n)}{\sum_{ent' \in I_n} \mathbf{s}_{lit}^{\theta}(msg_n | ent'; I_n)}$$



Mao et al. 2016

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Max margin objective

To speed up training and make it more stable, they approximate the above max-margin objective that compares each target with a single randomly chosen distractor.

Mao et al. 2016

Introspective image captioners

Target Image:



Distractor Image:



Speaker:

An airplane is flying in the sky.

Introspective Speaker:

A **large passenger jet** flying through a blue sky.

Vedantam et al. 2017

Introspective speaker training

$\Delta(l, state, state') =$

$$\operatorname{argmax}_{msg} \left[\lambda \log \mathbf{s}_{lit}^{\theta}(msg | state; l_n) + (1 - \lambda) \log \frac{\mathbf{s}_{lit}^{\theta}(msg | state; l_n)}{\mathbf{s}_{lit}^{\theta}(msg | state'; l_n)} \right]$$

Proportional to a standard RSA \mathbf{L}_1^{θ} .

Diagnosing the role of introspection

Target image and class

Rufous Hummingbird



Justifications vary with λ

fully
discriminative

$\lambda = 0.00$ tarsals orange white brown wings
wings orange tail dark an primaries

$\lambda = 0.30$ This is a brown bird with a brown
wing and a long pointy beak.

$\lambda = 0.50$ This bird is **brown with red on its
neck** and has a long , pointy beak.

$\lambda = 0.70$ This is a bird with a **white belly ,
brown wing and a red throat.**

$\lambda = 1.00$ A small sized bird that has a very
long and pointed bill.

Distractor class

Ruby throated Hummingbird



Vedantam et al. 2017

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context blind

Distractor class

Ruby throated
Hummingbird



Vedantam et al. 2017

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context blind long and pointed bill.

Distractor class

Ruby throated Hummingbird



Vedantam et al. 2017

End-to-end training in White et al. (2020)

Amortized speaker

The exact RSA pragmatic speaker as the end-to-end objective, trained with a fixed, pretrained L_0 :

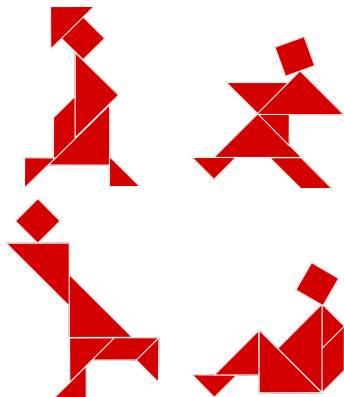
$$s_{\text{prag}}^{\theta}(msg | state) \propto \exp(\log \mathbf{L}_0^{\theta}(state | msg) - C(msg))$$

Reinforcement learning speaker

The speaker interacts with a black-box listener, receiving positive reward iff the listener correctly infers the speaker's intended referent.

Frontiers

Continual adaptation



Round 1: All right, the next one looks like a person who's ice skating, except they're sticking their arms out in front.

Round 2: Um, the next one's the person ice skating that has arms out.

[...]

Round 6: The ice skater.

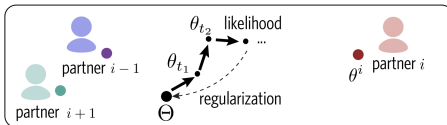
Clark and Wilkes-Gibbs 1986; DeVault et al. 2005;
Paetzel et al. 2014; Hawkins et al. 2017

Continual adaptation

repeated reference game



partner-specific adaptation



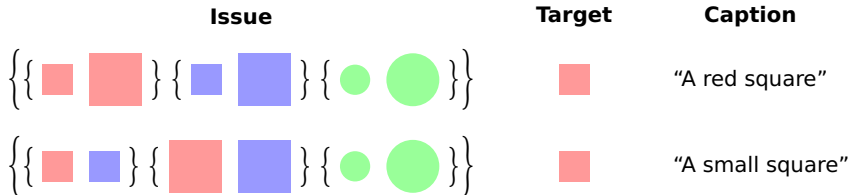
Issue sensitivity

In an article about recent campaign events:



- “Politician Joe Biden speaking on stage”
- “Elderly, gray-haired politician Joe Biden speaking on stage”

Issue sensitivity





















Issue sensitivity

$$U_1^{\mathbf{C}}(state, msg, \mathbf{C}) = \log \left(\sum_{state' \in \mathcal{I}} \delta_{[\mathbf{C}(state) = \mathbf{C}(state')]} L_1(state' | msg) \right)$$

$$U_2(msg, state, \mathbf{C}) = H(L_1(state' | msg) \cdot \delta_{[\mathbf{C}(state) = \mathbf{C}(state')]})$$

$$S_1^{\mathbf{C}+H}(msg | state, \mathbf{C}) \propto \exp(\alpha((1 - \beta)U_1 + \beta U_2) - cost(msg))$$

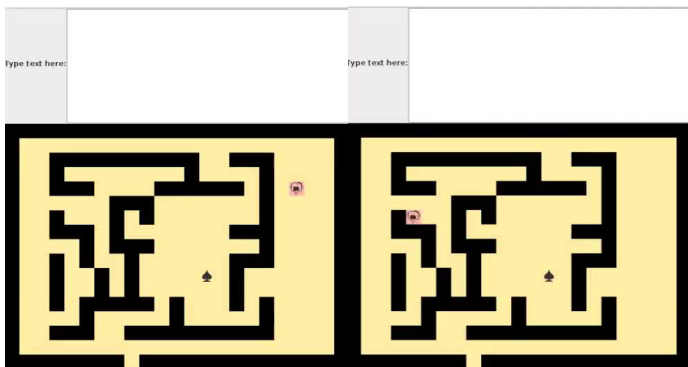
Issue sensitivity

Target	Issues	Partitions	Issue-sensitive Caption	Base Caption
	What is the bill shape ?	   	a small bird with a white breast and belly brown wings and tail and a pointed beak	this bird has a brown crown a white eyebrow and a brown and white breast
	What is the tail pattern ?	   	a small brown and white bird with a long beak and long tail feathers	
	What is the belly color ?	   	this is a bird with a white belly brown back and a brown head	this is a grey bird with a red head and a red beak
	What is the crown color ?	   	this is a reddish orange bird with black and white wings and a red crown	

Decision-theoretic agents



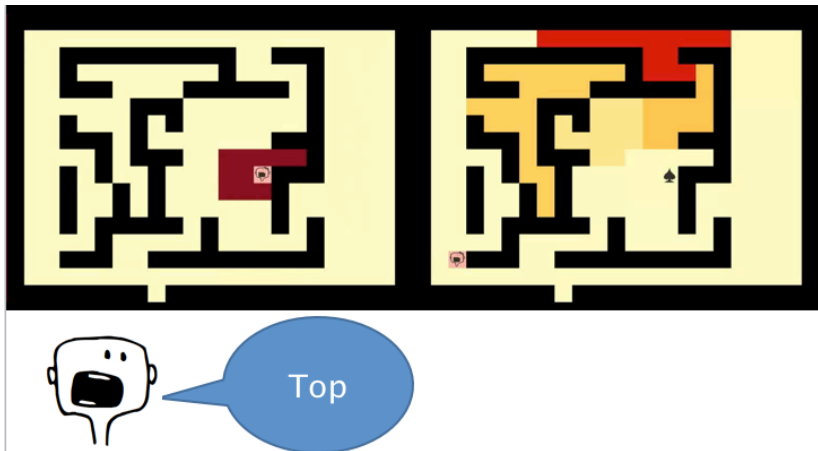
Both players must find the ace of spades. DialogBot:



Vogel et al. 2013a,b

Decision-theoretic agents

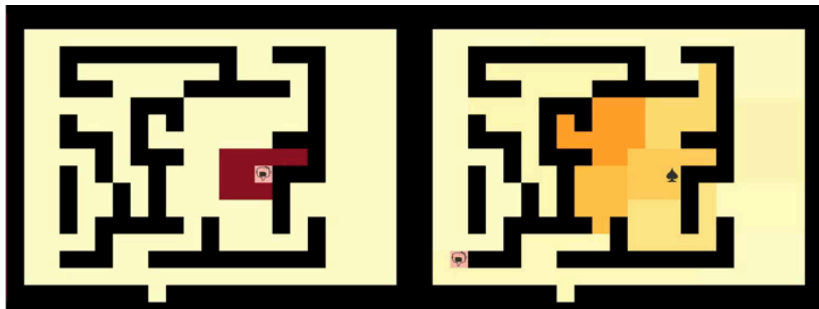
Baby DialogBots (a few hours of policy exploration)



Vogel et al. 2013a,b

Decision-theoretic agents

Grown-up DialogBots (a week of policy exploration)



Middle of the board

Vogel et al. 2013a,b

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Thanks!

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