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# Concept Aware Co-occurrence And Its Applications



# Plan

**What is co-occurrence?**

**Applications**

**Limitations of co-occurrence**

**What is concept co-occurrence?**

**How can we obtain concept co-occurrence?**

**Short text understanding**

**Conclusion**

**Future work**

# What is co-occurrence of a word?

Distribution over words that frequently occur in the same context.

apple	
orange	0.02
banana	0.015
iPhone	0.013
CEO	0.011
iPad	0.01
vitamin	0.008
...	

book	
title	0.03
author	0.025
reader	0.02
page	0.015
ink	0.009
...	

Co-occurrence = Context that we expect to see

# Applications

## Concept Identification / Disambiguation

"**xyz** is a big metropolitan area with many rich cultural societies ..."

What is **xyz**?

**xyz** can be a city, because cities often interact with words:

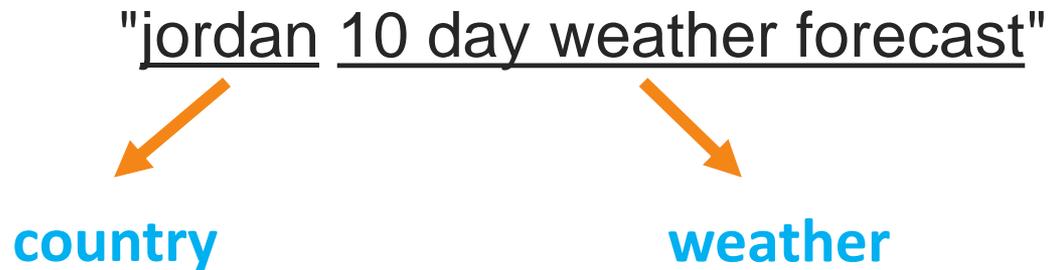
- Metropolitan area
- Society
- Culture

We can infer what is **xyz**, without ever seeing it before

# Applications (cont'd)

## Word Chunking / Segmentation

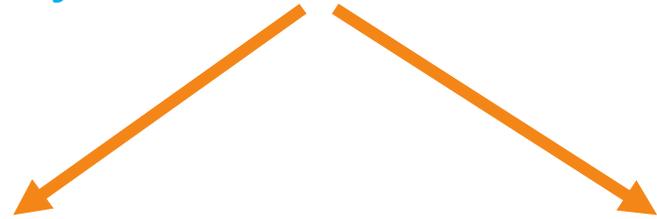
Which partition is more likely?



# Applications (cont'd)

## Coreference Resolution

"The play in the city was very nice. **It** included many great actors.",



What does "It" refer to?

city

play

# Applications (cont'd)

## Short Text Understanding

Query: "april in paris lyrics"

What is the intent of the query?

What does the user want?

Interpretation:

april in paris [song] lyrics

# Limitations of Co-occurrence

## Sparseness

Obtain co-occurrence by extracting co-occurring words within a sentence (window) over a large text corpus.

For a majority of pairs the probability that they occur is small.

apple	
orange	0.02
banana	0.015
iPhone	0.013
CEO	0.011
iPad	0.01
vitamin	0.008
...	

pepino	
melon	1.0

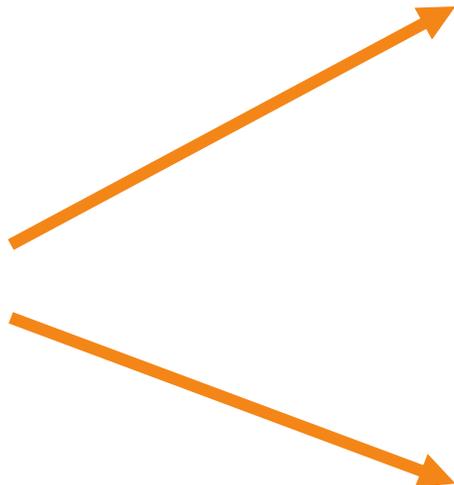
Popular fruit => many co-occurrences

Unknown fruit => almost no co-occurrences

# Limitations of Co-occurrence (cont'd)

## Words are atomic units

apple	
orange	0.02
banana	0.015
iPhone	0.013
CEO	0.011
iPad	0.01
vitamin	0.008
...	



apple (fruit)	
orange	0.02
banana	0.015
vitamin	0.008

apple (company)	
iPhone	0.013
CEO	0.011
iPad	0.01

**No relations to concepts**

**Separated by concepts**

# Limitations of Co-occurrence (cont'd)

## No syntactic structure

### Noun Phrases

apple	
iPhone	0.013
CEO	0.011
iPad	0.01
...	

### Verb Phrases

apple	
make	0.02
sell	0.015
release	0.013
...	

### Prepositional Phrases

apple	
with	0.04
along	0.03
Instead of	0.028
...	

**Noun phrases alone  
are not enough.**

**Verb and prepositional phrases.**

# Limitations of Co-occurrence (cont'd)

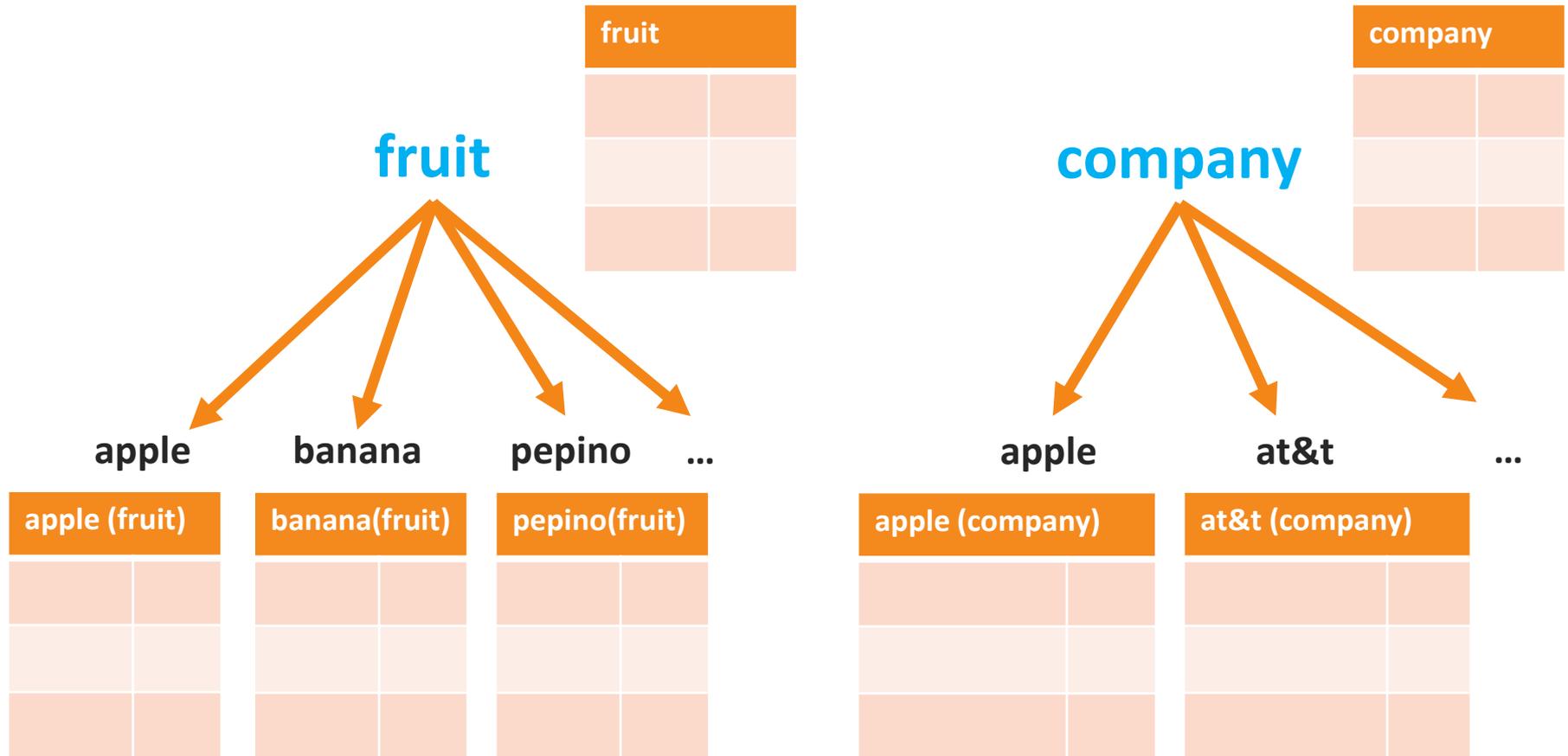
**Sparseness**

**No relations to concepts**

**No syntactic structure**

# Concept Aware Co-occurrence

Learn concept co-occurrence from instance co-occurrence



=> Also solves the sparseness problem

# How do we do this?

## Problems:

- **Instance concept relationships?**
- **Co-occurring noun, verb and prepositional phrases?**
- **Acquire instance co-occurrence?**
- **Acquire concept co-occurrence?**

# Instance Concept Relationships

**IsA Network:** a collection of isA relations

**IsA relation:**

$(i, c)$

$i$  = instance

$c$  = concept

(apple, company)

(apple, fruit)

**Typicality scores:**

$p(i | c)$  = typicality of  $i$  as  $c$

$p(c | i)$  = typicality of  $c$  as  $i$

$P(\text{apple} | \text{company})$

$P(\text{company} | \text{apple})$

$p(\text{robin} | \text{bird}) > p(\text{penguin} | \text{bird})$

**Very important for  
concept learning**



# Instance Concept Relationships (cont'd)

## IsA Network

How do we obtain isA relationships?

Use sentences containing Hearst Pattern.

Example:

I have visited countries **such as** China, Japan and South Korea.

=> (China, country)

(Japan, country)

(South Korea, country)

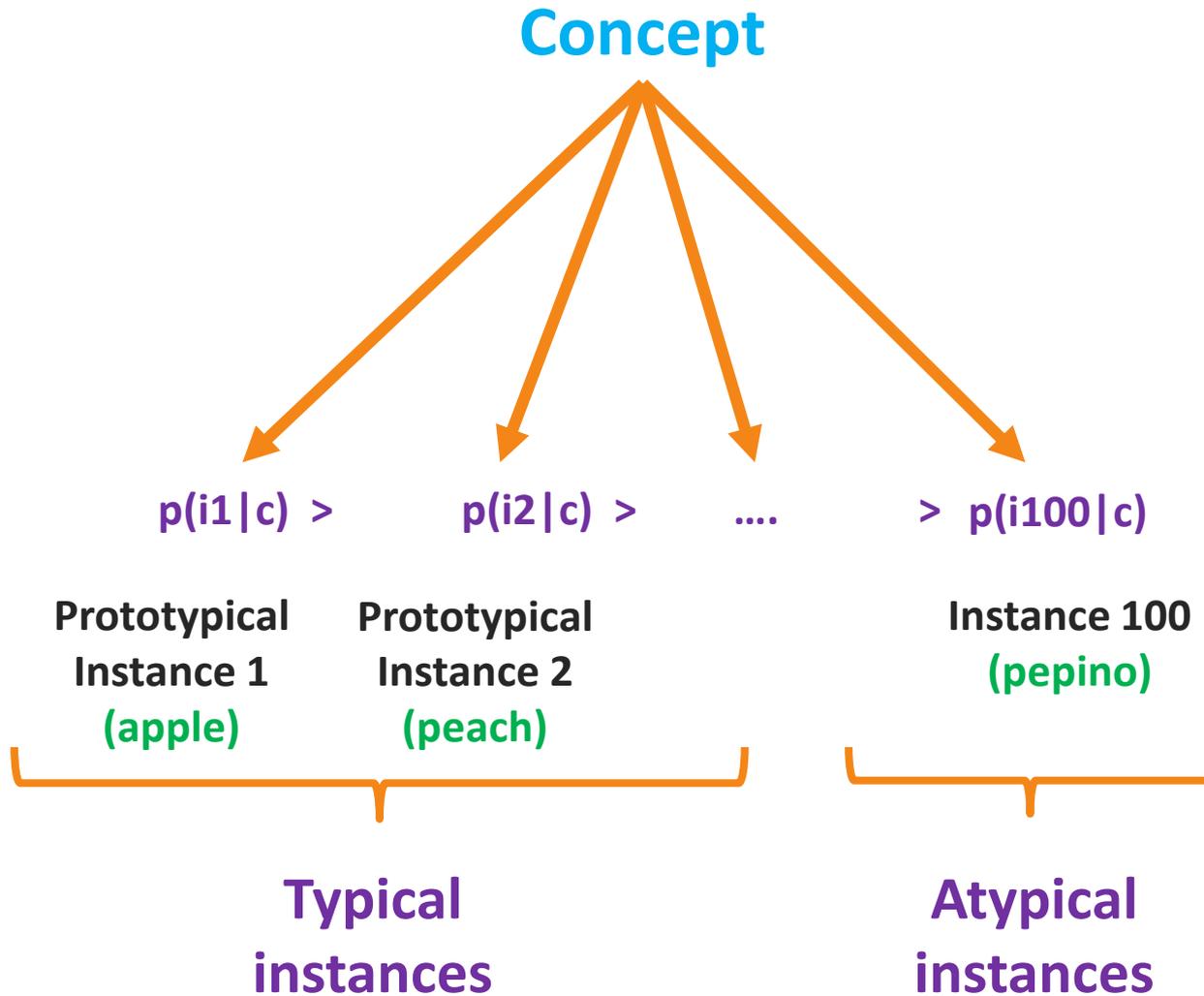
We use Probase from Microsoft Research:

**#concepts = 2,653,872**

**#isA pairs = 20,757,545**

(Extracted from: 1.6B web pages, 326M “such as” sentences)

# General Concept Learning



**Generalization**

**At the core of human cognition**

# Instance Co-occurrence

Given: (i, c) pairs from isA network

How do we get the co-occurrence for (apple, company)?

## Noun Phrases

apple (company)	
iPhone	0.013
CEO	0.011
iPad	0.01
...	

## Verb Phrases

apple (company)	
make	0.02
sell	0.015
release	0.013
...	

## Prepositional Phrases

apple (company)	
with	0.04
along	0.03
Instead of	0.028
...	

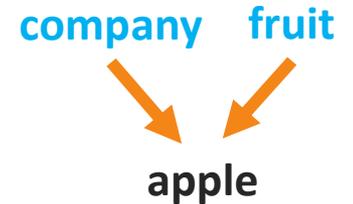
# Instance Co-occurrence

How can we identify **apple** is of concept **company**?

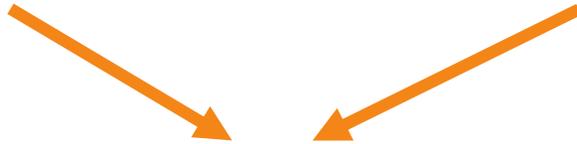
Silicon Valley company **Apple** produces great phones.



One concept of apple => no conflicts



Many companies are involved in fruit business of **apple** juice.



Two concepts of apple => conflict

=> Disregard sentences with conflicts.

# Instance Co-occurrence

Silicon Valley company Apple produces great phones.



**One concept of apple => no conflicts**

- 1.) We declare apple is a company
- 2.) Extract co-occurring noun phrases  
(Silicon Valley, phones)
- 3.) Extract co-occurring verb phrases  
(produces)
- 4.) Extract co-occurring prepositional phrases
- 5.) Repeat steps 1 - 4 for every isA pair over all the sentences.

# Instance Co-occurrence

## Real world experiment:

- 1.) Rent ~ 50 machines
- 2.) Download web pages:
  - CommonCrawl dataset
  - #web pages > 2 B
  - Over 200TB of data
- 3.) Clean HTML and extract text from every web page
- 4.) Annotate extracted text of every web page with:
  - Tokenization
  - Sentence splitting
  - POS tagging
  - Dependency parsing
- 5.) Extract instance co-occurrence

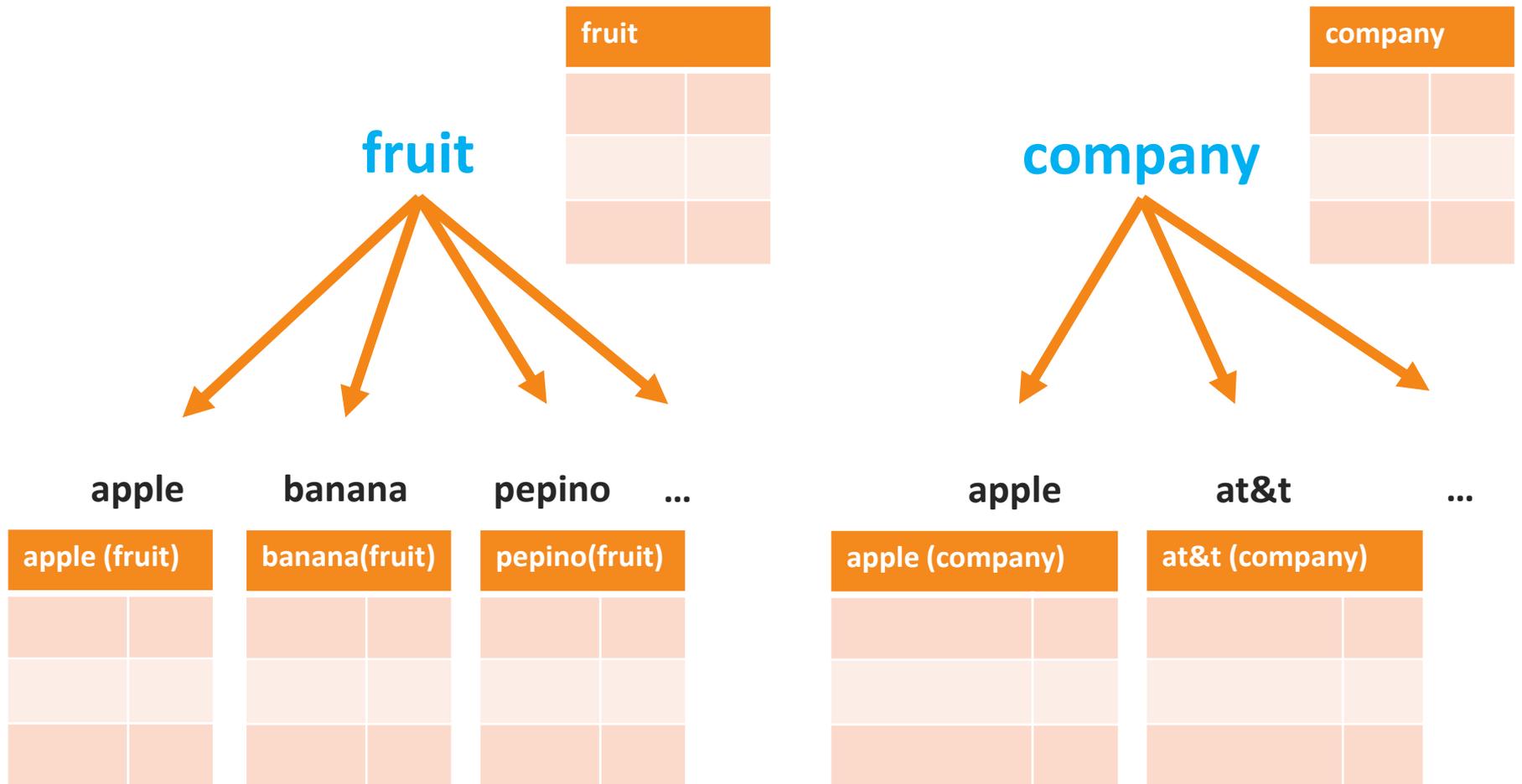


Map  
Reduce

Long, complicated, computational very expensive pipeline.

# Concept Co-occurrence

Concept co-occurrence from instance co-occurrence?  
**Generalization**



# Concept Co-occurrence (cont'd)

$IR(i, c)$  = instance representation of instance  $i$  as a concept  $c$

$CR(c)$  = concept representation of concept  $c$

General formula for learning concept co-occurrence:

$$CR(c) \propto \sum_i p(i|c) IR(i, c)$$


Typicality score

Instance representation

Example:

$$\begin{aligned} CR(\text{fruit}) &= p(\text{orange} | \text{fruit}) IR(\text{orange}, \text{fruit}) \\ &+ p(\text{apple} | \text{fruit}) IR(\text{apple}, \text{fruit}) \\ &+ p(\text{tomato} | \text{fruit}) IR(\text{tomato}, \text{fruit}) \\ &+ p(\text{olive} | \text{fruit}) IR(\text{olive}, \text{fruit}) \end{aligned}$$

# Verb Concept Co-occurrence

List of concepts that typically occur with the verb phrase

ride	
train	0.013
bike	0.011
horse	0.01
...	

watch	
tv show	0.013
movie	0.011
documentary	0.01
...	

$$VR_{sub}(v) \propto \sum_c p(c) VP_{sub}(c, v)$$

$$VR_{obj}(v) \propto \sum_c p(c) VP_{obj}(c, v)$$

# Concept Aware Co-occurrence

## Consists of :

**Instance co-occurrence (instance, concept)**

apple (fruit)	

**Concept co-occurrence (concept)**

fruit	

**Verb concept co-occurrence (verb phrase)**

ride	

# Short Text Understanding

## Examples of short text:

Search queries (web search query, mail search query, ...)

Posts (Facebook post, Twitter posts, ...)

## Properties of short text:

Very Limited Context

Often irregular syntax

## Understanding short text has huge value for:

=> Users (better user experience, ...)

=> Service providers (better service, adds, ...)

**Need intensive knowledge processing techniques**

# Short Text Understanding

## Focus on understanding search queries

### Examples:

april in paris lyrics => april in paris [song] lyrics [music]

harry potter watch => harry potter [brand] watch [accessory]

watch harry potter => watch [verb] harry potter [movie]

read harry potter => read [verb] harry potter [book]

pink shoes => pink [color] shoes [accessory]

pink song => pink [artist] song [music]

**We built a system that is very good at understanding search queries!**

# Short Text Understanding

## Problem Definition:

**Input:**

**Tokens:**  $T = \{ t_1, \dots, t_N \}$

**Output (jointly):**

**Segmentation:**  $S = \{ s_1, \dots, s_n \}$

**Disambiguation:**  $C = \{ c_1, \dots, c_n \}$

**Output S and C have to be semantically meaningful**

## Example:

**Input:** april in paris lyrics

**Output:**

$s_1 = \text{april in paris}, s_2 = \text{lyrics}$

$c_1 = \text{song}, c_2 = \text{music}$

# Joint Structured Prediction Model

## Big Picture:

1. Enumerate all  $(S, C)$  from  $T$
2. Score every  $(S, C)$
3. Choose  $(S, C)$  with the highest score

### 1.) Enumerate all possible $(S, C)$ from $T$ :

We can afford to do exhaustive enumeration because queries are very short (< than 10 tokens).

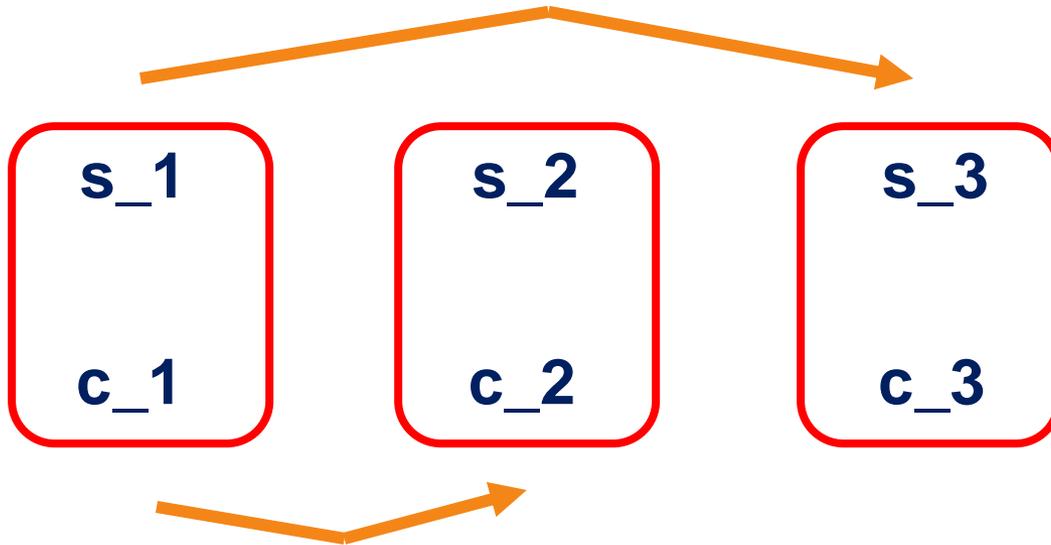
### 2.) Score $(S, C)$ with a model

### 3.) Choose $(S, C)$ with the highest score (simple)

# Joint Structured Prediction Model (cont'd)

Score (S, C) with a model:

How well (s\_1, c\_1) fits with (s\_3, c\_3)



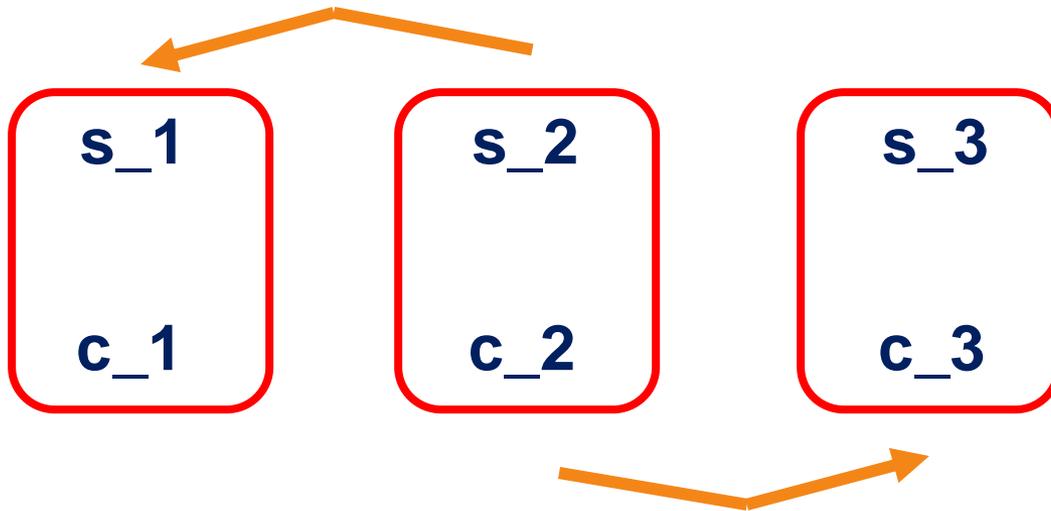
How well (s\_1, c\_1) fits with (s\_2, c\_2)

=> Score  $H(s_1, c_1)$

# Joint Structured Prediction Model (cont'd)

Score  $(S, C)$  with a model:

How well  $(s_2, c_2)$  fits with  $(s_1, c_1)$



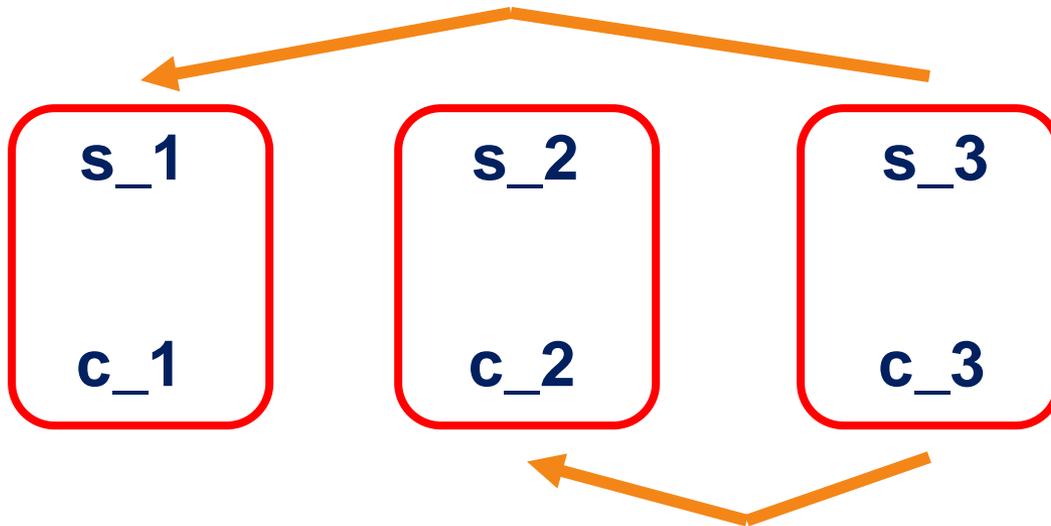
How well  $(s_2, c_2)$  fits with  $(s_3, c_3)$

$\Rightarrow$  Score  $H(s_2, c_2)$

# Joint Structured Prediction Model (cont'd)

Score (S, C) with a model:

How well  $(s_3, c_3)$  fits with  $(s_1, c_1)$



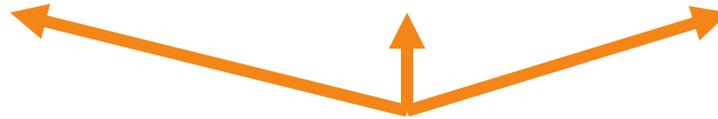
How well  $(s_3, c_3)$  fits with  $(s_2, c_2)$

=> Score  $H(s_3, c_3)$

# Joint Structured Prediction Model (cont'd)

## Score (S, C) with a model:

$$\text{Final Score } H(S, C) = H(s_1, c_1) + H(s_2, c_2) + H(s_3, c_3)$$



**Combine the scores**

## Recap:

1. We score each (s, c) pair individually based on the other segments and concepts
2. Combine all the individual score into one score

# Joint Structured Prediction Model (cont'd)

## Score (S, C) with a model:

Probability of the output given the input

Exponential model

Scoring function of the input and output

$$P(Y|T) \propto \exp [\Phi(Y, T)]$$

Segment concept pairs  $\{(s_i, c_i)\}$

Input tokens

Other segments and concepts

$$\Phi(Y, T) = \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{\Phi}_G(Y_{-i}, s_i, c_i, T)$$

Decomposition

$$\hat{\Phi}_G(Y_{-i}, s_i, c_i, T) = \sum_{j=1, i \neq j}^n \Phi_G(s_j, c_j, s_i, c_i, T)$$

# Joint Structured Prediction Model (cont'd)

## Score (S, C) with a model:

standard term-term co-occurrence

### Co-occurrence model:

$$\Phi_G(s_j, c_j, s_i, c_i, T) = \Phi_{G_{1ss}}(s_j, s_i) + \Phi_{G_{1cs}}(c_j, s_i)$$

### Concept co-occurrence model:

instance co-occurrence (s\_i, c\_i)

$$\Phi_G(s_j, c_j, s_i, c_i, T) = \Phi_{G_{2ssc}}(s_j, s_i, c_i) + \Phi_{G_{2sc}}(s_j, c_i) + \Phi_{G_{2cc}}(c_j, c_i)$$

concept co-occurrence c\_i

# Experiments

## We want to compare the models:

- Co-occurrence model
- Concept co-occurrence model

## We need:

- Dataset of labeled queries
- Evaluation metric

# Experiments: Dataset

## Labeled query needs to have:

- Segments  $\{s_1, \dots, s_n\}$
- Concepts  $\{c_1, \dots, c_n\}$

**!!! No publicly available dataset**

**We construct the dataset our selves.**

## Query Pattern:

Sequence of terms and concepts

### Examples:

[song] lyrics

[song] sheet

[movie] premier

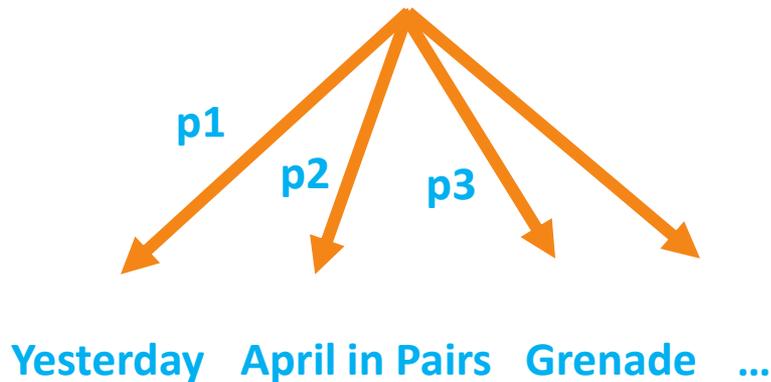
[food] recipe

# Experiments: Dataset (cont'd)

**From query pattern to query:**  
**Sample instances using isA network**  
**Substitute concepts with instances**

Query pattern: [song] lyrics

IsA network: **song**



Yesterday lyrics

Grenade lyrics

...

# Experiments: Evaluation

We need a metric to measure the similarity of two queries

**Exact metric:**

$$em(q_1, q_2) = \begin{cases} 1 & q_1, q_2 \text{ same segments and concepts} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

**Rank metric:**

- More forgiving than exact metric
- Requires the same segments; otherwise it is 0
- Requires a ranking over the concepts
- The higher the concept that we expect, the better the result
- Take inverse of the rank of the concept

**Example:** april in paris [song] lyrics

Ranking: (1) hit

(2) song

(3) book



Inverse rank: 1 / 2

# Experiments: Overall Results

Model	Exact Metric	Rank Metric
Co-occurrence	0.479	0.597
Concept co-occurrence	0.633	0.718

**Concept co-occurrence model significantly outperforms co-occurrence model**

# Experiments: Specific Query Patterns

Unambiguous context is not that hard

Query Pattern	Co-occ.	Concept co-occ.	
[song] lyrics	0.801	0.895	easy
[ <i>song</i> ] <i>sheet</i>	0.305	0.681	hard
[ <i>film</i> ] <i>premiere</i>	0.776	0.873	easy
[ <i>watch</i> ] <i>watch</i>	0.173	0.59	
[ <i>food</i> ] <i>recipe</i>	0.473	0.592	
[ <i>furniture</i> ] <i>design</i>	0.557	0.651	

*sheet* is ambiguous word (e.g. sheet music, bed sheets)

=> Concept representations help a lot!

# Conclusion

- **We have seen co-occurrence and its applications**
- **Limitations of co-occurrence**  
(sparseness, no concepts, no syntactic structure)
- **IsA network**
- **Generalization process**
- **Concept co-occurrence:**
  - **Instance co-occurrence**
  - **Concept co-occurrence**
  - **Verb phrase co-occurrence**
- **Short text understanding:**
  - **Understating the intent of the queries**
  - **Model definition and prediction**
  - **Concept co-occurrence helps a lot**

# Future Work

## To do an intelligent prediction (AI):

- The prediction model is important, but **not that important**
- It is mostly about the **knowledge**

## Knowledge:

- Standard knowledge bases (e.g. Freebase) are not enough:
  - Knowledge represented in tables (e.g. triples)
  - High precision, no probabilistic interpretation
  - No relation between knowledge, language, concepts
- Knowledge bases have to be about how humans use knowledge
- Probabilistic interpretations are very important

## Two big problems:

1. How to acquire such knowledge?
2. How to represent such knowledge?

**=> Unsupervised learning will play a vital role**  
(word, concept embeddings, new learning principles)



**Questions?**

