

Human-in-the-Loop Parsing

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University of Washington

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*Now at Facebook AI Research



Our key hypothesis:

Anyone who **understands the meaning of a sentence**
should be able to correct **parser mistakes**.

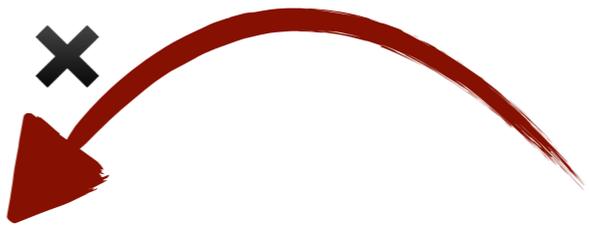
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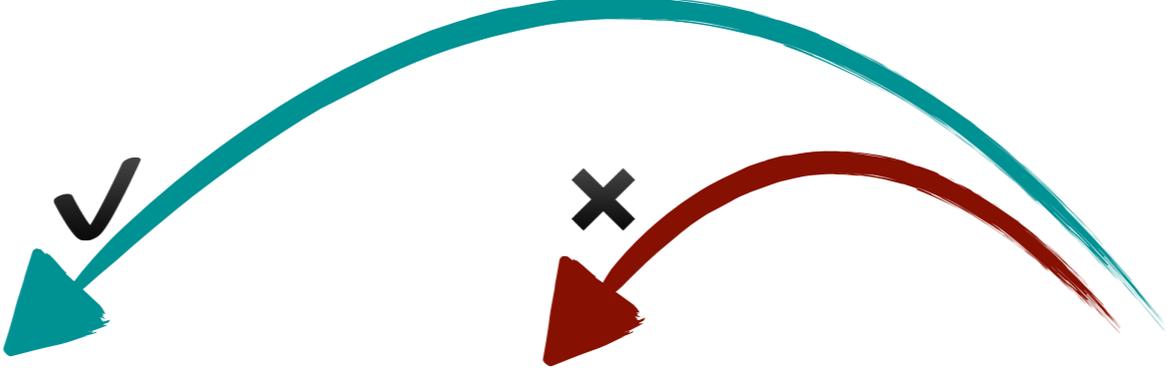
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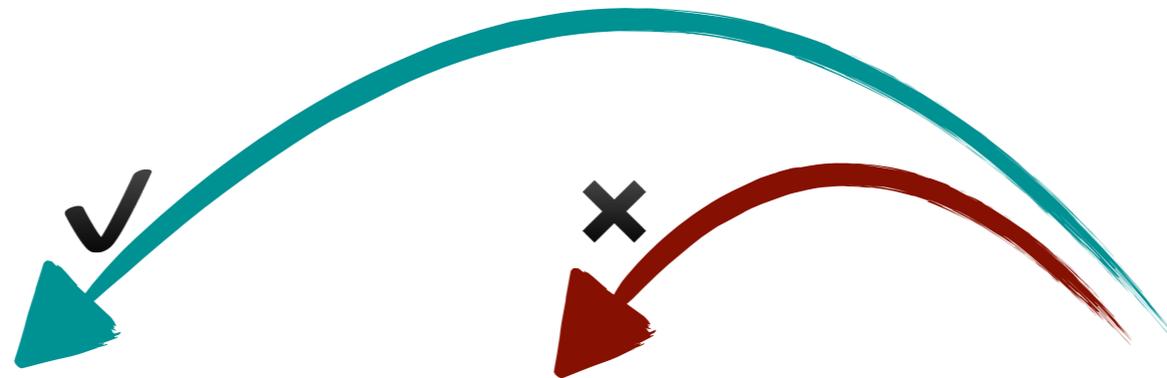


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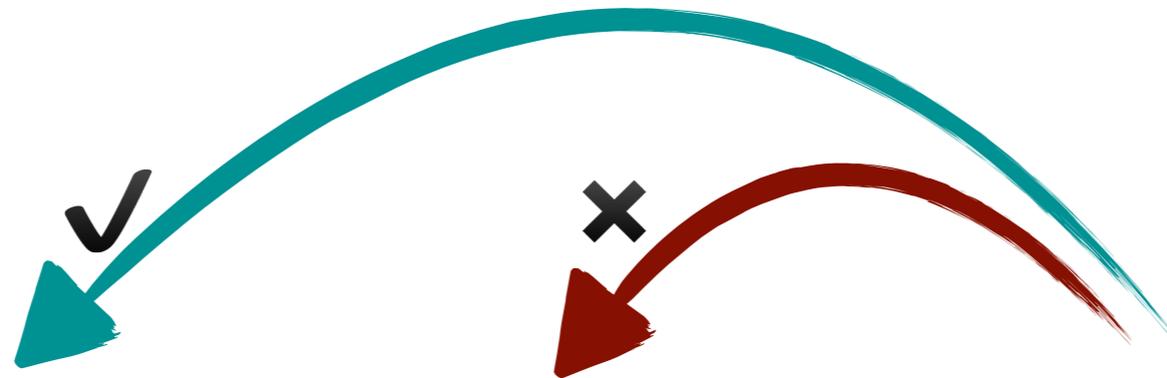


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Parser: I baked **table**

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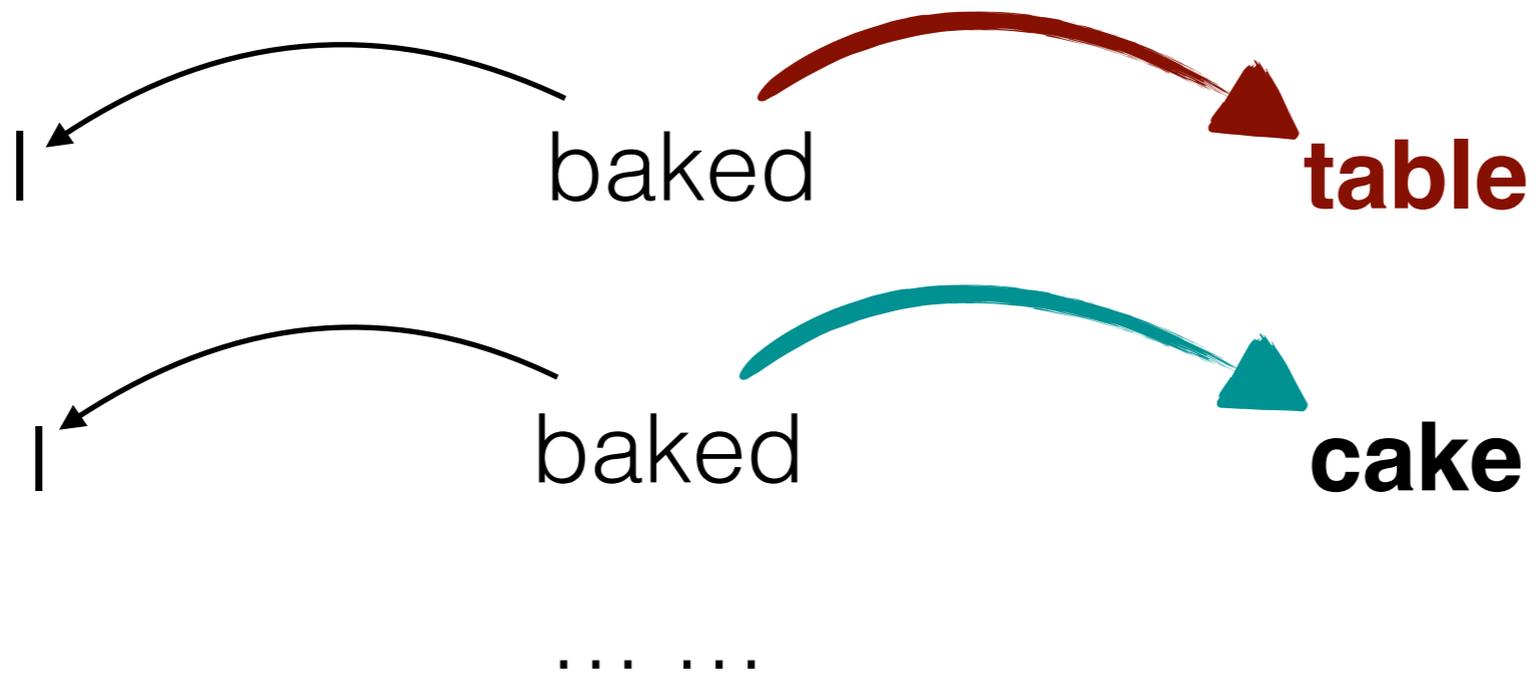
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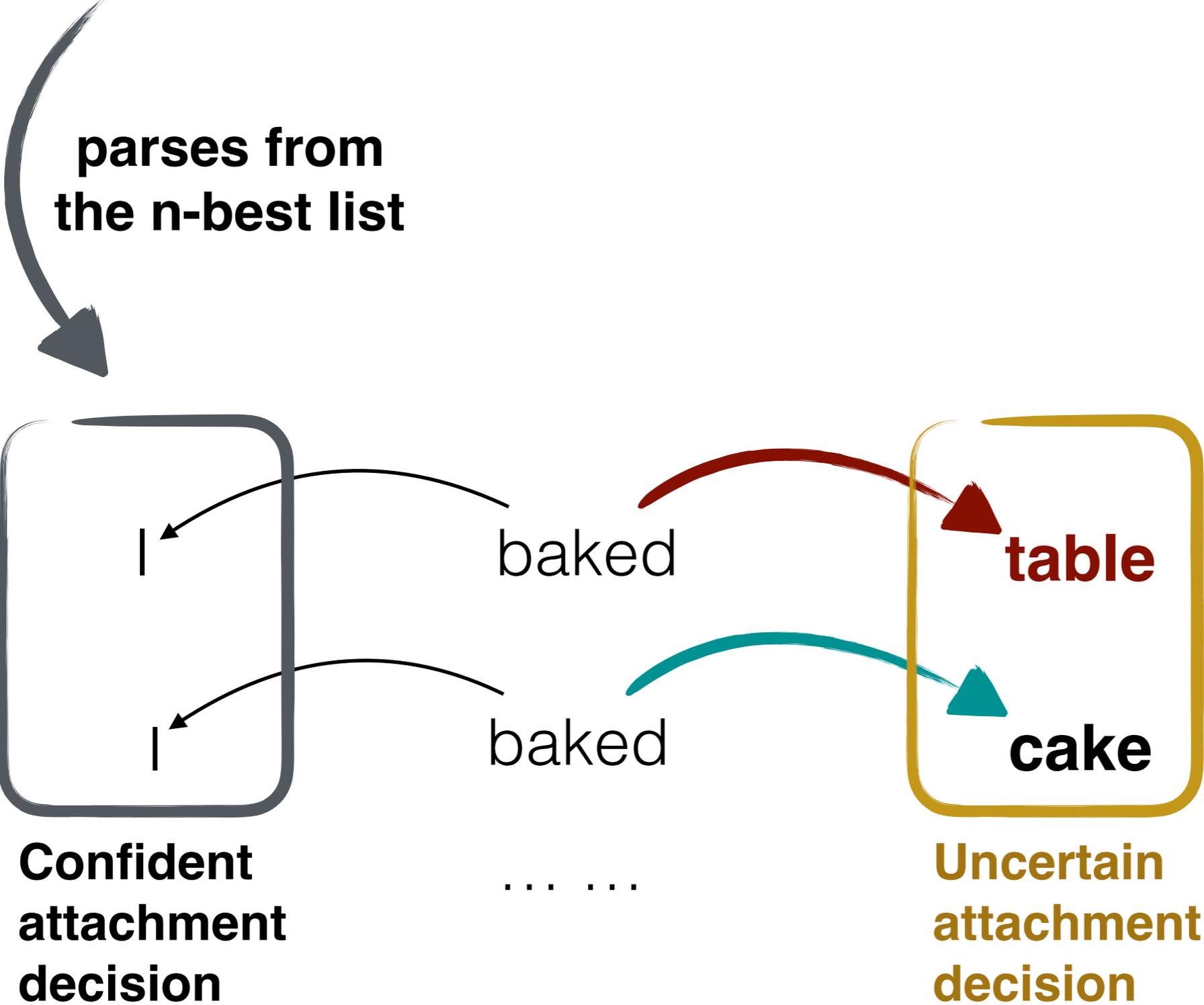
How can we use this kind of human knowledge?

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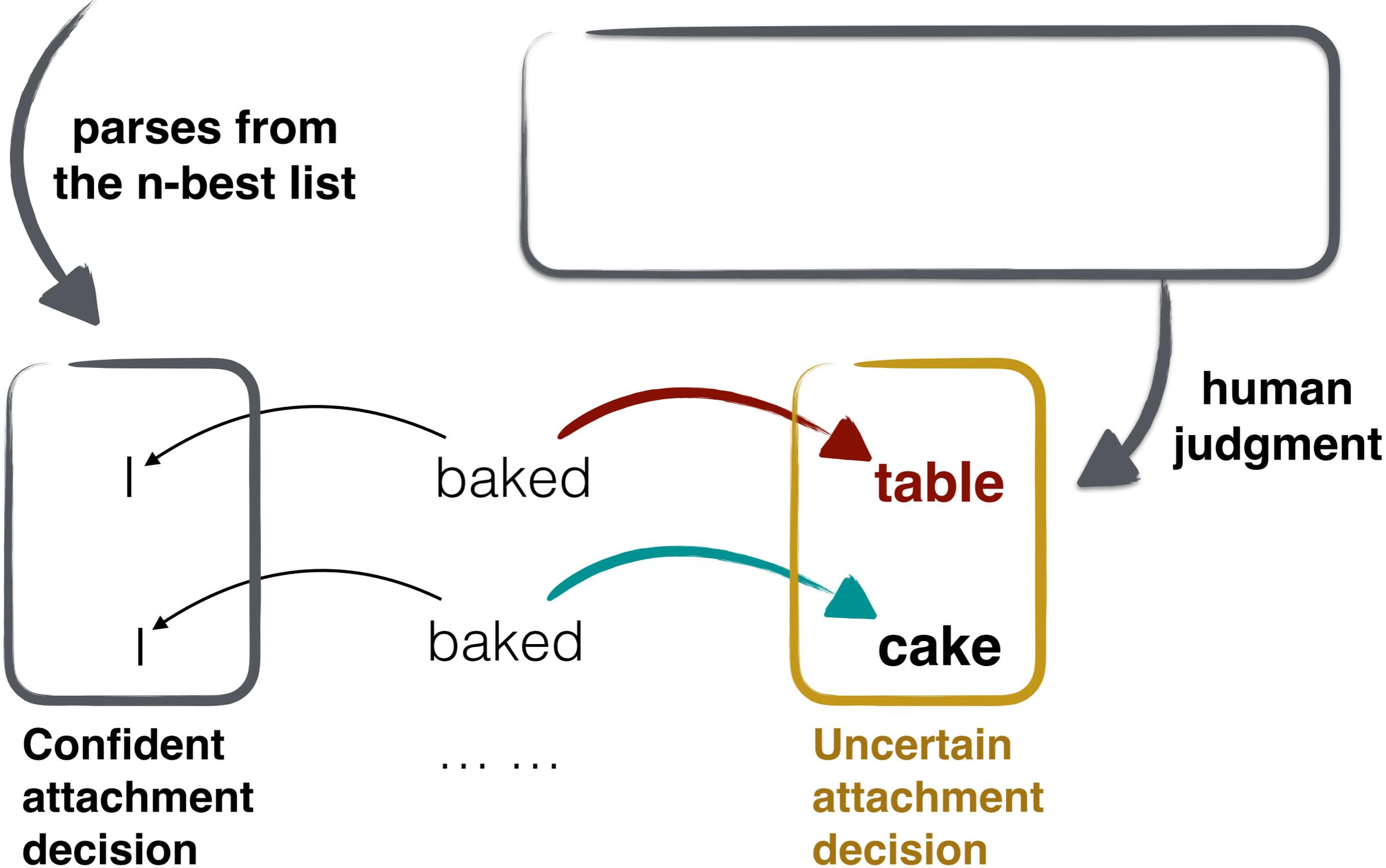
**parses from
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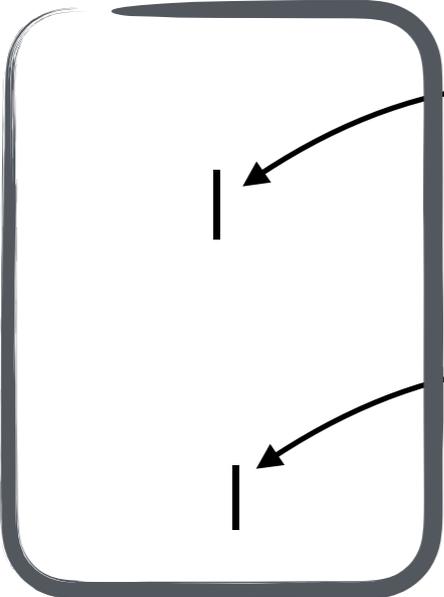
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Q: What did someone **bake**?
1. table 2. cake

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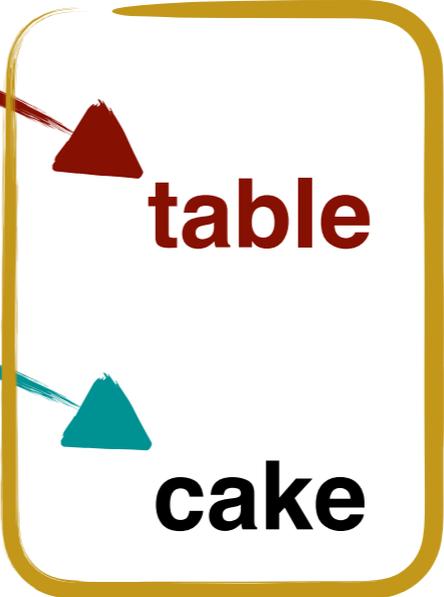


**Confident
attachment
decision**

baked

baked

.... ..



**Uncertain
attachment
decision**

table

cake

**human
judgment**

Related Work

	Form of Supervision	Data Collection	Usage
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Jha et al., 2010	PP Attachment Decisions	Crowdsourced	/
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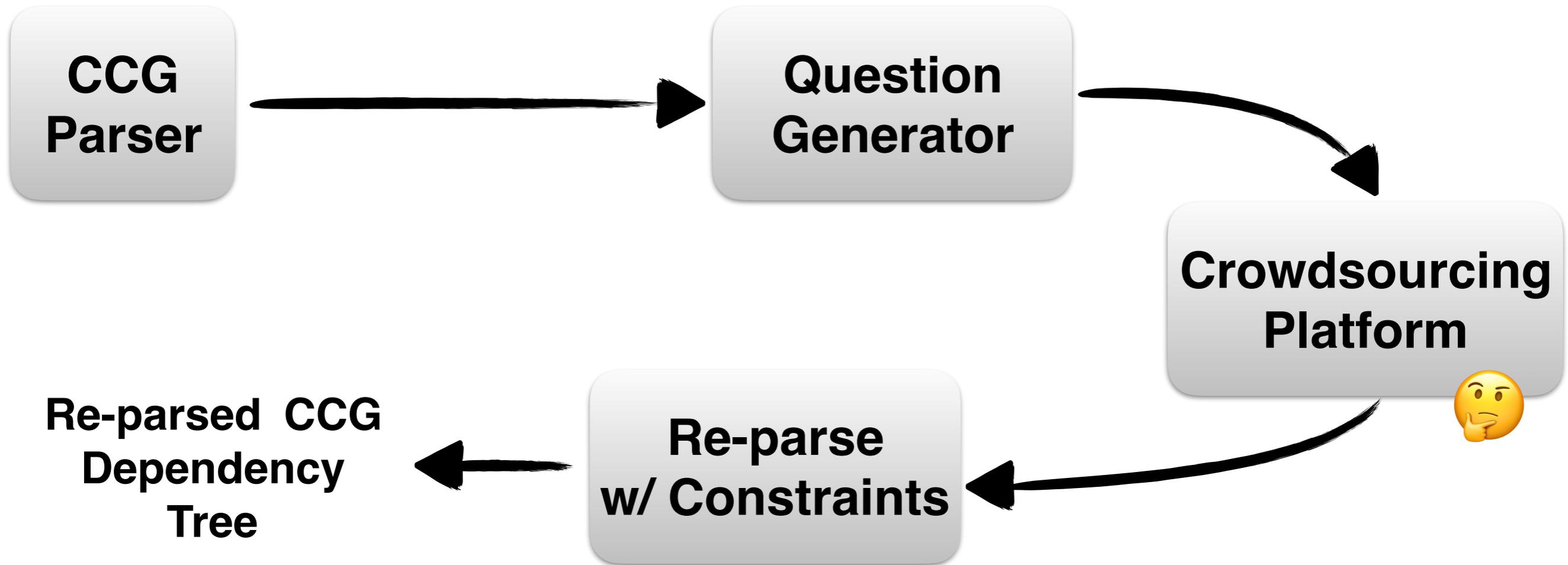
Choe and McClosky, 2015	Paraphrases	In-house Annotator	Re-parsing
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Duan et al., 2016	Paraphrases	Crowdsourced	Re-training
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Scope of this Work

- Target core arguments of verbal predicates.
- Use human judgments to fix parser mistakes at decoding time.
- Use CCG (Combinatory Categorical Grammar) as the underlying syntactic formalism.
- Use the Neural CCG Parser (Lewis et al. 2016) as our base parser.

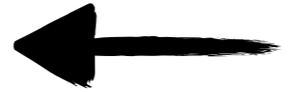
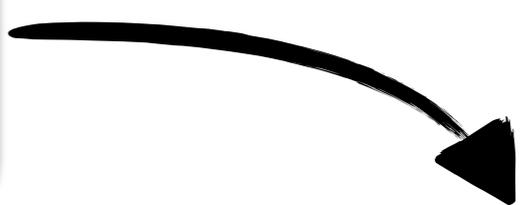
Workflow



Workflow

**Candidate dependencies
from the n-best list:**

baked → table
baked → cake



**Re-parsed CCG
Dependency
Tree**

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**CCG
Parser**

**Question
Generator**

Q: “What did
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**Crowdsourcing
Platform**

**Re-parsed CCG
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**Re-parse
w/ Constraints**



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cake (4 votes)
table (1 vote)



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C_pos (bake → cake)
C_neg (bake → table)

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**Not re-training
the model**

Generate Q/A Pairs from CCG Dependencies

Predicted CCG category of **baked**: $(S \setminus \mathbf{NP}_1) / \mathbf{NP}_2$



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\mathbf{NP}_1	bake	\mathbf{NP}_2
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NP₁	bake	NP₂
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Filling-in the Slots:

what	bake	sth.
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Filling-in the Slots:



What baked something?

— I

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Infer **someone/something** and the **answer spans** based on the n-best parses

Used “**what**” for all questions

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Convert to template: NP₁ bake NP₂

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— I

I baked cake
What baked something?
— I

sth. bake what

What did someone bake?
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What did someone bake?
— **the cake**

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Group Q/A Pairs into Queries

Questions	Answers
What baked something?	I
What did someone bake?	the table
	the cake
What was baked something something?	the table

Group Q/A Pairs into Queries

Questions	Answers	Scores
What baked something?	I	1.0
What did someone bake?	the table	0.7
	the cake	0.3
What was baked something something?	the table	0.1

Group Q/A Pairs into Queries

Questions	Answers	Scores	Question Confidence
What baked something?	I	1.0	1.0
What did someone bake?	the table	0.7	1.0
	the cake	0.3	
What was baked something something?	the table	0.1	0.1

Group Q/A Pairs into Queries

Questions	Answers	Scores	Question Confidence	Answer Uncertainty (Entropy)
What baked something?	I	1.0	1.0	0.0
What did someone bake?	the table	0.7	1.0	0.88
	the cake	0.3		
What was baked something something?	the table	0.1	0.1	0.0

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	the cake	0.3		
What was baked something something?	the table	0.1	0.1	0.0

Non-sensical question

No uncertainty

Our Annotation Task

Sentence:

Pat ate the cake on the table that I **baked** last night.

Question:

What did someone bake?

Check one or more

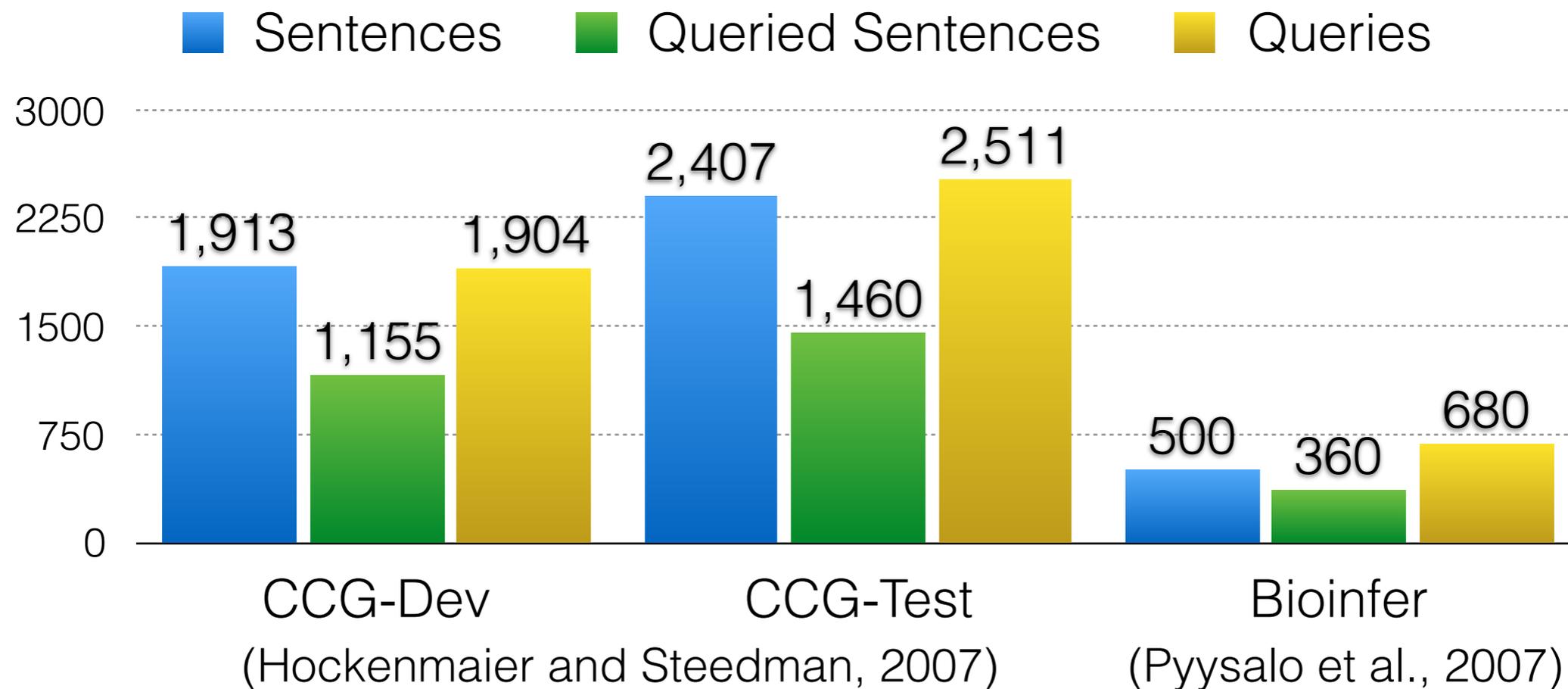
- the cake
- the table
- None of the above.

- Annotators are instructed to choose options that “***explicitly and directly***” answer the question.
- Multiple answers are allowed.
- 5 judgements per query.

Comment:

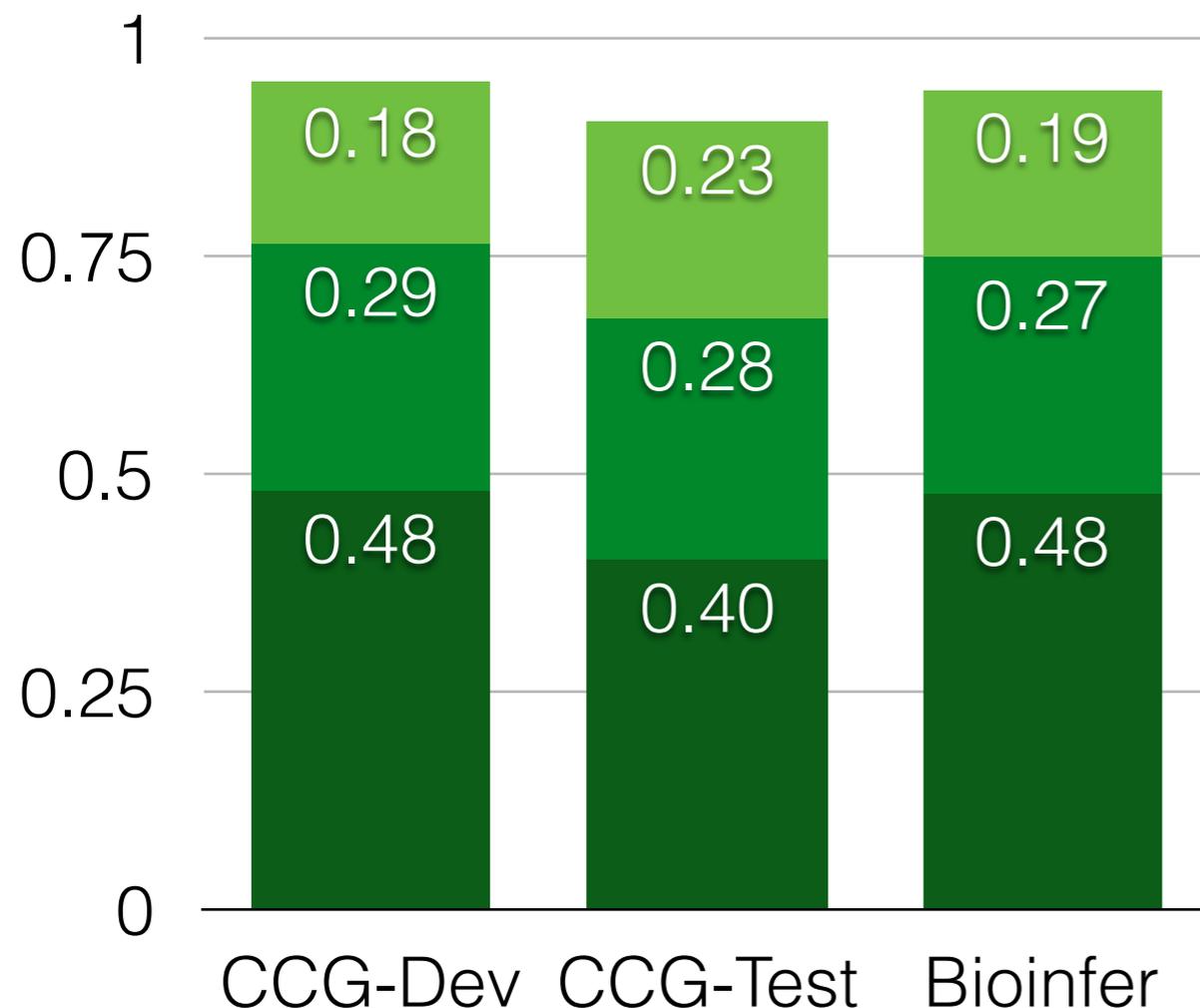
* Crowdsourcing platform: <https://www.crowdflower.com/>.

Data Collection with Crowdsourcing



- All developments are done on CCG-Dev only.
- Less than 2 queries per sentence, for about 60% of the sentences.
- **Cost:** 46 cents per query.
- **Speed:** 200 queries per hour.

Inter-Annotator Agreement



- Agreement is computed only for matching the exact set of answers. i.e. (A, B) and (B) are considered disagreement.
- Unanimous agreement for over 40% of the queries.
- Over 90% absolute majority.

Putting our hypothesis to the test:
How well does annotators' **human understanding**
align with the **gold syntax**?

- Successes: Long-range attachment decisions
- Challenges: **Syntax-semantics mismatch**
- Use heuristics to fix the mismatch problems at re-parsing time.

Success - Long-range Dependency

Temple also said Sea Containers' plan raises numerous legal, regulatory, financial and fairness issues, but didn't ***elaborate***.

What *didn't* ***elaborate*** something?

Temple

Sea Containers' plan

None of the above.

Success - Long-range Dependency

Temple also said Sea Containers' plan raises numerous legal, regulatory, financial and fairness issues, but didn't **elaborate**.

What *didn't elaborate* something?

- 4** Temple
- 1** Sea Containers' plan
- 0** None of the above.

Challenge - Coreference

Kalipharma is a New Jersey-based pharmaceuticals concern that ***sells*** products under the Purepac label.

What ***sells*** something?

Kalipharma

a New Jersey-based pharmaceuticals concern

None of the above.

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- 5 Kalipharma
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- Syntax-semantics mismatch
- Also happens with pronouns and appositives.
- Some cases are heuristically fixed during reparsing.

Challenge - Headedness

Timex had requested duty-free treatment for many types of watches,
covered by 58 different U.S. tariff classifications.

What would be **covered**?

Timex

many types of watches

duty-free treatment

watches

None of the above.

Challenge - Headedness

Timex had requested duty-free treatment for many types of watches,
covered by 58 different U.S. tariff classifications.

What would be **covered** ?

- | | | | |
|----------|---------------------|----------|-----------------------|
| 0 | Timex | 2 | many types of watches |
| 0 | duty-free treatment | 3 | watches |
| 0 | None of the above. | | |

Challenge - Headedness

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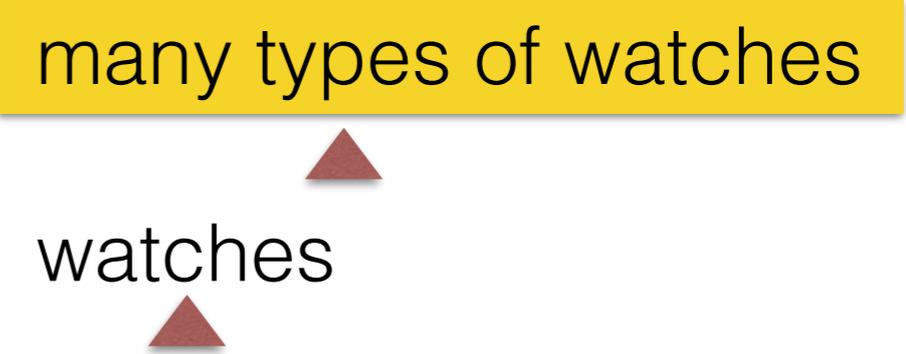
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-
- The diagram shows a yellow highlight box around the text 'many types of watches' in the second column. A red arrow points from the text 'watches' in the third column up to the bottom of the yellow box. Another red arrow points from the bottom of the yellow box down to the text 'watches' in the third column.

Challenge - Headedness

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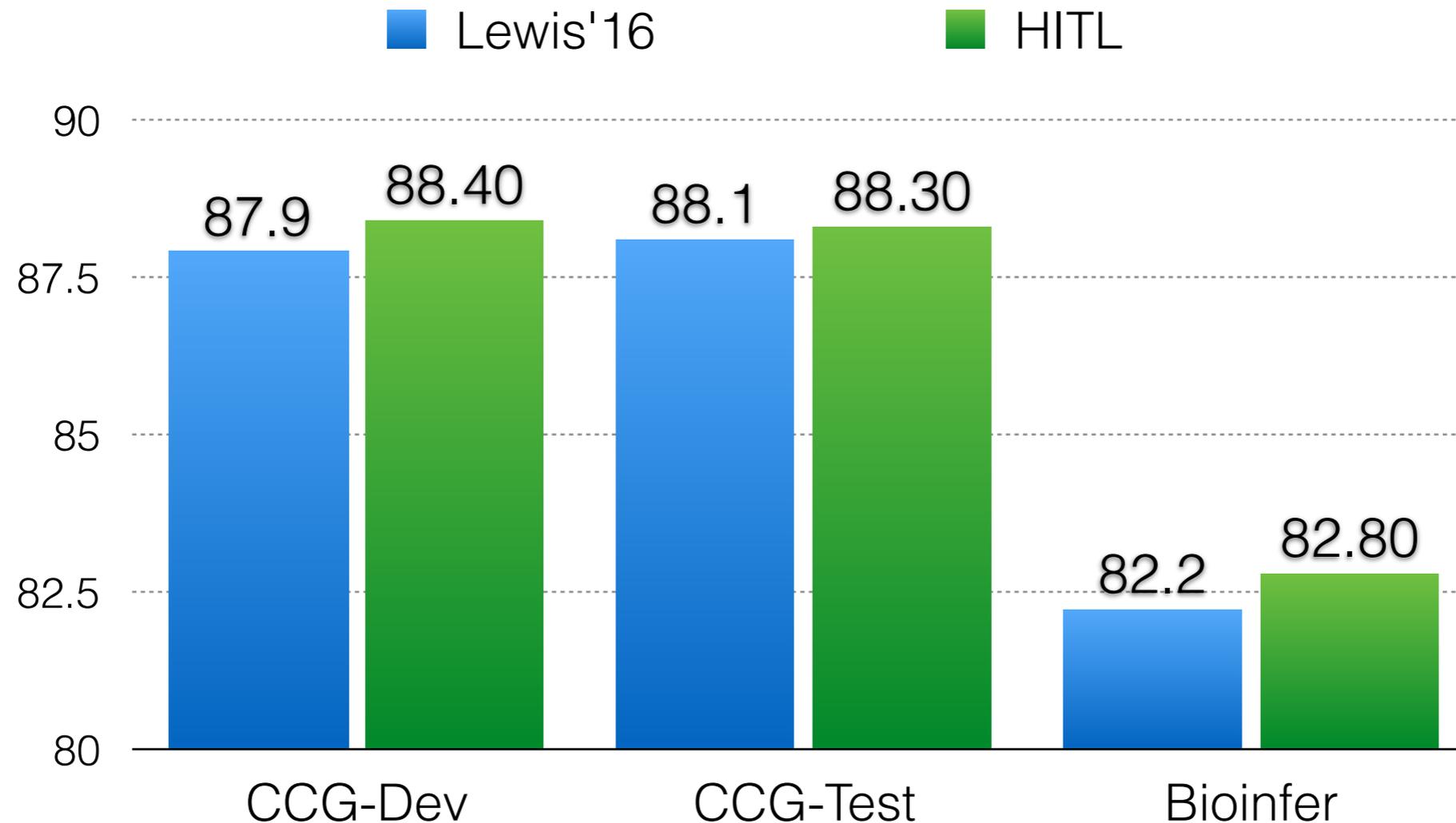
- Annotators tend to struggle with headedness.
- We add “disjunctive constraint”, forcing the re-parser to produce either of the two dependencies.

Re-Parsing with Crowdsourced Constraints

Q1: What did someone **bake**? $y^{\text{new}} = \arg \max_y \text{base_parser_score}(y)$
votes(cake) = 4 $-T^+ \times \mathbb{1}(\text{baked} \rightarrow \text{cake} \in y)$
votes(table) = 1 $-T^- \times \mathbb{1}(\text{baked} \rightarrow \text{table} \in y)$
votes(*None of the above*) = 0

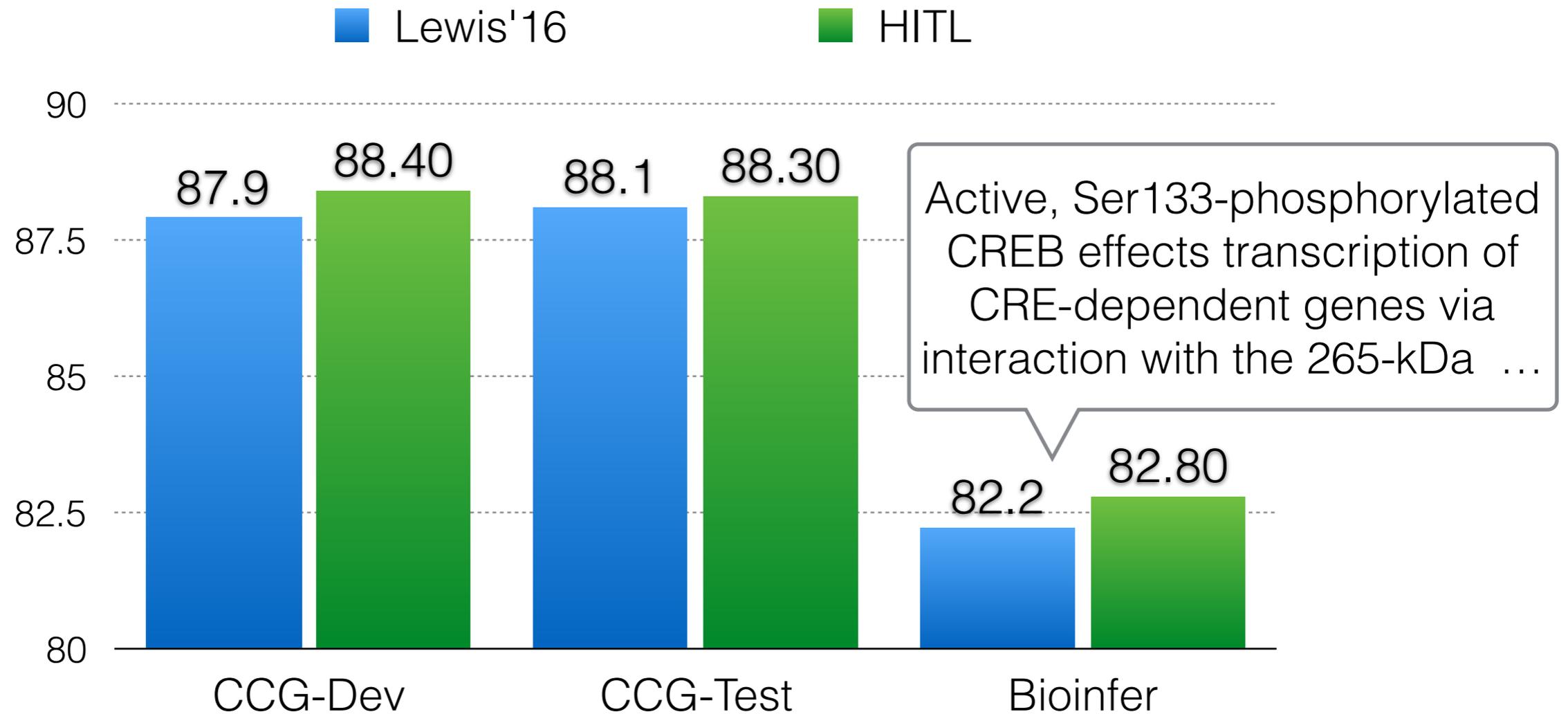
- Penalizes parses that disagree with crowdsourced judgments.
- Constraints are decomposed by dependencies.
- Thresholds and penalties are tuned on CCG-Dev.

Re-parsing Results (Labeled F1)



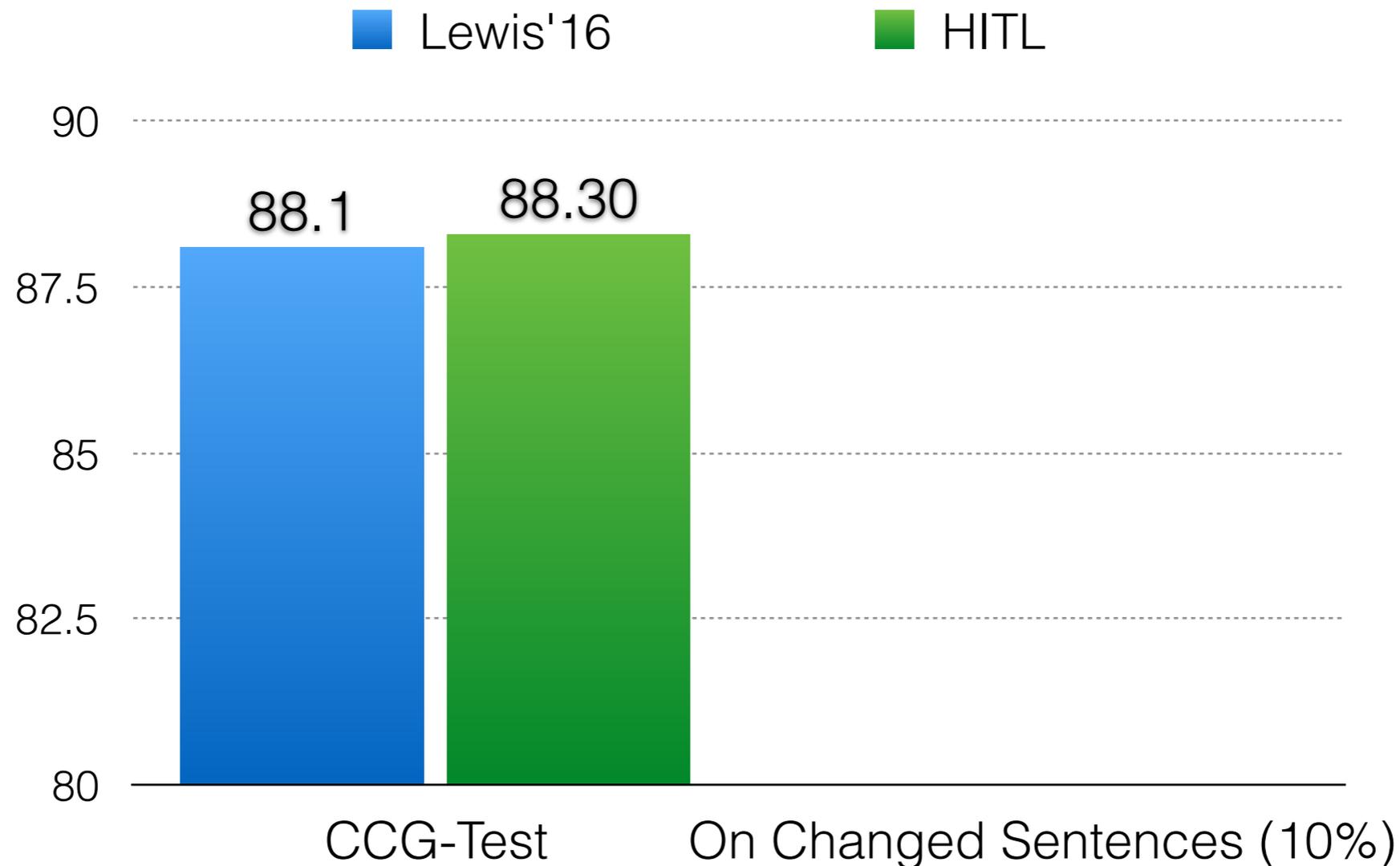
- Modest improvement due to syntax-semantics mismatch.
- Larger improvement on out-of-domain data.

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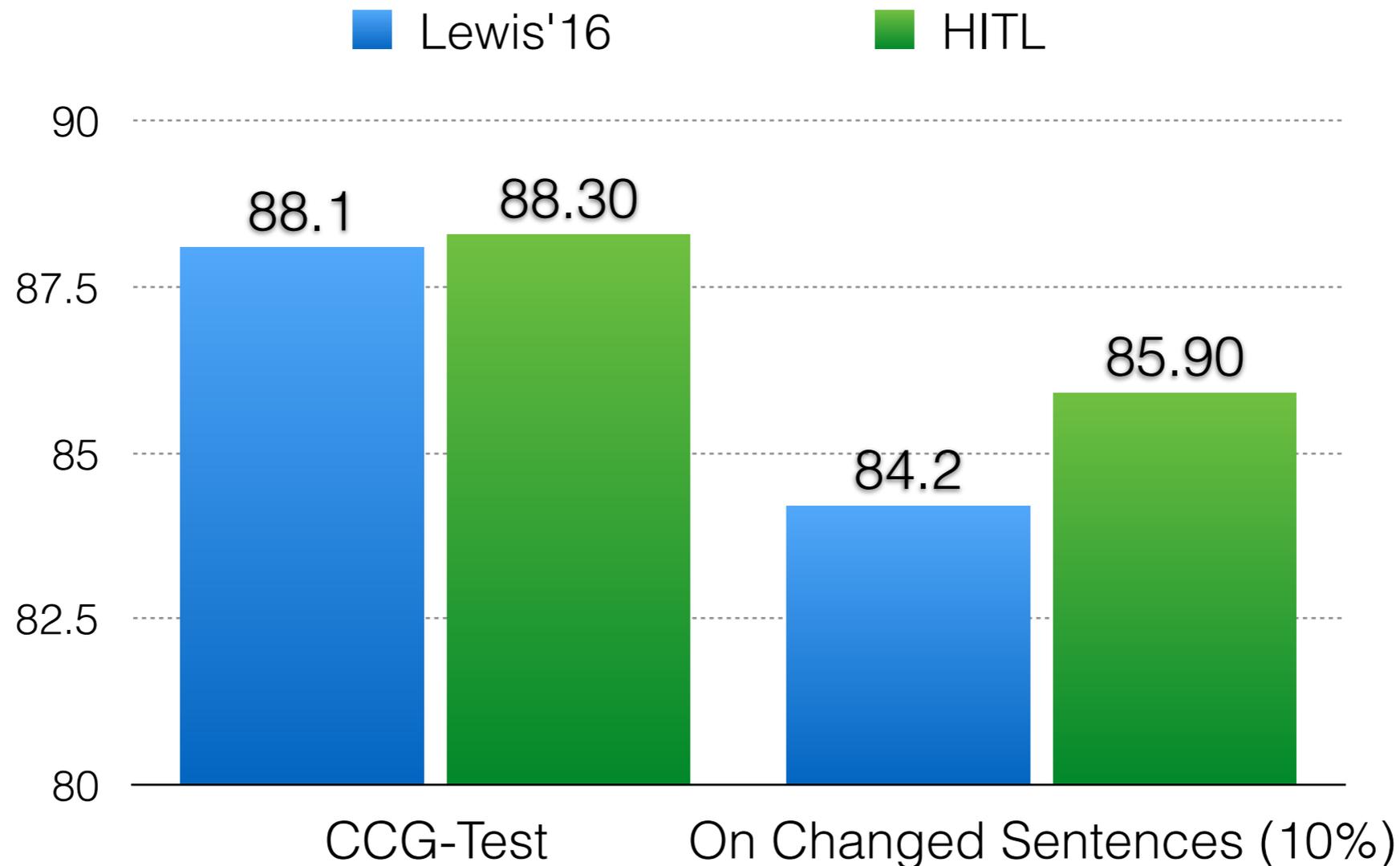
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Re-parsing Results



- Modified parse trees for about 10% of the sentences after incorporating human judgments.
- Larger gain on changed sentences.
- Changed sentences are “more difficult” on average.

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Future Work

- Improve coverage by adding new types of questions:
 - Modifiers: when, where, why ...
 - PP attachments with natural language queries.
- Bootstrap a parser in a low-resource domain.
- Focus on downstream applications (e.g. Information Extraction).

Contributions

- Use non-expert annotation to improve a parser.
- Crowdsourced Q/A data for further exploration of active learning/reinforcement learning techniques.
- Code and data available online: https://github.com/luheng/hitl_parsing

Thank You!

