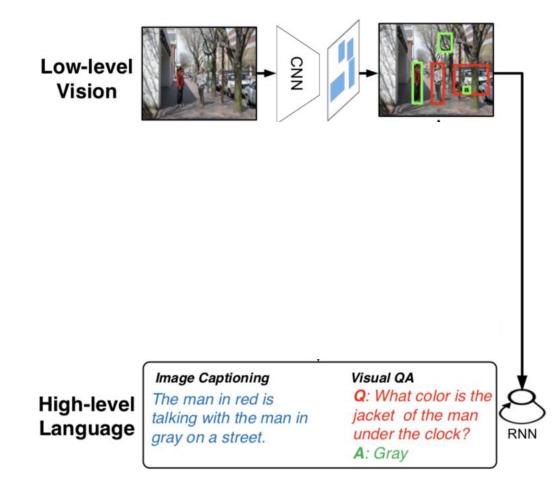
Towards X Visual Reasoning

Hanwang Zhang 张含望 hanwangzhang@ntu.edu.sg



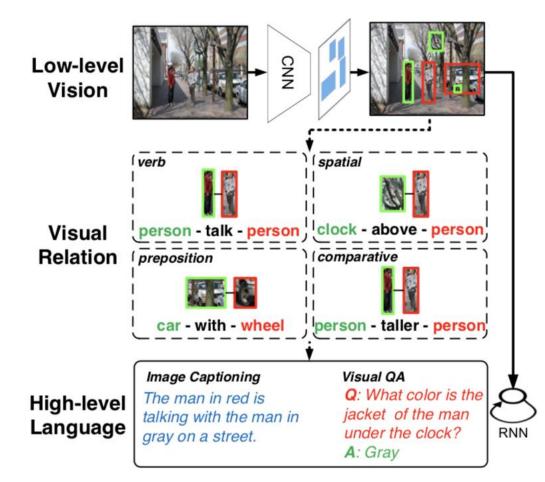
School of Computer Science and Engineering

Pattern Recognition v.s. Reasoning





Pattern Recognition v.s. Reasoning

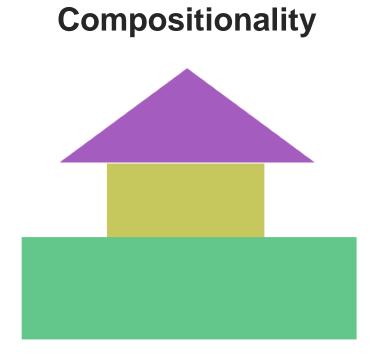


Caption: Lu et al. Neural Baby Talk. CVPR'18

VQA: Teney et al. Graph-Structured Representations for Visual Question Answering. CVPR'17 Cond. Image Generation: Jonson et al. Image Generation from Scene Graphs. CVPR'18



Reasoning: Core Problems



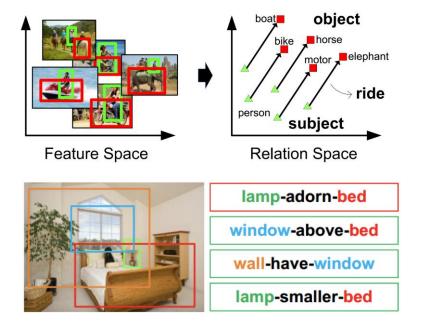
Learning to Reason

1+1=2 a+a=2a

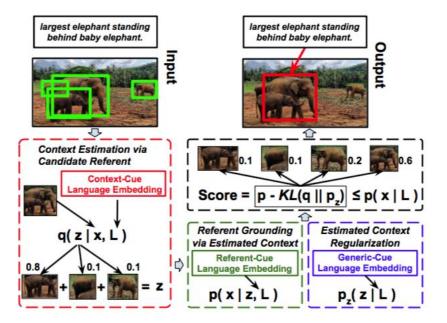


Three Examples

Visual Relation Detection [CVPR'17, ICCV'17] Referring Expression Grounding [CVPR'



Compositionality

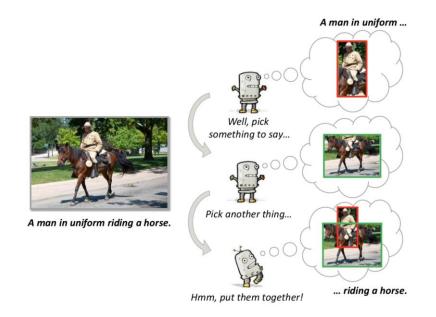


Learning to Reason



Three Examples

Sequence-level Image Captioning [MM'18 submission]



Learning to Reason



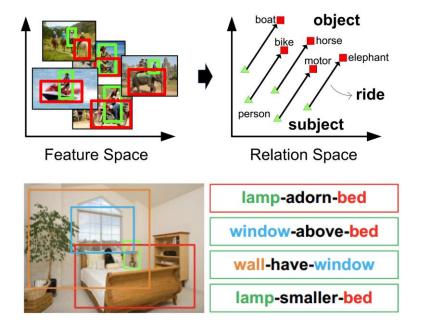
Two Future Works

- Scene Dynamics
- Design-free NMN for VQA

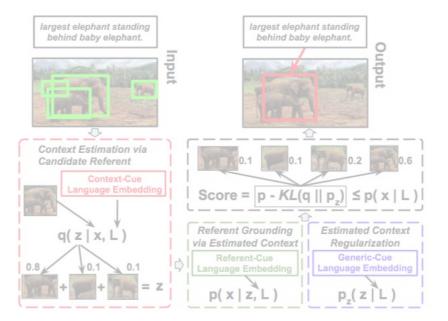


Three Examples

Visual Relation Detection [CVPR'17, ICCV'17] Referring Expression Grounding [CVPR'



Compositionality



Learning to Reason



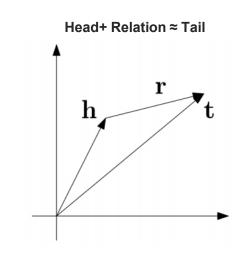
Challenges in Visual Relation Detection

- Modeling <Subject, Predicate, Object>
 - Joint Model: direct triplet modeling
 - Complexity O(N²R)→hard to scale up
 - Separate Model: separate objects & predicate
 - Complexity O(N+R)→visual diversity





TransE: Translation Embedding [Bordes et al. NIPS'13]



WALL-E



_has_genre

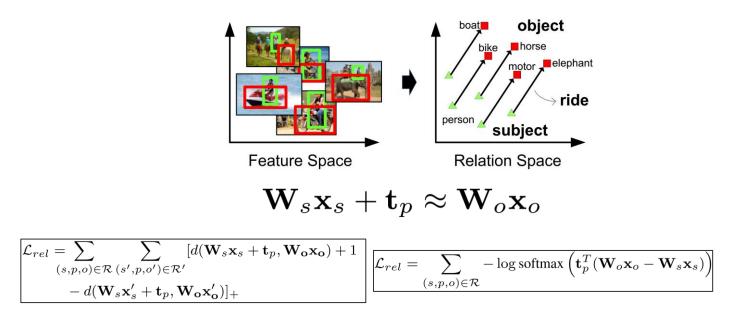
Animation Computer Anim. Comedy film Adventure film Science Fiction Fantasy Stop motion Satire Drama Connecting



Visual Translation Embedding

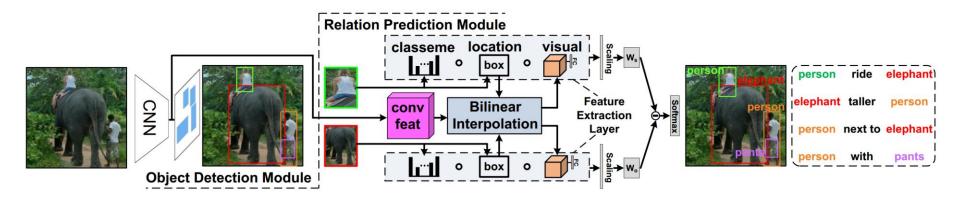
[Zhang et al. CVPR'17, ICCV'17]

• VTransE: Visual extension of TransE





VTransE Network

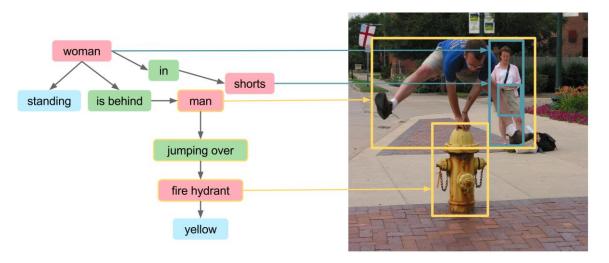




Evaluation: Relation Datasets

- Visual Relationship Lu et al. ECCV'16
- Visual Genome Krishna et al. IJCV'16

| DataSet | Image | Object | Predicate | Unique Relation | Relation/ Object |
|---------|--------|--------|-----------|--------------------|---------------------|
| VRD | 5,000 | 100 | 70 | 6,672 | 24.25 |
| VG | 99,658 | 200 | 100 | 19,237 | 57 |



Main Deficiency: Incomplete Annotation



Does TransE work in visual domain?

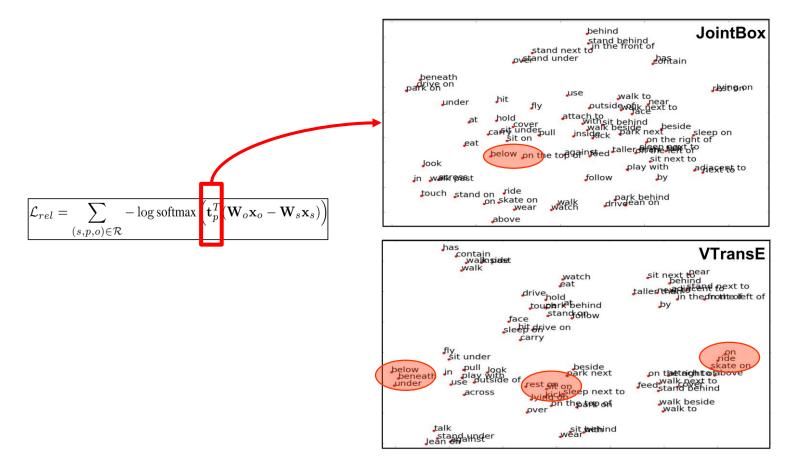
Predicate Prediction



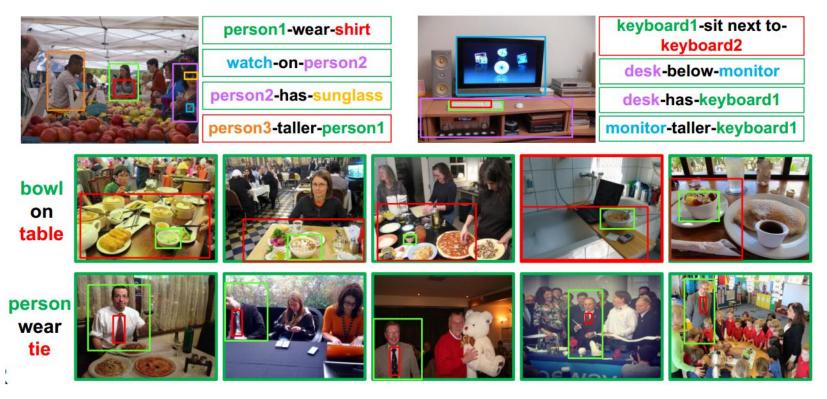




Does TransE work in visual domain?

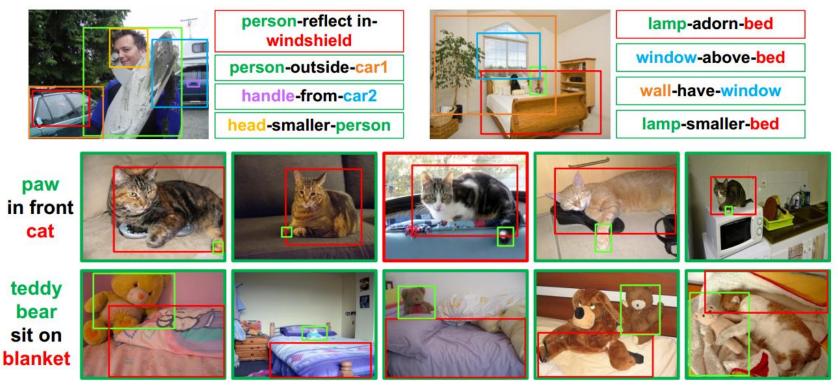






Demo link: cvpr.zl.io





Demo link: cvpr.zl.io



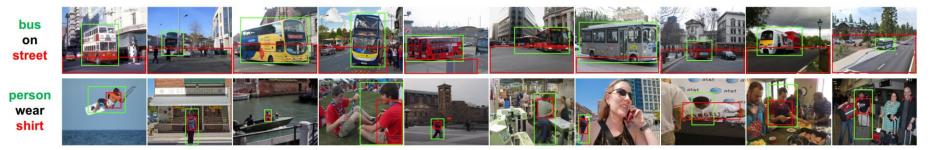
| Dataset | VRD [27] | | | | | VG [23] | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------|-------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------|---------|-------------|-------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| Task | Phrase Det. | | Relation Det. | | Retrieval | | Phrase Det. | | Relation Det. | | Retrieval | |
| Metric | R@50 | R@100 | R@50 | R@100 | Rr@5 | Med r | R@50 | R@100 | R@50 | R@100 | Rr@5 | Med r |
| VisualPhrase [37] | 0.54 | 0.63 | _ | _ | 3.51 | 204 | 3.41 | 4.27 | _ | _ | 11.42 | 18 |
| DenseCap [19] | 0.62 | 0.77 | _ | _ | 4.16 | 199 | 3.85 | 5.01 | _ | _ | 12.95 | 13 |
| Lu's-V [27] | 2.24 | 2.61 | 1.58 | 1.85 | 2.82 | 211 | - | _ | _ | _ | _ | _ |
| Lu's-VLK [27] | 16.17 | 17.03 | 13.86 | 14.70 | 8.75 | 137 | - | - | - | _ | - | _ |
| VTransE | 19.42 | 22.42 | 14.07 | 15.20 | 7.89 | 41 | 9.46 | 10.45 | 5.52 | 6.04 | 14.65 | 7 |
| VTransE-2stage | 18.45 | 21.29 | 13.30 | 14.64 | 7.14 | 41 | 8.73 | 10.11 | 4.97 | 5.48 | 12.82 | 12 |
| Random | 0.06 | 0.11 | 7.14×10^{-3} | 1.43×10^{-2} | 2.95 | 497 | 0.04 | 0.07 | 1.25×10^{-3} | 2.50×10^{-3} | 3.45 | 1.28×10^4 |

Phrase Detection: only need to detect the <subject, object> joint box *Relation Detection:* detect both subject and object *Retrieval:* given a query relation, return images

VTransE were best separate models in 2017. ([Li et al. and Dai et al. CVPR'17 are (partially joint models)

New state-of-the-art: Neural MOTIF (Zellers et al. CVPR'18, 27.2/30.3 R@50/R@100)

Bad retrieval on VR is due to incomplete annotation



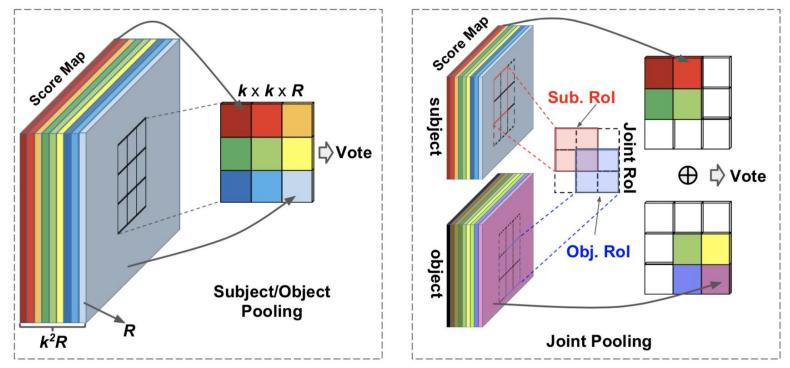


Two follow-up works

- The key: pure visual pair model $f(x_1, x_2)$
- f(x1,x2) underpins almost every VRD
- Evaluation: predicate classification
- 1. Faster pairwise modeling (ICCV'17)
- 2. Object-agnostic modeling (ECCV'18 submission)



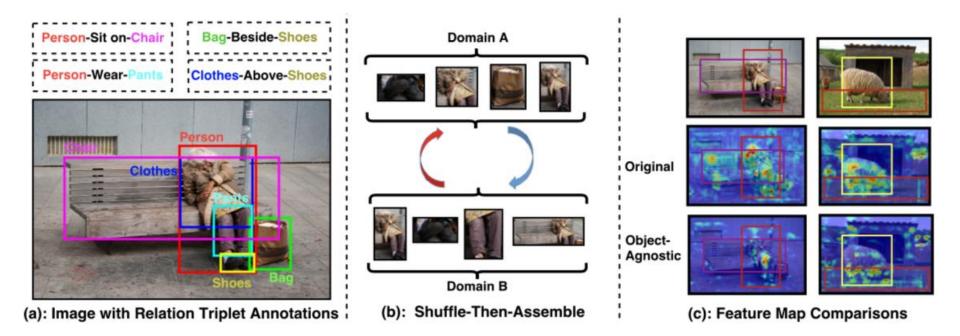
Parallel Pairwise R-FCN (Zhang et al. ICCV'17)



| | VRD R@50 | VRD R@100 | VG R@50 | VG R@100 |
|---------|----------|--------------|---------|----------|
| VTransE | 44.76 | 44.76 | 62.63 | 62.87 |
| PPR-FCN | 47.43 | 47.43 | 64.17 | 64.86 |

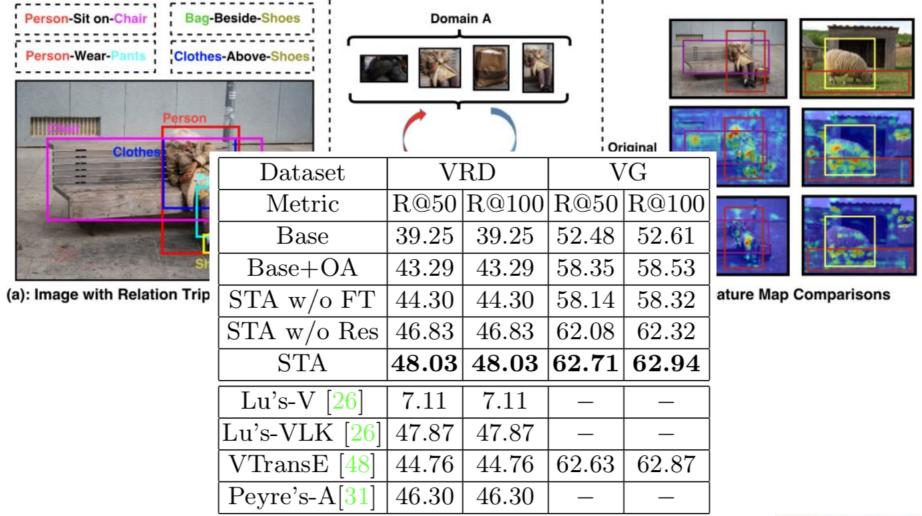


Shuffle-Then-Assemble (Yang et al. 18')





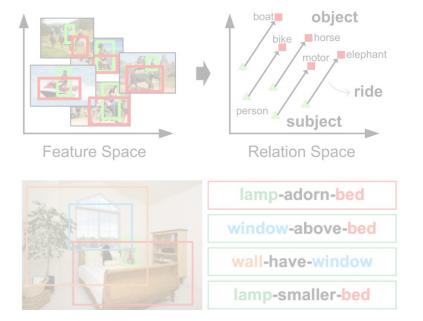
Shuffle-Then-Assemble (Yang et al. 18')





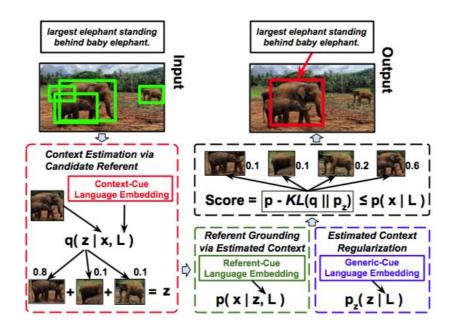
Three Examples

Visual Relation Detection [CVPR'17, ICCV'17]



Compositionality

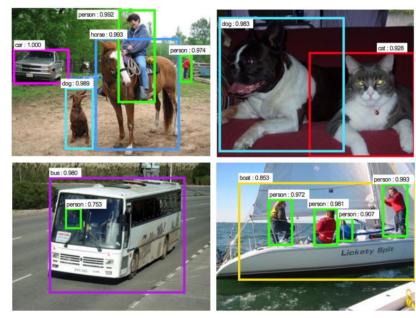
Referring Expression Grounding [CVPR'



Learning to Reason



What is grounding? Object Detection



R Girshick ICCV'15

Link words (from a fixed vocab.) to visual objects

O(N)



What is grounding? Phrase-to-Region



A man in a gray sweater speaks to two women and a man pushing a shopping cart through Walmart.

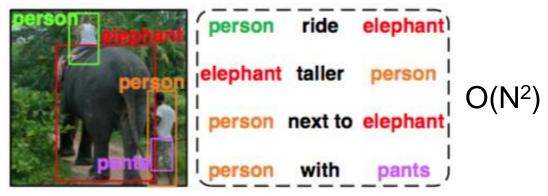
Plummer et al. ICCV'15

Link phrases to visual objects

O(N)



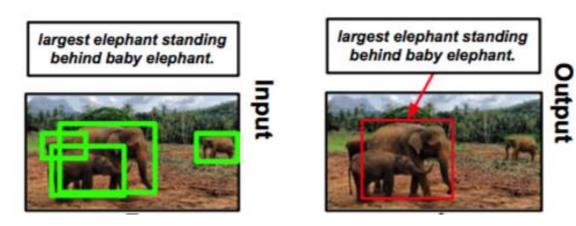
What is grounding? Visual Relation Detection



Zhang et al. CVPR'17



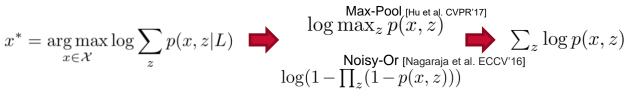
What's referring expression grounding?

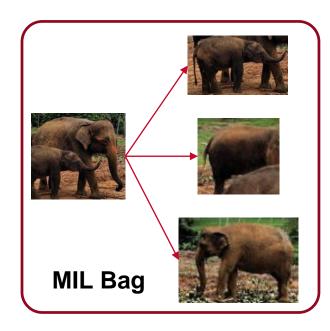


O(2^N)



Prior Work: Multiple Instance Learning





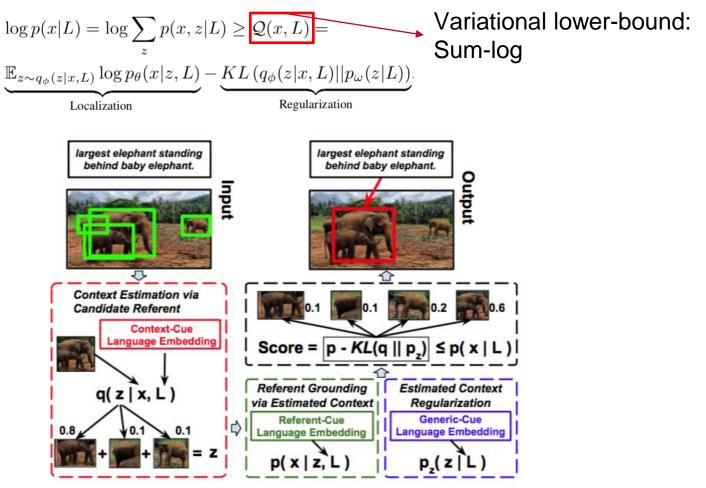


Bad Approximation:

- Context z is not necessarily to be a single region
- Log-sum directly to sum-log is too coarse, i.e., forcing every pair to be equally possible



Our Work: Variational Context [Zhang et al CVPR'18]





SGD Details

Network Details

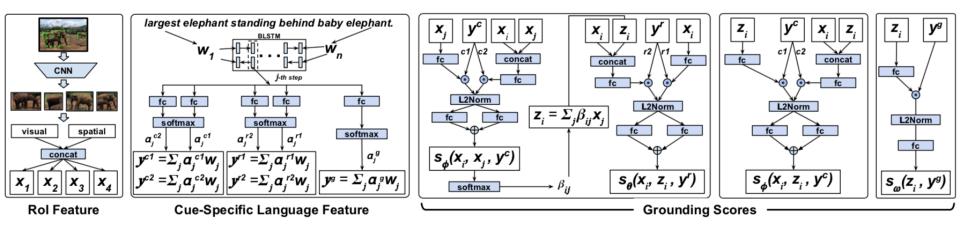
$$\mathcal{Q}(x,L) \propto \mathcal{S}(x,L) = s_{\theta}(x,L) - s_{\phi}(x,L) + s_{\omega}(x,L)$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$\mathbf{z}_{i} = \sum_{j} \operatorname{softmax}_{j} \left(s_{\phi}(\mathbf{x}_{i},\mathbf{x}_{j},\mathbf{y}^{c}) \right) \mathbf{x}_{j}$$

$$(\mathbf{z}_{i} \in \mathbf{s}_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{i},\mathbf{z}_{i},\mathbf{y}^{c}) - s_{\psi}(x,L) \leftarrow s_{\psi}(\mathbf{z}_{i},\mathbf{z}_{i},\mathbf{y}^{c}) - s_{\psi}(x,L) \leftarrow s_{\psi}(\mathbf{z}_{i},\mathbf{z}_{i},\mathbf{z}^{c}) - s_{\psi}(x,L) \leftarrow s_{\psi}(\mathbf{z}_{i},\mathbf{z}^{c}) - s_{\psi}(x,L) \leftarrow s_{\psi}(\mathbf{z}_{i},\mathbf{z}^{c}) - s_{\psi}(x,L) \leftarrow s_{\psi}(\mathbf{z}_{i},\mathbf{z}^{c}) - s_{\psi}(\mathbf{z}^{c}) - s_{\psi}(\mathbf{z}^{c},\mathbf{z}^{c}) - s_{\psi}(\mathbf{z}^{c},\mathbf{z}^$$

 $s_{\theta}(x,L) \leftarrow s_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{z}_i, \mathbf{y}^r) \quad s_{\phi}(x,L) \leftarrow s_{\phi}(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{z}_i, \mathbf{y}^c) \quad s_{\omega}(x,L) \leftarrow s_{\omega}(\mathbf{z}_i, \mathbf{y}^g)$





Network Details

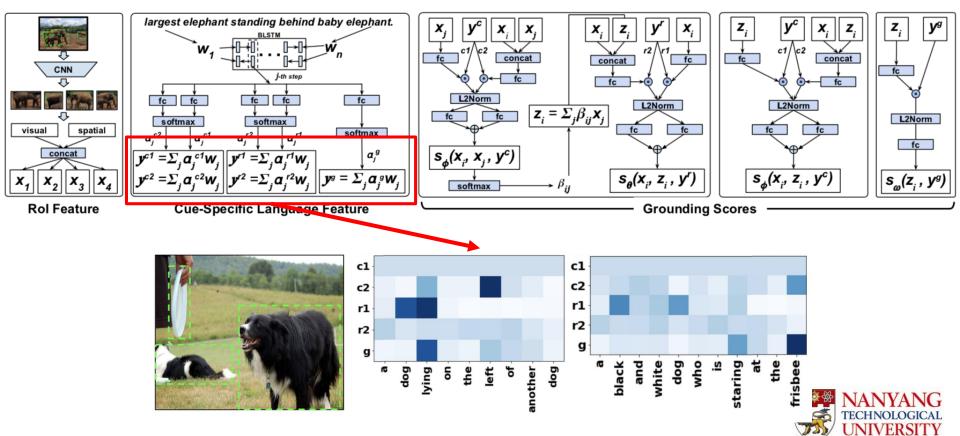
$$\mathcal{Q}(x,L) \propto \mathcal{S}(x,L) = s_{\theta}(x,L) - s_{\phi}(x,L) + s_{\omega}(x,L)$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$\mathbf{z}_{i} = \sum_{j} \operatorname{softmax}_{j} \left(s_{\phi}(\mathbf{x}_{i},\mathbf{x}_{j},\mathbf{y}^{c}) \right) \mathbf{x}_{j}$$

$$r_{i}(L) \leftarrow s_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_{i},\mathbf{z}_{i},\mathbf{y}^{c}) - s_{\phi}(x,L) \leftarrow s_{\phi}(\mathbf{x}_{i},\mathbf{z}_{i},\mathbf{y}^{c}) - s_{\phi}(x,L) \leftarrow s_{\phi}(\mathbf{z}_{i},\mathbf{z}_{i},\mathbf{y}^{c}) - s_{\phi}(x,L) \leftarrow s_{\phi}(\mathbf{z}_{i},\mathbf{z}_{i},\mathbf{z}_{i},\mathbf{y}^{c}) - s_{\phi}(x,L) \leftarrow s_{\phi}(\mathbf{z}_{i},\mathbf{z},\mathbf{z}_{i},\mathbf{z}_{i},$$

 $s_{\theta}(x,L) \leftarrow s_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{z}_i, \mathbf{y}^r) \quad s_{\phi}(x,L) \leftarrow s_{\phi}(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{z}_i, \mathbf{y}^c) \quad s_{\omega}(x,L) \leftarrow s_{\omega}(\mathbf{z}_i, \mathbf{y}^g)$



Grounding Accuracy

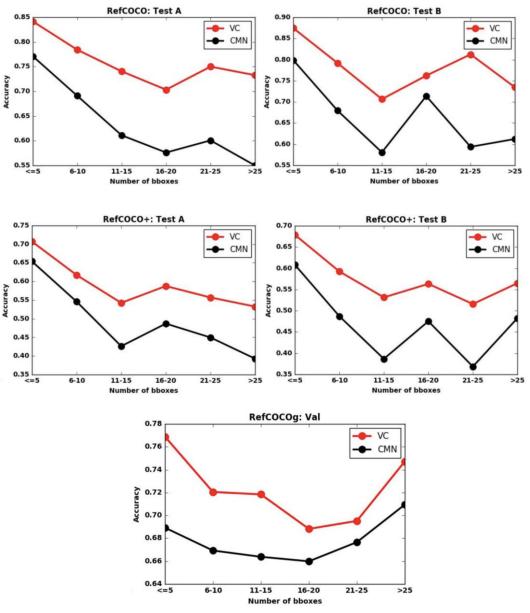
| | | | Our Baselines | | | | | | |
|--------|---|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|
| Split | MMI [25] | NegBag [26] | Attr [19] | CMN [11] | Speaker [46] | Listener [46] | VC w/o reg | VC w/o α | VC |
| Test A | 71.72 | 75.6 | 78.85 | 75.94 | 78.95 | 78.45 | 75.59 | 74.03 | 78.98 |
| Test B | 71.09 | 78.0 | 78.07 | 79.57 | 80.22 | 80.10 | 79.69 | 78.27 | 82.39 |
| Test A | 58.42 | | 61.47 | 59.29 | 64.60 | 63.34 | 60.76 | 57.61 | 62.56 |
| Test B | 51.23 | | 57.22 | 59.34 | 59.62 | 58.91 | 60.14 | 54.37 | 62.90 |
| Val | 62.14 | 68.4 | 69.83 | 69.30 | 72.63 | 72.25 | 71.05 | 65.13 | 73.98 |
| Test A | 64.90 | 58.6 | 72.08 | 71.03 | 72.95 | 72.95 | 70.78 | 70.73 | 73.33 |
| Test B | 54.51 | 56.4 | 57.29 | 65.77 | 63.43 | 62.98 | 65.10 | 64.63 | 67.44 |
| Test A | 54.03 | | 57.97 | 54.32 | 60.43 | 59.61 | 56.82 | 53.33 | 58.40 |
| Test B | 42.81 | | 46.20 | 47.76 | 48.74 | 48.44 | 51.30 | 46.88 | 53.18 |
| Val | 45.85 | 39.5 | 52.35 | 57.47 | 59.51 | 58.32 | 60.95 | 55.72 | 62.30 |
| | Test A Test B Test A Test B Val Test A Test B Test A Test B | Test A 71.72 Test B 71.09 Test A 58.42 Test B 51.23 Val 62.14 Test B 54.51 Test A 54.03 Test B 42.81 | Test A71.7275.6Test B71.0978.0Test A58.42—Test B51.23—Val62.1468.4Test A64.9058.6Test B54.5156.4Test A54.03—Test B42.81— | SplitMMI [25]NegBag [26]Attr [19]Test A71.7275.678.85Test B71.0978.078.07Test A58.42—61.47Test B51.23—57.22Val62.1468.469.83Test A64.9058.672.08Test B54.5156.457.29Test A54.03—57.97Test B42.81—46.20 | Test A71.7275.678.8575.94Test B71.0978.078.0779.57Test A58.4261.4759.29Test B51.2357.2259.34Val62.1468.469.8369.30Test A64.9058.672.0871.03Test B54.5156.457.2965.77Test A54.0357.9754.32Test B42.8146.2047.76 | SplitMMI [25]NegBag [26]Attr [19]CMN [11]Speaker [46]Test A71.7275.678.8575.9478.95Test B71.0978.078.0779.5780.22Test A58.42—61.4759.2964.60Test B51.23—57.2259.3459.62Val62.1468.469.8369.3072.63Test A64.9058.672.0871.0372.95Test B54.5156.457.2965.7763.43Test A54.03—57.9754.3260.43Test B42.81—46.2047.7648.74 | SplitMMI [25]NegBag [26]Attr [19]CMN [11]Speaker [46]Listener [46]Test A71.7275.678.8575.9478.9578.45Test B71.0978.0078.0779.5780.2280.10Test A58.42—61.4759.2964.6063.34Test B51.23—57.2259.3459.6258.91Val62.1468.469.8369.3072.6372.25Test A64.9058.672.0871.0372.9572.95Test B54.5156.457.2965.7763.4362.98Test A54.03—57.9754.3260.4359.61Test B42.81—46.2047.7648.7448.44 | SplitMMI [25]NegBag [26]Attr [19]CMN [11]Speaker [46]Listener [46]VC w/o regTest A71.7275.678.8575.9478.9578.4575.59Test B71.0978.078.0779.5780.2280.1079.69Test A58.42—61.4759.2964.6063.3460.76Test B51.23—57.2259.3459.6258.9160.14Val62.1468.469.8369.3072.6372.2571.05Test A64.9058.672.0871.0372.9572.9570.78Test B54.5156.457.2965.7763.4362.9865.10Test A54.03—57.9754.3260.4359.6156.82Test B42.81—46.2047.7648.7448.4451.30 | SplitMMI [25]NegBag [26]Attr [19]CMN [11]Speaker [46]Listener [46]VC w/o regVC w/o αTest A71.7275.678.8575.9478.9578.4575.5974.03Test B71.0978.0078.0779.5780.2280.1079.6978.27Test A58.4261.4759.2964.6063.3460.7657.61Test B51.2357.2259.3459.6258.9160.1454.37Val62.1468.469.8369.3072.6372.2571.0565.13Test A64.9058.672.0871.0372.9572.9570.7870.73Test B54.5156.457.2965.7763.4362.9865.1064.63Test A54.0357.9754.3260.4359.6156.8253.33Test B42.8146.2047.7648.7448.4451.3046.88 |

The best VGG SINGLE model to date.

Best ResNet Model: Licheng Yu et al. MAttNet: Modular Attention Network for Referring Expression Comprehension. CVPR'18



More effective than MIL

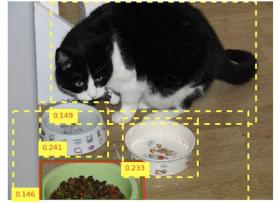


R. Hu et al. Modeling relationships in referential expressions with compositional mod- ular networks. In CVR

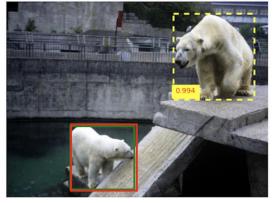


Qualitative Results

a green food dish with cat food



a polar bear at the bottom of a ramp



a man with one arm is pedaling a bike



a green boat afloat near a flooded river lined with refugees

a man in a white shirt

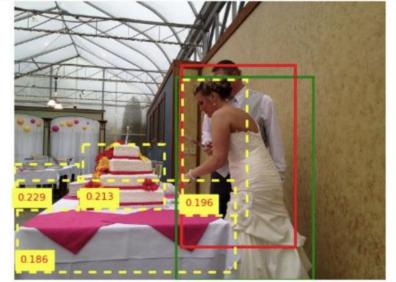




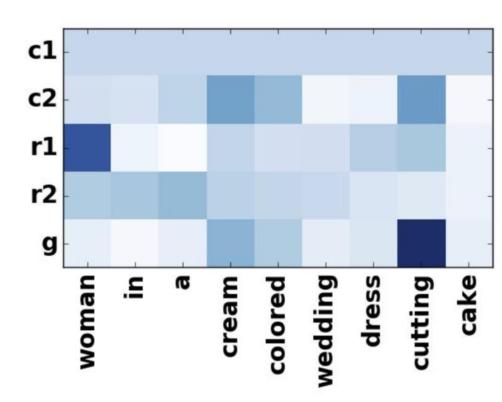
A dark horse between three lighter horses





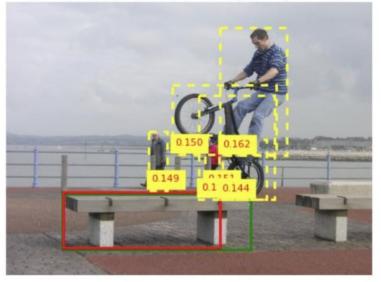


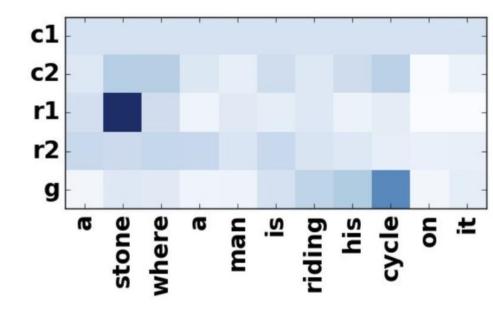
woman in a cream colored wedding dress cutting cake





a stone where a man is riding his cycle on it

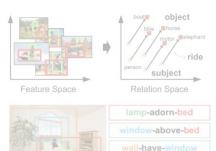






Three Examples

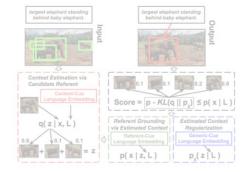
Visual Relation Detection [CVPR'17, ICCV'17]



Compositionality

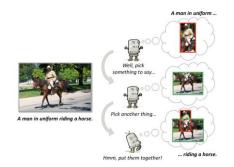
lamp-smaller-bed

Referring Expression Grounding [CVPR'18]



Learning to Reason



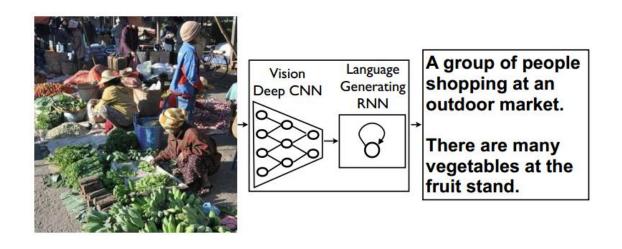


Learning to Reason



Neural Image Captioning

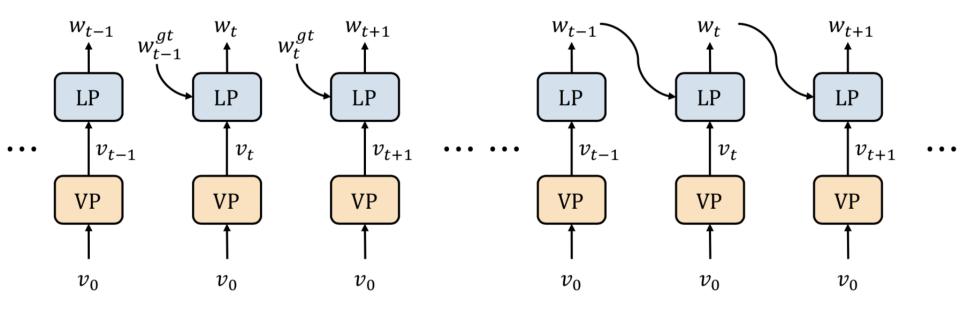
GoogleNIC (Vinyals et al. 2014)



Encoder (Image→CNN→Vector) → *Decoder* (Vector→Word Seq.)



Sequence-level Image Captioning

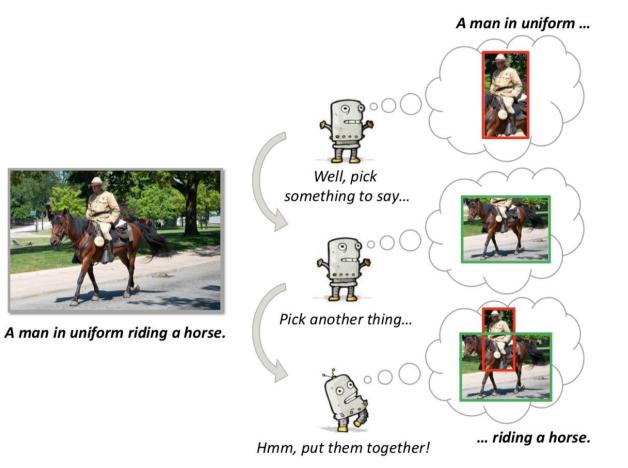


(a) Traditional Framework

(b) RL-based Framework

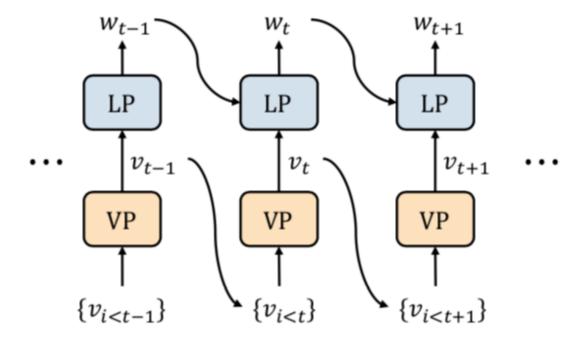


Context in Image Captioning





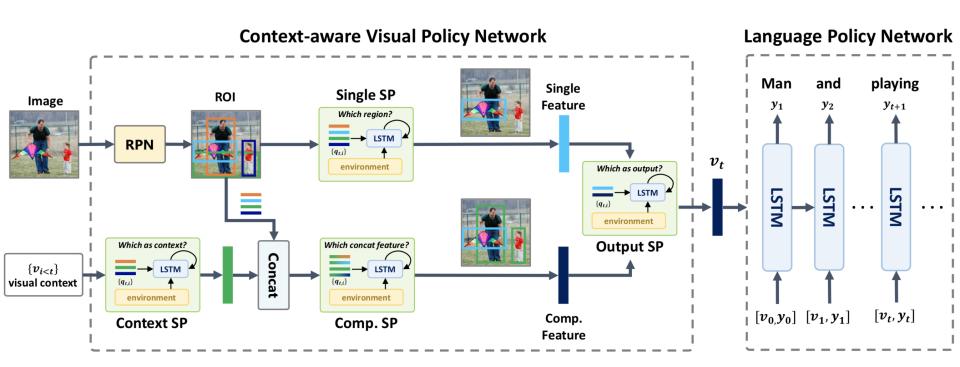
Context-Aware Visual Policy Network



(c) Our Framework

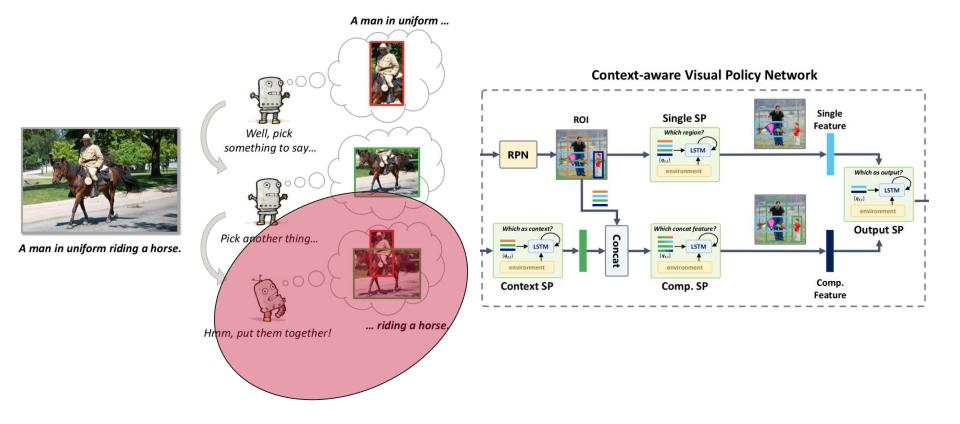


Context-Aware Policy Network



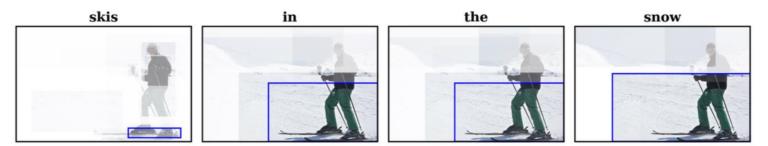


Context-Aware Policy Network





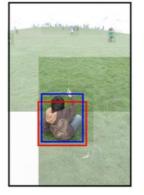






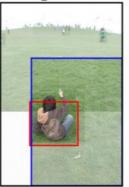


the





grass

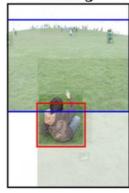


man

flying

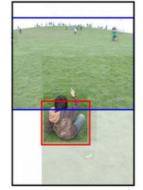


sitting





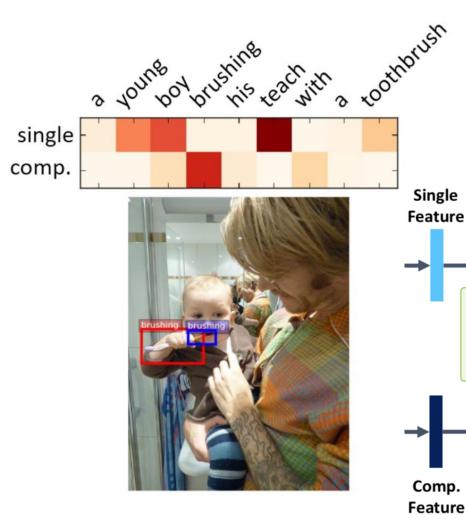
in



kite

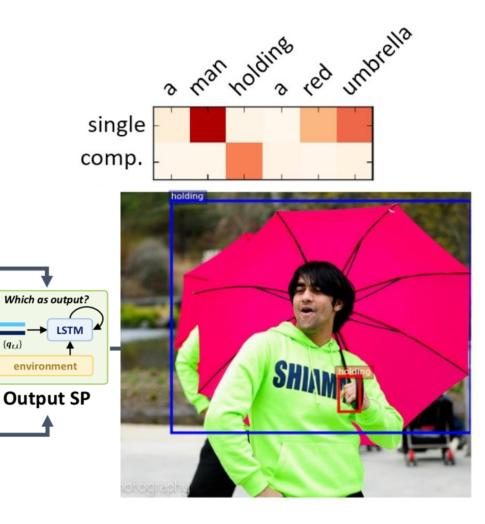




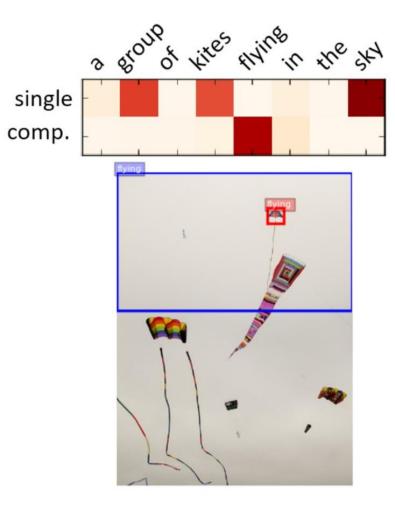


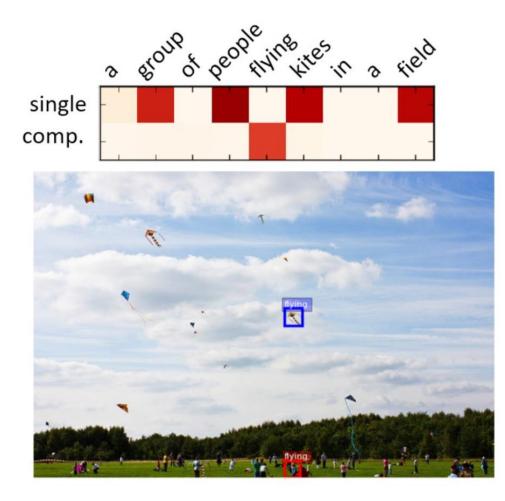
 $\{q_{t,i}\}$

environment











MS-COCO Leaderboard

| # | User | Entries | Date of | BLEU-4 | | METEOR | | ROUGE-L | | CIDEr-D | |
|---|---------------|---------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | | Last Entry | c5 🔺 | c40 ▲ |
| 1 | TencentAl.v2 | 5 | 12/15/17 | 0.386 (1) | 0.701 (1) | 0.286 (1) | 0.377 (1) | 0.587 (1) | 0.737 (1) | 1.254 (1) | 1.278 (1) |
| 2 | AnonymousTeam | 5 | 11/13/17 | 0.380 (3) | 0.692 (2) | 0.282 (3) | 0.372 (3) | 0.582 (3) | 0.731 (2) | 1.229 (3) | 1.251 (2) |
| 3 | TingYao | 4 | 09/03/17 | 0.382 (2) | 0.691 (3) | 0.283 (2) | 0.373 (2) | 0.582 (2) | 0.729 (4) | 1.232 (2) | 1.246 (3) |
| 4 | LiuDaqing | 3 | 04/08/18 | 0.379 (4) | 0.690 (4) | 0.281 (4) | 0.370 (5) | 0.582 (4) | 0.731 (3) | 1.216 (4) | 1.238 (4) |

We are **SINGLE** model.



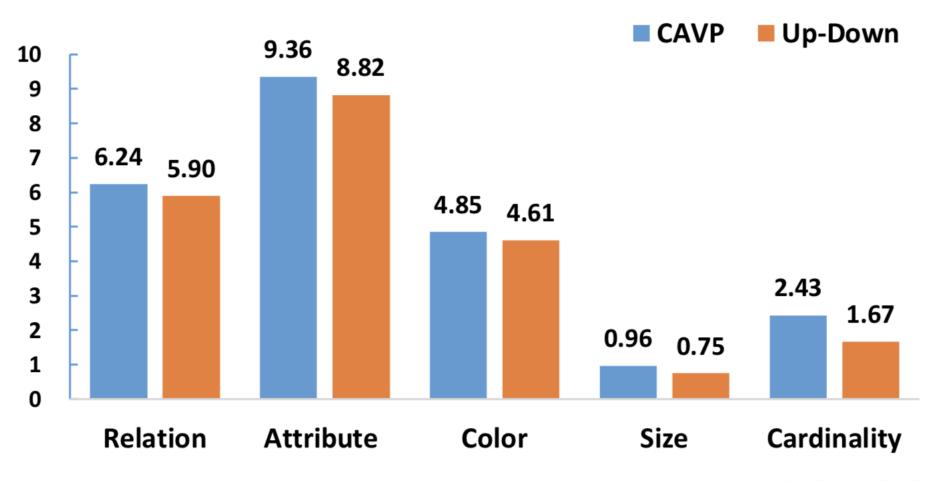
Compare with Academic Peers

| Model | B@4 | М | R | С | S |
|---------------------|------|------|------|-------|------|
| Google NIC[35] | 32.1 | 25.7 | - | 99.8 | - |
| Hard-Attention[38] | 24.3 | 23.9 | - | - | - |
| Adaptive[23] | 33.2 | 26.6 | 54.9 | 108.5 | 19.4 |
| LSTM-A[39] | 32.5 | 25.1 | 53.8 | 98.6 | - |
| PG-SPIDEr[22] | 32.2 | 25.1 | 54.4 | 100.0 | - |
| Actor-Critic[43] | 34.4 | 26.7 | 55.8 | 116.2 | - |
| EmbeddingReward[28] | 30.4 | 25.1 | 52.5 | 93.7 | - |
| SCST[29] | 35.4 | 27.1 | 56.6 | 117.5 | - |
| StackCap[9] | 36.1 | 27.4 | 56.9 | 120.4 | 20.9 |
| Up-Down[2] | 36.3 | 27.7 | 56.9 | 120.1 | 21.4 |
| Ours | 38.6 | 28.3 | 58.5 | 126.3 | 21.6 |

Table 2: Performance comparisons on MS-COCO "Karpathy" offline split. B@n is short for BLEU-n, M is short for ME-TEOR, and C is short for CIDEr.



Detail Comparison with Up-Down

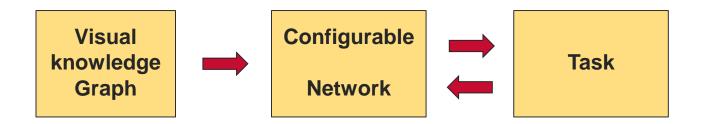




P. Anderson et al. Bottom-up and top-down attention for image captioning and VQA. In CVPR'18

Visual Reasoning: A Desired Pipeline

• Configurable NN for various reasoning applications:



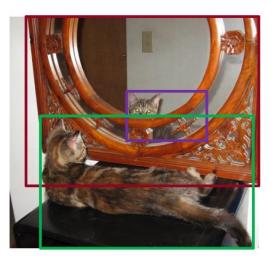
Captioning, VQA, and Visual Dialogue



Visual Reasoning: Future Directions

- Compositionality
 - Good SG generation
 - Robust SG representation
 - Task-specific SG generation
- Learning to reason
 - Task-specific network
 - Good policy-gradient RL for large SG





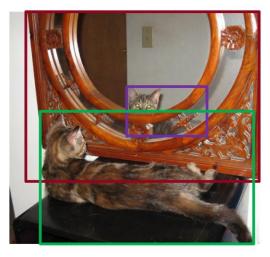


time step: 0 (Initial State)

Agent 1

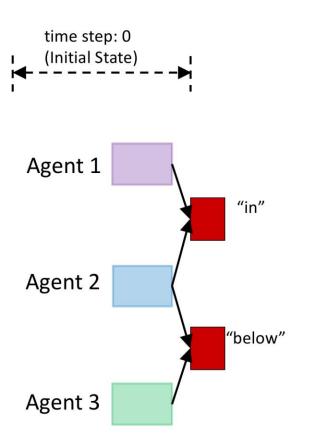
Agent 2

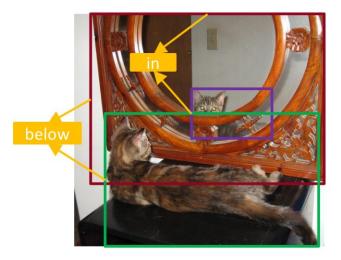




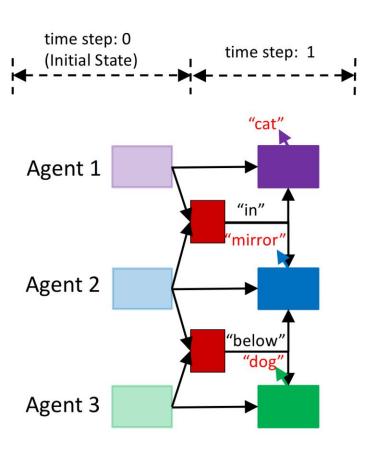


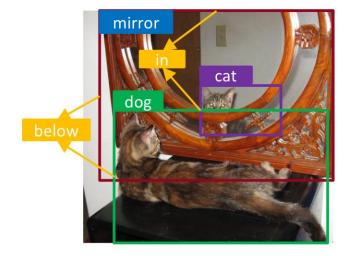






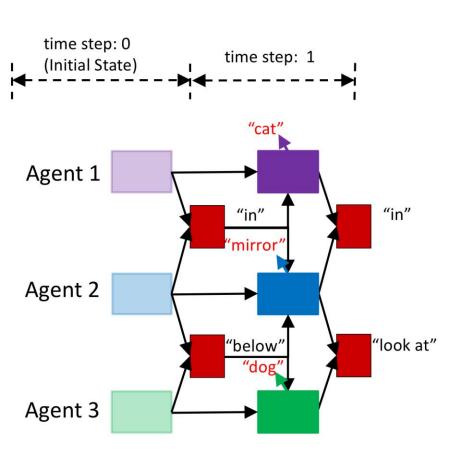


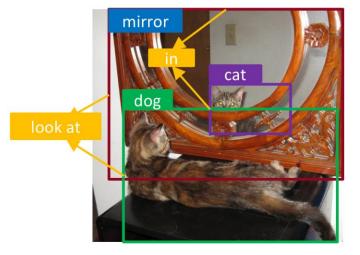




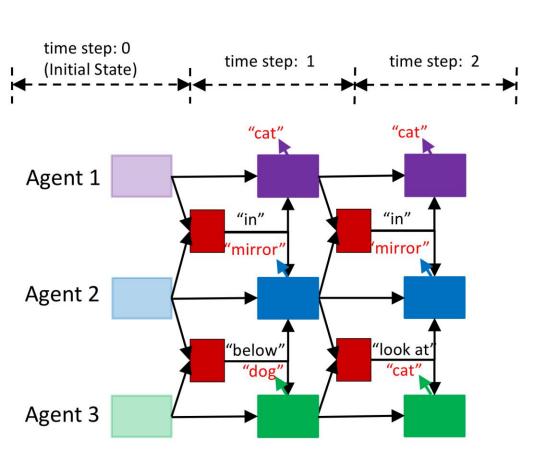


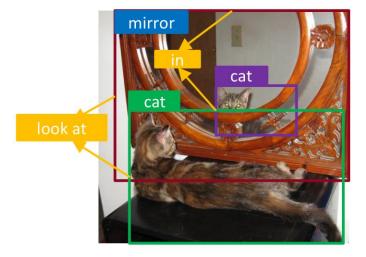






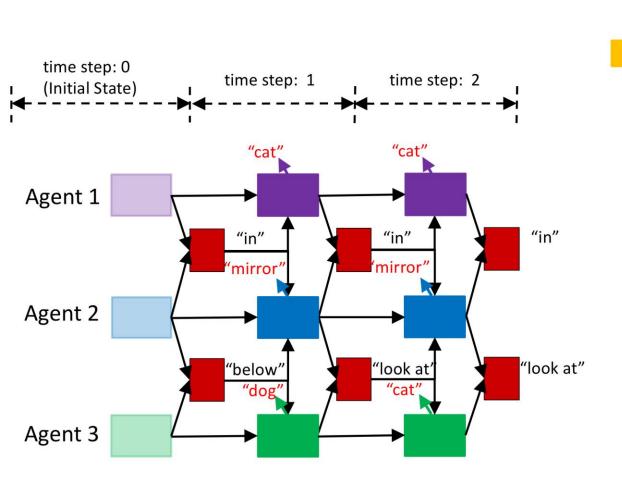


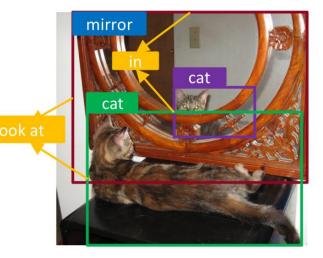




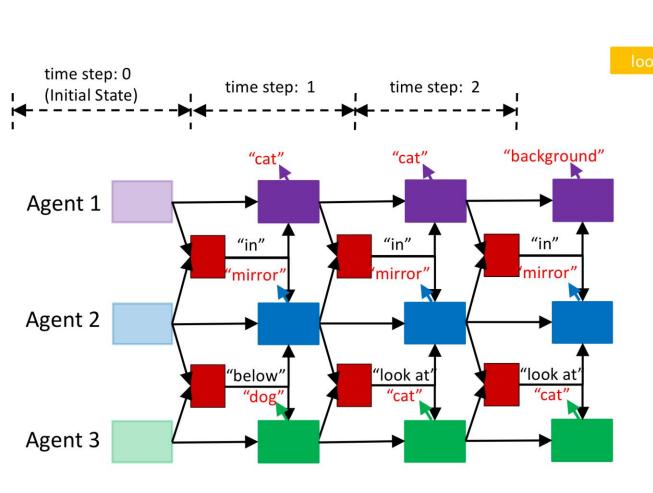


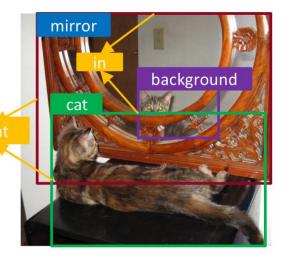




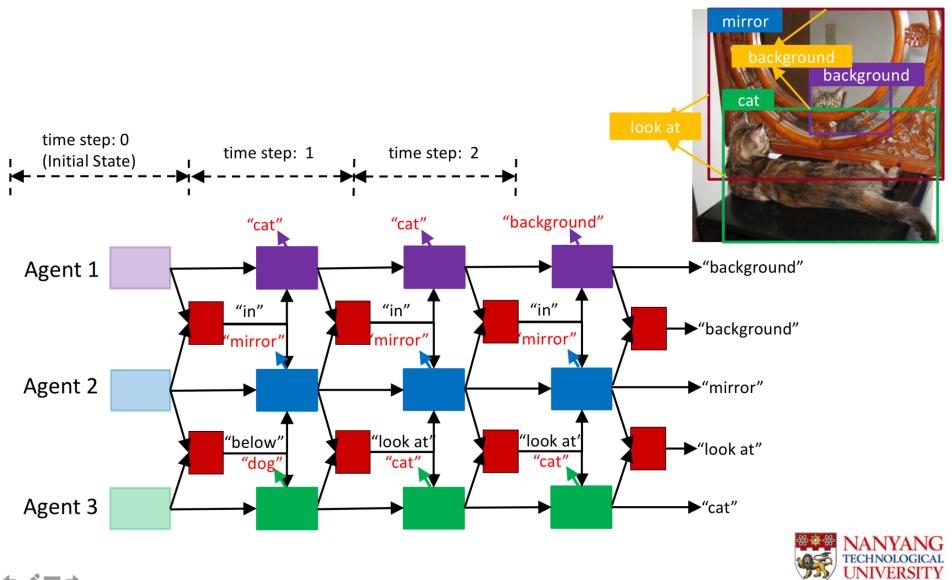






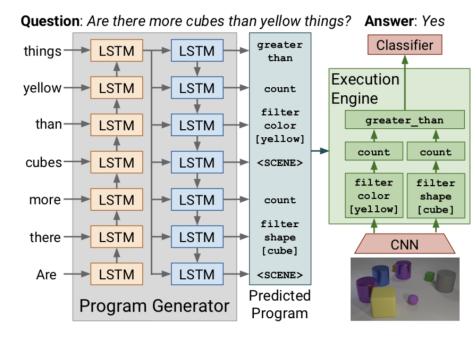








Hard-design X Module Network



Jonson et al. ICCV'17 Hu et al. ICCV'17 Mascharka et al. CVPR'18

• $Q \rightarrow Program not X$

- Module X but harddesign
- CLEVER hacker
- Poor generalization to COCO-VQA



Design-Free Module Network

