

Human-in-the-Loop Parsing

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University of Washington

EMNLP 2016



*Now at Facebook AI Research



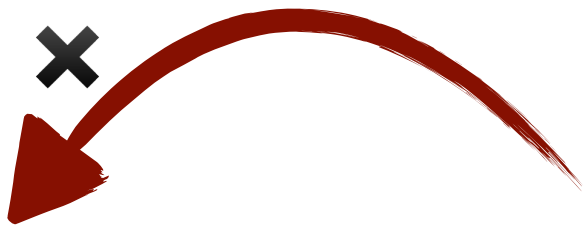
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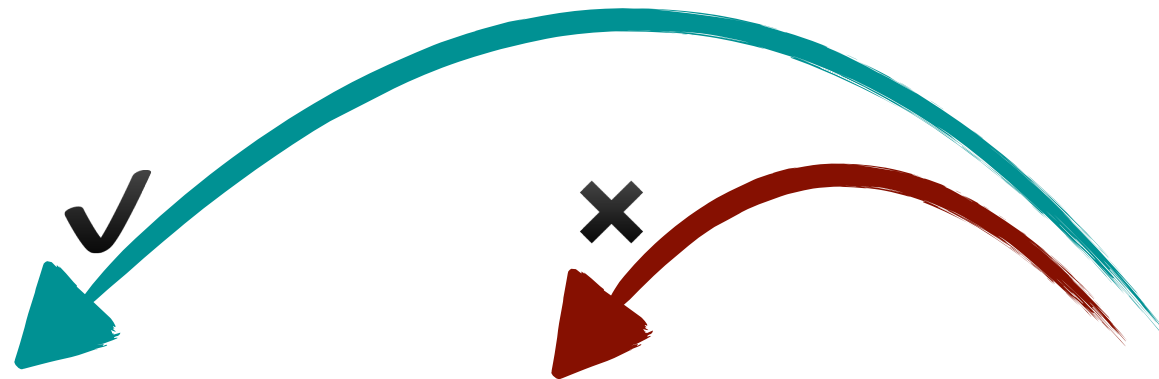
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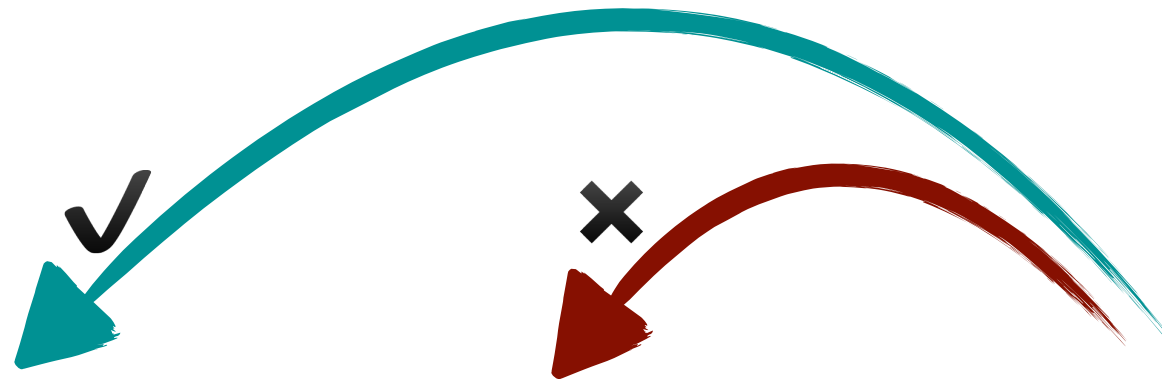


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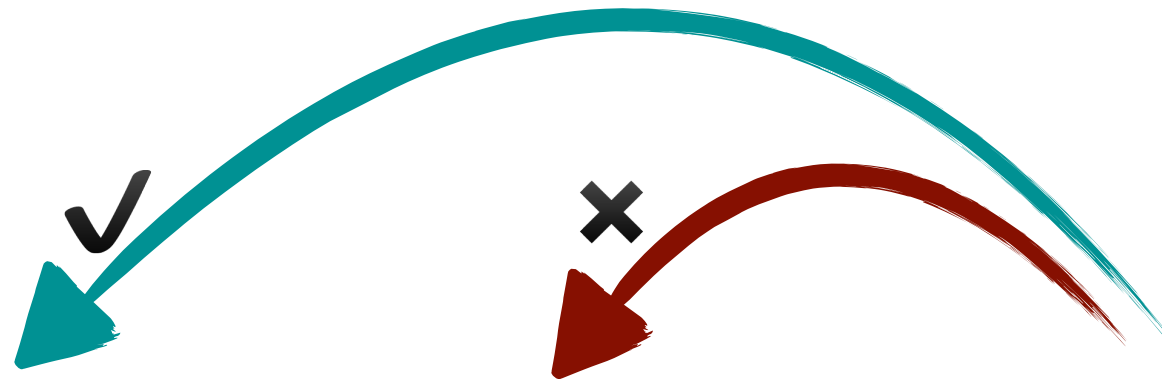


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Parser: I baked **table**

Human understanding: I baked **cake**

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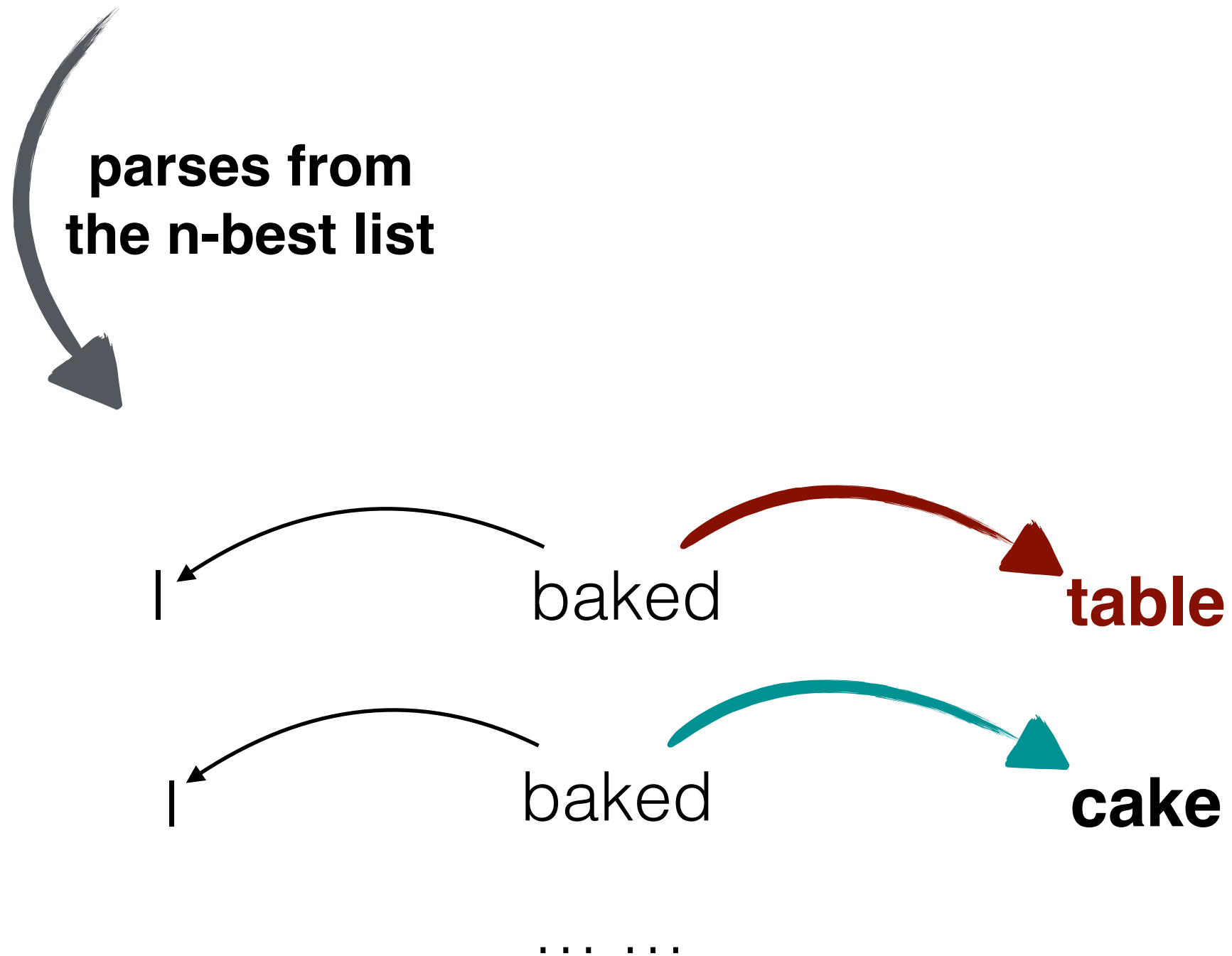
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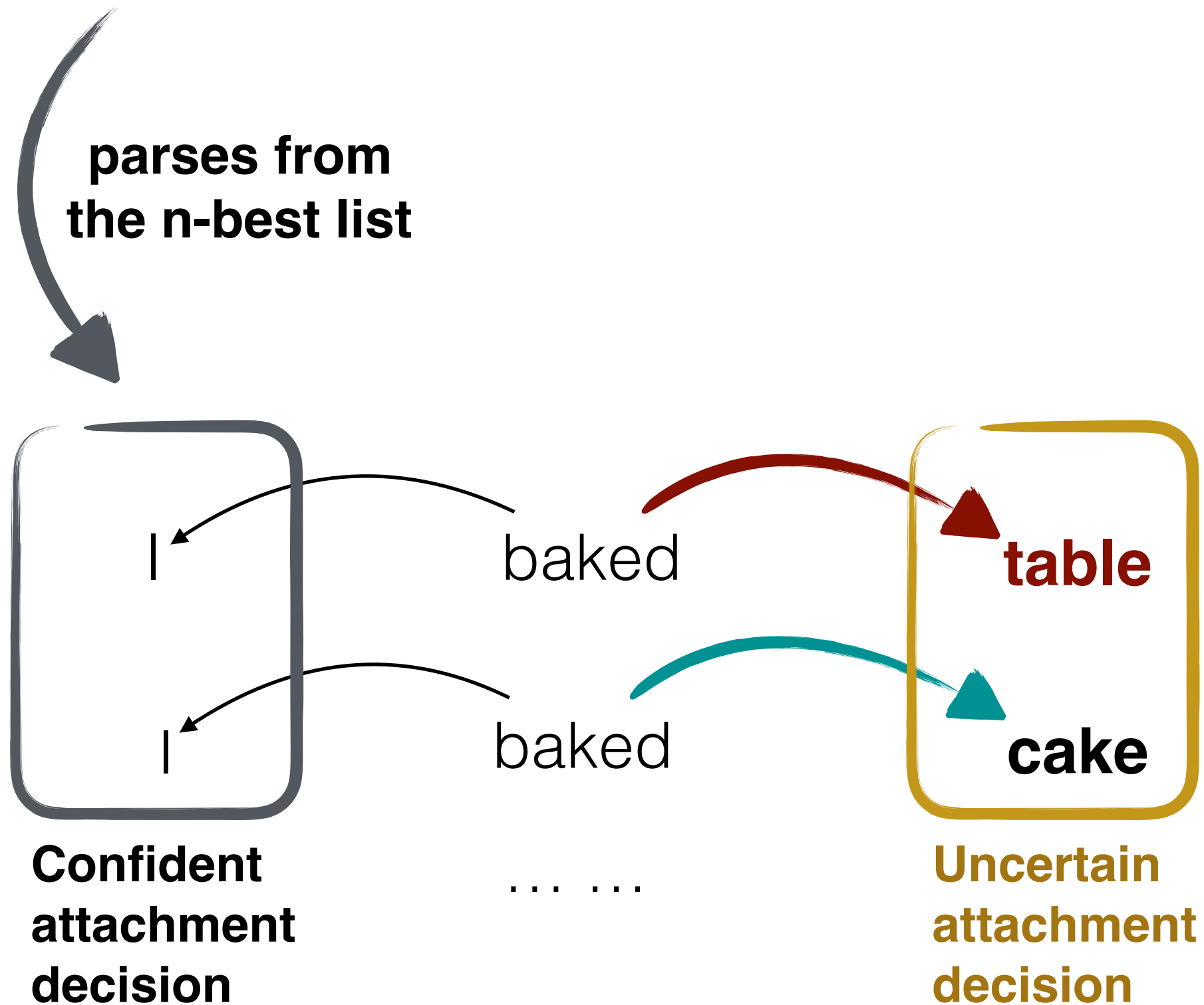
Human understanding: I baked **cake**

How can we use this kind of human knowledge?

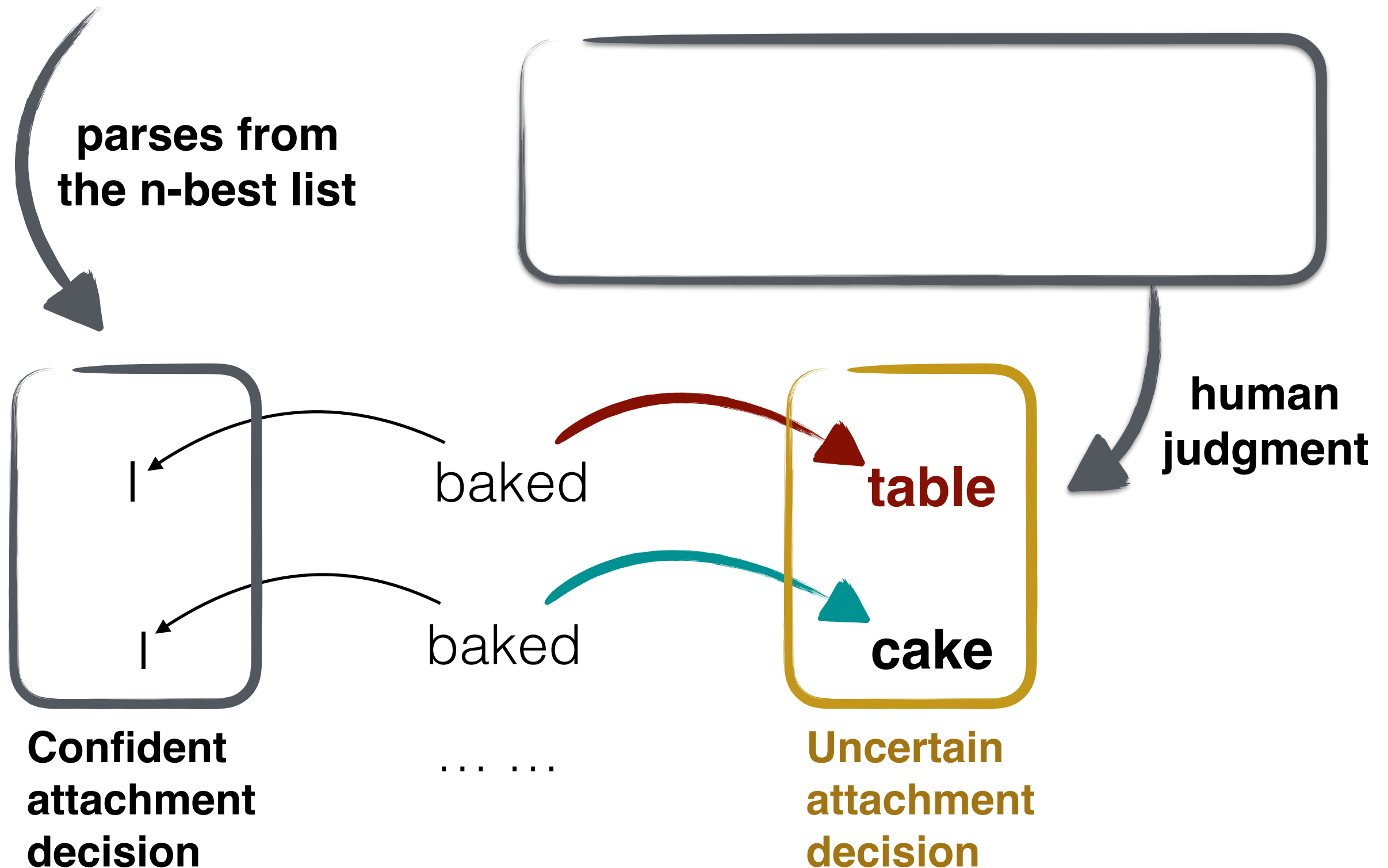
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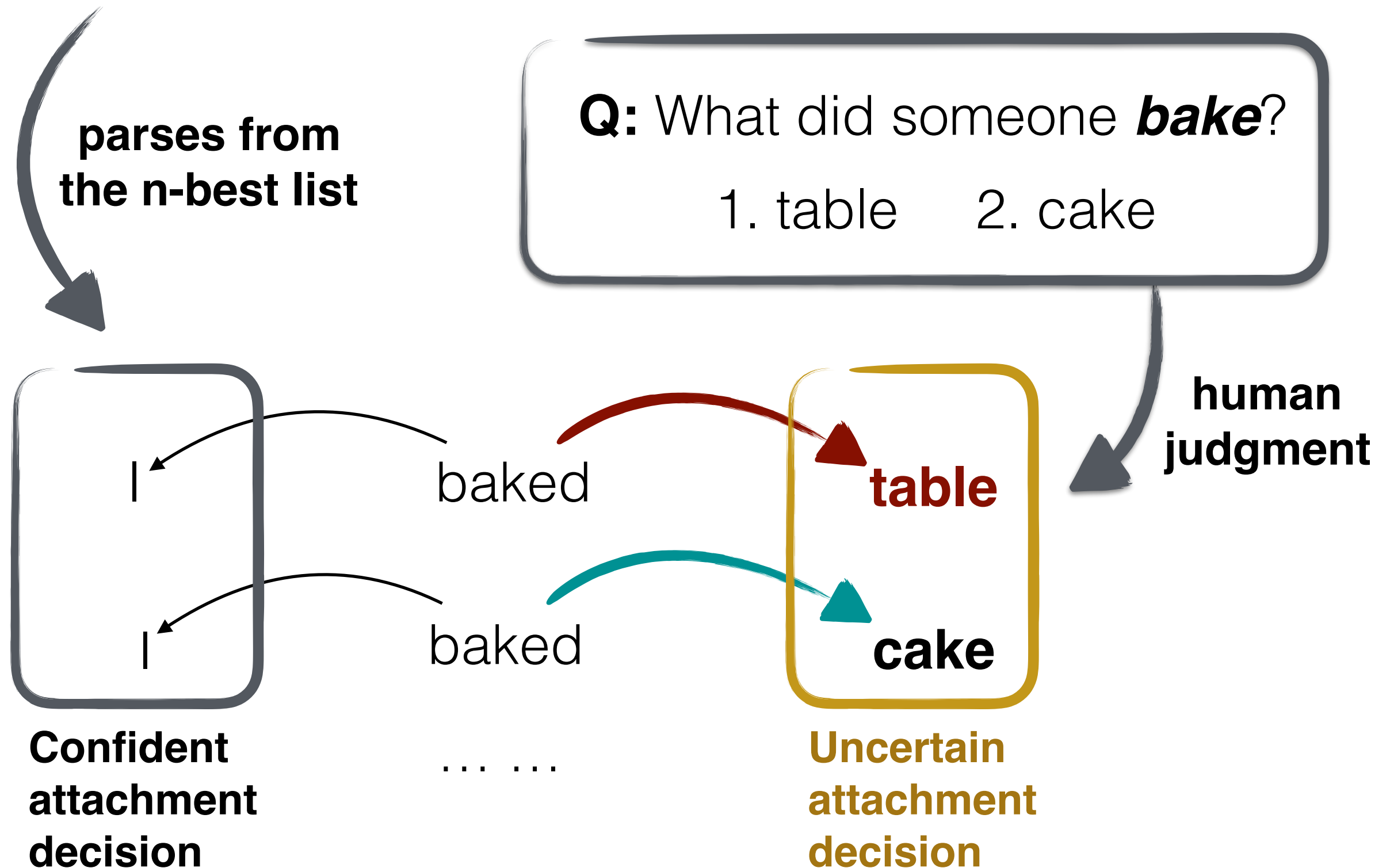
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Related Work

	Form of Supervision	Data Collection	Usage
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Jha et al., 2010

PP Attachment Decisions

Crowdsourced

/

Choe and McClosky, 2015

Paraphrases

In-house Annotator

Re-parsing

Duan et al., 2016

Paraphrases

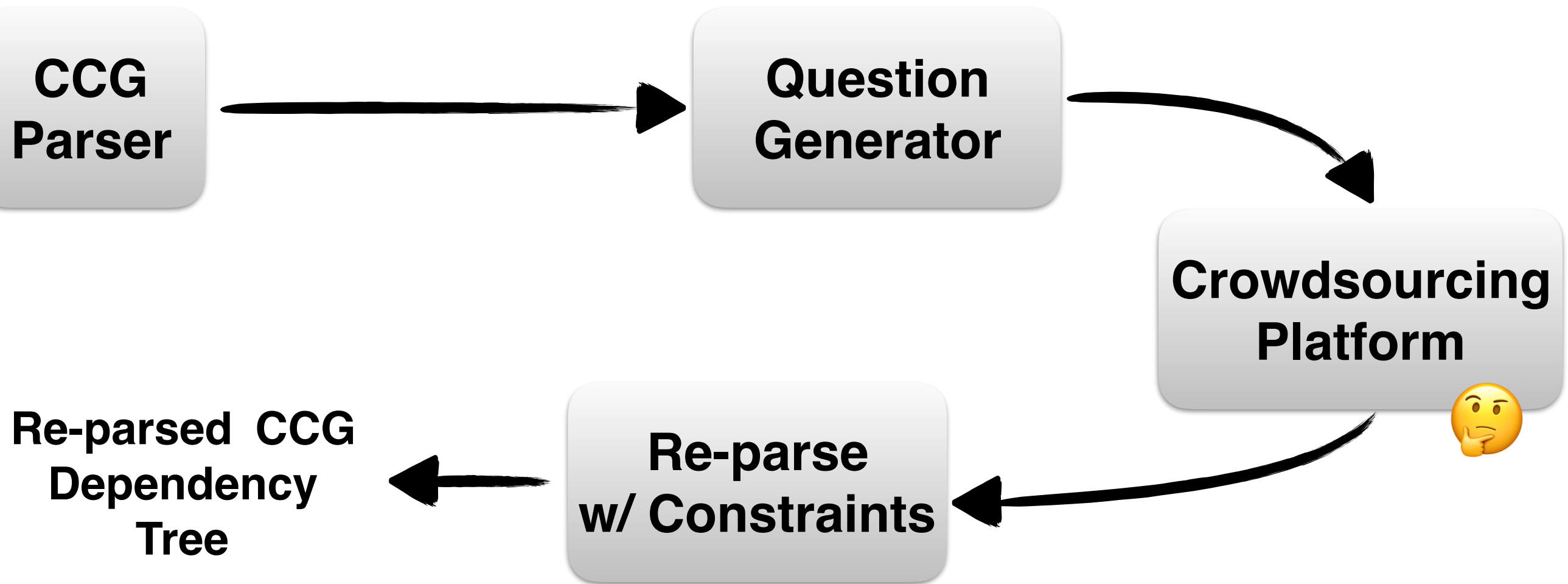
Crowdsourced

Re-training

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

**CCG
Parser**

**Question
Generator**

**Crowdsourcing
Platform**

**Re-parsed CCG
Dependency
Tree**

**Re-parse
w/ Constraints**



Workflow

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1) table **2)** cake

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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**

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C_neg (bake → table)

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Generate Q/A Pairs from CCG Dependencies

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



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I baked table

What baked something?
— **I**

sth.	bake	bake	what
------	------	------	-------------

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

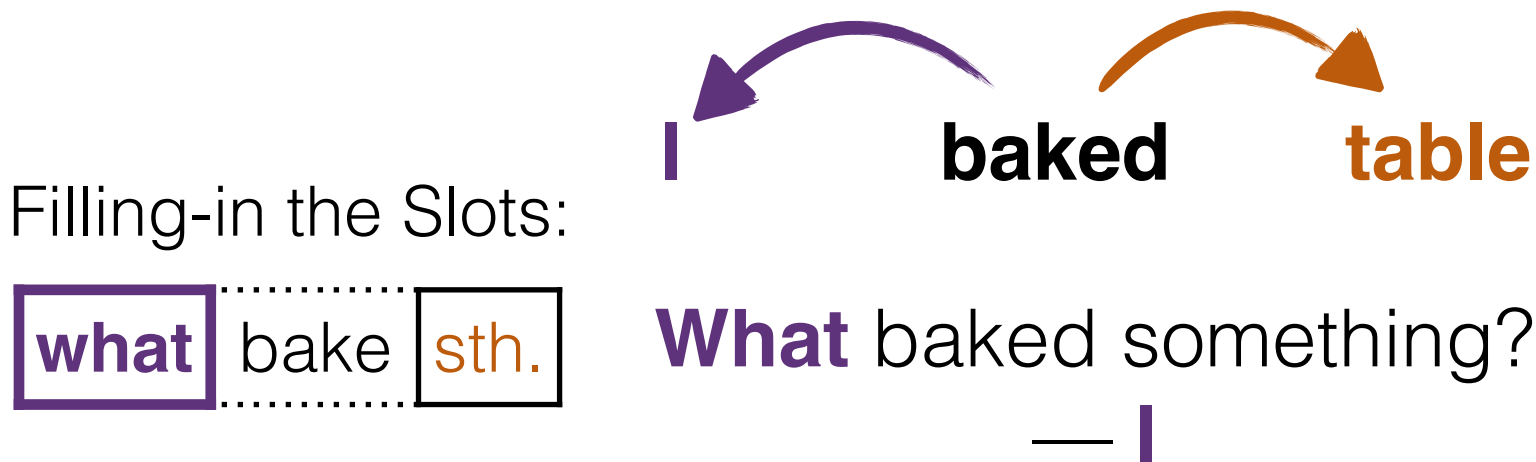
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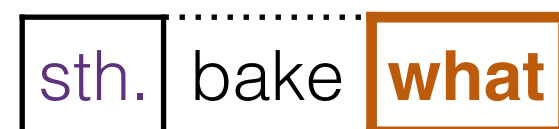


Filling-in the Slots:



What baked something?

— |



What did someone bake?

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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:



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What baked something?



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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

Group Q/A Pairs into Queries

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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

**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

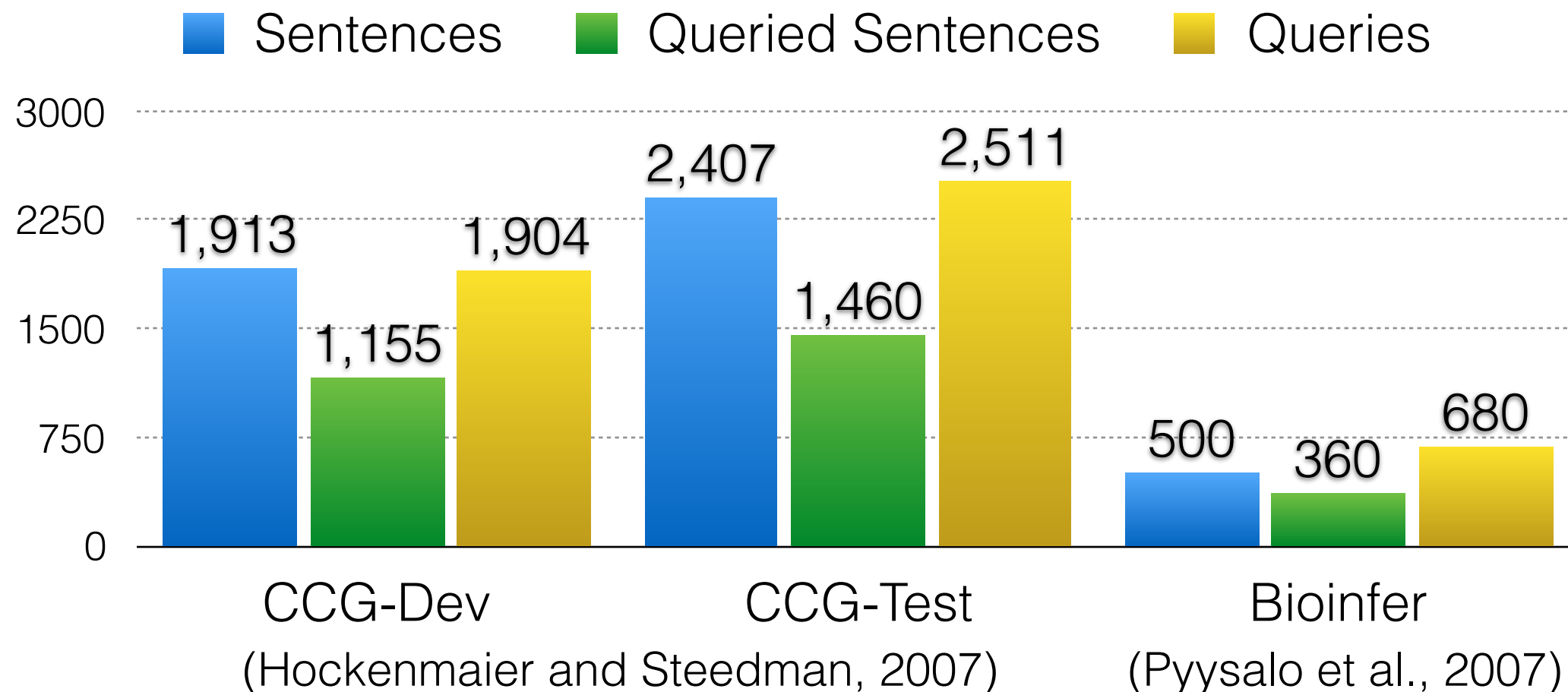
- ☐ the cake
- ☐ the table
- ☐ None of the above.

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

Comment:

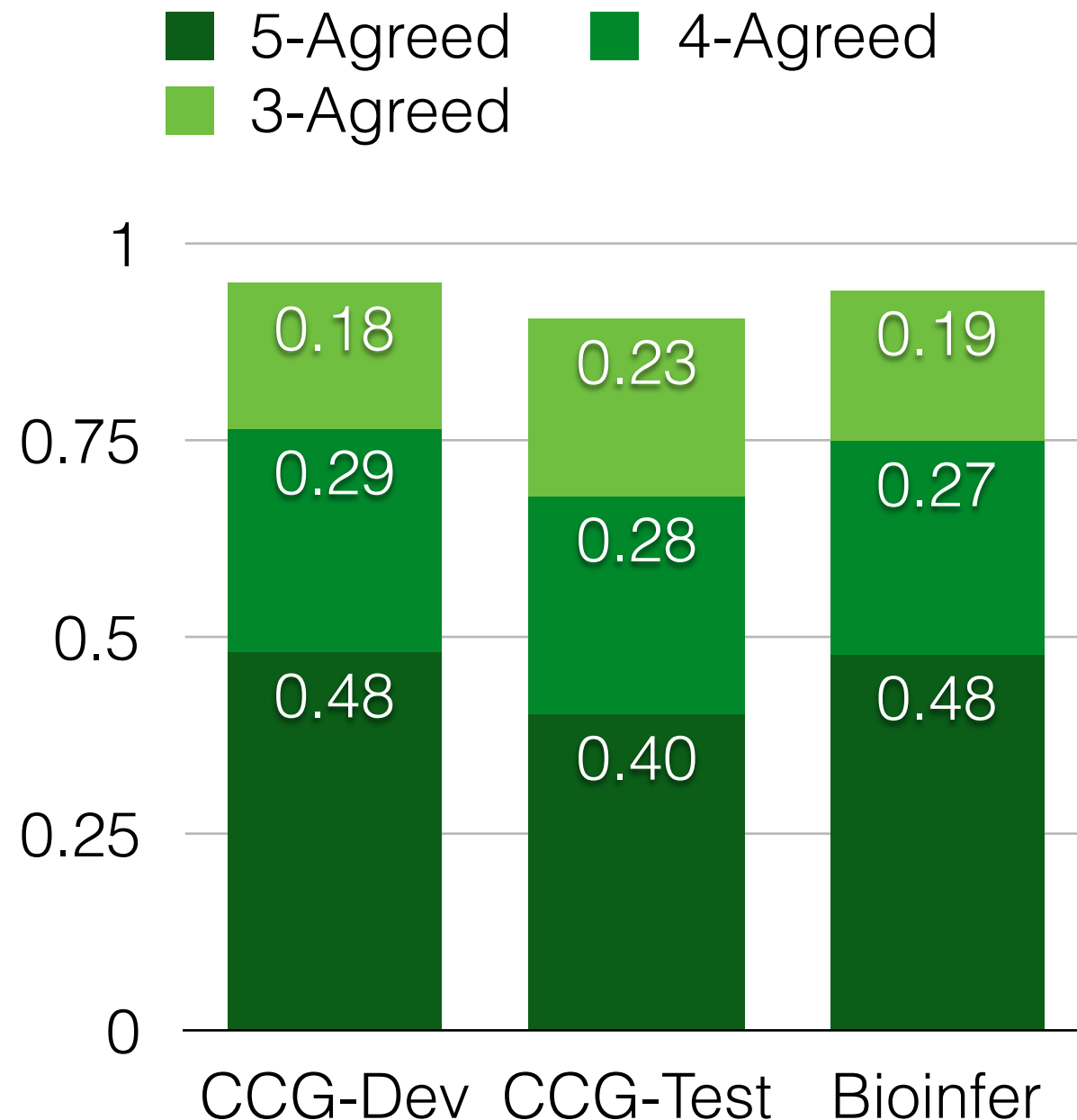
* Crowdsourcing platform: <https://www.crowdfunder.com/>.

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.

Challenge - Coreference

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

What ***sells*** something?

- 5 Kalipharma
- 0 a New Jersey-based pharmaceuticals concern
- 0 None of the above.

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What ***sells*** something?

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- 0 None of the above.

- 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. | | |

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0 None of the above.

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What would be **covered**?

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0 None of the above.

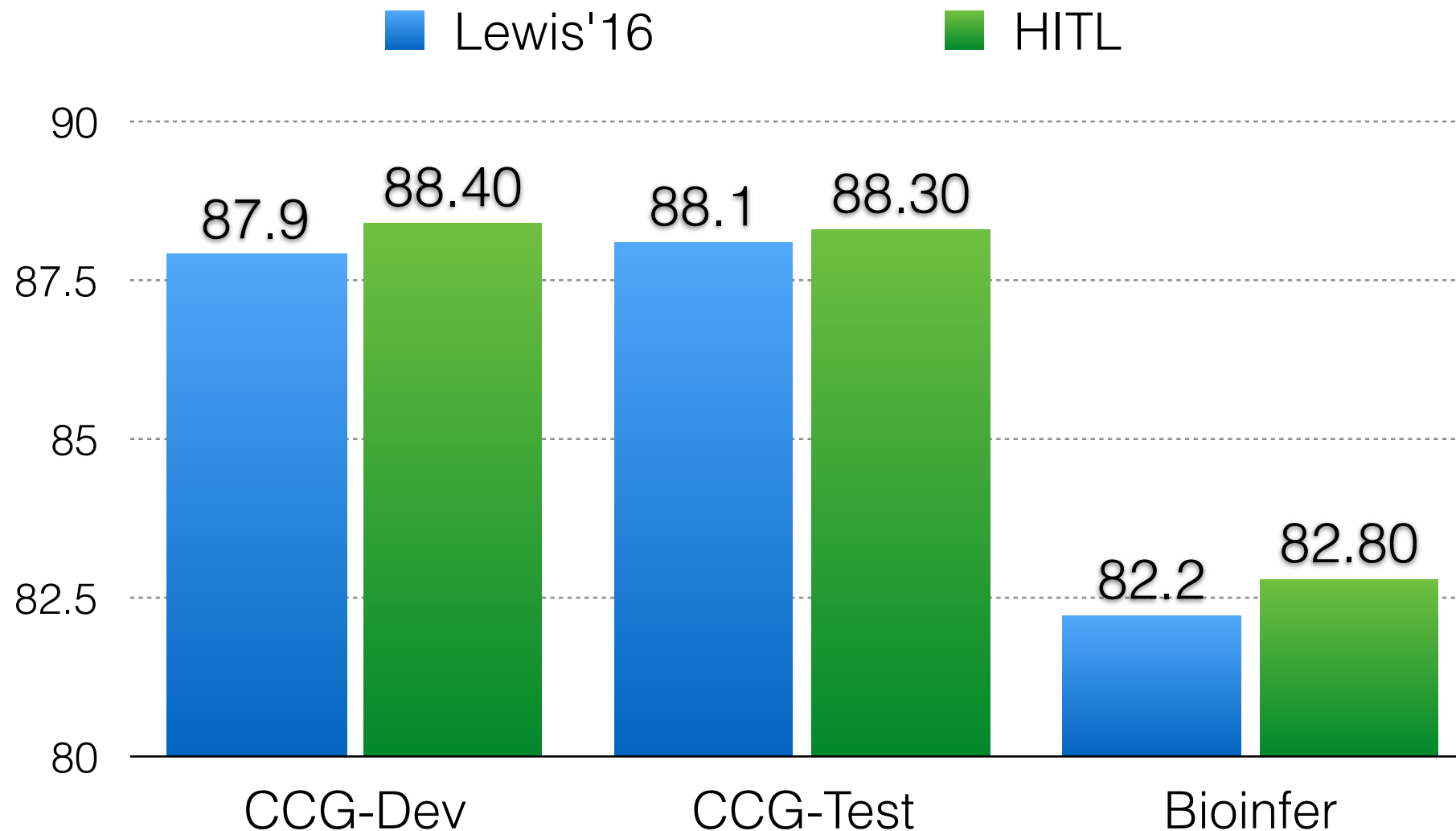
- Annotators tend to struggle with headedness.
- We add “disjunctive constraint”, forcing the re-parser to produce either of the two dependencies.

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

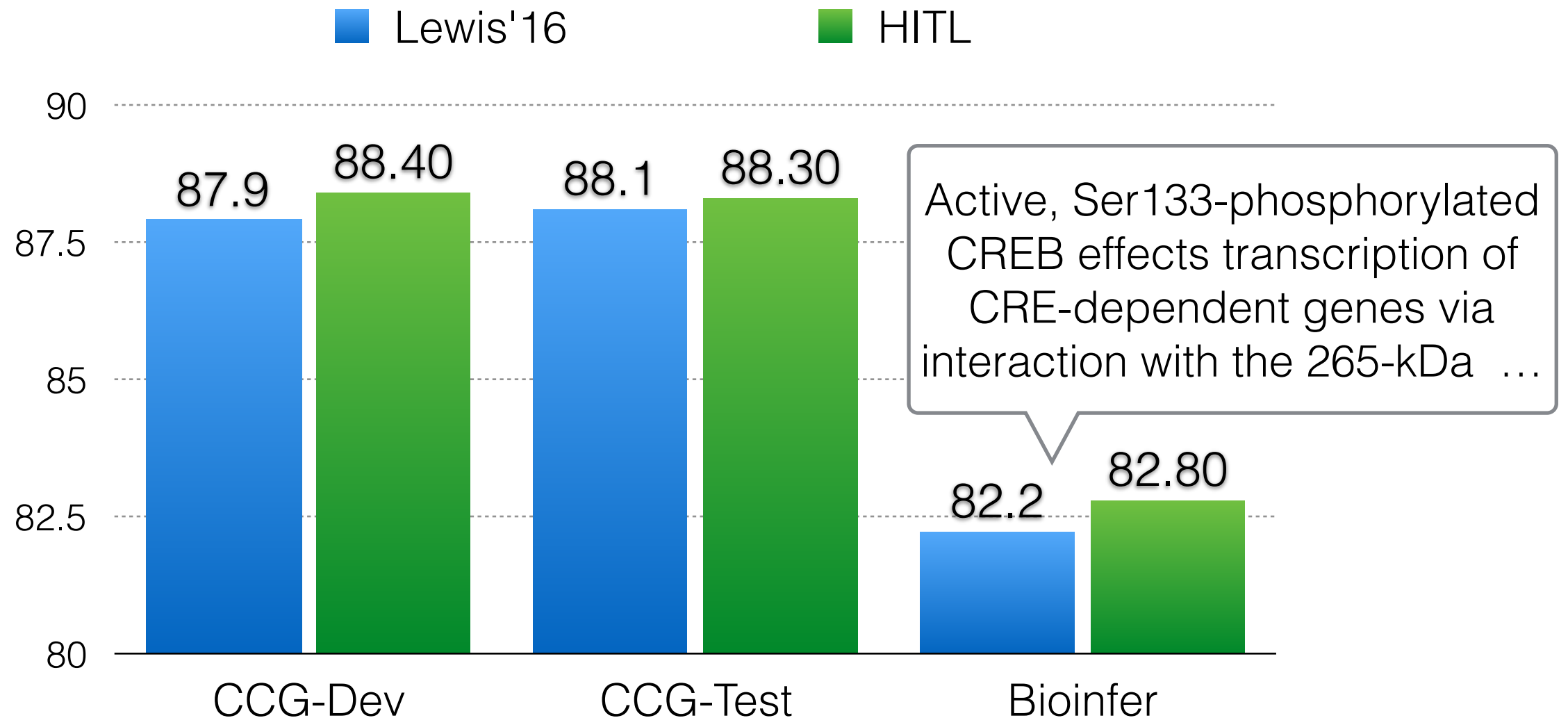
- Penalizes parses that disagree with crowdsourced judgments.
- Constraints are decomposed by dependencies.
- Thresholds and penalties are tuned on CCG-Dev.

Re-parsing Results (Labeled F1)



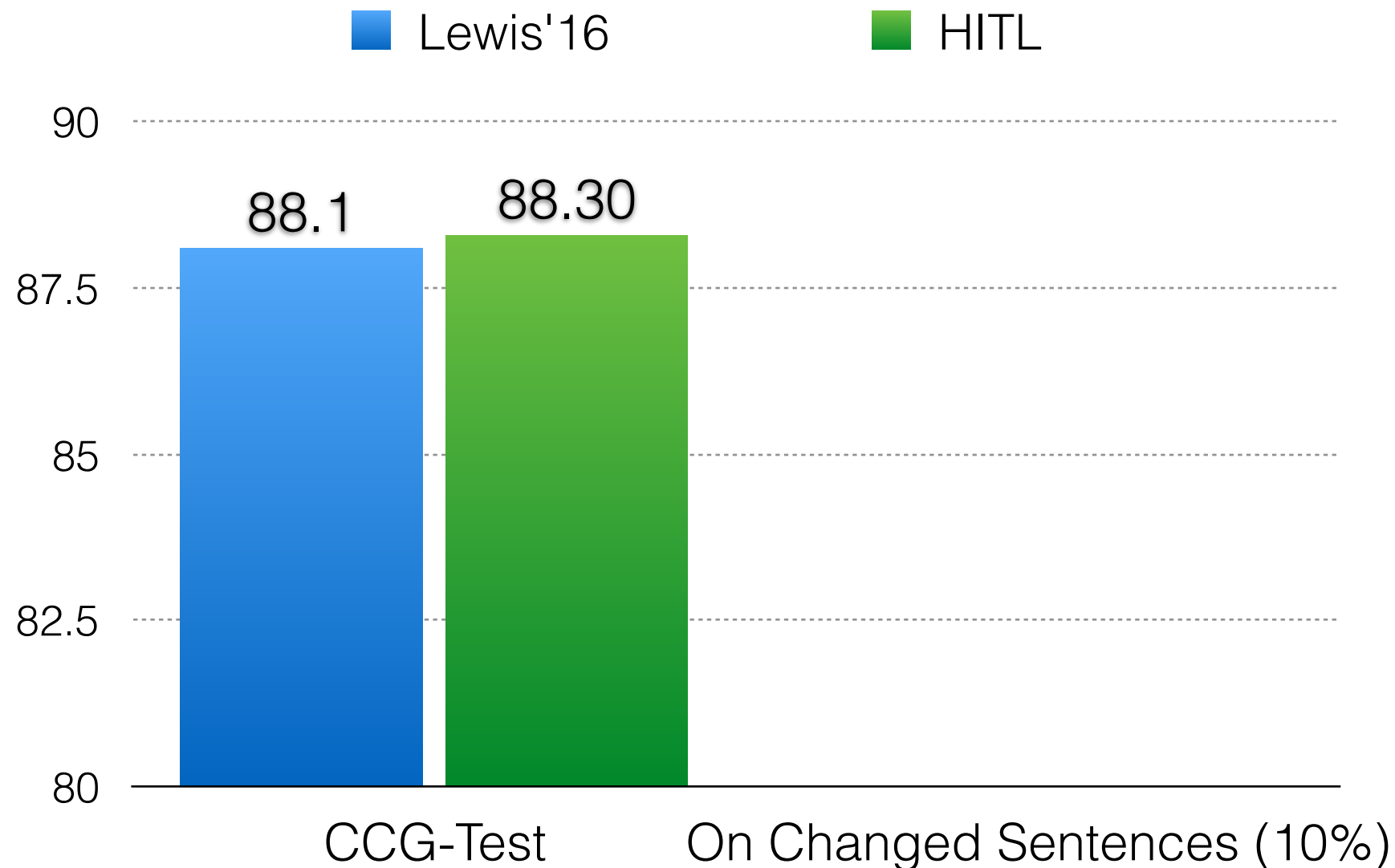
- Modest improvement due to syntax-semantics mismatch.
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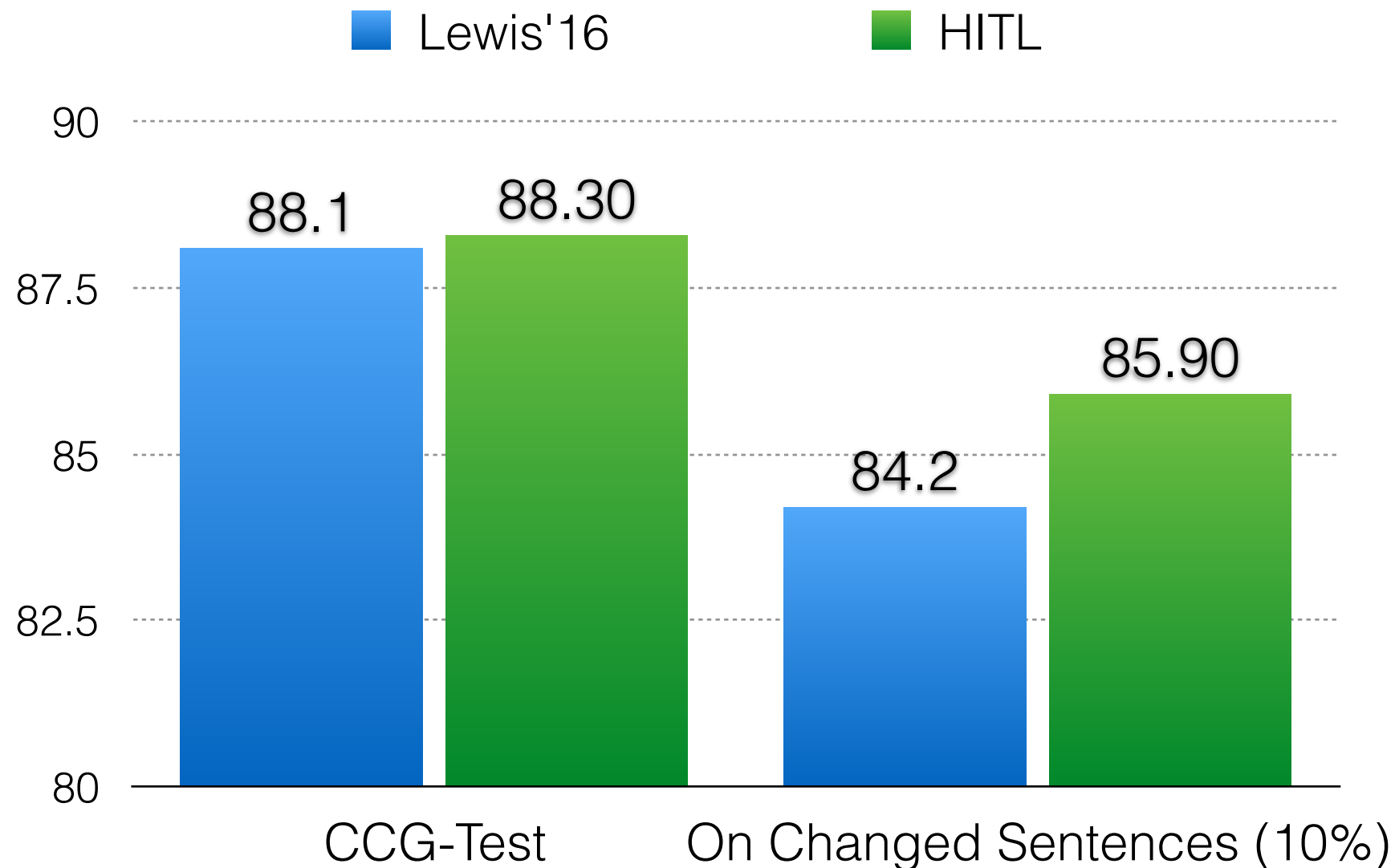
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Re-parsing Results



- 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!

