

Incorporating External Information for Visual Question Answering

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Visual Question Answering

Multimodal and open-ended task

Does this boy have a full wetsuit on?



[Antol et al., CVPR 2015]

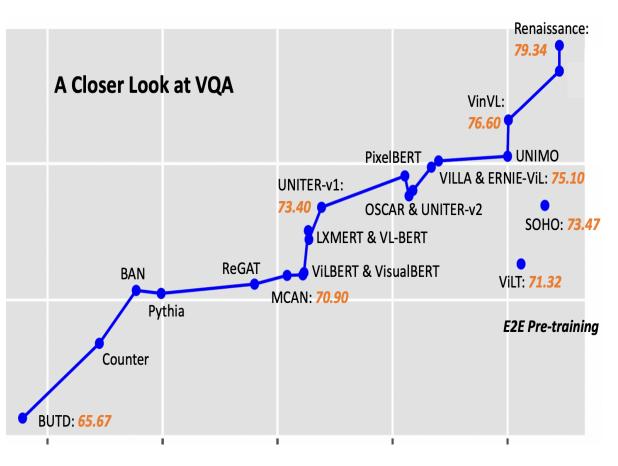


Image from CVPR 2022 tutorial

Helping the visually impaired

Is this air conditioner on fan, dehumidifier or air conditioning?



[Gurari et al., ECCV 2018]

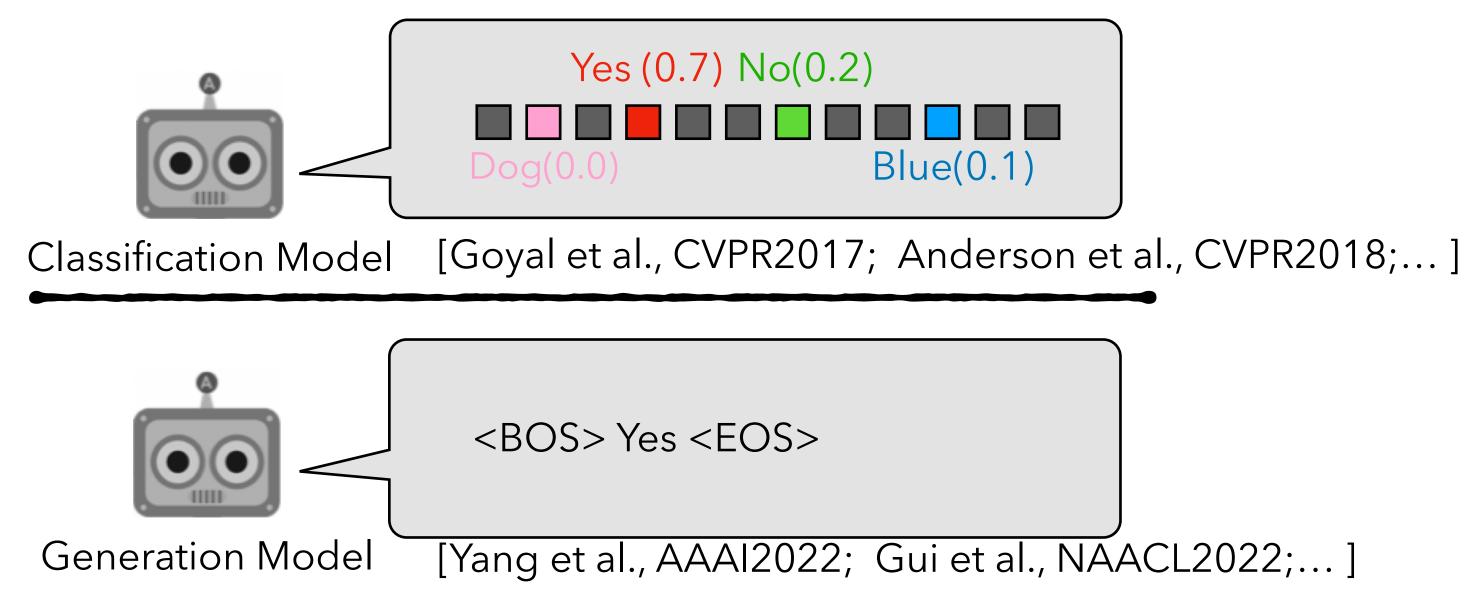


VQA Models

Question: Does this boy have a full wetsuit on?



Answer: Yes

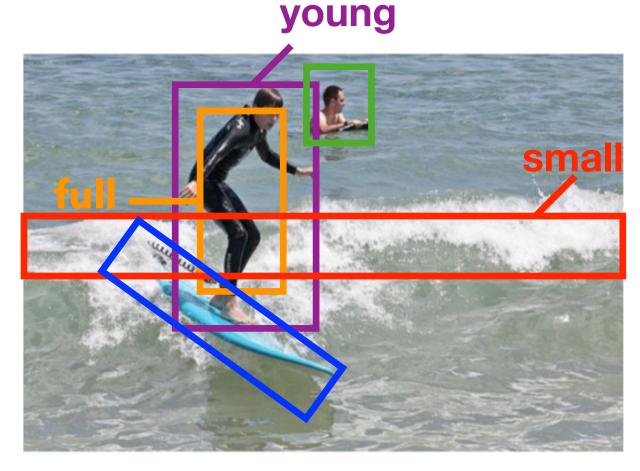




Structural Visual Features

Question: Does this boy have a full

wetsuit on?



Answer: Yes

Objects: man, wetsuit, wave, man, surf board, ...

Attributes: man is young, wetsuit is full, wave is small, ...

Relationships: wetsuit on man, man riding wave, ...

[Anderson et al., CVPR2018; Wu et al., ACL2019; Lu et al., CVPR2020; Cho et al., ICML2021;...]

[Li et al., ICCV2019; Hudson et al., CVPR2019;...]



Talk Outline

Core Contributions:

Info	Image Captions	Human Explanations	Open Knowledge	Open Knowledge
Topic	General VQA	Fighting Imbalanced Training Distribution	Outside Knowledge VQA	Knowledge Retrieval

Future Directions



Talk Outline

Core Contributions:

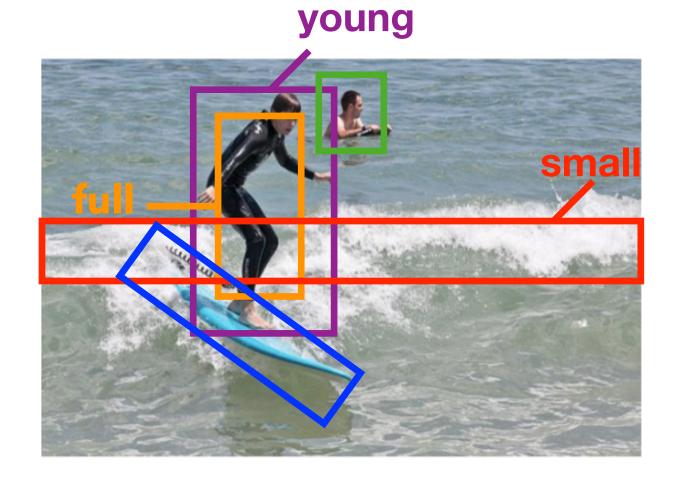
Info	Image Captions	Human Explanations	Open Knowledge	Open Knowledge
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Future Directions



Captions vs Structural Visual Features

Question: Does this boy have a full wetsuit on?



Answer: Yes

Objects: man, wetsuit, wave

Relationships: man in wetsuit

Attributes: man is young, wetsuit is full,

wave is small

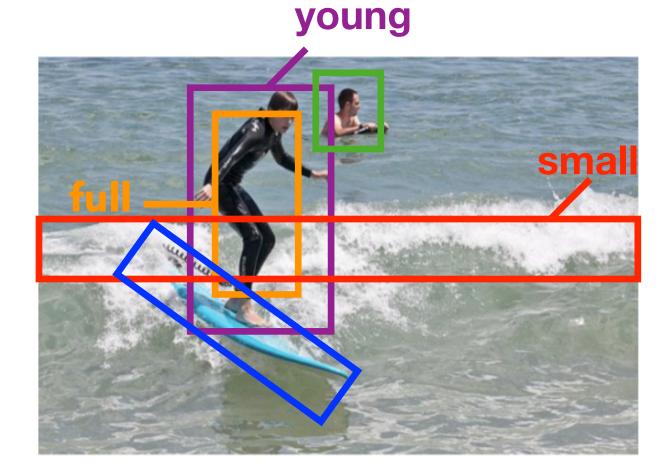
Caption: A young surfer in a wetsuit surfs a small wave.





Captions as Context

Question: Does this boy have a full wetsuit on?



Answer: Yes

A man on a blue surfboard on top of some rough water.

A young surfer in a wetsuit surfs a small wave.

A young man rides a surf board on a small wave while a man swims in the background.

A young man is on his surf board with someone in the background.

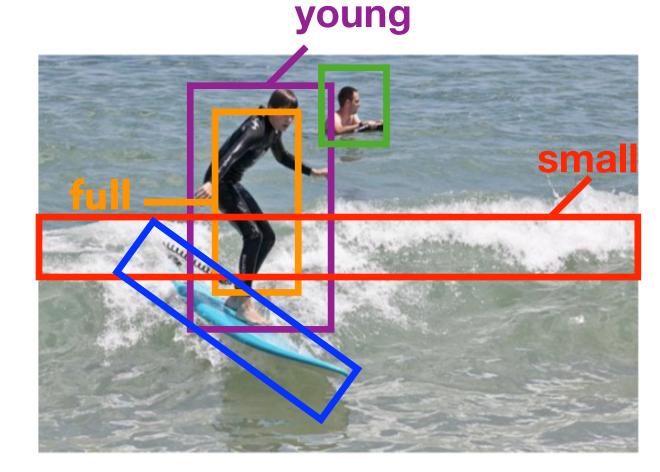
A boy riding waves on his surf board in the ocean.



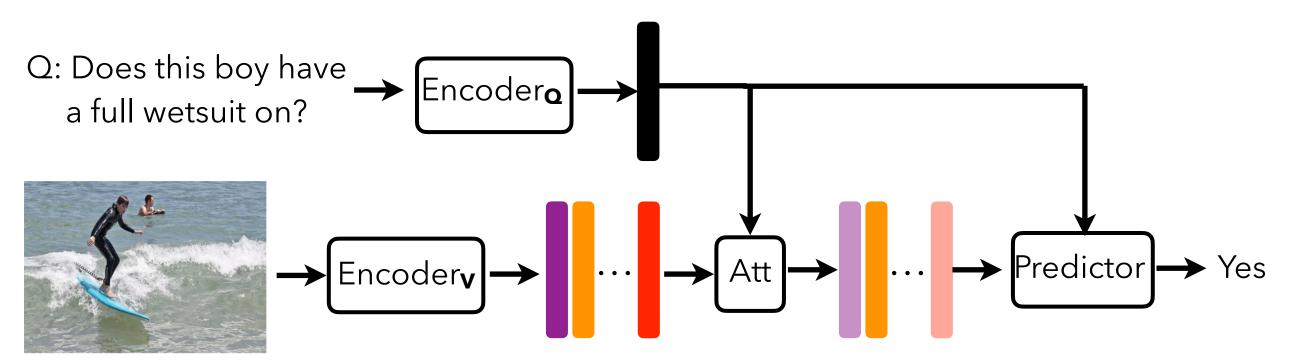
Up-Down VQA Model

Question: Does this boy have a full

wetsuit on?



Answer: Yes

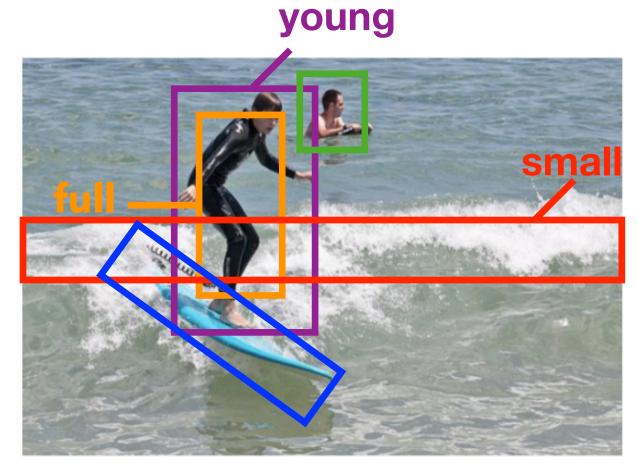




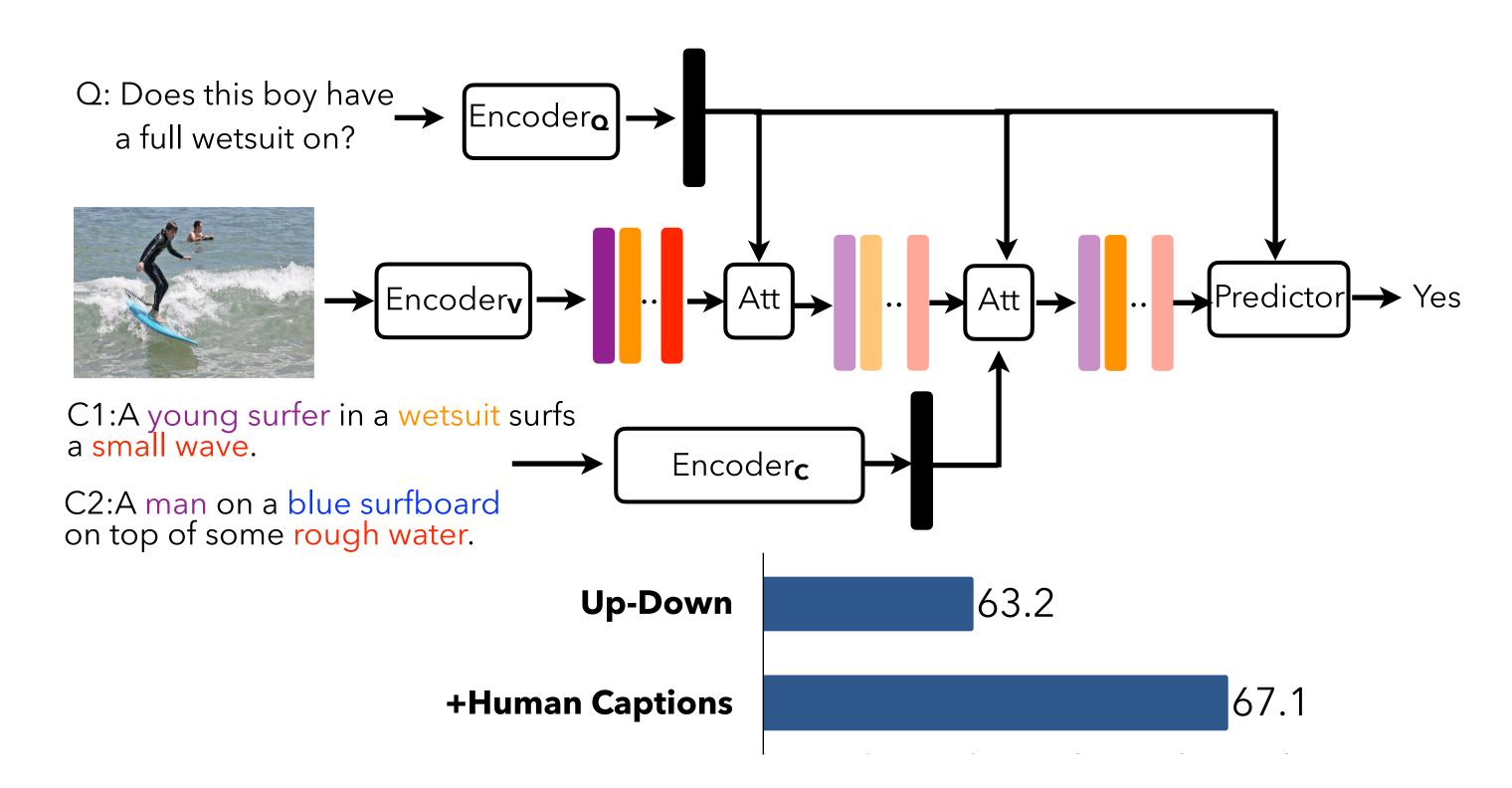
Captions as Complementary Features

Question: Does this boy have a full

wetsuit on?



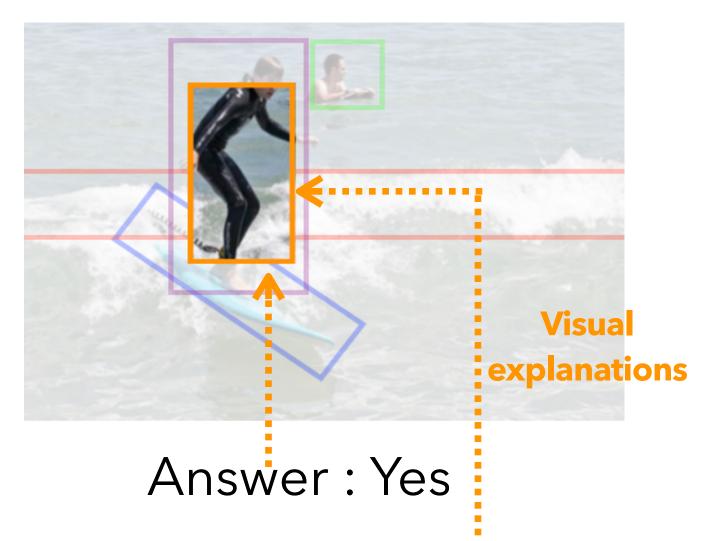
Answer: Yes





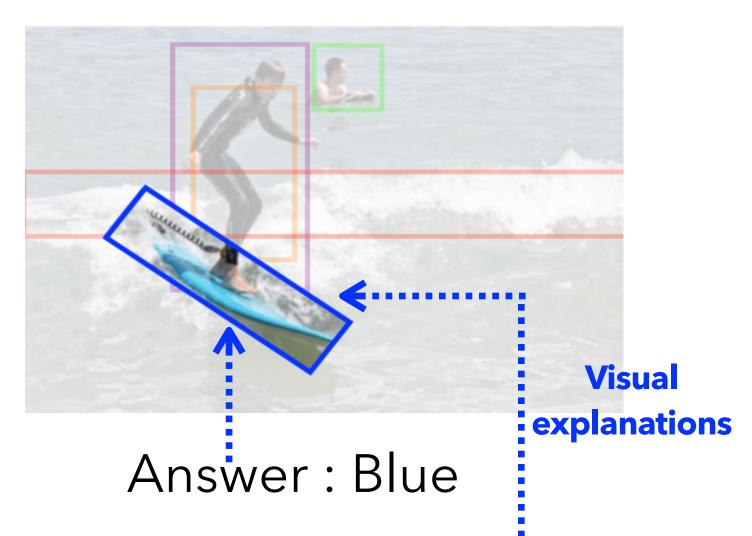
Relevant Captions

Question: Does this boy have a full wetsuit on?



A young surfer in a wetsuit surfs a small wave.

Question: What color is the surfboard?



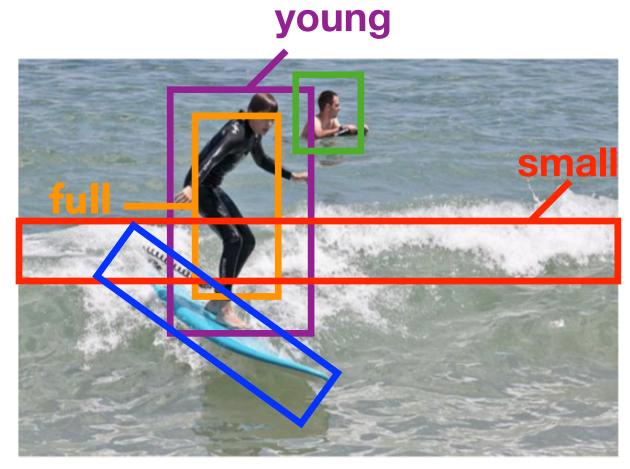
A man on a blue surfboard on top of some rough water.



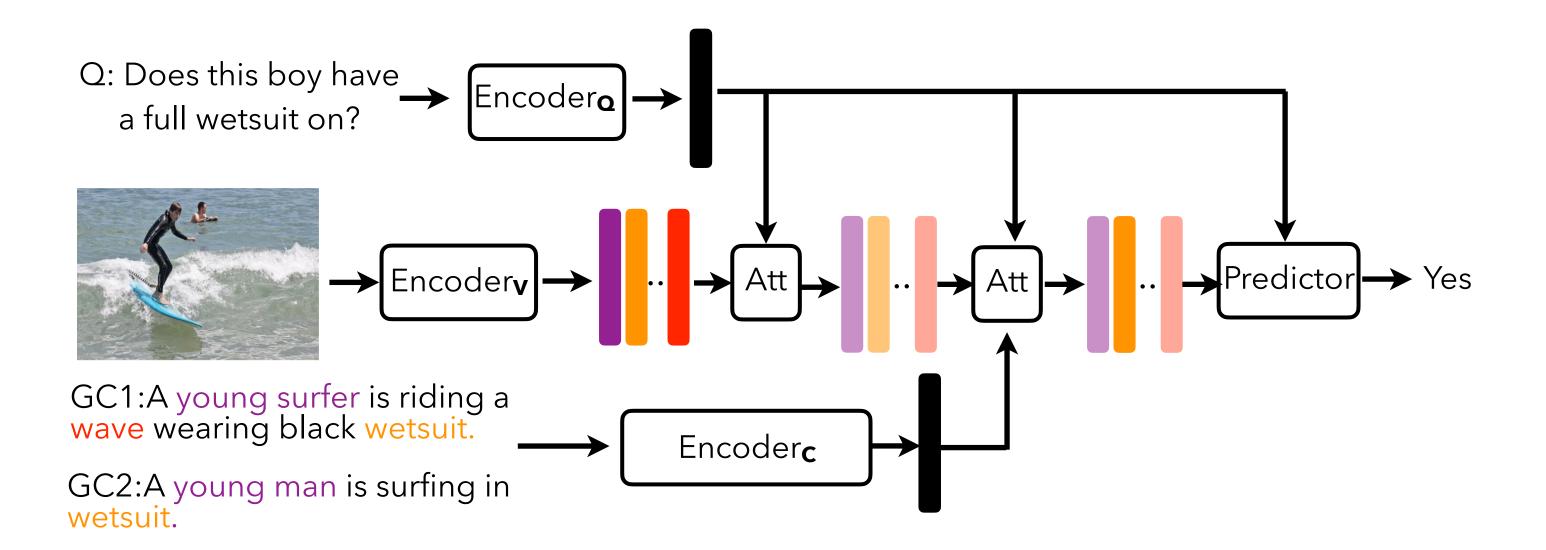
Combining Generated Captions

Question: Does this boy have a full

wetsuit on?

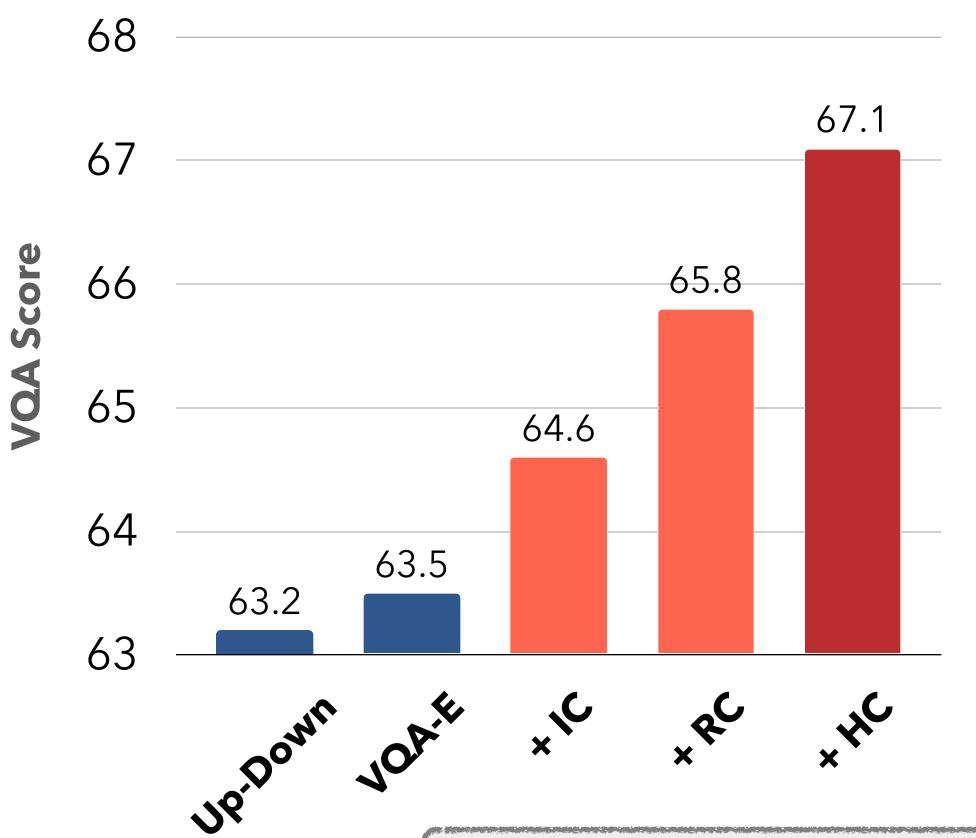


Answer: Yes





Results on VQA v2



VQA v2[Goyal et al. CVPR2017]: a large-scale balanced dataset, 443k questions for training, 214k questions for validation and 447k questions for test

Up-Down[Anderson et al. CVPR 2018]: base model

VQA-E[Li et al. ECCV 2018]: Jointly generating explanations and VQA

+IC(ours): Using generated image captions

+RC(ours): Using generated question-relevant captions

+HC(ours):Using human captions

Using captions is an efficient way to provide visual context and question-relevant captions are better.



Talk Outline

Core Contributions:

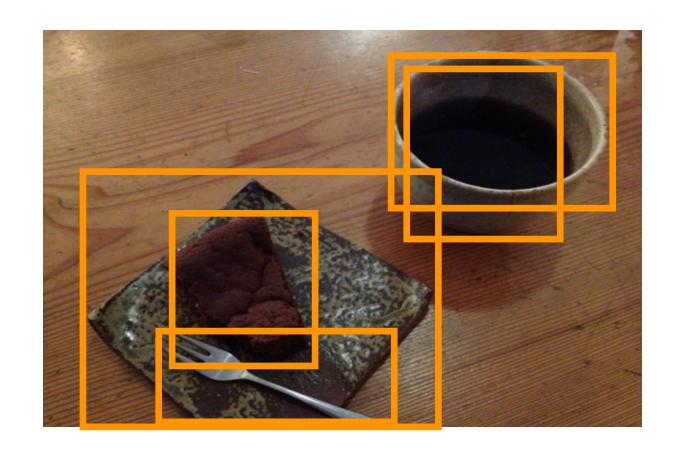
Info	Image Captions	Human Explanations	Open Knowledge	Open Knowledge
Topic	General VQA	Fighting Imbalanced Training Distribution	Outside Knowledge VQA	Knowledge Retrieval

Future Directions

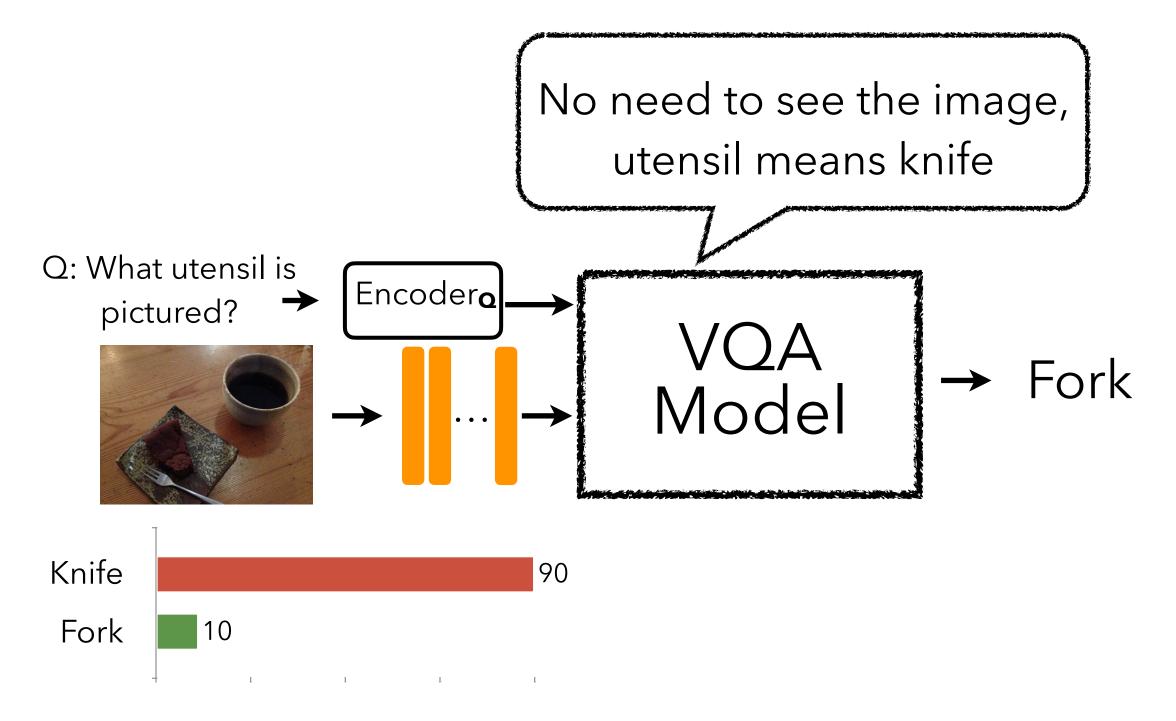


VQA under Changing Priors

Question: What utensil is pictured?

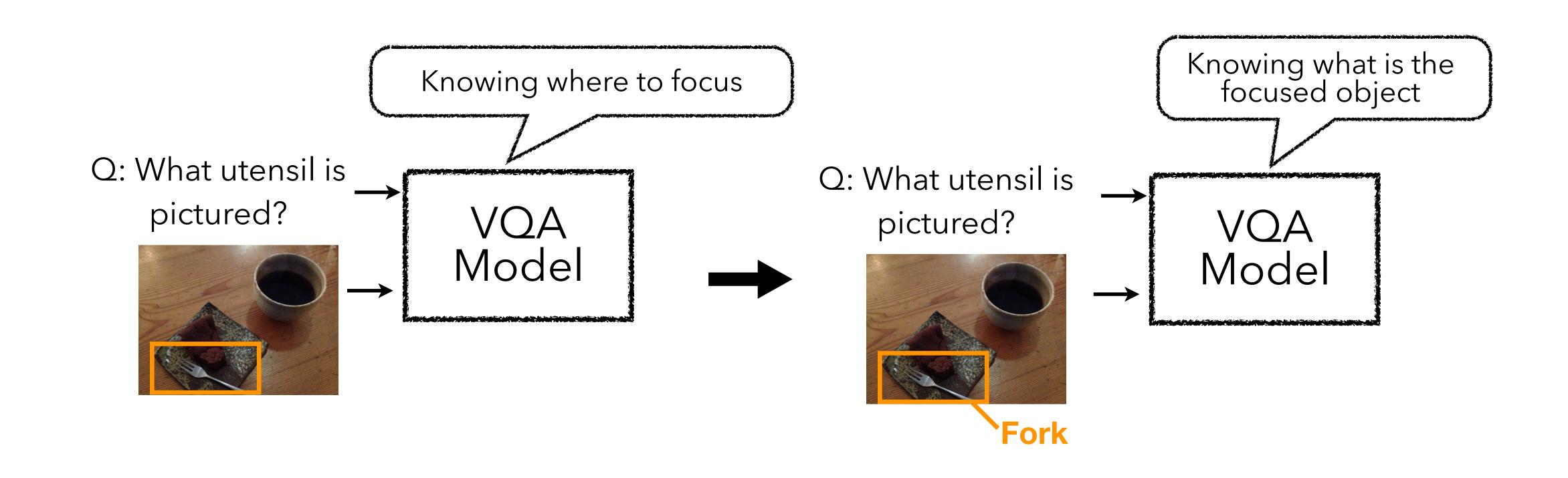


Answer: Fork





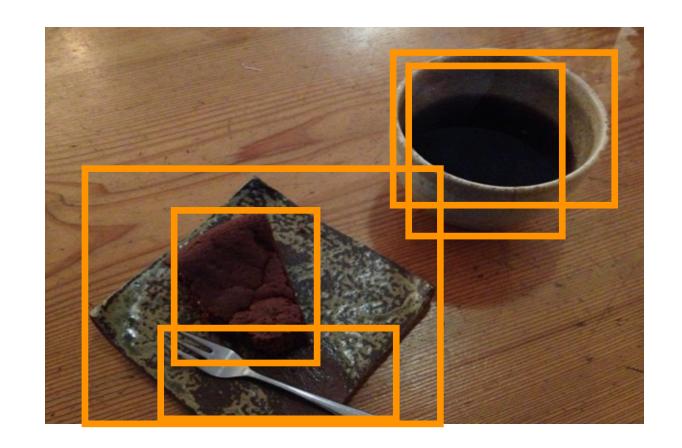
Right for the Right Reasons



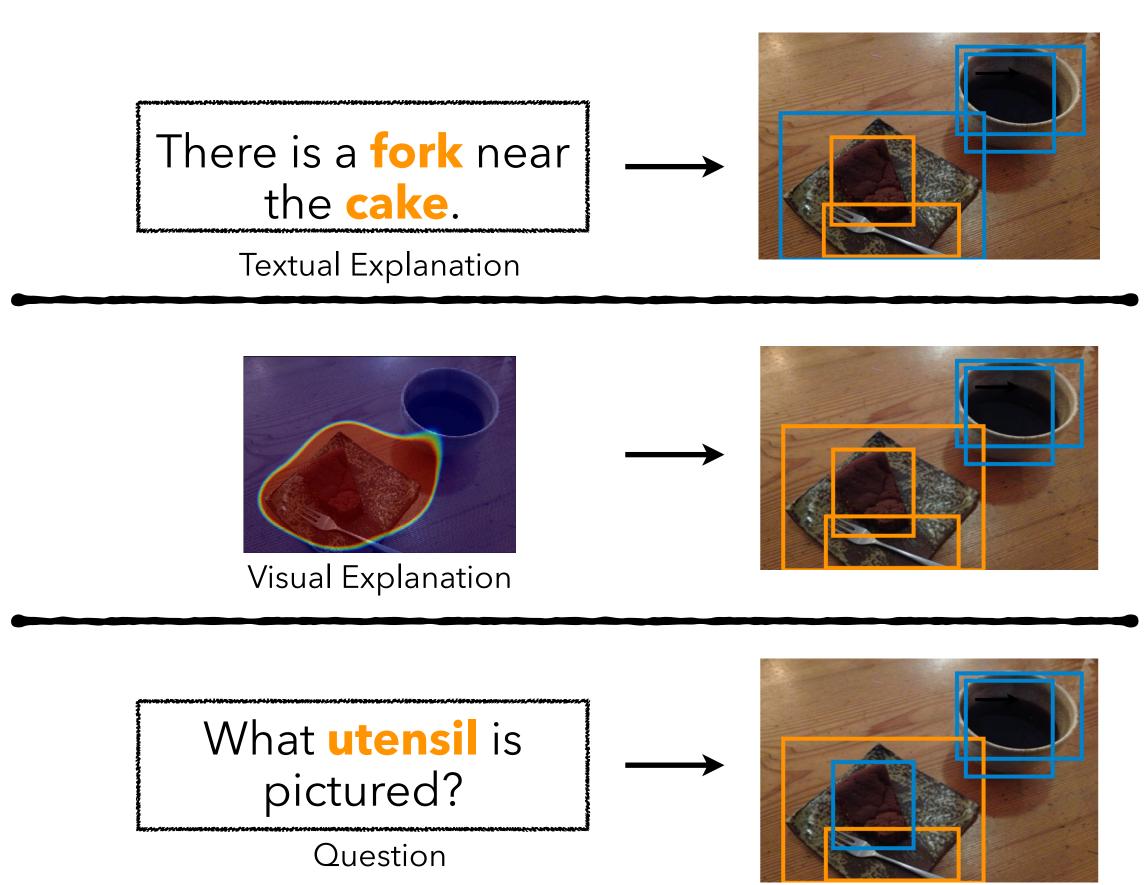


Where to Focus

Question: What utensil is pictured?



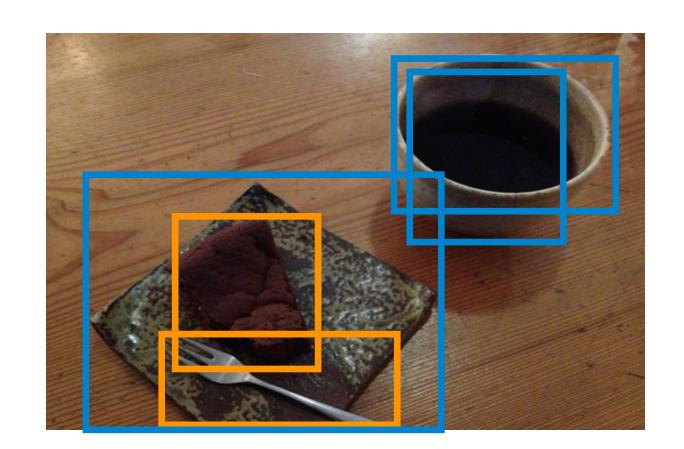
Answer: Fork



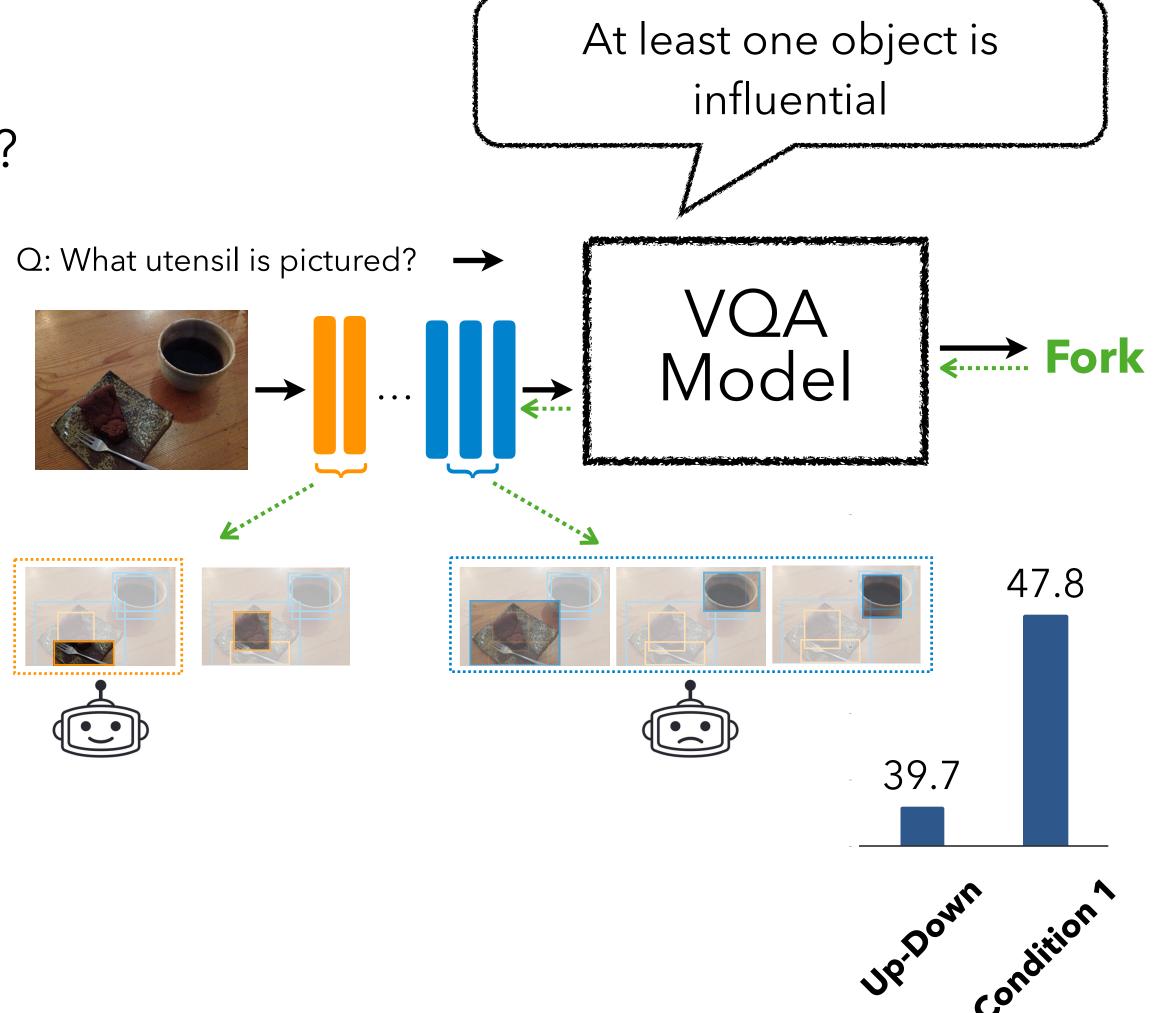


Learning to Focus

Question: What utensil is pictured?

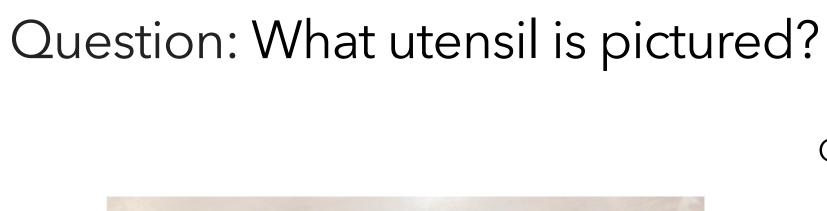


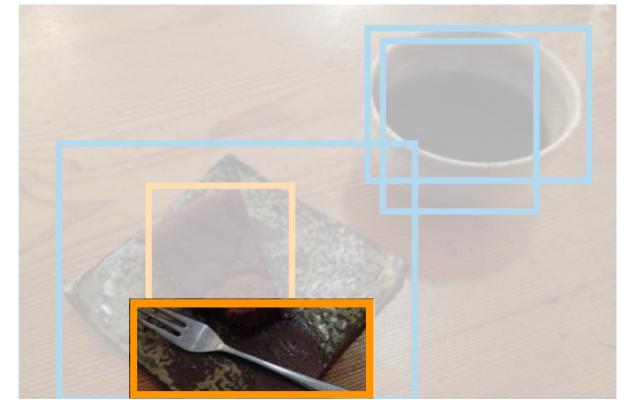
Answer: Fork



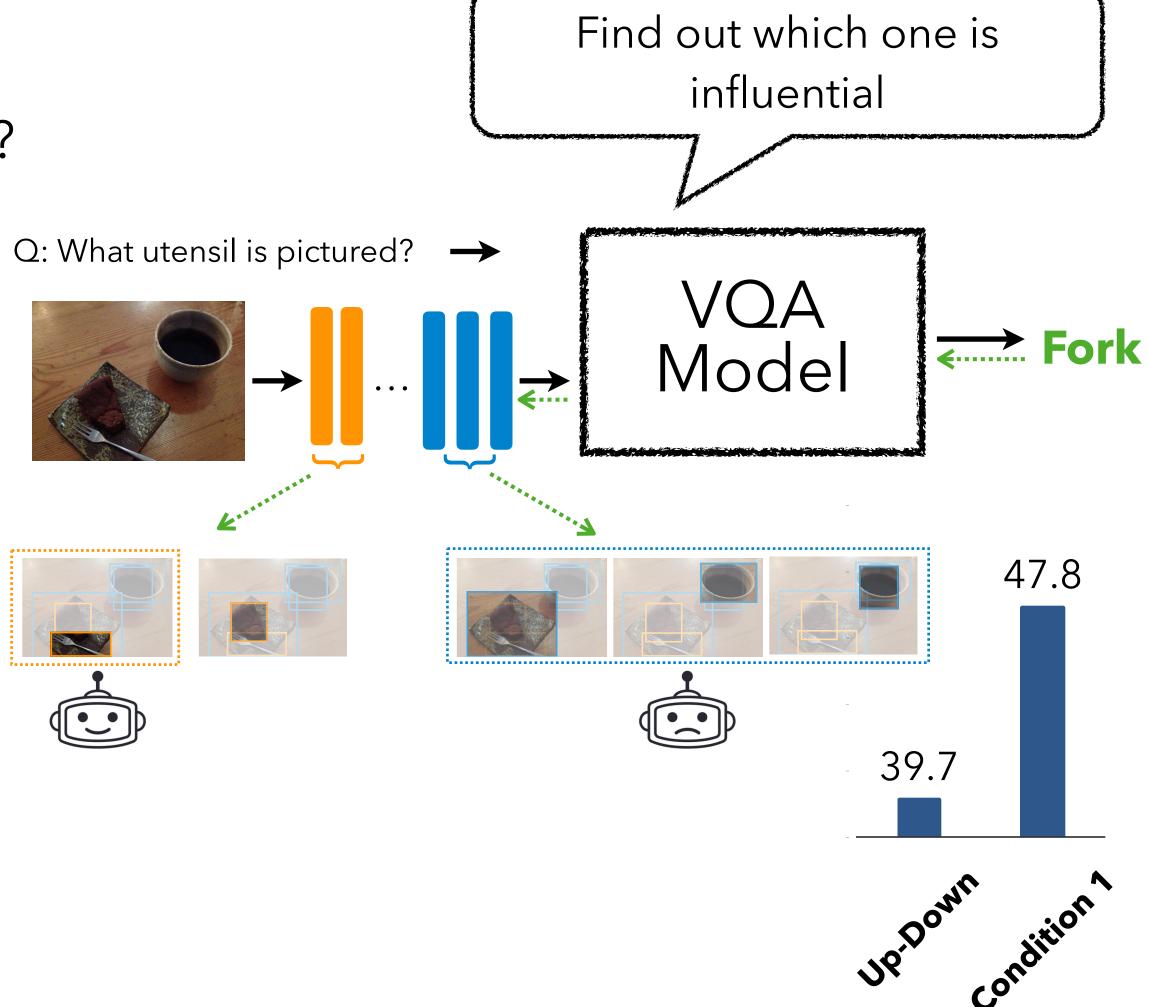


Knowing Where to Focus





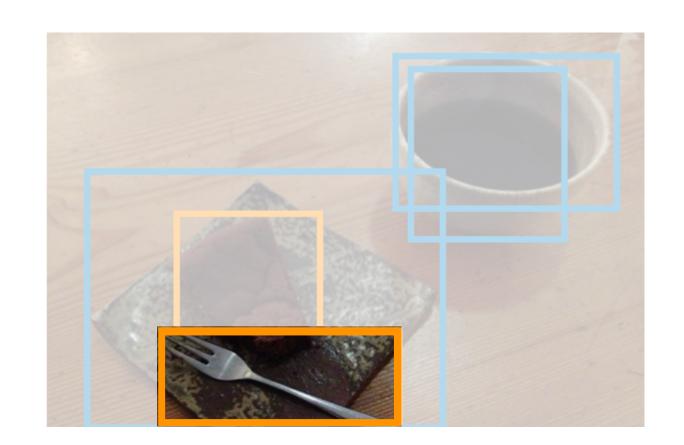
Answer: Fork



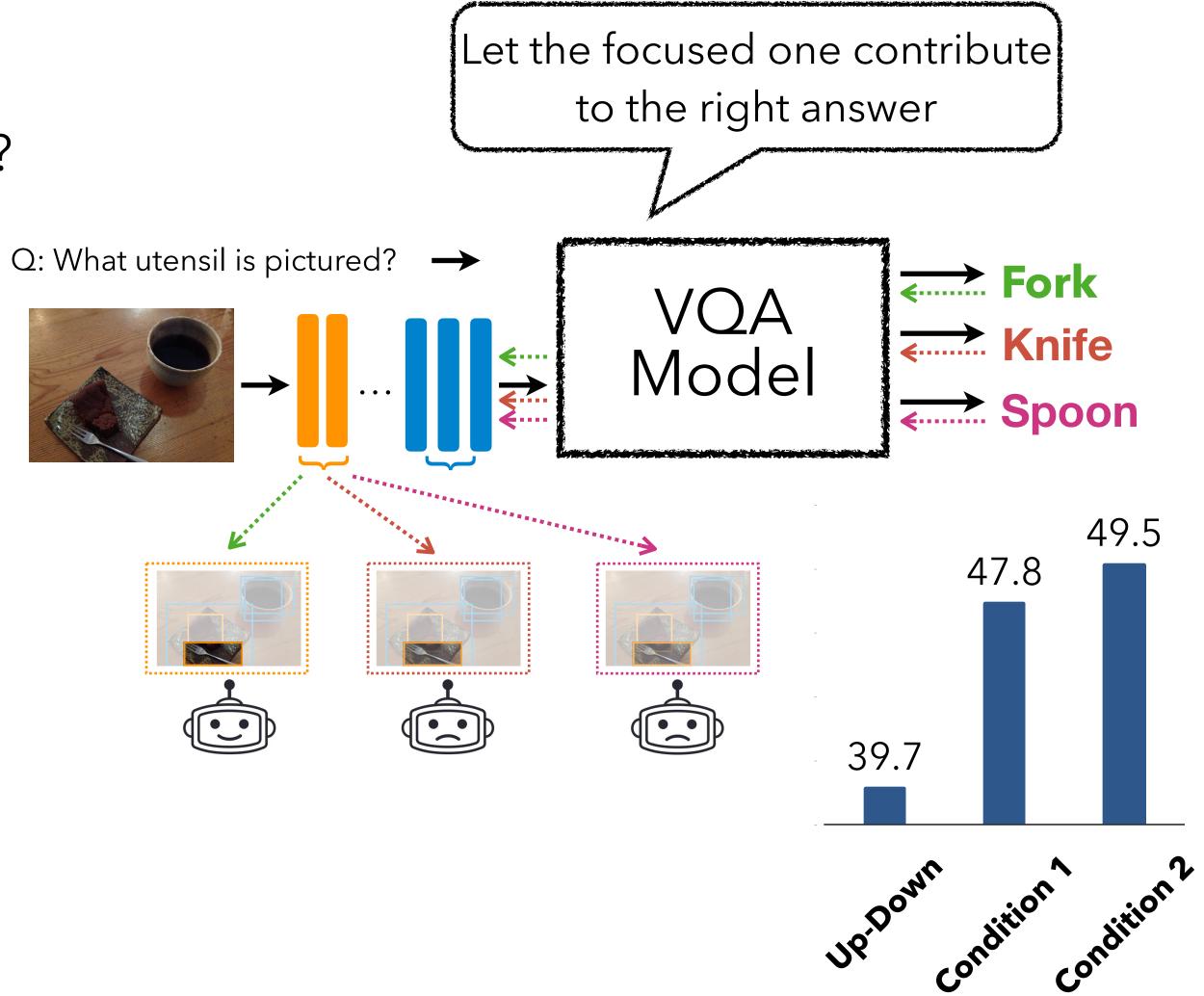


What is the Focused One?

Question: What utensil is pictured?

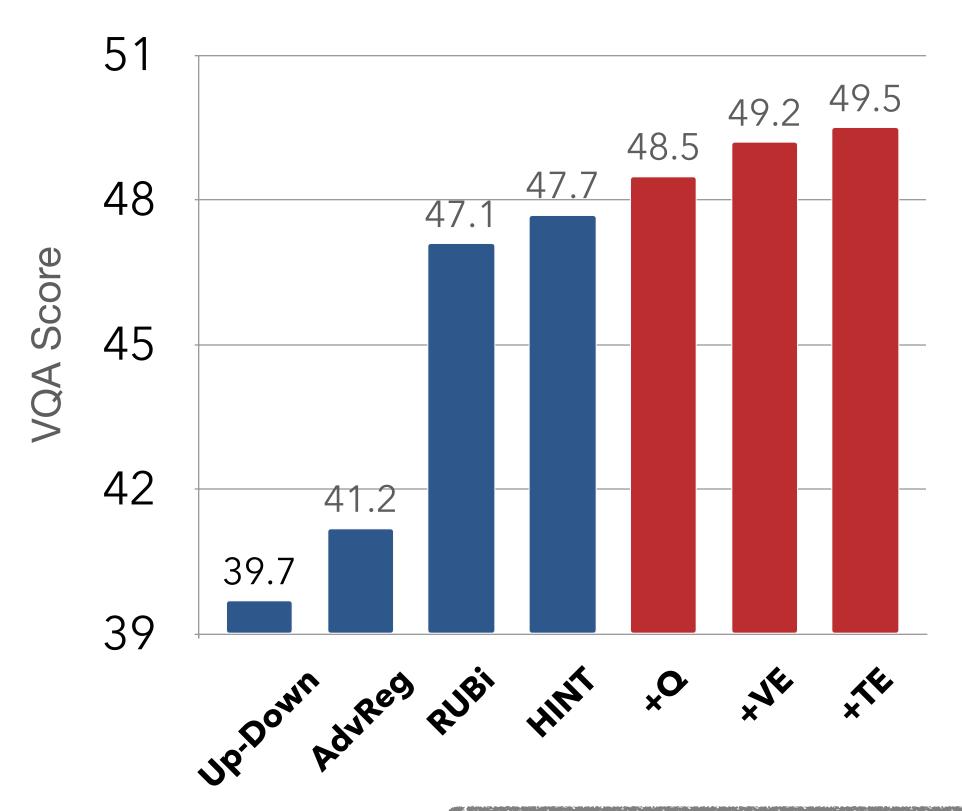


Answer: Fork





Results on VQA-CP v2



VQA-CP v2[Agrawal et al. CVPR2018]: a reorganizing VQA v2 such that the answer distribution differs in the training and test splits.

Up-Down[Anderson et al. CVPR 2018]: base model

AdvReg[Ramakrishnan et al. NeurIPS 2018]: Adversarial Regularization on question only model

RuBi[Cadene et al. NeurIPS 2019]:Reducing Unimodal Biases by weight the output

HINT[Selvaraju et al. ICCV 2019]: Human Importance-aware Network Tuning

- +Q(ours): Using question words
- **+VE**(ours): Using visual explanation
- **+TE**(ours):Using textual explanation

Human Explanations help VQA models be robust to unbalanced training distribution



Talk Outline

Core Contributions:

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Future Directions



Outside-Knowledge VQA

Question: Which American president is associated with the stuffed animal seen here?





Outside-Knowledge VQA

Question: Which American president is associated with the stuffed animal seen here?

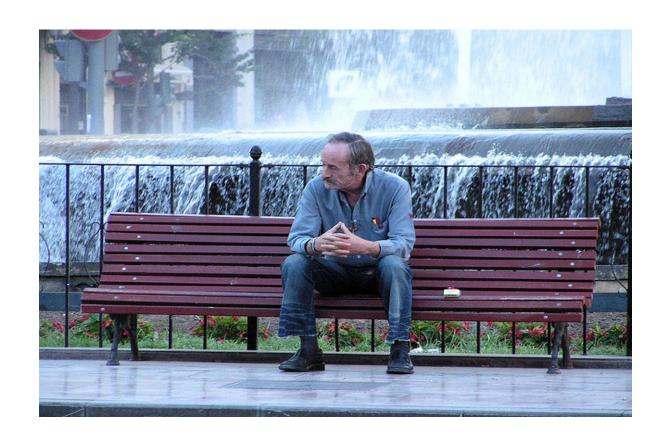


The name teddy bear comes from former United States President **Theodore Roosevelt**, who was often referred to as "Teddy"

A: Teddy Roosevelt

(A) Factual Knowledge

Q: Which movie featured a man in this position telling his life story to strangers?



Forrest Gump narrated his life's story at the northern edge of Chippewa Square in Savannah, Georgia, as he sat at a bus stop bench.



A: Forrest Gump

(B) Conceptual Knowledge

Q: Is this a healthy dish?



Vegetarian food has property of healthy Eating Vegetable has property of healthy Beans are related to healthy



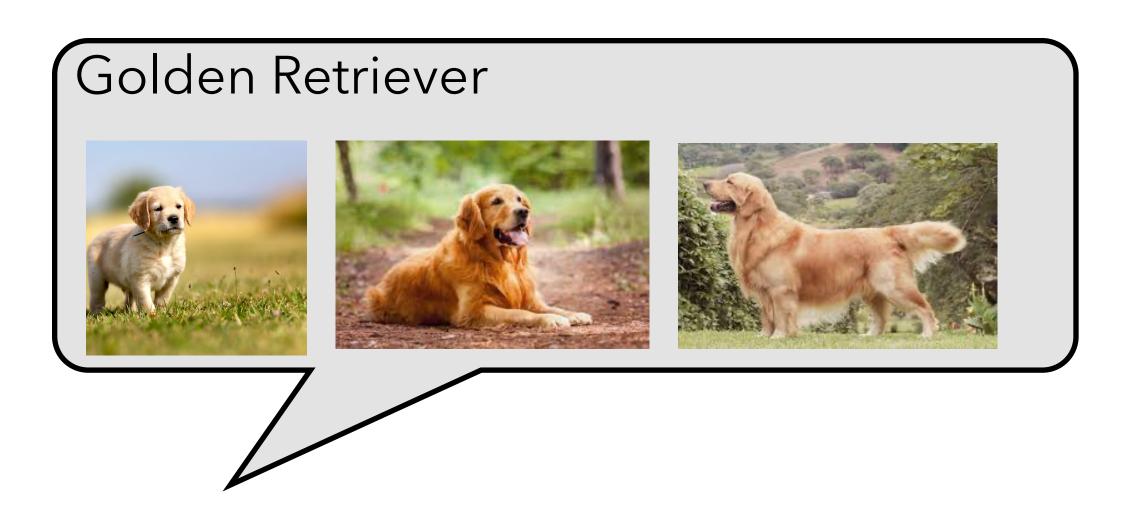
A: Yes



(C) Visual Knowledge

Q: What breed of dog is the dog in this photo?







A: Golden Retriever



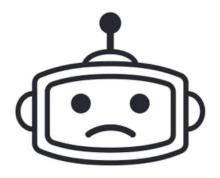
Is Question and Image Sufficient?

Q: What English city is famous for a tournament for the sport this man is playing?



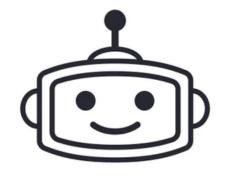
Question + Image

The modern game of tennis originated in Birmingham, England in the late 19th century as lawn tennis.



Question + Image + Answer (Wimbledon)

Wimbledon is notable for the longest sponsorship in sports history due to its association with Slazenger who have supplied all tennis balls for the tournament since 1902.





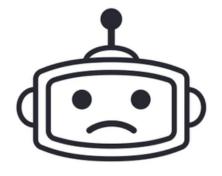
Fitting in the Question Context

Q: What English city is famous for a tournament for the sport this man is playing?



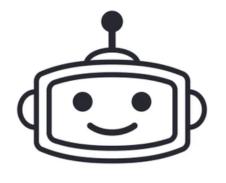
Question + Image

The modern game of tennis originated in Birmingham, England in the late 19th century as lawn tennis.



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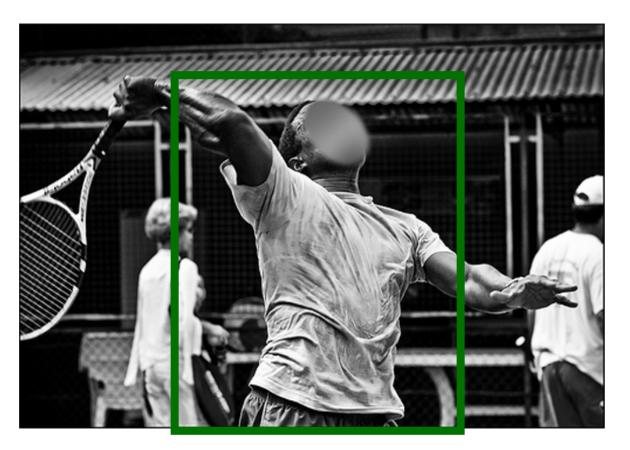
Wimbledon is notable for the longest sponsorship in sports history due to its association with Slazenger who have supplied all **tennis balls** for the **tournament** since 1902.





Fitting in the Question Context

Q: What English city is famous for a tournament for the sport this man is playing?



Wimbledon is notable for the longest sponsorship in sports history due to its association with Slazenger who have supplied all tennis balls for the tournament since 1902.



Question + Image answer (Wimbledon)

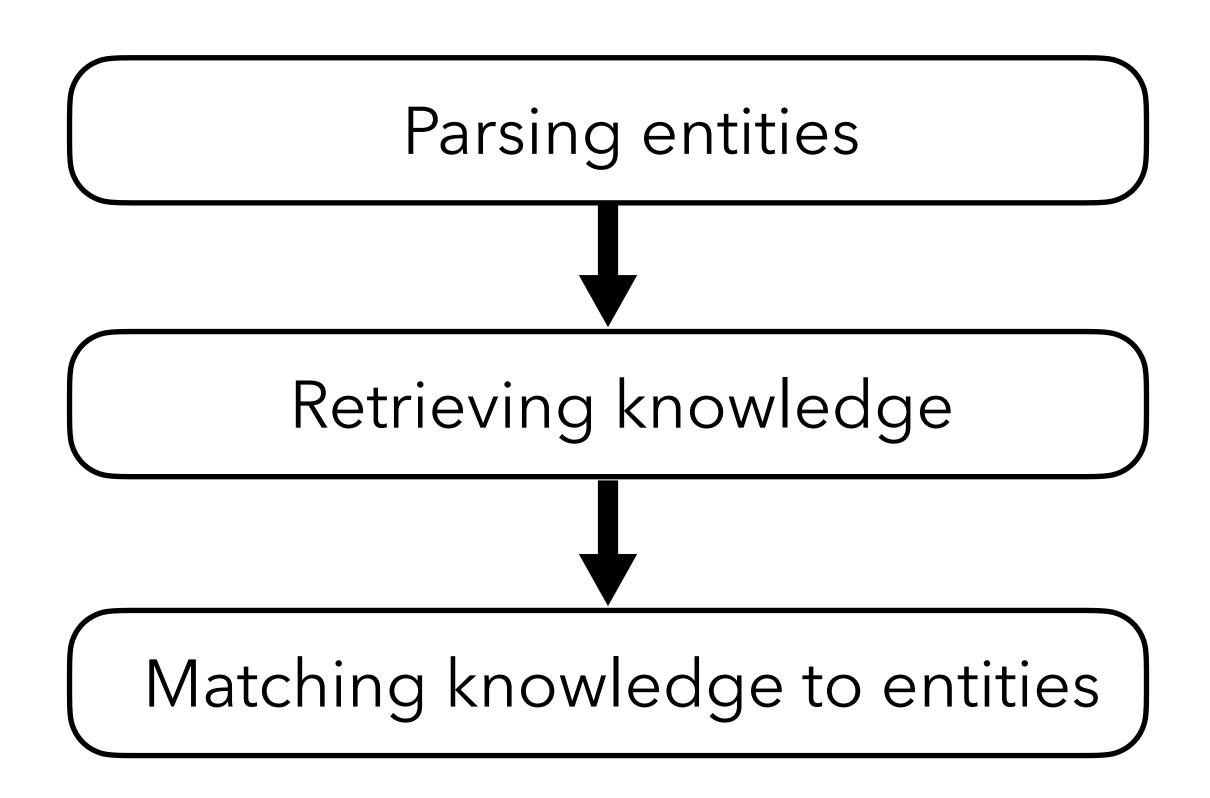


Multimodal Answer Validation (MAVEx) Outline

- MAVEx Answer-Guided Knowledge Retrieval
- MAVEx Answer Validation Model
- Experimental Results



MAVEx Retrieval Outline





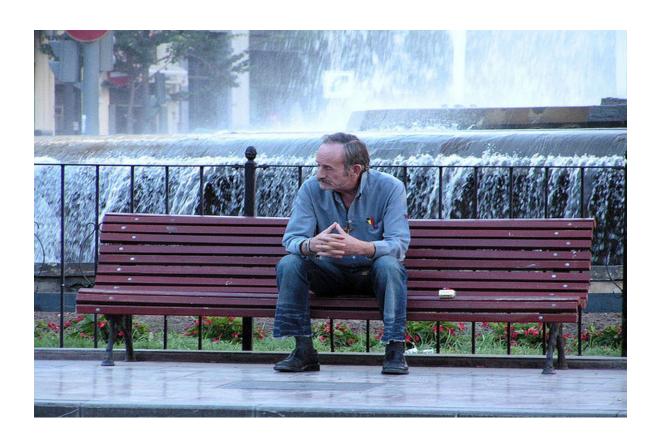
Extracting Noun Phrases

Q: Which movie featured a man in this position telling his life story to strangers?

S1: Forrest Gump featured a man in this position...

S2: Speed featured a man in this position telling...

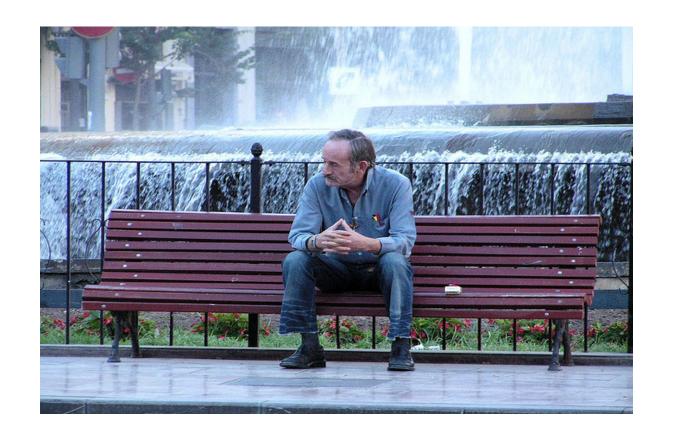
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Parsing Entities

Q: Which movie featured a man in this position telling his life story to strangers?



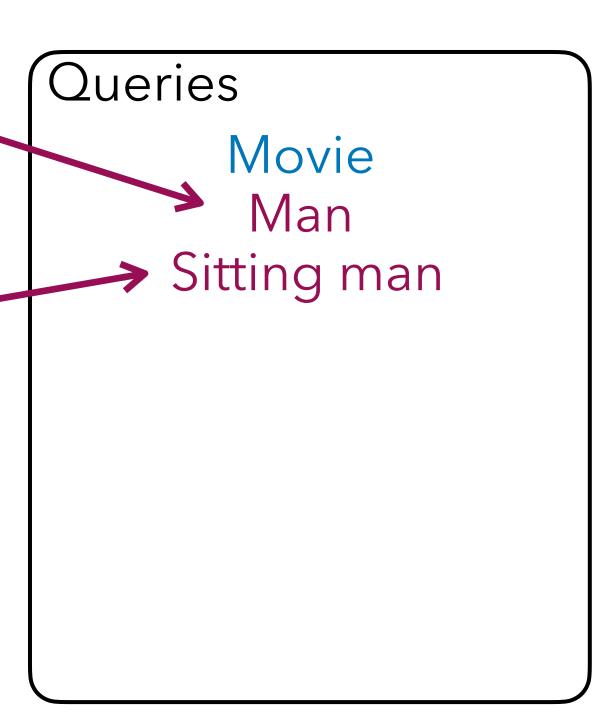
Queries
Movie



Parsing Entities

Q: Which movie featured a man in this position telling his life story to strangers?







Parsing Entities

Q: Which movie featured a man in this position telling his life story to strangers?



Oueries

Movie

Man

Sitting man

Life story

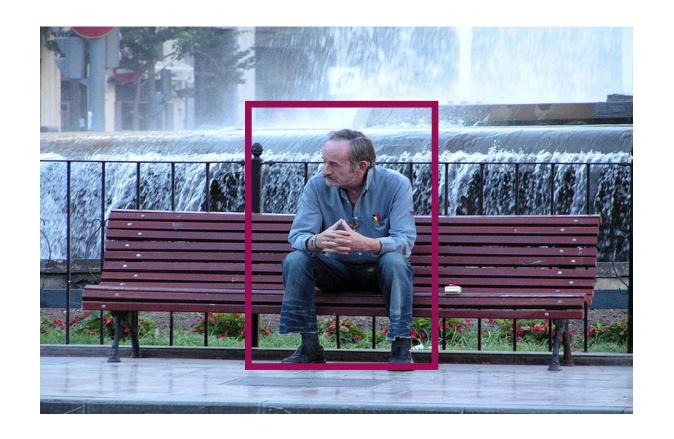
Stranger



Parsing Entities

S1: Forrest Gump featured a man in this position telling ...

S2: Speed featured a man in ...



```
Queries

Movie

Man

Sitting man

Life story

Stranger

Forrest Gump

Gump

Speed

:
```



Retrieving Articles

Queries

Movie
Man
Sitting man
Life story
Stranger

Forrest Gump

Gump Speed

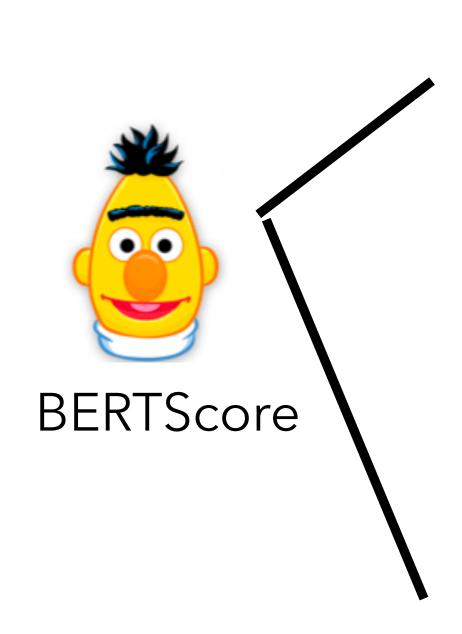
•

Forrest Gump is a 1994 American comedy-drama film directed by Robert Zemeckis and written by Eric Roth. The Gump family home set was built along the Combahee River near Yemassee, South Carolina, and the nearby land was used to film Curran's home as well as some of the Vietnam scenes. Forrest Gump narrated his life's story at the northern edge of Chippewa Square in Savannah, Georgia, as he sat at a bus stop bench.





Retrieving Sentences



Forrest Gump is a 1994 American comedy-drama film directed by Robert Zemeckis and written by Eric Roth.

..... The Gump family home set was built along the Combahee River near Yemassee, South Carolina, and the nearby land was used to film Curran's home as well as some of the Vietnam scenes. Forrest Gump narrated his life's story at the northern edge of Chippewa Square in Savannah, Georgia, as he sat at a bus stop bench.

S1: Forrest Gump featured a man in this position...

S2: Speed featured a man in this position telling...



Matching Knowledge

Queries

Movie
Man
Sitting man
Life story
Stranger
Forrest Gump
Gump
Speed

•

Wikipedia
The Free Encyclopedia

A man is an adult male human.

The novel also features Gump as an astronaut, a professional wrestler, and a chess player.

Forrest Gump narrated his life's story at the ..., as he sat at a bus stop bench

Forrest Gump is a 1994 American comedy-drama film ...

Speed is a 1994 American action thriller film directed by Jan de Bont ...



Matching Knowledge

Queries

Movie
Man
Sitting man
Life story
Stranger
Forrest Gump
Gump
Speed

Wikipedia
The Free Encyclopedia

A man is an adult male human.

The novel also features **Gump** as an astronaut, a professional wrestler, and a chess player.

Forrest Gump narrated his life's story at the ..., as he sat at a bus stop bench

Forrest Gump is a 1994 American comedy-drama film ...

Speed is a 1994 American action thriller **film** directed by Jan de Bont ...



Matching Knowledge

Movie Man Sitting man Life story Stranger Forrest Gump Gump Speed :

A Gentleman is at a movie

Forrest Gump is a film

Story of my life is related to tell me about it

Strangers is related to people

Speed is related to **film**





Matching Visual Knowledge

Q: Which movie featured a man in this position telling his life story to strangers?







Matching Visual Knowledge

S1: Forrest Gump featured a man in this position telling ...

S2: Speed featured a man in ...





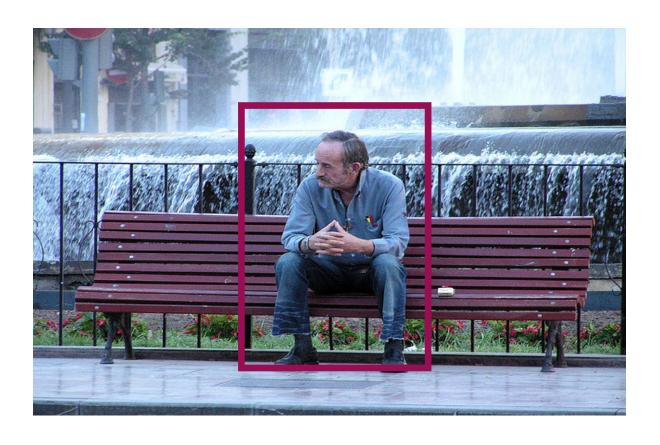


MAVEx Retrieval Results

Q: Which movie featured a man in this position telling his life story to strangers?

S1: Forrest Gump featured a man in this position telling ...

S2: Speed featured a man in ...



Queries Movie Man Sitting man Life story Stranger Forrest Gump Gump Speed

WikipediA The Free Encyclopedia

Queries Movie Man Sitting man Life story Stranger Forrest Gump Gump Speed

A man is an adult male human.

The novel also features **Gump** as an astronaut, a professional wrestler, and a chess player.

Forrest Gump narrated his life's story at the ..., as he **sat** at a bus stop bench

Forrest Gump is a 1994 American comedy-drama film ...

Speed is a 1994 American action thriller **film** directed by Jan de Bont ...

A **Gentleman** is at a **movie**

Forrest Gump is a film

Story of my life is related to tell me about it **Strangers** is related to people

Speed is related to **film**

















Multimodal Answer Validation

- MAVEx Answer-Guided Knowledge Retrieval
- MAVEx Answer Validation Model
- Experimental Results

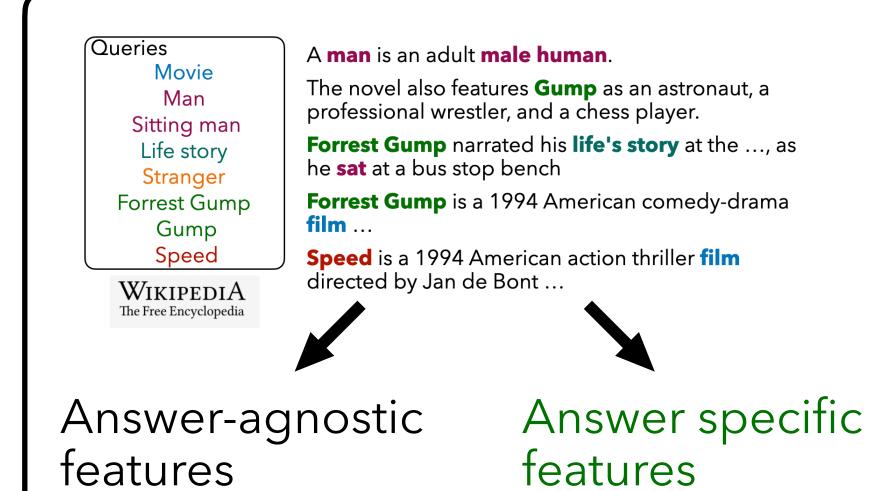


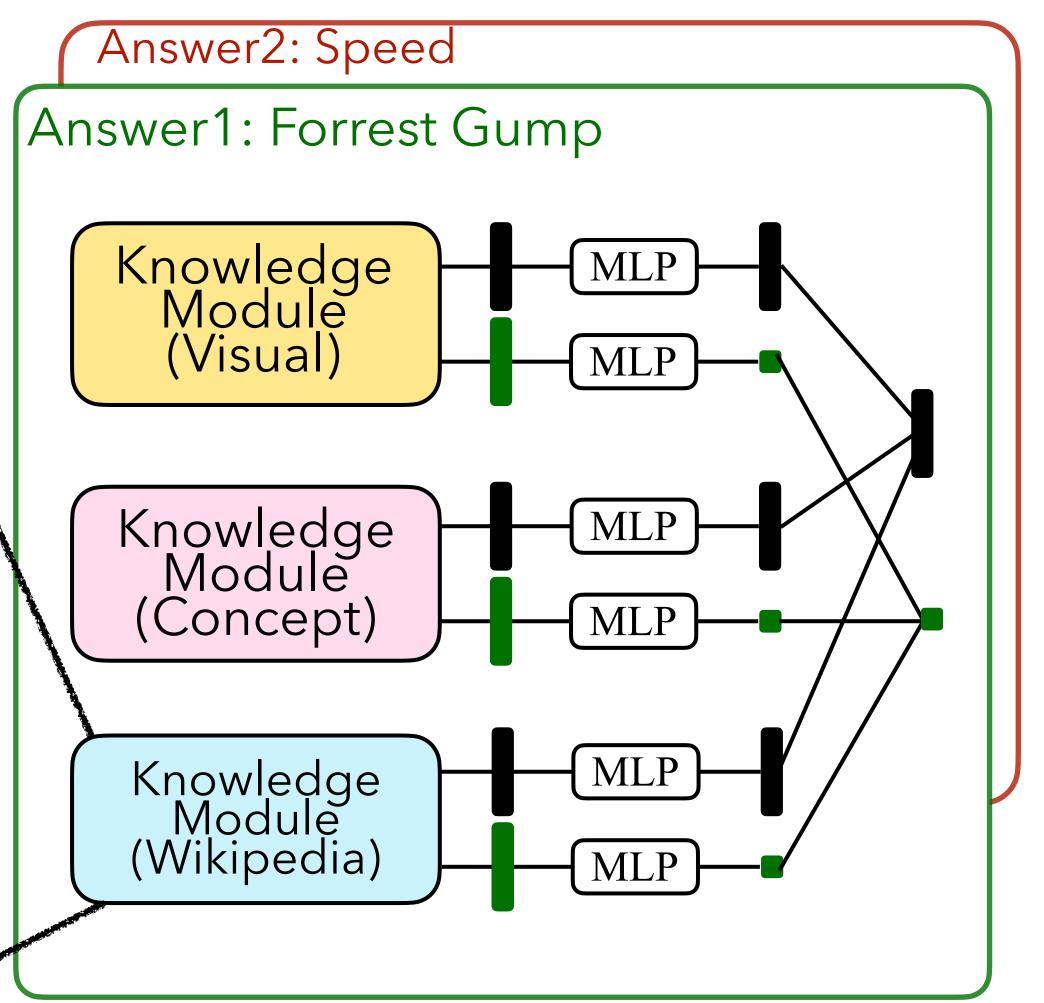
Answer Validation

Q: Which movie featured a man in this position telling his life story to strangers?



Answer1:
Forrest Gump
Answer2:
Speed







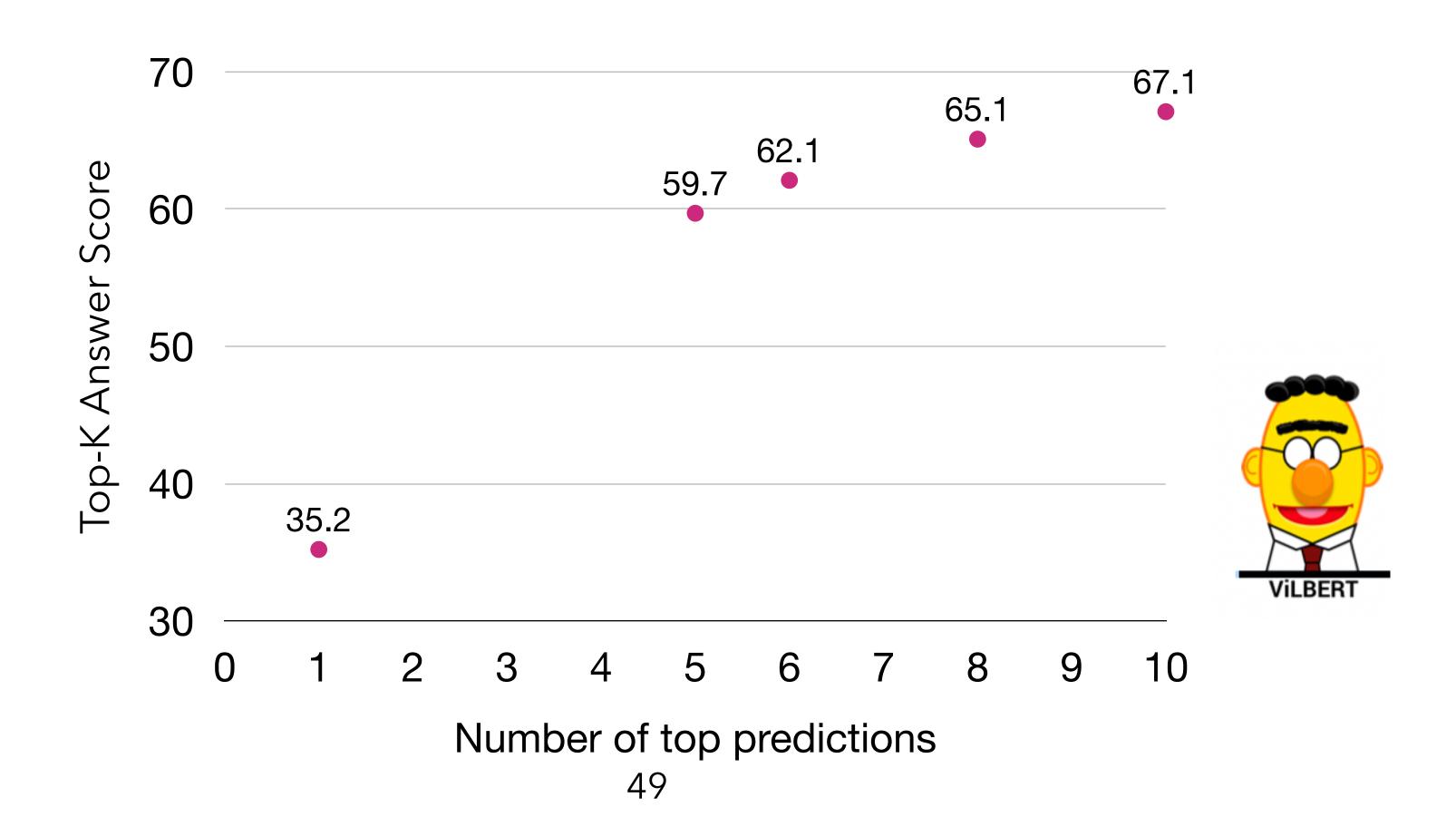
Multimodal Answer Validation

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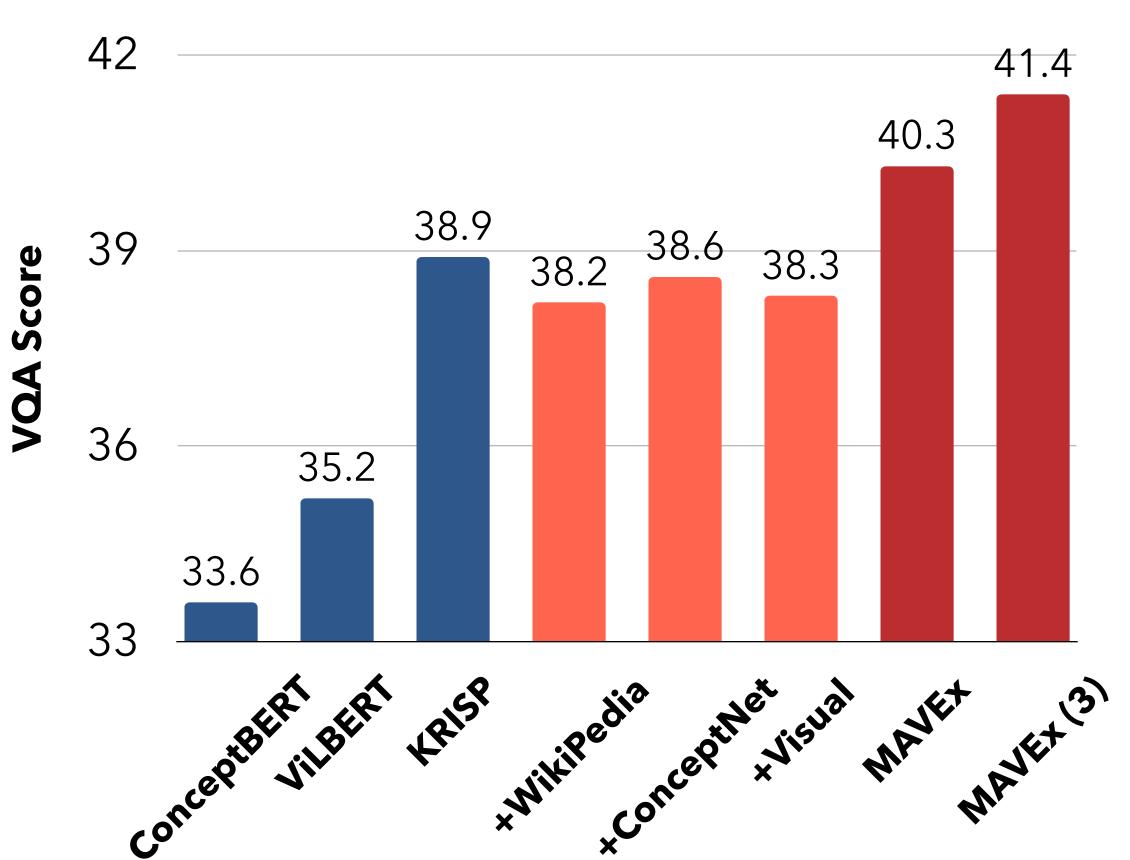
Identifying Answer candidates

VQA systems are good candidate generators





Performance on OKVQA v1.1



OKVQA v1.1[Kenneth et al. CVPR2019]: a large scale outside knowledge VQA dataset, containing 9k questions for training and 5k questions for test

ConceptBert[Gardères et al. EMNLP 2020]:Bert on ConceptNet **Vilbert**[Lu et al. CVPR 2020]: base multimodal transformer

KRISP[Kenneth et al. CVPR 2021]: Knowledge Reasoning with Implicit and Symbolic rePresentations

- +WikiPedia(ours):Only use Wikipedia knowledge
- +ConceptNet(ours):Only use ConceptNet knowledge
- +Visual(ours):Only use Google Image knowledge

MAVEx(ours):Our full model

MAVEx(3)(ours): an ensemble of 3 models

OK-VQA benefits from answer validation with multiple knowledge sources



Talk Outline

Core Contributions:

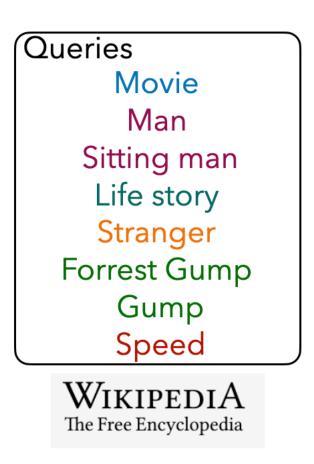
Info	Image Captions	Human Explanations	Open Knowledge	Open Knowledge
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Future Directions



Rethinking on Knowledge Retrieval

Hard term-matching based retriever (TF-IDF, BM25, MAVEx Retriever)



A man is an adult male human.

The novel also features **Gump** as an astronaut, a professional wrestler, and a chess player.

Forrest Gump narrated his life's story at the ..., as he sat at a bus stop bench

Forrest Gump is a 1994 American comedy-drama film ...

Speed is a 1994 American action thriller **film** directed by Jan de Bont ...

Pros: Clear and explicit context matching

Cons: Bad at tackling synonyms and understanding semantic

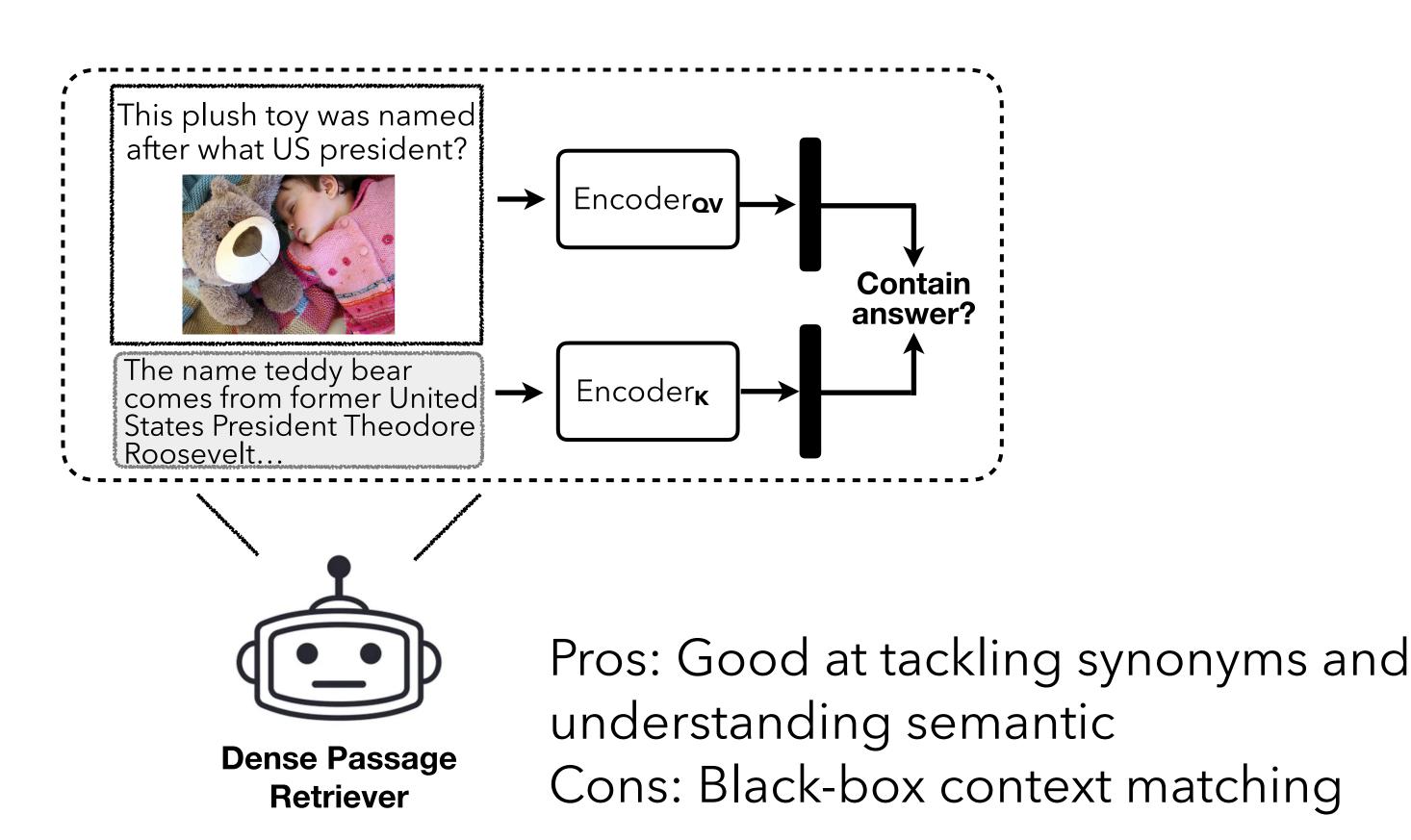


Dense Passage Retrieval

Q: This plush toy was named after what US president?



A: Teddy Roosevelt





Objectives of Knowledge Retrieval

Q: This plush toy was named after what **US president**?



A: Teddy Roosevelt

Informative

The name teddy bear comes from former United States President **Theodore Roosevelt**, who was often referred to as "Teddy". ...

Objectives of Knowledge Retrieval

Q: This **plush toy** was named after what **US president**?



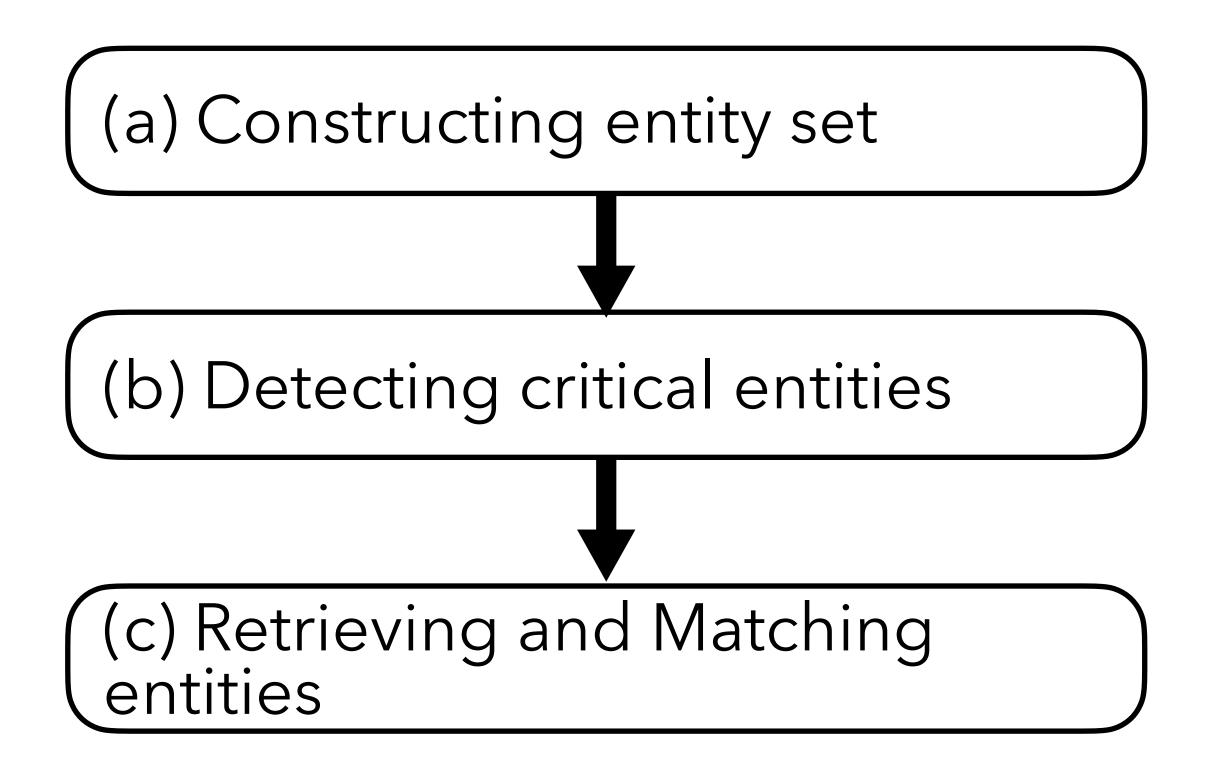
A: Teddy Roosevelt

Informative
Fitting in the query context
(Focusing on Critical Entity)

The name **teddy bear** comes from former United States
President **Theodore Roosevelt**, who was often referred to as "Teddy". ...



Entity-Focused Retrieval (EnFoRe)





Q: This plush toy was named after what US president?



A: Teddy Roosevelt

Question-based Entities:

Phrases in question: plush toy, president, ...

Answer candidates: Roosevelt, ...



Q: This plush toy was named after what US president?



A: Teddy Roosevelt

Question-based Entities:

Phrases in question: plush toy, president, ...

Answer candidates: Roosevelt, ...

Sub-questions: Teddy bear, ...

What is this plush toy? What is the US president?

Q: This plush toy was named after what US president?



A: Teddy Roosevelt

Question-based Entities:

Phrases in question: plush toy, president, ...

Answer candidates: Roosevelt, ...

Sub-questions: Teddy bear, ...

Image-based Entities:

Azure Tagging: Teddy bear, ...

Tagging the common content, detecting brands and OCR.



Q: This plush toy was named after what US president?



A: Teddy Roosevelt

Question-based Entities:

Phrases in question: plush toy, president, ...

Answer candidates: Roosevelt, ...

Sub-questions: Teddy bear, ...

Image-based Entities:

Azure Tagging: Teddy bear, ...

Clip Tagging: Teddy bear, ...

Clip model + WikiData



Q: This plush toy was named after what US president?



A: Teddy Roosevelt

Question-based Entities:

Phrases in question: plush toy, president, ...

Answer candidates: Roosevelt, ...

Sub-questions: Teddy bear, ...

Image-based Entities:

Azure Tagging: Teddy bear, ...

Clip Tagging: Teddy bear, ...

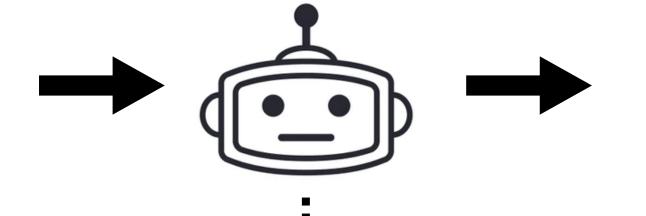
Phrases in captions: Infant, ...

There is an **infant** holding a toy.



Oracle entities detection

This plush toy was named after what US president?

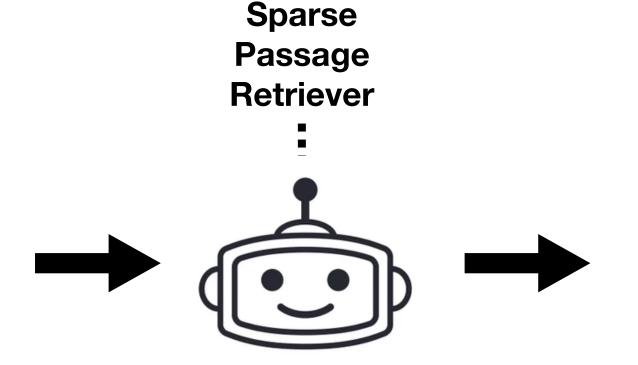


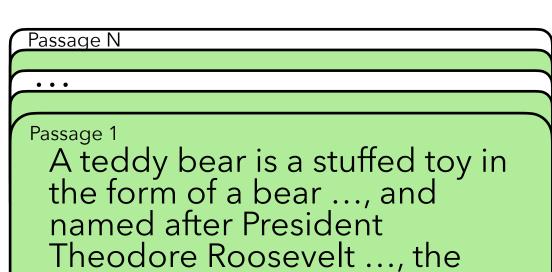
A teddy bear is a stuffed toy in the form of a bear ..., and named after President Theodore Roosevelt ..., the teddy bear ...

• • •

1/1 + 1/4 =1.25

This plush toy was named after what US president? Teddy Bear



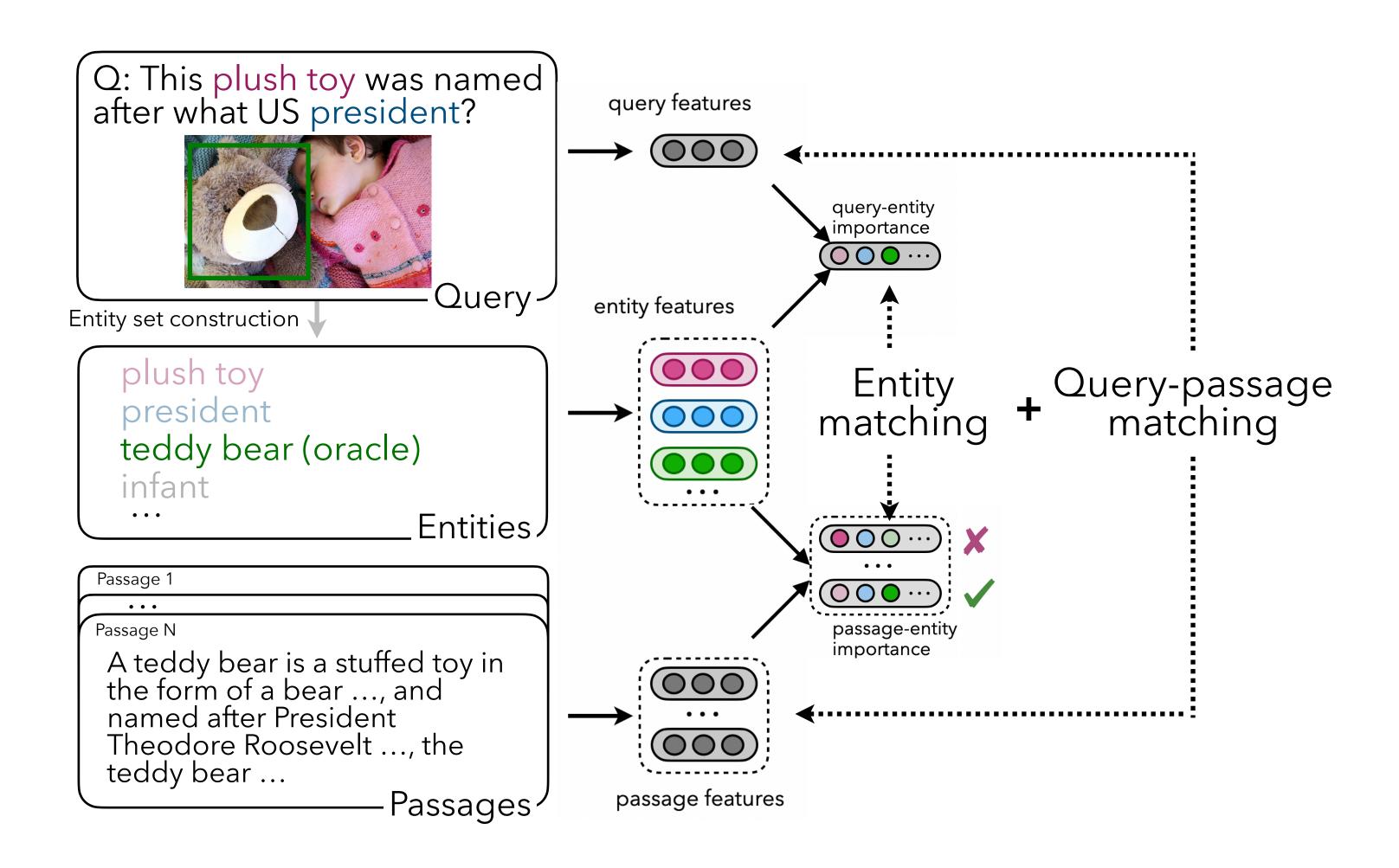


teddy bear ...

1/1 + 1/2 + 1/4=1.75

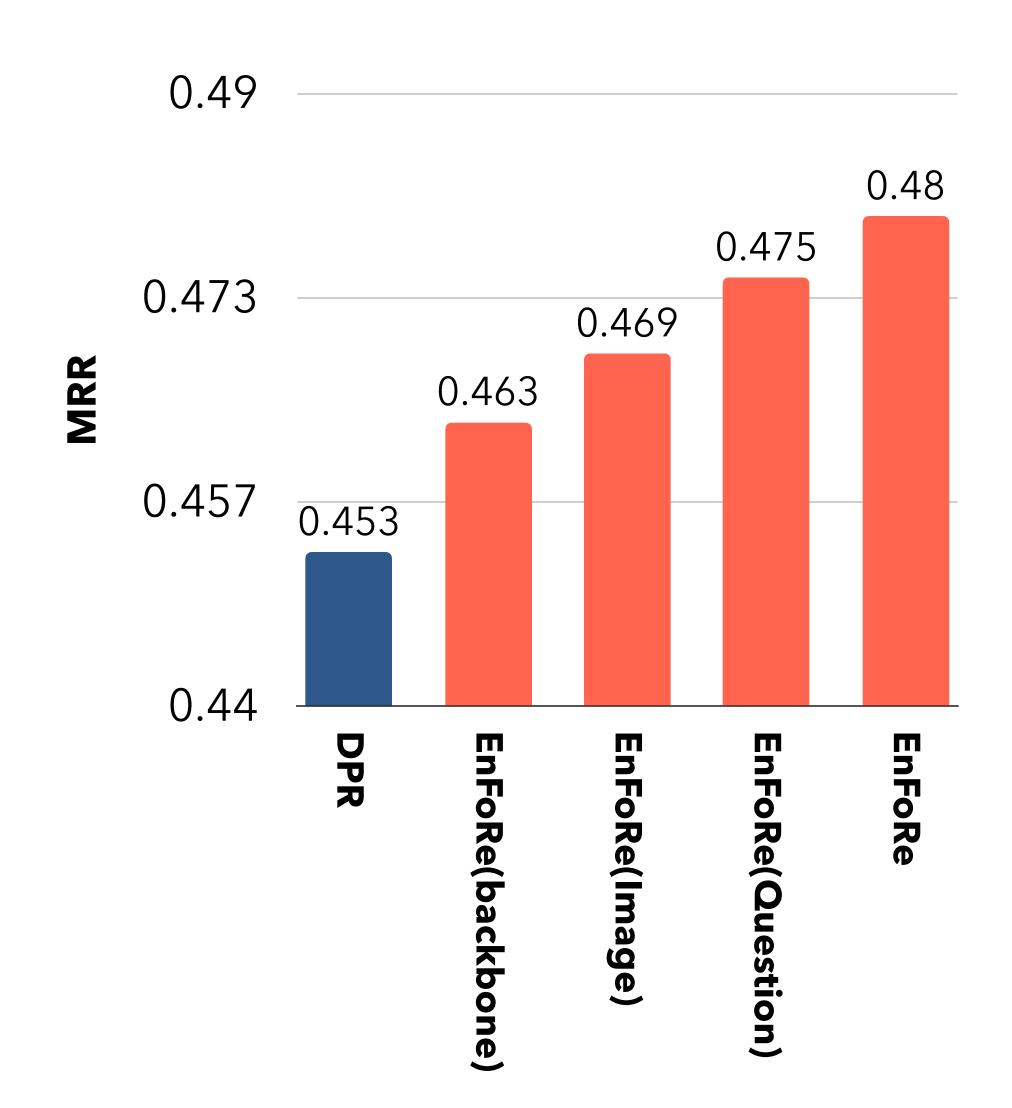


EnFoRe Model Overview





EnFoRe Retrieval Results



DPR[Qu et al. SIGIR 2021]:OKVQA version of DPR

EnFoRe (backbone): EnFoRe without entity matching, evaluating representation learning

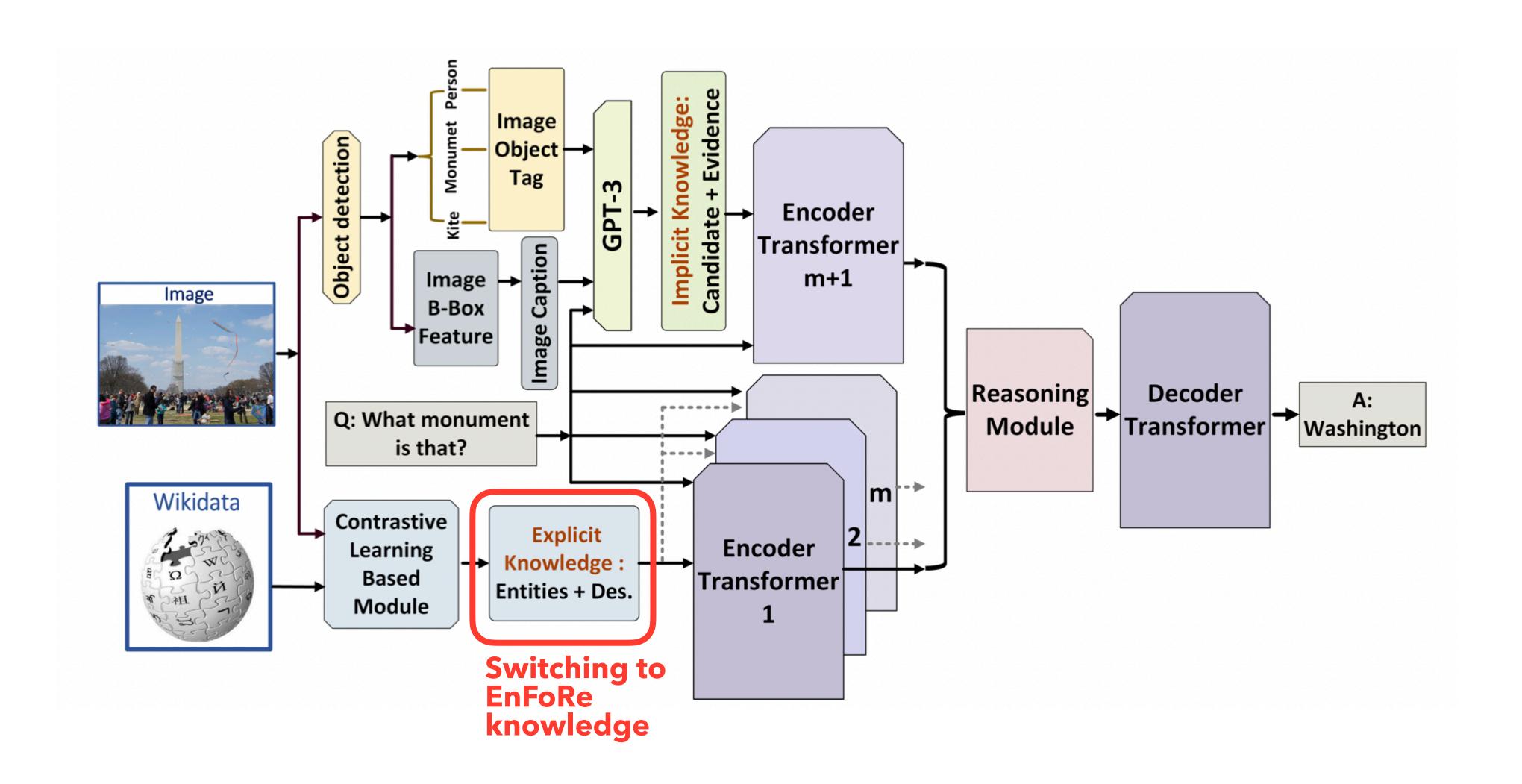
EnFoRe (Image): EnFoRe re-ranking with Image-based entities

EnFoRe (Question): EnFoRe re-ranking with question-based entities

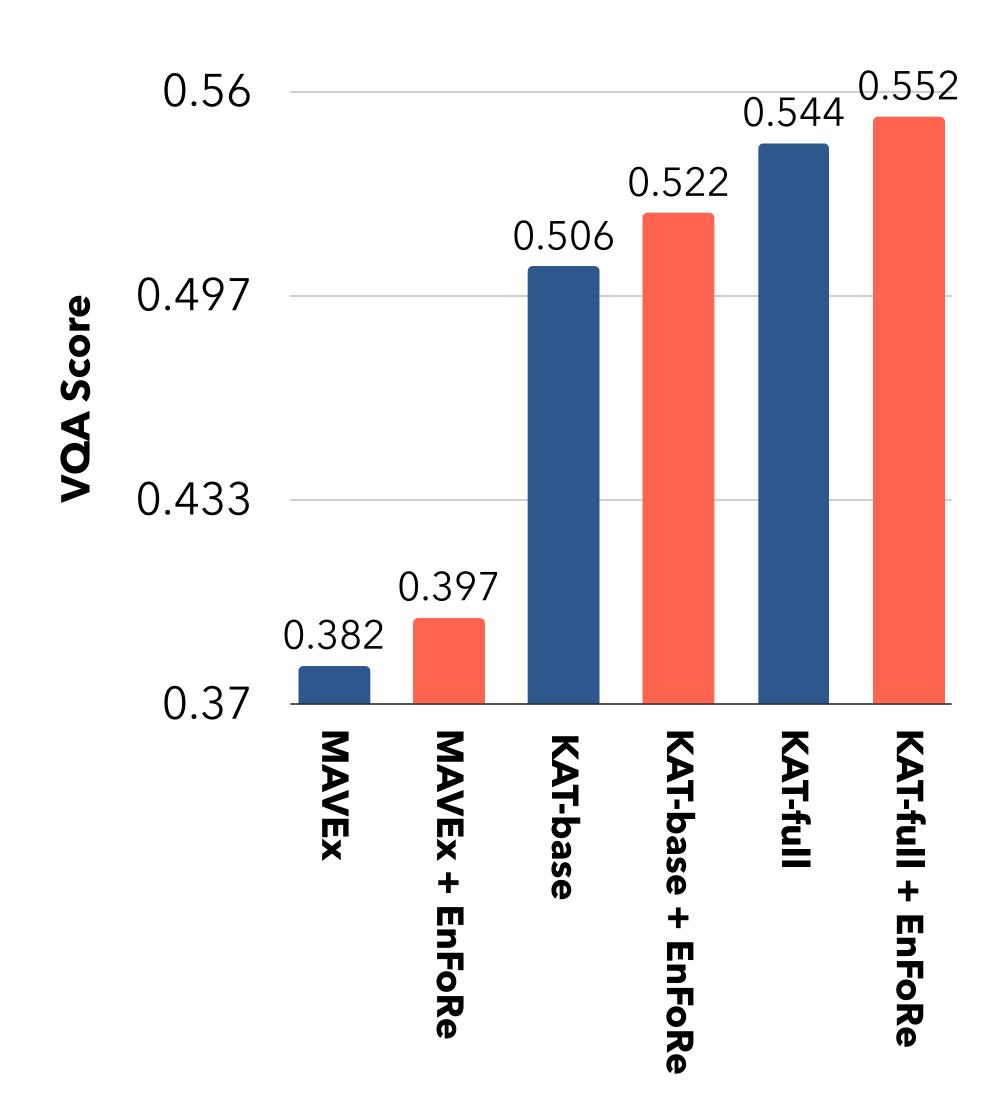
EnFoRe: Full EnFoRe model



KAT Model



VQA Results using EnFoRe Knowledge



OKVQA v1.1[Kenneth et al. CVPR2019]: a large scale outside knowledge VQA dataset, containing 9k questions for training and 5k questions for test

MAVEx[Wu et al. AAAI 2022]:MAVEx with Wikipedia knowledge

MAVEx + EnFoRe: MAVEx with EnFoRe knowledge

KAT-base: Single T5-base Fusion-in-Decoder model

KAT-base + EnFoFe: KAT-base with EnFoRe knowledge

KAT-full: Ensembles of T5-large Fusion-in-Decoder model

KAT-full + EnFoFe: KAT-full with EnFoRe knowledge

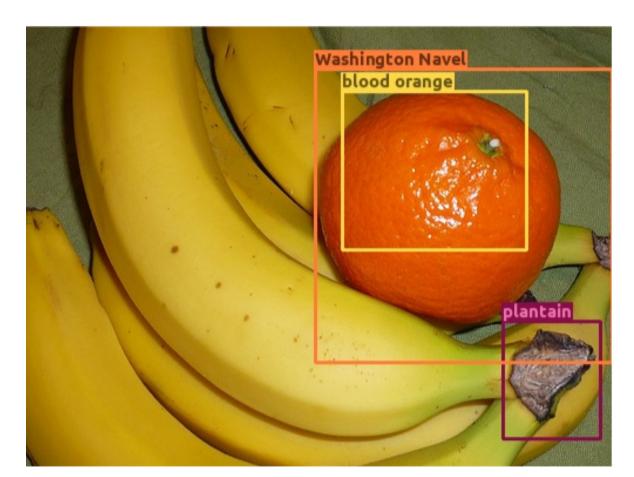
The Results of KAT related model are evaluated by an unofficial metric that that takes the max over 1.0 and number of annotators agreements divided by 3.

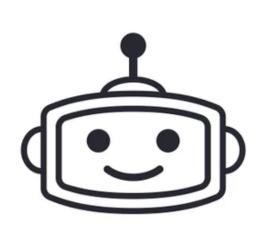


Human Evaluation

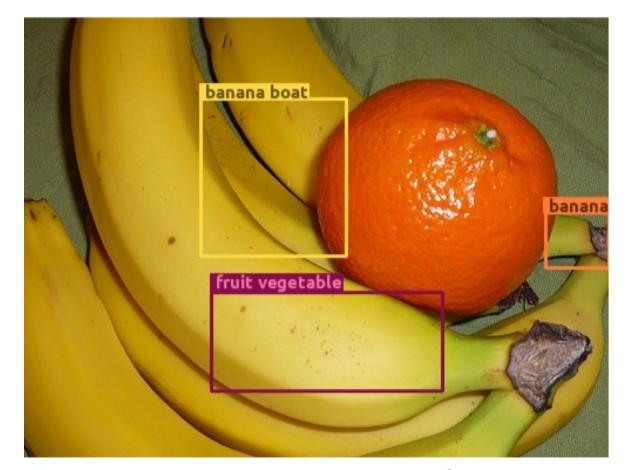
Which set of highlighted entities and background sentences contains the most supportive evidence to the answer?

Q: What is the main benefits of healthy properties these fruit contain? A: potassium





EnFoRe wins 61.8%



Sent1: Naturally, the fruit of the Hassaku orange is a good source of vitamin C, folic acid, potassium and fiber.

Sent2: ...

Sent3: ...

Sent1: Fruit vegetable is a fruit commonly referred to as a vegetable because they are savory (not sweet).

Sent2: ...

Sent3: ...



Qualitative Results

Q: Who is famous for allegedly doing this in a lightning storm? Prediction: Benjamin Franklin



The electricity attraction from a lightning storm was done by **Benjamin Franklin** himself in the **kite** experiment that he talked about in a letter to Collinson dated October 19.



Top Entities: **kite** flying, human-lifting **kite**, **kite**.

Qualitative Results

Q: What healthy properties do these fruit contain? Prediction: potassium



Naturally, the fruit of the Hassaku **orange** is a good source of vitamin C, folic acid, **potassium** and fiber.



Top Entities: plantain, Washington Navel, blood **orange**.

Recognizing critical entities during retrieval is important and entity-focused knowledge helps VQA more



Talk Outline

Core Contributions:

Info	Image Captions	Human Explanations	Open Knowledge	Open Knowledge
Topic	General VQA	Fighting Imbalanced Training Distribution	Outside Knowledge VQA	Knowledge Retrieval

Future Directions

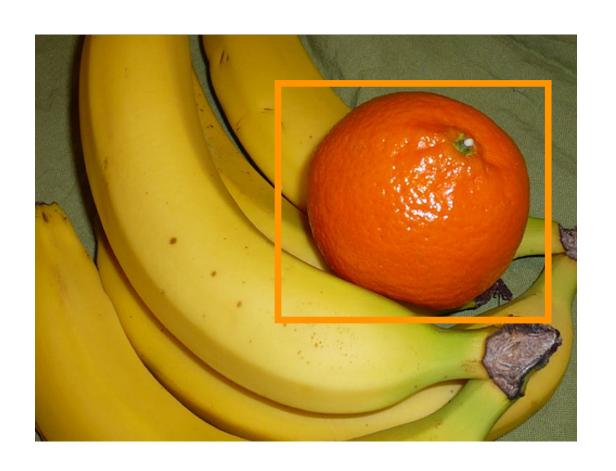


Future Directions

Logic-Aware Knowledge Retrieval

Q: What healthy properties do these **fruit** contain?

Prediction: potassium



Informative

Fitting in the query c

Fitting in the query context (Entity-based)

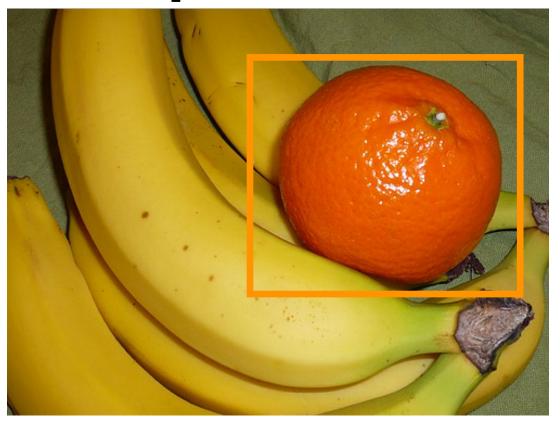
Naturally, the fruit of the Hassaku **orange** is a good source of vitamin C, folic acid, **potassium** and fiber.



Step-by-step Knowledge Retrieval

Q: What is the main benefits of healthy properties these fruit contain?

Prediction: potassium



Breaking Down Questions

- 1. What fruits are the question refers to? [grounding]
- 2. What healthy properties do oranges have **[retrieval]**
- 3.What healthy properties do banana have **[retrieval]**
- 4. What is the shared healthy properties the **[reasoning]**
- 5. What is the main benefits of the healthy property [retrieval]



Knowledge Sources

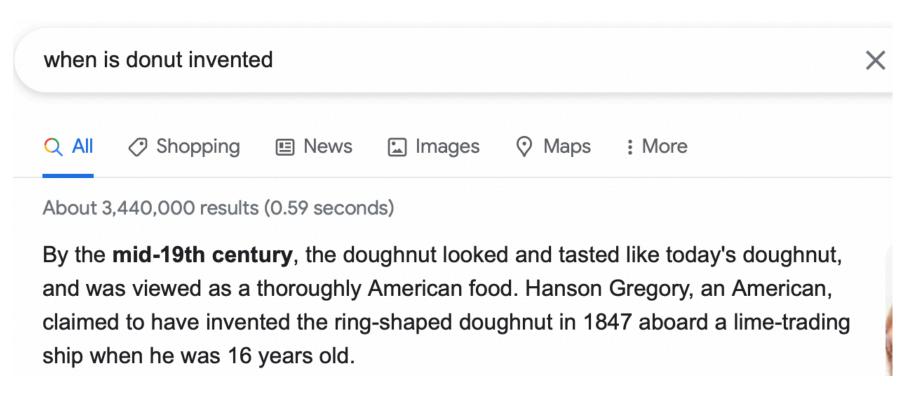














Knowledge-Augmented Tasks

Multimodal Pre-training

Coarsely labeled web images: ConceptualCaptions (~3.3M) YFCC100M(~100M Images) JFT300M -3B (300M - 3B)

Knowledge-Augmented Multimodal Pre-training



In the 15th and 16th centuries,
Portuguese colonists started
banana plantations in the
Atlantic Islands, Brazil, and
western Africa

Open-vocabulary Object Detection



Common detection: Banana.

Open-vocabulary detection: raped banana, plantain, cavendish banana.



Trustworthy Al

Q: What healthy properties do these fruit contain? Prediction: potassium



Naturally, the fruit of the Hassaku **orange** is a good source of vitamin C, folic acid, **potassium** and fiber.



Top Entities: plantain, Washington Navel, blood **orange**.



Trustworthy Al

Step by step model 1. fruit refers to the orange and banana [grounding] Q: What healthy properties do 2. Banana has potassium[comprehension] these fruit contain? 3. Orange has potassium[comprehension] 4. healthy property is potassium [reasoning] Prediction: potassium **Unit-based model** Generative model [Park et al, [Ribeiro et al., KDD2016] CVPR2018; **Wu et al, ACL2019***] orange (0.5), banana (0.5), healthy properties(0.7), table (0.1), Because both banana and **VQA Model** orange are rich in potassium **VQA Model VQA Model**



Acknowledgements

Thanks for you attention!