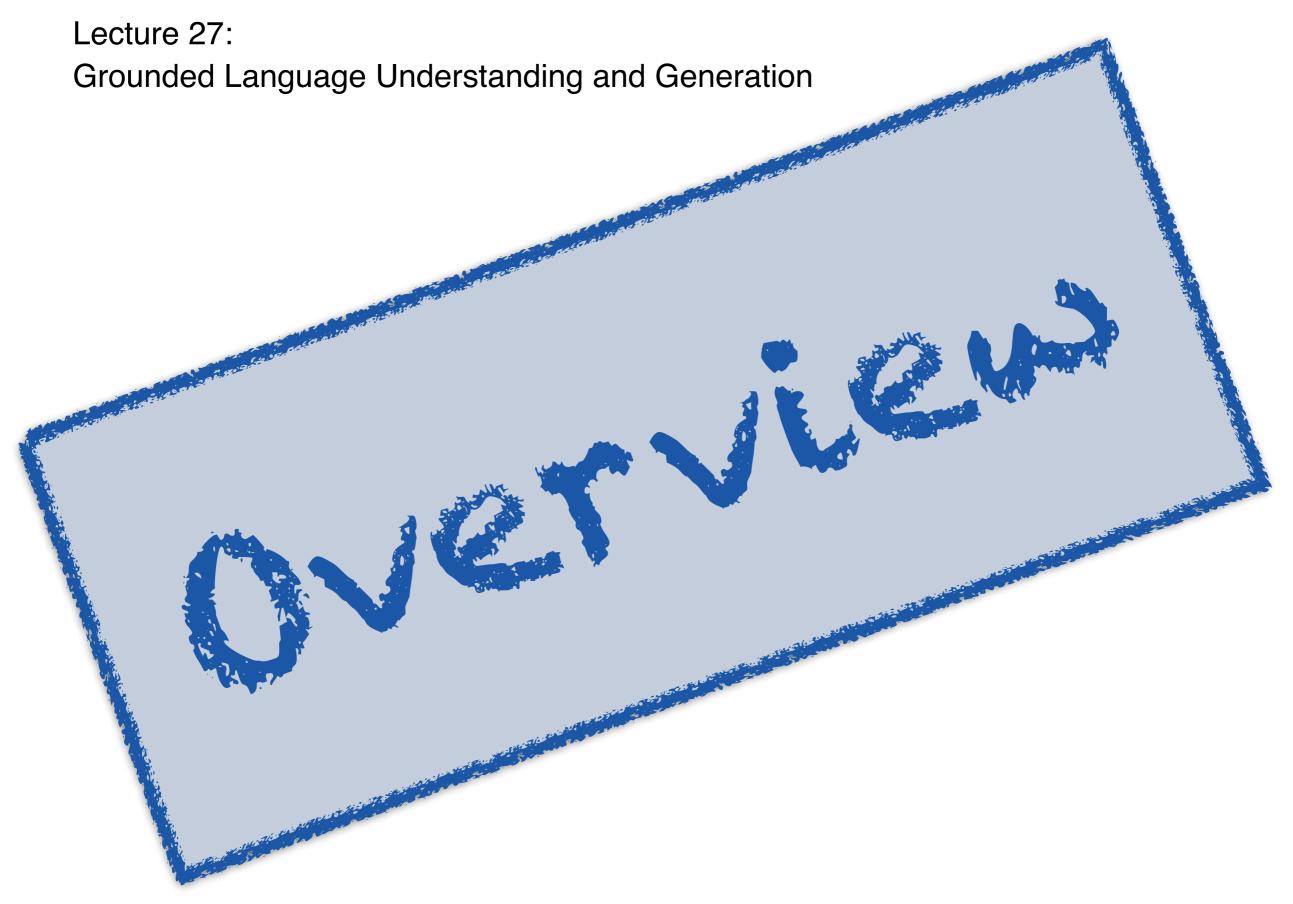
CS447: Natural Language Processing

http://courses.engr.illinois.edu/cs447

Lecture 27: Grounded Language Understanding and Generation

Julia Hockenmaier

juliahmr@illinois.edu 3324 Siebel Center



Today's lecture

We're almost at the end of the semester, so...

- ... I'd like to take a step back
- ... and I'm going to talk about my own research

What is language understanding?

The ability to...

... draw (logical/commonsense) inferences:

Example: Entailment recognition

... connect language to the world:

Example: Image Description

... communicate with others to perform a task

Example: Grounded dialogue for instruction giving and following

People are shopping in a supermarket

People are shopping in a supermarket

They are sitting at desks.

They are walking

on the street.



They are buying clothes.

They are at home.

People are shopping in a supermarket

They are sitting at desks.

They are walking on the street.



They are buying clothes.

They are at home.

They are standing or walking.

They are pushing shopping carts.



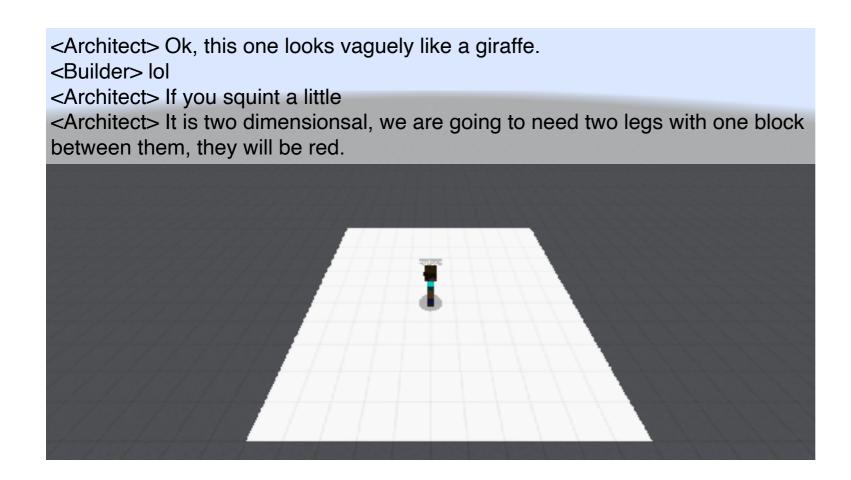
They are in an indoor space.

There are aisles of shelves

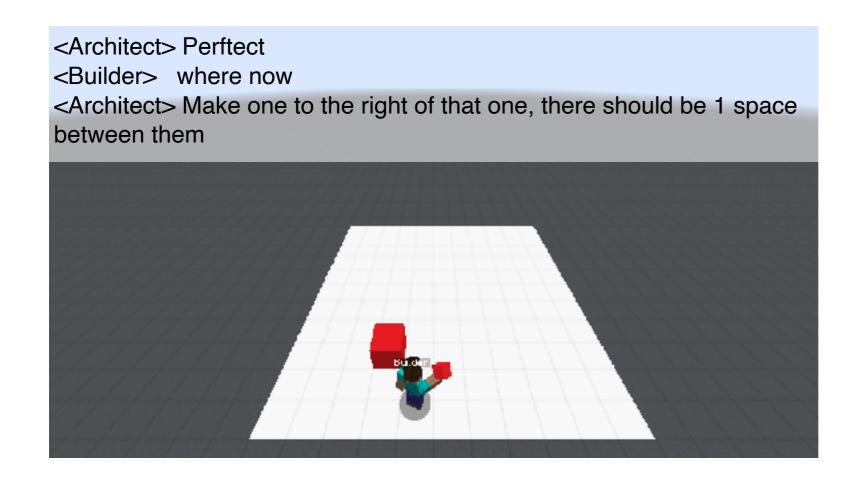
Language understanding as the ability to describe the world



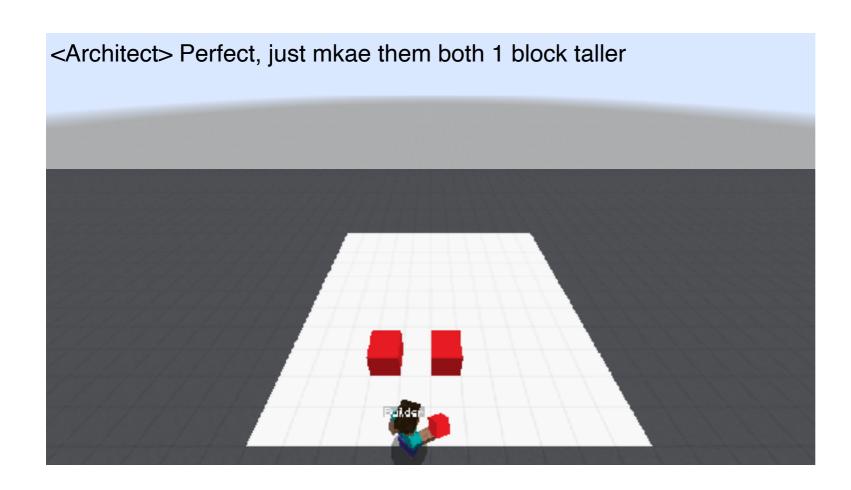




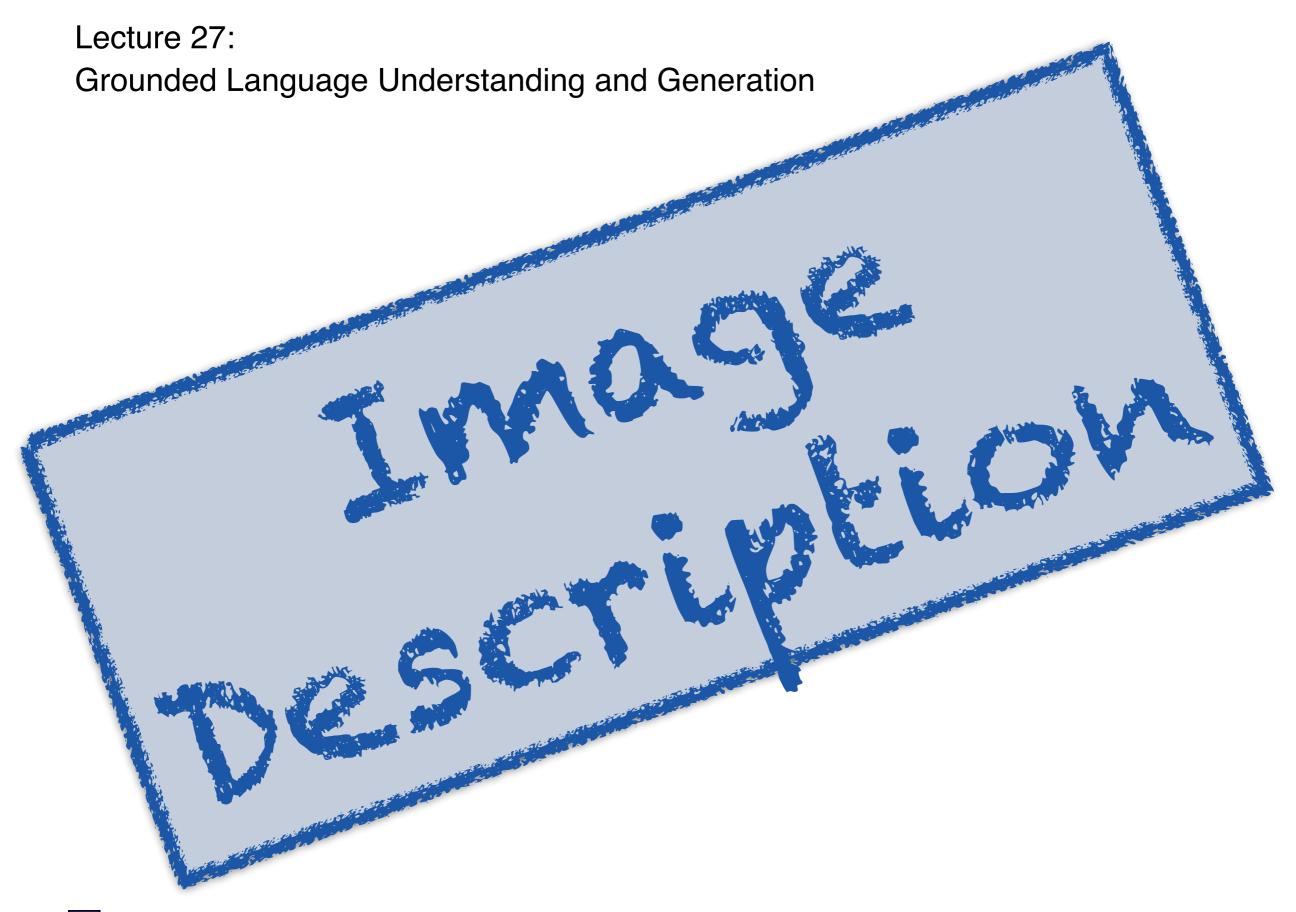




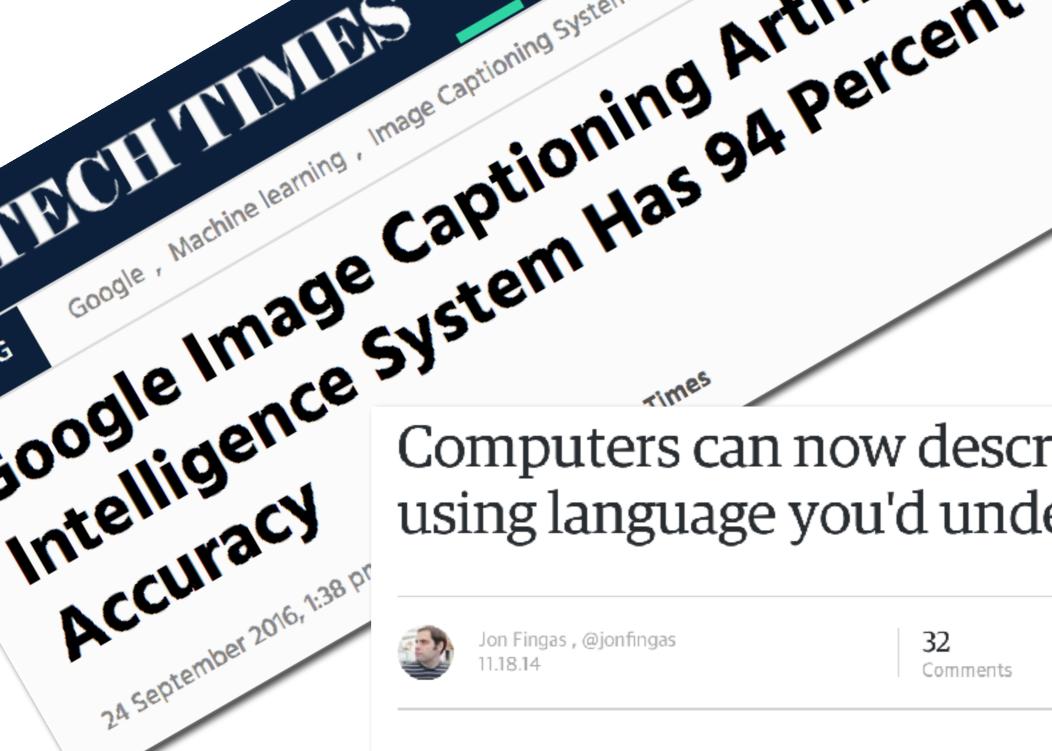








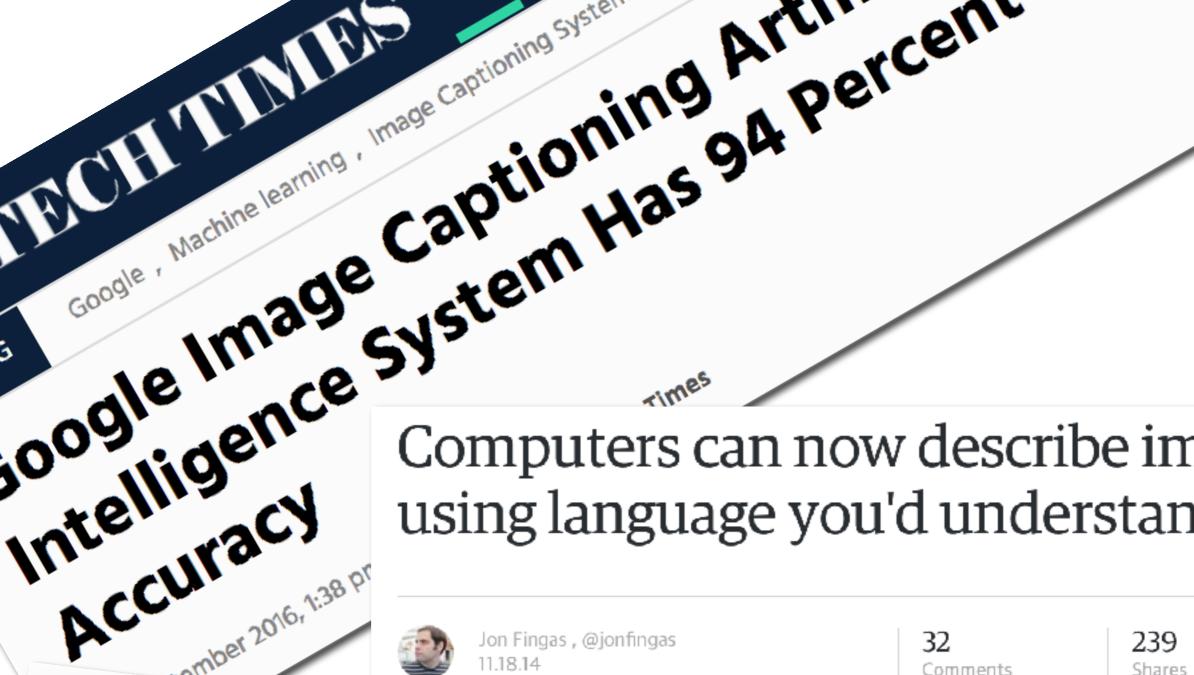
Intelligence System Has 94 Percen 24 September 2016, 1:38 pm EDT By Fritz Gleyo Tech Times Accuracy



Computers can now describe images using language you'd understand

239





Computers can now describe images using language you'd understand



Jon Fingas , @jonfingas

239

Microsoft's latest Al party trick is a CaptionBot for photos

CaptionBot looks at any photo and tells you what it contains (with mixed results)



WATCH AS A COMPUTER DESCRIBES SCENES FASTER THAN YOU CAN



joogle Image Intelligence Accuracy

Computers can now describe images using language you'd understand



Jon Fingas , @jonfingas

Microsoft's latest Al party trick is a CaptionBot for photos

CaptionBot looks at any photo and tells you what it contains (with mixed results)





Where do image description models break down?

Where do image description models break down?

How can we improve image description models?

What task do you use to develop and evaluate image description systems?

What task do you use to develop and evaluate image description systems?

What model do you use to score how well a sentence describes an image?

What task do you use to develop and evaluate image description systems?

What model do you use to score how well a sentence describes an image?

What data do you use to learn this scoring function from?

What kind of image descriptions do we want to produce?

How would you describe this image?

How would you describe this image?



How would you describe

this image?



A boy in a yellow uniform carrying a football is blocking another boy in a blue uniform.

How would you describe

this image?



A boy in a yellow uniform carrying a football is blocking another boy in a blue uniform.

yes

this image?



A boy in a yellow uniform carrying a football is blocking another boy in a blue uniform.

yes

A dog is running on the beach.

this image?



A boy in a yellow uniform carrying a football is blocking another boy in a blue uniform.

yes

A dog is running on the beach.

MC

this image?



A boy in a yellow uniform carrying a football is blocking another boy in a blue uniform.

yes

Two boys are playing

A dog is running on the beach.

NO

this image?



A boy in a yellow uniform carrying a football is blocking another boy in a blue uniform.

yes

perhaps

Two boys are playing

A dog is running on the beach.

NO

How would you describe this image?



this image?



Jake tackled Kevin really hard.

this image?



Jake tackled Kevin really hard.

perhaps

this image?



Jake tackled Kevin really hard.

perhaps

Last Sunday's game was really rough.

this image?



Jake tackled Kevin really hard.

perhaps

Last Sunday's game was really rough.

probably

... should describe the depicted entities, events, scenes

... should describe the depicted entities, events, scenes

... should only describe what can be seen from the image

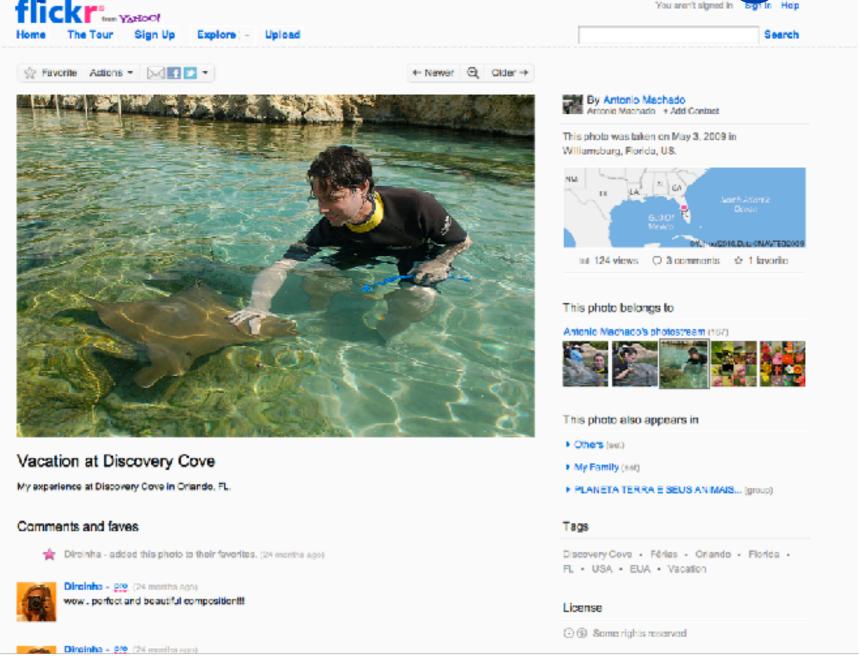
... should describe the depicted entities, events, scenes

... should only describe what can be seen from the image

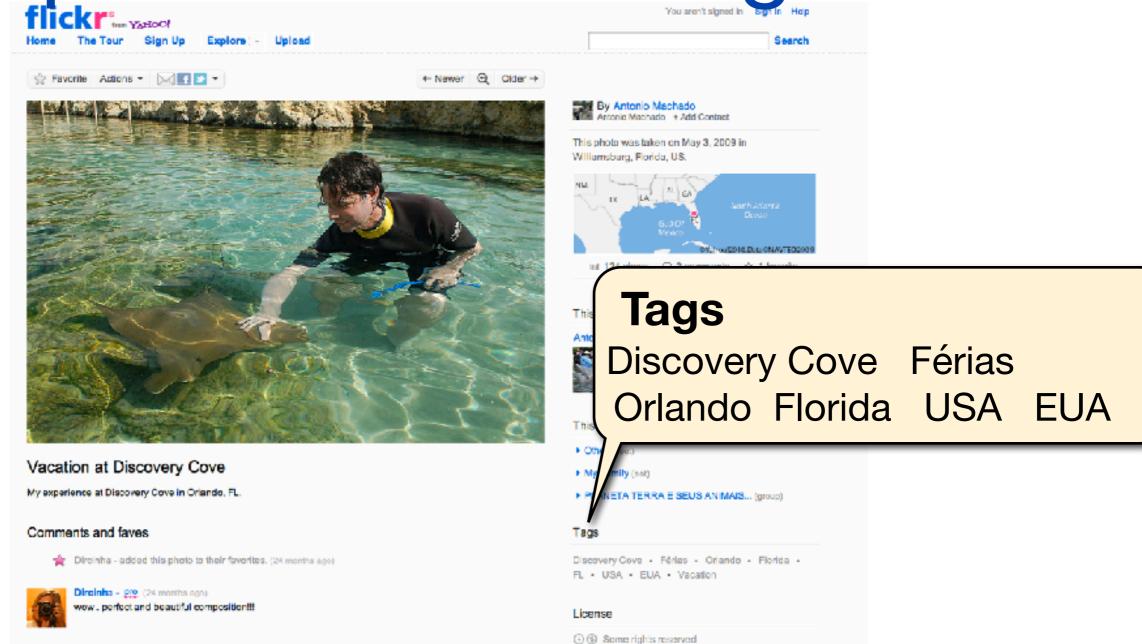
... may differ in the amount of detail provided

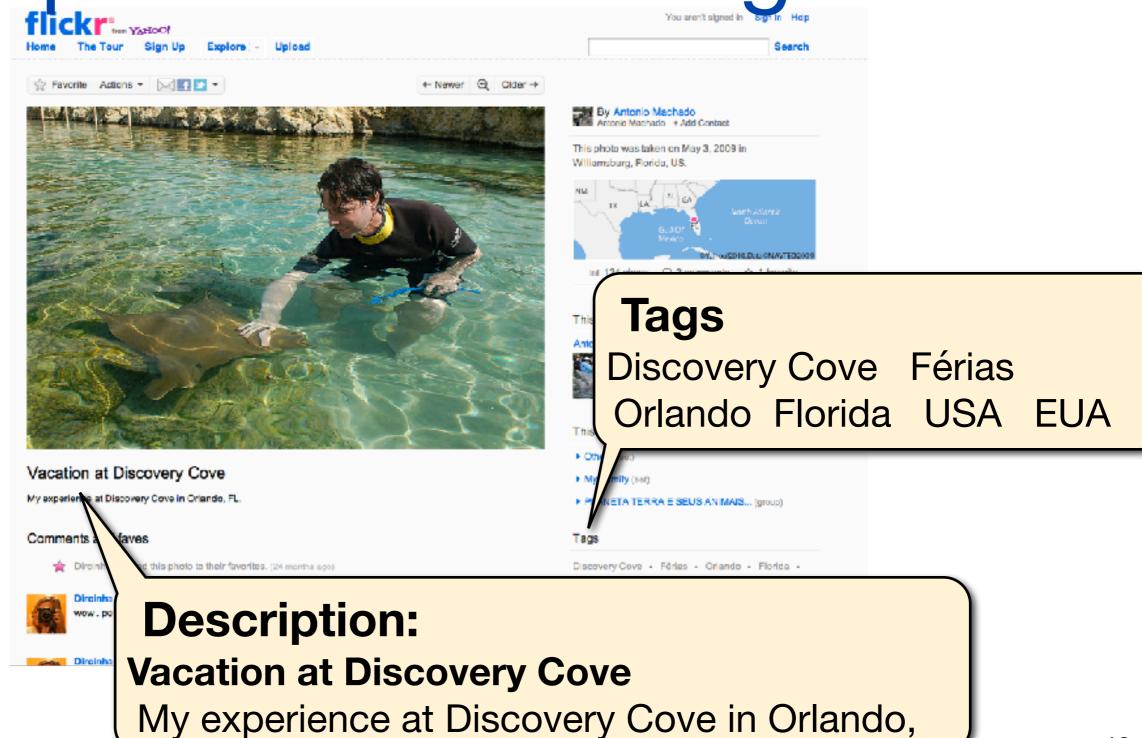


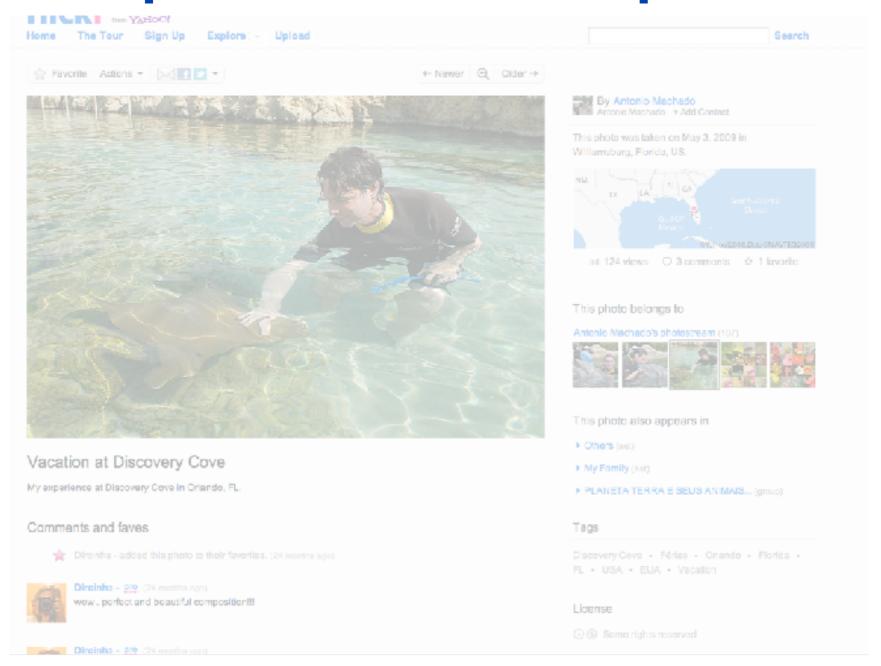


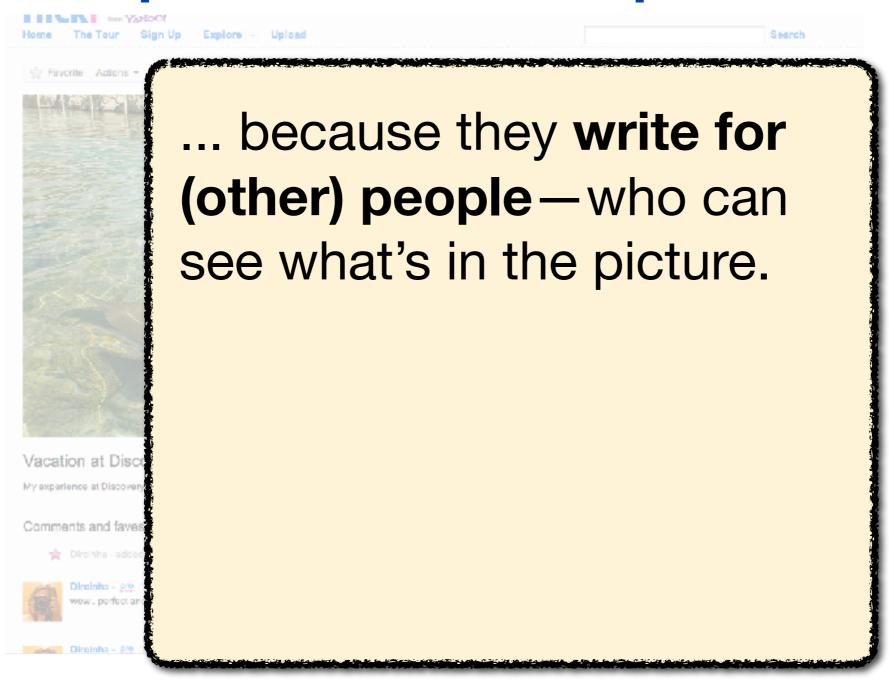


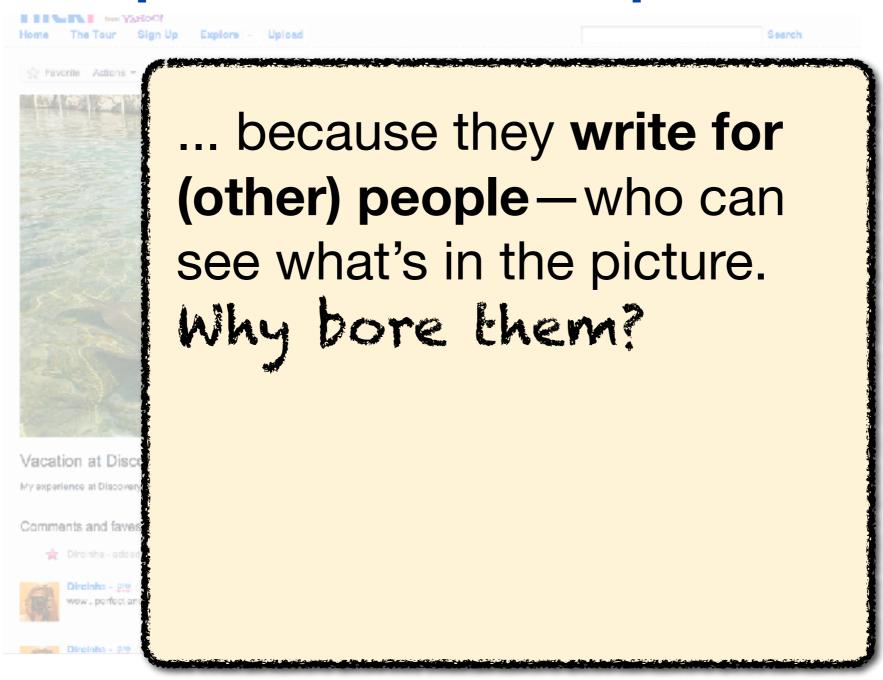
Direinha - 5/6 (24 months ago)











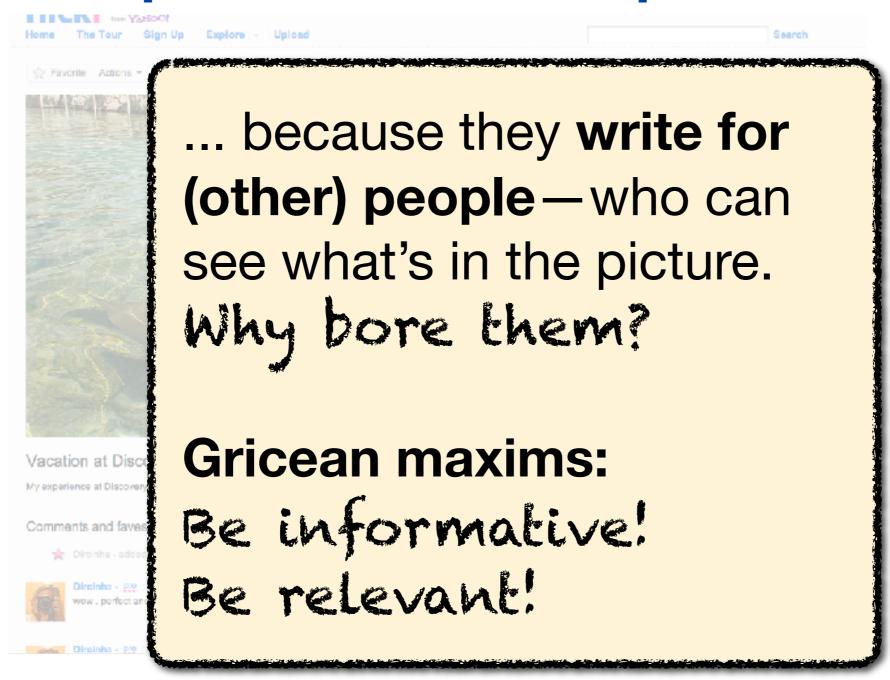


Image description with Amazon Mechanical Turk



Instructions:

Describe the objects and actions;

Use adjectives;

Be brief

5 captions per image

Illinois Flickr8k/30k data sets



A goalie in a hockey game dives to catch a puck as the opposing team charges towards the goal. The white team hits the puck, but the goalie from the purple team makes the save. Picture of hockey team while goal is being scored.

Two teams of hockey players playing a game. A hockey game is going on.



A group of people are getting fountain drinks at a convenience store.

Several adults are filling their cups and a drink machine.

Two guys getting a drink at a store counter.

Two boys in front of a soda machine.

People get their slushies.

32k images of people (and dogs) from Flickr with 5 crowdsourced captions

Rashtchian et al. 2010, Hodosh et al. 2013, Young et al. 2014

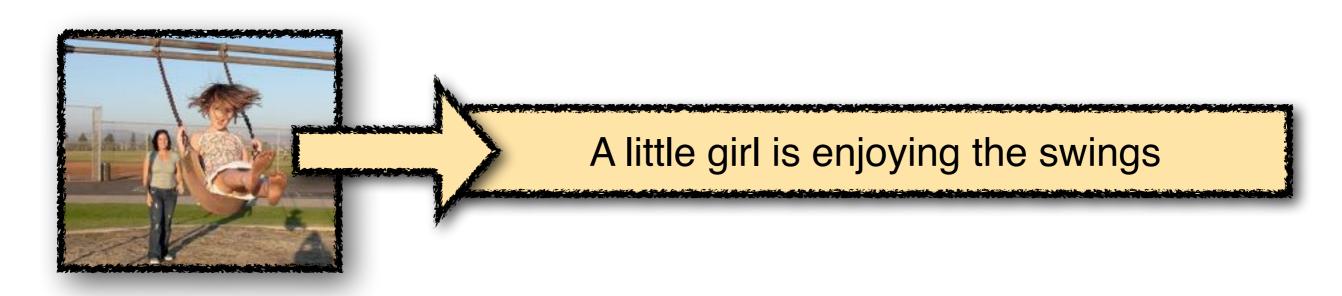








Let the computer produce a sentence.



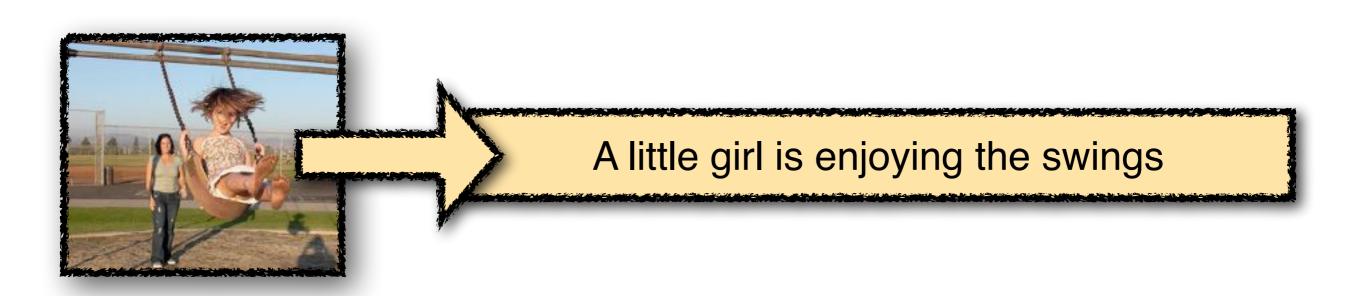
Let the computer produce a sentence.

What should we say about an image?



Let the computer produce a sentence.

What should we say about an image? How do we produce a grammatical sentence?



Let the computer produce a sentence.

What should we say about an image? How do we produce a grammatical sentence? How do we evaluate generated descriptions?

Kanking-Based Image Description



Two boys are playing football.

People in a line holding lit roman candles.

A little girl is enjoying the swings

A motorbike is racing around a track.

An elephant is being washed.

Ranking-Based Image Description



Two boys are playing football.

People in a line holding lit roman candles.

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Let the computer rank a pool of captions.

Ranking-Based Image Description



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Two boys are playing football.

People in a line holding lit roman candles.

A little girl is enjoying the swings

A motorbike is racing around a track.

An elephant is being washed.

Let the computer rank a pool of captions.

Evaluation is straightforward:

One caption in the pool was written for the image

Ranking-Based Image Search



Two boys are playing football.

People in a line holding lit roman candles.

A little girl is enjoying the swings

A motorbike is racing around a track.

An elephant is being washed.

Ranking-Based Image Search

Two boy



A little girl is enjoying the swings

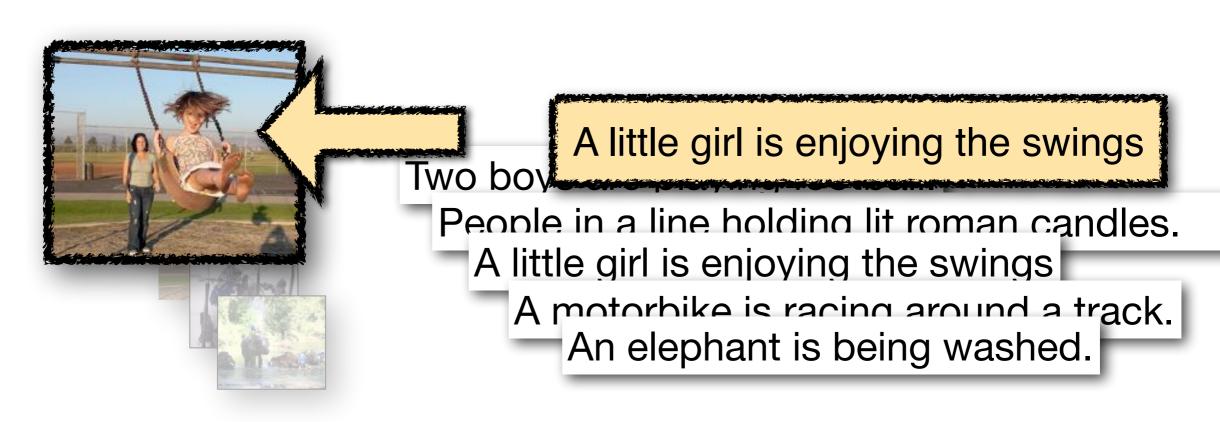
People in a line holding lit roman candles.

A little girl is enjoying the swings

A motorbike is racing around a track.

An elephant is being washed.

Ranking-Based Image Search





As a probability: $f(I,S) = P(S \mid I)$

As a probability: $f(I,S) = P(S \mid I)$ Generate S conditioned on I

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Find the closest S for each I (or vice versa)

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As a probability: $f(I,S) = P(S \mid I)$ Generate S conditioned on I

As similarity/distance: f(I,S) = sim(I,S)Map I and S to a common (vector) space

Find the closest S for each I (or vice versa)

f(S,I) may or may not be mediated by an explicit (symbolic) semantic representation of S and I

Generation-Based Image Description

Generation-Based Image Description

Earlier approaches:
Using traditional NLG techniques
(templates, grammars) with explicit detectors

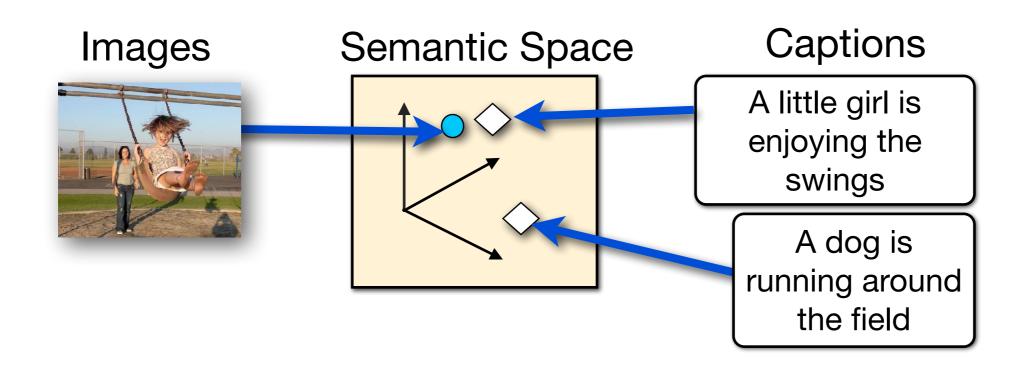
Generation-Based Image Description

Earlier approaches:
Using traditional NLG techniques
(templates, grammars) with explicit detectors

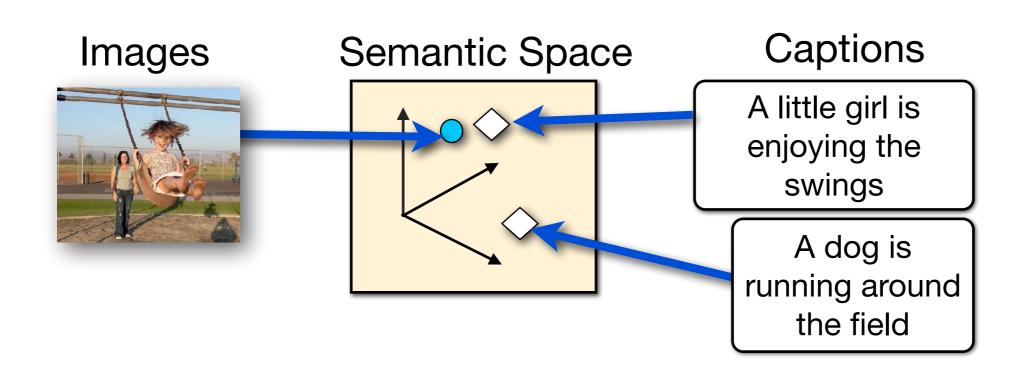
Current approaches:
Using recurrent neural nets (LSTMs)
as language models, with deep-learning based image features (possibly with explicit detectors)

Mapping images and sentences to a semantic vector space

Mapping images and sentences to a semantic vector space



Mapping images and sentences to a semantic vector space



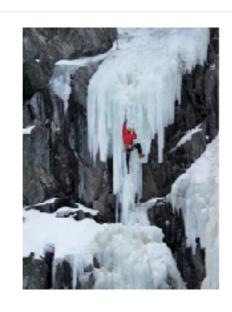
Hodosh, Young, Hockenmaier 2013:

Map images and sentences to a shared vector space, e.g. by (Kernel) Canonical Correlation Analysis, (K)CCA. Rank sentences by their distance to the query image.

Image annotation examples



A girl wearing a yellow shirt and sunglasses smiles.



A man climbs up a sheer wall of ice.

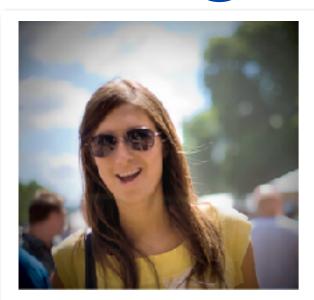


A child jumping on a tennis court.

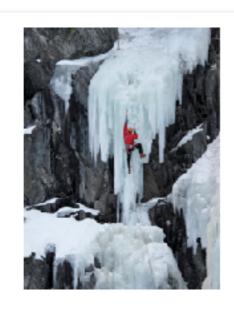


Basketball players in action.

Image annotation examples



A girl wearing a yellow shirt and sunglasses smiles.



A man climbs up a sheer wall of ice.



A child jumping on a tennis court.



Basketball players in action.

Hodosh, Young, Hockenmaier 2013
No object/scene detectors,
No neural nets/deep learning,
just pyramid kernels over low-level
visual features (SIFT, texture, color)

Do these models actually "understand" images (or language)?

Where do image description models break down?

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Can we construct some tasks that allow us to analyze the behavior of various off-the-shelf image description models?

Where do image description models break down?

Can we construct some tasks that allow us to analyze the behavior of various off-the-shelf image description models?

For more details: see Hodosh (2015)





A. There is a woman riding a bike down the road and she popped a wheelie.



- A. There is a woman riding a bike down the road and she popped a wheelie.
- B. Two men in jeans and jackets are walking down a small road.



- A. There is a woman riding a bike down the road and she popped a wheelie.
- B. Two men in jeans and jackets are walking down a small road.

Task: Pick one of two captions for a given image.



GOLD

- A. There is a woman riding a bike down the road and she popped a wheelie.
- B. Two men in jeans and jackets are walking down a small road.

Task: Pick one of two captions for a given image.



GOLD

A. There is a woman riding a bike down the road and she popped a wheelie.

DISTRACTOR

B. Two men in jeans and jackets are walking down a small road.

Task: Pick one of two captions for a given image.



GOLD

A. There is a woman riding a bike down the road and she popped a wheelie.

DISTRACTOR

B. Two men in jeans and jackets are walking down a small road.

Task: Pick one of two captions for a given image.

Evaluation: How often does the system choose the gold caption over the distractor caption?

Binary Forced-Choice Tasks



GOLD

A. There is a woman riding a bike down the road and she popped a wheelie.

DISTRACTOR

B. Two men in jeans and jackets are walking down a small road.

Binary Forced-Choice Tasks



GOLD

A. There is a woman riding a bike down the road and she popped a wheelie.

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B. Two men in jeans and jackets are walking down a small road.

In each task, the gold and distractor items differ systematically.

Binary Forced-Choice Tasks



GOLD

A. There is a woman riding a bike down the road and she popped a wheelie.

DISTRACTOR

B. Two men in jeans and jackets are walking down a small road.

In each task, the gold and distractor items differ systematically.

This allows us to focus the evaluation on specific aspects of image description.

What did our results show?

Vision-language models that were close to state of the art in 2015 did not perform any better at choosing the correct caption as a simple bigram language model that had no access to the image.

Learning to associate images with simple sentences that describe them seems to be a much easier task than we might have thought a few years ago.

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But we're fooling ourselves if we think this means that these systems 'understand' images or simple sentences.

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This may matter as we move beyond image captioning to more complex task that require deeper image and language understanding.

For current tasks, simple BOW models may do as well as LSTMs.

Lots remains to be done!

[Plummer, Wang, Cervantes, Caicedo, Hockenmaier, Lazebnik, 2015]

[Plummer, Wang, Cervantes, Caicedo, Hockenmaier, Lazebnik, 2015]

Flickr30k Entities augments Flickr30k with **267,000 bounding boxes** and **244,000 coreference chains** for all mentioned entities.

[Plummer, Wang, Cervantes, Caicedo, Hockenmaier, Lazebnik, 2015]

Flickr30k Entities augments Flickr30k with **267,000 bounding boxes** and **244,000 coreference chains** for all mentioned entities.

Annotation was done via crowdsourcing.

[Plummer, Wang, Cervantes, Caicedo, Hockenmaier, Lazebnik, 2015]



A man with pierced ears is wearing glasses and an orange hat.

A man with glasses is wearing a beer can crocheted hat.

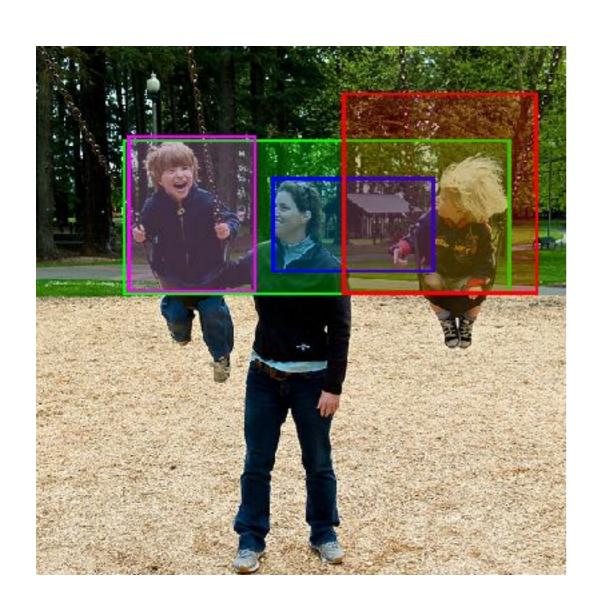
A man with gauges and glasses is wearing a Blitz hat.

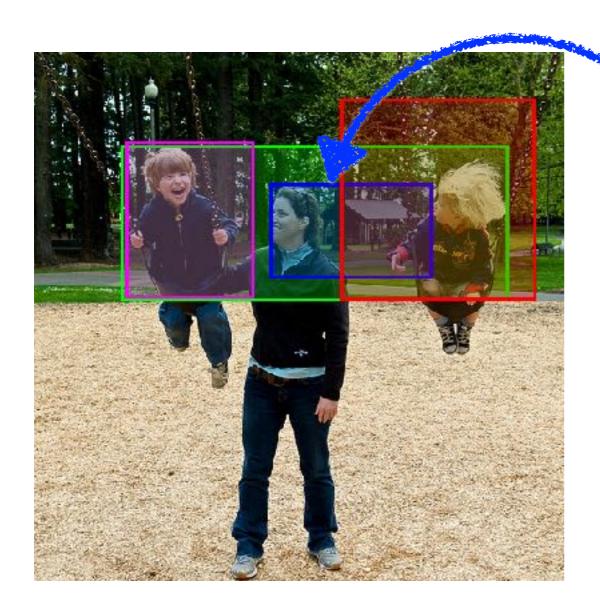
A man in an orange hat starring at something.

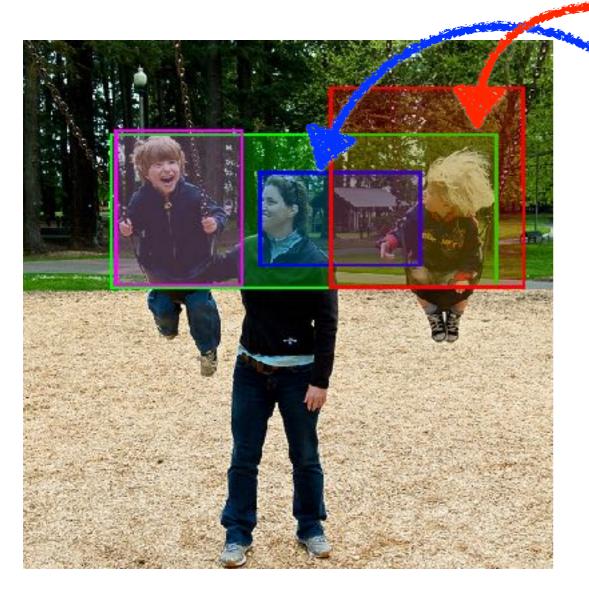
A man wears an orange hat and glasses.

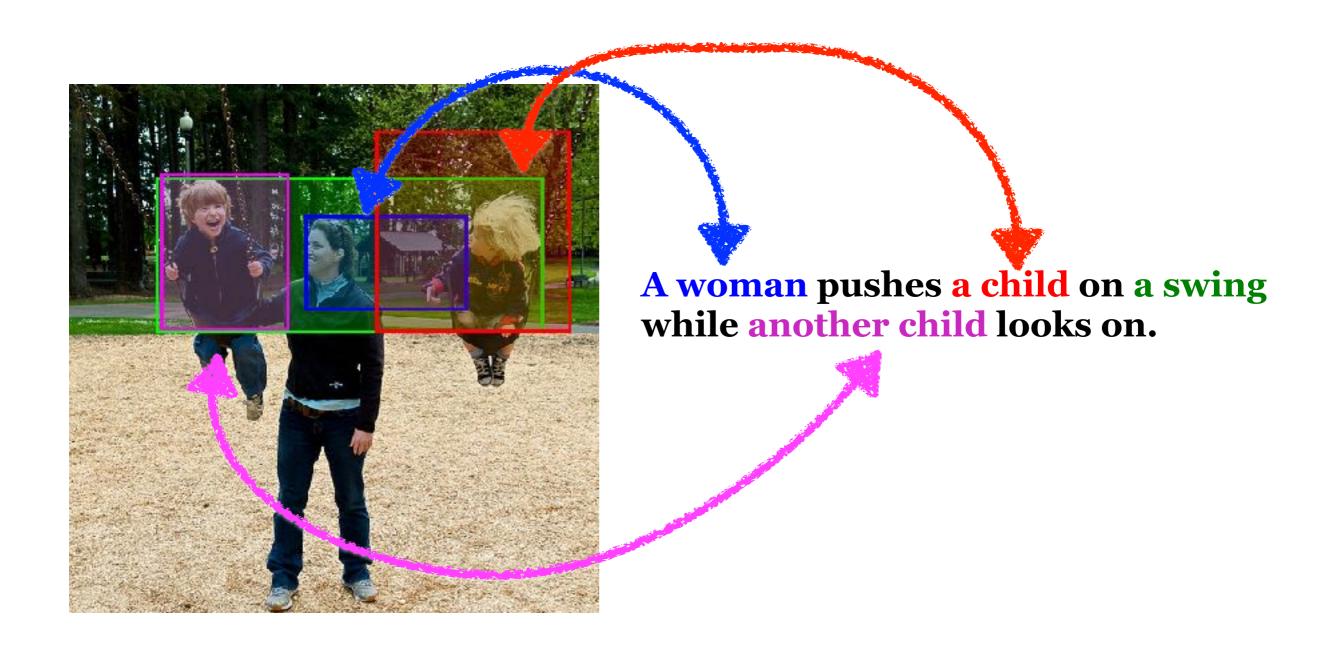
Entity grounding

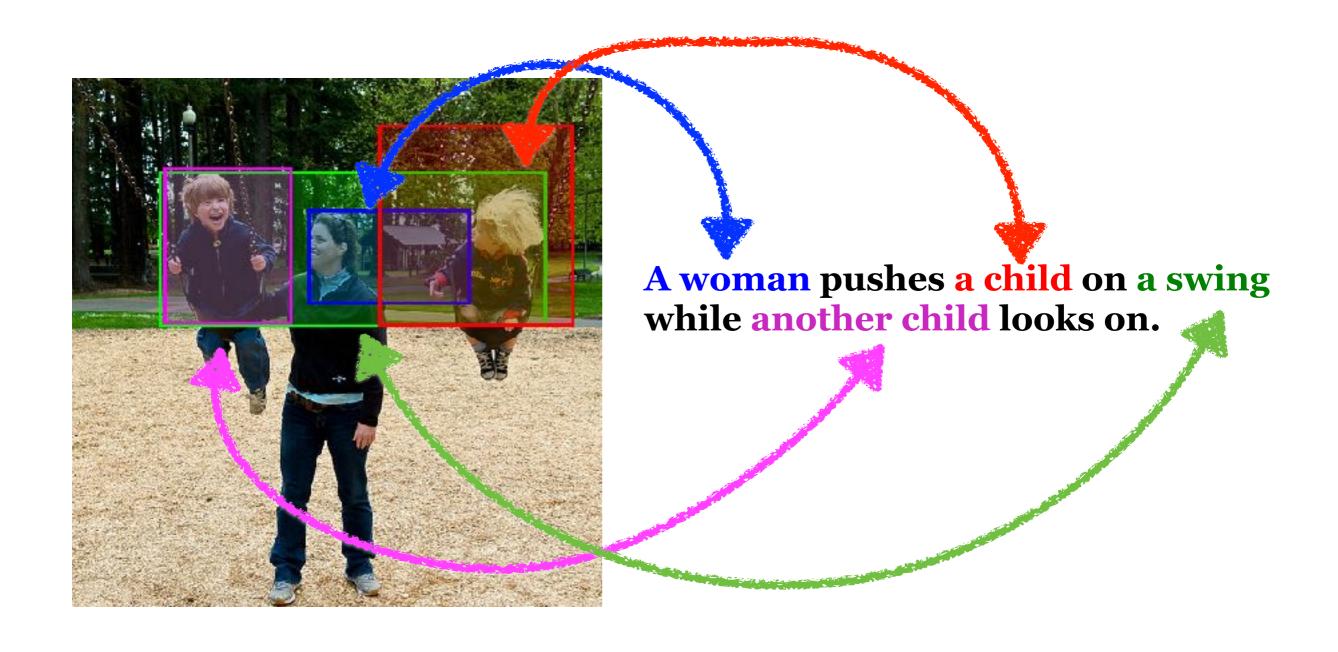












Using image descriptions to learn entailments

We can leverage the fact that we have multiple independent descriptions of each image (scene) to learn entailments e.g. (Young et al. 2013):

```
p(VP<sub>1</sub> | VP<sub>2</sub>)
p(talk | engage in conversation) = 0.79
p(play tennis | swing racket) = 0.82
p(stand | wait for subway) = 0.58
p(stand | lean against building) = 0.53
p(shave | look in mirror) = 0.41
p(dig hole | use shovel) = 0.38
p(make face | stick out tongue) = 0.38
```



