

# Encoding Linguistic Structures with Graph Convolutional Networks

**Diego Marcheggiani**

Joint work with Ivan Titov and Joost Bastings

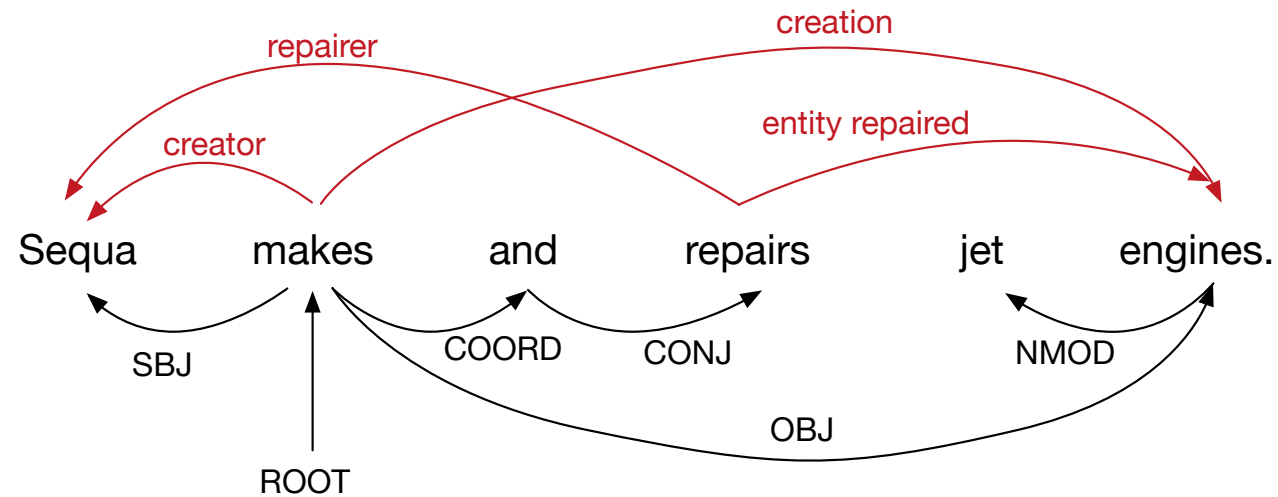
University of Amsterdam

University of Edinburgh



@South England NLP Meetup

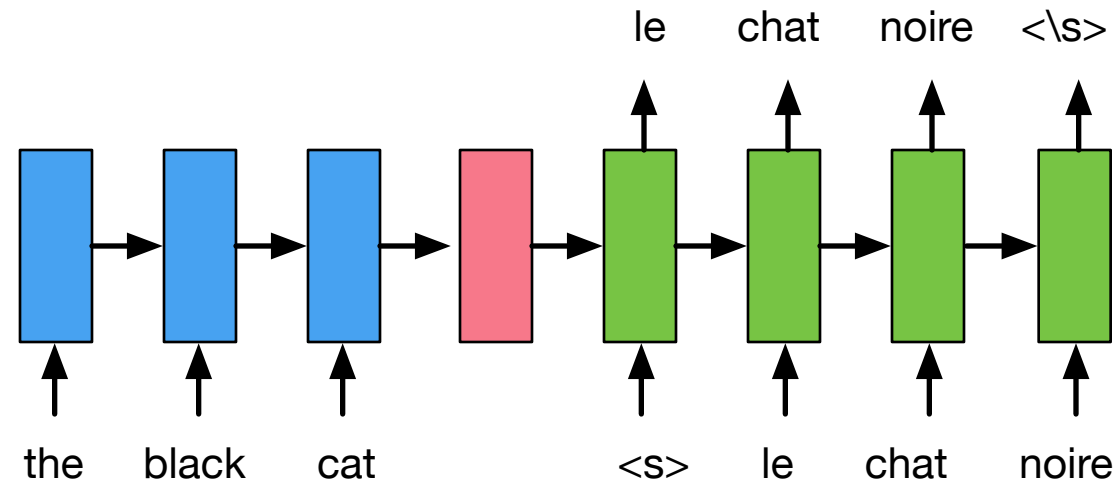
# Structured (Linguistic) Priors



"I voted for Palpatine because he was  
most aligned with my values," she said.

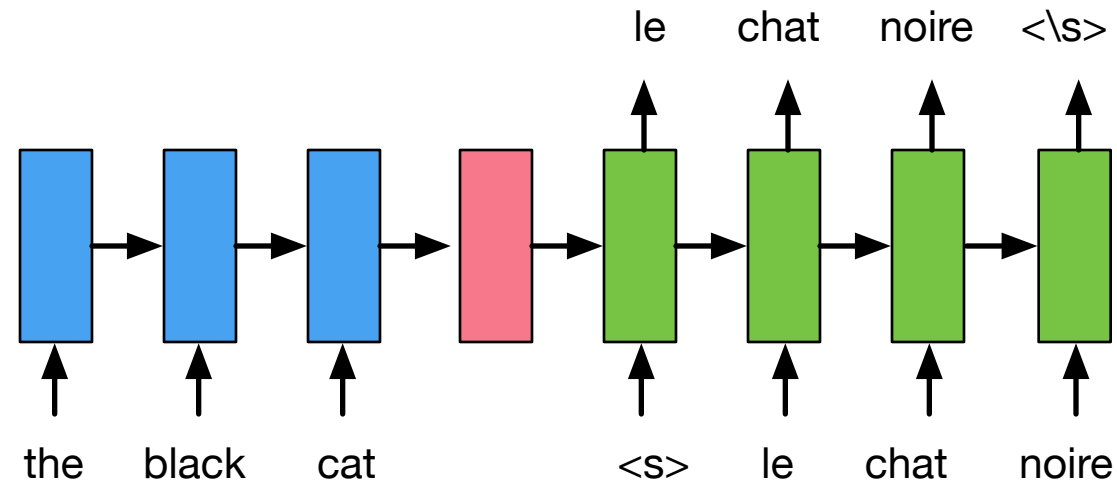
# Sequence to Sequence

[Sutskever et al., 2014]



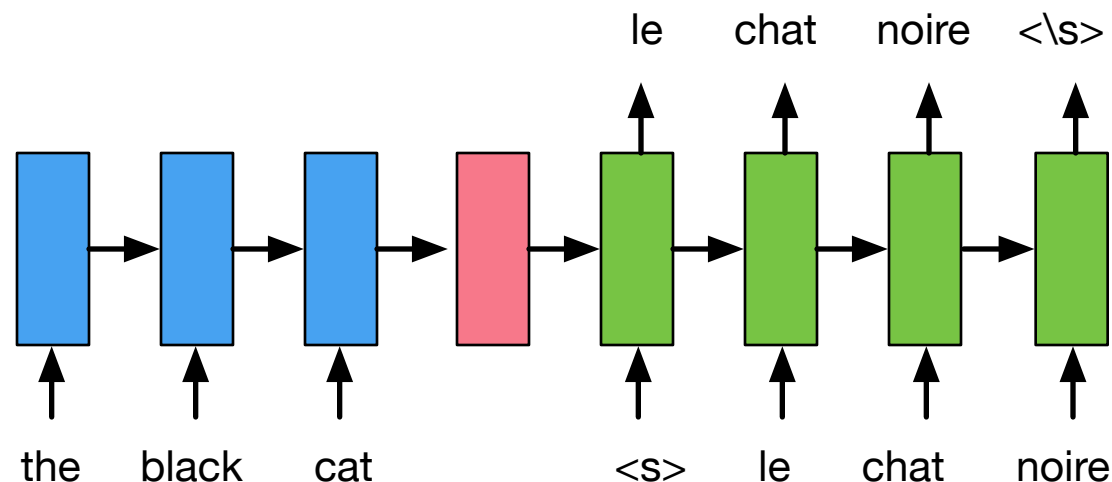
# Sequence to Sequence

[Sutskever et al., 2014]



- ▶ Language is not (only) a sequence of words
- ▶ We have linguistic knowledge

# Sequence to Sequence



- ▶ Language is not (only) a sequence of words
- ▶ We have linguistic knowledge

Encode structured linguistic knowledge into NN using  
Graph Convolutional Networks

# Outline

- ▶ Semantic Role Labeling
- ▶ Graph Convolutional Networks (GCN)
- ▶ Syntactic GCN for Semantic Role Labeling (SRL)
- ▶ SRL Model
- ▶ Exploiting Semantics in Neural Machine Translation with GCNs

## **Encoding Sentences with Graph Convolutional Networks for Semantic Role Labeling**

Diego Marcheggiani, Ivan Titov. In *Proceedings of EMNLP*, 2017.

## **Exploiting Semantics in Neural Machine Translation with Graph Convolutional Networks**

Diego Marcheggiani, Joost Bastings, Ivan Titov. In *Proceedings of NAACL-HLT*, 2018.

# Semantic Role Labeling

- ▶ Predicting the predicate-argument structure of a sentence

Sequa      makes      and      repairs      jet      engines.

# Semantic Role Labeling

- ▶ Predicting the predicate-argument structure of a sentence
  - ▶ Discover and disambiguate predicates

Sequa make.01  
makes and repair.01  
repairs jet engines.



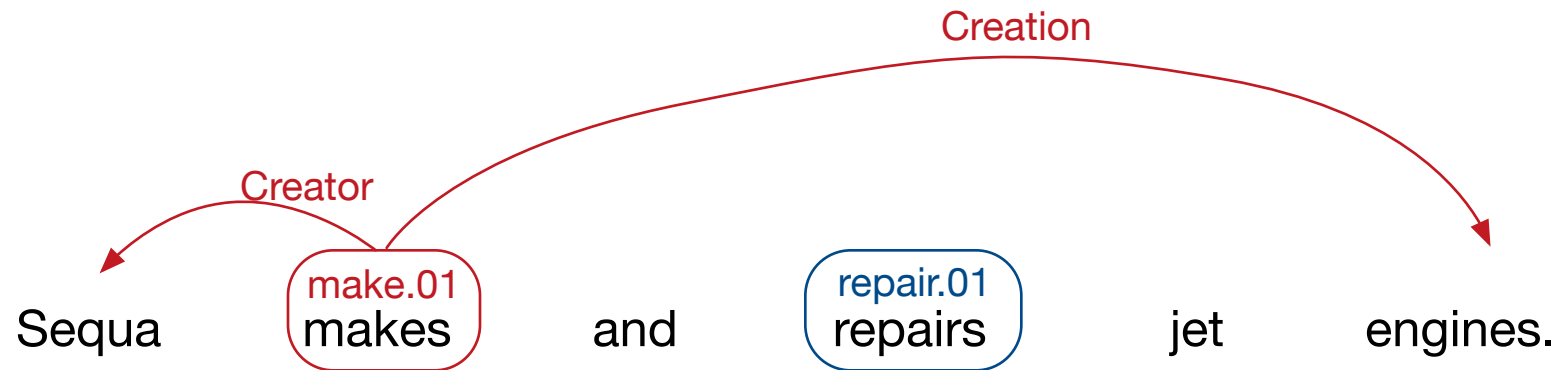
# Semantic Role Labeling

- ▶ Predicting the predicate-argument structure of a sentence
  - ▶ Discover and disambiguate predicates
  - ▶ Identify arguments and label them with their semantic roles



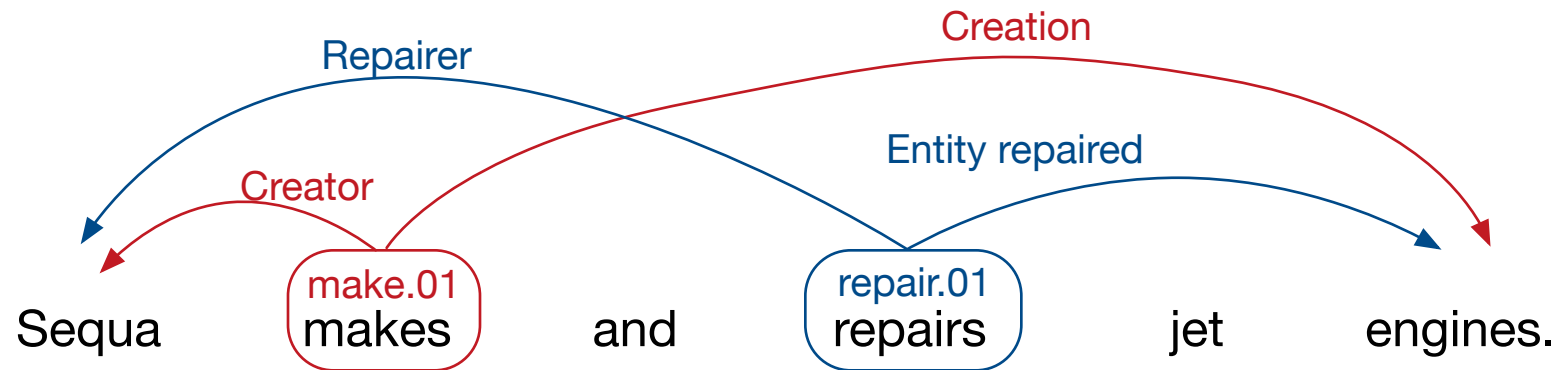
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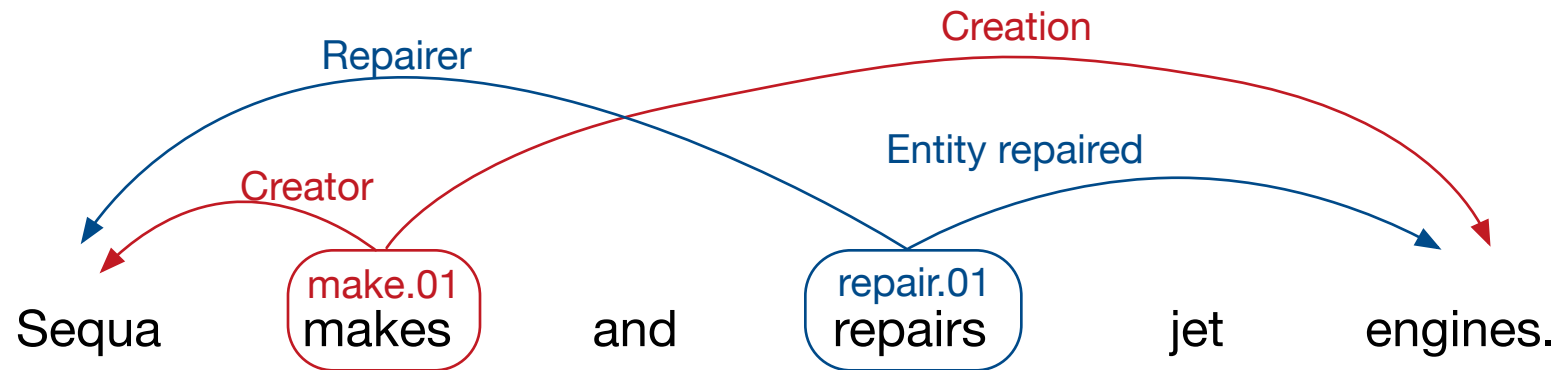
# Semantic Role Labeling

- ▶ Predicting the predicate-argument structure of a sentence
  - ▶ Discover and disambiguate predicates
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# Semantic Role Labeling

- ▶ Only the head of an argument is labeled
- ▶ Sequence labeling task for each predicate
- ▶ Focus on argument identification and labeling



# Semantic Role Labeling

## **Information extraction**

Surdeanu et al. 2003  
Christensen et al. 2010

## **Machine translation**

Wu and Fung 2009  
Aziz et al. 2011

## **Question answering**

Narayanan and Harabagiu 2004  
Shen and Lapata 2007  
Khashabi et al. 2018

## Related work

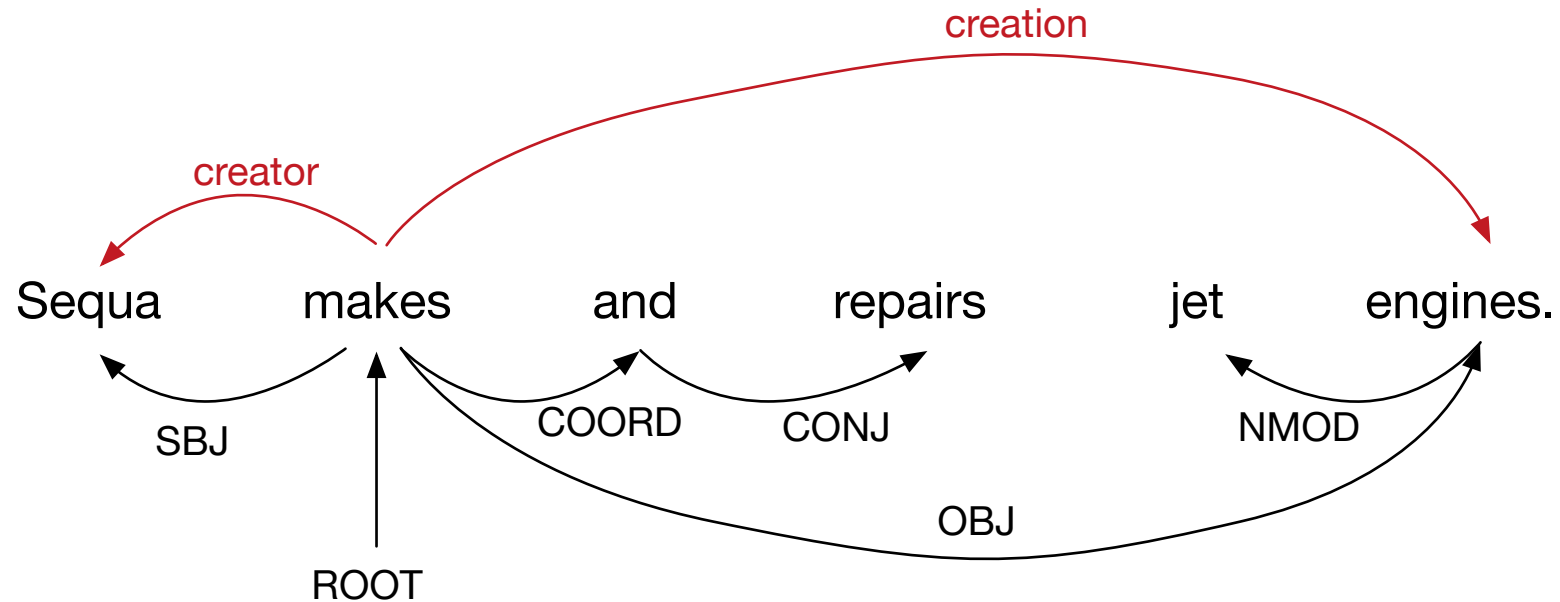
**Tutorial on Semantic Role  
Labeling at EMNLP 2017**

## Related work

### Tutorial on Semantic Role Labeling at EMNLP 2017

- ▶ SRL systems that use syntax with simple NN architectures
  - ▶ [FitzGerald et al., 2015]
  - ▶ [Roth and Lapata, 2016]
- ▶ Recent models ignore linguistic bias
  - ▶ [Zhou and Xu, 2014]
  - ▶ [He et al., 2017]
  - ▶ **[Marcheggiani et al., 2017]**

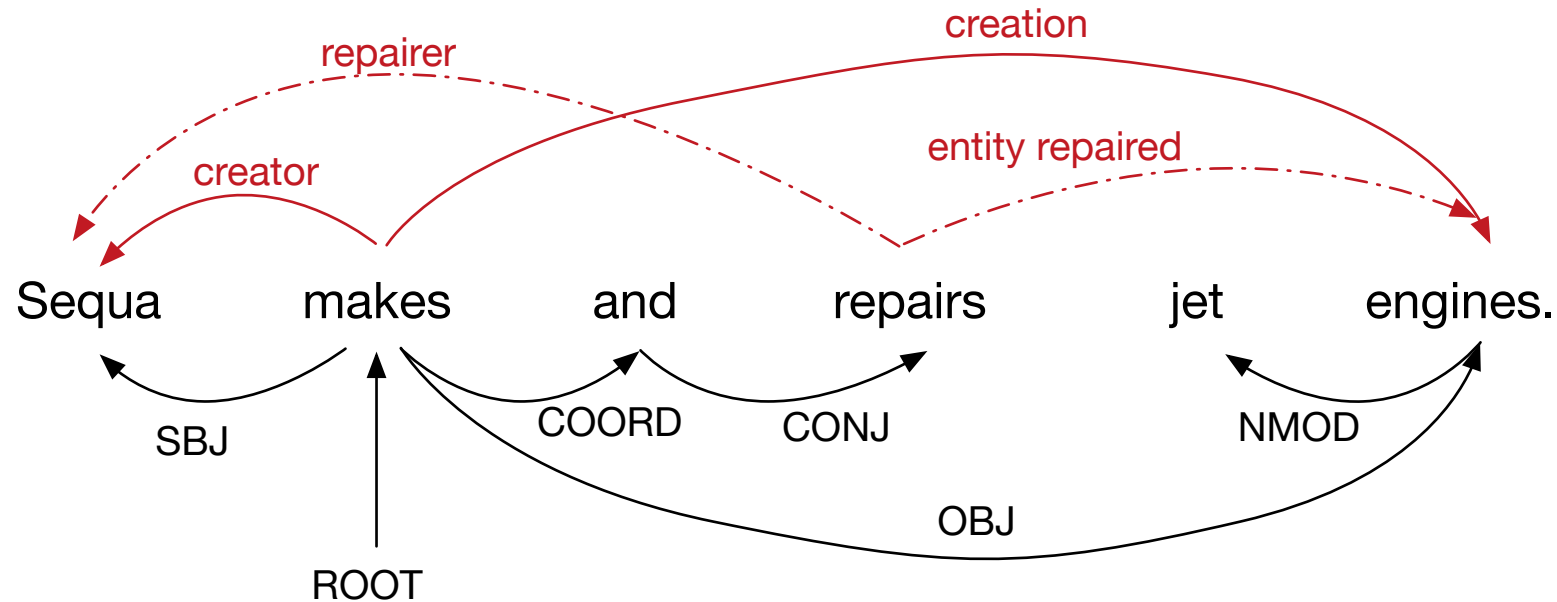
# Motivations



- Some semantic dependencies are mirrored in the syntactic graph



# Motivations



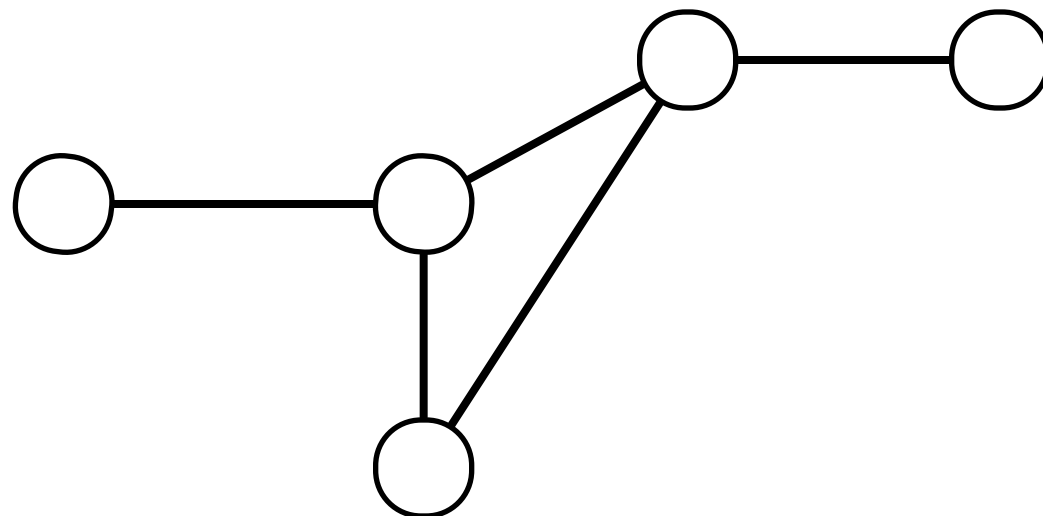
- ▶ Some semantic dependencies are mirrored in the syntactic graph
- ▶ Not all of them – syntax-semantics interface is not trivial

# Outline

- ▶ Semantic Role Labeling
- ▶ **Graph Convolutional Networks (GCN)**
- ▶ Syntactic GCN for Semantic Role Labeling (SRL)
- ▶ SRL Model
- ▶ Exploiting Semantics in Neural Machine Translation with GCNs

# Graph Convolutional Networks (message passing)

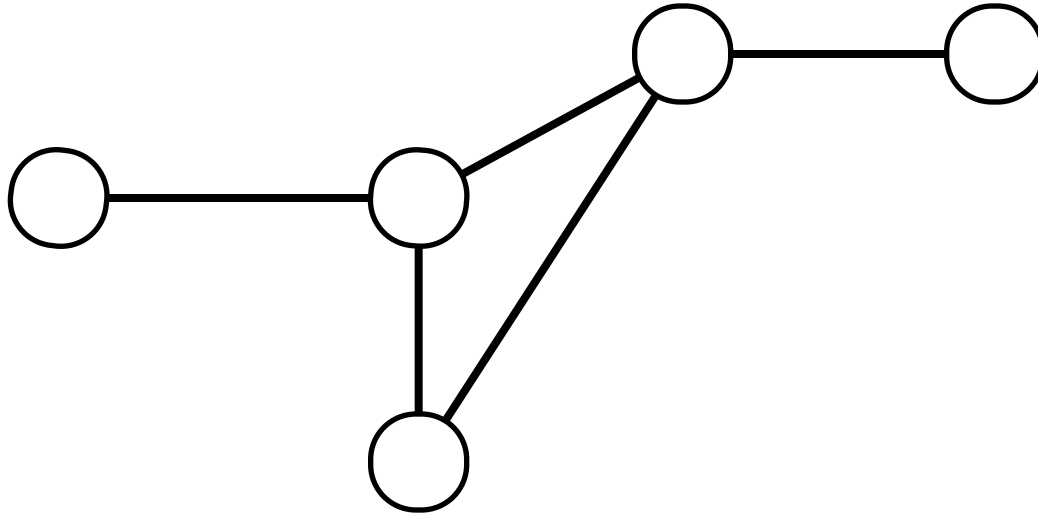
[Gori et al. 2005  
Scarselli et al. 2009  
Kipf and Welling, 2016]



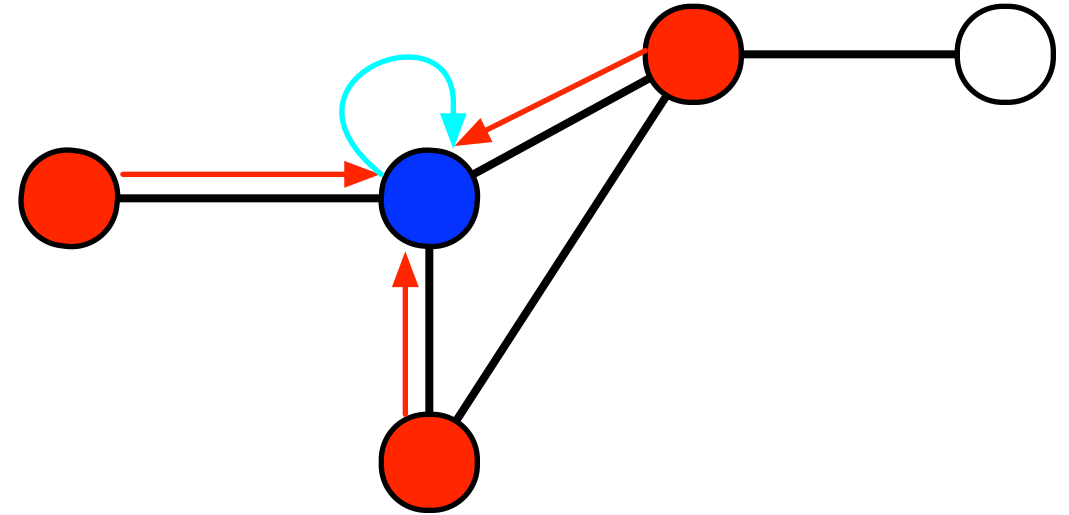
Undirected graph

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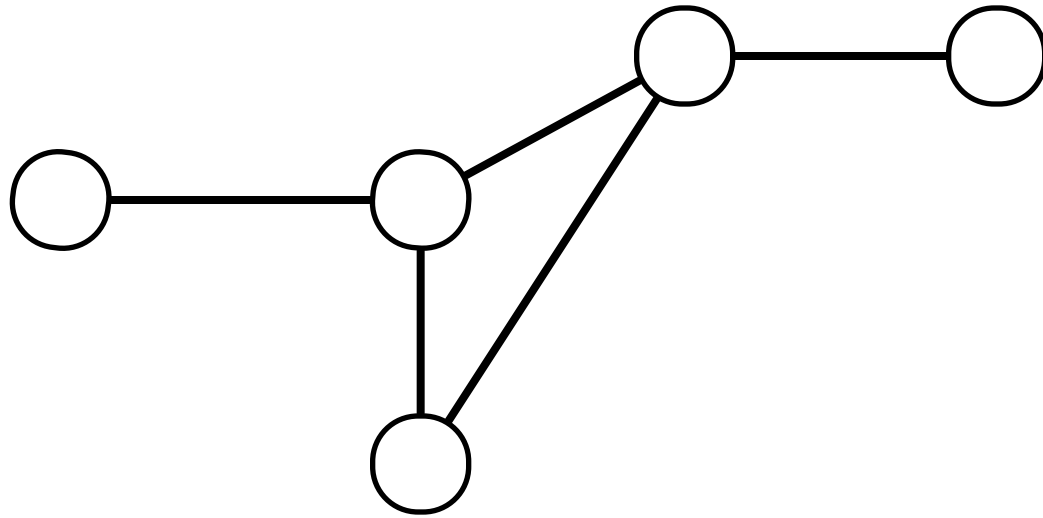
Undirected graph



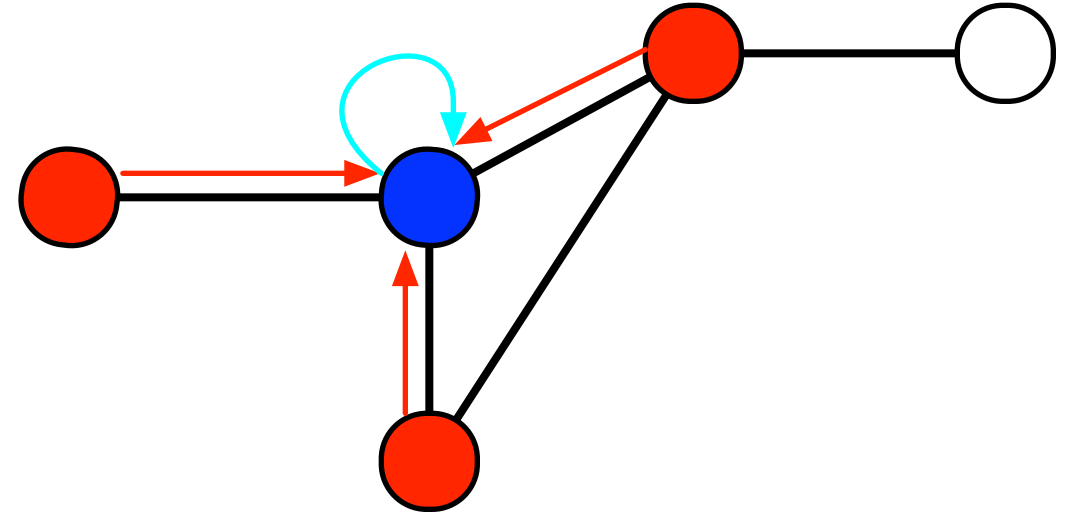
Update of the blue node

# Graph Convolutional Networks (message passing)

[Kipf and Welling, 2016]



Undirected graph

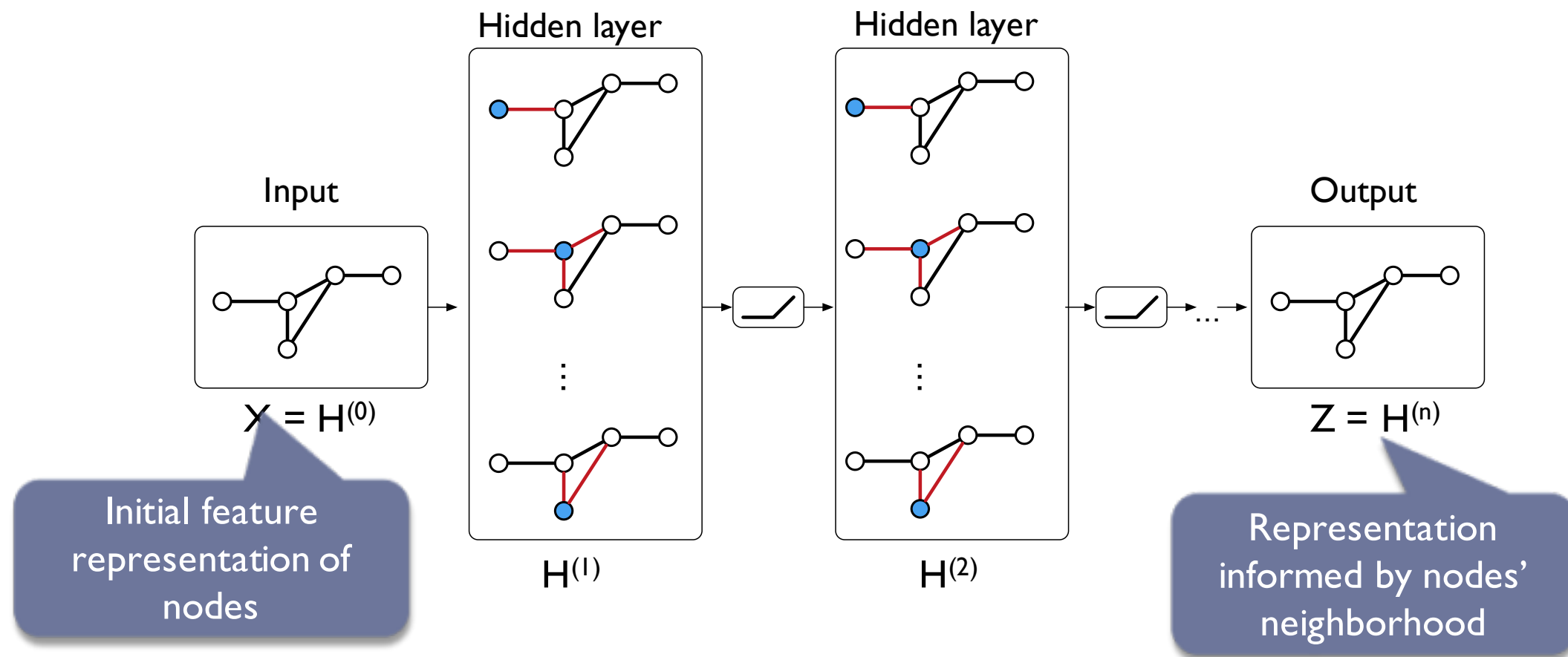


Update of the blue node

$$h_i = \text{ReLU} \left( \underbrace{W_0 h_i}_{\text{Self loop}} + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{N}(v)} \underbrace{W_1 h_j}_{\text{Neighborhood}} \right)$$

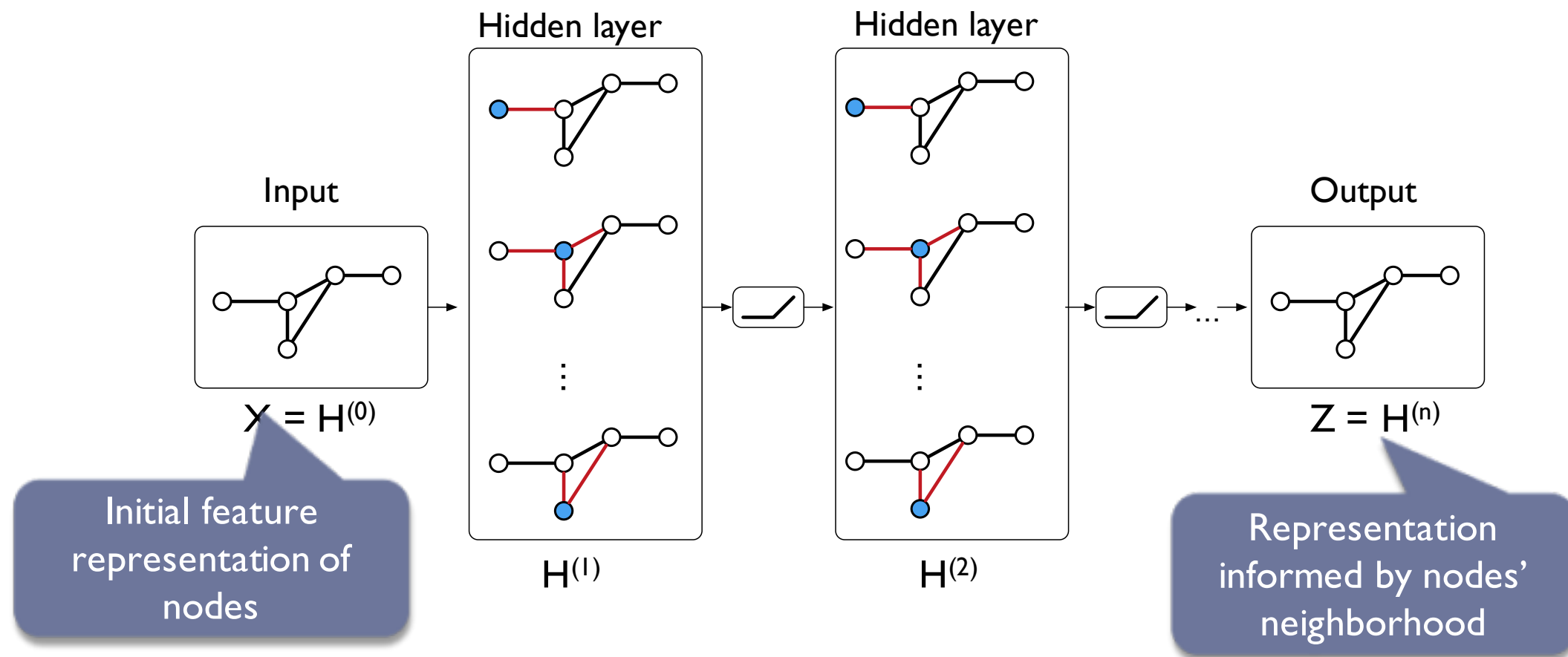
# GCNs Pipeline

[Kipf and Welling, 2016]



# GCNs Pipeline

[Kipf and Welling, 2016]



Extend GCNs for syntactic dependency trees

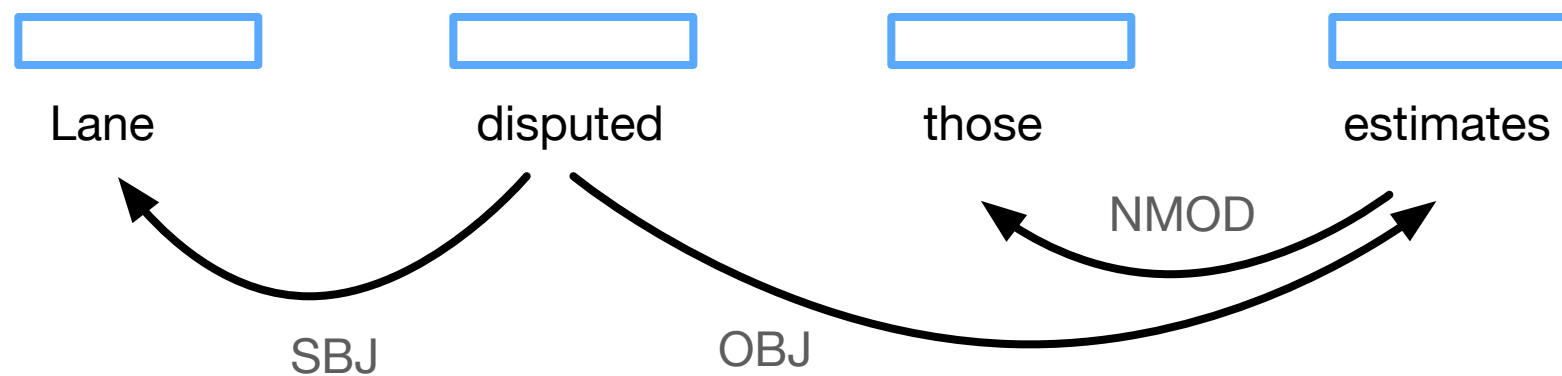
# Outline

- ▶ Semantic Role Labeling
- ▶ Graph Convolutional Networks (GCN)
- ▶ **Syntactic GCN for Semantic Role Labeling (SRL)**
- ▶ SRL Model
- ▶ Exploiting Semantics in Neural Machine Translation with GCNs



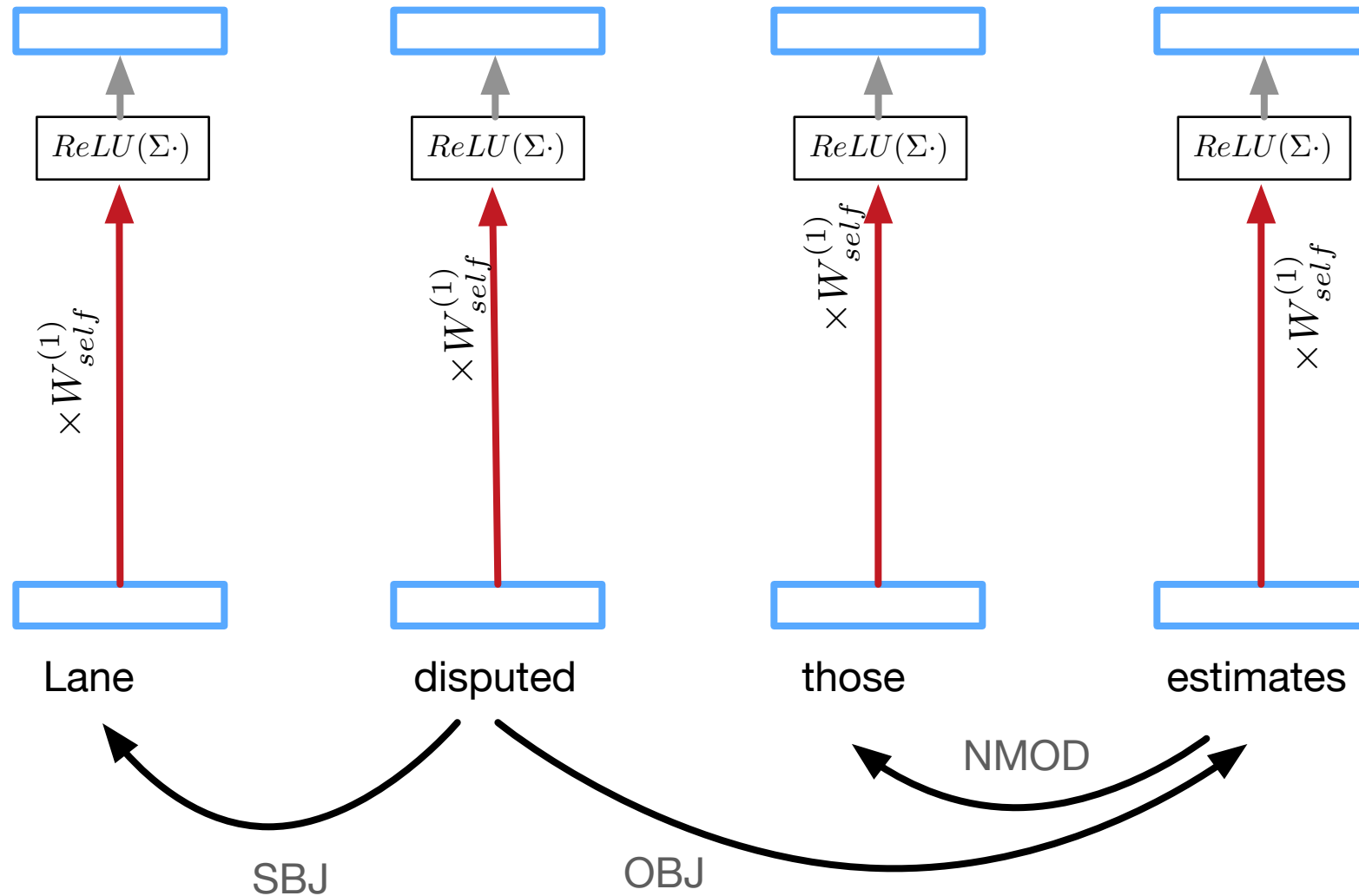
# Example

[Marcheggiani and Titov, 2017]



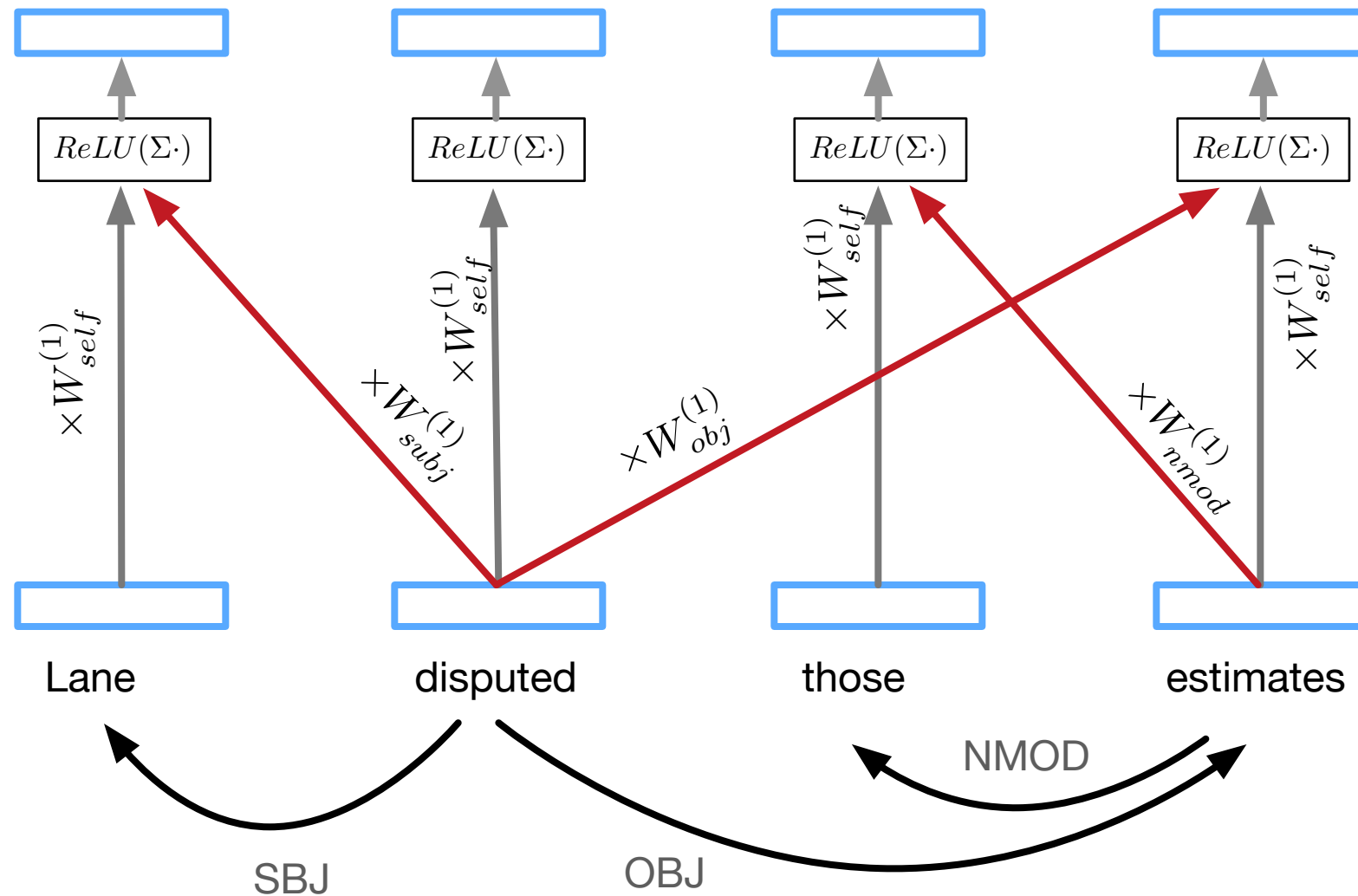
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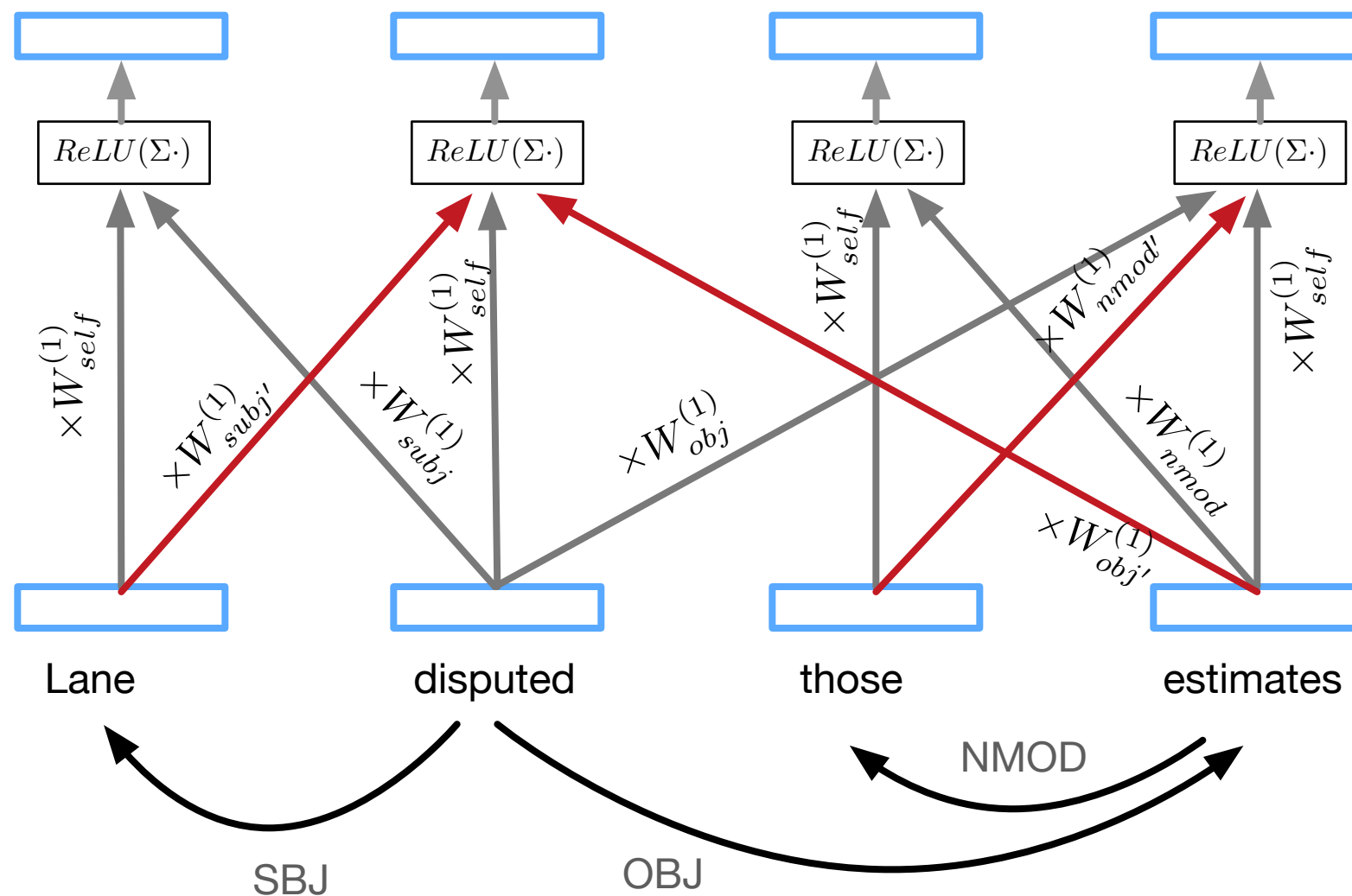
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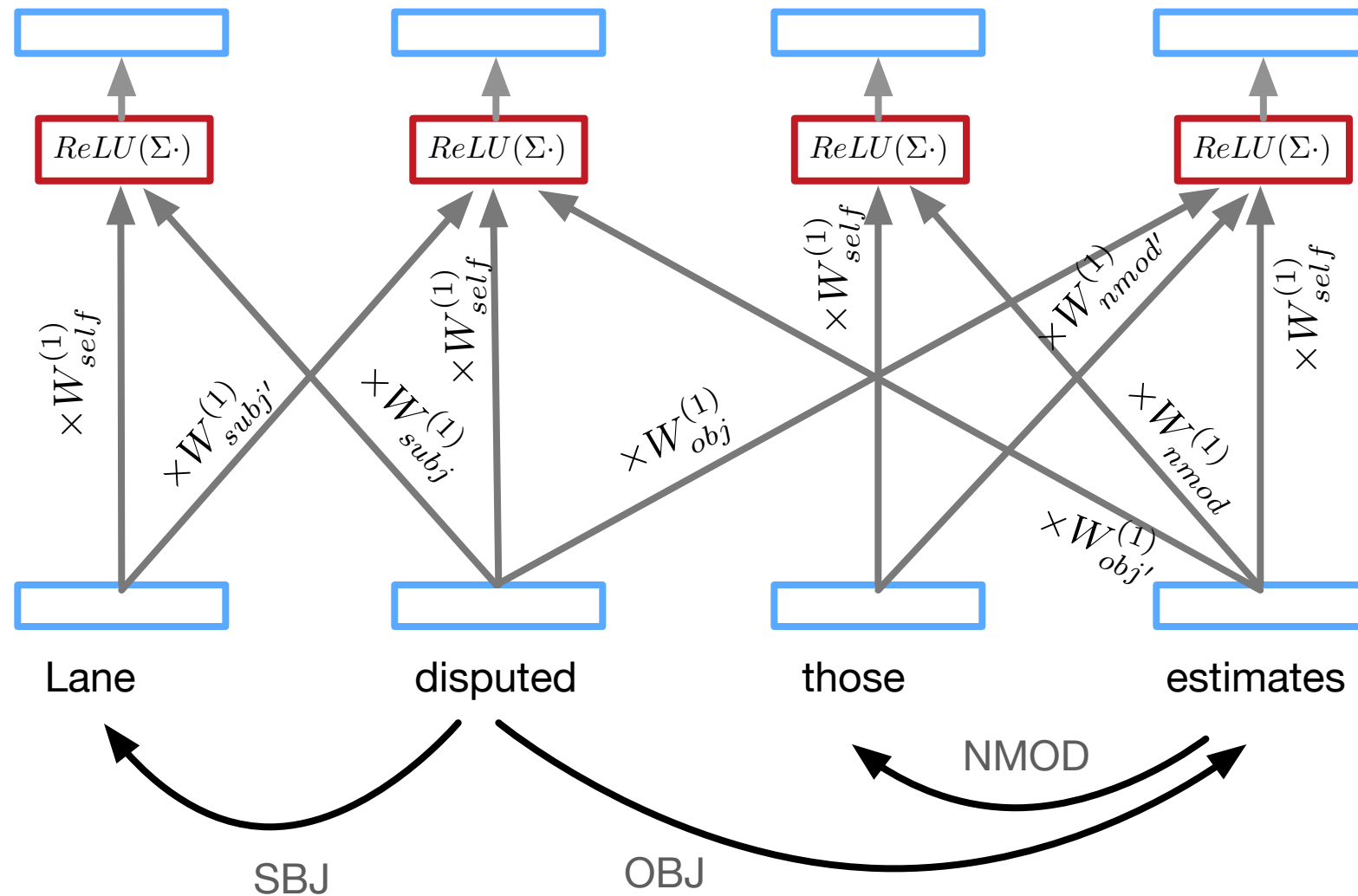
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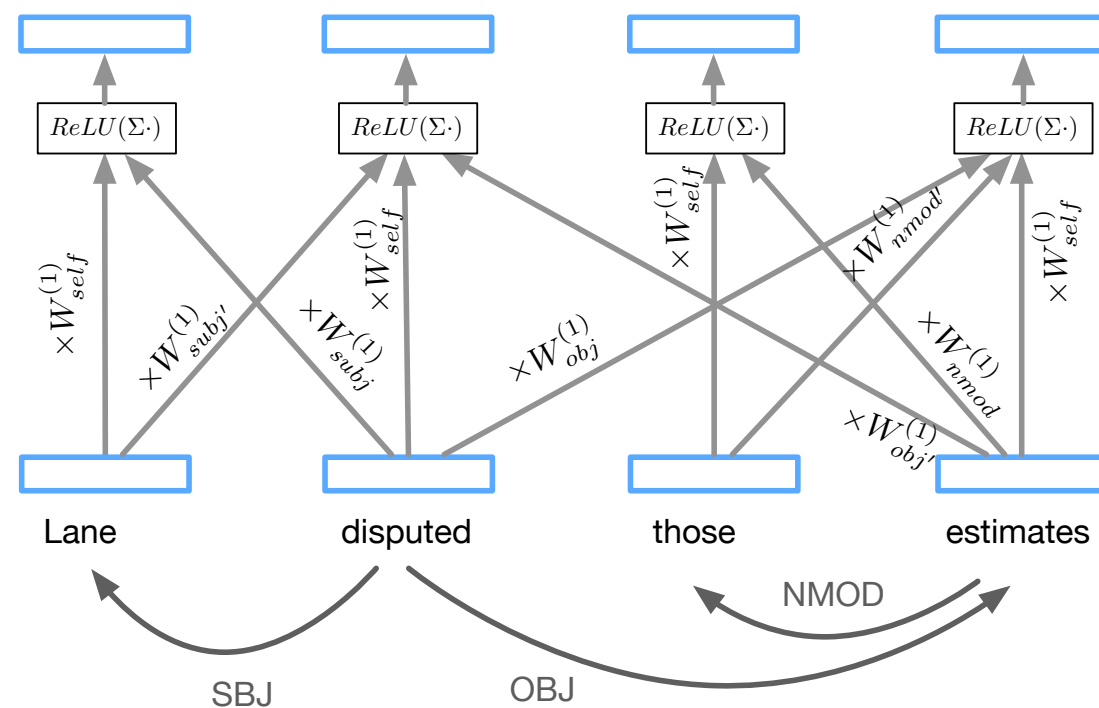
# Example

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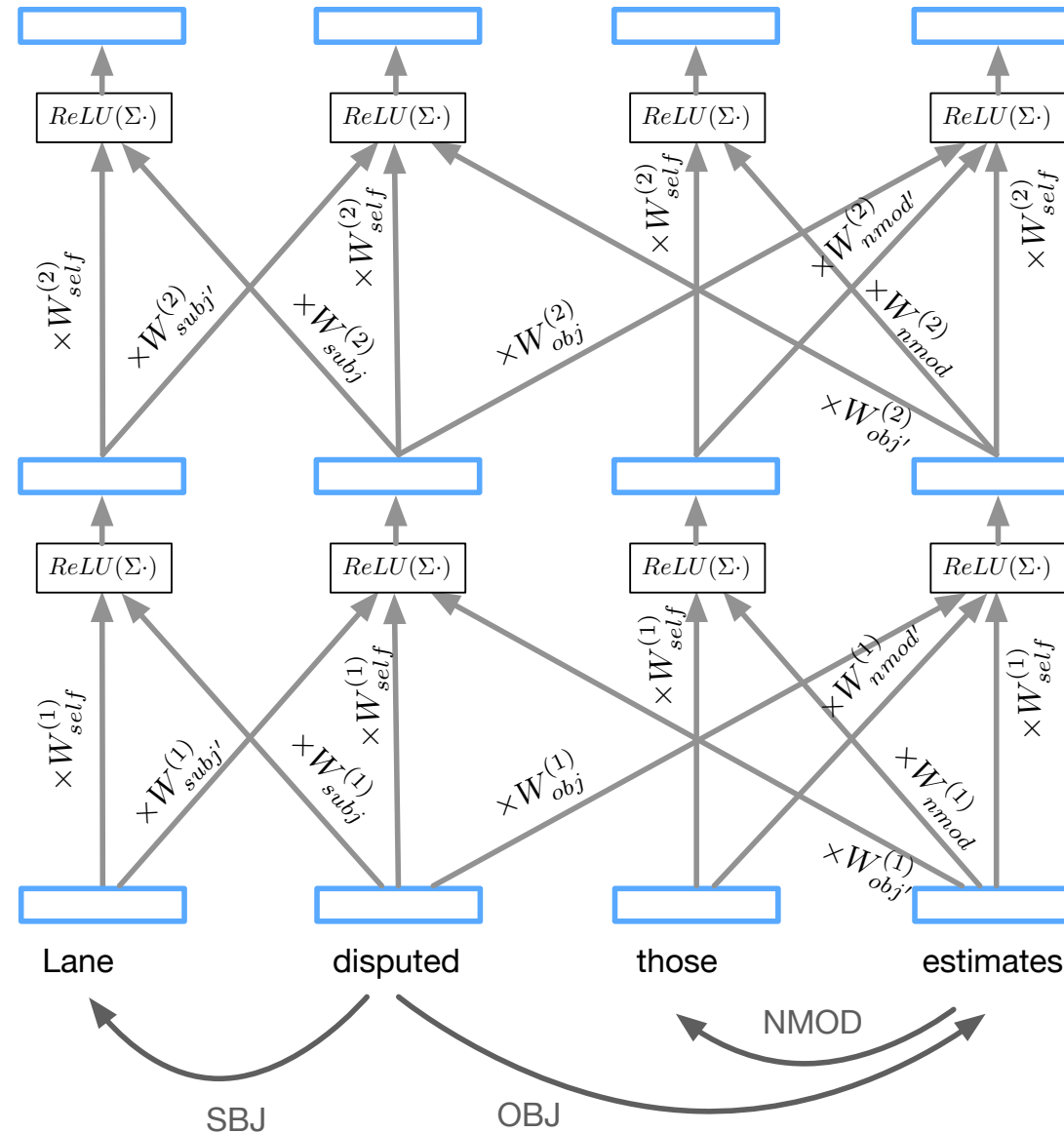
# Example

[Marcheggiani and Titov, 2017]



# Example

[Marcheggiani and Titov, 2017]



Stacking GCNs widens the syntactic neighborhood

$$h_v^{(k+1)} = \text{ReLU} \left( \sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}(v)} W_{L(u,v)}^{(k)} h_u^{(k)} + b_{L(u,v)}^{(k)} \right)$$



$$h_v^{(k+1)} = \text{ReLU} \left( \sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}(v)} W_{L(u,v)}^{(k)} h_u^{(k)} + b_{L(u,v)}^{(k)} \right)$$



Syntactic neighborhood

# Syntactic GCNs

[Marcheggiani and Titov, 2017]

$$h_v^{(k+1)} = \text{ReLU} \left( \sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}(v)} \boxed{W_{L(u,v)}^{(k)} h_u^{(k)} + b_{L(u,v)}^{(k)}} \right)$$

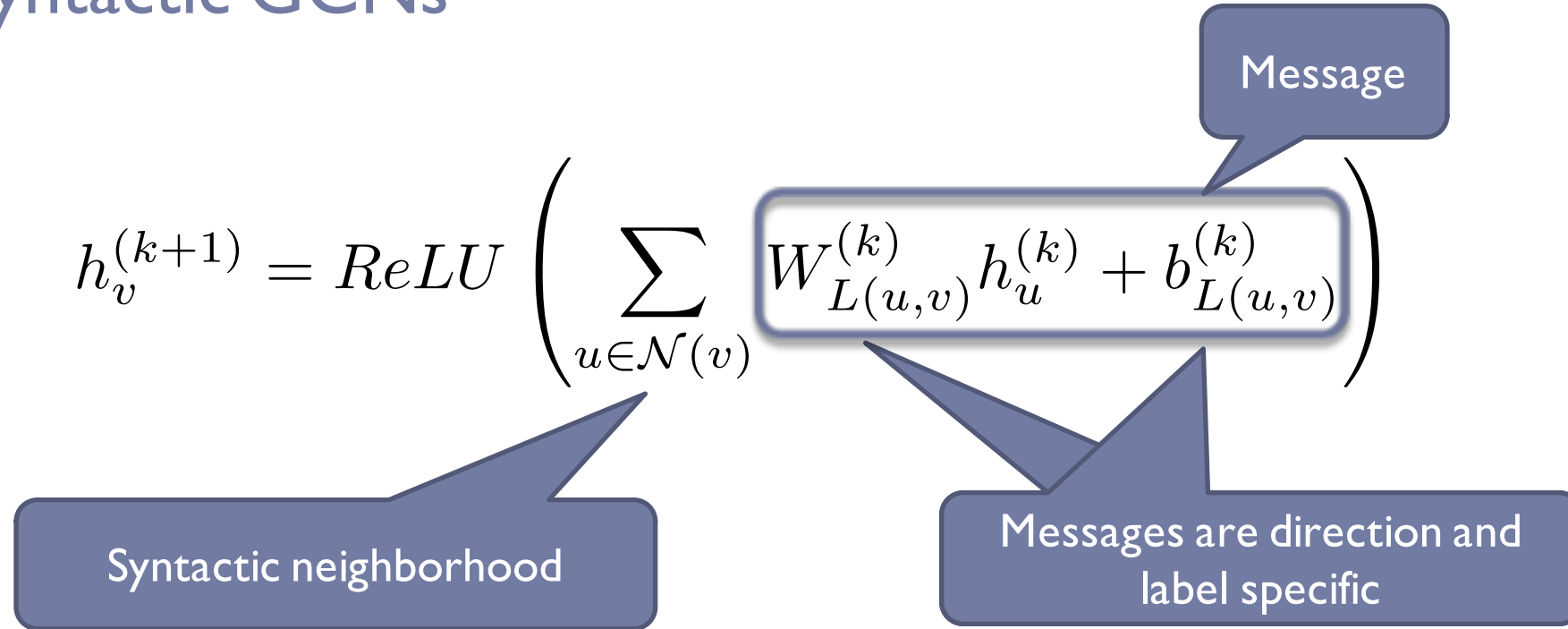
Message

Syntactic neighborhood

The diagram illustrates the Syntactic GCN update equation. The equation is 
$$h_v^{(k+1)} = \text{ReLU} \left( \sum_{u \in \mathcal{N}(v)} \boxed{W_{L(u,v)}^{(k)} h_u^{(k)} + b_{L(u,v)}^{(k)}} \right)$$
. A callout box labeled "Message" points to the inner expression  $W_{L(u,v)}^{(k)} h_u^{(k)} + b_{L(u,v)}^{(k)}$ , which is enclosed in a box. Another callout box labeled "Syntactic neighborhood" points to the summation index  $u \in \mathcal{N}(v)$ .

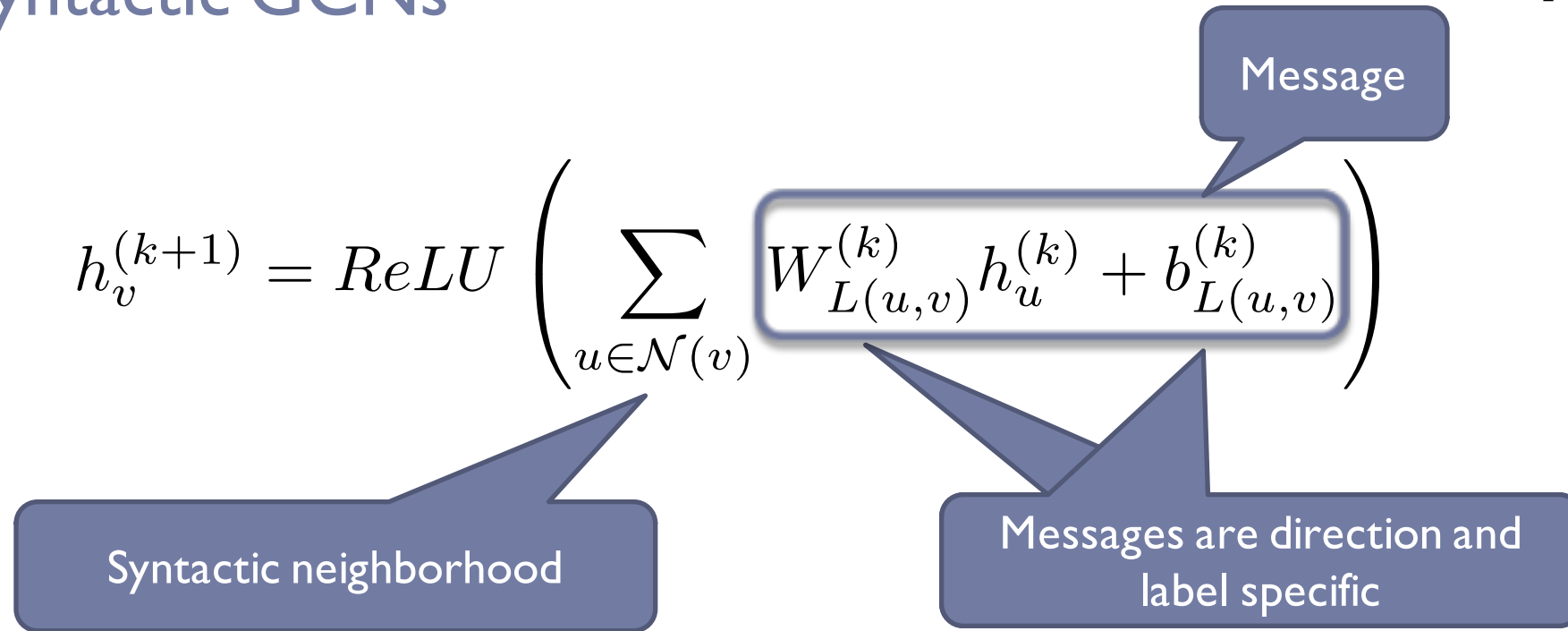
# Syntactic GCNs

[Marcheggiani and Titov, 2017]



# Syntactic GCNs

[Marcheggiani and Titov, 2017]



- ▶ Overparametrized: one matrix for each label-direction pair
- ▶  $W_{L(u,v)}^{(k)} = V_{dir(u,v)}^{(k)}$

# Edge-wise Gates

[Marcheggiani and Titov, 2017]

- ▶ Not all edges are equally important for the final task

# Edge-wise Gates

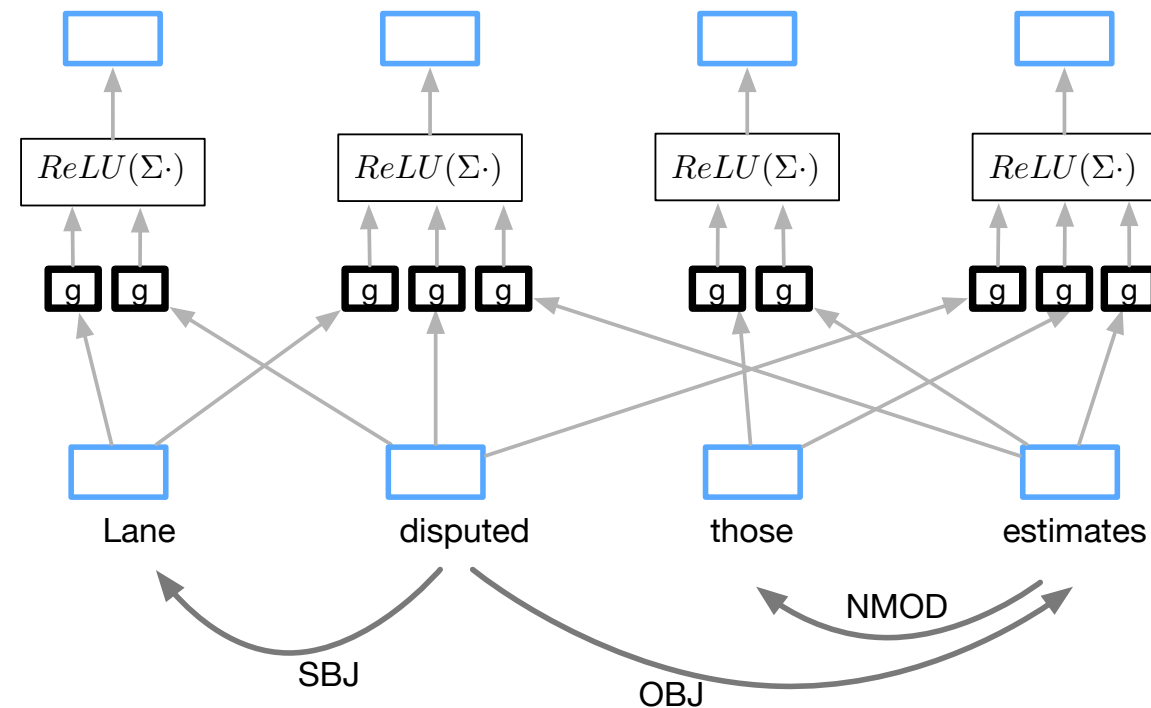
[Marcheggiani and Titov, 2017]

- ▶ Not all edges are equally important for the final task
- ▶ We should not blindly rely on predicted syntax

# Edge-wise Gates

[Marcheggiani and Titov, 2017]

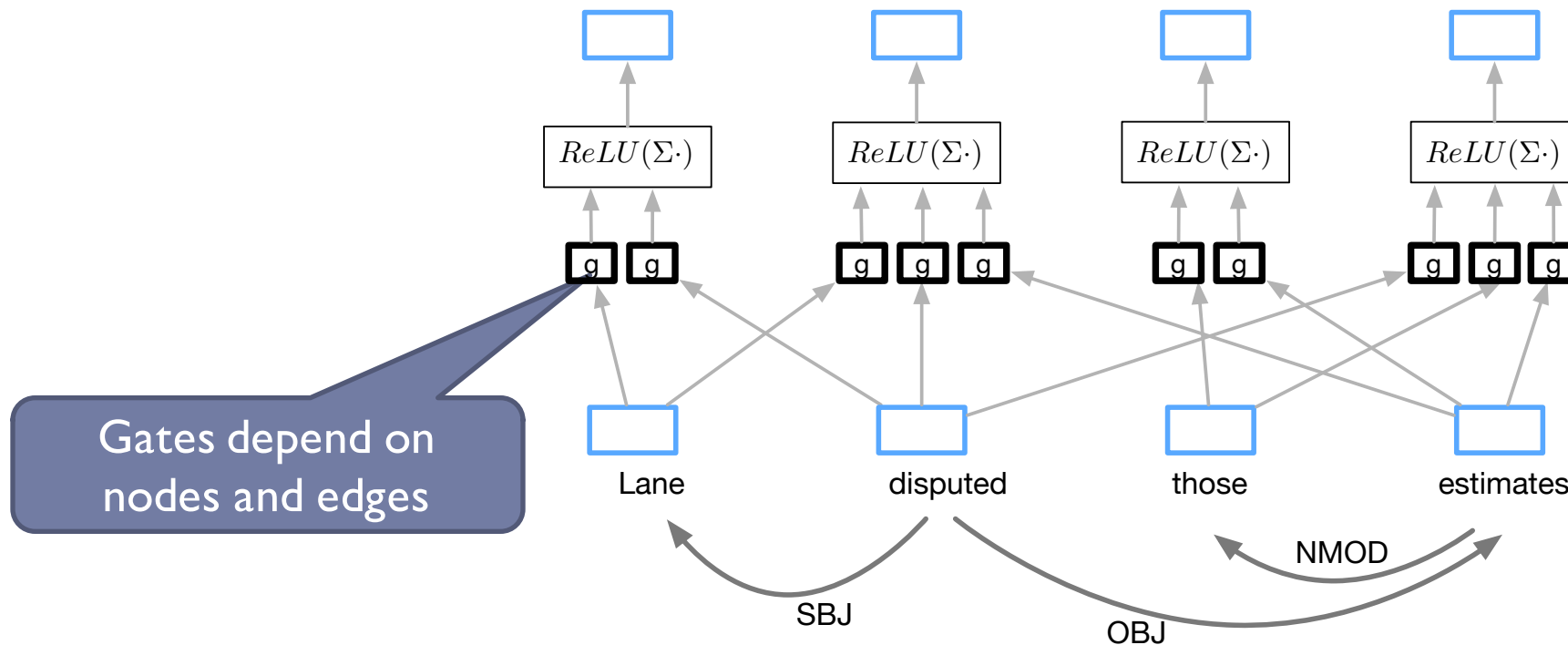
- ▶ Not all edges are equally important for the final task
- ▶ We should not blindly rely on predicted syntax
- ▶ Gates decide the “importance” of each message



# Edge-wise Gates

[Marcheggiani and Titov, 2017]

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# Outline

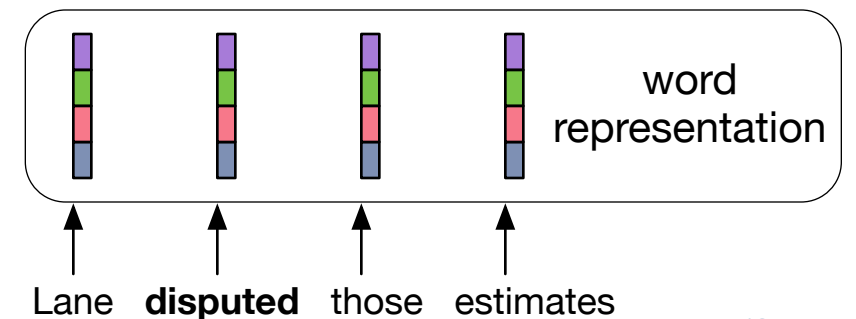
- ▶ Semantic Role Labeling
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- ▶ **SRL Model**
- ▶ Exploiting Semantics in Neural Machine Translation with GCNs

- ▶ Word representation
- ▶ Bidirectional LSTM encoder
- ▶ GCN Encoder
- ▶ Local role classifier

# Word Representation

[Marcheggiani and Titov, 2017]

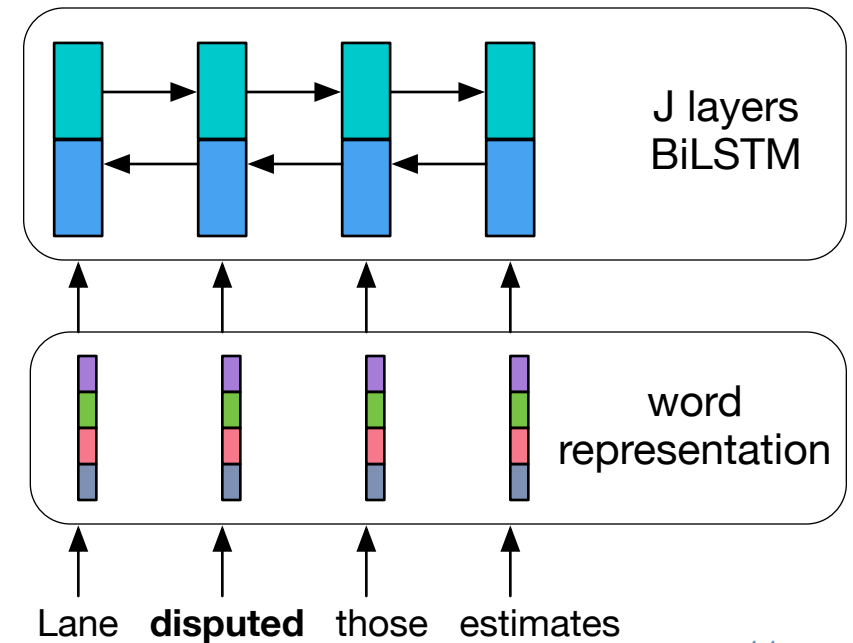
- ▶ Pretrained word embeddings
- ▶ Word embeddings
- ▶ POS tag embeddings
- ▶ Predicate lemma embeddings



# BiLSTM Encoder

[Marcheggiani and Titov, 2017]

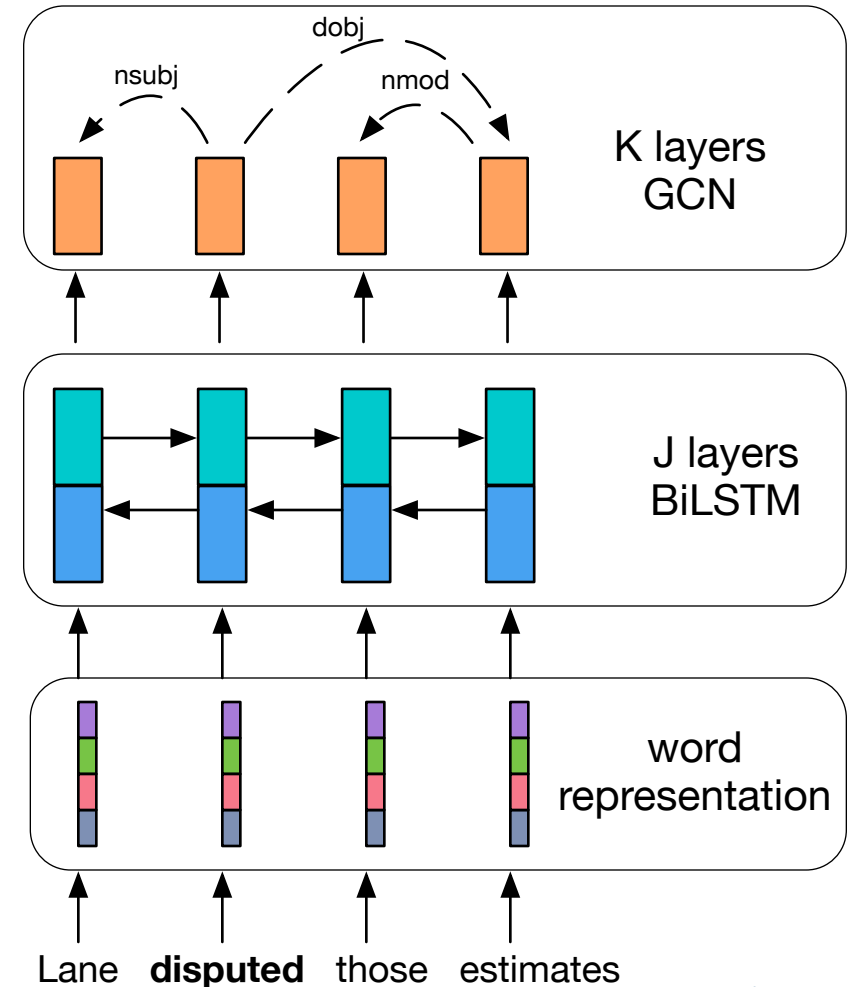
- ▶ Encode each word with its left and right context
- ▶ Stacked BiLSTM



# GCNs Encoder

[Marcheggiani and Titov, 2017]

- ▶ Syntactic GCNs after BiLSTM encoder
  - ▶ Add syntactic information
  - ▶ Skip connections
  - ▶ Longer dependencies are captured



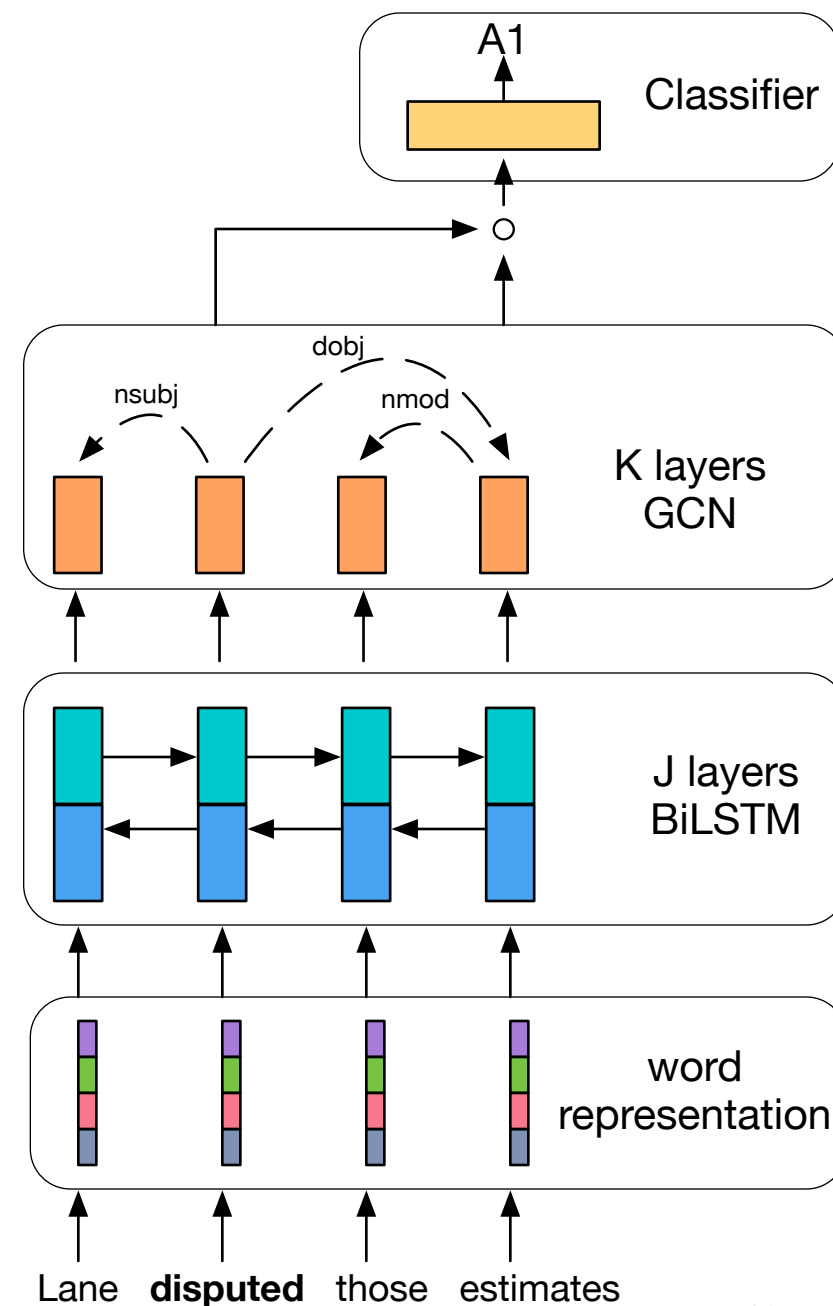
# Semantic Role Classifier

## ► Local log-linear classifier

$$p(r|t_i, t_p, l) \propto \exp(W_{l,r}(t_i \circ t_p))$$

candidate argument  
representation

predicate  
representation



- ▶ **Data**

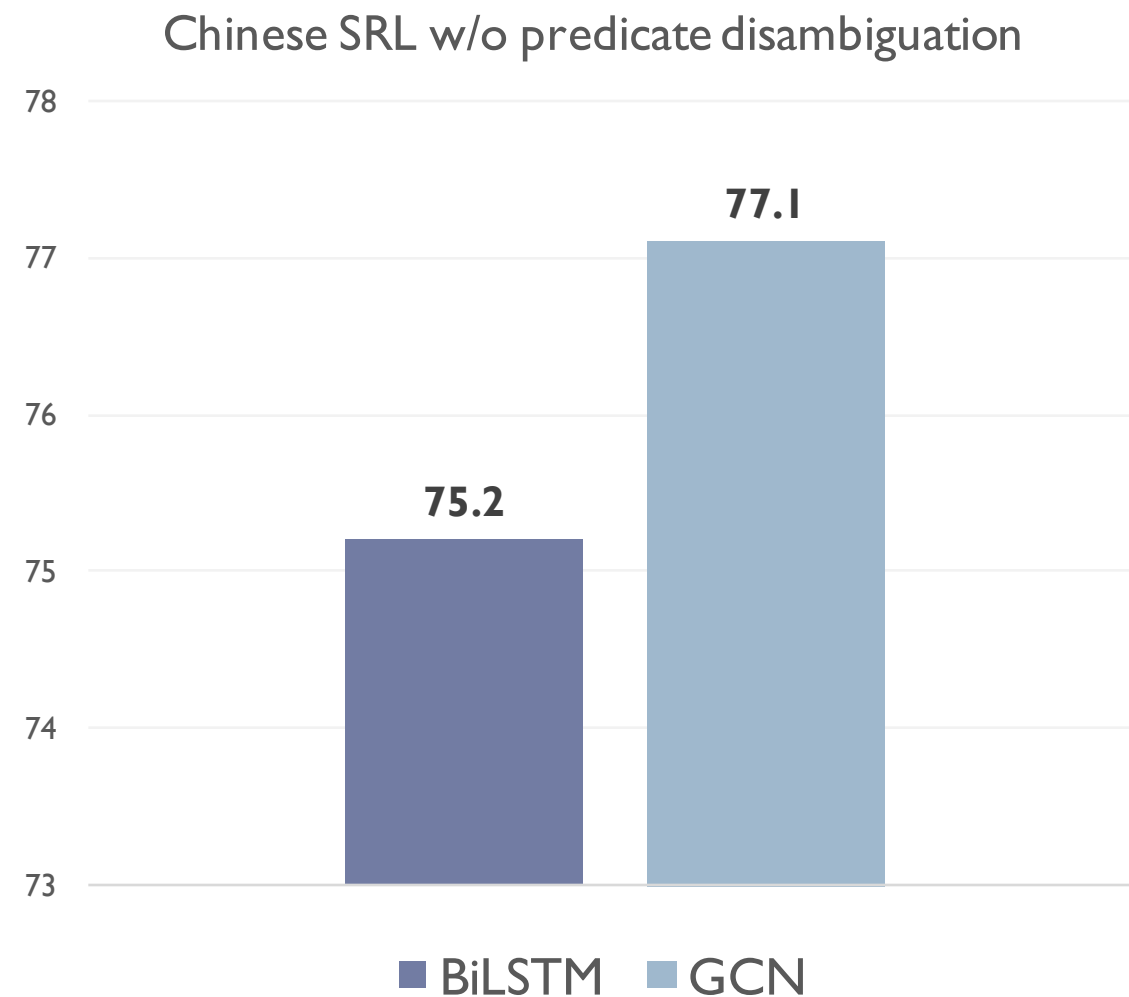
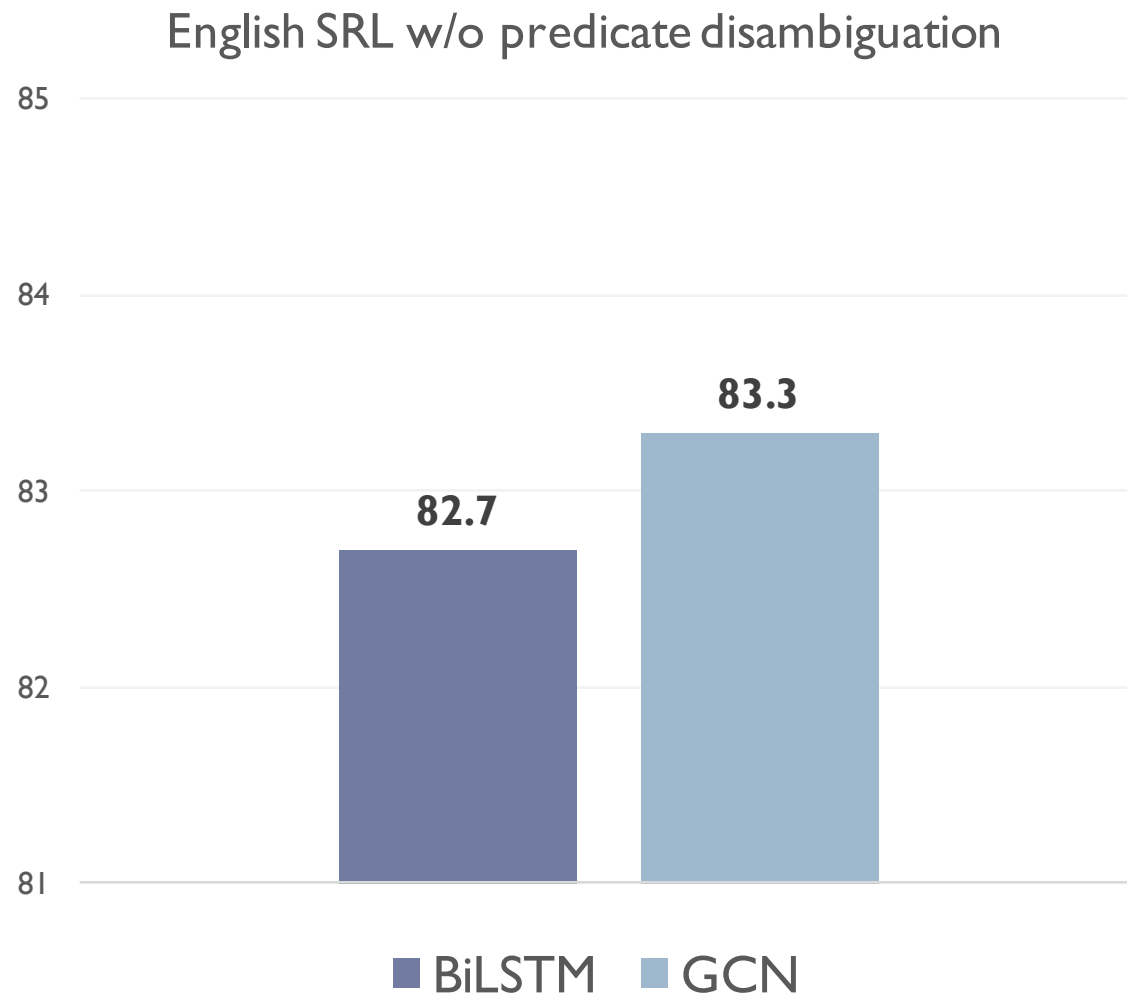
- ▶ CoNLL-2009 dataset - English and Chinese
- ▶ F1 evaluation measure

- ▶ **Model**

- ▶ Hyperparameters tuned on English development set
- ▶ State-of-the-art predicate disambiguation models

# Ablation Experiments (Dev set)

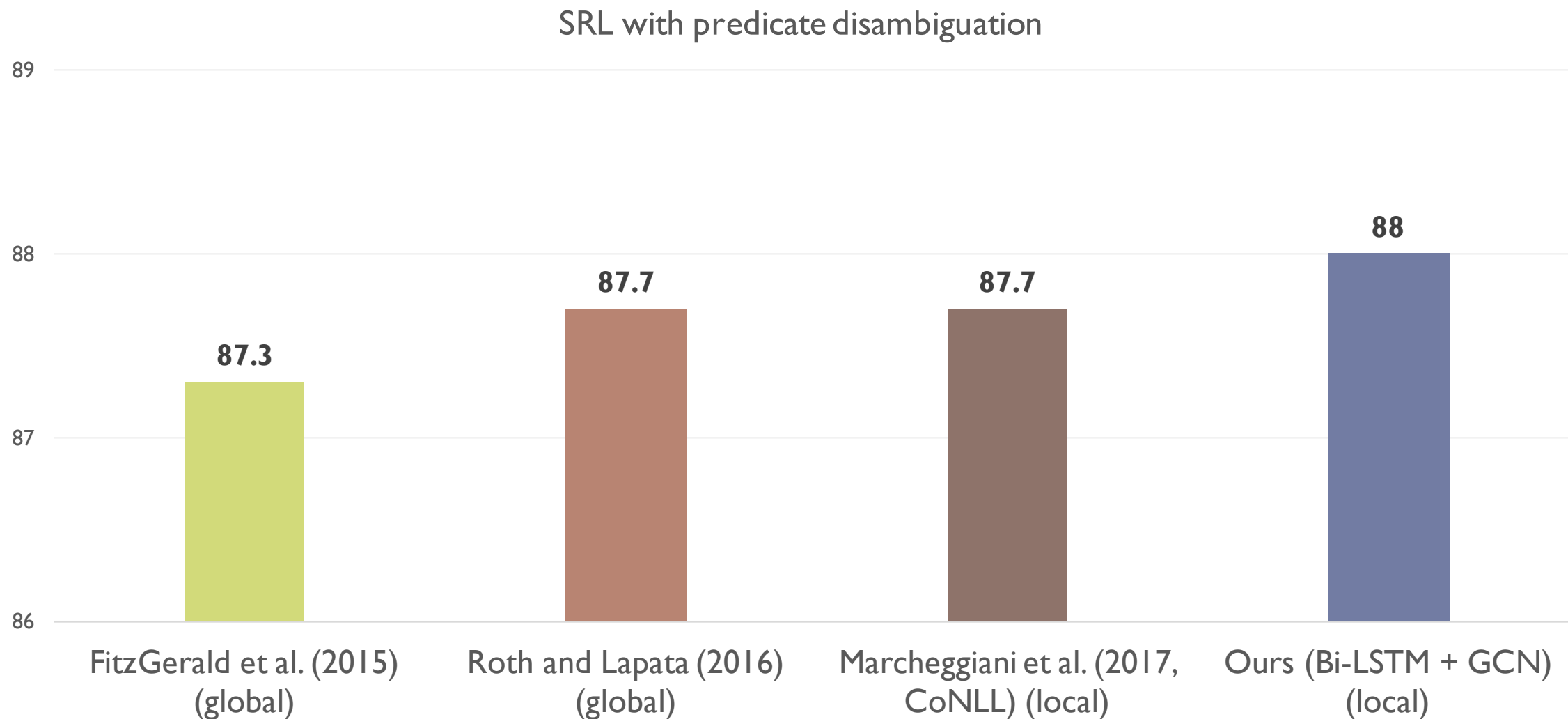
[Marcheggiani and Titov, 2017]





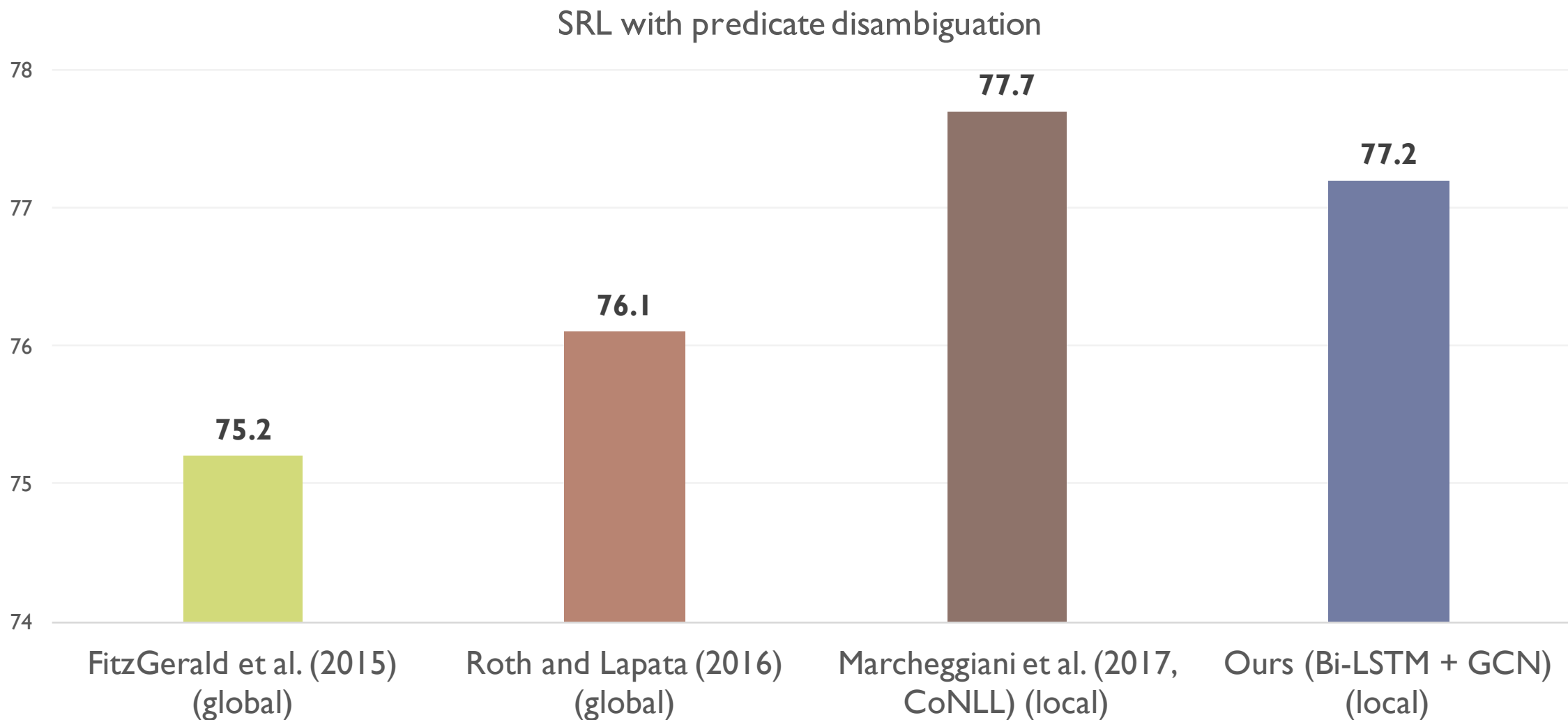
# English Test Set

[Marcheggiani and Titov, 2017]



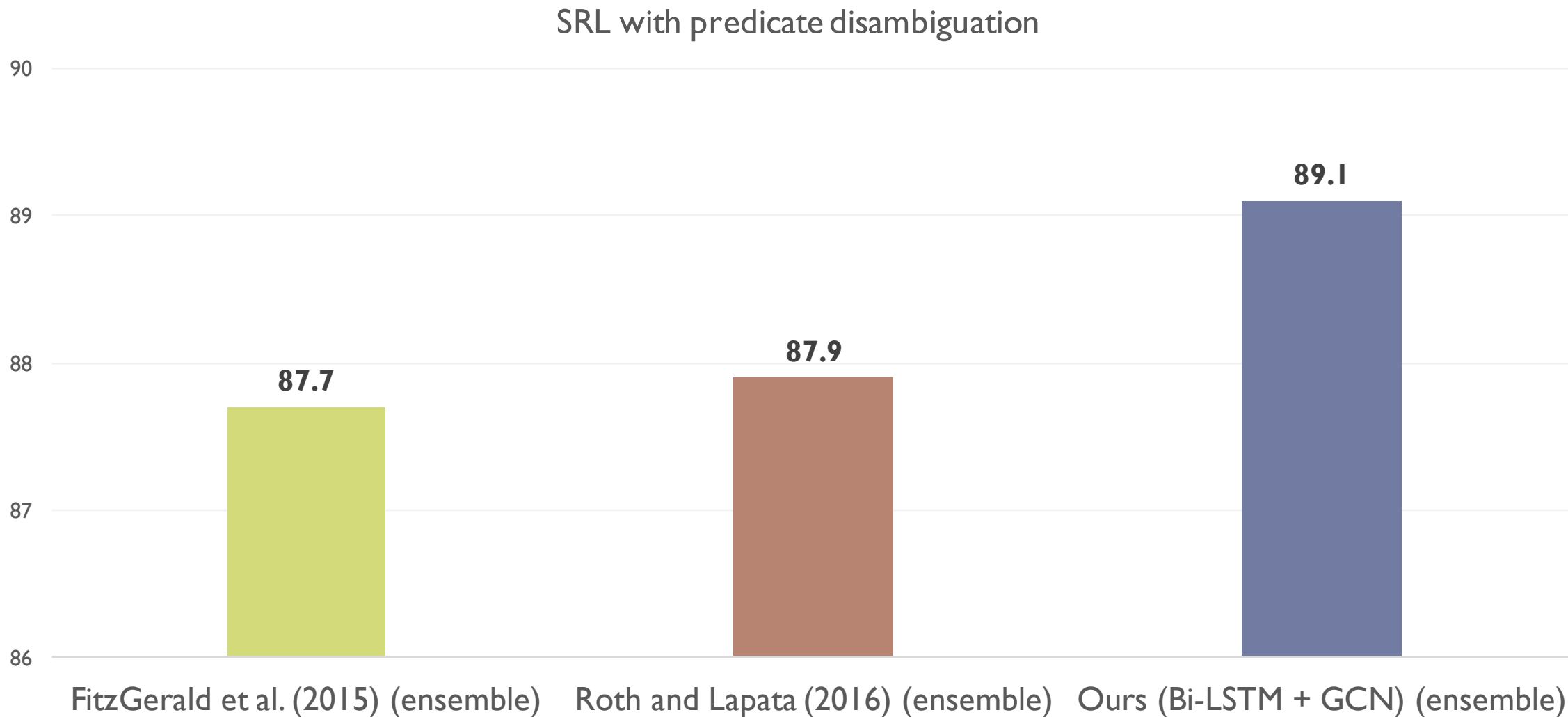
# English Out of Domain

[Marcheggiani and Titov, 2017]



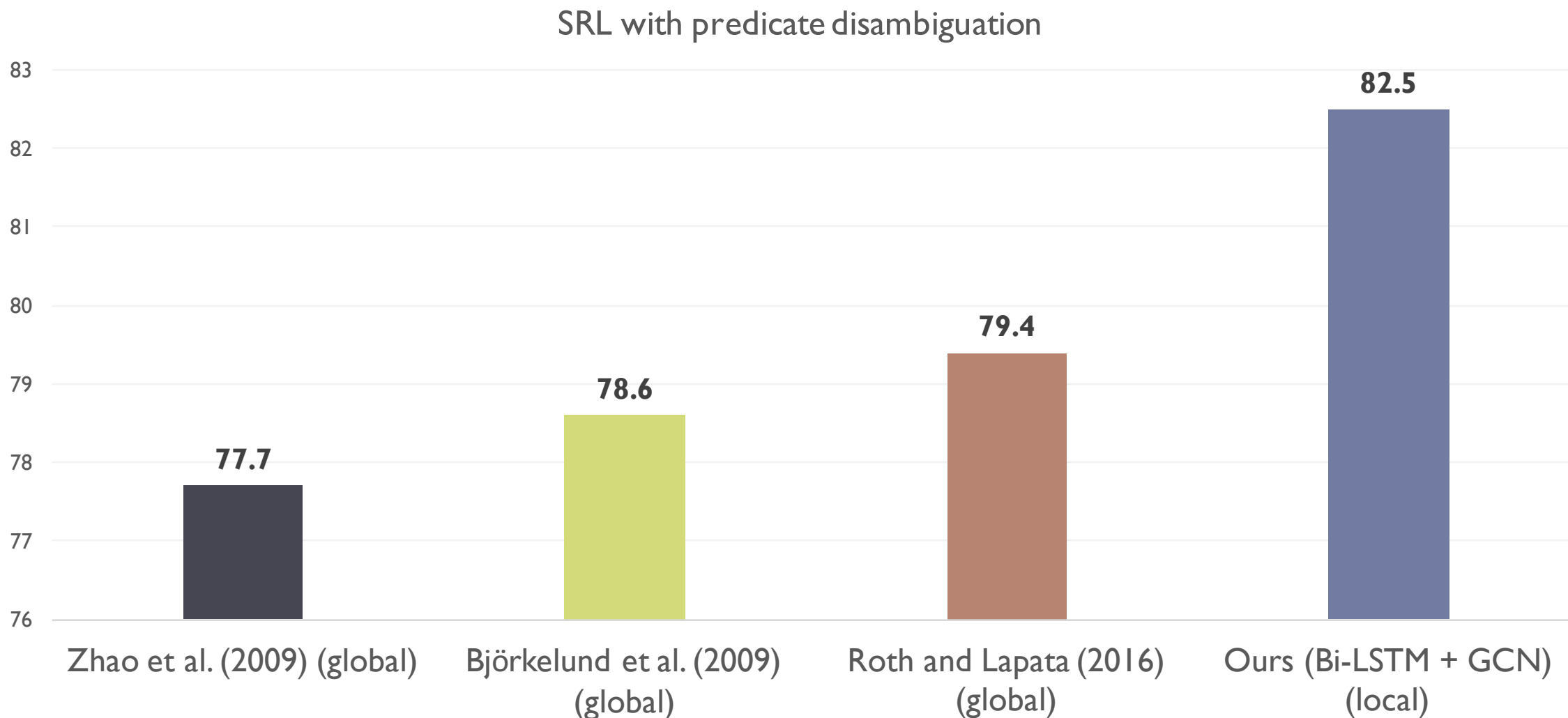
# English Test Set (Ensemble)

[Marcheggiani and Titov, 2017]



# Chinese Test Set

[Marcheggiani and Titov, 2017]



# Syntactic Graph Convolutional Networks

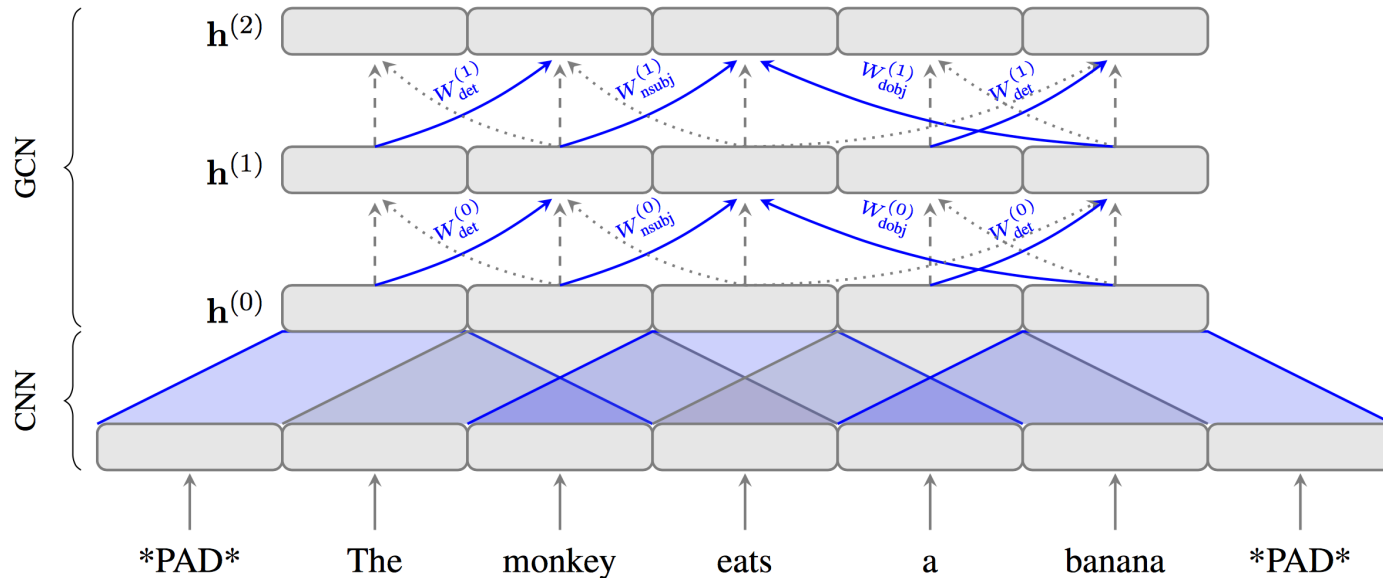
- ▶ Fast and simple
- ▶ Can be seamlessly applied to other tasks

# Syntactic Graph Convolutional Networks

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## Graph Convolutional Encoders for Syntax-aware Machine Translation

Joost Bastings, Ivan Titov, Wilker Aziz, Diego Marcheggiani, Khalil Sima'an.  
In *Proceedings of EMNLP*, 2017.

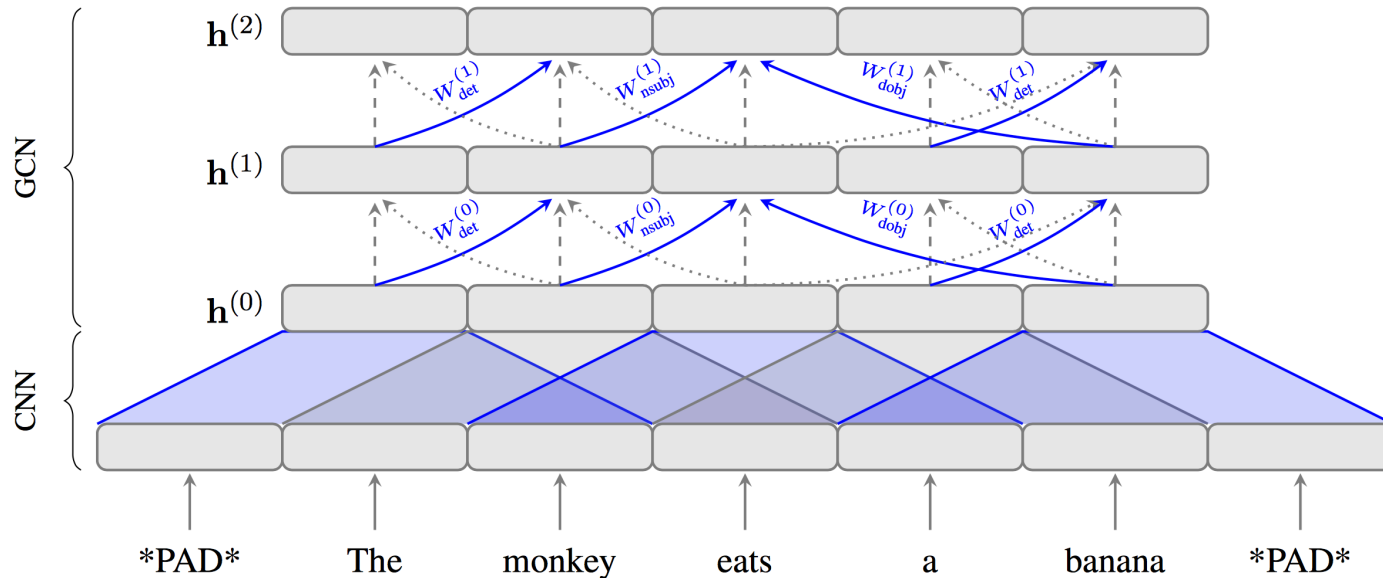


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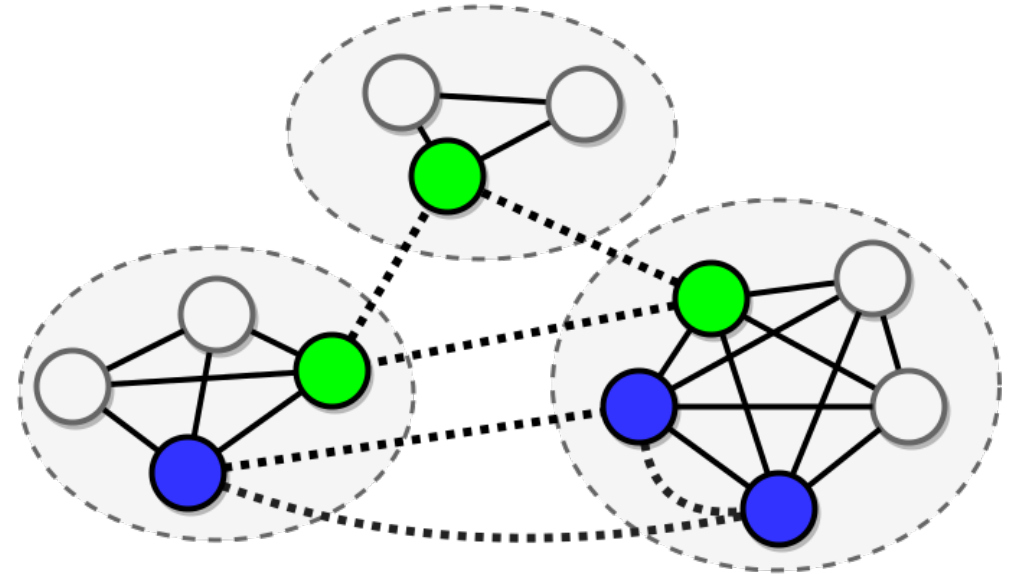
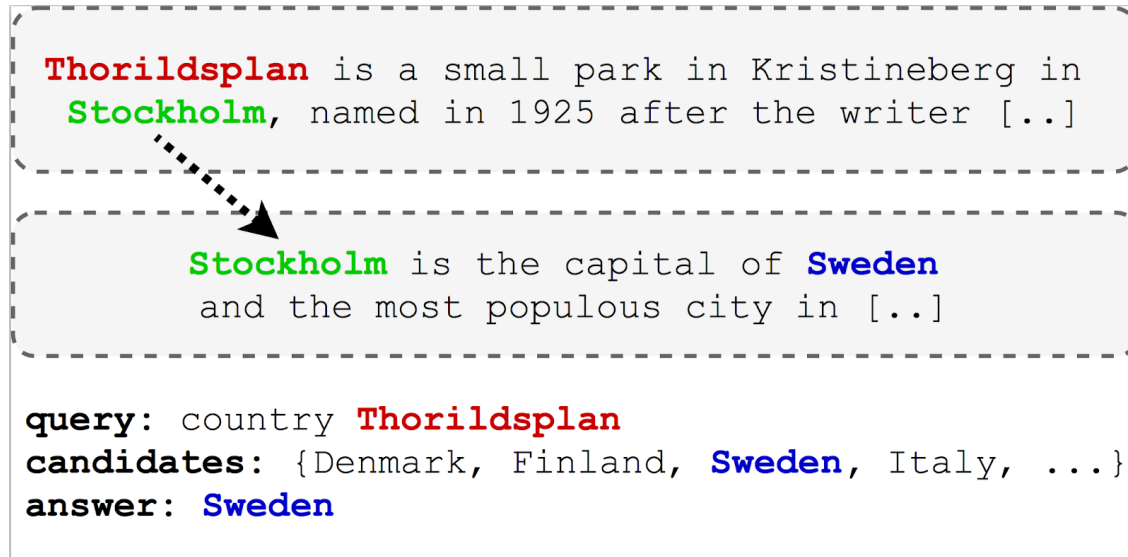
Joost Bastings, Ivan Titov, Wilker Aziz, Diego Marcheggiani, Khalil Sima'an.  
In *Proceedings of EMNLP*, 2017.



Improvements on  
English to German and  
English to Czech translations

# Multi-document Question Answering

[De Cao et al., 2018]



- Nodes are entities and edges are co-reference links
- Inference on a graph representing the documents collection



# Multi-document Question Answering

[De Cao et al., 2018]

## WikiHop

#	Model / Reference	Affiliation	Date	Accuracy[%]
1	Entity-GCN	University of Amsterdam & University of Edinburgh	May 2018	67.6
2	MHQA-GRN	IBM & University of Rochester	August 2018	65.4
3	Jenga	Facebook AI Research	February 2018	65.3
4	[anonymized]	[anonymized]	May 2018	64.9
5	Vanilla CoAttention Model	Nanyang Technological University	December 2017	59.9
6	Coref-GRU	Carnegie Mellon University.	April 2018	59.3

# Syntactic Graph Convolutional Networks

## **Graph Convolutional Networks for Named Entity Recognition**

**Cetoli, Alberto   Bragaglia, Stefano   O’Harney, Andrew Daniel   Sloan, Marc**  
Context Scout

# Syntactic Graph Convolutional Networks

## **Graph Convolutional Networks for Named Entity Recognition**

**Cetoli, Alberto   Bragaglia, Stefano   O’Harney, Andrew Daniel   Sloan, Marc**  
Context Scout

## **Graph Convolutional Networks with Argument-Aware Pooling for Event Detection**

**Thien Huu Nguyen**  
Department of Computer and Information Science  
University of Oregon  
Eugene, Oregon 97403, USA

**Ralph Grishman**  
Computer Science Department  
New York University  
New York, NY 10003 USA

# Syntactic Graph Convolutional Networks

**Graph Convolutional Networks for Named Entity Recognition**

Cetoli, Alberto   Bragaglia, Stefano   O’Harney, Andrew Daniel   Sloan, Marc

## **Graph Convolution over Pruned Dependency Trees Improves Relation Extraction**

**Yuhao Zhang,\* Peng Qi,\* Christopher D. Manning**

Stanford University

Stanford, CA 94305

Eugene, Oregon 97403, USA

**Pooling**

in  
Department  
of Linguistics

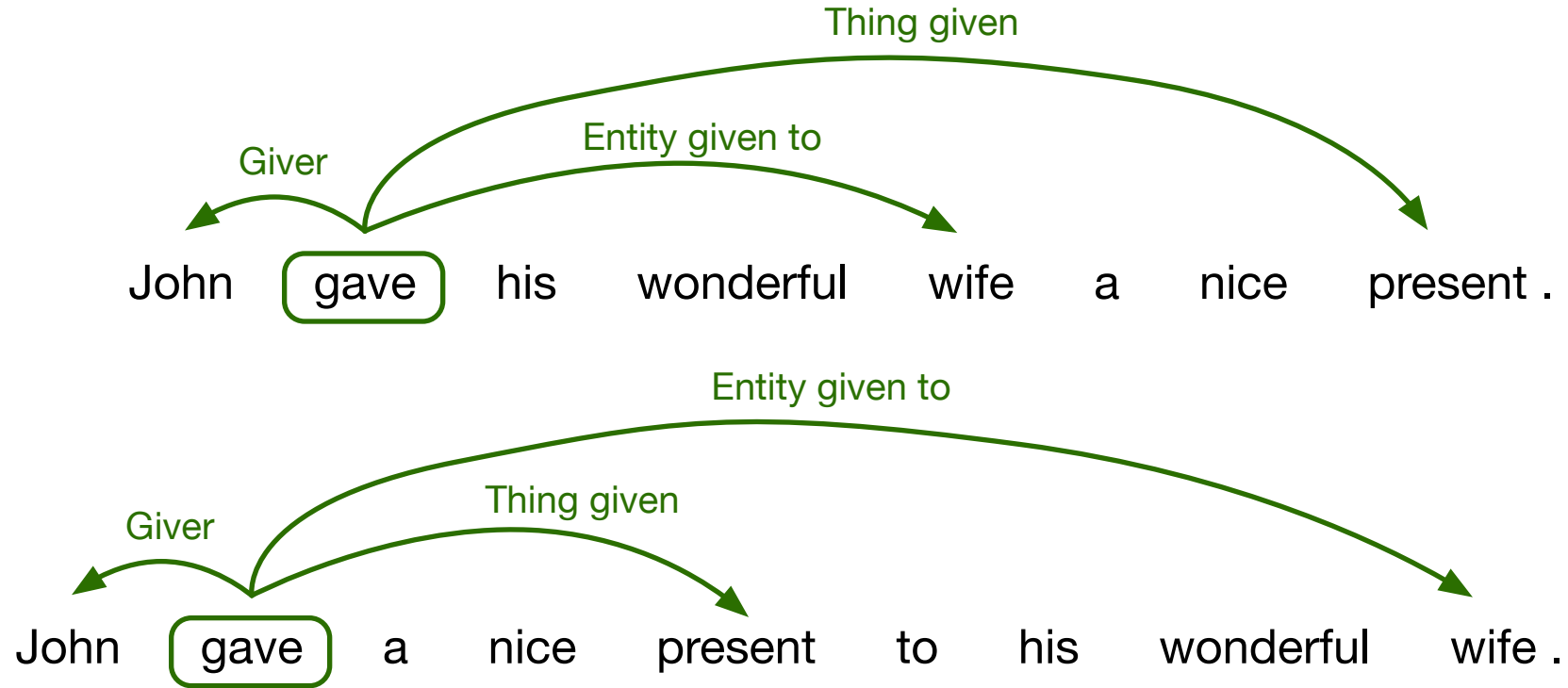
New York, NY 10003 USA

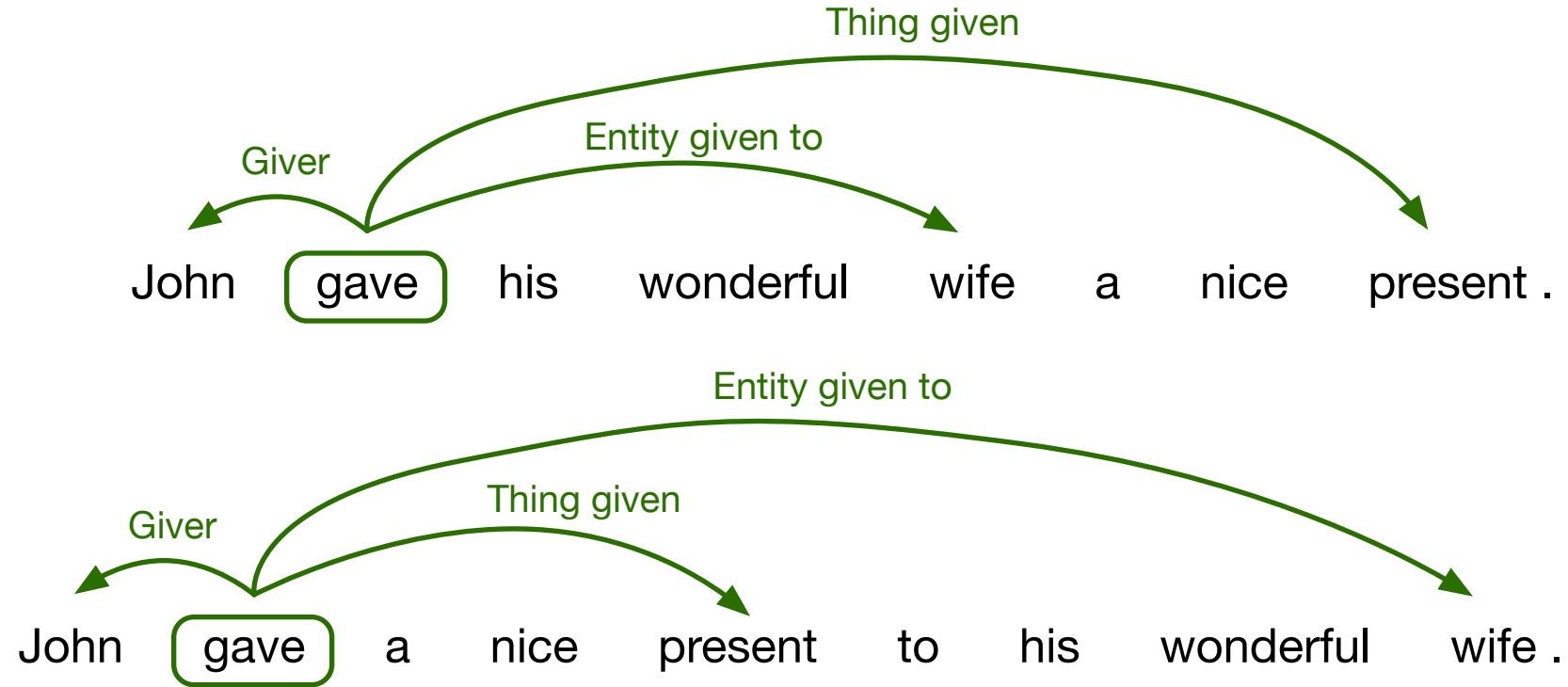
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- ▶ **Exploiting Semantics in Neural Machine Translation with GCNs**

# Motivations

[Marcheggiani et al., 2018]





SRL helps to generalize over different surface realizations of the same underlying “meaning”.

# Motivations

Russian English Dutch Detect language ▼



English Russian French ▼

Translate

Doris taught math and English<sup>x</sup>  
to our students|



45/5000

Дорис преподавала  
математику и английский язык  
нашим ученикам



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42/5000

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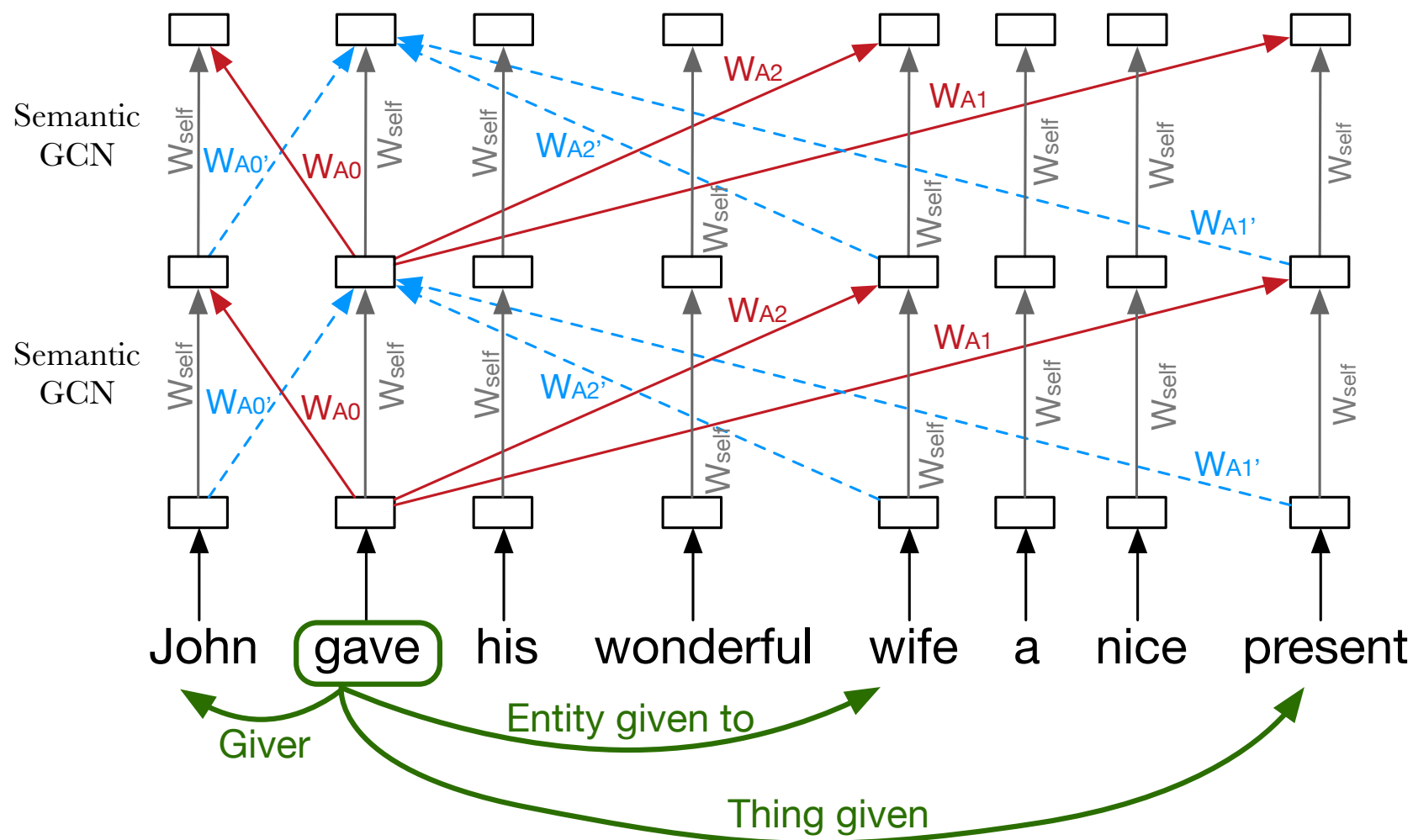
Lost in translation

Дорис преподавала  
математику и английский язык



- ▶ **Semantics in statistical MT**
  - ▶ [Wu and Fung, 2009]
  - ▶ [Liu and Gildea, 2010]
  - ▶ [Aziz et al., 2011]
  - ▶ ...
- ▶ **Syntax in neural MT**
  - ▶ [Sennrich and Haddow, 2016]
  - ▶ [Aharoni and Goldberg, 2017]
  - ▶ **[Bastings et al., 2017]**
  - ▶ ...
- ▶ **Semantics in neural MT**
  - ▶ ???

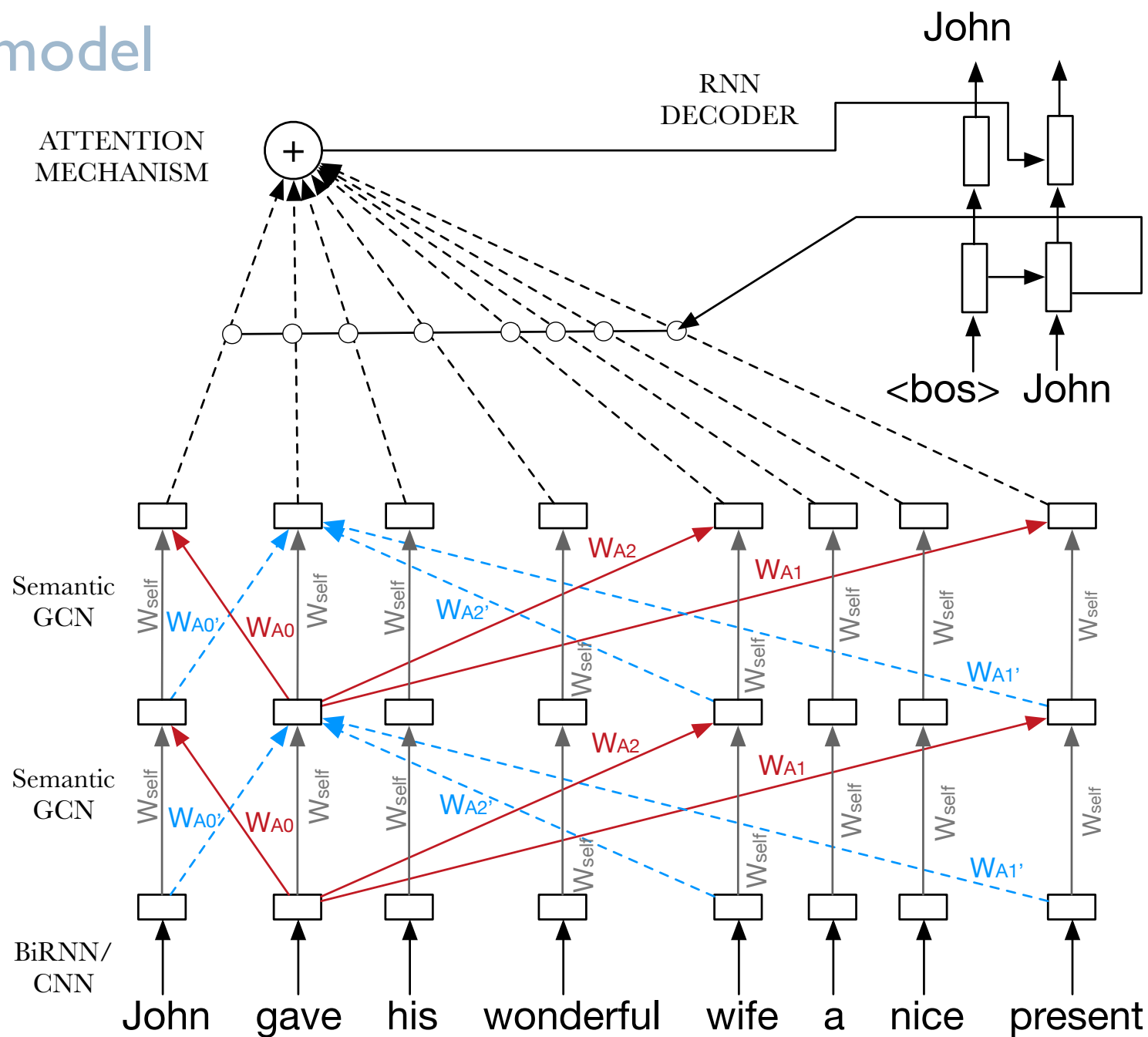
# Predicate-argument encoding



- ▶ Standard sequence2sequence with attention
- ▶ Semantic GCN encoder on top of a bidirectional RNN
- ▶ RNN decoder

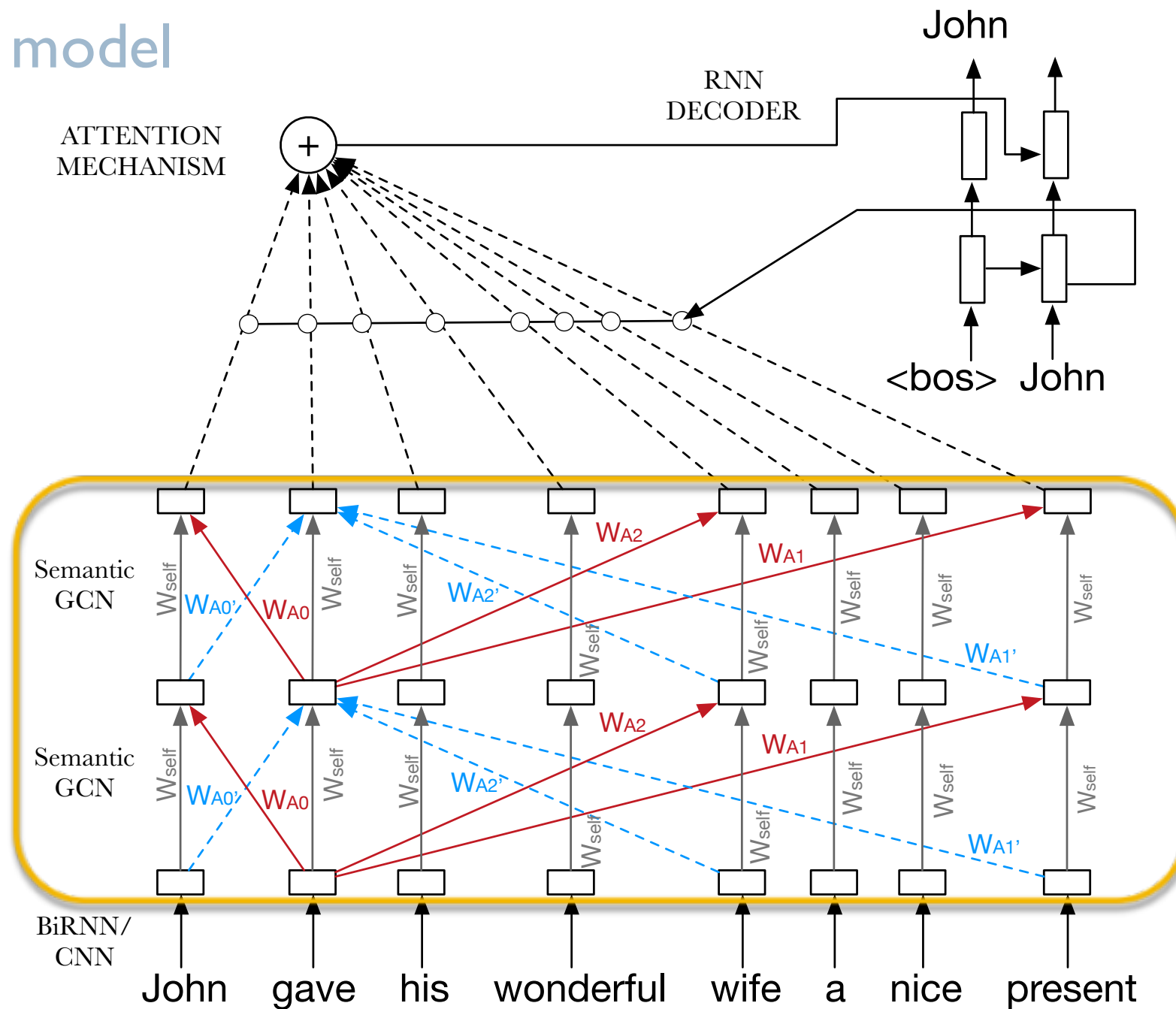
# Our model

[Marcheggiani et al., 2018]



# Our model

[Marcheggiani et al., 2018]



## ▶ Data

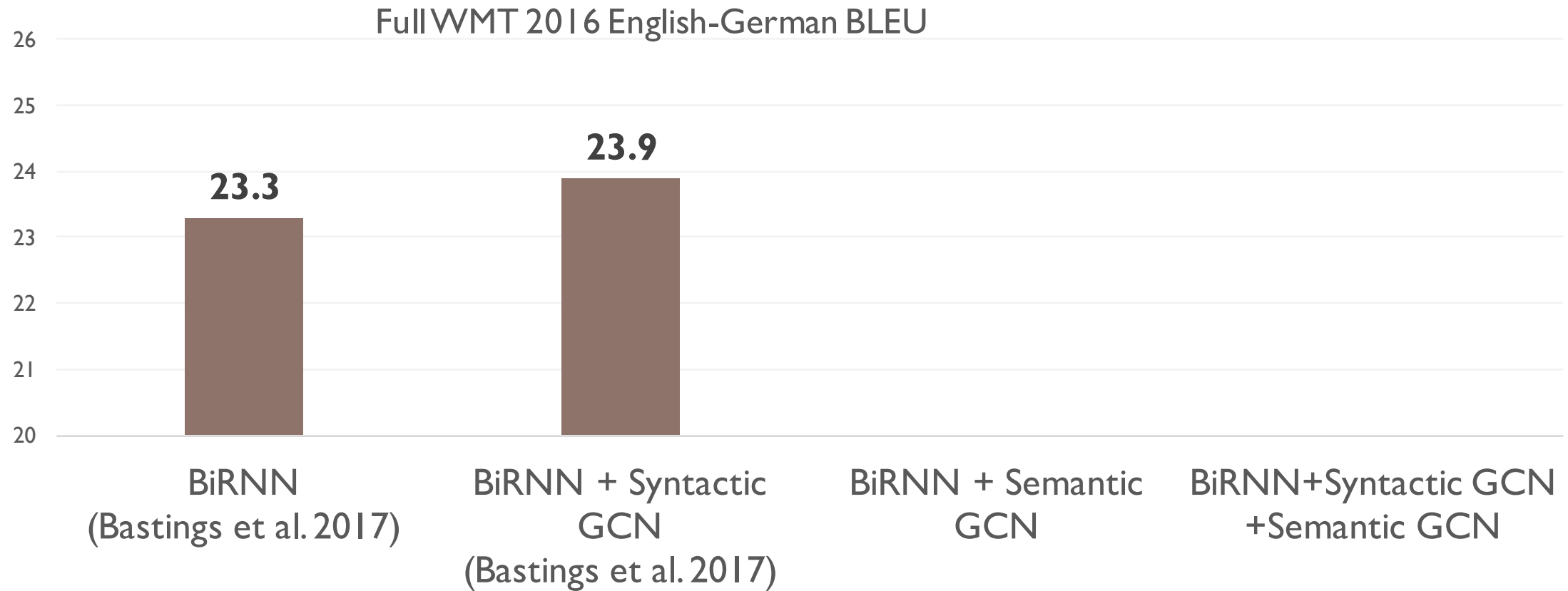
- ▶ WMT '16 English-German dataset (~4.5 million sentence pairs)
- ▶ BLEU as evaluation measure

## ▶ Model

- ▶ Hyperparameters tuned on News Commentary En-De (~226K sentence pairs)
- ▶ GRU as RNN

# Results

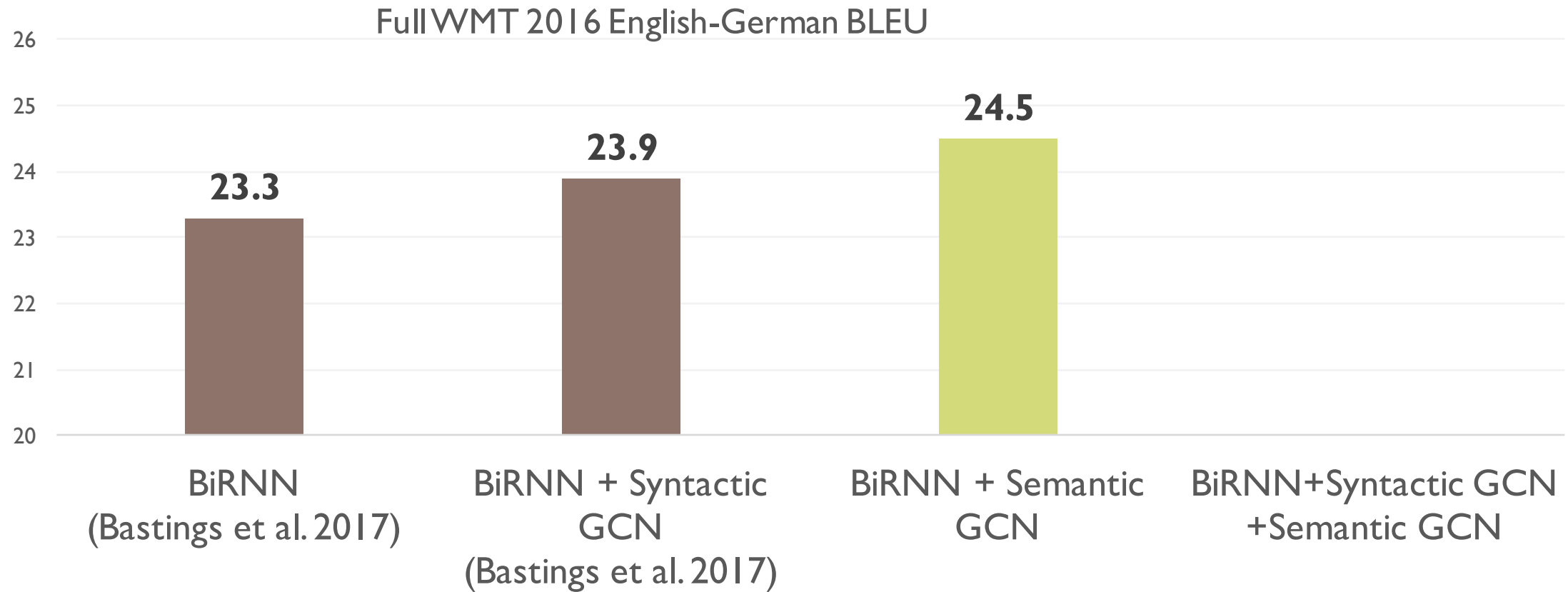
[Marcheggiani et al., 2018]





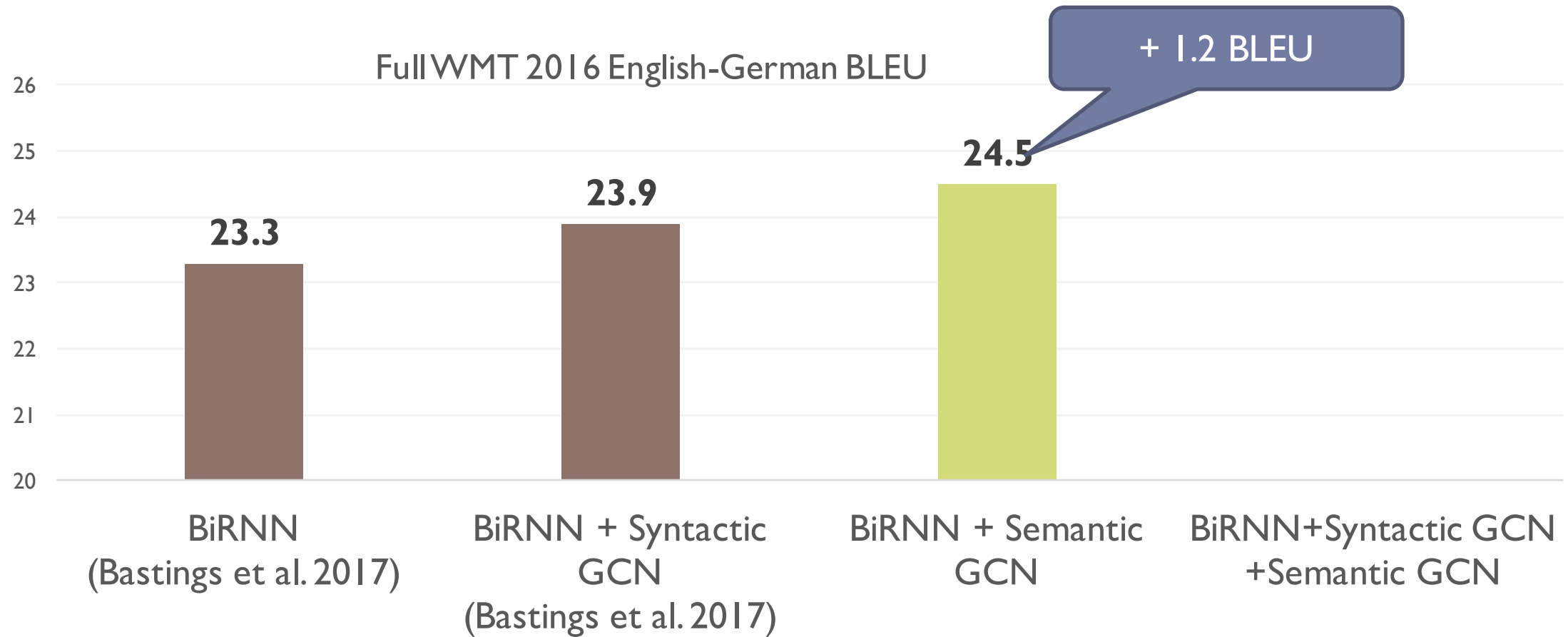
# Results

[Marcheggiani et al., 2018]



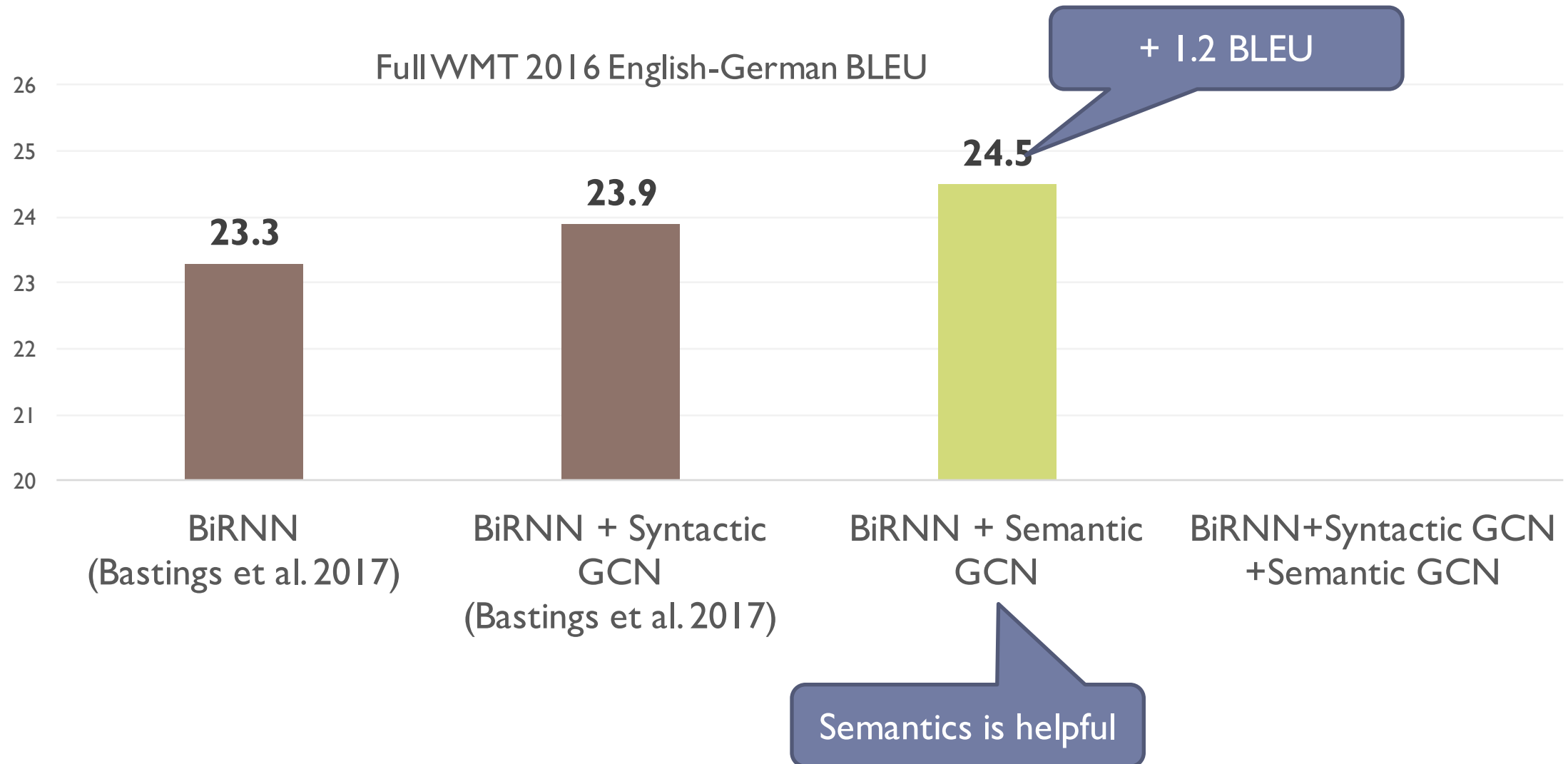
# Results

[Marcheggiani et al., 2018]



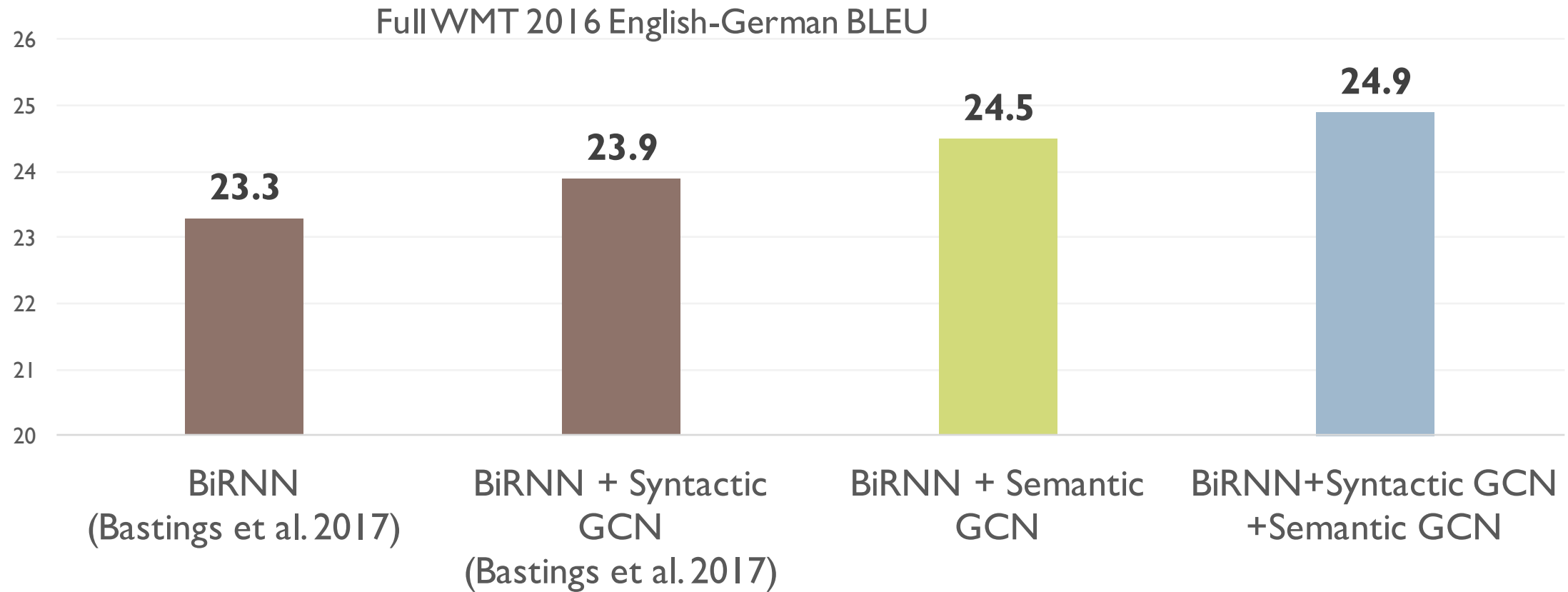
# Results

[Marcheggiani et al., 2018]



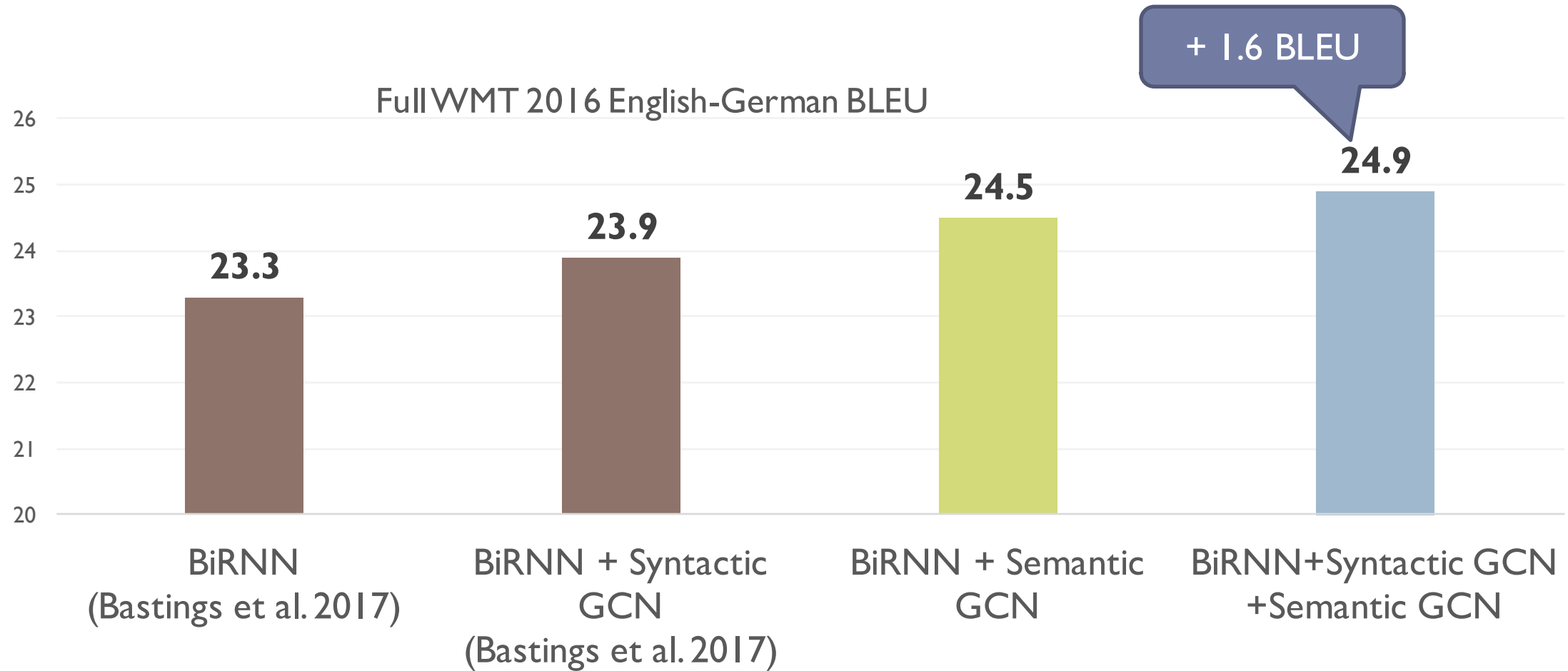
# Results

[Marcheggiani et al., 2018]



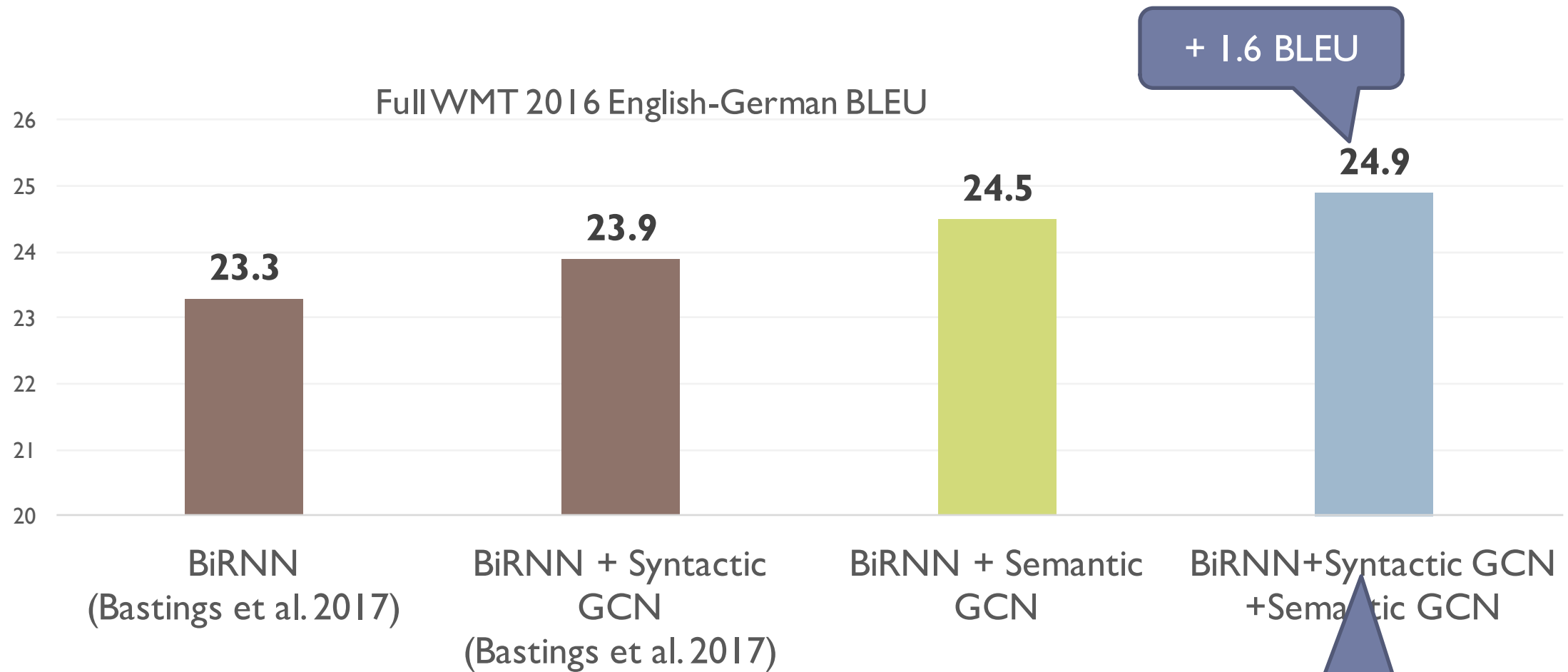
# Results

[Marcheggiani et al., 2018]



# Results

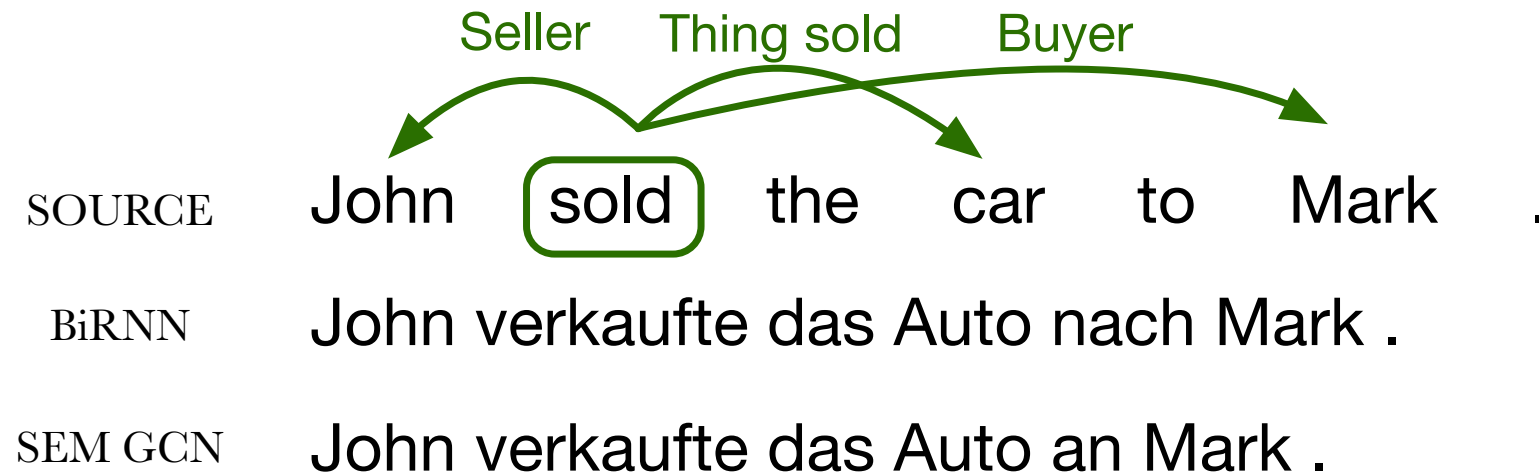
[Marcheggiani et al., 2018]



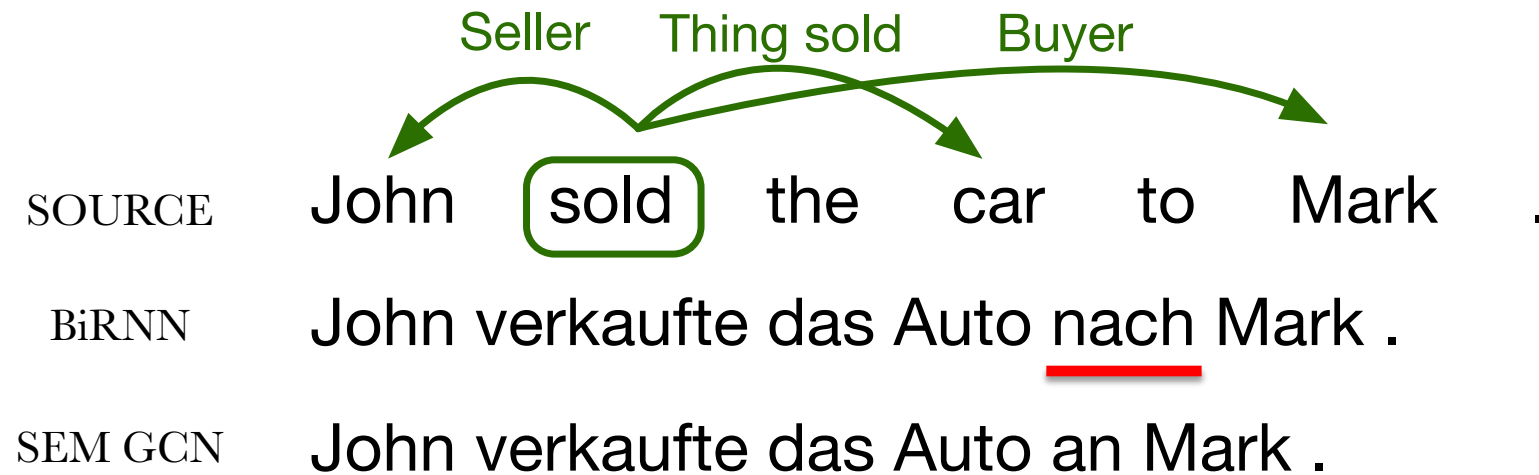
+ 1.6 BLEU

24.9

Syntax and semantics are complementary

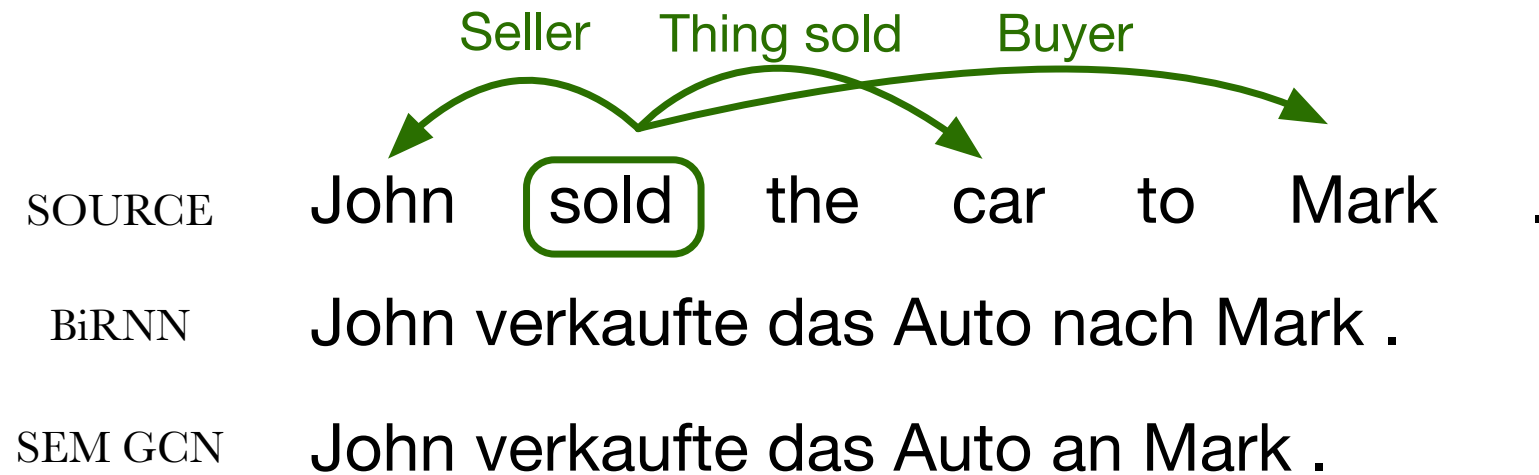


BiRNN mistranslates “to” as “nach” (directionality)

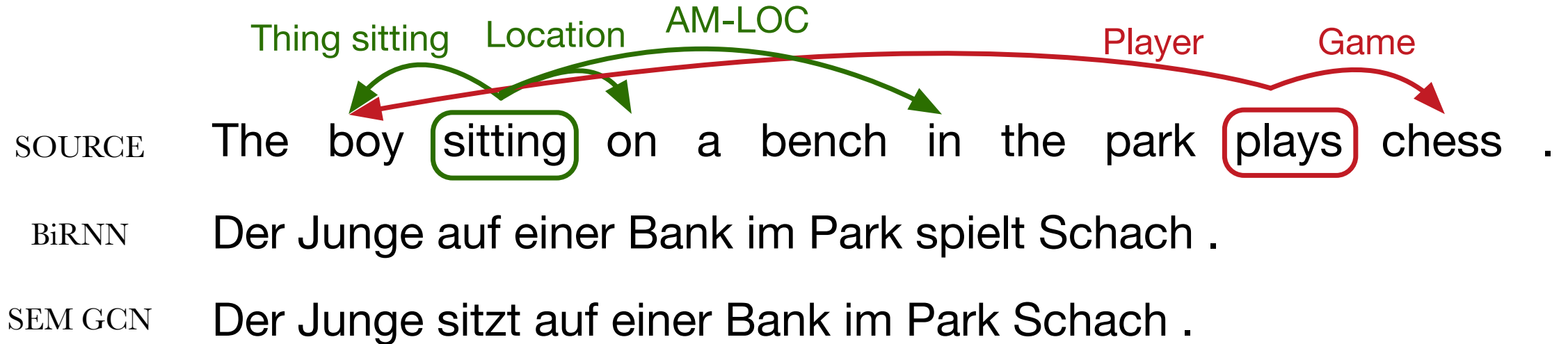


BiRNN mistranslates "to" as "nach" (directionality)

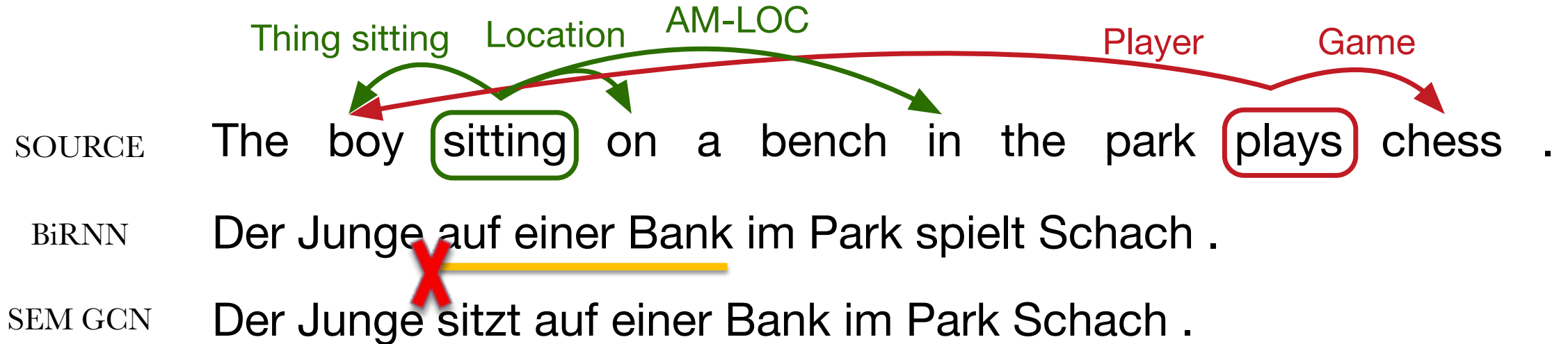




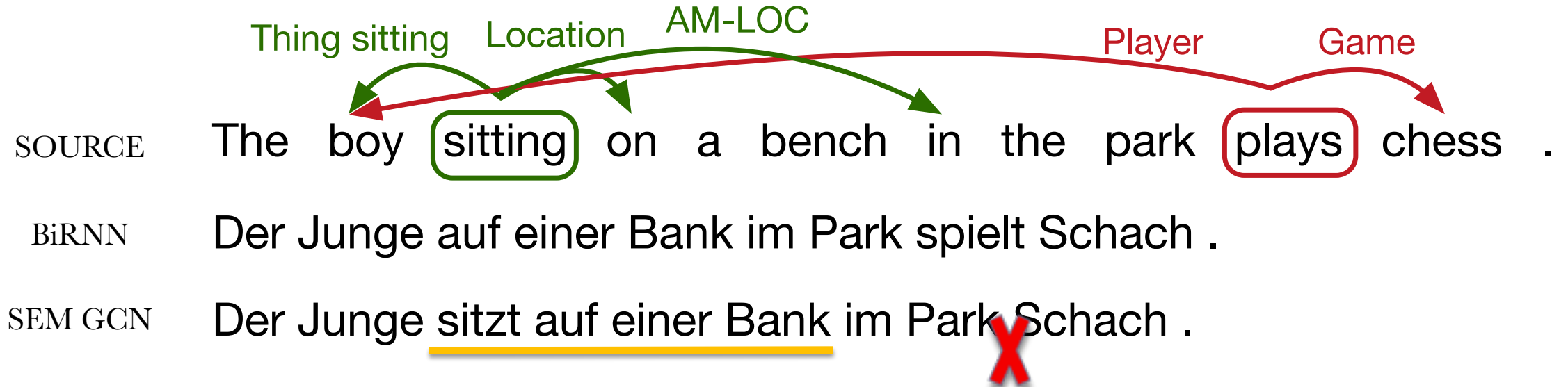
BiRNN mistranslates "to" as "nach" (directionality)



Both translations are wrong,  
but the BiRNN's one is grammatically correct



Both translations are wrong,  
but the BiRNN's one is grammatically correct



Both translations are wrong,  
but the BiRNN's one is grammatically correct

# Conclusion

- ▶ GCNs for encoding linguistic structures into NN
  - ▶ Semantics, coreference, discourse
  - ▶ Fast
  - ▶ Cheap
- ▶ State-of-the-art model for dependency-based SRL
- ▶ First to exploit semantics in NMT

# Roadmap

Including structured bias into neural NLP models

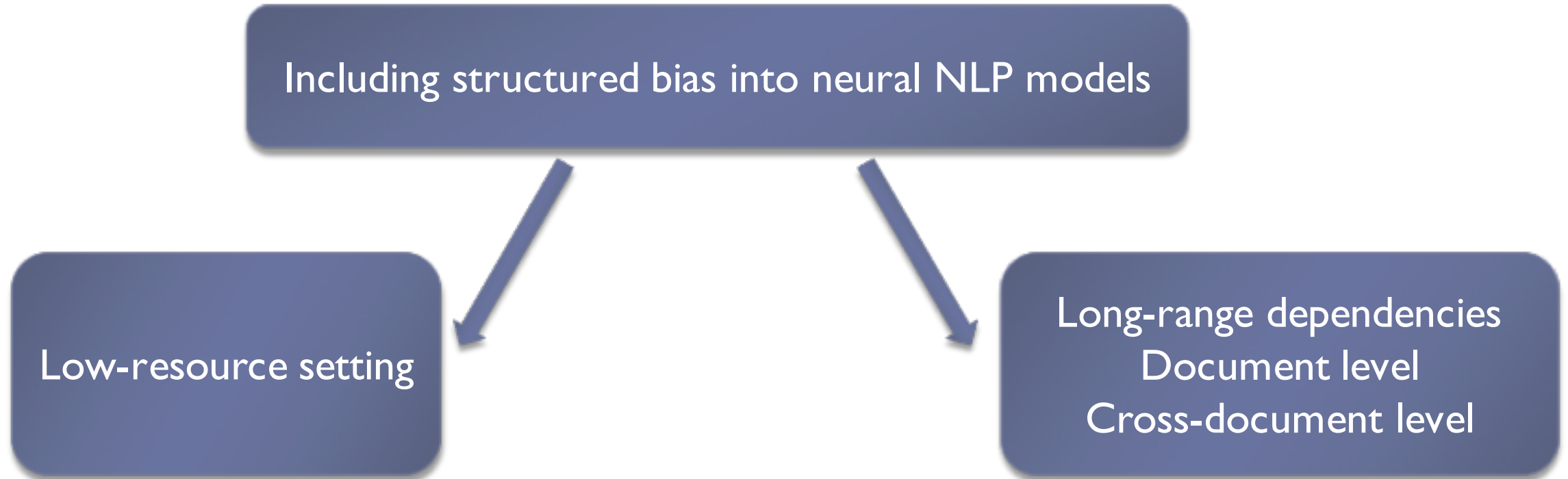
# Roadmap

Including structured bias into neural NLP models

```
graph TD; A[Including structured bias into neural NLP models] --> B[Low-resource setting];
```

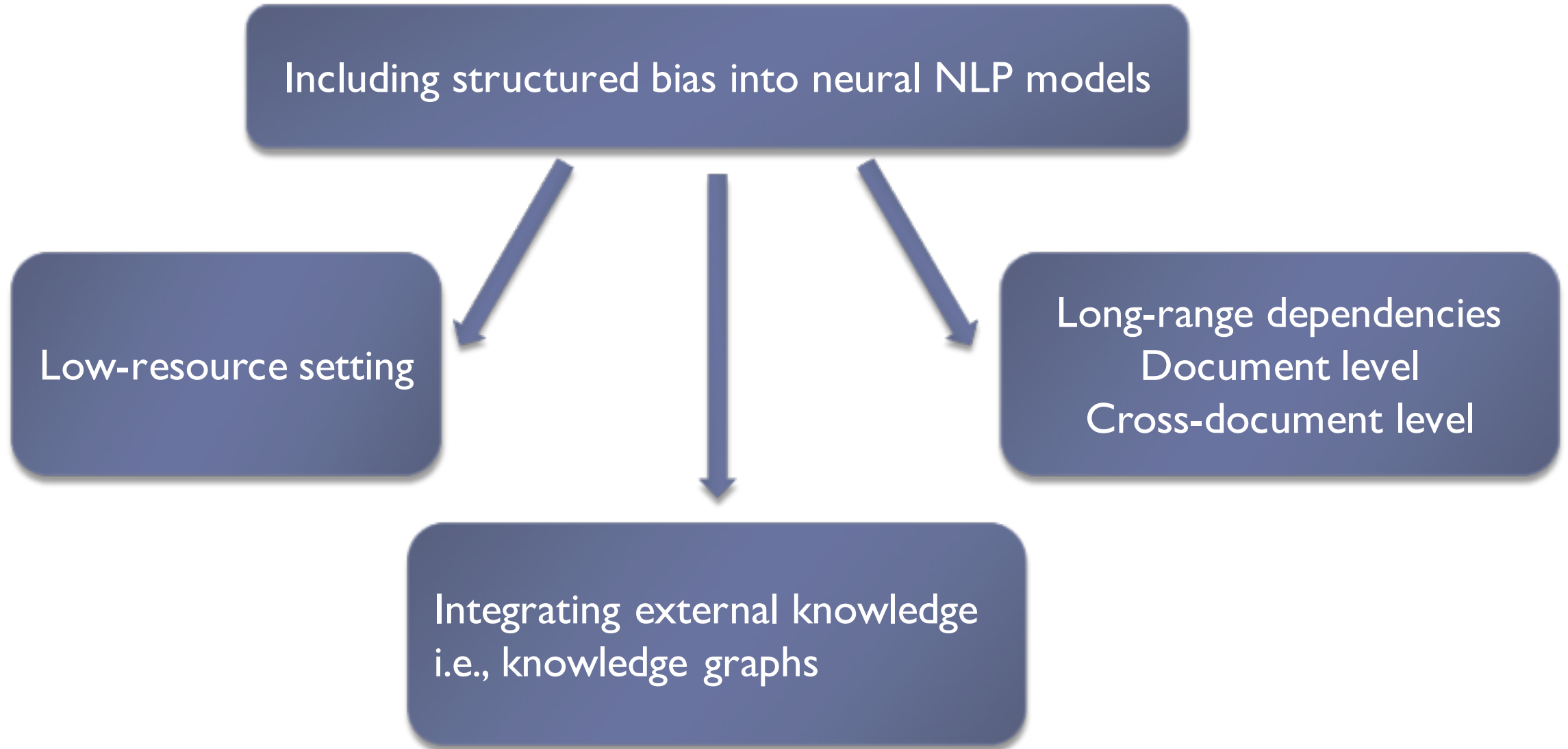
Low-resource setting

# Roadmap





# Roadmap



# Thanks for your attention!

