

# Interactive language learning from two extremes

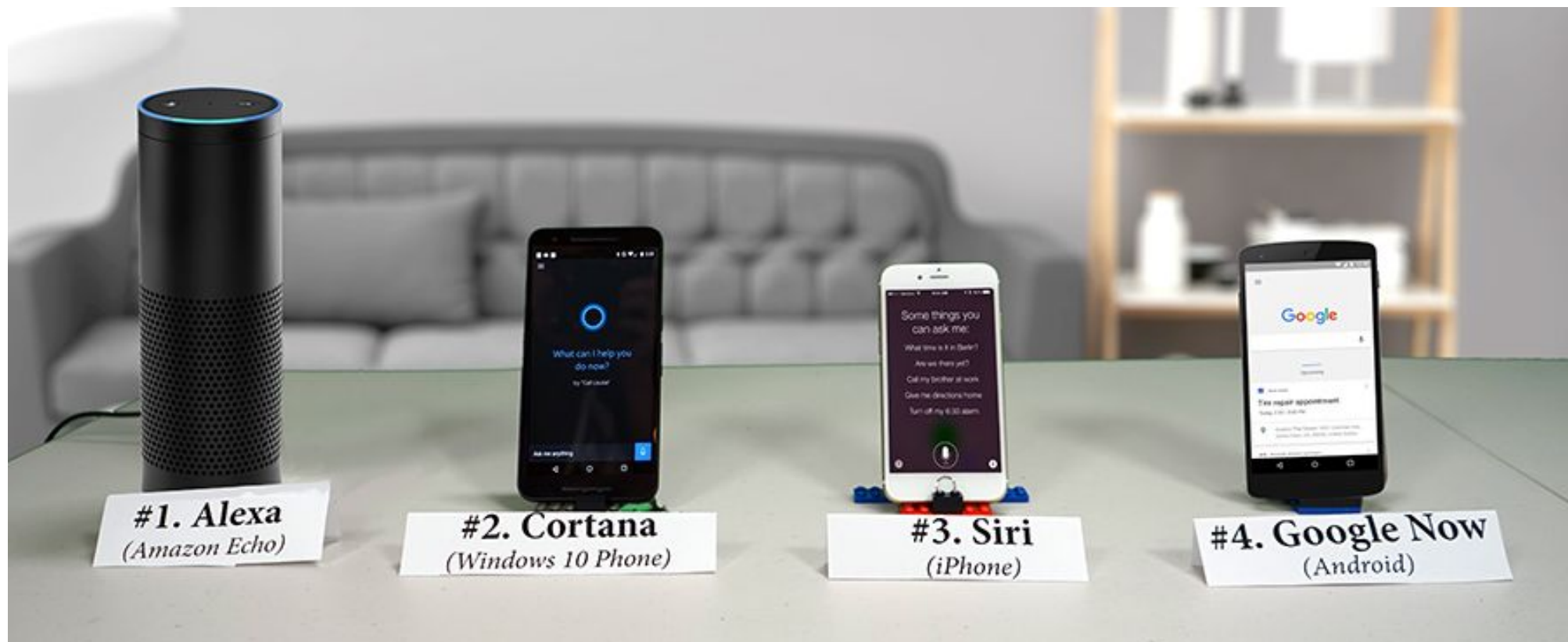
Sida I. Wang, Percy Liang, Christopher D. Manning

+ Sam Ginn, Nadav Lidor

Stanford University



# Natural language interfaces



# Natural language interfaces



Stephen Colbert: write the show

SIRI: what would you like to search for?

...

Stephen Colbert: For the love of God, the cameras are on, give me something!

SIRI: What kind of place are you looking for, camera stores or churches?

# Engineering goals

we are stuck when these systems misunderstand us

receive feedback from users, and improve through use

# Engineering goals

we are stuck when these systems misunderstand us

receive feedback from users, and improve through use

- **Adapt to users**

*regular weekday alarm, cancel the friday meeting*

# Engineering goals

we are stuck when these systems misunderstand us

receive feedback from users, and improve through use

- **Adapt to users**

*regular weekday alarm, cancel the friday meeting*

- **Handle special domains and low resource languages**

familiar words take on new meaning

*revert to commit 25ad3*

*order buy red t5 2*

# Engineering goals

we are stuck when these systems misunderstand us

receive feedback from users, and improve through use

- **Adapt to users**

*regular weekday alarm, cancel the friday meeting*

- **Handle special domains and low resource languages**

familiar words take on new meaning

*revert to commit 25ad3*

*order buy red t5 2*

- **Perform complex actions**

*move my meeting with Percy to the same time as my meeting with Chris*

*call Bob every hour until he picks up, stop after 8 tries*

# Research questions

- How to learn from scratch quickly?
- How to learn to perform complex, custom actions?





# Main outline

- **Extreme 1: learning language games from scratch**
- Extreme 2: naturalizing a programming language

# Learning language games



Wittgenstein. 1953. *Philosophical Investigations*:

*Language derives its meaning from use.*



'block' 'pillar' 'slab' 'beam'.

# Interactive language game

- Iterated, cooperative game between human and computer



- The human player
  - has a goal, cannot perform actions
  - can use language and provide feedback



- The computer player
  - does not know goal, can perform the actions
  - does not understand language

# Interactive language game

- Iterated, cooperative game between human and computer



- The human player
  - has a goal, cannot perform actions
  - can use language and provide feedback

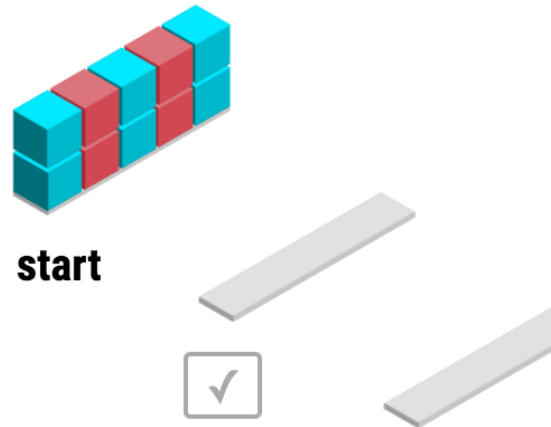
must teach the computer a suitable language, and adapt



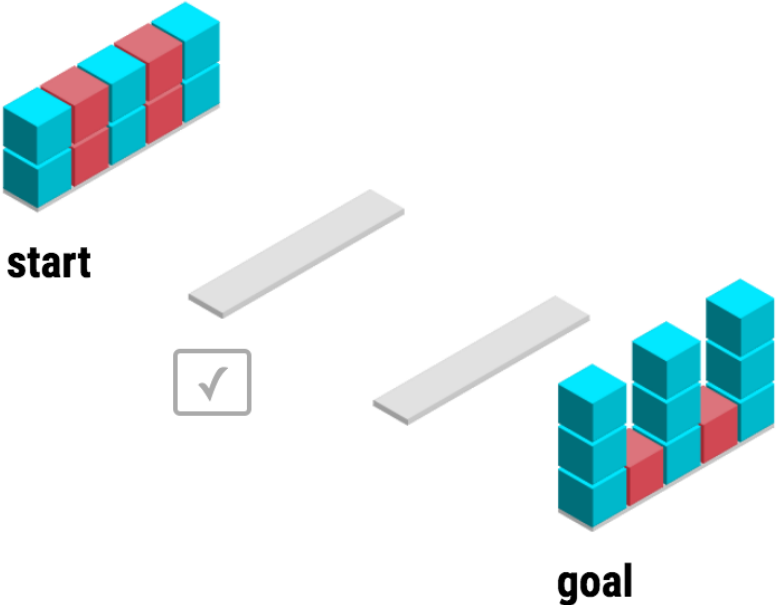
- The computer player
  - does not know goal, can perform the actions
  - does not understand language

must learn language quickly through interaction

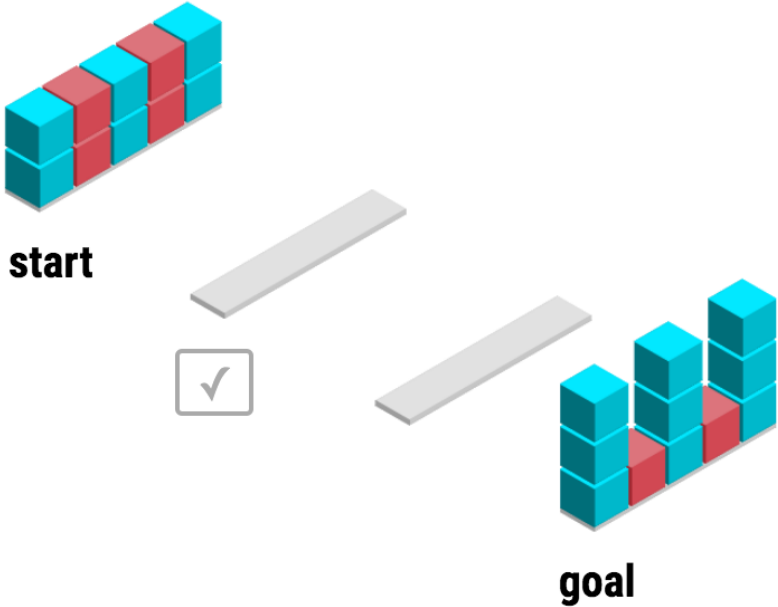
# SHRDLURN



# SHRDLURN



# SHRDLURN



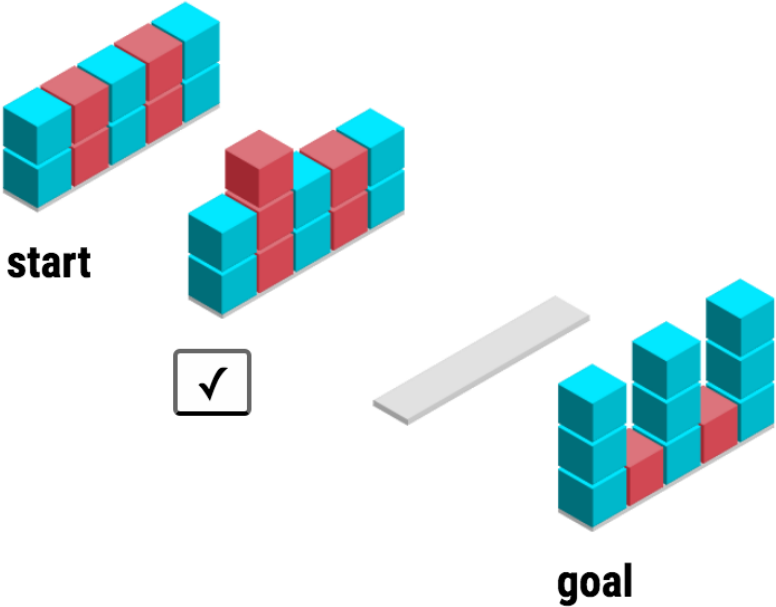
*remove red*

has a goal  
has language



performs actions  
does not talk

# SHRDLURN



*remove red*

```
add(leftmost(hascolor(red)),red)
add(red, hascolor(cyan))
remove(hascolor(red))
remove(leftmost(hascolor(red)))
```

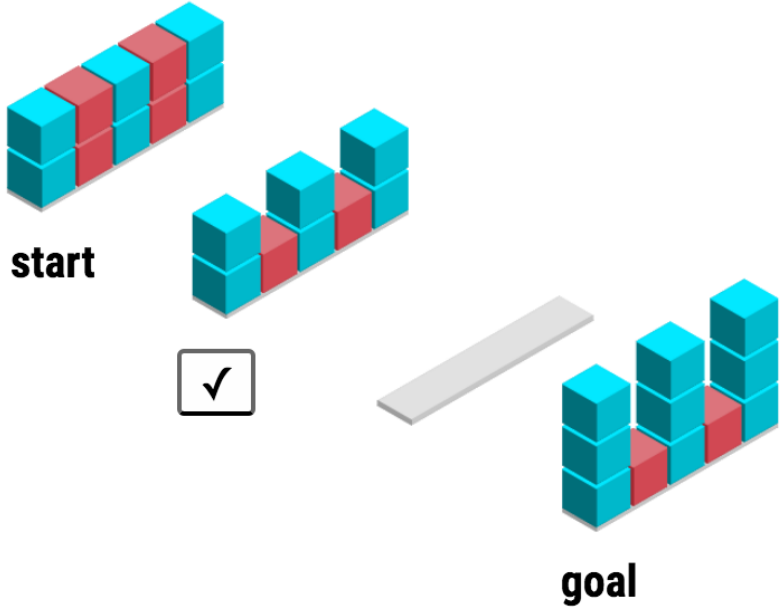


has a goal  
has language

performs actions  
does not talk



# SHRDLURN



*remove red*

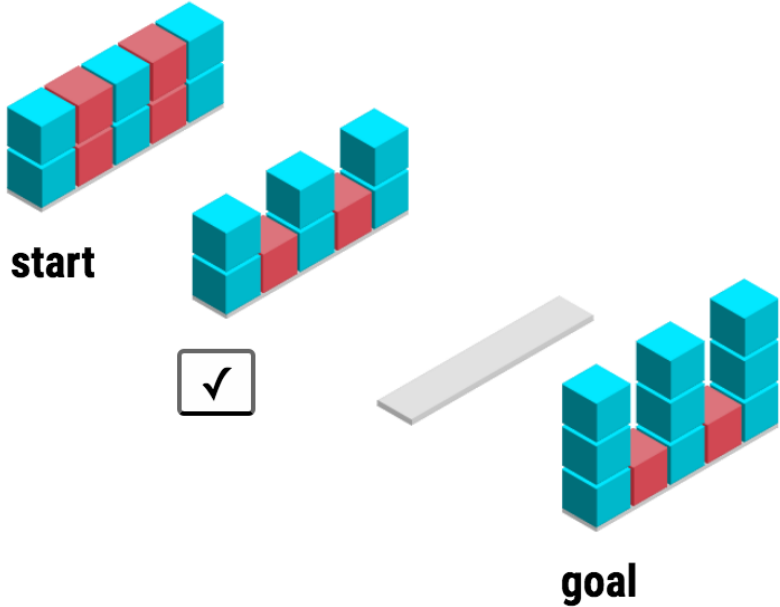
```
add(leftmost(hascalor(red)),red)
add(red, hascolor(cyan))
remove(hascalor(red))
remove(leftmost(hascalor(red)))
```



has a goal  
has language

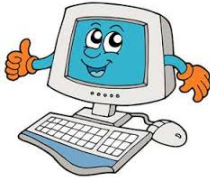
performs actions  
does not talk

# SHRDLURN



*remove red*

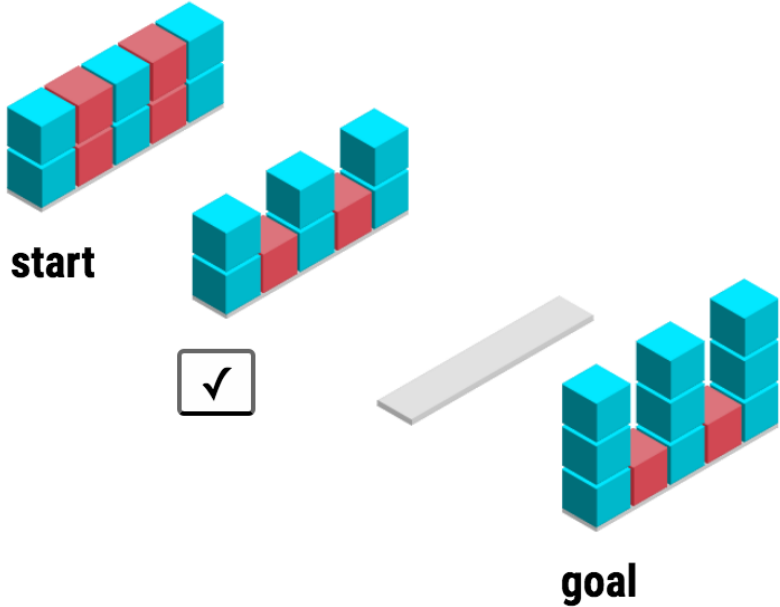
```
add(leftmost(hascalor(red)),red)
add(red, hascolor(cyan))
remove(hascalor(red))
remove(leftmost(hascalor(red)))
```



has a goal  
has language

performs actions  
does not talk

# SHRDLURN



has a goal  
has language

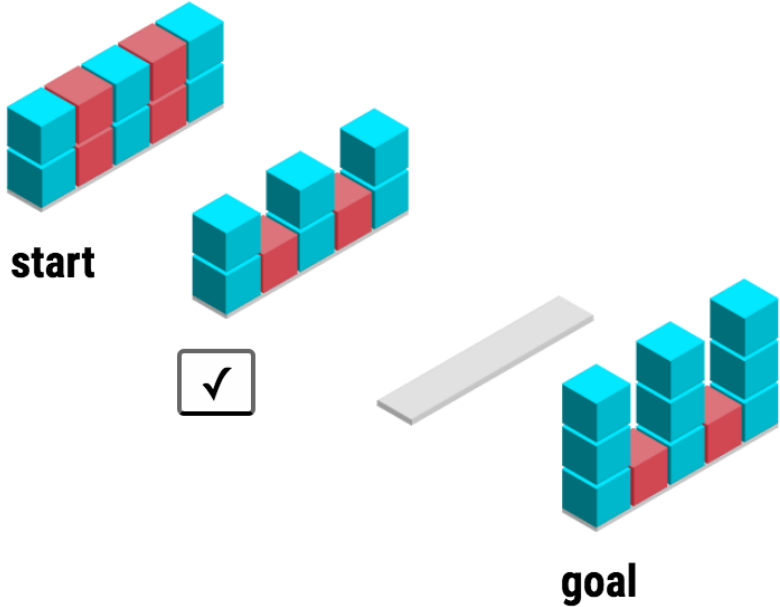
把 红的 拿走

```
add(leftmost(hascalor(red)),red)
add(red, hascolor(cyan))
remove(hascalor(red))
remove(leftmost(hascalor(red)))
```



performs actions  
does not talk

# SHRDLURN



has a goal  
has language

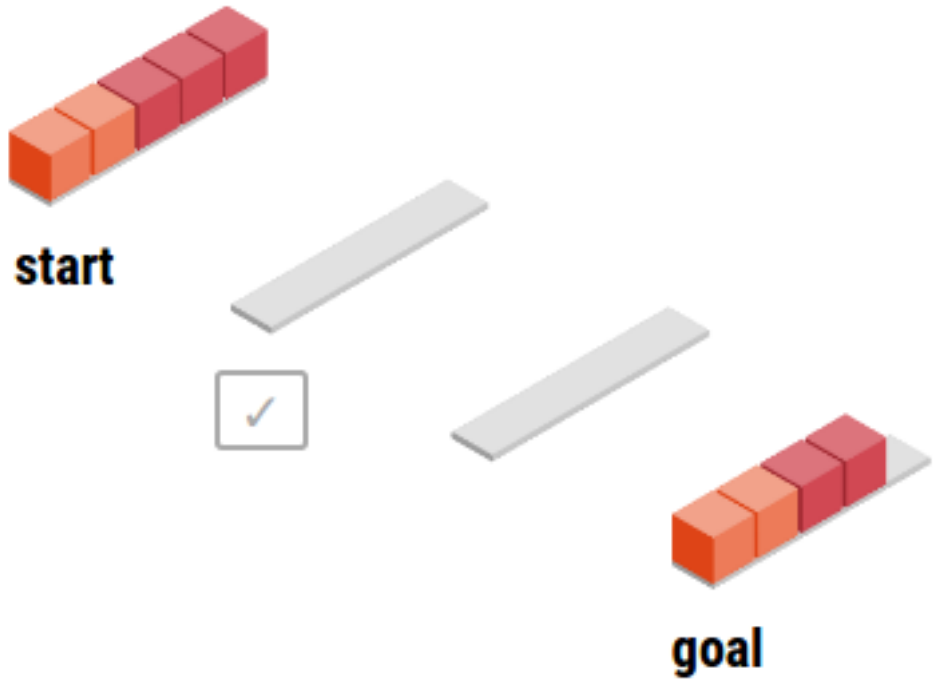
*emoveray edray*

```
add(leftmost(hascalor(red)),red)  
add(red, hascolor(cyan))  
remove(hascalor(red))  
remove(leftmost(hascalor(red)))
```

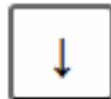
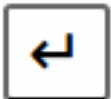


performs actions  
does not talk

# SHRDLURN

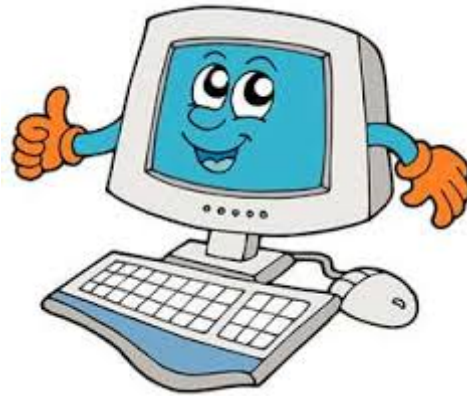


enter a command, you did it! solve this puzzle 6 more times to advance.



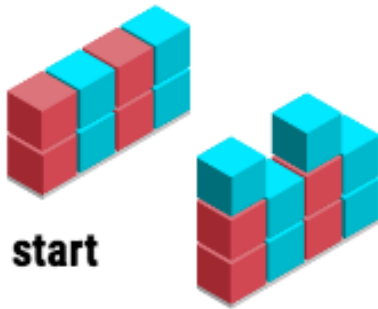
# Outline

- **Computer: semantic parsing**
- Human: 100 Turkers
- Pragmatics
- Updates



# Semantic parsing

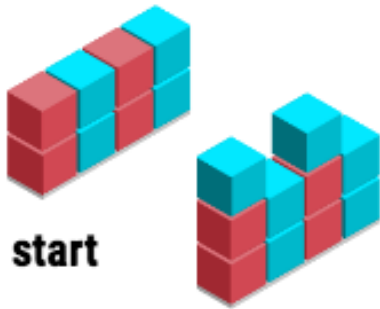
Actions as logical forms:



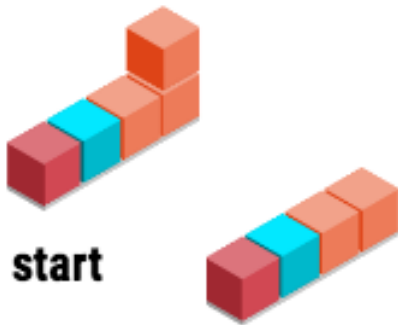
add(hascolor(red), cyan)

# Semantic parsing

Actions as logical forms:



`add(hascolor(red), cyan)`



`remove(rightmost(all()))`

`remove(rightmost(hascolor(orange)))`



# "Parsing" freely

- Generate logical forms
  - start from the smallest size
  - score them with a model
  - use beam search to find longer high-scoring logical forms
  - like the floating parser [Pasupat and Liang 2015]

```
                                brown
                                hascolor(brown)
                                leftmost(hascolor(brown))
                                diff(all(),leftmost(hascolor(brown)))
                                remove(diff(all(),leftmost(hascolor(brown))))
```

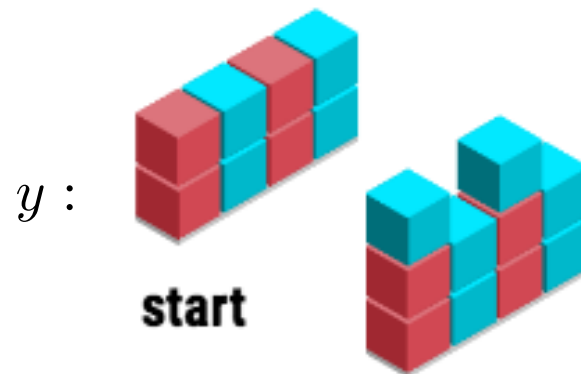
# Model

log-linear model with features  $\phi(x, z)$ :

$$p_{\theta}(z \mid x) \propto \exp(\phi(x, z) \cdot \theta)$$

$x$  : *add a cyan block to red blocks*

$z$  : *add(hascolor(red), cyan)*

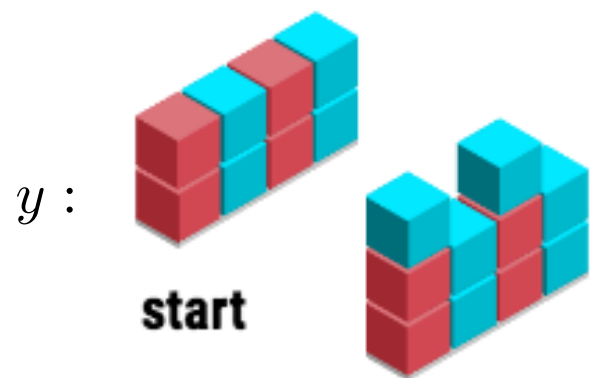


# Learning from denotations

$$p_{\theta}(z \mid x) \propto \exp(\phi(x, z) \cdot \theta)$$

*x* : add a cyan block to red blocks

*z* : add(hascolor(red), cyan)



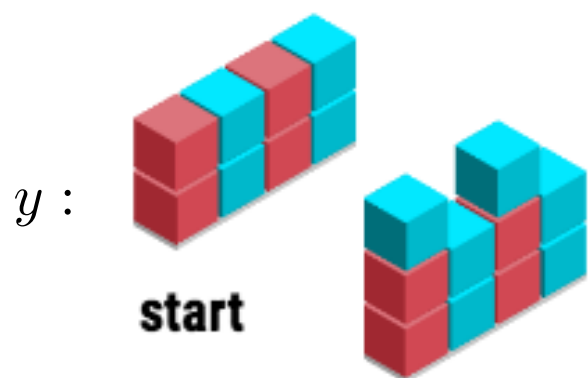
# Learning from denotations

$$p_{\theta}(z \mid x) \propto \exp(\phi(x, z) \cdot \theta)$$

$$p_{\theta}(y \mid x) = \sum_{z: \text{Exec}(z)=y} p_{\theta}(z \mid x)$$

$x$  : *add a cyan block to red blocks*

$z$  : `add(hascolor(red), cyan)`



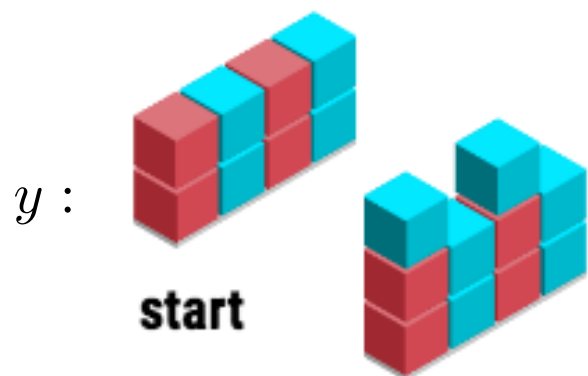
# Learning from denotations

$$p_{\theta}(z \mid x) \propto \exp(\phi(x, z) \cdot \theta)$$

$$p_{\theta}(y \mid x) = \sum_{z: \text{Exec}(z)=y} p_{\theta}(z \mid x)$$

*x* : add a cyan block to red blocks

*z* : add(hascolor(red), cyan)



L1 penalty and update with AdaGrad

# Background on features/model

Features  $\phi(x, z)$ : arbitrary mapping from  $x, z$  to strings

feature: size(x),size(z)

example: "sizes: 10,5"

weight: -2.5

feature:  $x \neq z$

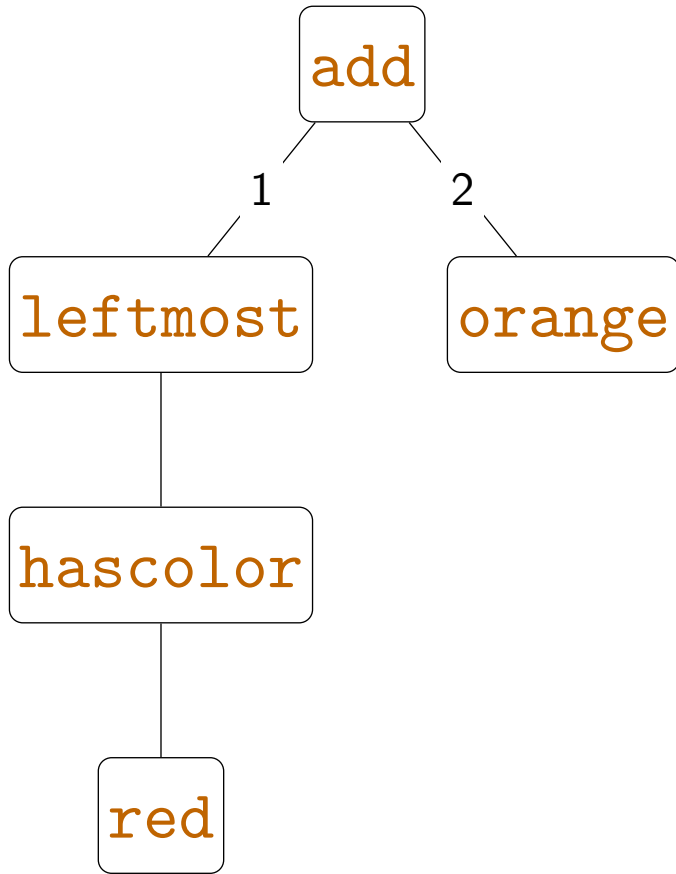
example: "remove red  $\neq$  remove(red)"

weight: 3.1

Parameters  $\theta \cdot \phi(x, z)$ : scores a mapping based on its features

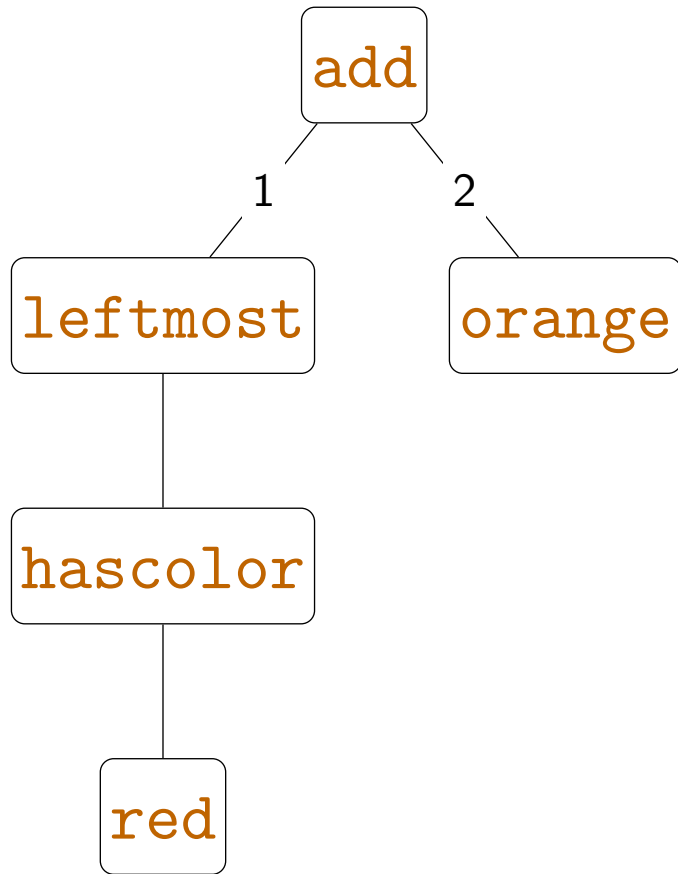
$p_{\theta}(z | x) \propto \exp(\phi(x, z) \cdot \theta)$ : assigns probabilities to possible mappings

# Features



*put orange on the very left red block*

# Features



uni-, bi-, skip- grams

*put, orange, on, the*

*put orange, orange on, ...,*

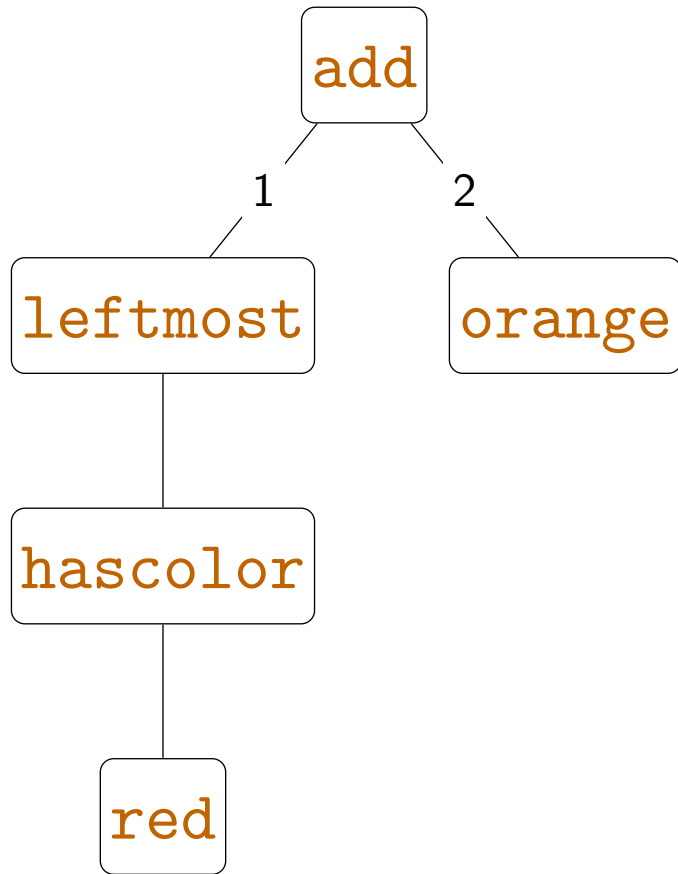
*put \* on, orange \* the, ...,*



*put orange on the very left red block*



# Features



*put orange on the very left red block*

uni-, bi-, skip- grams

*put, orange, on, the*

*put orange, orange on, ...,*

*put \* on, orange \* the, ...,*

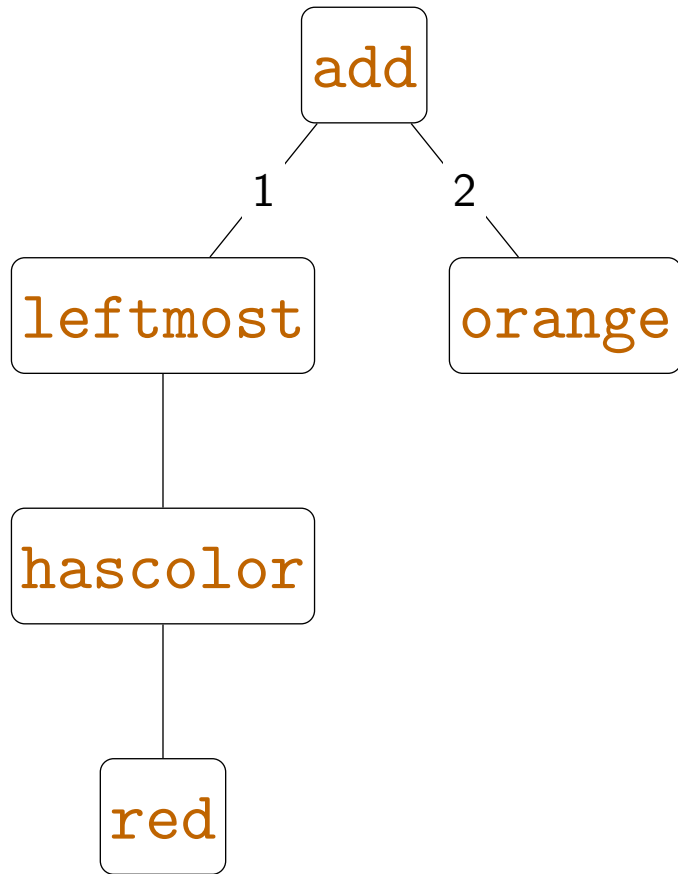
tree-grams

`add(leftmost(*), orange)`

`leftmost(hascolor(*))`

`$\lambda c.(\text{hascolor}(c))$`

# Features



*put orange on the very left red block*

uni-, bi-, skip- grams

*put, orange, on, the*

*put orange, orange on, ...,*

*put \* on, orange \* the, ...,*

tree-grams

*add(leftmost(\*), orange)*

*leftmost(hascolor(\*))*

*$\lambda c.(\text{hascolor}(c))$*

cross product features

*(put, add(\*, \*))*

*(put orange, add(\*, orange))*

*(put, orange)*

# Outline

- Computer: semantic parsing
- **Human: 100 Turkers**
- Pragmatics
- Updates



# Experiments

- 100 Turkers played SHRDLURN
  - Got 10223 utterances in total ( 6 hrs to complete)

# Experiments

- 100 Turkers played SHRDLURN
  - Got 10223 utterances in total ( 6 hrs to complete)
- Minimal instructions
  - no examples provided to avoid bias
  - instructed to use any language

# Experiments


- 100 Turkers played SHRDLURN
  - Got 10223 utterances in total ( 6 hrs to complete)
- Minimal instructions
  - no examples provided to avoid bias
  - instructed to use any language
- Some players liked the game
  - *"That was probably the most fun thing I have ever done on mTurk."*
  - *"This is SO SO cool. I wish there were a way I could better contribute because this research seems to be just insanely interesting and worthwhile."*

# Experiments


- 100 Turkers played SHRDLURN
  - Got 10223 utterances in total ( 6 hrs to complete)
- Minimal instructions
  - no examples provided to avoid bias
  - instructed to use any language
- Some players liked the game
  - *"That was probably the most fun thing I have ever done on mTurk."*
  - *"This is SO SO cool. I wish there were a way I could better contribute because this research seems to be just insanely interesting and worthwhile."*
- performance is measured by the amount of scrolling needed

# Results: top players (rank 1-20)


precise and consistent:

 (3.01)

*rem cy pos 1  
stack or blk pos 4  
rem blk pos 2 thru 5  
rem blk pos 2 thru 4  
stack bn blk pos 1 thru 2  
fill bn blk  
stack or blk pos 2 thru 6  
rem cy blk pos 2 fill rd blk*

 (2.72)

*Remove the center block  
Remove the red block  
Remove all red blocks  
Remove the first orange block  
Put a brown block on the first brown block  
Add blue block on first blue block*


 (2.78)

*remove the brown block  
remove all orange blocks  
put brown block on orange blocks  
put orange blocks on all blocks  
put blue block on leftmost blue block in top row*




# Results: average players (rank 21-50)


inconsistent or mismatches computer capability:

 (9.17)

*reinsert pink*  
*take brown*  
*put in pink*  
*remove two pink from second layer*  
*Add two red to second layer in odd intervals*  
*Add five pink to second layer*  
*Remove one blue and one brown from bottom layer*

 (7.18)


*move second cube*  
*double red with blue*  
*double first red with red*  
*triple second and fourth with orange*  
*add red*  
*remove orange on row two*  
*add blue to column two*  
*add brown on first and third*

 (8.37)


*remove red*  
*remove 1 red*  
*remove 2 4 orange*  
*add 2 red*  
*add 1 2 3 4 blue*  
*remove 1 3 5 orange*  
*add 2 4 orange*  
*add 2 orange*  
*remove 2 3 brown*  
*add 1 2 3 4 5 red*  
*remove 2 3 4 5 6*  
*remove 2*  
*add 1 2 3 4 6 red*

# Results: worst players (rank 51-100)


spammy, vague, did not tokenize:

 (12.6)

*'add red cubes on center left  
center right  
far left and far right'  
'remove blue blocks on row two column two  
row two column four'  
remove red blocks in center left and center right on second row*


 (14.32)

*laugh with me  
red blocks with one aqua  
aqua red alternate  
brown red red orange aqua orange  
red brown red brown red brown  
space red orange red  
second level red space red space red space*


 (14.15)

*holdleftmost  
holdbrown  
holdleftmost  
blueonblue  
brownonblue1  
blueonorange  
holdblue  
holdorange2  
blueonred2  
holdends1  
holdrightend  
hold2  
orangeonorangerightmost*

# Results: interesting players

 (Polish)

*usuń brązowe klocki*  
*usuń niebieski klocek*  
*usuń pomarańczowe klocki*  
*usuń czerwony klocek*  
*postaw brązowy klocek na pierwszym klocku*  
*postaw czerwony klocek na pierwszym klocku*  
*postaw pomarańczowe klocki na brązowych*  
*postaw czerwone klocki*  
*usuń ostatni brązowy klocek*  
*usuń wszystkie klocki oprócz ostatniego*  
*postaw niebieski klocek na czerwonym*  
*postaw brązowy klocek na pierwszym klocku*

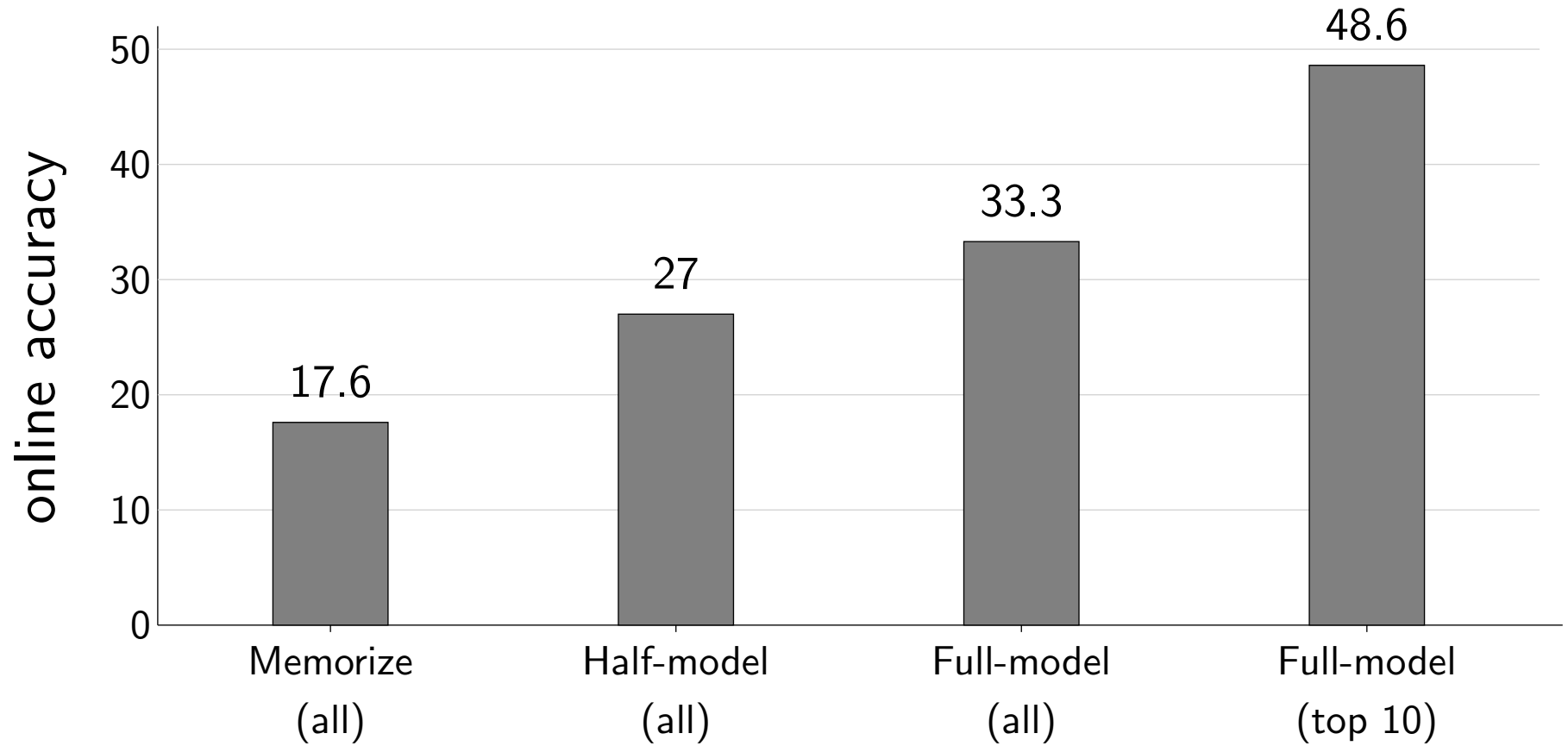
 (Polish notation)

*rm scat + 1 c*  
*+ 1 c*  
*rm sh*  
*+ 1 2 4 sh*  
*+ 1 c*  
*- 4 o*  
*rm 1 r*  
*+ 1 3 o*  
*full fill c*  
*rm o*  
*full fill sh*  
*- 1 3*  
*full fill sh*  
*rm sh*  
*rm r*  
*+ 2 3 r*  
*rm o*  
*+ 3 sh*  
*+ 2 3 sh*

# Players adapt

- More consistent
  - *remove, delete* → *remove*
  
- More concise
  - *Remove the red ones* → *Remove red*
  - *add brown on top of red* → *add orange on red*
  - *the, a* →  $\epsilon$

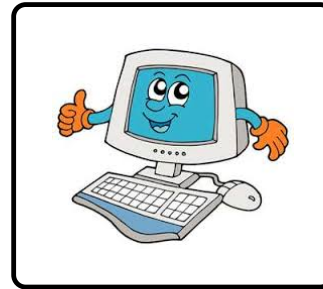
# Quantitative results



**Learning works fairly well, especially for top players**

# Outline

- Computer: semantic parsing
- Human: 100 Turkers
- **Pragmatics**
- Updates



# Pragmatics: motivation

*delete cardinal*

```
remove(hascolor(red))
```

# Pragmatics: motivation

*delete cardinal*

```
remove(hascolor(red))
```

*delete cyan*



# Pragmatics: motivation

*delete cardinal*

```
remove(hascolor(red))
```

*delete cyan*

```
remove(hascolor(red))
```

```
remove(hascolor(cyan))
```

```
remove(hascolor(brown))
```

# Pragmatics: motivation

*delete cardinal*

```
remove(hascolor(red))
```

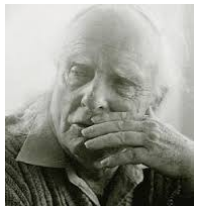
*delete cyan*

```
remove(hascolor(red))
```

```
remove(hascolor(cyan))
```

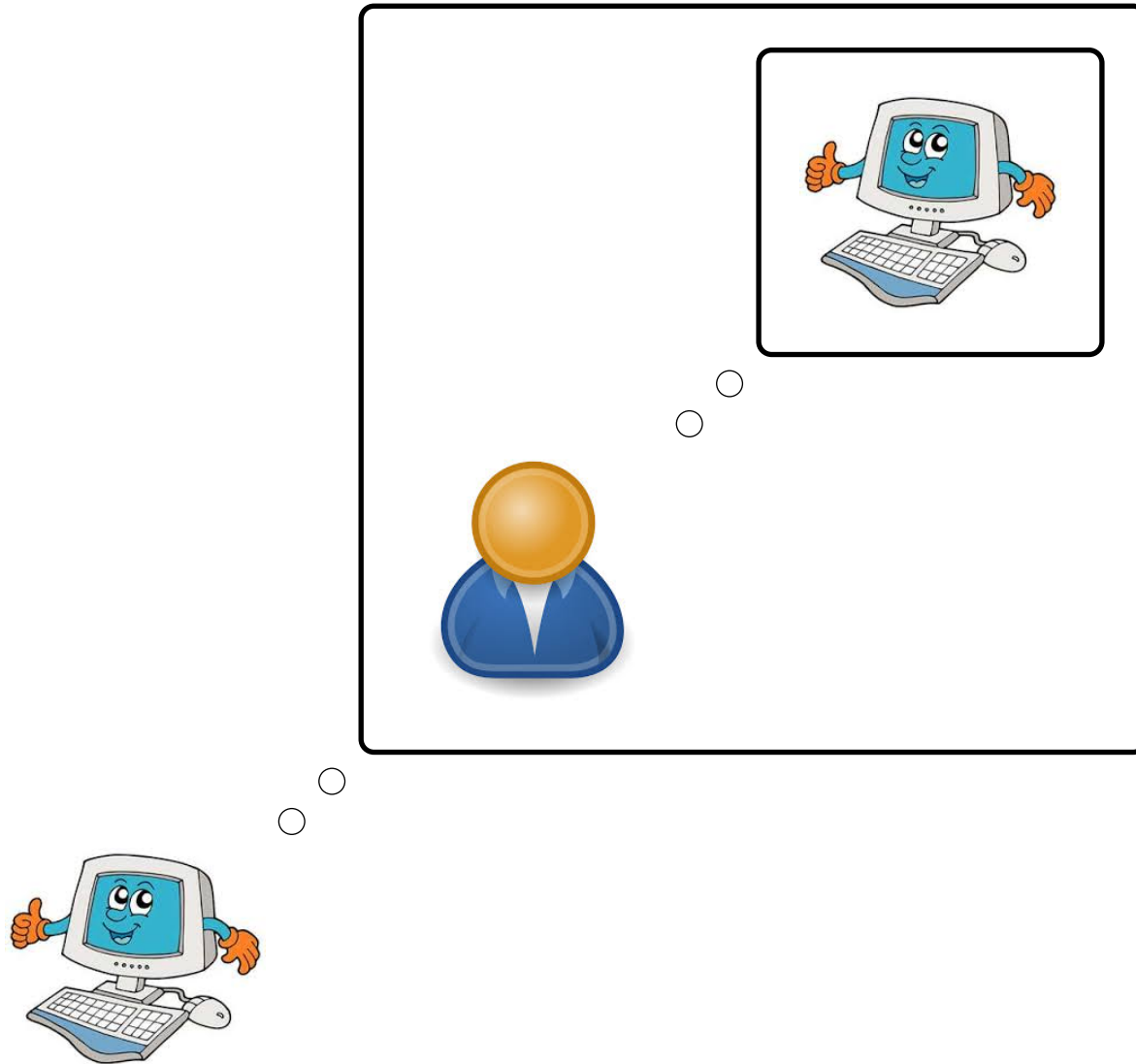
```
remove(hascolor(brown))
```

**Intuition: cooperative communication**



Paul Grice

# Pragmatics: model



# Pragmatics: example



Listener (computer):

$p_{\theta}(z \mid x)$ : semantic parsing model

	<code>remove(red)</code>	<code>remove(cyan)</code>	others
<i>delete cardinal</i>	0.8	0.1	0.1
<i>delete cyan</i>	<b>0.6</b>	0.2	0.2

# Pragmatics: example



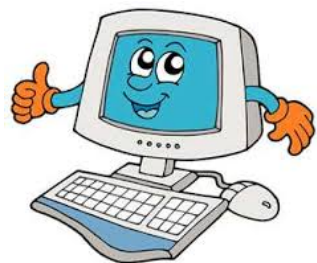
Speaker (human):

$$S(x | z) \propto p_{\theta}(z | x)p(x)$$

(assume  $p(x)$  uniform)

	remove(red)	remove(cyan)	others
<i>delete cardinal</i>	0.57	0.33	0.33
<i>delete cyan</i>	0.43	0.67	0.67

# Pragmatics: example



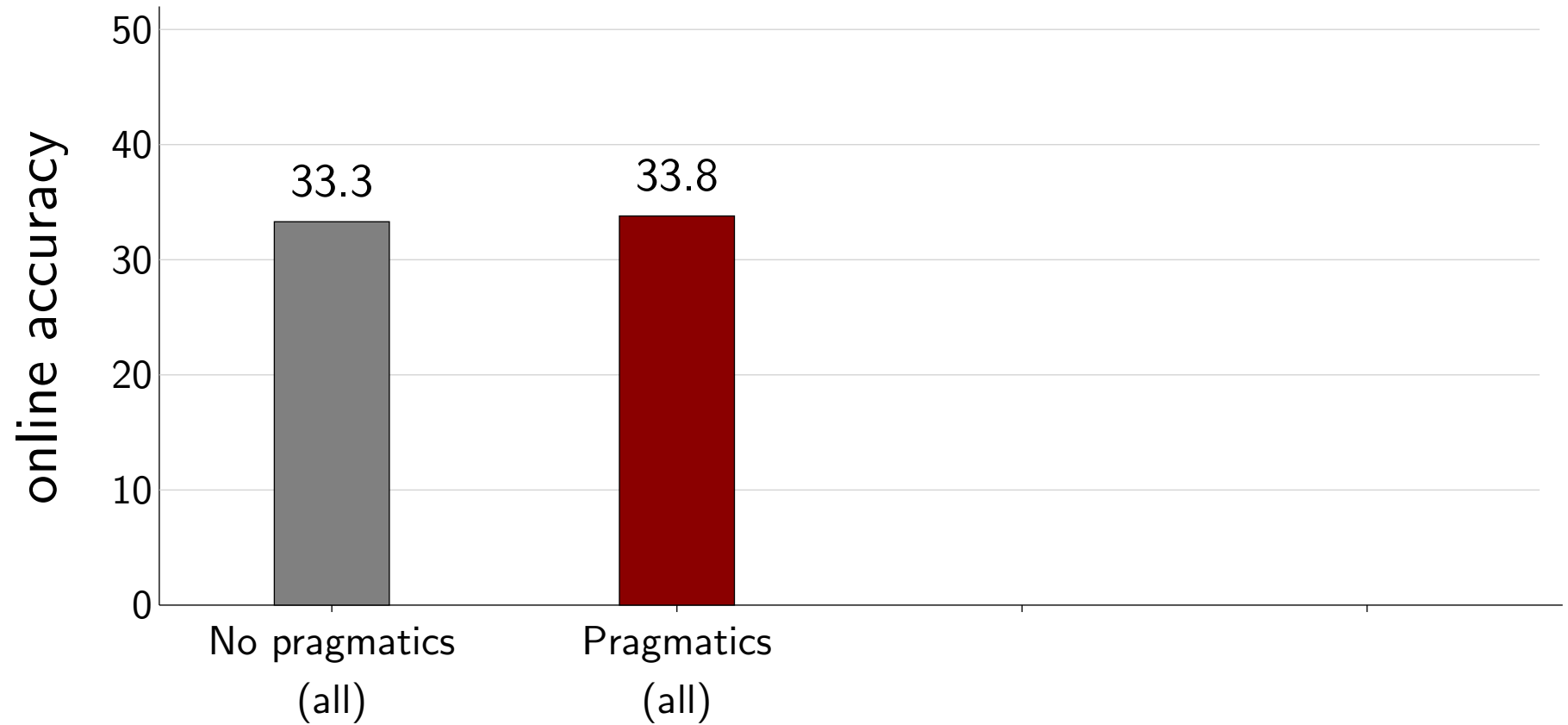
Listener (computer):

$$L(z | x) \propto S(x | z)p(z)$$

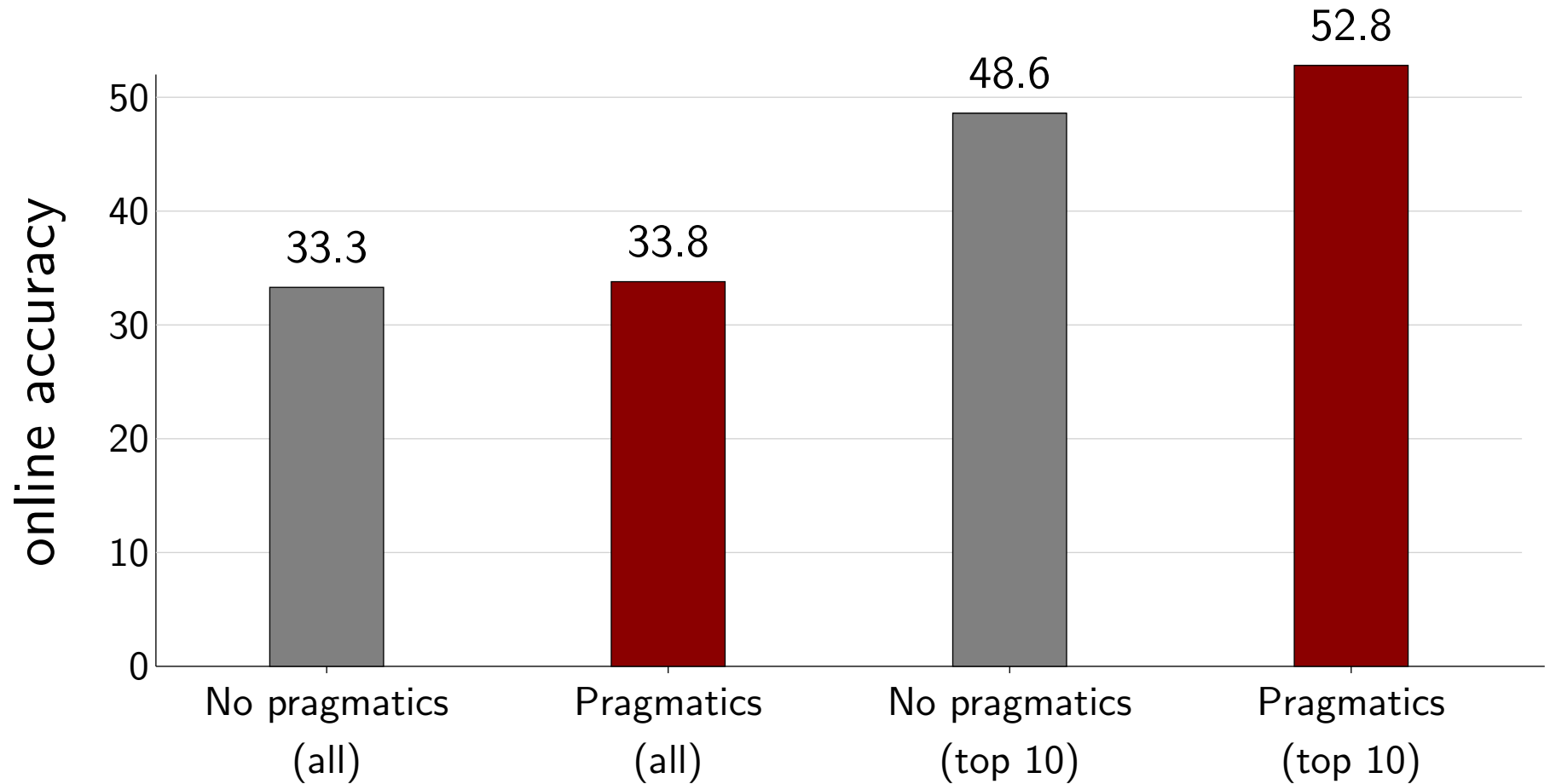
(assume  $p(z)$  uniform)

	remove(red)	remove(cyan)	others
<i>delete cardinal</i>	0.46	0.27	0.27
<i>delete cyan</i>	0.24	0.38	0.38

# Pragmatics: results



# Pragmatics: results

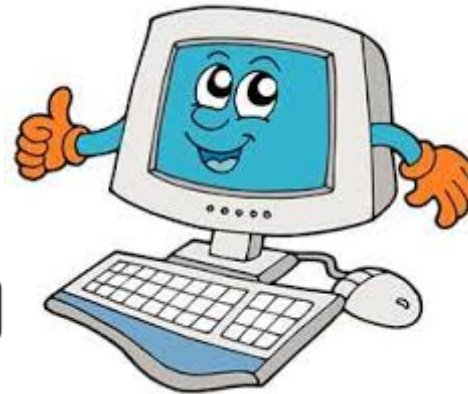


**pragmatics helps top (cooperative, rational) players**



# Outline

- Computer: semantic parsing
- Human: 100 Turkers
- Pragmatics
- **Updates**



# The real data

- Data from June 2016 - Feb 2017
  - 19k+ examples, 1.2k+ sessions

## (NLPers?)

*add brown on the top unless the rightmost  
not(red)*

*pick up blue blocks*

*+ 1 2 3 4 5 r*

*Not the brown block!*

*The orange block!*

*છોડો વાદળી 0 1*

*બધા વાદળી દૂર*

*છોડો નારંગી 1 4*

*add blo 1 bro*

*rem ora blo*

*add blo 6 pin*

*add blo 134 bl*

*去掉最后一个块*

*在蓝色块上面加一层橙色块*

*smaz 1 a 3 jednou*

*retire les blocs bleus*

## (NLPers?)

*move all blocks but middle*

*- 1 br - 4 br - 6 br*

*一番奥にオレンジを置く*

*一番右の赤を消す*

*add red one on the first*

*lift 1 3 5*

*add one orange block on top of each orange*

*去掉蓝色方块*

*smaz 1 a 2 a 3 a 5*

*quita el bloque marrón*

*quita el primer bloque por la derecha*

*drop orange not left not right*

*add brown on all blue in line 2 in line 3*

*Add x x o x o x red block*

*只保留桔黄色的方块*

*quitar cubo rojo*

*quitar ultimo cubo rojo*

# Diverse language in blocks world

## English-like

*add brown on the top unless the rightmost  
add a brown block on top of the right-most red block  
move all blocks but middle  
add red on top of first brown,  
add blue blocks on top of left 3 blocks  
drop orange 1*

## (Code)

*add blo 1 bro  
- 1 br - 4 br - 6 br  
lift 1 3 5  
+ 1 2 3 4 5 r  
Add x x o x o x red block*

## (Foreign)

*一番奥にオレンジを置く*

*只保留桔黄色的方块*

*quita el primer bloque por la derecha*

*છોડો વાદળી 0 1*

*retire les blocs bleus*

*quitar ultimo cubo rojo*

*postav na kazhdiy goluboy blok vo vtorom ryadu po korichnevomu bloku*

# Learning language games findings

- our system learns from scratch, quickly
- modelling pragmatics is helpful
- people adapts to the computer
  - given the chance, people use very diverse language

# Drawbacks

selection as supervision signal cannot scale very well

- number of logical forms is exponential in length

```
(:blk (:loop 4 (:s (:blk (:loop 2 (:s (:blk (:loop 3(:s (: add red here) (:for (call adj top) (:select))))))(:for (call adj left) (: select)))))) (:for (call adj back) (: select))))
```

each user has a private language – and no sharing

- the system does not continue to improve with more users



action space unclear, not communicated to users

- *Add x x o x o x red block – remove 2 4 6 8 – lift 1 3 5*

# Main outline

- Extreme 1: learning language games from scratch
- **Extreme 2: naturalizing a programming language**

# Goal

- handle more complex actions / programs
  - *put cols B and D in a scatter plot against col A*
  - *lowercase the first letter of all my bullets*
  - *move all my future meetings with Bob ahead by 1 hour*
  - *street with palm trees 5 spaces apart*
- evolve the language through use in a community
  - system continues to improve through use
- define and accommodate the action space

# Motivation

- formal language
  - unambiguous, compose tractably
- learning through definitions
  - 3 by 4 red square  $:=$  3 red columns of height 4
  - no need to infer from many examples
  - build up complex concepts hierarchically



... "There is in my opinion no important theoretical difference between natural languages and the artificial languages of logicians"  
→ language derives its meaning through definition



# Naturalization

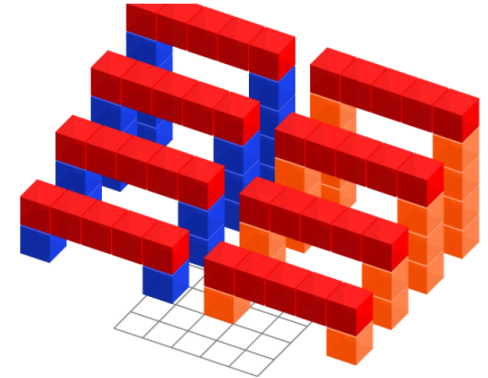
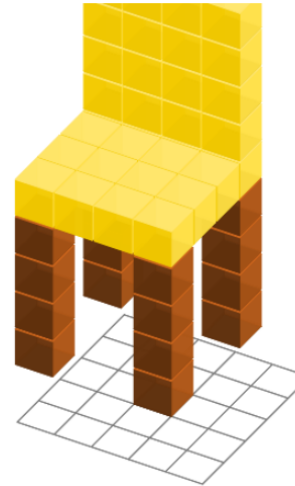
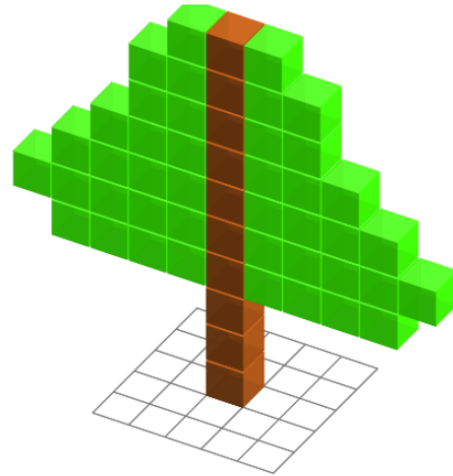
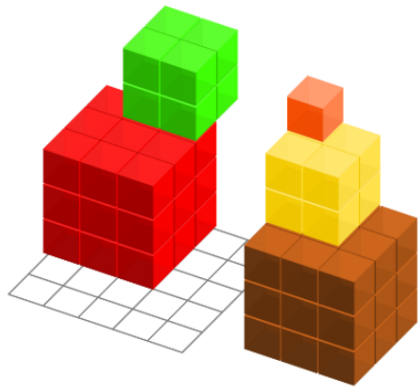
- seed the system with a core programming language
  - expressive and defines action space, but tedious to use
- user teach the system by defining new things
  - "X" means "Y"
- evolve the language to be more natural to people while accommodating the system action space

**learn from how people try to program**

# Shared community learning

- all users teach one system
  - initial users need to know some of the core language
  - later users can use what initial users taught
- better for new users
  - after enough usage, most simple variations are covered
- easier to use for power users
  - allowing them to customize and share

# Voxelurn



- world is a set of objects with relations
  - Voxels:  $(x, y, z, \text{color})$
  - domain specific relation: [direction]: left, top, front, etc.
- domain specific actions: add, move

# Core language

- programming language designed to interpolate with NL
- controls: `if`, `foreach`, `repeat`, `while`
- lambda DCS for variable-free joins, set ops, etc.
  - `has color yellow` or `color of has row 1`
- selection to avoid variables
  - `select left of this`
- block-structured scoping
  - `,` `[]`, `isolate`

# Core language (domain general)

Rule(s)	Example(s)
$A \rightarrow A; A$	select left; add red
$A \rightarrow \text{repeat } N A$	repeat 3-1 add red top
$A \rightarrow \text{if } S A$	if has color red [select origin]
$A \rightarrow \text{while } S A$	while not has color red [select left of this]
$A \rightarrow \text{foreach } S A$	foreach this [remove has row row of this]
$A \rightarrow [A]$	[select left or right; add red; add red top]
$A \rightarrow \{A\}$	{select left; add red}
$A \rightarrow \text{isolate } A$	isolate [add red top; select has color red]
$A \rightarrow \text{select } S$	select all and not origin
$A \rightarrow \text{remove } S$	remove has color red
$A \rightarrow \text{update } R S$	update color [color of left of this]
$S$	this
$S$	all   none   origin
$R \text{ of } S \mid \text{has } R S$	has color red or yellow   has row [col of this]
not $S \mid S \text{ and } S \mid S \text{ or } S$	this or left and not has color red
$N \mid N+N \mid N-N$	1,...,10   1+2   row of this + 1
argmax $R S \mid \text{argmin } R S$	argmax col has color red

# Demo

- explain the definition process
- do palm tree, and cube, add green monster

**begin** execute  $x$ :

**if**  $x$  does not parse **then** define  $x$ ;

**if** user rejects all parses **then** define  $x$ ;

execute user choice

**begin** define  $x$ :

**repeat** starting with  $X \leftarrow []$

user enters  $x'$ ;

**if**  $x'$  does not parse **then** define  $x'$ ;

**if** user rejects all  $x'$  **then** define  $x'$ ;

$X \leftarrow [X; x']$ ;

**until** user accepts  $X$  as the def'n of  $x$ ;

# Palm tree example

- define new things in terms of what's already defined
- everything trace back to the core language

add palm tree:

add brown trunk height 3:

go to top:

add leaves here:

# Palm tree example

- define new things in terms of what's already defined
- everything trace back to the core language

add palm tree:

add brown trunk height 3:

add brown top 3 times:

go to top:

add leaves here:



# Palm tree example

- define new things in terms of what's already defined
- everything trace back to the core language

add palm tree:

add brown trunk height 3:

add brown top 3 times:

repeat 3 [add brown top]

go to top:

add leaves here:

# Palm tree example

- define new things in terms of what's already defined
- everything trace back to the core language

add palm tree:

add brown trunk height 3:

add brown top 3 times:

repeat 3 [add brown top]

go to top:

select very top of all

add leaves here:

# Palm tree example

- define new things in terms of what's already defined
- everything trace back to the core language

add palm tree:

add brown trunk height 3:

add brown top 3 times:

repeat 3 [add brown top]

go to top:

select very top of all

add leaves here:

select left or right or front or back; add green

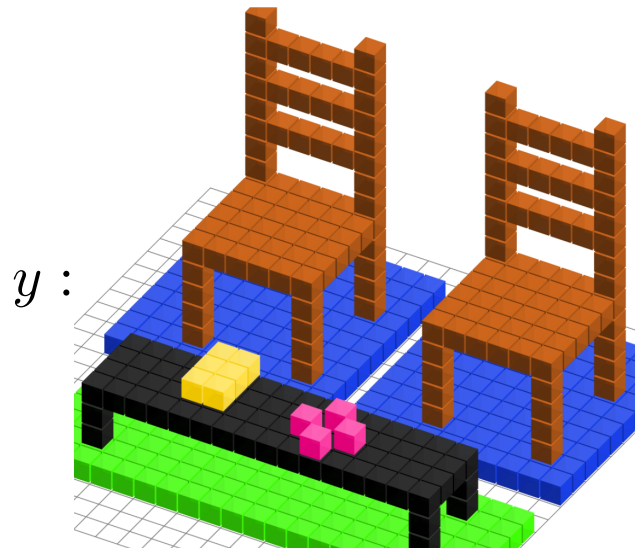
# Model (now over derivations)

log-linear model with features  $\phi(d, x, u)$ :

$$p_{\theta}(d \mid x, u) \propto \exp(\phi(d, x, u) \cdot \theta)$$

$x$  : *add two chairs 5 spaces apart*

$z$  : (:blk (:loop ...))



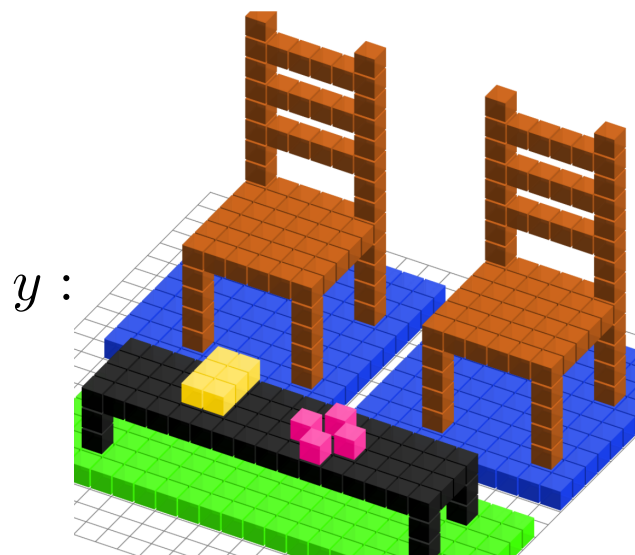
# Learning from denotations

mainly for handling scoping automatically

$$p_{\theta}(d \mid x, u) \propto \exp(\phi(d, x, u) \cdot \theta)$$

*x* : add two chairs 5 spaces apart

*z* : (:blk (:loop ...))



# Learning from denotations

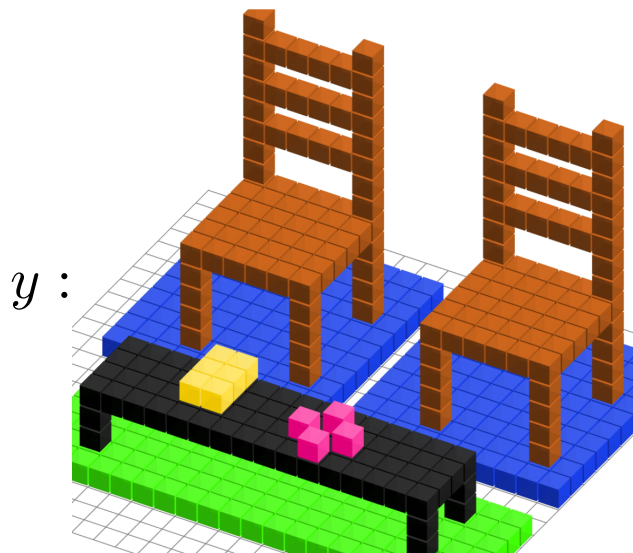
mainly for handling scoping automatically

$$p_{\theta}(d \mid x, u) \propto \exp(\phi(d, x, u) \cdot \theta)$$

$$p_{\theta}(y \mid x, u) = \sum_{d: \text{Exec}(d)=y} p_{\theta}(d \mid x, y)$$

*x : add two chairs 5 spaces apart*

*z : (: blk (: loop...))*



# Learning from denotations

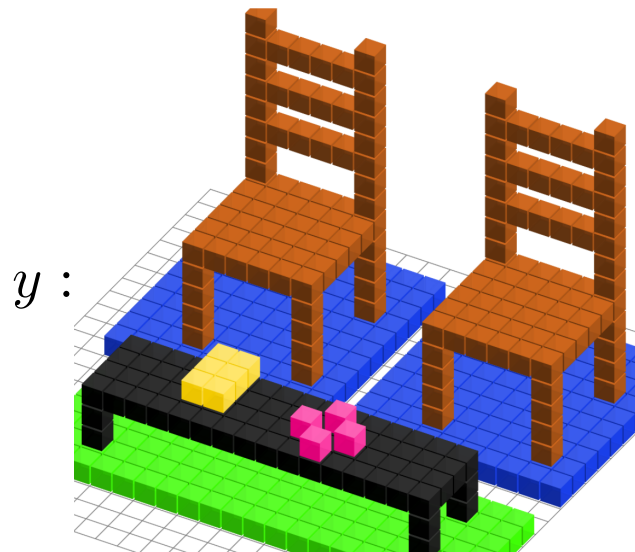
mainly for handling scoping automatically

$$p_{\theta}(d \mid x, u) \propto \exp(\phi(d, x, u) \cdot \theta)$$

$$p_{\theta}(y \mid x, u) = \sum_{d: \text{Exec}(d)=y} p_{\theta}(d \mid x, y)$$

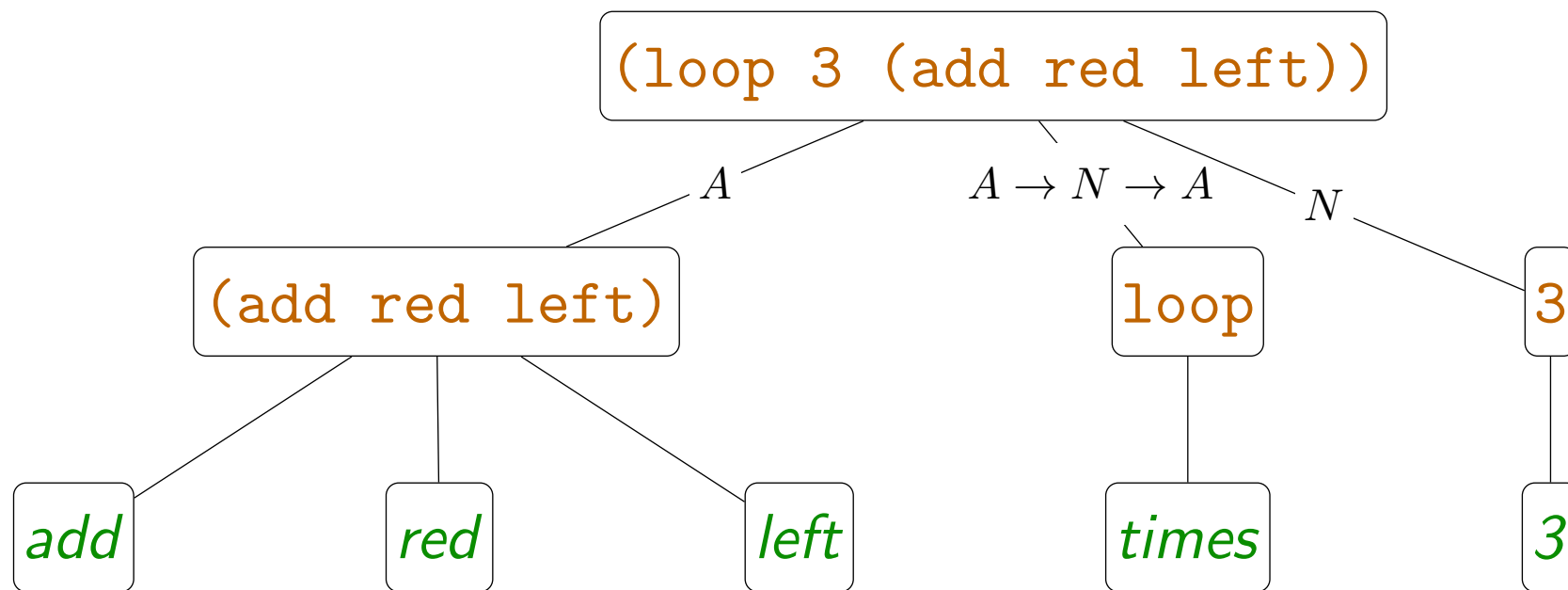
*x : add two chairs 5 spaces apart*

*z : (: blk (: loop...))*



L1 penalty and update with AdaGrad

# Derivation



**Derivation:** process of deriving the formula from the utterance

- which rules are used
- where each thing comes from
- categories, types, etc.

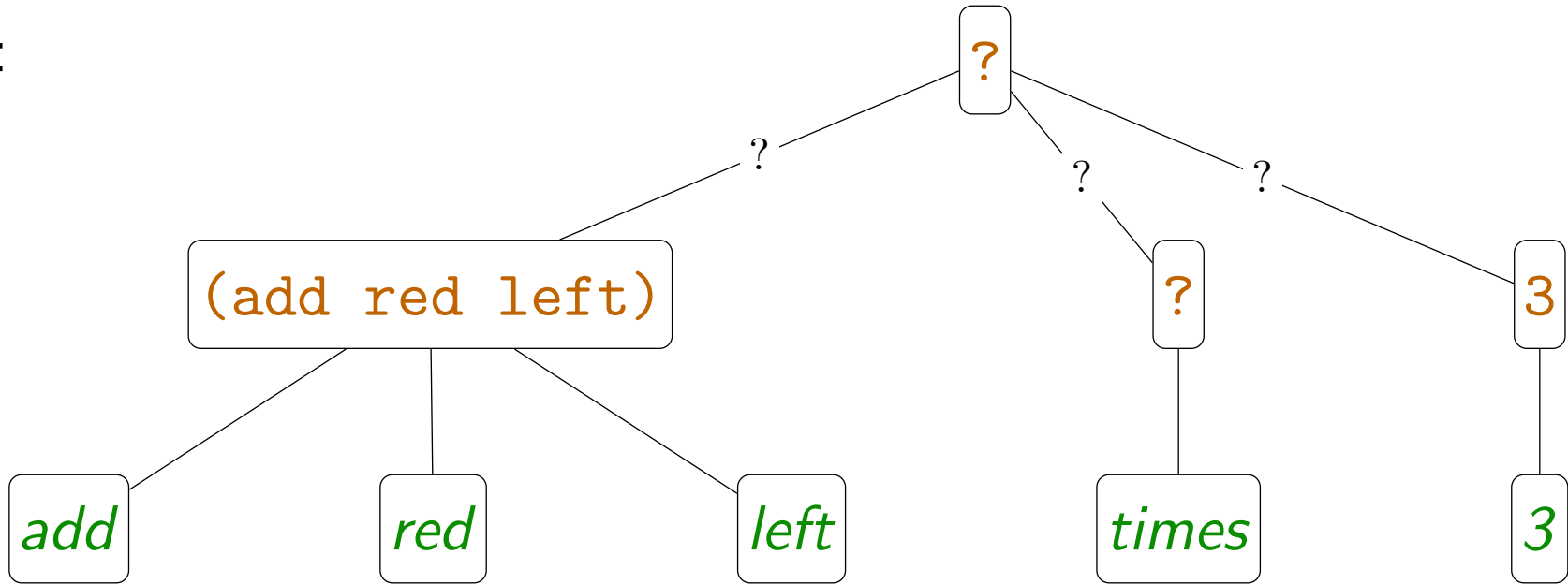


# Features

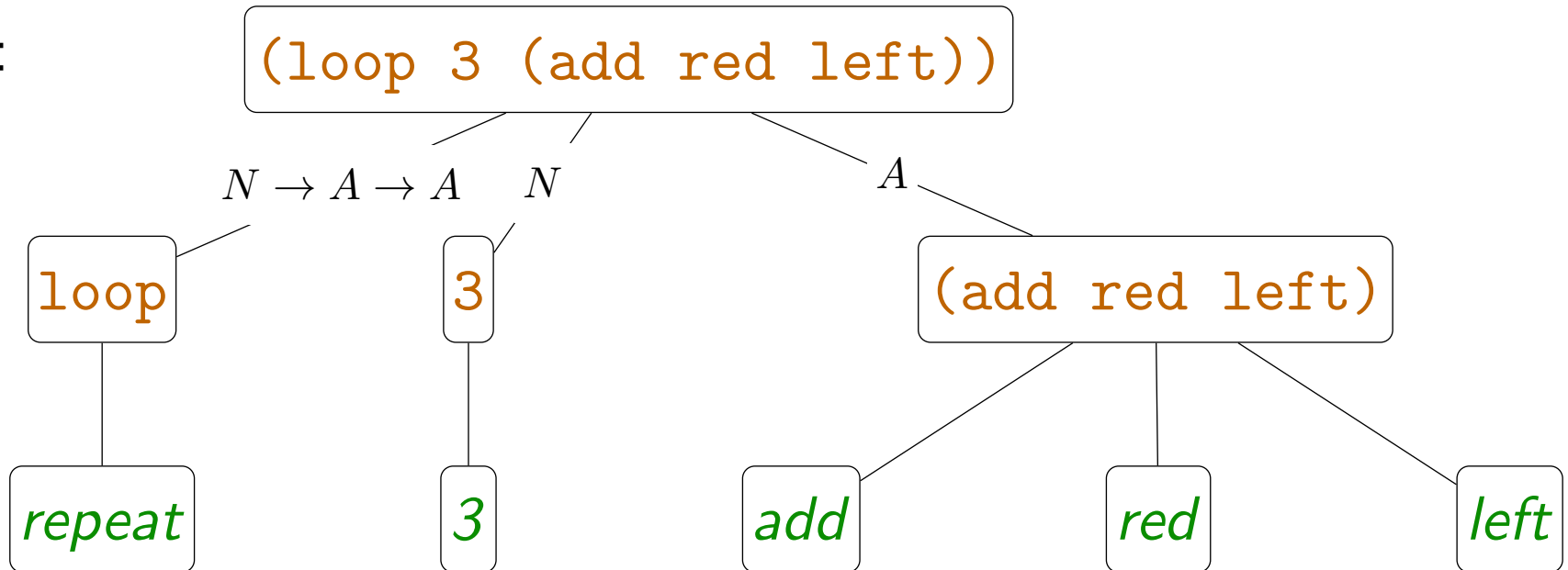
Feature	Description
Rule.ID	ID of the rule
Rule.Type	core?, used?, used by others?
Social.Author	ID of author
Social.Friends	(ID of author, ID of user)
Social.Self	rule is authored by user?
Span	(left/right token(s), category)
Scope	type of scoping for each user

# Definition

head:



body X:



# Grammar induction

- Want high precision rules
  - low precision: all users see more junk candidates
  - low recall: need more definitions
- Use the tree structure of derivation
  - instead of just the program
- Use both the derivation AND the utterance of the body

# Grammar induction

Inputs:  $x$ ,  $X$ ,  $d$ ,  $\text{chart}(x)$

- $x$  : add red top times 3
- $X$  : repeat 3 [add red top] (often a sequence)
- $d$ : (loop 3 (add red top)), and how it is derived
- $\text{chart}(x)$  : 3, (add red top) and their derivations

Outputs:

- $A \rightarrow \text{add } C \text{ } D \text{ times } N : \lambda CDN.\text{repeat } N \text{ add } C \text{ } D$
- $A \rightarrow A \text{ times } N : \lambda AN.\text{repeat } N [A]$

# Grammar induction

Inputs:  $x$ ,  $X$ ,  $d$ ,  $\text{chart}(x)$

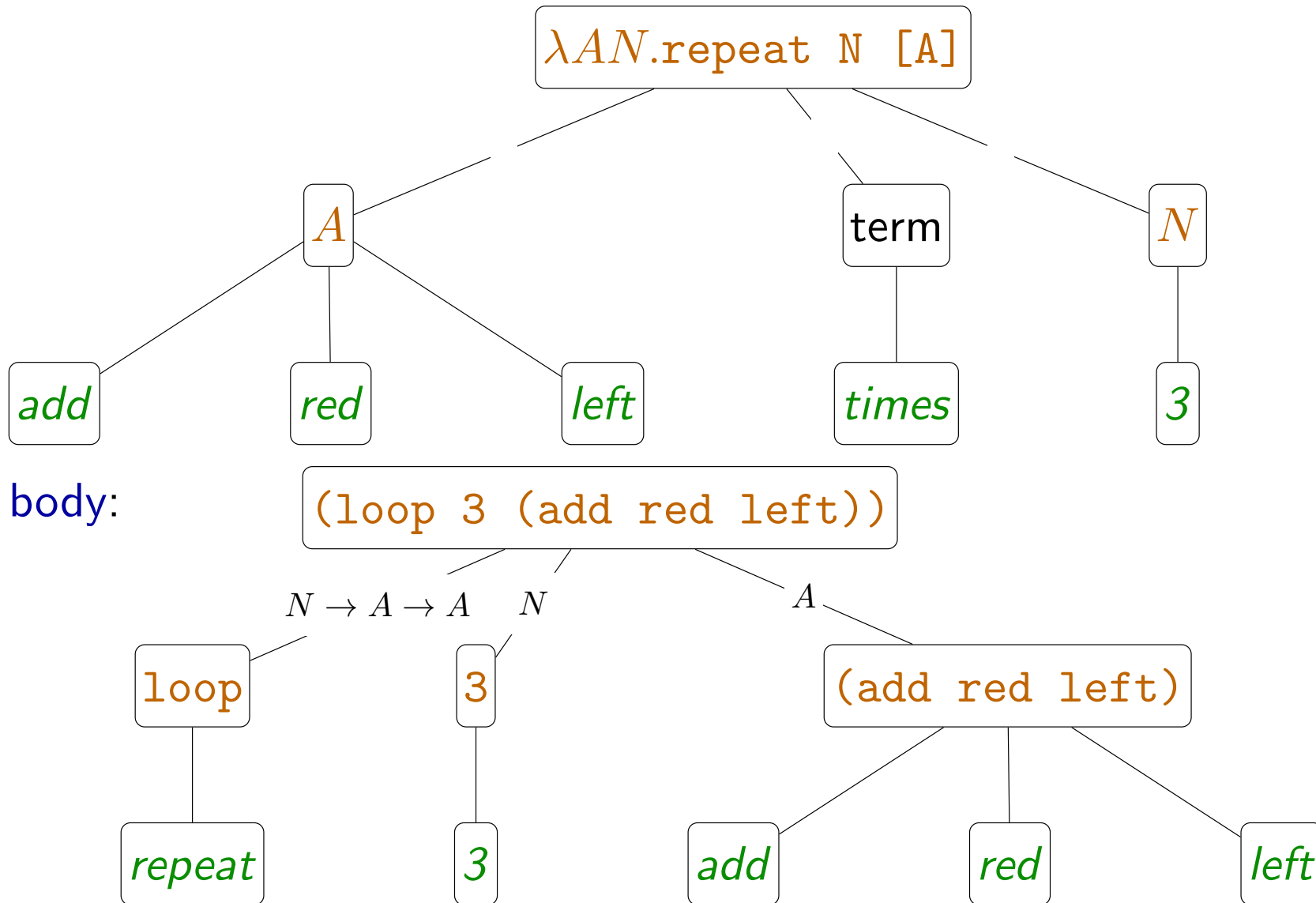
- $x$  : add red top times 3
- $X$  : repeat 3 [add red top] (often a sequence)
- $d$ : (loop 3 (add red top)), and how it is derived
- $\text{chart}(x)$  : 3, (add red top) and their derivations

Outputs:

- $A \rightarrow \text{add } C \ D \ \text{times } N : \lambda CDN.\text{repeat } N \ \text{add } C \ D$
- $A \rightarrow A \ \text{times } N : \lambda AN.\text{repeat } N \ [A]$ 
  - can be wrong: add red to row 2 times 2

# Grammar induction

substitute matching derivations by their categories:



# Considerations

Simple heuristic would not always work:

$$\underbrace{\overbrace{\text{add red left}}^{A_1} \text{ and here}}_{A_2} = \underbrace{\overbrace{\text{add red left}}^{A_1}}_{A_2}; \overbrace{\text{add red}}^{A_1}$$

- A1: highest coverage of 4 tokens
- A2: largest match
- we extract the best scoring matches instead, inspired by GENLEX (Zettlemoyer and Collins, 2005)

# Derivation scoping

*put a chair leg*

*:= brown column of height 3*

*put 4 chair legs 3 spaces apart*

*:= put a chair leg; move back 3 spaces; put a chair leg; move right 3 spaces; put a chair leg; move front 3 spaces; put a chair leg*



# Highest scoring packing

- a span is a set of consecutive tokens
  - matching if the chart element is in definition
- a packing is a set of non-overlapping matching spans
  - maximal packing – no span to be added
- abstract away the highest scoring maximal packing

$$P_l^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{P \in \text{packing}(M)} \sum_{d \in P} \text{score}(d).$$

- solve with a dynamic program

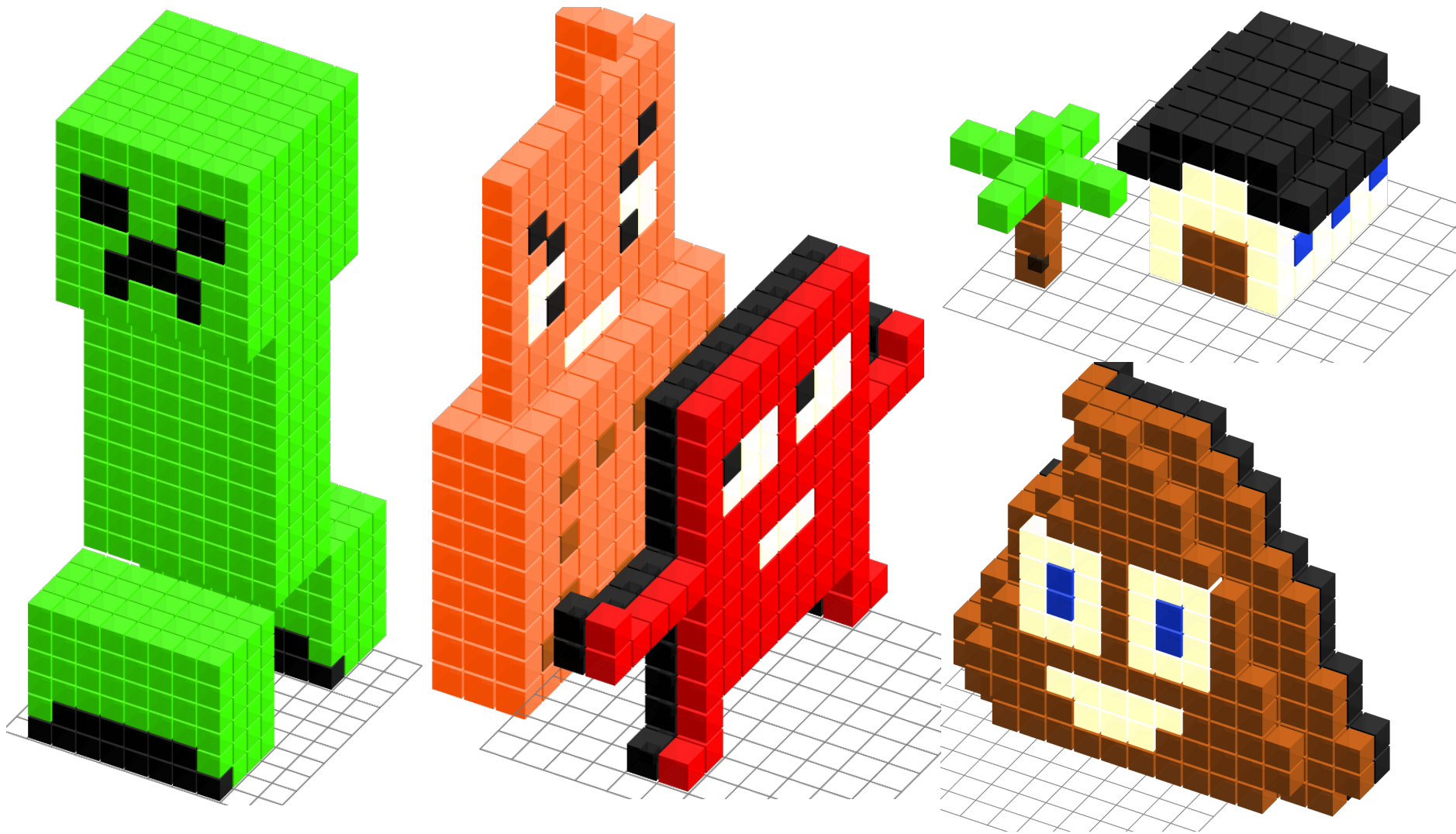
# Can people do this?

- *chair legs of height 3*

```
(:s (:s (:blk (s (:loop (number 3) (:s (: add brown here) (:for (call adj top this) (: select)))))) (:loop (number 3) (:for (call adj bot this) (: select)))))) (:loop (number 3) (:for (call adj left this) (: select)))) (:s (:s (:s (:s (:blk (s (:loop (number 3) (:s (: add brown here) (:for (call adj top this) (: select)))))) (:loop (number 3) (:for (call adj bot this) (: select)))))) (:loop (number 3) (:for (call adj back this) (: select)))) (:blk (s (:loop (number 3) (:s (: add brown here) (:for (call adj top this) (: select)))))) (:loop (number 3) (:for (call adj bot this) (: select)))))) (:loop (number 3) (:for (call adj right this) (: select)))) (:blk (s (:loop (number 3) (:s (: add brown here) (:for (call adj top this) (: select)))))) (:loop (number 3) (:for (call adj bot this) (: select))))))
```

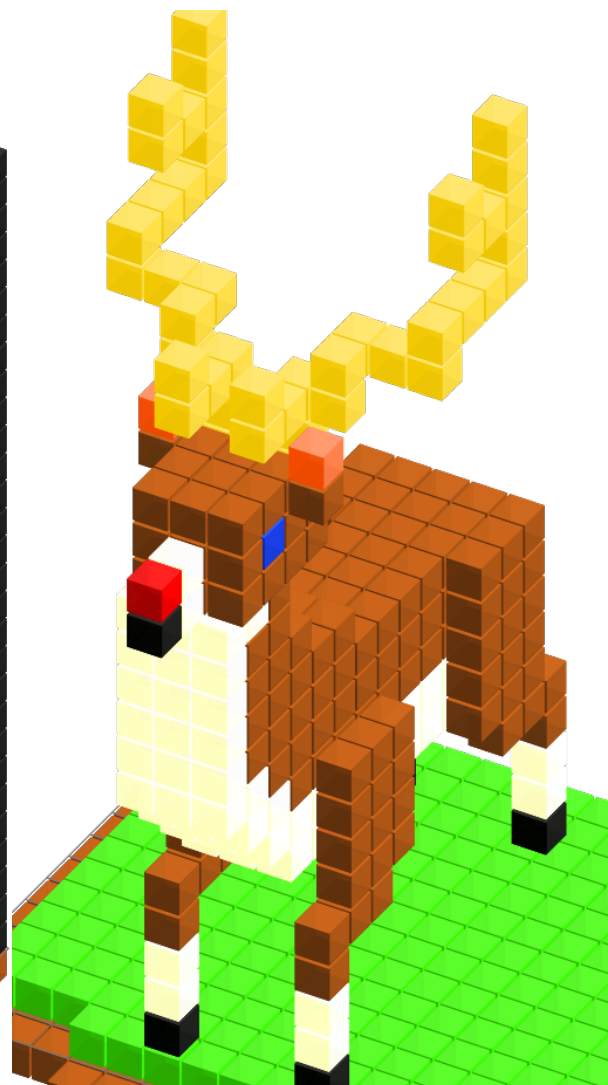
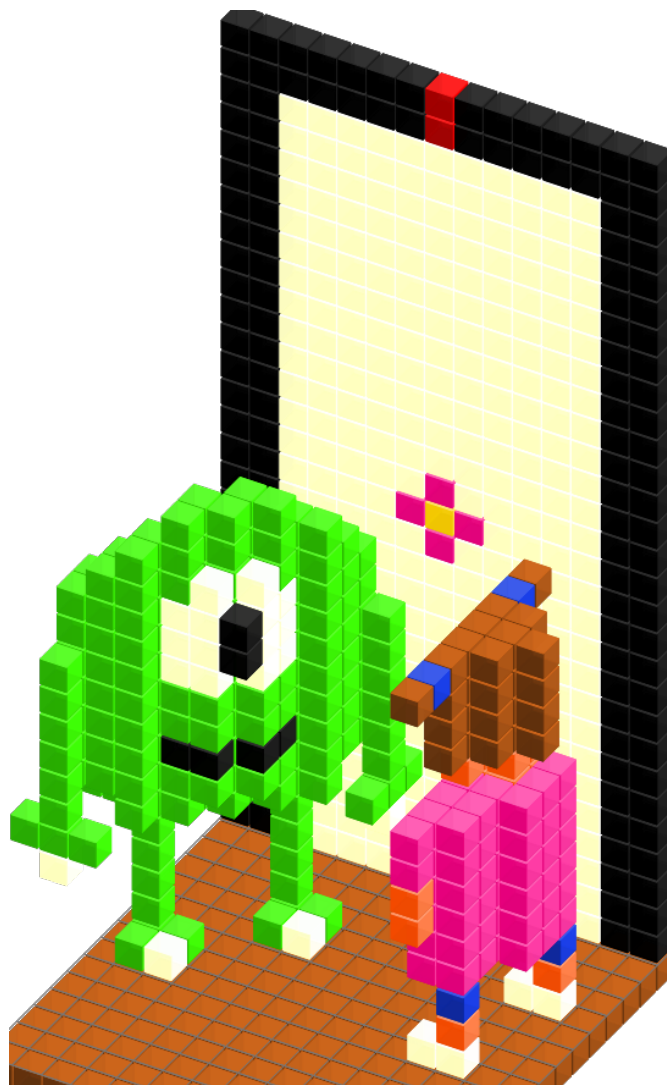
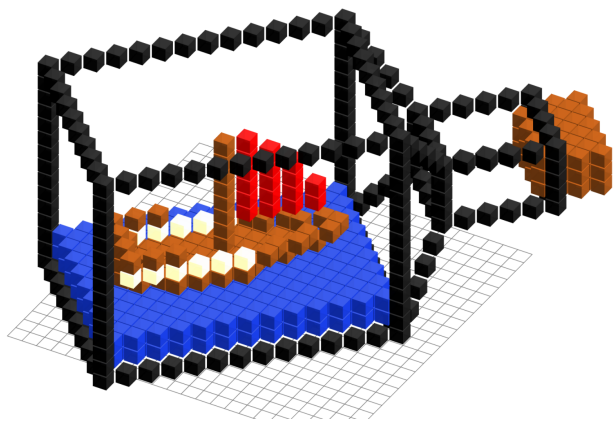
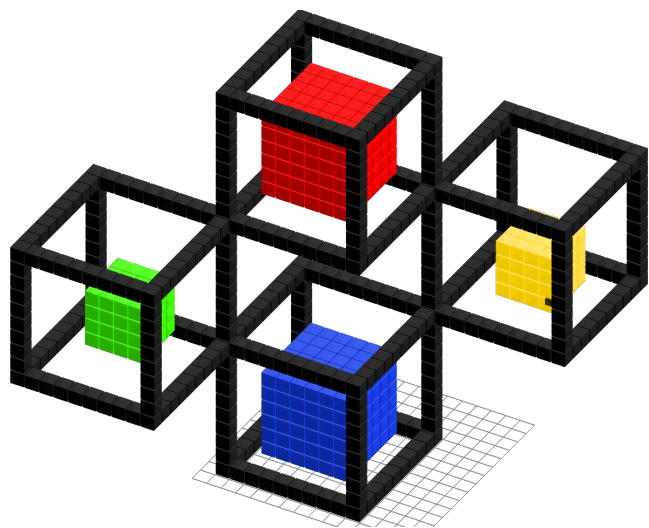
# Experiments

- users built great structures?



# Experiments

- users built great structures! (show leaderboard)



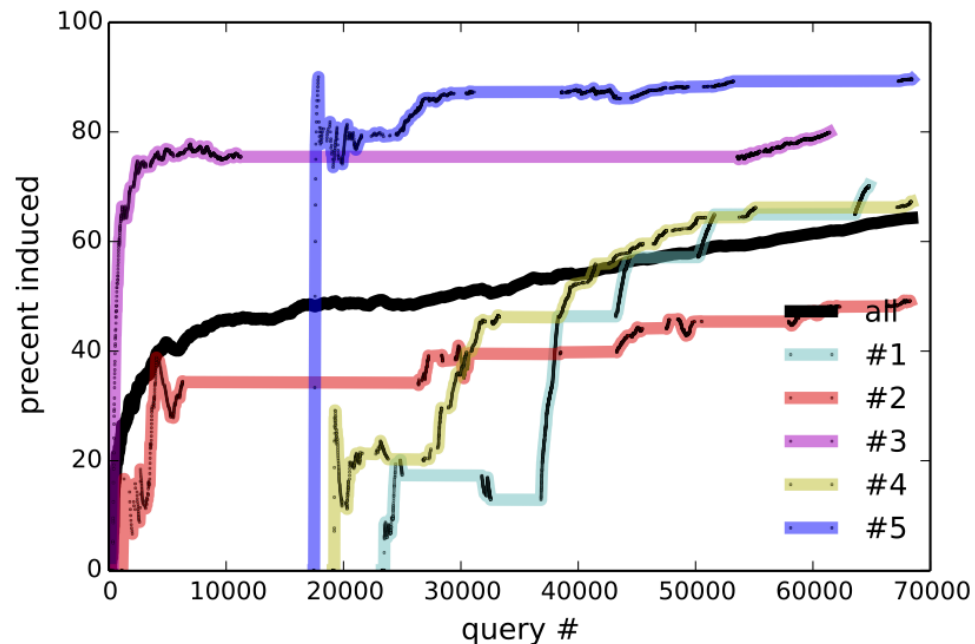
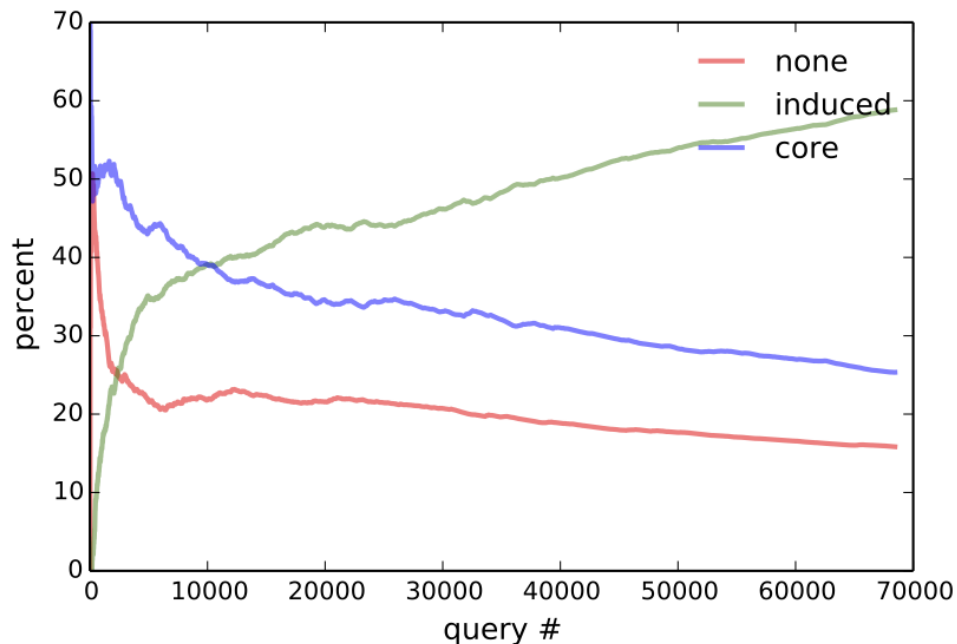
# Setup

- qualifier: build a fixed structure
- post-qual: over 3 days build whatever they want
- prizes for best structures
  - day 1: bridge, house, animal
  - day 2: tower, monster(s), flower(s)
  - day 3: ship(s), dancer(s), and castle
- prize for top h-index
  - a rule (and its author) gets a citation whenever it is used

# Basic statistics

- 70 workers qualified, 42 participated, 230 structures
- 64075 utterances, 36589 accepts
  - each accept leads to a datapoint labeled by derivation(s)
- 2495 definitions, 2817 induced rules (j100 core)

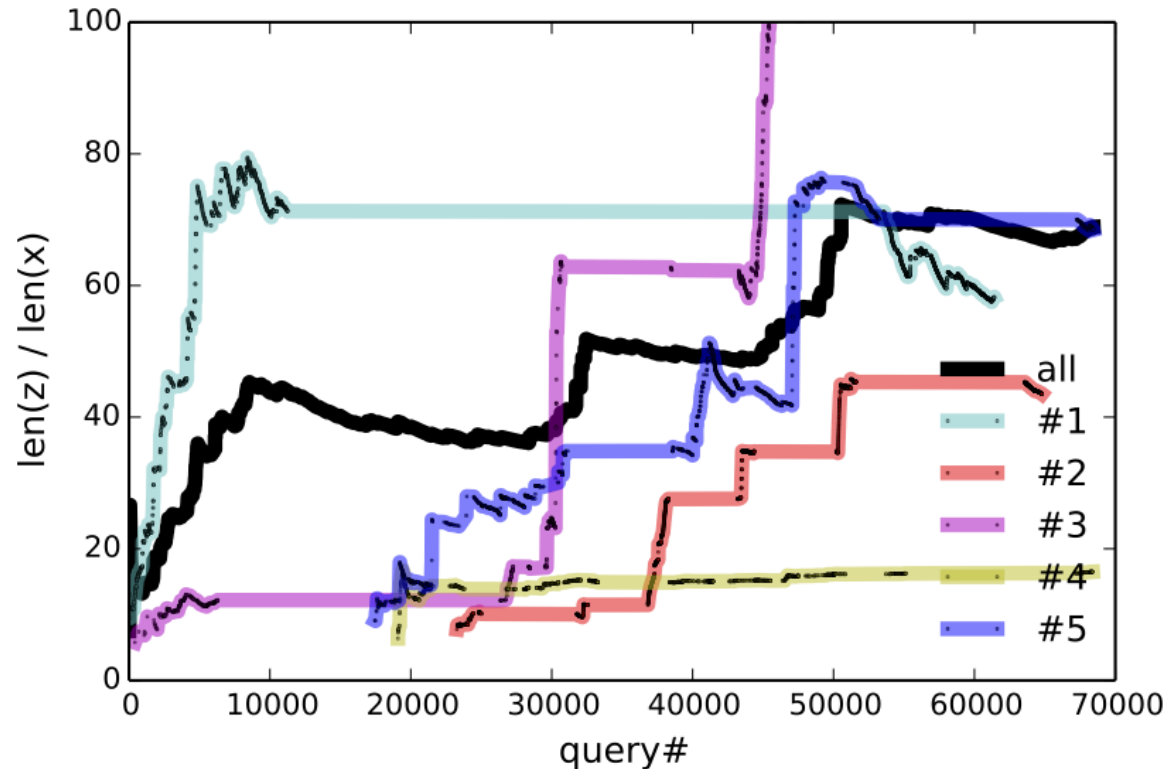
# Is naturalization happening



percent utterances using induced rules:

- 58% of all at the end (up from 0 in the beginning)
- 64.3% of all accepted, and 77.9% of the last 10k accepted
- top users naturalized to different extends, but all increasing

# Expressive power



- cumulative average of string.length in program / # tokens in utterance
- $\text{len}(z)/\text{len}(z)$  is very stable at 10 for core language
- varies greatly by user



# Modes of naturalization

short forms:

*left, l, mov left, go left, j, sel left*

*br, blk, blu, brn, orangeright, left3*

*add row brn left 5*

*:= add row brown left 5*

# Modes of naturalization

syntactic:

*go down and right*

*:= go down; go right*

*select orange*

*:= select has color orange*

*add red top 4 times*

*:= repeat 4 [add red top]*

*l white*

*:= go left and add white*

*mov up 2*

*:= repeat 2 [select up]*

*go up 3*

*:= go up 2; go up*

# Modes of naturalization

higher level:

*add black block width 2 length 2 height 3*

*:= {repeat 3 [add black platform width 2...*

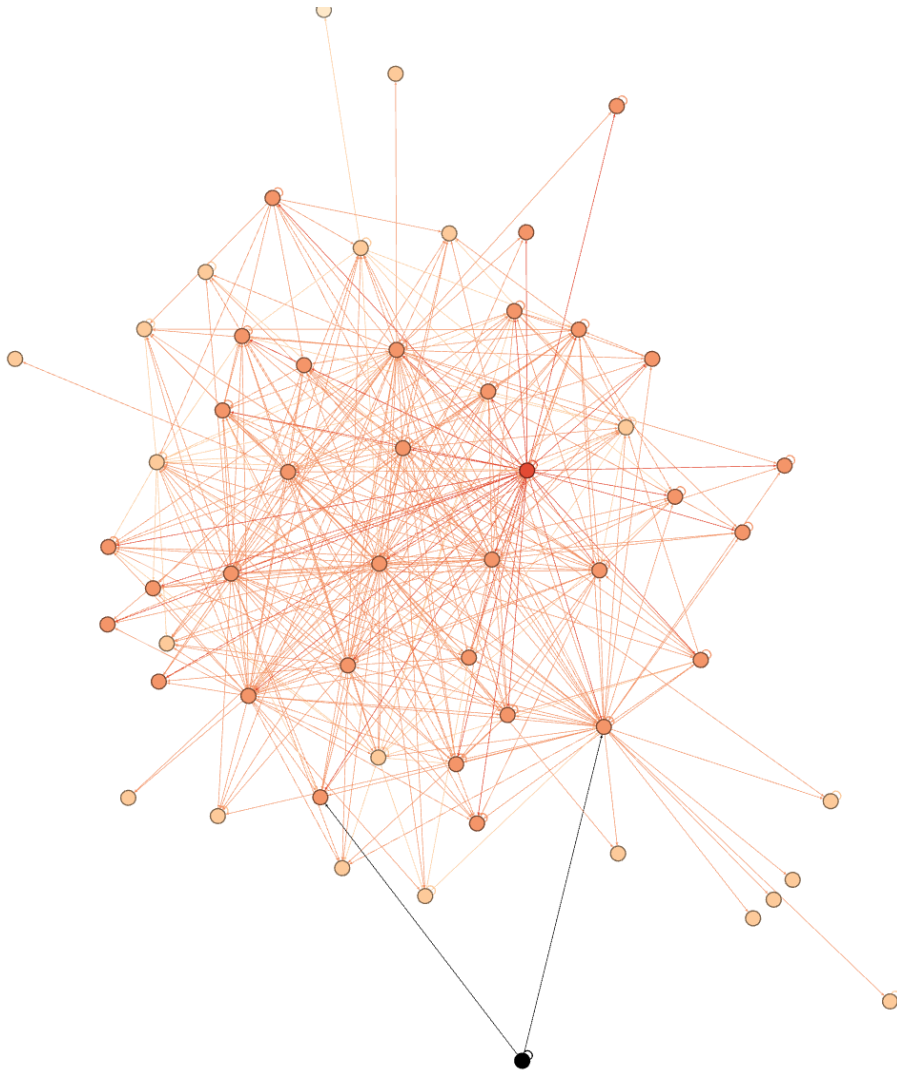
*flower petals*

*:= flower petal; back; flower petals*

*cube size 5, get into position start, 5 x 5 open green square, brownbase*

# Citations

basic statistics: 1113 cited rules, median 3, mean 46



*left 3 : 5820*

*select up : 4591*

*right, ... : 2888*

*go left : 1438*

*select right 2 : 1268*

*add b : 975*

*add red top 4 times : 309*

*go back and right : 272*

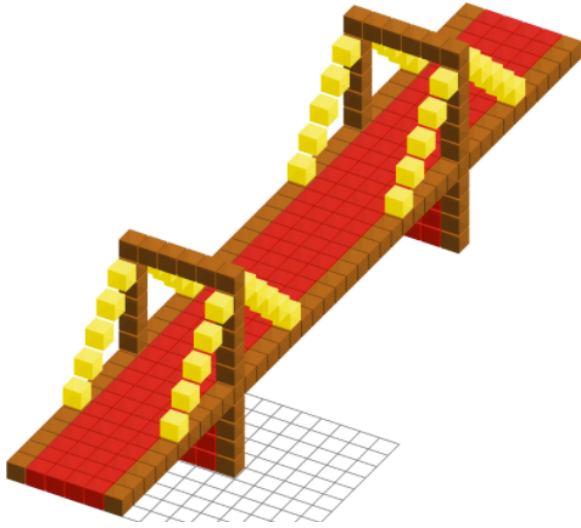
*select orange : 256*

*add white plate 6 x 7 : 232*

*add brown row 3 : 203*

*mov right 3 : 178*

# Bridge the gap in power



naturalizing a programming language:

- handle complex actions
- shared community learning to cover more variations
- better for beginners and experts alike?

```
sidawmain:~ sidaw$ replace SF by Seattle in all ht  
ml files modified within the last 3 days  
-bash: replace: command not found  
sidawmain:~ sidaw$  
sidawmain:~ sidaw$ find . -mtime -3 -name '*.html'  
-exec sed -i.bak 's/SF/Seattle/g' {} \;
```

# The two extremes

**LLG**: start from scratch, understands nothing, anything goes

**NPL**: start with a programming language and its power

# The two extremes

**LLG**: start from scratch, understands nothing, anything goes

**NPL**: start with a programming language and its power

**LLG**: each user has a private language

**NPL**: user community has one shared language

- with some user modelling

# The two extremes

**LLG:** start from scratch, understands nothing, anything goes

**NPL:** start with a programming language and its power

**LLG:** each user has a private language

**NPL:** user community has one shared language

- with some user modelling

**LLG:** selection is the supervision

**NPL:** definition is the supervision

- possible to build up complex actions/concepts



# The two extremes

**LLG:** start from scratch, understands nothing, anything goes

**NPL:** start with a programming language and its power

**LLG:** each user has a private language

**NPL:** user community has one shared language

- with some user modelling

**LLG:** selection is the supervision

**NPL:** definition is the supervision

- possible to build up complex actions/concepts

**LLG:** features, learning from denotations do the heavy lifting

- guess any action, language agnostic

**NPL:** grammar induction do the heavy lifting

- no parse unless well-supported

# Calendar (with Nadav Lidor)

Calendar interface showing a weekly view for Nov 9 - 15, 2015. The calendar displays various events such as "project sync", "team lunch", "dinner", and "gym". A notification bubble is present at the bottom, indicating a move action for a meeting titled "CURIS Session".

Calendar view for Nov 9 - 15, 2015. The calendar shows events for each day from Monday to Sunday. A notification bubble is present at the bottom of the calendar area.

Notification bubble: 🤖 ←: move tomorrow at 3 pm titled "CURIS Session" (#25/29), ↓: showing the next one

Input field: rename tomorrow at 3 pm to "CURIS Session" [X] TRY ACCEPT

Example query: meeting tomorrow at 3 pm titled `` curis poster ``

Calendar details:

Time	Mon 11/9	Tue 11/10	Wed 11/11	Thu 11/12	Fri 11/13	Sat 11/14	Sun 11/15
all-day							
8am							
9am	9:30 - 11:00 project sync		9:00 - 11:00 take matthew to dentist	9:00 - 11:30 project status conference room			
10am						10:30 - 12:30 brunch with parents parents home	
11am							11:30 - 2:00 pool with kids
12pm	12:00 - 1:00 team lunch room 300				12:00 - 1:00 team lunch		
1pm							
2pm							
3pm				3:00 - 4:00 curis session	3:00 - 4:30 work with katie office		3:00 - wash car
4pm							
5pm							
6pm	6:00 - 7:00 dinner with dan tbd		6:00 - 7:00 family dinner home	6:30 - 7:00 ideas dinner tressider	6:30 - 8:00 anniversary tbd		
7pm		7:00 - 8:30 gym with nihil					
8pm							

EDIT CALENDAR

<http://nlp.stanford.edu/blog/interactive-language-learning/>

# We use the same logical language

- *delete Thursday's events*

```
(:foreach (start_date (date 2015 11 12)) (: remove))
```

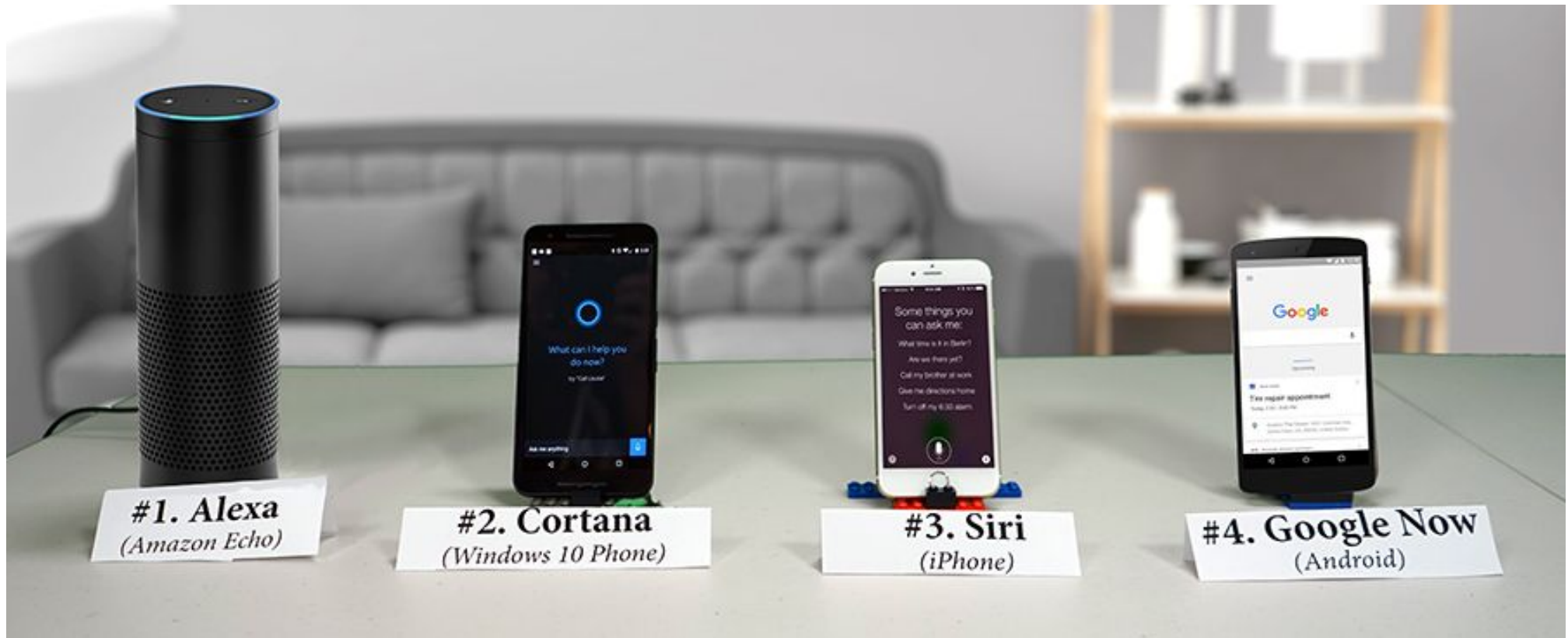
- *change my 3pm meeting to be 30 minutes after my 10:15am meeting*

```
(:s foreach (start_time (time 15 00)) (: move  
start_datetime (call addtime ((reverse end_datetime)  
(start_time (time 10 15))) (number 30 minutes))))
```

- *rename next meeting "Boring Family Dinner"*

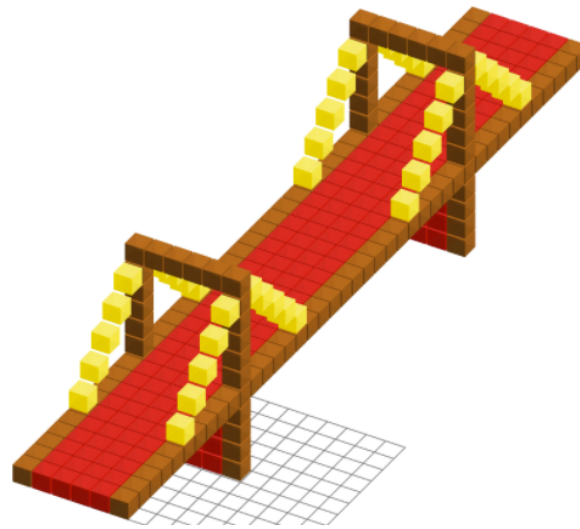
```
(:foreach (call pick_first start_datetime (call after  
start_datetime (call now))) (: update title (string  
"boring family dinner")))
```

# Better communication with computers

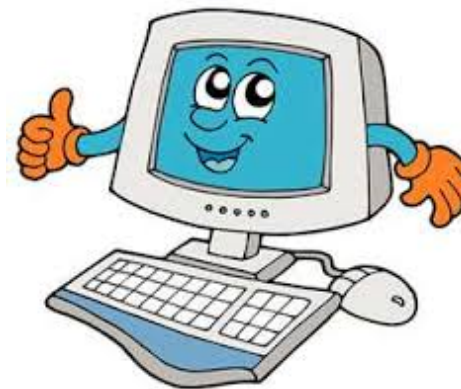


# Extremes of the solution space

- LLG: we can build a system that learn from scratch quickly through interaction
- NPL: a community of untrained users can use definitions to naturalize a PL



# Learn from users interactively



Wittgenstein: language derives its meaning through use

Montague: language derives its meaning through definition?

Code, experiments, demo of LLG: [shrdlurn.sidaw.xyz](http://shrdlurn.sidaw.xyz)



Hmm, wait for us to release the NPL stuff