

# **Creating a Commonsense Knowledge Base about Objects**

Valerio Basile (University of Turin)

SAILab, Siena  
12/2/2020

# whoami

## Valerio Basile

Assistant professor @ Unito  
Previously:

- PhD @ RUG Groningen
- Postdoc @ Inria

Computational Semantics, Semantic Web, Natural Language Generation, Information Extraction, Linguistic Annotation, Distributional Semantics, General Knowledge Bases, Gamification, Social Media, Sentiment Analysis, Legal Informatics, Argument Mining, Social Media, Hate Speech, ...



# Today

**R**obotics and **A**rtificial **I**ntelligence

**O**bjects

**L**inguistics and **S**emantics

**M**achine **L**earning and **C**lustering

# Today

- **I Motivation: The Semantics of Objects**
- **II Objects, Knowledge and The Web**
- **III Objects, Words and Vectors**
- **IV Frames and Prototypical Knowledge**
- **V Default Knowledge about Objects**

**Part I**  
**Motivation:**  
**The Semantics of Objects**

**A**UTONOMOUS  
**L**EARNING  
**O**F THE MEANING  
**O**F OBJECTS

**A**LOOF

5-year CHIST-ERA funded project (2014-2018)

4 EU partners



AUTONOMOUS  
LEARNING  
OF THE MEANING  
OF OBJECTS

**A**LOOF

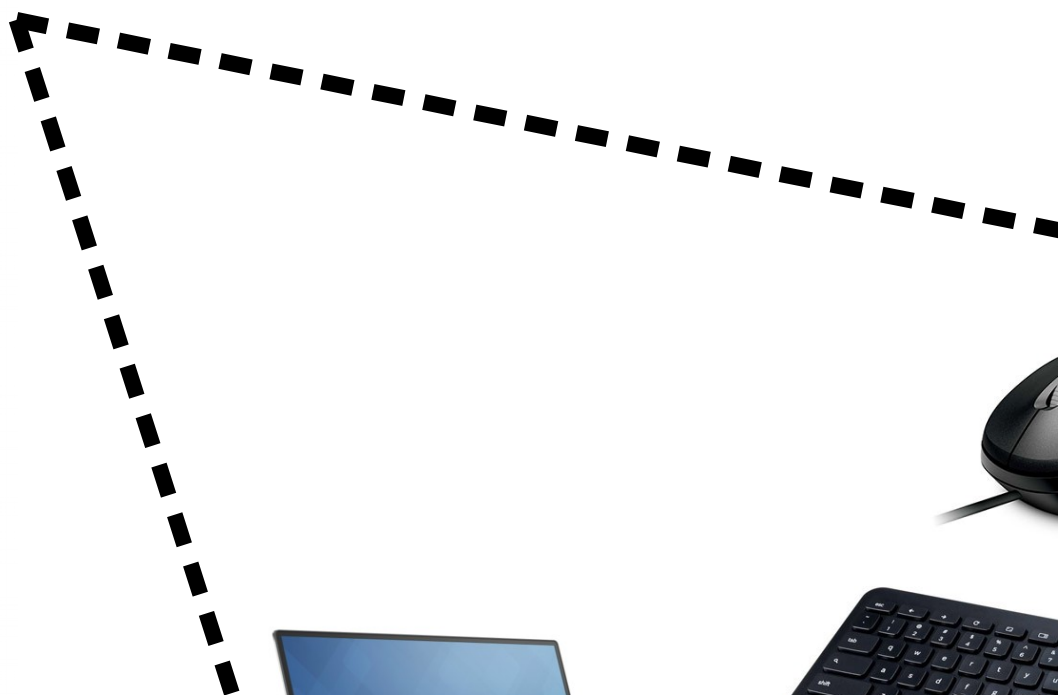
Deploy **robots** in human-inhabited environments.

The robots **autonomously** collect real-world data.

We use information available on the **Semantic Web** to identify the semantics of objects.

AUTONOMOUS  
LEARNING  
OF THE MEANING  
OF OBJECTS

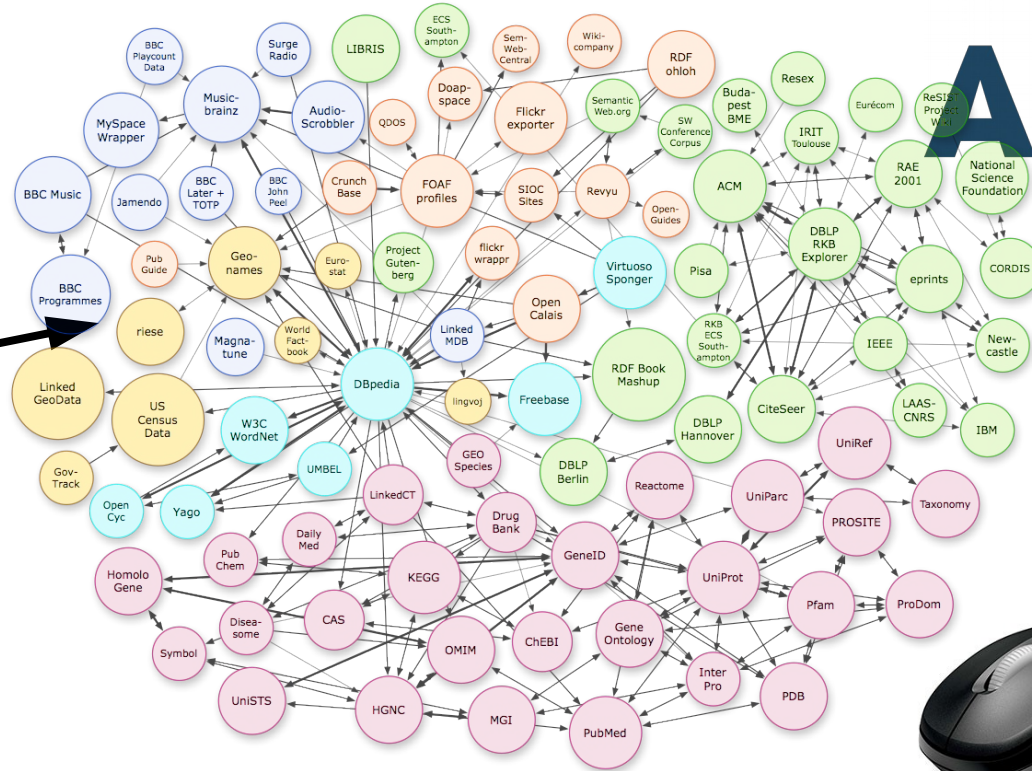
**A**LOOF





AUTONOMOUS  
LEARNING  
OF THE MEANING  
OF OBJECTS

# A LOOF



AUTONOMOUS  
LEARNING  
OF THE MEANING  
OF OBJECTS

**A**LOOF



# Perception and Identification

Robot deployments in office environments

The robot visits fixed waypoints on the map, taking full 360° RGB-D scans



AUTONOMOUS  
LEARNING  
OF THE MEANING  
OF OBJECTS

**A**LOOF



- Object classification
- Room detection
- Frame detection
- Inference
- ...

## **Part II**

# **Objects, Knowledge and The Web**

# Object Knowledge

## Classification

**What is (not) an object?**

**What type is an object?**

**What is a room?**

...

## Relations

**How are objects related?**

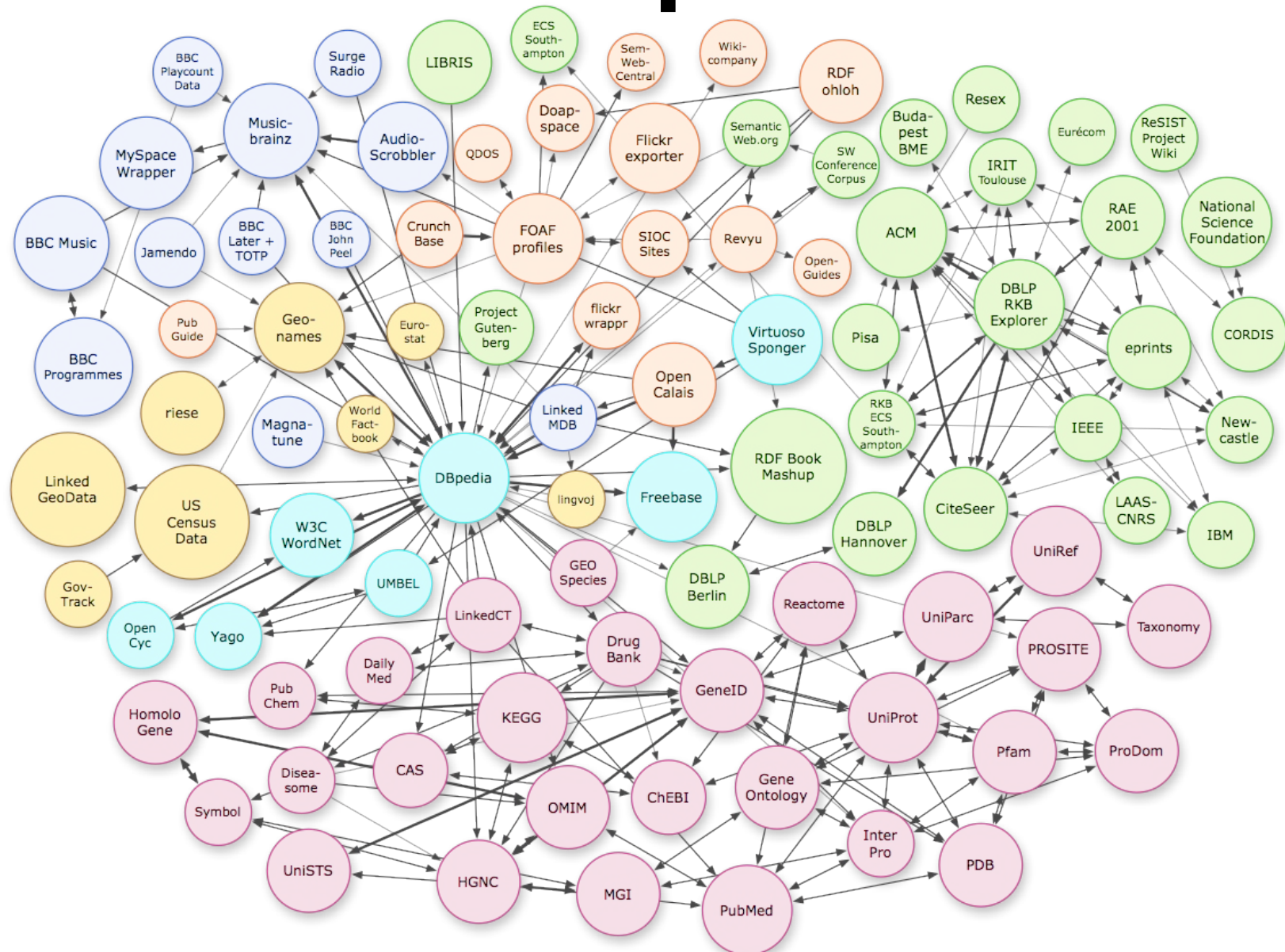
**Where is an object?**

**What can I do with an object?**

...



# Linked Open Data



<http://lod-cloud.net/>

# Web KBs

- **DBpedia**  
hub for LOD
- **KnowRob**  
smaller, manually crafted, robotic-oriented
- **ConceptNet**  
large, automatically built, not-LOD



# The SUN database



## BEDROOM

**Definition (WordNet):** A room in a house used primarily for sleeping

2117 images  
1043 annotated  
18331 objects

## Objects

List of most common objects found in this place sorted by frequency.

<b>Wall</b> 2561 in this scene 20213 total	<b>Bed</b> 1144 in this scene 1617 total	<b>Cushion</b> 1043 in this scene 2091 total	<b>Pillow</b> 1008 in this scene 1359 total	<b>Floor</b> 991 in this scene 7227 total	<b>Desk lamp</b> 953 in this scene 1702 total	<b>Night table</b> 867 in this scene 1054 total
<b>Window</b> 845 in this scene 16080 total	<b>Curtain</b> 838 in this scene 2525 total	<b>Painting</b> 651 in this scene 2784 total	<b>Ceiling</b> 623 in this scene 5284 total	<b>Picture</b> 457 in this scene 1822 total	<b>Chair</b> 275 in this scene 7971 total	<b>Door</b> 265 in this scene 4135 total
<b>Ceiling lamp</b> 243 in this scene 6268 total	<b>Cabinet</b> 229 in this scene 3102 total	<b>Mirror</b> 200 in this scene 954 total	<b>Sconce</b> 189 in this scene 1054 total	<b>Plant</b> 176 in this scene 3095 total	<b>Armchair</b> 167 in this scene 1080 total	

## Similar scenes

List of places with the most similar object distributions. The list is sorted by similarity.

<b>Hotel room</b> 499 images 113 annotated 1908 objects	<b>Childs room</b> 163 images 77 annotated 1723 objects	<b>Alcove</b> 66 images 29 annotated 433 objects	<b>Parlor</b> 338 images 66 annotated 1459 objects	<b>Dorm room</b> 167 images 50 annotated 957 objects	<b>Youth hostel</b> 139 images 27 annotated 388 objects	<b>Attic</b> 375 images 48 annotated 779 objects
<b>Bow window indoor</b> 217 images 33 annotated 497 objects	<b>Nursery</b> 258 images 65 annotated 952 objects					

## Annotated images

basket, bed skirt, books, box, chair, comforter, cow on wheels, decorative	basket, bed skirt, bench, blanket, book, ceiling, chair, chest, chimney, coat rack,	beam, bed, bowl, ceiling, ceiling lamp, chair, coffee maker, coffee table,	basket, bedpost, bench, books, box, cabinet, candleholder, chair, comforter,	armchair, bed, ceiling, ceiling lamp, cushion, door, floor, floor lamp, flowers, grille, night,	armchair, bed, bottle, box, cabinet, ceiling, ceiling fan, clock, curtain, cushion, desk,	bed, book, ceiling, ceiling fan, ceiling lamp, chest, curtain, cushion, floor, floor,	bag, bed, bookcase, books, box, carpet, ceiling, chandelier, cuddly toy, cushion,	bed, bookcase, books, cabinet, ceiling, ceiling fan, ceiling lamp, chair, cushion,
--	---	--	--	---	---	---	---	--

<https://groups.csail.mit.edu/vision/SUN/>

# Web KBs

	Taxonomy	Function	Location	Linked Data
<b>DBpedia</b>	✓	✗	✗	✓
<b>ConceptNet</b>	✓	✓	✓	partly
<b>KnowRob</b>	✓	✓	partly	✗
<b>SUN</b>	✗	✗	✓	✗

# Keyword Linking Methods

## Vector-based Contextual disambiguation

- Run String Match on the keywords
- Split the missed keywords into tokens
- Run String Match on the tokens
- Compute the semantic similarity of each token-entity with all the previously recognized entities
- Select the highest scoring token-entity

e.g., basket\_of\_banana → dbr:Basket

# The SUN database

## Results

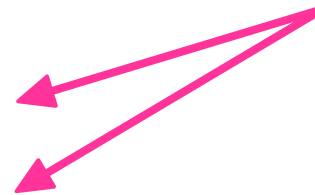
**2,493 objects in DBpedia**

**679 locations in DBpedia**

**2,935 object-location relations**

*Classification*

*Relations*



<b>Keyword</b>	<b>Entity</b>
<b>Objects</b>	
stand_clothes	dbr:Clothes_horse
cold_meat	dbr:Lunch_meat
tree_stem_3	dbr:Plant_stem
deer	dbr:Deer
instrument_control	dbr:Instrument_control
volcano	dbr:Volcano
bass_drum	dbr:Bass_drum
building_arch	dbr:Arch
oyster_bank	dbr:Oyster_reef
observatory	dbr:Observatory
<b>Scenes</b>	
c/childs_room	dbr:Nursery_(room)
o/oil_refinery/indoor	dbr:Oil_refinery
m/mobile_home	dbr:Mobile_home
o/oyster_farm	dbr:Oyster_farming
z/zoo	dbr:Zoo
c/canteen	dbr:Cafeteria
d/donjon	dbr:Keep
p/parking_garage/indoor	dbr:Garage_(residential)
d/day_care_center	dbr:Day_care
s/skywalk/outdoor	dbr:Skyway

# **Part III**

## **Objects, Words and Vectors**

# Object Knowledge

**Problem**

**Classification is good, but relations are sparse**



# Distributional Relational Hypothesis



$\text{isa}(E1, A) \wedge \text{isa}(E2, B) \wedge S(E1, E2) \rightarrow R(A, B) ?$



# Semantic Relatedness

## QUESTION

Is it legal to fit a washing machine in the bathroom?

Hi all, I would like to fit a washing machine in the the bathroom. The power cable will be fed through a small hole in the wall with the outlet socket on the outside of the bathroom and the machine will be +1200mm from the edge of the bath and 500mm from the toilet. My question is, is this legal?

Asked by: [edward\\_88](#) 29th Dec, 2012 [Electrical](#) [AddThis](#)



washing machine, washer, automatic washer

A home appliance for washing clothes and linens automatically

ID: 00007365n | Concept



bathroom, bath, full bathroom

A room (as in a residence) containing a bathtub or shower and usually a washbasin and toilet

ID: 00008995n | Concept

Co-occurrence matrix

	Washing_machine	Ashtray
Bathroom	5	2
Bedroom	0	1
Living_room	1	6

Singular value decomposition

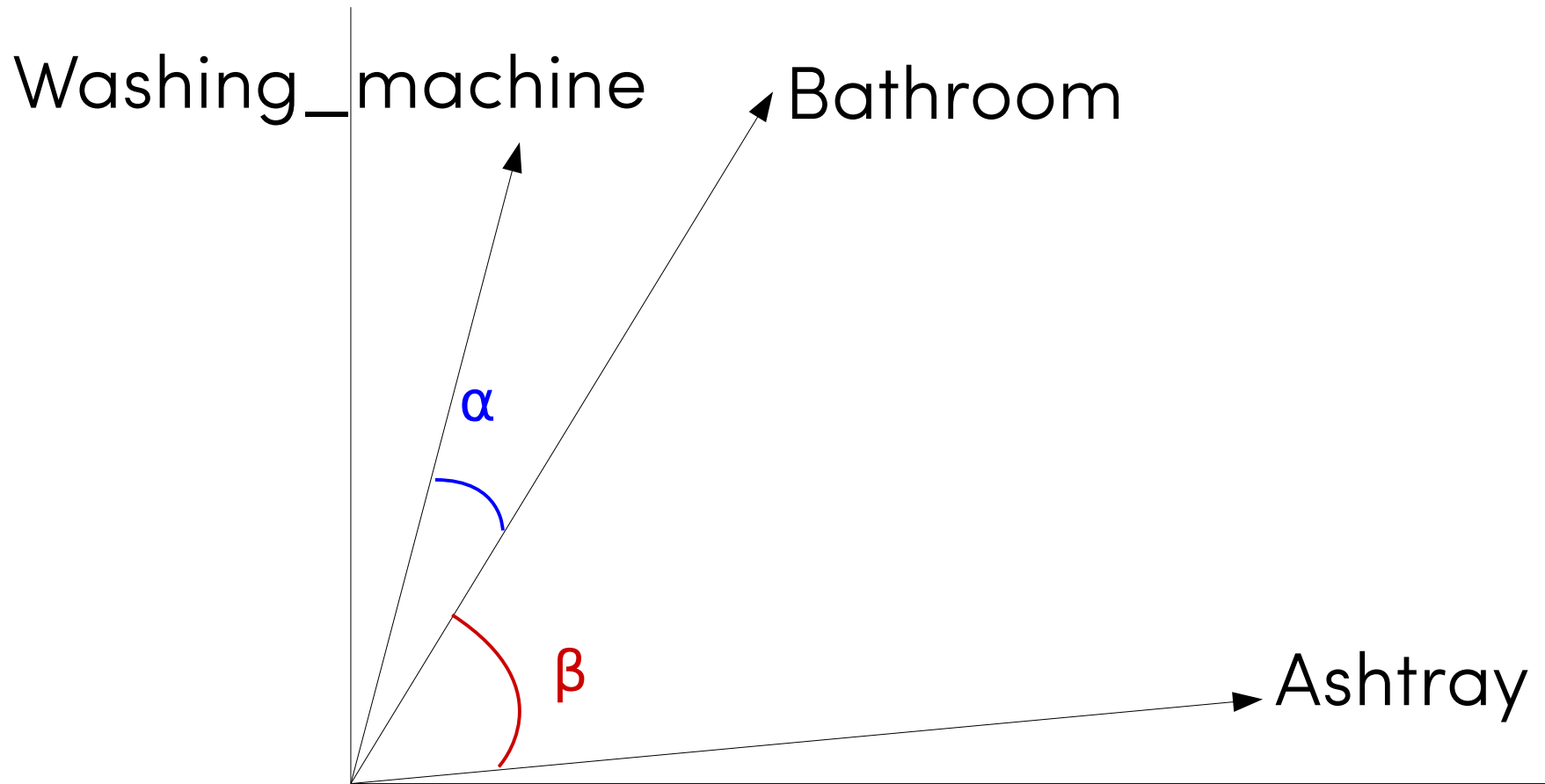
$$M = U \Sigma V^*$$

Low-rank approximation

$$U_k \Sigma_k V_k^* = M_k$$

**NASARI**: A Novel Approach to a Semantically-Aware Representation of Items  
(Camacho-Collados, Pilehvar and Navigli, 2015)

# Semantic Similarity



$$\text{sim}(\text{Bathroom}, \text{Washing\_machine}) = \cos(\alpha) \approx 0.71$$

$$\text{sim}(\text{Bathroom}, \text{Ashtray}) = \cos(\beta) \approx 0.37$$

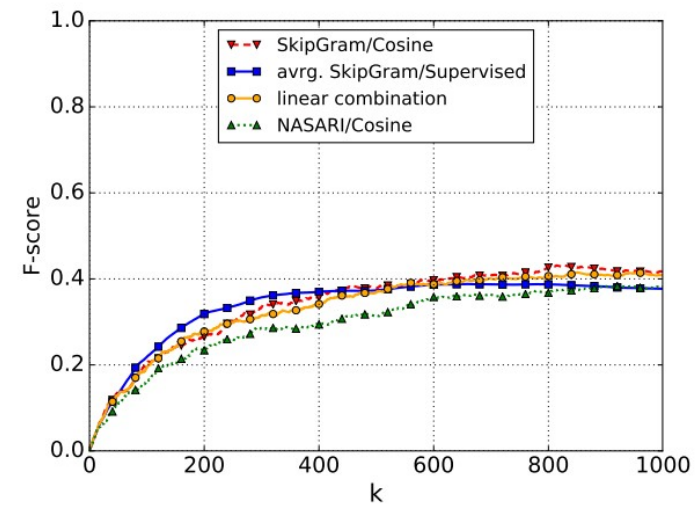
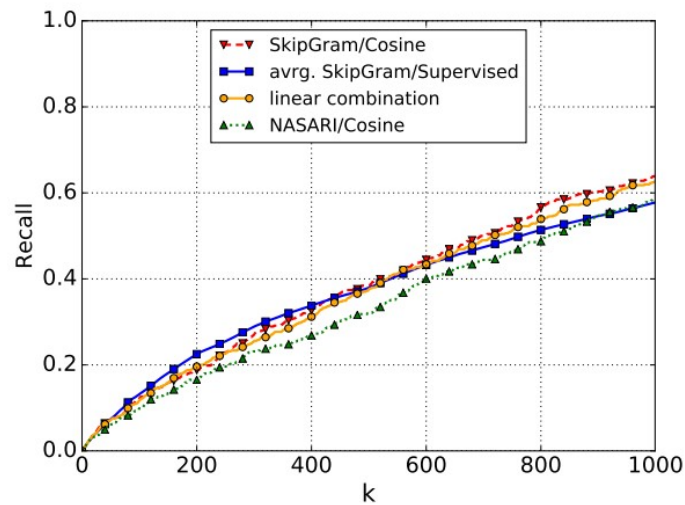
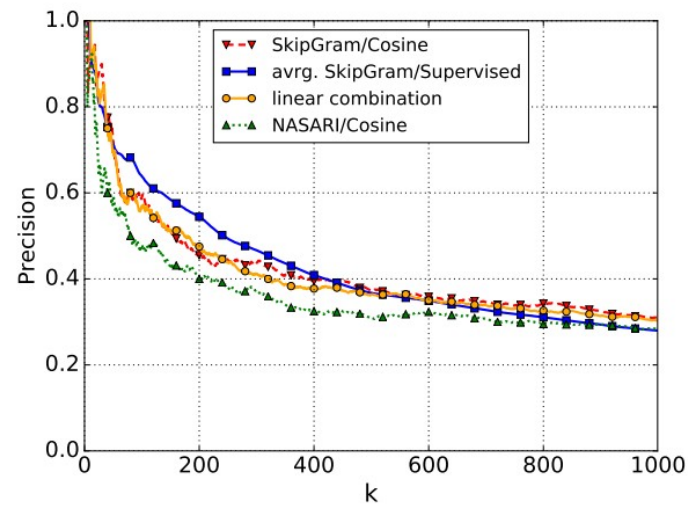
# Place Classification

→ = Cosine similarity on NASARI



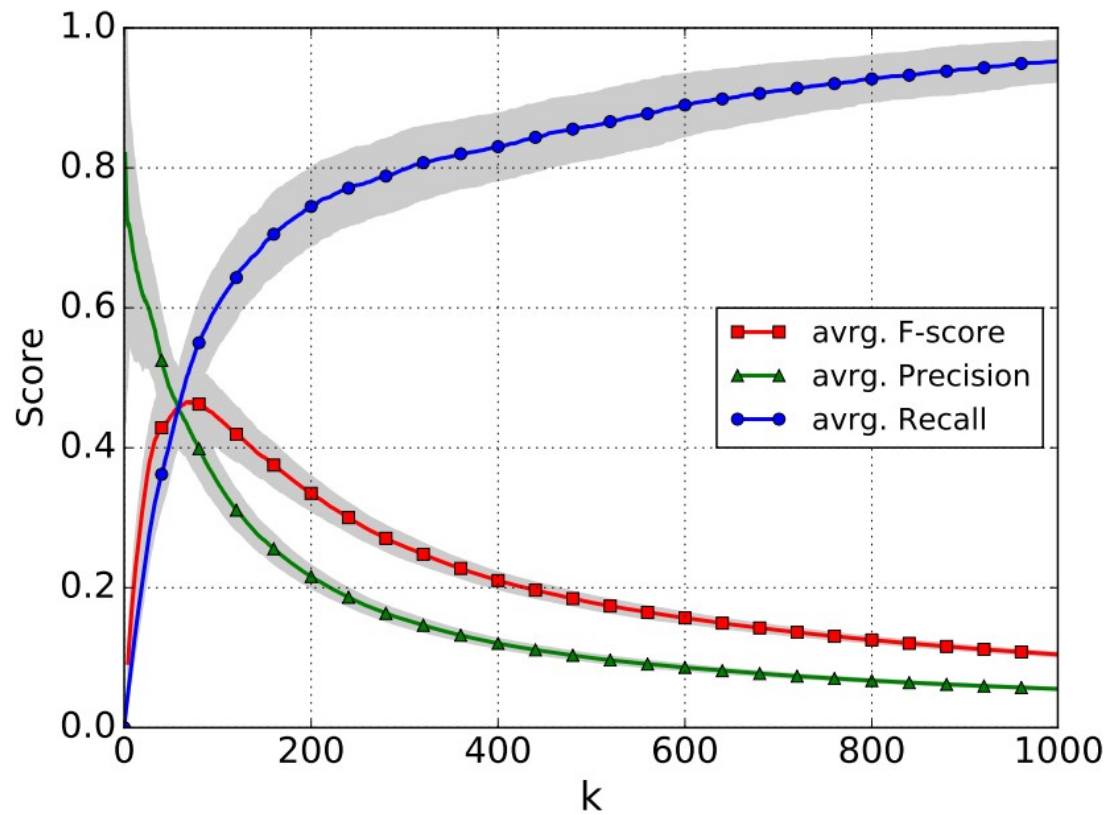
+ aggregation, weighting by distance, ...

# Evaluation: locatedAt



Gold standard: SUN database linked to DBpedia

# Evluation: usedFor



Gold standard: ConceptNet linked to DBpedia

# Results

931 high confidence location relations

Only 52 were in the gold standard set

E.g.:

Trivet → Kitchen

Flight\_bag → Airport\_lounge

Soap\_dispenser → Unisex\_public\_toilet

+ many related datasets:

<https://project.inria.fr/alooof/data/>

# Distributional Relational Hypothesis

## Object-action relation (usedFor)

*Extracting common sense knowledge via triple ranking using supervised and unsupervised distributional models*

S Jebbara, V Basile, E Cabrio, P Cimiano, Semantic Web 2018

## Improving object detection

*Semantic web-mining and deep vision for lifelong object discovery*

J Young, L Kunze, V Basile, E Cabrio, N Hawes, B Caputo

Robotics and Automation, ICRA 2017

## Object-location relation (locatedAt)

*Populating a knowledge base with object-location relations using distributional semantics*

V Basile, S Jebbara, E Cabrio, P Cimiano, EKAW 2016

# **Part IV**

## **Frames and Prototypical Knowledge**

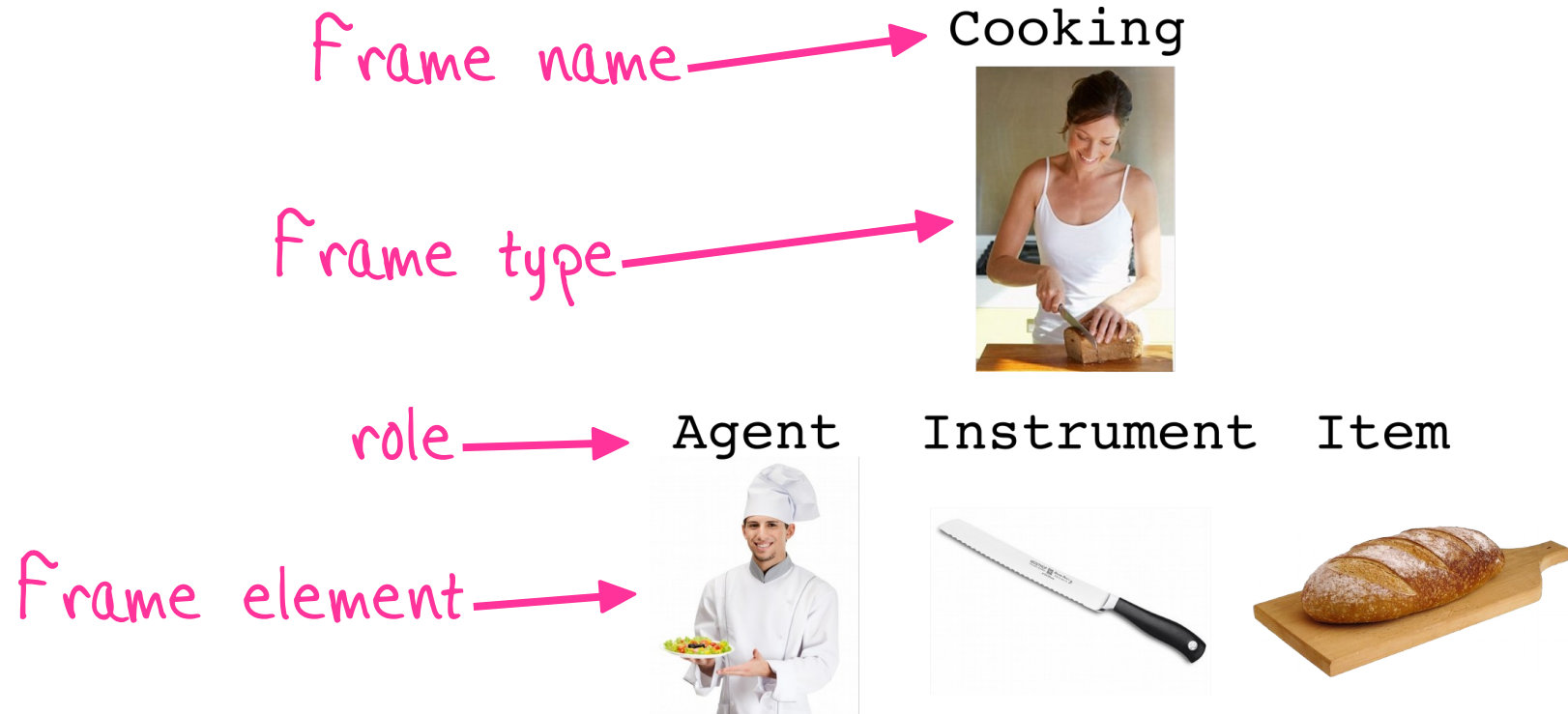


## **Problem**

**The distributional relational hypothesis is limited to specific relations**



# Frame Semantics



FrameNet (1997), Framester (2016), Framebase (2015)

# Frame Instance

Instance id: <fi12345>

Frame type: fbframe:Cooking

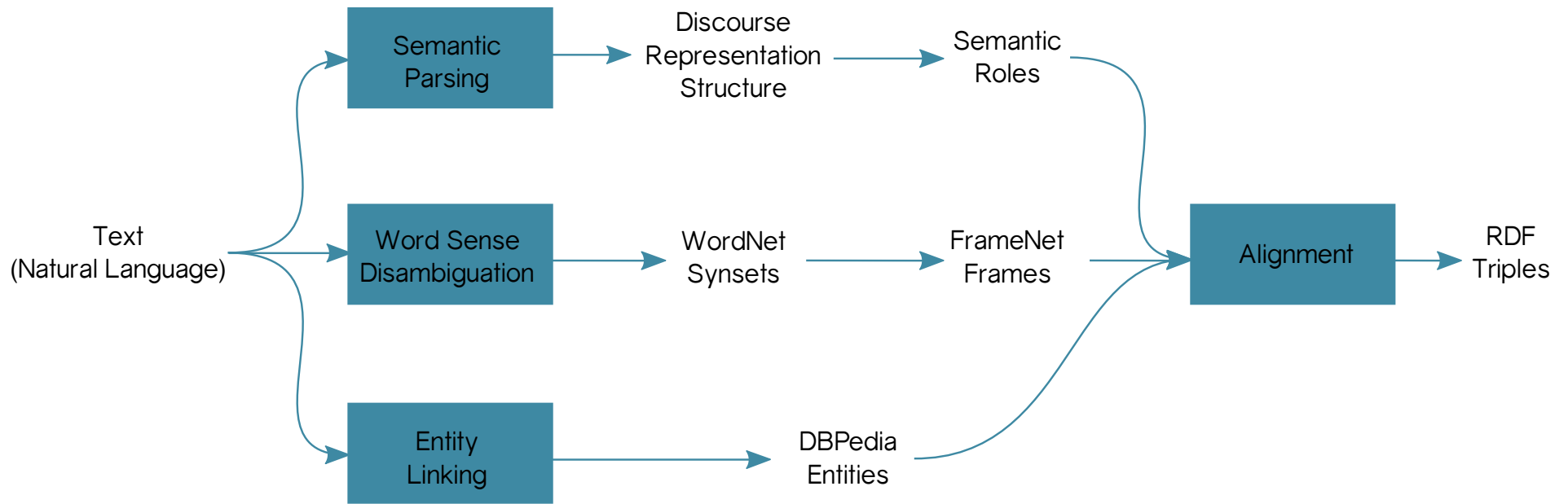
Frame elements:

- fbfe:Instrument, dbr:Knife
- fbfe:Agent, dbr:Person
- ...

Default Knowledge → Prototypical Frame Instances  
= F.I. extraction + F.I. clustering

# Knowledge Extraction

**KnEWS**



<https://github.com/valeriobasile/learningbyreading>

# Frame Instance Extraction

```
<frameinstance id="Operate_vehicle_ce746f21 2d8d 4fe8 8981
df95c9b0eb07" type="Operate_vehicle_drive.v" internalvariable="e1">
  <framelexicalization>k3:x1 is driving k3:x2</framelexicalization>
  <instancelexicalization>
    The robot is driving the car .
  </instancelexicalization>
  <frameelements>
    <frameelement role="Driver" internalvariable="x1">
      <concept>
        http://dbpedia.org/resource/Robot
      </concept>
      <rolelexicalization>
        The robot is driving x2
      </rolelexicalization>
      <conceptlexicalization>The robot</conceptlexicalization>
    </frameelement>
    <frameelement role="Vehicle" internalvariable="x2">
      <concept>
        http://wordnet.rdf.princeton.edu/wn31/02961779\_n
      </concept>
      <rolelexicalization>
        x1 is driving the car .
      </rolelexicalization>
      <conceptlexicalization>the car .</conceptlexicalization>
    </frameelement>
  </frameelements>
</frameinstance>
```

# Frame Similarity

frame **types**

Instance id: <fi12345>

Frame type:

**fbframe:Cooking**

Frame elements:

- fbfe:Instrument, dbr:Knife
- fbfe:Agent, dbr:Person
- ...

Instance id: <fi67890>

Frame type:

**fbframe:Eating**

Frame elements:

- fbfe:Instrument, dbr:Fork
- fbfe:Agent, dbr:Person
- ...



# Frame Similarity

frame elements

Instance id: <fi12345>

Frame type:  
fbframe:Cooking

Frame elements:

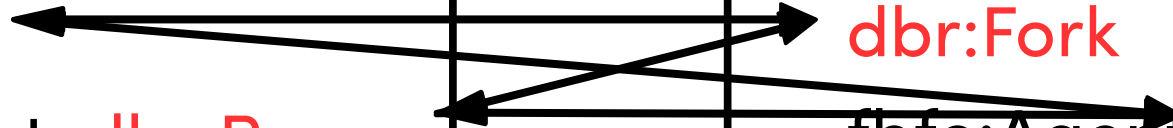
- fbfe:Instrument, **dbr:Knife**
- fbfe:Agent, **dbr:Person**
- ...

Instance id: <fi67890>

Frame type:  
fbframe:Eating

Frame elements:

- fbfe:Instrument, **dbr:Fork**
- fbfe:Agent, **dbr:Person**
- ...



# Frame Similarity

$$\begin{aligned} & fisim(fi_1, fi_2) = \\ & = \alpha ftsim(fi_1, fi_2) + (1 - \alpha) fesim(fi_1, fi_2) \end{aligned}$$

$$ftsim_{occ}(fi_1, fi_2) = \log_2 \frac{|C_{ft_1, ft_2}|}{|C_{ft_1}| |C_{ft_2}|} \quad (2)$$

$$C_{ft_i} = \{c \in C : \exists l_{ft_i} \in c\}$$

$$C_{ft_1, ft_2} = \{c \in C : \exists l_{ft_1} \in c \wedge \exists l_{ft_2} \in c\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & fesim(fi_1, fi_2) = \\ & = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{|fi_1|} \sum_{fe_i \in fi_1} \max_{fe_j \in fi_2} csim(fe_i, fe_j) + \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{1}{|fi_2|} \sum_{fe_i \in fi_2} \max_{fe_j \in fi_1} csim(fe_i, fe_j) \right) \quad (4) \end{aligned}$$

*Measuring Frame Instance Relatedness*

V. Basile, R. Lopez Condori, E. Cabrio

\*SEM 2018 (accepted)



# Pilot Study

Text for language learners (1,653 short stories)

114,536 frame instances, 154,422 frame elements,  
686 frame types, 222 roles filled by 3,398 types  
of concepts.

Hierarchical clustering with our distance metric:  
complete-linkage agglomerative (SciPy)

*Frame Instance Extraction and Clustering for Default Knowledge Building*  
A. Shah, V. Basile, E. Cabrio, S. Kamath S.  
Applications of Semantic Web technologies in Robotics - ANSWER 17

# Pilot Study

Similarity metric	Frame types	Frame elements
Based on frame types ( $\alpha = 1$ )	Commerce_buy (75)	<i>Goods</i> thing-n#8-n (11)
		<i>Goods</i> star+sign-n#1-n (4)
		<i>Goods</i> ticket-n#1-n (3)
		<i>Goods</i> book-n#1-n (2)
		<i>Goods</i> clothes-n#1-n (2)
		<i>Goods</i> placard-n#1-n (2)
		<i>Goods</i> cycle-n#6-n (2)
		<i>Buyer</i> thing-n#8-n (2)
		<i>Goods</i> machine-n#6-n (2)
		<i>Goods</i> shirt-n#1-n (2)
		<i>Goods</i> filter-n#2-n (2)
<i>Goods</i> pellet-n#2-n (2)		
<i>Buyer</i> male-n#2-n (2)		
Based on frame elements ( $\alpha = 0$ )	Stimulus_focus (8)	<i>vn-Theme</i> book-n#1-n (24)
	Categorization (4)	<i>Item</i> book-n#1-n (4)
	Hear (4)	<i>vn-Patient</i> book-n#1-n (2)
	Reading (4)	
	Reading_aloud (4)	

# Pilot Study


Most frequent frame type, role and element from each cluster

`<http://framebase.org/fbframe/Ride_vehicle>`

`<http://framebase.org/fbfe/Vehicle>`

`<http://wordnet-rdf.princeton.edu/wn31/02837983-n>`

~300 triples, available at  
<http://project.inria.fr/alooof/data/>

 Bicycle

**Part V**  
**Default Knowledge about  
Objects**

# Default Knowledge about Objects



<http://deko.inria.fr/>

RDF dataset of **common sense** knowledge about objects.

Object classification, prototypical location, actions, frames...

Knowledge extracted from parsing, crowdsourcing, distributional semantics, **keyword linking**

# Default Knowledge about Objects



<http://deko.inria.fr/>

10,990 nquads (named graphs)

603 from crowdsourcing

1,221 from distributional relational hypothesis

8,046 from keyword kinking

1,120 from KNEWS/frame instance clustering

+ DeKO ontology

```
<http://dbpedia.org/resource/Knife> a ns1:Object ;
  ns1:locatedAt <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Beer_hall>,
    <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Dining_car>,
    <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Dining_room>,
    <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Galley>,
    <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Kitchen>,
    <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Restaurant> ;
  ns1:usedFor <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Carving>,
    <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Collecting>,
    <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Cooking>,
    <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Coring>,
    <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Counting>,
    <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Eating>,
    <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Engraving>,
    <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Gashing>,
    <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Hunting>,
    <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Mashing>,
    <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Notching>,
    <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Pricking>,
    <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Scratching>,
    <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Shaving>,
    <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Spearing>,
    <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Throwing>,
    <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Turning>,
    <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Writing> .
```

# Left out

... but open for discussion

- **Fundational distinctions**  
Class vs. Instance in DBpedia  
Asprino L., Basile V., Ciancarini P., Presutti  
[Empirical Analysis of Foundational Distinctions in Linked Open Data](#)  
(IJCAI 2018)
- **Nature of prototypical relations**  
Default Logic and RDF



# The End

(Q/A)



- Valerio Basile, Elena Cabrio, Fabien Gandon, Debora Nozza:  
[Mapping Natural Language Labels to Structured Web Resources](#)  
NL4AI 2018
- Valerio Basile, Roque Lopez Condori, Elena Cabrio:  
[Measuring Frame Instance Relatedness.](#)  
\*SEM 2018
- Soufian Jebbara, Valerio Basile, Elena Cabrio, Philip Cimiano (2018):  
[Extracting common sense knowledge via triple ranking using supervised and unsupervised distributional models](#)  
Semantic Web
- Avijit Shah, Valerio Basile, Elena Cabrio, Sowmya Kamath S.:  
[Frame Instance Extraction and Clustering for Default Knowledge Building.](#)  
AnSWeR 2017.
- Jay Young, Valerio Basile, Markus Suchi, Lars Kunze, Nick Hawes, Markus Vincze, Barbara Caputo:  
[Making sense of indoor spaces using semantic web mining and situated robot perception](#)  
ESWC 2017
- Jay Young, Lars Kunze, Valerio Basile, Elena Cabrio, Nick Hawes, Barbara Caputo:  
[Semantic Web-Mining and Deep Vision for Lifelong Object Discovery.](#)  
ICRA 2017
- Valerio Basile, Soufian Jebbara, Elena Cabrio, Philipp Cimiano:  
[Populating a Knowledge Base with Object-Location Relations Using Distributional Semantics](#)  
EKAW 2016
- Jay Young, Valerio Basile, Lars Kunze, Elena Cabrio, Nick Hawes:  
[Towards Lifelong Object Learning by Integrating Situated Robot Perception and Semantic Web Mining](#)  
ECAI 2016
- Valerio Basile, Elena Cabrio, Fabien Gandon:  
[Building a General Knowledge Base of Physical Objects for Robots.](#)  
ESWC 2016