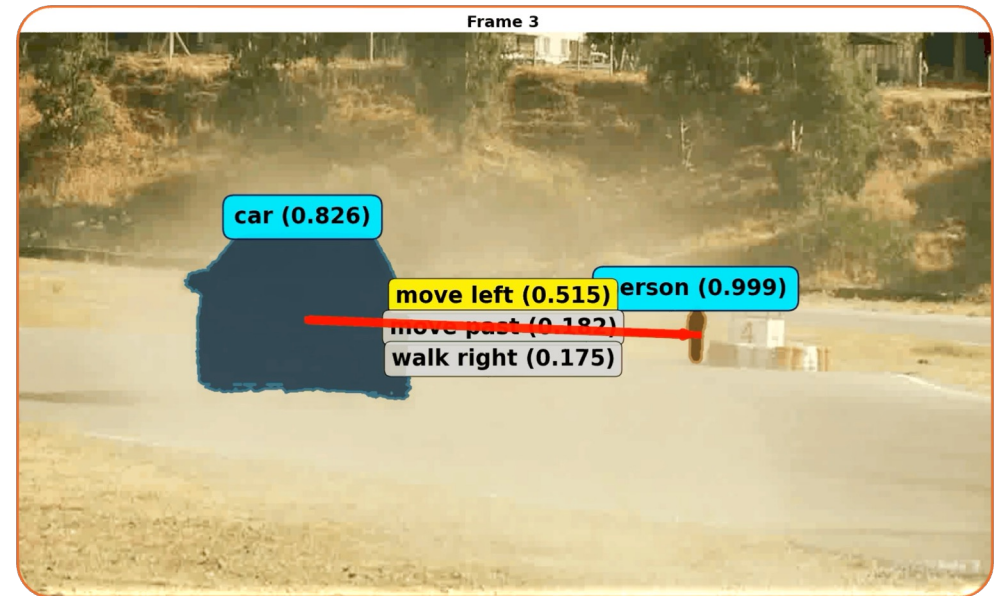
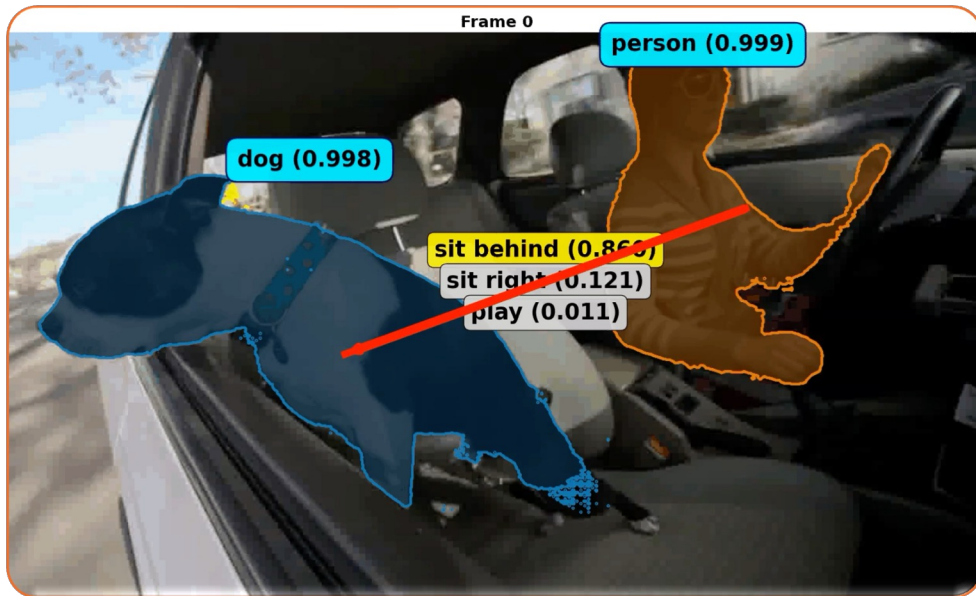


Machine Programming

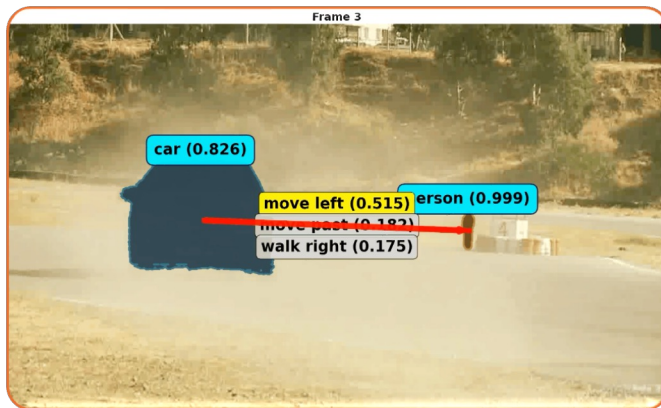
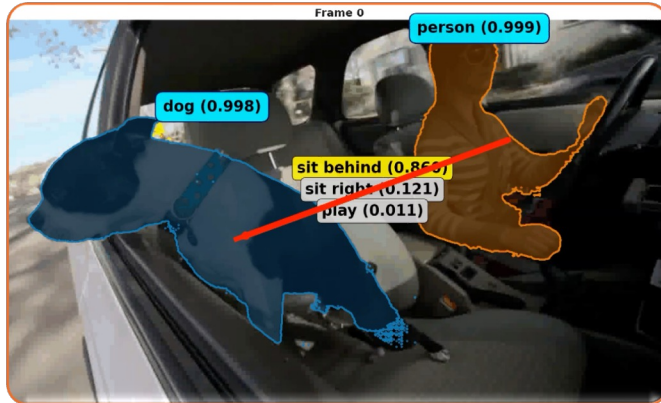
Lecture 19 – Special Topic:

Neurosymbolic Programming & Application to Computer Vision

Spatio-Temporal Scene Graphs (STSGs)



Scene Graphs

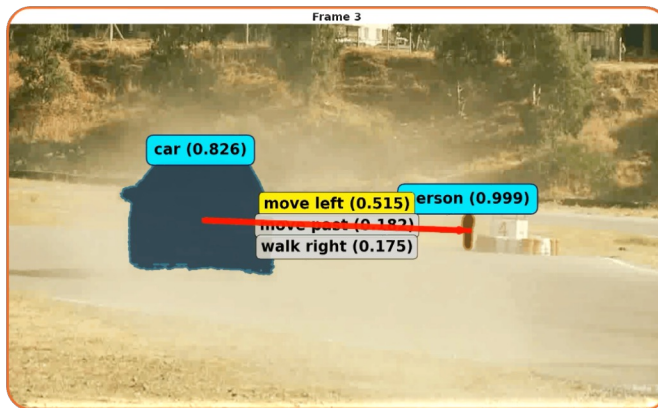


- Node: **Entity**
 - grounded by bounding-boxes or masks
- Self-loop: **Attribute**
 - entity class (e.g., person, dog, car)
 - physical properties (e.g., red, bending)
 - intransitive actions (e.g., moving, running)
- Edge: **Relations**
 - spatial relations (e.g., behind of, above)
 - interactions (e.g., moving towards)

Spatio-Temporal Scene Graphs

Evolving over time

Evolving probabilistic score is assigned to each element (node, edge, etc.) in the graph.



- Node: **Evolving Entity**
 - grounded by bounding-boxes or masks
- Self-loop: **Evolving Attribute**
 - entity class (e.g., person, dog, car)
 - physical properties (e.g., red, bending)
 - intransitive actions (e.g., moving, running)
- Edge: **Evolving Relations**
 - spatial relations (e.g., behind of, above)
 - interactions (e.g., moving towards)

Spatio-Temporal Scene Graphs: Applications



Identifying that the green cloth is “traversable” meaning that the model needs to understand **physical properties** of scene entities.

Spatio-Temporal Scene Graphs: Applications

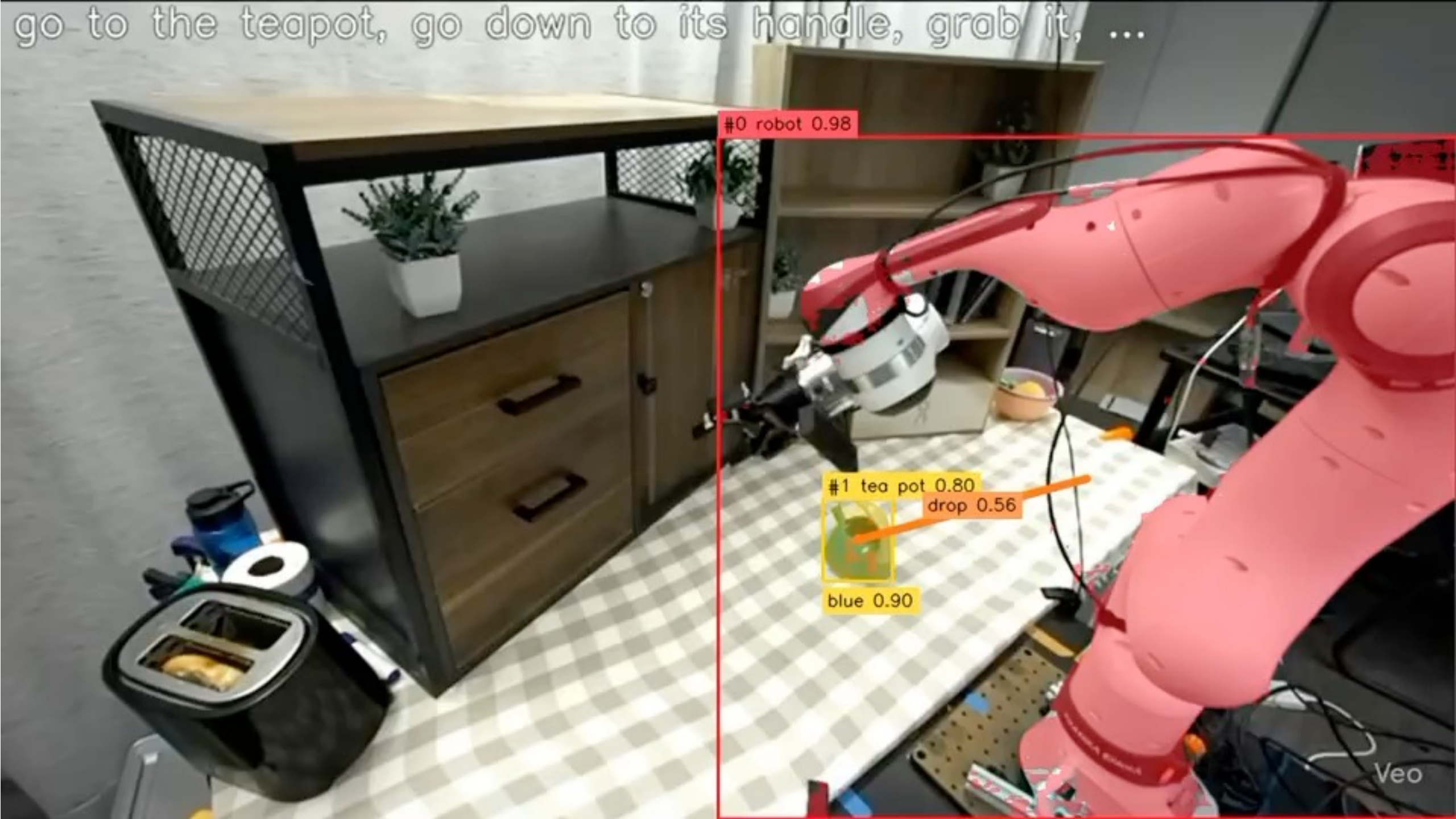
```
behavior achieve_at_3(g: Pose):  
  goal: at(g)  
  body:  
    bind x: Pose  
    bind t: Trajectory where:  
      connect(x, g, t)  
    promotable:  
      achieve at(x)  
      forall o: Object:  
        achieve not blocking(o, t)  
  do exec_traj(t)
```



```
(:action pick-up  
  :parameters (?p-paper)  
  :precondition (and  
    (at ?l)  
    (isHomeBase ?l)  
    (unpacked ?p))  
  :effect (and  
    (not (unpacked ?p))  
    (carrying ?p)))
```

Being able to **programmatically plan**
requires structured scene understanding
such as “**blocking(o, t)**”.

go to the teapot, go down to its handle, grab it, ...



#0 robot 0.98

#1 tea pot 0.80

drop 0.56

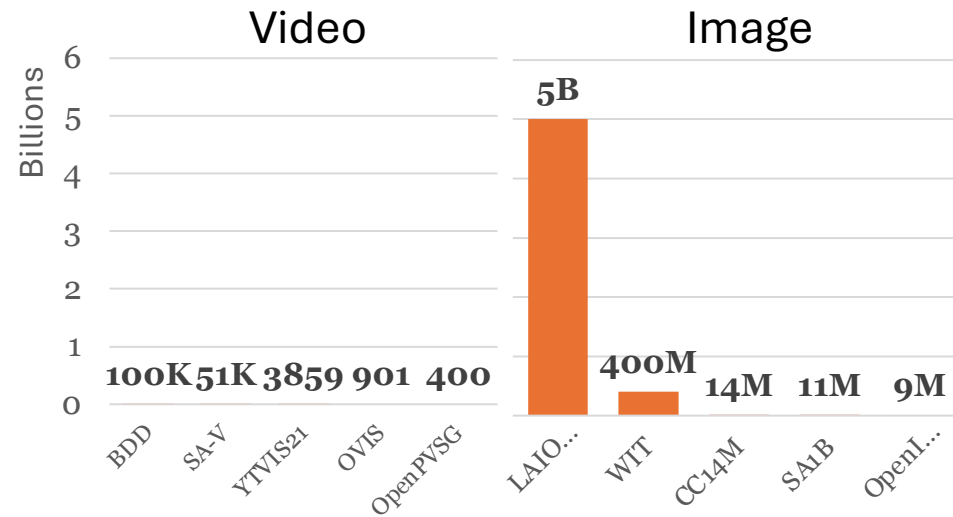
blue 0.90

Veo

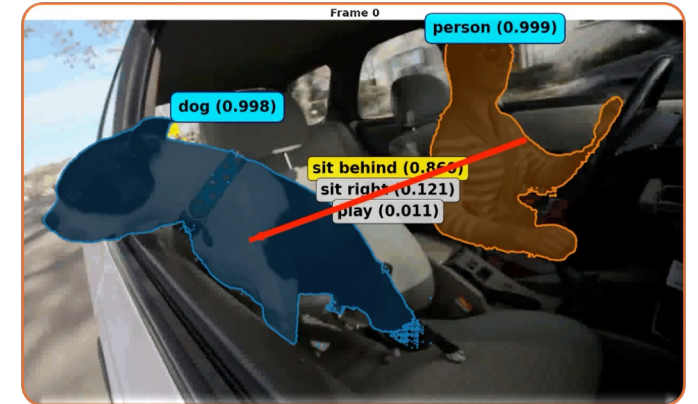
Spatio-Temporal Scene Graphs: Challenges



Unknown Granularity



Scarcity of Dataset



Open-Vocabulary

Neurosymbolic to the rescue!

- Scene graph is a **symbolic data-structure**
 - Can be regularized by specifications
 - Symbolic algorithm can align scene graphs and specifications
- **Specifications** can be extracted from **natural scene description**
 - Vision-language models can generate natural language captions
 - Captions can be semantically parsed into
- **Neurosymbolic framework** can facilitate training
 - Scallop programming language is differentiable
 - Allowing to program alignment checker for neurosymbolic learning

Agenda

Scallop, A Language for Neurosymbolic Programming

Ziyang Li, Jiani Huang, Mayur Naik
[PLDI 2023]

LASER: A Neurosymbolic Framework For Learning Spatio-temporal Scene Graphs with Weak Supervision

Jiani Huang, Ziyang Li, Ser-Nam Lim, Mayur Naik
[ICLR 2025]

ESCA: Contextualizing Embodied Agents via Scene-Graph Generation

Jiani Huang, Ziyang Li, Matthew Kuo, Amish Sethi, Neelay Velingker, Mayank Keoliya, Ser-Nam Lim, Mayur Naik
[NeurIPS 2025]

Agenda

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LASER: A Neurosymbolic Framework For Learning Spatio-temporal Scene Graphs with Weak Supervision

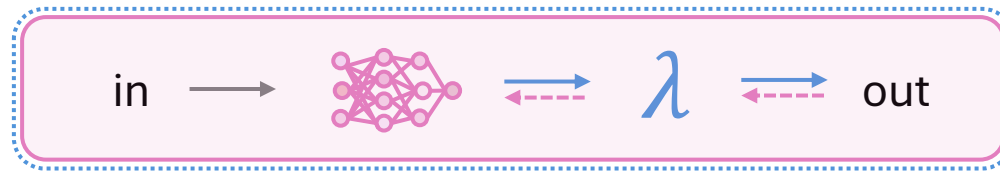
Jiani Huang, Ziyang Li, Ser-Nam Lim, Mayur Naik
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[NeurIPS 2025]



Scallop: A Language for Neurosymbolic Programming



[Algorithmic Supervision]

Illustrative Example: PacMan-Maze



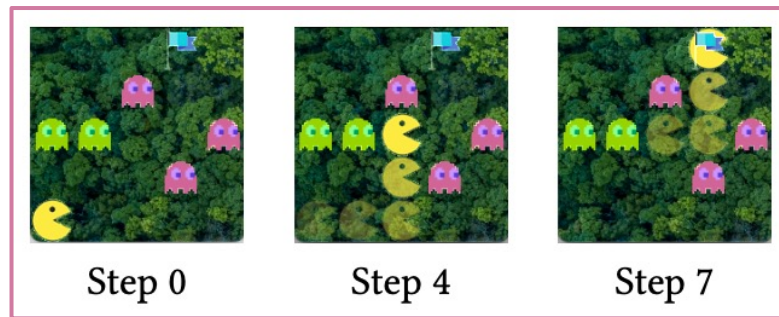
Environment: a 5x5 grid of PacMan Arena

State: 200x200 colored image

Action: Up/Down/Left/Right

Goal: Reach the flag without touching enemy
(Environments are randomly generated)

Illustrative Example: PacMan-Maze

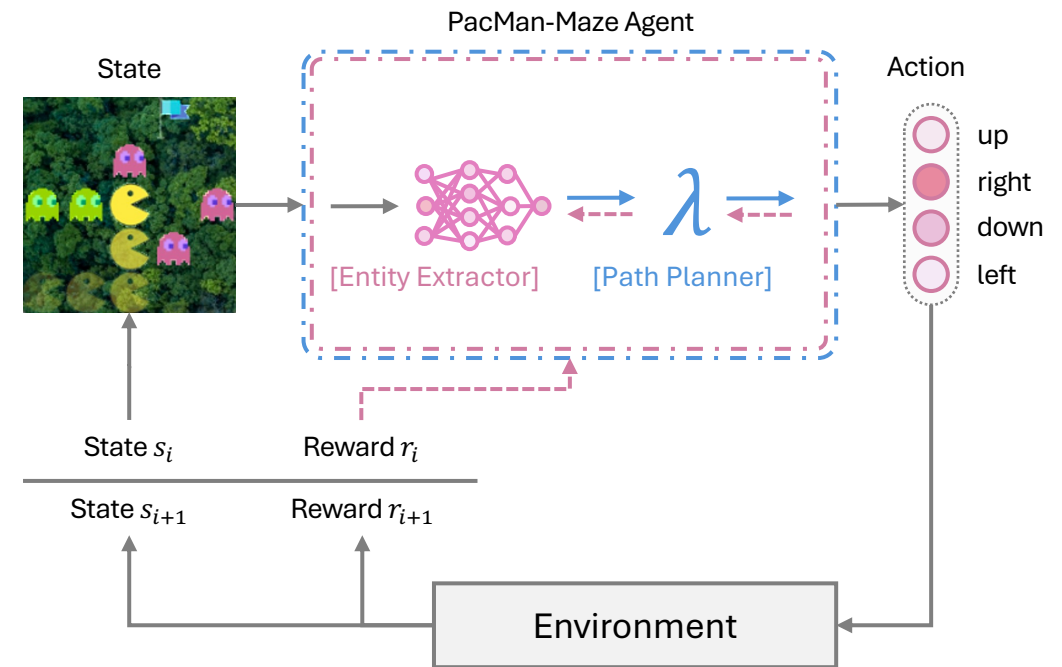


Environment: a 5x5 grid of PacMan Arena

State: 200x200 colored image

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Goal: Reach the flag without touching enemy
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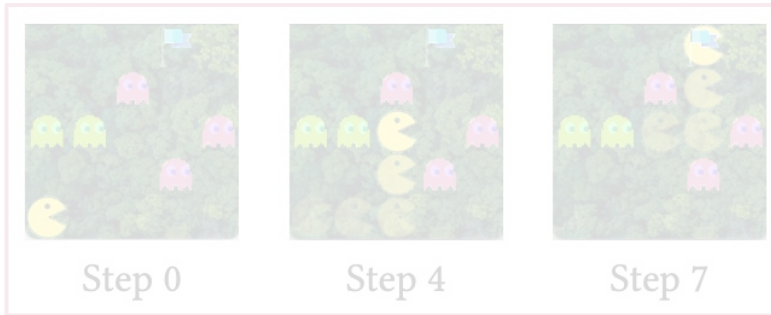
Illustrative

Entity Extractor

Simple Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) based model. Initialized randomly and needs to be trained to recognize entities.

Path Planner

Given the entities, plan the best path to reach the goal. Planner also needs to propagate learning signal to train the entity extractor.

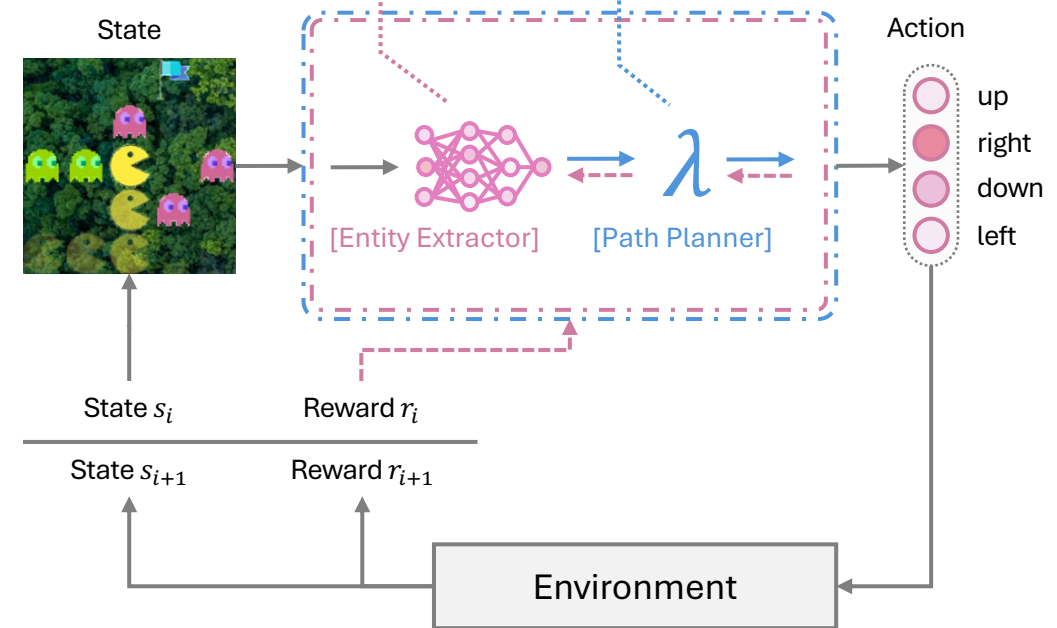


Environment: a 5x5 grid of PacMan Arena

State: 200x200 colored image

Action: Up/Down/Left/Right

Goal: Reach the flag without touching enemy
(Environments are randomly generated)



PacMan-Maze: Results



Environment: a 5x5 grid of PacMan Arena

State: 200x200 colored image

Action: Up/Down/Left/Right

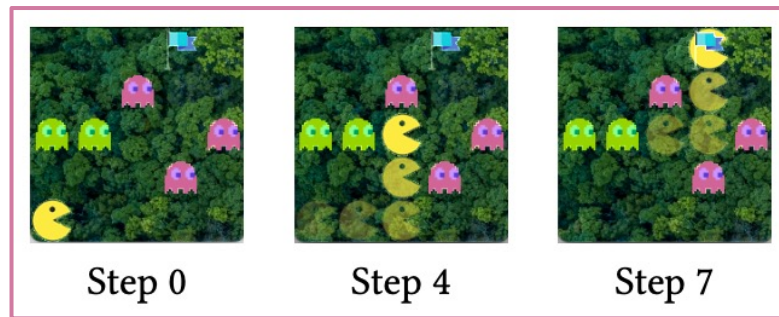
Goal: Reach the flag without touching enemy
(Environments are randomly generated)

Method	Success Rate / #Training Episodes
 [Deep-Q-Network]	84.9% / 50,000
 [Scallop+CNN Q-Learning]	99.4% / 50

Success rate: whether the flag is reached within 50 steps.

#Training Episodes: # of training episodes needed to achieve the success rate.

Illustrative Example: PacMan-Maze

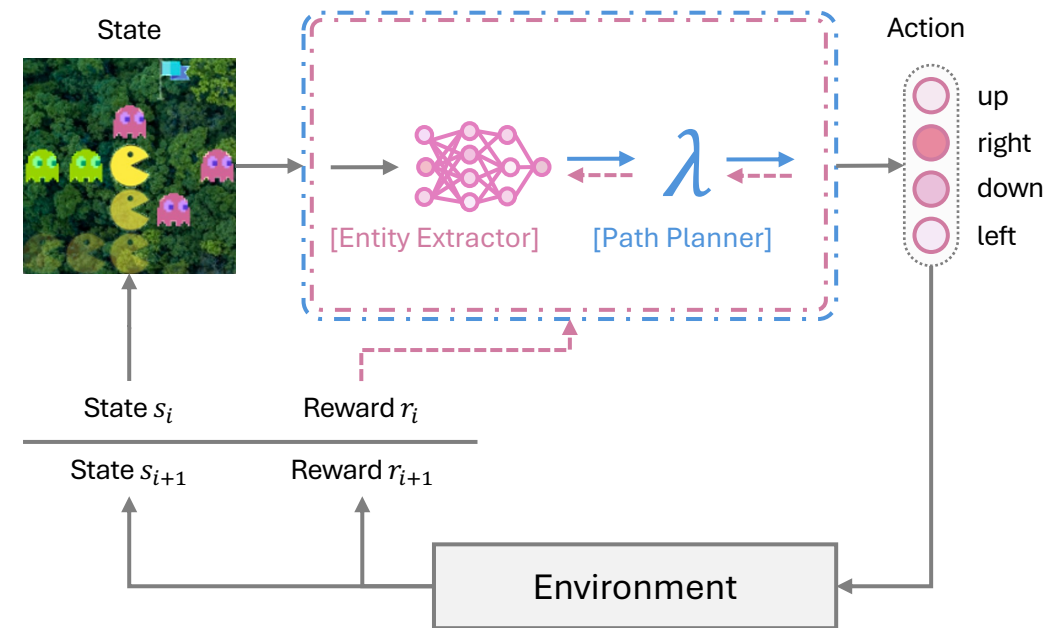


Environment: a 5x5 grid of PacMan Arena

State: 200x200 colored image

Action: Up/Down/Left/Right

Goal: Reach the flag without touching enemy
(Environments are randomly generated)



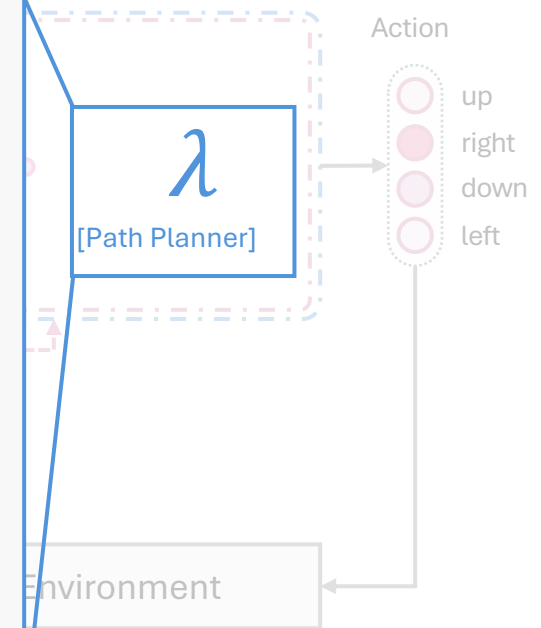
Illustrative Example: PacMan-Maze

```
// Inputs from the Entity Extractor (Neural Network)
type pacman(i: i32, j: i32), flag(i: i32, j: i32), ghost(i: i32, j: i32)

// Find safe cells and safe edges
rel safe_cell(i, j) = grid_cell(i, j) and not ghost(i, j)
rel edge(i, j, i, j + 1, UP) = safe_cell(i, j) and safe_cell(i, j + 1) //...

// Find safe paths recursively
rel path(i, j, i, j) = safe_cell(i, j)
rel path(i1, j1, i3, j3) = path(i1, j1, i2, j2) and edge(i2, j2, i3, j3, _)

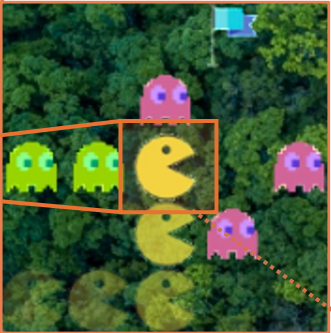
// Compute the action that can lead to the goal
rel take_action(a) = pacman(i, j) and edge(i, j, m, n, a) and
    path(m, n, g, h) and flag(g, h)
```



Illustrative Example: PacMan-Maze

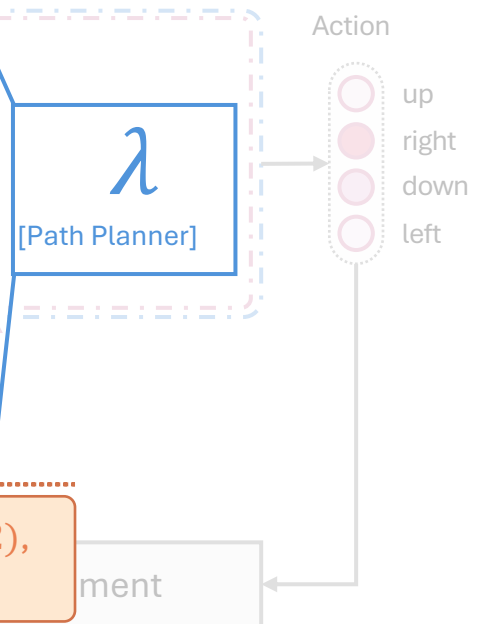
```
// Inputs from the Entity Extractor (Neural Network)
type pacman(i: i32, j: i32), flag(i: i32, j: i32), ghost(i: i32, j: i32)
```

$\Pr(\text{pacman}_{ij} \theta)$	i	j
0.00	2	1
0.92	2	2
0.02	3	4
...	...	...



Estimates the probability of PacMan being at the location (2,2), given the neural network parameters θ .

```
// Compute the action that can lead to the goal
rel take_action(a) = pacman(i, j)
path(m, n, g, h) and flag(g, h)
```



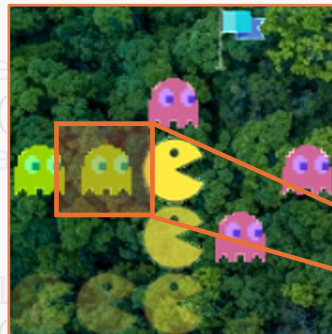
Illustrative Example: PacMan-Maze

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type pacman(i: i32, j: i32), flag(i: i32, j: i32), ghost(i: i32, j: i32)

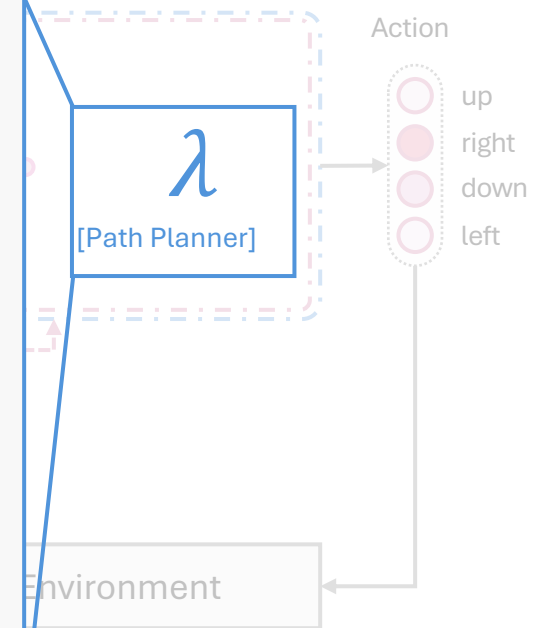
// Find safe cells and safe edges
rel safe_cell(i, j) = grid_cell(i, j) and not exists ghost(i, j)
rel edge(i, j, i2, j2, a) = safe_cell(i, j) and safe_cell(i2, j2) and
    (i2 = i + 1 and j2 = j and a = UP) or
    (i2 = i - 1 and j2 = j and a = DOWN) or
    (i2 = i and j2 = j + 1 and a = LEFT) or
    (i2 = i and j2 = j - 1 and a = RIGHT)

// Find safe paths recursively
rel path(i, j, i, j) = safe_cell(i, j)
rel path(i1, j1, i3, j3) = path(i1, j1, i2, j2) and edge(i2, j2, i3, j3, _)

// Compute the action that can lead to the goal
rel take_action(a) = pacman(i, j) and edge(i, j, m, n, a) and
    path(m, n, g, h) and flag(g, h)
```



$\text{Pr}(\text{ghost}_{ij} \theta)$	i	j
0.00	0	0
0.94	1	2
0.85	2	1
...	...	...



Illustrative Example: PacMan_Maze

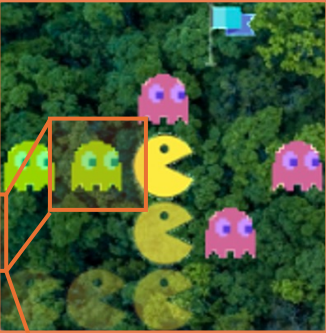
```
// Inputs from the Entity Extractor (Neural Network)
type pacman(i: i32, j: i32), flag(i: i32, j: i32), ghost(i: i32, j: i32)

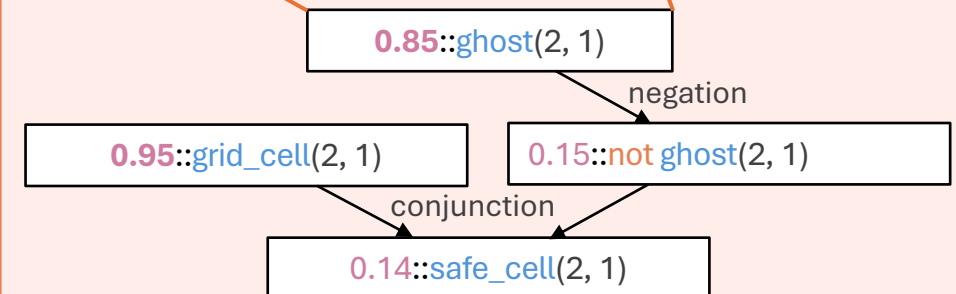
// Find safe cells and safe edges
rel safe_cell(i, j) = grid_cell(i, j) and not ghost(i, j)
rel edge(i, j, i, j + 1, UP) = safe_cell(i, j) and safe_cell(i, j + 1)

// Find safe paths recursively
rel path(i, j, i, j) = safe_cell(i, j)
rel path(i1, j1, i3, j3) = path(i1, j1, i2, j2) and edge(i2, j2, i3, j3)

// Compute the action that can lead to the goal
rel take_action(a) = pacman(i, j) and edge(i, j, m, n, a) and
    path(m, n, g, h) and flag(g, h)
```

Illustration of Probabilistic Reasoning

$\Pr(\text{ghost}_{ij} \theta)$	i	j	
0.00	0	0	
0.94	1	2	
0.85	2	1	
...	...	...	



Illustrative Example: PacMan_Maze

```
// Inputs from the Entity Extractor (Neural Network)
type pacman(i: i32, j: i32), flag(i: i32, j: i32), ghost(i: i32, j: i32)

// Find safe cells and safe edges
rel safe_cell(i, j) = grid_cell(i, j) and not ghost(i, j)
rel edge(i, j, i1, j1, UP) = safe_cell(i, j) and safe_cell(i1, j1)

// Find safe paths
rel path(i, j, i1, j1, UP) = safe_cell(i, j) and safe_cell(i1, j1)
rel path(i1, j1, i2, j2, UP) = safe_cell(i1, j1) and safe_cell(i2, j2)

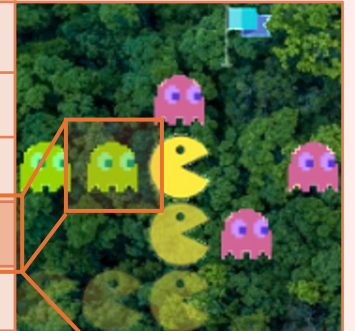
// Compute the action that can lead to the goal
rel take_action(a) = pacman(i, j) and edge(i, j, m, n, a) and
    path(m, n, g, h) and flag(g, h)
```

$$\frac{\partial g_{21}}{\partial \theta}$$

The gradient carries **partial derivative** with respect to neural-network parameters!

Illustration of **Differentiable** Reasoning

$\text{Pr}(\text{ghost}_{ij} \theta)$	i	j
$\langle 0.00, \nabla g_{00} \rangle$	0	0
$\langle 0.94, \nabla g_{12} \rangle$	1	2
$\langle 0.85, \nabla g_{21} \rangle$	2	1
...	...	...



$\langle 0.85, \nabla g_{21} \rangle :: \text{ghost}(2, 1)$

negation

$\langle 0.15, -\nabla g_{21} \rangle :: \text{not ghost}(2, 1)$

$\langle 0.95, \vec{0} \rangle :: \text{grid_cell}(2, 1)$

conjunction

$\langle 0.14, -0.95 \cdot \nabla g_{21} \rangle :: \text{safe_cell}(2, 1)$

Illustrative Example: PacMan-Maz

```
// Inputs from the Entity Extractor (Neural Network)
type pacman(i: i32, j: i32)

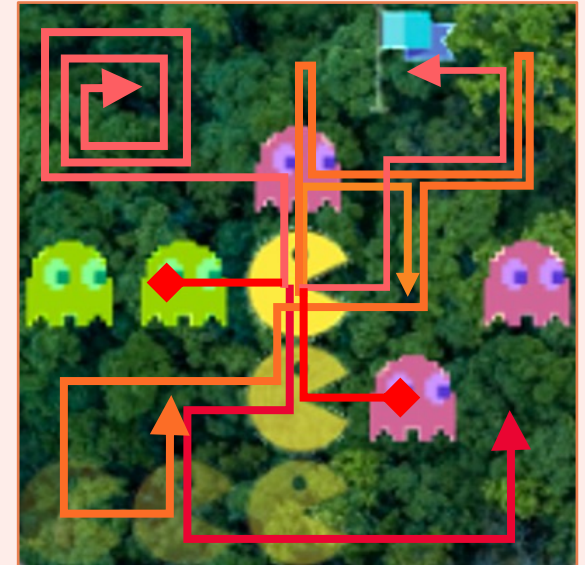
// Find safe cells and safe edges
rel safe_cell(i, j) = grid_cell(i, j) and not ghost(i, j)
rel edge(i, j, i, j + 1, UP) = safe_cell(i, j) and safe_cell(i, j + 1) //...

// Find safe paths recursively
rel path(i, j, i, j) = safe_cell(i, j)
rel path(i1, j1, i3, j3) = path(i1, j1, i2, j2) and edge(i2, j2, i3, j3, _)

// Compute the action that can lead to the goal
rel take_action(a) = pacman(i, j) and edge(i, j, m, n, a) and
    path(m, n, g, h) and flag(g, h)
```

Recursively building safe paths by appending safe edges to existing safe paths.

What would happen when reasoning becomes more **complicated**?



Non-Termination

Complexity of Exact Probability Estimation

Illustrative Exam

```
// Inputs from the Environment
type pacman(i: i32, j: j32) = ...

// Find safe cells and edges
rel safe_cell(i, j) = grid_cell(i, j) and not ghost(i, j)
rel edge(i, j, i1, j1, direction) = safe_cell(i, j) and
```

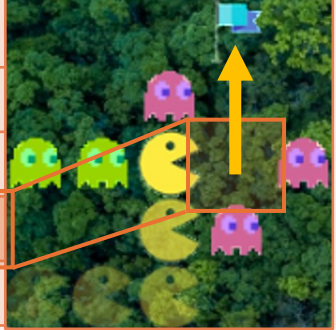
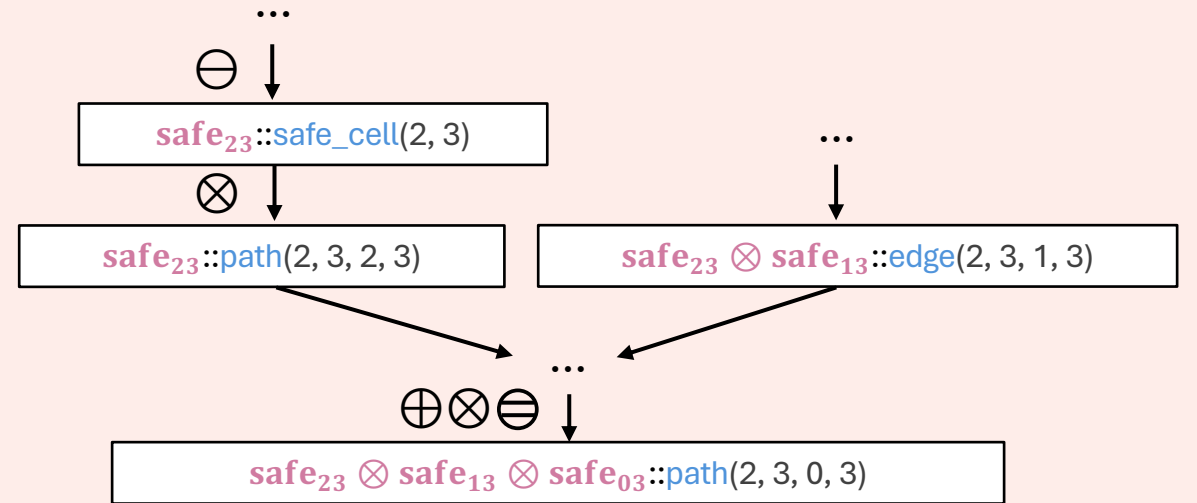
```
// Find safe paths recursively
rel path(i, j, i, j) = safe_cell(i, j)
rel path(i1, j1, i3, j3) = path(i1, j1, i2, j2) and
```

```
// Compute the action that can lead to the goal
rel take_action(a) = pacman(i, j) and edge(i, j, i1, j1, direction) and
```

(Tag Space) $t \in T$
 (False) $0 \in T$
 (True) $1 \in T$
 (Disjunction) $\oplus : T \times T \rightarrow T$
 (Conjunction) $\otimes : T \times T \rightarrow T$
 (Negation) $\ominus : T \rightarrow T$
 (Saturation) $\ominus : T \times T \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

Illustration of Abstracted Tagged-Semantics

Tag: T	i	j
safe ₀₀	0	0
safe ₁₃	1	3
safe ₂₃	2	3
...	...	...

Built-in Library of Provenance Structures

Kind	Provenance	T	0	1	$\oplus$	$\otimes$	$\ominus$	$\ominus$	τ	ρ
Discrete	unit	$\{()\}$	$()$	$()$	$\lambda t_1, t_2.()$	$\lambda t_1, t_2.()$	$\lambda a.\text{FAIL}$	$==$	$\lambda i.()$	$\lambda t.()$
	bool	$\{\top, \perp\}$	$\perp$	$\top$	$\vee$	$\wedge$	$\neg$	$==$	id	id
	natural	$\mathbb{N}$	0	1	$+$	$\times$				
Probabilistic	max-min-prob	$[0, 1]$	0	1	max	min				
	add-mult-prob	$[0, 1]$	0	1	$\lambda t_1, t_2.\text{clamp}(t_1 + t_2)$	$\lambda t_1, t_2.(t_1 \cdot t_2)$				
	nand-min-prob	$[0, 1]$	0	1	$\lambda t_1, t_2. - (1 - t_1)(1 - t_2)$	min				
	nand-mult-prob	$[0, 1]$	0	1	$\lambda t_1, t_2. - (1 - t_1)(1 - t_2)$	$\lambda t_1, t_2.t_1 \cdot t_2$				
	top-k-proofs	Φ	$\emptyset$	$\{\emptyset\}$	$\vee_{\text{top-}k}$	$\wedge_{\text{top-}k}$				
	sample-k-proofs	Φ	$\emptyset$	$\{\emptyset\}$	$\vee_{\text{sample-}k}$	$\wedge_{\text{sample-}k}$				
Differentiable	diff-max-min-prob	$\mathbb{D}$	$\hat{0}$	$\hat{1}$	max	min				
	diff-add-mult-prob	$\mathbb{D}$	$\hat{0}$	$\hat{1}$	$\lambda \hat{t}_1, \hat{t}_2.\text{clamp}(\hat{t}_1 + \hat{t}_2)$	$\lambda \hat{t}_1, \hat{t}_2.\hat{t}_1 \cdot \hat{t}_2$				
	diff-nand-min-prob	$[\hat{0}, \hat{1}]$	$\hat{0}$	$\hat{1}$	$\lambda \hat{t}_1, \hat{t}_2. - (\hat{1} - \hat{t}_1)(\hat{1} - \hat{t}_2)$	min				
	diffnand-mult-prob	$[\hat{0}, \hat{1}]$	$\hat{0}$	$\hat{1}$	$\lambda \hat{t}_1, \hat{t}_2. - (\hat{1} - \hat{t}_1)(\hat{1} - \hat{t}_2)$	$\lambda \hat{t}_1, \hat{t}_2.\hat{t}_1 \cdot \hat{t}_2$				
	diff-top-k-proofs	Φ	$\emptyset$	$\{\emptyset\}$	$\vee_{\text{top-}k}$	$\wedge_{\text{top-}k}$	$\neg_{\text{top-}k}$	$==$	$\lambda \hat{p}_i.\{\{\text{pos}(i)\}\}$	$\lambda \varphi.\text{WMC}(\varphi, \hat{\Gamma})$
	diff-sample-k-proofs	Φ	$\emptyset$	$\{\emptyset\}$	$\vee_{\text{sample-}k}$	$\wedge_{\text{sample-}k}$	$\neg_{\text{sample-}k}$	$==$	$\lambda \hat{p}_i.\{\{\text{pos}(i)\}\}$	$\lambda \varphi.\text{WMC}(\varphi, \hat{\Gamma})$
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

(Tag Space) $t \in T$
 (False) $0 \in T$
 (True) $1 \in T$
 (Disjunction) $\oplus : T \times T \rightarrow T$
 (Conjunction) $\otimes : T \times T \rightarrow T$
 (Negation) $\ominus : T \rightarrow T$
 (Saturation) $\ominus : T \times T \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

Inspired by *Provenance Semiring* (Green et. al. PODS 2007)

Approximated Probabilistic Provenance

Top-k Proofs

- T_{tkp} : Boolean Formula in **DNF**
- $\otimes_{tkp}$: Perform the logical “conjunction”, “disjunction”, and “negation”, while **preserving only the k most significant conjunctive clauses**.
- $\oplus_{tkp}$: while **preserving only the k most significant conjunctive clauses**.
- $\ominus_{tkp}$:

Top-Bottom-k Clauses

- T_{tbkc} : Boolean Formula in **DNF** or **CNF**
- $\otimes_{tbkc}$: Perform the logical “conjunction”, “disjunction”, and “negation”. For DNF, keep the **top- k conjunctive clauses**, while for CNF, keep the **bottom- k disjunctive clauses**.
- $\oplus_{tbkc}$:
- $\ominus_{tbkc}$:

Optimal-k Proofs

- T_{okp} : Boolean Formula in **DNF**
- $\otimes_{okp}$: Employs a **greedy** algorithm to preserve the **k conjunctive clauses** that has a joint probability the **closest to the exact probability**.
- $\oplus_{okp}$:
- $\ominus_{okp}$: Inspired by [Renkens et. al. 2012]

Performs **Weighted Model Counting (WMC)** to recover probabilities from Boolean formula ϕ_y .

$$\Pr(y \mid \theta) = \text{WMC}(\phi_y, \{x \mapsto \Pr(x \mid \theta)\})$$

(Tag Space)	t	$\in$	T
(False)	0	$\in$	T
(True)	1	$\in$	T
(Disjunction)	$\oplus$	:	$T \times T \rightarrow T$
(Conjunction)	$\otimes$	:	$T \times T \rightarrow T$
(Negation)	$\ominus$	:	$T \rightarrow T$
(Saturation)	$\ominus$	:	$T \times T \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

Approximated Differentiable Provenance

Diff. Top-k Proofs

- T_{tkp} : Boolean Formula in DNF
- $\otimes_{tkp}$: Perform the logical "conjunction", "disjunction", and "negation", while
- $\oplus_{tkp}$: preserving only the k most significant conjunctive clauses.
- $\ominus_{tkp}$: clauses.

Diff. Top-Bottom-k Clauses

- T_{tbkc} : Boolean Formula in DNF or CNF
- $\otimes_{tbkc}$: Perform the logical "conjunction", "disjunction", and "negation". For DNF, keep the
- $\oplus_{tbkc}$: top- k conjunctive clauses, while
- $\ominus_{tbkc}$: for CNF, keep the bottom- k disjunctive clauses.

Diff. Optimal-k Proofs

- T_{okp} : Boolean Formula in DNF
- $\otimes_{okp}$: Employs a greedy algorithm to preserve the k conjunctive clauses that has a joint probability the closest to the exact probability.
- $\oplus_{okp}$: Inspired by [Renkens et. al. 2012]
- $\ominus_{okp}$:

Performs Weighted Model Counting (WMC) to recover probabilities with gradients from Boolean formula ϕ_y .

$$\langle \Pr(y \mid \theta), \nabla \Pr(y \mid \theta) \rangle = \text{WMC}(\phi_y, \{x \mapsto \langle \Pr(x \mid \theta), \nabla \Pr(x \mid \theta) \rangle\})$$

(Tag Space)	t	$\in$	T
(False)	0	$\in$	T
(True)	1	$\in$	T
(Disjunction)	$\oplus$	:	$T \times T \rightarrow T$
(Conjunction)	$\otimes$	:	$T \times T \rightarrow T$
(Negation)	$\ominus$	:	$T \rightarrow T$
(Saturation)	$\ominus$	:	$T \times T \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

Built-in Library of Provenance Structures

Kind	Provenance	T	0	1	$\oplus$	$\otimes$	$\ominus$	$\ominus$	τ	ρ
Discrete	unit	$\{()\}$	$()$	$()$	$\lambda t_1, t_2.()$	$\lambda t_1, t_2.()$	$\lambda a.\text{FAIL}$	$==$	$\lambda i.()$	$\lambda t.()$
	bool	$\{\top, \perp\}$	$\perp$	$\top$	$\vee$	$\wedge$	$\neg$	$==$	id	id
	natural	$\mathbb{N}$	0	1	$+$	$\times$				
Probabilistic	max-min-prob	$[0, 1]$	0	1	max	min				
	add-mult-prob	$[0, 1]$	0	1	$\lambda t_1, t_2.\text{clamp}(t_1 + t_2)$	$\lambda t_1, t_2.(t_1 \cdot t_2)$				
	nand-min-prob	$[0, 1]$	0	1	$\lambda t_1, t_2. - (1 - t_1)(1 - t_2)$	min				
	nand-mult-prob	$[0, 1]$	0	1	$\lambda t_1, t_2. - (1 - t_1)(1 - t_2)$	$\lambda t_1, t_2.t_1 \cdot t_2$				
	top-k-proofs	Φ	$\emptyset$	$\{\emptyset\}$	$\vee_{\text{top-}k}$	$\wedge_{\text{top-}k}$				
	sample-k-proofs	Φ	$\emptyset$	$\{\emptyset\}$	$\vee_{\text{sample-}k}$	$\wedge_{\text{sample-}k}$				
Differentiable	diff-max-min-prob	$\mathbb{D}$	$\hat{0}$	$\hat{1}$	max	min				
	diff-add-mult-prob	$\mathbb{D}$	$\hat{0}$	$\hat{1}$	$\lambda \hat{t}_1, \hat{t}_2.\text{clamp}(\hat{t}_1 + \hat{t}_2)$	$\lambda \hat{t}_1, \hat{t}_2.\hat{t}_1 \cdot \hat{t}_2$				
	diff-nand-min-prob	$[\hat{0}, \hat{1}]$	$\hat{0}$	$\hat{1}$	$\lambda \hat{t}_1, \hat{t}_2. - (\hat{1} - \hat{t}_1)(\hat{1} - \hat{t}_2)$	min				
	diffnand-mult-prob	$[\hat{0}, \hat{1}]$	$\hat{0}$	$\hat{1}$	$\lambda \hat{t}_1, \hat{t}_2. - (\hat{1} - \hat{t}_1)(\hat{1} - \hat{t}_2)$	$\lambda \hat{t}_1, \hat{t}_2.\hat{t}_1 \cdot \hat{t}_2$				
	diff-top-k-proofs	Φ	$\emptyset$	$\{\emptyset\}$	$\vee_{\text{top-}k}$	$\wedge_{\text{top-}k}$	$\neg_{\text{top-}k}$	$==$	$\lambda \hat{p}_i.\{\{\text{pos}(i)\}\}$	$\lambda \varphi.\text{WMC}(\varphi, \hat{\Gamma})$
	diff-sample-k-proofs	Φ	$\emptyset$	$\{\emptyset\}$	$\vee_{\text{sample-}k}$	$\wedge_{\text{sample-}k}$	$\neg_{\text{sample-}k}$	$==$	$\lambda \hat{p}_i.\{\{\text{pos}(i)\}\}$	$\lambda \varphi.\text{WMC}(\varphi, \hat{\Gamma})$
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

(Tag Space) $t \in T$
 (False) $0 \in T$
 (True) $1 \in T$
 (Disjunction) $\oplus : T \times T \rightarrow T$
 (Conjunction) $\otimes : T \times T \rightarrow T$
 (Negation) $\ominus : T \rightarrow T$
 (Saturation) $\ominus : T \times T \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

Inspired by *Provenance Semiring* (Green et. al. PODS 2007)

Built-in Library of Provenance Structures

Kind	Provenance	T	0	1	$\oplus$	$\otimes$	$\ominus$	$\ominus$	τ	ρ
Discrete	unit	$\{()\}$	$()$	$()$	$\lambda t_1, t_2.()$	$\lambda t_1, t_2.()$	$\lambda a.\text{FAIL}$	$==$	$\lambda i.()$	$\lambda t.()$
	bool						$\neg$	$==$	id	id
	natural						$\lambda n.\mathbb{I}[n > 0]$	$==$	id	id
Probabilistic	max-min-p						$\lambda t.1 - t$	$==$	id	id
	add-mult-p						$\lambda t.1 - t$	$\lambda t.\top$	id	id
	nand-min-prob	$[0, 1]$	0	1	$\lambda t_1, t_2. (1 - t_1)(1 - t_2)$	$\min$	$\lambda t.1 - t$	$\lambda t.\top$	id	id
	nand-mult-prob	$[0, 1]$	0	1	$\lambda t_1, t_2. (1 - t_1)(1 - t_2)$	$\lambda t_1, t_2. t_1 \cdot t_2$	$\lambda t.1 - t$	$\lambda t.\top$	id	id
	top-k-proofs	Φ	$\emptyset$	$\{\emptyset\}$	$\vee_{\text{top-}k}$	$\wedge_{\text{top-}k}$	$\neg_{\text{top-}k}$	$==$	$\lambda p_i. \{\{\text{pos}(i)\}\}$	$\lambda \varphi. \text{WMC}(\varphi, \Gamma)$
	sample-k-proofs	Φ	$\emptyset$	$\{\emptyset\}$	$\vee_{\text{sample-}k}$	$\wedge_{\text{sample-}k}$	$\neg_{\text{sample-}k}$	$==$	$\lambda p_i. \{\{\text{pos}(i)\}\}$	$\lambda \varphi. \text{WMC}(\varphi, \Gamma)$
Differentiable	diff-max-min-prob	$\mathbb{D}$	$\hat{0}$	$\hat{1}$	$\max$	$\min$	$\lambda \hat{t}. \hat{1} - \hat{t}$	$==$	id	id
	diff-add-mult-prob	$\mathbb{D}$	$\hat{0}$	$\hat{1}$	$\lambda \hat{t}_1, \hat{t}_2. \text{clamp}(\hat{t}_1 + \hat{t}_2)$	$\lambda \hat{t}_1, \hat{t}_2. \hat{t}_1 \cdot \hat{t}_2$	$\lambda \hat{t}. \hat{1} - \hat{t}$	$\lambda \hat{t}. \top$	id	id
	diff-nand-min-prob	$[\hat{0}, \hat{1}]$	$\hat{0}$	$\hat{1}$	$\lambda \hat{t}_1, \hat{t}_2. (1 - \hat{t}_1)(1 - \hat{t}_2)$	$\min$	$\lambda \hat{t}. \hat{1} - \hat{t}$	$\lambda \hat{t}. \top$	id	id
	diffnand-mult-prob	$[\hat{0}, \hat{1}]$	$\hat{0}$	$\hat{1}$	$\lambda \hat{t}_1, \hat{t}_2. (1 - \hat{t}_1)(1 - \hat{t}_2)$	$\lambda \hat{t}_1, \hat{t}_2. \hat{t}_1 \cdot \hat{t}_2$	$\lambda \hat{t}. \hat{1} - \hat{t}$	$\lambda \hat{t}. \top$	id	id
	diff-top-k-proofs	Φ	$\emptyset$	$\{\emptyset\}$	$\vee_{\text{top-}k}$	$\wedge_{\text{top-}k}$	$\neg_{\text{top-}k}$	$==$	$\lambda \hat{p}_i. \{\{\text{pos}(i)\}\}$	$\lambda \varphi. \text{WMC}(\varphi, \hat{\Gamma})$
	diff-sample-k-proofs	Φ	$\emptyset$	$\{\emptyset\}$	$\vee_{\text{sample-}k}$	$\wedge_{\text{sample-}k}$	$\neg_{\text{sample-}k}$	$==$	$\lambda \hat{p}_i. \{\{\text{pos}(i)\}\}$	$\lambda \varphi. \text{WMC}(\varphi, \Gamma)$
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Employing **approximation** algorithms helps in scaling the probabilistic and differentiable reasoning modules.

Allowing extensions such as uncertainty intervals and embeddings

Built-in Library of Provenance Structures

Kind	Provenance	T	0	1	$\oplus$	$\otimes$	$\ominus$	$\ominus$	τ	ρ
Discrete	unit	$\{()\}$	$()$	$()$	$\lambda t_1, t_2.()$	$\lambda t_1, t_2.()$	$\lambda a.\text{FAIL}$	$==$	$\lambda i.()$	$\lambda t.()$
	bool	$\{\top, \perp\}$	$\perp$	$\top$	$\vee$	$\wedge$	$\neg$	$==$	id	id
	natural	$\mathbb{N}$	0	1	$+$	$\times$	$\lambda n. \mathbb{1}[n > 0]$	$==$	id	id
Probabilistic	max-min-prob	$[0, 1]$	0	1	max	min	$\lambda t. 1 - t$	$==$	id	id
	diff-add-mult-prob	$\mathbb{D}$	0	1	$\lambda \hat{t}_1, \hat{t}_2. \text{clamp}(\hat{t}_1 + \hat{t}_2)$	$\lambda \hat{t}_1, \hat{t}_2. \hat{t}_1 \cdot \hat{t}_2$	$\lambda \hat{t}. 1 - \hat{t}$	$\lambda \hat{t}. \top$	id	id
	diff-nand-min-prob	$[\hat{0}, \hat{1}]$	$\hat{0}$	$\hat{1}$	$\lambda \hat{t}_1, \hat{t}_2. -(\hat{1} - \hat{t}_1)(\hat{1} - \hat{t}_2)$	min	$\lambda \hat{t}. \hat{1} - \hat{t}$	$\lambda \hat{t}. \top$	id	id
Differentiable	diffnand-mult-prob	$[\hat{0}, \hat{1}]$	$\hat{0}$	$\hat{1}$	$\lambda \hat{t}_1, \hat{t}_2. -(\hat{1} - \hat{t}_1)(\hat{1} - \hat{t}_2)$	$\lambda \hat{t}_1, \hat{t}_2. \hat{t}_1 \cdot \hat{t}_2$	$\lambda \hat{t}. \hat{1} - \hat{t}$	$\lambda \hat{t}. \top$	id	id
	diff-top-k-proofs	Φ	$\emptyset$	$\{\emptyset\}$	$\vee_{\text{top-}k}$	$\wedge_{\text{top-}k}$	$\neg_{\text{top-}k}$	$==$	$\lambda \hat{p}_i. \{\{\text{pos}(i)\}\}$	$\lambda \varphi. \text{WMC}(\varphi, \hat{\Gamma})$
	diff-sample-k-proofs	Φ	$\emptyset$	$\{\emptyset\}$	$\vee_{\text{sample-}k}$	$\wedge_{\text{sample-}k}$	$\neg_{\text{sample-}k}$	$==$	$\lambda \hat{p}_i. \{\{\text{pos}(i)\}\}$	$\lambda \varphi. \text{WMC}(\varphi, \hat{\Gamma})$
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

While the syntax of Scallop program remains familiar, employing different tags allows **discrete**, **probabilistic**, and **differentiable** modes of reasoning.

Illustrative Exam

```
// Inputs from the Entity Extractor (Neural Netwo
type pacman(i: i32, j: i32), flag(i: i32, j: i32)

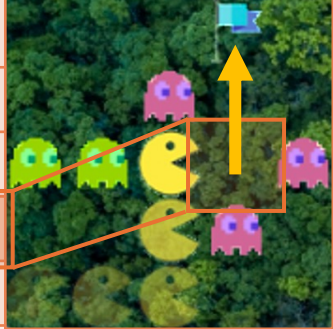
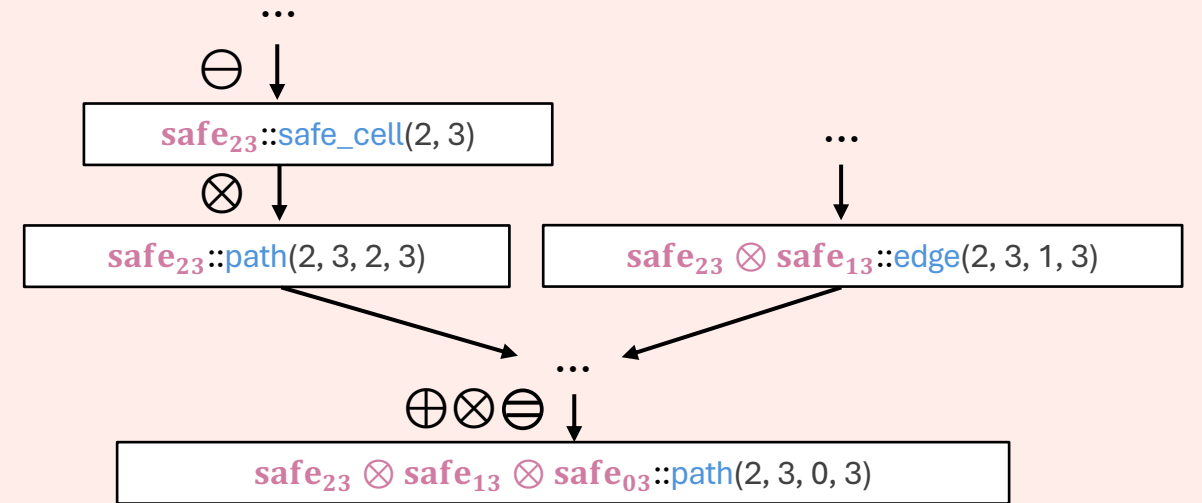
// Find safe cells and safe edges
rel safe_cell(i, j) = grid_cell(i, j) and not gho
rel edge(i, j, i, j + 1, UP) = safe_cell(i, j) and

// Find safe paths recursively
rel path(i, j, i, j) = safe_cell(i, j)
rel path(i1, j1, i3, j3) = path(i1, j1, i2, j2) a

// Compute the action that can lead to the goal
rel take_action(a) = pacman(i, j) and edge(i, j,
```

Illustration of Abstracted Tagged-Semantics

Tag: T	i	j
safe_{00}	0	0
safe_{13}	1	3
safe_{23}	2	3
...	...	...

Illustrative Example: PacM

```
// Inputs from the Entity
type pacman(i: i32, j: i32)

// Find safe cells and safe paths
rel safe_cell(i, j) = g(i, j) and not flag(i, j)
rel edge(i, j, i1, j1) = g(i, j) and g(i1, j1) and not flag(i, j) and not flag(i1, j1)

// Find safe paths recursively
rel path(i, j, i1, j1) = safe_cell(i, j) and safe_cell(i1, j1) and edge(i, j, i1, j1)
rel path(i1, j1, i3, j3) = path(i, j, i1, j1) and path(i1, j1, i3, j3)

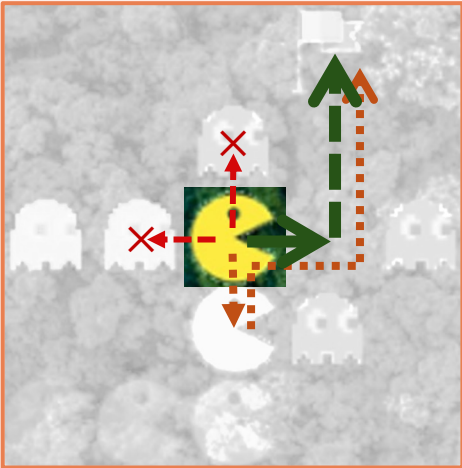
// Compute the action that can lead to the goal
rel take_action(a) = pacman(i, j) and edge(i, j, m, n, a) and path(m, n, g, h) and flag(g, h)
```

Estimates the **probability of success** after taking the action a , conditioned on neural network parameters θ .

`take_action(RIGHT) <- pacman(2,2) and not ghost(2,3) and not ghost(1,3) and flag(0,3) or ...`

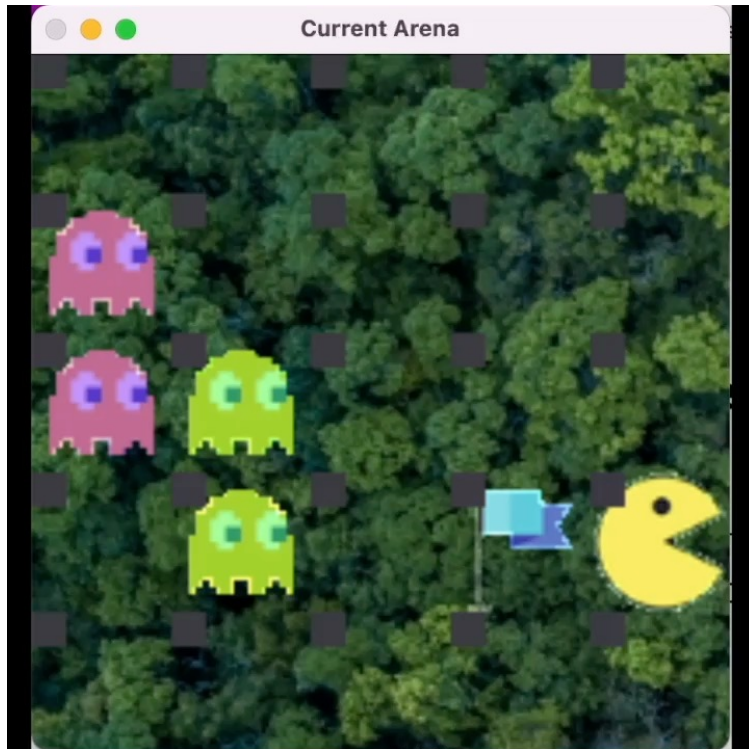
$$\Pr(\text{success} \mid \text{action} = \text{RIGHT}) = \Pr(\text{pacman}_{22}) \times (1 - \Pr(\text{ghost}_{23})) \times (1 - \Pr(\text{ghost}_{13})) \times \Pr(\text{flag}_{03}) + \dots$$

Applying Top-k-Proofs Provenance



$\widehat{\Pr}(\text{success} \mid \text{action} = a, \theta)$	a
$\langle 0.01, \nabla \text{UP} \rangle$	UP
$\langle 0.92, \nabla \text{RIGHT} \rangle$	RIGHT
$\langle 0.79, \nabla \text{DOWN} \rangle$	DOWN
$\langle 0.02, \nabla \text{LEFT} \rangle$	LEFT

Demo: Training PacMan-Maze Agent

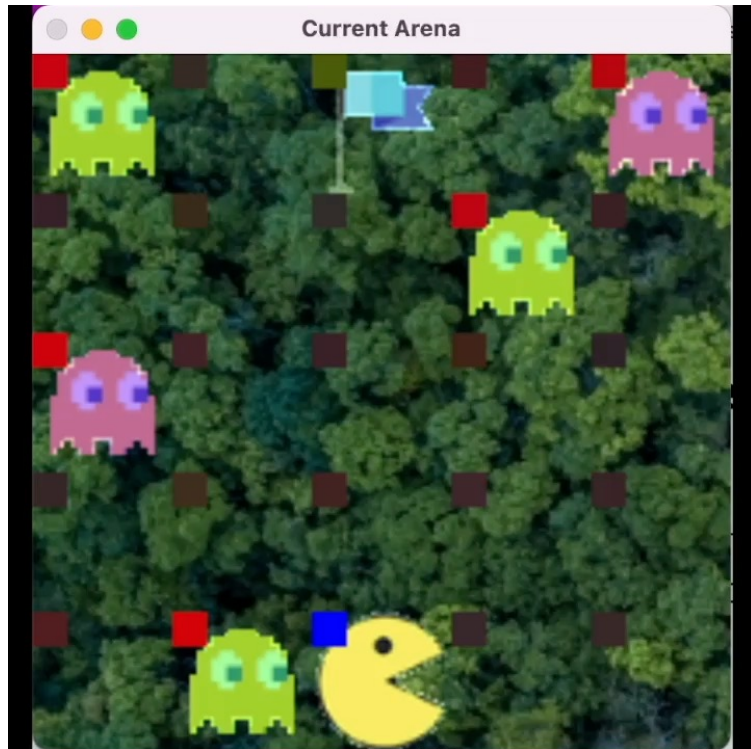


Top-left marker indicates neural network prediction on what the cell contains.



-  Ghost (Red)
-  PacMan (Blue)
-  Flag (Green)

Demo: Testing PacMan-Maze Agent



Top-left marker indicates neural network prediction on what the cell contains.



■ Ghost (Red)

■ PacMan (Blue)

■ Flag (Green)

Agenda

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[PLDI 2023]

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Jiani Huang, Ziyang Li, Ser-Nam Lim, Mayur Naik
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ESCA: Contextualizing Embodied Agents via Scene-Graph Generation

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Neurosymbolic Multi-modal Alignment



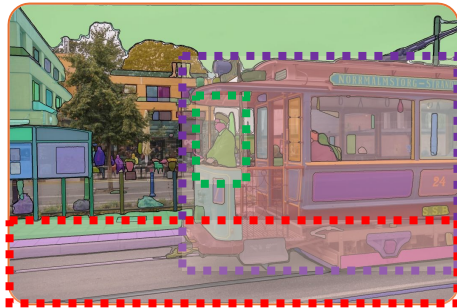
Unknown Granularity



“A driver is driving the trolley towards the left”

Known Granularity

Neurosymbolic Multi-modal Alignment



Video

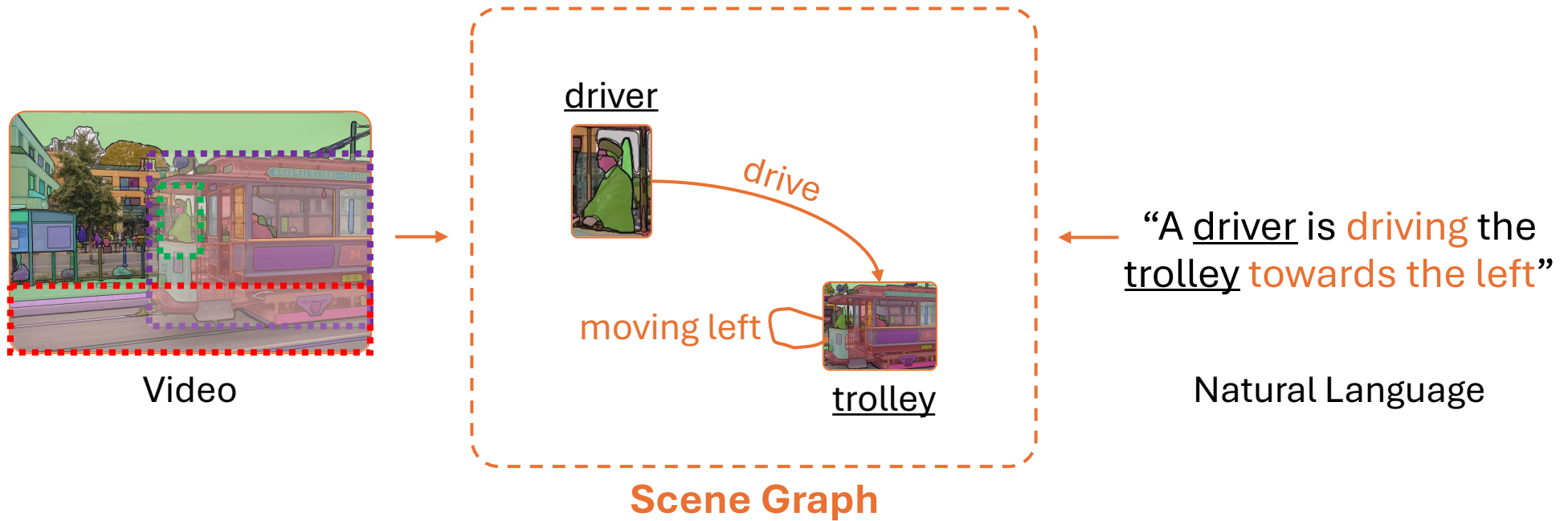
Spatio-Temporal
Scene Graph

Alignment

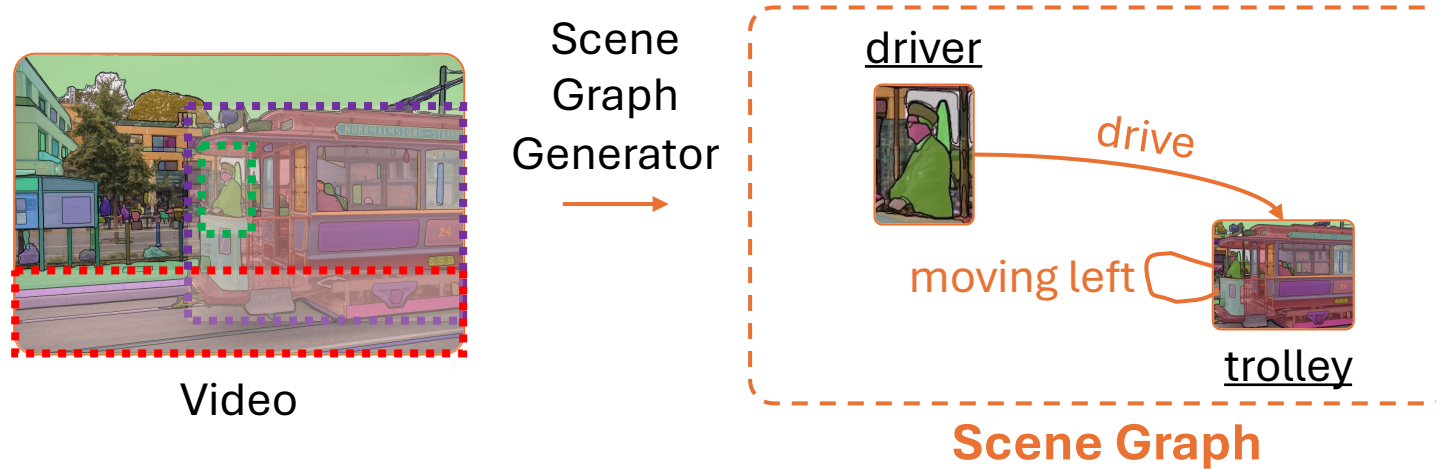
“A driver is driving the
trolley towards the left”

Natural Language

Neurosymbolic Multi-modal Alignment



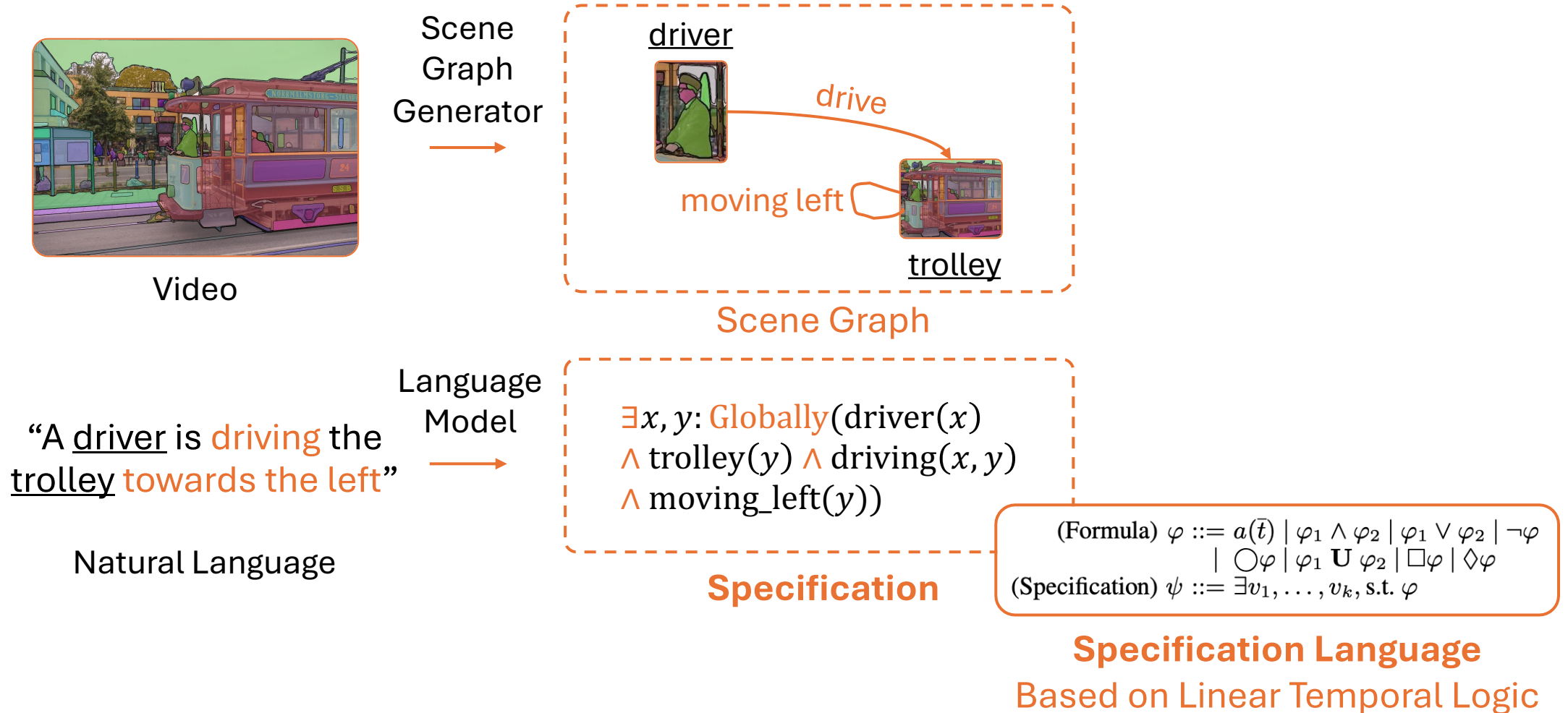
Aligning Symbolic Representations



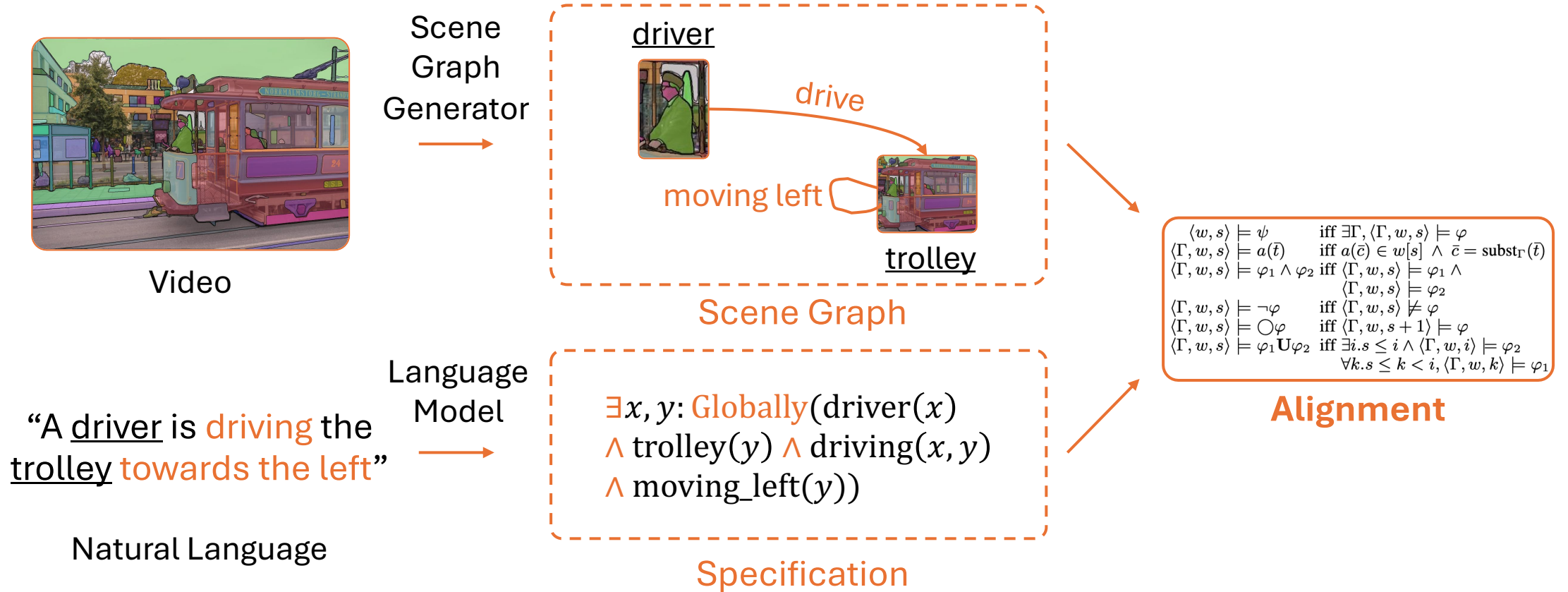
“A driver is **driving** the trolley **towards the left**”

Natural Language

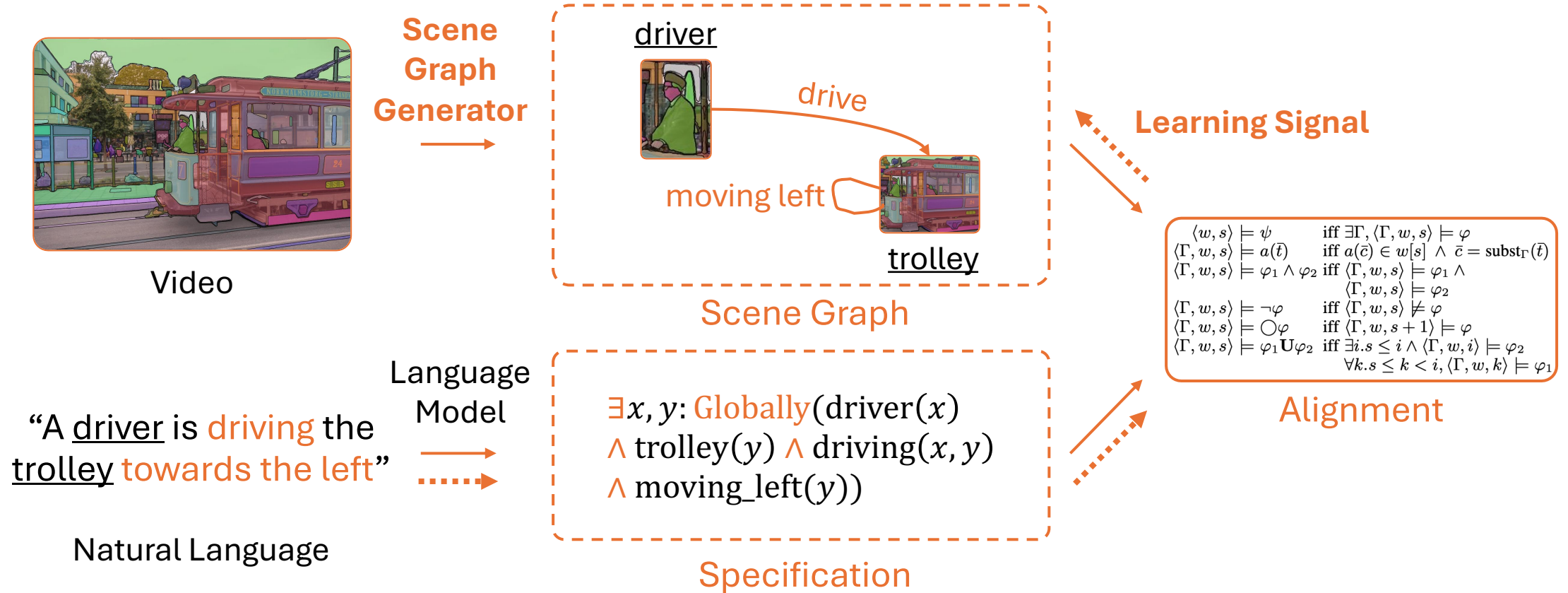
Aligning Symbolic Representations



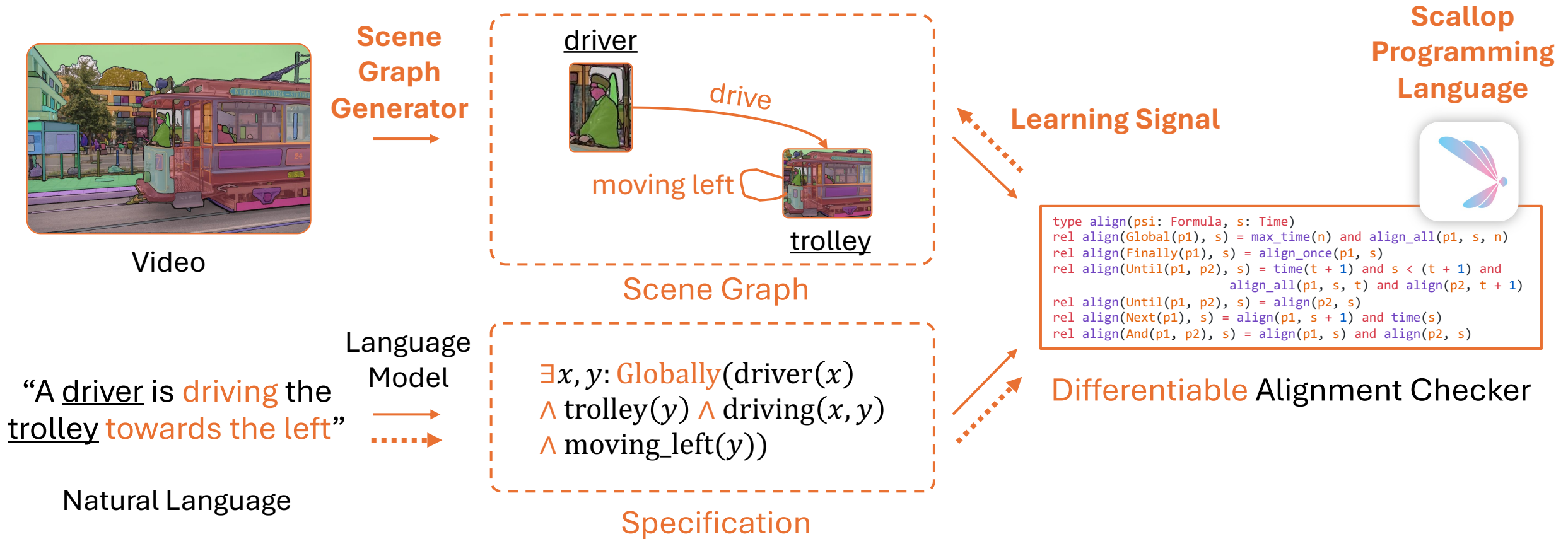
Aligning Symbolic Representations



Training by Aligning Symbolic Representations



Training by Aligning Symbolic Representations



Specification Language and Alignment



(Term) $t ::= c \mid v$
(Formula) $\varphi ::= a(\bar{t}) \mid \neg a(\bar{t})$
 $\mid \varphi_1 \wedge \varphi_2 \mid \varphi_1 \vee \varphi_2$
 $\mid \bigcirc \varphi \mid \varphi_1 \mathbf{U} \varphi_2 \mid \Box \varphi \mid \Diamond \varphi$
(Specification) $\psi ::= \exists v_1, \dots, v_k, \text{s.t. } \varphi$

```
type Term = Constant(String) | Var(VarId)
type Atom = UnaryAtom(String, Term) | BinaryAtom(String, Term, Term)
type Spec = Atom(Atom) | NotAtom(Atom)
           | And(Spec, Spec) | Or(Spec, Spec)
           | Global(Spec) | Until(Spec, Spec) | Next(Spec) | Finally(Spec)
```

Specification Language and Alignment

$$\langle \Gamma, w, [i, j] \rangle \models \varphi$$

type align(phi: Spec, start: Time, end: Time)



Specification Language and Alignment

Evaluation Context

Context contains variable assignments that is stored in Scallop's intentional database (IDB)

Spatio-Temporal Scene Graph

NN predicted scene graph is encoded as probabilistic facts within Scallop's extensional database (EDB)

$$\langle \Gamma, w, [i, j] \rangle \models \varphi$$

`type align(phi: Spec, start: Time, end: Time)`



Specification Language and Alignment

$$\langle \Gamma, w, [i, j] \rangle \models a(\bar{t}) \quad \text{iff } \forall f \in [i, j], a(\bar{c}) \in w[f] \wedge \bar{c} = \text{substitute}_{\Gamma}(\bar{t})$$

```
rel align(UnaryAtom(a, t), i, i)      = sg_unary(i, a, c) and subst_term(t, c)
rel align(BinaryAtom(a, t1, t2), i, i) = sg_binary(i, a, c1, c2) and
                                         subst_term(t1, c1) and subst_term(t2, c2)
rel align(phi, i, k)                 = align(phi, i, j) and align(phi, j + 1, k)
```



$$\langle \Gamma, w, [i, j] \rangle \models \varphi_1 \mathbf{U} \varphi_2 \quad \text{iff } \exists k, \langle \Gamma, w, [i, k] \rangle \models \varphi_1 \wedge \langle \Gamma, w, [k, j] \rangle \models \varphi_2$$

```
rel align(Until(phi_1, phi_2), i, j) = align(phi_1, i, k) and align(phi_2, k + 1, j)
```



Probabilistic and Differentiable Alignment

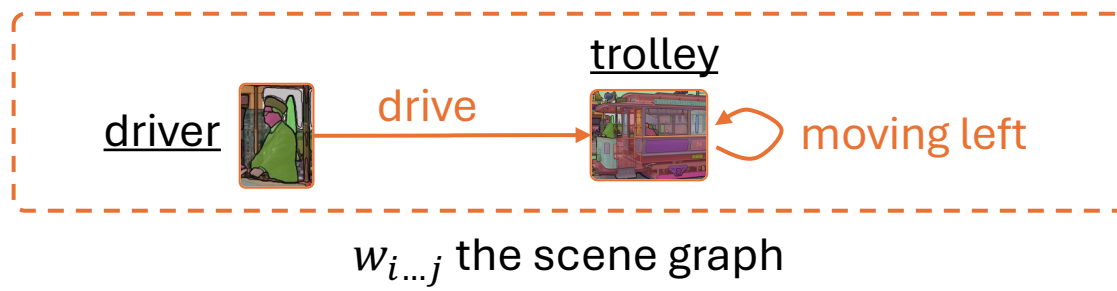


$$\langle w, [i, j] \rangle \models \psi \quad \longrightarrow \quad \Pr(\langle w, [i, j] \rangle \models \psi) \quad \longrightarrow \quad \langle \Pr(\langle w, [i, j] \rangle \models \psi), \nabla \Pr(\langle w, [i, j] \rangle \models \psi) \rangle$$

Discrete Alignment

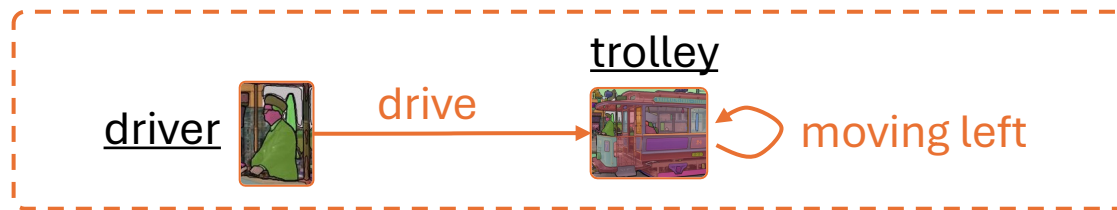
Probabilistic Alignment

Differentiable Alignment



$\exists d, t. \bigcirc driver(d) \wedge trolley(t) \wedge driving(d, t)$

ψ : throughout the video, driver is driving the trolley



Probabilistic Alignment

$w_{i...j}$ the scene graph

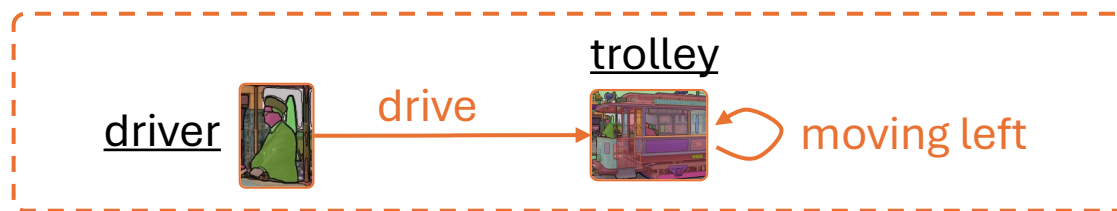


<code>0.9::class(, "driver");</code>	<code>0.8::relate(, , "driving");</code>
<code>0.1::class(, "trolley");</code>	<code>0.2::relate(, , "riding");</code>
<code>0.0::class(, "sky")</code>	<code>0.0::relate(, , "moving")</code>
<code>...</code>	<code>...</code>

$\widehat{w_{i...j}}$, a sampled **probabilistic** distribution of $w_{i...j}$, encoded in Scallop

$\exists d, t. \bigcirc driver(d) \wedge trolley(t) \wedge driving(d, t)$

ψ : throughout the video, driver is driving the trolley



Probabilistic Alignment

$w_{i...j}$ the scene graph



```
0.9::class(, "driver");
0.1::class(, "trolley");
0.0::class(, "sky")
...
0.8::relate(, , "driving");
0.2::relate(, , "riding");
0.0::relate(, , "moving")
...
```

$\widehat{w_{i...j}}$, a sampled **probabilistic** distribution of $w_{i...j}$, encoded in Scallop

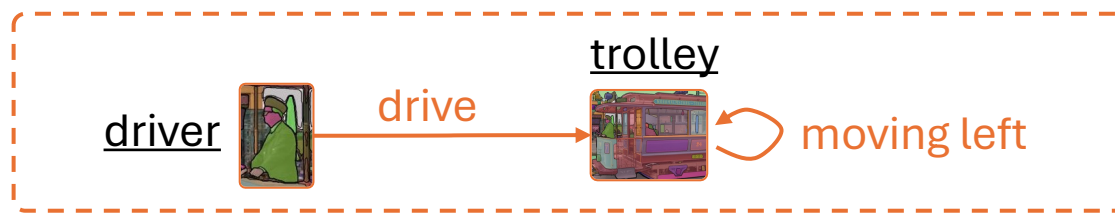


```
Global(And(Unary("driver", Var("d")), Unary("trolley",
Var("t")), Binary("driving", Var("d"), Var("t"))))
```

ψ encoded in Scallop

$\exists d, t. \bigcirc driver(d) \wedge trolley(t) \wedge driving(d, t)$

ψ : throughout the video, driver is driving the trolley



$w_{i...j}$ the scene graph



```

0.9::class(, "driver");
0.1::class(, "trolley");
0.0::class(, "sky")
...
0.8::relate(, , "driving");
0.2::relate(, , "riding");
0.0::relate(, , "moving")
...

```

$\widehat{w_{i...j}}$, a sampled **probabilistic** distribution of $w_{i...j}$, encoded in Scallop



```

Global(And(Unary("driver", Var("d")), Unary("trolley",
Var("t")), Binary("driving", Var("d"), Var("t"))))

```

ψ encoded in Scallop

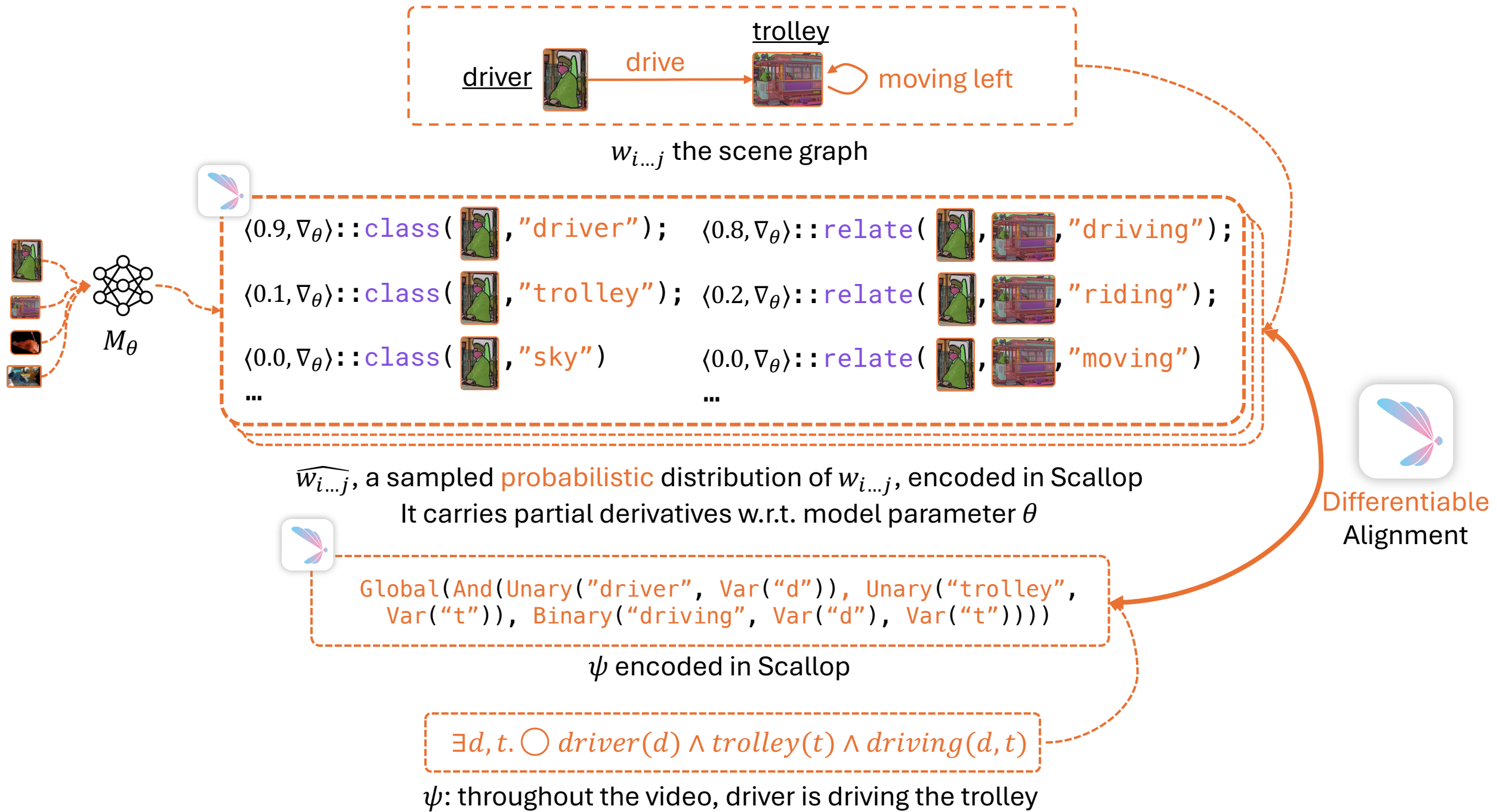
$\exists d, t. \bigcirc driver(d) \wedge trolley(t) \wedge driving(d, t)$

ψ : throughout the video, driver is driving the trolley

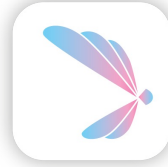


**Probabilistic
Alignment**

$\Pr(\langle w, [i, j] \rangle \models \psi)$



Probabilistic and Differentiable Alignment



$$\langle w, [i, j] \rangle \models \psi \longrightarrow \Pr(\langle w, [i, j] \rangle \models \psi) \longrightarrow \langle \Pr(\langle w, [i, j] \rangle \models \psi), \nabla \Pr(\langle w, [i, j] \rangle \models \psi) \rangle$$

Discrete Alignment

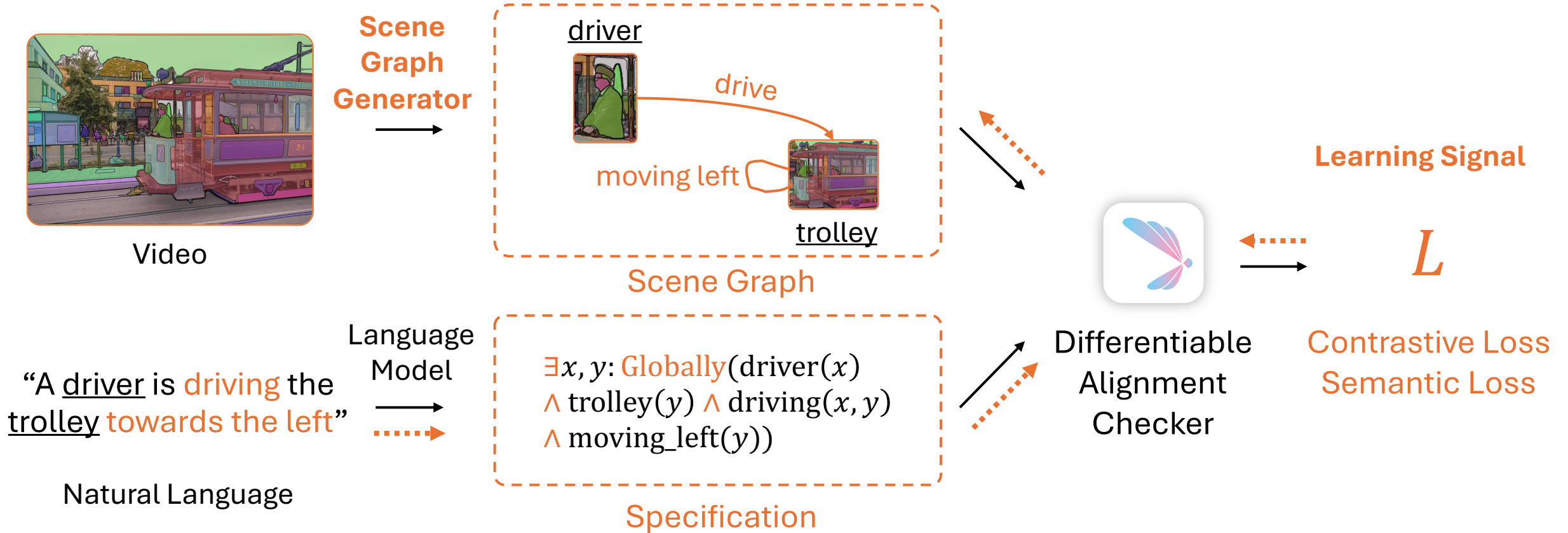
Probabilistic Alignment

Differentiable Alignment

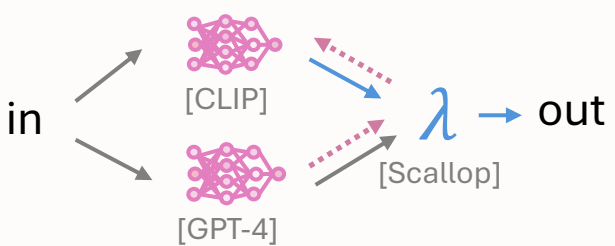
(Tag Space)	t	$\in T$
(False)	0	$\in T$
(True)	1	$\in T$
(Disjunction)	$\oplus$	$: T \times T \rightarrow T$
(Conjunction)	$\otimes$	$: T \times T \rightarrow T$
(Negation)	$\ominus$	$: T \rightarrow T$
(Saturation)	$\ominus$	$: T \times T \rightarrow \text{Bool}$

Provenance Framework

Training by Aligning Symbolic Representations



Results

Method	Unary Acc. / Binary R@10
in →  → out [IPS-Conv/VPS-Conv]	15.1% / 23.4%
in →  [CLIP] [GPT-4] [Scallop]	27.8% / 54.0%

Trained and Evaluated on Dataset *OpenPVSG*.

Results

Method (with LASER)		Unary			Binary		
		R@1	R@5	R@10	R@1	R@5	R@10
VIOLET	Base	0.0660	0.1855	0.2983	0.0460	0.1307	0.2636
	Fine-tuned	0.0878	0.2574	0.3463	0.0501	0.2028	0.3451
	Incr.	↑ 0.0218	↑ 0.0719	↑ 0.0480	↑ 0.0041	↑ 0.0721	↑ 0.0815
SigLIP	Base	0.0000	0.0179	0.0483	0.0000	0.0362	0.1667
	Fine-tuned	0.1467	0.2627	0.3152	0.0347	0.1624	0.3012
	Incr.	↑ 0.1467	↑ 0.2448	↑ 0.2669	↑ 0.0347	↑ 0.1262	↑ 0.1345
CLIP	Base	0.1633	0.3381	0.4404	0.0197	0.0673	0.0988
	Fine-tuned	0.2778	0.5231	0.6402	0.1482	0.4214	0.5398
	Incr.	↑ 0.1145	↑ 0.1850	↑ 0.1998	↑ 0.1284	↑ 0.3540	↑ 0.4410

Table 1: We show the performance improvements of base backbone models and their fine-tuned version, on the R@k metrics of unary and binary predicate prediction. As shown by the increments, LASER’s weak supervisory learning framework significantly enhances all three models’ performance on the STSG extraction tasks.

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[PLDI 2023]

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Jiani Huang, Ziyang Li, Ser-Nam Lim, Mayur Naik
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ESCA: Contextualizing Embodied Agents via Scene-Graph Generation

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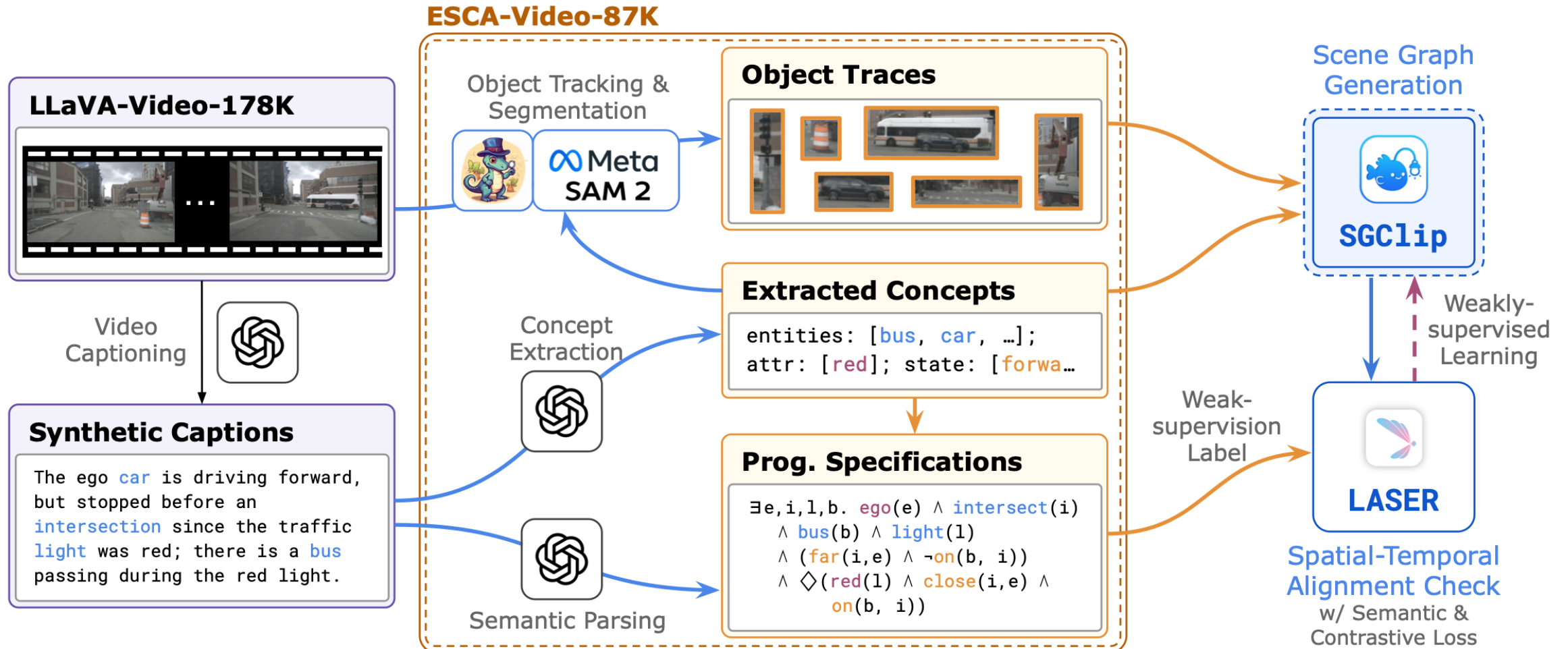
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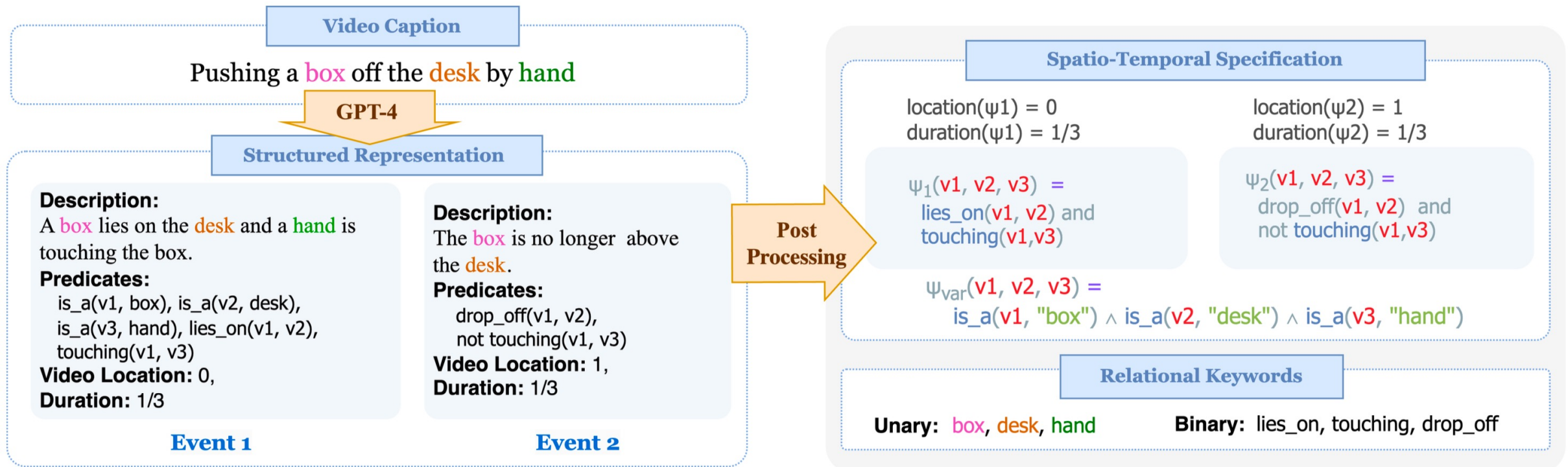


ESCA: Contextualizing Embodied Agents via
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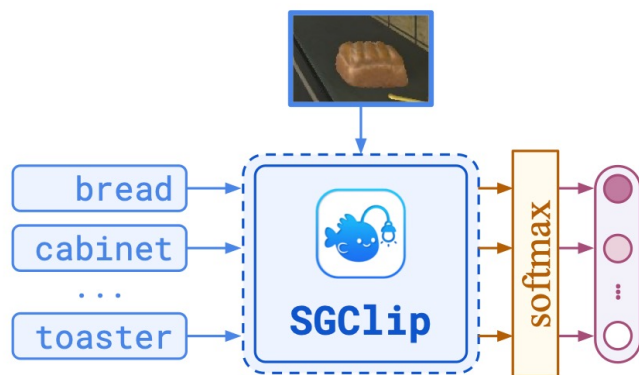
Scaling Up Alignment Training Pipeline



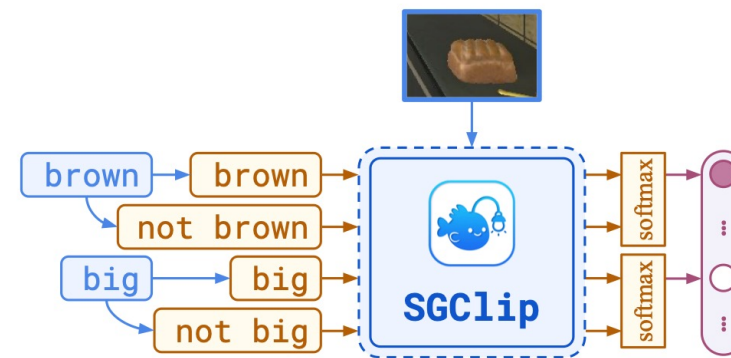
Scaling Up Alignment Training Pipeline



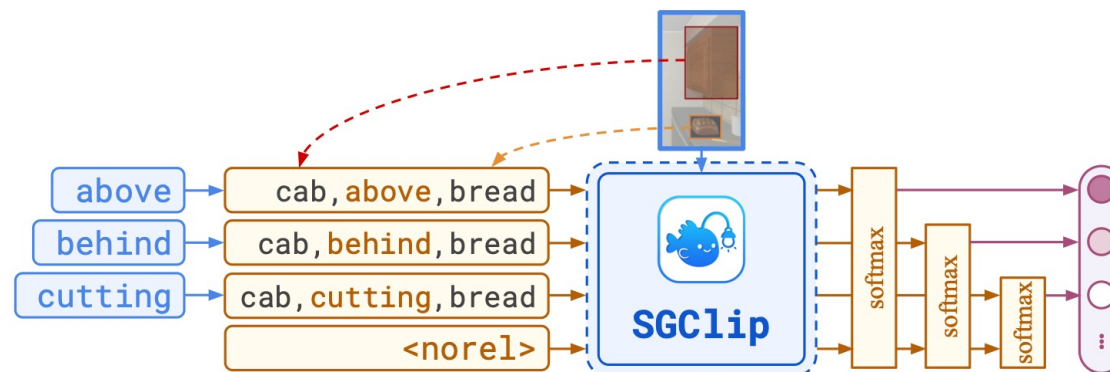
Unified Open-Vocabulary Interface



(a) Entity classes



(b) Attributes

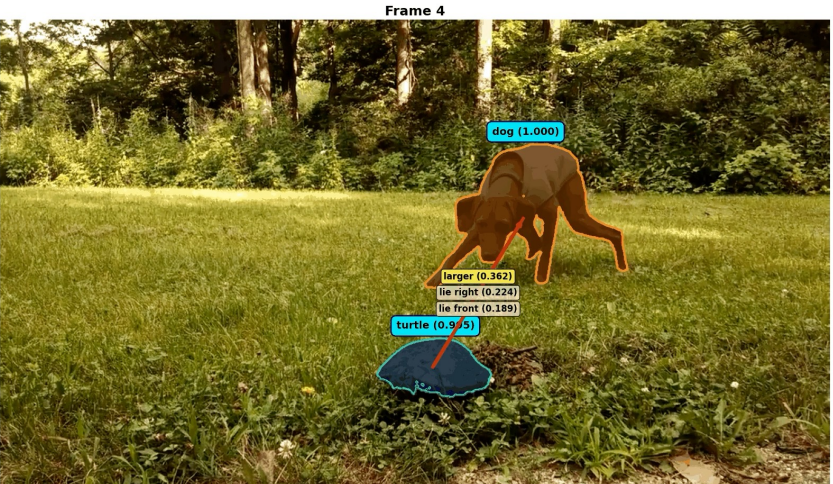
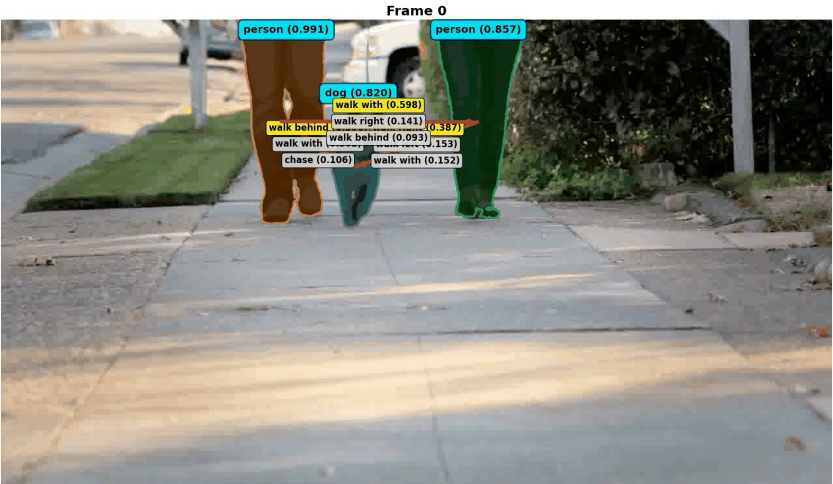


(c) Binary relations

Promptable STSG Generation Pipeline

- **Model-driven self-supervised training**
 - Eliminating the need for fine-grained STSG label
 - Scaling up training for SGClip
- **Unified open-vocabulary interface**
 - Can simultaneously handle entity classes, attributes, actions, spatial relations, interactions
 - Zero-shot generalizable to diverse scenarios such as action localization
- **Controllable scene graph generation granularity**
 - Granularity is controlled via prompting the caption generation and concept extraction

A couple walking their dog



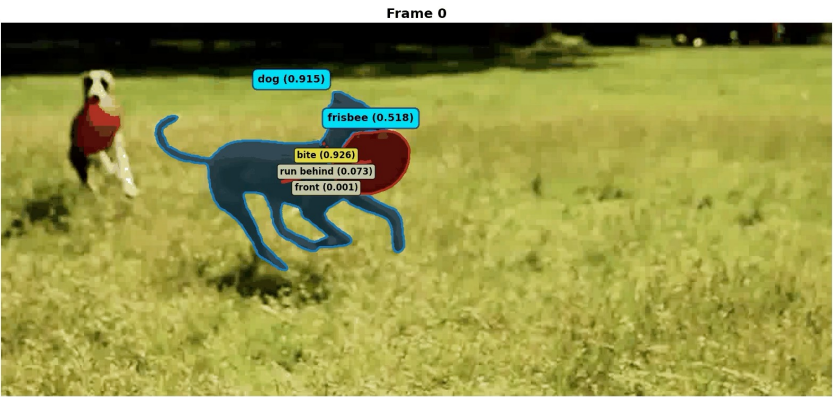
A dog runs around a turtle

A car quickly drives pass a person



A person riding on a horse

A dog playing with a frisbee



A dog jumps left on the sofa to play with a woman

Application to VLM-based Embodied Agents

Instruction:

Stack the maroon triangular prism and the olive triangular prism in sequence.

Environment Step 1:

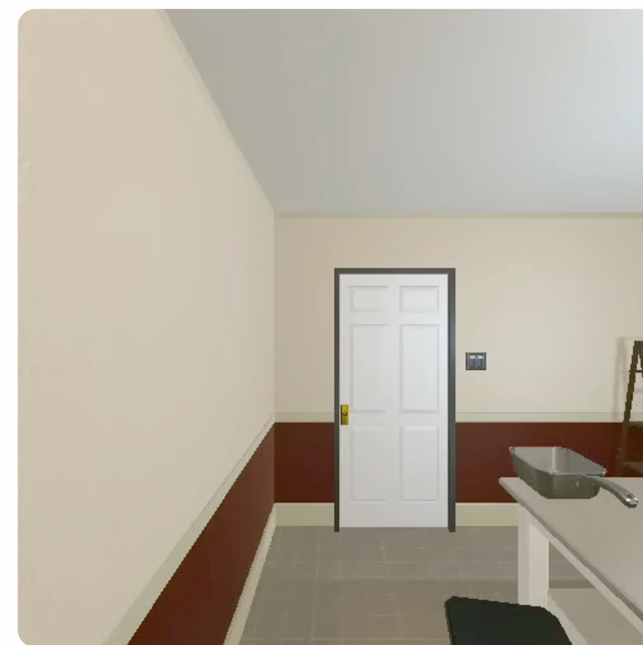


EB-Manipulation

Instruction:

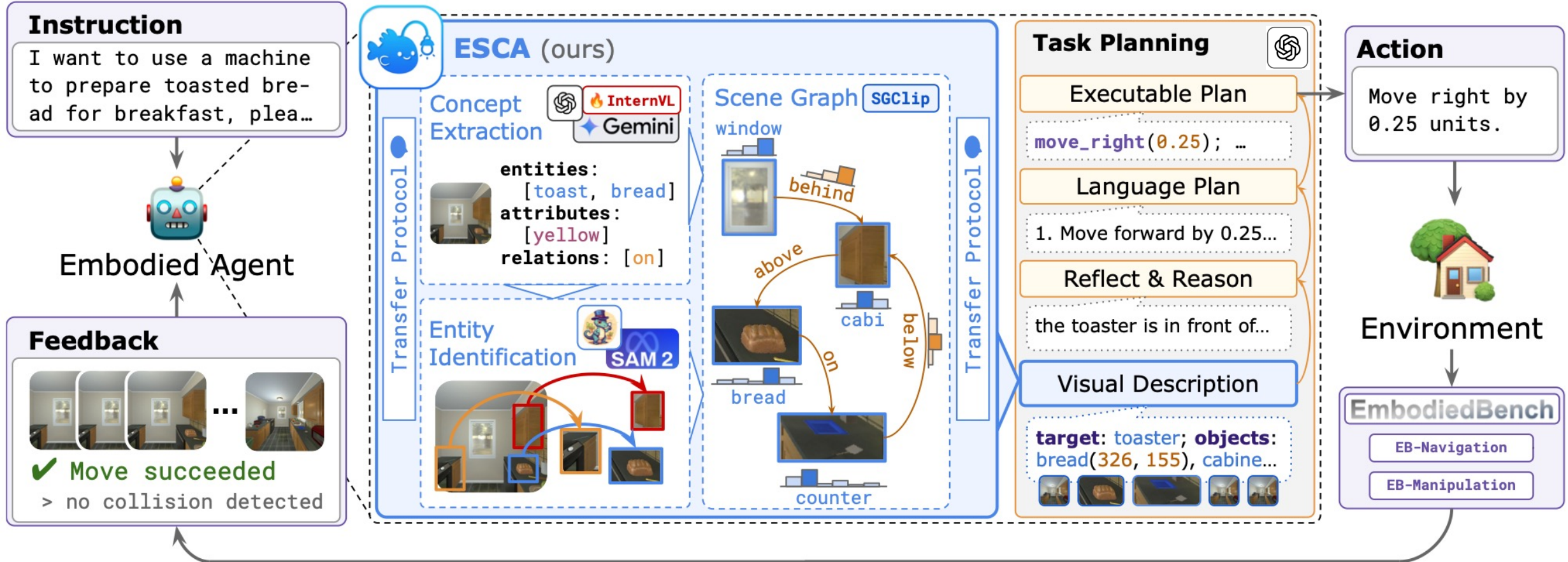
Navigate to the Toaster in the room and be as close as possible to it.

Environment Step 1-2:



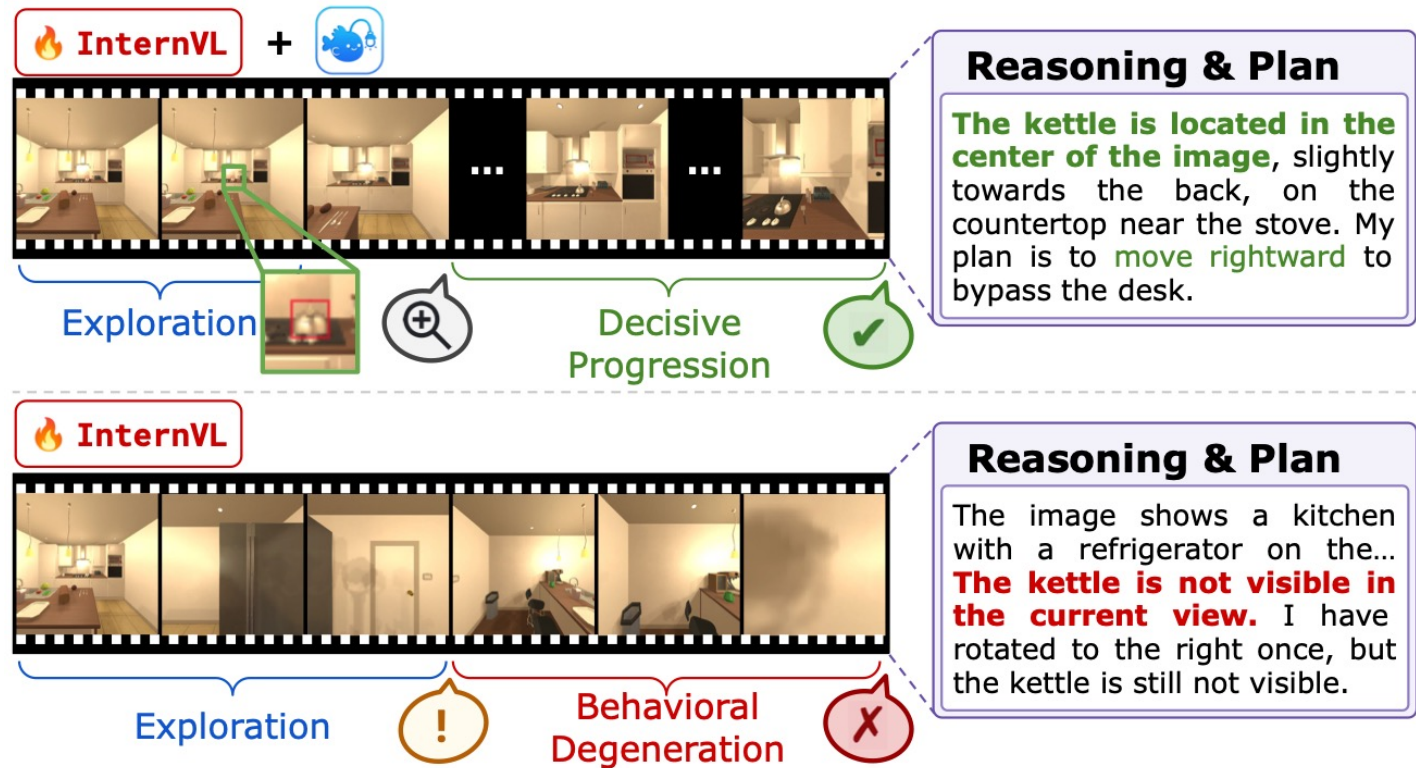
EB-Navigation

Application to Embodied Agents

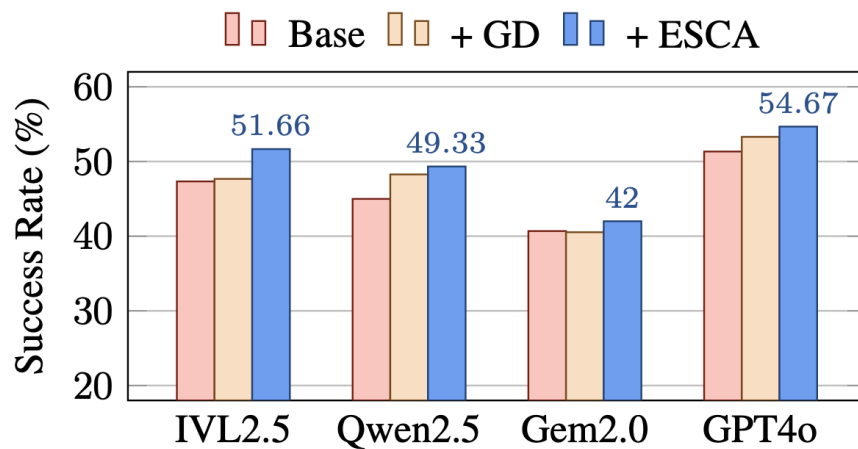


Application to Embodied Agents

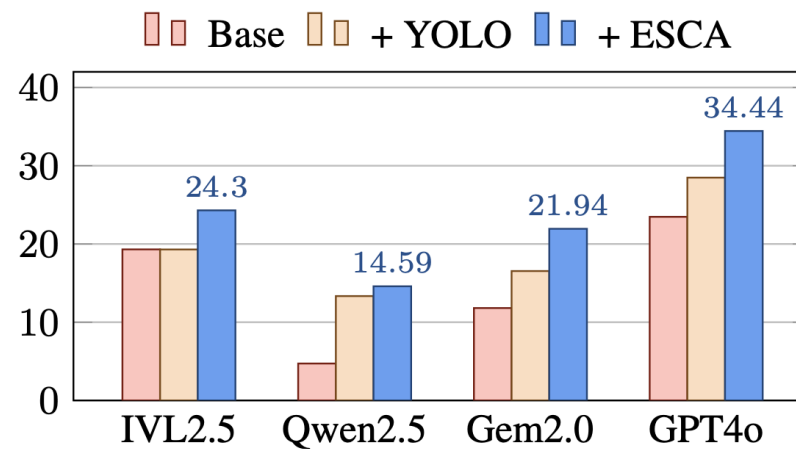
Instruction
“navigate to the kettle
on the stove”



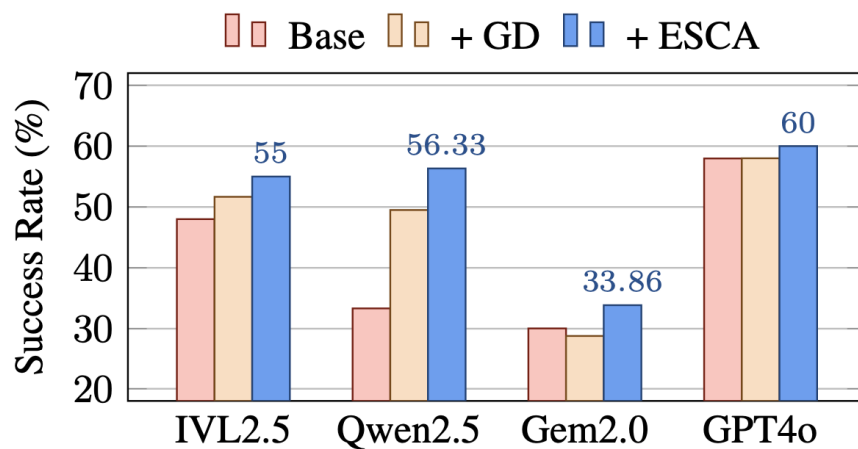
Results



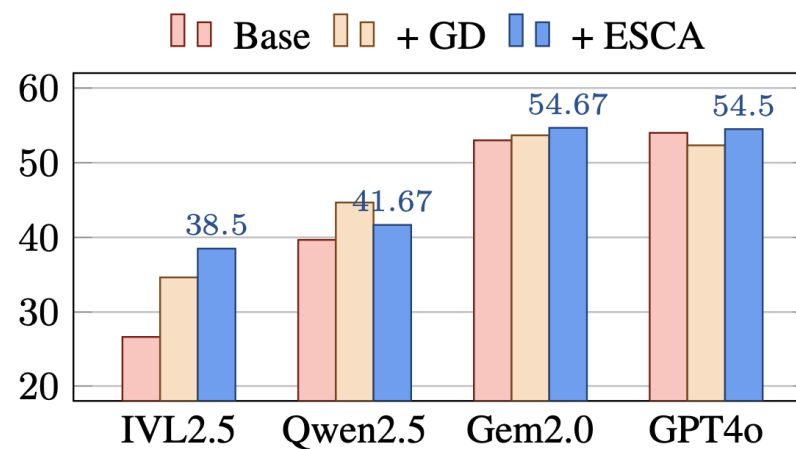
(a) EB-Navigation



(b) EB-Manipulation

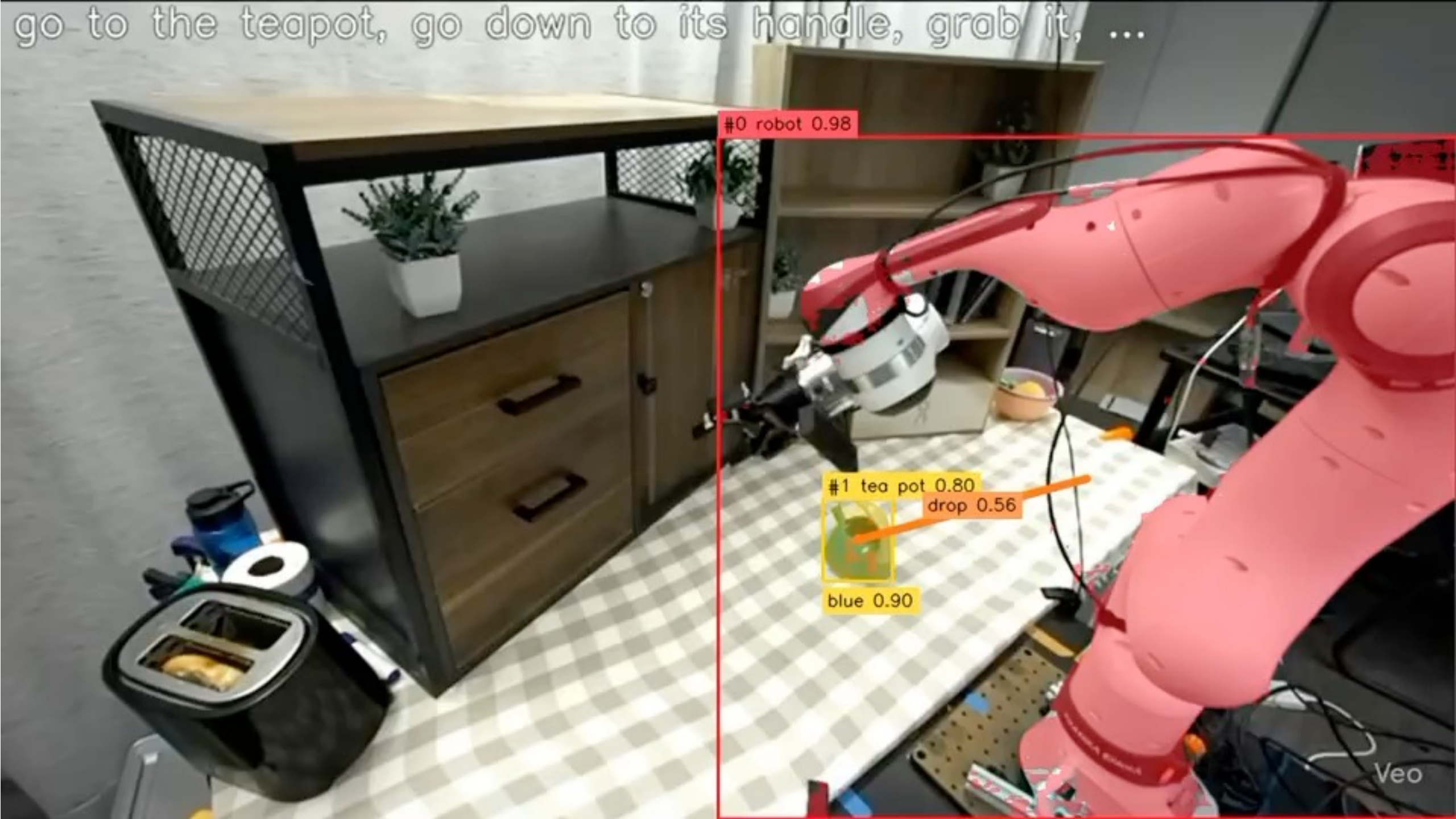


(c) EB-Habitat



(d) EB-Alfred

go to the teapot, go down to its handle, grab it, ...



#0 robot 0.98

#1 tea pot 0.80

drop 0.56

blue 0.90

Veo

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[NeurIPS 2025]

Key Takeaway

- **Grounded** and **accurate perception** is key to embodied systems
- Structured representation for perception provides **trustworthiness** and **transparency** to downstream planning and control
- Neurosymbolic learning **alleviates the need for full-supervision labels**
- Neurosymbolic learning pipeline trains better **mid-level** and **high-level perception systems**
- **Formal domain-specific languages (DSL)** and **program synthesis** is the bridge connecting natural and symbolic domains

General Messages

- Programming Languages create **abstractions**
 - Scallop abstracts away probabilistic and differentiable reasoning
 - Spatial-Temporal Specifications abstract away naturalness
- Synthesized programs have usages **beyond execution**
 - Specifications help **training** the underlying vision-language model
 - (Similar to synthesized reward function or value functions during RL)
 - Synthesized Scallop program can be part of end-to-end neurosymbolic learning pipeline as a **reasoning module**

References

- [1] Scallop: From Probabilistic Deductive Databases to Scalable Differentiable Reasoning, Li et. al., NeurIPS 2021
- [2] Scallop, A Language for Neurosymbolic Programming, Li et. al., PLDI 2023
- [3] Improved Logical Reasoning of Language Models via Differentiable Symbolic Programming, Huang et. al., ACL 2023
- [4] Relational Programming with Foundation Models, Li et. al., AAAI 2024
- [5] Neurosymbolic Programming with Scallop: Principles and Practice, Li et. al., Foundations and Trends in PL, 2024
- [6] LASER: A Neuro-Symbolic Framework for Learning STSGs with Weak Supervision, Huang et. al., ICLR 2025
- [7] Lobster: A GPU-Accelerated Framework for Neurosymbolic Programming, Biberstein et. al., ASPLOS 2026
- [8] ESCA: Contextualizing Embodied Agents via Scene-Graph Generation, Huang et. al., In Submission