



# Knowledge Graph Simple Question Answering for Unseen Domains

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# Introduction

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## **Knowledge Graph Simple Question Answering (KGSQA):**

Automatically answer natural language questions using a single fact contained in a KG.

# Knowledge Graph Simple Question Answering

who composed endless rain

whats band plays rock music

## MUSIC

what song is produced by gustavo cerati

What is an album by the aquabats?

Where was christian berney born  
who was born in helsinki?

## PEOPLE

how did elizabeth jeffries die?

what is tom woodruff jr. country of nationality?

what book is written by fawn m. brodie?

What is the theme of the book the hunt club?

## Book

what type of book is land of unreason

who is publisher for terminator 3

what books have roger scruton written

Why is it essential to study KGSQA for unseen domains?

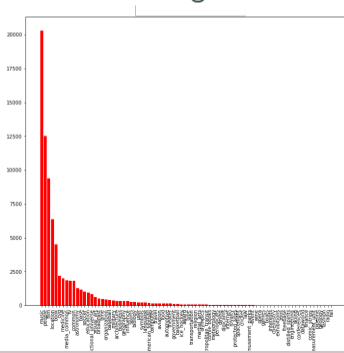
Why is it essential to study KGSQA for unseen domains?

- KGs are dynamic.
  - New domains can be added introducing new entities, relations and facts.
  - No available questions for the new facts.

# Knowledge Graph Simple Question Answering for Unseen Domains

Why is it essential to study KGSQA for unseen domains?

- KGs are dynamic.
  - New domains can be added introducing new entities, relations and facts.
  - No available questions for the new facts.
- The majority of data are distributed among a small number of domains.



## Objective

Train a model in source domain (training set) that will perform well on target domain (test set), given the fact that source and target have been generated from different distributions.



# Methodology

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KGSQA task can be modularized into three sub-tasks (Ture and Jojic (2016)):

- Mention Detection (MD)
  - Detect the single entity mention in question.
  - Sequence tagging problem.
- Candidate Generation (CG)
  - Link the mention to an actual entity node in the KG.
  - Simple heuristics.
- Relation Prediction (RP)
  - Classify question into one of the relation types.
  - Ranking approach.

- MD, CG can scale well to unseen domains.
- RP has limited generalization ability:
  - Same relation can occur with various lexicalizations (*place\_of\_birth* “took his first breath” or “was born”).

## Solution: Generate Synthetic Questions for the Target Domain

- Create synthetic questions originating from the unseen target domain.
- Use synthetic questions to assist the training of RP.
- Modify the proposed approach by Elshahar et al. (2018), for zero-shot question generation from KG.

# Knowledge Graph Question Generation (KGQG)

**Input:** A fact from the KG; A textual context for every part of the fact.

- e.g. (“Johnny Cash”, *people.cause\_of\_death.people*, “Diabetes”) & (“musical artist”, “death by”, “disease”)

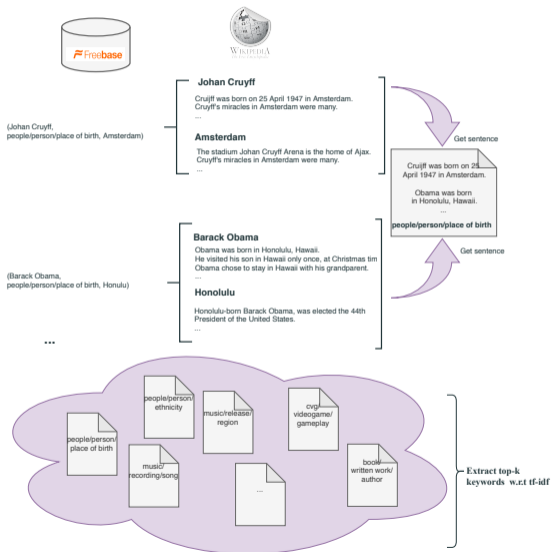
**Output:** A synthetic question.

- e.g. Which disease the death of Johnny Cash?

Relation's textual context:

- Noisy in many cases.
- Does not provide enough lexicalizations (limiting the variety of the generated questions).

# KGQG: Relation's Textual Context



**Table 1:** Examples of relation textual contexts generated using our keyword extraction approach.

Relation	Textual Context
<i>music.artist.label</i>	records, artists, album, released, label, signed, band, groups, albums, musical
<i>people.deceased_person.place_of_death</i>	died, death, deaths, born, age, people, male, actors, buried, cemetery
<i>film.film.directed_by</i>	film, director, directed, films, short, directing, producer, feature, best, award



# Results

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**Table 2:** Relation Prediction accuracy w.r.t. different ways of generating synthetic training data for the unseen domain.

Synthetic training data	Macro-avg. Accuracy (%)	Micro-avg. Accuracy (%)
-	30.21	29.06
Wiki-raw-sentences	37.89	36.51
KGQG (Elsahar et al.)	67.52	69.78
KGQG (Ours)	<b>69.86</b>	<b>70.95</b>

**Table 3:** End-to-end accuracy on the KGSQA task.

Synthetic Training Data	Relation Prediction	Macro-avg. Accuracy (%)	Micro-avg. Accuracy (%)
KGQG (Elsahar et al.)	BiLSTM (Petrochuk and Zettlemoyer)	55.49	55.11
	HR-BiLSTM (Yu et al.)	60.20	62.77
	Ours	63.90	65.18
KGQG (Ours)	Ours	<b>66.49</b>	<b>66.64</b>
Gold Questions	Ours	84.56	82.87

## Conclusions

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- Propose a framework for KGSQA that is applicable to unseen domains.
- Improve KGQG by effectively using textual information to model relations of the unseen domains.

Thanks!

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- M. Yu, W. Yin, K. S. Hasan, C. N. dos Santos, B. Xiang, and B. Zhou. Improved neural relation detection for knowledge base question answering. In *ACL*, 2017.