

Hybrid Generative and Commonsense Knowledge for Script Event Prediction

Anonymous ACL submission

Abstract

Script event prediction aims to predict subsequent events given contextual events, which requires inferring correlations between contexts and candidate events. Current research focuses on improving script event prediction using external knowledge and pre-trained language models, but faces the problems of sparse event-level correlation knowledge and separation of word-level correlation knowledge. In this paper, we propose a novel model CoGen-Predictor based on hybrid generative and commonsense knowledge that combines explicit event-level and implicit word-level correlation knowledge for prediction. CoGen-Predictor constructs event-level correlations through a commonsense knowledge base and updates the event representations using graph neural networks, then learns word-level contextual event correlations through a generative approach. Experimental results on the multi-choice narrative cloze (MCNC) task demonstrate the effectiveness of the model.

1 Introduction

Scripts (Schank & Abelson, 2013) refer to a type of structured knowledge that consists of a structured sequence of events. Figure 1 shows a restaurant dining script that involves a sequence of events that occur when a customer enters the restaurant. The script event prediction task (Granroth-Wilding & Clark, 2016) aims to select the correct subsequent events from the candidate events. Studying this task can gain event knowledge from the event chain and benefit many downstream tasks such as story generation (Chaturvedi et al., 2017), dialogue generation (Danescu-Niculescu-Mizil & Lee,

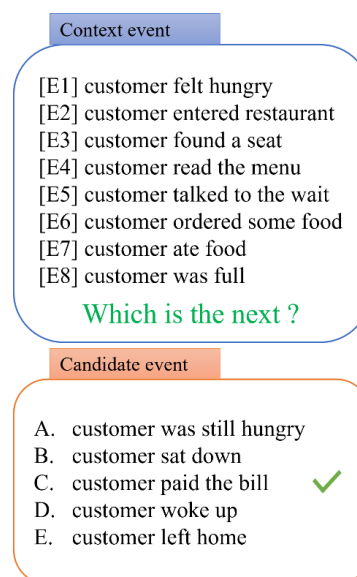


Figure 1: A simplified example of script event prediction.

2011), and is also useful for studying reasoning in Large Language Models (LLMs).

Understanding events and inferring correlations between events is essential for acquiring knowledge of events and reasoning about subsequent events. In Figure 1, it is necessary to understand the contextual events and use the common knowledge that "need to pay for the meal" to infer that "customer paid the bill". Therefore, knowledge of explicit correlations between events and implicit correlations between words is essential: explicit correlations represent correlations between different contextual events, and implicit correlations represent correlations between words in the chain of events.

Recent work incorporates external knowledge to enhance models to understand event relevance, and while these approaches have yielded promising results, however, some challenges remain. First, current work suffers from sparsity when

60 incorporating external knowledge. Specifically, 109
61 relationship construction mainly relies on find-and- 110
62 match, and such approaches often suffer from the 111
63 problem that event knowledge cannot be fully 112
64 adapted to the knowledge in the event knowledge 113
65 base when injecting external knowledge bases, and 114
66 the commonly used ASER (Zhang et al., 2020)
67 knowledge base is actually a knowledge base of 115
68 probabilistic event relationships, but in real
69 reasoning it requires common sense knowledge
70 that includes both discourse and correlation
71 relations including a commonsense knowledge
72 base. Secondly, current work modelling relevance
73 uses a single approach of pre-trained language
74 models, ignoring the complementarity of
75 representation learning and generative paradigms
76 in modelling relevance.

77 In order to better modelling the correlation
78 between events and to introduce correlation
79 knowledge into script event prediction tasks, this
80 paper proposes CoGen-Predictor (Commonsense
81 and Generative Predictor), a novel prediction
82 model based on hybrid generative and
83 commonsense knowledge. At the event-level
84 explicit correlation knowledge level, CoGen-
85 Predictor consists of a relation builder component
86 and a representation learning component, which
87 introduces explicit correlations by constructing
88 event relations and updates event representations.
89 At the word-level implicit correlation knowledge
90 level, a pre-trained generative language model is
91 used for fine-tuning and modelling implicit
92 correlation between words. It simultaneously
93 utilises event-level representation learning and
94 word-level generative paradigm's correlation
95 knowledge for subsequent event judgments. The
96 main contributions of this paper are as follows:

- 97 • We introduce a commonsense knowledge
98 base and train an event-relationship builder
99 to model explicit correlations between
100 events to solve the problem of sparse event-
101 level relationships.
- 102 • We propose CoGen-Predictor, a novel model
103 based on hybrid generative and
104 commonsense knowledge, for scripted event
105 prediction using event-level explicit
106 correlation knowledge from builder
107 modelling and textual implicit correlation
108 knowledge from generative modelling.

- The experimental results of multi-choice narrative cloze (MCNC) show that the method in this paper can effectively utilise the two types of correlation knowledge and reduce the dependence on the original text to obtain state-of-the-art results.

2 Related Work

116 Script event prediction was first proposed by
117 Chambers and Jurafsky (2008), who defined an
118 event as a verb and its dependency and proposed
119 the basic structure of a narrative event chain and a
120 narrative completion task. Subsequently, Granroth-
121 Wilding and Clark (2016) extended the event
122 definition to the verb and three theses ⟨subject;
123 objecti; indirect object⟩, and proposed the
124 currently widely used multi-choice narrative cloze
125 (MCNC) task: selecting subsequent events from
126 candidate events based on contextual narrative
127 event chains.

128 Earlier work (Granroth-Wilding & Clark, 2016)
129 obtained event representations via Word2Vec, and
130 then aggregated pointwise mutual information
131 (PMI) between contextual script events and
132 candidate events to infer the probability that a
133 candidate event is a subsequent event of the script.
134 Earlier studies ignored the narrative order of
135 scripted events, and subsequent works (Lv et al.,
136 2019; Wang et al., 2017) introduced LSTM to
137 integrate temporal information between events.

138 Many works have been conducted to model the
139 relationship between events, including the use of
140 graph structure (Zhongyang et al., 2018) and
141 external knowledge (Ding et al., 2019) to improve
142 event representations. Recent studies include Gao
143 et al. (2022) who proposed a method for learning
144 event representations with both weakly supervised
145 contrast learning and clustering. Du et al. (2022)
146 introduced a pre-trained model, BERT (Devlin et
147 al., 2018), and replaced the model middle layer
148 with a graph neural network to embed the
149 eventgraph information. Lee, Pacheco, and
150 Goldwasser (2020) mined discourse relations from
151 the original text by template matching, Bai et al.
152 (2021) enriched event representations using the
153 original text, Lv et al. (2020); Zhou et al. (2021)
154 introduces event knowledge graph ASER (Zhang et
155 al., 2020) to augment the pre-trained model
156 RoBERTa (Liu et al., 2019); and Wang et al. (2023)
157 uses R-GCN to learn the correlation information
158 between events.

159 Recent researchers (Zhou, Geng, et al., 2022;
 160 Zhou, Shen, et al., 2022) perform event-centred
 161 pre-training on an external corpus and employ an
 162 event-level masking strategy (Zhu et al., 2023) to
 163 fine-tune the generative model to generate
 164 predicted subsequent events.

165 The above methods can be divided into two
 166 main categories: inter-event relationship modelling
 167 and candidate event generation. Inter-event
 168 relationship modelling faces the problem of sparse
 169 relationship construction, and candidate event
 170 generation faces the problem of using pre-trained
 171 models in a single way. The CoGen-Predictor
 172 proposed in this paper overcomes these challenges
 173 by effectively introducing a wide range of
 174 discourse and event relations through an event
 175 relation builder, avoiding the sparsity problem that
 176 arises in relation modelling, combining event-level
 177 explicit correlation knowledge and word-level
 178 implicit correlation knowledge from generative
 179 modelling, and performs well in the task of scripted
 180 event prediction.

181 3 Preparations

182 **Problem Statement.** As shown in Figure 1, script
 183 event prediction is defined as predicting the most
 184 likely subsequent event for a given script. Formally,
 185 given a script $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ and a candidate
 186 event $Y = \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m\}$, where x_i and y_j
 187 represent the events, this task aims at selecting the
 188 correct subsequent event y_t from Y . Each event
 189 $e = (e_v, e_s, e_o, e_i)$ consists of a predicate e_v
 190 three arguments (subject e_s , object e_o and indirect
 191 object e_i). The model needs to compute the
 192 relevance score $P(y_j|x)$ for each candidate event
 193 $y_j (j \in 1, \dots, m)$ given a script X , and then take the
 194 most likely event as the subsequent event.

195 **Commonsense Knowledge Graph.** CKGs are
 196 large-scale knowledge bases that store knowledge
 197 in a graph structure, focusing on the association of
 198 things or objects. In this paper, we introduce the
 199 DISCOS (Fang et al., 2021) commonsense
 200 knowledge base, which converts discourse
 201 knowledge about events from the large-scale
 202 discourse knowledge graph ASER (Zhang et al.,
 203 2020) to ATOMIC (Sap et al., 2019) to if-then
 204 commonsense knowledge defined in ATOMIC
 205 (Sap et al., 2019), which provides 3.4 million
 206 inference commonsense knowledge and event
 207 knowledge, providing more effective support for
 208 constructing event relations in SEP.

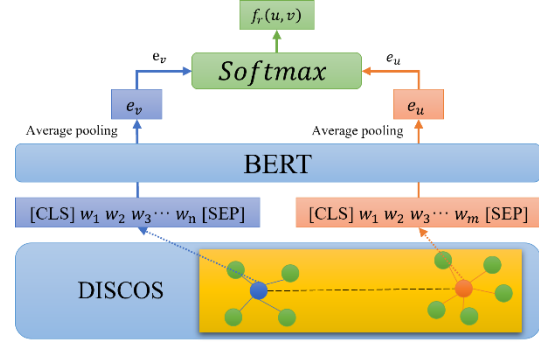


Figure 2: The training process of the event relationship builder.

209 4 The CoGen-Predictor Model

210 In this section, the CoGen-Predictor model of this
 211 paper is described. As shown in Fig. 2, it has four
 212 main components: (1) event relationship builder, (2)
 213 event-level explicit correlation representation
 214 modelling, (3) word-level implicit correlation
 215 generative modelling and (4) fusion prediction
 216 scoring.

217 4.1 Event Relationship Builder

218 For the nodes in the DISCOS commonsense
 219 knowledge base G_r^c , all its nodes are encoded using
 220 the pre-trained language representation model
 221 BERT. For nodes $v = [w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n]$ with n -
 222 length tokens, a [CLS] token is added at the
 223 beginning of each sentence as w_0 , and a [SEP]
 224 token is added at its end as w_{n+1} . Represent the
 225 output of the input BERT as $[e_{w_0}, e_{w_1}, \dots, e_{w_{n+1}}]$,
 226 $e_{w_i} \in \mathbb{R}^d$, where d is the embedding dimension of
 227 the BERT. For the tuple $(u, v) \in G_r^c$ for making a
 228 relational judgement, the semantic representation
 229 $[e_u, e_v]$ is obtained using the BERT layer, and the
 230 final correlation score is obtained using the
 231 Softmax layer:

$$232 \quad f_r(u, v) = \text{Softmax}([e_u, e_v]W'^T + b), \quad (1)$$

233 Here $W' \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times d}$, $b \in \mathbb{R}^2$, and after obtaining
 234 the predicted value of $f_r(u, v)$, the correlation is
 235 judged to be constructed or not according to the
 236 score, where $p = \text{argmax}(f_r(u, v))$.

237 Each node in DISCOS is an event, and in order
 238 to better match the commonsense knowledge in
 239 DISCOS, contextual events in the Script Event
 240 Prediction (SEP) task is first formalised into a
 241 matching form.

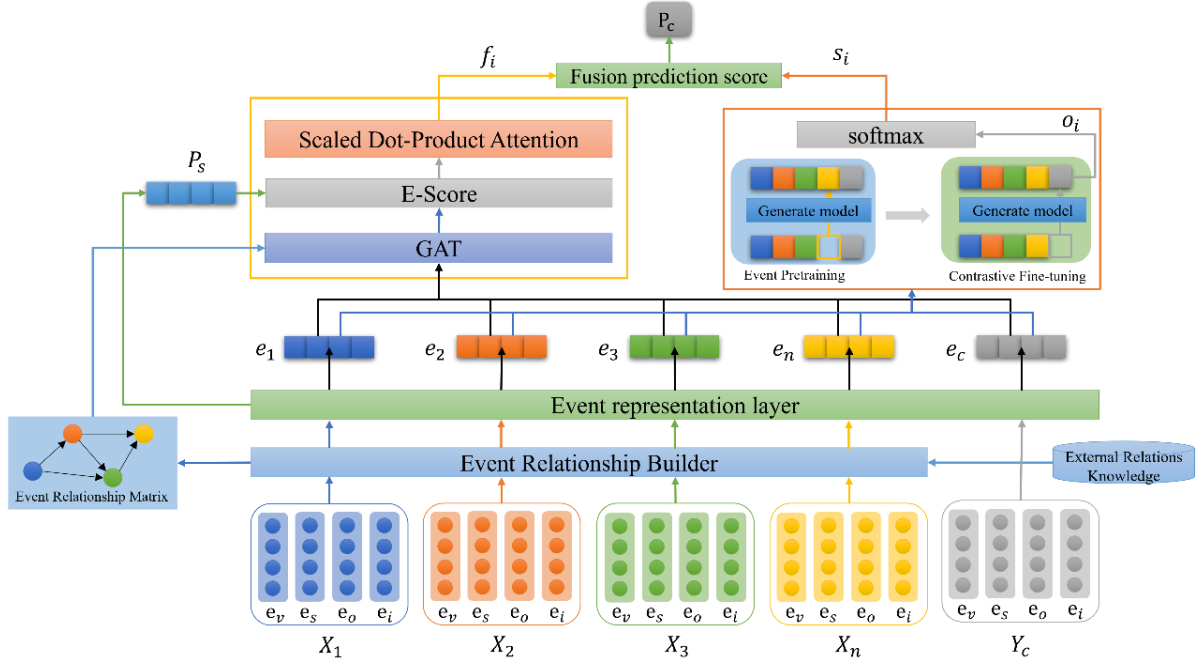


Figure 3: Structure of the CoGen-Predictor model.

242 Given the head and tail events e^h and e^t , each
 243 event consists of four elements $e = (e_v, e_s, e_o, e_i)$,
 244 so adjust the order of discourse to represent the
 245 event as " $e_s e_v e_o e_i$ " to make it match the
 246 commonsense knowledge format. The natural
 247 language text w^e for each event e is linked with
 248 special tags:

$$249 \tilde{w}^e = ([CLS], w^e, [SEP]), \forall e \in \{e^h, e^t\}, \quad (2)$$

250 The textual representations \tilde{w}^{e^h} and \tilde{w}^{e^t} of the
 251 head and tail events e^h and e^t are then imported
 252 into the Event Relationship Builder to obtain the
 253 result of the relationship construction R .

254 4.2 Event-level representation modelling

255 Based on the relationship R , CoGen-Predictor uses
 256 BART for semantic representation and
 257 incorporates GAT to fuse event-level explicit
 258 correlation knowledge for modelling event and
 259 event chain information.

260 4.2.1 Event Representation

261 Using the pre-trained model BART (Lewis et al.,
 262 2020) as the underlying semantic representation
 263 model, for the input context events $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$
 264 and candidate events $Y = \{y_1, \dots, y_m\}$, each
 265 consisting of $e = (e_v, e_s, e_o, e_i)$, $e \in X, Y$, denote
 266 the events as " $e_s e_v e_o e_i$ " to adjust the semantic
 267 order to input BART, the context event sequence S
 268 is denoted as $\langle s \rangle x_1 \langle SEP \rangle x_2 \langle SEP \rangle \dots \langle SEP \rangle$
 269 $x_n \langle /s \rangle$, and each candidate event is

270 denoted as $\langle s \rangle y_m \langle /s \rangle$, with the candidate
 271 events being placed into the list C . The sequence of
 272 contextual events S and the list of candidate events
 273 C , are input into the BART model for text encoding:
 274 $P_s, P_c = BART(S, C), \quad (3)$
 275 $P_s, P_c \in \mathbb{R}^d$ and d is the embedding dimension
 276 of BART.

277 4.2.2 Related Information Update

278 Based on the relation R , CoGen-Predictor
 279 introduces the graph attention neural network
 280 (GAT) for node updating of context event nodes.
 281 The first step is to partition the events in the context
 282 event sequence into independent event
 283 representations:

$$284 \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\} = \text{segmentation}(P_s), \quad (4)$$

285 Linear transformation is performed on each
 286 input node feature to obtain the mapped feature and
 287 the attention coefficient e_{ij} is calculated for each
 288 pair of neighbouring nodes i and j :

$$289 h'_i = W \cdot x_i, \quad (5)$$

$$290 e_{ij} = \text{LeakyReLU}(\alpha^T [W \cdot x_i || W \cdot x_j]) \quad (6)$$

291 where W is the weight matrix, $||$ denotes the
 292 connection operation, α is the weight vector, and
 293 LeakyReLU is the activation function.

294 The steps for event node update using GAT
 295 (Velickovic et al., 2017) are as follows:

296 Attention coefficients of all neighbours of node
 297 i are normalised using softmax function:

$$\alpha_{ij} = \frac{\exp(e_{ij})}{\sum_{k \in N(i)} \exp(e_{ik})}, \quad (7)$$

where $N(i)$ denotes the set of i 's neighbours. Weighted summation of neighbouring node features using normalised attention coefficients to update node features:

$$h_i'' = \sigma \left(\sum_{j \in N(i)} \alpha_{ij} W \cdot x_j \right), \quad (8)$$

where σ is a nonlinear activation function (e.g., ReLU). Here the contextual event node information is updated by GAT:

$$\{x''_1, x''_2, \dots, x''_n\} = GAT(\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}), \quad (9)$$

4.2.3 Candidate Event Scoring

In order to apply both event information and event chain information, we include the obtained event chain text representation P_s when constructing the context node representation, so the final context representation is:

$$H = \{x''_1, x''_2, \dots, x''_n\} || P_s, \quad (10)$$

The widely used negative Euclidean distance is used here as a score calculation for candidate events:

$$s_i = -\|h_i - h_j\| ** 2, \quad (11)$$

Here h_i comes from H after updating the node and h_j comes from P_c which has been encoded by BART.

Different contextual events and event chains contribute differently to predicting the correct candidate event, we use scaled dot product attention (Vaswani et al., 2017) to aggregate the distance scores of different nodes:

$$f = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \alpha_i s_i, \quad (12)$$

After the above representation modelling the score of each candidate event relative to the event node and event chain is obtained.

4.3 Word-level generative modelling

Referring to the approach of Zhu et al. (Zhu et al., 2023), CoGen-Predictor employs a generative model to model the knowledge of implicit correlations between textual words, which is divided into two main phases: event pre-training and comparison fine-tuning.

4.3.1 Event pre-training

In the event-centred pre-training phase, the script and the correct candidate event y_t are concatenated

into an event sequence $S = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, y_t\}$. Mask K events in S , where $K \in (1, 2, 3)$, and the masked events are denoted as the event sequence E . Denote the contextual event sequence S as $\langle s \rangle x_1. x_2. \langle MASK \rangle. \dots. \langle MASK \rangle. \dots. y_t \langle /s \rangle$, where the masking event is replaced with the token $\langle MASK \rangle$, and the event sequence E is represented in a similar way. Using the generative model BART as the backbone, the conditional probability distribution $P(E|S)$ is formulated as follows:

$$P(E|S) = \frac{1}{N_E} \sum_{n=2}^{N_E} \log P_{LM}(E^n | S, E^{1:n-1}), \quad (13)$$

where N_E is the token number of the event sequence E in natural language format, E^n is the n th token, and $E^{1:n-1}$ is the first to $n-1$ th token of E .

In the event pre-training phase, the CoGen-Predictor generative paradigm part is trained to maximise $P(E|S)$.

4.3.2 Contrast fine-tuning

The modified sequence is represented as X_m by first adding a marker $[MASK]$ at the end of the script X . X_m and each event candidate X_m are then converted to a natural language format using the average of the log probabilities of the descriptive markers for each event as the score o_i for the event y_i .

$$o_i = \frac{1}{N_{y_i}} \sum_{n=2}^{N_{y_i}} \log P_{LM}(y_i^n | X_m, y_i^{1:n-1}), \quad (14)$$

where N_{y_i} is the length of event y_i . Then, the Softmax function is used to calculate the final score s_i for each candidate event y_i :

$$s_i = \frac{\exp(o_i)}{\sum_{k=1}^M \exp(o_k)}, \quad (15)$$

Finally, define the loss function as follows:

$$\mathcal{L}_{cot} = -\log(s_t) + \frac{1}{M-1} \sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ i \neq t}}^M \left(\frac{s_i}{1-s_t} \right) \log \left(\frac{s_i}{1-s_t} \right), \quad (16)$$

where t is the subscript of the right event candidate y_t and M is the number of event candidates.

4.4 Integration predictions

Both event-level explicit correlation knowledge and word-level implicit correlation knowledge are used for subsequent event judgements. To integrate the knowledge from the two components, CoGen-

Public Dataset	Number
Train set	140,331
Dev set	10,000
Test set	10,000

Table 1: Dataset.

Predictor uses a gating module that sums the elements weighted by association confidence. The previous explicit knowledge scoring result f_i and the implicit knowledge scoring result s_i are obtained, where $i \in (0, m - 1)$:

$$F_i = s_i + p \cdot f_i, \quad (17)$$

For the obtained final score F_i , we select the most likely event with the highest score as the predicted subsequent event y_p , where $p = \text{argmax}(F_i)$.

5 Experiments

In this section, CoGen-Predictor is compared to some baselines to validate its effectiveness. In addition, an ablation study is performed to understand the impact of key components of the model on performance. Finally, a case study is performed to demonstrate how the model in this paper predicts subsequent events.

5.1 Dataset

In the task of script event prediction, most of the existing work selects the public dataset published by Li, Ding, and Liu (2018). Therefore, this public dataset is also used in this paper. We follow the common practice of dataset segmentation used for training, validation and testing in Table 1. For the public dataset, each instance has five candidate events, of which only one choice is correct.

5.2 Experimental setup

The CoGen-Predictor model proposed in this paper includes both explicit correlation knowledge and implicit correlation knowledge construction. To compare with the baseline, experiments are conducted on $BART_{base}$ and $BART_{Large}$. The models were optimised by Adam (Kingma & Ba, 2015). The learning rate and weight decay are $1e-5$ and $1e-6$, respectively. The model in this paper uses an early stopping strategy to select the best epoch, and the patience is set to 5. For $BART_{base}$, the Batch Size is set to 32, and for $BART_{Large}$, the Batch Size is set to 24. All the experiments are carried out on the RTX 4090D. The GPU training time for event relationship builder module, event-

Method	Acc.(%)
Random	20.00
Event-Comp	49.57
Pair-LSTM	50.83
SGNN	52.45
SAM-Net	55.60
GraphBERT	60.72
SGNN + Int&Senti	56.03
RoBERTa _{base} + Rep. Fusion	58.66
RoBERTa _{base} + Know.Model	59.99
BART _{base} + Contrastive Approach	<u>62.22</u>
CoGen-Predictor (BART _{base})	63.54

Table 2: Base model comparison experiment.

Method	Acc.(%)
BART _{large} + Contrastive	63.40
EventBERT	63.50
RoBERTa _{large} + Know.Model	64.62
ClarET	64.61
MCPredictor-s	59.24
MCPredictor	67.14
CoGen-Predictor ($BART_{large}$)	65.01

Table 3: Large model comparison experiment.

level explicit association representation modelling and text-level implicit association generative modelling are about 8, 10 and 6.5. We select the model with the best results on the validation set and report the results on the test set, using accuracy as the evaluation metric.

5.3 Baselines

For the preliminaries, they can be divided into three categories. Event representation method: **1)Event-Comp** (Granroth-Wilding & Clark, 2016) uses training objectives such as Word2Vec to learn event embeddings and compute pairwise similarities between scripted events and candidate events. **2)Pair-LSTM** (Wang et al., 2017) uses LSTM to model the narrative order of script events. **3)SAM-Net** (Lv et al., 2019) uses LSTM and self-attention mechanisms to capture different event fragments. **4)MCPredictor** (Bai et al., 2021) obtains event representations from pre-trained Word2Vec and augments them with raw sentence representations obtained from pre-trained BERT, and uses multiple similar event chains to aggregate script-level information. **5)MCPredictor-s** is an ablation of MCPredictor that removes additional raw sentence information.

449 Structured information enhancement:
 450 **1)RoBERTa + Rep. Fusion** (Lv et al., 2020)
 451 integrates external knowledge from episodic
 452 knowledge graphs, ASER (Zhang et al., 2020), and
 453 predicts using RoBERTa. **2)RoBERTa +**
 454 **Know.Model** (Zhou et al., 2021) learns knowledge
 455 models from ASER to predict event relationships.
 456 **3)SGNN** (Zhongyang et al., 2018) constructs
 457 narrative event evolution graphs through verb co-
 458 occurrence frequencies for more effective event
 459 representation. **4)SGNN + Int & Senti**
 460 incorporates external intent and affective
 461 knowledge from ATOMIC (Sap et al., 2019) into
 462 event representations. **5)GraphBERT** (Du et al.,
 463 2022) constructs an event graph similar to SGNN
 464 and enhances BERT with the event graph.

465 Event-centred pre-training: **1)EventBERT**
 466 (Zhou, Geng, et al., 2022) pre-trains RoBERTa in
 467 BOOKCORPUS (Zhu et al., 2015) with three self-
 468 supervised comparative learning objectives:
 469 correlation-based event ranking, contradictory
 470 event labelling, and discourse relation ranking.
 471 **2)ClarET** (Zhou, Shen, et al., 2022) pre-trains
 472 BART on BOOKCORPUS with three additional
 473 self-supervised goals: overall event recovery,
 474 comparative event-related coding, and cue-based
 475 event localisation. **3)BART + Contrastive**
 476 **Approach** (Zhu et al., 2023) uses both an event-
 477 centred pre-training phase and a task-specific
 478 contrastive fine-tuning phase for training.

479 5.4 Results and analyses

480 In this paper, the $BART_{base}$ and $BART_{Large}$
 481 models are used as the backbone for training and
 482 testing in Tables 2 and 3, respectively, in order to
 483 ensure that the parameters of the comparison
 484 models remain relatively consistent, and the
 485 following observations are made from the results
 486 of the two models:

- 487 • CoGen-Predictor shows a 3.55% and 1.32%
 488 improvement over the best baseline
 489 RoBERTa + Know.Model for combining
 490 external knowledge and the best baseline
 491 BART + Contrastive Approach for
 492 generative modelling of event relationships,
 493 respectively. CoGen-Predictor combines the
 494 GAT model's modelling of external
 495 commonsense correlational information for
 496 GAT model modelling and word-level
 497 correlational information for generative
 498 paradigm modelling, using external
 499 correlational knowledge in combination with

Method	Acc.(%)
CoGen-Predictor	63.54
w/o GAT & Know	62.61
w/o Representing learning	62.20
w/o Generation method	59.36

Table 4: ablation experiment.

knowledge of correlations within the event
 chain to enhance the ability to model
 correlational relationships between events.

- The accuracy performance of CoGen-Predictor outperforms strong baselines after performing extensive event-centred pre-training, such as ClarET (Zhou, Shen, et al., 2022) and EventBERT (Zhou et al., 2021). Moreover, CoGen-Predictor is more advantageous in terms of training time and complexity compared to the previous two methods.
- CoGen-Predictor performs better in terms of accuracy relative to MCPredictor-s without using the original sentence text, and slightly inferior to MCPredictor. For MCPredictor extracting the original sentence of the event is crucial in the training process, and the accuracy of SCPredictor-s relative to MCPredictor with a 7.9% decrease in accuracy after removing the original text. CoGen-Predictor improves the model's effectiveness on the SEP task without using the original content through a more generalised DISCOS commonsense knowledge base with more generalisation capabilities.

527 5.5 Ablation experiment

528 Table 4 shows the results of the ablation
 529 experiments for the CoGen-Predictor model.
 530 Firstly, the effect of external knowledge base and
 531 GAT node updates is verified (row 1), and it is
 532 found that the performance decreases by 0.93%
 533 when the external correlation knowledge of GAT is
 534 missing. This is because the external commonsense
 535 correlation knowledge and GAT node updates
 536 provide explicit correlation knowledge that is not
 537 available in the event representation. Secondly,
 538 removing the event-level explicit association
 539 modelling component (line 2) resulted in a 1.34%
 540 decrease in performance because the lack of the
 541 event representation learning module made the

P	Acc.(%)
0.9	62.41
0.8	62.65
0.7	63.02
0.6	63.42
0.5	63.51
0.4	63.54
0.3	63.36
0.2	63.06
0.1	62.94

Table 5: Parametric studies.

event similarity understanding insufficient. Finally, the removal of the word-level implicit correlation generation modelling component (line 3) proves to be crucial for the SEP task as it comprehensively models inter-word implicit correlation.

5.6 Parametric studies

The aim of this section is to investigate how the parameter p of the fusion prediction layer affects the predictive performance of the model. The parameter p represents the fusion ratio between event-level explicit correlation information and word-level implicit correlation information. The prediction results under different parameters are shown in Table 5. From the results, it can be found that text-level implicit associative generative modelling contributes more in the final score compared to external commonsense correlation knowledge modelling. This may be due to the fact that word-level implicit correlations are more suitable for the SEP task compared to those

generated based on the external commonsense knowledge base of correlations, but the external commonsense correlation knowledge injected in the model in this paper is also essential.

5.7 Case Studies

The case study demonstrates the properties of CoGen-Predictor and its predictive ability. The G-Score, I-Score, and F-Score in Table 6 represent the scores for generative models, external knowledge representation learning, and gated aggregation, respectively. In Case 1, the correct option "simpson attack deaths" does not have the highest score in the G-Score because the generative model can only handle word-level associations and lacks external knowledge support. In Case 2, the correct option "johnson share Monday gold" does not score well in the I-Score because the external knowledge alone does not allow for effective differentiation of textually relevant options. Combining event-level explicit and word-level implicit associations, F-Score correctly identifies subsequent events, demonstrating the effectiveness of CoGen-Predictor.

6 Conclusion

In this paper, we propose a novel hybrid generative and commonsense knowledge model, CoGen-Predictor, for script event prediction, which combines event-level explicit knowledge and word-level implicit knowledge and outperforms other state-of-the-art baseline models in the MCNC task. Future research will aim to incorporate external knowledge to better exploit the potential of generative models.

Events Case 1	G-Score	I-Score	F-Score	Contextual event
simpson come up rule	0.092	0.0267	0.1009	'friends know simpson', 'simpson become famous', 'simpson re', 'simpson kill friday', 'simpson write press', 'simpson use room', 'convict simpson', 'law apply simpson'
simpson invent defens	0.3479	0.1656	0.4142	
simpson circulate	0.3240	0.0987	0.3634	
simpson attack deaths	0.1886	0.6448	0.4465	
simpson pitch	0.0494	0.0642	0.0751	
Events Case 2	G-Score	I-Score	F-Score	Contextual event
accord johnson	0.1194	0.0098	0.1233	'johnson finish end', 'johnson break record', 'johnson better record', 'johnson redefine event', 'johnson lament', 'johnson contract food', 'johnson advance', 'johnson claim gold'
lawyer bite johnson	0.0308	0.0943	0.0685	
johnson share monday gold	0.4826	0.2672	0.5895	
johnson be weak	0.3500	0.4908	0.5464	
johnson recruit	0.0171	0.1379	0.0722	

Table 6: Case Studies.

595 **Limitations**

596 Although our proposed method performs well on
597 publicly available SEP datasets, it still suffers from
598 several major limitations. Firstly, our method has
599 requirements on the version format of the input
600 data, which needs to have the verbs and their
601 dependencies, and there may be a decrease in
602 accuracy for problems with missing some
603 parameters. Second, the dataset used in this paper
604 is the standard dataset proposed in 2018, which
605 may have poor portability due to the fact that only
606 one dataset was used for the experiments. Third,
607 our model uses BART as the backbone and may
608 suffer from insufficient ability to generalise when
609 dealing with specific linguistic contexts, which
610 requires more cross-linguistic validation and
611 adaptation tests. In addition, our experimental
612 setup assumes the stability of data distribution, but
613 changes in data distribution in real applications
614 may affect the performance of the model. Finally,
615 although our method performs well on the script
616 event prediction task, its effectiveness in handling
617 unstructured data needs to be further explored and
618 improved.

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