

Linking Source Code to Untangled Change Intents

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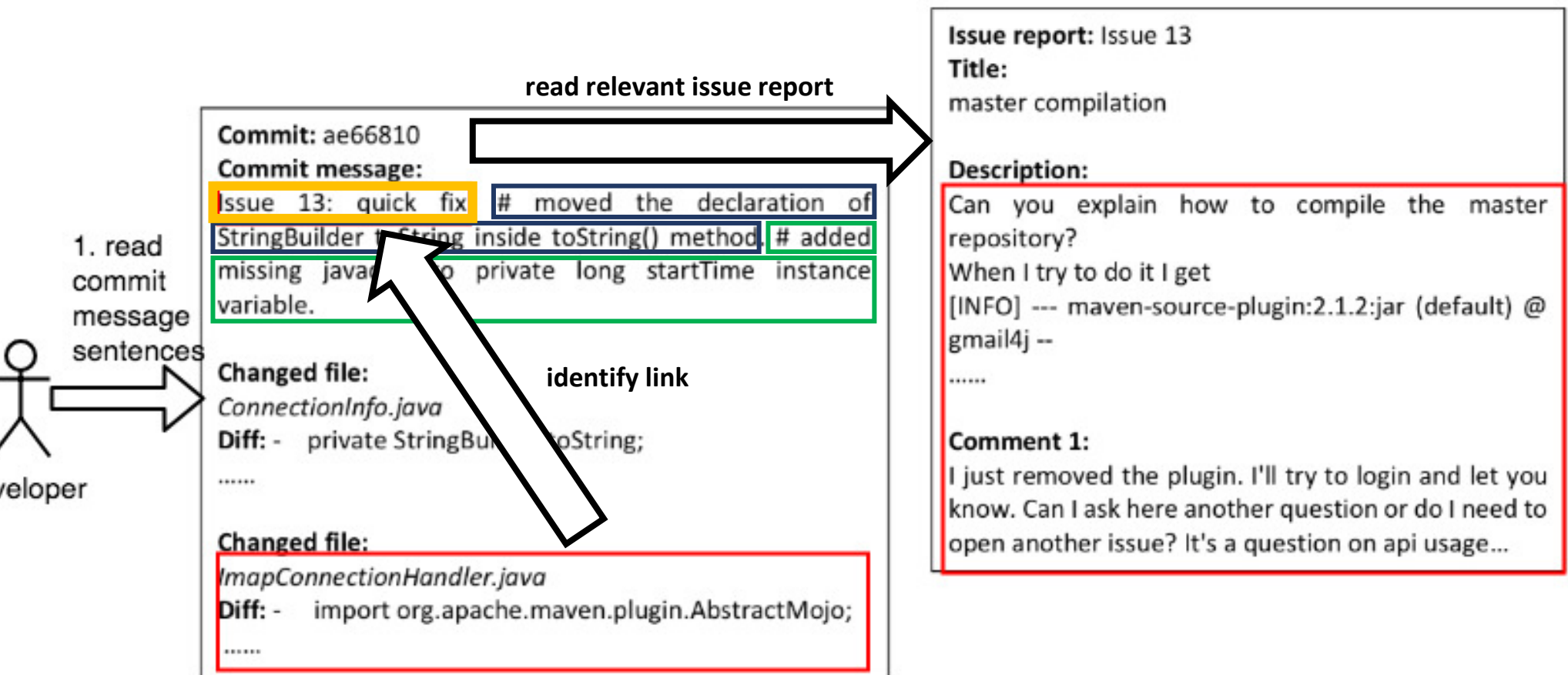
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Motivating Example



Key Challenges

Change intents are tangled together in commit message

Manually link changed source code to change intents take lots of human efforts

Key Challenges

Change intents are tangled together in commit message

- **Solution:** Untangle change intents

Manually link changed source code to change intents take lots of human efforts

- **Solution:** An automated approach

Existing Software Artifacts Linking Approaches

Manual approaches

- ❖ **Problem:** Time-consuming, labor-intensive, and requires a great deal of experience

Information Retrieval (IR)-based approaches

- ❖ Use a IR-based model: measures similarity between changed source code and untangled change intent
- ❖ **Problem:** Changed entities extracted from source code could be very *different* from what is described in commit messages and other related software documents

Goal

Propose approaches to address the task of linking changed source code to untangled change intent **at the sentence level**

Our Approaches

AutoCLink-P

- Automatically identify links by using **manually defined patterns**

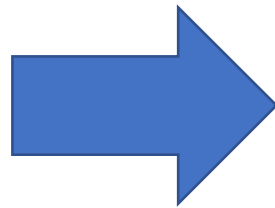
AutoCLink-ML

- Automatically identify links by applying **supervised learning**

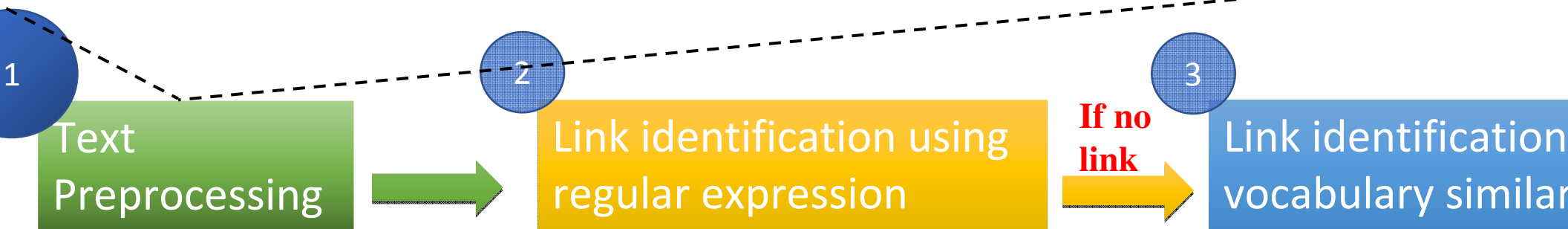
Pattern-based Link Identification System (AutoCLink-P)

Untangling change intents

Issue 13: quick fix. # moved the declaration of StringBuilder inside toString() method. # added missing javadoc to provide long startTime instance variable



- *Issue 13: quick fix.*
- *# moved the declaration of StringBuilder inside toString() method.*
- *# added missing javadoc to provide long startTime instance variable*



Pattern-based Link Identification System (AutoCLink-P)

Enriched untangled change intents

Commit: ae66810

Commit message:

Issue 13: quick fix. # moved the declaration of StringBuilder
toString inside toString() method. # added missing javadoc
to private long startTime instance variable.

Issue report: Issue 13

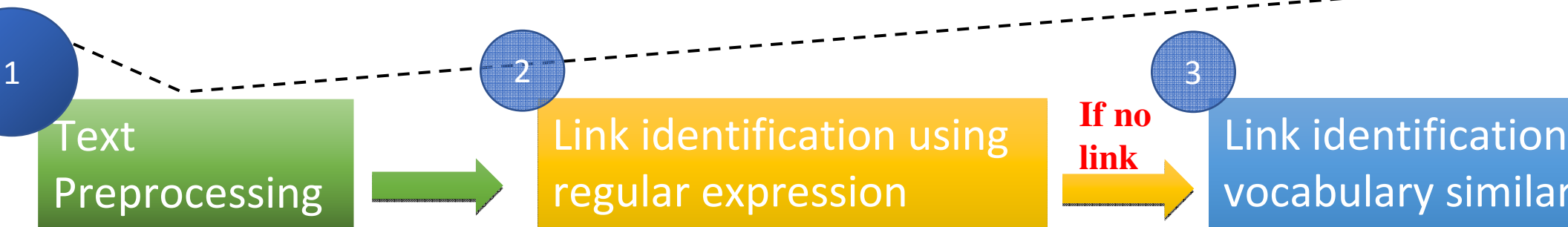
Title:

master compilation

Description:

Can you explain how to compile the master repository
When I try to do it I get

...



Pattern-based Link Identification System (AutoCLink-P)

Extracting terms from enriched change intents and changed entities from changed source code

"# moved the declaration of StringBuilder inside toString() method."



Terms: "declaration",
"string", "builders", ...

Changed file:

SimulationRun.java

Diff:

```
+ eventHandlerMap.put( SimulationEvent.-  
TYPE_ACQUIRE_JOB_NOTIFICATION_EVENT, new  
AcquireJobNotificationEventHandler(job-Executor) );  
.....
```



Changed entities:
"event", "handler", "map",
"simulation", "type", "job",...



Pattern-based Link Identification System (AutoCLink-P)

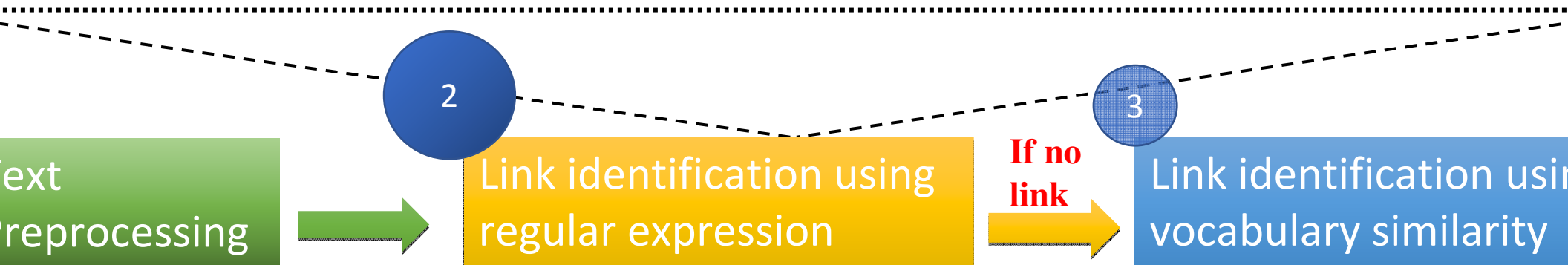
Generating regular expressions

```
^.*\s*(<verb>) (.*)<entity> (.*)
```

```
^.*\s*<entity> (.*)(<verb>) (.*)
```

<verb>: collected from change types
(e.g., *move*)

<entity>: noun words in changed source code identifiers, comments or string literals (e.g., *builder*)



Pattern-based Link Identification System (AutoCLink-P)

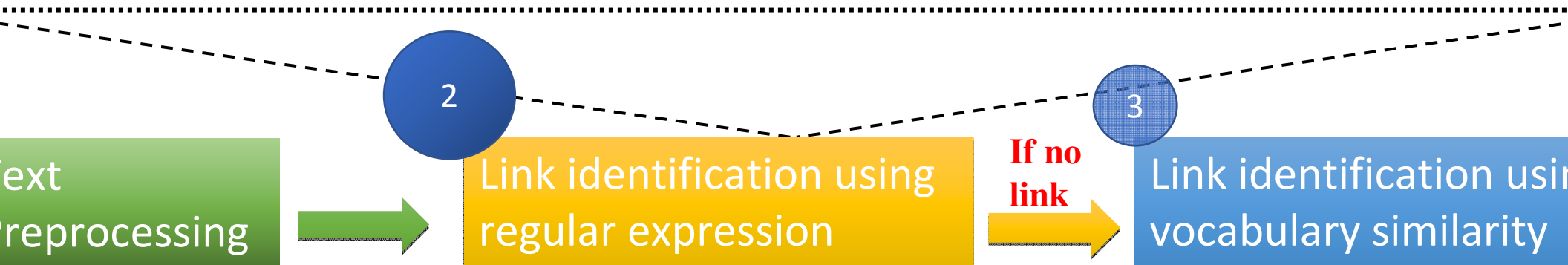
Generating regular expressions

```
^.*\s*(<verb>)(.*?)<entity>(.*)
```

```
^.*\s*<entity>(.*?)(<verb>)(.*)
```

$\wedge . * \backslash s * \text{move} . * ? \text{builder} . *$

“*moved* the declaration of string *builder* inside *toString()* method”



Pattern-based Link Identification System (AutoCLink-P)

Vocabulary similarity between enriched untangled change intent terms and changed source code entities

$$sim(i, c) = \frac{\sum_{t \in V, e \in V} \omega(t, i, V) \times \omega(e, c, V)}{\sqrt{\sum_{t \in V} \omega(t, i, V)^2} \times \sqrt{\sum_{e \in V} \omega(e, c, V)^2}}$$

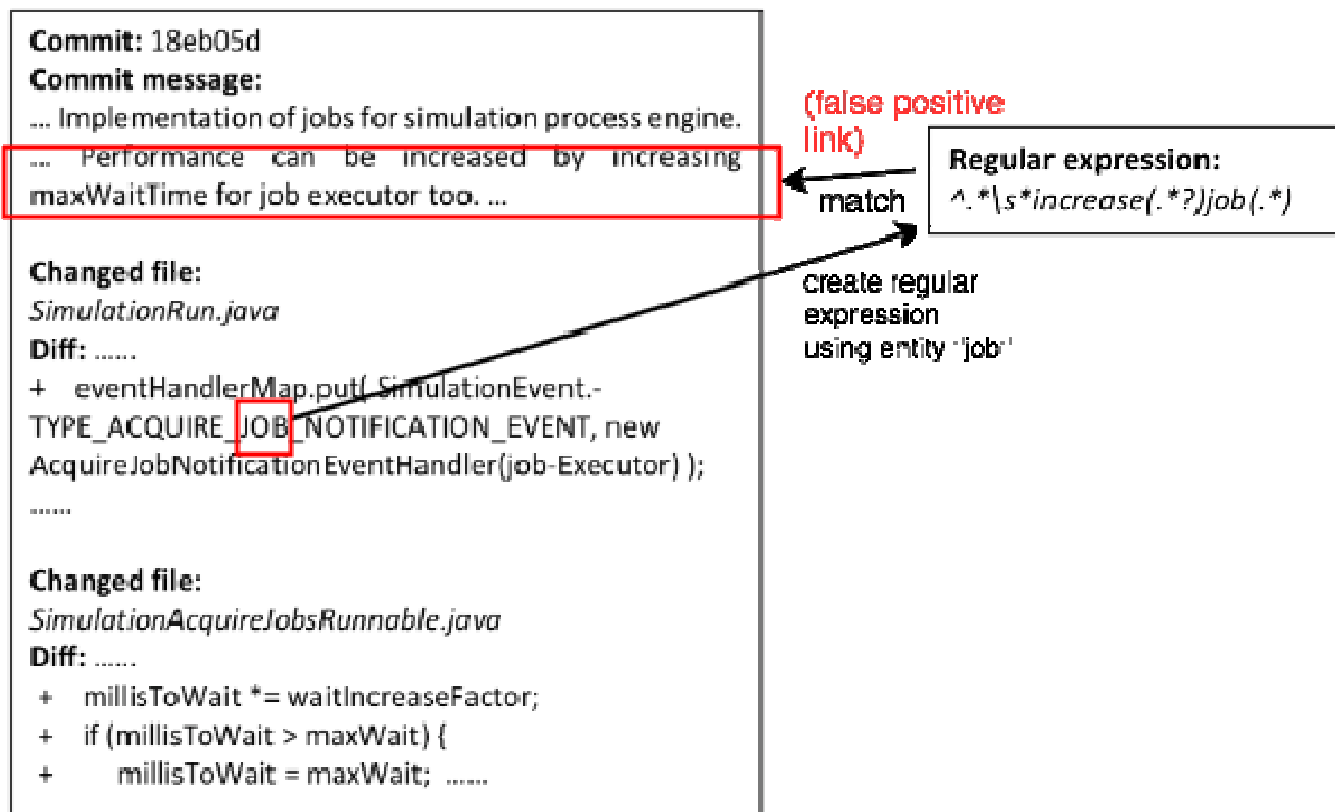
$$sim(d, c) = \frac{\sum_{t \in V, e \in V} \omega(t, d, V) \times \omega(e, c, V)}{\sqrt{\sum_{t \in V} \omega(t, d, V)^2} \times \sqrt{\sum_{e \in V} \omega(e, c, V)^2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow sim(Link_{(i,c)}) = \max(sim(i, c), \bigcup_{x=1}^n sim(d_x, c))$$



AutoCLink-P's Key Weakness

Regular expressions are not always precise



Commit: 18eb05d
Commit message:
... Implementation of jobs for simulation process engine.
... Performance can be increased by increasing maxWaitTime for job executor too. ...

Changed file:
SimulationRun.java
Diff:
+ eventHandlerMap.put(SimulationEvent.-
TYPE_ACQUIRE_JOB_NOTIFICATION_EVENT, new
AcquireJobNotificationEventHandler(job-Executor));
.....

Changed file:
SimulationAcquireJobsRunnable.java
Diff:
+ millisToWait *= waitIncreaseFactor;
+ if (millisToWait > maxWait) {
+ millisToWait = maxWait;

Regular expression:
^.*s*increase{.*?}job{.*}

(false positive link)

match

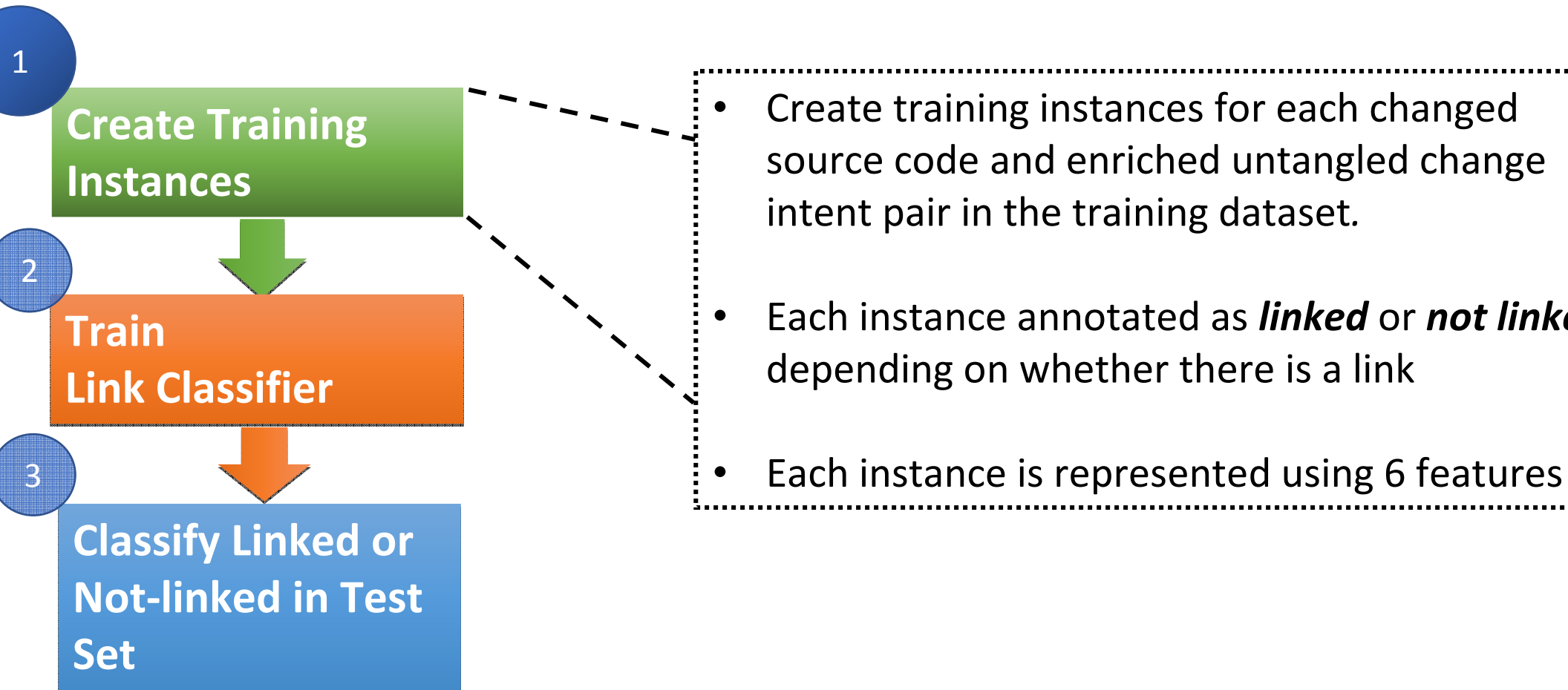
create regular expression using entity 'job'

AutoCLink-P's Key Weakness

Impreciseness of regular expressions

- **Solution**: employs a **learning-based link classification system** to weigh the importance of matched regular expressions

Supervised learning-based link classification system (AutoCLink-M)



Features

Type 1: Regular Expression Features encode the *presence* or *absence* of the regular expression in the training set

Type 2-4: Three types of Vocabulary Features

Three Types of Vocabulary Features

Type 2: Vocabulary Pair Features

Type 3: Vocabulary Similarity Features

Type 4: Term Unmatched Features

*“Implementation of
jobs for simulation
process engine”*

Changed file:

SimulationRun.java

Diff:

```
+ eventHandlerMap.put( SimulationEv  
TYPE_ACQUIRE_JOB_NOTIFICATION_EV  
AcquireJobNotificationEventHandler(job  
.....
```

(process, job)

Three Types of Vocabulary Features

Type 2: Vocabulary Pair Features

Type 3: Vocabulary Similarity Features

Type 4: Term Unmatched Features

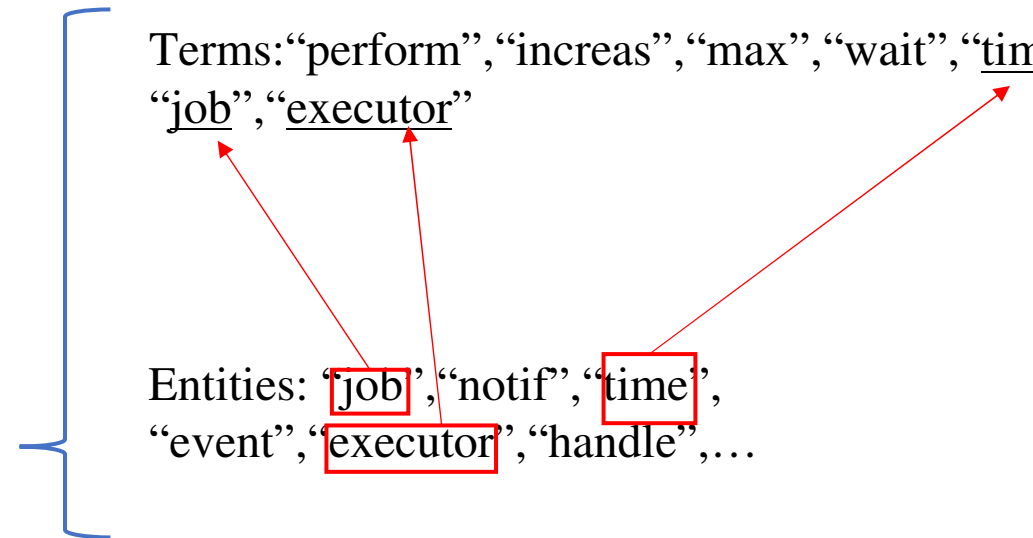
Encode the vocabulary similarity scores between an enriched untangled change intent and changed source code

Three Types of Vocabulary Features

Type 2: Vocabulary Pair Features

Type 3: Vocabulary Similarity Features

Type 4: Term Unmatched Features



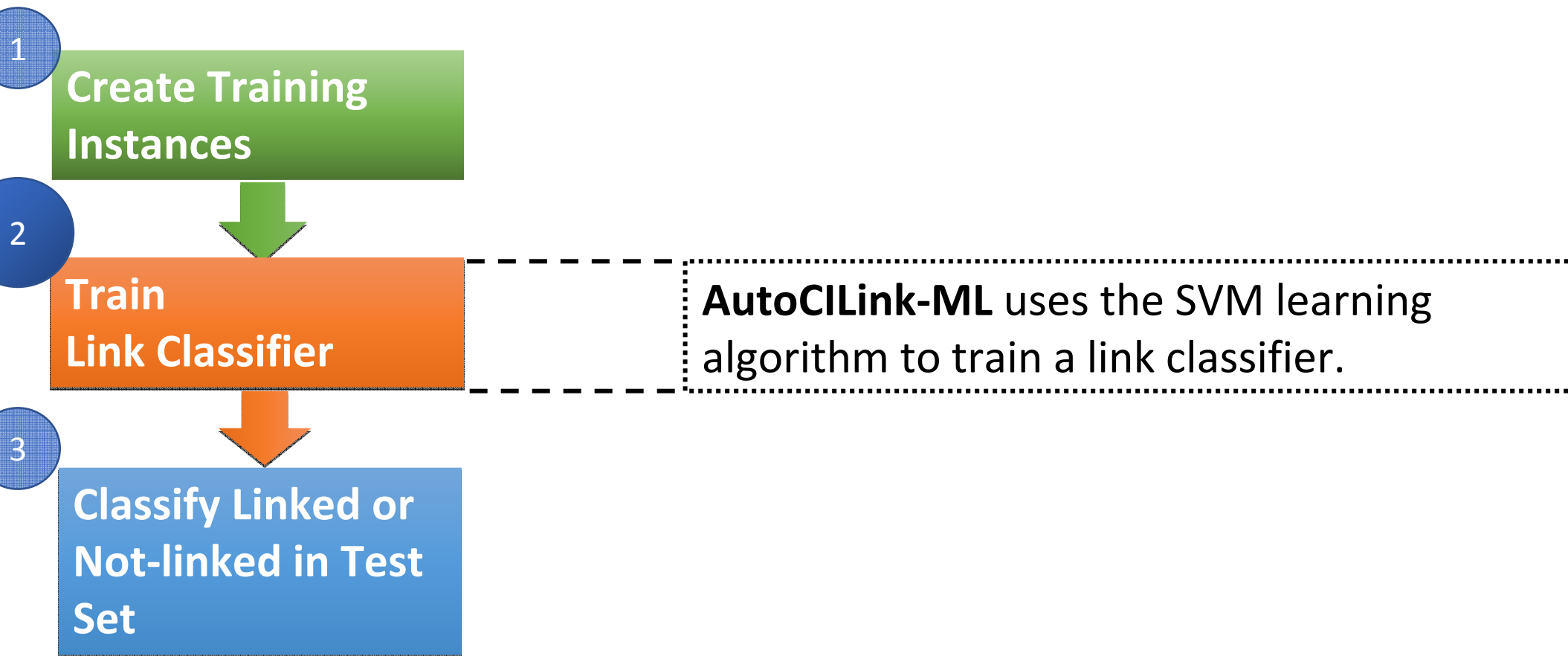
3 out of 7 (42.9%) matched, so the percentage of no terms unmatched in changed entities ($1 - 42.9\% = 57.1\%$) falls in the range of [50%, 60%)

Features

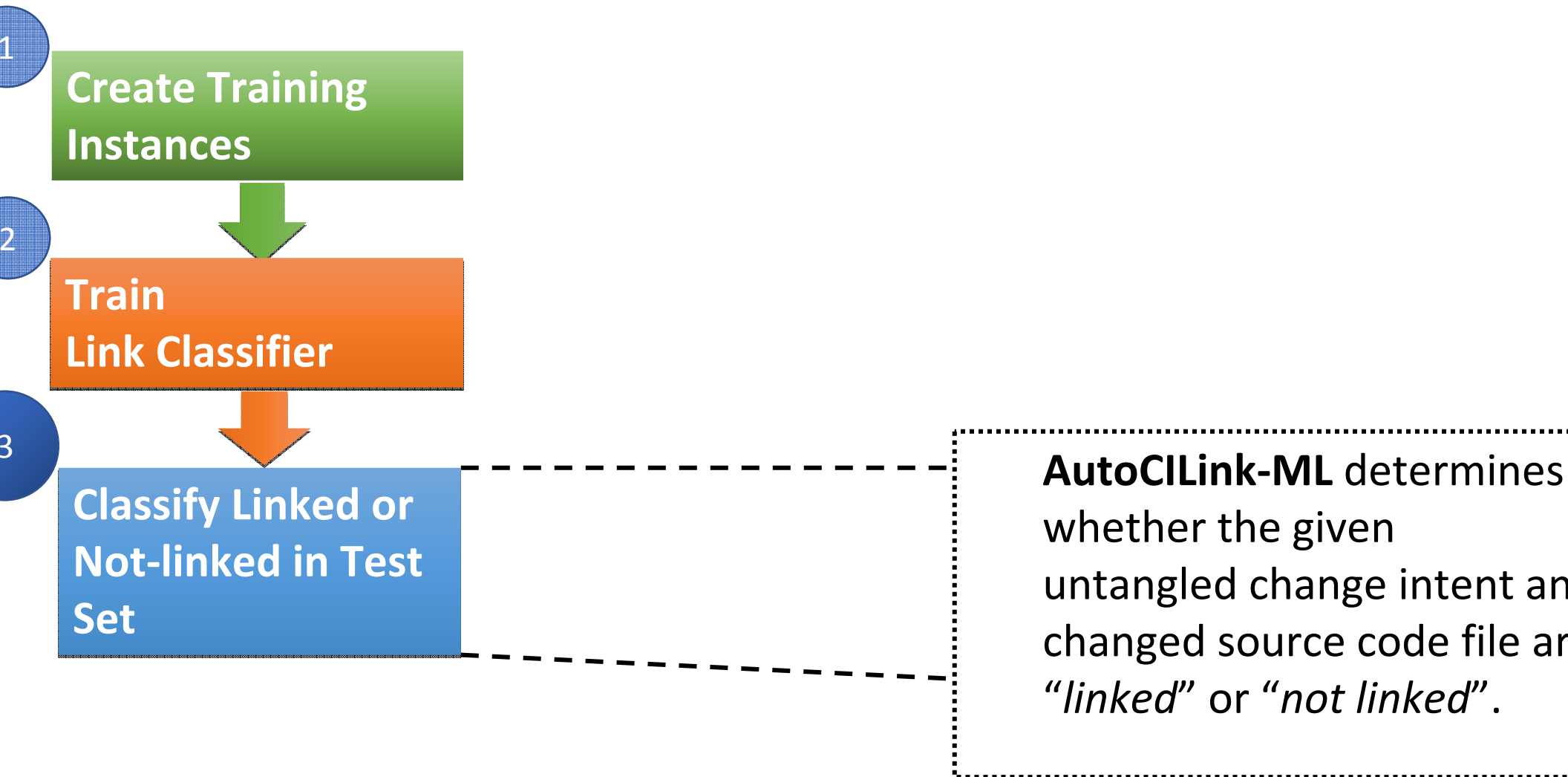
Type 5: Code Import Features encode the percentage of terms unmatched each imported code module changed entities

Type 6: Untangled Change Intent Count Features encode the number of untangled change intents in corresponding commit message

Supervised learning-based link classification system (AutoCLink-ML)



Supervised learning-based link classification system (AutoCLink-ML)



Empirical Evaluation

Assets: Open Source Java Projects from GitHub

19 Projects from GitHub, 572 untangled change intents, 2739 changed source code files, 2025 “linked” code-intent pairs (70.1%), and 1288 “not linked” code-intent pairs (29.9%)

Five-Fold Cross Validation

Metrics

Recall, Precision, F1-score

Accuracy: percentage of code-intent pairs correctly classified

Baseline Systems

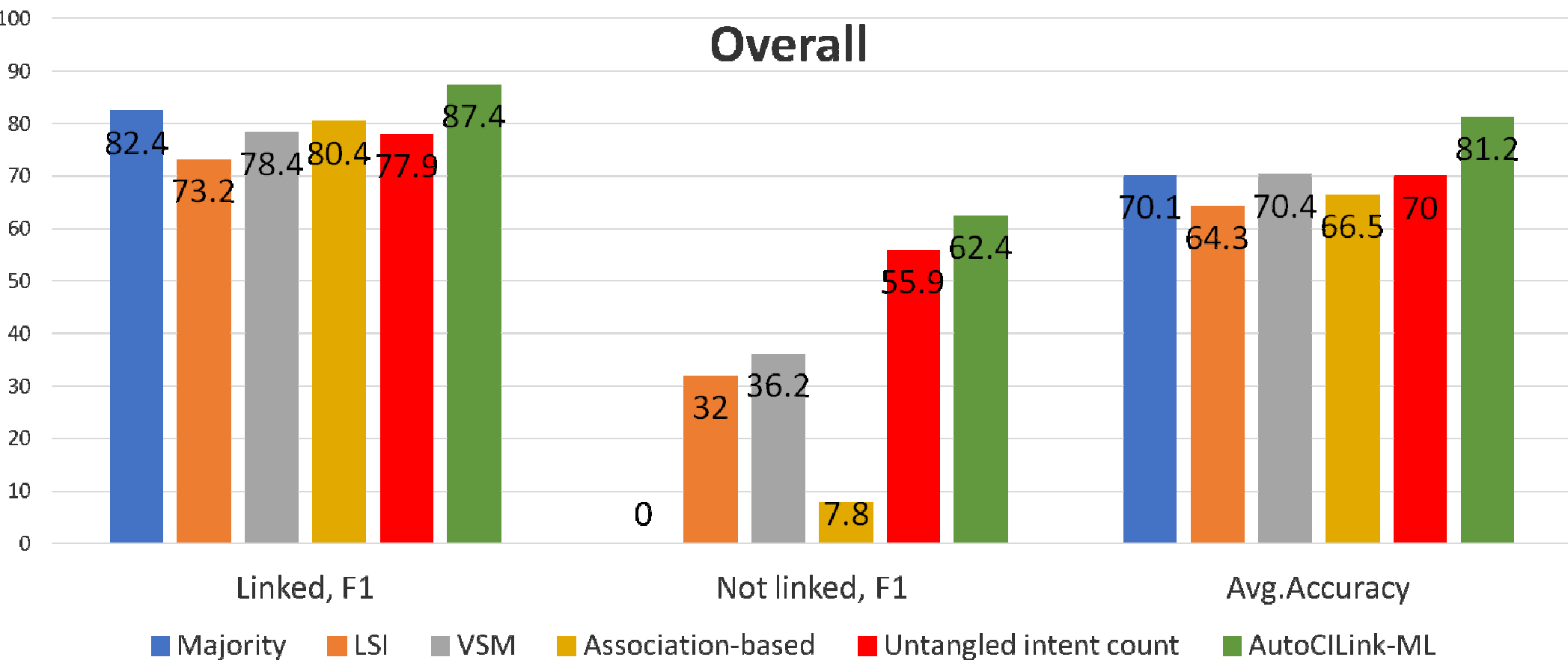
R-based Systems: LSI, VSM, Association-based

Majority Classifier: a greedy approach simply classify into the majority class (i.e., “linked”)

Untangled Intent Count Classifier: classify using threshold based on untangled change intents count

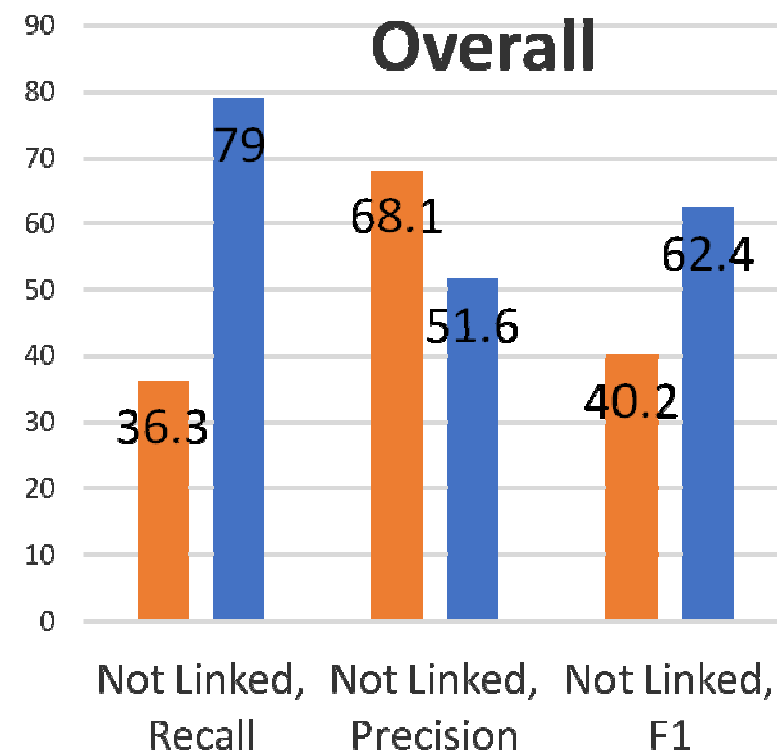
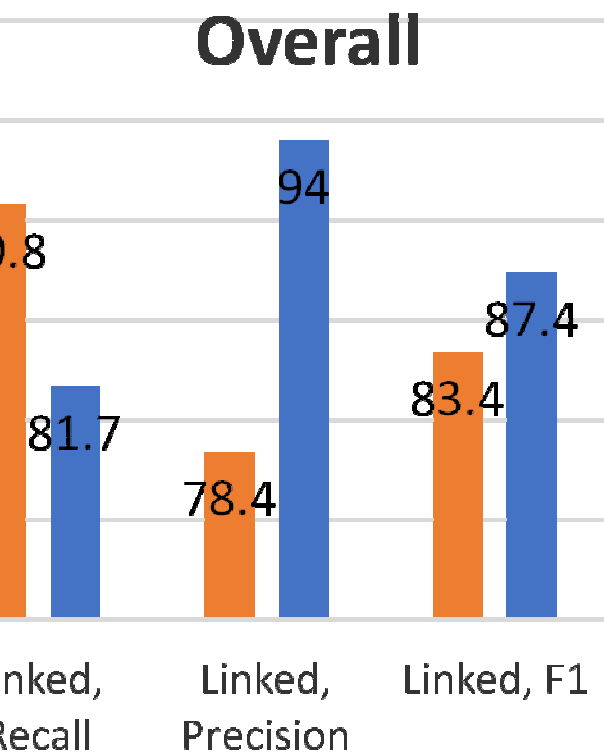
Overall Performance

1. How effective is AutoCILink in linking changed code to untangled change intents

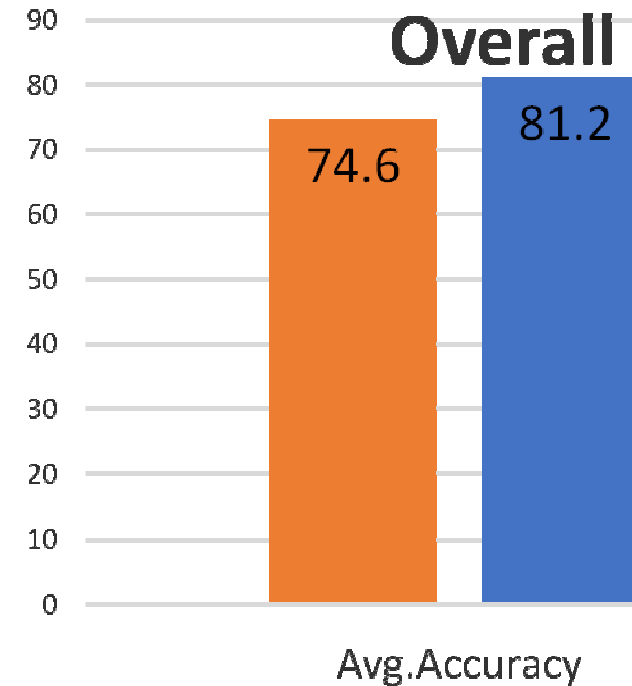


AutoCILink-ML vs. AutoCILink-P

2. Which system is more accurate in linking changed code to untangled change events, AutoCILink-ML or AutoCILink-P



■ AutoCILink-ML ■ AutoCILink-P



Feature Ablation

Which feature types have the largest impact on the performance of ProCILink-ML?

The most important features are *Untangled Change Intent Count Features* and *Term Unmatched Features*, as their removal results in a 18.1% and 12.2% drop in accuracy, respectively.