

Lost in Translation

The database as a lofi
documentation device

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A database is never a source.



A database is never a source.

I am
producing
data.

I am also
producing
data.

Me too is
producing
data.



A still from the movie 'The Social Network' showing three people in a conversation. On the left, a blonde woman in a red top is smiling and looking towards the center. In the center, a young woman with long blonde hair, wearing a grey sweater over a light blue collared shirt, looks forward with a neutral expression. On the right, a man with dark hair, wearing a dark suit jacket over a green shirt and a striped tie, is looking towards the woman in the center. The background is a dimly lit indoor setting, possibly a bar or restaurant.

How do you document reality?



This is what I am experiencing.


I am saying something important here...

I am hearing something else.

How do you document reality?

A doctor in a white lab coat is pointing with a pen at an X-ray of a hand on a light box. A patient's head is visible in the foreground, looking towards the X-ray. The scene is dimly lit, with the light from the X-ray illuminating the doctor's face and the patient's head.

How do you reconstruct reality?

A doctor in a white lab coat is shown in profile, pointing with a pen at a skeletal diagram of a hand on a screen. The scene is dimly lit, with the screen providing the main light source. A patient's dark silhouette is visible in the foreground on the right. A speech bubble points from the doctor to the screen, and a thought bubble points from the patient to the screen.

Based on my experience, this is my interpretation of the data.

Based on my experience this is my interpretation of what you are saying...

How do you reconstruct reality?



REALITY



DATABASE

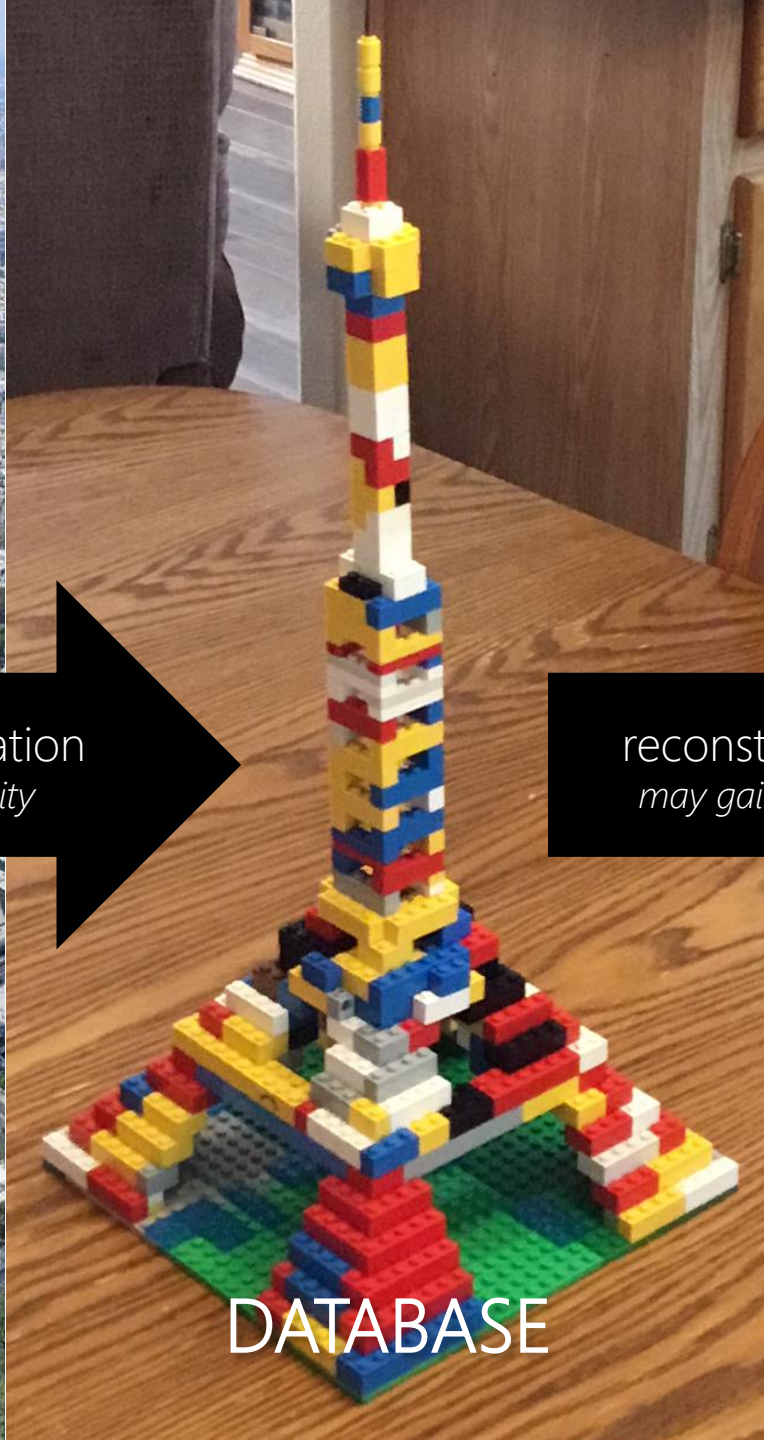
MENTAL
IMAGE





REALITY

documentation
loss of fidelity



DATABASE

MENTAL
IMAGE

reconstruction
may gain fidelity





REALITY

We do our best
with the building
blocks we have!

documentation
loss of fidelity



DATABASE

MENTAL
IMAGE

reconstruction
may gain fidelity

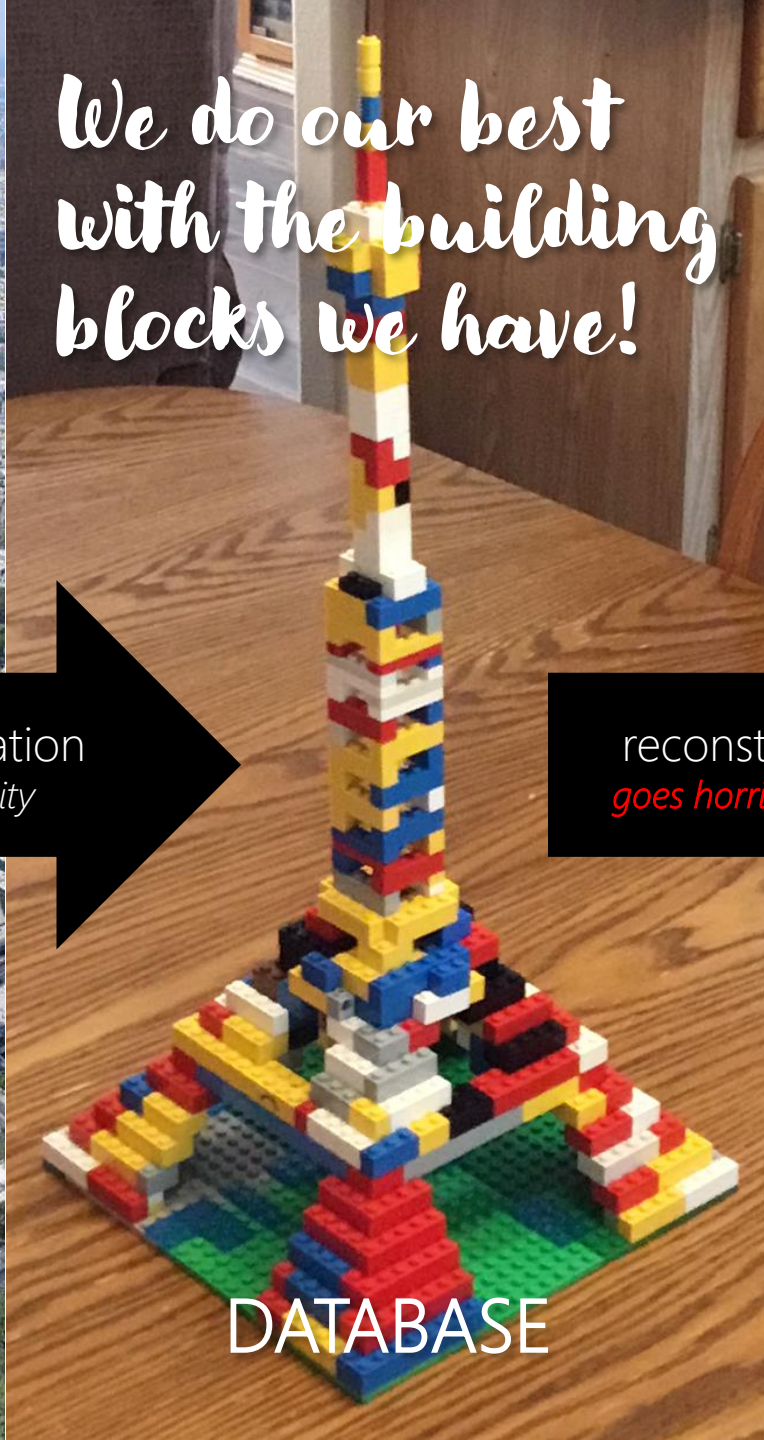




REALITY

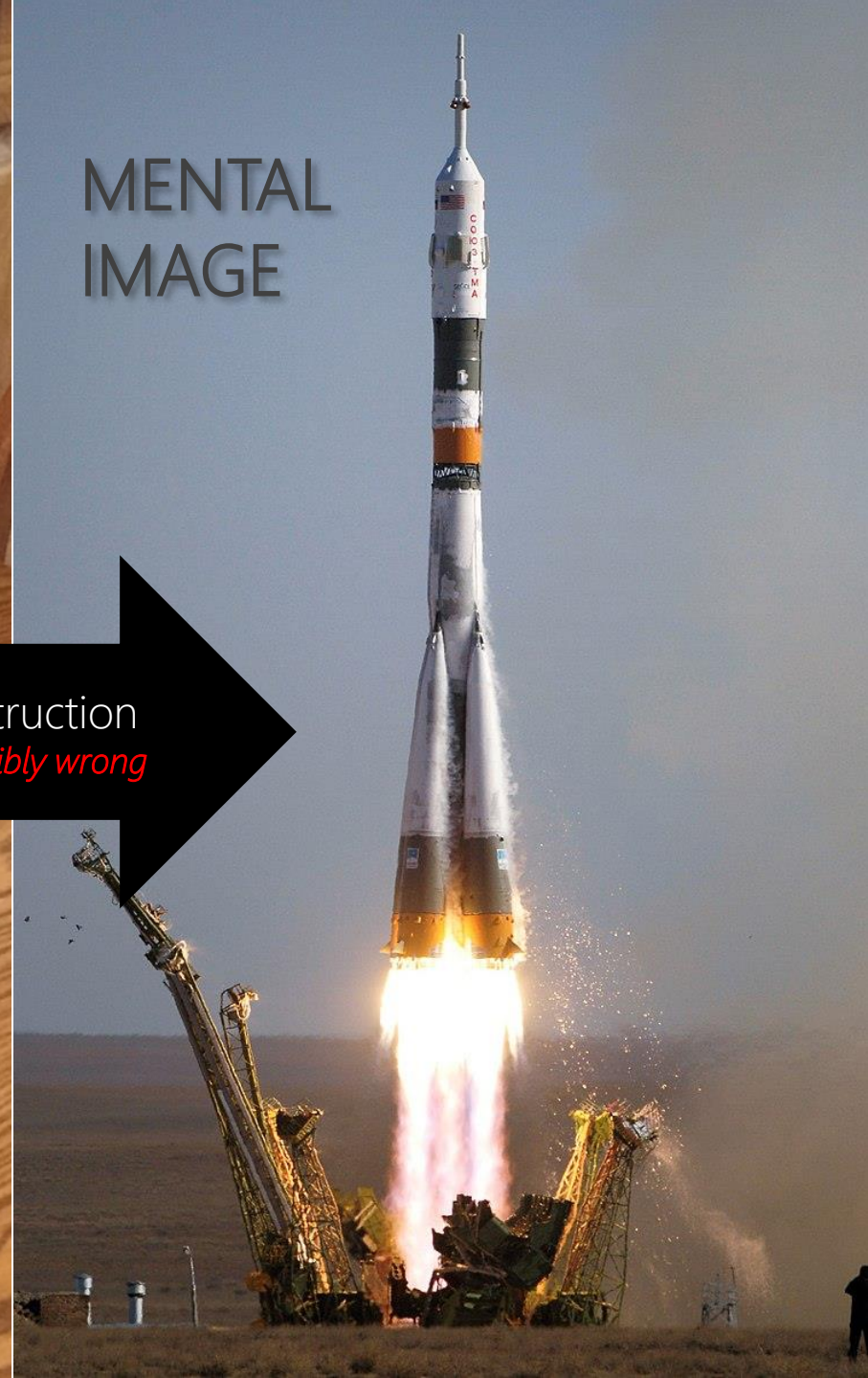
We do our best
with the building
blocks we have!

documentation
loss of fidelity

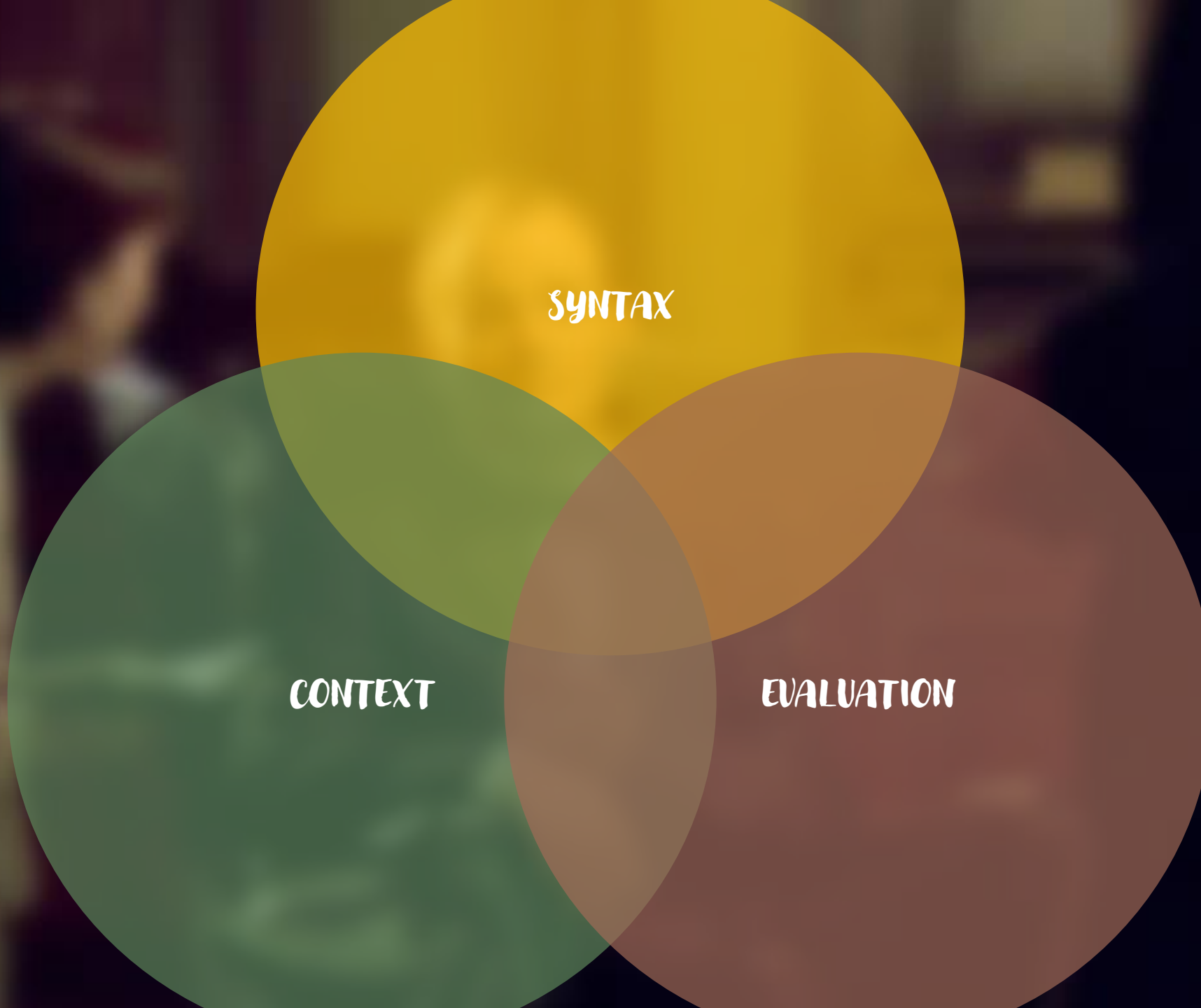


DATABASE

reconstruction
goes horribly wrong



MENTAL
IMAGE

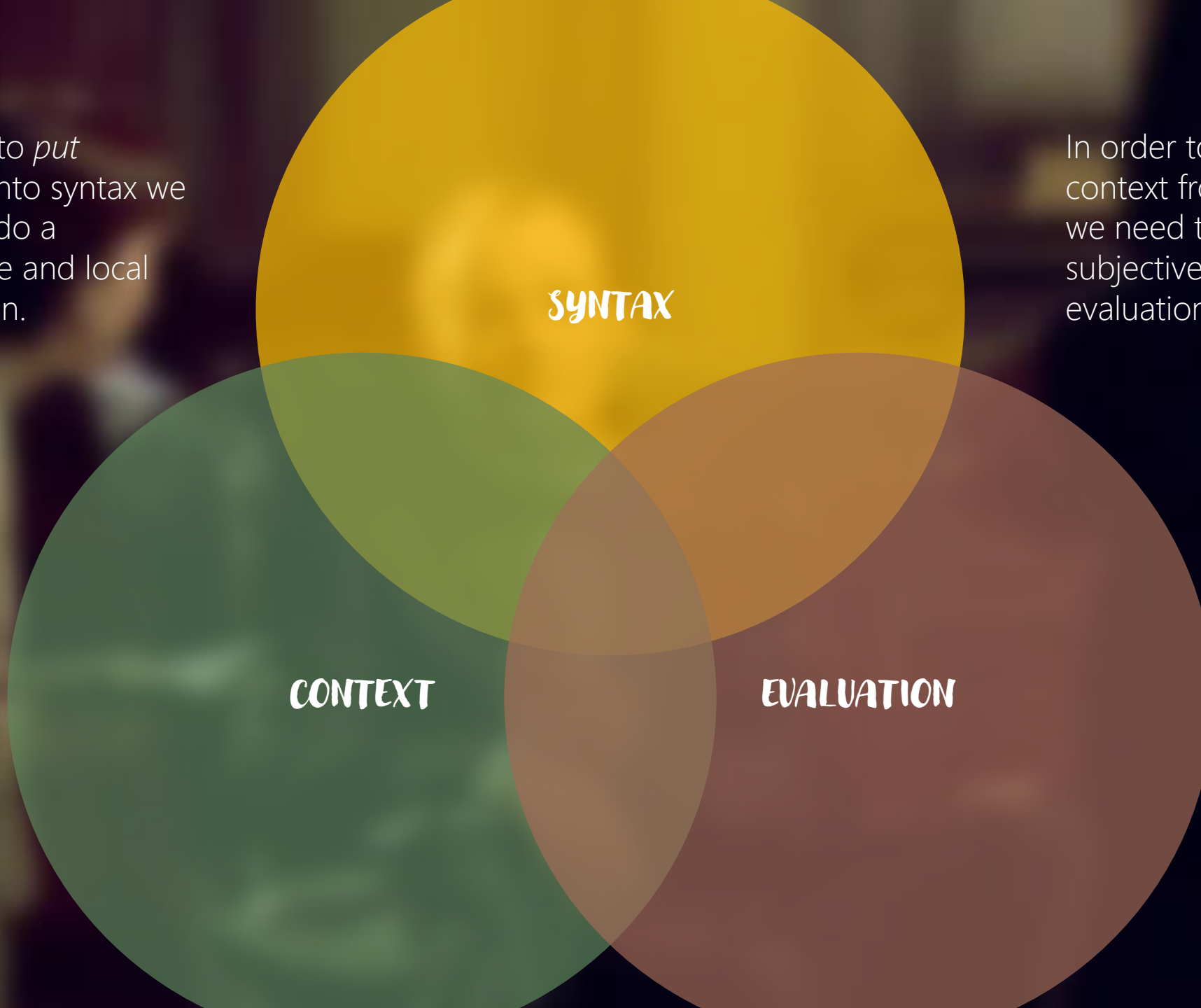


SYNTAX

CONTEXT

EVALUATION

In order to *put* context into syntax we need to do a subjective and local evaluation.



In order to *get* context from syntax we need to do a subjective and local evaluation.

This is lasting.

SYNTAX

In order to *get* context from syntax we need to do a subjective and local evaluation.

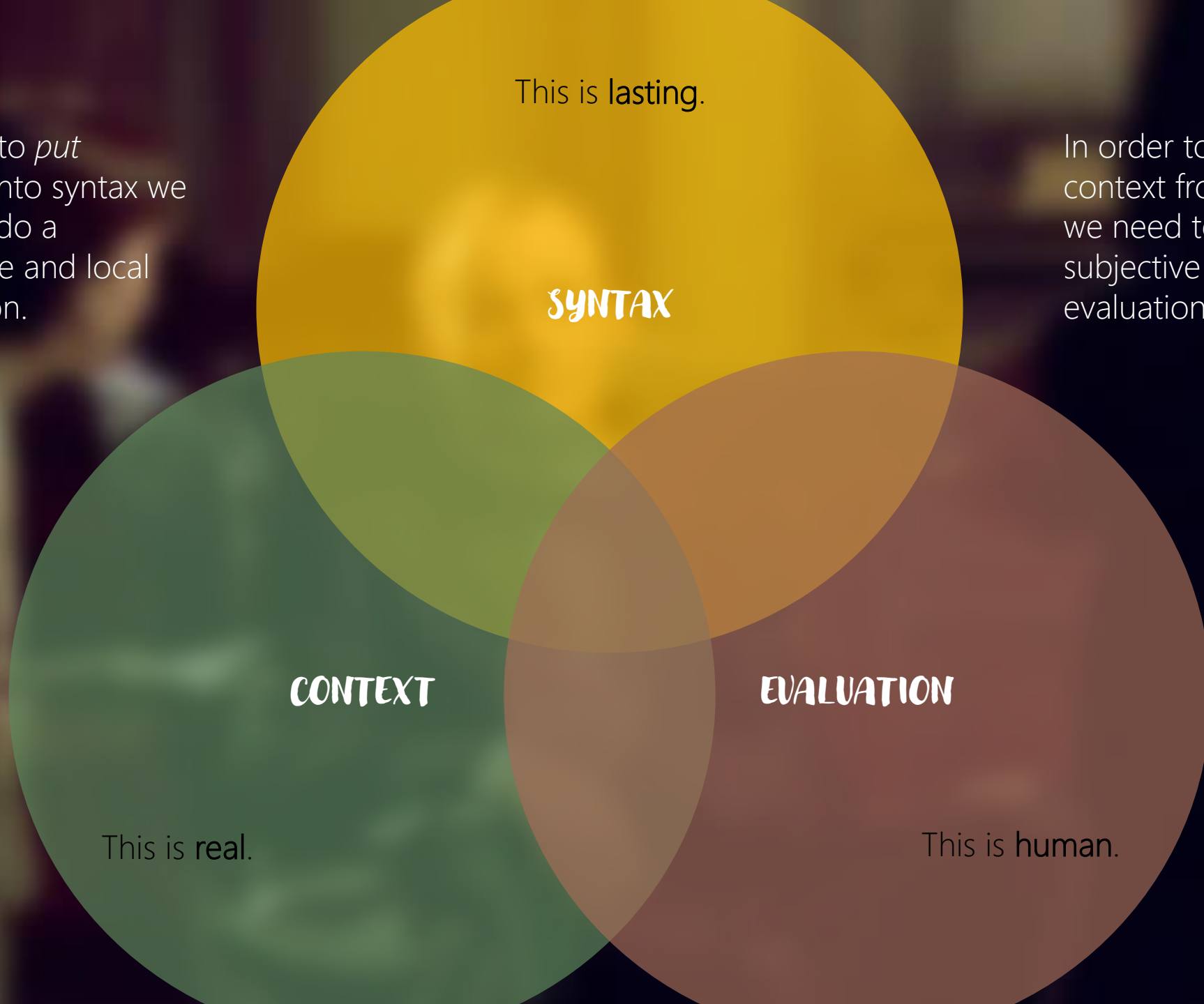
In order to *put* context into syntax we need to do a subjective and local evaluation.

CONTEXT

This is real.

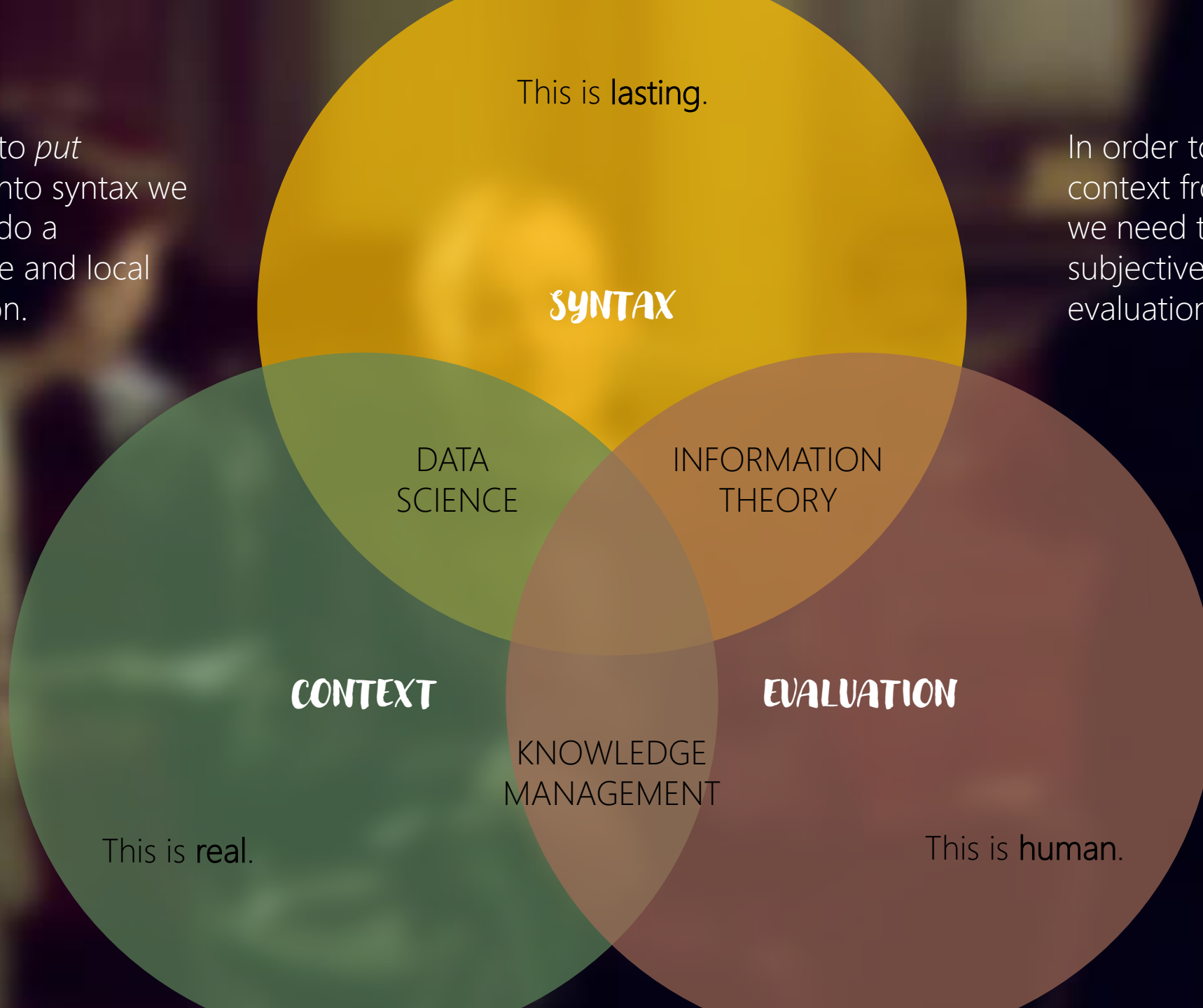
EVALUATION

This is human.



In order to *put* context into syntax we need to do a subjective and local evaluation.

In order to *get* context from syntax we need to do a subjective and local evaluation.



This is lasting.

SYNTAX

DATA
SCIENCE

INFORMATION
THEORY

CONTEXT

EVALUATION

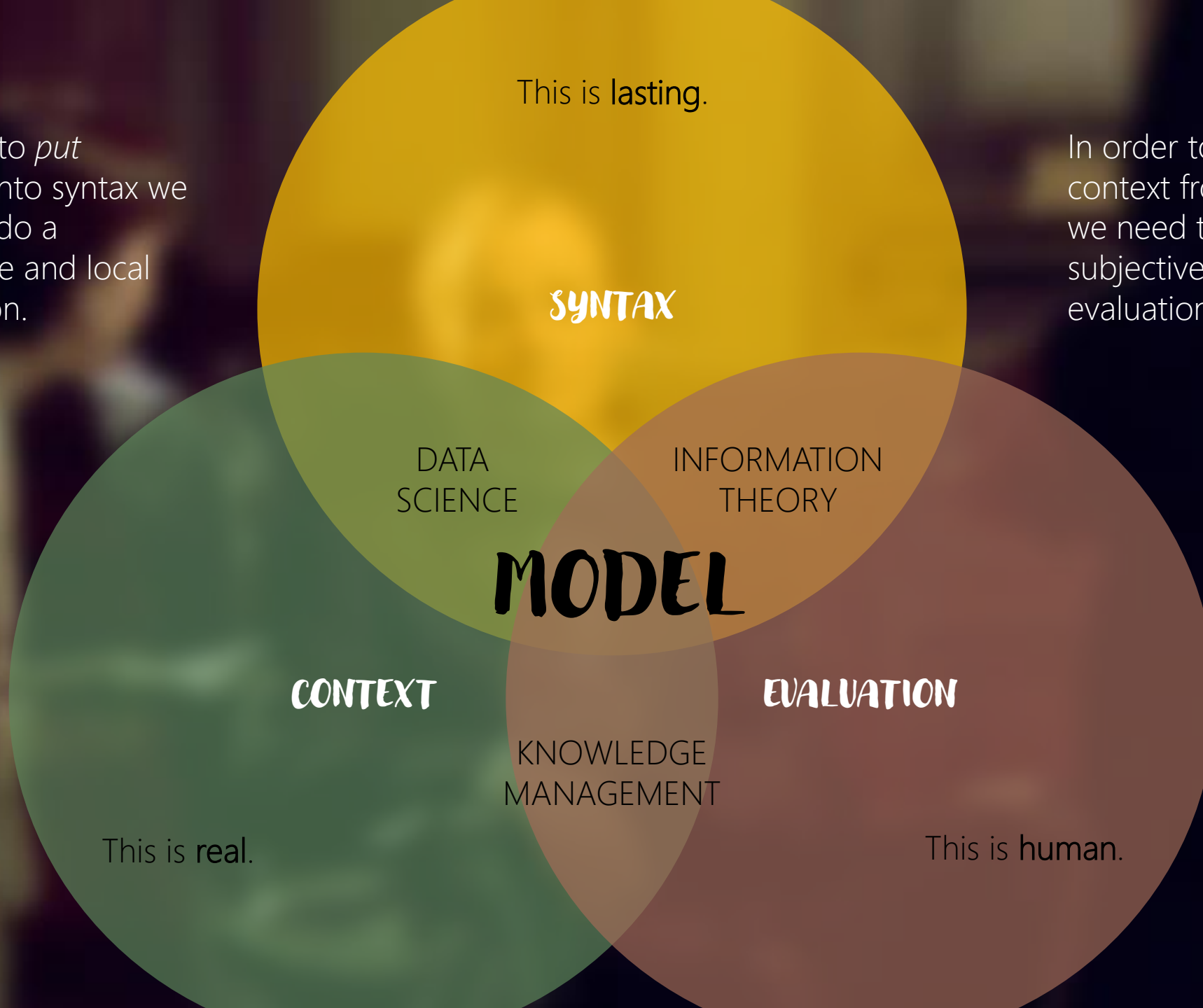
KNOWLEDGE
MANAGEMENT

This is real.

This is human.

In order to *put* context into syntax we need to do a subjective and local evaluation.

In order to *get* context from syntax we need to do a subjective and local evaluation.



In order to *put* context into syntax we need to do a subjective and local evaluation.

In order to *get* context from syntax we need to do a subjective and local evaluation.

