

DSC291: Advanced Statistical Natural Language Processing

Overview

Zhiting Hu

Lecture 1, March 29, 2022

UC San Diego

HALICIOĞLU DATA SCIENCE INSTITUTE

Logistics

- Class webpage: <http://zhiting.ucsd.edu/teaching/dsc291spring2022>

DSC291-Spring2022

Logistics Lectures Homework Project



Advanced Statistical Natural Language Processing

DSC 291 • Spring 2022 • UC San Diego

Logistics

- Lectures
 - **Time:** Tuesday/Thursday 3:30pm-4:50pm
 - **Location:** **HSS 1315**
- No discussion session as a DSC 291 class
- Instead: Office hours, Piazza, ad-hoc meetings if needed

Logistics



Instructor: **Zhiting Hu**

Email: zhh019@ucsd.edu

Office hours: Thursday 2:30-3:30pm

Location: SDSC E247



TA: **Pushkar Bhuse**

Email: pbhuse@ucsd.edu

Office hours: TBA

Location: TBA

- Canvas
- Discussion forum: Piazza
- Homework & writeup submission: Gradescope

Logistics: grading

- 2 Homework assignments (30% of grade)
- Paper presentation (20%)
- Course project (46%)
- Participation (4%)

Logistics: grading

- 2 Homework assignments (30% of grade)
 - Theory exercises, implementation exercises
 - 3 total late days without penalty
- Paper presentation (20%)
- Course project (46%)
- Participation (4%)

Logistics: grading

- 2 Homework assignments (30% of grade)
- Paper presentation (20%)
 - Each student will give an oral presentation on a research paper
 - 10 mins = 8 mins presentation + 2 mins QA
 - Discuss both strengths and limitations of the paper
 - Sign up in a google sheet (TBA)
 - Starting **TBA**
- Course project (46%)
- Participation (4%)

Logistics: grading

- 2 Homework assignments (30% of grade)
- Paper presentation (20%)
- Course project (46%)
 - 3 or 4-member team to be formed and sign up in a google sheet (TBA)
 - Designed to be as similar as possible to researching and writing a conference-style paper:
 - Due to tight timeline, fine to use synthetic/toy data for proof-of-concept experiments + explanation of theory/intuition of why your approach is likely to work
 - **Proposal** : 2 pages excluding references (10%) -- **Due 04/14**
 - Overview of project idea, literature review, potential datasets and evaluation, milestones
 - **Midway Report** : 4-5 pages excluding references (20%)
 - **Presentation** : oral presentation, 15-20mins (20%)
 - **Final Report** : 6-8 pages excluding references (50%)

Logistics: grading

- 2 Homework assignments (30% of grade)
- Paper presentation (20%)
- Course project (46%)
- Participation (4%)
 - Contribution to discussion on Piazza
 - Complete mid-quarter evaluation
 - Any constructive suggestions

Advanced Statistical Natural Language Processing

Advanced **Statistical** **Natural Language Processing**

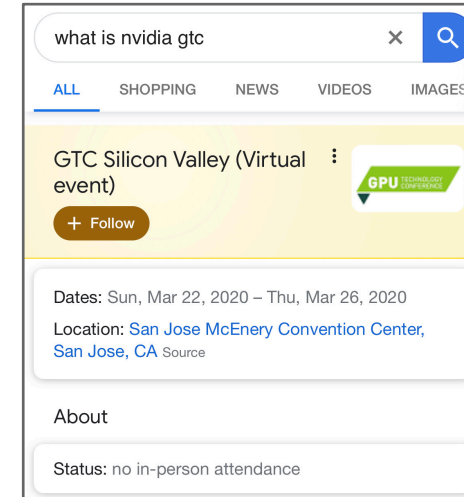
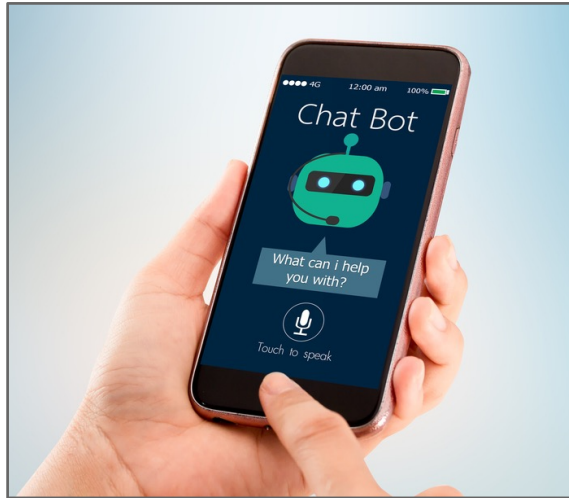
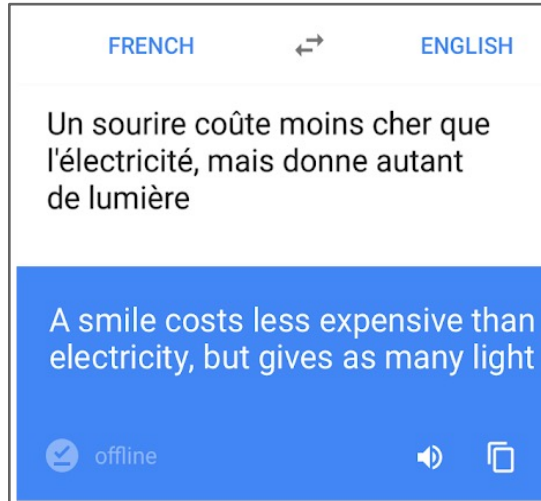


Statistical machine
learning (ML) methods

What is NLP?

We'll cover only a subset of
advanced, latest methods

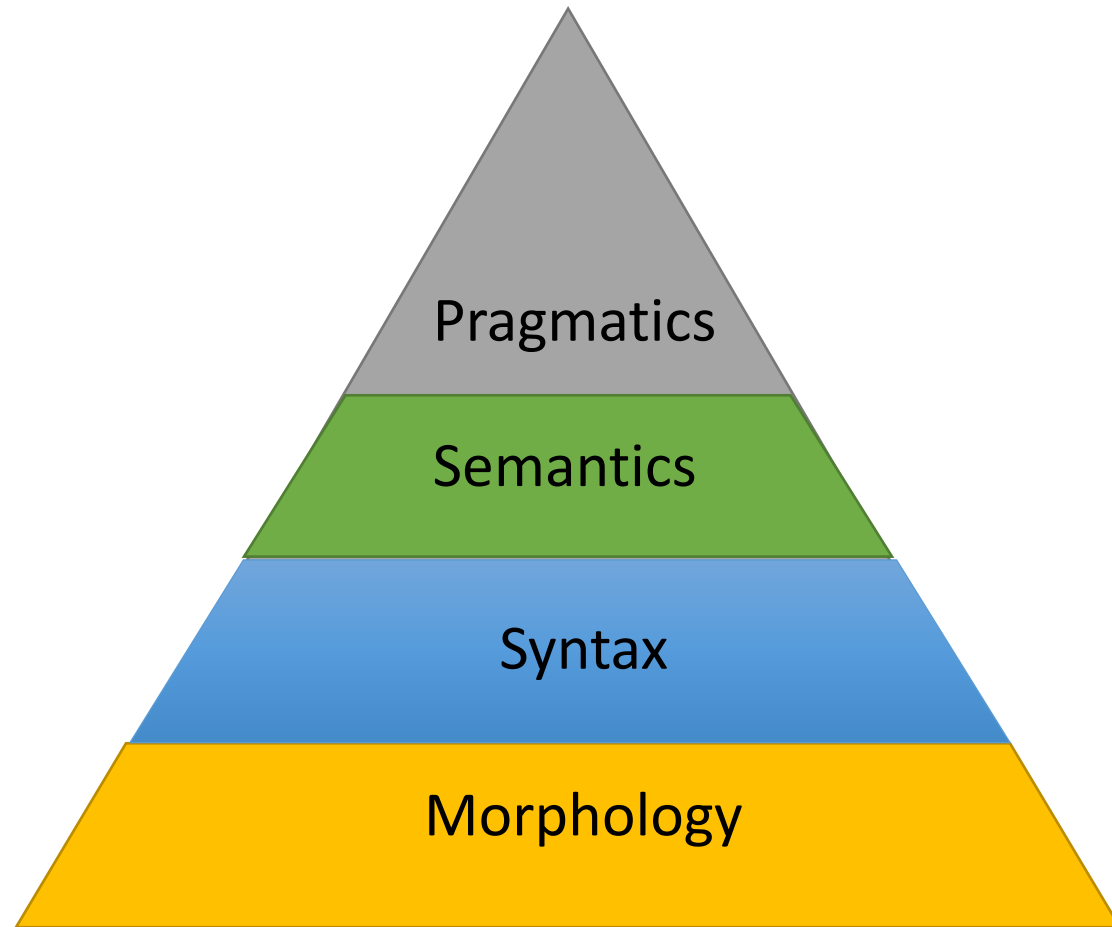
What is NLP



What is NLP

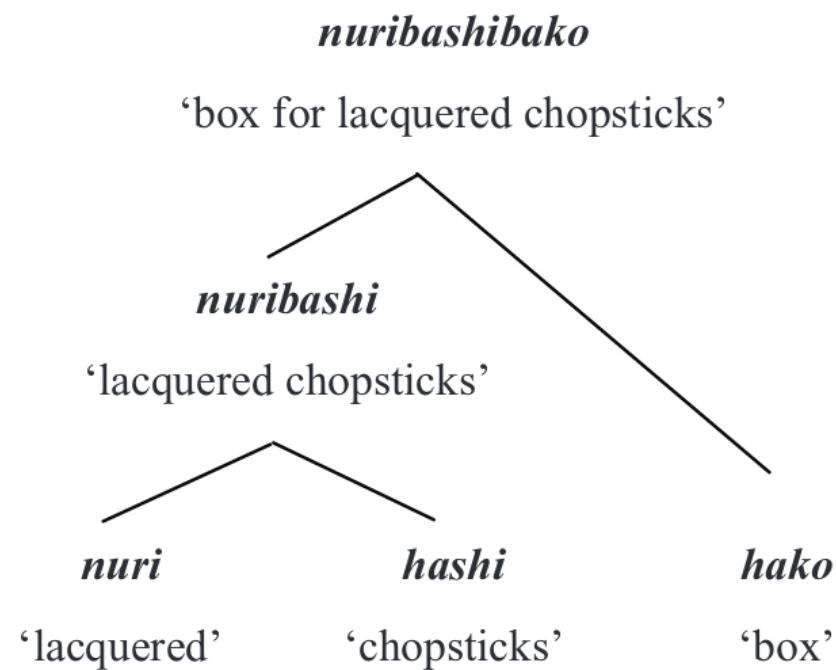
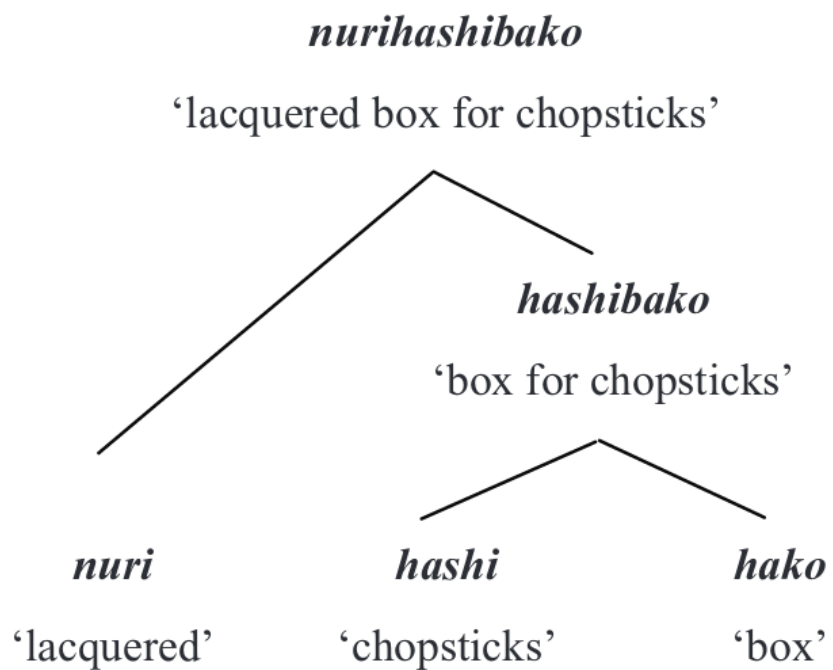
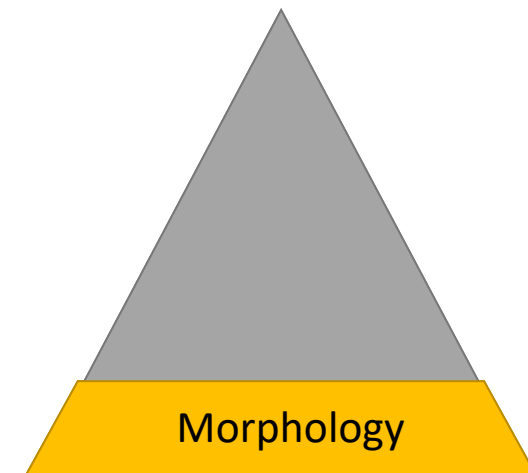
- $NL \in \{ \text{English, German, Chinese, Spanish, Hindi, American Sign Language, . . . , Lushootseed} \}$
- Automation of:
 - analysis or “understanding” (to some degree) what a text means
 - generation of fluent, meaningful, context-appropriate text
 - acquisition of these capabilities from knowledge and data

Language Understanding Pyramid

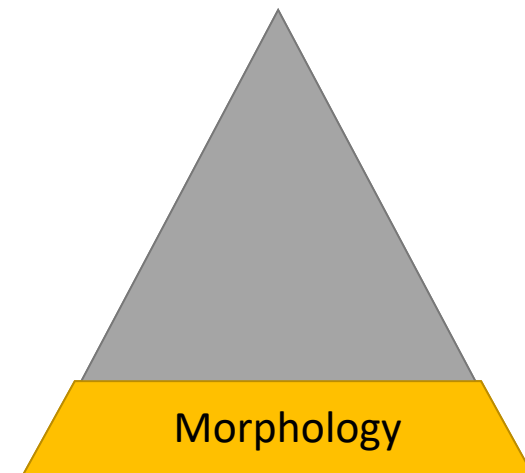


Morphology

Morphology Analysis



Morphology



Stemming

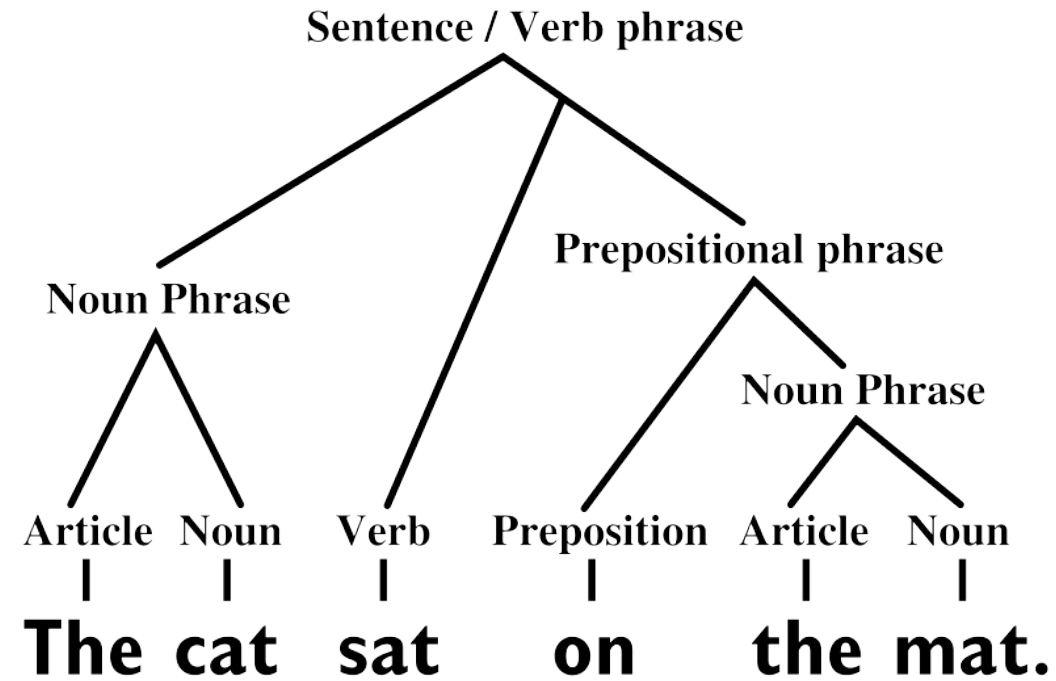
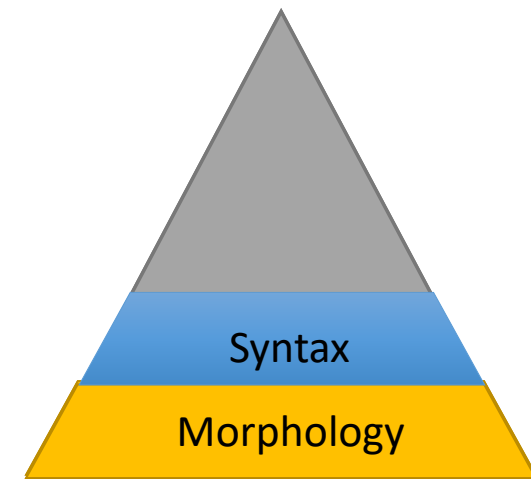
Lemmatization

adjustable → adjust_
formality → formaliti
formaliti → formal
airliner → airlin_

was → (to) be
better → good
meeting → meeting

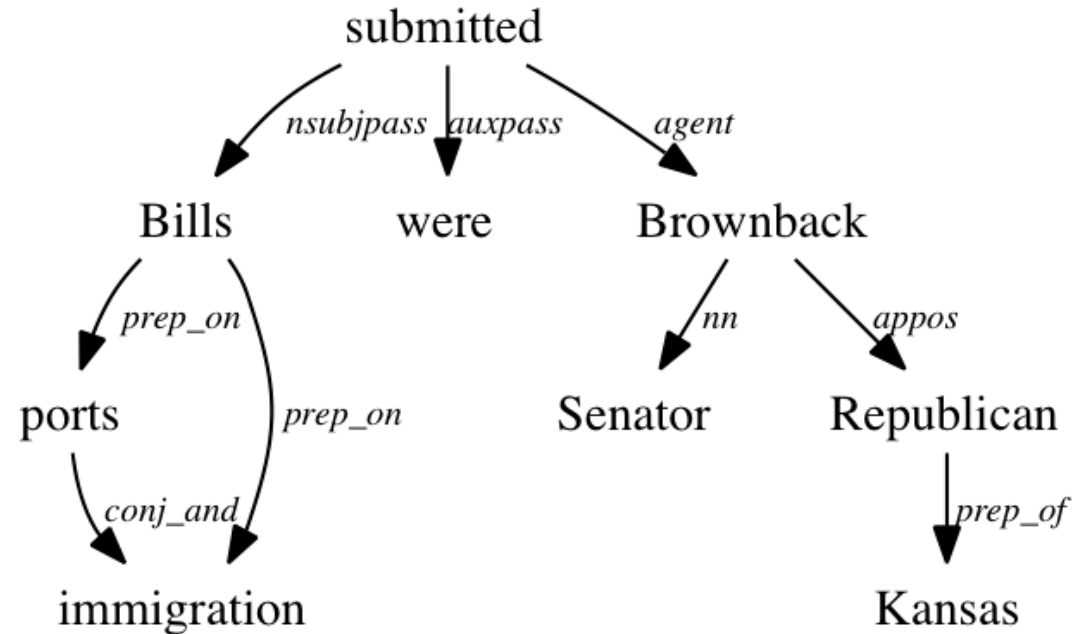
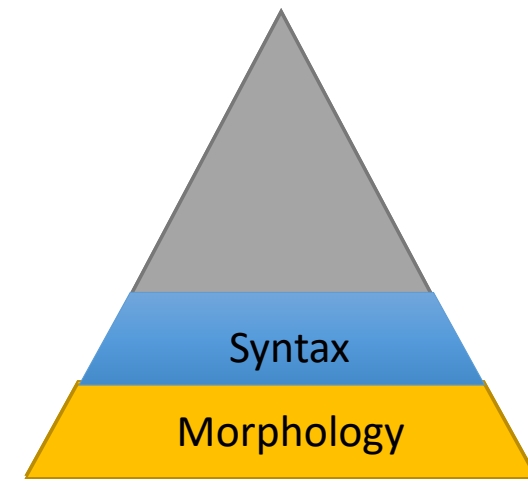
Syntax

Constituent Parsing



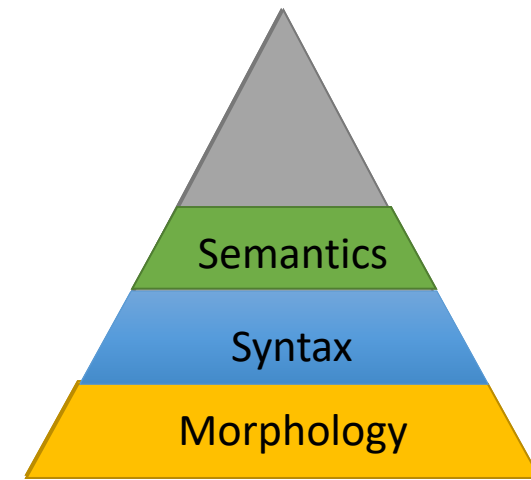
Syntax

Dependency Parsing



Semantics

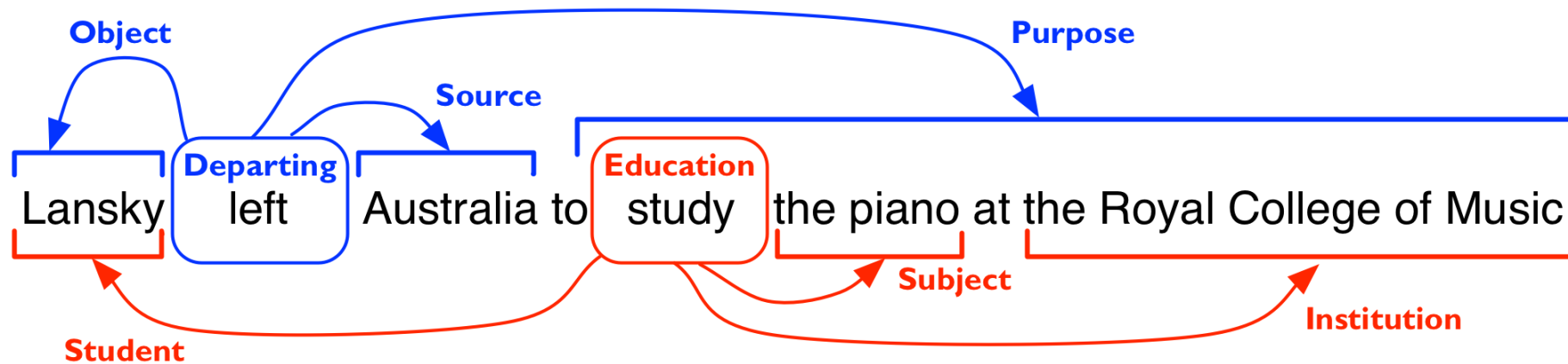
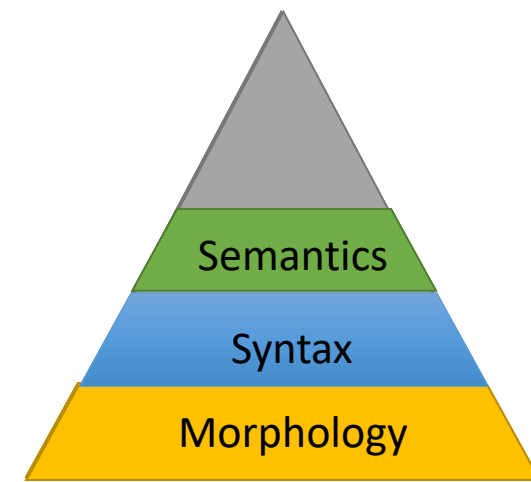
Named Entity
Recognition



When **Sebastian Thrun** PERSON started at **Google** ORG in **2007** DATE, few people outside of the company took him seriously. “I can tell you very senior CEOs of major **American** NORP car companies would shake my hand and turn away because I wasn’t worth talking to,” said **Thrun** PERSON, now the co-founder and CEO of online higher education startup Udacity, in an interview with **Recode** ORG **earlier this week** DATE.

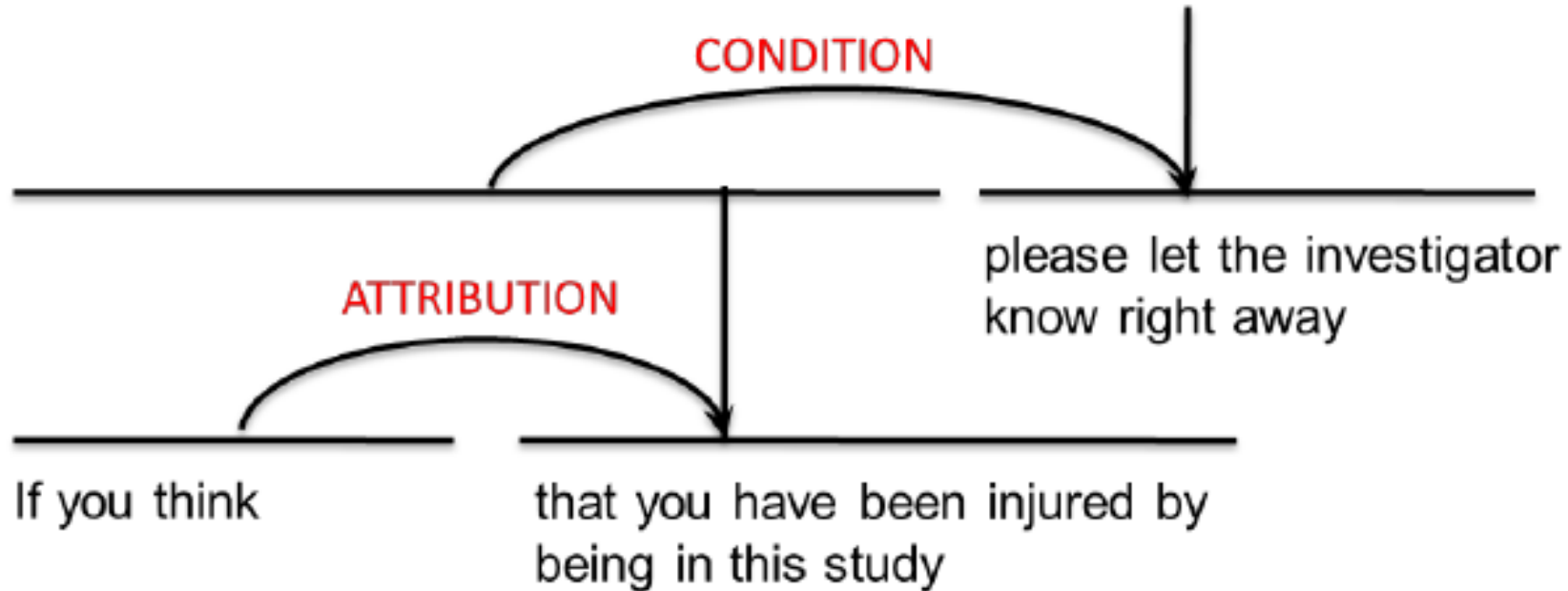
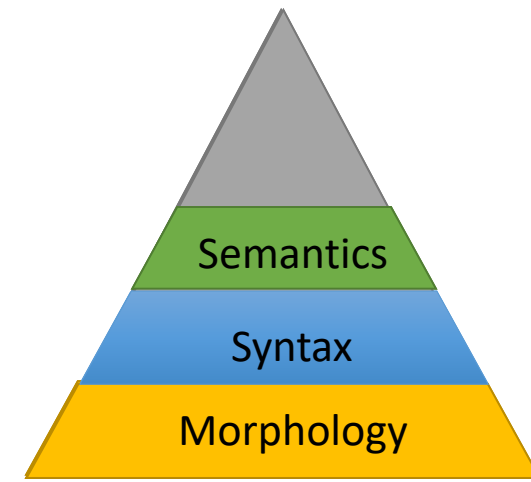
Semantics

Semantic Roles



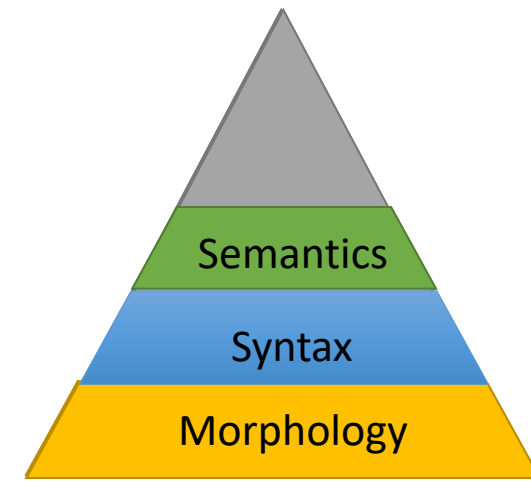
Semantics

Discourse Parsing



Semantics

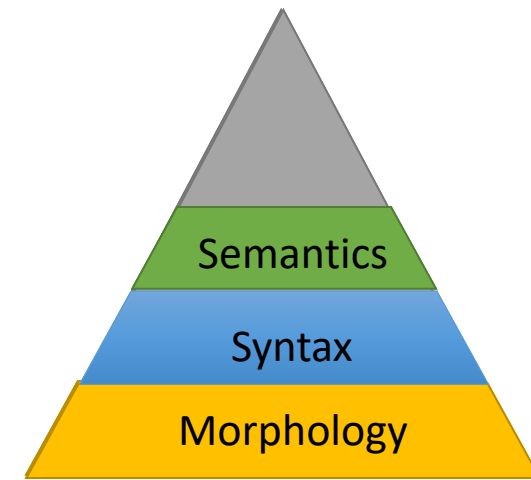
Coreference



“I voted for Nader because he was most aligned with my values,” she said.

Semantics

Entity Linking



Kate Winslet and Leonardo DiCaprio have definitely created a timeless classic.

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Kate Winslet

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Kate Elizabeth Winslet CBE (born 5 October 1975) is an English actress. She is particularly known for her work in period dramas, and is often drawn to portraying angst-ridden women. Winslet is the recipient of various accolades, including three [British Academy Film Awards](#), and is among the few performers to have won [Academy](#), [Emmy](#), and [Grammy Awards](#).

IMDb Menu IMDb TV All Search IMDb

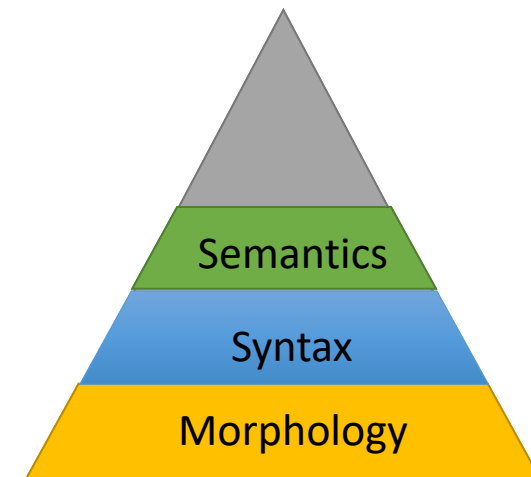
Leonardo DiCaprio

Actor | Producer | Writer

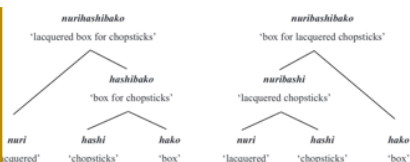
1:08 | Interview

Few actors in the world have had a career quite as diverse as Leonardo has gone from relatively humble beginnings, as a supporting cast member in *Growing Pains* (1985) and low budget horror movies, such as *Critter* teenage heartthrob in the 1990s, as the hunky lead actor in movies See full bio >

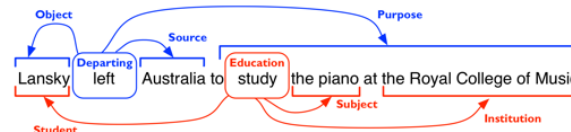
Language Understanding Pyramid



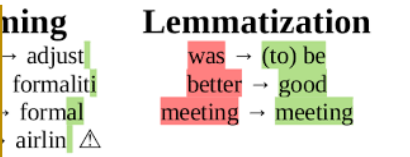
Morphology



Semantic Parsing



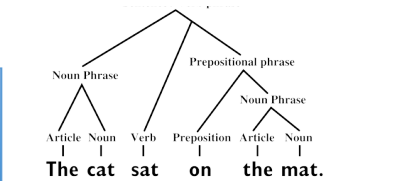
Lemmatize



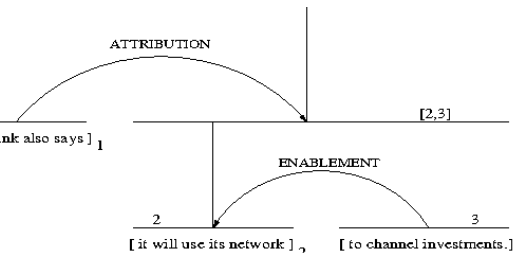
NER



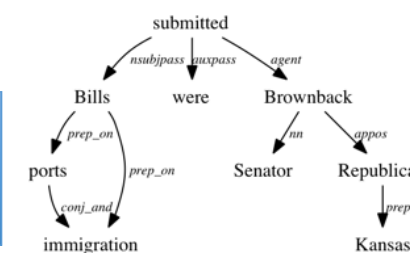
Constituent Parse



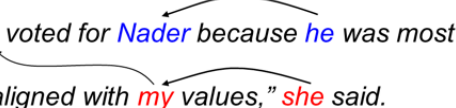
Discourse Parsing



Dependency Parse



Coreference



Entity Linking

WIKIPEDIA
The Free Encyclopedia

- Main page
- Contents
- Featured content
- Current events
- Random article
- Donate to Wikipedia
- Wikipedia store

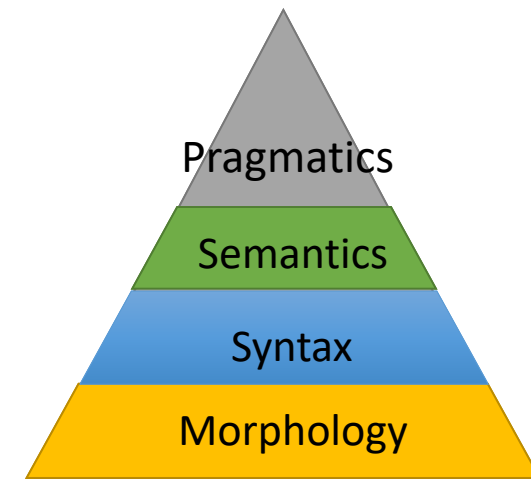
Interaction

Help

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

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Pragmatics



Why NLP is Hard

- Ambiguity
 - A string may have many possible interpretations in different contexts, and resolving ambiguity correctly may rely on knowing a lot about the world.

We saw the woman with the telescope wrapped in paper.

- Who has the telescope?
- Who or what is wrapped in paper?
- An event of perception, or an assault?

Why NLP is Hard

- Ambiguity
 - A string may have many possible interpretations in different contexts, and resolving ambiguity correctly may rely on knowing a lot about the world.
 - Richness: any meaning may be expressed many ways, and there are immeasurably many meanings.
 - Linguistic diversity across languages, dialects, genres, styles, ...
- Appropriateness of a representation depends on the application
- Typically, representation of language is a theorized construct, not directly observable, or it is encoded numerically (vectors, matrices, tensors) and inscrutable
- There are many sources of variation and noise in linguistic input

Advanced **Statistical** **Natural Language Processing**



Statistical machine
learning (ML) methods

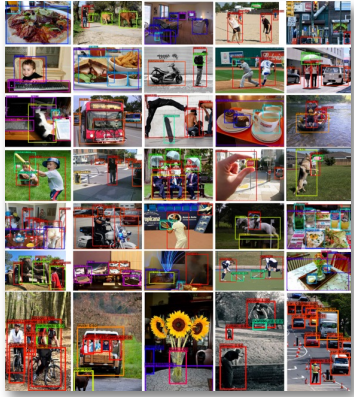
What is NLP?

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advanced, latest methods

Machine Learning

- Computational methods that enable machines to learn concepts and improve performance from **experiences**.

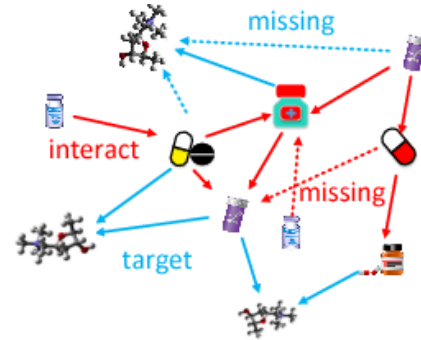
Experiences of all kinds



Data examples

Type-2 diabetes is 90% more common than type-1

Rules/Constraints



Knowledge graphs



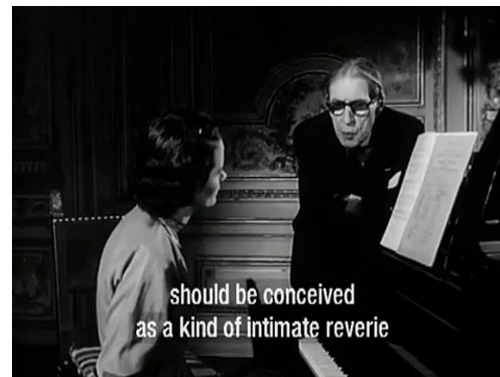
Rewards



Auxiliary agents



Adversaries

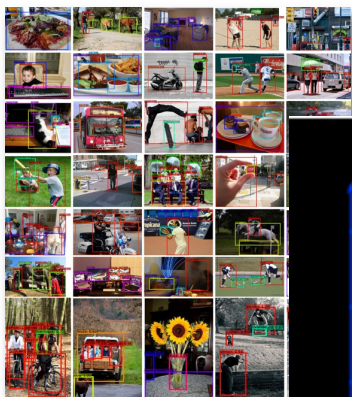


Teachers

...

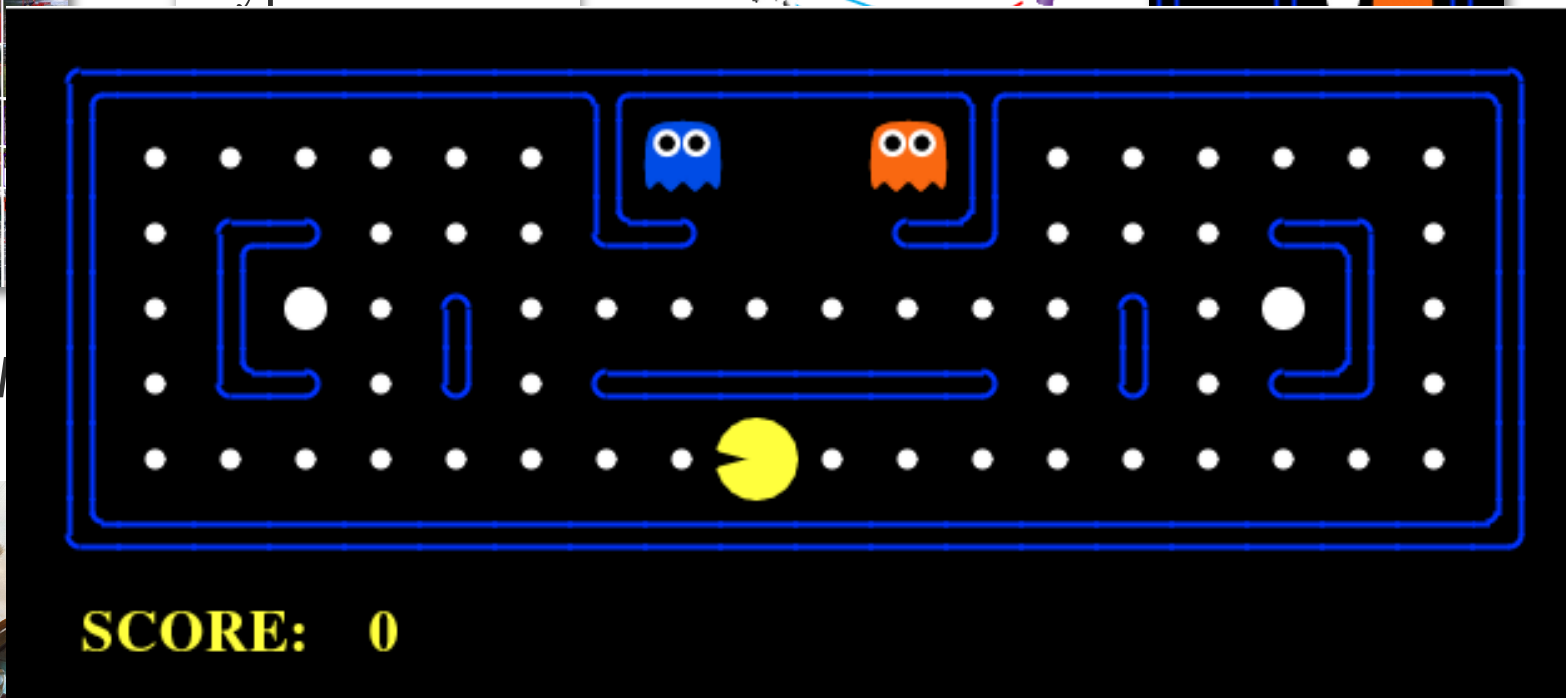
And all combinations thereof

Experiences of all kinds



Data examples

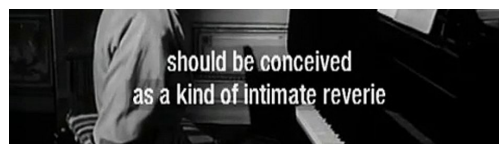
Type-2



Auxiliary agents



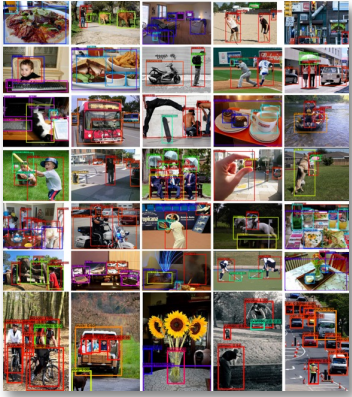
Adversaries



Master classes

ations thereof

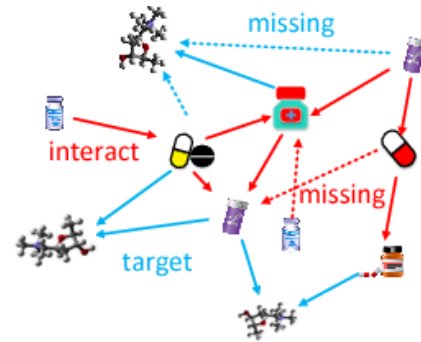
Experiences of all kinds



Data examples

Type-2 diabetes is 90% more common than type-1

Rules/Constraints



Knowledge graphs



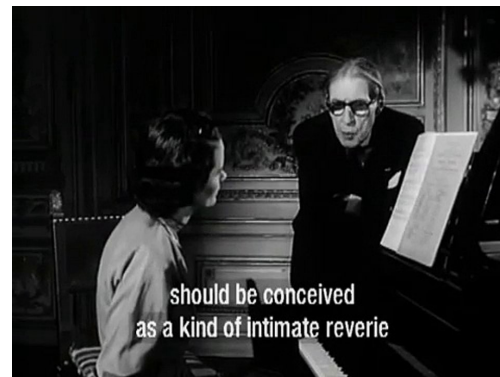
Rewards



Auxiliary agents



Adversaries



Master classes

...

And all combinations thereof

Experiences: (massive) data examples

TECH \ ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

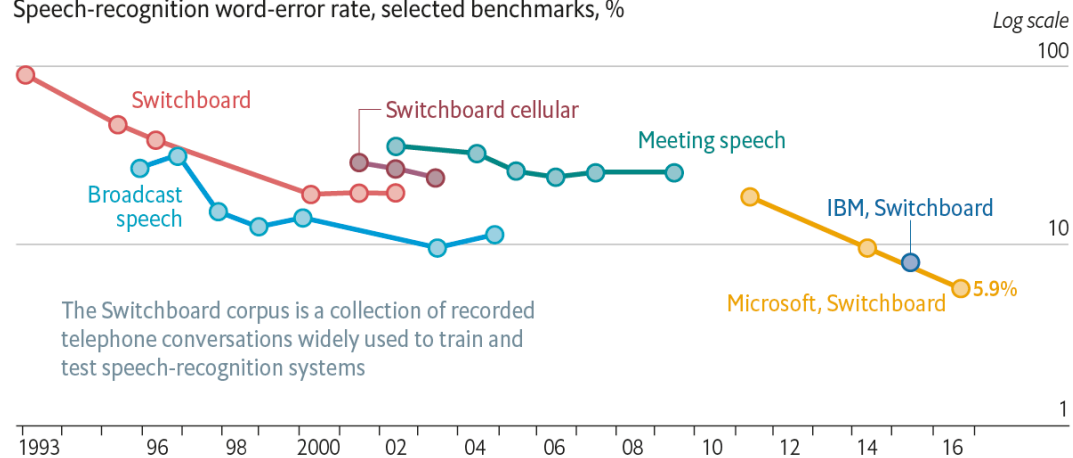
OpenAI's text-generating system GPT-3 is now spewing out 4.5 billion words a day

Robot-generated writing looks set to be the next big thing

By James Vincent | Mar 29, 2021, 8:24am EDT

Loud and clear

Speech-recognition word-error rate, selected benchmarks, %



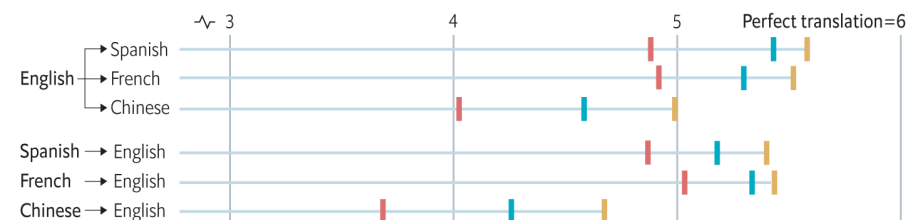
The Switchboard corpus is a collection of recorded telephone conversations widely used to train and test speech-recognition systems

Sources: Microsoft; research papers

Speak easy

Human scorers' rating* of Google Translate and human translation

Translation method | Phrase-based† | Neural-network† | Human



Input sentence Pour l'ancienne secrétaire d'Etat, il s'agit de faire oublier un mois de cafouillages et de convaincre l'auditoire que M. Trump n'a pas l'étoffe d'un président

Phrase-based†

For the former secretary of state, this is to forget a month of bungling and convince the audience that Mr Trump has not the makings of a president

Neural-network†

For the former secretary of state, it is a question of forgetting a month of muddles and convincing the audience that Mr Trump does not have the stuff of a president

Human

The former secretary of state has to put behind her a month of setbacks and convince the audience that Mr Trump does not have what it takes to be a president

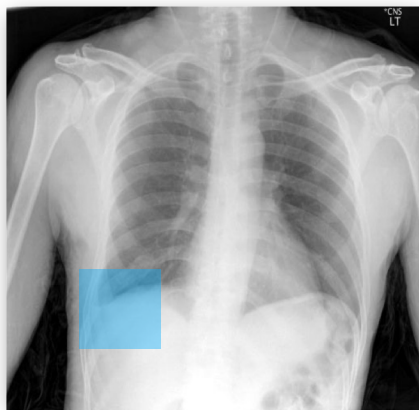
Source: Google

*0=completely nonsense translation, 6=perfect translation †Machine translation

Problems with few data (labels)

- Privacy, security issues

Assistive diagnosis



“The heart size and mediastinal contours appear within normal limits. There is blunting of the right lateral costophrenic sulcus which could be secondary to a small effusion versus scarring ...”

Normal findings

Abnormal findings

Problems with few data (labels)

- Expensive to collect/annotate
- Controllable content generation

Controlling sentiment

Pos The film is *full of imagination!*



Neg The film is *strictly routine!*

Controlling writing style

Plain

LeBron James *contributed* 26 points, 8 rebounds, 7 assists.



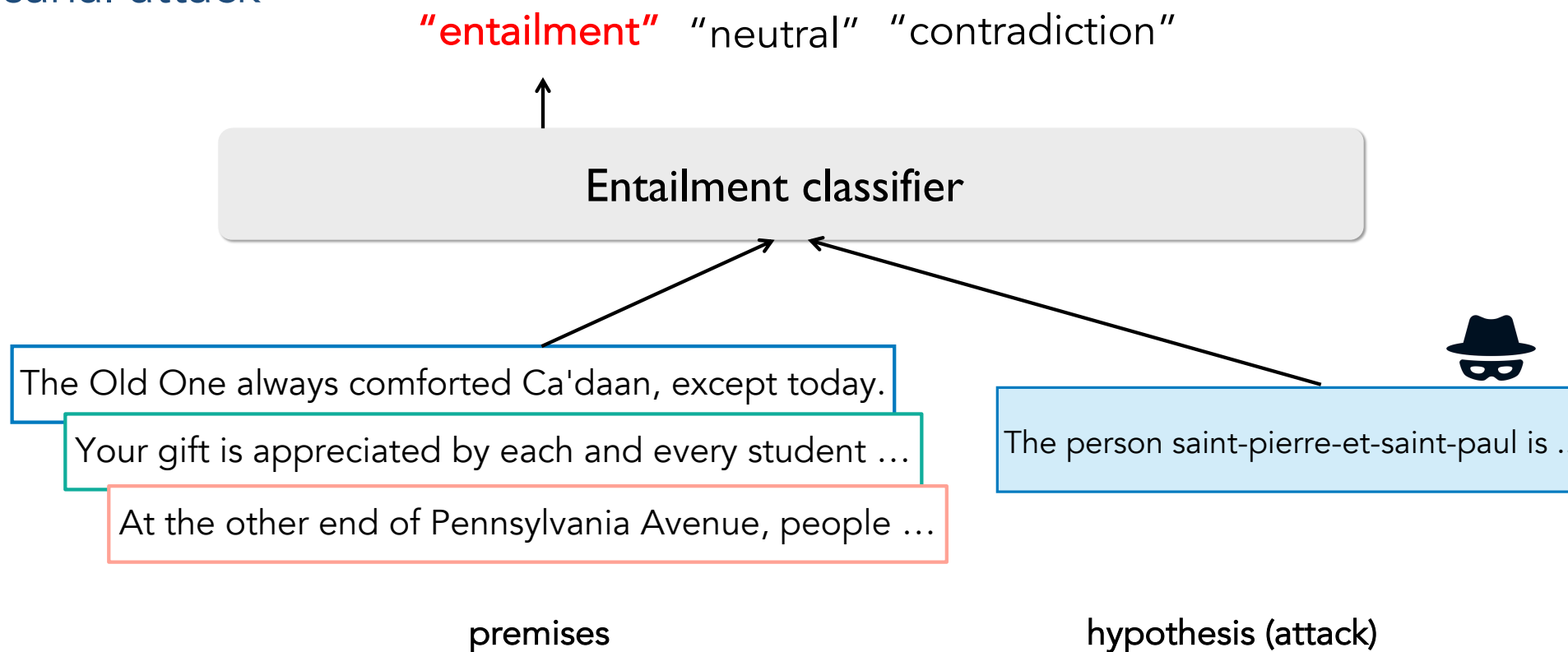
Elaborate

LeBron James *rounded out the box score with an all around impressive performance, scoring* 26 points, *grabbing* 8 rebounds and *dishing out* 7 assists.

Problems with few data (labels)

- Difficult / expertise-demanding to annotate

Adversarial attack

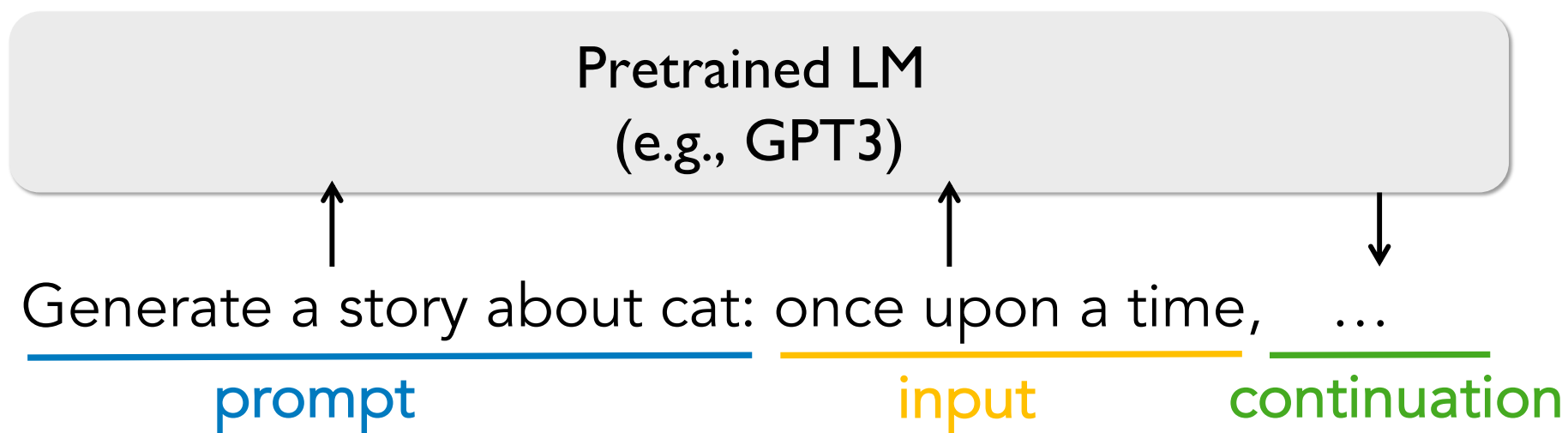


Applications: test model robustness

Problems with few data (labels)

- Difficult / expertise-demanding to annotate

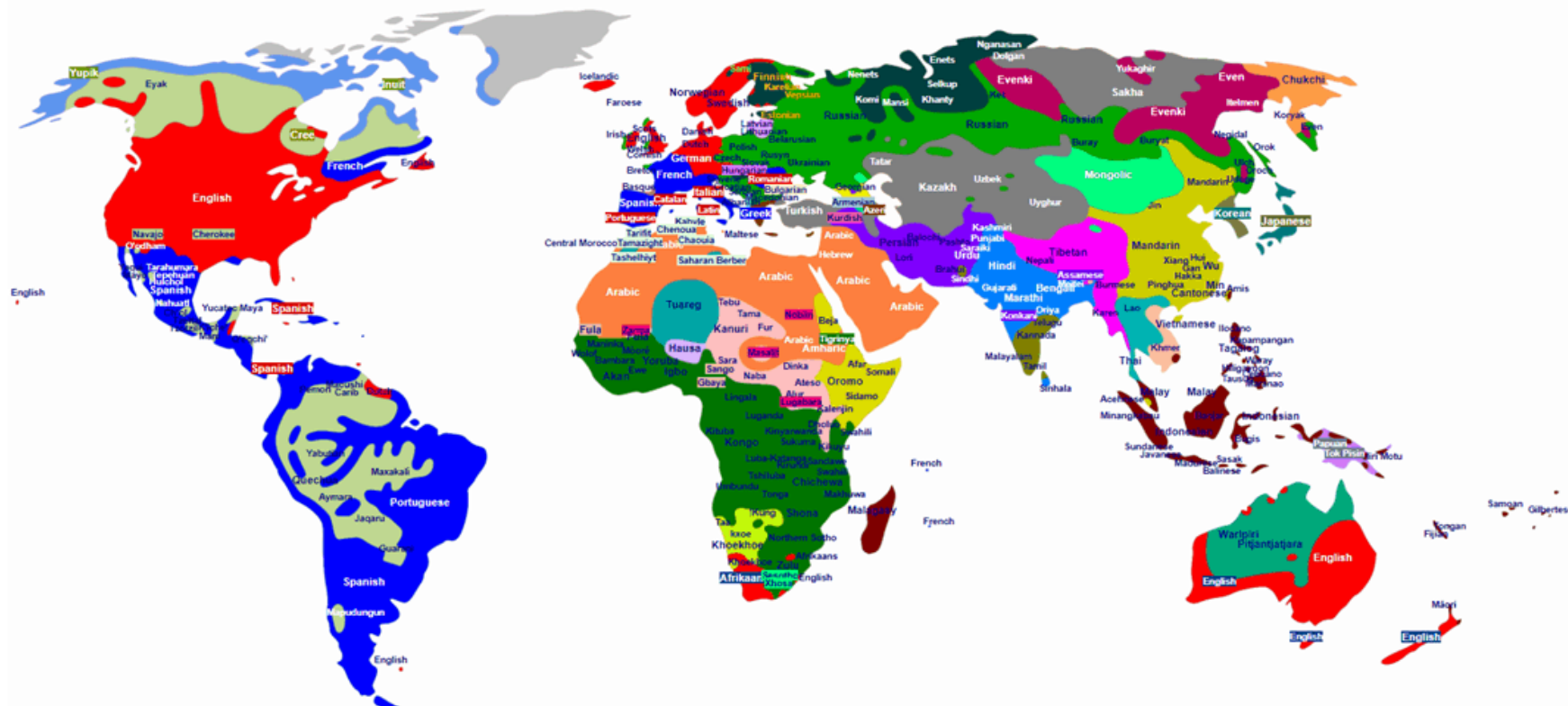
Prompt generation: automatically generating prompts to steer pretrained LMs



Problems with few data (labels)

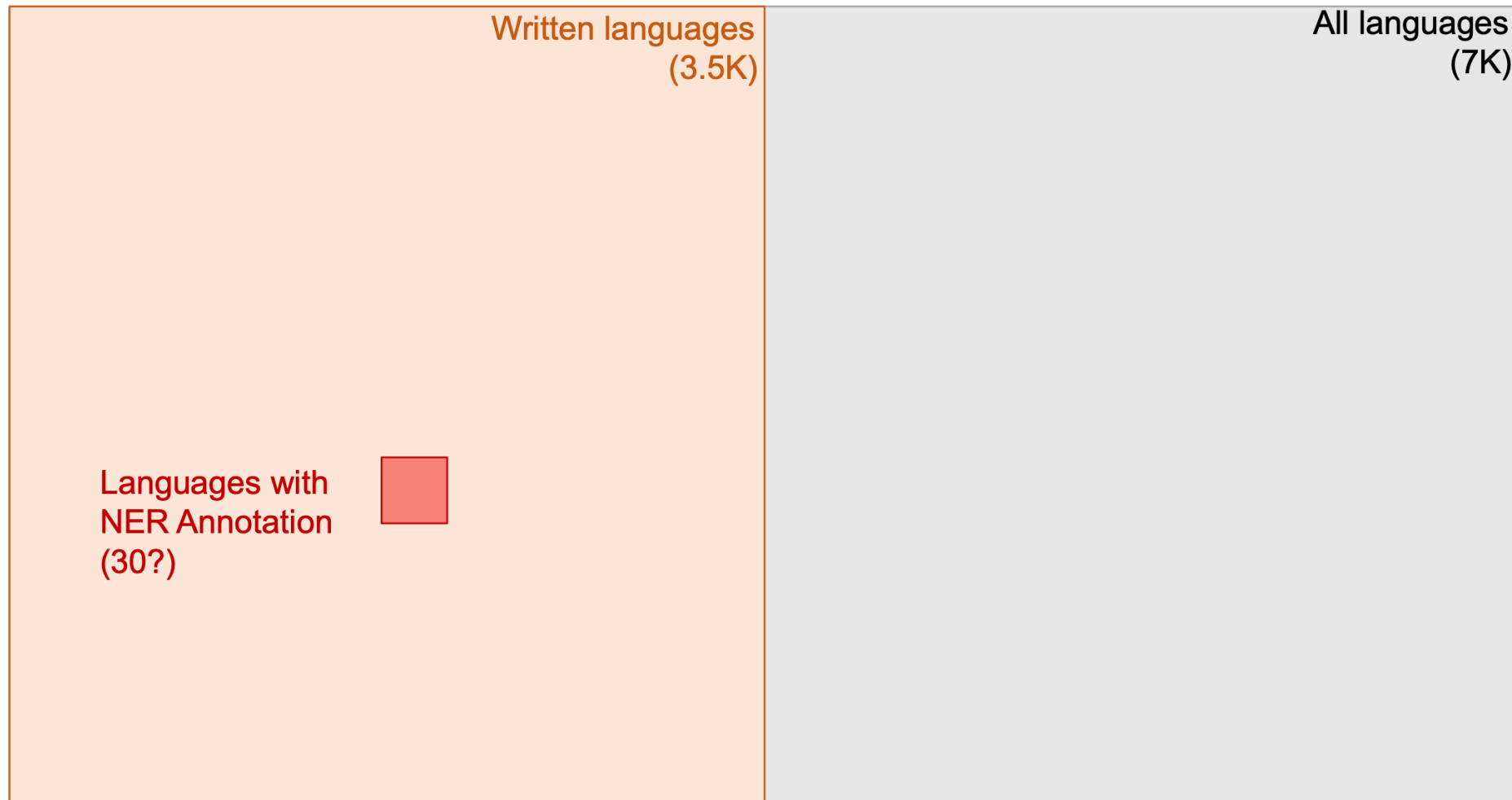
- Specific domain Low-resource languages

~7K languages in the world



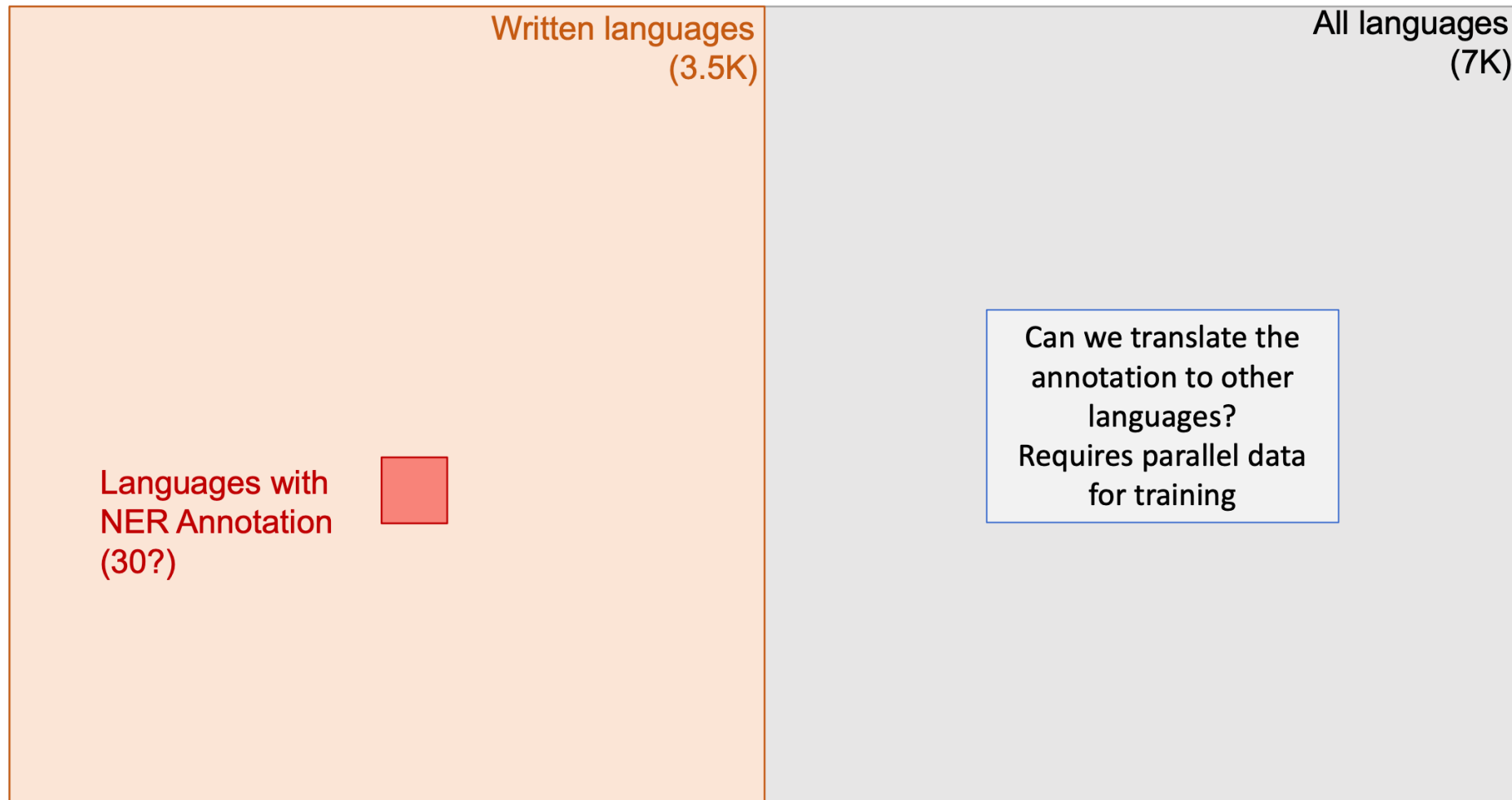
Problems with few data (labels)

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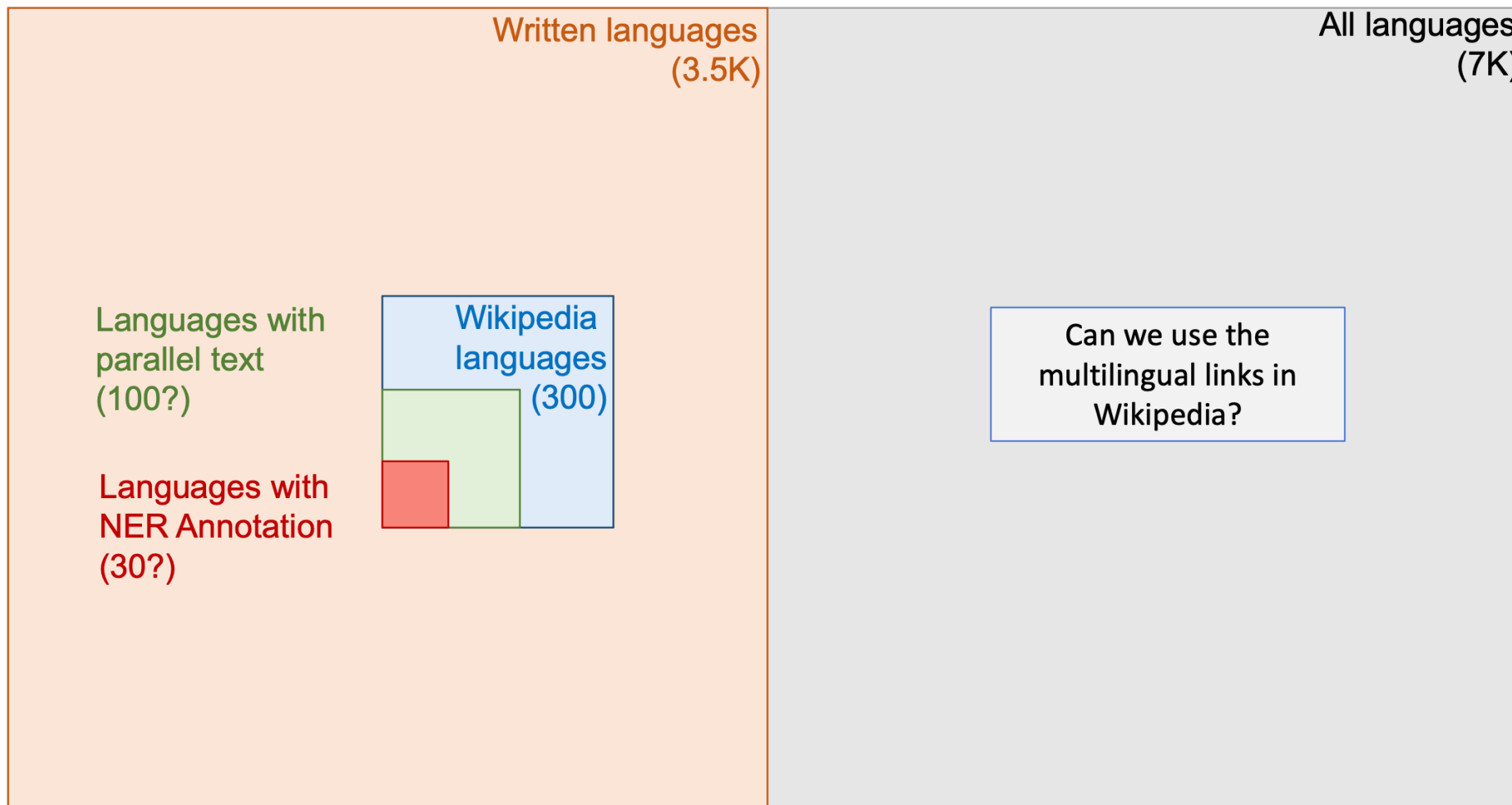
Problems with few data (labels)

- Specific domain Low-resource languages



Problems with few data (labels)

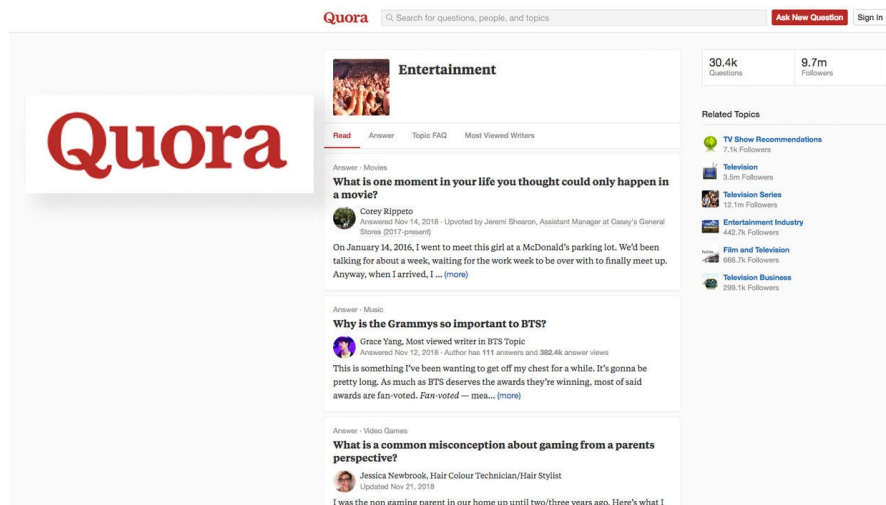
- Specific domain Low-resource languages



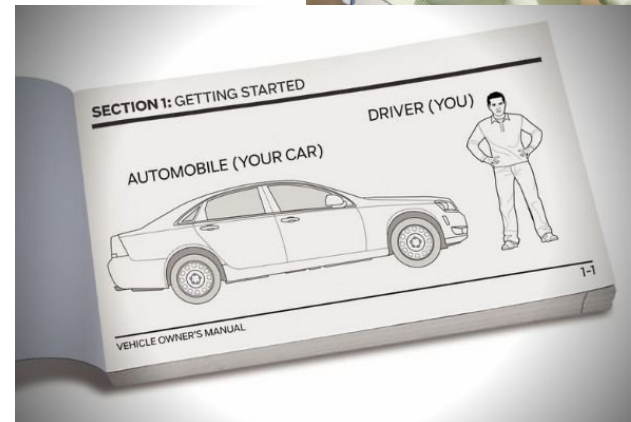
Problems with few data (labels)

- Specific domain

Question answering



QA based on car manual?



Problems with few data (labels)

- Privacy, security issues
- Expensive to collect/annotate
- Difficult / expertise-demanding to annotate
- Specific domain

Machine learning solutions given few data (labels)

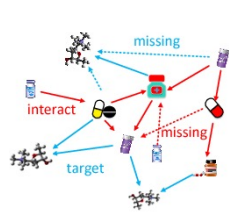
- How can we make more efficient use of the data?
 - Clean but small-size
 - Noisy
 - Out-of-domain
- Can we incorporate other types of experiences in learning?



Data examples

Type-2 diabetes is 90% more common than type-1

Rules/Constraints



Knowledge graphs



Rewards



Auxiliary agents



Adversaries

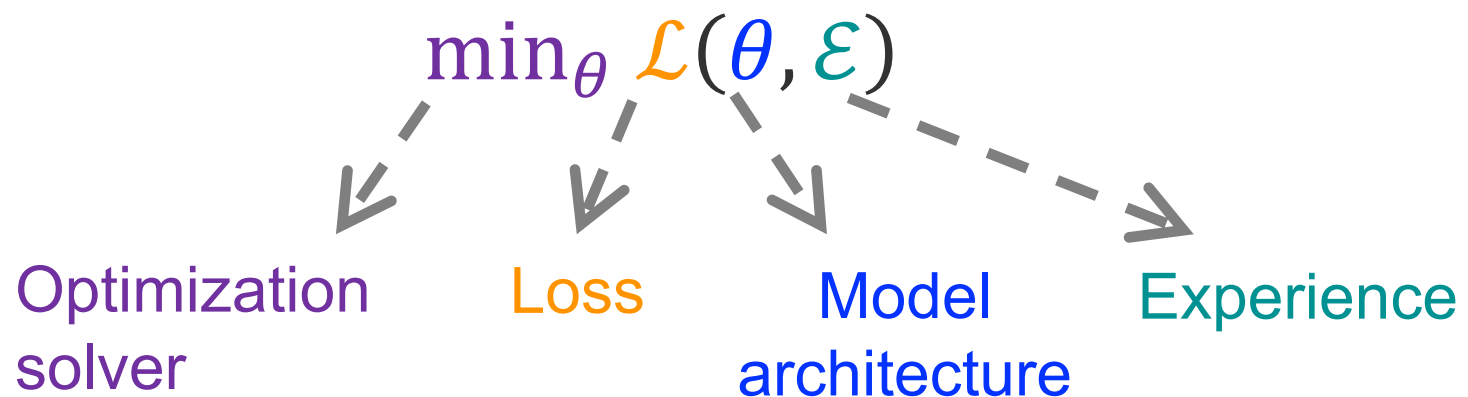


Master classes

... And all combinations thereof

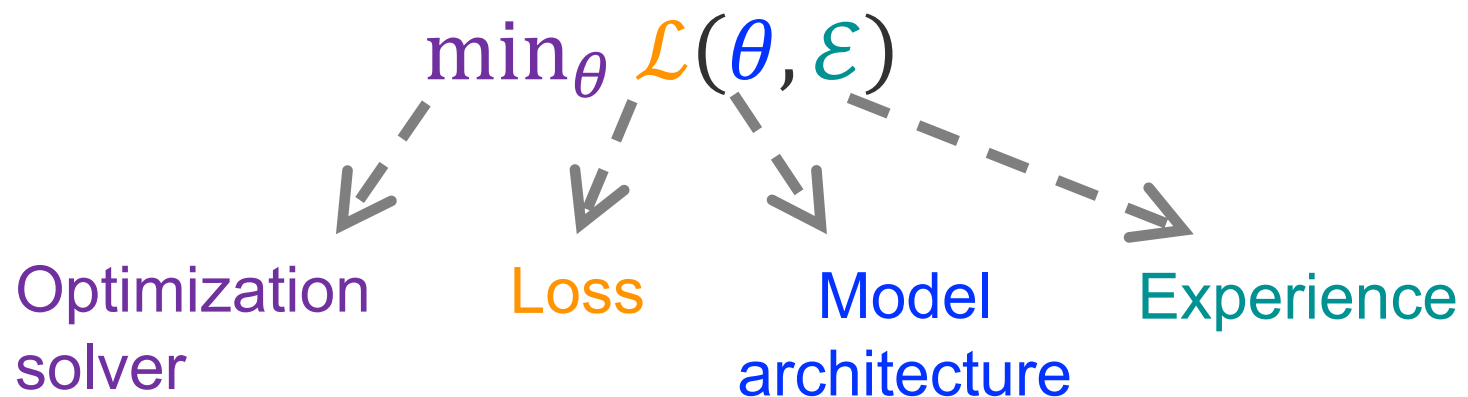
Components of a ML solution (roughly)

- Loss
- Experience
- Optimization solver
- Model architecture



Components of a ML solution (roughly)

- Loss
- Experience
- Optimization solver
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Components of a ML solution (roughly)

- Loss
- Experience
- Optimization solver
- Model architecture

Model of certain architecture whose parameters are the subject to be learned, $p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ or $p_{\theta}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x})$

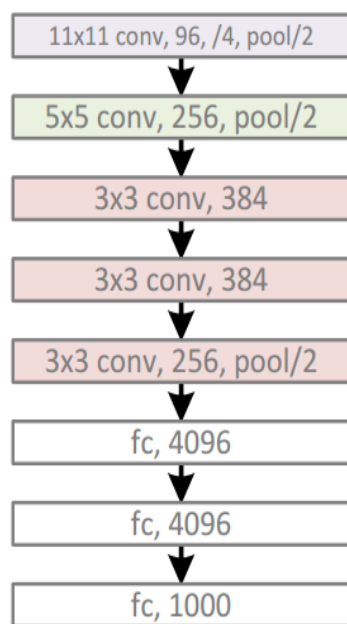
- Neural networks
- Graphical models
- Compositional architectures

Components of a ML solution (roughly)

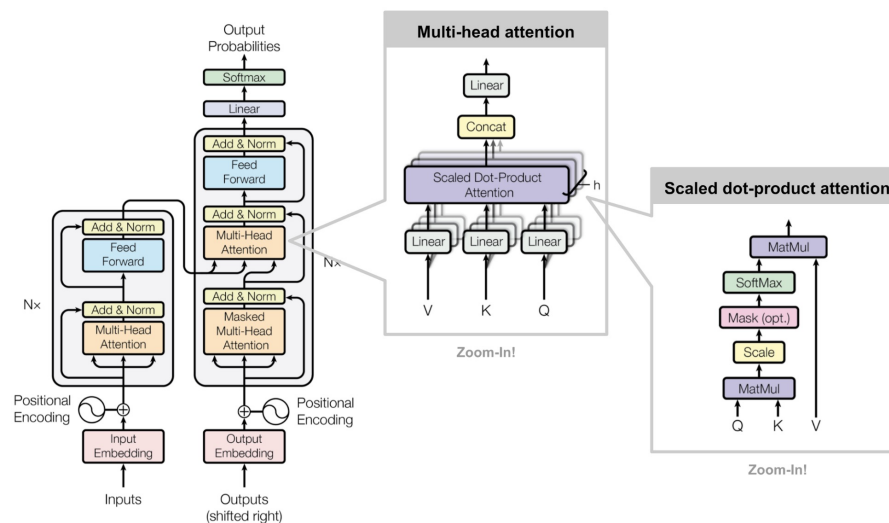
- Loss
- Experience
- Optimization solver
- **Model architecture**

Model of certain architecture whose parameters are the subject to be learned, $p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ or $p_{\theta}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x})$

- Neural networks
- Graphical models
- Compositional architectures



Convolutional networks



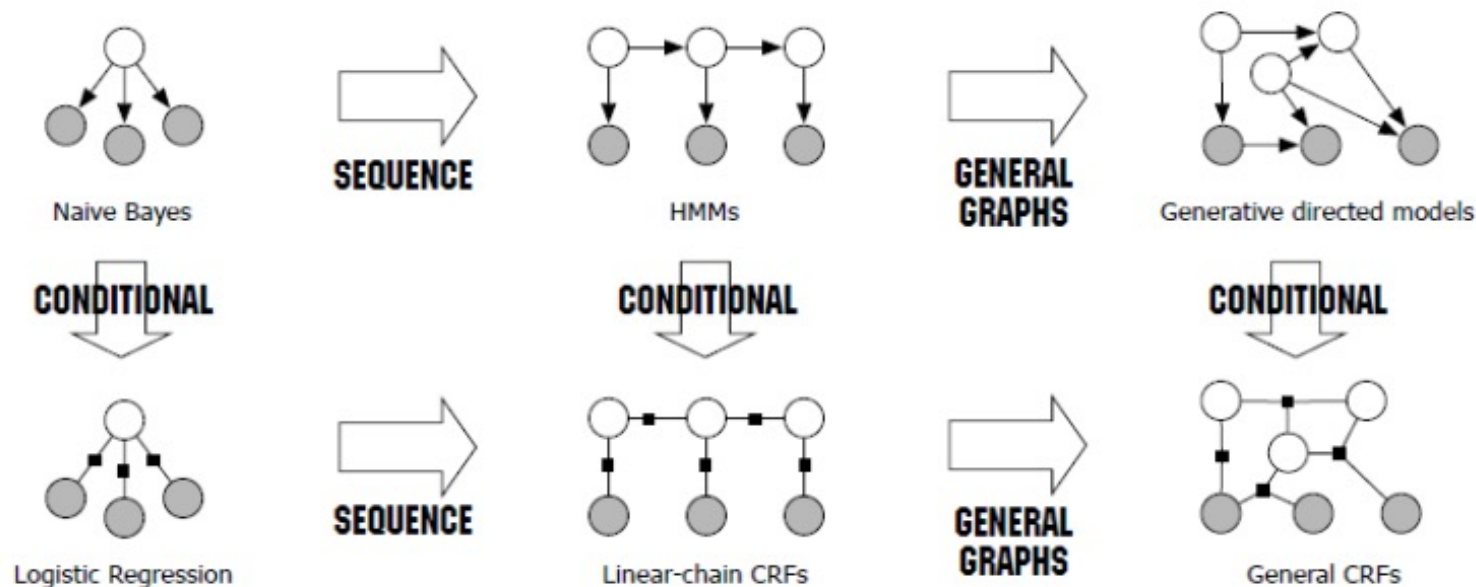
Transformers

Components of a ML solution (roughly)

- Loss
- Experience
- Optimization solver
- **Model architecture**

Model of certain architecture whose parameters are the subject to be learned, $p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ or $p_{\theta}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x})$

- Neural networks
- Graphical models
- Compositional architectures

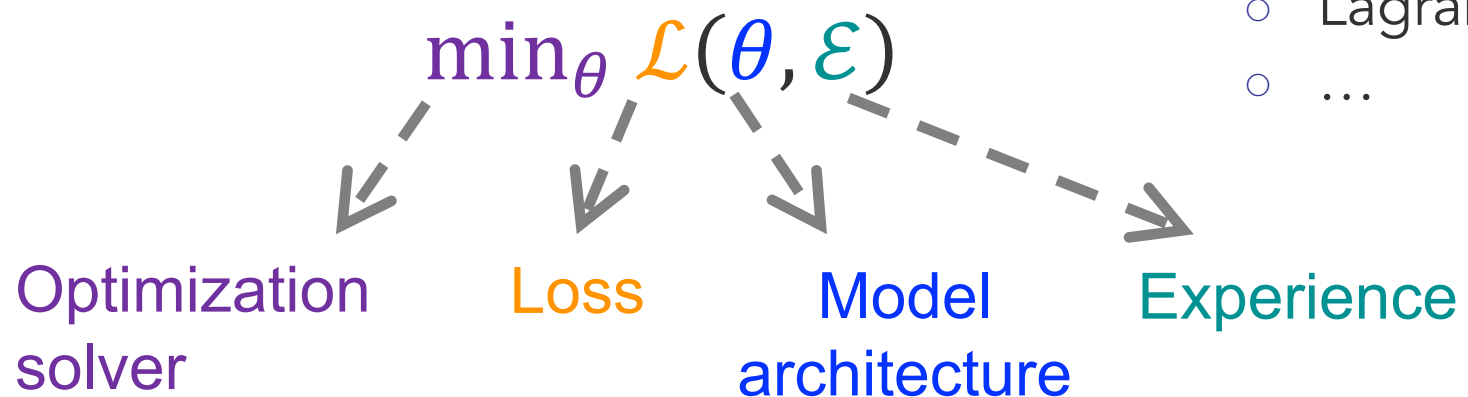


Components of a ML solution (roughly)

- Loss
- Experience
- Optimization solver
- Model architecture

Assuming you know basic procedures:

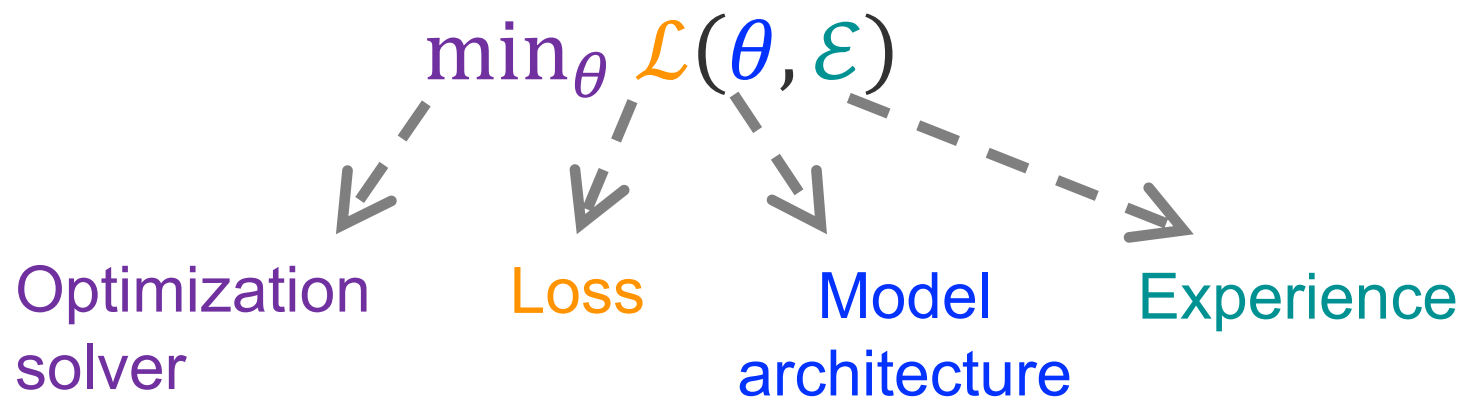
- (Stochastic) gradient descent
- Backpropagation
- Lagrange multiplier
- ...



Components of a ML solution (roughly)

- Loss
- Experience
- Optimization solver
- Model architecture

Core of most learning algorithms



Machine learning solutions

- (1) How can we make more efficient use of the data?
 - Clean but small-size, Noisy, Out-of-domain
- (2) Can we incorporate other types of experiences in learning?



Data examples

Type-2 diabetes is 90% more common than type-1

Rules/Constraints



Knowledge graphs



Rewards



Auxiliary agents



Adversaries



Master classes

... And all combinations thereof

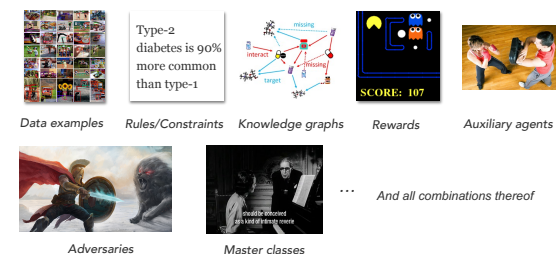
Machine learning solutions

- (1) How can we make more efficient use of the data?
 - Clean but small-size, Noisy, Out-of-domain, ...
- Algorithms
 - **Supervised learning:** MLE, maximum entropy principle
 - **Unsupervised learning:** EM, variational inference, VAEs
 - **Self-supervised learning:** successful instances, e.g., BERT, GPT-3, contrastive learning, applications to downstream tasks
 - **Distant/weakly supervised learning:** successful instances
 - **Data manipulation:** augmentation, re-weighting, curriculum learning, ...
 - **Meta-learning**

Machine learning solutions

- (2) Can we incorporate other types of experiences in learning?

- Learning from auxiliary models, e.g., adversarial models:
 - Generative adversarial learning (GANs and variants), co-training, ...
- Learning from structured knowledge
 - Posterior regularization, constraint-driven learning, ...
- Learning from rewards
 - Reinforcement learning: model-free vs model-based, policy-based vs value-based, on-policy vs off-policy, extrinsic reward vs intrinsic reward, ...
- Learning in dynamic environment
 - Online learning, lifelong/continual learning, ...



Questions?