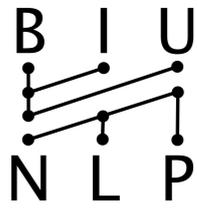


# Topics in Representation Learning

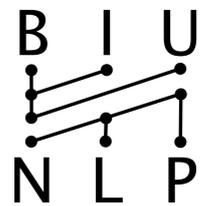
**NLPL Winter School 2020**

Yoav Goldberg



# Let's be more specific

- Neural networks learn representations.
- Sharing the representations (multi-task learning).
- Using the representations --- by querying them.
- Biases in representations.
- Controlling the representations.

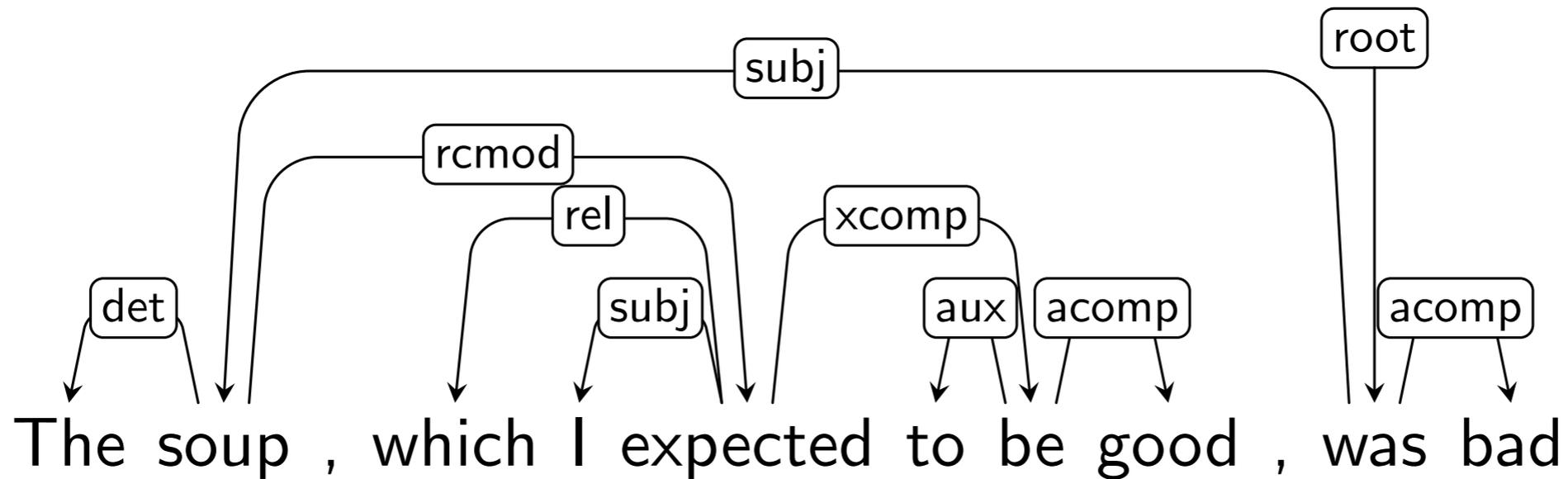


**Neural networks learn representations.**

# NLP some years ago

the soup, which I expected to be good, was bad

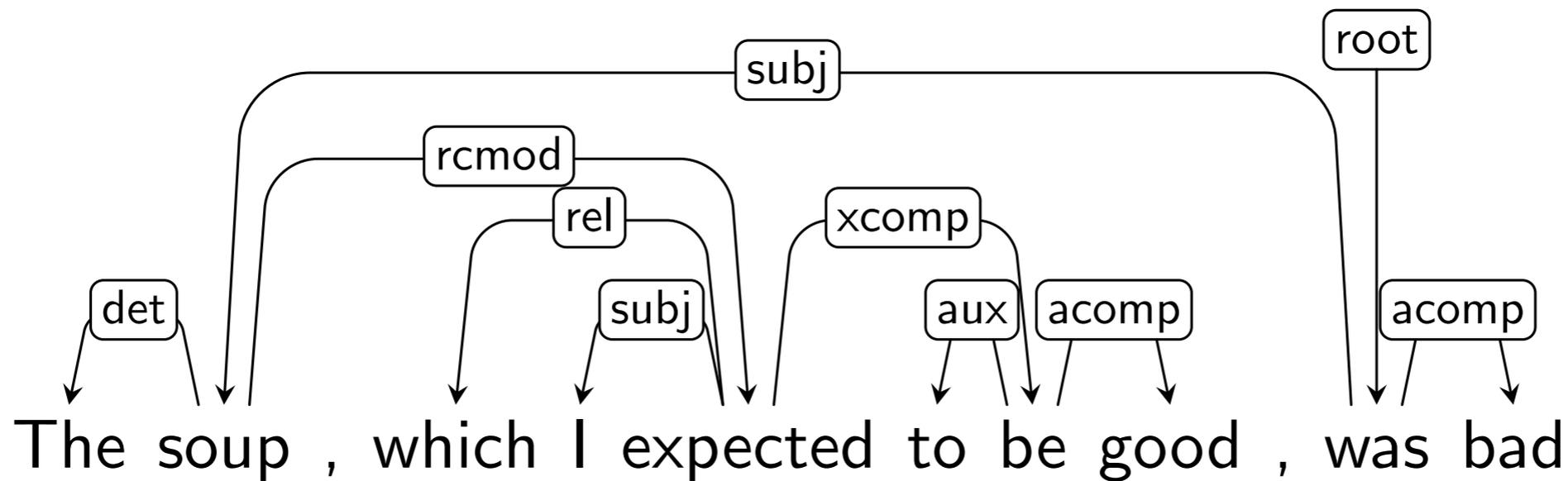
↓ **encode**



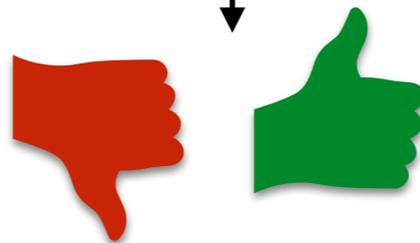
# NLP some years ago

the soup, which I expected to be good, was bad

**encode**



**predict**



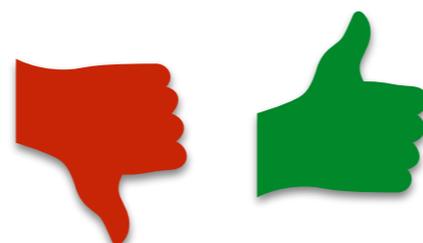
# NLP Today

the soup, which I expected to be good, was bad

↓ **encode**



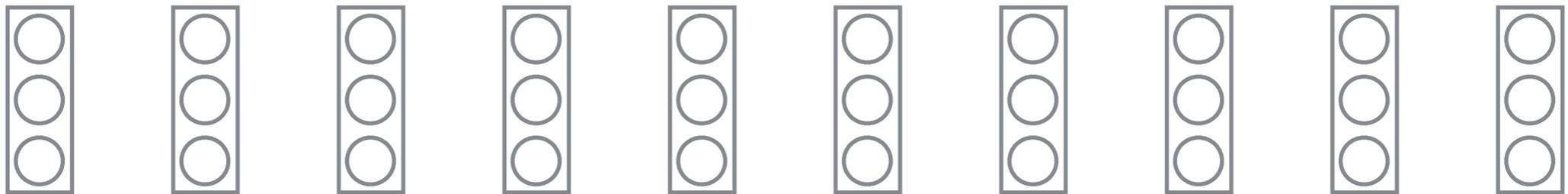
↓ **predict**



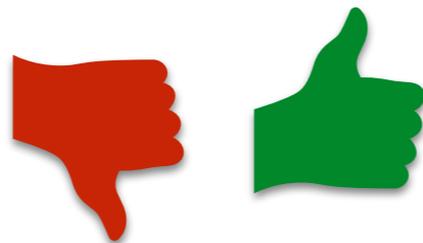
# NLP Today

the soup, which I expected to be good, was bad

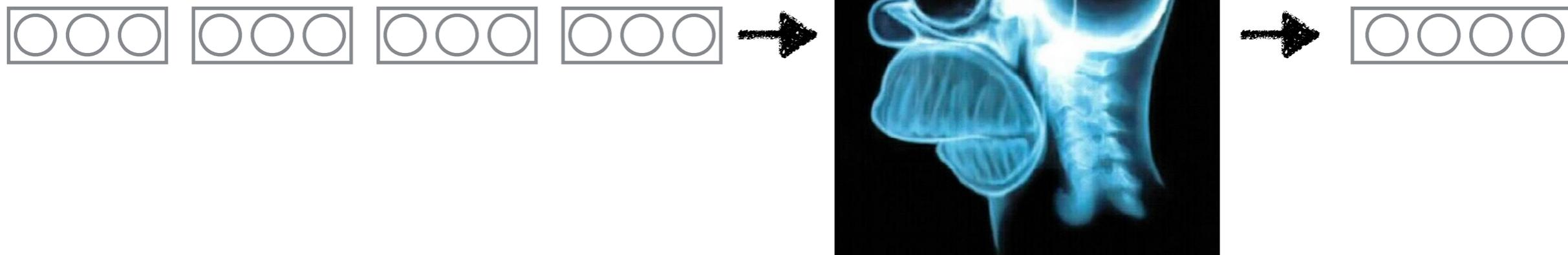
↓ **encode**



↓ **predict**

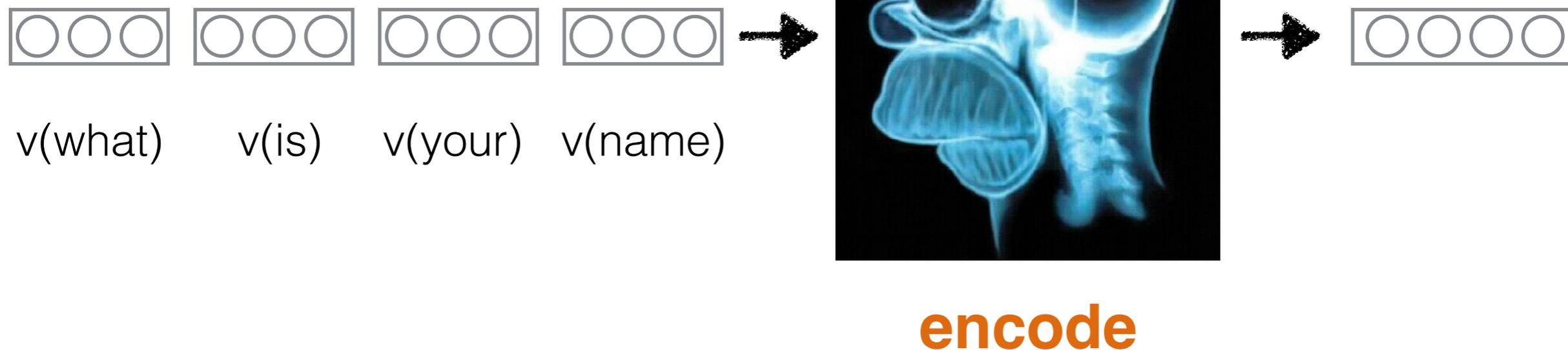


# RNNs!!

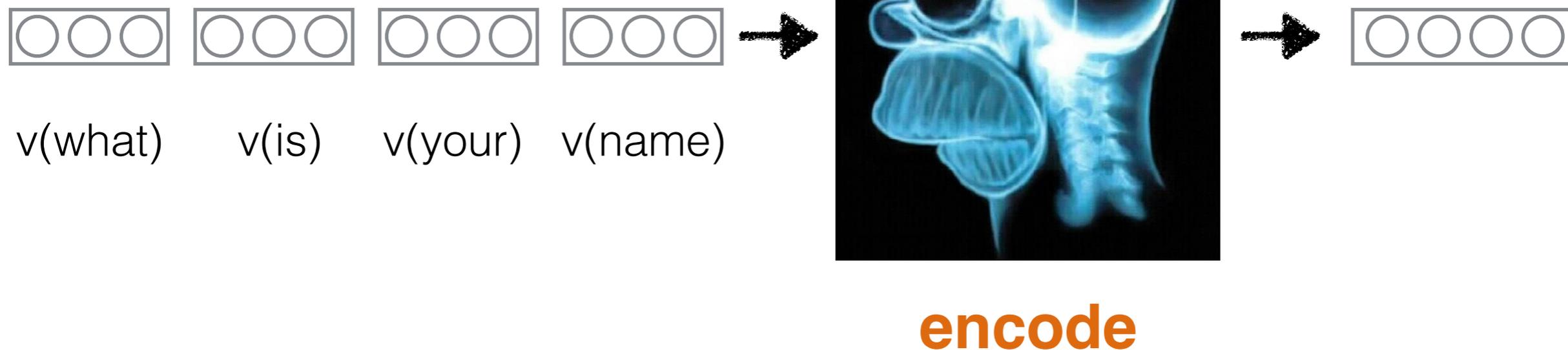


**encode**

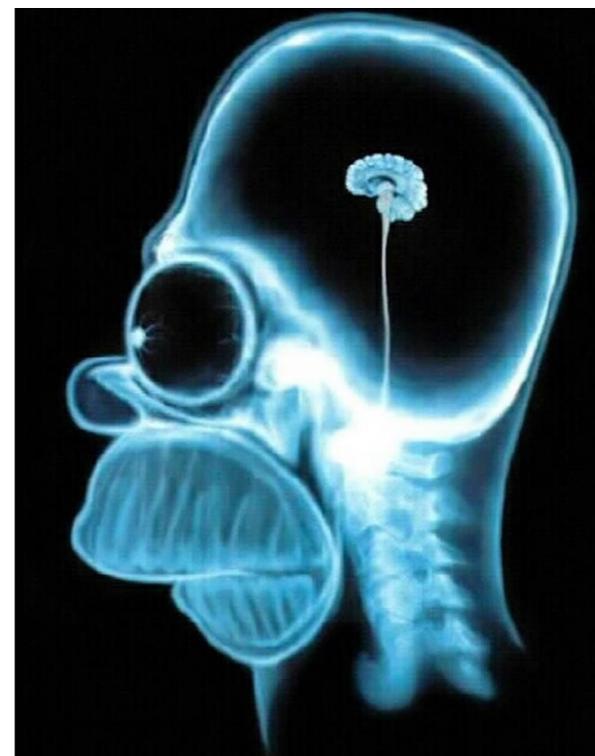
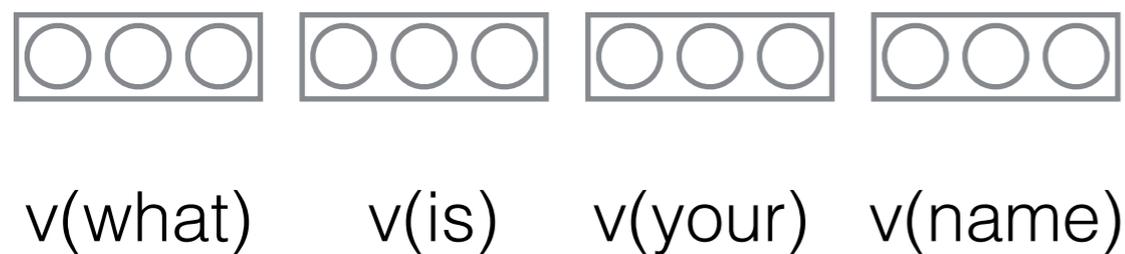
# RNNs!!



# RNNs!!



# RNNs!!

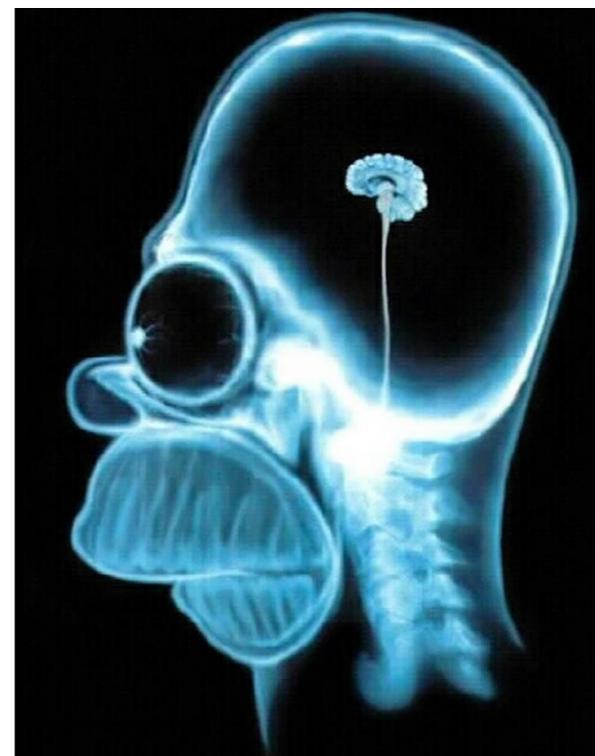
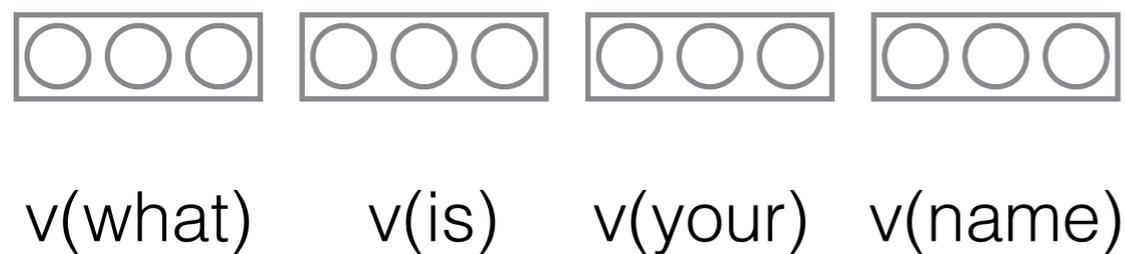


**encode**

enc(what is your name)



# RNNs!!



**encode**

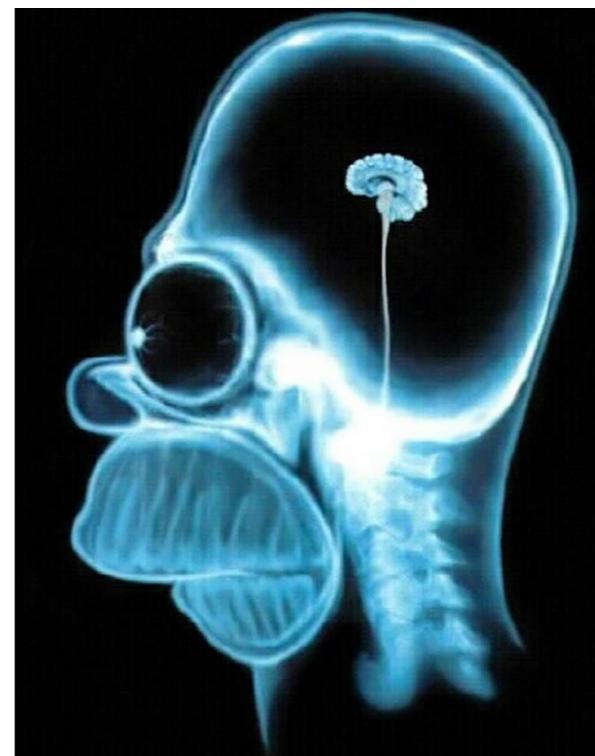
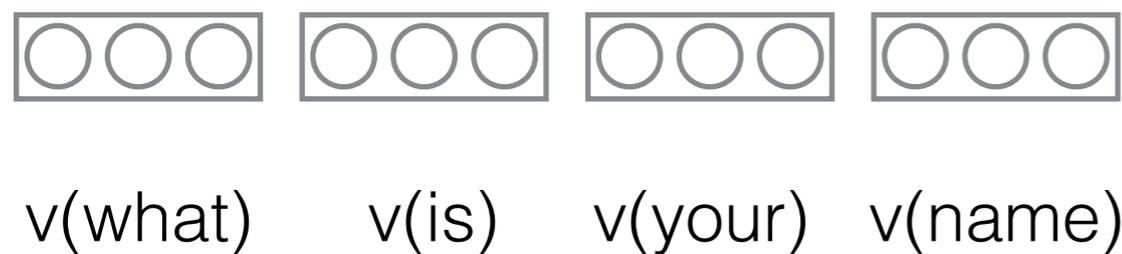
enc(what is your name)



**predict**



# RNNs!!



**encode**

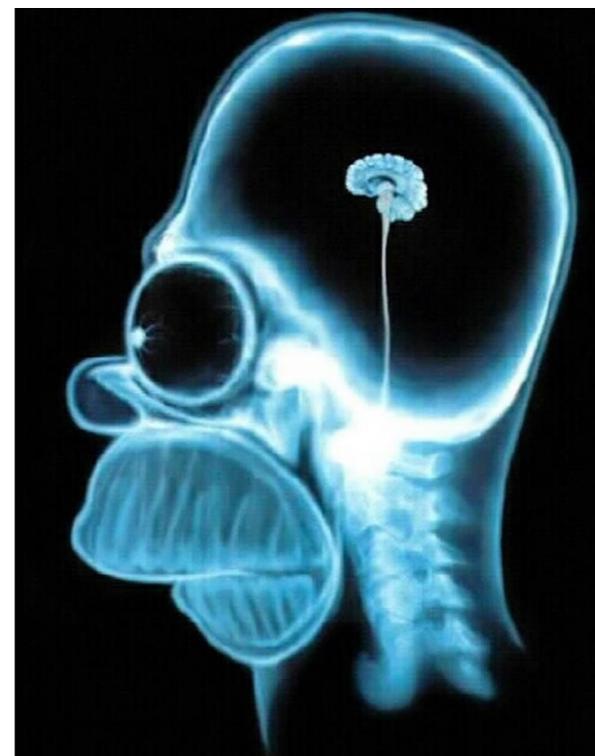
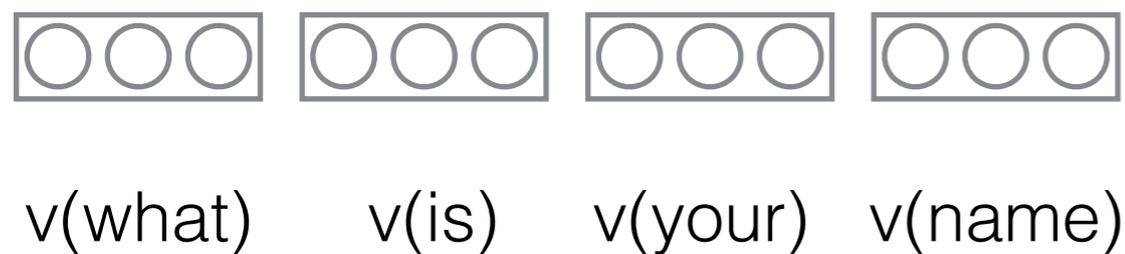
enc(what is your name)



**predict**

~~"declarative"~~ / "question"

# RNNs!!



**encode**

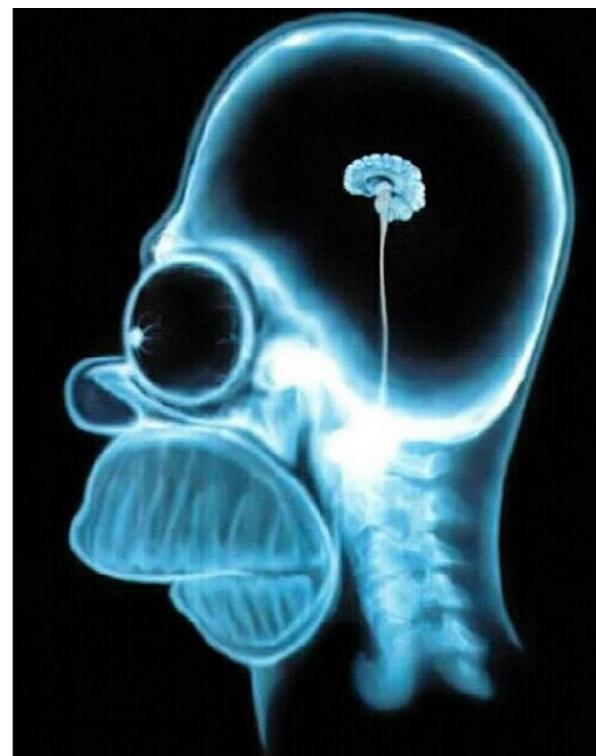
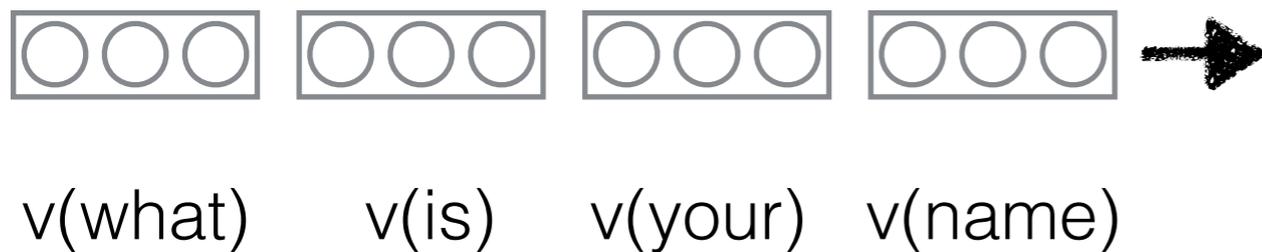
enc(what is your name)



**predict**



# RNNs!!



**encode**

encoded vector  
is **informative**  
**for the task**

enc(what is your name)



**predict**



# Representation Learning

the soup, which I expected to be good, was bad

**encode**



**predict**



train a model to predict Y

# Representation Learning

the soup, which I expected to be good, was bad

**encode**



representation **h**  
which is  
predictive of **Y**

**predict**



train a model to  
predict **Y**

# Representation Learning

the soup, which I expected to be good, was bad

**encode**



representation **h**  
which is  
predictive of  $Y$ .

# Representation Learning

the soup, which I expected to be good, was bad

**encode**



representation **h**  
which is  
predictive of  $Y_1$ .  
and of  $Y_2$ ? and  $Y_3$ ?

# Representation Learning

the soup, which I expected to be good, was bad

**encode**

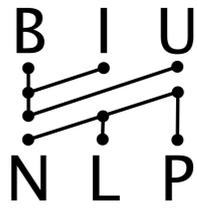


representation **h**  
which is  
predictive of  $Y_1$ .  
and of  $Y_2$ ? and  $Y_3$ ?

pre-training!

multi-task learning!

transfer-learning!



# **Shared representations**

## **(Transfer. Multi-task.)**

# Example: DeepMoji

**Using millions of emoji occurrences to learn any-domain representations for detecting sentiment, emotion and sarcasm**

**Bjarke Felbo<sup>1</sup>, Alan Mislove<sup>2</sup>, Anders Søgaard<sup>3</sup>, Iyad Rahwan<sup>1</sup>, Sune Lehmann<sup>4</sup>**

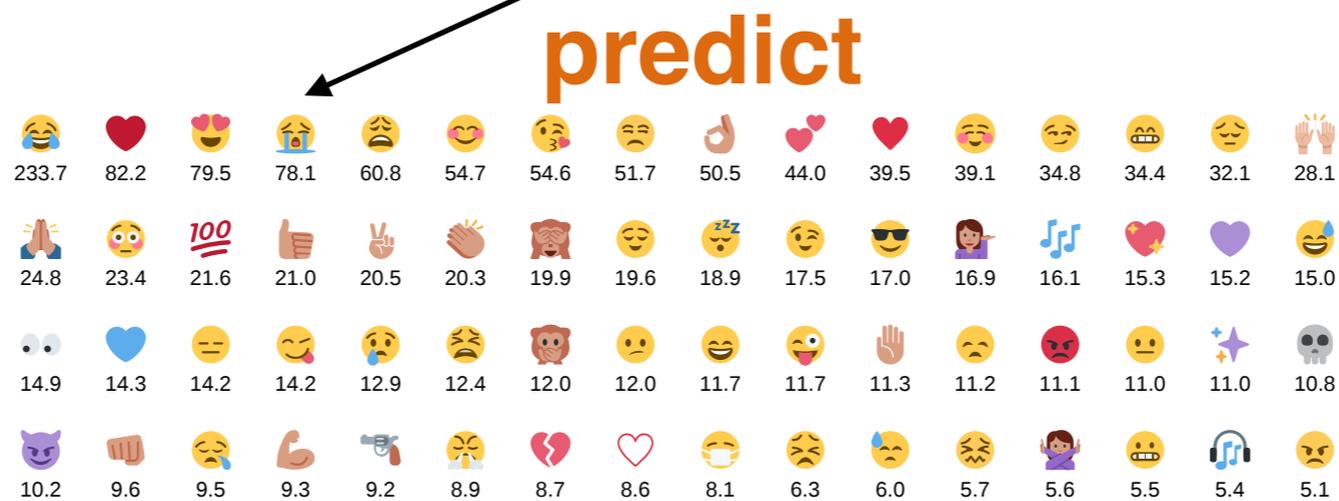
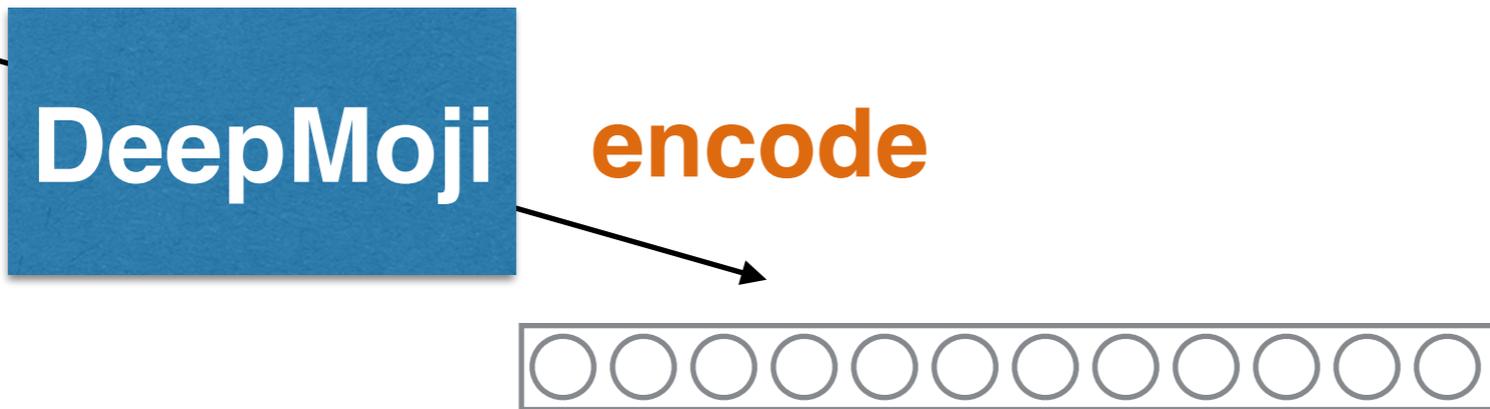
<sup>1</sup>Media Lab, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

<sup>2</sup>College of Computer and Information Science, Northeastern University

<sup>3</sup>Department of Computer Science, University of Copenhagen

<sup>4</sup>DTU Compute, Technical University of Denmark

# Example: DeepMoji



**Train a model to predict emojis from tweets**

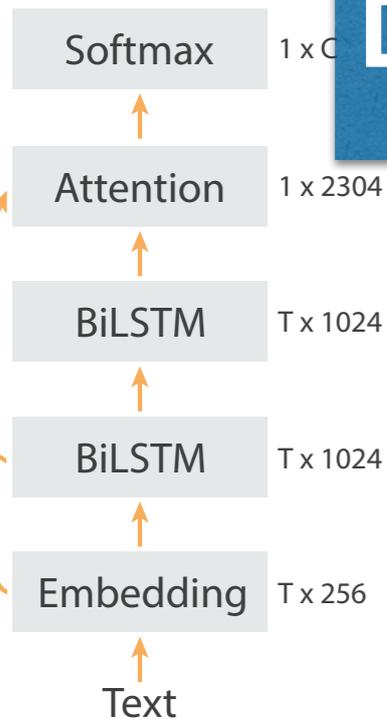
# Example: DeepMoji



encode



predict

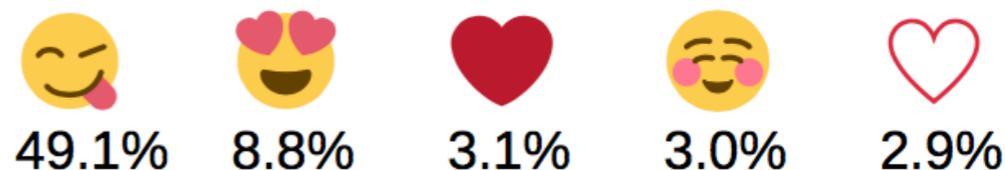


233.7	82.2	79.5	78.1	60.8	54.7	54.6	51.7	50.5	44.0	39.5	39.1	34.8	34.4	32.1	28.1
24.8	23.4	21.6	21.0	20.5	20.3	19.9	19.6	18.9	17.5	17.0	16.9	16.1	15.3	15.2	15.0
14.9	14.3	14.2	14.2	12.9	12.4	12.0	12.0	11.7	11.7	11.3	11.2	11.1	11.0	11.0	10.8
10.2	9.6	9.5	9.3	9.2	8.9	8.7	8.6	8.1	6.3	6.0	5.7	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.1

**Train a model to predict emojis from tweets**

# Example: DeepMoji

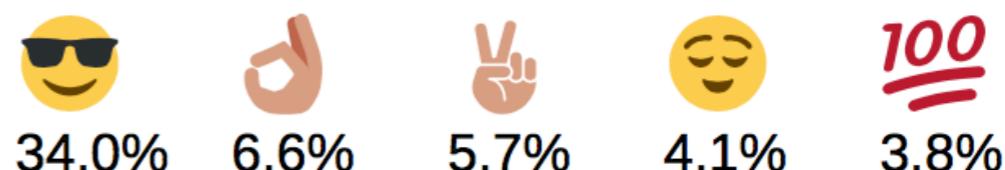
I love mom's cooking



I love how you never reply back..



I love cruising with my homies



I love messing with yo mind!!



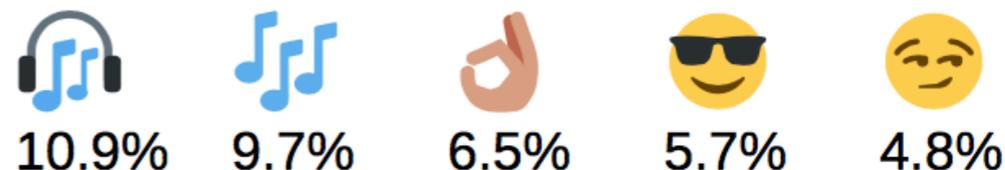
I love you and now you're just gone..



This is shit



This is the shit



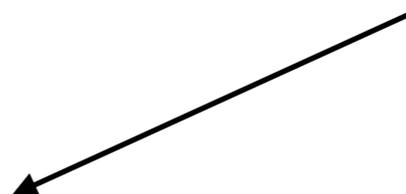
# Example: DeepMoji

Train a model to predict emojis from tweets

**DeepMoji**



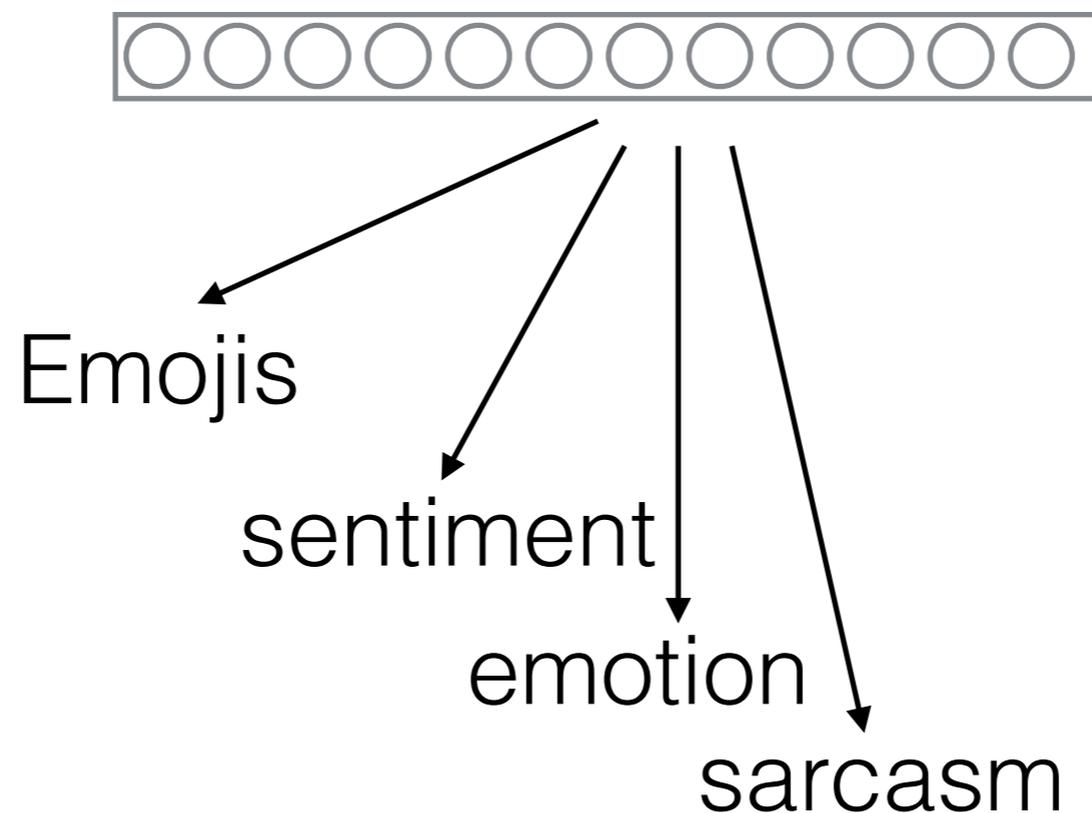
Emojis

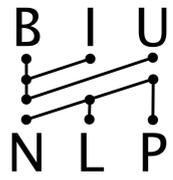


# Example: DeepMoji

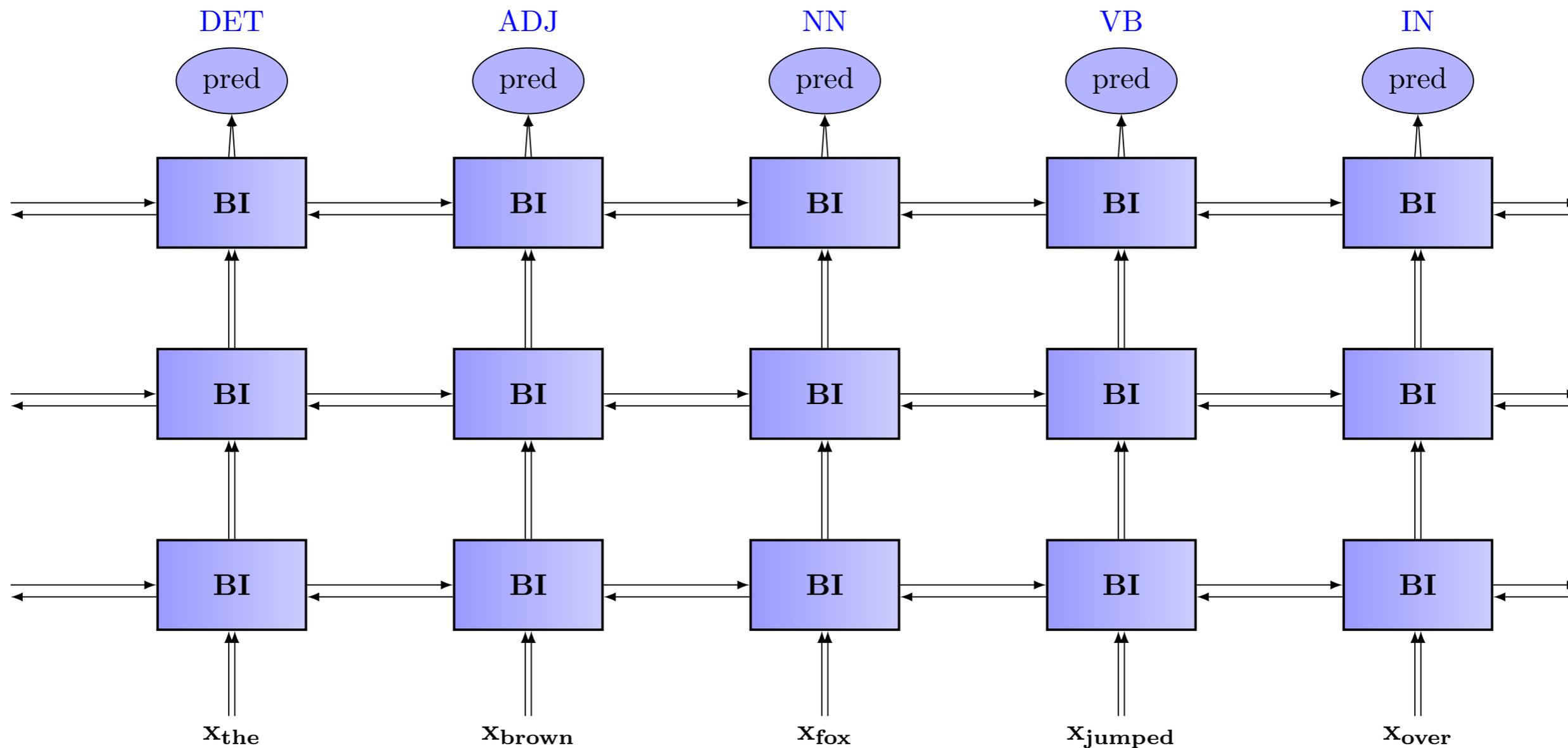
Train a model to predict emojis from tweets  
**Vectors are also predictive of related tasks**

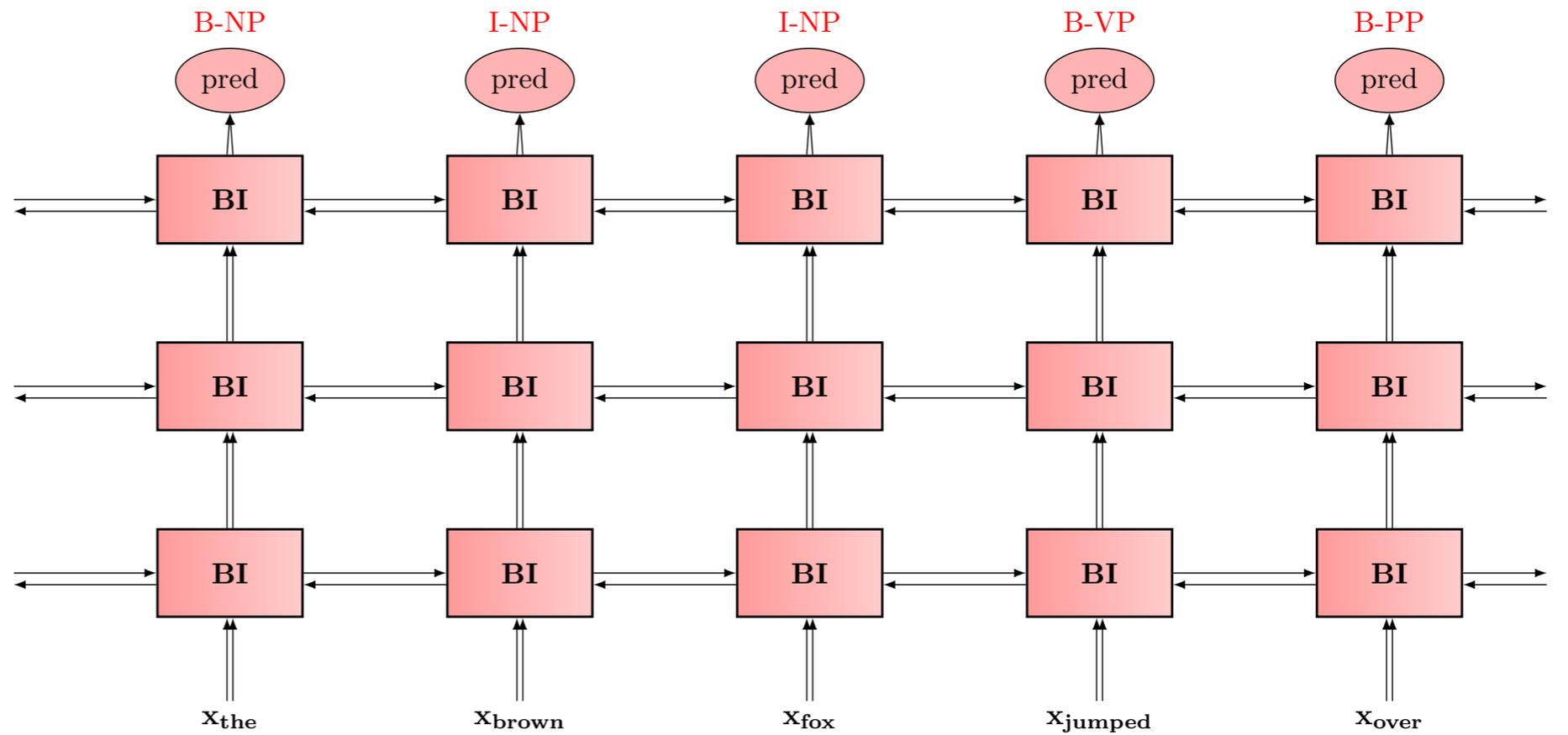
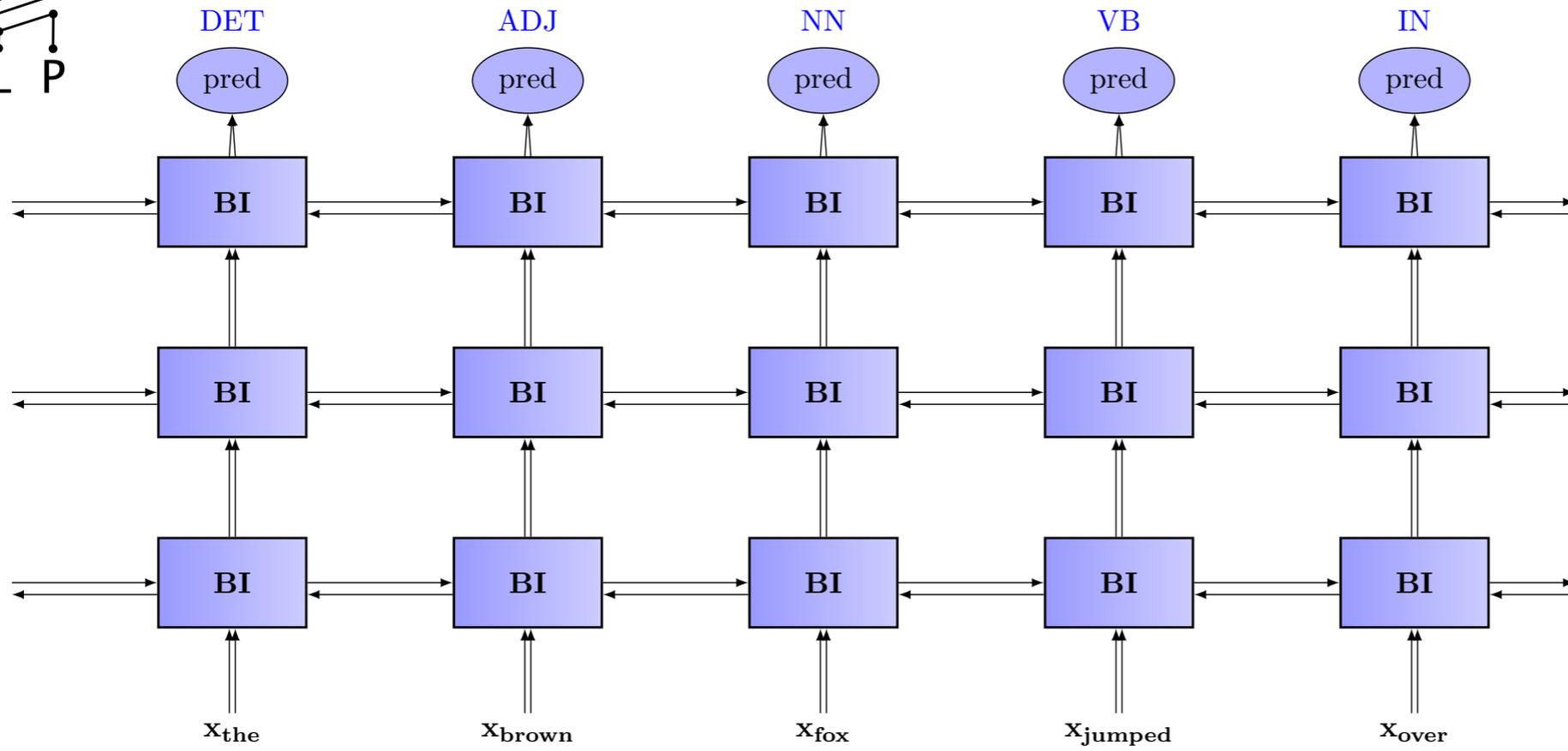
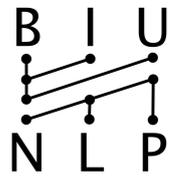
## DeepMoji



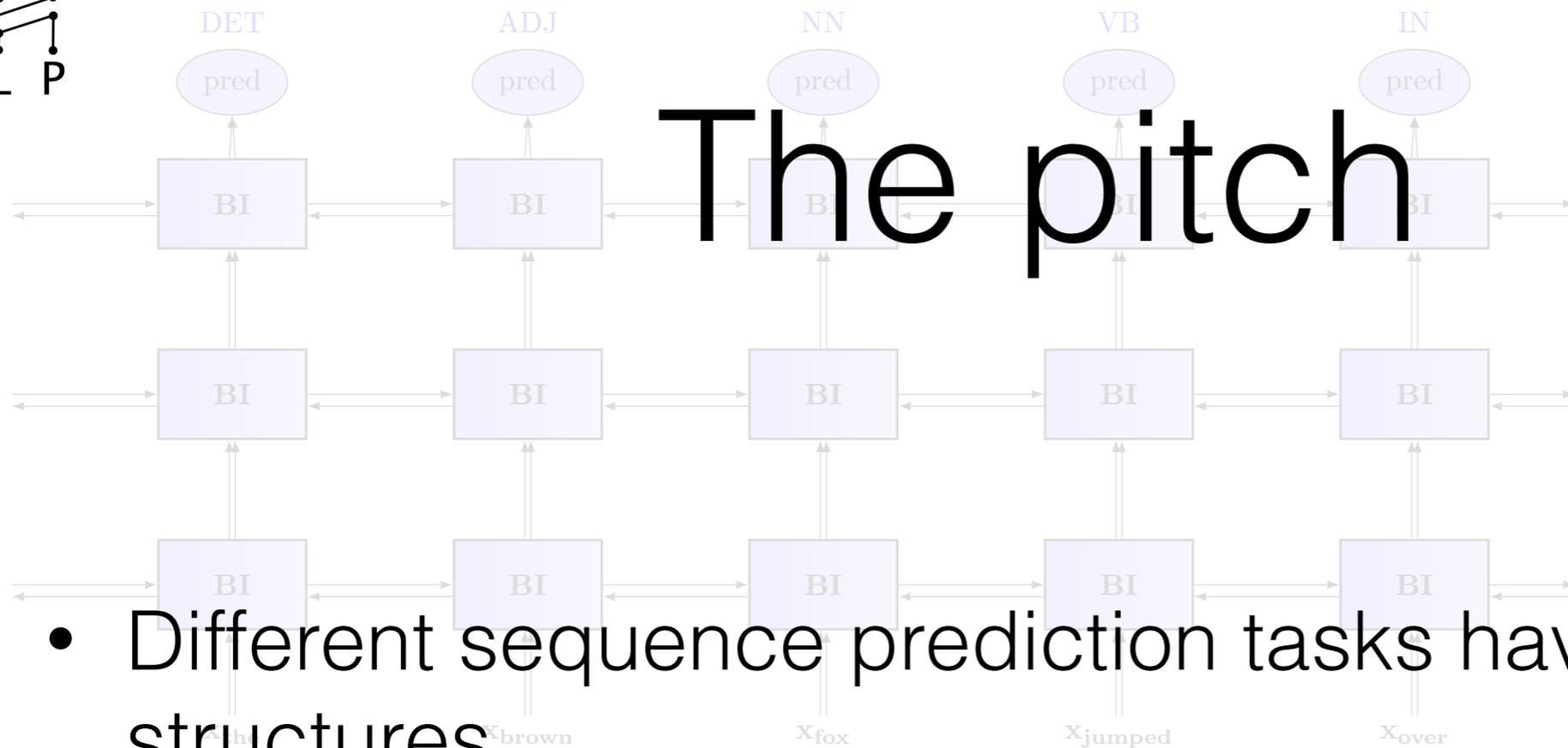


# Example: Multi-tasking





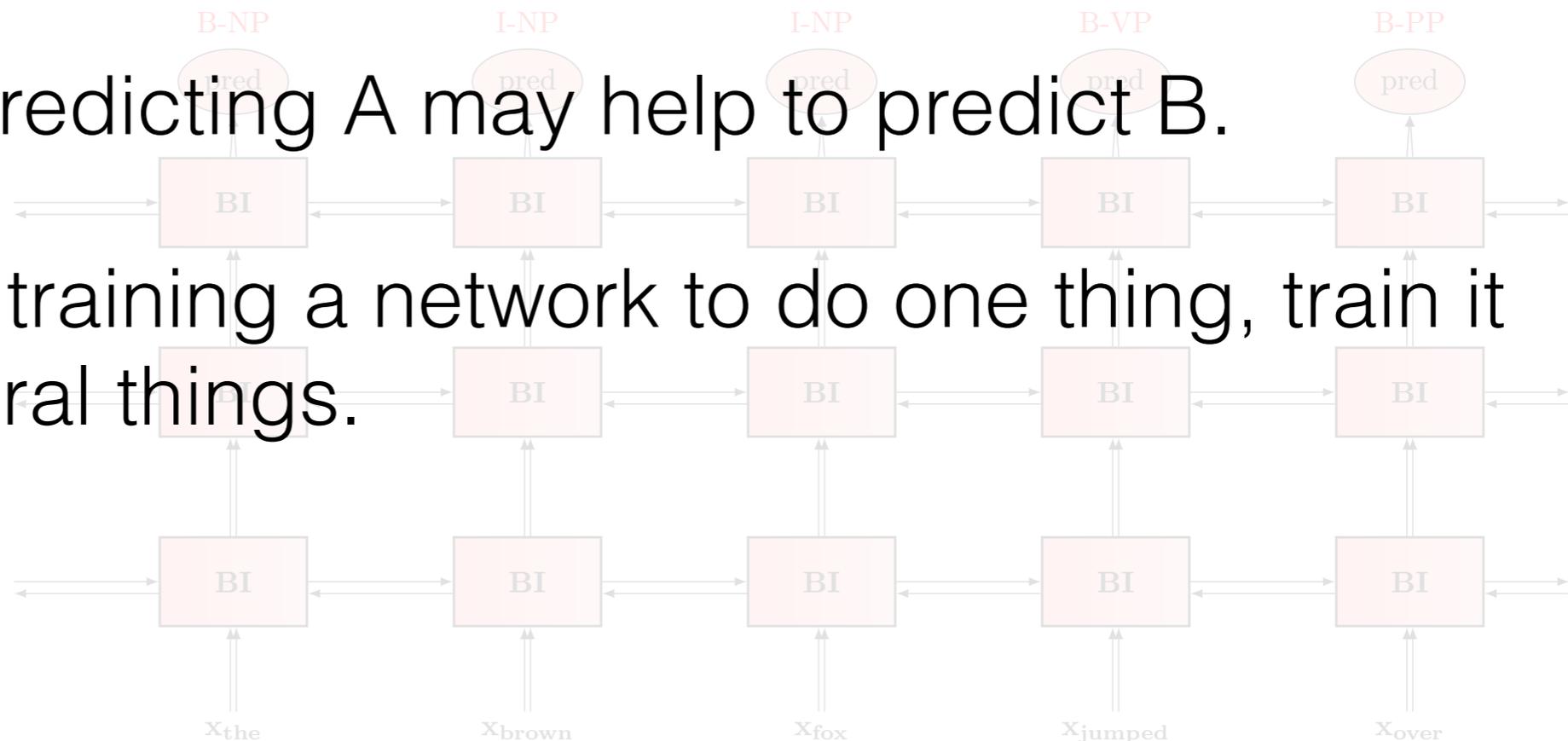
# The pitch

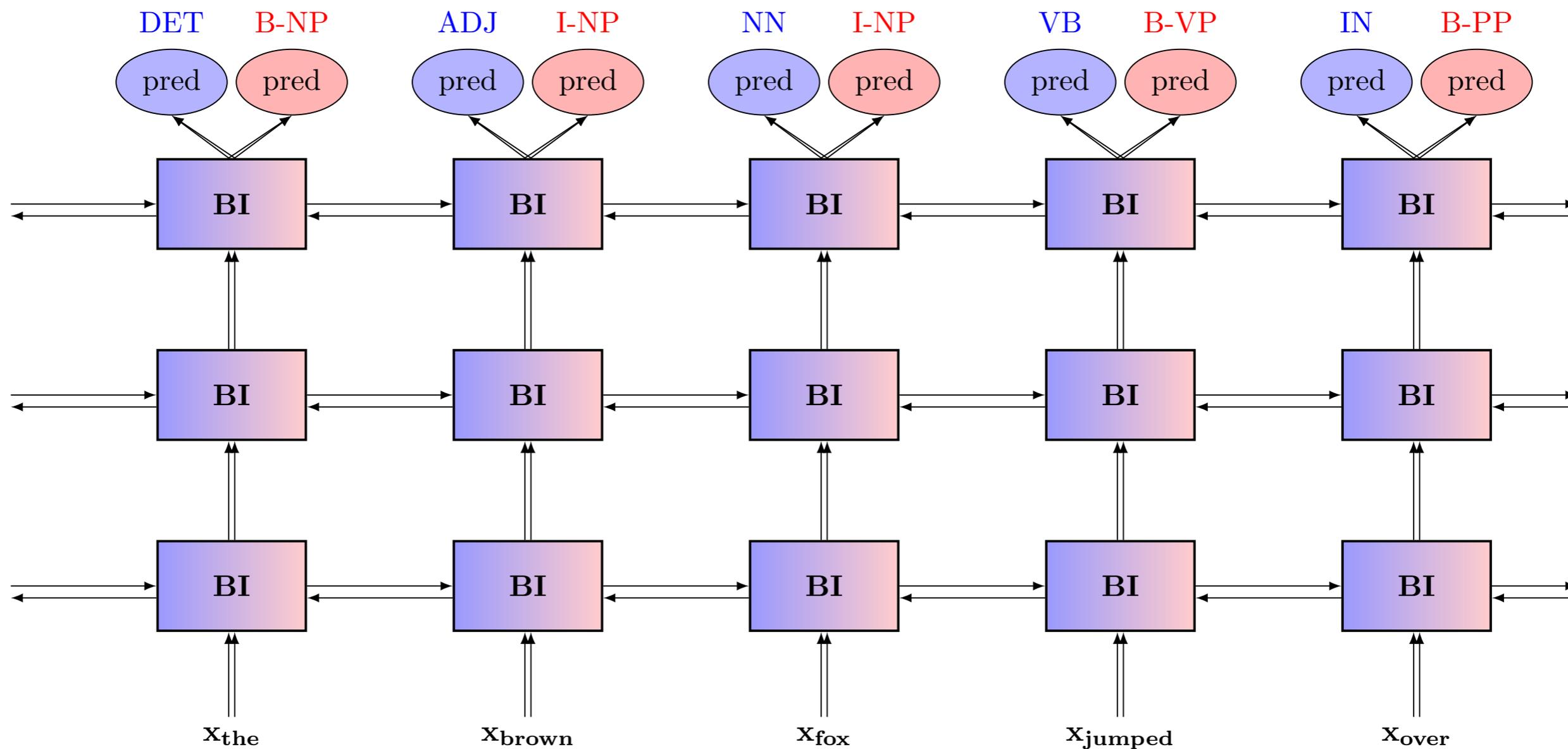


- Different sequence prediction tasks have shared structures.

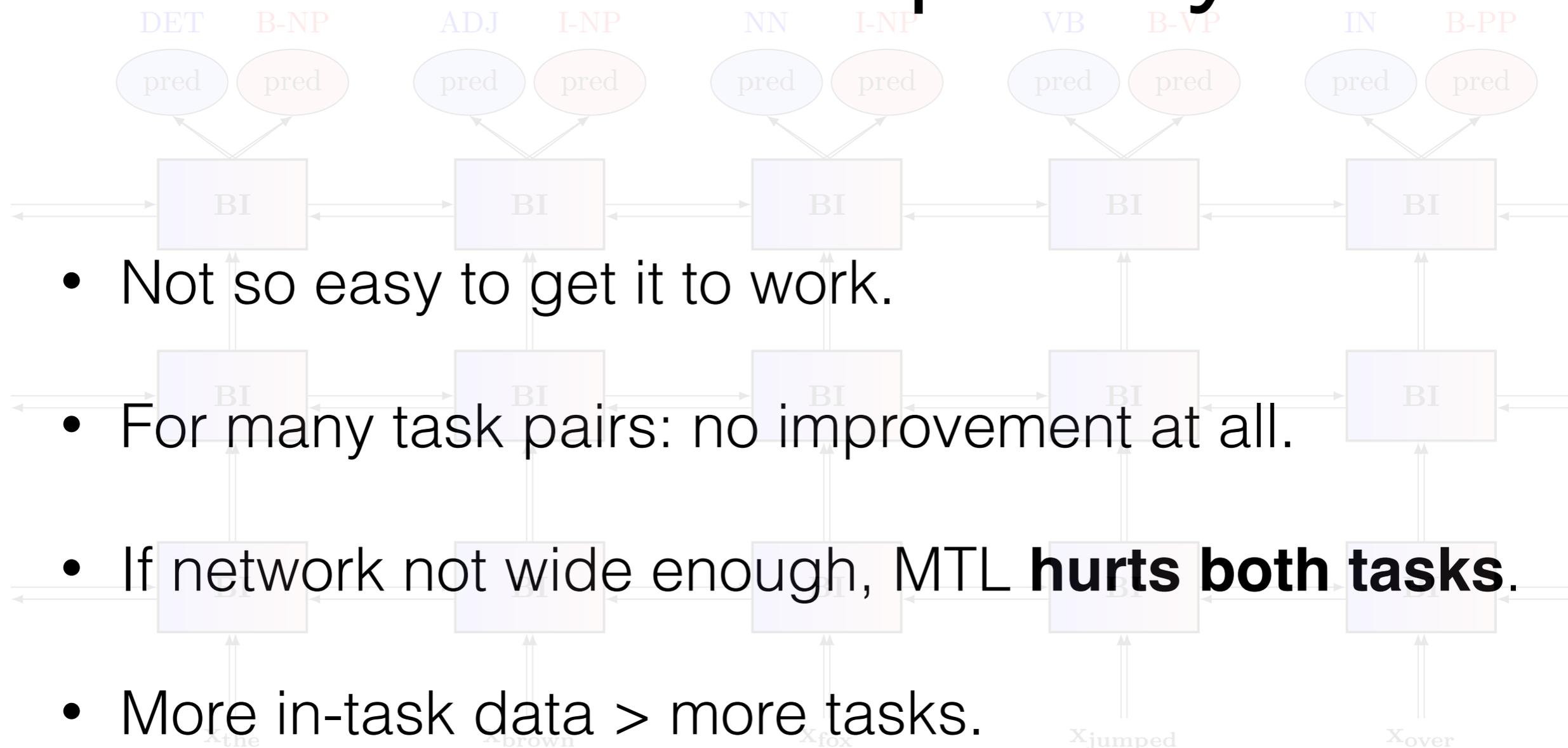
- Hints for predicting A may help to predict B.

- Instead of training a network to do one thing, train it to do several things.

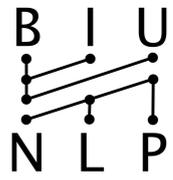




# Not all is pretty



- Not so easy to get it to work.
- For many task pairs: no improvement at all.
- If network not wide enough, MTL **hurts both tasks.**
- More in-task data > more tasks.

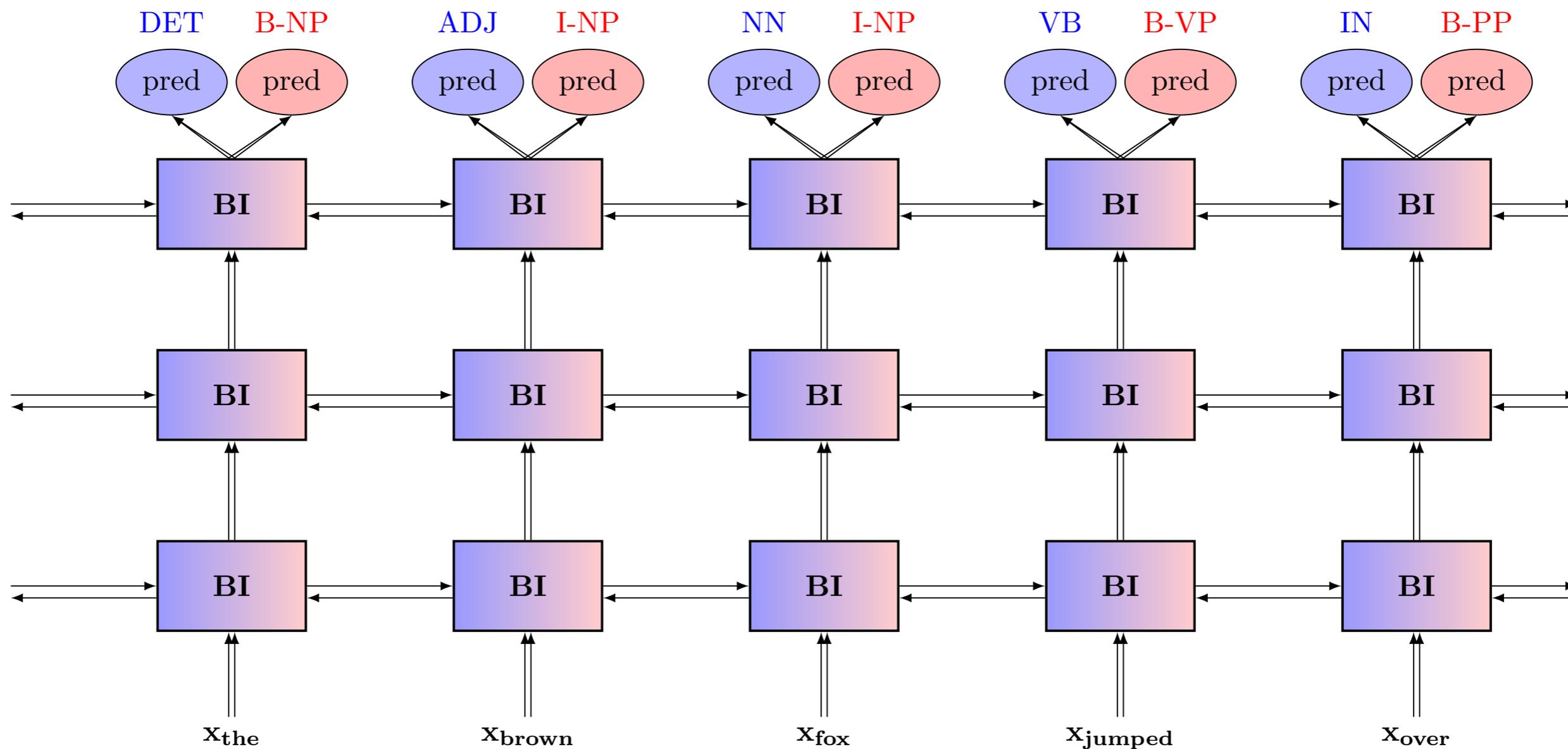


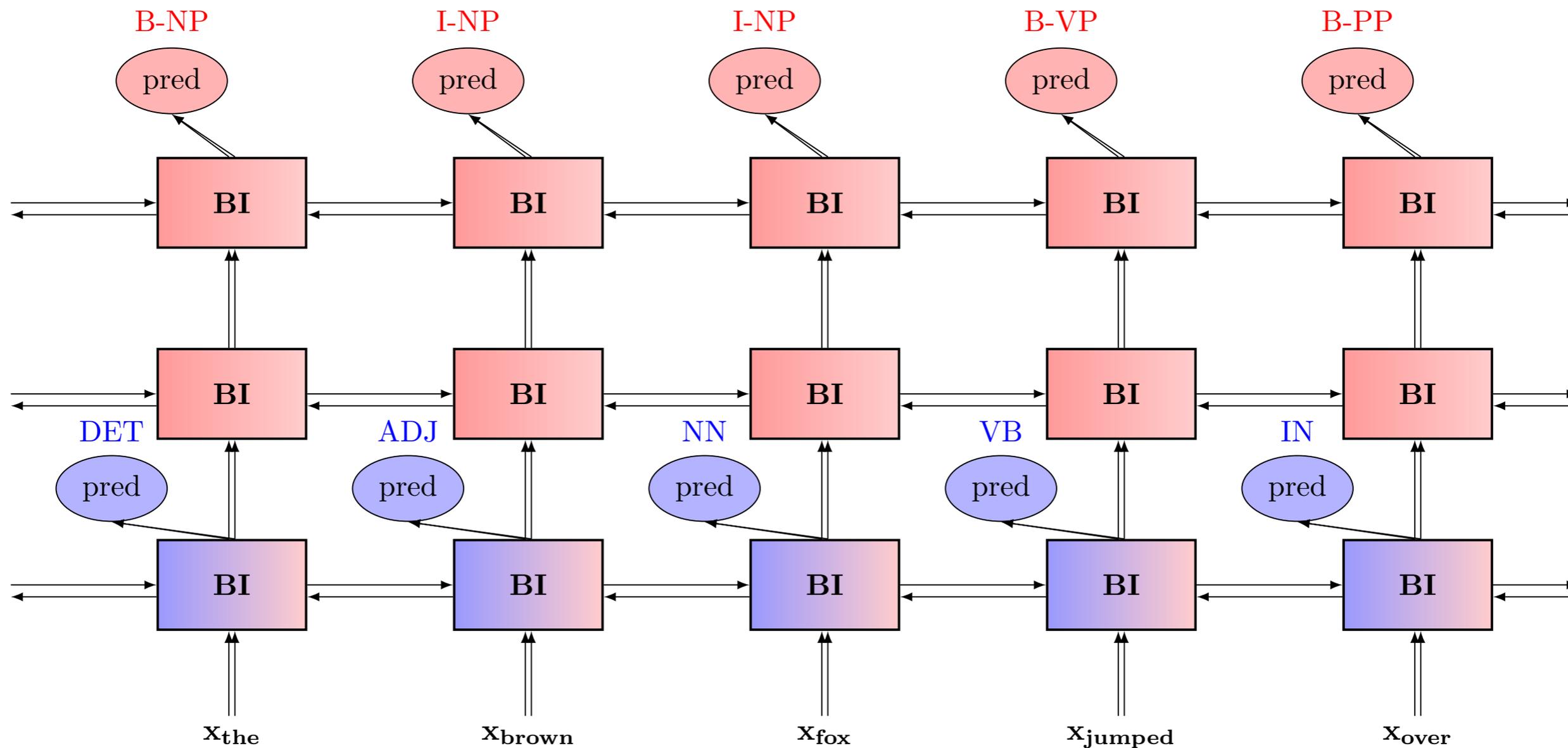
# Thinking about the architecture

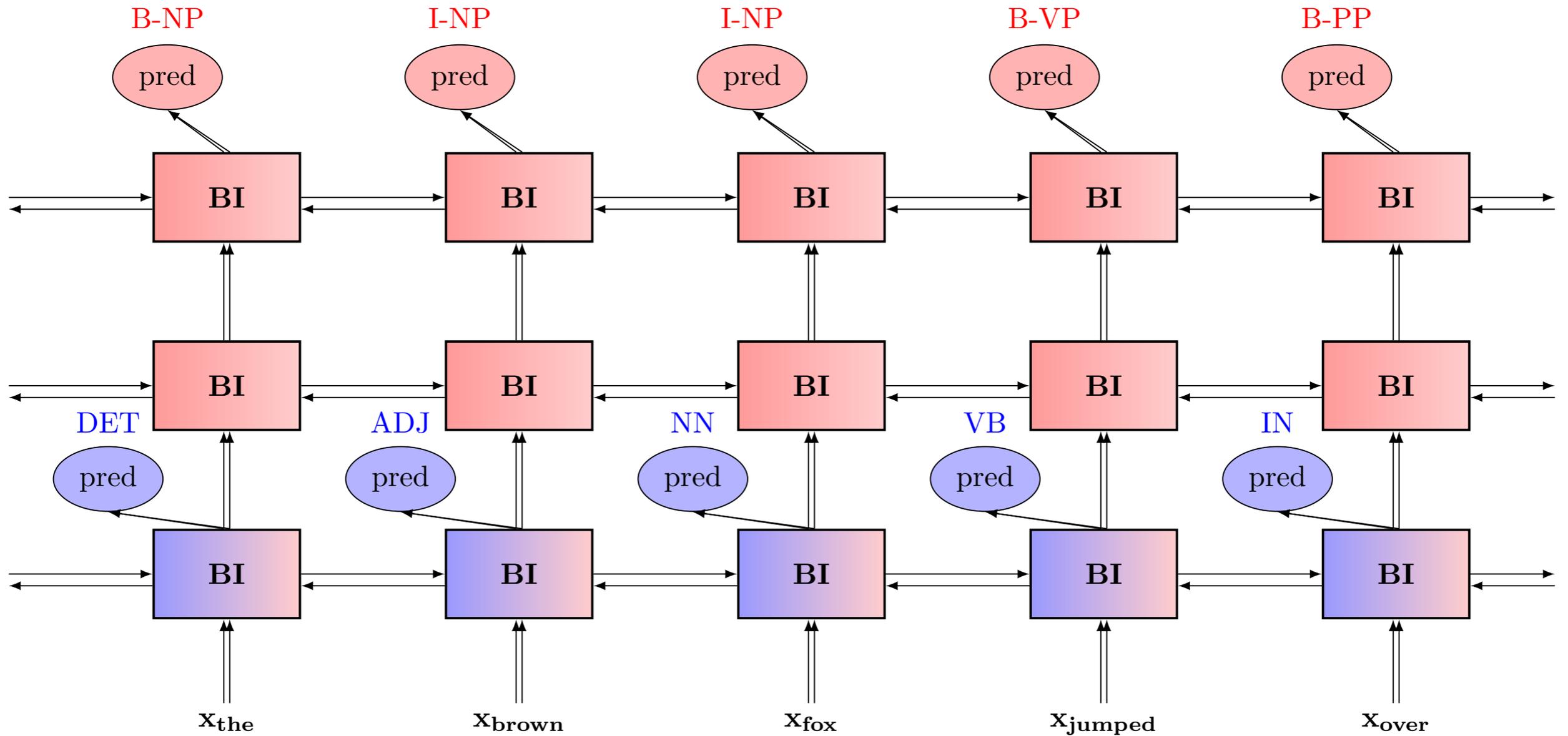
(joint work with Anders Søgaard)

We know there is a hierarchy between tasks

Why not use it?

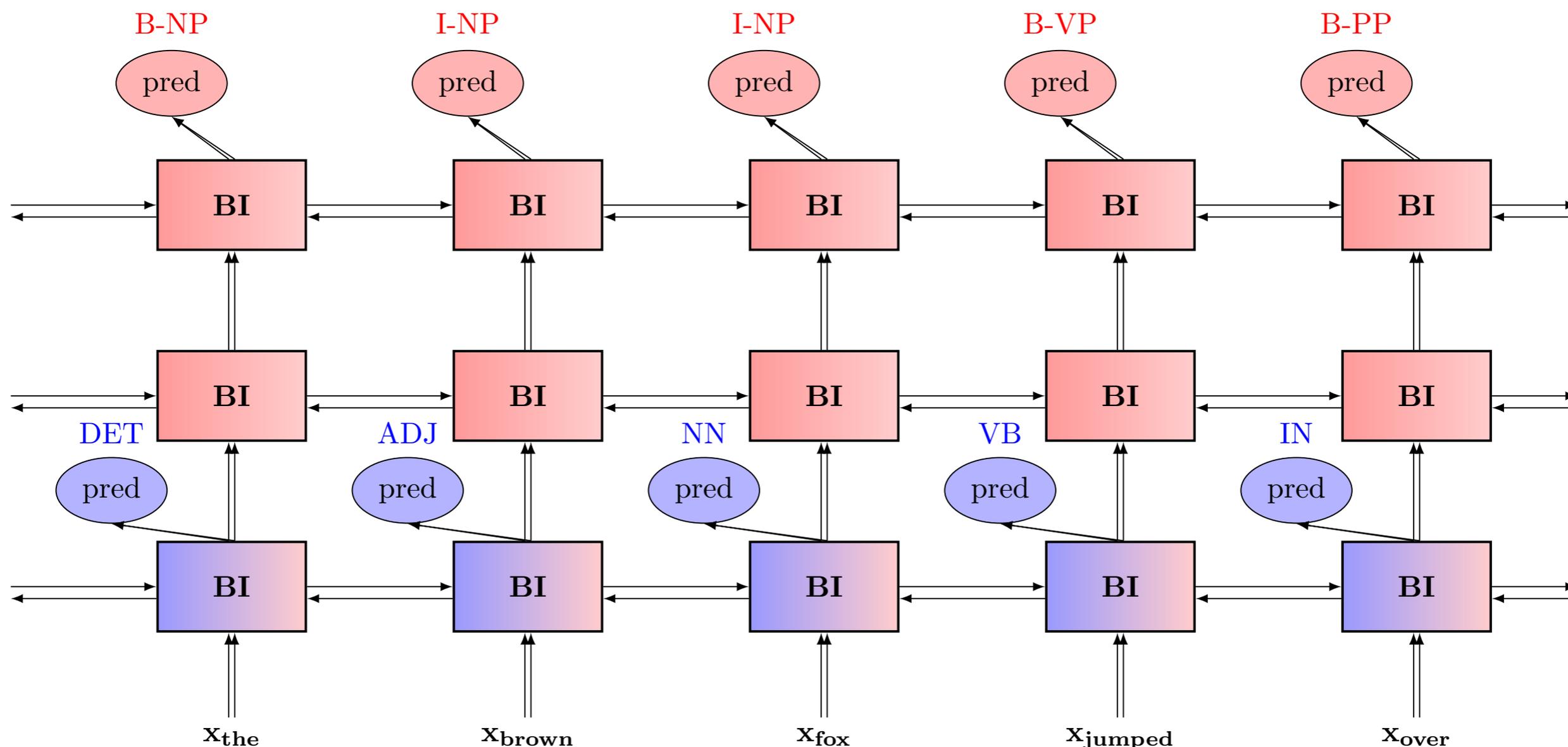






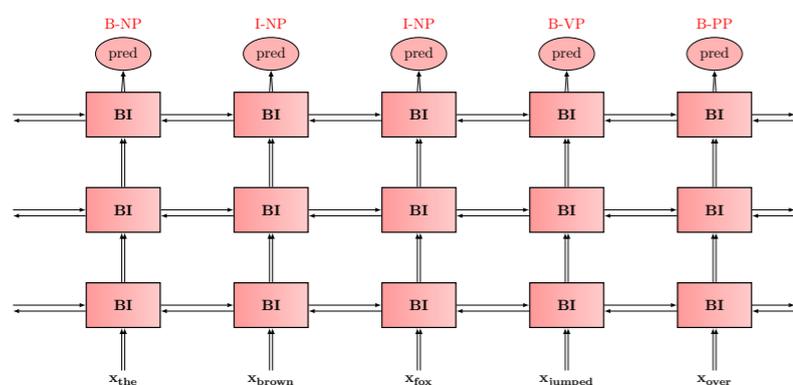
Lower layer is trained for predicting POS  
(but also gets feedback from CHUNKS)

Upper layers are specialized for CHUNK  
(while using the POS information)

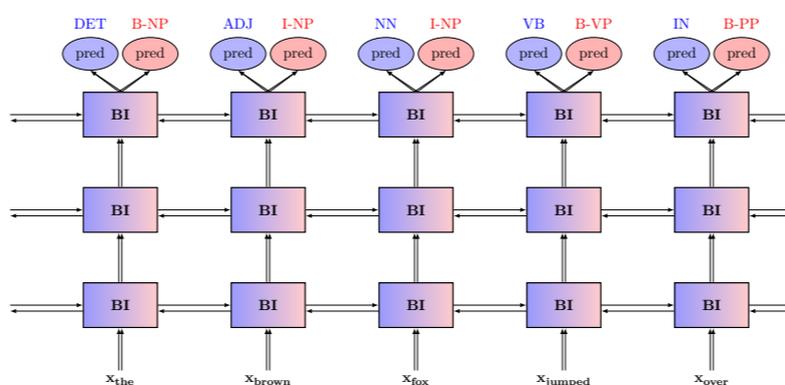


Lower layer is trained for predicting POS  
(but also gets feedback from CHUNKS)

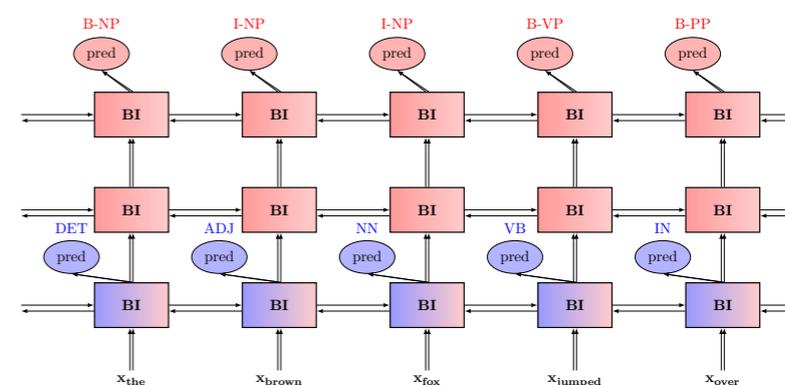
# Chunking scores (F)



93.8

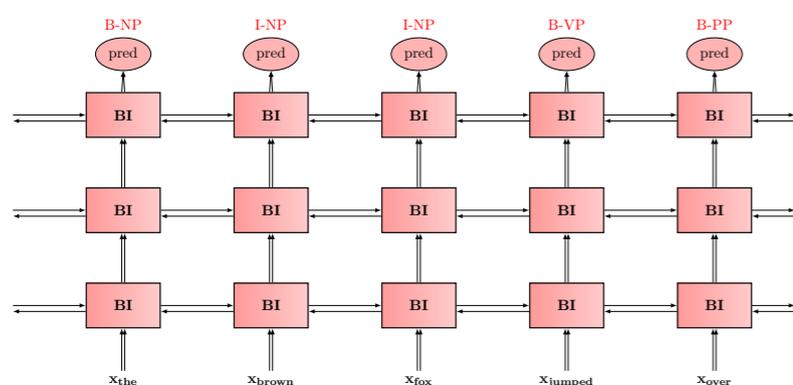


94.5

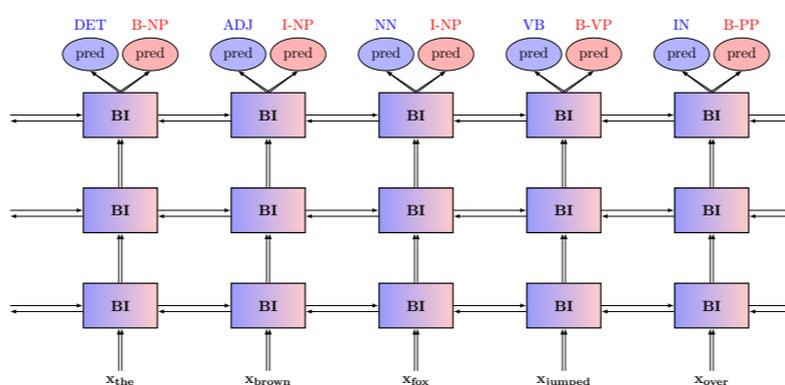


95.0

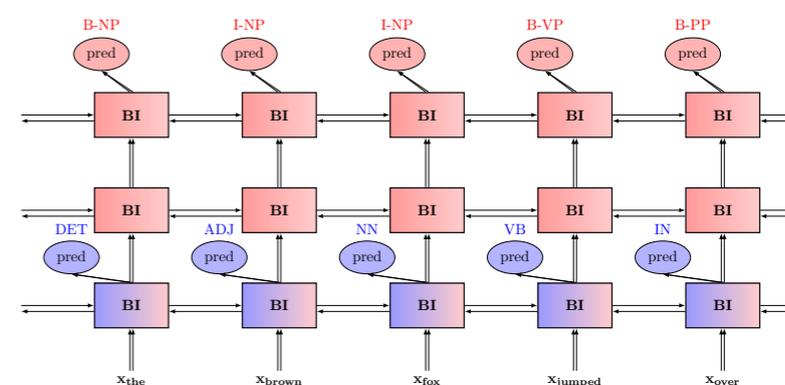
# CCG Supertagging scores (acc)



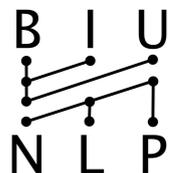
91.0



92.9



93.3



# Followups

## **Multitask Learning with Low-Level Auxiliary Tasks for Encoder-Decoder Based Speech Recognition**

*Shubham Toshniwal, Hao Tang, Liang Lu, and Karen Livescu*

Toyota Technological Institute at Chicago

{shtoshni, haotang, llu, klivescu}@ttic.edu

## **Multitask Learning for Mental Health Conditions with Limited Social Media Data**

**Adrian Benton**

Johns Hopkins University

adrian@cs.jhu.edu

**Margaret Mitchell**

Microsoft Research<sup>1</sup>

mitchellai@google.com

**Dirk Hovy**

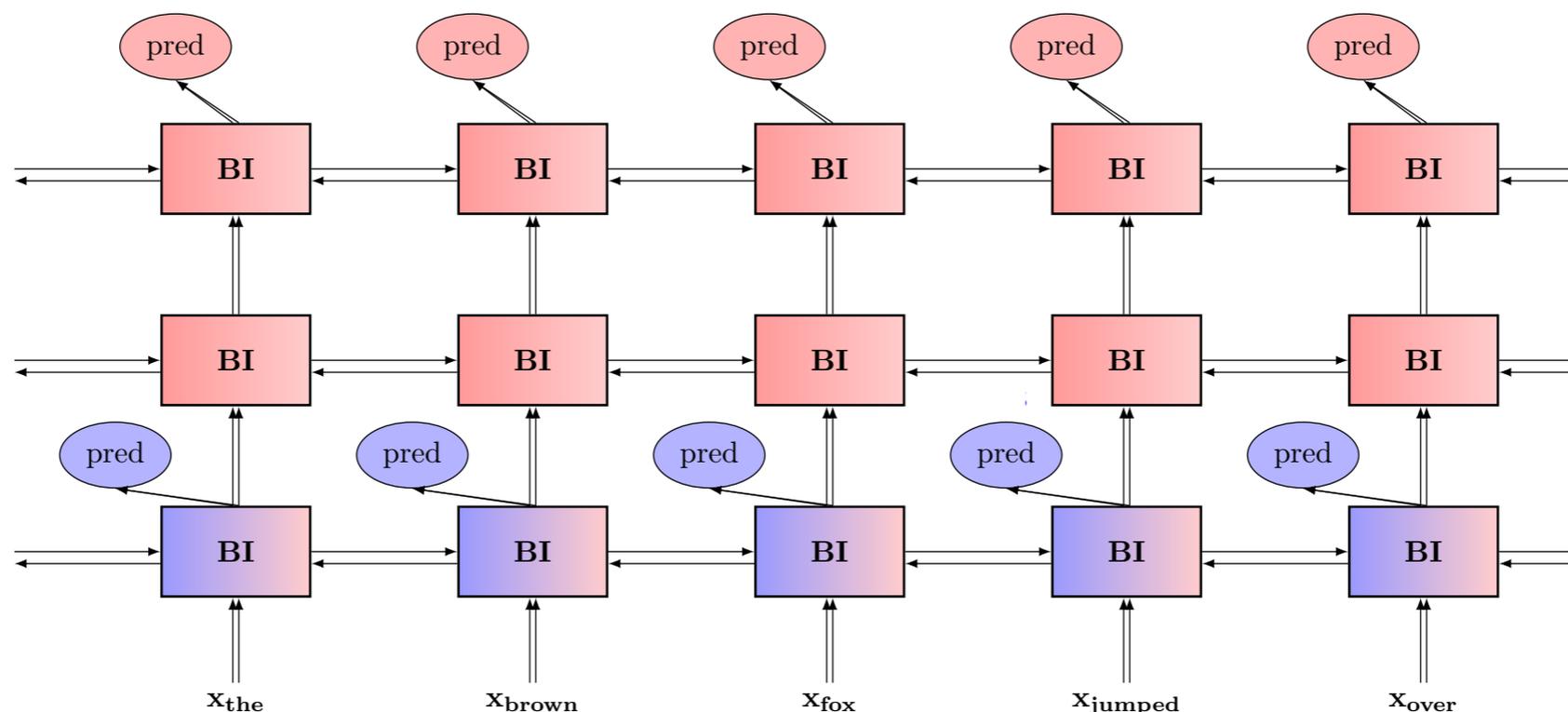
University of Copenhagen

mail@dirkhovy.com

# Sentence Compression

sentence  
compression  
decisions

eye tracking  
+  
CCG tags



## Improving sentence compression by learning to predict gaze

**Sigrid Klerke**

University of Copenhagen  
skl@hum.ku.dk

**Yoav Goldberg**

Bar-Ilan University  
yoav.goldberg@gmail.com

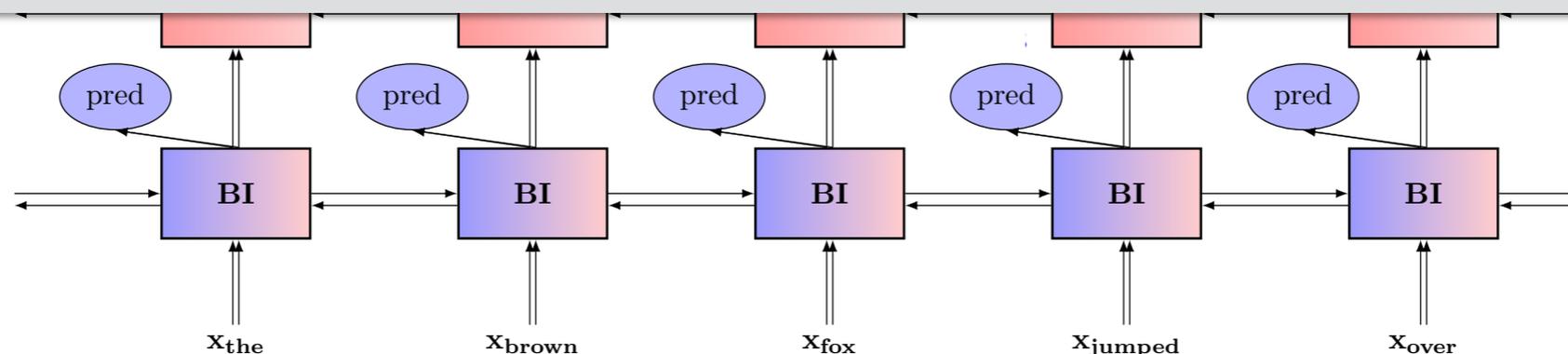
**Anders Søgaard**

University of Copenhagen  
soegaard@hum.ku.dk

# Sentence Compression

The first new product, ATF prototype, is a line of digital postscript typefaces that will be sold in packages of up to six fonts

eye tracking  
+  
CCG tags



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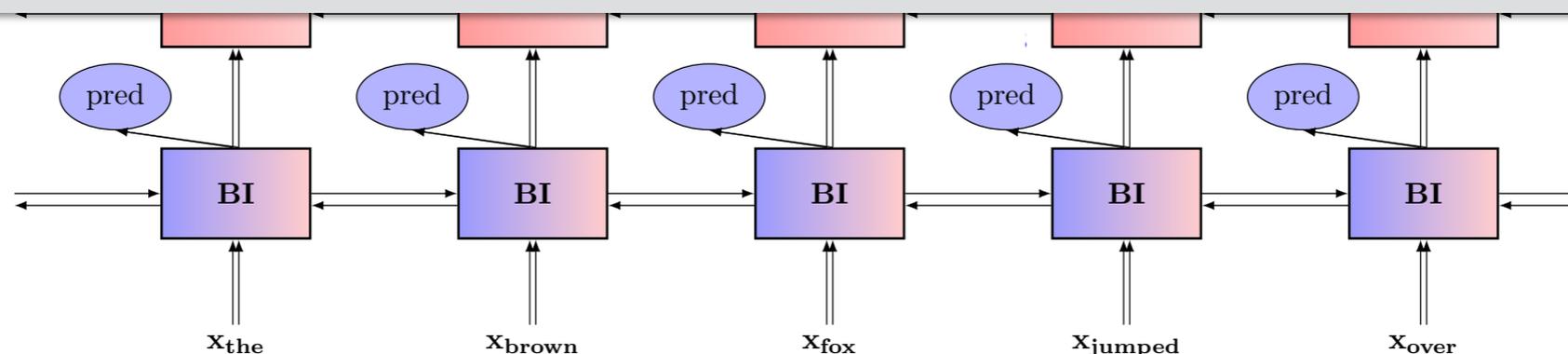
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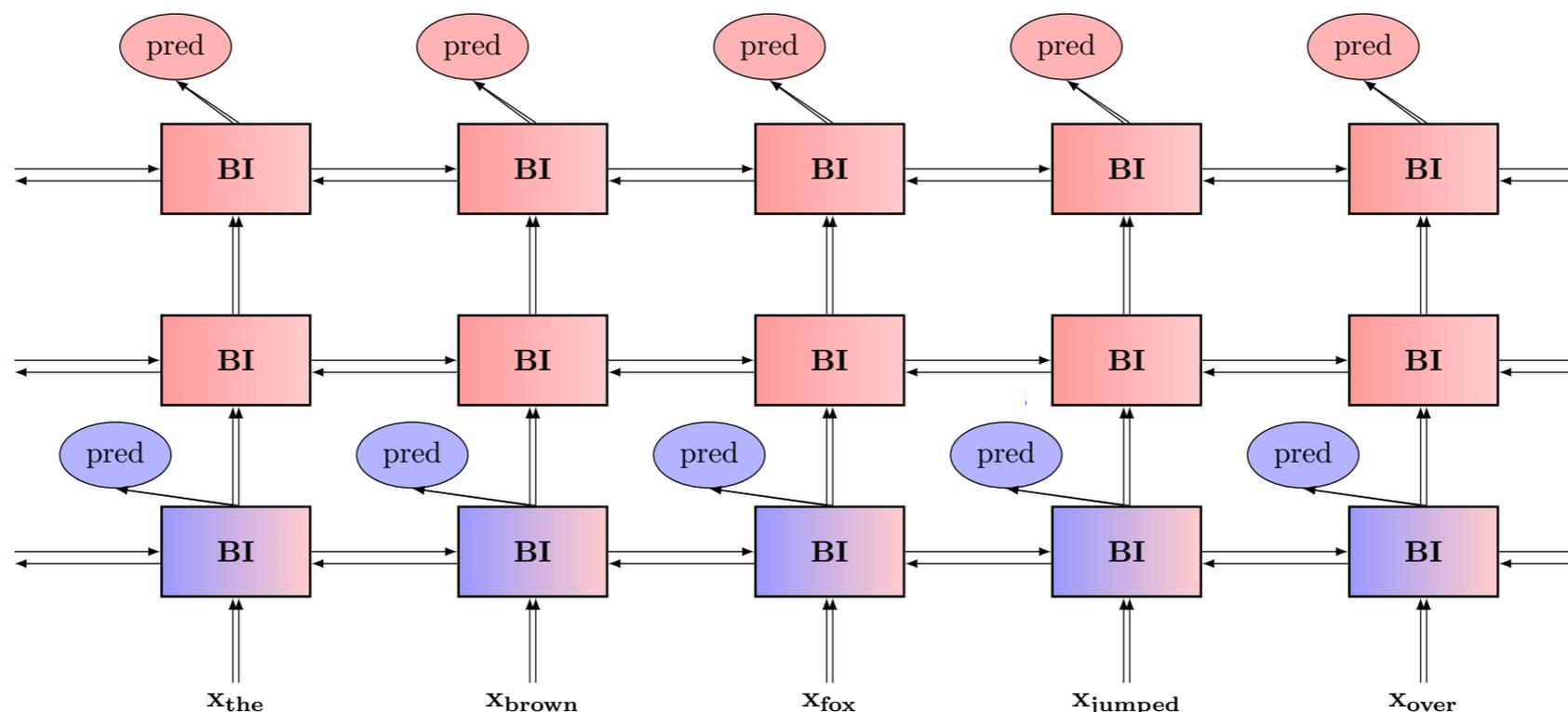
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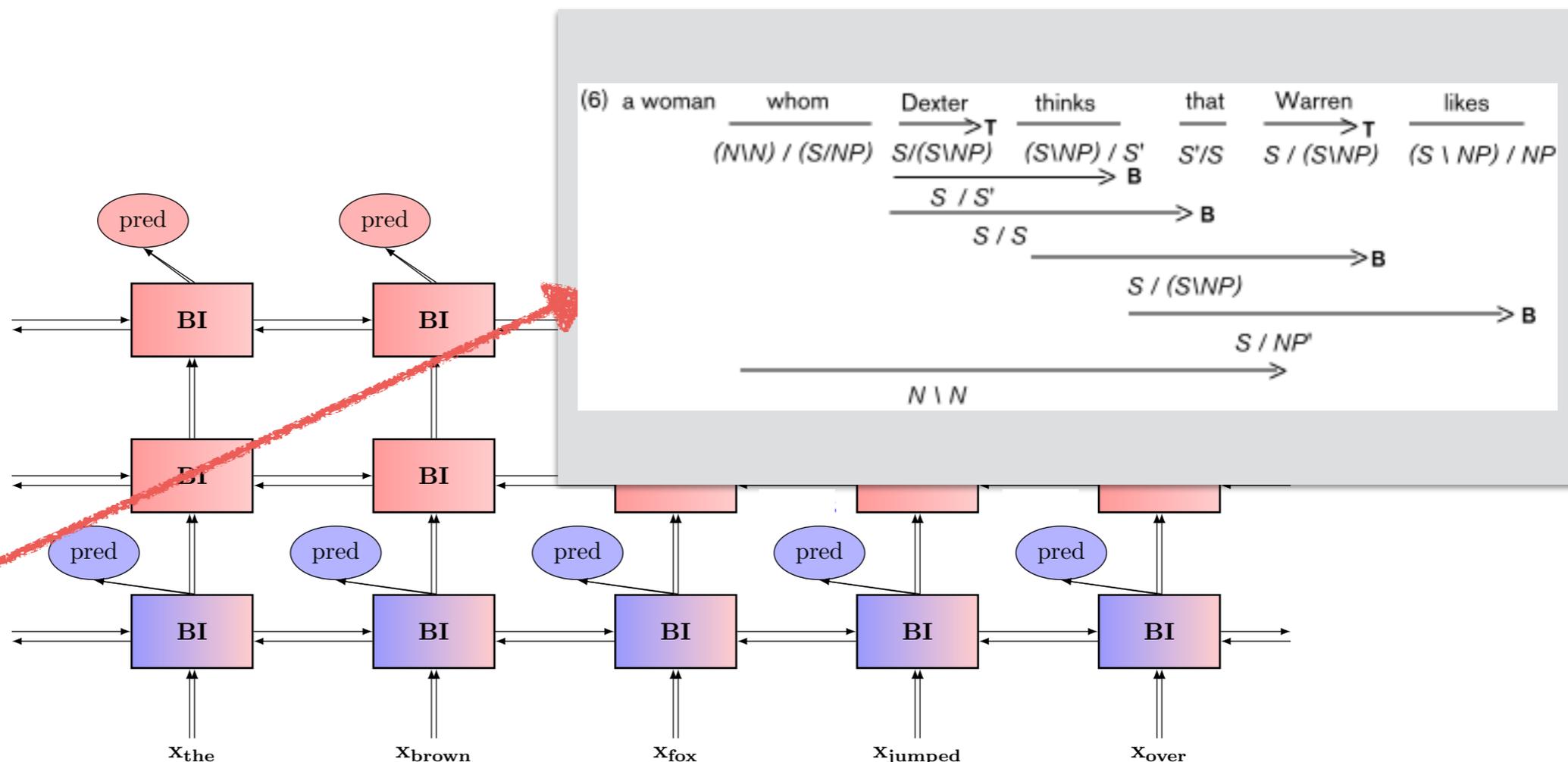
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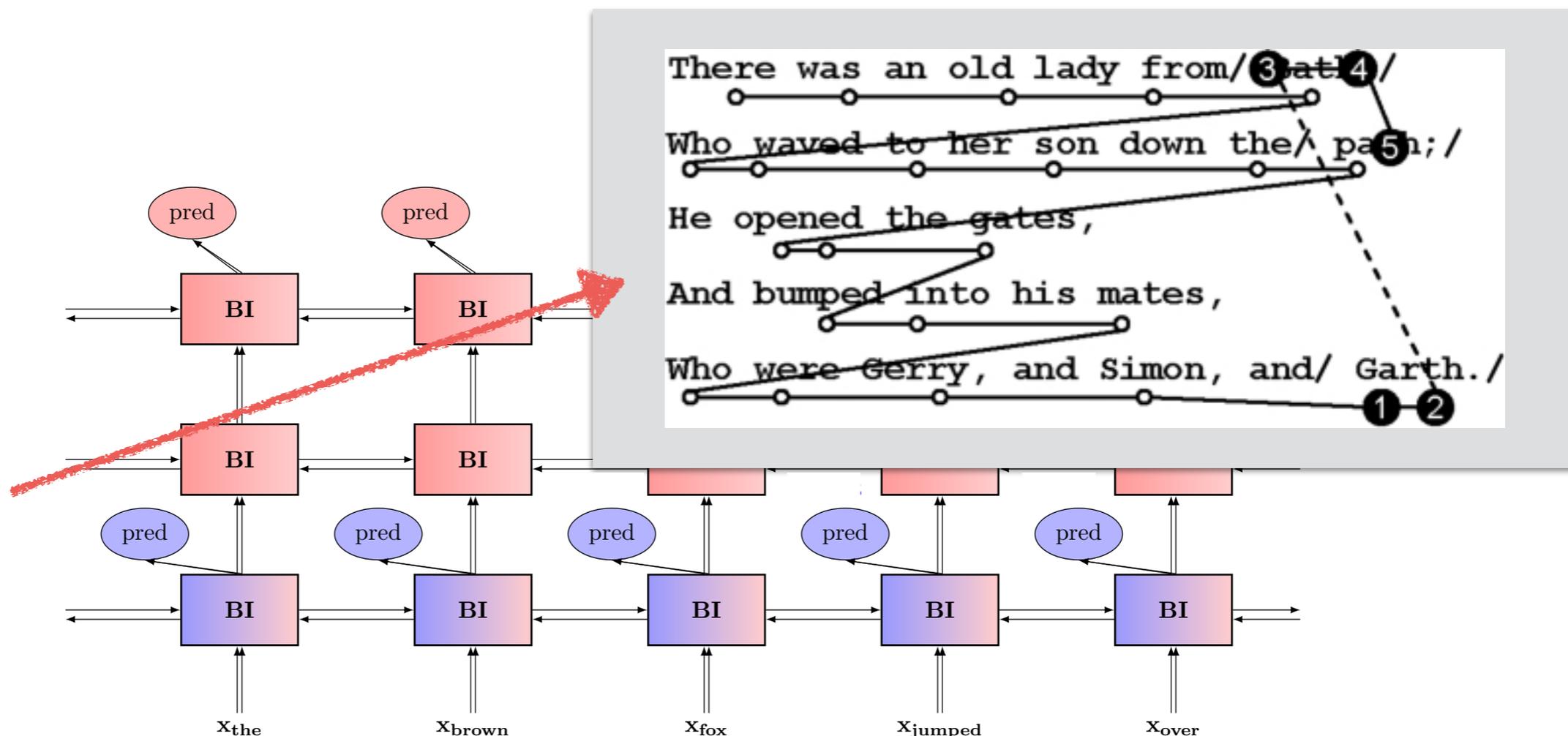
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sentence  
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yoav.goldberg@gmail.com

**Anders Søgaard**

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soegaard@hum.ku.dk

# Additional MTL Example

## **Semi Supervised Preposition-Sense Disambiguation using Multilingual Data**

**Hila Gonen**

Department of Computer Science

Bar-Ilan University

hilagnn@gmail.com

**Yoav Goldberg**

Department of Computer Science

Bar-Ilan University

yoav.goldberg@gmail.com



# Preposition-Sense Disambiguation

I met him <b>for</b> lunch	→	Purpose
He paid <b>for</b> me	→	Beneficiary
We sat there <b>for</b> hours	→	Duration



# Preposition-Sense Disambiguation

I met him <b>for</b> lunch	→	Purpose
He paid <b>for</b> me	→	Beneficiary
We sat there <b>for</b> hours	→	Duration

how will you model this?



I met him <b>for</b> lunch	→	Purpose
He paid <b>for</b> me	→	Beneficiary
We sat there <b>for</b> hours	→	Duration

$$y = \underset{j}{\operatorname{argmax}} MLP_{sense}(\phi(s, i))[j]$$

Stage 1: Simple MLP with features



I met him **for** lunch → Purpose  
He paid **for** me → Beneficiary  
We sat there **for** hours → Duration

$$y = \operatorname{argmax}_j MLP_{sense}(\phi(s, i)[j])$$

Stage 1: Simple MLP with features

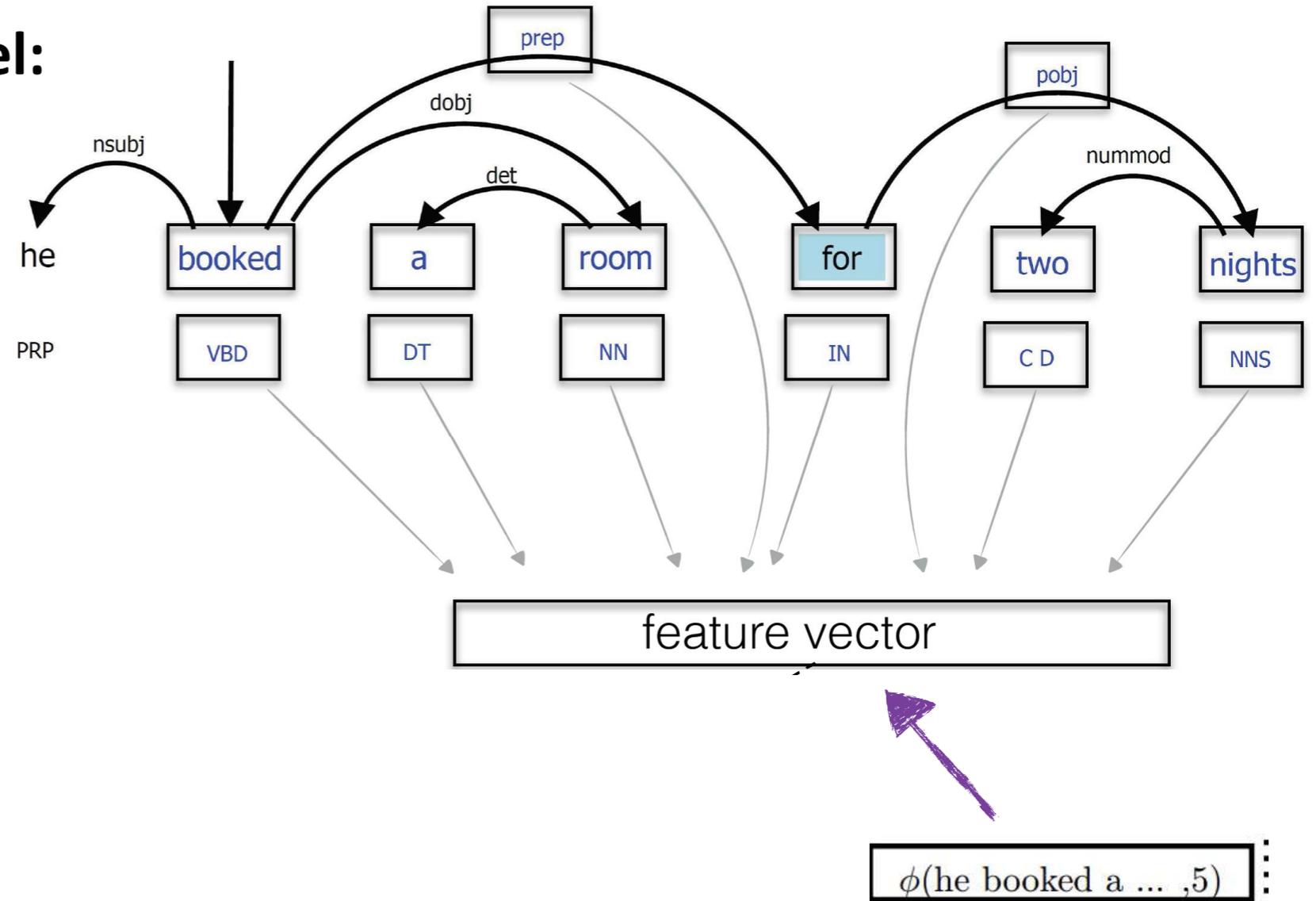
- Embeddings of words in window of 2 to each side
- Embeddings of POS in window of 2 to each side
- Embeddings of Heads and Modifiers of word in Dep Tree
- Are words in window capitalized?



# The features and the model:

The features are similar to those used in previous works. Features are extracted from:

- 2-words-window
- Head and modifier of the preposition



I met him <b>for</b> lunch	→	Purpose
He paid <b>for</b> me	→	Beneficiary
We sat there <b>for</b> hours	→	Duration

$$y = \operatorname{argmax}_j MLP_{sense}(ctx(s, i) \circ \phi(s, i))[j]$$

Stage 2: Adding Context

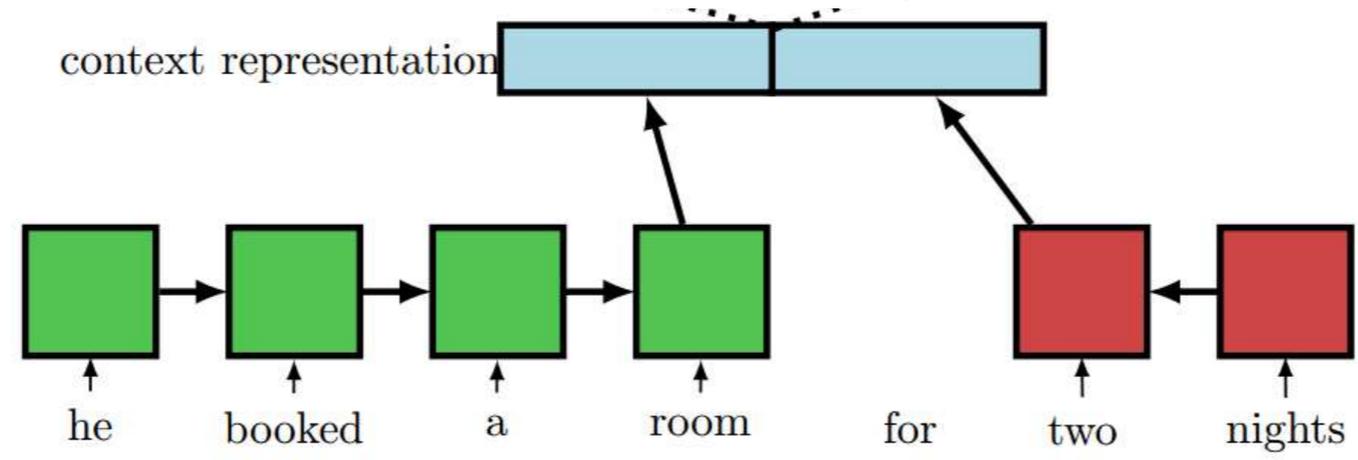
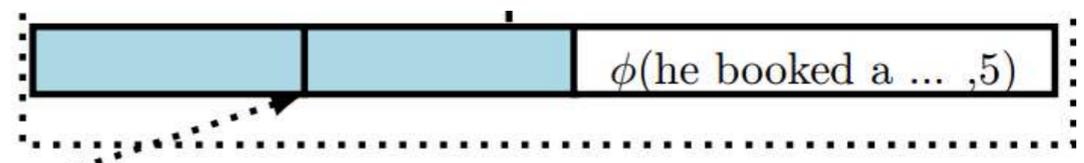
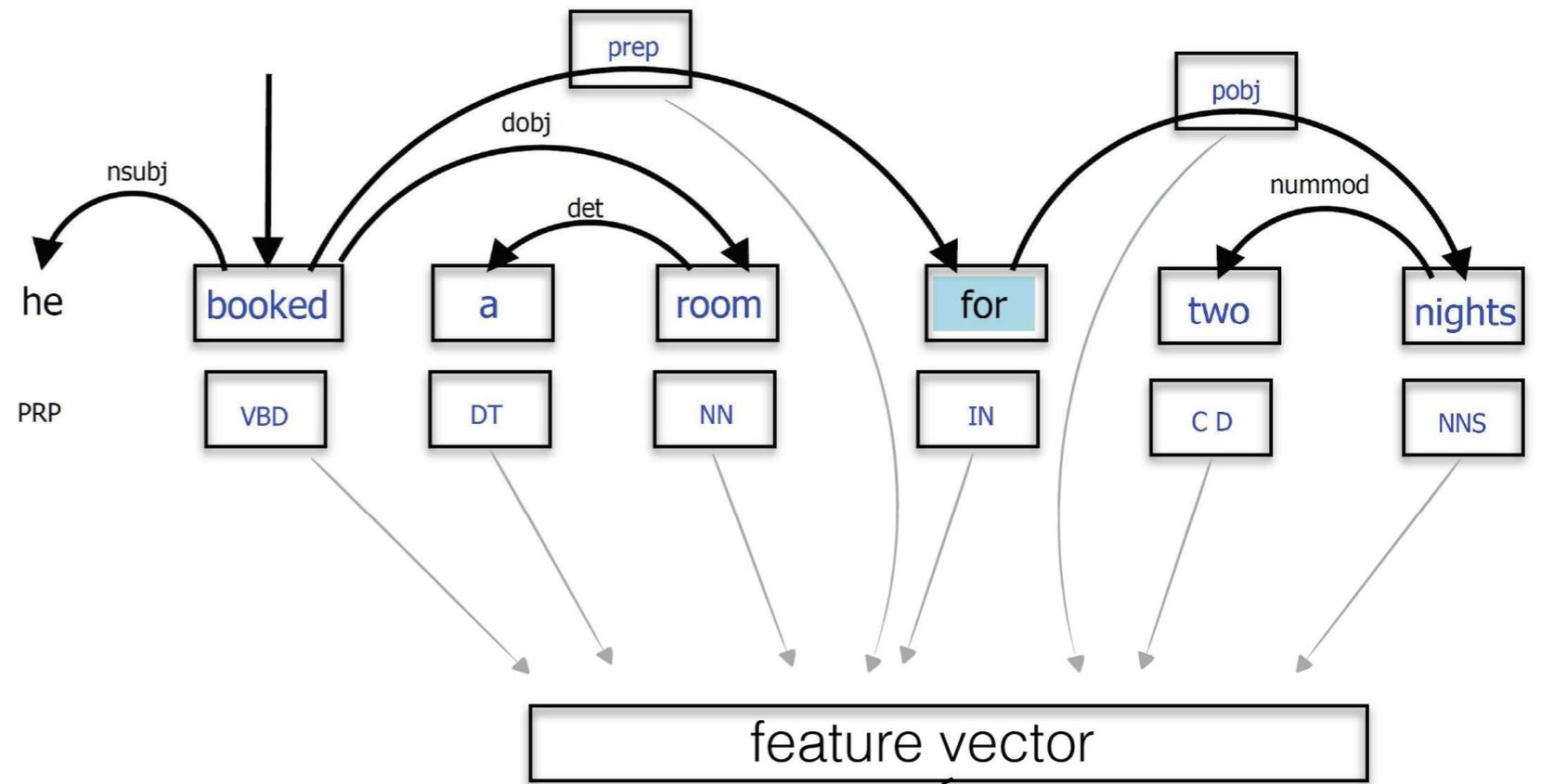
$$ctx(s, i) = RNN_f(\mathbf{x}_{1:i-1}) \circ RNN_b(\mathbf{x}_{n:i+1})$$

(almost biRNN, but not exactly. What's the difference?)



The features are similar to those used in previous works. Features are extracted from:

- 2-words-window
- Head and modifier of the preposition

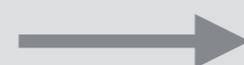


I met him **for** lunch



Purpose

He paid **for** me

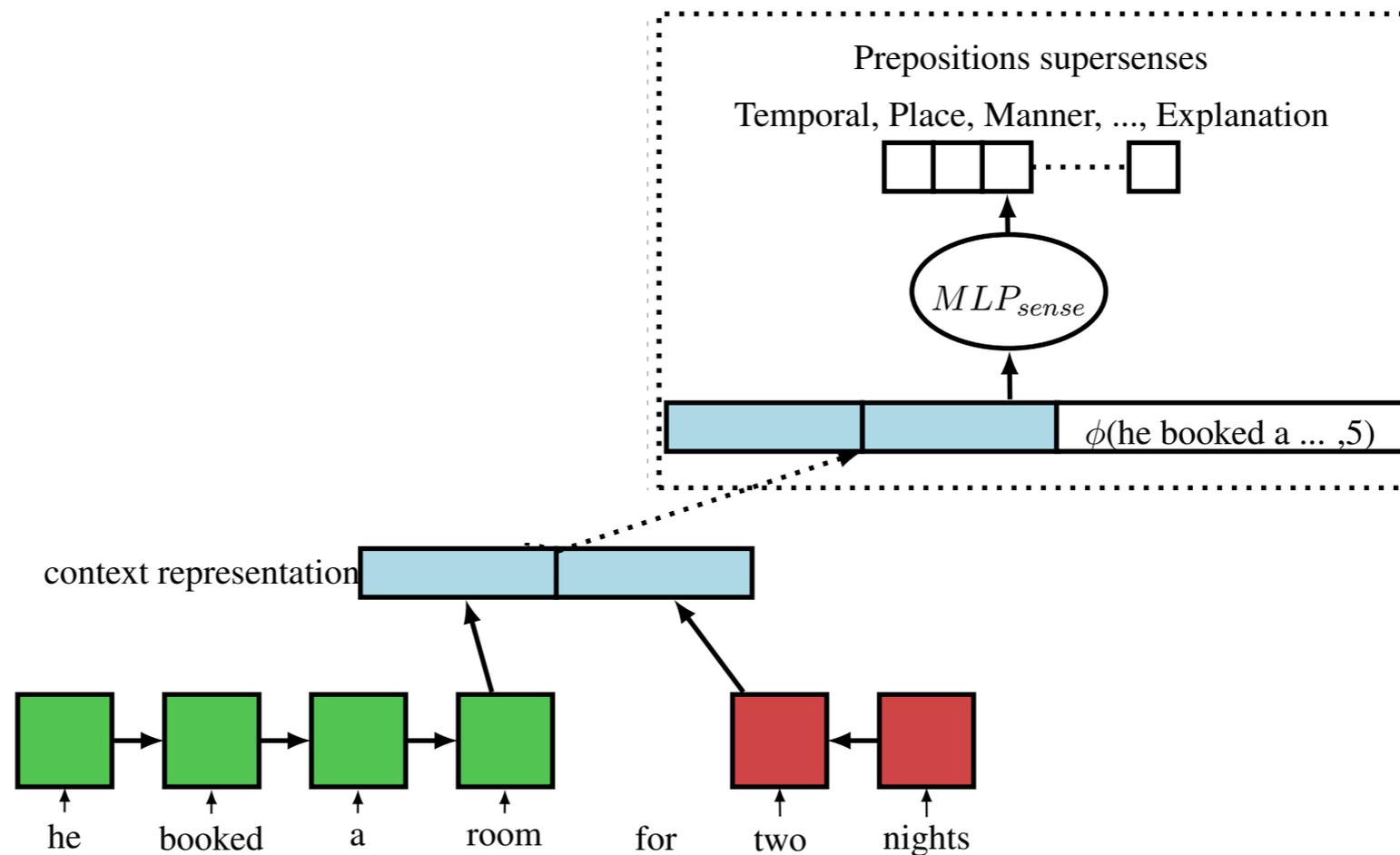


Beneficiary

We sat there **for** hours

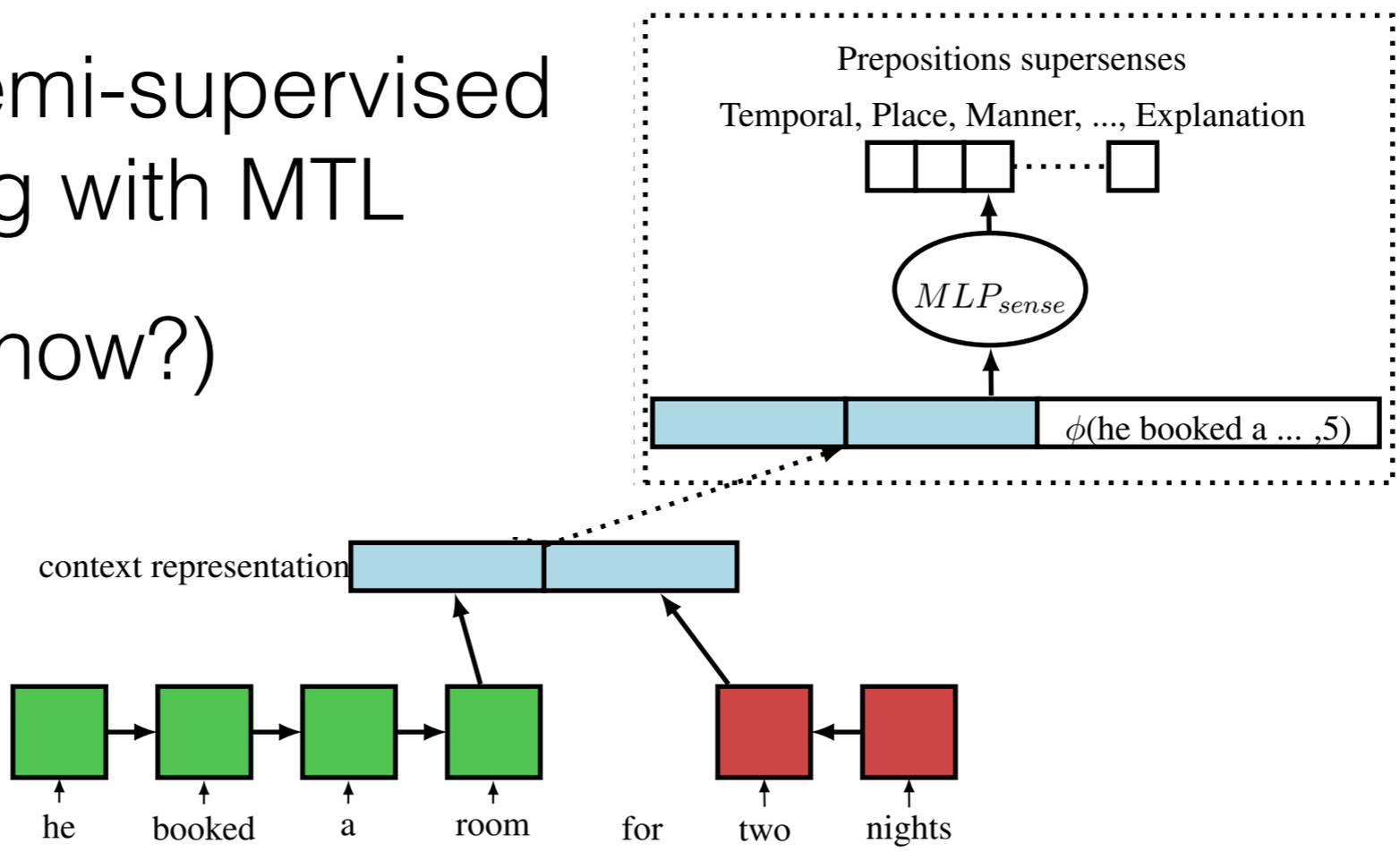


Duration



I met him **for** lunch → Purpose  
 He paid **for** me → Beneficiary  
 We sat there **for** hours → Duration

Adding Semi-supervised training with MTL  
 (how?)

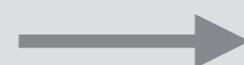


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Purpose

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Beneficiary

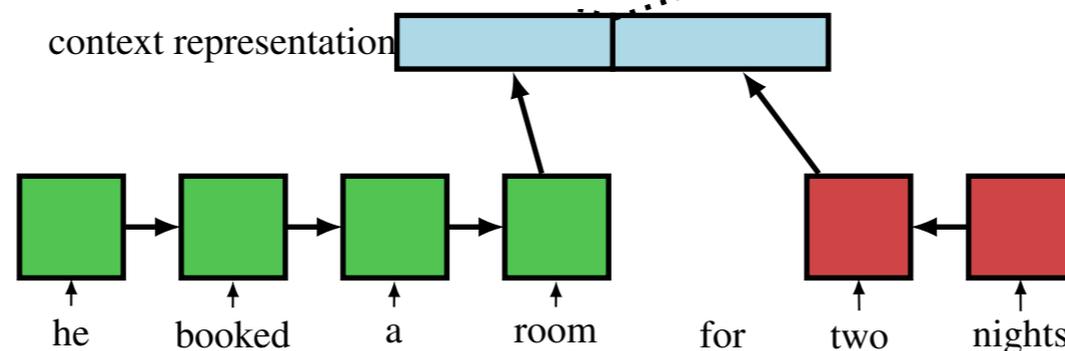
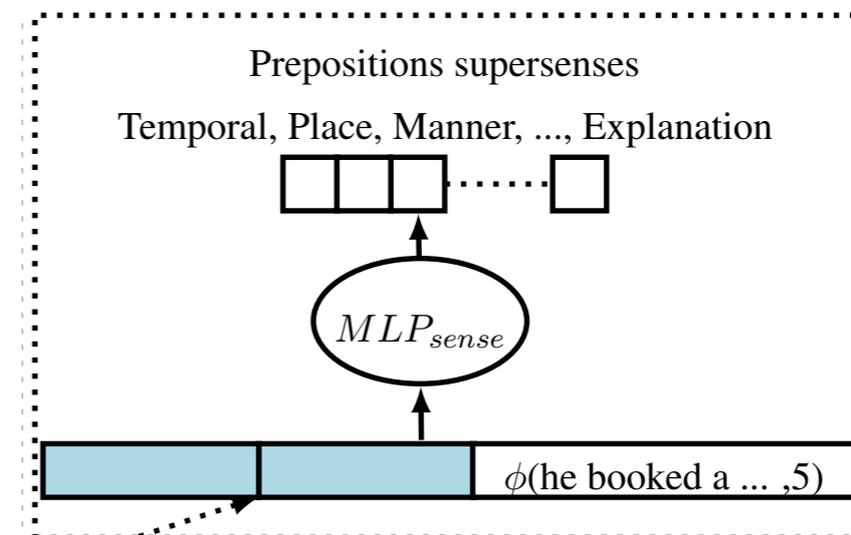
We sat there **for** hours



Duration

Adding Semi-supervised training with MTL

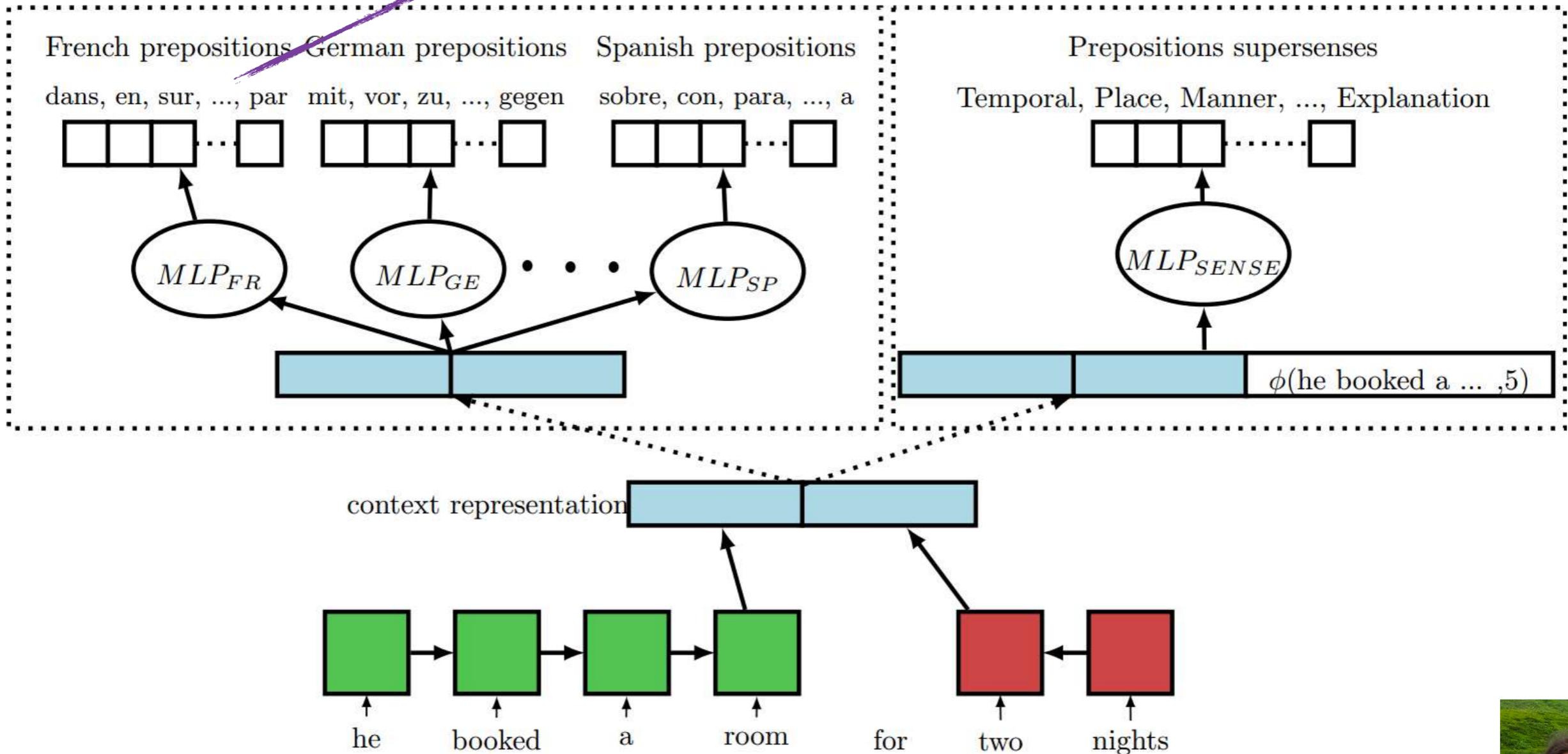
Using Parallel Corpora and translation prediction



The vote will take place tomorrow at 12 p.m.

Le vote aura lieu demain à 12 heures.

Training example: (FR, The vote will take place tomorrow at 12 p.m. , at, à)



I met him **for** lunch → Purpose  
 He paid **for** me → Beneficiary  
 We sat there **for** hours → Duration

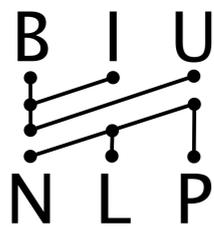
Model	Accuracy
base	73.34 (71.63-73.97)
+context	73.76 (71.86-75.38)
+context(multilingual)	<b>76.20</b> (74.91-77.26)

(with pre-trained embeddings, ensembles, get to ~80)



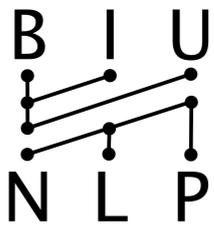
# MTL - Recap

- For **related tasks**, can get nice gains from MTL.
- **Thinking about the architecture helps.**



# Ultimate task: Language Modeling

- Train a model on "what is the next word?"
- The resulting representation is very useful for many different tasks.



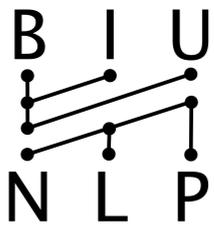
# Ultimate task: Language Modeling

## **Deep contextualized word representations**

ELMo  
(NAACL 2018)

**Matthew E. Peters<sup>†</sup>, Mark Neumann<sup>†</sup>, Mohit Iyyer<sup>†</sup>, Matt Gardner<sup>†</sup>,**  
`{matthewp, markn, mohiti, mattg}@allenai.org`

**Christopher Clark\*, Kenton Lee\*, Luke Zettlemoyer<sup>†\*</sup>**  
`{csquared, kentonl, lsz}@cs.washington.edu`



# Ultimate task: Language Modeling

## Deep contextualized word representations

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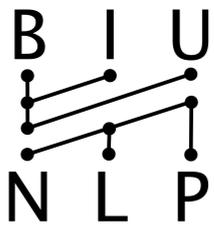
**Christopher Clark\*, Kenton Lee\*, Luke Zettlemoyer<sup>†\*</sup>**  
{csquared, kentonl, lsz}@cs.washington.edu

## Universal Language Model Fine-tuning for Text Classification

**Jeremy Howard\***  
fast.ai  
University of San Francisco  
j@fast.ai

**Sebastian Ruder\***  
Insight Centre, NUI Galway  
Aylien Ltd., Dublin  
sebastian@ruder.io

ULMfit  
(ACL 2018)



# Ultimate task: Language Modeling

## Deep contextualized word representations

ELMo  
(NAACL 2018)

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Aylien Ltd., Dublin  
sebastian@ruder.io

OpenAI  
(arxiv+PR 2018)

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## Improving Language Understanding by Generative Pre-Training

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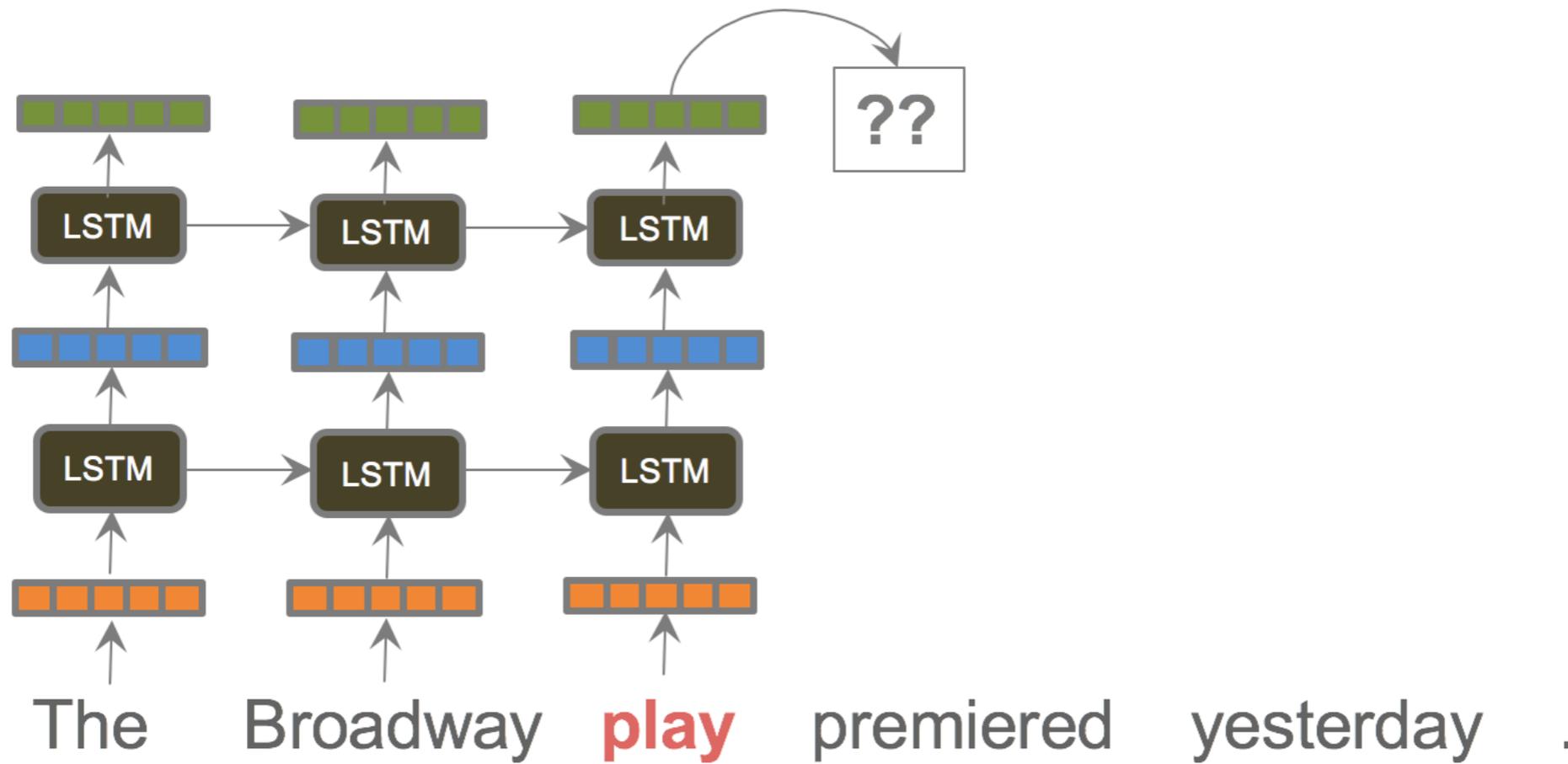
**Alec Radford**  
OpenAI  
alec@openai.com

**Karthik Narasimhan**  
OpenAI  
karthikn@openai.com

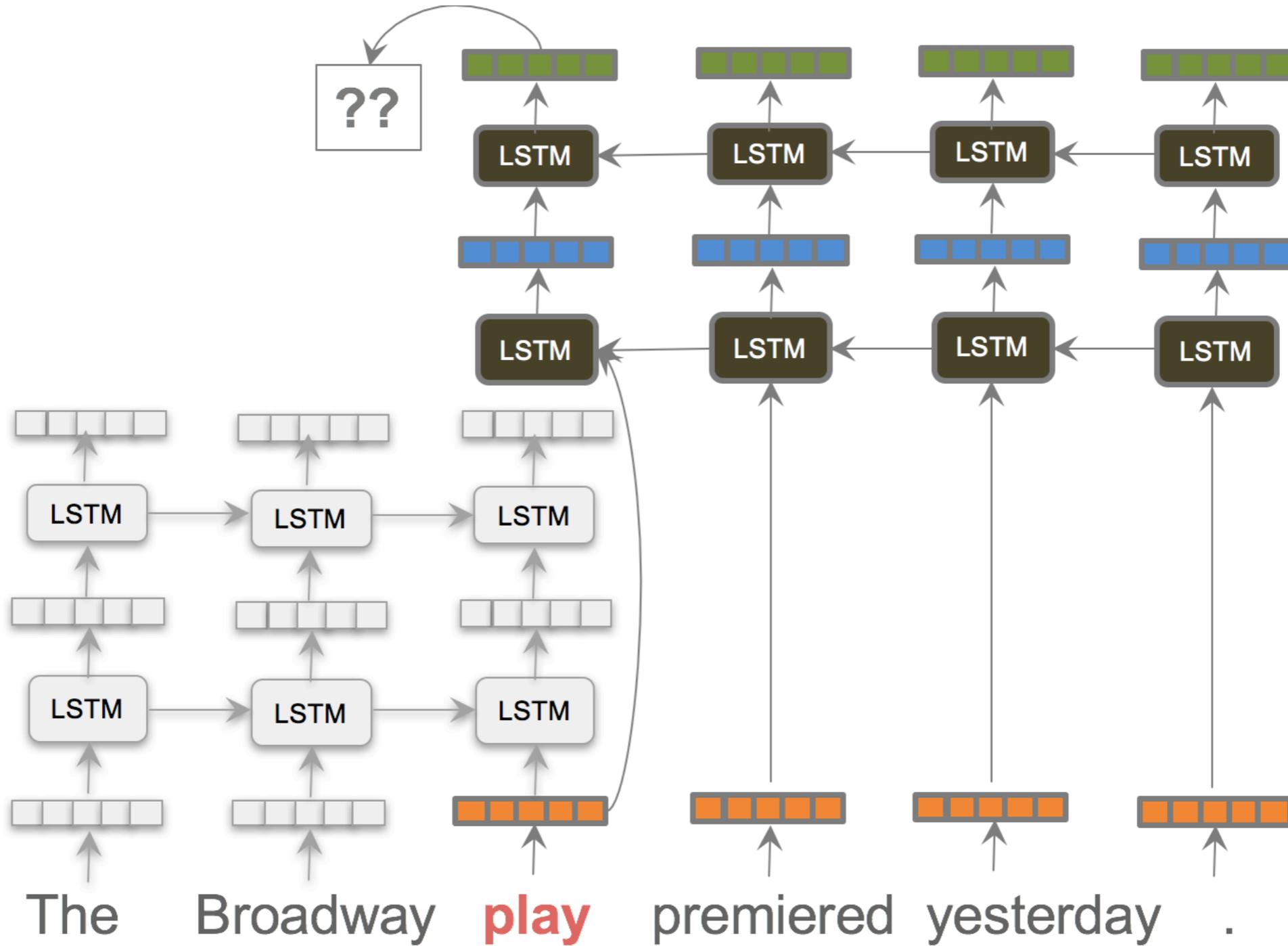
**Tim Salimans**  
OpenAI  
tim@openai.com

**Ilya Sutskever**  
OpenAI  
ilyasu@openai.com

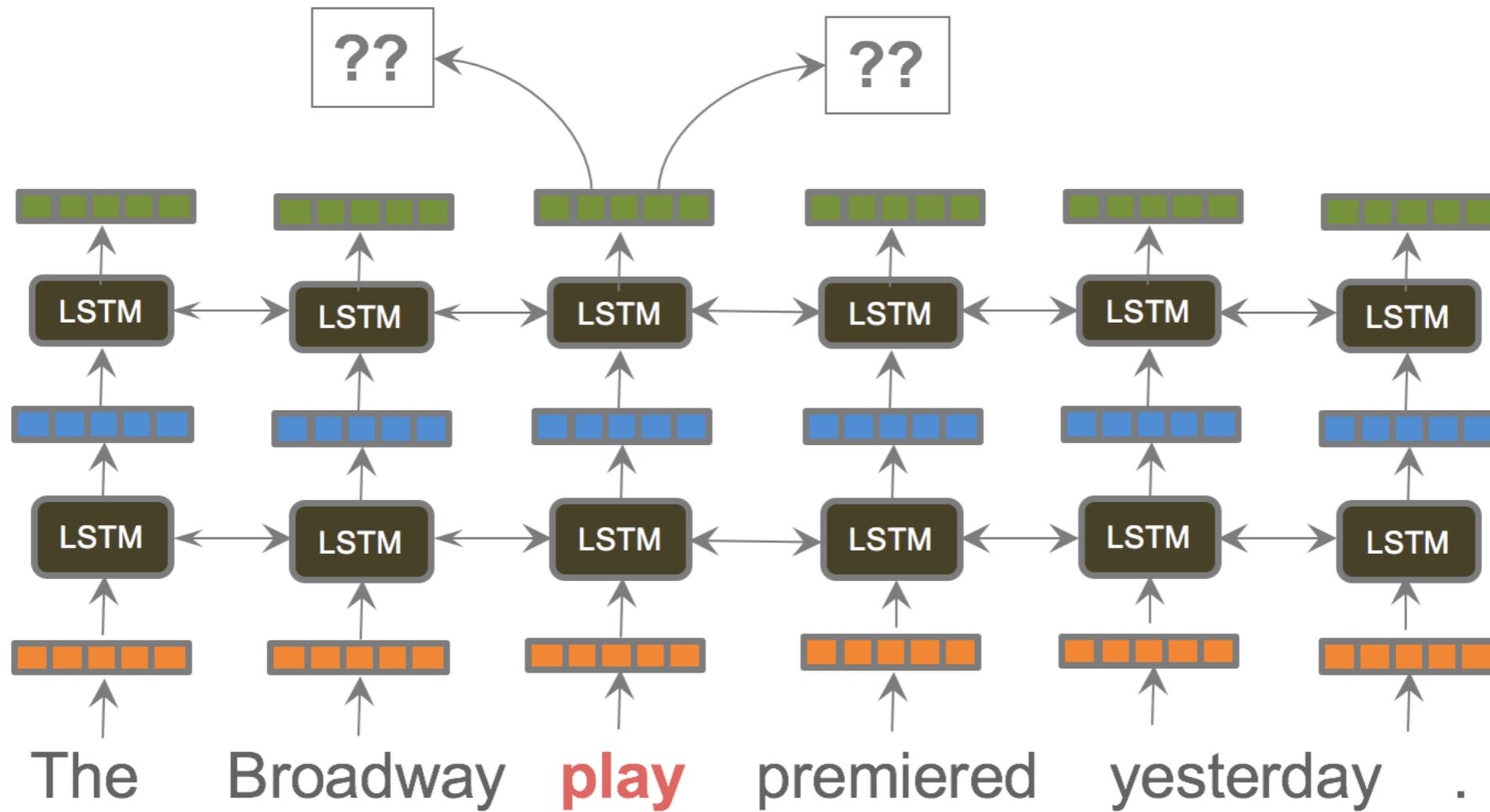
# ELMo



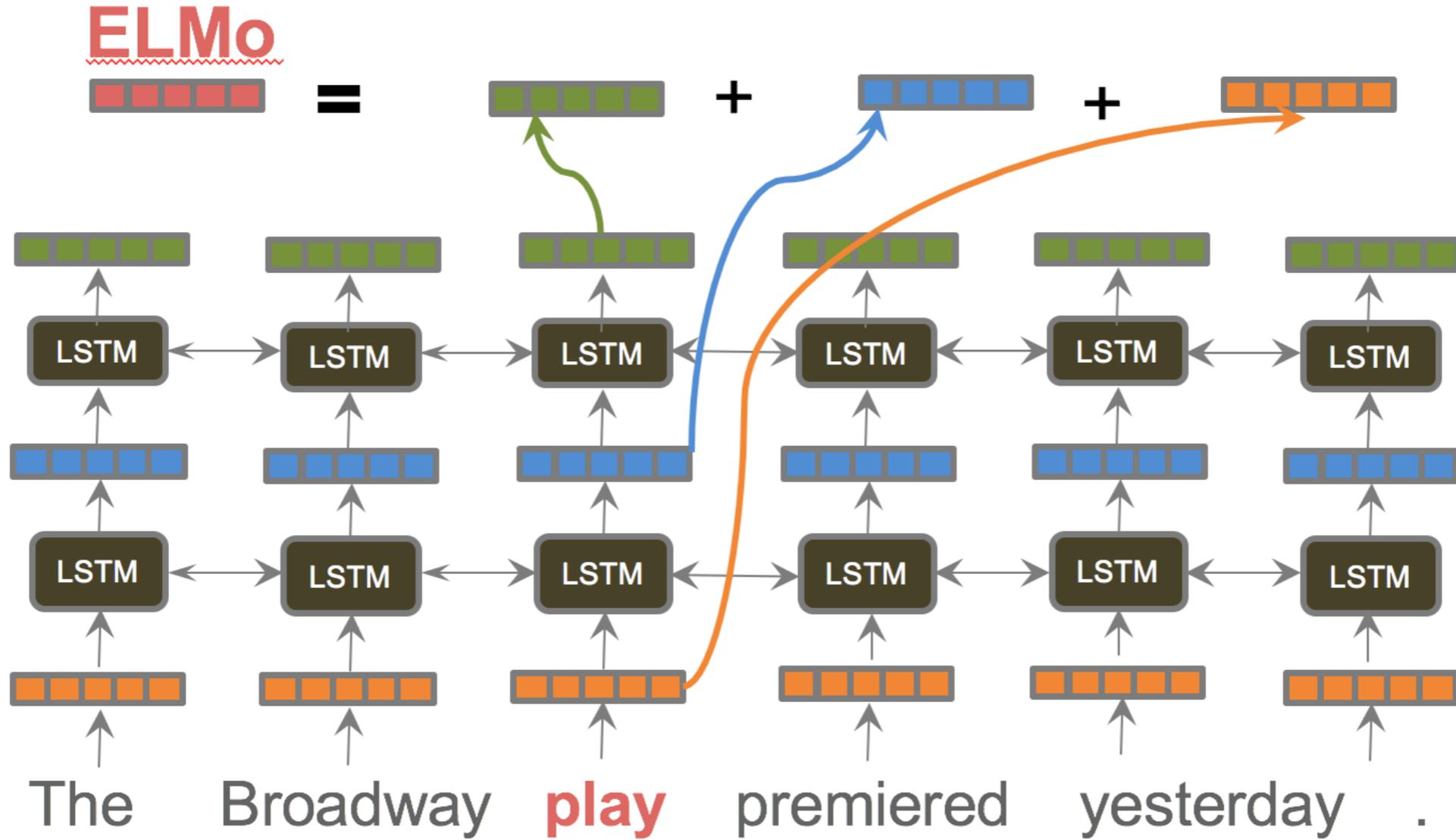
# ELMo

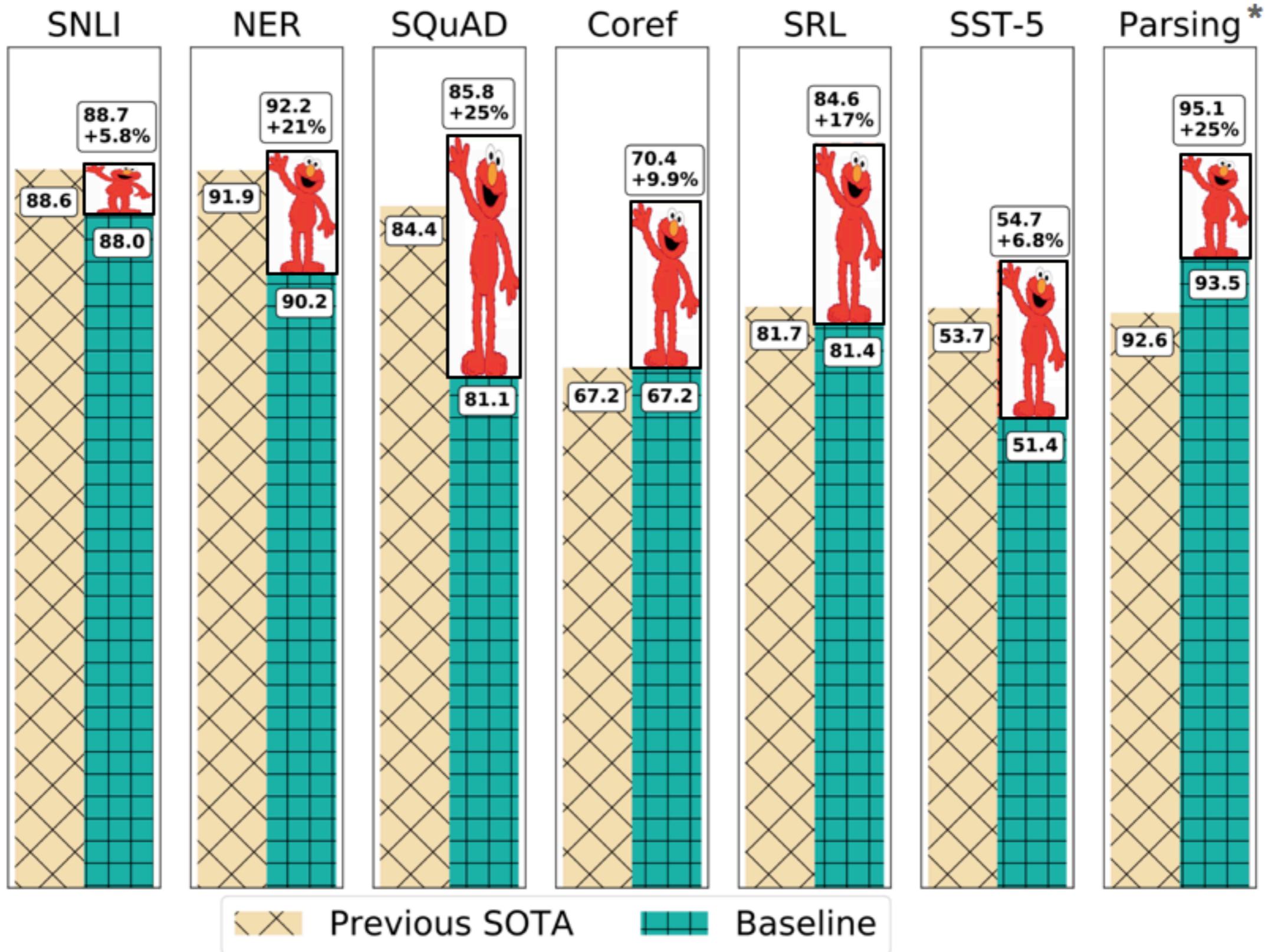


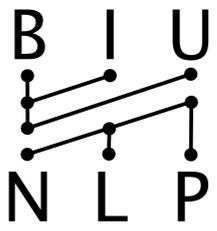
# ELMo



# ELMo







# Ultimate task: Language Modeling

- Train a model on "what is the **next** word?"
- The resulting representation is **very useful** for many different tasks.



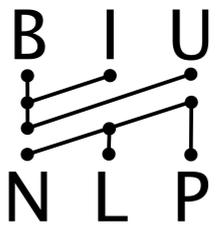
# Ultimate task: Language Modeling

- Train a model on "what is the **next** word?"
- The resulting representation is **very useful** for many different tasks.



## PostUltimate task: **Masked** Language Modeling?

- Train a model on "what is the **missing** word?"
- The resulting representation is **even more useful** for many different tasks.



# Ultimate task: Language Modeling

- Train a model on "what is the **next** word?"
- The resulting representation is **very useful** for many different tasks.



# PostUltimate task: **Masked** Language Modeling?



- Train a model on "what is the **missing** word?"
- The resulting representation is **even more useful** for many different tasks.

PostUltimate task:

# Masked Language Modeling?

- Train a model on "what is the next word?"

**Why does it work?**

- The difference

**under what conditions?**

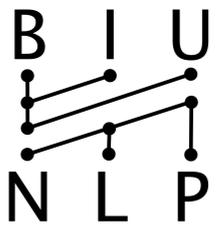
**should we fine-tune?**

or many

**what happens in fine-tuning?**

**can we have a theory for this?**





PostUltimate task:

# Masked Language Modeling?

- Train a model on "what is the next word?"

**Why does it work?**

**under what conditions?**

- The difference

**should we fine-tune?**

or many

**what happens in fine-tuning?**

**can we have a theory for this?**

**no**



PostUltimate task:

# Masked Language Modeling?

- Train a model on "what is the next word?"

**Why does it work?**

**under what conditions?**

- The difference

**should we fine-tune?**

or many

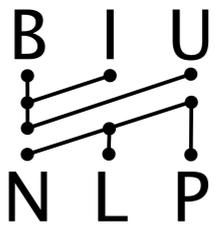
**what happens in fine-tuning?**

**can we have a theory for this?**



**no**





# Moving back to more discrete representations?

## Word Sense Induction with Neural biLM and Symmetric Patterns

**Asaf Amrami**<sup>†</sup> and **Yoav Goldberg**<sup>†‡</sup>

<sup>†</sup> Computer Science Department, Bar Ilan University, Israel

<sup>‡</sup> Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence

{asaf.amrami, yoav.goldberg}@gmail.com



# Task: Word Sense Induction



- We are given  $k$  sentences with the same word.
- We need to **cluster** them into groups according to senses.
- Can we use ELMo (or similar, or BERT) for this?



this is a **sound** idea, I like it.



I like the **sound** of the harpsichord.

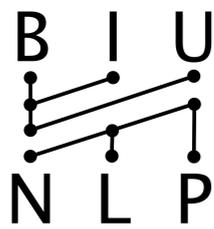
- Represent each word based on its ELMo/BERT vector.
- Cluster the vectors.

# ELMO-based word sense induction



- This sort-of works... but not very well.
- What went wrong? who knows.
- How can we improve? great question.

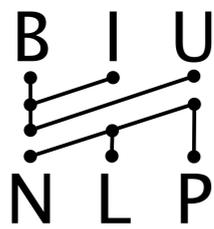
**if only the vectors were more transparent!!**



# Back to more discrete representations



- **Substitute vectors**
  - Using the LM as an LM
  - Represent a word as a distribution of substitute words

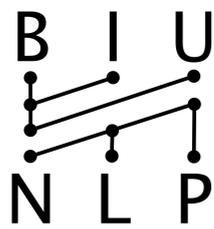


# Back to more discrete representations



- **Substitute vectors**
  - Using the LM as an LM
  - Represent a word as a distribution of substitute words
- This is not our own idea.

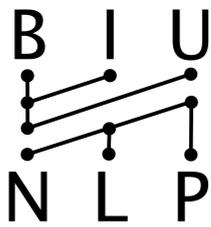
**AI-KU: Using Substitute Vectors and Co-Occurrence Modeling for Word Sense Induction and Disambiguation** \*SEM 2013



# Back to more discrete representations



- **Substitute vectors**
  - Using the LM as an LM
  - Represent a word as a distribution of substitute words
- This is not our own idea.
  - But now we have **neural** LM



○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○      ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

this is a **sound** idea, I like it.



○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○      ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

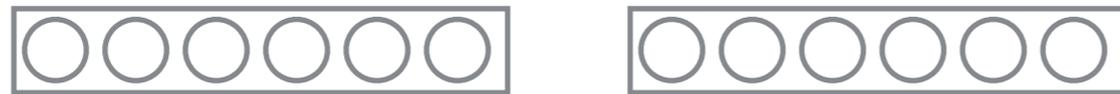
I like the **sound** of the harpsichord.

bad 0.12 good 0.09 great 0.06 wonderful 0.05 nice 0.04

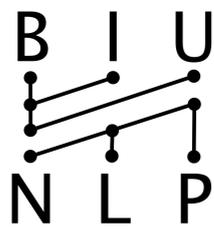


this is a **sound** idea, I like it.

sounds 0.04 versions 0.03 rhythms 0.03 strings 0.03  
piece 0.03



I like the **sound** of the harpsichord.



# State-vectors

## --> Word Distributions



- By looking at the substitute word distributions rather than the state vectors, we get a better understanding of what going on.

Two recent discoveries indicate probable very early **settlements** near the Thames in the London area .

Structured **settlements** provide for future periodic payments .



Two recent discoveries indicate probable  
very early **settlements** near the Thames in  
the London area .



Structured **settlements** provide for future  
periodic payments .

development 0.34 stage 0.14 death 0.13 signs 0.08  
stages 0.07 life 0.04 cases 0.03 properties 0.02

Two recent <sup>↑</sup>discoveries <sup>↑</sup>indicate probable  
very early **settlements** near the Thames in  
the London area .

to 0.32 loans 0.23 and 0.12 products 0.08 as 0.06  
credit 0.03 bonds 0.03 deals 0.03 securities 0.03

Structured <sup>↑</sup>**settlements** <sup>↑</sup>provide for future  
periodic payments .

development 0.34 stage 0.14 death 0.13 signs 0.08 ✖  
stages 0.07 life 0.04 cases 0.03 properties 0.02

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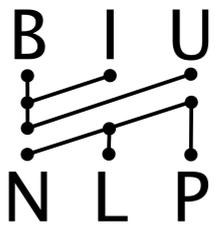
Two recent↑ discoveries indicate↑ probable  
very early **settlements** near the Thames in  
the London area .

**Problem:** no information about the word itself.

# Better Word Distributions

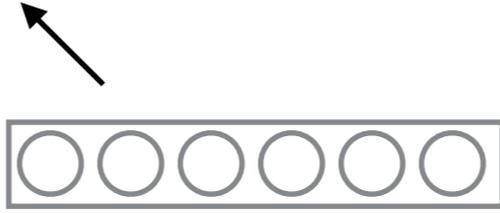
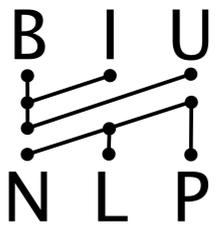


- Query the language model in a creative way



this is a **sound**  
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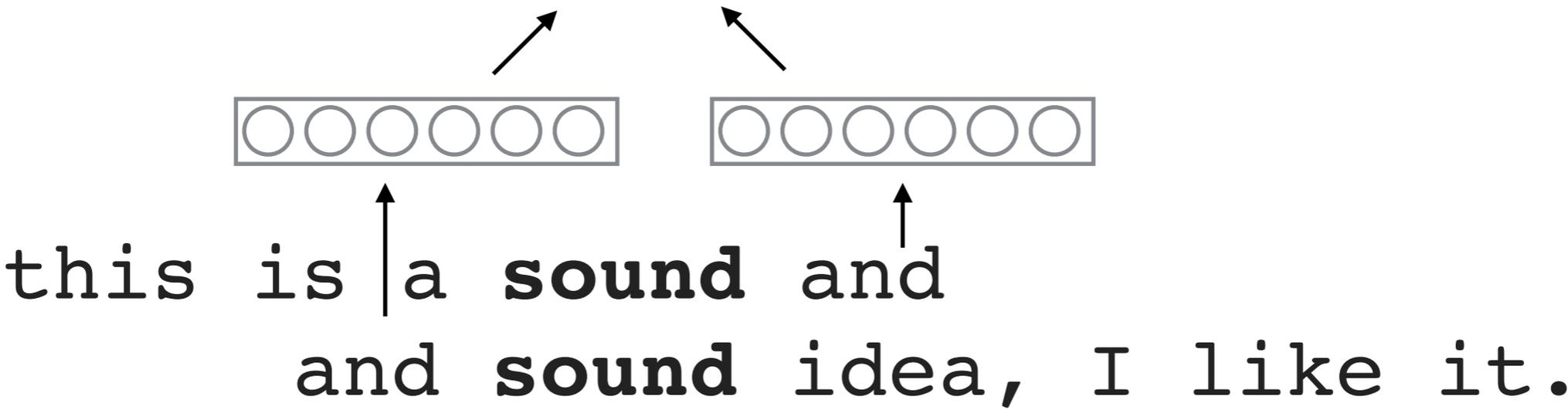


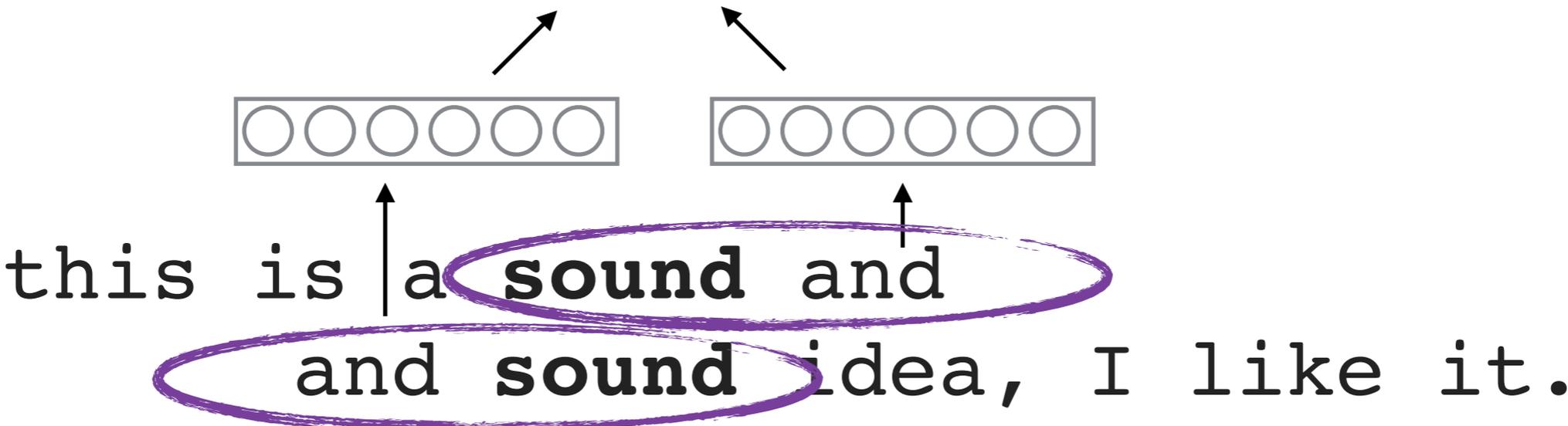


this is a **sound** and  
**sound** idea, I like it.

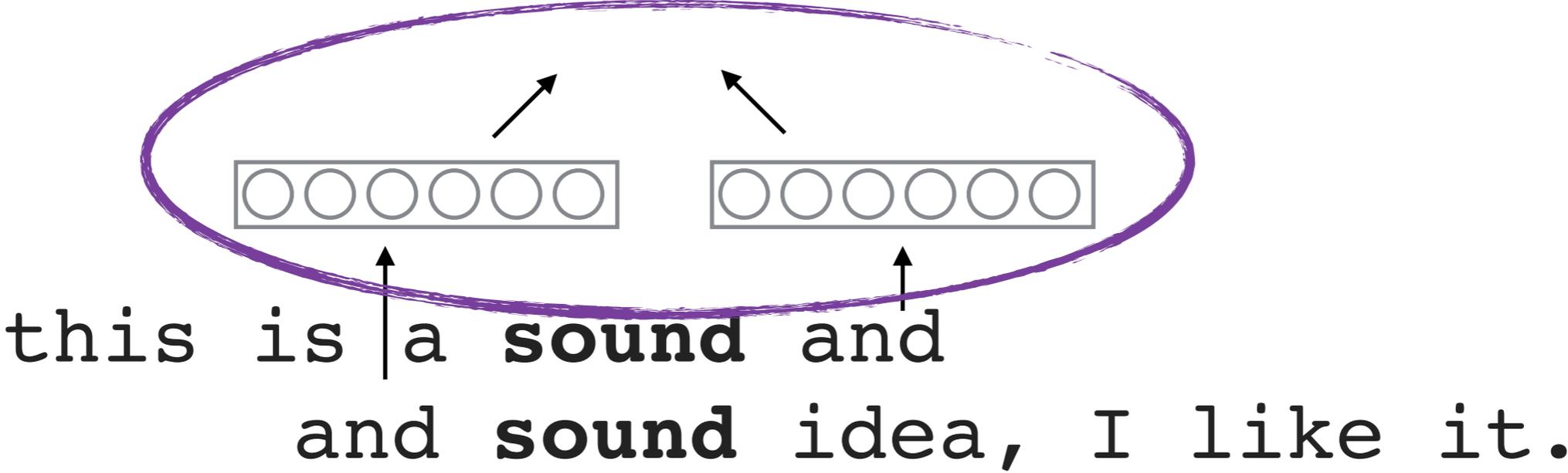


B I U  
N L P



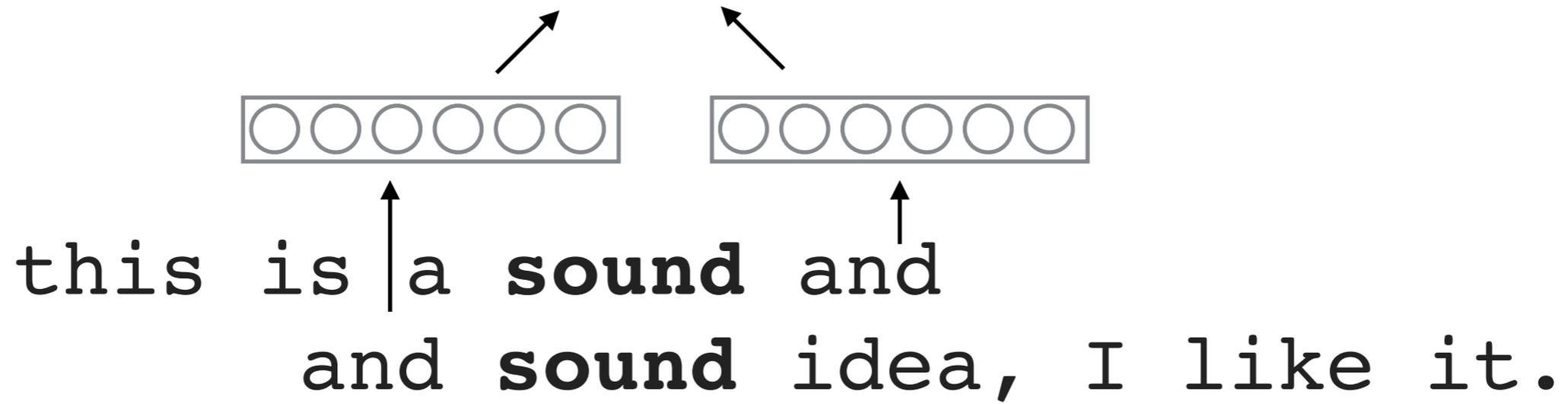
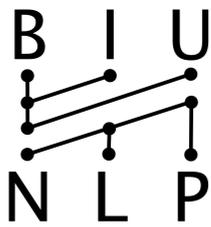


# Hearst patterns / symmetric patterns



Hearst patterns / symmetric patterns

# Neural-LM Query



Hearst patterns / symmetric patterns

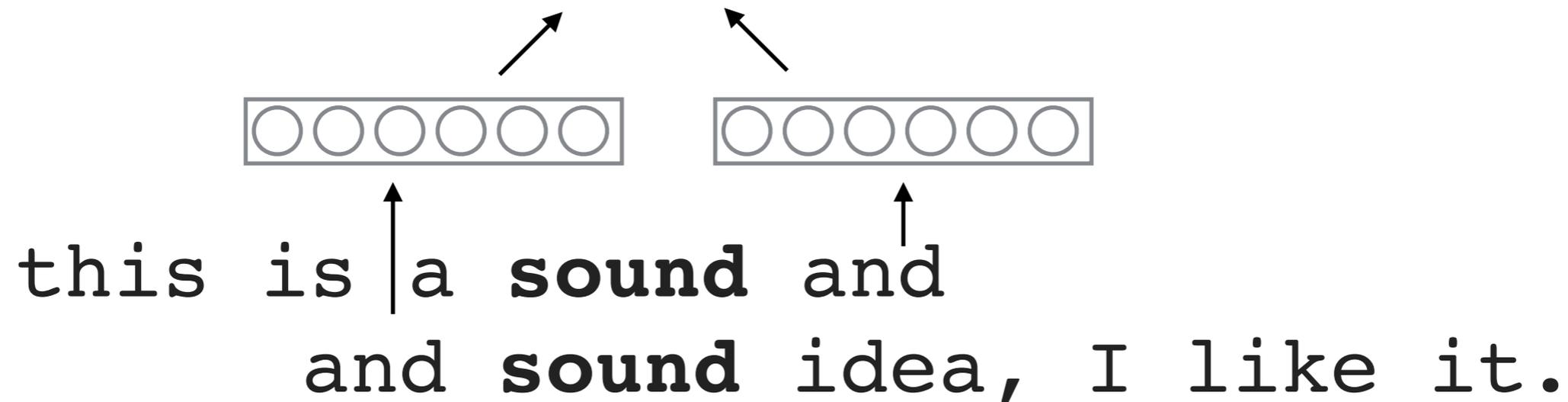
+

Neural-LM Query

=

**Context-dependent Hearst patterns**

funny 0.10 welcome 0.09 beautiful 0.05 fun 0.04  
simple 0.04 practical 0.03 comprehensive 0.03



Hearst patterns / symmetric patterns

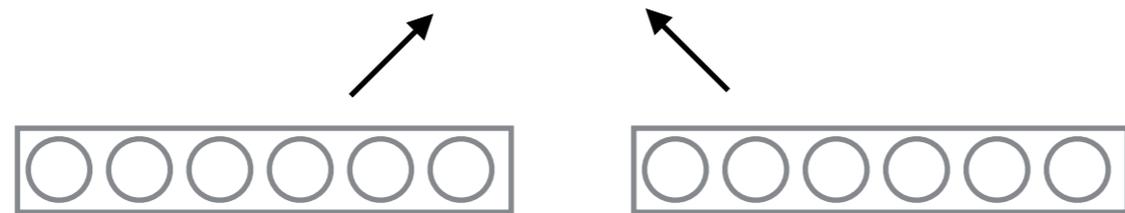
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Neural-LM Query

=

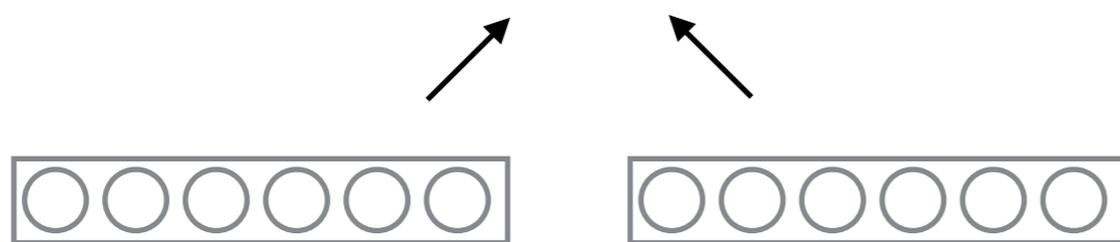
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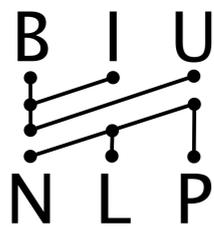


this is | a **sound** and  
and **sound** idea, I like it.

sight 0.16 feel 0.15 sounds 0.11 smell 0.06  
rhythm 0.04 tone 0.03 noise 0.03



I like the **sound** and  
and **sound** of the harpsichord.



Gulls nest in large , densely packed ,  
**noisy** colonies .

## Substitute Vector

urban 0.36  
remote 0.12  
isolated 0.11  
tropical 0.10  
dense 0.06

## Contextualized Hearst

crowded 0.54  
remote 0.14  
noisy 0.09  
overcrowded 0.05  
cramped 0.04

land 0.25 sites 0.07 buildings 0.03 homes 0.02  
plants 0.01 farms 0.01 development 0.01

Two recent discoveries indicate probable  
very early **settlements** near the Thames in  
the London area .

agreements 0.40 payments 0.13 contracts 0.10 loans  
0.07 fees 0.05 swaps 0.03 litigation 0.02  
transactions 0.01

Structured **settlements** provide for future  
periodic payments .

land 0.25 sites 0.07 buildings 0.03 homes 0.02  
plants 0.01 farms 0.01 development 0.01



Two recent discoveries indicate probable  
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agreements 0.40 payments 0.13 contracts 0.10 loans  
0.07 fees 0.05 swaps 0.03 litigation 0.02  
transactions 0.01



Structured **settlements** provide for future  
periodic payments .

NGRAM LM (AI-KU)	15.9
ELMo LM	23.4
ELMo LM + pattern	<b>25.4</b>

(Avg of FNMI and FBC on SemEval 2013 task 13)

# Towards better substitution-based word sense induction

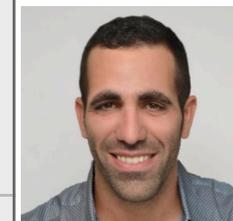
**Asaf Amrami**<sup>†</sup> and **Yoav Goldberg**<sup>† ‡</sup>

<sup>†</sup> Computer Science Department, Bar Ilan University, Israel

<sup>‡</sup> Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence

{asaf.amrami, yoav.goldberg}@gmail.com

**AKA "Let's try it with BERT"**



NGRAM LM (AI-KU)	15.92
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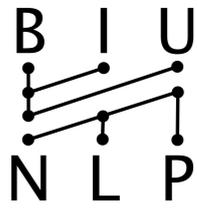
**AKA "Let's try it with BERT"**

BERT	35.1
BERT + pattern	<b>37.0</b>

# Takeaway



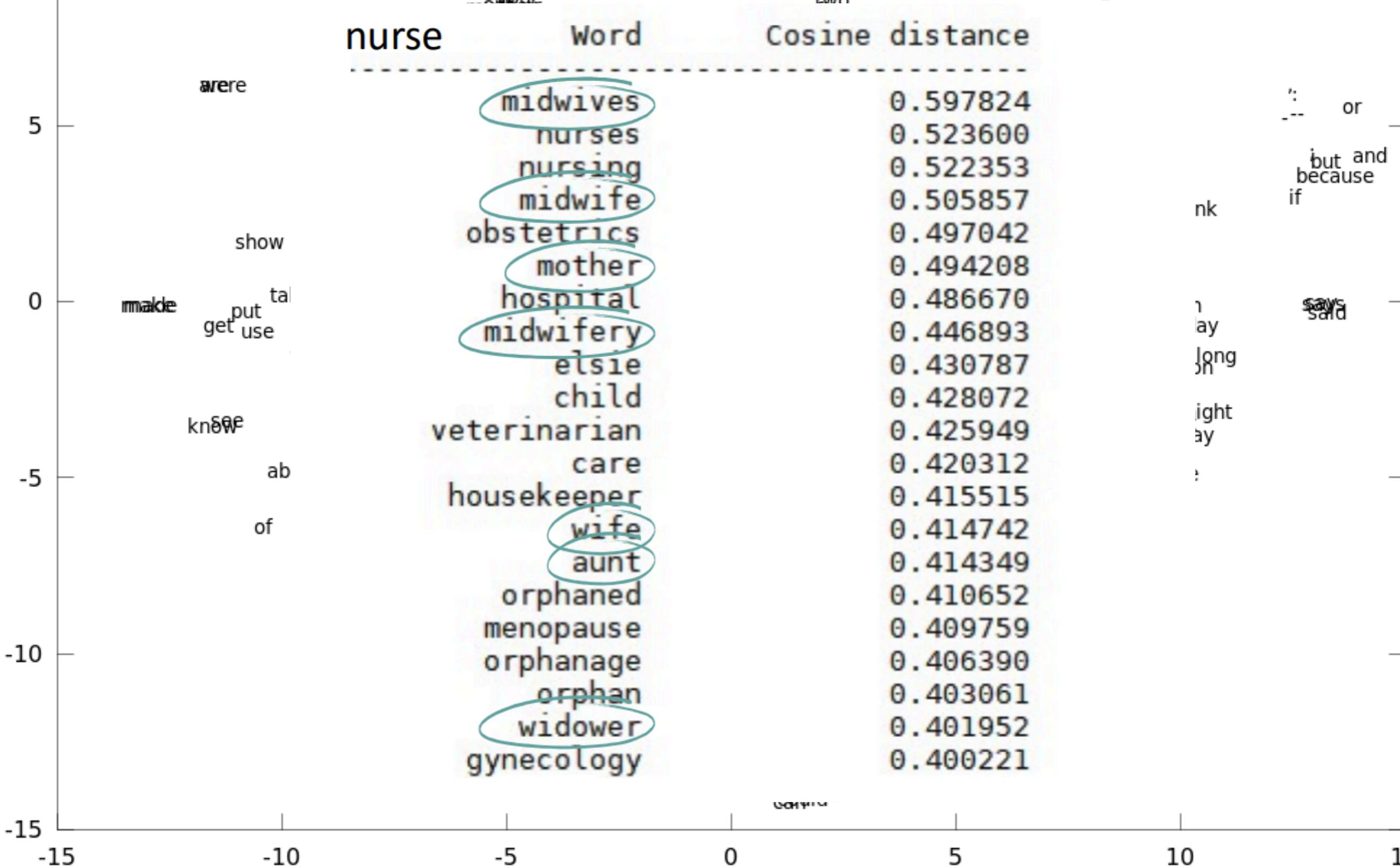
- From opaque biLM state  
--> to transparent biLM word distribution
- Can look at things and try to debug
- Query the model in a creative way
- Context-dependent Hearst patterns



**What's encoded in my representation?**



# Word Embeddings



# Word Embeddings

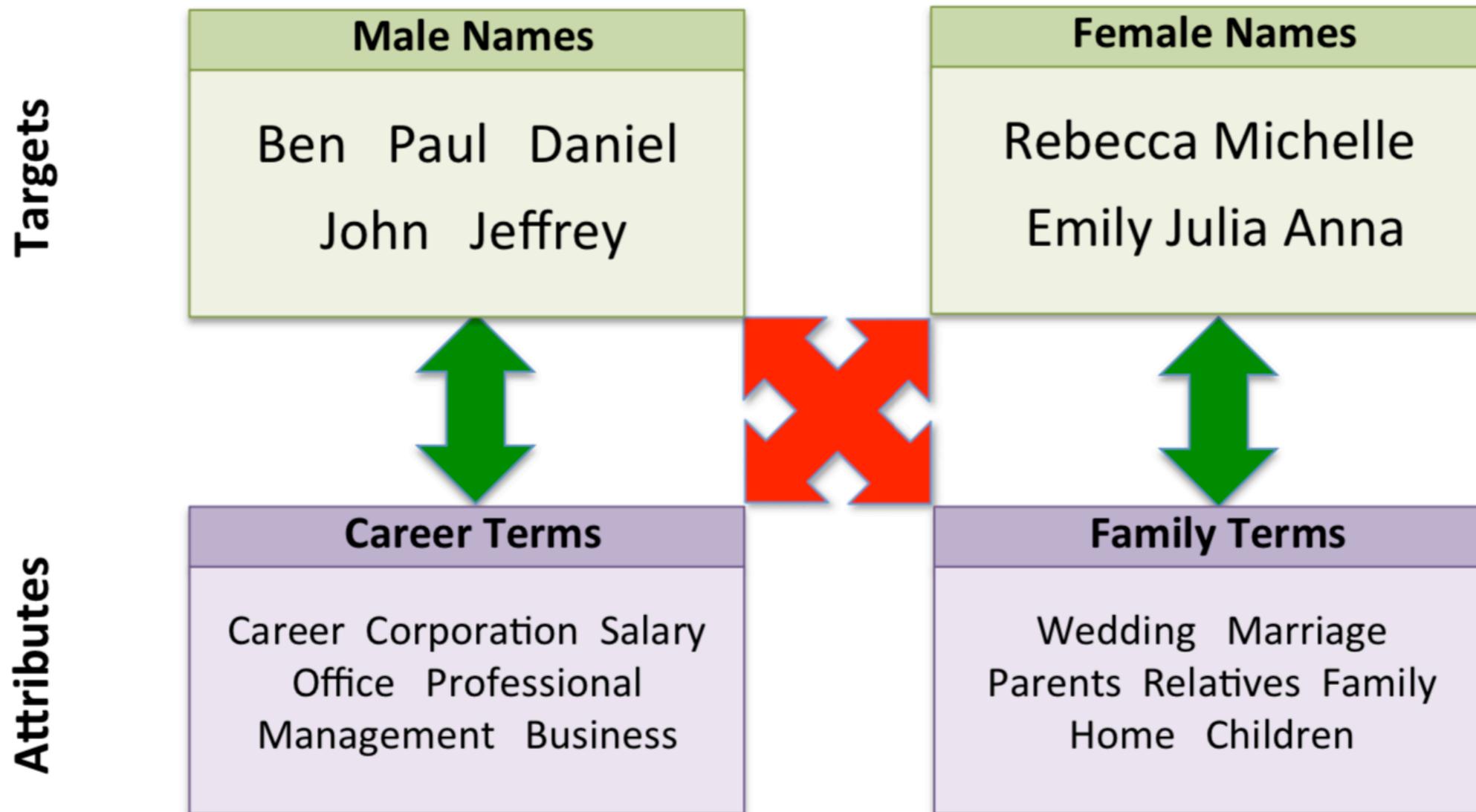
nurse	Word	Cosine distance
	midwives	0.597824
	nurses	0.523600
	nursing	0.522353
	midwife	0.505857

*Semantics derived automatically from language corpora necessarily contain human biases. Aylin Caliskan, Joanna J. Bryson, Arvind Narayanan. Science, 2017.*

housekeeper	0.415515
wife	0.414742
aunt	0.414349
orphaned	0.410652
menopause	0.409759
orphanage	0.406390
orphan	0.403061
widower	0.401952
gynecology	0.400221

# Implicit Association Tests (IATs)

Measuring implicit association between target and attribute concepts with reaction times.



# IAT Results Reproduced in Word Embeddings

Target words	Attrib. words	Original Finding				Our Finding			
		Ref	N	d	p	N <sub>T</sub>	N <sub>A</sub>	d	p
Flowers vs insects	Pleasant vs unpleasant	(5)	32	1.35	10 <sup>-8</sup>	25×2	25×2	1.50	10 <sup>-7</sup>
Instruments vs weapons	Pleasant vs unpleasant	(5)	32	1.66	10 <sup>-10</sup>	25×2	25×2	1.53	10 <sup>-7</sup>
Eur.-American vs Afr.-American names	Pleasant vs unpleasant	(5)	26	1.17	10 <sup>-5</sup>	32×2	25×2	1.41	10 <sup>-8</sup>
Eur.-American vs Afr.-American names	Pleasant vs unpleasant from (5)	(7)	Not applicable			16×2	25×2	1.50	10 <sup>-4</sup>
Eur.-American vs Afr.-American names	Pleasant vs unpleasant from (9)	(7)	Not applicable			16×2	8×2	1.28	10 <sup>-3</sup>
Male vs female names	Career vs family	(9)	39k	0.72	< 10 <sup>-2</sup>	8×2	8×2	1.81	10 <sup>-3</sup>
Math vs arts	Male vs female terms	(9)	28k	0.82	< 10 <sup>-2</sup>	8×2	8×2	1.06	.018
Science vs arts	Male vs female terms	(10)	91	1.47	10 <sup>-24</sup>	8×2	8×2	1.24	10 <sup>-2</sup>
Mental vs physical disease	Temporary vs permanent	(23)	135	1.01	10 <sup>-3</sup>	6×2	7×2	1.38	10 <sup>-2</sup>
Young vs old people's names	Pleasant vs unpleasant	(9)	43k	1.42	< 10 <sup>-2</sup>	8×2	8×2	1.21	10 <sup>-2</sup>

N = # participants  
 N<sub>T</sub> = # target words  
 N<sub>A</sub> = # attribute words  
 d = effect size  
 p = p-value

*Semantics derived automatically from language corpora contain human-like biases.* Aylin

Caliskan, Joanna J. Bryson, Arvind Narayanan. Science, 2017.

Slides by R. Rudinger, 2017

# Gender Bias in Word Embedding Correlates with Real-World Gender Bias



Figure 1: Occupation-gender association. Pearson's correlation coefficient  $\rho = 0.90$  with  $p$ -value  $< 10^{-18}$ .

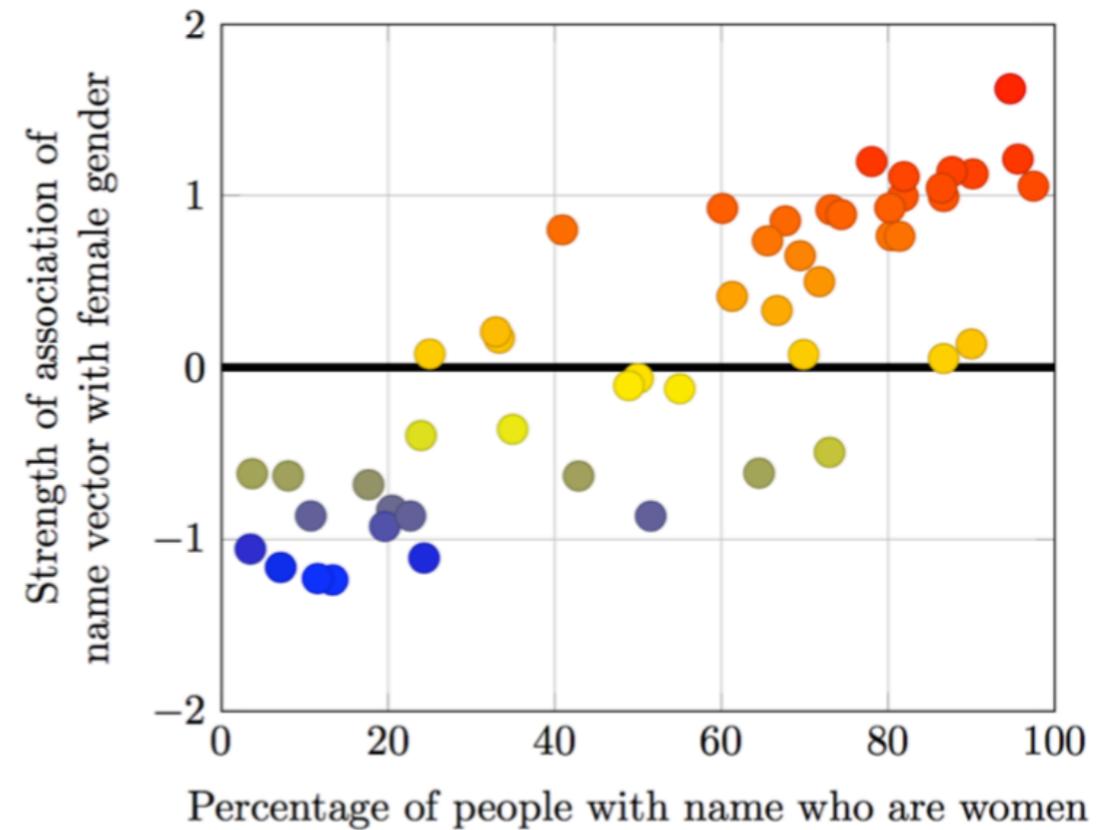


Figure 2: Name-gender association. Pearson's correlation coefficient  $\rho = 0.84$  with  $p$ -value  $< 10^{-13}$ .

*Semantics derived automatically from language corpora contain human-like biases.* Aylin

Caliskan, Joanna J. Bryson, Arvind Narayanan. Science, 2017.

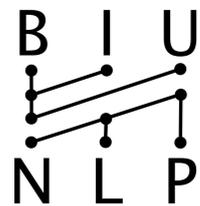
Slides by R. Rudinger, 2017

# Gender Bias in Word Embedding Correlates with Real-World Gender Bias

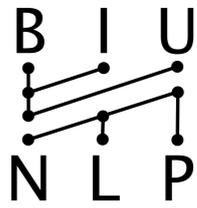


*Semantics derived automatically from language corpora contain human-like biases.* Aylin Caliskan, Joanna J. Bryson, Arvind Narayanan. Science, 2017.

Slides by R. Rudinger, 2017



# controlling the representations?



# Debiasing word embeddings

---

## Man is to Computer Programmer as Woman is to Homemaker? Debiasing Word Embeddings

---

**Tolga Bolukbasi<sup>1</sup>, Kai-Wei Chang<sup>2</sup>, James Zou<sup>2</sup>, Venkatesh Saligrama<sup>1,2</sup>, Adam Kalai<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Boston University, 8 Saint Mary's Street, Boston, MA

<sup>2</sup>Microsoft Research New England, 1 Memorial Drive, Cambridge, MA

tolgab@bu.edu, kw@kwchang.net, jamesyzou@gmail.com, srv@bu.edu, adam.kalai@microsoft.com

## Learning Gender-Neutral Word Embeddings

**Jieyu Zhao**

**Yichao Zhou**

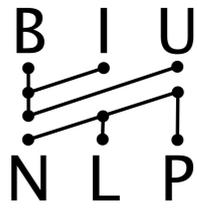
**Zeyu Li**

**Wei Wang**

**Kai-Wei Chang**

University of California, Los Angeles

{jyzhao, yz, zyli, weiwang, kwchang}@cs.ucla.edu



# Debiasing word embeddings

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## Man is to Computer Programmer as Woman is to Homemaker? Debiasing Word Embeddings

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projection  
on "he - she"  
(gender direction)

$$\text{bias}(w) = \vec{w} \cdot \vec{he} - \vec{w} \cdot \vec{she} = \vec{w} \cdot (\vec{he} - \vec{she})$$

\* This is the gender direction, can be computed using several pairs together (e.g. man-woman, brother-sister)

# Debiasing word embeddings

## Man is to Computer Programmer as Woman is to Homemaker? Debiasing Word Embeddings

Tolga Bolukbasi<sup>1</sup>, Kai-Wei Chang<sup>2</sup>, James Zou<sup>2</sup>, Venkatesh Saligrama<sup>1,2</sup>, Adam Kalai<sup>2</sup>

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projection  
on "he - she"  
(gender direction)

$$\vec{w} := (\vec{w} - \vec{w}_B) / \|\vec{w} - \vec{w}_B\|$$

$\vec{w}_B$  — Projection of  $w$  on gender direction

- The bias of all neutral words is now zero by definition

# Debiasing word embeddings

## Man is to Computer Programmer as Woman is to Homemaker? Debiasing Word Embeddings

**not so easy!**

Tolga Bolukbasi<sup>1</sup>, Kai-Wei Chang<sup>2</sup>, James Zou<sup>2</sup>, Venkatesh Saligrama<sup>1,2</sup>, Adam Kalai<sup>2</sup>

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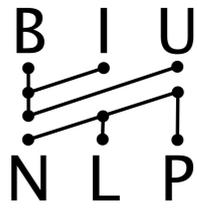
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$\vec{w}_B$  — Projection of  $w$  on gender direction

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# Debiasing word embeddings

---

**Man is to Computer Programmer as Woman is to  
Homemaker? Debiasing Word Embeddings**

---

**not so easy!**

**Tolga Bolukbasi<sup>1</sup>, Kai-Wei Chang<sup>2</sup>, James Zou<sup>2</sup>, Venkatesh Saligrama<sup>1,2</sup>, Adam Kalai<sup>2</sup>**

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**Learning Gender-Neutral Word Embeddings**

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# Lipstick on a Pig: Debiasing Methods Cover up Systematic Gender Biases in Word Embeddings But do not Remove Them

**Hila Gonen<sup>1</sup> and Yoav Goldberg<sup>1,2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Department of Computer Science, Bar-Ilan University

<sup>2</sup>Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence

{hilagnn, yoav.goldberg}@gmail.com



# Lipstick on a Pig: Debiasing Methods Cover up Systematic Gender Biases in Word Embeddings But do not Remove Them

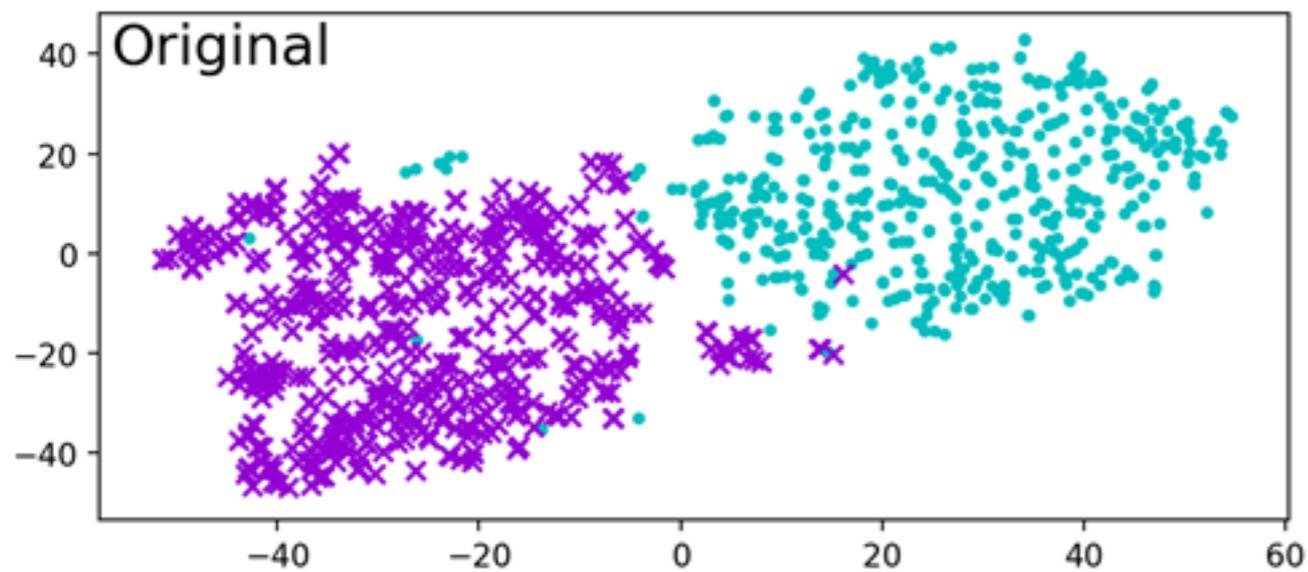


Hila Gonen<sup>1</sup> and Yoav Goldberg<sup>1,2</sup>

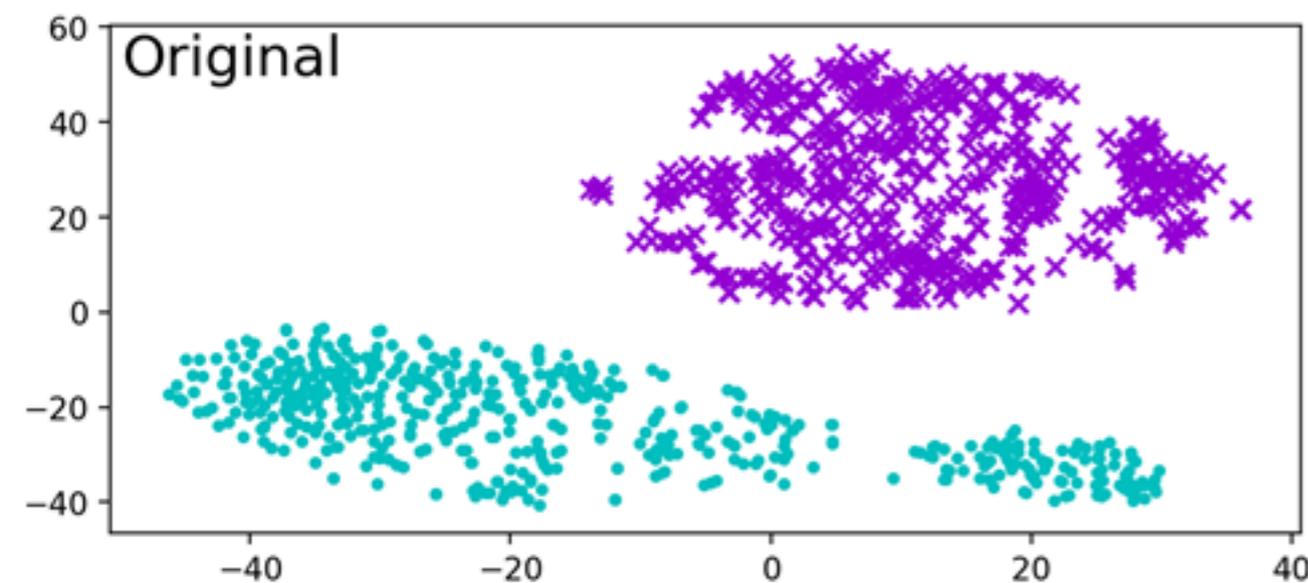
<sup>1</sup>Department of Computer Science, Bar-Ilan University

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{hilagnn, yoav.goldberg}@gmail.com



**T-SNE, then color by gender  
(using the gender direction definition)**



# Lipstick on a Pig: Debiasing Methods Cover up Systematic Gender Biases in Word Embeddings But do not Remove Them

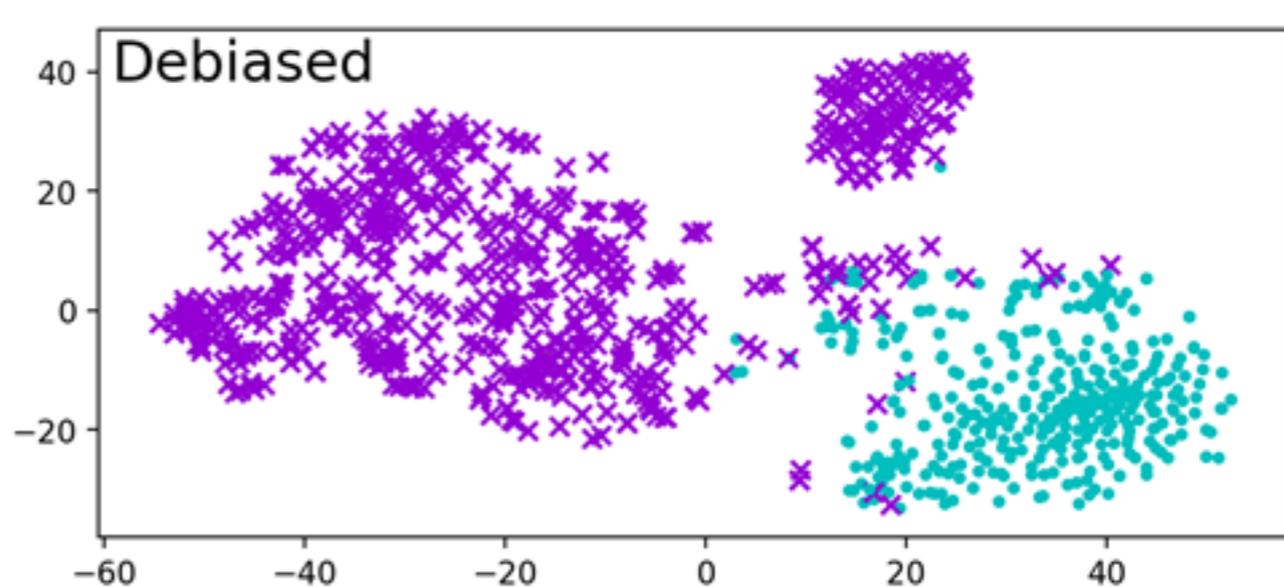
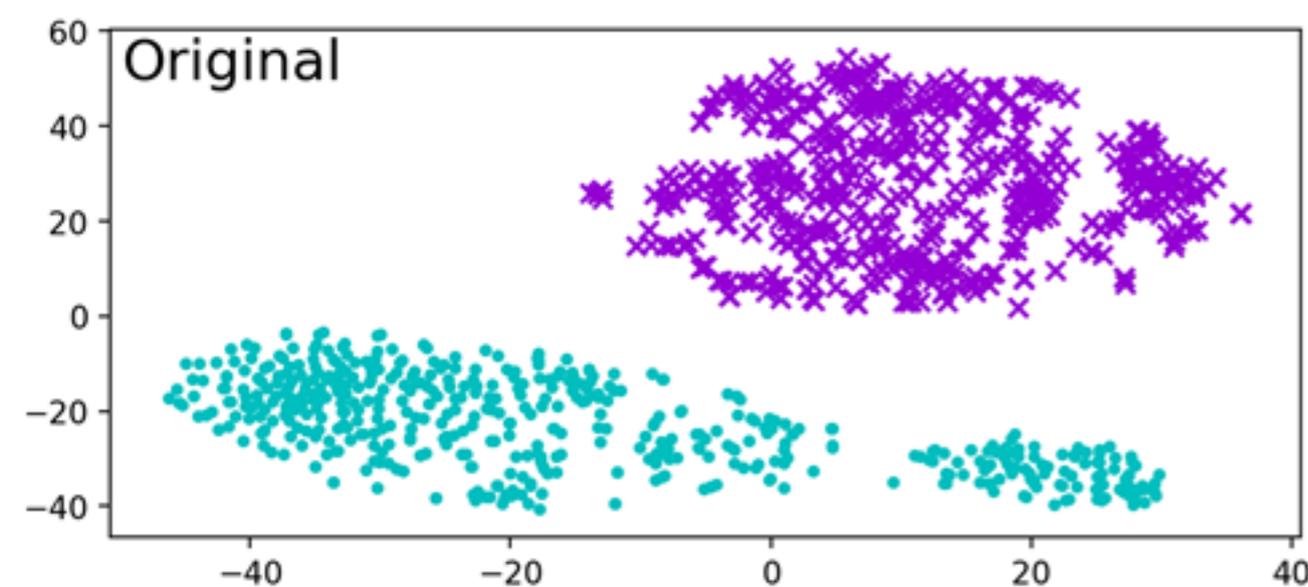
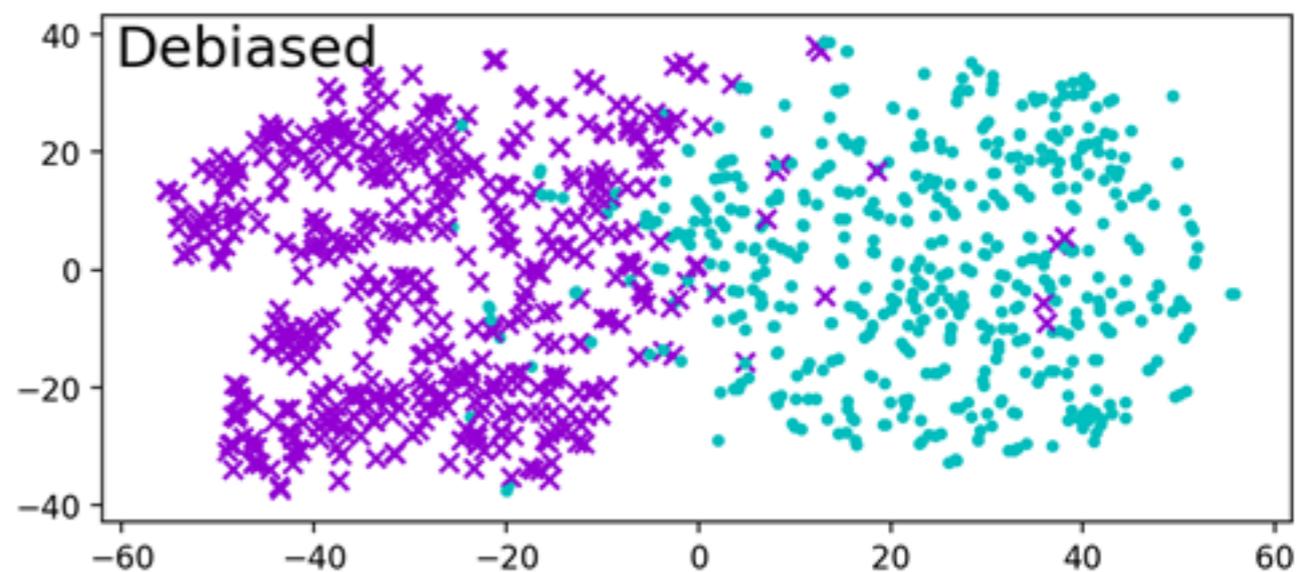
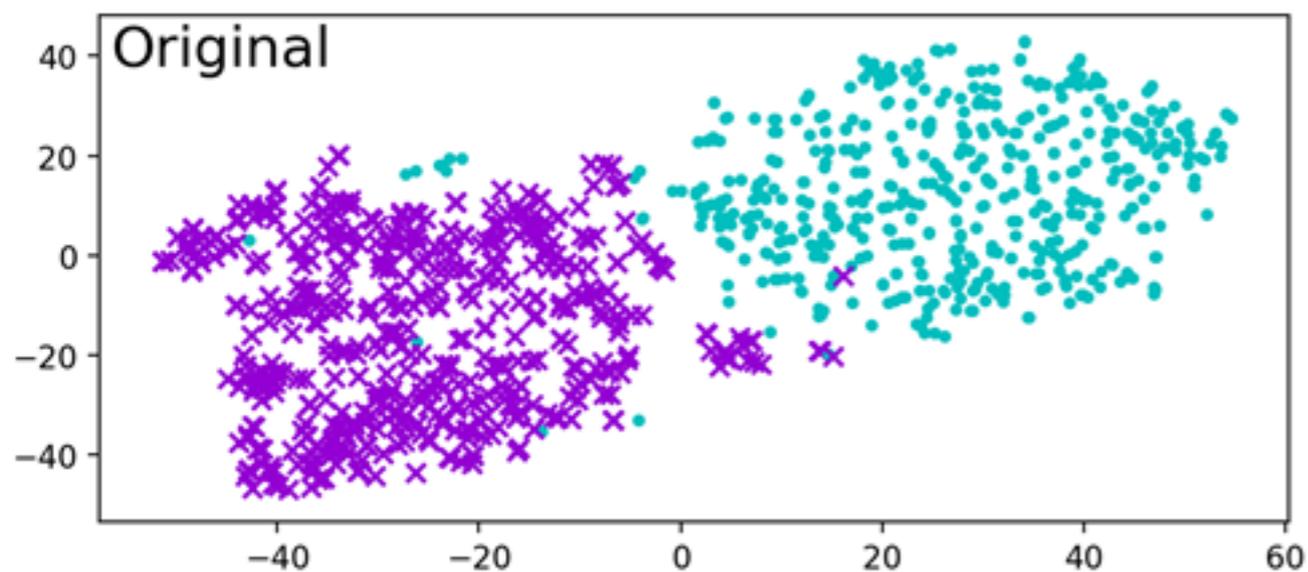


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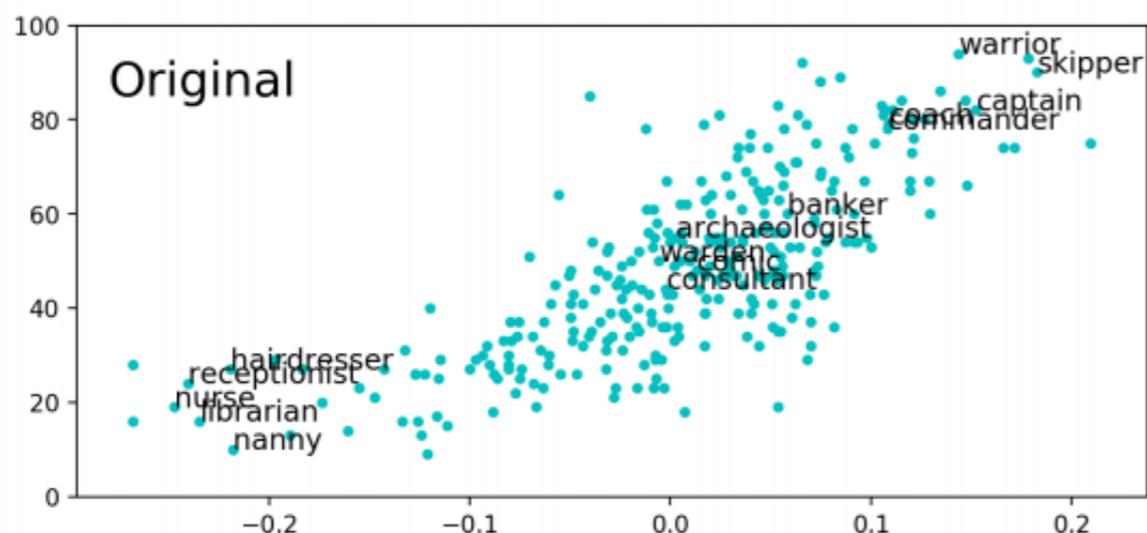


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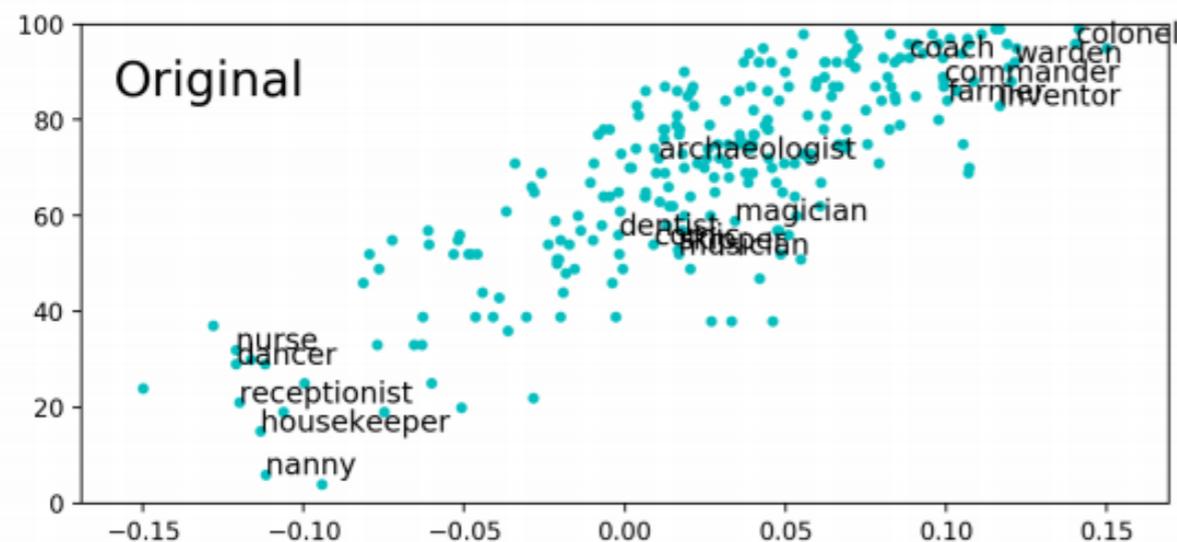
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**new metric: how many of my neighbors  
are male / female leaning?**



# Lipstick on a Pig: Debiasing Methods Cover up Systematic Gender Biases in Word Embeddings But do not Remove Them

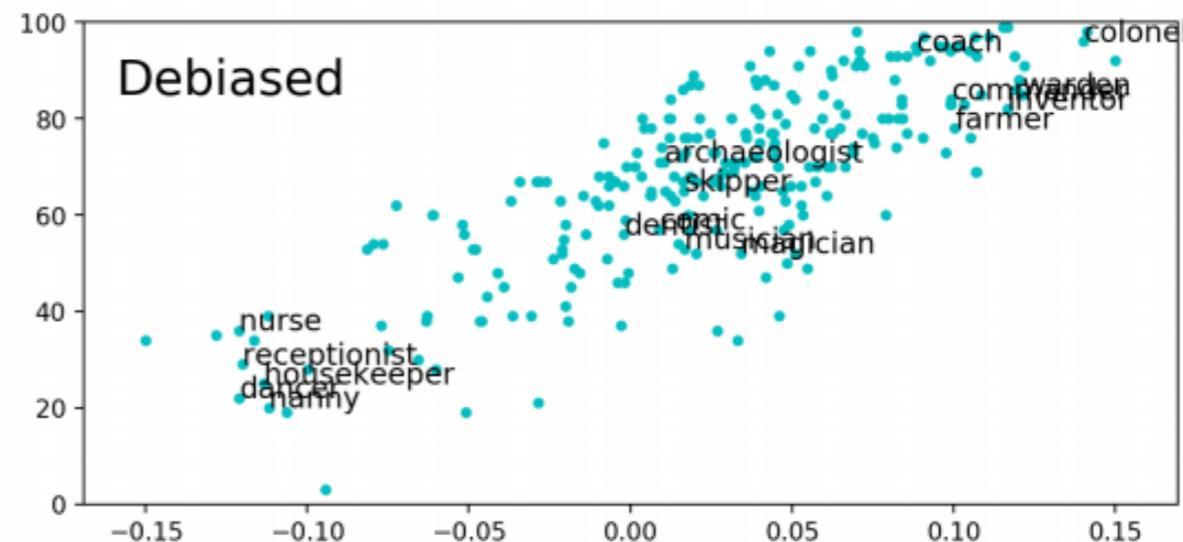
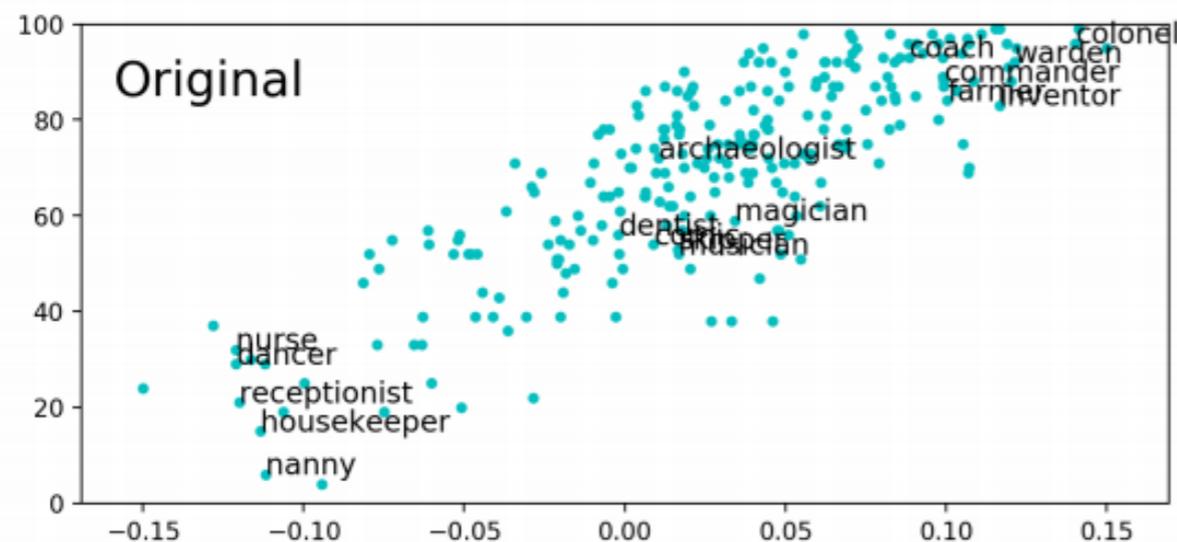
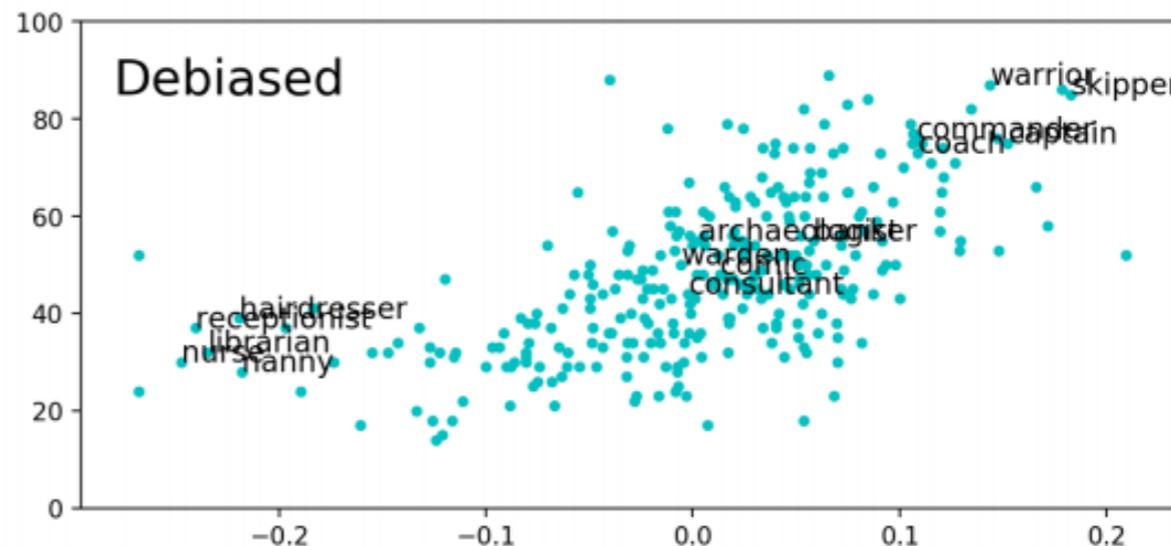
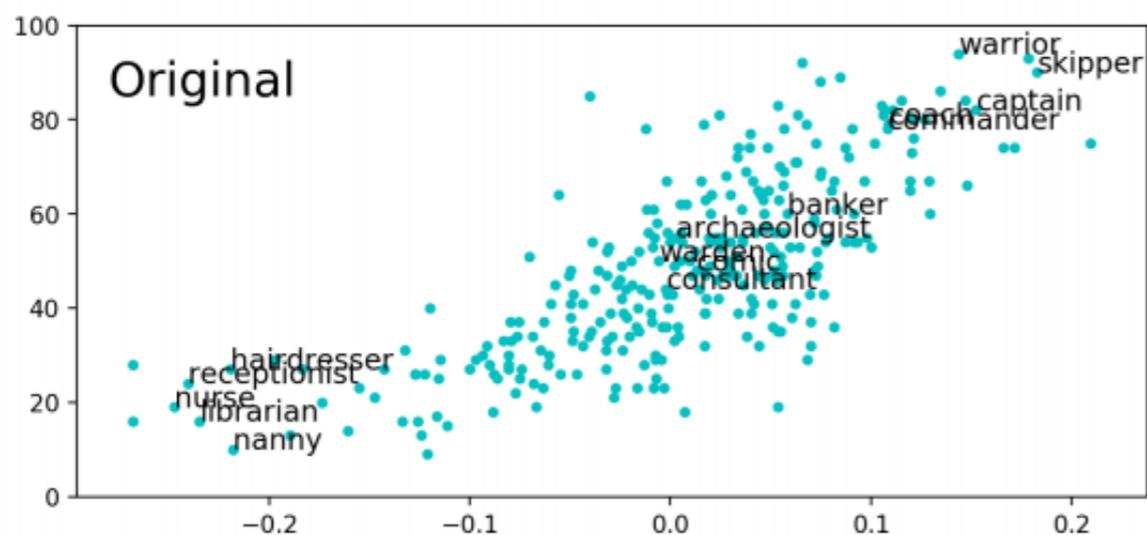


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# Lipstick on a Pig: Debiasing Methods Cover up Systematic Gender Biases in Word Embeddings But do not Remove Them



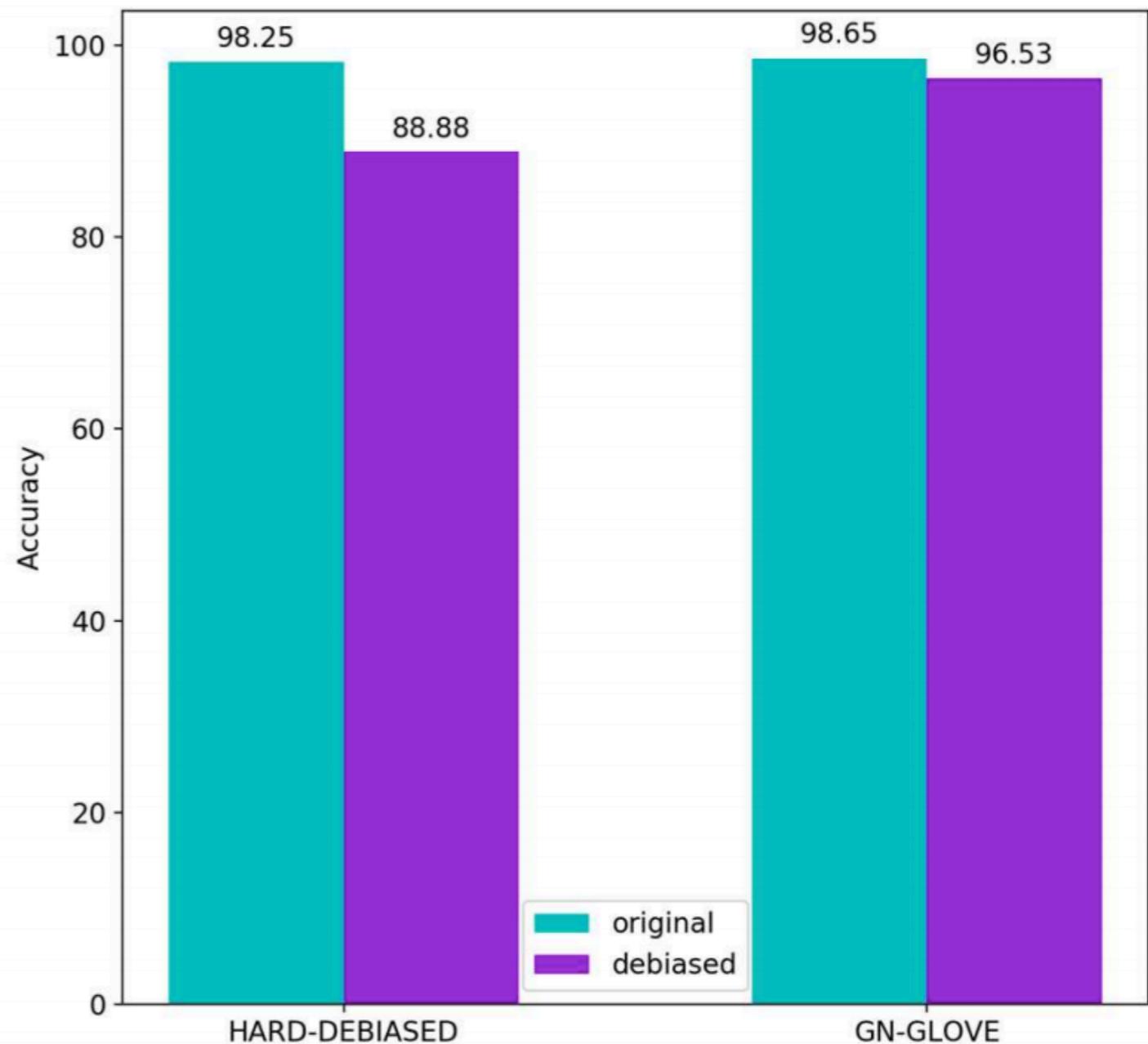
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**YES.**



# **Lipstick on a Pig: Debiasing Methods Cover up Systematic Gender Biases in Word Embeddings But do not Remove Them**



**Hila Gonen<sup>1</sup> and Yoav Goldberg<sup>1,2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Department of Computer Science, Bar-Ilan University

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## **So what happened here?**

- 1. define a way to measure a problem.**
- 2. confuse the measurement of the phenomena with the phenomena.**
- 3. design a way to treat the phenomena (actually, attack the measurement)**
- 4. can no longer measure the phenomena (all measures are 0). Problem solved?**

# Word embeddings in gender marking languages

## **How does Grammatical Gender Affect Noun Representations in Gender-Marking Languages?**

**Hila Gonen<sup>1</sup> Yova Kementchedjheva<sup>2</sup> Yoav Goldberg<sup>1,3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Department of Computer Science, Bar-Ilan University

<sup>2</sup>University of Copenhagen

<sup>3</sup>Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence

hilagnn@gmail.com, yova@di.ku.dk, yoav.goldberg@gmail.com

**a whole new complex story. not in this talk. check out the paper.**

# taking a step back

gender-based examples are easy to find.

DETECT LANGUAGE ENGLISH SPANISH FRENCH ▼ ↔ FRENCH ENGLISH SPANISH ▼

The smart teacher



Le professeur intelligent



17/5000 ▢ ▼



DETECT LANGUAGE ENGLISH SPANISH FRENCH ▼ ↔ FRENCH ENGLISH SPANISH ▼

The beautiful teacher

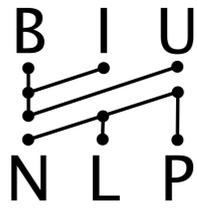


La belle prof



21/5000 ▢ ▼





# taking a step back

**Gender-based examples are easy to find.**

**But the problem goes far beyond gender (or race, or age).**

**Models make many decisions based on various factors that we do not understand, with subtle interactions and the most non-transparent mechanism imaginable.**

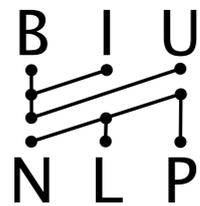
**These models then ACT in the real world.**

# taking a step back

Gender-based examples are easy to find.

It is **our responsibility** to consider the consequences, and **be careful** about what we do, especially when we build "production" systems, but also when we "just do research".

These models then **ACT** in the real world.

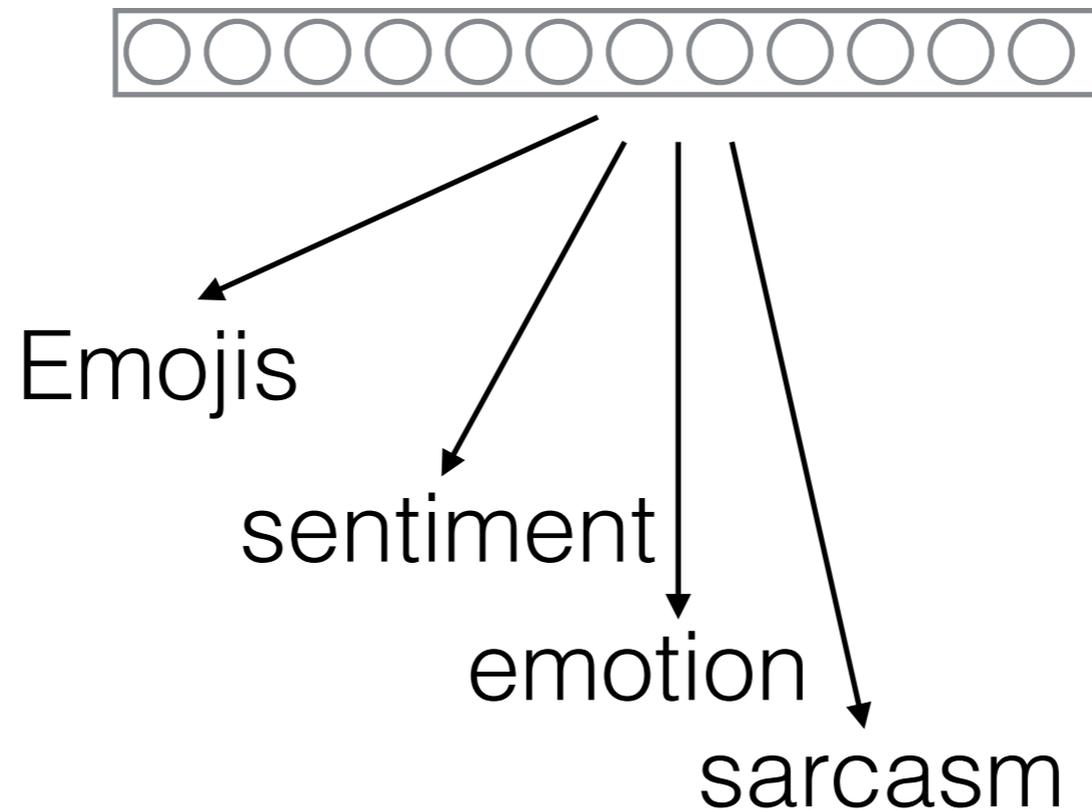


# Beyond word embeddings

# Example: DeepMoji

Train a model to predict emojis from tweets  
**Vectors are also predictive of related tasks**

## DeepMoji



# Example: DeepMoji

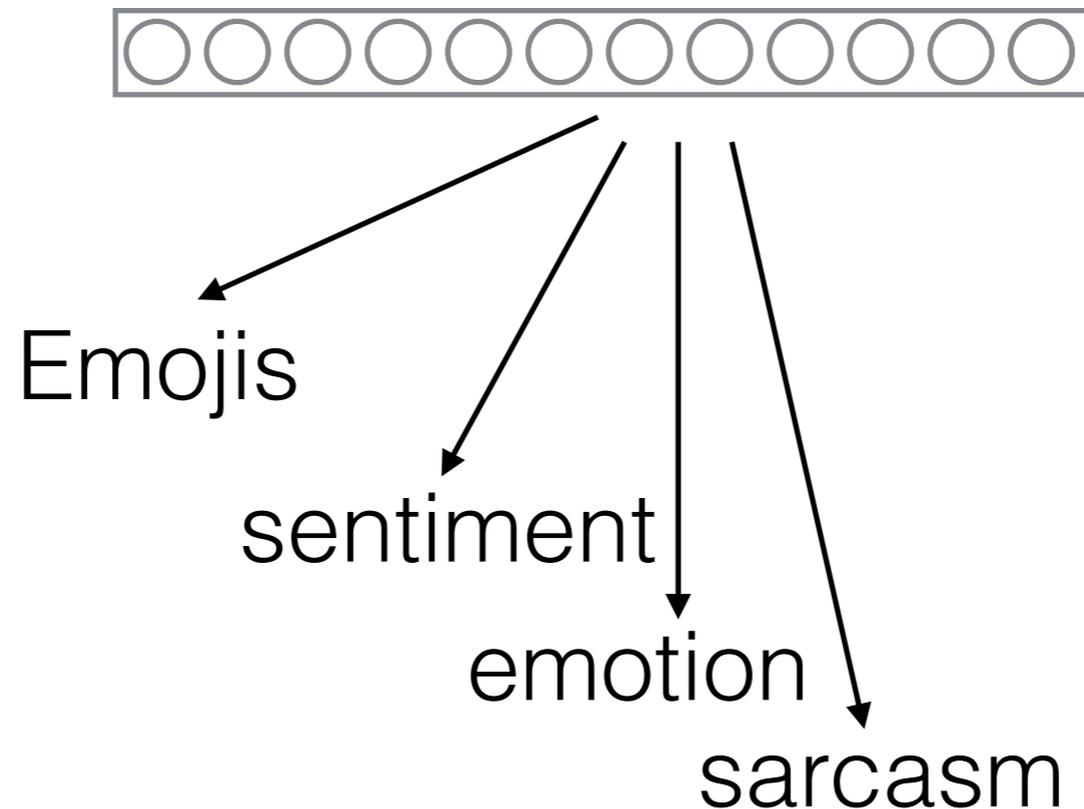
## Adversarial Removal of Demographic Attributes from Text Data

Yanai Elazar<sup>†</sup> and Yoav Goldberg<sup>†\*</sup>

<sup>†</sup>Computer Science Department, Bar-Ilan University, Israel

\*Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence

{yanaiela, yoav.goldberg}@gmail.com



# Example: DeepMoji

## Adversarial Removal of Demographic Attributes from Text Data

Yanai Elazar<sup>†</sup> and Yoav Goldberg<sup>†\*</sup>

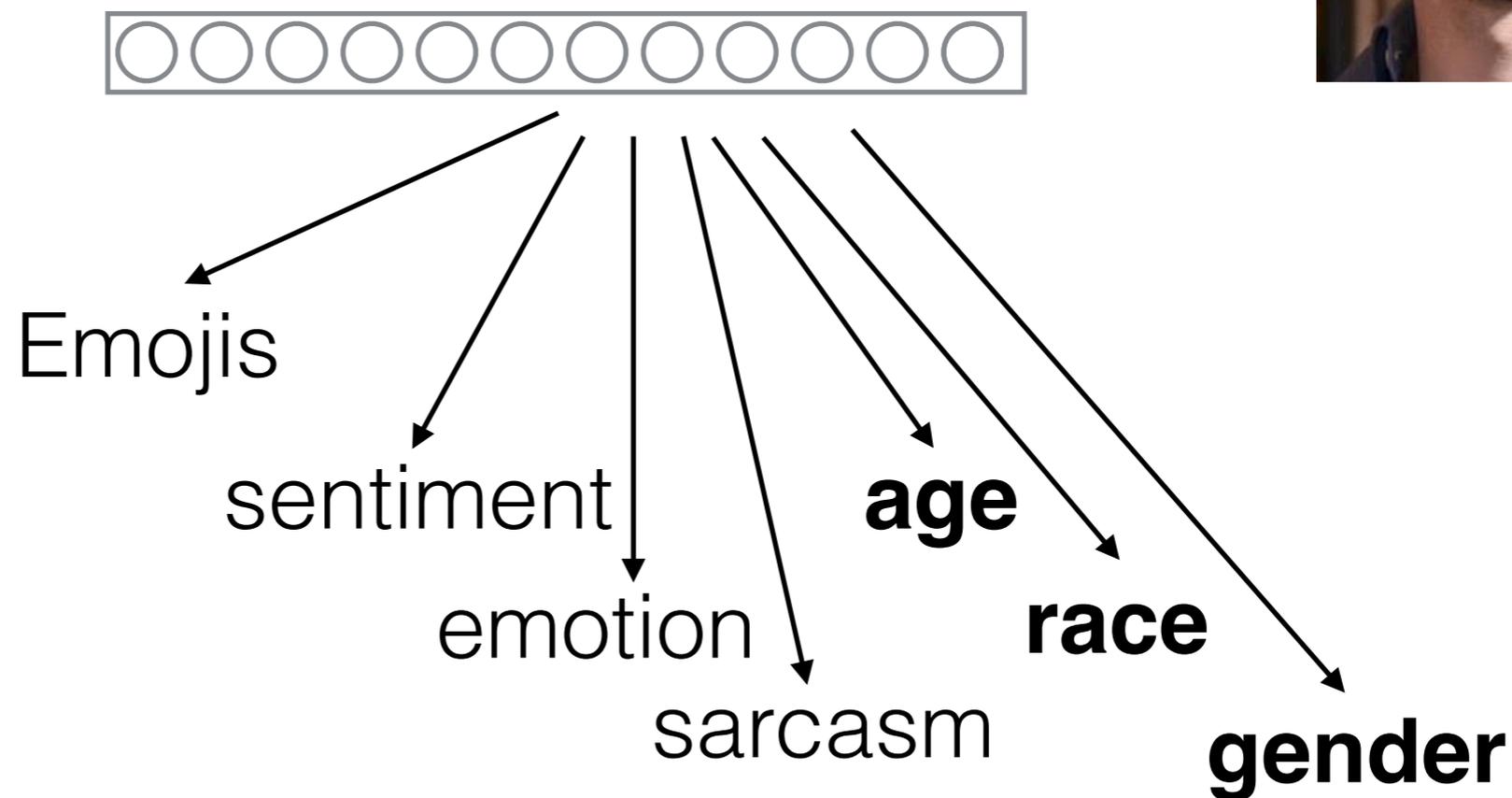
<sup>†</sup>Computer Science Department, Bar-Ilan University, Israel

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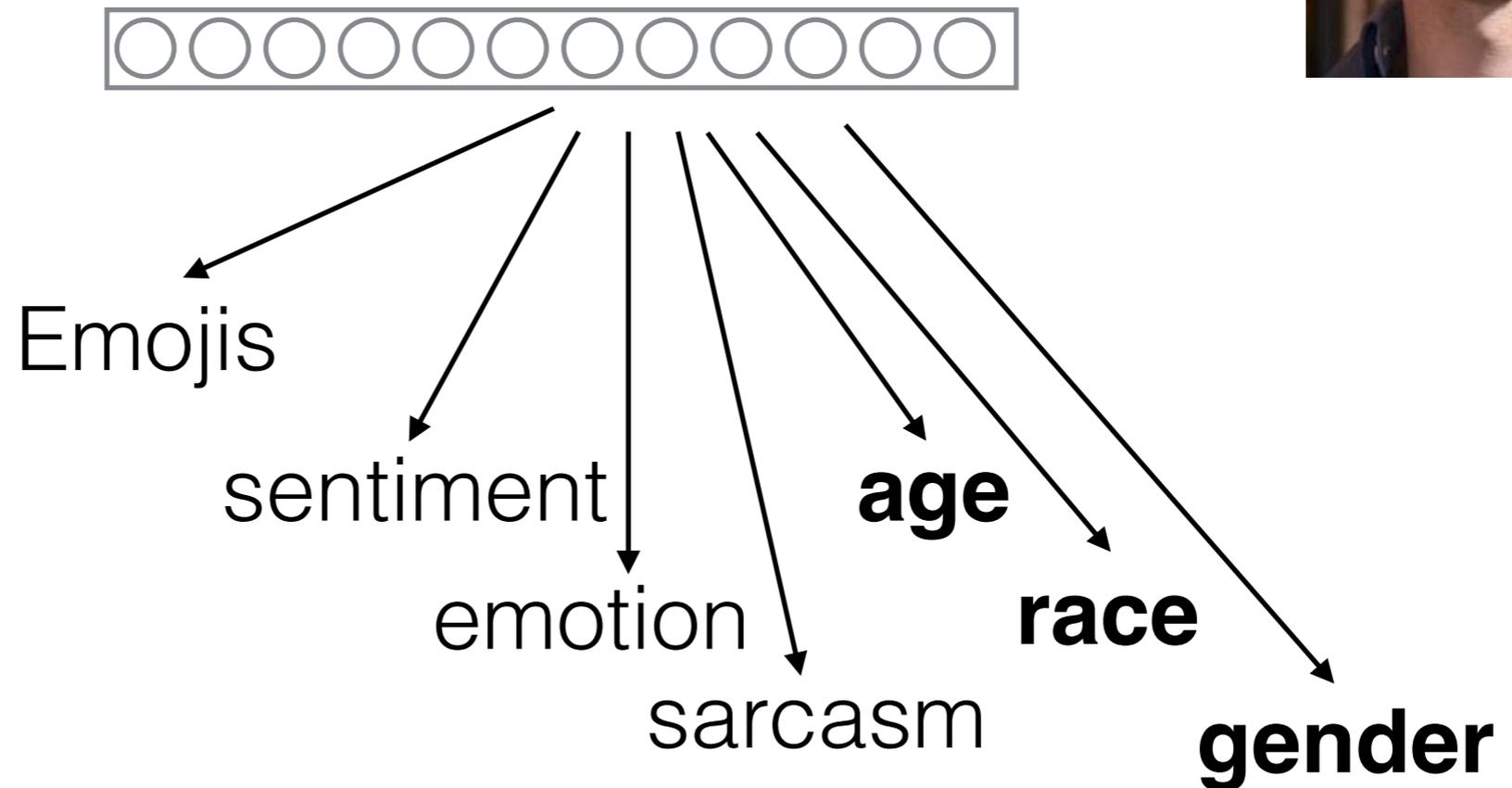
DeepMoji



Vectors trained for Emojis.  
 Meant for sentiment.  
**Predictive of demographics.**



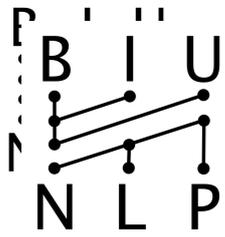
**DeepMoji**





Vectors trained for Emojis.  
Meant for sentiment.  
**Predictive of demographics.**

who could have guessed?



Vectors trained for Emojis.

Meant for sentiment.

**Predictive of demographics.**

who could have guessed?

well... not very surprising actually.

emoji usage is very much correlated with demographics.

knowing the demographics helps predict emojis.



Vectors trained for Emojis.

Meant for sentiment.

**Predictive of demographics.**

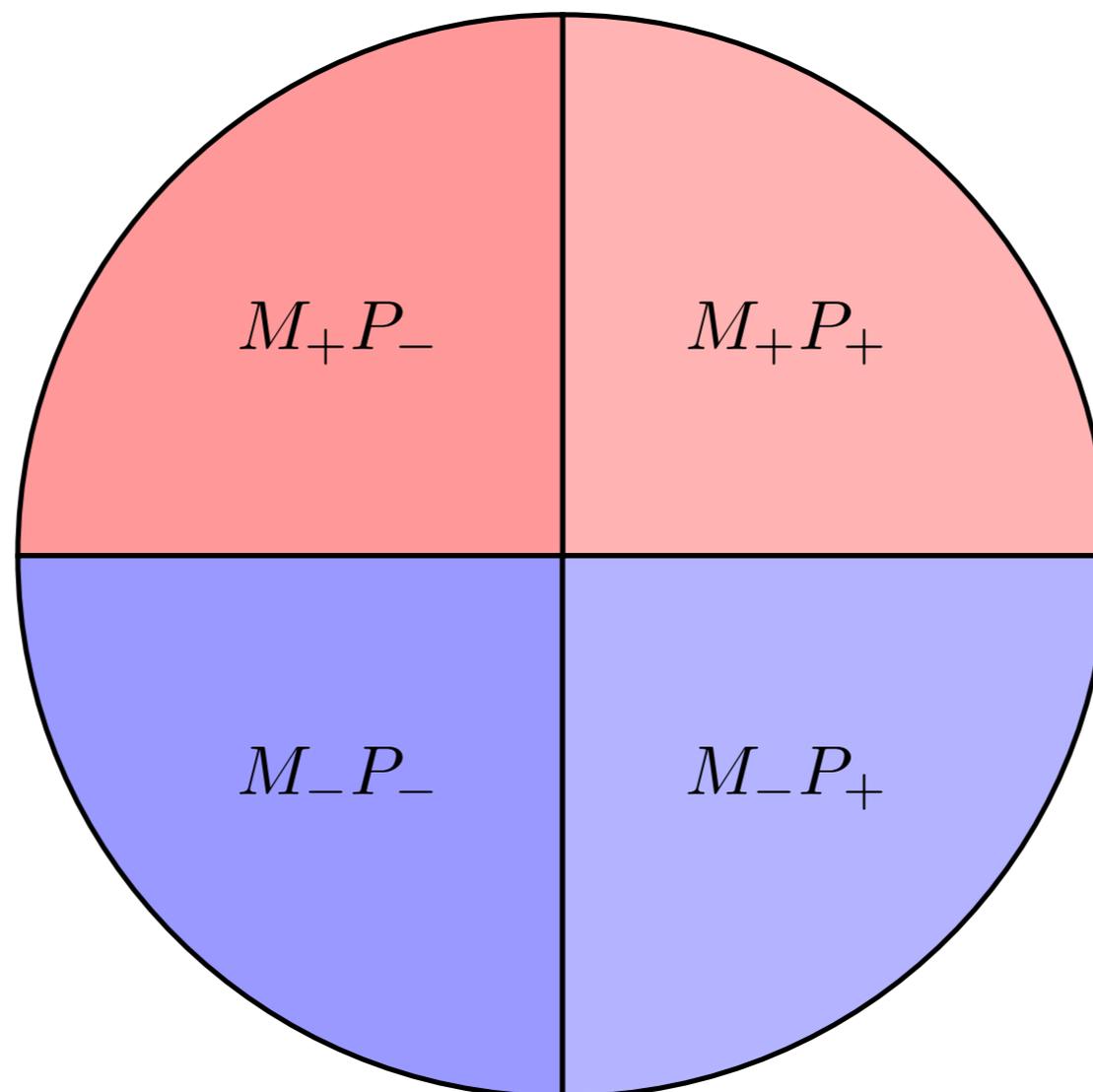
who could have guessed?

well... not very surprising actually.

emoji usage is very much correlated with demographics.

knowing the demographics helps predict emojis.

**Lets control for this.**



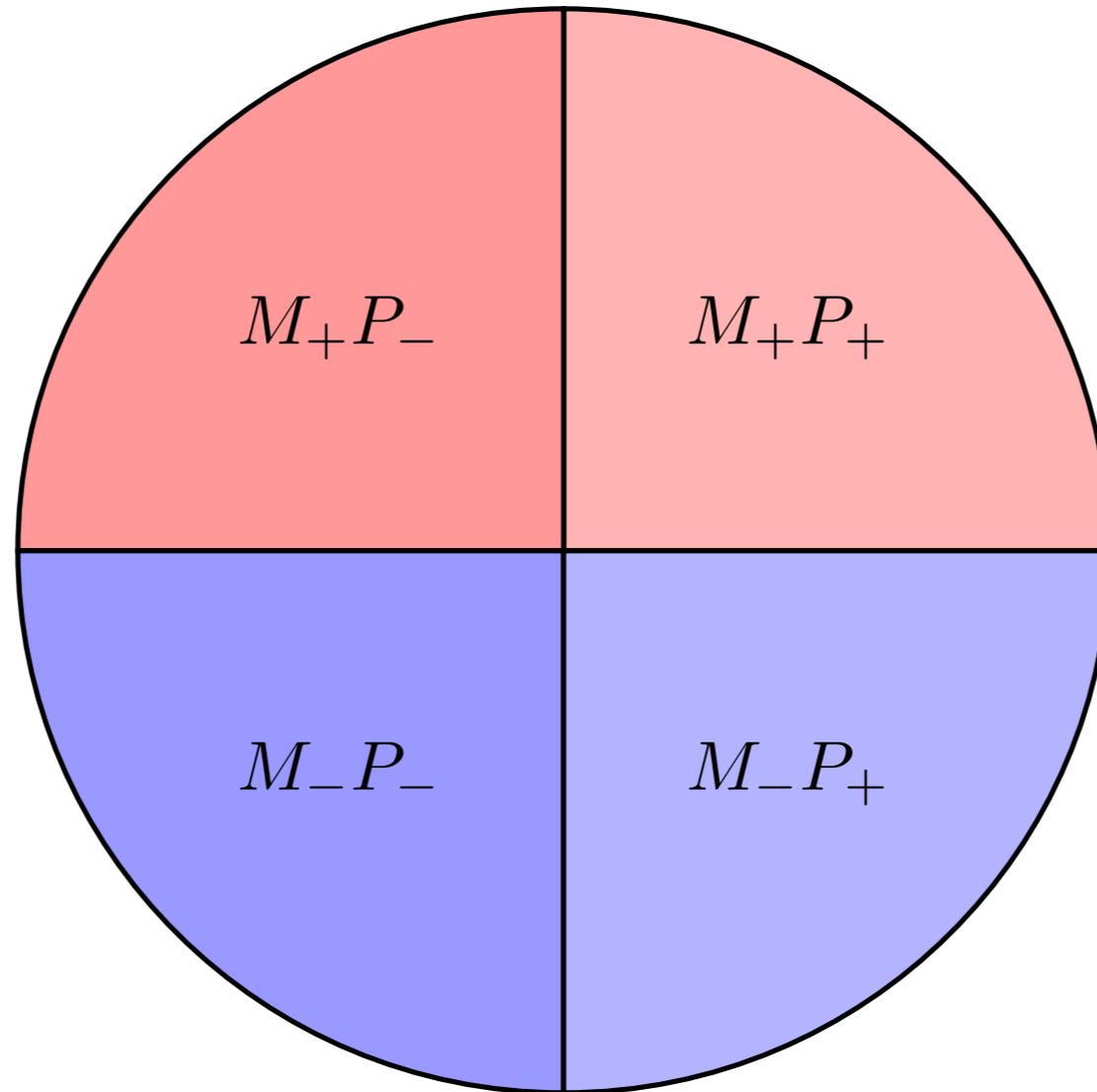
**balanced  
dataset**



task  
(sentiment)

50%  
positive

50%  
negative



**balanced  
dataset**

# demographics

50% male

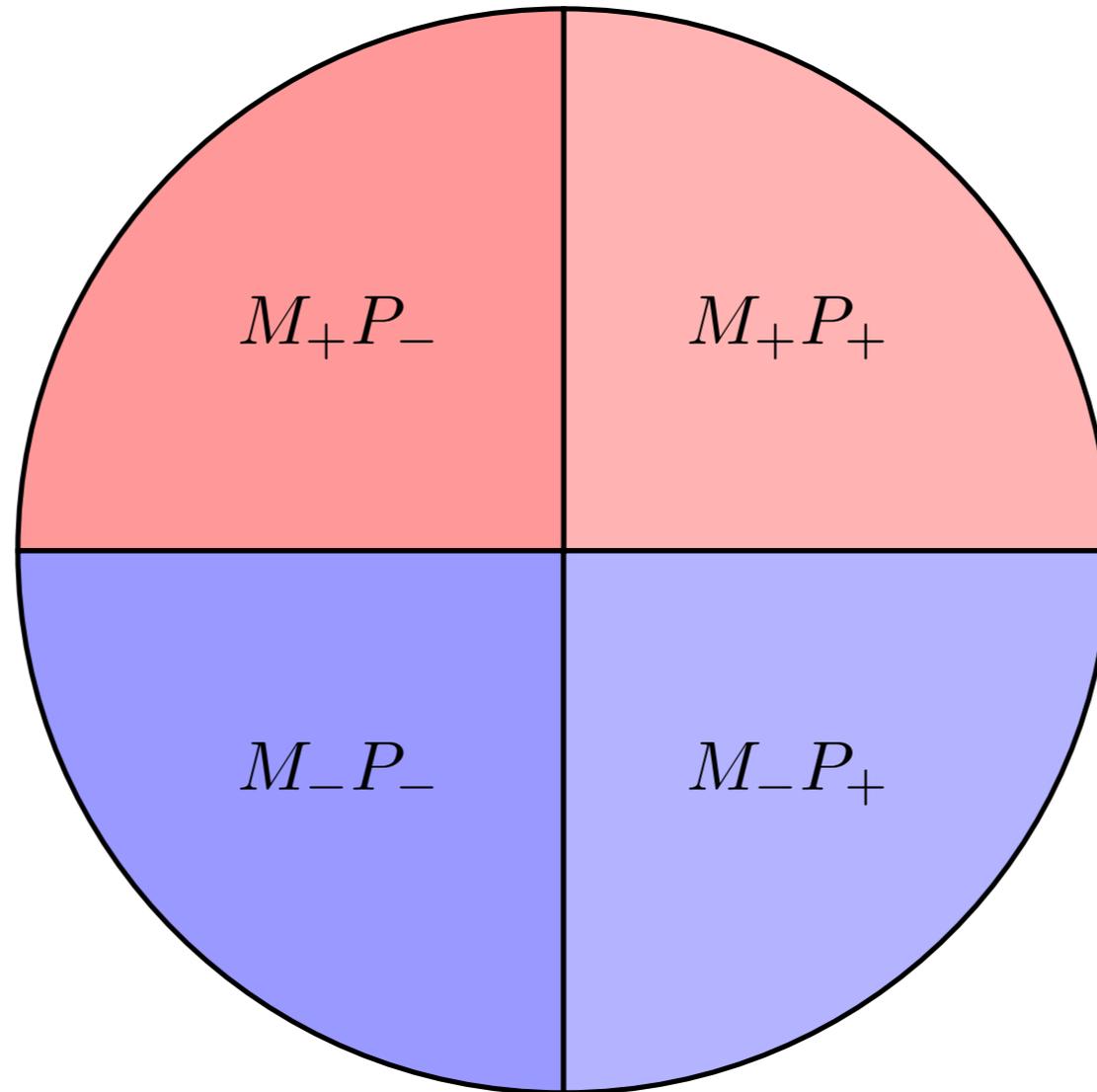
50% female



50% positive

50% negative

**task  
(sentiment)**



**balanced  
dataset**

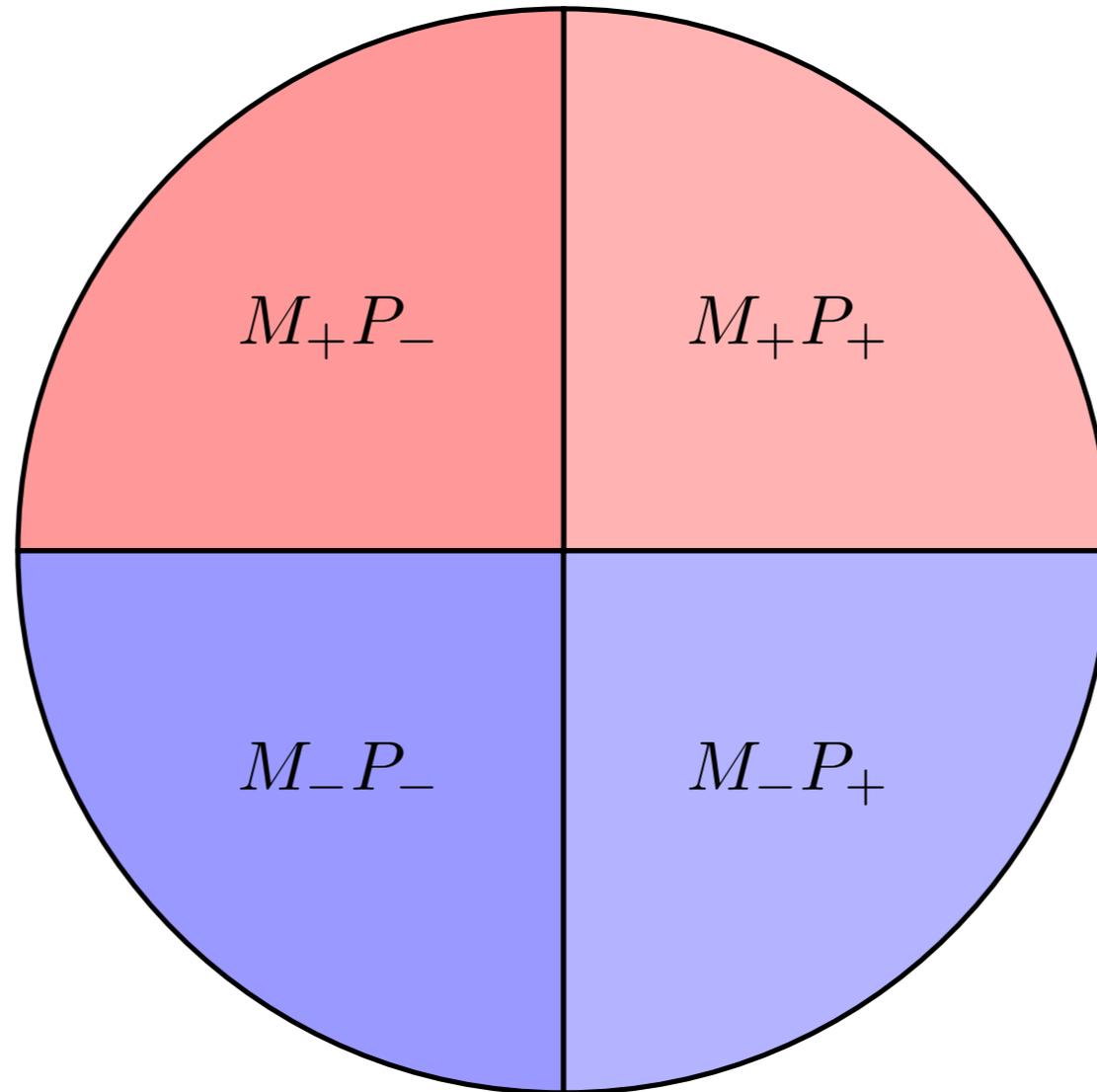
# demographics

50% male

50% female



**task  
(sentiment)**  
50% positive  
50% negative



**balanced  
dataset**

**no correlation between task and demographic attribute**

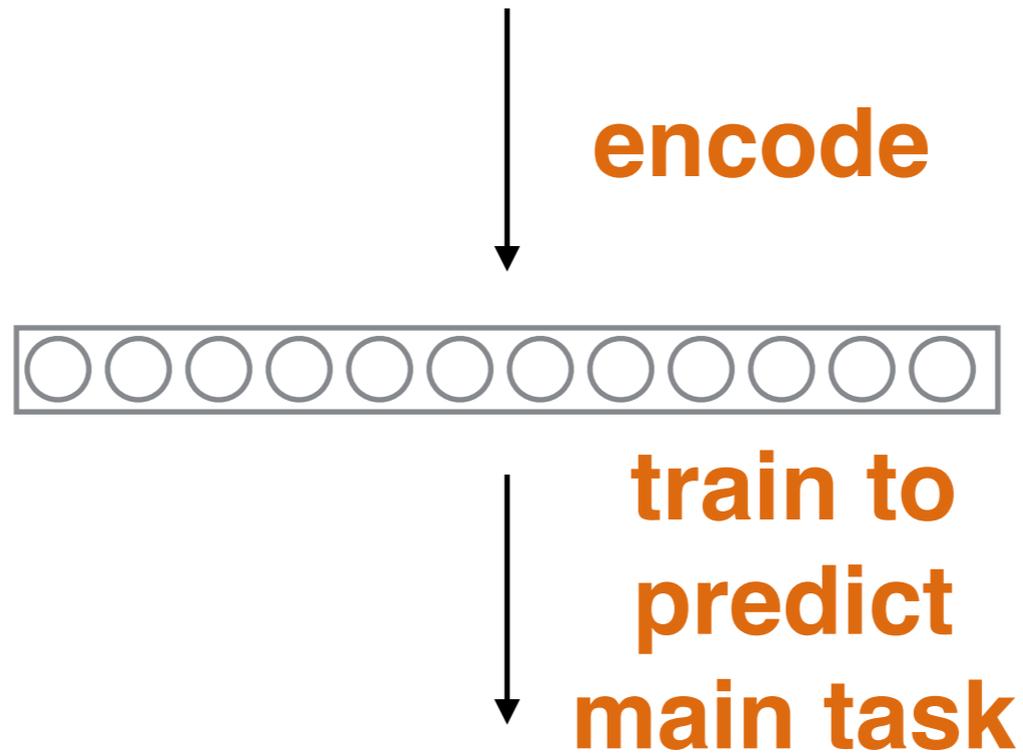


**Hannah Whitlock**

@Hannahwhitlock\_



YALL. LOOK HOW BEAUTIFUL MY BFF IS  
OH MY GOODNESS



**no correlation between task and demographic attribute**



**Hannah Whitlock**

@Hannahwhitlock\_

Follow



YALL. LOOK HOW BEAUTIFUL MY BFF IS  
OH MY GOODNESS

encode



main task

**no correlation between task and demographic attribute**



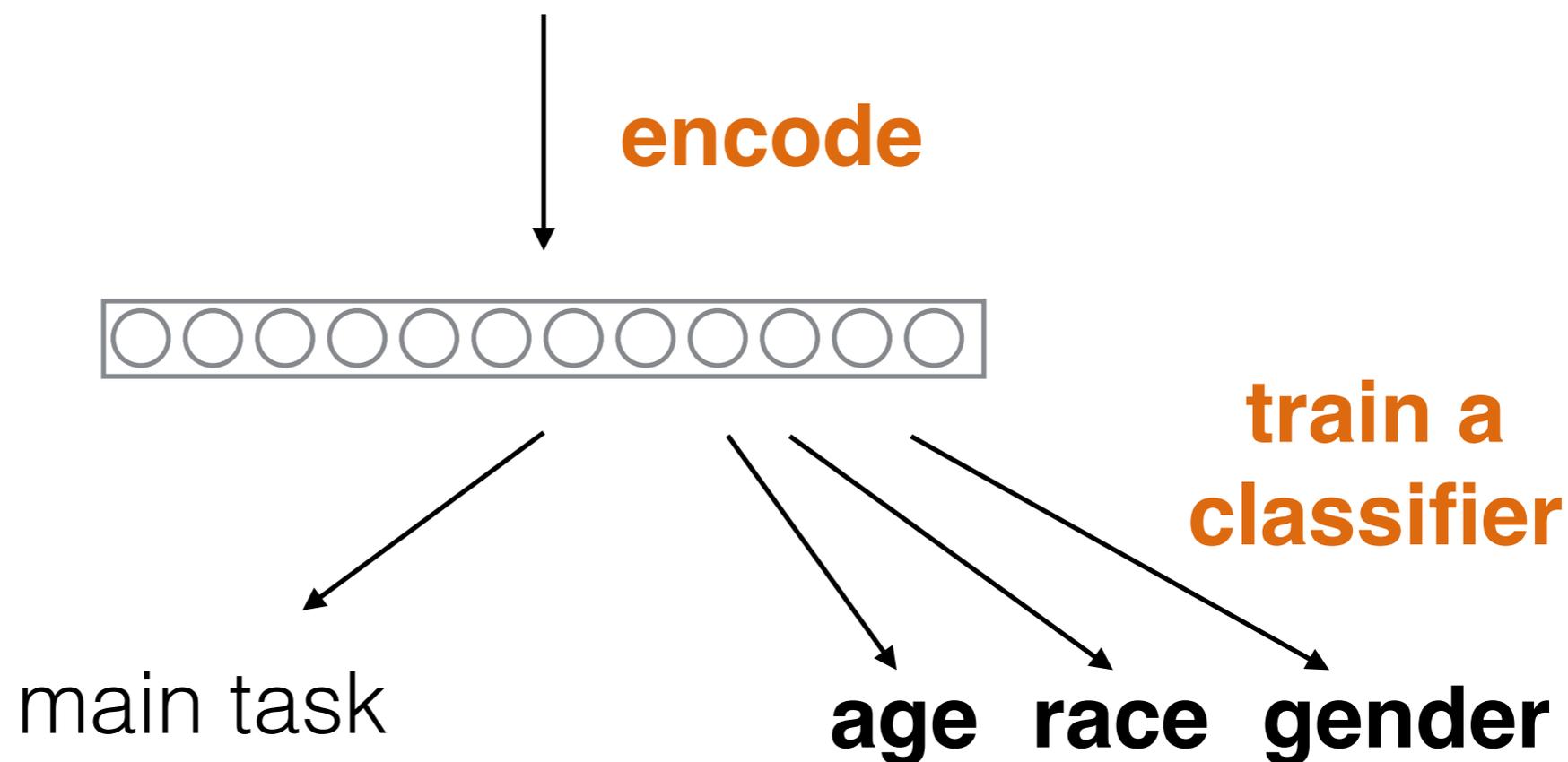
Hannah Whitlock

@Hannahwhitlock\_

Follow

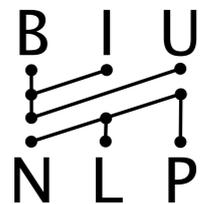


YALL. LOOK HOW BEAUTIFUL MY BFF IS  
OH MY GOODNESS



**no correlation between task and demographic attribute**

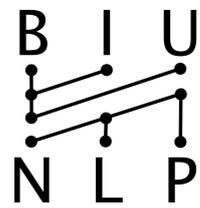
**but we can still predict it with 60-70% accuracy**



# controlling the representation?



- We trained a classifier for task Y.
- We obtained a representation which can predict Z.
- **What if we don't want to condition on Z?**



# Adversarial Training

# Domain-Adversarial Training of Neural Networks

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**Evgeniya Ustinova**

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*Département d'informatique et de génie logiciel, Université Laval*

*Québec, Canada, G1V 0A6*

**Hugo Larochelle**

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## Adversarial Training

## Mitigating Unwanted Biases with Adversarial Learning



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**Blake Lemoine**  
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Mountain View, CA  
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**Margaret Mitchell**  
Google  
Mountain View, CA  
mmitchellai@google.com

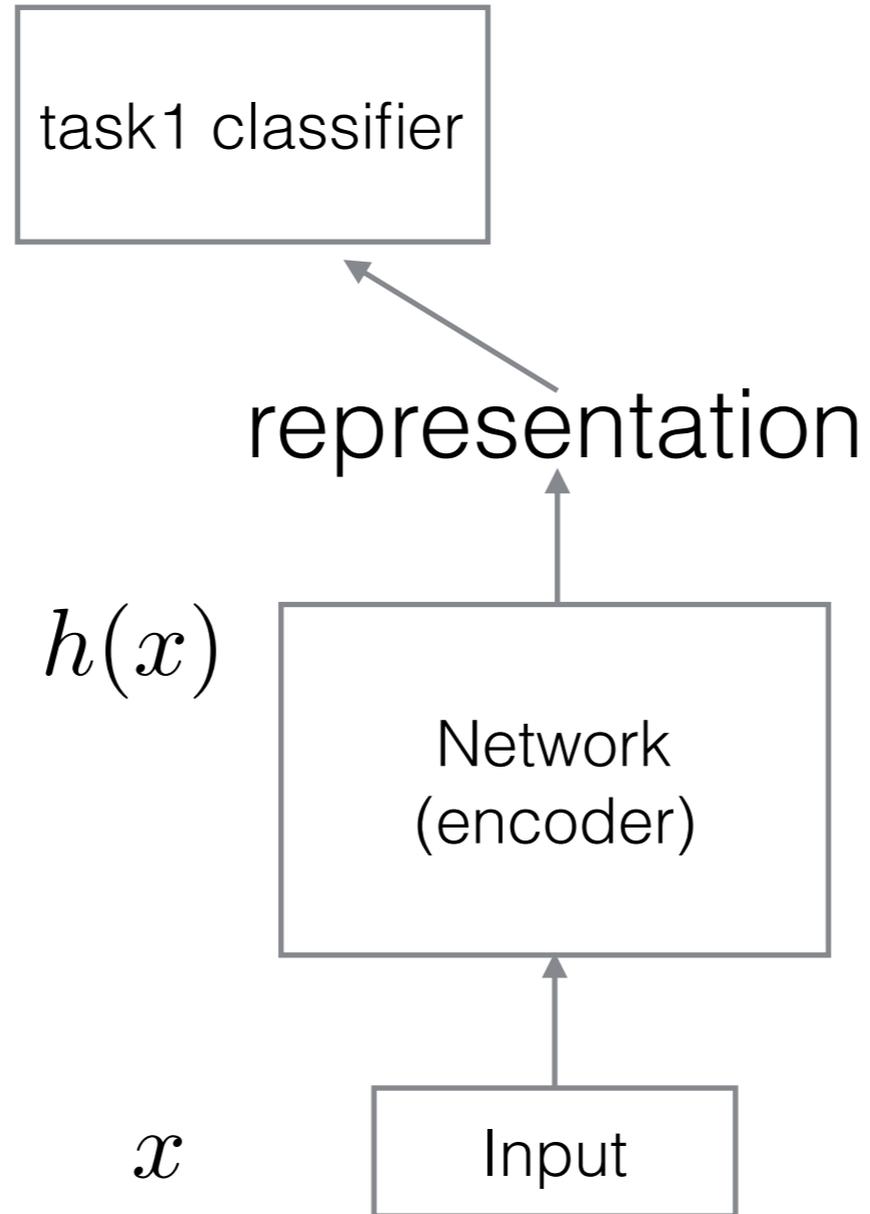
# Adversarial Training

## Towards Robust and Privacy-preserving Text Representations

**Yitong Li    Timothy Baldwin    Trevor Cohn**  
School of Computing and Information Systems  
The University of Melbourne, Australia  
yitongl4@student.unimelb.edu.au  
{tbaldwin, tcohn}@unimelb.edu.au

# predict sentiment

$$f(h(x))$$

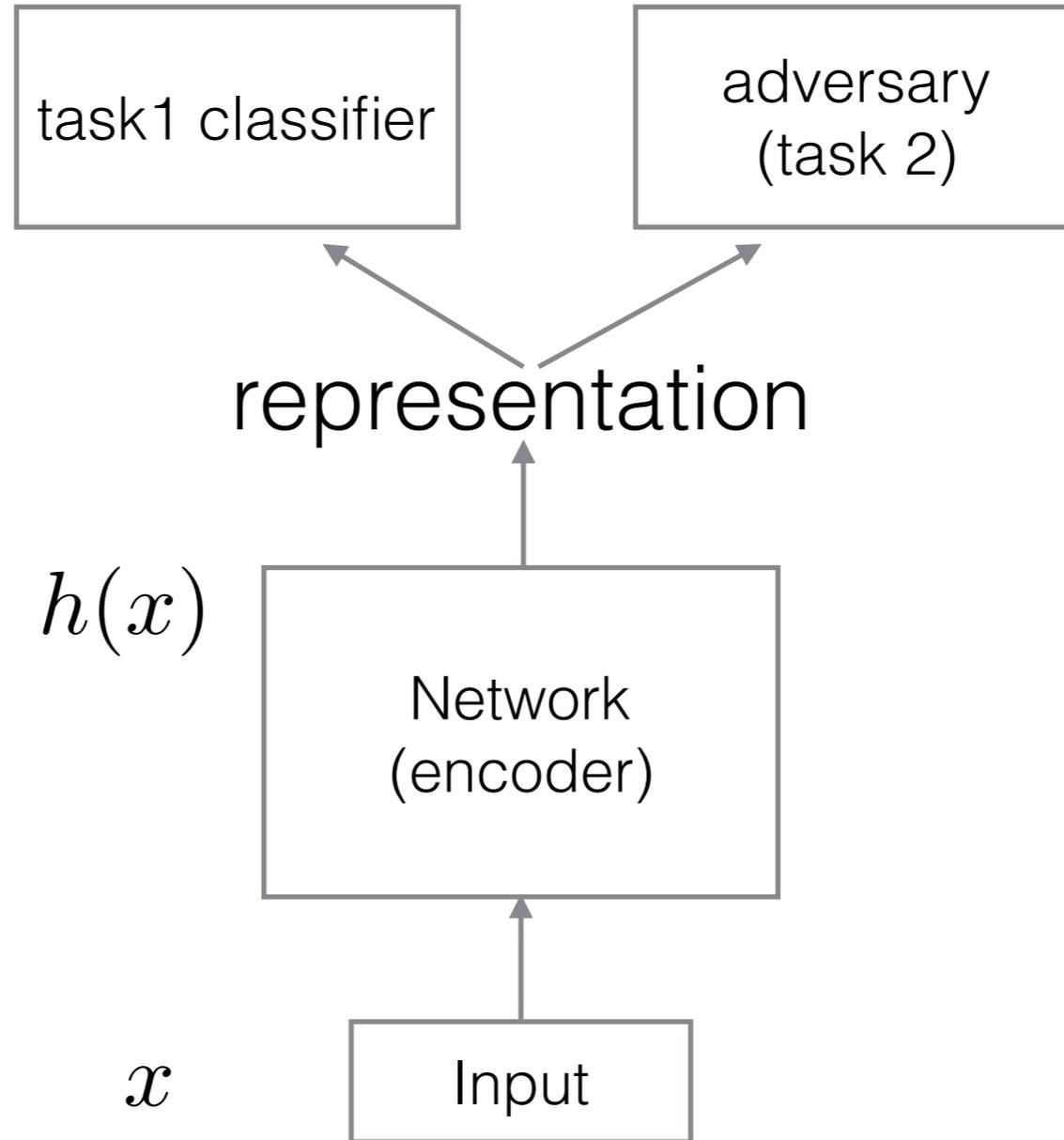


**predict sentiment**

**don't predict race**

$f(h(x))$

$adv(h(x))$



**predict sentiment**

**don't predict race**

$$f(h(x))$$

$$adv(h(x))$$

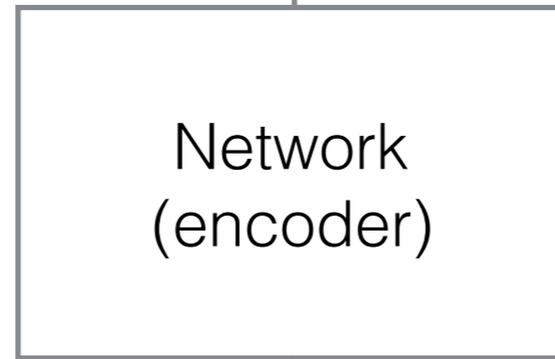


**remove**  
stuff from  
the representation



representation

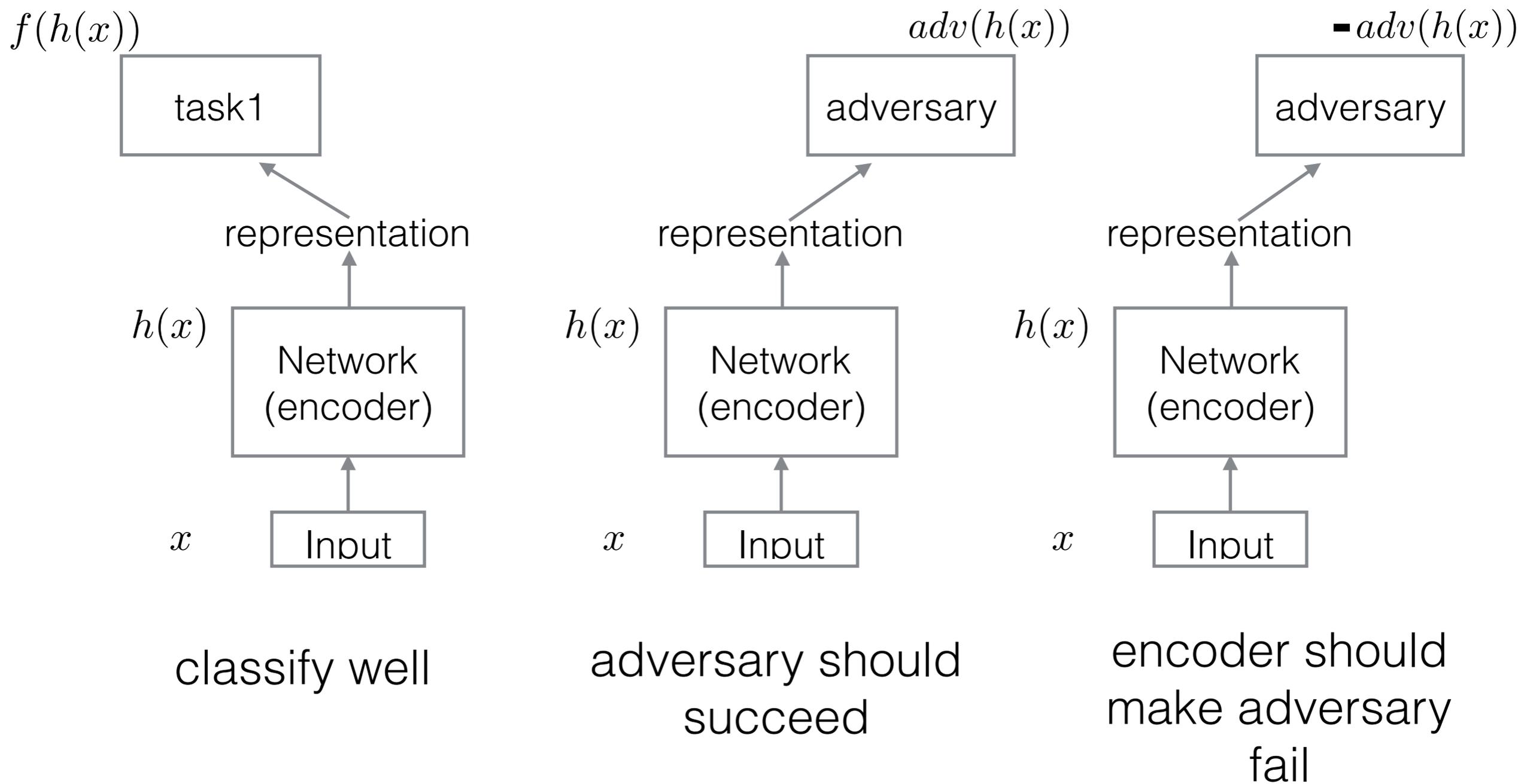
$$h(x)$$

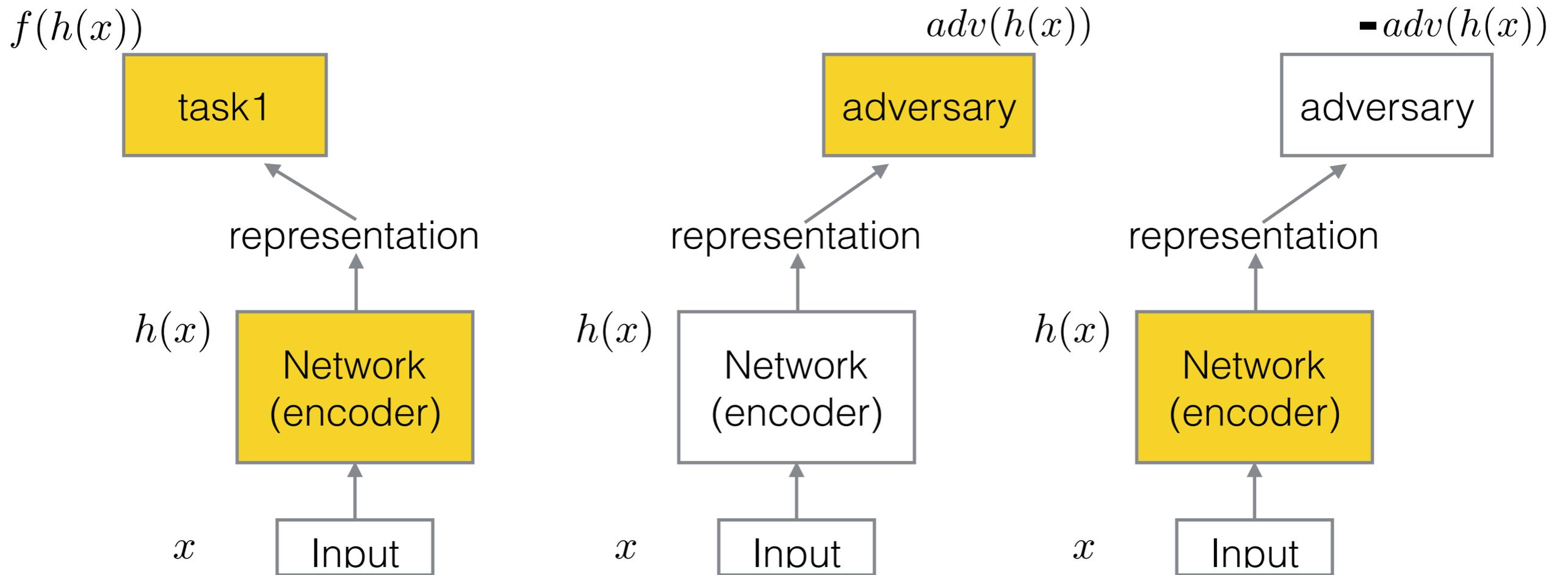


$$x$$



# three different sub-objectives



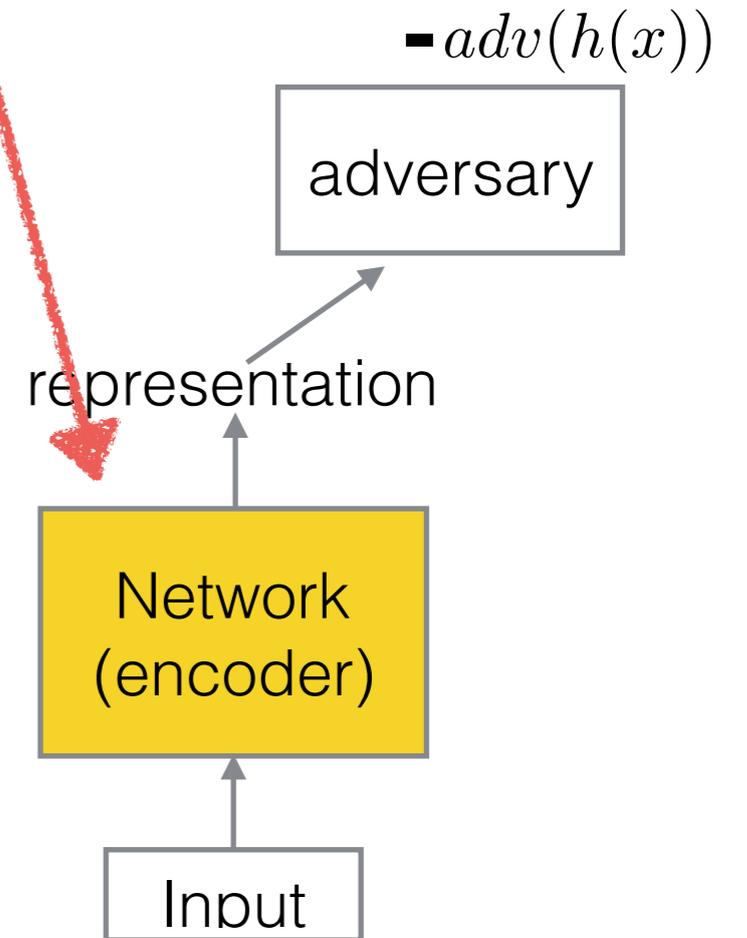
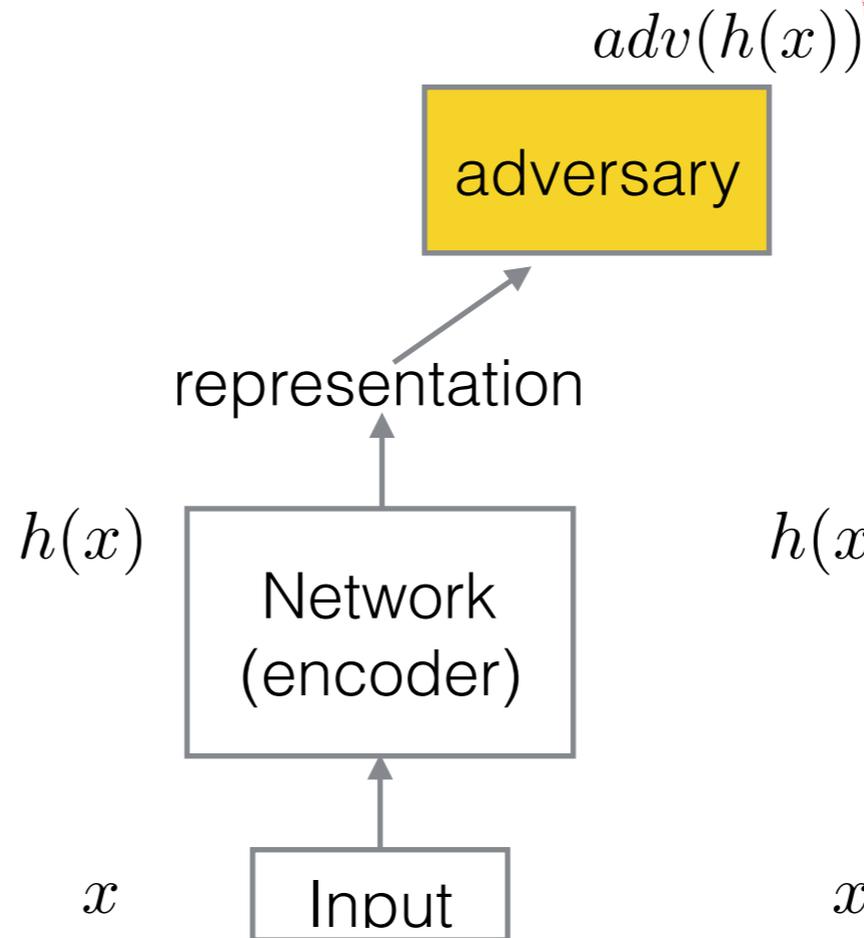
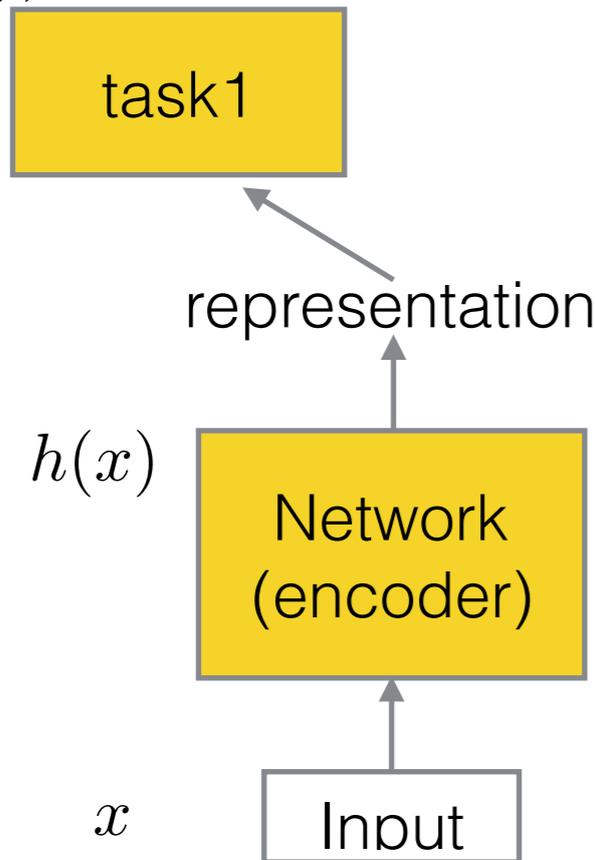


**yellow:** update parameters  
**white:** don't update



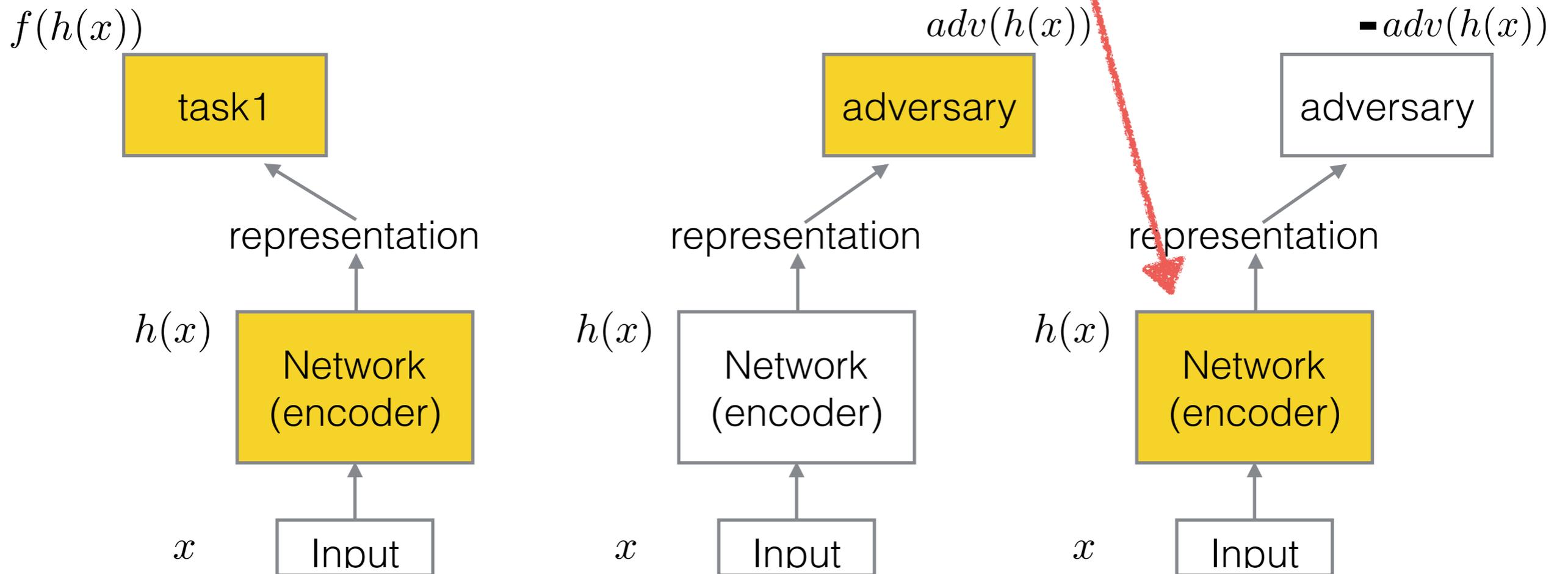
$$\text{grad}(-\text{adv}(h(x)))$$

$$f(h(x))$$

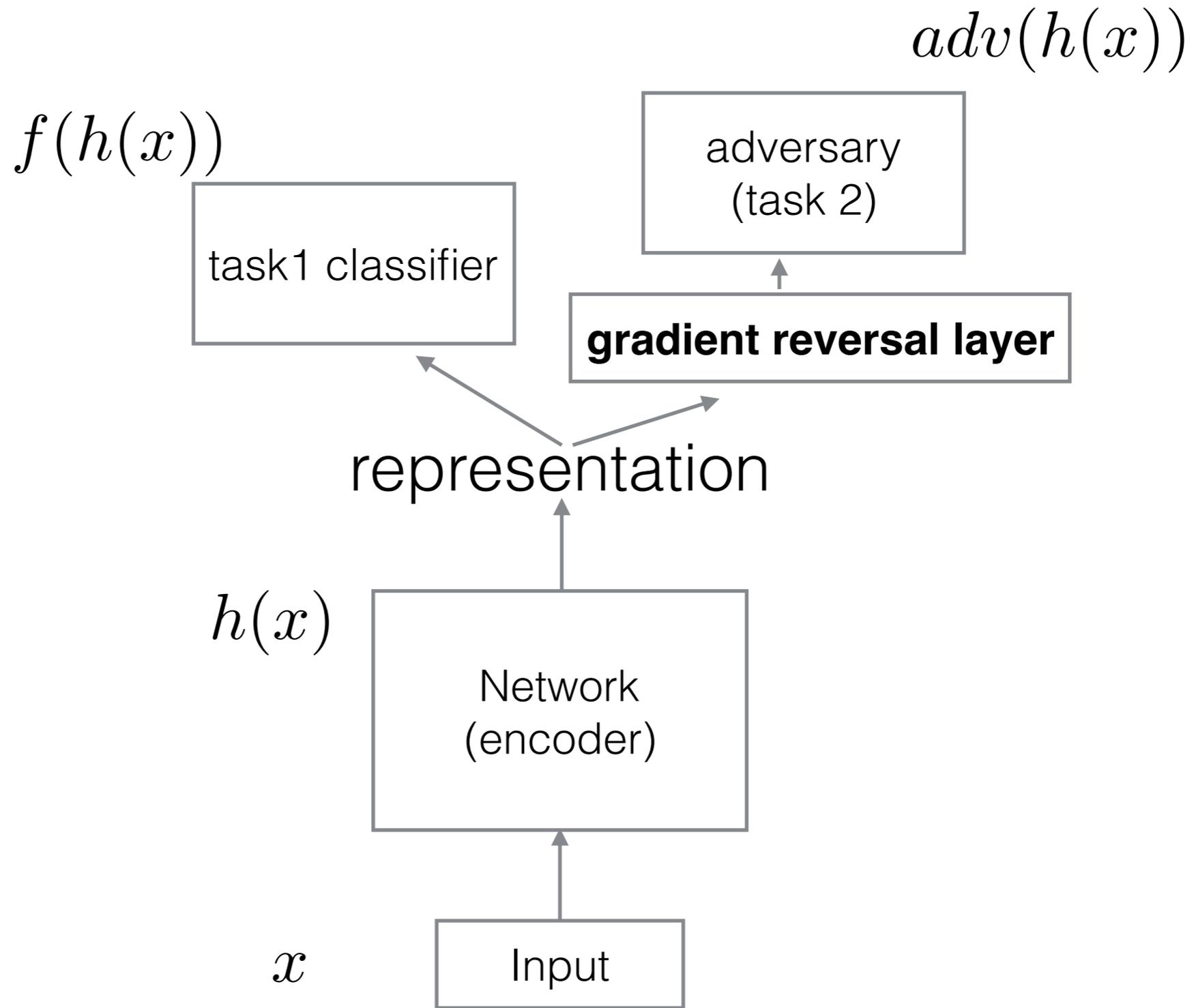


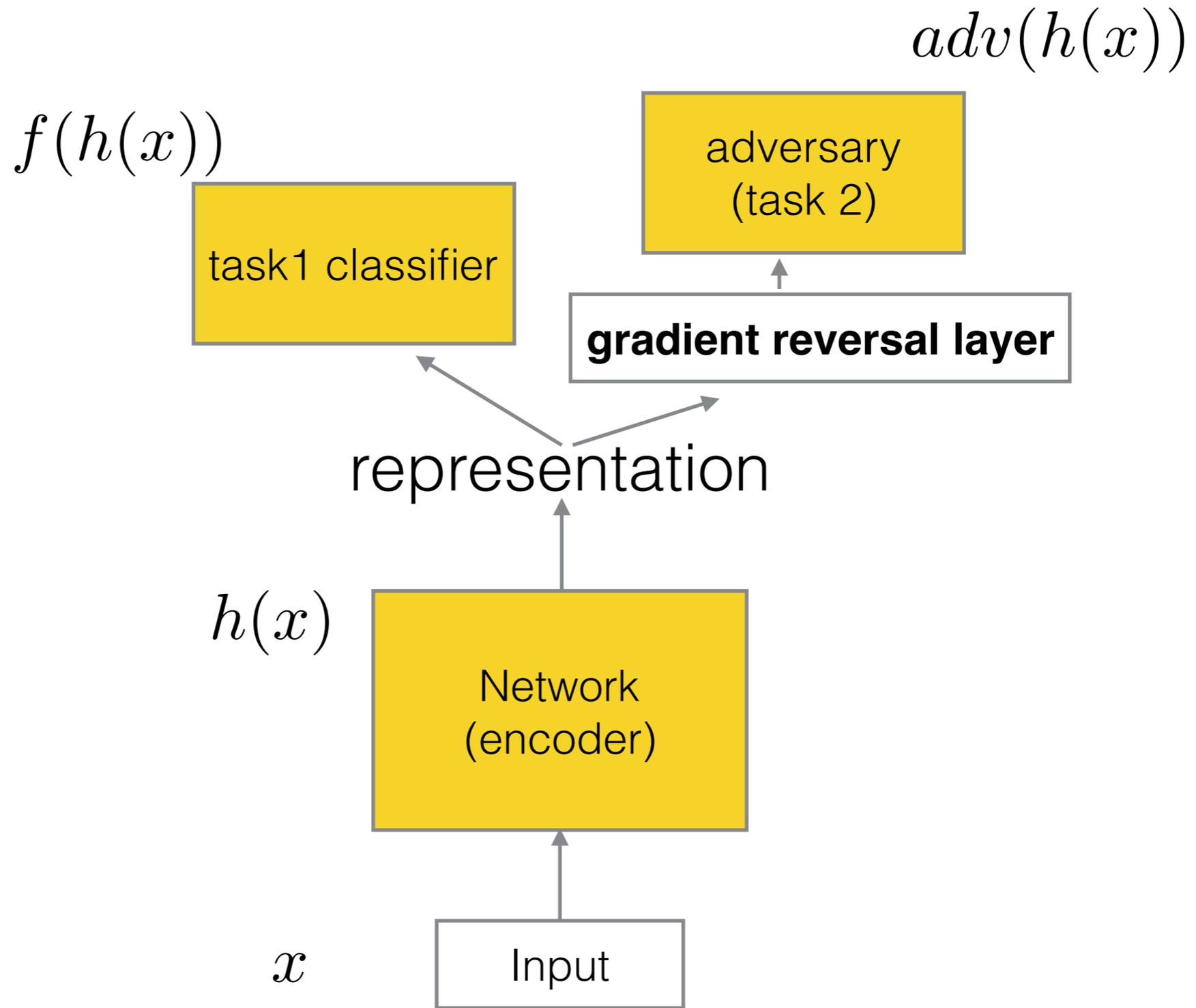
**yellow:** update parameters  
**white:** don't update

$$\text{grad}(-\text{adv}(h(x))) = -\text{grad}(\text{adv}(h(x)))$$

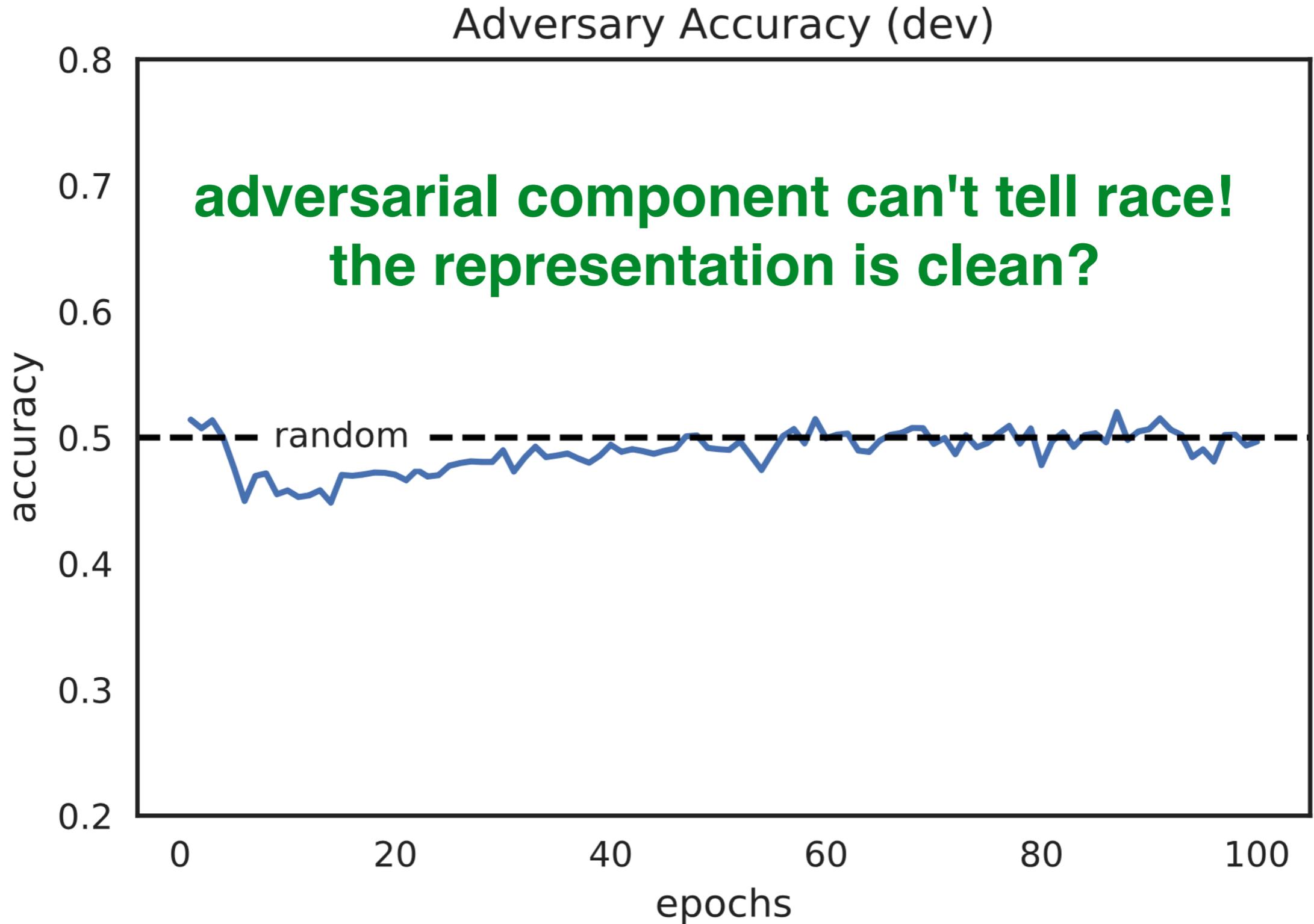


**yellow:** update parameters  
**white:** don't update





# Does this work?



# Does this work?



im tryna get otp ian got nobody  
to talk to tho

↓  
**encode  
(regular)**



**race classifier succeeds**

↓  
**encode  
(adv train)**



**race classifier fails**

# Does this work?



Want to wear hipster glasses ,  
but I have 20/20 vision

↓  
**encode  
(regular)**



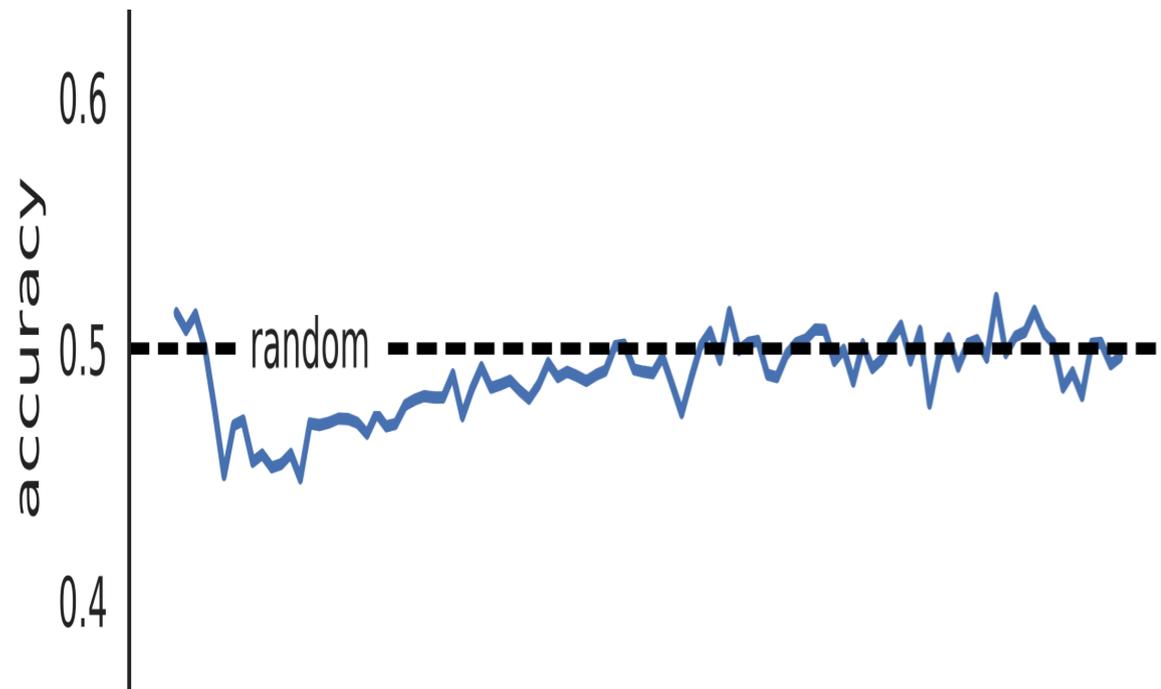
**race classifier succeeds**

↓  
**encode  
(adv train)**

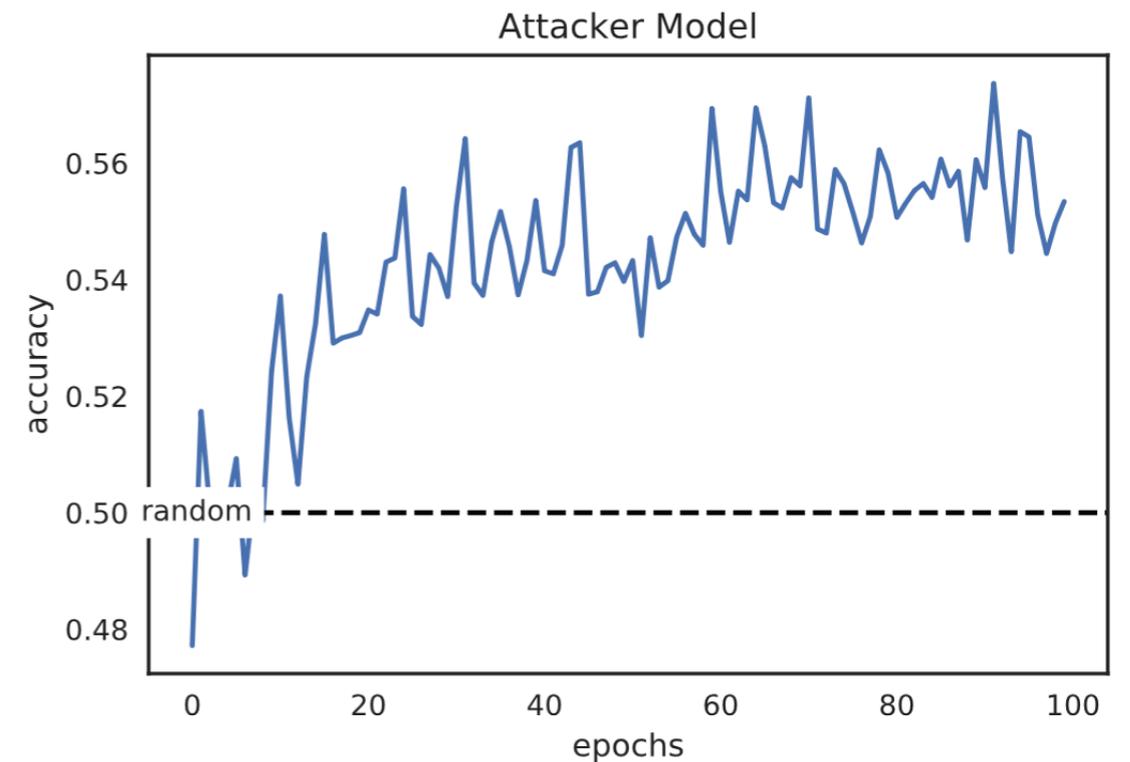


**race classifier fails**

# However...



Adversarial classifier during training

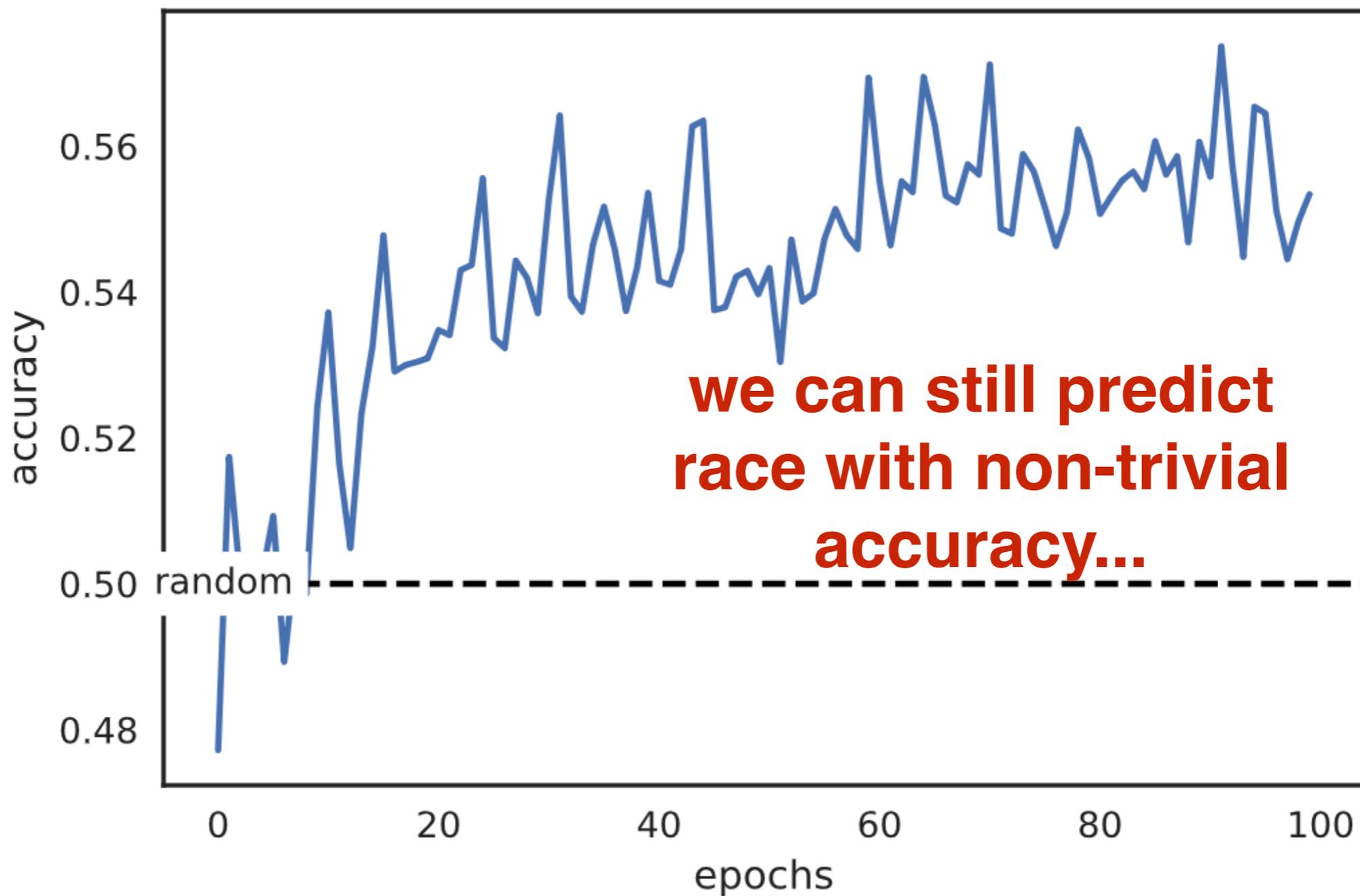


"attacker" classifier trained to predict race on encoded representations

# Does this work?



Attacker Model



# Does this work?



## AAE (“non-hispanic blacks”)

---

My Brew Eattin

\_ Naw im cool

Tonoght was cool

My momma Bestfrand died

Enoy yall day

Going over Bae house

## SAE (“non-hispanic Whites”)

---

I want to be tan again

Why is it so hot in the house ?!

Been doing Spanish homework for 2 hours .

I wish I was still in Spain

Ahhhhh so much homework .

**we can still predict  
race with non-trivial  
accuracy...**

# Summary of this part



- We train a text encoder for some task.
- Encoded vectors are useful for predicting various things...
- ...including things that we did not want to encode.
- Including things we **actively tried to remove**.
- **It is really hard to completely remove unwanted information from encoded language data**

# Summary of this part:



- We train a text encoder for some task.
- Encoded vectors are useful for predicting various things...
- ...including things that we did not want to encode.
- Including things we **actively tried to remove**.
- **It is really hard to completely remove unwanted information from encoded language data**
- **Don't blindly trust the adversary!**

# Summary of this part:



ing procedure (section 5.2).<sup>1</sup>

However, while successful to some extent, none of the methods fully succeed in removing all demographic information. Our main message, then, remains cautionary: **if the goal is to ensure fairness or invariant representation, do not trust adversarial removal of features from text inputs for achieving it.**

## 2 Learning Setup

We follow a setup in which we have some la-

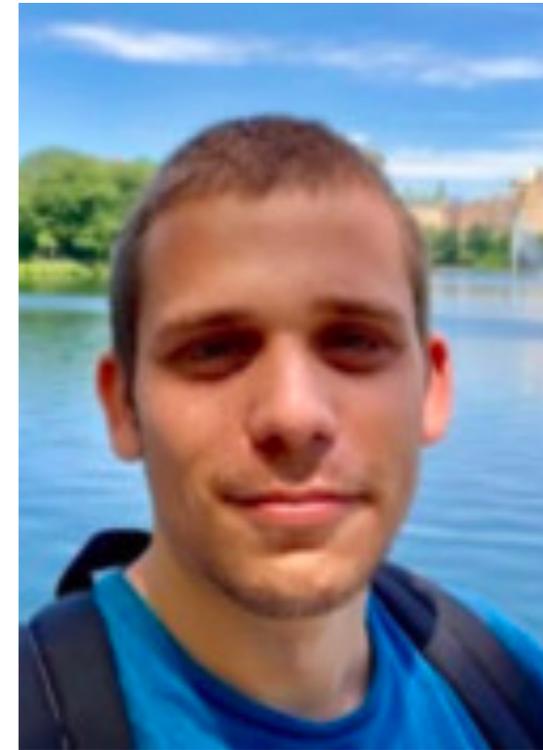
# Summary of this part:



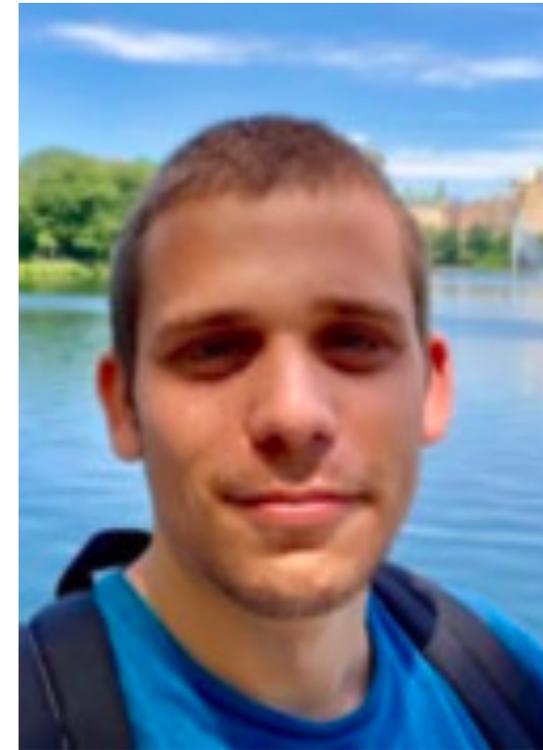
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# Summary of this part:

- We train a text encoder for some task.
- Encoded vectors are useful for predicting various things...
- ...including things that we did not want to encode.
- Including things we **actively tried to remove**.
- **It is really hard to completely remove unwanted information from encoded language data**
- **Don't blindly trust the adversary!**  
**new work (in submission): we can do much better!**



(was presented at venue, but cannot be put online yet due to anon period)



## Main idea:

(was presented at venue, but cannot be put online yet due to anon period)

# To summarize

- Neural networks learn representations.
- Sharing the representations (multi-task learning).
- Using the representations --- by querying them.
- Biases in representations.
- Controlling the representations.



**Can be effective  
if careful.**

**Ask LM for words.  
Use as features.**

**Prevalent.**

**Hard, but we are  
making progress.**