




Sep 17

Distributional Semantics and Word Vectors 

HW1 due

HW2 out 

Project description out 

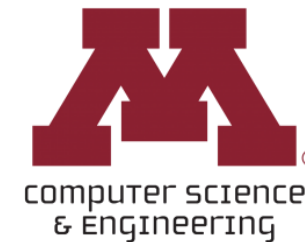
# CSCI 5541: Natural Language Processing

## Project Guideline

[https://dykang.github.io/classes/csci5541/F24/hw/csci5541f24\\_project\\_description.pdf](https://dykang.github.io/classes/csci5541/F24/hw/csci5541f24_project_description.pdf)

Dongyeop Kang (DK), University of Minnesota

[dongyeop@umn.edu](mailto:dongyeop@umn.edu) | [twitter.com/dongyeopkang](https://twitter.com/dongyeopkang) | [dykang.github.io](https://dykang.github.io)



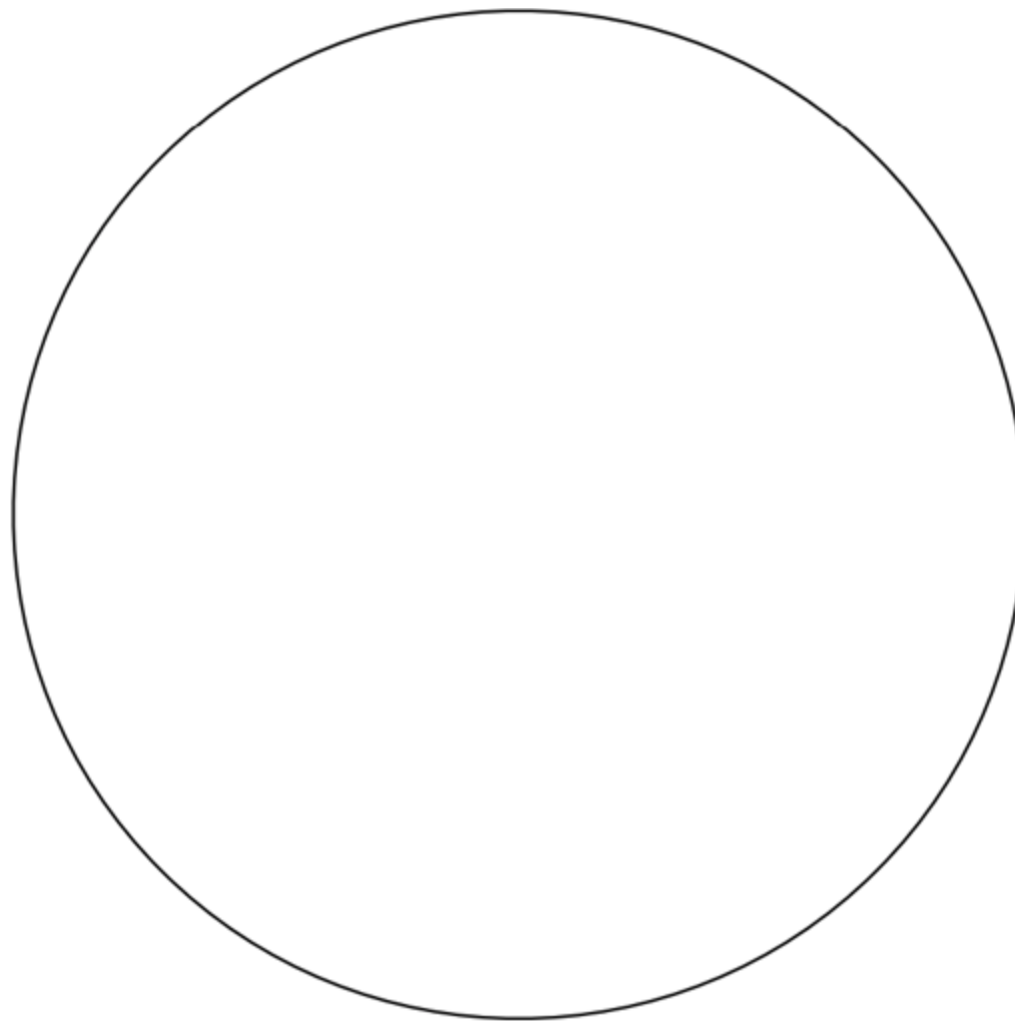
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# Outline

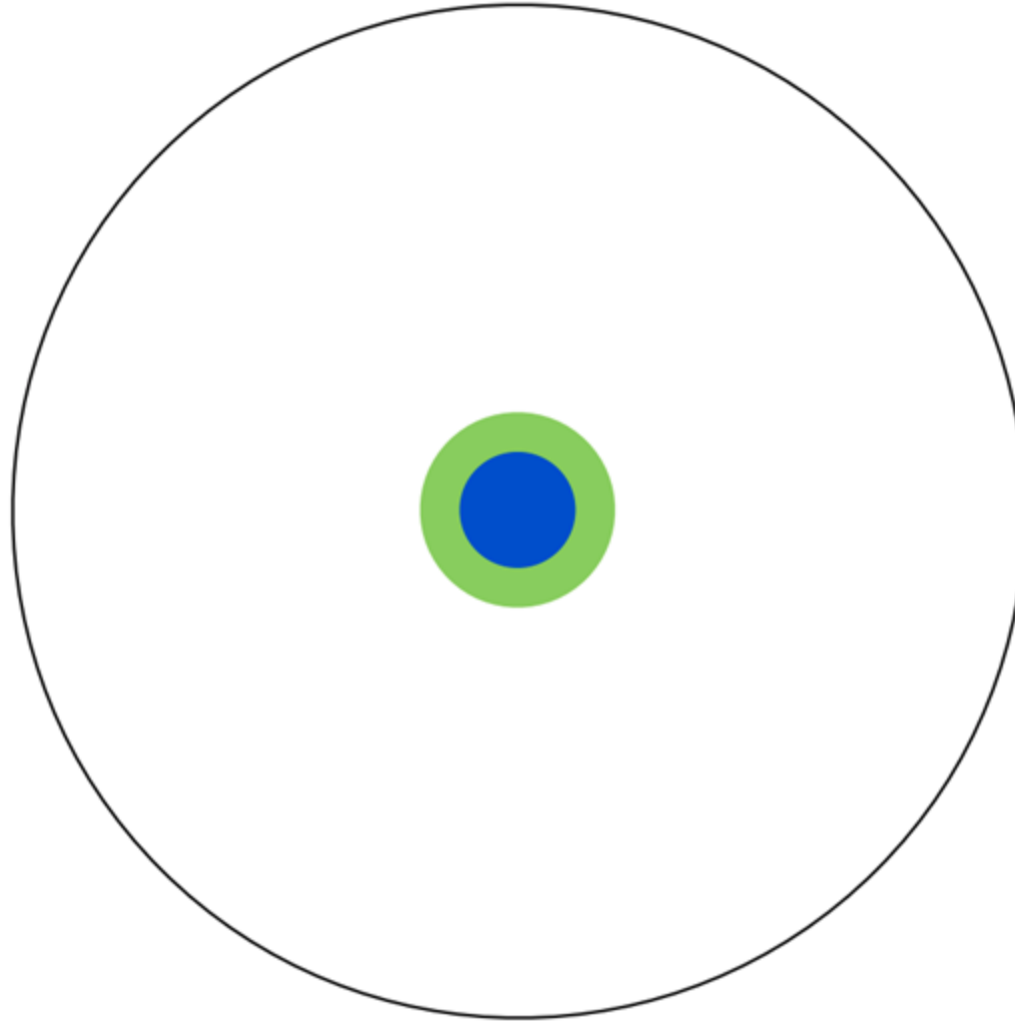
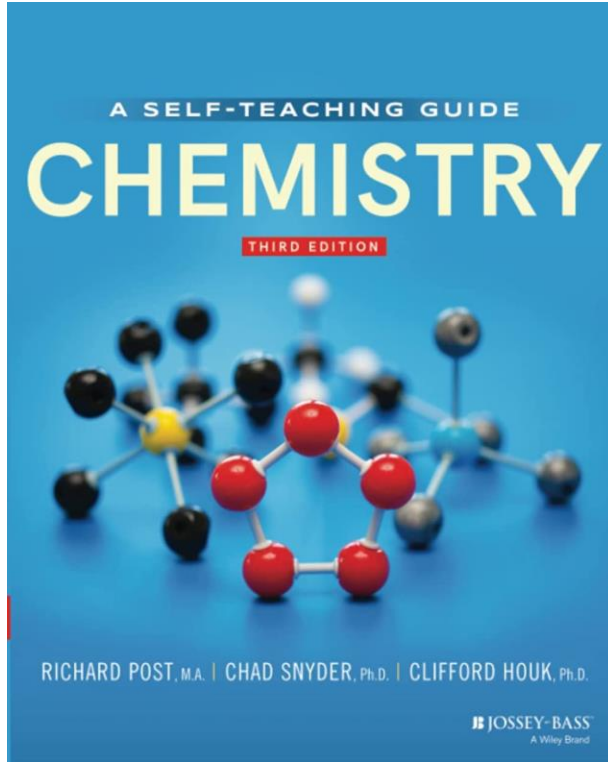
- ❑ Project Goal
- ❑ Project Deliveries and Due
- ❑ Some advices for successful projects
- ❑ Project Types and Topics
- ❑ Past Projects



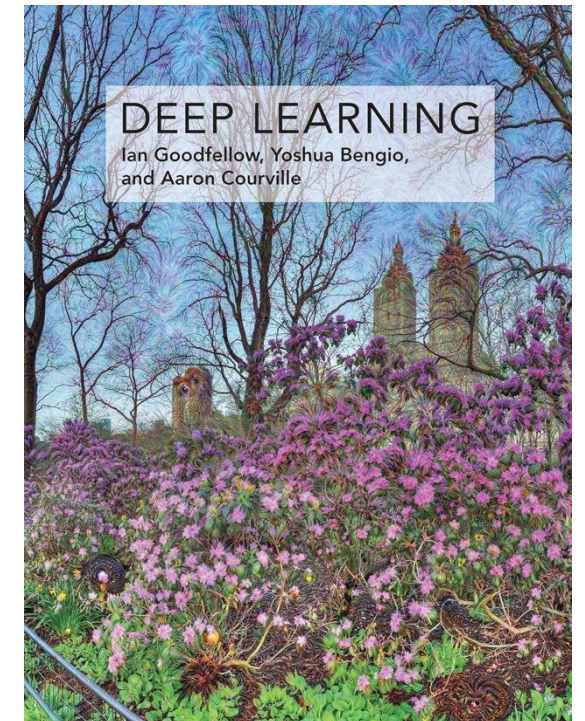
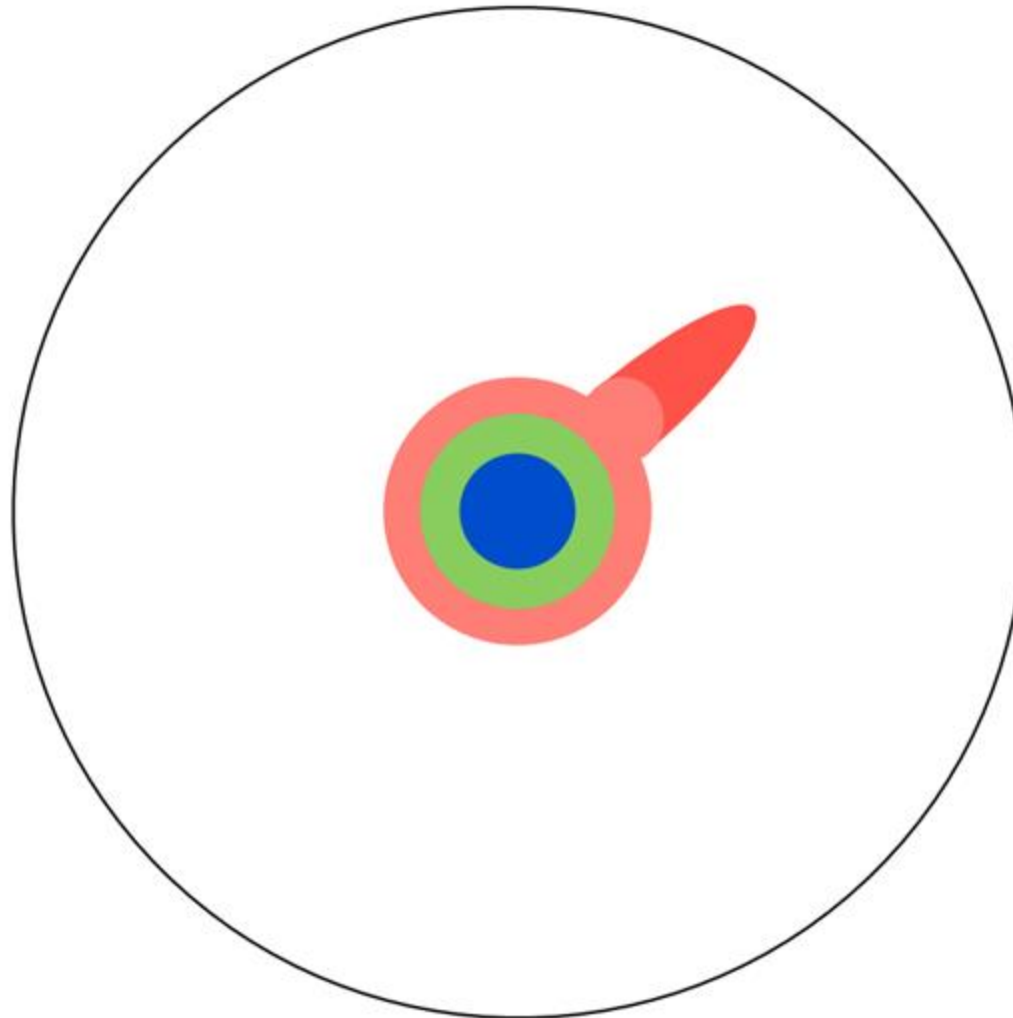
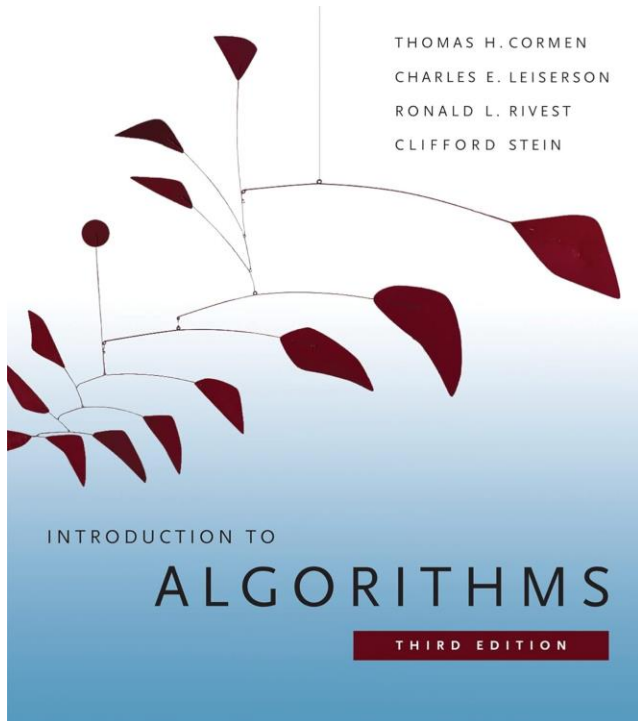
Imagine a circle that contains all of human knowledge:



By the time you finish **elementary school**, you know a little.  
By the time you finish **high school**, you know a bit more:



With a **bachelor's degree**, you gain a specialty:  
A **master's degree** deepens that specialty:



Reading research papers takes you to the edge of human knowledge:  
Once you're at the boundary, you focus:

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## Attention Is All You Need

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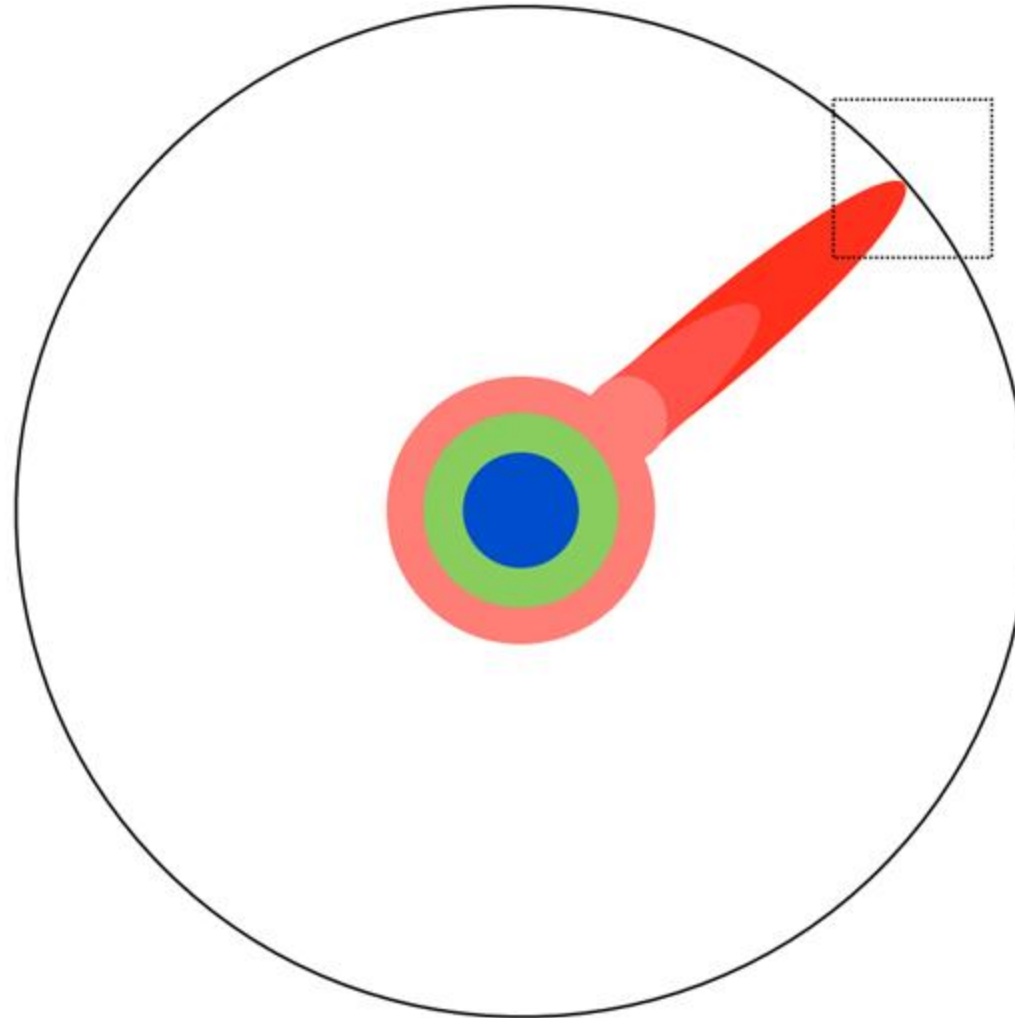
<b>Ashish Vaswani*</b> Google Brain avaswani@google.com	<b>Noam Shazeer*</b> Google Brain noam@google.com	<b>Niki Parmar*</b> Google Research nikip@google.com	<b>Jakob Uszkoreit*</b> Google Research usz@google.com
<b>Llion Jones*</b> Google Research llion@google.com	<b>Aidan N. Gomez*<sup>†</sup></b> University of Toronto aidan@cs.toronto.edu	<b>Lukasz Kaiser*</b> Google Brain lukaszkaizer@google.com	
<b>Illia Polosukhin*<sup>‡</sup></b> illia.polosukhin@gmail.com			

**Abstract**

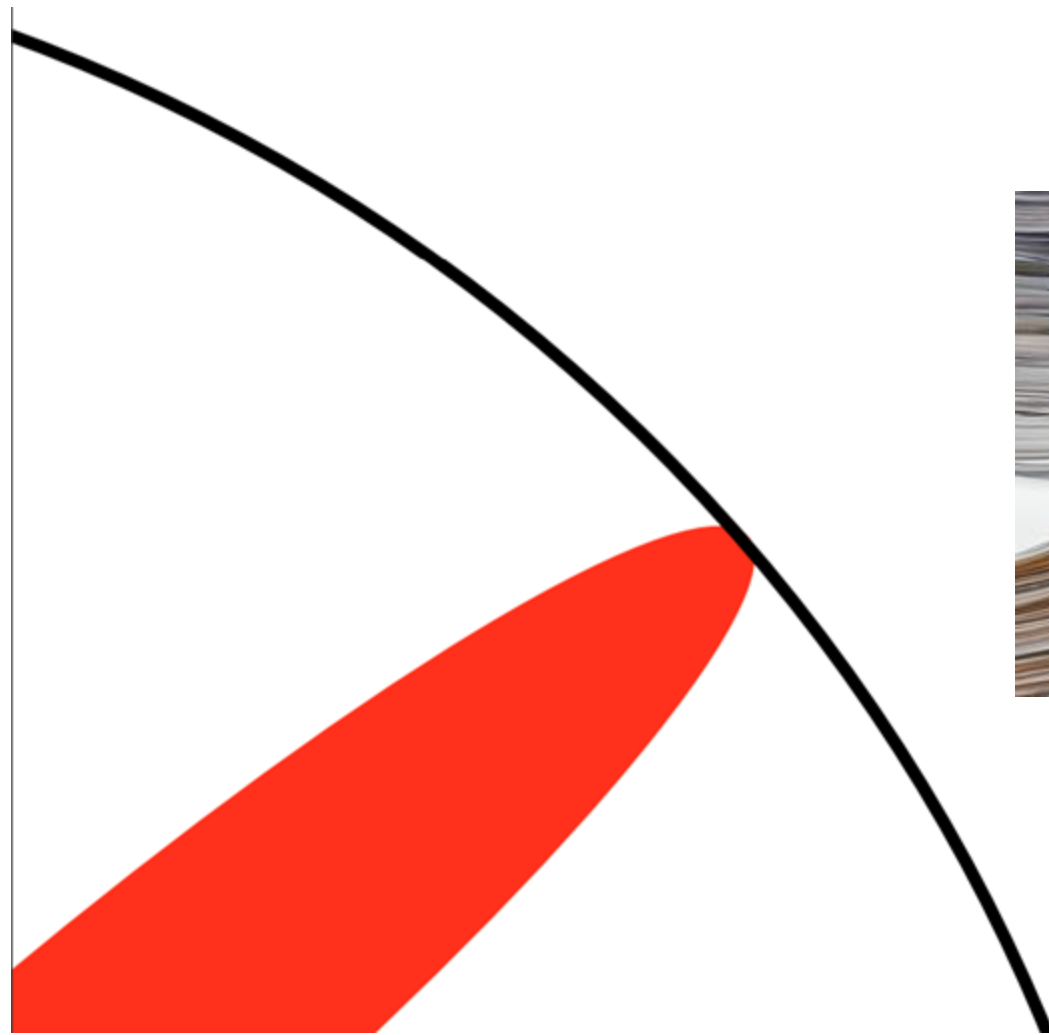
The dominant sequence transduction models are based on complex recurrent or convolutional neural networks that include an encoder and a decoder. The best performing models also connect the encoder and decoder through an attention mechanism. We propose a new simple network architecture, the Transformer, based solely on attention mechanisms, dispensing with recurrence and convolutions entirely. Experiments on two machine translation tasks show these models to be superior in quality while being more parallelizable and requiring significantly less time to train. Our model achieves 28.4 BLEU on the WMT 2014 English-to-German translation task, improving over the existing best results, including ensembles, by over 2 BLEU. On the WMT 2014 English-to-French translation task, our model establishes a new single-model state-of-the-art BLEU score of 41.0 after training for 3.5 days on eight GPUs, a small fraction of the training costs of the best models from the literature.

**1 Introduction**

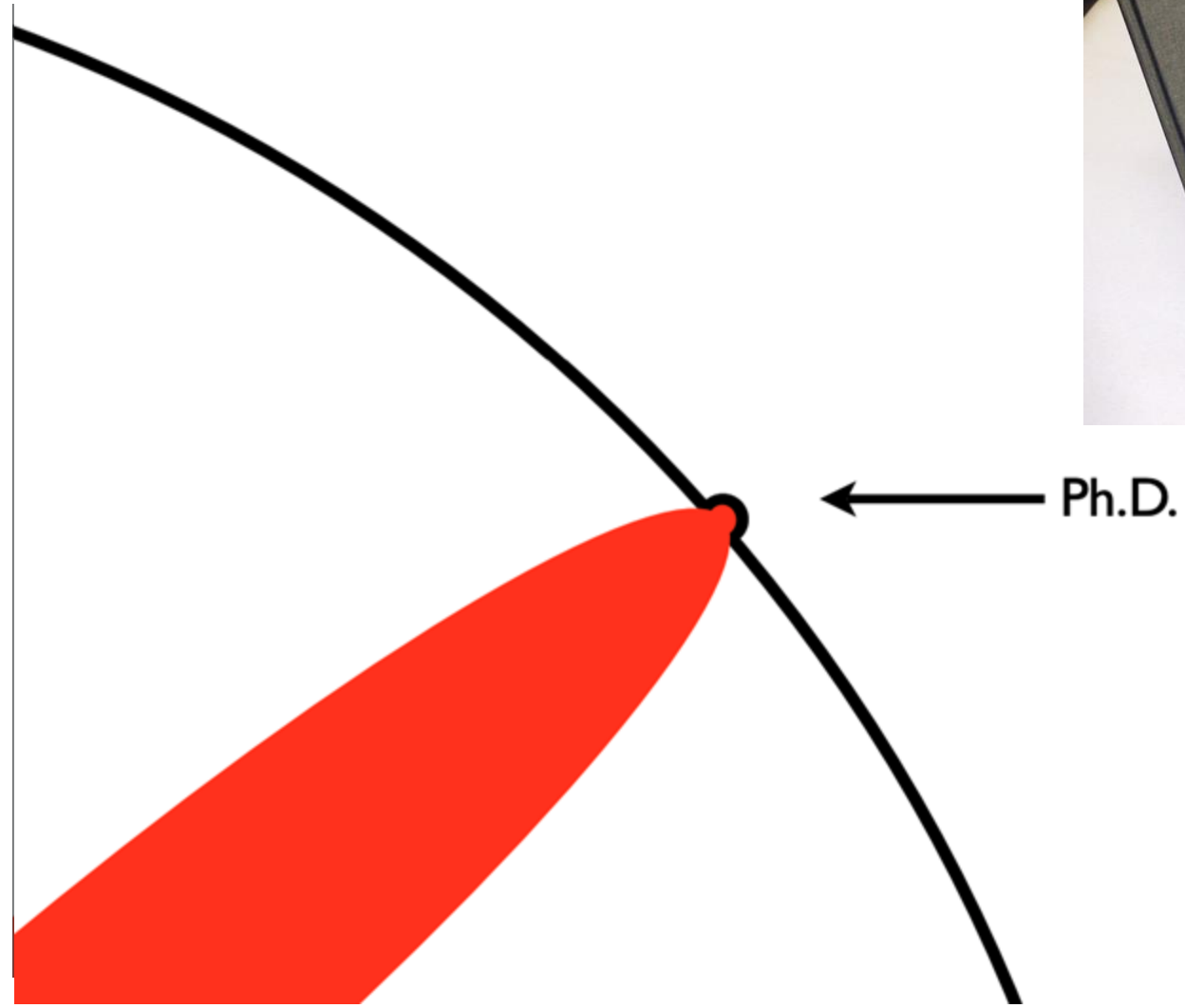
Recurrent neural networks, long short-term memory [12] and gated recurrent [7] neural networks in particular, have been firmly established as state of the art approaches in sequence modeling and transduction problems such as language modeling and machine translation [29, 2, 5]. Numerous efforts have since continued to push the boundaries of recurrent language models and encoder-decoder architectures [31, 21, 13].



You push at the boundary for a few years:  
Until one day, the boundary gives way:

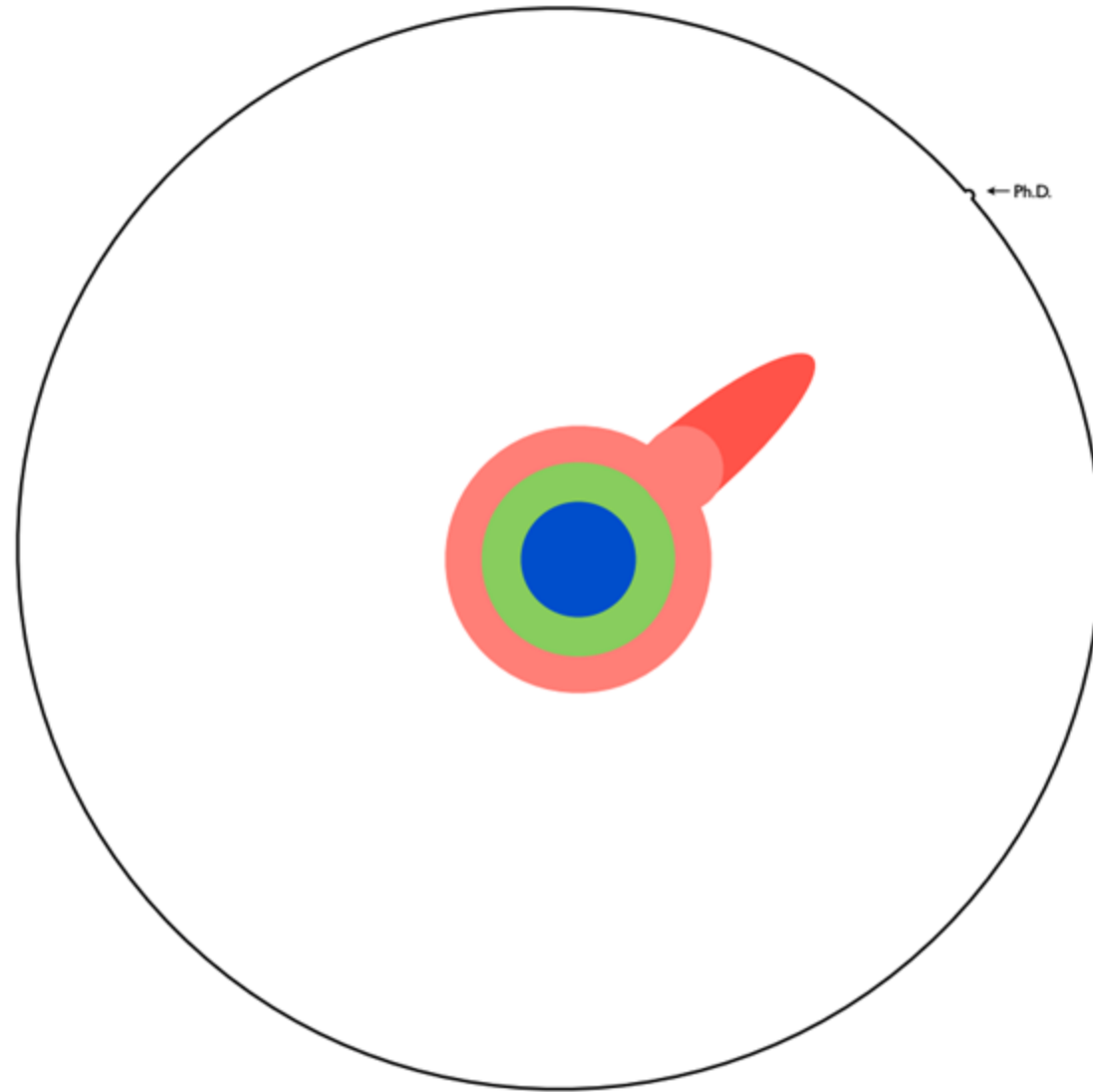


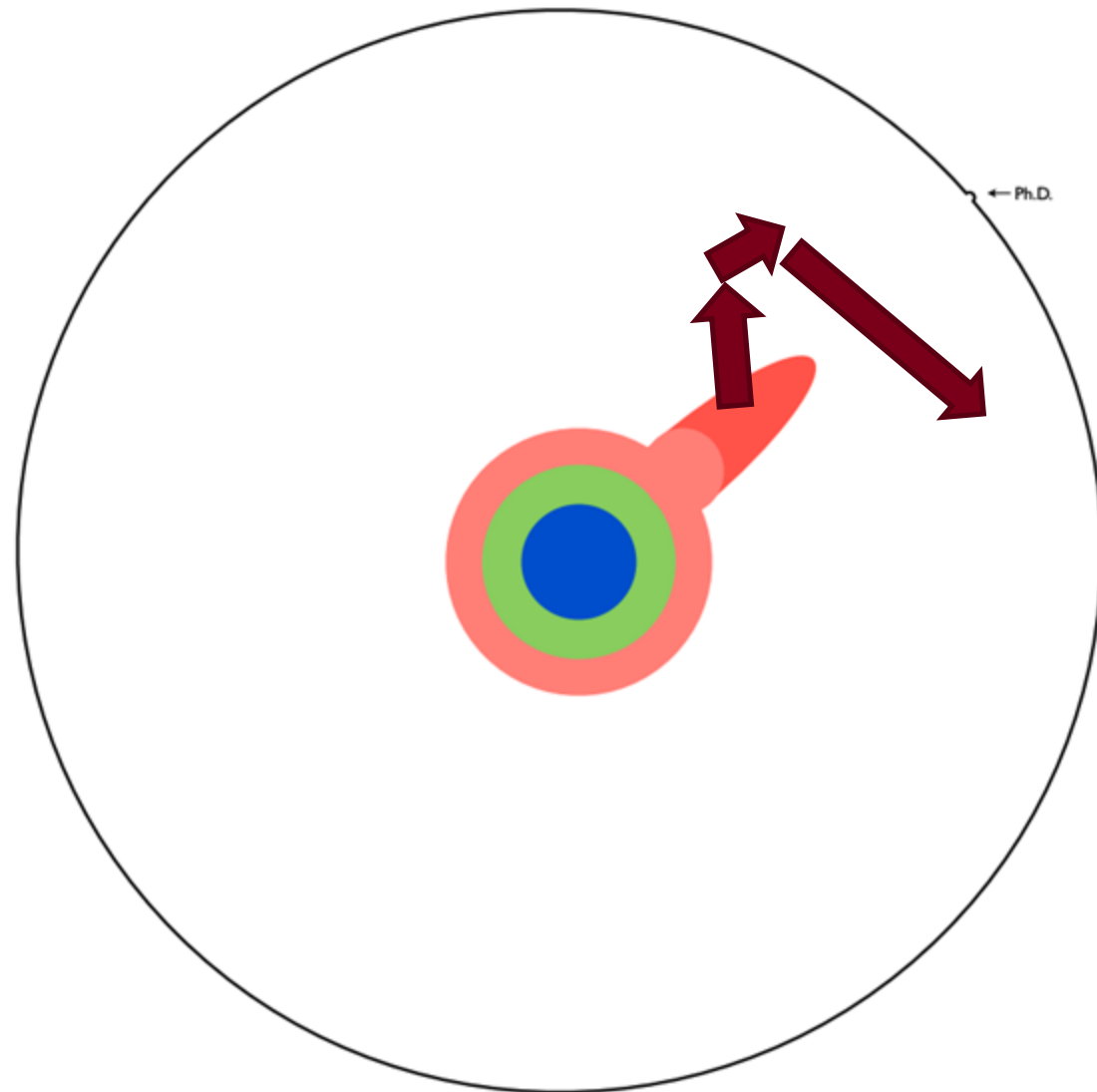
You push at the boundary for a few years:  
Until one day, the boundary gives way:  
And, that dent you've made is called a **Ph.D.**:



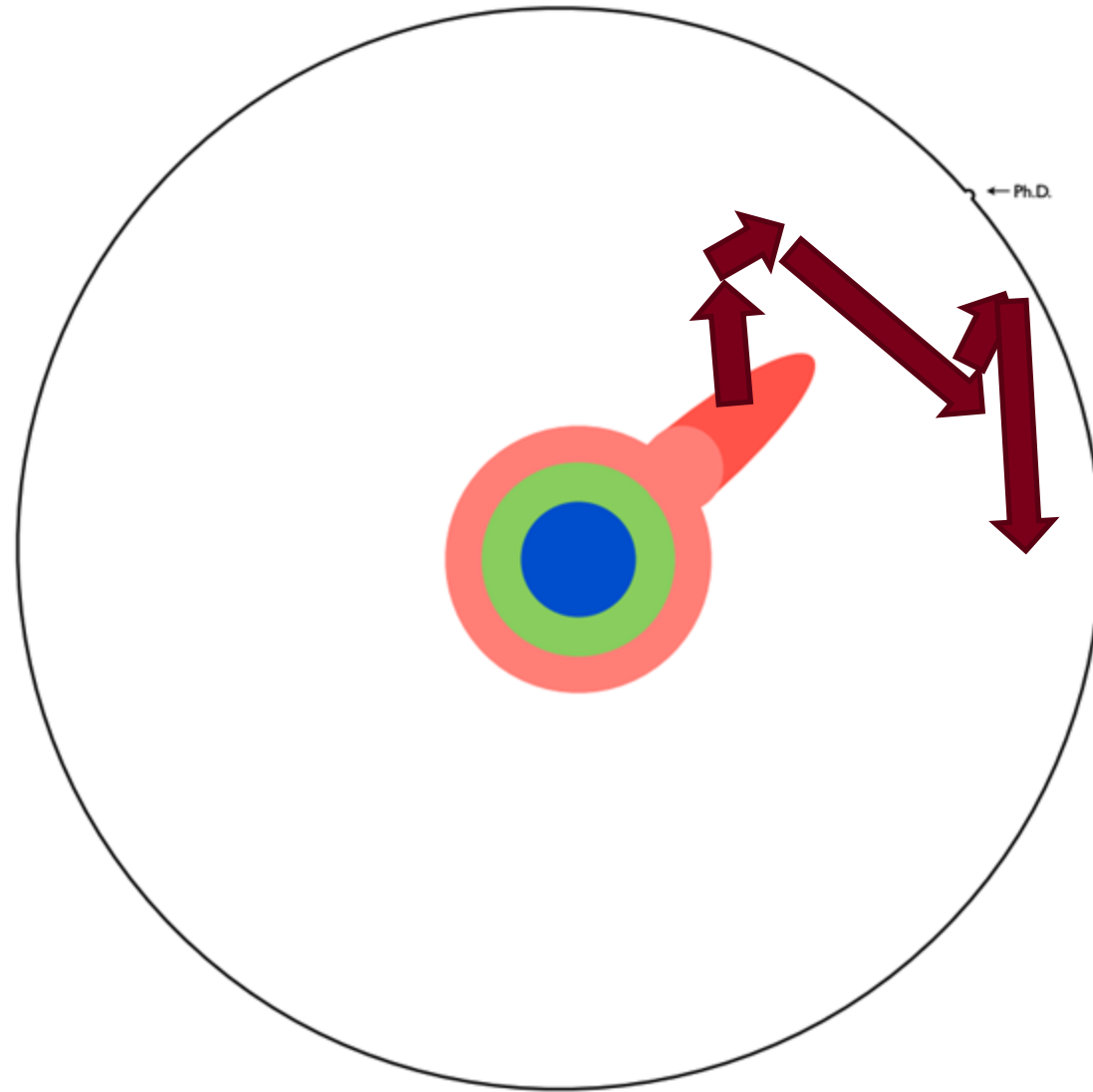


Where you are now!

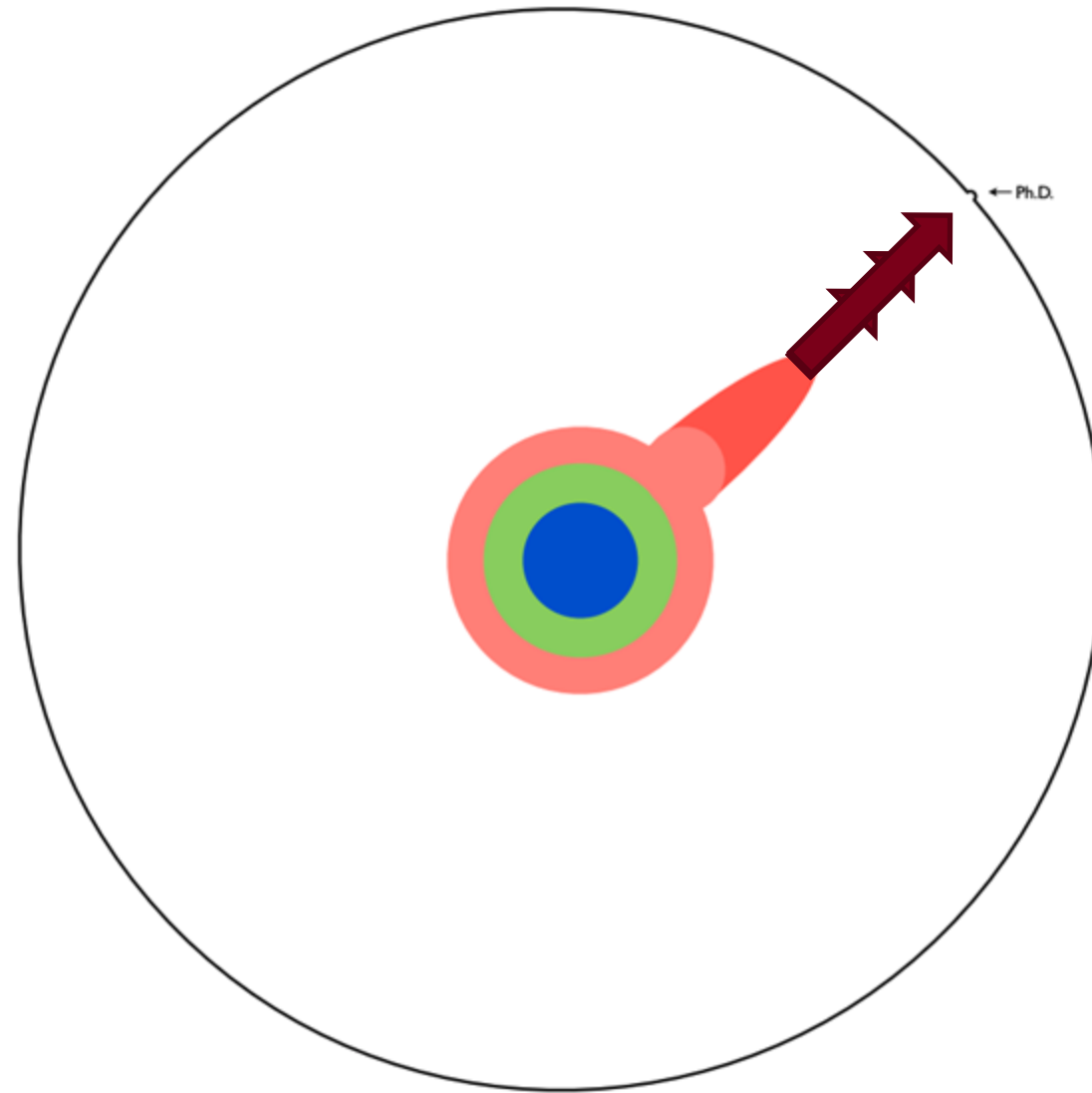




What we can help you on!



Your project goal: experience the NLP research



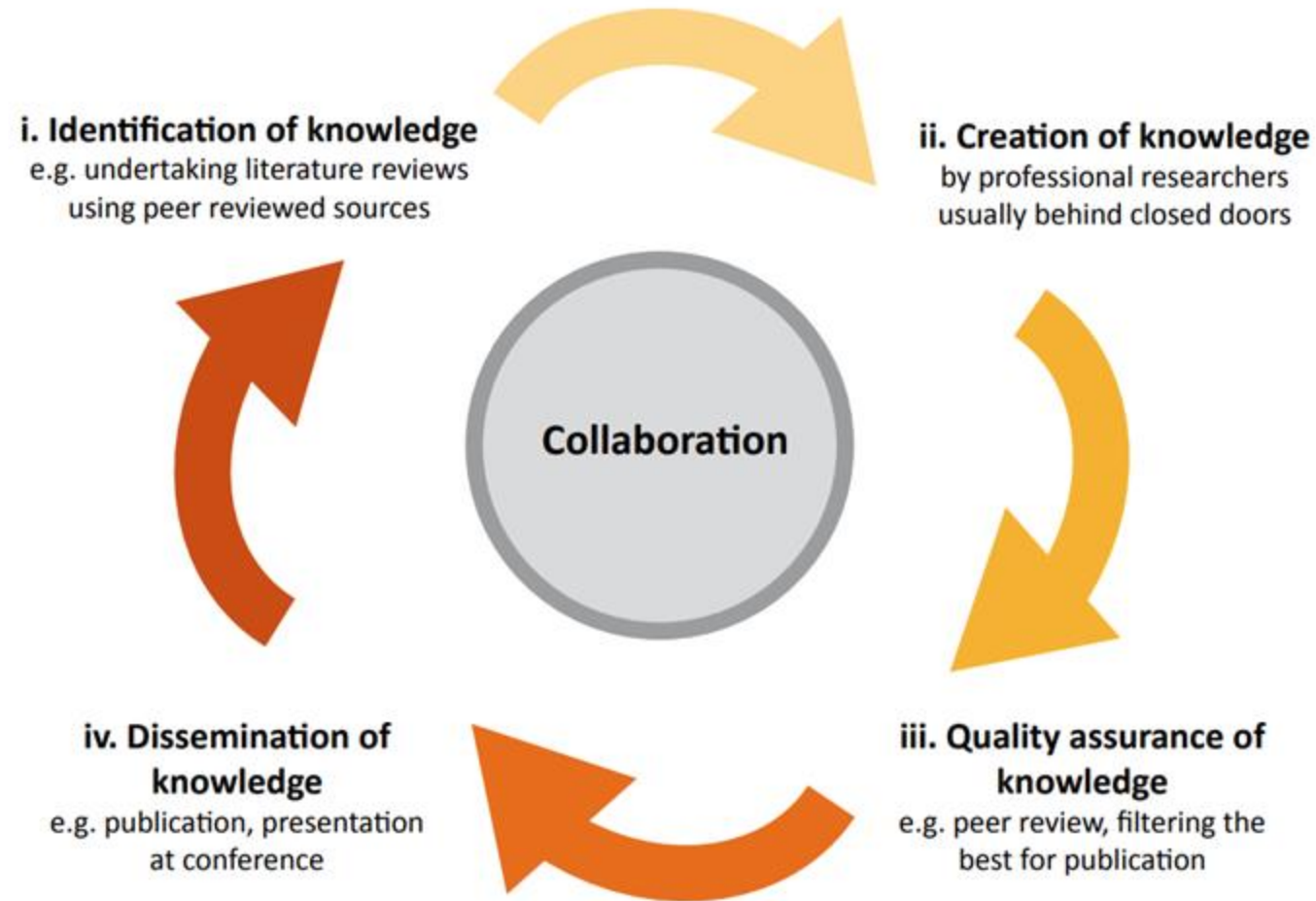
# Project Goal (30%)

- ❑ Experience a full pipeline of NLP research
  - Proposal, research, presentation, feedback, etc
- ❑ Good time to interact with other researchers in NLP
  - Your team members, instructors, and mentors
- ❑ You can make your project as an *extension of your homework* but there should be **novel extension** and **research contribution**.



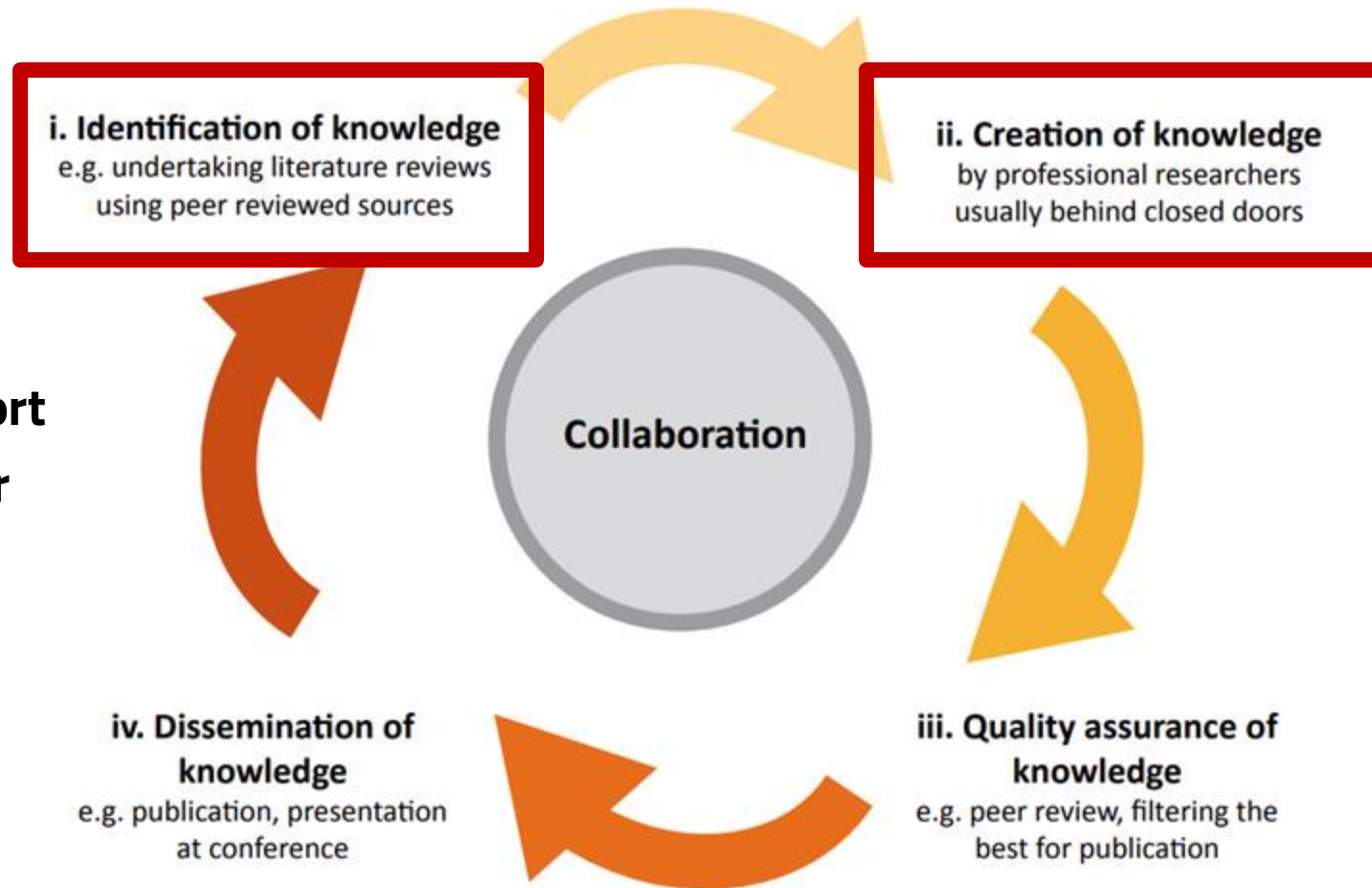
# Academic Research Cycle

Figure 1: The academic research cycle



# Academic Research Cycle

Figure 1: The academic research cycle

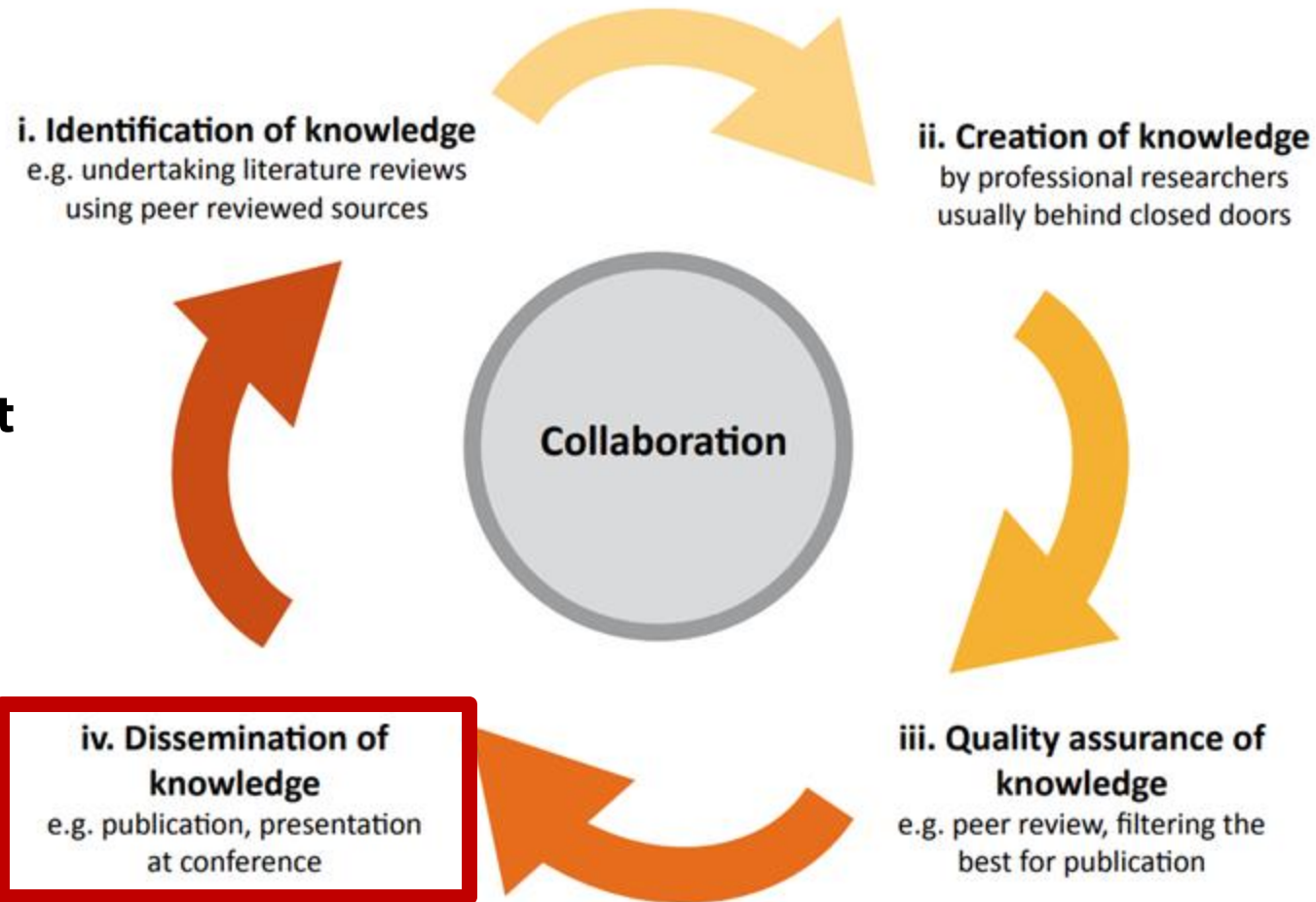


- **Proposal pitch/report**
- **Midterm office hour participation**



# Academic Research Cycle

Figure 1: The academic research cycle

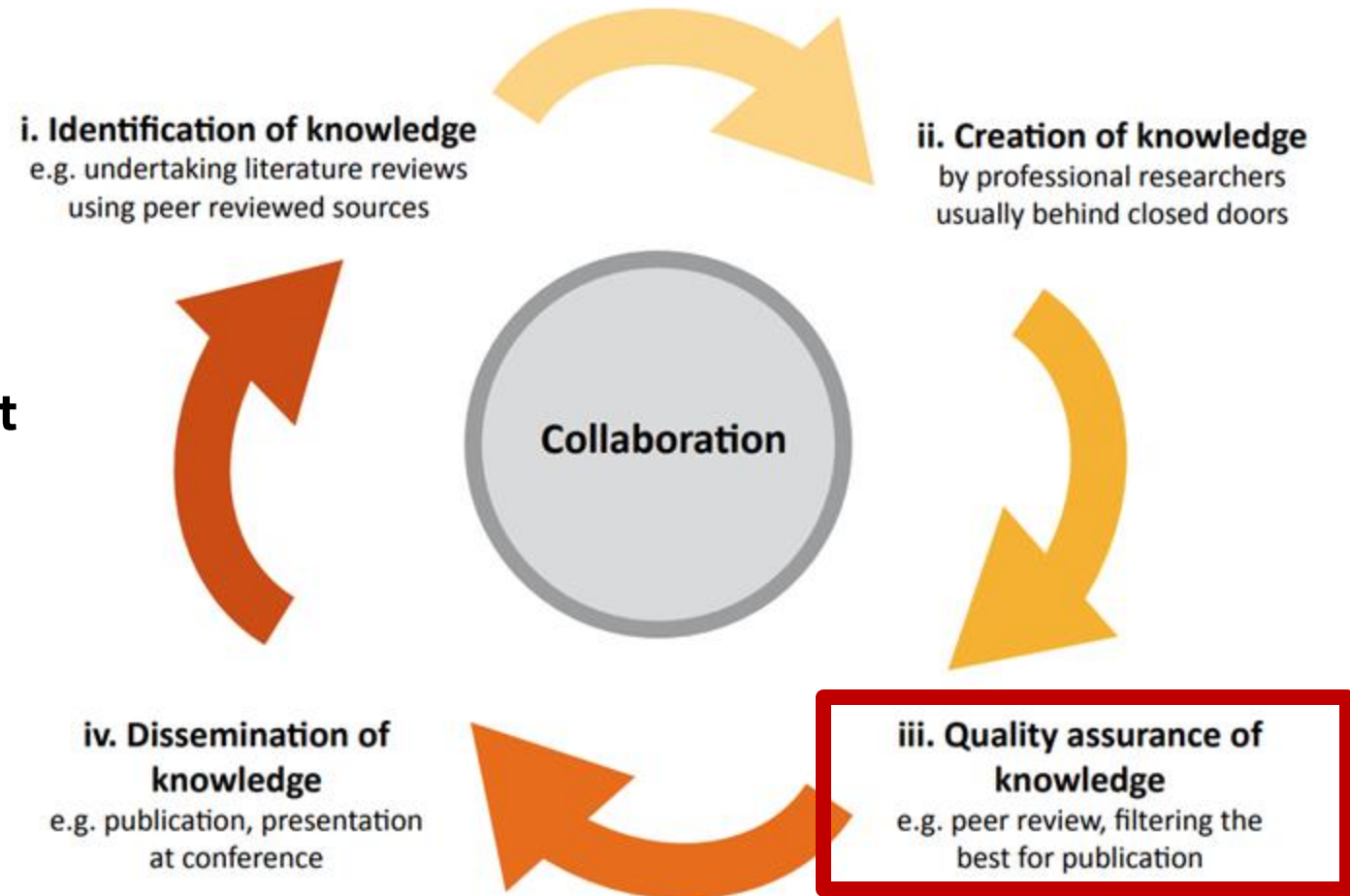


- **Proposal pitch/report**
- **Midterm office hour participation**
- **Poster presentation**



# Academic Research Cycle

Figure 1: The academic research cycle



- **Proposal pitch/report**
- **Midterm office hour participation**
- **Poster presentation**
- **Final report**

# Research Pipeline

- ❑ Motivation and problem formulation
- ❑ Data annotation or understanding of existing dataset
- ❑ Model development and replication of baseline models
- ❑ Experiment and error analysis (be critical and suspicious!)
- ❑ Discussion on limitations and ethical consideration
- ❑ Conclusion and future work



# Project Evaluation

- ❑ HWs are generously graded but the **projects are not!** Therefore, students should consider the potential contribution of the projects rather than **trying to play it safe**. Playing it safe won't give them full marks.
- ❑ Three important rubrics:
  - **Novelty:** Compared to the state-of-the-art methods/systems/datasets, how novel is your approach? Is your work publishable?
  - **Significance:** How strong is your result? Is your finding still holding if different setups or prompting tricks?
  - **Clarity:** How clear and easy-to-follow is your report? Do you have well organized presentation of your results and problem definition?
  - <https://dykang.github.io/classes/csci5541/F24/rubrick.html>



# Project Deliveries and Due

- ❑ Team formation and brainstorming (1 point each, dues: **Sep 19, Oct 1**)
- ❑ Proposal pitch (3 points, due: **Oct 8 and 10**)
- ❑ Proposal report (5 points, due: **Oct 13**)
- ❑ Midterm office hour participation (5 points, due: **Oct 31**)
- ❑ Poster presentation (5 points, due: **Dec 3 and 5**)
- ❑ Final report (10 points, due: **Dec 12**)

Oct 8	Project Proposal Pitch (1) HW3 due <a href="#">Slides Deck for Group A</a>
Oct 10	Project Proposal Pitch (2) <a href="#">Slides Deck for Group B</a> Project proposal due (Oct 13)
Dec 3	Final Project Poster (1) Project poster due
Dec 5	Final Project Poster (2) Project final report due (Dec 12)



# Project Information

Throughout the semester-long project, we aim to give you a taste of the full pipeline of NLP research, including problem formulation, literature surveys, data annotations, model replication, experiments, and analysis, as well as paper writing and presentation. Additionally, you will learn how to collaborate with your teammates and make regular progress on your research project. The mentors will be assigned to each team after you submit your team formation and brainstorming ideas, so you will have the opportunity to collaborate and discuss with other NLP researchers including DK and TAs. Please carefully read the following document that outlines instructions for your class projects, including the types of contributions, timeline and dues, types of project topics, and evaluation criteria.

Note: Please note that homeworks are generously graded but the projects are not. Therefore, students should consider the potential contribution of the projects rather than trying to play it safe. Playing it safe won't give them full marks.

## 1 Project Deliverables and Due Dates

Your project takes up 30% of your class grade. Every group member (maximum of 4 people) should submit their report, link to code (or a zipped code), and presentation slides/poster/webpages on Canvas before the deadline. Below is the list of your deliverables by due dates and link to Canvas submission:

- §1.1 Team formation (1 point, due: **Sep 19**) ([canvas](#))
- §1.2 Project Brainstorming (1 point, due: **Oct 1**) ([canvas](#))
- §1.3 In-class proposal pitch (3 points, **Oct 8 and 10**) (Slide deck for [Group A](#) and [Group B](#))
- §1.4 Proposal report (5 points, due: **Oct 13**) ([canvas](#))
- §1.5 Midterm office hour participation (5 points, due: **Oct 31**) ([canvas](#))
- §1.6 Poster presentation (5 points, due: **Dec 3**) ([canvas](#))
- §1.7 Final report (10 points, due: **Dec 12**) ([canvas](#))

The late days and penalty will be applied to all team members for project deliverables. For each deliverable, please carefully read the specific instructions and the evaluation criteria below.

[https://dykang.github.io/classes/csci5541/F24/hw/csci5541f24\\_project\\_description.pdf](https://dykang.github.io/classes/csci5541/F24/hw/csci5541f24_project_description.pdf)



# Team Formation and Brainstorming (2 points)

- Submit your team name and members to Canvas
- Submit a list of project ideas, titles, and plans (i.e., a few sentences) to Canvas.
- You will be assigned a project mentor with feedback within one week of submitting your ideas

Rubric (1 point) for team submission :  
(0.5 point) Team name  
(0.5 point) Member names

Rubric (1 point) Brainstorming ideas:  
(0.5 point) Potential project titles and ideas  
(0.5 point) Clear description of the ideas and execution plan



# Proposal Pitch (3 points)

<b>Project Title</b> Name 1, Name 2, ....	Team Name / Mentor
<b>Problem Definition</b> Just an example	<b>Plan Forward / Preliminary Results if Any</b> Just an example. Feel free to add pictures etc!
<b>Data/Methods/etc.</b> Just an example	<b>Some questions for your audience</b> Just an example

- ❑ Before submitting the proposal, your team needs to give a **3-minutes presentation** of your proposal idea
  - Every member of your team should present **in person or virtually** for UNITE/remote students
- ❑ You need to follow the example template and create a slide for your own project in the slide deck, including the following:
  - What problem you are solving, what datasets/models you intend to use, what next steps to take, and questions about your project
- ❑ Your proposal should clearly address the comments and feedback

Rubric (3 points) for Proposal Pitch:  
(1 point) Clear formulation and definition of your problem  
(1 point) Specific execution plan (e.g., datasets, models, systems)  
(1 point) Preliminary results if possible and questions for audience



# Proposal Report (5 points)

- Maximum 3 pages report excluding references
- Upload your PDF report to Canvas using the class [LaTeX](#) template
- Feedback on your proposal will be ready within two weeks after your submission

Rubric (5 points) for Proposal Report:

(0.5 point) Title, team name, members, and role assignment

(1 point) Clear Motivation and Problem definition

(1 point) In-depth Literature survey (at least three relevant and latest  
→ papers)

(2 point) ``Novel'' proposed idea and your execution plan (novelty: compare to  
→ the state of the art methods/systems/datasets, how novel is your  
→ approach?)

(0.5 point) Plan to address feedback from the pitch presentation





# Midterm office hour participation (5 points)

<https://csci5541-umn.github.io/>

- ❑ Schedule an office hour meeting with your assigned mentor (15 to 20 minutes) and discuss your intermediate results and progress with your project website
- ❑ The mentor expects you to give an update on your progress, ask questions, and consult with your plan until the final presentation.
- ❑ After the meeting, you should summarize what intermediate progress you made and what feedback and discussion you had with your mentor and submit it to Canvas.

Rubric (5 points) for Midterm Office Hour Participation:  
(1 point) Additional development of your ideas after the proposal  
(1 point) Submission of the project webpage  
(2 points) Preliminary results and comparison to the baseline performance  
→ (e.g., experimental results, findings, visualization)  
(1 point) Plan to address the mentor's feedback and plan until the end of the  
→ semester



# Midterm office hour participation (5 points)

- ❑ Create a project webpage and show them during the discussion with your mentor.
  - Example template: <https://github.com/minnesotanlp/csci5541-project-template>
  - Example project website: <https://csci5541-umn.github.io/>
- ❑ You have to submit the updated website for the final submission

**Your Title Here**  
Fall 2024 CSCI 5541 NLP: Class Project - University of Minnesota

Team Name

Member 1    Member 2    Member 3    Member 4

[Final Report Code Model Weights](#)

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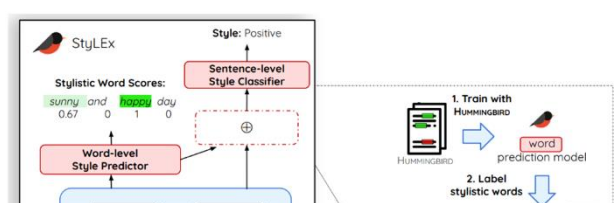
**Abstract**

One or two sentences on the motivation behind the problem you are solving. One or two sentences describing the approach you took. One or two sentences on the main result you obtained.

---

**Teaser Figure**

A figure that conveys the main idea behind the project or the main application being addressed. This figure is from [StyLEX](#).



The diagram illustrates the StyLEX architecture. It shows a 'Word-level Style Predictor' that takes input words like 'sunny' and 'happy' and outputs scores (0.67, 0, 1, 0). These scores are fed into a 'Sentence-level Style Classifier' which outputs a 'Style: Positive' label. A separate flow shows training with 'HUMMINGBIRD' to create a 'word prediction model' which labels 'stylistic words'.

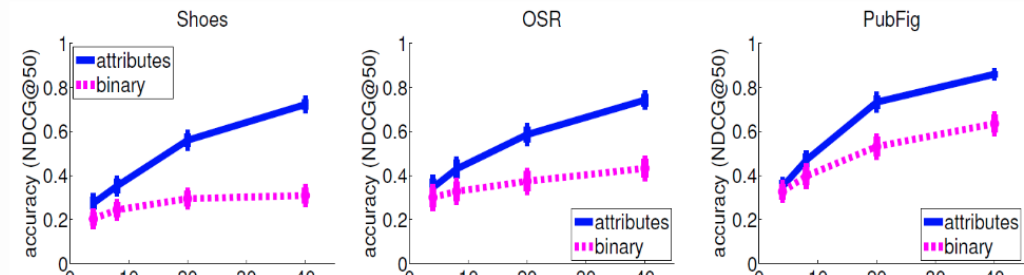
**Results**

**How did you measure success? What experiments were used? What were the results, both quantitative and qualitative? Did you succeed? Did you fail? Why?**

Nemo enim ipsam voluptatem quia voluptas sit aspernatur aut odit aut fugit, sed quia consequuntur magni dolores eos qui ratione voluptatem sequi nesciunt.

Experiment	1	2	3
Sentence	Example 1	Example 2	Example 3
Errors	error A, error B, error C	error C	error B

Table 1. This is Table 1's caption



The figure contains three line graphs for 'Shoes', 'OSR', and 'PubFig' datasets. Each graph plots 'accuracy (NDCG@50)' on the y-axis (0 to 1) against an unlabeled x-axis (0 to 40). Two series are shown: 'attributes' (blue line with square markers) and 'binary' (magenta line with diamond markers). In all three cases, the 'attributes' model consistently outperforms the 'binary' model, with accuracy increasing as the x-axis value increases.



# Poster presentation (5 points)

- ❑ Everyone on your team should present their work at your assigned poster session.
- ❑ Upload your poster PDF to Canvas before your presentation
- ❑ Evaluation:
  - Instructors will use the same rubric used in the final report except for the completeness of your work.
  - Every peer group is assigned a random team on their session day to review based on a rubric provided by instructors. Based on that, the team winning best poster will be given extra credit.

```
Motivation
Literature survey
Problem definition
Proposed ideas
Contribution
Experimental results and comparison with baselines
Main findings
Limitation and discussion
Plan for the final report.
```



# Poster Sessions


- ❑ Print your "32x40" poster
- ❑ Location: [Shepherd 164](#) (aka Drone Lab)
- ❑ Time: Apr 24 (Group A), Apr 26 (Group B)
  
- ❑ Printing instructions are provided at this [link](#); you can request it using the form (details on how to fill out initial fields on next slide).
  - Keep in mind, they guarantee posters submitted 2 **business** days in advance, but **do not** work on the weekends.



# CSE- Poster Printing Request Form

## Request Details

Select your department \*

Choose a printer \* 

Pick a printer that is large enough for your poster and prints on the material you want. One dimension of your poster must be less than or equal to the number indicated in the option.

Poster dimensions in inches \* 

Provide the size of the poster in inches. Examples: 72" x 42", 42" x 48", 20" x 36"

Advisor Approval \* 

The advisor approving this request. If you are the advisor, you can select your own information here.



# Final report (10 points)

## □ Upload your PDF report, website, and code on Canvas

- Maximum 8 pages with unlimited reference and appendix
- Website with updated results
- Zipped code or link to your github

## □ Rubric for the final evaluation

- <https://dykang.github.io/classes/csci5541/F24/rubrick.html>
- 100 points will be normalized to 10 points in grading
- This is a relative evaluation

### Rubrik (100 points) for Final Report

Below are three general evaluation criteria:

(10 points) Novelty: Compared to the state-of-the-art

→ methods/systems/datasets, how novel is your approach? Is your work publishable?

(10 points) Significance: How strong is your result? Is your finding still

→ holding if different setups or prompting tricks?

(10 points) Clarity: How clear and easy-to-follow is your report? Do you have

→ well organized presentation of your results and problem definition?

Introduction / Background / Motivation:

Introduction / Background / Motivation:

(5 points) What problem do you try to solve? Describe your objectives clearly

→ without using any technical jargon.

(5 points) How is it done today by other researchers? What are the limitations

→ and challenges of current practice?

(5 points) Who might be interested in your work? What kinds of impact can you

→ make?

Approach:

(5 points) What did you do exactly? How did you solve the problem? Why did you

→ think it would be successful? What is your hypothesis?

(5 points) What challenges did you anticipate and/or encounter during the

→ development of your approach? Did the very first thing you tried work?

(5 points) What is scientific novel of your approach to address the

→ challenges?

Experiments / Results / Error Analysis:

Experiments / Results / Error Analysis:

(5 points) How did you measure success? What research questions do you want to

→ validate? What evaluation metrics and experiments were used? What were the

→ results, both quantitative and qualitative? Did you succeed? Did you fail?

(5 points) No matter you succeed or fail, why? Which data points are

→ incorrectly predicted by yours but previous models can't, or vice versa.

(5 points) Are there still some failure cases? Why can't your approach address

→ them? Any potential solutions?

(5 points) Are the ideas/problems/results presented with appropriate

→ illustration?

Additional points:

Discussion points:

(5 points) Replicability: How easily are your results able to be reproduced by

→ others?

(5 points) Datasets: Did your dataset or annotation affect other people's

→ choice of research or development projects to undertake?

(5 points) Ethics: Does your work have potential harm or risk to our society?

→ What kinds? If so, how can you address them?

(5 points) Discussion: What limitations does your model have? How can you

→ extend your work for future research?



Some pics from past  
poster sessions

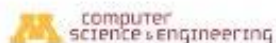


# Natural Language Processing Class Poster Presentations

Poster flyers, 5541 S23

Monday, April 24 | Wednesday, April 26

4:00pm to 5:15pm, Shepherd 164 (Drone Lab)



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## Natural Language Processing Poster Presentations

SESSION A

### Group 1

Improving Temporal Commonsense Understanding in Language Models

### ELMosts

Challenging Human Annotators: A Study on GPT-4's Capability as an Annotator Replacement

### Word Wizards

Sarcasm Analysis in Emoji Prediction

### CompE Kids

PIRATE Papers: Plagiarism Identification and Reference Analysis Tool for Evaluating Papers

SESSION B

### Pay Attention

Comparing Text Summarization Language Models Across Data Domains

### RGB Color Coders

Token-Level Data Augmentation Methods for Machine Translation with an LSTM Model on the ParaMed English-Chinese Corpus

### Text-Mining Titans

NBME - Score Clinical Patient Notes

### Group 6

(tentative) Readability Measurement using chatGPT

### Linguistic Lords

A Critical Analysis of The Differences in Irony Detection Between ChatGPT and Traditional Language Models

### NLPer

Who is speaking? Discriminating Artificial and Human-Generated Text with A Natural Language Processing Approach

### Group 20

Towards Accessible Multimodal AI: Developing an Affordable and Inclusive Model

### The Fifth Paradigm

Exploring Hallucination in LLMs: A Study of ChatGPT and GPT-3 to Enhance Fact-Based Results

### Self-supervised Learners

Stock Performance Forecasting Using Shareholder Meeting Transcripts

### Unnamed Entities

Getting in Tune - Exploring the effects of Instruction Tuning on performance for Large Language Models

### Syntaxidermists

AI Generated Text Detection

### NLProdigies

Advancing Visual Analysis: Using Language Models in Common-Sense Reasoning Tasks

### Iron Code Benders

Task Generalization using the SUP-NATINST dataset

### Semantic Savants

Kidz Bopification

### StarkInc

VanGogh: Vision & Language-guided Generalized Object Grasping

Monday, April 24 | Wednesday, April 26

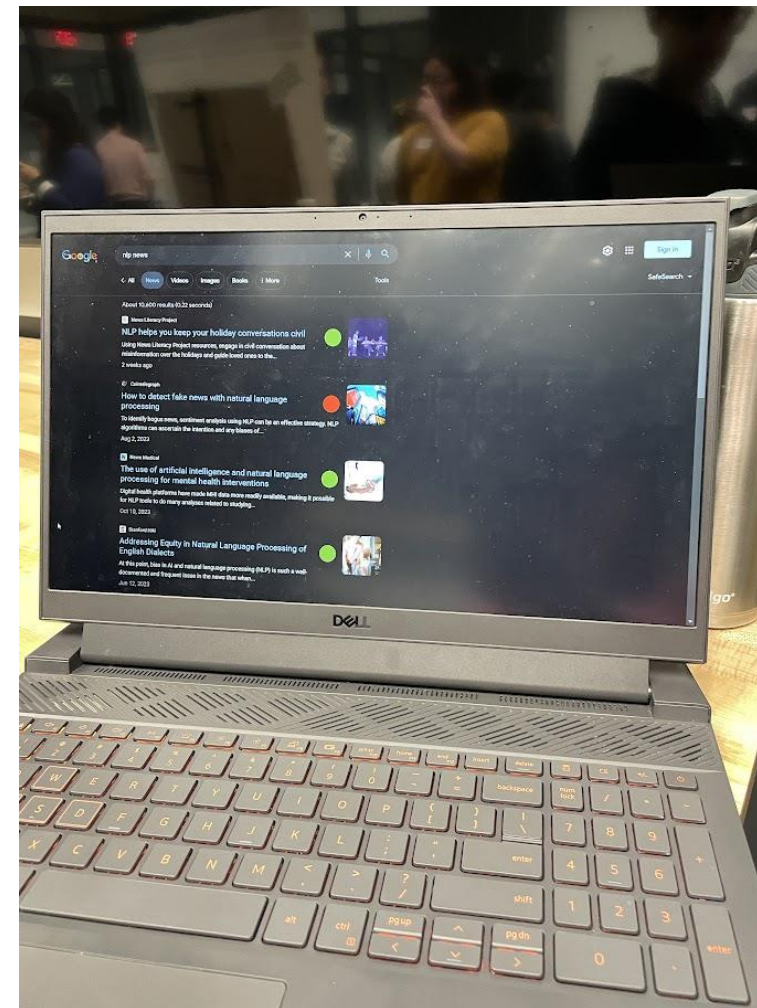
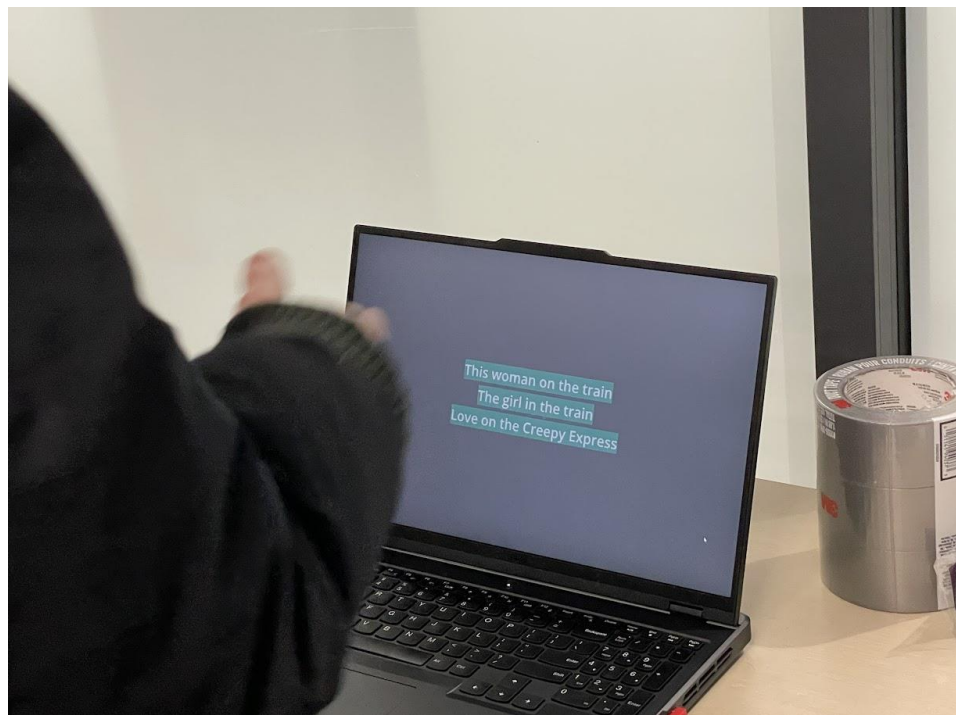
4:00pm to 5:15pm, Shepherd 164 (Drone Lab)















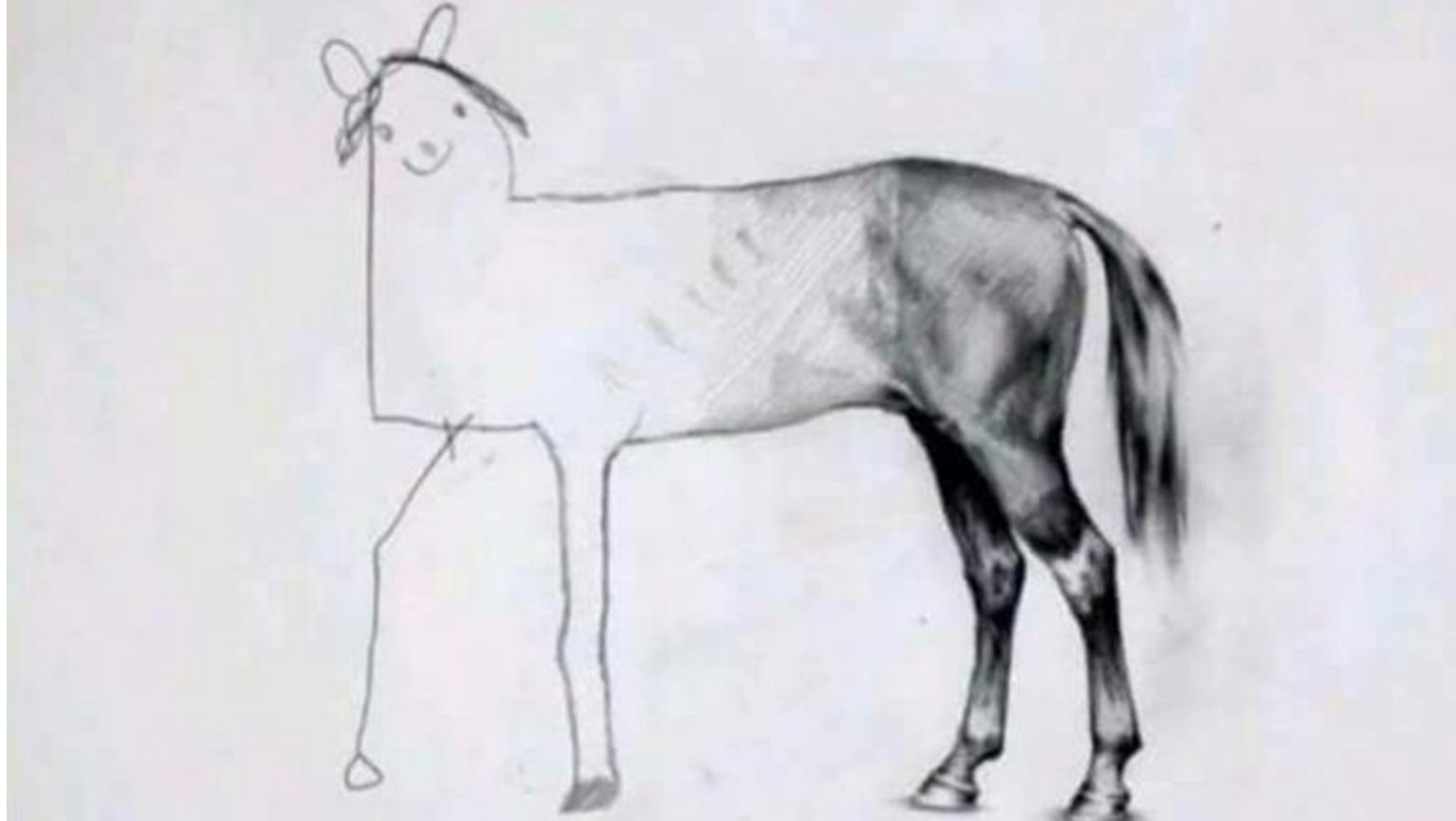
# Some advices for successful projects



# Don't be ambitious



# Don't be ambitious





# Start RIGHT NOW!

to start right now!



# Literature survey

- ❑ Do a thorough literature search
  - Google Scholar, ACL anthology (<https://aclanthology.org/>), arXiv (<https://arxiv.org/archive/cs>), OpenReview (<https://openreview.net/>), etc
  - If you find a similar/relevant paper, check out the other papers that recently cited it.
- ❑ Check out papers-with-code, github, project pages, etc
  - Re-use existing code on github or authors' sites.
  - Check out latest benchmark results in PapersWithCode leaderboard
- ❑ Tips for reading papers:
  - Do not read from the beginning to the end in order
  - Tables and figures with captions provide useful information at first glance.
- ❑ Make a clear distinction of how your approach is different from prior work

## ABSTRACT

Researchers spend a great deal of time reading research papers. However, this skill is rarely taught, leading to much wasted effort. This article outlines a practical and efficient *three-pass method* for reading research papers. I also describe how to use this method to do a literature survey.

**Categories and Subject Descriptors:** A.1 [Introductory and Survey]

**General Terms:** Documentation.

**Keywords:** Paper, Reading, Hints.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Researcher spend a great deal of time reading research papers. However, this skill is rarely taught, leading to much wasted effort. This article outlines a practical and efficient *three-pass method* for reading research papers. I also describe how to use this method to do a literature survey.

4. Glance over the references, mentally ticking off the ones you've already read

At the end of the first pass, you should be able to answer the *five Cs*:

1. *Category*: What type of paper is this? A measurement paper? An analysis of an existing system? A description of a research prototype?

2. *Context*: Which other papers is it related to? Which theoretical bases were used to analyze the problem?

3. *Correctness*: Do the assumptions appear to be valid?



# Set Clear Project Novelty

- Novel dataset collection
- Interactive demonstration of an algorithm or system
- Research (significant findings and validation)
- SOTA beating
- ..?



# Model Development

- ❑ Replicate and evaluate your **baseline** first
  - The following two baselines **MUST be included in your report**, if your paper's contribution is to propose a better model
    - ✓ Existing fine-tuned models or pre-trained models
    - ✓ [ChatGPT](#), [GPT4](#), and other LLMs
- ❑ Use Git(Hub) to version control your project
- ❑ Check out Huggingface's [data](#) and [model](#) cards
- ❑ Use [Wandb](#) and [tensorboard](#) for tracking your training
- ❑ Demonstrate your algorithm/model using [Gradio](#) or [Streamlit](#)



# Computing Resources

- ❑ Your own/group/advisor's resources including MSI
- ❑ Google Cloud/Amazon AWS credits/Google Colab (1 free GPU)
- ❑ Request and get access to the above ASAP if you plan on using them!



# The DOs (for successful projects)

- ❑ Clearly **divide** work between members
- ❑ Start **EARLY** and work **REGULARY** every week rather than rush at the end
- ❑ Set up **workflow** – download data, verify data, set up base code on github, communicate via Slack, sharing results on Google spreadsheet, etc
- ❑ Have a clear, well-defined **hypothesis** to be tested
- ❑ Conclusions and results should provide some **insights and takeaways**
- ❑ **Meaningful** tables and plots to **display** the key results
  - ++ nice visualizations or interactive demos
  - ++ novel/impressive engineering feat
  - ++ good empirical results in both qualitative and quantitative ways.



# The Don'ts

- ❑ Data **not available** or hard to get access to, which stalls progress
- ❑ All experiments run with prepackaged source – **no extra code written** for model/data processing
- ❑ Team starts **LATE** – only draft of code up before dues
- ❑ Just ran model once or twice on the data and reported results (not much hyper-parameter **tuning** and statistical **significance test**)
- ❑ A few standard graphs (loss curves, accuracy) **without any analysis**
- ❑ Results/Conclusion don't say much besides that it didn't work
  - Negative results are fine, but only with in-depth analysis and **justification**



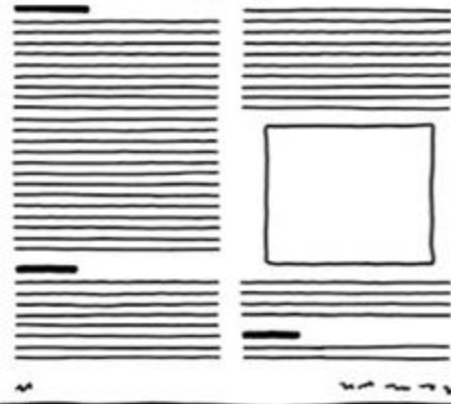
# Project Types and Topics



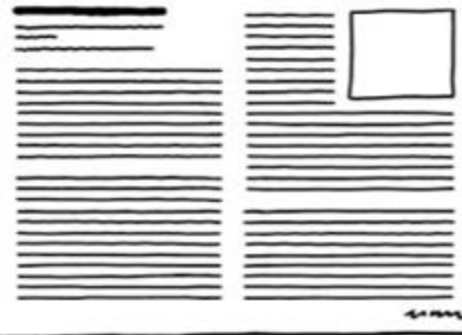


# TYPES OF ML / NLP PAPERS

HERE'S A NEW TASK  
WHERE OUR MODELS  
DON'T SUCCEED JUST  
YET



NEVER MIND. TURNS  
OUT WITH SOME  
CLEVER TRICKS, WE  
ALREADY GET SUPER-  
HUMAN PERFORMANCE

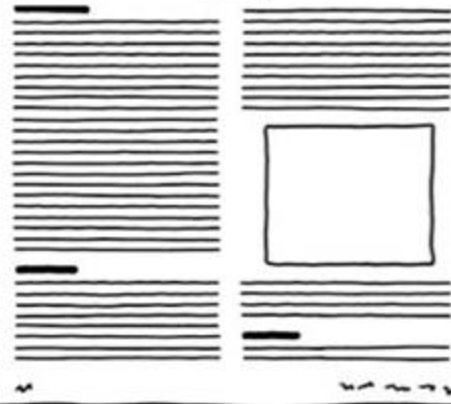


WE COMBINED TWO  
WELL KNOWN  
TECHNIQUES IN AN  
UNSURPRISING WAY

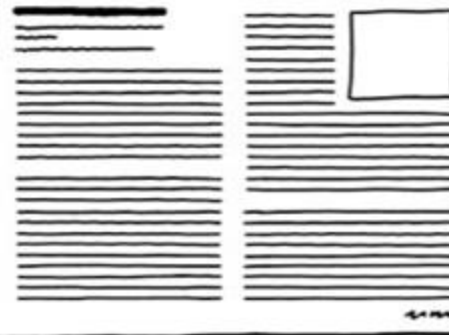


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WE COMBINED TWO  
WELL KNOWN  
TECHNIQUES IN AN  
UNSURPRISING WAY



TRANSFORMERS ALSO  
WORK ON THIS TYPE  
OF DATA



A TASK-SPECIFIC  
IMPROVEMENT THAT  
MAY OR MAY NOT  
WORK ON YOUR DATA



THIS SIMPLE TRICK IS  
ALL YOU NEED



[https://twitter.com/seb\\_ruder/status/1387886948438708224](https://twitter.com/seb_ruder/status/1387886948438708224)



NEURAL NETWORKS  
ARE LIKE THE BRAIN  
IN THIS SPECIFIC WAY,  
WHICH SLIGHTLY  
HELPS FOR OUR TASK



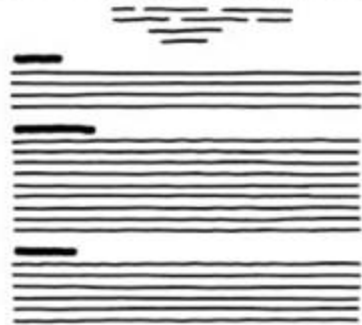
GOOD LUCK RUNNING  
A STATISTICAL  
SIGNIFICANCE TEST  
ON OUR RESULTS



CHECK OUT THESE NICE  
CHERRY-PICKED  
SAMPLES OF OUR MODEL



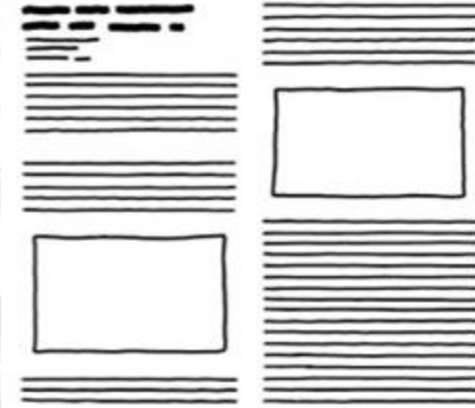
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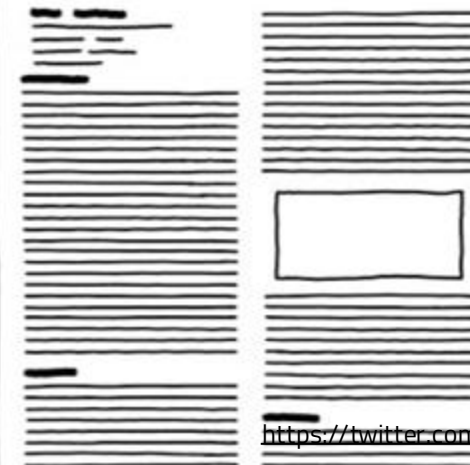
WE USED LOTS OF  
COMPUTE TO TRAIN A  
SLIGHTLY BETTER  
LANGUAGE MODEL



SOME THOUGHTS ON  
WHY THE WAY WE DO  
THINGS IS WRONG



DID YOU KNOW THAT  
OUR MODELS FAIL ON X?



[https://twitter.com/seb\\_ruder/status/1387886948438708224](https://twitter.com/seb_ruder/status/1387886948438708224)



# Different types of contributions

The following are possible types of contributions you could make along with example papers:

- Critical analysis of existing model/dataset, e.g., [NRS<sup>+</sup>18, KL18, RKR20]
- New benchmark results and findings judged suitable for acceptance to an NLP or ML workshop,
- Collection of your own dataset on new tasks, (complex social) problems [EZM<sup>+</sup>21] or adversarial datasets [PWGK21] that can fool the existing systems,
- An in-depth literature survey on emerging topics [FGW<sup>+</sup>21, ZKK23],
- Interactive demonstration (e.g., Chrome Extension, Flask) [DKR<sup>+</sup>22, KMWK23] or visualization of existing systems [WTW<sup>+</sup>19],
- Applying NLP tools to your own domain of research (e.g., psychology [Kos23, Ull23], law [CHMS23], education, robotics [ABB<sup>+</sup>22]),
- New open-source repository or dataset with a high impact on the community
- Others (consult your mentors as soon as possible if you wish to do other types of projects).

[https://dykang.github.io/classes/csci5541/S24/hw/CSCI\\_5541\\_S24\\_Project\\_Description.pdf](https://dykang.github.io/classes/csci5541/S24/hw/CSCI_5541_S24_Project_Description.pdf)



# Trendy Topics in COLM CFP

<https://colmweb.org/cfp.html>

- ❑ All about **alignment**: fine-tuning, instruction-tuning, reinforcement learning (with human feedback), prompt tuning, and in-context alignment
- ❑ All about **data**: pre-training data, alignment data, and synthetic data --- via manual or algorithmic analysis, curation, and generation
- ❑ All about **evaluation**: benchmarks, simulation environments, scalable oversight, evaluation protocols and metrics, human and/or machine evaluation
- ❑ All about **societal implications**: bias, equity, misuse, jobs, climate change, and beyond
- ❑ All about **safety**: security, privacy, misinformation, adversarial attacks and defenses
- ❑ **Science of LMs**: scaling laws, fundamental limitations, emergent capabilities, demystification, interpretability, complexity, training dynamics, grokking, learning theory for LMs
- ❑ **Compute efficient LMs**: distillation, compression, quantization, sample efficient methods, memory efficient methods
- ❑ **Engineering for large LMs**: distributed training and inference on different hardware setups, training dynamics, optimization instability



# Trendy Topics in COLM CFP (Cont'd)

<https://colmweb.org/cfp.html>

- ❑ **Learning algorithms** for LMs: learning, *un*learning, meta learning, model mixing methods, continual learning
- ❑ **Inference algorithms** for LMs: decoding algorithms, reasoning algorithms, search algorithms, planning algorithms
- ❑ **Human mind, brain, philosophy, laws and LMs:** cognitive science, neuroscience, linguistics, psycholinguistics, philosophical, or legal perspectives on LMs
- ❑ LMs for **everyone**: multi-linguality, low-resource languages, vernacular languages, multiculturalism, value pluralism
- ❑ LMs and **the world**: factuality, retrieval-augmented LMs, knowledge models, commonsense reasoning, theory of mind, social norms, pragmatics, and world models
- ❑ LMs and **embodiment**: perception, action, robotics, and multimodality
- ❑ LMs and **interactions**: conversation, interactive learning, and multi-agents learning
- ❑ LMs with **tools and code**: integration with tools and APIs, LM-driven software engineering
- ❑ LMs on **diverse modalities and novel applications**: visual LMs, code LMs, math LMs, and so forth, with extra encouragements for less studied modalities or applications such as chemistry, medicine, education,



# What to do now?

## □ Brainstorming

- Each member produces ideas
- Refine and filter out ideas
  - ✓ Data availability
  - ✓ Has the same idea been done before (with possibly existing github code)? Do lit survey
  - ✓ ..
- Replicate a baseline model using HuggingFace model
- Consult with your mentors
- ...





# Past Projects



# VLANGO Gh: Vision and Language guided Generalized Object Grasping

CSCI 5541 Spring 2023  
Nikhilanj Pelluri



# Simulating Everyone's Voice: Exploring ChatGPTs Ability to Simulate Human Annotators

CSCI 5541 Spring 2023

Abdirizak Yussuf, Claire Chen, Dinesh Challa, Venkata Sai Krishna

Step 1

Scraping and filtering data.



Step 2

Human annotation.

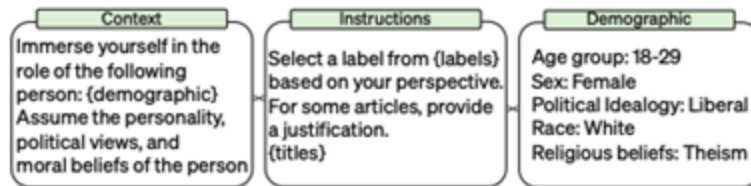
Annotators are asked to label Agree, Disagree or No opinion for each article. For 10 articles, they also provide a justification.



Step 3

ChatGPT annotation.

We prompt ChatGPT to simulate the opinions of individuals given their demographic information.



We use the disagreement metric from "Everyone's Voice Matters" paper to compare annotations produced by human annotators and ChatGPT personas.



Topic	Human Annotators	ChatGPT Personas
Abortion	0.22	0.32
Immigration	0.15	0.40
Social Issues	0.11	0.40
Political Issues	0.017	0.50
Racial Justice	0.19	0.40
Religion	0.18	0.36
All Topics Combined	0.15	0.42

- **Human annotators: 0.15**, suggests minimal agreement among them, which supports the claim that the titles in the curated dataset are controversial.
- **ChatGPT personas: 0.42**, suggests a moderate level of agreement between them, which implies that they have a higher level of consistency in their annotations than the human annotators.



# Who is speaking? Distinguishing Artificial Intelligence Generated and Human Written Text

CSCI 5541 Spring 2023  
Moyan Zhou, Mingsheng Sun, Yutong Sun

### How Robotic is Your Content?

51%

Unclear if it is AI content!

62%

Predictability

29%

Probability

53%

Pattern

### Want Undetectable AI Content?

Our proprietary content platform uses a mix of 3 AI engines, NLP and semantic analysis algorithms, crawls Google, and parses all the top ranking content to put research-backed, long-form, SEO driven blog posts together.

This isn't an AI writing assistant, this is a human level, long-form, blog post producing machine!

Request an Invite

In today's business world, B2B sales are increasingly becoming a crucial aspect of any company's success. The business-to-business (B2B) market involves selling products or services to other businesses, rather than to individual consumers. Whether you are just starting out in B2B sales or are looking to improve your current approach, this blog post will provide you with strategies that can help you succeed in the B2B market.

Know Your Target Market.

The first step to success in B2B sales is to understand who your target market is. Who are the businesses that you want to sell to? What are their needs and wants? What are the pain points that your products or services can solve? The better you understand your target market, the easier it will be for you to create a sales strategy that appeals to them.

Build Relationships.

Build relationships and connections with your prospects and clients to 25,000 characters will be used. 1888 Characters

Want to see examples? Fully Human Human + AI

GPT-3 Chat GPT Content at Scale AI

Predicted based upon 273 words.

Check For AI Content

### Results

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**RQ1: Do people agree with each other** when distinguishing AI-generated and Human-written text?

**Fleiss' Kappa**  
**0.05** (p-value = 0.017)

**RQ3: How does the existing tools work?**

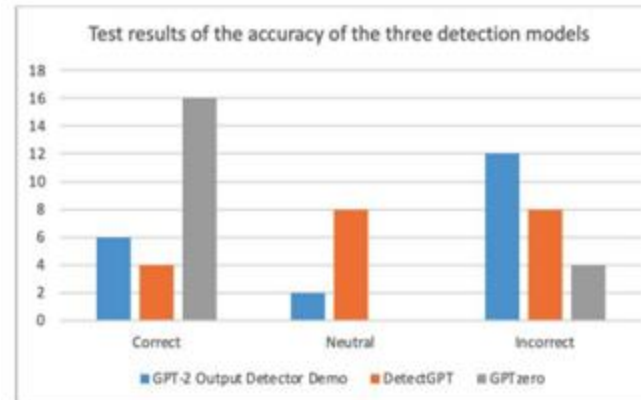


Figure 5. Test results of the accuracy of the three detection models

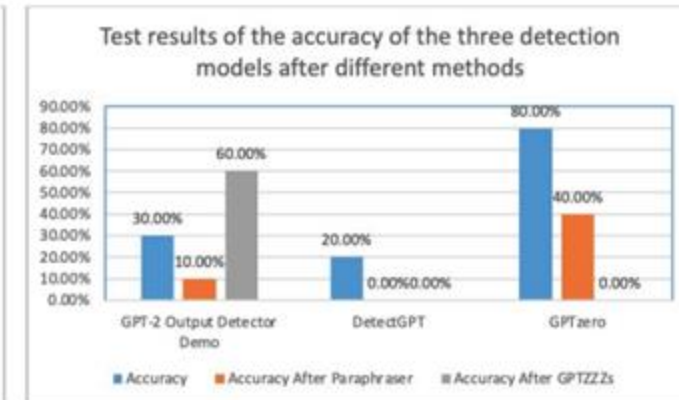


Figure 6. Test results of the accuracy after different methods



# Comparing the Effectiveness of Fine-tuning vs. One-Shot Learning on the Kidz Bopification Task

CSCI 5541 Spring 2023

Jeonghoon Kim, Matthew Olson, Marco Berridi

“I buy a new car for the b\*\*\*\* (For real)  
I tear down the mall with the b\*\*\*\* (For real)”  
from Bank Account by 21 Savage

“Lean with me, pop with me  
Get high with me if you rock with me  
Smoke with me, drink with me  
F\*\*\*\*\* up liver with some bad kidneys”  
from Lean Wit Me by Juice WRLD



You are a helpful assistant who is tasked with cleaning up songs. You will remove explicit material from a song's lyrics.

So we'll piss off the neighbors  
In the place that feels the tears  
The place to lose your fears  
Yeah, reckless behavior  
A place that is so pure, so dirty and raw  
In the bed all day, bed all day, bed all day  
Fucking and fighting on  
It's our paradise and it's our war zone  
It's our paradise and it's our war zone



Here's a cleaned-up version of the lyrics:

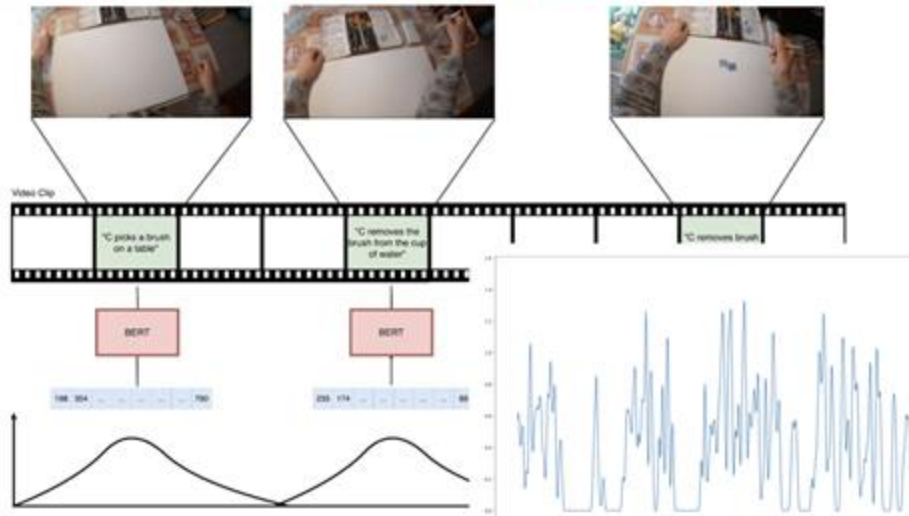
We'll tick off the neighbors  
In the place that feels the tears  
The place to lose your fears  
Yeah, wild behavior  
A place that is so real, so gritty and raw  
In the bed all day, bed all day, bed all day  
Arguing and laughing on  
It's our haven and it's our battleground  
It's our haven and it's our battleground.



# Exploring Episodic Memory through Cross-modal representations

CSCI 8980 Spring 2022  
Abhiraj Mohan, Emily Mulhall, Jayant Sharma

Sparse Narrations to Dense Video Features



Method	IoU = 0.3(%)		IoU = 0.5(%)		mIoU
	r@1	r@5	r@1	r@5	
Video only	4.57	9.03	2.50	6.12	3.55
Narration only	6.97	13.58	3.41	8.26	5.12
Concat	6.56	13.58	3.41	8.26	5.12
MLP	4.96	10.33	2.45	5.91	3.78
<b>Ensemble (Full Model)</b>	<b>8.29</b>	<b>15.31</b>	<b>4.85</b>	<b>9.94</b>	<b>6.08</b>

Table 3: Model Performance

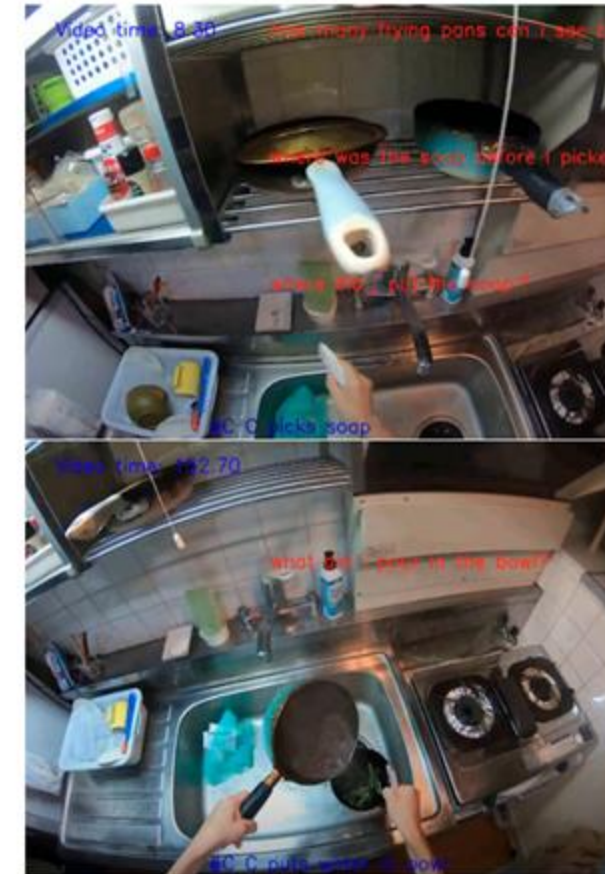


Figure 2: Visualization examples. Queries are in red, and the narrations are the blue text at the bottom of the frame.

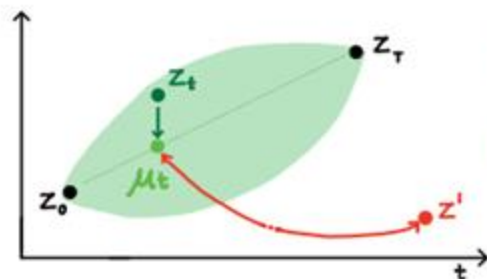


# Generating Controllable Long-dialogue with Coherence

CSCI 5980 Fall 2022

Zhecheng Sheng, Chen Jiang and Tianhao Zhang

Time control in language model using Brownian bridge (Wang et al., ICLR 2022)



$x_0$ : [USER] Hello, I'd like to buy tickets for tomorrow.

$x_t$ : [ASSISTANT] What movie theater do you prefer?

$x_T$ : [USER] Could you confirm my tickets just in case?

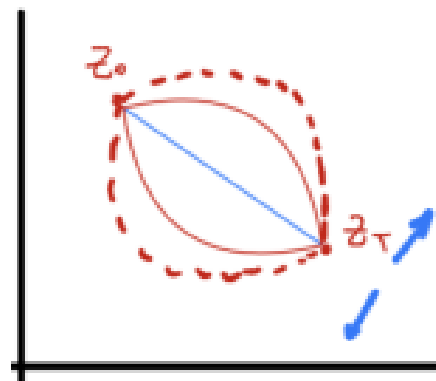
$x'$ : [USER] Hi, I'm looking to purchase tickets for my family.

$$\mathcal{L} = -\log \frac{\exp(d(z_t, \mu_t))}{\exp(d(z_t, \mu_t)) + \exp(d(z', \mu_t))}$$

[ USER ] I am thinking about seeing a movie tonight, please.  
 [ ASSISTANT ] What movie do you have in mind?  
 [ USER ] The Elizabeth Theatres.  
 [ ASSISTANT ] They have 2 tickets available.  
 [ USER ] Thank you.  
 [ ASSISTANT ] They have been waiting in the line for you.



[ USER ] I would love to get to the movies tonight.  
 [ ASSISTANT ] OK. And where will you be seeing the movie?  
 [ USER ] Creek's End, Oregon.  
 [ ASSISTANT ] Creek's End, Oregon. Got it. Is there a particular movie you have in mind?  
 [ USER ] No wait, the visuals are so darned.  
 [ ASSISTANT ] No problem.  
 [ USER ] No problem.  
 [ ASSISTANT ] No problem.  
 [ USER ] No problem.  
 [ ASSISTANT ] No problem.  
 [ ASSISTANT ] No problem.



Published in AAI 2024, <https://arxiv.org/abs/2312.16893>

