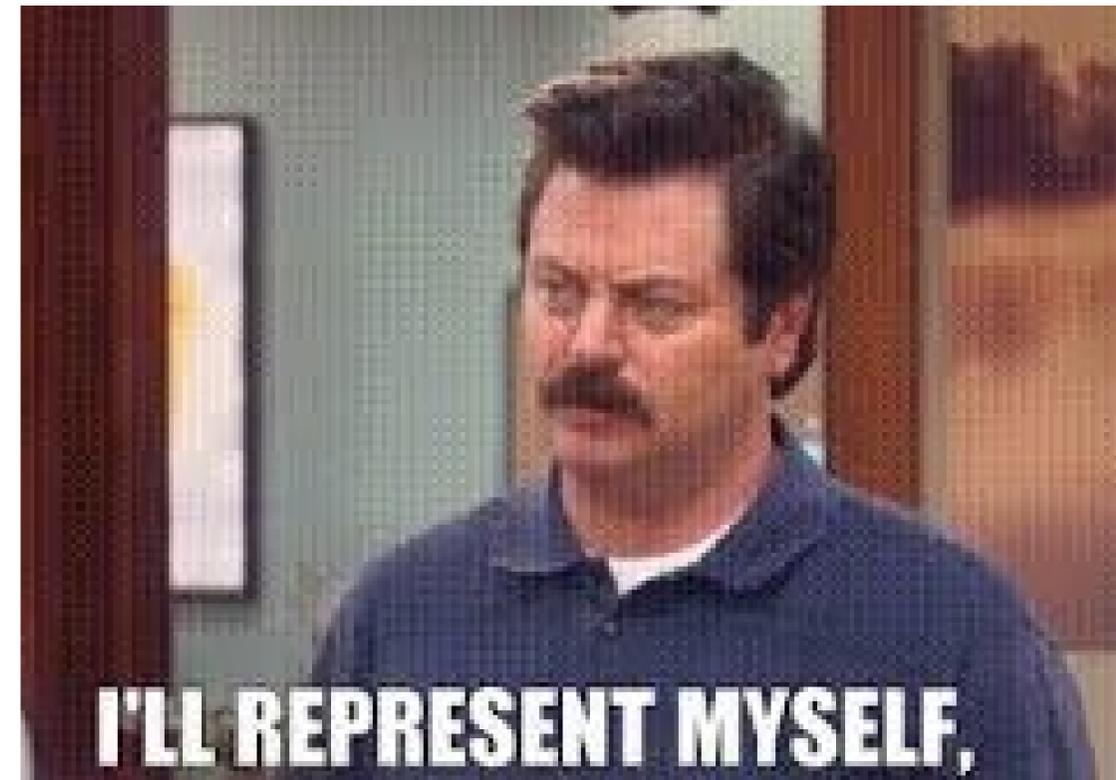


Lecture 6: Representation Learning & Generative Models



Machine Learning Problems



SUPERVISED LEARNING

- Training time

- data :

$$\{\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, y^{(t)}\}$$

- setting :

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, y^{(t)} \leftarrow p(\mathbf{x}, y)$$

- Test time

- data :

$$\{\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, y^{(t)}\}$$

- setting :

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, y^{(t)} \leftarrow p(\mathbf{x}, y)$$

Example

Input: $x^{(t)}$ is an image

Output: $y^{(t)}$ is an image category

MULTITASK LEARNING

• Training time

▸ data :

$$\{\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, y_1^{(t)}, \dots, y_M^{(t)}\}$$

▸ setting :

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, y_1^{(t)}, \dots, y_M^{(t)} \leftarrow \dots$$

$$p(\mathbf{x}, y_1, \dots, y_M)$$

• Test time

▸ data :

$$\{\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, y_1^{(t)}, \dots, y_M^{(t)}\}$$

▸ setting :

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, y_1^{(t)}, \dots, y_M^{(t)} \leftarrow \dots$$

$$p(\mathbf{x}, y_1, \dots, y_M)$$

Example

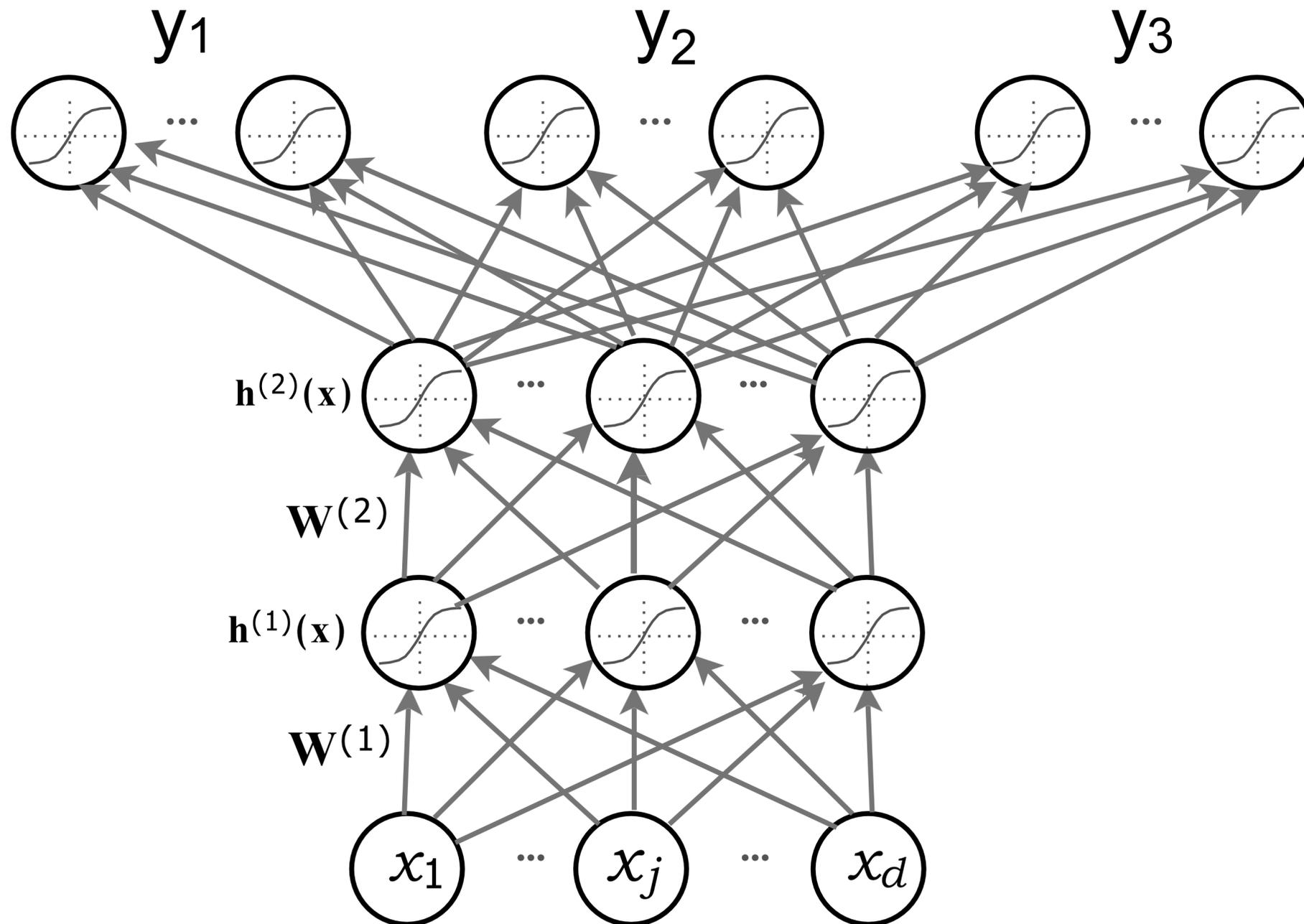
Input: $x^{(t)}$ is an image

Outputs:

- $y_1^{(t)}$: image category
- $y_1^{(t)}$: object detection
- $y_1^{(t)}$: depth estimation
- $y_1^{(t)}$: semantic segmentation
- ...

MULTITASK LEARNING

Topics: multitask learning



DOMAIN ADAPTATION

• Training time

▸ data :

$$\{\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, y^{(t)}\}$$

$$\{\bar{\mathbf{x}}^{(t^0)}\}$$

▸ setting :

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)} \leftarrow p(\mathbf{x})$$

$$y^{(t)} \leftarrow p(y|\mathbf{x}^{(t)})$$

$$\bar{\mathbf{x}}^{(t)} \leftarrow q(\mathbf{x}) \hat{\vdash} p(\mathbf{x})$$

• Test time

▸ data :

$$\{\bar{\mathbf{x}}^{(t)}, y^{(t)}\}$$

▸ setting :

$$\bar{\mathbf{x}}^{(t)} \leftarrow q(\mathbf{x})$$

$$y^{(t)} \leftarrow p(y|\bar{\mathbf{x}}^{(t)})$$

• Example

- classify sentiment (positive vs negative)
- in reviews of different products
- training on Amazon Reviews but testing on Yelp Reviews

ONE-SHOT LEARNING

• Training time

▸ data :

$$\{\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, y^{(t)}\}$$

▸ setting :

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, y^{(t)} \leftarrow p(\mathbf{x}, y)$$

subject to $y^{(t)} \in \{1, \dots, C\}$

• Test time

▸ data :

$$\{\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, y^{(t)}\}$$

▸ setting :

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, y^{(t)} \leftarrow p(\mathbf{x}, y)$$

subject to $y^{(t)} \in \{C + 1, \dots, C + M\}$

▸ side information :

- a single labeled example from each of the M new classes

• Example

- recognizing a person based on a single picture of him/her

ZERO-SHOT LEARNING

• Training time

▸ data :

$$\{\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, y^{(t)}\}$$

▸ setting :

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, y^{(t)} \leftarrow p(\mathbf{x}, y)$$

subject to $y^{(t)} \in \{1, \dots, C\}$

▸ side information :

- description vector \mathbf{z}_c of each of the C classes

• Test time

▸ data :

$$\{\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, y^{(t)}\}$$

▸ setting :

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, y^{(t)} \leftarrow p(\mathbf{x}, y)$$

subject to $y^{(t)} \in \{C + 1, \dots, C + M\}$

▸ side information :

- description vector \mathbf{z}_c of each of the new M classes

• Example

- recognizing an object based on a worded description of it

SEMI-SUPERVISED LEARNING

- Training time

- data :

$$\{\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, y^{(t)}\}$$

$$\{\mathbf{x}^{(t)}\}$$

- setting :

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, y^{(t)} \leftarrow p(\mathbf{x}, y)$$

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)} \leftarrow p(\mathbf{x})$$

- Test time

- data :

$$\{\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, y^{(t)}\}$$

- setting :

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, y^{(t)} \leftarrow p(\mathbf{x}, y)$$

UNSUPERVISED LEARNING

- Training time

- data :

$$\{\mathbf{x}^{(t)}\}$$

- setting :

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)} \leftarrow p(\mathbf{x})$$

- Test time

- data :

$$\{\mathbf{x}^{(t)}\}$$

- setting :

$$\mathbf{x}^{(t)} \leftarrow p(\mathbf{x})$$

How can we train models “unsupervised”?

How can we train models “unsupervised”?

This is the focus of representation learning

How can we train models “unsupervised”?

This is the focus of representation learning

There's an entire co



ICLR has become one of the top CS and Engineering (not just AI) publication although it just started in 2013.

In fact top-10 in ALL OF SCIENCE

Top publications

Categories ▾ English ▾

	Publication	<u>h5-index</u>	<u>h5-median</u>
1.	Nature	<u>488</u>	745
2.	IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition	<u>440</u>	689
3.	The New England Journal of Medicine	<u>434</u>	897
4.	Science	<u>409</u>	633
5.	Nature Communications	<u>375</u>	492
6.	The Lancet	<u>368</u>	678
7.	Neural Information Processing Systems	<u>337</u>	614
8.	Advanced Materials	<u>327</u>	420
9.	Cell	<u>320</u>	482
10.	International Conference on Learning Representations	<u>304</u>	584

How

This is th

There's an entire



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International Conference on Learning Representations	
h5-index:304 h5-median:584	
#2 Artificial Intelligence	
#4 Engineering & Computer Science	
Title / Author	Cited by
An Image is Worth 16x16 Words: Transformers for Image Recognition at Scale. A Dosovitskiy, L Beyer, A Kolesnikov, D Weissenborn, X Zhai, ... ICLR	<u>38519</u>
Decoupled Weight Decay Regularization. I Loshchilov, F Hutter ICLR (Poster)	<u>18046</u>
Measuring and Improving the Use of Graph Information in Graph Neural Networks. Y Hou, J Zhang, J Cheng, K Ma, RTB Ma, H Chen, MC Yang ICLR	<u>7849</u>
ALBERT: A Lite BERT for Self-supervised Learning of Language Representations. Z Lan, M Chen, S Goodman, K Gimpel, P Sharma, R Soricut ICLR	<u>7127</u>
Large Scale GAN Training for High Fidelity Natural Image Synthesis. A Brock, J Donahue, K Simonyan ICLR	<u>5675</u>
DARTS: Differentiable Architecture Search. H Liu, K Simonyan, Y Yang ICLR (Poster)	<u>4888</u>
LoRA: Low-Rank Adaptation of Large Language Models. EJ Hu, Y Shen, P Wallis, Z Allen-Zhu, Y Li, S Wang, L Wang, W Chen ICLR	<u>4881</u>
Deformable DETR: Deformable Transformers for End-to-End Object Detection. X Zhu, W Su, L Lu, B Li, X Wang, J Dai ICLR	<u>4444</u>
BERTScore: Evaluating Text Generation with BERT. T Zhang, V Kishore, F Wu, KQ Weinberger, Y Artzi ICLR	<u>4143</u>
ELECTRA: Pre-training Text Encoders as Discriminators Rather Than Generators. K Clark, MT Luong, QV Le, CD Manning ICLR	<u>3903</u>

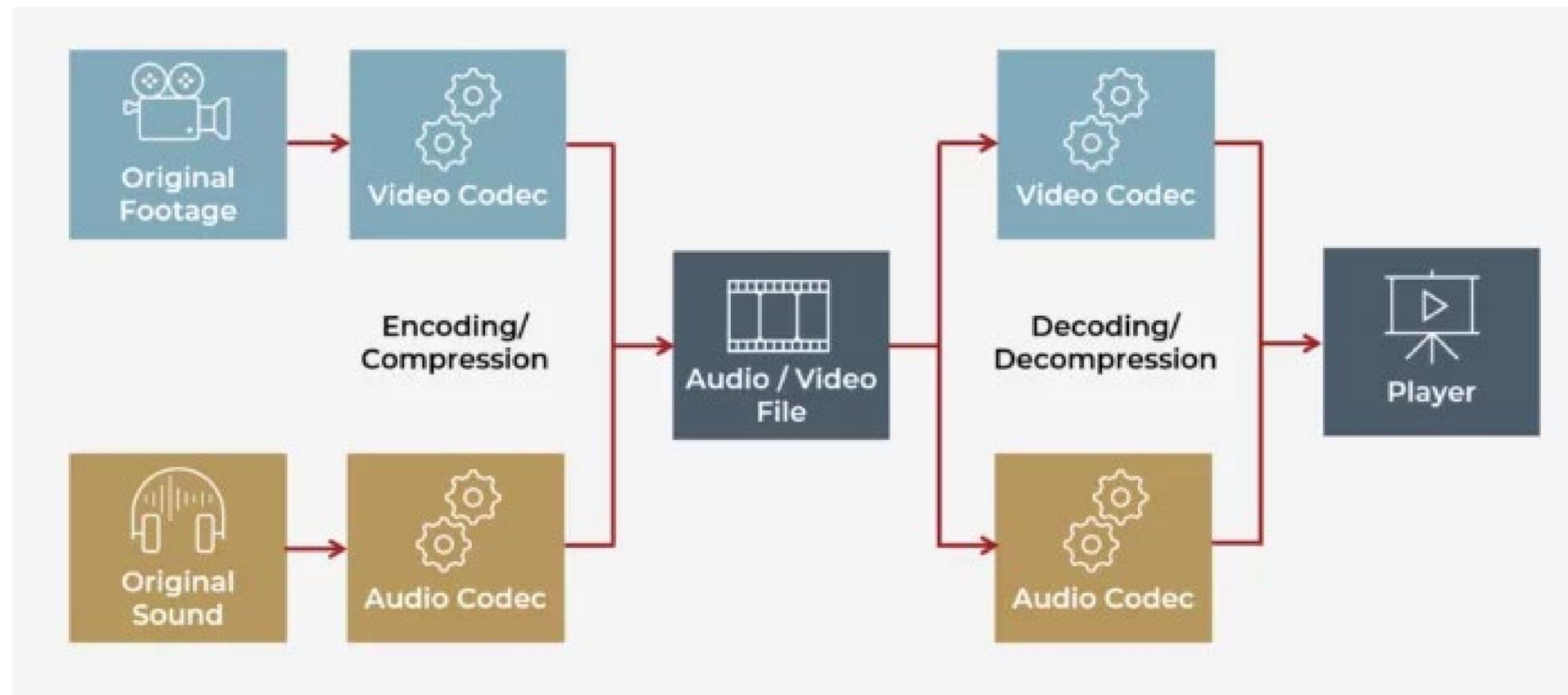
Rank	h5-index	h5-median
1	38519	745
2	18046	689
3	7849	897
4	7127	633
5	5675	492
6	4888	678
7	4881	614
8	4444	420
9	4143	482
10	3903	584

Warning

I might use the terms “latent”, “embedding”, “representation”, “feature” interchangeably.

Motivation (kind of): Compression

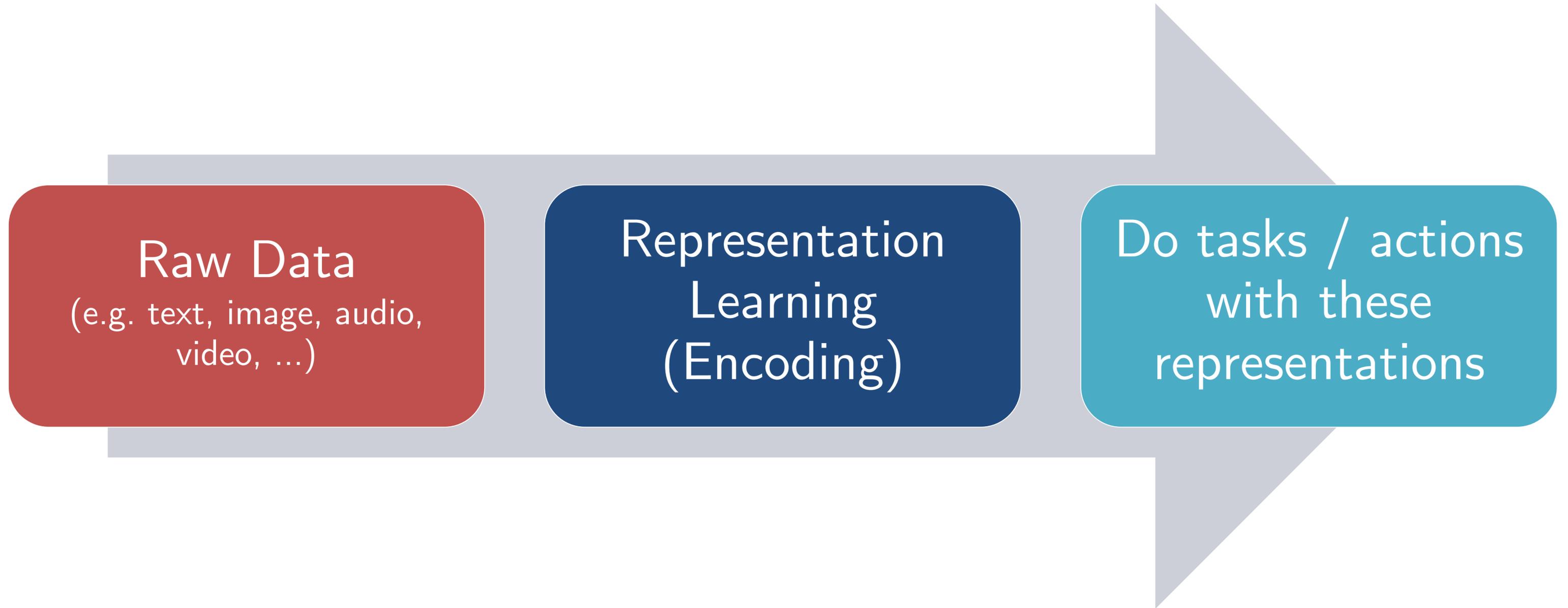
- The idea is similar to compression (signal processing) or hashing (data structures):
 - **encode** an image into a smaller vector s.t. you can **decode** it back to its original form
 - Example: images, audio, video are stored in a compressed form on your computer using compression algorithms like JPEG, MP3, MPEG etc. The computer has software to decode it back so that you can view it (everytime you “open” a JPEG file to view an image, the decoder runs and converts code to RGB)



Motivation (kind of): Compression

- The idea is similar to compression (signal processing) or hashing (information theory):
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- **Representation Learning**
 - ~ convert inputs automatically into “codes” (called representations/embeddings / features) s.t. the representations are:
 - Useful for downstream tasks (e.g. classification, regression, ...)
 - “explain the data” and are “meaningful”
- Main difference: “meaningful” representation spaces to do “tasks”
(The goal for compression is only efficient storage — not data classification/clustering etc.)

Representation Learning Paradigm



Typical Goals for Representations

Similar representations for similar concepts

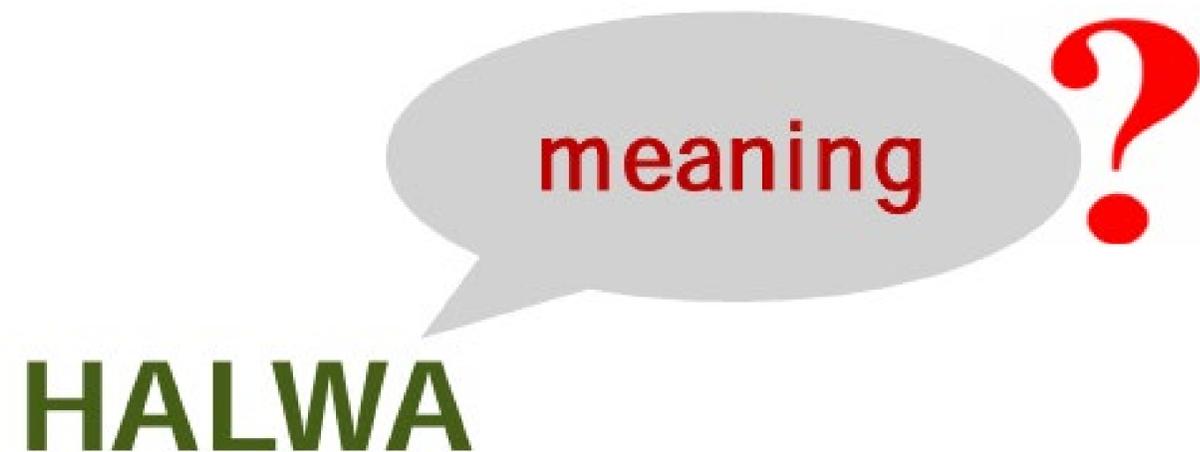


Food



Typical Goals for Representations

A Semblance of “Context” should be encoded ...



**If you know the answer,
don't share it with the class yet.**

People from lands between Greece and India
might know the answer ...

Typical Goals for Representations

A Semblance of “Context” should be encoded ...



I am very hungry, I will eat HALWA

Typical Goals for Representations

A Semblance of “Context” should be encoded ...



I am very hungry, I will eat HALWA

Typical Goals for Representations

A Semblance of “Context” should be encoded ...



I am very hungry, I will eat HALWA

If you speak Marathi, this word has two meanings depending on context

Halwa (1): a food item

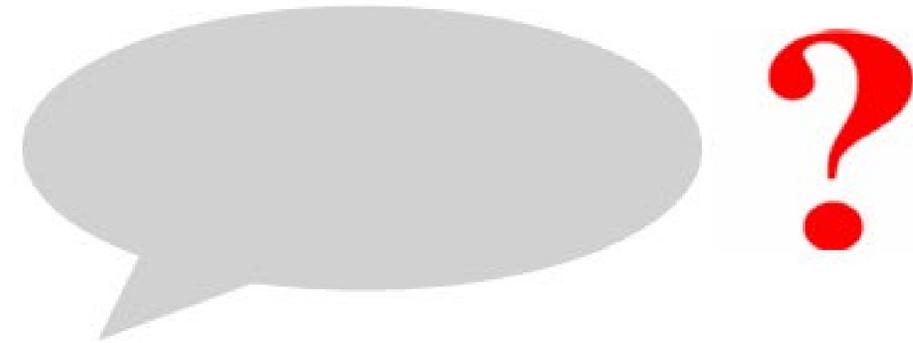
derived from: Farsi

Halwa (2): (an instruction to) move (something)

derived from: Sanskrit

Typical Goals for Representations

A Semblance of “Context” should be encoded ...



Is it a good idea to eat HALWA after a meal ?

Typical Goals for Representations

A Semblance of “Context” should be encoded ...



Is it a good idea to eat HALWA after a meal ?

Typical Goals for Representations

A Semblance of “Context” should be encoded ...

Oh no! I forgot to put sugar in the HALWA



Halva



Type Confectionery, dessert

Place of origin [Iran \(Persia\)](#)^{[1][2]}

Region or state [Middle East](#), [South Asia](#), [Central Asia](#), [Eastern Europe](#), [Balkans](#), [South Caucasus](#), [North Africa](#), [Horn of Africa](#)

Serving temperature Cold

 [Cookbook: Halva](#)
 [Media: Halva](#)



Turkish *un helvasi*, a flour-based halva

 E4024 - Own work

 [More details](#)

 CC BY-SA 4.0

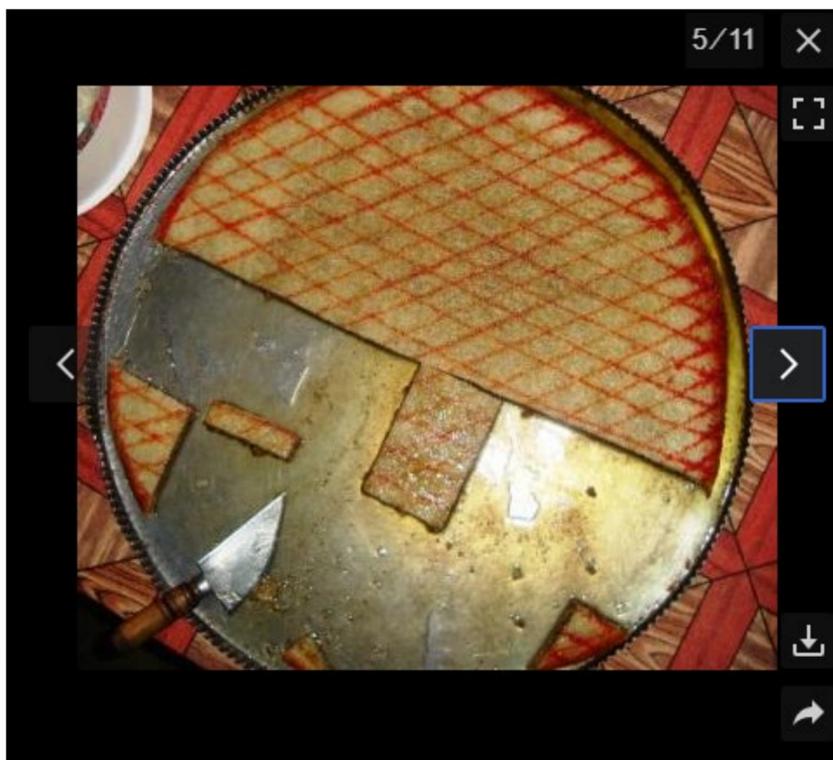


Some assorted Indian halva including *sooji halva* (diamond shapes), *chana halva* (light circles), and *gajar halva* (dark circles)

 Akifmahmud at en.wikipedia

 [More details](#)

 CC BY-SA 3.0



Şeki halvası

 [More details](#)



Israeli halva displays at the Mahane Yehuda Market in Jerusalem

 Paulina Zet _ Vered Hasharon - DSC_0764

 [More details](#)

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Typical Goals for Representations

Parts, properties, attributes, ontology ?

- “bird” has “wing”, “beak”, “feathers”
- “bird” can “fly”
- “bird” is under category “animal”
- “bird” has subcategories “eagle”, “peacock”, “sparrow”, “seagull”, “pigeon”

Representation Learning is a Philosophy for Learning

Key assumptions in this philosophy:

- You can convert a high-dimensional input space into a low-dimensional representation space
 - Example: RGB images → 100 dim vectors
- A good representation space will have a “structure”
 - Example: Similarity, Symmetry, Relations will be easy to understand
 - Why? So that we can do arithmetic in representation space to do tasks
- Representations can be learned from data
- Representations can be leveraged for doing tasks

Parallel Work in Cog.Sci.

Trends in Cognitive Sciences



Volume 28, Issue 9, September 2024, Pages 844-856

Review

Why concepts are (probably) vectors

Steven T. Piantadosi^{1,2}  , Dyana C.Y. Muller², Joshua S. Rule¹,
Karthikeya Kaushik¹, Mark Gorenstein², Elena R. Leib¹, Emily Sanford¹

For decades, cognitive scientists have debated what kind of representation might characterize human concepts. Whatever the format of the representation, it must allow for the computation of varied properties, including similarities, features, categories, definitions, and relations. It must also support the development of theories, *ad hoc* categories, and knowledge of procedures. Here, we discuss why vector-based representations provide a compelling account that can meet all these needs while being plausibly encoded into neural architectures. This view has become especially promising with recent advances in both large language models and vector symbolic architectures. These innovations show how vectors can handle many properties traditionally thought to be out of reach for neural models, including compositionality, definitions, structures, and symbolic computational processes.

Highlights

Modern language models and vector-symbolic architectures show that vector-based models are capable of handling the compositional, structured, and symbolic properties required for human concepts.

Vectors are also able to handle key phenomena from the psychology, including computation of features and similarities, reasoning about relations and analogies, and representation of theories.

Language models show how vector representation of word semantics and sentences can interface between concepts and language, as seen in definitional theories of concepts or *ad hoc* concepts.

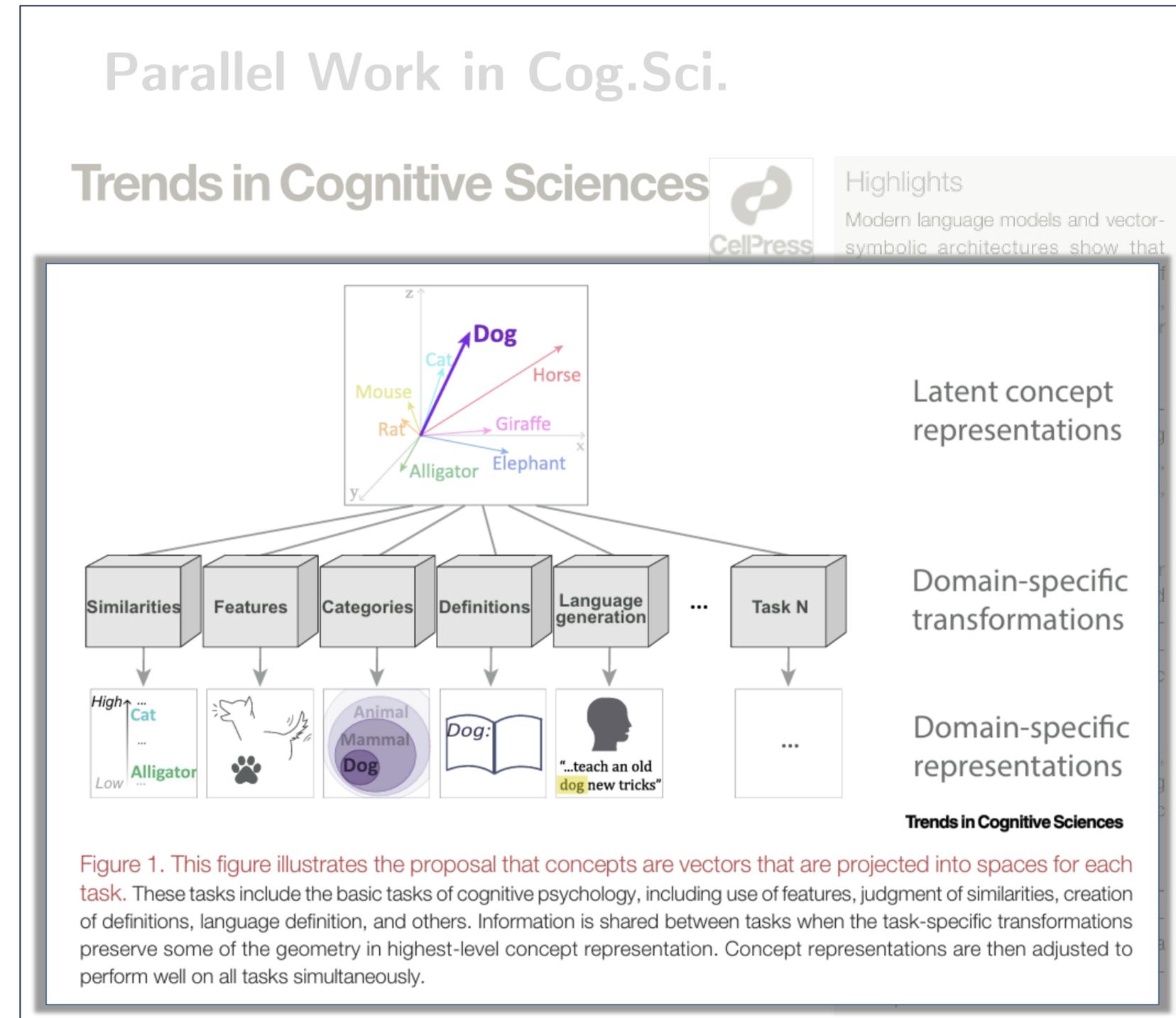
The idea of Church encoding, from logic, allows us to understand how meaning can arise in vector-based or symbolic systems.

By combining these recent computational results with classic findings in psychology, vector-based models provide a compelling account of human conceptual representation.

Representation Learning is a Philosophy for Learning

Key assumptions in this philosophy:

- You can convert a high-dimensional input space into a low-dimensional representation space
 - Example: RGB images → 100 dim vectors
- A good representation space will have a “structure”
 - Example: Similarity, Symmetry, Relations will be easy to understand
 - Why? So that we can do arithmetic in representation space to do tasks
- Representations can be learned from data
- Representations can be leveraged for doing tasks



Tell us how it works ...

Types of Modeling (Probabilistic Interpretation)

Data: x ;

Label: y



“cat”

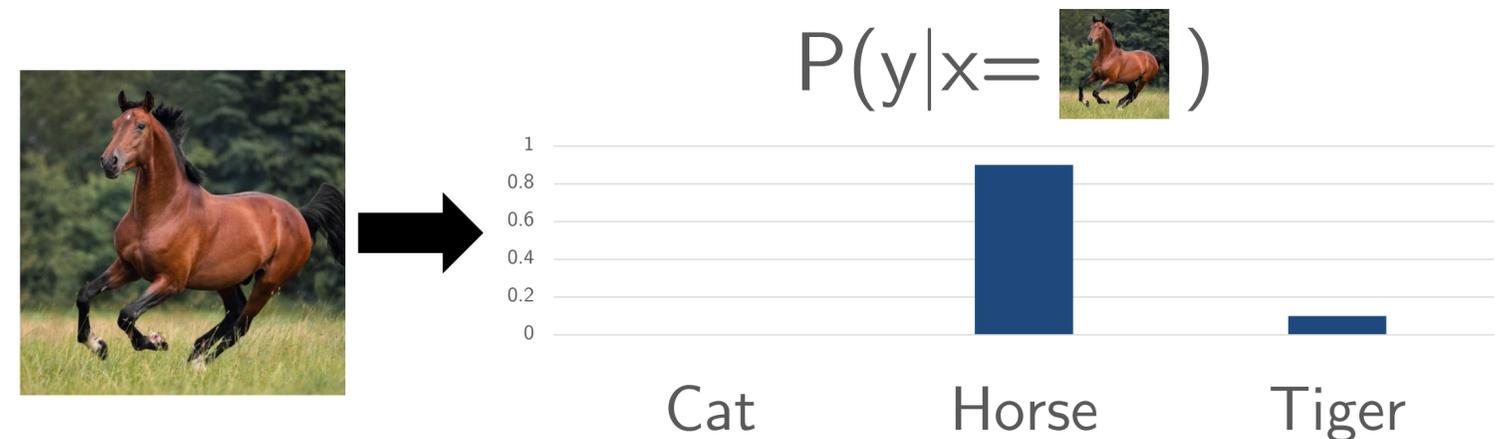
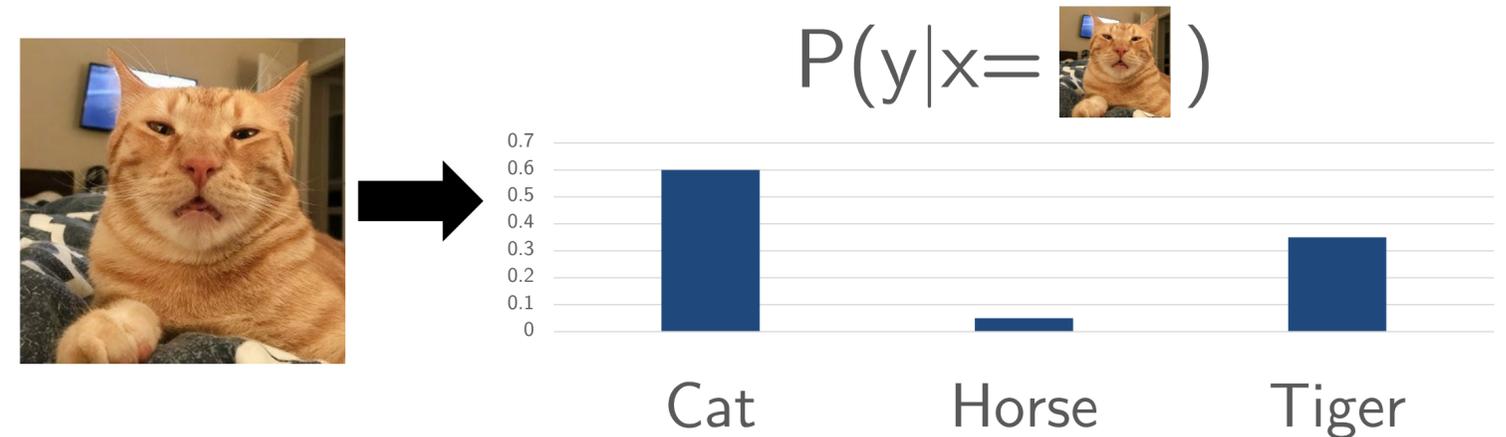
Density Function: $p(x)$

$$\int_X p(x) dx = 1$$

(probabilities of all inputs sum to 1)

Discriminative Model

Learn Prob. Dist. $P(y|x)$



$$\forall x, \sum_c P(y = c|x) = 1$$

Types of Modeling (Probabilistic Interpretation)

Data: x ;

Label: y



“cat”

Density Function: $p(x)$

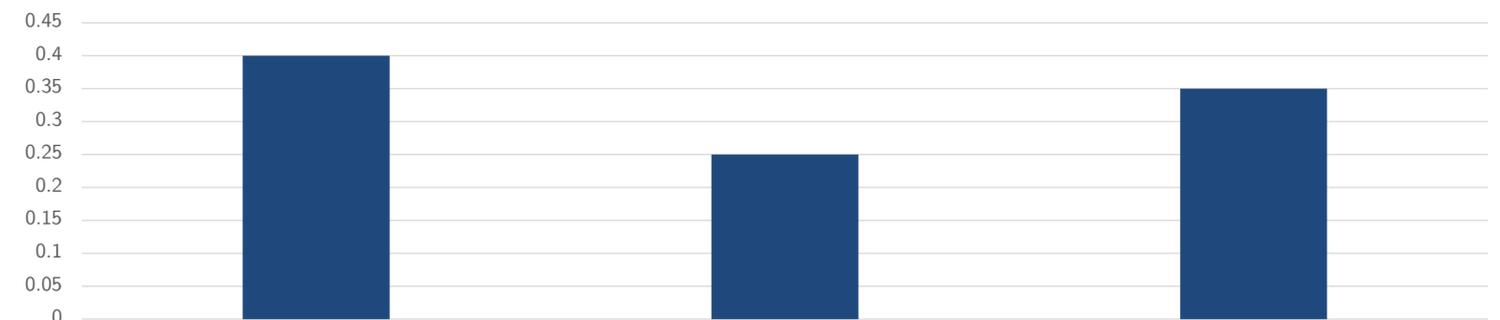
$$\int_X p(x) dx = 1$$

(probabilities of all inputs sum to 1)

Generative Model

Learn Marginal Prob. Dist. $P(x)$

$$P(\text{cat}) \quad P(\text{horse}) \quad P(\text{dog})$$



Conditional Generative Model

Learn conditional probability $P(x|y)$

$$P(x|y) = \frac{P(y|x)}{P(y)} P(x)$$

Conditional Generative Model = Discriminative Model (Unconditional) Generative Model / Prior over labels

Types of Modeling (Probabilistic Interpretation)

Data: x ;

Label: y



“cat”

Density Function: $p(x)$

$$\int_X p(x) dx = 1$$

(probabilities of all inputs sum to 1)

- Discriminative Model

Learn Prob. Dist. $P(y|x)$

- Generative Model

Learn Marginal Prob. Dist. $P(x)$

- Conditional Generative Model

Learn conditional probability $P(x|y)$

Types of Modeling (Probabilistic Interpretation)

APPLICATIONS

Classification, Regression,
Representation Learning
(with labels)



- Discriminative Model

Learn Prob. Dist. $P(y|x)$

- Generative Model

Learn Marginal Prob. Dist. $P(x)$

- Conditional Generative Model

Learn conditional probability $P(x|y)$

Types of Modeling (Probabilistic Interpretation)

APPLICATIONS

- Discriminative Model

Learn Prob. Dist. $P(y|x)$

- Generative Model

Learn Marginal Prob. Dist. $P(x)$

- Conditional Generative Model

Learn conditional probability $P(x|y)$

Data Generation
Outlier Detection
Representation Learning
(without labels)



Types of Modeling (Probabilistic Interpretation)

APPLICATIONS

- Discriminative Model

Learn Prob. Dist. $P(y|x)$

- Generative Model

Learn Marginal Prob. Dist. $P(x)$

- Conditional Generative Model

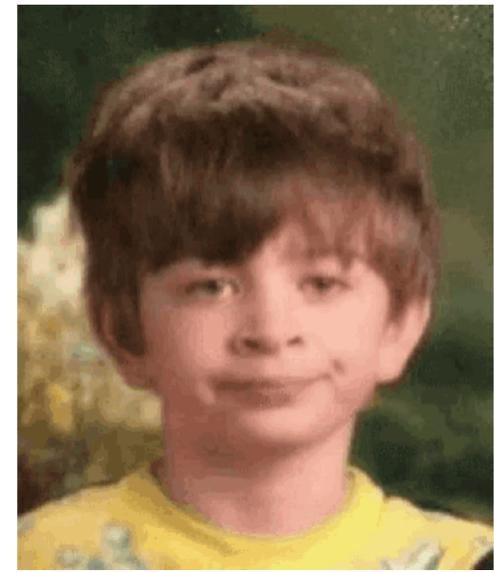
Learn conditional probability $P(x|y)$

Machine Translation
Text-to-image generation

(pretty much every “GenAI”
product you see is a
conditional generative model)



Generative Models

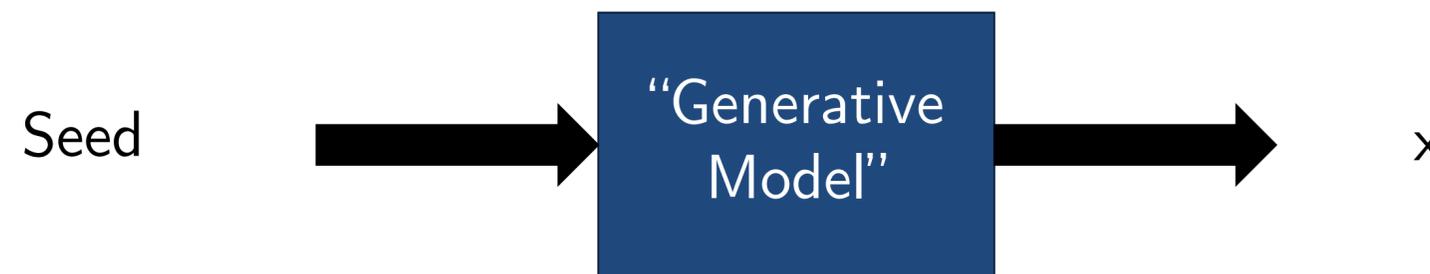


- What's a Generative Model?

- A model for the probability distribution of data x
- A model that can be used to “generate” data

$P(x)$

marketing term “genAI”



- Generative Models can be *learned*

- *You are given some observed data X (e.g. face images)*
- *You choose a function (e.g. neural network) to model $P(x; \theta)$ using parameters θ*
- *You estimate θ s.t. $P(x; \theta)$ best fits the observations X*

Generative Models

- Generative Models can be *learned*
 - You estimate θ s.t. $P(x; \theta)$ **best fits** the observations X

- ‘**Best fit**’ in what sense?

- *Maximum Likelihood*

$$\theta^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} P(x; \theta)$$

- How to model the distribution of high dimensional data?

$$P(x) = \int_z P(x, z) dz = \int_z P(z)P(x|z)$$

- $P_{\theta}(z)$ and $P_{\theta}(x|z)$ can be factorized

$$P_{\theta}(x|z) = P_{\theta}(x^1 \dots, x^D | z) = \prod_i P_{\theta}(x^i | z)$$

$$\theta^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} P_{\theta}(x) = \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \prod_i P_{\theta}(x^i | z) = \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \log \sum_i P_{\theta}(x^i | z)$$