



CMPT 413/713: Natural Language Processing

# Grounded Natural Language

Spring 2024  
2024-03-24

What is grounding?

Language is used to communicate about **the world**

- Things, actions, abstract concepts



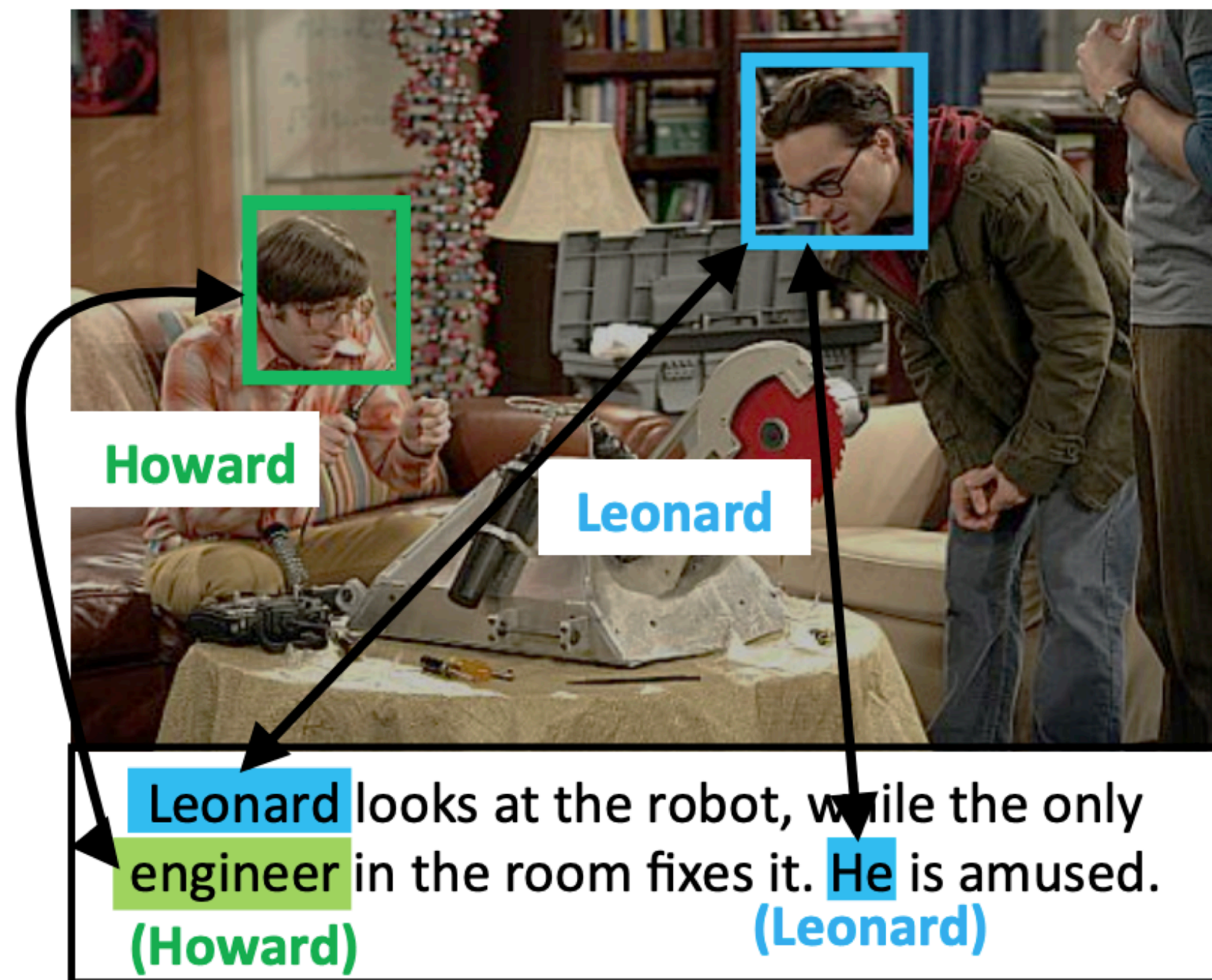
speaker



listener

# What is symbol grounding?

- Connecting **linguistic symbols** to their **meaning**
- Connecting words and sentences to what they represent



Linking people in videos with “their” names using coreference resolution [Ramanathan et al, 2014]

Actions



running

Spatial relations



in



on

# Types of grounding

- ▶ **Perception**

- ▶ Visual: *green* = [0,1,0] in RGB
- ▶ Auditory: *loud* = >120 dB
- ▶ Taste: *sweet* = >some threshold level of sensation on taste buds
- ▶ High-level concepts:



cat



dog

# Types of grounding

- ▶ **Temporal concepts**

- ▶ *late evening* = after 6pm
- ▶ *fast, slow* = describing rates of change

- ▶ **Actions**



running



eating

# Some grounding tasks

- ▶ **Vision**

- ▶ Captioning
- ▶ Text to image generation and manipulation
- ▶ Visual question answering (VQA)
- ▶ Referring Expressions and Spatial reasoning

- ▶ **Interaction**

- ▶ Instruction following
- ▶ Text-based games

# Image captioning

the girl is licking the spoon of batter

- ▶ Describe an image in a sentence





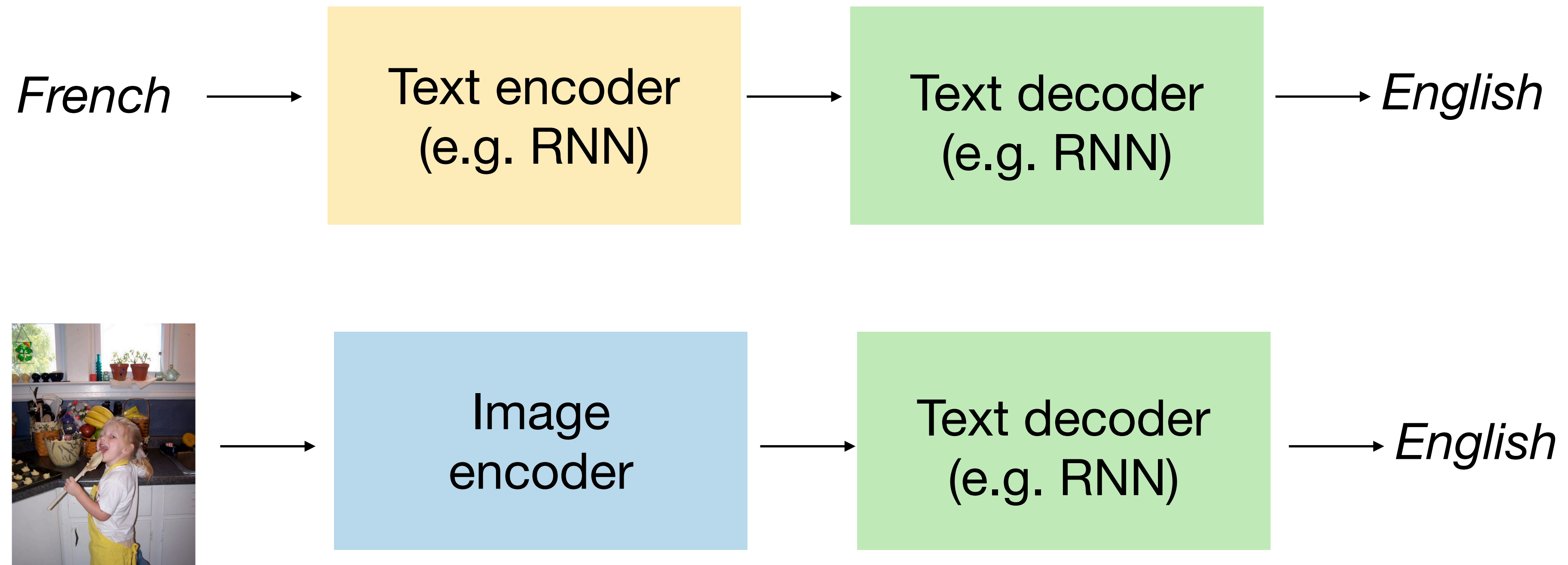
# Image captioning

the girl is licking the spoon of batter



- ▶ Describe an image in a sentence
- ▶ Requires recognizing objects, attributes, relations in image
- ▶ Caption must be fluent

# Captioning as multi-modal translation



Learning to connect linguistic symbols  
to the physical world

Children do not learn language from raw text  
or passively watching TV

Natural way to learn language in the context of  
its use in the **physical** and **social** world

This requires inferring the meaning of  
utterances from their perceptual context

# Children learn from **multimodal** sensory input and **experience**

Learning from multimodal information

Bill Martin Jr / Eric Carle



Learn more about how children learn from Linda Smith: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dxli8qWJHLU>

# Choices in what to ground to

Connecting linguistic symbols to

- perceptual experiences and actions

- other symbols

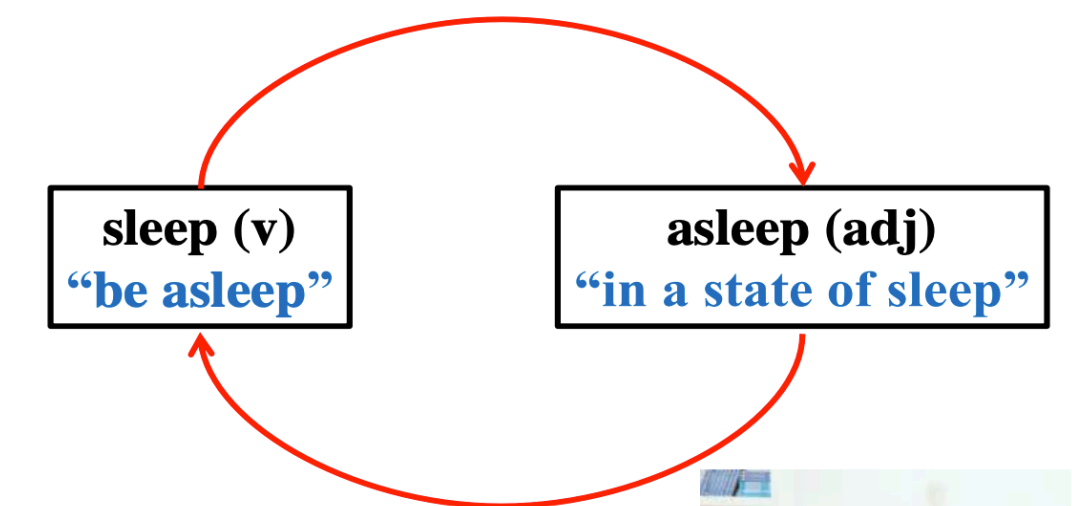
- to executable programs

*One hundred* → 100

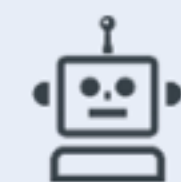
*The Big Bang Theory* →  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/  
The\\_Big\\_Bang\\_Theory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Big_Bang_Theory)

“Sleep” means “be asleep”

sleep(n): “a natural and periodic state of rest during which consciousness of the world is suspended”



Create a key `key` if it does not exist in dict `dic` and append element `value` to value



```
dic.setdefault(key, []).append(value)
```

# Meaning representations

How do we represent the meaning of something?



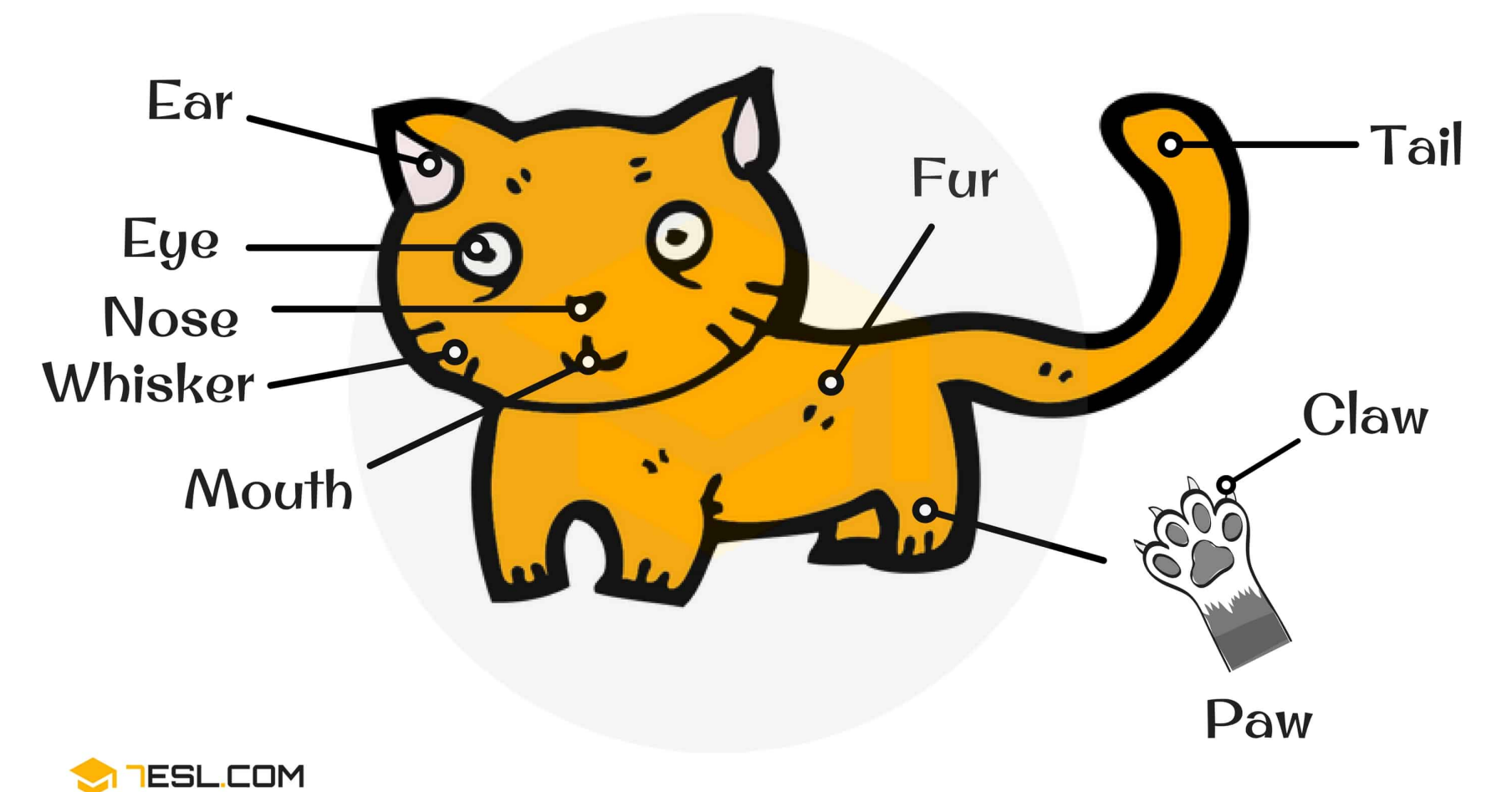
“cat”

**cat**: a small domesticated carnivore, *Felis domestica* or *F. catus*, bred in a number of varieties.

```
cat → {  
  isMammal: true  
  hasFur: true  
  hasLegs: true  
  meows: true  
  barks: false  
  height: 9.1 – 9.8 in  
  weight: 7.9 – 9.9 lbs  
  ...  
}
```

Attributed  
representation

## Parts of a cat







# Multimodal Embeddings

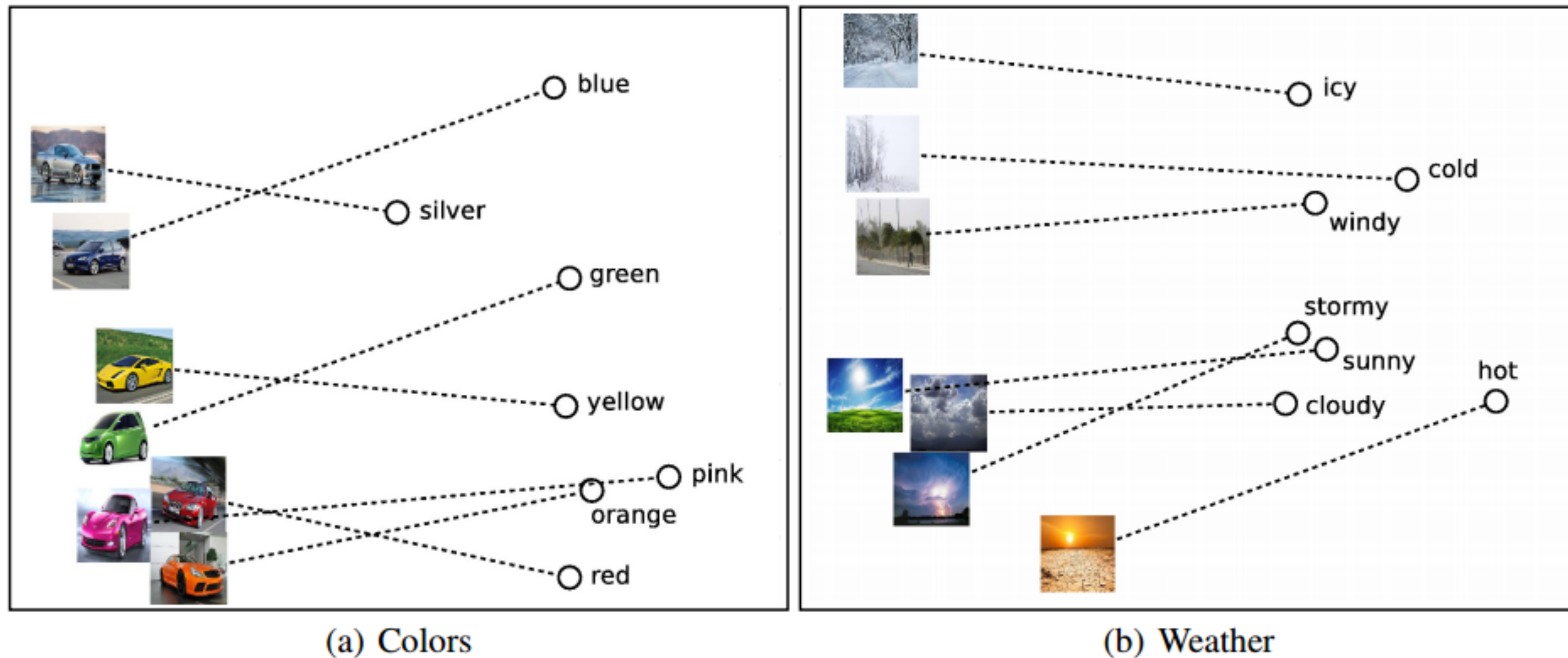


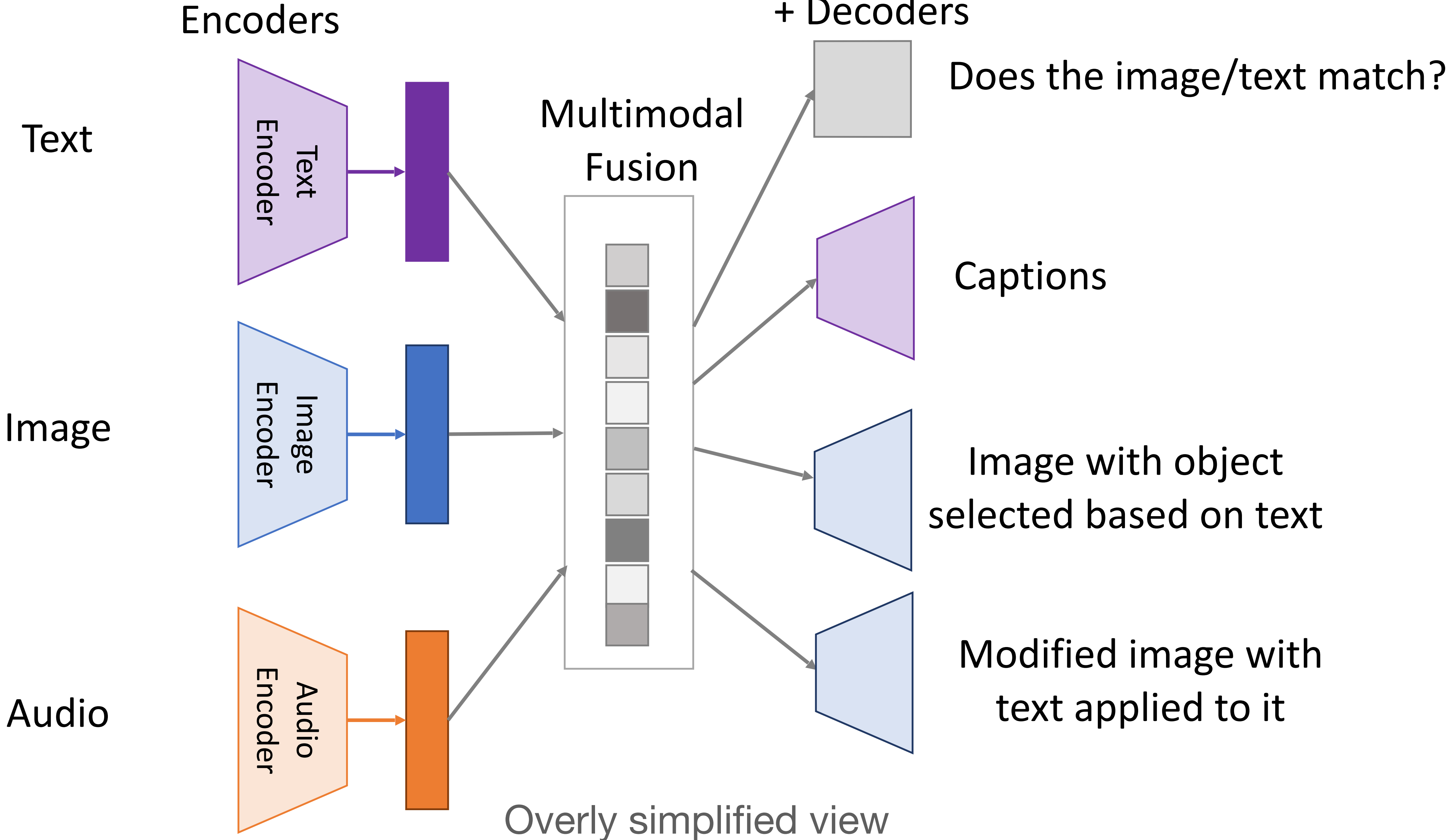
Figure 5: PCA projection of the 300-dimensional word and image representations for (a) cars and colors and (b) weather and temperature.

“Unifying Visual-Semantic Embeddings with Multimodal Neural Language Models”

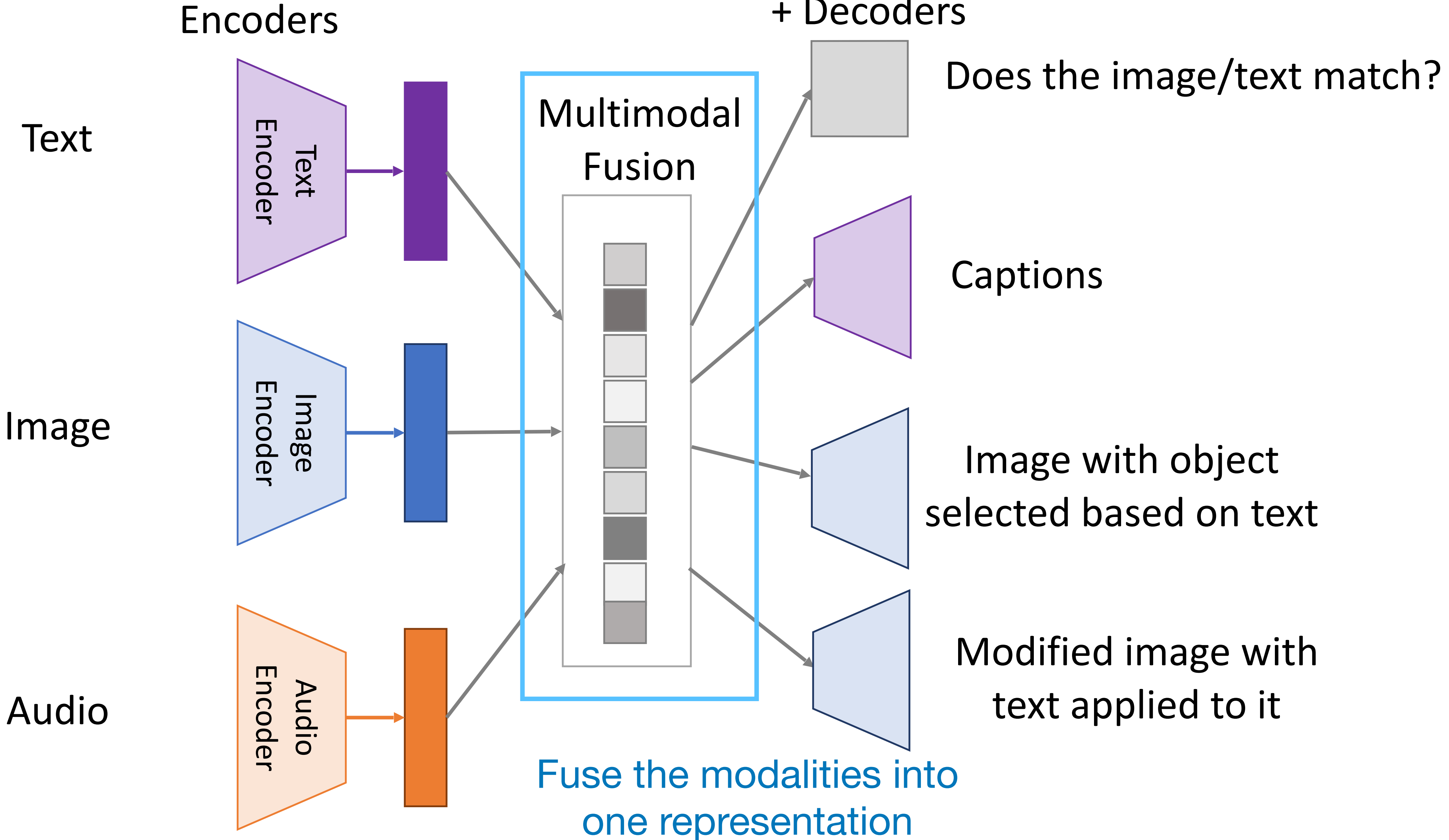
[Kiros, Salakhutdinov, Zemel TACL 2015]

# Cross-modal models

# Multimodal models

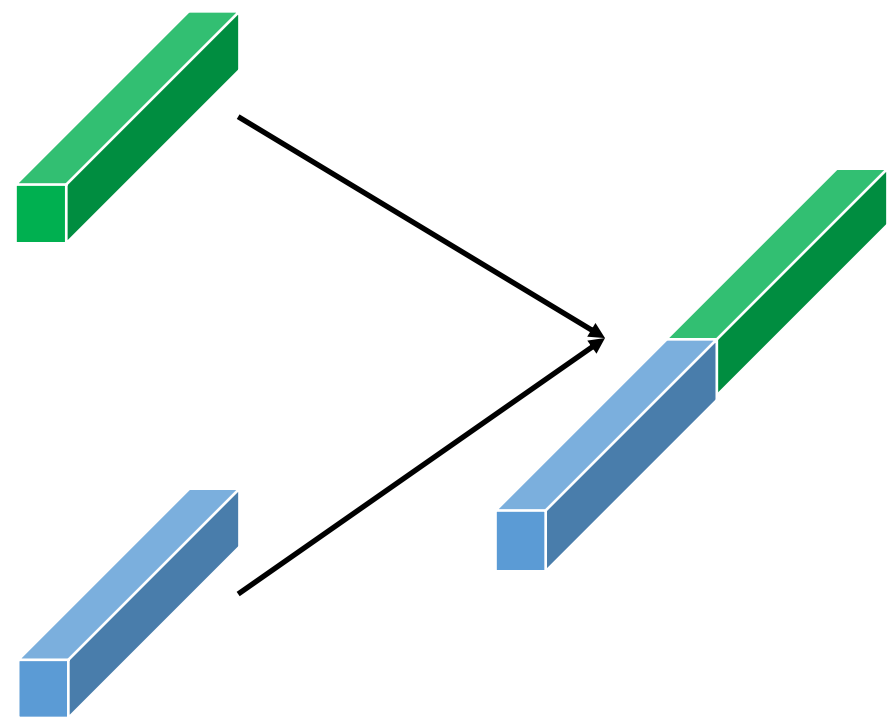


# Multimodal models



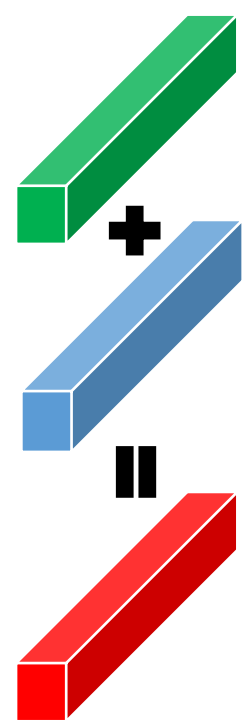
# Multimodal Fusion

Concatenation

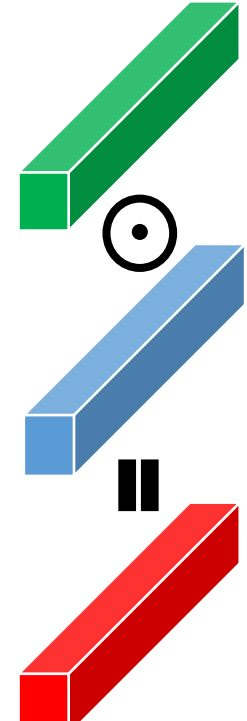


Element wise

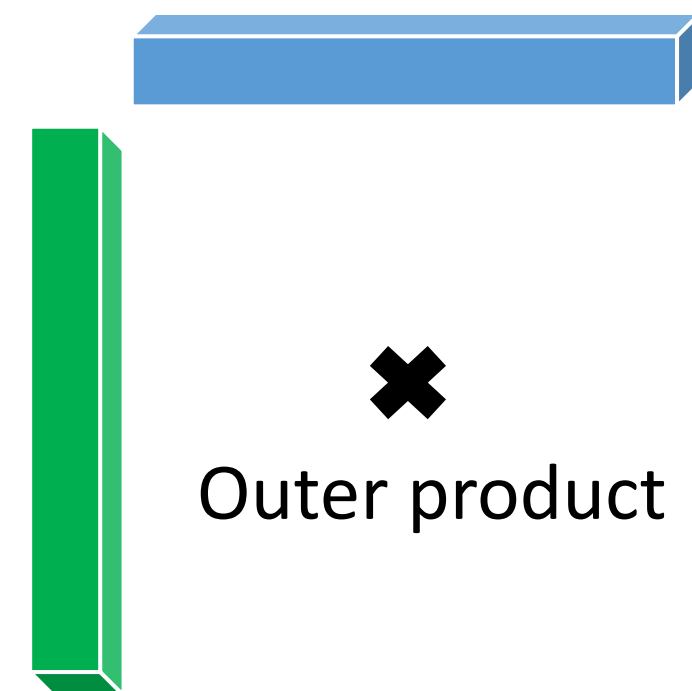
Sum



Product



Bilinear Pooling



Outer product

$$z = W [x \otimes q]$$

3000

2048

2048

12.5 billion !!!

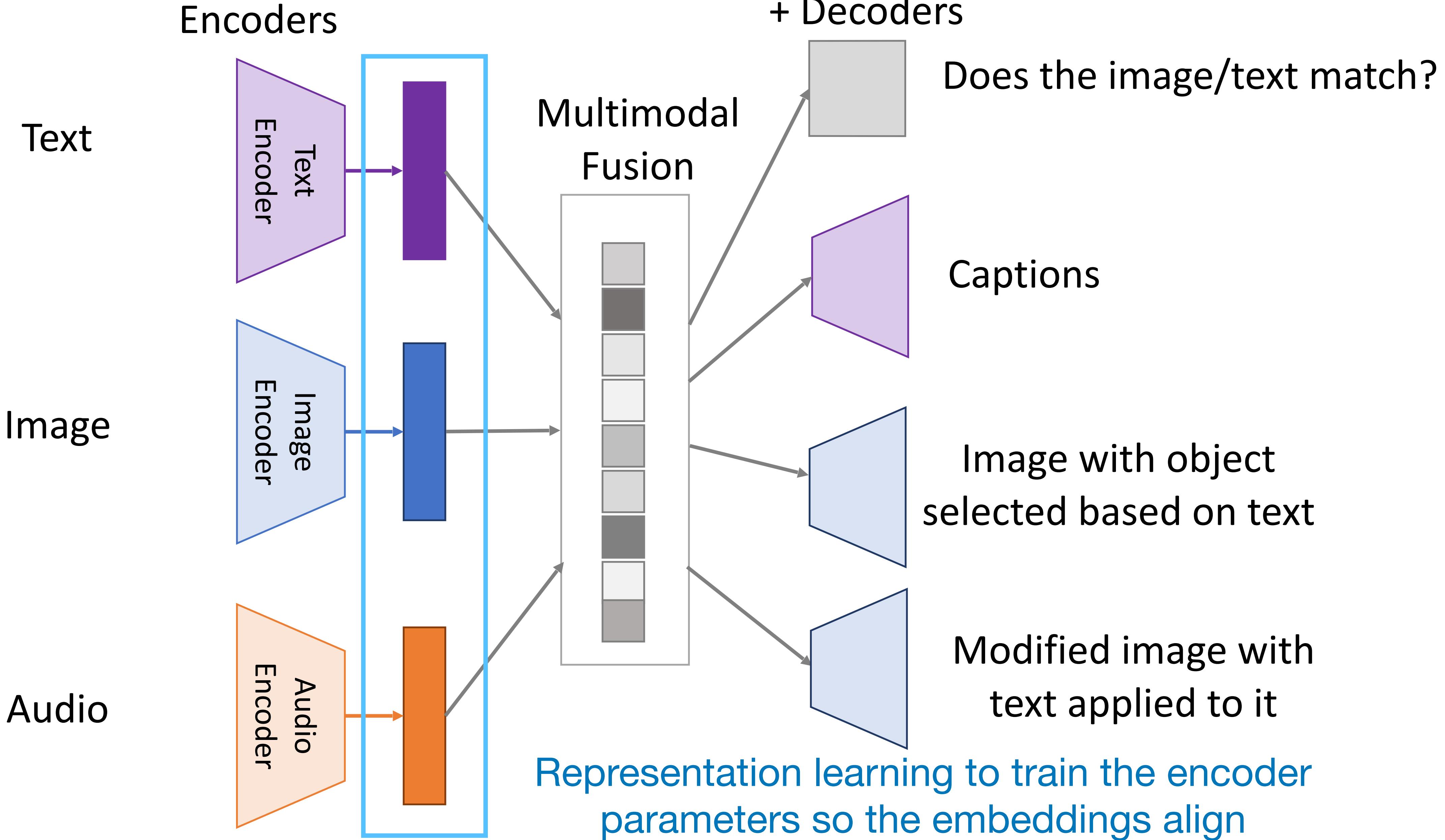
All elements can interact.  
More flexible, but lots of weights!

Attention-based fusion



Use transformer to fuse modalities using attention

# Multimodal models



# Cross-modal Embeddings

Common representation for language and vision: vectors!

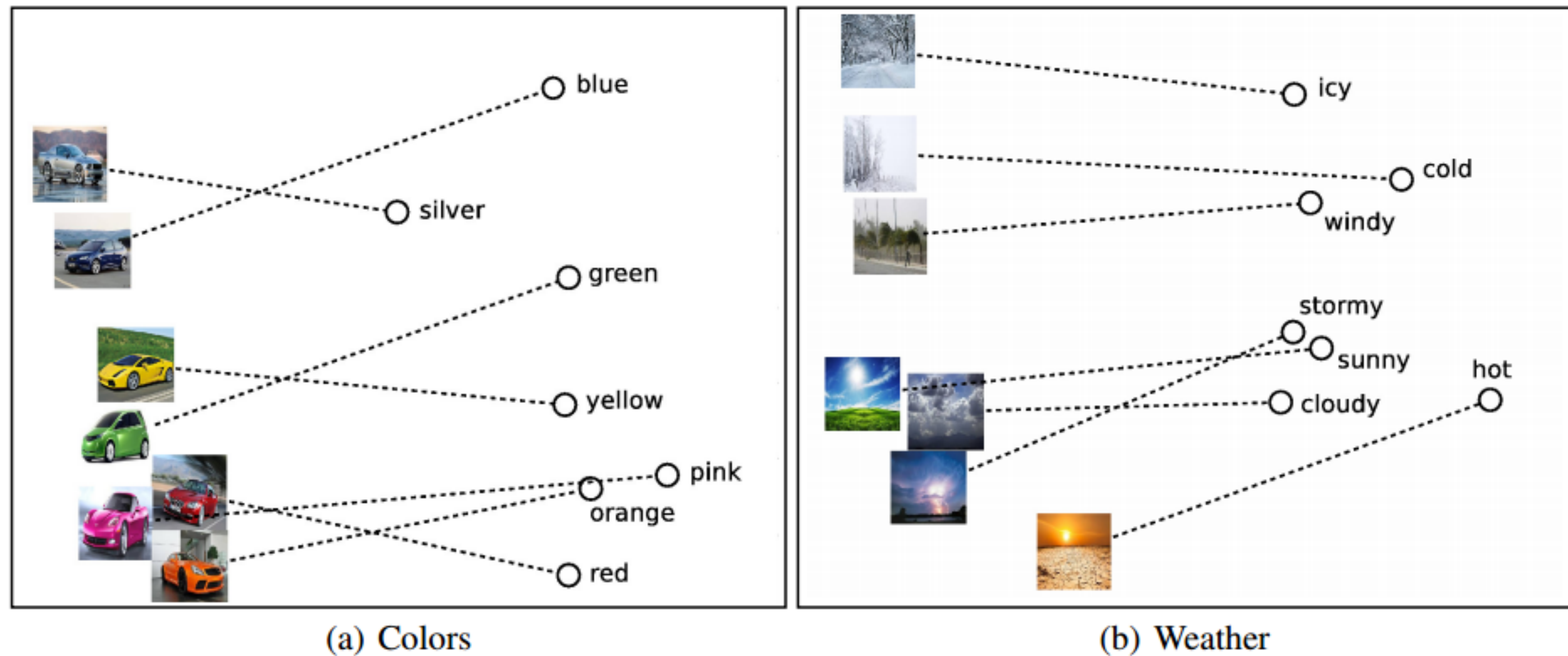


Figure 5: PCA projection of the 300-dimensional word and image representations for (a) cars and colors and (b) weather and temperature.  
*Unifying Visual-Semantic Embeddings with Multimodal Neural Language Models*  
[Kiros, Salakhutdinov, Zemel TACL 2015, <https://arxiv.org/pdf/1411.2539.pdf>]

# Cross-modal Embeddings

**Images** and **class labels** are embedded into the same space

**Image Embedding** 

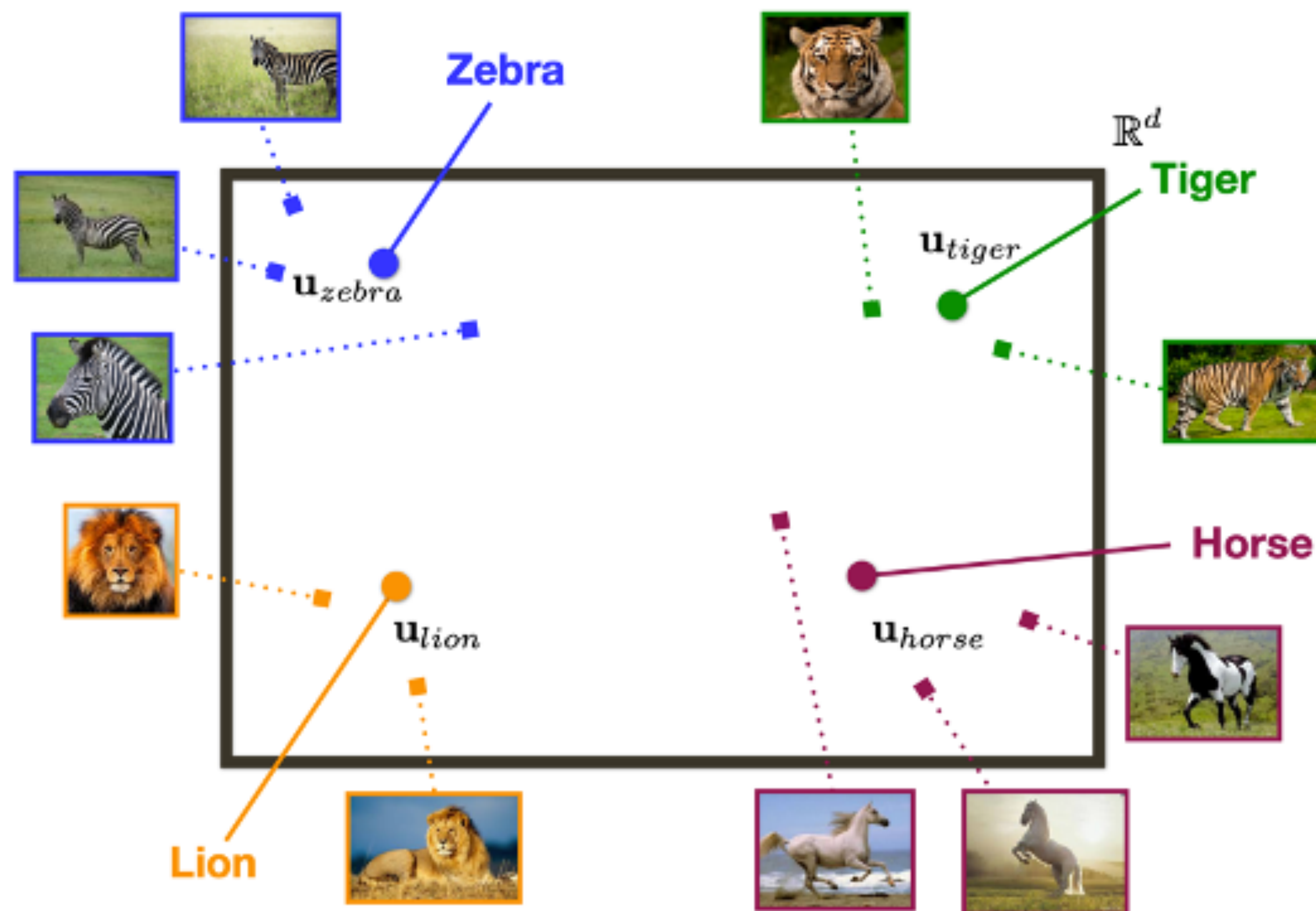
$$\Psi(I_i) = \mathbf{W} \cdot \text{CNN}(I_i; \Theta): \mathbb{R}^D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$$

**Label Embedding** 

$$\Psi_L(\text{word}_i) = \mathbf{u}_i: \{1, \dots, L\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$$

**Similarity in Embedding Space**

$$S(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u}') = \frac{\mathbf{u}}{\|\mathbf{u}\|} \cdot \frac{\mathbf{u}'}{\|\mathbf{u}'\|}$$



*Adapted from slide by Leonid Sigal*



# Cross-modal Embeddings

**Image Embedding** 

$$\Psi(I_i) = \mathbf{W} \cdot \text{CNN}(I_i; \Theta): \mathbb{R}^D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$$

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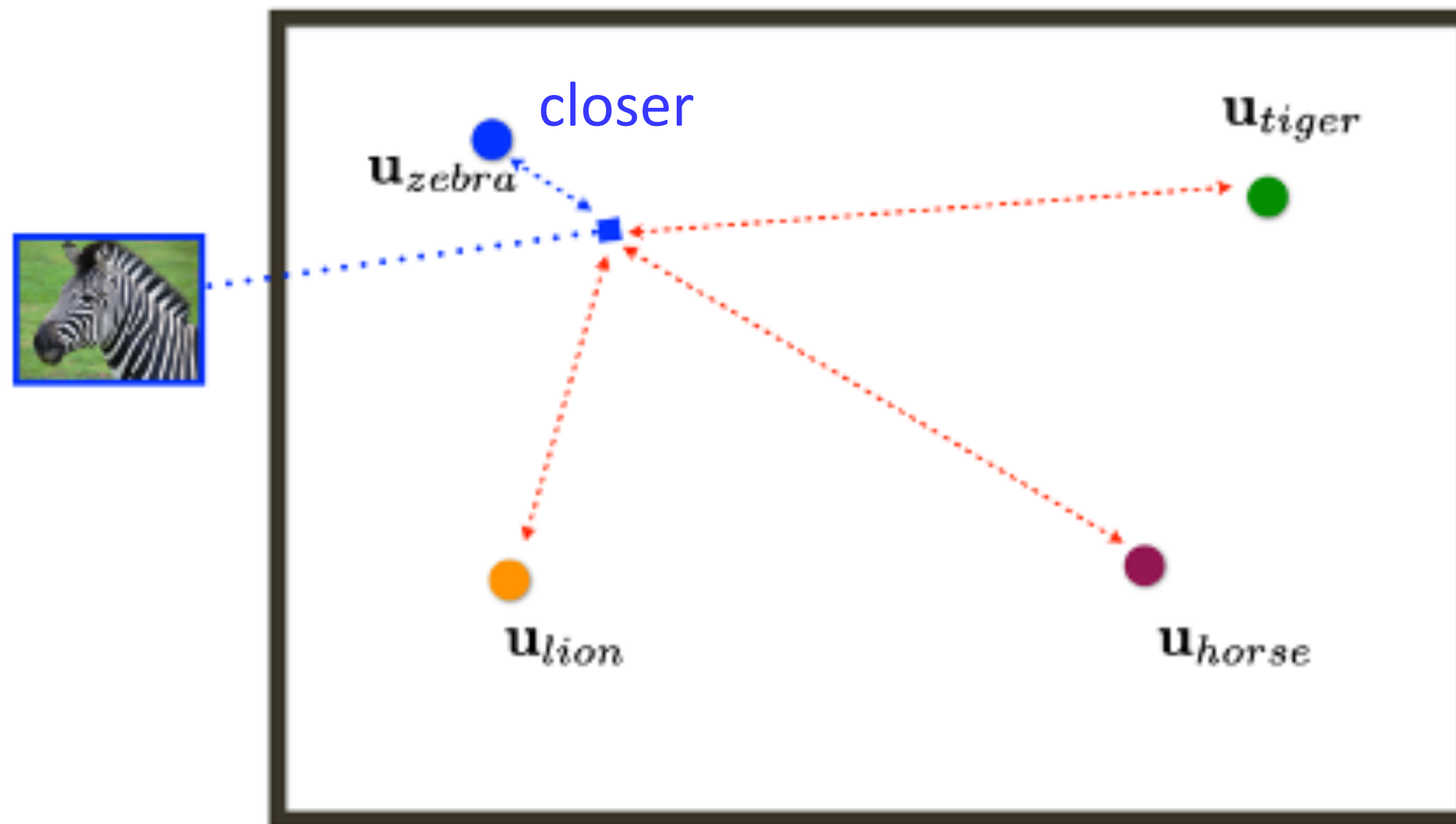
$$S(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u}') = \frac{\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{u}'}{\|\mathbf{u}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{u}'\|}$$

**Objective Function:**

$$\min_{\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{U}} \sum_i^N \mathcal{L}_C(\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{U}, I_i, y_i) + \lambda_1 \|\mathbf{W}\|_F^2 + \lambda_2 \|\mathbf{U}\|_F^2$$

$$\mathcal{L}_C = \sum \max(0, \alpha - \underbrace{S(\Psi(I_i), \mathbf{u}_{y_i})}_{\substack{\text{Correct label} \\ \text{(more similar)}}} + \underbrace{S(\Psi(I_i), \mathbf{u}_{y_c})}_{\substack{\text{Other labels} \\ \text{(less similar)}}})$$

+ pair  $\mathbb{R}^d$  - pair



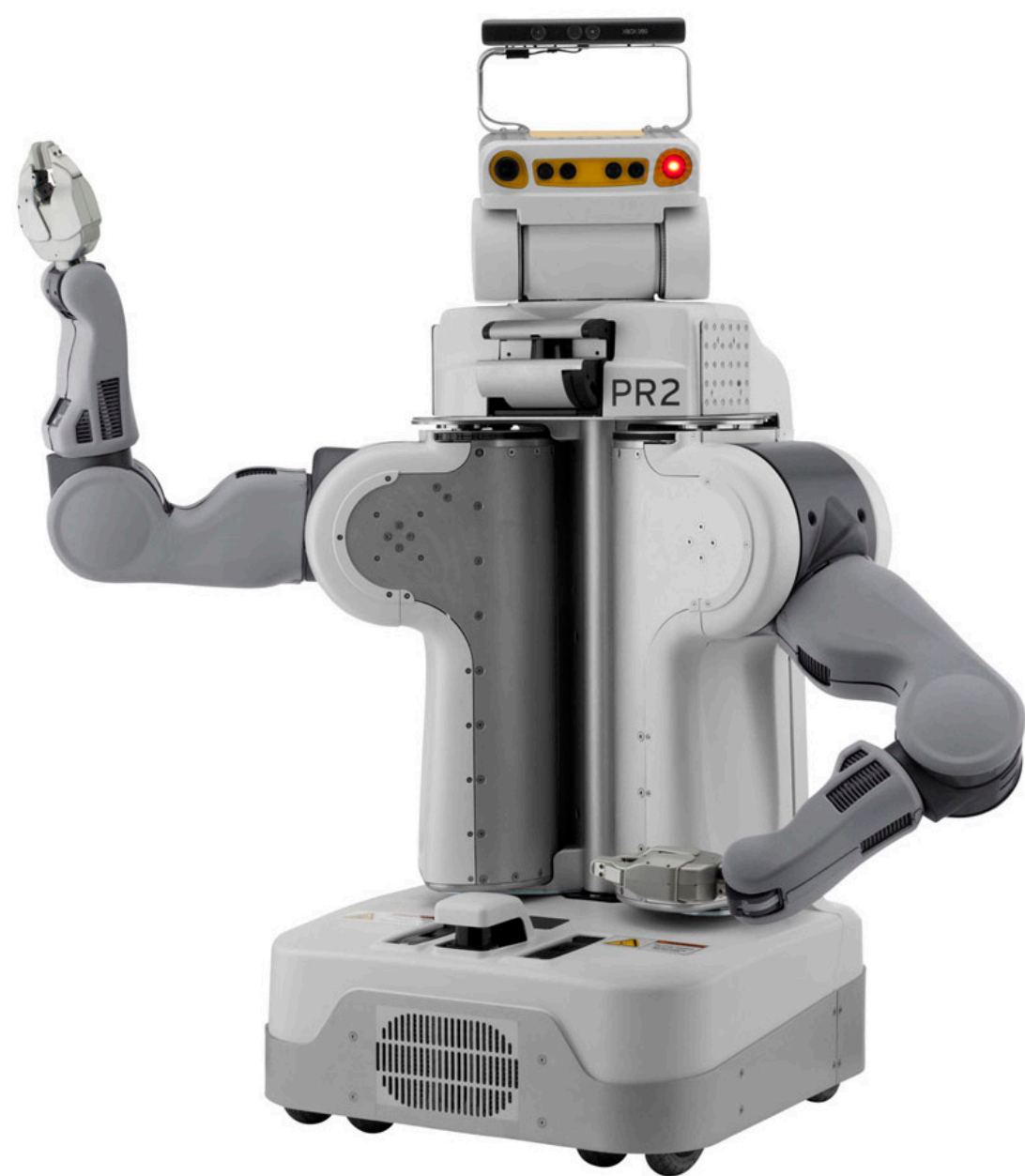
[ Bengio et al., NIPS'10 ]

[ Weinberger, Chapelle, NIPS'09 ]

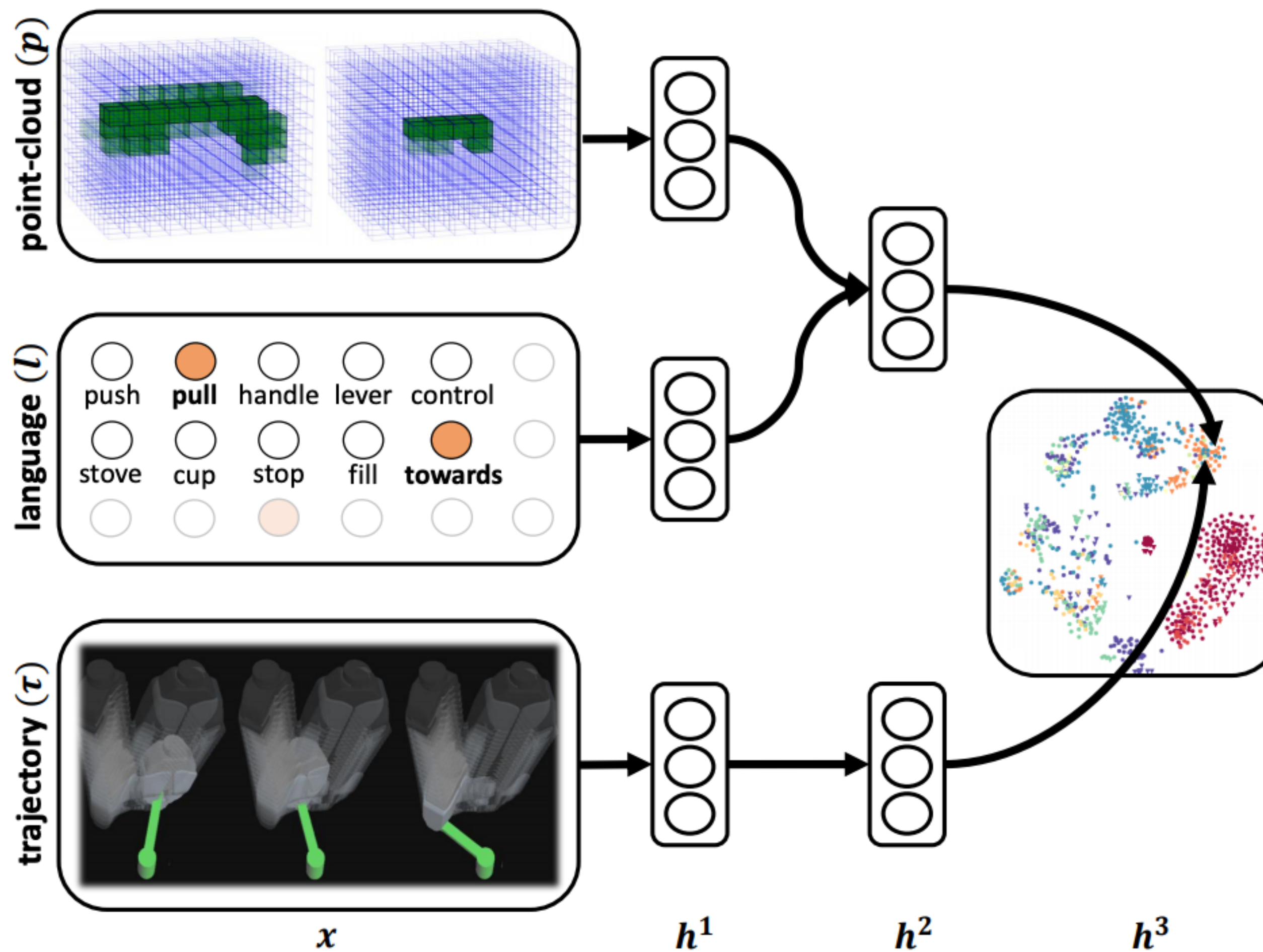
Adapted from slide by Leonid Sigal

# Can embed anything!

PR2 robot

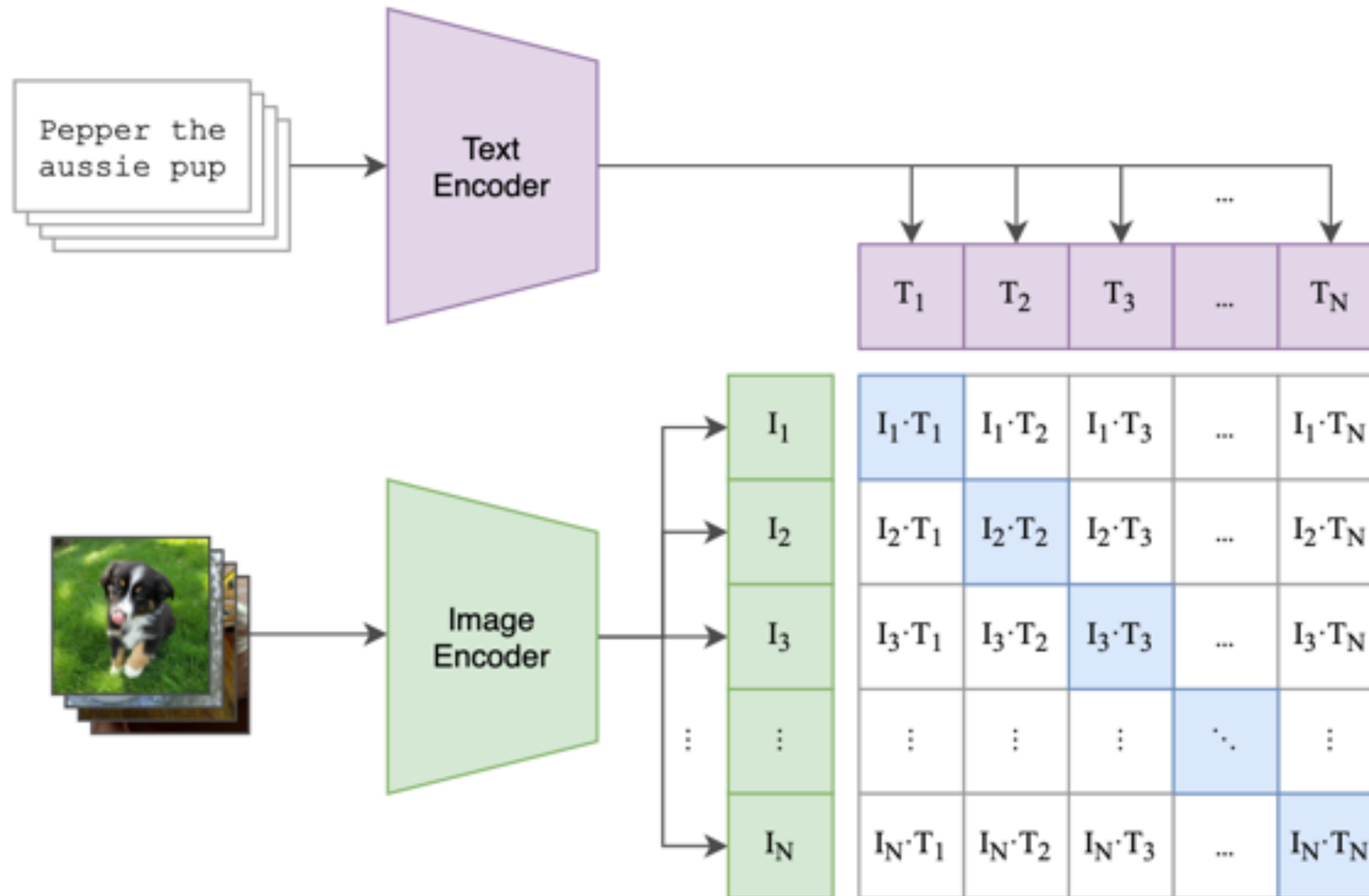


<https://robots.ieee.org/robots/pr2>



# Contrastive pretraining

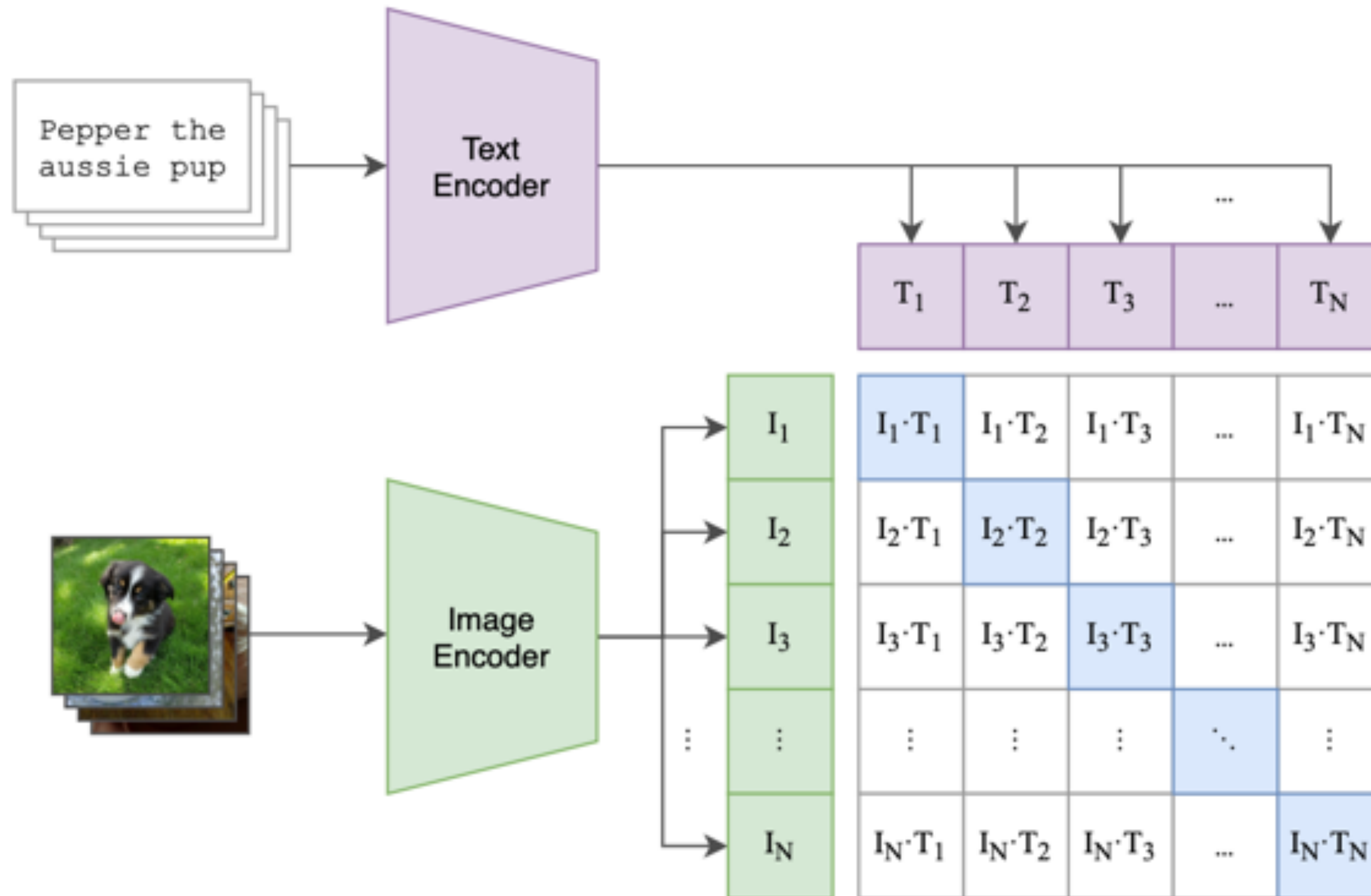
OpenAI CLIP



- Train on large amount of data
- WebImageText: 400M text-image pairs
- Contrastive pretraining: does the text-image pair match?
  - Batch size  $N=32K$
  - $N$  positive pairs
  - $N^2 - N$  negative pairs
- Transformer based model for both vision and language

# Contrastive pretraining

OpenAI CLIP



- Contrastive Loss

NT-Xent loss (images and text)

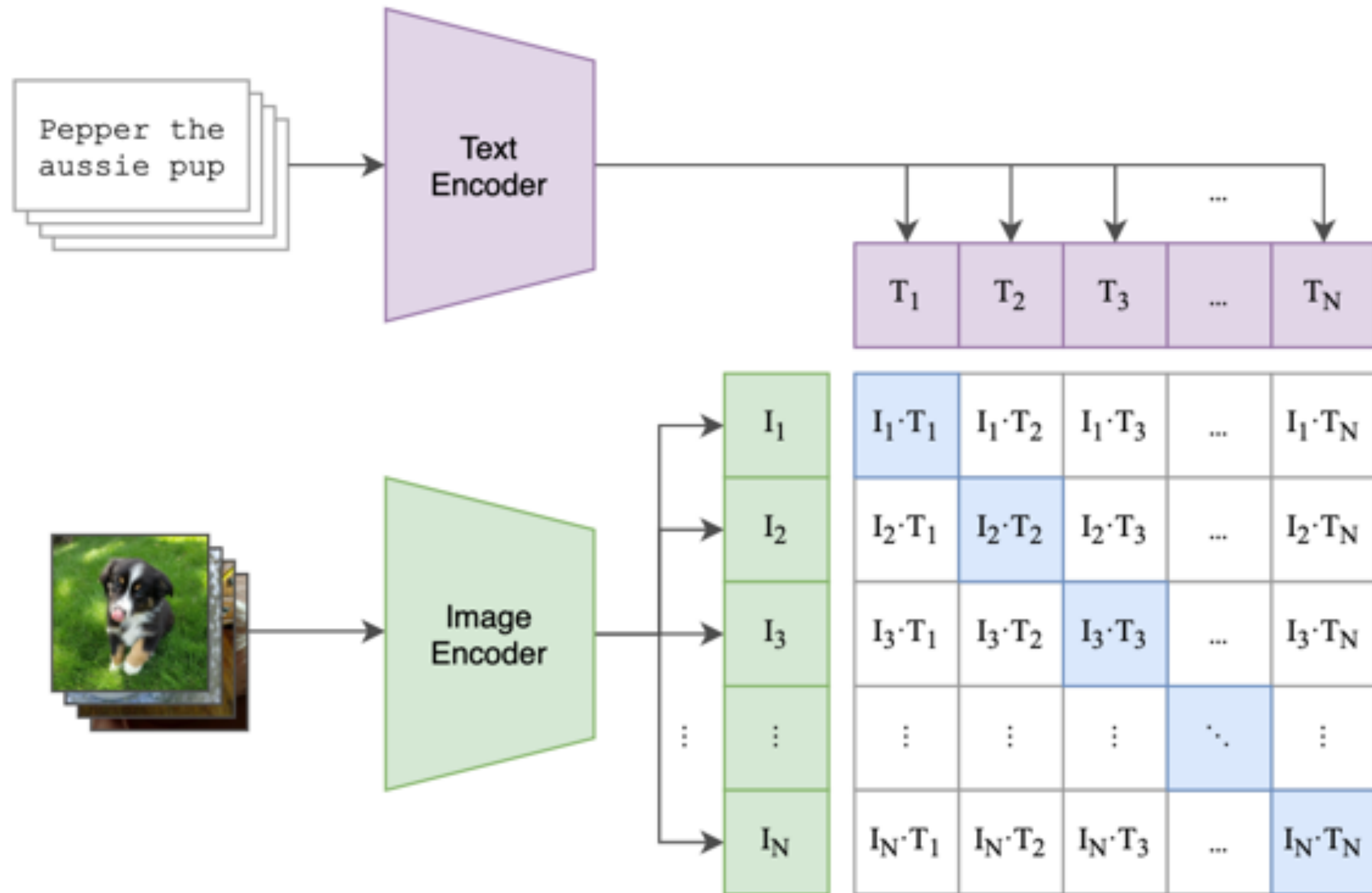
$$l_j^{I \rightarrow T} = -\log \frac{\exp(\text{sim}(I_j, T_j)/\tau)}{\sum_{k=1}^N \exp(\text{sim}(I_j, T_k)/\tau)}$$

Symmetric Bimodal loss

$$L(I, T) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N (\alpha l_j^{I \rightarrow T} + (1 - \alpha) l_j^{T \rightarrow I})$$

# Contrastive pretraining

OpenAI CLIP



```
# image_encoder - ResNet or Vision Transformer
# text_encoder - CBOW or Text Transformer
# I[n, h, w, c] - minibatch of aligned images
# T[n, l] - minibatch of aligned texts
# W_i[d_i, d_e] - learned proj of image to embed
# W_t[d_t, d_e] - learned proj of text to embed
# t - learned temperature parameter

# extract feature representations of each modality
I_f = image_encoder(I) #[n, d_i]
T_f = text_encoder(T) #[n, d_t]

# joint multimodal embedding [n, d_e]
I_e = l2_normalize(np.dot(I_f, W_i), axis=1)
T_e = l2_normalize(np.dot(T_f, W_t), axis=1)

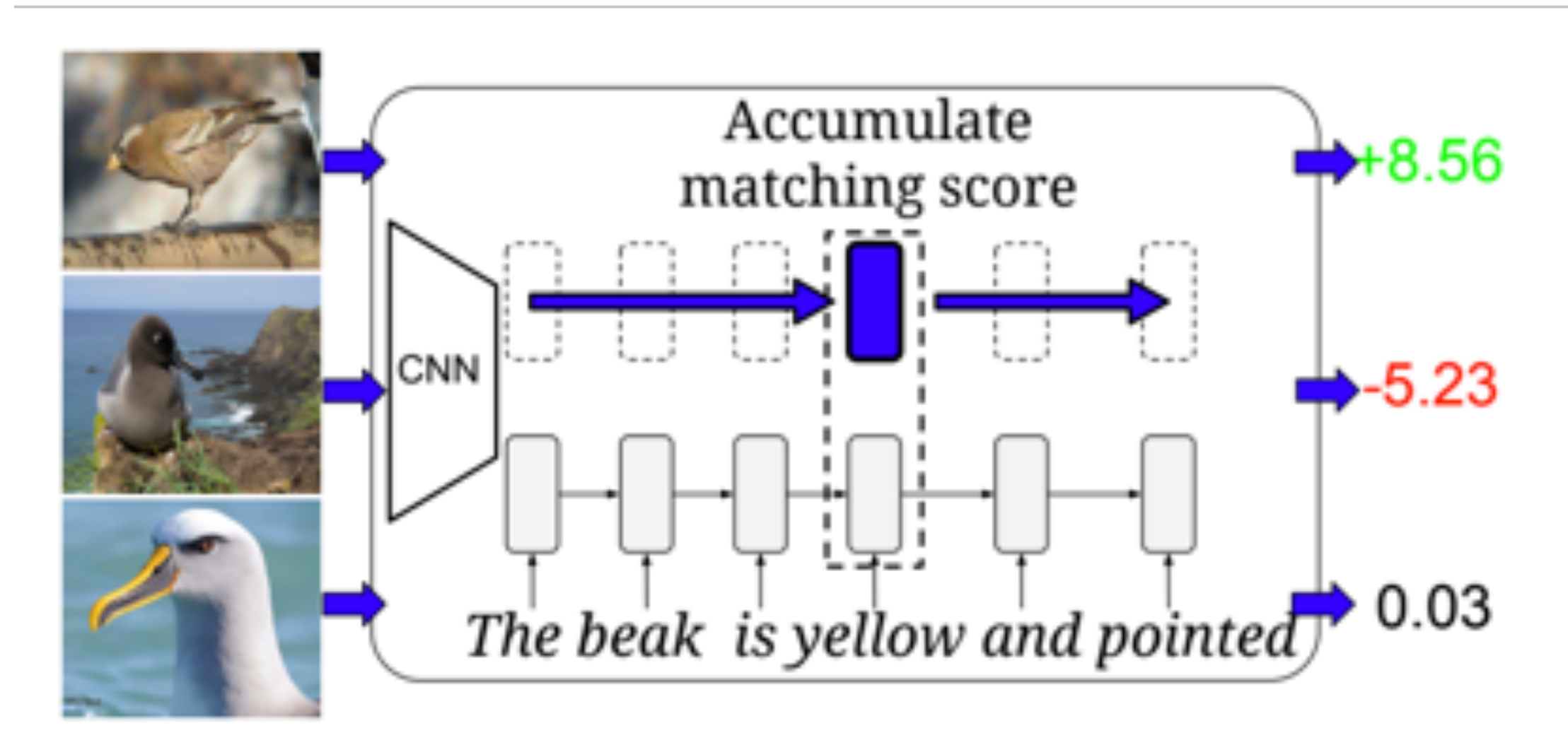
# scaled pairwise cosine similarities [n, n]
logits = np.dot(I_e, T_e.T) * np.exp(t)

# symmetric loss function
labels = np.arange(n)
loss_i = cross_entropy_loss(logits, labels, axis=0)
loss_t = cross_entropy_loss(logits, labels, axis=1)
loss = (loss_i + loss_t)/2
```

Aligned embeddings can be used for a  
variety of tasks

# Retrieval

- Text to image/video retrieval
- Image/video to text retrieval

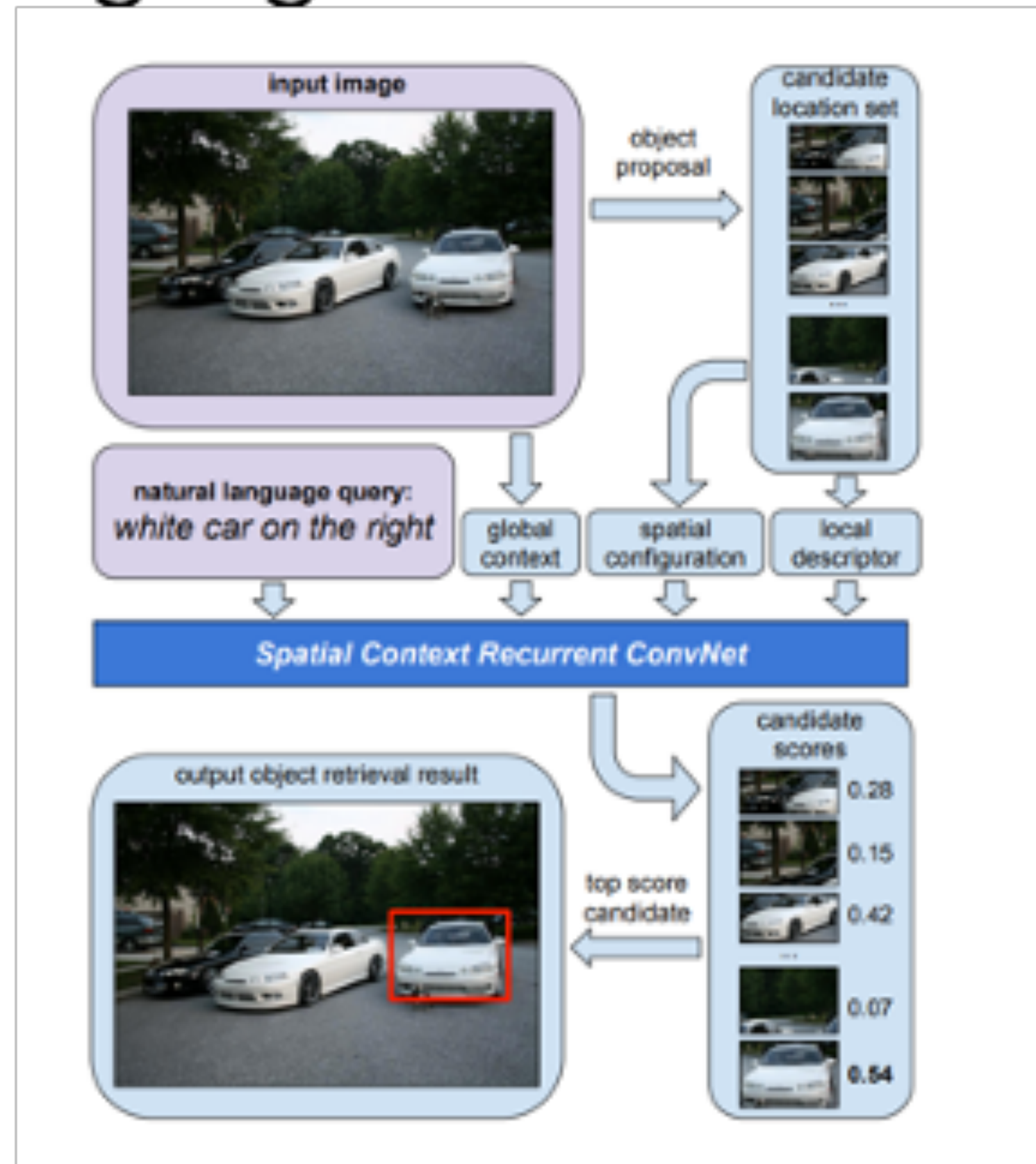


Embedding	Top-1 Acc (%)		AP@50 (%)	
	DA-SJE	DS-SJE	DA-SJE	DS-SJE
ATTRIBUTES	50.9	50.4	20.4	<b>50.0</b>
WORD2VEC	38.7	38.6	7.5	33.5
BAG-OF-WORDS	43.4	44.1	24.6	39.6
CHAR CNN	47.2	48.2	2.9	42.7
CHAR LSTM	22.6	21.6	11.6	22.3
CHAR CNN-RNN	54.0	54.0	6.9	45.6
WORD CNN	50.5	51.0	3.4	43.3
WORD LSTM	52.2	53.0	<b>36.8</b>	46.8
WORD CNN-RNN	<b>54.3</b>	<b>56.8</b>	4.8	48.7

CUB Birds

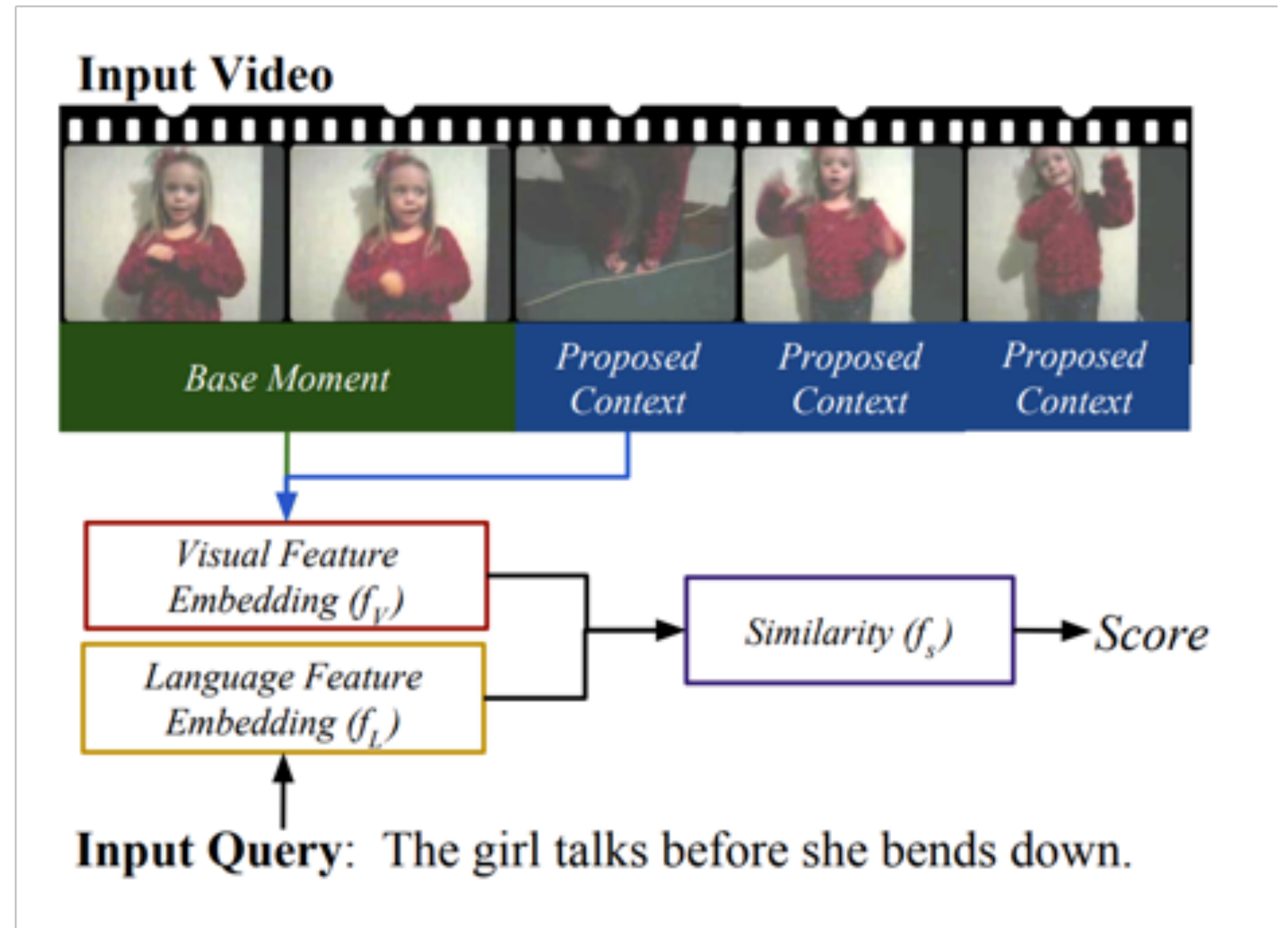
# Grounding

Match image region to language



Natural Language Object Retrieval  
(Hu et al, CVPR 2016)

Match video frames to language



Localizing moments in video with temporal language  
(Hendricks et al, EMNLP, 2018)



# Grounding

## Phrase Localization



A group of eight campers sit around a fire pit trying to roast marshmallows on their sticks.

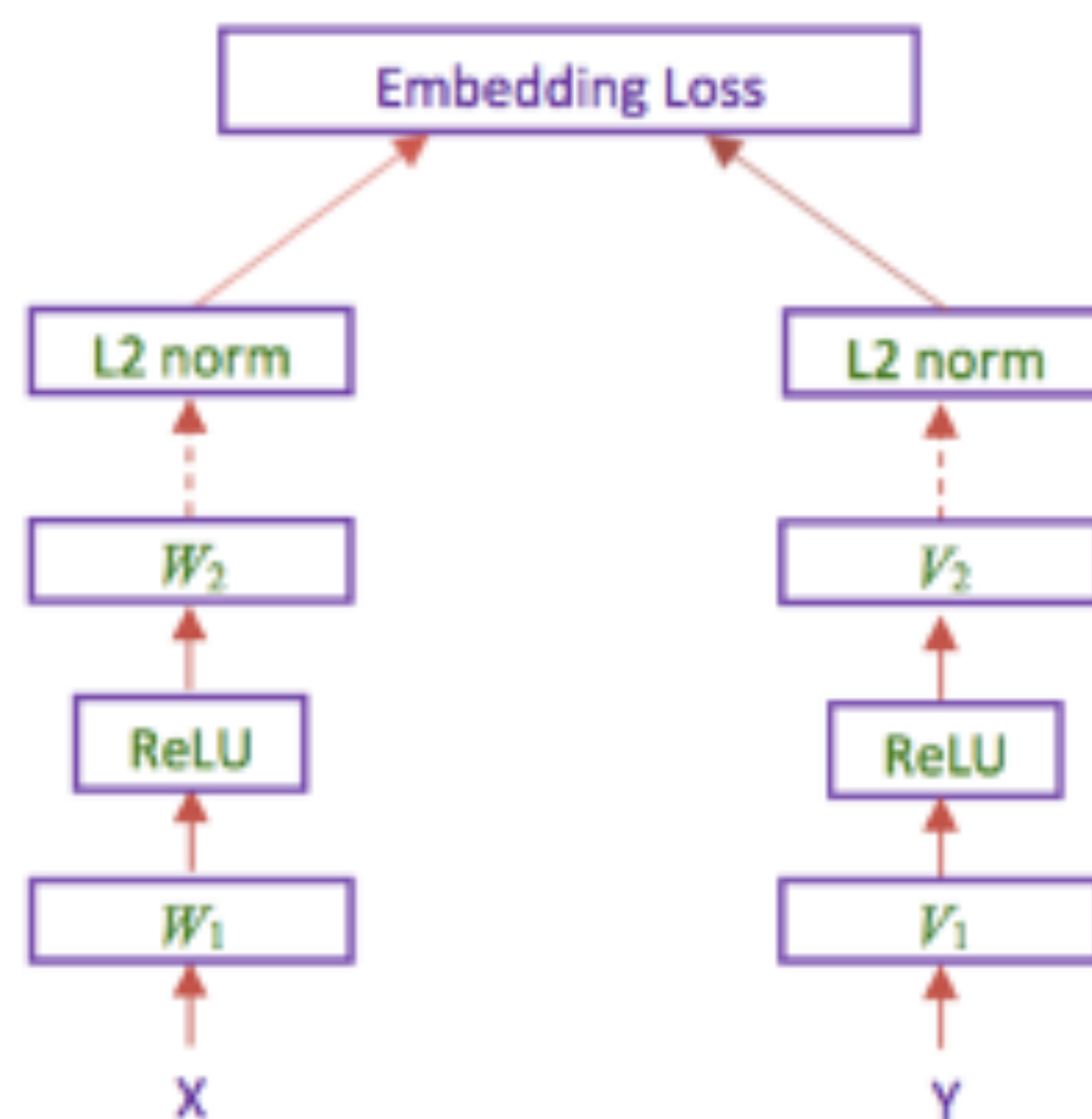
$X$ : regions



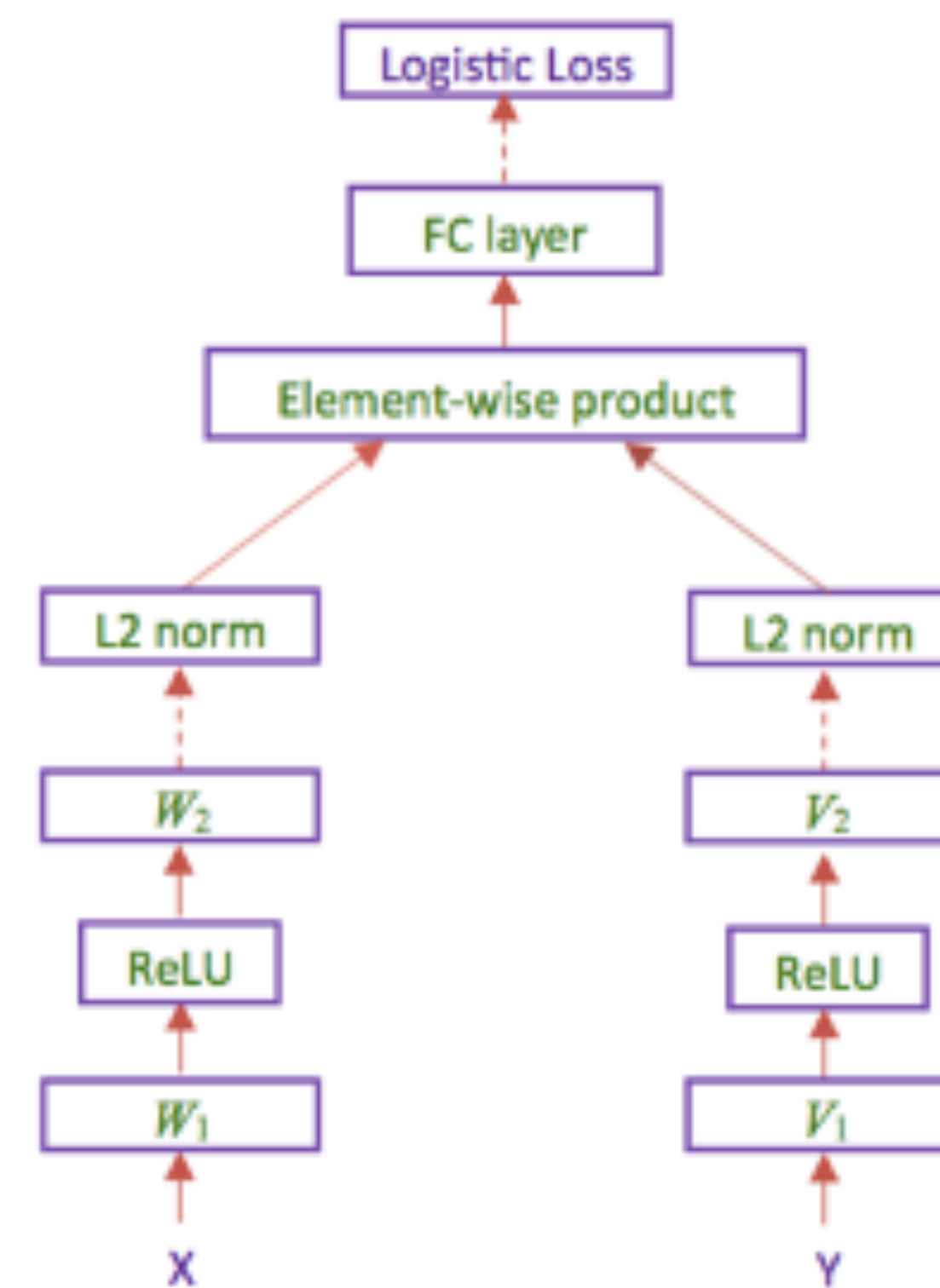
$Y$ : "a fire pit"

### Embedding Network

$$d(\text{fire pit}, \text{"a fire pit"}) + m < d(\text{campers}, \text{"a fire pit"})$$
$$d(\text{fire pit}, \text{"a fire pit"}) + m < d(\text{fire pit}, \text{"campers"})$$

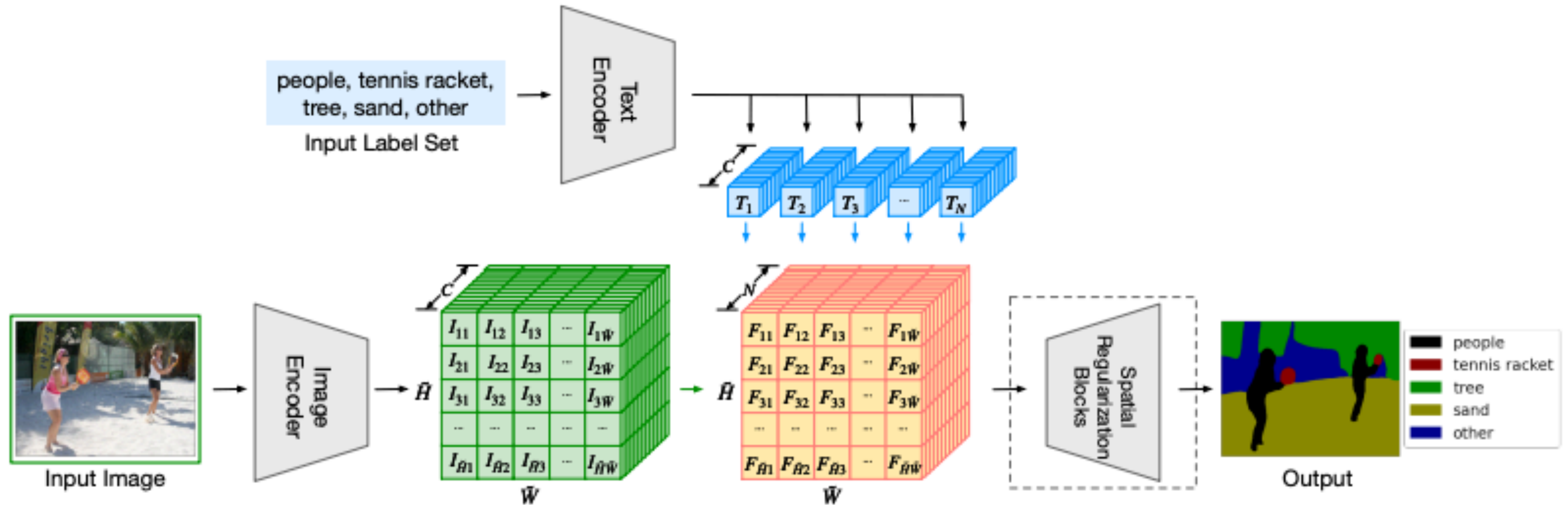


### Similarity Network



# Language Driven Semantic Segmentation

Use CLIP as text encoder



Use dense prediction transformers architecture

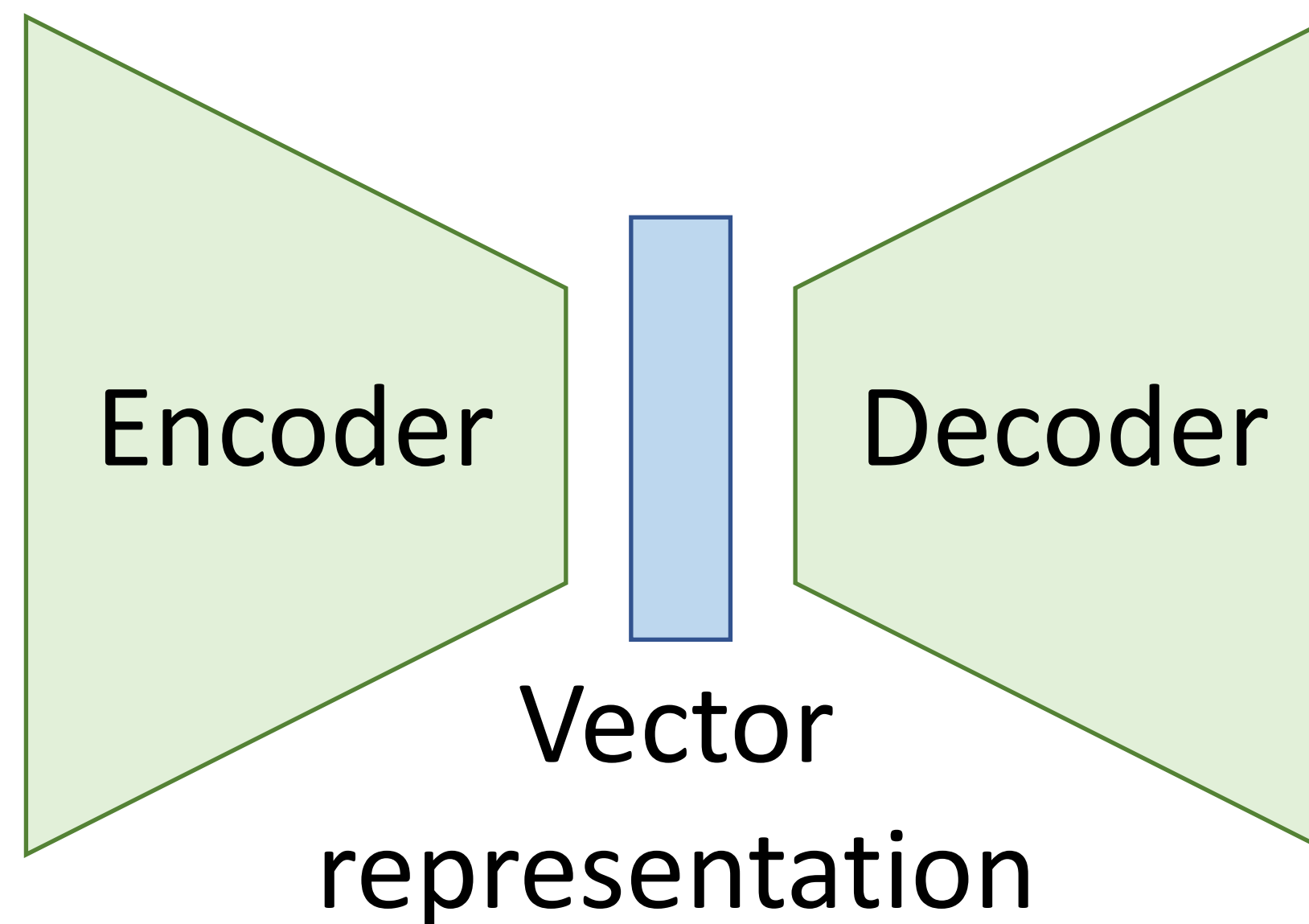
Upsamples to obtain final output

# Used in DALL-E

DALL-E (2021): 12B parameter version of GPT-3 trained to generate images from text descriptions

CLIP used to score and re-rank generated images

a teapot in the shape of a pikachu.  
a teapot imitating a pikachu



Image

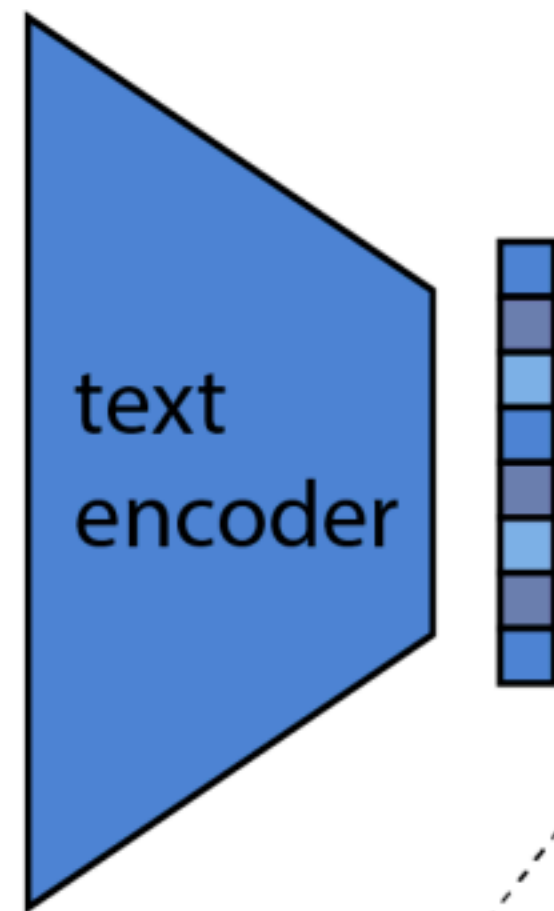


Images are represented as sequence of tokens  
(each image is encoded as 32x32 grid of tokens using discrete VAE to 8192 codewords)

# DALLE-2: Text-to-Image generation with diffusion models

## CLIP text and image encoder

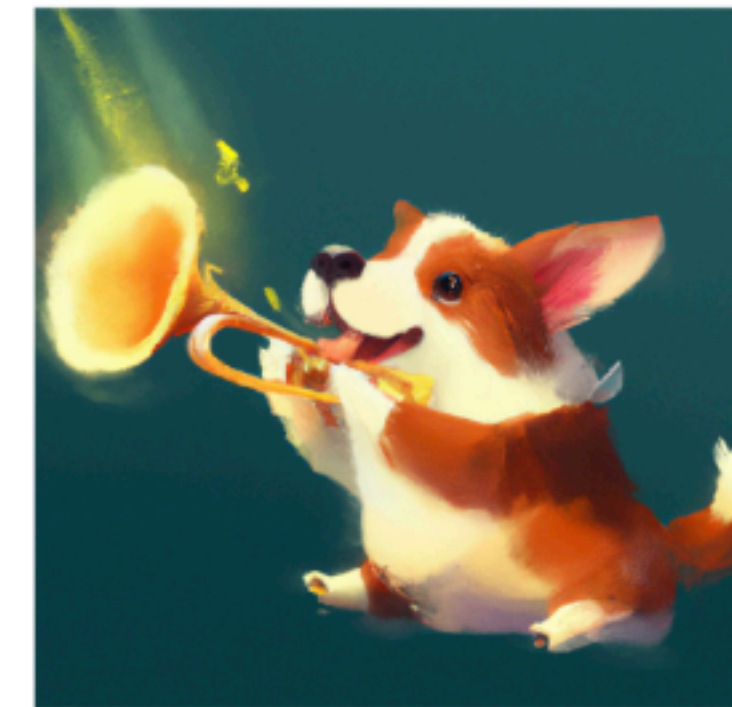
"a corgi playing a flame throwing trumpet"



CLIP objective

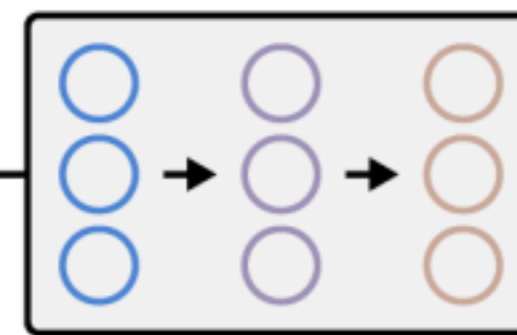
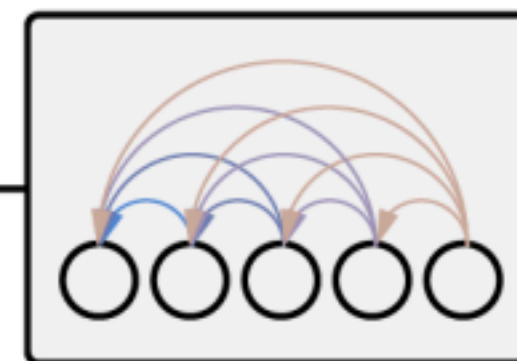


img encoder



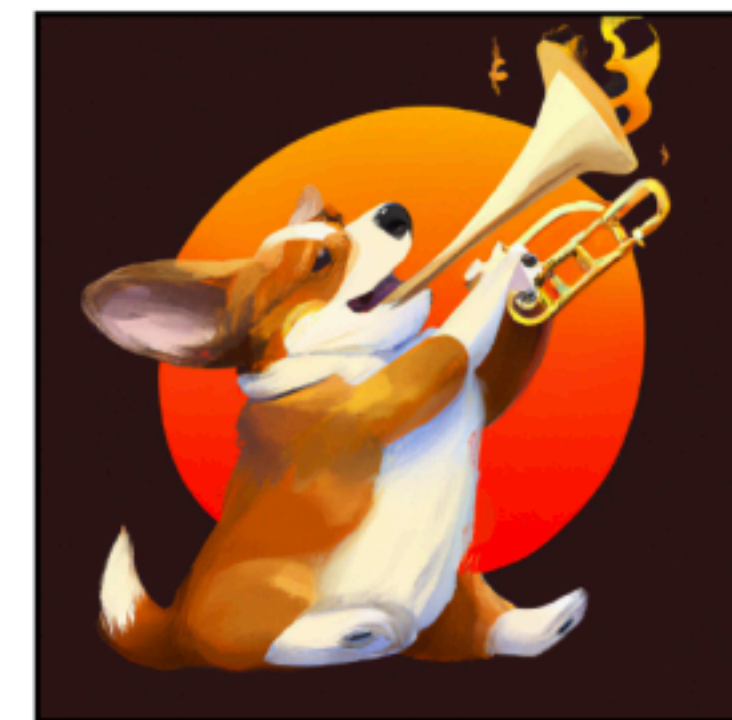
$$P(z_i | y)$$

$$P(x | z_i, y)$$



prior

decoder



Diffusion models to produce

- latent image embedding  $z$  from text embedding  $y$ ,
- image  $x$  from latent image embedding  $z$

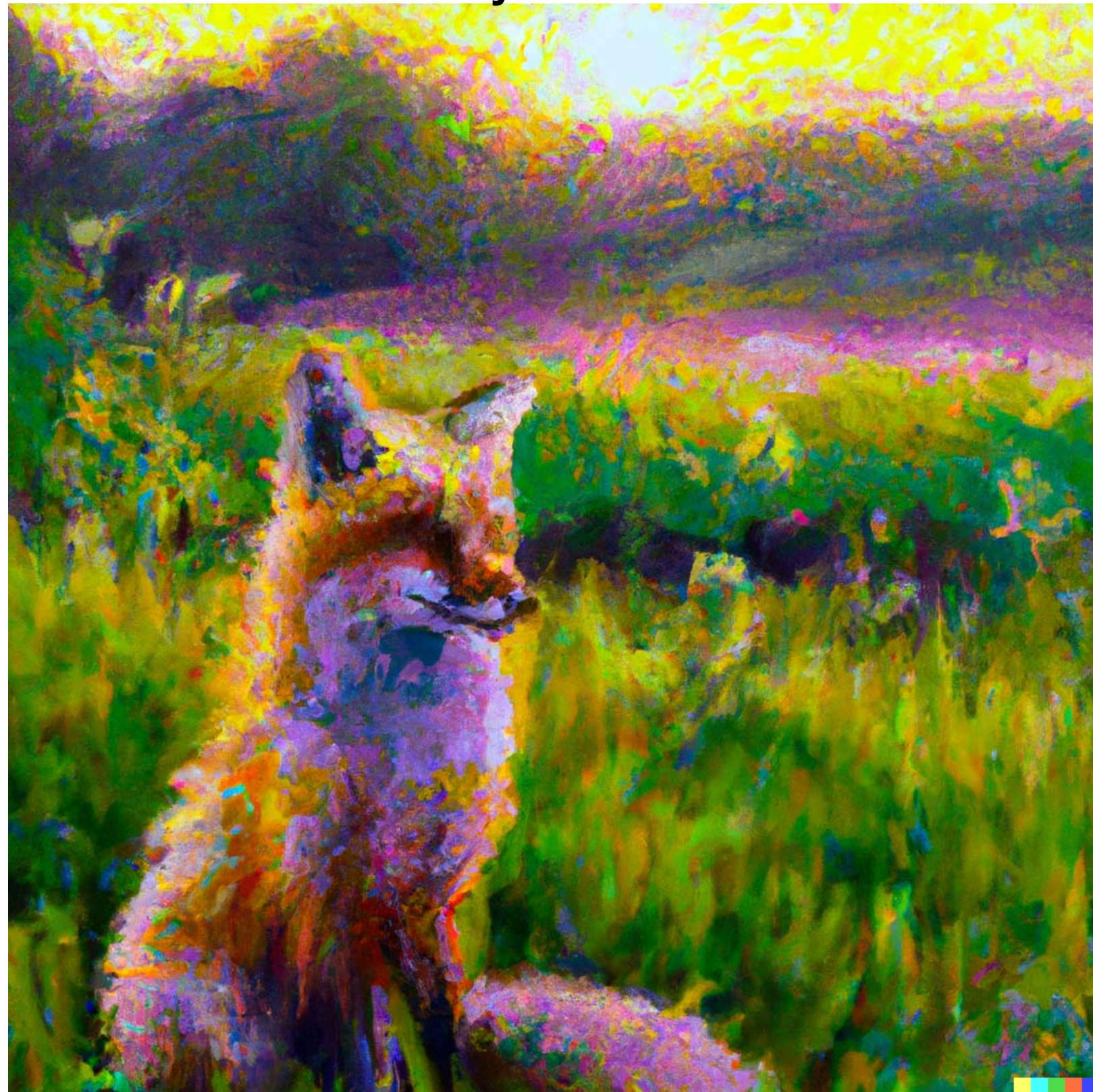
Hierarchical Text-Conditional Image Generation with CLIP Latents  
<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2204.06125.pdf> [Ramesh et al, arXiv 2022]

<https://openai.com/dall-e-2/>

# Text-to-Image Generation with Diffusion Models

 **OpenAI DALL-E 2**

a painting of a fox sitting in a field at sunrise in the style of Claude Monet



<https://openai.com/dall-e-2/>

 **Imagen**

A cute sloth holding a small treasure chest.  
A bright golden glow is coming from the chest.



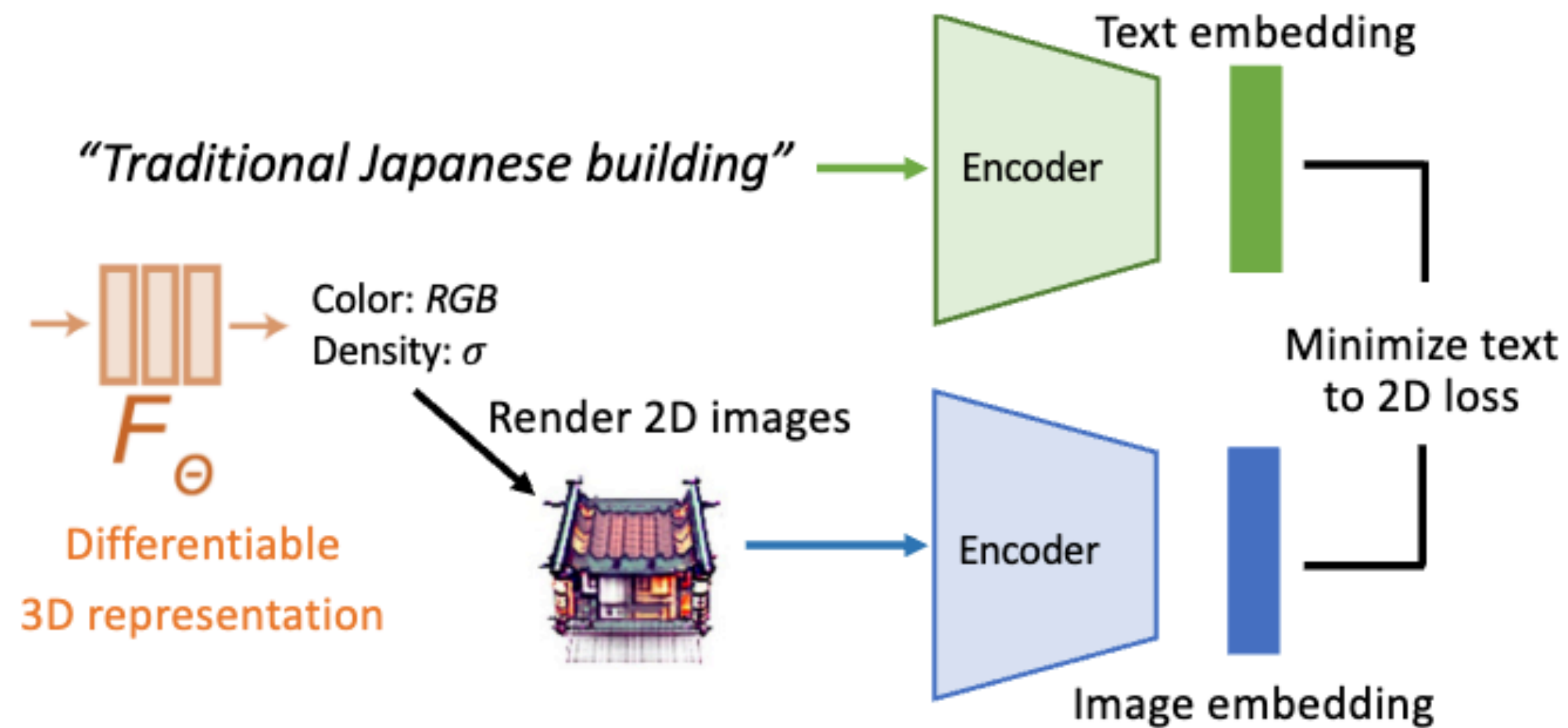
<https://imagen.research.google/>

Try it out yourself: <https://huggingface.co/spaces/stabilityai/stable-diffusion>, <https://www.craiyon.com/>, <https://www.midjourney.com/home/>

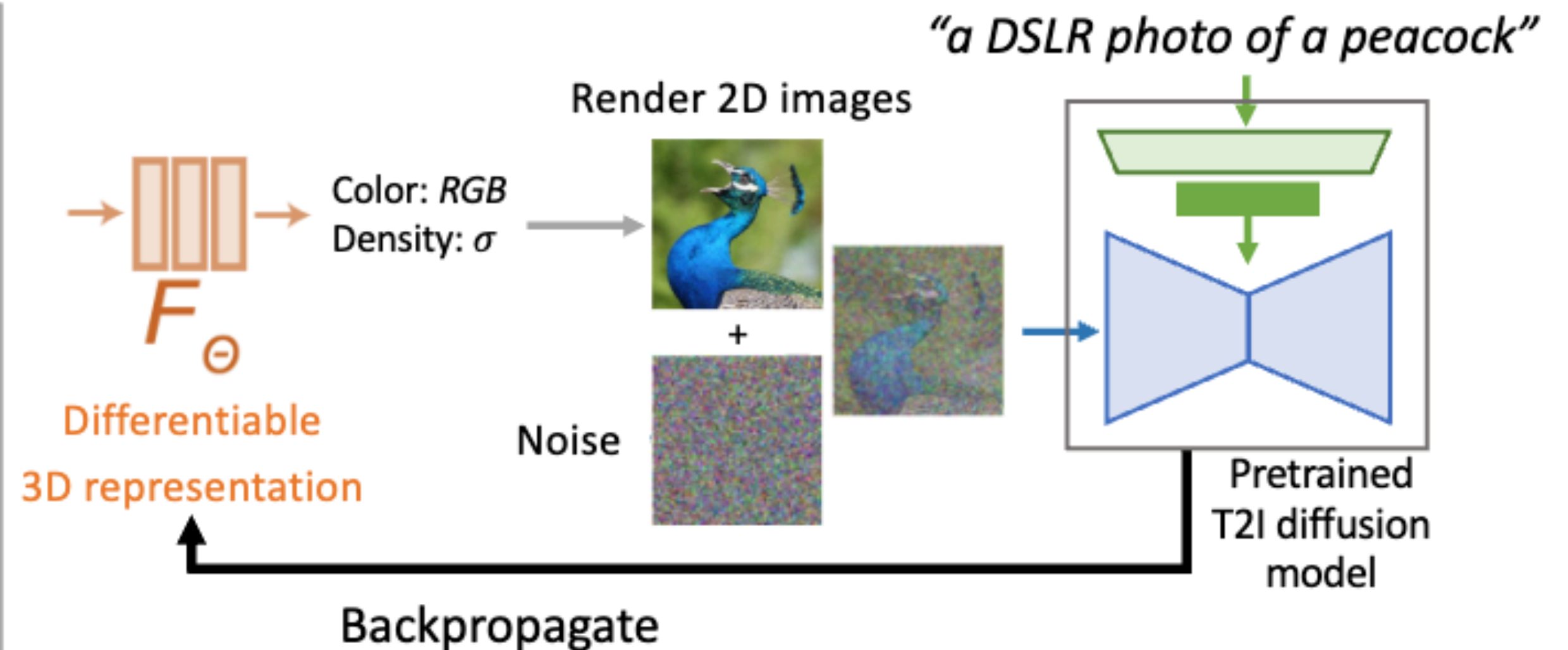
# Text-to-3D generation

Optimize differentiable 3D representations with text-image models

Aligned text to image embeddings

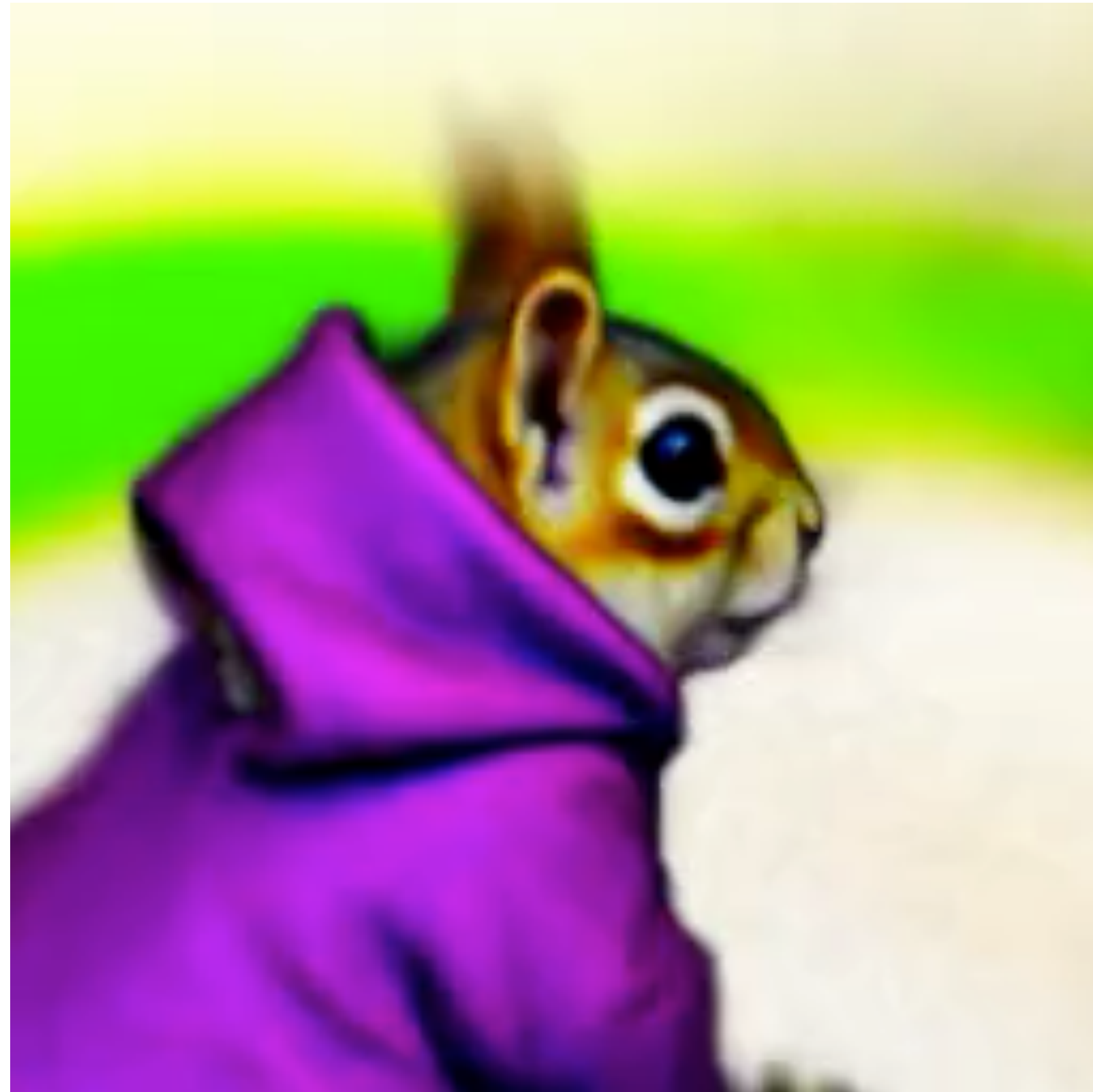


Text-to-image diffusion model



# Text-to-3D with diffusion models

a DSLR photo of a squirrel wearing a purple hoodie

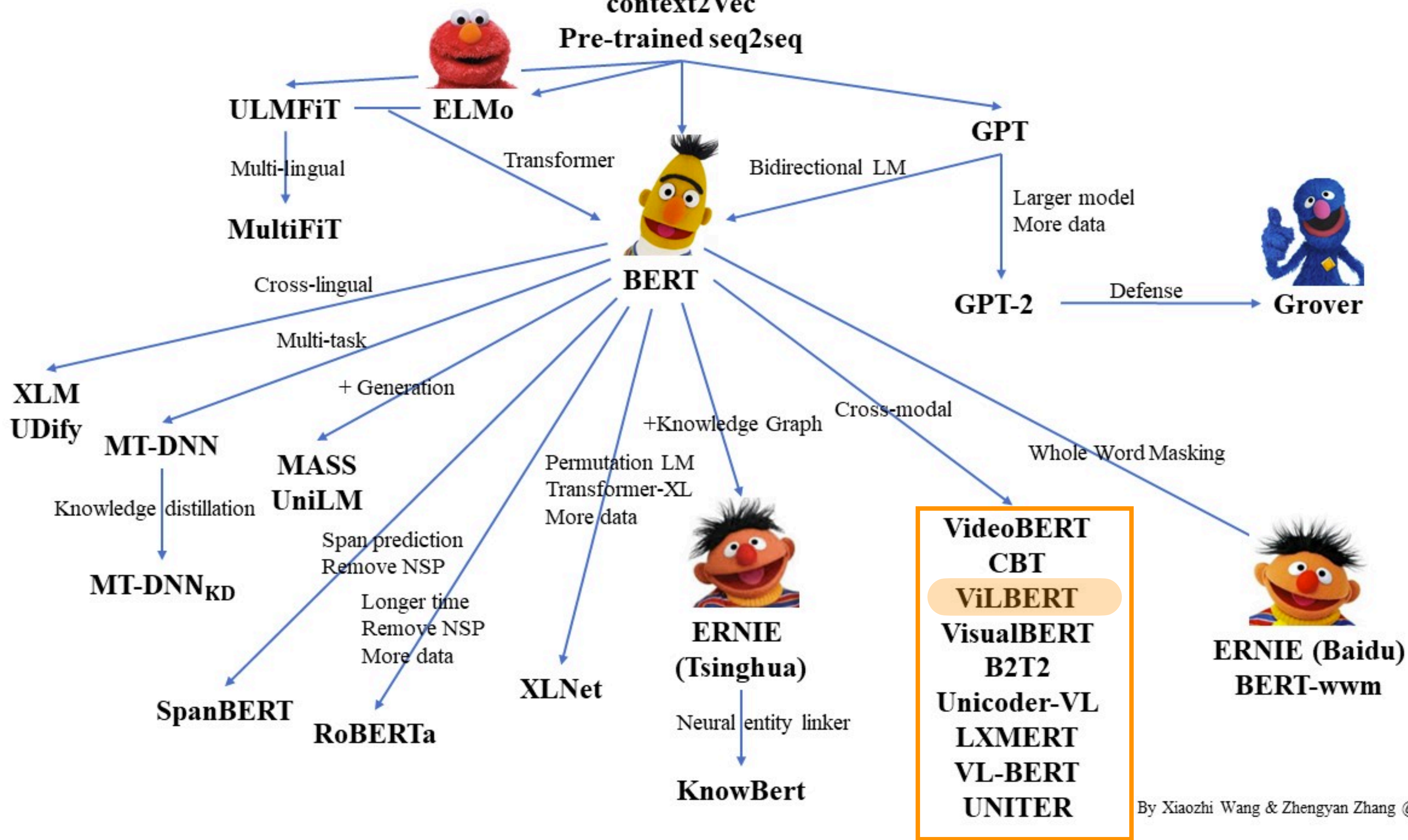


DreamFusion: Text-to-3D using 2D Diffusion  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2209.14988> [Poole et al, 2022]  
<https://dreamfusion3d.github.io/>

# Beyond contrastive loss for multi-modal models



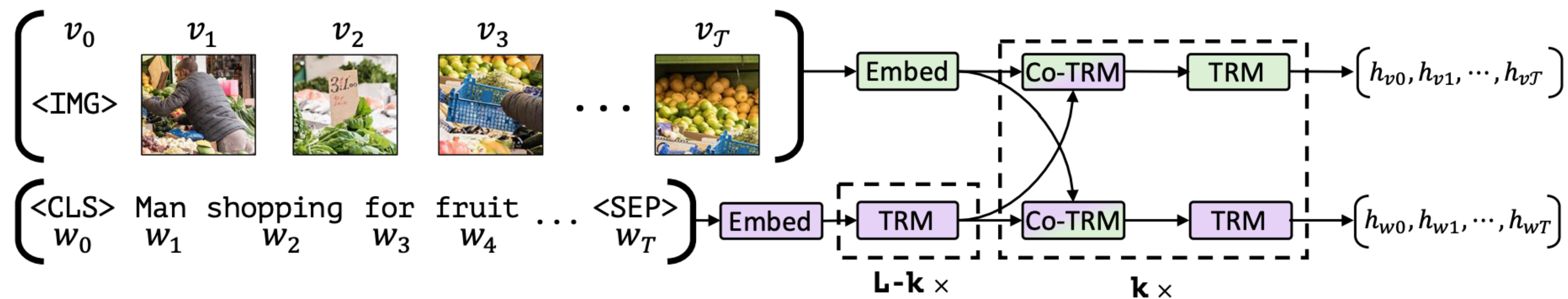
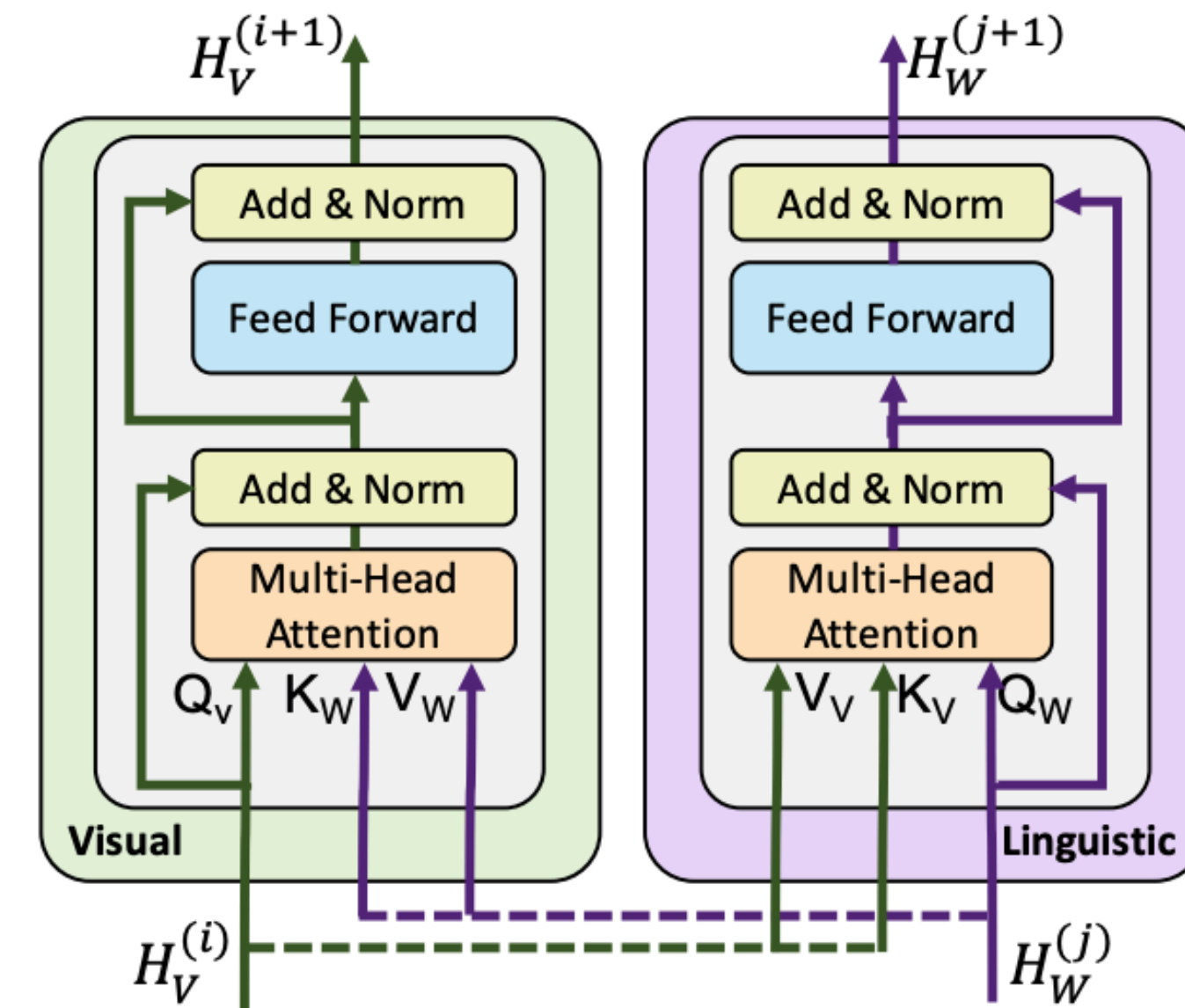
**Semi-supervised Sequence Learning**  
**context2Vec**  
**Pre-trained seq2seq**



# Pretrained representations for vision and language

Image represented as

- series of **image region features** (extracted from pre-trained object detection network)
- **Region position** encoded as  $5d$  vector

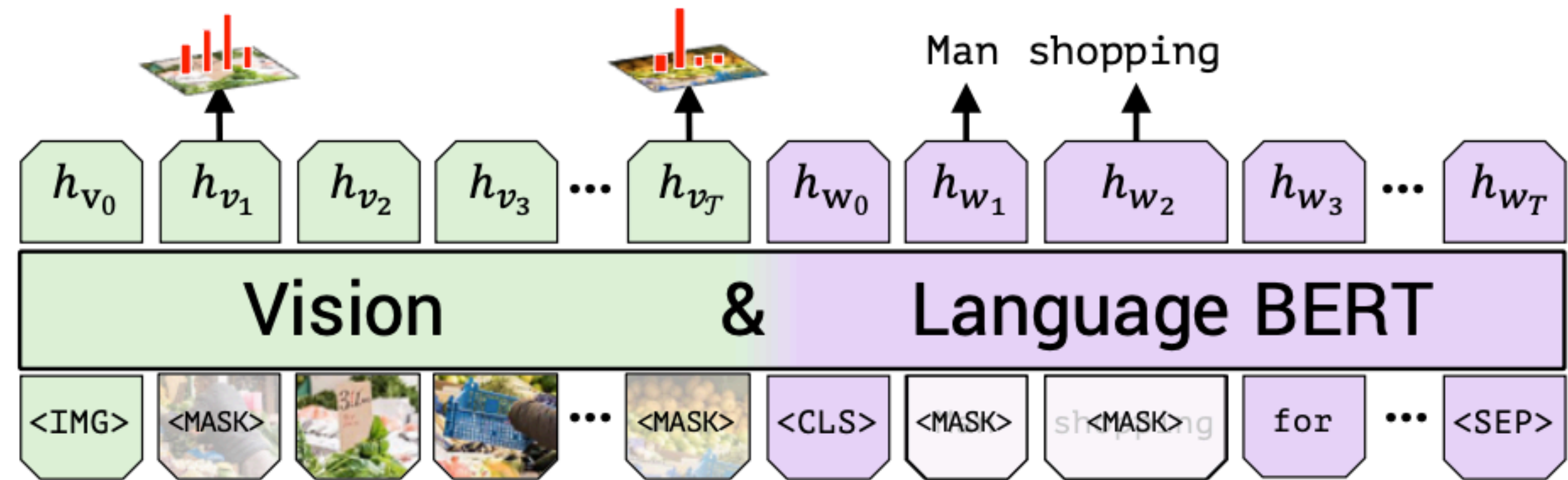


# Pretrained representations for vision and language

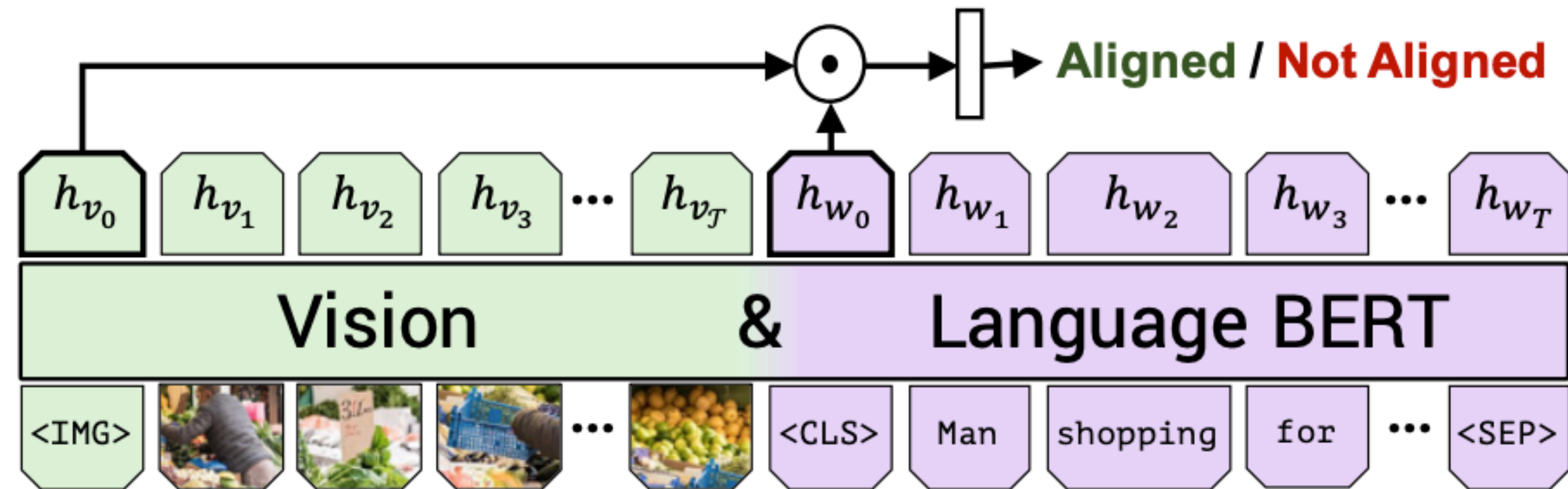
## Predict semantic class distribution

### Trained on

- Conceptual captions (~3.3M images with captions cleaned from alt-text labels)
- Two tasks to predict:
  - masked out words and semantic class distribution for masked out image regions
  - Is the image/description aligned?



(a) Masked multi-modal learning



(b) Multi-modal alignment prediction



# Pretrained representations for vision and language

Method	VQA [3]	VCR [25]			RefCOCO+ [32]			Image Retrieval [26]			ZS Image Retrieval		
	test-dev (test-std)	Q→A	QA→R	Q→AR	val	testA	testB	R1	R5	R10	R1	R5	R10
SOTA	DFAF [36]	70.22 (70.34)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	R2C [25]	-	63.8 (65.1)	67.2 (67.3)	43.1 (44.0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	MAttNet [33]	-	-	-	-	65.33	71.62	56.02	-	-	-	-	-
	SCAN [35]	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	48.60	77.70	85.20	-	-
Ours	Single-Stream <sup>†</sup>	65.90	68.15	68.89	47.27	65.64	72.02	56.04	-	-	-	-	-
	Single-Stream	68.85	71.09	73.93	52.73	69.21	75.32	61.02	-	-	-	-	-
	ViLBERT <sup>†</sup>	68.93	69.26	71.01	49.48	68.61	75.97	58.44	45.50	76.78	85.02	0.00	0.00
	ViLBERT	<b>70.55 (70.92)</b>	<b>72.42 (73.3)</b>	<b>74.47 (74.6)</b>	<b>54.04 (54.8)</b>	<b>72.34</b>	<b>78.52</b>	<b>62.61</b>	<b>58.20</b>	<b>84.90</b>	<b>91.52</b>	<b>31.86</b>	<b>61.12</b>

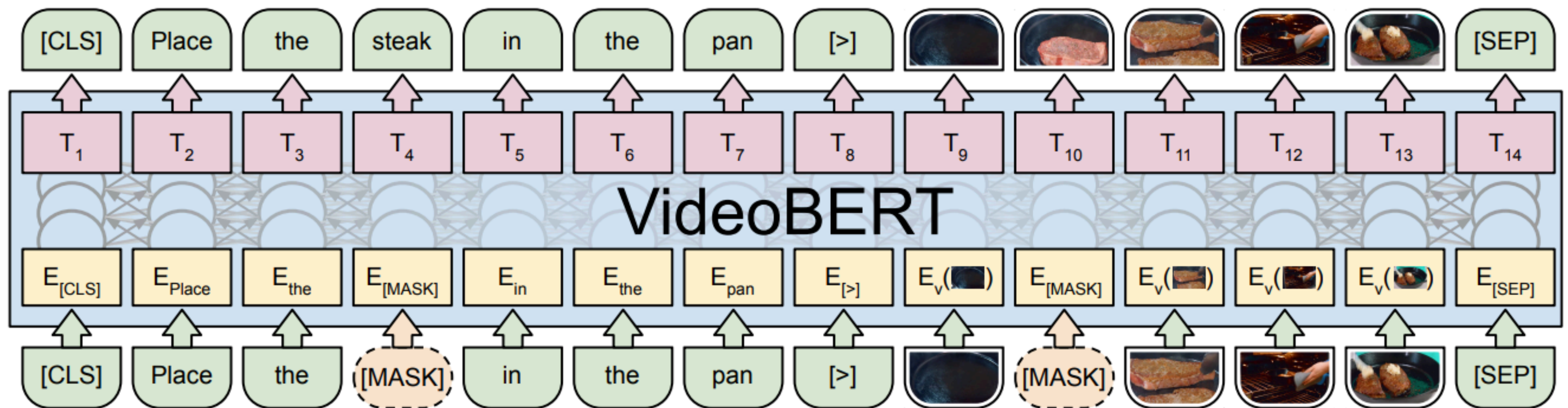
Pretraining improves performance on variety of vision+language tasks!



*ViLBERT: Pretraining Task-Agnostic Visiolinguistic Representations for Vision-and-Language Tasks*

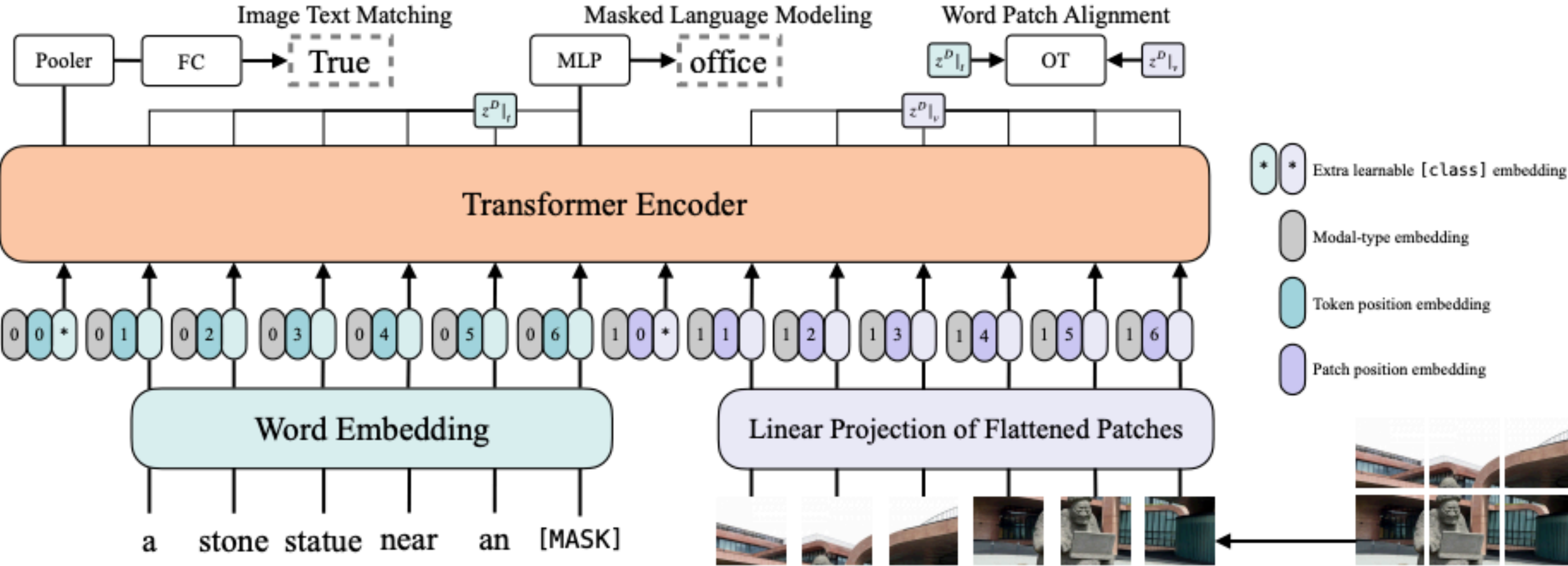
[Lu et al 2019, <https://arxiv.org/pdf/1908.02265.pdf>]

# Masked modelling for video and language

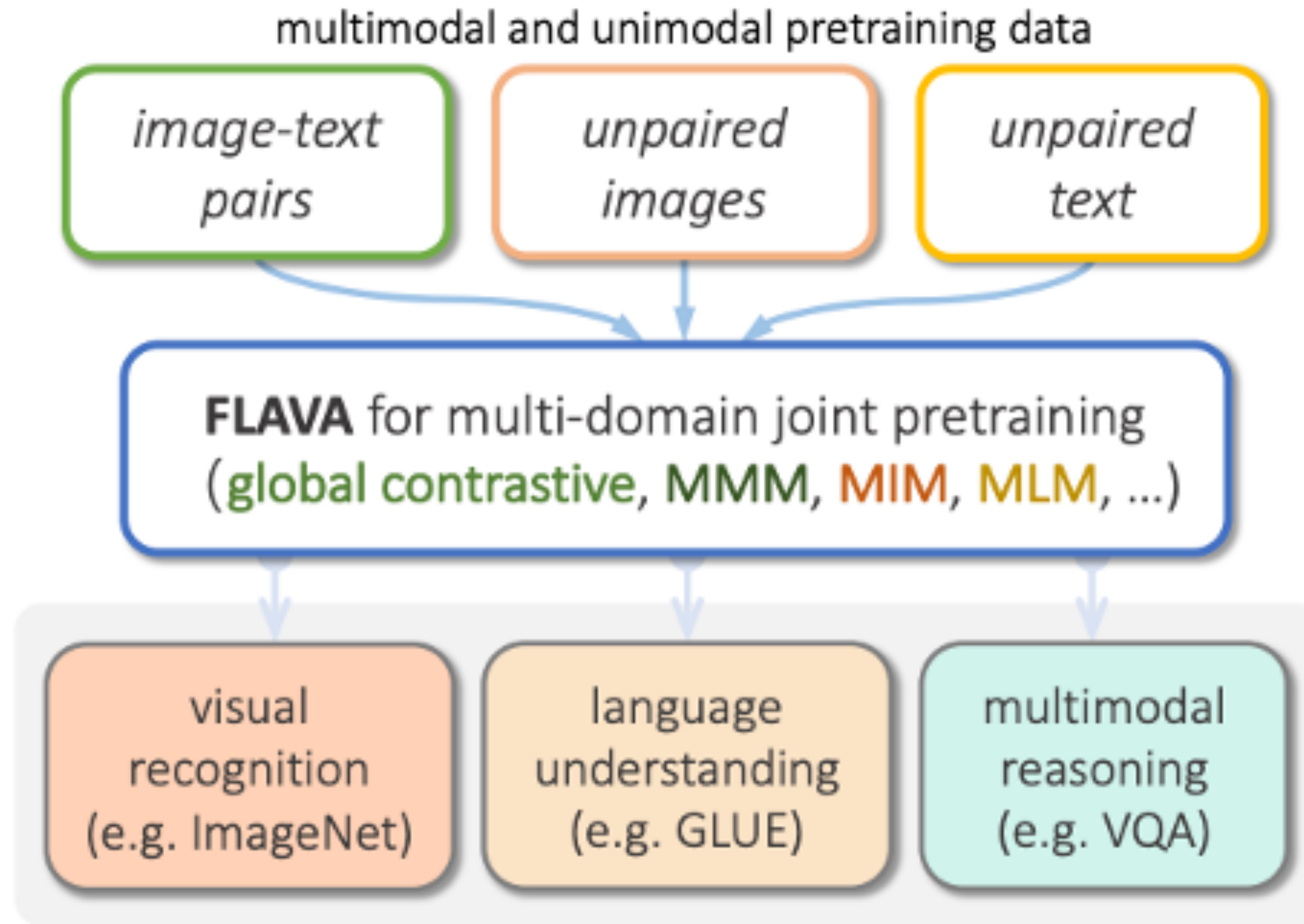


# Combining masked modelling with contrastive learning

- Use image patches, no need for object detectors



# Large multi-modal models: FLAVA

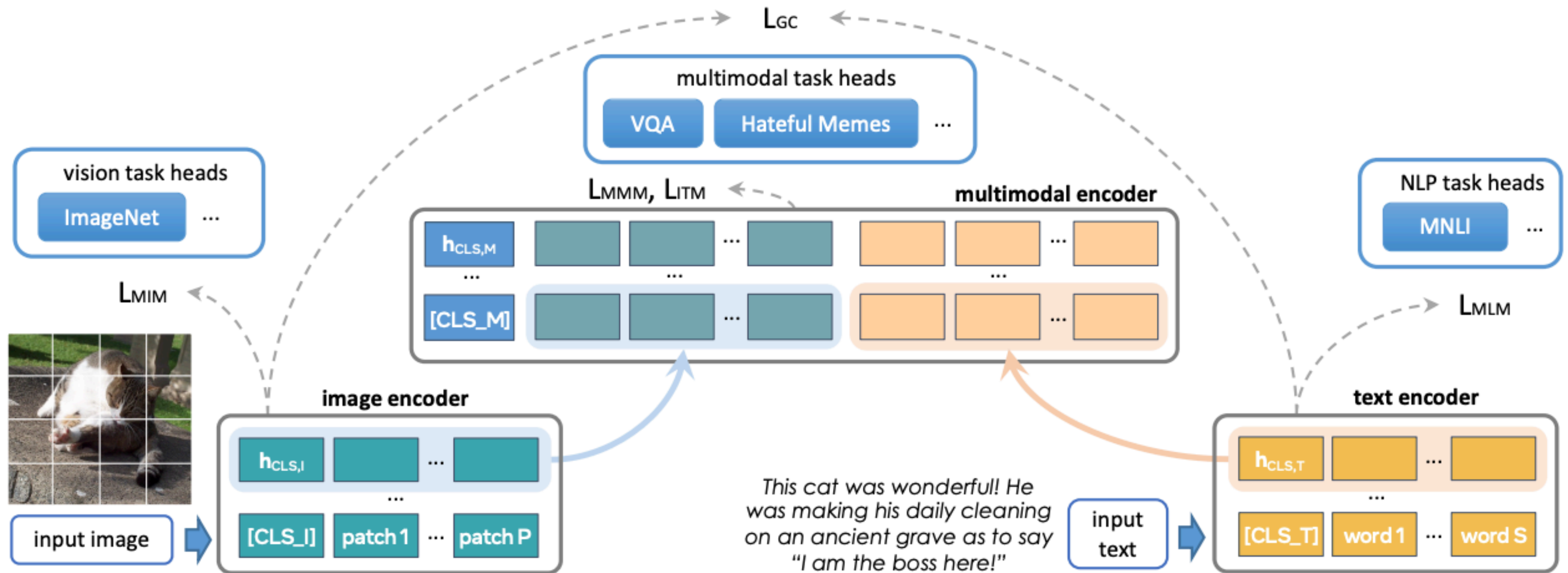


 Meta AI

Masked Modeling

- Multimodal
- Image
- Language

# Large multi-modal models: FLAVA





# Large multi-modal models: FLAVA

- Pretrain unimodal encoders on unpaired image and text data
- Joint unimodal and multi-modal training
- Multi-modal training with paired image-text pairs

	#Image-Text Pairs	Avg. text length
COCO [66]	0.9M	12.4
SBU Captions [77]	1.0M	12.1
Localized Narratives [82]	1.9M	13.8
Conceptual Captions [92]	3.1M	10.3
Visual Genome [57]	5.4M	5.1
Wikipedia Image Text [99]	4.8M	12.8
Conceptual Captions 12M [14]	11.0M	17.3
Red Caps [27]	11.6M	9.5
YFCC100M [103], filtered	30.3M	12.7
Total	70M	12.1

COCO



A close up view of a pizza sitting on a table with a soda in the back.

CC12M



Jumping girl in a green summer dress stock illustration

# Large multi-modal models: FLAVA

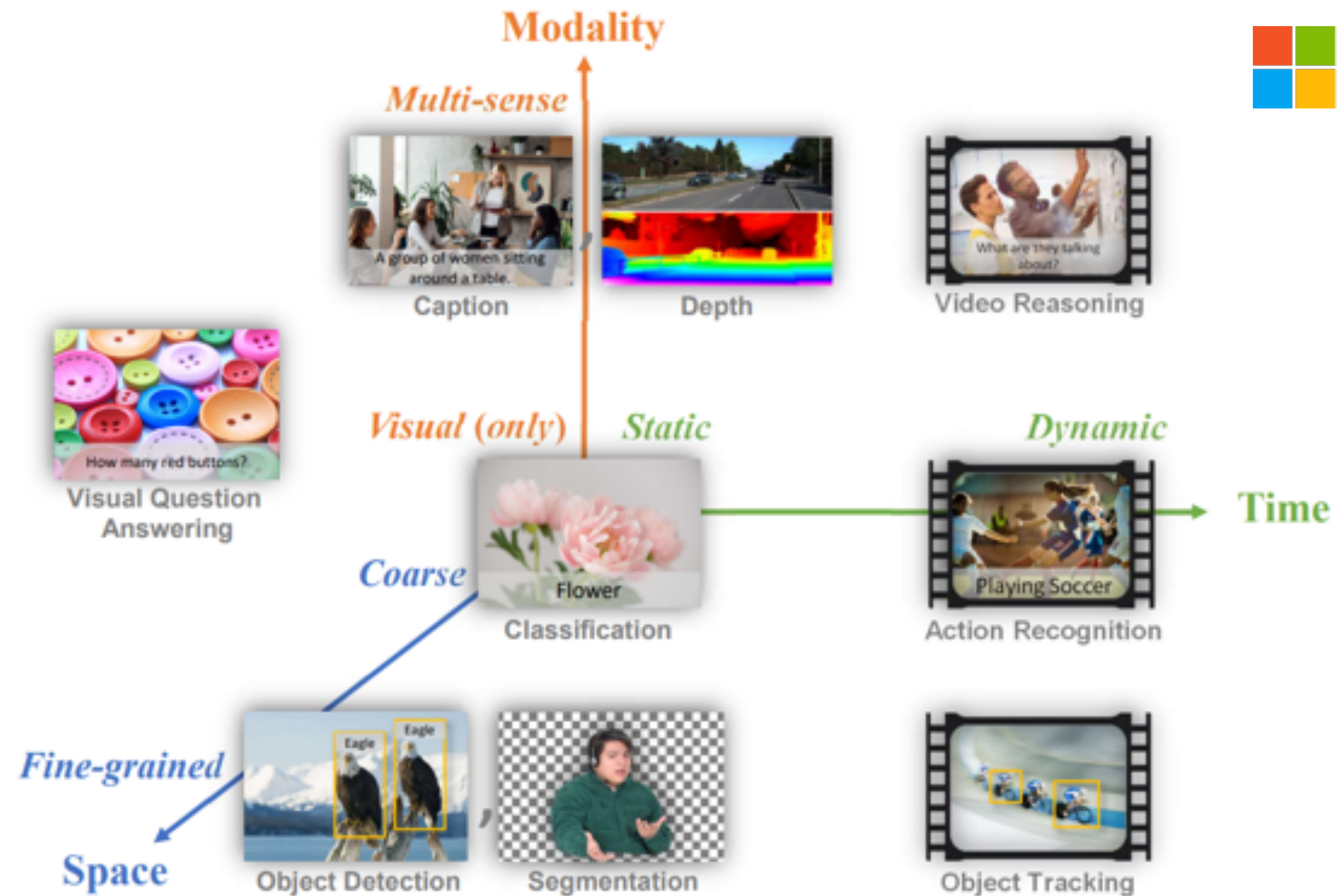
- Pretrain unimodal encoders on unpaired image and text data
- Joint unimodal and multi-modal training
- Multi-modal training with paired image-text pairs
- Training details
  - Hyperparameters important for pretraining: Large batch size (8K), large weight decay (0.1) with learning rate ( $1e-3$ ), long warm up (10K) with AdamW
  - Noted again the importance of having the layer-norm before the MHA

# Large multi-modal models: FLAVA

FLAVA model performance on variety of tasks

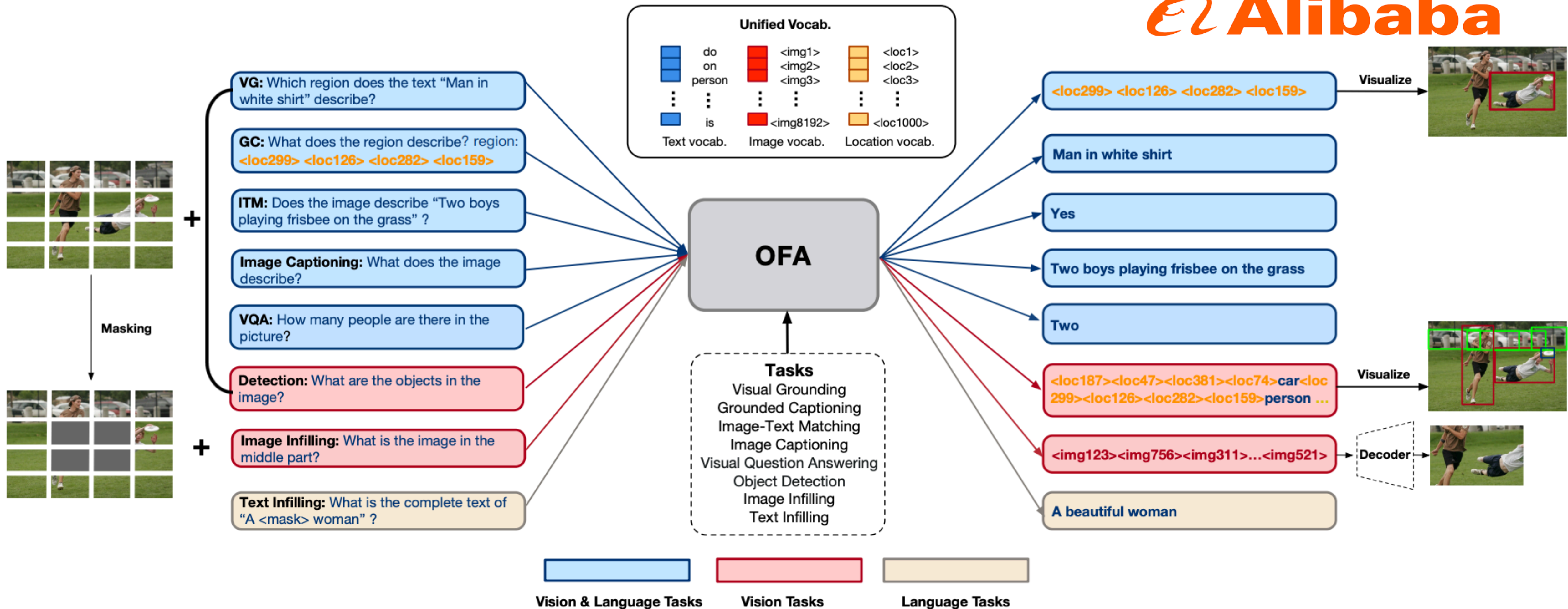
	public data		Multimodal Tasks			Language Tasks						ImageNet linear eval		
			VQAv2	SNLI-VE	HM	CoLA	SST-2	RTE	MRPC	QQP	MNLI		QNLI	STS-B
1	✓	BERT <sub>base</sub> [28]	–	–	–	54.6	92.5	62.5	81.9/87.6	90.6/87.4	84.4	91.0	88.1	–
2	✗	CLIP-ViT-B/16 [83]	55.3	74.0	63.4	25.4	88.2	55.2	74.9/65.0	76.8/53.9	33.5	50.5	16.0	80.2
3	✗	SimVLM <sub>base</sub> [109]	<u>77.9</u>	<u>84.2</u>	–	46.7	90.9	<u>63.9</u>	75.2/84.4	<u>90.4/87.2</u>	<u>83.4</u>	<u>88.6</u>	–	<u>80.6</u>
4	✓	VisualBERT [63]	70.8	77.3 <sup>†</sup>	74.1 <sup>‡</sup>	38.6	89.4	56.6	71.9/82.1	89.4/86.0	<b>81.6</b>	87.0	81.8	–
5	✓	UNITER <sub>base</sub> [16]	72.7	78.3	–	37.4	89.7	55.6	69.3/80.3	89.2/85.7	80.9	86.0	75.3	–
6	✓	VL-BERT <sub>base</sub> [101]	71.2	–	–	38.7	89.8	55.7	70.6/81.8	89.0/85.4	81.2	86.3	82.9	–
7	✓	ViLBERT [70]	70.6	75.7 <sup>†</sup>	74.1 <sup>‡</sup>	36.1	90.4	53.7	69.0/79.4	88.6/85.0	79.9	83.8	77.9	–
8	✓	LXMERT [102]	72.4	–	–	39.0	90.2	57.2	69.7/80.4	75.3/75.3	80.4	84.2	75.3	–
9	✓	UniT [43]	67.0	73.1	–	–	89.3	–	–	90.6/–	81.5	<b>88.0</b>	–	–
10	✓	CLIP-ViT-B/16 (PMD)	59.8	73.5	56.6	11.0	83.5	53.1	63.5/68.7	75.4/43.0	32.9	49.5	13.7	73.0
11	✓	FLAVA (ours)	<b>72.8</b>	<b>79.0</b>	<u>76.7</u>	<u>50.7</u>	<u>90.9</u>	<b>57.8</b>	<u>81.4/86.9</u>	<u>90.4/87.2</u>	80.3	87.3	<u>85.7</u>	<b>75.5</b>

# Large multi-modal, multi-lingual models: Florence



Florence: A New Foundation Model for Computer Vision [Yuan et al, CVPR 2022]

# Large multi-modal models: OFA

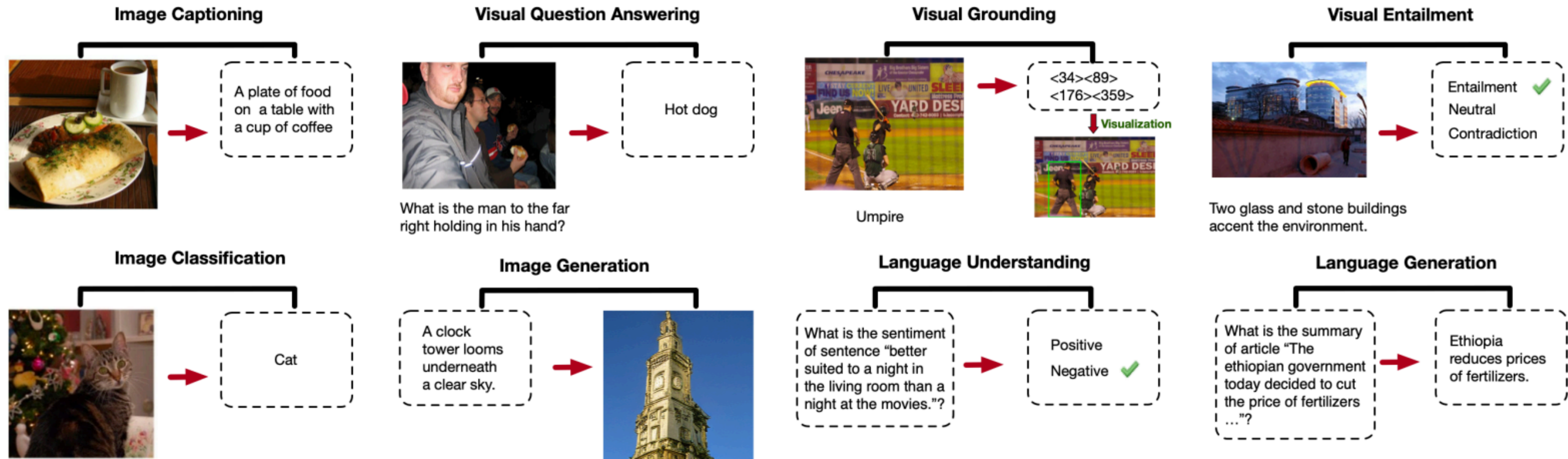


OFA: Unifying Architectures, Tasks, and Modalities Through a Simple Sequence-to-Sequence Learning Framework [Wang, et al. ICML 2022] <https://arxiv.org/abs/2202.03052>

# Large multi-modal models: OFA



OFA



OFA: Unifying Architectures, Tasks, and Modalities Through a Simple Sequence-to-Sequence Learning Framework [Wang, et al. ICML 2022] <https://arxiv.org/abs/2202.03052>

# Large multi-modal models: OFA

- Unified framework using transformers
  - Encoder-decoder architecture
- Treat all tasks as sequence-to-sequence
- Represent text, image patches, and objects as token sequences
  - Use BPE for text tokens
  - Use ResNet to obtain image patch features coded as tokens
  - Objects are represented as image region bounding box with label and encoded as location tokens  $(x1,y1,x2,y2)$  and BPE token (label)
- Pretrain on mix of vision, language, vision+language data

# Large multi-modal models: OFA

- Pretrain on mix of vision, language, vision+language data

Type	Pretraining Task	Source	#Image	#Label
Vision&Language	Image Captioning Image-Text Matching	CC12M, CC3M, SBU, COCO, VG-Cap	14.78M	15.25M
	Visual Question Answering	VQAv2, VG-QA, GQA	178K	2.92M
	Visual Grounding Grounded Captioning	RefCOCO, RefCOCO+, RefCOCOg, VG-Cap	131K	3.20M
Vision	Detection	OpenImages, Object365, VG, COCO	2.98M	3.00M
	Image Infilling	OpenImages, YFCC100M, ImageNet-21K	36.27M	-
Language	Masked Language Modeling	Pile (Filter)	-	140G*

OFA: Unifying Architectures, Tasks, and Modalities Through a Simple Sequence-to-Sequence Learning Framework  
[Wang, et al. ICML 2022] <https://arxiv.org/abs/2202.03052>



# Large multi-modal models: OFA

- Instructions for task

Task	Dataset	Instruction	Target
Image Captioning	COCO	<b>[Image]</b> What does the image describe?	{ <b>Caption</b> }
Visual Question Answering	VQA	<b>[Image]</b> { <b>Question</b> }	{ <b>Answer</b> }
Visual Entailment	SNLI-VE	<b>[Image]</b> Can image and text1 “{ <b>Text1</b> ” imply text2 “{ <b>Text2</b> ”?”	Yes/No/Maybe
Referring Expression Comprehension	RefCOCO, RefCOCO+, RefCOCOG	<b>[Image]</b> Which region does the text “{ <b>Text</b> ” describe?	{ <b>Location</b> }
Image Generation	COCO	What is the complete image? caption: { <b>Caption</b> }	{ <b>Image</b> }
Image Classification	ImageNet-1K	<b>[Image]</b> What does the image describe?	{ <b>Label</b> }
Single-Sentence Classification	SST-2	Is the sentiment of text “{ <b>Text</b> ” positive or negative?	Positive/Negative
Sentence-Pair Classification	RTE	Can text1 “{ <b>Text1</b> ” imply text2 “{ <b>Text2</b> ”?”	Yes/No
	MRPC	Does text1 “{ <b>Text1</b> ” and text2 “{ <b>Text2</b> ” have the same semantics?	Yes/No
	QQP	Is question “{ <b>Question1</b> ” and question “{ <b>Question2</b> ” equivalent?	Yes/No
	MNLI	Can text1 “{ <b>Text1</b> ” imply text2 “{ <b>Text2</b> ”?”	Yes/No/Maybe
	QNLI	Does “{ <b>Text</b> ” contain the answer to question “{ <b>Question</b> ”?”	Yes/No
Text Summarization	Gigaword	What is the summary of article “{ <b>Article</b> ”?”	{ <b>Summary</b> }

OFA: Unifying Architectures, Tasks, and Modalities Through a Simple Sequence-to-Sequence Learning Framework [Wang, et al. ICML 2022] <https://arxiv.org/abs/2202.03052>

# Large multi-modal models: OFA

- OFA model sizes

Model	#Param.	Backbone	Hidden size	Intermediate Size	#Head	#Enc. Layers	#Dec. Layers
OFA <sub>Tiny</sub>	33M	ResNet50	256	1024	4	4	4
OFA <sub>Medium</sub>	93M	ResNet101	512	2048	8	4	4
OFA <sub>Base</sub>	182M	ResNet101	768	3072	12	6	6
OFA <sub>Large</sub>	472M	ResNet152	1024	4096	16	12	12
OFA <sub>Huge</sub>	930M	ResNet152	1280	5120	16	24	12

# Large multi-modal models: OFA

## OFA model performance on variety of tasks

Model	VQA		SNLI-VE	
	test-dev	test-std	dev	test
UNITER [14]	73.8	74.0	79.4	79.4
OSCAR [15]	73.6	73.8	-	-
VILLA [16]	74.7	74.9	80.2	80.0
VL-T5 [56]	-	70.3	-	-
VinVL [17]	76.5	76.6	-	-
UNIMO [46]	75.0	75.3	81.1	80.6
ALBEF [69]	75.8	76.0	80.8	80.9
METER [70]	77.7	77.6	80.9	81.2
VLMo [48]	79.9	80.0	-	-
SimVLM [22]	80.0	80.3	86.2	86.3
Florence [23]	80.2	80.4	-	-
OFA <sub>Tiny</sub>	70.3	70.4	85.3	85.2
OFA <sub>Medium</sub>	75.4	75.5	86.6	87.0
OFA <sub>Base</sub>	78.0	78.1	89.3	89.2
OFA <sub>Large</sub>	80.3	80.5	90.3	90.2
OFA	<b>82.0</b>	<b>82.0</b>	<b>91.0</b>	<b>91.2</b>

Model	RefCOCO			RefCOCO+			RefCOCOg	
	val	testA	testB	val	testA	testB	val-u	test-u
VL-T5 [56]	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	71.3
UNITER [14]	81.41	87.04	74.17	75.90	81.45	66.70	74.86	75.77
VILLA [16]	82.39	87.48	74.84	76.17	81.54	66.84	76.18	76.71
MDETR [72]	86.75	89.58	81.41	79.52	84.09	70.62	81.64	80.89
UNICORN [57]	88.29	90.42	83.06	80.30	85.05	71.88	83.44	83.93
OFA <sub>Tiny</sub>	80.20	84.07	75.00	68.22	75.13	57.66	72.02	69.74
OFA <sub>Medium</sub>	85.34	87.68	77.92	76.09	83.04	66.25	78.76	78.58
OFA <sub>Base</sub>	88.48	90.67	83.30	81.39	87.15	74.29	82.29	82.31
OFA <sub>Large</sub>	90.05	92.93	85.26	85.80	89.87	79.22	85.89	86.55
OFA	<b>92.04</b>	<b>94.03</b>	<b>88.44</b>	<b>87.86</b>	<b>91.70</b>	<b>80.71</b>	<b>88.07</b>	<b>88.78</b>

OFA: Unifying Architectures, Tasks, and Modalities Through a Simple Sequence-to-Sequence Learning Framework [Wang, et al. ICML 2022] <https://arxiv.org/abs/2202.03052>

# Large multi-modal models: OFA

## Image captioning

Model	Cross-Entropy Optimization				CIDEr Optimization			
	BLEU@4	METEOR	CIDEr	SPICE	BLEU@4	METEOR	CIDEr	SPICE
VL-T5 [56]	34.5	28.7	116.5	21.9	-	-	-	-
OSCAR [15]	37.4	30.7	127.8	23.5	41.7	30.6	140.0	24.5
UNICORN [57]	35.8	28.4	119.1	21.5	-	-	-	-
VinVL [17]	38.5	30.4	130.8	23.4	41.0	31.1	140.9	25.2
UNIMO [46]	39.6	-	127.7	-	-	-	-	-
LEMON [71]	41.5	30.8	139.1	24.1	42.6	31.4	145.5	25.5
SimVLM [22]	40.6	<b>33.7</b>	143.3	<b>25.4</b>	-	-	-	-
OFA <sub>Tiny</sub>	35.9	28.1	119.0	21.6	38.1	29.2	128.7	23.1
OFA <sub>Medium</sub>	39.1	30.0	130.4	23.2	41.4	30.8	140.7	24.8
OFA <sub>Base</sub>	41.0	30.9	138.2	24.2	42.8	31.7	146.7	25.8
OFA <sub>Large</sub>	42.4	31.5	142.2	24.5	43.6	32.2	150.7	26.2
OFA	<b>43.9</b>	31.8	<b>145.3</b>	24.8	<b>44.9</b>	<b>32.5</b>	<b>154.9</b>	<b>26.6</b>

## Text to Image Generation

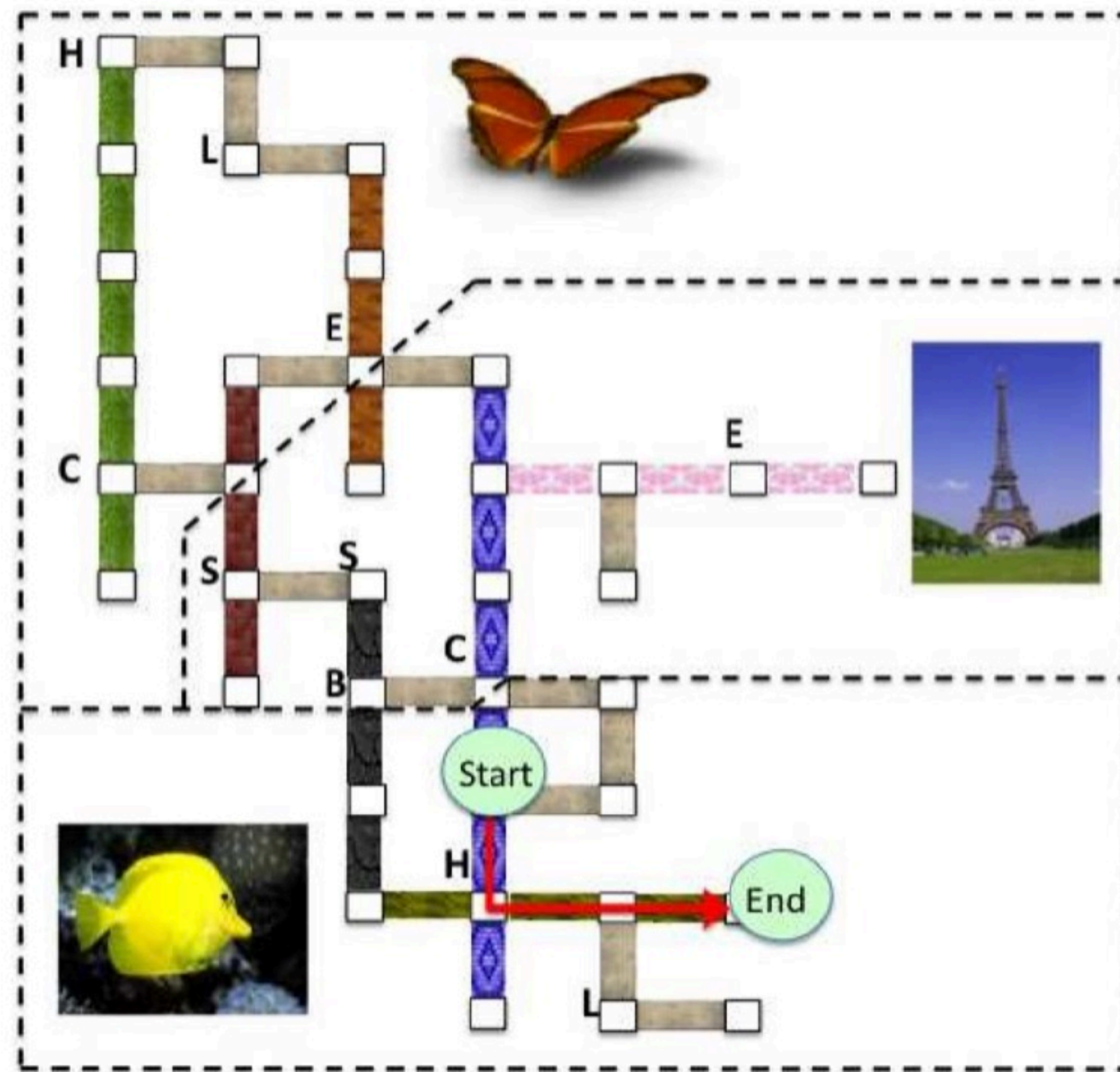
Model	FID↓	CLIPSIM↑	IS↑
DALLE [50]	27.5	-	17.9
CogView [51]	27.1	33.3	18.2
GLIDE [77]	12.2	-	-
Unifying [78]	29.9	30.9	-
NÜWA [52]	12.9	34.3	27.2
OFA	<b>10.5</b>	<b>34.4</b>	<b>31.1</b>

OFA: Unifying Architectures, Tasks, and Modalities Through a Simple Sequence-to-Sequence Learning Framework [Wang, et al. ICML 2022] <https://arxiv.org/abs/2202.03052>

**Instruction following**



# Instruction Following



**Instruction:** “Go away from the lamp to the intersection of the red brick and wood”

Basic: Turn ( ),  
Travel ( steps: 1 )

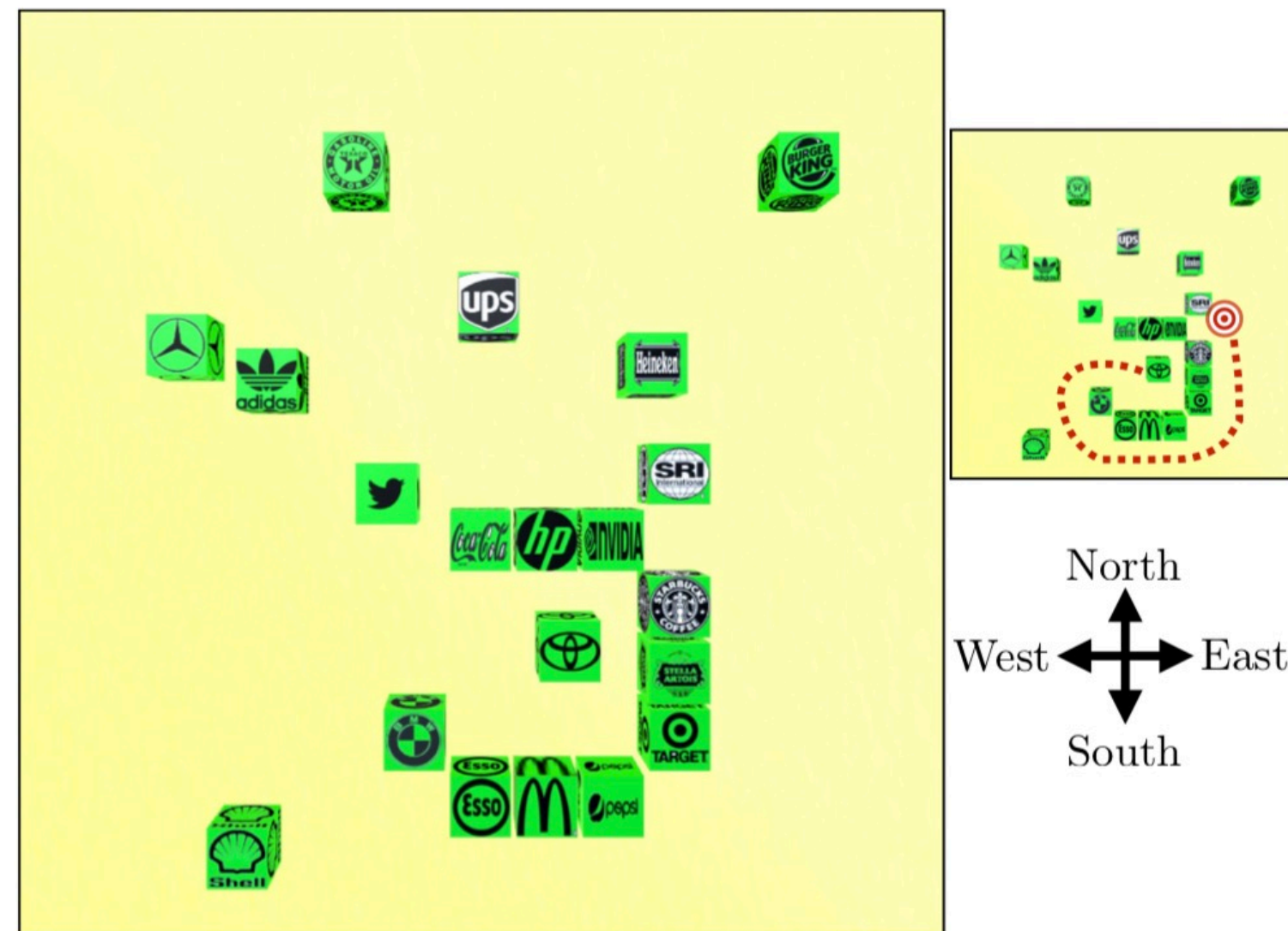
Landmarks: Turn ( ),  
Verify ( left: WALL , back: LAMP , back: HATRACK , front: BRICK HALL) ,  
Travel ( steps: 1 ) ,  
Verify ( side: WOOD HALL )

- ▶ Train semantic parser on (utterance, action) pairs
- ▶ Language is grounded in actions in the world

*(Chen and Mooney, 2011)*

*(slide adapted from Greg Durrett)*

# Spatial Reasoning



*Put the Toyota block in the same row as the SRI block, in the first open space to the right of the SRI block*

*Move Toyota to the immediate right of SRI, evenly aligned and slightly separated*

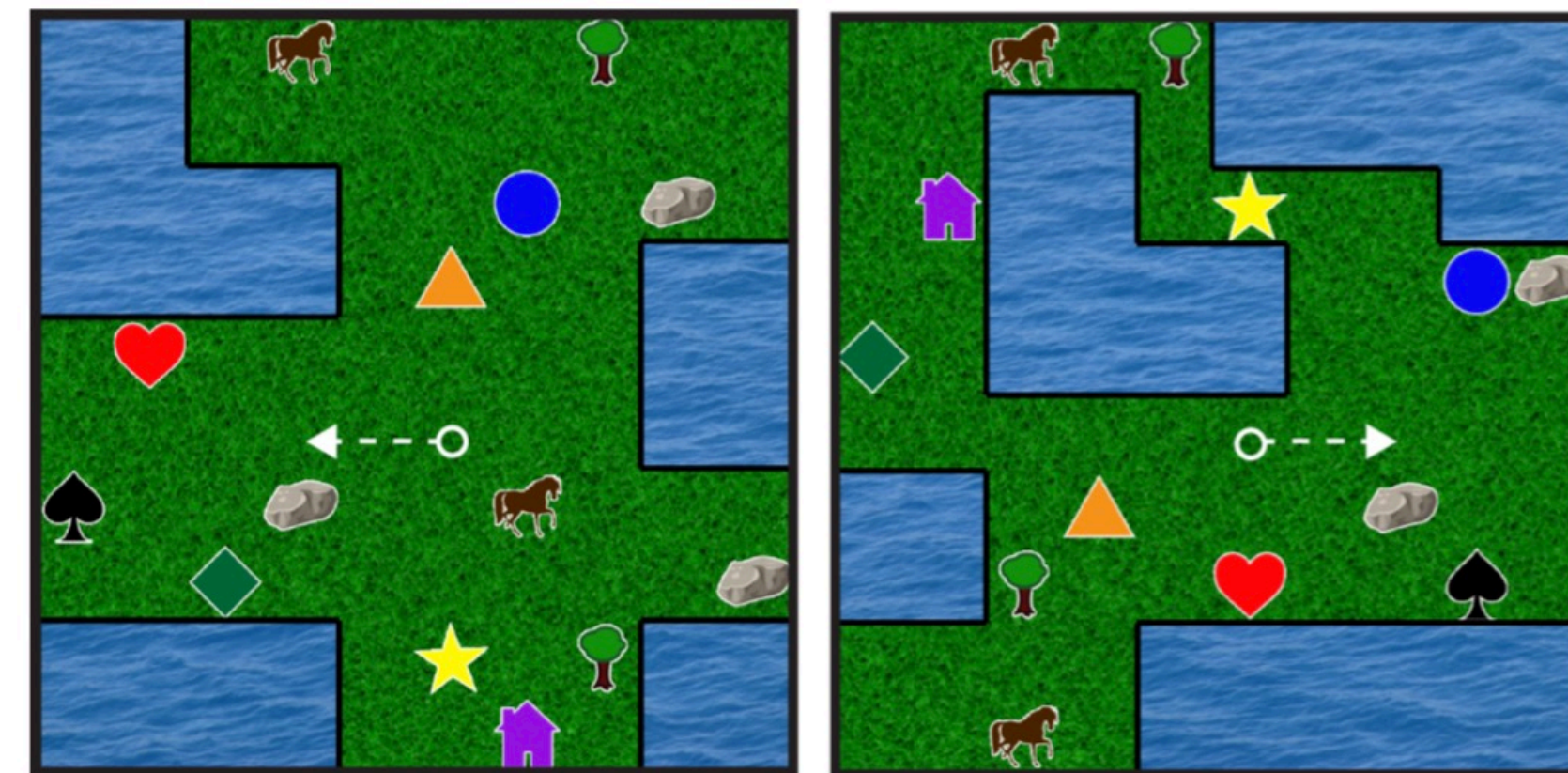
*Move the Toyota block around the pile and place it just to the right of the SRI block*

*Place Toyota block just to the right of The SRI Block*

*Toyota, right side of SRI*

## Robotic Manipulation

*(Bisk et al., 2016, Misra et al., 2017)*



*Reach the cell above the westernmost rock*

## Autonomous navigation

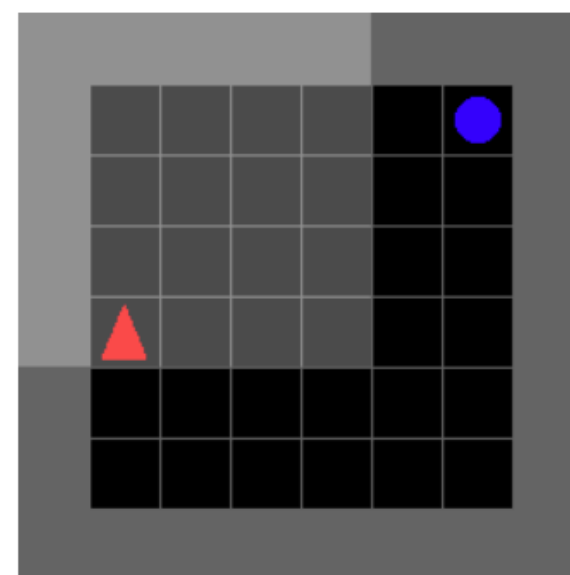
*(Janner et al., 2017)*



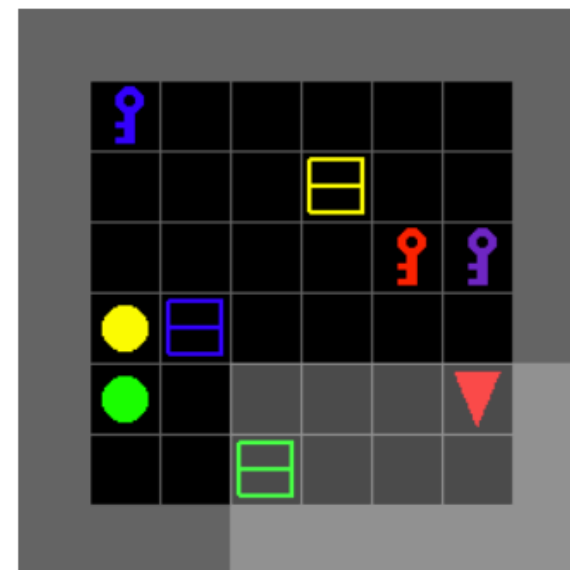
# Frameworks for understanding grounded language (with perception and actions)

## BabyAI

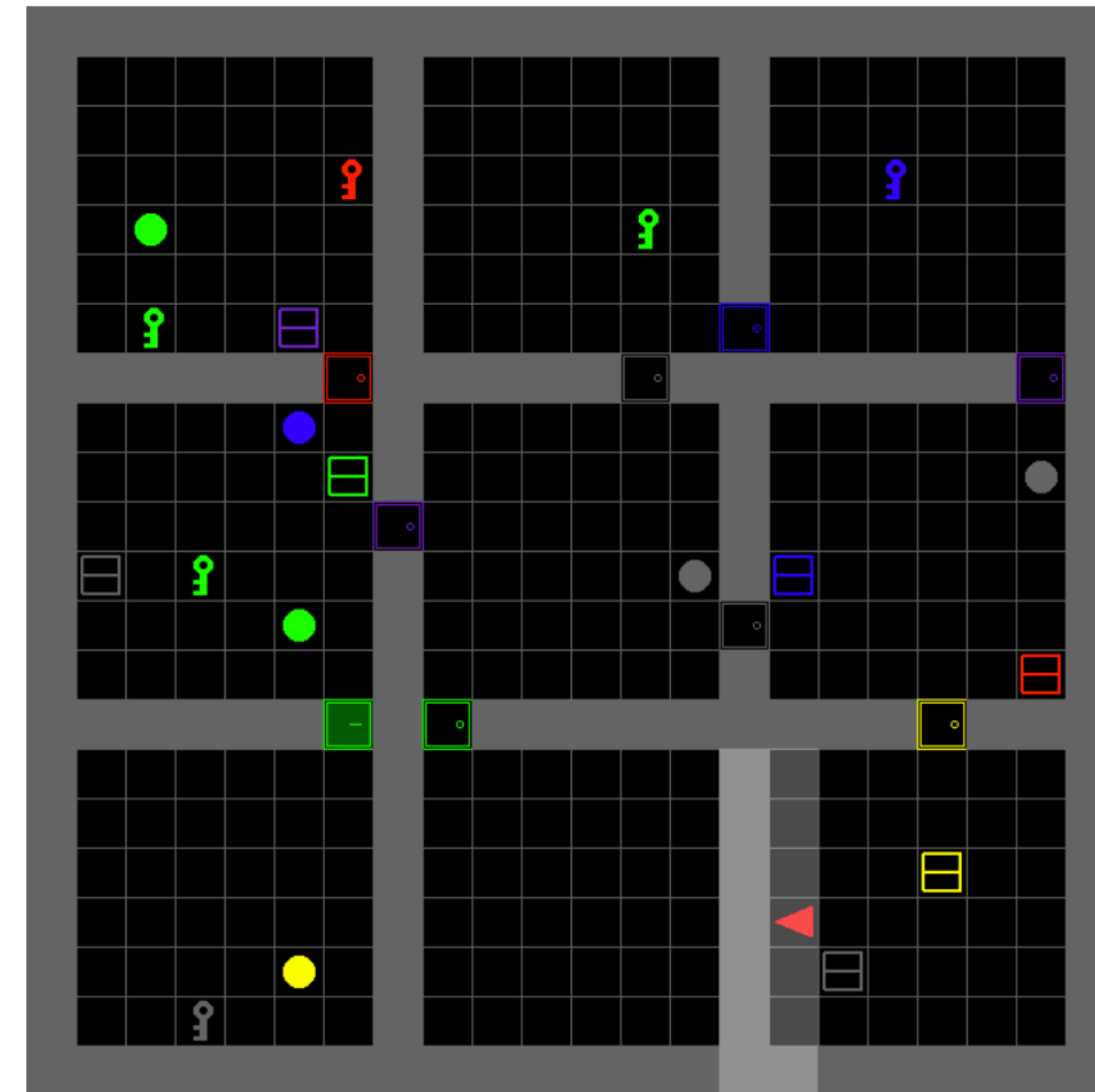
- Grid Environment
- Generated (synthetic language) using grammar
- Easy to hard levels
- Studies grounding and compositionality



(a) GoToObj: "go to the blue ball"



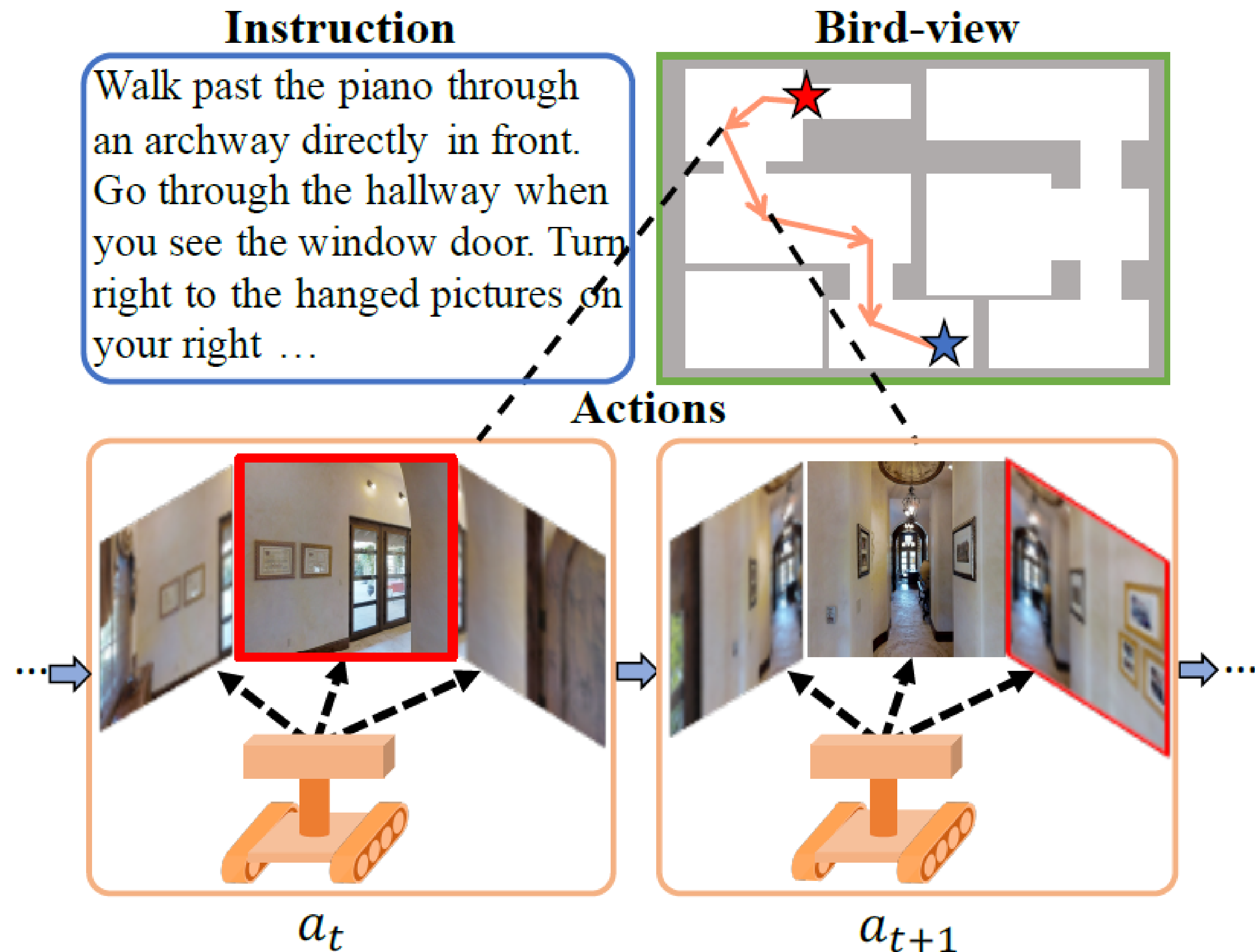
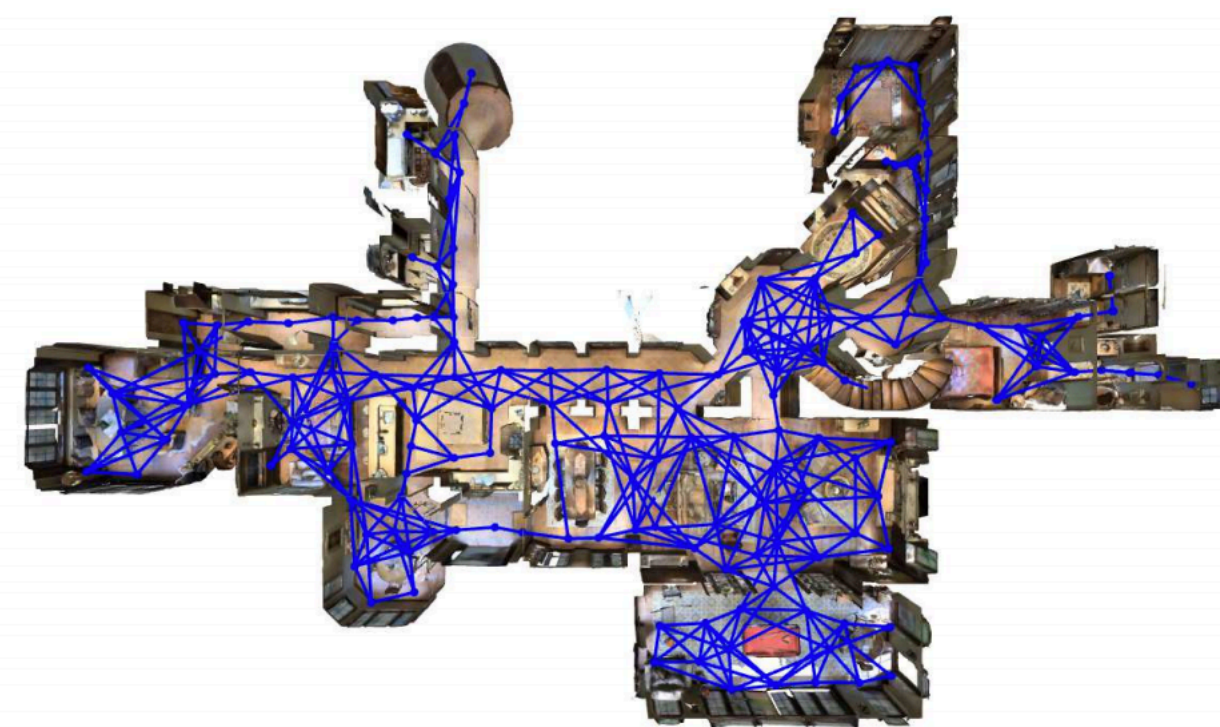
(b) PutNextLocal: "put the blue key next to the green ball"



(c) BossLevel: "pick up the grey box behind you, then go to the grey key and open a door". Note that the green door near the bottom left needs to be unlocked with a green key, but this is not explicitly stated in the instruction.

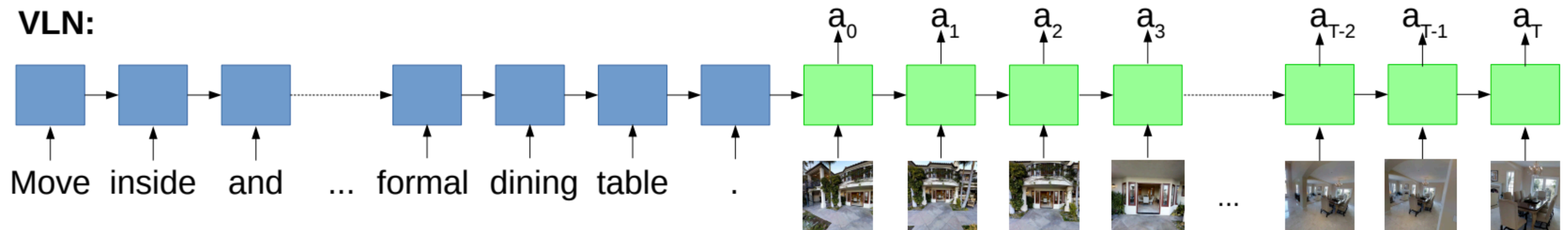
# Vision-and-language Navigation

- More realistic houses
- Human instructions navigation
- Discrete action space
- Navigation graph



# Vision-and-language Navigation

- Sequence of **words** to sequence of **actions**!



*Vision-and-Language Navigation: Interpreting visually-grounded navigation instructions in real environments*  
[Anderson et al 2018, <https://bringmeaspoon.org/>]

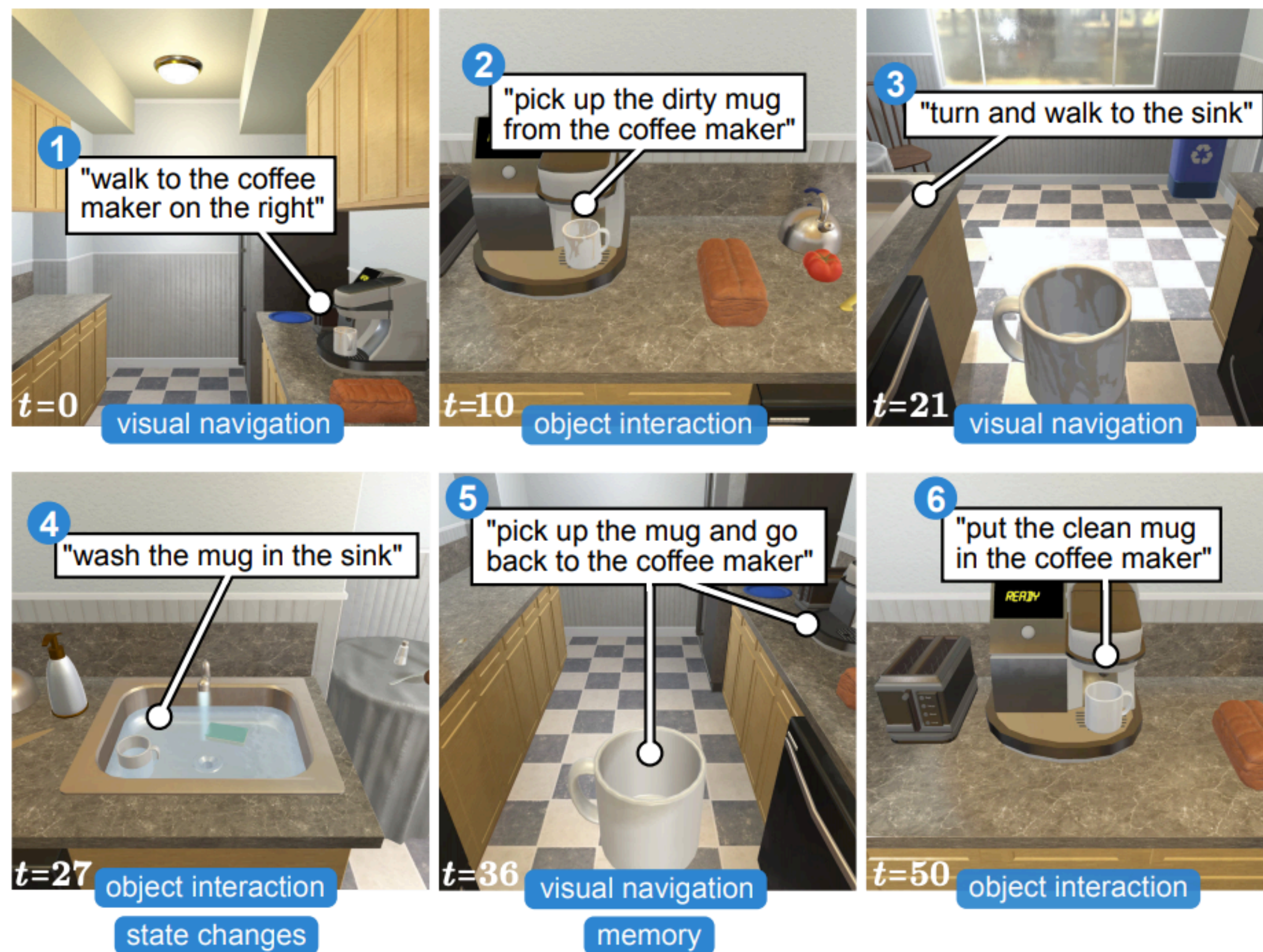
# Vision-and-language Navigation



Leave the bedroom, and enter the kitchen. Walk forward, and take a left at the couch. Stop in front of the window.

# ALFRED

Goal: "Rinse off a mug and place it in the coffee maker"



- More realistic houses
- Sequence of human instructions for common household tasks
- Study embodied language understanding

*ALFRED: A Benchmark for Interpreting Grounded Instructions for Everyday Tasks*  
[Shridhar et al 2019, <https://askforalfred.com/>]



# ALFRED

A Benchmark for Interpreting  
Grounded Instructions for Everyday Tasks

# ALFRED agent model

- Seq2seq model (CNN vision, LSTM language)
- Predicts **action + binary mask** of object from **concatenated input**
  - 13 actions (5 navigation + 7 interaction + stop)

### Navigation

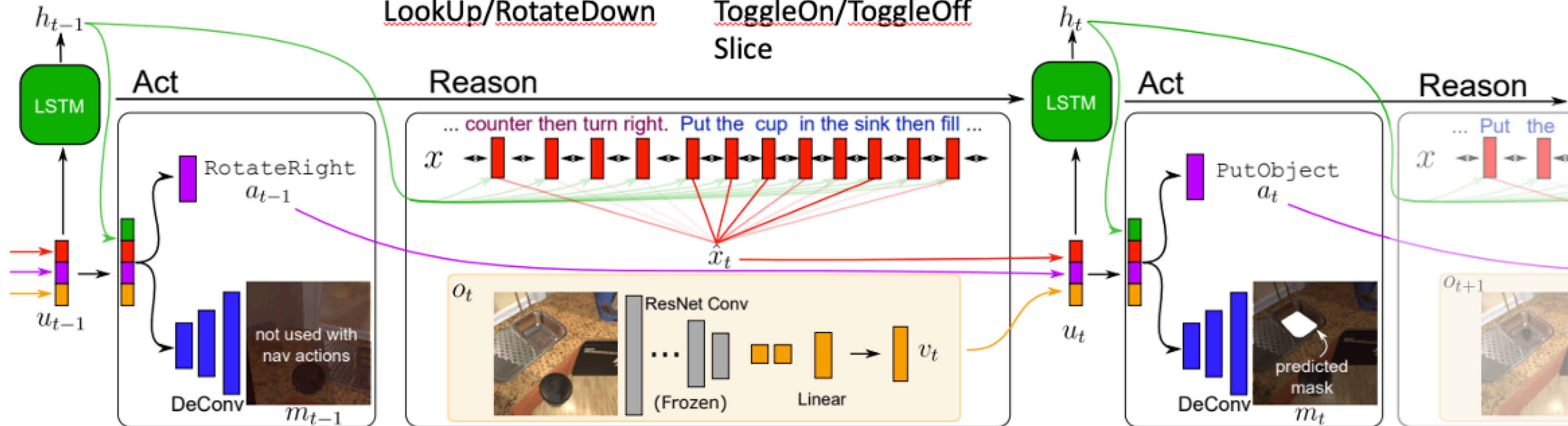
MoveAhead  
RotateLeft/RotateRight  
LookUp/RotateDown

### Interaction

Pickup/Put  
 Open/Close  
ToggleOn/ToggleOff  
 Slice

### Concatenated input

Vision  
 Language  
 Last action



# Toward multimodal agents

## Mobile Manipulation



Human: Bring me the rice chips from the drawer. Robot: 1. Go to the drawers, 2. Open top drawer. I see **<img>**. 3. Pick the green rice chip bag from the drawer and place it on the counter.

## Visual Q&A, Captioning ...



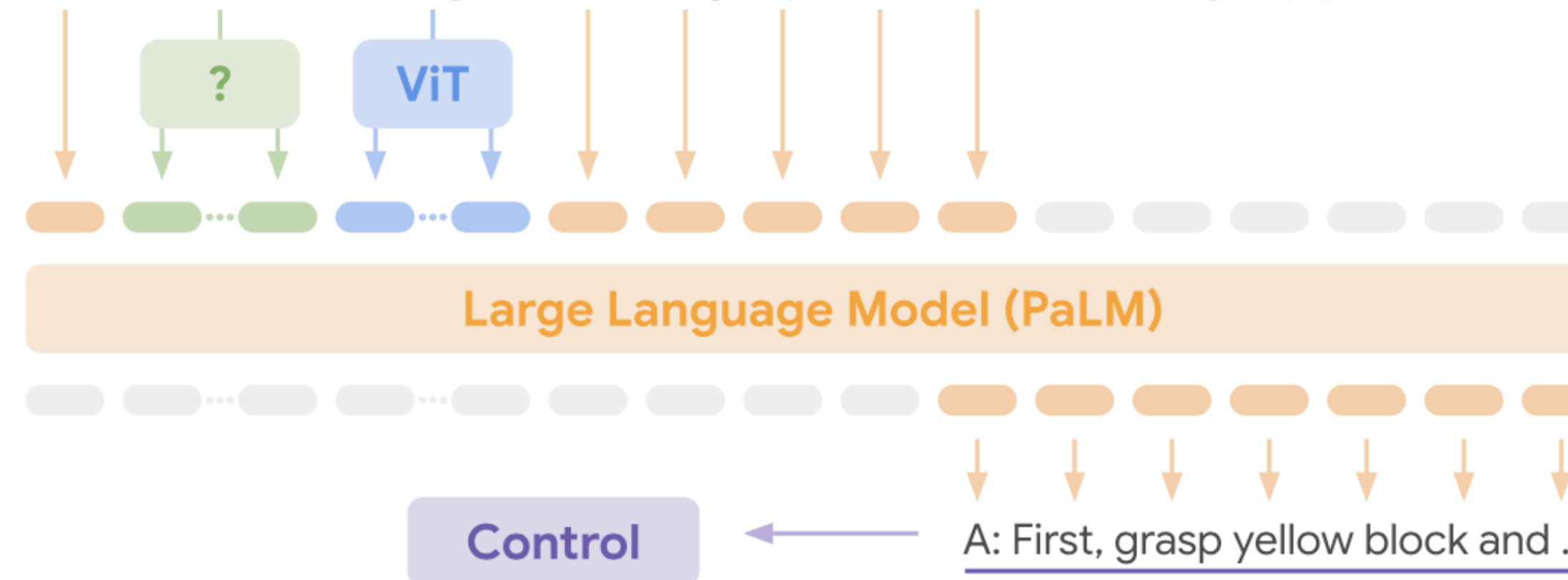
Given **<img>**. Q: What's in the image? Answer in emojis. A: 🍏 🍌 🍇 🍑 🍓 🍒



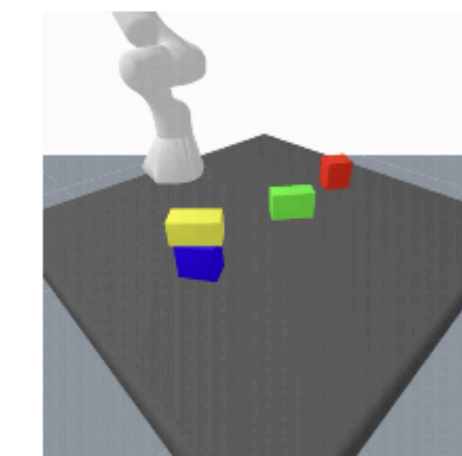
Describe the following **<img>**:  
A dog jumping over a hurdle at a dog show.

## PaLM-E: An Embodied Multimodal Language Model

Given **<emb>** ... **<img>** Q: How to grasp blue block? A: First, grasp yellow block

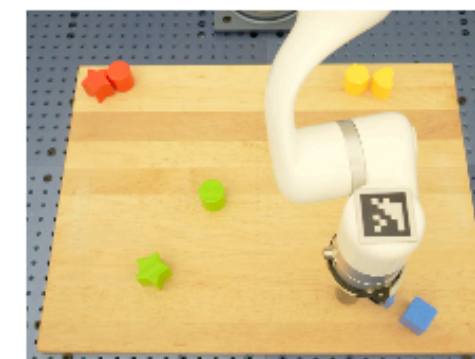


## Task and Motion Planning



Given **<emb>** Q: How to grasp blue block? A: First grasp yellow block and place it on the table, then grasp the blue block.

## Tabletop Manipulation



Given **<img>** Task: Sort colors into corners. Step 1. Push the green star to the bottom left. Step 2. Push the green circle to the green star.

## Language Only Tasks

Q: Miami Beach borders which ocean? A: Atlantic. Q: What is 372 x 18? A: 6696. Q: Write a Haiku about embodied LLMs. A: Embodied language. Models learn to understand. The world around them.

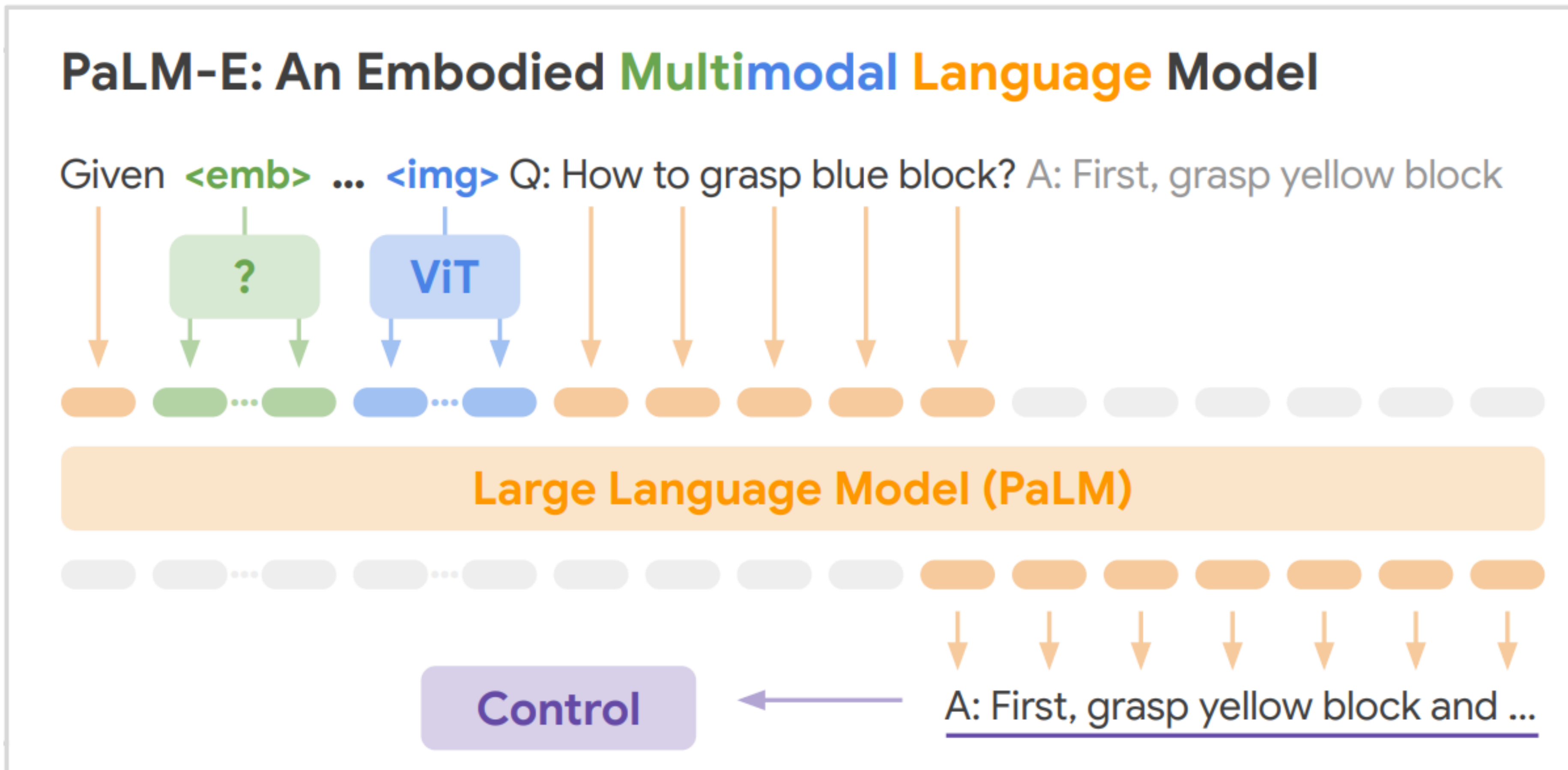
*PaLM-E: An Embodied Multimodal Language Model [Dreiss et al, Google, 2023]*

<https://palm-e.github.io/>



# PaLM-E

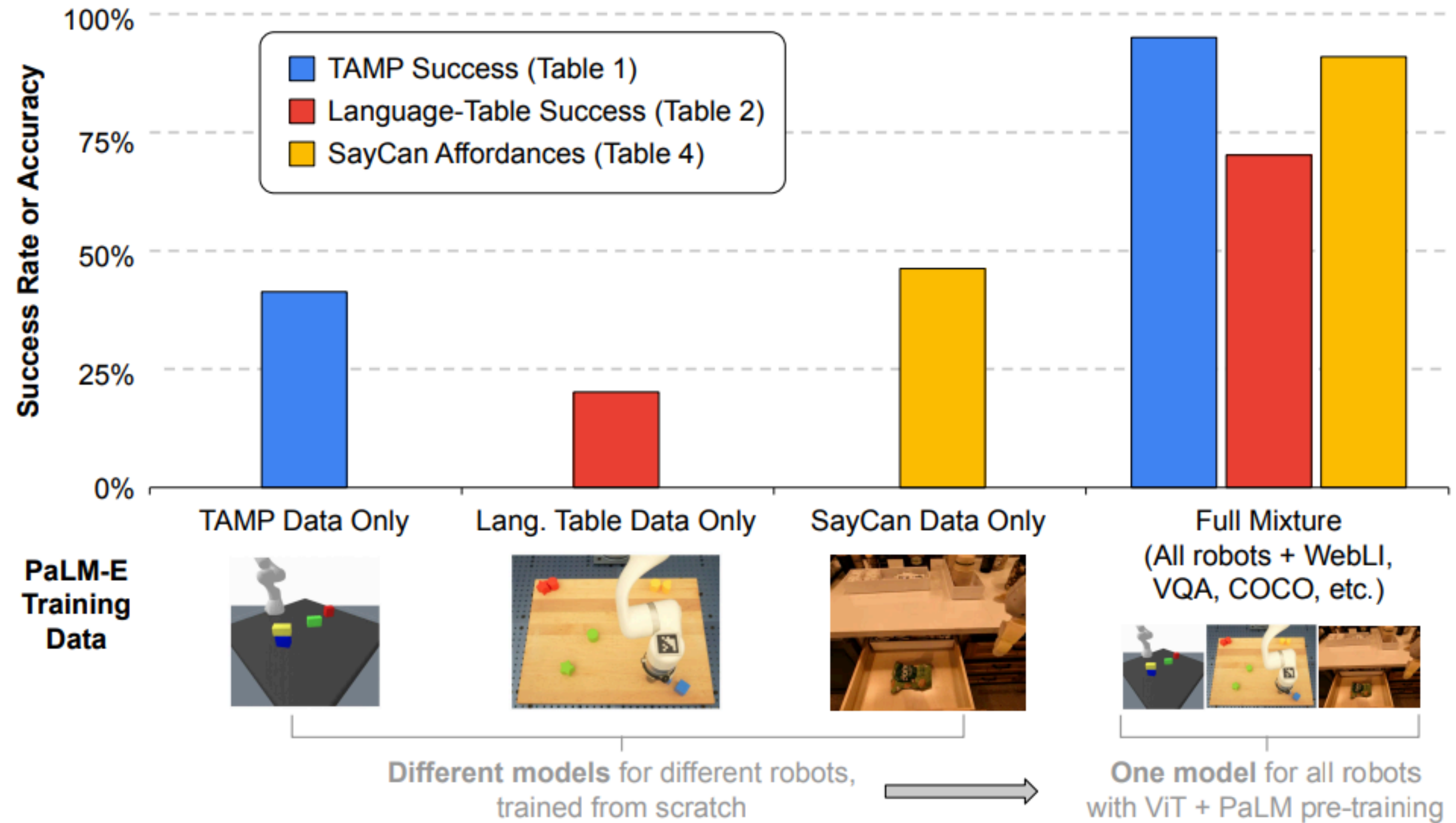
- ViT (22B parameters) + PaLM (562B parameters)
- Decoder only LLM
- Multimodal information injected as continuous vectors into PaLM



*PaLM-E: An Embodied Multimodal Language Model [Dreiss et al, Google, 2023]*

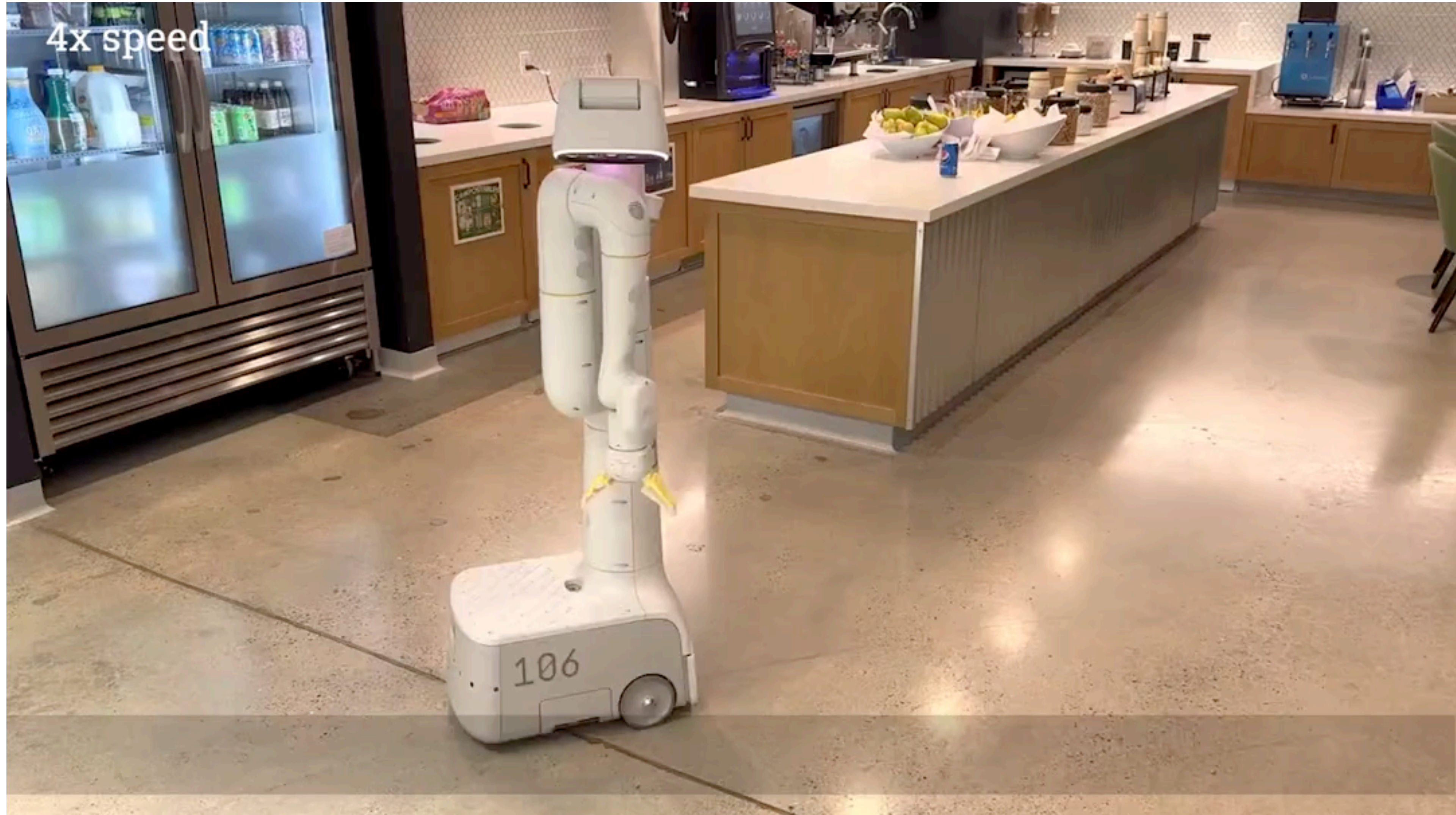
# PaLM-E

- Train on mixture of data



*PaLM-E: An Embodied Multimodal Language Model [Dreiss et al, Google, 2023]*

# PaLM-E



# CMPT 839 / CMPT 983

Advanced NLP / Grounded Natural Language Understanding

