



Recitation 0 - Datasets

Introduction to Deep Learning- 11-485/685/785

Mugur Preda, Mengchun Zhang, Bhiksha Raj

December, 2025

Why do we need Datasets and DataLoaders ?

- **Modularization**

Dataset abstracts **what the data is** and how to access a single sample.

DataLoader abstracts **how to iterate** over data efficiently. **How** the data is fed into the model (batching, shuffling, etc).

- **Efficiency**

Load data **lazily per batch**, not all at once.

Enable **multi-process loading** via num_workers.

- **Training Support**

Handles **batching, shuffling, and epoch iteration**.

Essential for **mini-batch gradient descent**.

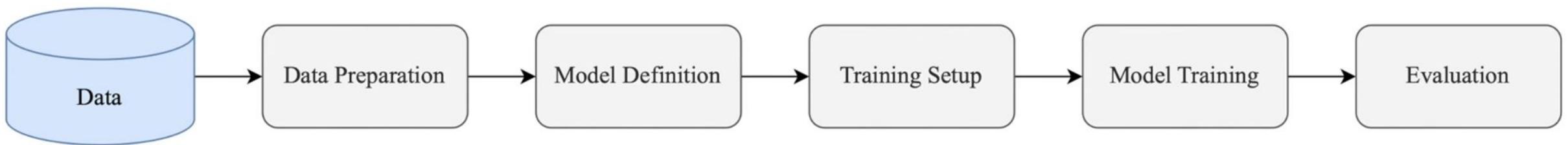
- **Customization**

Integrates **transformations and preprocessing** (e.g., normalization, augmentation).

Supports custom datasets (images, text, EEG, etc).

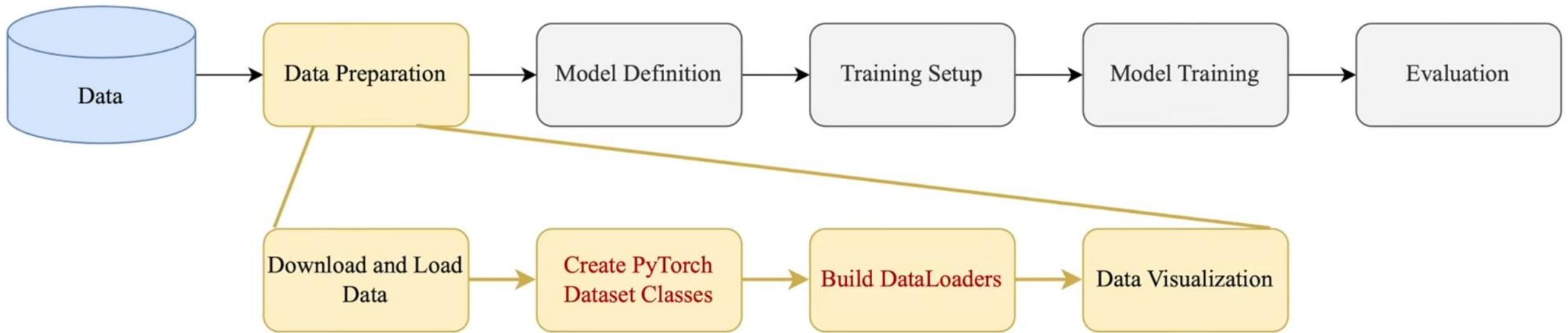
Why do we need Datasets and Dataloaders ?

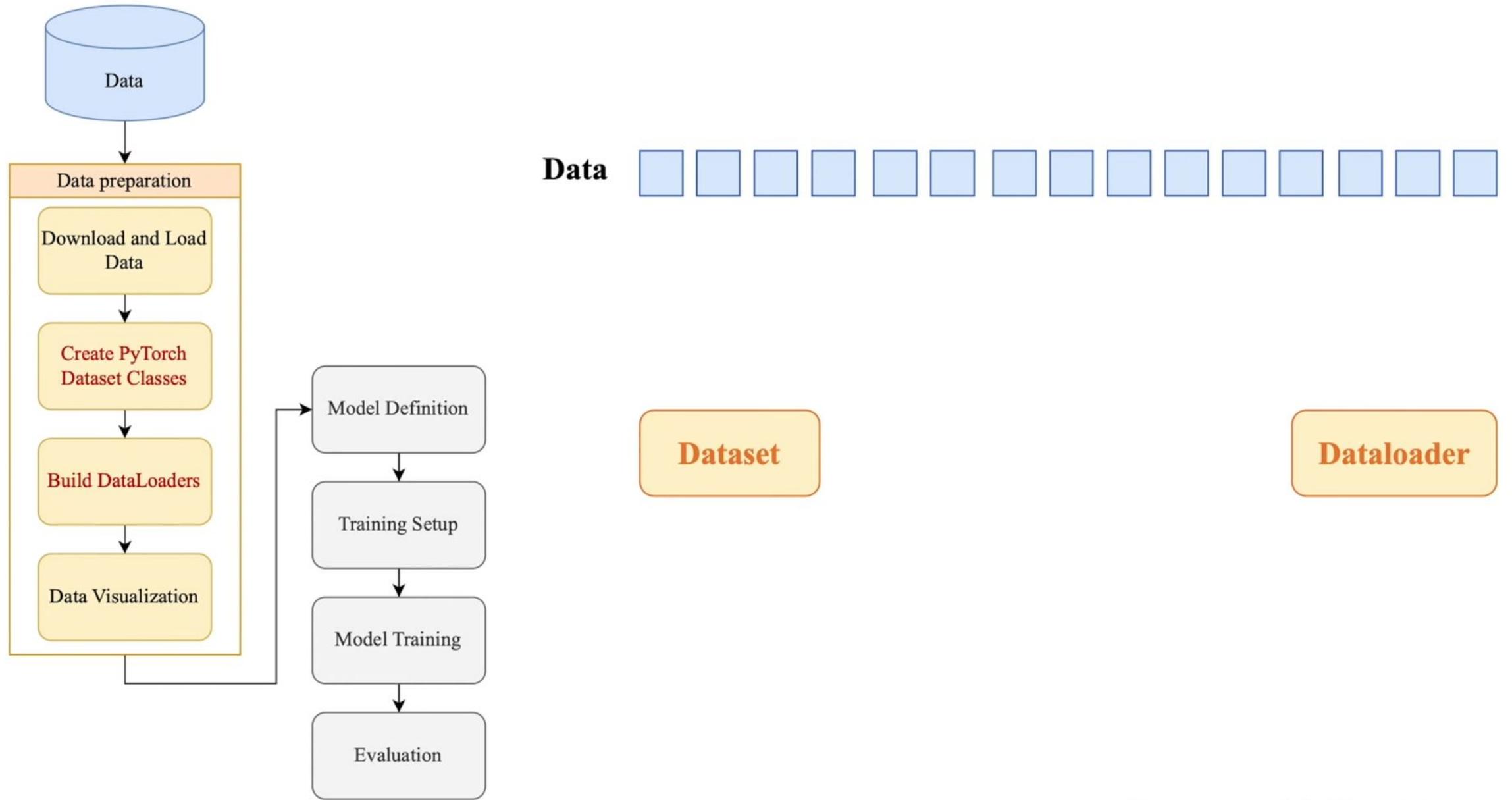
■ DL Training Pipeline



Why do we need Datasets and DataLoaders ?

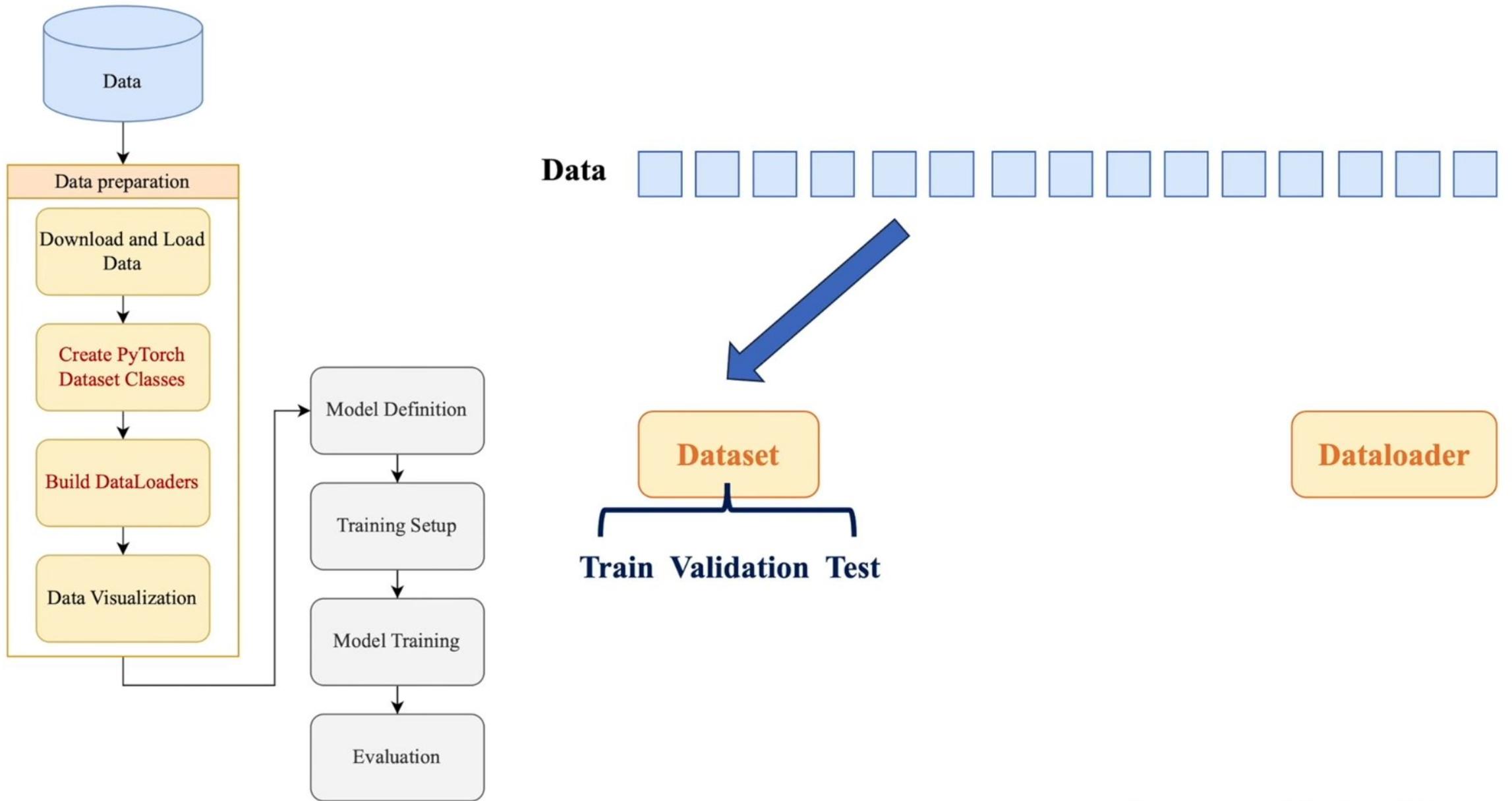
■ DL Training Pipeline





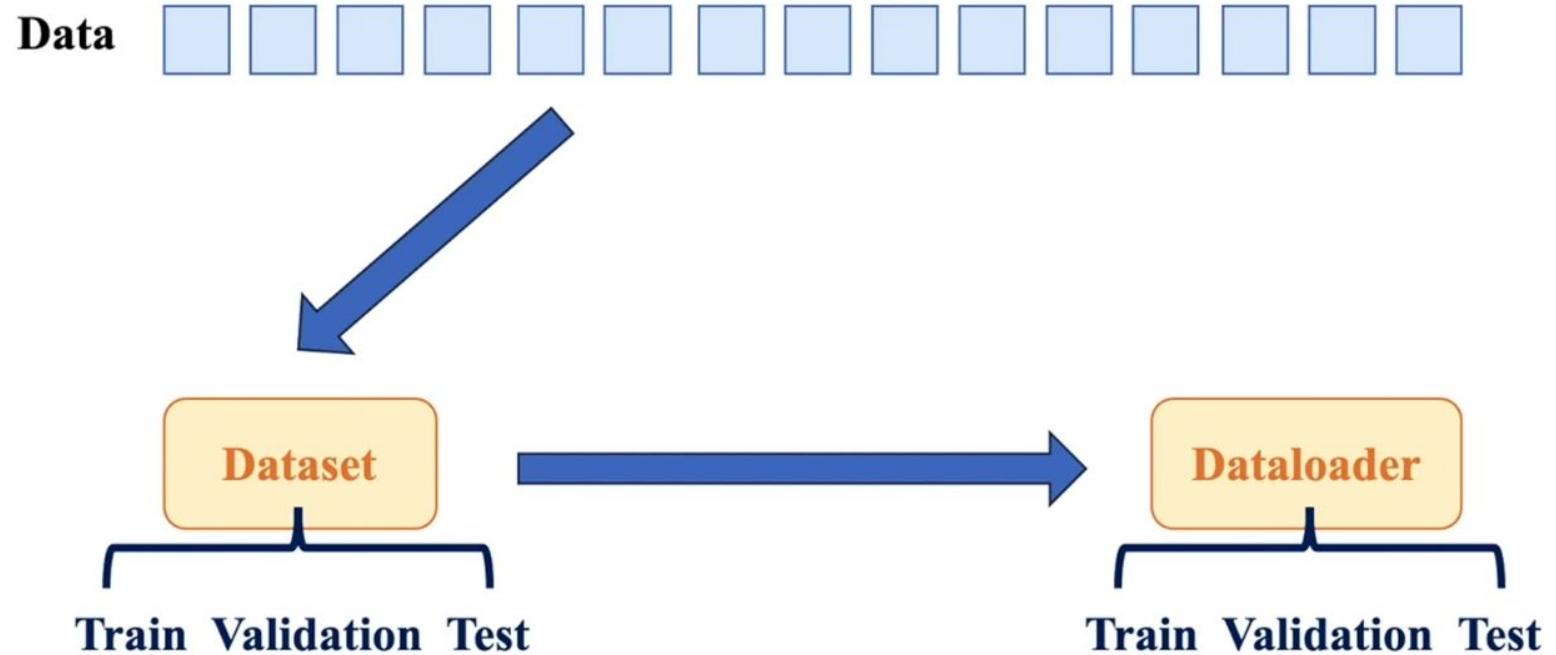
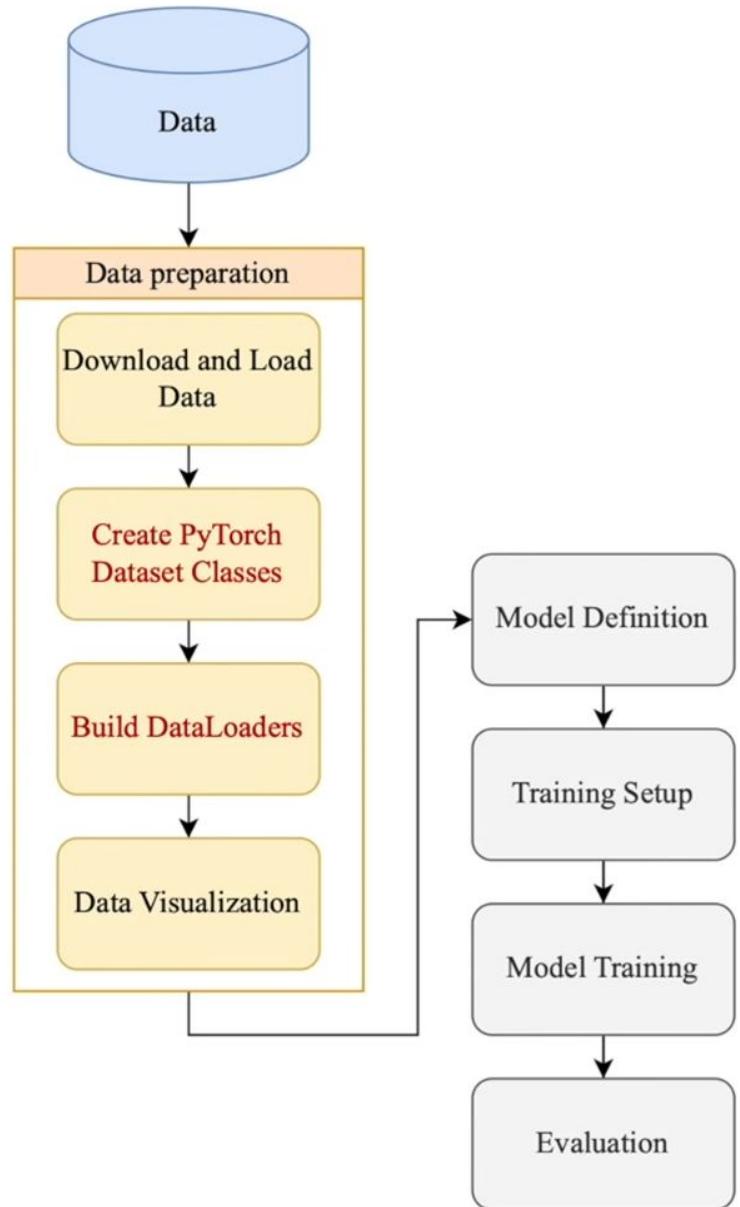
Carnegie Mellon University

Diagram adapted from "Algorithm Researcher explains how PyTorch Datasets and DataLoaders work" by Practical ML (YouTube). Redrawn and modified by the presenter.

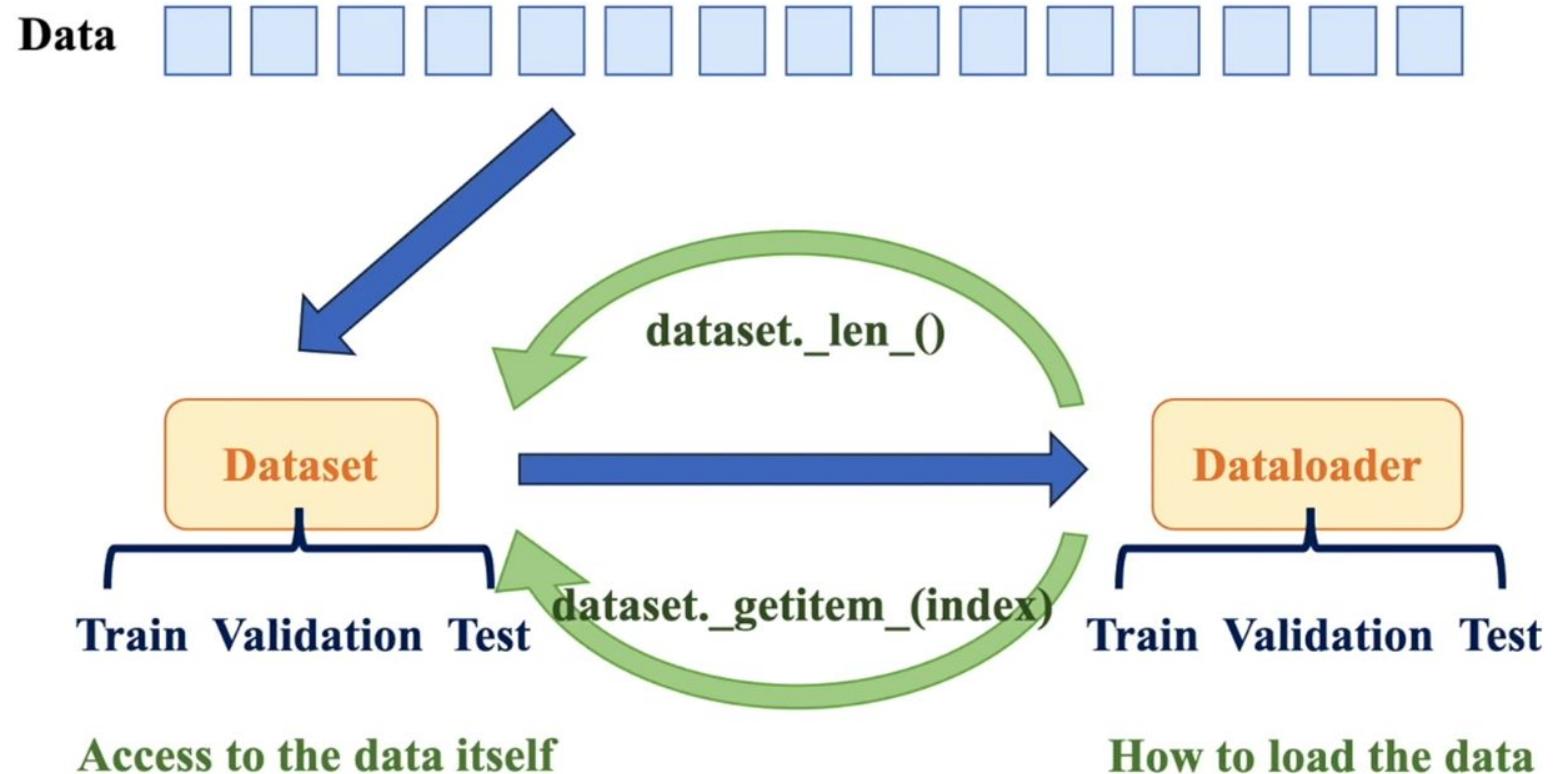
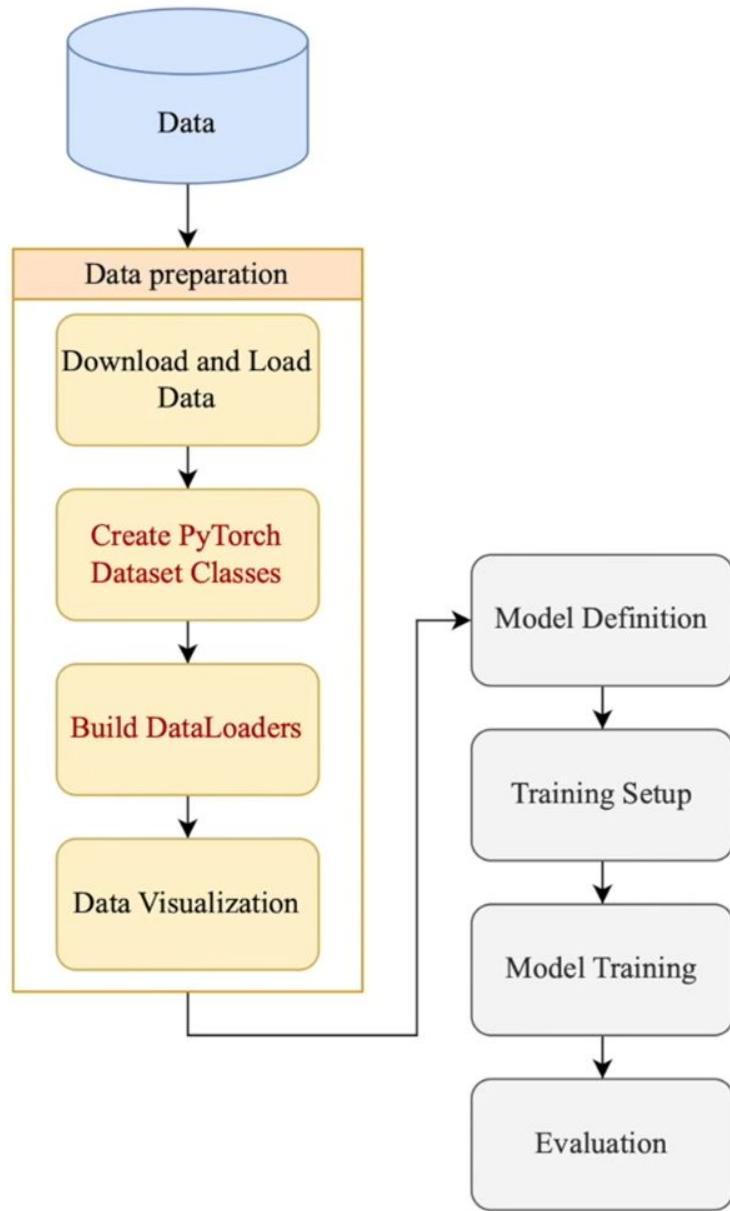


Carnegie Mellon University

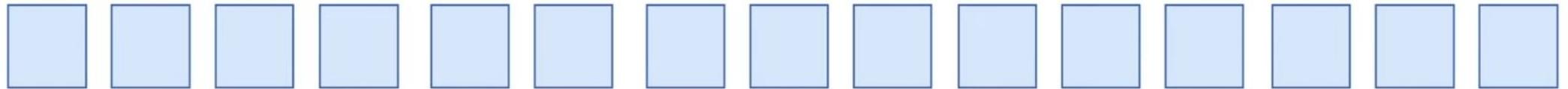
Diagram adapted from "Algorithm Researcher explains how PyTorch Datasets and DataLoaders work" by Practical ML (YouTube). Redrawn and modified by the presenter.



Carnegie Mellon University



Data



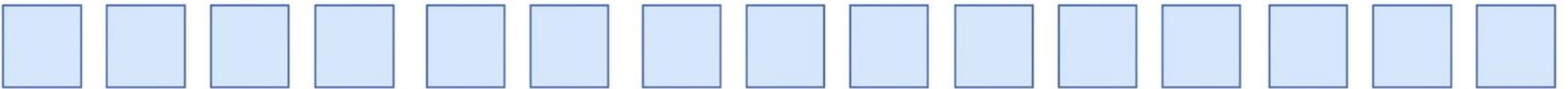
Dataset

Dataloader

Carnegie Mellon University

Diagram adapted from "Algorithm Researcher explains how PyTorch Datasets and DataLoaders work" by Practical ML (YouTube). Redrawn and modified by the presenter.

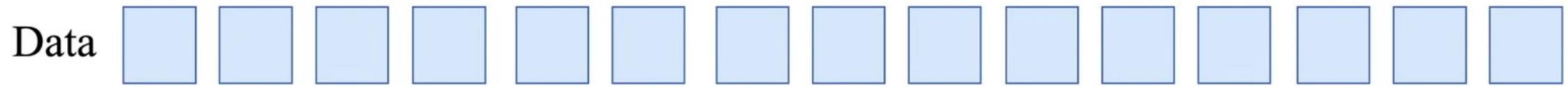
Data



Dataset

Sampler return indices

Dataloader



`dataset.__getitem__(index)`

A large green arrow originates from the "Dataset" box and points diagonally upwards towards the first few data samples.



Sampler return indices

A long green arrow originates from the "Dataloader" box and points back to the "Dataset" box, indicating the flow of sampler indices.



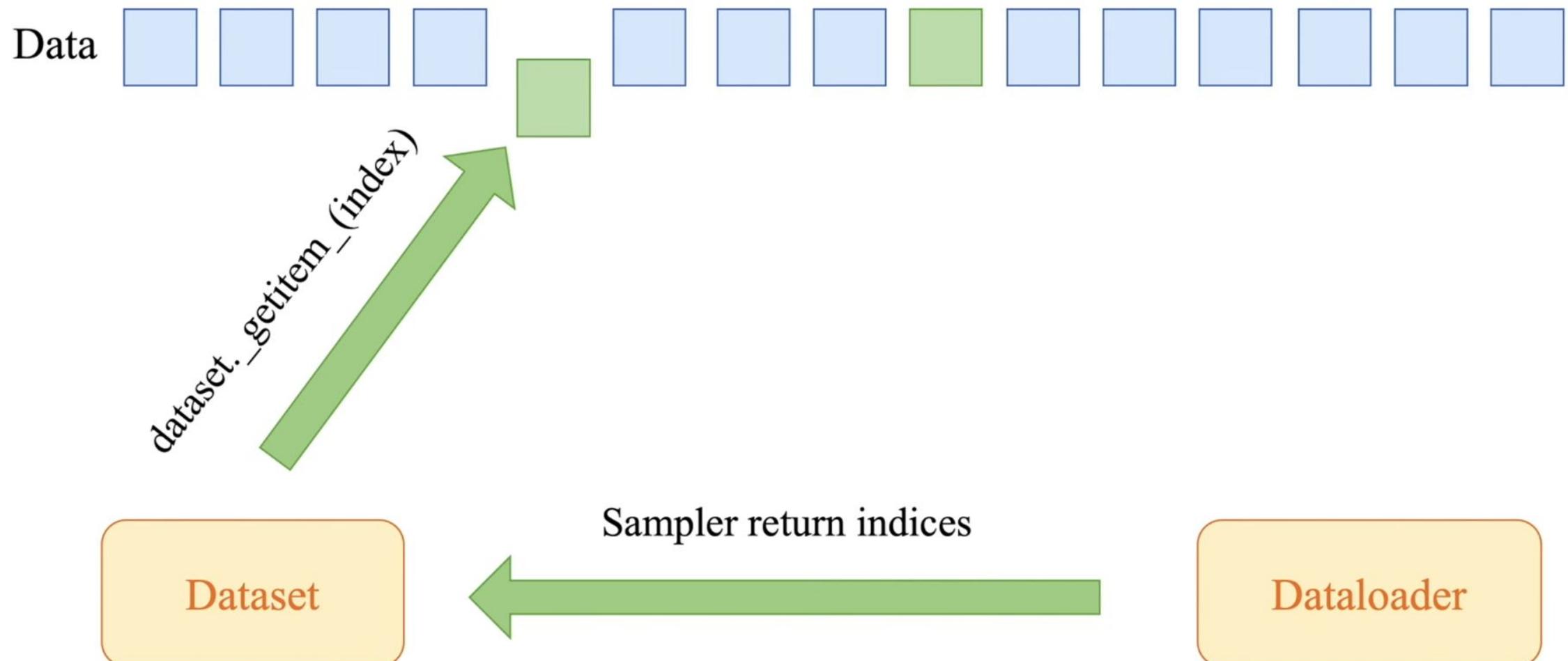


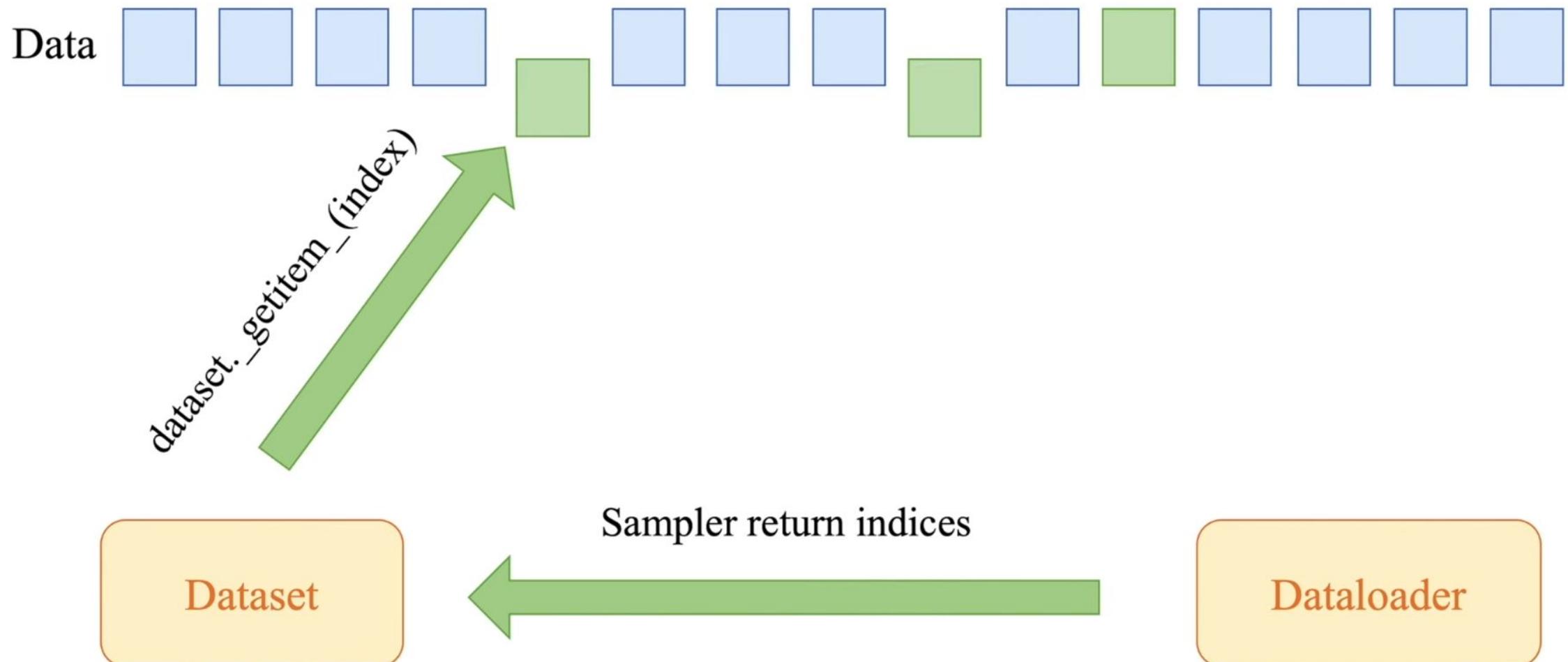
`dataset.__getitem__(index)`

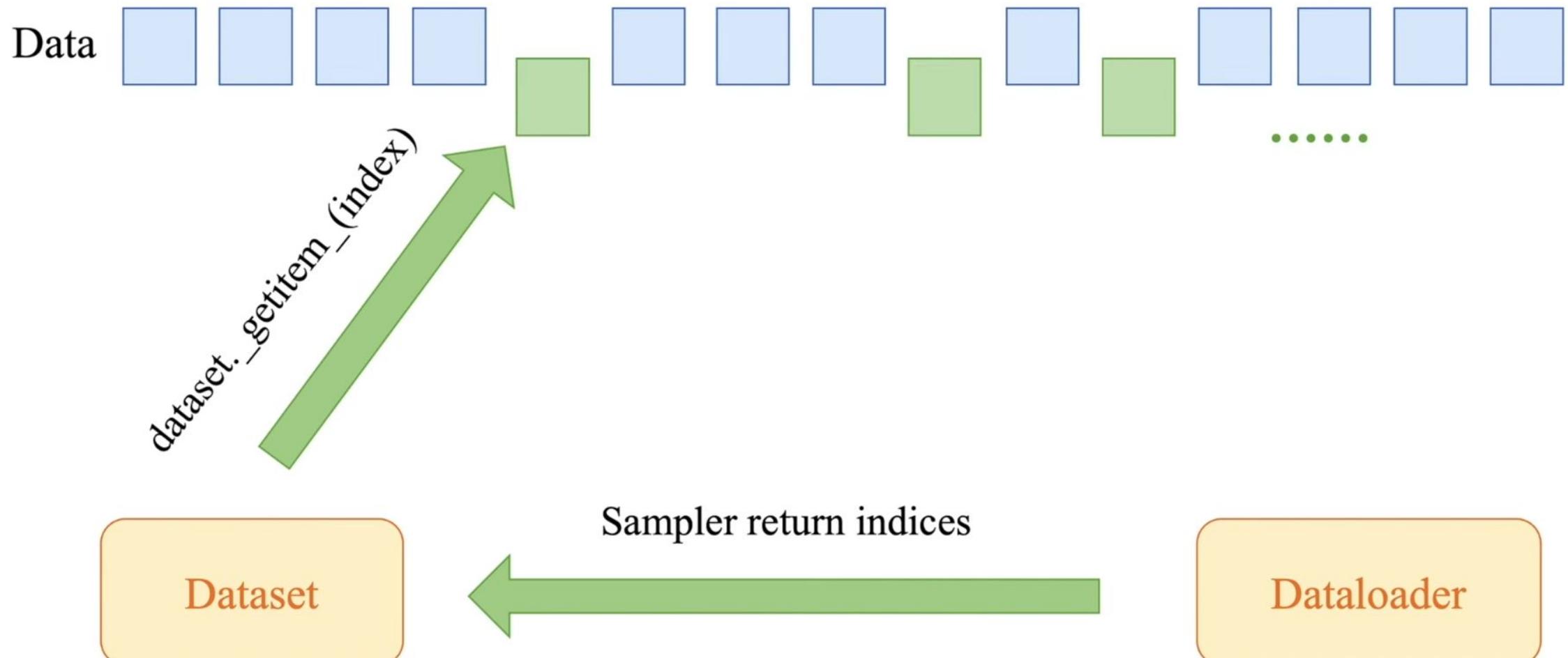
Sampler return indices

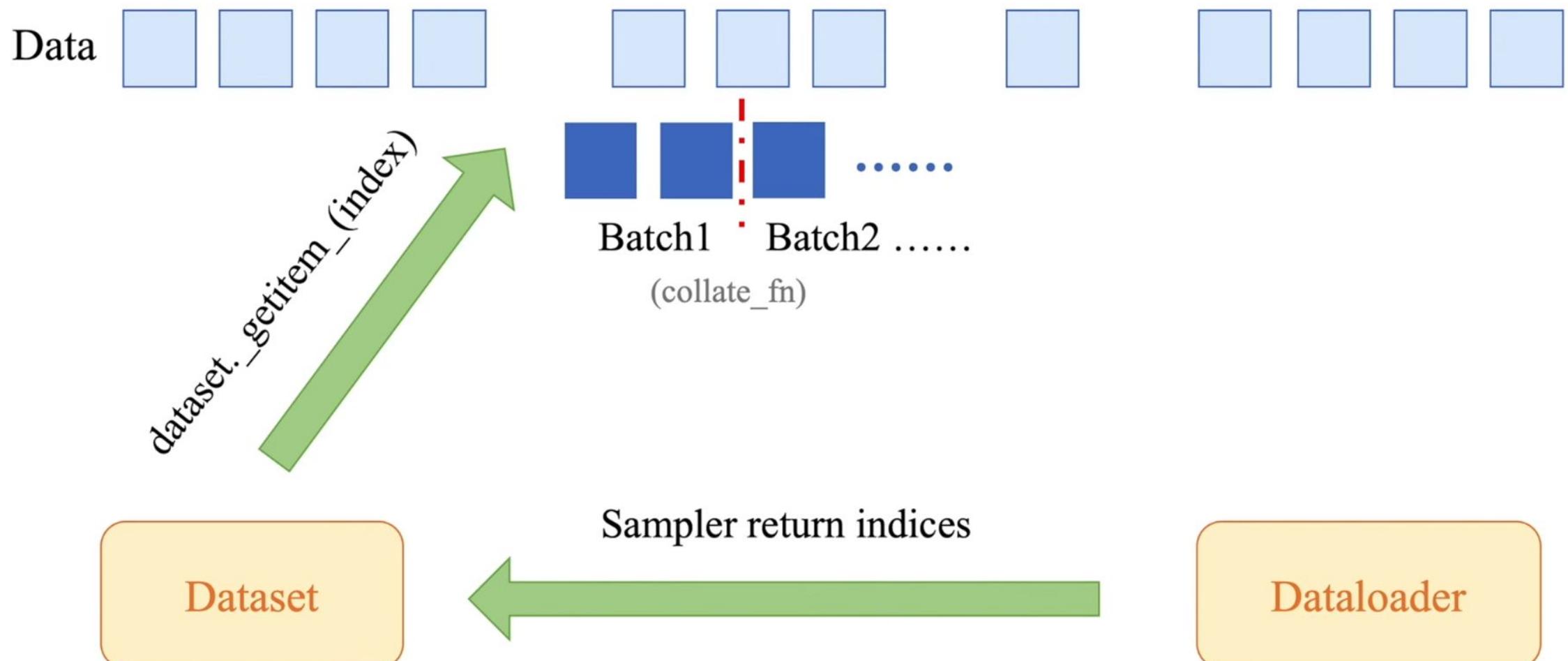
Dataset

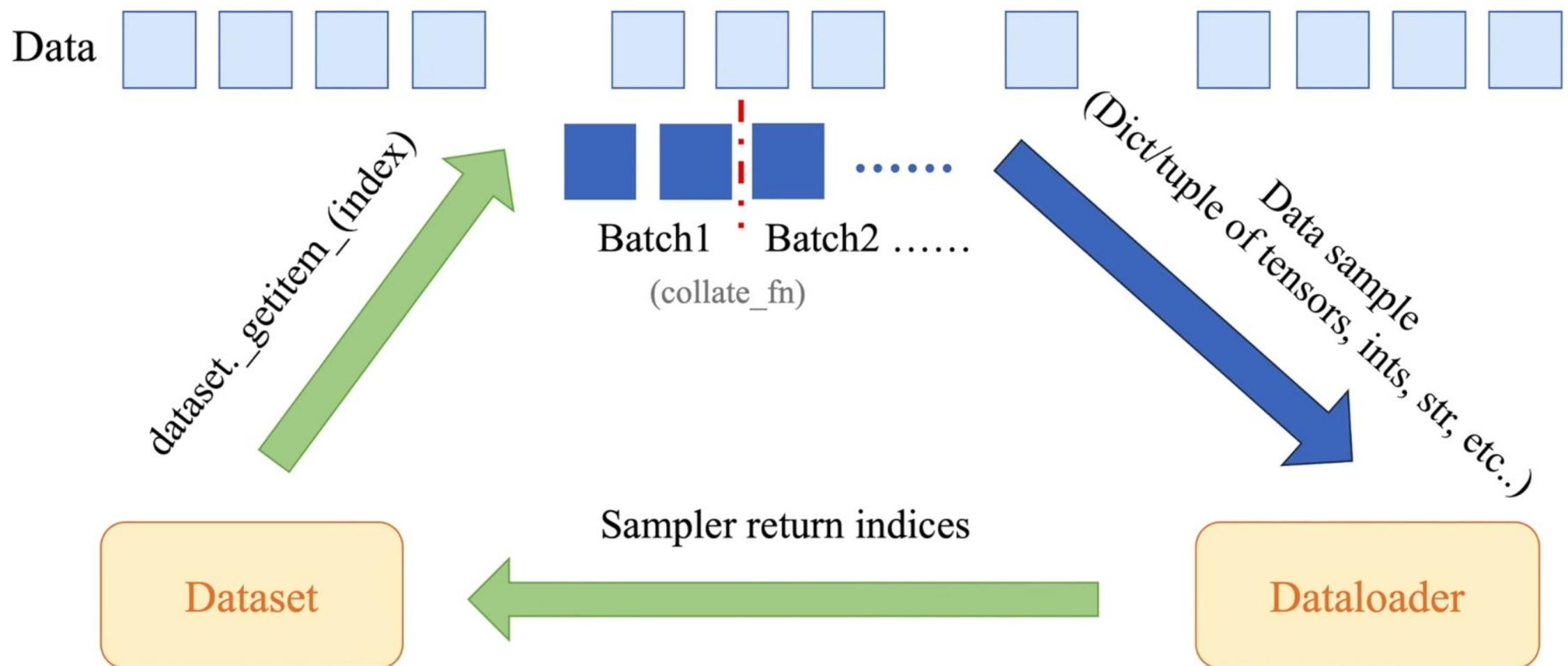
Dataloader

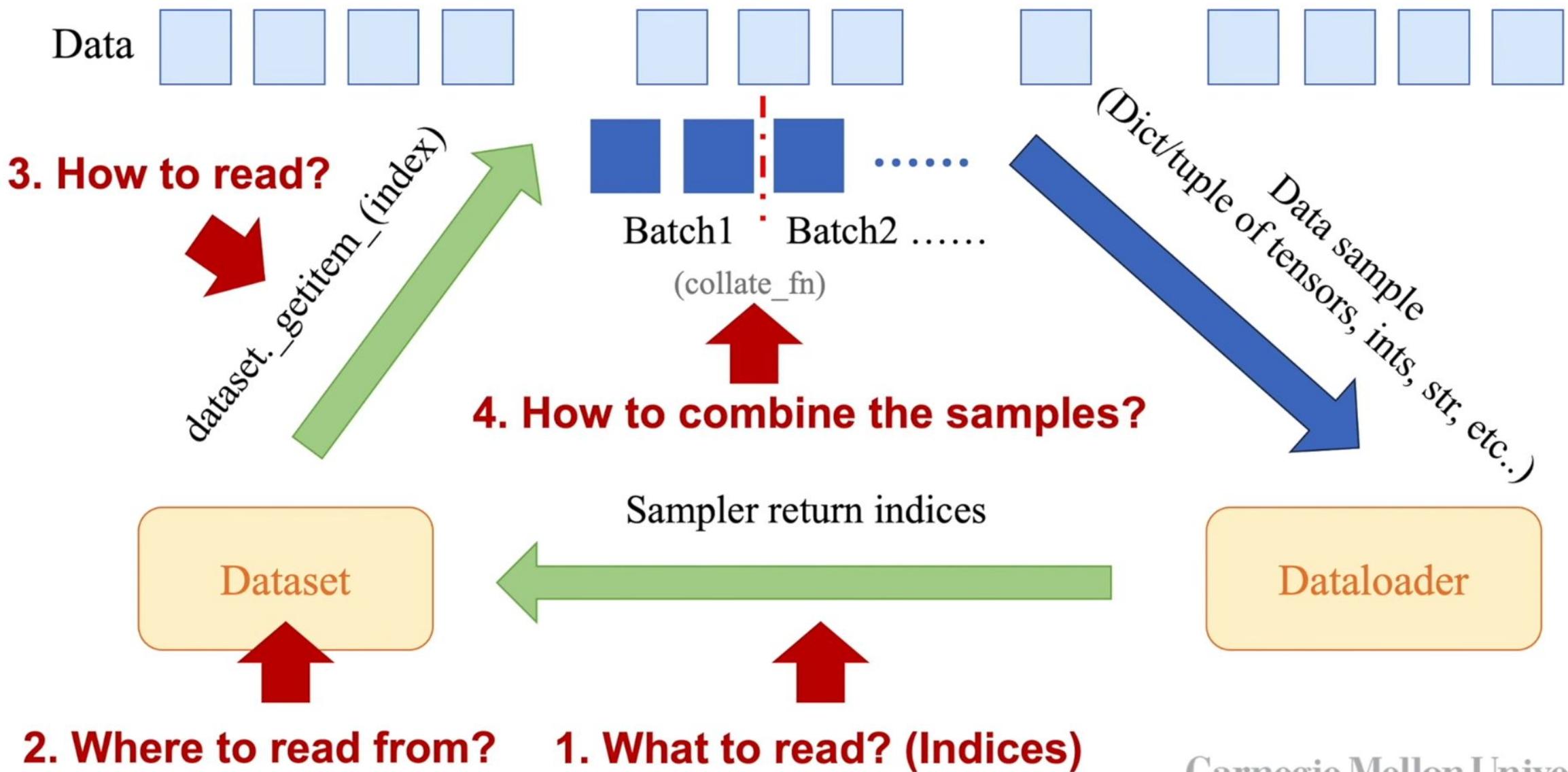


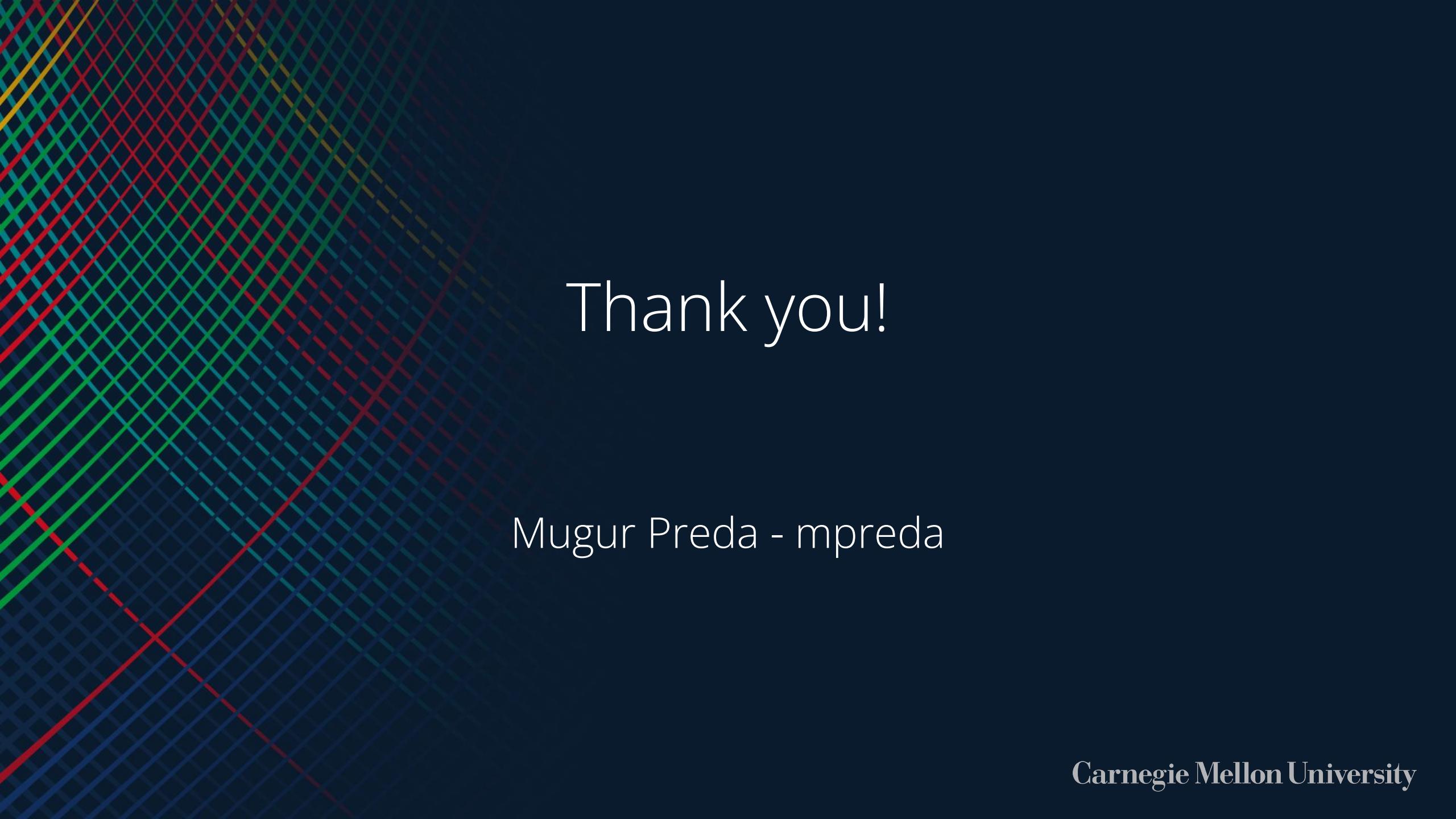












Thank you!

Mugur Preda - mpreda