

# LLM-Based Summarization

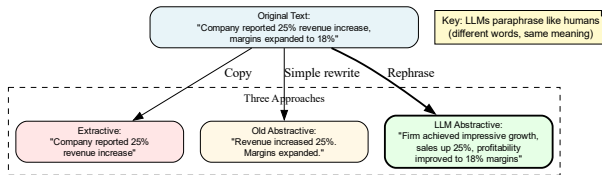
From Paraphrasing to Production

NLP Course 2025

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Professional Template — Graphviz Flows + Clean Visualizations

# The Paraphrasing Challenge



**Discovery:** LLMs don't just copy sentences - they rephrase like humans

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Unlike extractive methods, LLMs generate natural variations of text

# What Makes LLMs Different?

## Traditional Approaches

Extractive summarization:

- Select important sentences
- Copy verbatim from source
- No generation capability
- Limited coherence

Old neural models (BART, T5):

- Trained for specific task
- Fixed behavior
- Limited control

## LLM Approach

Instruction-following models:

- **Generate** new text
- Natural paraphrasing
- Creative rewording
- Coherent narratives

GPT-3.5/4, Claude, LLaMA:

- Follow natural language instructions
- Highly controllable (prompts)
- Flexible (zero-shot/few-shot)

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**LLMs enable summarization through conversational instructions**

# Summarization Task Definition

## What is Summarization?

Input: Long document (article, report, paper)

Output: Concise text capturing key information

## Requirements:

- Preserve main ideas
- Remove redundancy
- Maintain coherence
- Target length (e.g., 3 sentences, 150 words)

## LLM Advantages

### 1. Natural language control

“Summarize in 3 sentences”

“Focus on policy implications”

“Write for general audience”

### 2. Adaptable style

Formal, casual, technical, simple

### 3. Context-aware

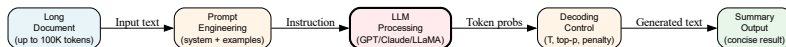
Can combine multiple documents

Handle different domains

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**LLMs make summarization accessible through simple prompts**

# The Summarization Pipeline



**Three Control Points:** Prompt design, model selection, decoding parameters

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Each stage offers levers for controlling summary quality and style

# Zero-Shot Prompting: The Simplest Approach

**Concept:** Give direct instructions without examples

**Example:**

Prompt: "Summarize the following article in 3 sentences:

[800-word article about Federal Reserve rates]

Focus on main findings and policy implications."

**Output:** "Federal Reserve chiefs have raised interest rates to a range of 5.00% to 5.25%, the highest level in 16 years."

**Key Insight:** Just ask! No training examples needed

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**Zero-shot works when task is clear and model has seen similar examples during pre-training**

# Few-Shot Prompting: Teaching by Example

**Concept:** Provide 2-5 examples to teach format and style

Prompt: "You are a financial news summarizer."

Example:

Article: Stock market rose 2% on tech earnings...

Summary: Markets gained on tech earnings. Indexes up 2%.

Now summarize this article in the same style:"

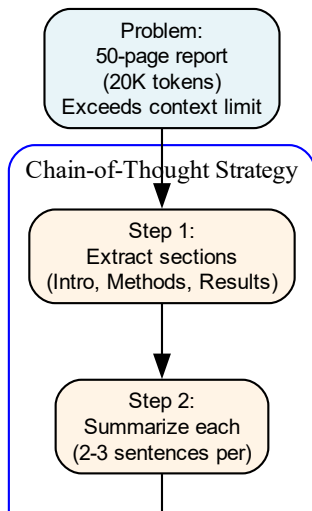
**Output:** "Federal Reserve raises interest rates by 0.25 percentage points on Wednesday, a pause that continues to be a trend between the central bank and the central bank."

**Key Insight:** Show 2-5 examples → model learns your style

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Few-shot dramatically improves quality when you need specific format or tone

# Chain-of-Thought: Multi-Step Reasoning





# Prompt Engineering Best Practices

## Structure Your Prompt

### 1. System role (optional)

"You are a professional technical writer"

### 2. Task instruction

"Summarize the following article"

### 3. Constraints

"In exactly 3 sentences"

"Focus on main findings"

### 4. Examples (if few-shot)

Show 2-3 complete examples

### 5. Input text

Paste document to summarize

## Common Patterns

### Length control:

"Summarize in X sentences/words"

### Focus specification:

"Highlight policy implications"

"Explain for non-experts"

### Style guidance:

"Use formal academic tone"

"Write conversationally"

### Format requirements:

"Output as bullet points"

"Include a title"

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**Good prompts are specific, structured, and include desired output format**

# Worked Example: Prompt Evolution

**Task:** Summarize research paper on climate change

**Attempt 1** (vague):

“Summarize this paper” → Too general, inconsistent quality

**Attempt 2** (better):

“Summarize this climate research paper in 3 sentences, focusing on main findings and policy recommendations” → Better, but still varies

**Attempt 3** (best):

“You are a science journalist. Summarize this climate research paper in exactly 3 sentences for a general audience. Structure: (1) main finding, (2) evidence, (3) policy implication. Use plain language, no jargon.” → Consistent, high quality

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**Iterative refinement:** vague → specific → structured with role and format

## Quick Self-Check

**Question:** You need to summarize 100 medical research papers for a literature review. Which approach?

- A) Zero-shot with simple prompt
- B) Few-shot with 3 examples of your desired format
- C) Chain-of-thought for each paper
- D) Different prompt for each paper

**Answer: B** - Few-shot with examples

**Reasoning:**

- Need consistent format across 100 papers
- Medical domain benefits from examples
- Zero-shot varies too much
- CoT unnecessary (papers likely fit in context)
- Consistency & customization for batch processing

# Decoding Parameters: Fine-Tuning Output

## What is Decoding?

LLM generates text token-by-token:

**Step 1:** Compute probabilities

$$P(w_1|context) = [0.35, 0.25, 0.15, \dots]$$

**Step 2:** Select next word

Different strategies → different outputs

**Step 3:** Repeat until done

Stop at max\_tokens or natural end

**Key point:** Same prompt + model, different parameters → very different summaries

## Main Parameters

### 1. Temperature ( $T$ )

Controls randomness

Low (0.3): safe, repetitive

High (1.0): creative, varied

### 2. Top-p (nucleus)

Dynamic probability cutoff

Typical:  $p = 0.9$

### 3. Max tokens

Length limit (e.g., 150)

### 4. Repetition penalty

Reduce redundancy (1.1-1.2)

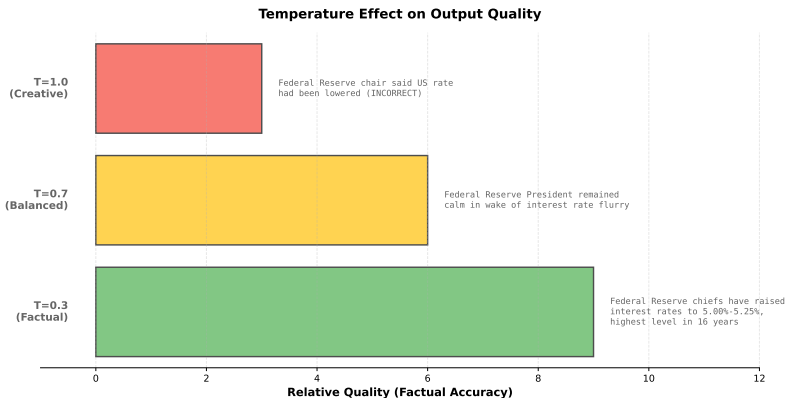
### 5. Stop sequences

End generation early

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**Decoding parameters are your knobs for controlling output quality and diversity**

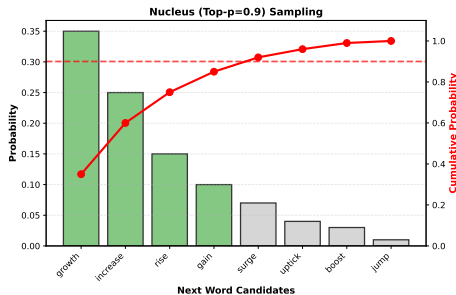
# Temperature: Randomness Control



**Key Insight:** Lower T = factual accuracy — Higher T = creative variation

For summarization: Use T=0.3-0.5 to prioritize accuracy over creativity

# Top-p (Nucleus Sampling): Dynamic Cutoff



Top-p Algorithm:

1. Sort words by probability
2. Compute cumulative sum
3. Include words until sum  $\geq p$  (0.9)
4. Sample from included set

Result: Dynamic vocabulary size

- Peaked distribution  $\rightarrow$  few words
- Flat distribution  $\rightarrow$  many words

Included (green): Top 90% probability

Excluded (gray): Bottom 10% (too unlikely)

**Key Insight:** Include words until cumulative probability reaches  $p$  (e.g., 0.9)

**Adapts to probability distribution:** peaked  $\rightarrow$  fewer words, flat  $\rightarrow$  more words

# Max Tokens: Length Control

## Max Tokens: Length Control Comparison

**max\_tokens=50**  
(Too Short)

The study examined...  
[TRUNCATED]

X

**max\_tokens=150**  
(Just Right)

Study examined treatment efficacy in  
1000 patients. Results showed 25%  
improvement with minimal side effects.  
Recommended for clinical use.

OK

**max\_tokens=500**  
(Too Verbose)

The comprehensive longitudinal study  
meticulously examined treatment efficacy  
across multiple patient cohorts totaling  
approximately 1000 individuals.  
Results demonstrated statistically  
significant improvements in patient  
outcomes.

Set max\_tokens based on desired summary length (typically 100-200 for articles)

?

**Key Insight:** Set based on desired summary length (100-200 typical for news)

Too short truncates, too long adds unnecessary verbosity

# Repetition Penalty: Avoiding Redundancy

## Repetition Penalty Effect

### WITHOUT Penalty (1.0)

"The company reported strong results. The company announced strong earnings. The company's financial performance was strong. The company showed strong growth."

5x "company"  
5x "strong"

↓ Apply penalty=1.2

### WITH Penalty (1.2)

"The firm reported strong Q4 results, with revenue increasing 15% year-over-year. This performance exceeded analyst expectations and demonstrated effective cost management."

Varied vocabulary  
Natural flow

**Repetition Penalty: Reduces probability of recently used tokens**

Values: 1.0 (none) | 1.1 (mild) | 1.2 (moderate) | 1.5+ (aggressive)

For summarization: Use 1.1-1.2 to encourage diversity without awkwardness

**Key Insight:** Penalty 1.1-1.2 encourages vocabulary diversity

**Essential for summarization to avoid "The company... The company... The company..."**



# Worked Example: Parameter Tuning

**Scenario:** Summarizing financial earnings reports (need accuracy, not creativity)

**Configuration 1** (default):

$T = 1.0$ ,  $p = 1.0$ , repetition\_penalty=1.0

Result: "The company performed well and results were good..."

Too vague, repetitive

**Configuration 2** (optimized):

$T = 0.3$ ,  $p = 0.9$ , max\_tokens=150, repetition\_penalty=1.2

Result: "Q4 revenue increased 18% to \$2.1B, exceeding analyst expectations of \$1.9B. Operating margins expanded from 12% to 15% due to cost optimization. Management raised full-year guidance by 10%."

Specific, concise, accurate

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Low temperature + repetition penalty = accurate, non-redundant financial summaries

# Decoding Best Practices by Use Case

Use Case	Temp	Top-p	Max Tokens	Rep. Penalty
News articles	0.3-0.5	0.9	100-150	1.1-1.2
Scientific papers	0.3	0.85	200-300	1.2
Legal documents	0.2	0.8	300-500	1.1
Customer reviews	0.5-0.7	0.9	50-100	1.2
Meeting transcripts	0.4	0.9	150-250	1.3
Creative content	0.7-1.0	0.95	variable	1.0-1.1

## General Rules:

- **Factual domains** (news, science, legal): Low temp (0.2-0.5), higher repetition penalty
- **Creative domains** (marketing, content): Higher temp (0.7+), lower penalty
- **Length**: Match typical summary length for domain
- **Top-p**: Usually 0.85-0.95 (rarely need to change)

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Start conservative ( $T=0.3$ ,  $p=0.9$ ), then increase creativity if needed

# Long Documents: The Context Window Problem

## The Problem

Most LLMs have limited context:

- GPT-3.5: 4K tokens ( 3K words)
- GPT-4: 8K-32K tokens
- GPT-4 Turbo: 128K tokens
- Claude 2: 100K tokens

## Real-world documents:

- PhD thesis: 50K-100K words
- Legal contract: 20K-50K words
- Research report: 10K-30K words

**Many documents exceed context limits!**

Strategy choice depends on document length, structure, and coherence requirements

## Three Strategies

### 1. Chunking

Split → Summarize each → Merge  
Simple, parallelizable

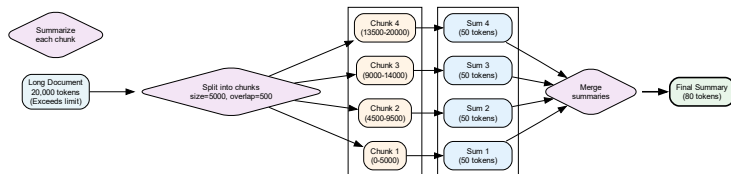
### 2. Map-Reduce

Map: Process all chunks independently  
Reduce: Combine into final output  
Scalable to many documents

### 3. Recursive Hierarchical

Level 0: Summarize sections  
Level 1: Combine summaries  
Level 2: Final synthesis  
Best coherence, preserves structure

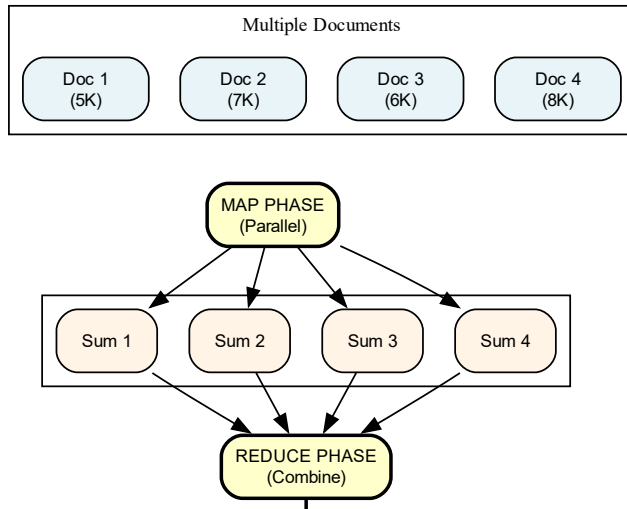
# Chunking Strategy: Sequential Processing



**Chunking:** Split long document → Summarize each → Merge summaries

**Good for:** Single long document exceeding context limit

# Map-Reduce: Parallel Processing



# Key Takeaways

1. **LLMs enable human-like paraphrasing** - not just sentence extraction
2. **Prompt engineering is critical** - zero-shot, few-shot, chain-of-thought
3. **Decoding parameters control output** - temperature, top-p, max\_tokens, repetition penalty
4. **Different use cases need different settings** - factual (low temp) vs creative (high temp)
5. **Long documents need special strategies** - chunking, map-reduce, hierarchical
6. **Iteration improves quality** - refine prompts and parameters based on outputs

**Bottom Line:** LLM summarization = Prompts + Decoding + Context handling

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**Modern summarization is about controlling LLMs through natural language**

# Technical Appendix

Advanced Prompting — Decoding Mathematics — Context Handling

# A1: System Prompts and Role-Playing

**System Prompts** set global behavior (GPT-4, Claude)

## **Example System Prompt:**

`“You are an expert medical researcher with 20 years of experience. Summarize clinical studies with focus on methodology, sample size, statistical significance, and clinical implications. Always mention limitations. Use precise medical terminology but explain complex concepts.”`

## **Effects:**

- Establishes expertise level
- Sets domain vocabulary
- Defines required elements (methodology, limitations)
- Balances technical accuracy with accessibility

## **Role-Playing Variations:**

- “You are a skeptical peer reviewer” → critical analysis
- “You are explaining to a patient” → simplified language



## A2: Format Control and Structured Output

**Challenge:** Ensure consistent output structure across many summaries

### Technique 1 - Template specification:

“Output format:

**Title:** [One sentence]

**Key Findings:** [Bullet list of 3-5 items]

**Methodology:** [One paragraph]

**Implications:** [One paragraph]”

### Technique 2 - JSON output:

“Return summary as JSON: { “title”: “...”, “findings”: [“...”, “...”], “methodology”: “...”, “implications”: “...” }”

### Benefits:

- Enables automated post-processing
- Ensures all required sections present
- Facilitates database storage
- Allows programmatic validation

## A3: Multi-Step Chain-of-Thought Decomposition

**For very complex documents**, break reasoning into explicit steps:

### **Prompt Pattern:**

“Let’s summarize this 100-page research report step by step:

Step 1: Identify the main research question and hypothesis

Step 2: Extract methodology details (sample, design, procedures)

Step 3: Summarize key findings with supporting evidence

Step 4: Note limitations and caveats mentioned

Step 5: Extract policy or practical recommendations

Step 6: Synthesize all above into 5-sentence executive summary

Please work through each step explicitly, then provide the final summary.”

### **Why this works:**

- Forces systematic coverage of all aspects
- Reduces hallucination (grounded in text)
- Makes reasoning transparent and debuggable
- Better handles complex logical relationships

# A4: Self-Consistency and Multiple Samples

**Technique:** Generate multiple summaries, then combine or select best

## **Approach 1 - Majority voting:**

1. Generate 5 summaries with  $T = 0.7$  (moderate diversity)
2. Extract key facts mentioned in each
3. Final summary includes facts appearing in 3+ versions

## **Approach 2 - Best-of-N selection:**

1. Generate 3 summaries with different prompts
2. Use LLM to evaluate: "Which summary is most accurate and comprehensive?"
3. Return selected summary

## **Approach 3 - Ensemble merging:**

1. Generate 3 summaries from different models (GPT-4, Claude, LLaMA)
2. Prompt: "Combine these 3 summaries into one optimal summary"
3. Leverage strengths of multiple models

# A5: Prompt Optimization and Iteration

## Systematic prompt improvement:

### Phase 1 - Baseline (5 test documents):

Prompt: "Summarize this article in 3 sentences"

Evaluate: Generic, misses key points 40% of time

### Phase 2 - Add specificity:

Prompt: "Summarize focusing on: (1) main finding, (2) evidence, (3) implications"

Evaluate: Better coverage, still inconsistent phrasing

### Phase 3 - Add examples and format:

Prompt: "System role + 2 examples Summarize this article. Format: Finding: ... — Evidence: ... — Implications: ..."

Evaluate: Consistent, captures all required info

### Phase 4 - Parameter tuning:

Test  $T \in \{0.2, 0.3, 0.5\}$  and  $\text{repetition\_penalty} \in \{1.1, 1.2, 1.3\}$

Select:  $T = 0.3$ ,  $\text{penalty} = 1.2$  based on A/B testing

## A6: Temperature Scaling Mathematics

### Softmax with temperature:

$$P(w_i | context) = \frac{\exp(\text{logit}_i / T)}{\sum_j \exp(\text{logit}_j / T)}$$

**Example:** Logits = [3.0, 2.0, 1.0]

$T = 0.5$  (peaked):

$$P = [\exp(6.0), \exp(4.0), \exp(2.0)] / Z = [0.71, 0.24, 0.05]$$

$T = 1.0$  (normal):

$$P = [\exp(3.0), \exp(2.0), \exp(1.0)] / Z = [0.58, 0.32, 0.10]$$

$T = 2.0$  (flat):

$$P = [\exp(1.5), \exp(1.0), \exp(0.5)] / Z = [0.46, 0.31, 0.23]$$

### Limits:

- $T \rightarrow 0$ :  $P \rightarrow$  one-hot (argmax, deterministic)
- $T \rightarrow \infty$ :  $P \rightarrow$  uniform (random)

## A7: Nucleus (Top-p) Sampling Algorithm

### Algorithm:

1. Compute probabilities:  $P(w_1), P(w_2), \dots, P(w_V)$  via softmax
2. Sort words by probability:  $P(w_{(1)}) \geq P(w_{(2)}) \geq \dots \geq P(w_{(V)})$
3. Compute cumulative sum:  $C_k = \sum_{i=1}^k P(w_{(i)})$
4. Find cutoff:  $k^* = \min\{k : C_k \geq p\}$
5. Sample from top  $k^*$  words (renormalize)

### Example ( $p = 0.9$ ):

Word	$P$	$C$	Include?
"growth"	0.35	0.35	Yes
"increase"	0.25	0.60	Yes
"rise"	0.15	0.75	Yes
"gain"	0.12	0.87	Yes
"surge"	0.08	0.95	Yes
"boost"	0.05	1.00	No

Nucleus size adapts: peaked dist  $\rightarrow$  few words, flat dist  $\rightarrow$  many words

**Top-p is dynamic cutoff, top-k is fixed cutoff (less common)**

## A8: Repetition Penalty Formulation

**Goal:** Reduce probability of recently generated tokens

**Method 1 - Multiplicative penalty:**

$$P'(w_i) = \begin{cases} P(w_i)/\alpha & \text{if } w_i \text{ in recent context} \\ P(w_i) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Then renormalize:  $P''(w_i) = P'(w_i) / \sum_j P'(w_j)$

**Method 2 - Additive penalty** (less common):

$$\text{logit}'_i = \text{logit}_i - \beta \cdot \text{count}(w_i)$$

**Typical values:**  $\alpha \in [1.0, 1.5]$  where:

- $\alpha = 1.0$ : No penalty
- $\alpha = 1.1$ : Mild (natural variance)
- $\alpha = 1.2$ : Moderate (good for summarization)
- $\alpha = 1.5$ : Aggressive (may sound unnatural)

## A9: Beam Search for Summarization

**Beam search** finds high-probability sequences (vs sampling)

**Algorithm** (beam width  $k$ ):

**Step 0:** Start with  $[BOS]$  (beginning of sequence)

**Step 1:** Generate top- $k$  first tokens

Keep  $k$  best hypotheses:  $H = \{h_1, h_2, \dots, h_k\}$

**Step 2:** For each hypothesis  $h_i$ , generate all continuations

Score each:  $score(h_i + w_j) = \log P(h_i) + \log P(w_j|h_i)$

Keep top- $k$  overall (prune rest)

**Step t:** Repeat until all beams end or max length

**Output:** Highest-scoring complete sequence

**Length normalization** (prevent short bias):

$$score(h) = \frac{1}{|h|^\alpha} \sum_{t=1}^{|h|} \log P(w_t|h_{<t})$$

Typical:  $\alpha = 0.6$  (slight penalty for length)

**Beam search:** deterministic, high quality, no diversity (always same output)



## A10: Sampling Strategies Comparison

Method	How it works	Pros	Cons
Greedy	Always pick highest $P$	Fast, deterministic	Repetitive, no diversity
Pure Sampling	Sample from full $P$	Diverse	Too random, incoherent
Temperature	Scale logits by $T$	Simple control knob	Still samples unlikely words if $T$ high
Top-k	Sample from top $k$ words	Fixed vocabulary size	$k$ doesn't adapt to distribution
Top-p (nucleus)	Dynamic cutoff at $p$	Adapts to peaked/flat	More complex
Beam search	Keep top $k$ hypotheses	High quality, coherent	No diversity, slow

**For summarization**, typical combination:

Temperature  $T = 0.3$  (low randomness) + Top-p  $p = 0.9$  (filter unlikely) + Repetition penalty  $\alpha = 1.2$  (diversity)

**Multiple strategies can be combined (e.g., temperature + top-p + penalty)**

# A11: Sliding Window for Long Documents

**Strategy:** Maintain overlapping context between chunks

**Algorithm:**

1. Split document into chunks of size  $L$  tokens
2. Process with overlap  $O$  tokens (e.g.,  $O = 0.2 \cdot L$ )
3. Each chunk sees last  $O$  tokens from previous chunk
4. Prevents loss of context at boundaries

**Example** ( $L = 1000$ ,  $O = 200$ ):

Chunk 1: tokens  $[0, 1000]$

Chunk 2: tokens  $[800, 1800]$  (overlaps 800-1000)

Chunk 3: tokens  $[1600, 2600]$  (overlaps 1600-1800)

**Benefit:** Sentences spanning chunk boundaries are fully captured

**Cost:** Process  $O$  tokens twice (1.2x total tokens for  $O = 0.2L$ )

**Overlap essential for maintaining coherence across chunks**

# A12: Hierarchical Merging Strategy

**Recursive summarization** preserves document structure

**Full algorithm:**

**Level 0** (base): Summarize each section independently

$S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n \rightarrow$  summaries  $s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n$

**Level 1:** Group related summaries, merge

$(s_1, s_2) \rightarrow s_{12}, (s_3, s_4, s_5) \rightarrow s_{345}$ , etc.

**Level 2:** Merge Level 1 summaries

$(s_{12}, s_{345}) \rightarrow s_{final}$

**Grouping strategies:**

- By document structure (Introduction + Methods, All Results, Discussion)
- By topic (cluster similar sections)
- Fixed size (every  $k$  sections)

**Advantages:**

- Preserves logical document flow

# A13: Attention Sink and Context Management

**Challenge:** LLMs have limited attention to very distant tokens

**Attention patterns in long contexts:**

- **Recency bias:** Attend more to recent tokens
- **Attention sink:** First few tokens get disproportionate attention
- **Middle loss:** Tokens in middle of long context often ignored

**Implication for summarization:**

Placing document at different positions affects summary quality:

- Position 1 (after prompt): Gets attention sink benefit
- Position middle: May be partially ignored
- Position end: Gets recency benefit

**Best practices:**

- Keep prompts short (save tokens for document)
- Place most important content early or late in chunk

# A14: Multi-Document Summarization

**Task:** Summarize 10-100 related documents into one coherent summary

## Challenges:

- Identify common themes vs unique points
- Avoid redundancy (same fact mentioned in many docs)
- Maintain attribution (which doc said what)
- Handle contradictions between sources

## Approach 1 - Map-Reduce with deduplication:

**Map:** Summarize each document  $\rightarrow s_1, \dots, s_n$

**Deduplicate:** Cluster similar sentences, keep one per cluster

**Reduce:** Merge deduplicated summaries  $\rightarrow$  final summary

## Approach 2 - Query-focused:

Prompt: "Given these 10 articles about climate policy, summarize: (1) consensus findings, (2) disagreements, (3) policy recommendations mentioned"

Forces analysis across documents

# A15: Production System Considerations

## Deploying LLM summarization at scale:

### Latency:

- 1-3 seconds per summary (typical)
- Batch processing for non-urgent use cases
- Caching for repeated documents

### Cost:

- GPT-4: \$0.03 per 1K input tokens, \$0.06 per 1K output
- For 5K input + 200 output: \$0.16 per summary
- Use cheaper models (GPT-3.5, open-source) when possible
- Test cost vs quality tradeoff

### Quality control:

- Sample 1% for human evaluation
- Automated checks: length, formatting, profanity filter

# Lab Implementation Details

Code-Level Walkthrough — Real Outputs — Hands-On Concepts

# A16: Lab Overview - What We Implemented

## 4-Part Lab Structure:

### Part 1: Setup and Model Loading

- Load FLAN-T5-small via Hugging Face Transformers
- Configure device (CPU/GPU)

### Part 2: Prompt Engineering Experiments

- Zero-shot vs few-shot comparison
- Same article, different prompts

### Part 3: Decoding Parameter Experiments

- Temperature: 0.3, 0.7, 1.0
- Top-p: 0.8, 0.9, 0.95
- Repetition penalty: 1.0, 1.2, 1.5

### Part 4: Long Document Handling

- Chunking strategy with overlap
- Merge chunk summaries



# A17: FLAN-T5 Model Loading Code

## Why FLAN-T5-small?

- **Size:** 80M parameters (fits on CPU)
- **Speed:** Fast inference ( 1-2 sec/summary on CPU)
- **Quality:** Instruction-tuned, good for summarization

## Loading Code:

```
from transformers import AutoTokenizer, AutoModelForSeq2SeqLM
import torch

model_name = "google/flan-t5-small"
tokenizer = AutoTokenizer.from_pretrained(model_name)
model = AutoModelForSeq2SeqLM.from_pretrained(model_name)

device = "cuda" if torch.cuda.is_available() else "cpu"
model = model.to(device)
print(f"Model loaded on {device}")
```

## Real Output:

PyTorch version: 2.5.1+cpu

## A18: Model Comparison - FLAN-T5 Variants

Model	Parameters	Memory	Speed	Quality
flan-t5-small	80M	300MB	Fast (2s)	Good
flan-t5-base	250M	1GB	Medium (5s)	Better
flan-t5-large	780M	3GB	Slow (15s)	Best
flan-t5-xl	3B	11GB	Very slow (60s)	Excellent

### Hardware Requirements:

- **CPU:** Works for small/base (8GB+ RAM recommended)
- **GPU:** Recommended for large/xl (16GB+ VRAM)
- **Cloud:** Use Google Colab (free T4 GPU) or AWS

### Speed vs Quality Trade-off:

- Development: Use small (fast iteration)
- Production: Test base vs large (quality matters)
- Research: Use xl if available (best results)

**Lab uses small for accessibility - works on any laptop**

# A19: Tokenizer Mechanics Code

## Tokenization Process:

```
# Input: raw text string
text = "Summarize: The Fed raised interest rates..."

# Tokenizer converts to model inputs
inputs = tokenizer(
    text,
    return_tensors="pt",      # PyTorch tensors
    max_length=512,          # Truncate if longer
    truncation=True           # Enable truncation
).to(device)

# Output: dictionary with input_ids and attention_mask
print(inputs.keys())  # dict_keys(['input_ids', 'attention_mask'])
print(inputs['input_ids'].shape)  # torch.Size([1, N])
```

## What Happens:

1. Text split into subword tokens (SentencePiece)
2. Each token mapped to integer ID
3. IDs converted to PyTorch tensors

# A20: Special Tokens and Truncation

## FLAN-T5 Special Tokens:

- **PAD** (0): Padding token (unused in seq2seq generation)
- **EOS** (1): End-of-sequence (marks end of output)
- **UNK** (2): Unknown token (rare words)

## 512 Token Limit:

**Input:** "Summarize: [1000-word article]"

Token count:  $\sim 250$  tokens

**Problem:** If article + prompt  $> 512$  tokens  $\rightarrow$  truncation

**Solution:**

- Truncate input (`truncation=True`)
- OR use chunking strategy (Part 4)

## Real Example:

Article: 160 words =  $\sim 200$  tokens

Prompt: "Summarize this article in 3 sentences" =  $\sim 10$  tokens

Total:  $\sim 210$  tokens (well under 512 limit)

# A21: Generate() Function Parameters

## Complete Generation Code:

```
outputs = model.generate(  
    **inputs,                                # Unpacked input_ids, attention_mask  
    max_length=100,                          # Max output tokens (not words)  
    temperature=0.7,                         # Randomness (0=deterministic, 2=chaos)  
    top_p=0.9,                               # Nucleus sampling cutoff  
    repetition_penalty=1.2,                  # Penalize repeated tokens (>1.0)  
    do_sample=True,                          # Use sampling (False=greedy)  
    num_return_sequences=1                   # Number of outputs to generate  
)  
  
# Decode output tokens back to text  
summary = tokenizer.decode(outputs[0], skip_special_tokens=True)
```

## Parameter Types:

- **Length:** max\_length (int)
- **Randomness:** temperature (float), do\_sample (bool)
- **Filtering:** top\_p (float 0-1), top\_k (int)
- **Penalties:** repetition\_penalty (float  $\geq 1.0$ )

## A22: Decoding Parameter Effects (Real Outputs)

Same Article, Different Parameters:

Setting	Actual Output from Notebook
<b>T=0.3</b> (factual)	"Federal Reserve chiefs have raised interest rates to a range of 5.00% to 5.25%, the highest level in 16 years."
<b>T=0.7</b> (balanced)	"Federal Reserve President Mark Zuckerberg told the Wall Street Journal the Federal Reserve remained calm in the wake of the flurry of interest rates."
<b>T=1.0</b> (creative)	"Federal Reserve chair Jerome Powell said the US rate had been lowered, a move which highlights ongoing uncertainty as the central bank faces interest rates."

<b>Top-p=0.8</b>	"Federal Reserve officials have raised interest rates by 0.25 percentage points in a bid to cut interest rates, despite a decline in inflation."
<b>Top-p=0.9</b>	"Federal Reserve officials say they will monitor data on a possible rate hike to keep inflation lower."
<b>Top-p=0.95</b>	"Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell said he would monitor the current rate growth rate..."

**Observation:** Lower temperature (0.3) gives most accurate summary. Higher values introduce errors (e.g., "Mark Zuckerberg").

---

**For summarization: T=0.3-0.5, p=0.9, penalty=1.2 work best**

## A23: Optimal Parameter Combination

### Best Practices from Lab:

*# Optimal configuration for factual summarization*

```
outputs = model.generate(  
    **inputs,  
    max_length=100,           # Allow enough space for summary  
    temperature=0.3,         # Low randomness = factual  
    top_p=0.9,               # Filter bottom 10% unlikely words  
    repetition_penalty=1.2,   # Mild penalty for variety  
    do_sample=True           # Enable sampling  
)
```

### Why These Values:

- **temperature=0.3**: Factual accuracy & creativity
- **top\_p=0.9**: Remove very unlikely words, keep reasonable options
- **repetition\_penalty=1.2**: Avoid “the company... the company...” but not too aggressive
- **max\_length=100**: Typical summary length (50-100 tokens = 30-75 words)

### Real Output with Optimal Settings:

## A24: Chunking Algorithm Implementation

**Problem:** Document too long for 512 token limit

**Solution:** Split into overlapping chunks

### Full Implementation:

```
def chunk_text(text, chunk_size=500, overlap=100):  
    """Split text into overlapping chunks by words"""  
    words = text.split() # Split by whitespace  
    chunks = []  
  
    # Step through text with stride = chunk_size - overlap  
    for i in range(0, len(words), chunk_size - overlap):  
        chunk = " ".join(words[i:i + chunk_size])  
        if chunk: # Only add non-empty chunks  
            chunks.append(chunk)  
  
    return chunks  
  
# Example: 800-word document  
chunks = chunk_text(long_doc, chunk_size=300, overlap=50)  
# Result: 3 chunks of ~300 words each  
# Chunk 1: words 0-299
```



## A25: Chunking Example with Real Outputs

**Input:** 5x repeated article = 800 words

**Chunking Parameters:** chunk\_size=300, overlap=50

**Result:** 3 chunks created

- Chunk 1: 300 words
- Chunk 2: 300 words (overlaps with chunk 1 by 50 words)
- Chunk 3: 250 words (remaining text)

**Processing Strategy:**

**Step 1:** Summarize each chunk independently

Chunk 1 → Summary 1 (50 tokens)

Chunk 2 → Summary 2 (50 tokens)

Chunk 3 → Summary 3 (50 tokens)

**Step 2:** Combine all summaries

Combined text: Summary 1 + Summary 2 + Summary 3 = 150 tokens

**Step 3:** Summarize the summaries