

Representation Learning for Reading Comprehension

Russ Salakhutdinov

Machine Learning Department
Carnegie Mellon University
Canadian Institute for Advanced Research

Joint work with

Bhuwan Dhingra, Zhilin Yang, Ye Yuan, Junjie Hu,
Hanxiao Liu, and William Cohen

Talk Roadmap

- Multiplicative and Fine-grained Attention
- Incorporating Knowledge as Explicit Memory for RNNs
- Generative Domain-Adaptive Nets

Who-Did-What Dataset

- **Document:** “...arrested Illinois governor **Rod Blagojevich** and his chief of staff John Harris on corruption charges ... included **Blagojevich** allegedly conspiring to sell or trade the senate seat left vacant by President-elect Barack Obama...”
- **Query:** President-elect Barack Obama said Tuesday he was not aware of alleged corruption by **X** who was arrested on charges of trying to sell Obama’s senate seat.
- **Answer:** Rod Blagojevich

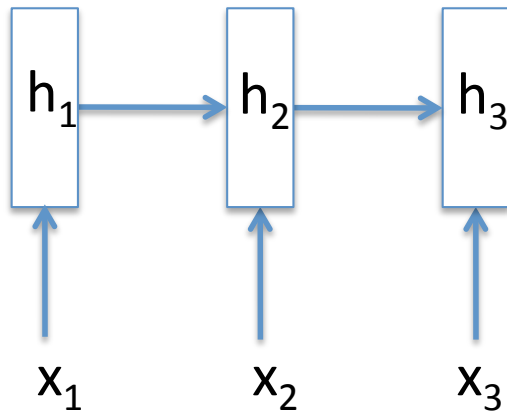
Recurrent Neural Network

$$\mathbf{h}_t = \phi(\mathbf{U}\mathbf{h}_{t-1} + \mathbf{W}\mathbf{x}_t + \mathbf{b})$$

Nonlinearity

Hidden State at
previous time step

Input at time
step t



Multiplicative Integration

- Replace

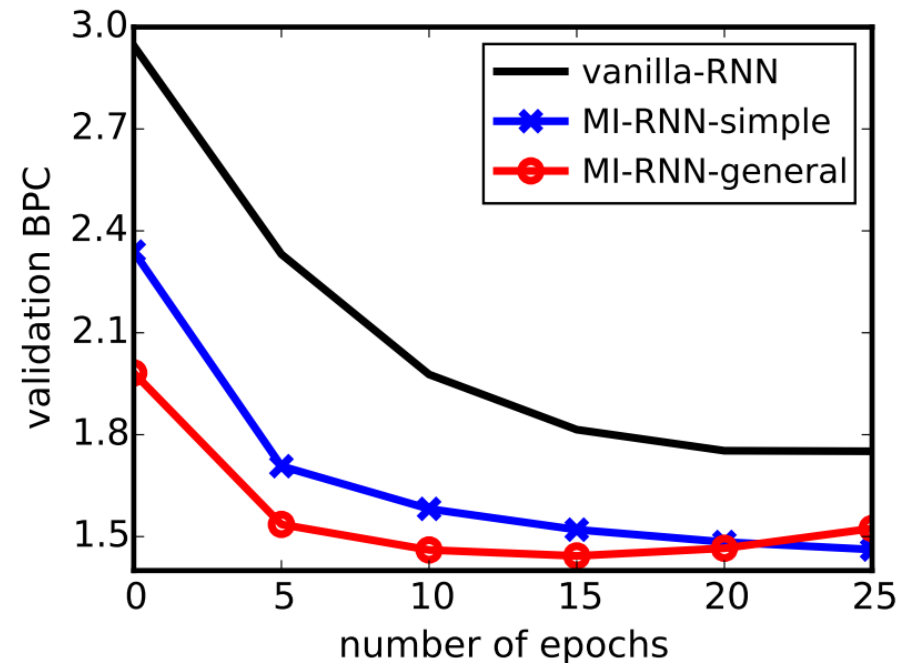
$$\phi(\mathbf{U}\mathbf{h} + \mathbf{W}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b})$$

- With

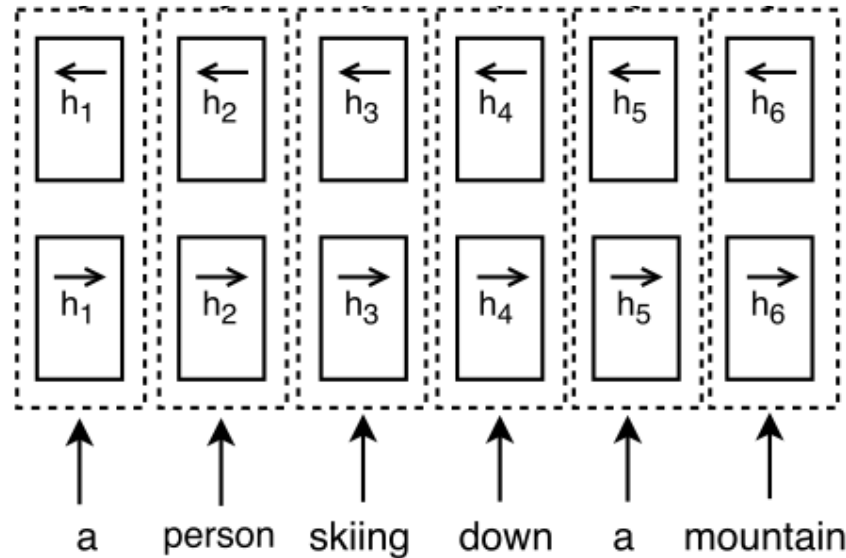
$$\phi(\mathbf{U}\mathbf{h} \odot \mathbf{W}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b})$$

- Or more generally

$$\phi(\alpha \odot \mathbf{U}\mathbf{h} \odot \mathbf{W}\mathbf{x} + \beta_1 \odot \mathbf{U}\mathbf{h} + \beta_2 \odot \mathbf{W}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b})$$



Representing Document/Query



- **Forward RNN** reads sentences from left to right:

$$[\vec{h}_1, \vec{h}_2, \dots, \vec{h}_{|D|}]$$

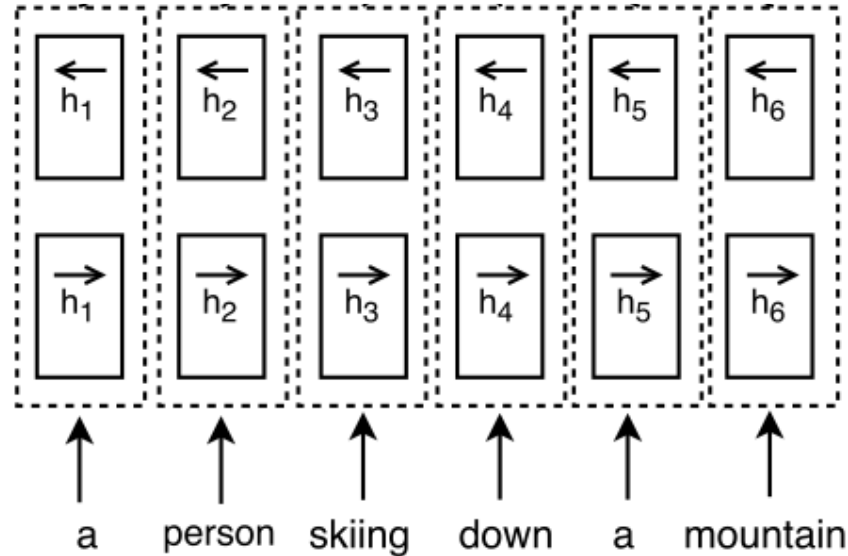
- **Backward RNN** reads sentences from right to left:

$$[\overleftarrow{h}_1, \overleftarrow{h}_2, \dots, \overleftarrow{h}_{|D|}]$$

- The hidden states are then concatenated:

$$\overleftrightarrow{\text{GRU}} = [h_1, h_2, \dots, h_{|D|}], \quad h_i = [\vec{h}_i, \overleftarrow{h}_i]$$

Representing Document/Query



- Use GRUs to encode a document and a query:

$$D = \overleftrightarrow{\text{GRU}}_D(X)$$

$$Q = \overleftrightarrow{\text{GRU}}_Q(Y)$$

- Note that, for example, Q is a matrix

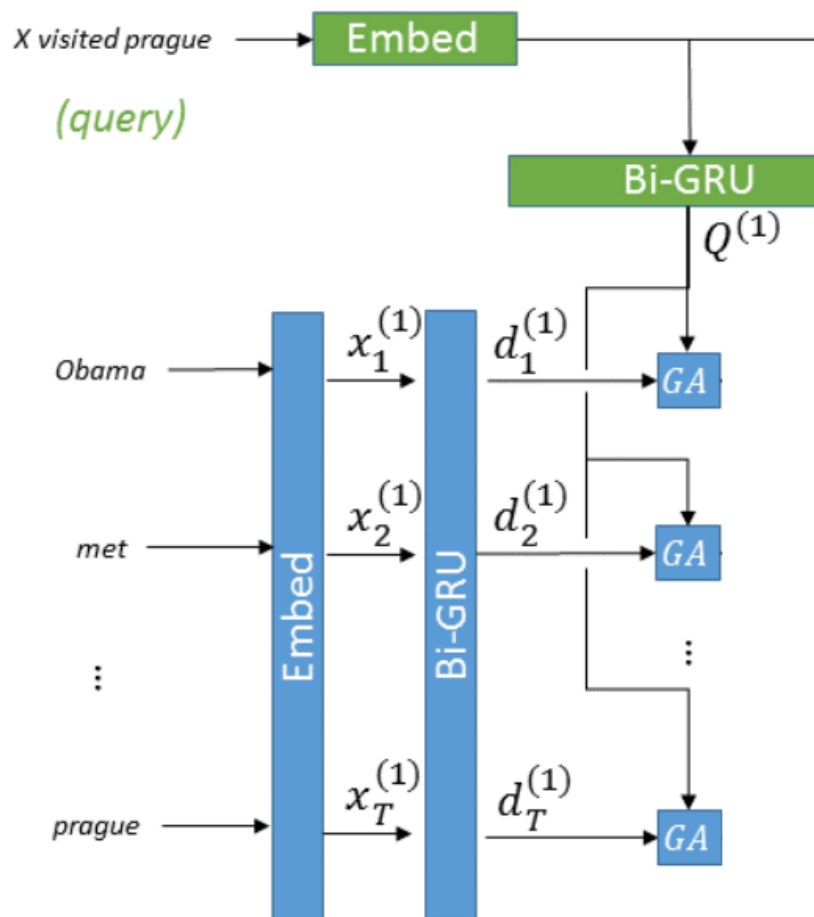
$$Q \in \mathbb{R}^{2|H| \times |Q|}$$

- We can then use Gated Attention mechanism:

$$X = \text{GA}(D, Q)$$

Gated Attention Mechanism

- For each token d in D , we form a **token-specific representation of the query**:



$$\alpha_i = \text{softmax}(Q^\top d_i)$$

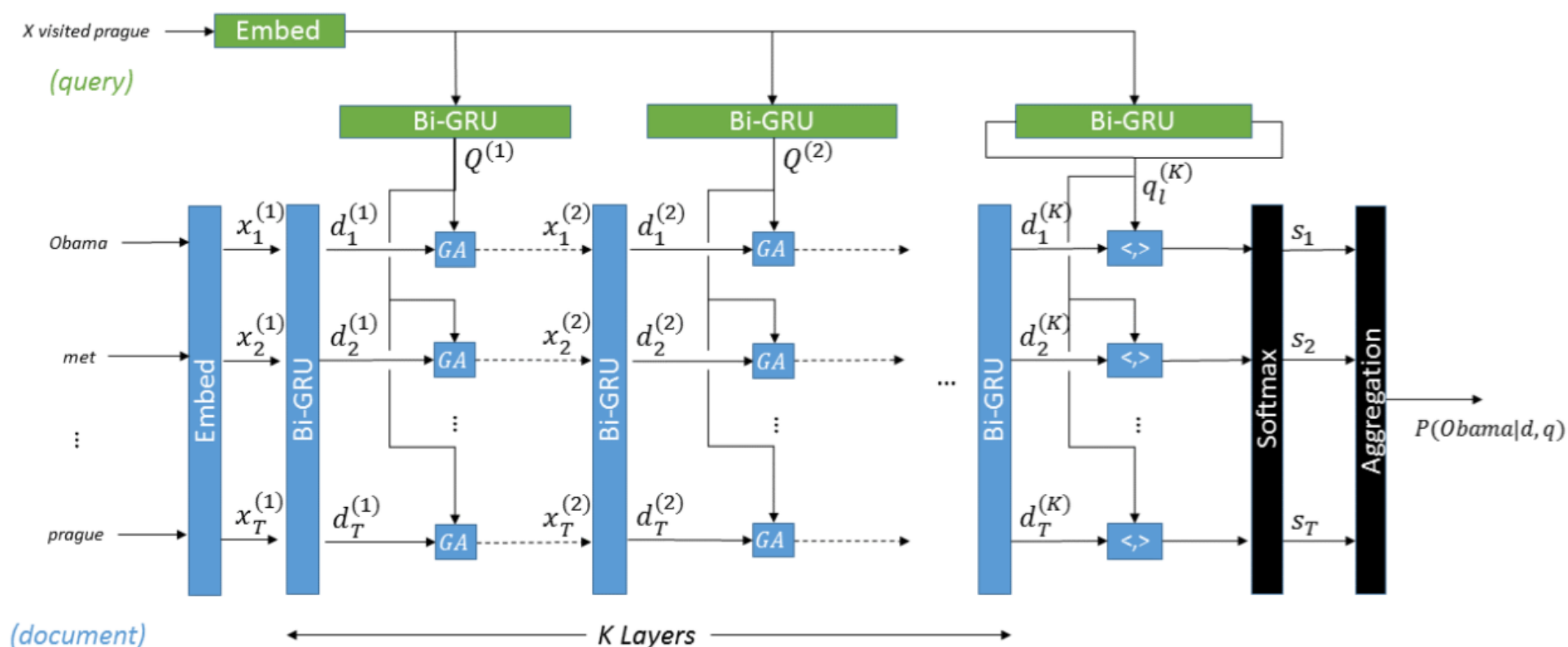
$$\tilde{q}_i = Q \alpha_i$$

$$x_i = d_i \odot \tilde{q}_i$$

- use the element-wise multiplication operator to model the interactions between d_i and \tilde{q}_i

Multi-hop Architecture

- Many QA tasks require reasoning over multiple sentences.
- Need to performs several passes over the context.



Affect of Multiplicative Gating

- Performance of different gating functions on “Who did What” (WDW) dataset.

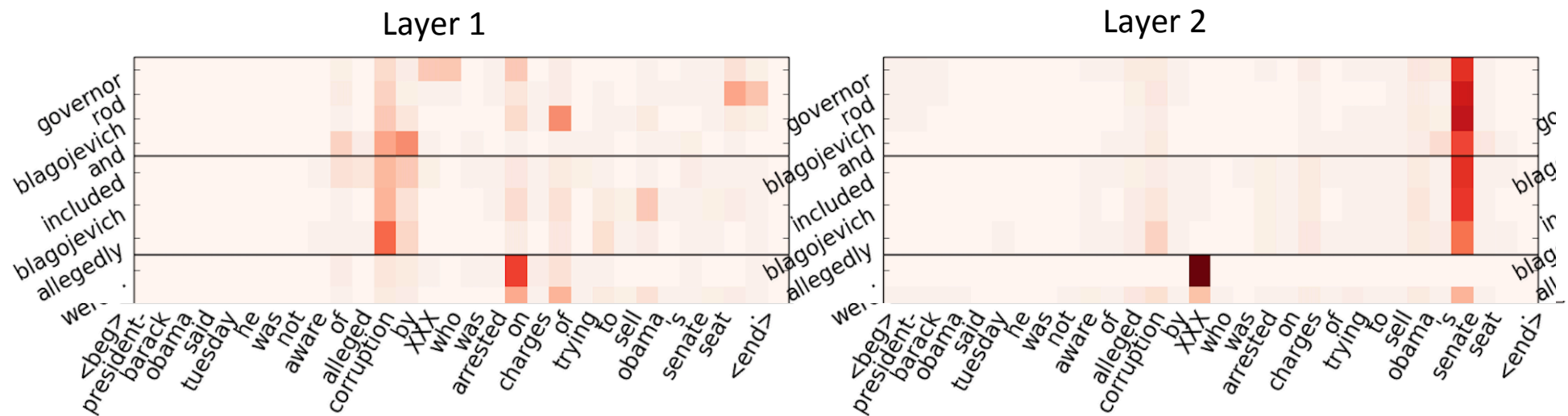
Gating Function	Accuracy	
	Val	Test
Sum	64.9	64.5
Concatenate	64.4	63.7
Multiply	68.3	68.0

Model	Strict		Relaxed	
	Val	Test	Val	Test
Human †	–	84.0	–	–
Attentive Reader †	–	53.0	–	55.0
AS Reader †	–	57.0	–	59.0
Stanford AR †	–	64.0	–	65.0
NSE †	66.5	66.2	67.0	66.7
GA-- †	–	57.0	–	60.0
GA (update $L(w)$)	67.8	67.0	67.0	66.6
GA (fix $L(w)$)	68.3	68.0	69.6	69.1
GA (+feature, update $L(w)$)	70.1	69.5	70.9	71.0
GA (+feature, fix $L(w)$)	71.6	71.2	72.6	72.6

Model	CNN		Daily Mail		CBT-NE		CBT-CN	
	Val	Test	Val	Test	Val	Test	Val	Test
Humans (query) †	–	–	–	–	–	52.0	–	64.4
Humans (context + query) †	–	–	–	–	–	81.6	–	81.6
LSTMs (context + query) †	–	–	–	–	51.2	41.8	62.6	56.0
Deep LSTM Reader †	55.0	57.0	63.3	62.2	–	–	–	–
Attentive Reader †	61.6	63.0	70.5	69.0	–	–	–	–
Impatient Reader †	61.8	63.8	69.0	68.0	–	–	–	–
MemNets †	63.4	66.8	–	–	70.4	66.6	64.2	63.0
AS Reader †	68.6	69.5	75.0	73.9	73.8	68.6	68.8	63.4
DER Network †	71.3	72.9	–	–	–	–	–	–
Stanford AR (relabeling) †	73.8	73.6	77.6	76.6	–	–	–	–
Iterative Attentive Reader †	72.6	73.3	–	–	75.2	68.6	72.1	69.2
EpiReader †	73.4	74.0	–	–	75.3	69.7	71.5	67.4
AoA Reader †	73.1	74.4	–	–	77.8	72.0	72.2	69.4
ReasonNet †	72.9	74.7	77.6	76.6	–	–	–	–
NSE †	–	–	–	–	78.2	73.2	74.3	71.9
MemNets (ensemble) †	66.2	69.4	–	–	–	–	–	–
AS Reader (ensemble) †	73.9	75.4	78.7	77.7	76.2	71.0	71.1	68.9
Stanford AR (relabeling,ensemble) †	77.2	77.6	80.2	79.2	–	–	–	–
Iterative Attentive Reader (ensemble) †	75.2	76.1	–	–	76.9	72.0	74.1	71.0
EpiReader (ensemble) †	–	–	–	–	76.6	71.8	73.6	70.6
AS Reader (+BookTest) † ‡	–	–	–	–	80.5	76.2	83.2	80.8
AS Reader (+BookTest,ensemble) † ‡	–	–	–	–	82.3	78.4	85.7	83.7
GA--	73.0	73.8	76.7	75.7	74.9	69.0	69.0	63.9
GA (update $L(w)$)	77.9	77.9	81.5	80.9	76.7	70.1	69.8	67.3
GA (fix $L(w)$)	77.9	77.8	80.4	79.6	77.2	71.4	71.6	68.0
GA Reader (+feature, update $L(w)$)	77.3	76.9	80.7	80.0	77.2	73.3	73.0	69.8
GA Reader (+feature, fix $L(w)$)	76.7	77.4	80.0	79.3	78.5	74.9	74.4	70.7

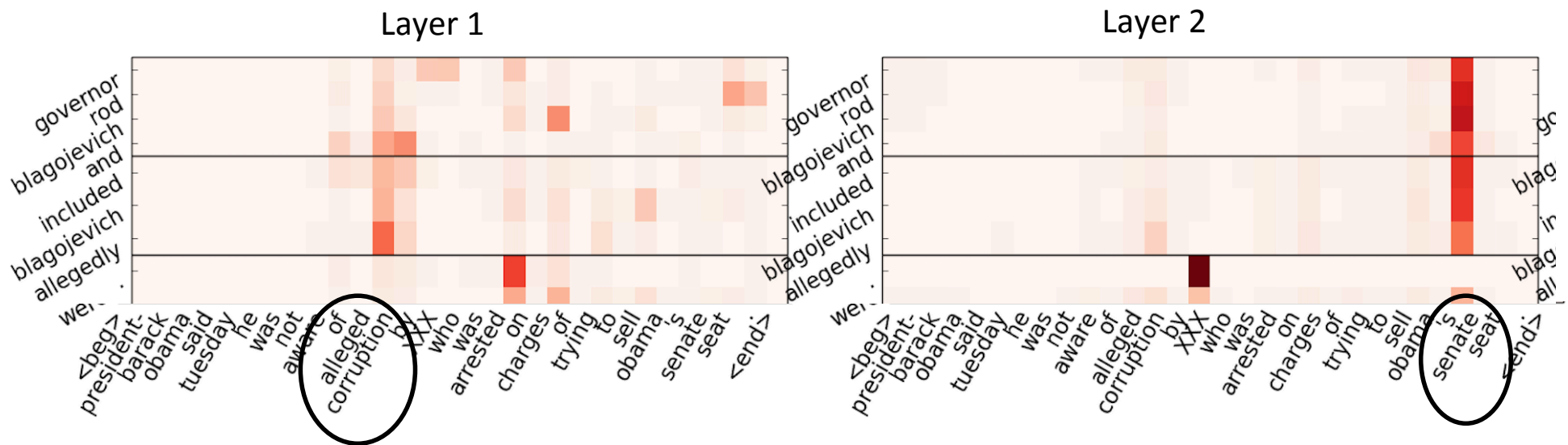
Analysis of Attention

- **Context:** “...arrested Illinois governor **Rod Blagojevich** and his chief of staff John Harris on corruption charges ... included **Blagojevich** allegedly conspiring to sell or trade the senate seat left vacant by President-elect Barack Obama...”
- **Query:** “President-elect Barack Obama said Tuesday he was not aware of alleged corruption by **X** who was arrested on charges of trying to sell Obama’s senate seat.”
- **Answer:** Rod Blagojevich



Analysis of Attention

- **Context:** “...arrested Illinois **governor Rod Blagojevich** and his chief of staff John Harris on corruption charges ... **included Blagojevich** allegedly conspiring to sell or trade the **senate seat** left vacant by President-elect Barack Obama...”
- **Query:** “President-elect Barack Obama said Tuesday he was not aware of **alleged corruption** by **X** who was arrested on charges of trying to sell Obama’s **senate seat**.”
- **Answer:** Rod Blagojevich



Code + Data: <https://github.com/bdhingra/ga-reader>

Words vs. Characters

- **Word-level** representations are good at learning the semantics of the tokens
- **Character-level** representations are more suitable for modeling sub-word morphologies (“cat” vs. “cats”)
- Hybrid word-character models have been shown to be successful in various NLP tasks (Yang et al., 2016a, Miyamoto & Cho (2016), Ling et al., 2015)

Fine-Grained Gating

- Fine-grained gating mechanism:

$$\mathbf{h} = \mathbf{g} \odot \mathbf{c} + (1 - \mathbf{g}) \odot (\mathbf{E}\mathbf{w})$$

Character - level
representation

Gating

Word- level
representation

$$\mathbf{g} = \sigma(\mathbf{W}_g \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{b}_g)$$

Additional features: named entity tags, part- of-
speech tags, document frequency vectors, word
look-up representations

Children's Book Test (CBC) Dataset

Model	CN dev	CN test	NE dev	NE test
GA word char concat	0.731	0.696	0.768	0.725
GA word char feat concat	0.7250	0.6928	0.7815	0.7256
GA scalar gate	0.7240	0.6908	0.7810	0.7260
GA fine-grained gate	0.7425	0.7084	0.7890	0.7464
FG fine-grained gate	0.7530	0.7204	0.7910	0.7496
Sordoni et al. (2016)	0.721	0.692	0.752	0.686
Trischler et al. (2016)	0.715	0.674	0.753	0.697
Cui et al. (2016)	0.722	0.694	0.778	0.720
Munkhdalai & Yu (2016)	0.743	0.719	0.782	0.732
Kadlec et al. (2016) ensemble	0.711	0.689	0.762	0.710
Sordoni et al. (2016) ensemble	0.741	0.710	0.769	0.720
Trischler et al. (2016) ensemble	0.736	0.706	0.766	0.718

Words vs. Characters

- High gate values: character-level representations
- Low gate values: word-level representations.

Gate values	Word tokens
Lowest	or but But These these However however among Among that when When although Although because Because until many Many than though Though this This Since since date where Where have That and And Such such number so which by By how before Before with With between Between even Even if
Highest	Sweetgum Untersee Jianlong Floresta Chlorella Obersee PhT Doctorin Jumonville WFTS WTSP Boven Pharm Nederrijn Otrar Rhin Magicicada WBKB Tanzler KMBC WPLG Mainau Merwede RMJM Kleitman Scheur Bodensee Kromme Horenbout Vorderrhein Chlamydomonas Scantlebury Qingshui Funchess

Talk Roadmap

- Multiplicative and Fine-grained Attention
- Linguistic Knowledge as Explicit Memory for RNNs
- Generative Domain-Adaptive Nets

Broad-Context Language Modeling

Her plain face broke into a huge smile when she saw Terry.

“Terry!” she called out.

She rushed to meet him and they embraced.

“Hon, I want you to meet an old friend, Owen McKenna.

Owen, please meet Emily.”

She gave me a quick nod and turned back to **X**

Broad-Context Language Modeling

Her plain face broke into a huge smile when she saw **Terry**.

“Terry!” she called out.

She rushed to meet him and they embraced.

“Hon, I want you to meet an old friend, **Owen** McKenna.

Owen, please meet **Emily**.”

She gave me a quick nod and turned back to **X**

Broad-Context Language Modeling

Her plain face broke into a huge smile when she saw **Terry**.

“**Terry!**” she called out.

She rushed to meet him and they embraced.

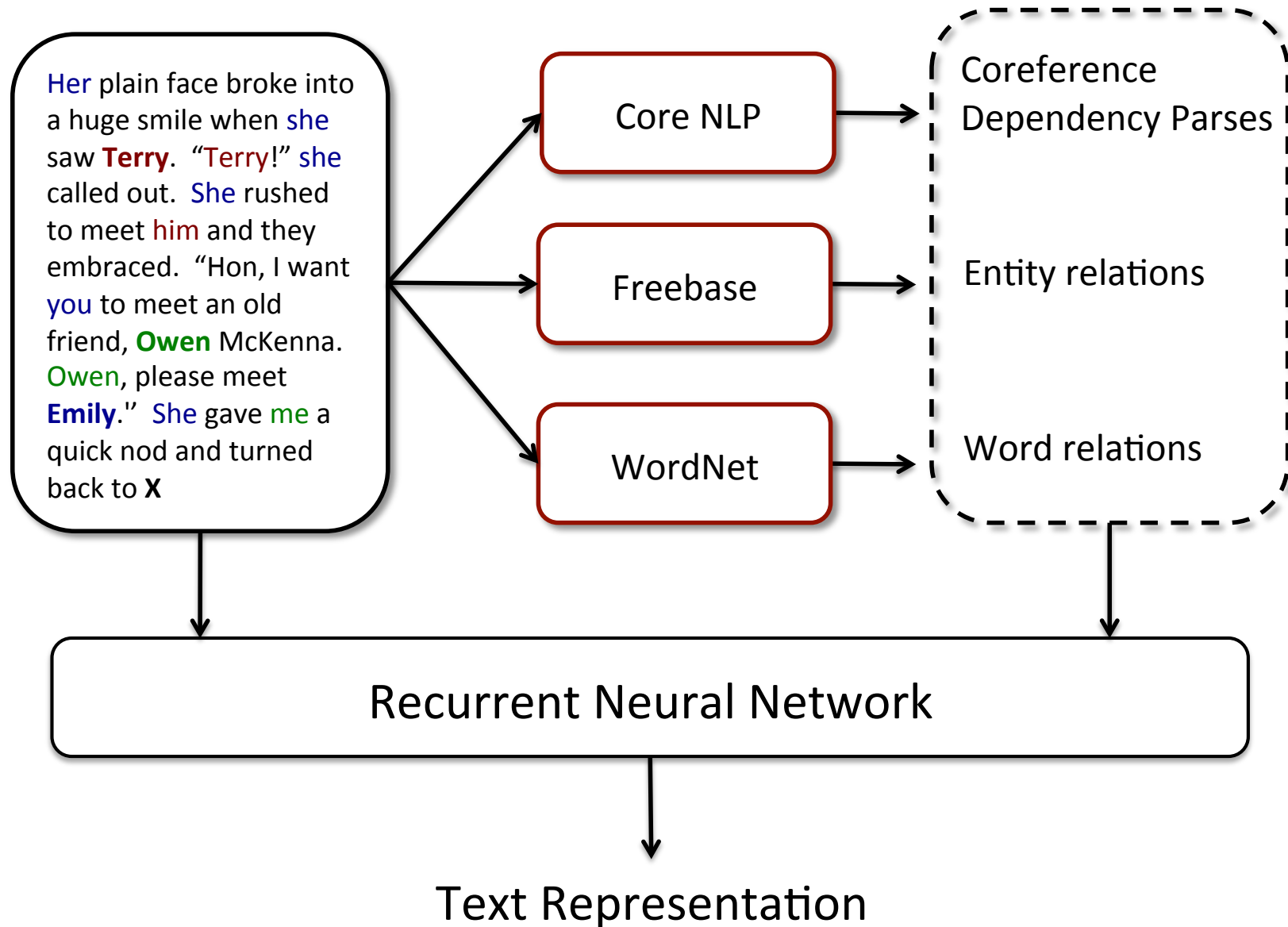
“Hon, I want you to meet an old friend, **Owen** McKenna.

Owen, please meet **Emily**.”

She gave me a quick nod and turned back to **X**

X = Terry

Incorporating Prior Knowledge



Incorporating Prior Knowledge

Mary — got — the — football

She — went — to — the — kitchen

She — left — the — ball — there

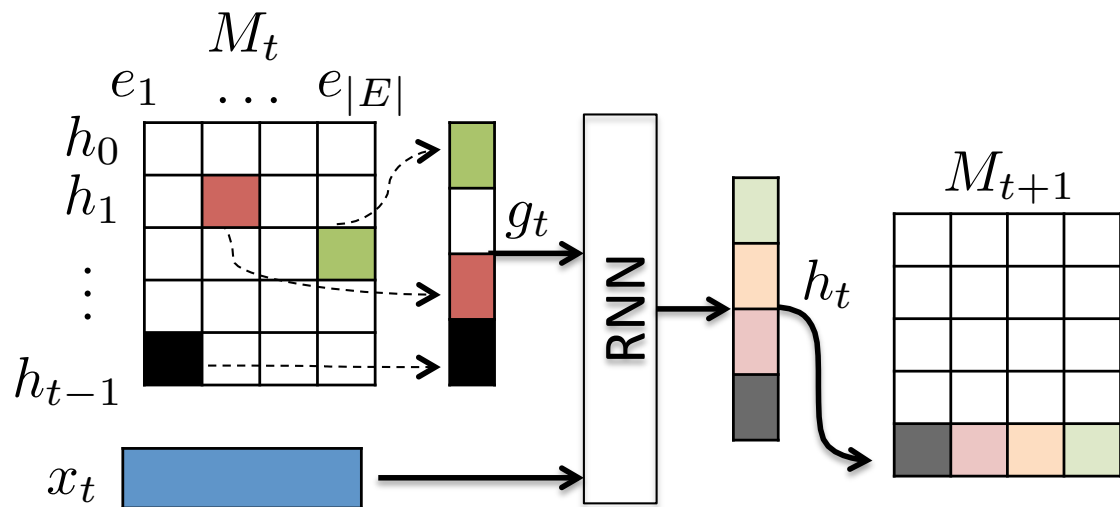
- RNN
- Coreference
- Hyper/Hyponymy

Incorporating Prior Knowledge

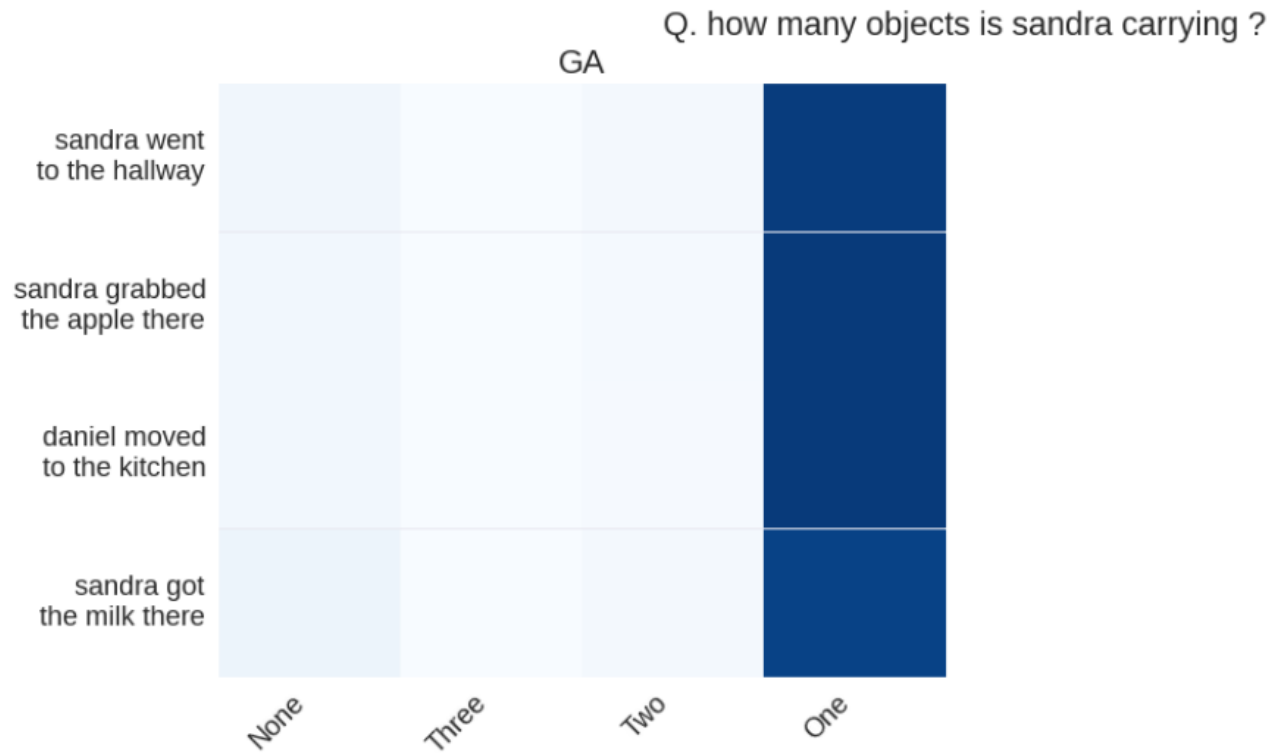
Mary — got — the — football
 She — went — to — the — kitchen
 She — left — the — ball — there

- RNN
- Coreference
- Hyper/Hyponymy

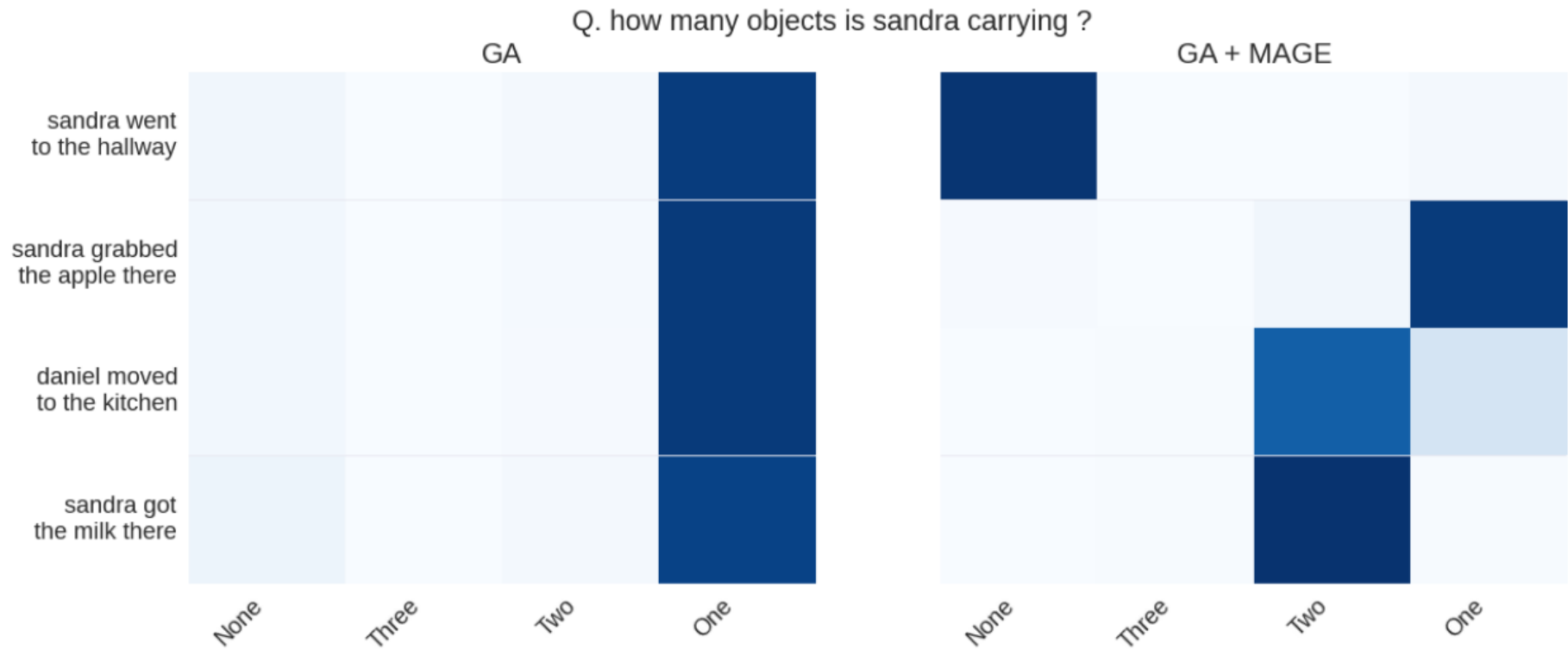
**Memory as Acyclic Graph
Encoding (MAGE) - RNN**



Learned Representation



Learned Representation



Talk Roadmap

- Multiplicative and Fine-grained Attention
- Linguistic Knowledge as Explicit Memory for RNNs
- Generative Domain-Adaptive Nets

Extractive Question Answering

In meteorology, precipitation is any product of the condensation of atmospheric water vapor that falls under **gravity**. The main forms of precipitation include drizzle, rain, sleet, snow, and hail... Precipitation forms as smaller droplets coalesce via collision with other rain drops or ice crystals within a cloud. Short, intense periods of rain in scattered locations are called “showers”

What causes precipitation to fall?
gravity

- Given a paragraph/question, extract a span of text as the answer
- Expensive to obtain large labeled datasets
- SOTA approaches rely on large labeled datasets

Leverage Unlabeled Text

Pittsburgh Steelers

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
(Redirected from [Steelers](#))

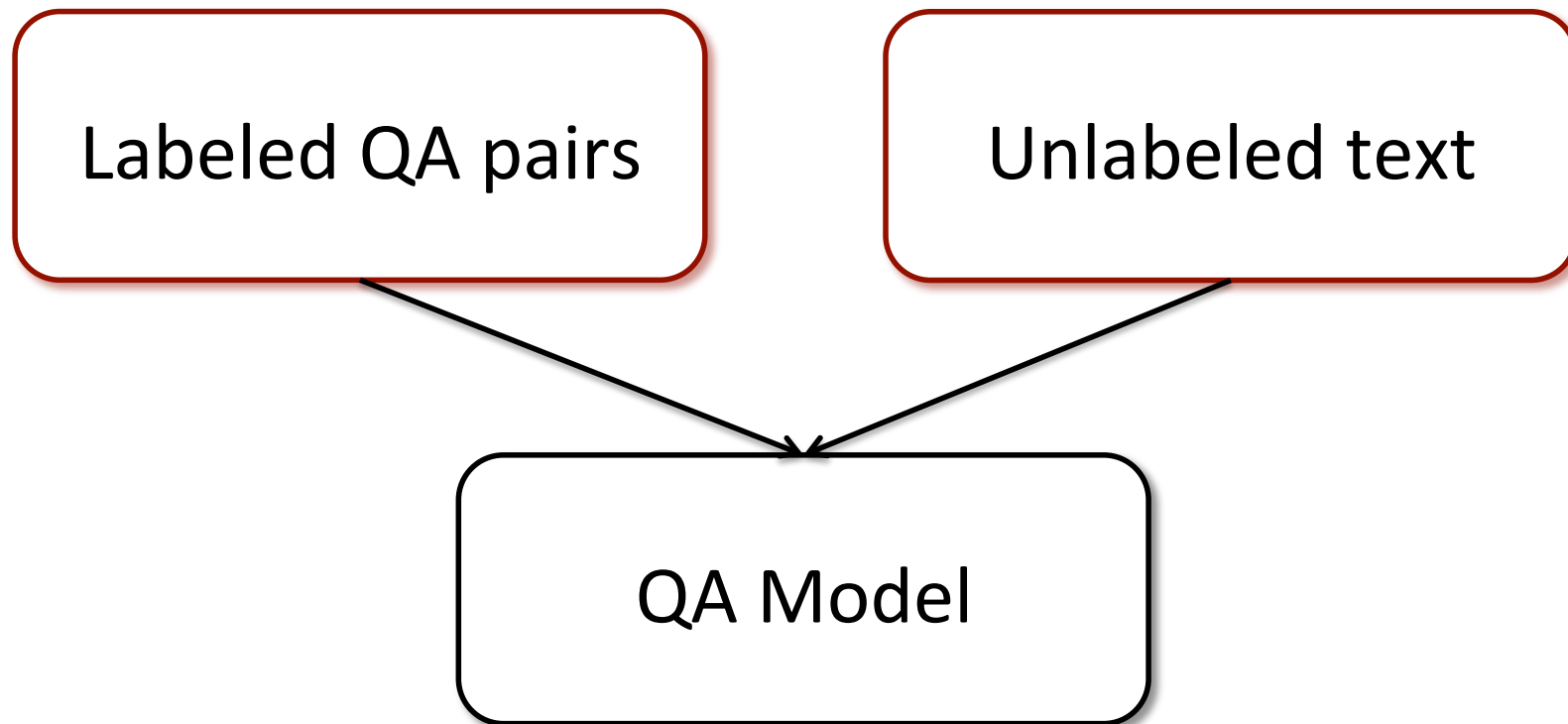
"Steelers" redirects here. For other uses, see [Steelers \(disambiguation\)](#).

The **Pittsburgh Steelers** are a professional [American football](#) team based in [Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania](#). [Conference \(AFC\) North](#) division. Founded in [1933](#), the Steelers are the oldest franchise in the AFC.

In contrast with their status as perennial also-rans in the pre-[merger](#) NFL, where they were the oldest te successful NFL franchises. Pittsburgh has won more [Super Bowl](#) titles (6) and hosted more conference [Denver Broncos](#), but behind the [New England Patriots](#) record 9 AFC championships. They share the rec record for second most Super Bowl appearances with the Broncos, and [Dallas Cowboys](#) (8), but again t

- Almost unlimited unlabeled text.

Semi-Supervised QA



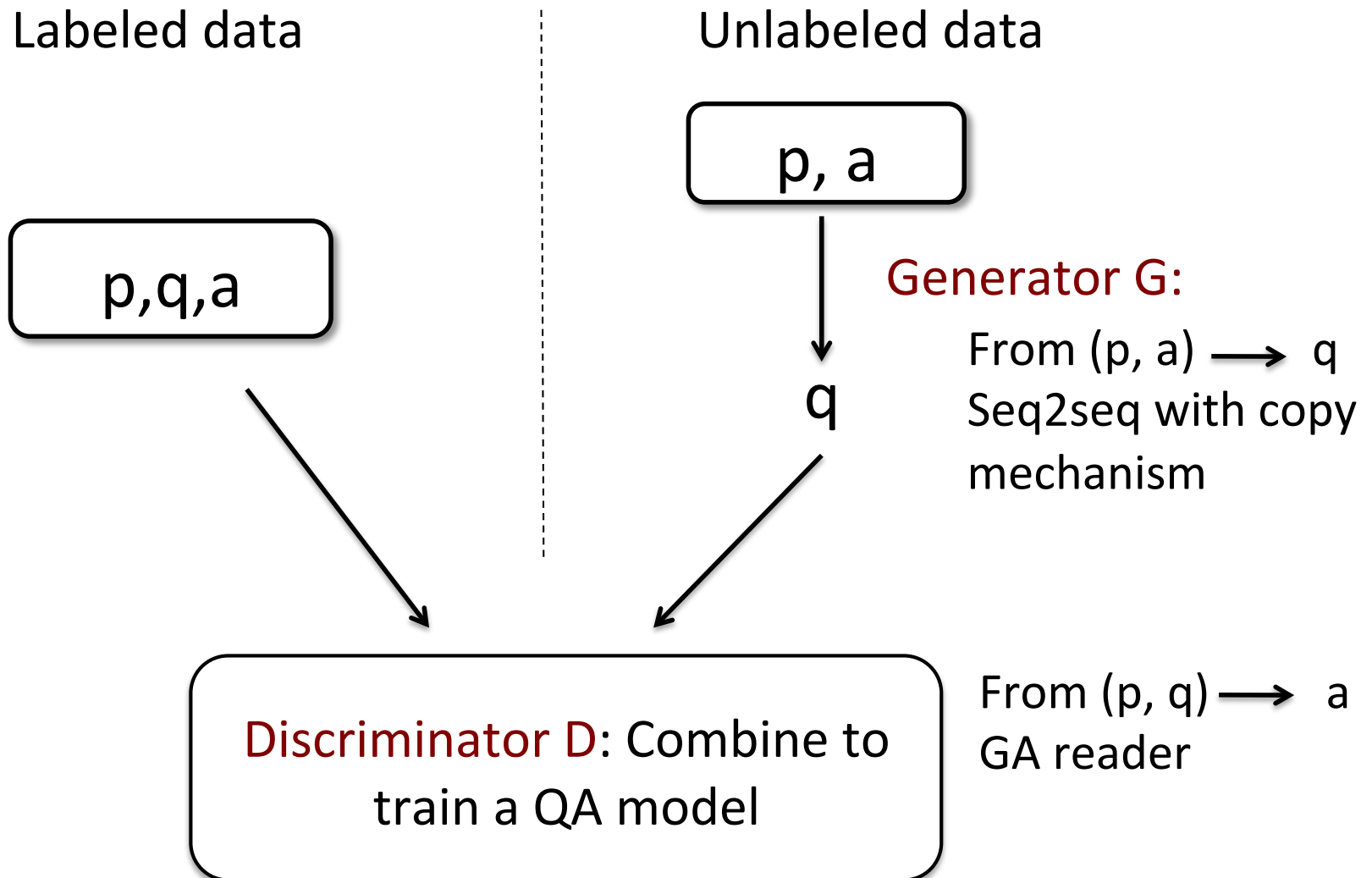
Extractive Question Answering

In meteorology, precipitation is any product of the condensation of atmospheric water vapor that falls under **gravity**. The main forms of precipitation include drizzle, rain, sleet, snow, and hail... Precipitation forms as smaller droplets coalesce via collision with other rain drops or ice crystals within a cloud. Short, intense periods of rain in scattered locations are called “showers”

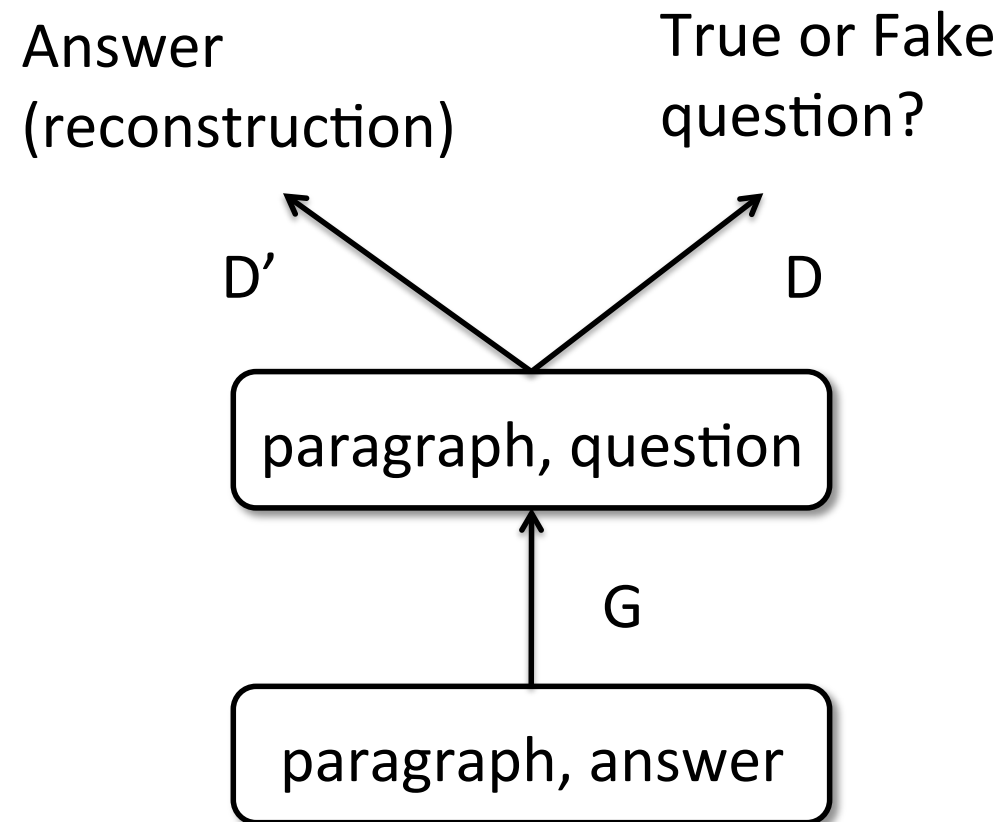
What causes precipitation to fall?
gravity

- Use POS/NER/parsing to extract possible answer chunks
- Anything can be the answers
- We will assume that answers are available.

Generating Questions



Baseline: GANs



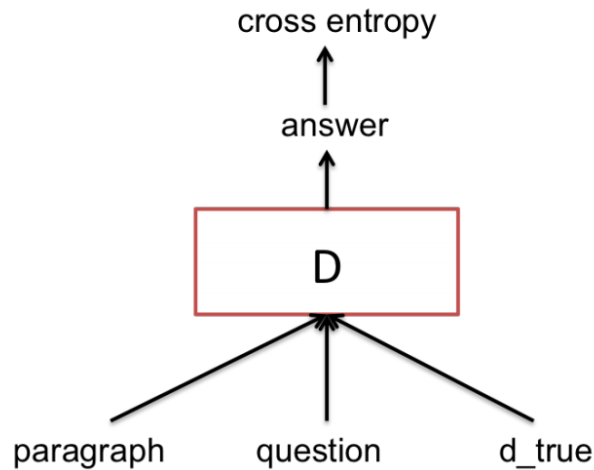
Generative Domain-Adaptive Nets (GDANs)

$$\max_D \mathbb{E}_{data} \log p_D(y|x, \text{d_true}) + \mathbb{E}_G \log p_D(y|x, \text{d_gen})$$

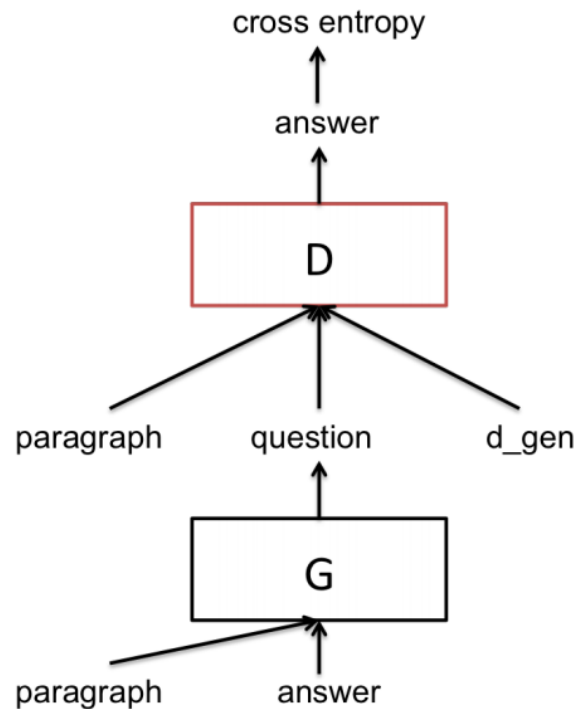
$$\max_G \mathbb{E}_G \log p_D(y|x, \text{d_true})$$

Unlabeled Data

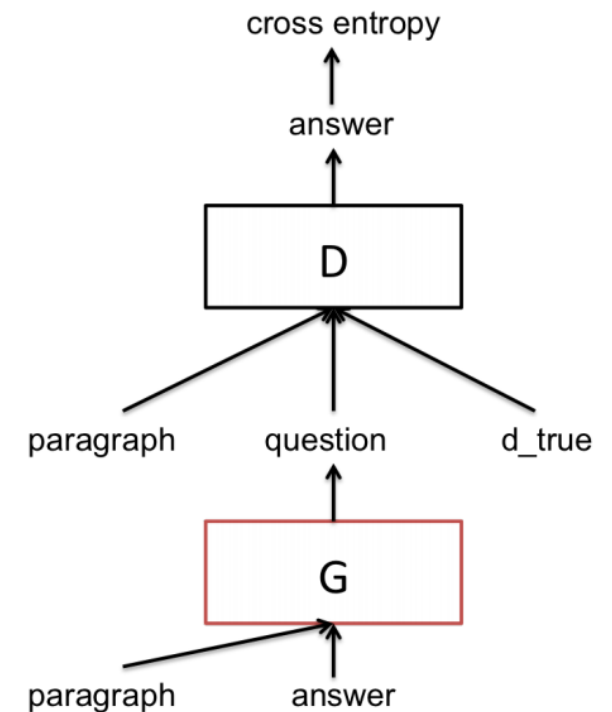
Labeled Data



Train D



Train D



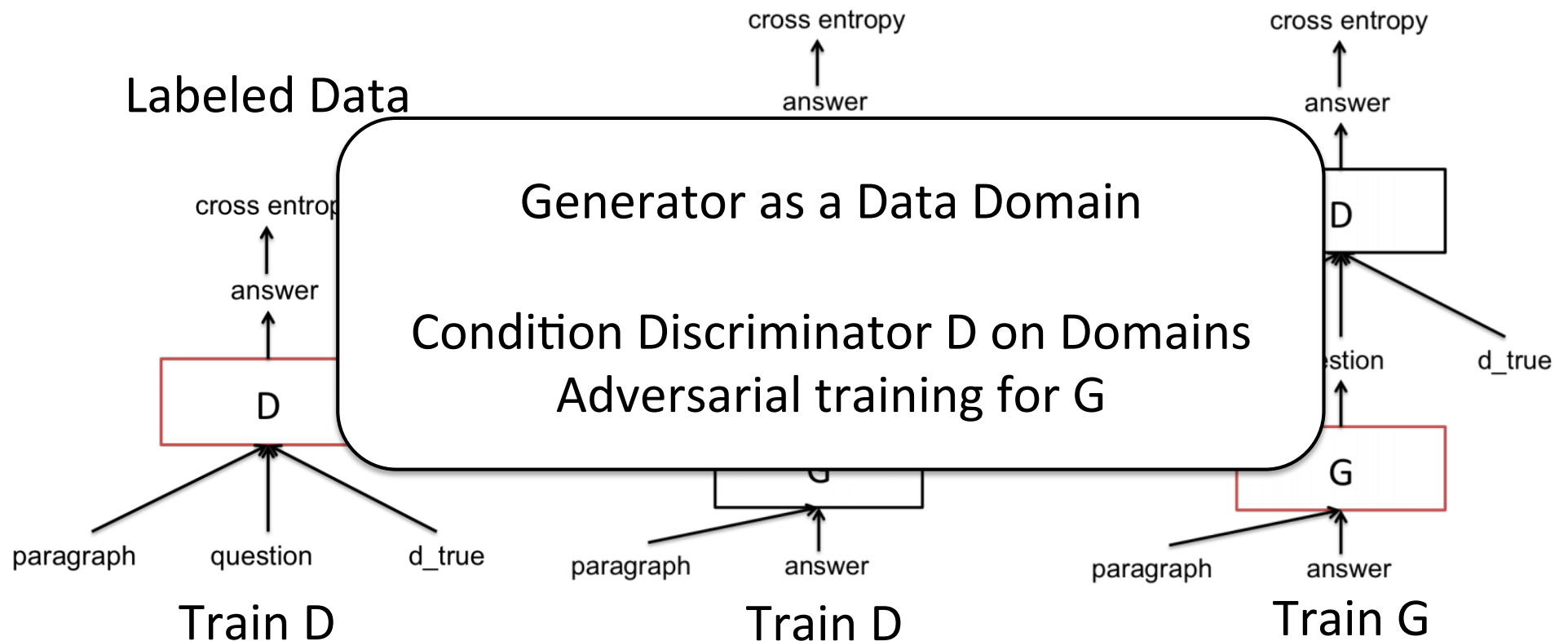
Train G

Generative Domain-Adaptive Nets (GDANs)

$$\max_D \mathbb{E}_{data} \log p_D(y|x, \text{d_true}) + \mathbb{E}_G \log p_D(y|x, \text{d_gen})$$

$$\max_G \mathbb{E}_G \log p_D(y|x, \text{d_true})$$

Unlabeled Data



Examples

Context: "...an additional warming of the Earth's surface. They calculate with confidence that CO₂ has been responsible for over half the enhanced greenhouse effect. They predict that under a "business as usual" scenario,..."

Answer: over half

Question: what the enhanced greenhouse effect that CO₂ been responsible for?

Ground True Q: How much of the greenhouse effect is due to carbon dioxide?

Context: "... in 0000 , bankamericard was renamed and spun off into a separate company known today as visa inc."

Answer: visa inc .

Question: what was the separate company bankamericard?

Ground True Q: what present-day company did bankamericard turn into?

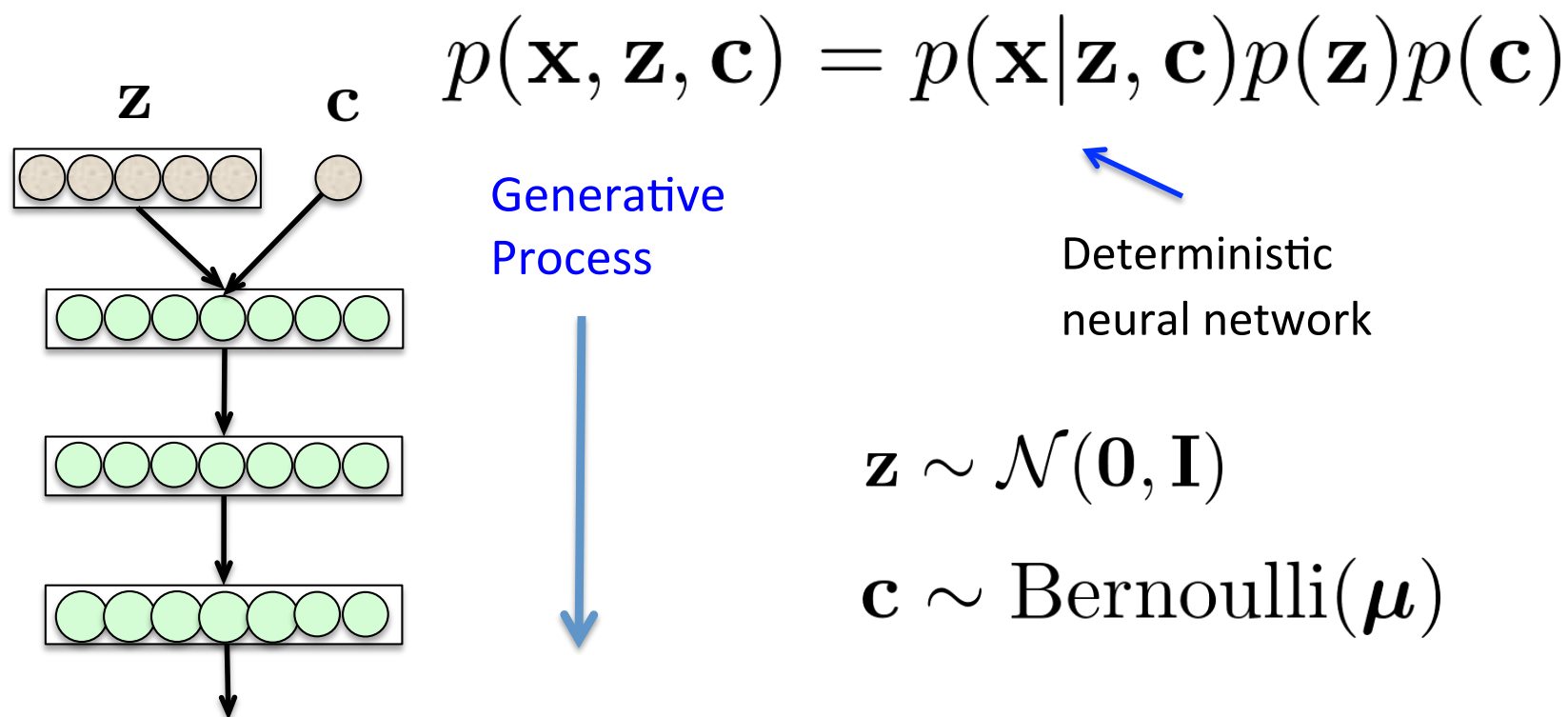
SQuAD dataset

- SQuAD dataset: 87,636 training, 10,600 development instances
- Use 50K unlabelled examples.

Labeling rate	Method	Test F1	Exact Matching
0.1	Supervised	0.3815	0.2492
0.1	Context	0.4515	0.2966
0.1	Gen + GAN	0.4373	0.2885
0.1	GDAN	0.4802	0.3218
0.5	Supervised	0.5722	0.4187
0.5	Context	0.5740	0.4195
0.5	Gen + GAN	0.5590	0.4044
0.5	GDAN	0.5831	0.4267

Variational Autoencoder (VAE)

- Transform samples from some simple distribution (e.g. normal) to the data manifold:



The movie was
awful and boring

VAE for Text Generation

- Sample c , fix z .

Varying the code of sentiment	Varying the code of tense
this movie was awful and boring . this movie was funny and touching .	this was one of the outstanding thrillers of the last decade this is one of the outstanding thrillers of the all time this will be one of the great thrillers of the all time
jackson is n't very good with documentary jackson is superb as a documentary productions	i thought the movie was too bland and too much i guess the movie is too bland and too much i guess the film will have been too bland
you will regret it you will enjoy it	

VAE for Text Generation

- Sample z , fix c .

Varying the unstructured code z

(*“negative”, “past”*)

the acting was also kind of hit or miss .
i wish i ’d never seen it
by the end i was so lost i just did n’t care anymore

(*“negative”, “present”*)

the movie is very close to the show in plot and characters
the era seems impossibly distant
i think by the end of the film , it has confused itself

(*“negative”, “future”*)

i wo n’t watch the movie
and that would be devastating !
i wo n’t get into the story because there really is n’t one

(*“positive”, “past”*)

his acting was impeccable
this was spectacular , i saw it in theaters twice
it was a lot of fun

(*“positive”, “present”*)

this is one of the better dance films
i ’ve always been a big fan of the smart dialogue .
i recommend you go see this, especially if you hurt

(*“positive”, “future”*)

i hope he ’ll make more movies in the future
i will definitely be buying this on dvd
you will be thinking about it afterwards, i promise you

Thank you