

提示工程

CS2916 大语言模型

饮水思源 愛國榮校

<https://plms.ai/teaching/index.html>



提示学习



Andrej Karpathy

the hottest new programming language is English



李彦宏

未来的编程语言只会剩下两种：一种叫英文，一种叫中文



DALL·E, GPT-3 + Midjourney Prompt Marketplace

Find top prompts, produce better results, save on API costs, make money selling prompts.

[Sell a prompt](#)

[Find a prompt](#)

DALL-E

Heroes And Villains Are Babies

1 Favorites 9 Views

35 words V3 Tested Tips HQ images

@mylab

Your fictional heroes and villains will turn into beautiful cute babies with this fabulous promise!

\$3.99

Get prompt

"MyLab" text is a watermark and not part of the image.

[Clear Filters](#)

Product

- Prompts
- Bundles
- Apps

Type

- All
- Image
- Text

Sort by

- Trending
- Most Popular
- Newest

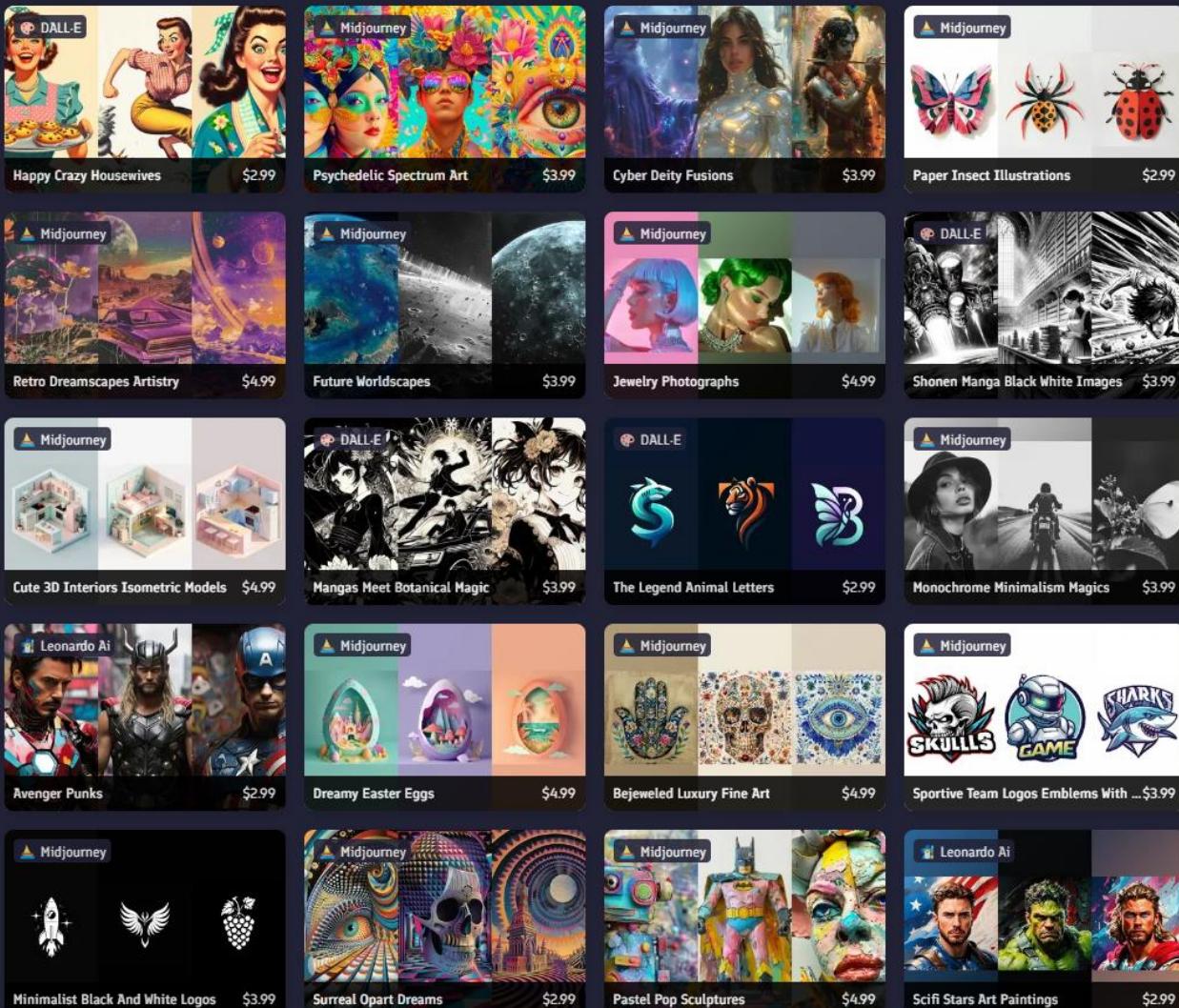
Model

- All
- DALL-E
- GPT
- Leonardo Ai
- Llama
- Midjourney
- Stable Diffusion

Category

- All
- 3D
- Accessory
- Ads
- Animal
- Anime
- Art
- Avatar
- Building
- Business
- Cartoon
- Celebrity
- Chatbot
- Clothes
- Coach

Trending Prompts



What is the “Prompt”?

Prompt meaning

prōmpt



Words form:

[prompted](#)

[promptest](#)

[prompting](#)

[prompts](#)

[See word origin >](#)

The definition of a prompt is a cue given to someone to help him remember what to say, or is something that causes another event or action to occur.

verb

An example of prompt is when you whisper a line to an actor who forgot what to say next.

An example of prompt is an event that starts an argument.



Prompts



Pretrained Language Models (PLMs) and Downstream Task Models

Stages	Downstream Task Models	Pre-trained LMs	Reasons
Traditional machine learning			No pre-training language model



PLMs and Downstream Task Models

Stages	Downstream Task Models	Pre-trained LMs	Reasons
Traditional machine learning			No pre-training language model
Neural network methods enhanced by word2vec			The pre-trained language model plays the role of initializing the input text signal



PLMs and Downstream Task Models

Stages

Downstream Task Models Pre-trained LMs

Reasons

Traditional machine learning



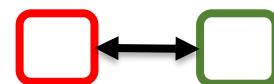
No pre-training language model

Neural network methods enhanced by word2vec



The pre-trained language model plays the role of initializing the input text signal

The fine-tune method represented by BERT



The pre-trained language model is **responsible for extracting** high-level features from the input text



PLMs and Downstream Task Models

Stages

Downstream Task Models Pre-trained LMs

Reasons

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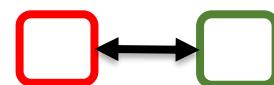
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PLMs and Downstream Task Models

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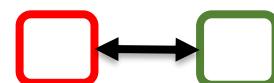
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The pre-trained language model plays the role of initializing the input text signal

The fine-tune method represented by BERT



The pre-trained language model is **responsible for extracting** high-level features from the input text

The prompt approach represented by GPT3



Pre-training language models **take on more responsibilities**: feature extraction, result prediction



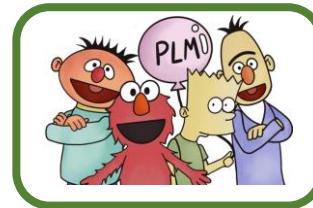
Secret in Modern NLP Development

The history of modern natural language processing is essentially (probably) a history of changes in the relationship between downstream tasks and pre-trained language models (PLMs).



Downstream
Task Models

↔ Closer ↔



Pre-trained
Language Models

- (1) use pre-trained language models
- (2) use a better pre-trained language model
- (3) better use a pre-trained language model

What is the “prompt” in the context of NLP research?

What is the “prompt” in the context of NLP research?

Pre-train, Prompt, and Predict: A Systematic Survey of Prompting Methods in Natural Language Processing

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Pre-train, Prompt, and Predict: A Systematic Survey of Prompting Methods in Natural Language Processing

P Liu, W Yuan, J Fu, Z Jiang, H Hayashi, G Neubig
ACM Computing Surveys

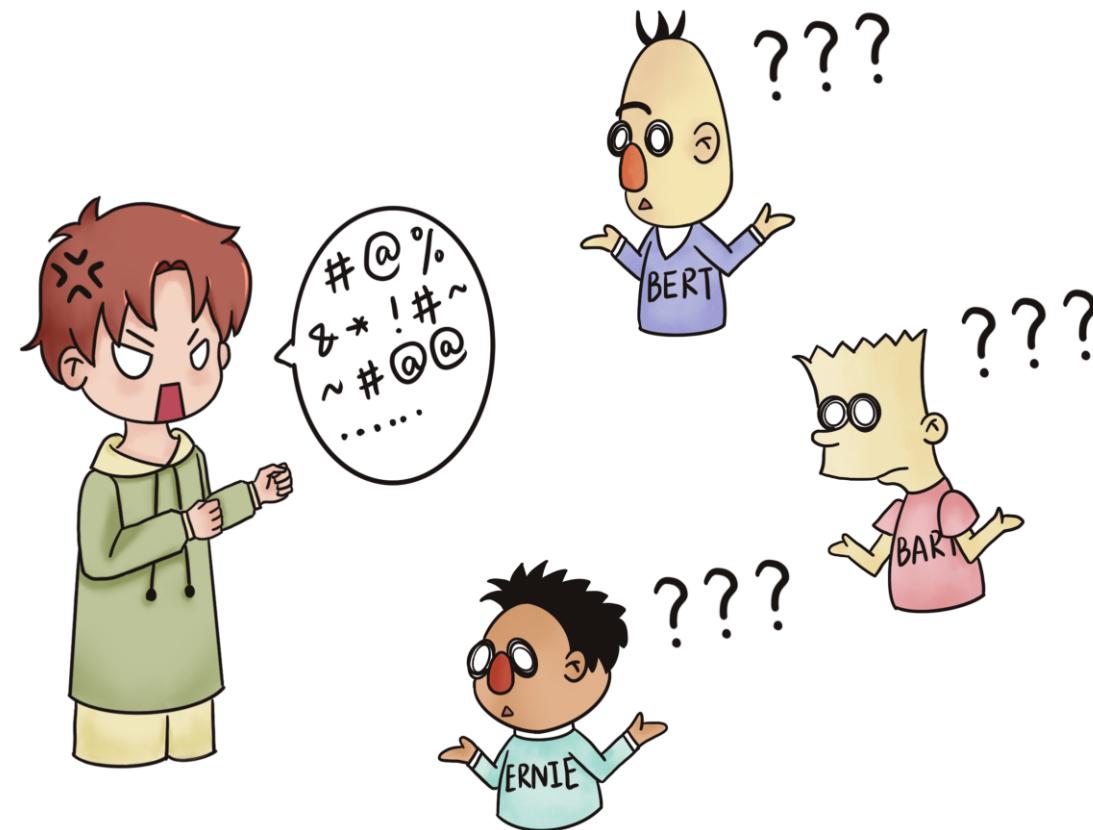
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直观的定义

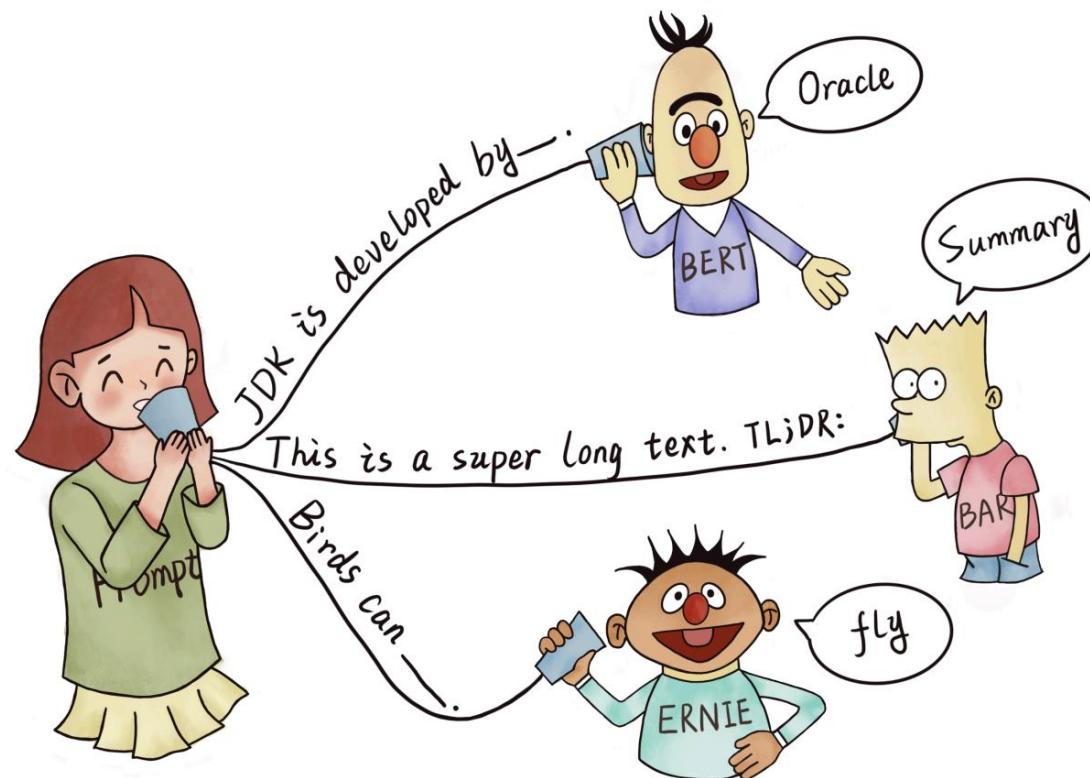
- Prompt is a cue given to the **pre-trained language model** to allow it better understand **human's questions**





直观的定义

- Prompt is a cue given to the **pre-trained language model** to allow it better understand **human's questions**





更技术层面的定义

- Prompt is the technique of making better use of the knowledge from the pre-trained model by adding additional texts to the input.

purpose

Method



更技术层面的定义

- Prompt is the technique of making better use of the knowledge from the pre-trained model by adding additional texts to the input.

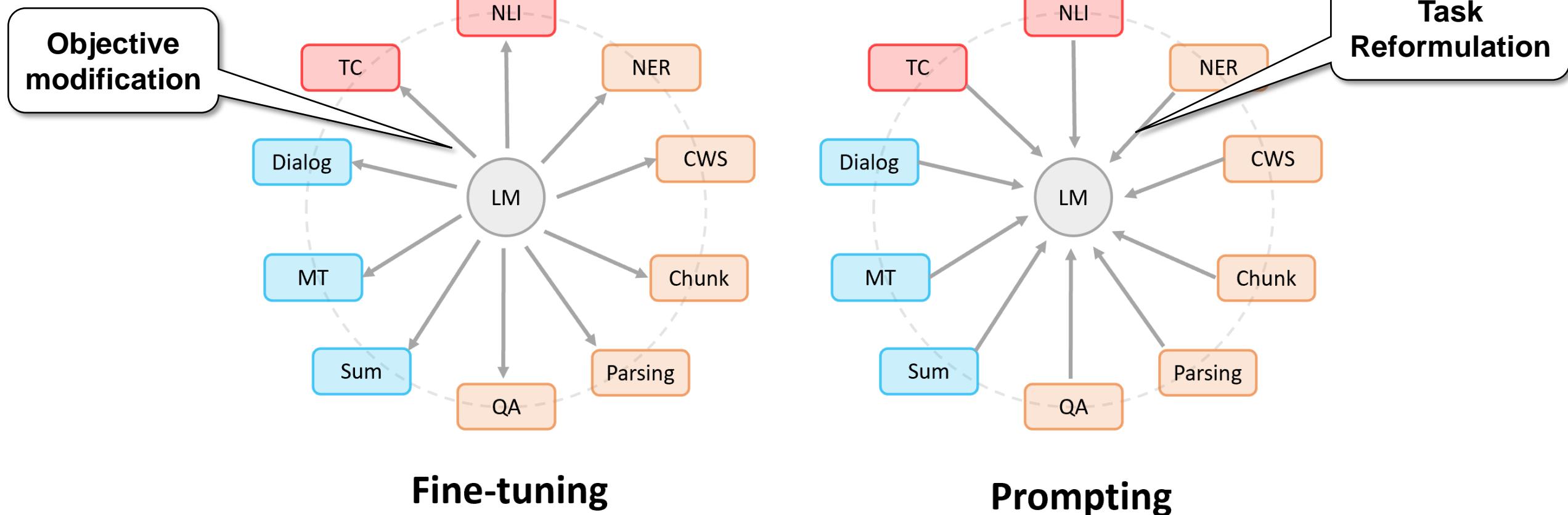
purpose

Method

还有什么好处?



任务的“大一统”



**What is the general workflow of
prompt-based methods?**



Prompting for Sentiment Classification

□ Task Description:

- Input: sentence x ;
- Output: emotional polarity of it
 - (i.e., 😊 v.s 😞)

Input: $x = \text{I love this movie.}$



Prompting for Sentiment Classification

- Transform x into prompt x' through following two steps:
 - Defining a template with two slots: $[x]$ and $[z]$;

Input: $x = \text{I love this movie.}$

Template: $[x]$
Overall, it was a
 $[z]$ movie.



Prompting for Sentiment Classification

- ☐ Transform x into prompt x' through following two steps:



- Defining a template with two slots: $[x]$ and $[z]$;

Require
human effort

Input: $x = \text{I love this movie.}$

Template: $[x]$
Overall, it was a
 $[z]$ movie.



Prompting for Sentiment Classification

- Transform x into prompt x' through following two steps:



- Defining a template with two slots: $[x]$ and $[z]$;
- Instantiate slot $[x]$ with input text

Input: $x = \text{I love this movie.}$

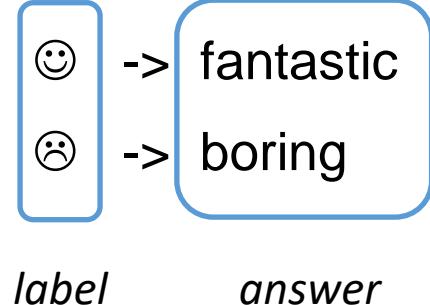
Template: $[x]$
Overall, it was a
 $[z]$ movie.

Prompting: $x' = \text{I love this movie.}$
Overall, it was a $[z]$ movie.



Prompting for Sentiment Classification

- Build a mapping function between answers and class labels.



Input: $x = \text{I love this movie.}$

Template: [x]
Overall, it was a
[z] movie.

Answer:
{fantastic:😊,
boring:☹️}

Prompting: $x' = \text{I love this movie.}$
Overall, it was a [z] movie.



Prompting for Sentiment Classification

- Given a prompt, predict the answer [z].
- Choose a suitable pretrained language model;



Input: $x = \text{I love this movie.}$

Template: $[x]$
Overall, it was a
[z] movie.

Answer:
{fantastic:😊,
boring:😢}

Prompting: $x' = \text{I love this movie.}$
Overall, it was a [z] movie.



Which one?



Prompting for Sentiment Classification

- Given a prompt, predict the answer [z].
- Choose a suitable pretrained language model;
- Fill in [z] as “fantastic”



Input: $x = \text{I love this movie.}$

Template: $[x]$
Overall, it was a
[z] movie.

Answer:
{fantastic:😊,
boring:😔}

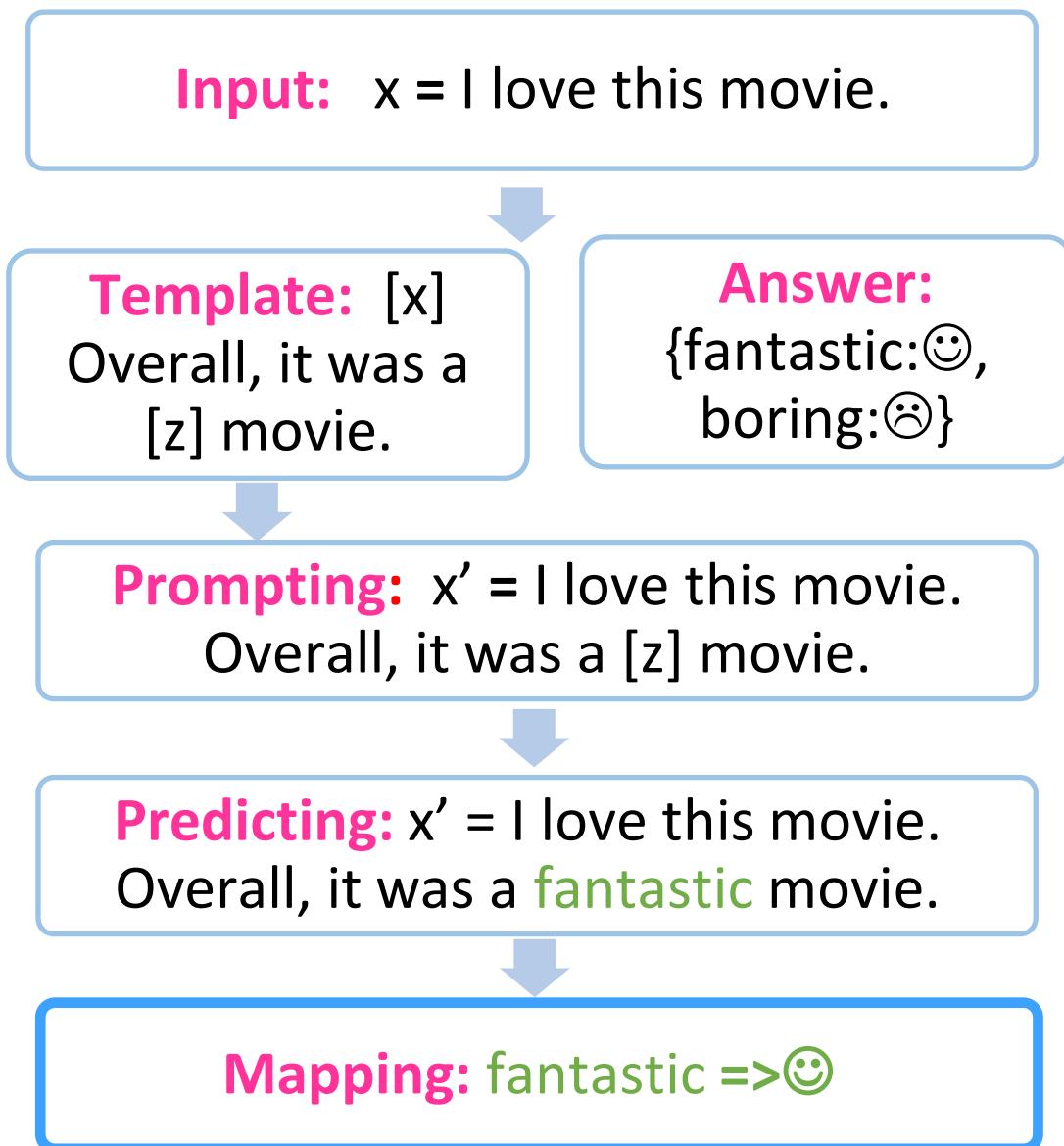
Prompting: $x' = \text{I love this movie.}$
Overall, it was a [z] movie.

Predicting: $x' = \text{I love this movie.}$
Overall, it was a **fantastic** movie.



Prompting for Sentiment Classification

- Mapping: Given an answer, map it into a class label.
 - **fantastic => 😊**



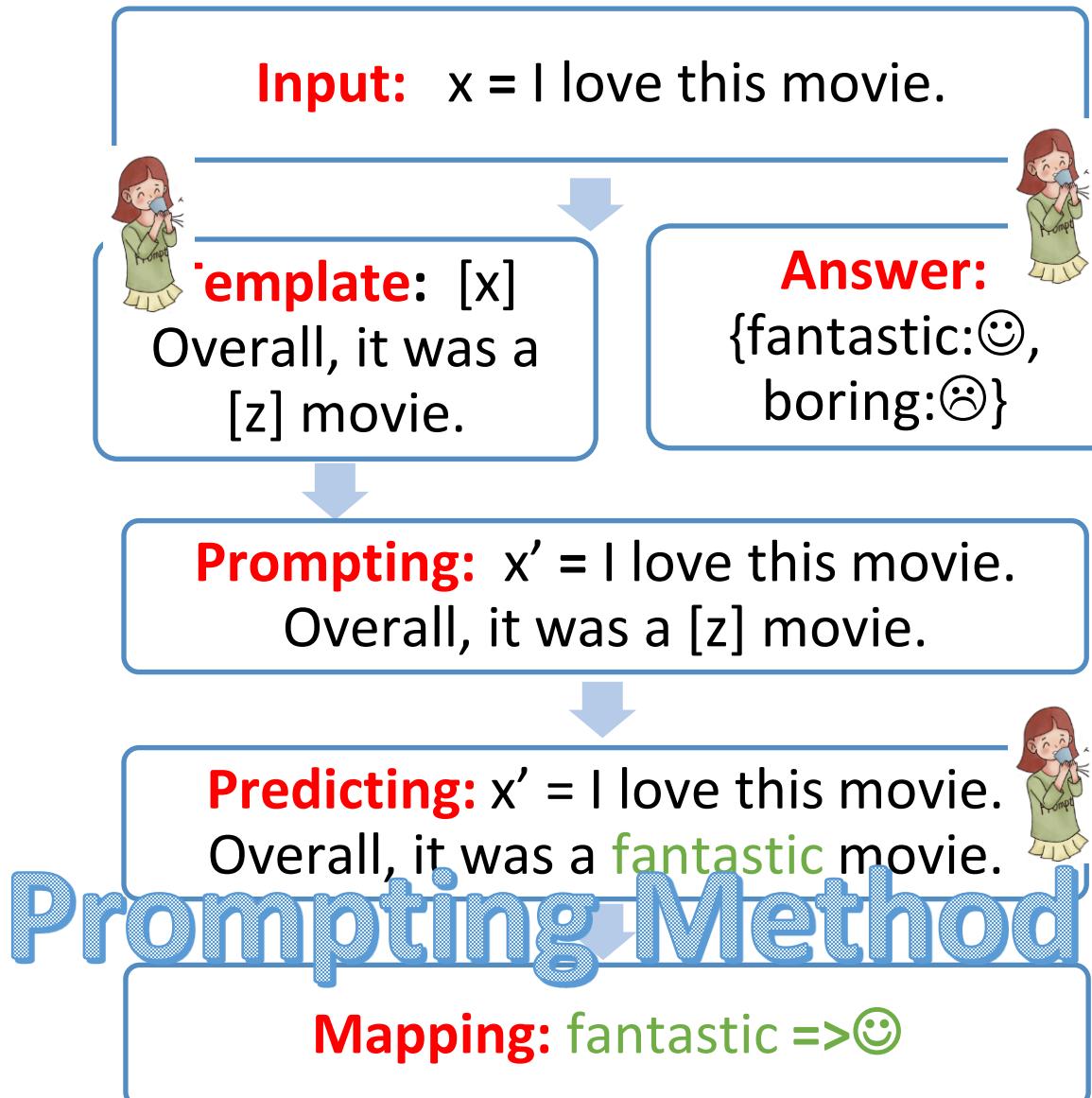


Summary

Terminology	Notation	Example
Input	x	I love this movie
Output (label)	y	😊 😞
Template	-	[x] Overall, it was a [z] movie
Prompt	x'	I love this movie. Overall, it was a [z] movie
Answer	z	fantastic, boring



Rethinking Human Efforts in Prompt-based Methods





Rethinking Human Efforts in Prompt-based Methods

Input: $x = \text{I love this movie.}$



Predicting: 😊

Input: $x = \text{I love this movie.}$



Template: [x]
Overall, it was a
[z] movie.



Answer:
{fantastic:😊,
boring:☹️}



Prompting: $x' = \text{I love this movie.}$
Overall, it was a [z] movie.



Predicting: $x' = \text{I love this movie.}$
Overall, it was a **fantastic** movie.



Prompting Method

Mapping: **fantastic** =>😊

**What are the design considerations
for prompt-based methods?**



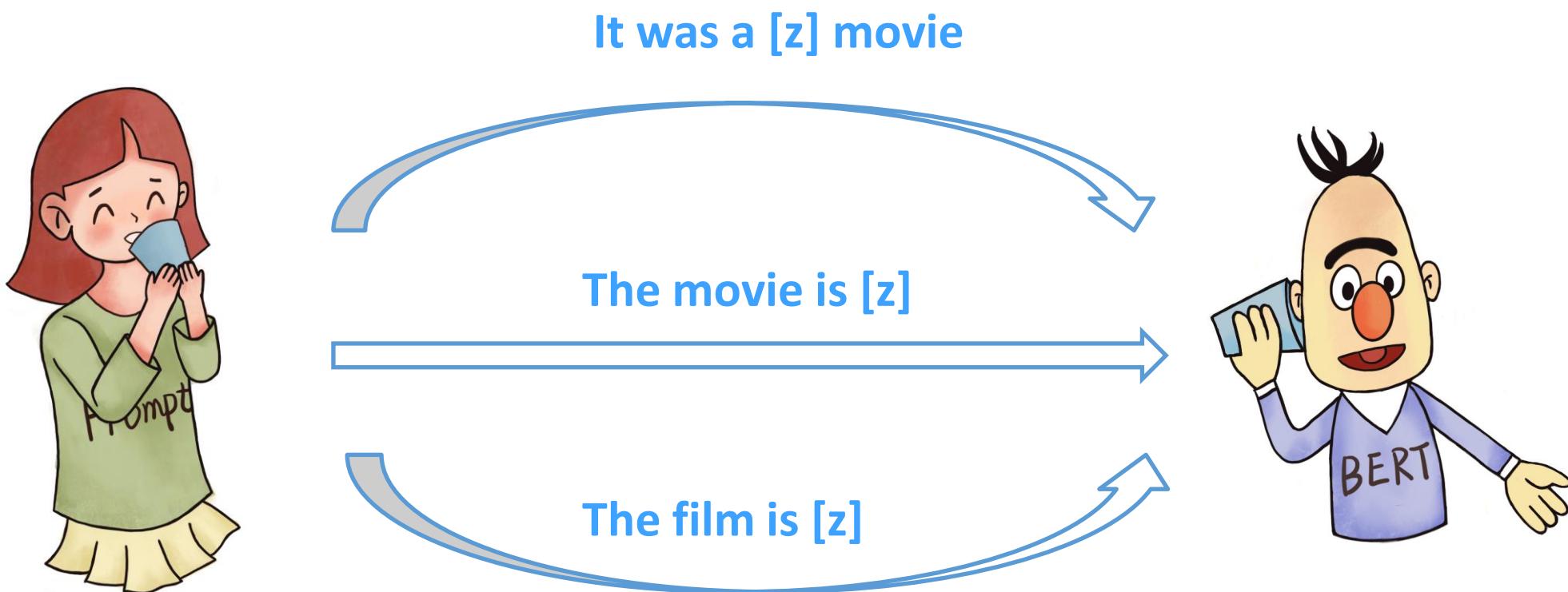
Design Considerations for Prompt-based Methods

- Prompt Template Engineering
- Answer Engineering
- Pre-trained Model Choice
- Expanding the Paradigm
- Prompt-based Training Strategies



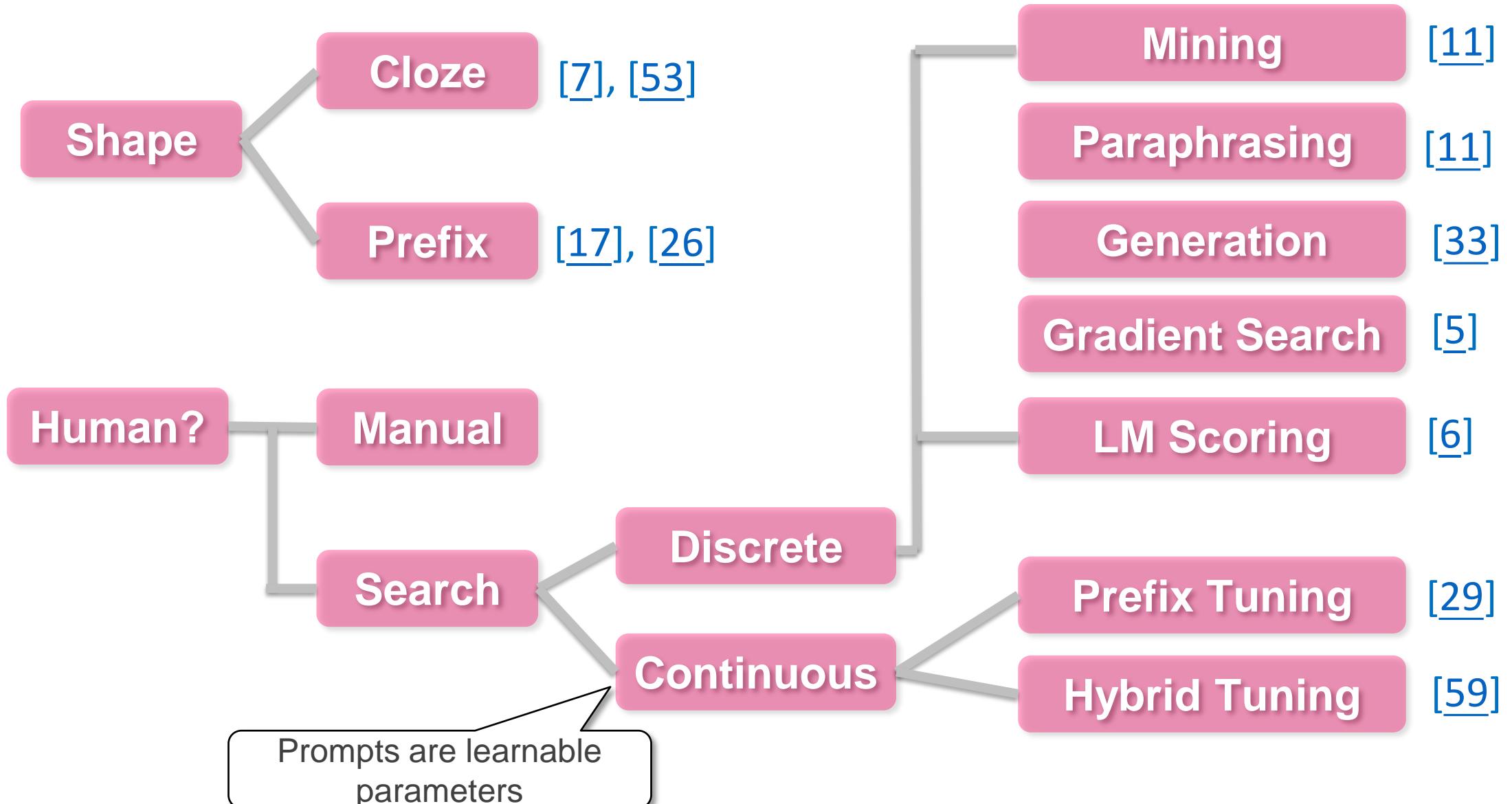
Prompt Template Engineering

- Research Question:
 - how to define appropriate prompt templates



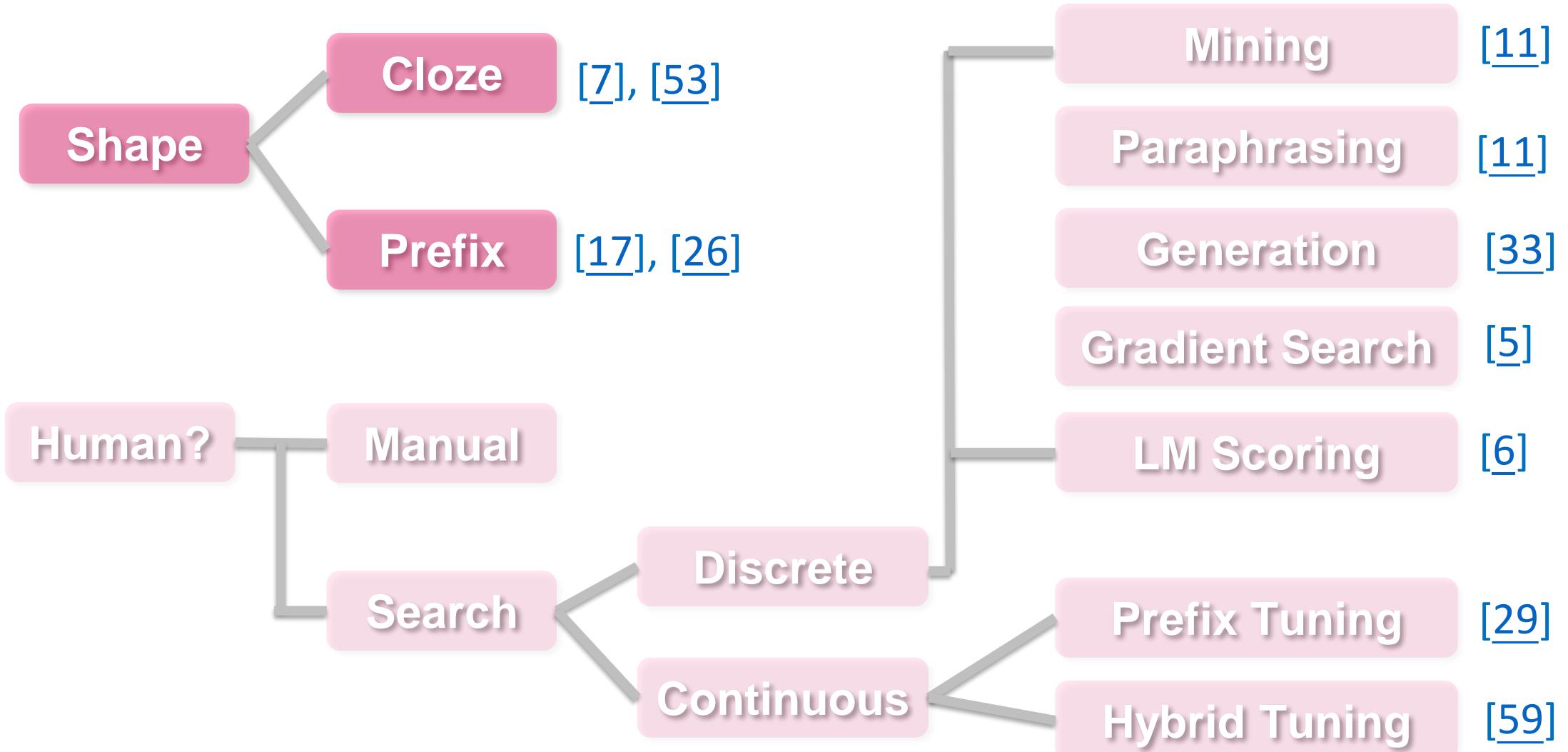


Design Decision of Prompt Templates





Design Decision of Prompt Templates





Prompt Shape

□ Cloze Template

- Contain blanks to be filled.
- Useful for Masked LMs.
 - *"The capital of ___ is Beijing."*

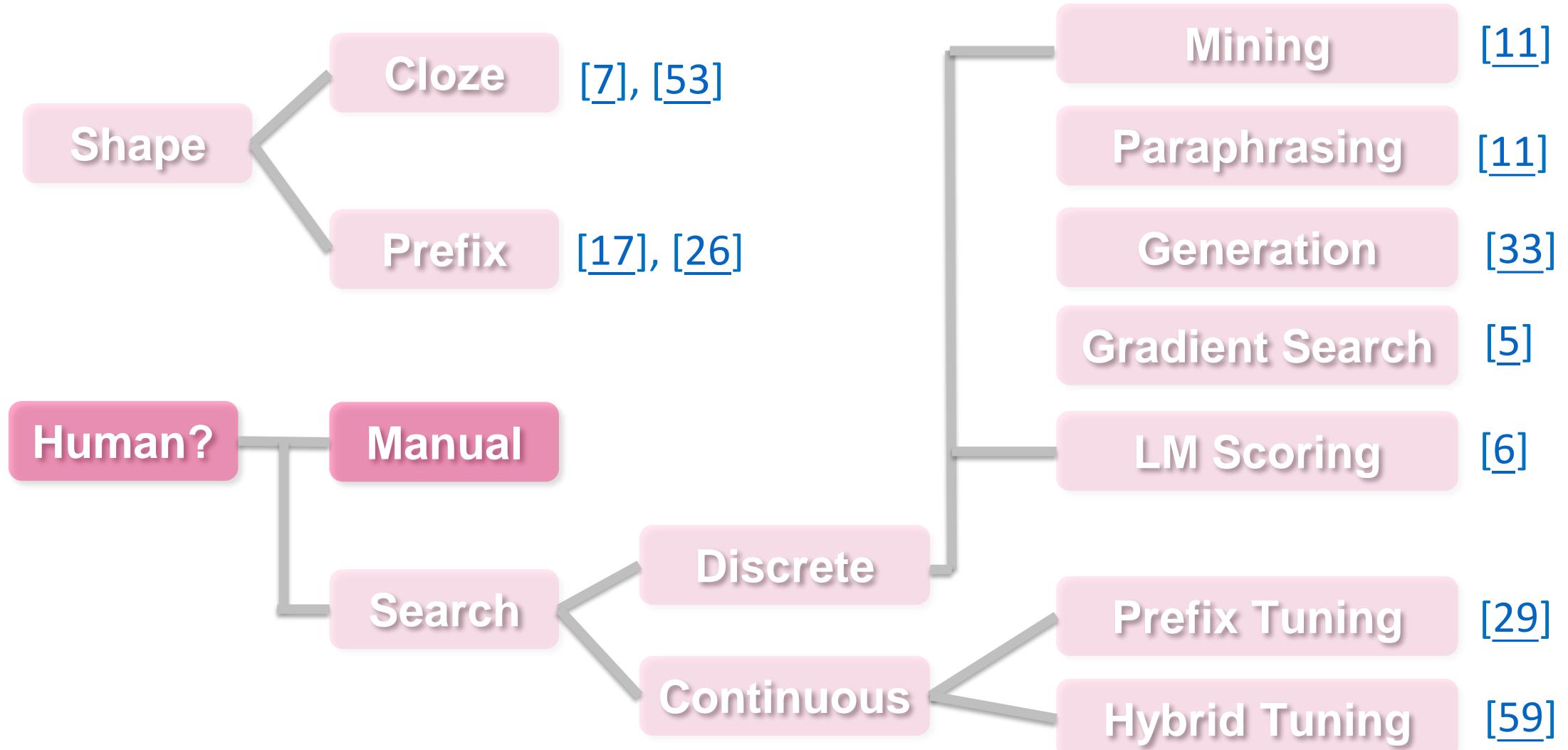


Prompt Shape

- Cloze Template
- Prefix Template
 - Contain a string prefix to be continued.
 - Useful for Left-to-right LM and Encoder-Decoder LM.
 - "President Joe Biden and three of his European allies face TL;DR: _____"*



Prompt Shape





Manual Template Design

□ Manual Prompt

■ The most natural way to create prompts

- I love this movie so much! What's the sentiment of the text? ____ .
- President Joe Biden and three of his European allies face In summary, ____ .
- President Joe Biden and three of his European allies face The article is about ____ .



Manual Template Design

□ Manual Prompt

- The most natural way to create prompts
- An art that takes time and experience.

- First template–answer pair

Template: <A movie review> The movie is ____ .

0.749

Answer: fantastic/terrible

- Second template–answer pair

Template: <A movie review> The review is ____ .

0.534

Answer: positive/negative

Zero-shot Accuracy
(BERT-base, SST-2)



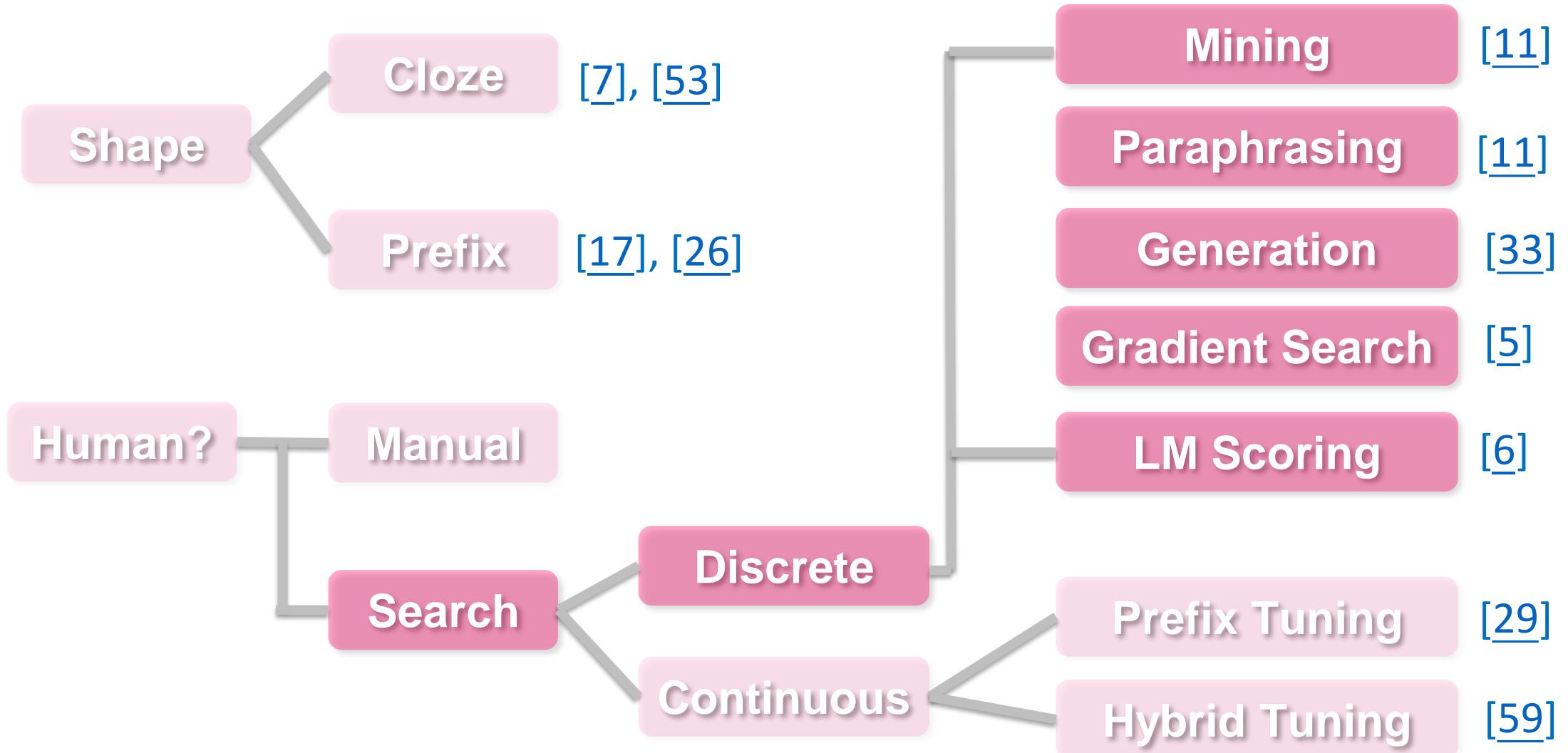
Manual Template Design

□ Manual Prompt

- The most natural way to create prompts
- An art that takes time and experience.
- For some complicated tasks, its hard to manually craft templates.



Design Decision of Prompt Templates





Discrete Search

- Mining
- Paraphrasing
- Gradient-based Search
- Generation
- LM Scoring



Discrete Search

□ Mining

- Use a large corpus to mine templates that contain both the **input** and the **gold answer**.
- Example
 - Fact retrieval for country-capital relationship
 - search through Wikipedia and find strings that contain both ``Beijing'' and ``China'' or other pairs.

Input	Gold answer
China	Beijing
Japan	Tokyo
United States	Washington
<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Beijing, the capital of China○ The capital of China is Beijing○	



Discrete Search

□ Paraphrasing

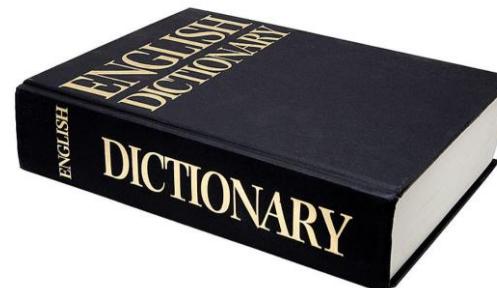
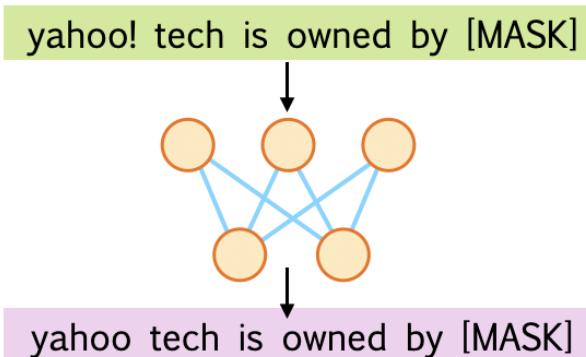
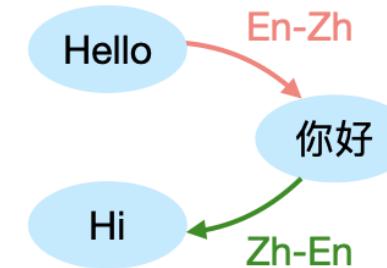
- Take in an existing seed template, and paraphrases it into a set of other candidate templates.



Discrete Search

□ Paraphrasing

- Take in an existing seed template, and paraphrases it into a set of other candidate templates.
- Typical methods
 - Back-translation
 - Using replacement of phrases from a thesaurus
 - Use neural rewriter to rewrite



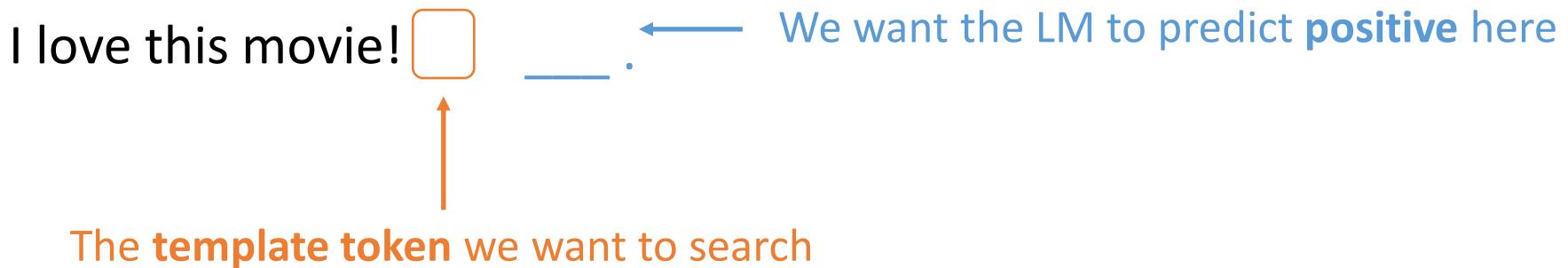


Discrete Search

- Gradient-based Search
 - Stepping through tokens and find ones that can trigger desired outputs.

I love this movie!  _____. ← We want the LM to predict **positive** here

The template token we want to search





Discrete Search

- Gradient-based Search
 - Stepping through tokens and find ones that can trigger desired outputs.

I love this movie!   ← We want the LM to predict **positive** here

Token	P(positive)
is	0.8
hello	0.09
cat	0.04
....	...



Discrete Search

- Gradient-based Search
 - Stepping through tokens and find ones that can trigger desired outputs.

I love this movie!   ← We want the LM to predict **positive** here

Token	P(positive)
is	0.8
hello	0.09
cat	0.04
....	...



Discrete Search

- Generation
 - Use LM to generate templates.

Pre-train

Input: Thank you <X> me to the party <Y> week.

Target: <X> for inviting <Y> last <Z>



Discrete Search

- Generation
 - Use LM to generate templates.

I love this movie! <X> great <Y>

↓
T5 decode

<X> This is <Y> . <Z>

<X> A <Y> one. <Z>

.....



Discrete Search

□ LM Scoring

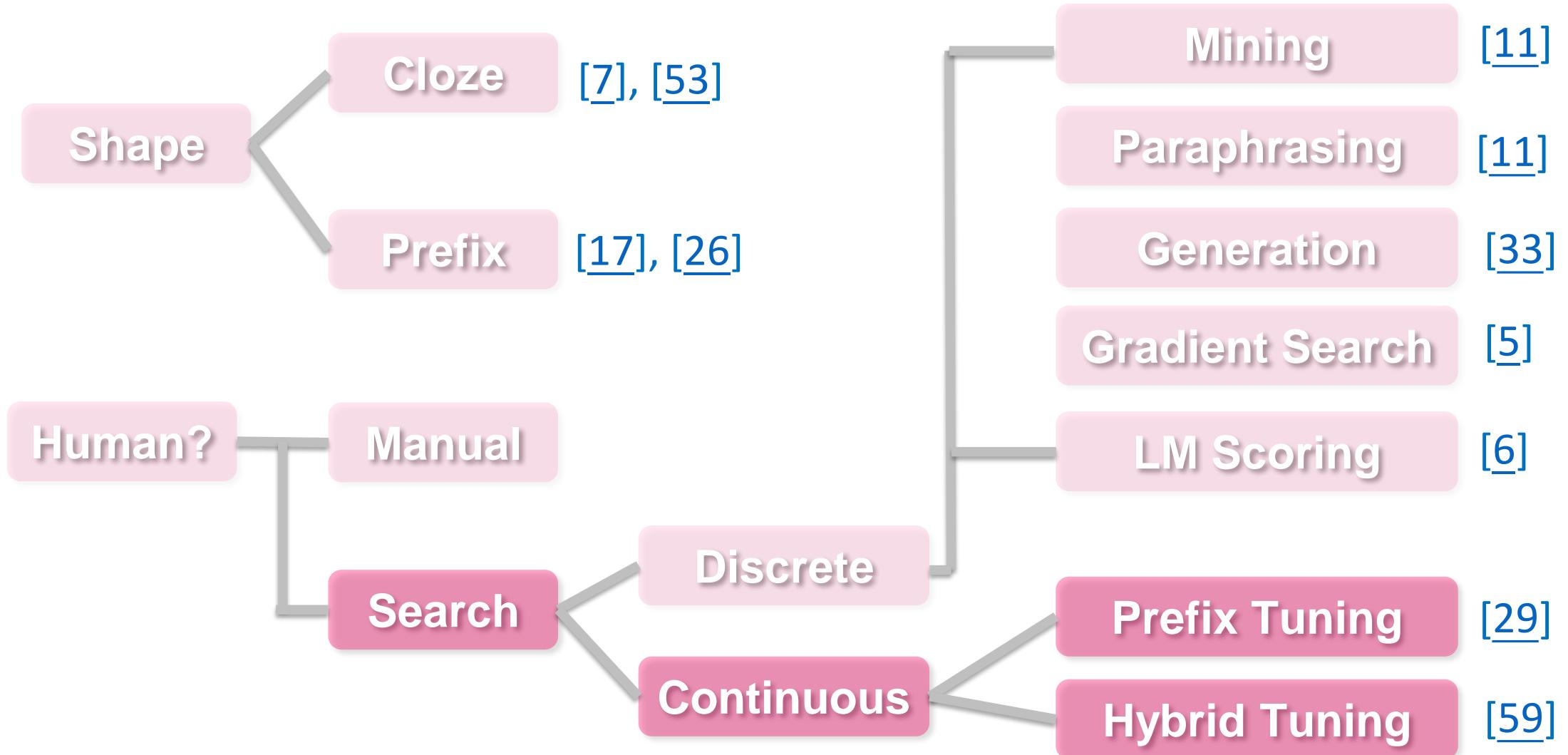
- Use the LM to choose the templates that achieve high LM probability.

I love this movie! <template> positive.

Sequence	P
I love this movie! The sentiment of the text is positive.	0.4
I love this movie! Hello world positive	0.09
I love this movie! The text is positive	0.3
....	...



Design Decision of Prompt Templates





Continuous Template Search

□ Prefix Tuning

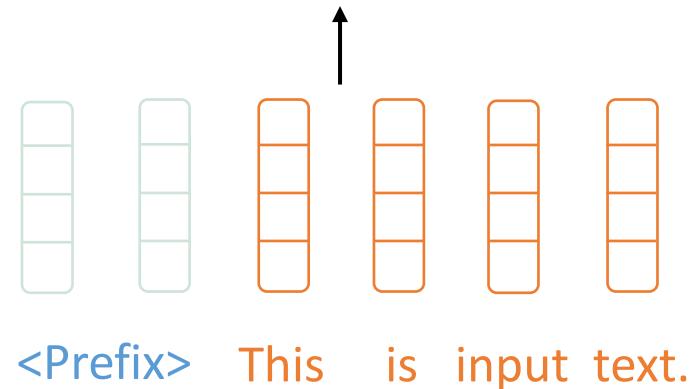
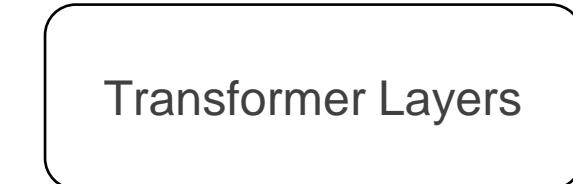
- Prepends a sequence of continuous task-specific vectors to the input, while keeping the LM parameters frozen.



Continuous Template Search

□ Prefix Tuning

- Prepends a sequence of continuous task-specific vectors to the input, while keeping the LM parameters frozen.
 - Shallow Prefix Tuning



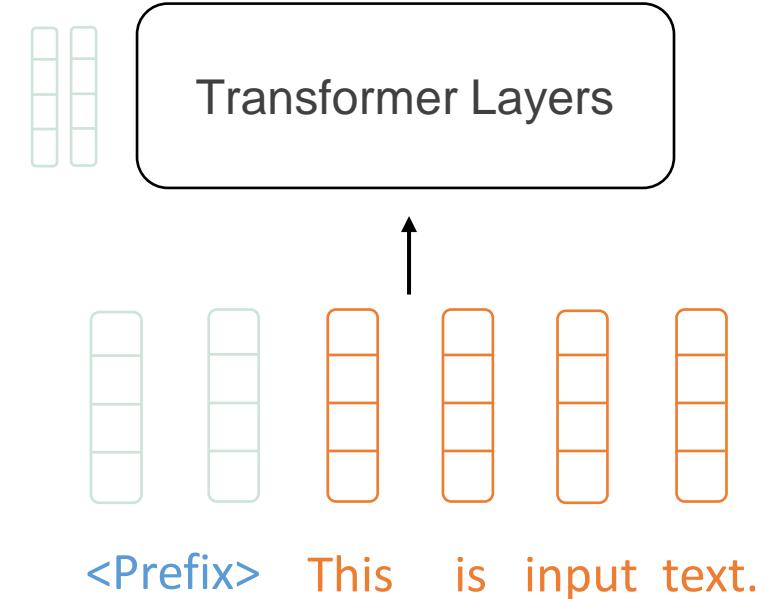
References: [1] Li et al. Prefix-Tuning: Optimizing Continuous Prompts for Generation. arXiv:2101.00190 (2021). [2] Lester et al. The Power of Scale for Parameter-Efficient Prompt Tuning. arXiv:2104.08691 (2021)



Continuous Template Search

□ Prefix Tuning

- Prepends a sequence of continuous task-specific vectors to the input, while keeping the LM parameters frozen.
 - Shallow Prefix Tuning
 - Deep Prefix Tuning



References: [1] Li et al. Prefix-Tuning: Optimizing Continuous Prompts for Generation. arXiv:2101.00190 (2021). [2] Lester et al. The Power of Scale for Parameter-Efficient Prompt Tuning. arXiv:2104.08691 (2021)



Continuous Template Search

- Hybrid Tuning
 - An extension of prefix tuning



Continuous Template Search

□ Hybrid Tuning

- An extension of prefix tuning
- The positions of tunable virtual tokens can be anywhere.

I love this movie so much! positive.



Continuous Template Search

□ Hybrid Tuning

- An extension of prefix tuning
- The positions of tunable virtual tokens can be anywhere.
- Use hard templates initialization

I love this movie so much! The sentiment is positive.



Continuous Template Search

□ Hybrid Tuning

- An extension of prefix tuning
- The positions of tunable virtual tokens can be anywhere.
- Use hard templates initialization
- Combine hard and soft template tokens

I love this movie so much! □ □ □ is positive.



Design Considerations for Prompt-based Methods

- Prompt Template Engineering
- Answer Engineering
- Pre-trained Model Choice
- Expanding the Paradigm
- Prompt-based Training Strategies



Answer Engineering

□ Research Question:

- Given a task (or a prompt), how to define a suitable mapping function between label space and answer space?

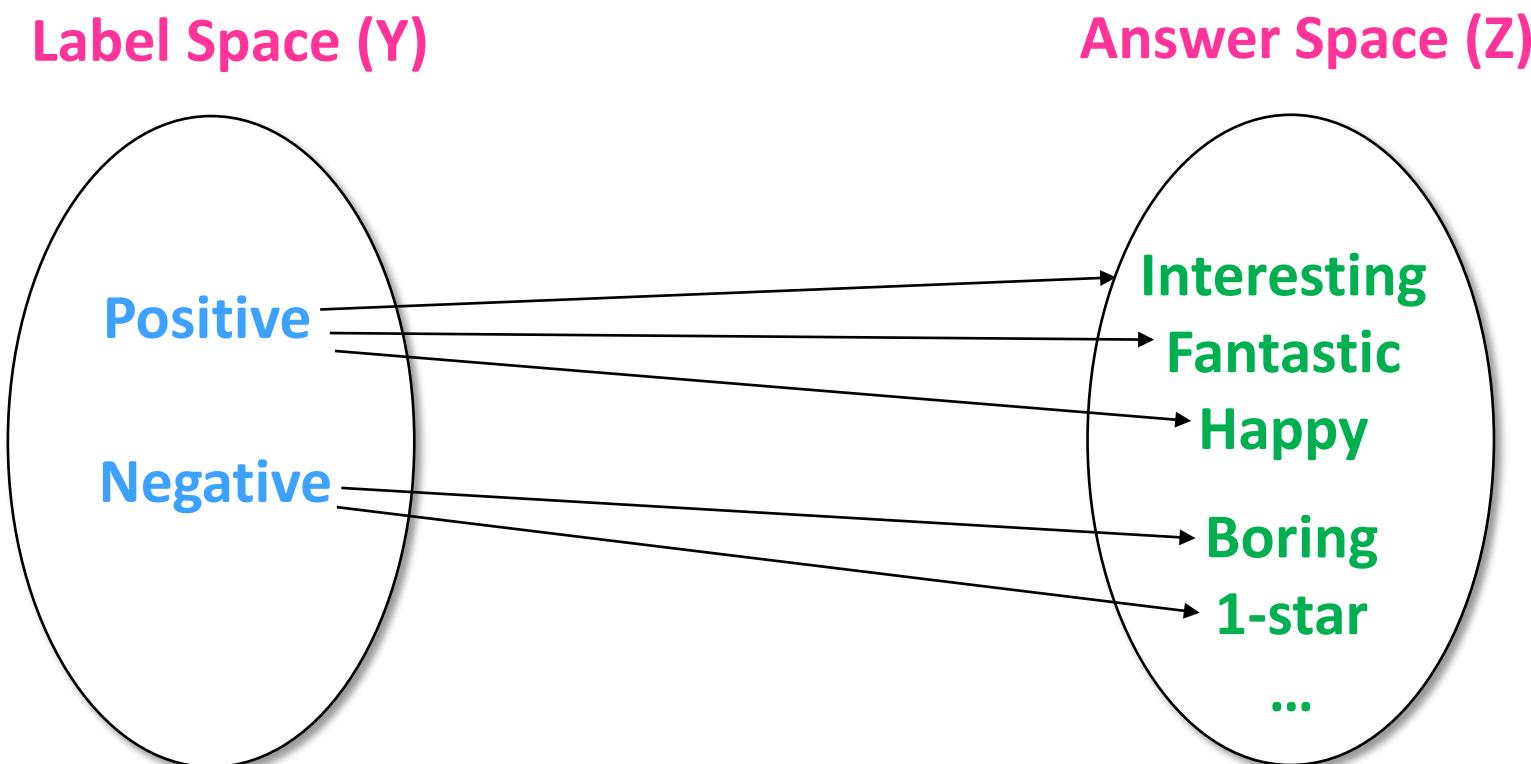




Answer Engineering

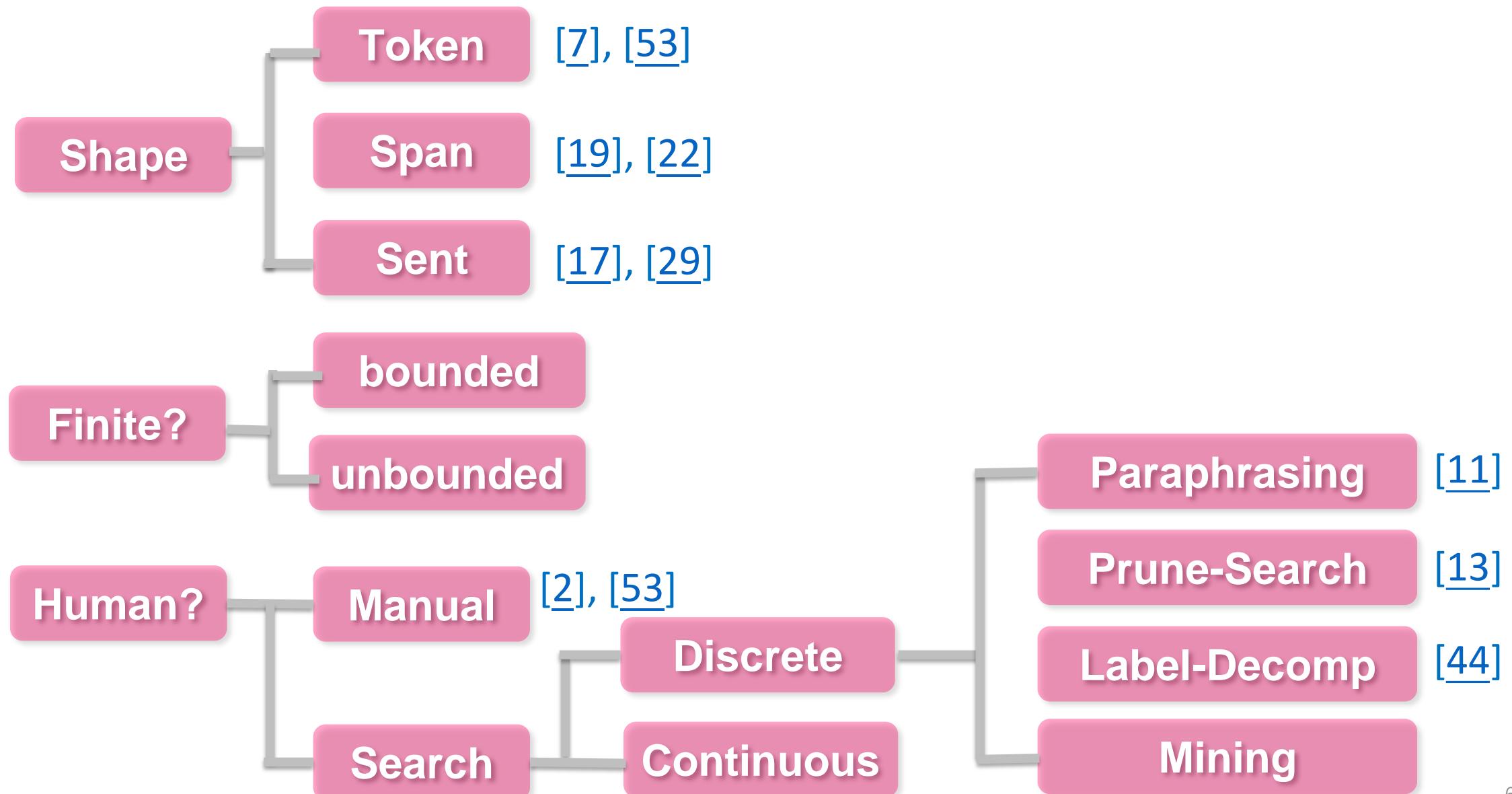
□ Research Question:

- Given a task (or a prompt), how to define a suitable mapping function between label space and answer space?



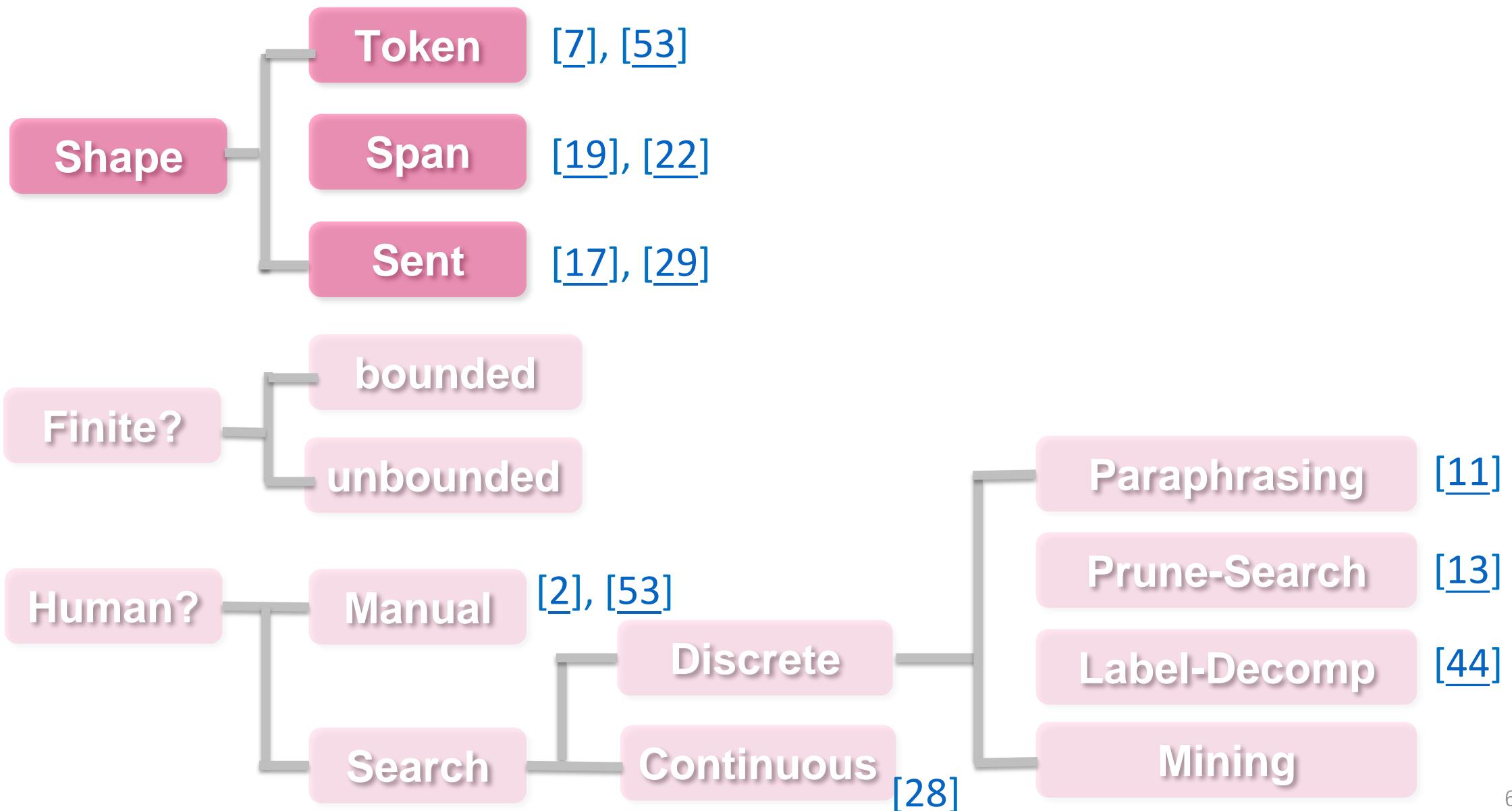


Design Decision of Prompt Answer Engineering





Design Decision of Prompt Answer Engineering





Design Considerations for Prompt-based Methods

- Token
 - Useful for most classification tasks
 - Examples
 - <A movie review> The movie is **fantastic/terrible**.
 - <Premise> **Yes/No**. <Hypothesis>



Design Considerations for Prompt-based Methods

- Token
- Span
 - Useful for classification with long label names, QA, knowledge probing, etc.
 - Example
 - Multiple choice QA

A student riding a bicycle observes that it moves faster on a smooth road than on a rough road. This happens because the smooth road has

 - (A) less gravity
 - (B) more gravity
 - (C) less friction [gold]
 - (D) more friction

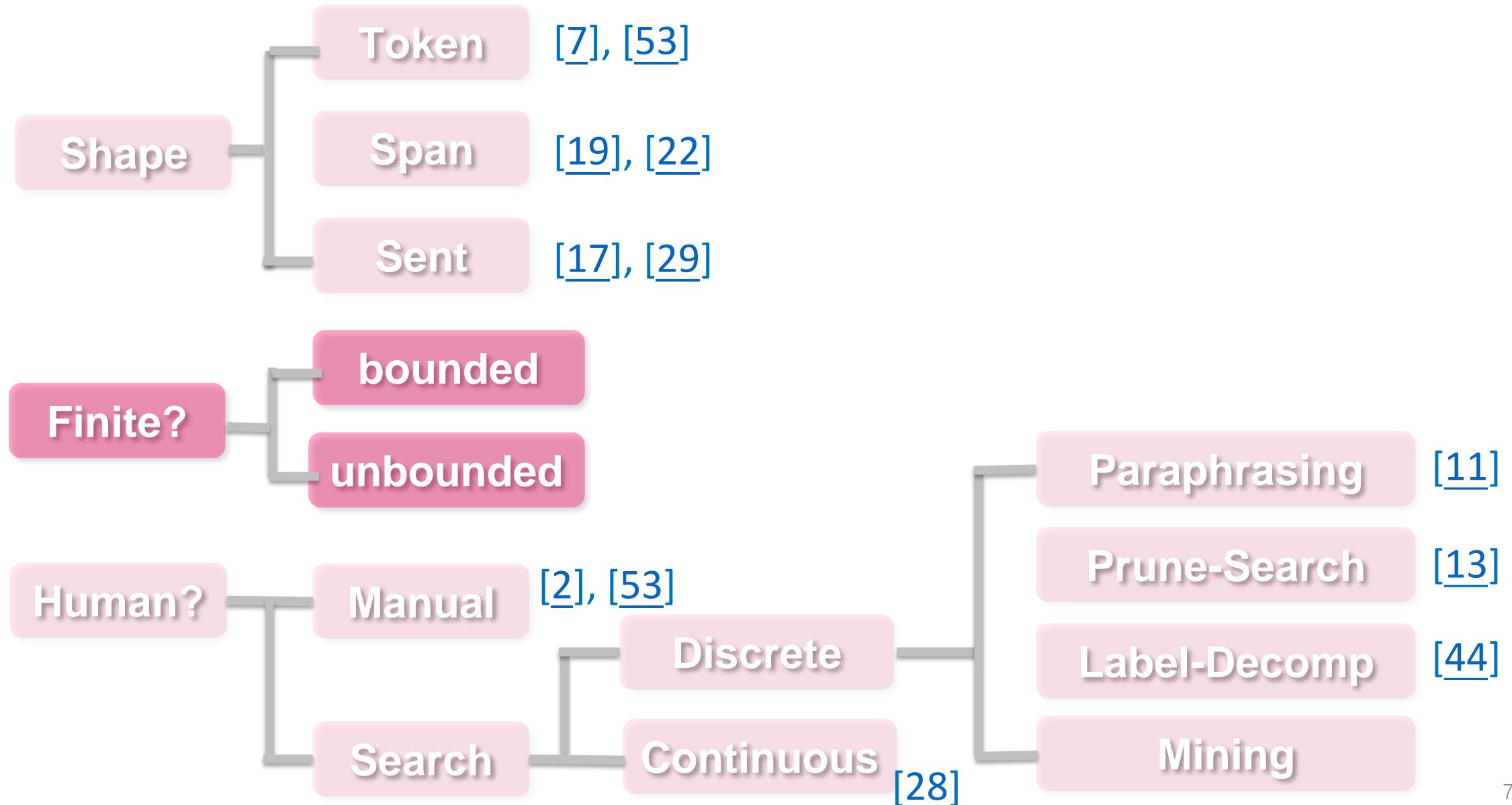


Design Considerations for Prompt-based Methods

- Token
- Span
- Sentence(s)
 - Useful for generation tasks, like MT or summarization.
 - Example
 - Translation from English to Chinese
Input: Hello, world!
Target (gold answer): 你好，世界！



Design Decision of Prompt Answer Engineering





Answer Space

Bounded

- The space of possible outputs is constrained/finite.
- Example
 - Text classification: health; finance; politics, sports.



Answer Space

□ Bounded

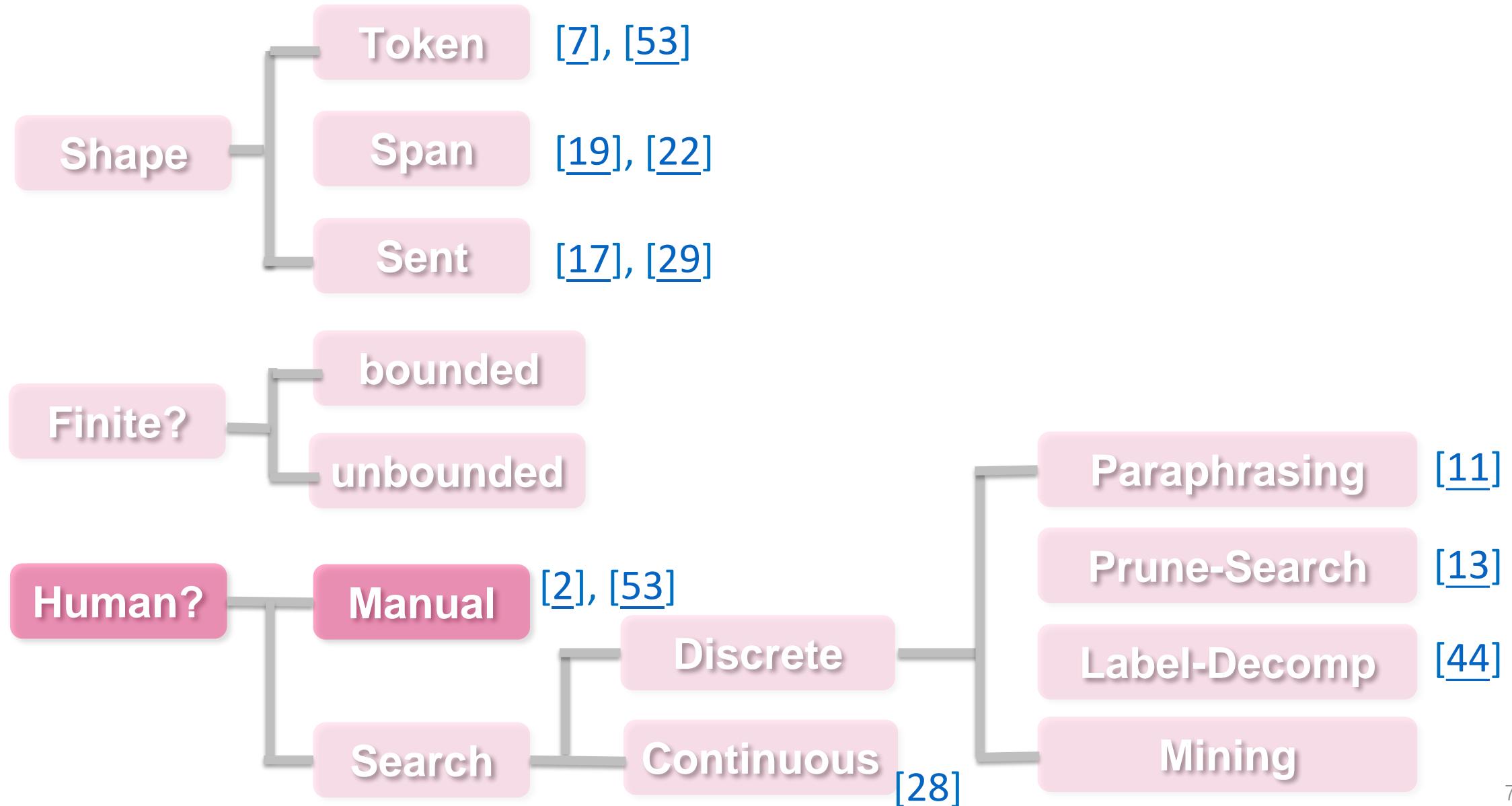
- The space of possible outputs is constrained/finite.
- Example
 - Text classification: health; finance; politics, sports.

□ Unbounded

- The space of possible outputs is unconstrained/infinite.
- Example
 - Text summarization: all valid sequence of tokens.



Design Decision of Prompt Answer Engineering





Human Design

- The most natural way to create answers
 - For generation tasks, we can use identity mapping to map target output directly to gold answer
 - In MT/Summarization, take the target directly as gold answer



Human Design

- The most natural way to create answers
 - For generation tasks, we can use identity mapping to map target output directly to gold answer
 - In MT/Summarization, take the target directly as gold answer
 - For classification tasks, the label name can also act as gold answer.
 - For example, sports, politics

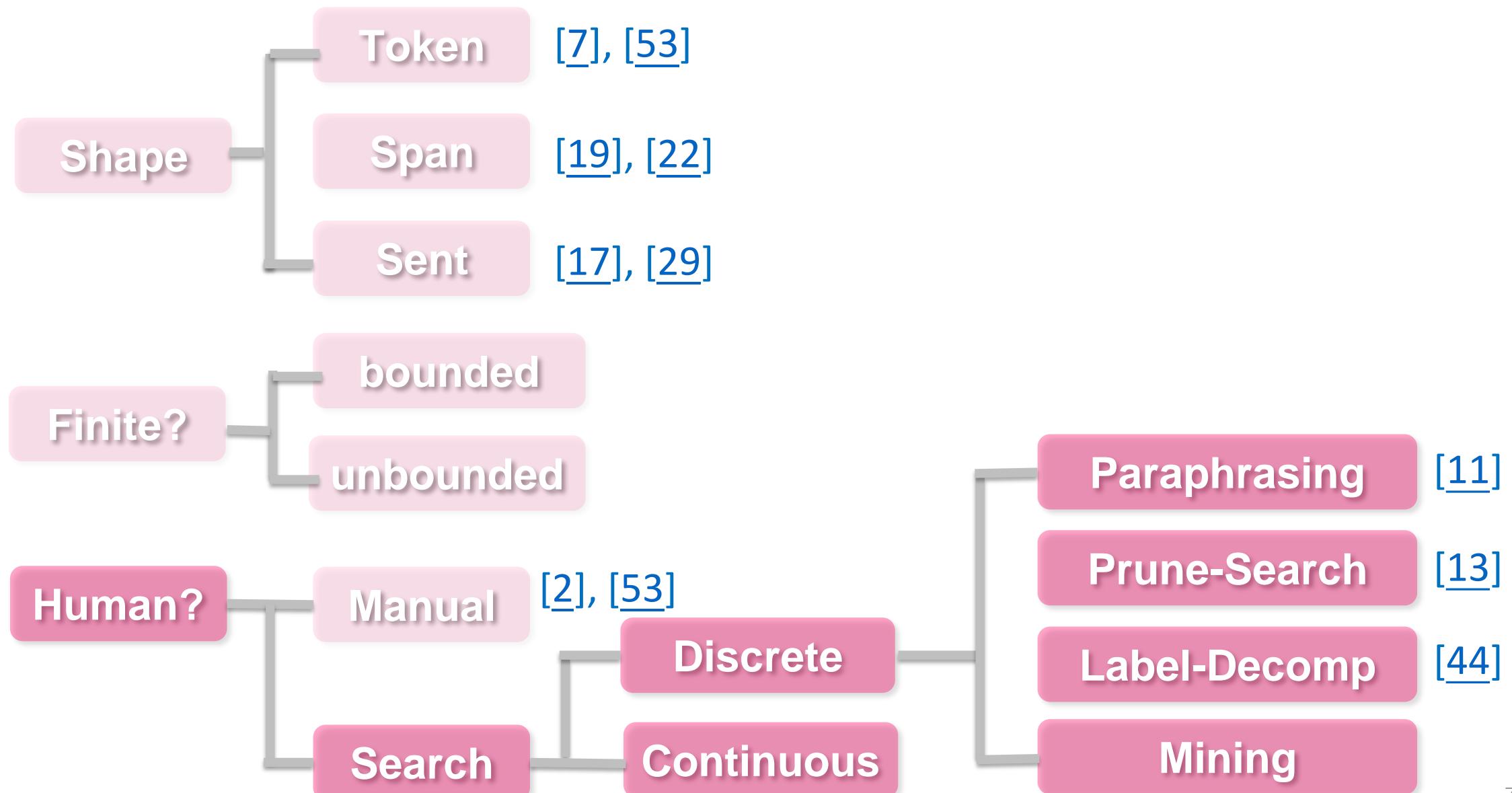


Human Design

- The most natural way to create answers
 - For generation tasks, we can use identity mapping to map target output directly to gold answer
 - In MT/Summarization, take the target directly as gold answer
 - For classification tasks, the label name can also act as gold answer.
 - For example, sports, politics
- An art that takes time and experience.
 - For some complicated tasks, it's hard to manually craft answers.
 - For example, relation classification



Design Decision of Prompt Answer Engineering





Discrete Answer Search

- Paraphrasing
- Prune then Search
- Label Decomposition
- Mining



Discrete Answer Search

- Paraphrasing
 - Start with an initial answer space, and then use paraphrasing to expand this answer space to broaden its coverage.
 - Example
 - Multiple Choice QA

A person wants to submerge himself in water, what should he use?
(A) Whirl pool (Paraphrase to get Bathtub, A bathtub etc.)
(B) ...



Discrete Answer Search

- Prune then Search
 - Pruning methods:
 - Select the most frequent words
 - Select tokens that have highest generation probability at answer position

References:

- [1] Taylor Shin, Yasaman Razeghi, Robert L. LoganIV, Eric Wallace, and Sameer Singh. 2020. AutoPrompt: Eliciting Knowledge from Language Models with Automatically Generated Prompts. In Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP).
- [2] Tianyu Gao, Adam Fisch, and Danqi Chen. 2021. Making Pre-trained Language Models Better Few-shot Learners. In Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL).



Discrete Answer Search

□ Prune then Search

■ Pruning methods:

- Select the most frequent words
- Select tokens that have highest generation probability at answer position

■ Searching methods:

- Choose answers that maximize the likelihood of training data
- Choose answers that achieve the best zero-shot accuracy

References:

- [1] Taylor Shin, Yasaman Razeghi, Robert L. LoganIV, Eric Wallace, and Sameer Singh. 2020. AutoPrompt: Eliciting Knowledge from Language Models with Automatically Generated Prompts. In Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP).
- [2] Tianyu Gao, Adam Fisch, and Danqi Chen. 2021. Making Pre-trained Language Models Better Few-shot Learners. In Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL).



Discrete Answer Search

□ Label Decomposition

- For complex label, decompose the label into its constituent words.
- Example

- Text classification:

Science and Mathematics



- Relation Extraction:

city_of_death





Discrete Answer Search

□ Mining

■ Given a seed answer, use some knowledge base to retrieve related words.

■ Example: “city”

- metropolis town
- urban
- suburb
- municipal
- downtown
- Country
-



Design Considerations for Prompt-based Methods

- Prompt Template Engineering
- Answer Engineering
- Pre-trained Model Choice
- Expanding the Paradigm
- Prompt-based Training Strategies



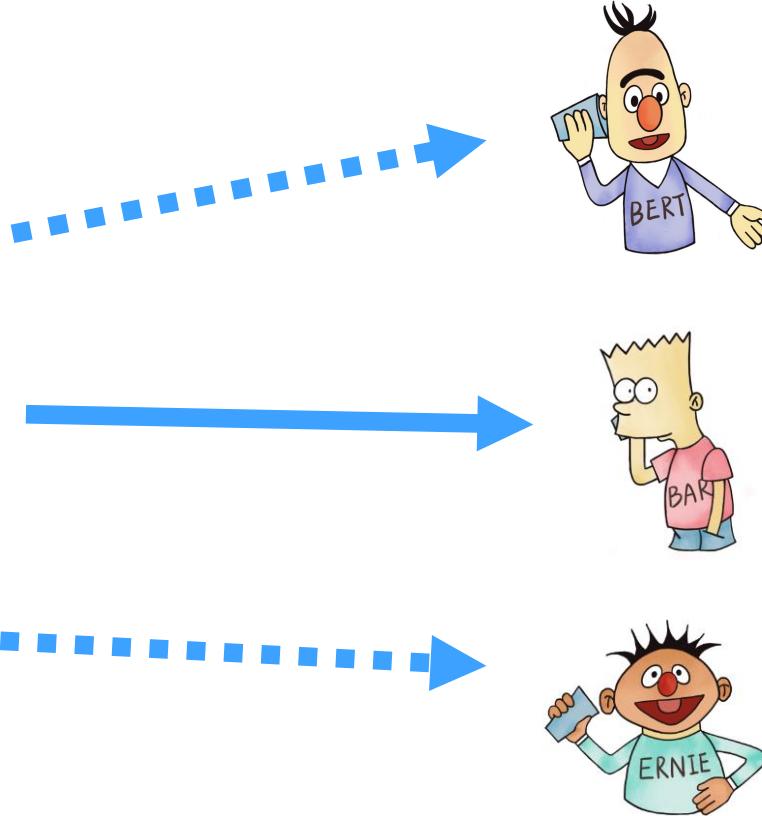
Pre-trained Model Choice

□ Research Question:

- Given a task (or a prompt), which pre-trained language model would be the most appropriate one?

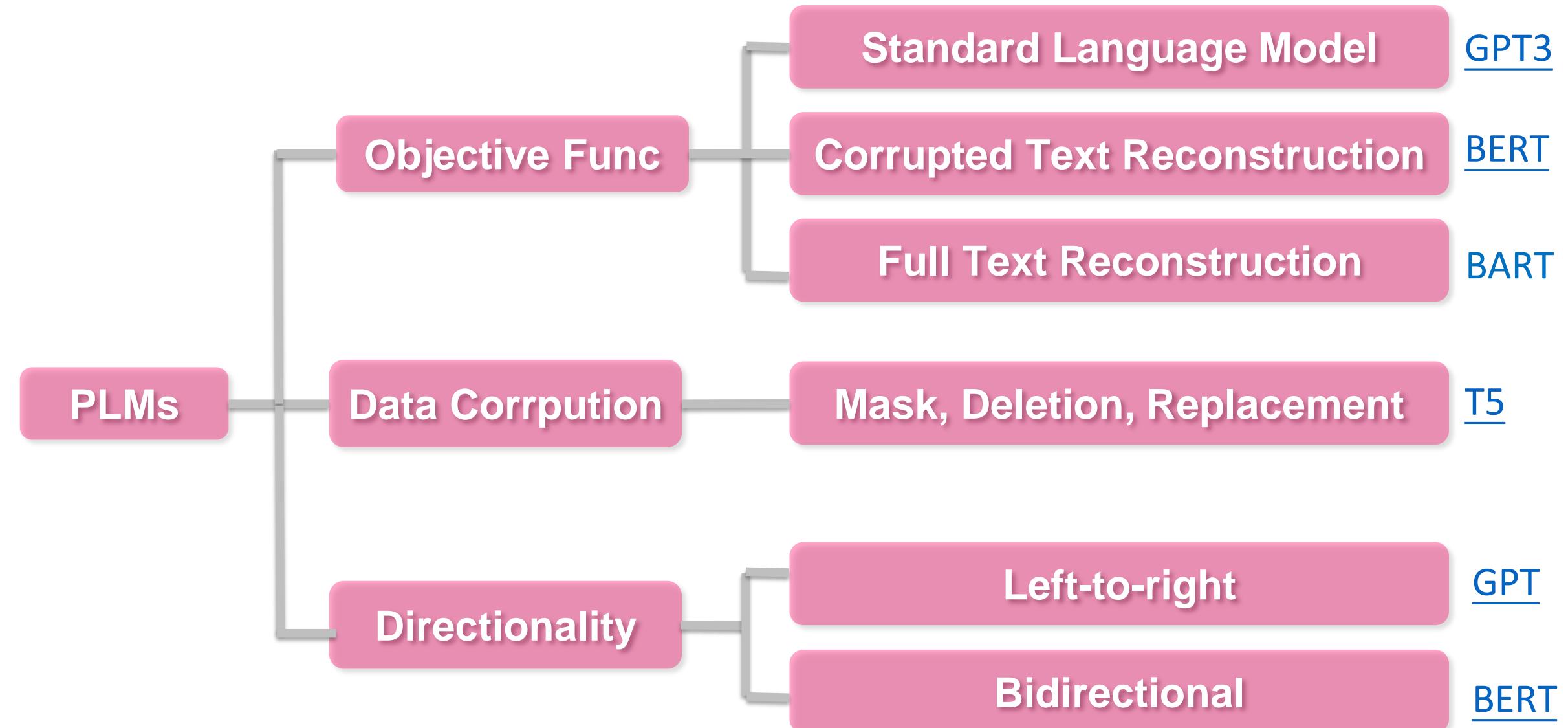


The story
describes,
in summary [z]



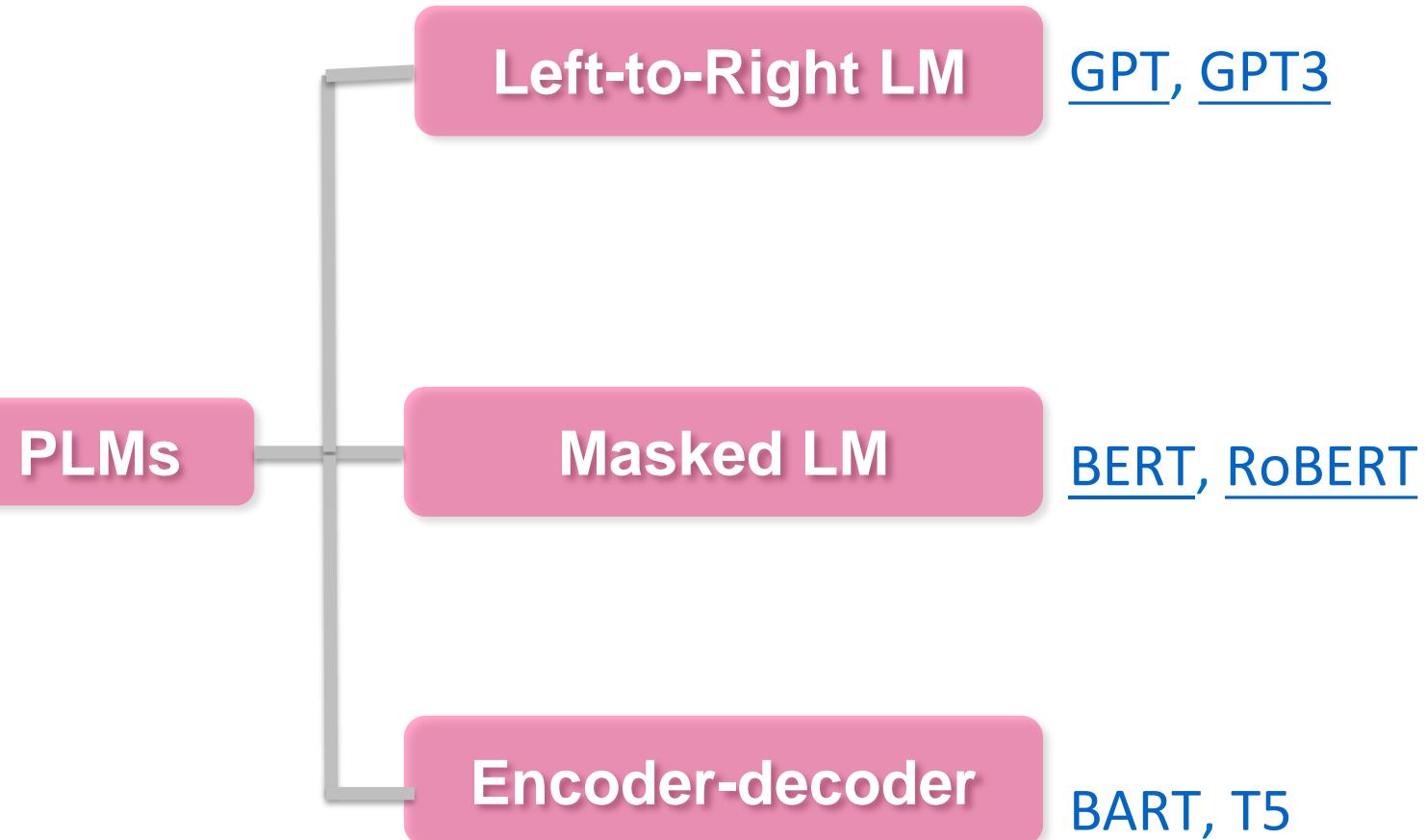


Design Decision of Pre-trained Models





Design Decision of Pre-trained Models





Left-to-right Language Model

□ Characteristics

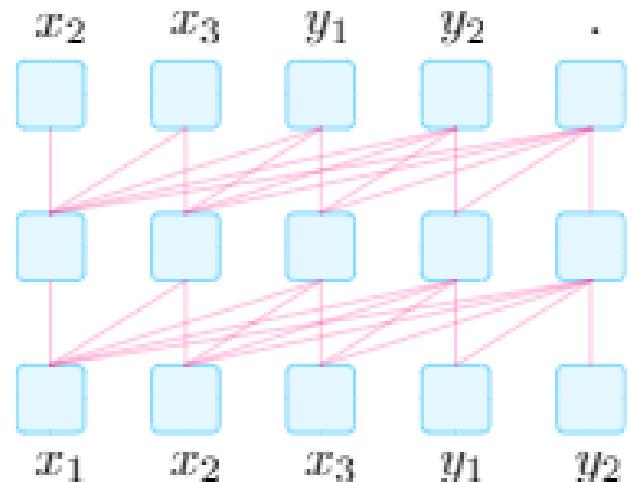
- First proposed by Markov (1913)
- Count-based-> Neural network-based
- Specifically suitable to highly larger-scale LMs

□ Example

- GPT-1,GPT-2,GPT-3

□ Roles in Prompting Methods

- The earliest architecture chosen for prompting
- Usually equipped with prefix prompt and the parameters of PLMs are fixed





Masked Language Model

□ Characteristics

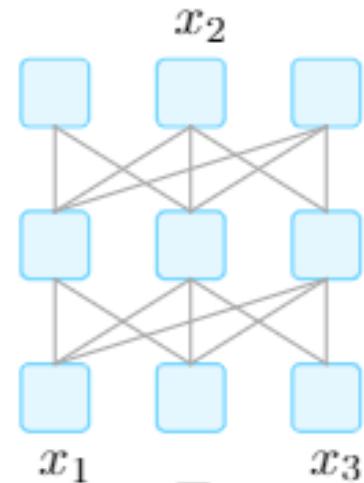
- An extension of left-to-right architecture
- Unidirection -> bidirection prediction
- Suitable for NLU tasks

□ Example

- BERT, ERNIE

□ Roles in Prompting Methods

- Usually combined with cloze prompt
- Suitable for NLU tasks





Masked Language Model

□ Characteristics

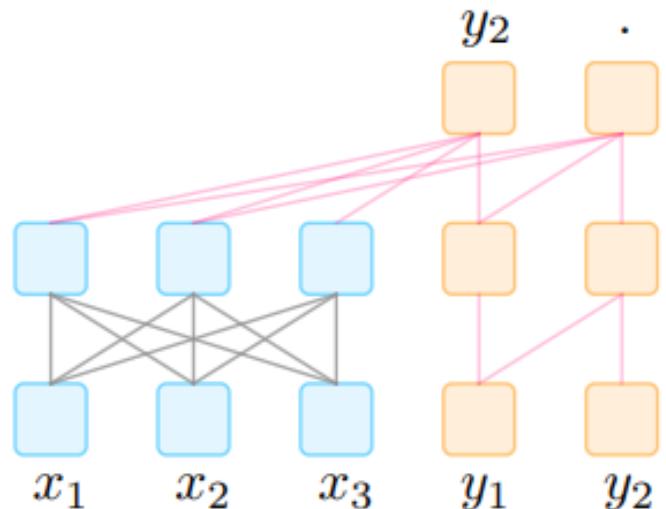
- A denoised auto-encoder
- Use two Transformers and two different mask mechanisms to handle text X and Y separately

□ Examples

- BART, T5

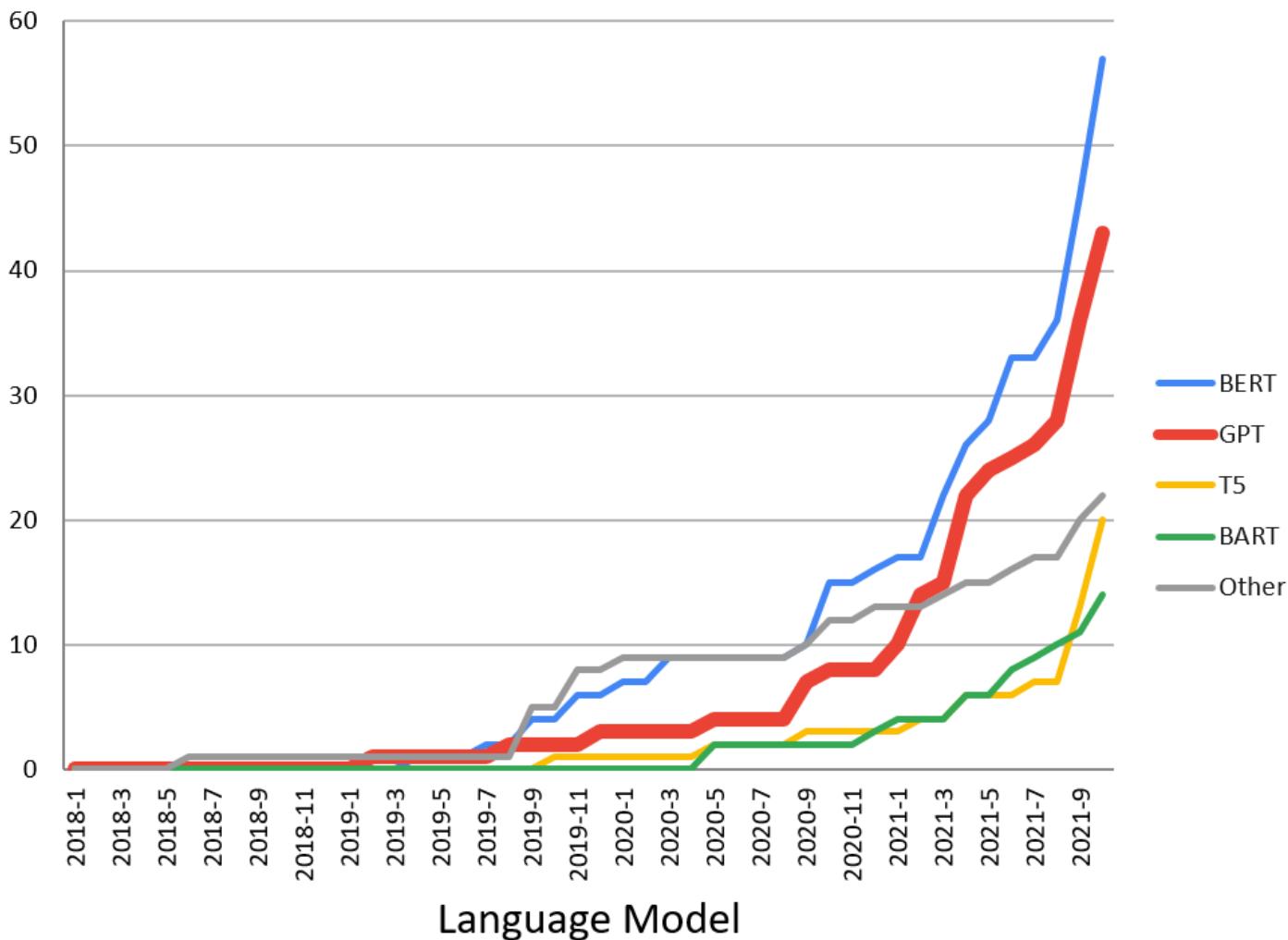
□ Roles in Prompting methods

- Text generation tasks or some tasks that can be formulated into a text generation problem





Which one is more popular?





Design Considerations for Prompt-based Methods

- Prompt Template Engineering
- Answer Engineering
- Pre-trained Model Choice
- Expanding the Paradigm
- Prompt-based Training Strategies



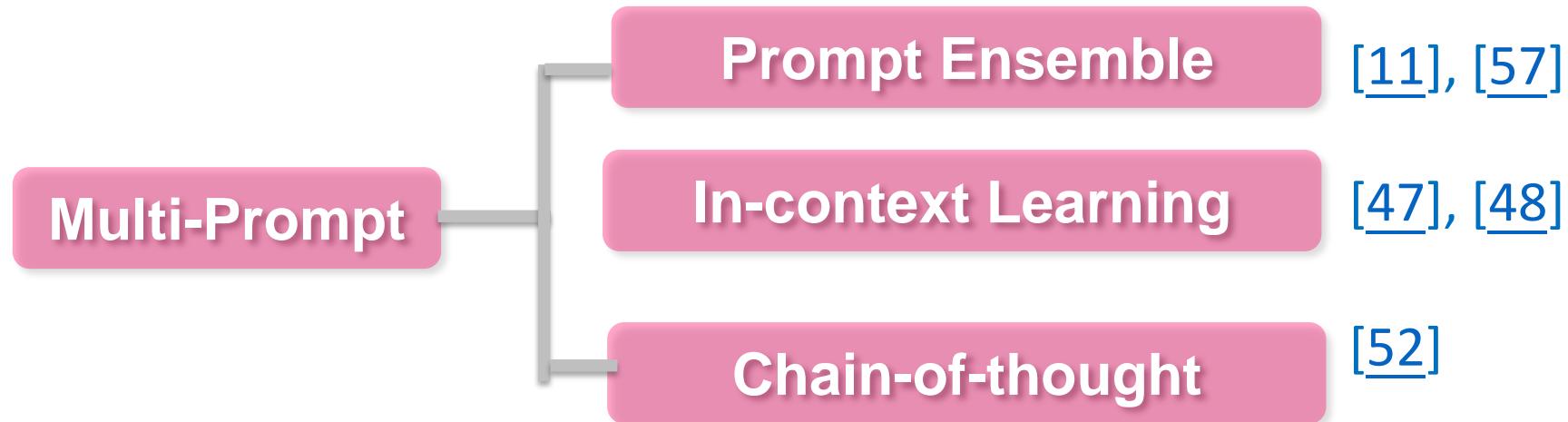
Expanding the Paradigm

□ Research Questions

- How to extend the current prompting framework to support more NLP tasks?



Design Decision of Multiple Prompt Learning





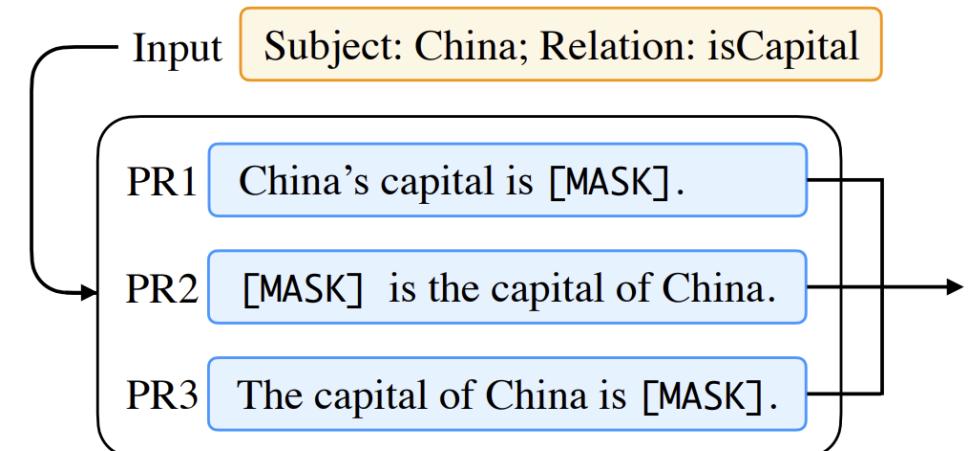
Prompt Ensembling

□ Definition

- using multiple unanswered prompts for an input at inference time to make predictions

□ Advantages

- Utilize complementary advantages
- Alleviate the cost of prompt engineering
- Stabilize performance on downstream tasks





In-context Learning

□ Definition

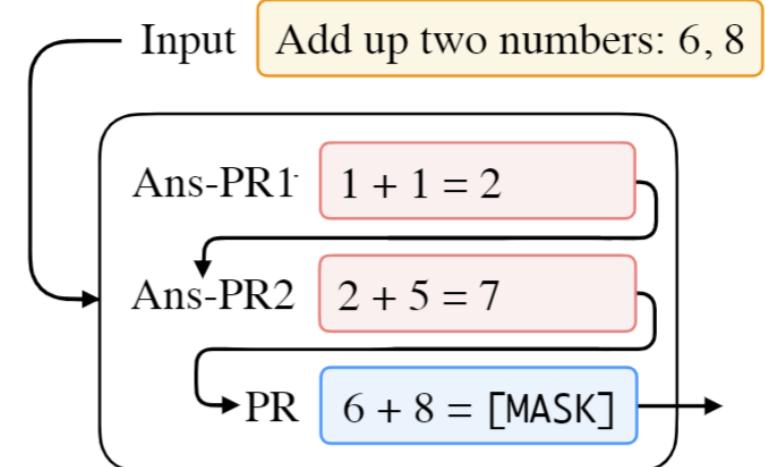
- Help the model answer the prompt with additional answered prompts

□ Advantage

- make use of the small amount of information that has been annotated

□ Core step

- Selection of answered prompts
- Ordering of answered prompts





Chain-of-thought

Standard Prompting

Model Input

Q: Roger has 5 tennis balls. He buys 2 more cans of tennis balls. Each can has 3 tennis balls. How many tennis balls does he have now?

A: The answer is 11.

Q: The cafeteria had 23 apples. If they used 20 to make lunch and bought 6 more, how many apples do they have?

Model Output

A: The answer is 27. X

Chain-of-Thought Prompting

Model Input

Q: Roger has 5 tennis balls. He buys 2 more cans of tennis balls. Each can has 3 tennis balls. How many tennis balls does he have now?

A: Roger started with 5 balls. 2 cans of 3 tennis balls each is 6 tennis balls. $5 + 6 = 11$. The answer is 11.

Q: The cafeteria had 23 apples. If they used 20 to make lunch and bought 6 more, how many apples do they have?

Model Output

A: The cafeteria had 23 apples originally. They used 20 to make lunch. So they had $23 - 20 = 3$. They bought 6 more apples, so they have $3 + 6 = 9$. The answer is 9. ✓

Chain-of-Thought Prompting Elicits Reasoning in Large Language Models, Wei et al.2022



Prompt Sharing

- Prompt Template Engineering
- Answer Engineering
- Pre-trained Model Choice
- Expanding the Paradigm
- Prompt-based Training Strategies



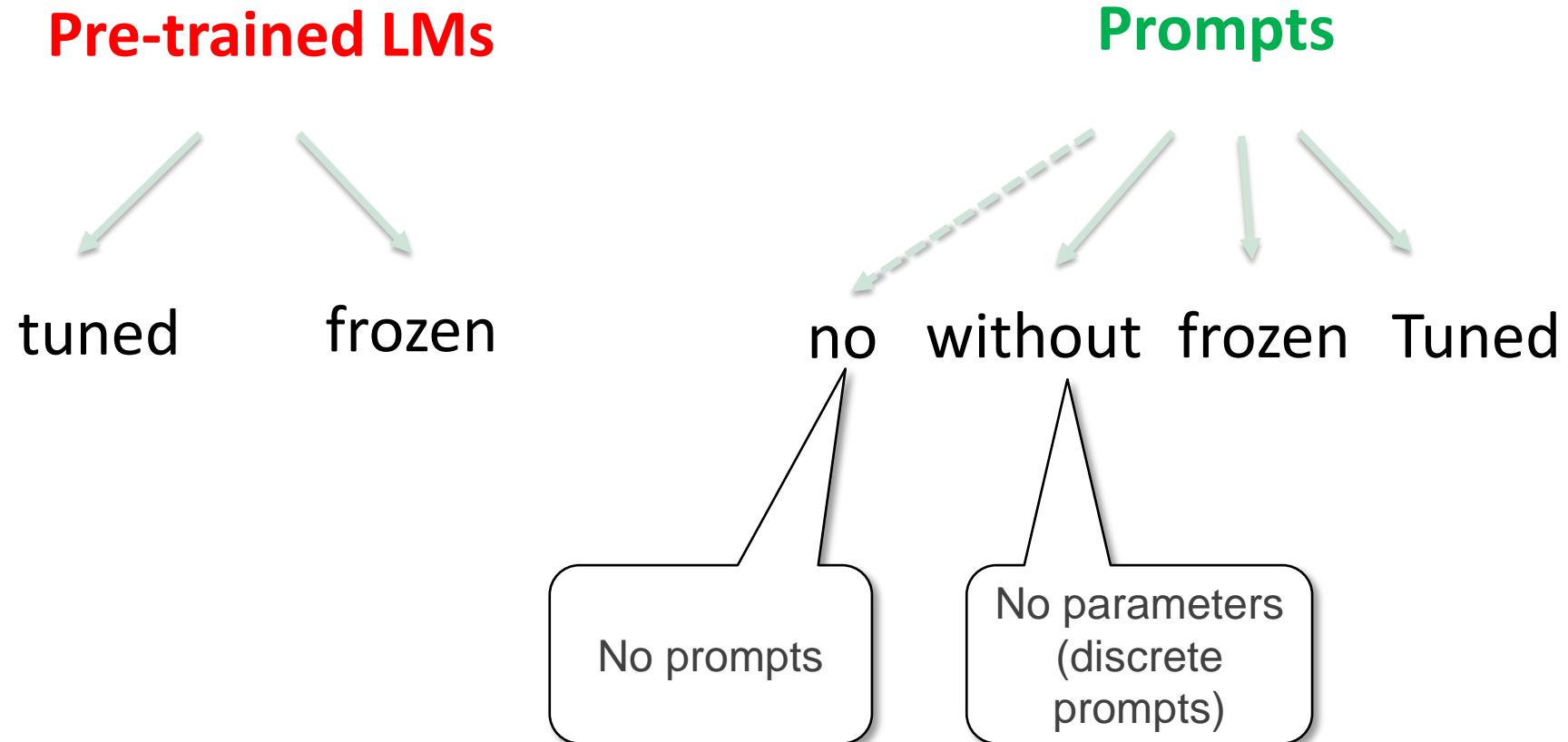
Prompt Sharing

□ Data Perspective

- Zero-shot: without any explicit training of the LM for the down-stream task
- Few-shot: few training (e.g., 100) samples of downstream tasks
- Full-data: lots of training samples (e.g., 10K) of downstream tasks



Parameter Perspective





Cases of Parameter Updating

Pre-trained LMs

tuned

frozen

Prompts

no

without frozen Tuned

Promptless Fine-tuning

Example: BERT for text classification



Cases of Parameter Updating

Pre-trained LMs

tuned

frozen

Prompts

no **without** frozen Tuned

Fixed-prompt Tuning

Example: BERT + Discrete Prompt for text classification



Cases of Parameter Updating

Pre-trained LMs

tuned

frozen

Prompts

no without frozen Tuned

Fixed-prompt Tuning

Example: BERT + Transferred Continuous Prompt for text classification



Cases of Parameter Updating

Pre-trained LMs

tuned

frozen

Prompts

no without frozen **Tuned**

Prompt+LM Fine-tuning

Example: BERT + Continuous Prompt for text classification



Cases of Parameter Updating

Pre-trained LMs

tuned

frozen

Prompts

no

without frozen Tuned

Adapter Tuning

Example: BERT + Adapter for text classification



Cases of Parameter Updating

Pre-trained LMs

tuned

frozen

Prompts

no

without

frozen

Tuned

Tuning-free Prompting

Example: GPT3 + Discrete Prompts for Machine Translation



Cases of Parameter Updating



Tuning-free Prompting

Example: GPT3 + Continuous Prompts for Machine Translation



Cases of Parameter Updating



Fixed-LM Prompt Tuning

Example: BART + Continuous Prompts for Machine Translation



Too many, difficult to select?

Promptless Fine-tuning

Fixed-prompt Tuning

Prompt+LM Fine-tuning

Adapter Tuning

Tuning-free Prompting

Fixed-LM Prompt Tuning

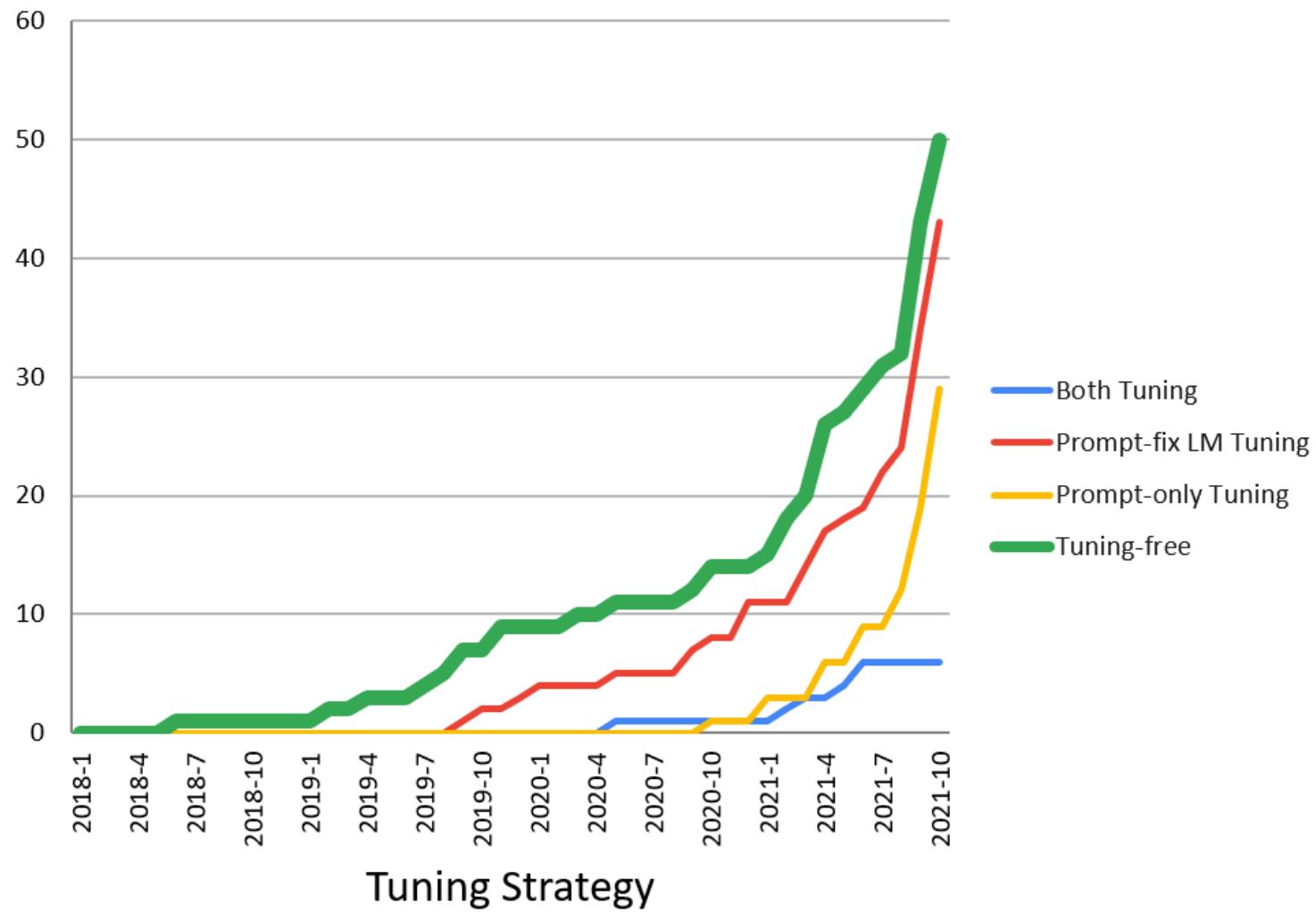
If you have a highly large left-to-right pre-trained language model (e.g., GPT3)

If you have few training samples?

If you have lots of training samples?



Which one is more popular?





Development of Prompting Methods

