



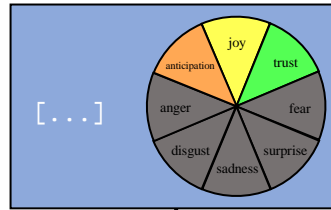
# Leveraging Large Language Models for Creative Story Generation

Yuetian Chen &  
Brendan Capuzzo

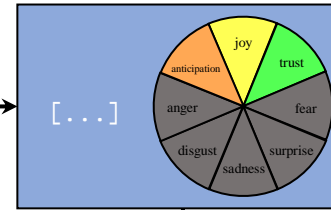
CSCI 4968-01  
Machine Learning and Optimization, Spring 2023

## Background

Ethan turned the oven on.

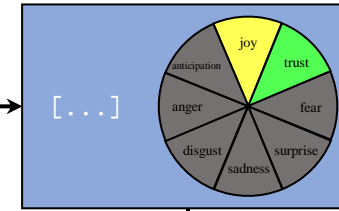


He put a potato in the oven.

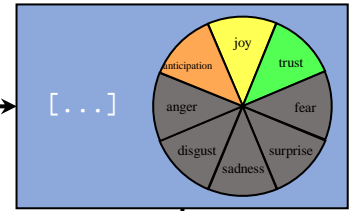


It cooked for an hour.

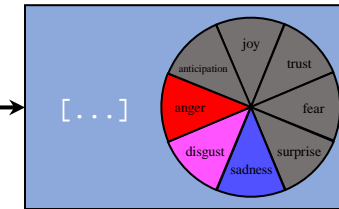
## User-involved creation



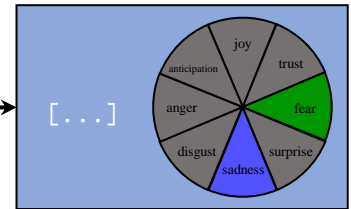
He pulled it out.



He ate it for dinner.



Suddenly, he smelled it burning.

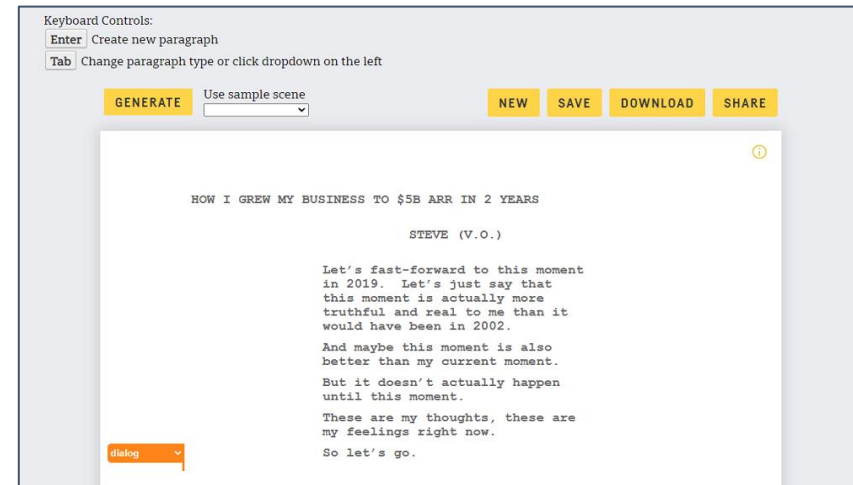
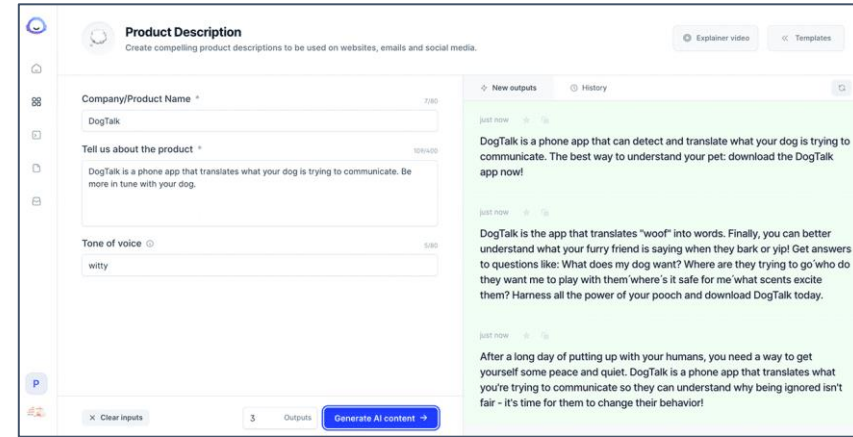


Afterwards, he ruined dinner.

# Motivation

## *Interactive authoring system for story generation*

- **Commercial AI text generators**
  - Jasper: <https://www.jasper.ai/>
  - Rytr: <https://rytr.me/>
  - ...
- **No direct control over the generated content**
- **No image generation**
  - Even if invoking a separate image generation process
  - Can't incorporate content from the generated images into future storytelling
- **Interactive authoring system**
  - Control story with keywords and emotions
  - Image generation
  - Efficient knowledge distillation



# Related Work

## *Interactive authoring system for story generation*

- **Neural-based story generation**

- Tambwekar, P.; et al. 2019. *Controllable Neural Story Plot Generation via Reward Shaping*.

- Lili Yao; et al. 2019. *Plan-and-Write: Towards Better Automatic Storytelling*.

- **Knowledge Distillation**

- Zhen Huang; et al. 2021. *Revisiting knowledge distillation: An inheritance and exploration framework*

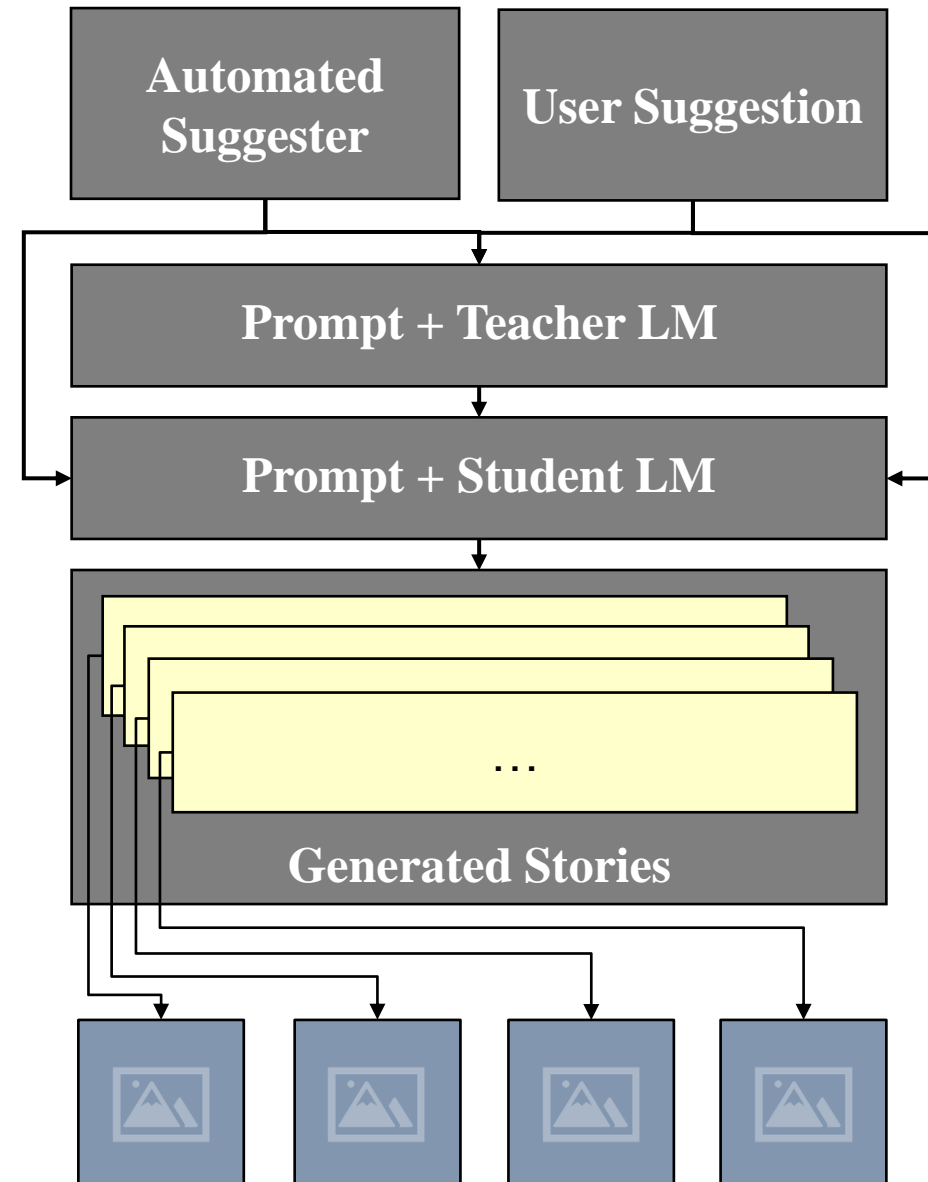
- Yoon Kim; et al. 2016. *Sequence-level knowledge distillation*

- Victor Sanh; et al. 2020. *Distilbert, a distilled version of bert: smaller, faster, cheaper and lighter*

# Statement of the work

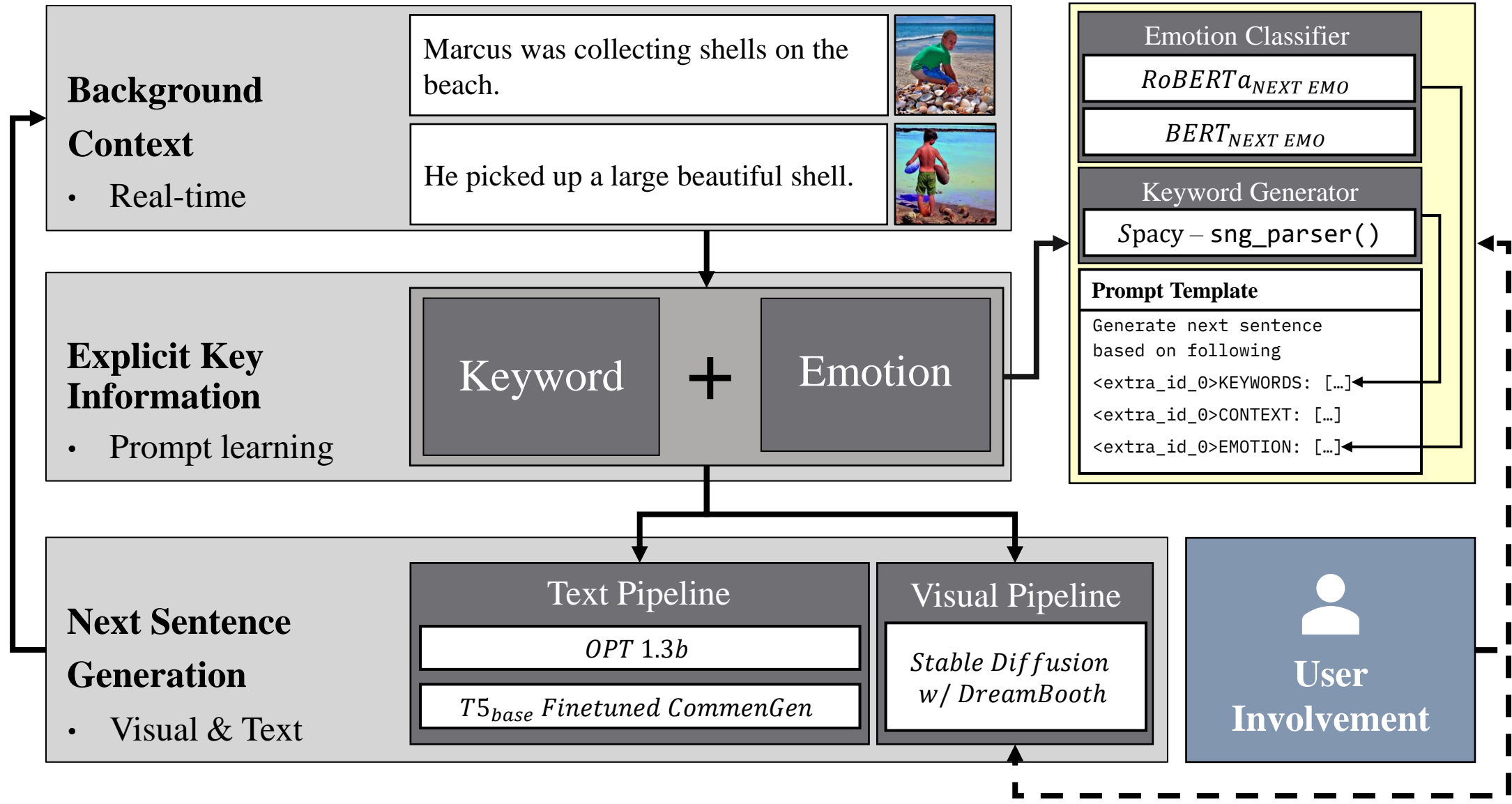
## *Interactive authoring system for story generation*

- **Separate authoring need from story composition**
  - User-controlled story generation with:
    - User's intention on key information
    - Priori knowledge of language models
- **Knowledge distillation in finetuning procedure**
  - Transfer knowledge to a smaller student model
  - Resulting model is more efficient with reduced computational resources
- **Image generation prompted by text content**
  - Enhance the flexibility in generation
  - Create immersion for design process
  - Provide potential creation suggestions based on image content



# Bring Language Model to Story Generation

*Basic Principle: Visual + Text Interactive Generation*



# Implementation of an End-to-end Pipeline

## *Dataset Format & Story Generation Process*

- **ROCStories (Story Cloze Test)**

- A dataset evaluating narrative structure learning
  - **98,159** stories
- Each story has a similar structure
  - Short narrative with *five* sentences
  - Logic & progression between sentences

- **Writing Prompts**

- **303,358** pairs of writing prompts and human-written stories
- Sourced from Reddit's r/WritingPrompts forum
- Diverse topics, lengths, and ideas

index	Sentence
0	Marcus was collecting shells on the beach.
1	He picked up a large beautiful shell.
2	He put it in his pocket to save for later.
3	Suddenly he felt a sharp pinch.
4	A crab was inside the shell pinching his leg.

index	Sentence
0	Oswald decided to write a novel.
1	He worked on his book for several months.
2	Oswald took his book to a publisher.
3	The publisher rejected his book almost immediately.
4	Oswald decided to give up on writing.

*Sample narratives quoted from Story Cloze*

# Implementation of an End-to-end Pipeline

## Text pipeline

- Encode emotion information as the input of model

$$\rightarrow \forall \vec{C} \in D, \vec{C} = \begin{bmatrix} e_1 \\ \vdots \\ e_8 \end{bmatrix}, e \in [0, 1]$$



→ 8-label prediction using *RoBERTa<sub>large</sub>*

- 78.3% Macro ROC AUC

→ *Objective:*

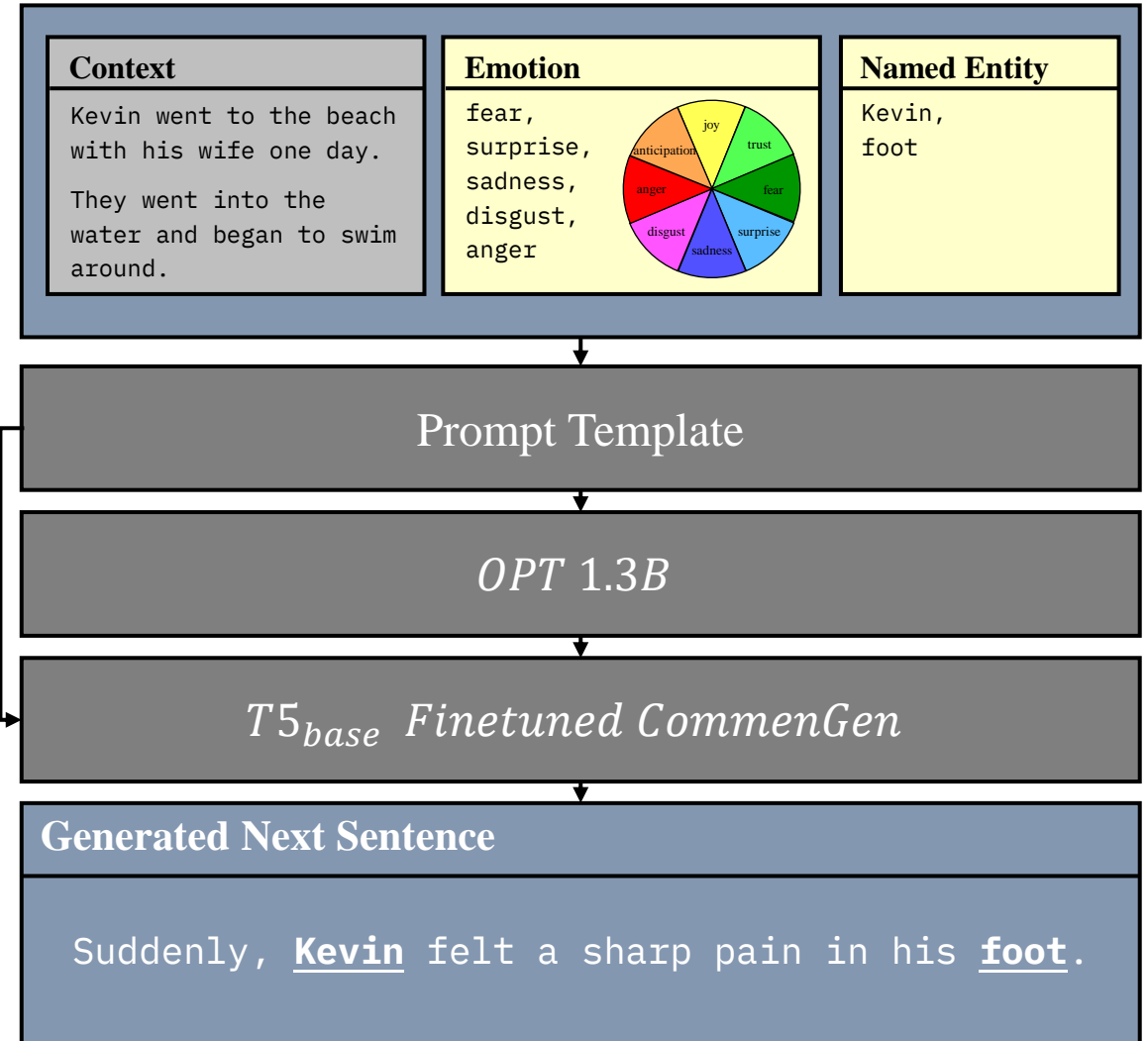
- generate confidence level of each emotion categories based on input sentence

- Generate a set of entities for next sentence

→ Named entity extraction using *sng\_parser*

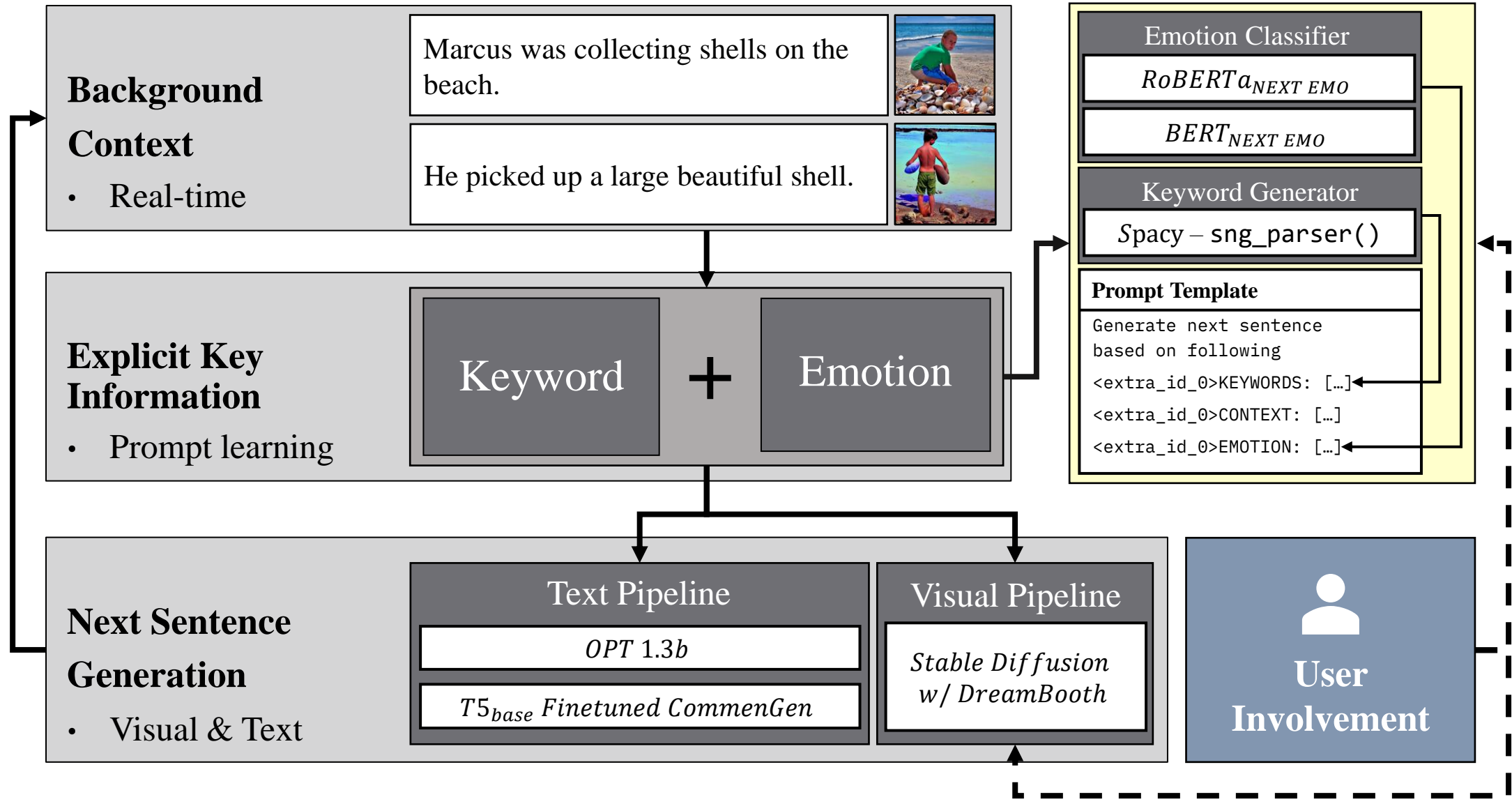
→ *Objective:*

- generate a set of entities based on context



# Bring Language Model to Story Generation

*Basic Principle: Visual + Text Interactive Generation*





# Implementation of an End-to-end Pipeline

## *Text pipeline – Teacher Model*

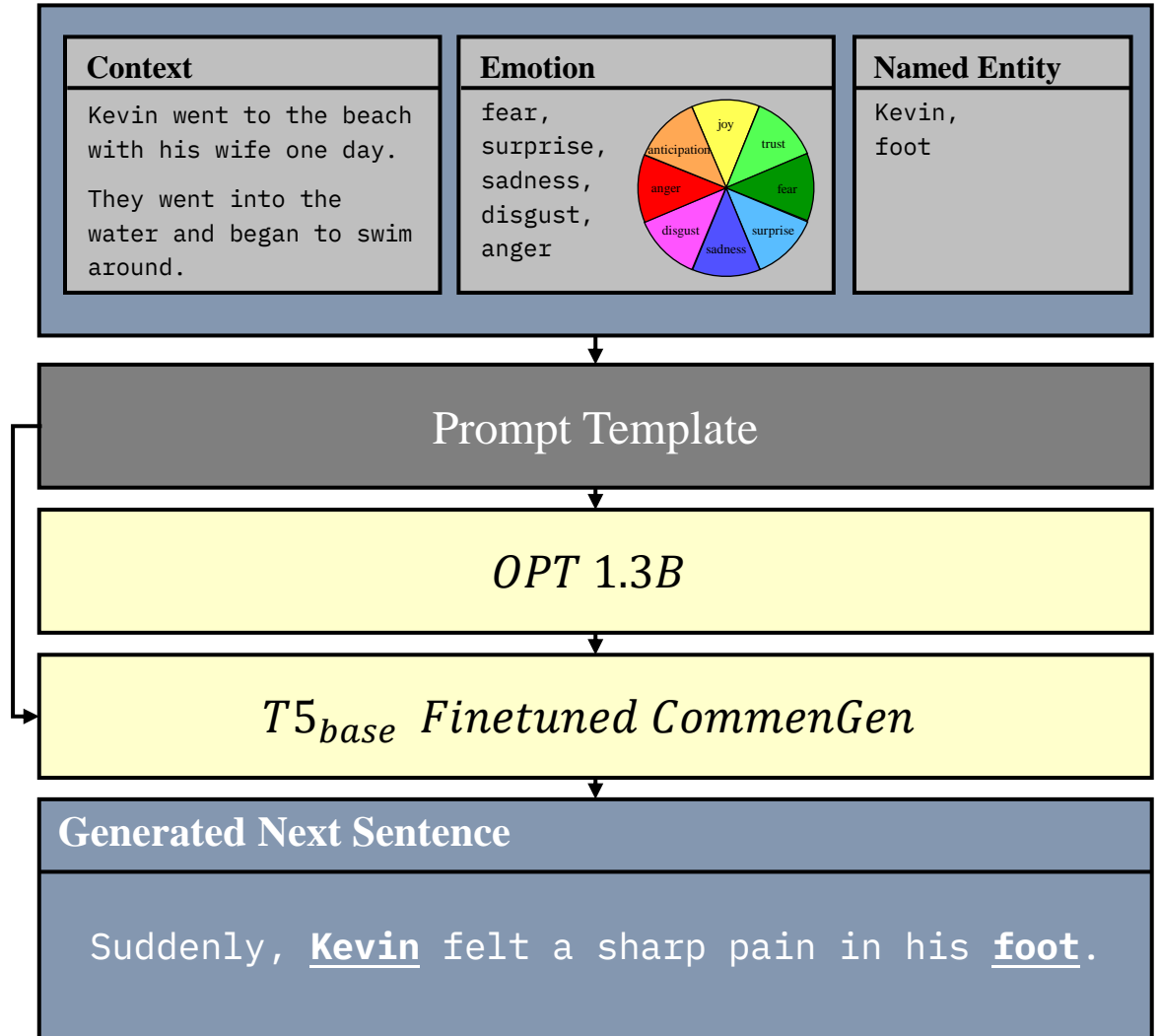
- **Teacher network: OPT 1.3B**

- Source of knowledge for the student model
- Large, pre-trained language model
- Trained on massive datasets; capture intricate

Model	# Parameters	Comparison
OPT 1.3B	1,300,000,000 (1.3b)	OPT is <b>5.9x</b> more than T5
T5-Base	220,000,000 (220m)	

- **Architectural enhancements**

- Different positional encoding for processing large inputs
- Contributes to coherent, contextually appropriate text generation



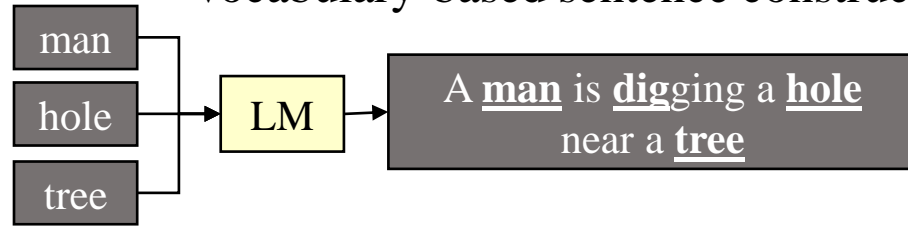
# Implementation of an End-to-end Pipeline

## *Text pipeline – Student Model*

- **Multi-task pre-training on multiple datasets**

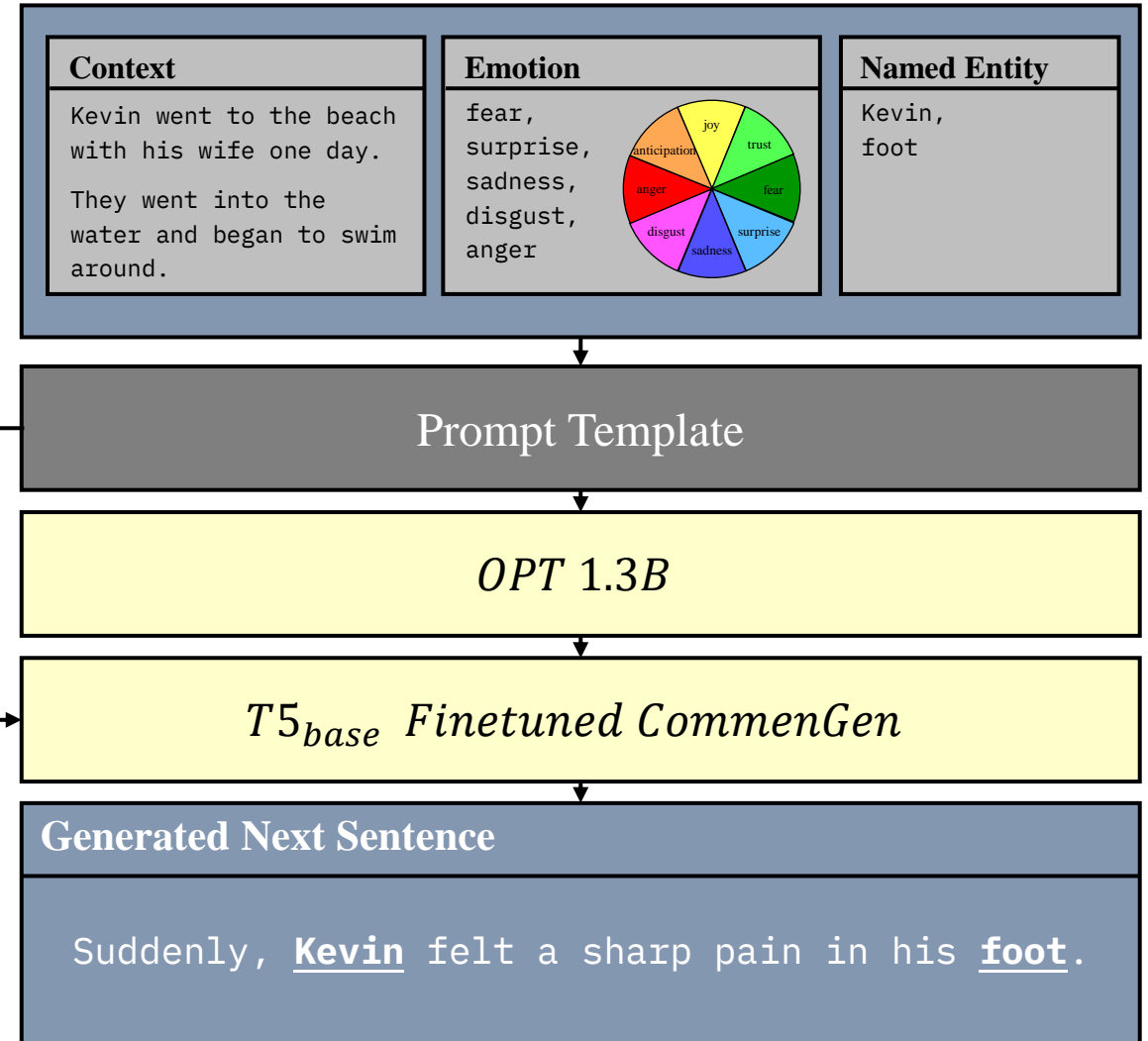
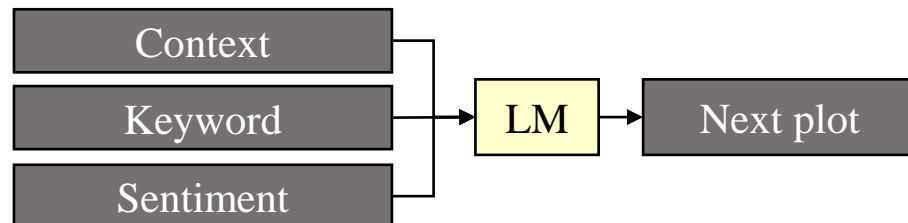
- **CommenGen**

- mrm8488/t5-base-finetuned-common\_gen
    - Constrained text generation task
    - *Objective:*
      - Vocabulary-based sentence construction



- **Story Commonsense**

- Bring keywords and prompt template to task
    - *Objective:*
      - Generate next sentence based on input



# Implementation of an End-to-end Pipeline

## *Text pipeline – Implementation & Evaluation*

- **Knowledge distillation process**

$$\rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{ce} = KL\left(\sigma_m\left(\frac{\text{logits}_{student}}{T}\right) \parallel \sigma_m\left(\frac{\text{logits}_{teacher}}{T}\right)\right)$$

$$\rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{mlm} = \ell_{cross\ entropy}(\text{logits}_{student}, \text{input ids})$$

$$\rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{cos} = \ell_{cosine\ loss}(h_{student}, h_{teacher}, \text{target})$$

$$\rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{total} = \alpha_{ce}\mathcal{L}_{ce} + \alpha_{mlm}\mathcal{L}_{mlm} + \alpha_{cos}\mathcal{L}_{cos}$$

$$\rightarrow \text{Optimal: } T = 2, \alpha_{ce} = 0.4, \alpha_{mlm} = 0.5, \alpha_{cos} = 0.1.$$

- **Evaluation metrics for generated content**

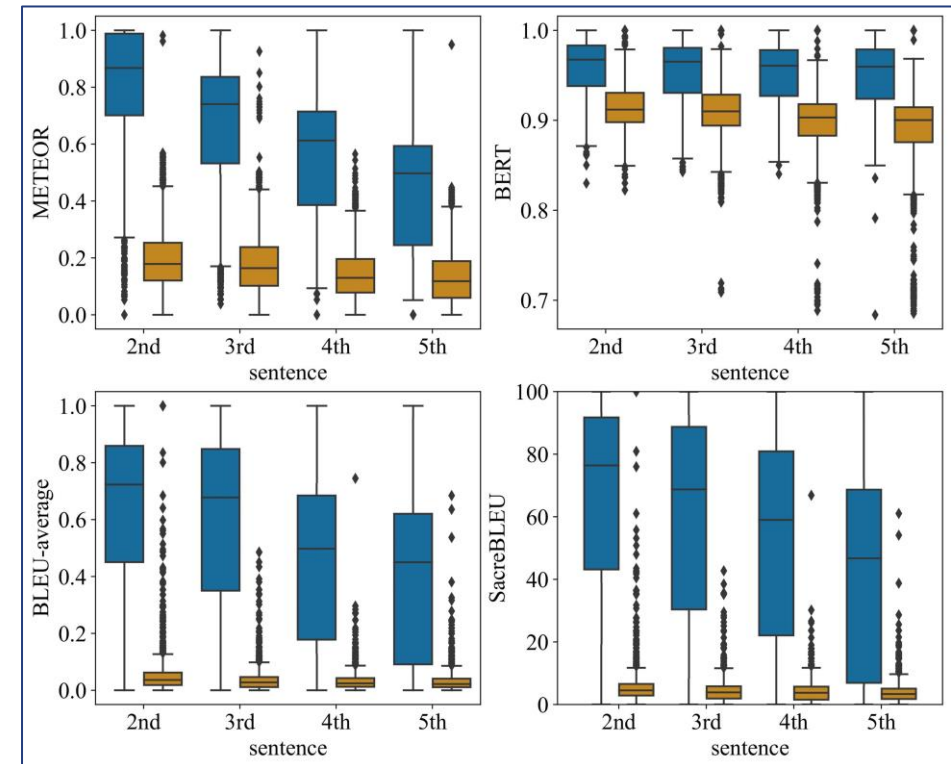
→ BLEU, BERT-score, METEOR, SacreBLEU

→ Measures exact word matching, stemming, synonym matching

- **Experimental results**

→ Improvements in evaluation metrics compared to baseline model

→ Emotions, keywords, and knowledge distillation enhance story generation quality



*Demo*

**<http://vsg-ek.herokuapp.com/>**

# Future Works & Conclusion

## Visual Story Generation Based on Emotional and Keyword Scheme

- **Two key directions**

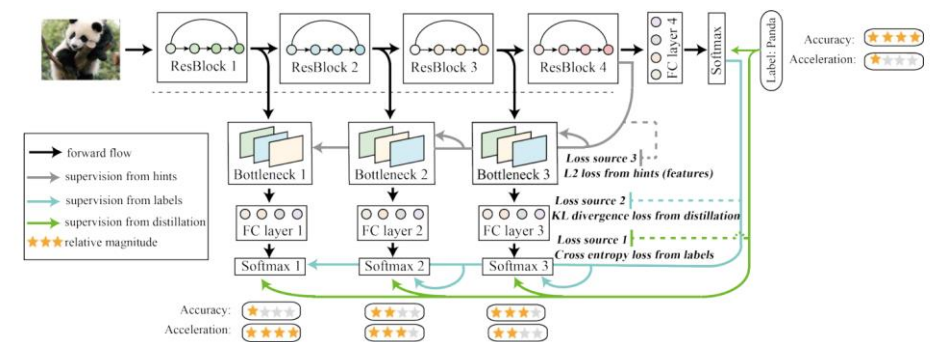
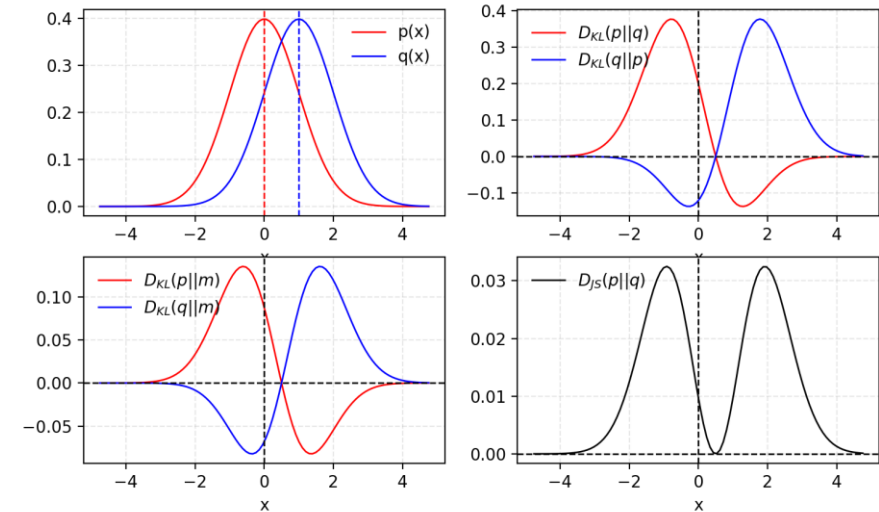
→ Replace KL divergence with *Jensen-Shannon divergence*

$$JS(P, Q) = \frac{1}{2}KL(P || M) + \frac{1}{2}KL(Q || M), M = \frac{1}{2}(P + Q)$$

- **Symmetry:** consistent distance measure
- **Smoothness:** robust to noise and local minima

→ Explore *self-distillation* for language generation

- **Regularization:** better generalization, reduced overfitting
- **Simplification** of implementation: reduced computational overhead



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# Q & A

## 1. State-of-the-art Work of Short Narrative Creation

- Separate authoring need from story composition need
- Prompt-based learning for image generation

## 2. Statement of the work

- Basic Principle: Visual + Text Interactive Generation

## 3. Implementation of an End-to-end Pipeline

- Part 1 – Suggester & Prompt Learning  
→ *Named Entities + Sentiments Label + Context = Controlled story...*
- Part 2 – Knowledge distillation  
→  $\mathcal{L}_{total} = \alpha_{ce} \mathcal{L}_{ce} + \alpha_{mlm} \mathcal{L}_{mlm} + \alpha_{cos} \mathcal{L}_{cos}$

## 4. Demo - <http://vsg-ek.herokuapp.com/>

- Modify suggested keywords for real-time plot changes based on requirements

## 5. Future Improvement & Conclusion

- *Jensen-Shannon divergence & self-distillation...*