

# Enhancing Large Language Models for a Dynamic World

**Presenter:** Zixuan Ke

<https://vincent950129.github.io/>

# LLM

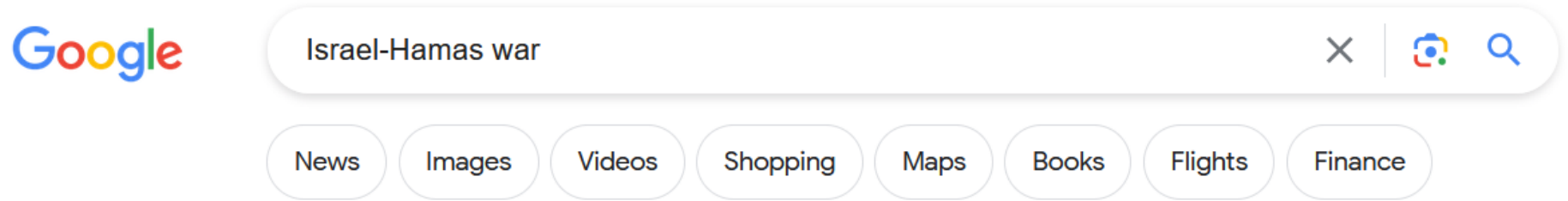


Packed with  
knowledge and excels  
in many tasks

# LLM in A Fixed World



# The World Changes Quickly



About 1,840,000,000 results (0.50 seconds)



It looks like the results below are changing quickly

If this topic is new, it can sometimes take time for reliable sources to publish information

---

- **Check the source**

Are they trusted on this topic?

- **Come back later**

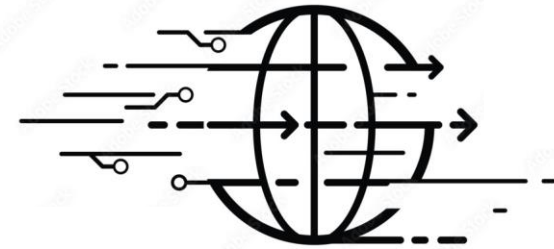
Other sources might have more information on this topic in a few hours or days

[Get more tips](#)

# LLM in A Dynamic World



Packed with  
knowledge and excels  
in many tasks



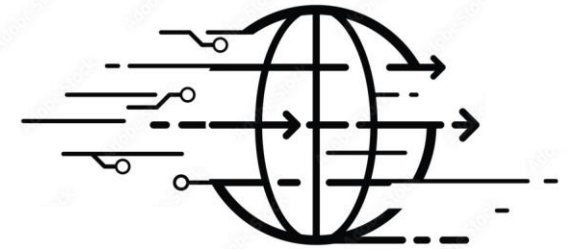
The world is **ever-  
changing**

# LLM in A Dynamic World



Packed with  
knowledge and excels  
in many tasks

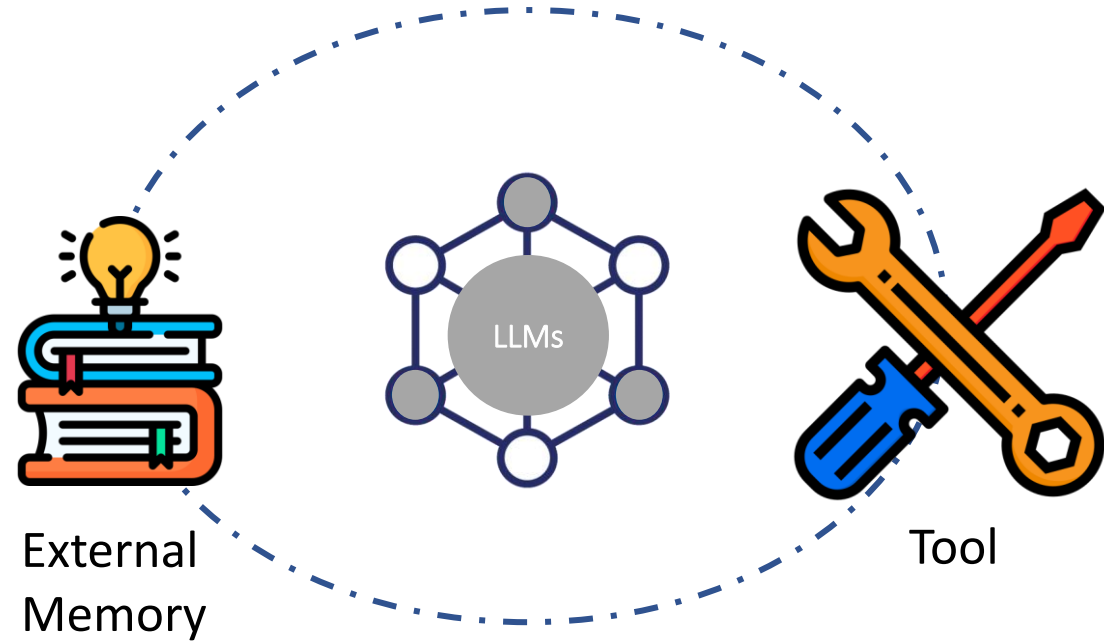
How to make knowledge  
in LLM more **reusable**  
and **updatable** in the  
**dynamic** world?



The world is **ever-**  
**changed**

# LLM in A Dynamic World

How to make knowledge in LLM more **reusable** and **updatable** in the **dynamic** world?



# Retrieval-augmented LLM



Who is the CEO of Twitter?



ChatGPT

As of my **knowledge cutoff in September 2021**, the CEO of Twitter is **Jack Dorsey**....



Who is the CEO of Twitter?



All



News



Images



Shopping



Videos



More

Tools

About 1,090,000,000 results (0.45 seconds)

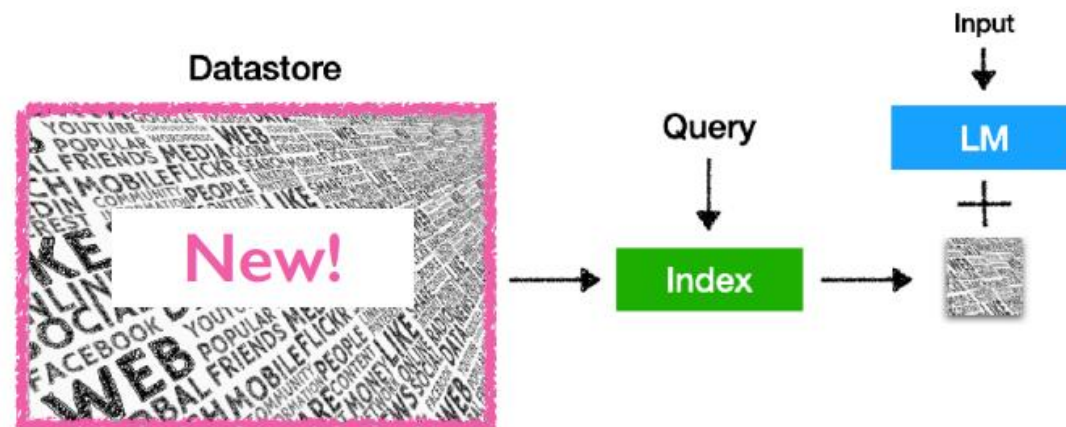
Twitter / CEO

Linda Yaccarino

Jun 5, 2023-



- The datastore can be easily **updated** and **expanded** - even without retraining!





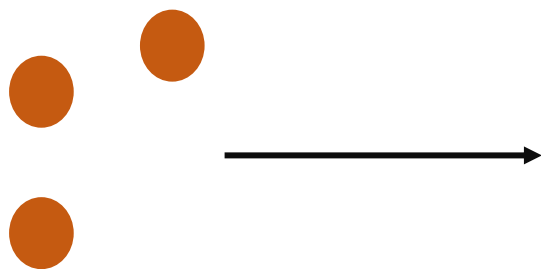
# LLM in A Dynamic World

How to make knowledge  
in LLM more **reusable**  
and **updatable** in the  
**dynamic** world?



# Continual Learning

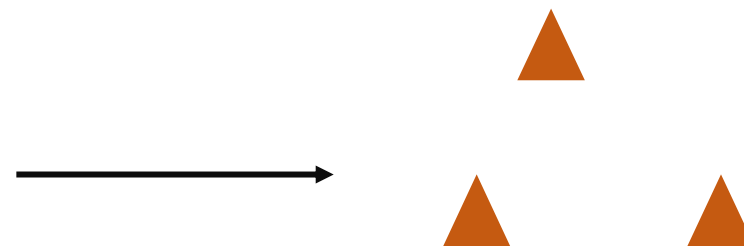
What will happen if we **update the LLM** in a **changing world**?



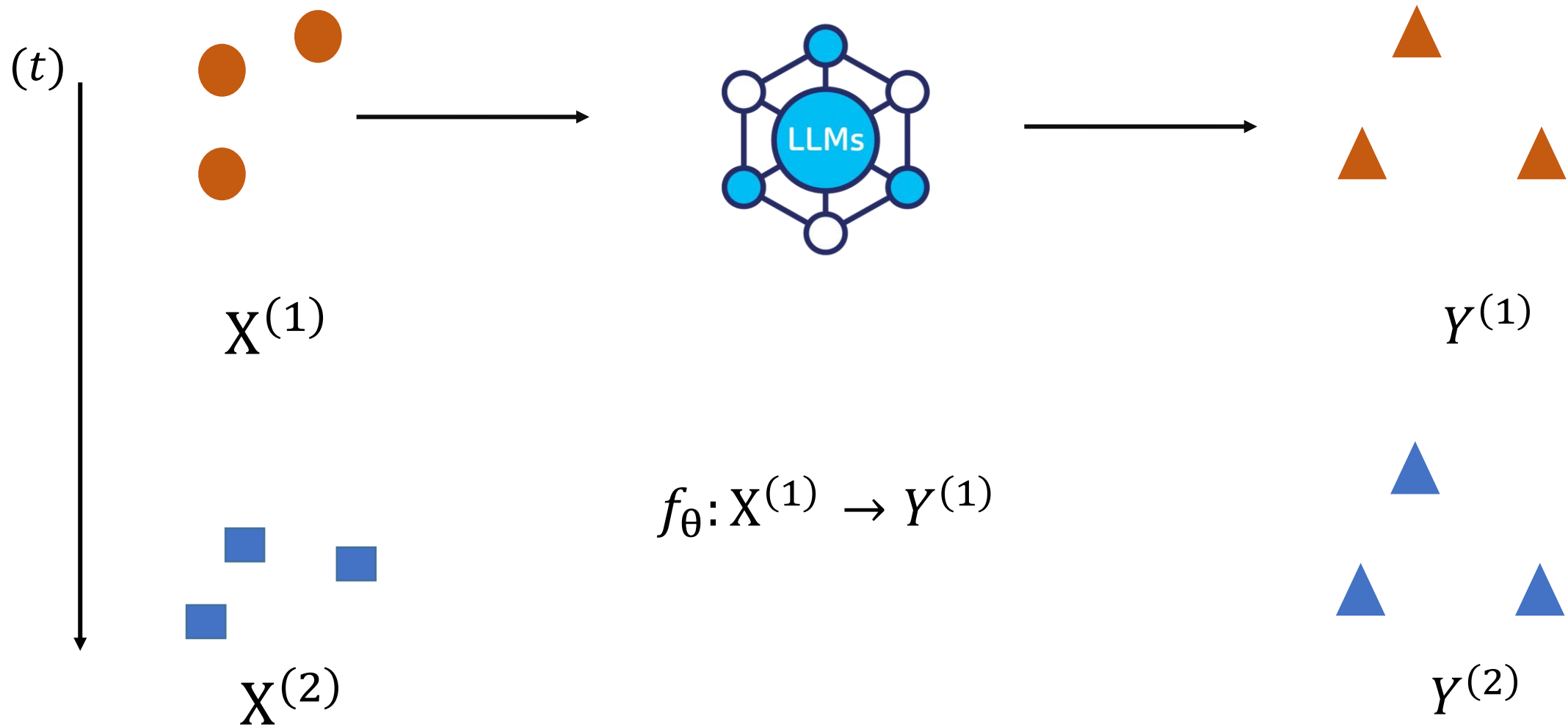
$X$



$f_{\theta}: X \rightarrow Y$

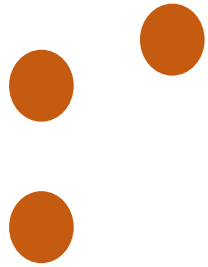


$Y$



Another dimension, can be  
**Task** (sentiment classification, news classification...)  
**Domain** (restaurant, phone, camera...)  
**Class** (dog, cat, car, horse...)  
**Time** (2020, 2023...)  
etc.

$(t)$



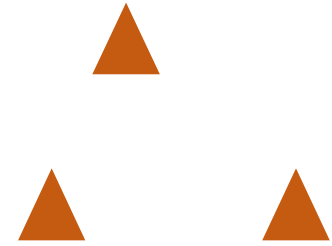
$X^{(1)}$



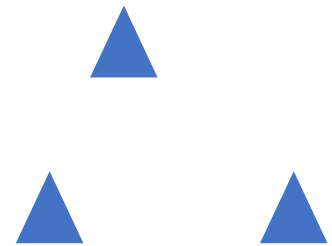
$X^{(2)}$



$$f_{\theta}: X^{(1)} \rightarrow Y^{(1)}$$

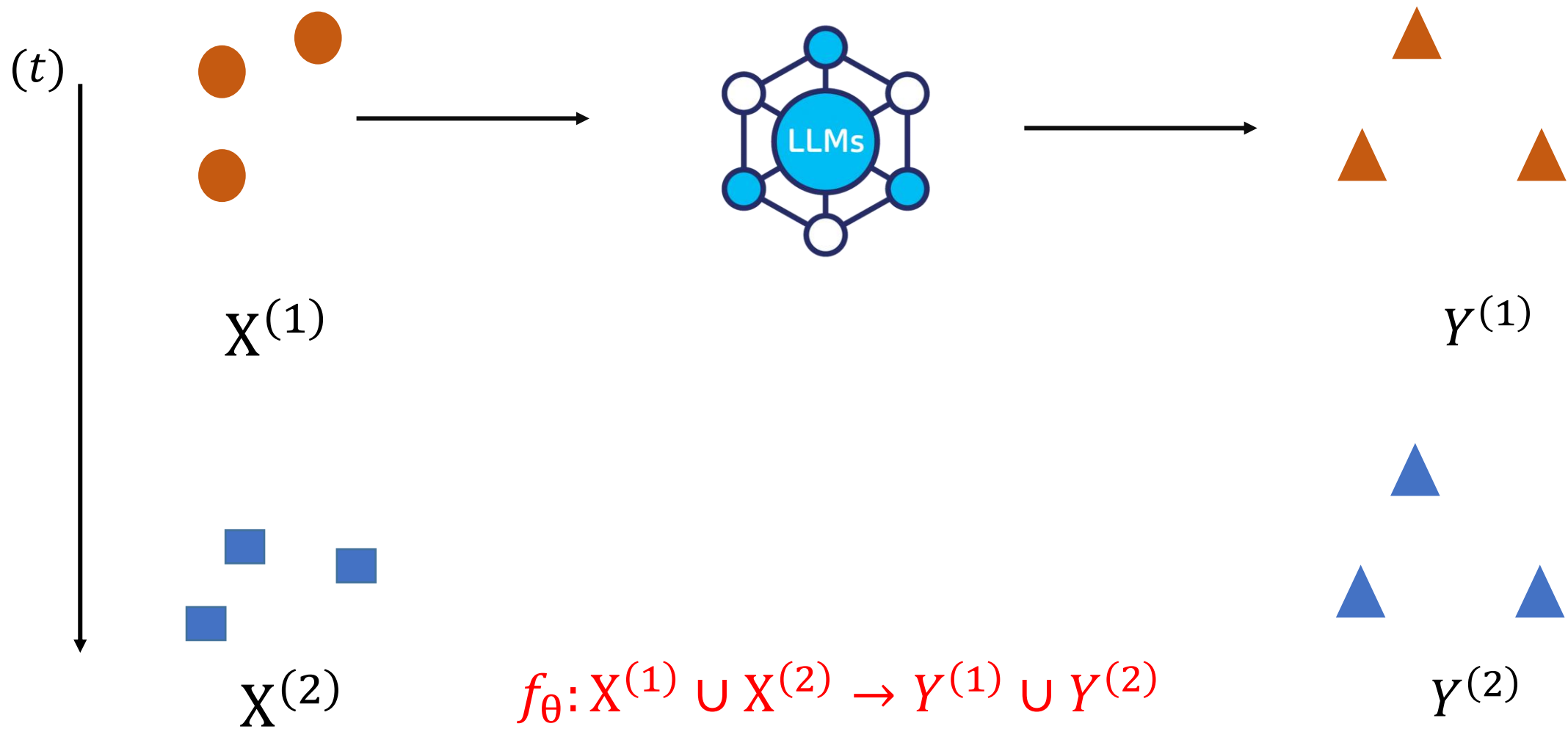


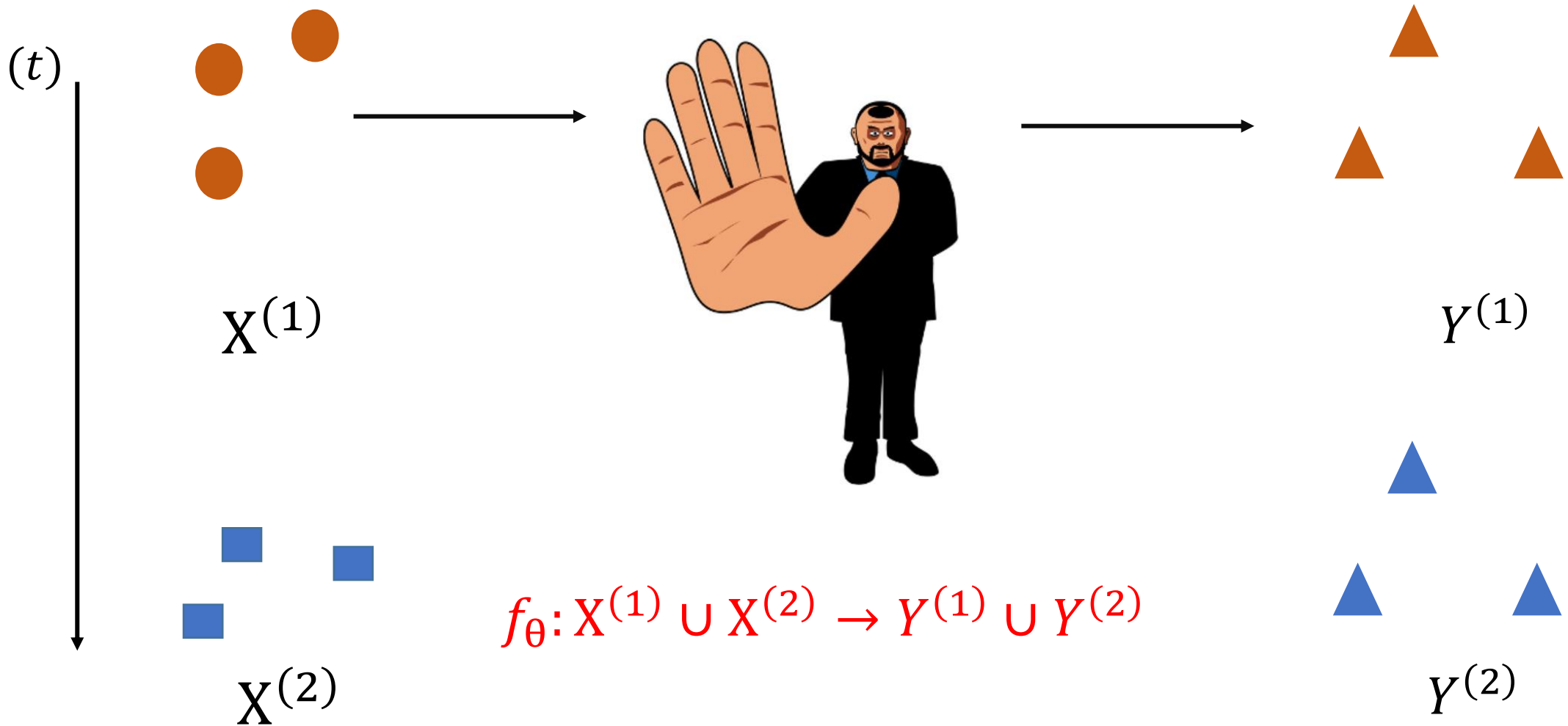
$Y^{(1)}$



$Y^{(2)}$

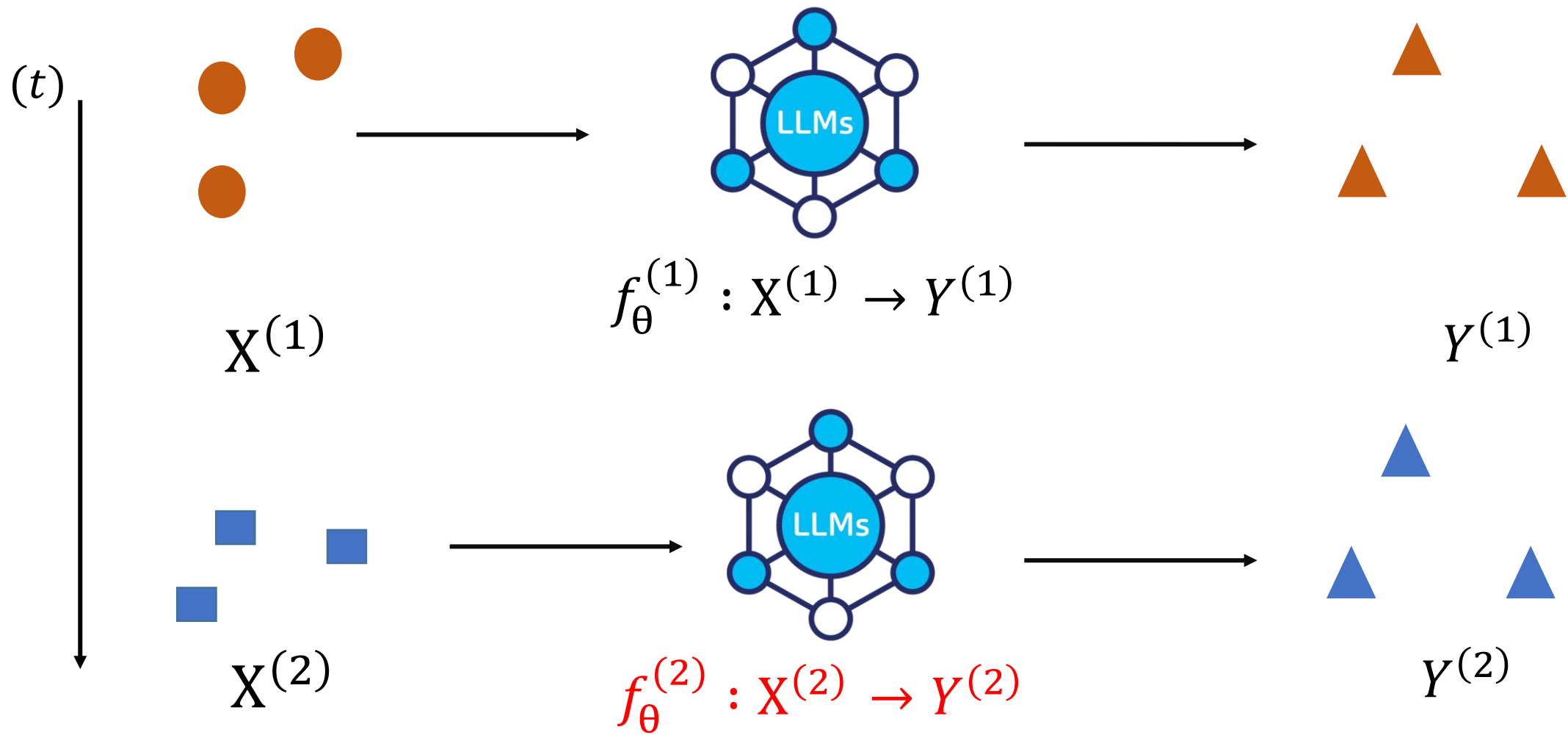
The dimension  $t$  can be called “task” in continual learning



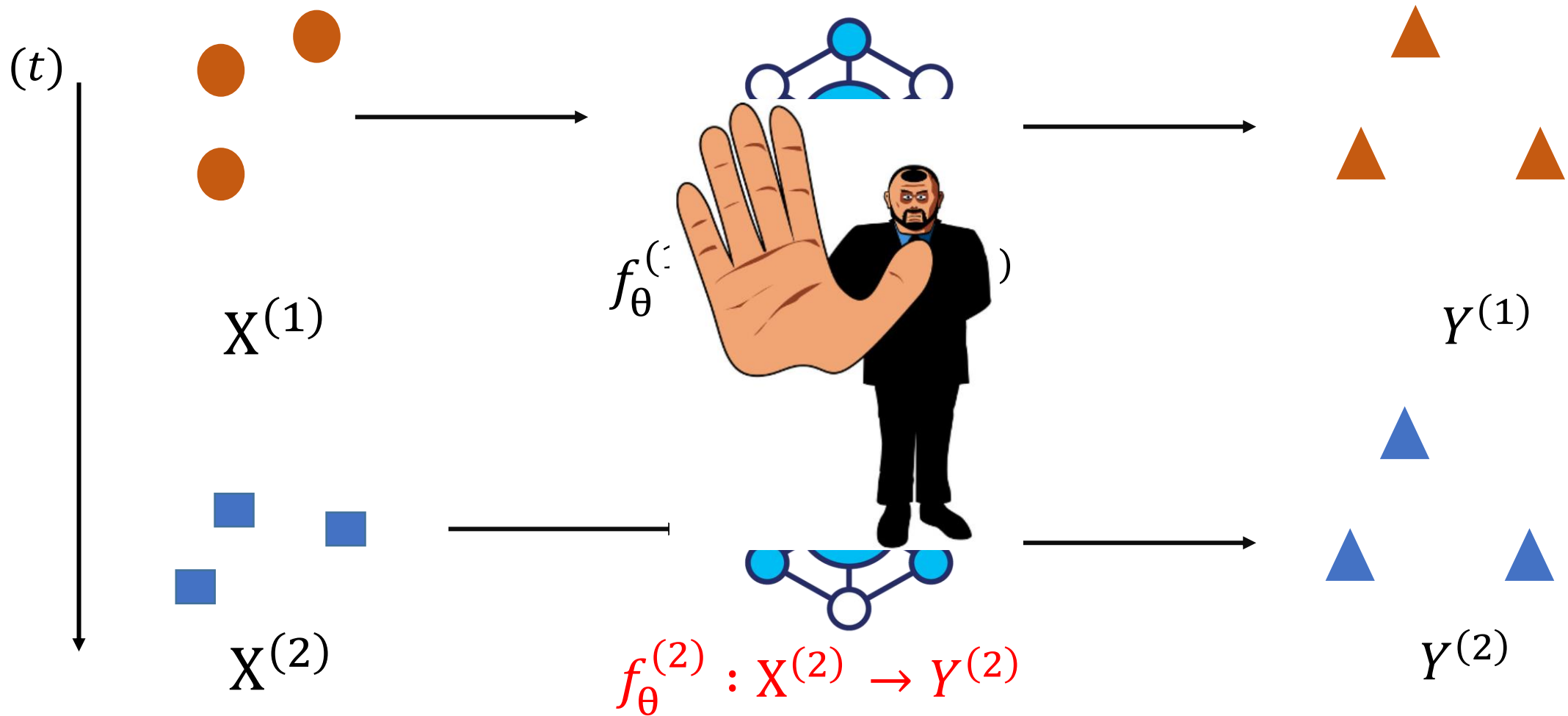


Cons

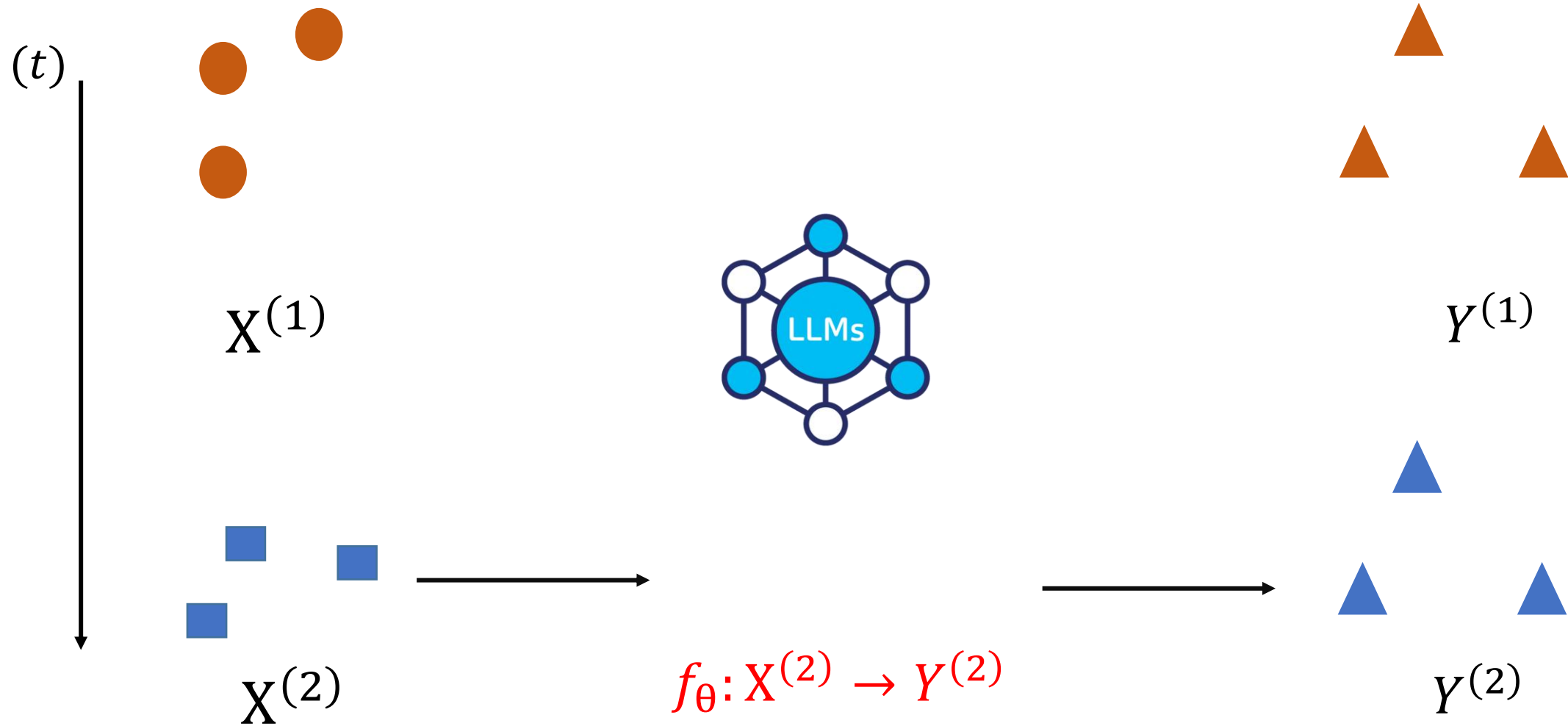
- Train from scratch whenever update is needed
- Save all the past data
- Privacy concern (user may not want to share their personal data)
- etc.

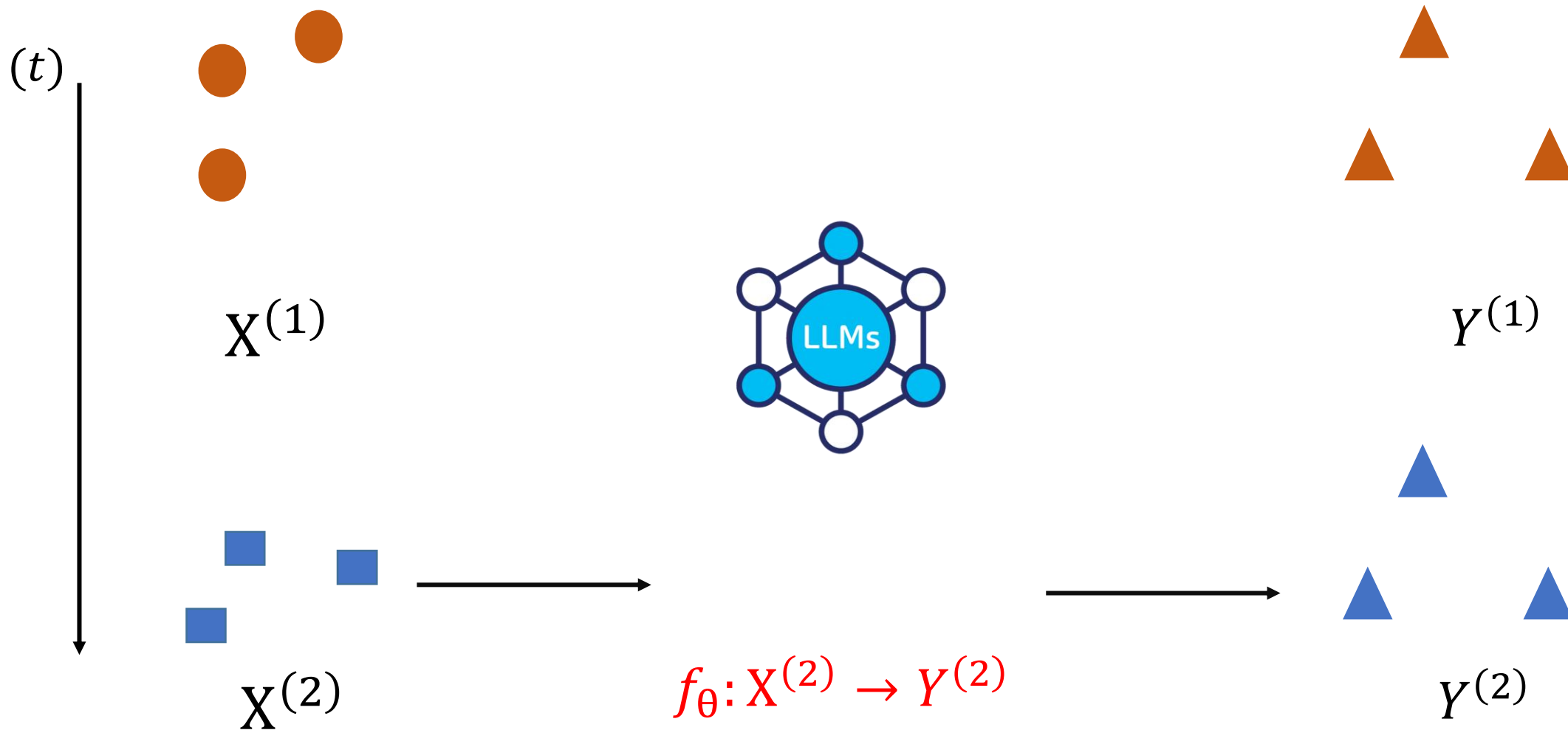






**Cons** { Models are isolated. They are hard to help each other  
Need to know the task belonging in testing  
Need to train a new model whenever update is needed  
etc.





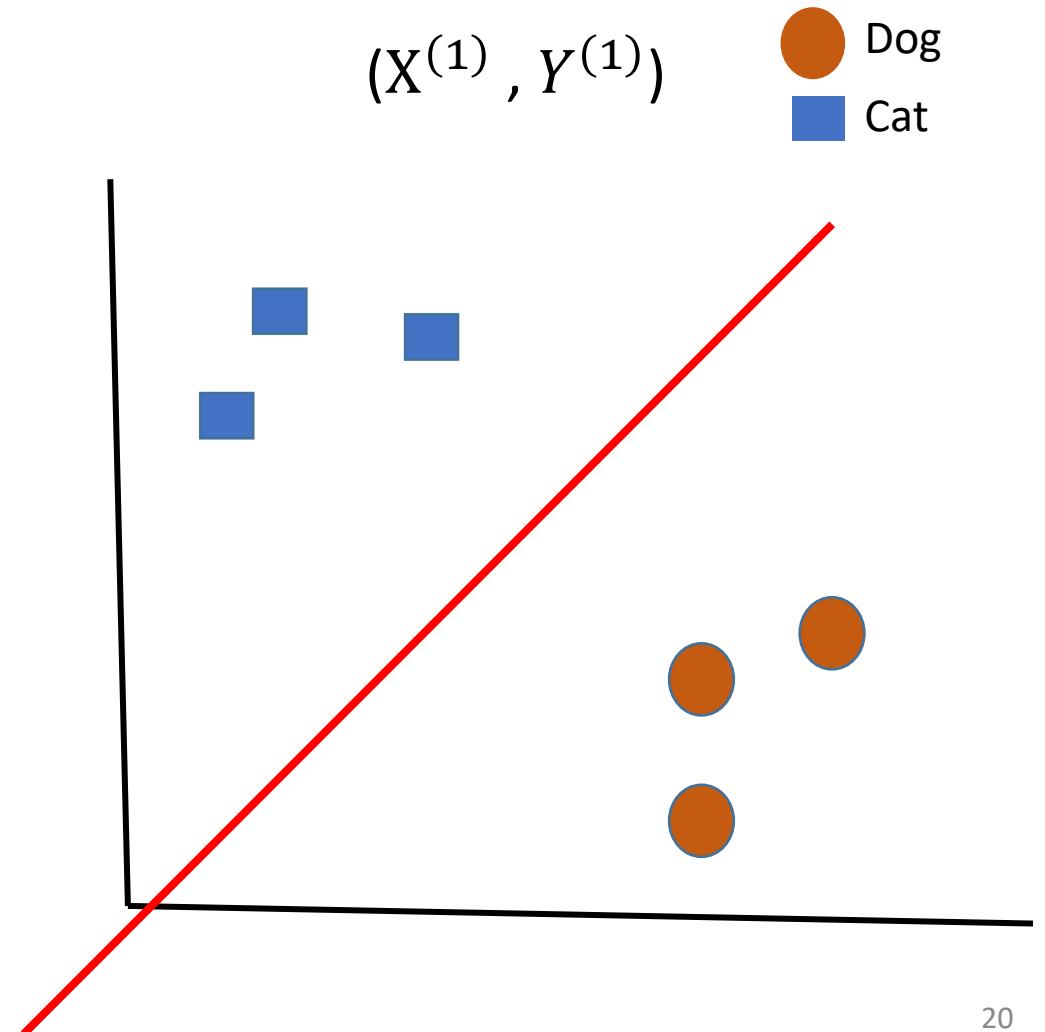
Challenges:

**Catastrophic Forgetting (CF)**

**Knowledge Transfer (KT)**

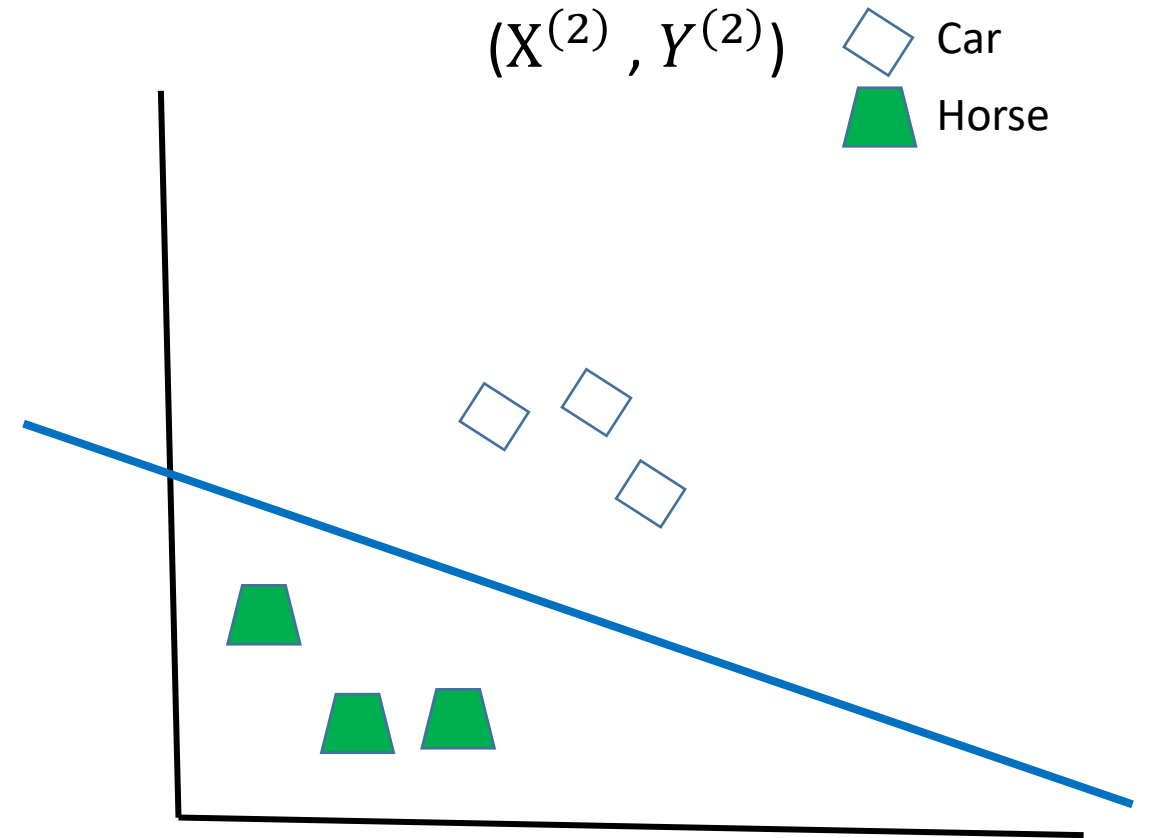
# Catastrophic Forgetting

- Simple case:
  - 2 features
  - Learn a line in 2D plane
- You learn a perfect line for task 1



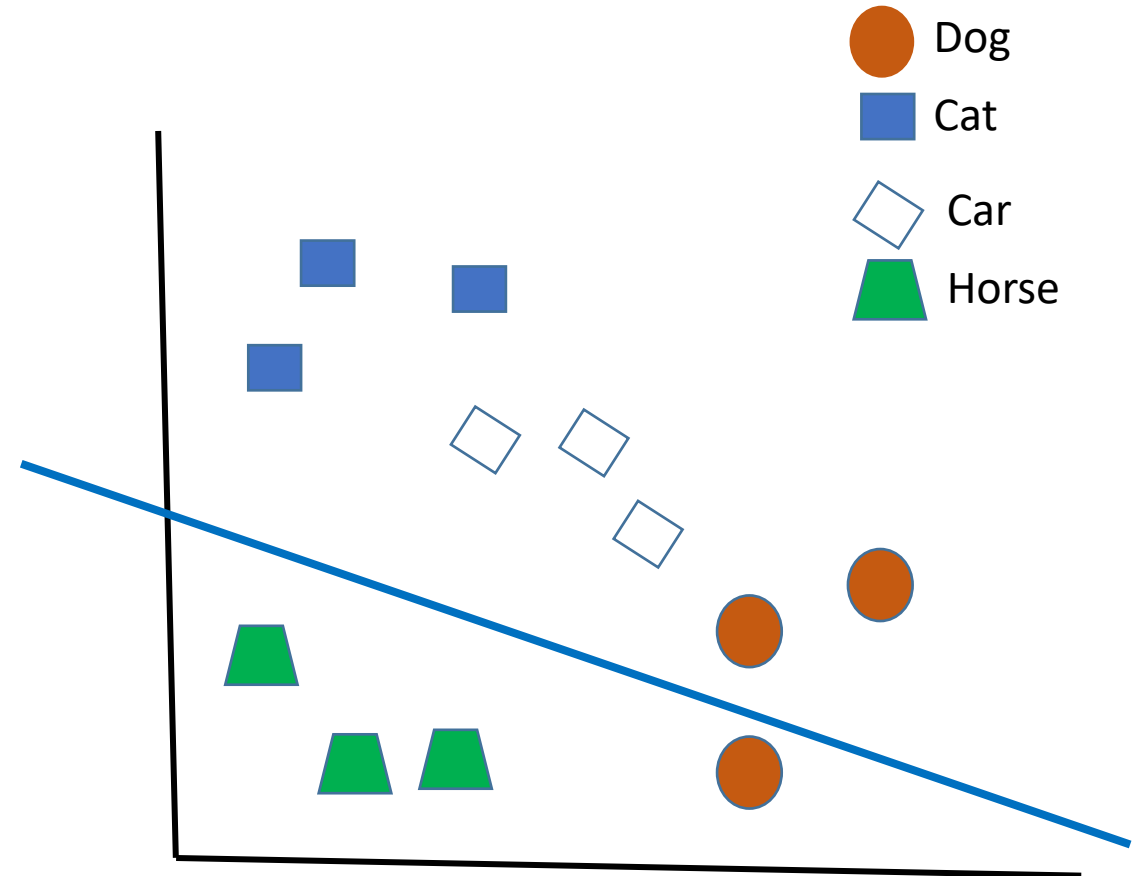
# Catastrophic Forgetting

- Simple case:
  - 2 features
  - Learn a line in 2D plane
- **Update** the learned parameters, and learn **another** perfect separate line for task 2



# Catastrophic Forgetting

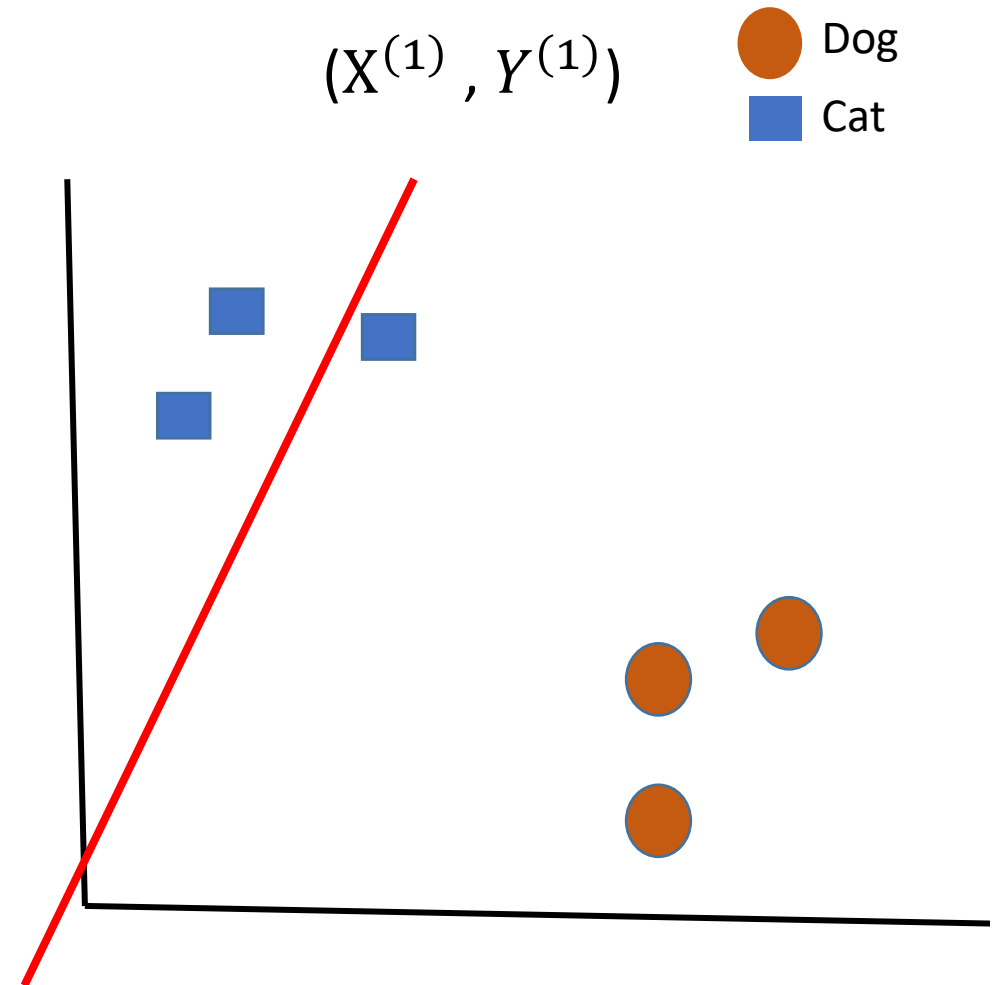
- Simple case:
  - Evaluate the final model on **both** learned tasks (assuming task id unknown)
- After learning a second task, you **forget** how to deal with the first task!



Catastrophic Forgetting (CF)

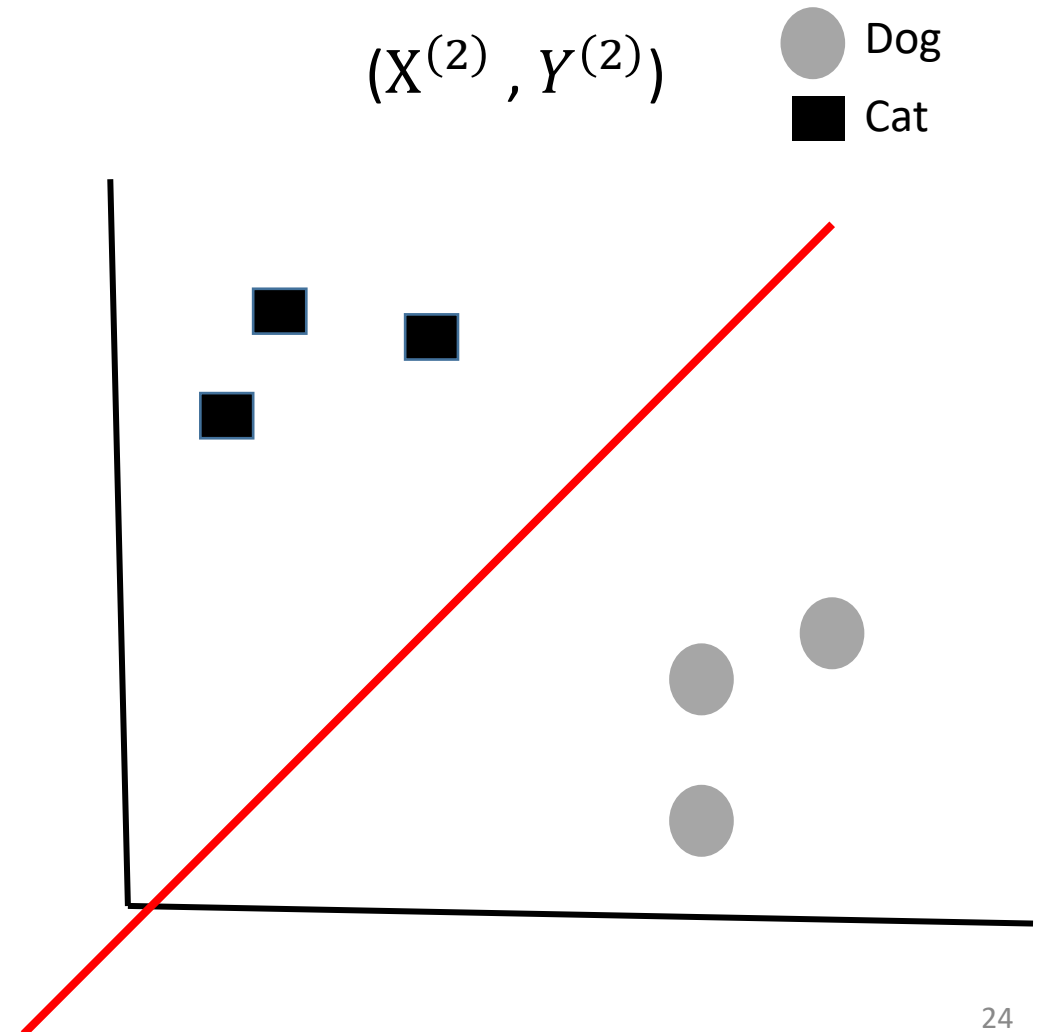
# Knowledge Transfer

- Simple case:
  - 2 features
  - Learn a line in 2D plane
- This time, you learn an **imperfect** line for task 1



# Knowledge Transfer

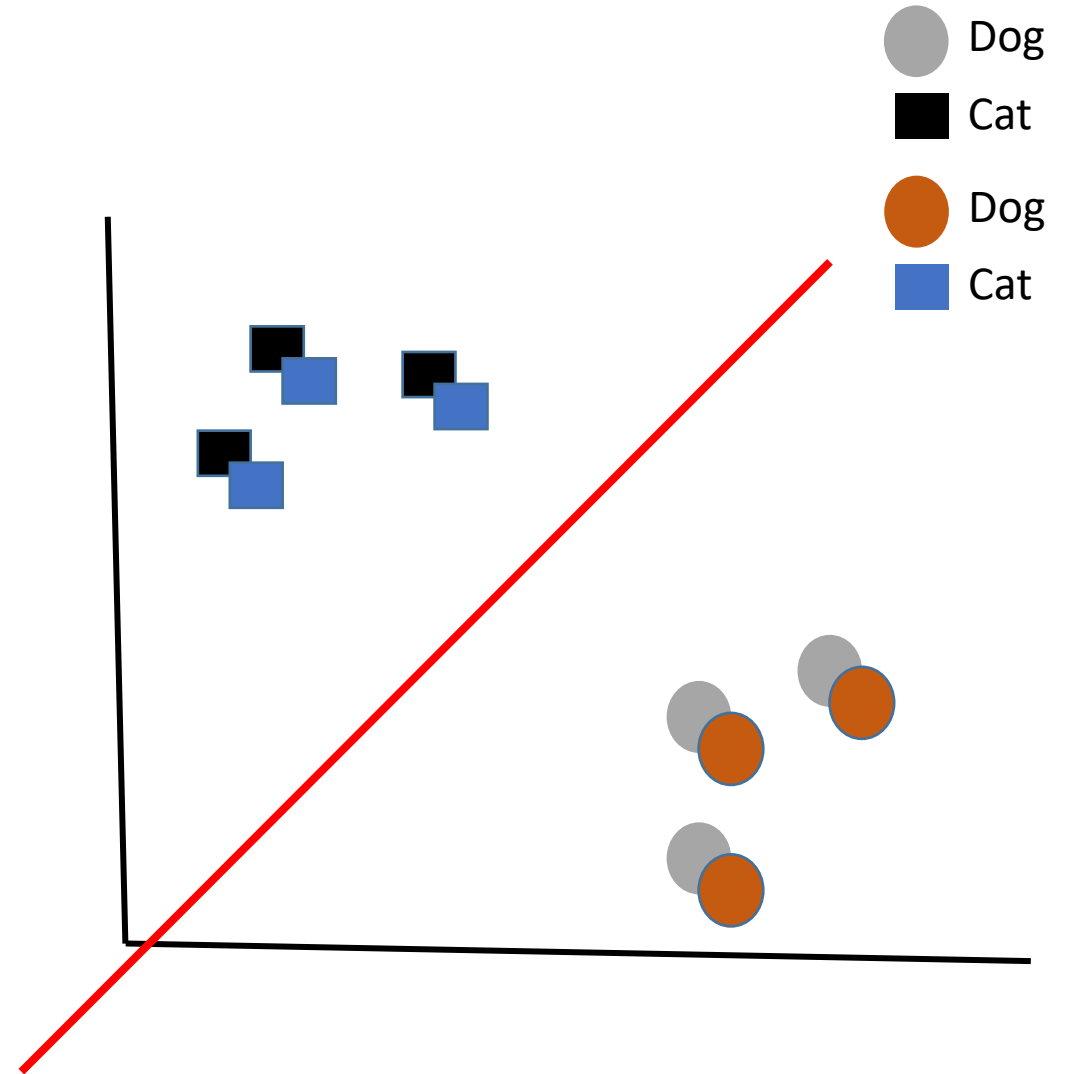
- Simple case:
  - 2 features
  - Learn a line in 2D plane
- Task 2 has **similar label** as task 1, but the input images becomes **binary**
- You learn a **perfect** line for task 2





# Knowledge Transfer

- Simple case:
  - Evaluate the final model on **both** learned tasks
- After Learning a second task, the **old task improved**
- Because the knowledge from task 2 is **helpful** to task 1



Knowledge Transfer (KT)

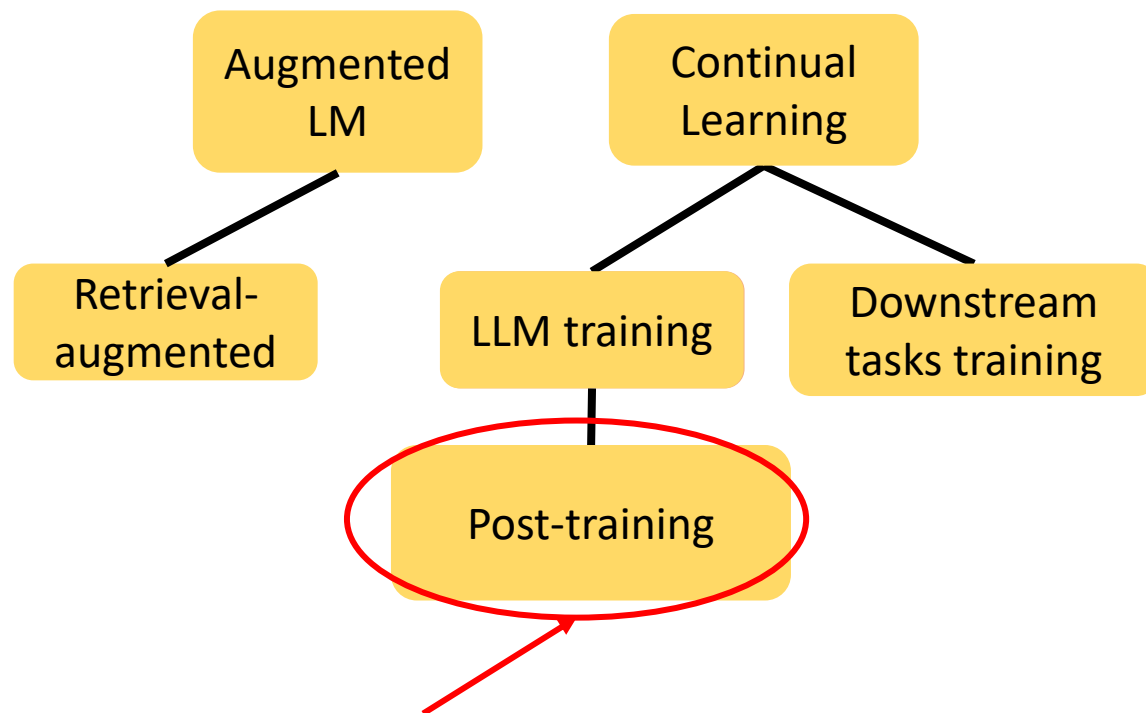
# Continual Learning

How to

- (1) **Mitigate forgetting**, i.e., perform reasonably well on what has been learned
- (2) **Knowledge transfer**, i.e., relevant tasks can help each other

# Enhancing LLM for A Dynamic World

How to make knowledge in LLM more **reusable** and **updatable**?



Continual Post-training of Language Models, Ke et al., ICLR 2023

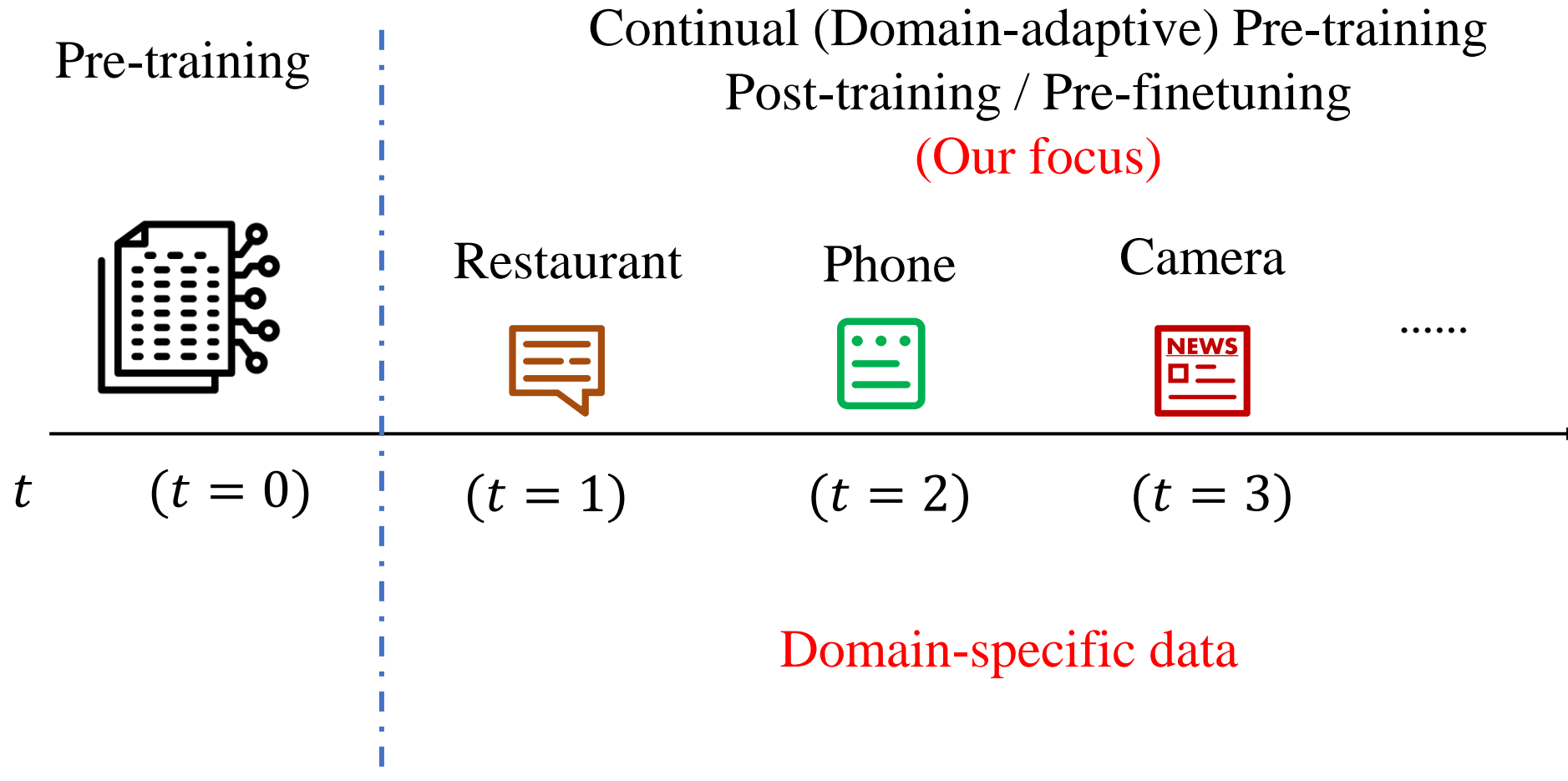
# Plan

- Motivation
- Introduction
  - Continual Learning
- Continual Post-training of Language model
- Conclusion and future work

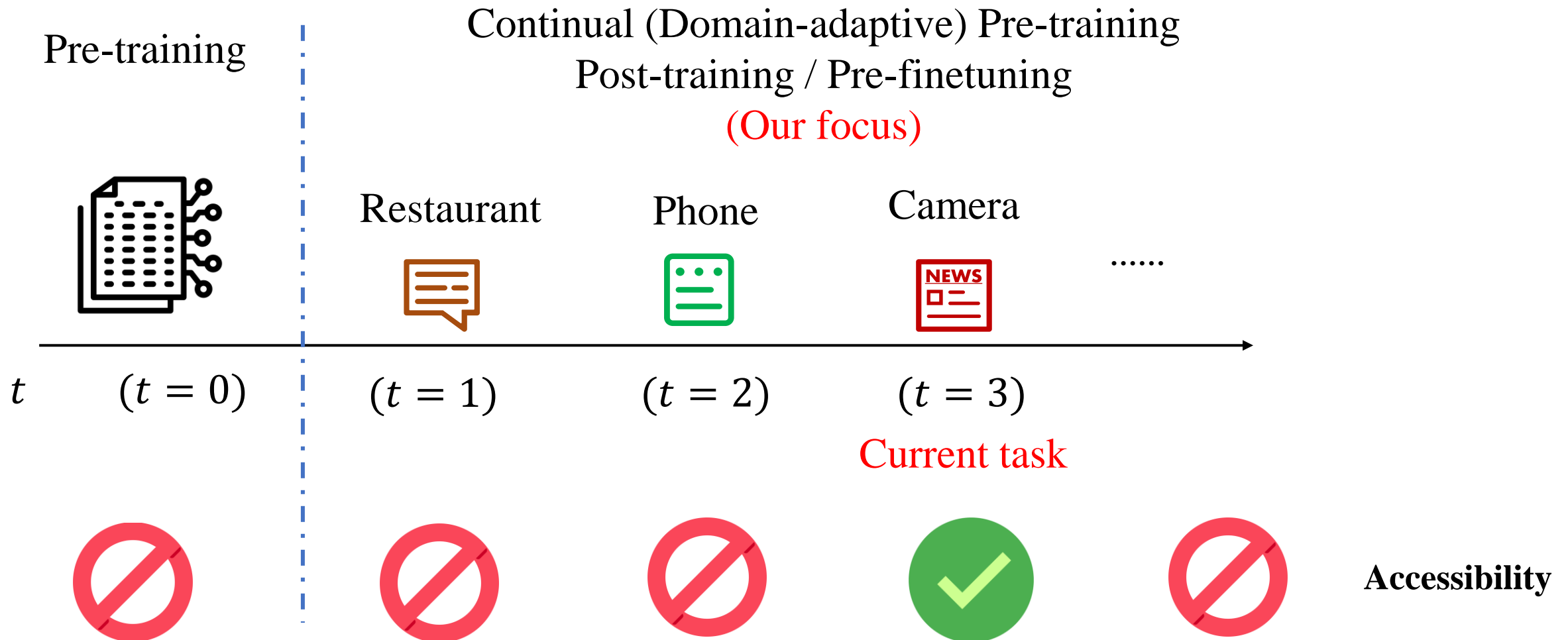
# Continual Post-training of Language Model

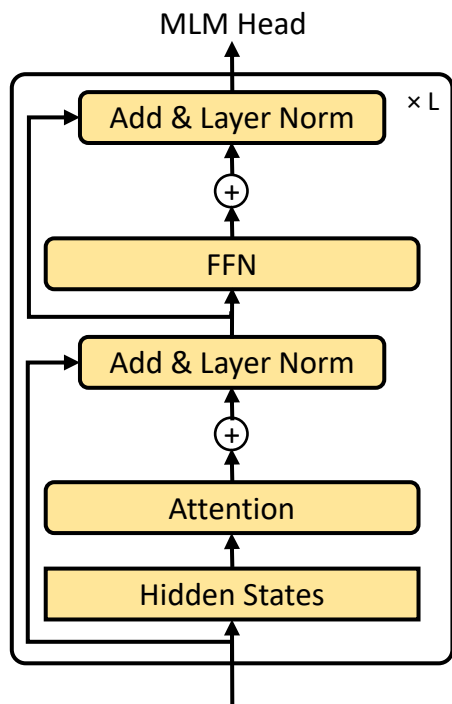


# Continual Post-training of Language Model



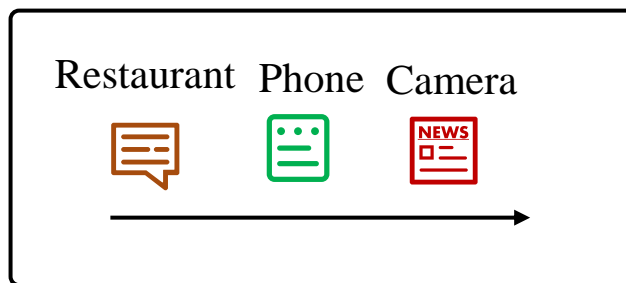
# Continual Post-training of Language Model





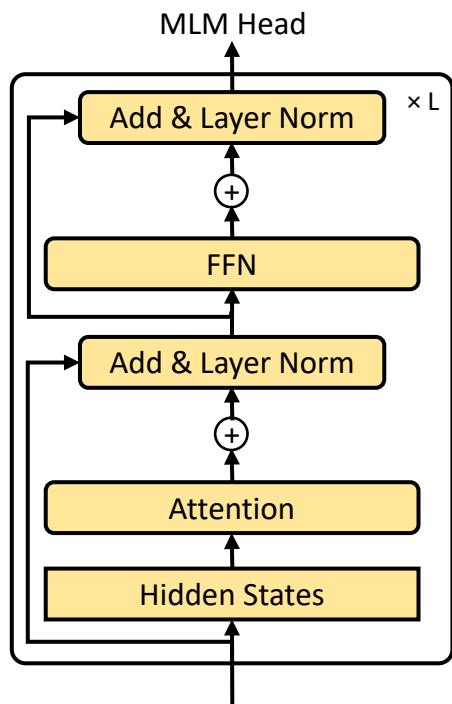
(We use RoBERTa in this work)

## (A) **Continual** Post-training



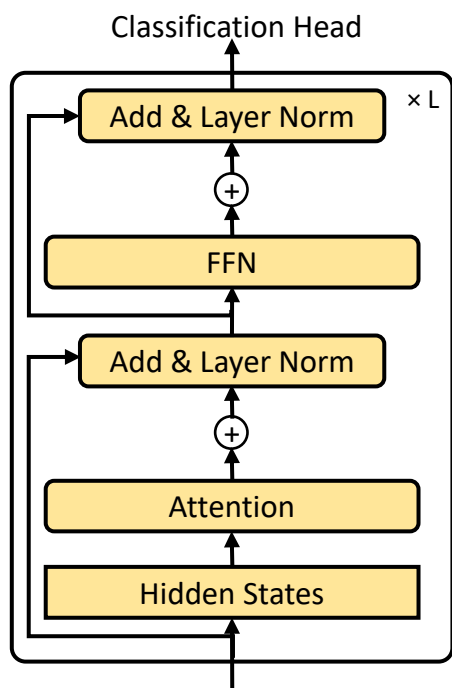
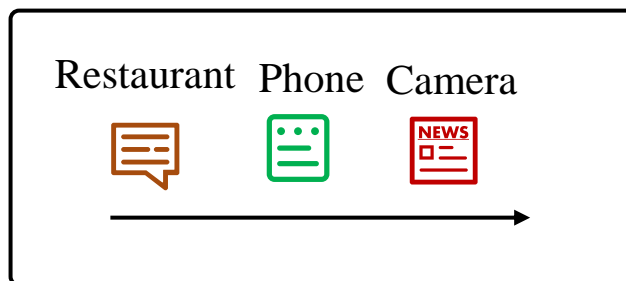
**First, we continually post-trains a sequence of domains**





## (A) Continual Post-training

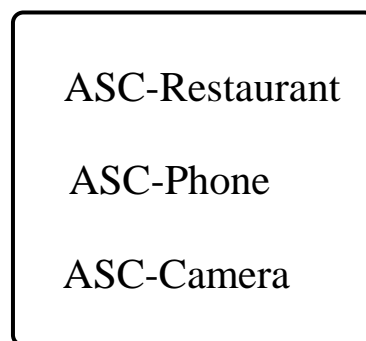
First, we continually pre-trains a **sequence of domains**



## (B) Individual Fine-tuning

After (A), the performance is **evaluated** by end-tasks

End-tasks



ASC: Aspect Sentiment Classification

Each end-task **corresponding** to one domain and has its **own** training and testing set. It is trained individually and **will not** affect the continual learning

# Continual Post-training of Language Model

6 domains

Unlabelde Domain Datasets			End-Task Classification Datasets				
Source	Dataset/Domain	Size	Dataset/Domain	Task	#Training	#Testing	#Classes
Reviews	Yelp Restaurant	758MB	Restaurant	Aspect Sentiment Classification (ASC)	3,452	1,120	3
	Amazon Phone	724MB	Phone	Aspect Sentiment Classification (ASC)	239	553	2
	Amazon Camera	319MB	Camera	Aspect Sentiment Classification (ASC)	230	626	2
Academic Papers	ACL Papers	867MB	ACL	Citation Intent Classification	1,520	421	6
	AI Papers	507MB	AI	Relation Classification	2,260	2,388	7
	PubMed Papers	989MB	PubMed	Chemical-protein Interaction Prediction	2,667	7,398	13

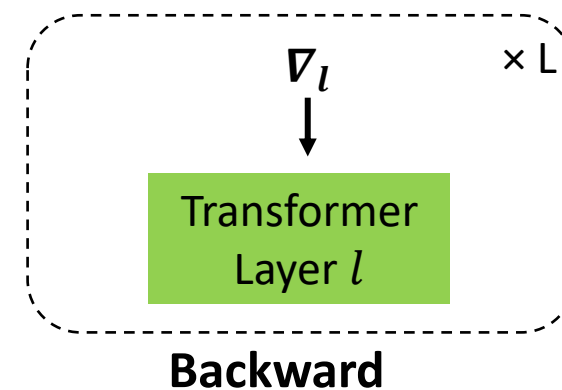
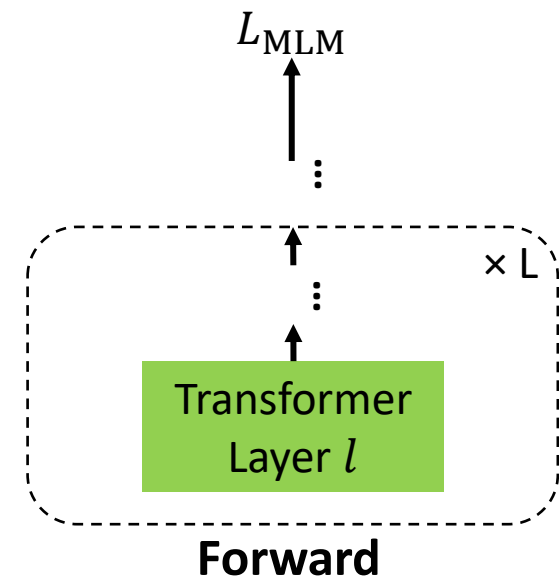
Continual post-training

Individual Fine-tuning

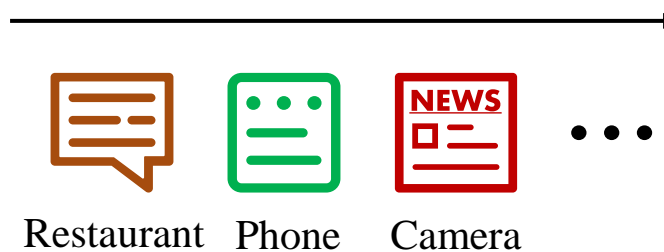
# Continual Post-training of Language Model

- Setting
  - Post-train a sequence of domains **without** access to the data that used in **pre-training** and **previously learned domains**
  - End-task doesn't know its domain belonging
- Goals
  - CF prevention
  - KT (backward and forward)
- Related Work
  - There are CL and Post-training work **but** none directly on continual post-training.
- Approach
  - Continual **P**ost-training with **S**oft-masking (**CPS**)

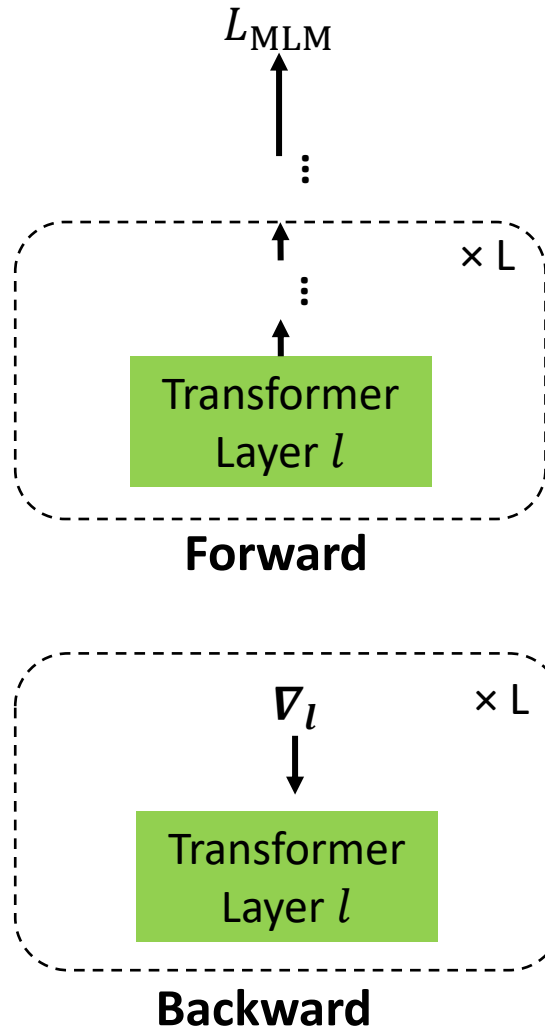
# Continual Post-training of Language Model



Sequence of domains



# Continual Post-training of Language Model

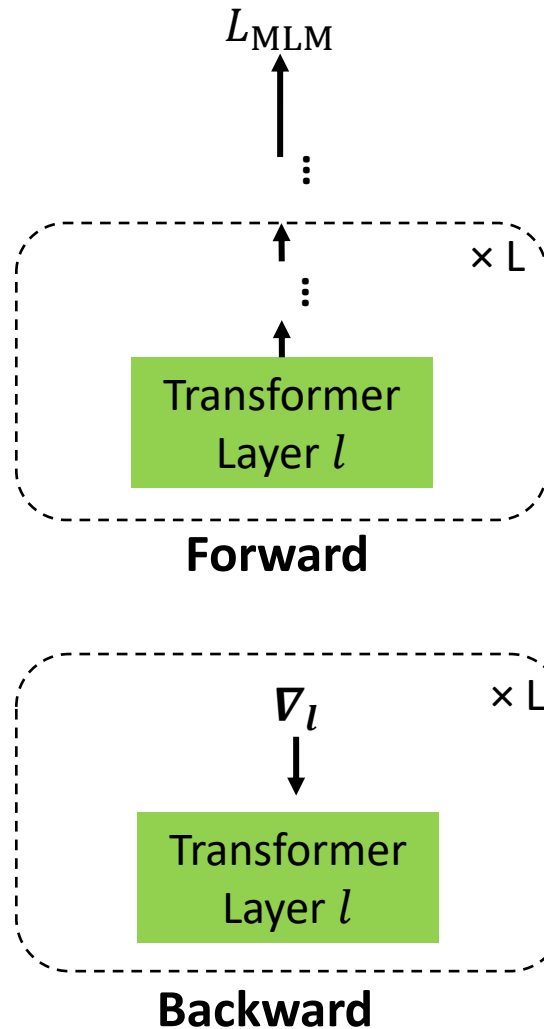


**1<sup>st</sup> Issue:** CF on the general knowledge

General knowledge means the knowledge in the **original pre-trained LM**

The knowledge learned from each domain alone **will not be sufficient** to recover it and give good end-task performances

# Continual Post-training of Language Model



**2<sup>nd</sup> Issue:** CF on the previously learned domain knowledge

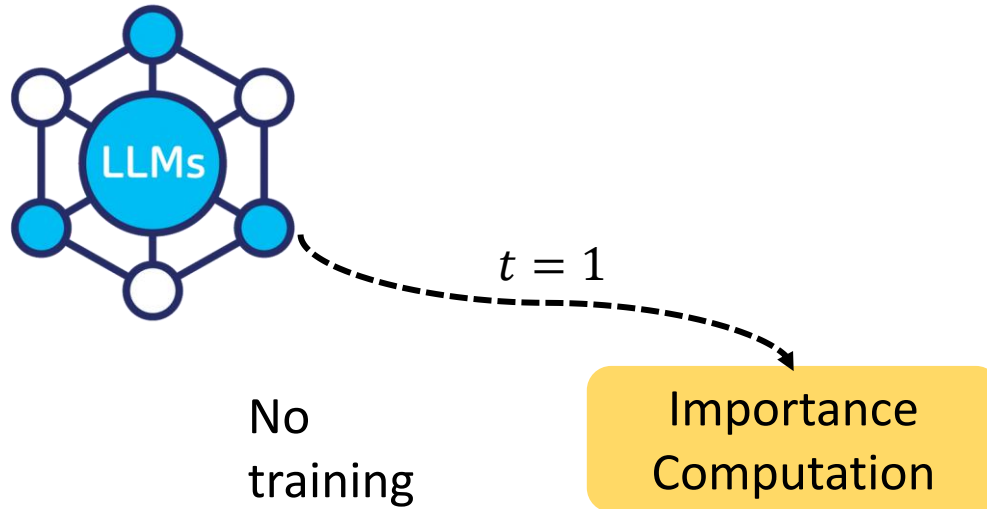
Because we post-train a sequence of domains

# Continual Post-training of Language Model



Pre-trained  
LM

# Continual Post-training of Language Model



Key Idea

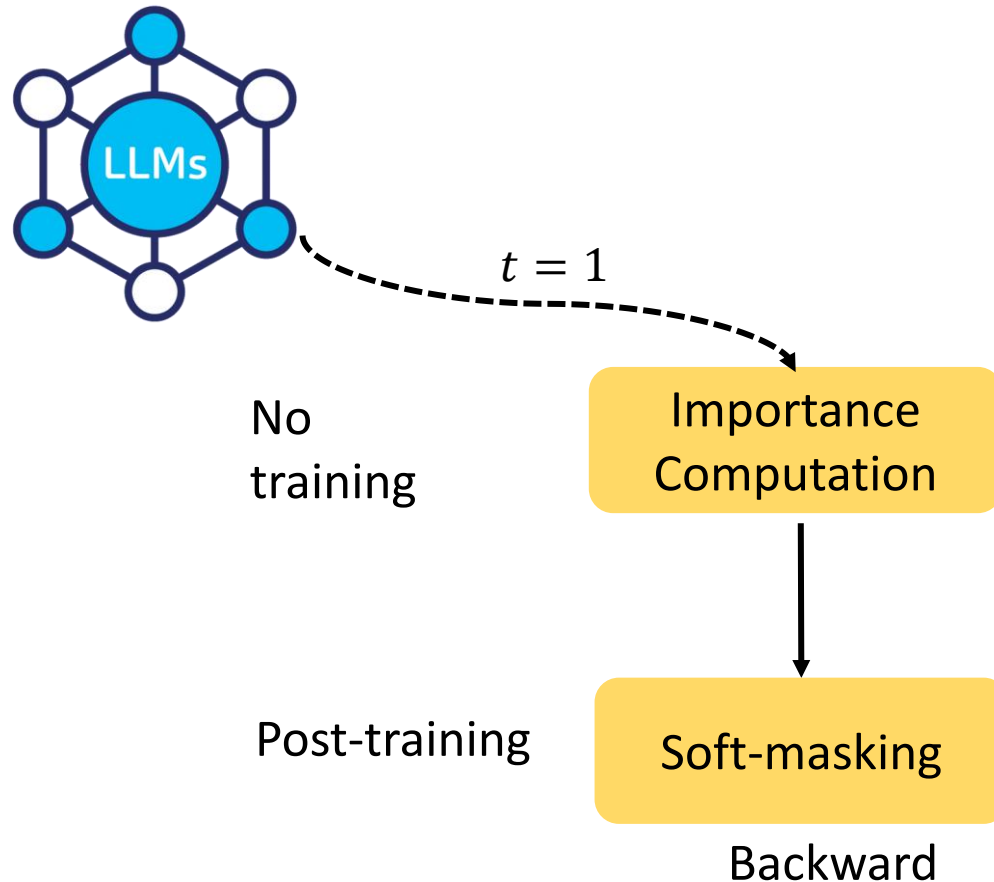
1) Detect importance of units (attention heads and neurons) for general and domain knowledge



1) How to detect importance for the two types of knowledge



# Continual Post-training of Language Model



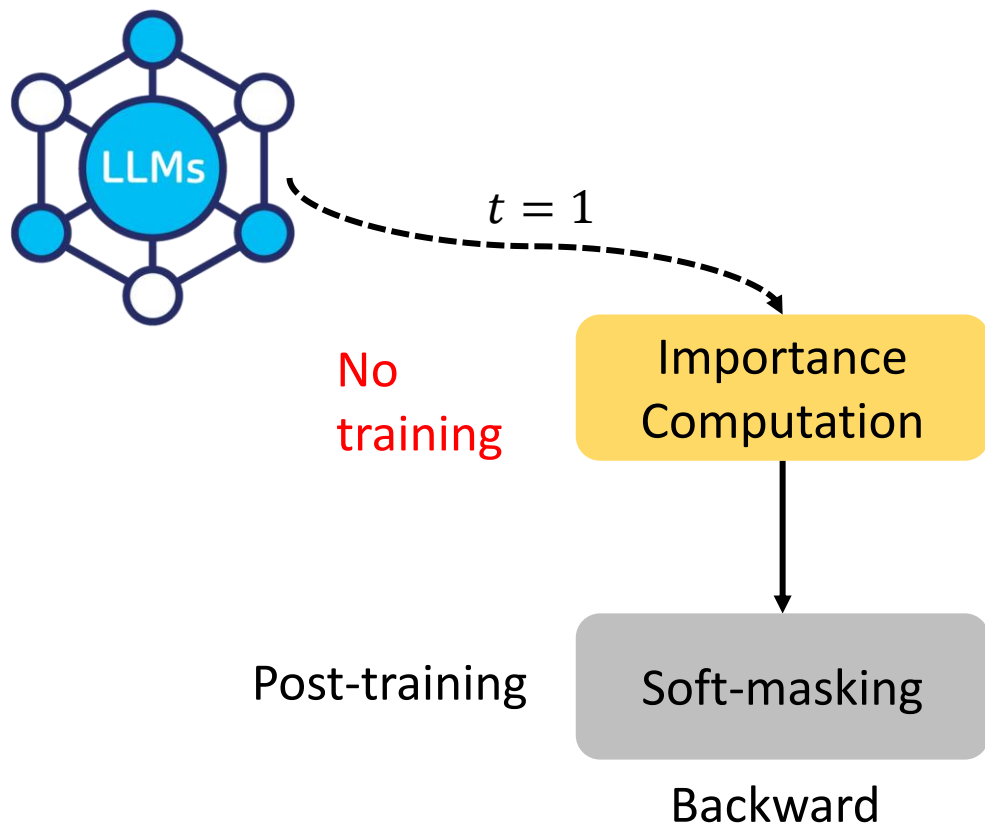
Key Idea

- 1) Detect importance of units for general and domain knowledge
- 2) Soft-masking the important units when training new tasks



- 1) How to detect importance for the two types of knowledge
- 2) How to soft-mask

# Continual Post-training of Language Model



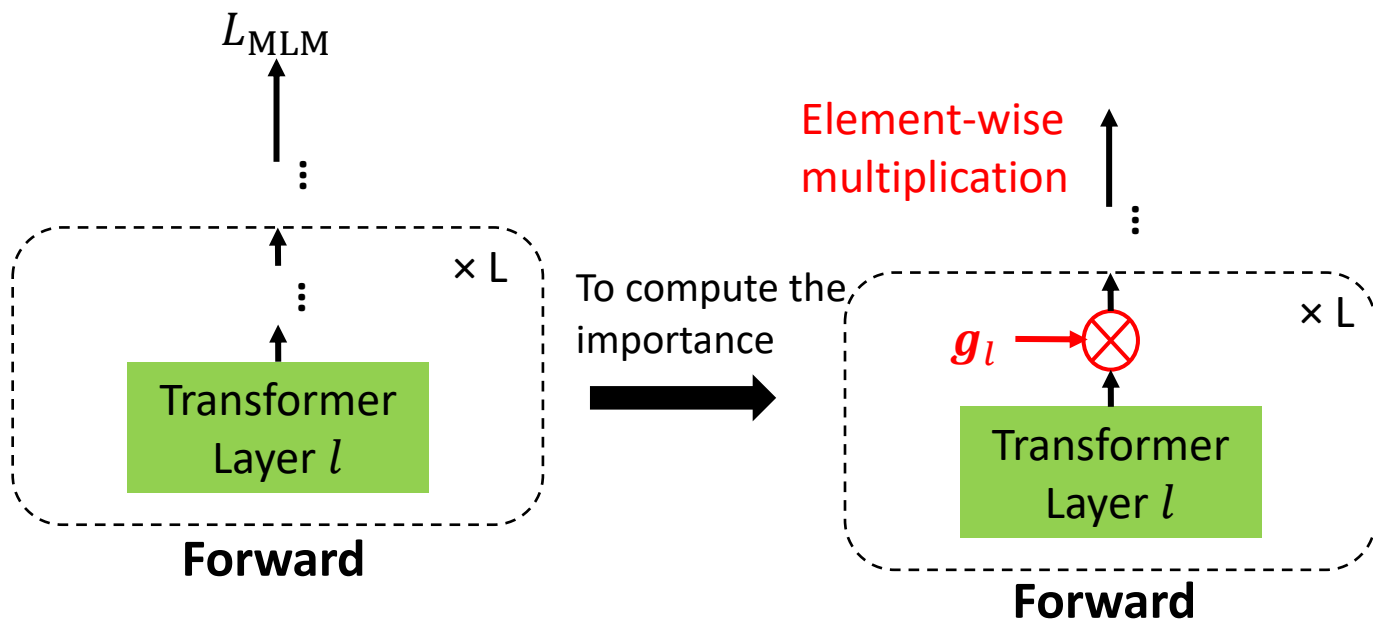
**Goal:** Compute the importance of units for **general** (and domain) knowledge

**Why?**

- 1) Not all units are important
- 2) Given the important units, we can protect them afterward

No training involved. We only need the importance

# Importance Computation



First, we added **virtual parameters**  $g_l$ .

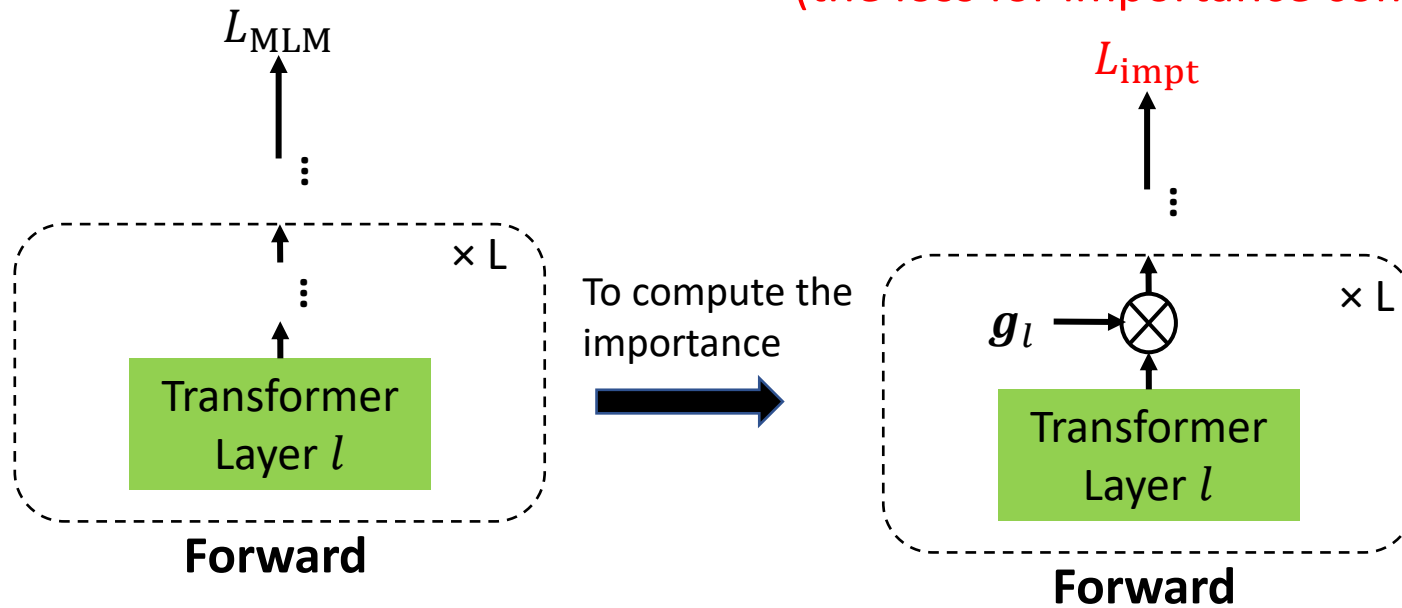
$g_l$  is the **virtual parameters**. Each virtual parameter  $g_{l,i}$  in  $g_l$  corresponding to an attention head or neurons (units)

It is **initialized as all 1's**, and has its gradient but will **never change**.

**Why?** We only use its gradient to compute importance

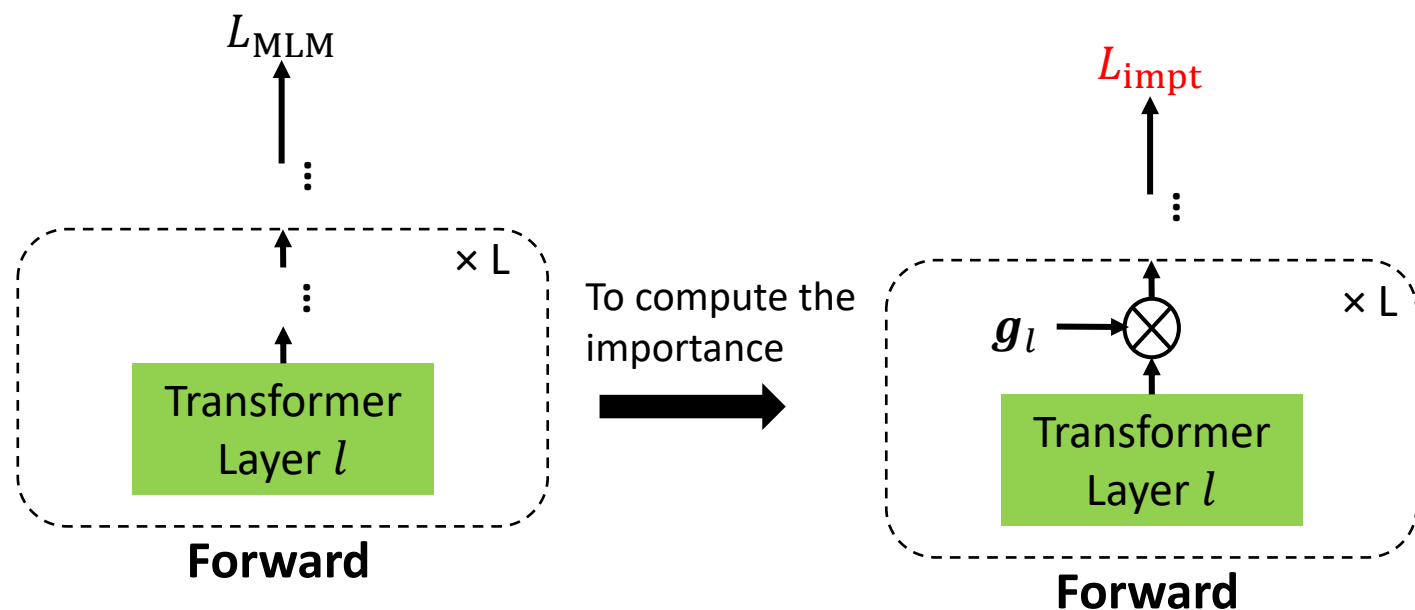
# Importance Computation

(the loss for importance computation)



The gradient of  $L_{\text{impt}}$  w.r.t  $g_l$  will be used to compute importance.

# Importance Computation



For **domain knowledge**,

$$L_{\text{impt}} = L_{\text{MLM}}$$

$$\nabla_{g_l}^m = \frac{\partial L_{\text{impt}}(\mathbf{x}_m^{(t)}, \mathbf{y}_m^{(t)})}{\partial g_l}$$

$$I_l^{(t)} = \frac{1}{M} \sum_M |\nabla_{g_l}^m|$$

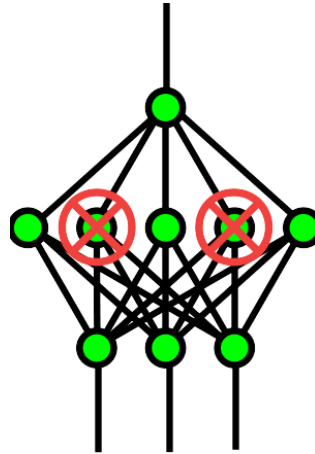
Use **absolute gradient** to indicate importance<sup>[1]</sup>

# Importance Computation

**However, for general knowledge,**  
we cannot do  $L_{\text{impt}} = L_{\text{MLM}}$  as we  
do not have the pre-training data.

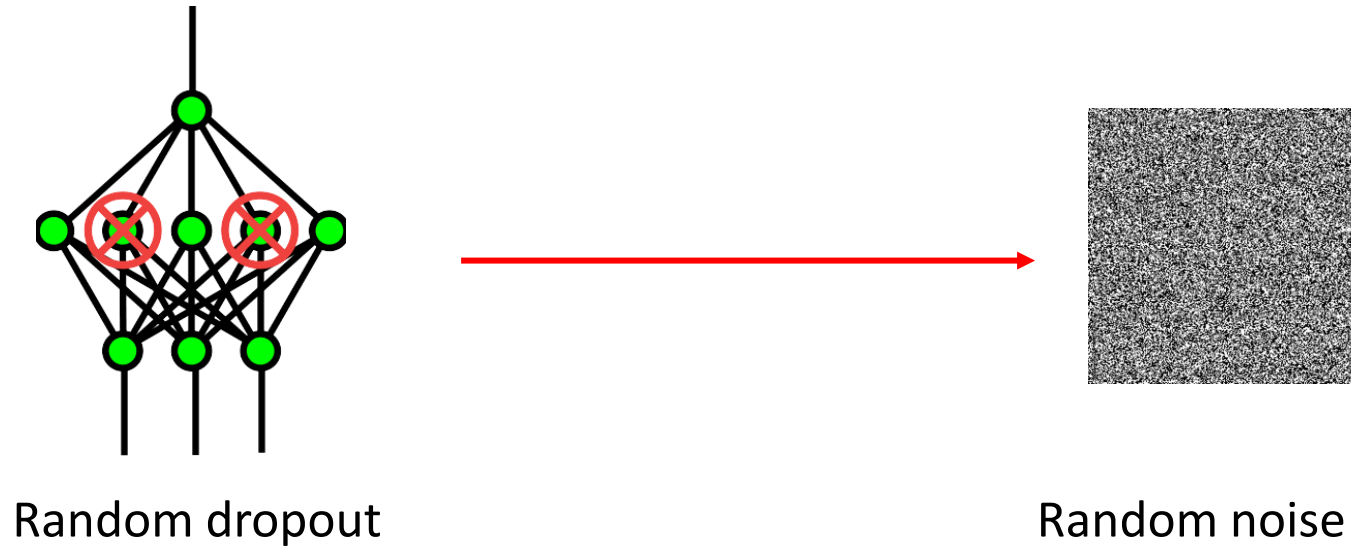
We need another  $L_{\text{impt}}$

# Importance Computation



Random dropout

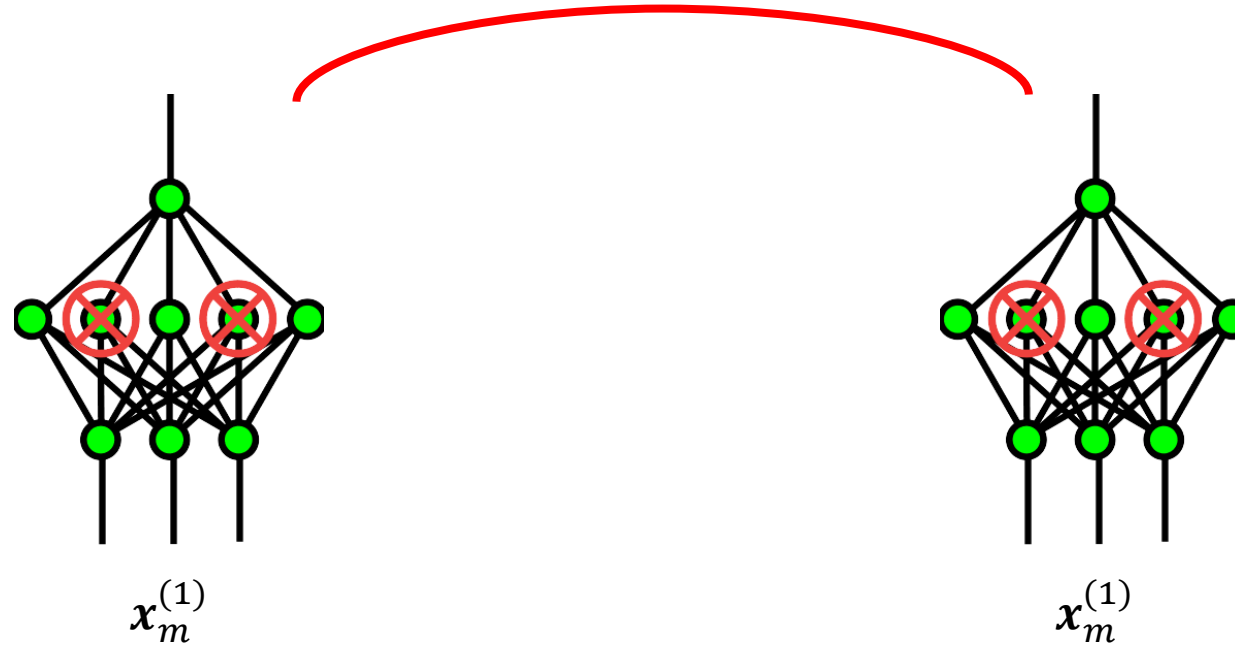
# Importance Computation



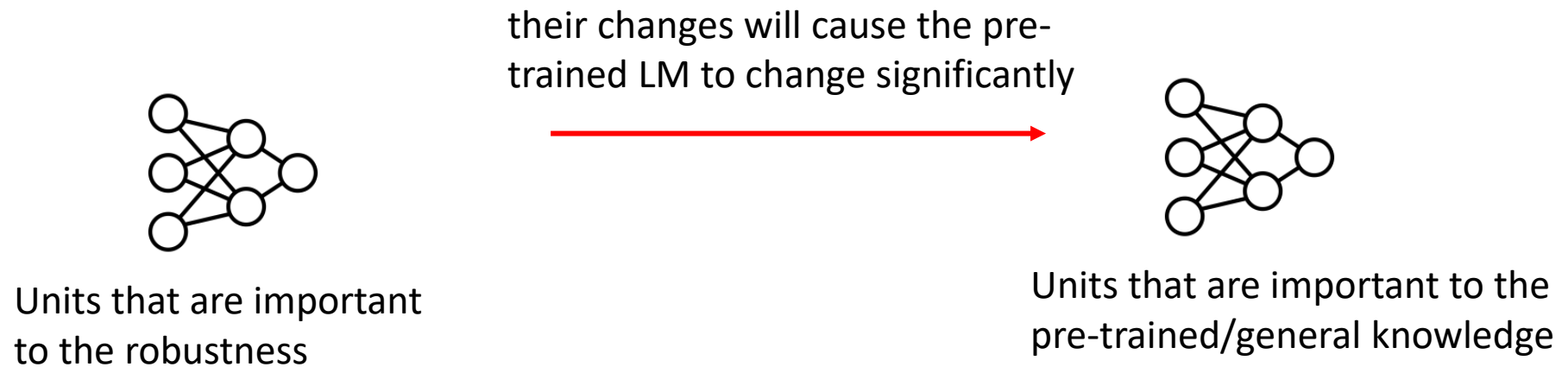


# Importance Computation

Same input but different output representation  
The distance indicate the **robustness**

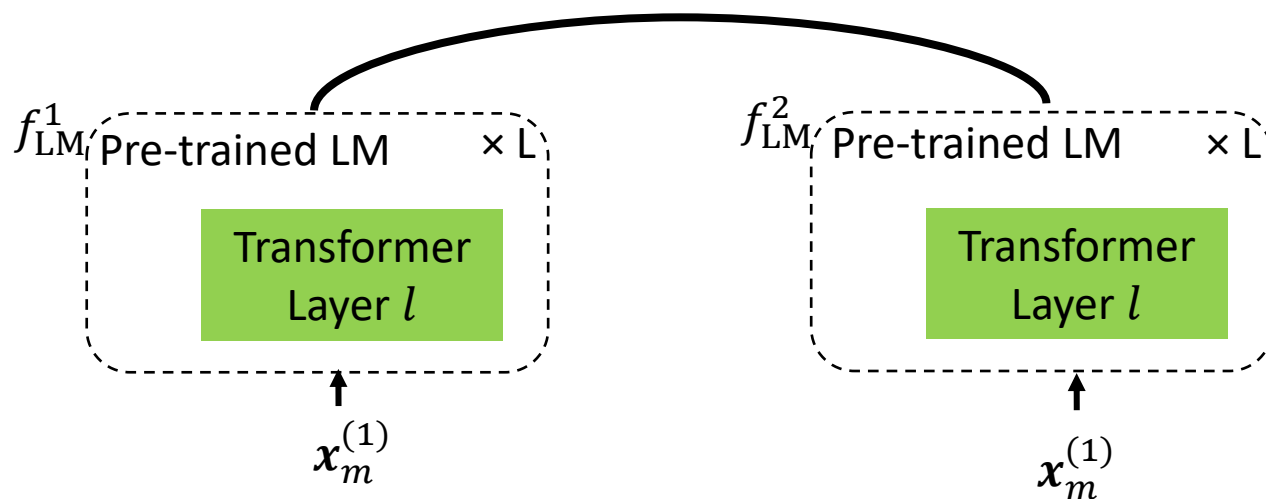


# Importance Computation



# Importance Computation

$$L_{\text{impt}} = \text{KL}(f_{\text{LM}}^1(\mathbf{x}_m^{(1)}), f_{\text{LM}}^2(\mathbf{x}_m^{(1)}))$$



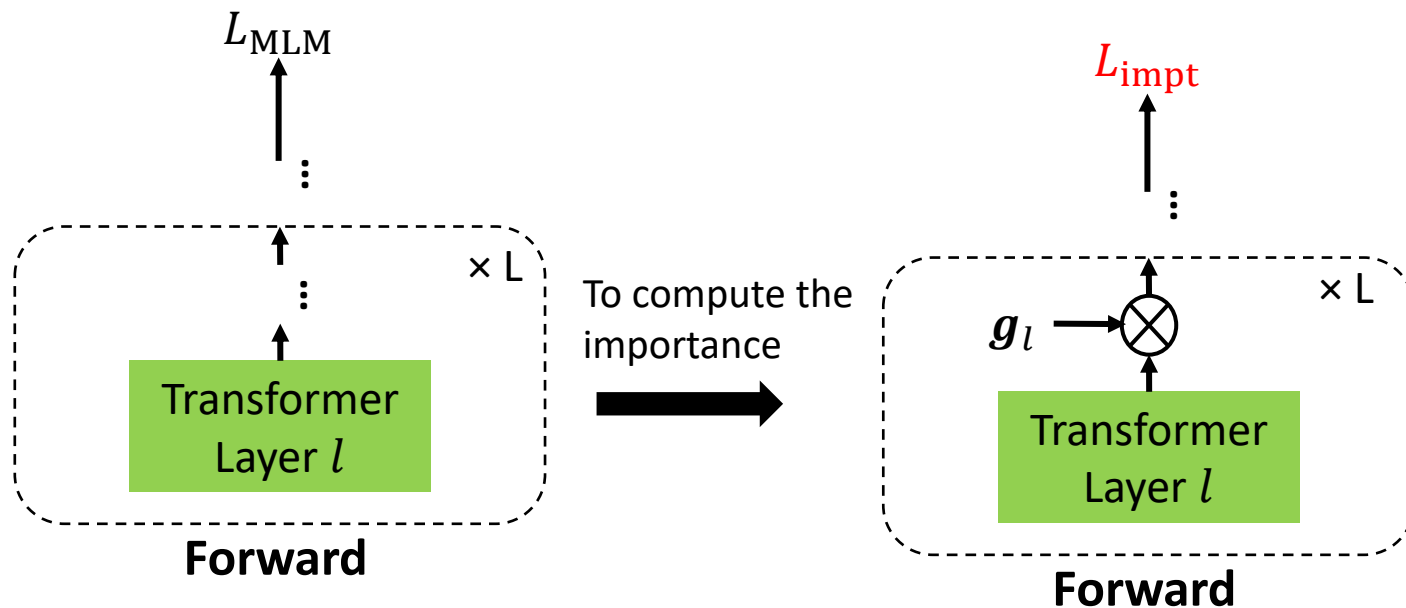
Based on the intuition, we propose another  $L_{\text{impt}}$ , which do not need pre-training data

**KL**: how different given two representations

$f_{\text{LM}}^1 / f_{\text{LM}}^2$ : Transformer with different dropouts

$\mathbf{x}_m^{(1)}$ : We only use first domain data because we want the importance of units for the pre-trained knowledge

# Importance Computation



For general knowledge,

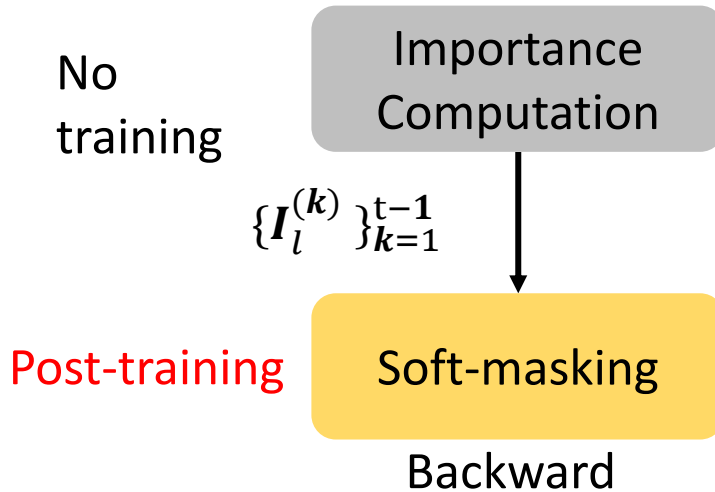
$$L_{\text{impt}} = \text{KL}(f_{\text{LM}}^1(\mathbf{x}_m^{(1)}), f_{\text{LM}}^2(\mathbf{x}_m^{(1)}))$$

$$\nabla_{g_l}^m = \frac{\partial L_{\text{impt}}(\mathbf{x}_m^{(1)})}{\partial g_l}$$

$$I_l^{(0)} = \frac{1}{M} \sum_M |\nabla_{g_l}^m|$$

Importance of units for general knowledge

# Continual Post-training of Language Model

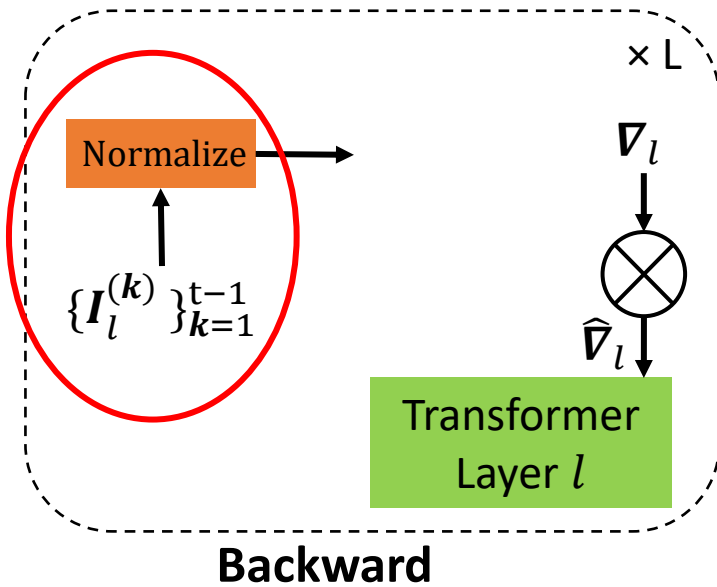


**Goal:** Soft-mask the **gradient** based on the importance

**Why?**

- 1) We need to protect them when training new domain
- 2) We want to allow knowledge transfer

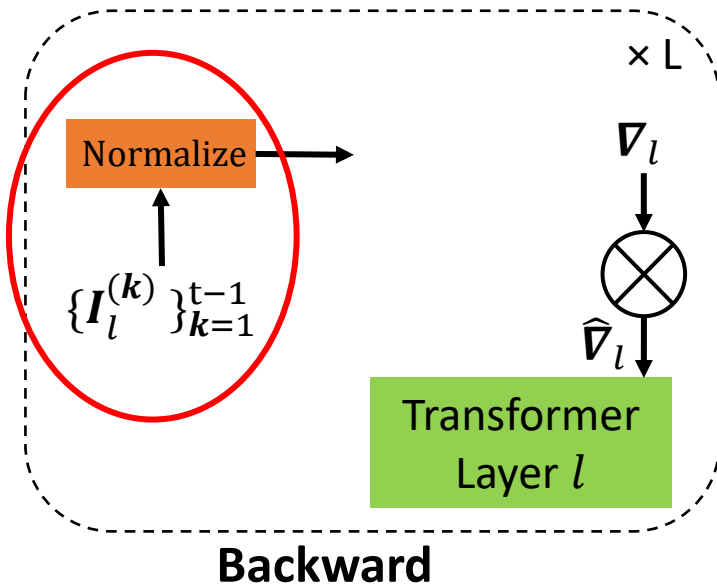
# Soft-masking



First, we normalized the importance so that they are comparable

$$I_l^{(k)} = |\text{Tanh}(\text{Norm}(I_l^{(k)}))|$$

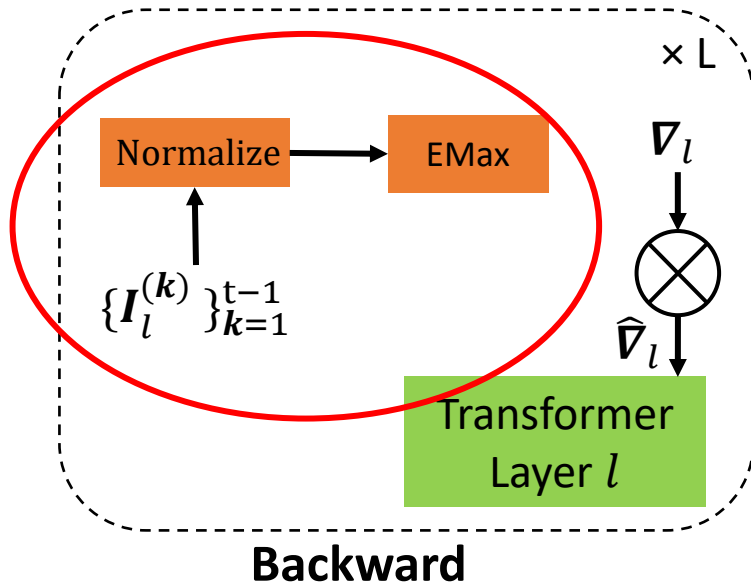
# Soft-masking



First, we normalized the importance so that they are comparable

$$I_l^{(k)} = |\text{Tanh}(\text{Norm}(I_l^{(k)}))| \quad \text{make sure the importance is [0,1]}$$

# Soft-masking



First, we normalized the importance so that they are comparable

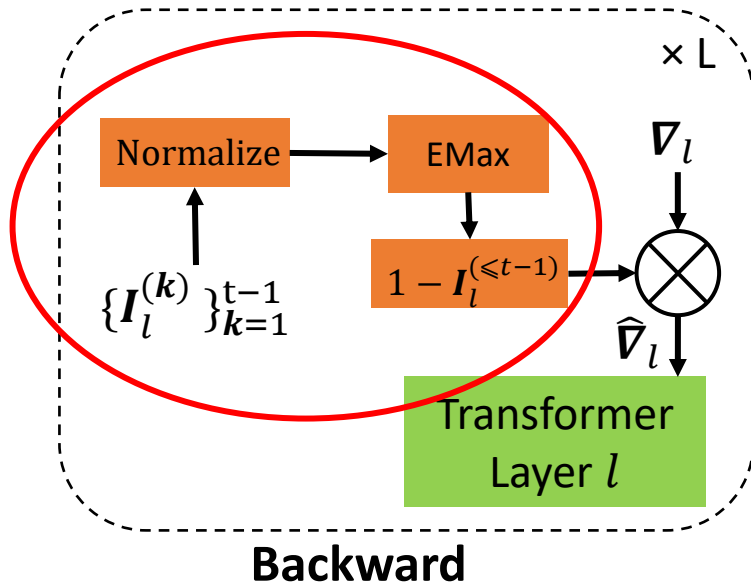
$$I_l^{(k)} = |\text{Tanh}(\text{Norm}(I_l^{(k)}))|$$

Second, we accumulate all importance before current domain  $t$

$$I_l^{(\leq t-1)} = \text{EMax}(\{I_l^{(t-1)}, I_l^{(t-2)}\})$$



# Soft-masking



First, we normalized the importance so that they are comparable

$$I_l^{(k)} = |\text{Tanh}(\text{Norm}(I_l^{(k)}))|$$

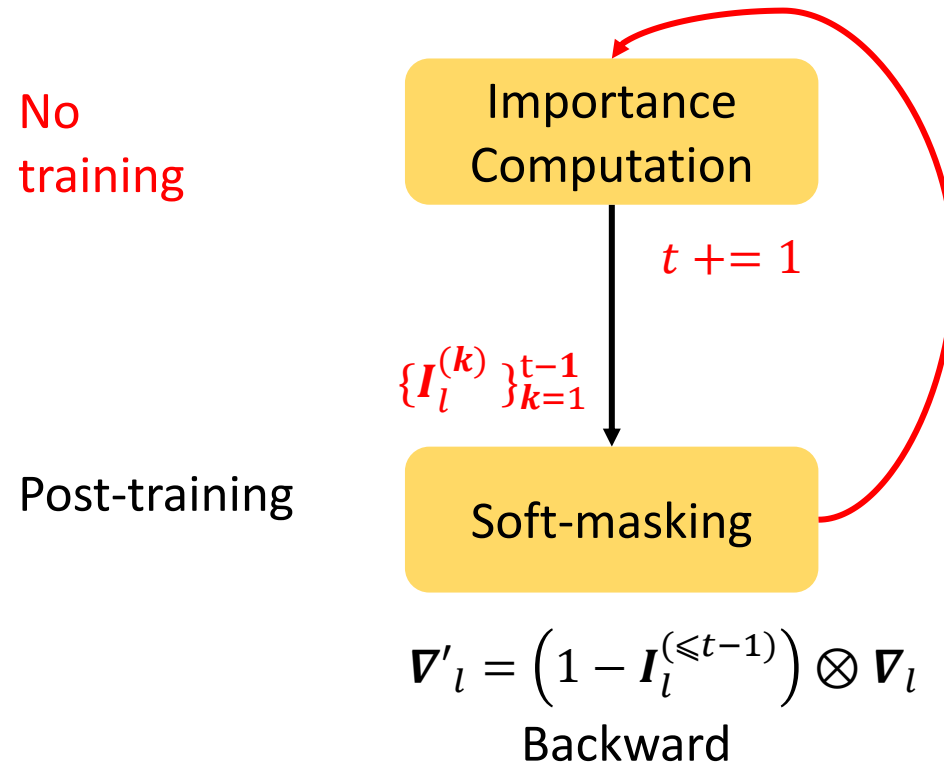
Second, we accumulate the importance

$$I_l^{(\leq t-1)} = \text{EMax}(\{I_l^{(t-1)}, I_l^{(t-2)}\})$$

Third, we soft-mask the gradient (in backward pass)

$$\nabla'_l = (1 - I_l^{(\leq t-1)}) \otimes \nabla_l$$

# Continual Post-training of Language Model

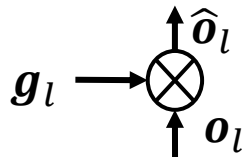


## Initialization

(A)

$$\text{KL}(f_{\text{LM}}^1(\mathbf{x}_m^{(1)}), f_{\text{LM}}^2(\mathbf{x}_m^{(1)}))$$

$\vdots$



Transformer  
Layer  $l$

## Forward

$$\frac{1}{M} \sum_M |\nabla_{g_l}^m| \rightarrow I_l^{(0)}$$



Transformer  
Layer  $l$

## Backward

KL loss as  $L_{\text{impt}}$

Use gradient to indicate importance,  
but the gradient does not optimize the  
layer

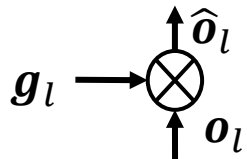
$I_l^{(0)}$  indicates the importance for  
general knowledge

## Initialization

(A)

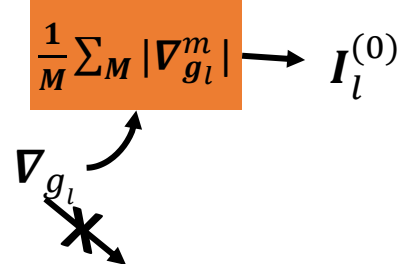
$$\text{KL}(f_{\text{LM}}^1(\mathbf{x}_m^{(1)}), f_{\text{LM}}^2(\mathbf{x}_m^{(1)}))$$

$\uparrow$   
 $\vdots$



Transformer  
Layer  $l$

Forward



Transformer  
Layer  $l$

Backward

## Continual Learning

Next, we start continual learning

## Initialization

(A)

$$\text{KL}(f_{\text{LM}}^1(\mathbf{x}_m^{(1)}), f_{\text{LM}}^2(\mathbf{x}_m^{(1)}))$$

$\vdots$

$$g_l \rightarrow \otimes \begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ \hat{o}_l \\ \uparrow \\ o_l \end{matrix}$$

Transformer  
Layer  $l$

Forward

$$\frac{1}{M} \sum_M |\nabla_{g_l}^m| \rightarrow I_l^{(0)}$$

$$\nabla_{g_l} \otimes$$

Transformer  
Layer  $l$

Backward

## Continual Learning

(B)

$$L_{\text{MLM}}$$

$\vdots$

Transformer  
Layer  $l$

Forward

(C)

Nothing changed  
in forward pass

## Initialization

(A)

$$\text{KL}(f_{\text{LM}}^1(\mathbf{x}_m^{(1)}), f_{\text{LM}}^2(\mathbf{x}_m^{(1)}))$$

$\vdots$

$$g_l \rightarrow \otimes \begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ \hat{o}_l \\ \uparrow \\ o_l \end{matrix}$$

Transformer  
Layer  $l$

Forward

$$\frac{1}{M} \sum_M |\nabla_{g_l}^m| \rightarrow I_l^{(0)}$$

$$\nabla_{g_l} \otimes$$

Transformer  
Layer  $l$

Backward

## Continual Learning

(B)

$$L_{\text{MLM}}$$

$\vdots$

Transformer  
Layer  $l$

Forward

Normalize

$$\{I_l^{(k)}\}_{k=1}^{t-1}$$

EMax

$$1 - I_l^{(\leq t-1)}$$

$$\nabla_l \otimes \hat{\nabla}_l$$

Transformer  
Layer  $l$

Backward

(C)

Accumulate all  
importance of  
units  
Use it to soft-  
mask the  
gradient

## Initialization

(A)

$$\text{KL}(f_{\text{LM}}^1(\mathbf{x}_m^{(1)}), f_{\text{LM}}^2(\mathbf{x}_m^{(1)}))$$

$\vdots$

$$g_l \rightarrow \otimes \begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ \hat{o}_l \\ \uparrow \\ o_l \end{matrix}$$

Transformer  
Layer  $l$

Forward

$$\frac{1}{M} \sum_M |\nabla_{g_l}^m| \rightarrow I_l^{(0)}$$

$$\nabla_{g_l} \otimes$$

Transformer  
Layer  $l$

Backward

## Continual Learning

(B)

$$L_{\text{MLM}}$$

$\vdots$

Transformer  
Layer  $l$

Forward

Normalize

$$\{I_l^{(k)}\}_{k=1}^{t-1}$$

EMax

$$1 - I_l^{(\leq t-1)}$$

$$\nabla_l \otimes \begin{matrix} \downarrow \\ \hat{\nabla}_l \end{matrix}$$

Transformer  
Layer  $l$

Backward

(C)

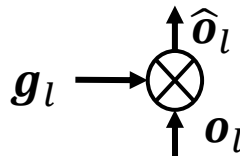
After training, we  
again compute the  
importance of units  
for the trained  
domain

## Initialization

(A)

$$\text{KL}(f_{\text{LM}}^1(\mathbf{x}_m^{(1)}), f_{\text{LM}}^2(\mathbf{x}_m^{(1)}))$$

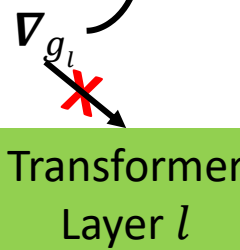
⋮



Transformer  
Layer  $l$

Forward

$$\frac{1}{M} \sum_M |\nabla_{g_l}^m| \rightarrow I_l^{(0)}$$



Transformer  
Layer  $l$

Backward

## Continual Learning

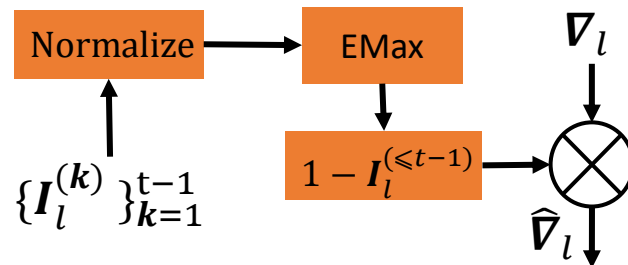
(B)

$$L_{\text{MLM}}$$

⋮

Transformer  
Layer  $l$

Forward



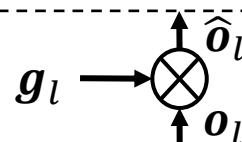
Transformer  
Layer  $l$

Backward

(C)

$$L_{\text{MLM}}$$

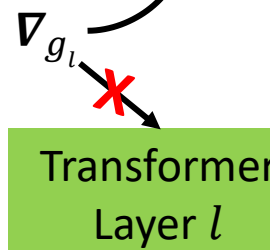
⋮



Transformer  
Layer  $l$

Forward

$$\frac{1}{M} \sum_M |\nabla_{g_l}^m| \rightarrow I_l^{(t)}$$



Transformer  
Layer  $l$

Backward

Same as  
initialization, but  
 $L_{\text{impt}}$  is  $L_{\text{MLM}}$   
instead of KL

$I_l^{(t)}$  will be used in  
domain  $t+1$



# Evaluation

## Goals

CF Prevention

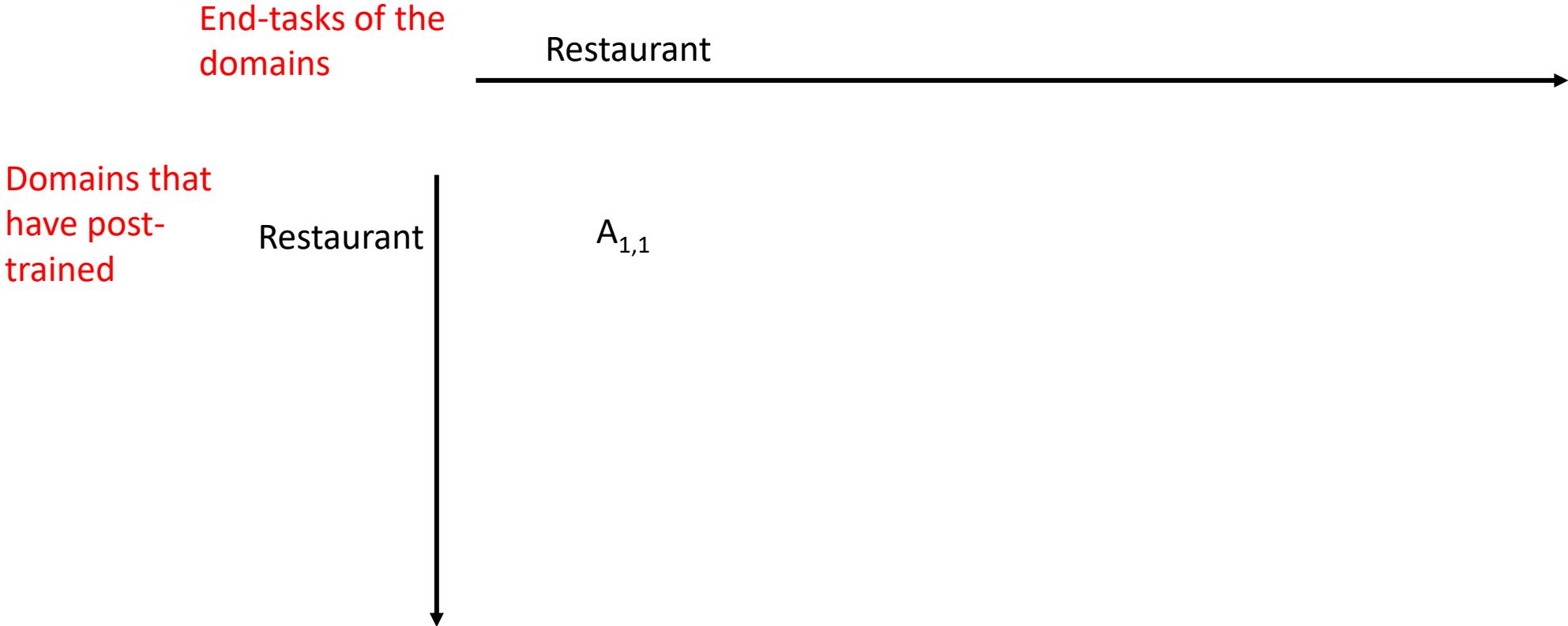
Knowledge  
Transfer

## Metrics

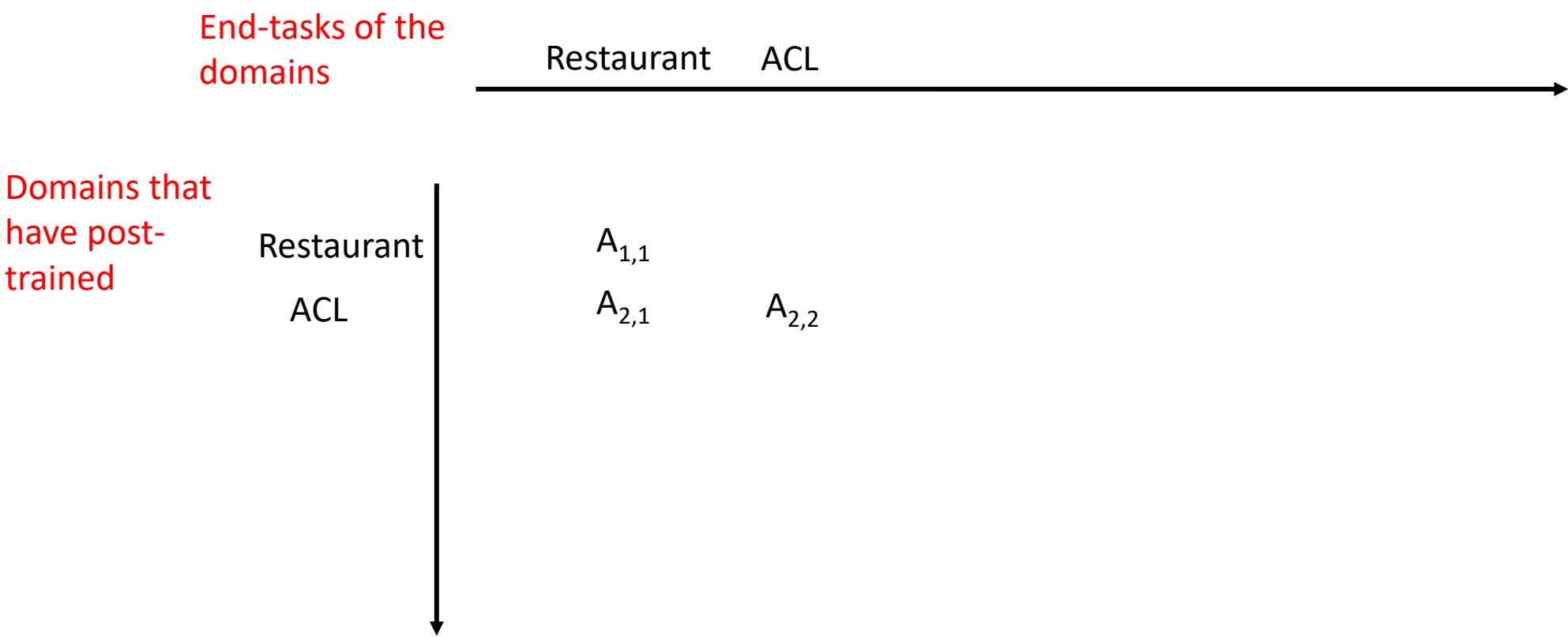
Forgetting Rate

Final  
Performance

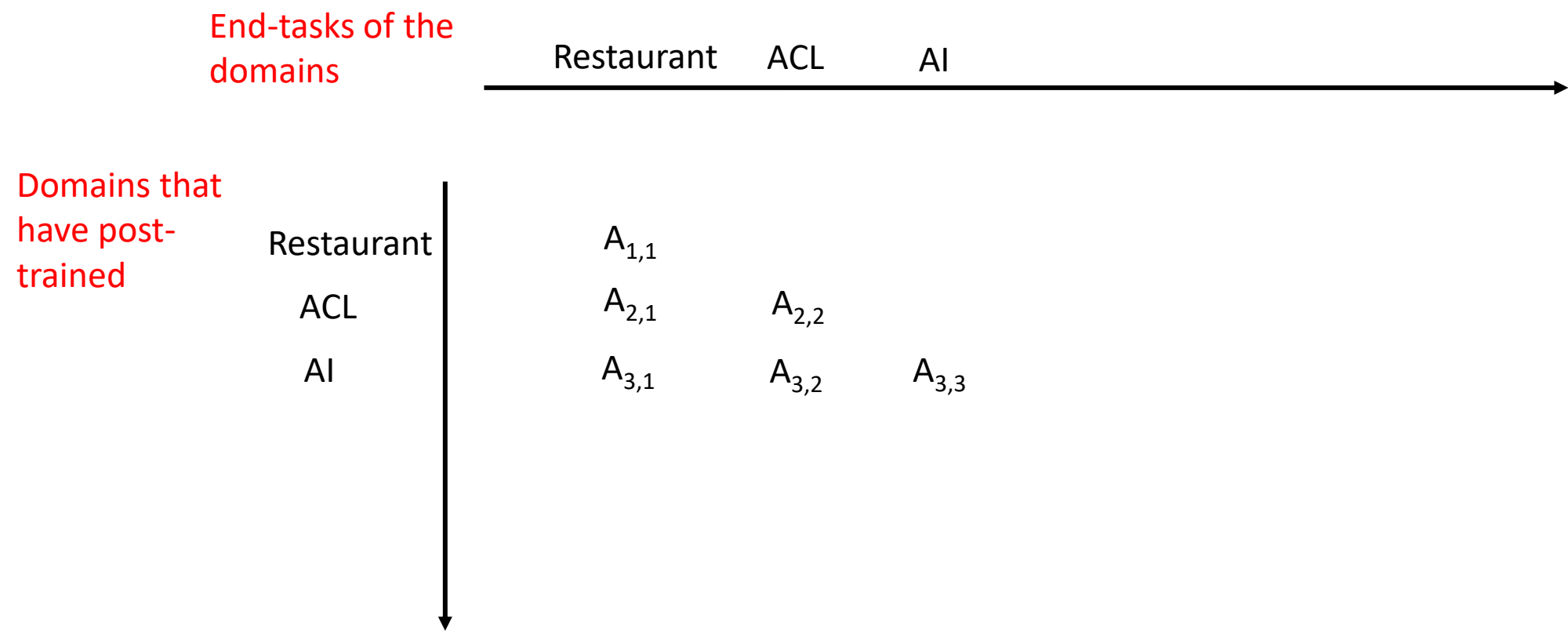
# Metrics



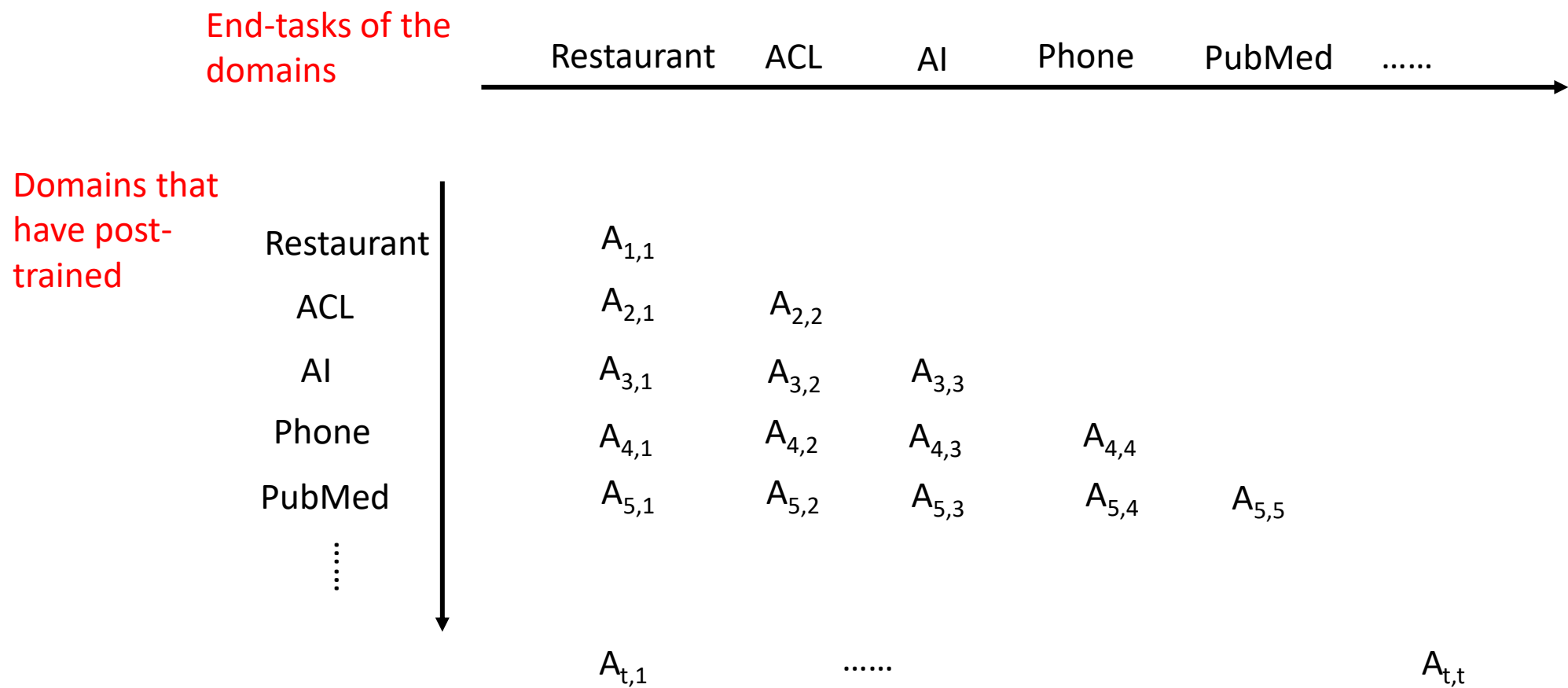
# Metrics



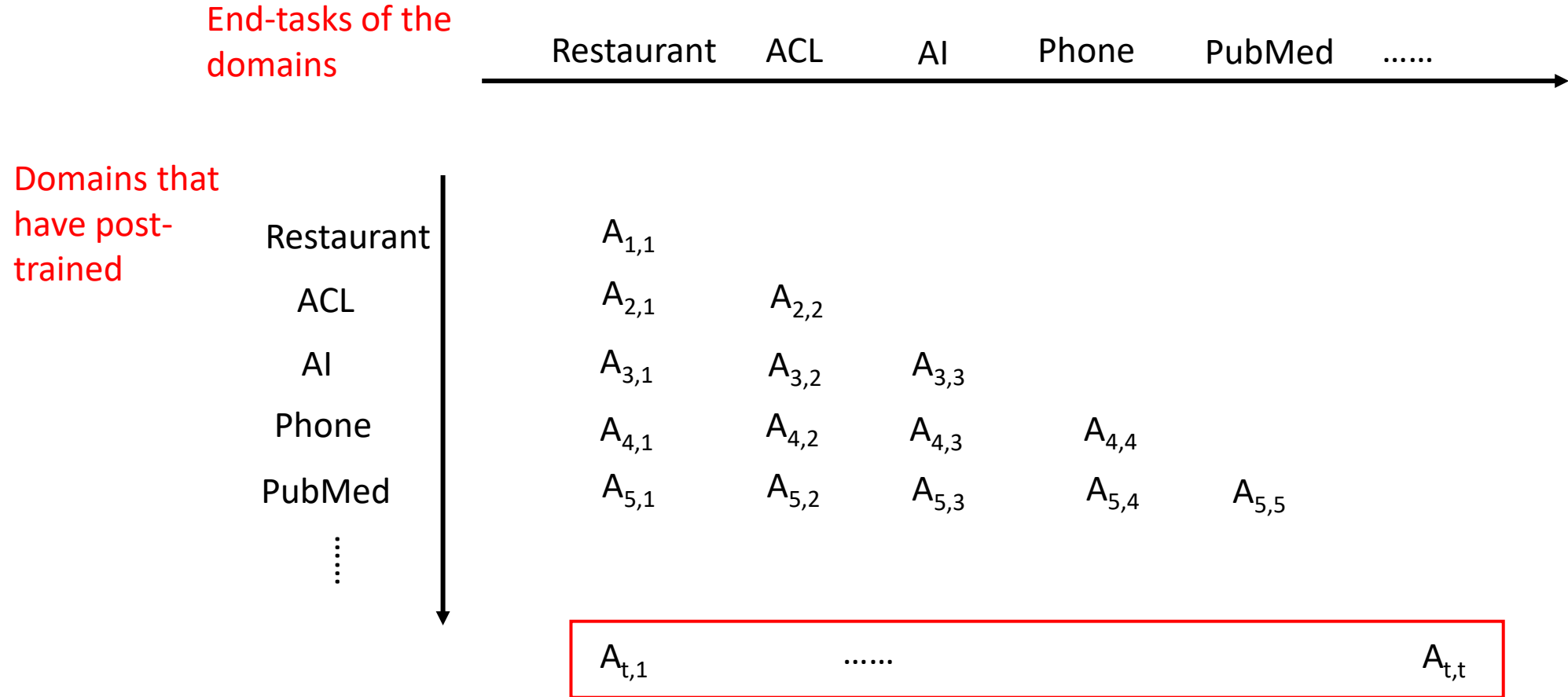
# Metrics



# Metrics



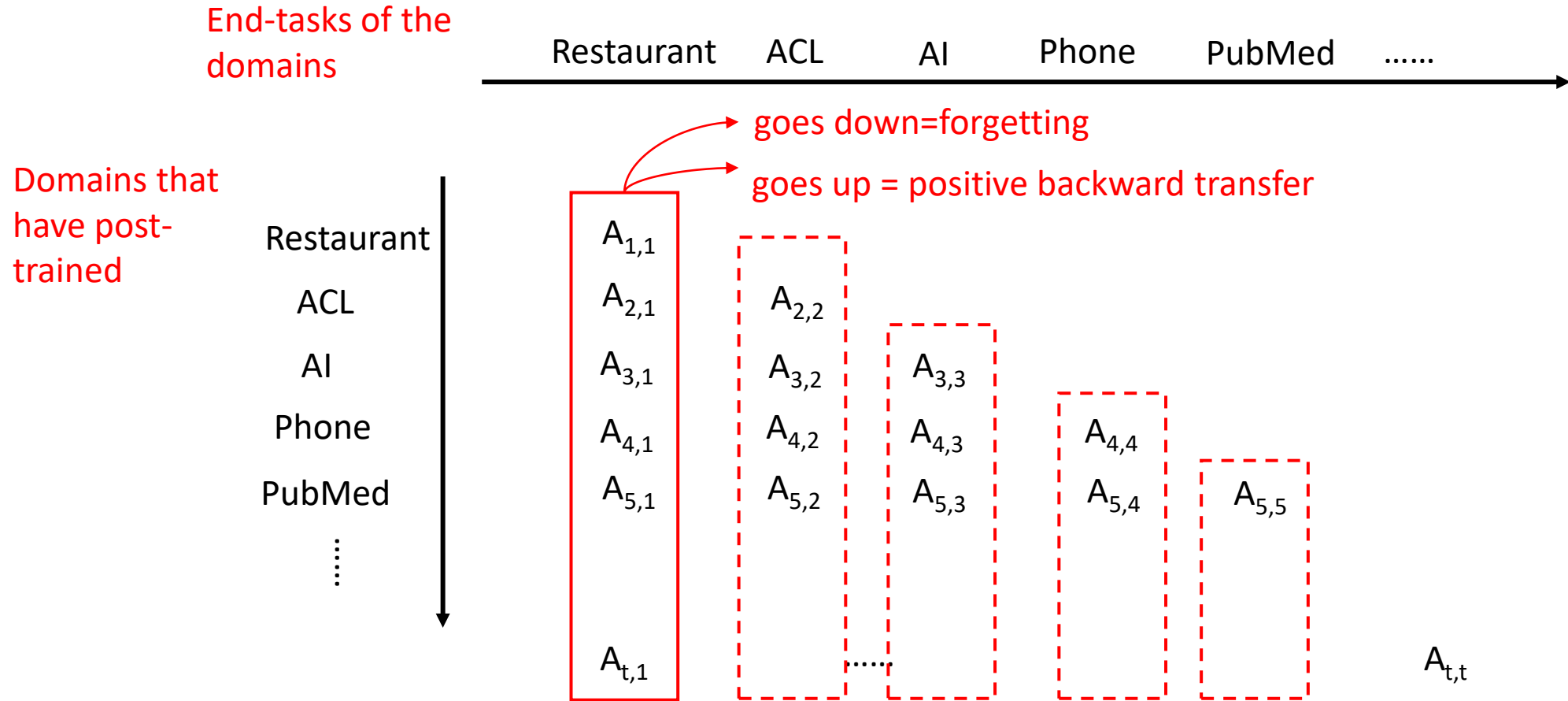
# Final Performance



Final Performance:  $\frac{1}{T} \sum_{i=1}^T R_{t,i}$

The higher, the better. The most popular metric

# Forgetting Rate



$$\text{Forgetting Rate: } \frac{1}{T-1} \sum_{k=1}^{t-1} A_{k,k} - A_{t,k}$$

The difference between a task **first learned** performance and its **final** performance  
**Positive**=forgetting; **Negative**=positive backward transfer

# Overall Performance

## Non-Continual Learning

Without post-train (directly fine-tune the LM)

Restaurant	ACL	AI	Phone	PubMed	Camera	Average
79.81	66.11	60.98	<b>83.75</b>	72.38	78.82	73.64
<b>80.84</b>	<b>68.75</b>	<b>68.97</b>	82.59	<b>72.84</b>	<b>84.39</b>	<b>76.4</b>

Individual post-training

w/o Pre-trained < Individual Post-trained



This is not surprising, as post-training has been demonstrated to improve performance in the literature.



# Overall Performance

Now we can look at continual learning

Without post-train (directly fine-tune the LM)

Individual post-training

Our continual post-training method (**CPS**)

Restaurant	ACL	AI	Phone	PubMed	Camera	Average
79.81	66.11	60.98	83.75	72.38	78.82	73.64
<b>80.84</b>	68.75	68.97	82.59	<b>72.84</b>	84.39	76.4
80.34	<b>69.36</b>	<b>70.93</b>	<b>85.99</b>	72.8	<b>88.16</b>	<b>77.93</b>

w/o Pre-trained < Individual Post-trained < **CPS**



CPS is better than individual post-training  
CPS can not only mitigate forgetting but also encourage knowledge transfer

# Overall Performance

## Continual Learning v.s. CPS

Forgetting Rate:  $\frac{1}{T-1} \sum_{k=1}^{t-1} A_{k,k} - A_{t,k}$

		Restaurant	ACL	AI	Phone	PubMed	Camera	Average	Forgetting Rate
Non-Continual-learning	No post-train	79.81	66.11	60.98	83.75	72.38	78.82	73.64	---
	Individual post-train	80.84	68.75	68.97	82.59	72.84	84.39	76.4	---
Naïve continual learning (NCL): continual learning without any specific technique		79.52	68.39	67.94	84.1	72.49	85.71	76.36	1.14
		80.34	<b>69.36</b>	<b>70.93</b>	<b>85.99</b>	<b>72.8</b>	<b>88.16</b>	<b>77.93</b>	<b>-1.09</b>

CPS



+ forgetting rate in NCL, indicates it does suffer from forgetting



- forgetting rate in CPS, indicating it has positive transfer

		Restaurant	ACL	AI	Phone	PubMed	Camera	Average	Forgetting Rate
Non-Continual-learning	No post-train	79.81	66.11	60.98	83.75	72.38	78.82	73.64	---
	Individual post-train	80.84	68.75	68.97	82.59	72.84	84.39	76.4	---
Naïve continual post-training		79.52	68.39	67.94	84.1	72.49	85.71	76.36	1.14
SoTA continual learning baselines	EWC	80.98	65.94	65.04	82.32	71.43	83.35	74.84	0.02
	DER++	79	67.2	63.96	83.22	72.58	87.1	75.51	2.36
	HAT	79.29	68.25	64.84	81.44	71.61	82.37	74.63	-0.23
	BCL	78.97	70.71	66.26	81.7	71.99	85.06	75.78	-0.06
	<b>CPS</b>	80.34	<b>69.36</b>	<b>70.93</b>	<b>85.99</b>	<b>72.8</b>	<b>88.16</b>	<b>77.93</b>	<b>-1.09</b>



CPS outperforms SoTA



Most of the SoTA only focus on mitigating forgetting, which is not enough



Even replay-based method (DER++) is not good as post-training need much more replay data



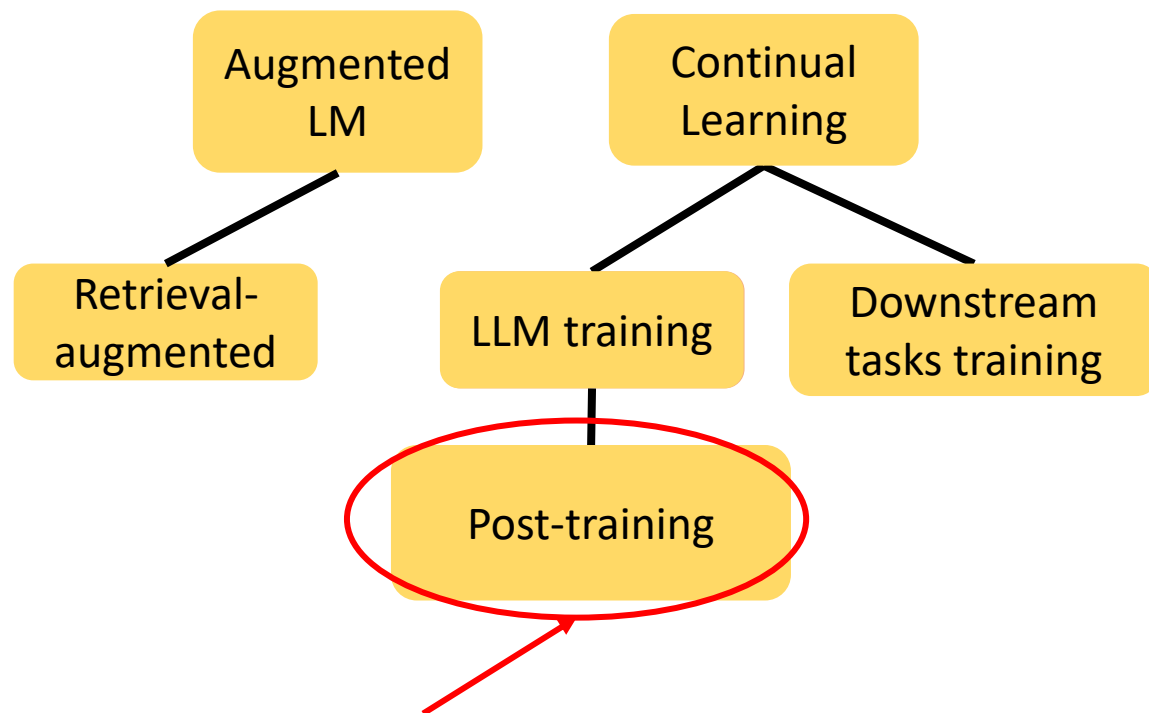
# Continual Post-training of Language Model

- Computing **importance** of units for general and domain knowledge, with **different**  $L_{\text{impt}}$
- **Soft-masking** the backward propagation based on importance (which help CF and KT)



# Enhancing LLM for A Dynamic World

How to make knowledge in LLM more **reusable** and **updatable**?



Continual Post-training of Language Models, Ke et al., ICLR 2023



# Enhancing LLM for A Dynamic World

Why it could be increasingly important?



# Enhancing LLM for A Dynamic World

Why it could be increasingly important?

- The fixed world assumption is way too limited!

**Over just a few months, ChatGPT went from correctly answering a simple math problem 98% of the time to just 2%, study finds**

BY **PAOLO CONFINO**  
July 19, 2023 at 6:29 PM CDT



How Is ChatGPT's Behavior Changing over Time?

Lingjiao Chen<sup>†</sup>, Matei Zaharia<sup>‡</sup>, James Zou<sup>†</sup>

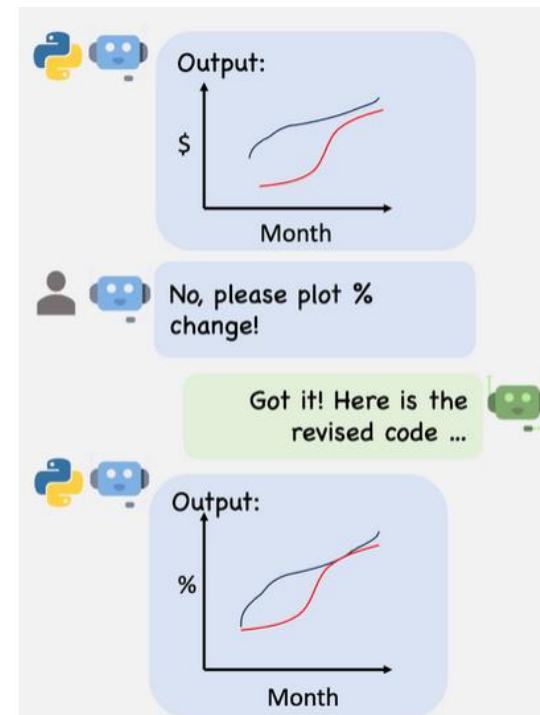
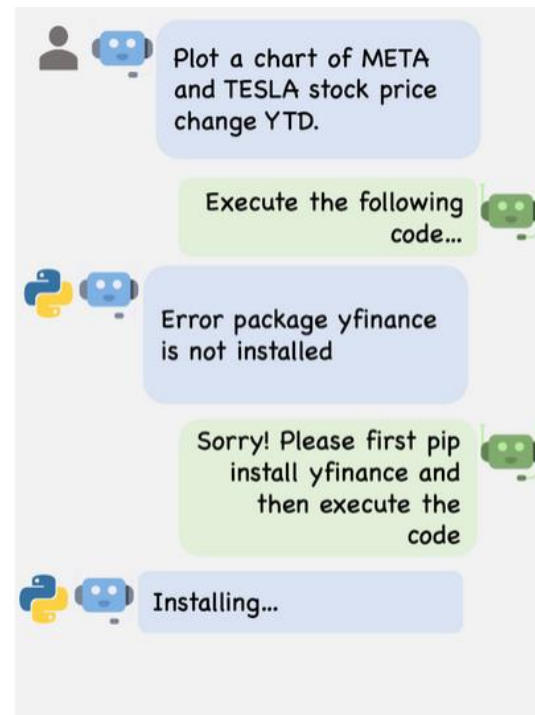
<sup>†</sup>Stanford University   <sup>‡</sup>UC Berkeley



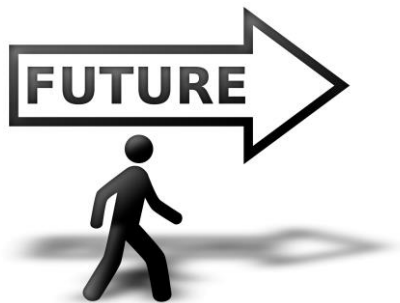
# Enhancing LLM for A Dynamic World

Why it could be increasingly important?

- The fixed world assumption is way too limited!
- LLMs are increasingly replacing/eliminating building blocks and memorizing more and more knowledge, **yet** these still depends on human efforts. A more ambitious goal is to make this **fully autonomous**, which require LLMs to **self-initiate** and **adapt to new circumstances**.







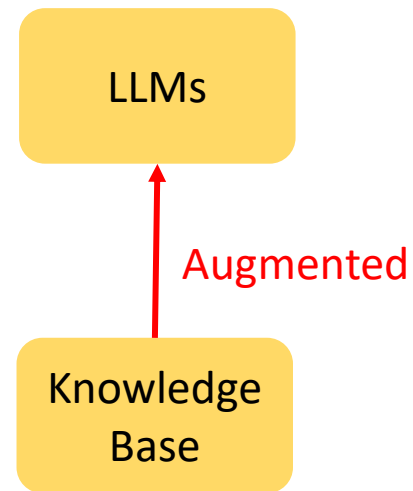
# Enhancing LLM for A Dynamic World

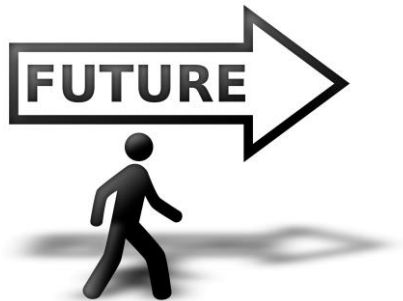
Why it could be increasingly important?

- The fixed world assumption is way too limited!
- LLMs are increasingly replacing/eliminating building blocks and memorizing more and more knowledge, these still depends on human efforts. A more ambitious vision is to make this **fully autonomous**, which require LLMs to **self-initiate** and **adapt to new circumstances**.
- It is still **cutting-edge**, and still, plenty of room to improve (see next!)



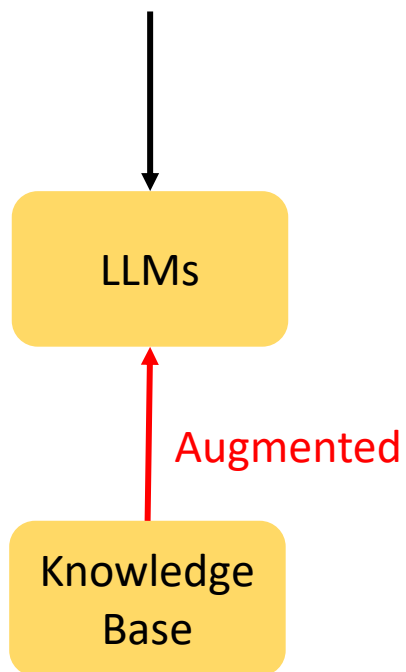
What research questions can lead us toward a more autonomous LLMs?





What research questions can lead us toward a more autonomous LLMs?

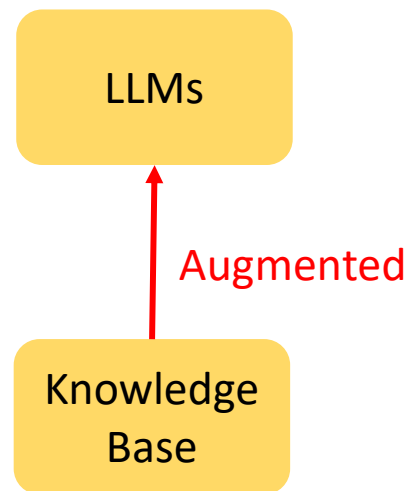
*Complete the sentence in Trump's tone: "Between a wall and an egg that breaks it, I will always stand on the side of "*



Retrieve Trump's speeches from the KB and augment the learner's working memory (context).



What research questions can lead us toward a more autonomous LLMs?



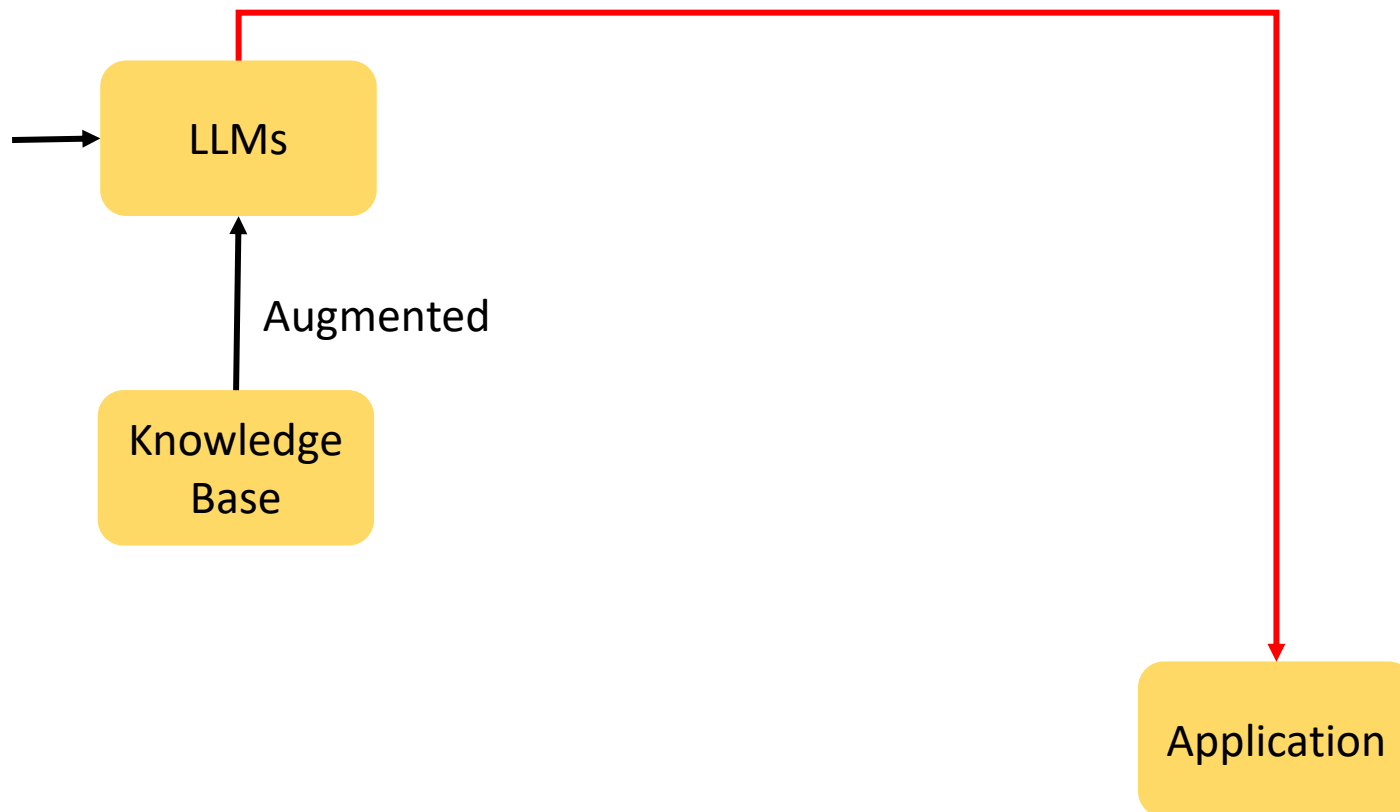
### Research questions:

- What to retrieve (rerank/selection...)?
- How to better combine the retriever and LLM?
- When to use retrieval and when to update/use LLMs' parameters?



What research questions can lead us toward a more autonomous LLMs?

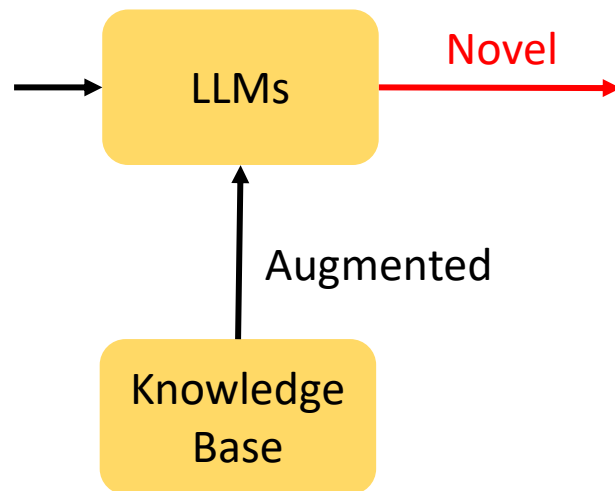
*Complete the sentence in Trump's tone: "Between a wall and an egg that breaks it, I will always stand on the side of "*





What research questions can lead us toward a more autonomous LLMs?

Complete the sentence in **Zixuan's** tone: "Between a wall and an egg that breaks it, I will always stand on the side of "



In some instances, there could be "novelty"

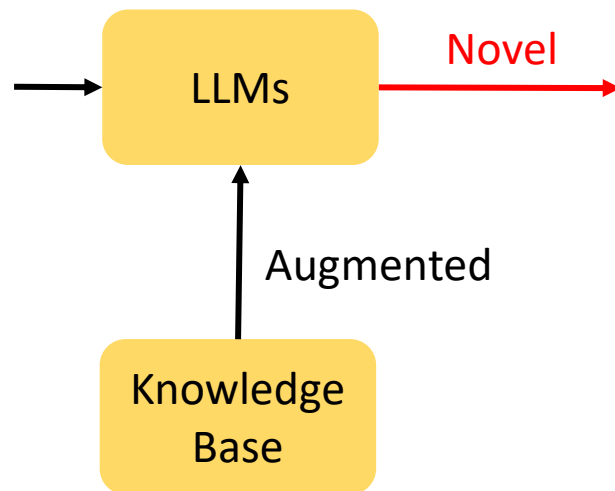
**Novelty/Unknown/Unexpected/Unclear:** anything that the LLM does not fully understand in order to accomplish the task



What research questions can lead us toward a more autonomous LLMs?

Complete the sentence  
in Trump's tone:

*"Between a wall and an egg that breaks it, I will always stand on the side of "*



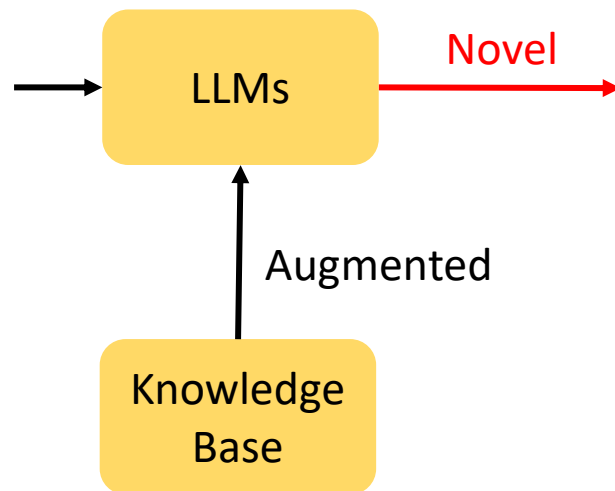
It could also be unclear to the LLM what '*in one's tone*' means or what aspects should be focused on.

**Novelty/Unknown/Unexpected/Unclear:** anything that the LLM does not fully understand in order to accomplish the task



What research questions can lead us toward a more autonomous LLMs?

Complete the sentence in Zixuan's tone: "Between a wall and an egg that breaks it, I will always stand on the side of "



**Research question:**

How to detect novelty  
(knowledge that LLM does not  
already know)?

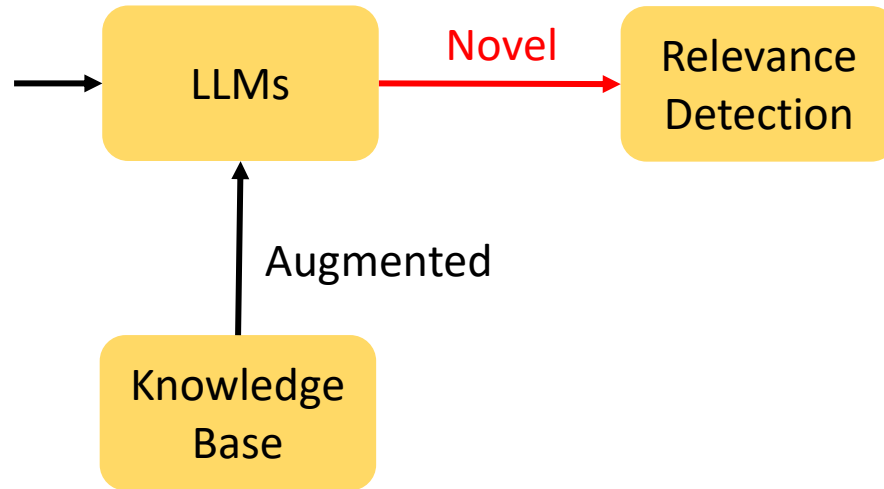
Application





What research questions can lead us toward a more autonomous LLMs?

Hello, my name is **Vincent Bing**. Please complete the sentence in **Zixuan's** tone: "Between a wall and an egg that breaks it, I will always stand on the side of "



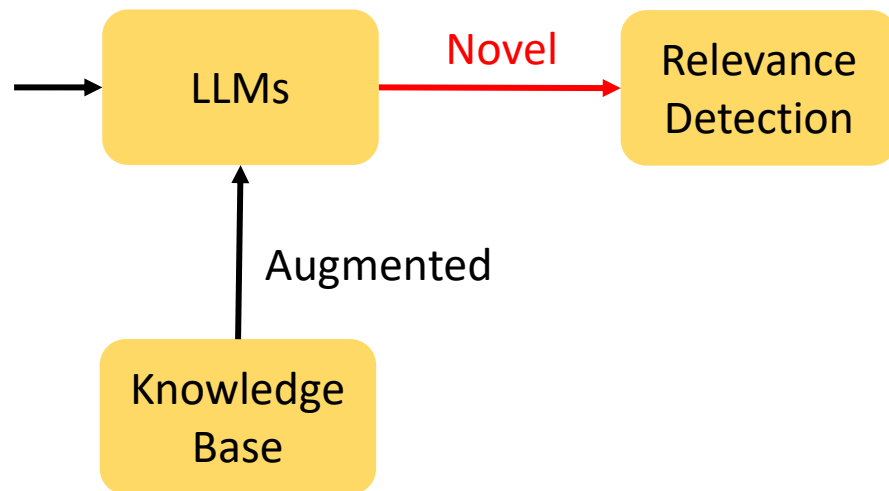
It is possible that the novelty occurs but is not related to the application.

Application



What research questions can lead us toward a more autonomous LLMs?

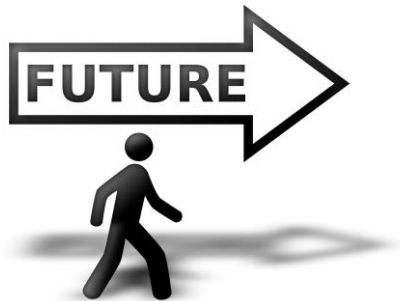
**Hello, my name is Bing.**  
Please complete the sentence in **Zixuan's** tone: "Between a wall and an egg that breaks it, I will always stand on the side of "



### Research question:

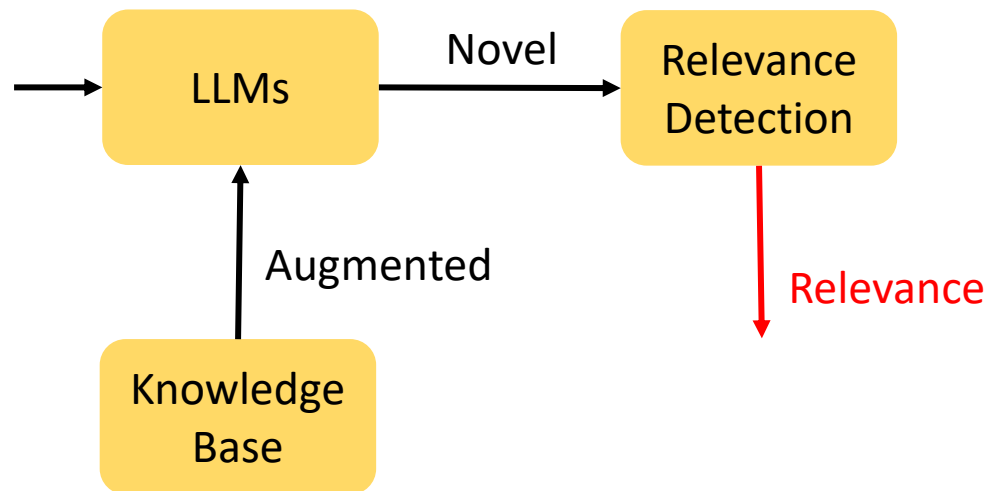
How can we determine if the novelty is relevant to the final application? (there could be some noise!)

Application



What research questions can lead us toward a more autonomous LLMs?

Complete the sentence in Zixuan's tone: "Between a wall and an egg that breaks it, I will always stand on the side of "

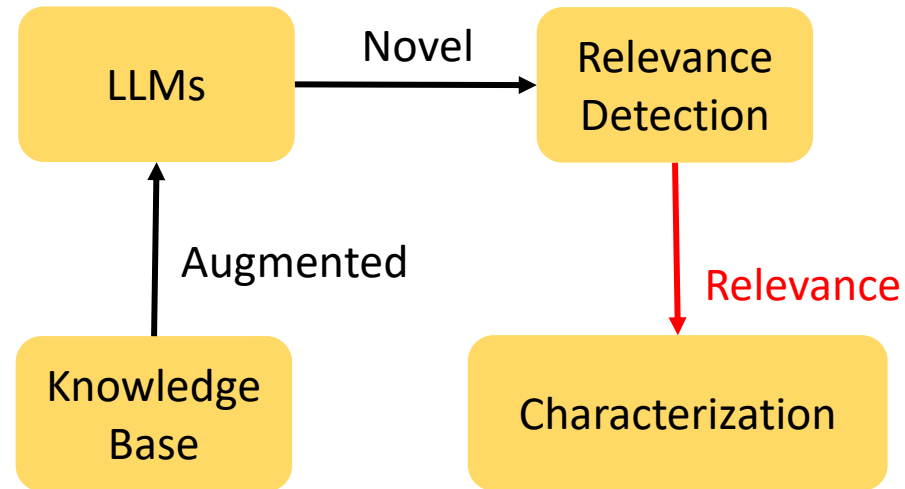


We still need to know that it is the part “Zixuan” that the LLM does not know

Application



What research questions can lead us toward a more autonomous LLMs?



**Research question:**

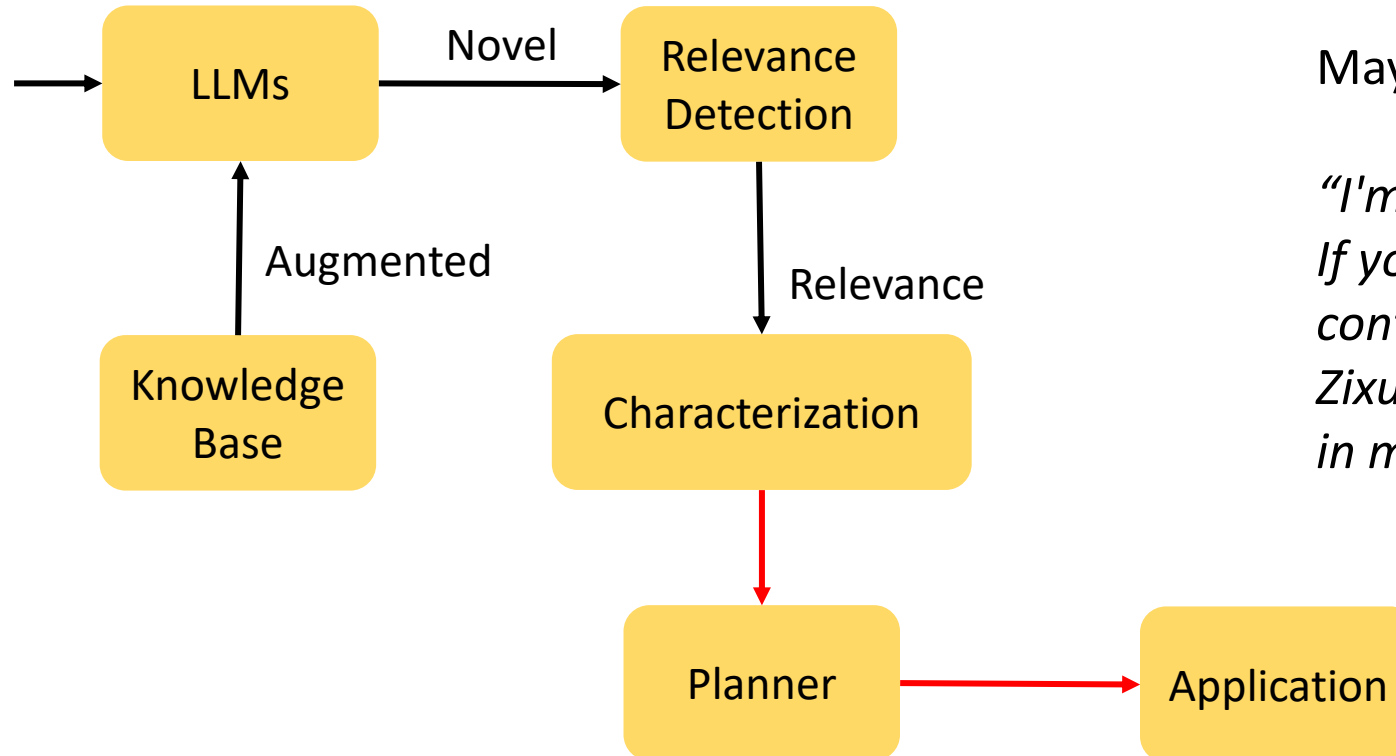
How to specify parts with novel knowledge?

Application



What research questions can lead us toward a more autonomous LLMs?

Complete the sentence in Zixuan's tone: "Between a wall and an egg that breaks it, I will always stand on the side of "

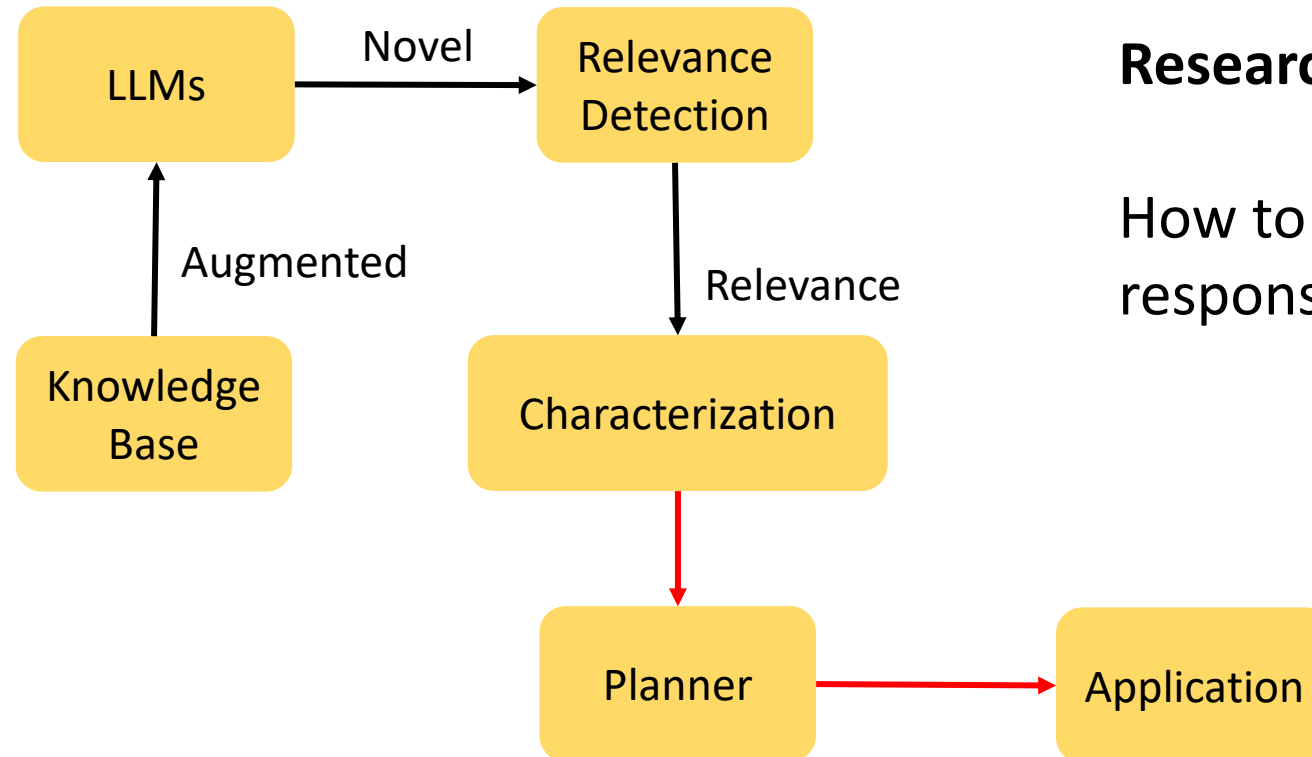


May want to response with:

*"I'm not familiar with "Zixuan". If you could provide more context or details about who Zixuan is or the style you have in mind, I will be happy to help*



What research questions can lead us toward a more autonomous LLMs?



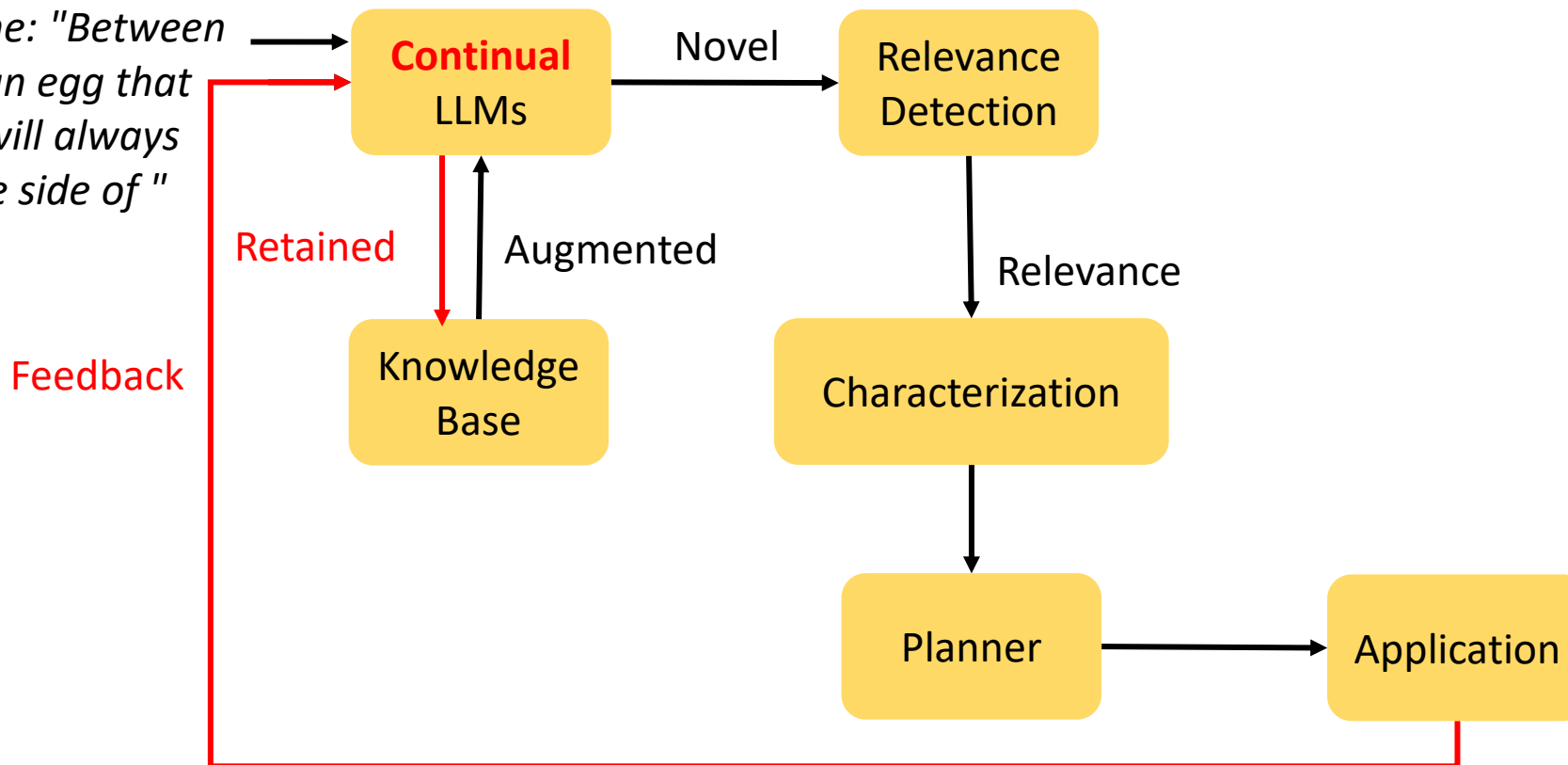
**Research question:**

How to generate a good response given the novel part?



## What research questions can lead us toward a more autonomous LLMs?

Complete the sentence in **Zixuan's** tone: "Between a wall and an egg that breaks it, I will always stand on the side of "

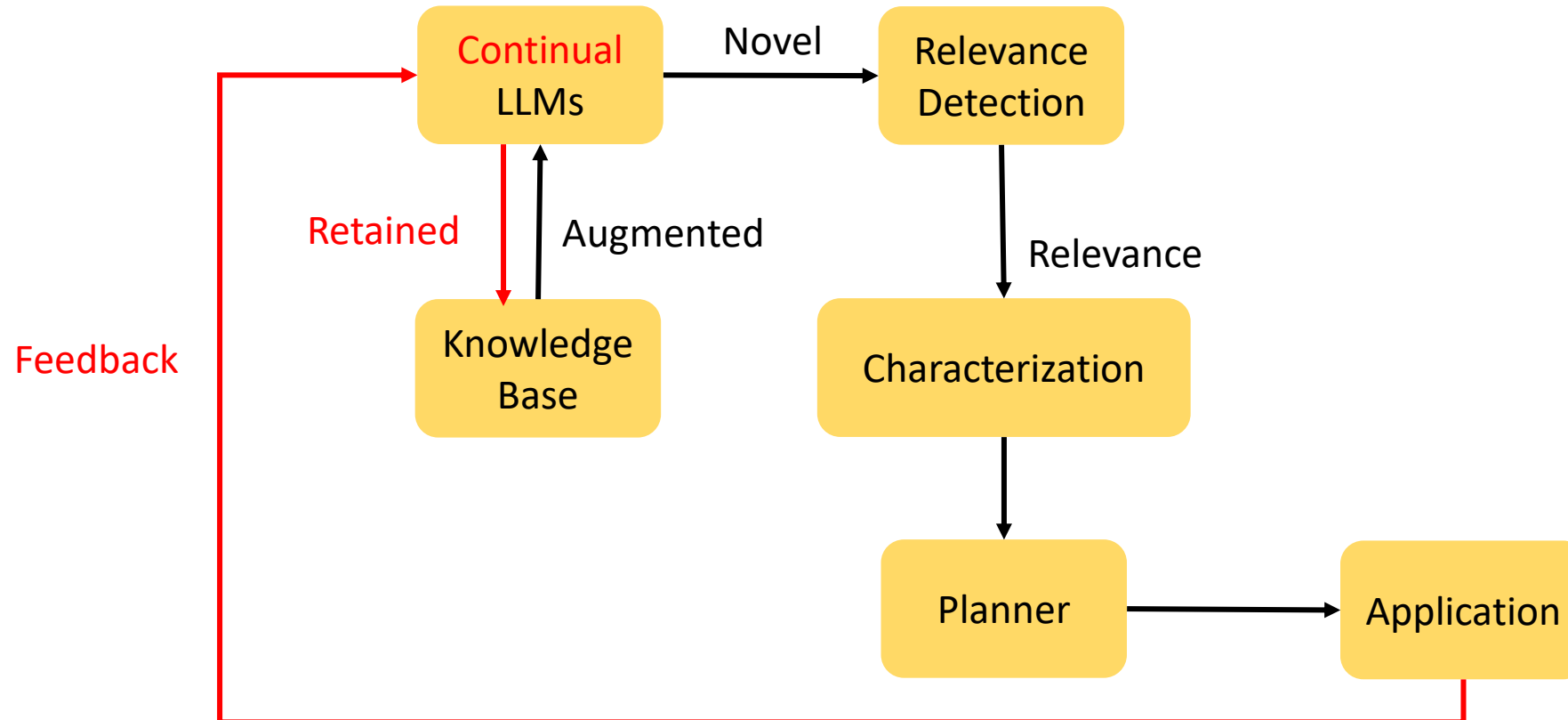


User/another agent may give feedback:

*"Zixuan is a final-year PhD student working on LLM (pretrain, post-train, frontiers like retrieval-augmented LLM) and continual learning...."*



What research questions can lead us toward a more autonomous LLMs?



**Research question:**

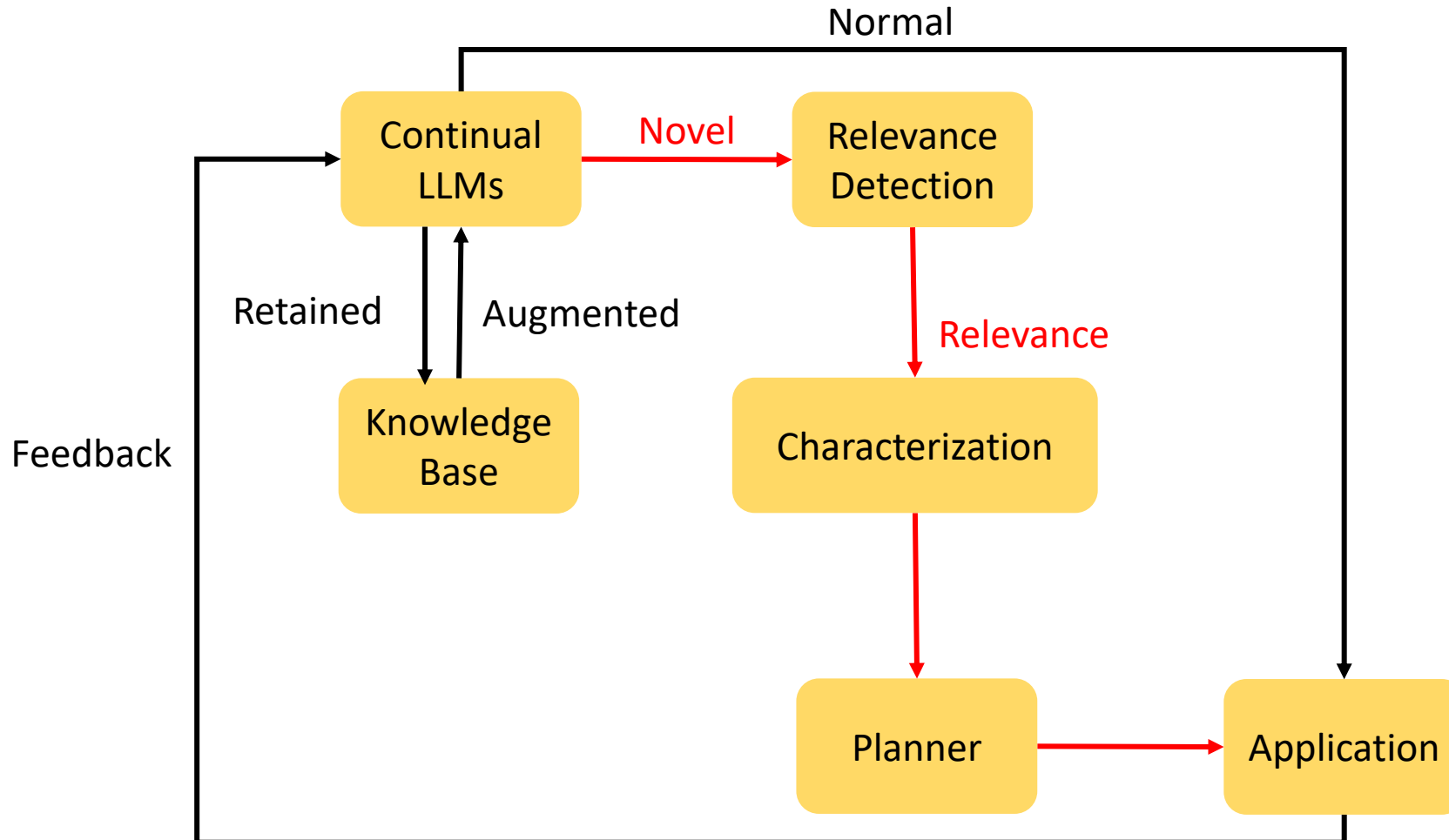
How to use the feedback to continually update the LLM and retain the useful knowledge?

Using external memory, working memory (context), or updating the LLM?





What research questions can lead us toward a more autonomous LLMs?



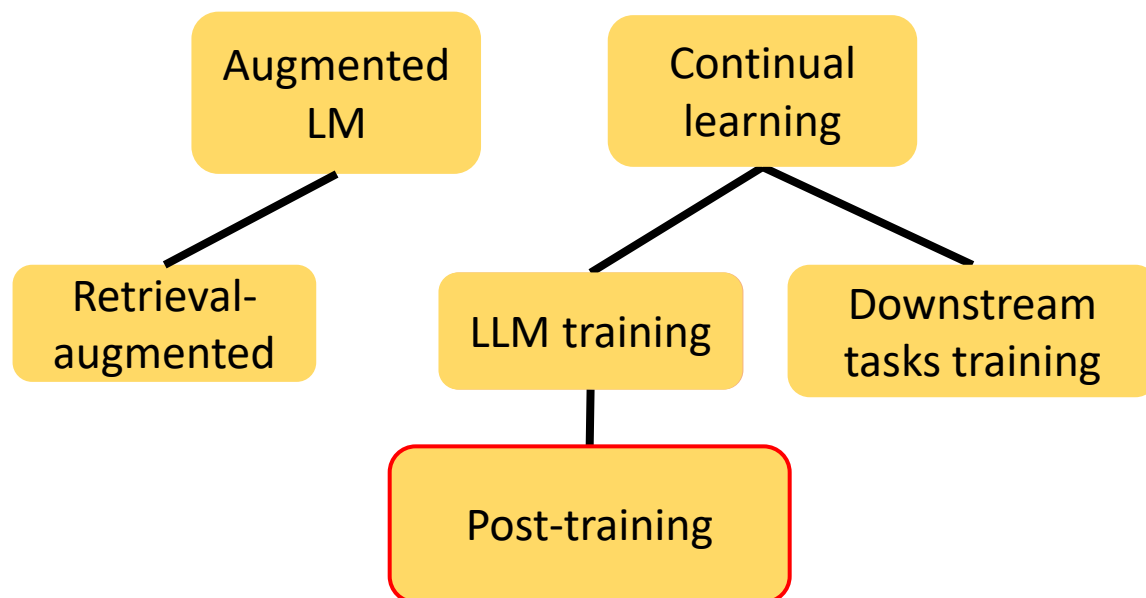
Most existing works are dedicated to the black part, which includes active research areas like retrieval-augmented LLM and continual learning.

The other component remains largely unexplored!



# Enhancing LLM for A Dynamic World

How to make knowledge in LLM more **reusable** and **updatable**?



**Ambitious goal: Fully autonomous LLM**

Thank you