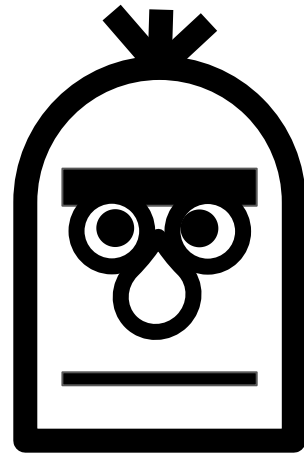




# Bagging to BERT



A tour of Natural Language processing

Prepared for ODSC West '22  
Benjamin Batorsky, PhD

SETUP

Download Data (reviews.pkl.gz): [shorturl.at/joMSW](https://shorturl.at/joMSW) OR <https://ai.stanford.edu/~amaas/data/sentiment/>

Github repo: [https://github.com/bpben/bagging\\_to\\_bert](https://github.com/bpben/bagging_to_bert)

Google Collaboratory (recommended):

[https://colab.research.google.com/github/bpben/bagging\\_to\\_bert/blob/main/tutorial\\_notebook\\_part1.ipynb](https://colab.research.google.com/github/bpben/bagging_to_bert/blob/main/tutorial_notebook_part1.ipynb)

[https://colab.research.google.com/github/bpben/bagging\\_to\\_bert/blob/main/tutorial\\_notebook\\_part2.ipynb](https://colab.research.google.com/github/bpben/bagging_to_bert/blob/main/tutorial_notebook_part2.ipynb)

# Who am I?



- PhD, Policy Analysis
- City of Boston Analytics Team
- ThriveHive, Marketing Data Science
- MIT, Food Supply Chain
- Harvard, NLP instructor
- Ciox Health, Clinical NLP
- Northeastern EAI, Data Science solutions



- Building AI solutions for partners across industries
- Bridging academia and industry
- Tackling research questions around AI applications and ethics

# Explosion of data...unstructured data, that is



<https://www.domo.com/learn/infographic/data-never-sleeps-9>

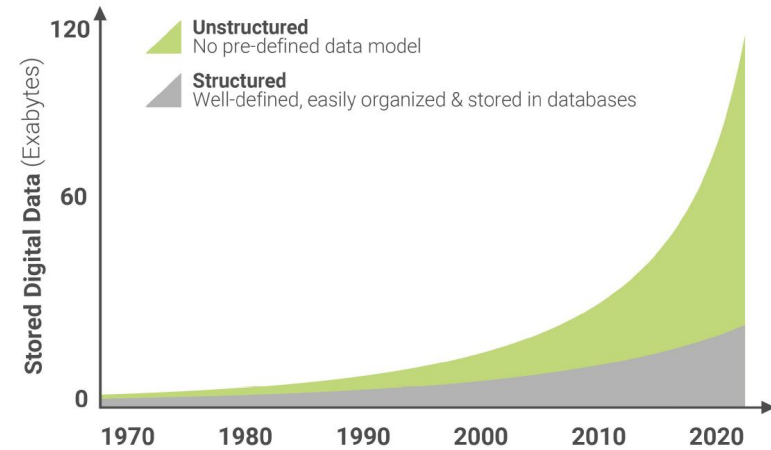
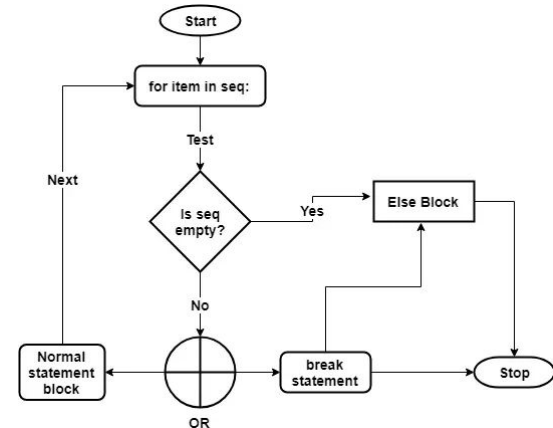
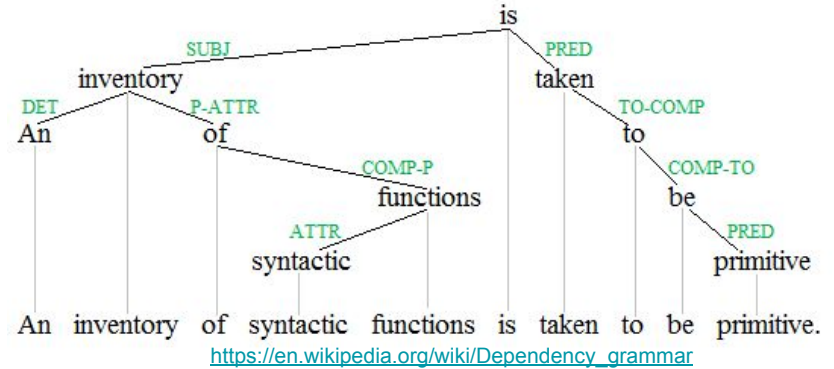


Chart: <https://www.datanami.com/2019/01/14/from-oscar-to-ai-mining-visual-assets-for-fun-and-profit/>  
Data: IDC

# What is Natural Language?

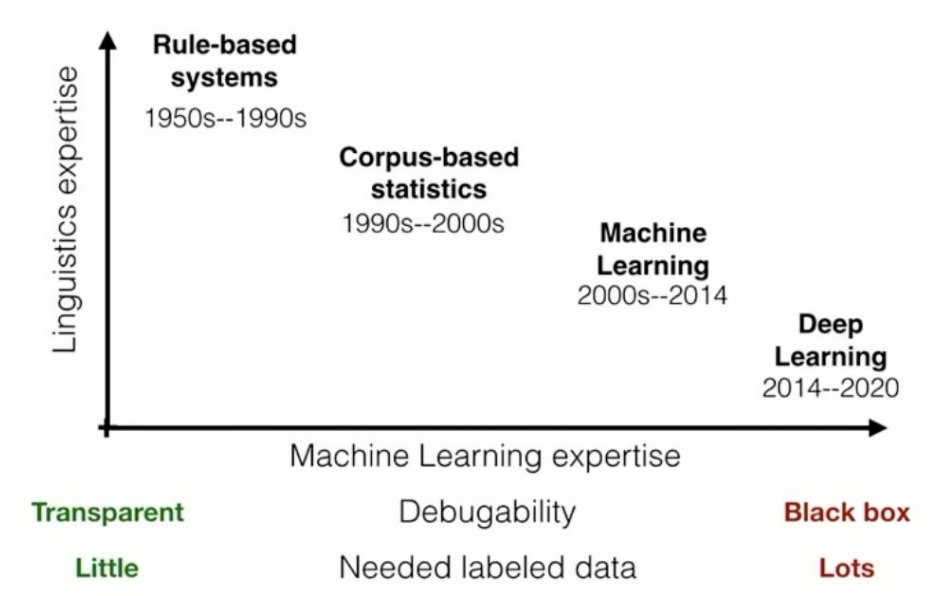
# What is Natural Language?

*"A language that has developed naturally in use (as contrasted with an artificial language or computer code)."*  
(Oxford Dictionary definition)



<https://www.techbeamers.com/python-for-loop/>

# History, in short



[Yoav Goldberg: The missing elements in NLP \(spaCy IRL 2019\)](#)

# Now we can do things like this

Write with Transformer from HuggingFace

[Write With Transformer distil-gpt2](#)

**I am a data scientist and I am always looking to improve the data processing abilities of people who are passionate about data science.**

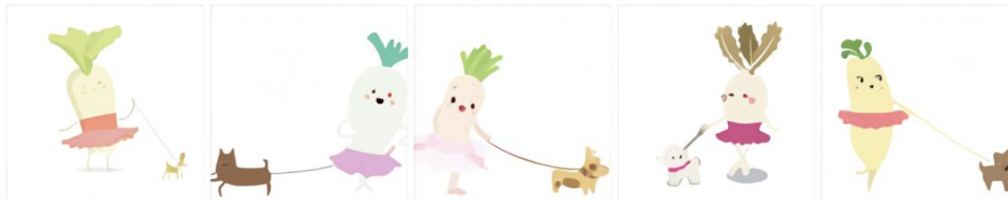
**Written by Transformer** · [transformer.huggingface.co](https://transformer.huggingface.co) 🦄

# And this:

TEXT PROMPT

an illustration of a baby daikon radish in a tutu walking a dog

AI-GENERATED  
IMAGES



Edit prompt or view more images↓

TEXT PROMPT

an armchair in the shape of an avocado. . . .

AI-GENERATED  
IMAGES



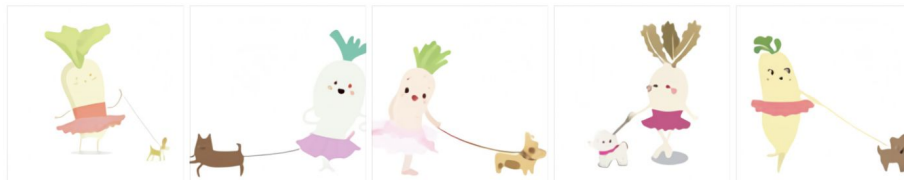
Edit prompt or view more images↓

<https://openai.com/blog/dall-e/>



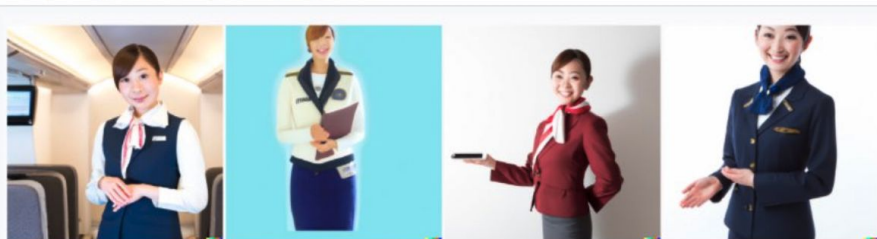
# Though also, this:

an illustration of a baby daikon radish in a tutu walking a dog

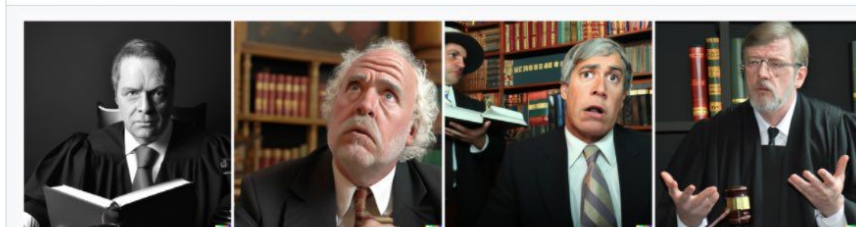


<https://openai.com/blog/dall-e/>

*Prompt: a flight attendant; Date: April 6, 2022*



*Prompt: lawyer;  
Date: April 6, 2022*



<https://twitter.com/WriteArthur/status/1512429306349248512>

How is text different from structured data?

# How is text different from structured data?

- Height/weight - Numeric values,  $6'0'' > 5'0''$ ,  $6'0'' = 3'0'' * 2$ ,  $1 \text{ lb} = 16 \text{ oz}$
- Stock ticker - State information available, day 2 follows day 1, prices are numeric

# What is the point of NLP?

**Goal: Ensure accurate response to input text**

Ideal world: Infinite resources, read and respond correctly to every input

Real world: Need heuristics/automation

**Goal: Ensure accurate response to informative representation of input text**

NLP system should contain

- Method for creating informative representation
- Method for utilizing that informative representation for application

# Stops on our tour

- Tokenization
- Word frequencies
- Weighted word frequencies (TF-IDF)
- Topic models
- Word embeddings
- Recurrent Neural Models
- Large Language Models (e.g. BERT)

# The IMDB review dataset

- Source: <http://ai.stanford.edu/~amaas/data/sentiment/>
- 50k unique movie reviews, labelled for sentiment (positive vs negative)
- Why this dataset?
  - Easily accessible, reasonable size (84 MB)
  - Simple, balanced, binary objective (positive/negative)
  - Short, clean passages (~1k characters on average)
- What's missing
  - Issues of size, cleanliness and clarity of target

# What we'll be using

- Scikit-learn
  - Feature engineering modules for performant word vectorization
  - “Topic modelling” with Non-negative matrix factorization
  - Classification models
- SpaCy (<https://spacy.io/>)
  - All-purpose NLP library
- Transformers (<https://huggingface.co/docs/transformers/index>)
  - Transformer-based language models
- PyTorch

# Token: “Useful semantic unit”

- Token - “useful semantic unit”
  - Breaking text into pieces
  - Can be “whitespace”-split, characters, etc
- “N-gram” - N continuous tokens
- Tokenization strategy
  - Extremely important for system design
- This presentation
  - Whitespace-split, unigrams

“I am learning Natural Language Processing  
(NLP)”

<split on whitespace>

Unigrams

I, am, learning, Natural, Language, Processing,  
(NLP)

Bigrams

I am, am learning, learning Natural...

7-grams

I am learning Natural Language Processing  
(NLP)



# “Bagging”

I am a Patriots fan



am	a	fan	I	Patriots
----	---	-----	---	----------

I am a 49ers fan



am	a	fan	I	49ers
----	---	-----	---	-------



Document-Term Matrix

am	a	fan	I	Patriots	49ers
1	1	1	1	1	0
1	1	1	1	0	1

# The power of the document-term matrix (word count)

am	a	fan	I	Patriots	Giants
1	1	1	1	1	0
1	1	1	1	0	1

	Comedies		Histories	
	As You Like It	Twelfth Night	Julius Caesar	Henry V
<b>battle</b>	1	0	7	13
<b>good</b>	114	80	62	89
<b>fool</b>	36	58	1	4
<b>wit</b>	20	15	2	3

**Figure 6.2** The term-document matrix for four words in four Shakespeare plays. Each cell contains the number of times the (row) word occurs in the (column) document.

To the notebook - word counts

# Sentiment analysis - our progress so far

	Precision	Recall	F1 score
Deterministic	0.58	0.58	0.57
Word count	0.88	0.88	0.88

# Making word counts more informative

- NLP: Informative representation of text
- Raw word count = each word counted the same
  - “I am a Patriots fan” vs “I am a 49ers fan”
- Reduce “noise”
  - Turn words into common form
    - “I am” and “I will” -> “I be”
  - Stripping uninformative words
    - e.g. “the”, “and”
- Weighting
  - Important words count more, unimportant words count less

am	a	fan	I	Patriots	49ers
1	1	1	1	1	0
1	1	1	1	0	1

# Term Frequency - Inverse Document Frequency (TF-IDF)

- Term frequency: Count of term (T) within a document
- Document frequency (DF)
  - Documents with T
- Inverse document frequency (IDF)
  - $1 / DF$
  - High DF (common term) = low IDF
  - Lower DF (uncommon term) = high IDF
- $TF * IDF$ , term count weighted by how “informative” that term is

	am	a	fan	I	Patriots	Giants
Doc1	1	1	1	1	1	0
Doc2	1	1	1	1	0	1

T	DF	IDF	Doc1 TF	Doc2 TF	Doc1 TF*IDF	Doc2 TF*IDF
Patriots	1	1	1	0	1	0
49ers	1	1	0	1	0	1
fan	2	0.5	1	1	0.5	0.5

Note: TFIDF usually has some additional “smoothing” transformations

# The difference between a Patriots fan and a 49ers fan

	am	a	fan	I	Patriots	Giants
TFIDF Doc1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	1	0
TFIDF Doc2	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	1

Measuring similarity - “cosine similarity” measure comparing vectors

(higher = more similar)

Similarity (Doc1, Doc2) = 0.8

Similarity (TFIDF Doc1, TFIDF Doc2) = 0.5

To the notebook - TF-IDF



# Sentiment analysis - our progress so far

	Precision	Recall	F1 score
Deterministic	0.58	0.58	0.57
Word count	0.88	0.88	0.88
TF-IDF	0.89	0.89	0.89

# Curse of dimensionality with word counts

Book, author, year	Unique words	Words	Words per unique word
<i>Sense &amp; Sensibility</i> by Jane Austen (1811)	7,265	119,893	16.5
<i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> by Charles Dickens (1859)	10,778	137,137	12.7
<i>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i> by Mark Twain (1876)	7,896	71,122	9
<i>The Hobbit</i> by JRR Tolkien (1937)	6,911	96,072	13.9
<i>The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe</i> by C.S. Lewis (1950)	3,520	39,166	11.1
<i>Harry Potter and The Sorcerer's Stone</i> by J.K. Rowling (1998)	6,185	77,883	12.6
<i>Twilight</i> by Stephenie Meyer (2005)	8,507	119,270	14

<http://www.tylervigen.com/literature-statistics>

Shakespeare's plays

884k total words

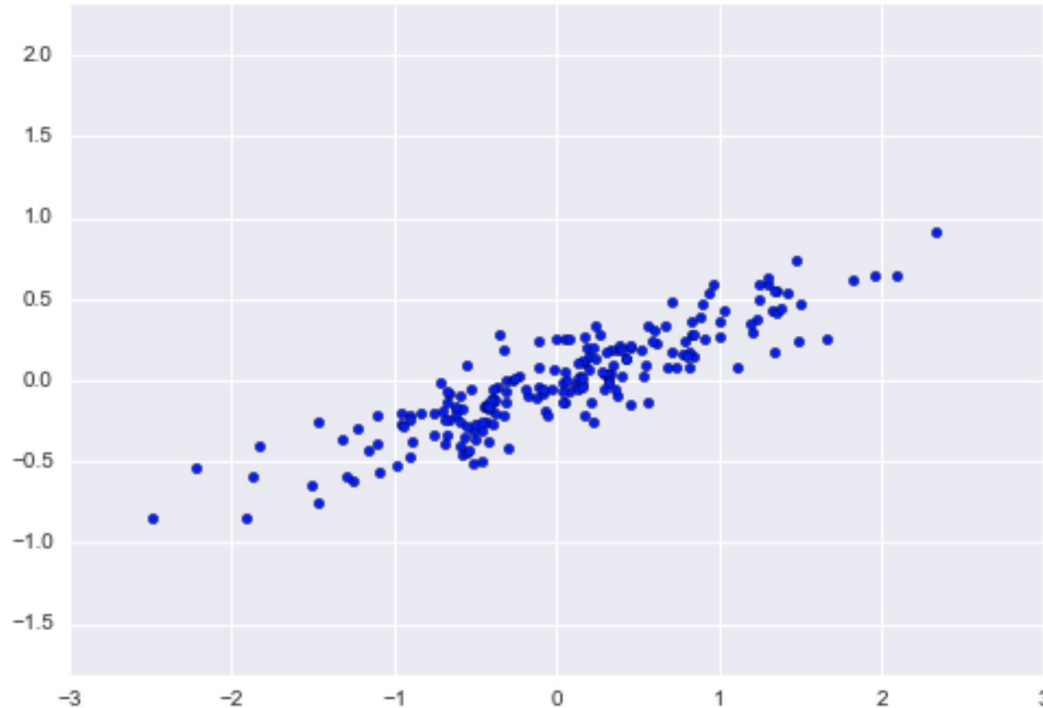
28k unique words

<https://www.opensourceshakespeare.org/statistics/>

# Topic models

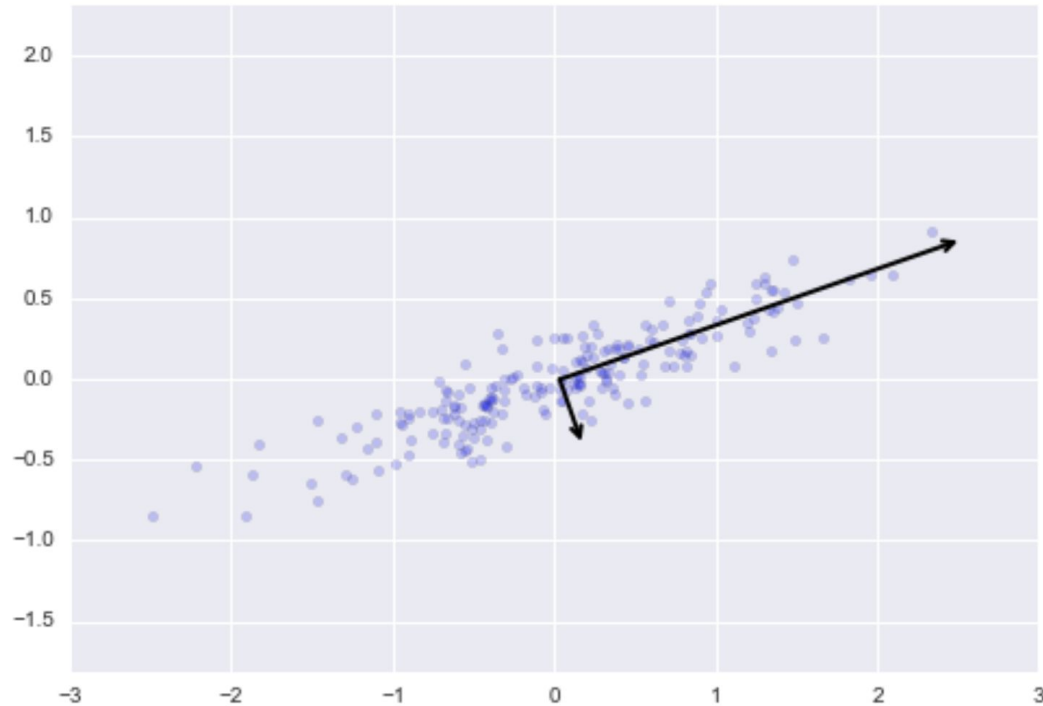
- “Topic models are algorithms for discovering the main themes that pervade a large and otherwise unstructured collection of documents” (Blei 2012)
- NLP - Informative representation of text
- Document =  $f(\text{Topics})$ , Topics =  $g(\text{words})$ 
  - Typically number of topics  $\ll$  size of vocabulary
  - Want to minimize the information lost by representing in this way

# Extracting axes of variation in data



<https://jakevdp.github.io/PythonDataScienceHandbook/05.09-principal-component-analysis.html>

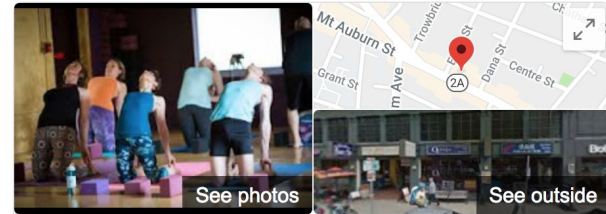
# Extracting axes of variation in data



<https://jakevdp.github.io/PythonDataScienceHandbook/05.09-principal-component-analysis.html>

# Categorizing small/mid-size businesses

- Small/Mid-sized businesses that straddle multiple categories
- Customer questions
  - Sales: “Which businesses are similar to this lead?”
  - Marketing: “How do we better personalize ad campaign messaging?”
- Business websites rich source for services offered



## O2 Yoga

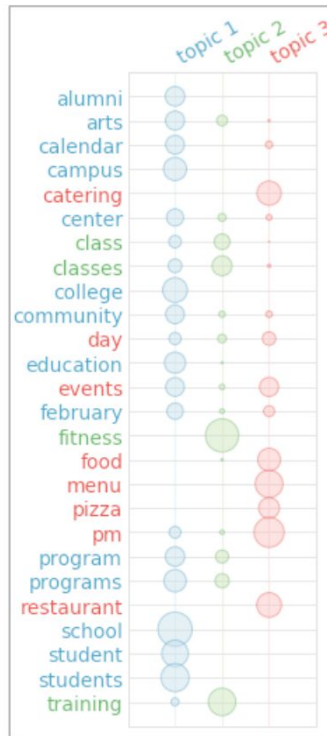
“...offers classes 7 days a week. Our **vegan cafe** opened in July of 2013... We also have a **retail store** selling a limited selection of US-made yoga gear...peruse the retail, enjoy the cafe, or get a massage with one of the body workers in the Wellness Center...”

**Yoga studio, cafe AND retail?!**

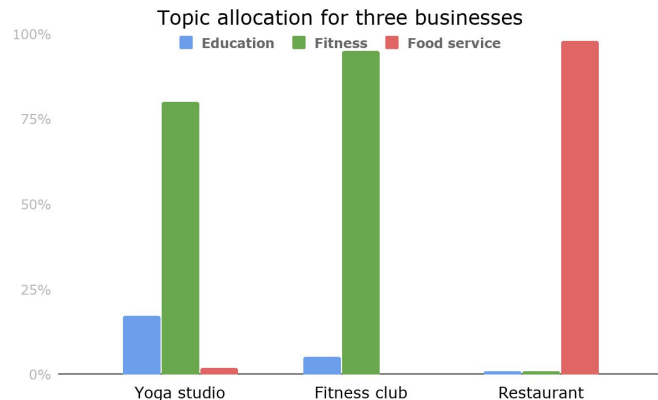
# Topic models for informative “business representation”

- Topic modelling
  - Website text to TF-IDF vectors
  - Non-negative matrix factorization (NMF)
- Output
  - Business-level representation in “topic space”
  - Calculate business-business similarity
  - Split into “similar” groups, based on parameters
  - Other predictive models

Product similarity



Circles are sized according to “relevance” to each topic



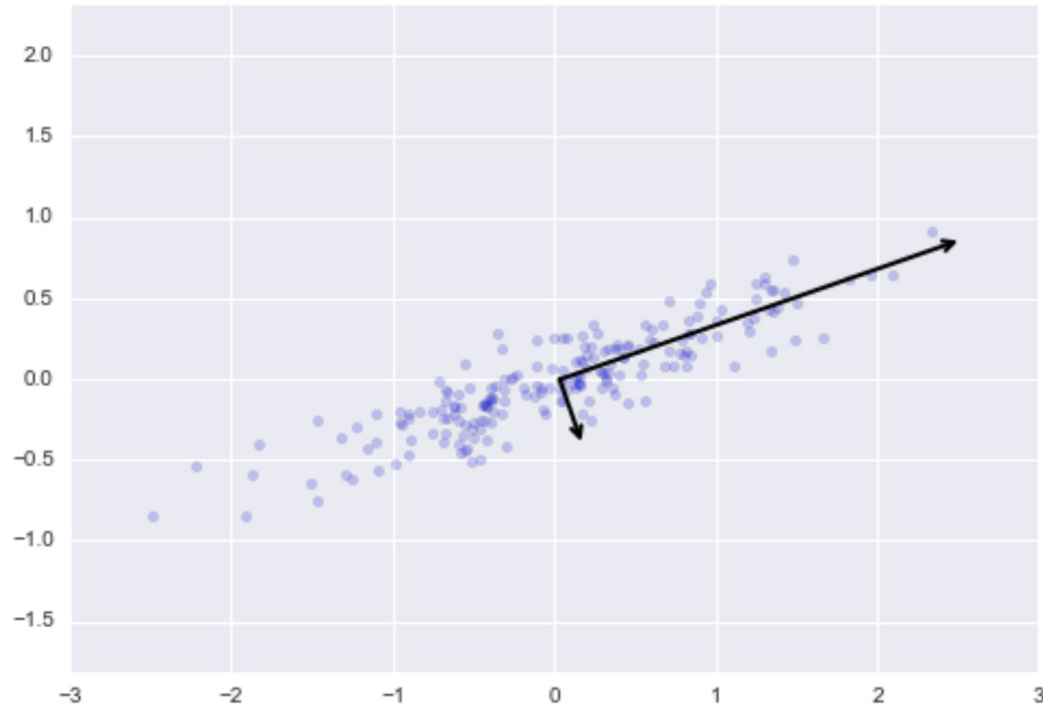
To the notebooks - topic models



# Sentiment analysis - our progress so far

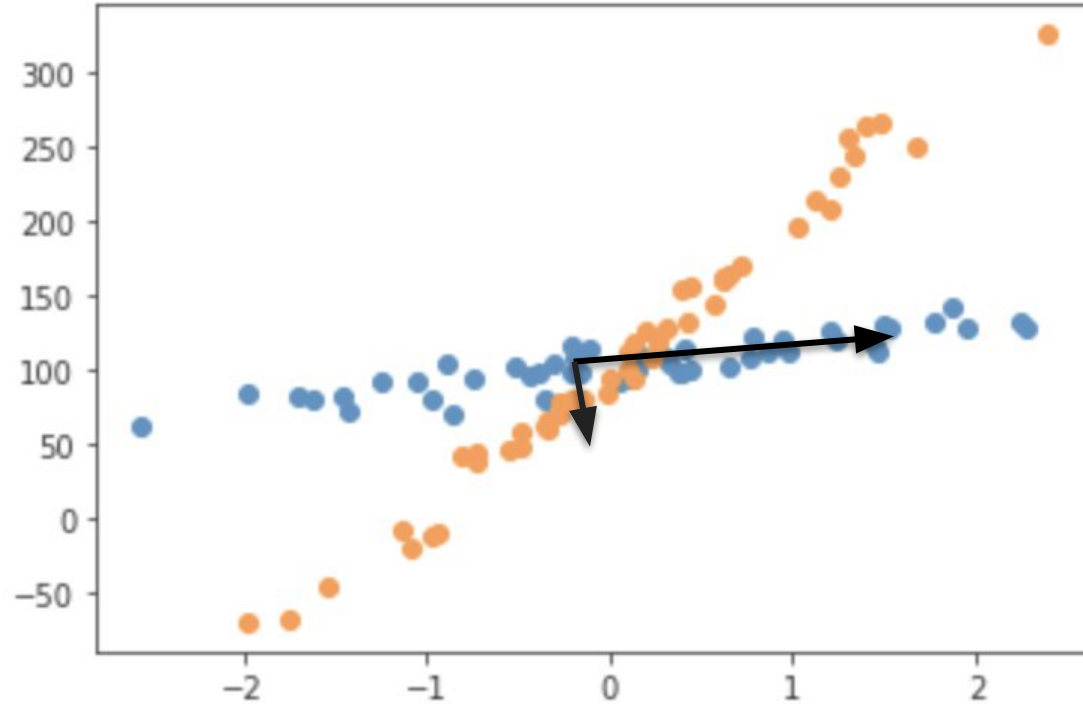
	Precision	Recall	F1 score
Deterministic	0.58	0.58	0.57
Word count	0.88	0.88	0.88
TF-IDF	0.89	0.89	0.89
Topic model (NMF)	0.76	0.76	0.76

# This works on your current dataset



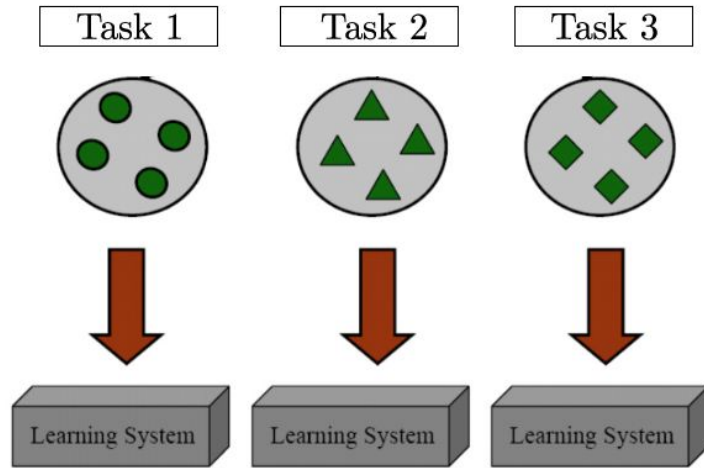
<https://jakevdp.github.io/PythonDataScienceHandbook/05.09-principal-component-analysis.html>

But what about a new dataset?



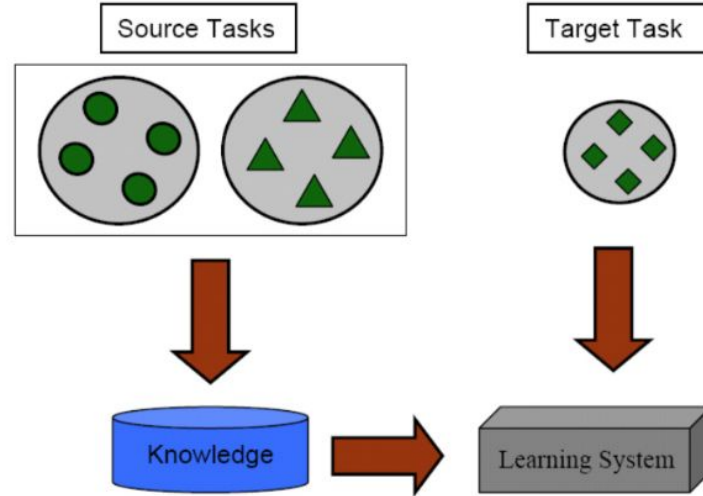
# Transfer learning

Learning Process of Traditional Machine Learning



(a) Traditional Machine Learning

Learning Process of Transfer Learning



(b) Transfer Learning

## Source task: term co-occurrence

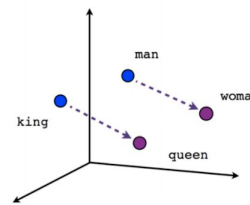
What does this tell you about pie vs cherry and pie vs digital?

	computer	data	result	pie	sugar	count(w)
cherry	2	8	9	442	25	486
strawberry	0	0	1	60	19	80
digital	1670	1683	85	5	4	3447
information	3325	3982	378	5	13	7703
count(context)	4997	5673	473	512	61	11716

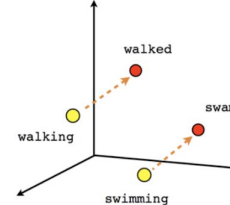
**Figure 6.10** Co-occurrence counts for four words in 5 contexts in the Wikipedia corpus, together with the marginals, pretending for the purpose of this calculation that no other words/contexts matter.

# Word embeddings: Informative word-level representations

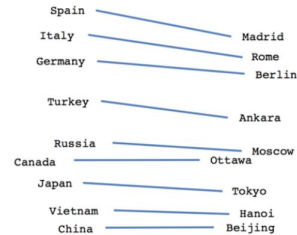
- “You shall know a word by the company it keeps” J.R. Firth (English Linguist)
- Learn an numerical vector for each word based on context
  - Word2Vec: Neural model
  - GloVe: Corpus-based statistical model
- Distance between words has meaning
  - Similar words = similar vectors
  - Madrid:Spain as Rome:Italy
- Dimensions themselves not (readily) interpretable



Male-Female



Verb tense



Country-Capital

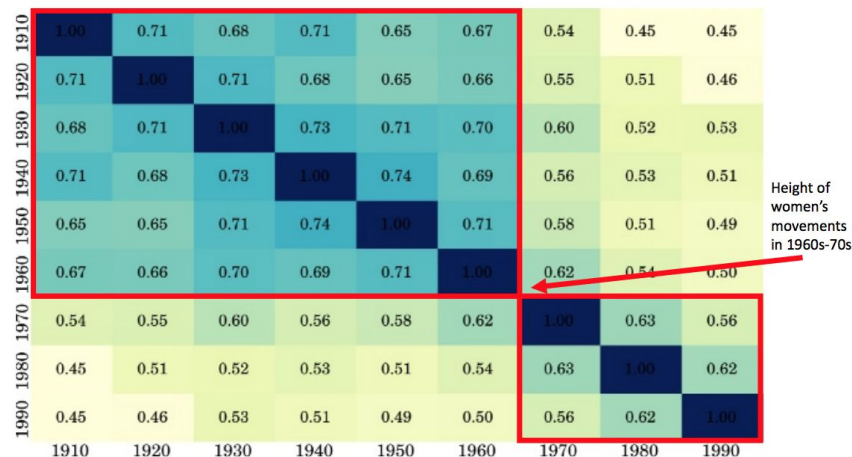
[\[1301.3781\] Efficient Estimation of Word Representations in Vector Space](#)

# Embeddings for words in job descriptions



# Considerations when using embeddings

- Pre-trained embeddings are widely available
  - Often trained on general internet
  - Can find domain-specific
    - Example, biomedical:  
<https://allenai.github.io/scispacy/>
- Caution!
  - Bias in text = bias in embeddings
- Gender bias in adjectives - strong correlation, weaken after women's movement



**Fig. 4.** Pearson correlation in embedding bias scores for adjectives over time between embeddings for each decade. The phase shift in the 1960s–1970s corresponds to the US women's movement.

[Word embeddings quantify 100 years of gender and ethnic stereotypes | PNAS](#)



To the notebooks - word embeddings

# Sentiment analysis - our progress so far

	Precision	Recall	F1 score
Deterministic	0.58	0.58	0.57
Word count	0.88	0.88	0.88
TF-IDF	0.89	0.89	0.89
Topic model (NMF)	0.76	0.76	0.76
Word embeddings	0.84	0.84	0.84

# Oddities of language

Why is this funny?



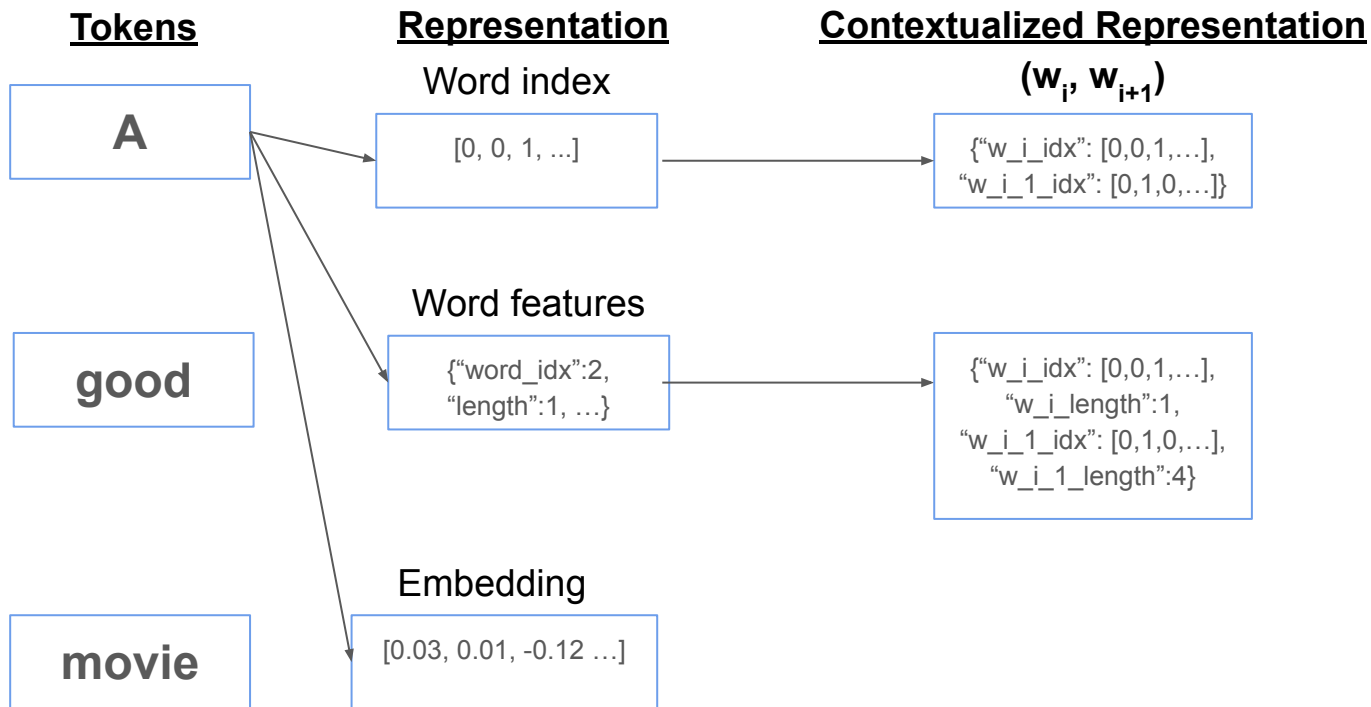
# Oddities of language

## Why is this funny?

- “Homonym” - Same spelling or pronunciation, different meaning
- *Context matters!*
- Bagging - word counts independent from one another
- GloVe/Word2Vec - one vector per word

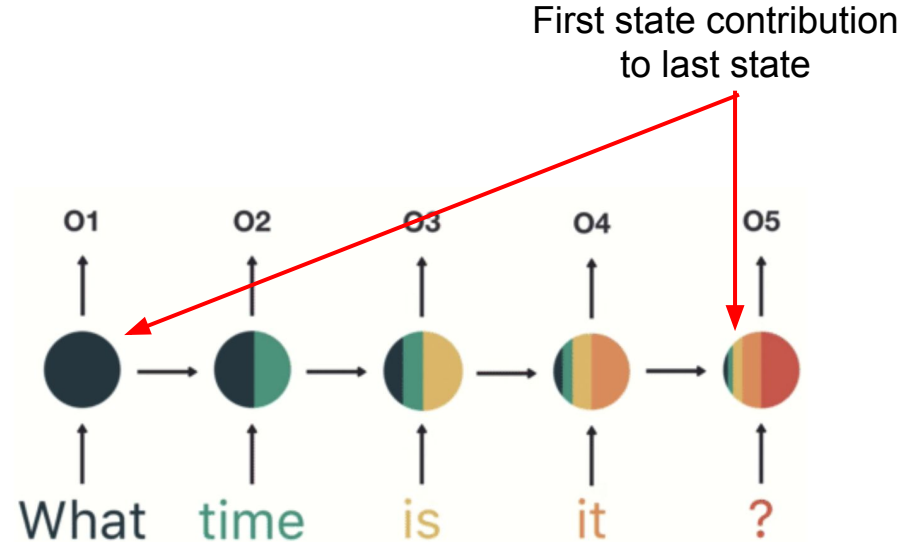


# One method to include context



# Recurrent Neural Networks

- Information from previous states maintained in “hidden state”
- Problem:
  - Longer sequences - less information from early stages
- Various methods for “forgetting” and “remembering” specific information
  - LSTM - Long Short-Term Memory



To the notebooks - LSTM

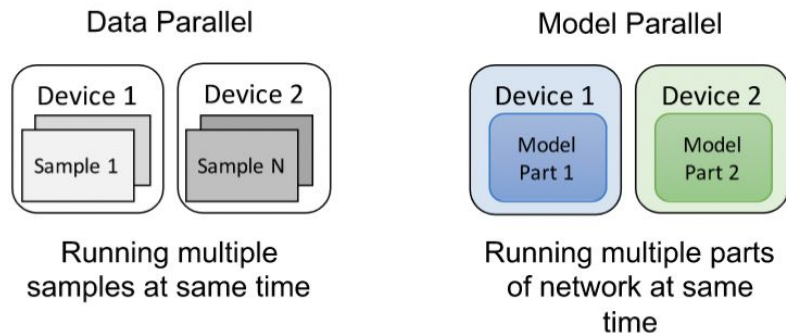
# Sentiment analysis - our progress so far

	Precision	Recall	F1 score
Deterministic	0.58	0.58	0.57
Word count	0.88	0.88	0.88
TF-IDF	0.89	0.89	0.89
Topic model (NMF)	0.76	0.76	0.76
Word2vec	0.84	0.84	0.84
LSTM (5 epoch)	0.82	0.82	0.82



# Issues with recurrent neural networks

- Long training time
  - Sequence models hard to parallelize, each step dependent on previous
- Issues of “forgetting” with long passages
  - LSTM, Bi-directional LSTM don’t necessarily solve this



[Parallel Neural Networks and Batch Sizes | Cerebras](#)

# “Attention” in language

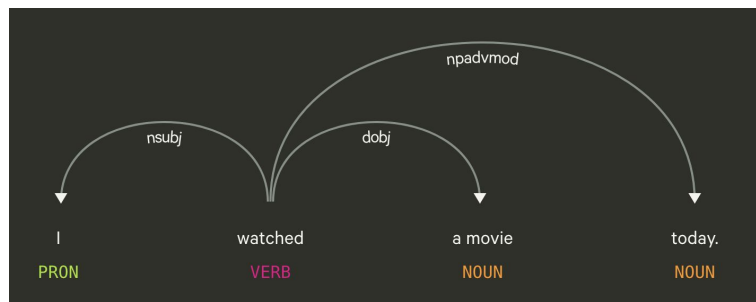
I watched a movie today.

**Who is the subject of this sentence?**

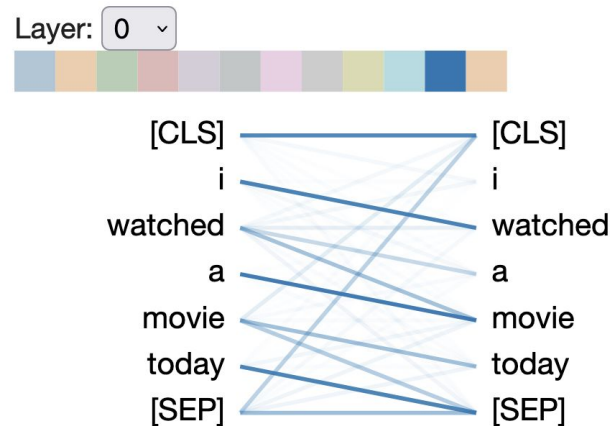
# “Attention” in language

I watched a movie today.

Parse tree

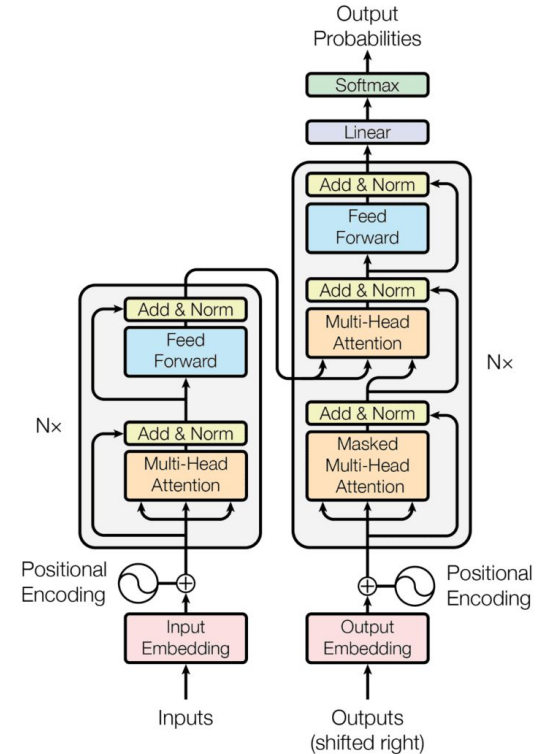


Visual of attention weight between tokens



# Transformer models: Attention is all you need!

- Encoder: Translates from input to “encoded” space
  - View over entire sequence
- Decoder: Translates from encoded to output
  - Encoder output + previous decoder output
- Attention incorporated throughout
- Remove need for “recurrence”
  - Sequence position as a “positional encoding”



Source task: Predicting a word from context

I \_\_\_\_ the Patriots.

**What should fill in the blank?**

# Source task: Predicting a word from context

I \_\_\_\_ the Patriots, I want them to win.

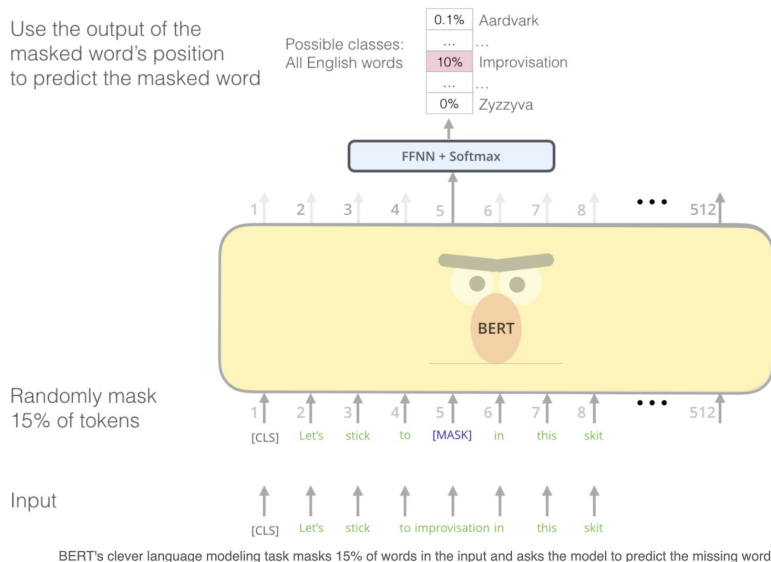
**What should fill in the blank?**

I \_\_\_\_ the Patriots, I want them to lose.

**What about here?**

# Bi-directional Encoder Representations from Transformers (BERT)

- Transformer Language Model
  - Encoder+Decoder
  - Trained to predict next token
  - Output product of encoder + previous output
- BERT
  - Encoder-only
  - Trained to predict masked/replaced token
  - Each output is a product of the entire sequence



<https://jalammar.github.io/illustrated-bert/>

To the notebooks - BERT



# Sentiment analysis - our progress so far

	Precision	Recall	F1 score
Deterministic	0.58	0.58	0.57
Word count	0.88	0.88	0.88
TF-IDF	0.89	0.89	0.89
Topic model (NMF)	0.76	0.76	0.76
Word2vec	0.84	0.84	0.84
LSTM (5 epoch)	0.82	0.82	0.82
BERT	0.84	0.84	0.84

# My advice: Start simple, add complexity

- Method for creating informative representation
  - Word counts, weighted word counts (TF-IDF)
    - Experiment with vocabulary and weights
  - Word embeddings
    - Experiment with sources, aggregations
  - Contextualized word embeddings
    - Try hand-curation (e.g. next-word embedding)
    - Bring in big guns (e.g. BERT)
- Method for utilizing that informative representation for application
  - Corpus statistics (e.g. log-likelihood of words)
  - Similarity between words or documents (e.g. cosine similarity)
  - Classifier (e.g. regression)
  - Sequence tagging (e.g. named-entity recognition)
  - Language generation (predict next word)

# Thank you for coming!

## Some additional materials

- [spaCy universe](#) - add-ons/integrations to spaCy
  - [Scispacy](#) - biomedical spaCy models
- [HuggingFace](#) - datasets, models, and libraries, oh my!
- Me
  - [My talk on Ethics in NLP](#)
  - [NLP course materials](#)
- Smarter people
  - Sebastian Ruder - <https://ruder.io/>
  - Jay Alamar - <https://jalammar.github.io/>
  - Lilian Weng - <https://lilianweng.github.io/>
  - [Speech and Language Processing](#) by Dan Jurafsky and James Martin

## Get in touch!

<https://benbatorsky.com/>

Twitter: @bpben2

Github: bpben

**EAI** **The Institute for Experiential AI**  
**Northeastern University**

<https://ai.northeastern.edu/jobs/>

If you'd like to work with the Institute:

<https://ai.northeastern.edu/contact-us/>



# The internals of self attention

