

Deep Learning, Language, and Code: From Methodology to Applications and Back

Charles Sutton
University of Edinburgh
& The Alan Turing Institute
& Google Brain

<http://bit.ly/sutton-dllc>



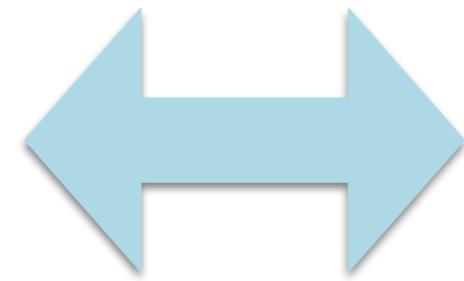
THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
informatics

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Alan Turing
Institute

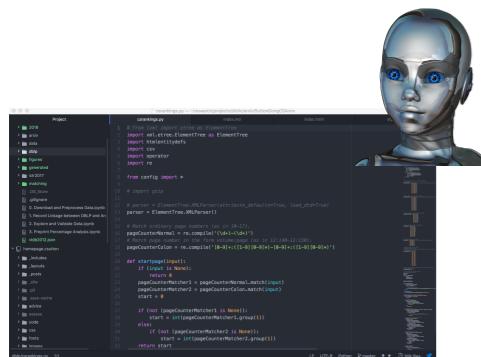
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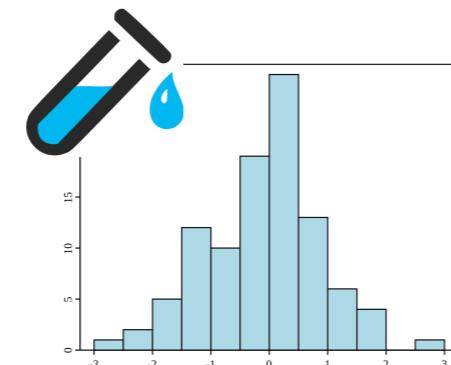
Applications



Methodology



Intelligent tools for
software development
*[Allamanis, et al, MSR 2012;
FSE 2014; ACM CSUR 2018]*

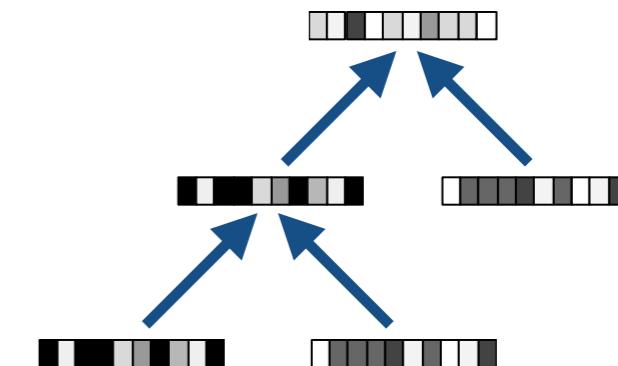


Accelerating practical
data science
*[Sutton, Hobson, Geddes,
Caruana 2018]*

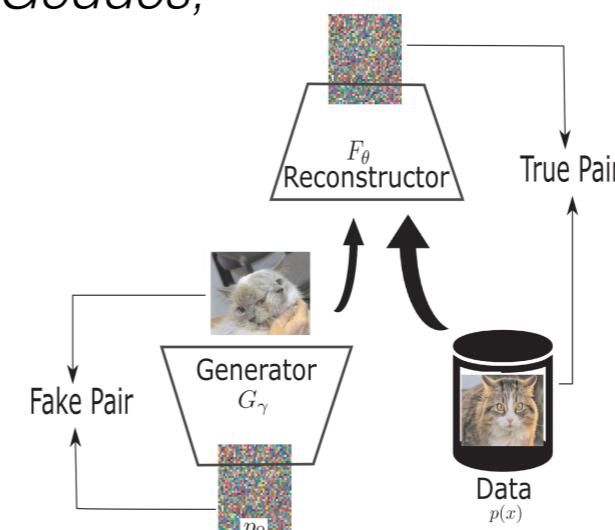


Household
energy usage

*[Zhang, Zhong, Goddard, Sutton, AAAI
2018; Zhong, Goddard, Sutton NIPS
2014, NIPS 2015]*

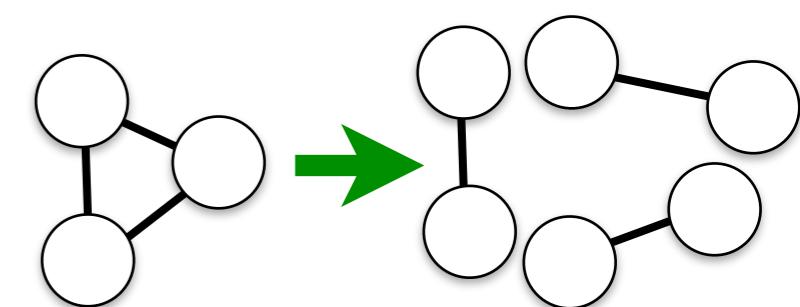


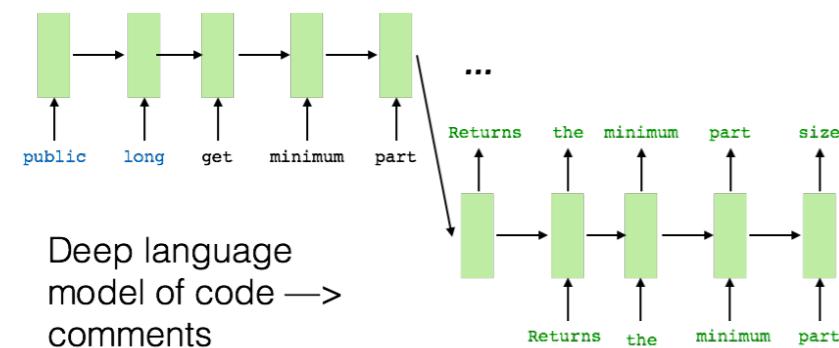
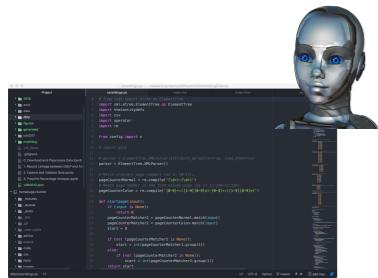
Equivalence networks
[Allamanis et al, ICML 2017]



Cyclic consistency
for deep generative
models
[Srivastava et al; NIPS 2017]

Local “piecewise” training of
conditional random fields
[Sutton & McCallum UAI 2005; ICML 2007]



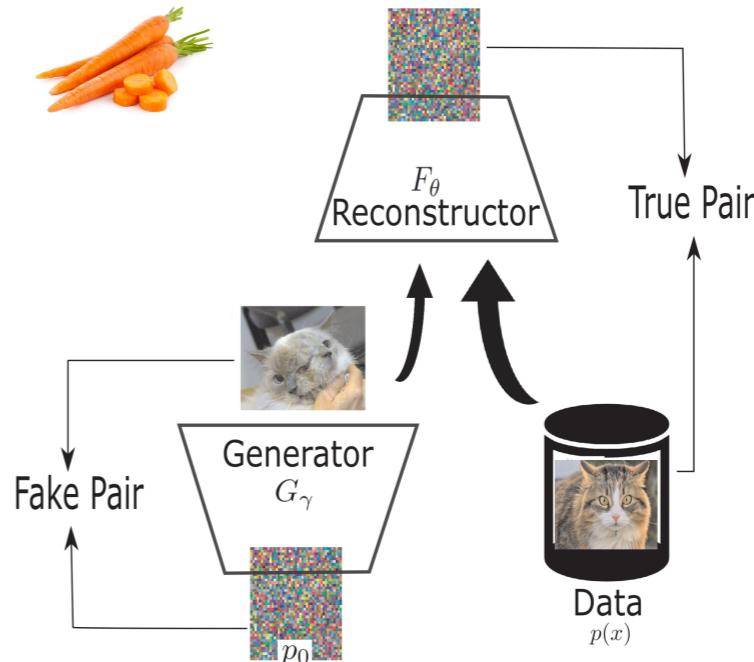
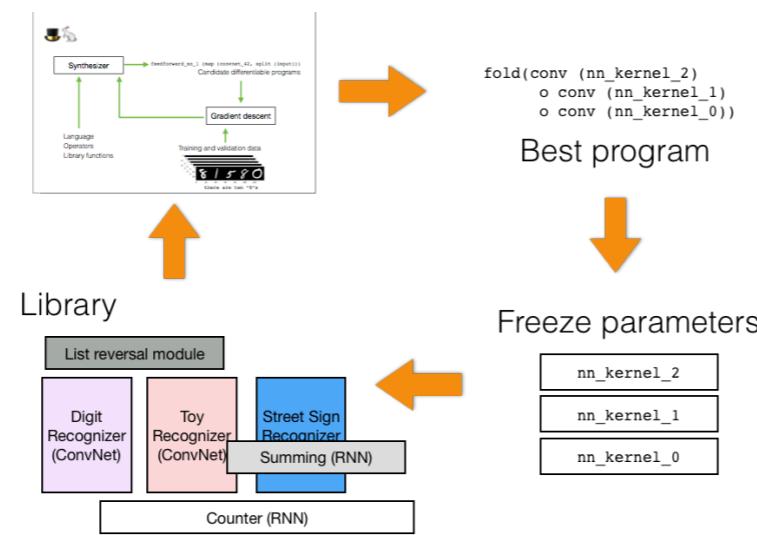


Identifying uninformative comments using deep learning

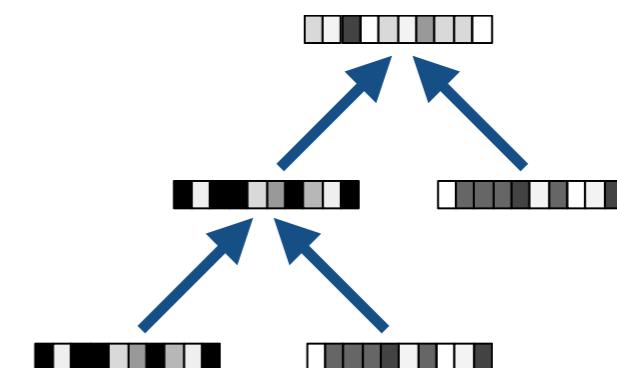
[Louis, Barr, Dash, Sutton, arXiv 2018]

Program synthesis for neurosymbolic transfer learning

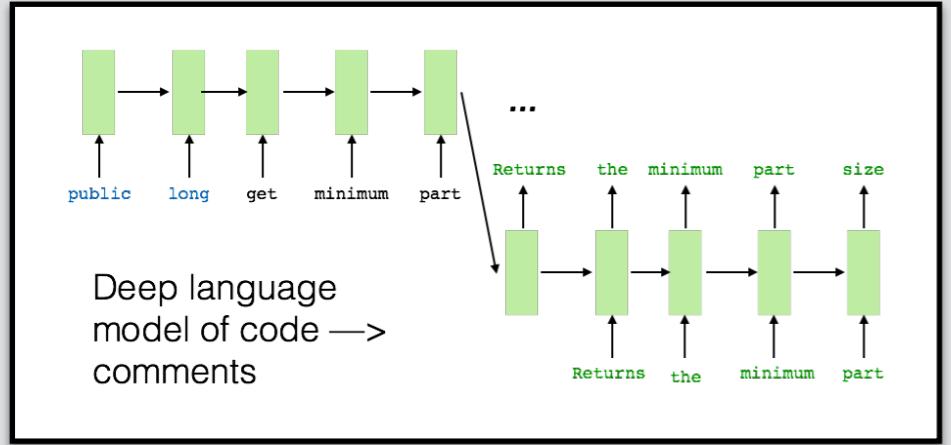
[Valkov, Chaudhari, Srivastava, Sutton, and Chaudhuri, arXiv 2018]



Cyclic consistency
for deep generative
models
[Srivastava et al; NIPS 2017]



Equivalence networks
[Allamanis et al, ICML 2017]



Finding Uninformative Comments

Source code is a means of human communication



```
public static final  
String $name = $StringLit;
```

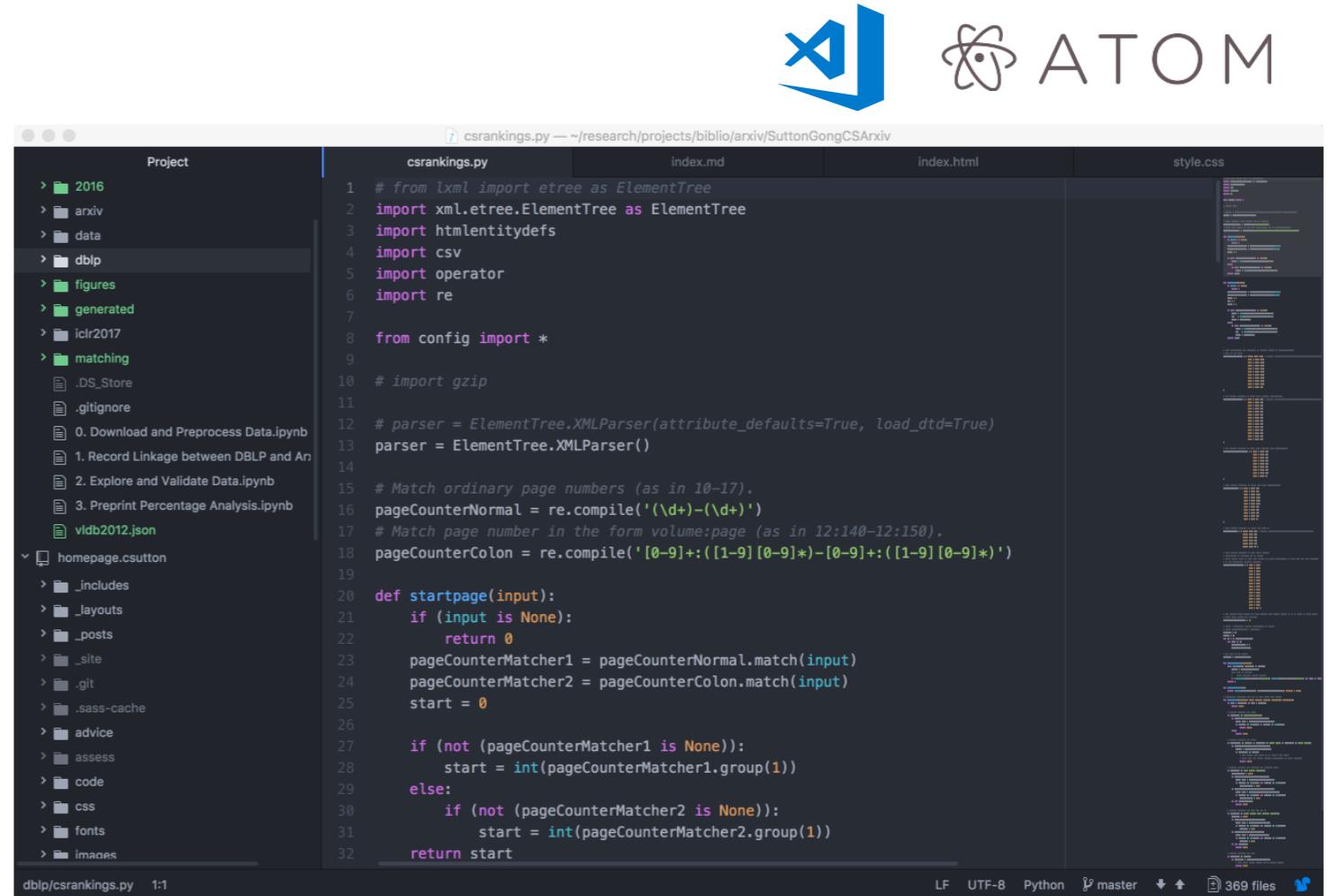
```
try{  
    Node $name=$methodInvoke();  
    $BODY$  
}finally{  
    $(Transaction).finish();  
}
```

DEI: Development Environment with Intelligence

AI support for the full software lifecycle

Cyberpair programming

- Managing avalanche of details in code
- Automate tasks without business value
- Transfer knowledge to newer developers



The screenshot shows the Atom code editor interface. On the left is a tree view of a project folder named 'Project' containing various subfolders like '2016', 'arxiv', 'data', etc., and files like 'csrankings.py', 'index.md', 'index.html', and 'style.css'. The main central area displays the content of 'csrankings.py'. The code is written in Python and uses regular expressions to parse page numbers from strings. The right side of the interface shows a sidebar with various panels, including a file browser and a terminal.

```
# from lxml import etree as ElementTree
import xml.etree.ElementTree as ElementTree
import htmlentitydefs
import csv
import operator
import re

from config import *

# import gzip

parser = ElementTree.XMLParser(attribute_defaults=True, load_dtd=True)
parser = ElementTree.XMLParser()

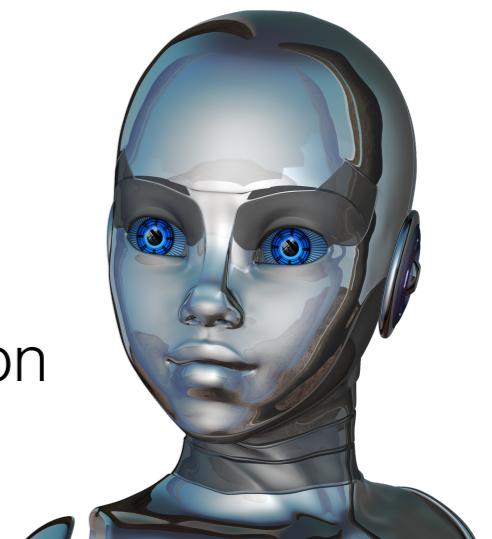
# Match ordinary page numbers (as in 10-17).
pageCounterNormal = re.compile('(\d+)-(\d+)')
# Match page number in the form volume:page (as in 12:140-12:150).
pageCounterColon = re.compile('[0-9]+:[([0-9][0-9]*-[0-9]+:[([0-9][0-9]*)])')

def startpage(input):
    if (input is None):
        return 0
    pageCounterMatcher1 = pageCounterNormal.match(input)
    pageCounterMatcher2 = pageCounterColon.match(input)
    start = 0

    if (not (pageCounterMatcher1 is None)):
        start = int(pageCounterMatcher1.group(1))
    else:
        if (not (pageCounterMatcher2 is None)):
            start = int(pageCounterMatcher2.group(1))

    return start
```

Suggestions on: Coding style
Bug fixes
Documentation
Debugging



Not all comments are the same...

```
1  /* Returns the minimum part size for upload parts.  
   Decreasing the minimum part size  
2   causes multipart uploads to be split into a larger number  
      of smaller parts. Setting  
3   this value too low has a negative effect on transfer  
      speeds, causing extra latency  
4   and network communication for each part.  
5   @return The minimum part size for upload parts. */  
6   public long getMinimumUploadPartSize() {  
7     return minimumUploadPartSize;  
8   }
```

The Good

Let's discourage
repetitive comments!

The Ugly

```
1  /* Returns the projects entry persistence.  
2   @return the projects entry persistence */  
3   public ProjectsEntryPersistence  
      getProjectsEntryPersistence() {  
4     return projectsEntryPersistence;  
5   }
```

Shouldn't comments repeat the code?

“Avoid comments that just repeat what the code does.”

— Google Testing Blog

“Good comments don't repeat the code or explain it. They clarify its intent. Comments should explain, at a higher level of abstraction than the code, what you're trying to do.”

— Steve McConnell, *Code Complete*

Comments a waste of time?

Downsides of comments

- Bad comments cause bloat
- Good comments take time
- Comments go stale

Advice: “Rewrite code instead”

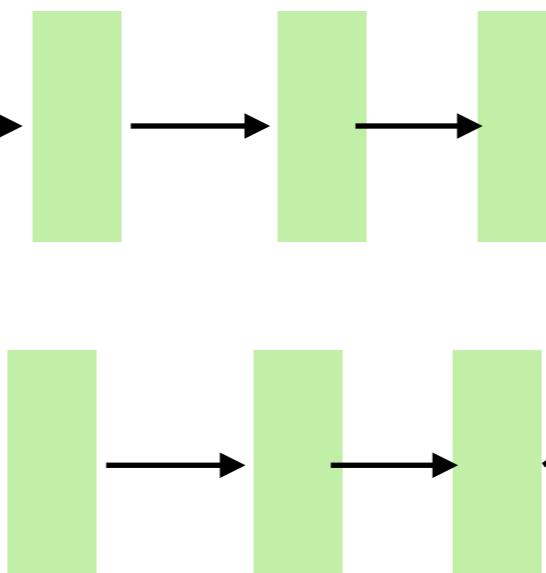
Opportunity for ML / NLP

Bimodal software engineering

```
1 /* Returns the minimum part size for upload parts.  
   Decreasing the minimum part size  
2  causes multipart uploads to be split into a larger  
   number of smaller parts. Setting  
3  this value too low has a negative effect on upload  
   speeds, causing extra latency  
4  and network communication for each part.  
5  @return The minimum part size for upload parts. */  
6 public long getMinimumUploadPartSize() {  
7     return minimumUploadPartSize;  
8 }
```

Comment

Code



Deep models

Predictions

Readability,
staleness,
completeness
...

Comment entailment problem

Returns the minimum part size for upload parts.

Comment sentence

```
6 public long getMinimumUploadPartSize() {  
7     return minimumUploadPartSize;  
8 }
```

Code

Code logically entails comment?

Code provides enough information to judge that comment sentence is true.

Inspired by textual entailment

[Dagan et al, 2013]

Examples of comment entailment

```
/**  
 * Return the current registration id.  
 * If result is empty, the registration has failed.  
 * @return registration id, or empty string if the  
 * registration is not complete.  
 */  
public static String getRegistrationId(Context context) {  
    final SharedPreferences prefs =  
        context.getSharedPreferences(PREFERENCE,  
        Context.MODE_PRIVATE);  
    String registrationId =  
        prefs.getString(`dm_registration'', ''');  
    return registrationId;  
}
```

ENTAILED

NOT ENTAILED

PARTIAL

Entailment is good? Bad?

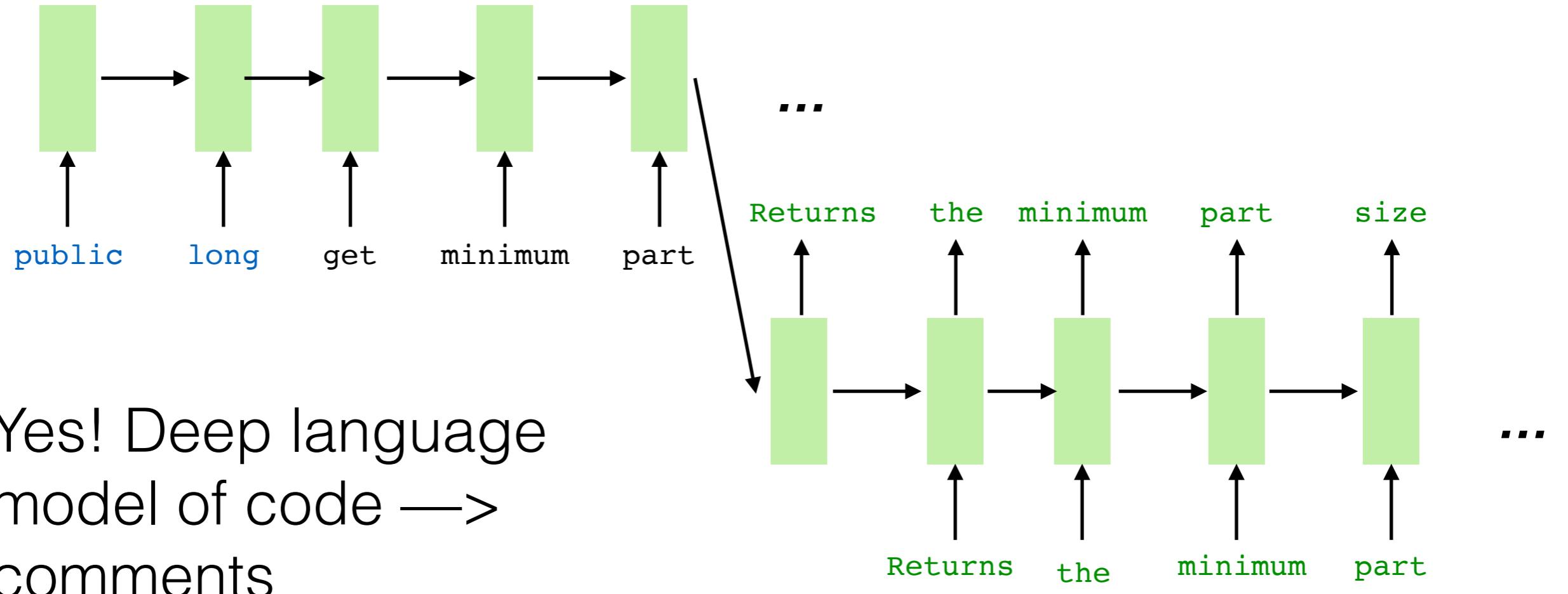
Academic: Entailment is **good** because the point of comments is to explain the code, right?

Industry: Entailment is **bad** because you're bloating the code with maintenance burden

We say: Both right! Both wrong!

	Entailed	Non-entailed
Often Good!	High-level summaries	Design rationale
Probably Bad	Restate the method signature	Copy-paste mistakes

Seq2seq for entailment



Key idea: If my deep network can predict your comment,
it wasn't a good comment!

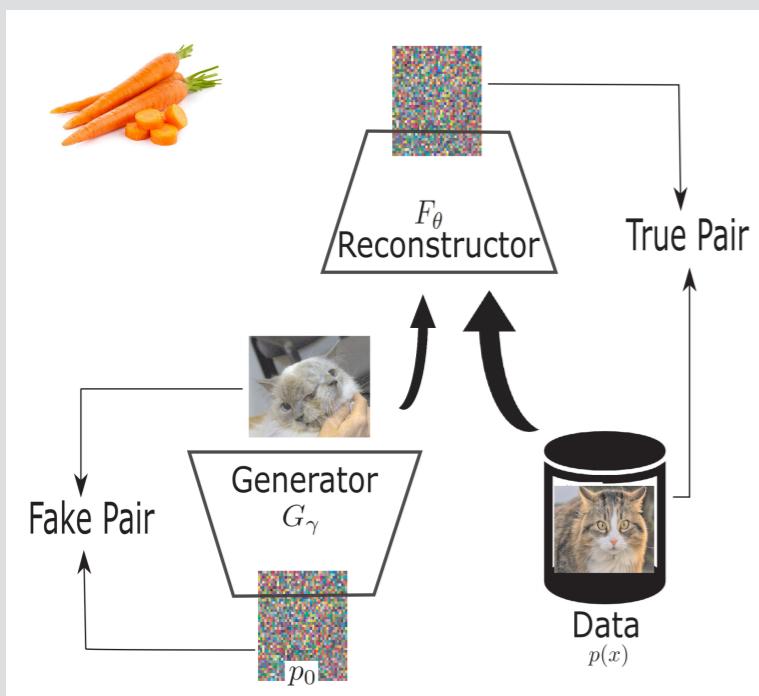
Predictive performance

Model	Perplexities		
	Train	Valid	Test
LM	7.80	10.34	9.87
s2s-signature	5.70	6.90	8.26
s2s-begin-end	3.44	4.18	5.31
s2s-identifier	4.50	5.34	6.00
LM English newswire			58

Human judgements

category	count	avg	stdev	median
entails	237	9.50	33.23	2.30
partly entailed	12	14.77	17.00	7.35
not entailed	39	115.73	266.65	13.35
unrelated	4	1069.73	676.71	1206.36

VEEGAN: Reducing Mode Collapse in Generative Adversarial Learning



[Srivastava, Valkov, Russell, Gutmann, Sutton, NIPS 2017]

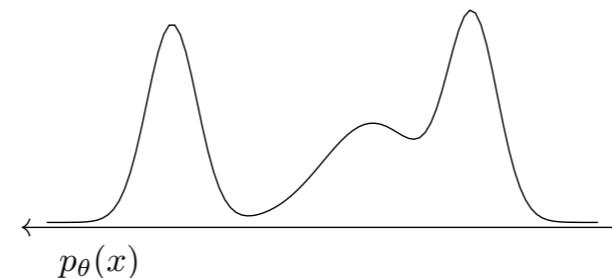
Generative Adversarial Networks

[Goodfellow et al, 2014]

Classical probabilistic modelling



Input



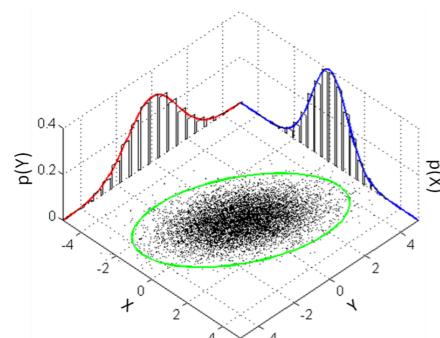
Explicit model



0.00003

Density value

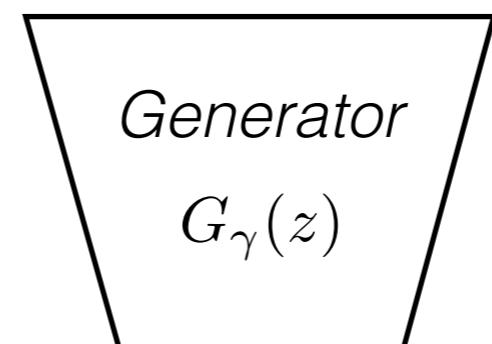
Implicit probabilistic modelling



Gaussian
 $p(z)$



Representation
 z



Generator
 $G_\gamma(z)$



Image
 x

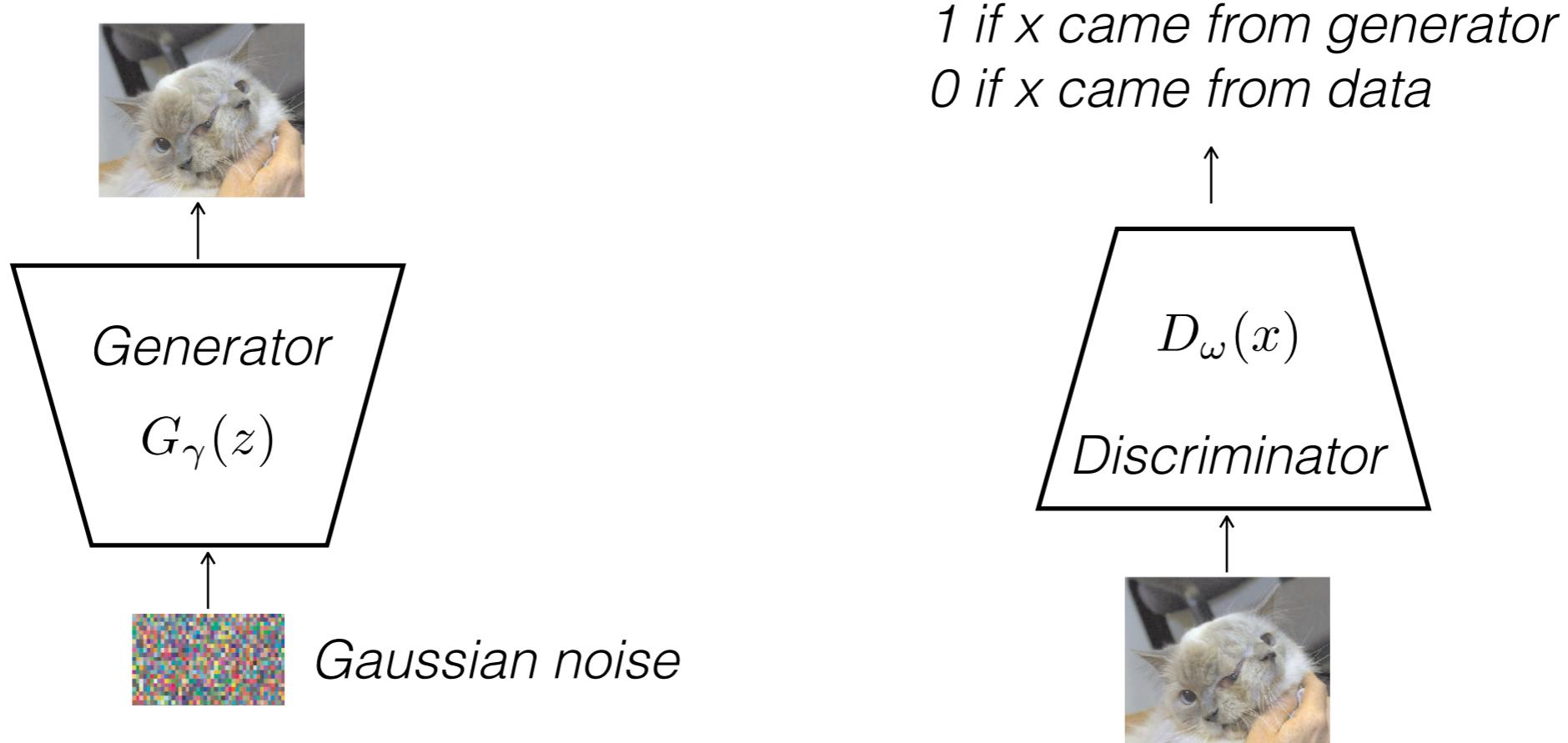
.....

Sampling procedure for $p_\theta(x)$

How to train?

Can't use maximum likelihood. There is no likelihood!

Instead define a game

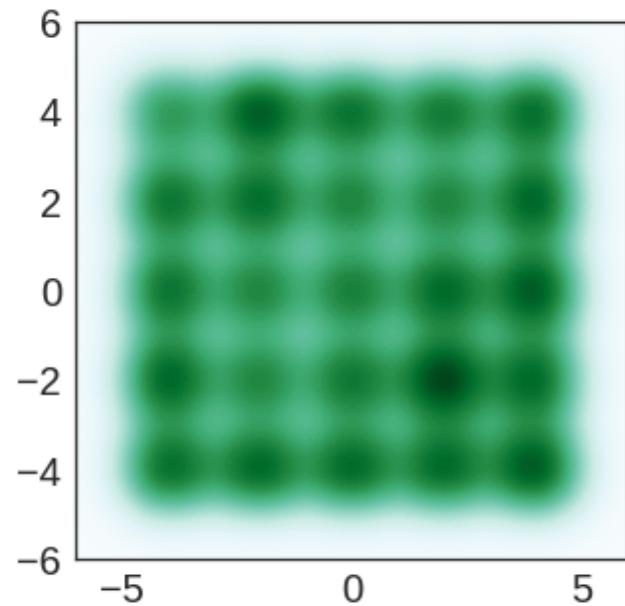


Optimize

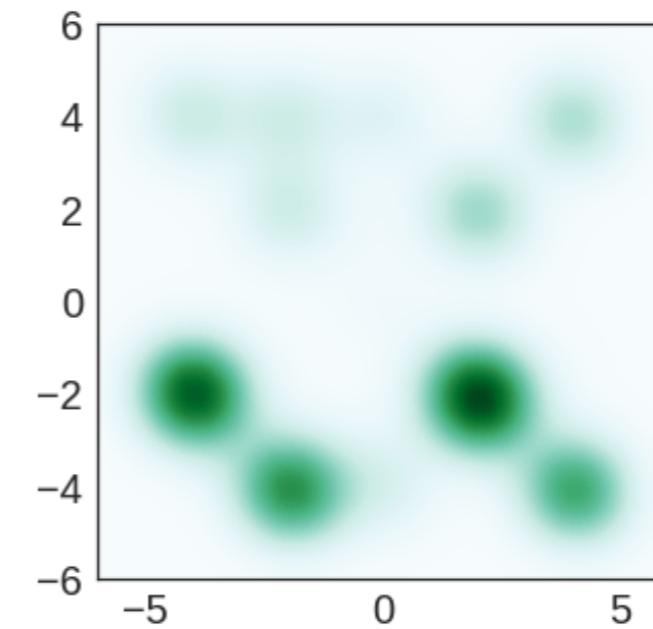
$$\max_{\omega} \min_{\gamma} \mathcal{O}_{\text{GAN}}(\omega, \gamma) := E_z [\log D_\omega(G_\gamma(z))] + E_x [\log (1 - D_\omega(x))]$$

Mode Collapse

Example from 2D mixture of Gaussians



True data



Samples from GAN

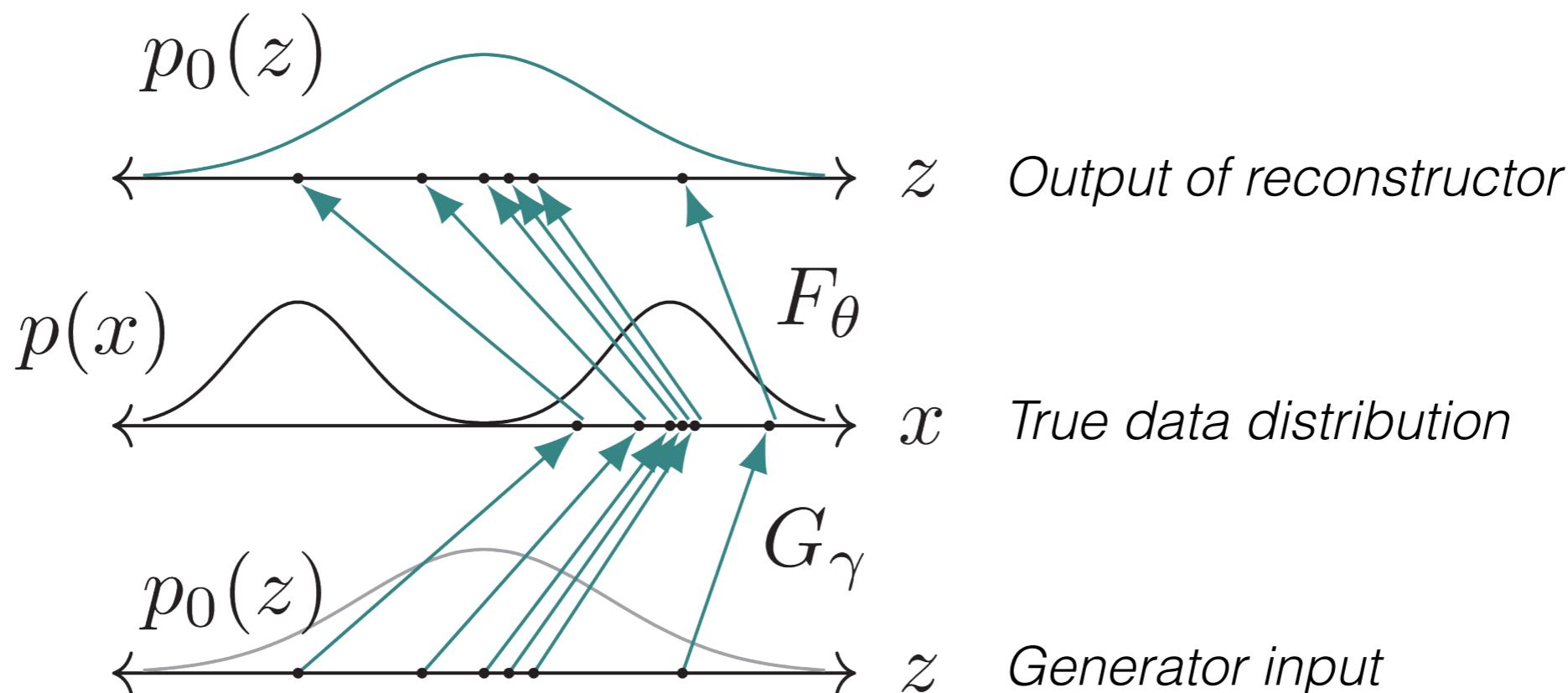
VEEGAN: Detecting collapse



Train F_θ to:

1. map true data to Gaussian
2. approximately invert the generator

Then it can help detect mode collapse:



VEEGAN: Autoencoding Noise



Alternate:

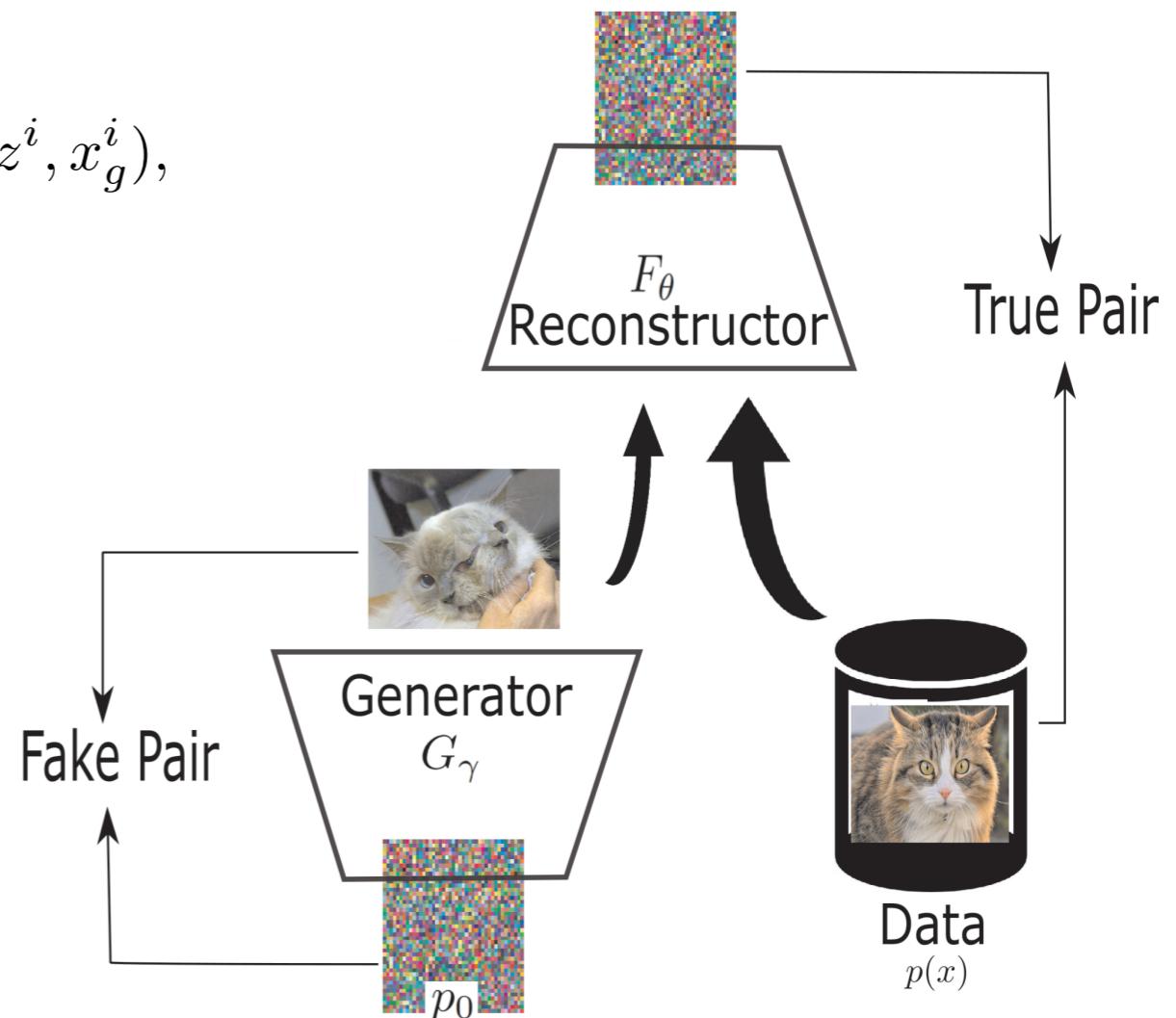
Train discriminator

$$O_{\text{LR}}(\omega, \gamma, \theta) = -\mathbb{E}_\gamma[\log(\sigma(D_\omega(z_T, x_G)))] - \mathbb{E}_\theta[\log(1 - \sigma(D_\omega(z_F, x_T)))]$$

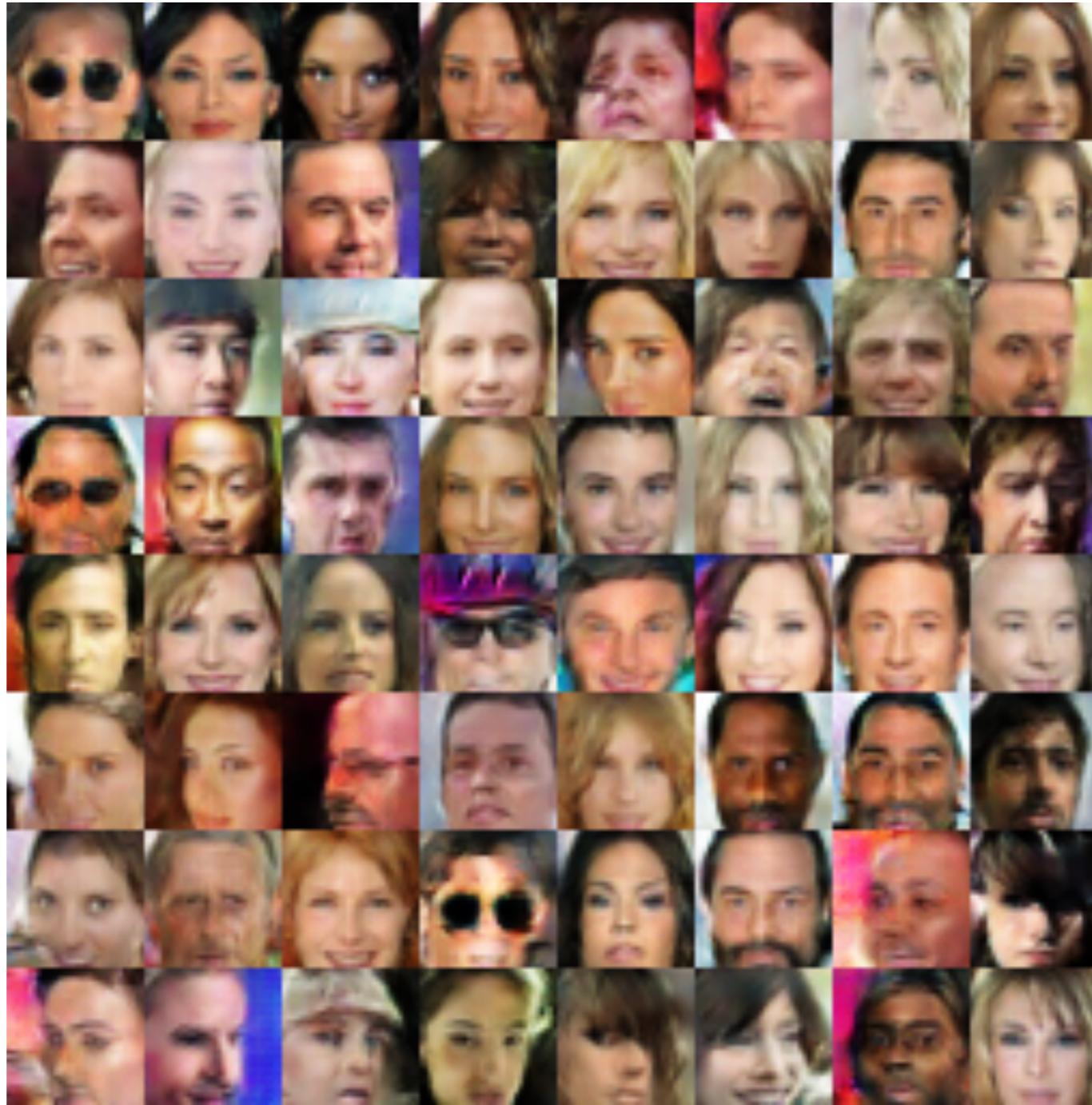
Train generator and reconstructor

$$\hat{\mathcal{O}}(\omega, \gamma, \theta) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathcal{D}_\omega(z^i, x_g^i) + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N d(z^i, x_g^i),$$

Much less susceptible to mode collapse than other competing methods

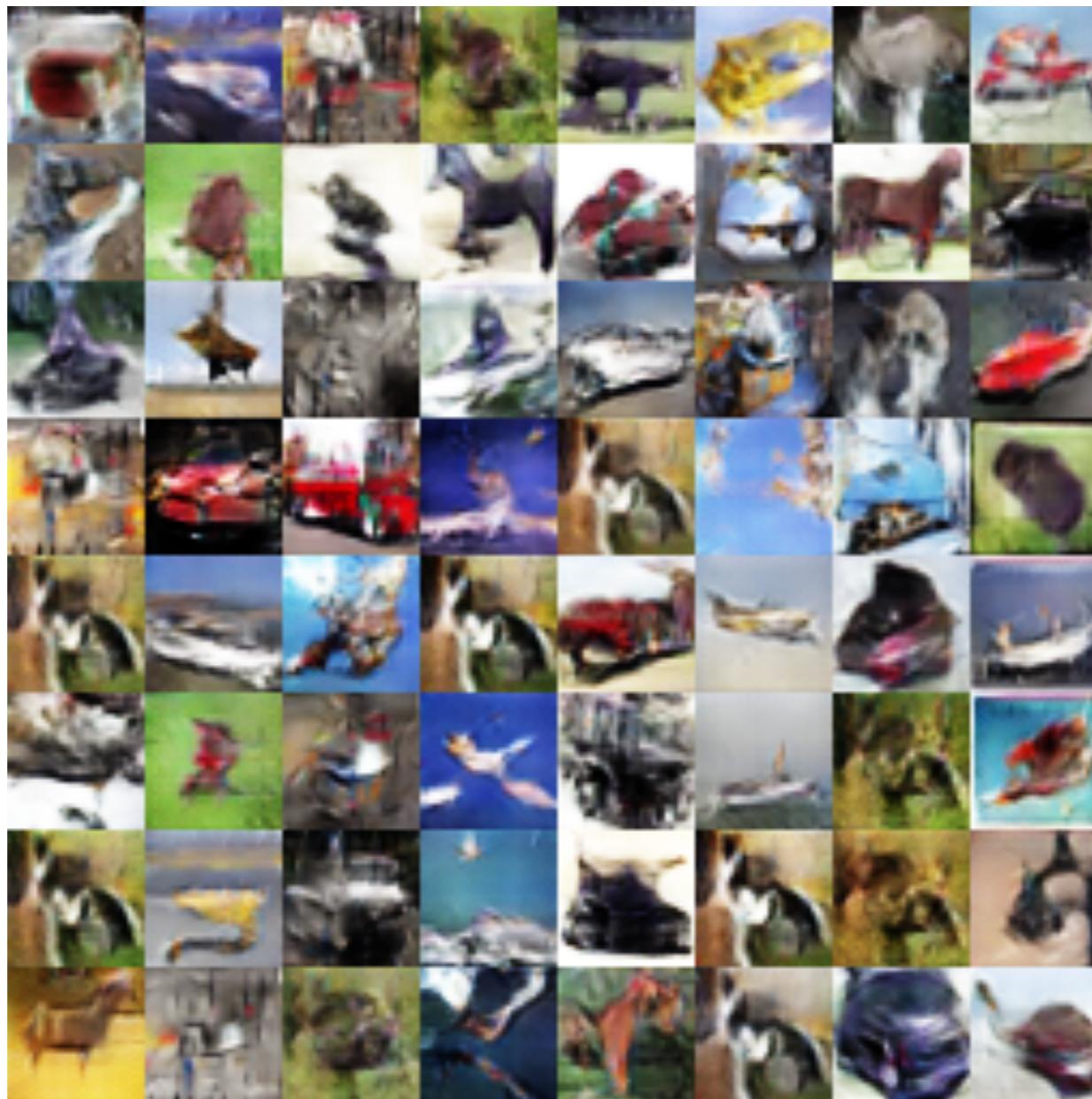


Examples of generated images

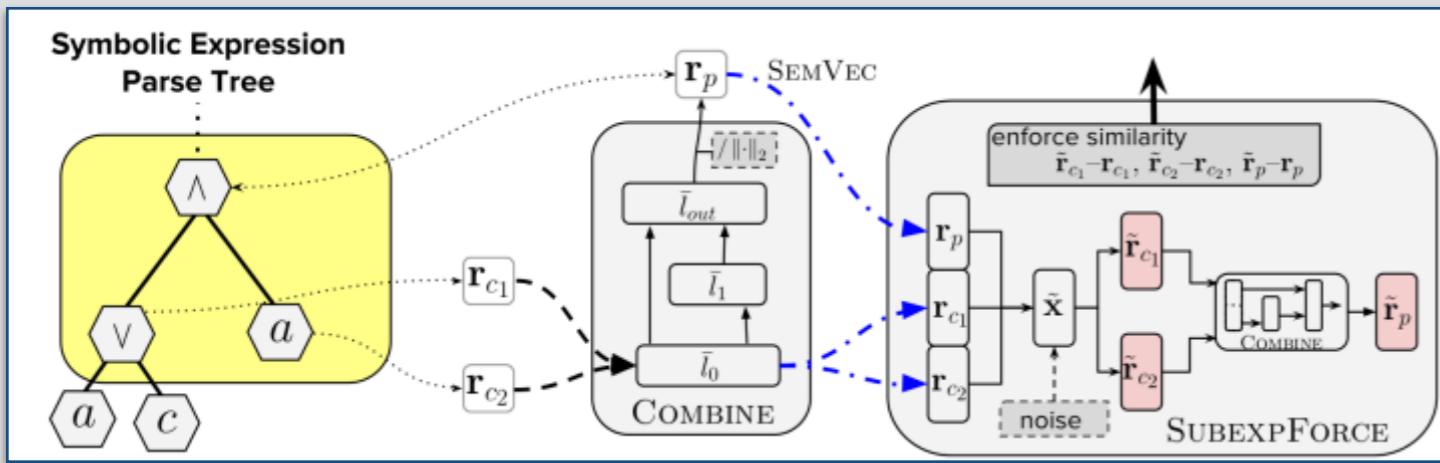


Celebrity faces

Examples of generated images

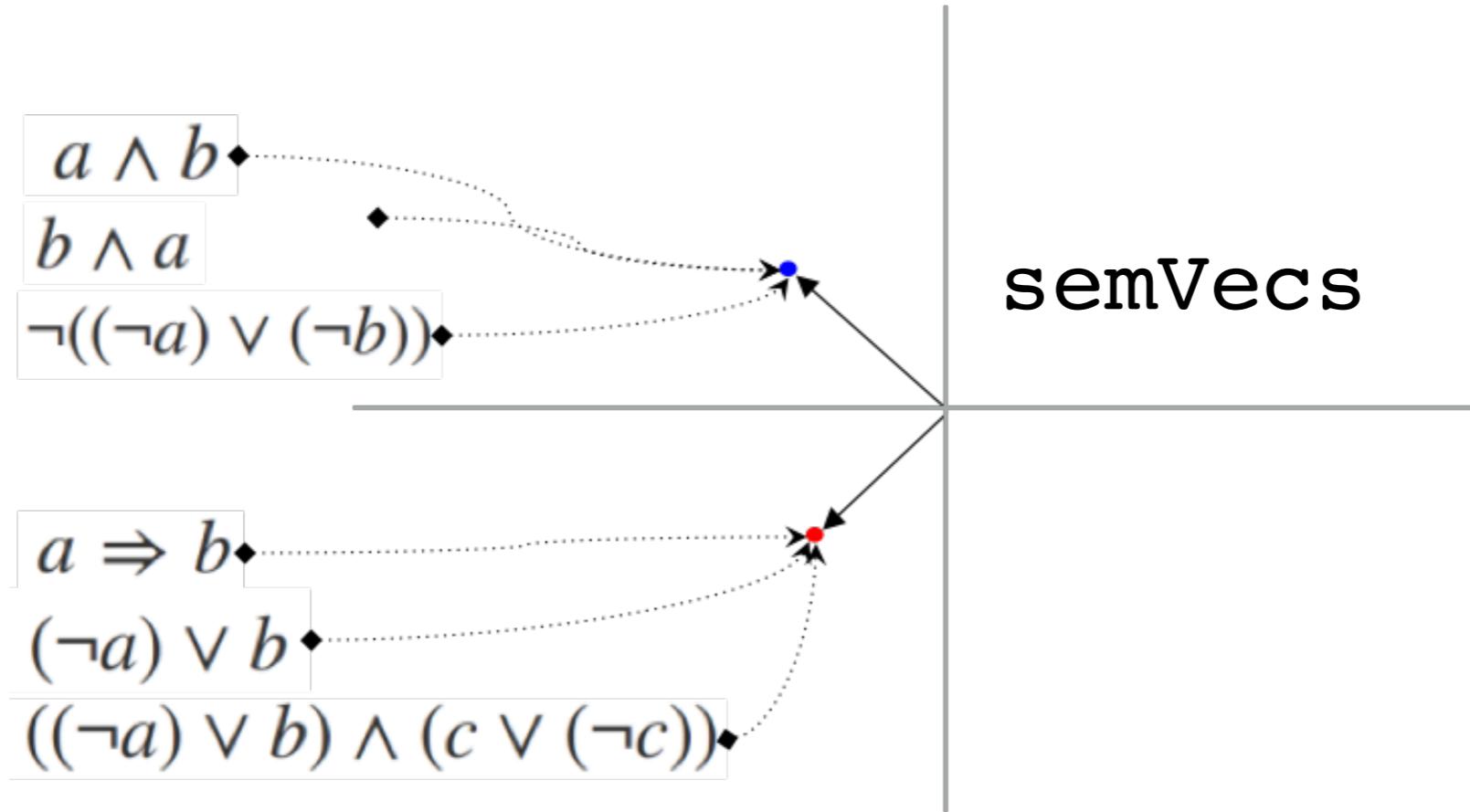


CIFAR-10 natural images



Continuous Representations of Symbolic Expressions

Can vectors help symbols?



How this works: symbol is mapped to a vector (semantic equivalence)

can we compress into **continuous** vector?

Want similar continuous vectors —> logically equivalent

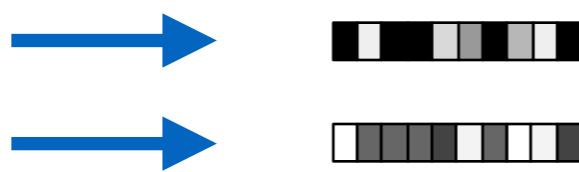
Potential Uses

Logical expressions

$$a \vee (b \implies c)$$

$$a \vee \neg b \vee c$$

Continuous vectors (`semVecs`)



Symbolic reasoning: ~~search~~ **pattern recognition**

Theorem Proving

[DeepMath: Irving et al, 2016]

[Zaremba et al, 2014]

Program Synthesis

[Gulwani et al, CACM 2015]

Inductive Logic Programming

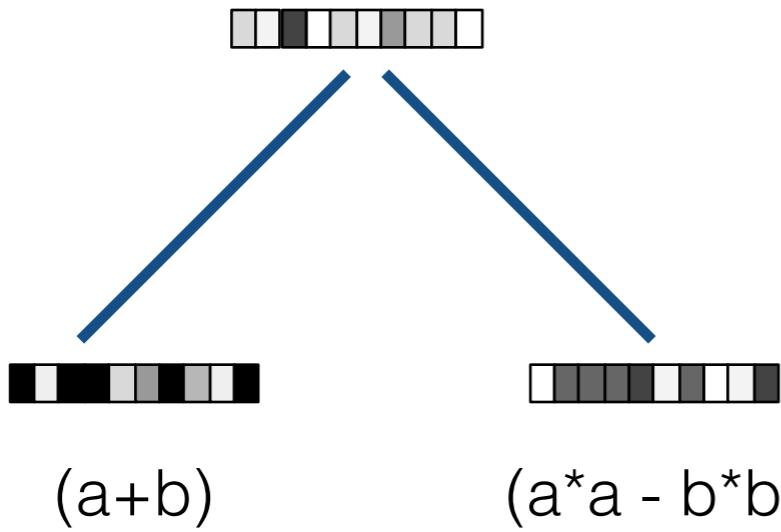
[Rocktaschel and Riedel, 2016]

[Rocktaschel and Riedel, arXiv 1705.11040 2017]

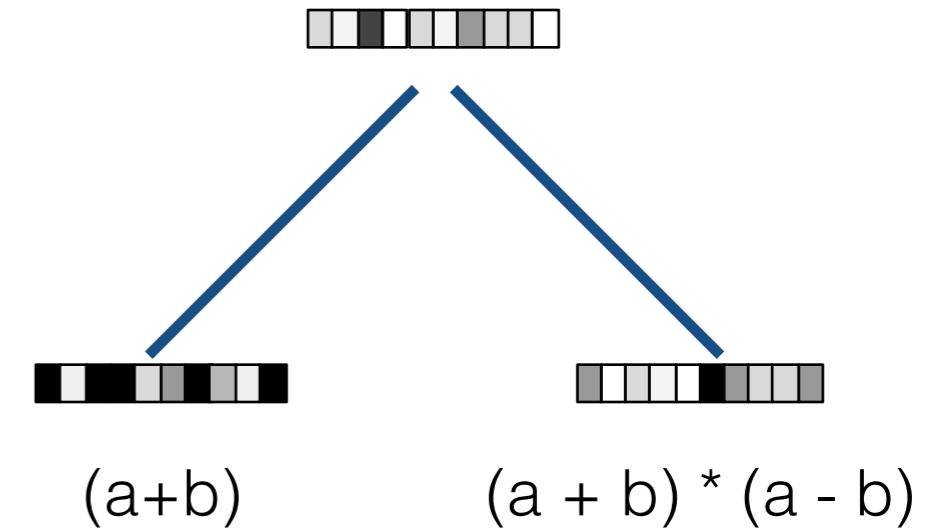
Transfer Learning

Desiderata

$$(a+b) * (a^*a - b^*b)$$



$$(a+b) * ((a+b)^* (a-b))$$

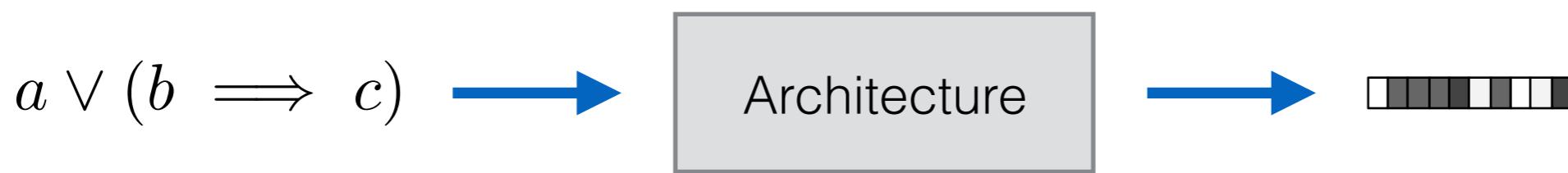


Syntax directed: Semantics is compositional

Not too much: Small syntax change → big semantics

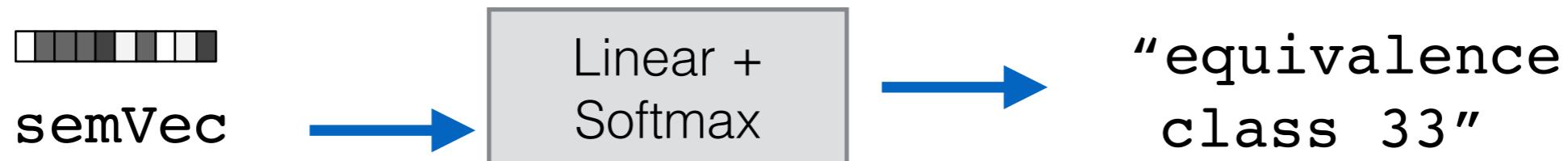
“man bites dog” problem

Computing semVecs



Training

Partition training expressions into equivalence classes



Use a supervised max-margin loss

Testing

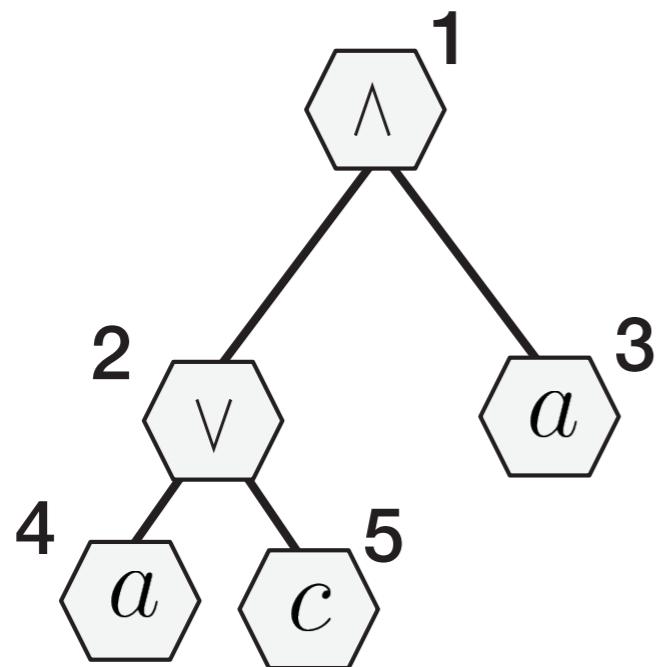
Use a semVec similarity only. Allows zero-shot learning on equiv classes.



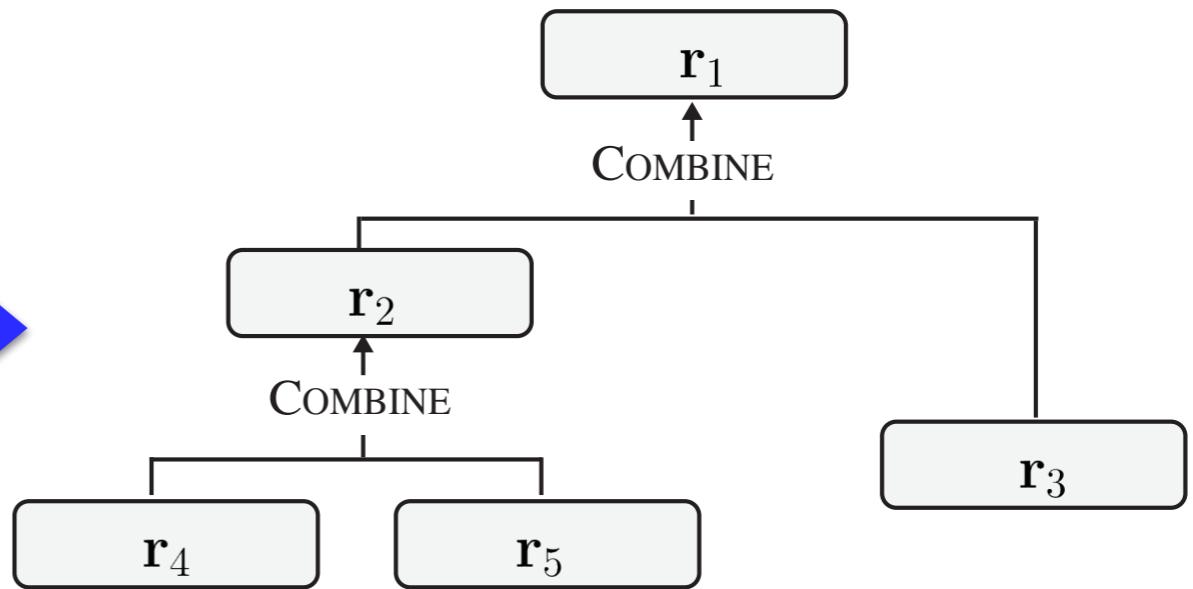
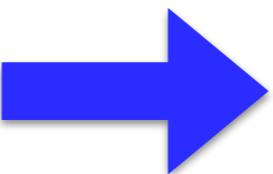
Allows zero-shot learning on equivalence classes.

Recursive NN (TreeNN)

$$(a \vee c) \wedge a$$



Syntax tree



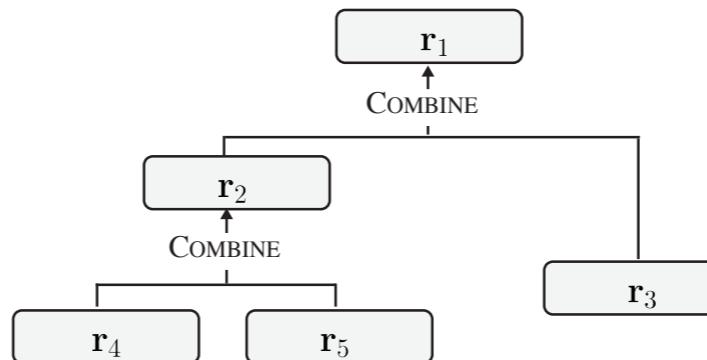
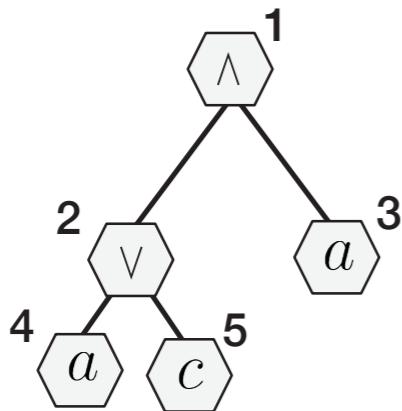
Network architecture

Problem: Representations mostly syntactic. Too much syntax!

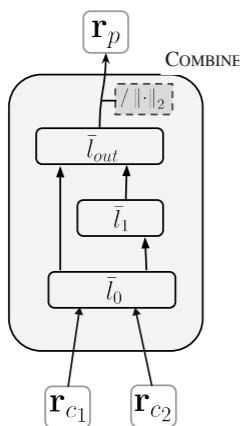
EqNet

Start with TreeNNs

$$(a \vee c) \wedge a$$



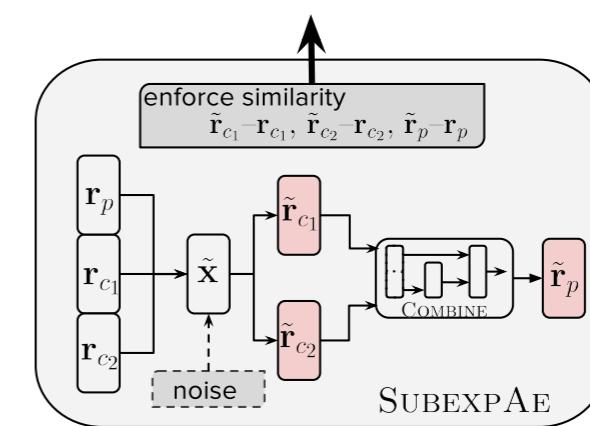
Add:



$$\|\cdot\|_2$$

Moar! Layers!

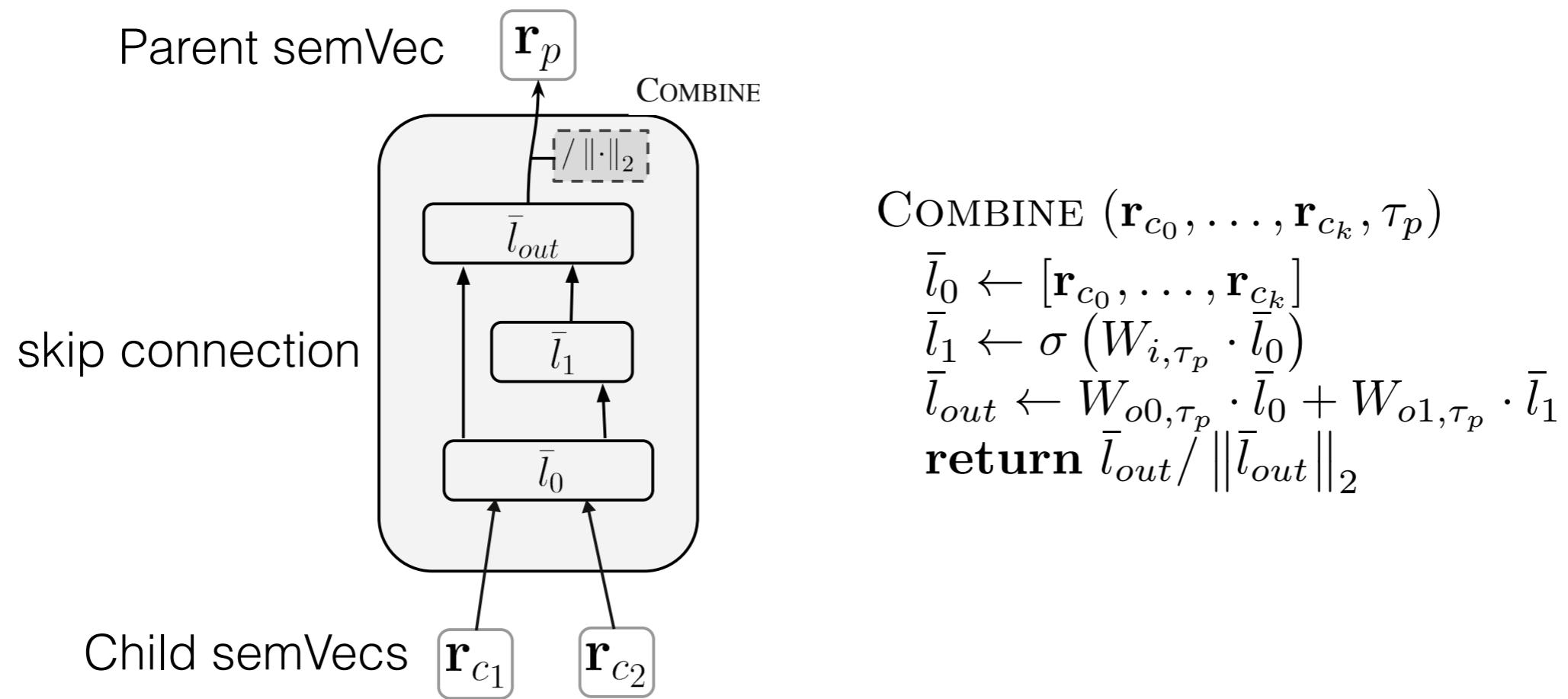
Normalization



Subexpression AE

Layers and Normalization

For one syntactic parent-child



Big impact.

(Turns out you need both residual and normalisation together)

SubexprAE: Motivation

Semantic information is bidirectional

Not only do **children** provide info re **parents**

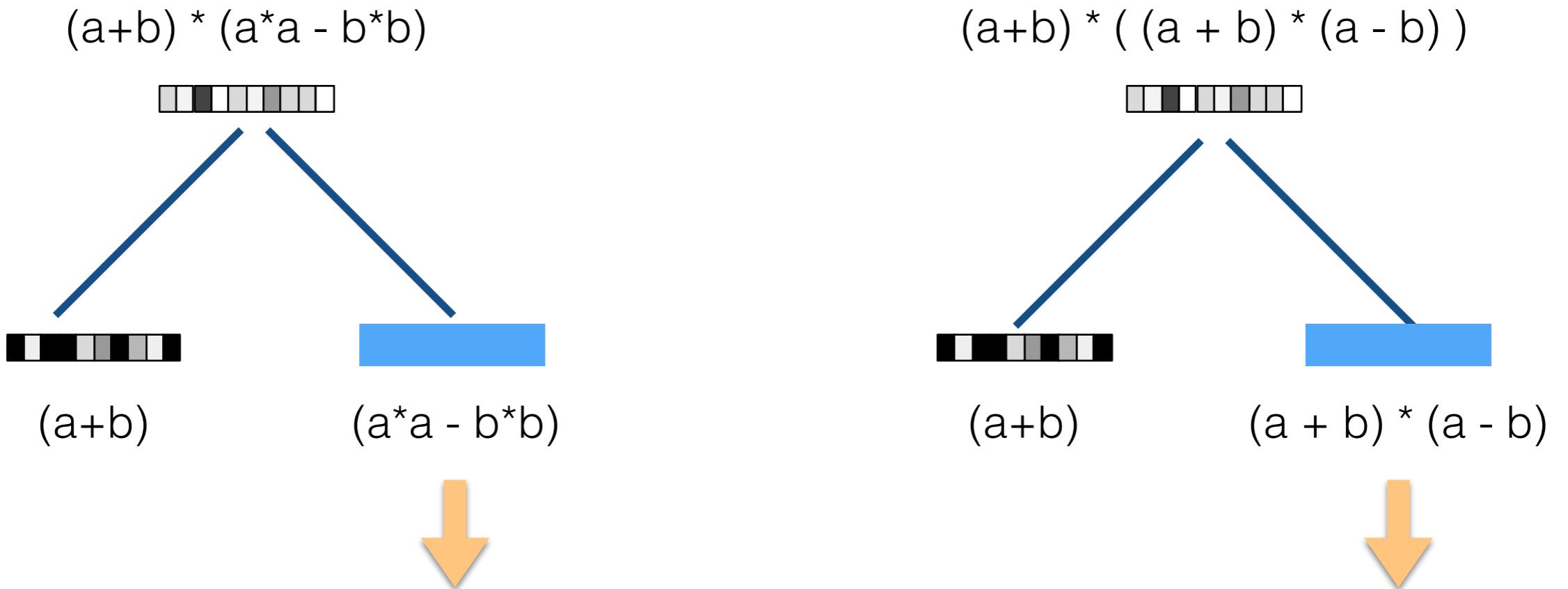
But **parents** provide info re **children**

```
uncle(?B,?A) :- parent(?Z,?A), brother(?Z,?B).
```

Unification propagates this info automatically

How to map to continuous space?

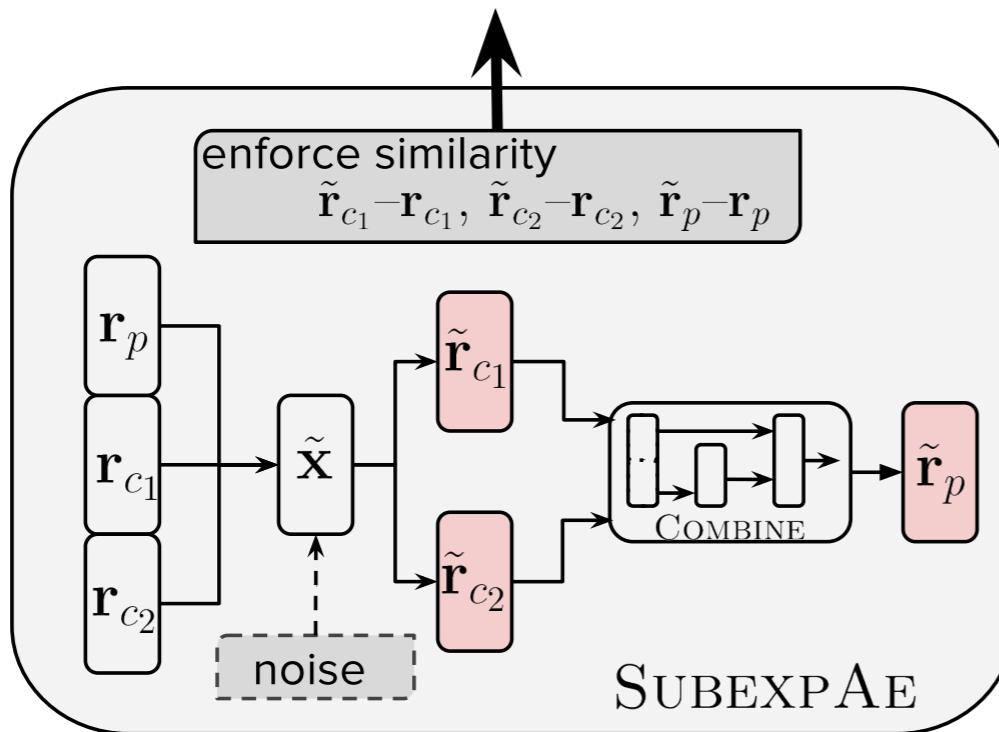
SubexprAE Motivation



ensure this prediction problem is “easy”
semantic classes will be clustered together

Subexpression Autoencoder

For every node in syntax tree, add regularisation



Denoising autoencoder
plus bottleneck on
(parent, child1, child2)
semVecs

Intention is

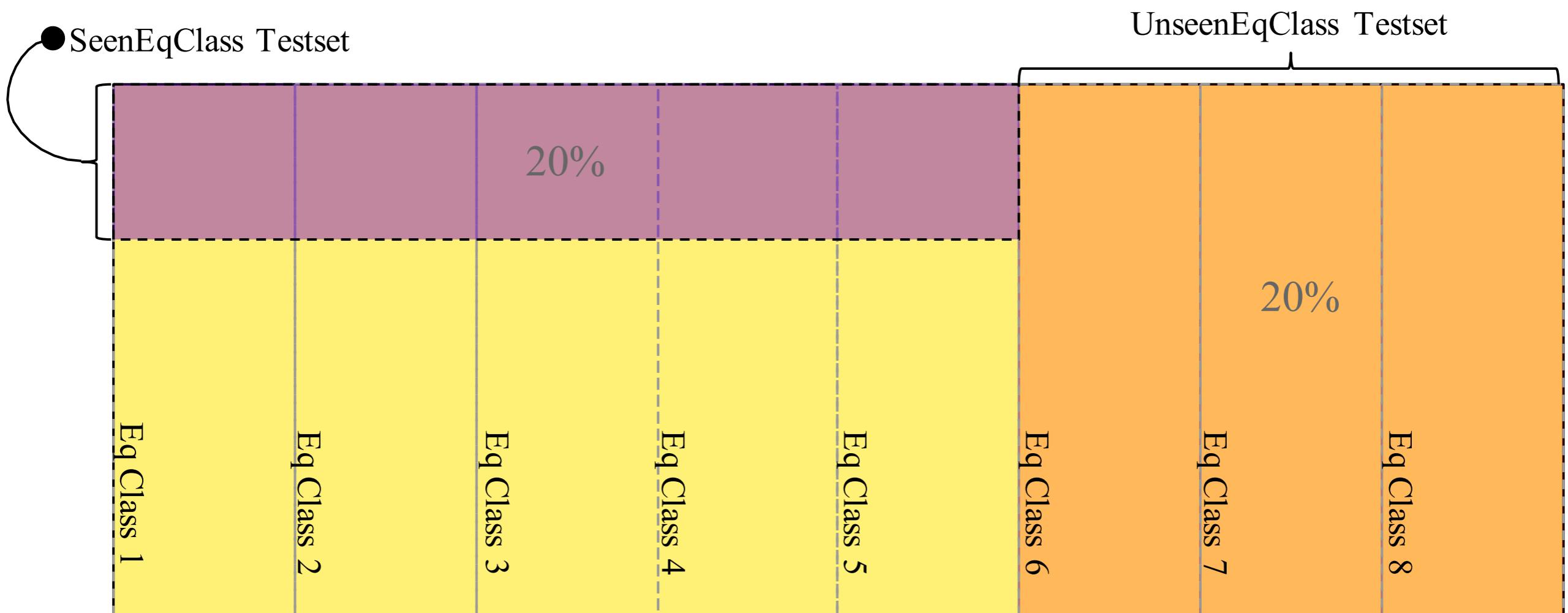
Bottleneck \rightarrow Abstraction

Denoising \rightarrow Reversibility

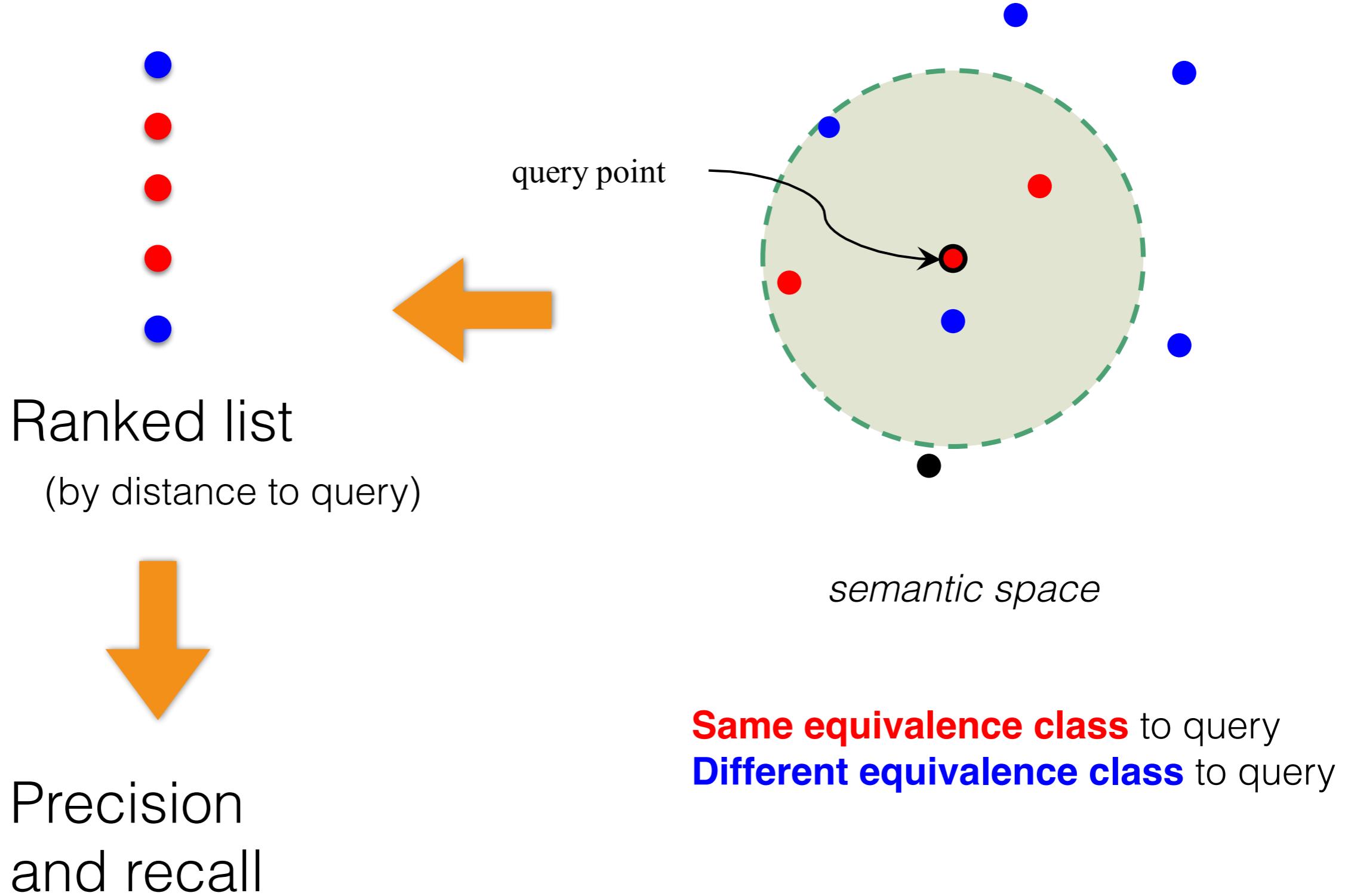
Evaluation

Dataset	# Vars	# Equiv Classes	# Exprs	H
SIMPBOOL8	3	120	39,048	5.6
SIMPBOOL10 ^S	3	191	26,304	7.2
BOOL5	3	95	1,239	5.6
BOOL8	3	232	257,784	6.2
BOOL10 ^S	10	256	51,299	8.0
SIMPBOOLL5	10	1,342	10,050	9.9
BOOLL5	10	7,312	36,050	11.8
SIMPPOLY5	3	47	237	5.0
SIMPPOLY8	3	104	3,477	5.8
SIMPPOLY10	3	195	57,909	6.3
ONEV-POLY10	1	83	1,291	5.4
ONEV-POLY13	1	677	107,725	7.1
POLY5	3	150	516	6.7
POLY8	3	1,102	11,451	9.0

Training / Test Split

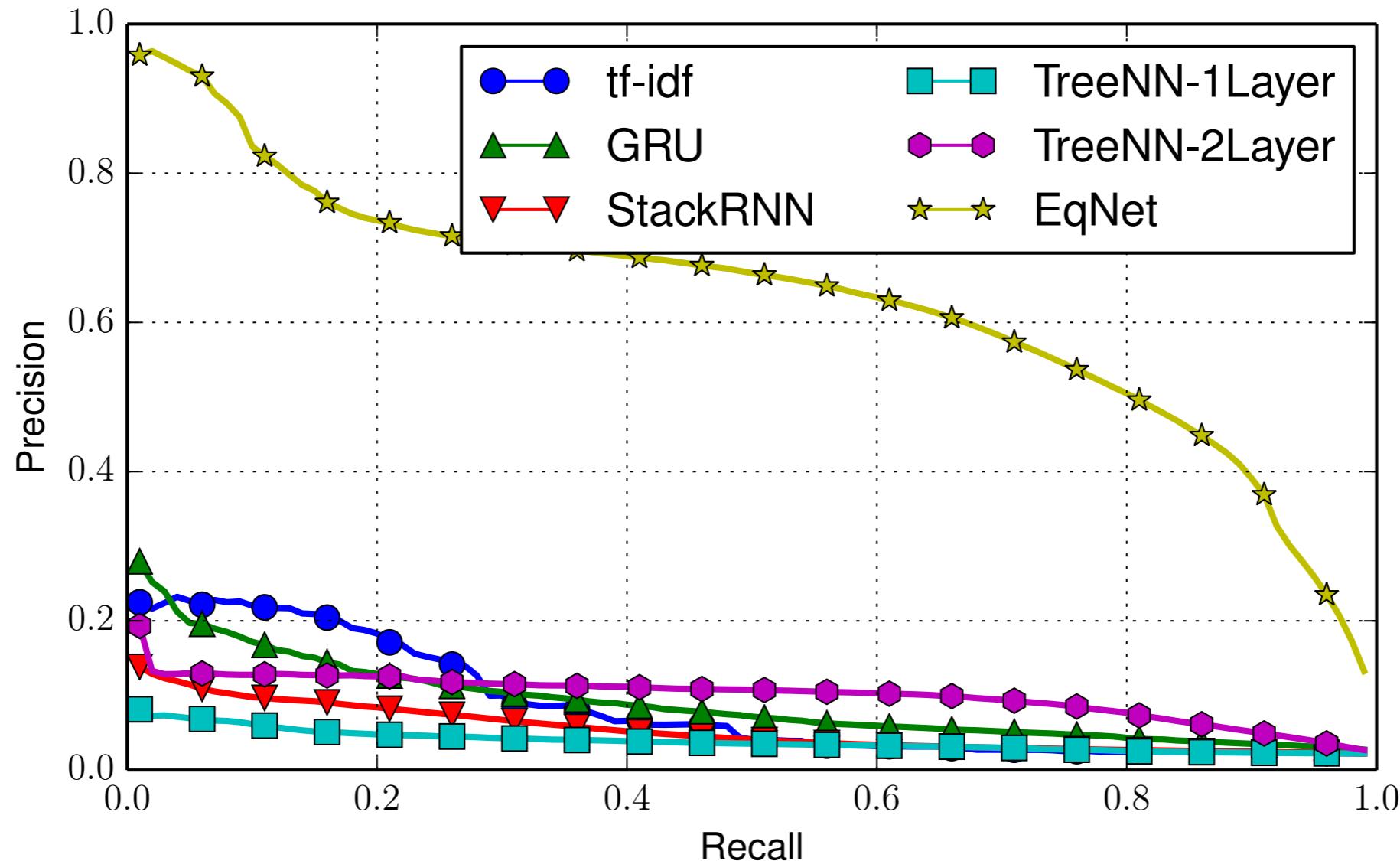


Evaluation Metric



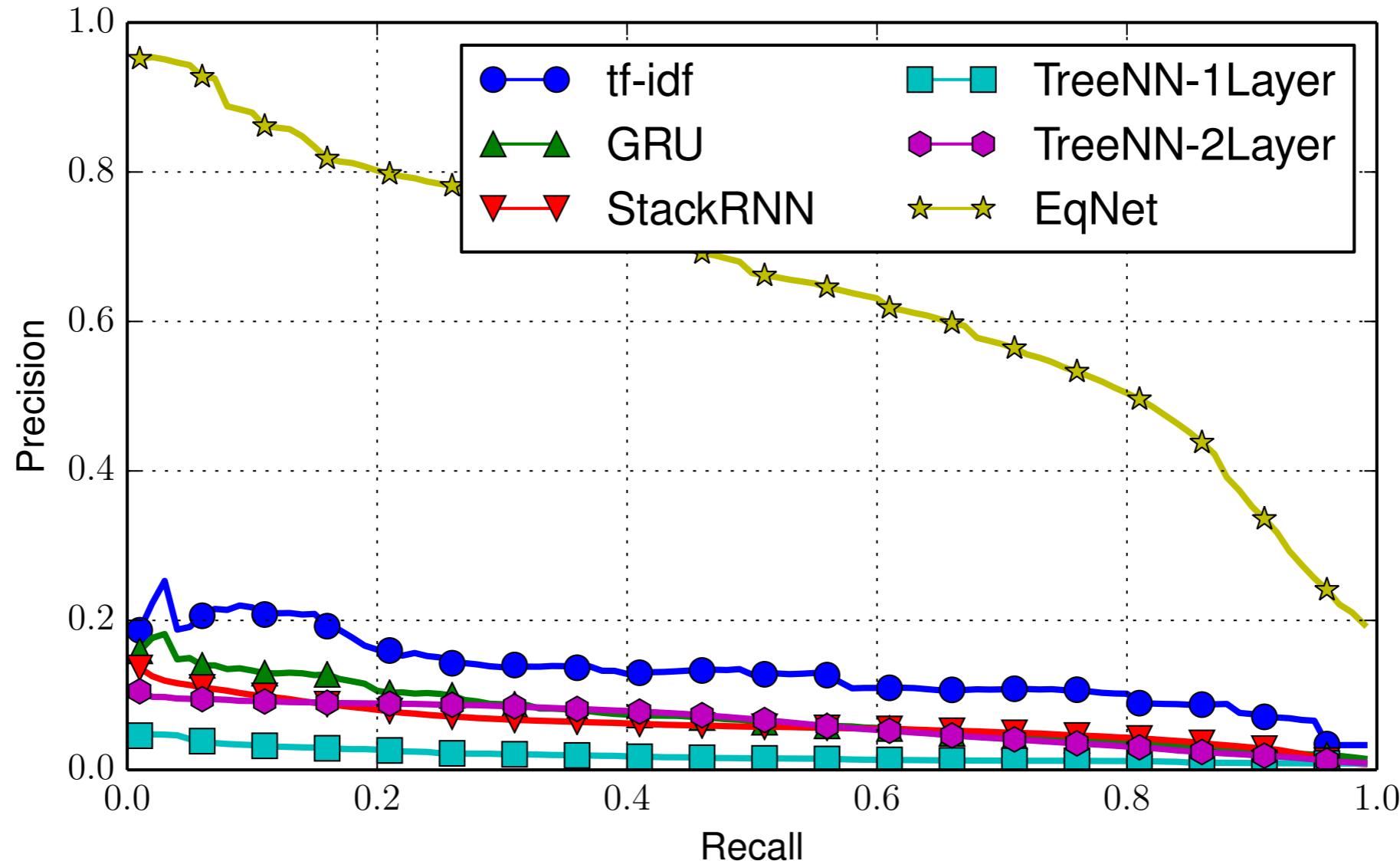
Seen equivalence classes

Equivalent expressions to the queries were in training set



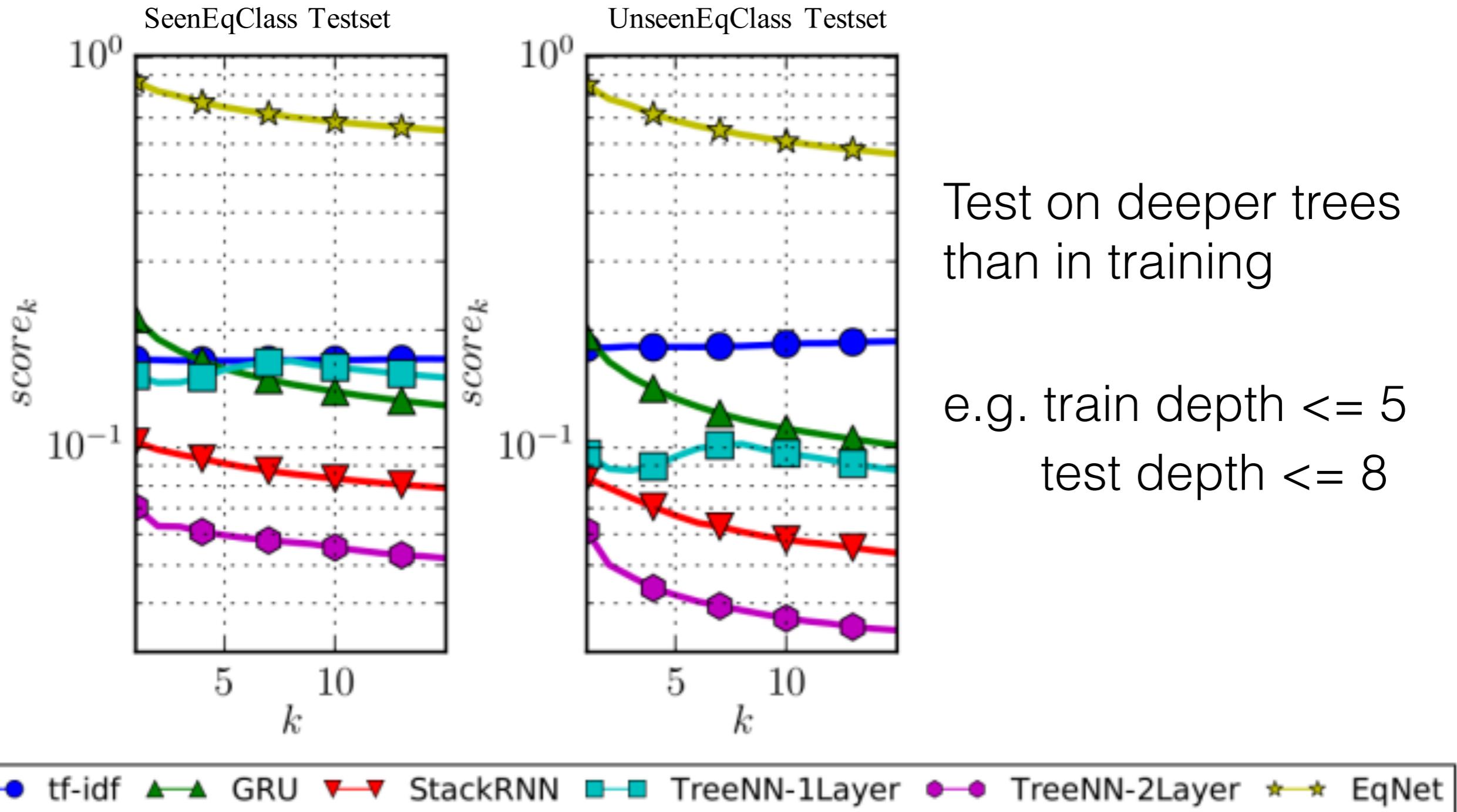
Unseen equivalence classes

Zero shot learning. No training examples of equivalent expressions.



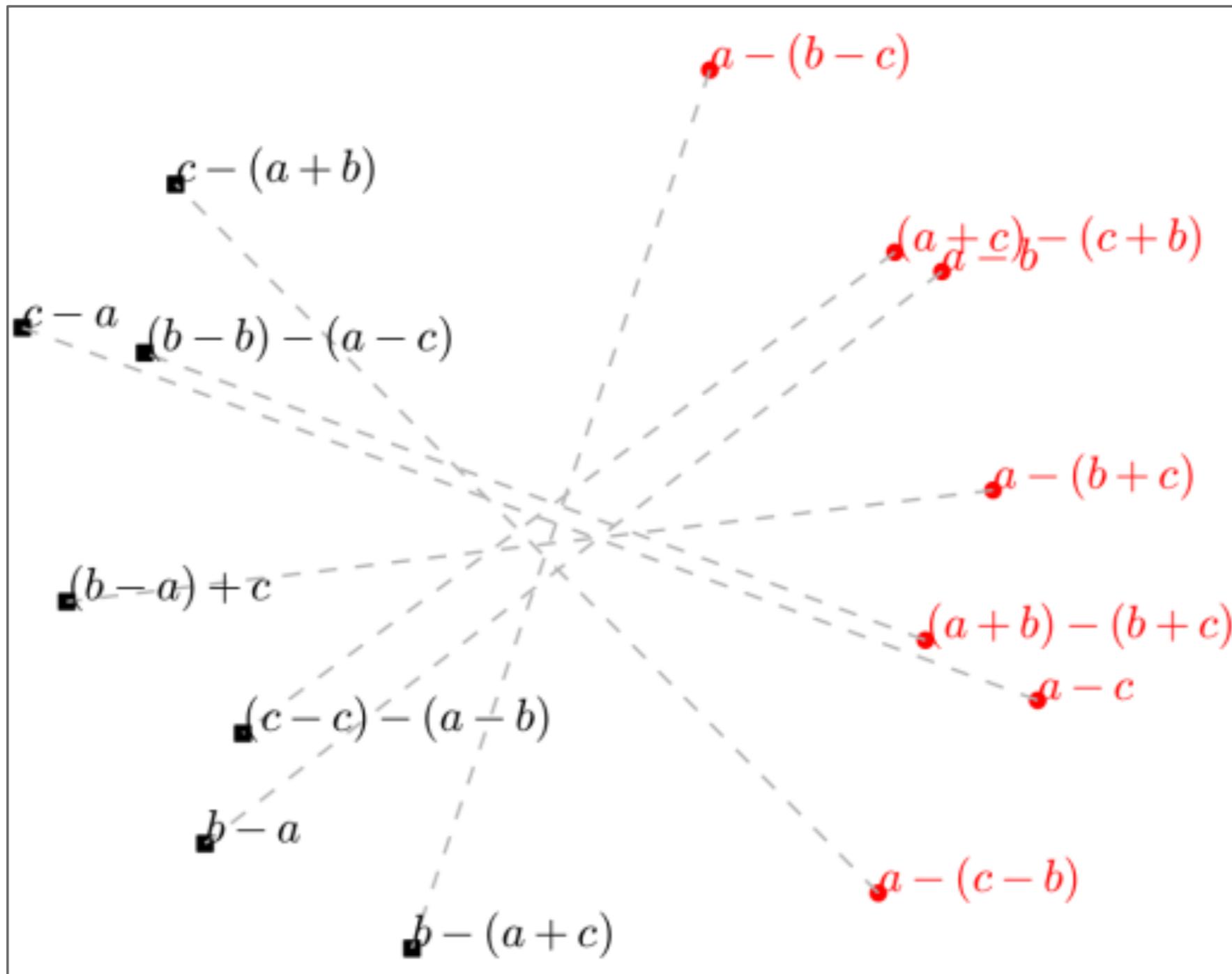
EqNet performance on seen and unseen is similar!

Learned compositionality?



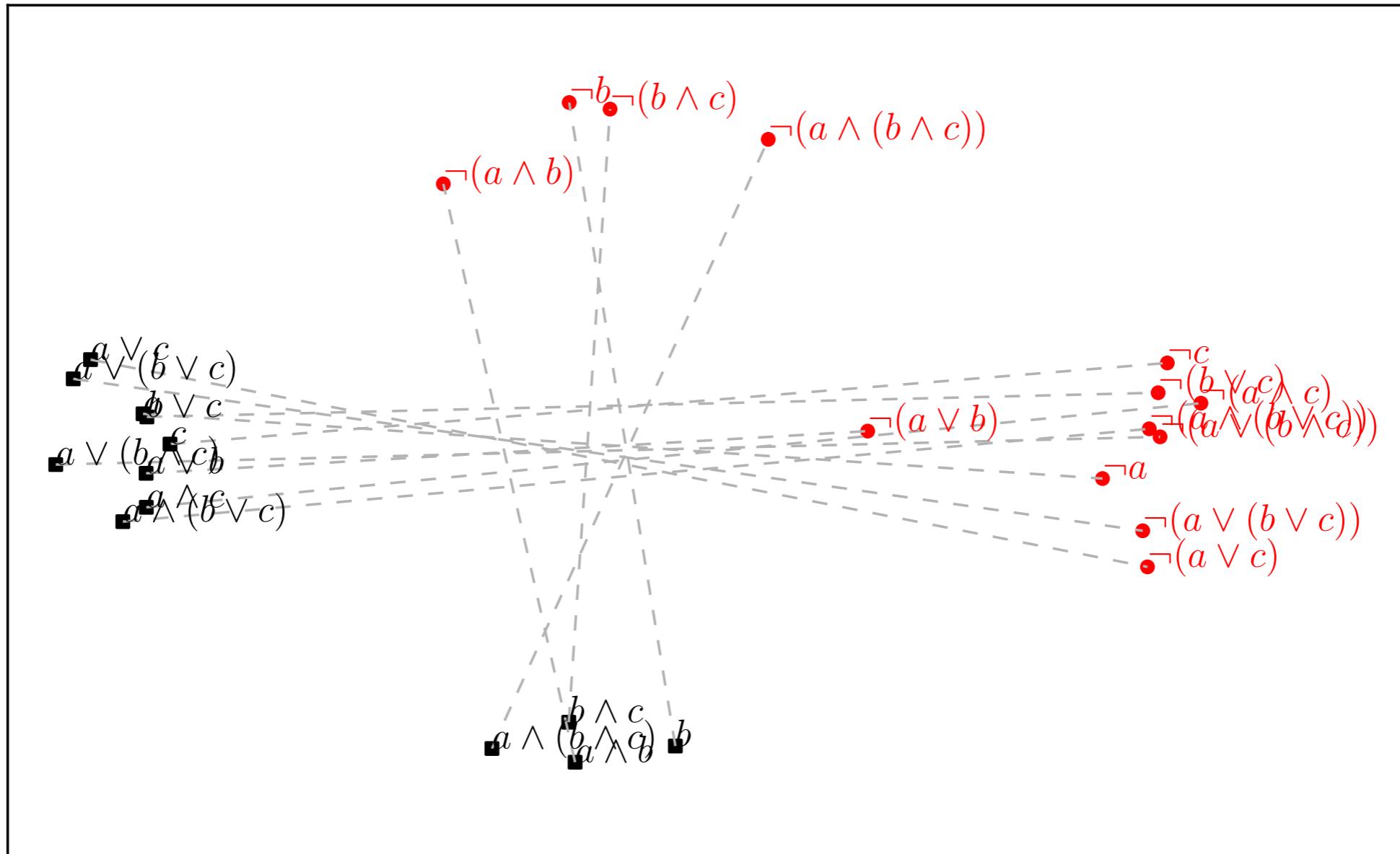
Visualizing polynomials

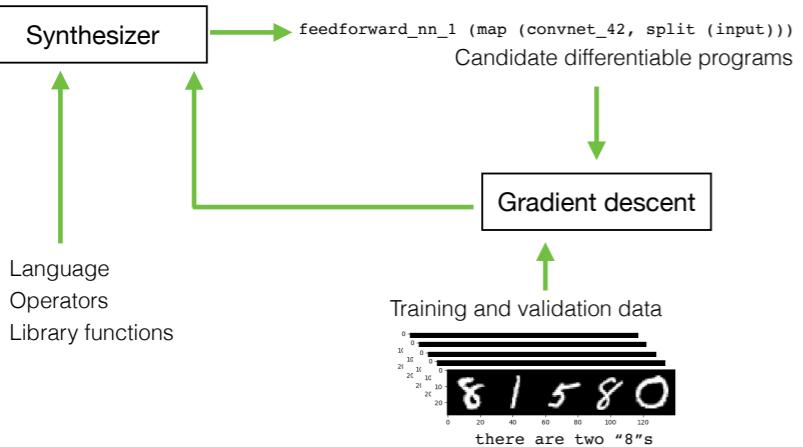
multivariatePolynomial2vec?



Visualizing boolean expression

booleanExpression2vec?



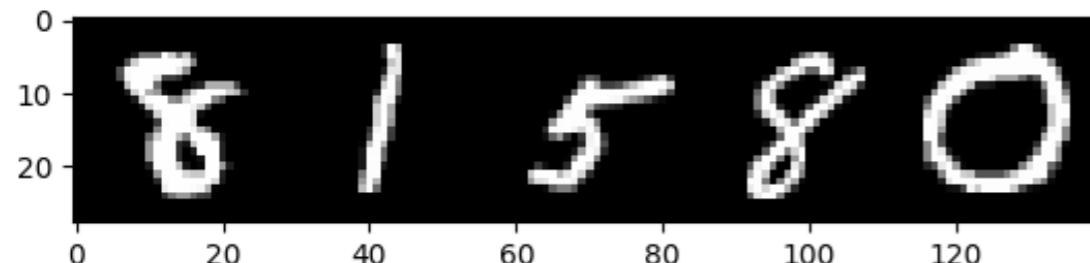


Synthesis of Differentiable Functional Programs for Lifelong Learning

[Valkov, Chaudhari, Srivastava, Sutton, and Chaudhuri,
arXiv 2018]

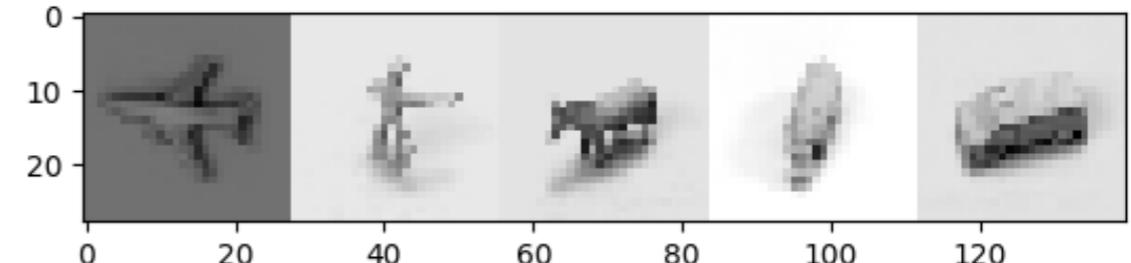
High level transfer

Task 1
Count digits

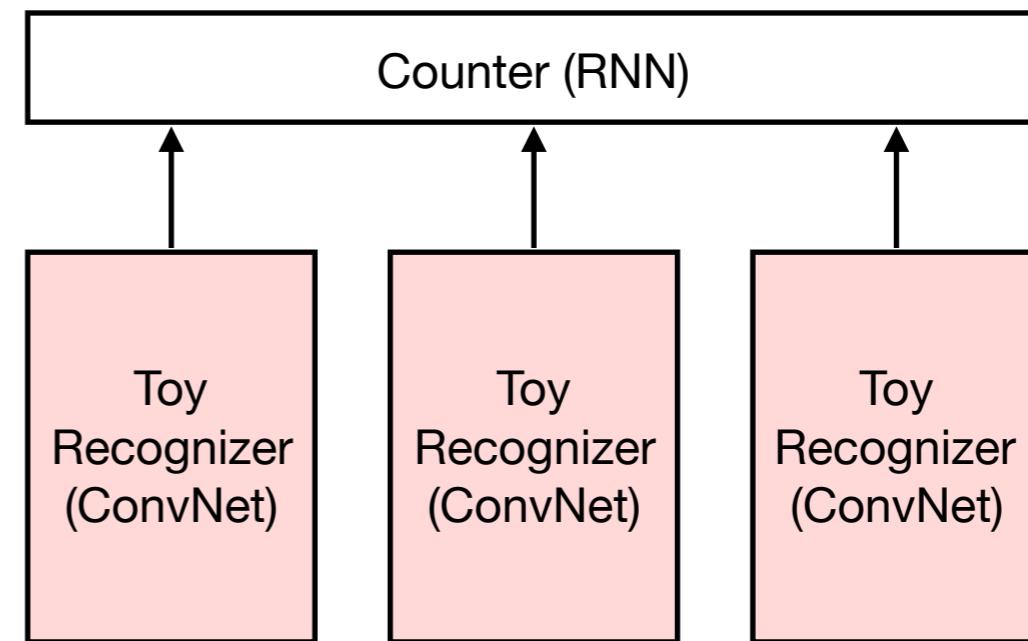
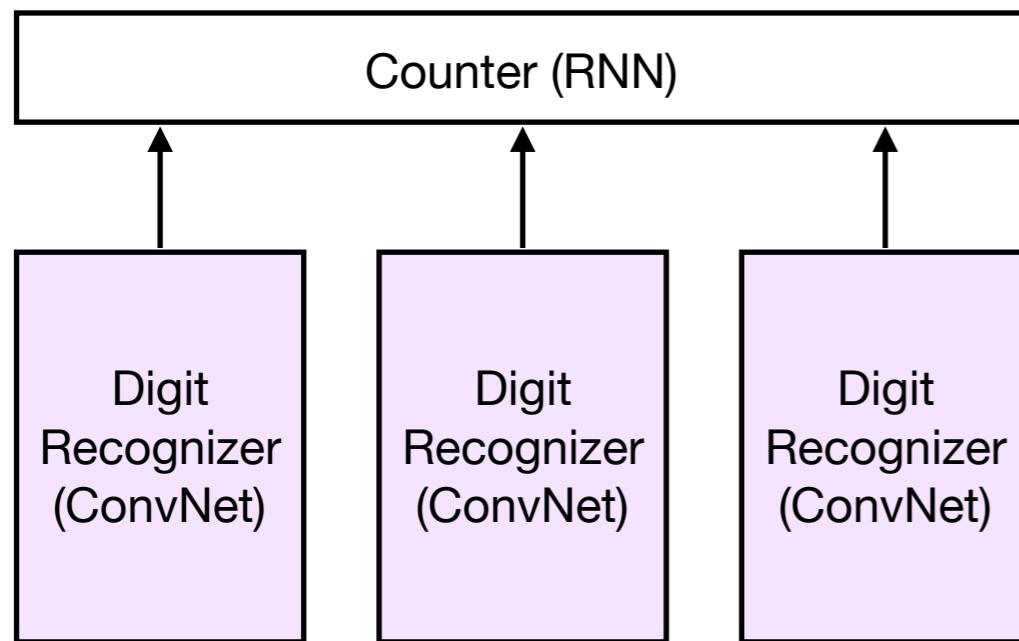


there are two "8"s

Task 2
Count toys



there is one "toy airplane"
(and why don't I have two?)



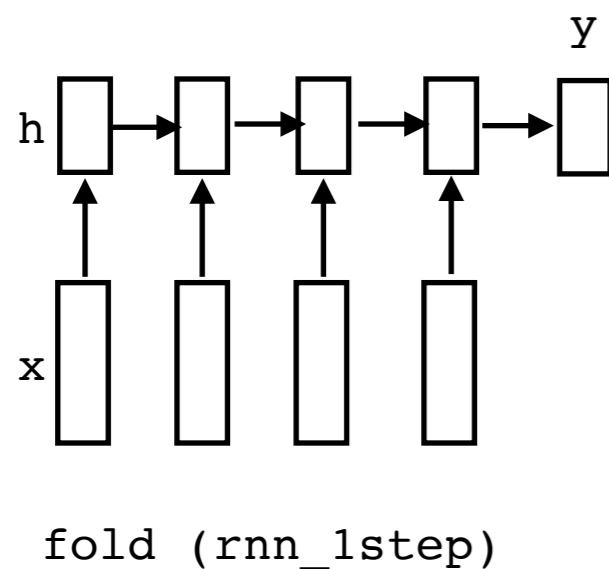
Reusing early layers not sufficient!

[Hinton & Salakhutdinov, 2006; Rusu et al 2016]

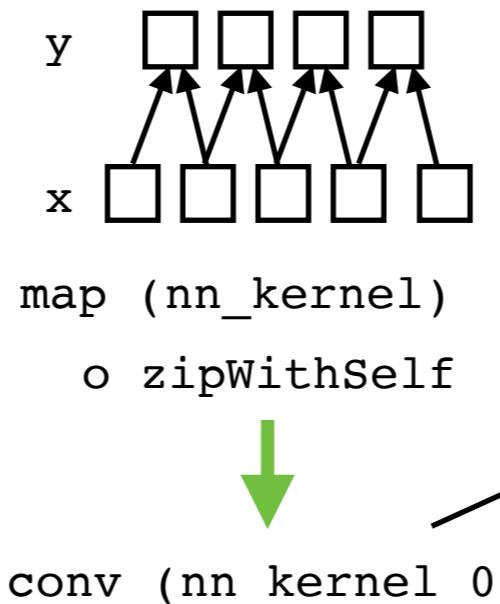
100 neural architectures, 1 weird trick

Functional programming

Recurrent neural network



1-layer ConvNet



*Combinators preserve
differentiability*

*Often point-free
[Backus, 1978]*

multiple filters? change this

Deep feedforward net

`relu o w_n o relu o ... o relu o w_1`

Deep ConvNet

`conv (nn_kernel_0) o conv (nn_kernel_1) o ... o conv (nn_kernel_D)`

Attention mechanism

`softmax o map(attn_network) o fold(rnn_1step)`

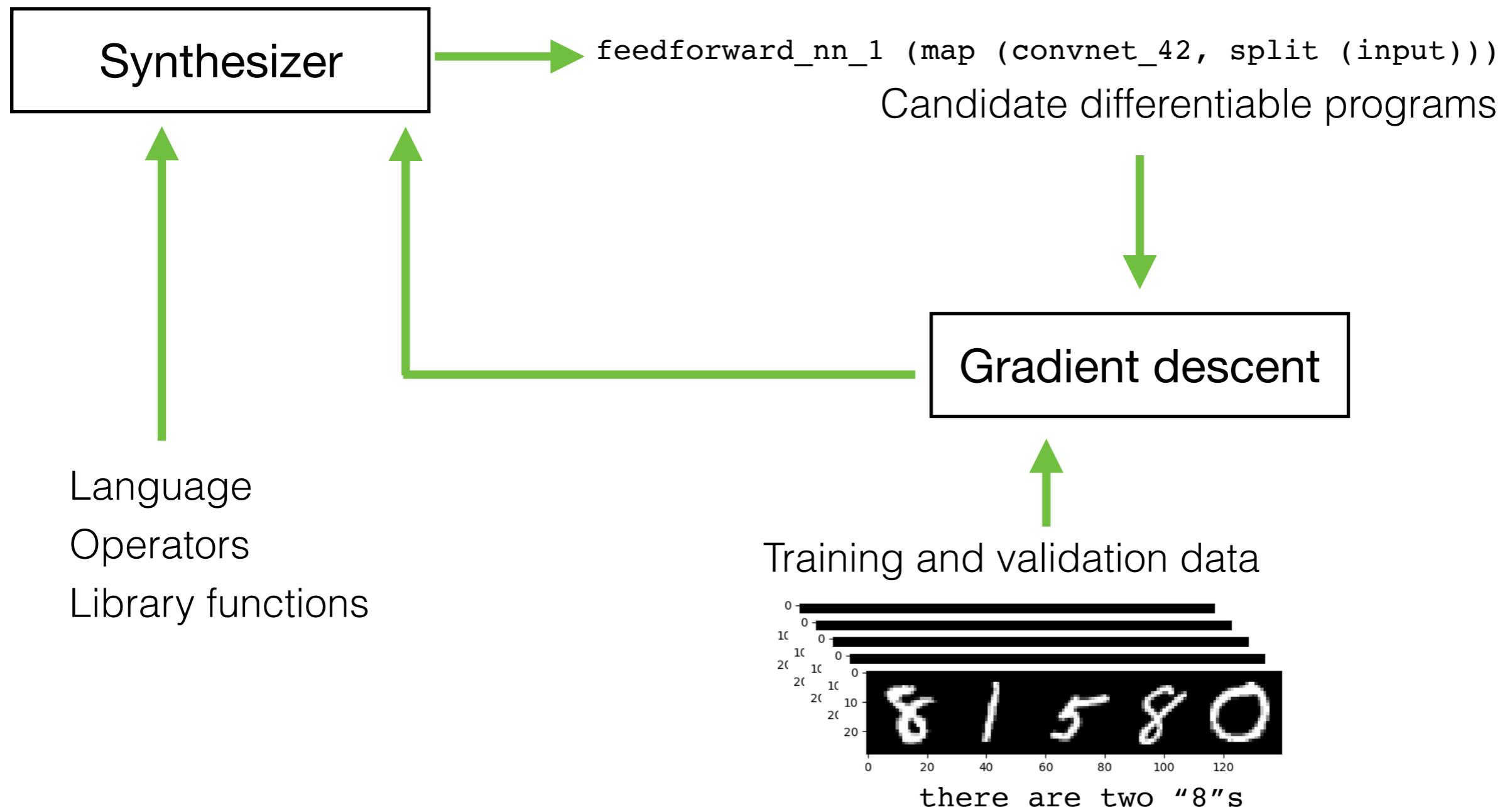
Graph convolutions

`gconv (nn_kernel_0)`

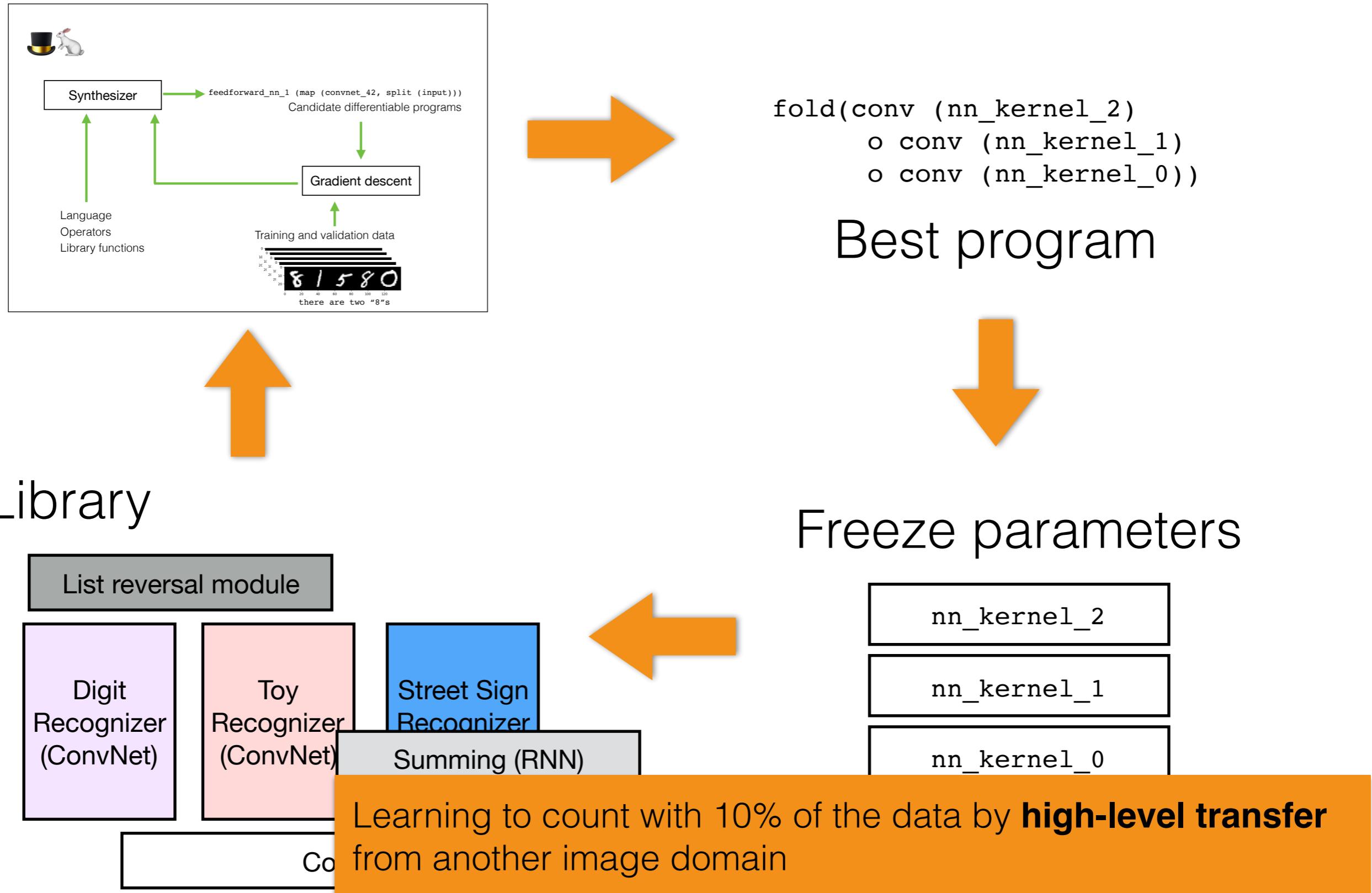
Houdini



Synthesis of Differentiable Functional Programs



Synthesis for Lifelong Learning

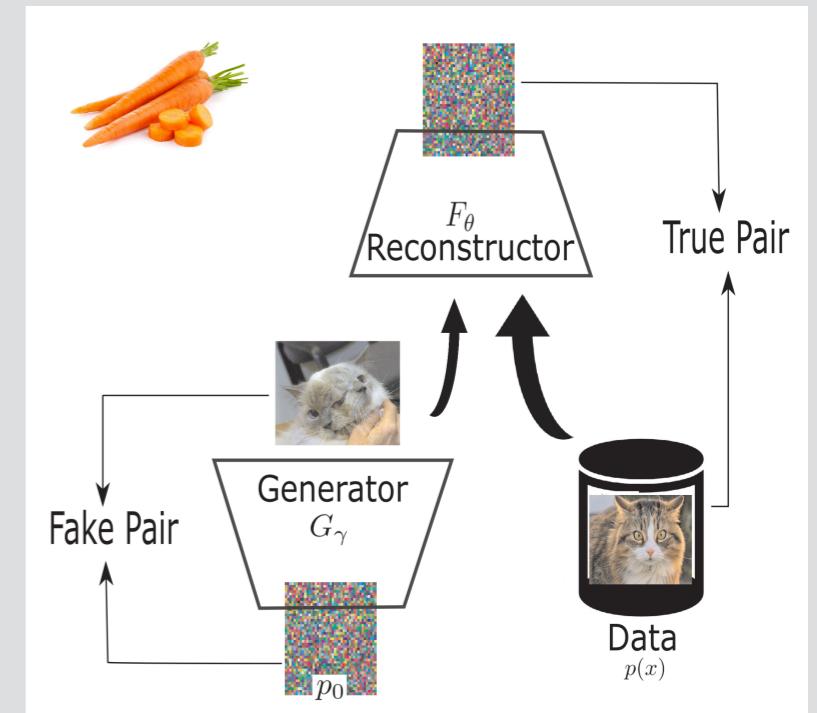
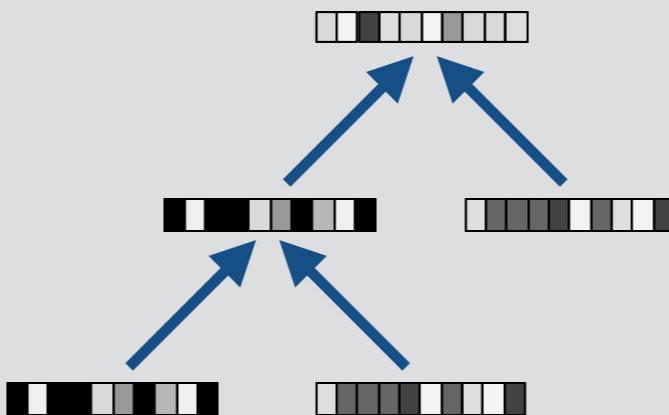
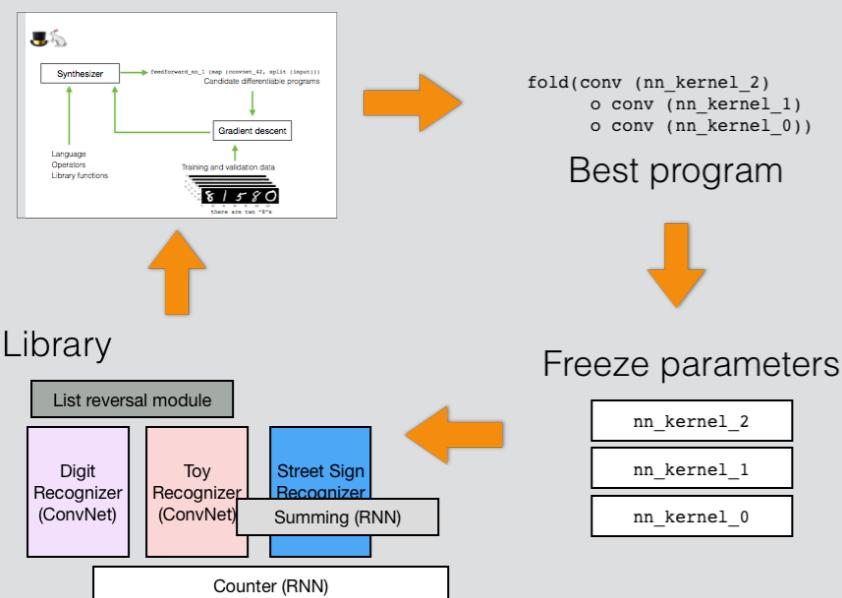
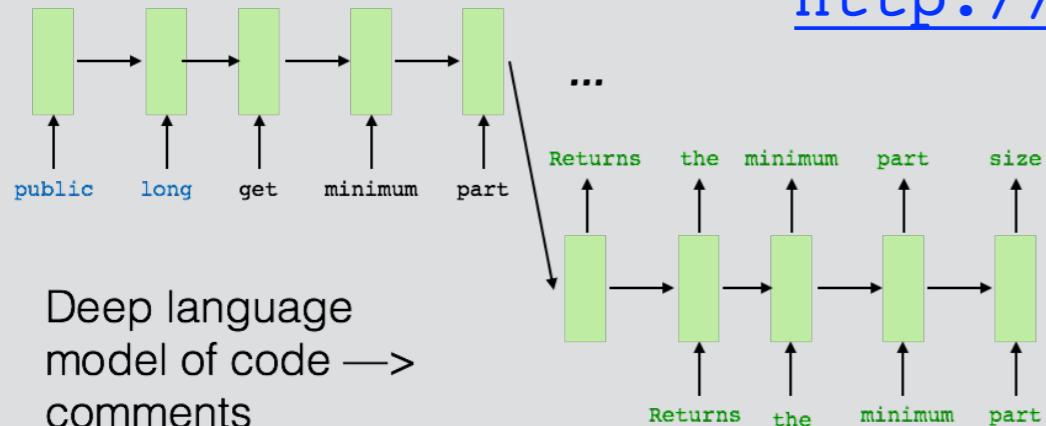


Deep Learning, Language, and Code:

From Methodology to Applications and Back

Charles Sutton, University of Edinburgh

<http://bit.ly/sutton-dllc>



Miltiadis Allamanis
Annie Louis
Lazar Valkov
Akash Srivastava
Santanu Dash
Pushmeet Kohli

Pankajan Chantirasagaran
Earl Barr
Dipak Chaudhari
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