

Efficient Machine Teaching Frameworks for Natural Language Processing

Doctoral Thesis Defense

Giannis Karamanolakis



Efficient Machine Teaching Frameworks for Natural Language Processing

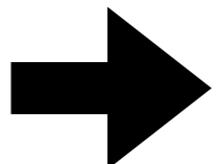
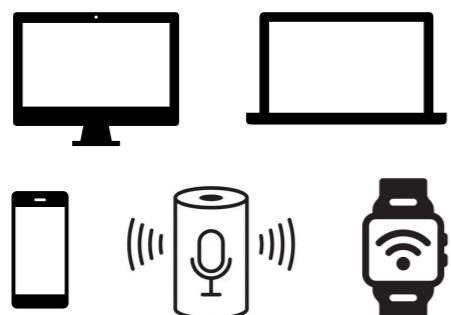


Natural Language Processing (NLP) at scale

Online text data

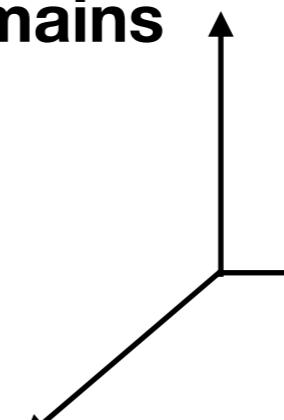


User interfaces



NLP across...

Domains



Tasks

Languages

Social media analysis for public health



Restaurant Reviews

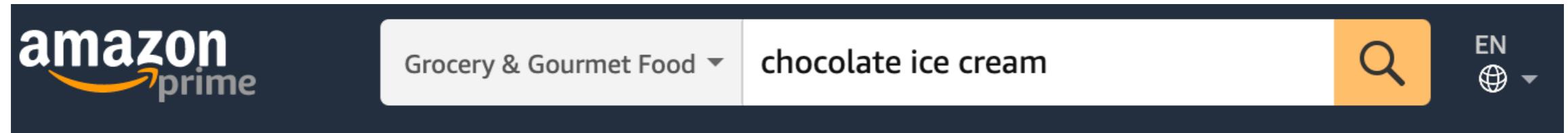


Epidemiologists



“... Unfortunately I have been up half the night and suffering all day due to food poisoning ...”

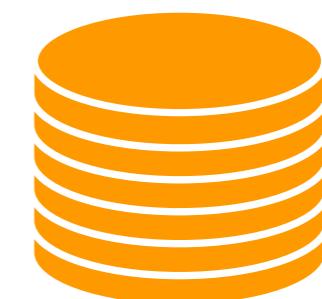
Structured knowledge extraction for 10M products



flavor: “chocolate”



ingredients: “biotin”, “argan oil”, ...



“Alexa, which shampoos contain argan oil?”



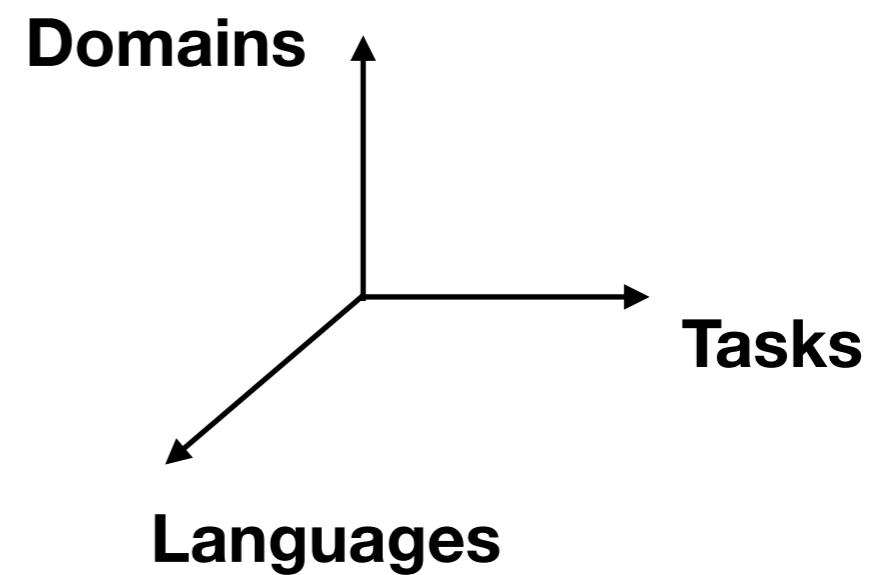
Information extraction for low-resource languages

- Detecting sudden **medical emergencies** (e.g., in Uyghur)
- Extracting **flood damage** information for vulnerable countries (e.g., Bangladesh)



source: <http://endangeredlanguages.com/>

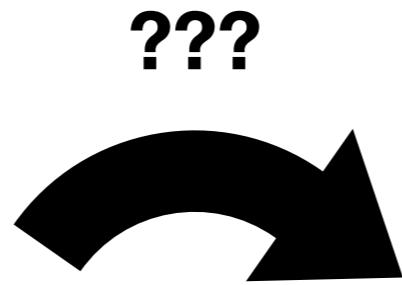
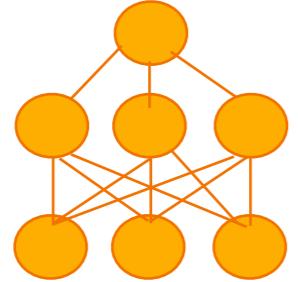
New NLP applications across...



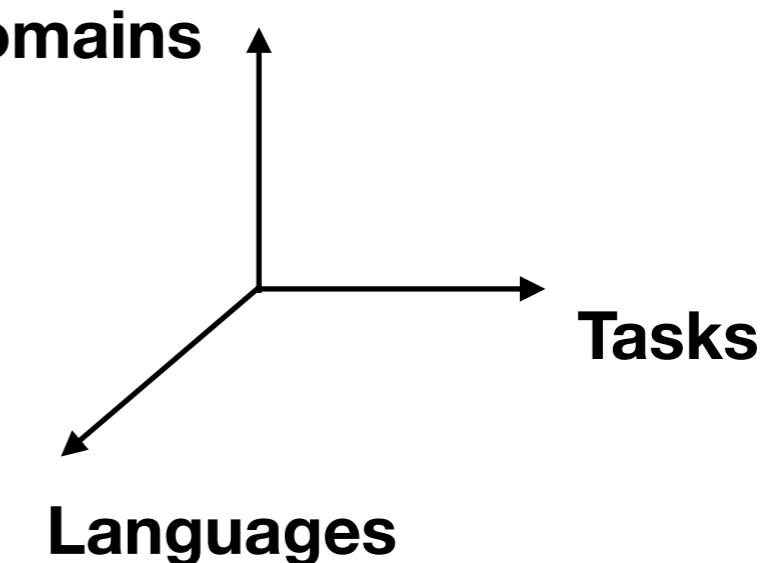
Machine Learning (ML) is successful in NLP Benchmarks

Trend	Task	Dataset Variant	Best Model	Deep neural networks
	Text Classification	GLUE	distilbert-base-uncased-finetuned-sst-2-english	
	Sentiment Analysis	SST-2 Binary classification	SMART-RoBERTa Large	
	Semantic Textual Similarity	STS Benchmark	SMART-RoBERTa Large	
	Natural Language Inference	MultiNLI	T5-11B	
	Semantic Textual Similarity	MRPC	SMART-RoBERTa Large	

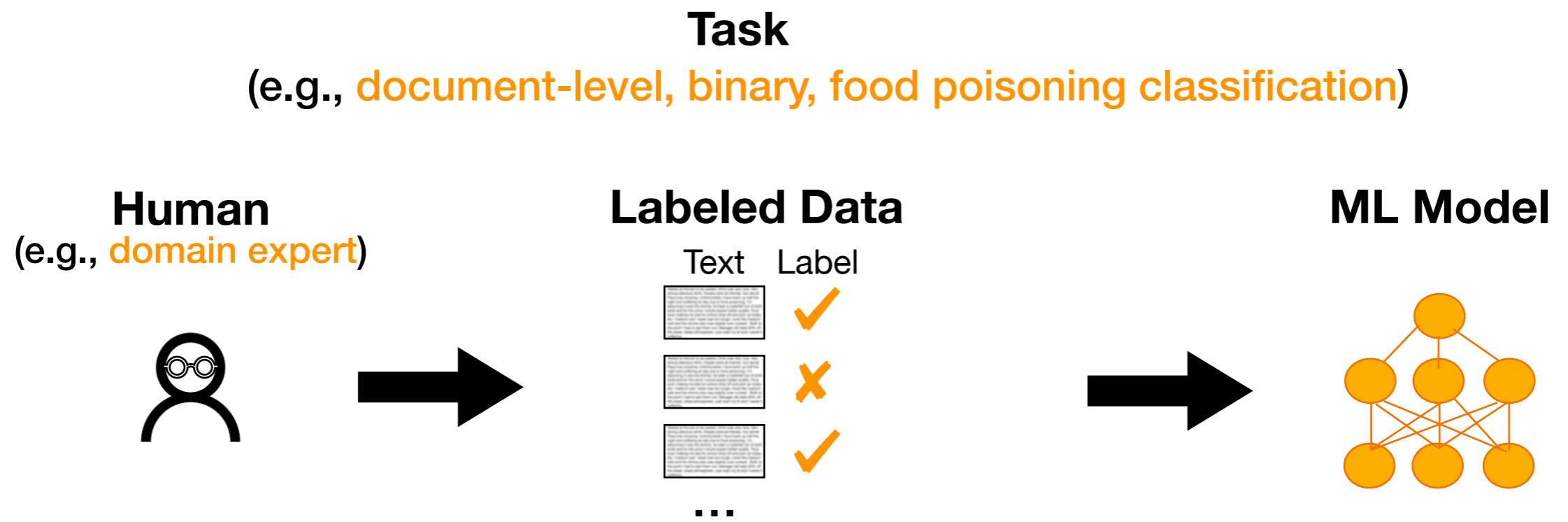
NLP benchmarks



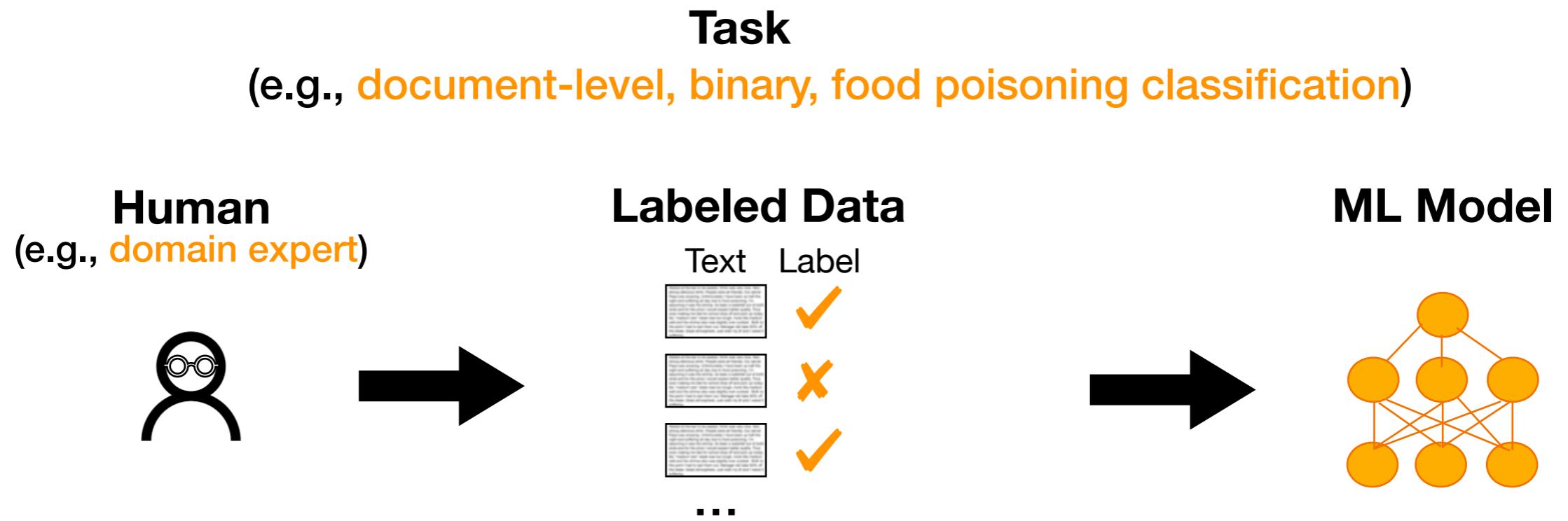
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Typical paradigm for teaching ML models: data labeling



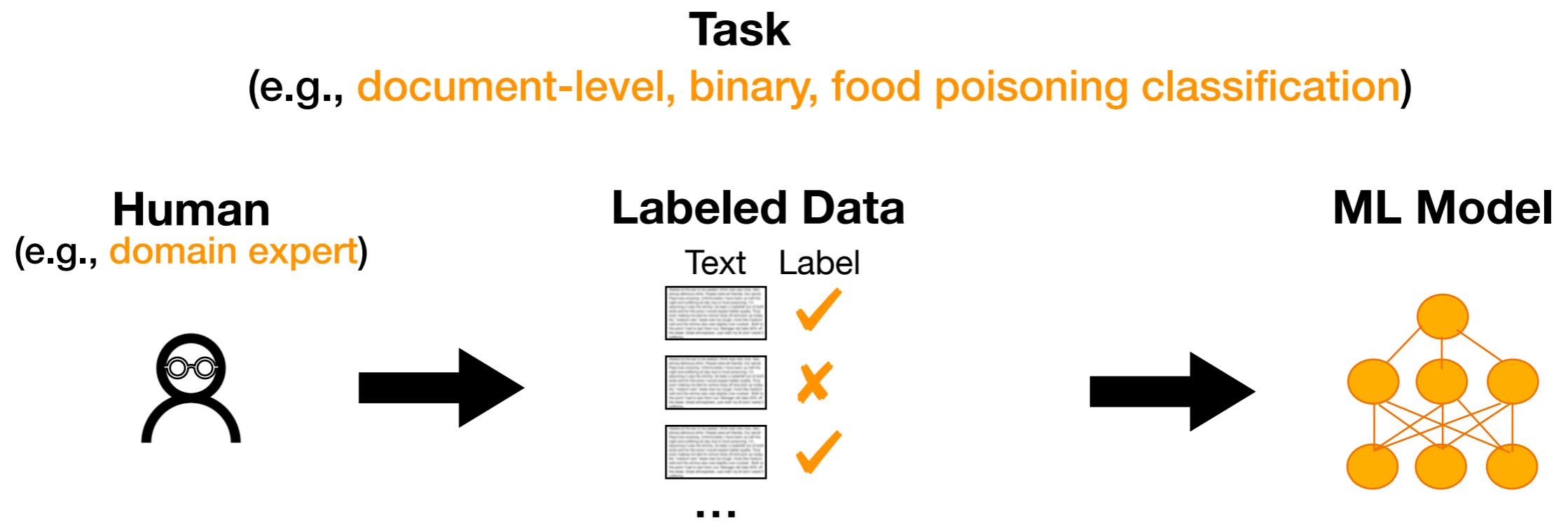
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NLP Benchmarks

- Fixed task specifications
- Large-scale labeled data

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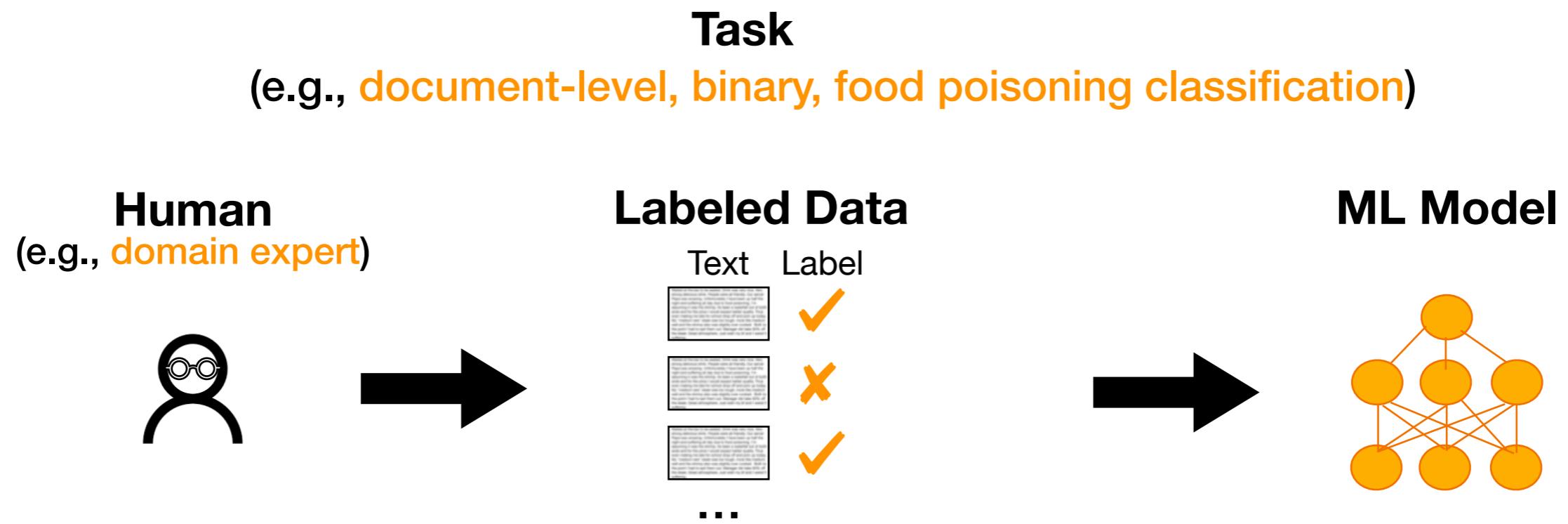
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New Real-World Applications

- Dynamic task specifications
- Limited or no labeled data

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labeled data bottleneck

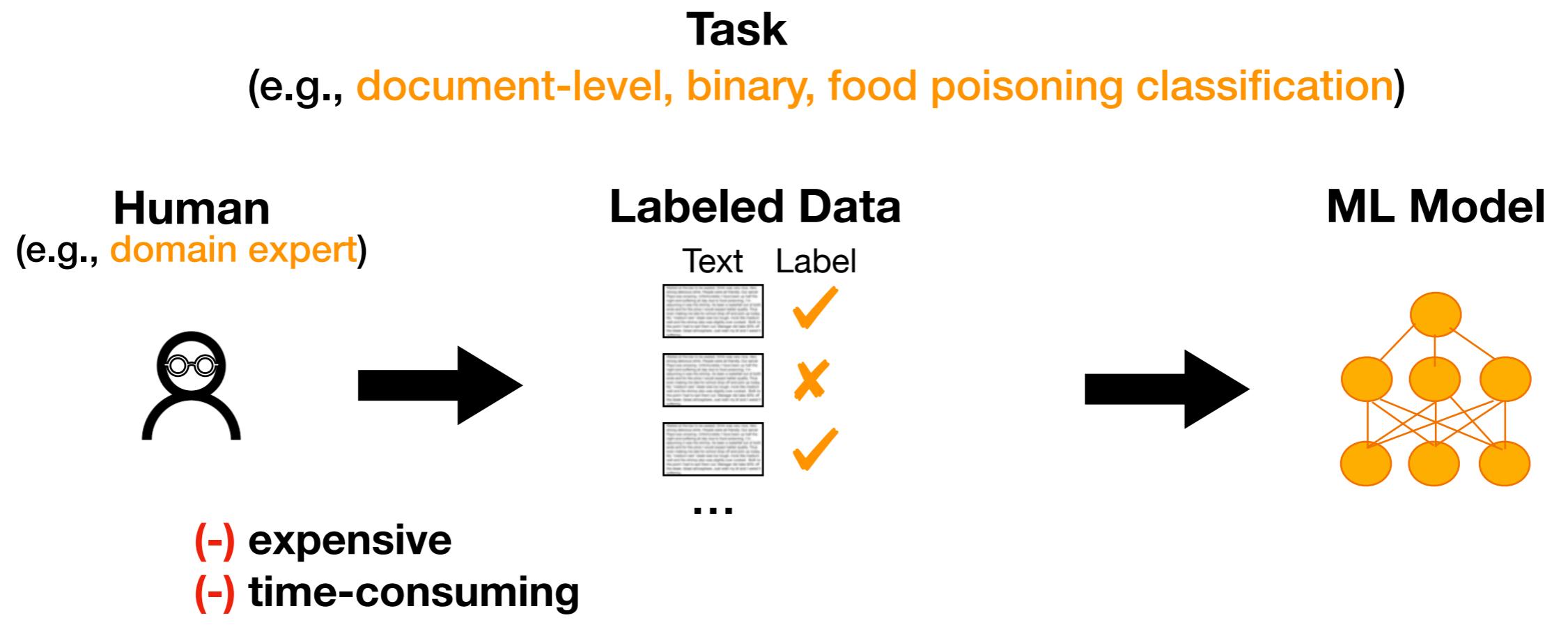
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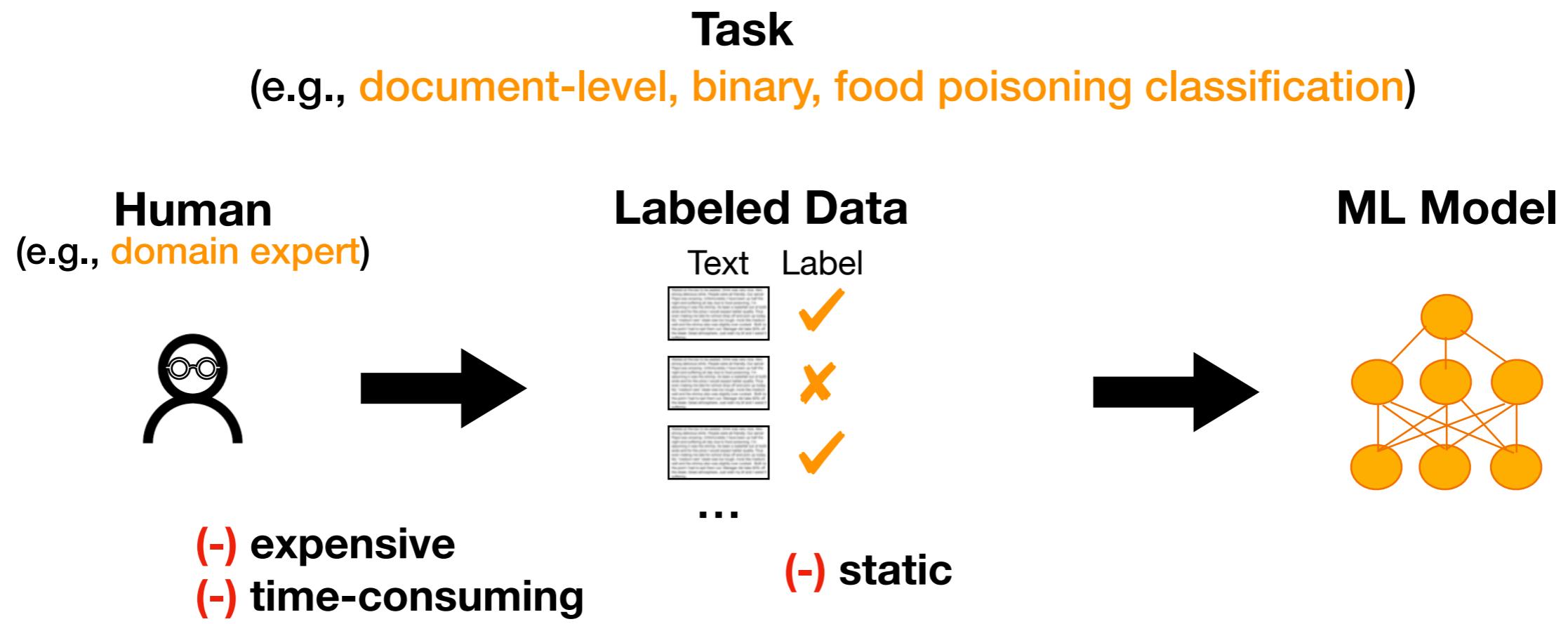
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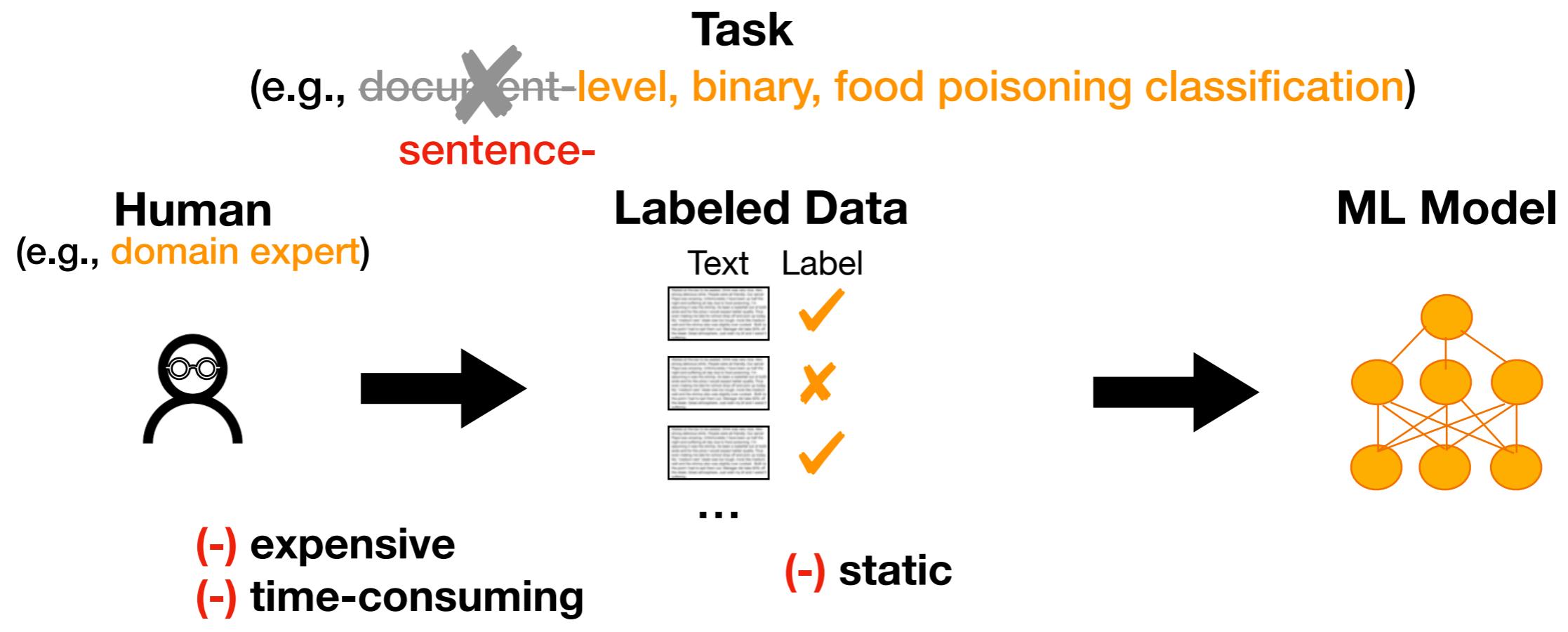
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How to relax the labeled data bottleneck?



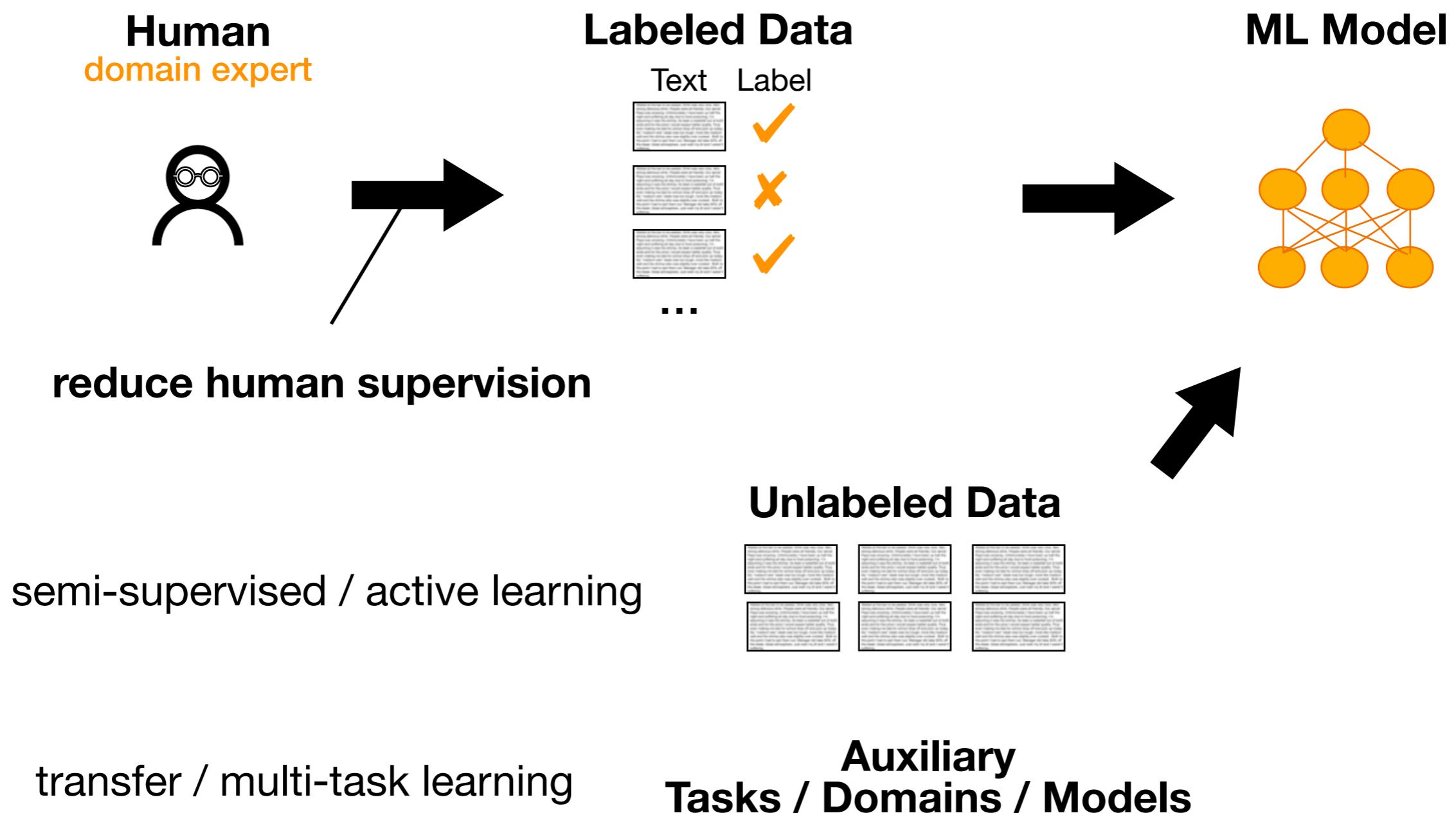
How to relax the labeled data bottleneck?

- Common approaches: learning with **limited** labeled data



How to relax the labeled data bottleneck?

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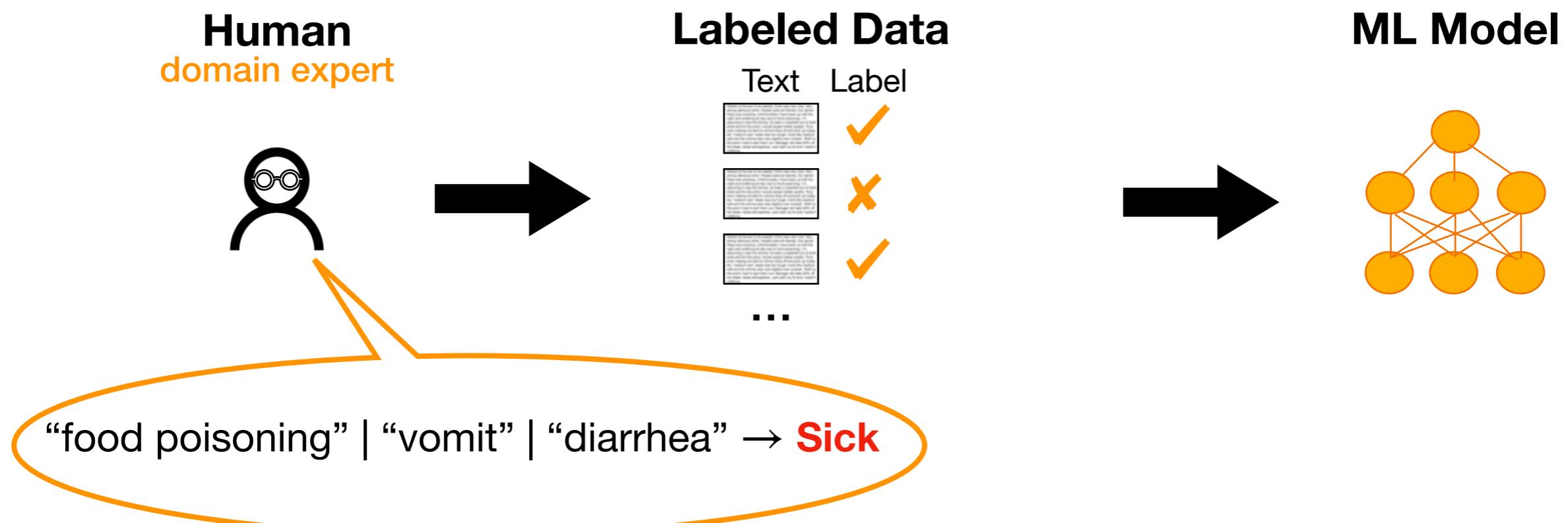


reduce human supervision

- (-) Expert feedback is restricted to labeling individual instances
- (-) Instance labels carry limited information

How to relax the labeled data bottleneck?

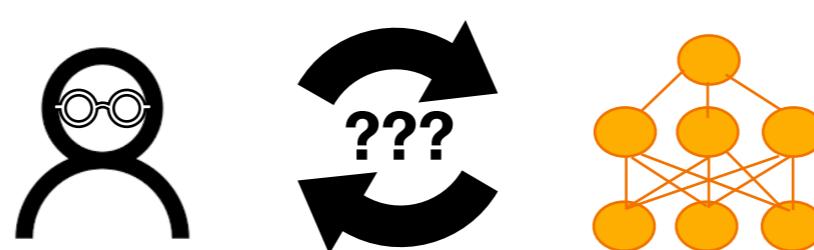
- Common approaches: learning with **limited** labeled data



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Our goal

Assist humans in teaching ML models
via **more flexible types of interaction**



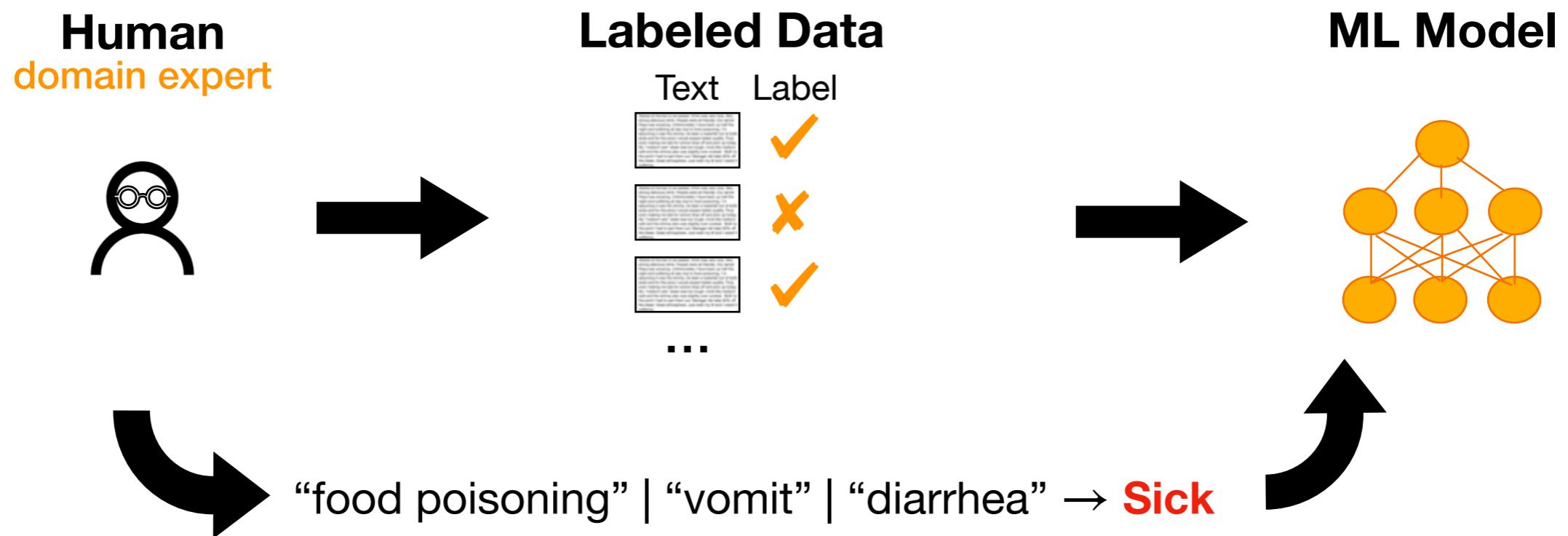
This dissertation

- **Common approaches:** learning with **limited** labeled data
- **This dissertation:** we support **more types of supervision** for teaching ML models



This dissertation

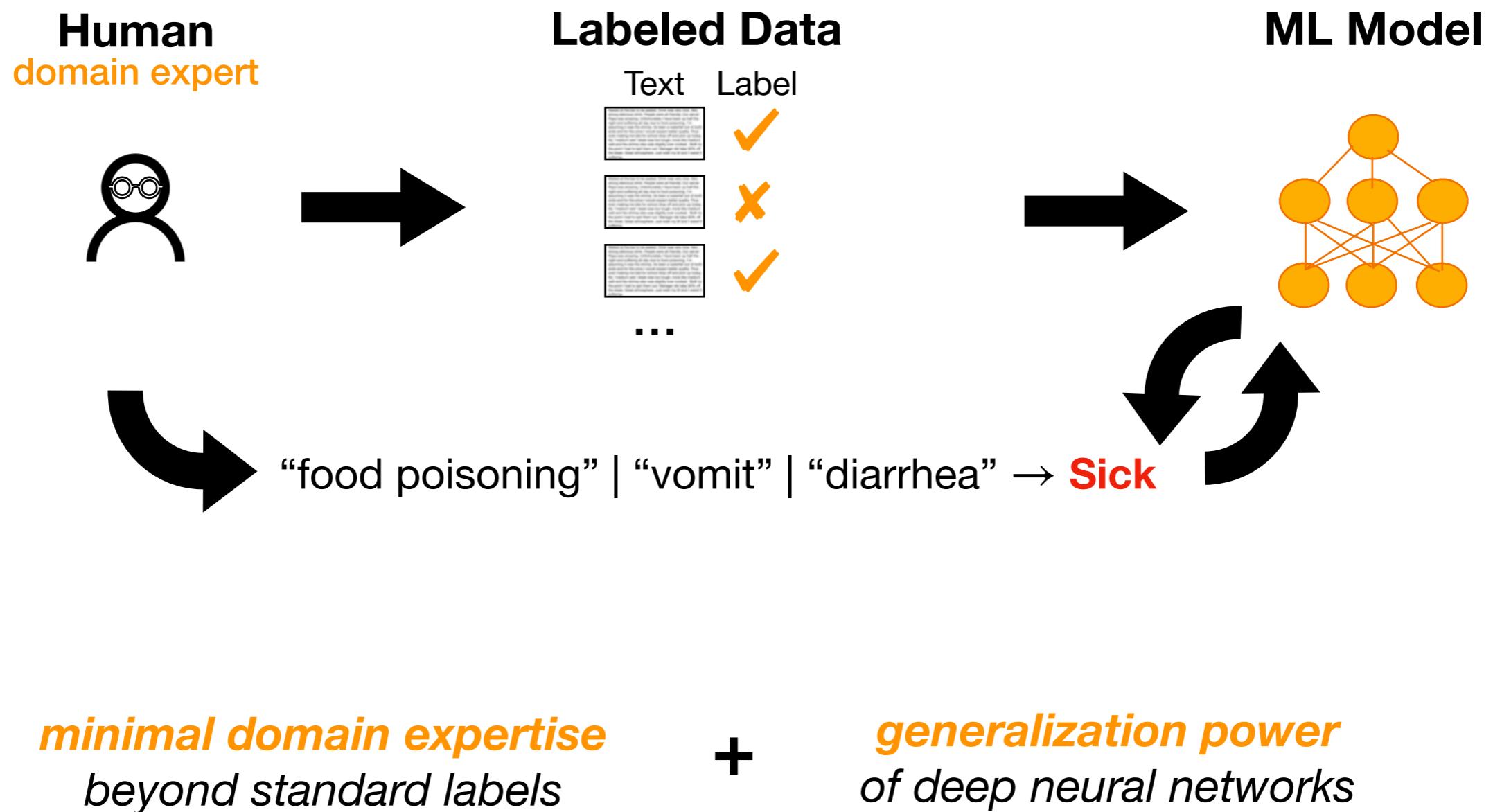
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*minimal domain expertise
beyond standard labels*

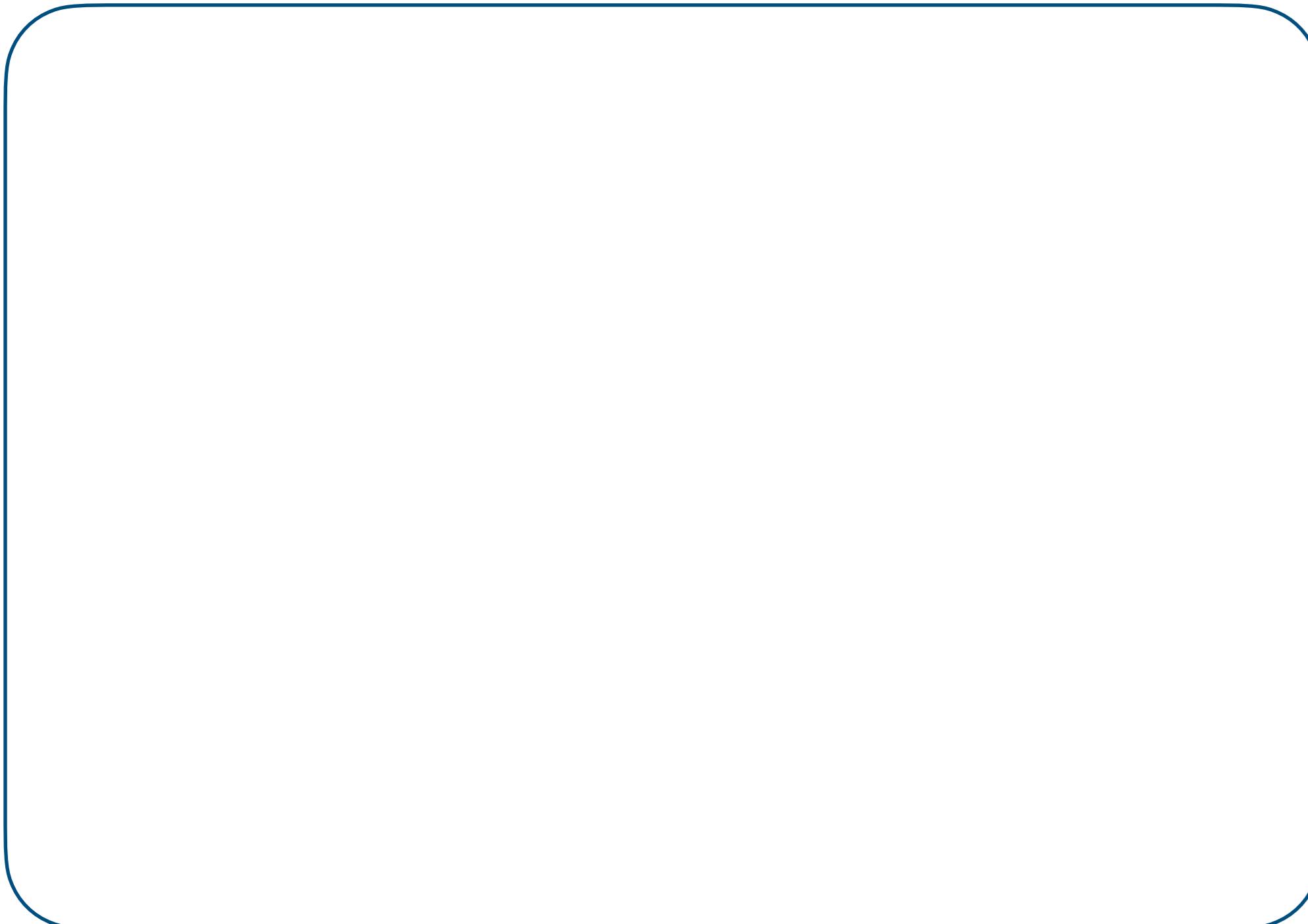
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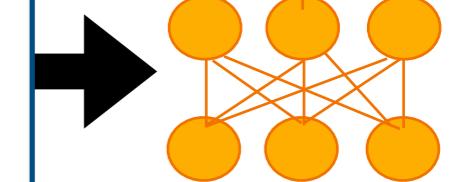


Contributions of this dissertation

We develop **efficient** frameworks for teaching ML models using...



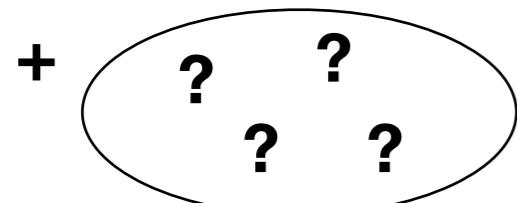
ML Model



Contributions of this dissertation

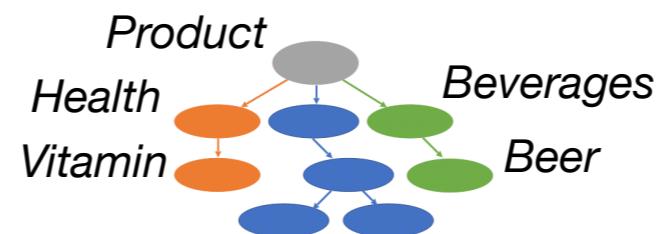
We develop **efficient** frameworks for teaching ML models using...

Coarse labels (Ch. 3)



[Karamanolakis et al. WNUT '19]

Hierarchical taxonomies (Ch. 4)



[Karamanolakis et al. ACL '20]

Seed words (Ch. 5)

Aspect	Seed Words
Price	price, value, money
Image	picture, color, bright
Sound	sound, speaker, noise

[Karamanolakis et al. EMNLP '19]

Word translations (Ch. 6)

“injured”



يَارِبَانْفَانْ

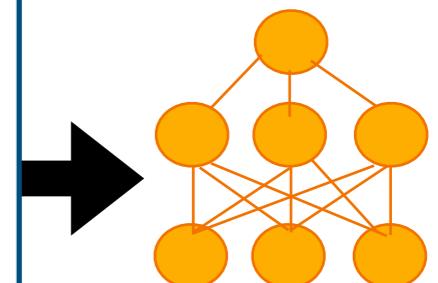
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Labeling rules (Ch. 7, 8)

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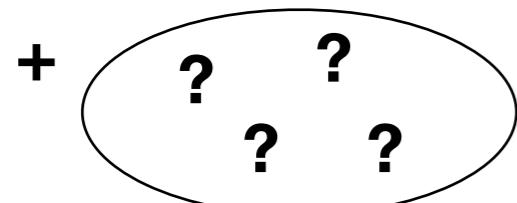
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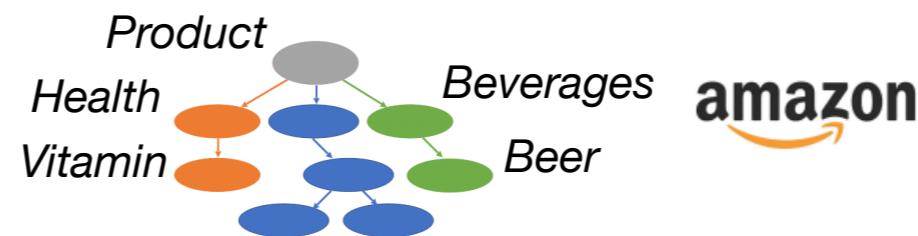
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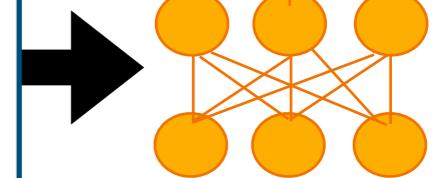
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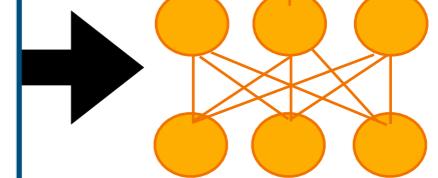
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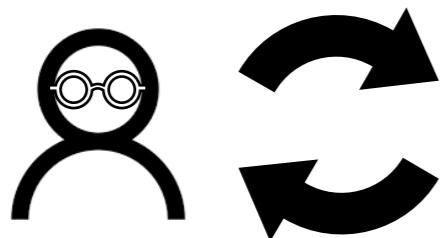
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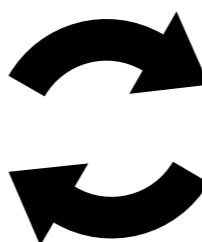


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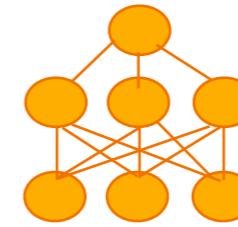
Human



Teacher



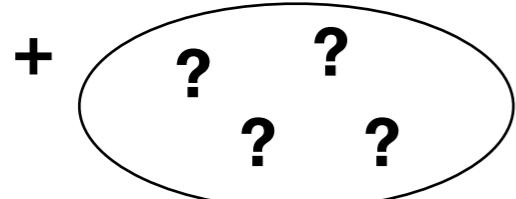
Student



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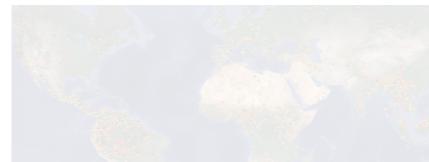
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Fine-grained classification with coarse labels

Fine-grained classification with coarse labels

- Epidemiologists read restaurant reviews for evidence of **food poisoning**

Restaurant Review

I wish I could give it zero stars. I actually created a yelp account to write this review! At first I thought it was great that we got a table for 5 morning of on a Saturday. The food was okay- the poached eggs on the Benedict were a little over cooked, but nothing to complain about. The service was good, it was overall fine. That is- until I got home and me and boy friend spent the rest of the day/night and into the morning hunched over or sitting on the toilet! I have never experienced such violent food poisoning in my life! That was the only place we ate or drank anything at that day, so I know it was from this restaurant. By far the most miserable I've been- chills and crippling abdominal pain along with uncontrollable vomiting and something worse out the other end for my boyfriend! Whatever you do, do not eat here, it is not worth the risk of ending up so unwell. To clarify what I believe caused this- we both had carrot juice randomly. I know more than one person who has gotten food poisoning recently from carrot juice- especially if its raw or cold pressed.

Epidemiologist



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It is **time-consuming** to read long reviews

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Sick?

Epidemiologist



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- Task: train a **sentence** classifier

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Epidemiologist



— Not Sick
— Sick

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Sentence labels are **expensive** to obtain for training

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Epidemiologist



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Fine-grained classification with coarse labels

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Sentence labels are **expensive** to obtain for training

We use **coarse review labels** that are **easier** to obtain



Restaurant Review (**Sick**)

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Epidemiologist



— Not Sick
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How to train **sentence** classifiers using **coarse** review labels?

review label (observed)	p
sentence labels (unobserved)	$p_1 \quad p_2 \quad \dots \quad p_M$

How to train **sentence** classifiers using **coarse** review labels?

- Assume all sentences in a review have the same label? $p_1 = p_2 = \dots = p$

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How to train sentence classifiers using coarse review labels?

- Assume all sentences in a review have the same label? $p_1 = p_2 = \dots = p$

(-) not effective

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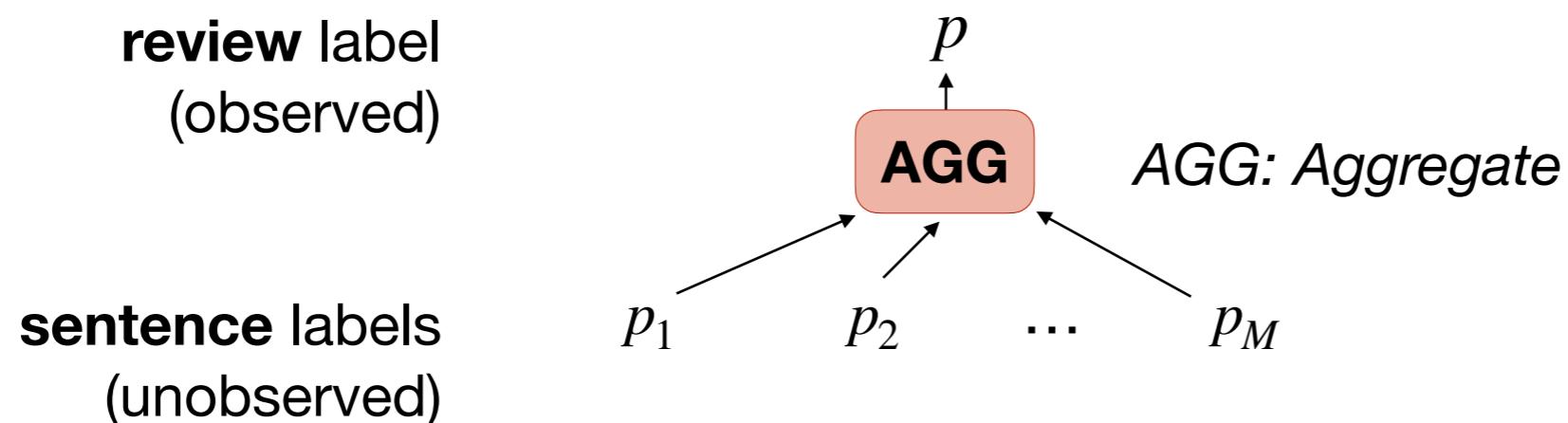
— Not Sick
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review label
(observed) p

sentence labels
(unobserved) p_1 p_2 \dots p_M

How to train sentence classifiers using coarse review labels?

- Assume all sentences in a review have the same label?
- We employ Multiple Instance Learning (MIL)



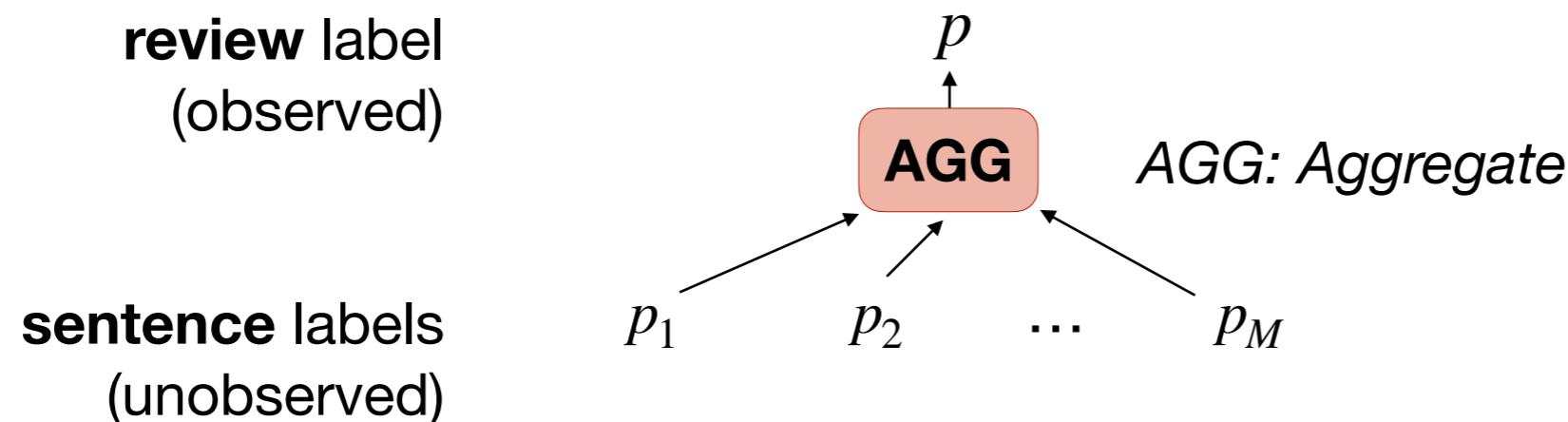
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- State-of-the-art methods: hierarchical MIL networks

[Pappas and Popescu-belis, 2014;2017]

[Angelidis and Lapata, 2018]

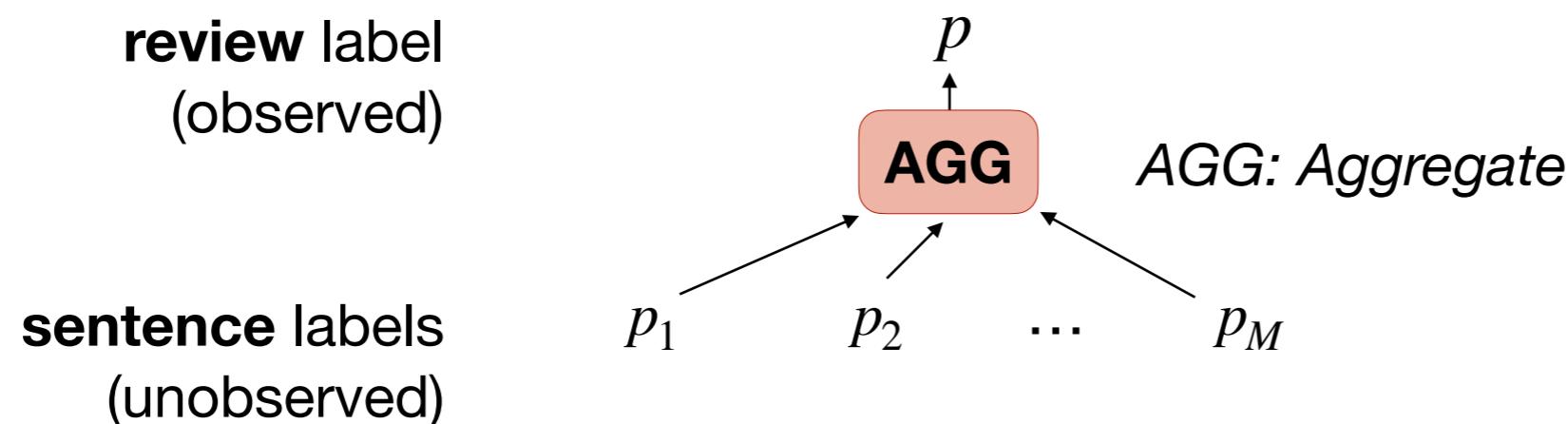


How to train sentence classifiers using coarse review labels?

- Assume all sentences in a review have the same label?
- We employ Multiple Instance Learning (MIL)

- State-of-the-art methods: hierarchical MIL networks
- Our work: MIL network with new AGG function

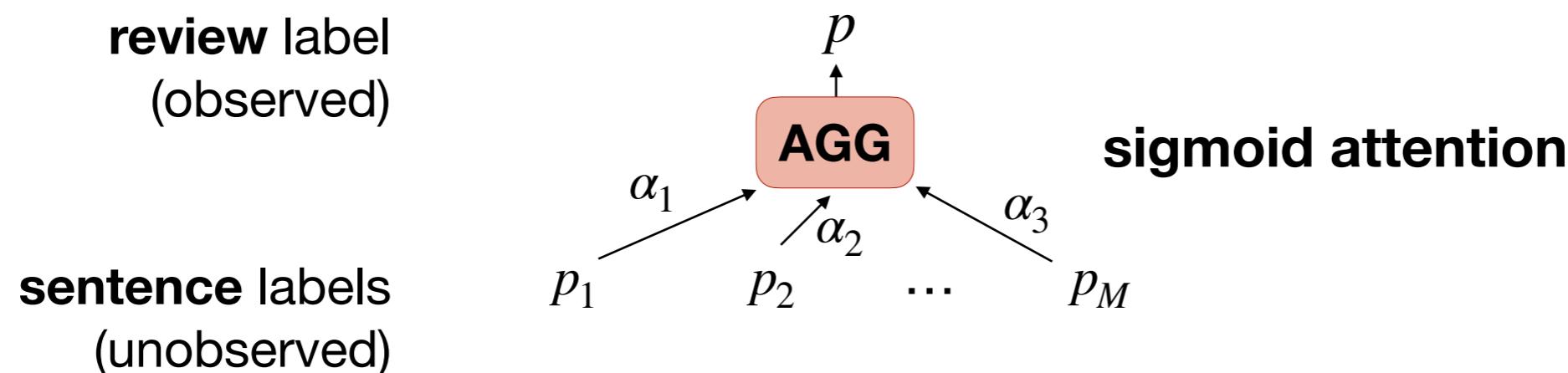
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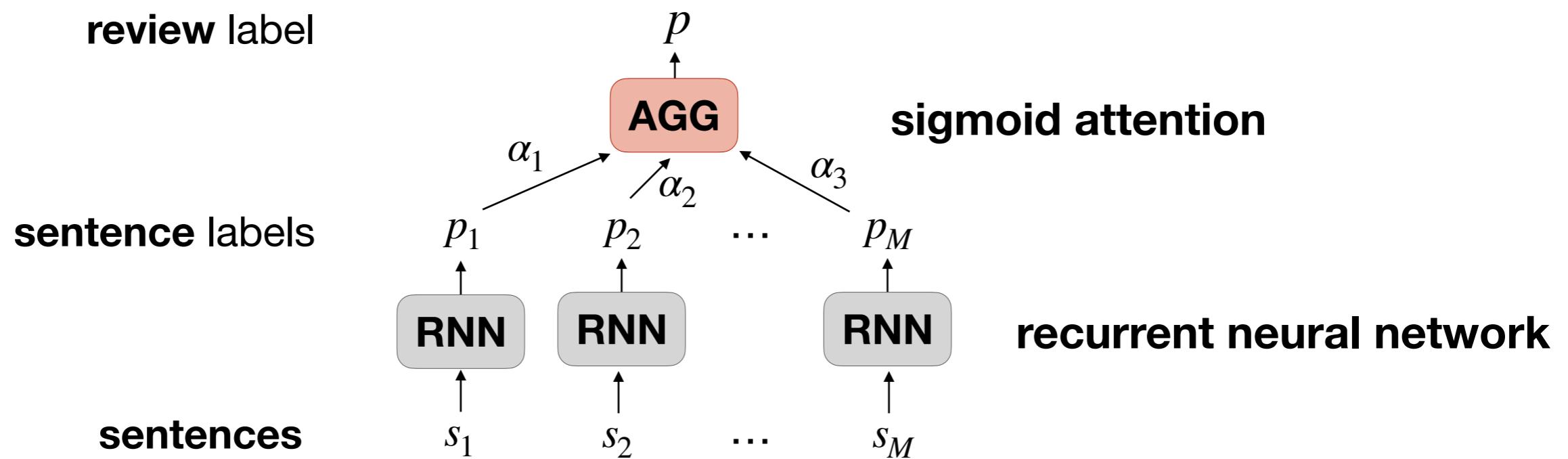


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Hierarchical Sigmoid Attention Network (HSAN)



Evaluation of HSAN for opinion mining and public health

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1. We improve previous methods in standard **opinion mining benchmarks**

Sentiment Classification (Yelp)

Aggregation Function	AGG	F1
average (Kotzias et al., 2015)		46.8
softmax (Angelidis and Lapata, 2018)		59.9
sigmoid (our approach)		63.3 (+5.6%)

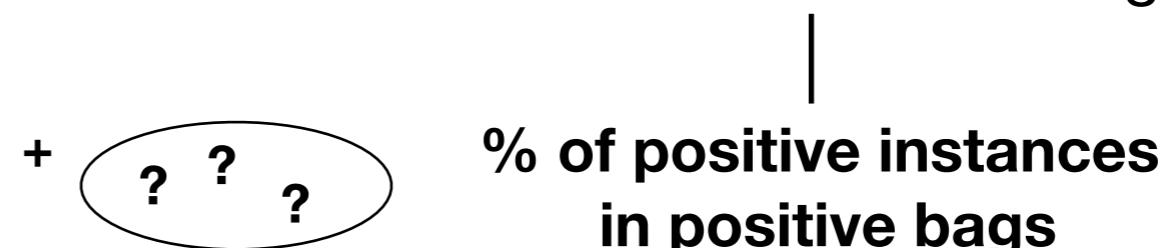
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1. We improve previous methods in standard **opinion mining benchmarks**

Sentiment Classification (Yelp)

Aggregation Function AGG	F1
average (Kotzias et al., 2015)	46.8
softmax (Angelidis and Lapata, 2018)	59.9
sigmoid (our approach)	63.3 (+5.6%)

Sigmoid attention is effective in **MIL** when the **witness rate** is high



Evaluation of HSAN for opinion mining and public health

1. We improve previous methods in standard **opinion mining benchmarks**
2. We apply HSAN to detect **food poisoning** in Yelp restaurant reviews

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Pred	Text
✓	I wish I could give it zero stars. 😟 : Sick ✓ : Not Sick
✓	I actually created a yelp account to write this review!
✓	At first I thought it was great that we got a table for 5 morning of on a Saturday.
✓	The food was okay- the poached eggs on the Benedict were a little over cooked, but nothing to complain about.
✓	The service was good, it was overall fine.
✓	That is- until I got home and me and boy friend spent the rest of the day/night and into the morning hunched over or sitting on the toilet!
❗	I have never experienced such violent food poisoning in my life!
✓	That was the only place we ate or drank anything at that day, so I know it was from this restaurant.
❗	By far the most miserable I've been- chills and crippling abdominal pain along with uncontrollable vomiting and something worse out the other end for my boyfriend!
❗	Whatever you do, do not eat here, it is not worth the risk of ending up so unwell.
✓	To clarify what I believe caused this- we both had carrot juice randomly.
❗	I know more than one person who has gotten food poisoning recently from carrot juice- especially if its raw or cold pressed.



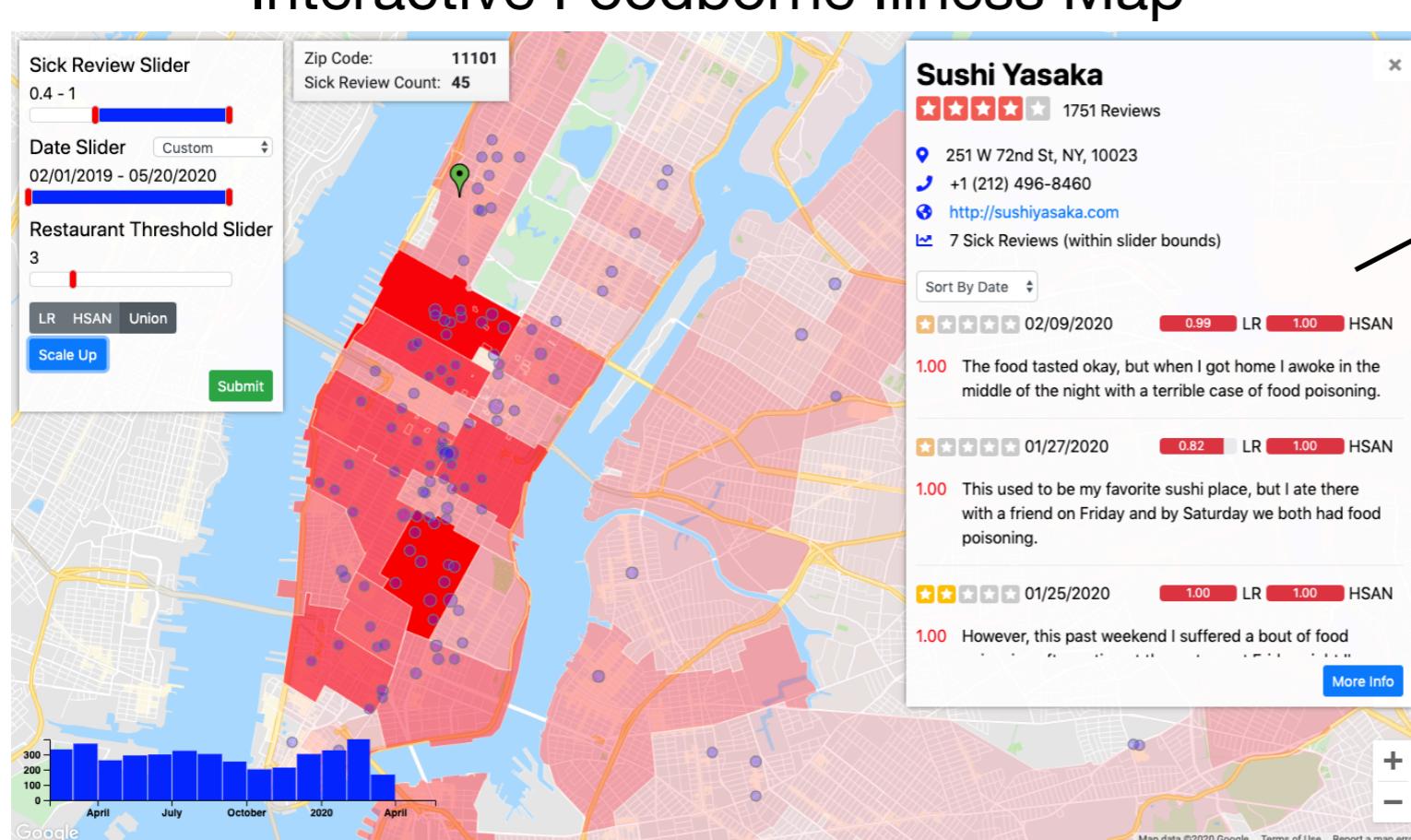
I have never experienced such violent food poisoning in my life

... crippling abdominal pain along with uncontrollable vomiting ...

<https://publichealth.cs.columbia.edu/>

Evaluation of HSAN for opinion mining and public health

1. We improve previous methods in standard **opinion mining benchmarks**
2. We apply HSAN to detect **food poisoning** in Yelp restaurant reviews
 - Achieve **48.6% higher recall** than previous classifier [Effland et al. 2018]
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Visualize only
important sentences!

work with Sam Raab

<https://publichealth.cs.columbia.edu/>

Efficient machine teaching frameworks for NLP

Coarse labels (Ch. 3)



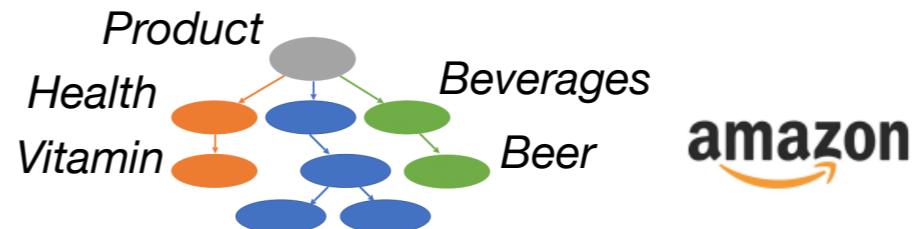
[Karamanolakis et al. WNUT '19]

(3) Seed words

Aspect	Seed Words
Price	price, value, money
Image	picture, color, bright
Sound	sound, speaker, noise

[Karamanolakis et al. EMNLP '19]

Hierarchical taxonomies (Ch. 4)



[Karamanolakis et al. ACL '20]

(4) Word translations



[Karamanolakis et al. Findings of EMNLP '20]

(5) Labeling rules

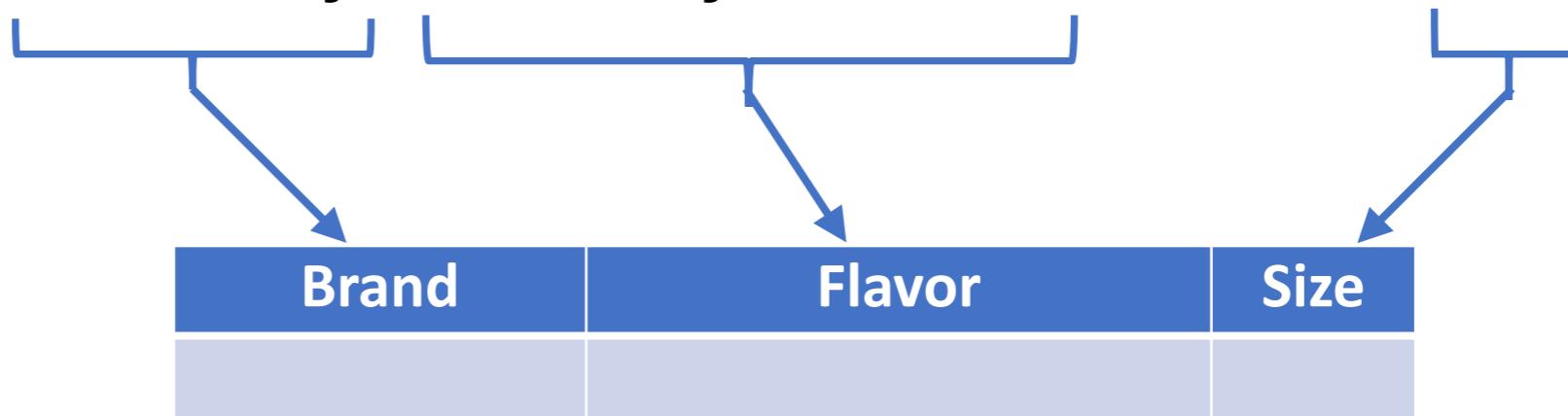
```
def regex_check_out(x):
    return SPAM if re.search("check.*out", x) else ABSTAIN
```

[Karamanolakis et al. NAACL '21]

Extraction of product attributes from descriptions



Ben & Jerry's Strawberry Cheesecake Ice Cream 16 oz



Extraction of product attributes from descriptions



Ben & Jerry's Strawberry Cheesecake Ice Cream 16 oz

Brand	Flavor	Size
Ben & Jerry's	strawberry cheesecake	16 oz

Extraction of product attributes from descriptions

- **Previous work:** deep neural networks for **sequence tagging**

[Zheng et al., KDD'18]

[Xu et al., ACL'19]

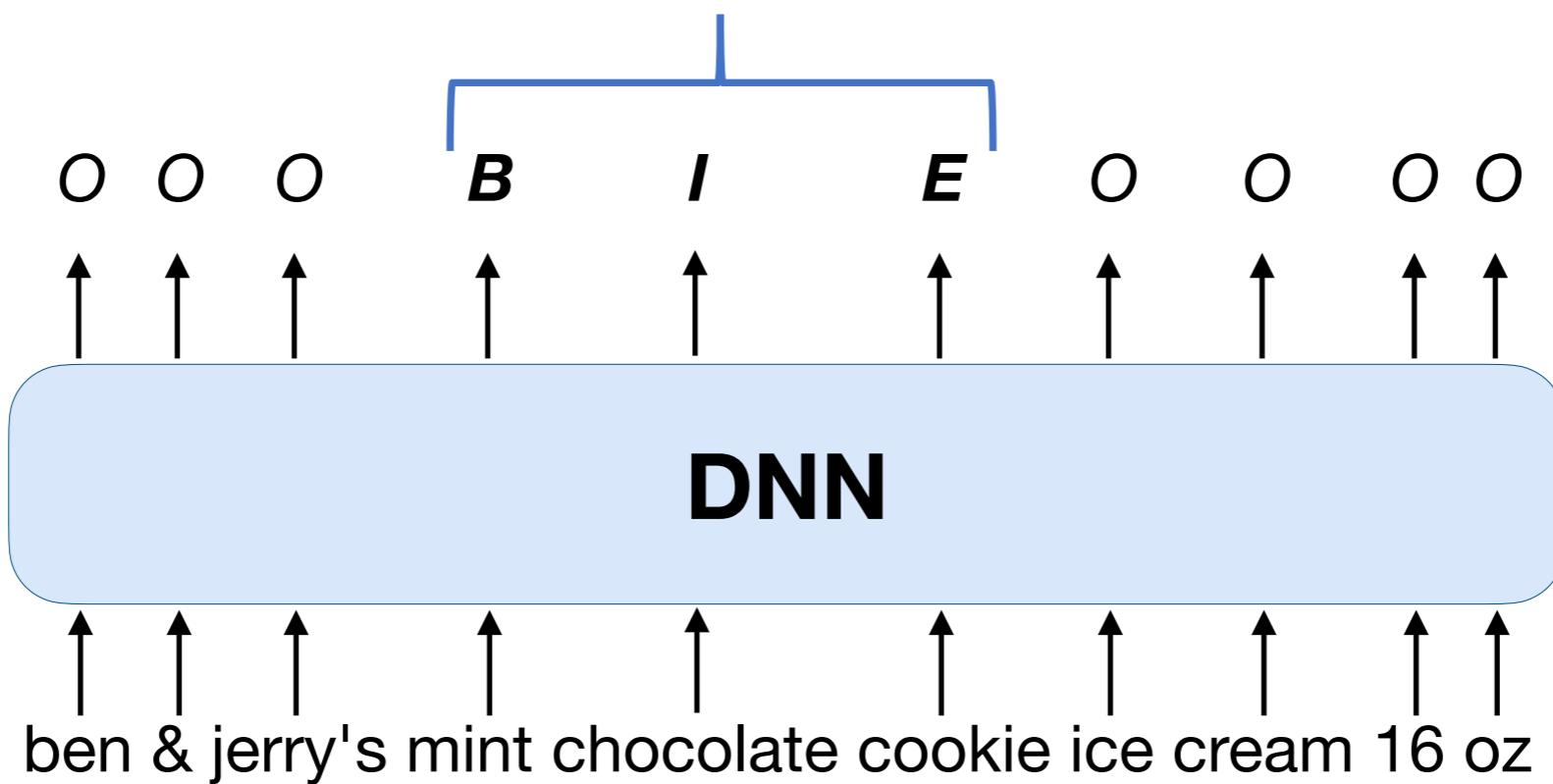
[Rezk et al., ICDE'19]

Extraction of product attributes from descriptions

- Previous work: deep neural networks for **sequence tagging**

[Zheng et al., KDD'18]
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flavor: “mint chocolate cookie”



Extraction of product attributes from descriptions

- **Previous work:** deep neural networks for **sequence tagging**

[Zheng et al., KDD'18]

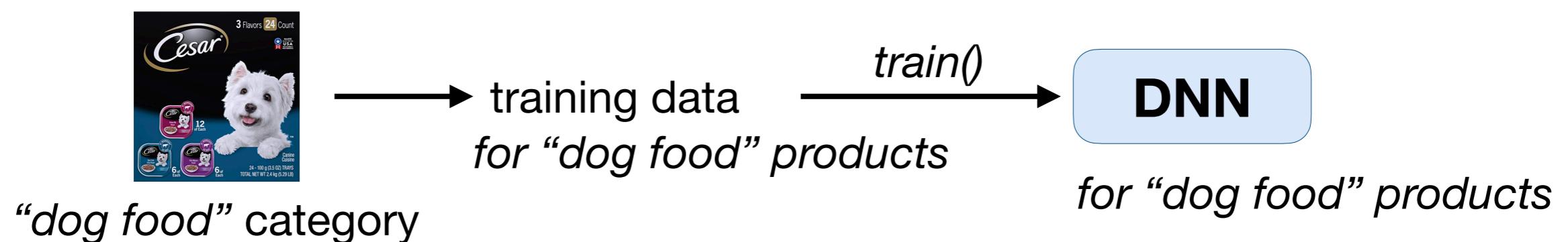
[Xu et al., ACL'19]

[Rezk et al., ICDE'19]

- **Limitations of previous work:**

(-) designed for products under a **single** product category

OpenTag [Zheng et al., KDD'18]



Extraction of product attributes from descriptions

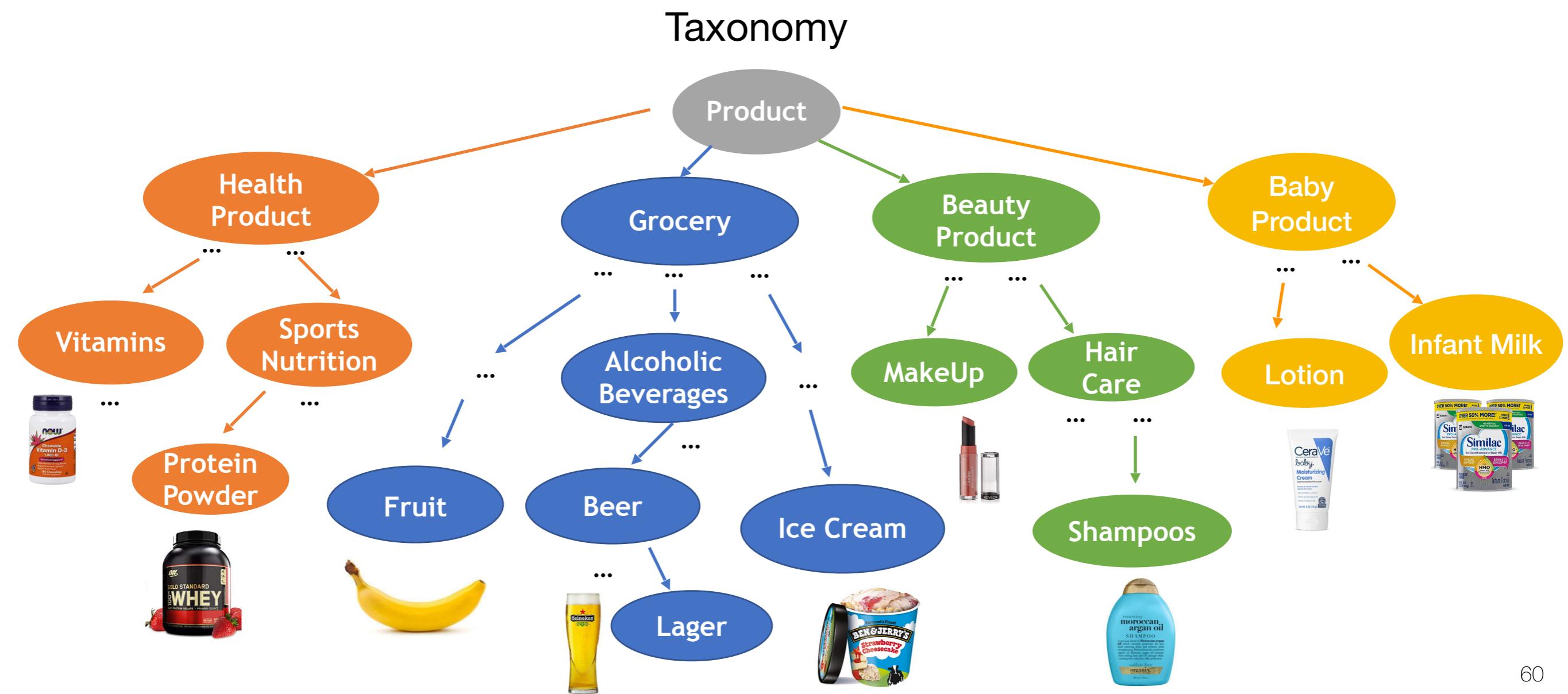
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- **Limitations of previous work:**
 - (-) designed for products under a **single** product category
 - (-) hard to scale to large e-commerce companies



- 10M+ products
- 10K+ categories

We scale up extraction to 4K product categories

“TXtract: taxonomy-aware knowledge extraction from thousands of product categories”,
Giannis Karamanolakis, Jun Ma, and Xin Luna Dong. (ACL 2020) 

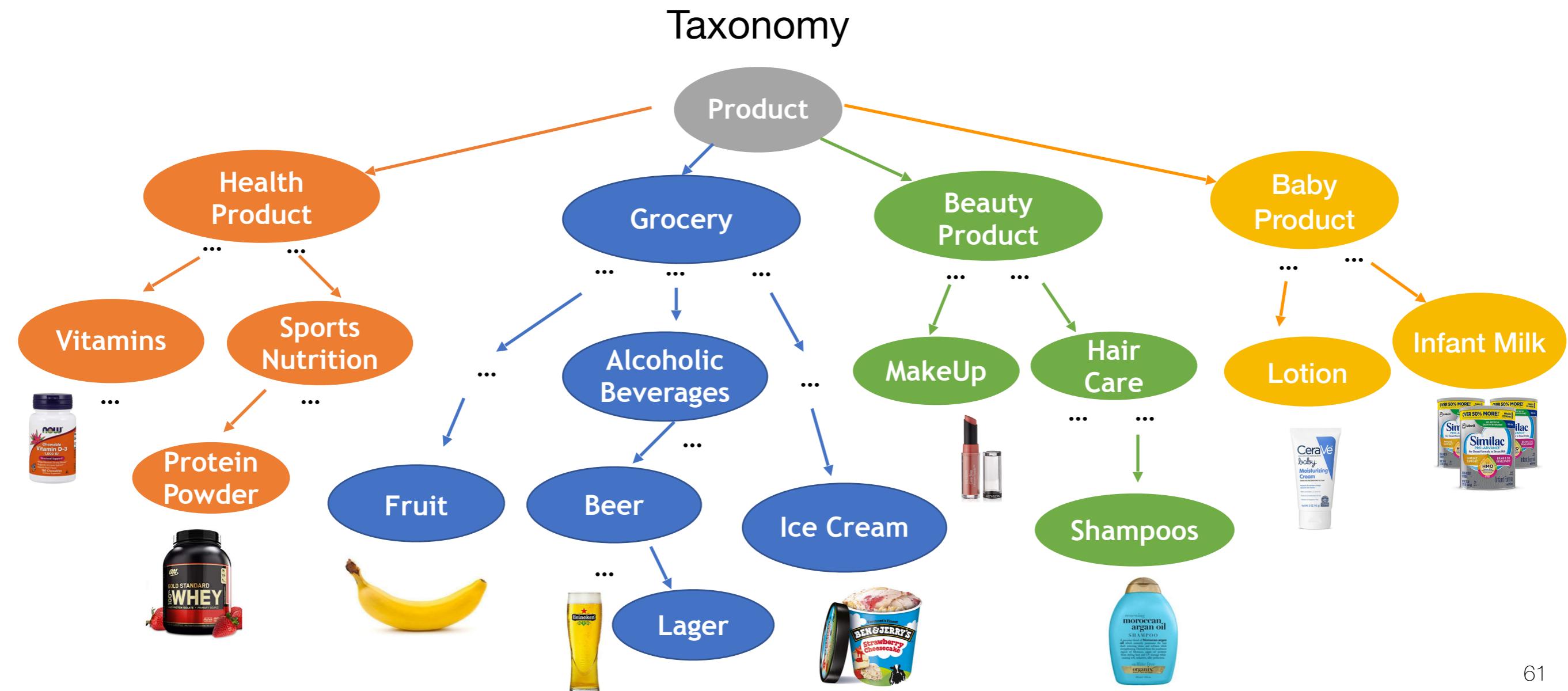


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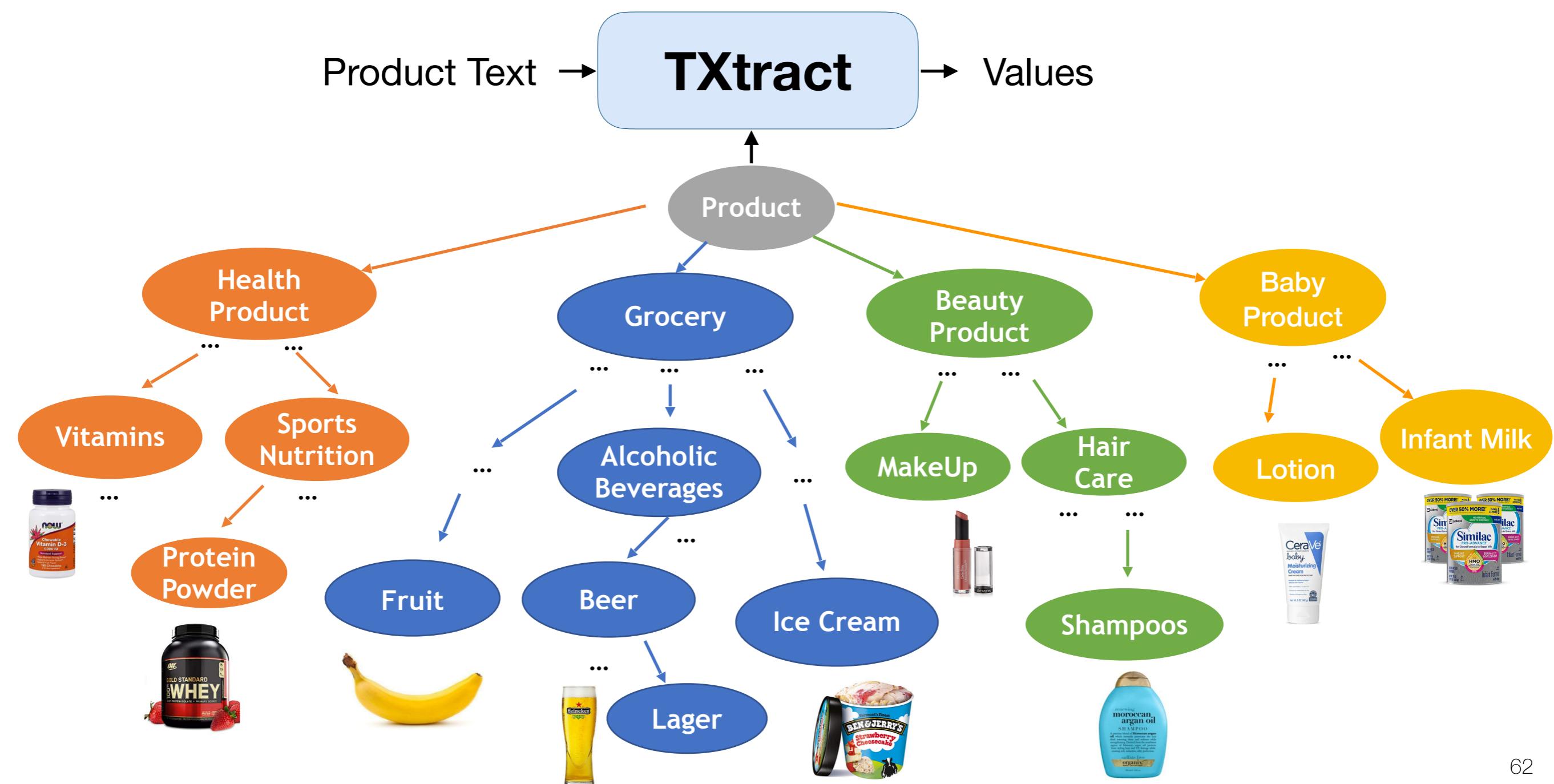
Train 4K models?
(-) expensive

Assume a single “flat” space?
(-) not effective



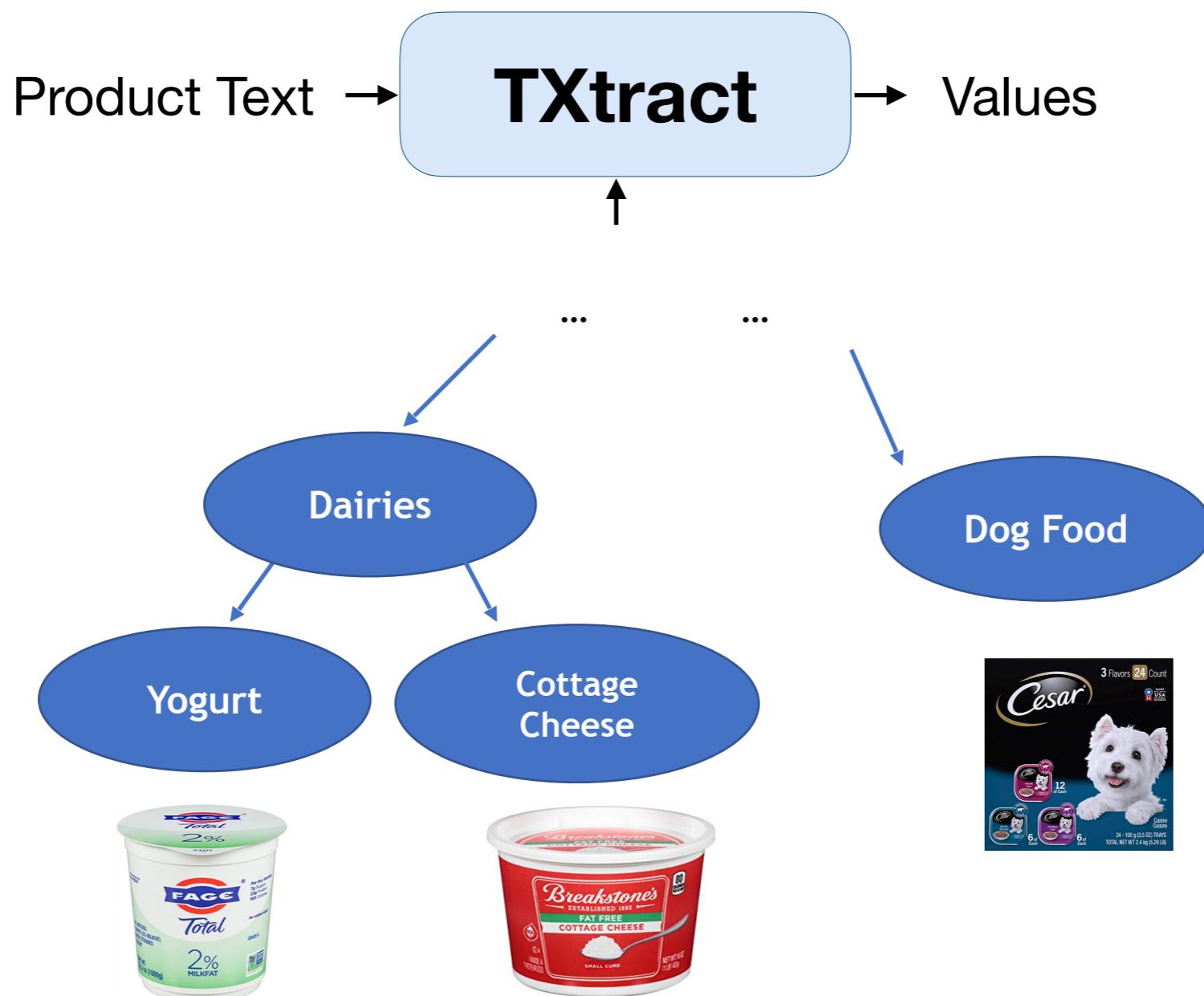
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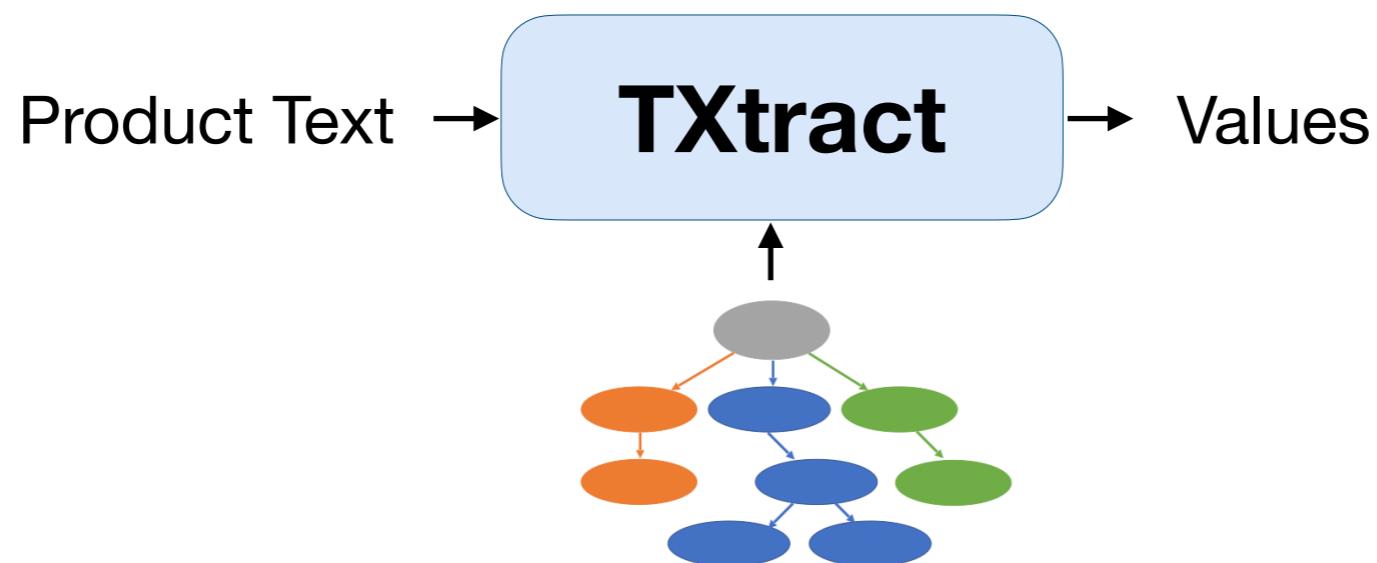
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We scale up extraction to 4K product categories

(+) effective

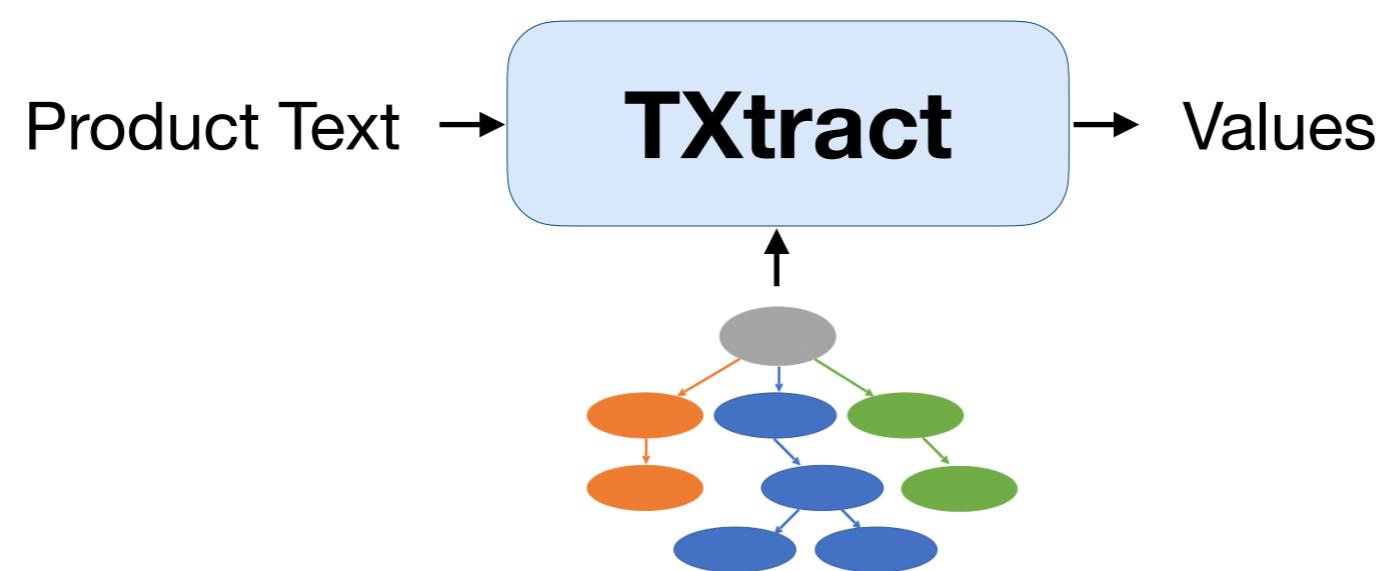
extract **category-specific** values



We scale up extraction to 4K product categories

(+) effective

extract category-specific values



Digital Camera



flavor?

Not applicable

Vitamin



flavor: “fruit”

Fruit



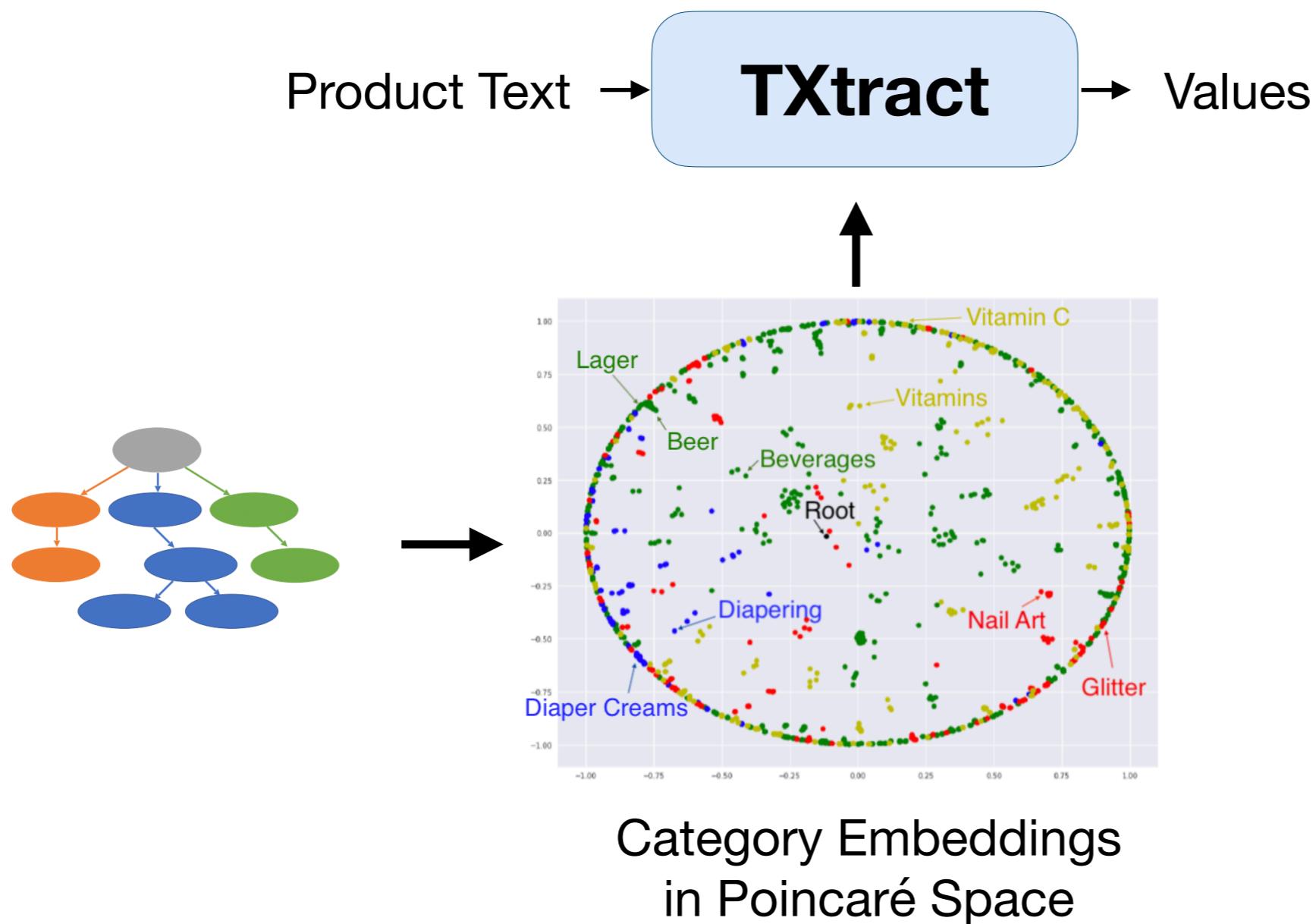
flavor: “fruit”

Not valid

We scale up extraction to 4K product categories

(+) effective

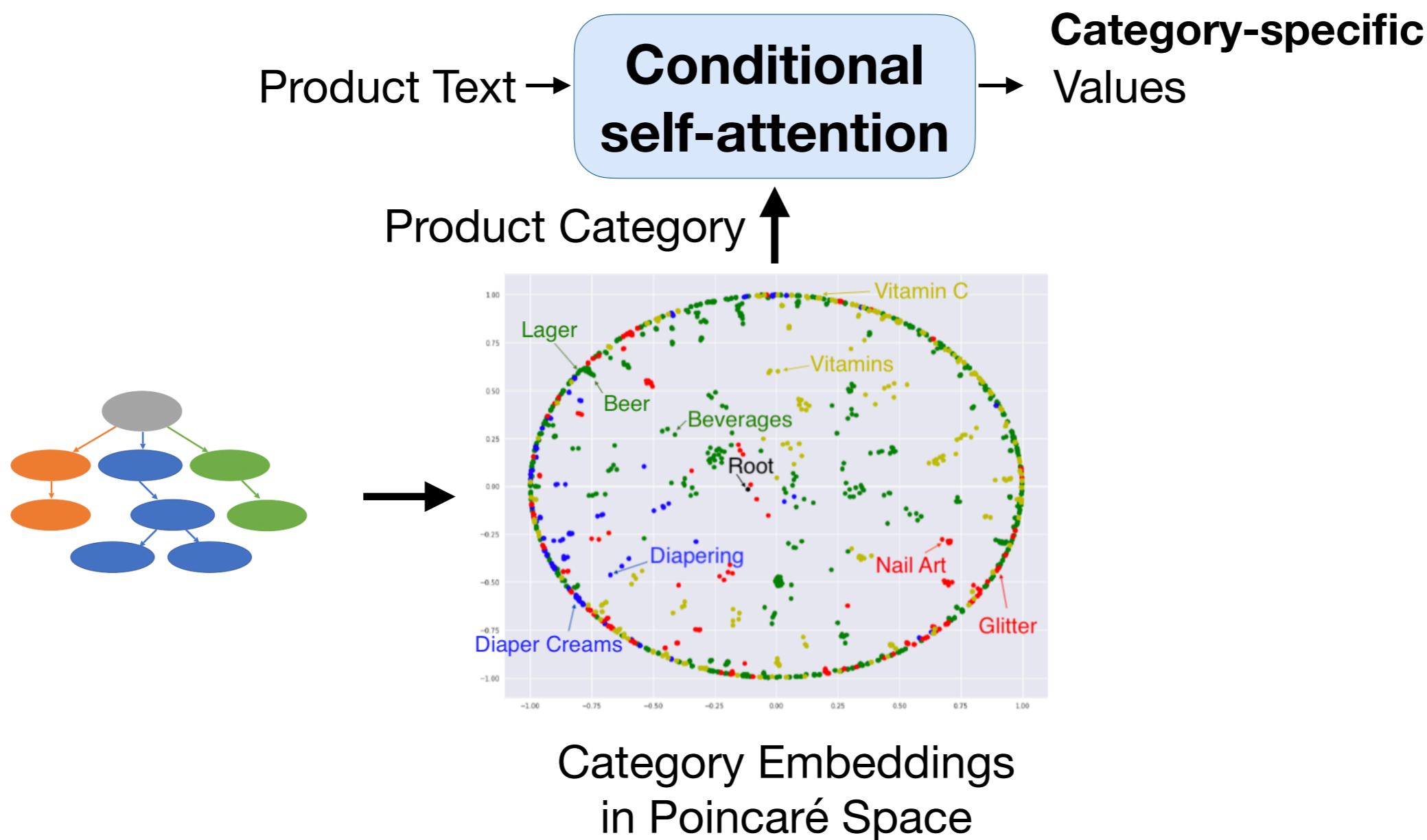
extract category-specific values



We scale up extraction to 4K product categories

(+) effective

extract category-specific values



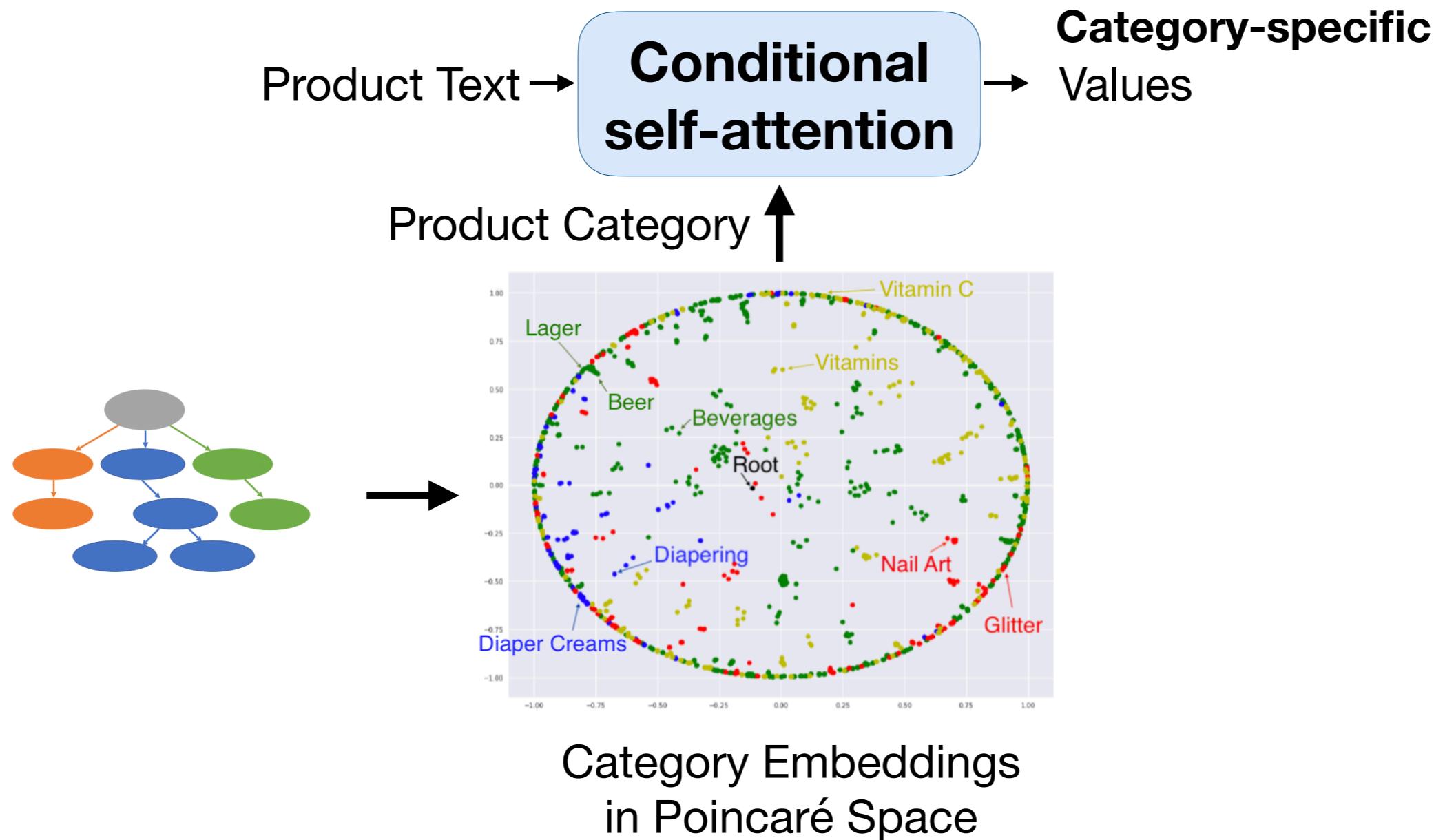
We scale up extraction to 4K product categories

(+) effective

extract category-specific values

(+) efficient

address all categories in a single model



We scale up extraction to 4K product categories

- TXtract improves extraction performance across 4K categories

[Zheng et al., KDD'18]

Assumes “**flat**” space →

We **consider** categories →

	Coverage (%)	F1 (%)
OpenTag	73.0	46.6
TXtract	81.6 (+11.7%)	49.7 (+10.4%)

“TXtract: taxonomy-aware knowledge extraction from thousands of product categories”,
Giannis Karamanolakis, Jun Ma, and Xin Luna Dong. (ACL 2020)

We scale up extraction to 4K product categories

- TXtract improves extraction performance across 4K categories
- TXtract is part of the “AutoKnow” knowledge graph



→ Amazon search
→ Amazon product detail pages

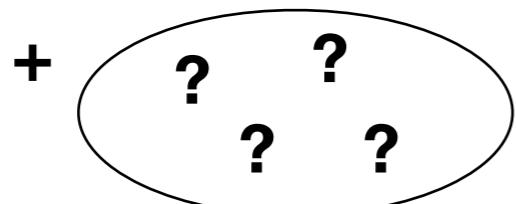
“AutoKnow: Self-Driving Knowledge Collection for Products of Thousands of Types”, Dong et al. (KDD 2020)

<https://www.amazon.science/blog/building-product-graphs-automatically>

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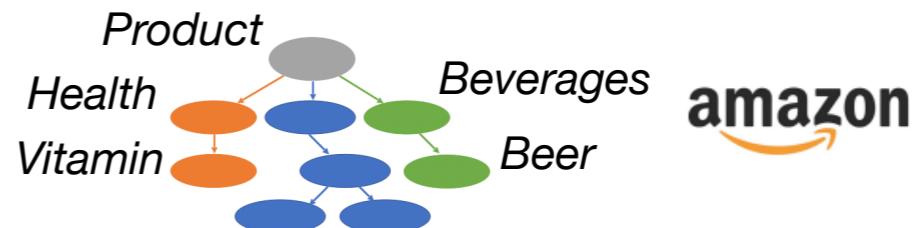
Efficient machine teaching frameworks for NLP

Coarse labels (Ch. 3)



[Karamanolakis et al. WNUT '19]

Hierarchical taxonomies (Ch. 4)



[Karamanolakis et al. ACL '20]

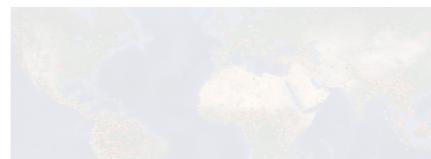
Seed words (Ch. 5)

Aspect	Seed Words
Price	price, value, money
Image	picture, color, bright
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[Karamanolakis et al. EMNLP '19]

Word translations (Ch. 6)

“injured”



يَارِبَانْغَانْ

[Karamanolakis et al. Findings of EMNLP '20]

Labeling rules (Ch. 7, 8)

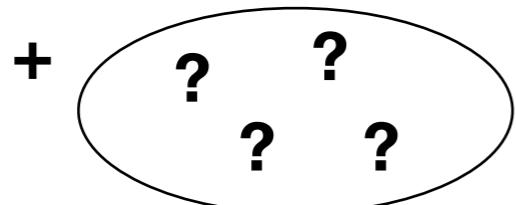
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[Karamanolakis et al. NAACL '21] + work with Daniel Hsu and Luis Gravano

Efficient machine teaching frameworks for NLP

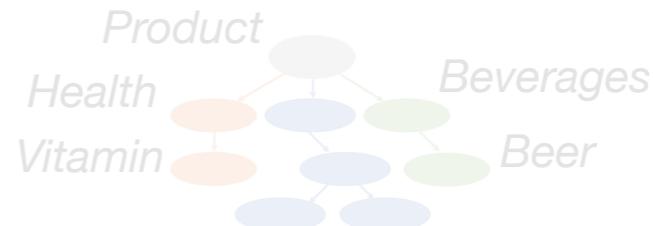
Can we teach ML models
without any ground-truth (coarse or fine) labels?

Coarse labels (Ch. 3)



[Karamanolakis et al. WNUT '19]

Hierarchical taxonomies (Ch. 4)



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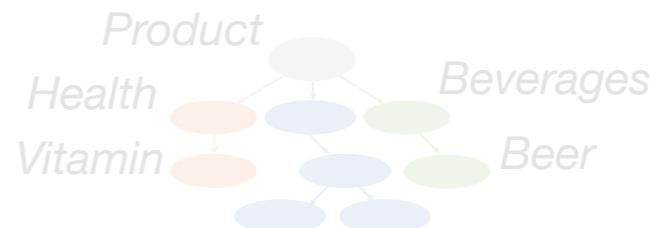
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[Karamanolakis et al. WNUT '19]

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پارسیانگان

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Fine-grained aspect detection in online reviews

- Online reviews discuss various **aspects** of the entities



★★★★★ A great TV for an amazing price
January 16, 2016
Size: 32-Inch | Style: TV | Verified Purchase

I purchased this to replace an older Philips LCD TV of the same size; after going on 8 years it died. The first time I ordered this it arrived with a cracked screen, which I'm suspecting was due to the packaging on Amazon's end (or lack thereof). The replacement arrived in perfect condition though and it's extremely user-friendly and easy to set up. It only has 2 HDMI ports, but since this is a second TV that I use in my bedroom, it works fine for me. I don't have cable in my bedroom and the two HDMI ports work perfectly for my Roku and DVD player.

The picture quality of this is very good and the sound is exceptionally good for a TV that is so thin. The actual TV itself only weighs maybe five or six pounds. My only complaint is that the legs of the TV can only be mounted to the very ends, making it difficult to fit on a smaller surface; it barely fits on the top of my dresser. The legs are also only about an inch high, making it impractical to put anything underneath of it, as it will block the picture. (To visualize, my tiny Roku 2 barely fits underneath it without blocking the screen). Other than that, it's great TV and exceptionally well priced.

TV Aspects

1. Price
2. Image Quality
3. Ease of Use
4. ...



Stephanie G.
New York, NY
80 friends
58 reviews
60 photos
Elite '2019

Share review
Embed review

★★★★★ 7/30/2019
3 photos

I would actually rate this place a 3.5 stars if I could. I came here for lunch with my husband during restaurant week. The restaurant and the patio are absolutely beautiful, and it is definitely a perfect date spot. The service was friendly and efficient. The food was good, but not amazing. I ordered a watermelon appetizer and got a salmon dish as my entree. The salmon was great, and it was on top of a corn chowder/bacon sauce. Very tasty. The watermelon feta salad however, was pretty bad. It was maybe 20 pieces of watermelon cubed, with 6 pieces of feta, drizzled with balsamic vinegar. I am obsessed with watermelon feta salads, and I make them frequently at home. I'm a pretty poor cook, so the fact that my salad is 10x better than theirs says a lot.

My husband also ordered the salmon, and he got the squash flatbread for his appetizer. He was very happy with both dishes. He also ordered the wine pairing for \$17, and wow. The wine was spectacular. Very delicious.

All in all, we left satisfied. The watermelon salad really left a bad taste in my mouth for the restaurant, because it's pretty shocking that they would serve something that was so bad, when other dishes were rather tasty. I definitely think it's worth a visit because it's a classic NY restaurant, but if you're just in it for the food, I think there are many other restaurants with better tasting, cheaper dishes.

Restaurant Aspects

1. Food Quality
2. Ambience
3. Service
4. ...

Fine-grained aspect detection in online reviews

- Online reviews discuss various **aspects** of the entities
- **Task:** Classify individual sentences to pre-defined aspects

<u>Sentence</u>	<u>Aspect</u>
<i>Great Tv for the price.</i>	→ Price
<i>Easy to setup.</i>	→ Ease of Use
<i>The audio is ok for the tiny speakers.</i>	→ Sound Quality
<i>Much better than the 20" tube tv.</i>	→ General

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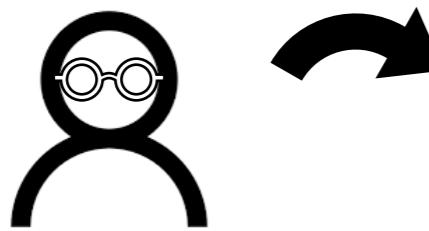
- **Goal:** train neural networks **without** any ground-truth labels (coarse or fine)

Fine-grained aspect detection in online reviews

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<i>Much better than the 20" tube tv.</i>	→ General

- **Goal:** train neural networks **without** any ground-truth labels (coarse or fine)
- We assume a small set of indicative **seed words** per aspect



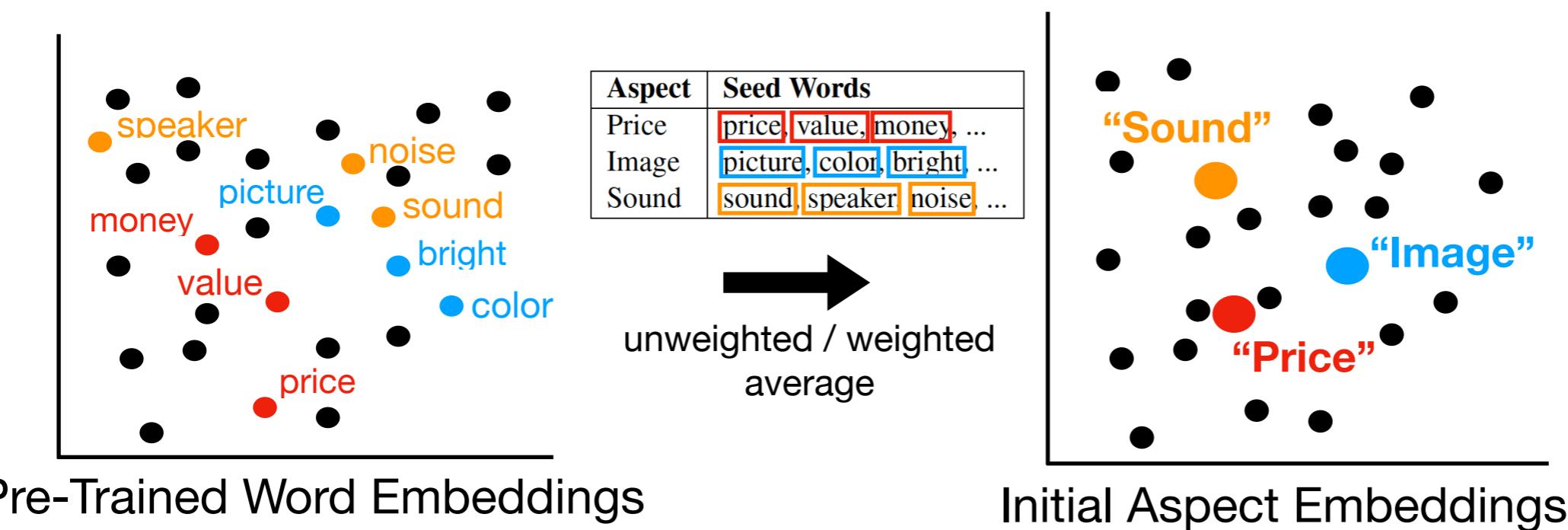
Aspect	Seed Words
Price	price, value, money, worth, paid
Image	picture, color, quality, black, bright
Sound	sound, speaker, noise, loud, volume

How to leverage seed words for neural networks?

How to leverage seed words for neural networks?

- Previous approaches: use seed words for initialization

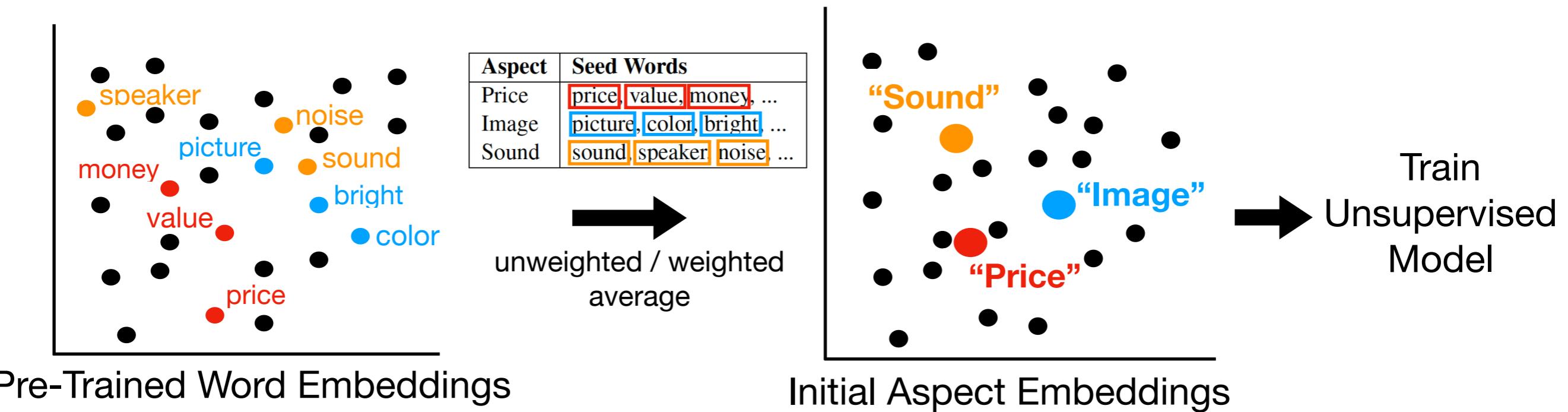
[Lund et al., 2017]
[Angelidis and Lapata, 2018]



How to leverage seed words for neural networks?

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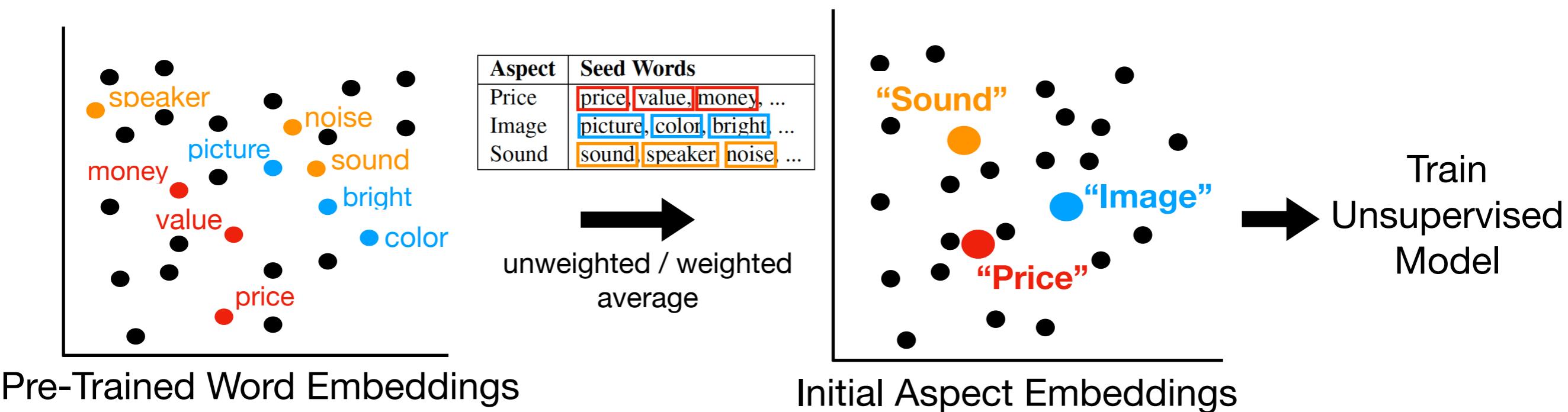
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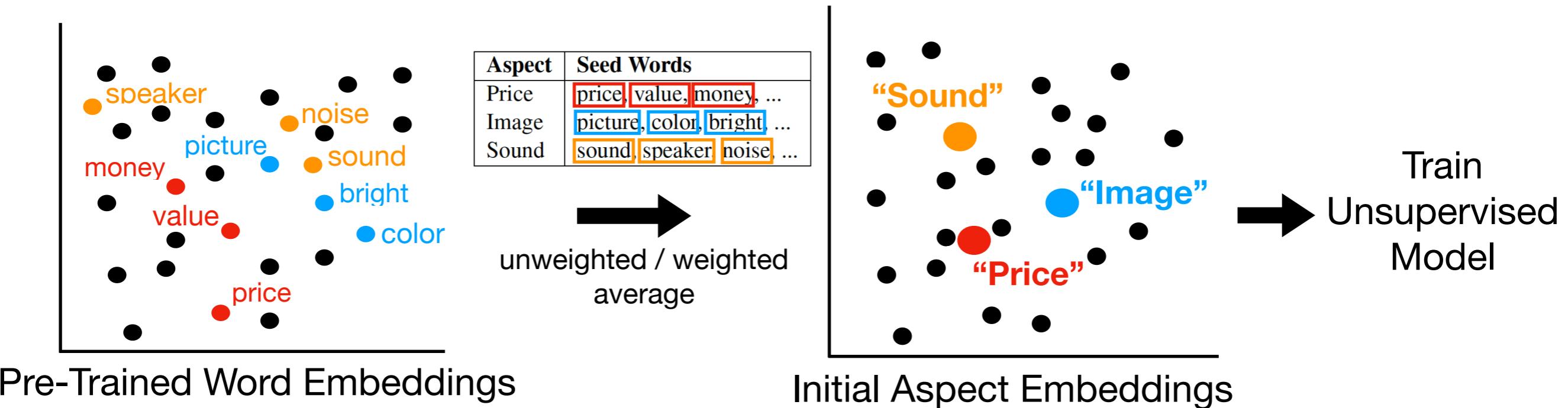
- Limitations of previous approaches:

(-) Individual seed words are **not** used during training

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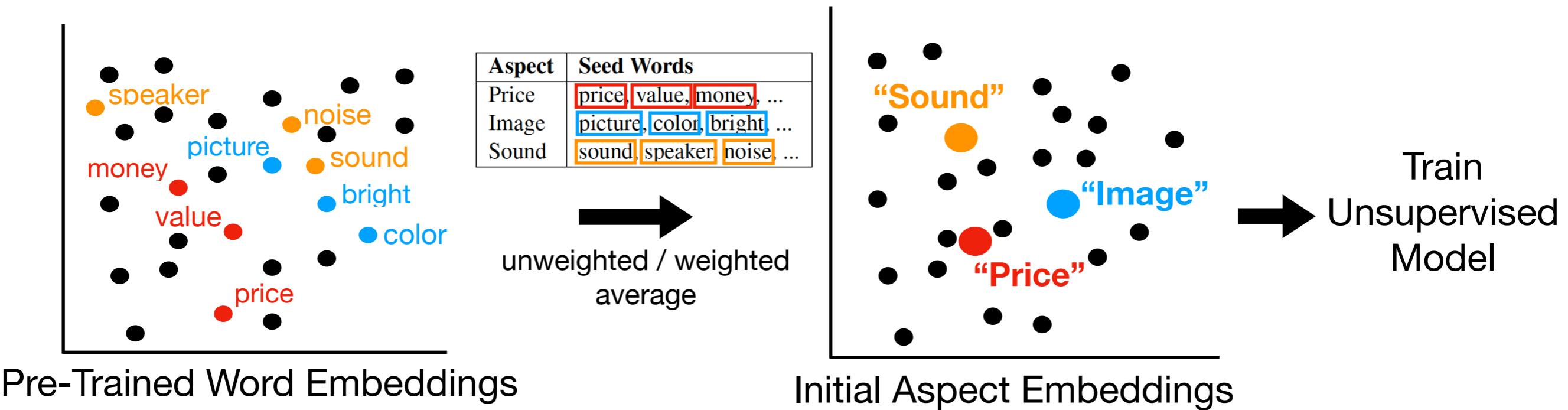
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- Limitations of previous approaches:

- (-) Individual seed words are **not** used during training
- (-) Aspect embedding quality is **sensitive** to word embedding quality
- (-) Aspect embedding fine-tuning risks from **diverging** from pre-defined aspects

How to leverage seed words for neural networks?

- **Previous approaches:** use seed words for initialization [Lund et al., 2017]
[Angelidis and Lapata, 2018]
- **Our approach:** weakly-supervised co-training [Karamanolakis, Hsu, Gravano, EMNLP '19]

We explore the **predictive** power
of each **individual** seed word
during training

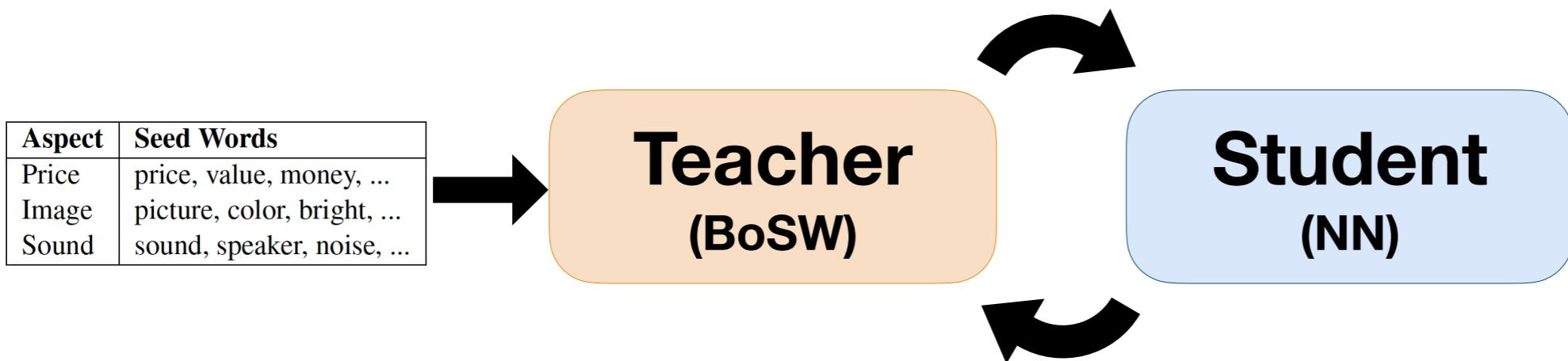
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[Lund et al., 2017]
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[Karamanolakis, Hsu, Gravano, EMNLP '19]

- + Leverage **seed words** in a bag-of-seed-words classifier (**Teacher**)
- + Use **Teacher**'s predictions to train a neural network (**Student**)
- + Adaptively cope with **noisy** seed words through **iterative co-training**

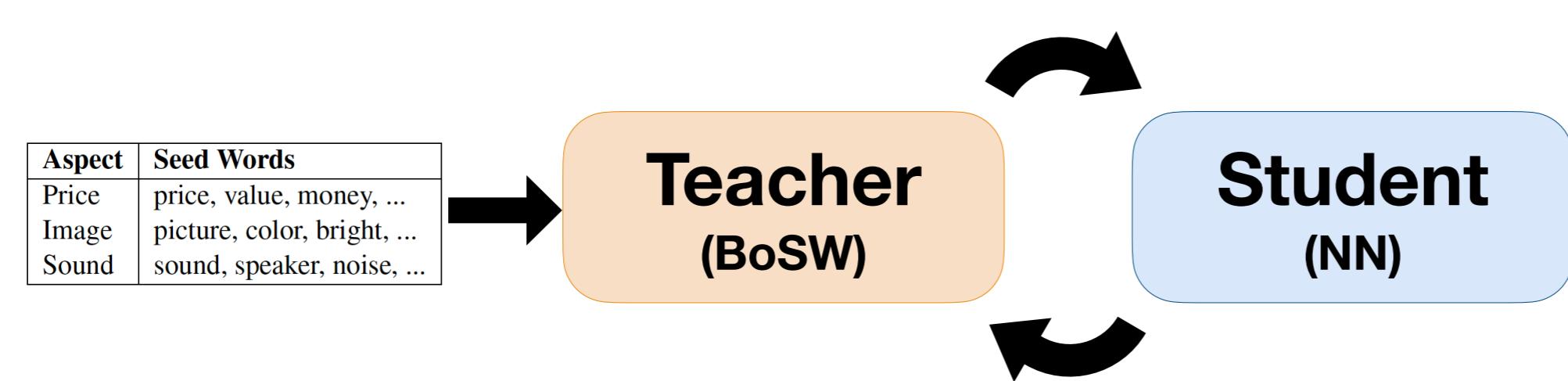


“Leveraging just a few keywords for fine-grained aspect detection through weakly-supervised co-training”

Giannis Karamanolakis, Daniel Hsu, and Luis Gravano. (EMNLP 2019)

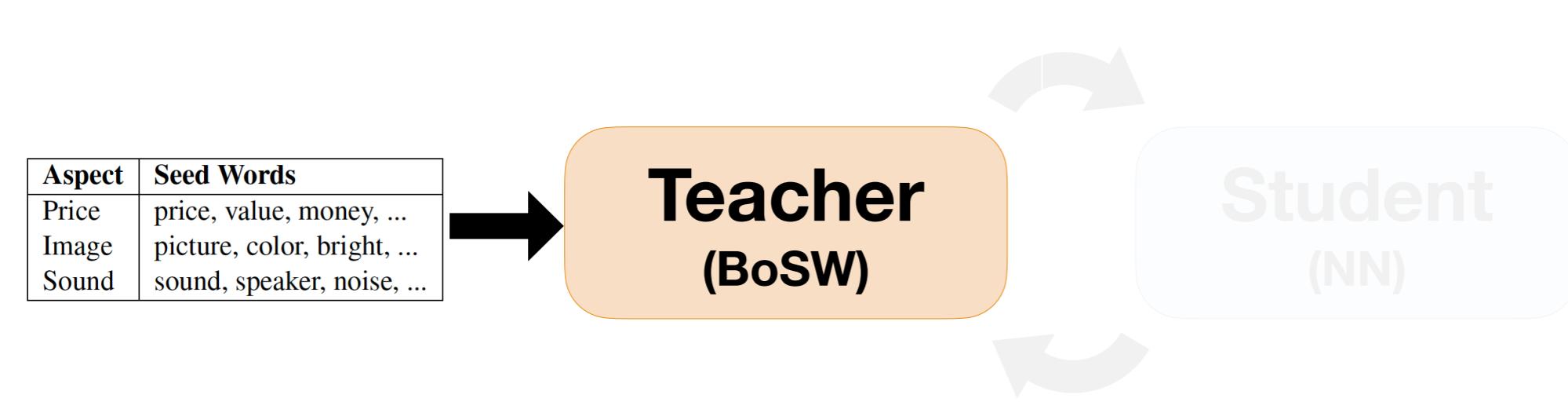
Weakly supervised co-training framework

1. Teacher
2. Student
3. Teacher -> Student
4. Student -> Teacher



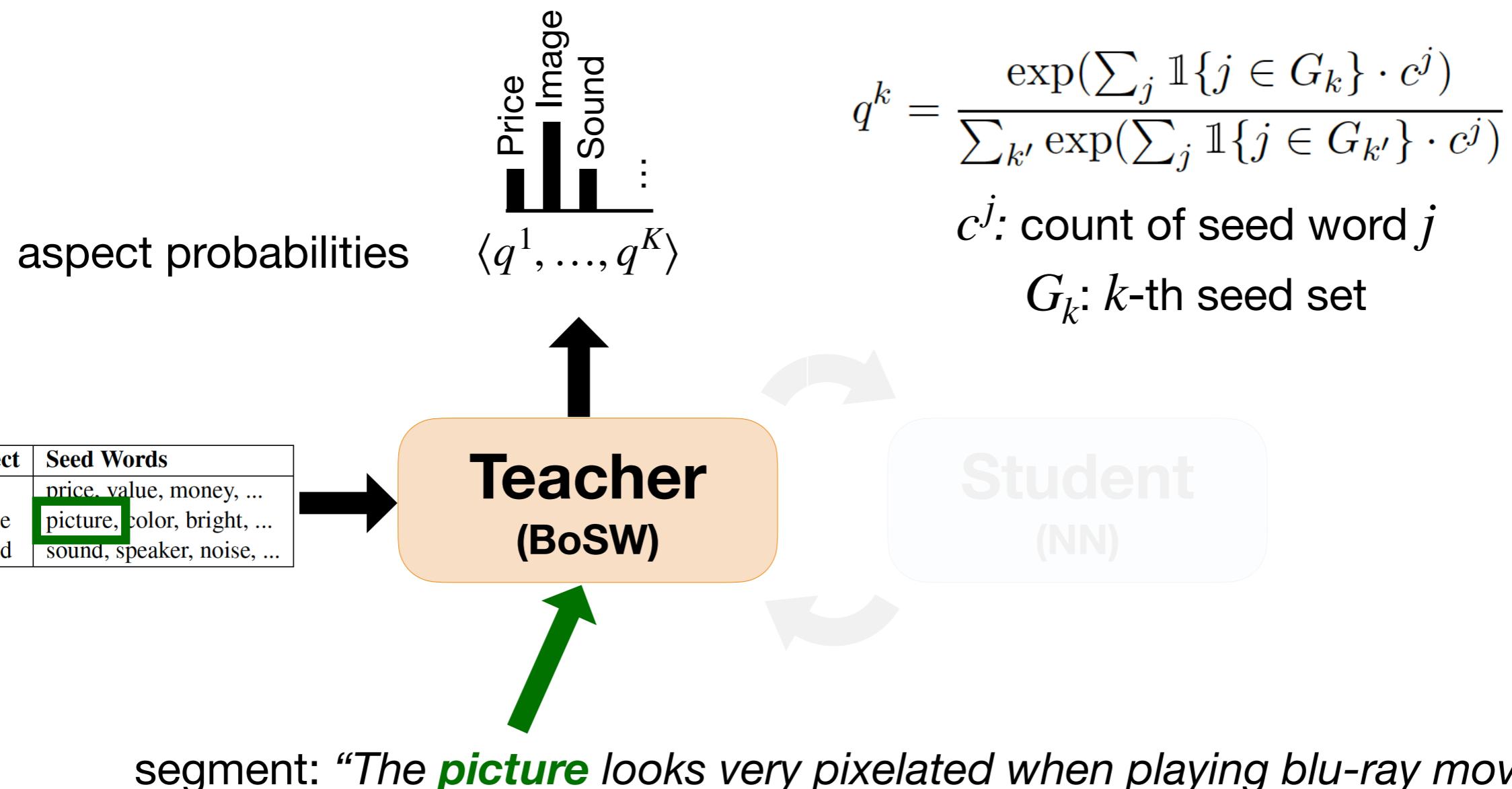
Weakly supervised co-training framework

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Teacher: leverages seed words to predict aspects

- Teacher: **Bag-of-Seed-Words (BoSW)** classifier



Weakly supervised co-training

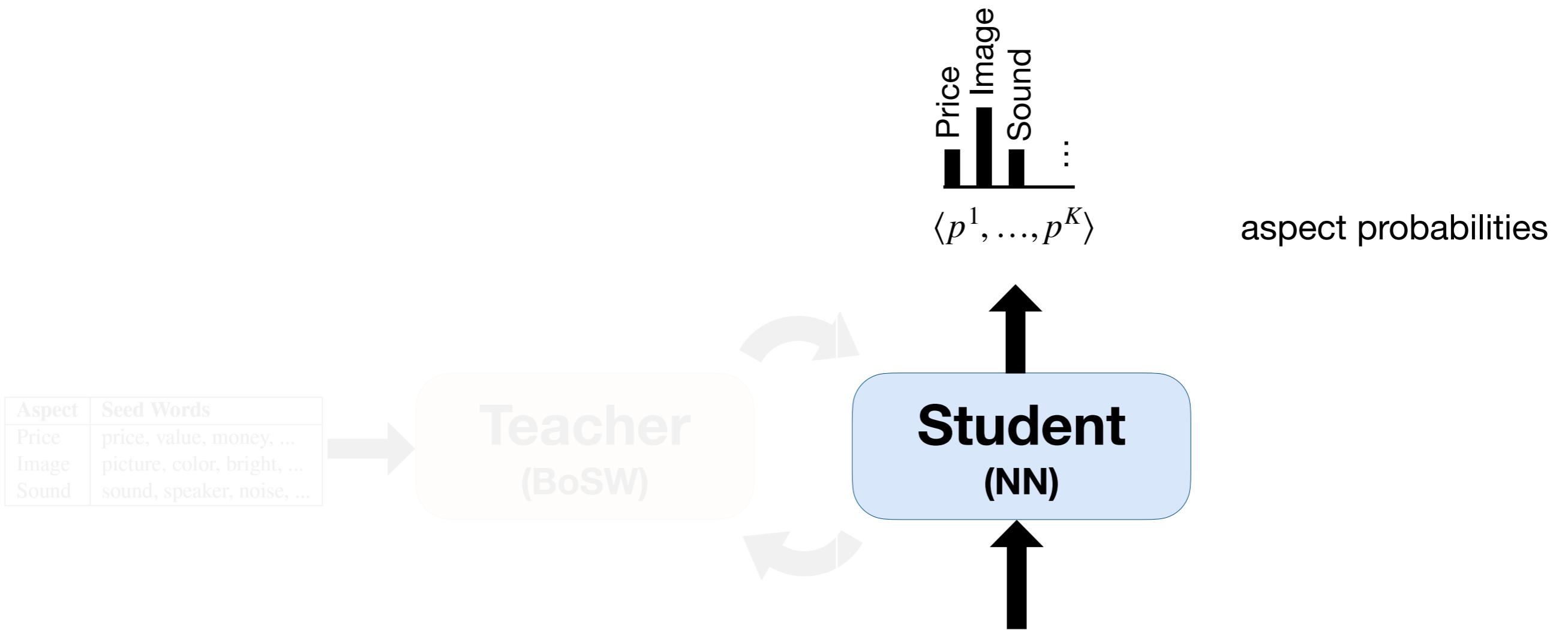
1. Teacher
2. Student
3. Teacher -> Student
4. Student -> Teacher



Student: leverages seed words and non-seed words

- Student: an embedding-based neural network

Uses **seed words** and **non-seed words** (context) to predict aspects

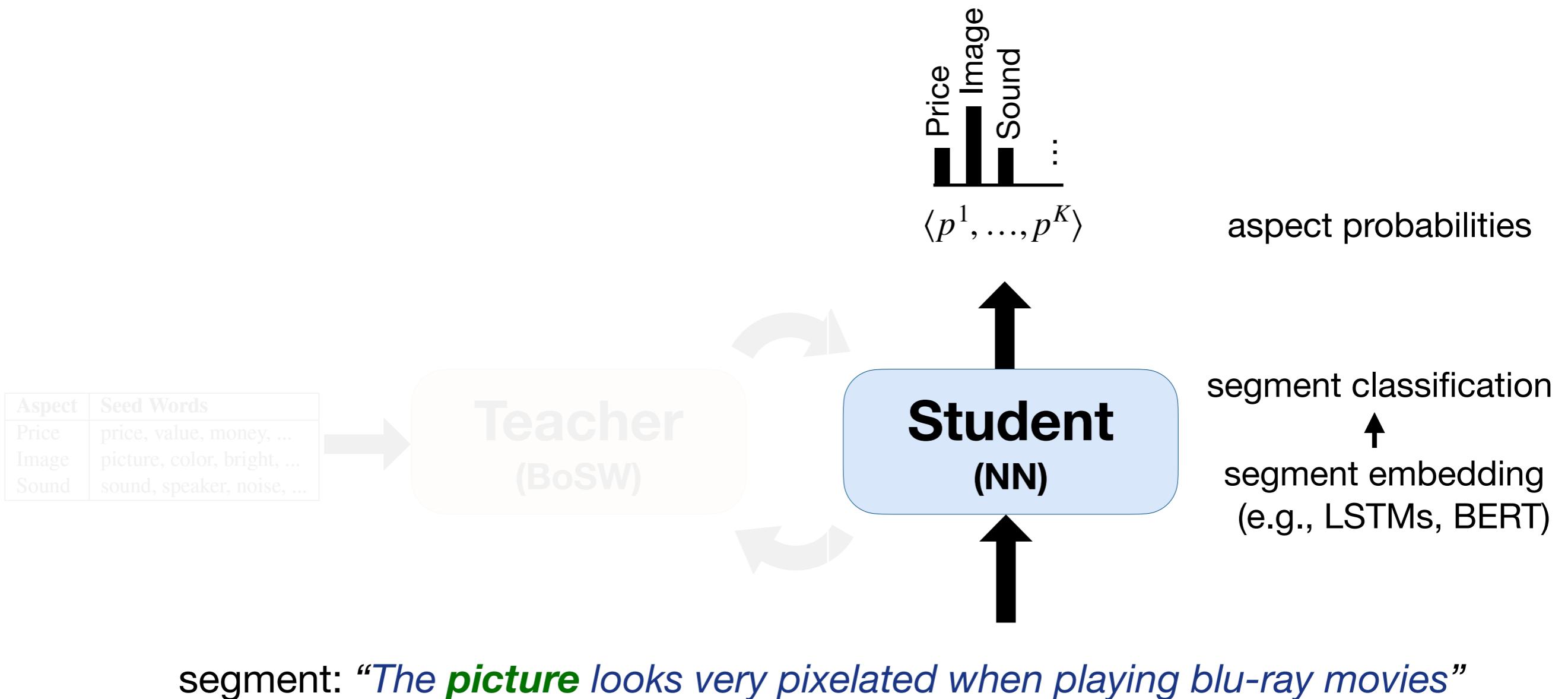


segment: “*The picture looks very pixelated when playing blu-ray movies*”

Student: leverages seed words and non-seed words

- Student: an embedding-based neural network

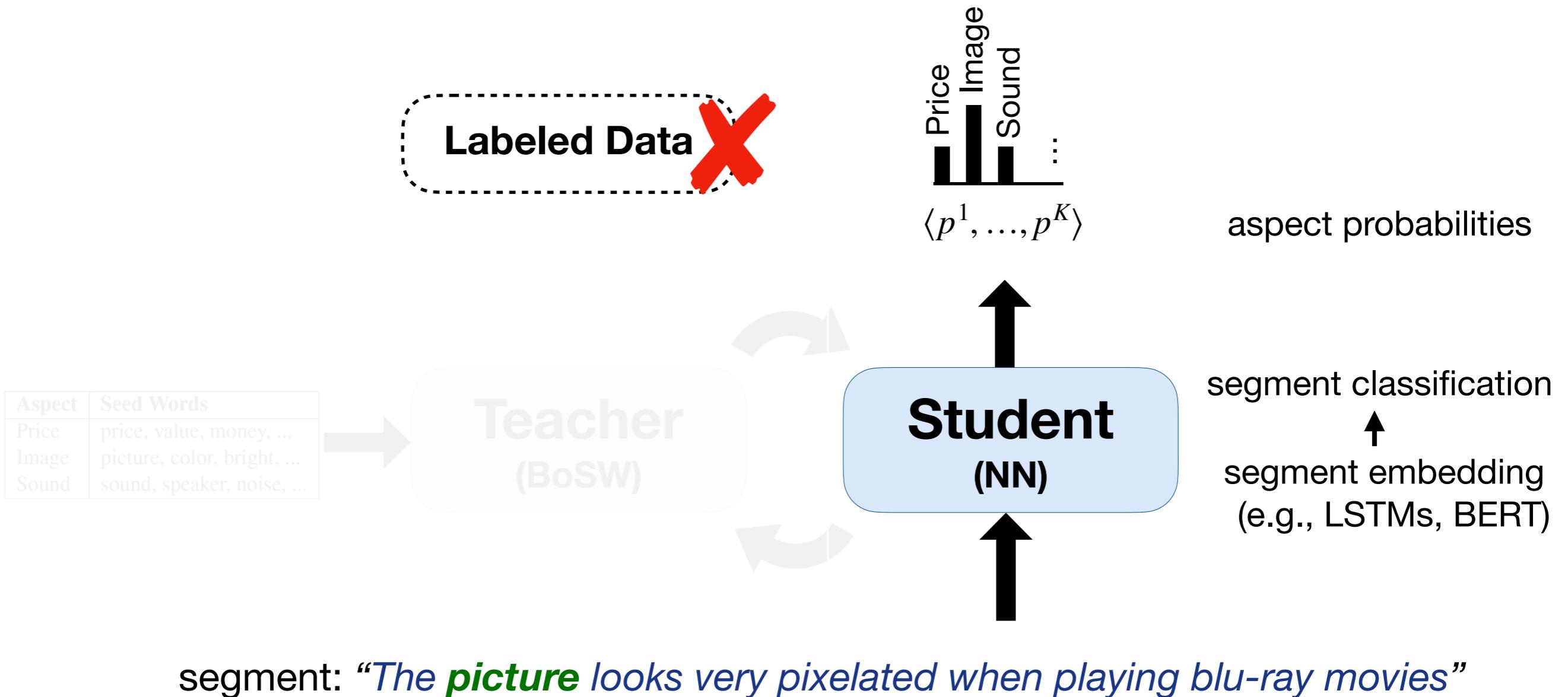
Uses **seed words** and **non-seed words** (context) to predict aspects



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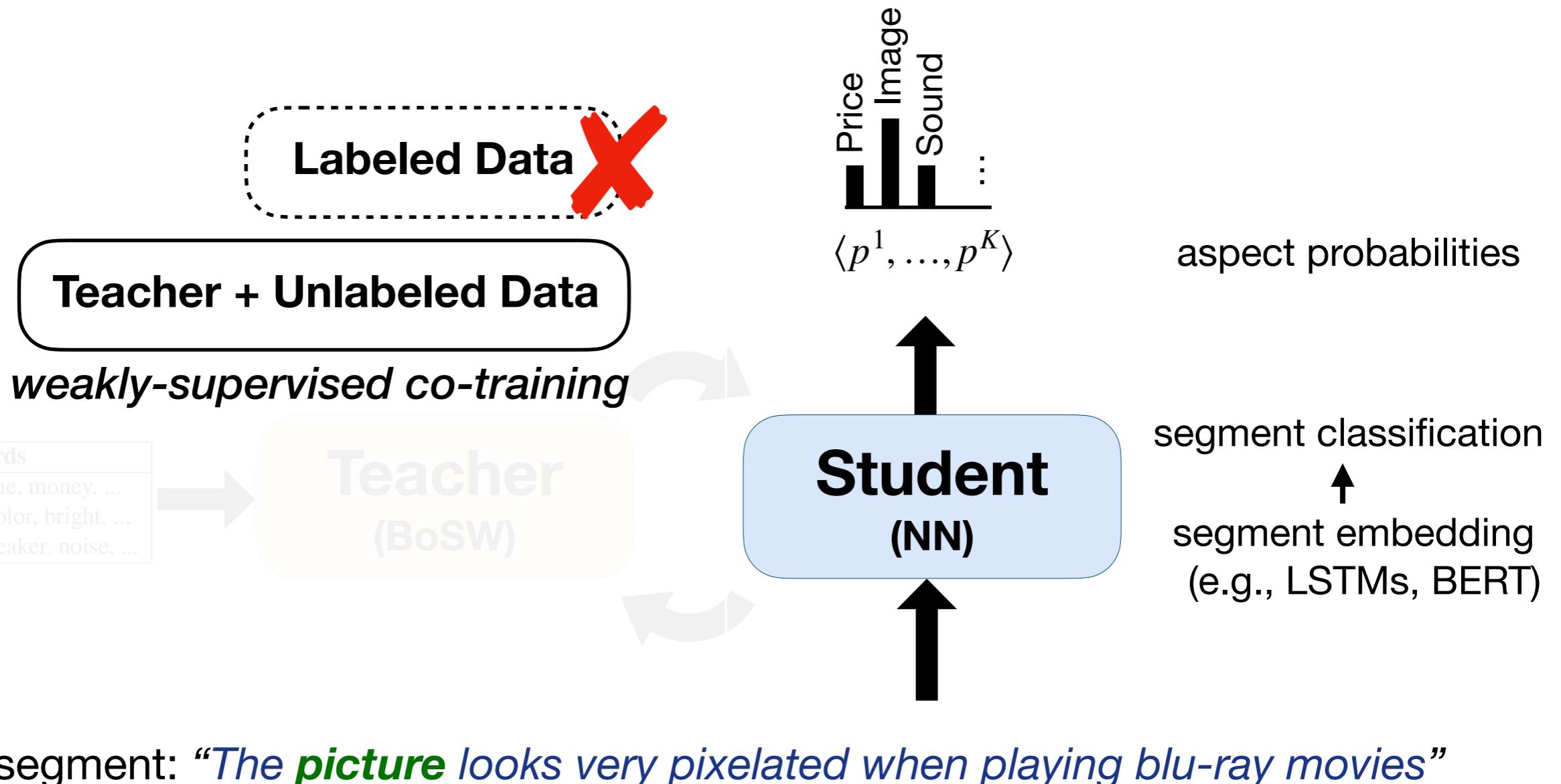
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- Student: an embedding-based neural network

Uses **seed words** and **non-seed words** (context) to predict aspects

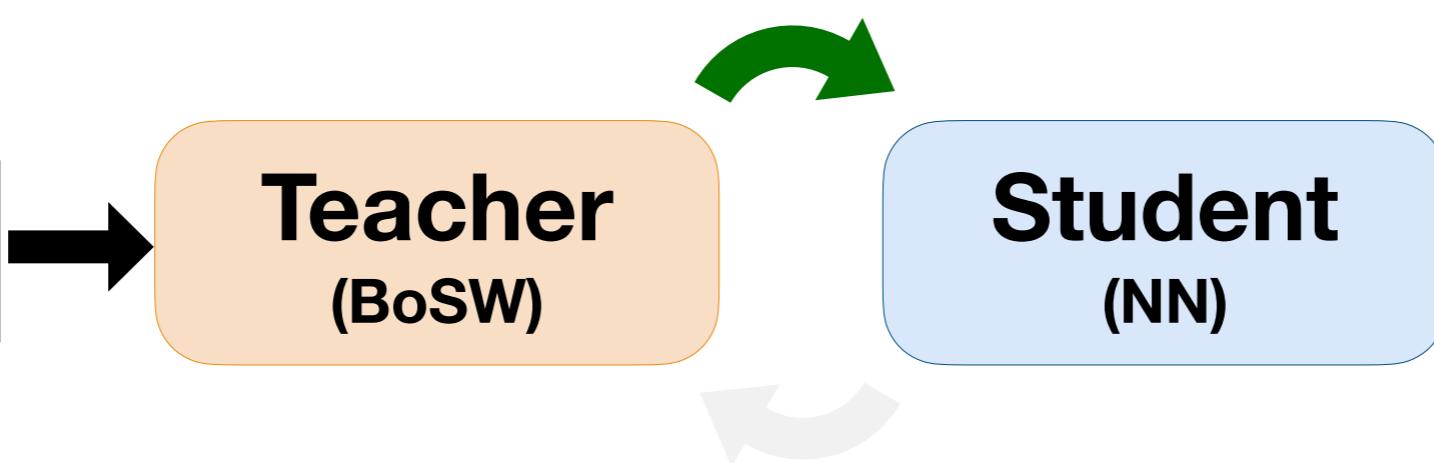


Weakly supervised co-training

1. Teacher
2. Student
- 3. Teacher -> Student**
4. Student -> Teacher

apply Teacher on unlabeled data to get weak labels

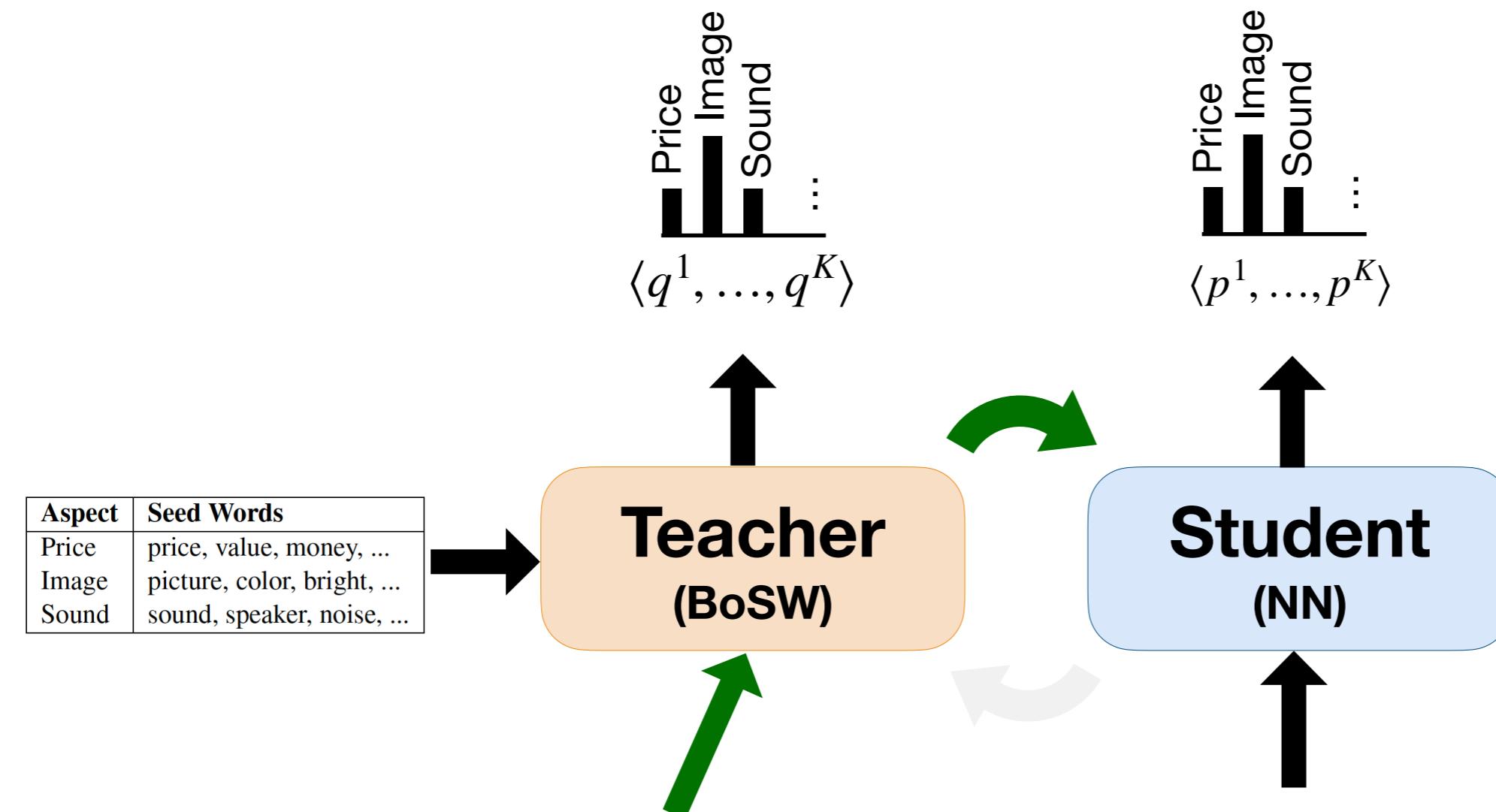
Aspect	Seed Words
Price	price, value, money, ...
Image	picture, color, bright, ...
Sound	sound, speaker, noise, ...



Training Student using Teacher's predictions

- **Student** is trained through the “distillation” objective [Ba & Caruana, 2014; Hinton et al 2015]

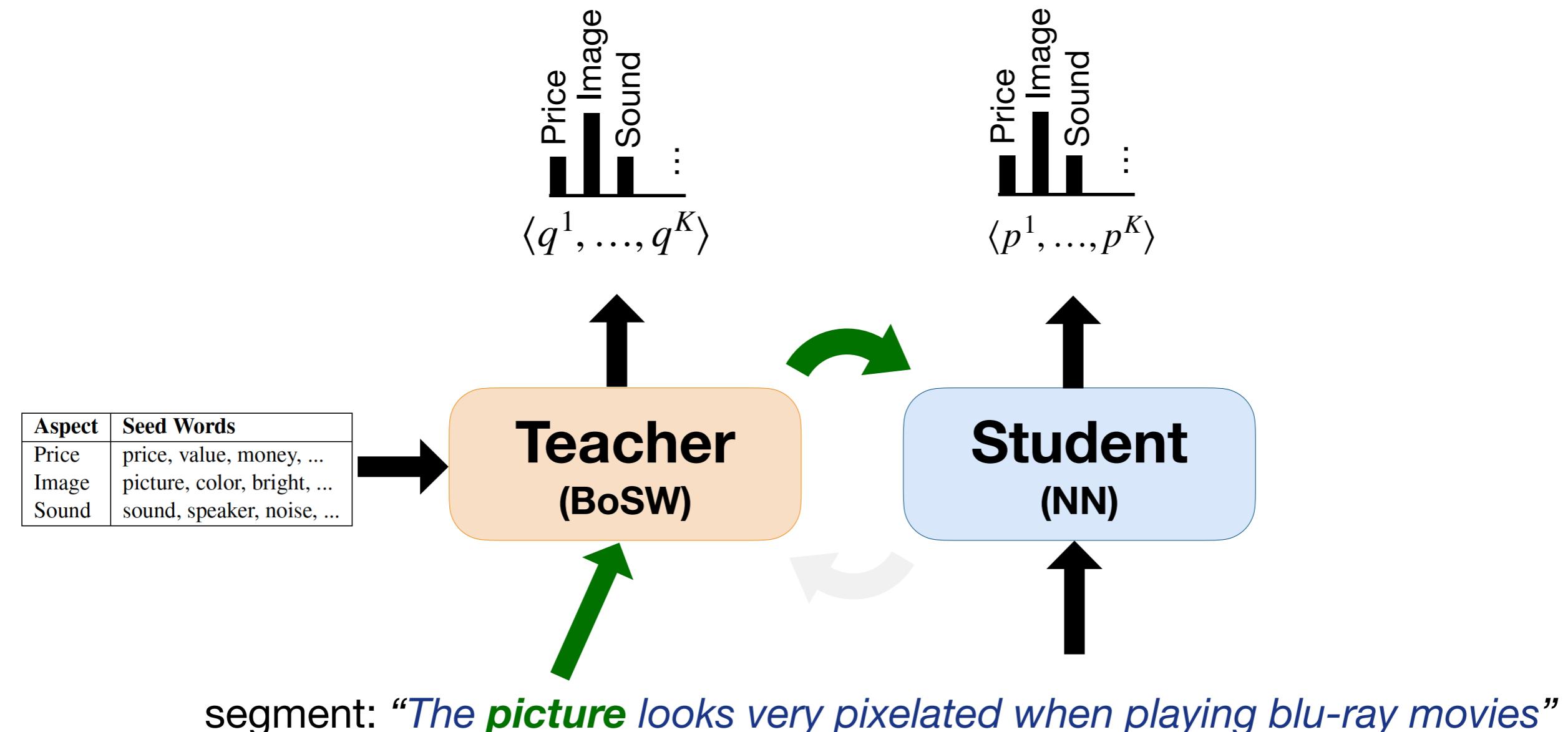
$$H(q_i, p_i) = - \sum_k q_i^k \log p_i^k$$



segment: “*The **picture** looks very pixelated when playing blu-ray movies*”

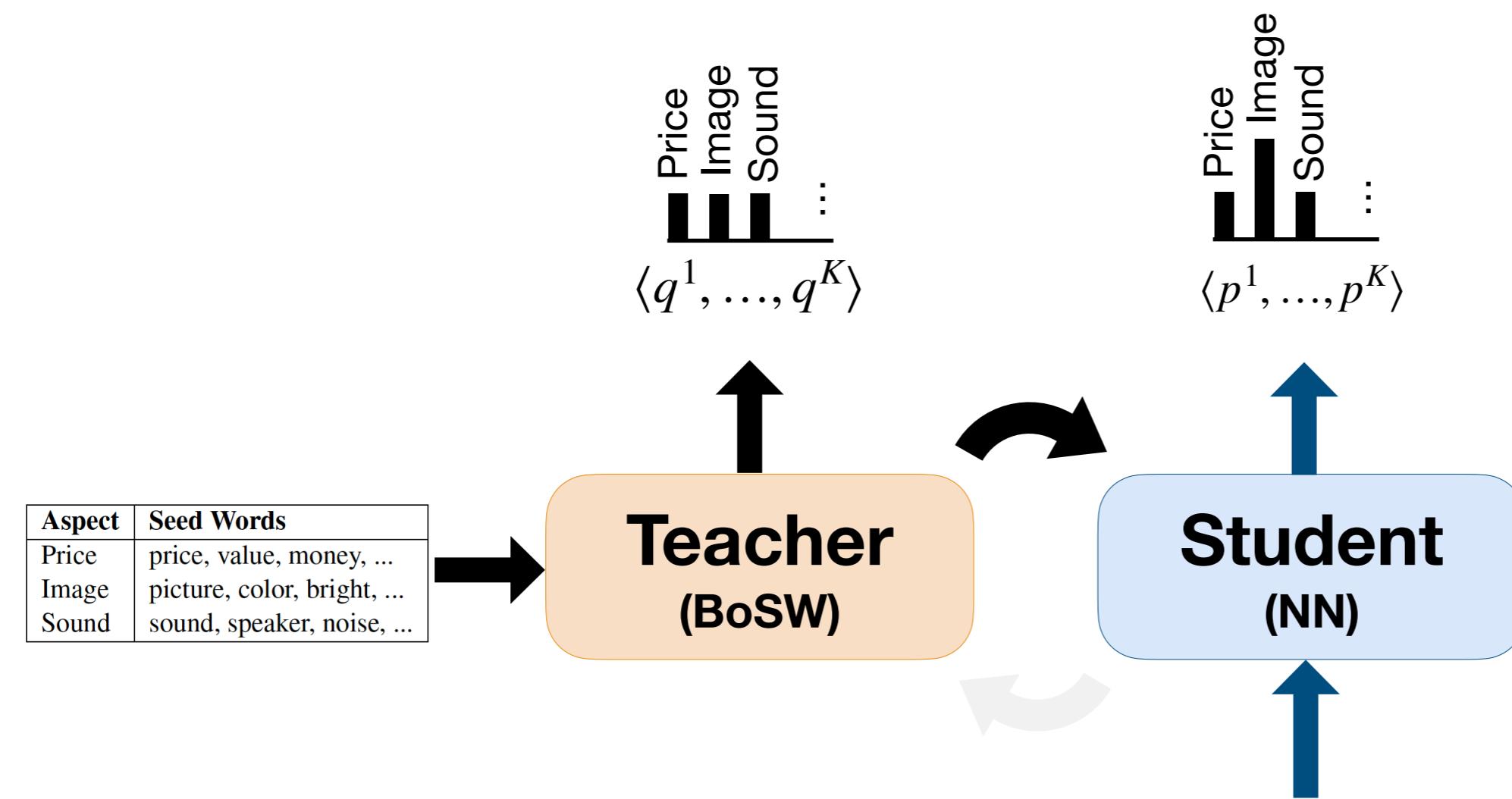
Training Student using Teacher's predictions

- **Student** is trained through the “distillation” objective [Ba & Caruana, 2014; Hinton et al 2015]
- **Student** also considers the **context** of **seed words**



Training Student using Teacher's predictions

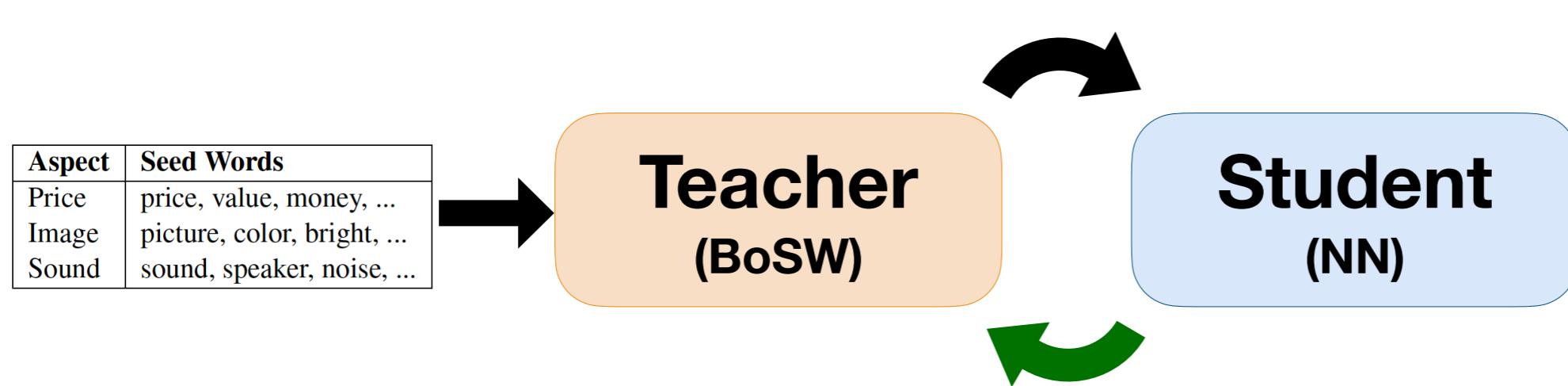
- **Student** is trained through the “distillation” objective [Ba & Caruana, 2014; Hinton et al 2015]
- **Student** also considers the **context** of **seed words**
- **Student** predicts aspects even if no **seed words** appear



segment: “*The <UNK> looks very pixelated when playing blu-ray movies*”

Weakly supervised co-training

1. Teacher
2. Student
3. Teacher -> Student
- 4. Student -> Teacher**

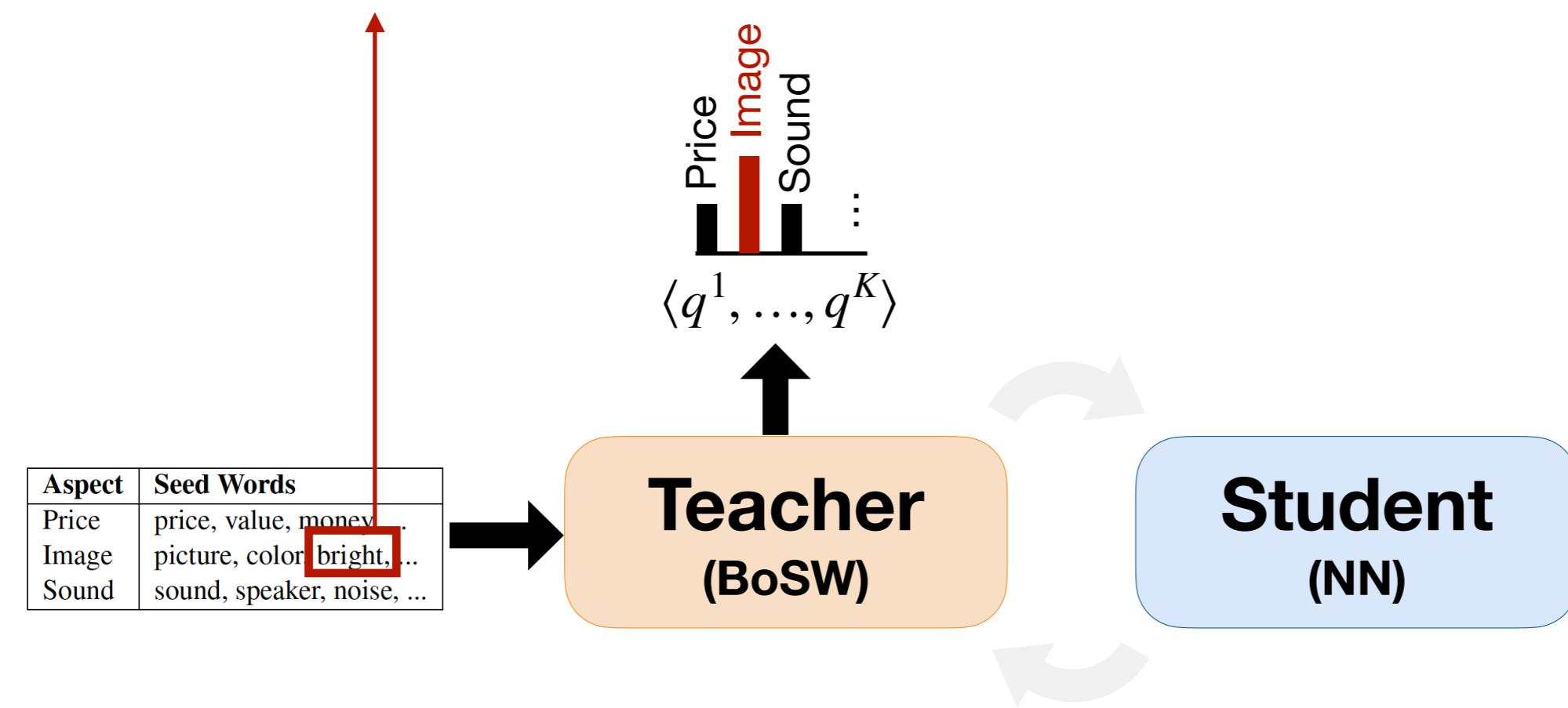


Weakly supervised co-training

- Seed words may be **noisy**: only weakly indicative of aspects

Qualities	Price	Image	Sound
bright	0%	100%	0%

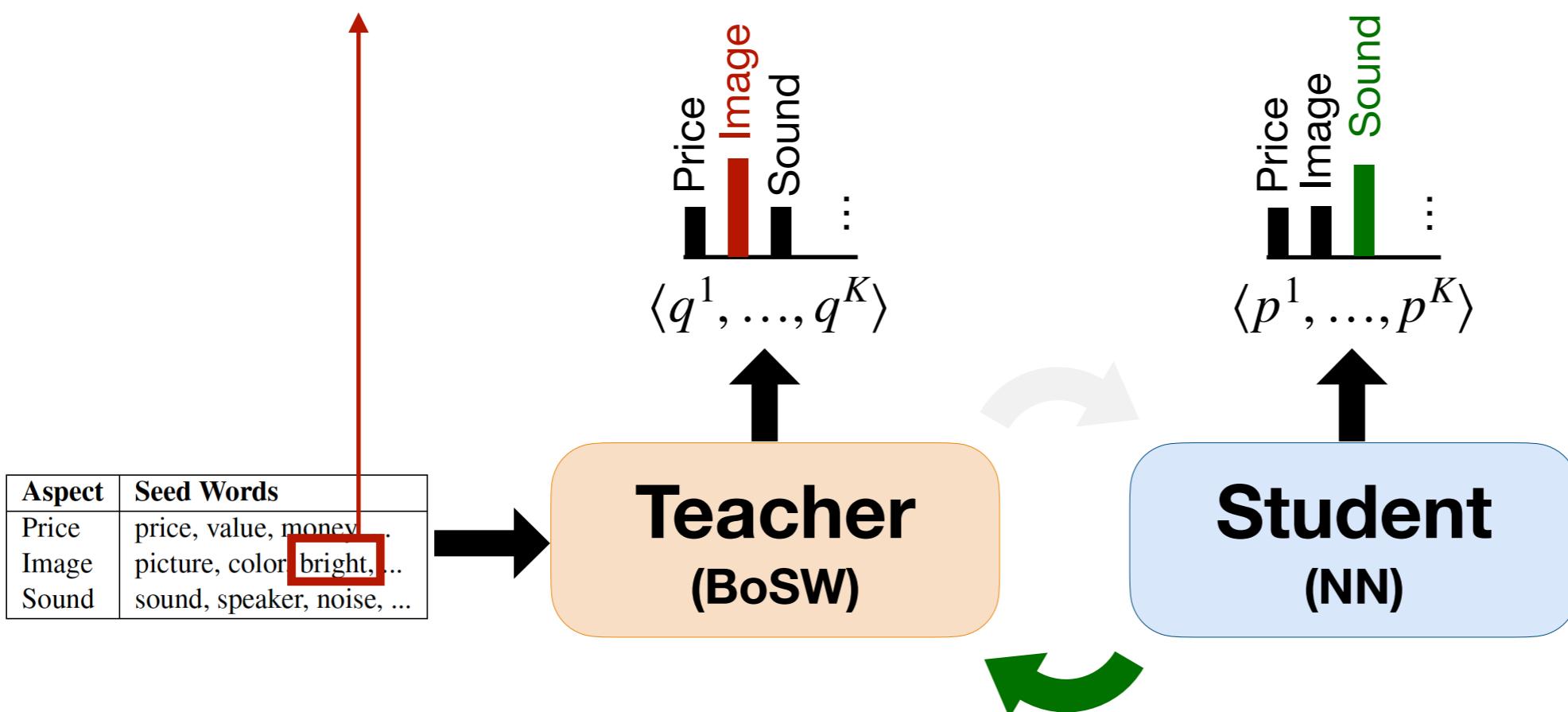
“bright” should also be indicative of “Sound” aspect



Weakly supervised co-training

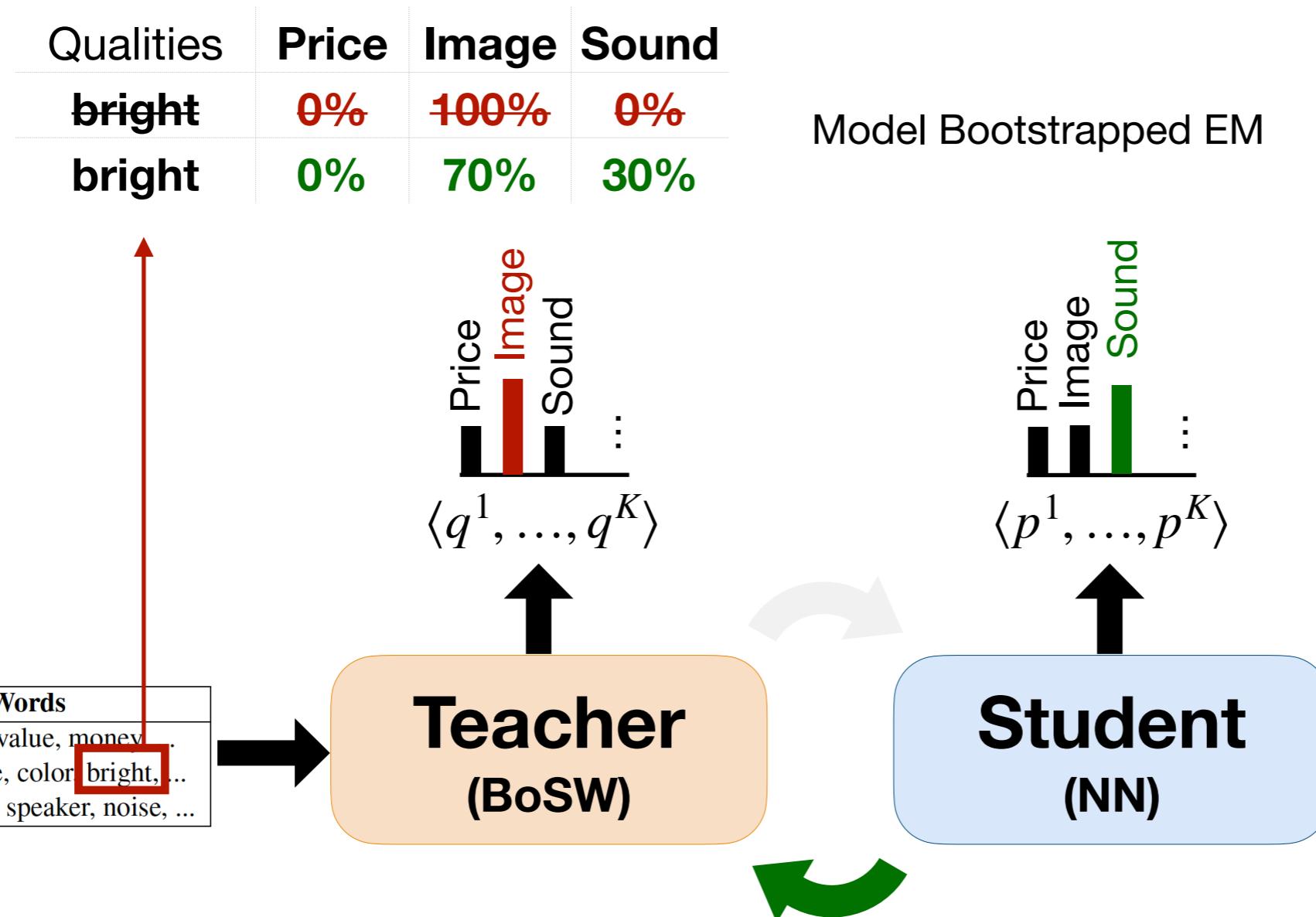
- Seed words may be **noisy**: only weakly indicative of aspects
- **Teacher** estimates seed word **qualities** ... using **Student's** predictions

Qualities	Price	Image	Sound
bright	0%	100%	0%



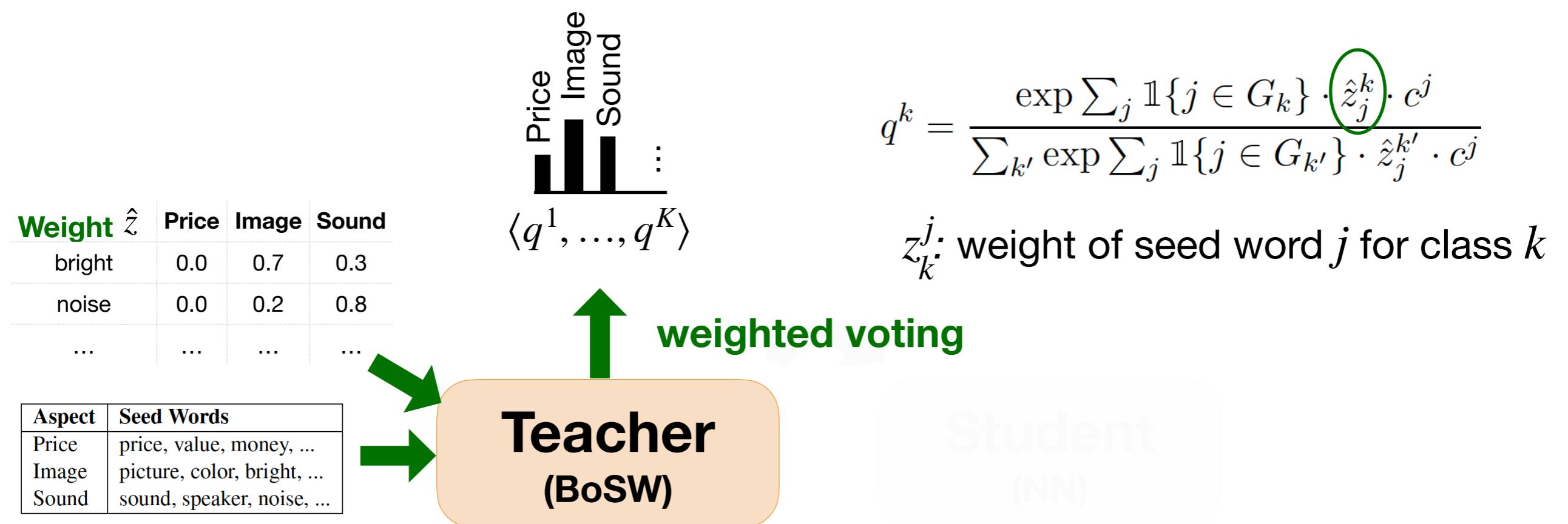
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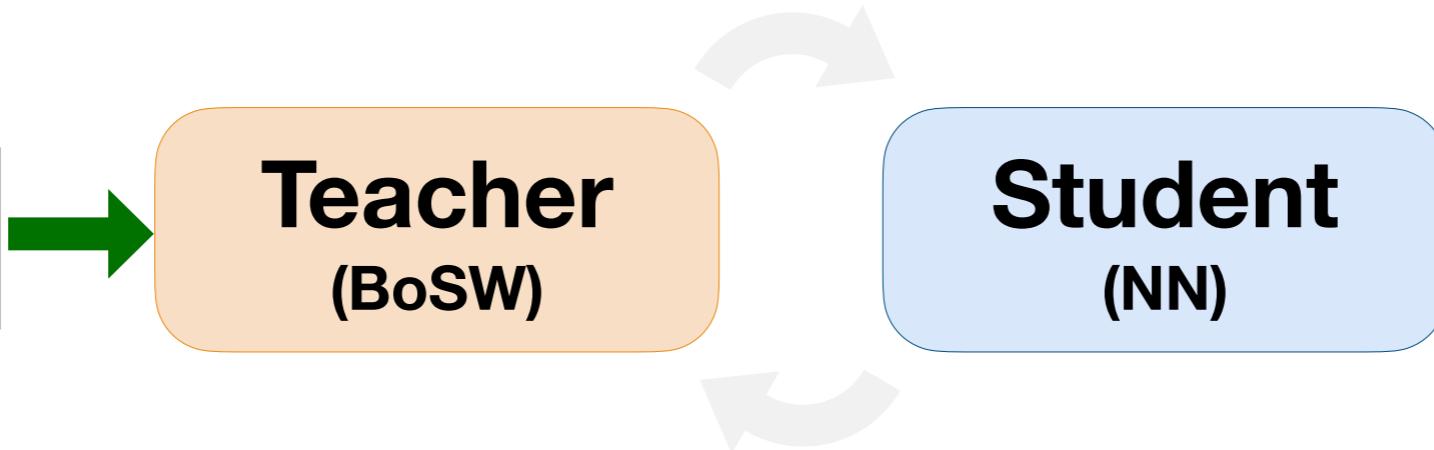
- **Improved Teacher:** uses **seed words** and **quality estimates** to predict aspects



Iterative co-training pipeline

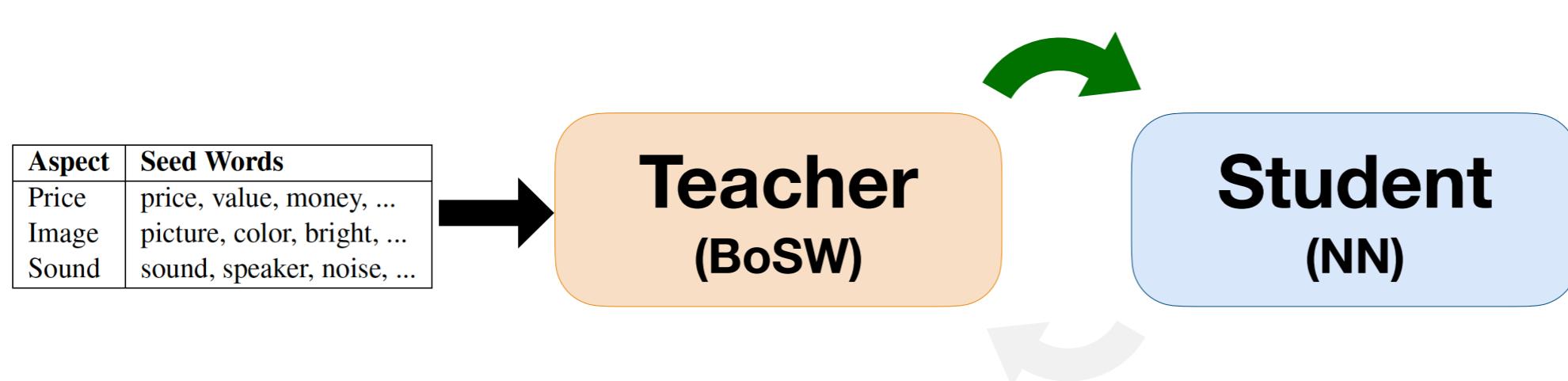
- • T0: Apply **Teacher** on unlabeled data (assuming “perfect” seed words)
- S0: Train **Student** using **Teacher**’s predictions
- T1: Update **Teacher**’s weights (seed word qualities) using **Student**’s predictions
- S1: ... Iterate until convergence

Aspect	Seed Words
Price	price, value, money, ...
Image	picture, color, bright, ...
Sound	sound, speaker, noise, ...



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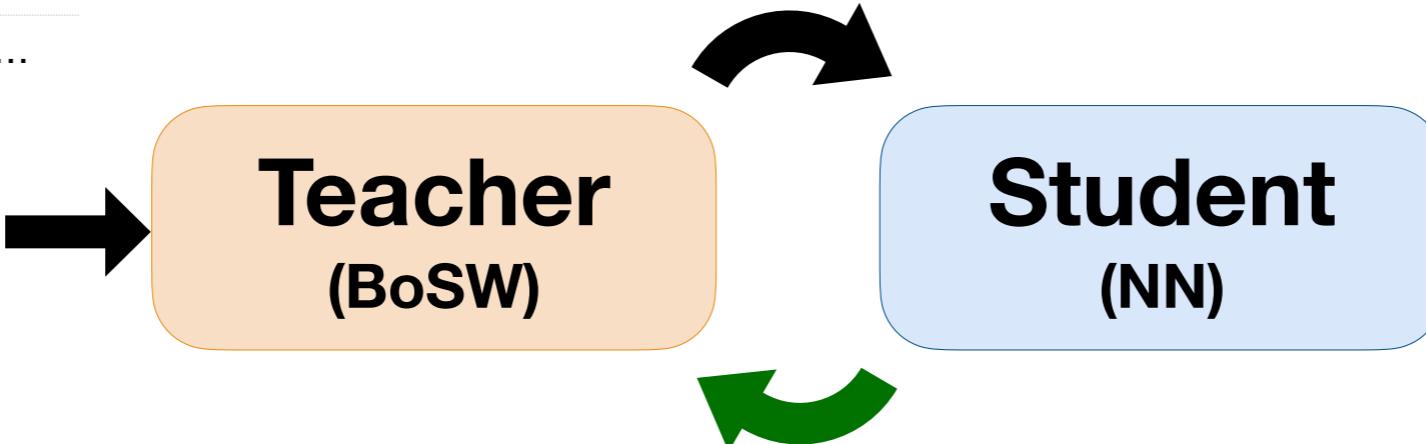


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- **S1:** ... Iterate until convergence

Qualities	Price	Image	Sound
bright	0.0	0.7	0.3
noise	0.0	0.2	0.8
...

Aspect	Seed Words
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Image	picture, color, bright, ...
Sound	sound, speaker, noise, ...

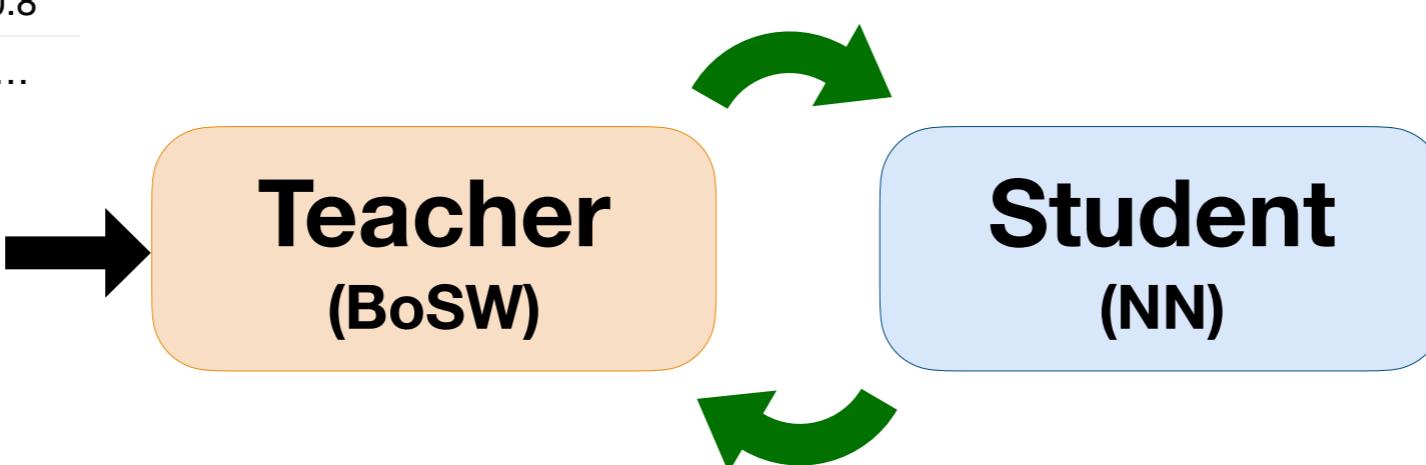


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Experiments: segment-level aspect detection

- **Datasets:**

1. OPOSUM-Bags&Cases
2. OPOSUM-Keyboards
3. OPOSUM-Boots
4. OPOSUM-Bluetooth Headsets
5. OPOSUM-TVs
6. OPOSUM-Vacuums
7. SemEval-Restaurants-English
8. SemEval-Restaurants-Spanish
9. SemEval-Restaurants-French
10. SemEval-Restaurants-Russian
11. SemEval-Restaurants-Dutch
12. SemEval-Restaurants-Turkish



OPOSUM

Amazon product reviews

9 aspects / domain: Quality, Looks, Price, ...

SemEval-2016

Restaurant reviews

12 aspects / language: Ambience, Service, Food, ...

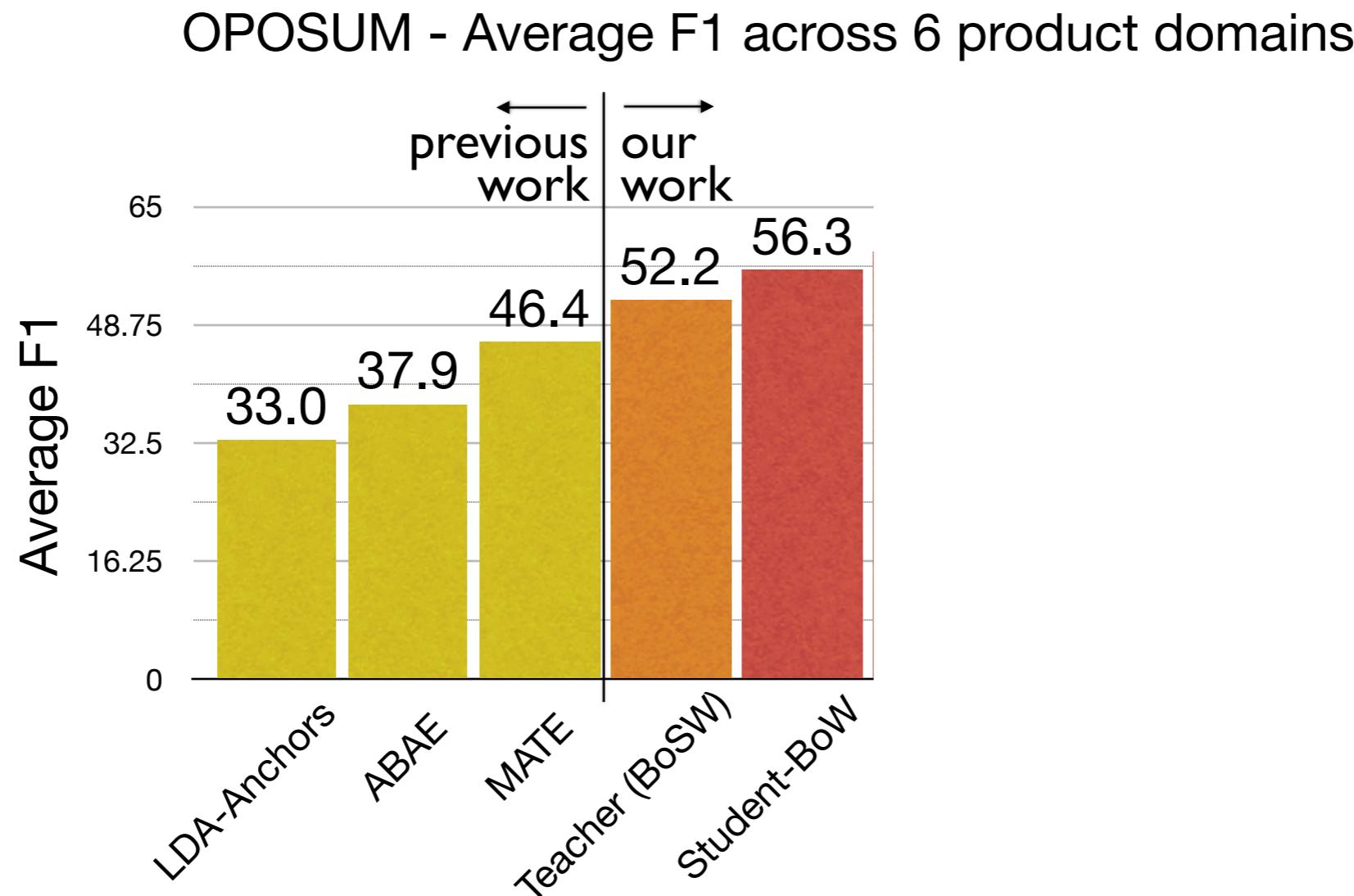
Experimental procedure

- **Methodology:** experiments on 12 datasets separately
 - Training: no labeled data, 1M **unlabeled** segments, 30 **seed words** per aspect
 - Evaluation: micro-averaged F1 score on labeled test segments (5 runs)

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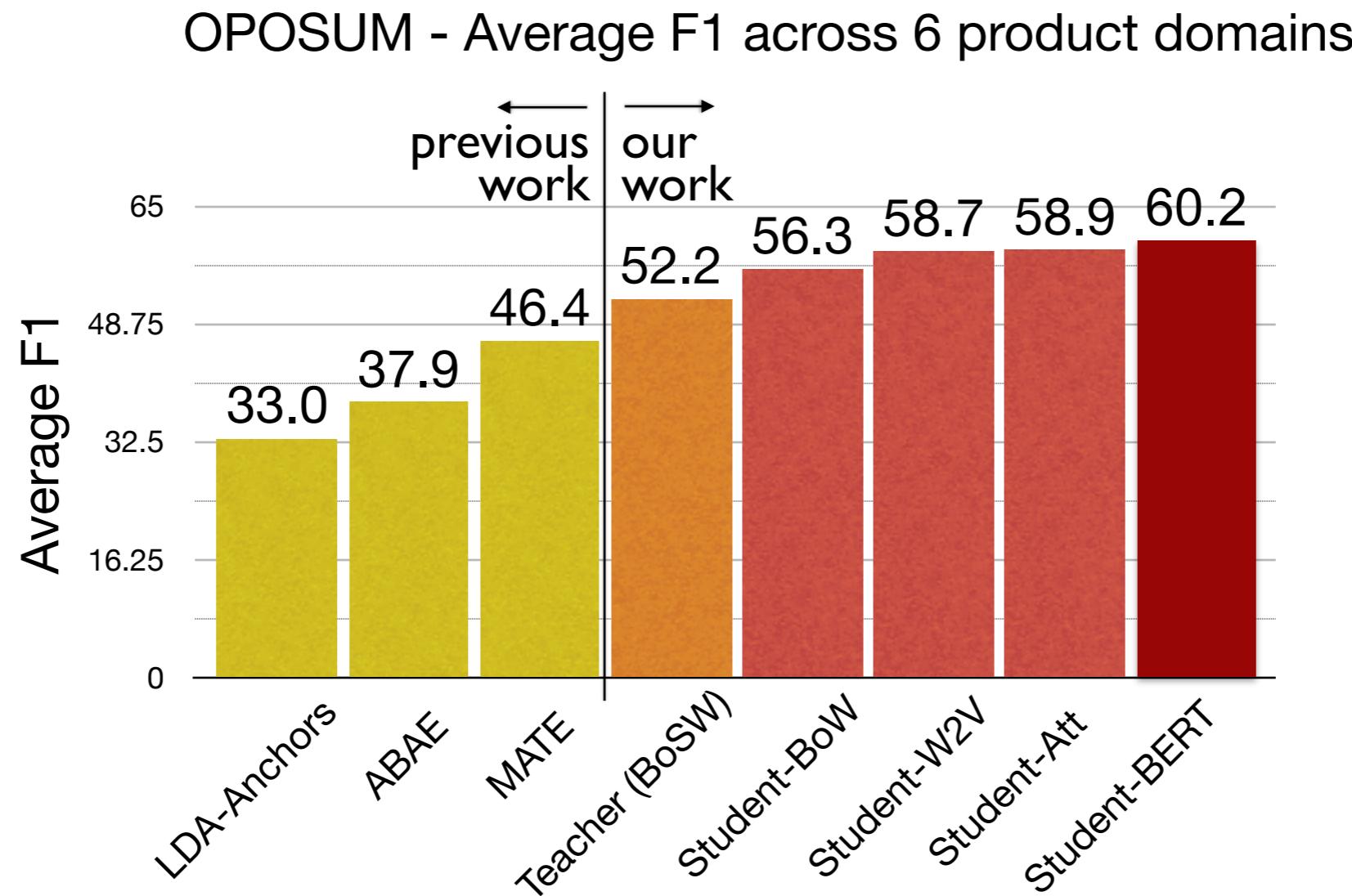
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 - Evaluation: micro-averaged F1 score on labeled test segments (5 runs)
- **Model Comparison:** how to use seed words?
 - **LDA-Anchors:** Initialize “anchors” in topic models (Lund et al., 2017)
 - **ABAE:** Map learned topics to aspects post-hoc (He et al., 2017)
 - **MATE:** Initialize neural autoencoder with seed embeddings (Angelidis & Lapata, 2018)
 - Our **Teacher-Student** framework: use seed words in Teacher to train Student

We leverage the predictive power of seed words



- **Teacher and Student-BoW (bag-of-words)** outperform previous approaches

Better embedding techniques boost the student's performance



- Our framework can be used with **any** type of Student classifier
- **Student** outperforms **MATE** by **29.7%** in F1 across 6 product domains
- **Student** outperforms **MATE** across **all** domains and languages by 14.1 in F1 on average

The student generalizes beyond seed words

	F1 (12-class)
Teacher-BoSW (bag of seed words)	52.2
Student-BERT 	60.2 (+15%) ← No labeled data!

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Teacher-BoSW (bag of seed words)	52.2
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Example (1): “The only drawback is that this place is really **expensive**.”

expensive → Teacher-BoSW: Price ✓
 → Student-BERT: Price ✓

Example (2): “They **pay** such detail to everything from miso soup to complex rolls”

pay → Teacher-BoSW: Price ✗
 → Student-BERT: Food Quality ✓

Example (3): “It’s great if you spent the day there and didn’t want to drive to eat”

(no seed words) → Teacher-BoSW: - ✗
 → Student-BERT: Location ✓

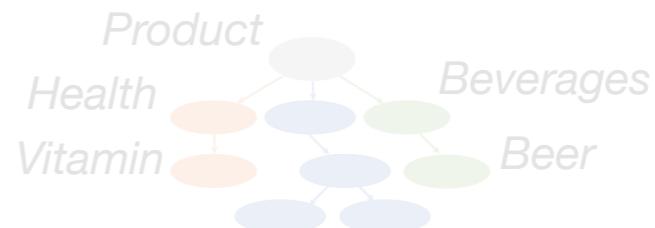
Efficient machine teaching frameworks for NLP

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[Karamanolakis et al. WNUT '19]

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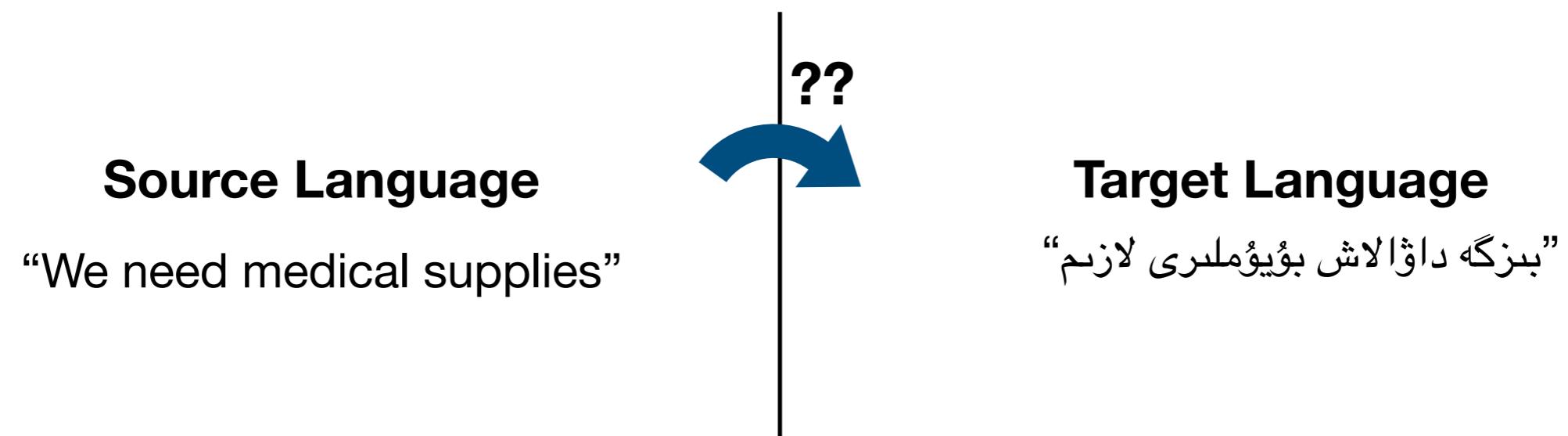
Document classification beyond english

- It is **expensive** to obtain labeled documents for each **target** language
- **Cross-lingual classification:** use labeled documents from a **source** language



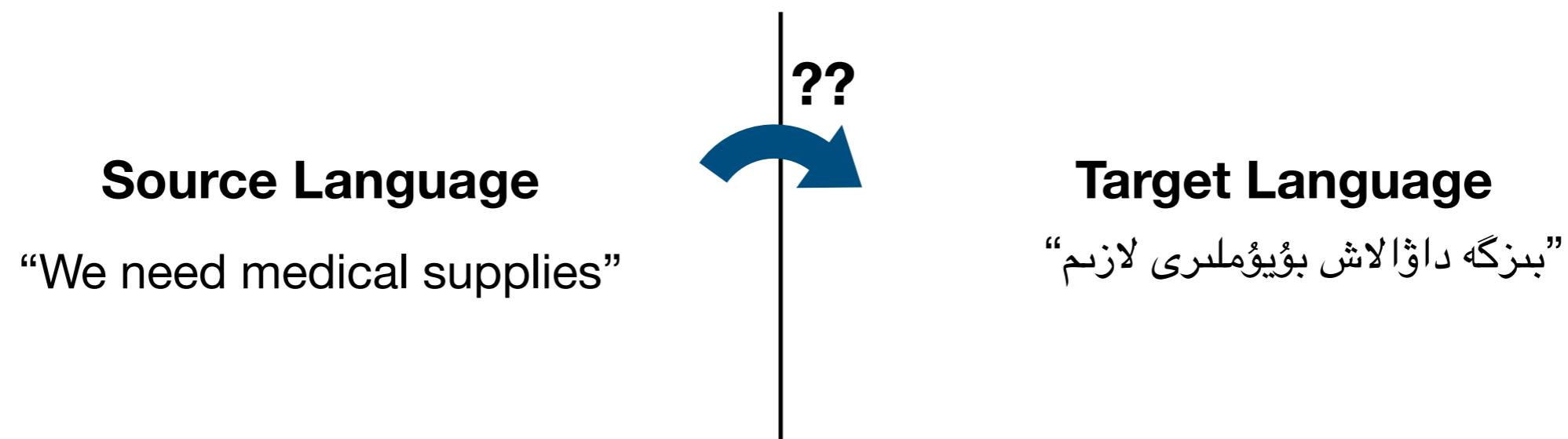
Cross-lingual text classification with minimal resources

- Challenge: how to bridge the source and target languages?



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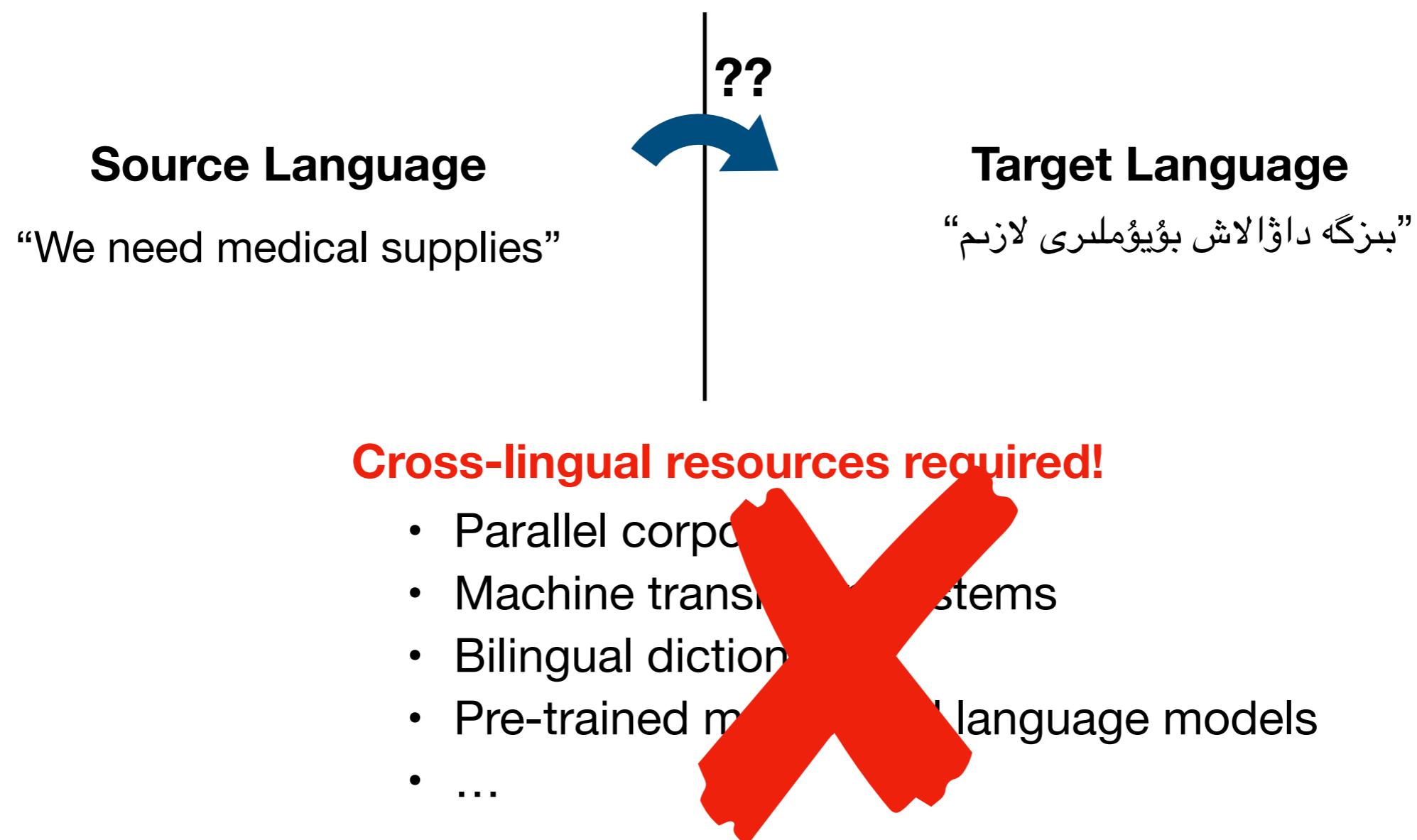


Cross-lingual resources required!

- Parallel corpora
- Machine translation systems
- Bilingual dictionaries
- Pre-trained multilingual language models
- ...

Cross-lingual text classification with minimal resources

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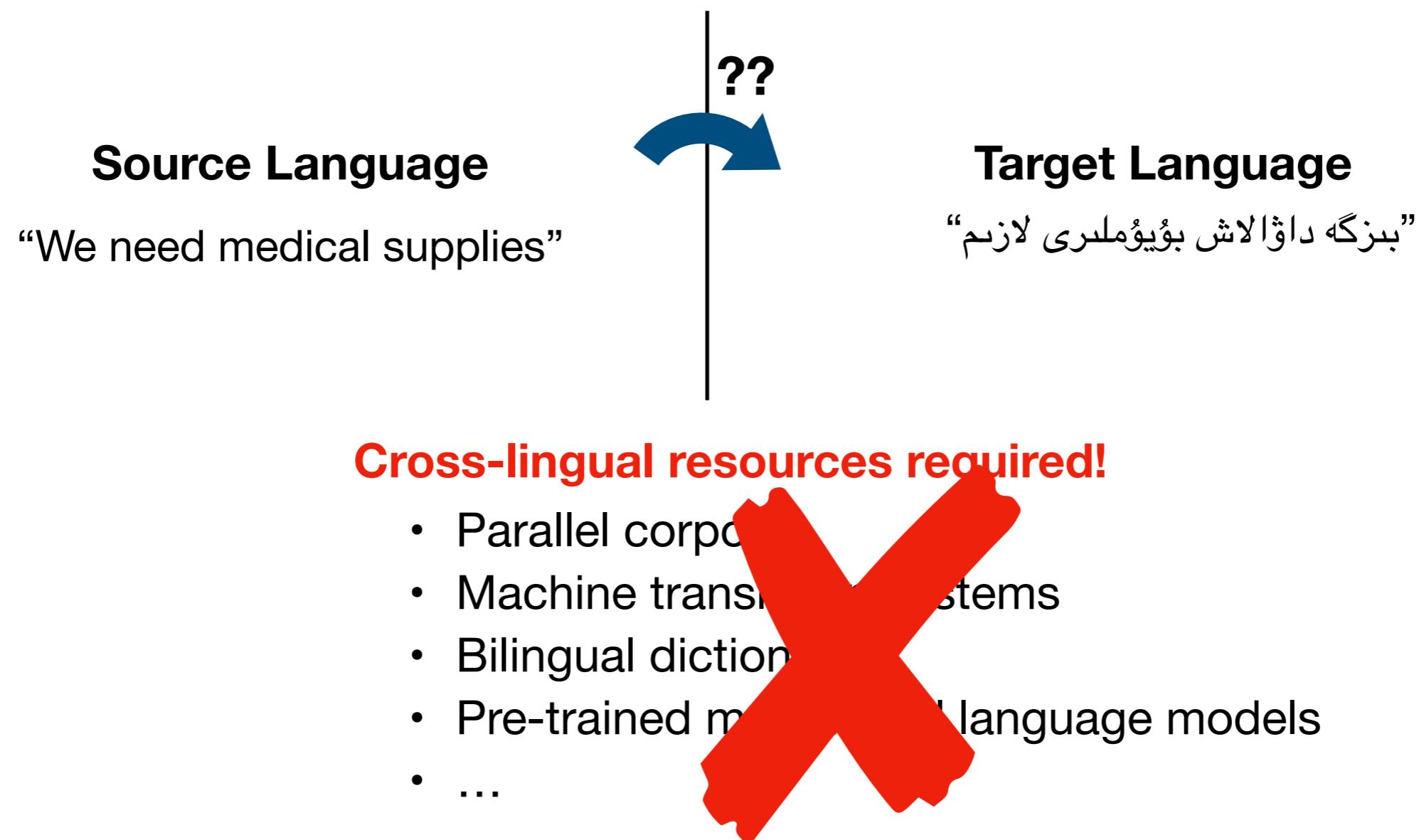


"Cross-lingual text classification with minimal resources by transferring a sparse teacher"

Giannis Karamanolakis, Daniel Hsu, and Luis Gravano. (Findings of EMNLP 2020)

Cross-lingual text classification with minimal resources

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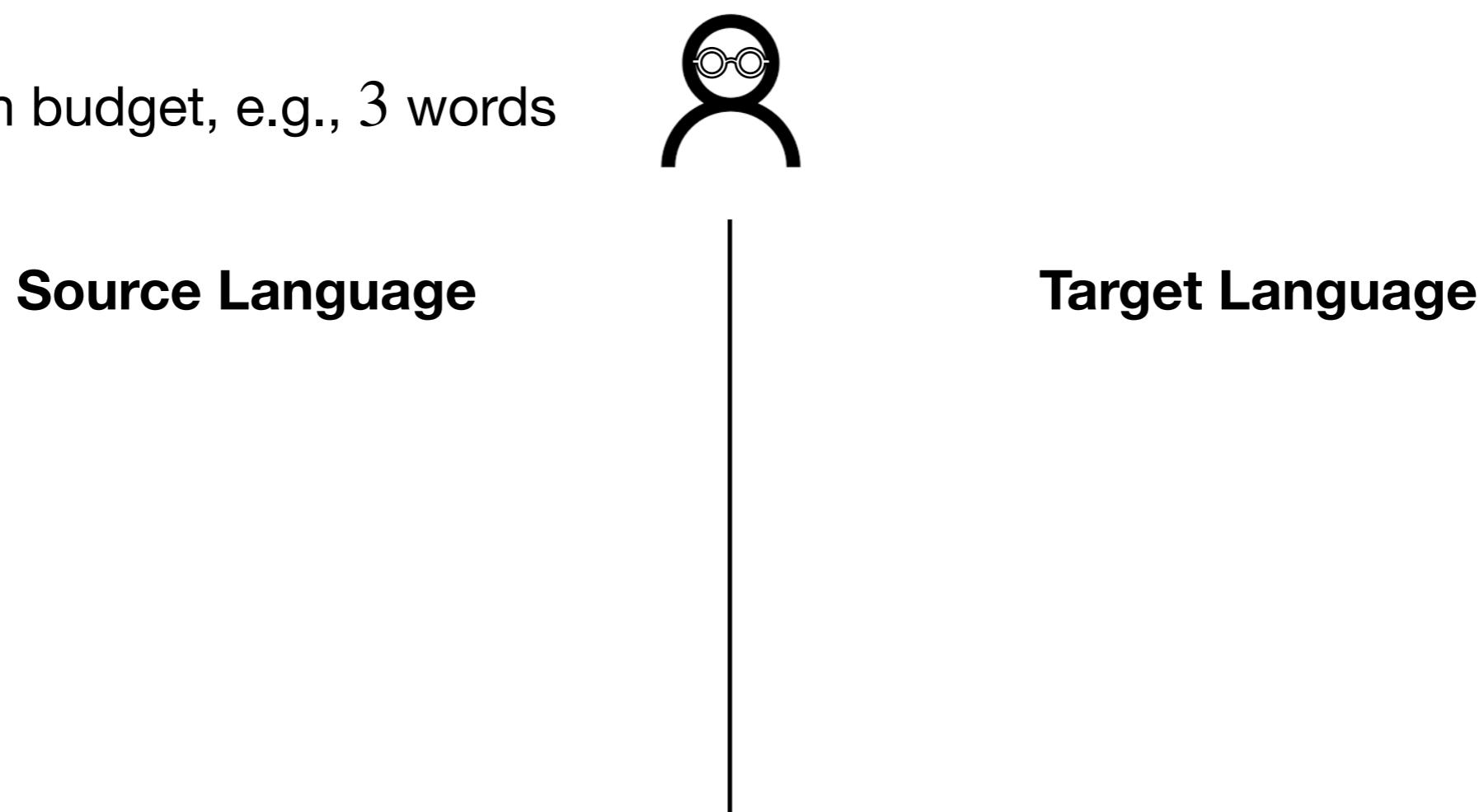
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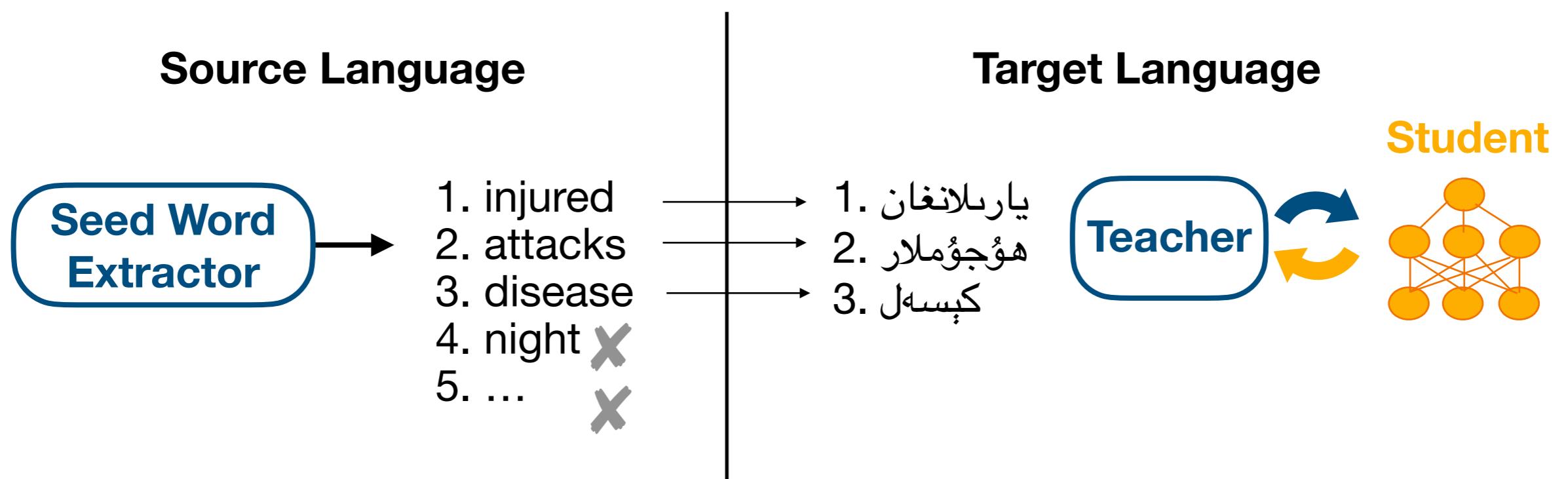
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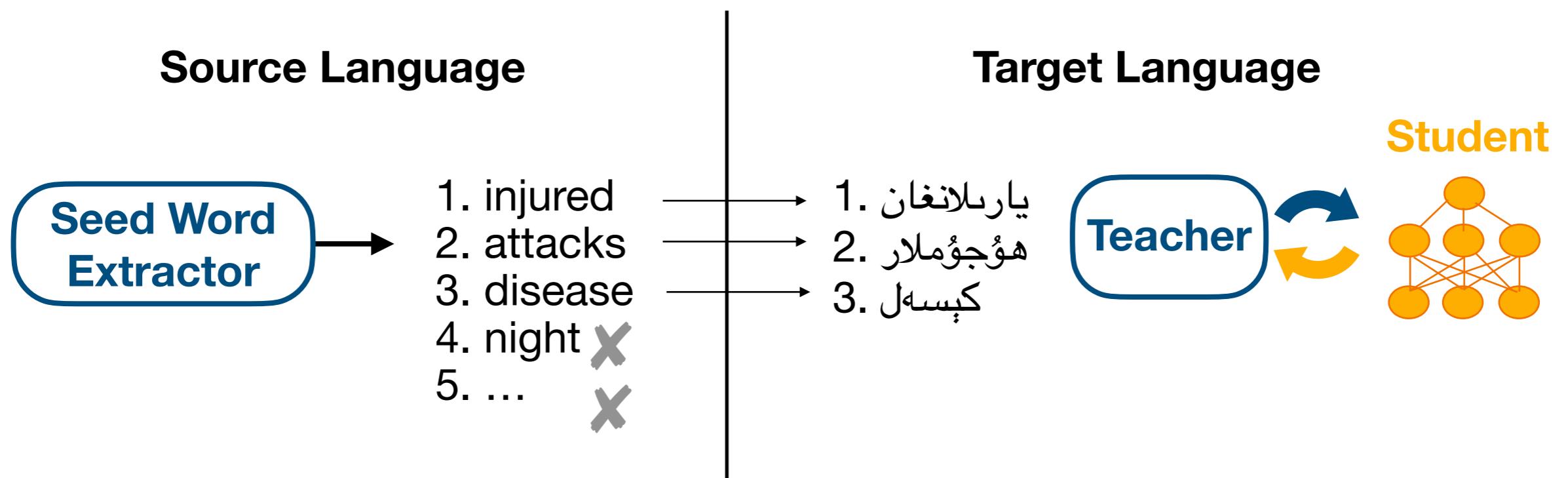
Cross-lingual Teacher Student (CLTS)



Cross-lingual text classification with minimal resources

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Cross-lingual Teacher Student (CLTS)



(+) Does **not** require parallel corpora / machine translation / multilingual representations

Evaluation of CLTS on 18 languages and 4 tasks

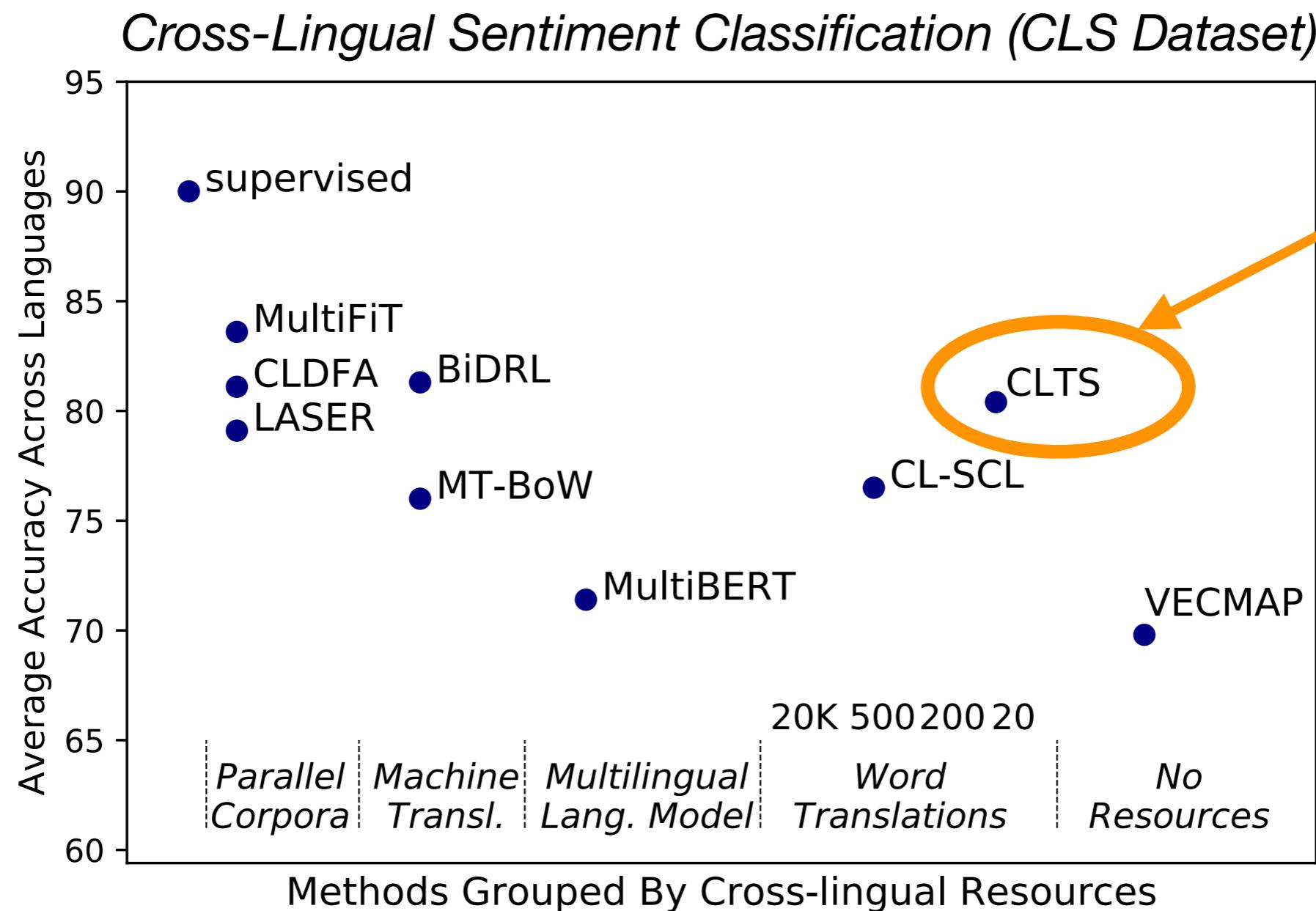
Evaluation of CLTS on 18 languages and 4 tasks

- Student outperforms Teacher by 56% on average across 18 languages



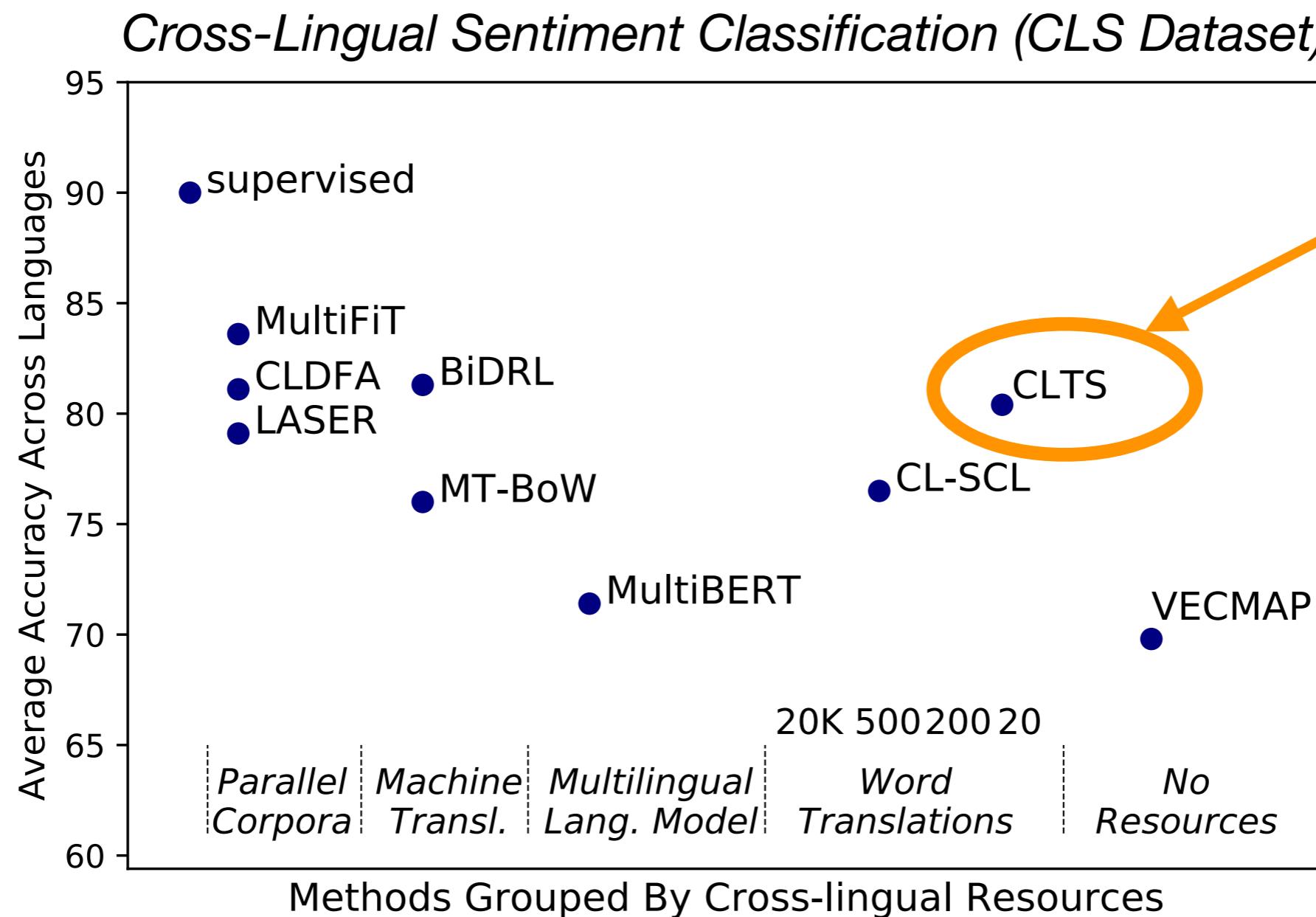
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- CLTS is effective with as few as 20 word translations



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- CLTS sometimes outperforms **even more expensive** approaches

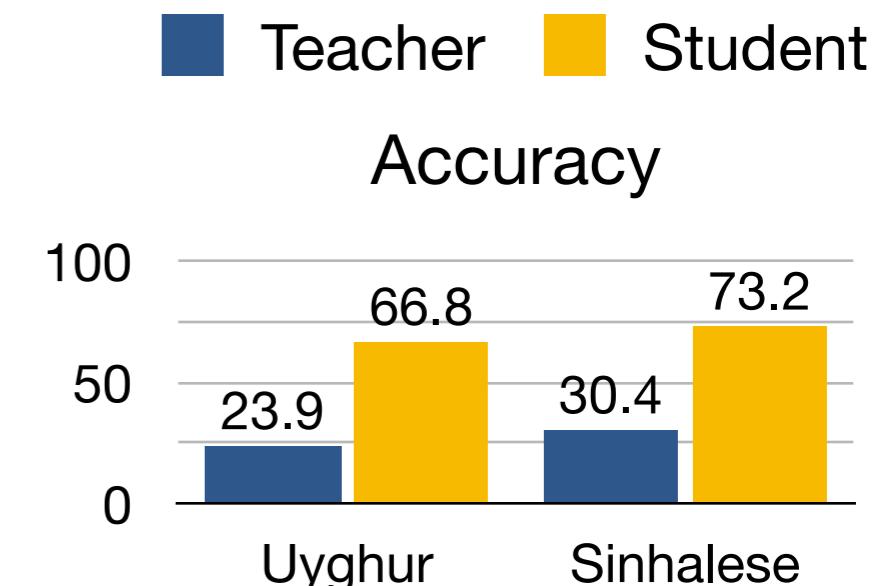


Evaluation of CLTS on 18 languages and 4 tasks

- Student outperforms Teacher by 56% on average across 18 languages
- CLTS is effective with as few as 20 word translations
- CLTS sometimes outperforms **even more expensive** approaches
- CLTS can be applied in **low-resource** languages

Medical emergency situation detection

English	->	Uyghur	Sinhalese
1. injured	->	يارلانغان	ଶୁର୍ବାତ ଉଚ୍ଚେତନ
2. attacks	->	ھۇجۇملار	ପ୍ରକାର
3. medical	->	medical	ବେଦିକ୍ୟ
4. crisis	->	كىزىس	ଆର୍ବୁଦ୍ୟ
5. disease	->	كىسەل	ରୋଗ
6. malaria	->	بەزگەك كىسىلى	ମୈଲାରୀଆର
7. health	->	سا غلاملىق	ଜୀବିତବିଧି
8. injuring	->	يارىدىزىش	ଶୁର୍ବାତ ହିଂମ
9. yemen	->	يەمەن	ଯେମନ
10. hospitals	->	د وختۇرخانىلار	ରୋହଳୁ



Food poisoning detection across languages



cross-lingual transfer

English
Labeled Data



Multi-lingual
classifiers

Chinese

Basha - Sherbrooke Unclaimed



4/4/2018

千！万！别！去！我男朋友昨天晚上点了个shawarma plate, 从凌晨三点开始上吐下泻到现在。 我认识他五年，连感冒都没见他得过。珍爱生命远离这家餐馆吧。

Spanish

La Mojarrilla Loca Grill Unclaimed



7/23/2017

Este lugar la verdad no se los recomiendo y más si se trata para los niños. Fui con mi familia al lunch y mi niño pidió chicken nuggets y de verdad se los digo esos pedazos de pollo estaban asquerosos parece que los tenían de hace mucho tiempo y el de inmediato empezó a vomitar es increíble que un niño de 4 años te diga que la comida no sirve eso para el chef. ...

“Discovering foodborne illness complaints in multiple languages using English annotations only”

Ziyi Liu, Giannis Karamanolakis, Daniel Hsu, and Luis Gravano. (LOUHI@EMNLP 2020)

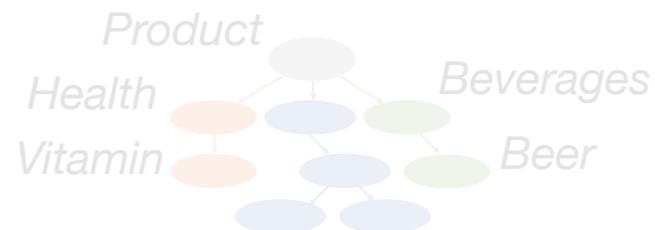
Efficient machine teaching frameworks for NLP

Coarse labels (Ch. 3)



[Karamanolakis et al. WNUT '19]

Hierarchical taxonomies (Ch. 4)



[Karamanolakis et al. ACL '20]

Seed words (Ch. 5)

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Price	price, value, money
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Word translations (Ch. 6)

"injured"



يَارِبَانْغَانْ

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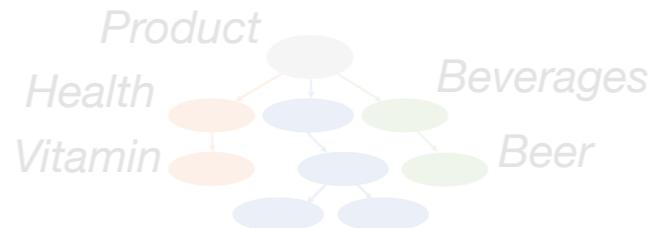
It is not always easy to express domain knowledge as seed words

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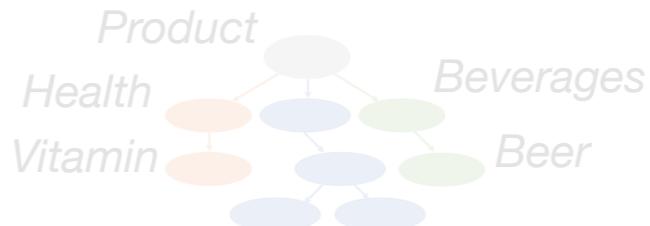
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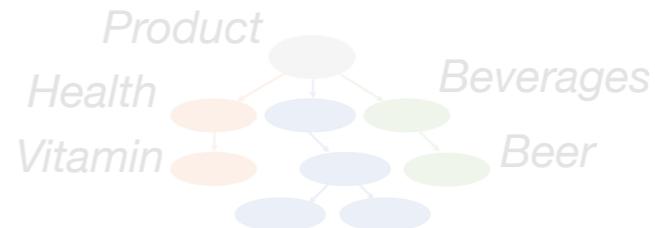
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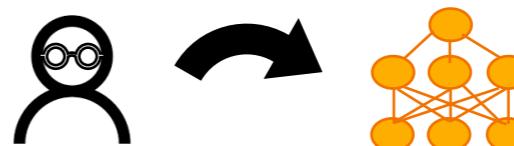
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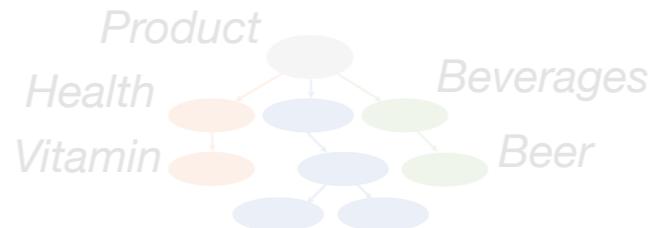
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From seed words to general labeling rules

- Rules: heuristic labeling functions written by **domain experts**
- Rules can be used to automatically create labels for **unlabeled** data x

Example: regular expression patterns

Spam
classification

```
def regex_check_out(x):
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```

Question type
classification

```
def numeric_question(x):
    return NUMERIC if x.startswith("when") else ABSTAIN
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```

Rules based on external lexicons / models / knowledge bases

Sentiment
classification

```
def sentiment_lexicon_score(x, sentiwordnet):
    if sentiwordnet(x) > 0.8:
        return POSITIVE
    elif sentiwordnet(x) < 0.2:
        return NEGATIVE
    else:
        ABSTAIN
```

Challenges in learning with labeling rules

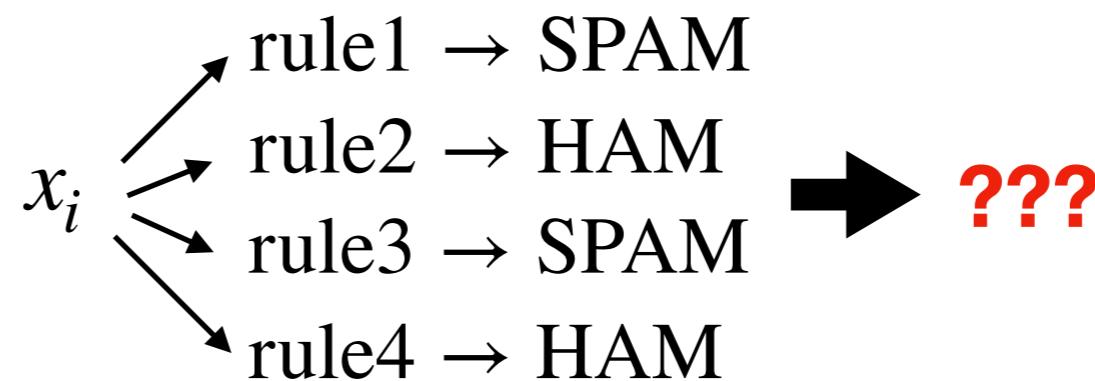
(1) Noise

$x_i \rightarrow \text{rule1} \rightarrow \text{SPAM}$ 
True label: HAM

(2) Coverage

$x_i \rightarrow \text{rule1} \rightarrow \text{ABSTAIN}$

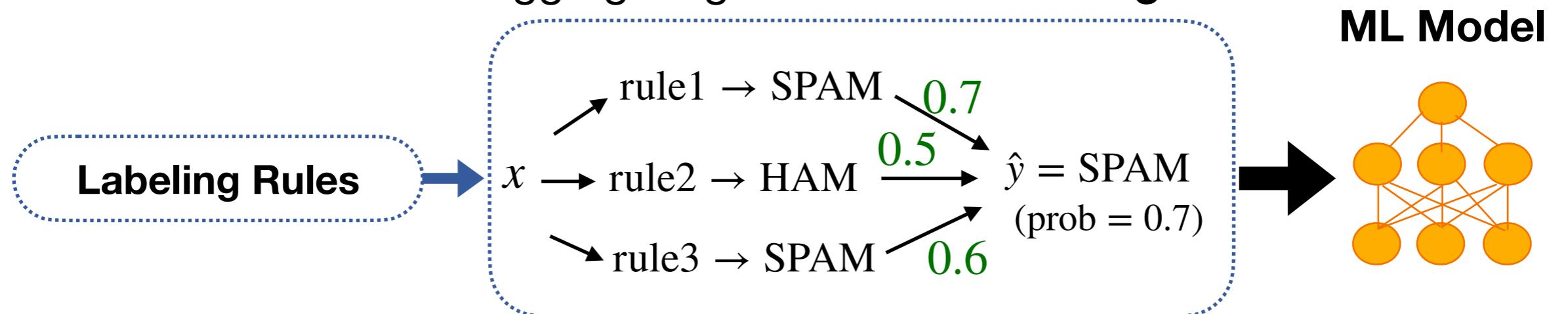
(3) Conflicts



How to train ML models with labeling rules?

[Ratner et al., 2017; Bach et al., 2019; Awasthi et al., 2020]

Aggregating rule labels with **weights**

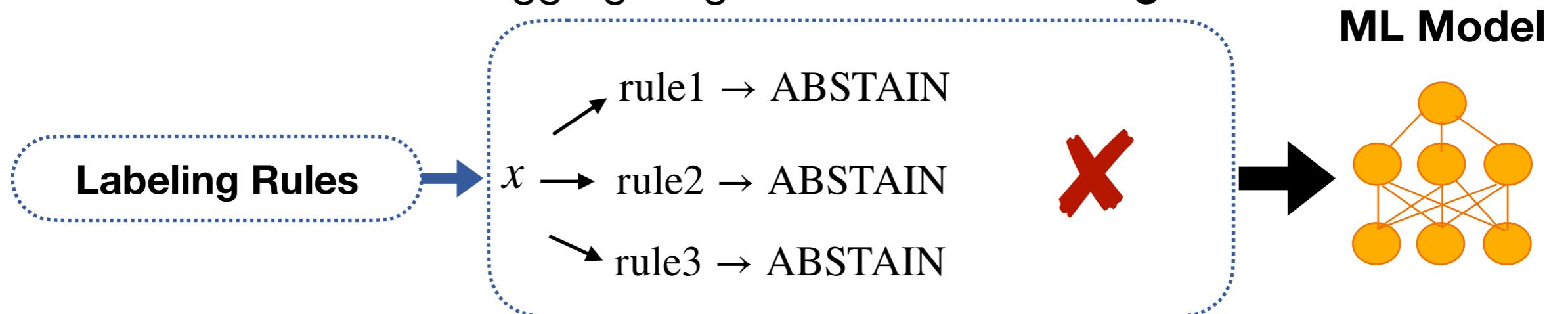


How to train ML models with labeling rules?

- Previous work **ignores unlabeled instances** that are not covered by rules

[Ratner et al., 2017; Bach et al., 2019; Awasthi et al., 2020]

Aggregating rule labels with **weights**

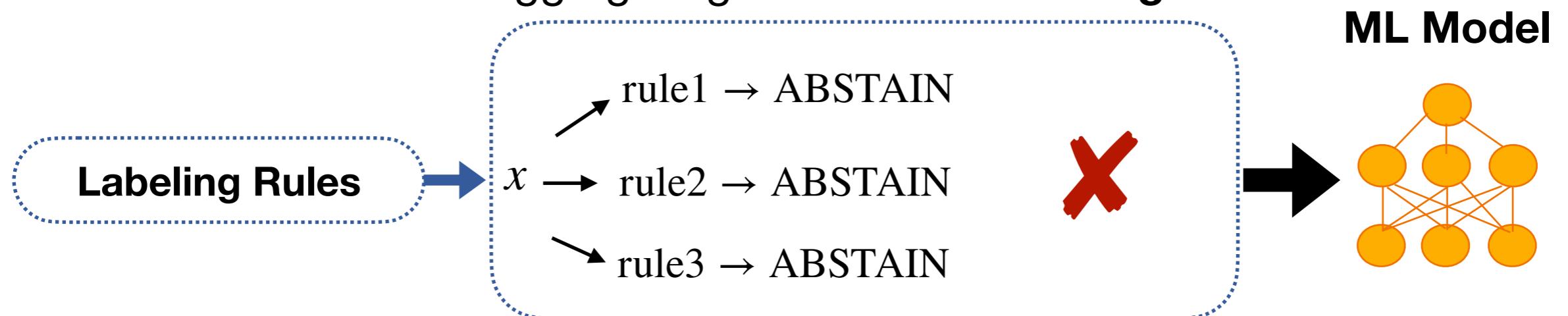


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Expert-provided rules are often sparse

6 datasets (45 rules per dataset): 40% of instances are **ignored**

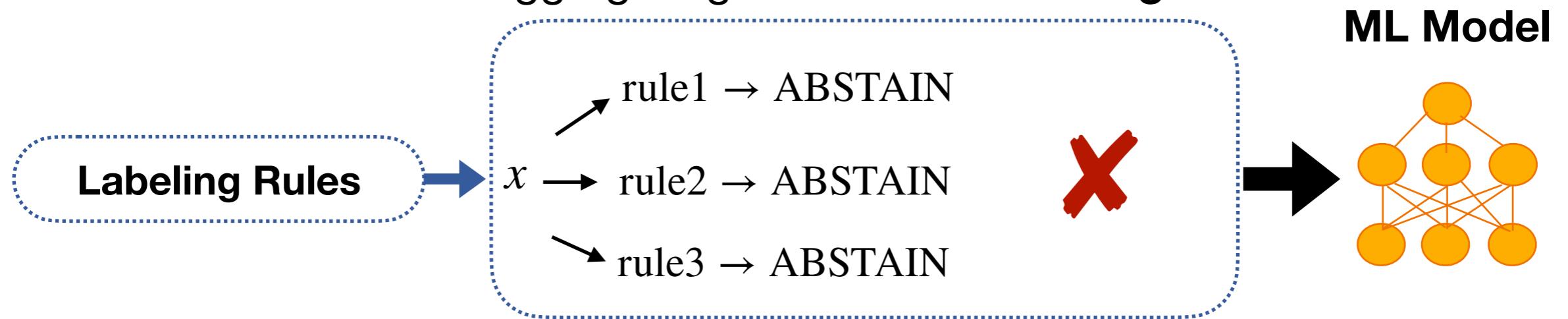


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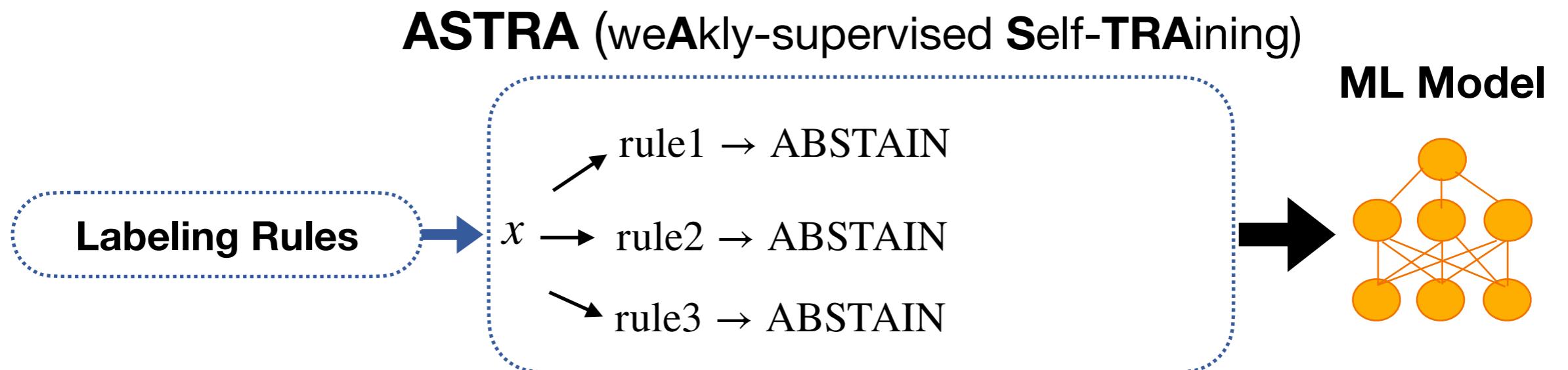
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Don't throw them away!

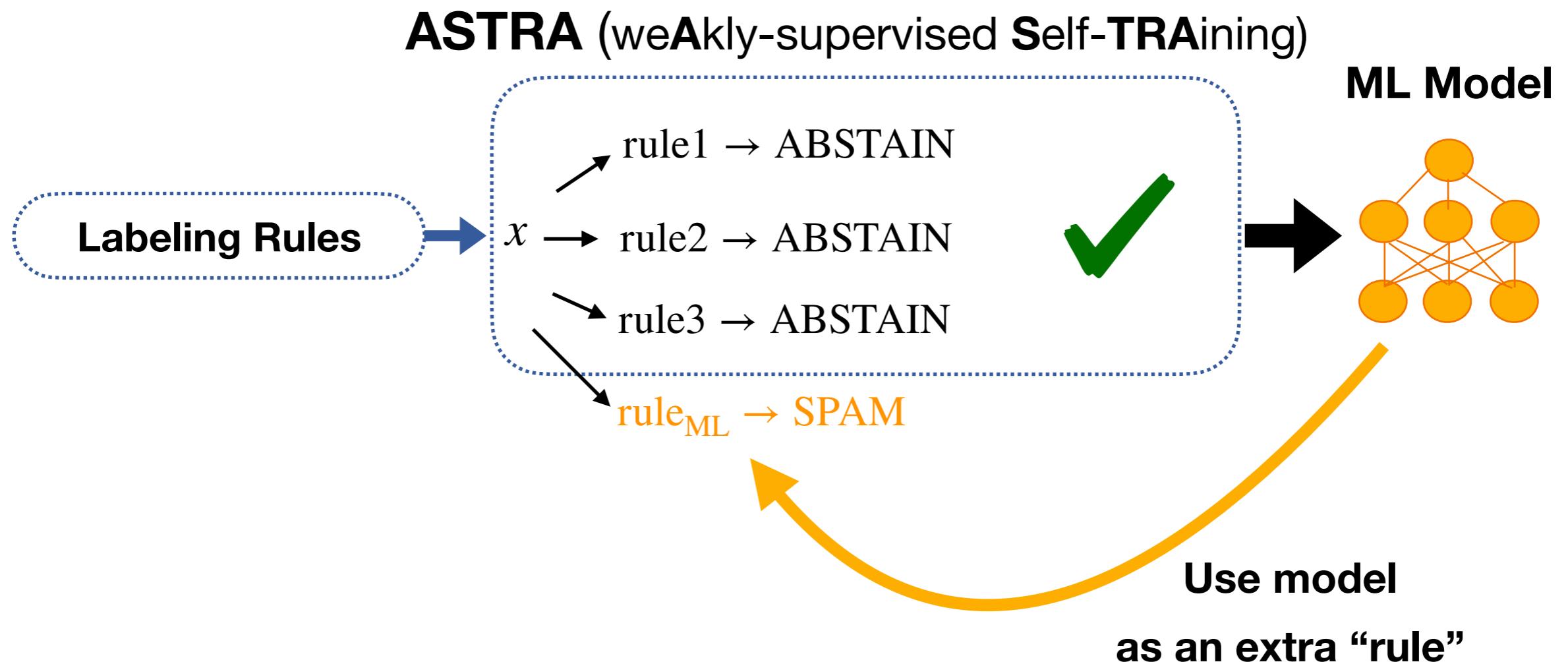
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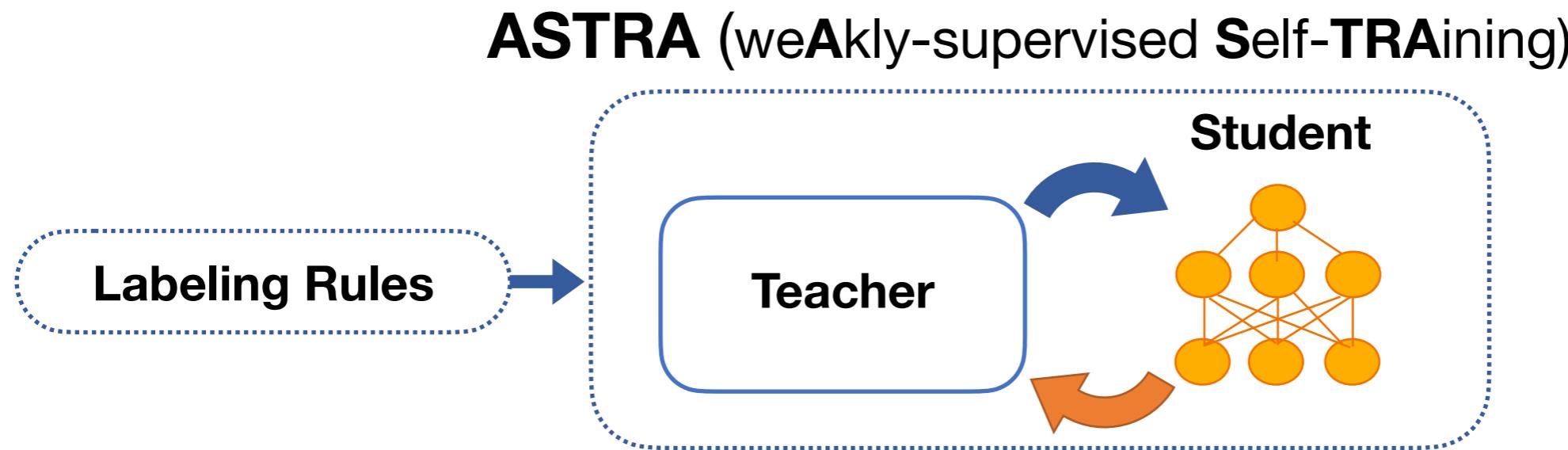
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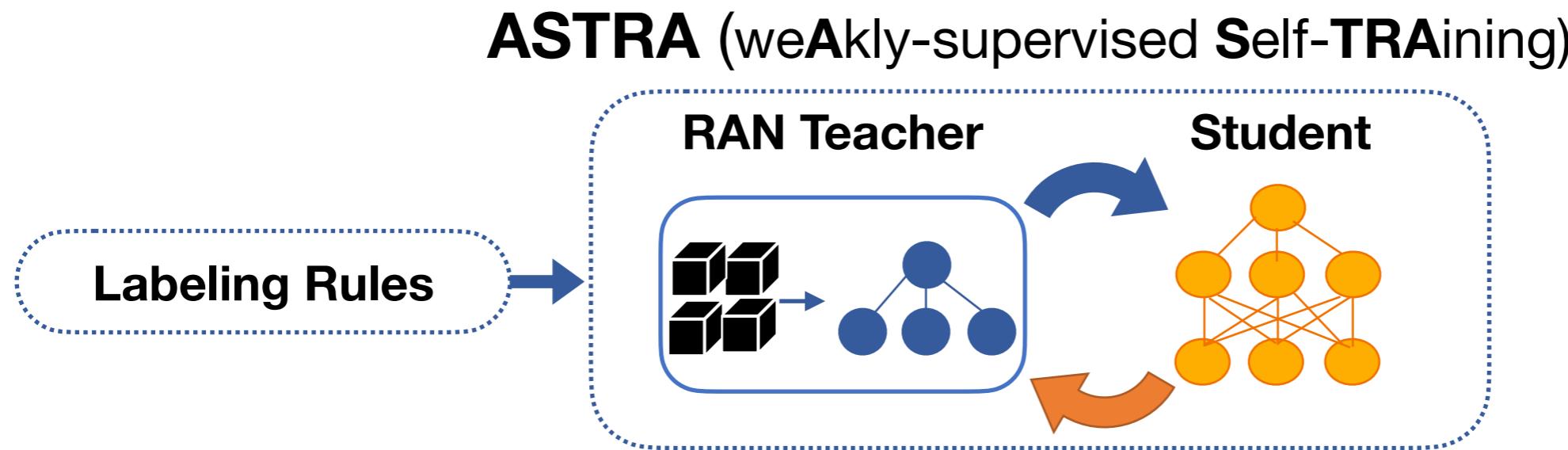
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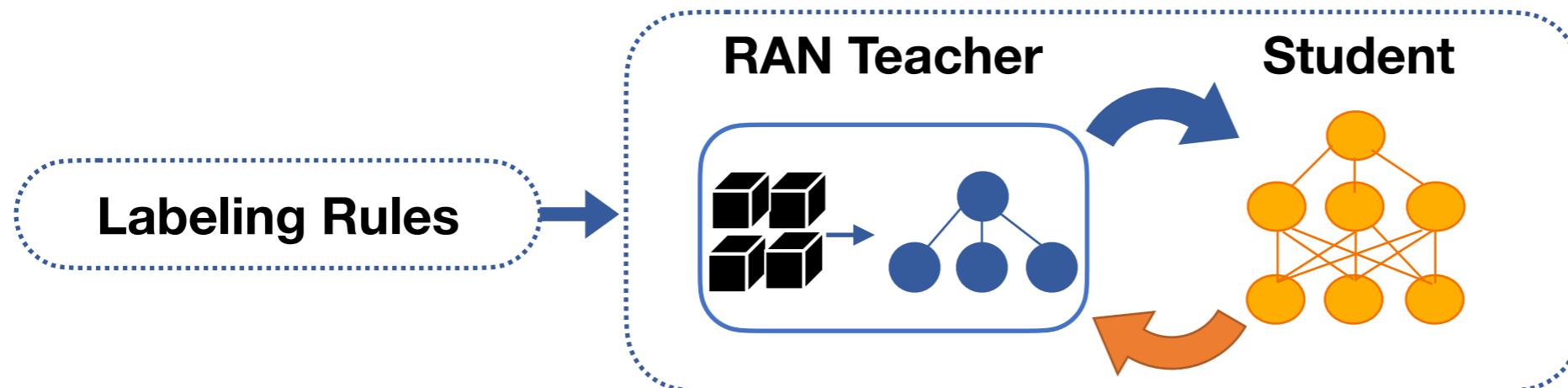
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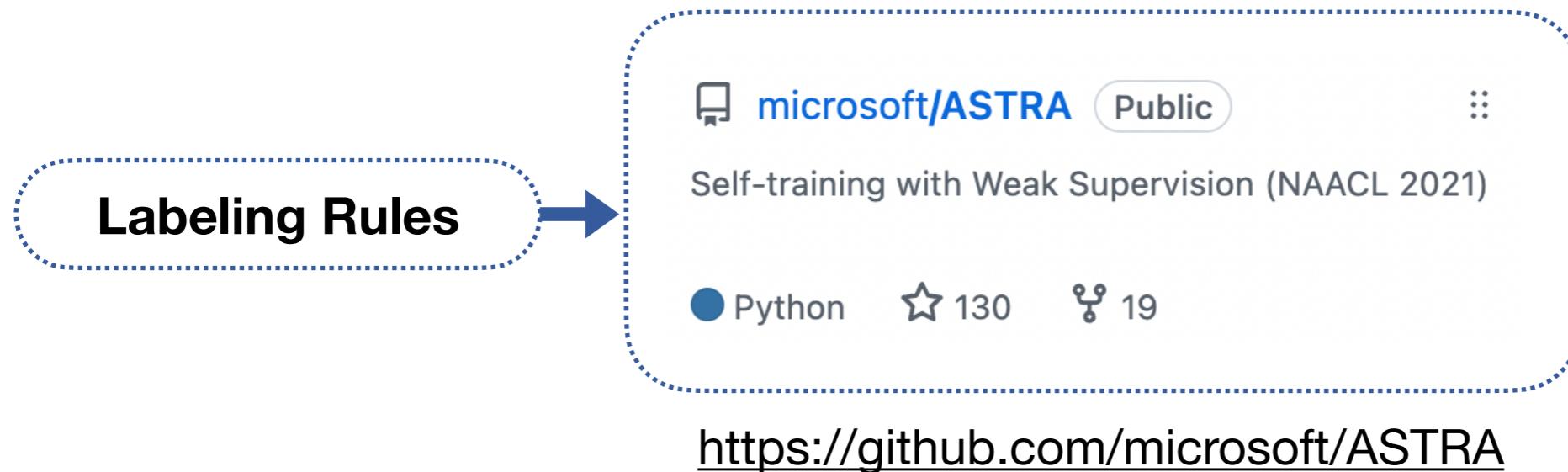
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“Self-training with weak supervision”,

Giannis Karamanolakis, Subhabrata Mukherjee, Guoqing Zheng, Ahmed Hassan Awadallah (NAACL '21)

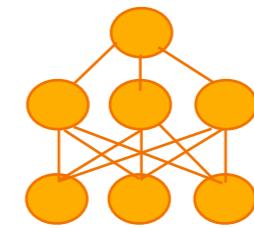


Domain Expert



Labeling Rules

ML Model

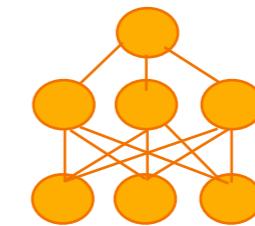


Domain Expert



Labeling Rules

ML Model



Assumption: Expert has already created a **sufficiently large** set of rules

Addressing new NLP tasks from the earliest stages

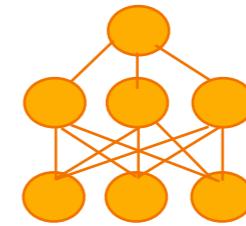
Domain Expert



Labeling Rules

???

ML Model



Addressing new NLP tasks from the earliest stages

- How to efficiently exploit the domain expert's limited time to teach a ML model?

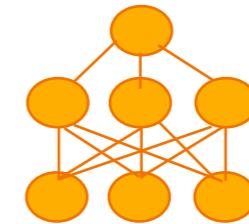
Domain Expert



Labeling Rules

???

ML Model



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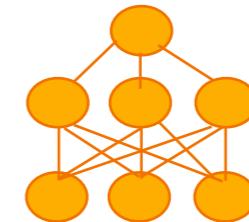
Domain Expert



Labeling Rules

???

ML Model



high coverage: “check out” → SPAM

vs. high precision: “check out” AND “http” AND “free” → SPAM

Addressing new NLP tasks from the earliest stages

- How to efficiently exploit the domain expert's limited time to teach a ML model?

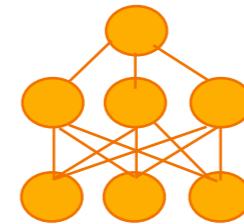
Domain Expert



Labeling Rules

???

ML Model



Creating a sufficiently large set of rules requires

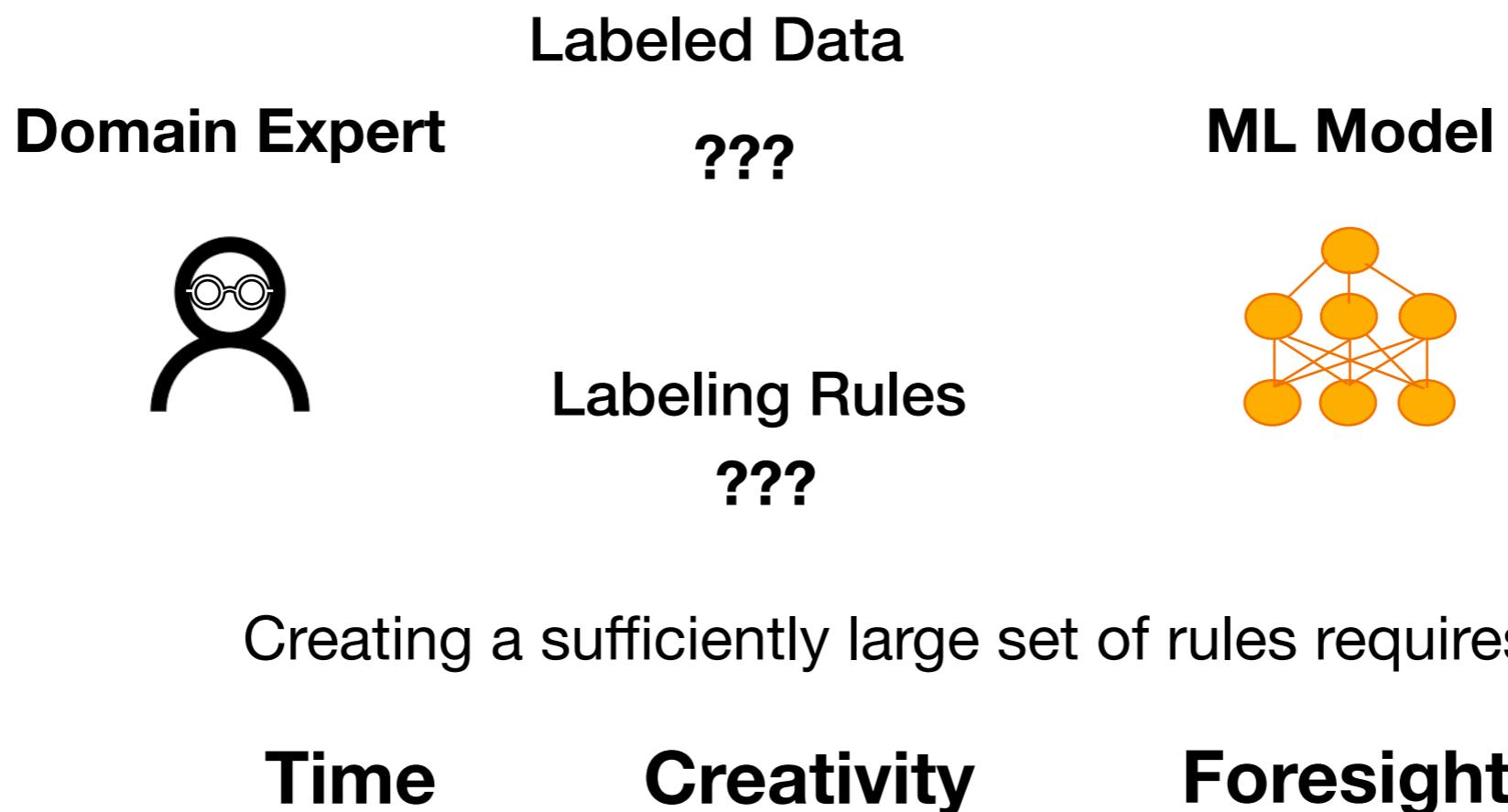
Time

Creativity

Foresight

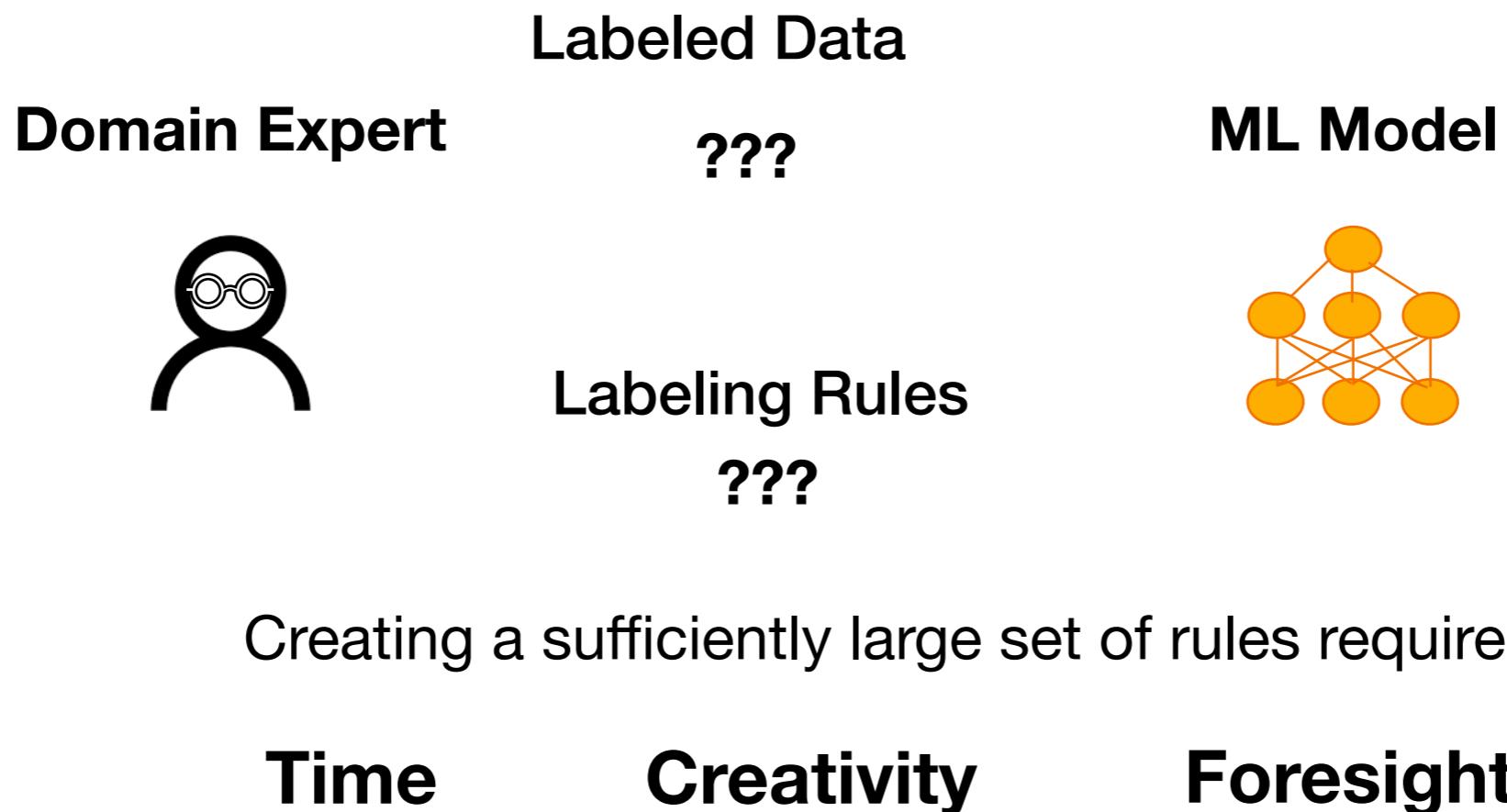
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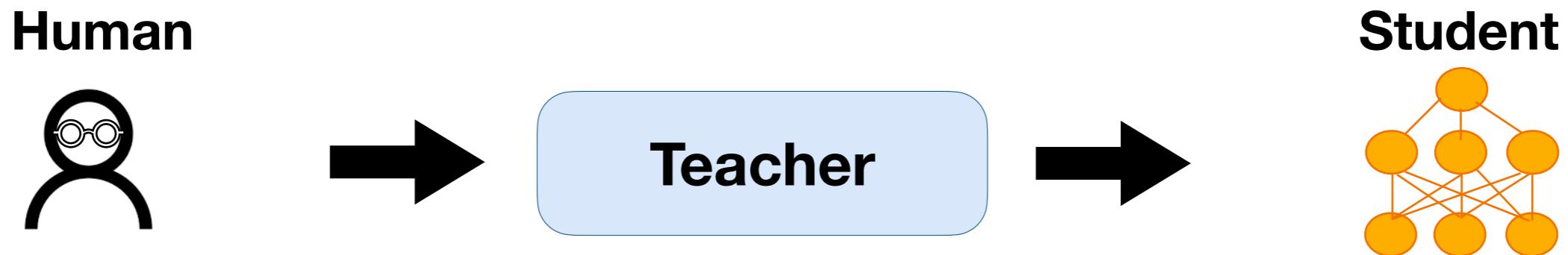
- Goal: assist experts via guidelines and tools for **efficient** machine teaching

Our analysis and interactive framework for efficient machine teaching

Our analysis and interactive framework for efficient machine teaching

- We reveal patterns that could inform guidelines for rule creation

We evaluate 1000+ Human-Teacher-Student configurations
in 6 datasets with human-provided rules

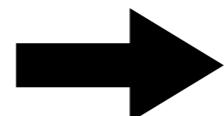
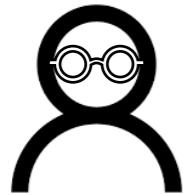


Our analysis and interactive framework for efficient machine teaching

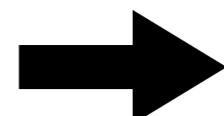
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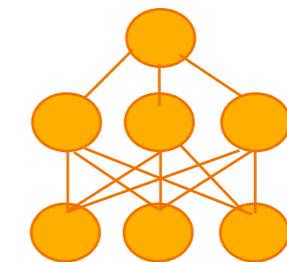
Human



Teacher



Student



10 Resource sizes

Low → ... → High

6 Teacher types

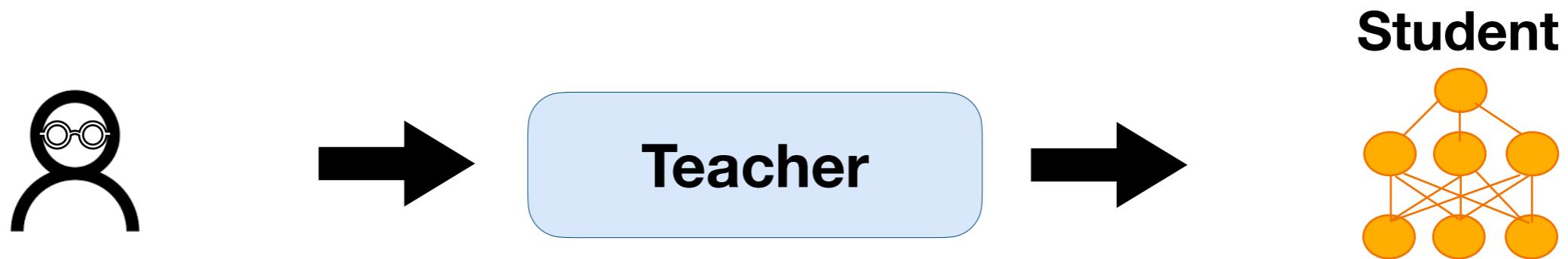
Majority voting
[Dawid, Skene, 1979]
[Ratner et al., 2017]
[Ratner et al., 2019]
[Fu et al., 2020]
[Karamanolakis et al., 2021]

3 Student types

Bag-of-words logistic regression
Multi-layer perceptron
BERT-based classifier

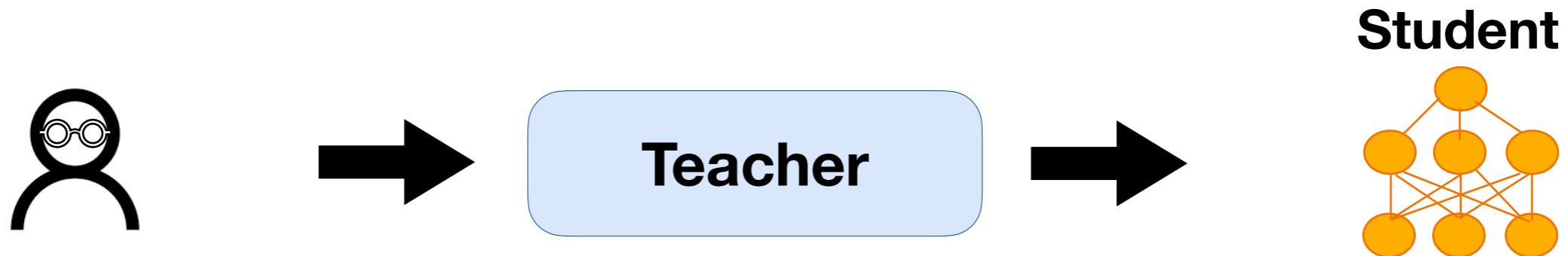
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 - Increasing Teacher's F1 does **not** necessarily increase Student's F1



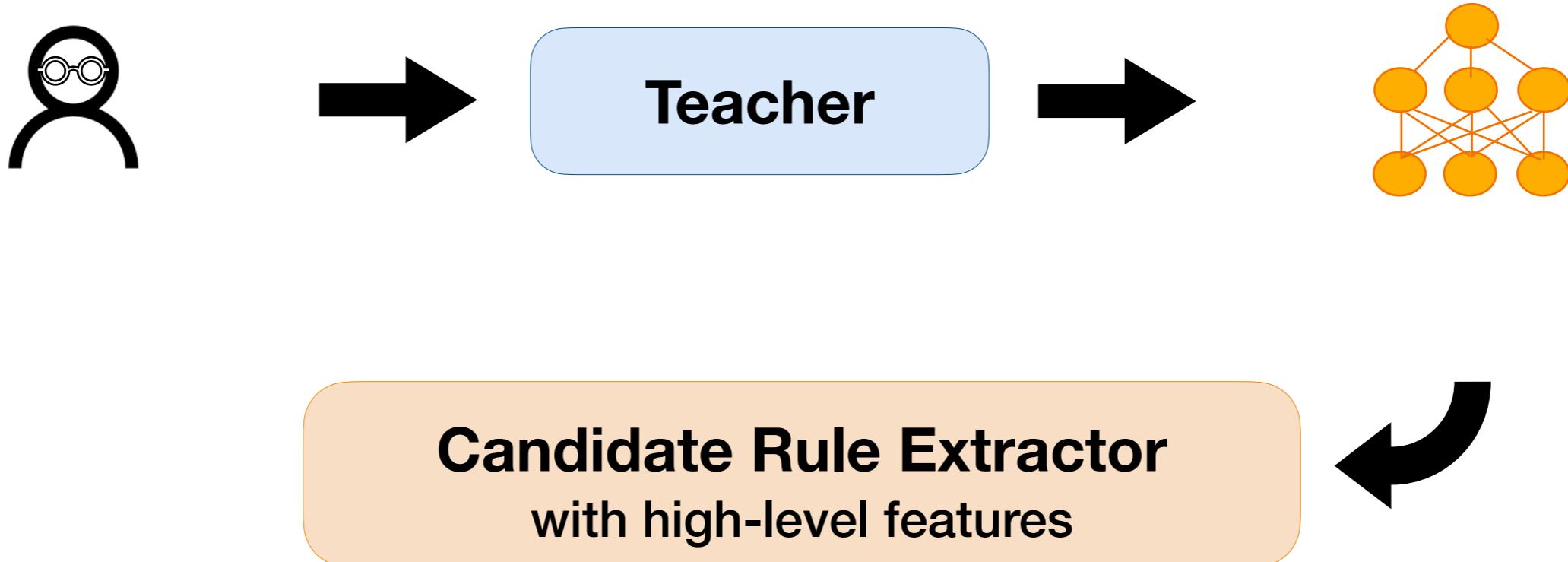
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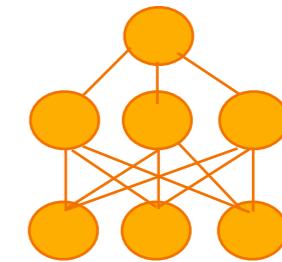
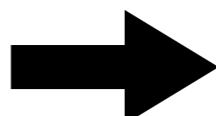
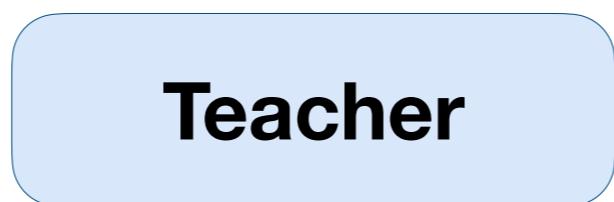
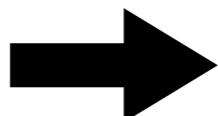
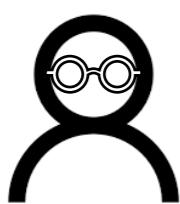
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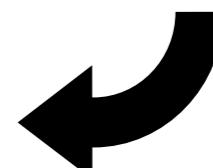
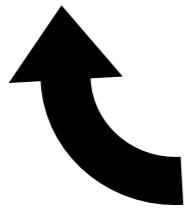


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expert feedback on adaptively selected instances **AND** rules



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Rule Extractor	F1 (6 datasets)
<i>n</i> -gram rules	64.6
<i>n</i> -gram + linguistic + prompt rules	77.6

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Interactive Method	F1 (6 datasets)
Feedback on instances (active learning)	75.7
Feedback on instances + rules (ours)	79.1

Our analysis and interactive framework for efficient machine teaching

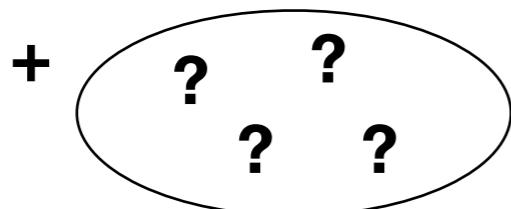
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Feedback on a **single** rule leads to **several** labels

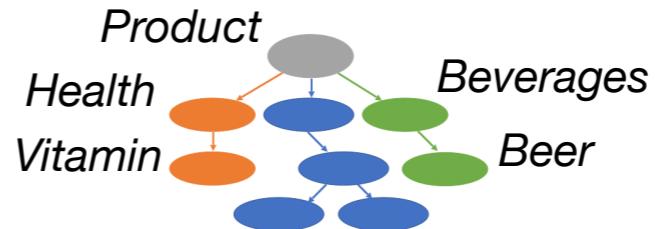
Efficient machine teaching frameworks for NLP

Coarse labels (Ch. 3)



[Karamanolakis et al. WNUT '19]

Hierarchical taxonomies (Ch. 4)



[Karamanolakis et al. ACL '20]

Seed words (Ch. 5)

Aspect	Seed Words
Price	price, value, money
Image	picture, color, bright
Sound	sound, speaker, noise

[Karamanolakis et al. EMNLP '19]

Word translations (Ch. 6)

“injured”



ياریلانغان“

[Karamanolakis et al. Findings of EMNLP '20]

Labeling rules (Ch. 7, 8)

```
def regex_check_out(x):
    return SPAM if re.search("check.*out", x)
```

[Karamanolakis et al. NAACL '21] + work with Daniel Hsu and Luis Gravano

Contributions of this dissertation

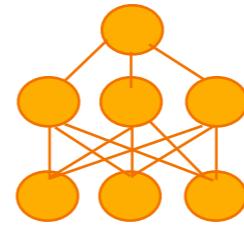
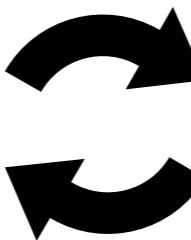
Contributions of this dissertation

- Develop **efficient** frameworks for teaching ML models using high-level supervision

Domain Expert



ML Model



- Coarse labels
- Hierarchical taxonomies
- Seed words
- Word translations
- Labeling rules

- [Karamanolakis et al., WNUT '19]
- [Karamanolakis et al., ACL '20]
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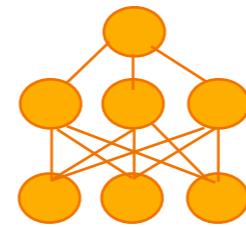
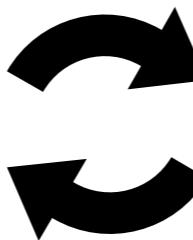
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*minimal domain expertise
beyond standard labels*



*generalization power
of deep neural networks*

Contributions of this dissertation

- Develop **efficient** frameworks for teaching ML models using high-level supervision
- Integrate ML models into operational systems **without** expensive labeled data

[Karamanolakis et al., WNUT '19]
[Liu et al., LOUHI '20]
[Cao et al., SocialNLP '21]



<https://publichealth.cs.columbia.edu/>

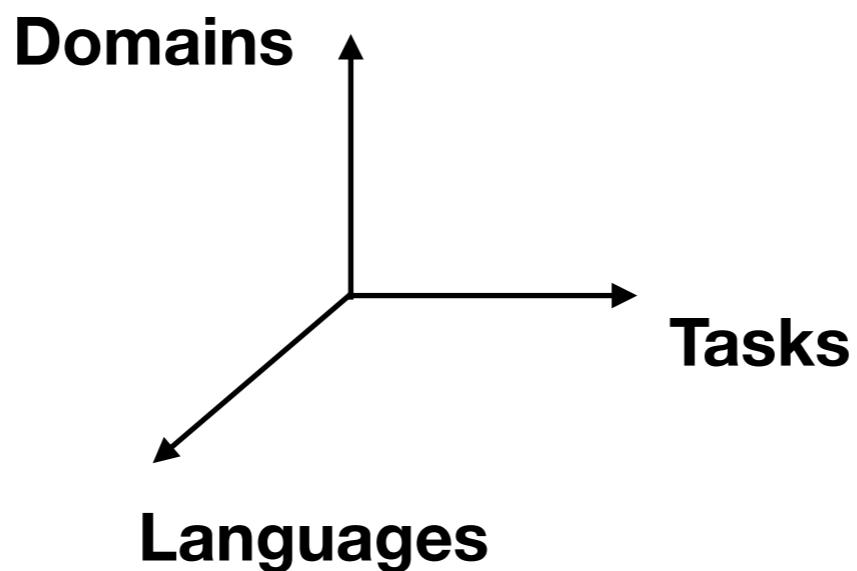
[Karamanolakis et al., ACL '20]
[Dong et al., KDD '20]



<https://www.amazon.science/blog/building-product-graphs-automatically>

Contributions of this dissertation

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- Demonstrate the benefits of high-level supervision for scaling NLP



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- Demonstrate the benefits of high-level supervision for scaling NLP
- Facilitate future research on machine teaching

Public code <https://github.com/cu-publichealth/FoodborneML>
<https://github.com/microsoft/ASTRA>
<https://github.com/IRI-Bangladesh-Flood-Insurance-Research>

New benchmarks http://aka.ms/walnut_benchmark [Zheng et al., NAACL '22]
<https://github.com/allenai/natural-instructions> [Wang et al., '22]

“WALNUT: a benchmark on weakly supervised learning for natural language understanding”,
Guoqing Zheng, Giannis Karamanolakis, Kai Shu, Ahmed Hassan Awadallah (NAACL '22)

“Benchmarking generalization via in-context instructions on 1,600+ language tasks” Wang et al., '22

Thank you all!

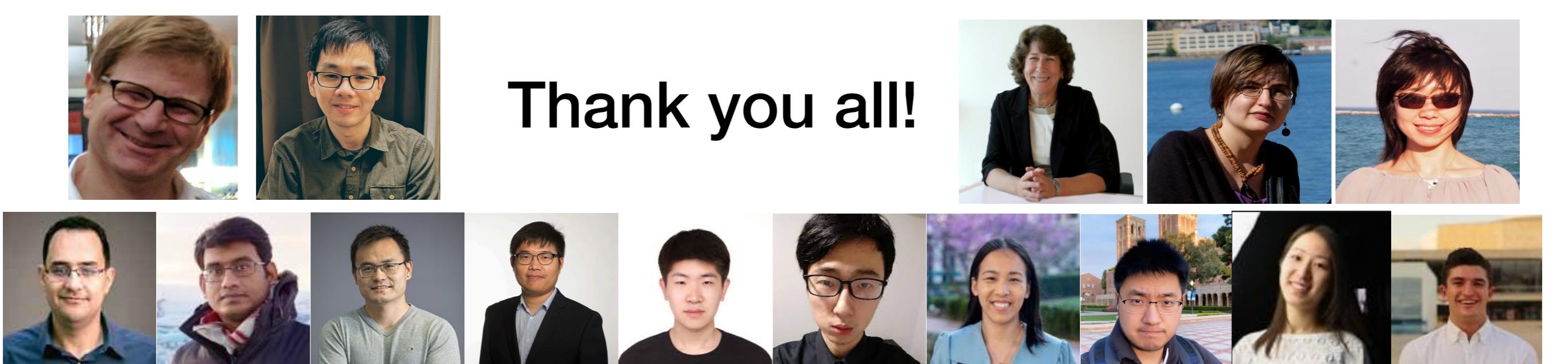


Thank you all!



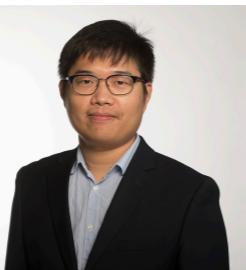
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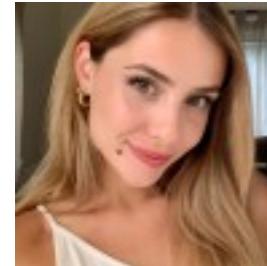


Thank you all!

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Publications

web: <https://gkaramanolakis.github.io/>

email: gkaraman@cs.columbia.edu

1. "Leveraging just a few keywords for fine-grained aspect detection through weakly-supervised co-training"
Giannis Karamanolakis, Daniel Hsu, Luis Gravano. (EMNLP '19)   
2. "Weakly supervised attention networks for fine-grained opinion mining and public health"
Giannis Karamanolakis, Daniel Hsu, Luis Gravano. (WNUT@EMNLP '19)   
3. "TXtract: taxonomy-aware knowledge extraction from thousands of product categories"
Giannis Karamanolakis, Jun Ma, Xin Luna Dong. (ACL '20) 
4. "AutoKnow: Self-Driving Knowledge Collection for Products of Thousands of Types"
Xin Luna Dong, Xiang He, Andrey Kan, Xian Li, Yan Liang, Jun Ma, Yifan Ethan Xu, Chenwei Zhang, Tong Zhao, Gabriel Blanco Saldana, Saurabh Deshpande, Alexandre Michetti Manduca, Jay Ren, Surender Pal Singh, Fan Xiao, Haw-Shiuan Chang, **Giannis Karamanolakis**, Yuning Mao, Yaqing Wang, Christos Faloutsos, Andrew McCallum, Jiawei Han (KDD '20) 
5. "Detecting Foodborne Illness Complaints in Multiple Languages Using English Annotations Only"
Ziyi Liu, **Giannis Karamanolakis**, Daniel Hsu, Luis Gravano. (LOUHI@EMNLP '20)   
6. "Cross-lingual text classification with minimal resources by transferring a sparse teacher"
Giannis Karamanolakis, Daniel Hsu, Luis Gravano. (Findings of EMNLP '20)   

7. "Quantifying the effects of COVID-19 on restaurant reviews",   
Ivy Cao, Zizhou Liu, **Giannis Karamanolakis**, Daniel Hsu, Luis Gravano (SocialNLP '21)
8. "Self-training with weak supervision",  Microsoft
Giannis Karamanolakis, Subhabrata Mukherjee, Guoqing Zheng, Ahmed Hassan Awadallah, (NAACL '21)
9. "WALNUT: a benchmark on weakly supervised learning for natural language understanding",  Microsoft
Guoqing Zheng, **Giannis Karamanolakis**, Kai Shu, Ahmed Hassan Awadallah (NAACL '22)
10. "Flood event extraction from news media to support satellite-based flood insurance",
Jakwanul Safin, Tejit Pabari, **Giannis Karamanolakis**, Max Mauerman, and Beth Tellman (submitted)

11. "Benchmarking generalization via in-context instructions on 1,600+ language tasks" (submitted)