
Proposal Marks are Out!
Assign 1, Individual, Tomorrow 7 AM EST

Blackboard will return to service at 6 am EST.

Blackboard is unavailable every weekday (Monday to Friday) from 5 am to 6 am EST for regular maintenance.

At 6 am you can [reload this page](#) to access Blackboard.

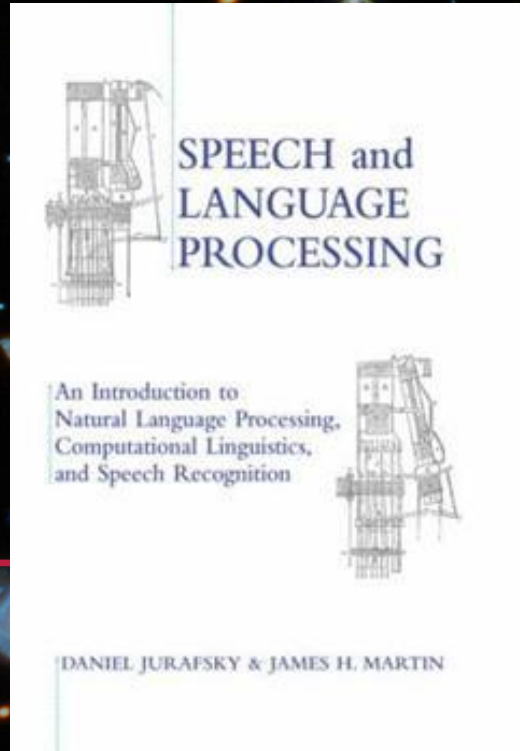


Office Hour
2:30 PM – 3:30 PM
Lambton Tower 5111

Memento, Christopher Nolan
Guy Pearce, Carrie-Anne Moss, Joe Pantoliano
September 2000
Budget \$4.5 m
Box office \$40 m

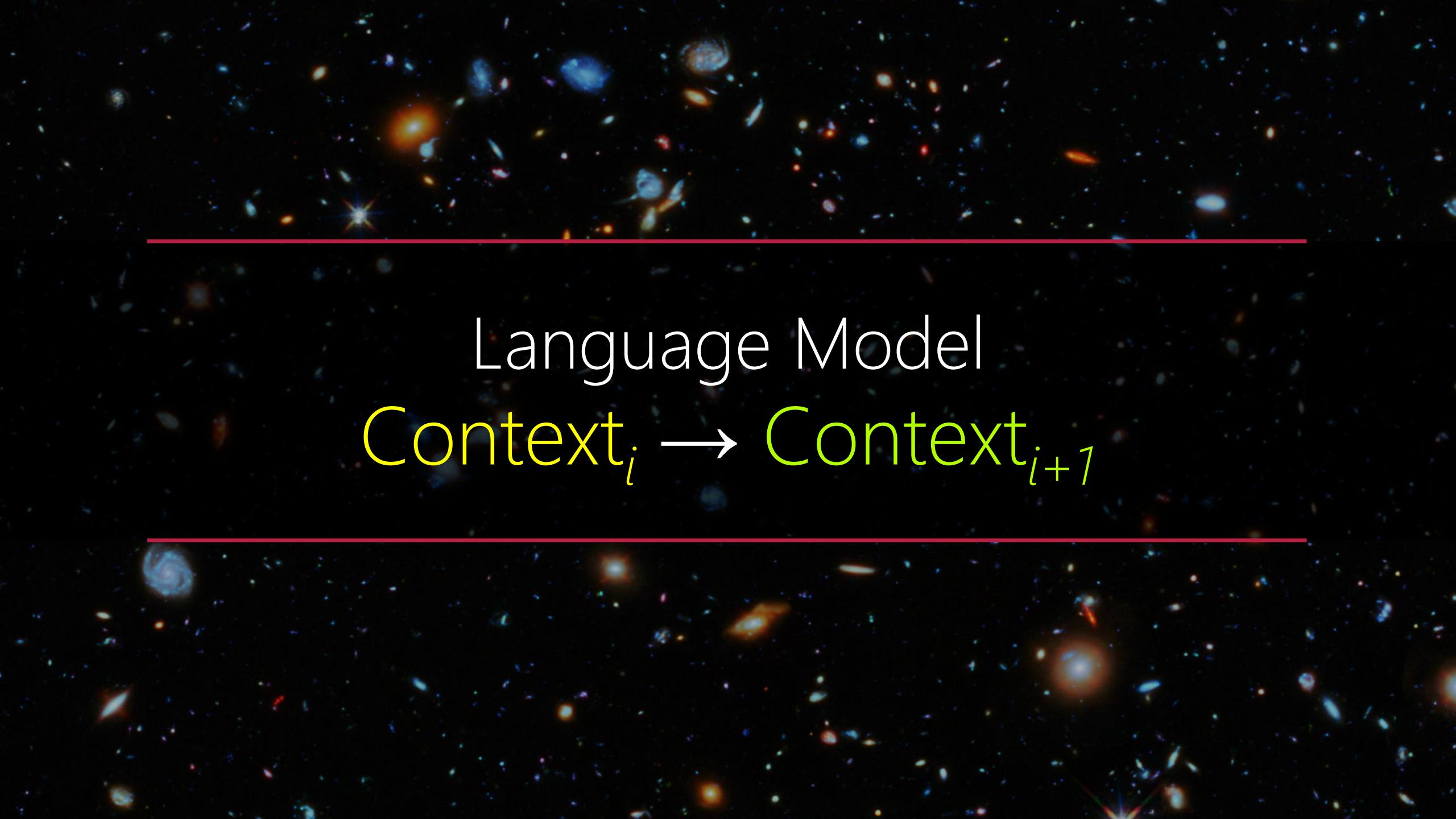


n -Gram Language Models



Language Modeling

CH04



Language Model

$\text{Context}_i \rightarrow \text{Context}_{i+1}$

A deep-field astronomical image showing a vast field of galaxies and stars against a black background. The galaxies are in various stages of evolution, some appearing as bright, diffuse clouds and others as more compact, distant objects. The stars are scattered throughout, with some showing prominent diffraction spikes. Two horizontal red lines are positioned above and below the central text.

n -Gram Language Model

n -Gram Language Model

Context Window of Size n

Recent Past of Size $n-1 \rightarrow$ Future of Size 1

$$W_{i+1} \dots W_{i+n-2} W_{i+n-1} \rightarrow W_{i+n}$$

n -Gram Language Model

$\rightarrow W_{i+1}$

1-gram = unigram

$W_{i+1} \rightarrow W_{i+2}$

2-gram = bigram

$W_{i+1} W_{i+2} \rightarrow W_{i+3}$

3-gram = trigram

$W_{i+1} \dots W_{i+n-2} W_{i+n-1} \rightarrow W_{i+n}$

n -gram



Frequentist Probability

as opposed to Bayesian Probability

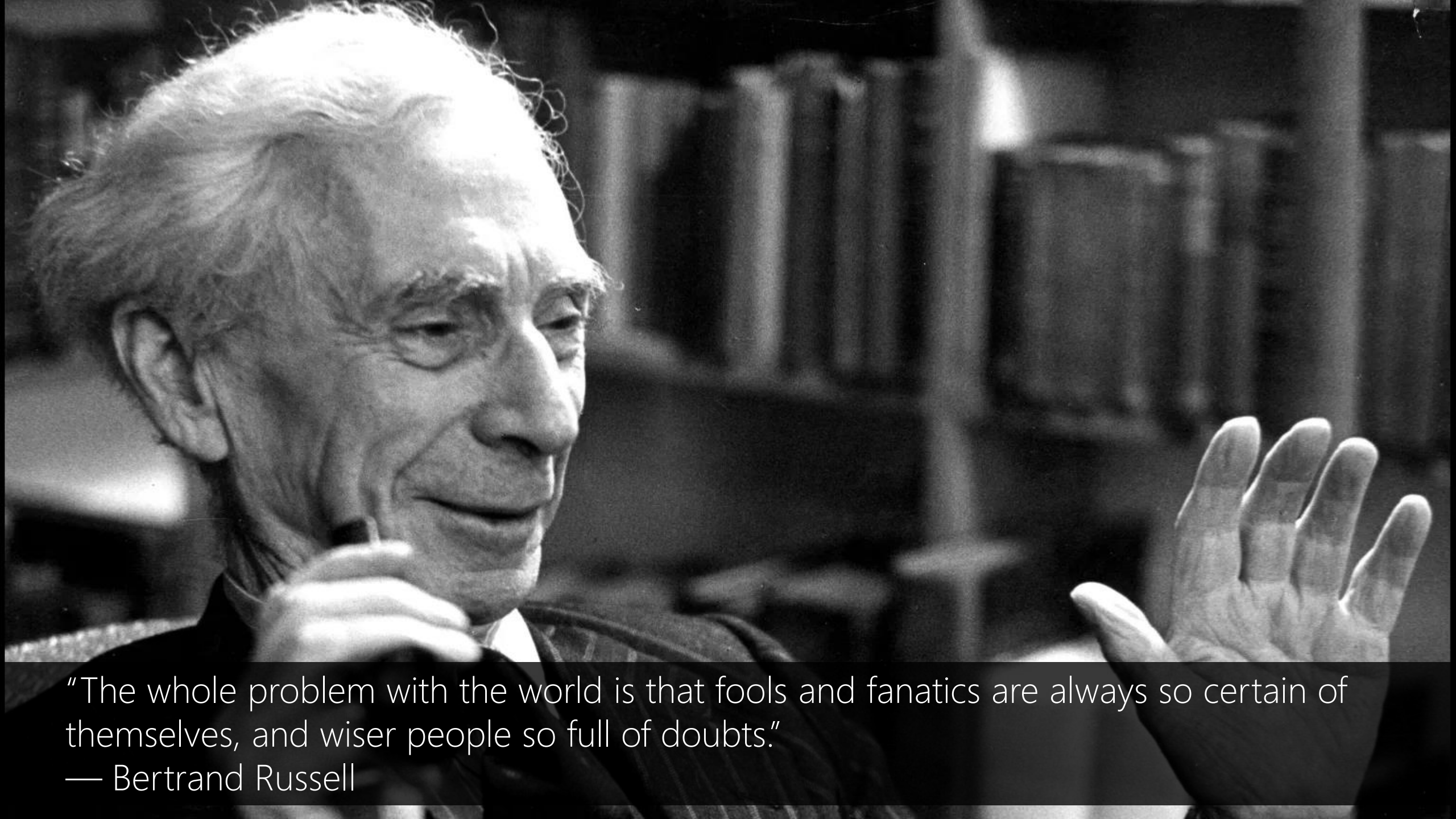
*Frequentist probability or frequentism is an interpretation of probability that defines an event's probability as the limit of its **relative frequency in many trials** - Wikipedia*

n -Gram Language Modeling

Recent Past of Size $n-1 \rightarrow$ Future of Size 1 \rightarrow Most Frequent Future Given the Past

$$\overset{h-1}{w_{i+1} \dots w_{i+n-2} w_{i+n-1}} \rightarrow w_{i+n} = \text{Max } P(w \mid w_{i+1} \dots w_{i+n-2} w_{i+n-1}) \text{ in all } w \in V$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(W | w_{i+1} \dots w_{i+n-2} w_{i+n-1}) &= \frac{P(w_{i+1} \dots w_{i+n-2} w_{i+n-1} W)}{P(w_{i+1} \dots w_{i+n-2} w_{i+n-1})} \\
 &= \frac{\#(w_{i+1} \dots w_{i+n-2} w_{i+n-1} W)}{\#(w_{i+1} \dots w_{i+n-2} w_{i+n-1})}
 \end{aligned}$$



"The whole problem with the world is that fools and fanatics are always so certain of themselves, and wiser people so full of doubts."

— Bertrand Russell

Chain Rule of Probability

$$\begin{aligned} P(w_1 w_2 \dots w_n) &= P(w_1) P(w_2 | w_1) P(w_3 | w_1 w_2) \dots P(w_n | w_1 w_2 w_3 \dots w_{n-1}) \\ &= \prod_{k=1}^n P(w_k | w_1 \dots w_{k-1}) \\ &= \prod_{k=1}^n P(w_k | w_1^{k-1}) \end{aligned}$$



Approximation to Chain Rule

Generalizability

Language is creative! A particular context might have never occurred before!

Approximation to Chain Rule

Efficiency

probability of a word given entire history, approximate the history by just the **last few words**

Unigram Approx.

Bag-of-Word (BoW). Why?

$$\begin{aligned} P(w_1 w_2 \dots w_n) &= P(w_1)P(w_2|w_1)P(w_3|w_1w_2) \dots P(w_n|w_1w_2w_3\dots w_{n-1}) \\ &= P(w_1)P(w_2|\cancel{w_1})P(w_3|\cancel{w_1w_2}) \dots P(w_n|\cancel{w_1w_2w_3\dots w_{n-1}}) \\ &= P(w_1)P(w_2)P(w_3) \dots P(w_n) \end{aligned}$$

$\sim N(1,2) \rightarrow \sim N(0,1)$ $\frac{1}{\text{token}}$



Bigram Approx.

Markovian: probability of a variable depends only on the previous variable

$$\begin{aligned} P(w_1 w_2 \dots w_n) &= P(w_1)P(w_2|w_1)P(w_3|\cancel{w_1}w_2) \dots P(w_n|w_1w_2w_3\dots w_{n-1}) \\ &= P(w_1)P(w_2|w_1)P(w_3|\cancel{w_1}w_2) \dots P(w_n|w_{n-1}) \end{aligned}$$

Trigram Approx.

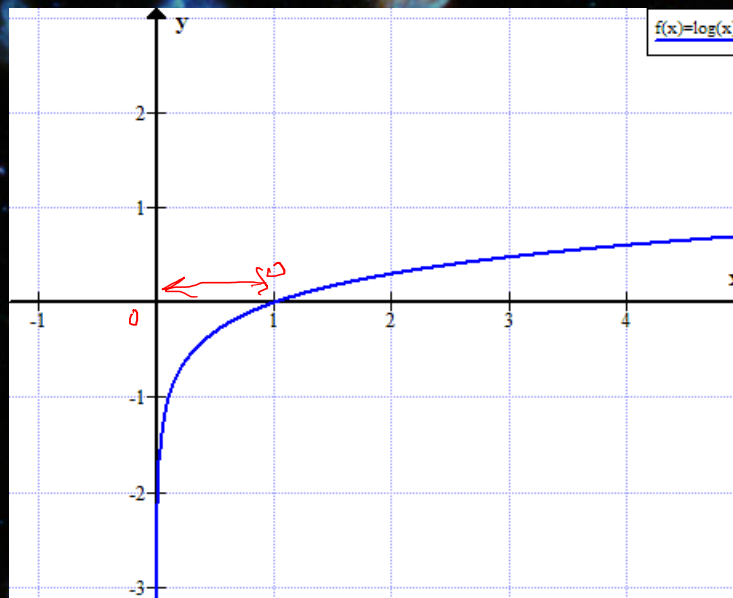
$$\begin{aligned} P(w_1 w_2 \dots w_n) &= P(w_1)P(w_2|w_1)P(w_3|w_1w_2) \dots P(w_n|w_1w_2w_3\dots w_{n-1}) \\ &= P(w_1)P(w_2|w_1)P(w_3|w_1w_2) \dots P(w_n|w_{n-2}w_{n-1}) \end{aligned}$$

Approx. n-gram Language Modeling

Corpus: Brown University

['The', 'Fulton', 'County', 'Grand', 'Jury', 'said', 'Friday', 'an', 'investigation', 'of', ..., '.'],
['The', 'jury', 'further', 'said', 'in', 'term-end', 'presentments', 'that', 'the', 'City', ... 'conducted', '.'],
['The', 'September-October', 'term', 'jury', 'had', 'been', 'charged', 'by', 'Fulton', 'S...', 'Allen', 'Jr.', '.'],
[''', 'Only', 'a', 'relative', 'handful', 'of', 'such', 'reports', 'was', 'received', '','', '...', 'city', '','', '.'],
['The', 'jury', 'said', 'it', 'did', 'find', 'that', 'many', 'of', 'Georgia's', 'registration', ... 'ambiguous', '','', '.']

Make it worse!	Gives chance to new combination
$P([\text{Mr.}][\text{and}][\text{Mrs.}])$	$P([\text{Mr.}][\text{and}][\text{I}])$
0.00045851027827207127	0.0
1.4208331509791766e-05	1.75171210394693e-06
9.078228423943108e-08	6.422936315754214e-08
	↑ <i>unig</i>



Log of Probabilities

$$P(x_1) \times P(x_2) \times \dots \times P(x_n) \propto \log P(x_1) + \log P(x_2) + \dots + \log P(x_n)$$

left and right sides have same order!

$$[0, 1] \rightarrow [-\infty, 0]$$

Product \rightarrow Sum

A deep space image showing a vast field of galaxies and stars against a black background. The galaxies are in various shapes and colors, including blue, orange, and white. The stars are small, bright points of light, some with visible diffraction patterns.

Self-supervised

Self-supervised learning is the key to AI understanding the world

Yann LeCun: Dark Matter of Intelligence and Self-Supervised Learning | Lex Fridman Podcast #258

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SGzMEIJ1Cc>



Tenet, Christopher Nolan, 2020
Budget \$200 m
Box office \$363 million

n -Gram Language Modeling

Recent Past \rightarrow Current \leftarrow Recent Future

$$W_{i+1} \dots W_{i+n-2} W_{i+n-1} \rightarrow W_{i+n} \leftarrow W_{i+n+1} W_{i+n+2} \dots W_{i+n+j}$$



Following, Christopher Nolan (1998)

Budget \$6,000

Box office \$48,482

Evaluating Language Models



Evaluating Language Models

Higher n in n-gram, the better?
More history, the better prediction of future?



Evaluating Language Models

Qualitative → Let's Communicate → Generate

1

gram

–To him swallowed confess hear both. Which. Of save on trail for are ay device and rote life have

–Hill he late speaks; or! a more to leg less first you enter

2

gram

–Why dost stand forth thy canopy, forsooth; he is this palpable hit the King Henry. Live king. Follow.

–What means, sir. I confess she? then all sorts, he is trim, captain.

3

gram

–Fly, and will rid me these news of price. Therefore the sadness of parting, as they say, 'tis done.

–This shall forbid it should be branded, if renown made it empty.

4

gram

–King Henry. What! I will go seek the traitor Gloucester. Exeunt some of the watch. A great banquet serv'd in;

–It cannot be but so.

Figure 3.3 Eight sentences randomly generated from four n-grams computed from Shakespeare's works. All characters were mapped to lower-case and punctuation marks were treated as words. Output is hand-corrected for capitalization to improve readability.

1 gram	-To him swallowed confess hear both. Which. Of save on trail for are ay device and rote life have
2 gram	-Hill he late speaks; or! a more to leg less first you enter
3 gram	-Why dost stand forth thy canopy, forsooth; he is this palpable hit the King Henry. Live king. Follow.
4 gram	-What means, sir. I confess she? then all sorts, he is trim, captain.
	-Fly, and will rid me these news of price. Therefore the sadness of parting, as they say, 'tis done.
	-This shall forbid it should be branded, if renown made it empty.
	-King Henry. What! I will go seek the traitor Gloucester. Exeunt some of the watch. A great banquet serv'd in;
	-It cannot be but so.

Figure 3.3 Eight sentences randomly generated from four n-grams computed from Shakespeare's works. All characters were mapped to lower-case and punctuation marks were treated as words. Output is hand-corrected for capitalization to improve readability.

1 gram	Months the my and issue of year foreign new exchange's september were recession exchange new endorsed a acquire to six executives
2 gram	Last December through the way to preserve the Hudson corporation N. B. E. C. Taylor would seem to complete the major central planners one point five percent of U. S. E. has already old M. X. corporation of living on information such as more frequently fishing to keep her
3 gram	They also point to ninety nine point six billion dollars from two hundred four oh six three percent of the rates of interest stores as Mexico and Brazil on market conditions

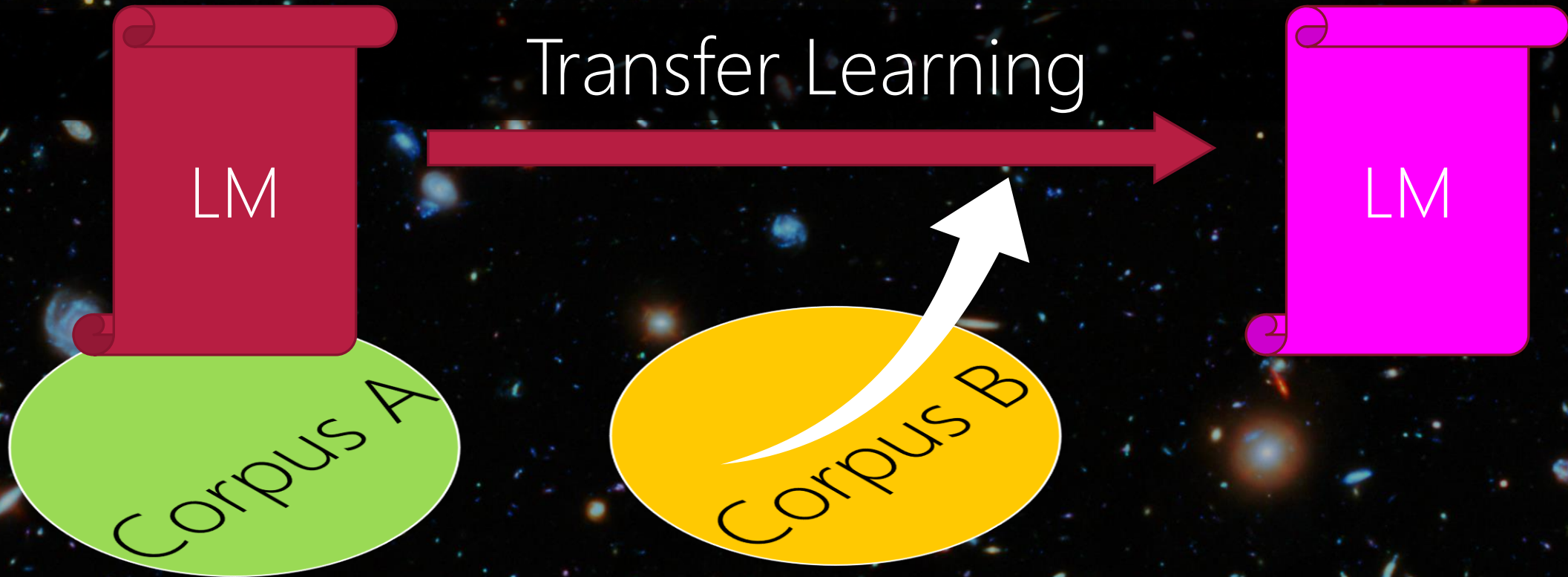
Figure 3.4 Three sentences randomly generated from three n-gram models computed from 40 million words of the *Wall Street Journal*, lower-casing all characters and treating punctuation as words.

Cross Evaluating Language Models

Biased toward the corpus! Dialect, Genre, ...

Better LM is the one that can generalize!

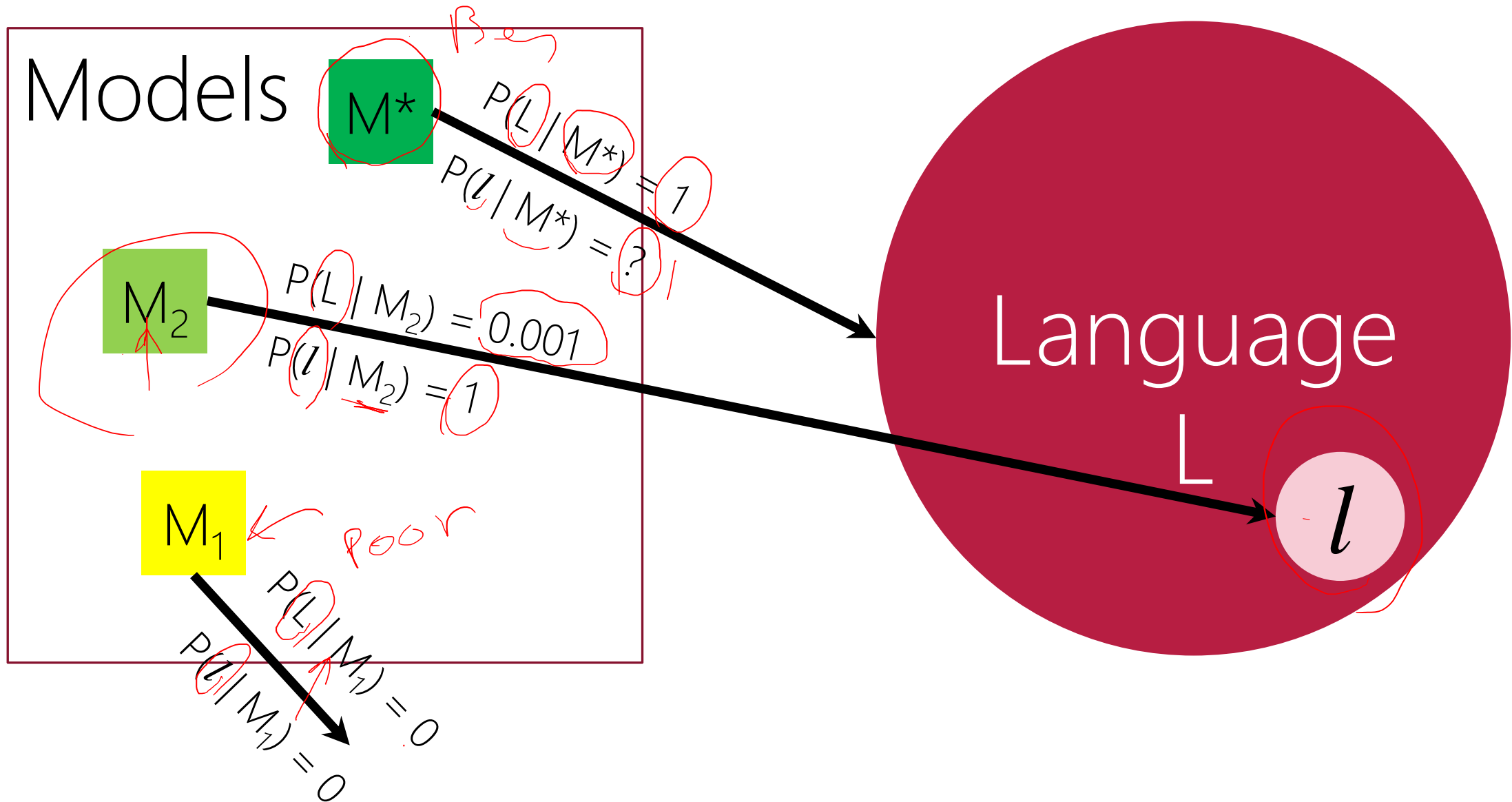
Pre-trained Language Models





Evaluating Language Models

Quantitative → Likelihood





Find M^*

Golden Model

Assumptions:

- The language space is available. ✗
- Search the model space to find M^* , assuming it exists!

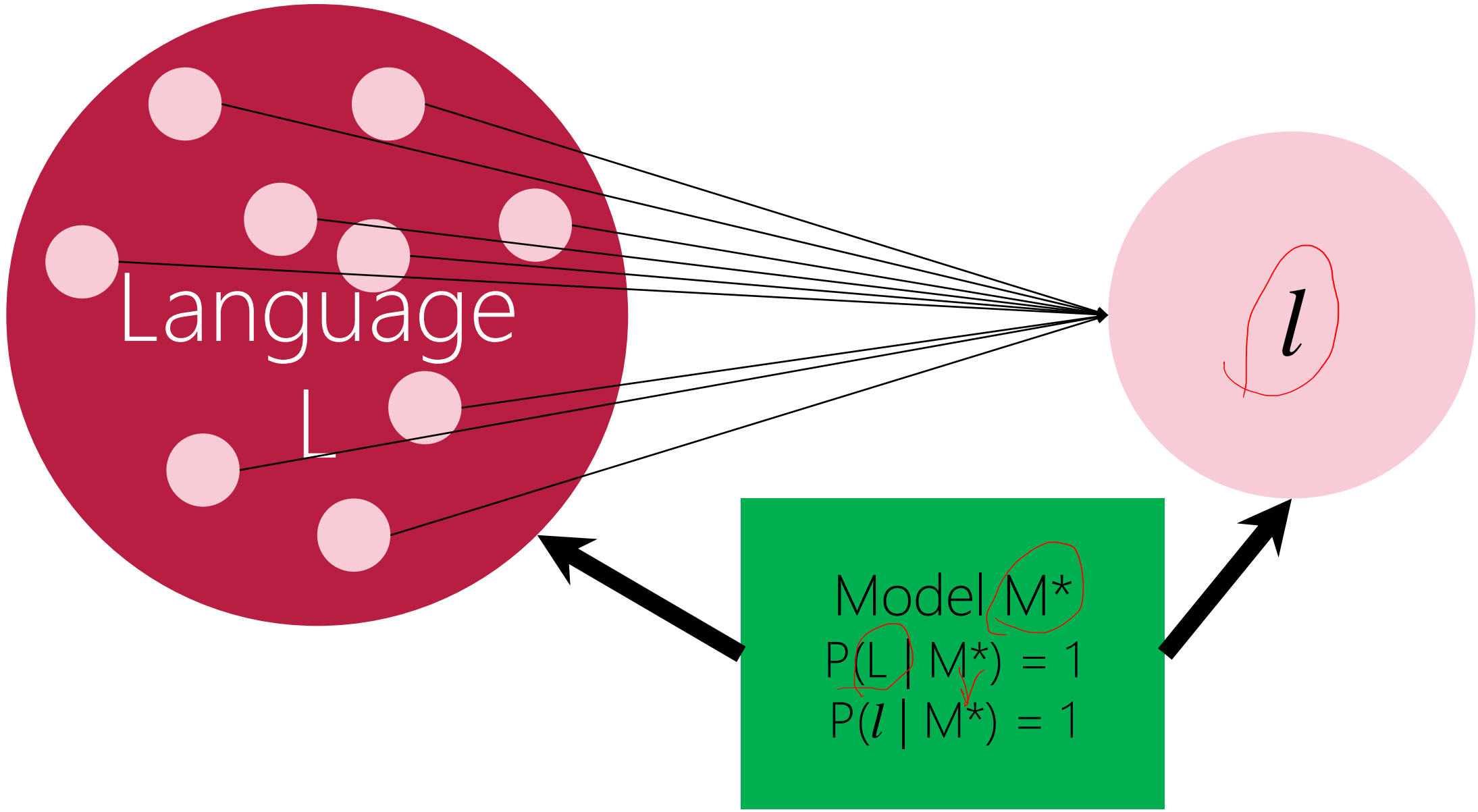


Find M^*

Golden Model

Relax Assumptions:

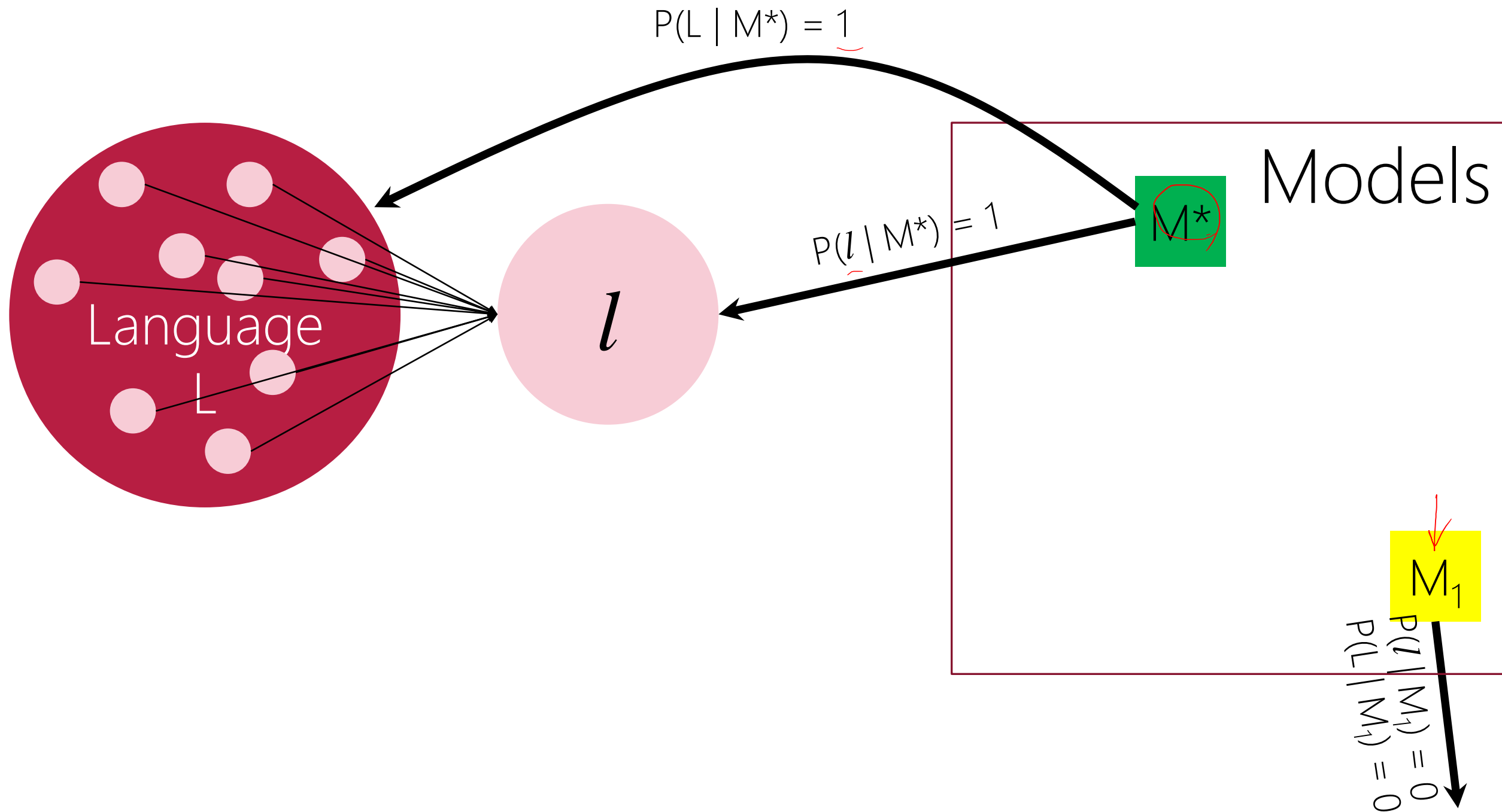
- The language space is available. → Random Subsets
- Search the model space to find M^* , assuming it exists!

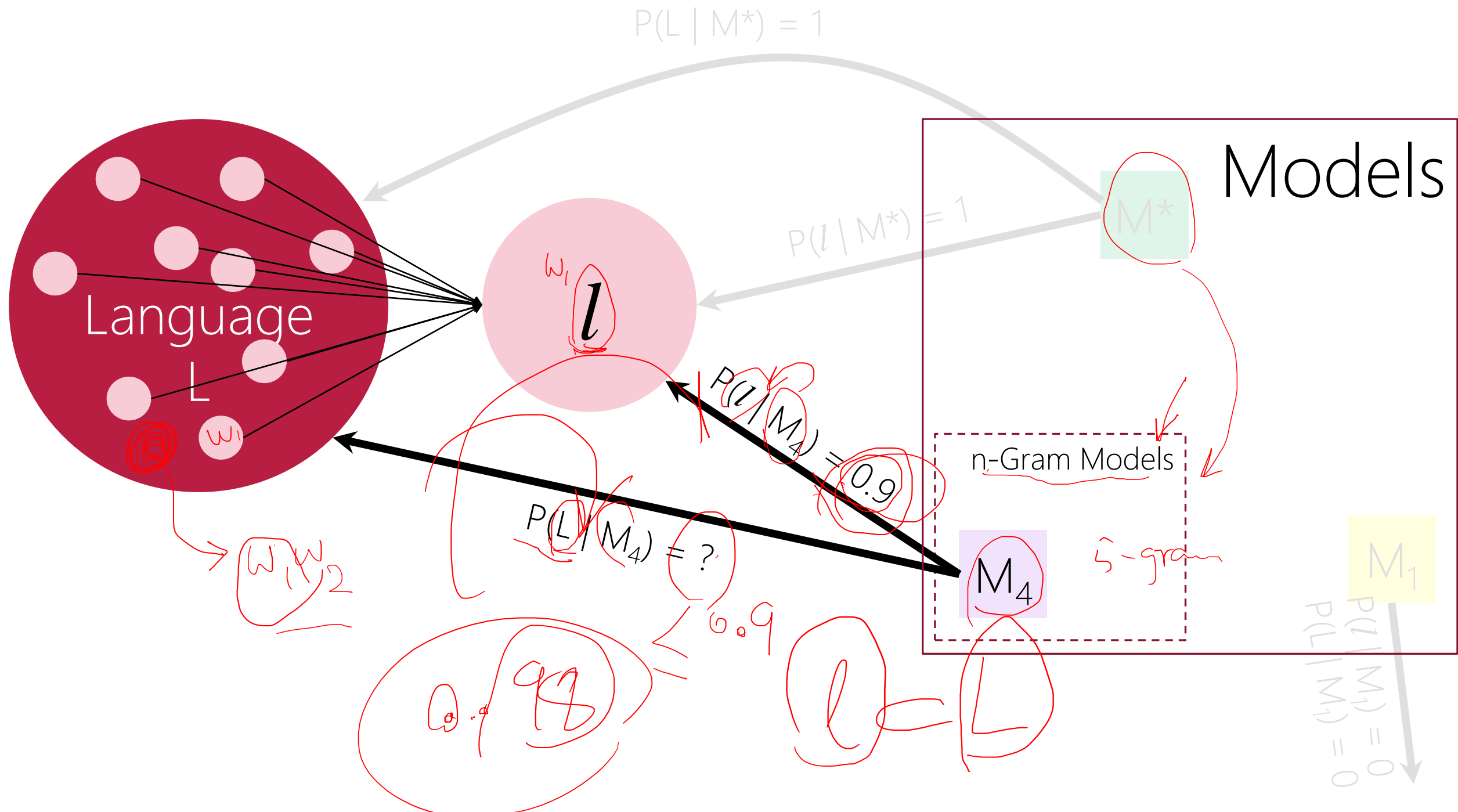


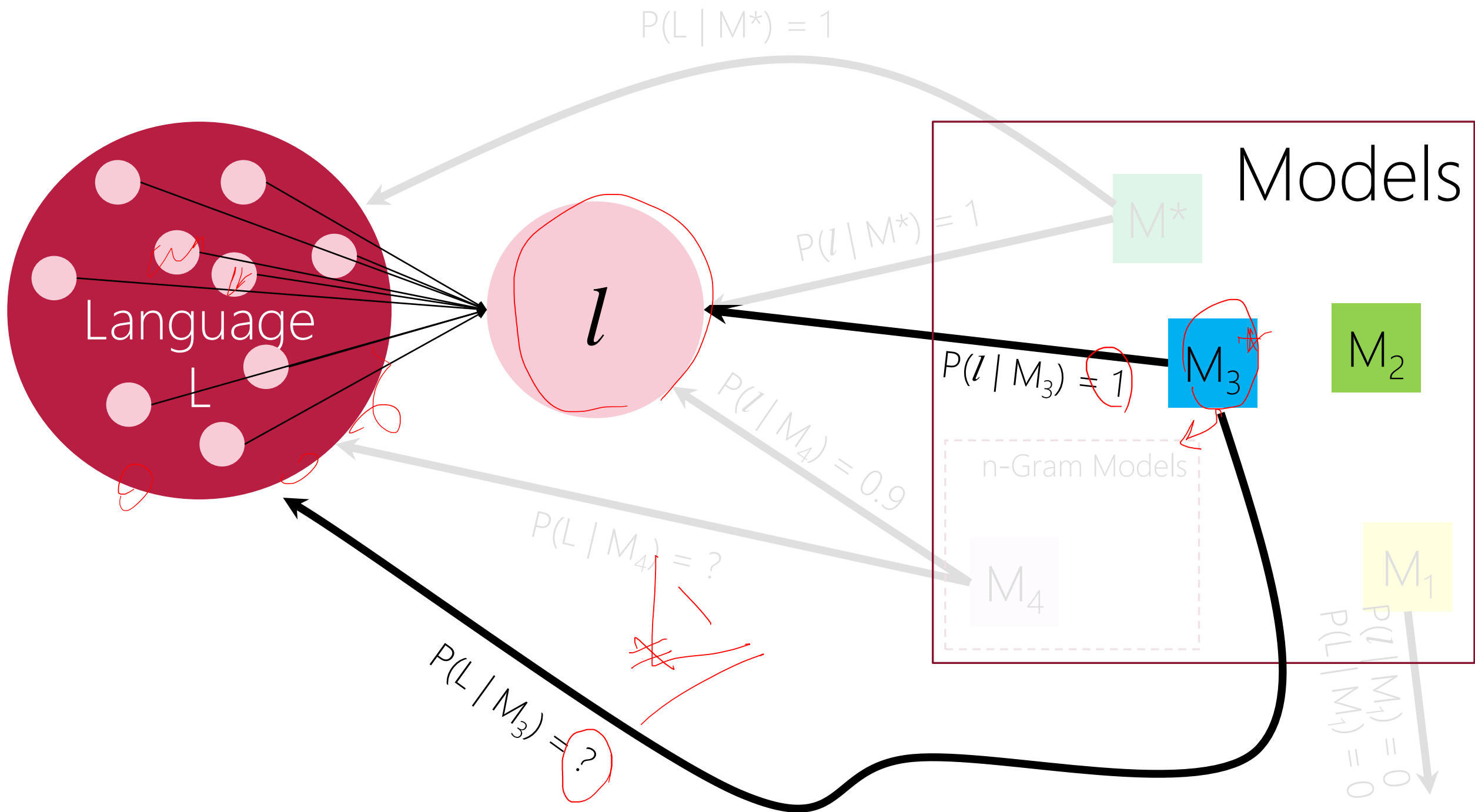
Find ~~M^*~~ M^\wedge
~~Golden~~ Silver Model

Relax Assumptions:

- The language space is available. → Random Subsets
- Search the model subspace to find M^\wedge , assuming it exists!








$$\hat{M} = \operatorname{argmax}_{M \in \text{Models}} P(\mathcal{I} \mid M)$$

Relax Assumptions:

- The language space is available. → Random Subsets
- Search the model subspace to find \hat{M} , assuming it exists!

Likelihood

$$\hat{M} = \operatorname{argmax}_{M \in \text{Models}} P(\mathcal{I} \mid M)$$

Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE)

Likelihood

$$\hat{M} = \operatorname{argmax}_{M \in \text{Models}} \mathcal{L}(l | M)$$

Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE)

The background of the slide is a deep-field astronomical image showing a vast number of galaxies in various shapes and colors (blue, orange, white) against a black space. The galaxies are distributed across the entire frame, with some appearing as bright, distinct objects and others as faint, distant specks.
$$\hat{M} = \operatorname{argmax}_{M \in \text{Models}} \frac{P(\ell, M)}{P(M)}$$

Handwritten red annotations include $P(\ell/M)$ above the numerator and a circle around the denominator $P(M)$ with an arrow pointing to it.

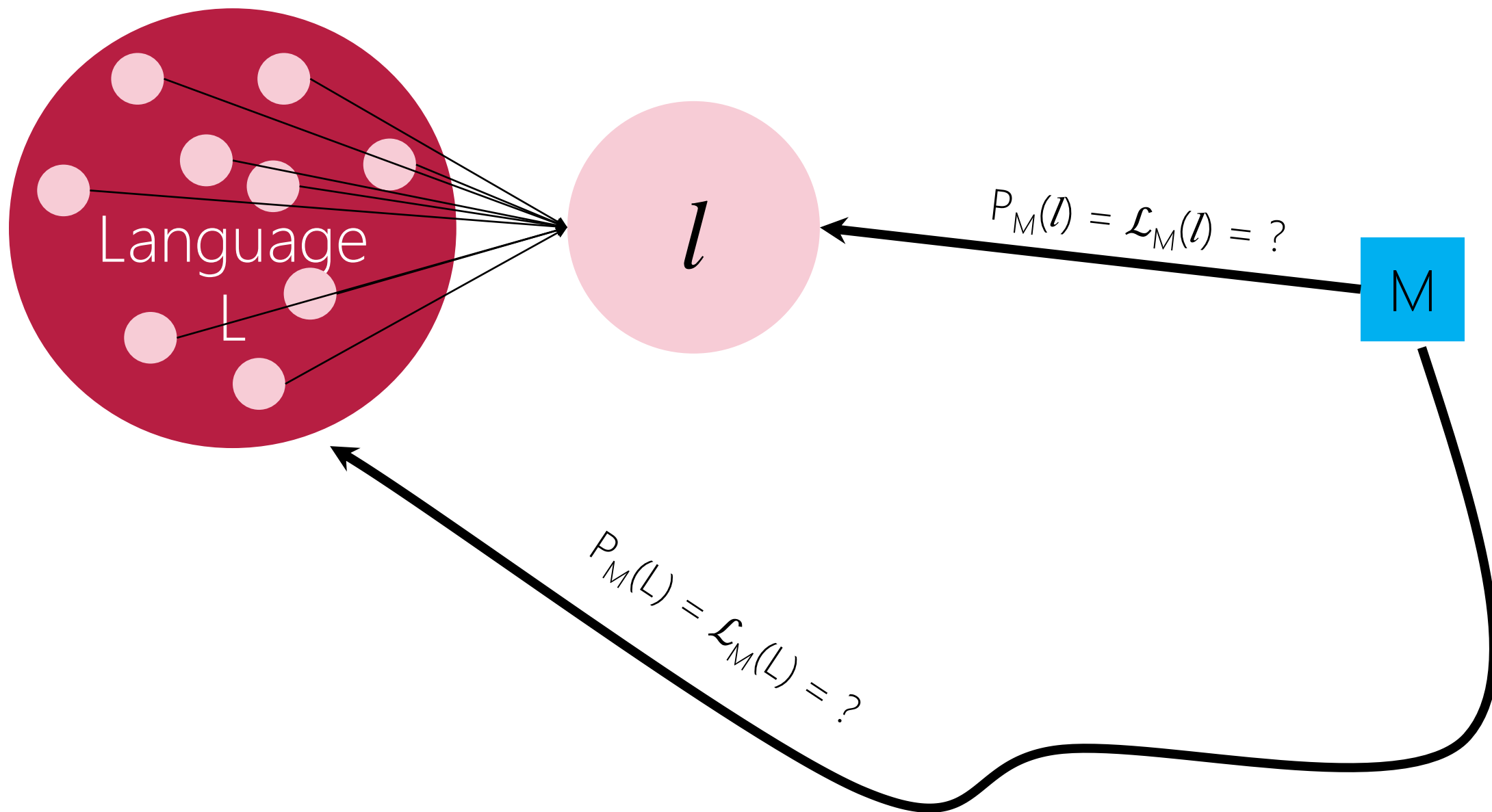
A deep-field astronomical image showing a vast field of galaxies in various colors (blue, orange, red) against a black background. The galaxies are of different shapes and sizes, some appearing as bright, distinct objects while others are fainter and more distant.
$$\hat{M} = \operatorname{argmax}_{M \in \text{Models}} \frac{P(I, M)}{P(M)}$$

$P(M) \sim$ Uniform Distribution (equal chance)

$$M^{\wedge} = \operatorname{argmax}_{M \in \text{Models}} P(l, M)$$

$$P(l, M) = P_M(l) = \mathcal{L}_M(l)$$

$$M^{\wedge} = \operatorname{argmax}_{M \in \text{Models}} \mathcal{L}_M(l)$$



Likelihood for a Language Model

l : [The] [course] [COMP8730] [is] [about] [nlp] [.] [The] [instructor] ['s] [name] [is] [Hossein] [.] [There] [are] [13] [students] [in] [the] [class] [.]

$M1 = \text{token-gram model} = 22\text{-gram model} \rightarrow P_{22\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{22\text{-gram}}(l) = 1$

$$P(\text{The course is about nlp} \dots) = \frac{\#(l)}{\#1}$$

We found our silver model!

$$\underline{M^{\wedge}} = M1$$

Likelihood for a Language Model

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Likelihood for a Language Model

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$= P(\text{the}) ($
// $P(\text{course} | \text{the}) ($
 $=$ $\text{the course})$

Chain Rule of Probability

$$\begin{aligned} P(w_1 w_2 \dots w_n) &= P(w_1) P(w_2 | w_1) P(w_3 | w_1 w_2) \dots P(w_n | w_1 w_2 w_3 \dots w_{n-1}) \\ &= \prod_{k=1}^n P(w_k | w_1 \dots w_{k-1}) \\ &= \prod_{k=1}^n P(w_k | w_1^{k-1}) \end{aligned}$$

Likelihood for a Language Model

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Likelihood for a Language Model

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Likelihood for a Language Model

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Likelihood for a Language Model

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M2 = **|vocab|**-gram model = 16-gram model $\rightarrow P_{16\text{-gram}}(\mathcal{I}) = \mathcal{L}_{16\text{-gram}}(\mathcal{I}) = ?$

$$\begin{aligned} &P([\text{The}] [\text{course}] [\text{COMP8730}] [\text{is}] [\text{about}] [\text{nlp}] [\text{.}] [\text{The}] [\text{instructor}] [\text{'s}] [\text{name}] [\text{is}] [\text{Hossein}] [\text{.}] [\text{There}] [\text{are}] [\text{13}] [\text{students}] [\text{in}] [\text{the}] [\text{class}] [\text{.}]) = \\ &P([\text{The}])P([\text{course}] [\text{COMP8730}] [\text{is}] [\text{about}] [\text{nlp}] [\text{.}] [\text{The}] [\text{instructor}] [\text{'s}] [\text{name}] [\text{is}] [\text{Hossein}] [\text{.}] [\text{There}] [\text{are}] [\text{13}] \dots | [\text{The}]) \\ &P([\text{The}])P([\text{course}] | [\text{The}])P([\text{COMP8730}] [\text{is}] [\text{about}] [\text{nlp}] [\text{.}] [\text{The}] [\text{instructor}] [\text{'s}] [\text{name}] [\text{is}] [\text{Hossein}] [\text{.}] [\text{There}] [\text{are}] \dots | [\text{The}] [\text{course}]) \\ &P([\text{The}])P([\text{course}] | [\text{The}])P([\text{COMP8730}] | [\text{The}] [\text{course}])P([\text{is}] [\text{about}] [\text{nlp}] [\text{.}] \dots [\text{There}] [\text{are}] \dots | [\text{The}] [\text{course}] [\text{COMP8730}]) \\ &P([\text{The}])P([\text{course}] | [\text{The}])P([\text{COMP8730}] | [\text{The}] [\text{course}]) \dots P([\text{name}] | [\text{The}] [\text{course}] [\text{COMP8730}] \dots [\text{'s}]) \dots P([\text{.}] | [\text{The}] \dots [\text{class}]) \end{aligned}$$

Likelihood for a Language Model

l : [The] [course] [COMP8730] [is] [about] [nlp] [.] [The] [instructor] ['s] [name] [is] [Hossein] [.] [There] [are] [13] [students] [in] [the] [class] [.]

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$P([\text{The}]) \dots P([\text{are}] \mid [\text{The}] [\text{course}] [\text{COMP8730}] \dots [\text{There}]) \dots P([\text{.}] \mid [\text{The}] [\text{course}] [\text{COMP8730}] \dots [\text{.}] [\text{The}] \dots [\text{class}])$

Only the last 15 words

Only the last 15 words

cannot be considered in 16-gram model

Likelihood for a Language Model

l : [The] [course] [COMP8730] [is] [about] [nlp] [.] [The] [instructor] ['s] [name] [is] [Hossein] [.] [There] [are] [13] [students] [in] [the] [class] [.]

M1 = |token|-gram model = 22-gram model $\rightarrow P_{22\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{22\text{-gram}}(l) = 1$

M2 = |vocab|-gram model = 16-gram model $\rightarrow P_{16\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{16\text{-gram}}(l) = ?$

M3 = 3-gram model $= \rightarrow P_{3\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{3\text{-gram}}(l) = ?$

$P([\text{The}]) P([\text{course}] | [\text{The}]) P([\text{COMP8730}] | [\text{The}][\text{course}]) \dots P([\text{are}] | [\text{There}][\text{is}]) \dots P([\text{.}] | \dots [\text{the}][\text{class}])$

cannot be considered in 3-gram model

Likelihood for a Language Model

l : [The] [course] [COMP8730] [is] [about] [nlp] [.] [The] [instructor] ['s] [name] [is] [Hossein] [.] [There] [are] [13] [students] [in] [the] [class] [.]

M1 = |token|-gram model = 22-gram model $\rightarrow P_{22\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{22\text{-gram}}(l) = 1$

M2 = |vocab|-gram model = 16-gram model $\rightarrow P_{16\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{16\text{-gram}}(l) = ?$

M3 = 3-gram model $\rightarrow P_{3\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{3\text{-gram}}(l) = ?$

M4 = 2-gram model $\rightarrow P_{2\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{2\text{-gram}}(l) = ?$

$P([\text{The}]) P([\text{course}] | [\text{The}]) P([\text{COMP8730}] | [\text{The}][\text{course}]) \dots P([\text{are}] | \dots [\text{is}]) \dots P([\text{.}] | \dots [\text{class}])$

cannot be considered in 2-gram model

Likelihood for a Language Model

l : [The] [course] [COMP8730] [is] [about] [nlp] [.] [The] [instructor] ['s] [name] [is] [Hossein] [.] [There] [are] [13] [students] [in] [the] [class] [.]

M1 = |token|-gram model = 22-gram model $\rightarrow P_{22\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{22\text{-gram}}(l) = 1$

M2 = |vocab|-gram model = 16-gram model $\rightarrow P_{16\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{16\text{-gram}}(l) = ?$

M3 = 3-gram model $\rightarrow P_{3\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{3\text{-gram}}(l) = ?$

M4 = 2-gram model $\rightarrow P_{2\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{2\text{-gram}}(l) = ?$

M5 = 1-gram model $\rightarrow P_{1\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{1\text{-gram}}(l) = ?$

$P(\text{[The]})P(\text{[course]})P(\text{[COMP8730]}) \dots P(\text{[are]}) \dots P(\text{[.]})$ No History!

Likelihood for a Language Model

l : [The] [course] [COMP8730] [is] [about] [nlp] [.] [The] [instructor] ['s] [name] [is] [Hossein] [.] [There] [are] [13] [students] [in] [the] [class] [.]

$$w_1 w_2 w_3 w_4 w_5 = P(w_1) P(w_2 | w_1) P(w_3 | w_1 w_2) \dots \neq P(w_1) P(w_2) \dots P(w_5)$$

M1 = **token**-gram model = 22-gram model $\rightarrow P_{22\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{22\text{-gram}}(l) = 1$

M2 = **vocab**-gram model = 16-gram model $\rightarrow P_{16\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{16\text{-gram}}(l) = ?$

M3 = **3**-gram model $\rightarrow P_{3\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{3\text{-gram}}(l) = ?$

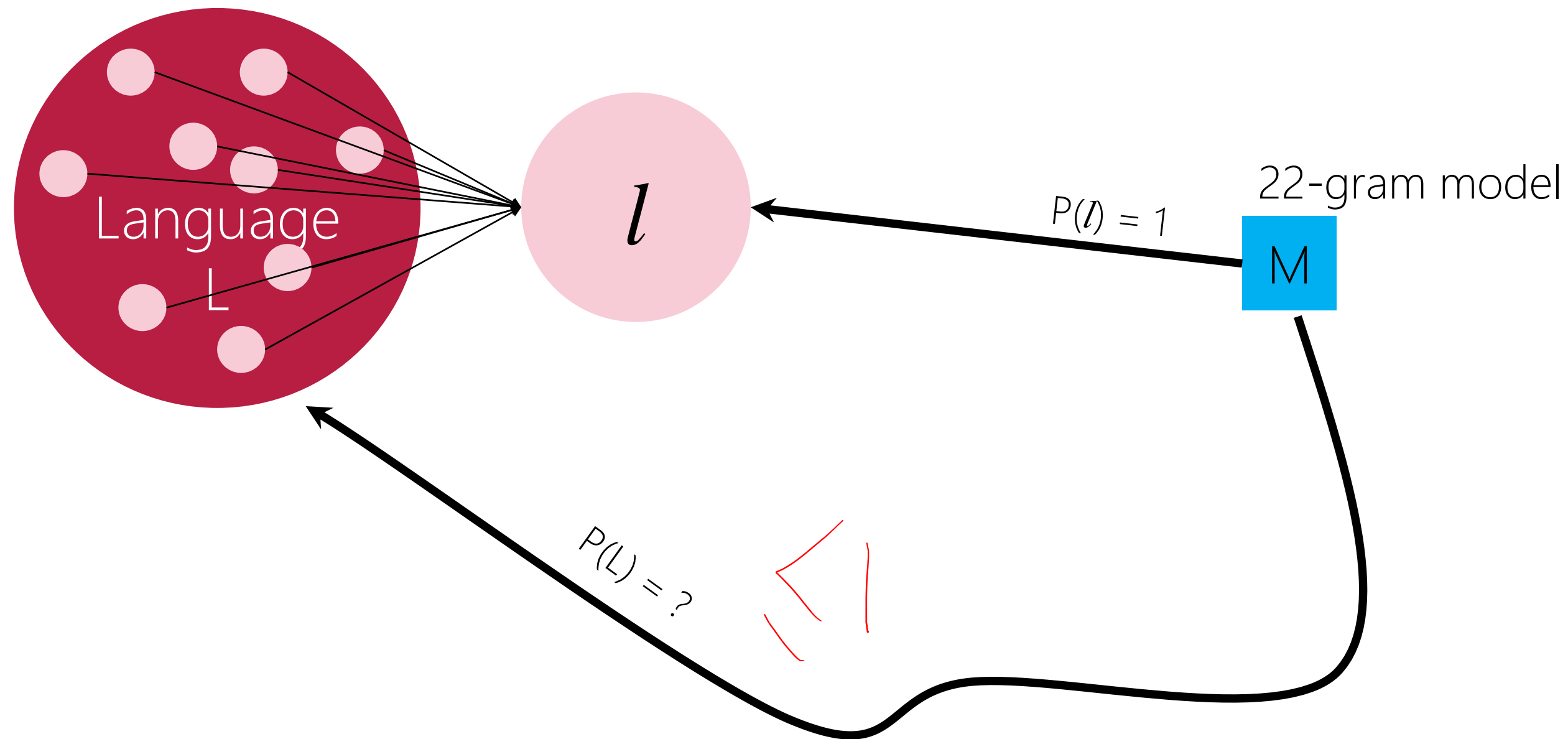
M4 = **2**-gram model $\rightarrow P_{2\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{2\text{-gram}}(l) = ?$

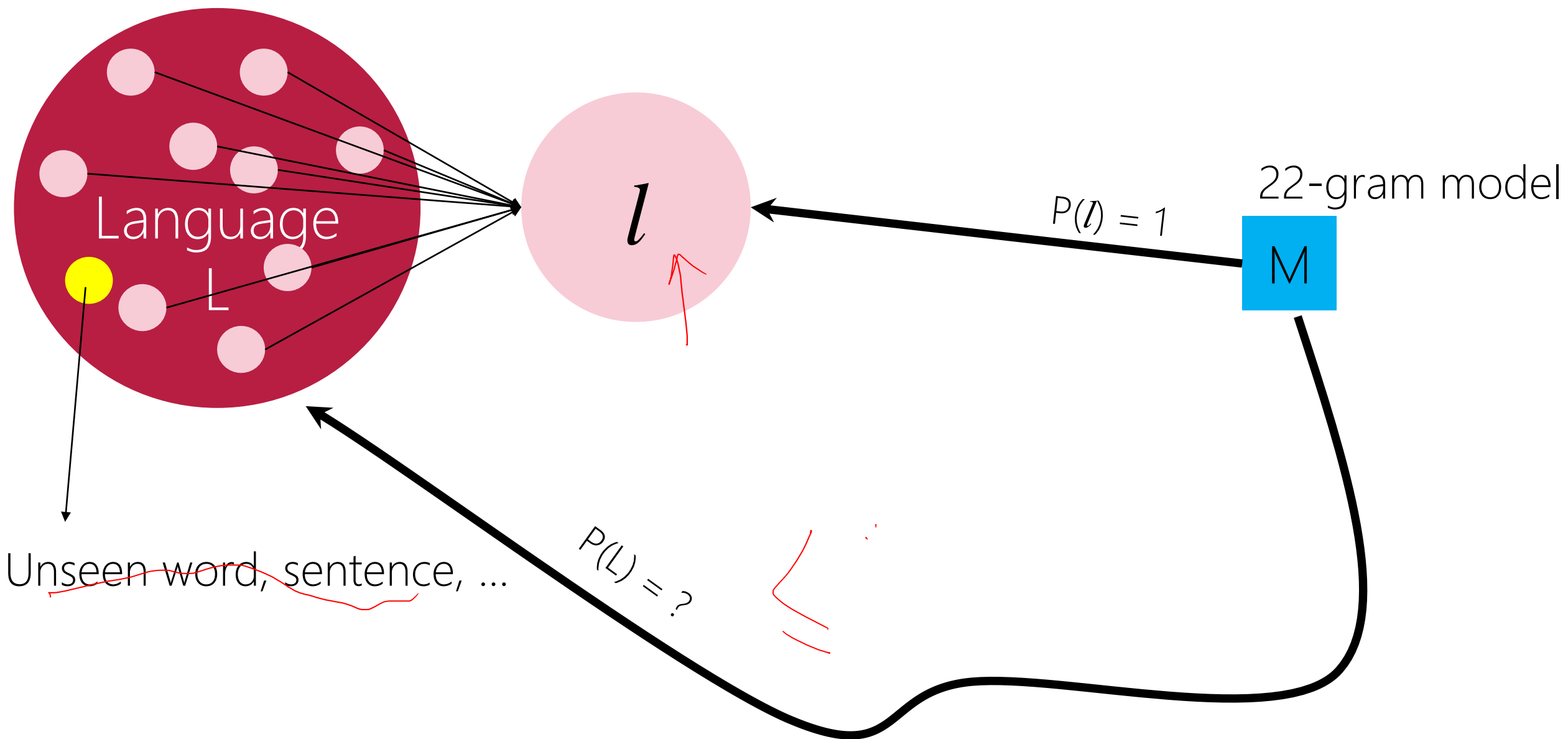
M5 = **1**-gram model $\rightarrow P_{1\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{1\text{-gram}}(l) = ?$

Do you think $\mathcal{L}_{M-\{2..5\}}(l) \geq \mathcal{L}_{22\text{-gram}}(l)$?

Handwritten notes:

- $P(w) = 1$
- $\frac{1}{\#w}$
- $P(w|w) = \frac{\#ww}{\#w} = \frac{4}{5} \neq 1$
- $P(w)^n$





Likelihood for a Language Model

l : [The][course][COMP8730][is][about][nlp][.][The][instructor]['s][name][is][Hossein][.][There][are][13][students][in][the][class][.]

l' : [Hossein][is][the][name][.]

$P(\text{Hossein}) \times P(\text{is} | \text{Hossein}) \times P(\text{the} | \text{Hossein is})$

M1 = |token|-gram model = 22-gram model $\rightarrow P_{22\text{-gram}}(l') = \mathcal{L}_{22\text{-gram}}(l') = ?$

M2 = |vocab|-gram model = 16-gram model $\rightarrow P_{16\text{-gram}}(l') = \mathcal{L}_{16\text{-gram}}(l') = ?$

M3 = 3-gram model $\rightarrow P_{3\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{3\text{-gram}}(l') = ?$

M4 = 2-gram model $\rightarrow P_{2\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{2\text{-gram}}(l') = ?$

M5 = 1-gram model $\rightarrow P_{1\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{1\text{-gram}}(l') = ?$

Likelihood for a Language Model

l : [The] [course] [COMP8730] [is] [about] [nlp] [.] [The] [instructor] ['s] [name] [is] [Hossein] [.] [There] [are] [13] [students] [in] [the] [class] [.]

l' : [Hossein] [is] [the] [name] [.]

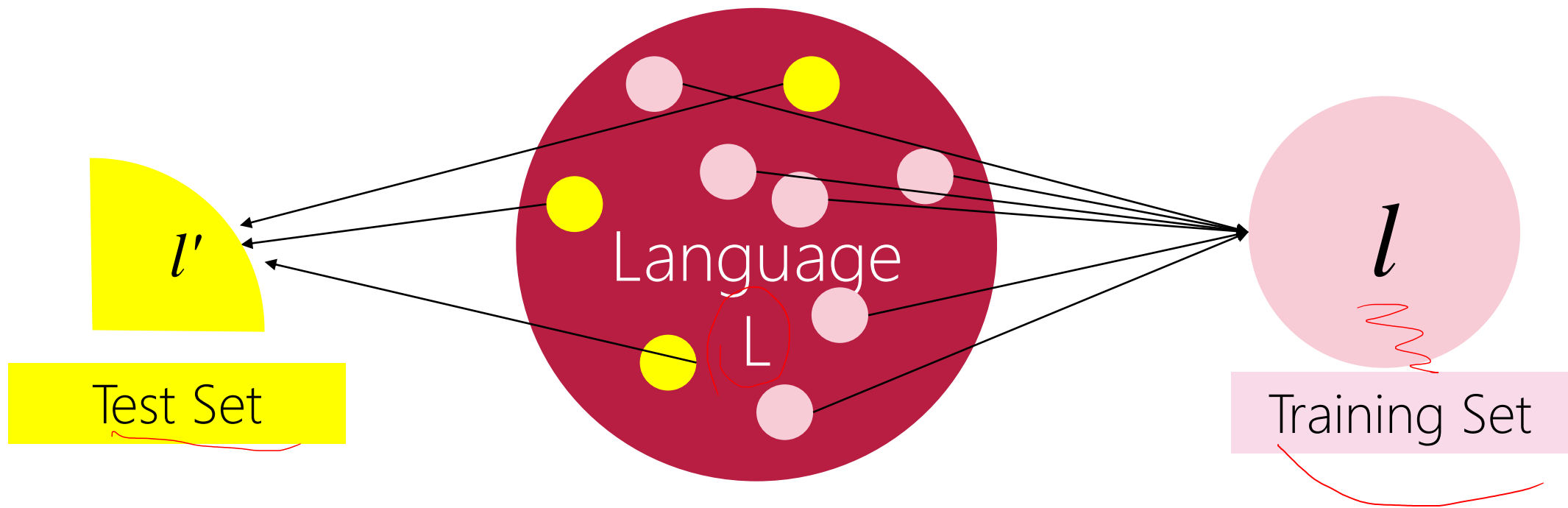
M1 = |token|-gram model = 22-gram model $\rightarrow P_{22\text{-gram}}(l') = \mathcal{L}_{22\text{-gram}}(l') = 0$

M2 = |vocab|-gram model = 16-gram model $\rightarrow P_{16\text{-gram}}(l') = \mathcal{L}_{16\text{-gram}}(l') = 0$

M3 = 3-gram model $\rightarrow P_{3\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{3\text{-gram}}(l') = 0$

M4 = 2-gram model $\rightarrow P_{2\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{2\text{-gram}}(l') = 0$

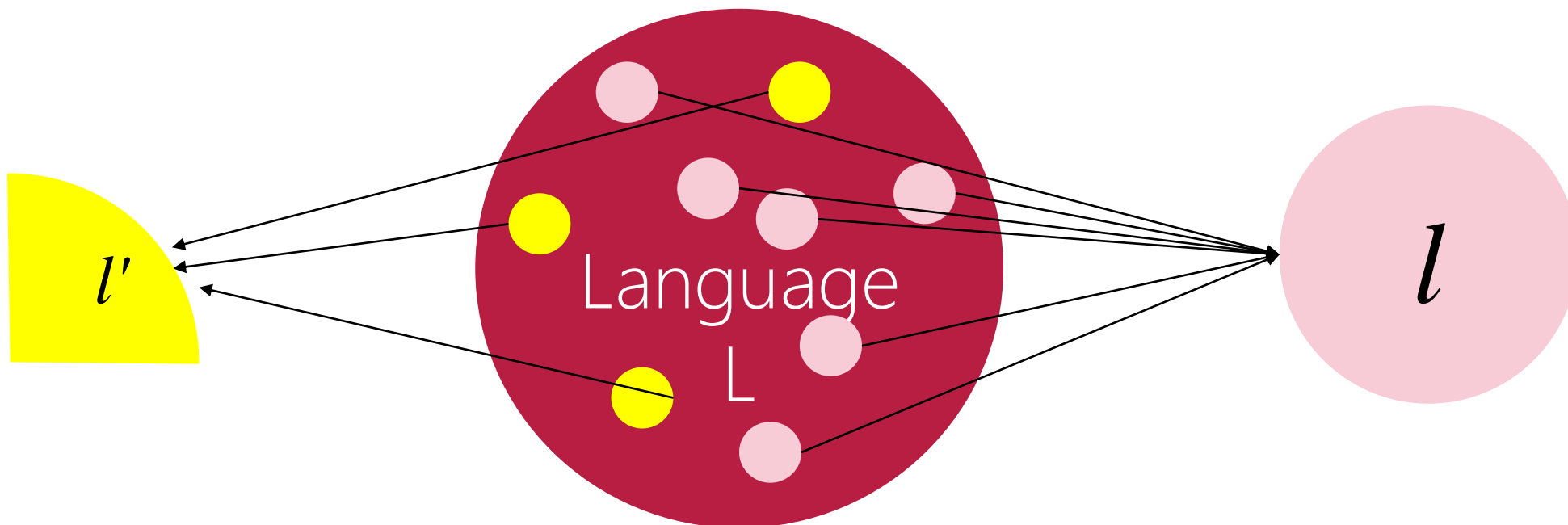
M5 = 1-gram model $\rightarrow P_{1\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{1\text{-gram}}(l') = \text{Nonzero!}$



M is trained on l and does not know anything about l'

	$P_M(l) = \mathcal{L}_M(l)$	$P_M(l') = \mathcal{L}_M(l')$
M10	High	High
M20	High	Low
M30	Low	High
M40	Low	Low

help rarely



M is trained on l and does not know anything about l'

	$P_M(l) = \mathcal{L}_M(l)$	$P_M(l') = \mathcal{L}_M(l')$	
M10	→ High	High	
M20	↘ → High	Low	↘ overfitting
M30	↘ Low	High	↘ ?
M40	↘ Low	Low	→ underfitting

The background of the slide is a deep-field astronomical image showing a vast number of galaxies in various shapes and colors (blue, orange, white) against a black space. The galaxies are distributed across the entire frame, with some appearing as bright, distinct objects and others as faint, distant specks.
$$\hat{M} = \operatorname{argmax}_{M \in \text{Models}} \mathcal{L}_M(I)$$

Diagram illustrating the model selection process:

- The variable \hat{M} is highlighted in green.
- The set of models $M \in \text{Models}$ is indicated by a red bracket.
- The loss function $\mathcal{L}_M(I)$ is indicated by a red bracket.
- The parameter M in the loss function is circled in red.
- A vertical axis on the right shows the loss value, with 1 at the top and 0 at the bottom, indicated by a red arrow pointing upwards.



A cosmic background image showing a dense field of galaxies in various colors (blue, orange, red) against a dark space. Overlaid on this is a mathematical equation for maximum likelihood estimation.

$$\hat{M} = \underset{M \in \text{Models}}{\text{argmax}} \log \mathcal{L}_M(l)$$

Log Likelihood

0

$-\infty$

Evaluating Language Models

Quantitative → Perplexity

How perplexed (confused) a language model is to communicate!

Lower perplexity, the better!

Perplexity

$$PP_M^l(l') = \mathcal{L}_M(l')^{\frac{-1}{|l'|}} = \sqrt[|l'|]{\frac{1}{\mathcal{L}_M(l')}} \quad \begin{matrix} x^{-\frac{1}{n}} = \frac{1}{x^{\frac{1}{n}}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt[n]{x}} \\ x^{-n} = \frac{1}{x^n} = \sqrt[n]{\frac{1}{x}} \end{matrix}$$

M is trained on l and test on l'
Higher $\mathcal{L}_M(l')$, lower perplexity, the better!

Perplexity

Unigram approx.: $|l'| \sqrt{\frac{1}{\mathcal{L}_M(l')}} = |l'| \sqrt{\frac{1}{\prod_{k=1}^{|l'|} P(w_k)}} ; w_i \in l'$

$$= |l'| \sqrt{\frac{1}{P(w_k)^{|l'|}}} ; \text{if } \underline{\text{uniform distribution over words}}$$
$$= \frac{1}{P(w_k)} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{|V|}} = \underline{|V|} \text{ the size of vocabs}$$

If LM wants to select a word, it is perplexed in the **factor of $|V|$**

Perplexity

Unigram approx.: $\sqrt[|l'|]{\frac{1}{\mathcal{L}_M(l')}} = \sqrt[|l'|]{\frac{1}{\prod_{k=1}^{|l'|} P(w_k)}} ; w_i \in l'$

Bigram approx.: $\sqrt[|l'|]{\frac{1}{\mathcal{L}_M(l')}} = \sqrt[|l'|]{\frac{1}{\prod_{k=1}^{|l'|} P(w_i | w_{i-1})}} ; w_{i-1}w_i \in l'$

Trigram approx.: $\sqrt[|l'|]{\frac{1}{\mathcal{L}_M(l')}} = \sqrt[|l'|]{\frac{1}{\prod_{k=1}^{|l'|} P(w_i | w_{i-2}w_{i-1})}} ; w_{i-2}w_{i-1}w_i \in l'$

Perplexity

l : Wall Street Journal
Size: 38 million words
Vocab (Types): 19,979
 l' : 1.5 million words

	<u>Unigram</u>	<u>Bigram</u>	<u>Trigram</u>
Perplexity	962	170	109

Is 4 -Gram better?



$P(1)$ $P(2)$
 $22/e$
 $P(0)$
 11
 $P(1,2)$



Zeros!

Likelihood for a Language Model

l : [The] [course] [COMP8730] [is] [about] [nlp] [.] [The] [instructor] ['s] [name] [is] [Hossein] [.] [There] [are] [13] [students] [in] [the] [class] [.]

l' : [Hossein] [is] [the] [name] [of] [instructor] [.]



M1 = |token|-gram model = 22-gram model $\rightarrow P_{22\text{-gram}}(l') = \mathcal{L}_{22\text{-gram}}(l') = 0$

M2 = |vocab|-gram model = 16-gram model $\rightarrow P_{16\text{-gram}}(l') = \mathcal{L}_{16\text{-gram}}(l') = 0$

M3 = 3-gram model = $\rightarrow P_{3\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{3\text{-gram}}(l') = 0$

M4 = 2-gram model = $\rightarrow P_{2\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{2\text{-gram}}(l') = 0$

M5 = 1-gram model = $\rightarrow P_{1\text{-gram}}(l) = \mathcal{L}_{1\text{-gram}}(l') = 0! \text{ Why?}$

$$p(\text{of}) = 0$$

Zeros!

~~Not~~ all unigrams are available in training set! E.g., [of]

~~Not~~ all bigrams are available in training set! E.g., [Hosseini][is]

~~Not~~ all trigrams are available in training set! ...

Zeros!

- 1) Vocabulary + <UNK>
- 2) Train Vocabulary + Learn Unseen Tokens (Subwords)
- 3) Smoothing

BPE

Zeros! $\langle \text{UNK} \rangle$

learn the stat of unseen tokens

- 1) Pick a dictionary D
- 2) From $w \in l$ such that $w \notin D$, (oov) replace it with $\langle \text{UNK} \rangle$
- 3) Train model
- 4) At test, from $w \in l'$, if $w \notin l$ (unseen), replace it with $\langle \text{UNK} \rangle$

Zeros! <UNK>

learn the stat of unseen tokens

Hoss ~ => 1
D: [The][course][is][about][instructor][name][There][are][13][students][in][class]
l: ['The][course][<UNK>][is][about][<UNK>][<UNK>][The][instructor][<UNK>][name][is][<UNK>][<UNK>][There][are][13][students][in][the][class][.]
l': [<UNK>][is][the][name][<UNK>][<UNK>][<UNK>][<UNK>]

M1 = 22-gram model $\rightarrow P(l') = \mathcal{L}_{22\text{-gram}}(l') = 0$

M2 = 16-gram model $\rightarrow P(l') = \mathcal{L}_{16\text{-gram}}(l') = 0$

M3 = 3-gram model = $P(l') = \mathcal{L}_{3\text{-gram}}(l') = 0$

M4 = 2-gram model = $P(l') = \mathcal{L}_{2\text{-gram}}(l') = 0$

M5 = 1-gram model = $P(l') = \mathcal{L}_{1\text{-gram}}(l') = \text{Nonzero! (Why?)}$

Zeros! <UNK>

learn the stat of unseen tokens

D : [The][is]

l : ['The][<UNK>][<UNK>][is][<UNK>][<UNK>][<UNK>][The][<UNK>][<UNK>][<UNK>][is][<UNK>][<UNK>][<UNK>][<UNK>]...[<UNK>][the][<UNK>][<UNK>]

l' : [<UNK>][is][the][<UNK>][<UNK>][<UNK>][<UNK>][<UNK>]

M1 = 22-gram model $\rightarrow P(l') = \mathcal{L}_{22\text{-gram}}(l') = 0$

M2 = 16-gram model $\rightarrow P(l') = \mathcal{L}_{16\text{-gram}}(l') = 0$

M3 = 3-gram model = $P(l') = \mathcal{L}_{3\text{-gram}}(l') = 0$

M4 = 2-gram model = $P(l') = \mathcal{L}_{2\text{-gram}}(l') = \text{Nonzero!}$

M5 = 1-gram model = $P(l') = \mathcal{L}_{1\text{-gram}}(l') = \text{Nonzero!}$

Zeros! <UNK>

learn the stat of unseen tokens

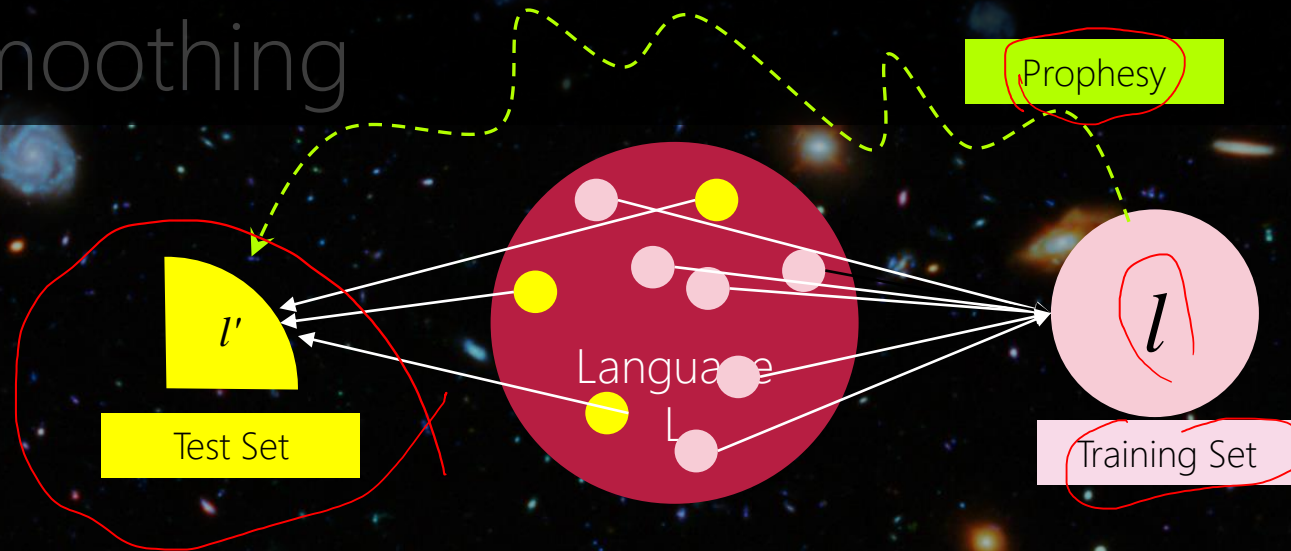
All the model should generate is stream of <UNK>s!

Pick a ~~Small~~ Dictionary

Gives higher probability (lower perplexity) at test

Zeros!

- 1) Vocabulary + $\langle \text{UNK} \rangle$
- 2) Train Vocabulary + Learn Unseen Tokens (Subwords)
- 3) Smoothing



Learn to Tokenize

Byte-Pair Encoding (BPE)

1. Help to generalize to produce *unseen* words
2. *Rare* words into *subword* units is sufficient for translation

100 rare tokens in German training data and they are translatable from English via smaller units!

<https://github.com/rsennrich/subword-nmt>

```
function BYTE-PAIR ENCODING(strings C, number of merges k) returns vocab V
  V ← all unique characters in C           # initial set of tokens is characters
  for i = 1 to k do
     $l_i, r_i$  ← Most frequent pair of adjacent tokens in C   # merge tokens till k times
     $l_{new} \leftarrow l_i + r_i$                                 # make new token by concatenating
     $V \leftarrow V + l_{new}$                                     # update the vocabulary
    Replace each occurrence of  $l_i, r_i$  in C with  $l_{new}$     # and update the corpus
  return V
```

Figure 2.11 The token learner part of the BPE algorithm for taking a corpus broken up into individual characters or bytes, and learning a vocabulary by iteratively merging tokens. Figure adapted from [Bosch and Dorr \(2010\)](#).

Zeros!

- 1) Vocabulary + **<UNK>**
- 2) Train Vocabulary + Learn Unseen Tokens (Subwords)
- 3) Smoothing
 - A. Add-1 (Laplace) or Add-k, $\rightarrow k=\{1,2,\dots\}$
 - B. Backoff
 - C. Interpolation
 - D. ...

Zeros! Add-k

Add k unit to all counts, so zero entries become k

1 = apple

Add-1 is called Laplace

Unigram model: $P(w_i) = \frac{\#w_i + k}{|\text{tokens}| + k \times |\text{vocab}|}$

Bigram model: $P(w_i | w_{i-1}) = \frac{\#(w_{i-1}w_i) + k}{\#(w_{i-1}) + k \times ?}$

Trigram model: $P(w_i | w_{i-2}w_{i-1}) = \frac{\#(w_{i-2}w_{i-1}w_i) + k}{\#(w_{i-2}w_{i-1}) + k \times ?}$

Zeros! Backoff

if n-Gram have not seen, try (n-1)-Gram

Trigram model: $P(w_i | w_{i-2} w_{i-1}) = \frac{\#(w_{i-2} w_{i-1} w_i)}{\#(w_{i-2} w_{i-1})} = 0$

Bigram model: $P(w_i | w_{i-1}) = \frac{\#(w_{i-1} w_i)}{\#(w_{i-1})} = 0$

Unigram model: $P(w_i) = \frac{\#w_i}{|\text{tokens}|}$

Zeros! Interpolation

P(n-Gram) is linear interpolation of all (n-i)-Grams: $i=\{1,2,\dots, n-1\}$.

$\lambda_1 - 2$

λ_1

$$\text{Trigram model: } P(w_i | w_{i-2} w_{i-1}) = \lambda_1 \frac{\#(w_{i-2} w_{i-1} w_i)}{\#(w_{i-2} w_{i-1})} +$$

$$\text{Bigram model: } P(w_i | w_{i-1}) = \lambda_2 \frac{\#(w_{i-1} w_i)}{\#(w_{i-1})} +$$

$$\text{Unigram model: } P(w_i) = \lambda_3 \frac{\#w_i}{|\text{tokens}|}$$

$$\sum \lambda_i = 1$$

Kneser-Ney Smoothing

Kneser, R. and Ney, H. (1995). Improved backing-off for M-gram language modeling. In ICASSP-95, Vol. 1, 181–184.

Chen, S. F. and Goodman, J. (1999). An empirical study of smoothing techniques for language modeling. *Computer Speech and Language*, 13, 359–394.



Evaluating Language Models

Quantitative → *Extrinsic* vs. *Intrinsic*

LM

Fake news

Sen



Evaluating Language Models

Quantitative → Spell Correction

$$P(\textcolor{yellow}{w} | w_{i+1} \dots w_{i+n-2} w_{i+n-1}) = \frac{P(w_{i+1} \dots w_{i+n-2} w_{i+n-1} \textcolor{yellow}{w})}{P(w_{i+1} \dots w_{i+n-2} w_{i+n-1})}$$

$$= \frac{\#(w_{i+1} \dots w_{i+n-2} w_{i+n-1} \textcolor{yellow}{w})}{\#(w_{i+1} \dots w_{i+n-2} w_{i+n-1})}$$

$w \in \text{vocab}$

top-10-
0.6

$w_{i+1} \dots w_{i+n-2} w_{i+n-1} \rightarrow \textcolor{red}{w}_{i+n}$

More helpful a language model in finding correct spells, the better!

MED



$$P(w \mid w_{i+1} \dots w_{i+n-2} w_{i+n-1}) = \frac{P(w_{i+1} \dots w_{i+n-2} w_{i+n-1} w)}{P(w_{i+1} \dots w_{i+n-2} w_{i+n-1})}$$

$$= \frac{\#(w_{i+1} \dots w_{i+n-2} w_{i+n-1} w)}{\#(w_{i+1} \dots w_{i+n-2} w_{i+n-1})}$$

$w_{i+1} \dots w_{i+n-2} w_{i+n-1} \rightarrow w_{i+n}$

More helpful a language model in finding correct spells, the better!

Is this judgment correct?