

# Lesson 5: Generating and Encoding Text with Transformers



- 5.1 The Natural Language Processing Pipeline
- 5.2 Generative Models of Language
- 5.3 Generating Text with Transformers Pipelines
- 5.4 Deconstructing Transformers Pipelines
- 5.5 Decoding Strategies
- 5.6 Transformers are Just Latent Variable Models for Sequences
- 5.7 Visualizing and Understanding Attention
- 5.8 Turning Words into Vectors
- 5.9 The Vector Space Model
- 5.10 Embedding Sequences with Transformers
- 5.11 Computing the Similarity Between Embeddings
- 5.12 Semantic Search with Embeddings
- 5.13 Contrastive Embeddings with Sentence Transformers

# 5.1

## **The Natural Language Processing Pipeline**

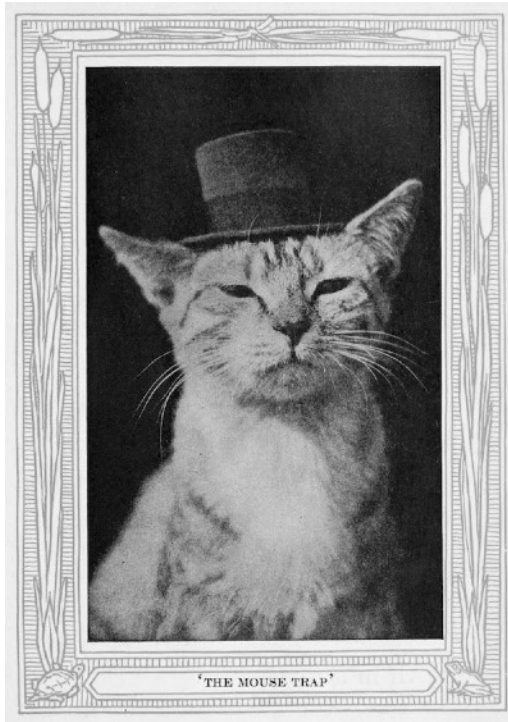
# Natural Language Processing (NLP)

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[1, 3, 1, 1, 2, 0, 1, 0]  
[0, 1, 4, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1]  
[3, 0, 1, 1, 2, 2, 3, 2]  
[0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 3, 2, 3]  
[1, 2, 1, 2, 2, 0, 0, 0]  
[1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1]  
[0, 2, 0, 0, 2, 2, 0, 0]  
[1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1]

# Image Vectorization



245	238	222	255
233	0	17	254
255	6	3	223
250	9	11	242
251	247	245	232

# NLP Pipeline



# NLP Pipeline



- Sentence level
- Word level
- Character level
- Byte pair encoding

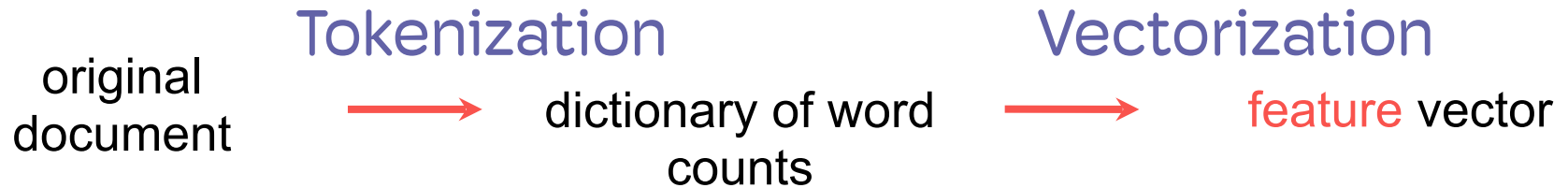
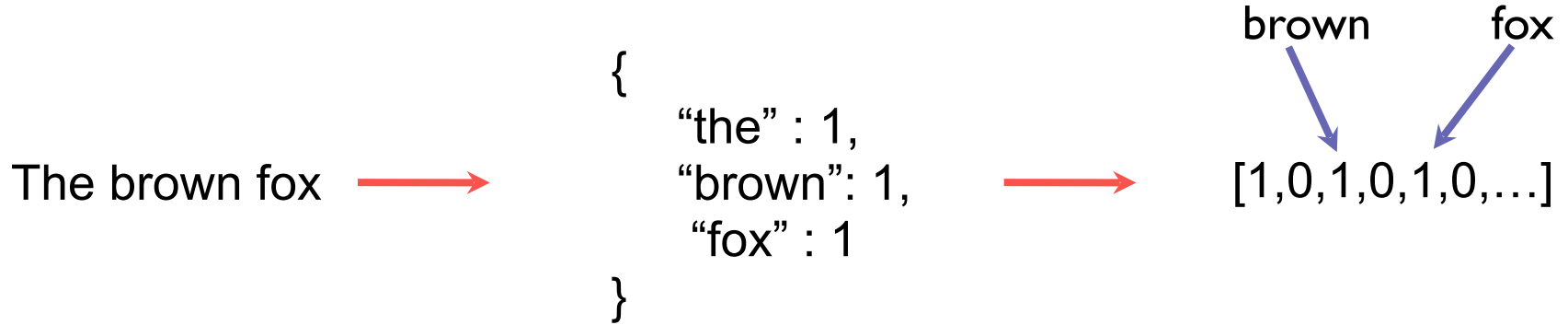
- Punctuation filtering
- Stop word removal
- Stemming
- Lemmatization

- Bag of words
- TF-IDF
- POS tagging
- word2vec

# Terminology

- **Document:** Single row of data/corpus
- **Corpus:** Entire set of all documents
- **Vocabulary:** Set of all words in corpus
- **Vector:** Mathematical representation of document  
(counts of word occurrences)

# Bag of Words





# Bag of Words (Bernoulli)

	red	brown	jumps	the	fox	panda
doc0	0	1	0	1	1	0
doc1	1	0	0	1	1	0
doc2	1	0	0	1	0	1
doc3	0	0	1	1	1	0

# Bag of Words (Multinomial)

	red	brown	jumps	the	fox	panda
doc0	0	2	0	4	2	0
doc1	1	0	0	1	1	0
doc2	2	0	0	2	0	2
doc3	0	0	1	2	2	0

# Dedicated NLP Libraries

- spaCy: <https://spacy.io>
- fastText: <https://fasttext.cc>
- Gensim: <https://radimrehurek.com/gensim/>
- AllenNLP: <https://allenai.org/allennlp>
- flair: <https://github.com/flairNLP/flair>
- fairseq: <https://github.com/facebookresearch/fairseq>

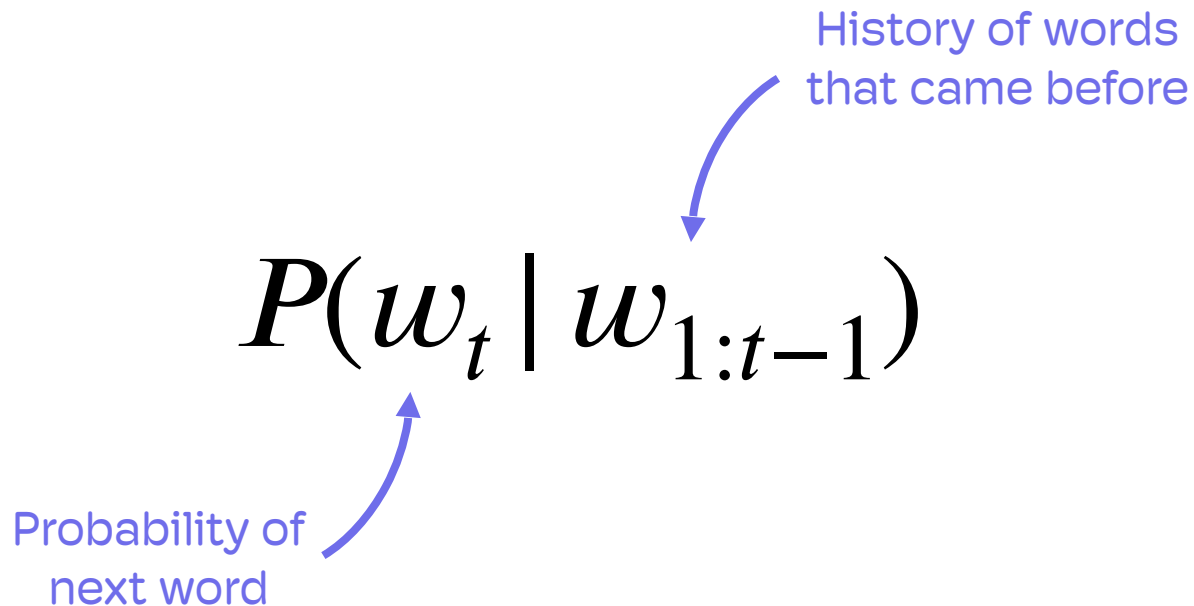
## 5.2

# Generative Models of Language

## **Probabilistic Model of Natural Language**

$$P(w_1, \dots, w_m) = \prod_{t=1}^m P(w_t \mid w_{1:t-1})$$

# Language Models



History of words  
that came before

$$P(w_t \mid w_{1:t-1})$$

Probability of  
next word

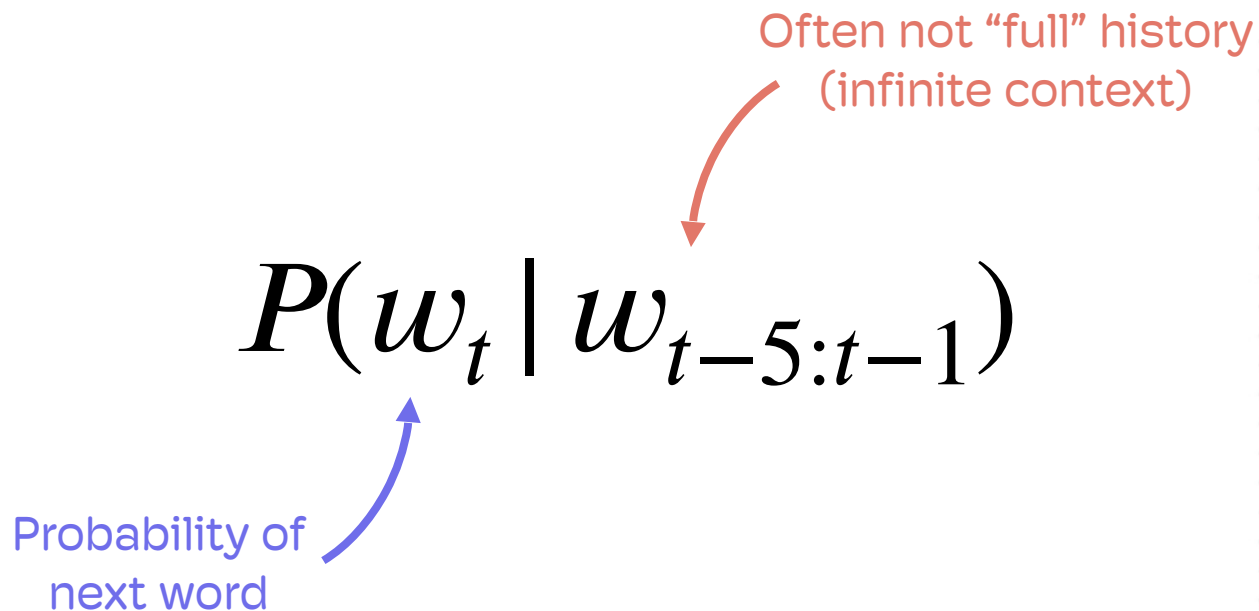
The diagram illustrates the notation for a language model. The central expression is  $P(w_t \mid w_{1:t-1})$ . A blue curved arrow points from the text 'History of words that came before' to the conditioning part  $w_{1:t-1}$ . Another blue curved arrow points from the text 'Probability of next word' to the probability function  $P$ .

# Language Models

Often not “full” history  
(infinite context)

$$P(w_t \mid w_{t-5:t-1})$$

Probability of  
next word

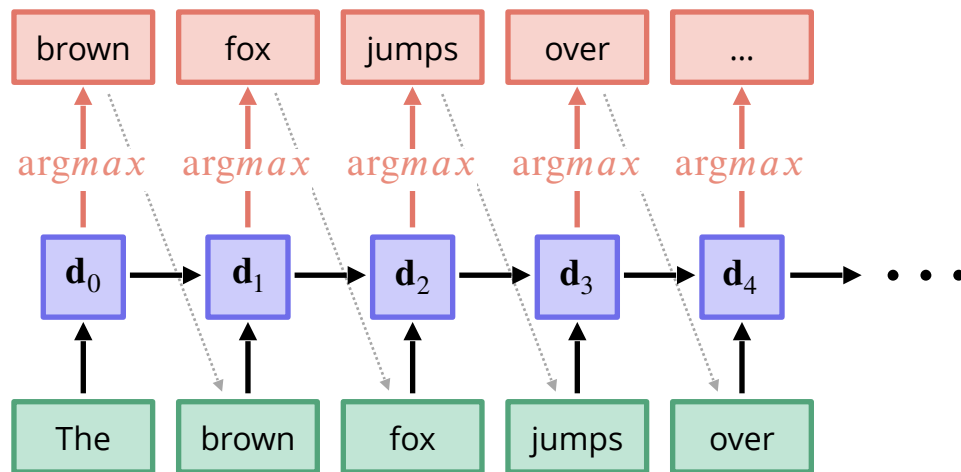
The diagram shows the equation  $P(w_t \mid w_{t-5:t-1})$  in the center. A red curved arrow points from the text 'Often not “full” history (infinite context)' to the conditioning part  $w_{t-5:t-1}$ . A blue curved arrow points from the text 'Probability of next word' to the probability function  $P(w_t)$ .



# Language Models

- **n-gram model:** Fixed window of previous *n* words
- **Neural/RNN:** Learned embeddings of *n* words
- **Large language model (LLM):** Large scale self- and semi-supervised pretraining of bidirectional models

# Causal Language Modeling



## 5.3

# Generating Text with Transformers Pipelines

# Live Coding

## 5.4

# Deconstructing Transformers Pipelines

# Live Coding

# 5.5

## Decoding Strategies

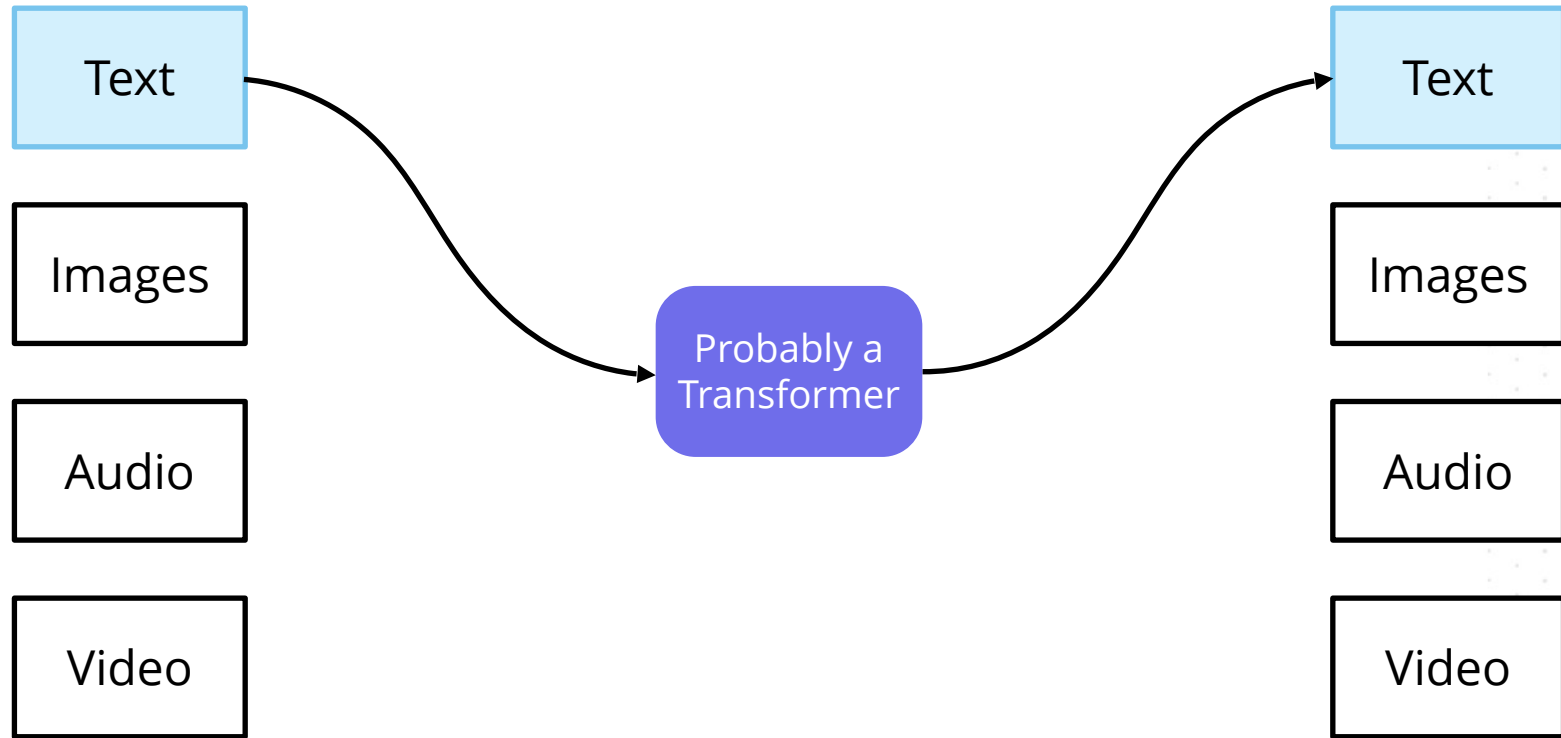
# Live Coding



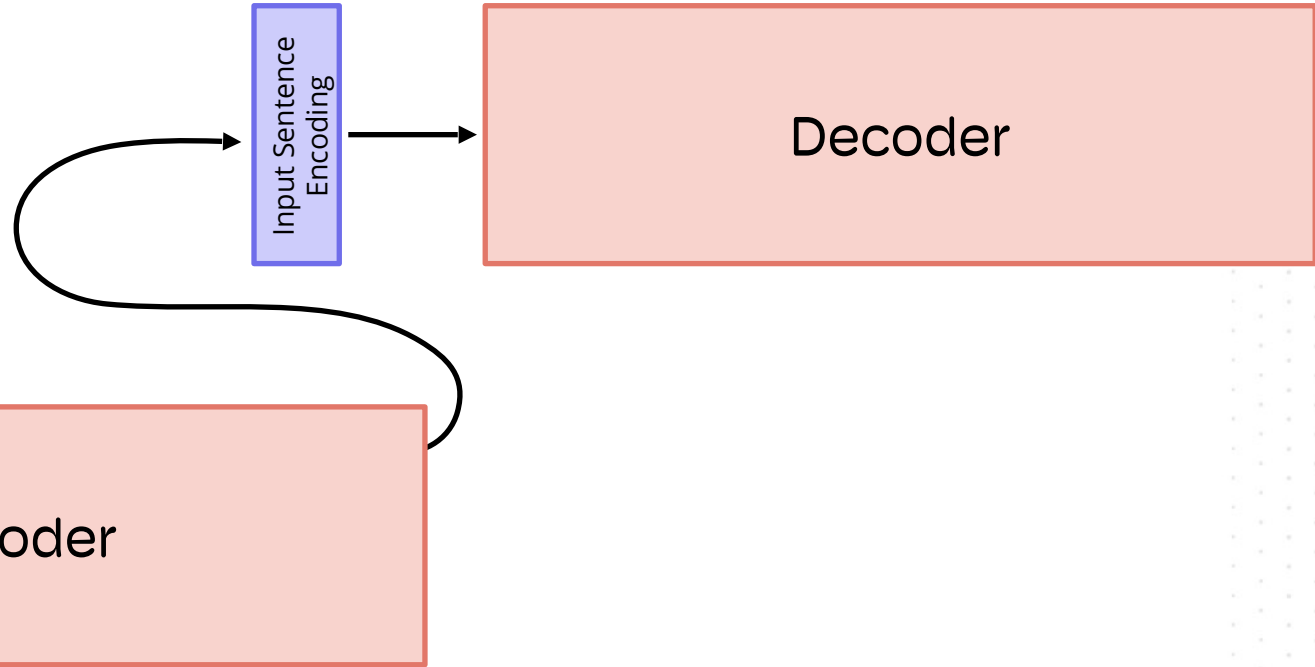
## 5.6

# **Transformers are Just Latent Variable Models for Sequences**

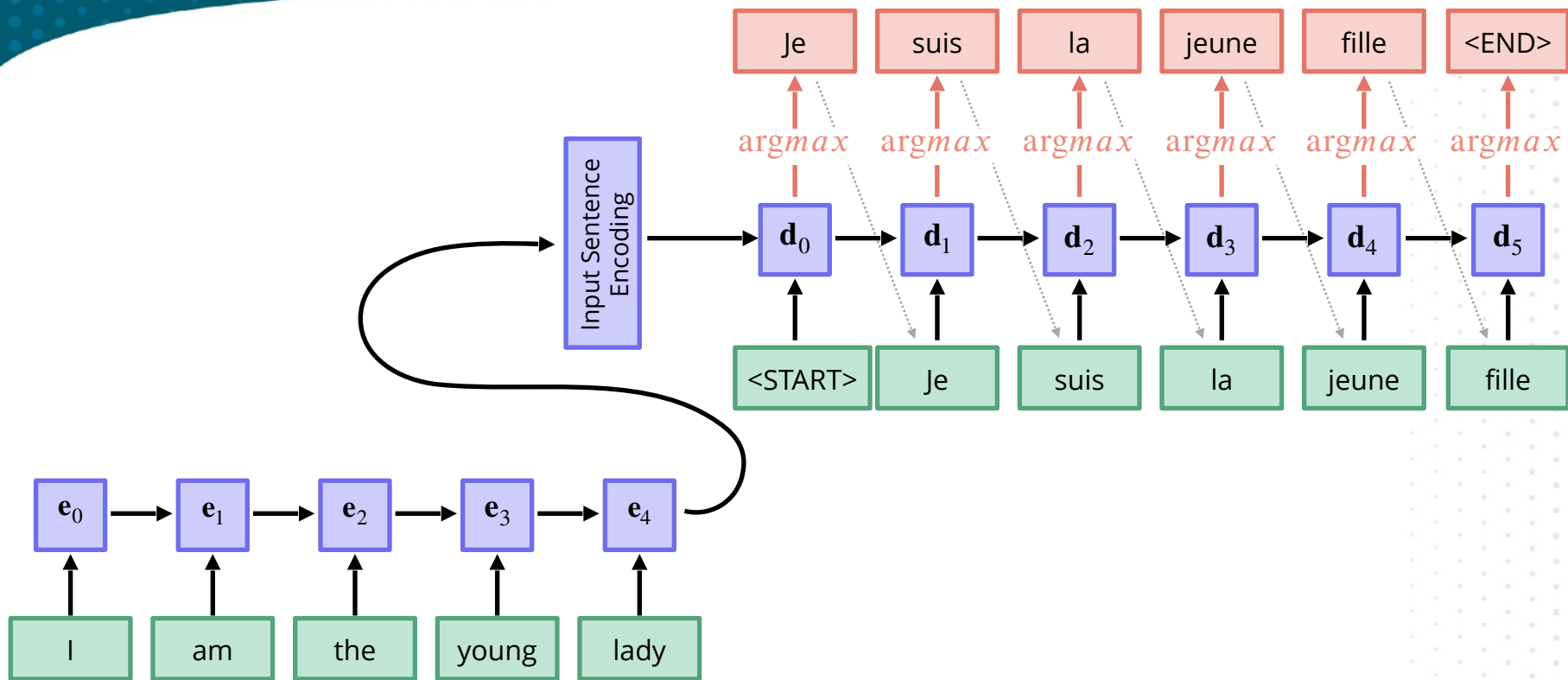
# Text-to-Text (Translation, Summarization, Other)



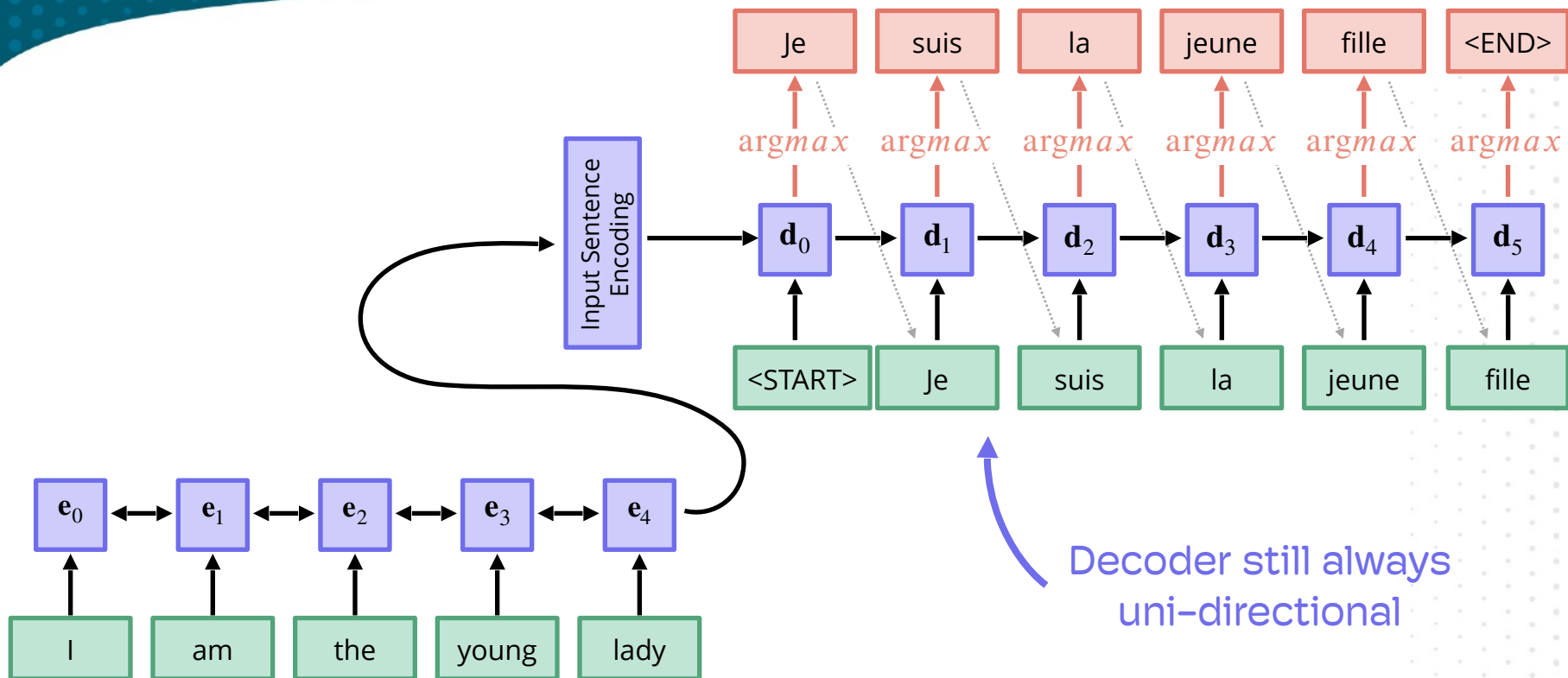
# seq2seq



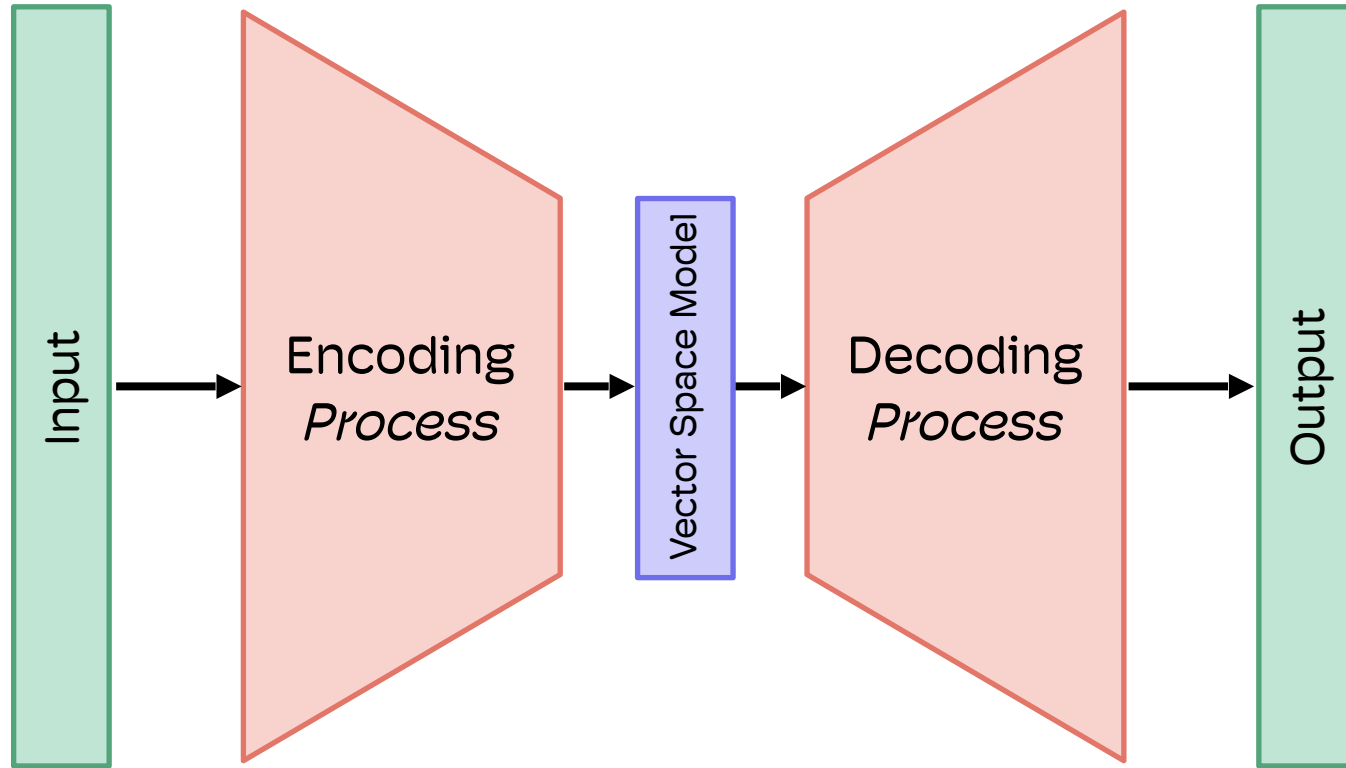
# seq2seq



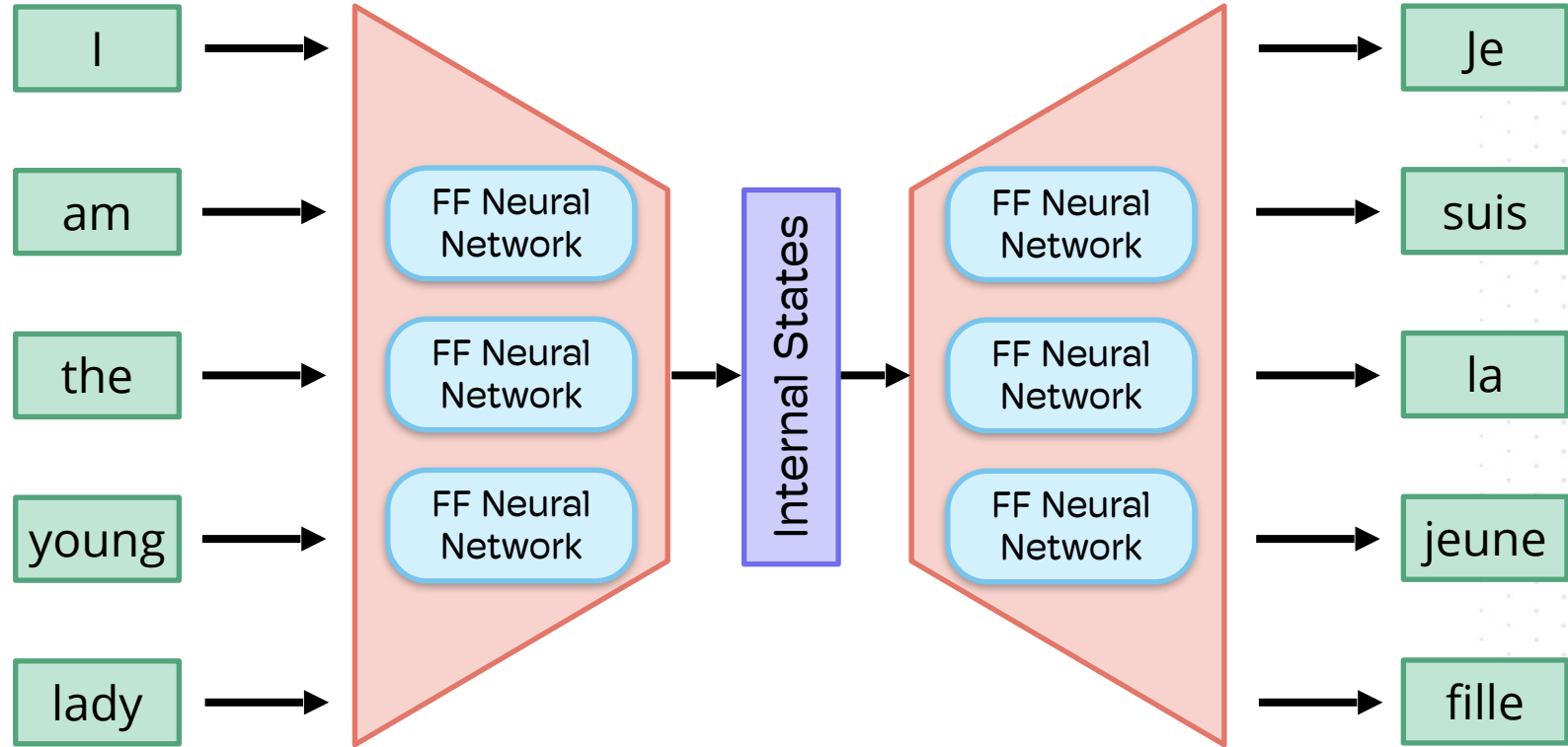
# Bidirectional seq2seq



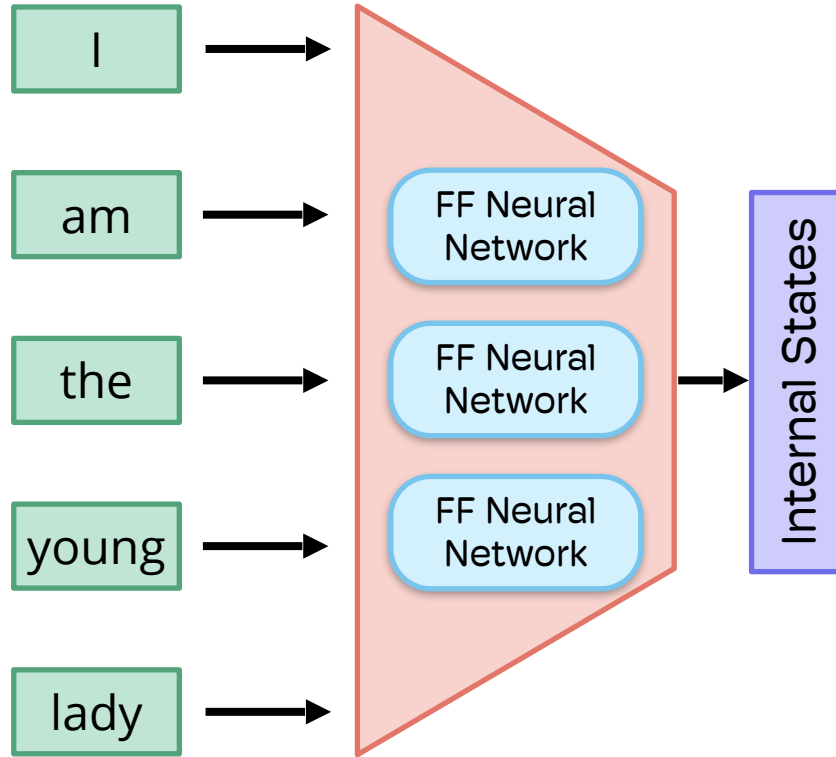
# Encoding Natural Language



# Transformer



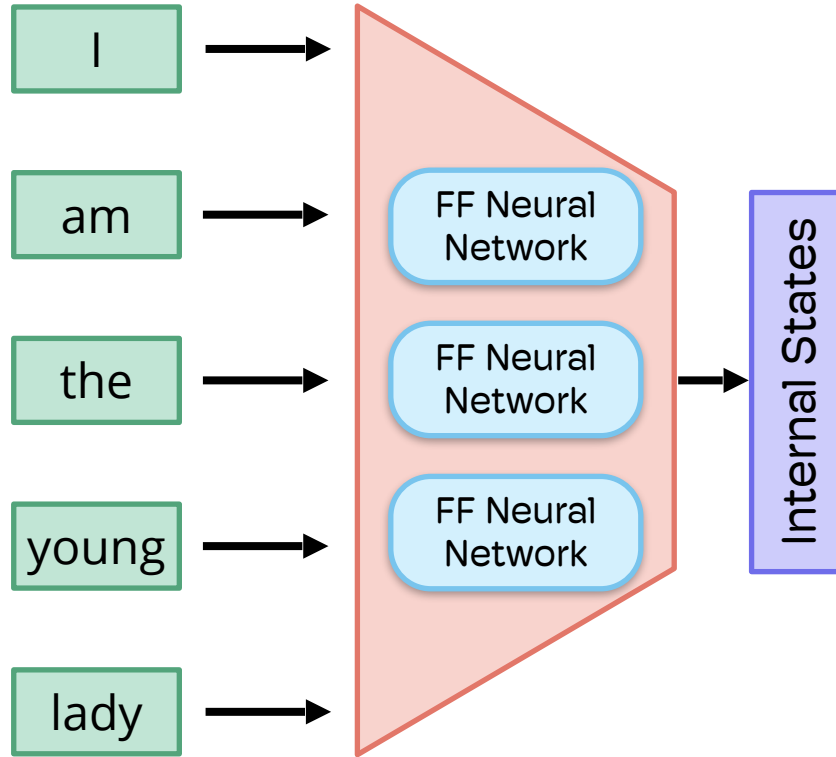
# Encoder Only Transformer



**Can “see” the  
entire input**



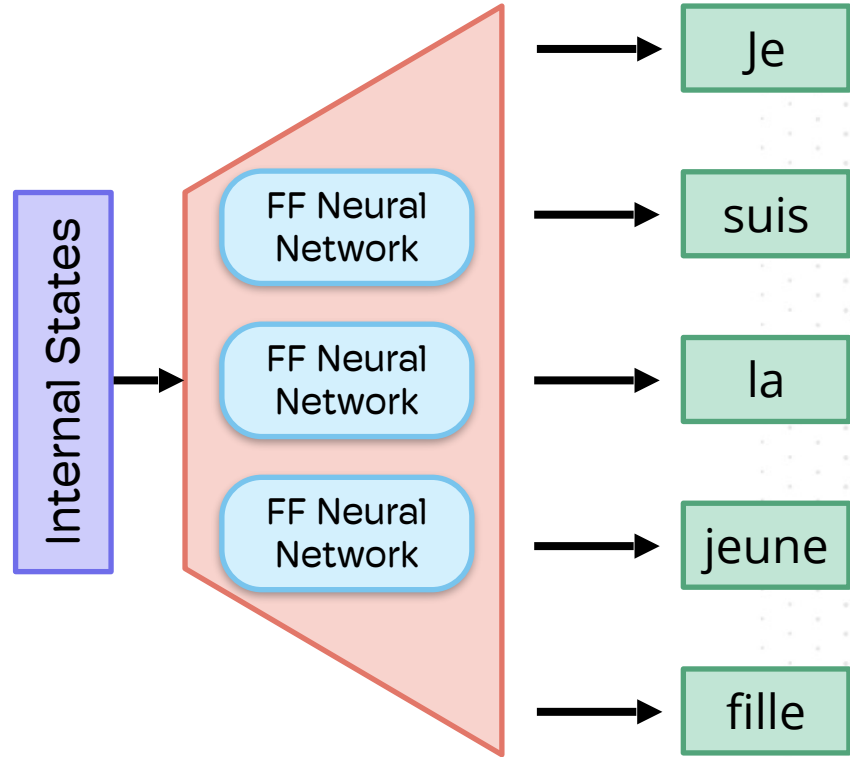
# Encoder Only Transformer



**Typically for  
downstream tasks  
(i.e. BERT)**

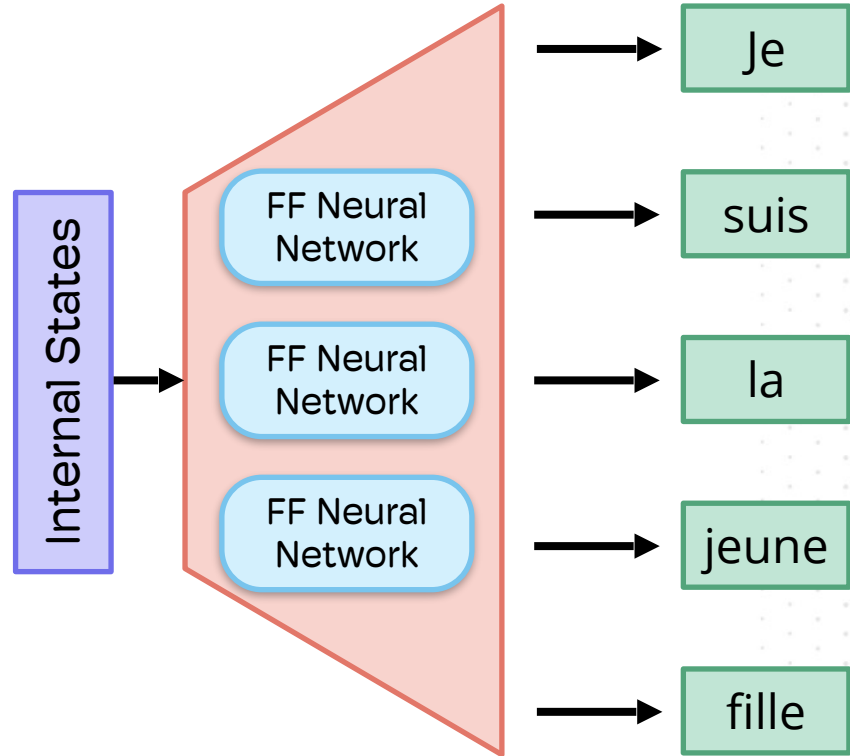
# Decoder Only Transformer

**Only has access to  
the previous words**



# Decoder Only Transformer

**Typically for  
generation  
(i.e. GPT)**



## 5.7

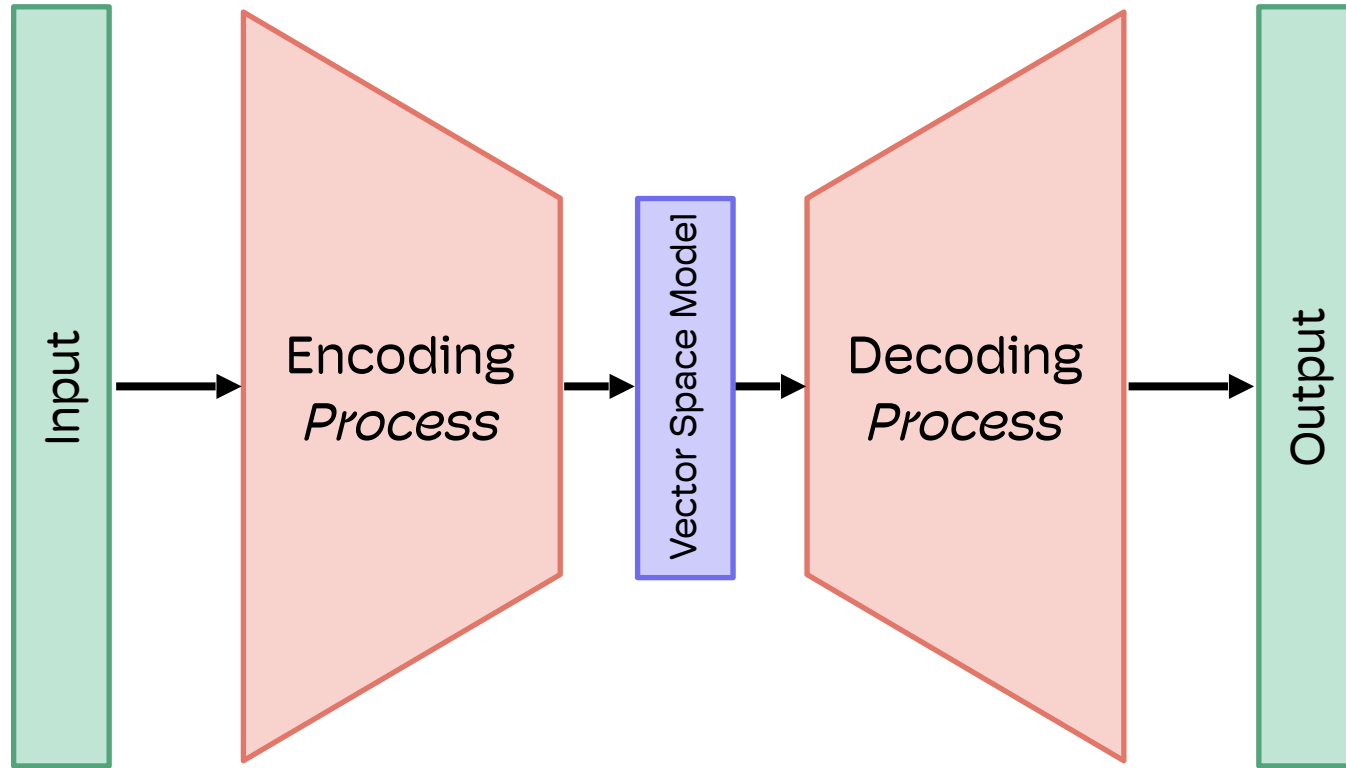
# Visualizing and Understanding Attention

# Live Coding

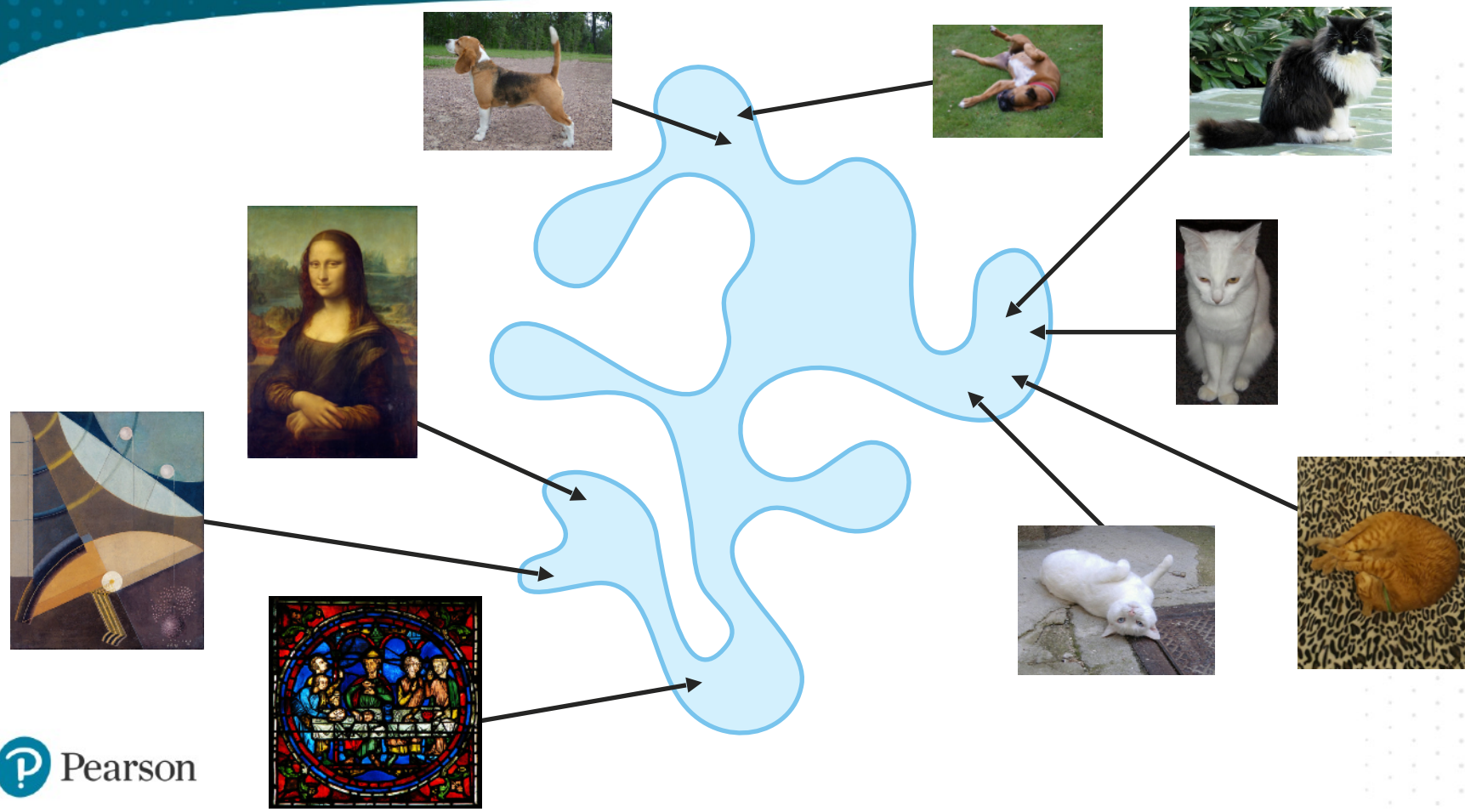
## 5.8

# Turning Words into Vectors

# Encoding Natural Language

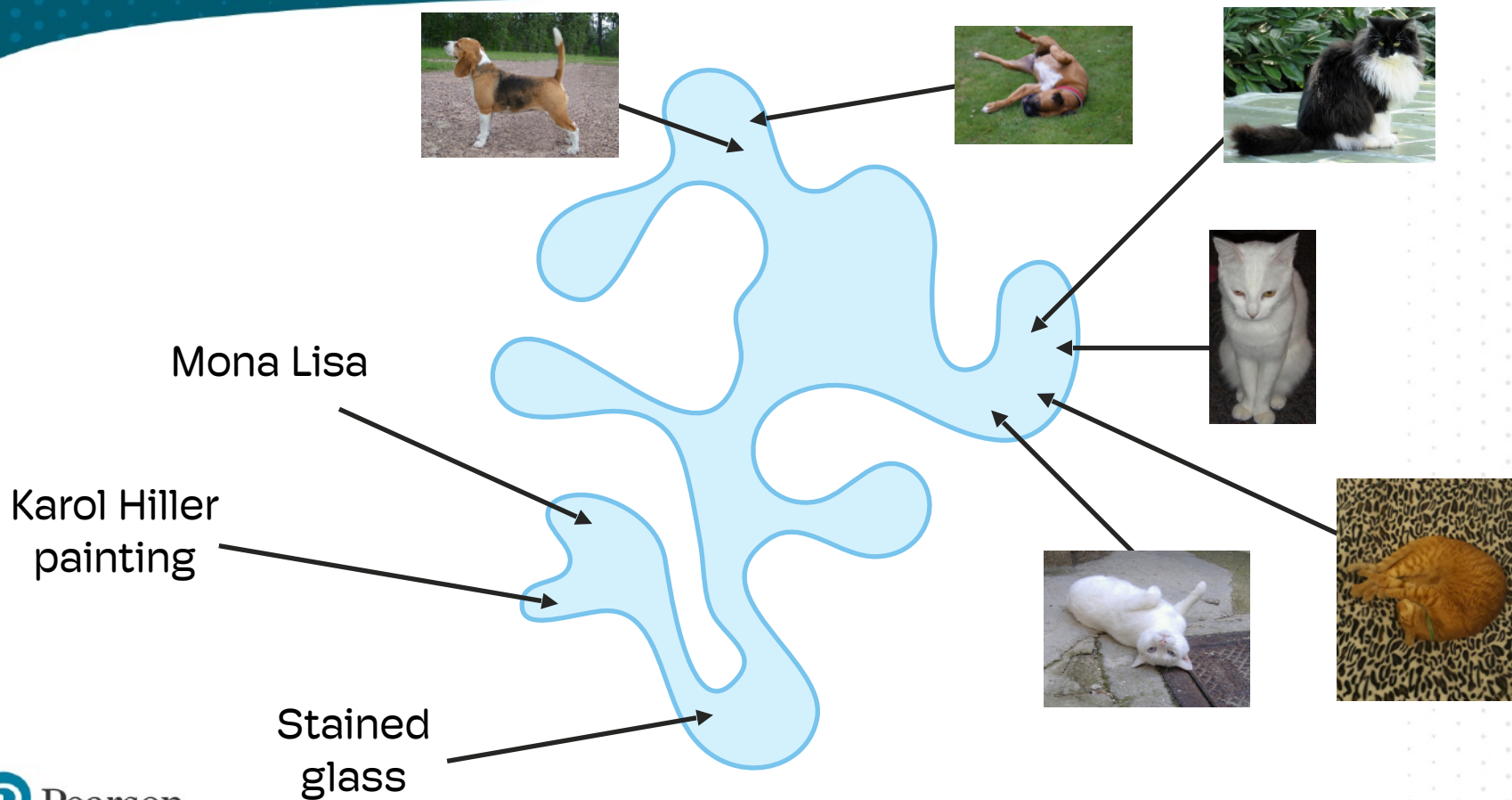


# Natural Image Manifold

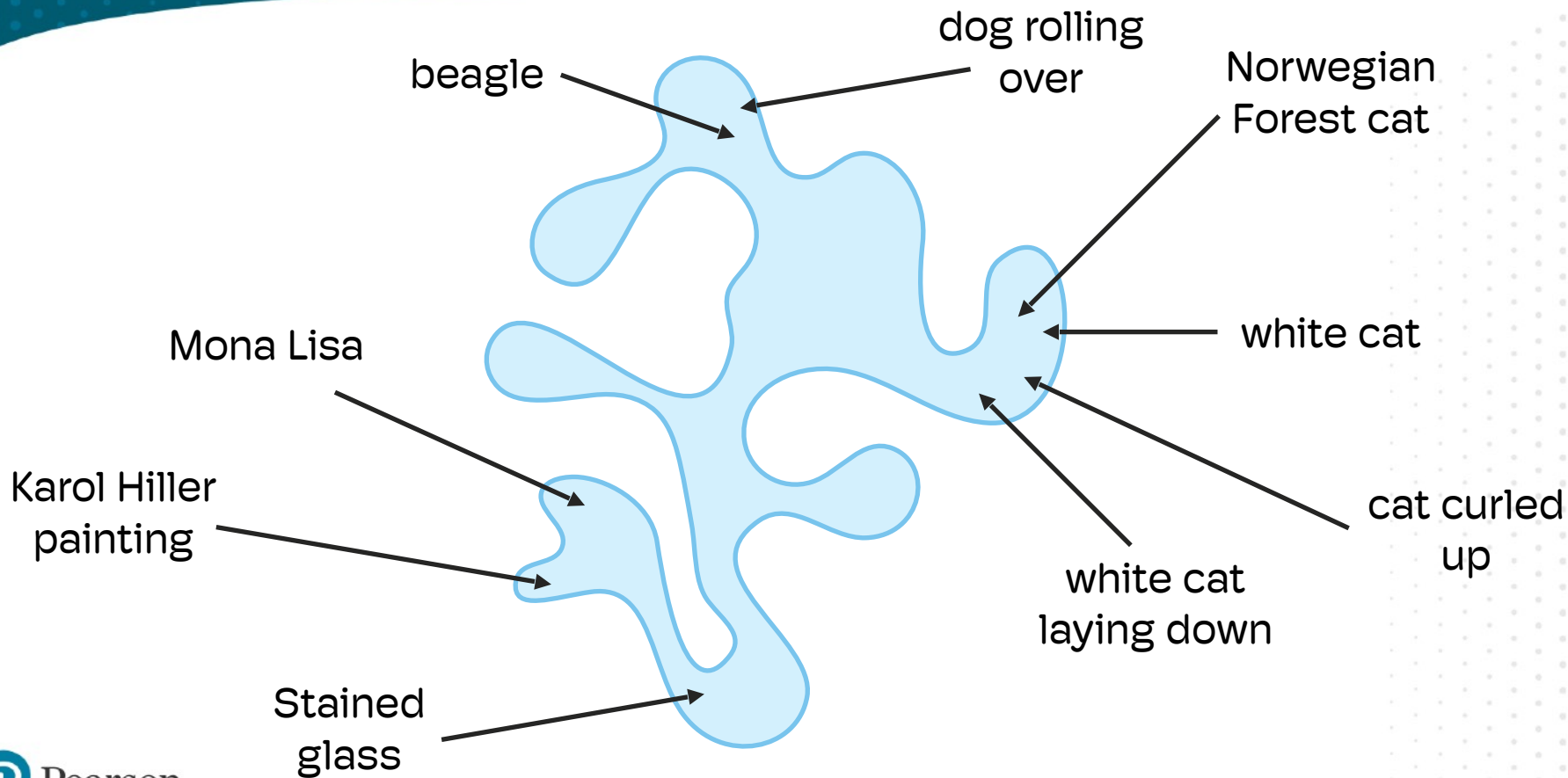




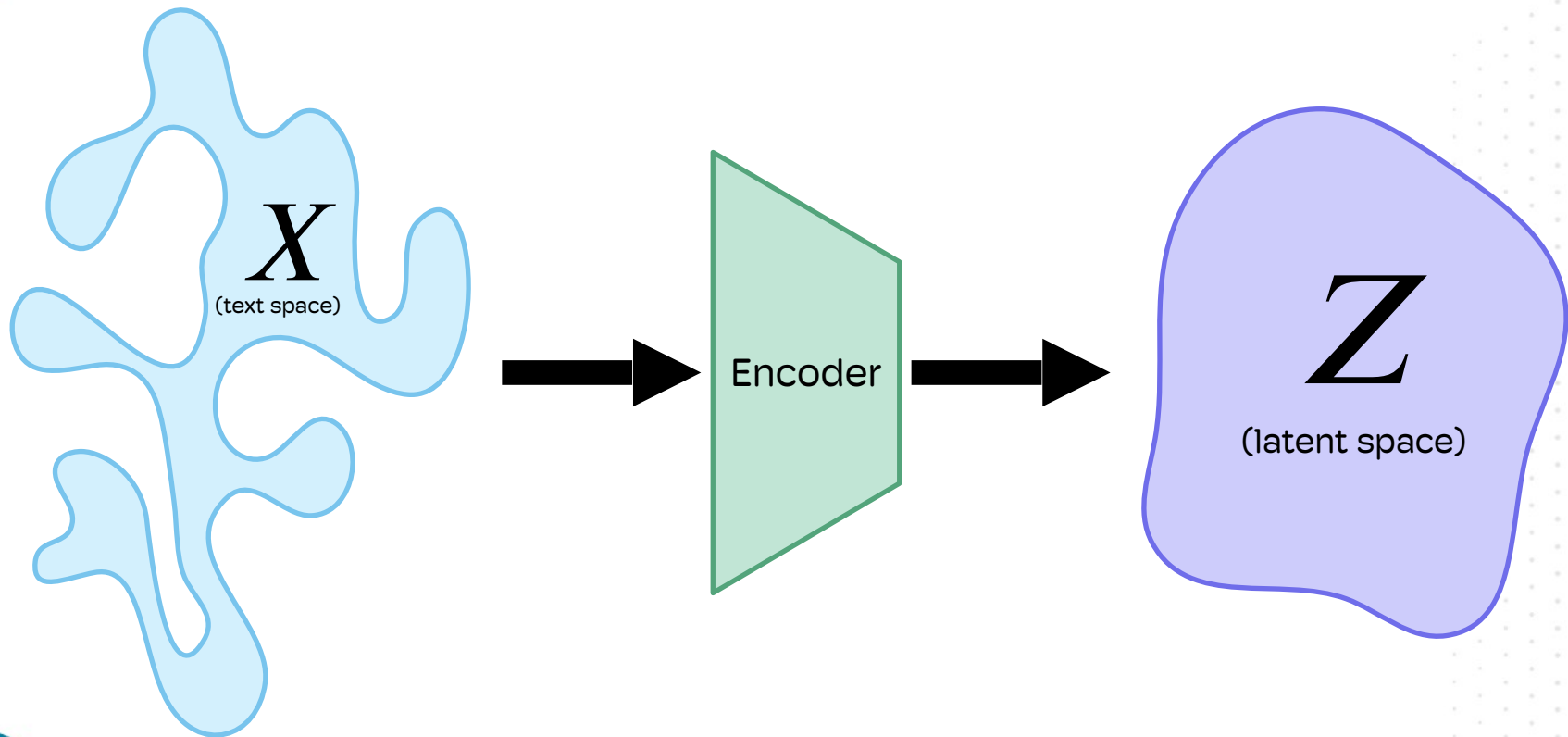
# Natural Language Manifold



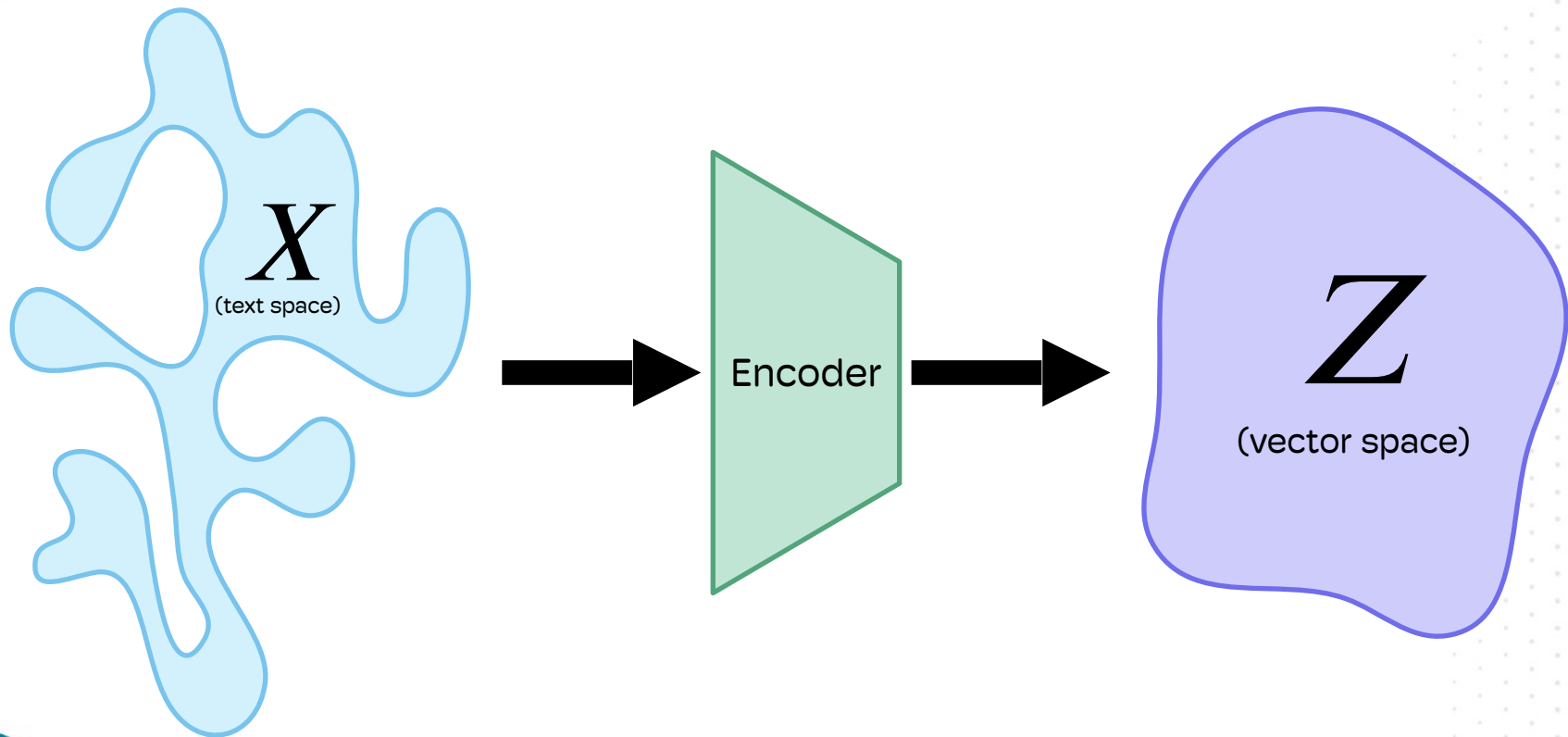
# Natural Language Manifold



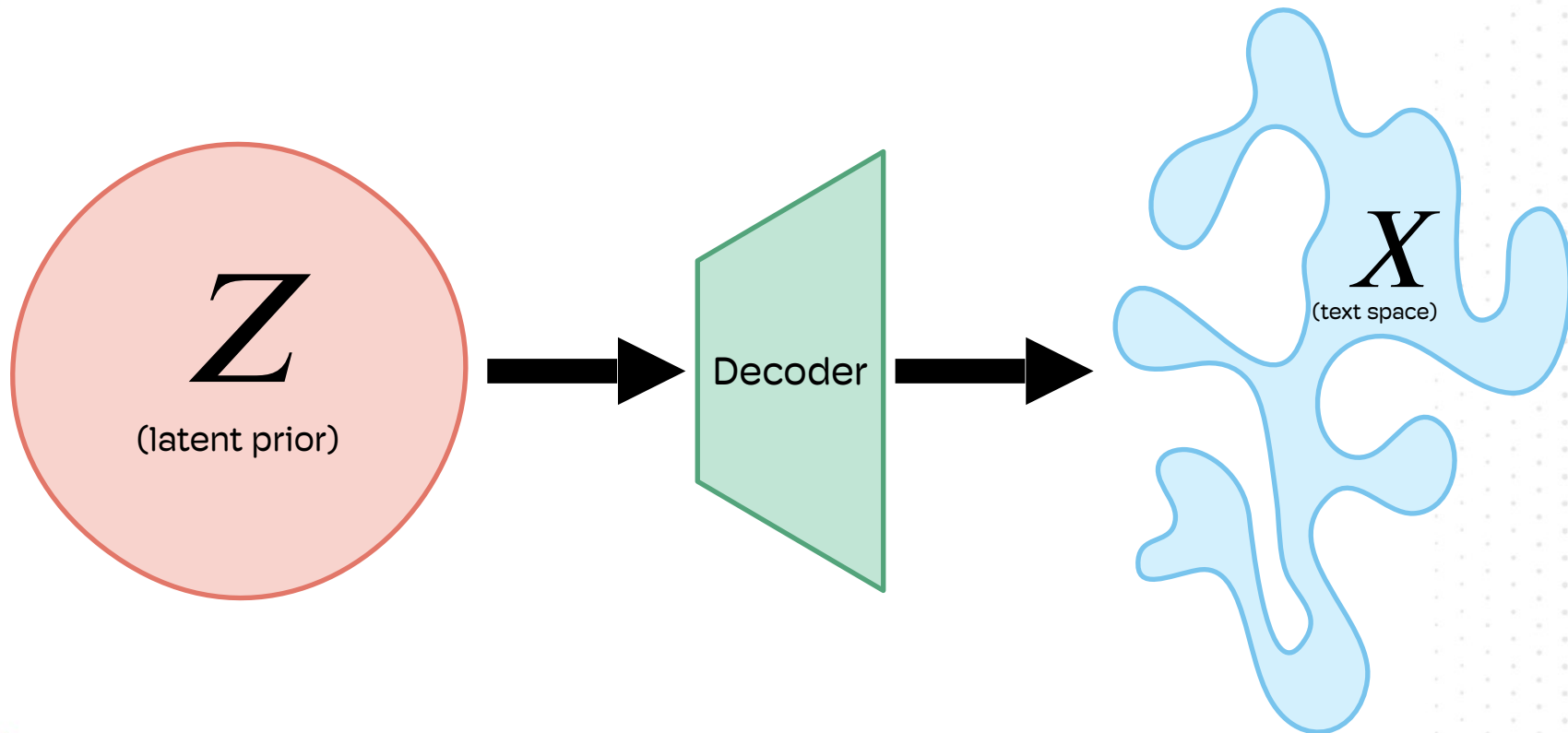
# Natural Language Manifold



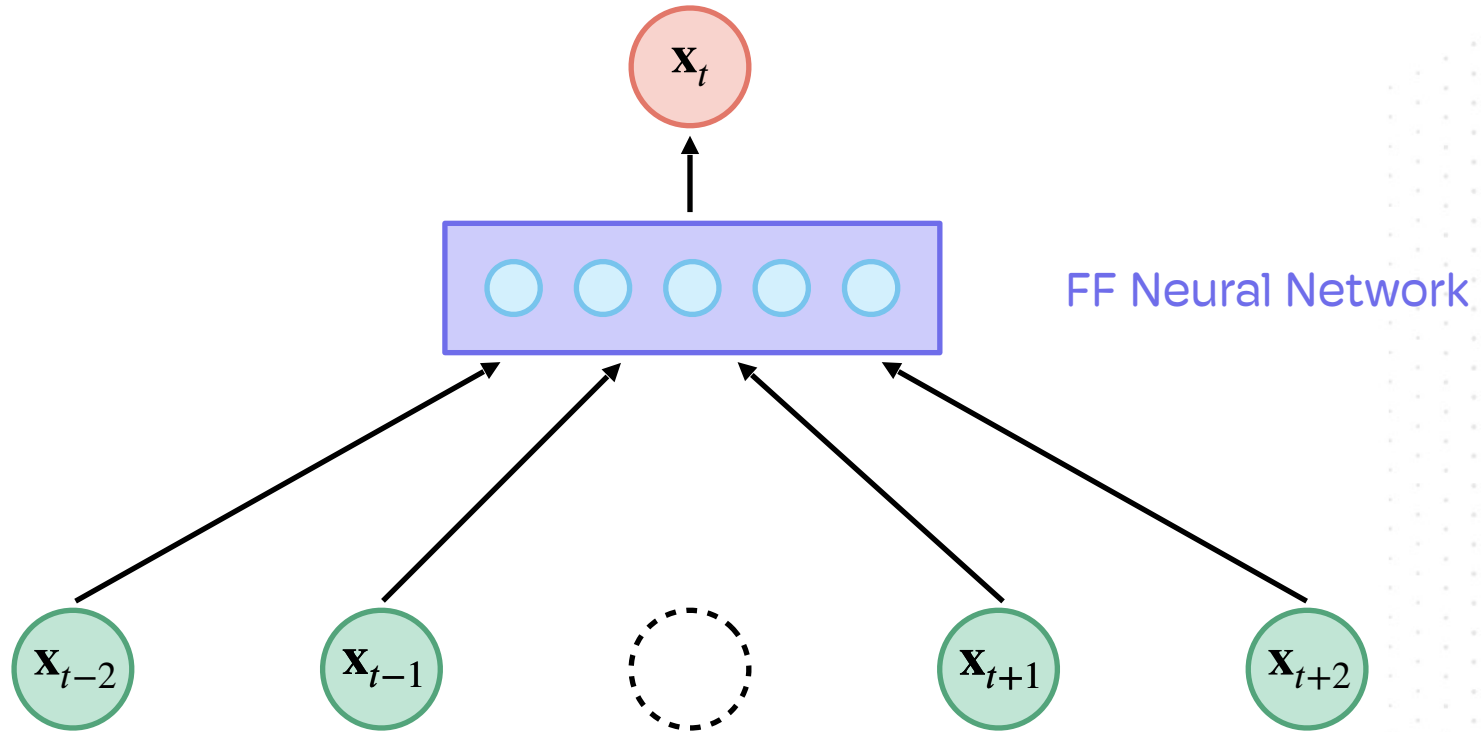
# Natural Language Manifold



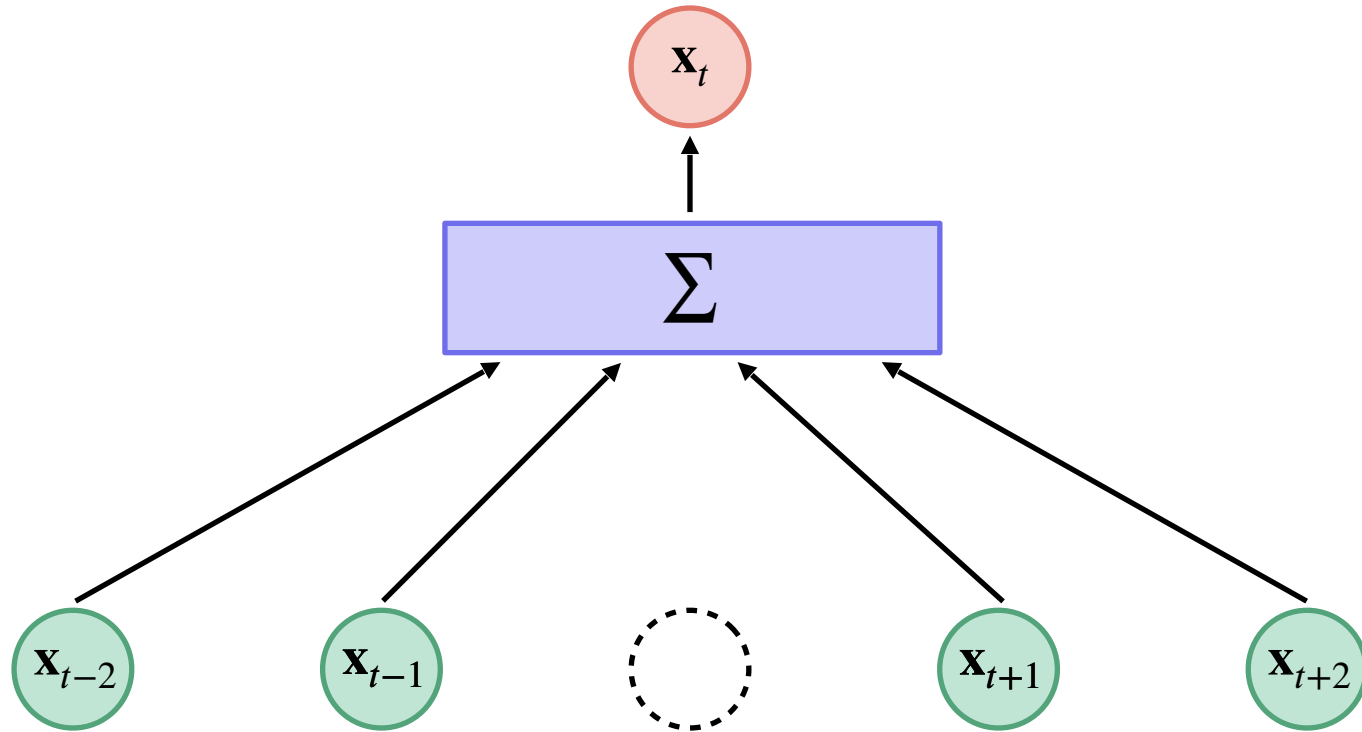
# Natural Language Manifold



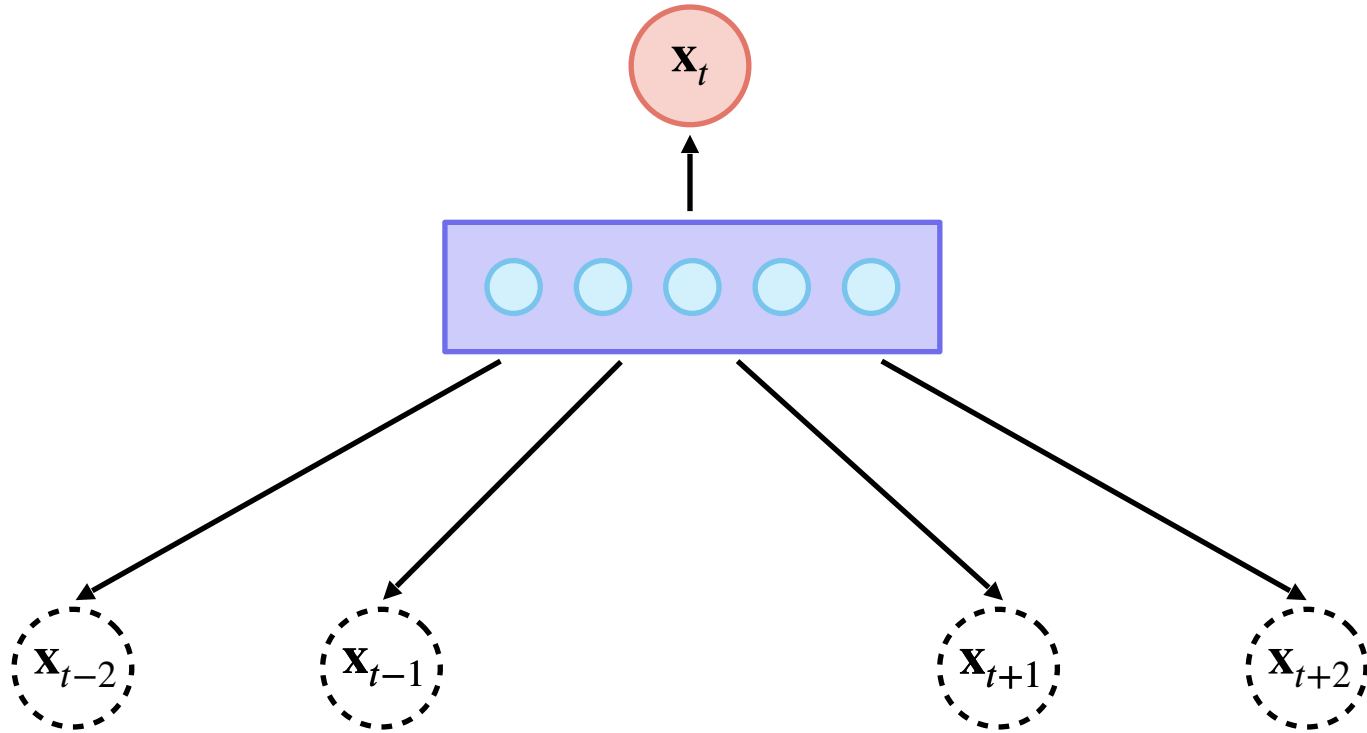
# word2vec



# Skip-gram



# Continuous bag of words (CBOW)





# **Embedding Visualizer Screen Sharing**

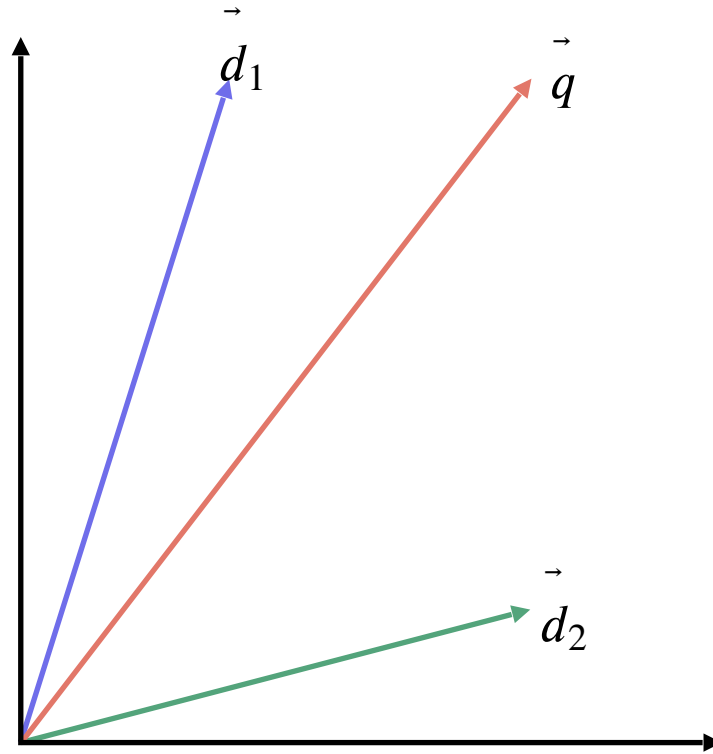
## 5.9

# The Vector Space Model

# Unsupervised Learning

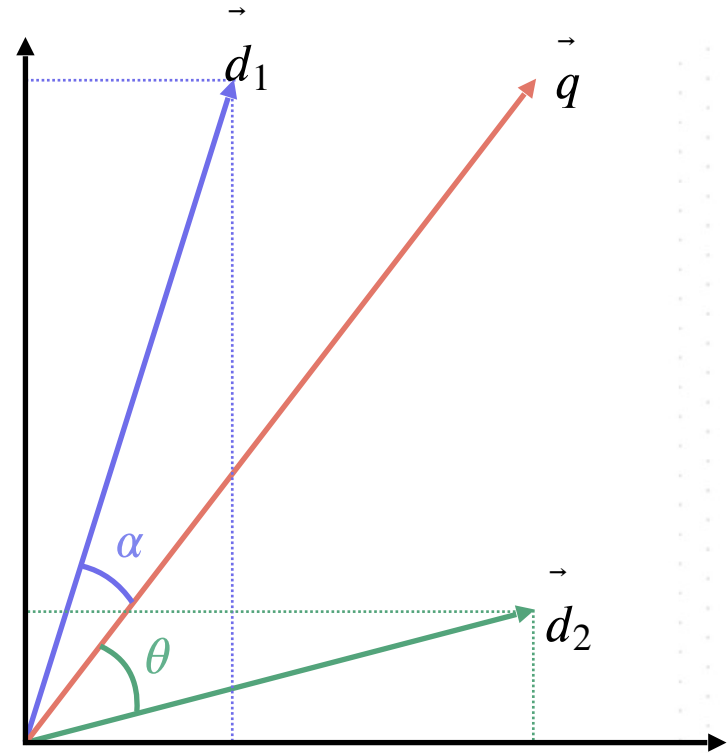
- No need for labels
- Discovers latent features (hidden patterns in data)
- Often exploratory in nature
- Since there is no “gold standard” often difficult to validate model (especially with stochastic algorithms)

# Vector Space Model



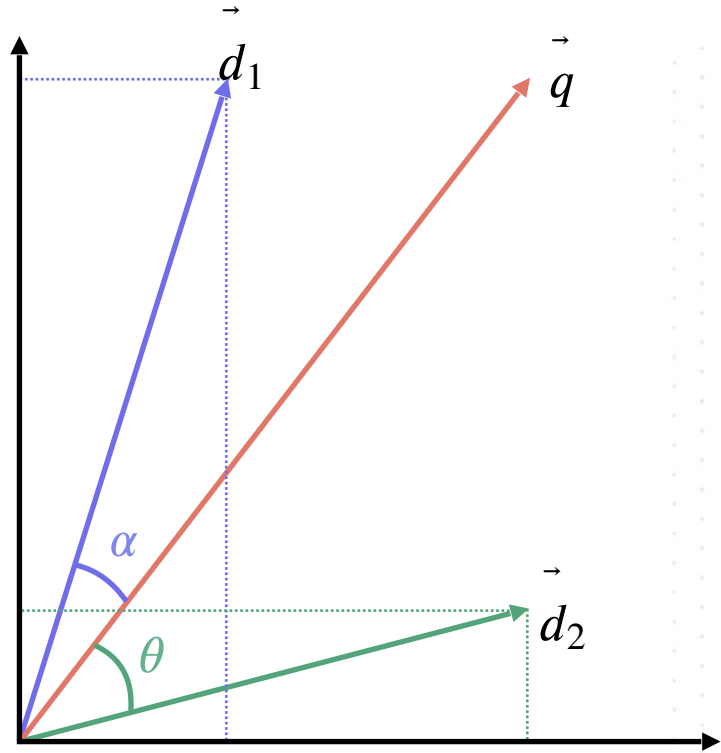
# Vector Space Model

Similarity is a measure of “distance”



# Vector Space Model

$$\cos\theta = \frac{\vec{d_2} \cdot \vec{q}}{\|\vec{d_2}\| \|\vec{q}\|}$$



It's all (almost) the same

**K-means  $\approx$  PCA  $\approx$  LDA  $\approx$  SVD  $\approx$  NMF**

# It's All (Almost) the Same

Huang, Heng, et al. "Simultaneous tensor subspace selection and clustering: the equivalence of high order svd and k-means clustering." *Proceedings of the 14th ACM SIGKDD International Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining*. 2008.

Ding, Chris, Xiaofeng He, and Horst D. Simon. "On the equivalence of nonnegative matrix factorization and spectral clustering." *Proceedings of the 2005 SIAM International Conference on Data Mining*. Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics, 2005.

Ding, Chris, and Xiaofeng He. "K-means clustering via principal component analysis." *Proceedings of the Twenty-first International Conference on Machine learning*. 2004.

Corrochano, Eduardo Bayro, et al. "Eigenproblems in pattern recognition." *Handbook of Geometric Computing: Applications in Pattern Recognition, Computer Vision, Neuralcomputing, and Robotics* (2005): 129-167.



# 5.10

## **Embedding Sequences with Transformers**

# Live Coding

## 5.11

# Computing the Similarity Between Embeddings

# Live Coding

# 5.12

## **Semantic Search with Embeddings**

# Live Coding

## 5.13

# Contrastive Embeddings with Sentence Transformers

# Live Coding