

# Foundations of Artificial Intelligence in Business

## - Intro to NLP

Pearl Yu



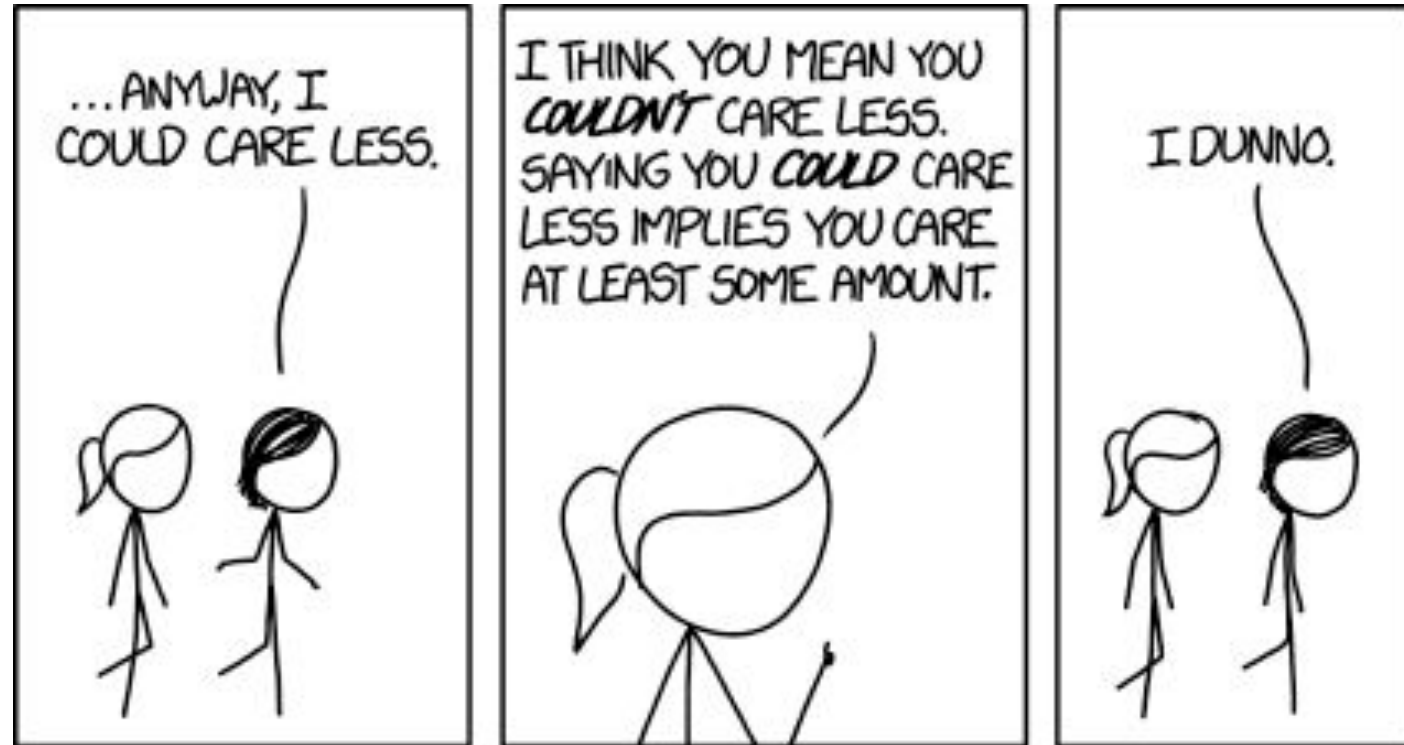
# Learning Goals

---

- *Simple business use cases.*
- A big picture understanding of human languages and the difficulties in understanding and producing them.
- Understand how to represent words and how representations are learnt via Word2Vec.
- *Architectures suitable for language inputs: RNN, transformers (LLM)*

# Human Languages

---



# Human Languages

---

EVERY CHOICE OF PHRASING AND  
SPELLING AND TONE AND TIMING  
CARRIES COUNTLESS SIGNALS AND  
CONTEXTS AND SUBTEXTS AND MORE,  
AND EVERY LISTENER INTERPRETS  
THOSE SIGNALS IN THEIR OWN WAY.  
LANGUAGE ISN'T A FORMAL SYSTEM.  
LANGUAGE IS GLORIOUS CHAOS.



# With Artificial Intelligence

---

YOU CAN NEVER KNOW FOR SURE WHAT  
ANY WORDS WILL MEAN TO *ANYONE*.  
ALL YOU CAN DO IS TRY TO GET BETTER AT  
GUESSING HOW YOUR WORDS AFFECT PEOPLE,  
SO YOU CAN HAVE A CHANCE OF FINDING THE  
ONES THAT WILL MAKE THEM FEEL SOMETHING  
LIKE WHAT YOU WANT THEM TO FEEL.  
EVERYTHING ELSE IS POINTLESS.





# Language Models

---

- Knowledge contained in language.



# Language Models

---

- Knowledge contained in language.

One simple sentence but packs in a lot of stuff.

That there is a theory of relativity.

‘Einstein developed the theory of relativity.’

Who Einstein is? (a famous physicist).

That theories are things humans can create and share.

Implicitly, that this is important enough for us to mention in class and exams.”

# Language Models

---

- Knowledge contained in language.

## Ambiguity

'My cat has nine lives.'

English speaker:  
Yeah it's a metaphor.  
Telling a story?

Computer: You're  
picturing a terrifying  
science experiment.

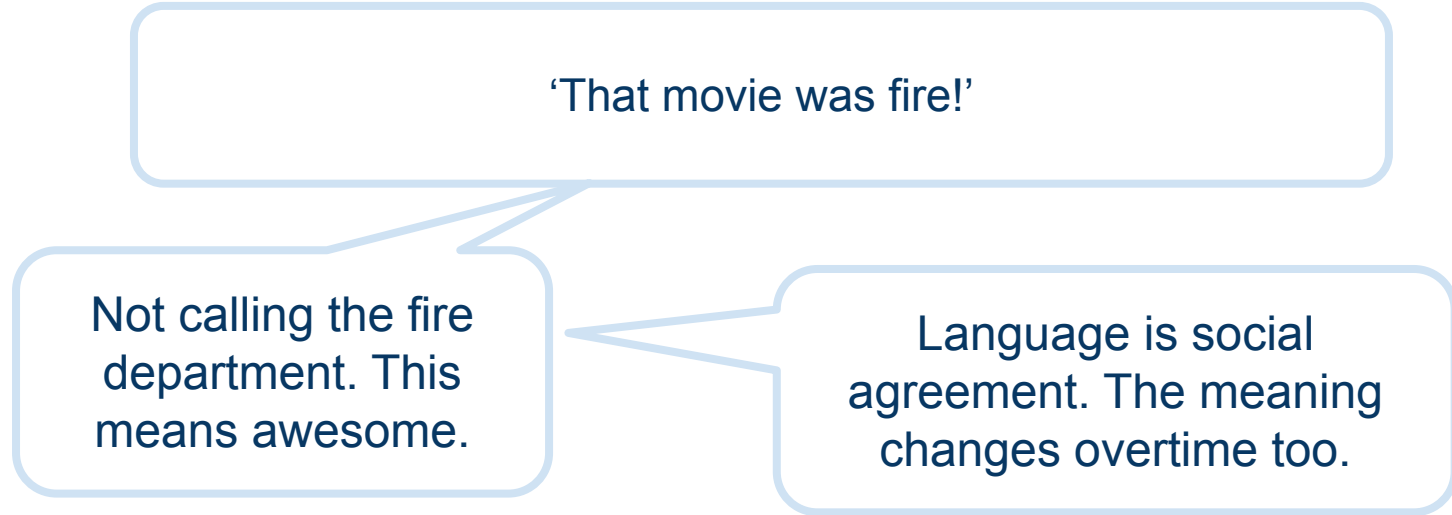


# Language Models

---

- Knowledge contained in language.

Culture packed into words

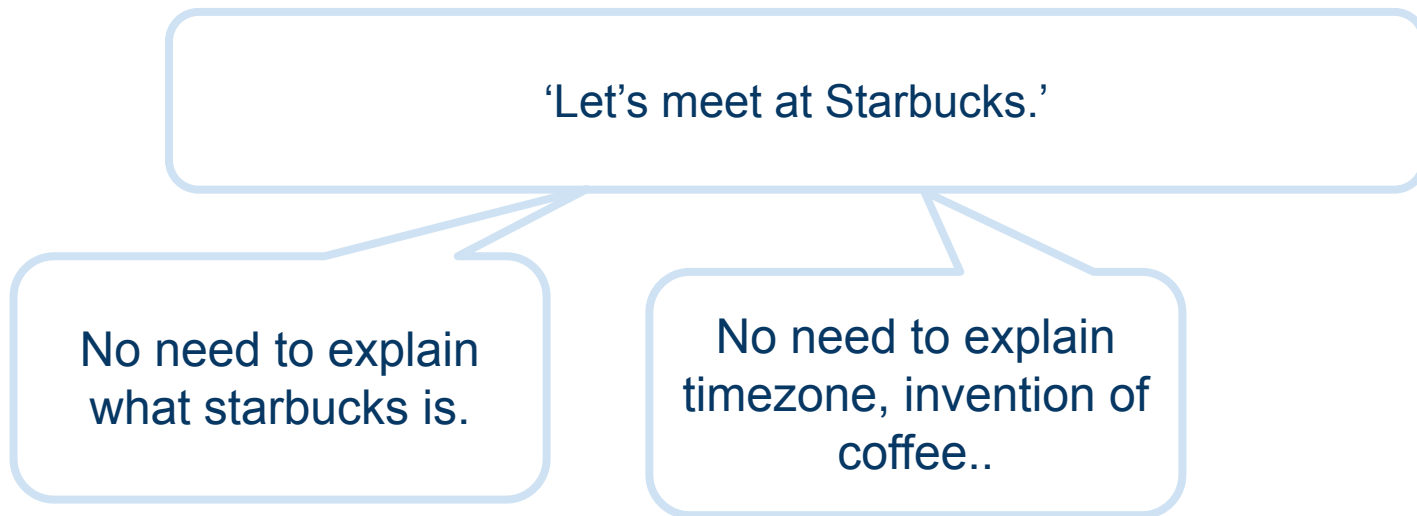


# Language Models

---

- Knowledge contained in language.

Implicit knowledge



# With Artificial Intelligence

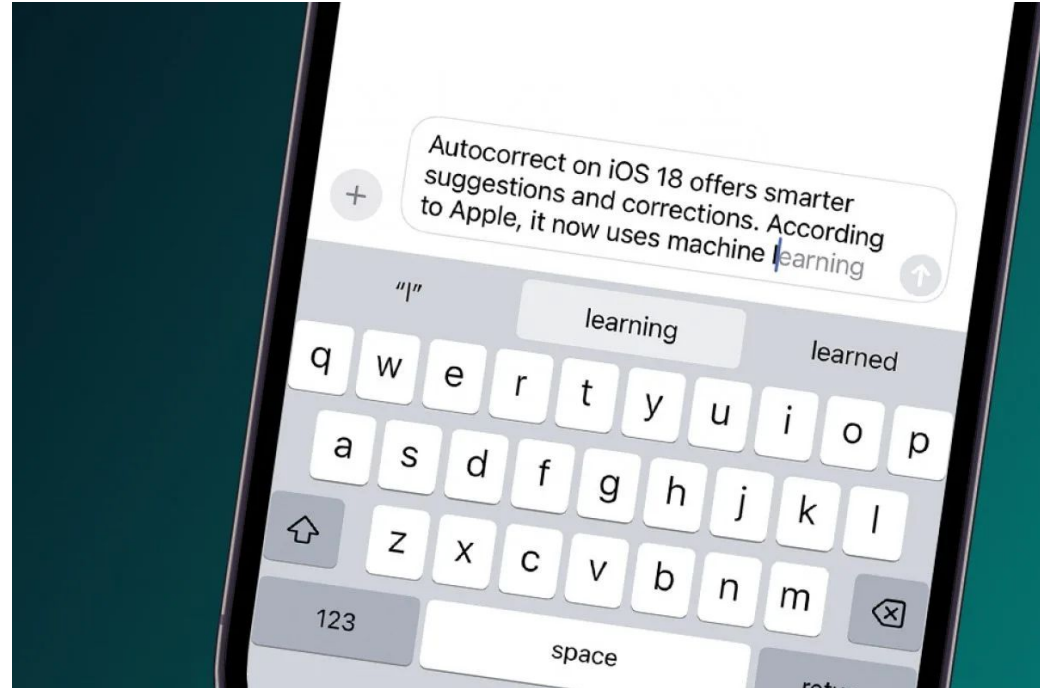
---

YOU CAN NEVER KNOW FOR SURE WHAT  
ANY WORDS WILL MEAN TO *ANYONE*.  
ALL YOU CAN DO IS TRY TO GET BETTER AT  
GUESSING HOW YOUR WORDS AFFECT PEOPLE,  
SO YOU CAN HAVE A CHANCE OF FINDING THE  
ONES THAT WILL MAKE THEM FEEL SOMETHING  
LIKE WHAT YOU WANT THEM TO FEEL.  
EVERYTHING ELSE IS POINTLESS.



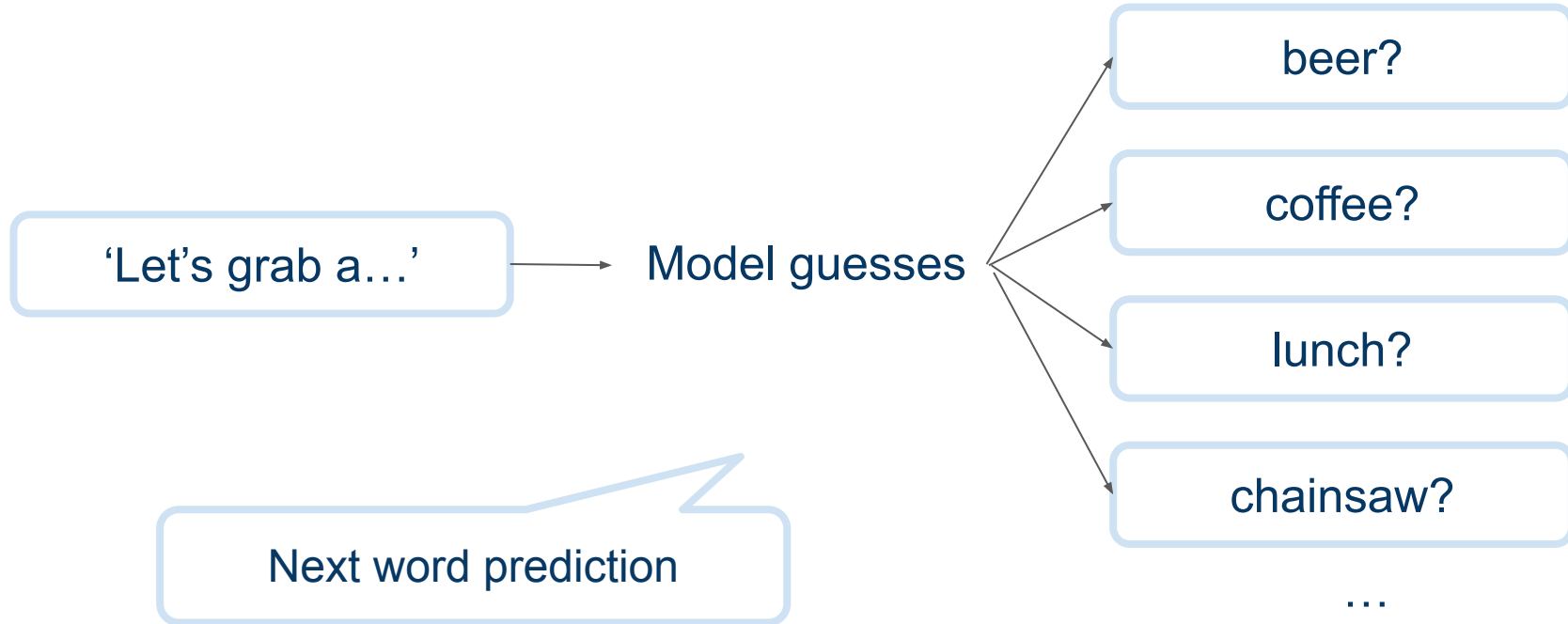
# Example Use Cases of Language Models

- Autocomplete



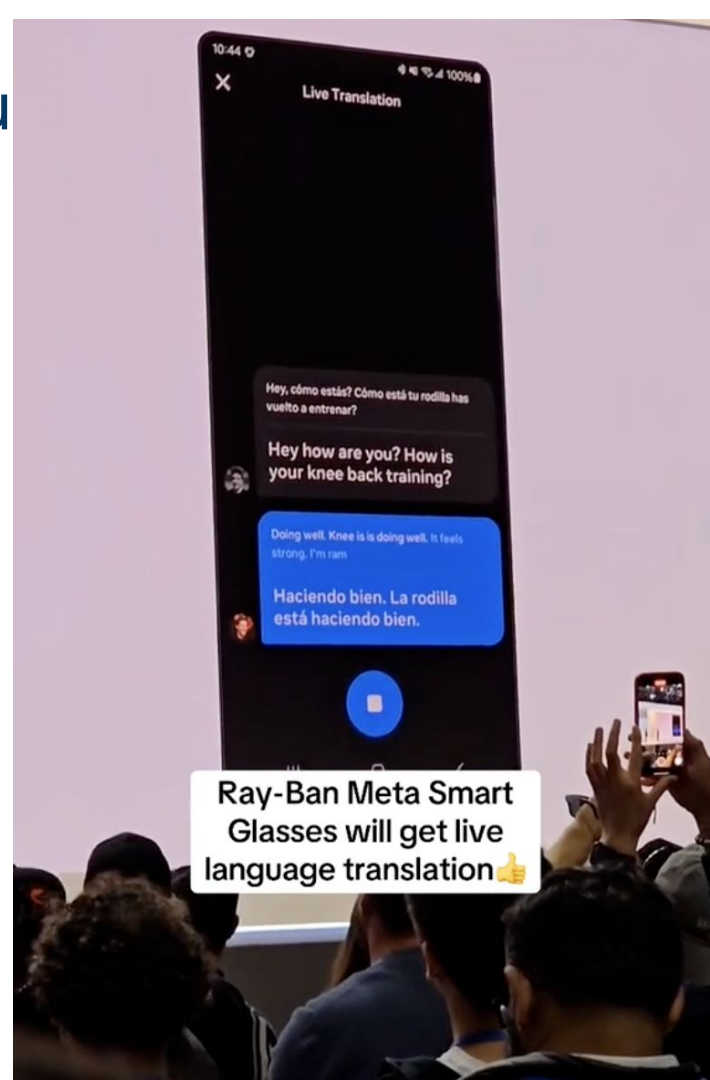
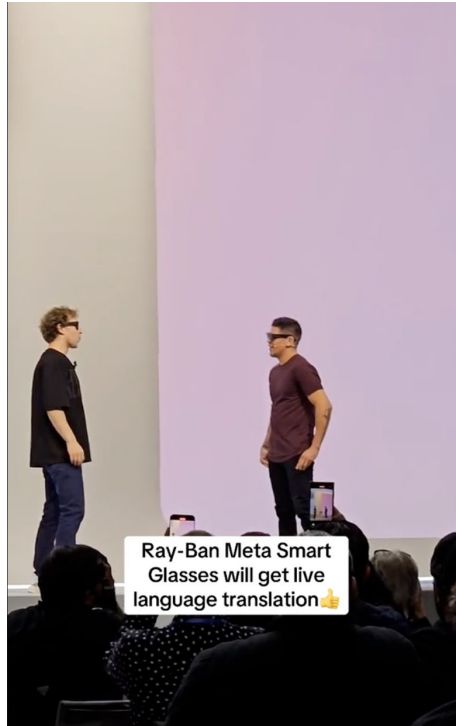
# Example Use Cases of Language Models

- Autocomplete



# Example Use Cases of Language

- Machine Translation

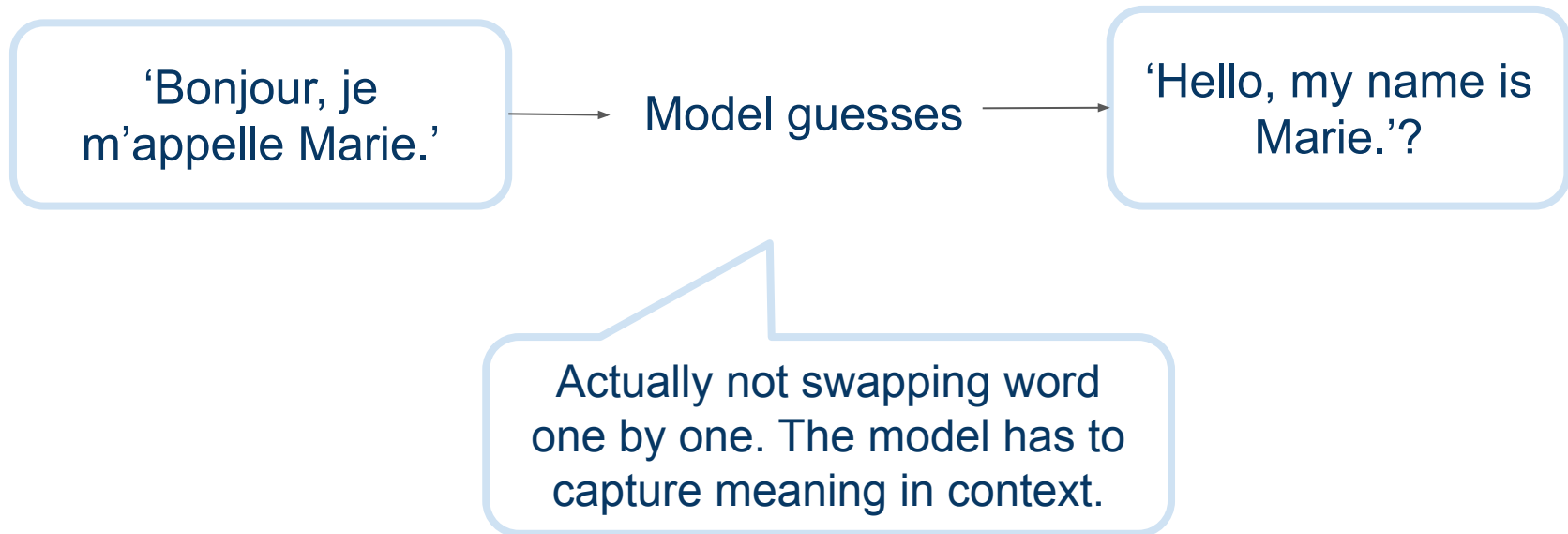




# Example Use Cases of Language Models

---

- Autocomplete



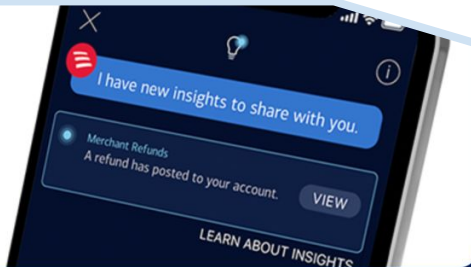
# Example Use Cases of Language Models

- Chatbots

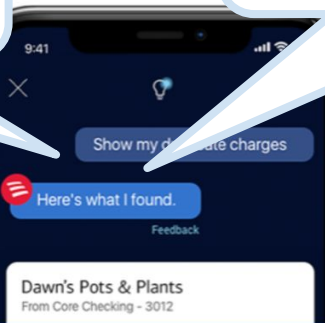
Stay on top of your finances with Erica, your virtual financial assistant

Be alerted when merchant

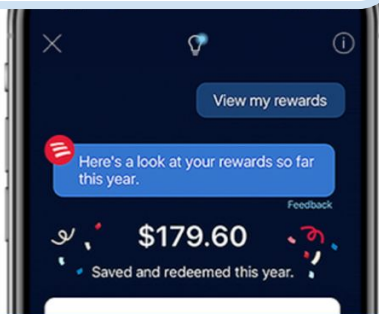
Figure out intents, generate human-like replies.



Get notified if you see a duplicate charge



'Pretend' to be friendly.



# Example Use Cases of Language Models

- Customer Feedback Analysis



I don't understand why my checked bag and ticket change fees aren't waived. I've been flying exclusively with Acme Airlines for years. I thought these fees were supposed to be waived automatically for Silver Loyalty members?



Negative Sentiment: **Perplexity**



Conversation Context: **Fees**



Positive Sentiment: **Loyalty**



Conversation Context: **Account Status**



Negative Sentiment: **Inconsistency**



Online review sites



Social media



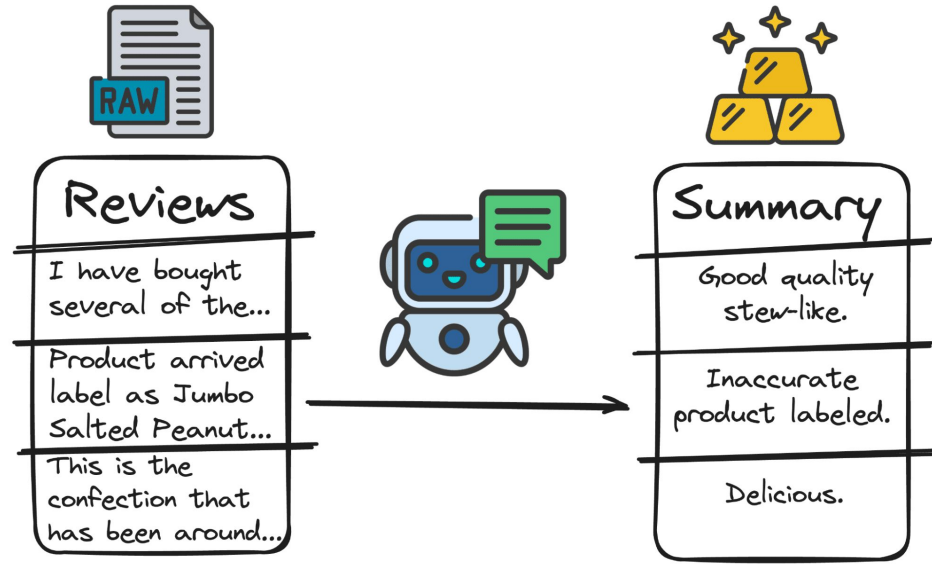
Product reviews



Email, phone calls or in-app reviews

# Example Use Cases of Language Models

- Automating reports



## Top Reasons for Negativity

Last 30 Days

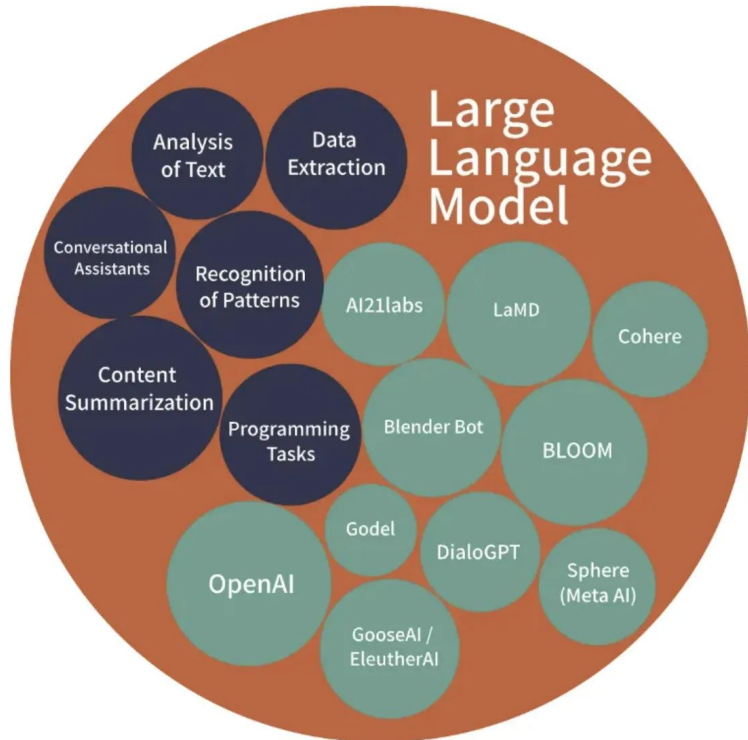


Don't hallucinate! The company didn't buy a space station!

'Our [profits] increased by [percentage] thanks to [reason].'

# Large Language Models

- GPT: Universal models - Has knowledge of the world?



Generating text: One word at a time.  
Give it a few examples, prompt it.  
Seem to understand the meanings of language.

S: I broke the window.

Q: What did I break?

S: I gave John flowers.

Q: Who did I give flowers to?

How many users have signed up since the start of 2020?

```
SELECT count(id)
```

```
FROM users WHERE created_at > '2020-01-01'
```

# How do we represent the meaning of a word?

- Definition: meaning (Webster dictionary)
  - The idea that is represented by a word, phrase, etc.
  - The idea that a person wants to express by using words, signs, etc.
  - The idea that is expressed in a work of writing, art, etc

Symbol  $\Leftrightarrow$  Idea of something

tree  $\Leftrightarrow$  {, , , ...}



# How do we have usable meaning in a computer?

- Previously common NLP solution: Use, e.g., WordNet, containing lists of synonym sets and hypernyms (relationships)

*e.g., synonym sets containing “good”:*

```
from nltk.corpus import wordnet as wn
poses = { 'n': 'noun', 'v': 'verb', 's': 'adj (s)', 'a': 'adj', 'r': 'adv' }
for synset in wn.synsets("good"):
    print("{}: {}".format(poses[synset.pos()],
        ", ".join([l.name() for l in synset.lemmas()])))
```

```
noun: good
noun: good, goodness
noun: good, goodness
noun: commodity, trade_good, good
adj: good
adj (sat): full, good
adj: good
adj (sat): estimable, good, honorable, respectable
adj (sat): beneficial, good
adj (sat): good
adj (sat): good, just, upright
...
adverb: well, good
adverb: thoroughly, soundly, good
```

*e.g., hypernyms of “panda”:*

```
from nltk.corpus import wordnet as wn
panda = wn.synset("panda.n.01")
hyper = lambda s: s.hypernyms()
list(panda.closure(hyper))
```

```
[Synset('procyonid.n.01'),
Synset('carnivore.n.01'),
Synset('placental.n.01'),
Synset('mammal.n.01'),
Synset('vertebrate.n.01'),
Synset('chordate.n.01'),
Synset('animal.n.01'),
Synset('organism.n.01'),
Synset('living_thing.n.01'),
Synset('whole.n.02'),
Synset('object.n.01'),
Synset('physical_entity.n.01'),
Synset('entity.n.01')]
```

# How do we have usable meaning in a computer?

- A useful resource but missing nuance:  
e.g., “proficient” is listed as a synonym for “good”. Only correct in some contexts

Cases where “proficient”  $\approx$  “good”

✓ She is a proficient piano player.

✓ He is proficient in Spanish.

Cases where “proficient”  $\neq$  “good”

✗ He is a proficient person.

✗ That cake tastes proficient.

# How do we have usable meaning in a computer?

---

- A useful resource but missing nuance:  
e.g., “proficient” is listed as a synonym for “good”. Only correct in some contexts
- Missing new meanings of words:  
e.g., wicked, bet, lit, fire
- Impossible to keep up to date with human labor.

# How do we have usable meaning in a computer?

- **Traditional NLP**, we regard words as discrete symbols:
- One-hot coding:

**motel, hotel, cat, on, the, mat, oh**

These symbols can be represented by **one-hot vectors**:

Vectors constituting  
only of 1 and 0

motel = [1 0 0 0 0 0 0]  
hotel = [0 1 0 0 0 0 0]  
cat = [0 0 1 0 0 0 0]  
on = [0 0 0 1 0 0 0]  
the = [0 0 0 0 1 0 0]  
mat = [0 0 0 0 0 1 0]  
oh = [0 0 0 0 0 0 1]

Each word in vocabulary is  
assigned a unique index.

Each word is represented as  
a vector of all zeros, except  
for a 1 in its position.

Dimension is the length of the  
vocabulary.

# How do we have usable meaning in a computer?

- **Traditional NLP**, we regard words as discrete symbols:
- One-hot coding:

‘Orthogonal’, not relevant or similar at all.

motel	=	[1 0 0 0 0 0 0]
hotel	=	[0 1 0 0 0 0 0]
cat	=	[0 0 1 0 0 0 0]
on	=	[0 0 0 1 0 0 0]
the	=	[0 0 0 0 1 0 0]
mat	=	[0 0 0 0 0 1 0]
oh	=	[0 0 0 0 0 0 1]

E.g. If I’m searching for ‘cat hotel’, we would also like to find documents containing ‘cat motel’

**No natural notion of ‘similarity’**

# Representing words by their context

---

- **Modern DL Idea:** A word's meaning is given by the words that frequently appear close-by.

“You shall know a word by the company it keeps” (J. R. Firth 1957: 11)



# Representing words by their context

---

- When a word appears in a text, its **context** is the set of words that appear nearby.

*...government debt problems turning into **banking** crises as happened in 2009...*  
*...saying that Europe needs unified **banking** regulation to replace the hodgepodge...*  
*...India has just given its **banking** system a shot in the arm...*

These **context words** will represent **banking**

# Representing words by their context

---

- A word's meaning is reflected by the words that tend to appear near it in text.

“The **cat** chased the mouse.”

“The **dog** barked at the cat.”

“A **lion** is chasing another animal.”

Words like cat, dog, lion often share context words (animal, chase, fur, bark, etc.).

In raw data, their “neighbors” overlap.

# Word Embeddings

- We want to adjust word vectors so that:
  - If two words show up in **similar contexts**, their vectors move **closer** together.
  - If they rarely appear in the same context, their vectors move further apart.

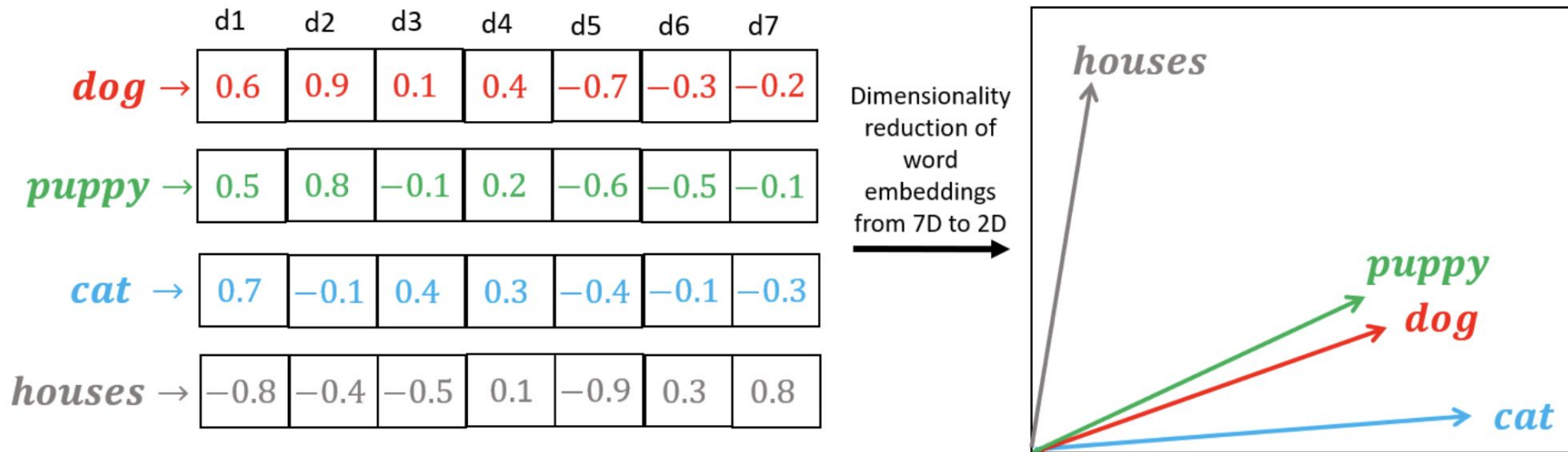
$$\begin{array}{l} \textit{banking} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.286 \\ 0.792 \\ -0.177 \\ -0.107 \\ 0.109 \\ -0.542 \\ 0.349 \\ 0.271 \end{pmatrix} \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{l} \textit{monetary} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.413 \\ 0.582 \\ -0.007 \\ 0.247 \\ 0.216 \\ -0.718 \\ 0.147 \\ 0.051 \end{pmatrix} \end{array}$$

## Dense word vectors / Embeddings:

- Not one-hot anymore!
- Each number encodes some aspect of meaning

# 'Closer'

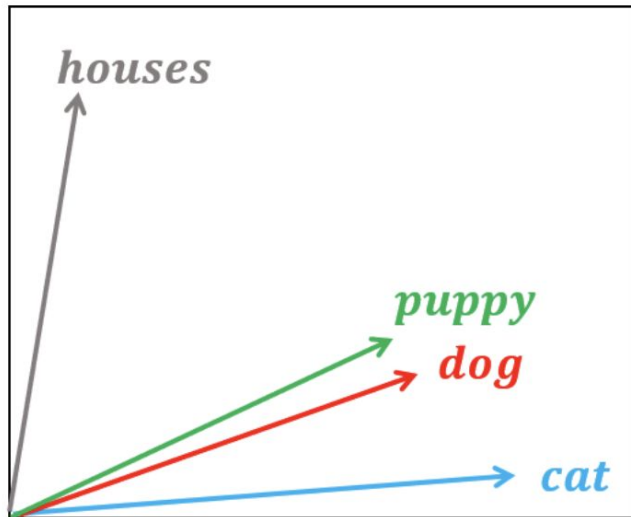
- when we project embeddings into 2D space (for visualization), we see neat clusters:



The vectors of puppy and dog are **'closer'**

# ‘Closer’

- when we project embeddings into 2D space (for visualization), we see neat clusters:



$$\text{cosine similarity}(u, v) = \frac{u \cdot v}{\|u\| \|v\|} = \cos(\theta)$$

“How much do these two arrows point in the same direction?”

*Q: Let's think about one-hot coding, cosine similarity between vectors?*

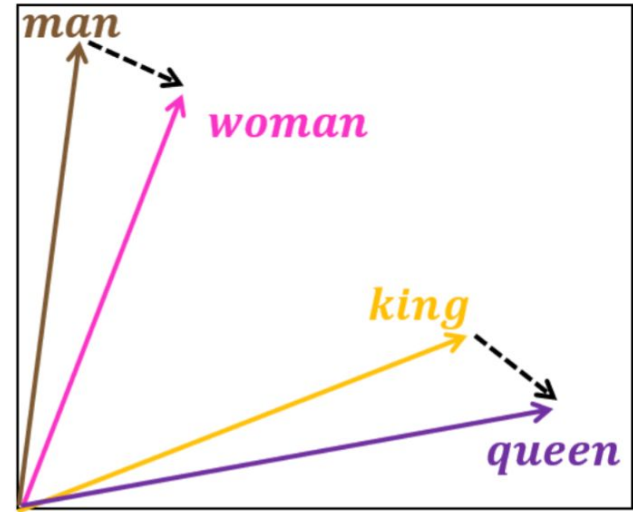
*( $\theta = 90^\circ$ ),  $\cos(\theta) = 0 \rightarrow \text{similarity} = 0$  (no similarity).*

# 'Closer'

- The embeddings should also capture relational meanings.

<i>man</i> →	0.6	-0.2	0.8	0.9	-0.1	-0.9	-0.7
<i>woman</i> →	0.7	0.3	0.9	-0.7	0.1	-0.5	-0.4
<i>king</i> →	0.5	-0.4	0.7	0.8	0.9	-0.7	-0.6
<i>queen</i> →	0.8	-0.1	0.8	-0.9	0.8	-0.5	-0.9

Dimensionality  
reduction of  
word  
embeddings  
from 7D to 2D





# Visualize Dense Embeddings

---

- <https://projector.tensorflow.org/>



# Word2Vec

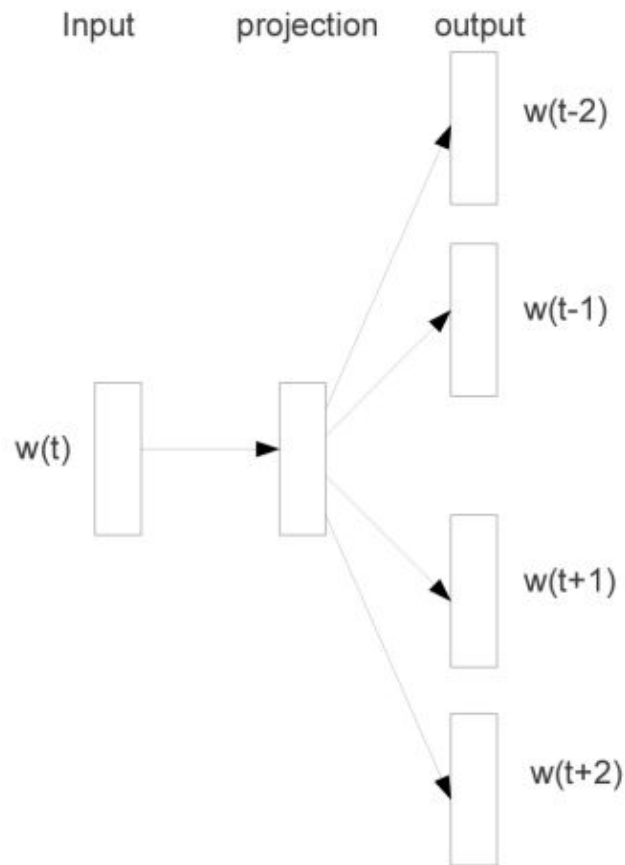
- Word2Vec is a framework that learns embeddings by looking at the context in which words appear (Mikolov et al., 2013) .

Idea:

- We have a large corpus (“body”) of text: a long list of words.
- Every word in a fixed vocabulary is represented by vector.
- **Predicts the context words from a target word.**

Example: Input = “cat.”

Predict: “the,” “chased,” “mouse.”

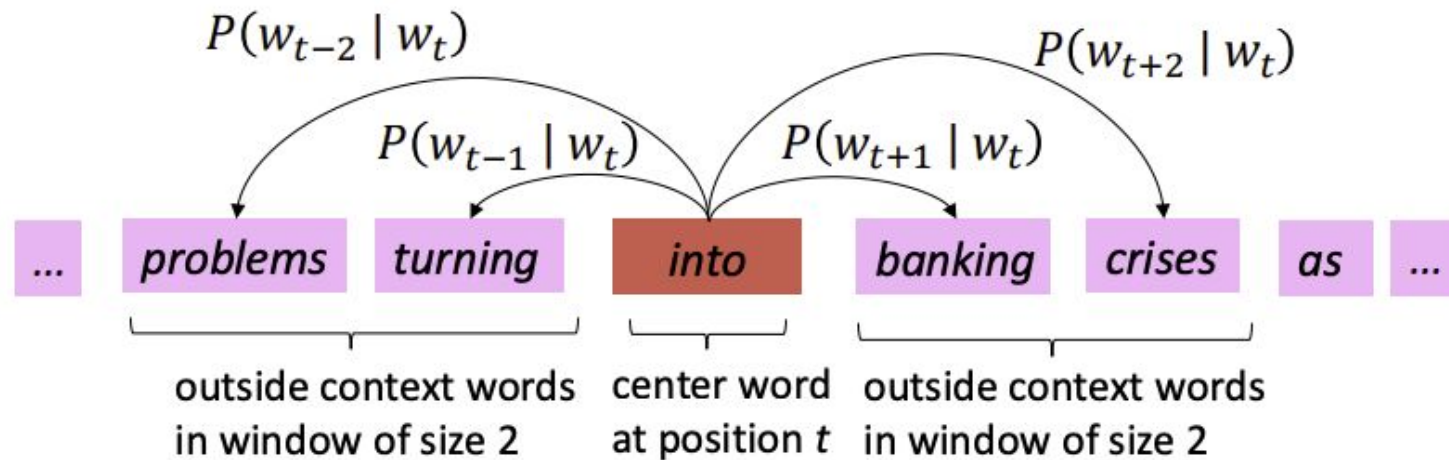


Skip-gram model  
(Mikolov et al. 2013)

# Word2Vec



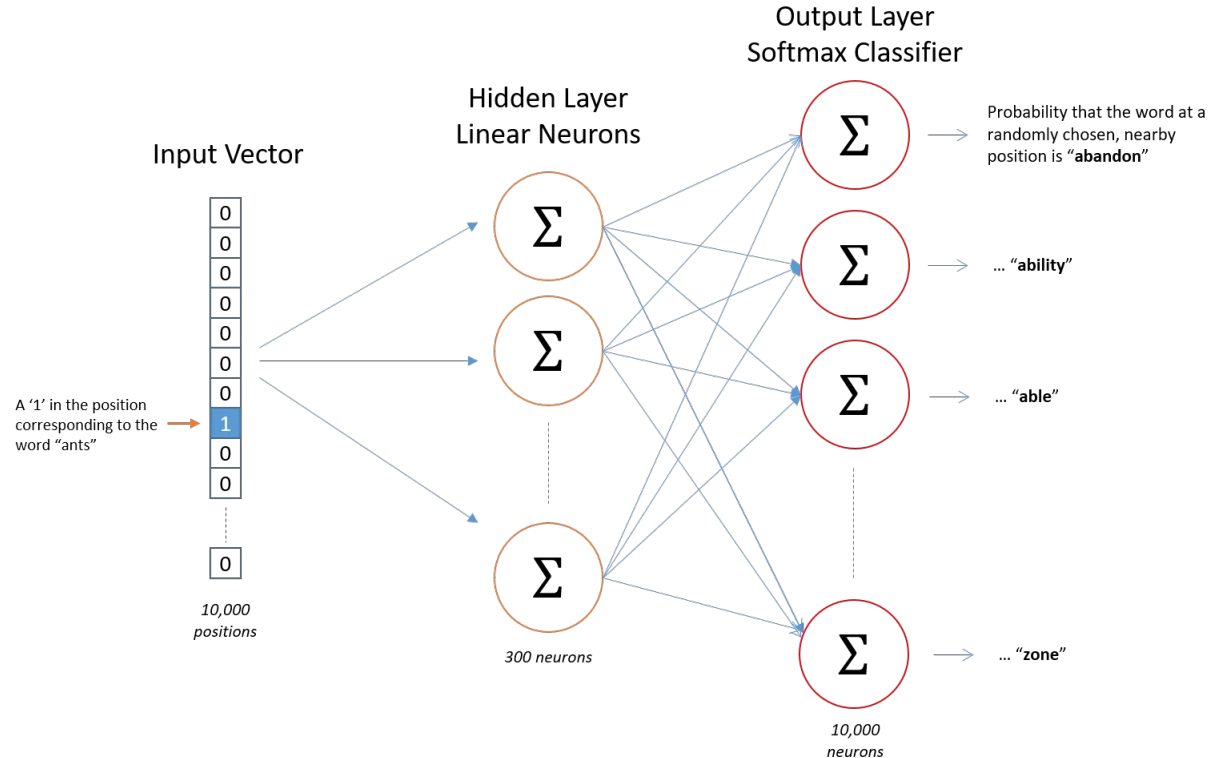
Idea:

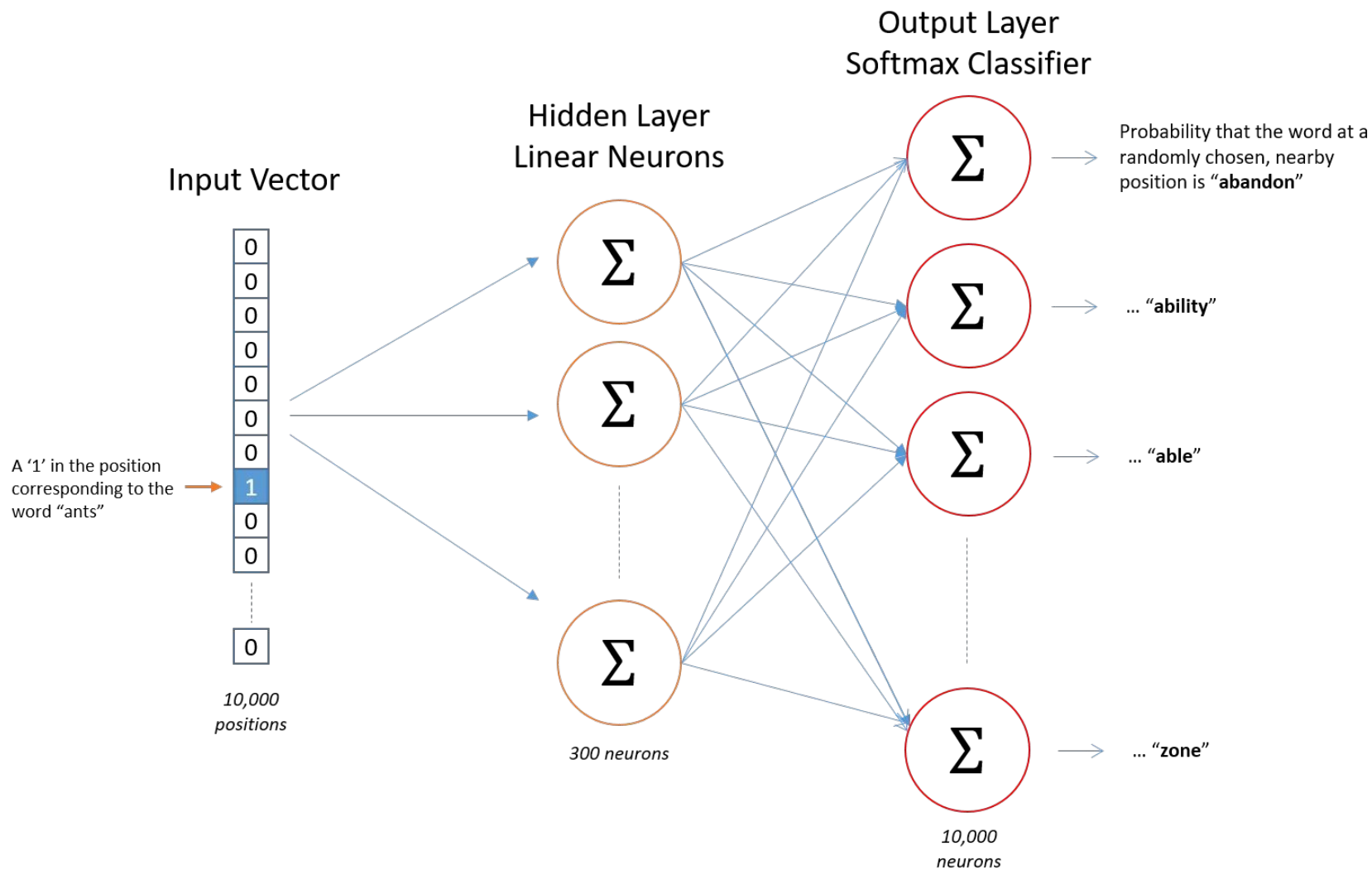


# Word2Vec Architecture

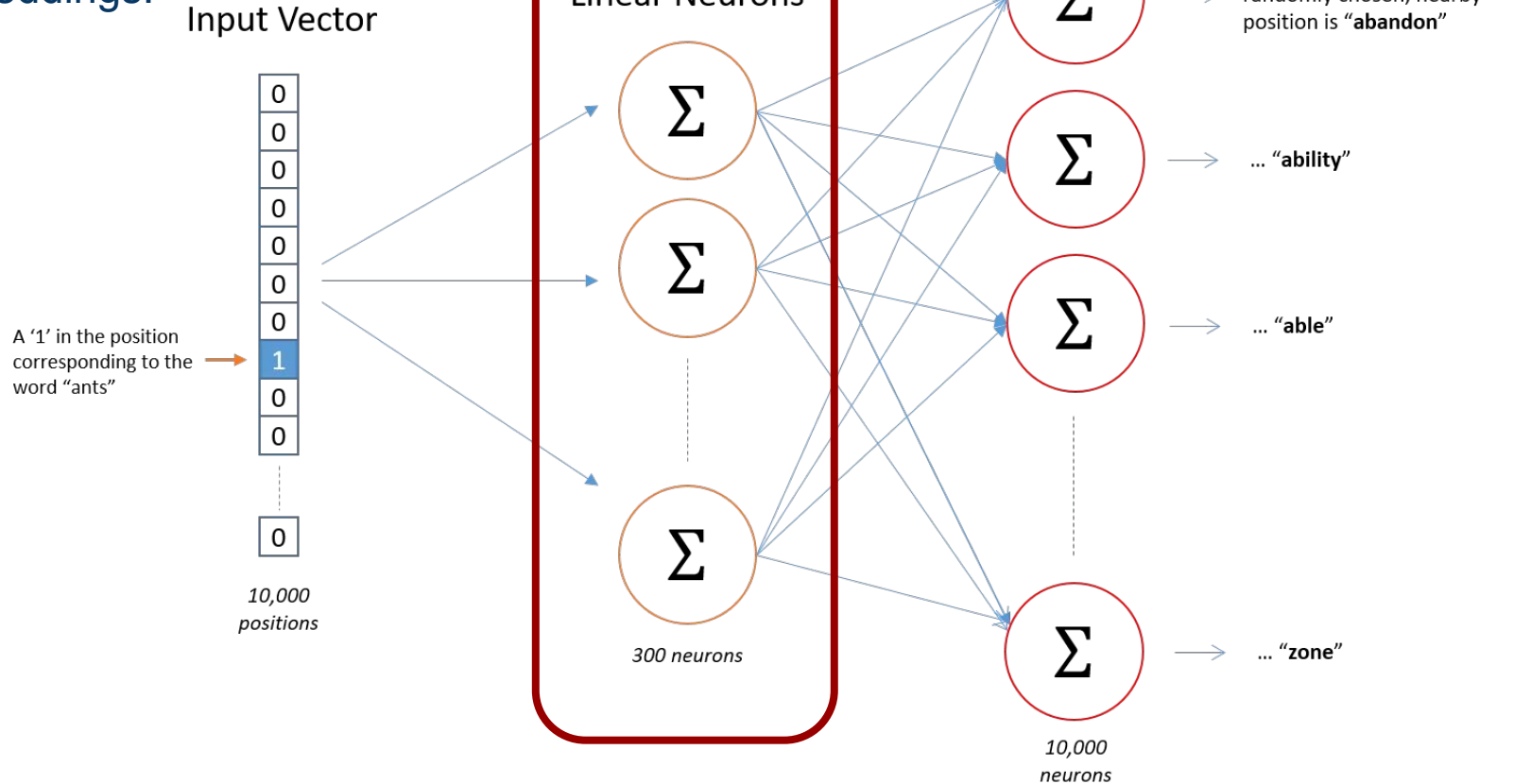
- A NN with one hidden layer.
- Inputs: All the documents/texts in our training set, represented in 1-hot encoding.

One hidden layer,  
dimension: equal to  
the length of the  
embedding we want





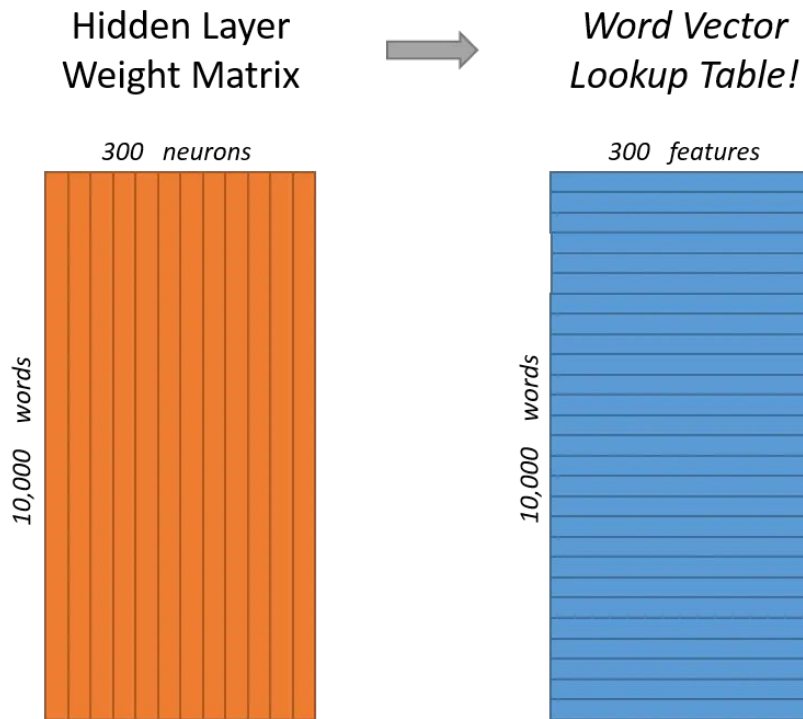
- After trained, the values in this hidden layer, are our embeddings.



# Word2Vec



- After training, passing through a one-hot coded word, the first hidden layer vector is our embedding!



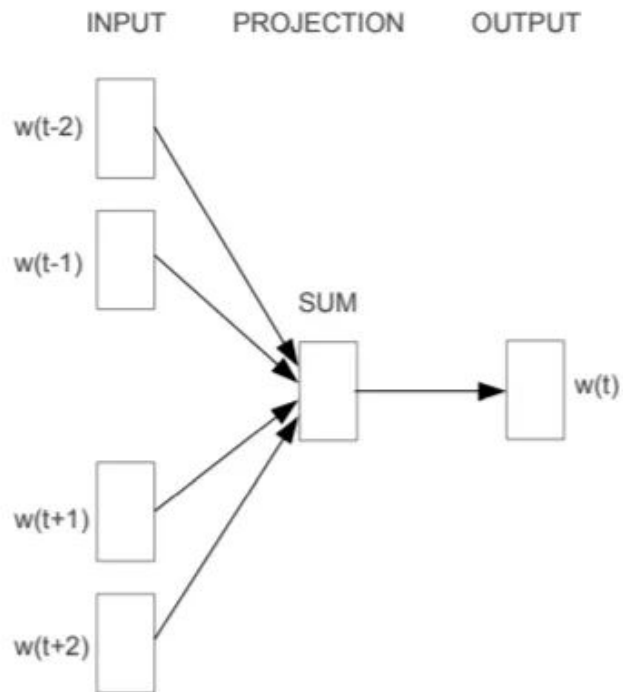
# Word2Vec Training

---

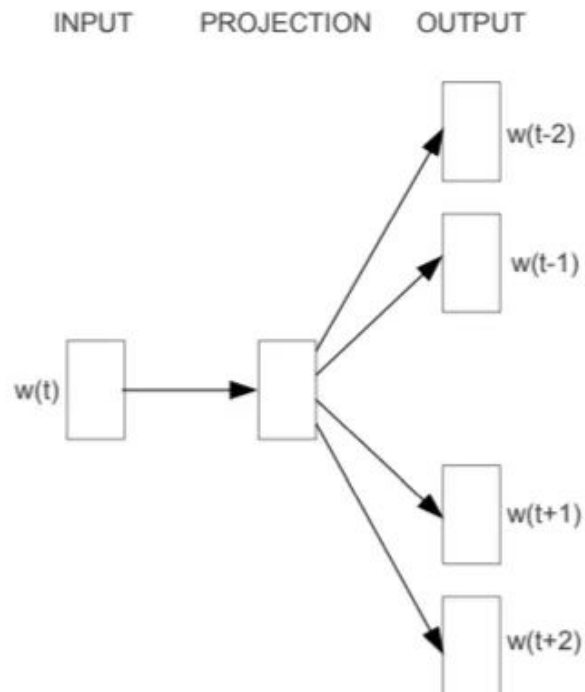
- We want to maximize the probability of seeing the context word  $o$  given the center word.
- Equivalent to maximizes objective function by putting similar words nearby in space



# Another Architecture



**CBOW**



**Skip-gram**