



**ORTA DOĞU TEKNİK ÜNİVERSİTESİ**  
**MIDDLE EAST TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY**

# **CENG 463: Introduction to Natural Language Processing Evaluation in NLP**

**Asst. Prof. Cagri Toraman**  
**Computer Engineering Department**  
**[ctoraman@ceng.metu.edu.tr](mailto:ctoraman@ceng.metu.edu.tr)**

**21.10.2025**

*\* The Course Slides are subject to [CC BY-NC](#). Either the original work or a derivative work can be shared with appropriate attribution, but only for noncommercial purposes.*

# NLP Evaluation

How to assess the performance of your trained model?

Dimension-1: Automatic vs. Manual evaluation

Automatic: Comparison between model output and ground truth (gold label/standard)

Manual: Human experts to evaluate performance

What are the  
pros/cons of  
each approach?

# NLP Evaluation

How to assess the performance of your trained model?

## Dimension-2: Intrinsic vs. Extrinsic Evaluation

Intrinsic: Focusing on internal performance/capabilities of NLP model

Extrinsic: Focusing on external NLP tasks while evaluating NLP model

What are the  
pros/cons of  
each approach?

# NLP Evaluation

How to assess the performance of your NLP model?

## Automatic and Intrinsic Evaluation

$$\begin{aligned}\text{perplexity}(W) &= P(w_1 w_2 \dots w_N)^{-\frac{1}{N}} \\ &= \sqrt[N]{\frac{1}{P(w_1 w_2 \dots w_N)}}\end{aligned}$$

By using the Chain Rule:

$$\text{perplexity}(W) = \sqrt[N]{\prod_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{P(w_i | w_1 \dots w_{i-1})}}$$

**The lower the perplexity of a model on the data, the better the model!**

# NLP Evaluation

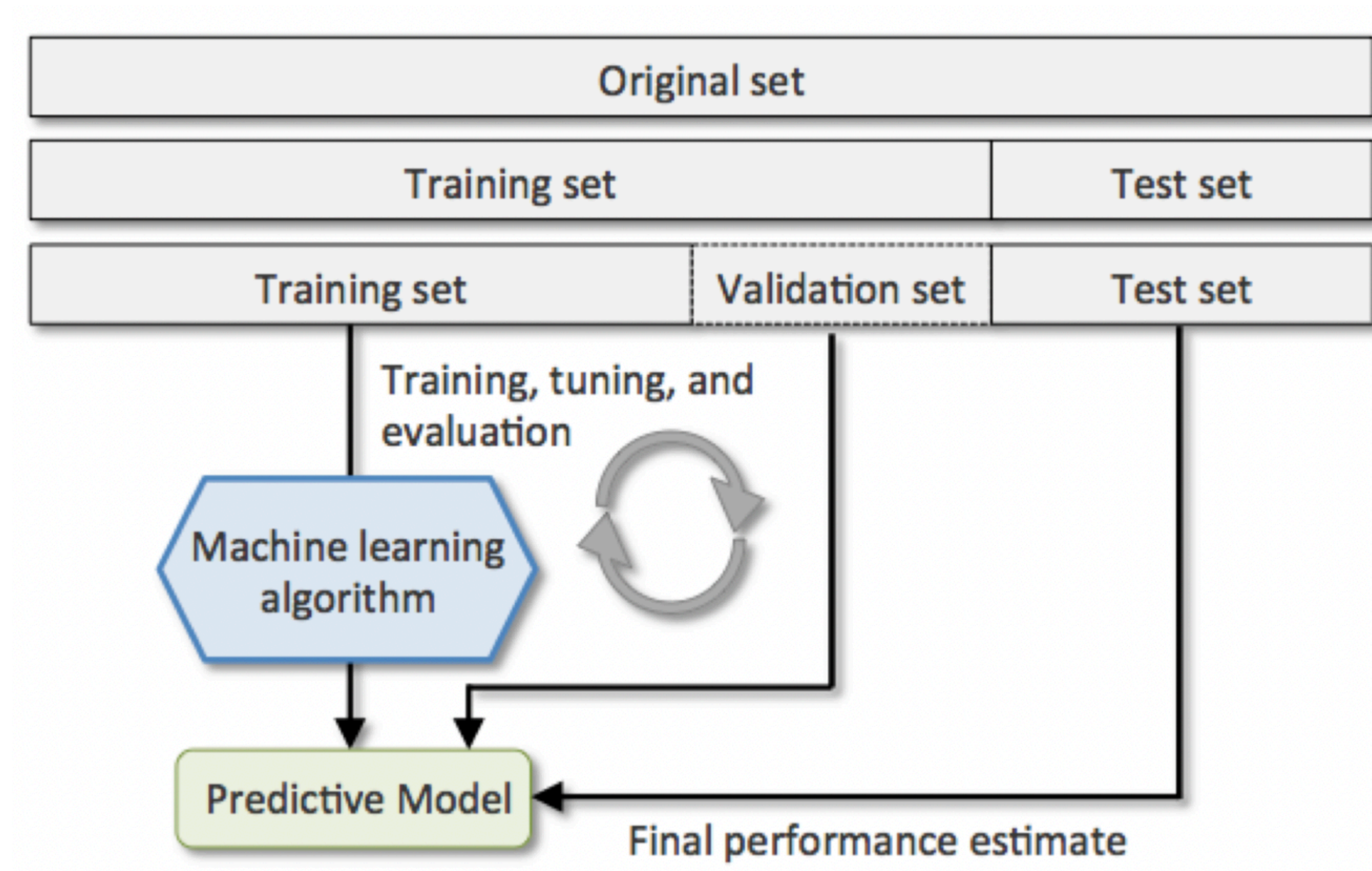
How to assess the performance of your NLP model?

## Automatic and Extrinsic Evaluation

In-sample data: Data used in training phase

Out-of-sample data: Data not used in training (also called held-out set)

# Model Evaluation

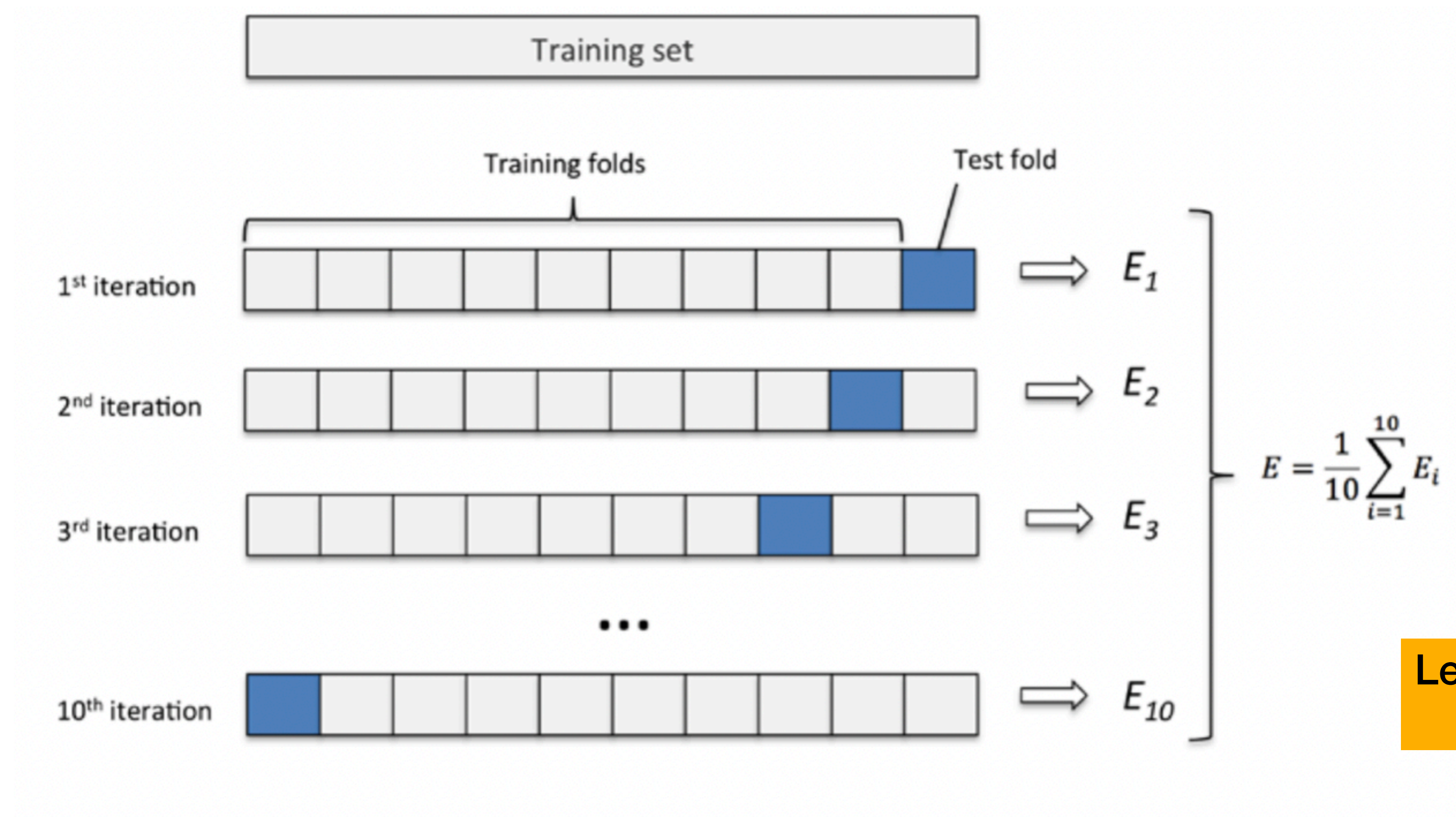


How to choose train/  
validation/test size?



# Model Evaluation

K-fold Cross-Validation:



How to choose  $k$ ?

Leave-one-out cross-validation:  
when  $k$  equals to data size

# Model Evaluation

Some common mistakes during splitting data:

- Ground Truth Errors: Data labeling/annotation is very important (garbage in —> garbage out)
- Duplicates: Keeping same instances in both train and test  
(e.g. due to duplicates in data)
- Type Dependency: Keeping same type of instances in both train and test  
(e.g. due to multiple instances from the same person when person is target class)
- Time Dependency: Data has a time order but test split has same/previous time period with train  
(e.g. when target is to predict tweet engagement)



# Evaluation Metrics

How to assess the performance of your NLP model?

Consider different NLP tasks:

Sentiment Analysis

Named Entity Recognition

Morphological Analysis

Language Modeling

Generative NLP

**How to choose  
evaluation metrics?**

# Evaluation Metrics

How to assess the performance of your trained model?

Some important evaluation metrics for supervised NLP tasks:

- Accuracy
- Precision
- Recall
- F1-Score
- ROC Curve

# Evaluation Metrics

Accuracy:

$$\frac{\text{Number of correctly classified instances}}{\text{Total number of instances}}$$

In which scenario,  
accuracy becomes a  
poor metric?

# Evaluation Metrics

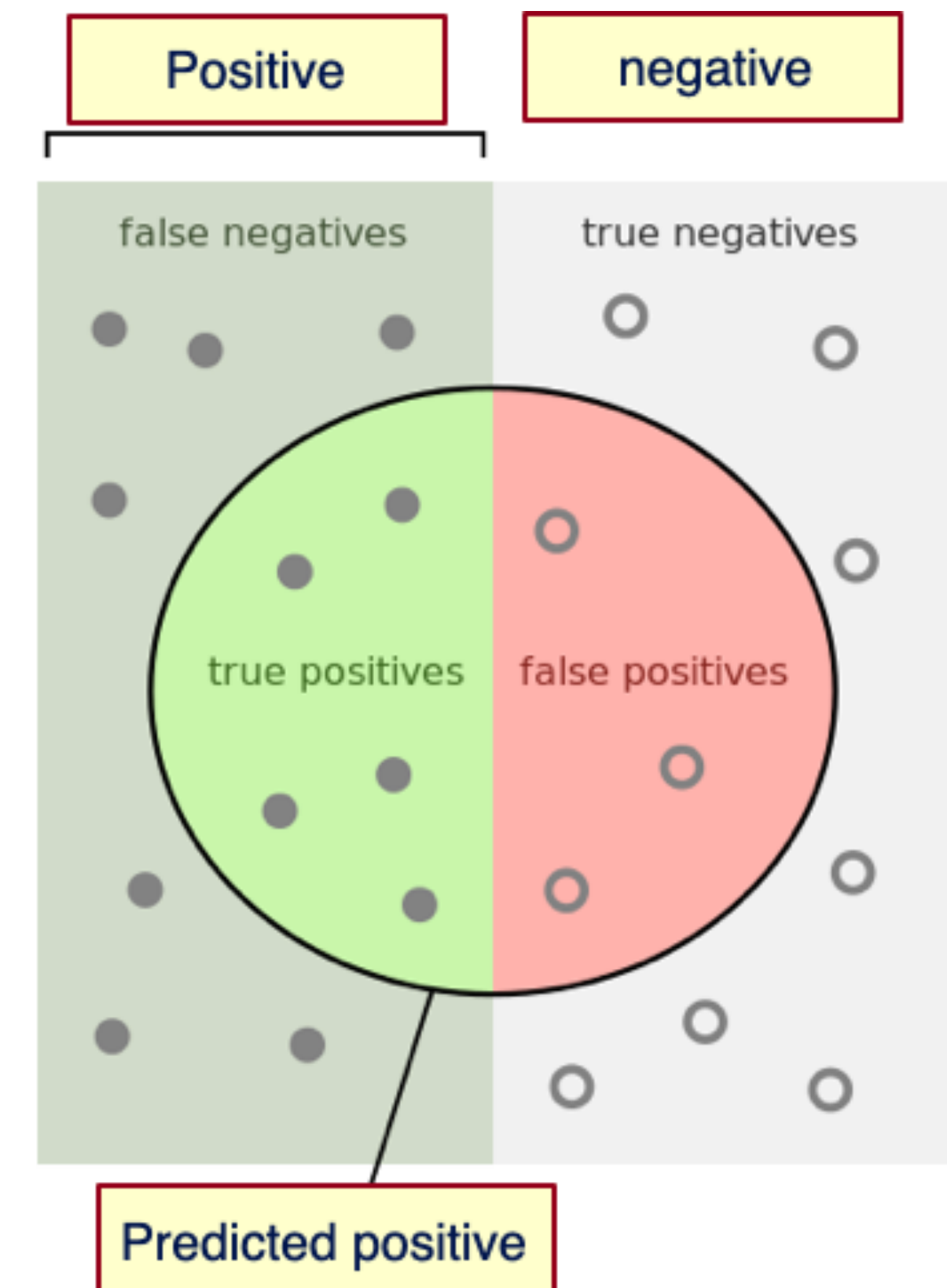
We need more than Accuracy!

True Positive (TP): Ground truth is  $c$  and the model predicts  $c$

False Positive (FP): Ground truth is not  $c$  but the model predicts  $c$

True Negative (TN): Ground truth is not  $c$  and the model does not predict  $c$

False Negative (FN): Ground truth is  $c$  but the model does not predict  $c$

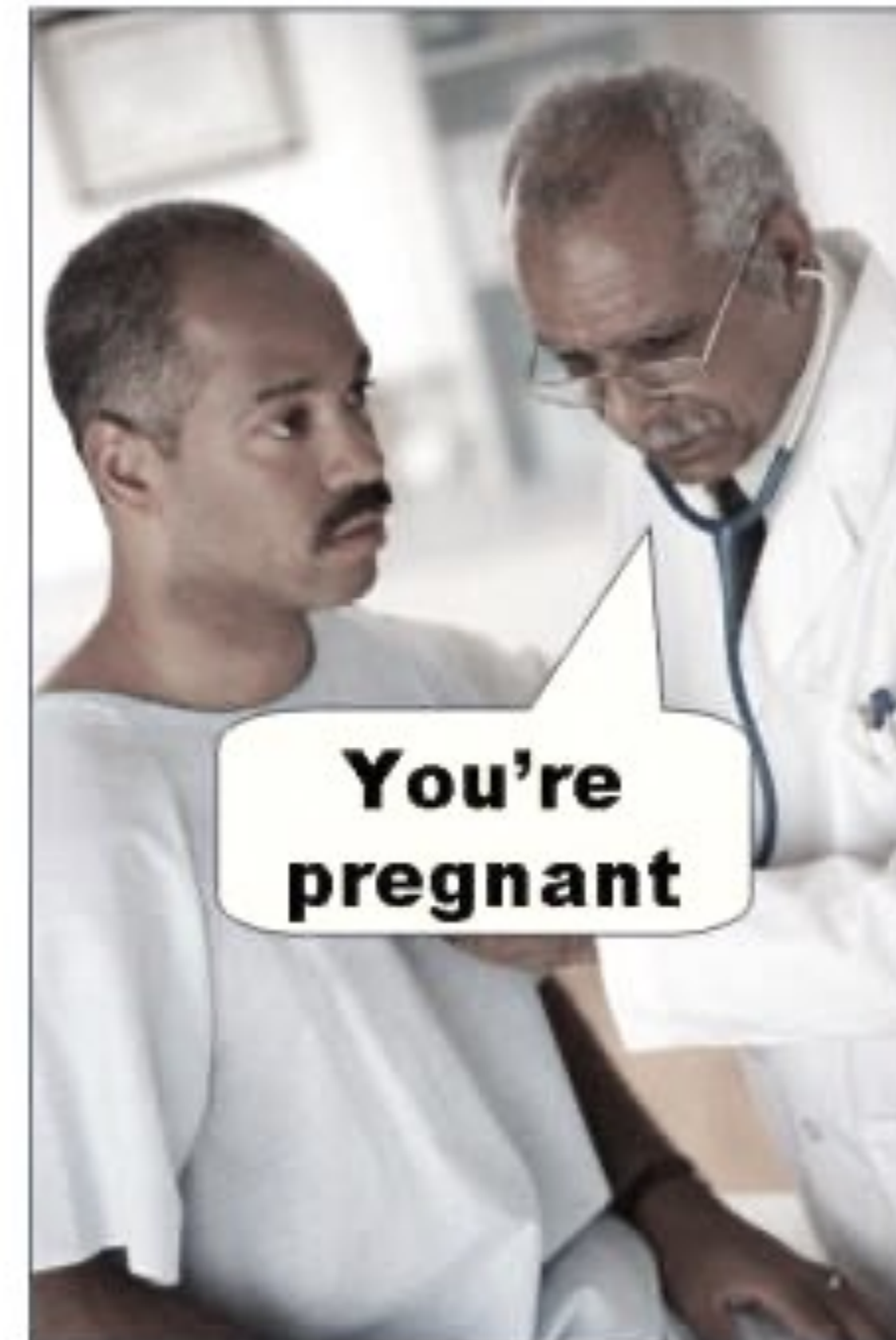


# Evaluation Metrics

False Positive (FP): Type I Error

False Negative (FN): Type II Error

Which one is  
important?



# Evaluation Metrics

Precision:

$$\frac{\text{Number of correctly classified positive instances}}{\text{Total number of positive predictions}} = \frac{TP}{TP + FP}$$

Recall:

$$\frac{\text{Number of correctly classified positive instances}}{\text{Total number of positive instances}} = \frac{TP}{FN + TP}$$

In which scenarios, precision and recall are important?



# Evaluation Metrics

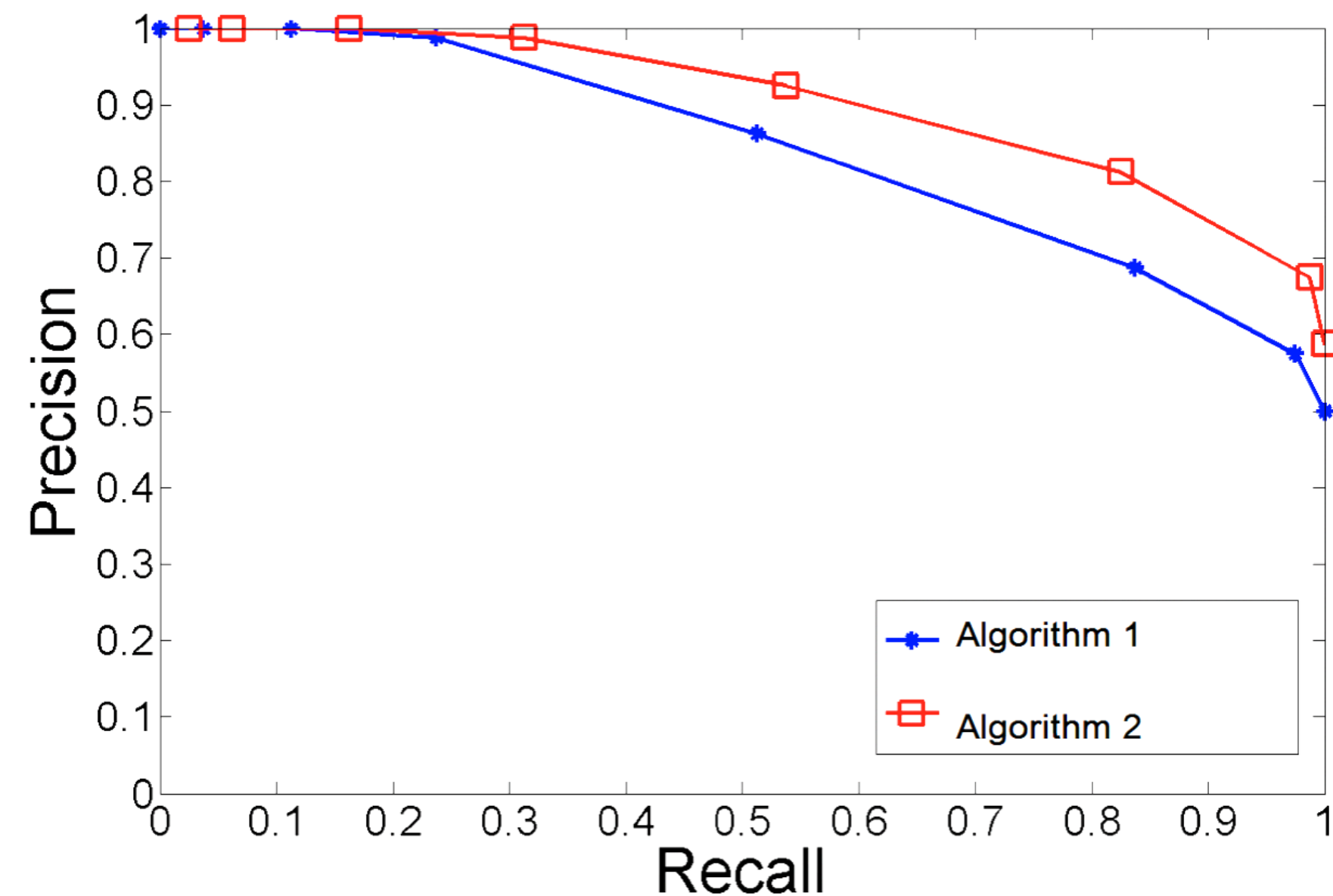
How to use precision and recall together?

F1-Score:

Harmonic mean of precision and recall

$$F1 = 2 \frac{PRE \times REC}{PRE + REC}$$

Precision-Recall Curve:



# Evaluation Metrics

How to report overall evaluation metric for all classes?

Micro Average (e.g. Precision):

$$\frac{\text{Sum of the number of correctly classified positive instances}}{\text{Total number of positive predictions}} = PRE_{micro} = \frac{TP_1 + \dots + TP_k}{TP_1 + \dots + TP_k + FP_1 + \dots + FP_k}$$

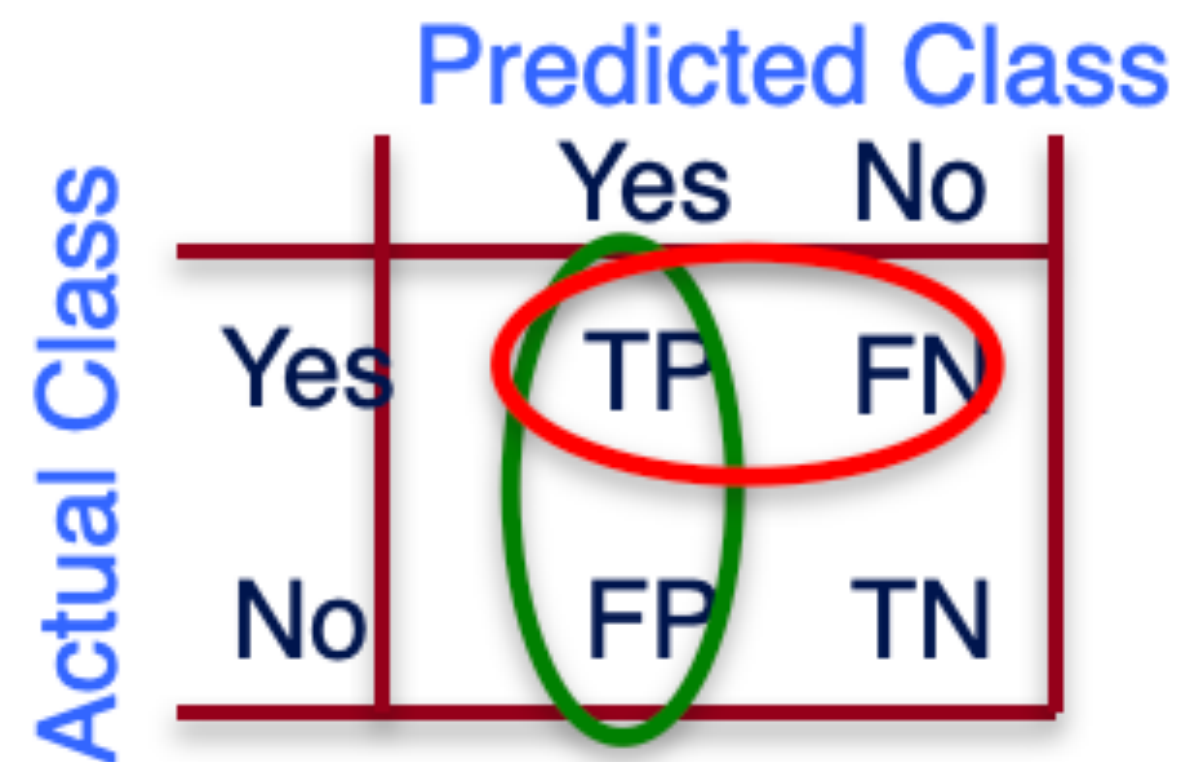
Macro Average (e.g. Precision):

$$\frac{\text{Sum of the precision scores of each class}}{\text{Total number of positive instances}} = PRE_{macro} = \frac{PRE_1 + \dots + PRE_k}{k}$$

# Error Analysis

Confusion Matrix:

A table that reports the number of test instances with ground truth label and predicted label.



The diagram shows a confusion matrix with 'Actual Class' on the vertical axis and 'Predicted Class' on the horizontal axis. The matrix is divided into four quadrants: True Positive (TP), False Negative (FN), False Positive (FP), and True Negative (TN). A red oval highlights the TP and FN cells, representing the 'Yes' predicted class. A green oval highlights the FP and FN cells, representing the 'No' actual class.

		Predicted Class	
		Yes	No
Actual Class	Yes	TP	FN
	No	FP	TN

# Evaluation Metrics

An example:

test data	prediction	ground truth	TP	FP	FN	TN
X1	+	-		1		
X2	+	+	1			
X3	-	+			1	
X4	-	-				1
X5	+	-		1		

Precision  
 $= TP / (TP+FP)$   
 $= 1 / (1+2)$   
 $= 0.33$

Recall  
 $= TP / (TP+FN)$   
 $= 1 / (1+1)$   
 $= 0.5$

F1-Score  
 $= 2 * Recall * Precision /$   
 $(Recall + Precision)$   
 $= (2 * 1/3 * 1/2) / (1/3 + 1/2)$   
 $= 0.4$

# Evaluation Metrics

Another example:

		predicted labels	
		1	0
true labels	1	10	10
	0	20	160

Baseline (majority accuracy): 90%

Accuracy: 85%

Precision: 0.333

Recall: 0.5

F1: 0.4



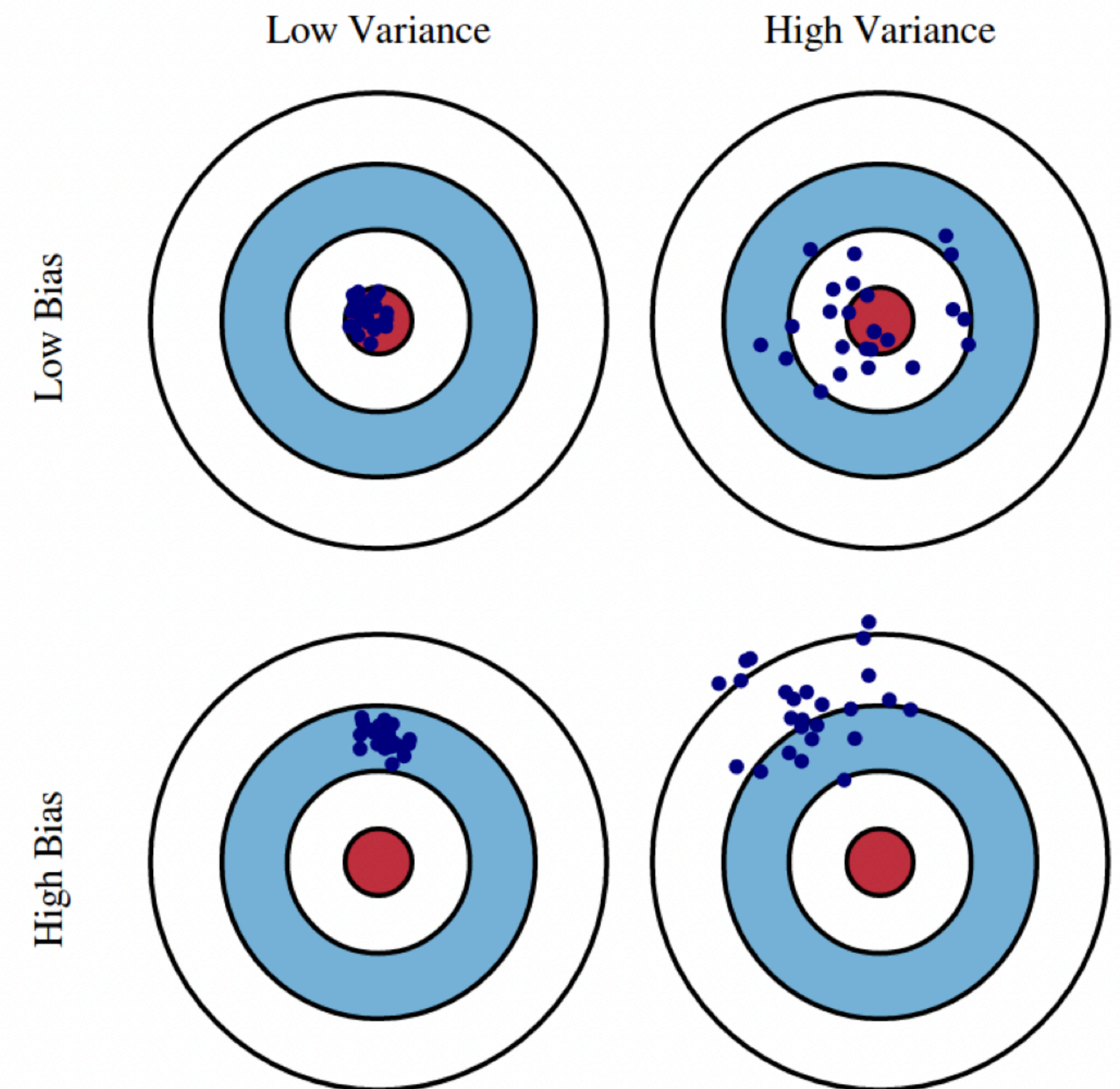
# Bias and Variance

## Bias:

Error due to incorrect assumptions  
(learning algorithm can not represent the concept)

## Variance:

Error due to variance of training samples  
(learning algorithm overreacts to noise in the training data)

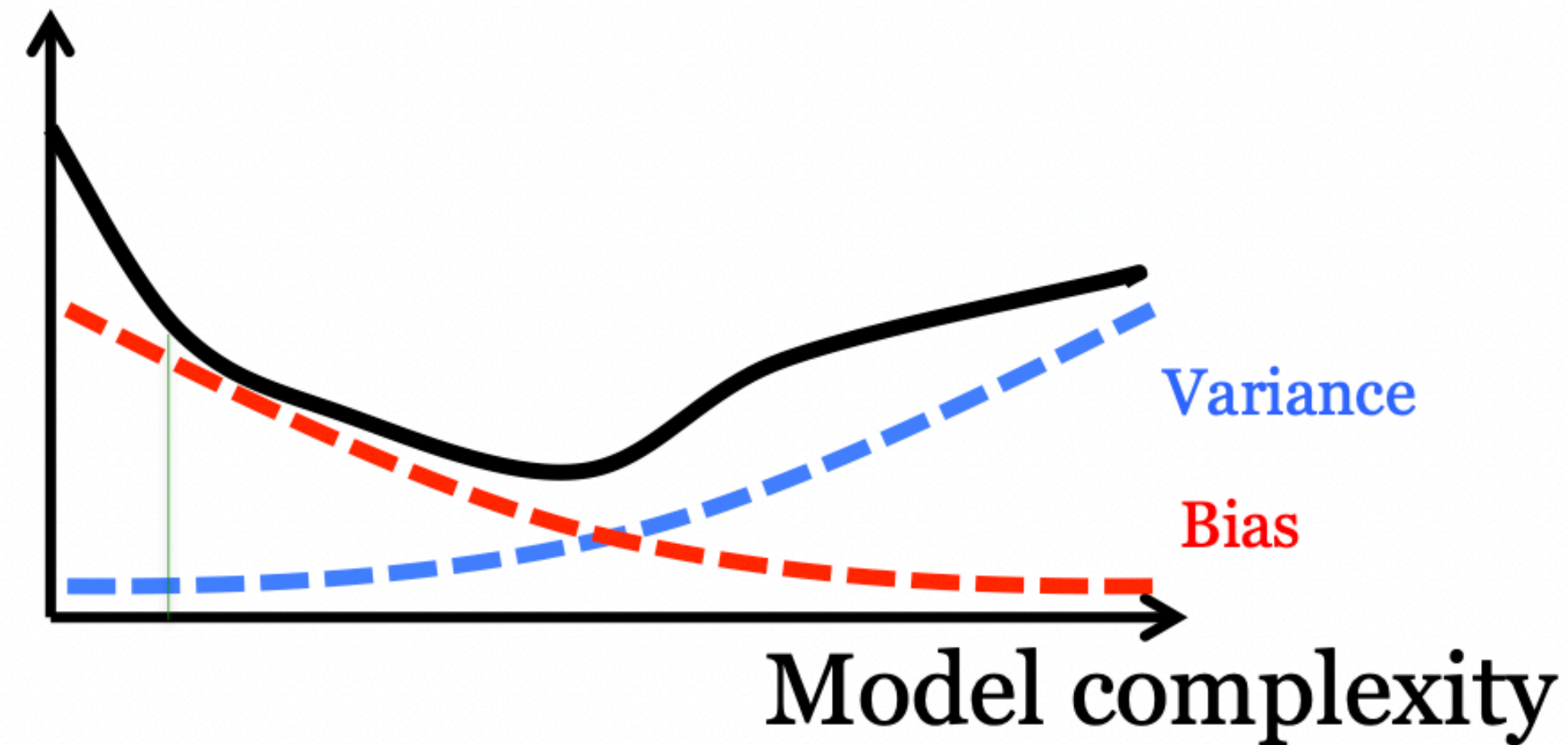




# Bias vs. Variance Trade-off

Underfitting: High training error and high test error

Expected Error



Overfitting: Low training error and high test error

More complex models overfit while the simplest models underfit.

# Baseline Model

Baseline is a successful method for the given task.

Baseline is mostly a state-of-the-art (SOTA) model from the literature, which exhibits well-known performance in the related domain and task.

# NLP Evaluation

How to assess the performance of your NLP model?

Manual and Extrinsic Evaluation

Human annotations/labels

LLM-as-a-Judge

# NLP Evaluation

How to assess the performance of your NLP model?

## Manual and Extrinsic Evaluation

Human annotations/labels:

Need to find domain expert(s)

Need to find multiple annotators to have consistent results

Need to instruct all annotator(s) with careful guidelines

What could possible go wrong  
for human annotations?

# NLP Evaluation

## Inter-annotator Agreement:

A method to measure the reliability of manual human annotations.

What if there are two human annotators for two labeling classes (Positive and Negative):

Annotator-1: 90% Positive, 10% Negative

Annotator-2: 30% Positive, 70% Negative

Possibility that two annotators have agreement by chance:

$$0.9 \cdot 0.3 + 0.1 \cdot 0.7 = 0.34$$

# NLP Evaluation

### Inter-annotator Agreement:

# Cohen's Kappa and variations

## Nominal

Characteristics can be distinguished

A D  
C B

## Cohen's Kappa

## Ordinal

Characteristics can be sorted

$$A < B < C < D$$

## Kendalls Tau

## Metric

Distances between characteristics can be calculated

## Pearson correlation



# NLP Evaluation

## Inter-annotator Agreement:

### Cohen's Kappa

the observed agreement (total agreements divided by total number of items)

$$\kappa = \frac{p_o - p_e}{1 - p_e}$$

an estimate of chance agreement varying according to the specific measure

# NLP Evaluation


Inter-annotator Agreement:

Cohen's Kappa





$$\begin{aligned}\kappa &= \frac{p_o - p_e}{1 - p_e} \\ &= \frac{0.72 - 0.5}{1 - 0.5} \\ &= 0.44\end{aligned}$$

Annotator-2

Annotator-1

		
	17	8
	6	19

$$p_o = \frac{36}{50} = 72\%$$

			
	17	8	25
	6	19	25
	23	27	

$$\begin{aligned}p_e &= \underbrace{\frac{25}{50} \cdot \frac{23}{50}}_{0.5 \cdot 0.46} + \underbrace{\frac{25}{50} \cdot \frac{27}{50}}_{0.5 \cdot 0.54} \\ &= 0.23 + 0.27 = 0.5\end{aligned}$$

probability that both annotators would say "negative" by chance

# NLP Evaluation

How to assess the performance of your NLP model?

## Manual and Extrinsic Evaluation

LLM-as-a-Judge:

Use Generative LLM/AI instead of human experts

Need to employ multiple LLM/AI models

Need to prepare optimal prompts for evaluation



What could possibly go wrong  
for LLM/AI annotations?



**ORTA DOĞU TEKNİK ÜNİVERSİTESİ**  
**MIDDLE EAST TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY**

**Thanks for your participation!**

**Çağrı Toraman**  
**21.10.2025**