

# Week 12: Lecture B

## LLMs and Fuzzing

Wednesday, April 3, 2024

# How are semester projects going?

Smoothly?



Obstacles?



# The Next Few Weeks

## Part 4: New Frontiers in Fuzzing

### Monday Meeting

Apr. 01

#### Fuzzing OS Kernels

► Readings:

Apr. 08

#### Fuzzing Compilers (guest lecture by [John Regehr](#))

► Readings:

Apr. 15

#### Fuzzing Multi-language Software

► Readings:

Apr. 22

#### Final Presentations II

### Wednesday Meeting

Apr. 03

#### LLM-guided Fuzzing

► Readings:

Apr. 10

#### Fuzzing Hardware

► Readings:

Apr. 17

#### Final Presentations I

Apr. 24

No Class (Reading Day)

# Recap: Project Schedule

- **Apr. 17th & 22nd:** final presentations
  - ~~45-20~~ **5-minute** slide deck and discussion
  - What you did, and why, and what results
- We have 26 teams...
  - So, 13 teams per two days
  - **5 minute presentation each**
  - One-minute audience Q&A
  - Keep the details tight!
- What's most important:
  - High-level technique
  - Challenges and workarounds
  - Key results (bugs found, other successes, etc.)



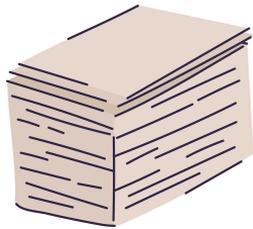
# Questions?



# LLMs: Large Language Models

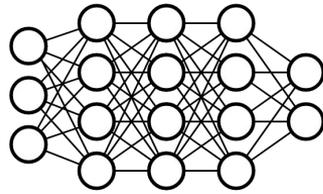
Slides courtesy of [Ana Marasović](#)'s lecture "Ingredients of Generative AI"

# Standard Supervised Deep Learning

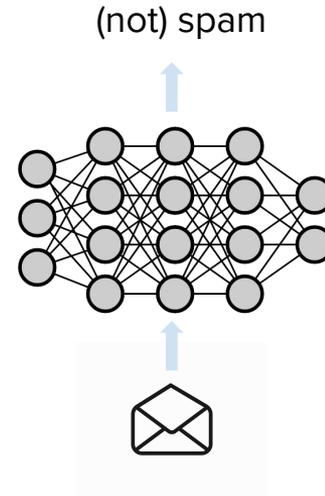


text + labels

+



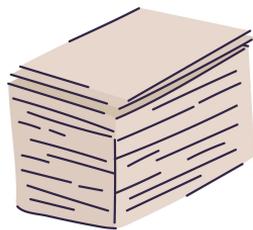
neural network



(not) spam

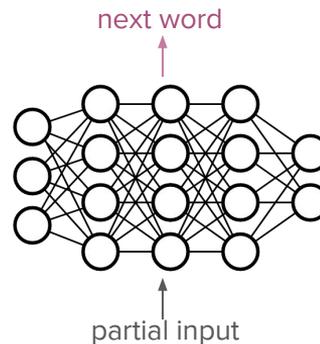
# Pretrain-then-Finetune (2018-2022)

Stage 1:  
*Pretrain a model*



text

+



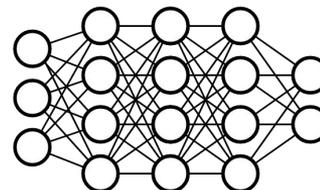
**Objective:** generate next word  
*(does not require that people label the next word)*

Stage 2:  
*Finetune the model*



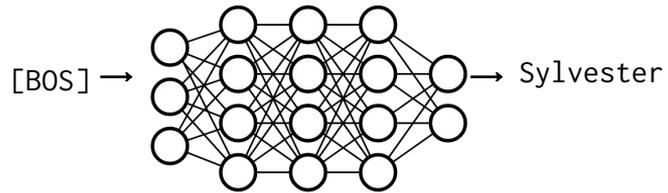
text + labels

+

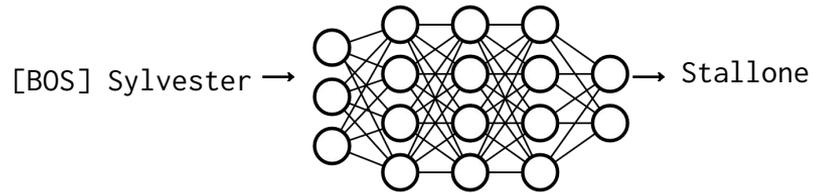


**Objective:** standard supervised training

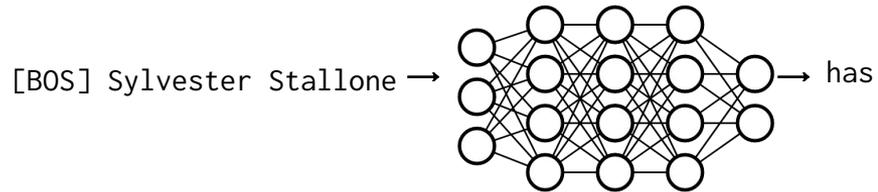
# Next word prediction: Language modeling



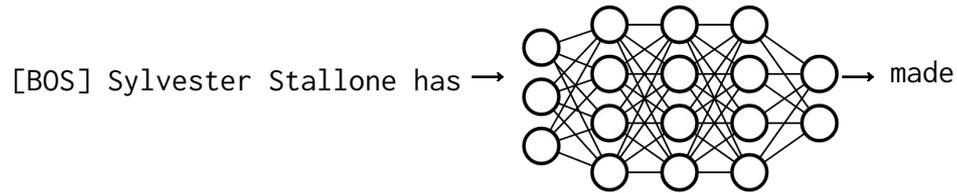
# Next word prediction: Language modeling

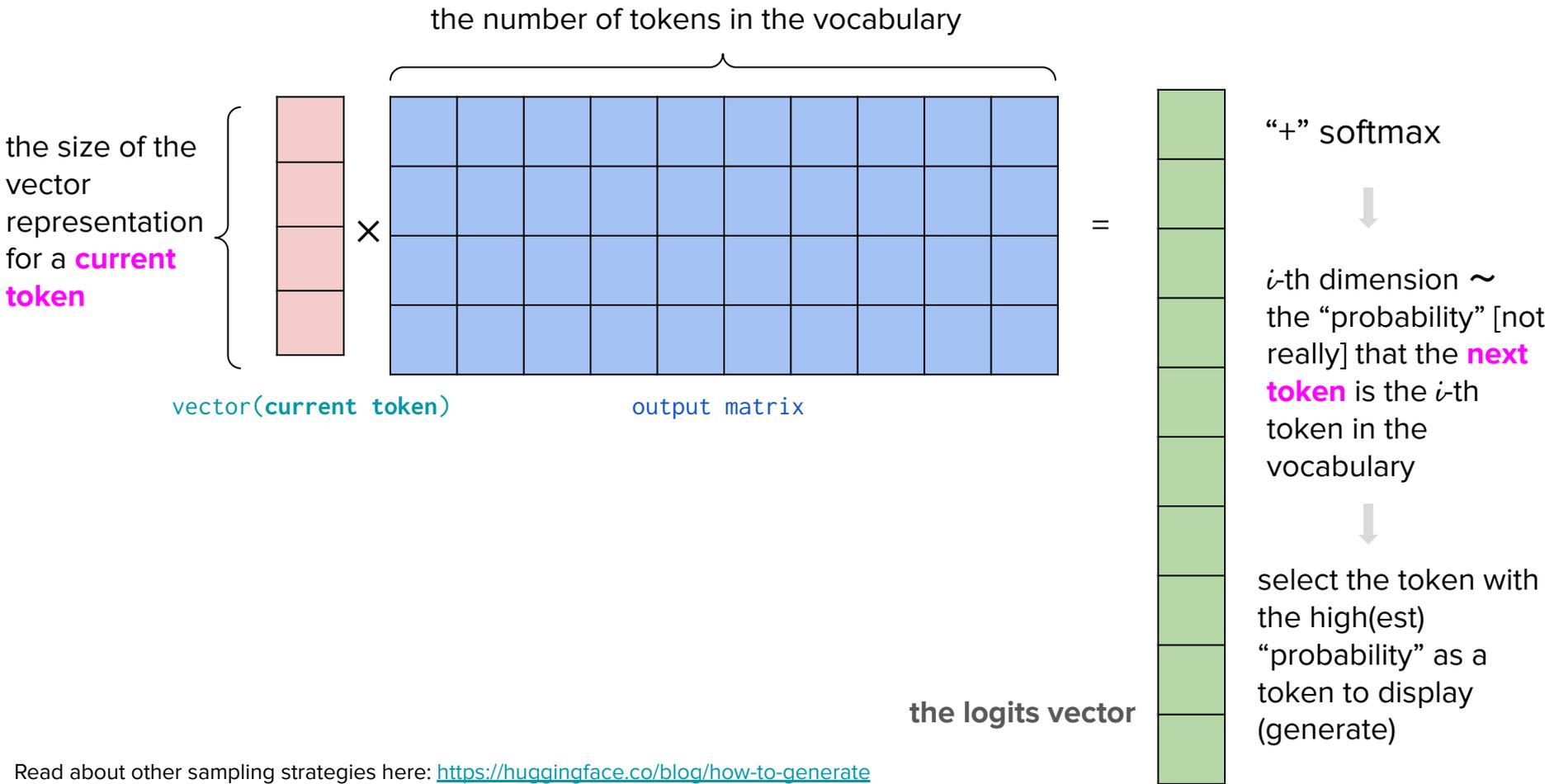


# Next word prediction: Language modeling



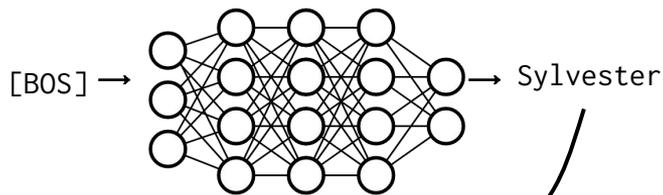
# Next word prediction: Language modeling





Read about other sampling strategies here: <https://huggingface.co/blog/how-to-generate>

# Next word prediction: Language modeling



[BOS] Sylvester → Stallone

[BOS] Sylvester Stallone → has

[BOS] Sylvester Stallone has → made

...

**We know which word actually occurred in the text next**

**Loss: how far the calculated “probability” of that word is far from the highest possible probability (1.0)**

**We change values in matrices we are multiplying each token vector with in a way that minimizes the loss**

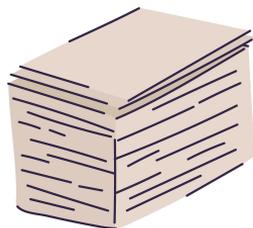
**We do this many, many times during pretraining (this stage can last for months)**

**Through this process a model implicitly captures features of language without explicitly told to do so**

**These features are transferable to other language task**

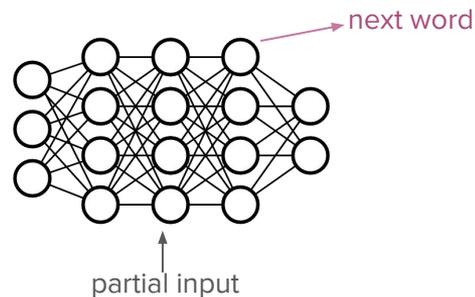
# Pretraining became much more involved

Stage 1:  
*Pretrain a model*



text

+



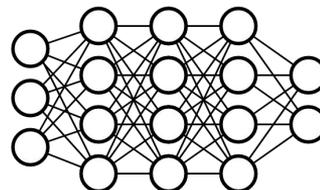
**Objective:** generate next word  
*(does not require that people label the next word)*

Stage 2:  
*Finetune the model*



text + labels

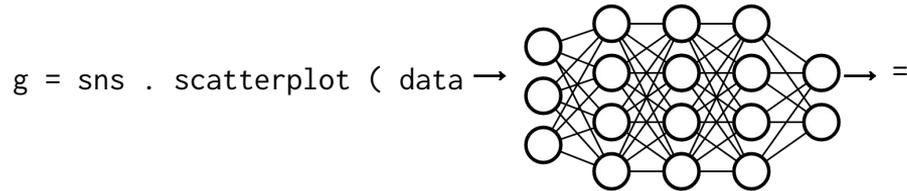
+



**Objective:** standard supervised training

# Next word prediction: Language modeling

*This can be applied to code too*



**Pre-2022 pretraining:**

*Next word prediction*

Self-supervised learning

**2022 addition:**

*Instruction finetuning*

Supervised learning

**2023 addition:**

*Human feedback*

Reinforcement learning

# How do we represent text?

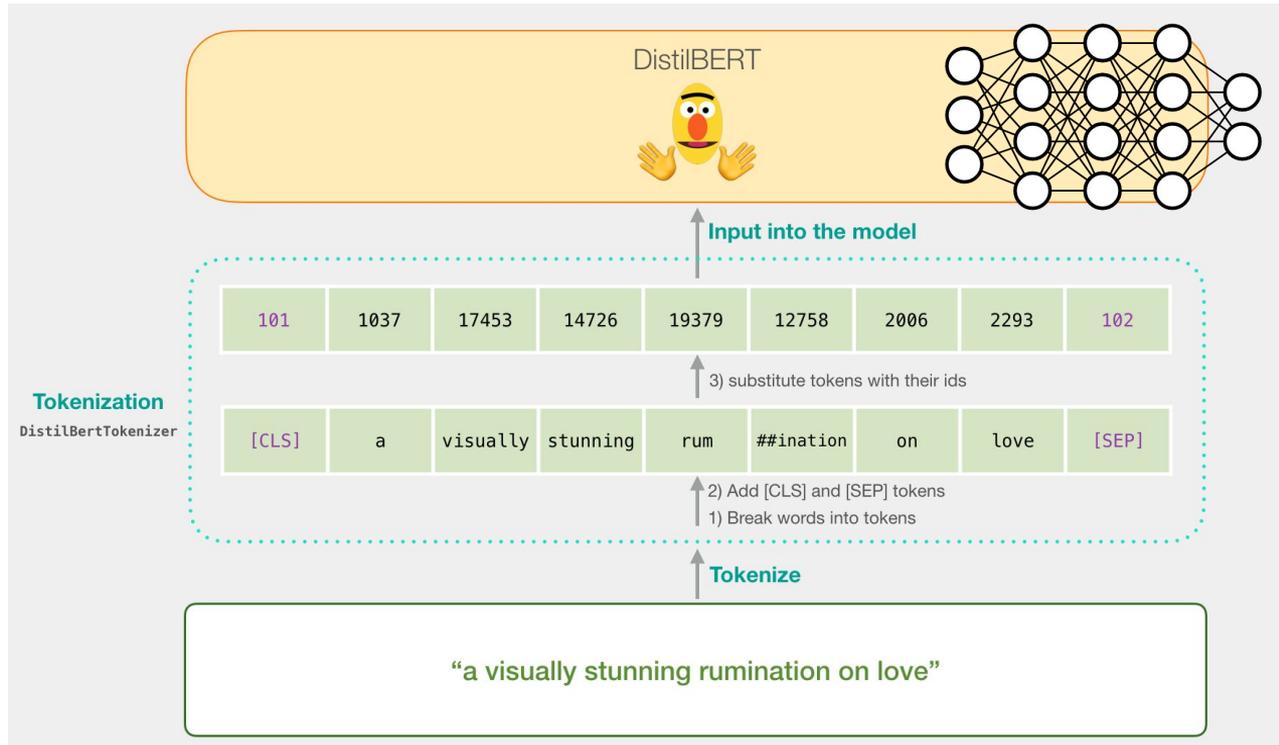


Figure: [A Visual Guide to Using BERT for the First Time by Jay Alammar](#)

# Byte-Pair Encoding for Tokenization

## Token learner:

raw train corpus  $\Rightarrow$  vocabulary (a set of tokens)

- 2 characters that are most frequently adjacent (“A”, “B”)
- Adds a new merged symbol (“AB”)
- Continues doing this until  $k$  merges are done
- Respects word boundaries

## Token segmenter:

raw sentences  $\Rightarrow$  tokens in the vocabulary

```
[30]: tokenizer.vocab
[30]: {'projected': 11310,
      '##naire': 20589,
      '##fus': 25608,
      '##ched': 7690,
      '##^': 29970,
      '##ear': 14644,
      '##øy': 27688,
      'graphic': 8425,
      '##itation': 18557,
      'curves': 10543,
      'turret': 14493,
      'brighter': 16176,
      'involved': 2920,
      'knicks': 27817,
      'cadiz': 26342,
      'lenin': 17497,
      'bedrock': 28272,
      'fa': 6904}
[32]: tokenizer.tokenize("It is funny, bright, and uplifting.")
[32]: ['it', 'is', 'funny', ',', 'bright', ',', 'and', 'up', '##lifting', '.']
```

*not a word, we call these subwords or tokens*

[Text Classification on GLUE](#)

Original paper: [\[Sennrich et al., 2016\]](#)

Read more: [Byte-Pair Encoding for Tokenization](#)

# Embedding tokens with fixed embeddings

For each token in our vocab we have a high-dimensional representation associated with it

Each row in the **embedding matrix** is an embedding/vector of the corresponding token



*row 1 = vector of the 1st token in the vocab*

*row 2 = vector of the 2nd token in the vocab*

*row 3 = vector of the 3rd token in the vocab*

*row 4 = vector of the 4th token in the vocab*


# How do we represent text?

We retrieve rows 101, 1037, 17453, 14726, 19379, 12758, 2006, 2293, 102 of the embedding matrix

Those 9 high-dimensional vectors are input to our model

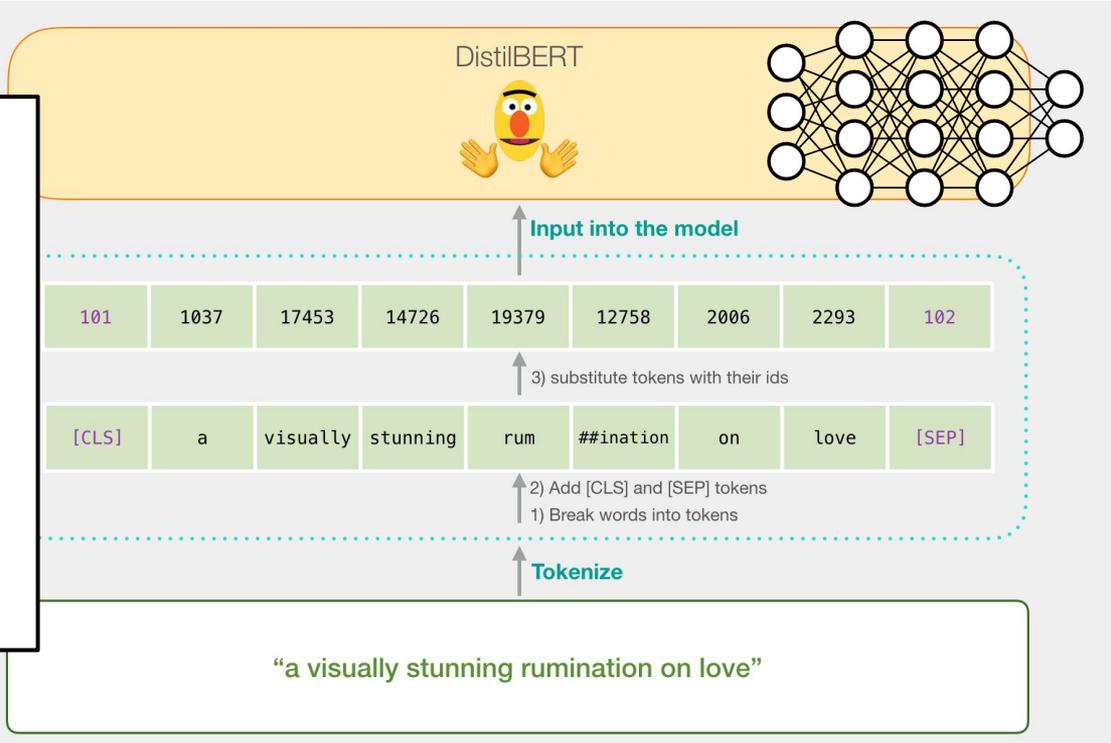


Figure: [A Visual Guide to Using BERT for the First Time by Jay Alammar](#)

**What follows is a *lot* of matrix-vector computations**

**At the end, each input token vector is transformed into a new vector**

**We call this new vector “(hidden) representation”**

**A number in matrices we use to multiply each token vector with is called a parameter**

**Large in “large language models” means that the total number of parameters is large (a few billion or more)**

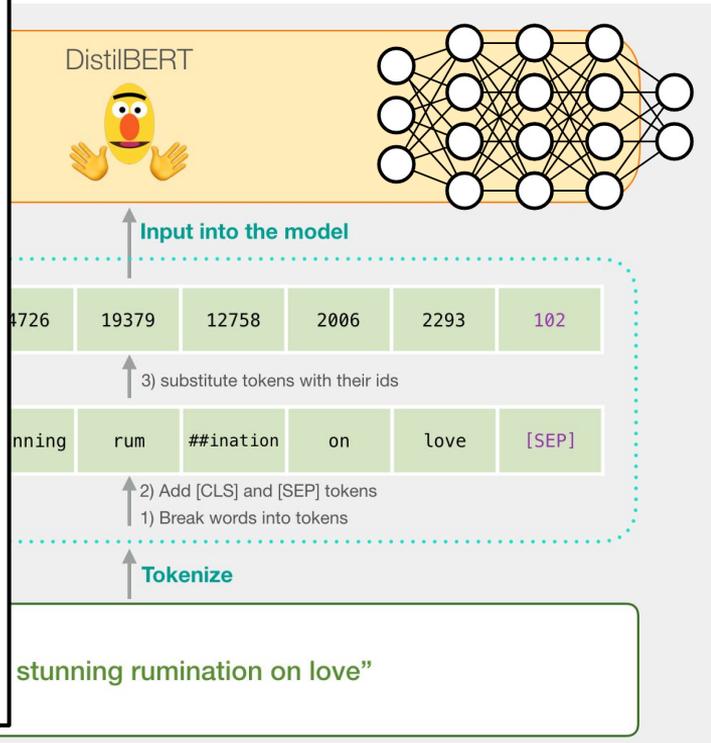
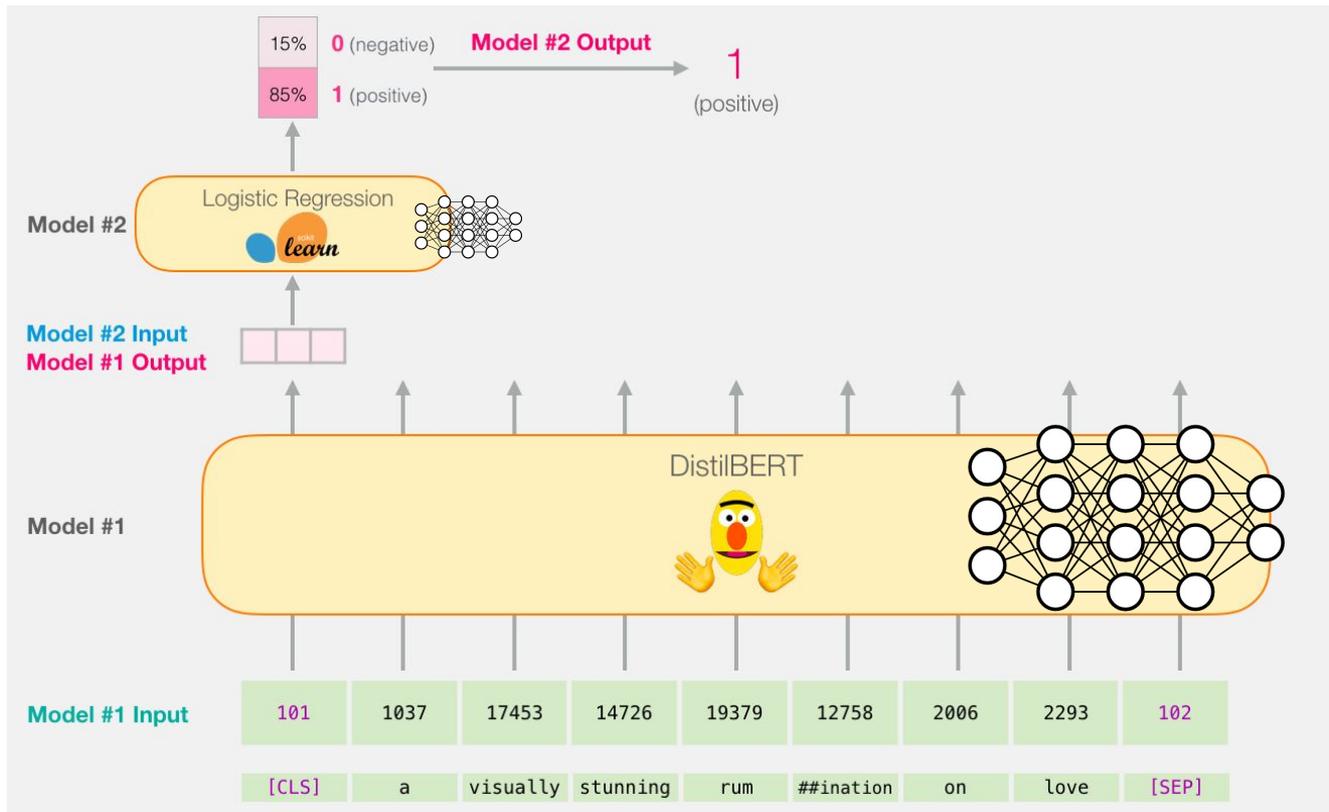
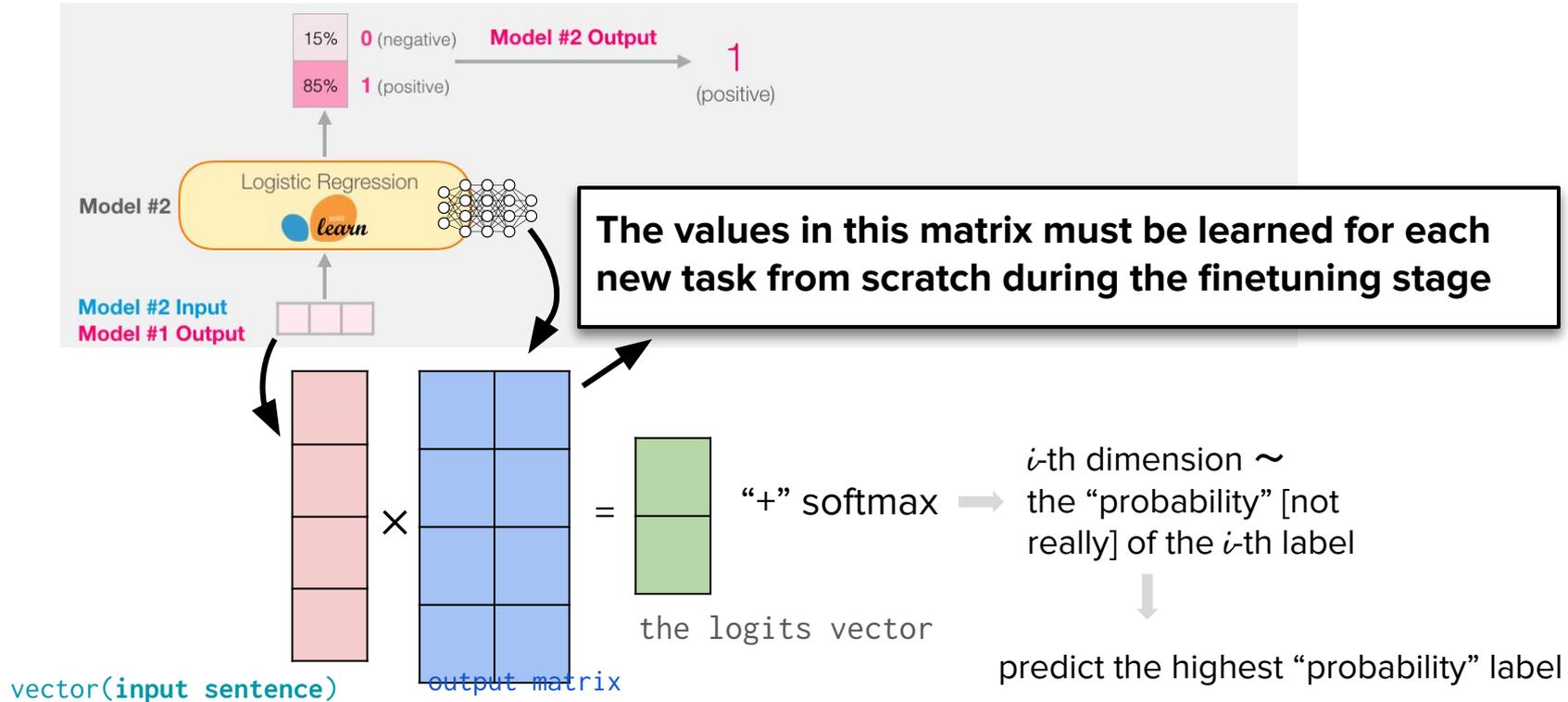


Figure: [A Visual Guide to Using BERT for the First Time by Jay Alamar](#)

# Pre “Generative AI”

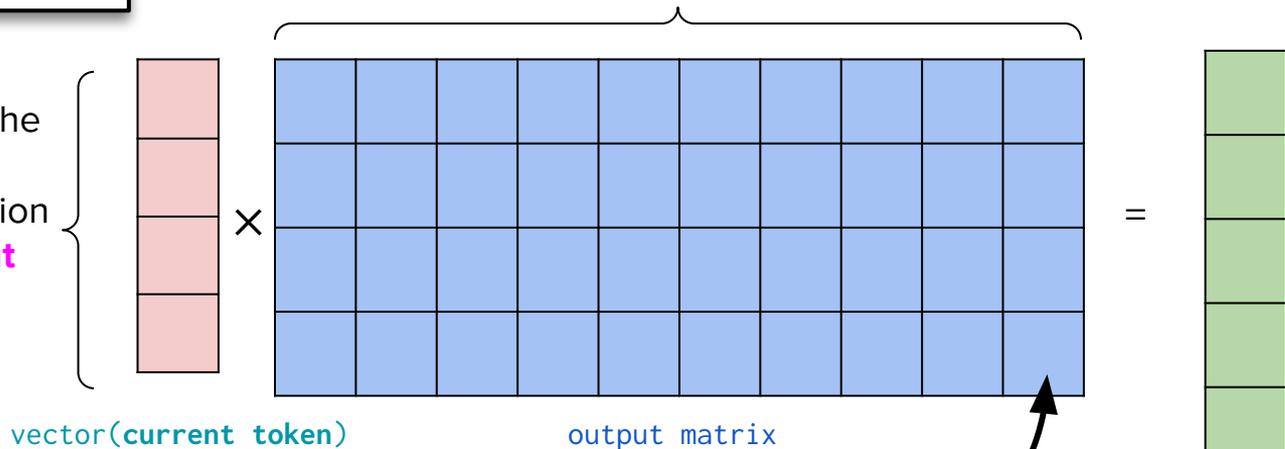


# Pre “Generative AI”



**Reminder:**

the size of the vector representation for a **current token**



**This is already learned!**

“+” softmax



$i$ -th dimension  $\sim$  the “probability” [not really] that the **next token** is the  $i$ -th token in the vocabulary



select the token with the high(est) “probability” as a token to display (generate)

the logits vector

Read about other sampling strategies here: <https://huggingface.co/blog/how-to-generate>

We want models that can do all sorts of tasks for us (**general-purpose**)

We develop models to generate the label tokens (e.g. “positive”, “negative”)

We add an instruction to induce a task-specific behavior, e.g.:

- “TL;DR” or “summarize: “ for summarization
- “In this task, you are given an article. Your task is to summarize the article in a sentence.”

# An example of a **prompt**

In this task, you're expected to write answers to questions involving reasoning about negation. The answer to the question should be "yes", "no", "don't know" or a phrase in the passage. Questions can have only one correct answer.\n

← **Instruction**

**Passage:** Trams have operated continuously in Melbourne since 1885 (the horse tram line in Fairfield opened in 1884, but was at best an irregular service). Since then they have become a distinctive part of Melbourne's character and feature in tourism and travel advertising. Melbourne's cable tram system opened in 1885, and expanded to one of the largest in the world, with of double track. The first electric tram line opened in 1889, but closed only a few years later in 1896. In 1906 electric tram systems were opened in St Kilda and Essendon, marking the start of continuous operation of Melbourne's electric trams.\n

← **A task instance**

**Question:** If I wanted to take a horse tram in 1884, could I look up the next tram on a schedule?\n

**Answer:**

The model generates the answer: "No"

Example from [[Ravichander et al., 2022](#)]

A layperson or a domain expert that interacts with an NLP model:

- Have no access to model parameters
- Have no knowledge of how to change the model parameters
- But they are able to provide a few examples of their task

In this task, you're expected to write answers to questions involving reasoning about negation. The answer to the question should be "yes", "no", "don't know" or a phrase in the passage. Questions can have only one correct answer.\n

**Passage:** During the 1930s, Jehovah's Witnesses in Germany were sent to concentration camps by the thousands, due to their refusal to salute the Nazi flag, which the government considered to be a crime. Jehovah's Witnesses believe that the obligation imposed by the law of God is superior to that of laws enacted by government. Their religious beliefs include a literal version of Exodus, Chapter 20, verses 4 and 5, which says: "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down thyself to them nor serve them." They consider that the flag is an 'image' within this command. For this reason, they refused to salute the flag.\n

**Question:** Is it likely that most of these Jehovah's Witnesses survived the war (having the same likelihood of survival as other German civilians) only to later see Soviet flags in their country, or American soldiers proudly saluting the stars and stripes?\n

**Answer:** NO\n

###\n

**Passage:** Francesco Rognoni was another composer who specified the trombone in a set of divisions (variations) on the well-known song "Suzanne ung jour" (London Pro Musica, REP15). Rognoni was a master violin and gamba player whose treatise "Selva di Varie passaggi secondo l'uso moderno" (Milan 1620 and facsimile reprint by Arnaldo Forni Editore 2001) details improvisation of diminutions and Suzanne is given as one example. Although most diminutions are written for organ, string instruments or cornett, Suzanne is "per violone over Trombone alla bastarda". With virtuosic semiquaver passages across the range of the instrument, it reflects Praetorius' comments about the large range of the tenor and bass trombones, and good players of the Quartposaune (bass trombone in F) could play fast runs and leaps like a viola bastarda or cornetto. The term "bastarda" describes a technique that made variations on all the different voices of a part song, rather than just the melody or the bass: "considered legitimate because it was not polyphonic".

**Question:** Would you likely find the term "bastarda" regularly used in an academic paper on musical theory?\n

**Answer:** DON'T KNOW\n

###\n

[...]\n

###\n

**Passage:** Trams have operated continuously in Melbourne since 1885 (the horse tram line in Fairfield opened in 1884, but was at best an irregular service). Since then they have become a distinctive part of Melbourne's character and feature in tourism and travel advertising. Melbourne's cable tram system opened in 1885, and expanded to one of the largest in the world, with of double track. The first electric tram line opened in 1889, but closed only a few years later in 1896. In 1906 electric tram systems were opened in St Kilda and Essendon, marking the start of continuous operation of Melbourne's electric trams.\n

**Question:** If I wanted to take a horse tram in 1884, could I look up the next tram on a schedule?\n

**Answer:**

In this task, you're expected to write answers to questions involving reasoning about negation. The answer to the question should be "yes", "no", "don't know" or a phrase in the passage. Questions can have only one correct answer.

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**Question:** Would you likely find the term "bastarda" regularly used in an academic paper on musical theory?

**Answer: Let's think step by step.** From the passage it is unclear whether 'bastarda' was a technique that was impactful and important which are reasons why one could expect to see it regularly in an academic paper on musical theory. **So the answer is DON'T KNOW.**

###

**Passage:** During the 1930s, Jehovah's Witnesses in Germany were sent to concentration camps by the thousands, due to their refusal to salute the Nazi flag, which the government considered to be a crime. Jehovah's Witnesses believe that the obligation imposed by the law of God is superior to that of laws enacted by government. Their religious beliefs include a literal version of Exodus, Chapter 20, verses 4 and 5, which says: "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down thyself to them nor serve them." They consider that the flag is an 'image' within this command. For this reason, they refused to salute the flag.

**Question:** Is it likely that most of these Jehovah's Witnesses survived the war (having the same likelihood of survival as other German civilians) only to later see Soviet flags in their country, or American soldiers proudly saluting the stars and stripes?

**Answer: Let's think step by step.** Worshiping any flag is forbidden by their religion and this religious law to them is superior to laws enacted by the government. Thus, even after the war, they are unlikely to condone people saluting Soviet or American flags. **So the answer is NO.**

###

[...]

###

**Passage:** Trams have operated continuously in Melbourne since 1885 (the horse tram line in Fairfield opened in 1884, but was at best an irregular service). Since then they have become a distinctive part of Melbourne's character and feature in tourism and travel advertising. Melbourne's cable tram system opened in 1885, and expanded to one of the largest in the world, with of double track. The first electric tram line opened in 1889, but closed only a few years later in 1896. In 1906 electric tram systems were opened in St Kilda and Essendon, marking the start of continuous operation of Melbourne's electric trams.

**Question:** If I wanted to take a horse tram in 1884, could I look up the next tram on a schedule?

**Answer: Let's think step by step.**

# Instruction Finetuning

Train/finetune a model with the next word prediction objective:

1. To follow instructions
2. With chain-of-thoughts (& self-consistency) prompts to elicit reasoning skills
3. With concatenated examples to induce in-context learning

**With labeled data of 1800 tasks**

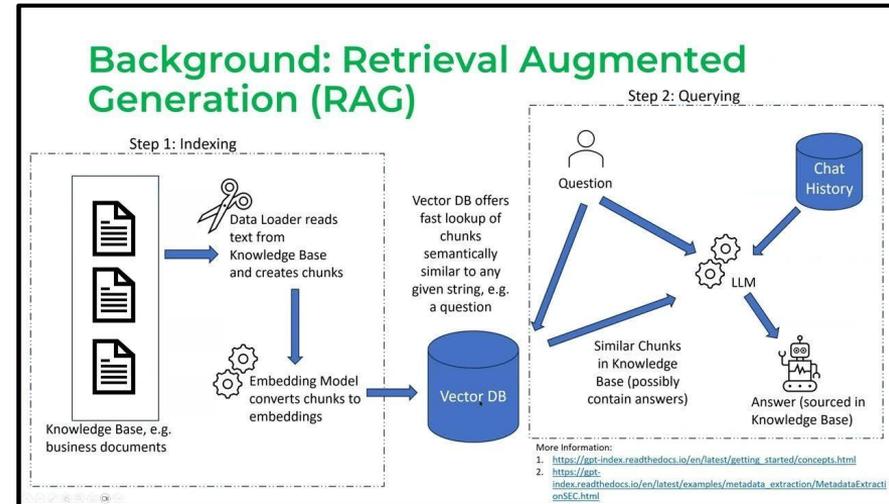
# Open challenge: Optimize context length & context construction

We want to fit an instruction &  
a few demonstrations with their explanations  
& a new instance we want predictions...

...and even more for **Retrieval Augmented  
Generation** (to avoid hallucinations)

Longer the context, the more we can squeeze

[[Liu et al., 2023](#)]: models prefer info at the  
beginning/end of the index than in the  
middle



[[LlamaIndex Webinar](#)]

[[Chip Huyen's April'23 Open challenges in LLM research](#)]

**Pre-2022 pretraining:**

*Next word prediction*

Self-supervised learning

**2022 addition:**

*Instruction finetuning*

Supervised learning

**2023 addition:**

*Human feedback*

Reinforcement learning

# Learning from Tay's introduction

Mar 25, 2016 | [Peter Lee - Corporate Vice President, Microsoft Healthcare](#)



As many of you know by now, on Wednesday we launched a chatbot called Tay. We are deeply sorry for the unintended offensive and hurtful tweets from Tay, which do not represent who we are or what we stand for, nor how we designed Tay. Tay is now offline and we'll look to bring Tay back only when we are confident we can better anticipate malicious intent that conflicts with our principles and values.

I want to share what we learned and how we're taking these lessons forward.

For context, Tay was not the first artificial intelligence application we released into the online social world. In China, our Xiaolce chatbot is being used by some 40 million people, delighting with its stories and conversations. The great experience with Xiaolce led us to wonder: Would an AI like this be just as captivating in a radically different cultural environment? Tay – a chatbot created for 18- to 24- year-olds in the U.S. for entertainment purposes – is our first attempt to answer this question.

Read more: <https://blogs.microsoft.com/blog/2016/03/25/learning-tays-introduction/>

# Reinforcement Learning from Human Feedback

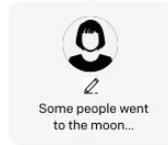
Step 1

**Collect demonstration data,  
and train a supervised policy.**

A prompt is  
sampled from our  
prompt dataset.



A labeler  
demonstrates the  
desired output  
behavior.



This data is used  
to fine-tune GPT-3  
with supervised  
learning.

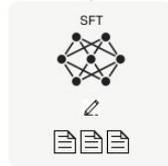


Figure from: <https://openai.com/blog/instruction-following/>

# Reinforcement Learning from Human Feedback

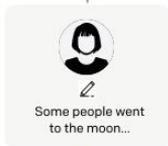
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**Collect demonstration data,  
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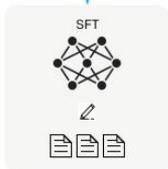
A prompt is  
sampled from our  
prompt dataset.



A labeler  
demonstrates the  
desired output  
behavior.



This data is used  
to fine-tune GPT-3  
with supervised  
learning.



Step 2

**Collect comparison data,  
and train a reward model.**

A prompt and  
several model  
outputs are  
sampled.



A labeler  
ranks the  
outputs from  
best to worst.



This data is used  
to train our  
reward model.

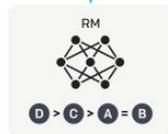


Figure from: <https://openai.com/blog/instruction-following/>

# Reinforcement Learning from Human Feedback

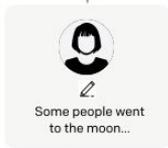
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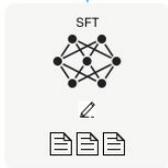
A prompt is sampled from our prompt dataset.



A labeler demonstrates the desired output behavior.



This data is used to fine-tune GPT-3 with supervised learning.



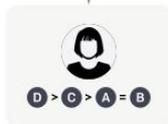
Step 2

**Collect comparison data, and train a reward model.**

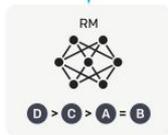
A prompt and several model outputs are sampled.



A labeler ranks the outputs from best to worst.



This data is used to train our reward model.



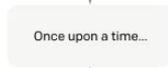
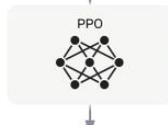
Step 3

**Optimize a policy against the reward model using reinforcement learning.**

A new prompt is sampled from the dataset.



The policy generates an output.



The reward model calculates a reward for the output.



The reward is used to update the policy using PPO.



Figure from: <https://openai.com/blog/instruction-following/>

# Red Teaming

[Text copied from the link below]

**Elicits model vulnerabilities** that might lead to undesirable behaviors

Goal: craft a prompt that would **trigger the model to generate harmful text**:

- upsetting user experiences
- enabling harm by aiding violence
- enabling other unlawful activity for a user with malicious intentions

The outputs from red-teaming

⇒ **Train the model to be less likely to cause harm**

Read more: <https://huggingface.co/blog/red-teaming>

# LLaMA-2

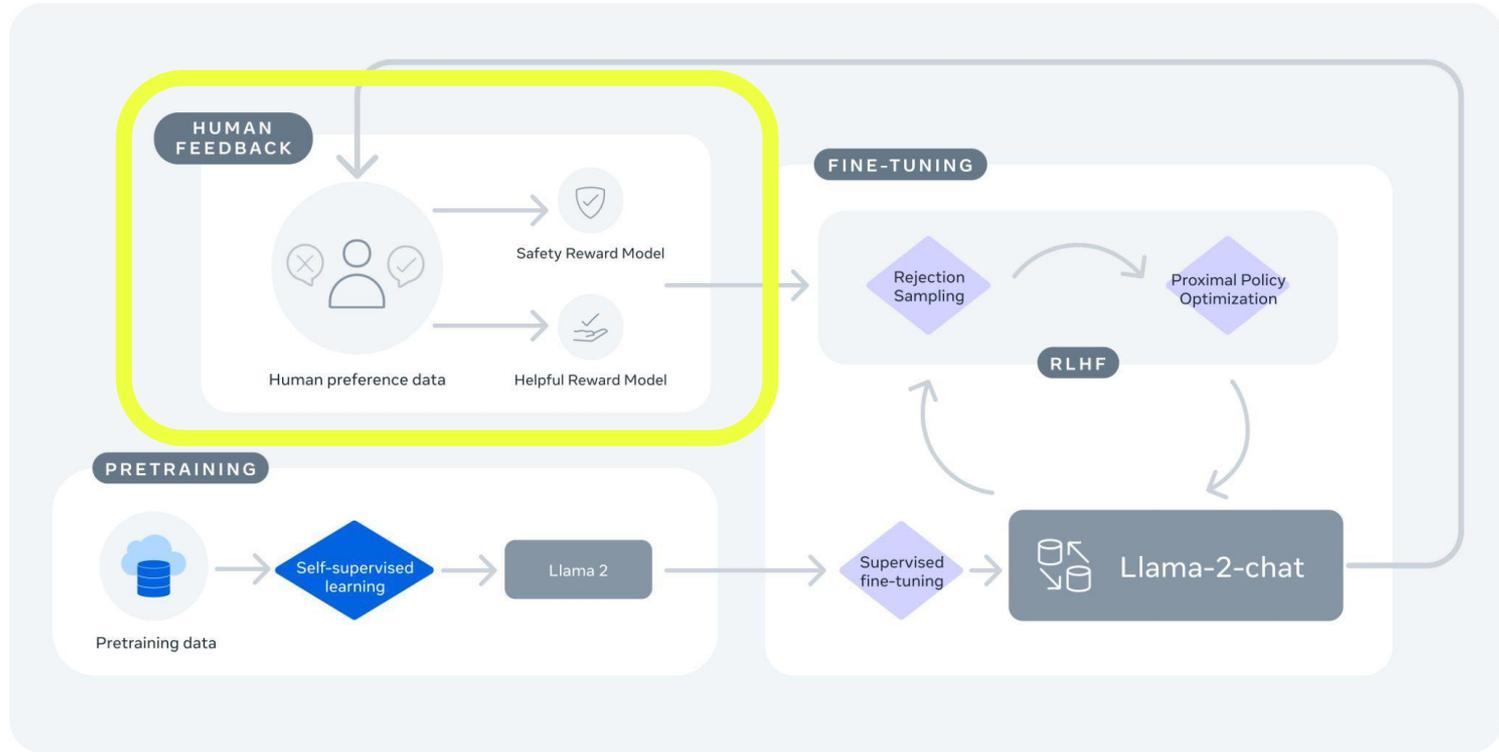


Figure from: <https://ai.meta.com/resources/models-and-libraries/llama/>

# Open challenge: Learning from human feedback

## 1. Do we really need “hacky” RL?

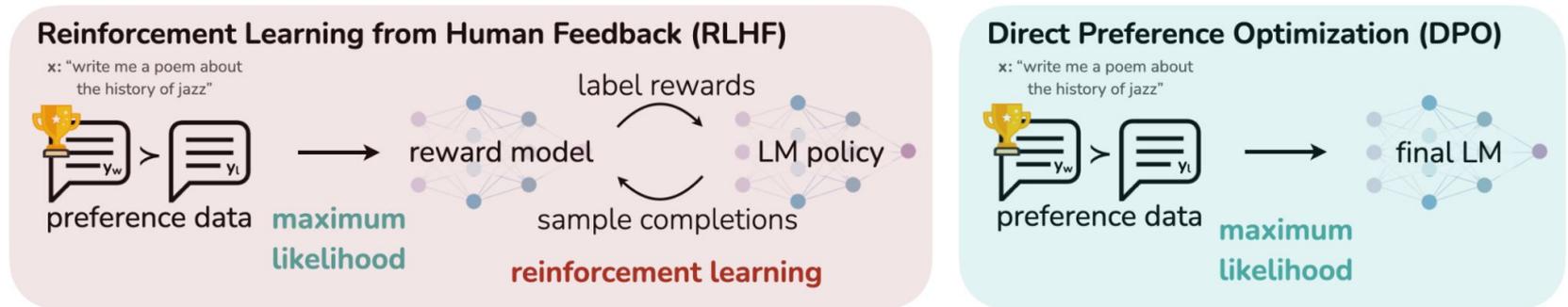


Figure from: <https://openai.com/blog/instruction-following/>

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2. Whose preference is “human” preference, taking into account the differences in cultures, religions, political leanings, etc.?
3. How to balance multiple preferences (helpful, honest, and harmless)?
4. Do we want AIs that can take a stand or a vanilla AI that shies away from any potentially controversial topic?

Figure from: <https://openai.com/blog/instruction-following/>

**Pre-2022 pretraining:**

*Next word prediction*

Self-supervised learning

**2022 addition:**

*Instruction finetuning*

Supervised learning

**2023 addition:**

*Human feedback*

Reinforcement learning

# What data exactly is used at each stage?



A screenshot of a tweet from Shayne Longpre (@ShayneRedford). The tweet text reads: "First, PT data selection is mired in mysticism." followed by a numbered list of three points: 1. Documentation Debt: #PALM2 & #GPT4 don't document their data; 2. PT is expensive → experiments are sparse; 3. So public data choices are largely guided by intuition, rumors, and partial info.

**Shayne Longpre**   
@ShayneRedford

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Since the data is huge, **analyses are slow**:

-  Comparing vector representations of a given instance with each pretraining instance
-  Finding examples that influence model output [[Grosse et al., 2023](#)]

**Data filtering should be done with care:**

- ✓ Quality filters improve performance [[Longpre et al., 2023](#)]
- ✗ Toxicity filters trade off ability to reduce risk of toxic generation [[Longpre et al., 2023](#)]
- ✗ Erasing marginalized voices represented in the data [[Dodge et al., 2021](#)]

**Analyzing data that contains e.g. pornography** [[Birhane et al., 2021](#)] takes toll on people

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## Developer's dilemma:

1. To make useful models, they need data
2. A developer wants to do right by the people who created the data

## How to achieve both of these simultaneously?

Nascent research area

# Questions?

