

# Large Language Models

## Introduction and Recent Advances

ELL881 · AIL821

Tanmoy Chakraborty  
Associate Professor, IIT Delhi  
<https://tanmoychak.com/>



Semester 1, 2024-2025

# Course Instructors



**Tanmoy Chakraborty**  
IIT Delhi



**Yatin Nandwani**  
IBM Research



**Dinesh Raghu**  
IBM Research



**Sourish Dasgupta**  
DA-IICT



**Gaurav Pandey**  
IBM Research



**Manish Gupta**  
Microsoft

## Course TA



**Anwoy Chatterjee**  
PhD student, IIT Delhi

# Course Directives

- Slot **H** (Mon, Wed: 11-12; Thu: 12-13)
- Website: <https://lcs2-iitd.github.io/ELL881-AIL821-2401/>
- YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@lcs2575>
- Room: II-301


## Marks distribution (tentative)

- Minor: 15%
- Major: 25%
- Quiz (2): 10%
- Assignment (1): 20%
- Mini-project: 30% (group-wise)

- **Audit:** B- (threshold to pass the course)
- **Grading Scheme:** TBD



# Course Project

- Some problem statements, and datasets will be floated soon\*
- Each group should consist of 1-2 students
- **Best Project Award** 

- You need to


- develop models
- evaluate your models
- prepare presentation
- write tech report

Students are encouraged to publish their projects in good conferences/journals

\* You are welcome to propose a new idea if you find it fascinating to be qualified for a course project. Instructor opines!



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**Deliverables:**

1. Final project report (**15%**), 8 pages ACL format. Encouraged to arxiv
2. Repo of dataset and source code (**5%**)
3. Final project presentation (**10%**)

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# Do Not Plagiarize !

Academic Integrity is of utmost importance. If anyone is found [cheating/plagiarizing](#), it will result in [negative penalty](#) (and possibly even more: an F grade or even DisCo).

[Collaborate. But do NOT cheat.](#)

- Assignments to be done individually.
- **Do not share any part of code.**
- **Do not copy any part of report** from any online resources or published works.
- If you reuse other's works, always cite.
- If you discuss with others about assignment or outside your group for project, mention their names in the report.
- **Do not use GenAI tools** (like, ChatGPT).

[We will check for pairwise plagiarism in submitted assignment code files among you all.](#)

[We will also check the probability of any submitted content being AI generated.](#)

[Project reports will be checked for plagiarism across all web resources.](#)

**Keep It Original**



**Don't Plagiarise!**



# Course Content

- This is an **advanced graduate course** and we will be teaching and discussing state-of-the-art papers about large language models.
- The course is mostly presentation- and discussion-based and all the students are expected to come to the class regularly and participate in discussion



# Course Content

## Basics

- Introduction
- Intro to NLP
- Intro to Language Models (LMs)
- Word Embeddings (Word2Vec, GloVE)
- Neural LMs (CNN, RNN, Seq2Seq, Attention)





# Course Content

Basics	Architecture
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction</li><li>• Intro to NLP</li><li>• Intro to Language Models (LMs)</li><li>• Word Embeddings (Word2Vec, GloVE)</li><li>• Neural LMs (CNN, RNN, Seq2Seq, Attention)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Intro to Transformer</li><li>• Decoder-only LM, Prefix LM, Decoding strategies</li><li>• Encoder-only LM, Encoder-decoder LM</li><li>• Advanced Attention</li><li>• Mixture of Experts</li></ul>



# Course Content

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# Course Content

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# Pre-Requisites

- Excitement about language!
- Willingness to learn



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Data Structures &amp; Algorithms</li><li>• Machine Learning</li><li>• Python programming</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• NLP</li><li>• Deep learning</li></ul>



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## This course will NOT cover:

- Details of NLP (ELL884: <https://sites.google.com/view/ell881>), Machine Learning and Deep Learning
- Coding practice
- Generative models for modalities other than text



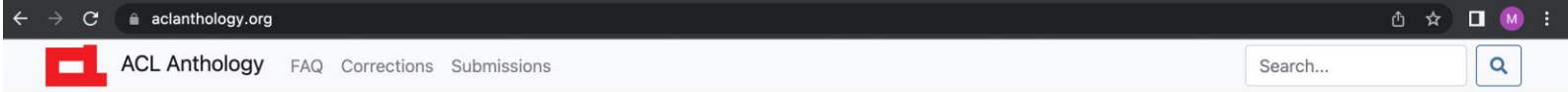
# Reading and Reference Materials

- Books (optional reading)
  - Speech and Language Processing, [Dan Jurafsky](#) and [James H. Martin](#)  
<https://web.stanford.edu/~jurafsky/slp3/>
  - Foundations of Statistical Natural Language Processing, [Chris Manning](#) and [Hinrich Schütze](#)
  - Natural Language Processing, [Jacob Eisenstein](#)  
<https://github.com/jacobeisenstein/gt-nlp-class/blob/master/notes/eisenstein-nlp-notes.pdf>
  - A Primer on Neural Network Models for Natural Language Processing, [Yoav Goldberg](#)  
<http://u.cs.biu.ac.il/~yogo/nnlp.pdf>
- Journals
  - Computational Linguistics, Natural Language Engineering, TACL, JMLR, TMLR, etc.
- Conferences
  - ACL, EMNLP, NAACL, COLING, AAI, IJCNLP, ICML, NeurIPS, ICLR, WWW, KDD, SIGIR, etc.





# Research Papers Repository



## Welcome to the ACL Anthology!

The ACL Anthology currently hosts 77778 papers on the study of computational linguistics and natural language processing.

Subscribe to the mailing list to receive announcements and updates to the Anthology.

Full Anthology as BibTeX (6.62 MB)

...with abstracts (17.30 MB)

Give feedback

### ACL Events

Venue	2022 – 2020	2019 – 2010	2009 – 2000	1999 – 1990	1989 and older
AAACL	20				
ACL	22 21 20	19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10	09 08 07 06 05 04 03 02 01 00	99 98 97 96 95 94 93 92 91 90	89 88 87 86 85 84 83 82 81 80 79
ANLP				00 97 94 92	88 83
CL	22 21 20	19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10	09 08 07 06 05 04 03 02 01 00	99 98 97 96 95 94 93 92 91 90	89 88 87 86 85 84 83 82 81 80
CoNLL	21 20	19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10	09 08 07 06 05 04 03 02 01 00	99 98 97	
EACL	21	17 14 12	09 06 03	99 97 95 93 91	89 87 85 83
EMNLP	21 20	19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10	09 08 07 06 05 04 03 02 01 00	99 98 97 96	
Findings	22 21 20				
IWSLT	22 21 20	19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10	09 08 07 06 05 04		
NAACL	22 21	19 18 16 15 13 12 10	09 07 06 04 03 01 00		
SemEval	22 21 20	19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 10	07 04 01	98	
*SEM	22 21 20	19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12			
TACL	22 21 20	19 18 17 16 15 14 13			
WMT	21 20	19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10	09 08 07 06		
WS	21 20	19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10	09 08 07 06 05 04 03 02 01 00	99 98 97 96 95 94 93 92 91 90	89 88 86 84 81 79
SIGs		ANN   BIOMED   DAT   DIAL   EDU   EL   FSM   GEN   HAN   HUM   LEX   MEDIA   MOL   MORPHON   MT   NLL   PARSE   REP   SEM   SEMITIC   SLAV   SLPAT   SLT   TYP   UR			

### Non-ACL Events

Venue	2022 – 2020	2019 – 2010	2009 – 2000	1999 – 1990	1989 and older
ALTA	21 20	19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10	09 08 07 06 05 04 03		
AMTA	20	18 16 14 12 10	08 06 04 02 00	98 96 94	
CCL	21 20				
COLING	20	18 16 14 12 10	08 06 04 02 00	98 96 94 92 90	88 86 84 82 80

<https://aclanthology.org/>



# Research Papers Repository

arXiv.org > cs > cs.CL

## Computation and Language

### Authors and titles for recent submissions

- [Wed, 19 Aug 2020](#)
- [Tue, 18 Aug 2020](#)
- [Mon, 17 Aug 2020](#)
- [Fri, 14 Aug 2020](#)
- [Thu, 13 Aug 2020](#)

[ total of 84 entries: 1-25 | 26-50 | 51-75 | 76-84 ]  
[ showing 25 entries per page: [fewer](#) | [more](#) | [all](#) ]

**Wed, 19 Aug 2020**

[1] [arXiv:2008.07905](#) [[pdf](#), [other](#)]

#### **Glancing Transformer for Non-Autoregressive Neural Machine Translation**

[Lihua Qian](#), [Hao Zhou](#), [Yu Bao](#), [Mingxuan Wang](#), [Lin Qiu](#), [Weinan Zhang](#), [Yong Yu](#), [Lei Li](#)

Comments: 11 pages, 3 figures, 4 tables

Subjects: **Computation and Language** (cs.CL)

[2] [arXiv:2008.07880](#) [[pdf](#), [other](#)]

#### **COVID-SEE: Scientific Evidence Explorer for COVID-19 Related Research**

[Karin Verspoor](#), [Simon Šuster](#), [Yulia Otmakhova](#), [Shevon Mendis](#), [Zenan Zhai](#), [Biaoyan Fang](#), [Jey Han Lau](#), [Timothy Bal](#)

Comments: COVID-SEE is available at [this http URL](#)

Subjects: **Computation and Language** (cs.CL); **Information Retrieval** (cs.IR)

[3] [arXiv:2008.07772](#) [[pdf](#), [other](#)]

#### **Very Deep Transformers for Neural Machine Translation**

[Xiaodong Liu](#), [Kevin Duh](#), [Liyuan Liu](#), [Jianfeng Gao](#)

Comments: 6 pages, 3 figures and 3 tables

Subjects: **Computation and Language** (cs.CL)

[4] [arXiv:2008.07723](#) [[pdf](#), [other](#)]

#### **NASE: Learning Knowledge Graph Embedding for Link Prediction via Neural Architecture Search**

[Xiaoyu Kou](#), [Bingfeng Luo](#), [Huang Hu](#), [Yan Zhang](#)

Comments: Accepted by CIKM 2020, short paper

Subjects: **Computation and Language** (cs.CL)

<https://arxiv.org/list/cs.CL/recent>



# Acknowledgements (Non-exhaustive List)

- Advanced NLP, Graham Neubig <http://www.phontron.com/class/anlp2022/>
- Advanced NLP, Mohit Iyer <https://people.cs.umass.edu/~miyyer/cs685/>
- NLP with Deep Learning, Chris Manning, <http://web.stanford.edu/class/cs224n/>
- Understanding Large Language Models, Danqi Chen <https://www.cs.princeton.edu/courses/archive/fall22/cos597G/>
- Natural Language Processing, Greg Durrett <https://www.cs.utexas.edu/~gdurrett/courses/online-course/materials.html>
- Large Language Models: <https://stanford-cs324.github.io/winter2022/>
- Natural Language Processing at UMBC, <https://laramartin.net/NLP-class/>
- Computational Ethics in NLP, [https://demo.clab.cs.cmu.edu/ethical\\_nlp/](https://demo.clab.cs.cmu.edu/ethical_nlp/)
- Self-supervised models, [CS 601.471/671: Self-supervised Models \(jhu.edu\)](https://www.cs.jhu.edu/~mduffy/CS601.471/671:Self-supervised%20Models)
- WING.NUS Large Language Models, <https://wing-nus.github.io/cs6101/>
- And many more...



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Language Model gives the probability distribution over a sequence of tokens.



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Vocabulary

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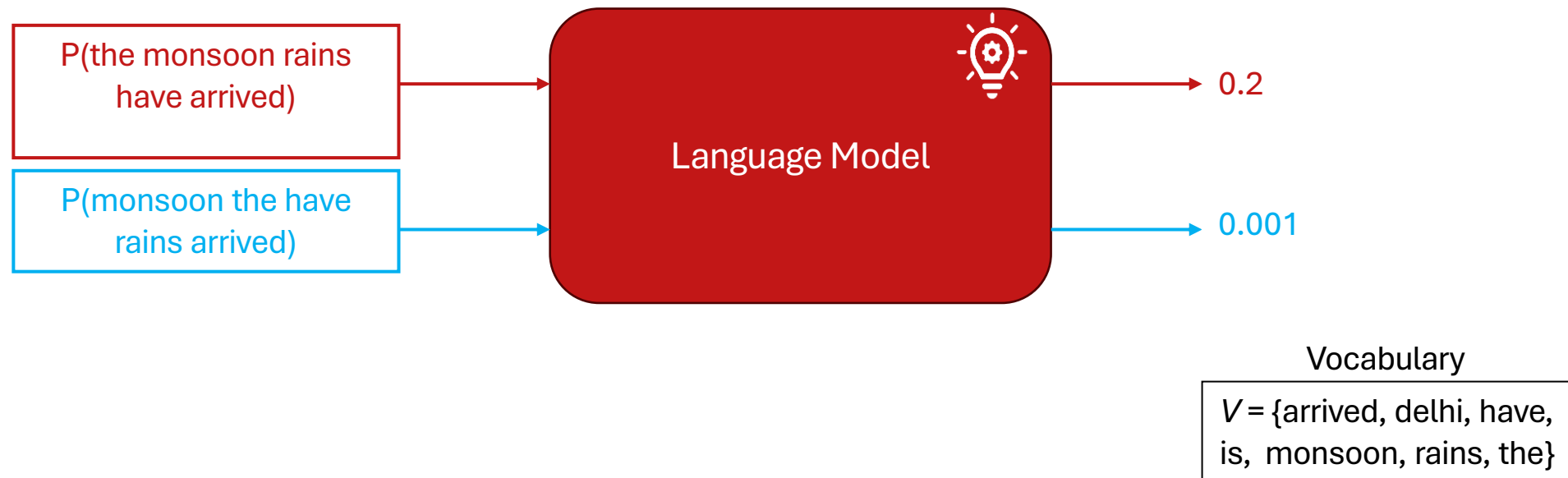
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# LMs can 'Generate' Text !

- Consider a sequence of tokens  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_L\}$ , where  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_L$  are in vocabulary  $V$
- Notation:  $P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_L) = P(x_{1:L})$
- Using the **chain rule of probability**:

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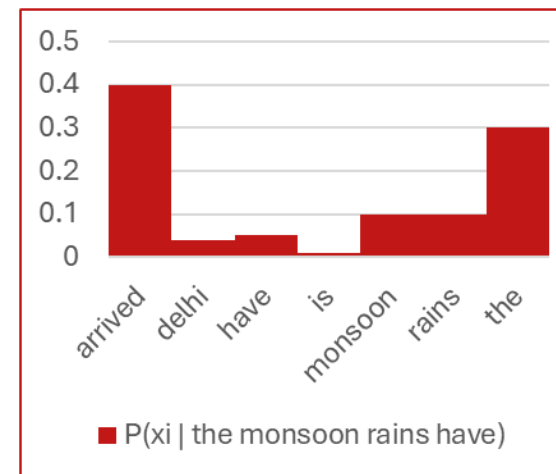
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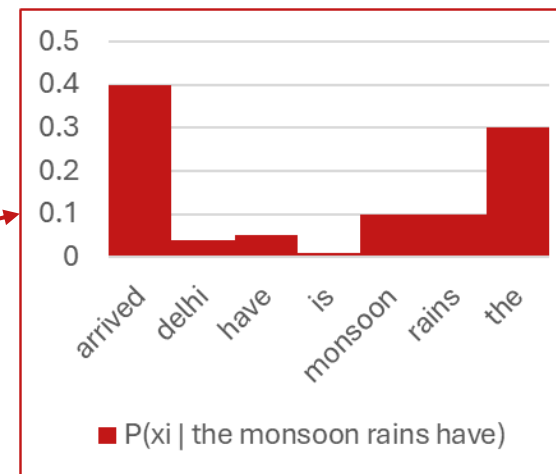
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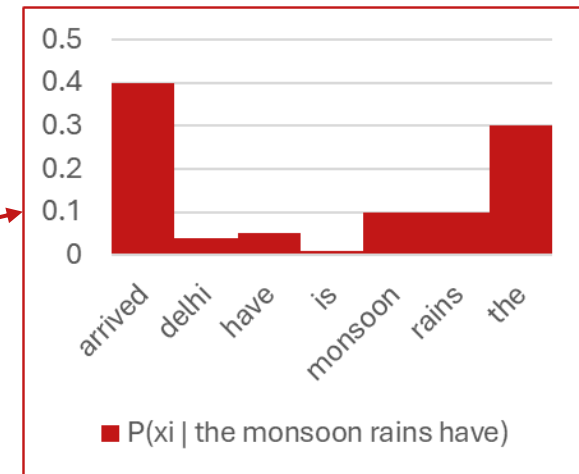
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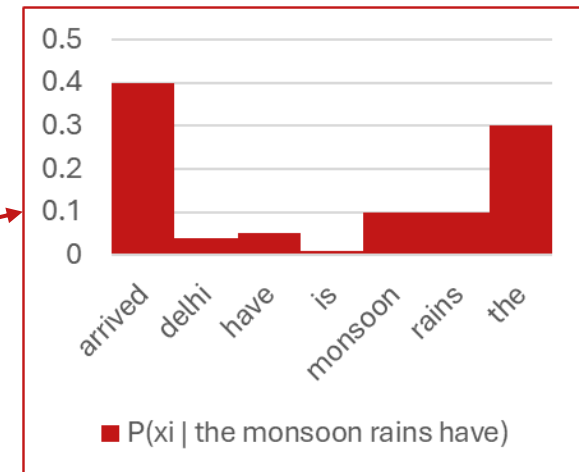
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Auto-regressive LMs calculate this distribution efficiently, e.g. using ‘Deep’ Neural Networks

For generation, next token is sampled from this probability distribution

$$x_i \sim P(x_i | x_{1:i-1})$$



# 'Large' Language Models

The 'Large' in terms of **model's size (# parameters)** and **massive size of training dataset**.

Model	Organization	Date	Size (# params)
ELMo	AI2	Feb 2018	94,000,000
GPT	OpenAI	Jun 2018	110,000,000
BERT	Google	Oct 2018	340,000,000
XLM	Facebook	Jan 2019	655,000,000
GPT-2	OpenAI	Mar 2019	1,500,000,000
RoBERTa	Facebook	Jul 2019	355,000,000
Megatron-LM	NVIDIA	Sep 2019	8,300,000,000
T5	Google	Oct 2019	11,000,000,000
Turing-NLG	Microsoft	Feb 2020	17,000,000,000
GPT-3	OpenAI	May 2020	175,000,000,000
Megatron-Turing NLG	Microsoft, NVIDIA	Oct 2021	530,000,000,000
Gopher	DeepMind	Dec 2021	280,000,000,000

Model sizes have increased by an order of **5000x** over just the last 4 years !!!

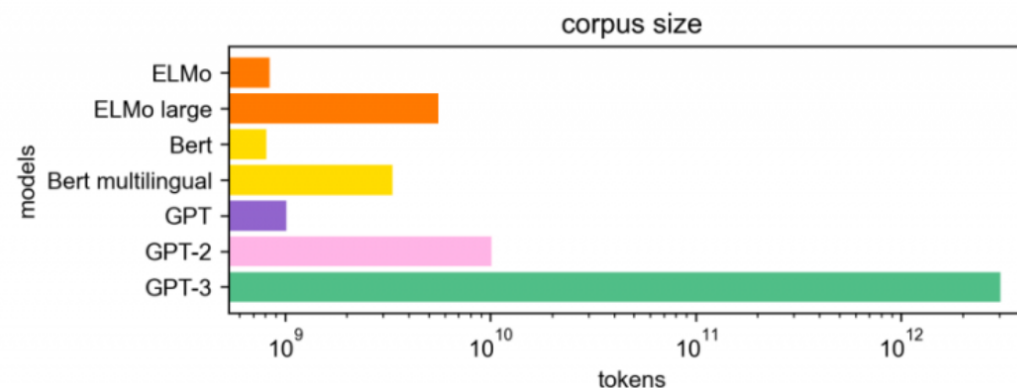


Image source: <https://hellofuture.orange.com/en/the-gpt-3-language-model-revolution-or-evolution/>

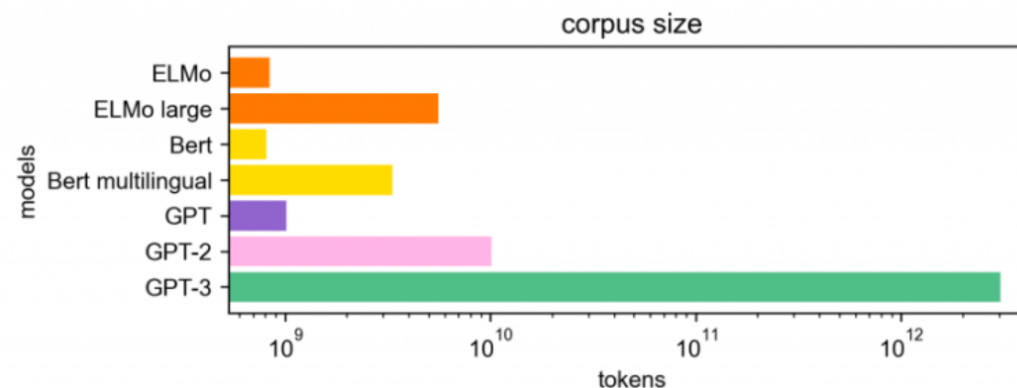


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Other recent models: PaLM (540B), OPT (175B), BLOOM (176B), Gemini-Ultra (1.56T), GPT-4 (1.76T)

Disclaimer: For API-based models like GPT-4/Gemini-Ultra, the number of parameters are not announced officially – these are rumored numbers as on the web

Image source: <https://hellofuture.orange.com/en/the-gpt-3-language-model-revolution-or-evolution/>



# LLMs in AI Landscape

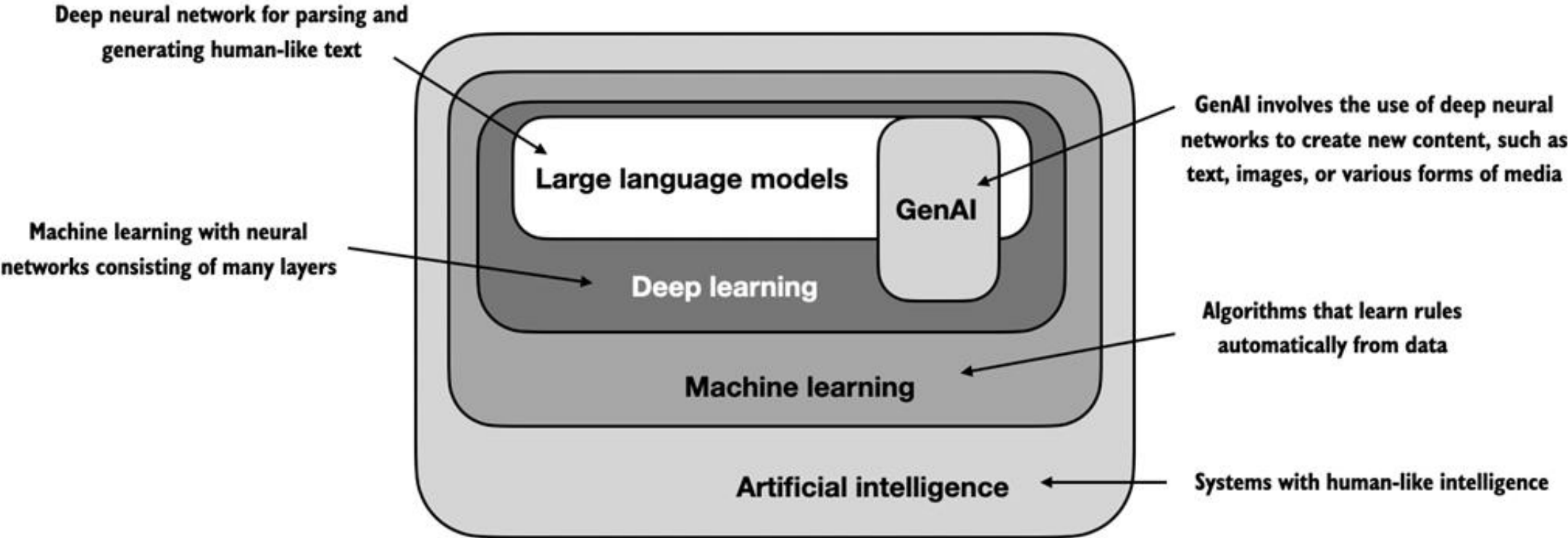


Image source: <https://www.manning.com/books/build-a-large-language-model-from-scratch>





# Evolution of (L)LMs

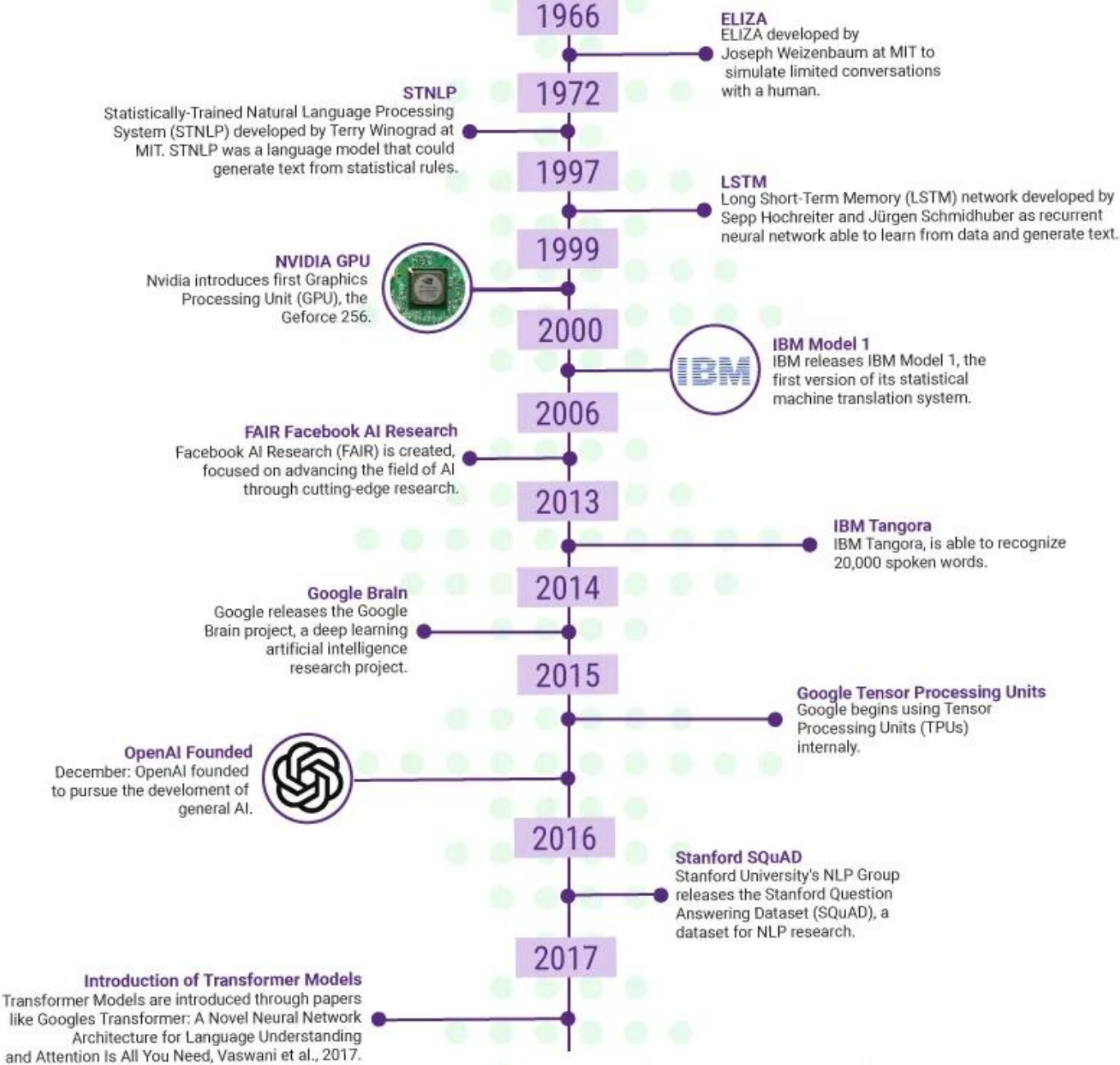


Image source: <https://synthedia.substack.com/p/a-timeline-of-large-language-model>



# Post-Transformers Era

The LLM Race

# Google Designed Transformers: But Could it Take Advantage?

Transformers  
(2017)

## Attention Is All You Need

**Ashish Vaswani\***  
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**Niki Parmar\***  
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**Jakob Uszkoreit\***  
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**Llion Jones\***  
Google Research  
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**Aidan N. Gomez\* †**  
University of Toronto  
aidan@cs.toronto.edu

**Lukasz Kaiser\***  
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**Illia Polosukhin\* ‡**  
illia.polosukhin@gmail.com



# Google Designed Transformers: But Could it Take Advantage?

Transformers  
(2017)

**Attention Is All You Need**

BERT (2018)

**BERT: Pre-training of Deep Bidirectional Transformers for Language Understanding**

**Ashish Vaswani\***  
Google Brain  
avaswani@google.com

**Noam Shazeer\***  
Google Brain  
noam@google.com

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**Jakob Uszkoreit\***  
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**Jacob Devlin** **Ming-Wei Chang** **Kenton Lee** **Kristina Toutanova**  
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The beginning of use of Transformer as Language Representation Models.

BERT achieved SOTA on 11 NLP tasks.



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DistilBERT, TinyBERT, MobileBERT

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The beginning of use of Transformer as Language Representation Models.

BERT achieved SOTA on 11 NLP tasks.



However, someone was waiting for the right opportunity!!

Guess Who?



However, someone was waiting for the right opportunity!!





# OpenAI Started Pushing the Frontier

---

## Improving Language Understanding by Generative Pre-Training

---



**Alec Radford**  
OpenAI  
alec@openai.com

**Karthik Narasimhan**  
OpenAI  
karthikn@openai.com

**Tim Salimans**  
OpenAI  
tim@openai.com

**Ilya Sutskever**  
OpenAI  
ilyasu@openai.com



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GPT (2018)

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ilyasu@openai.com

- Use of decoder-only architecture
- The idea of generative pre-training over large corpus



# The Beginning of Scale

GPT-2 (2019)

## Language Models are Unsupervised Multitask Learners

Alec Radford <sup>\*1</sup> Jeffrey Wu <sup>\*1</sup> Rewon Child <sup>1</sup> David Luan <sup>1</sup> Dario Amodei <sup>\*\*1</sup> Ilya Sutskever <sup>\*\*1</sup>



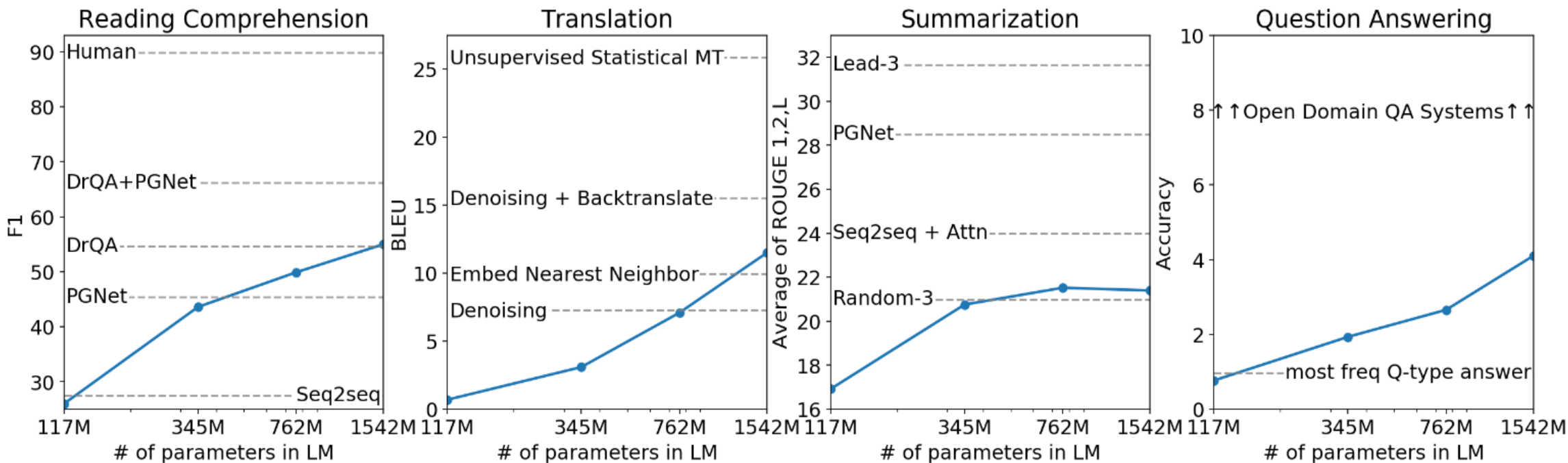
- GPT-1 (117 M) → GPT-2 (1.5 B) **13x increase in # parameters**
- Minimal changes (some LayerNorms added, modified weight initialization)
- Increase in context length: GPT-1 (512 tokens) → GPT-2 (1024 tokens)



# The Beginning of Scale

GPT-2 (2019)

Performance boosts across tasks



# What Was Google Developing Parallely?

T5 (2019)

## Exploring the Limits of Transfer Learning with a Unified Text-to-Text Transformer

Colin Raffel\*

CRAFFEL@GMAIL.COM

Noam Shazeer\*

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Adam Roberts\*

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Yanqi Zhou

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Wei Li

MWEILI@GOOGLE.COM

Peter J. Liu

PETERJLIU@GOOGLE.COM

*Google, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA*



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- Similar broader goal of converting all text-based language problems into a text-to-text format.
- Used **Encoder-Decoder Architecture**.
- Pre-training strategy differs from GPT
  - Strategy more similar to BERT

Google, Mountain View, CA 94043, USA



# Was It Only Google vs OpenAI? Where did **Meta** Stand?





# Was It Only Google vs OpenAI? Where did **Meta** Stand?

RoBERTa  
(2019)

## RoBERTa: A Robustly Optimized BERT Pretraining Approach

Yinhan Liu<sup>§</sup> Myle Ott<sup>\*§</sup> Naman Goyal<sup>\*§</sup> Jingfei Du<sup>\*§</sup> Mandar Joshi<sup>†</sup>  
Danqi Chen<sup>§</sup> Omer Levy<sup>§</sup> Mike Lewis<sup>§</sup> Luke Zettlemoyer<sup>†§</sup> Veselin Stoyanov<sup>§</sup>

<sup>†</sup> Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science & Engineering,  
University of Washington, Seattle, WA  
{mandar90, lsz}@cs.washington.edu

<sup>§</sup> Facebook AI  
{yinhanliu, myleott, naman, jingfeidu,  
danqi, omerlevy, mikelewis, lsz, ves}@fb.com



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- Replication study of BERT pretraining
- Measured the impact of many key hyperparameters and training data size.
- **Found that BERT was significantly undertrained**, and can match or exceed the performance of every model published after it.

Manandhar Joshi<sup>†</sup>  
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ng,

fb.com



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ng,

fb.com



XLM (2019)

## Cross-lingual Language Model Pretraining

**Guillaume Lample\***  
Facebook AI Research  
Sorbonne Universités  
glample@fb.com

**Alexis Conneau\***  
Facebook AI Research  
Université Le Mans  
aconneau@fb.com



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fb.com



XLM (2019)

## Cross-lingual Language Model Pretraining

Guilla  
Facebo  
Sorbon  
glamp

- Proposed methods to learn **cross-lingual language models (XLMs)**
- Obtained SOTA on:
  - cross-lingual classification
  - unsupervised and supervised machine translation

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.com



# OpenAI Continues to Scale

GPT-3 (2020)

## Language Models are Few-Shot Learners

Tom B. Brown\* Benjamin Mann\* Nick Ryder\* Melanie Subbiah\*  
Jared Kaplan† Prafulla Dhariwal Arvind Neelakantan Pranav Shyam Girish Sastry  
Amanda Askell Sandhini Agarwal Ariel Herbert-Voss Gretchen Krueger Tom Henighan  
Rewon Child Aditya Ramesh Daniel M. Ziegler Jeffrey Wu Clemens Winter  
Christopher Hesse Mark Chen Eric Sigler Mateusz Litwin Scott Gray  
Benjamin Chess Jack Clark Christopher Berner  
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OpenAI



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**175 B parameters !**

OpenAI



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Benjamin		Christopher Berner	
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175 B parameters !

OpenAI stops open-sourcing!!

OpenAI



# Google Starts Scaling too (But is it Late) !

PaLM (2022)

## PaLM: Scaling Language Modeling with Pathways

Aakanksha Chowdhery\* Sharan Narang\* Jacob Devlin\*  
Maarten Bosma Gaurav Mishra Adam Roberts Paul Barham  
Hyung Won Chung Chitwan Saharia  
Sasha Tsvyashchenko  
Noam Shazeer† Vinod  
Reiner Pope Jan Le  
Pengcheng Yin Tomer  
Henryk Michalewski Xavier Garcia Vedant Misra Kevin Robinson Liam Fedus  
Denny Zhou Daphne Ippolito David Luan† Hyeontaek Lim Barret Zoph  
Alexander Spiridonov Ryan Sepassi David Dohan Shivani Agrawal Mark Omernick  
Andrew M. Dai Thanumalayan Sankaranarayanan Pillai Marie Pellat Aitor Lewkowycz  
Erica Moreira Rewon Child Oleksandr Polozov† Katherine Lee Zongwei Zhou  
Xuezhi Wang Brennan Saeta Mark Diaz Orhan Firat Michele Catasta† Jason Wei  
Kathy Meier-Hellstern Douglas Eck Jeff Dean Slav Petrov Noah Fiedel

**540 B parameters !**

Google Research





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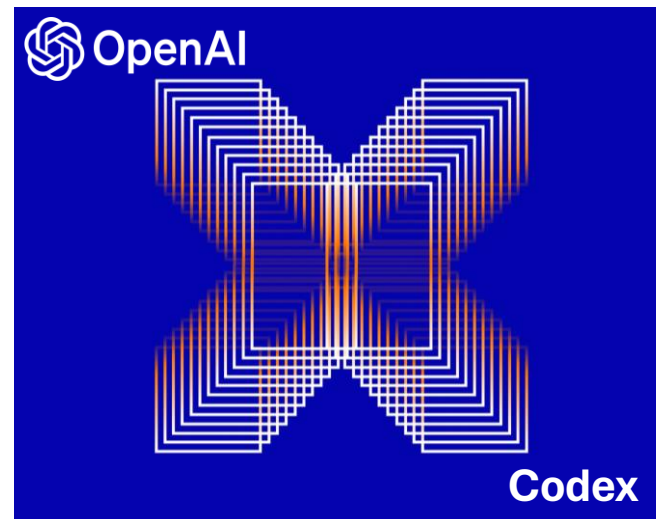
**Google follows OpenAI in  
stopping open-sourcing !**

**It's now the "LLM Race"**

Google Research



# 2021-2022: A Flurry of LLMs



# Meta Promotes Open-sourcing !



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OPT (2022)

## OPT: Open Pre-trained Transformer Language Models

**Susan Zhang\*, Stephen Roller\*, Naman Goyal\*,  
Mikel Artetxe, Moya Chen, Shuohui Chen, Christopher Dewan, Mona Diab, Xian Li,  
Xi Victoria Lin, Todor Mihaylov, Myle Ott†, Sam Shleifer†, Kurt Shuster, Daniel Simig,  
Punit Singh Koura, Anjali Sridhar, Tianlu Wang, Luke Zettlemoyer**

Meta AI

{susanz, roller, naman}@fb.com



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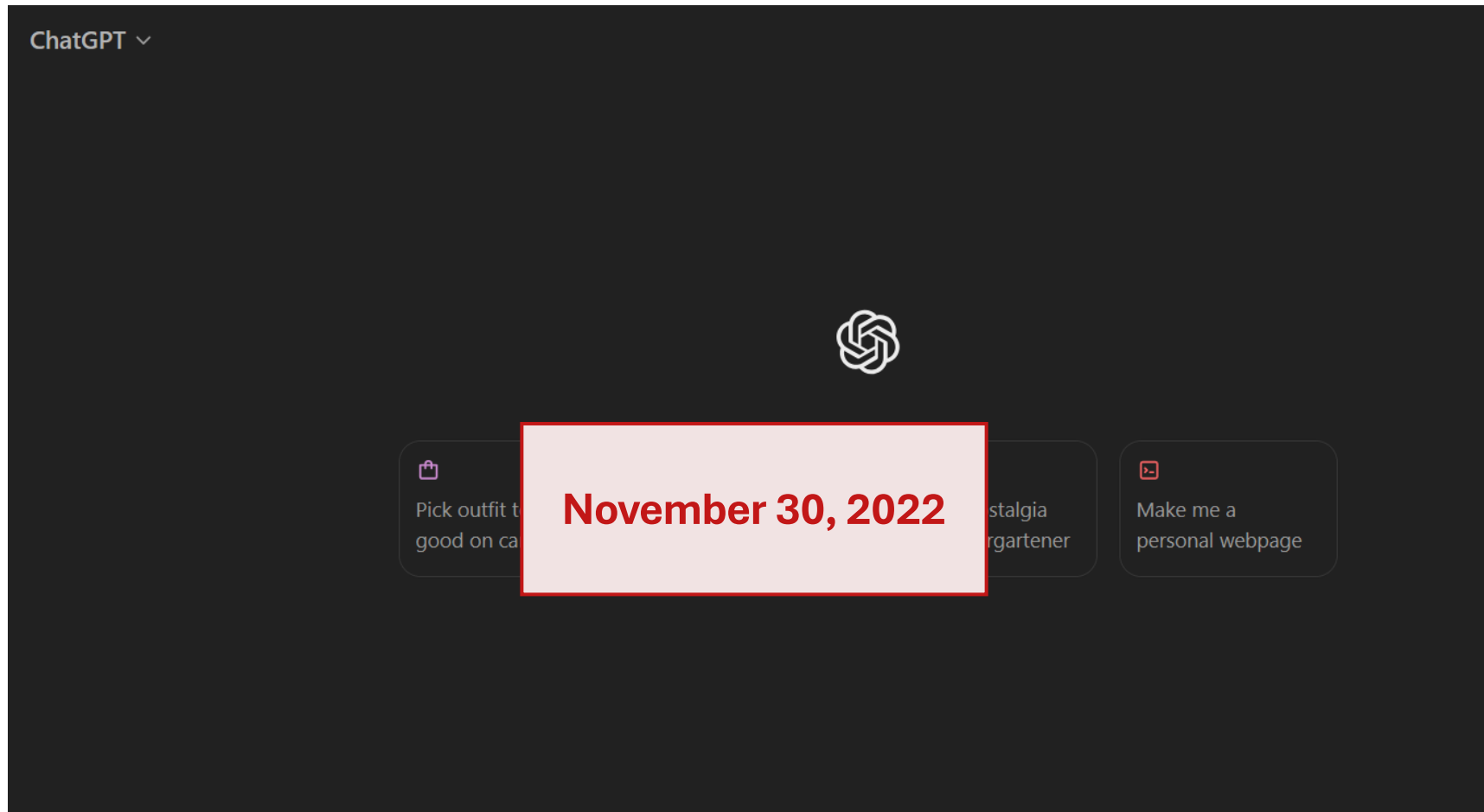
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Xi Victoria Lin, Tamas Mikolov, Edun Omiye, Samy Bengio, Roman Shuster, Daniel Simig,  
Punit Singh, Armand Joulin, Mike Zettlemoyer

- A suite of decoder-only pre-trained transformers ranging from 125M to 175B parameters
- **Open-sourced !!!**



# The ChatGPT Moment



# 2023: The Year of Rapid Pace



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# 2023: The Year of Rapid Pace



Feb, 2023: **Google** releases **Bard**



Feb, 2023: **Meta** releases its **LLaMA** family of **open-source models**



BY ANTHROPIC

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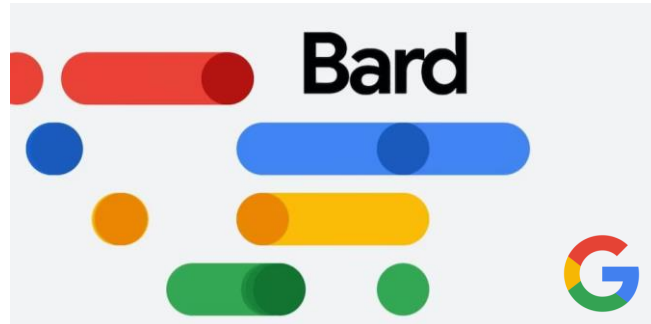
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Dec, 2023: **Google** releases **Gemini**



And now we are in 2024 seeing even more rapid advancements !



Why Does This Course Exist?

# Why Does This Course Exist?

Why do we need a separate course on LLMs? What changes with the scale of LMs?

Content credits: <https://stanford-cs324.github.io/winter2022/>





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Emergence

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# Why Does This Course Exist?

Why do we need a separate course on LLMs? What changes with the scale of LMs?

## Emergence

Although the technical machineries are almost similar, ‘**just scaling up**’ these models **results in new emergent behaviors**, which lead to significantly different capabilities and societal impacts.

Content credits: <https://stanford-cs324.github.io/winter2022/>



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LLMs show emergent capabilities, not observed previously in 'small' LMs.

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- **In-context learning:** A **pre-trained language model** can be guided with **only prompts to perform different tasks (without separate task-specific fine-tuning)**.
  - In-context learning is an example of **emergent** behavior.

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LLMs are widely adopted in real-world.

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- **Research:** LLMs have transformed **NLP research** world, achieving state-of-the-art performance across a wide range of tasks such as sentiment classification, question answering, summarization, and machine translation.
- **Industry:** Here is a very incomplete list of some high profile large language models that are being used in **production systems**:
  - [Google Search](#) (BERT)
  - [Facebook content moderation](#) (XLM)
  - [Microsoft's Azure OpenAI Service](#) (GPT-3/3.5/4)

Content credits: <https://stanford-cs324.github.io/winter2022/>



# Why Does This Course Exist?

With tremendous capabilities, LLMs' usage also carries various **risks**.

Content credits: <https://stanford-cs324.github.io/winter2022/>





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With tremendous capabilities, LLMs' usage also carries various **risks**.

- **Reliability & Disinformation:** LLMs often **hallucinate** – generate responses that *seem correct*, but are not factually correct.
  - Significant challenge for high-stakes applications like healthcare

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- **Social bias:** Most LLMs show performance disparities across demographic groups, and their predictions can enforce stereotypes.
  - $P(\mathbf{He} \text{ is a doctor}) > P(\mathbf{She} \text{ is a doctor.})$
  - Training data contains inherent bias

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  - Trained on a huge amount of Internet data (e.g., Reddit), which inevitably contains offensive content
  - Challenge for applications such as writing assistants or chatbots

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  - Challenge for applications such as writing assistants or chatbots
- **Security:** LLMs are trained on a scrape of the public Internet - anyone can put up a website that can enter the training data.
  - An attacker can perform a **data poisoning** attack.

Content credits: <https://stanford-cs324.github.io/winter2022/>



# We Will Cover Almost All of These in 5 Modules

## Module-1: Basics

- A **refresher on the basics of NLP** required to understand and appreciate LLMs
- How did we end up in **Neural NLP**?
  - We will discuss the transition and the foundations of Neural NLP.
- The basics of **Language Modelling**
- Initial **Neural LMs**

Intro to NLP

Intro to Language Models (LMs)

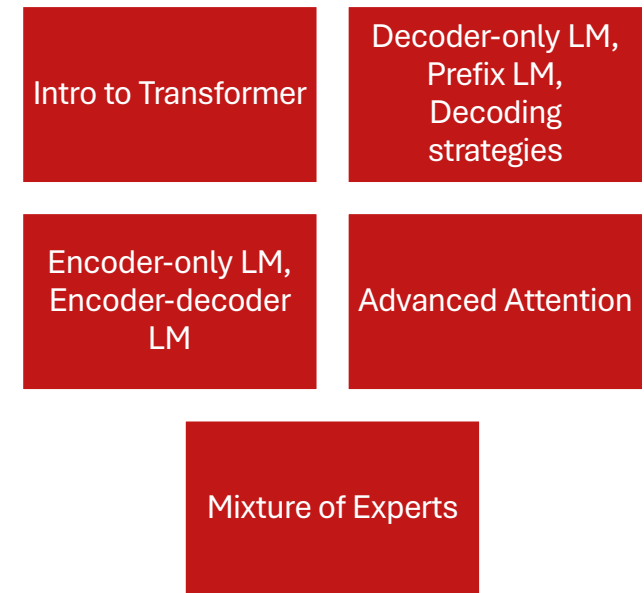
Word Embeddings (Word2Vec, GloVE)

Neural LMs (CNN, RNN, Seq2Seq, Attention)



# We Will Cover Almost All of These in 5 Modules

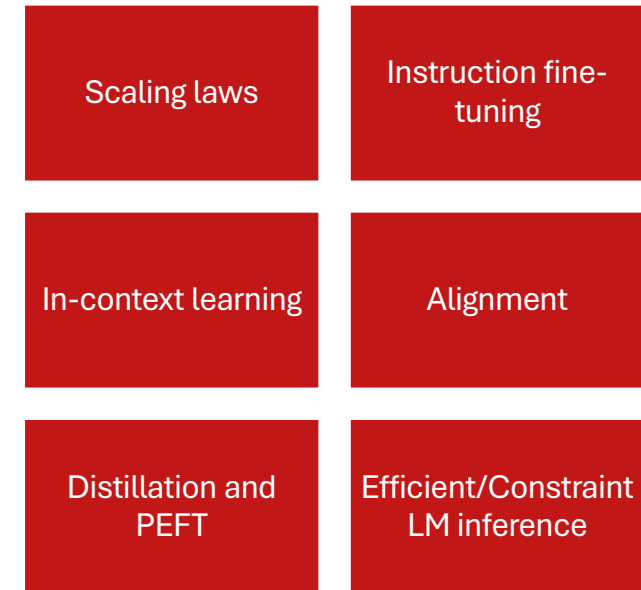
- **Module-2: Architecture**
  - Workings of **Vanilla Transformers**
  - Different **Transformer Variants**
    - How do their training strategies differ? How are Masked LMs (like, BERT) different from Auto-regressive LMs (like, GPT)?
  - **Response generation (Decoding) strategies**
  - What makes modern open-source LLMs like LLaMA & Mistral more effective over vanilla transformers?
    - An in-depth exploration of the **advanced attention mechanisms**
  - **Mixture-of-Experts**: an effective architectural choice in modern LLMs



# We Will Cover Almost All of These in 5 Modules

- **Module-3: Learnability**

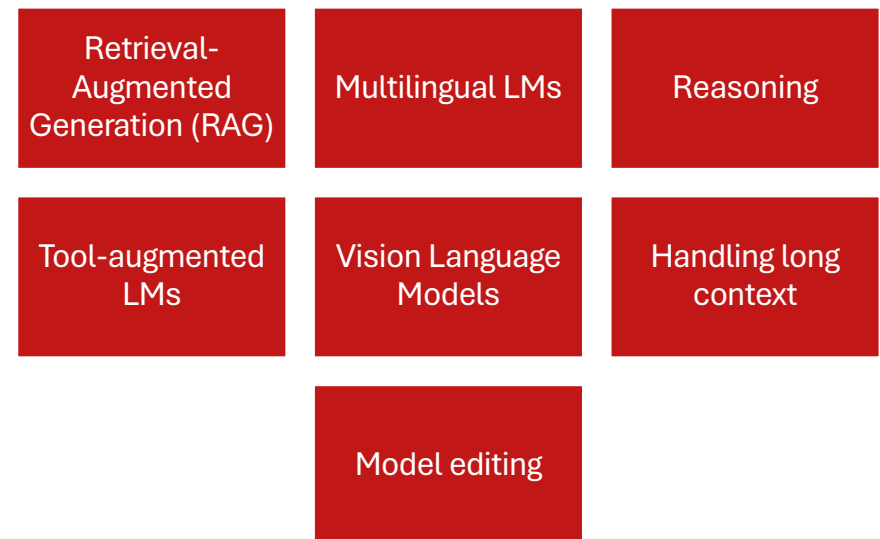
- **Scaling Laws**: how does performance vary with scale of LMs? When does ‘emergence’ kick in?
- What makes modern LLMs so good in following user instructions?
- What is **In-context Learning**? What are its various facets?
- How are LLMs made to **generate responses preferred by humans**?
  - Does it remove toxicity in responses?
- **Efficiency** is crucial in production systems.
  - How are smaller LMs made capable using pre-trained LLMs?
  - How are LLMs efficiently fine-tuned?
  - How are response generation latency of LLMs improved?



# We Will Cover Almost All of These in 5 Modules

- **Module-4: User Acceptability**

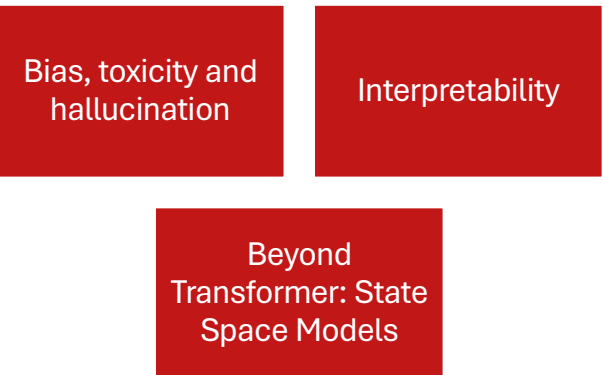
- How can we make LLMs aware of certain relevant facts while generation?
- Can LLMs operate in **multiple languages**?
- Can LLMs reason?
- Can **usage of external tools** help LLMs perform better?
- Can LLMs handle **multiple modalities, like image**?
  - What changes are required in their architecture to do so?
- How much long inputs can LLMs handle?
  - How can we **increase their context length**?
- Can we **edit model components** to mitigate certain issues in LLMs?





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- **Module-5: Ethics and Miscellaneous**
  - A discussion on **ethical issues** and **risks** of LLM usage
  - How are different emergent abilities in LLMs facilitated?
    - A peep into the internal workings of LLMs to understand the source of their capabilities
  - Can LMs based on alternate architecture match Transformer-based LLMs?
    - **State-Space Models (SSMs)**



# Suggestions (For Effective Learning)

- To understand the concepts clearly, experiment with the models (**Hugging Face** makes life easier).
- Smaller models (like, GPT2) can be run on **Google Colab** / **Kaggle**.
  - Even 7B models can be run with proper quantization.



**Hugging Face**



kaggle

Always **get your hands dirty** !

LLM Research is all about implementing and experimenting with your ideas.



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**Hugging Face**



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**Rule of thumb:**

**Never believe in any hypothesis until your experiments verify it !**

