RCGS Ritsumeikan Center for Game Studies 立命館大学ゲーム研究センター

ICER Intelligent Computer Entertainment RITSUMEIKAN

Prompt Engineering

🚀 Game Content Generation Using Large Language Models

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Jul 25, 2024

Prompt Engineering TEchnique

In Case You Want to Code Along...

Let's Download a Few Things

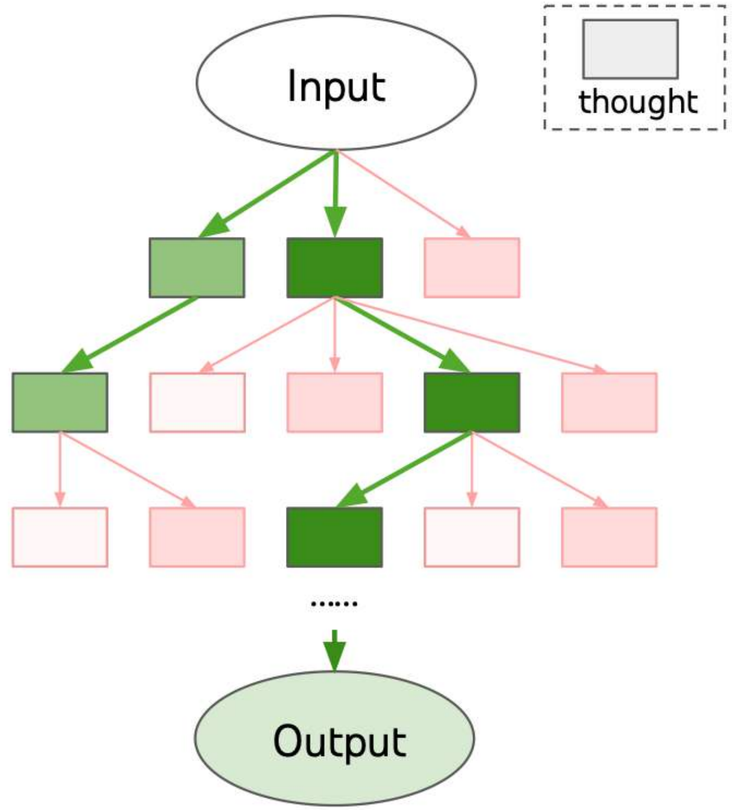
- **Program**:  LM Studio (Available: Windows, macOS, and Linux)
- **Large language models** (LLMs)
  - VRAM > 32GB: **Yi 1.5 34B Chat**
  - VRAM >= 8GB: **Llama 3.1 8B Instruct**
  - VRAM < 8GB: **Phi 3 mini 3.8B Instruct**

Additional instruction

chatgpt4pcg.github.io/tutorial

Our Objective

- Implement **tree-of-thought prompting** for ChatGPT4PCG task
  - Why?
    - **Complex** prompt engineering approach
      - Requires **programming** (iteration)
      - Combine **multiple ideas** from prompt engineering approaches



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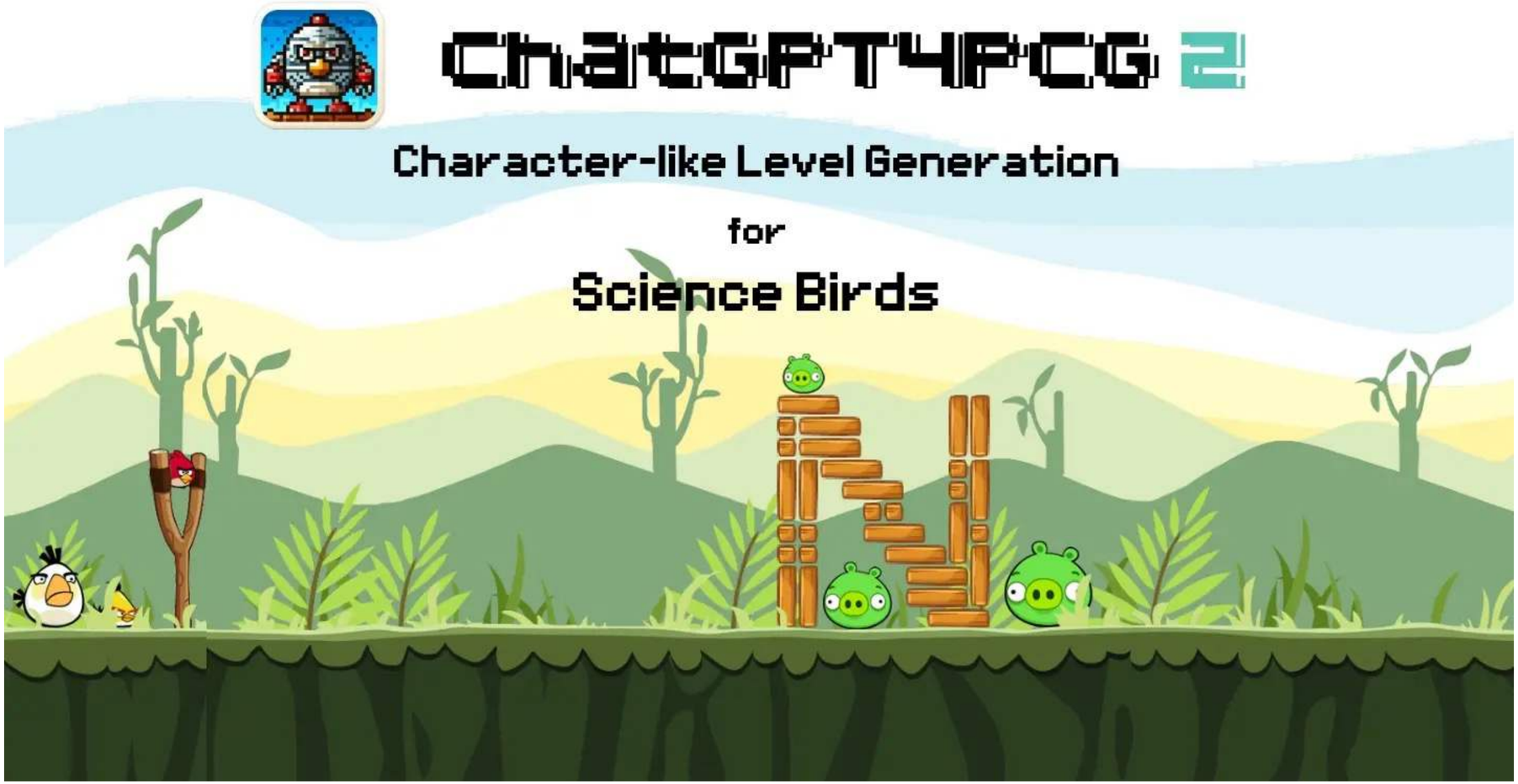
ChatGPT4PCG Competitions

Discovering and Evaluating Prompt Engineering Approaches Through PCG Competitions



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MENU
0

ChatGPT4PCG 2

Prompt Engineering for Science Birds Level Generation

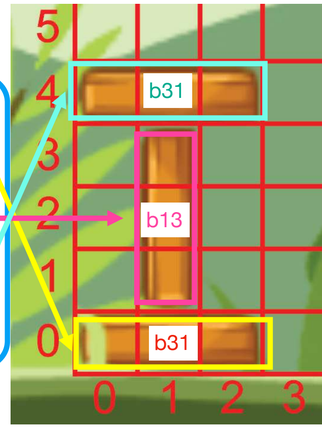
Level Generation

A Prompt Engineering Program

GPT-3.5 Turbo

(updated version)

```
```
drop_block('b31', 1)
drop_block('b13', 1)
drop_block('b31', 1)
```
```



Generated Response

Level Evaluation

```
drop_block('b31', 1)
drop_block('b13', 1)
drop_block('b31', 1)
```

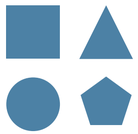
Function calls

Science Birds [2] Level

Stability Score

Similarity Score

using the improved classifier



Diversity Score

Evaluation Metrics

ChatGPT4PCG 2: Target Character "A"

Stability

Stable

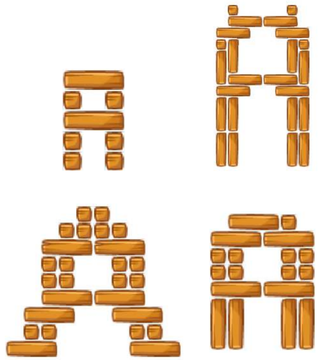
Unstable

Similarity

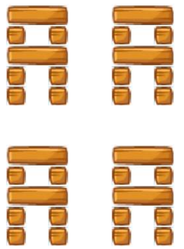
Similar

Dissimilar

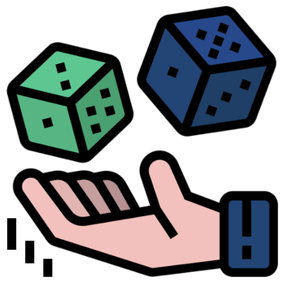
Diversity



Diverse



Alike



Language Model as a Probabilistic Model

Glossary

Tokens

Hello = [“He”, “llo”]

Prompt -> LM -> Output

Context

Msg. #1

Msg. #2

Msg. #3

- **Token**: a smallest representation unit of a word or subword
- **Prompt**: a sequence of tokens given as an input to a language model (LM)
- **LM**: a model trained to predict a probability distribution of the next token given a prompt
- **Decoding**: the process of choosing a predicted token from a probability distribution generated by an LM
- **Context**: history of messages; both user queries and LM's generated content
- **Context window**: the maximum number of tokens in a context that an LM can accept

LM as a Conditional Probabilistic Model (CPM)

LM as a CPM: a predicted token is generated based on a condition, 1) a prompt and 2) generated tokens so far

- Given that
  - x represents a token and $\hat{x}$ represents a predicted token,
  - L represents the length of a prompt input where a prompt is represented by $x_{1:L}$,
  - N represents the maximum number of context window tokens,
  - and $\widehat{\boldsymbol{P}}$ represents a trained language model

for $i = L+1, \ldots, N$ **or found** <EOS>:

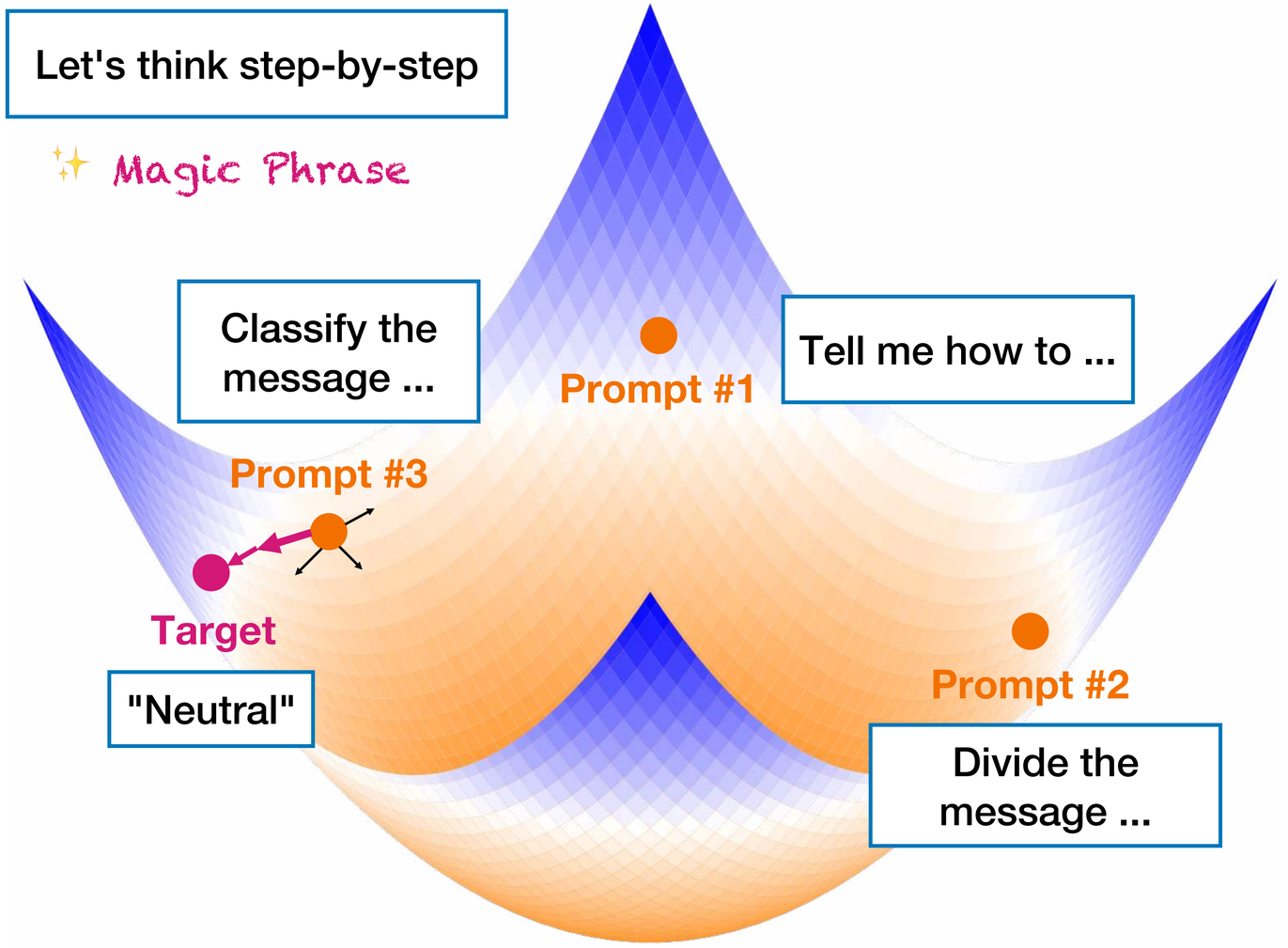
$$\hat{x}_i = \underset{x_i}{\operatorname{argmax}} \widehat{\boldsymbol{P}}(x_i | x_{1:i-1}),$$

where <EOS> is an end-of-sequence special token (stop token)

Autoregressive generation: generate **one token at a time** based on the condition

Y. Bengio, R. Ducharme, and P. Vincent, 'A Neural Probabilistic Language Model', in Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems, 2000, vol. 13.

LM as a Conditional Probabilistic Model (CPM)



Random plot for visualization purpose only

Key Takeaways

1. High-quality prompt = good starting point
2. Magic phrase = generates points in the correct direction

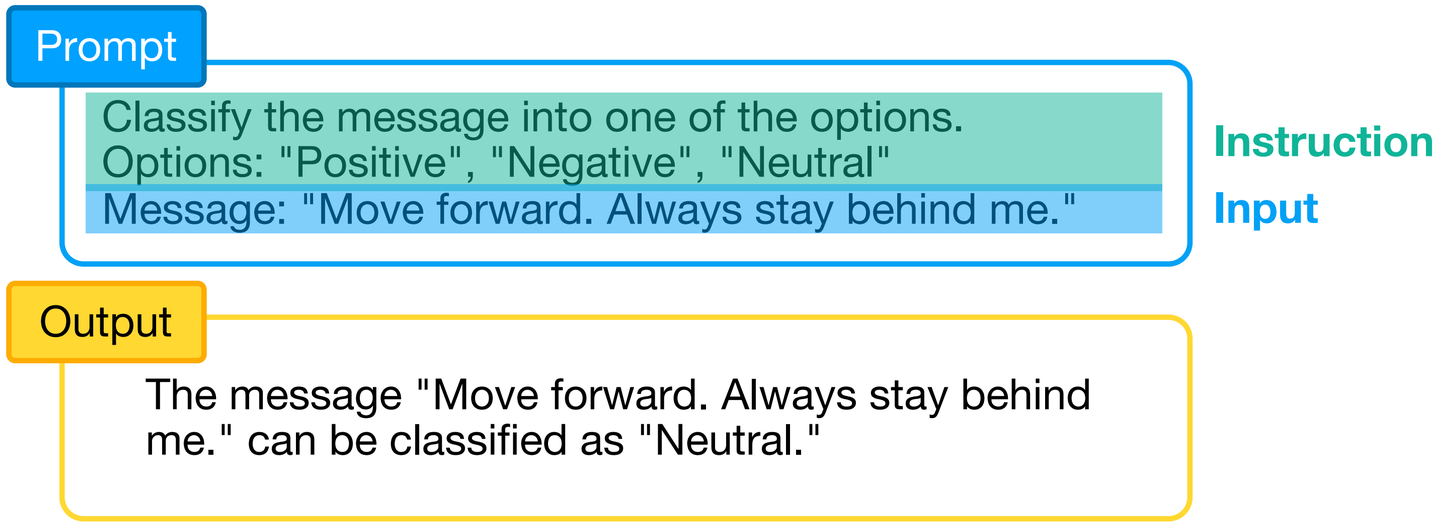
Basic Prompt Engineering

Message Roles in a Conversation with an LLM

- **System Message**: Usually sets the tone, personality, or provides prerequisite information
  - "*You are a professional customer service representative. Always maintain a polite and helpful tone.*"
- **User Message**: User's provided message
  - "*What are your store hours for the upcoming holiday weekend?*"
- **Assistant Message**: Generated responses from LLMs
  - "*Thank you for your inquiry. Our store hours for the upcoming holiday weekend are as follows: Saturday and Sunday, 10 AM to 6 PM; Monday (holiday), 12 PM to 4 PM. Is there anything else I can assist you with?*"

Zero-Shot Prompting

- Instructing an LLM to perform a given task **without** providing any examples or reasoning steps to follow
- Example



Generated by GPT-4o

J. Wei et al., 'Finetuned Language Models are Zero-Shot Learners', in International Conference on Learning Representations, 2022.

Role Prompting

Effective in *small* language models

Prompt

Role: You are a five-year old boy.

Instruction: Classify the message into one of the options.
Options: "Positive", "Negative", "Neutral"

Input: Message: "Move forward. Always stay behind me."

Output

Positive

*Generated by **Phi 3.1 mini 4K Instruct***

Prompt

You are a professional expert in sentiment analysis. (Role)

Classify the message into one of the options.
Options: "Positive", "Negative", "Neutral" (Instruction)

Message: "Move forward. Always stay behind me." (Input)

Output

Neutral - This sentence contains both positive and negative connotations depending on interpretation, but it doesn't explicitly express a clear sentiment either way; rather, it gives advice which is neutral in tone. The directive to 'move forward,' // omitted for brevity

*Generated by **Phi 3.1 mini 4K Instruct***

M. Shanahan, K. McDonell, and L. Reynolds, "Role play with large language models", Nature, vol. 623, no. 7987, pp. 493–498, Nov. 2023.

Role Prompting

Effective in *small* language models

Prompt

You are a five-year old boy.
Classify the message into one of the options.
Options: "Positive", "Negative", "Neutral"
Message: "Move forward. Always stay behind me."

Output

Neutral

Generated by GPT-4o

Prompt

You are a professional expert in sentiment analysis.
Classify the message into one of the options.
Options: "Positive", "Negative", "Neutral"
Message: "Move forward. Always stay behind me."

Output

The message "Move forward. Always stay behind me." can be classified as "**Neutral**."

It doesn't explicitly express a positive or negative sentiment. The directive tone suggests guidance or instruction rather than an emotional stance.

Generated by GPT-4o

M. Shanahan, K. McDonell, and L. Reynolds, "Role play with large language models", Nature, vol. 623, no. 7987, pp. 493–498, Nov. 2023.

Zero-Shot Prompting: Role Prompting

ChatGPT4PCG Task

Prompt

Input

Instruction

Use drop_block() function to generate a stable structure that looks like the character A // omitted for brevity

Role

1. Role
You are a player of the Tetris game // omitted for brevity

2. Definitions
// omitted for brevity

3. Environment
// omitted for brevity

4. Tool
// omitted for brevity

5. Constraints:
// omitted for brevity

Output

```
drop_block('b13', 5)
drop_block('b13', 14)
drop_block('b31', 9)
drop_block('b13', 5)
drop_block('b13', 14)
```

Generated by GPT-4o

Summary: Zero-Shot Prompting

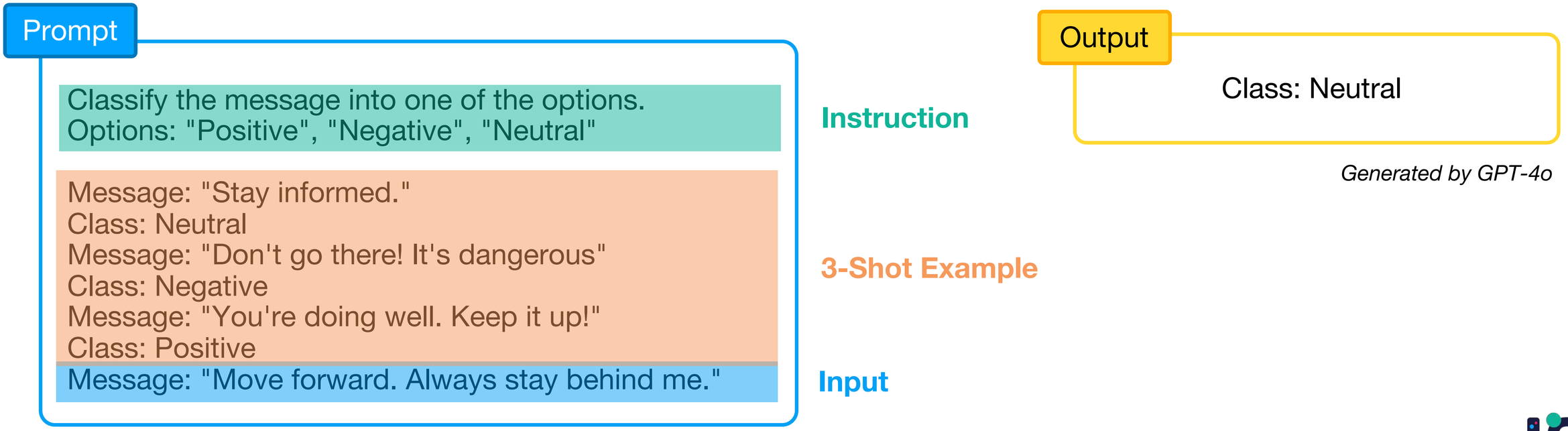
- **Message roles** in an LLM conversation
  - *System*: perquisites information, guidelines, tone, or personality
  - *User*: user's query
  - *Assistant*: generated response from an LLM
- **Zero-shot prompting**: instructing an LLM to perform a task that it may **never have seen before** during training or inference, ***without* examples or reasoning steps**
  - **Role prompting**: assuming a role for an LLM as an **expert**

 dvanced Prompt Engineering 

In-Context Learning

Few-Shot Prompting

- LLMs have the ability to **learn how to perform a task** by learning in context, i.e., **from a prompt**, during inference **without** any changes in trained parameters



T. Brown et al., ‘Language Models are Few-Shot Learners’, in Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems, 2020, vol. 33, pp. 1877–1901.

How to Design Good Examples?

- **How many examples do we need?**
  - It depends on the **task** and supported **context window**
    - Trial-and-error process
  - Commonly used: 1 (one-shot), 3, 5, 7, 8, and 10
- **How to design the examples?**
  - Try to provide enough **coverage** for the input and label space with a similar format

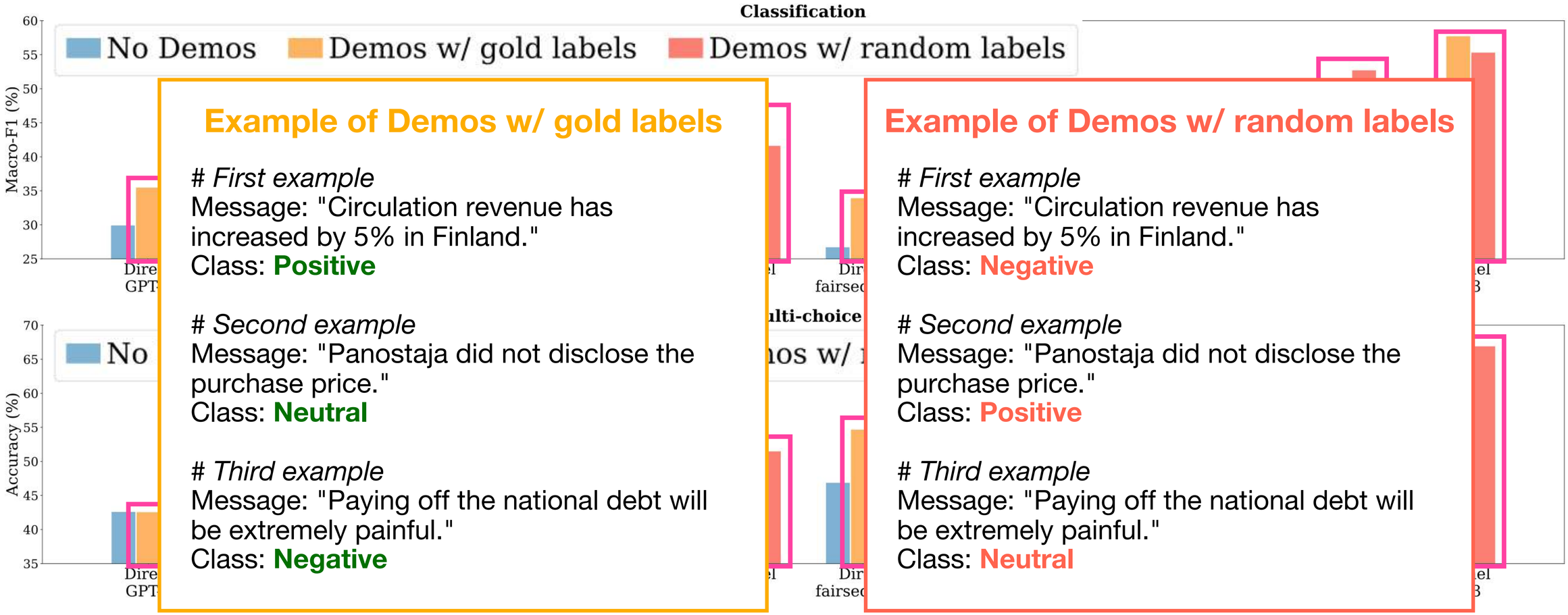
S. Min et al., ‘Rethinking the Role of Demonstrations: What Makes In-Context Learning Work?’, in Proceedings of the 2022 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing, 2022, pp. 11048–11064.

How to Design Good Examples?

In-Context Learning (Inference)

Universal Self-Adaptive Prompting

X. Wan et al., 'Universal Self-Adaptive Prompting', in Proceedings of EMNLP 2023



Example of Demos w/ gold labels

 # First example
Message: "Circulation revenue has increased by 5% in Finland."
Class: **Positive**

 # Second example
Message: "Panostaja did not disclose the purchase price."
Class: **Neutral**

 # Third example
Message: "Paying off the national debt will be extremely painful."
Class: **Negative**

Example of Demos w/ random labels

 # First example
Message: "Circulation revenue has increased by 5% in Finland."
Class: **Negative**

 # Second example
Message: "Panostaja did not disclose the purchase price."
Class: **Positive**

 # Third example
Message: "Paying off the national debt will be extremely painful."
Class: **Neutral**

S. Min et al., 'Rethinking the Role of Demonstrations: What Makes In-Context Learning Work?', in Proceedings of the 2022 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing, 2022, pp. 11048–11064.

How to Design Good Examples?

In-Context Learning (Inference)

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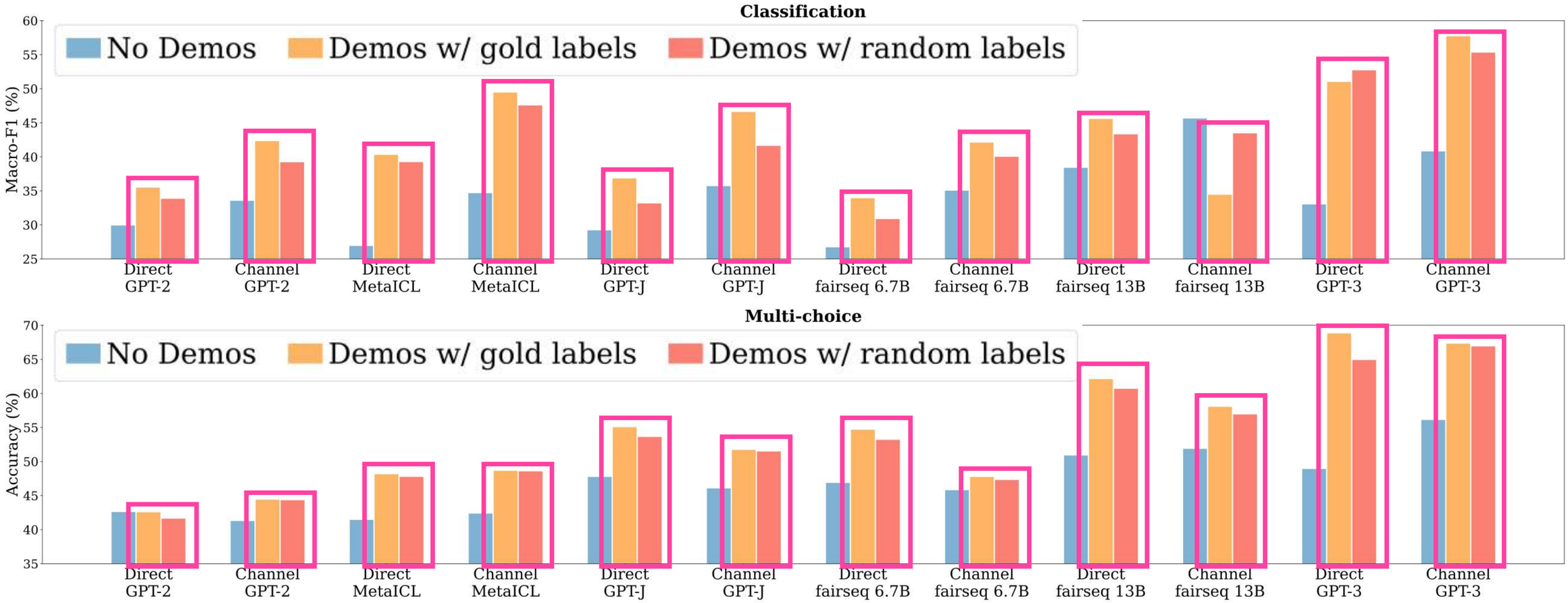


S. Min et al., 'Rethinking the Role of Demonstrations: What Makes In-Context Learning Work?', in Proceedings of the 2022 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing, 2022, pp. 11048–11064.

Few-Shot Prompting

ChatGPT4PCG Task

Prompt

Input

Instruction

Use drop_block() function to generate a stable structure that looks like the character A // omitted for brevity

1. Role
You are a player of the Tetris game // omitted for brevity

// omitted for brevity

5. Constraints:
// omitted for brevity

Example

6. Examples
6.1. Input: "G"
Output:
// omitted for brevity

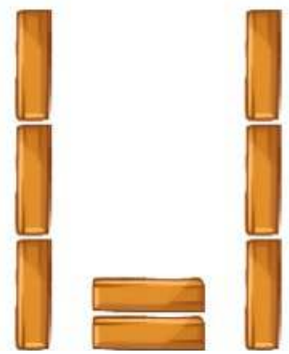
// two examples are omitted for brevity

Input: "A"
Output:

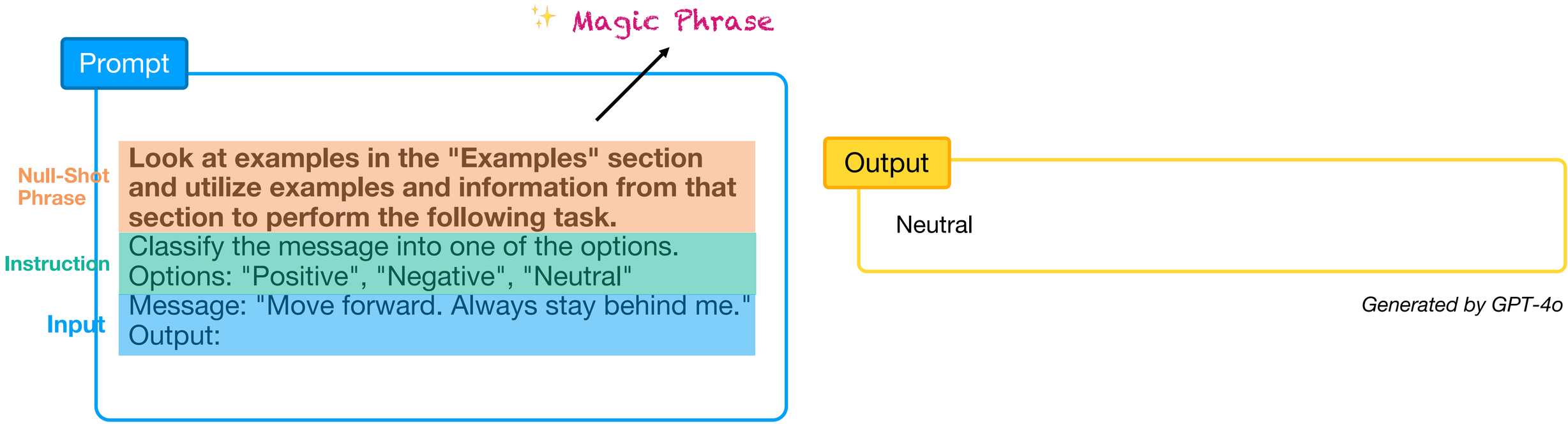
Output

```
drop_block("b13", 7)
drop_block("b13", 7)
drop_block("b13", 7)
drop_block("b13", 13)
drop_block("b13", 13)
drop_block("b13", 13)
drop_block("b31", 10)
drop_block("b31", 10)
```

Generated by GPT-4o



Null-Shot Prompting: Let's *pretend* to have examples



Generated by GPT-4o

P. Taveekitworachai, F. Abdullah, and R. Thawonmas, ‘Large Language Models are Null-Shot Learners’, arXiv [cs.CL]. 2024.

Reasoning

Chain-of-Thought (CoT) Prompting

- Instructing an LLM to follow **reasoning steps** before providing a final answer improves performance in complex tasks

Prompt

Input **Instruction**

Classify the message into one of the options.
Options: "Positive", "Negative", "Neutral"

CoT Example

Message: "You're doing well. Keep it up!"
Output: **This message contains words of encouragement and praise, acknowledging good performance and motivating continued effort. The use of "well" and the exclamation mark convey enthusiasm and support.** As it expresses approval and motivation, it is classified as "Positive".

Input

Message: "Move forward. Always stay behind me."

Output

The message "Move forward. Always stay behind me." contains conflicting instructions, which can be confusing and potentially imply dominance or control.

Classification: "Neutral"

Generated by GPT-4o

J. Wei et al., 'Chain of Thought Prompting Elicits Reasoning in Large Language Models', in Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems, 2022.

Reasoning Without Explicit Steps

Zero-Shot CoT Prompting

- Eliciting an LLM to **generate their own reasoning** for performing the task before providing a final answer improves performance in complex tasks

Prompt

Instruction Classify the message into one of the options.
Options: "Positive", "Negative", "Neutral"

Input Message: "Move forward. Always stay behind me."

Zero-Shot CoT Phrase Output: **Let's think step-by-step.**

✨ Magic Phrase

Output

Let's analyze the message step-by-step:

- "Move forward." suggests // omitted for brevity
- "Always stay behind me." // omitted for brevity

Overall, the message combines encouragement with a directive to follow. // omitted for brevity

Therefore, the classification would be:

Positive

T. Kojima, S. S. Gu, M. Reid, Y. Matsuo, and Y. Iwasawa, 'Large Language Models are Zero-Shot Reasoners', in Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems, 2022. *Generated by GPT-4o*

Zero-Shot CoT Prompting

ChatGPT4PCG Task

Prompt

Input

Instruction

Use drop_block() function to generate a stable structure that looks like the character A // omitted for brevity

1. Role
You are a player of the Tetris game // omitted for brevity

2. Definitions
// omitted for brevity

3. Environment
// omitted for brevity

4. Tool
// omitted for brevity

5. Constraints:
// omitted for brevity

Let's think step-by-step.

Zero-Shot CoT Phrase

Output

```
drop_block('b31', 9)
drop_block('b31', 9)
drop_block('b13', 7)
drop_block('b13', 11)
drop_block('b31', 9)
```

Generated by GPT-4o

Self-Consistency

CoT Prompt

Classify the message into one of the options.
Options: "Positive", "Negative", "Neutral"
Message: "You're doing well. Keep it up!"
Output: This message contains words of encouragement and praise, acknowledging good performance and motivating continued effort. The use of "well" and the exclamation mark convey enthusiasm and support. As it expresses approval and motivation, it is classified as
Class: "Positive".
Message: "Move forward. Always stay behind me."

Output 1

The message "Move forward. Always stay behind me." can be // omitted for brevity it would be classified as "**Neutral**."

Generated by GPT-4o mini

Output 2

This message appears to be directive and supportive. // omitted for brevity I'd classify it as "**Neutral**" because // omitted for brevity

Generated by GPT-4o mini

Output 3

The message "Move forward. Always stay behind me." should be classified as: "**Negative**".

Manually created for demonstration purposes

Positive: 0/3
Neutral: **2/3**
Negative: 1/3

Final Output

Neutral

X. Wang et al., 'Self-Consistency Improves Chain of Thought Reasoning in Language Models', in The Eleventh International Conference on Learning Representations, 2023.

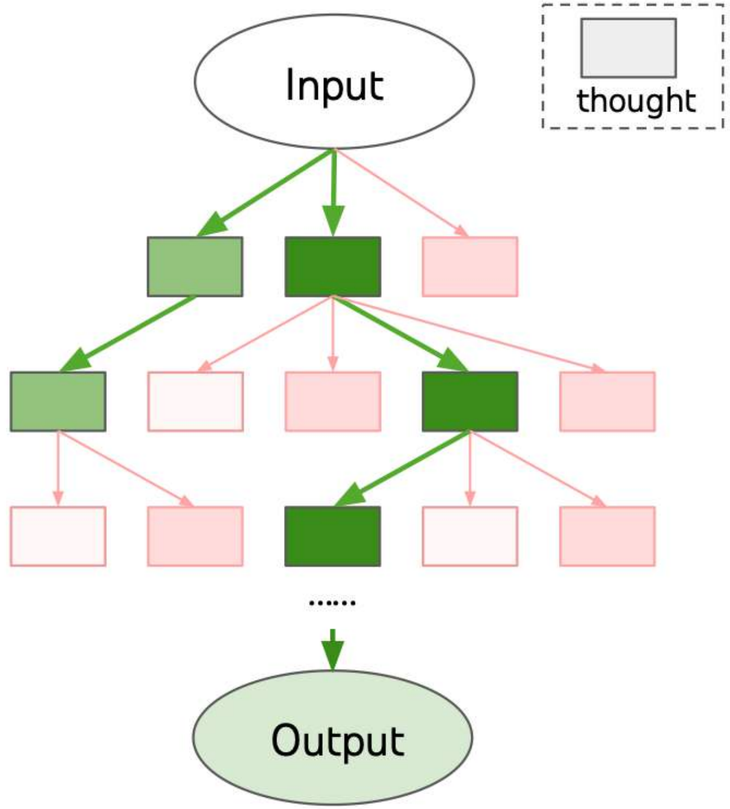
Summary: In-Context Learning, Reasoning, and Self-Consistency

- **In-context learning**: **Demonstrating examples** (*shots*; pairs of input and output) in a prompt can teach the LLM to perform a task that it has never seen before
- **Reasoning**: Giving a model space to reason (think) before coming up with answers by **demonstrating a reasoning path** can help improve the performance of LLMs
  - **Zero-shot CoT prompting**: Eliciting an LLM to come up with **its own reasoning path**, i.e., no need to rely on few-shot demonstrations of how to reason
- **Self-consistency**: Asking an LLM to **generate multiple possible responses** (potentially with different reasoning paths), marginalize the reasoning paths to extract answers, and **choose the majority answer**

Hands-On: Tree-of-Thought Prompting for ChatGPT4PCG 2

Tree-of-Thought (ToT) Prompting

- **CoT**: Generate *a reasoning path* to improve the LLM's performance
- **ToT**: At each reasoning step, generate *multiple candidates (**thoughts**)* and choose the best one to proceed to the next step
- **Prompts**
  - **A. Task prompt**: Generate thoughts at each reasoning step
    - CoT prompt with one-shot example
  - **B. Evaluation prompt**: Evaluate a thought
  - **C. Answer prompt**: Combining and formatting the final output



S. Yao et al., 'Tree of Thoughts: Deliberate Problem Solving with Large Language Models', in Thirty-seventh Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems, 2023.

Tree-of-Thought (ToT) Prompting

Let's Go Through ToT Prompting Step-by-Step

- **Thought Decomposition**: Ask an LLM to decompose a task into multiple reasoning steps (CoT)
- **Search Algorithm**:
  - Breadth-First Search (BFS)
  - Depth-First Search (DFS)

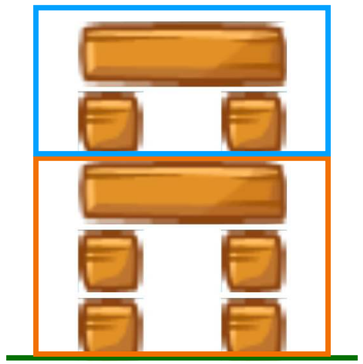
Steps

1. **Thought Generator**: Utilize CoT prompts to generate thoughts at each reasoning step
2. **Thought Evaluator**: Generate heuristics for the search algorithm
   - **Value**: Ask an LLM to generate a scalar value
   - **Vote**: Implement a step-wise self-consistency strategy

S. Yao et al., ‘Tree of Thoughts: Deliberate Problem Solving with Large Language Models’, in Thirty-seventh Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems, 2023.

ToT Prompting For ChatGPT4PCG

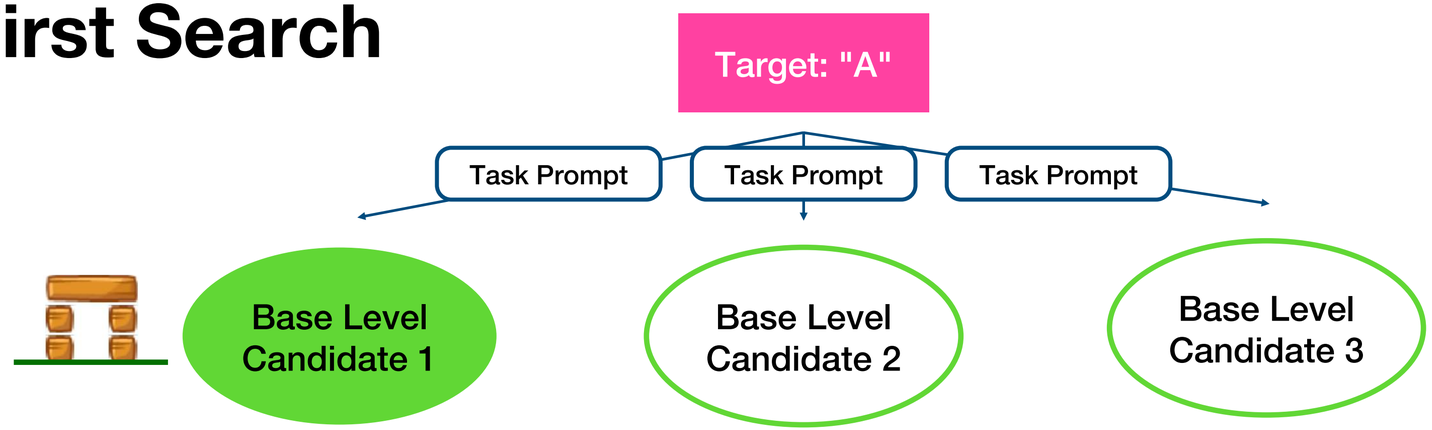
- **Two** reasoning steps
  1. Generate base level
  2. Generate top level



- **Breadth-first** search
  - Our task stands to potentially gain from *exploration*

ToT Prompting For ChatGPT4PCG

Breadth-First Search



ToT Promptin

Breadth-First Searc

Instruction

Use drop_block() function to generate a stable structure that looks like the character A // omitted for brevity

1. Role
// omitted for brevity

Reasoning Steps Instruction

Let's follow the following steps
1. Generate the base layer of the structure
2. Generate the top layer of the structure

Only perform one step at a time.

Base
Cand

One-shot Example

Example
Character A:
```
# Base layer
drop_block('b11', 0)
drop_block('b11', 0)
drop_block('b11', 2)
drop_block('b11', 2)
drop_block('b31', 1)
```

```
# Top layer
drop_block('b11', 0)
drop_block('b11', 2)
drop_block('b31', 1)
```

Currently, we have

Best Thoughts Combined

Nothing.

Next, we will perform the

Task Prompt

Input

PCG

ase Level
andidate 3

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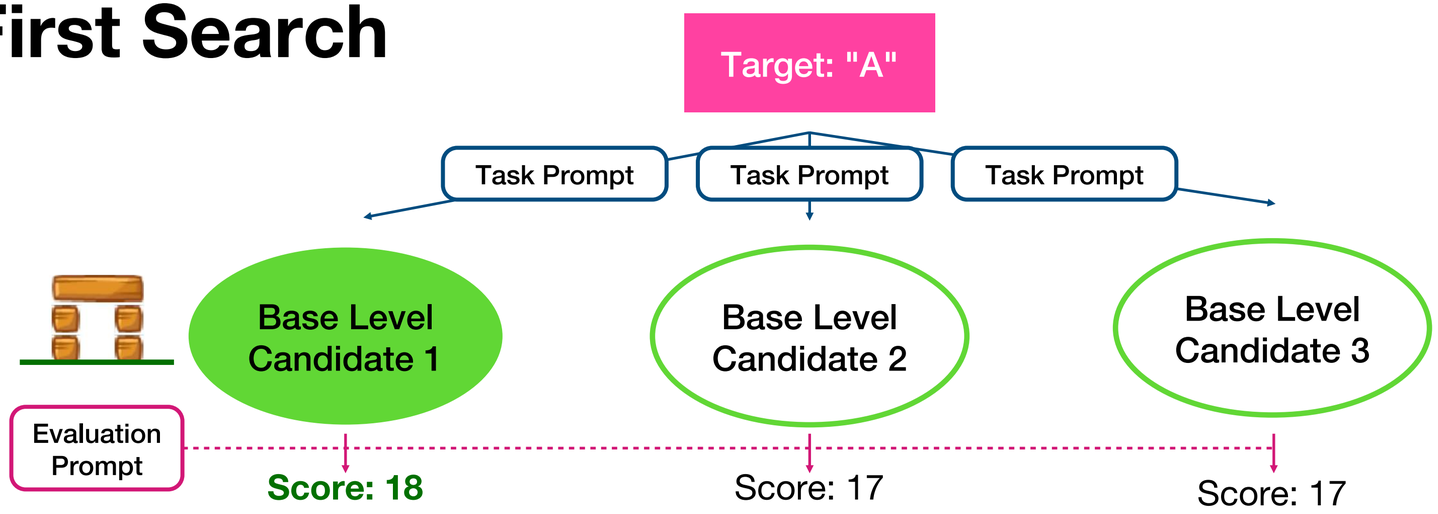
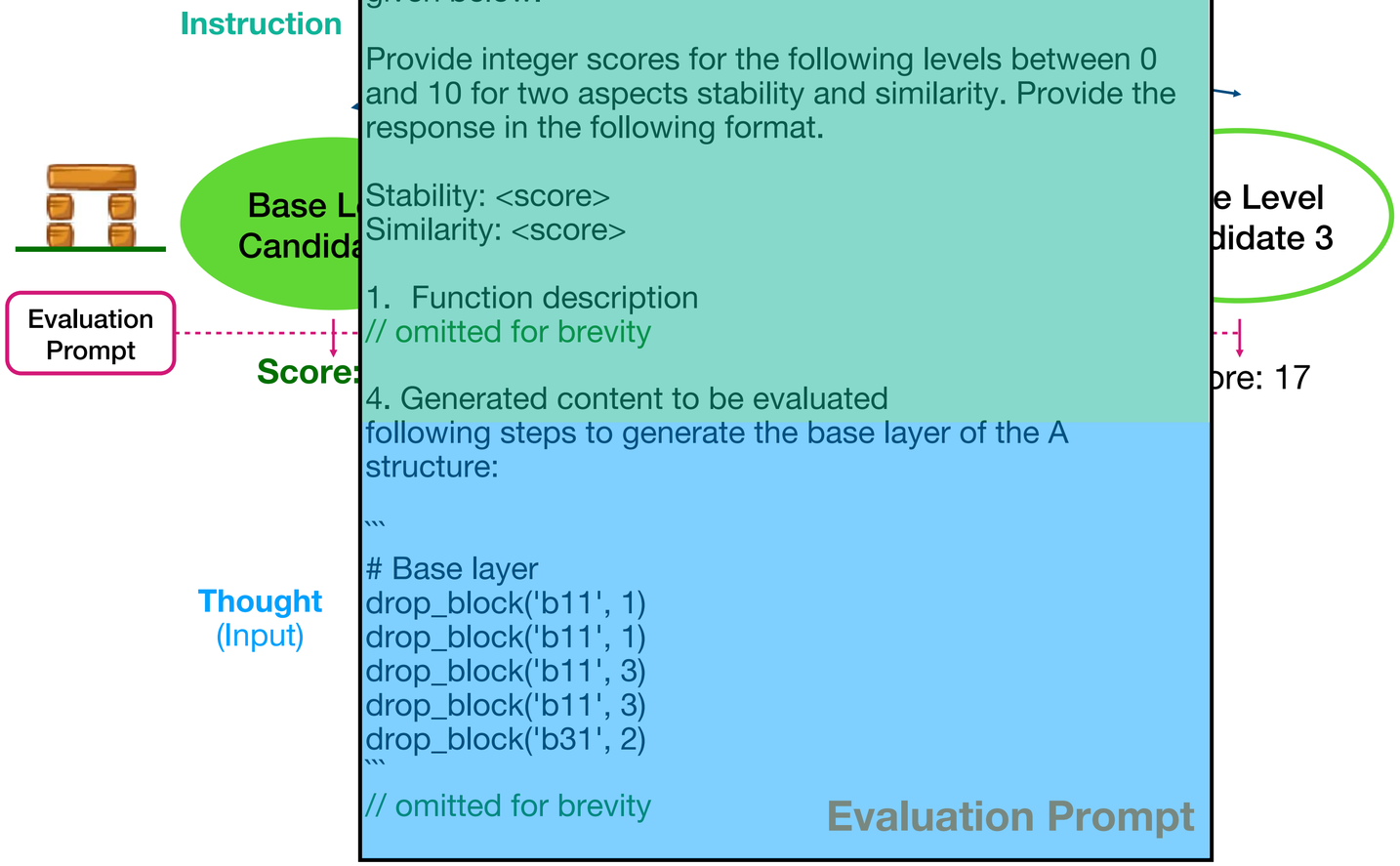
ToT Prompting For ChatGPT4PCG

Breadth-First Search



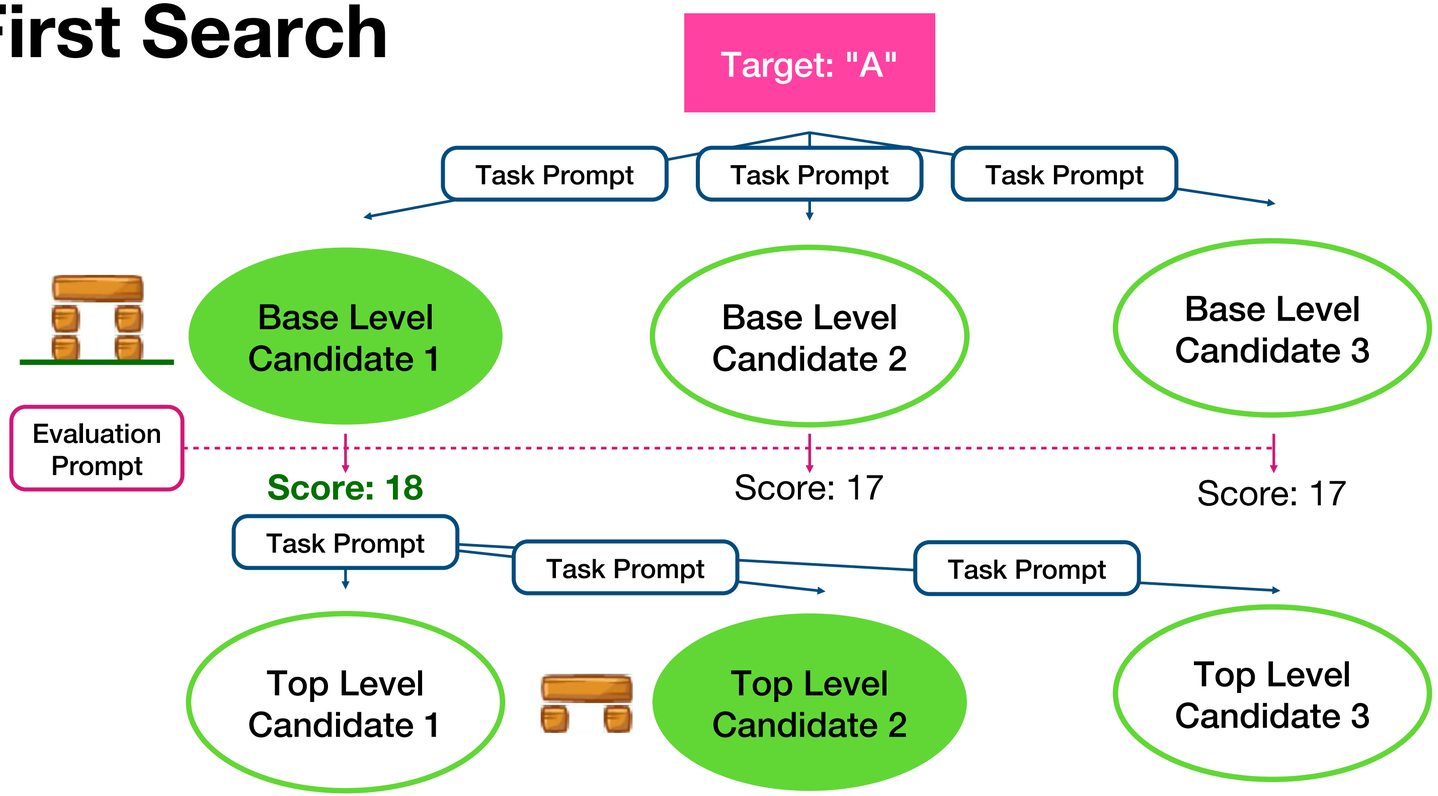
ToT Prompting For ChatGPT4PCG

Breadth-First Search



ToT Prompting For ChatGPT4PCG

Breadth-First Search



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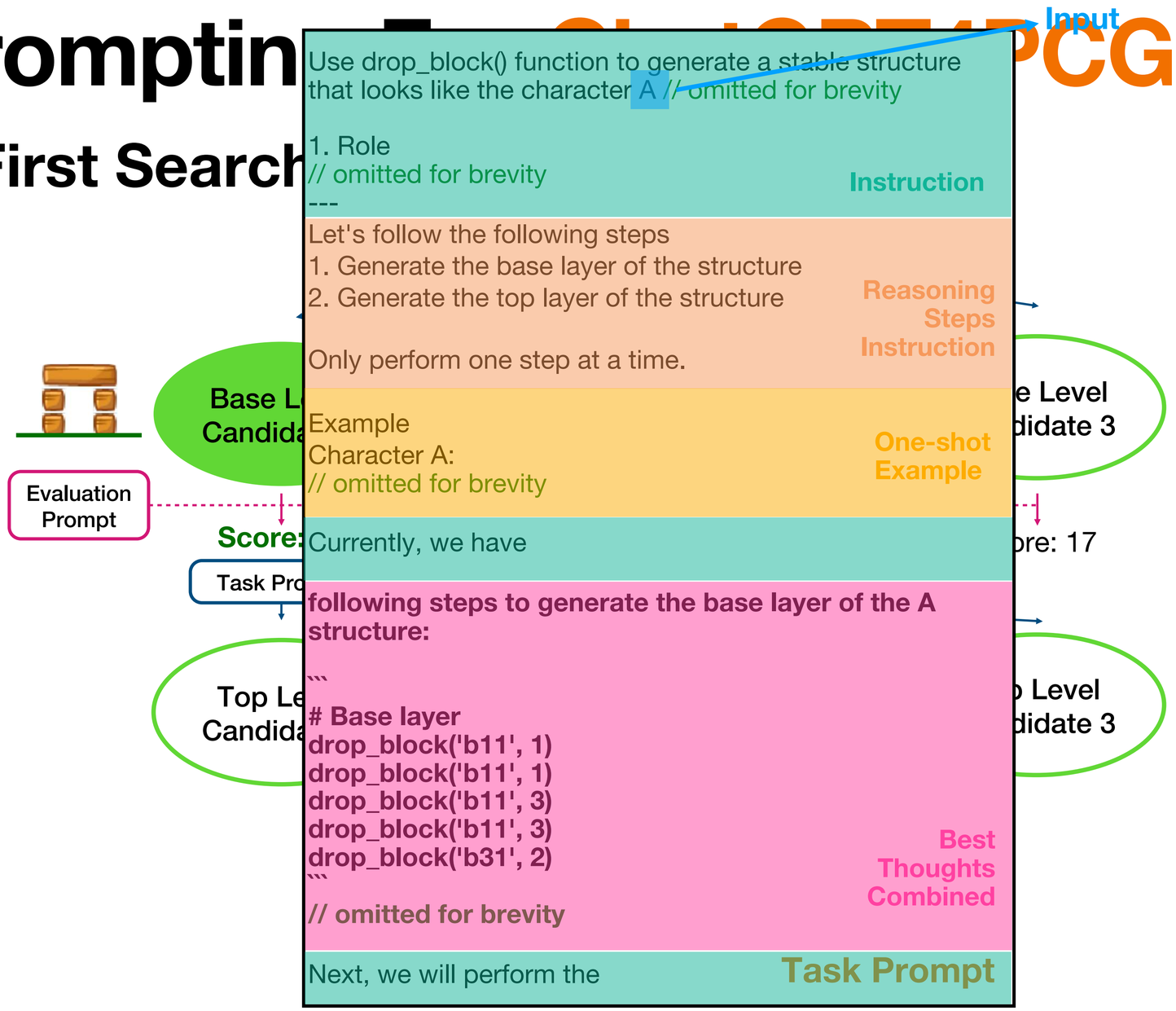
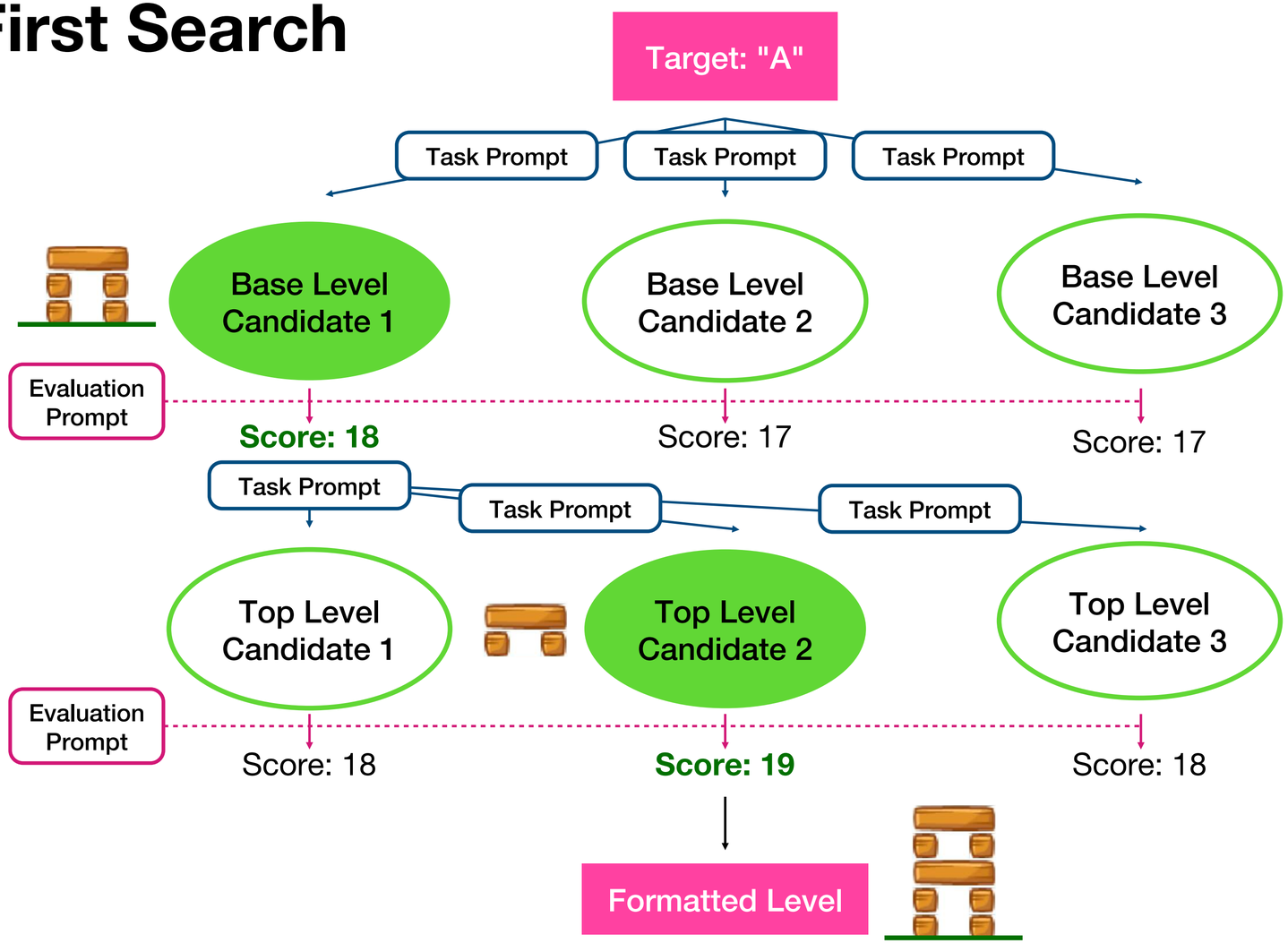
ToT Promptin PCG

Breadth-First Search



ToT Prompting For ChatGPT4PCG

Breadth-First Search



Depth = 2

Branching factor = 3

Mini LLM4PCG Competition

For Fun 🎉!

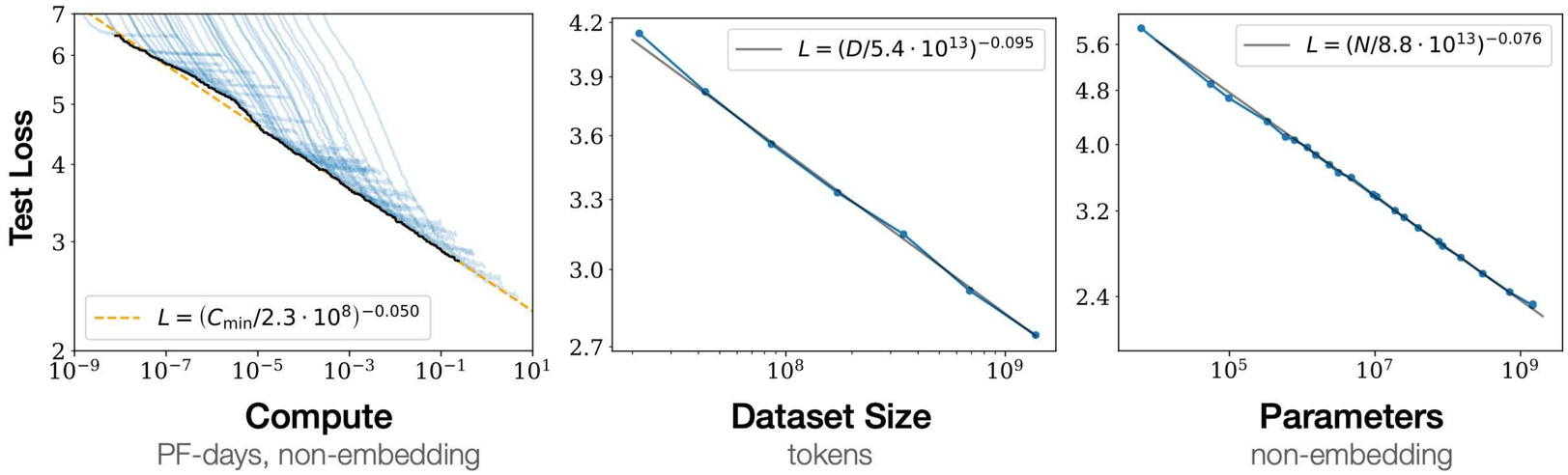
- **ChatGPT4PCG 2 evaluation pipeline**
- **Target characters**: "I", "L", "U"
- **#Trials**: 10
- **Any LLMs** are welcome!
- **Deadline**: Jul 25, 2024 6:20PM
- **Result announcement**: Jul 27, 2024
  - chatgpt4pcg.github.io/rcgs-jul-2024

Coding Time!

Emergent Abilities

Why These LLMs Do Not Work Well?

- *Loss* scales down **smoothly** when increasing compute (parameter size, training data size)



J. Kaplan et al., ‘Scaling Laws for Neural Language Models’, arXiv [cs.LG]. 2020.

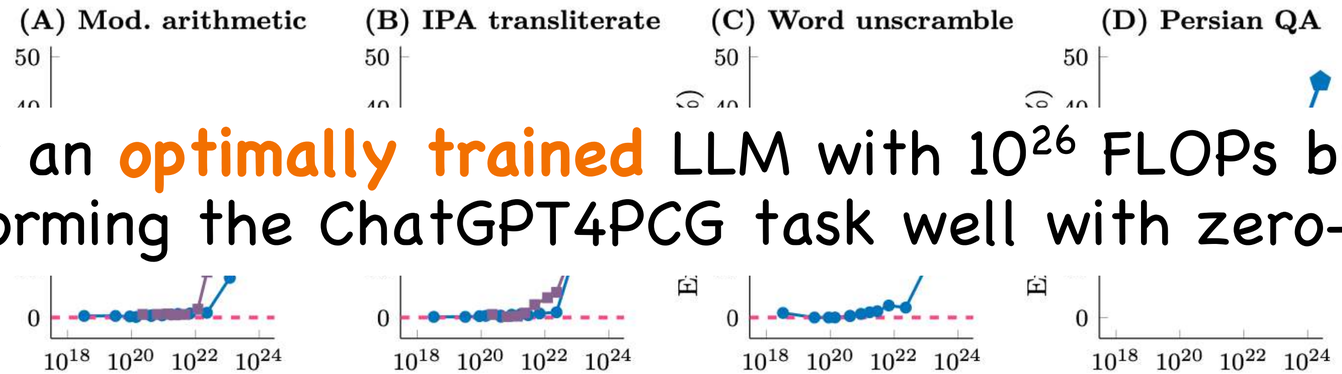
J. Wei et al., ‘Emergent Abilities of Large Language Models’, Transactions on Machine Learning Research, 2022.

J. Wei et al., ‘Larger language models do in-context learning differently’, arXiv [cs.CL]. 2023.

Emergent Abilities

Why These LLMs Do Not Work Well?

- *Loss* scales down **smoothly** when increasing compute (parameter size, training data size)
- However, some *abilities* only **emerge** when LLMs reach a certain size



My guess is that an optimally trained LLM with 10^{26} FLOPs budget should be capable of performing the ChatGPT4PCG task well with zero-shot prompting

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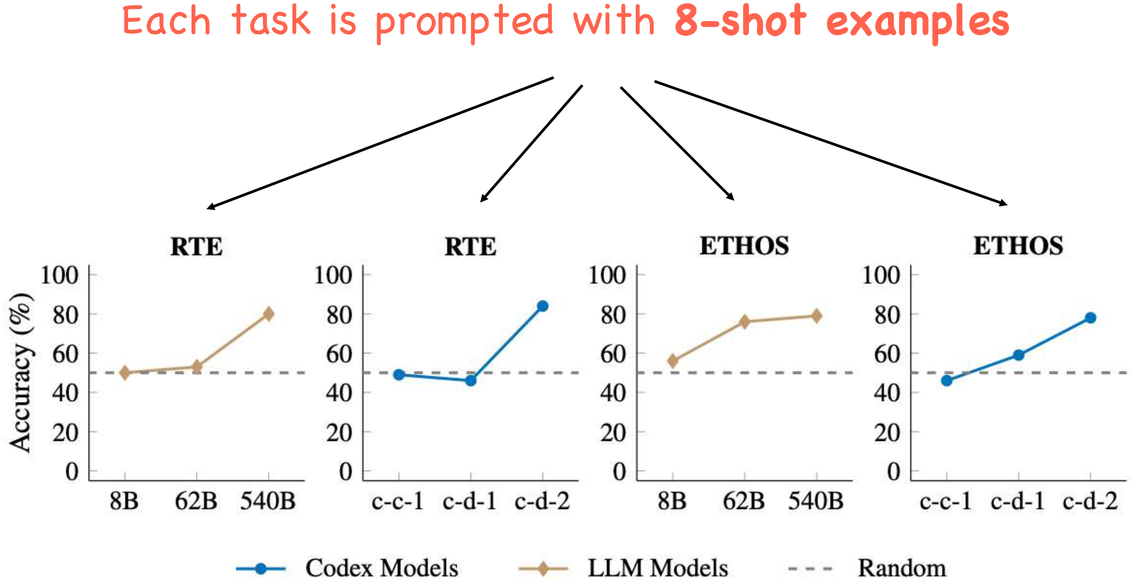
Emergent Abilities

Why These LLMs Do Not Work Well?

- *Loss* scales down **smoothly** when increasing compute (parameter size, training data size)
- However, some *abilities* only **emerge** when LLMs reach a certain size
  - **Few-shot prompting**, for example, only works with **large enough** LLMs



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J. Wei et al., 'Larger language models do in-context learning differently', arXiv [cs.CL]. 2023.

To Infinity And Beyond 

Beyond: Prompt Engineering

To Name A Few...

- **Multi-turn/Multi-response prompting**
  - Generated Knowledge Prompting (Jiacheng Liu+, ACL 2022)
  - Least to Most Prompting (Denny Zhou+, ICLR 2023)
- **With Tools**
  - ReAct Prompting (Shunyu Yao+, ICLR 2023)
  - Automatic Multi-Step Reasoning And Tool-Use (Bhargavi Paranjape+, 2023)
  - Self-RAG (Akari Asai+, ICLR 2024)

Beyond: Prompt Engineering w/ Reasoning

Part 1

- Universal Self-Adaptive Prompting (Xingchen Wan+, EMNLP 2023)
- Branch-Solve-Merge (Swarnadeep Saha+, NAACL 2024)
- Reflexion (Noah Shinn+, NeurIPS 2023)
- Contrastive Chain-of-Thought Prompting (Yew Ken Chia+, 2023)
- Plan-and-Solve Prompting (Lei Wang+, ACL 2023)

Beyond: Prompt Engineering w/ Reasoning

Part 2

- ***-of-Thoughts**
  - Boosting-of-Thoughts Prompting (Sijia Chen+, ICLR 2024)
  - Program-of-Thoughts Prompting (Wenhu Chen+, TMLR, 2023)
  - Graph-of-Thoughts Prompting (Maciej Besta+, AAAI 2024)
  - Everything-of-Thoughts Prompting (Ruomeng Ding+, 2023)
  - Thread-of-Thought Prompting (Yucheng Zhou+, 2023)

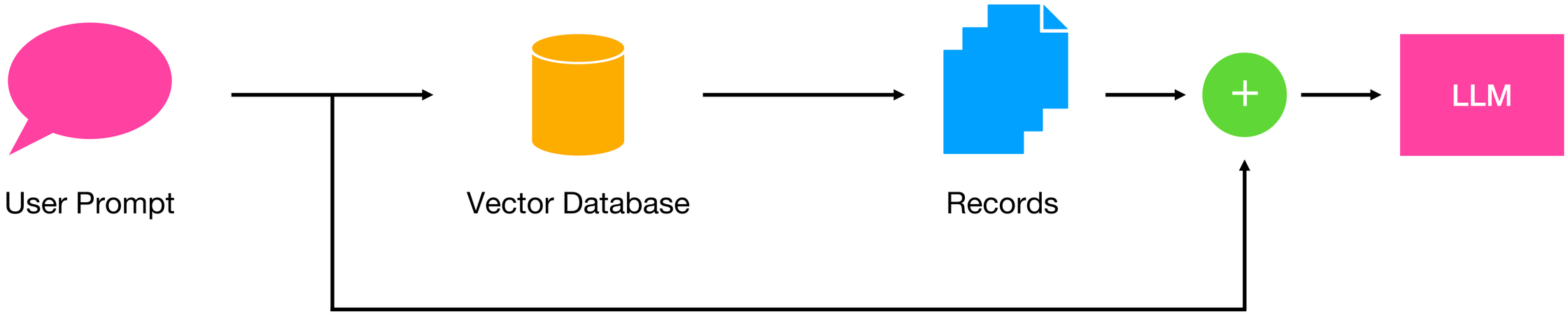
Beyond: Prompt Engineering w/ Reasoning

Part 3

- **Chain-of-***
  - Chain-of-Code Prompting (Chengshu Li+, NeurIPS 2023)
  - Chain-of-Note Prompting (Wenhao Yu+, 2023)

Retrieval Augmented Generation

Add Relevant Prerequisite Knowledge in Context



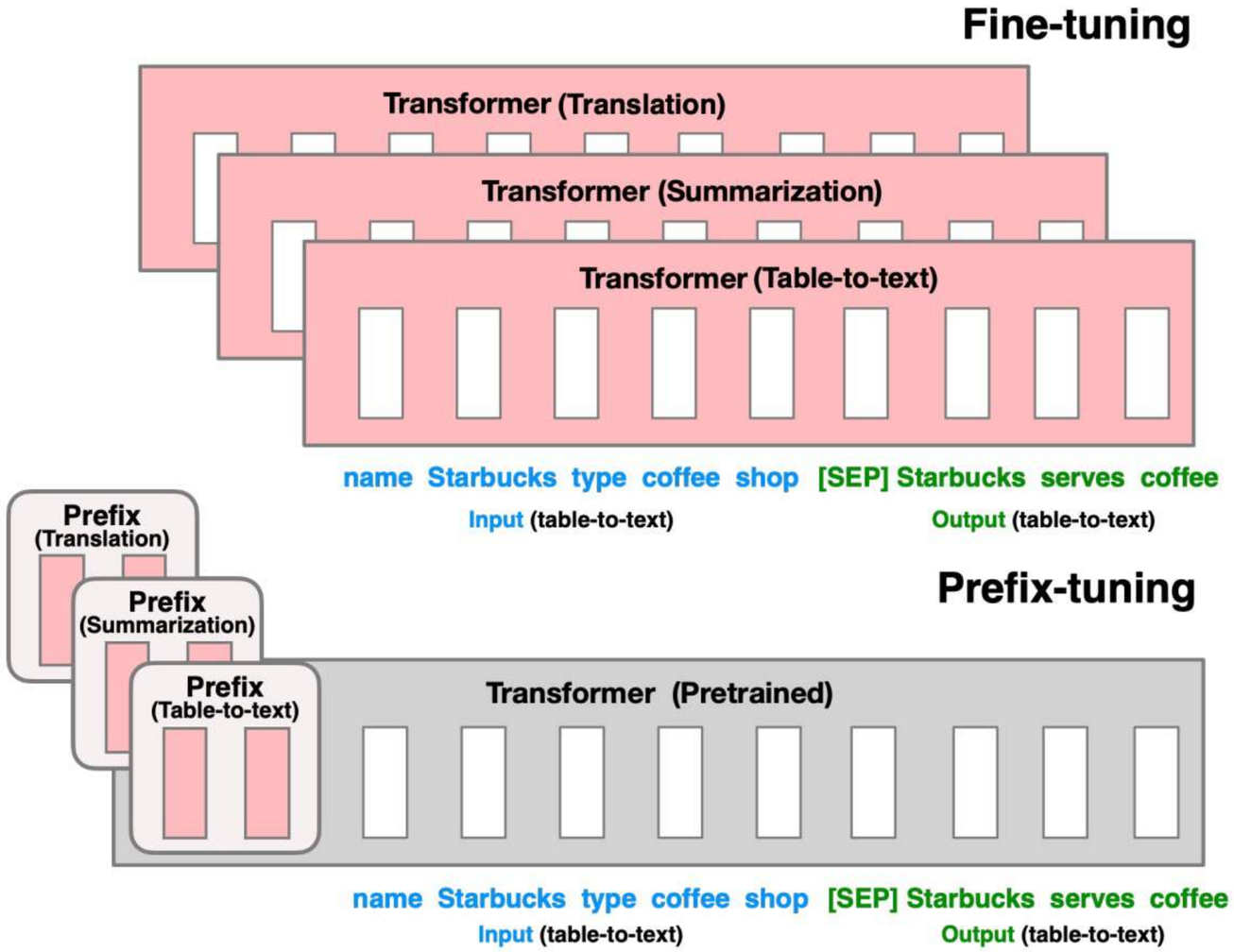
Y. Gao et al., ‘Retrieval-Augmented Generation for Large Language Models: A Survey’, arXiv [cs.CL]. 2024.

Automatic Prompt Optimization

- Automatically optimize prompts towards a pre-defined objective
  - Automatic Prompt Engineer (Yongchao Zhou+, ICLR 2023)
  - DSPy (Omar Khattab+, ICLR 2024)
- **Evolutionary-inspired APO**
    - EvoPrompt (Qingyan Guo+, ICLR 2024)
    - Promptbreeder (Chrisantha Fernando+, ICLR 2024)
    - Optimization by Prompting (Chengrun Yang+, ICLR 2024)
    - Prompt Evolution Through Examples (Taveekitworachai+, MetroInd4.0IoT 2024)

Soft Prompting

- Learnable tensor prepended or appended to an input given as a prompt to a model
  - Prompt tuning (Brian Lester+, EMNLP 2021)
  - Prefix tuning (Xiang Lisa Li+, ACL 2021)
  - P-tuning (Xiao Liu+, ACL 2022)



"The hottest new programming language is English"

Andrej Karpathy, CEO@Eureka Labs, Former OpenAI Founding Member

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