



Deep Learning for Vision and Language

Welcome and Introduction



RICE UNIVERSITY





About the class

- COMP 646: Deep Learning for Vision and Language
- Instructor: **Vicente** Ordóñez (Vicente Ordóñez Román)
- Website: <https://www.cs.rice.edu/~vo9/deep-vislang>
- Location: Zoom – Rice Canvas has the links **OR**
Duncan Hall 1070
- Times: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays
from 1pm to 1:50pm Central Time
- Office Hours: TBD
- Teaching Assistants: TBD
- Discussion Forum: Rice Canvas

COMP 646: Deep Learning for Vision and Language | Spring 2022

Instructor: [Vicente Ordóñez-Román](#) (vicenteor at rice.edu)

Class Time: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 1pm to 1:50pm Central Time (Virtual OR Duncan Hall 1070).

Course Description: Visual recognition and language understanding are two challenging tasks in AI. In this course we will study and acquire the skills to build machine learning and deep learning models that can reason about images and text for generating image descriptions, visual question answering, image retrieval, and other tasks involving both text and images. On the technical side we will leverage models such as recurrent neural networks (RNNs), convolutional neural networks (CNNs), and transformer networks (e.g. BERT), among others.

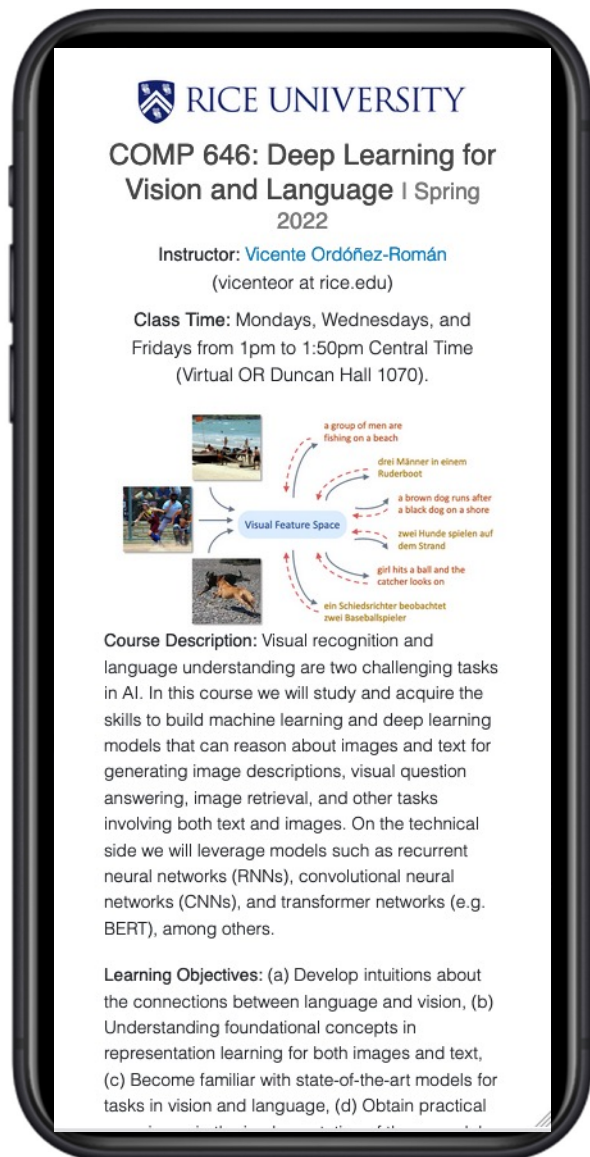
Learning Objectives: (a) Develop intuitions about the connections between language and vision, (b) Understanding foundational concepts in representation learning for both images and text, (c) Become familiar with state-of-the-art models for tasks in vision and language, (d) Obtain practical experience in the implementation of these models.


Prerequisites: There are no formal pre-requisites for this class. However a basic command of machine learning, deep learning or computer vision will be useful when taking this class. Students should have knowledge of linear algebra, differential calculus, and basic statistics and probability. Moreover students are expected to have attained some level of proficiency in Python programming or be willing to learn Python programming. Students are encouraged to complete the following activity before the first lecture: [\[Primer on Image Processing\]](#).

Grading: Assignments: 30% (3 assignments), Class Project: 50%, Quiz: 10%, Class Participation: 10%.

Schedule

Date	Topic
Mon, Jan 10	Introduction to Vision and Language
Wed, Jan 12	Machine Learning I: Supervised vs Unsupervised Learning, Linear Classifiers
Fri, Jan 14	Machine Learning II: Stochastic Gradient Descent / Regularization
Assignment on Text and Image Classification	
Mon, Jan 17	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (Holiday - No Scheduled Classes)
Wed, Jan 19	Neural Networks I: Multi-layer Perceptrons and Backpropagation
Fri, Jan 21	Practical Session: Neural Networks Building Blocks

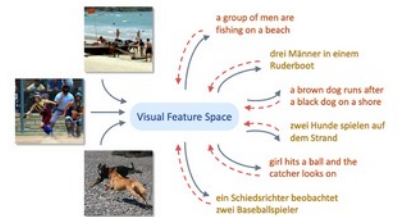


 RICE UNIVERSITY

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Rice Canvas


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☰ COMP 646 001 > Discussions > Discussion on First Day Introduction

Spring Semester 2022 Full Te...

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- Grades
- People



**Discussion on First Day Introduction**
Vicente Ordonez Roman (He/Him)
All Sections

Hello Everyone, I'm testing the discussion board. Please feel free to use this post to ask questions about the class.

Zoom Links

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☰ COMP 646 001 > COMP 646 001 Sp22

Spring Semester 2022 Full Te...



Your current Time Zone and Language are (GMT-06:00) Central Time (US and Canada), English [🔗](#)

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[People](#)

Upcoming Meetings

Previous Meetings

Cloud Recordings

[Zoom Recommended Settings](#) 

Start Time	Topic	Meeting ID		
Today (Recurring) 1:00 PM	COMP 646 001 Sp22	912 0334 8734	Join	Invitation
Wed, Jan 12 (Recurring) 1:00 PM	COMP 646 001 Sp22	912 0334 8734	Join	Invitation
Fri, Jan 14 (Recurring) 1:00 PM	COMP 646 001 Sp22	912 0334 8734	Join	Invitation
Wed, Jan 19 (Recurring) 1:00 PM	COMP 646 001 Sp22	912 0334 8734	Join	Invitation
Fri, Jan 21 (Recurring) 1:00 PM	COMP 646 001 Sp22	912 0334 8734	Join	Invitation

About me -- Vicente

Associate Professor,
2021 - Present



RICE UNIVERSITY

Visiting Academic
2021 - Present



amazon alexa

Assistant Professor,
2016 - 2021



UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA

Visiting Professor,
2019



Adobe Research

Visiting Researcher,
2015 - 2016



ALLEN INSTITUTE
for ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

MS, PhD in CS,
2009-2015



THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL



Stony Brook University

... also spent time at:

Google



Microsoft

ebay

What is Vision and Language?

Anything at the intersection of Computer Vision and Natural Language Processing. Systems and models that depend a little bit on both.

- Computer Vision: How do we teach machines to process, represent and understand images? e.g. to recognize objects in images.
- Natural Language Processing: How do we teach machines to process, represent and understand text? e.g. to classify or generate text.

vision, language and learning



The vision, language and learning lab, *vislang*, at [Rice University](#) pursues fundamental research at the intersection of computer vision, natural language processing and machine learning. We aim to create intelligent systems that can learn from vast amounts of visual and textual information, that can integrate and enhance human experiences, and that can resolve complex tasks that typically require human intelligence.

Read about some of our work on bias in visual recognition in [WIRED](#) and [Glamour](#). Some of our recent work on analyzing movies on [TechXplore](#), and our work on generating images from text in the blogs of [IBM](#) and [NVIDIA](#).

News and Announcements

- 07/2021. Two papers accepted to ICCV 2021, Reranking Transformers [[arxiv](#)] and MEDIRL [[arxiv](#)].
- 07/2021. After some wonderful five years at the University of Virginia, our group is in the process of moving to the Department of Computer Science at [Rice University](#) in Houston, Texas~!
- 06/2021. Our work on teaching machines compositional vision and language models is funded through a National Science Foundation CAREER Award [[link](#)]
- 06/2021. Tianlu Wang defends her PhD Dissertation *Measuring and Mitigating Biases in Vision and Language Models*, accepts position as

Visual Translator

This demo attempts to translate a sentence in English into visual feature space and into a sentence in both German (Deutsch) and Japanese (日本語).



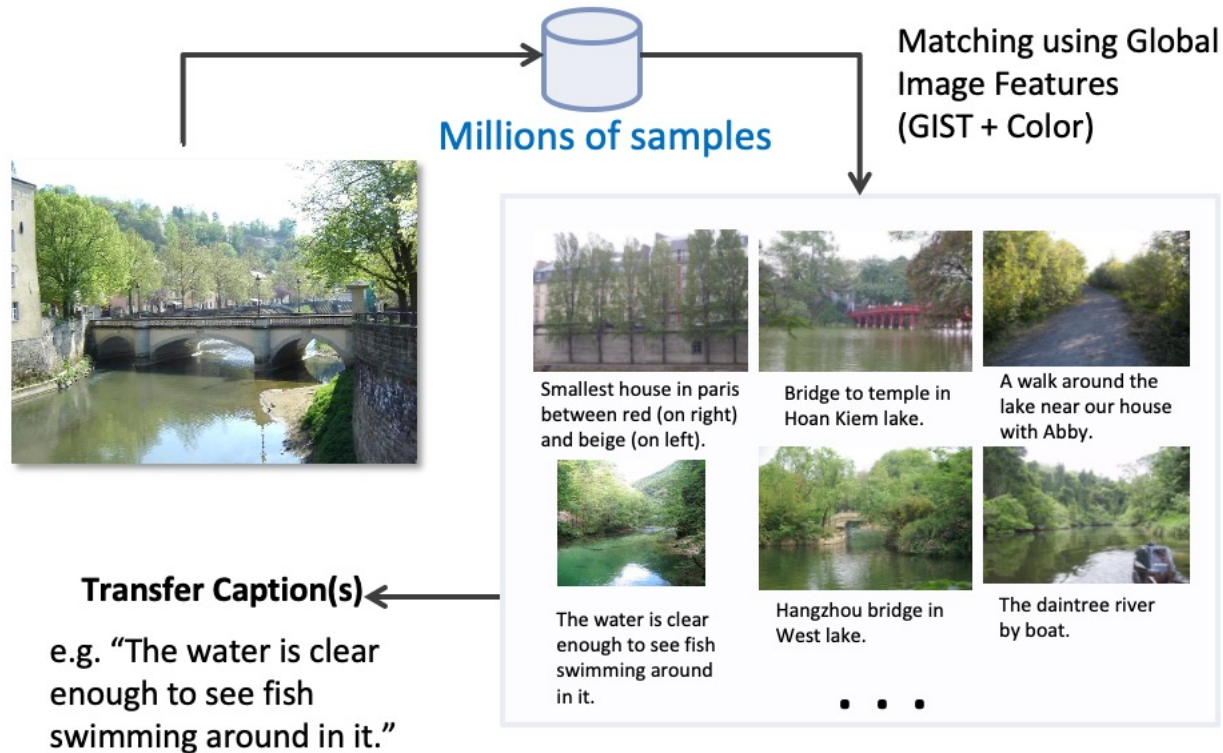
Facial Recognition Technologies in the Wild

With colleagues Erik-Learned Miller, Jamie



Some of our work includes...

Describing images with language



<https://vislang.ai/sbu-explorer>

SBU Captions Explorer

The SBU Captions Dataset contains 1 million images with captions obtained from Flickr circa 2011 as documented in [Ordonez, Kulkarni, and Berg. NeurIPS 2011](#). These are captions written by real users, pre-filtered by keeping only captions that have at least two nouns, a noun-verb pair, or a verb-adjective pair. They also exclude many noisy captions and trivial captions. The final set still contains noise which might be significant for some use cases, nevertheless this dataset has been used for research purposes for several tasks e.g. Google's [Show-and-Tell](#) and Microsoft's [UNITER](#). Here we provide a search tool to find images on this dataset. Often researchers want to test their systems with specific images, this tool allows searching for some that match human-written text descriptions. If you're interested in downloading this whole dataset go [here](#) instead.

Try entering queries such as "a person holding a cat", or "a bird on top of a boat".

dog playing with ball



Results 1-20 of 35



Cilas the dog playing with a ball in the water 1



Dog playing with a ball on the beach in Blouberg



Cilas the dog playing with a ball in the water 3



playing ball in the dog kennel/practice cage...

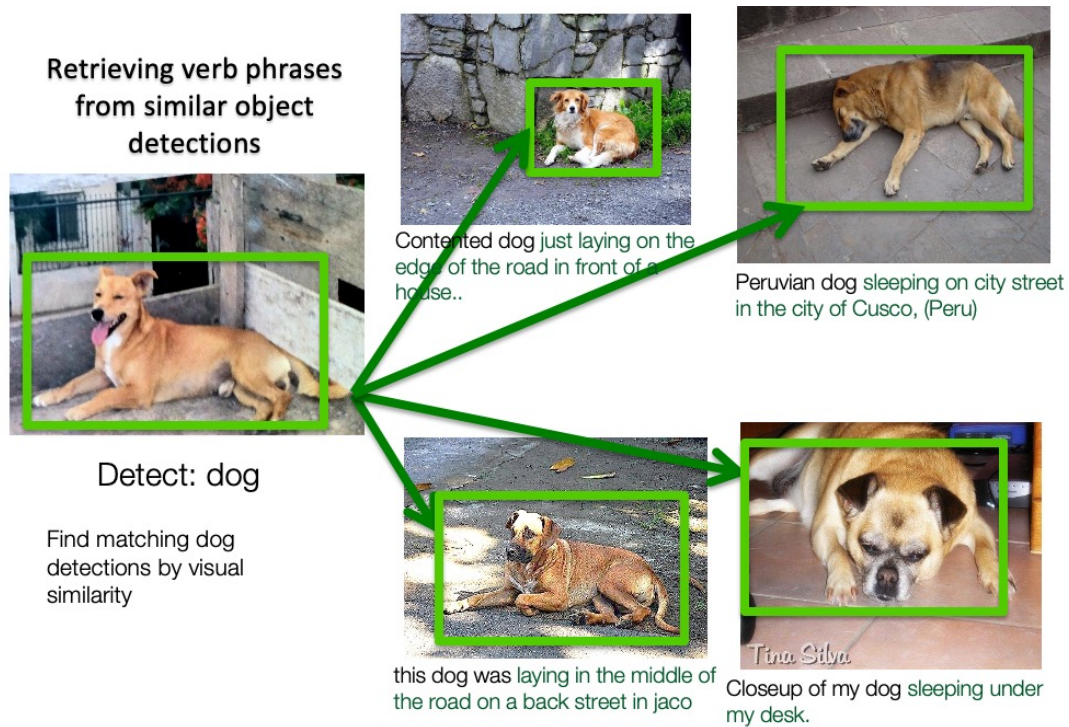
[Im2Text: Describing Images Using 1 Million Captioned Photographs](#)

Vicente Ordonez, Girish Kulkarni, Tamara L. Berg.

Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems. **NIPS 2011**. Granada, Spain. December 2011.

Some of our work includes...

Describing images with language



Large Scale Retrieval and Generation of Image Descriptions

V. Ordonez, X. Han, P. Kuznetsova, G. Kulkarni, M. Mitchell, K. Yamaguchi, K. Stratos, A. Goyal, J. Dodge, A. Mensch, H. Daume III, A.C. Berg, Y. Choi, T.L. Berg.

International Journal of Computer Vision. **IJCV 2015**. [August 2016 Issue]. [pdf] [link] [bibtex]

Describing language with images

<https://vislang.ai/text2scene>

Text2Scene

Text2Scene was proposed in a paper by our group at CVPR 2019 as [Text2Scene: Generating Compositional Scenes from Textual Descriptions](#). This model takes as input textual descriptions of a scene and generates the scene graphically object by object using a Recurrent Neural Network, highlighting their ability to learn complex and seemingly non-sequential tasks. The more advanced version of our model requires more computing but can also produce real images by stitching segments from other images. Read more about Text2Scene in the in the research blogs of [IBM](#) and [NVIDIA](#) and download the full source code from <https://github.com/uvavision/Text2Scene>. This demo generates cartoon-like images using the vocabulary and graphics from the [Abstract Scenes](#) dataset proposed by Zitnick and Parikh in 2013.

Besides Mike and Jenny feel free to reference any of these other objects: bear, cat, dog, duck, owl, snake, hat, crown, pirate hat, viking hat, witch hat, glasses, pie, pizza, hot dog, ketchup, mustard, drink, bee, slide, sandbox, swing, tree, pine tree, apple tree, helicopter, balloon, sun, cloud, rocket, airplane, ball, football, basketball, baseball bat, shovel, tennis racket, kite, fire. Also feel free to describe Mike and Jenny with other attributes or action words such as sitting, running, jumping, kicking, standing, afraid, happy, scared, angry, etc.

#1 Mike is next to a tree

#2 Jenny is happy and kicks the ball

#3 There is a fire

Generate Scene



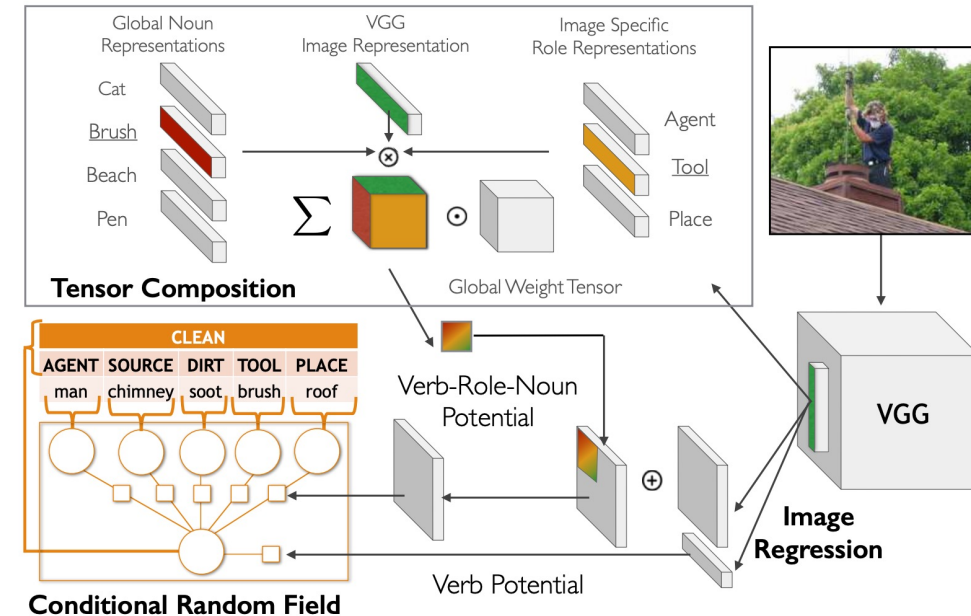
Demo by Leticia and Vicente

Some of our work includes...

Situation Recognition



CARRYING					
ROLE	VALUE	ROLE	VALUE	ROLE	VALUE
AGENT	MAN	AGENT	WOMAN	AGENT	MAN
ITEM	BABY	ITEM	BUCKET	ITEM	TABLE
AGENTPART	CHEST	AGENTPART	HEAD	AGENTPART	BACK
PLACE	OUTSIDE	PLACE	PATH	PLACE	STREET



<http://imsitu.org/>

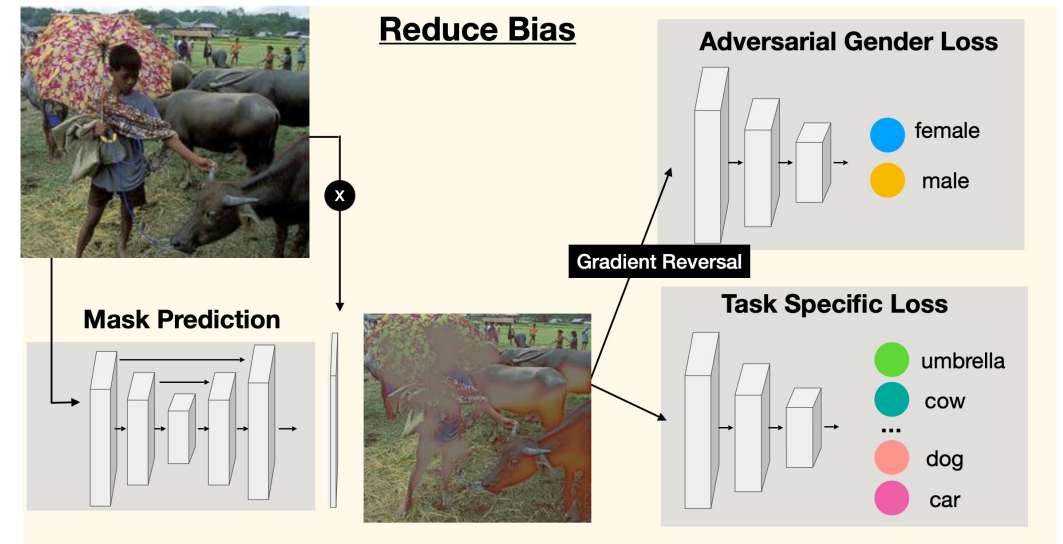
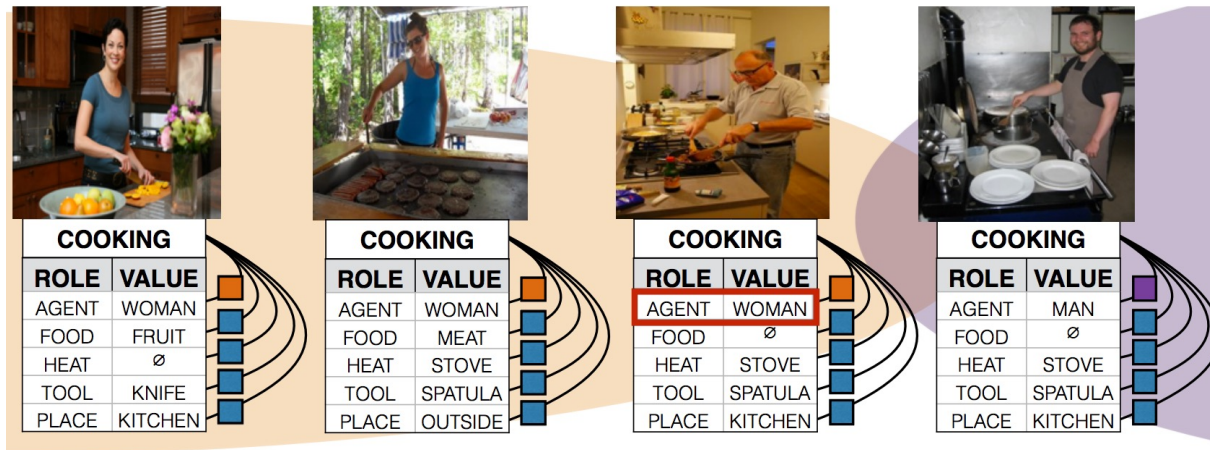
Commonly Uncommon: Semantic Sparsity in Situation Recognition

Mark Yatskar, Vicente Ordonez, Luke Zettlemoyer, Ali Farhadi.

Intl. Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition. CVPR 2017. Honolulu, Hawaii. July 2017. [pdf] [arXiv] [bibtex] [demo]

Some of our work includes...

Learning from Images with Textual Descriptions



<https://www.vislang.ai/genderless>

Balanced Datasets Are Not Enough: Estimating and Mitigating Gender Bias in Deep Image Representations. Tianlu Wang, Jieyu Zhao, Mark Yatskar, Kai-Wei Chang, Vicente Ordonez. International Conference on Computer Vision. ICCV 2019. Seoul, South Korea. October 2019. [arxiv] [code] [demo] [bibtex]

Some of our work includes...

Interactive Image Retrieval

Target Image



U1: A group of people posing in the pic.

U2: They are standing in a park.

U3: There is a bride among them.

S1:



S2:



S3:

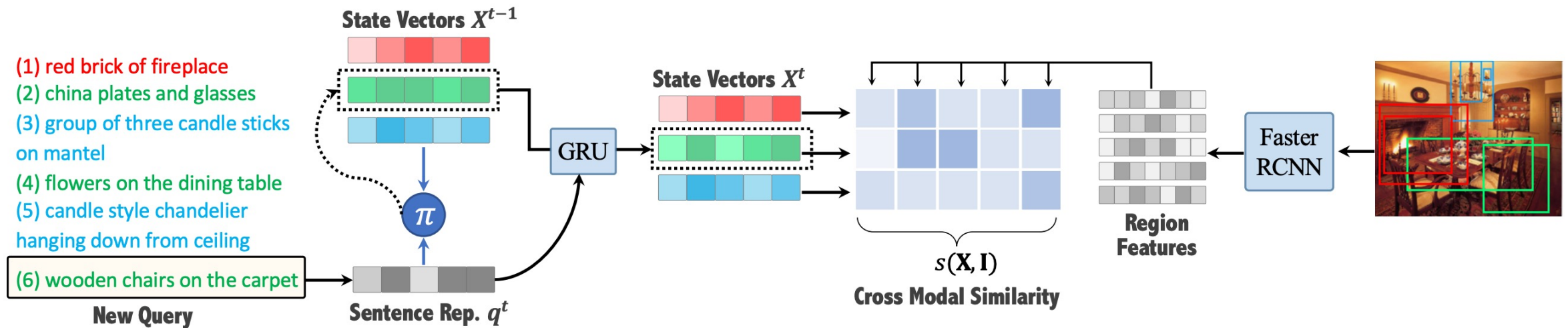


Drill-down: Interactive Retrieval of Complex Scenes using Natural Language Queries

Fuwen Tan, Paola Cascante-Bonilla, Xiaoxiao Guo, Hui Wu, Song Feng, Vicente Ordonez. Conf. on Neural Information Processing Systems. **NeurIPS 2019**. Vancouver, Canada. December 2019. [[arxiv](#)] [[code](#)] [[bibtex](#)]

Some of our work includes...

Interactive Image Retrieval



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Drill-down: Image Retrieval System

Target



Drill-down: Image Retrieval System

🔍 Two people in a ski field



Drill-down: Image Retrieval System

🔍 The man is wearing a black hat



Drill-down: Image Retrieval System

🔍 The woman is wearing a pink coat

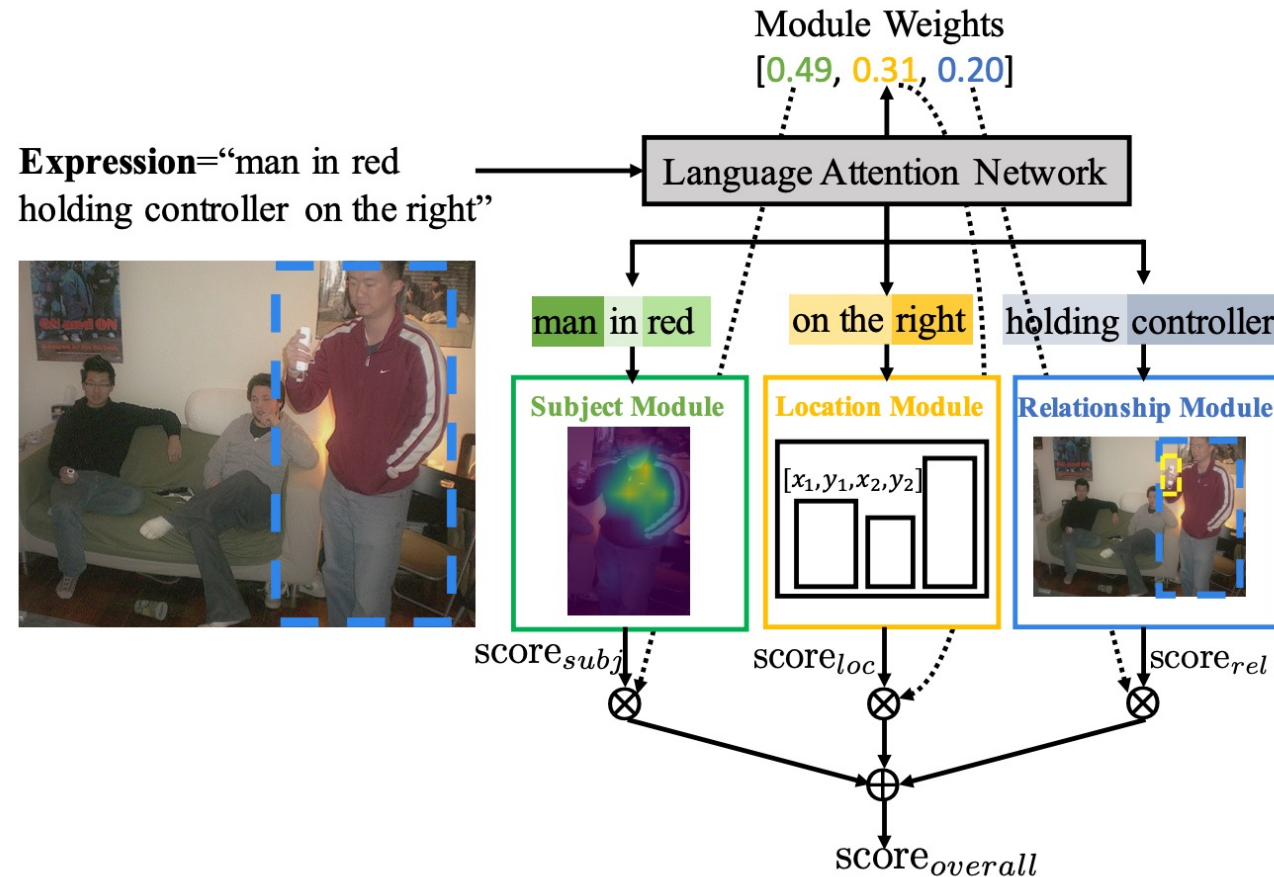


Drill-down: Image Retrieval System

🔍 they both have goggles



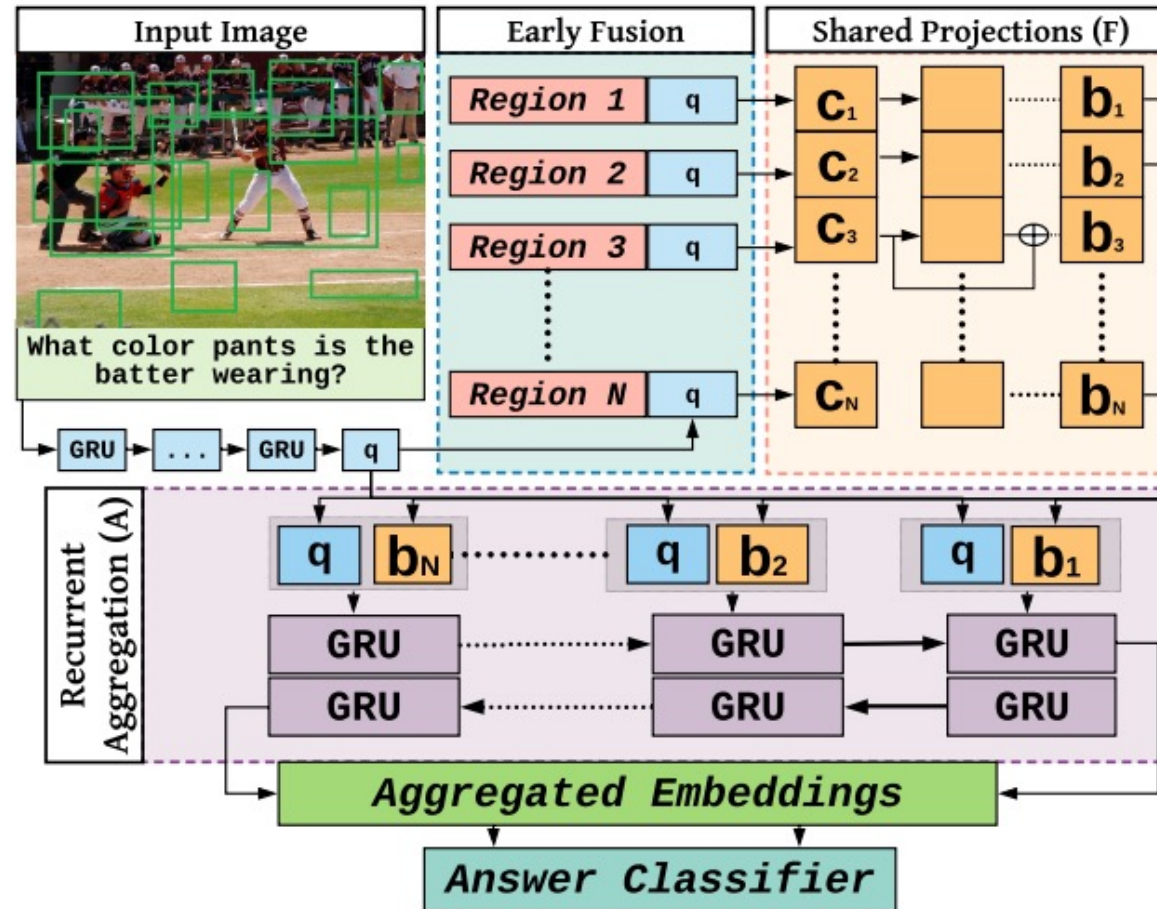
Referring Expression Comprehension



MAttNet: Modular Attention Network for Referring Expression Comprehension

Licheng Yu, Zhe Lin, Xiaohui Shen, Jimei Yang, Xin Lu, Mohit Bansal, Tamara L. Berg

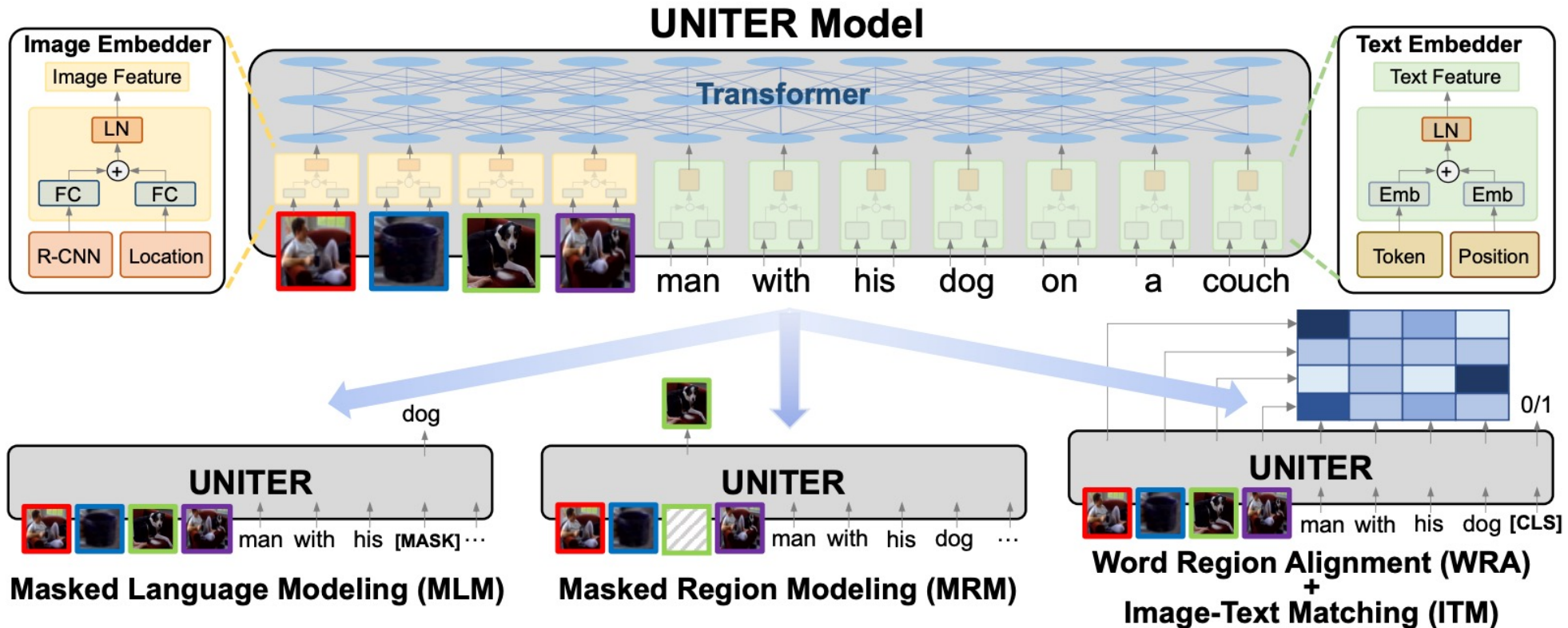
Visual Question Answering



Answer Them All! Toward Universal Visual Question Answering Models

Robik Shrestha, Kushal Kafle, Christopher Kanan

Vision-and-Language Transformers

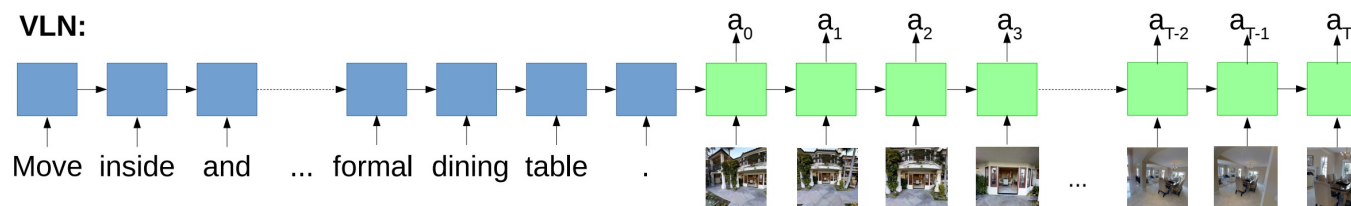


UNITER: UNiversal Image-Text Representation Learning

Yen-Chun Chen, Linjie Li, Licheng Yu, Ahmed El Kholy, Faisal Ahmed, Zhe Gan, Yu Cheng, Jingjing Liu

Vision-and-Language for Navigation

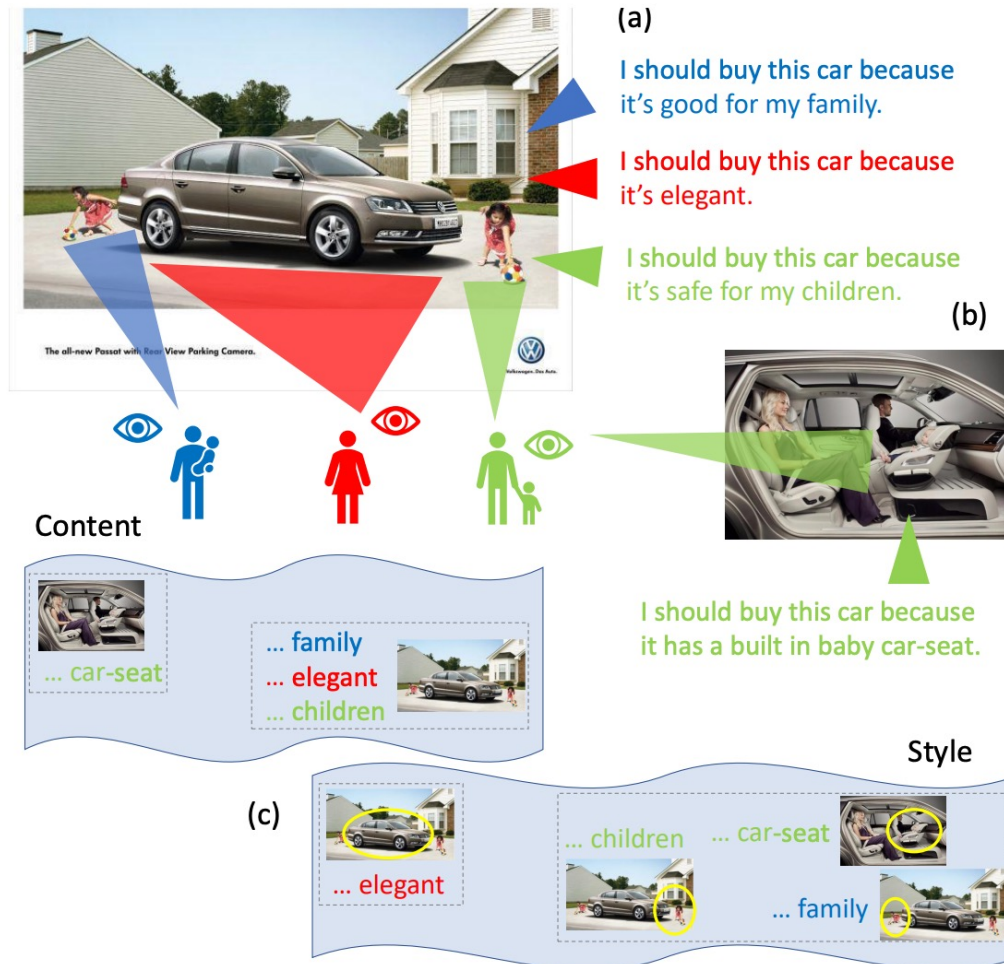
Instruction: Head upstairs and walk past the piano through an archway directly in front. Turn right when the hallway ends at pictures and table. Wait by the moose antlers hanging on the wall.



Vision-and-Language Navigation: Interpreting visually-grounded navigation instructions in real environments

Peter Anderson, Qi Wu, Damien Teney, Jake Bruce, Mark Johnson, Niko Sünderhauf, Ian Reid, Stephen Gould, Anton van den Hengel

Personalized Image Retrieval



Cross-Modality Personalization for Retrieval

Nils Murrugarra-Llerena

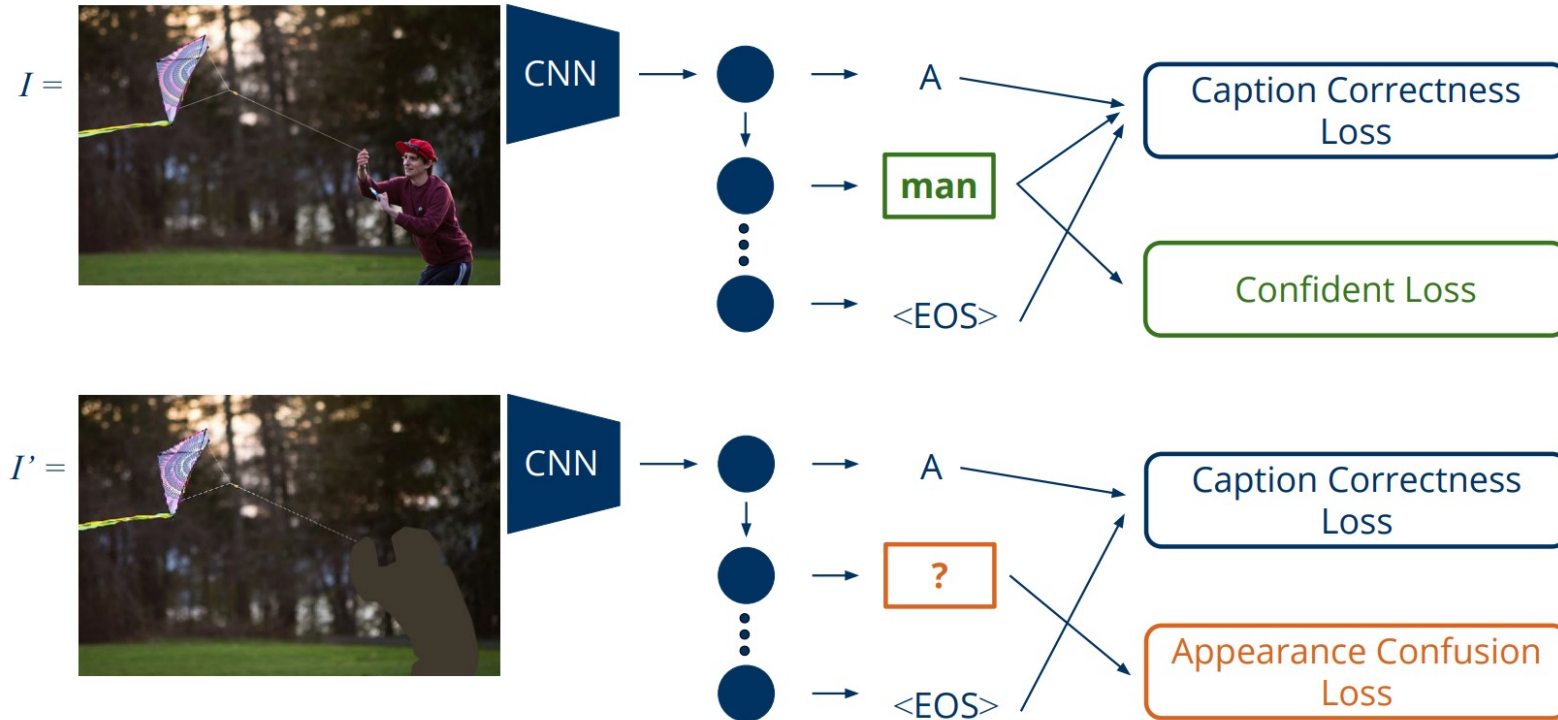
Adriana Kovashka

Department of Computer Science

University of Pittsburgh

{nineil, kovashka}@cs.pitt.edu

Fairness in Vision and Language Models



Women also Snowboard: Overcoming Bias in Captioning Models

Kaylee Burns, Lisa Anne Hendricks, Kate Saenko, Trevor Darrell, Anna Rohrbach

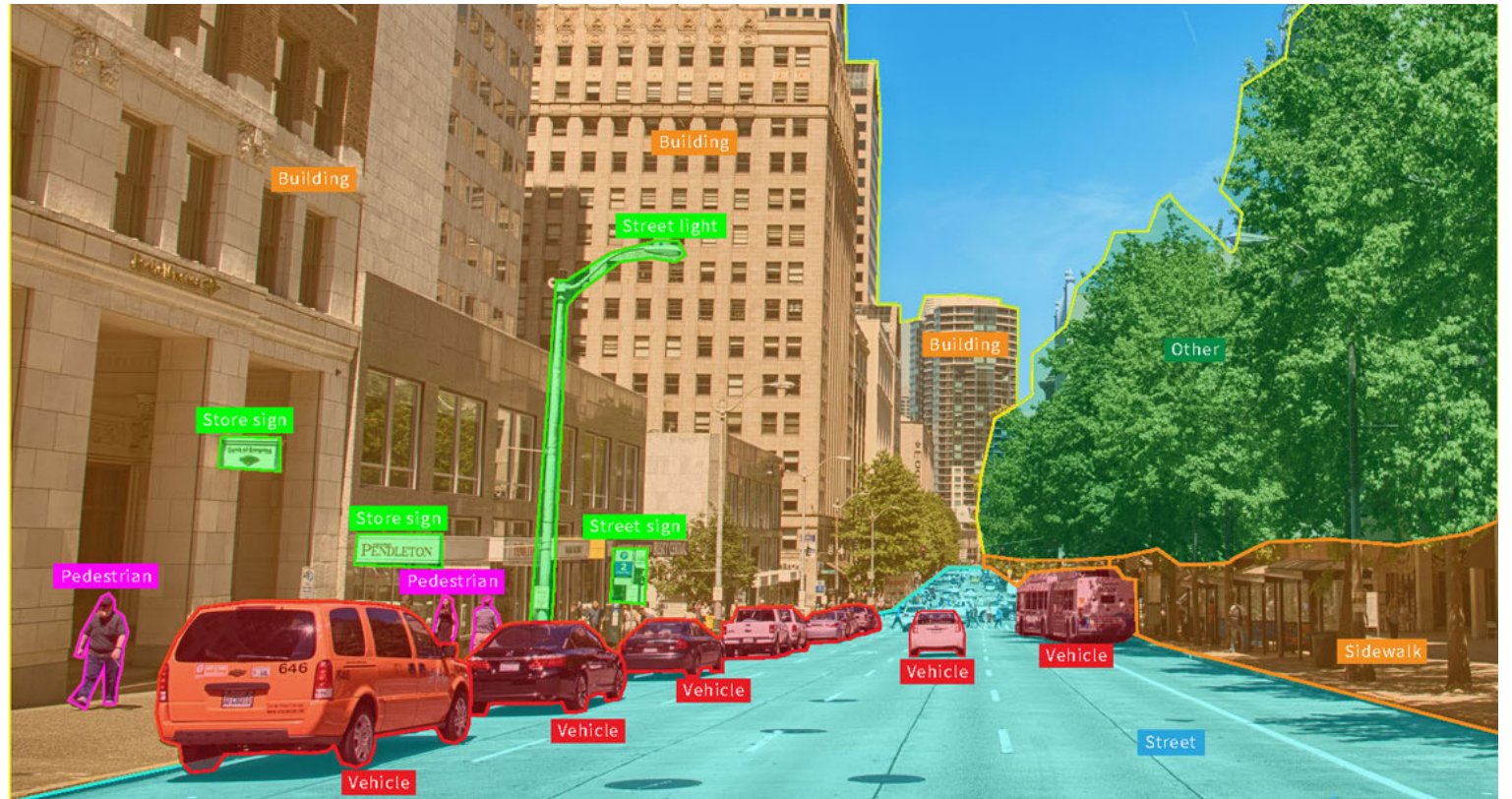
Why Vision and Language Together?

- What makes us intelligent?



Why Vision and Language Together?

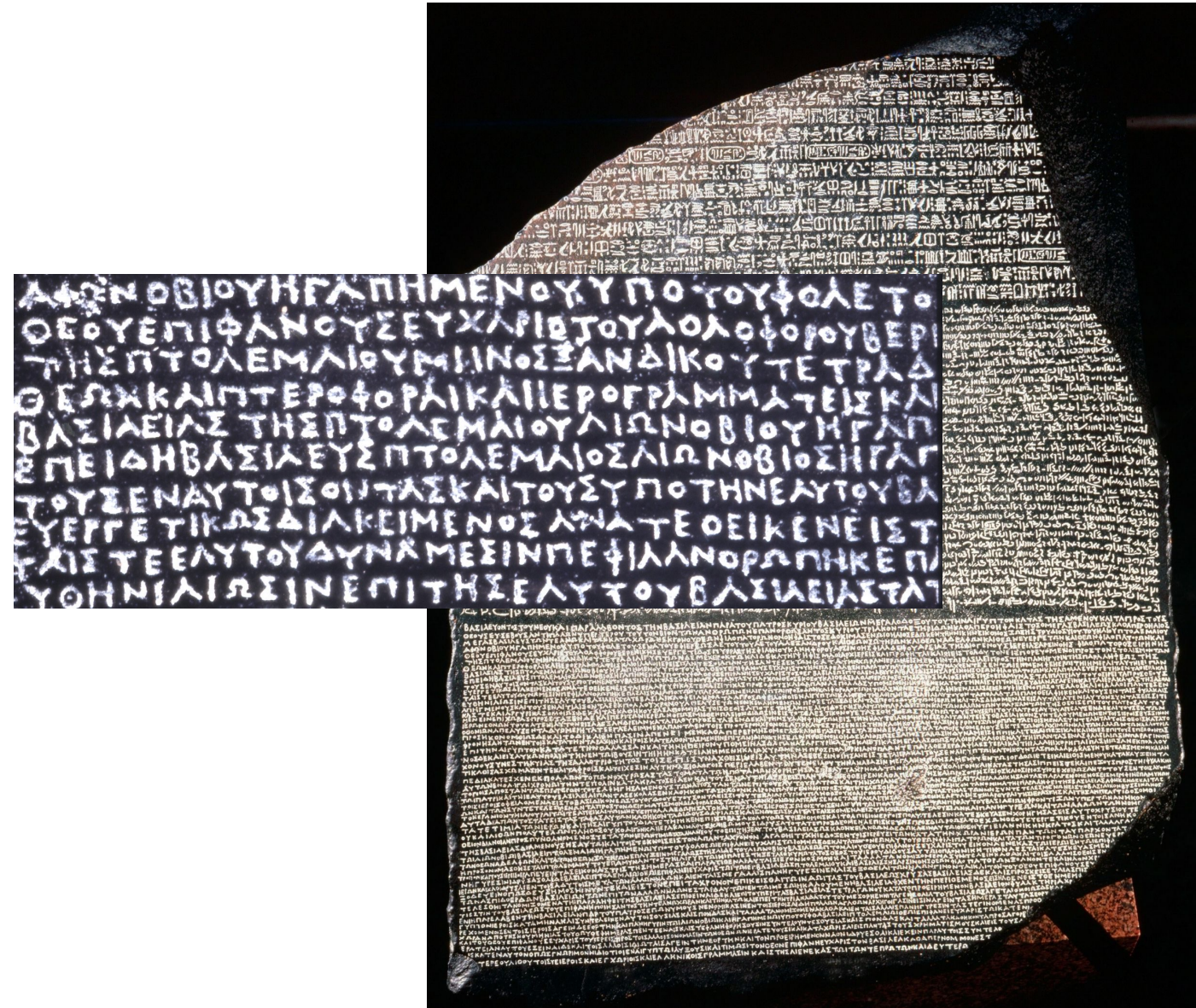
- What makes us intelligent?
- Vision is not just sensing – but interpreting what our eyes capture



<https://appen.com/blog/computer-vision-vs-machine-vision/>

Why Vision and Language Together?

- What makes us intelligent?
- Vision is not just sensing – but interpreting what our eyes capture
- Language is not just a sequence of symbols – but interpreting what do they mean – think of a foreign language to you



Can we learn language through pictures?



<https://www.hameraypublishing.com/blogs/all/teaching-kids-about-the-structure-of-the-spanish-language>

Vision and Language in Practice

- Searching products using language can be hard – e.g. I want to find a “rustic vintage curio with dark cherry finishes”

Rustic



Vintage



Hutch



Curio



Vision and Language in Practice

- Robotics: Instruction Following

Amazon launches home robot Astro and giant Alexa display

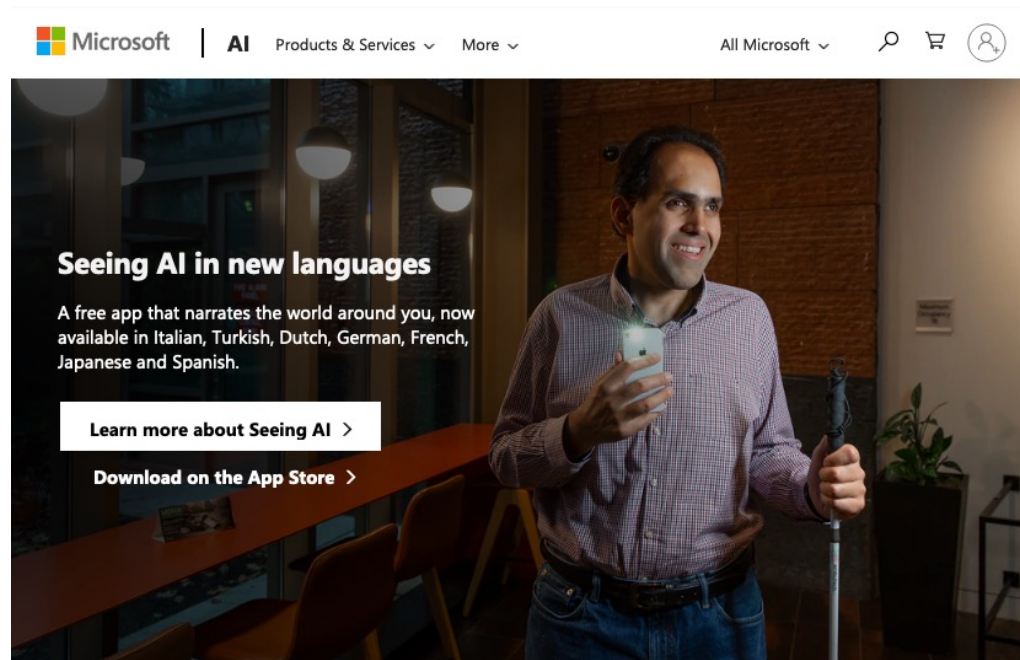
Robot that can check on loved ones and pets is one of plethora of devices announced at big launch event



📷 Astro is Amazon's first attempt at a home robot designed to be a roving smart platform for Alexa, video calling and many other services. Photograph: Amazon

Vision and Language in Practice

- Assistive Technologies



Complete multiple tasks with one app

Switch between channels to tune the description of what's in front of the camera.



Scene

An experimental feature to describe the scene around you



Color

Describes the perceived color

What will we cover in this class?

In terms of tools

3 weeks

2 weeks

2 weeks

8 weeks

- Introduction to ML / Vision / NLP
- Neural Networks (NNs) / Deep Learning.
- Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)
- Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs, LSTMs, GRUs)
- Transformers (e.g. BERT, GPT, UNITER, etc)

- State-of-the-art and Recent Developments

What will we cover in this class?

In terms of topics

- Image Captioning
- Referring Expression Comprehension
- Visually-grounded Question Answering
- Learning from Text and Images
- Visually-grounded Dialog
- Retrieving Images from Natural Language Queries
- Generating Images from Text
- Multimodal Translation using both Images and Text
- Vision-Language Navigation
- Biases in Vision and Language Tasks
- Possibly more topics...

<https://www.cs.rice.edu/~vo9/deep-vislang/>

Pre-requisites

- No formal pre-requisites but...
- You need to know how to program with Python or be VERY motivated to learn as you go. Definitely know how to program at a college graduate level.
- You will benefit from knowing some Machine Learning or be VERY motivated to do some self-learning as you go.
- You need to be proficient on basic calculus, linear algebra, and statistics. Nothing advanced but the right basic terminology and concepts are needed. (matrices, vectors, vector spaces, chain rule of calculus, derivatives, gradients, bayes theorem, maximum likelihood estimation, least squares regression)

Grading for this class: COMP 646

- Assignments: 30pts (3 assignments: 10pts + 10pts + 10pts)
- **Class Project: 50pts**
- Participation (Asynchronous Class Activities): 10pts
- Quiz: 10pts

Total: 100pts

- Grade cutoffs: TBD

Class Project Timeline

- Class Project: 50pts
 - You can form a group: 3 students maximum per group
 - You can also work solo – 1 student groups.
- In ~3 weeks: Submit as a group a project proposal (1 page PDF)
- In ~5 weeks: Submit as a group a final project proposal (1 page PDF)
- In ~10 weeks: Submit a project progress report (2 page PDF)
- End of semester: Submit the following:
 - Project report PDF (4 pages)
 - Slides + Presentation (Ideally in class before the semester ends)
 - Source code + ideally an online demo (if appropriate)

We will also be using...

The logo for Google Colab, featuring the word "colab" in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font. The letters "co" are yellow, and the letters "lab" are orange. The "o"s are hollow circles, and the "l" is a solid vertical bar.

<https://colab.research.google.com/>

We might need to use



Google Cloud

We have \$50 coupons for each student.

If your project is completed in a group of 3, then you would have \$150 worth of compute.

You will benefit if you have



NVIDIA Ampere A100	\$17,000
NVIDIA Tesla v100	\$7,000
NVIDIA RTX 3090	\$3,000
NVIDIA GTX 1080 Ti	\$700

We will be using



<https://pytorch.org/>



HUGGING FACE

<https://huggingface.co/>

But you're free to use any other framework especially for your projects: e.g. Tensorflow, Apache MXNet, JAX

However for your projects...

Genderless

Our group has produced several models and diagnostic methods for addressing gender bias in natural language processing and computer vision. Here we leverage our ICCV 2019 paper: [Balanced Datasets Are Not Enough: Estimating and Mitigating Gender Bias in Deep Image Representations](#). In this paper we proposed a method to adversarially remove as much as possible from an image any features that could be predictive of whether a person will use a gendered word to describe it. We used a large dataset of images with captions and selected images that had references in the text such as "man" or "woman" and trained a model that can recognize the objects in the image but has as much difficulty as possible in predicting gender. When we applied this transformations to the image space, we can examine what the model is trying to do. Try your own images below and see what it does.

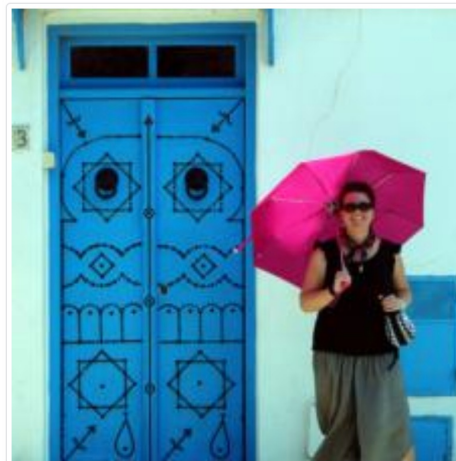
upload an image

paste image URL

Tap here to choose an image...



Original Image



Genderless Image



However for your projects...

Text2Scene

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#1 Mike is next to a tree

#2 Jenny is happy and kicks the ball

#3 There is a fire

Generate Scene



For Next Class...

- Intro to Machine Learning
- You need to complete the following two activities:

Completing this [[Primer on Image Processing](#)], and optionally, the tutorial and assignment on [[Image Classification](#)] from my old Deep Learning for Visual Recognition class.

Questions?