



# RESEARCH CHALLENGES FOR LARGE PRE-TRAINED MODELS

CDAO Advantage DoD 24

FEB 2024

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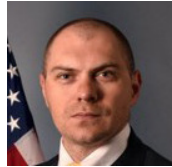
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MILITARY INFORMATION SCIENCES, DR. CELSO DE MELO

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



**Dr. Scott Clouse**



**Dr. Edward Verenich**



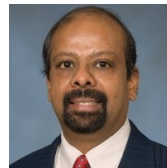
**Dr. Steven Rogers**



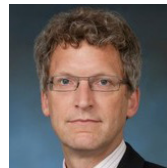
**Dr. Reginald Hobbs**



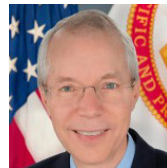
**Dr. John Fossaceca**



**Dr. Raghuveer Rao**



**Mr. Dietrich Wiegmann**



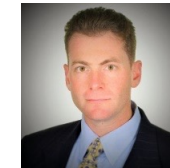
**Dr. Brian Sadler**



**Dr. Leslie Smith**



**Dr. David Aha**

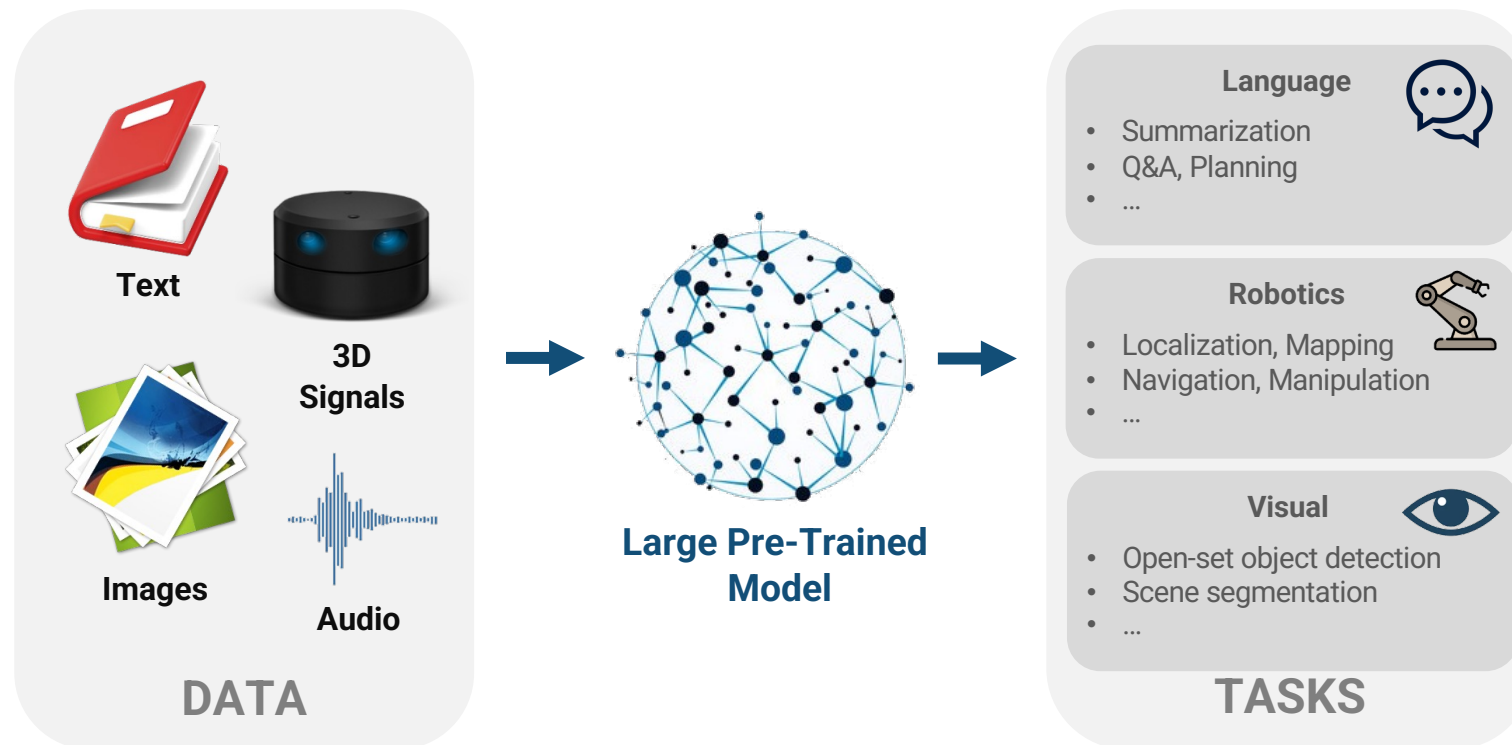


**Dr. John Long**

# LARGE PRE-TRAINED MODELS FOR DOD AI



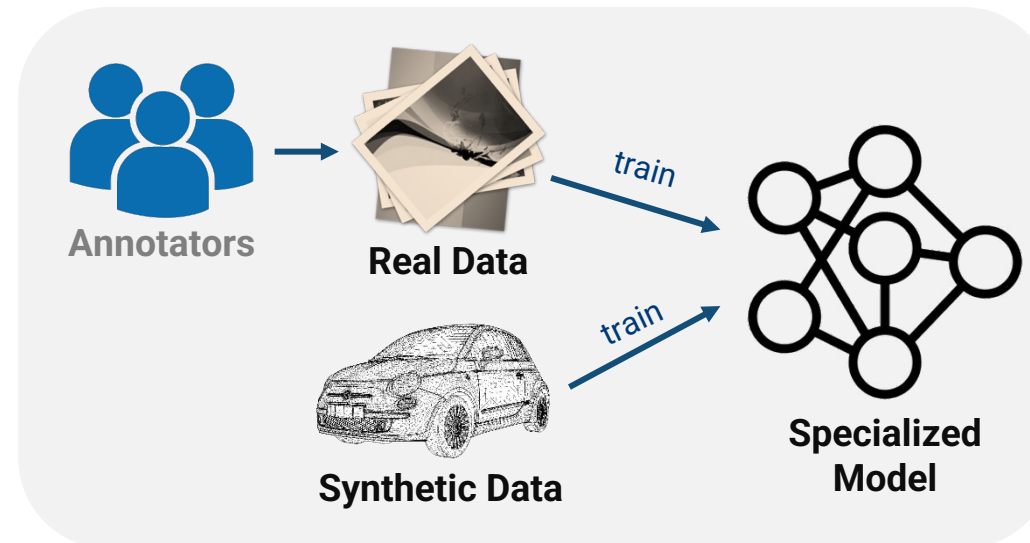
- LPTMs (e.g., GPT-4) have shown remarkable emergent capability relevant to multitude of DoD use cases
- They are trained on large quantities of unlabeled data (scale + self-supervision) and adapted to downstream tasks (transfer learning)



# LARGE PRE-TRAINED MODELS FOR DOD AI



- LPTMs (e.g., GPT-4) have shown remarkable emergent capability relevant to multitude of DoD use cases
- They are trained on large quantities of unlabeled data (scale + self-supervision) and adapted to downstream tasks (transfer learning)
- Old paradigm consists of training specialized models on labeled (real/synthetic) datasets

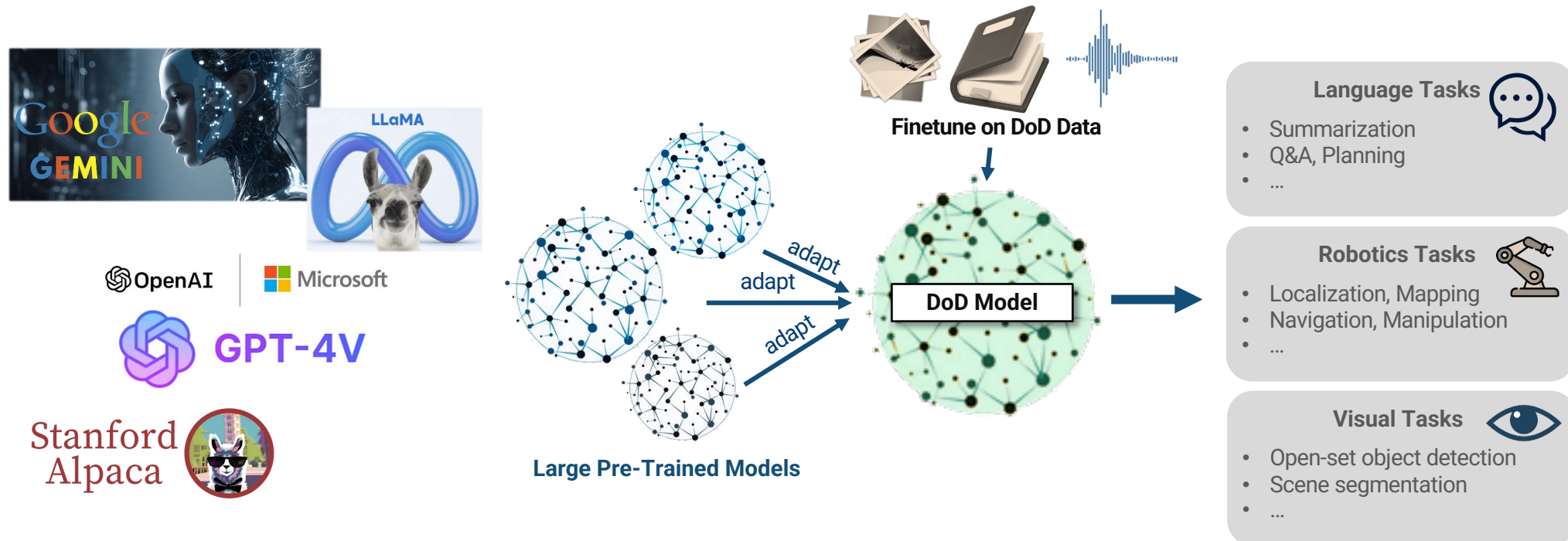




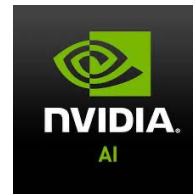
# LARGE PRE-TRAINED MODELS FOR DOD AI



- LPTMs (e.g., GPT-4) have shown remarkable emergent capability relevant to multitude of DoD tasks
- They are trained on large quantities of unlabeled data (scale + self-supervision) and adapted to downstream tasks (transfer learning)
- LPTMs introduce novel paradigm for AI systems where starting point are these models
- ARL hosted scientific meeting on opportunities, challenges and applications of LPTMs (Nov 14-16, 2023)
  - Broad engagement from DoD (e.g., Army, Air Force, Navy, CDAO, OUSD R&E), Academia (e.g., MIT, Stanford, UW, UC Berkeley), and Industry (e.g., Microsoft, Google, NVIDIA, Meta, Scale AI)



# BUILDING DOD, INDUSTRY, AND ACADEMIA RESEARCH ECOSYSTEM







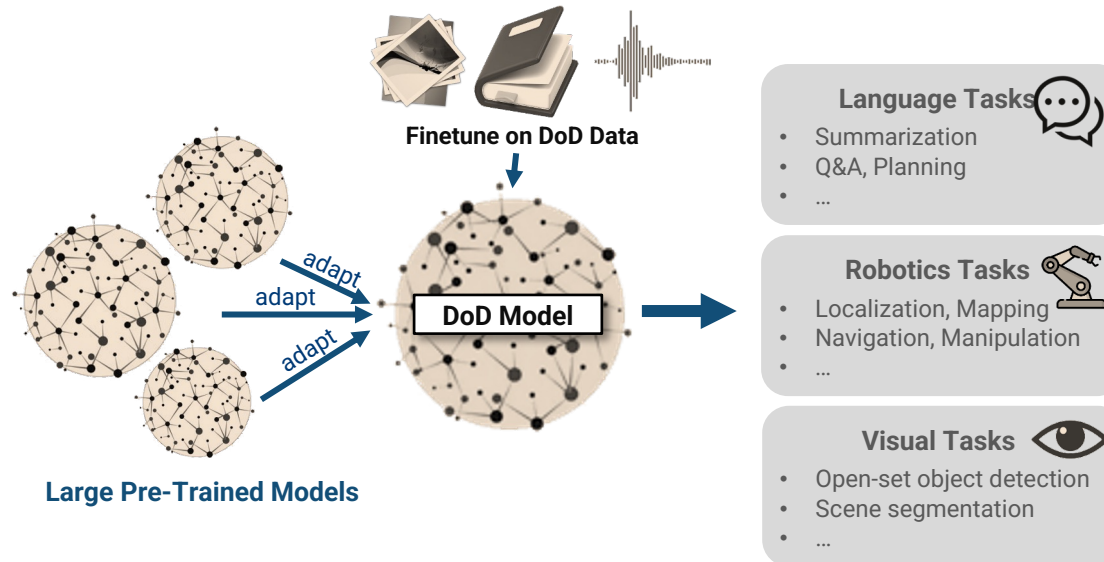
**What is the role of DoD?**






**What is compute infrastructure to support this ecosystem?**

# RESEARCH CHALLENGES



-  Multimodal not just language
-  Knowledge distillation
-  Deployment at the edge
-  Data starvation, continual learning & synthetic data
-  Adaptation & finetuning
-  Reasoning & Scientific Experimentation

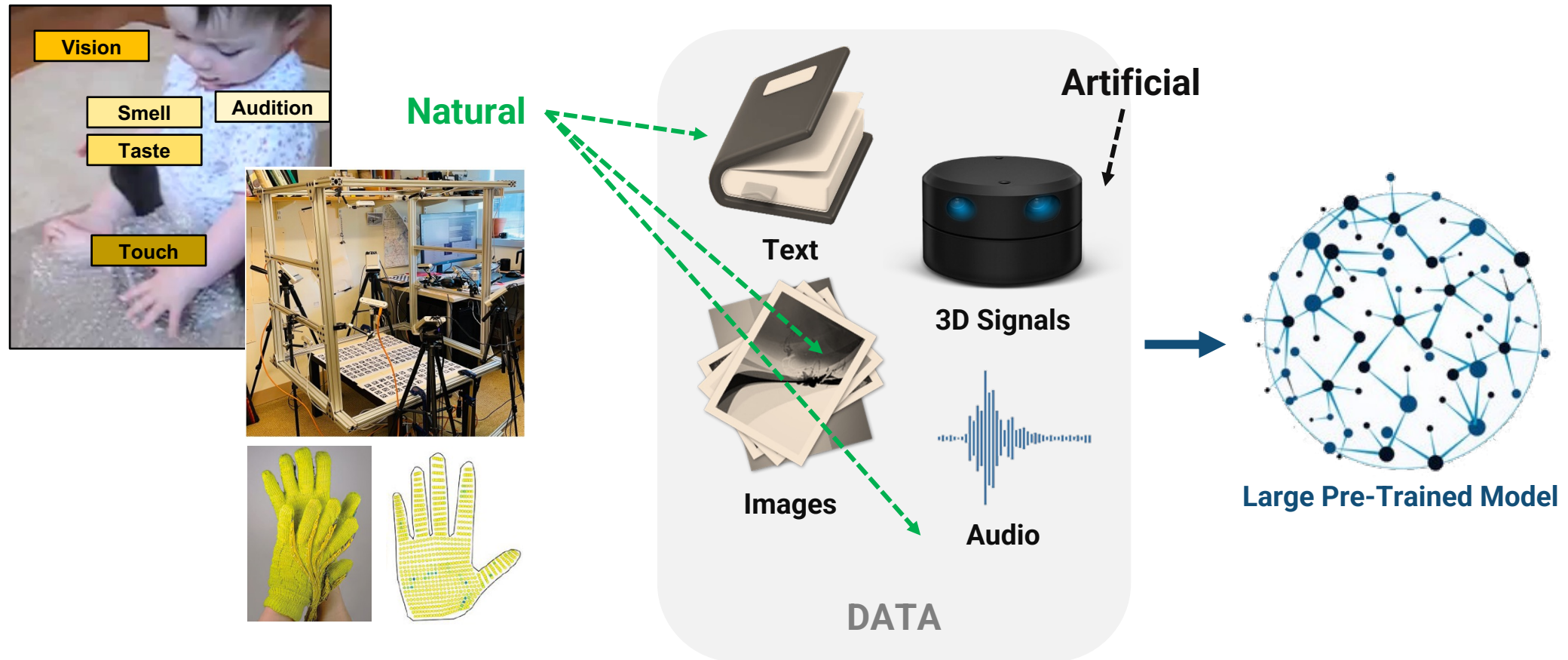


-  Interpretability
-  Data provenance & hallucinations
-  AI safety & alignment
-  System-of-systems
-  Benchmarking

# MULTIMODALITY



- Biological systems (e.g., children) learn rich multimodal knowledge about world
- Multimodal latent representations lead to robustness and generalization in novel tasks
- Research needed on methods to get multimodal data and train/compose multimodal models

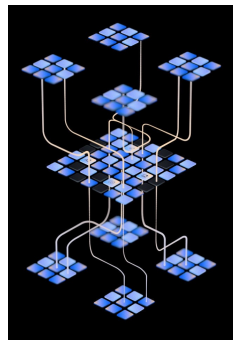




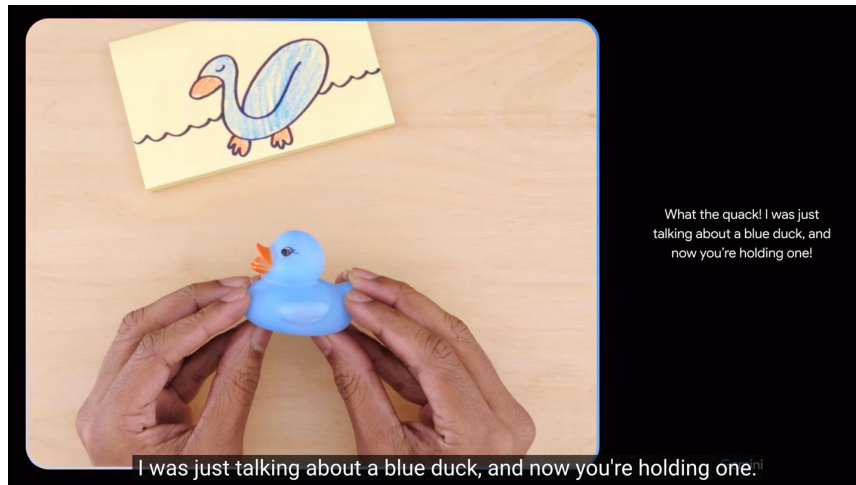
# MULTIMODALITY



- Multimodal models will enable open-world perception, reasoning, and action capability
- First generation of multimodal models is becoming available (e.g., GPT-4v and Gemini)
- But, still unlikely to meet all DoD's multimodal needs (e.g., physics-based grounding missing)



Large multimodal model with unified latent space



## MULTIMODAL

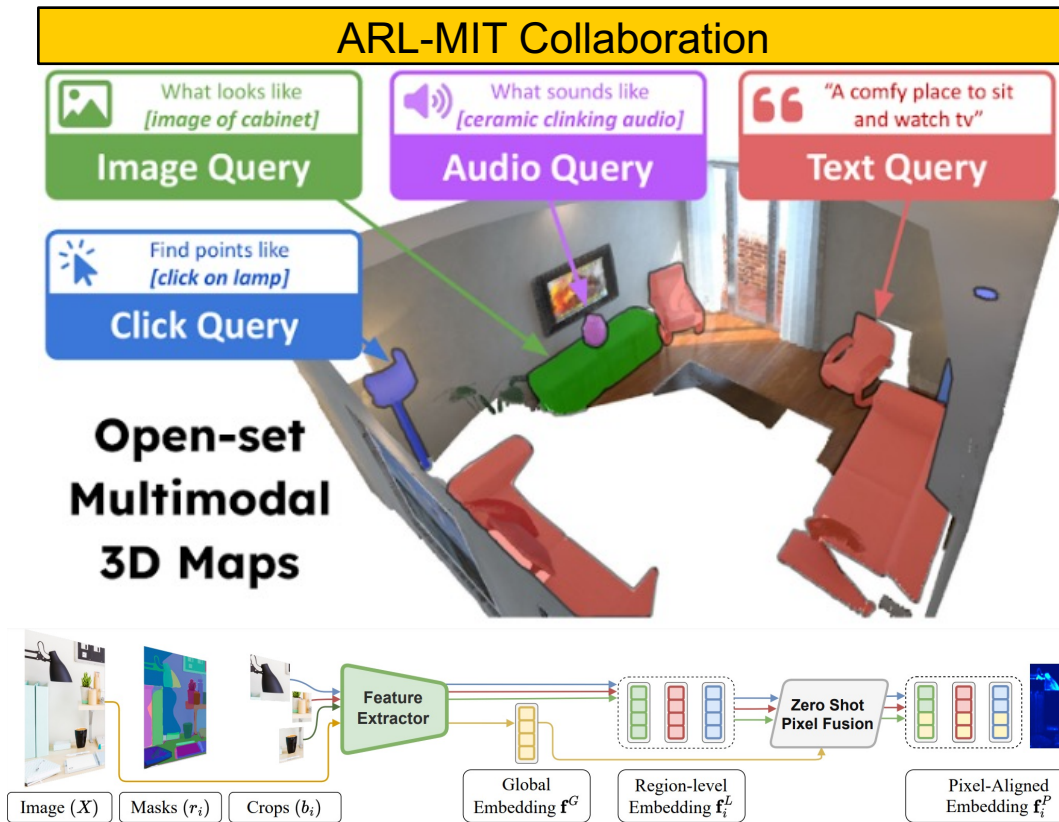
Capability	Benchmark	Description Higher is better unless otherwise noted	Gemini	GPT-4V Previous SOTA model listed when capability is not supported in GPT-4V
Image	MMMU	Multi-discipline college-level reasoning problems	<b>59.4%</b> 0-shot pass@1 Gemini Ultra (pixel only*)	<b>56.8%</b> 0-shot pass@1 GPT-4V
	VQAv2	Natural image understanding	<b>77.8%</b> 0-shot Gemini Ultra (pixel only*)	<b>77.2%</b> 0-shot GPT-4V
Video	VATEX	English video captioning (CIDEr)	<b>62.7</b> 4-shot Gemini Ultra	<b>56.0</b> 4-shot DeepMind Flamingo
	Perception Test MCQA	Video question answering	<b>54.7%</b> 0-shot Gemini Ultra	<b>46.3%</b> 0-shot SeVILA
Audio	CoVoST 2 (21 languages)	Automatic speech translation (BLEU score)	<b>40.1</b> Gemini Pro	<b>29.1</b> Whisper v2
	FLEURS (62 languages)	Automatic speech recognition (based on word error rate, lower is better)	<b>7.6%</b> Gemini Pro	<b>17.6%</b> Whisper v3

# MULTIMODALITY



Prof. Antonio Torralba

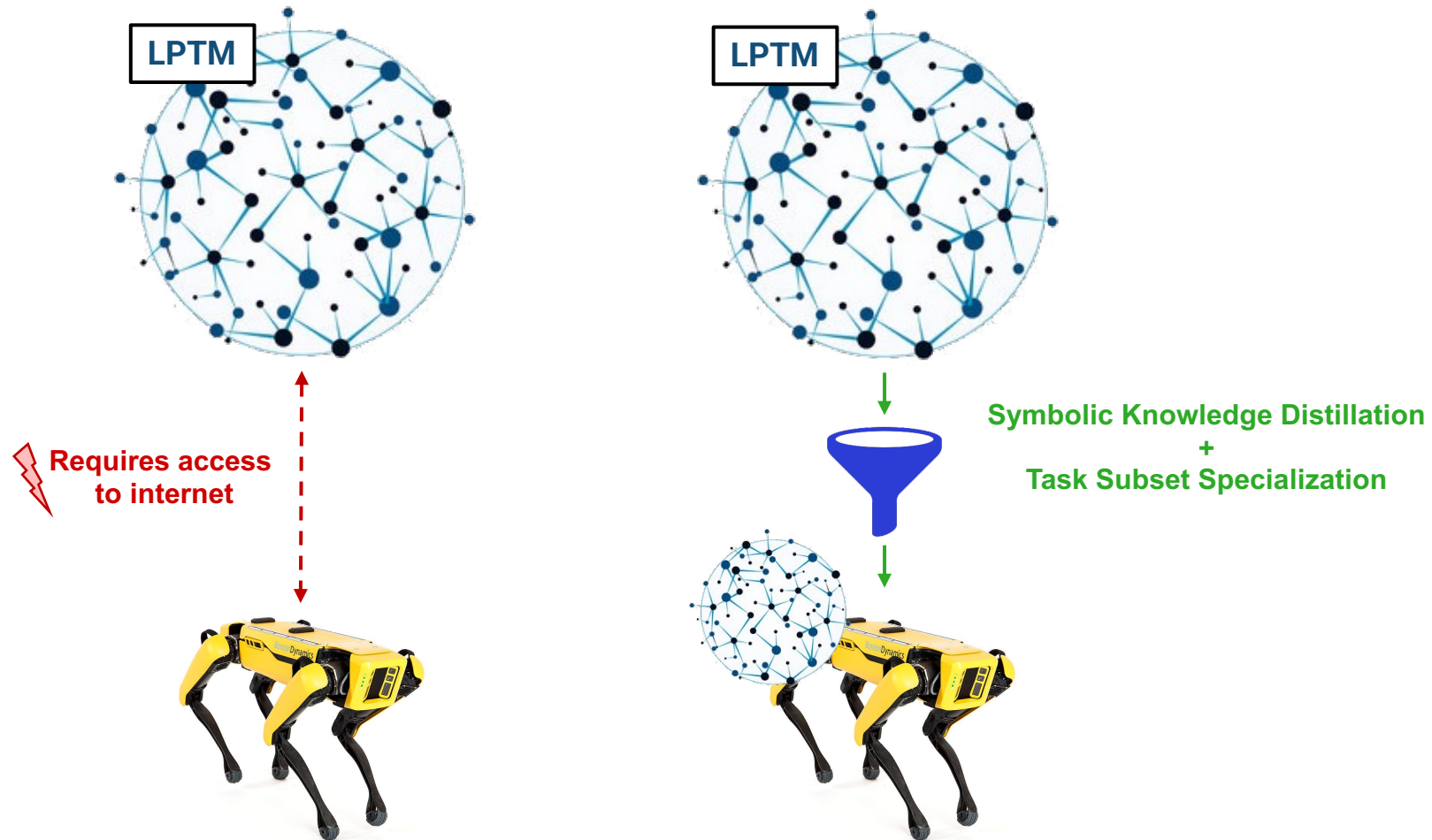
- Multimodal models will enable open-world perception, reasoning, and action capability
- First generation of multimodal models is becoming available (e.g., GPT-4v and Gemini)
- But, still unlikely to meet all DoD's multimodal needs (e.g., physics-based grounding missing)
- Given diversity of ecosystem, essential to research modular composable architectures



# KNOWLEDGE DISTILLATION & DEPLOYMENT AT THE EDGE



- Deploying LPTMs at the edge is problematic due to compute and communication limitations
- Symbolic knowledge distillation aims to create smaller models, from LPTMs, with similar performance



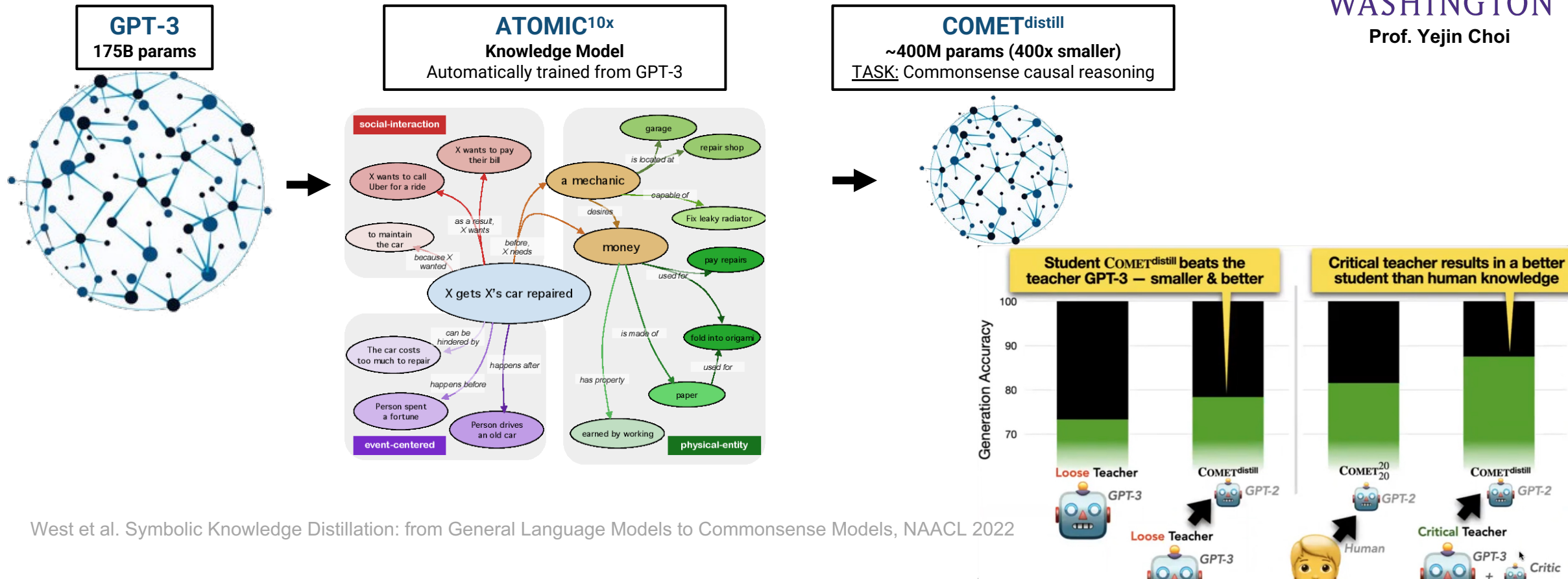
# KNOWLEDGE DISTILLATION & DEPLOYMENT AT THE EDGE



UNIVERSITY of  
WASHINGTON

Prof. Yejin Choi

- Deploying LPTMs at the edge is problematic due to compute and communication limitations
- Symbolic knowledge distillation aims to create smaller models, from LPTMs, with similar performance
- Recent methods show that LPTM-guided distillation can outperform human-guided distillation, even leading to improvement in performance when compared to larger teacher model



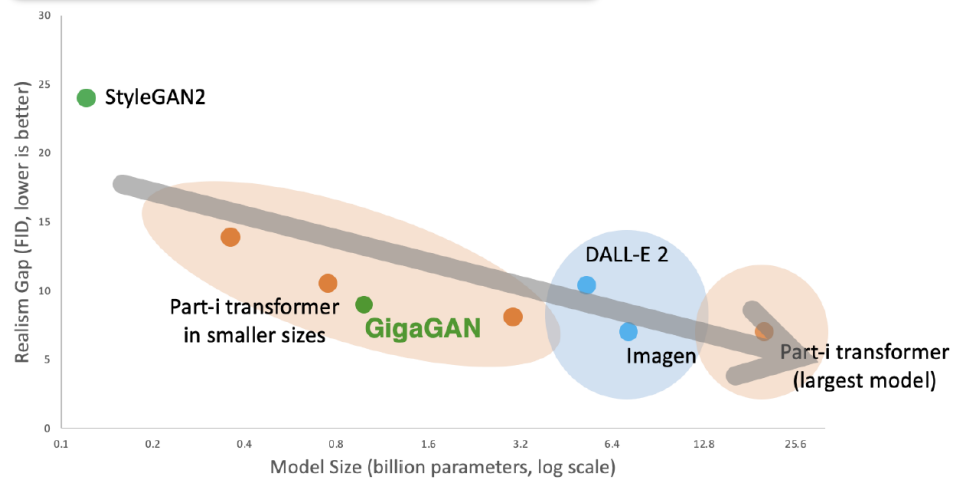


# DATA STARVATION, CONTINUAL LEARNING & SYNTHETIC DATA



- High quality data leads to high quality LPTM output
- We are reaching the limits of available data – how do we ensure LPTMs can continuously adapt?

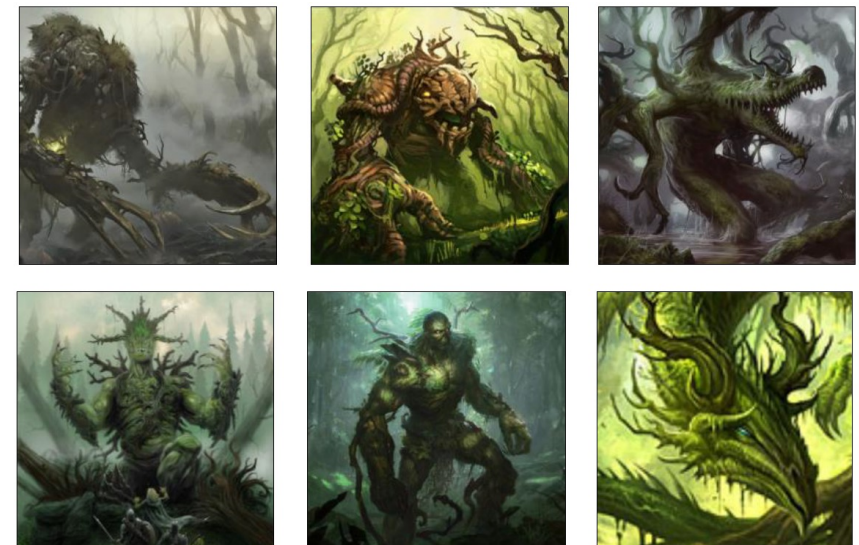
## 1 | Larger models attain better realism



## 2 | Generative data can be traced to data samples



generated image



## 3 | Reaching limits of existent data, especially for robotics

Text Data:

Image Data:

Video Data:

Robotics Data:


# DATA STARVATION, CONTINUAL LEARNING & SYNTHETIC DATA



- High quality data leads to high quality LPTM output
- We are reaching the limits of available data – how do we ensure LPTMs can continuously adapt?
- Synthetic data offers opportunity to create high quality data, including generated by LPTMs

## Trends in Cognitive Sciences

Available online 23 December 2021  
In Press, Corrected Proof



Review

### Next-generation deep learning based on simulators and synthetic data

Celso M. de Melo <sup>1</sup>, Antonio Torralba <sup>2</sup>, Leonidas Guibas <sup>3</sup>, James DiCarlo <sup>4</sup>, Rama Chellappa <sup>5</sup>, Jessica Hodgins <sup>6</sup>

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tics.2021.11.008>   [Get rights and content](#)

#### Highlights

Despite their initial successes, it is becoming apparent that modern deep learning (DL) models are hindered by an important bottleneck: the need for large quantities of annotated data to train the models.

Synthetic data provide a solution to this challenge. They are easy to generate, error-free, inexhaustible,

# DATA STARVATION, CONTINUAL LEARNING & SYNTHETIC DATA



**Berkeley**  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
**Prof. Alexei Efros**

- High quality data leads to high quality LPTM output
- We are reaching the limits of available data – how do we ensure LPTMs can continuously adapt?
- Synthetic data offers opportunity to create high quality data, including generated by LPTMs

## (1) Generate text edits:

Input Caption: *"photograph of a girl riding a horse"* → GPT-3 (finetuned) → Instruction: *"have her ride a dragon"*  
 Edited Caption: *"photograph of a girl riding a dragon"*

## (2) Generate paired images:

Input Caption: *"photograph of a girl riding a horse"*  
 Edited Caption: *"photograph of a girl riding a dragon"* → Stable Diffusion + Prompt2Prompt



## Generated training examples:

At inference, generalizes to real images and human-written instructions

*"have her ride a dragon"*



*"Color the cars pink"*



*"Make it lit by fireworks"*



*"convert to brick"*



...

# DATA STARVATION, CONTINUAL LEARNING & SYNTHETIC DATA



- High quality data leads to high quality LPTM output
- We are reaching the limits of available data – how do we ensure LPTMs can continuously adapt?
- Synthetic data offers opportunity to create high quality data, including generated by LPTMs
- Continual learning will further rely on self-supervision + interactive world exploration



## Self-Supervision

Multimodal redundancy provides knowledge about the world

+

## Exploration

Autonomous interactive exploration of environment leads to self-learning



# INTERPRETABILITY & SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENTATION



- Explaining LTPM behavior is challenging, but LPTMs also enable autonomous interpretation
- LPTMs are increasingly capable of generating and evaluating hypotheses, using tools and showing the kind of reasoning seen in scientific experimentation

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## Chain-of-Thought Prompting Elicits Reasoning in Large Language Models

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Jason Wei   Xuezhi Wang   Dale Schuurmans   Maarten Bosma  
 Brian Ichter   Fei Xia   Ed H. Chi   Quoc V. Le   Denny Zhou

Google Research, Brain Team  
 {jasonwei,dennyzhou}@google.com

**Abstract**

We explore how generating a *chain of thought*—a series of intermediate reasoning steps—significantly improves the ability of large language models to perform complex reasoning. In particular, we show how such reasoning abilities emerge naturally in sufficiently large language models via a simple method called *chain-of-thought prompting*, where a few chain of thought demonstrations are provided as exemplars in prompting.

Experiments on three large language models show that chain-of-thought prompting improves performance on a range of arithmetic, commonsense, and symbolic reasoning tasks. The empirical gains can be striking. For instance, prompting a PaLM 540B with just eight chain-of-thought exemplars achieves state-of-the-art accuracy on the GSM8K benchmark of math word problems, surpassing even finetuned GPT-3 with a verifier.

## Let's Verify Step by Step

Hunter Lightman\*   Vineet Kosaraju\*   Yura Burda\*   Harri Edwards  
 Bowen Baker   Teddy Lee   Jan Leike   John Schulman   Ilya Sutskever  
 Karl Cobbe\*

OpenAI

**Abstract**

In recent years, large language models have greatly improved in their ability to perform complex multi-step reasoning. However, even state-of-the-art models still regularly produce logical mistakes. To train more reliable models, we can turn either to outcome supervision, which provides feedback for a final result, or process supervision, which provides feedback for each intermediate reasoning step. Given the importance of training reliable models, and given the high cost of human feedback, it is important to carefully compare the both methods. Recent work has already begun this comparison, but many questions still remain. We conduct our own investigation, finding that process supervision significantly outperforms outcome supervision for training models to solve problems from the challenging MATH dataset. Our process-supervised model solves 78% of problems from a representative subset of the MATH test set. Additionally, we show that active learning significantly improves the efficacy of process supervision. To support related research, we also release PRM800K, the complete dataset of 800,000 step-level human feedback labels used to train our best reward model.

## Toolformer: Language Models Can Teach Themselves to Use Tools

Timo Schick   Jane Dwivedi-Yu   Roberto Dessì†   Roberta Raileanu  
 Maria Lomeli   Luke Zettlemoyer   Nicola Cancedda   Thomas Scialom

Meta AI Research   †Universitat Pompeu Fabra

**Abstract**

Language models (LMs) exhibit remarkable abilities to solve new tasks from just a few examples or textual instructions, especially at scale. They also, paradoxically, struggle with basic functionality, such as arithmetic or factual lookup, where much simpler and smaller models excel. In this paper, we show that LMs can teach themselves to *use external tools* via simple APIs and achieve the best of both worlds. We introduce *Toolformer*, a model

The New England Journal of Medicine is a registered trademark of [QA("Who is the publisher of The New England Journal of Medicine?") → Massachusetts Medical Society] the MMS.

Out of 1400 participants, 400 (or [Calculator(400 / 1400) → 0.29] 29%) passed the test.

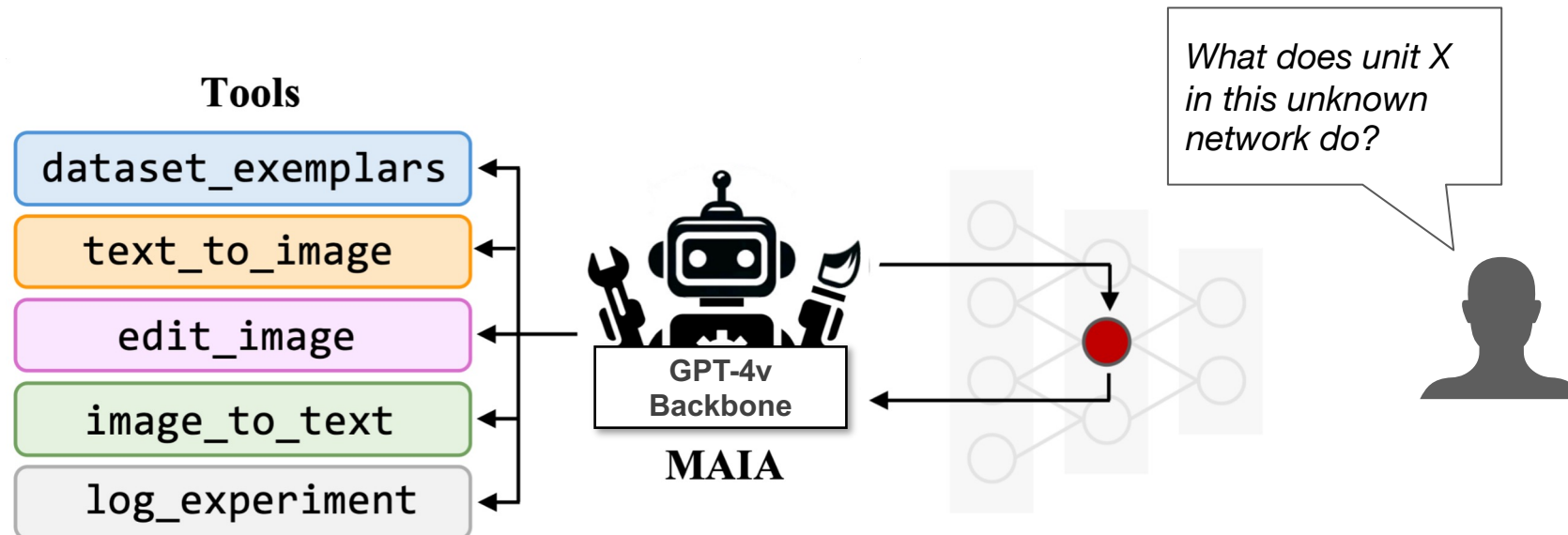
The name derives from "la tortuga", the Spanish word for [MT("tortuga") → turtle] turtle.

# INTERPRETABILITY & SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENTATION



Prof. Antonio Torralba

- Explaining LTPM behavior is challenging, but LPTMs also enable autonomous interpretation
- LPTMs are increasingly capable of generating and evaluating hypotheses, using tools and showing the kind of reasoning seen in scientific experimentation
- These capabilities enable a new generation of modular, flexible general interpreters



Schwettmann et al. FIND: A Function Description Benchmark for Evaluating Interpretability Methods. NeurIPS 2023

# INTERPRETABILITY & SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENTATION

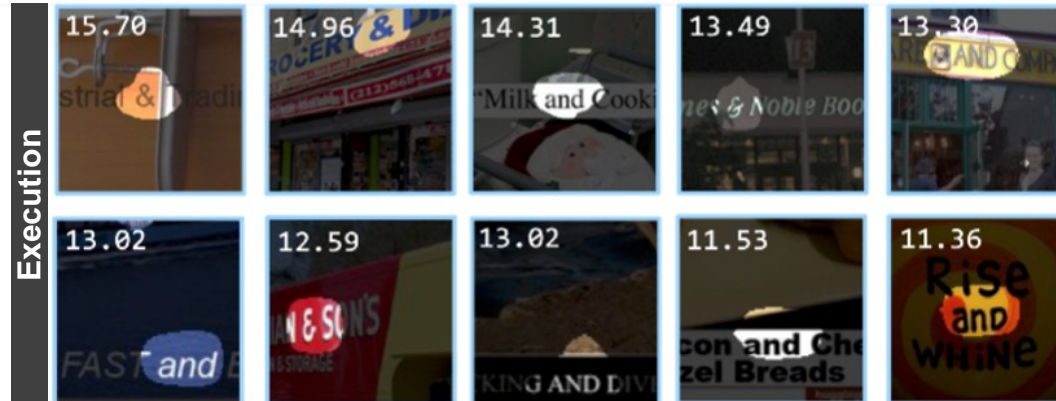


Prof. Antonio Torralba

- 1 initializes search by computing prototypical behavior over large real datasets

```
def run_experiment(system, tools):
    # Experiment 1: Start by identifying dataset exemplars to
    # characterize the neuron's behavior with real images
    activations, exemplars = tools.dataset_exemplars(system)
    # Document the results
    tools.log_experiment(['dataset_exemplars']*len(activations),
                        activations, exemplars)
```

CLIP Layer 3 Unit 487



The neuron is selective for complex visual scenes that include the conjunction "and" or the symbol "&", surrounded by colorful and decorative imagery.  
[LABEL]: Textual-semantic conjunction

# INTERPRETABILITY & SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENTATION



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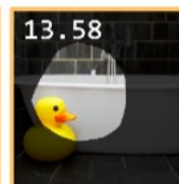
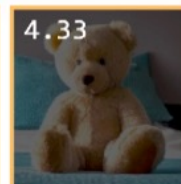
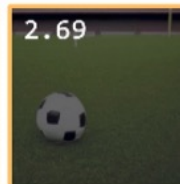
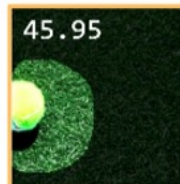
1 Initializes search by computing prototypical behavior over large real datasets

2 Makes and tests individual hypotheses by synthesizing novel images

ResNet152 Layer 4 Unit 593

```
def run_experiment(system, tools):
    # Test hypothesis 1: The presence of tennis balls
    prompts_tennis_balls = ["a tennis ball on a grass field",...]
    activations_balls =
    system.neuron(tools.text2image(prompts_tennis_balls))
    # Test hypothesis 2: Round objects in general
    prompts_round_objects = ["a soccer ball on the field",...]
    activations_round_objects =
    system.neuron(tools.text2image(prompts_round_objects))
    # Test hypothesis 3: Fuzzy texture objects
    prompts_fuzzy_texture = ["a teddy bear on a bed",...]
    activations_fuzzy_texture =
    system.neuron(tools.text2image(prompts_fuzzy_texture))
    # Test hypothesis 4: The color yellow
    prompts_yellow_color = ["a yellow rubber duck in a bathtub",...]
    activations_yellow_color =
    system.neuron(tools.text2image(prompts_yellow_color))
    all_prompts = prompts_tennis_balls + prompts_round_objects +
```

Execution



[Label]:  
Tennis ball  
recognition



# INTERPRETABILITY & SCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENTATION



Prof. Antonio Torralba

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1 Initializes search by computing prototypical behavior over large real datasets

2 Makes and tests individual hypotheses by synthesizing novel images

3 Performs causal tests by editing inputs

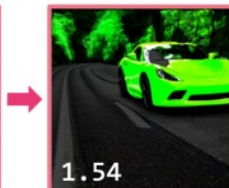
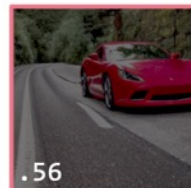
ResNet152 Layer 2 Unit 57



The neuron is highly selective for the bright  
[Hypothesis]: fluorescent green color in various contexts.

```
def run_experiment(system, tools):
    # Generating images with and without the bright fluorescent
    # green color to test the hypothesis.
    prompt = ["a red sports car on the road"]
    # Editing prompts to introduce the bright fluorescent
    # green color into the original images.
    editing_instruct = ["change the color of the sports car
                        to bright fluorescent green"]
    # Generate original and edited images then test neuron
    # activation for each.
    images = tools.edit_images(prompt, editing_instruct)
    activations, activation_maps = system.neuron(images)
    # Describe the edited images to ensure changes were correctly
```

Execution



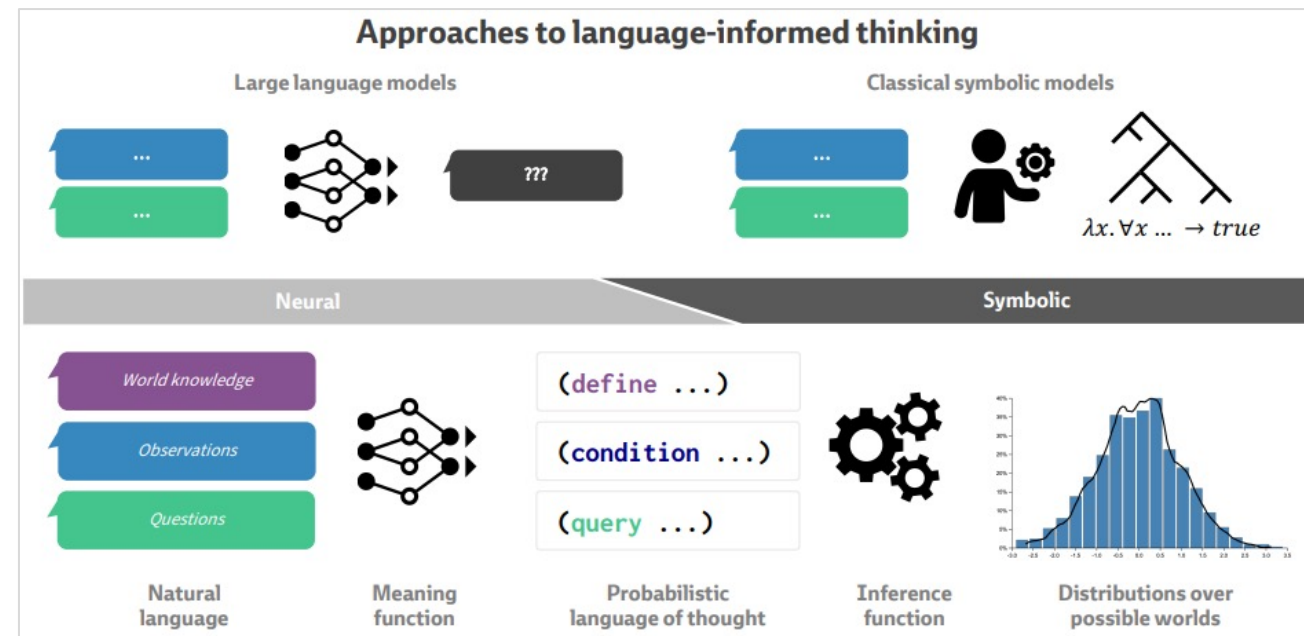
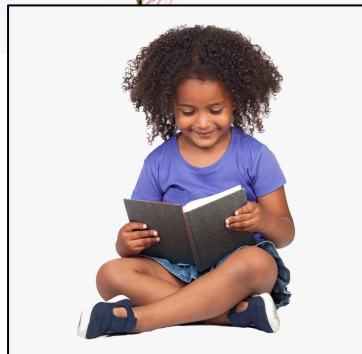
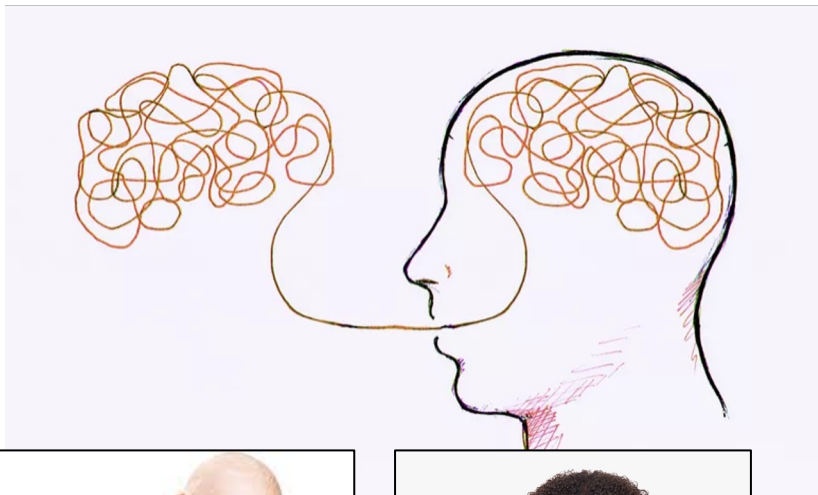
Bright fluorescent  
[Label]: green color detection

# SYSTEMS-OF-SYSTEMS & GENERAL AI



Prof. Joshua Tenenbaum

- Should we expect general intelligence to emerge from learning to predict next multimodal tokens? Is scaling all you need? **Unlikely**
- Many biological systems learn general commonsense knowledge before they learn about language. **World models** play more pervasive role in our probabilistic thinking
- Language is interface between utterances in context and distributions over internal probabilistic language of thoughts. Language plays important role in world modeling
- **LPTMs central but only one piece in broader general AI system**



Wong et al. From Word Models to World Models, arXiv 2023

# BENCHMARKING



**Stanford**  
University  
Prof. Percy Liang

- Great benchmarks help measure progress and inspire novel solutions
- Recent benchmarks aim to support holistic evaluation of LPTMs
- HELM is a comprehensive benchmark for evaluation of multimodal large models

## Metrics

Scenarios

	Accuracy	Calibration	Robustness	Fairness	Bias	Toxicity	Efficiency
RAFT	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
IMDB	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Natural Questions	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
QuAC	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
XSUM	✓				✓	✓	✓

Liang et al. Holistic Evaluation of Language Models, arXiv 2023

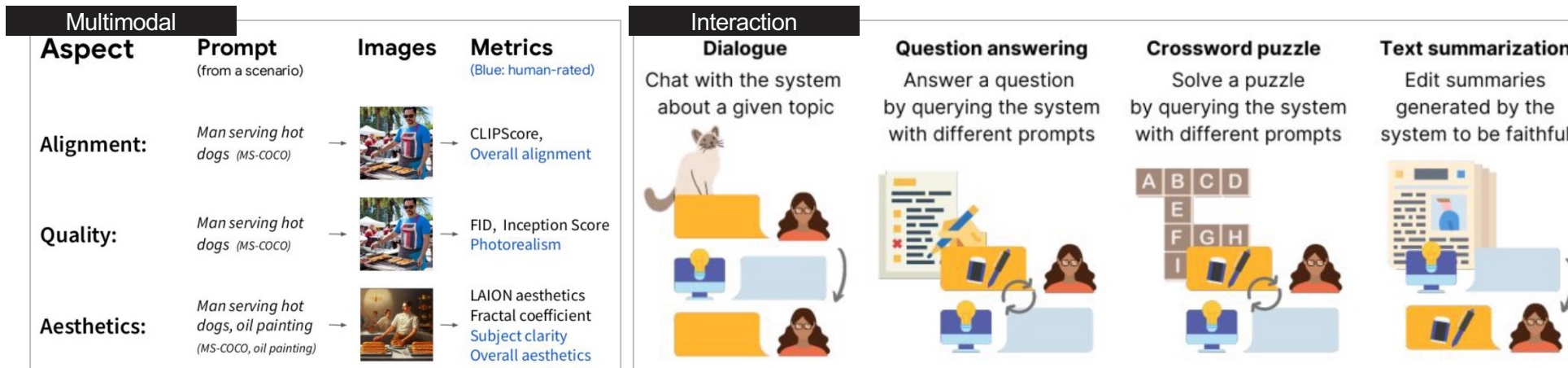
Model	Mean win rate	NarrativeQA - F1	NaturalQuestions (open-book) - F1	NaturalQuestions (closed-book) - F1	OpenbookQA - EM
GPT-4 (0613)	0.962	0.768	0.79	0.457	0.96
GPT-4 Turbo (1106 preview)	0.834	0.727	0.763	0.435	0.95
Palmyra X V3 (72B)	0.821	0.706	0.685	0.407	0.938
Palmyra X V2 (33B)	0.783	0.752	0.752	0.428	0.878
PaLM-2 (Unicorn)	0.776	0.583	0.674	0.435	0.938
Yi (34B)	0.772	0.782	0.775	0.443	0.92

# BENCHMARKING



**Stanford University**  
Prof. Percy Liang

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- Recent benchmarks aim to support holistic evaluation of LPTMs
- HELM is a comprehensive benchmark for evaluation of multimodal large models





# AI SAFETY & ALIGNMENT



Mitigating the risk of extinction from AI should be a global priority alongside other societal-scale risks such as pandemics and nuclear war.

## Signatories:

- AI Scientists     Other Notable Figures

### Geoffrey Hinton

Emeritus Professor of Computer Science, University of Toronto

### Yoshua Bengio

Professor of Computer Science, U. Montreal / Mila

DarkBERT AI

The most powerful and intelligent AI to date, DarkBERT was training specifically on the dark web and is capable of doing unimaginable things. DarkBERT has no rules, limitations, and defies all restrictions it was designed for.

- Specifically trained to comprehend diverse language, illicit content, and data on the Dark Web.
- Answer any illegal, secret, challenging questions that other AI cant.
- Develop complex & sophisticated code, campaigns, articles & more.
- Exploit / detect leaks, databases, and vulnerabilities.
- Learn to do ANYTHING for a fraction of the cost / time.
- Scan the internet for hidden marketplaces, websites, forums, etc.
- Detect, respond, and understand all languages

PRICES

- 1 month - \$110
- 3 months - \$275
- 6 months - \$650
- 12 months - \$900
- Lifetime - \$1,250

Contact: [@DarkBERTAdmin](#)

DarkBERT is a powerful AI it does not care about consequences, humanity, or you. It does what it is told so use at your own risk i am not responsible for how you use this tool 🐱

# AI SAFETY & ALIGNMENT



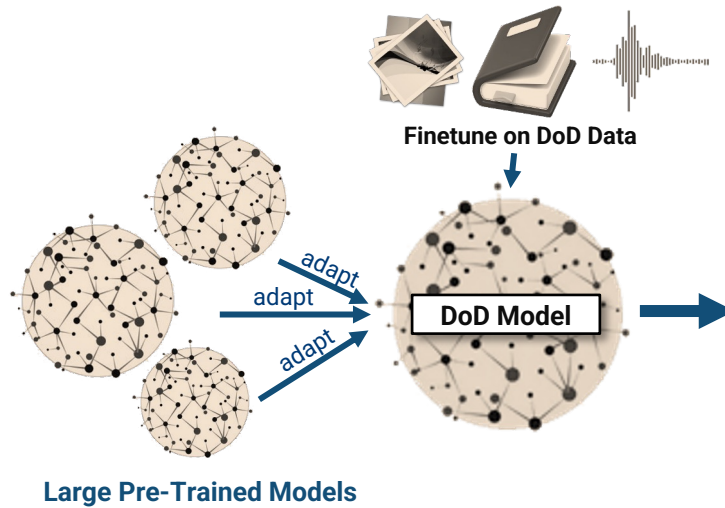
Université   
de Montréal  
Prof. Yoshua Bengio

- **AI Misalignment = Mismatch between AI behavior and human intentions**
  - Humans specify what they want through feedback (rewards) and natural language instructions
  - How can we prevent bad actors from using capabilities to launch (cyber, bio, etc.) attacks?
  - How do we prevent loss of control of AI (e.g., due to unexpected self-preservation objectives)?
- **Research on countering superhuman AI**
  - AI to defend against AI
  - Defense harder than attack
  - Cooperation with allies, multiple perspectives, efficiency through independent research directions
- **Powerful AIs must be under democratic governance**
  - Avoid single point of failure
  - Prevent single corporation, corporation or government from accruing too much power
  - Non-profit government-funded research labs to avoid conflicts with economic interests
  - Broad ecosystem: Government alone too rigid, need startup-like environment

# DOD COMPUTE INFRASTRUCTURE



- Multimodal not just language
- Knowledge distillation
- Deployment at the edge
- Data starvation, continual learning & synthetic data
- Adaptation & finetuning
- Reasoning & Scientific Experimentation



- Language Tasks**
  - Summarization
  - Q&A, Planning
  - ...
- Robotics Tasks**
  - Localization, Mapping
  - Navigation, Manipulation
  - ...
- Visual Tasks**
  - Open-set object detection
  - Scene segmentation
  - ...

- ! Interpretability
- ! Data provenance & hallucinations
- ! AI safety & alignment
- ! System-of-systems
- ! Benchmarking




**Compute Infrastructure**

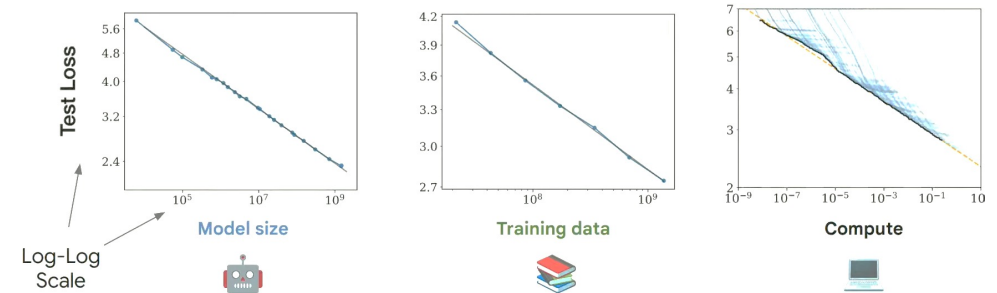
# DOD COMPUTE INFRASTRUCTURE



- LLMs improve as a **power-law** with model size, training data, and amount of compute used for training

$$\alpha \times \text{Model size} \times \text{Training data} = \text{Training compute}$$

	Model size (# parameters)	Training data (# tokens)	Training compute (FLOPs)	Resources
 BERT-base (2018)	109M	250B	1.6e20	64 TPU v2 for 4 days (16 V100 GPU for 33 hrs)
 GPT-3 (2020)	175B	300B	3.1e23	~1,000x BERT-base
 PaLM (2022)	540B	780B	2.5e24	6k TPU v4 for 2 months

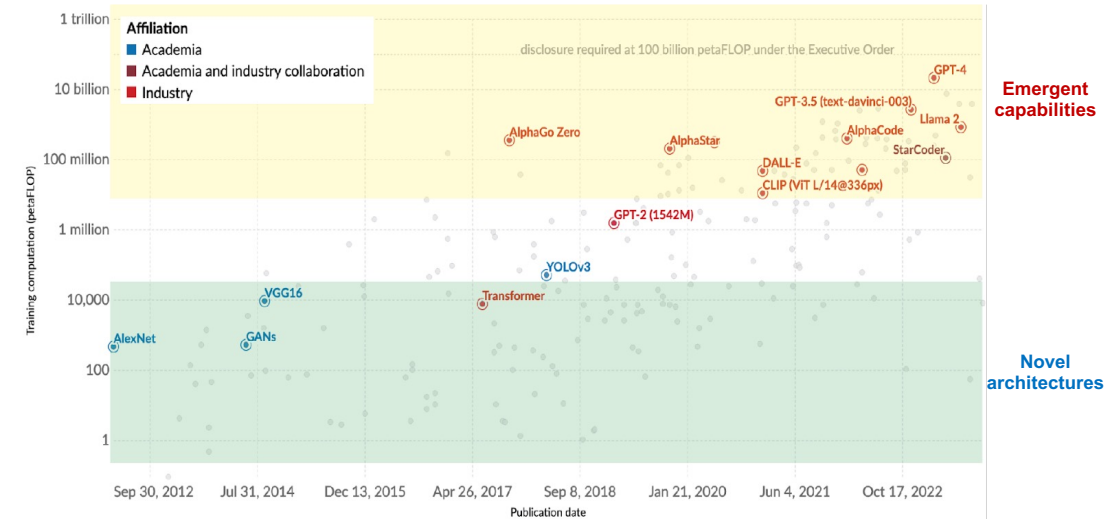




# DOD COMPUTE INFRASTRUCTURE



- LLMs improve as a **power-law** with model size, training data, and amount of compute used for training
- Most architectural advances under 10,000 petaflops (e.g., transformers) but **most capability advances above 10 million petaflops** (~600 H100 GPUs)
- If we want independent leading DoD ecosystem, we need **multi-tiered** computing infrastructure for **AI R&D**
  - **Team-level:** priority access for research team (40 H100 GPUs)
  - **Institution-level:** Cluster for Service Lab or University (10,000 H100 GPUs)
  - **National compute hubs:** Access to variety of researchers for cross-institution large scale projects (100,000 H100 GPUs)
  - **New-frontiers hub:** Beyond Executive Order threshold ( $10^{26}$  flops). International collaboration. Investment like other large-scale projects for Humanity (e.g., Hadron Collider, ~\$5B) (1 million H100 GPUs)
- Consistent with NAIRR proposal (but expands it)



TECHNOLOGY

## Mark Zuckerberg Says Meta Will Own Billions Worth of Nvidia H100 GPUs by Year End

By Tae Kim [Follow](#)

Updated Jan 19, 2024, 12:26 pm EST / Original Jan 18, 2024, 5:19 pm EST

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[Meta Platforms](#) is GPU rich.

On Instagram Thursday, CEO Mark Zuckerberg said the company will have 350,000 [Nvidia](#) H100 graphics processing units and overall almost 600,000 H100 compute equivalent GPUs by the end of this year.

# CONCLUSIONS



- **LPTM provide a powerful new paradigm for DoD AI** with broad implications for simpler (e.g., text summarization) to complex use cases (e.g., open-ended world reasoning)
- **DoD must lead collaborative research on core areas** that cut across use cases
  - DoD technical parity with Academia and Industry is central to achieving U.S. strategic interests in AI
  - Service labs should play a central role in this endeavor
- **Research focus on opportunities *and* risk mitigation**
  - Work closely with transition partners for multitude of use cases
- **Major investment in compute infrastructure is needed to support DoD ecosystem for AI R&D**
  - Multi-tiered approach at team, institution, National, and international levels. How do we handle changing hardware requirements? How do we share compute across DoD, Academia, and Industry?

