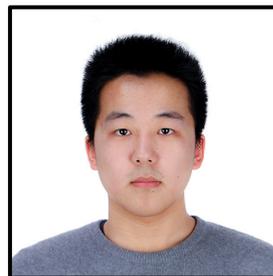


# Unsupervised Cross-Task Generalization via Retrieval Augmentation



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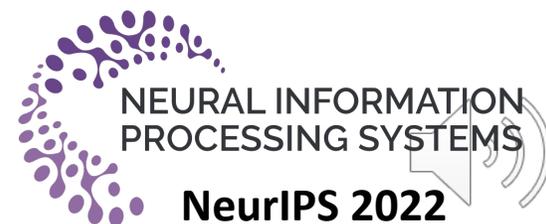


**USC**



**清华大学**

Tsinghua University

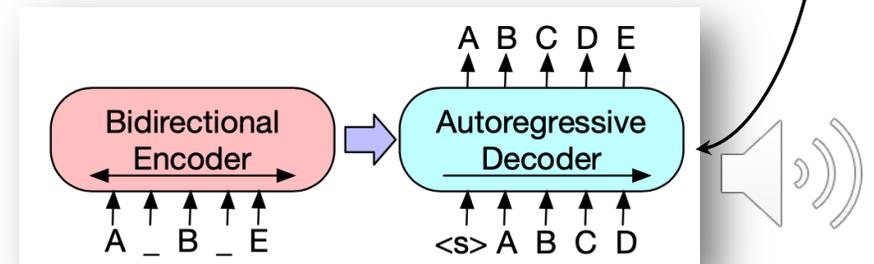
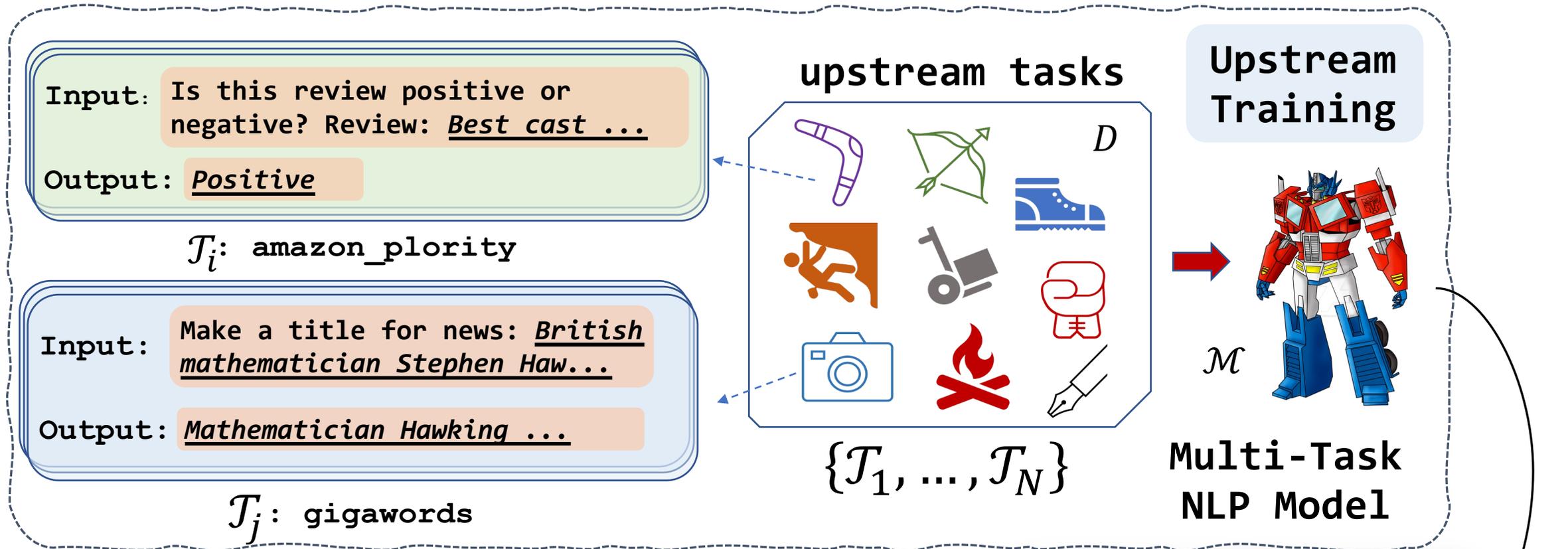


NEURAL INFORMATION  
PROCESSING SYSTEMS

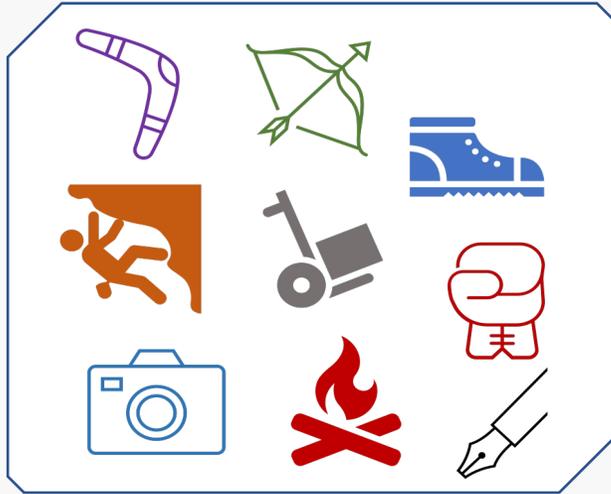
NeurIPS 2022

<https://inklab.usc.edu/ReCross/>

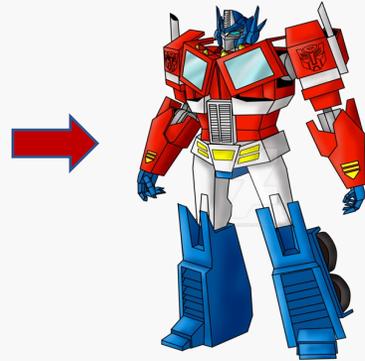
# Massively Multi-Task NLP Models



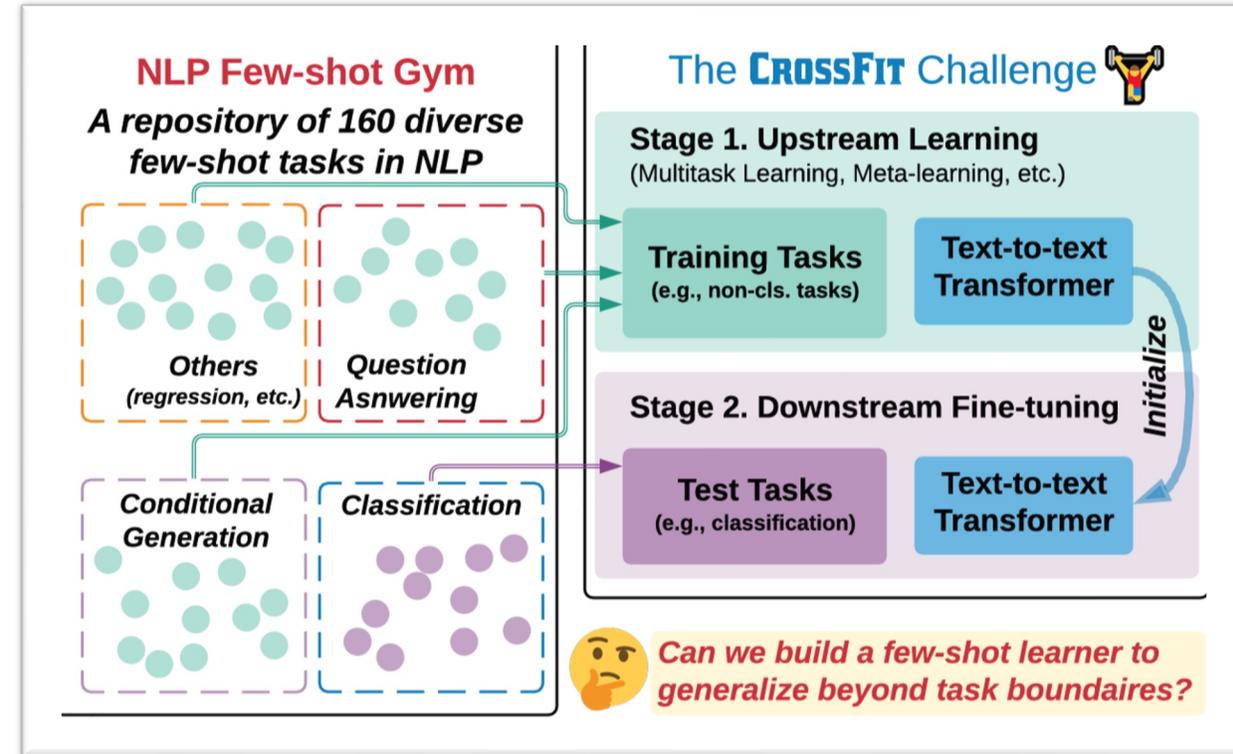
## upstream tasks



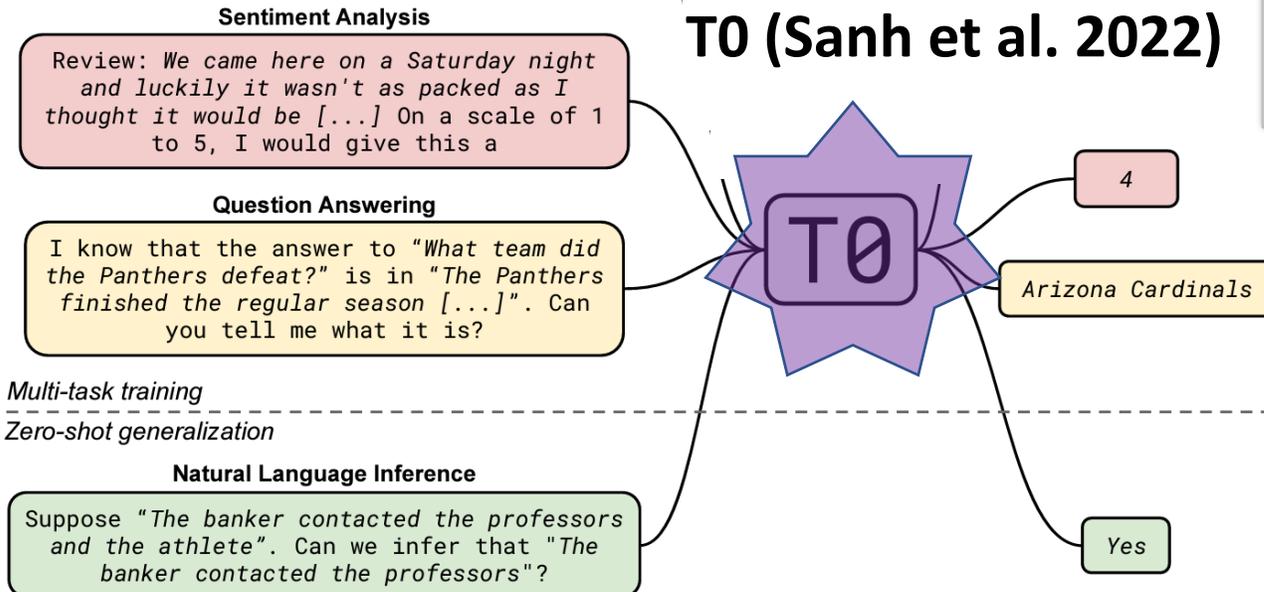
## Multi-Task NLP Model



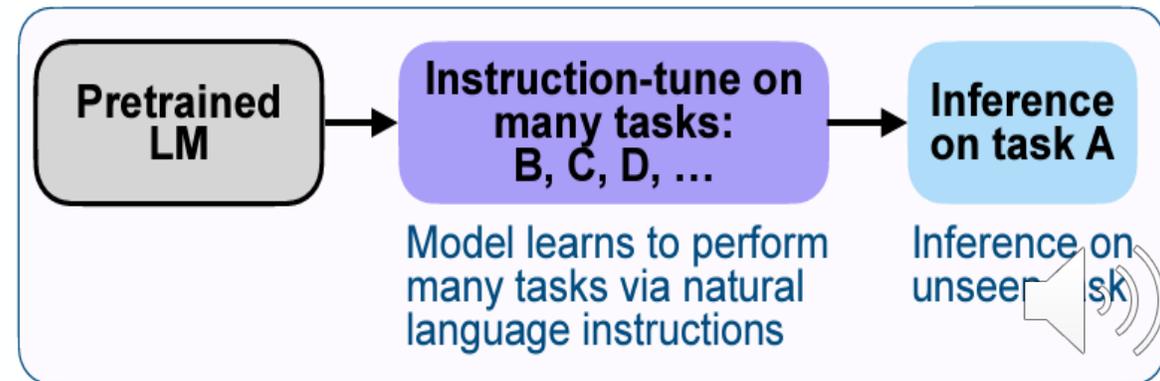
## CrossFit (Ye et al. 2021)



## T0 (Sanh et al. 2022)



## FLAN (Wei et al. 2022)



# Unsupervised Cross-Task Generalization

upstream tasks



Multi-Task  
NLP Model



I want to ski!



$Q_i$

Input: Fred is ... He .... In the sentence, does the pronoun "he" refer to Fred? Yes, no?

Input: Does "her" refer to Alice or Mary in this sentence: Alice ... Mary... and her ...

$U_i$ : an unseen task w/ a few unlabeled data

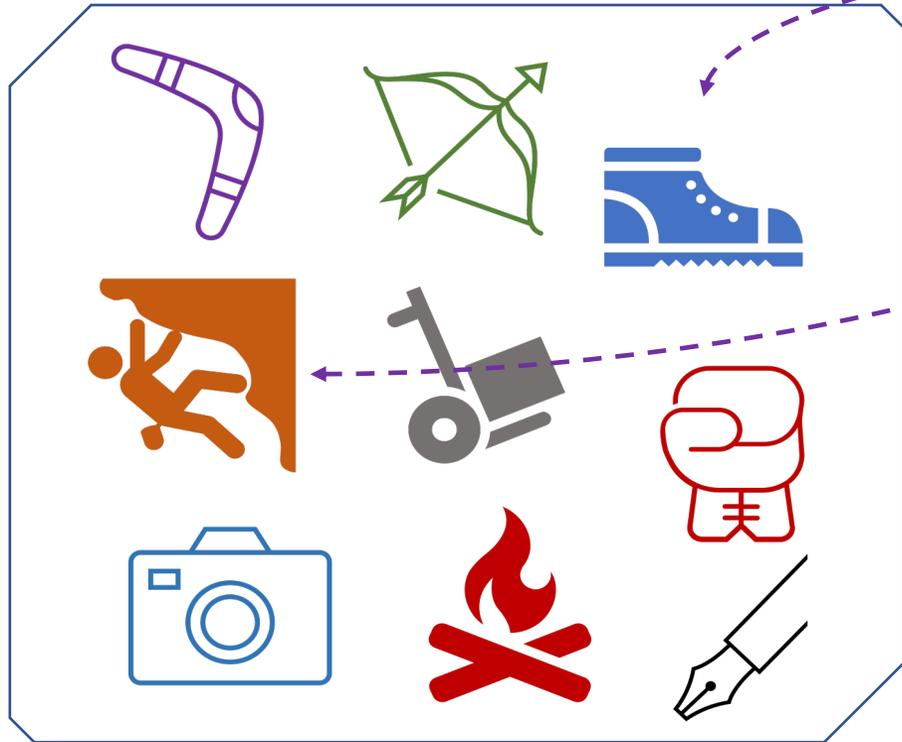


Unsupervised  
Cross-Task Generalization



# Retrieval Augmentation

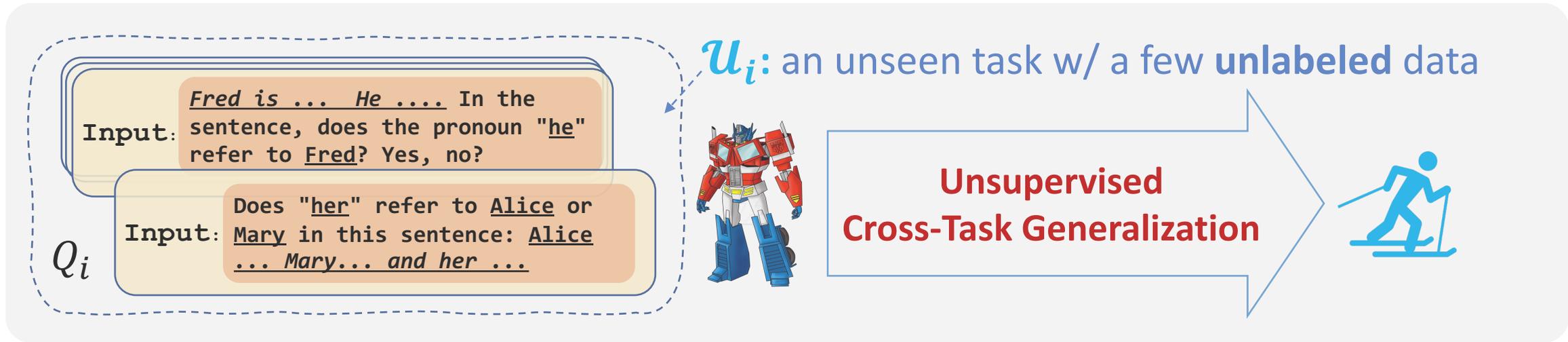
upstream tasks



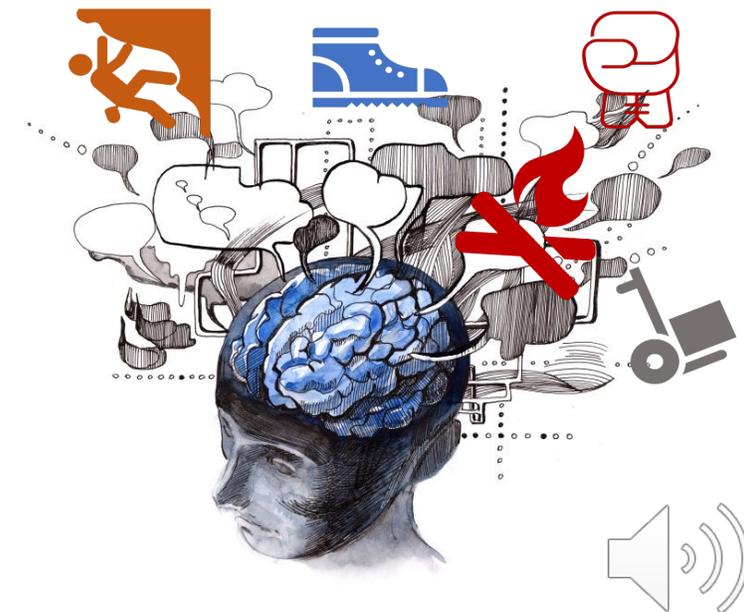
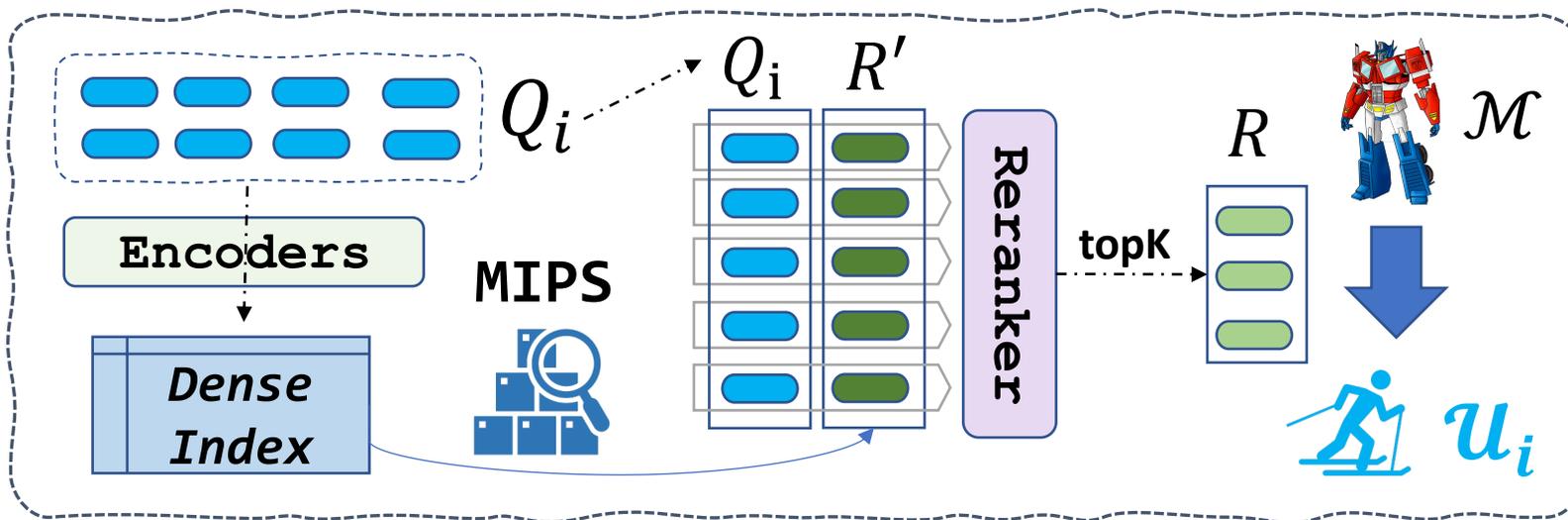
$\mathcal{U}_i$ : an unseen task w/  
a few unlabeled data

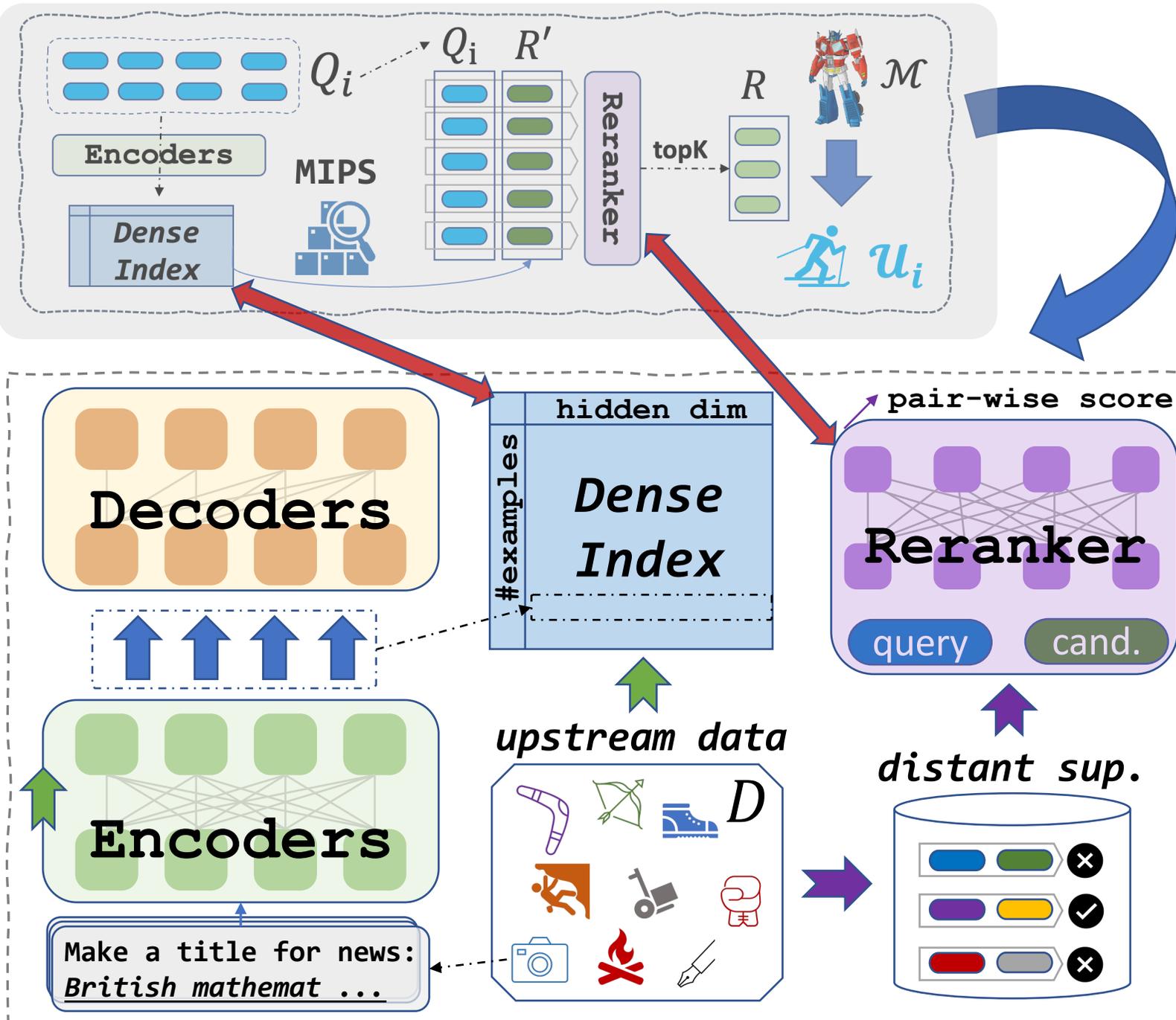
Retrieve some additional data  
for “**re-learning**” relevant skills.





# The ReCross Framework





### Algorithm 1: Distant Supervision Creation

**Input:**  $\mathcal{M}; D; \mathcal{T}_q$

**Output:**  $Z = (Z_q, Z_p, Z_n)$

$D_{\mathcal{T}_q} \leftarrow \{x \in D \mid x \text{ is an example of } \mathcal{T}_q\}$

$Z_q \leftarrow \text{Sample}(D_{\mathcal{T}_q}); H_q \leftarrow \text{Sample}(D_{\mathcal{T}_q})$

$R_Z \leftarrow \text{DenseRetrieve}(Z_q, D)$

*/\* Delete retrieved examples from the same task as queries. \*/*

$R_Z \leftarrow R_Z.\text{discard}(D_{\mathcal{T}_q})$

**foreach** round **do**

$R_Z.\text{shuffle}()$

*/\* Split retrieved examples into  $n$  groups \*/*

$\{G_1, \dots, G_n\} \leftarrow R_Z.\text{split}()$

**foreach**  $G_i$  in  $\{G_1, \dots, G_n\}$  **do**

$\mathcal{M}' \leftarrow \mathcal{M}.\text{copy}()$

$\mathcal{M}'.\text{fine\_tune}(G_i)$

$\ell \leftarrow \mathcal{M}'.\text{calc\_loss}(H_q)$

**foreach**  $x \in G_i$  **do**

$\text{scores}[x].\text{append}(\ell)$  */\* Score each example in the group w/ the loss. \*/*

*/\* Use mean group score as score for single examples \*/*

**foreach**  $x \in R_Z$  **do**

$\text{score}[x] \leftarrow \text{mean}(\text{scores}[x])$

*/\* Sort  $R_Z$  by score in increasing order. \*/*

$R_Z.\text{sort}(\text{key: score, order: increasing})$

$Z_p \leftarrow \text{First } W \text{ items of } R_Z$

$Z_n \leftarrow \text{Last } W \text{ items of } R_Z$



# Evaluation

1/8 size

| Target Task | T0-3B | <b>BART0</b> | Random           | SBERT            | ReCross <sup>†</sup> | <b>ReCross</b>   | $\Delta$ |
|-------------|-------|--------------|------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------|----------|
| anli_r3     | 26.00 | 30.50        | 35.34 $\pm$ 1.52 | 32.64 $\pm$ 2.53 | 36.70 $\pm$ 0.53     | 35.76 $\pm$ 0.90 | 5.26     |
| h-swag      | 34.40 | 39.40        | 33.84 $\pm$ 5.59 | 30.92 $\pm$ 7.82 | 44.36 $\pm$ 3.07     | 47.28 $\pm$ 2.95 | 7.88     |
| cb          | 53.93 | 39.64        | 47.07 $\pm$ 1.25 | 48.00 $\pm$ 3.28 | 44.50 $\pm$ 4.20     | 44.79 $\pm$ 3.36 | 5.15     |
| wic         | 45.70 | 46.70        | 41.04 $\pm$ 2.18 | 46.78 $\pm$ 2.22 | 49.90 $\pm$ 0.50     | 50.58 $\pm$ 0.24 | 3.88     |
| wsc         | 50.00 | 57.88        | 52.50 $\pm$ 2.29 | 52.69 $\pm$ 6.13 | 59.27 $\pm$ 1.96     | 61.46 $\pm$ 1.47 | 3.58     |
| winogrande  | 47.60 | 51.10        | 52.68 $\pm$ 0.83 | 52.18 $\pm$ 3.20 | 54.60 $\pm$ 1.35     | 55.46 $\pm$ 0.88 | 4.36     |
| arc-chan.   | 41.30 | 35.70        | 33.28 $\pm$ 1.50 | 37.90 $\pm$ 1.22 | 37.78 $\pm$ 0.73     | 38.44 $\pm$ 0.99 | 2.74     |
| obqa        | 38.50 | 34.40        | 28.72 $\pm$ 2.46 | 33.28 $\pm$ 1.24 | 36.98 $\pm$ 1.55     | 39.58 $\pm$ 2.80 | 5.18     |
| piqa        | 45.30 | 36.10        | 37.00 $\pm$ 2.71 | 38.54 $\pm$ 2.17 | 41.34 $\pm$ 1.75     | 41.42 $\pm$ 1.02 | 5.32     |
| squadv2     | 30.60 | 32.40        | 29.86 $\pm$ 5.46 | 29.46 $\pm$ 0.84 | 30.26 $\pm$ 1.54     | 30.58 $\pm$ 1.61 | -1.82    |
| All@mean    | 41.33 | 40.38        | 39.13 $\pm$ 2.06 | 40.24 $\pm$ 1.61 | 43.57 $\pm$ 0.68     | 44.53 $\pm$ 0.42 | 4.15     |
| @median     | 41.33 | 40.38        | 39.93            | 40.91            | 43.43                | 44.31            | 3.93     |
| @min        | 41.33 | 40.38        | 35.66            | 38.28            | 42.65                | 44.16            | 3.77     |
| @max        | 41.33 | 40.38        | 40.59            | 41.76            | 44.51                | 45.07            | 4.69     |

5 different query sets: Q



# Conclusion

- **ReCross**: a retrieval augmentation method for unsupervised cross-task generalization.
  - Two ranking stages: simple & intuitive
  - Significant improvement.
- **Future directions**
  - More rigorous task/example representation for indexing.
  - Parameter-efficient tuning for faster adaptation.
  - Methods to use unlabeled data for guiding re-learning.
- <https://inklab.usc.edu/ReCross/>

