

Learning phonotactics from linguistic informants

Interactions between Formal and Computational Linguistics (IFLG) Seminar

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Acknowledgments

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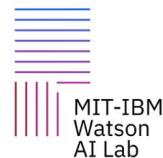


Roger Levy
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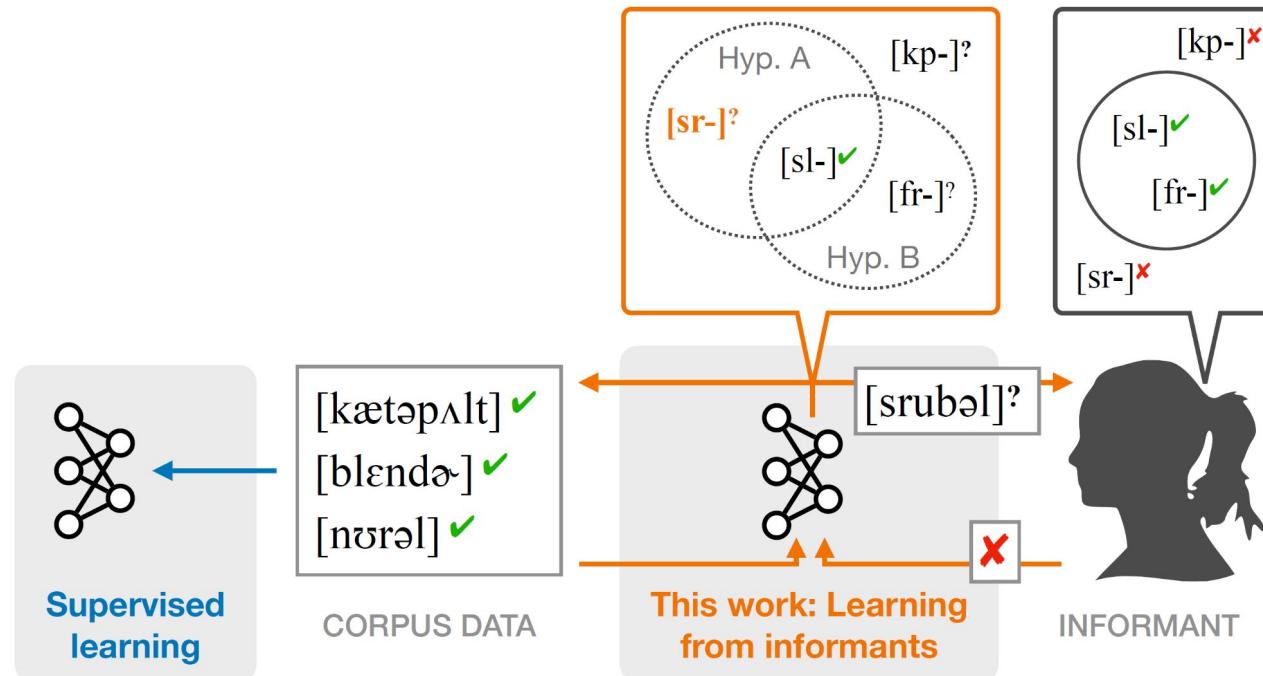


Jacob Andreas
(MIT)

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Problem setting



Phonotactics: constraints on sound sequences

Existing English words

back

nick

black

...

Possible English words

blick? --> 



bnick? --> 

...

Cf. Chomsky & Halle (1968), Bailey & Hahn (2001), Hayes & Wilson (2008), ...

Iterative querying procedure

Algorithm 1: Iterative Query Procedure

Input: policy π , total timesteps T

$(\underline{x}, \underline{y}) \leftarrow []$; $t \leftarrow 0$;

while $t < T$ **do**

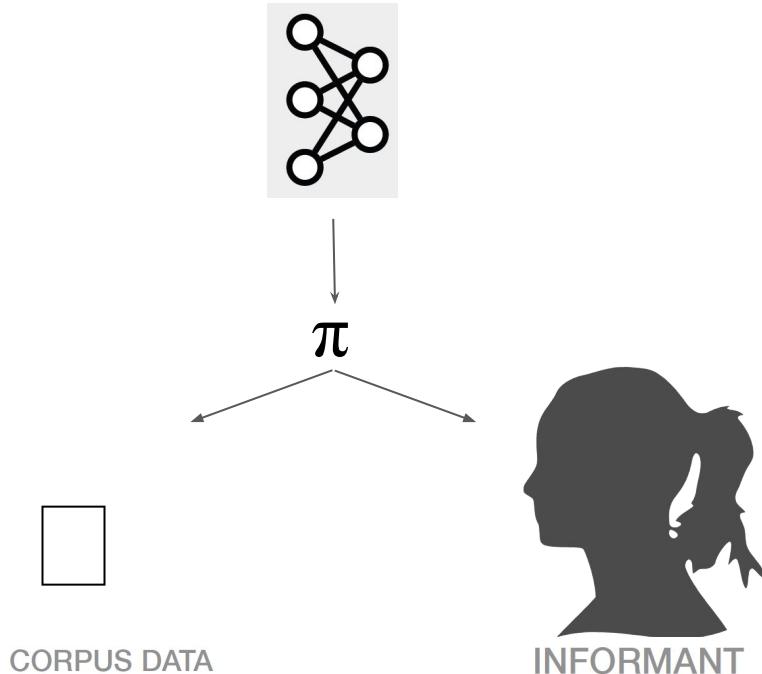
$x_t \leftarrow \pi(x \mid \underline{x}, \underline{y})$;

$y_t \leftarrow \text{informant}(x_t)$;

append (x_t, y_t) to $(\underline{x}, \underline{y})$;

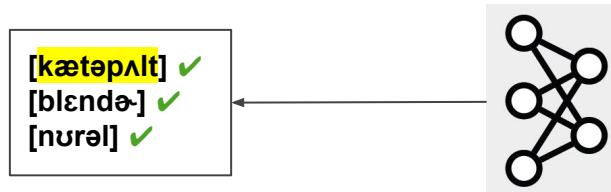
$t \leftarrow t + 1$;

end



Policies: Basic

Train

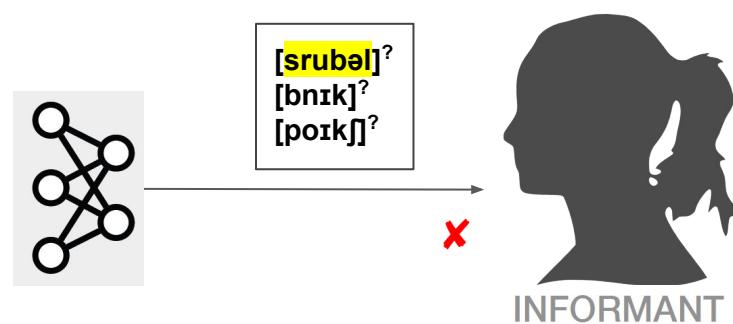


Policies: Basic

Train

Uniform

[kætəpʌlt] ✓
[blɛndə-] ✓
[nʊrəl] ✓

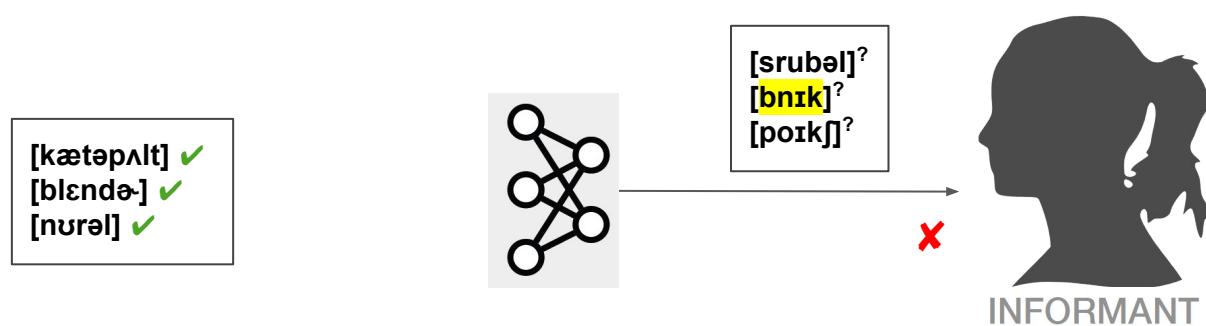


Policies: Basic

Train

Uniform, Label Entropy

$$x^* = \arg \max_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \mathcal{H}(y \mid x, \underline{x}, y).$$



Policies: Basic

Train

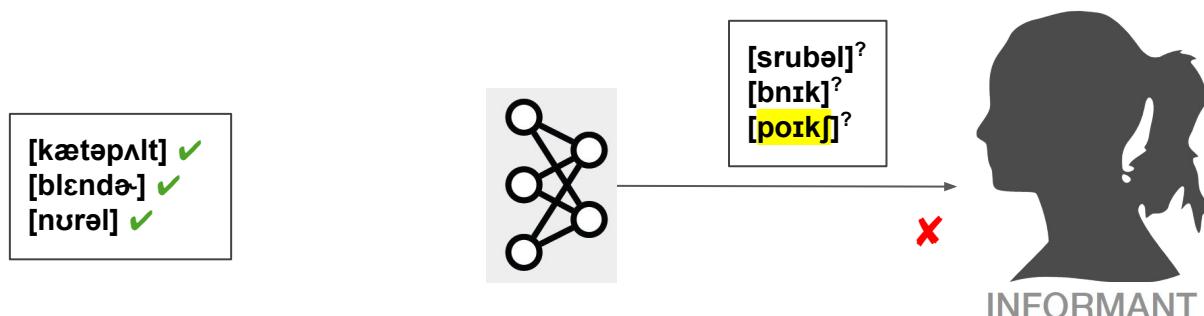
Uniform, Label Entropy, **Expected Info Gain**

$$V_{IG}(x, y; \underline{x}, \underline{y})$$

$$= H(\theta | \underline{x}, \underline{y}) - H(\theta | x, y, \underline{x}, \underline{y}).$$

$$x^* = \arg \max_{x \in \mathcal{X}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & V_{IG}(x, y = 1; \underline{x}, \underline{y}) \cdot p(y = 1 | x, \underline{x}, \underline{y}) \\ & + V_{IG}(x, y = 0; \underline{x}, \underline{y}) \cdot p(y = 0 | x, \underline{x}, \underline{y}), \end{aligned}$$



Policies: Hybrid

Train

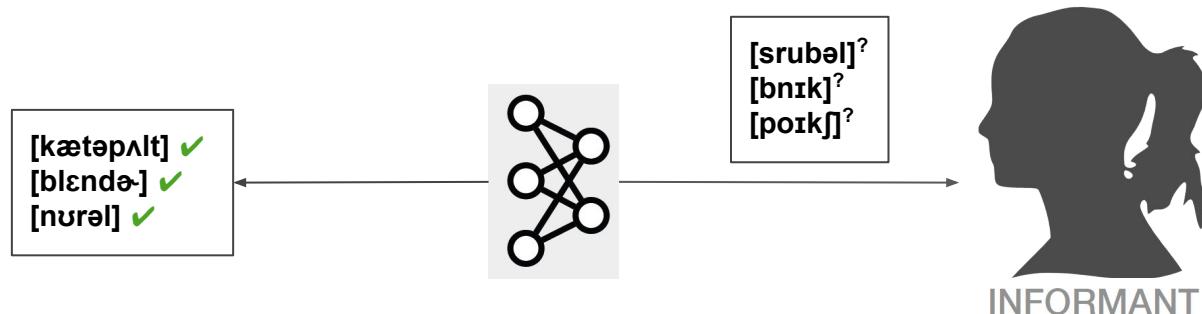
Uniform, Label Entropy, **Expected Info Gain**

Choosing Basic Policies:

History: empirical information gains

Model: expected information gains

Hybrid: history (train) *and* model (EIG)



Data: Vowel harmony

	[high]	[low]	[ATR]
i	+	-	+
I	+	-	-
e	-	-	+
ɛ	-	-	-
a	-	+	0

Individual vowels:

/i/ --> [+high, -low, +ATR]

Classes of vowels:

[+high] --> /i, I/

[+ATR] --> /i, e/

[+low] --> /a/

...

ATR = Advanced Tongue Root

ATR Harmony and Procedurally-Generated Languages

$*V_{[\alpha\text{ATR}]} C_0 V_{[-\alpha\text{ATR}]} = \text{no adjacent ATR-mismatches}$

[te*kii*p*e*] --> [te*k*l**], [k*i*p*e*] -->

[ka*t*i*p*i**], [*p*e*k*i*ka*] -->

[*p*l*p*a*k*e**], [*p*e*k*a*t*i**] -->

Train $\sim \Sigma^*(*V_{[\alpha\text{ATR}]} C_0 V_{[-\alpha\text{ATR}]})$

Test $\sim \Sigma^*(*V_{[\alpha\text{ATR}]} C_0 V_{[-\alpha\text{ATR}]})$



ATR Harmony uses 16 parameters

Language_{*i*} ~ prior(hyperparameters)

Train_{*i*} ~ Σ*(Language_{*i*})

Test_{*i*} ~ Σ*(Language_{*i*})



- 16 parameters sampled per language
- Distribution of word lengths matched

Coping with hyperparameters: three analyses

In-domain

Procedurally-generated languages

Hyperparameters (w/
cross-validation)

Results for
Procedurally-generated
languages

Out-of-domain

Procedurally-generated languages

Hyperparameters
(greedy)

Results for
ATR-Harmony language

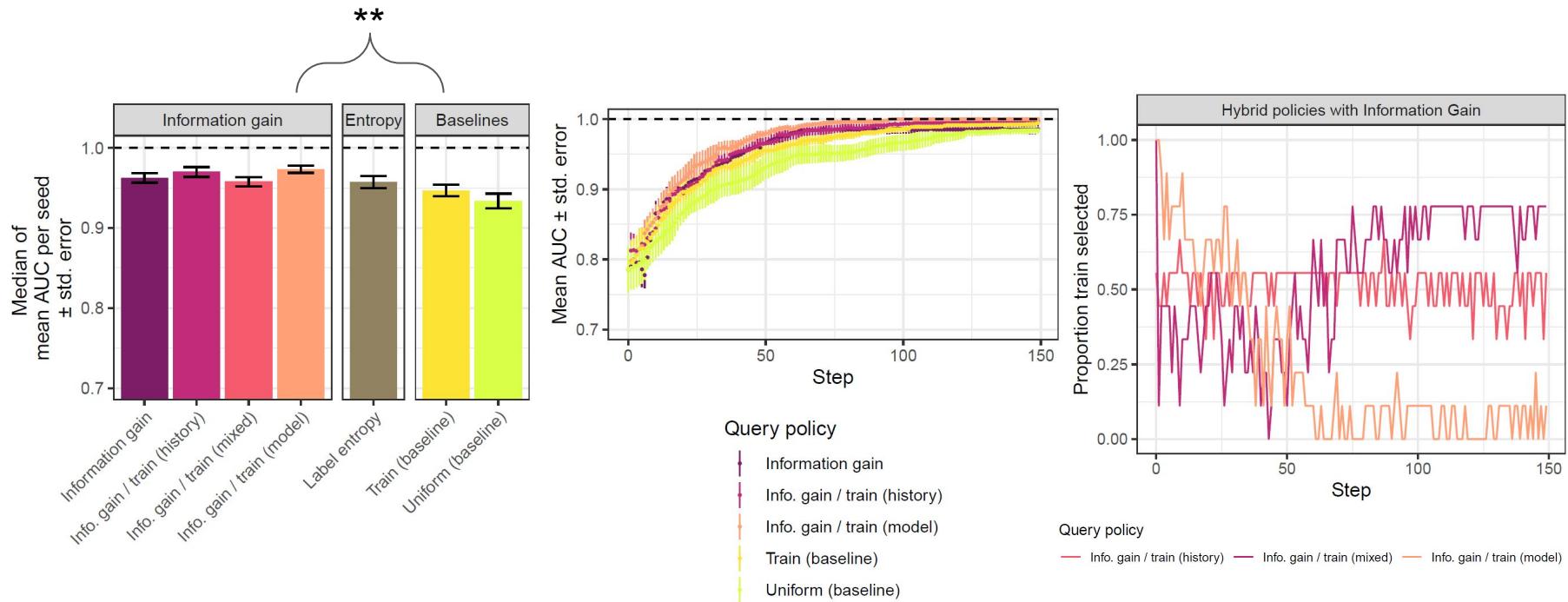
Upper-bound

ATR-Harmony language

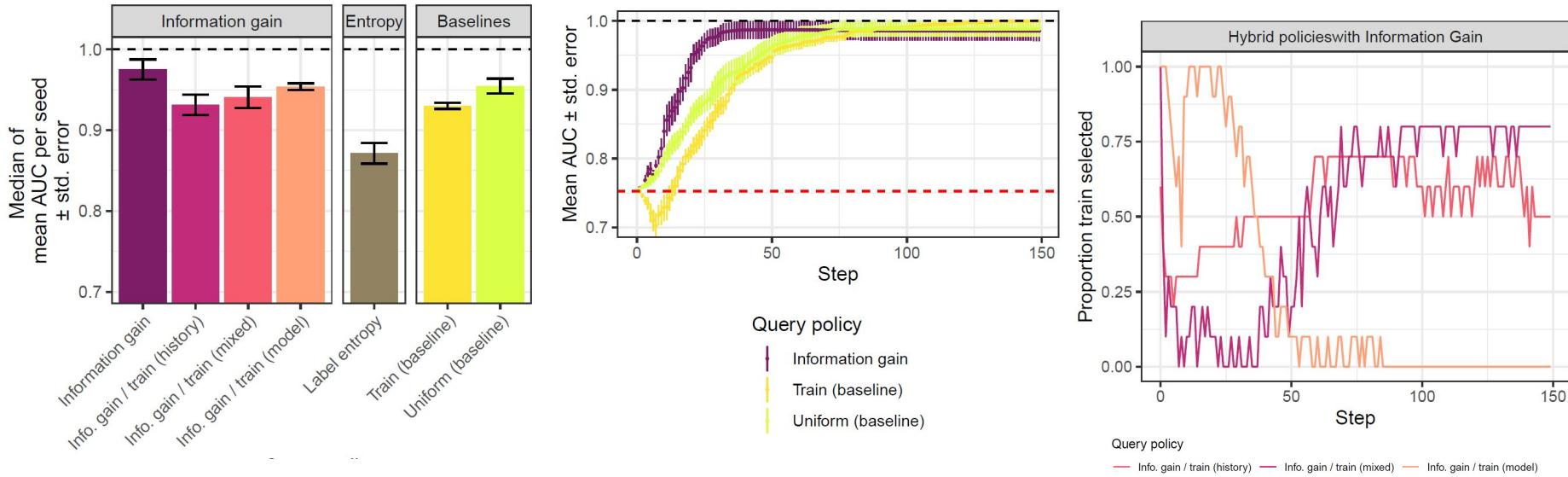
Hyperparameters
(greedy)

Results for
ATR-Harmony language

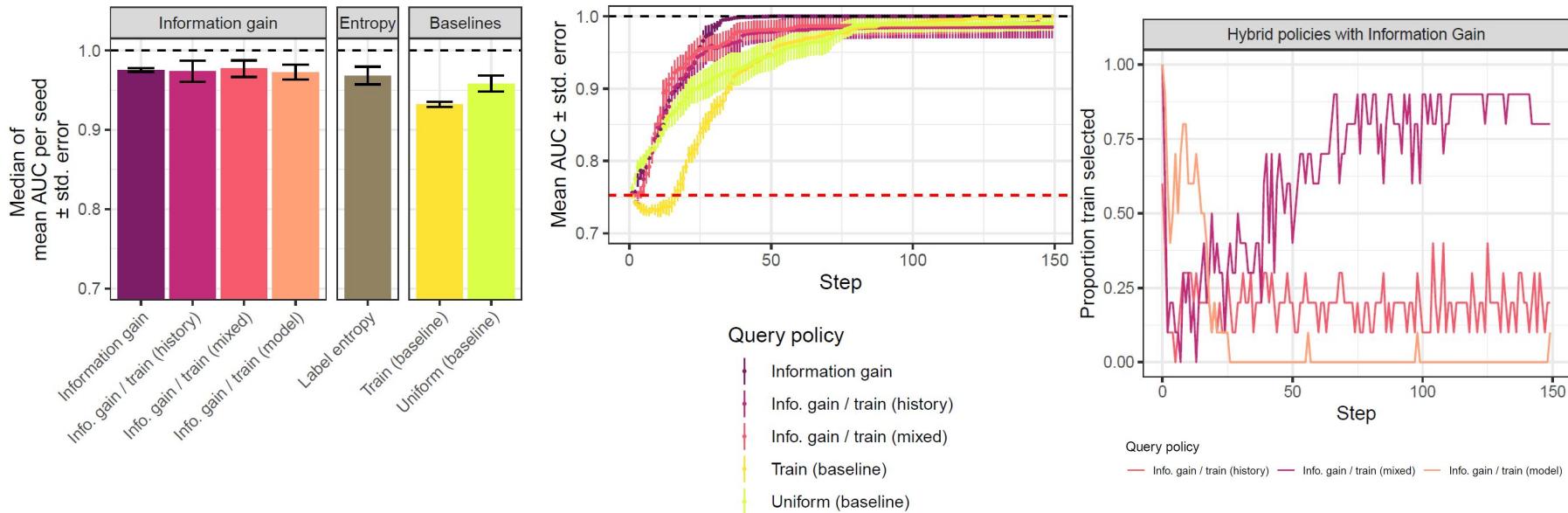
In-domain Analysis



Out-of-domain Analysis



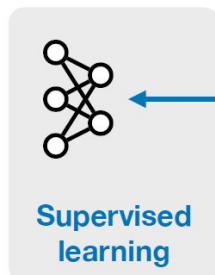
Upper-bound Analysis



Summary

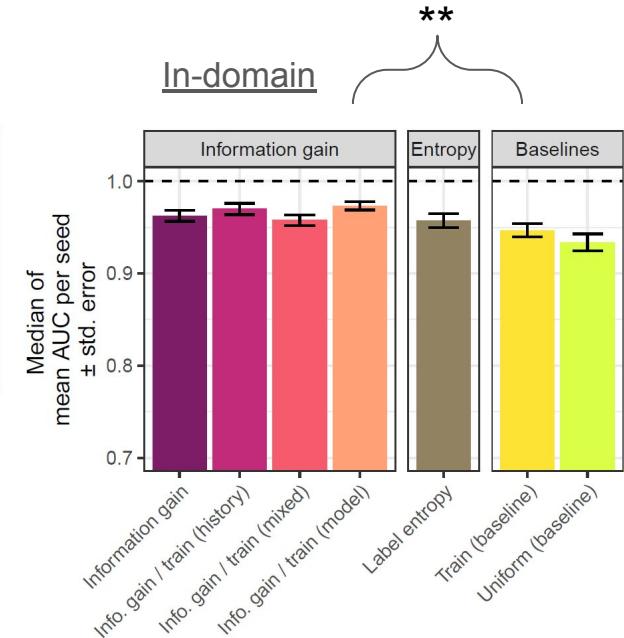
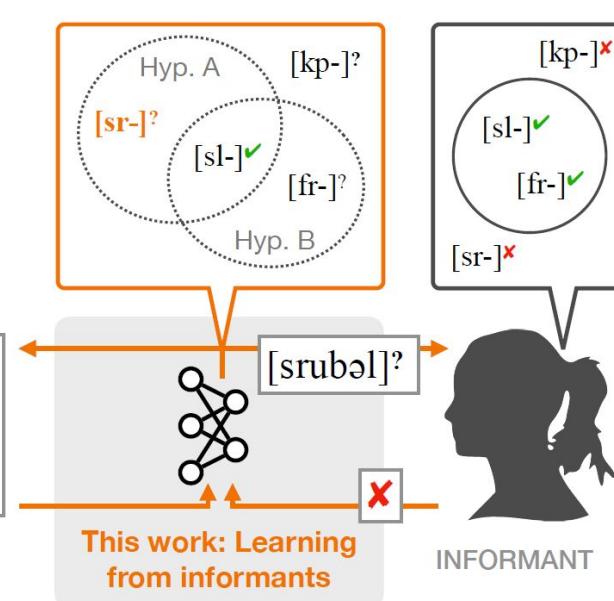
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Paper:



CORPUS DATA

[kætəpʌlt] ✓
[blendə] ✓
[nʊrəl] ✓



Questions?

Hybrid Policies

History

$$S^{\text{EMP}}(\pi; \underline{x}, y) = \frac{\sum_{i \in I_\pi} V(x_i, y_i; \underline{x}_{<i})}{|I_\pi|},$$

where $I_\pi = \{i \mid x_i \text{ was selected by } \pi, i < t\}$.

$$\pi^* = \arg \max_{\pi \in [\hat{\pi}, \pi_{\text{train}}]} S^{\text{EMP}}(\pi; \underline{x}, y).$$

Model

$$S^{\text{EXP}(y)}(\hat{\pi}; \underline{x}, y) = \mathbb{E}_{y \in [0,1]} V(x^*, y; \underline{x}, y), x^* \sim \hat{\pi}.$$

$$S^{\text{EXP}(x)}(\pi_{\text{train}}; \underline{x}, y) = \mathbb{E}_{x \in L} V(x, y=1; \underline{x}, y).$$

$$\pi^* = \arg \max_{\pi \in [\hat{\pi}, \pi_{\text{train}}]} S(\pi; \underline{x}, y).$$

Hybrid

$$S(\hat{\pi}; \underline{x}, y) = S^{\text{EXP}(y)}(\hat{\pi}; \underline{x}, y),$$

$$S(\pi_{\text{train}}; \underline{x}, y) = S^{\text{EMP}}(\pi_{\text{train}}; \underline{x}, y),$$

$$\pi^* = \arg \max_{\pi \in [\hat{\pi}, \pi_{\text{train}}]} S(\pi; \underline{x}, y).$$