

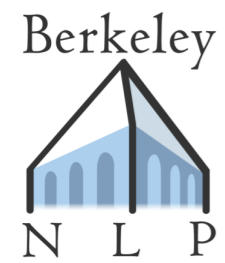
Natural Language Processing



Historical Document Transcription

Dan Klein — UC Berkeley

Joint work with Taylor Berg-Kirkpatrick and Greg Durrett [ACL 2013]



Historical Document

Historical Document

Old Bailey Court Proceedings 1775

the prisoner at the bar. Jacob Lazarus and his wife, the prisoner, were both together when I received them. I sold eleven pair of them for three guineas, and delivered the remainder back to the prisoner. I sold seven pair of silk to Mark Simper: one pair of mixed, and two pair of thread to the footman, and one pair of thread to the barber.

Q. What is the footman's name?

Francis Moses. I don't know.

Henry Harris. I was standing at the Compter waiting for the sheriff's officers to employ me: Moses's daughter came for me to go and take the prisoner. I went to the Old Bailey



Document Image

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Transcription

Document Image

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Transcription (Google Tesseract)

and Ch': priftmer anhc bar. Jacob Lazarus and his IHP1 uh: prifoner. were both together when! rcccived lhczn. I fold eieven pair of than for xiirce guincas, and dclivcrd the rcll'l:.in- d:r hack lo :11: prifuner. I fold ftvcn pairof filk to Mark Simpcr : nncpuir of mixcd. and. mo pair of Ifircad to lhz: foolnun, and on: pair of zhrzad to lh: barber. '

Q: What is the foolmarfs name?

Fraum Mgfzr. I dun': know.

Hairy Hzrvir. I was flandingar the Camp Icr waizin far the thcrrilfs ufliceruo employ in: : Mo 3': daughter came for me to 0 am! take the prifoncr. I Wm! to |hc Old aailcy



Pipelined Approach

modern



Pipelined Approach

modern





Pipelined Approach

modern

A horizontal dashed red line is positioned below the word "modern".



Pipelined Approach

modern

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Historical Document

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Unknown Fonts

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Wandering Baseline

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the Death of the Deceased,



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Uneven Inking

rule along in ~~silence~~



Uneven Inking

rule along in sidepool

Uneven Inking





Various Historical Documents

1725

He before the Prisoner came drunk to his Stand, (at Mr. Bird's Door in Castle-Court) and without any Provocation began to be very quarrelsome, swearing, calling him ill Names, and striking him two or three times; Henmut desired him to get out of his Beat, or he'd make him forfeit Sixpence. (Such a Forfeit being customary among the Watchmen, if one comes into the other's Beat.) Mr. Bird then came to the Door, and threaten'd the Prisoner that he would charge a Constable with him, and send him to Bridewell; upon which the Prisoner was very free of his ill Language to Mr. Bird,

1823

in the Police Office at Sydney, on the 7th of November, 1821. Mr. Norton, the plaintiff's solicitor, laid the case before the Judge in nearly the following words.— He stated that his client, in this case, was Mr. James the owner of the schooner Little Mary, a resident at Port Dalrymple, and that the defendant was Mr. Peter Dillon, commander and owner of the late East India ship Fatislam, with which vessel he sailed from Bengal bound to these Colonies, with a valuable cargo, but

1875

to be conscious at the time—he was caught up and thrown out between them—he could not resist—that was the last I saw—I then went down stairs, and saw him lying on the stones below the window, and his mother came up directly after—I saw a soldier catch hold of William Bagley—all the men went down stairs directly they had thrown him out of the window—there is a court-way leading from the lodging house into the street—I cannot say what way they went, they walked away quickly—I did not see Mr. or Mrs. Rows or Joseph do anything to promote this attack.

Cross-examined. There were six or seven men by the window at the time he was thrown out—I was standing by the fire-place—I saw him actually thrown out by the four—I could not see whether he went out head first or

1883:

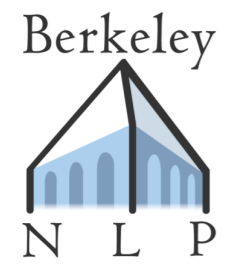
I have been told. In this case I suspect our voices startled them. We will wrap it carefully as it is."

"What for?" said Boolger.

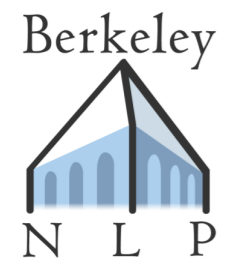
"The murderers might be iden

"Hardly. One tomahawk is just

"Yes, but there are marks on it which, though meaningless to us, are



Our Approach



Our Approach

positive



Our Approach

positive

the Death of the Deceased,

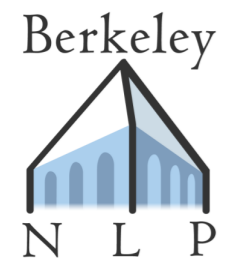


Our Approach

positive

the Death of the Deceased,

role along in **silence**



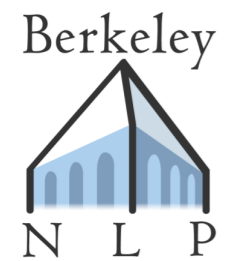
Generative Model

Berkeley



Generative Model

p



Generative Model

p r



Generative Model

p r i s o n e r



Generative Model

Language
Model

p r i s o n e r



Generative Model

p r i s o n e r

Typesetting
Model





Generative Model

p r i s o n e r

Typesetting
Model





Generative Model

p r i s o n e r

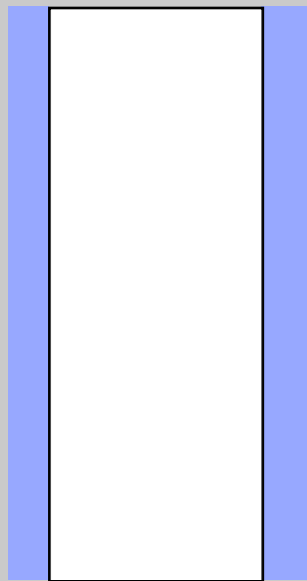
Typesetting
Model





Generative Model

p r i s o n e r



Typesetting
Model



Generative Model

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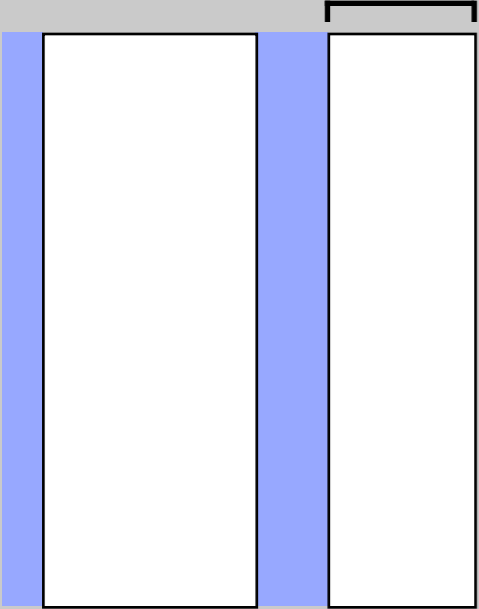
Typesetting
Model





Generative Model

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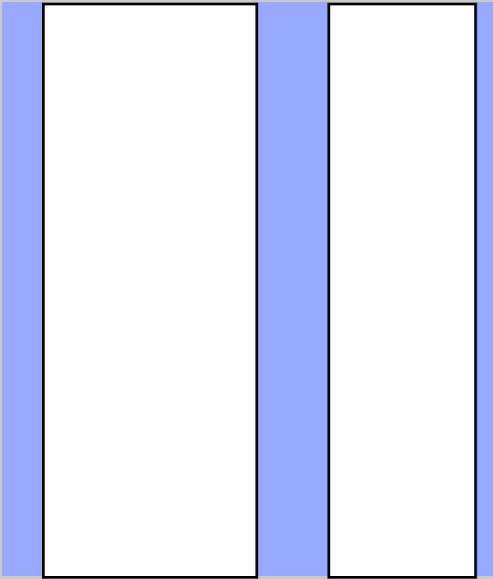


Typesetting
Model



Generative Model

p r i s o n e r



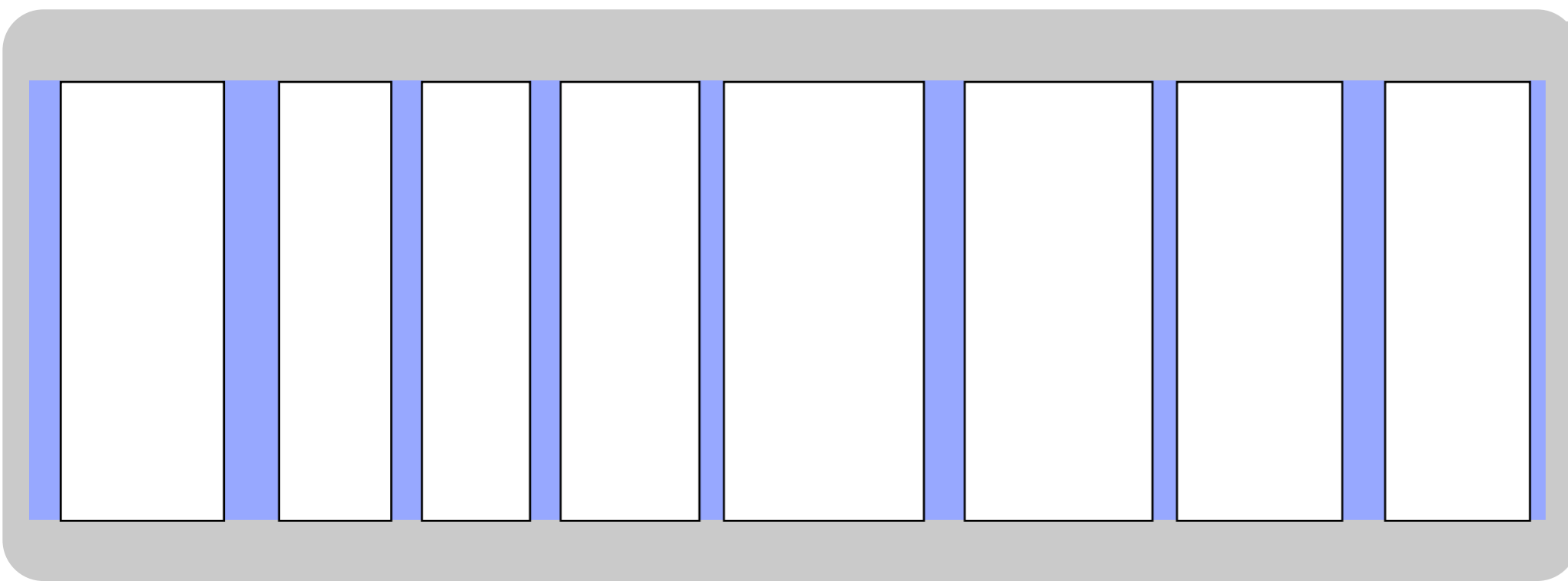
Typesetting
Model



Generative Model

p r i s o n e r

Typesetting
Model

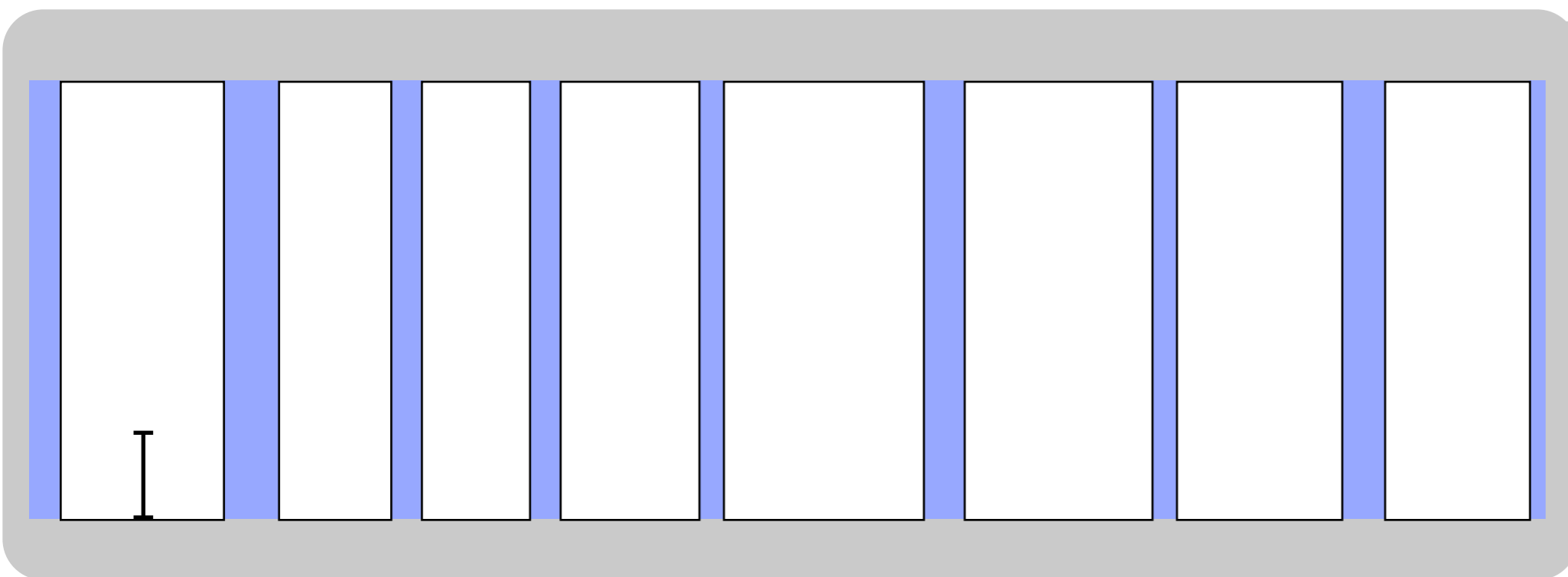




Generative Model

p r i s o n e r

Typesetting
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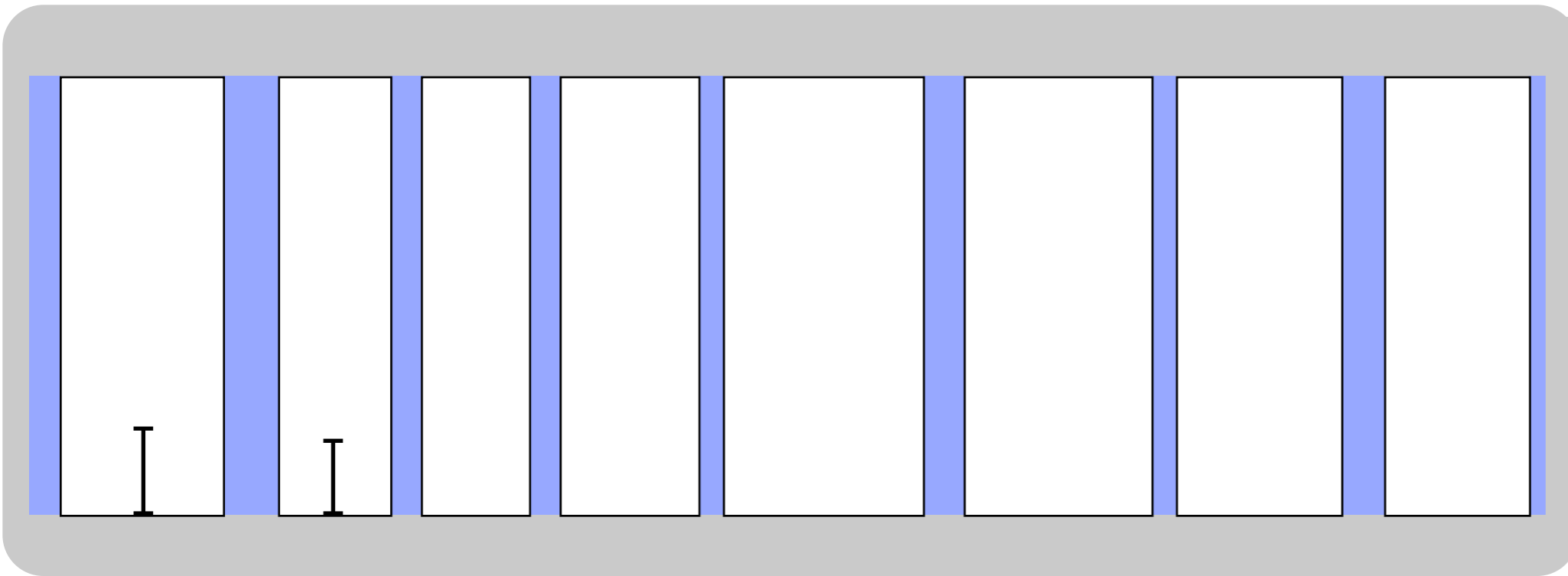




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Typesetting
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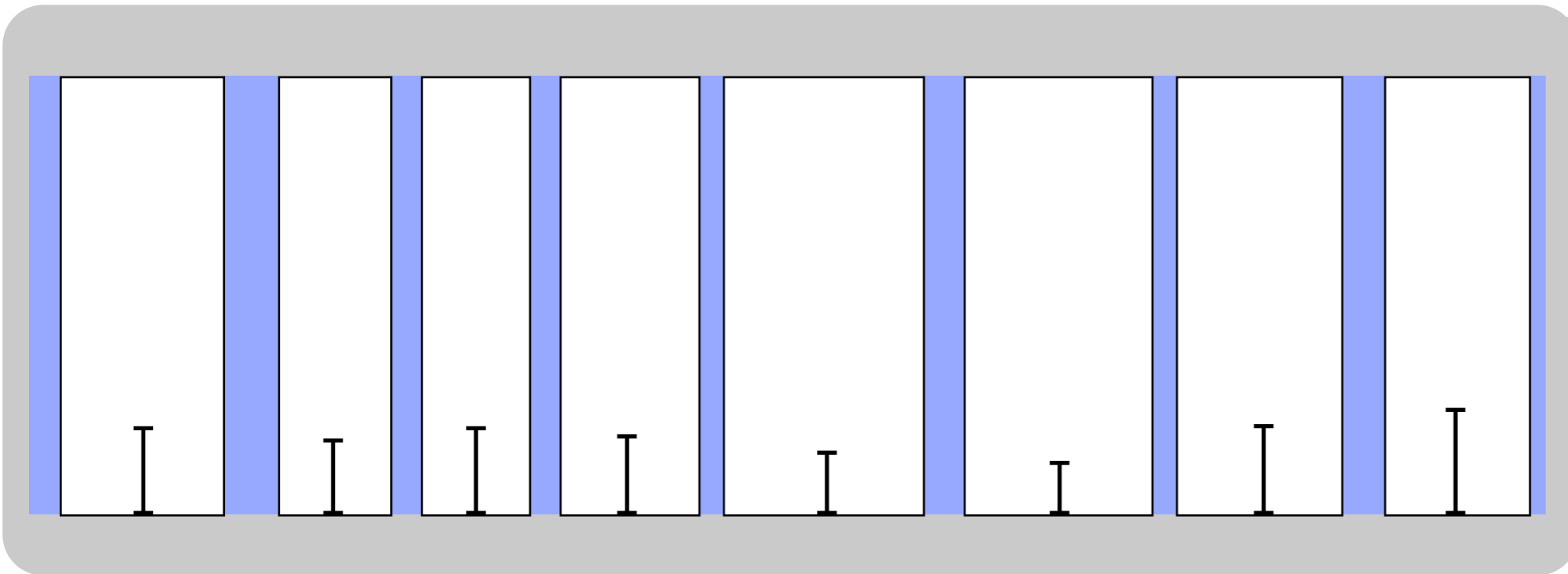




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Typesetting
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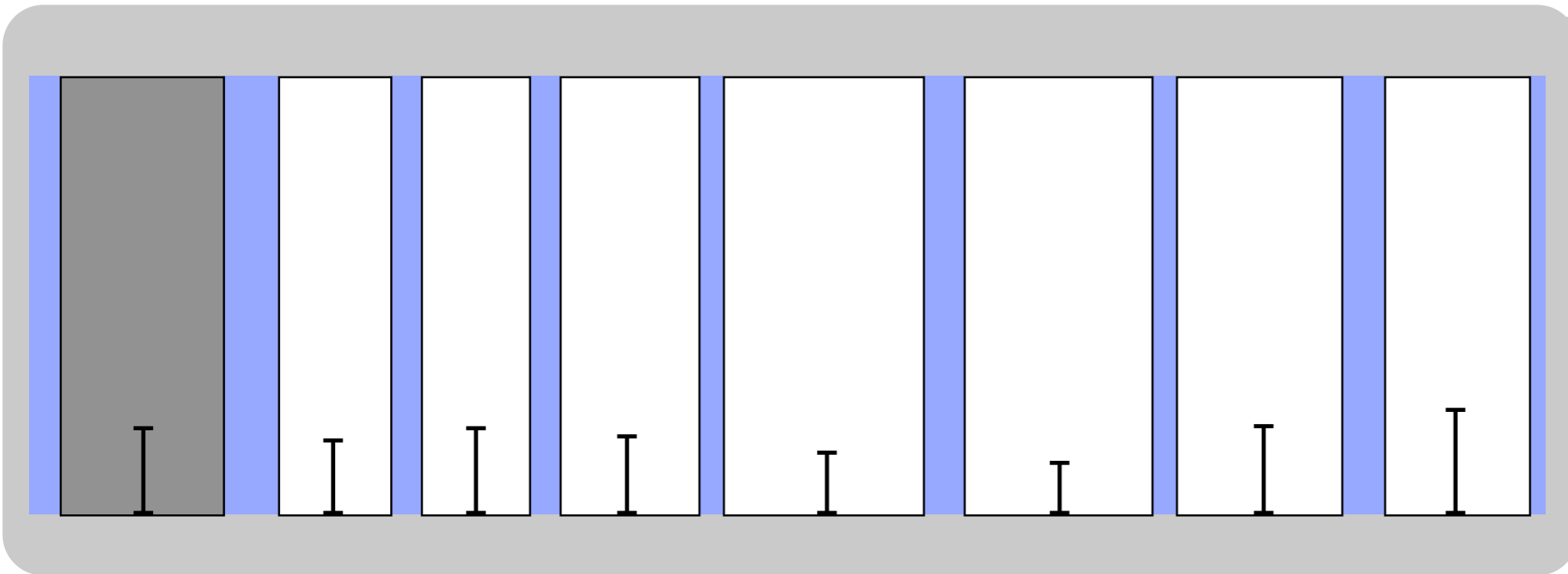




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Typesetting
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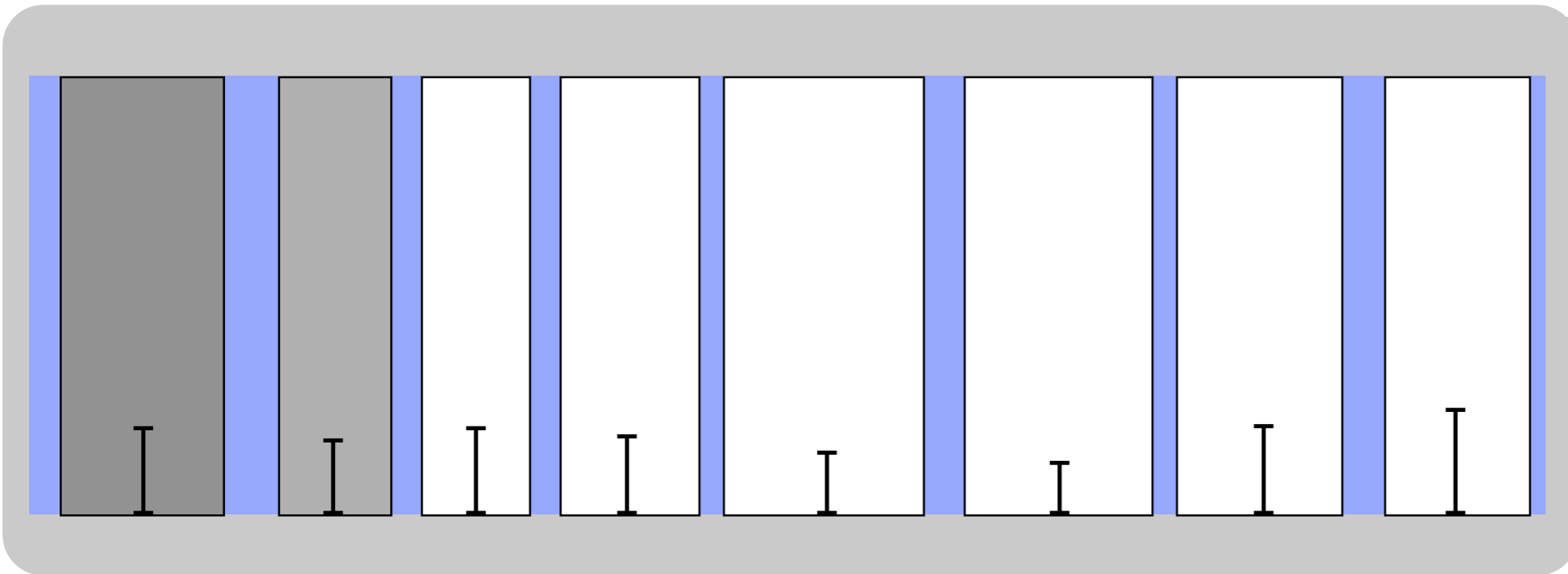




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Typesetting
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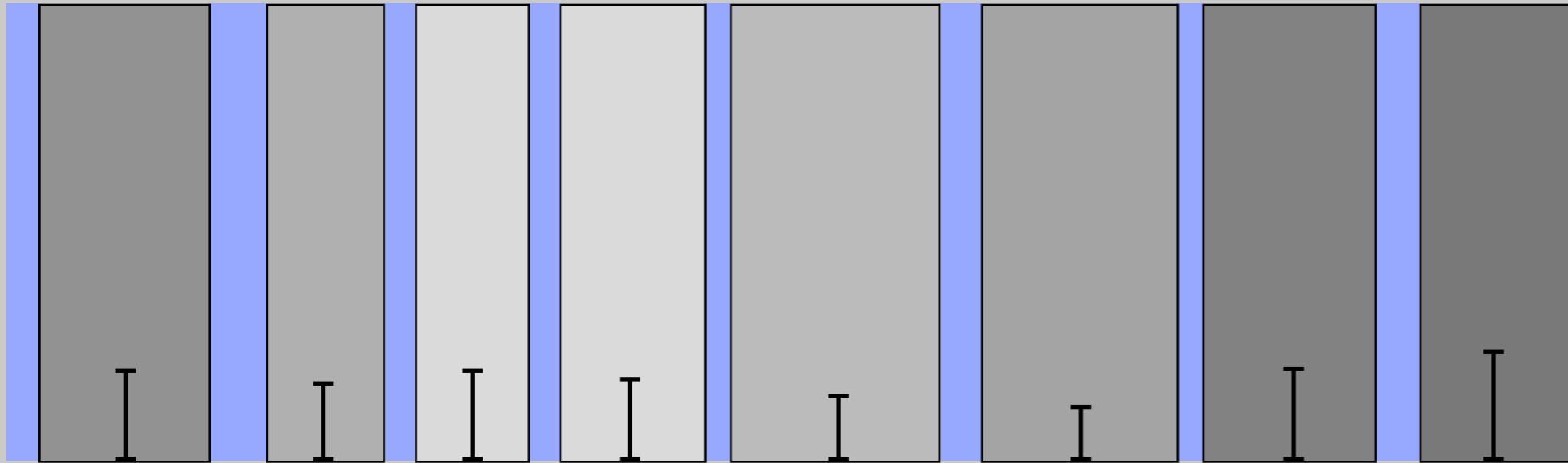




Generative Model

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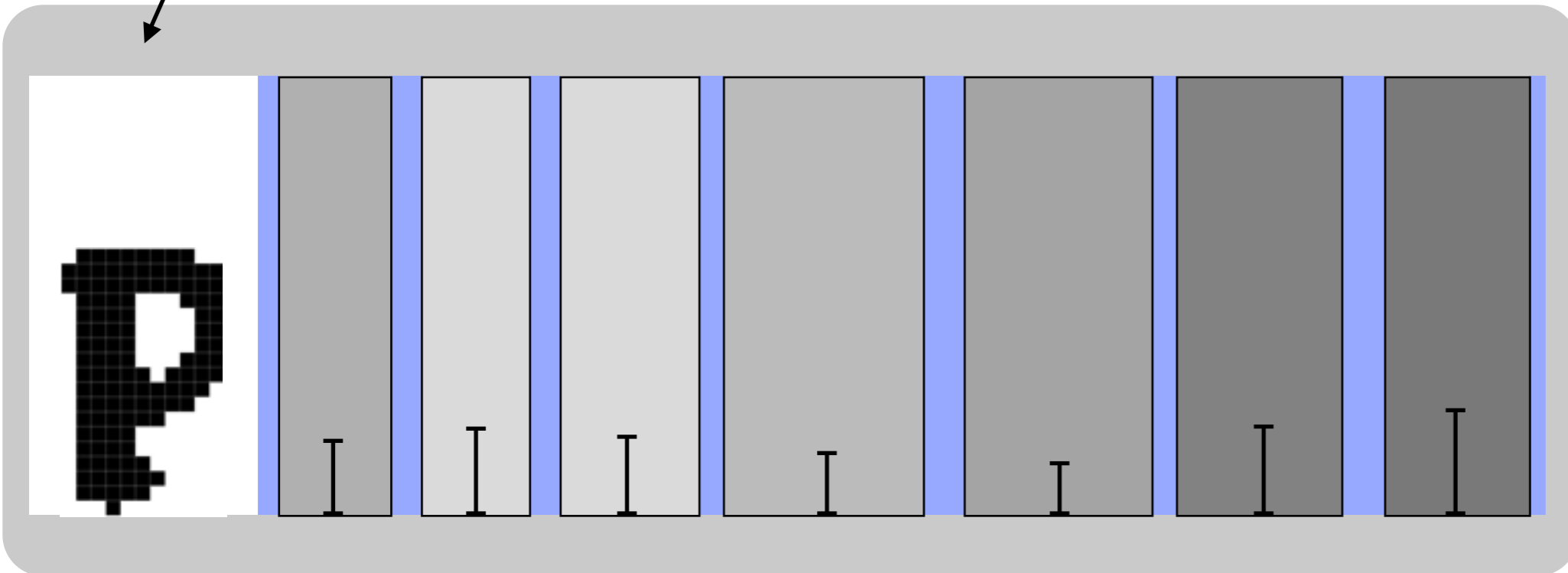
Typesetting
Model





Generative Model

p r i s o n e r

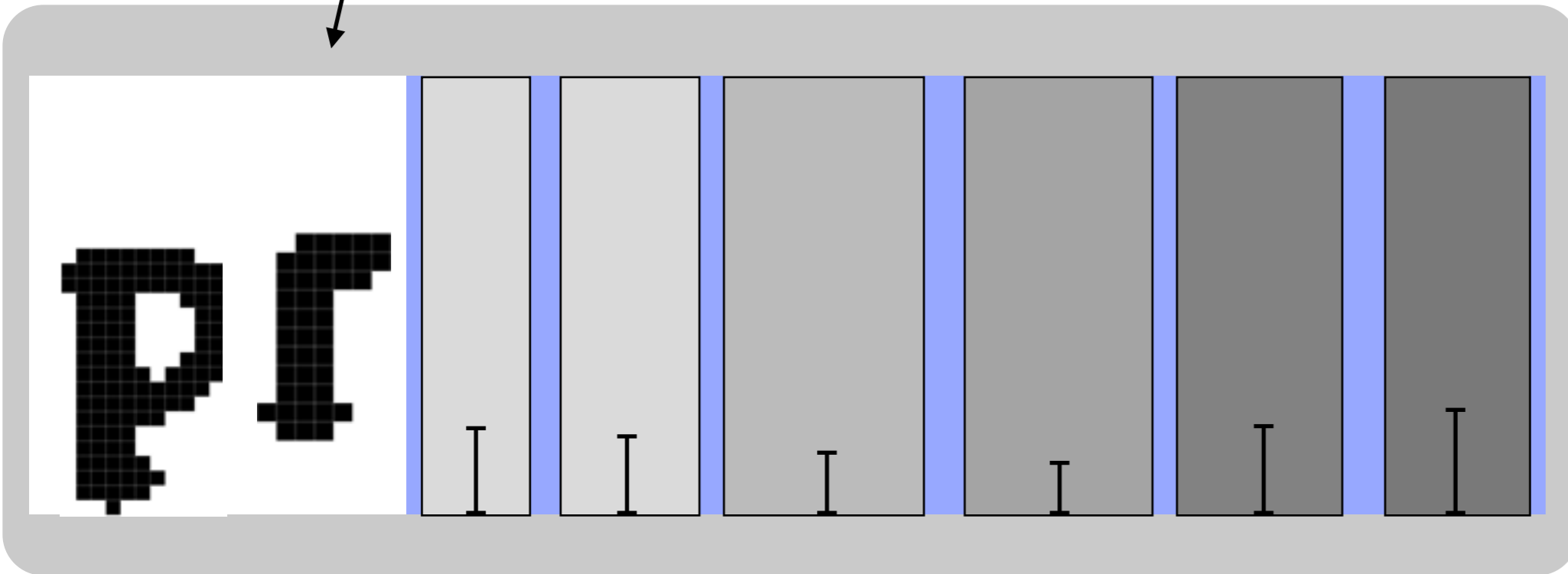


Rendering Model



Generative Model

p r i s o n e r

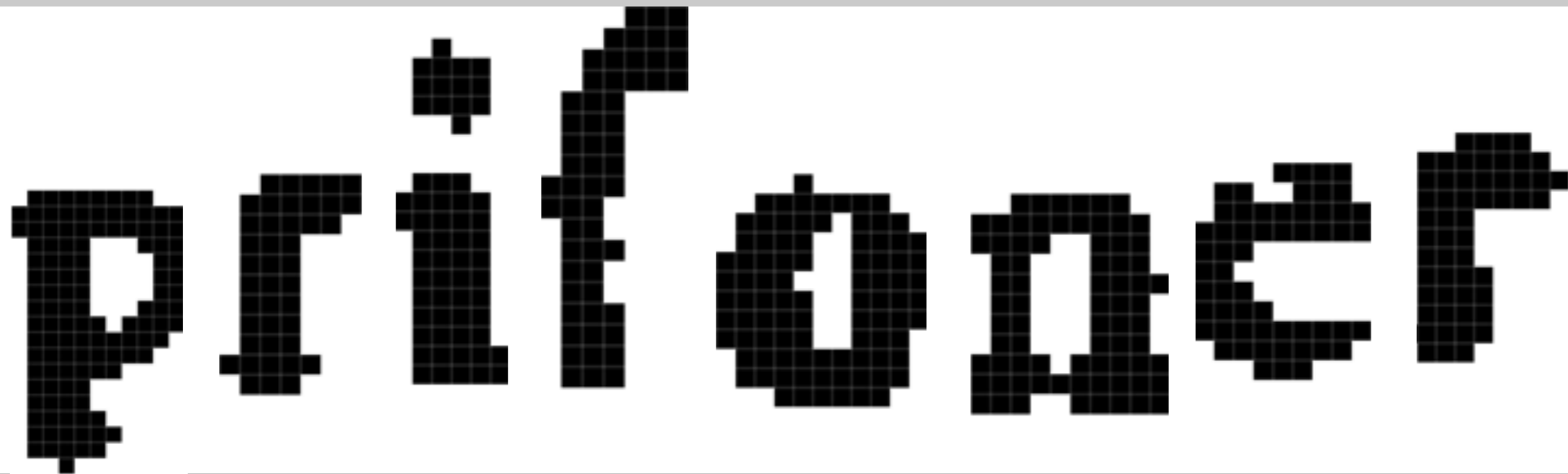


Rendering Model



Generative Model

p r i s o n e r



Rendering
Model



Generative Model

p r i s o n e r



Generative Model

Language Model
 $P(E)$

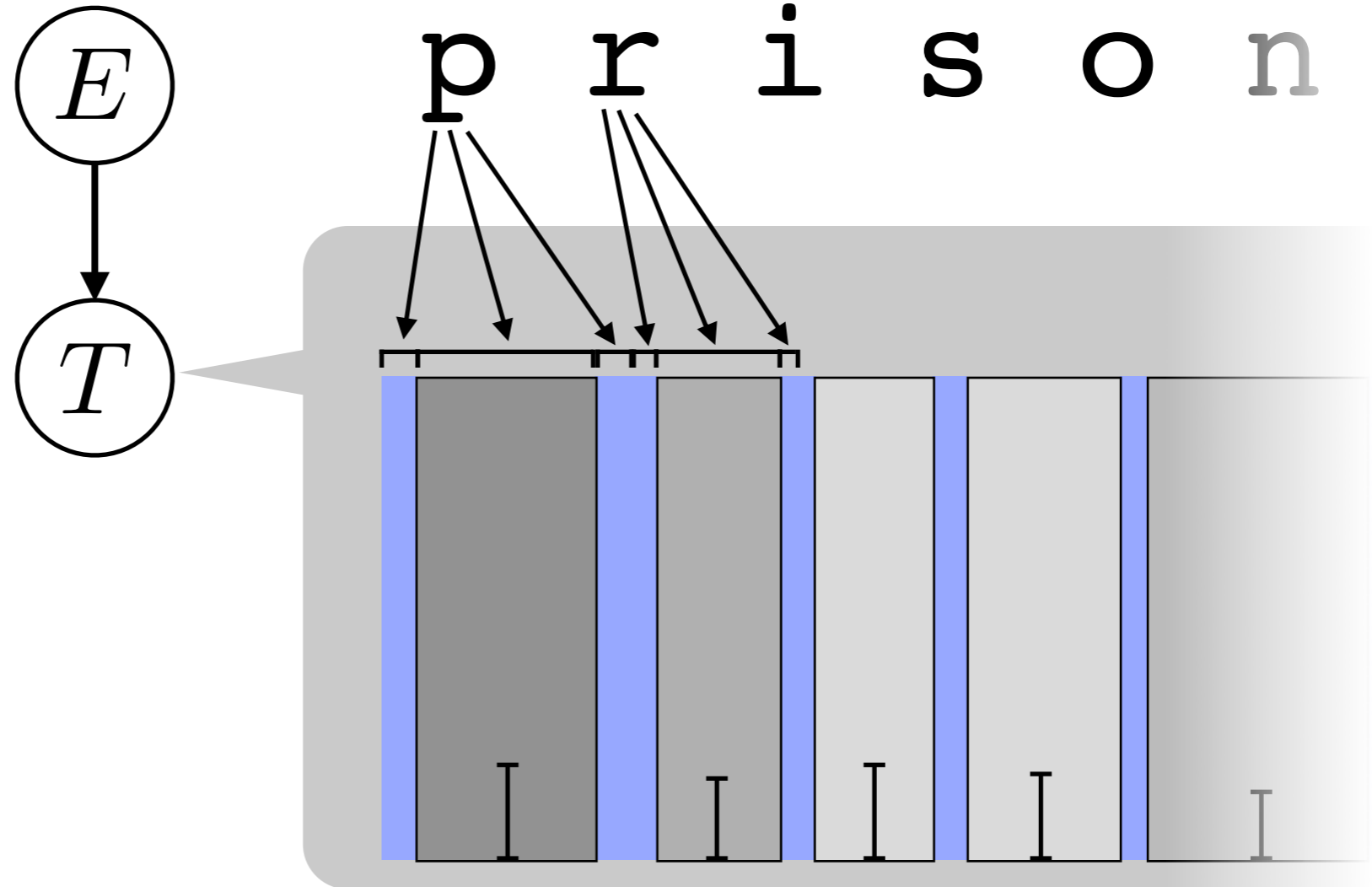
E

p r i s o n

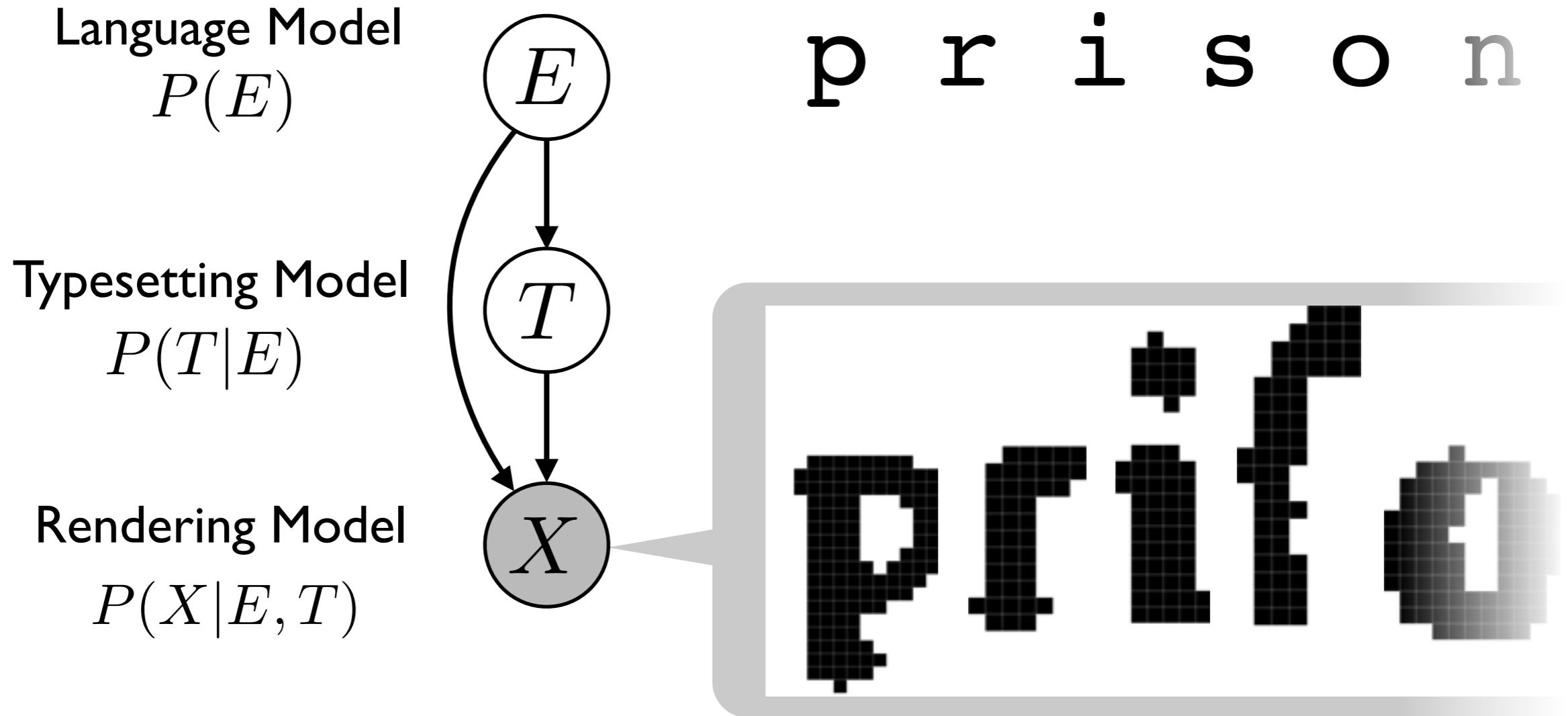
Generative Model

Language Model
 $P(E)$

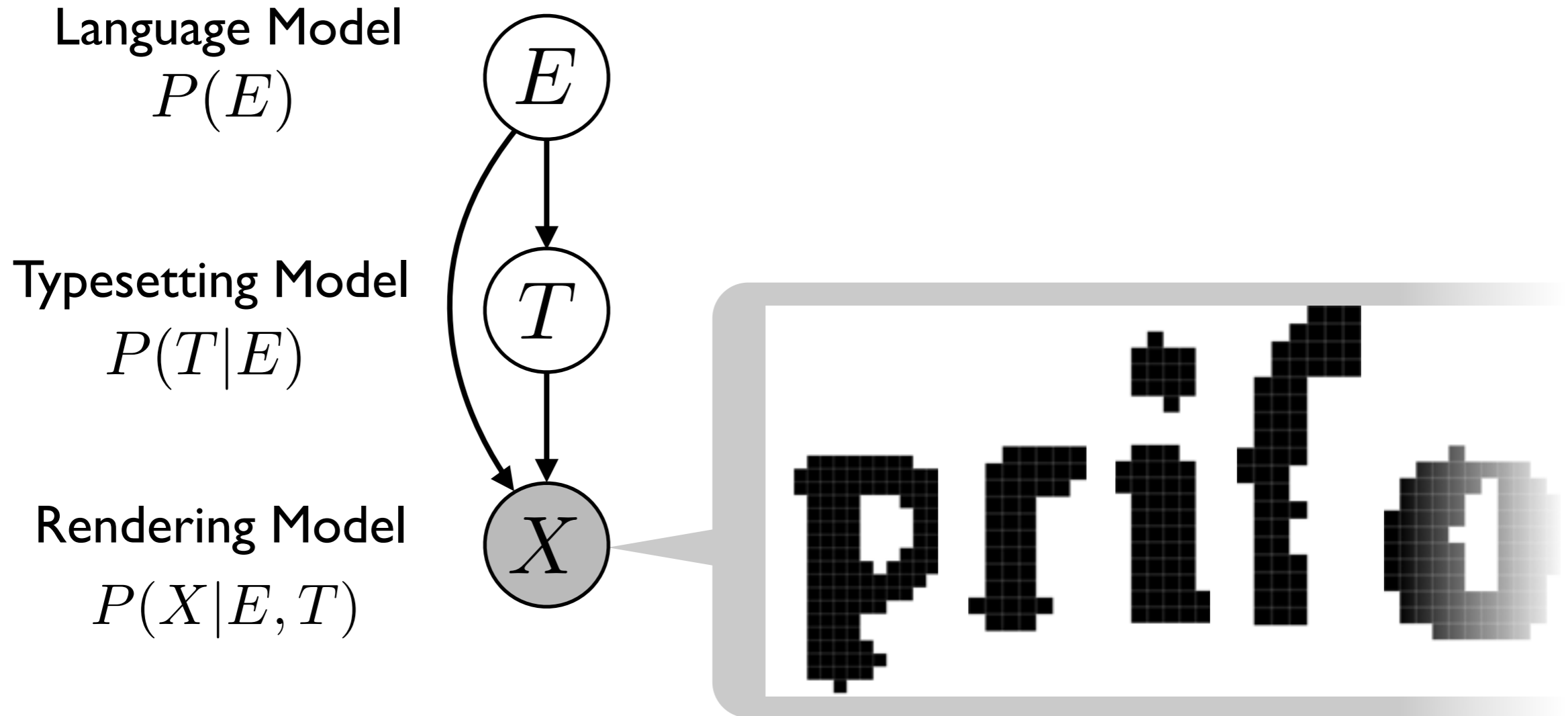
Typesetting Model
 $P(T|E)$

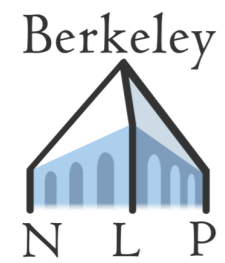


Generative Model



Generative Model





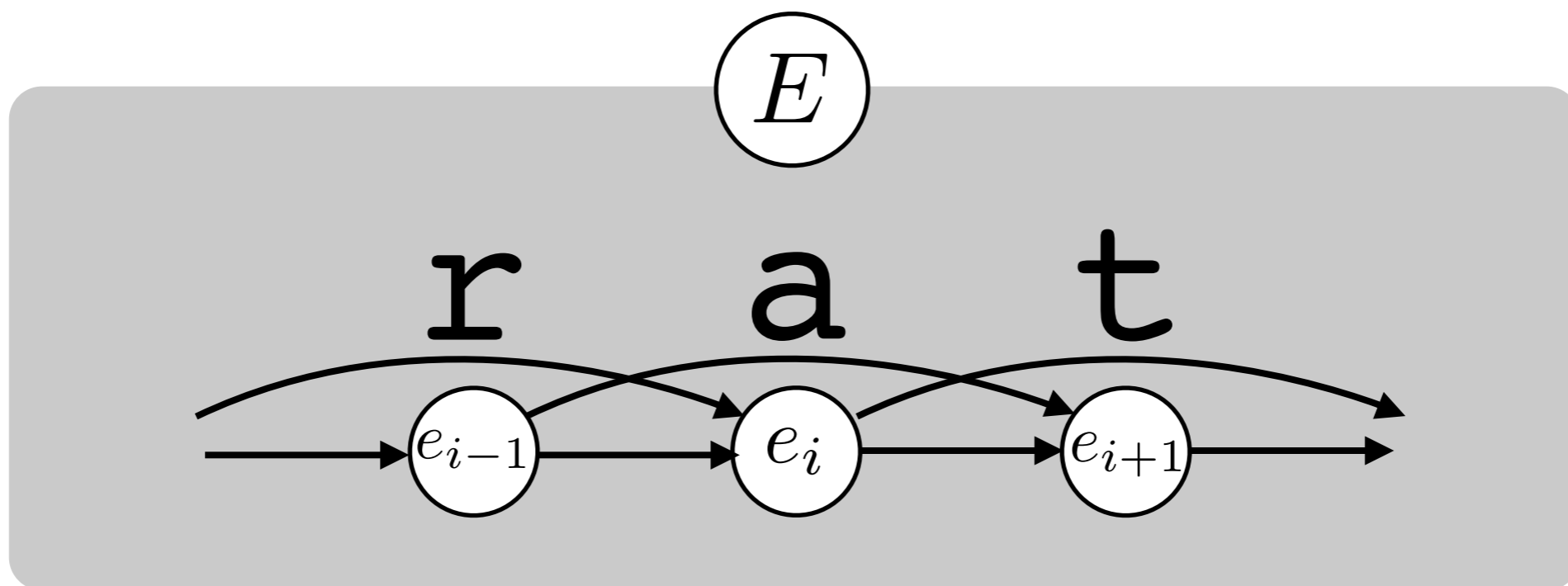
Language Model

E

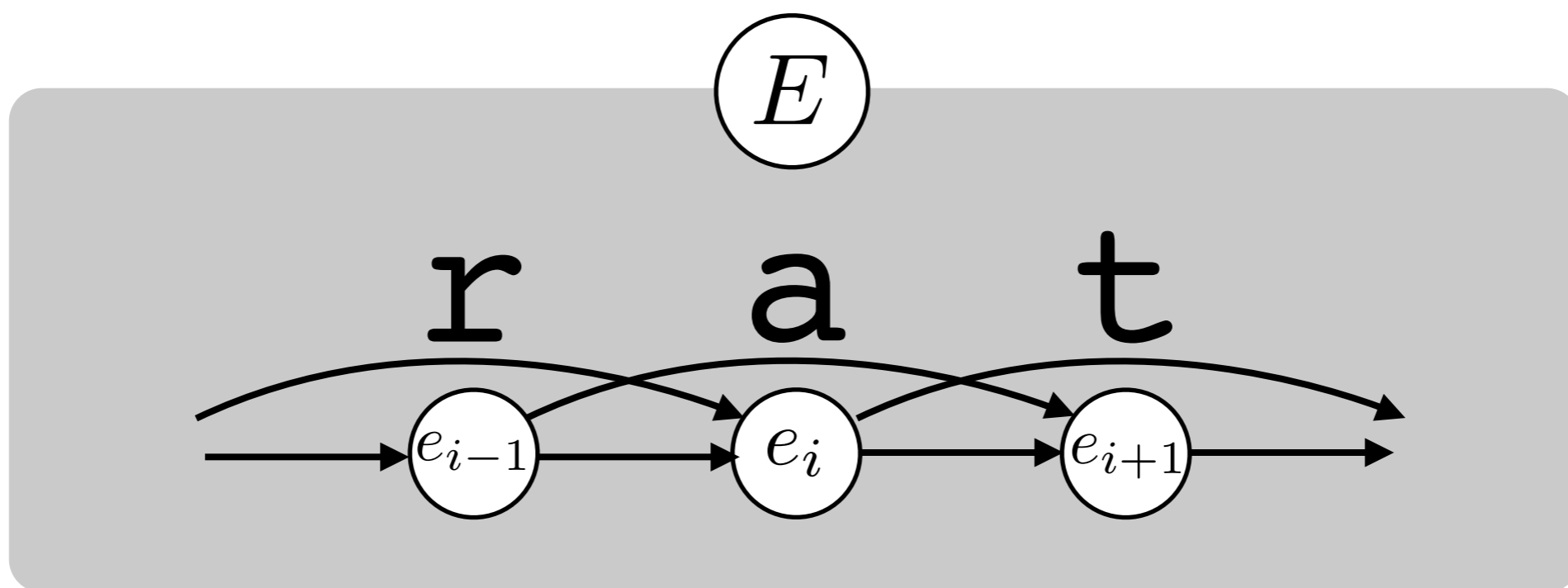
Language Model

E

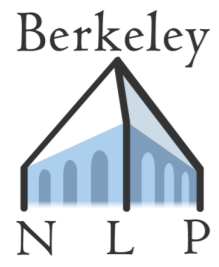
Language Model



Language Model



Kneser-Ney smoothed character 6-gram



Typesetting Model

a

e_i

Typesetting Model

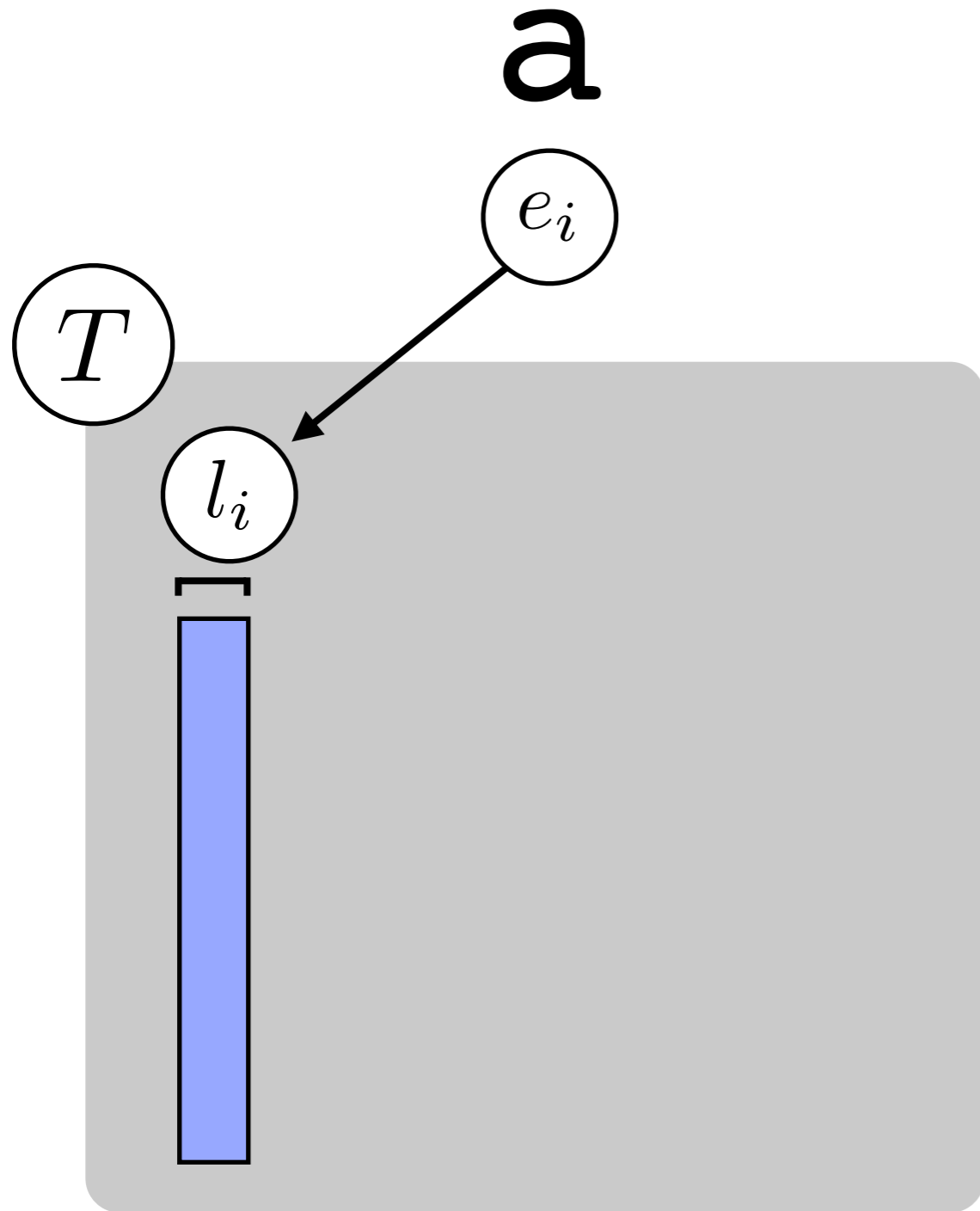
a

e_i

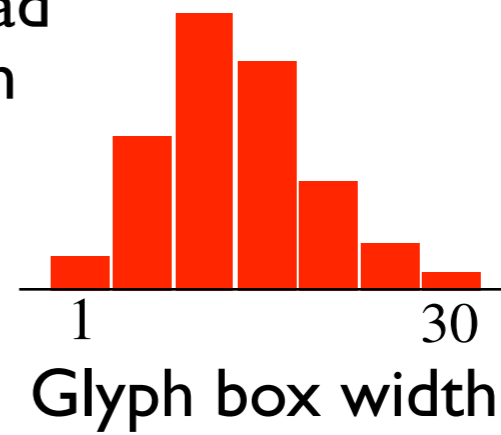
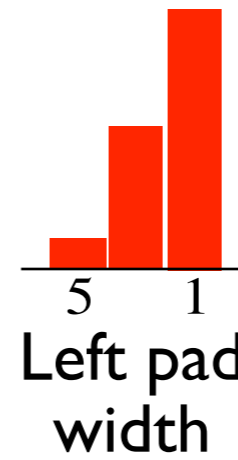
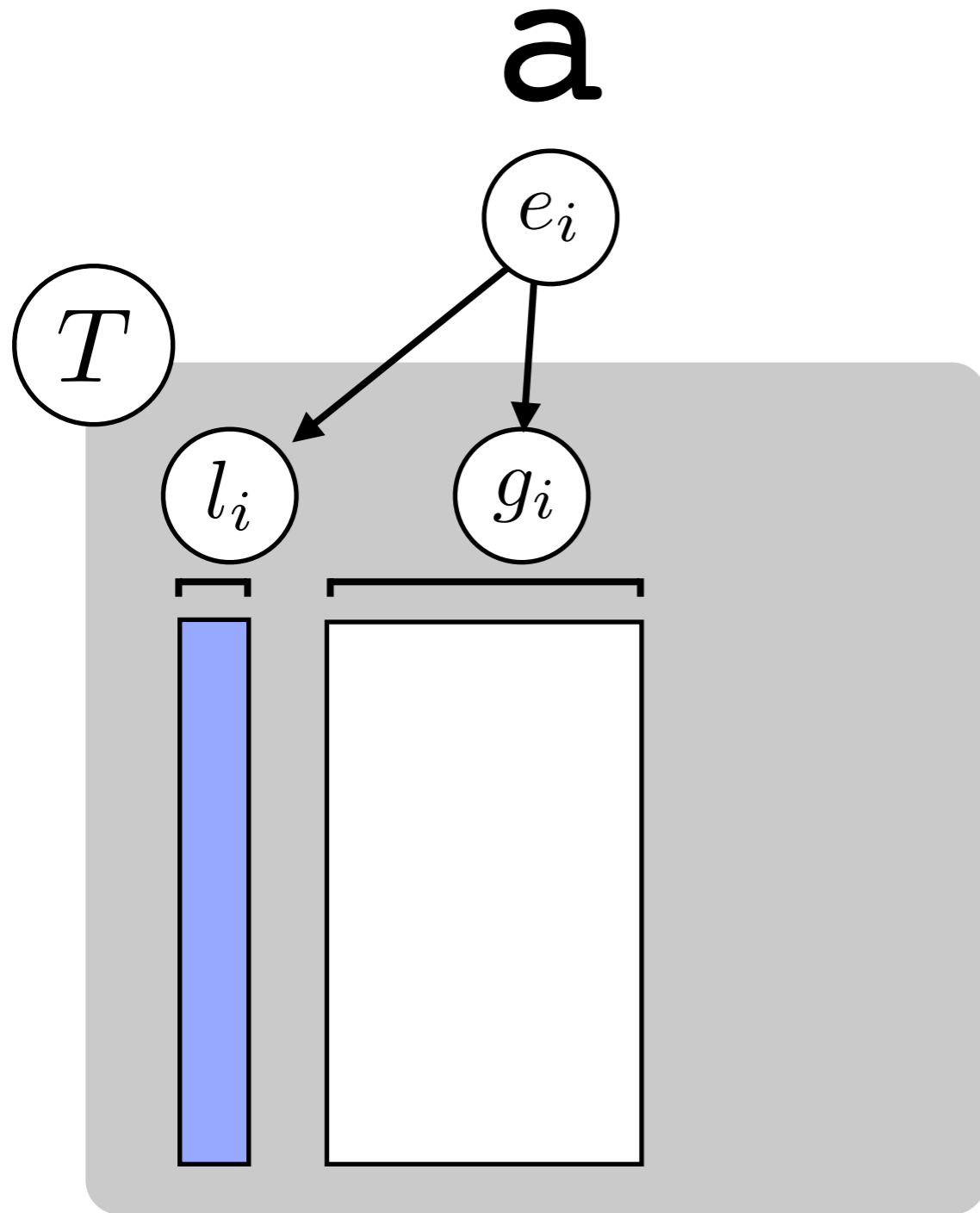
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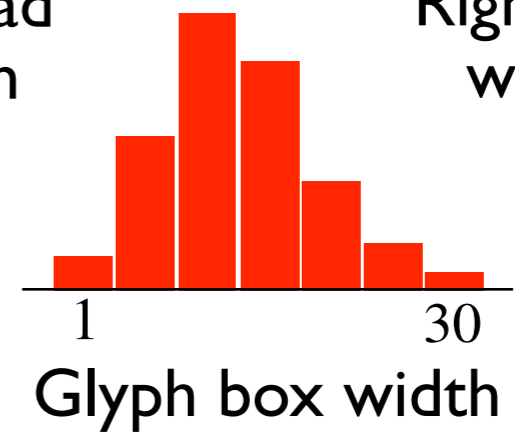
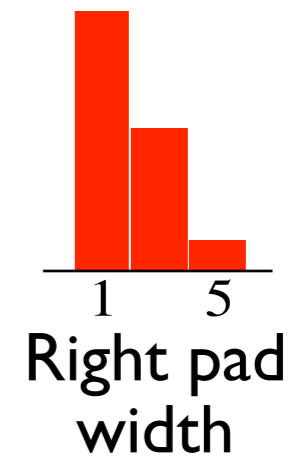
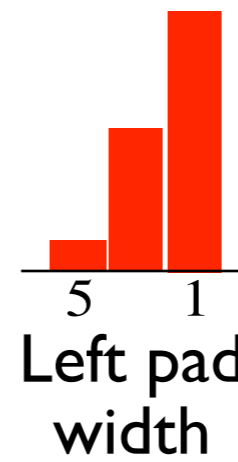
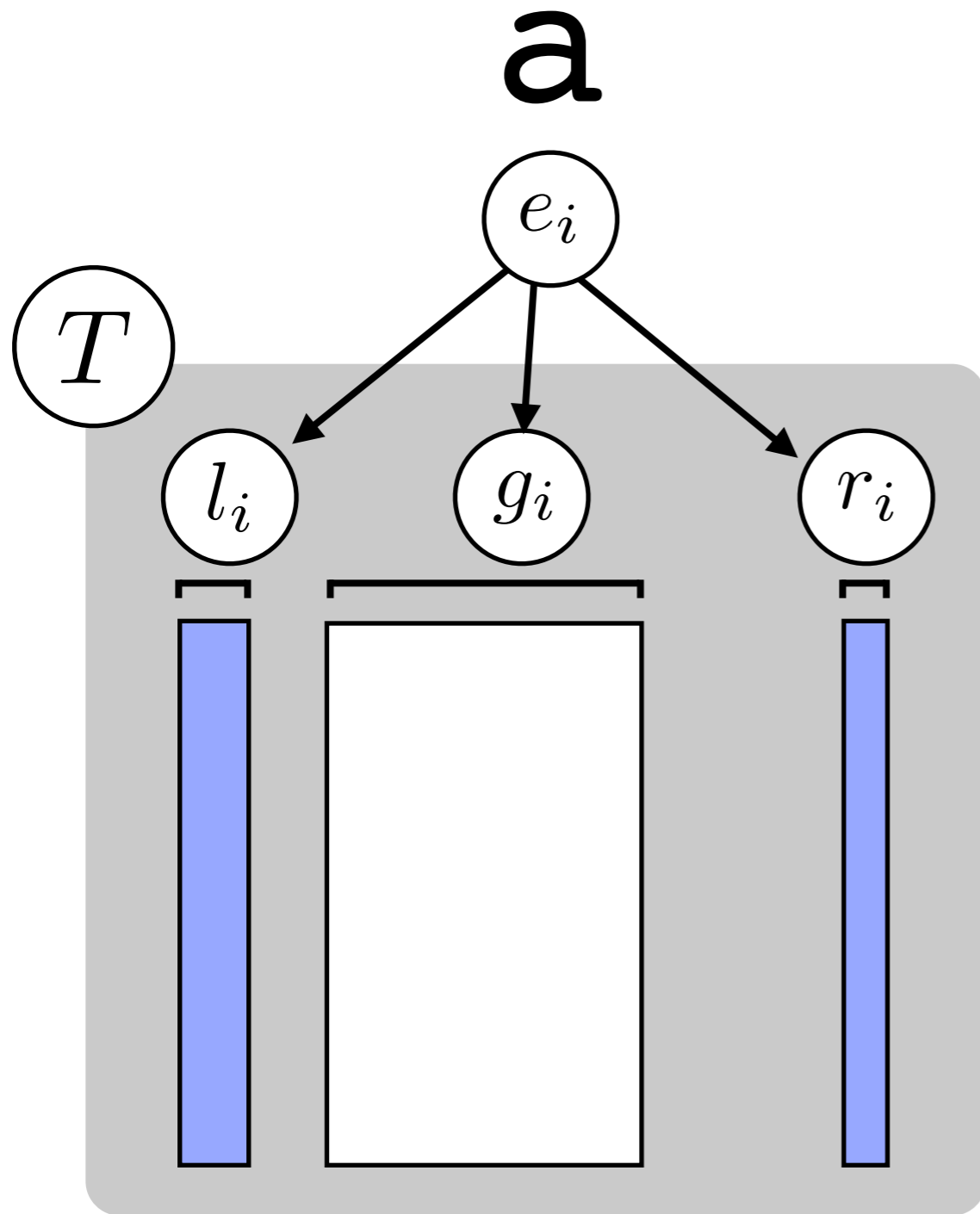
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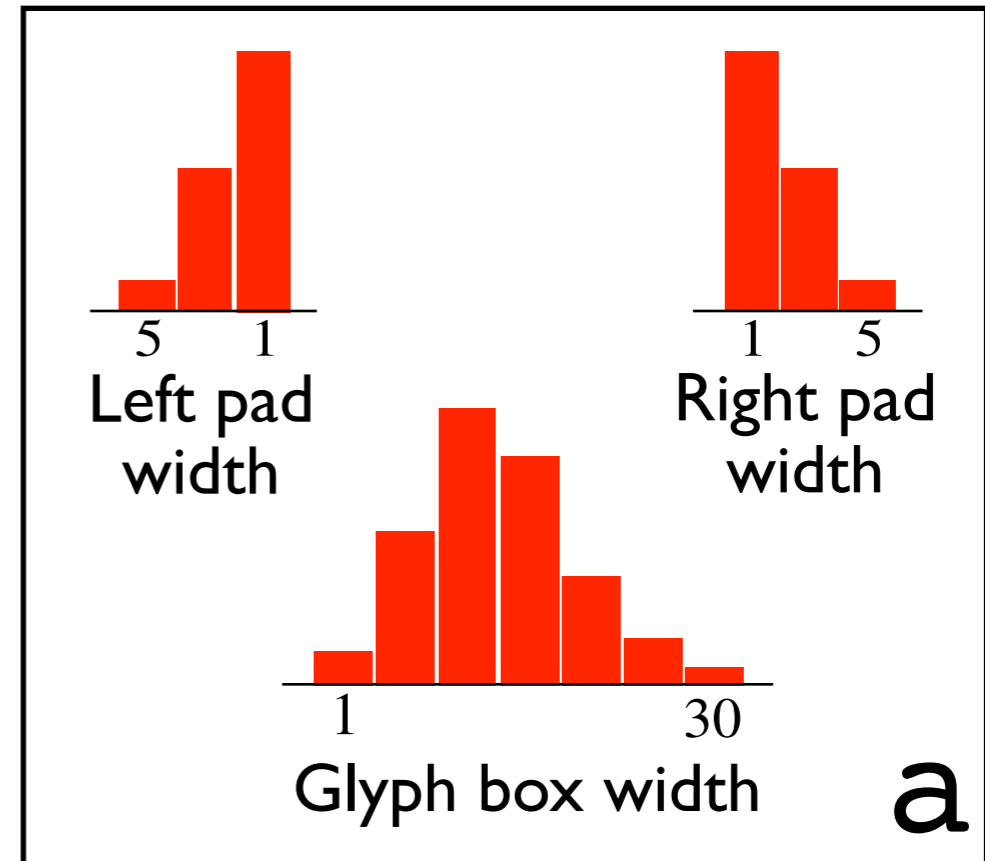
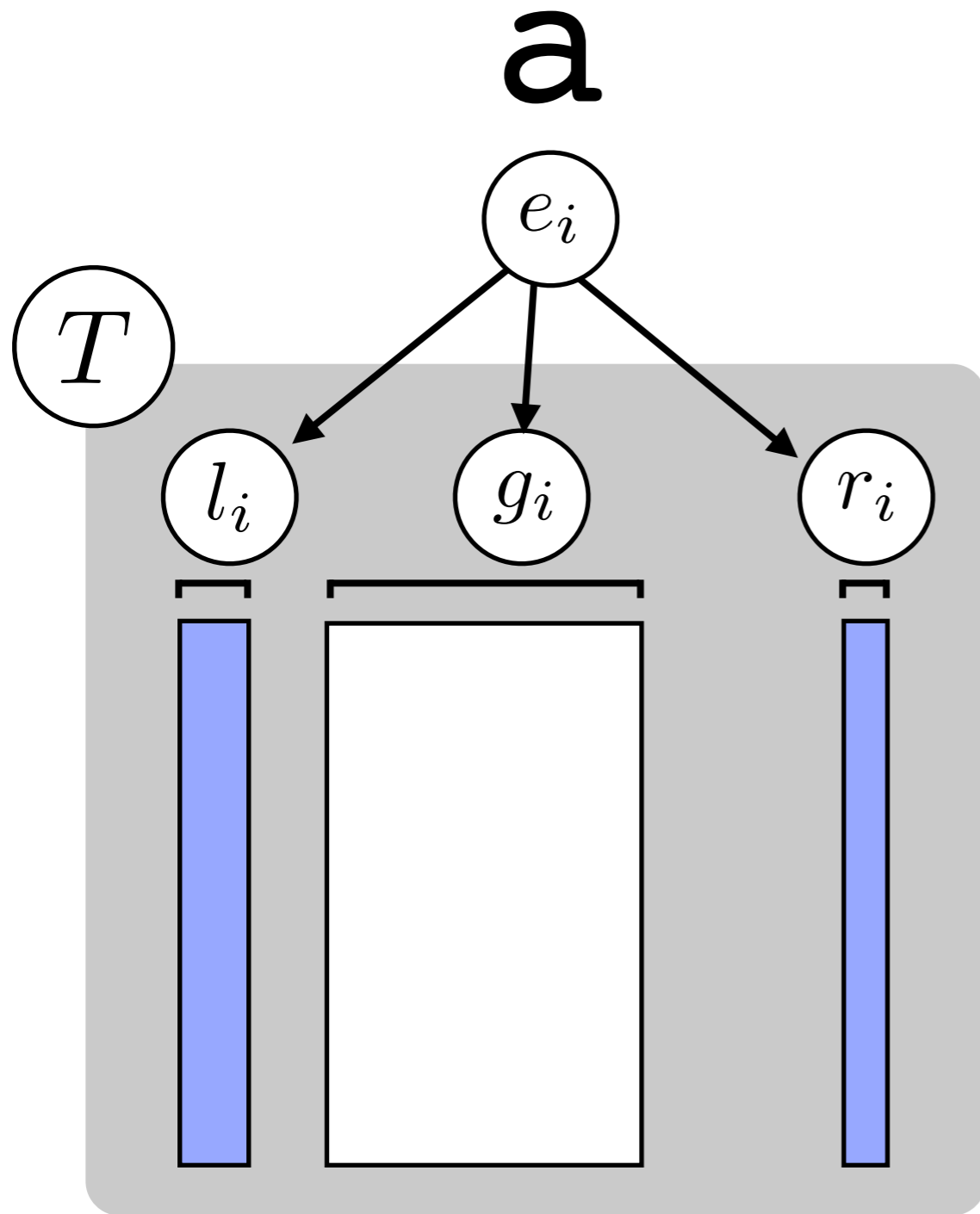
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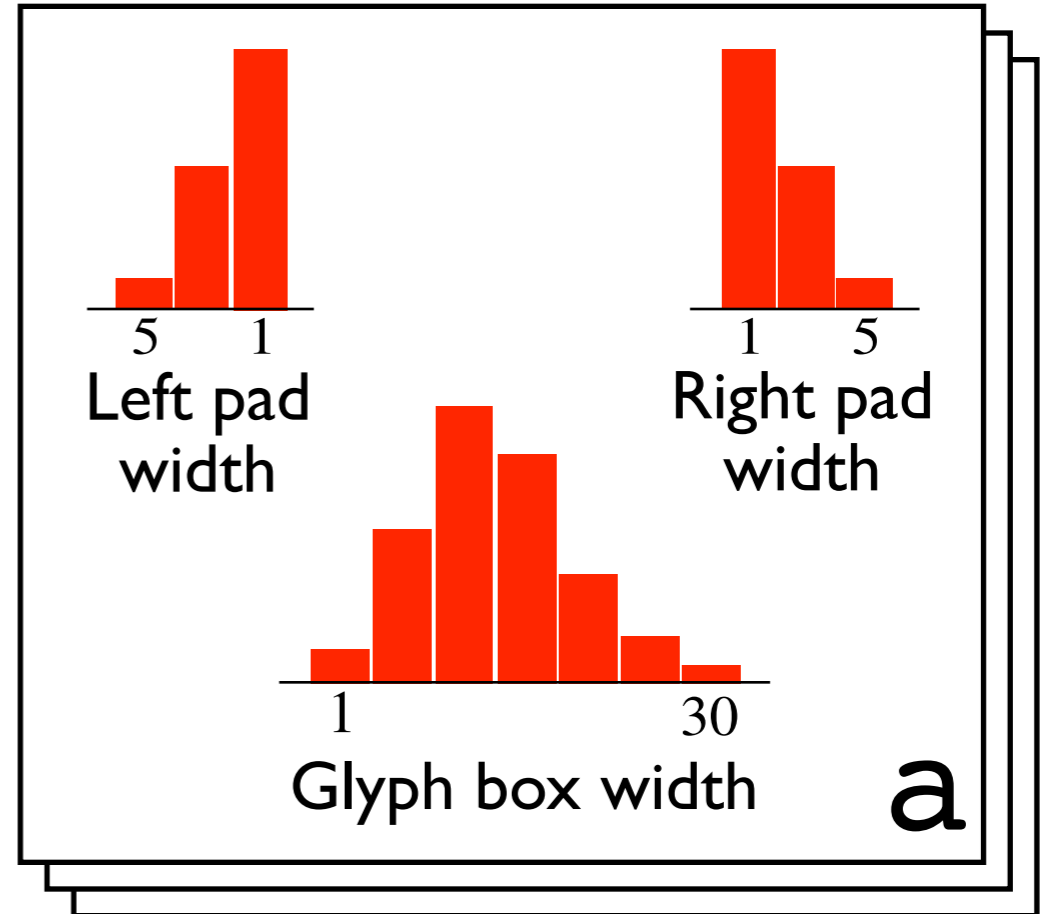
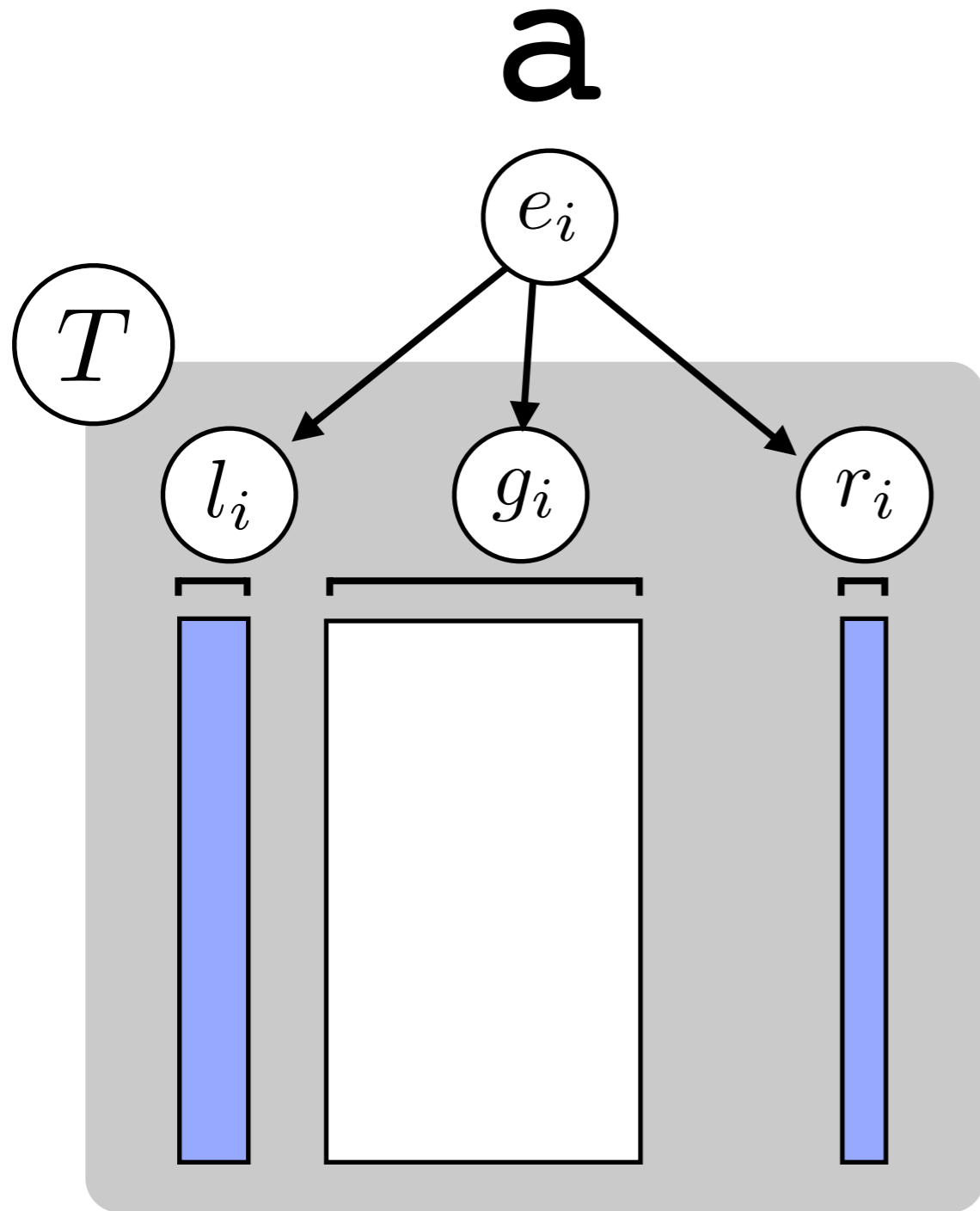
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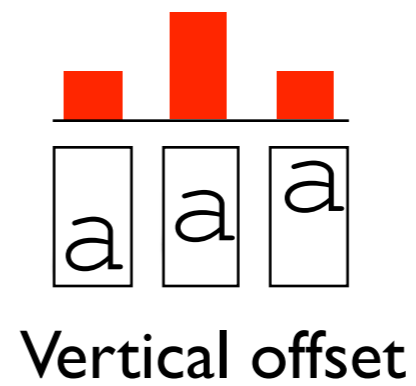
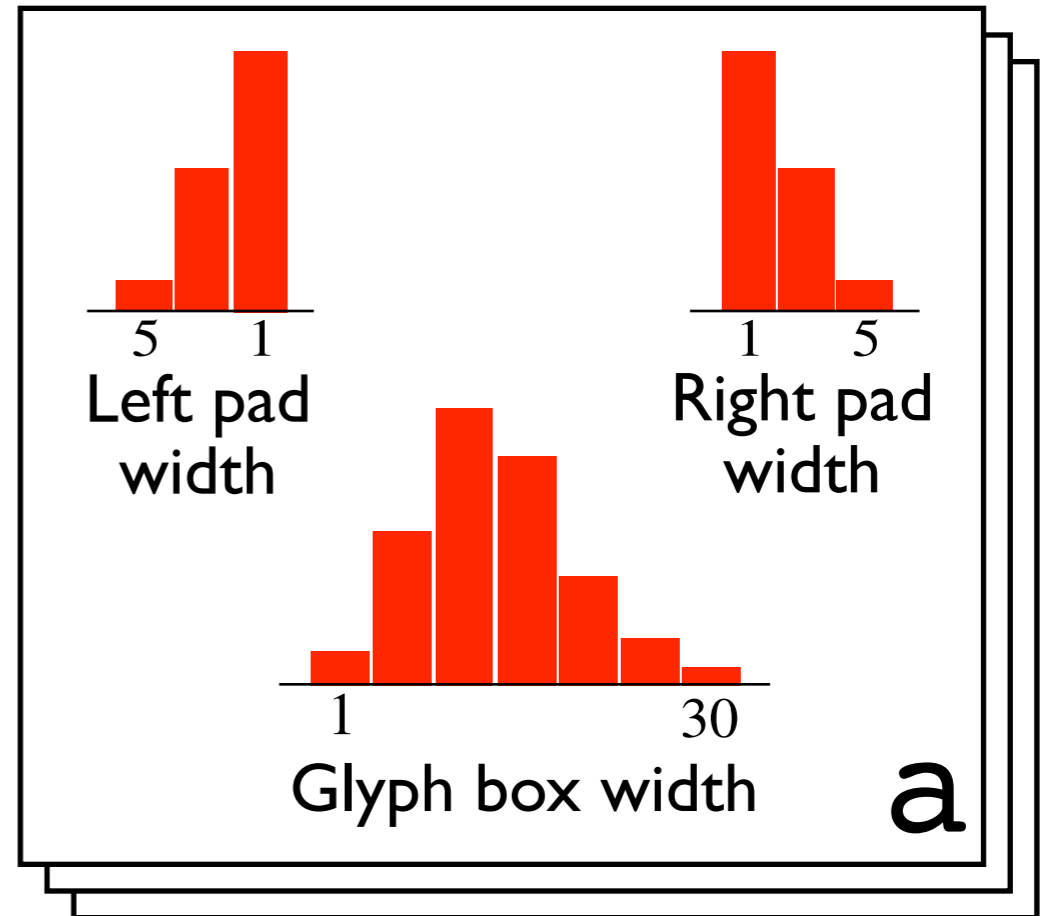
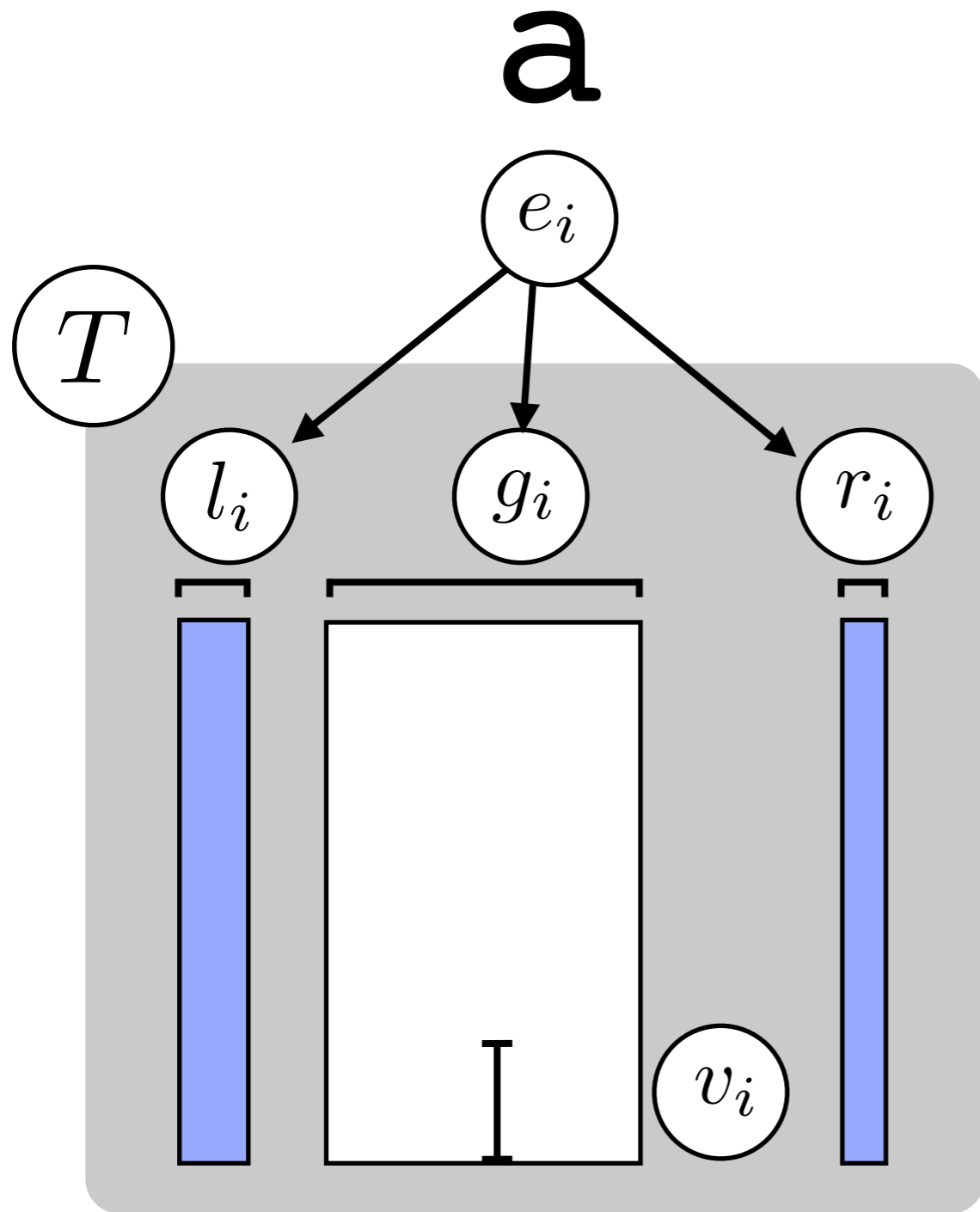
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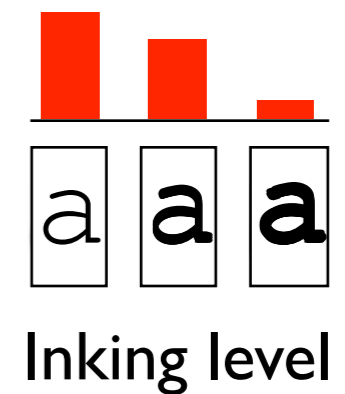
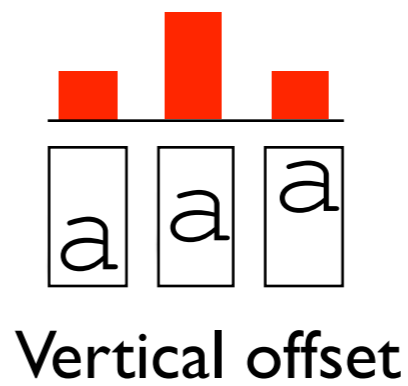
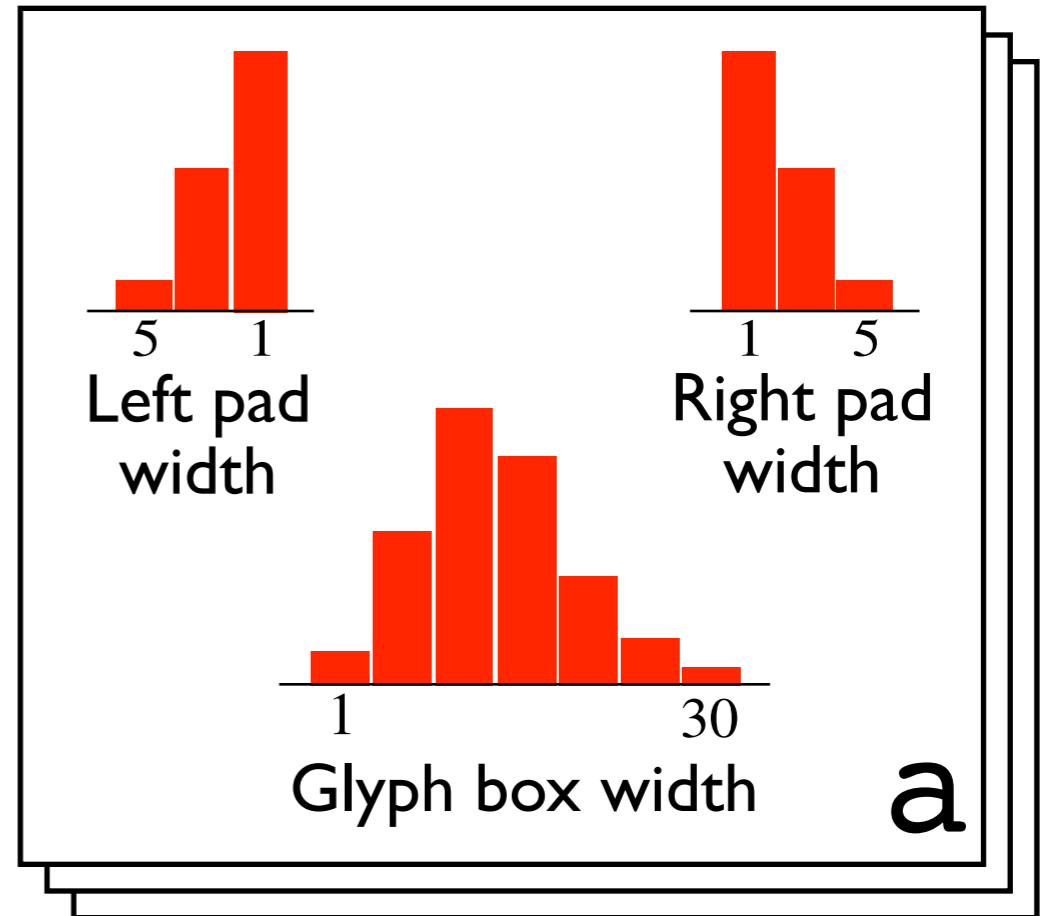
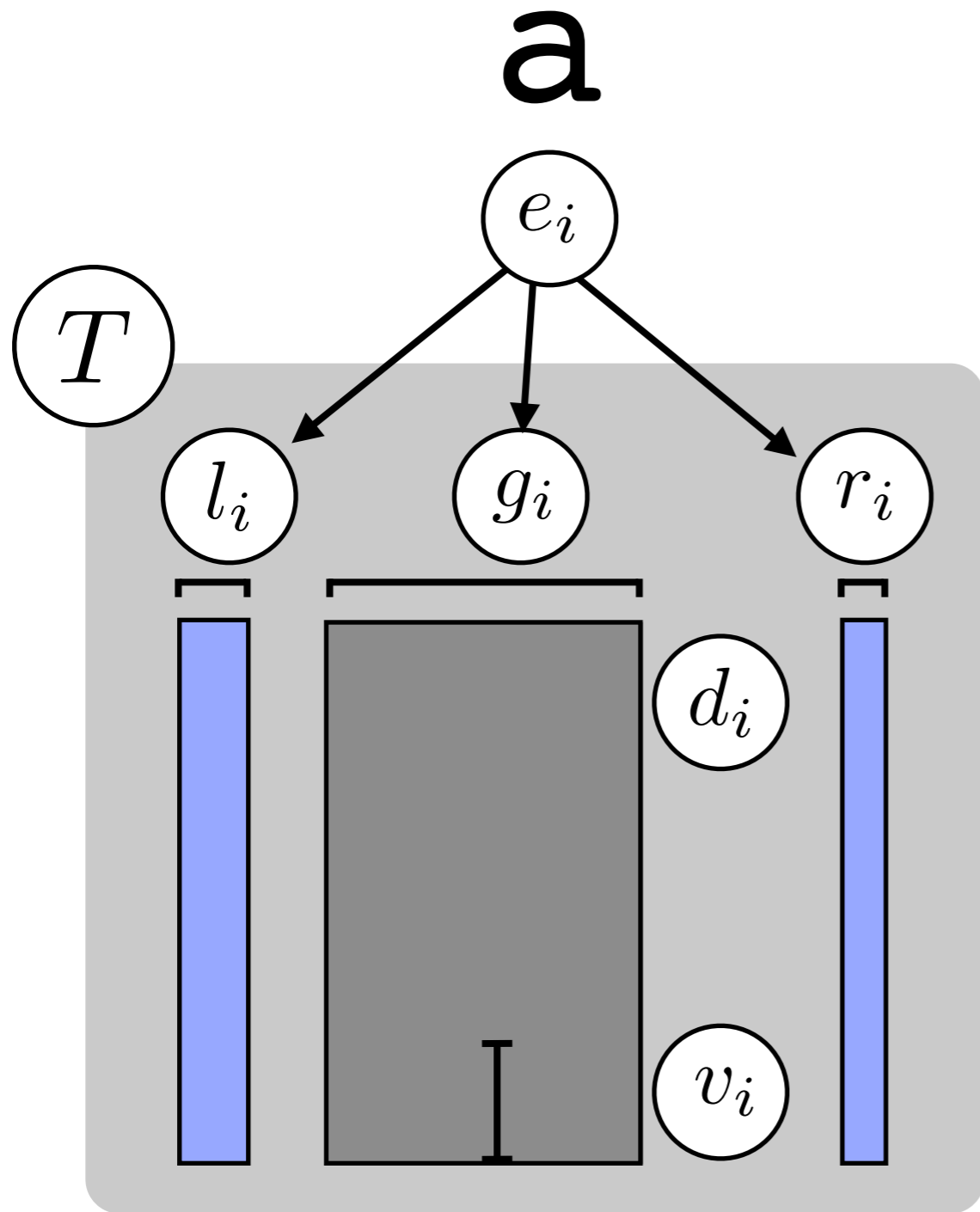
Typesetting Model



Typesetting Model

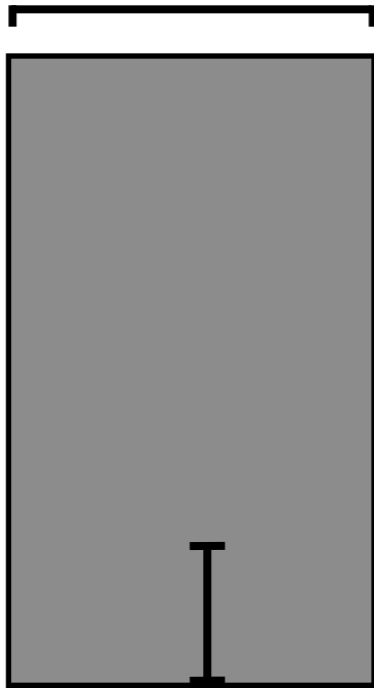


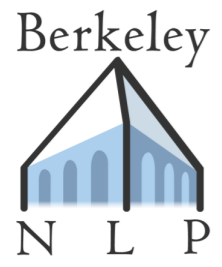
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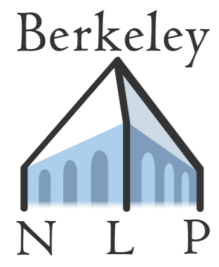
Rendering Model





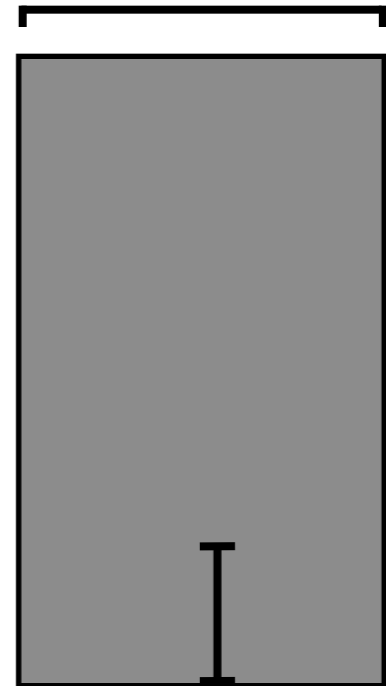
Rendering Model





Rendering Model

Glyph box



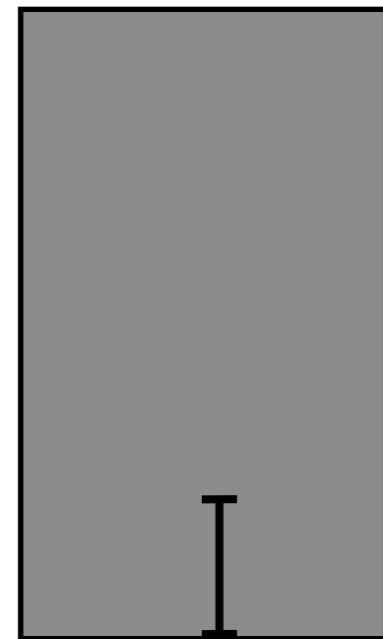


Rendering Model

Glyph box
width



Glyph box



Rendering Model

Glyph box
width

g_i



Vertical
offset

v_i



Glyph box





Rendering Model

Glyph box
width



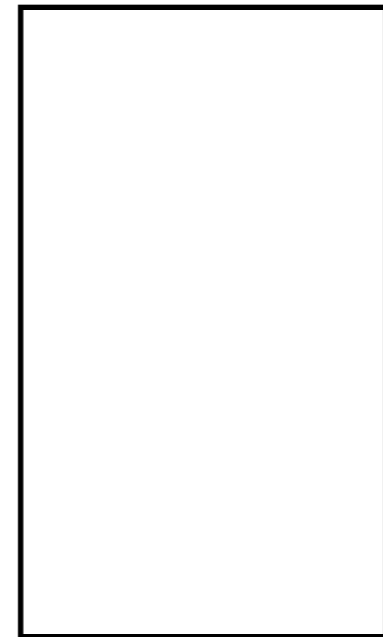
Vertical
offset



Inking
level



Glyph box



Rendering Model

Glyph box
width



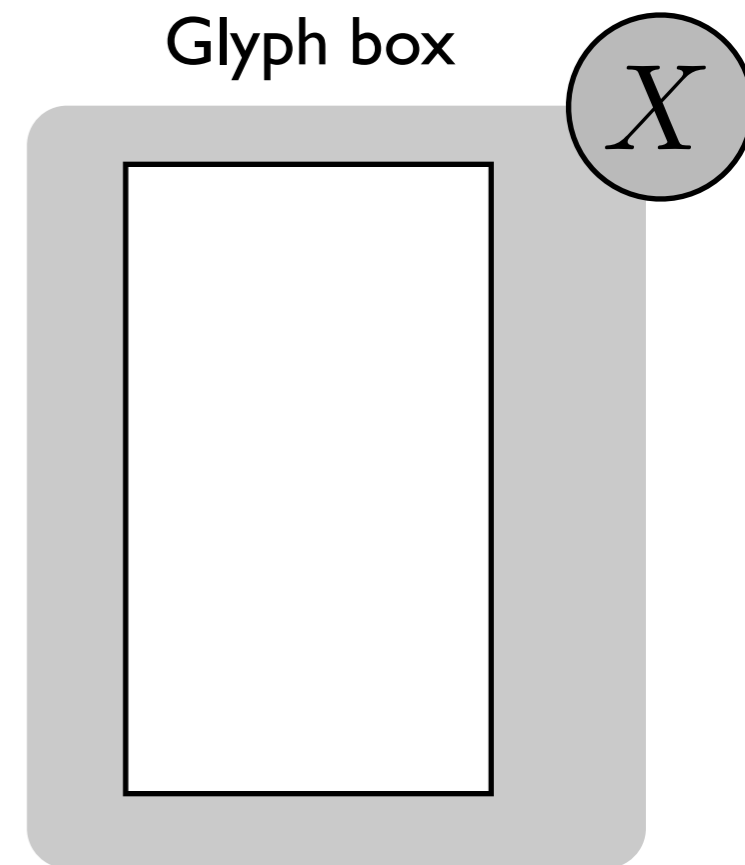
Vertical
offset



Inking
level

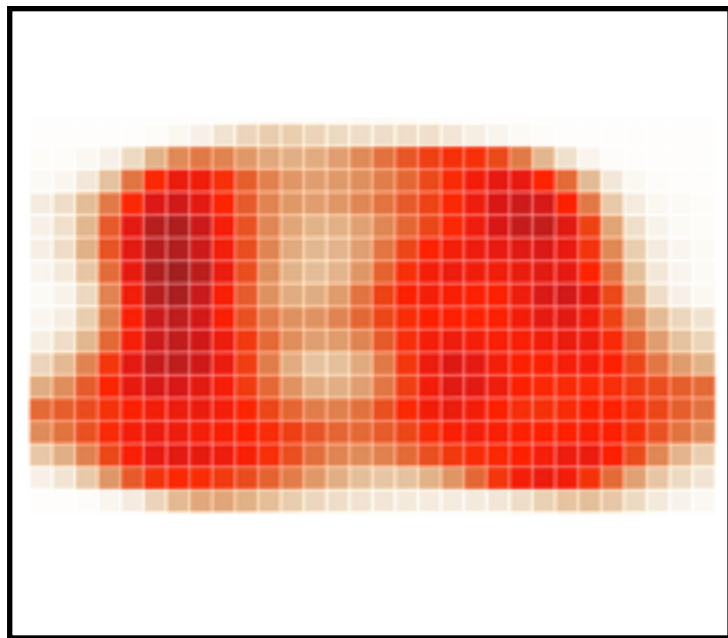


Glyph box



Rendering Model

Glyph shape parameters



Glyph box width



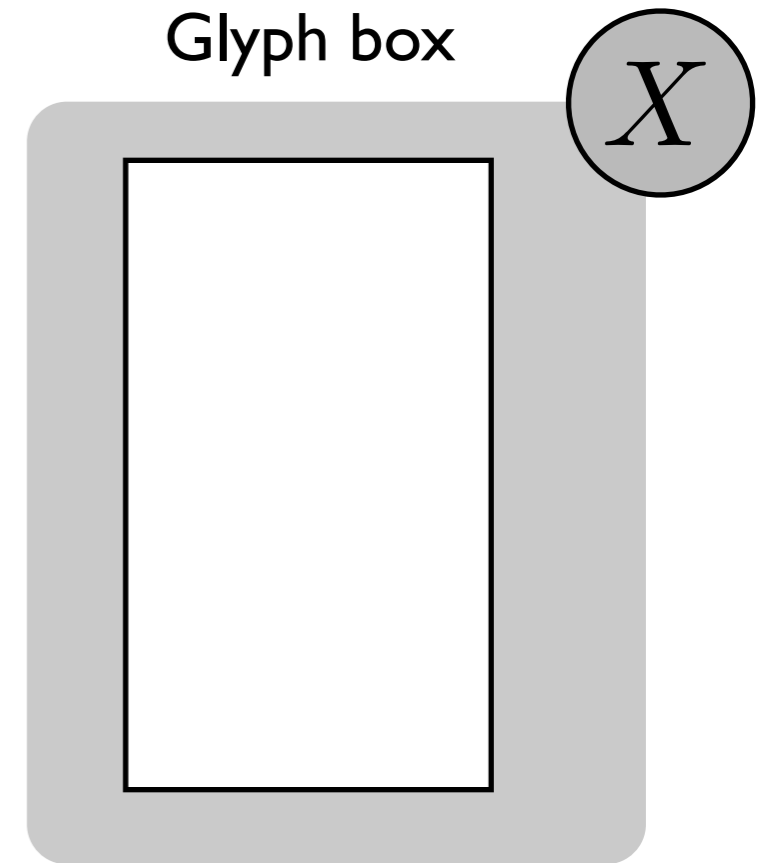
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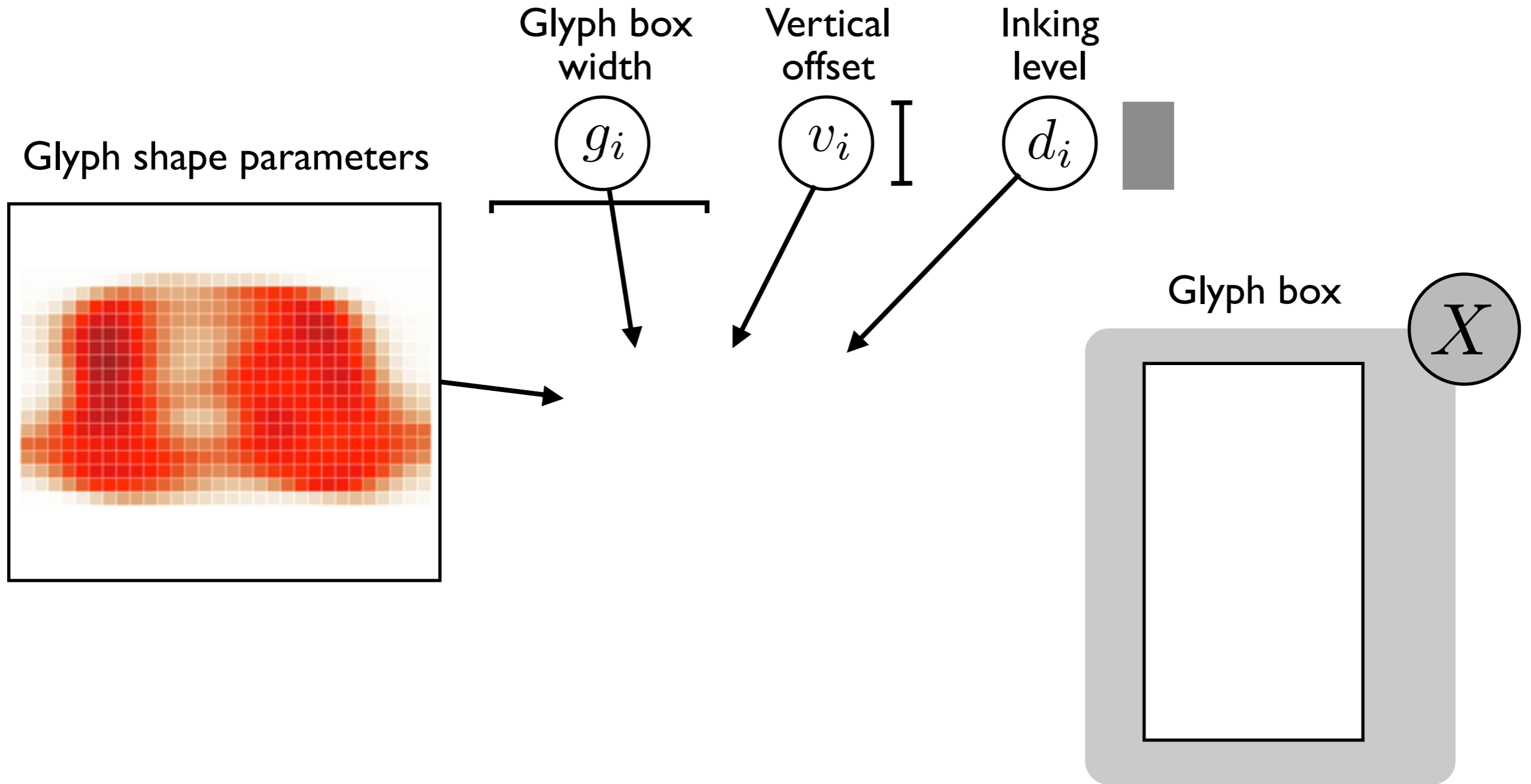
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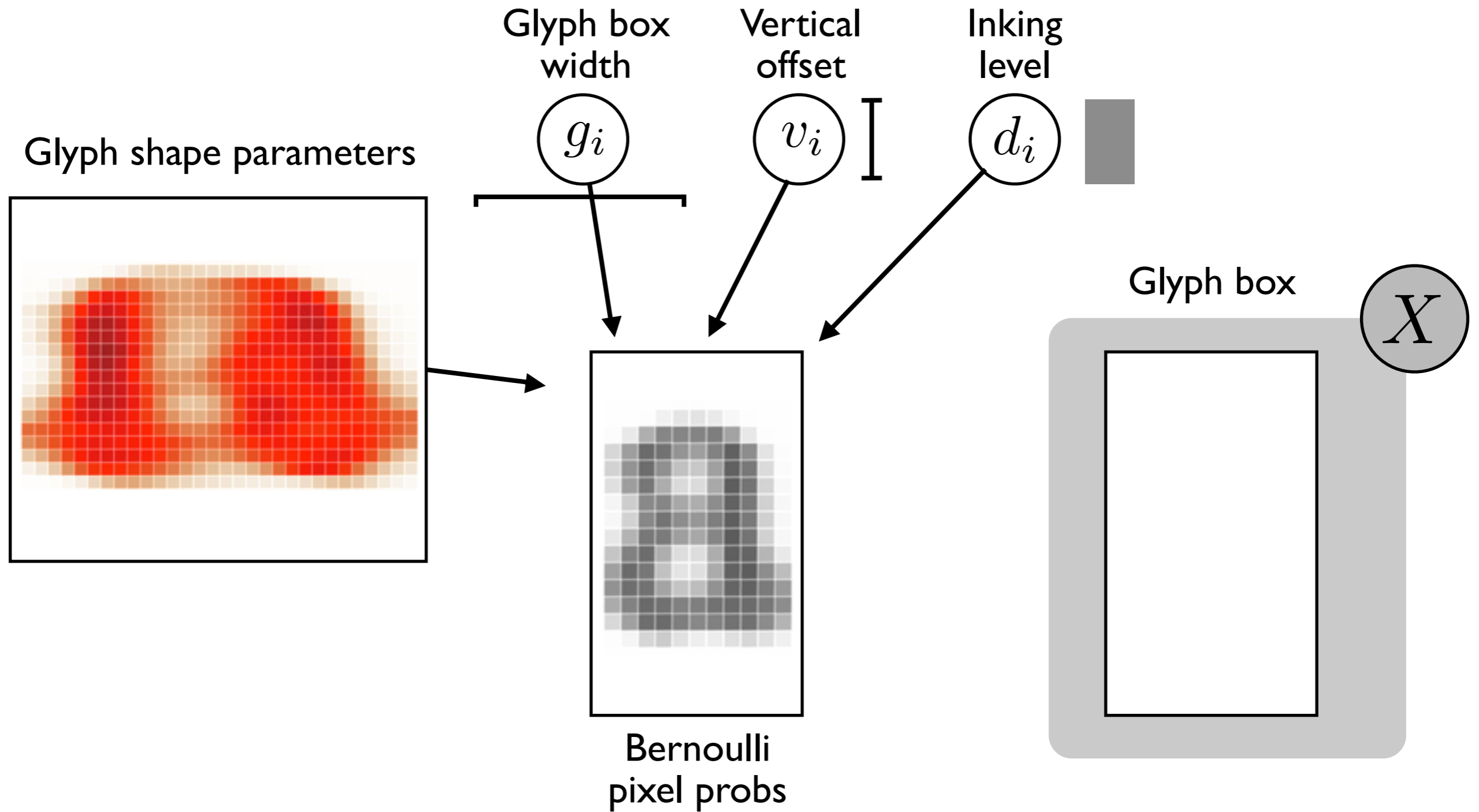
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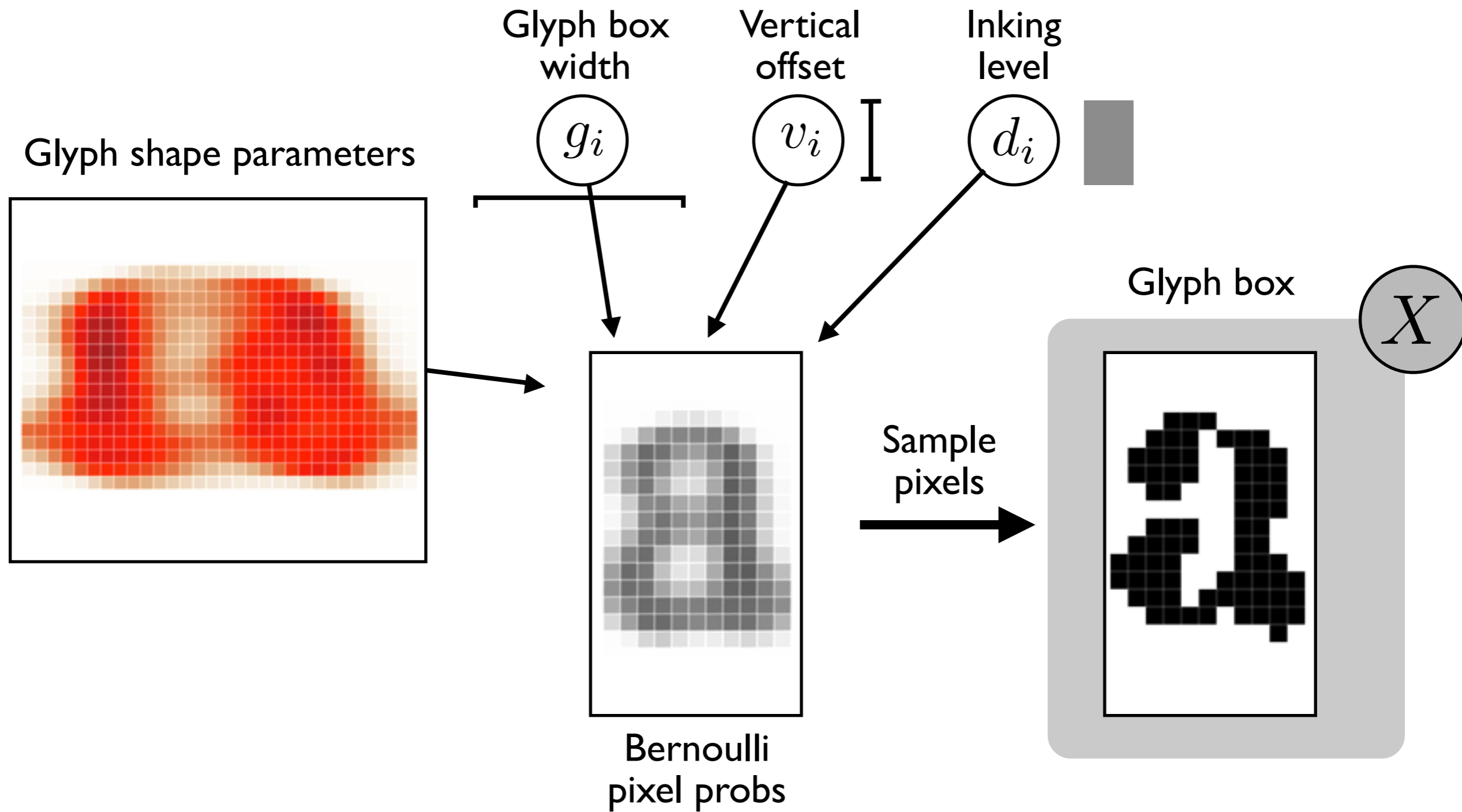
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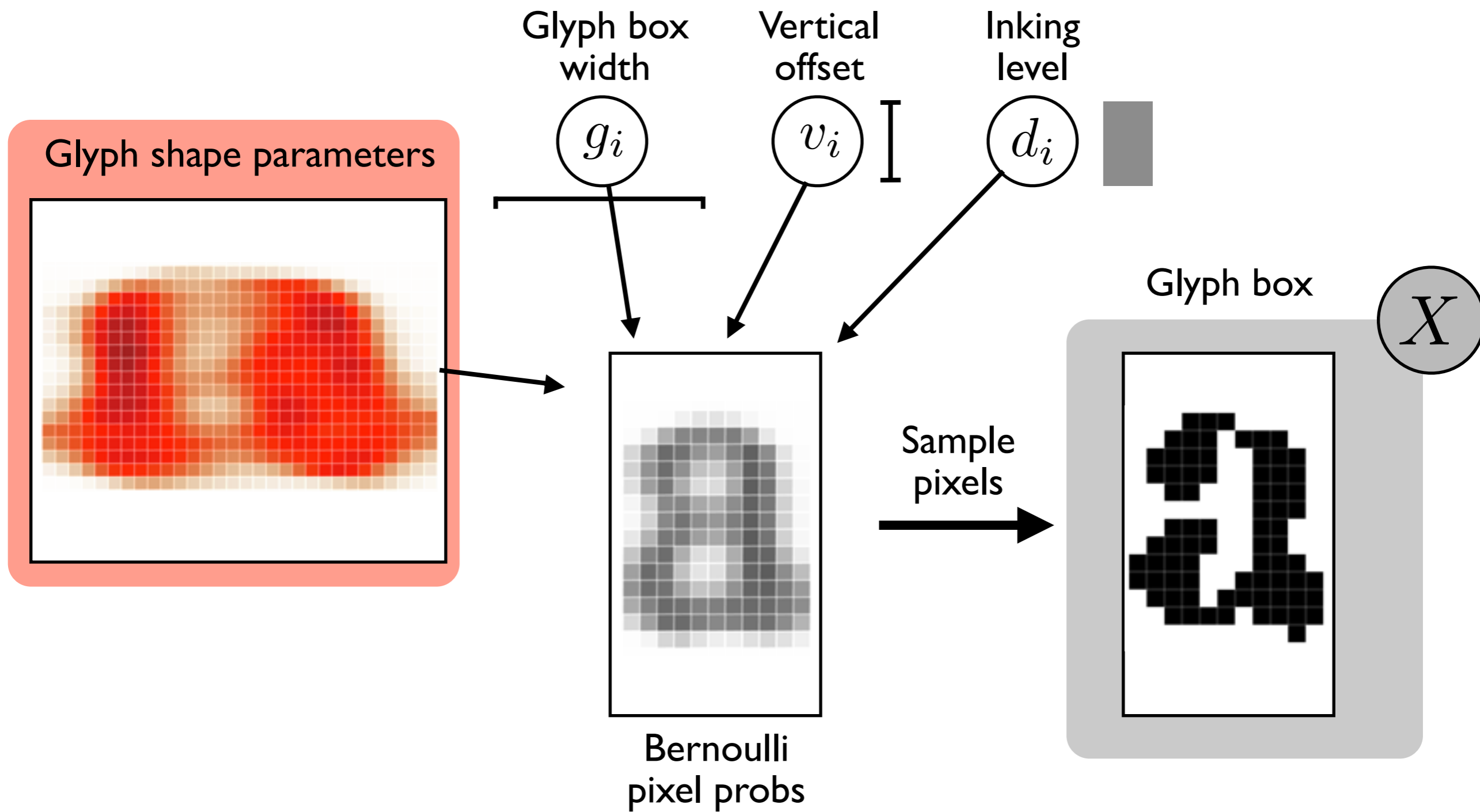
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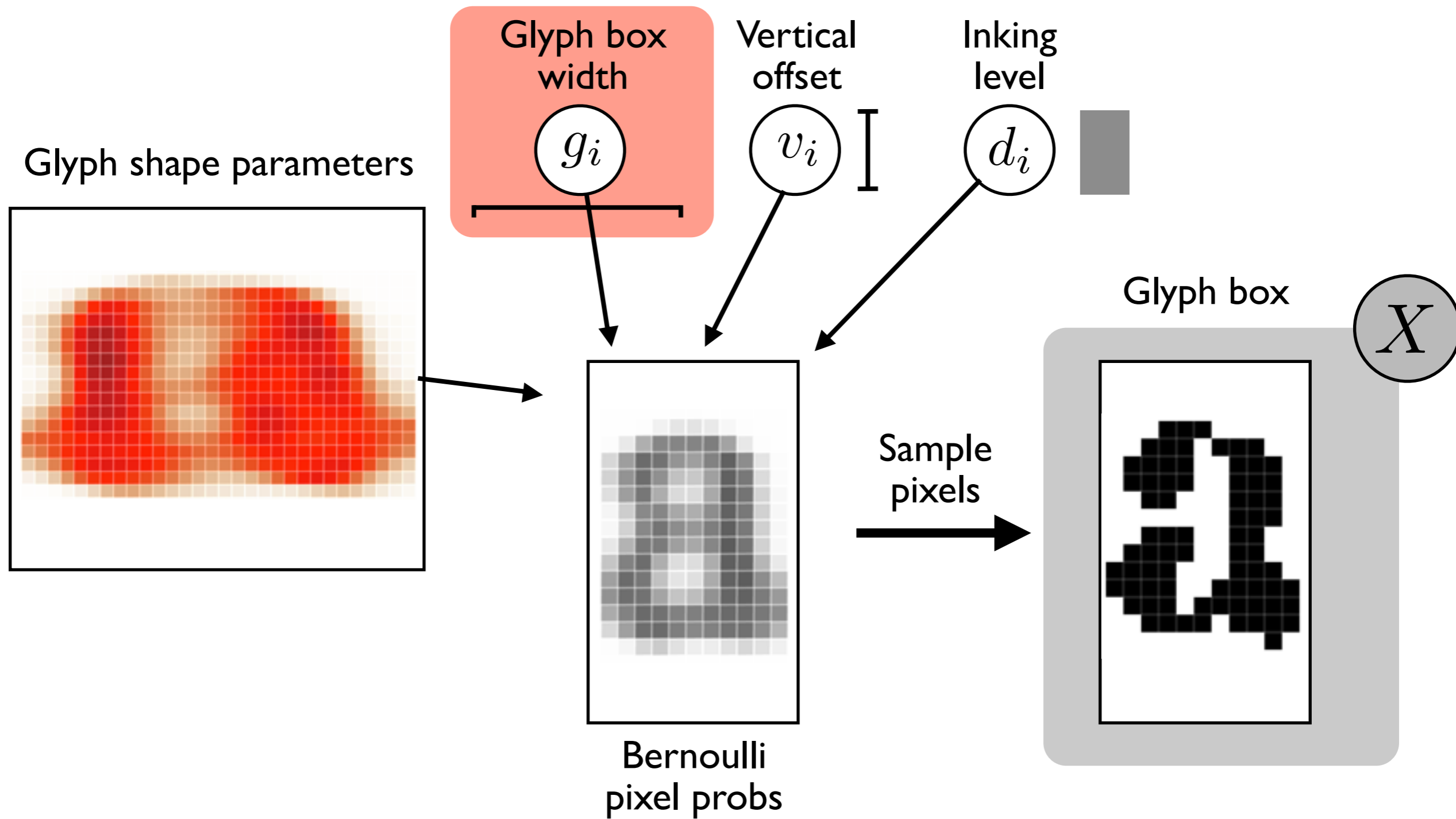
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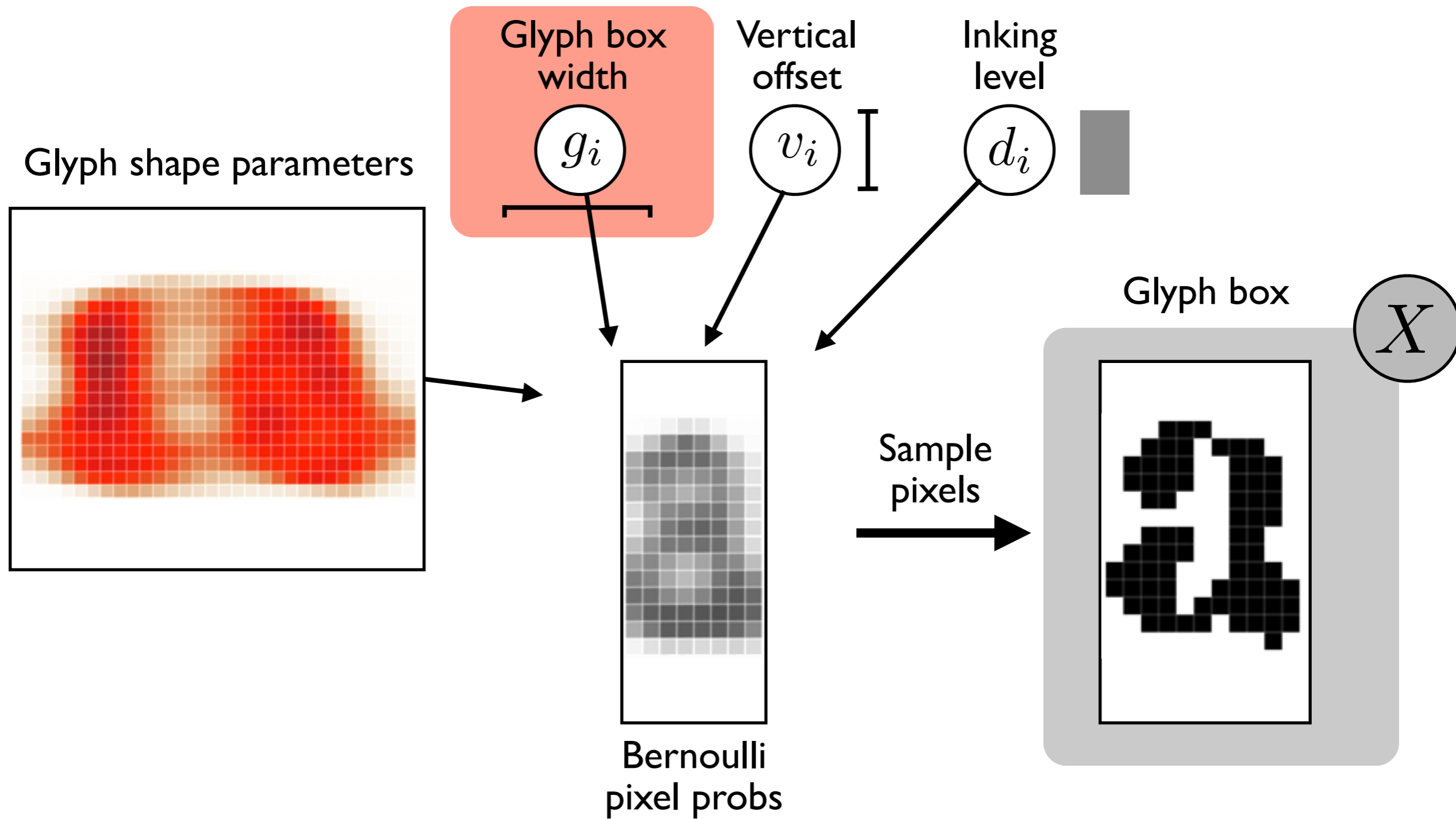
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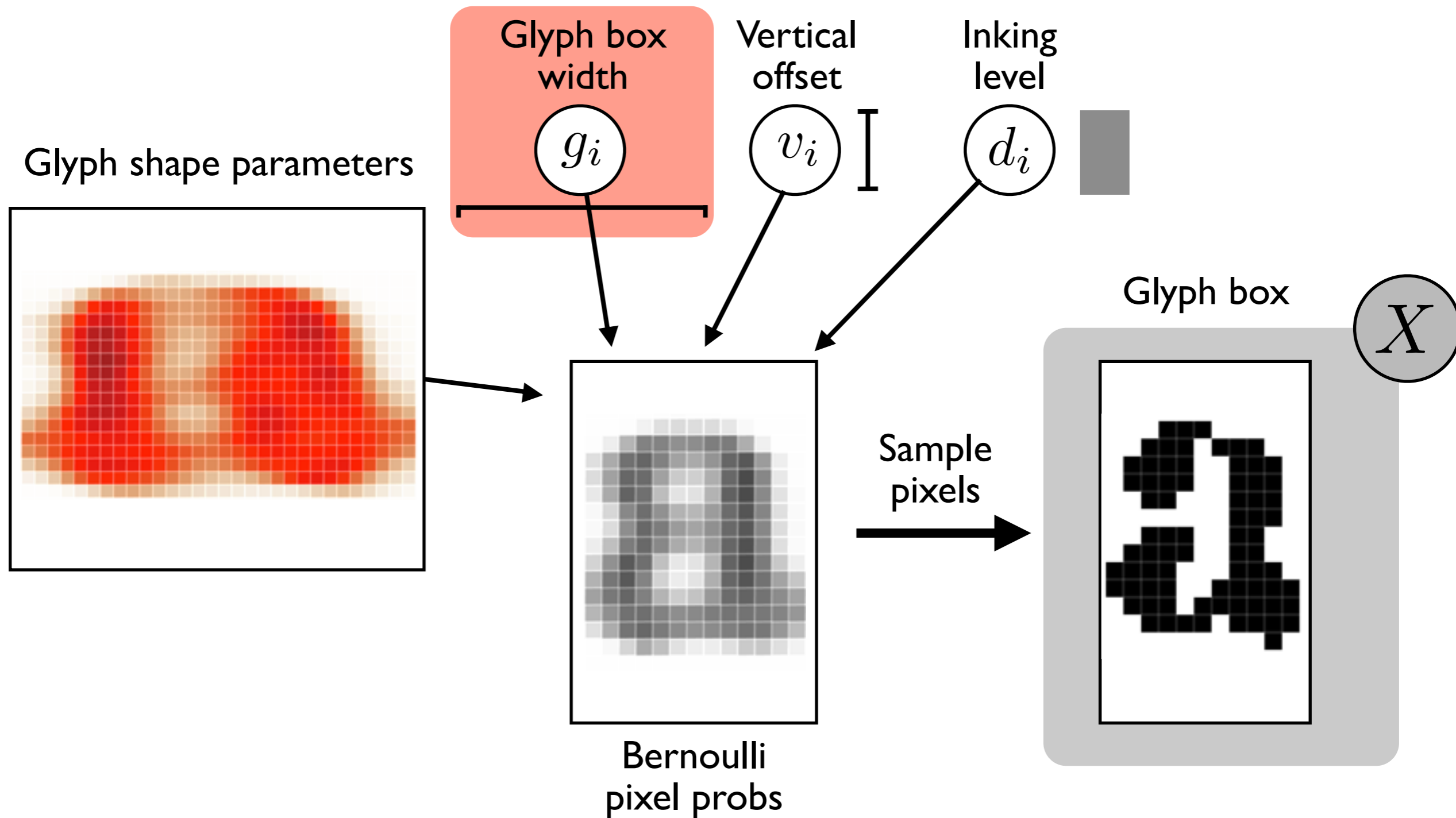
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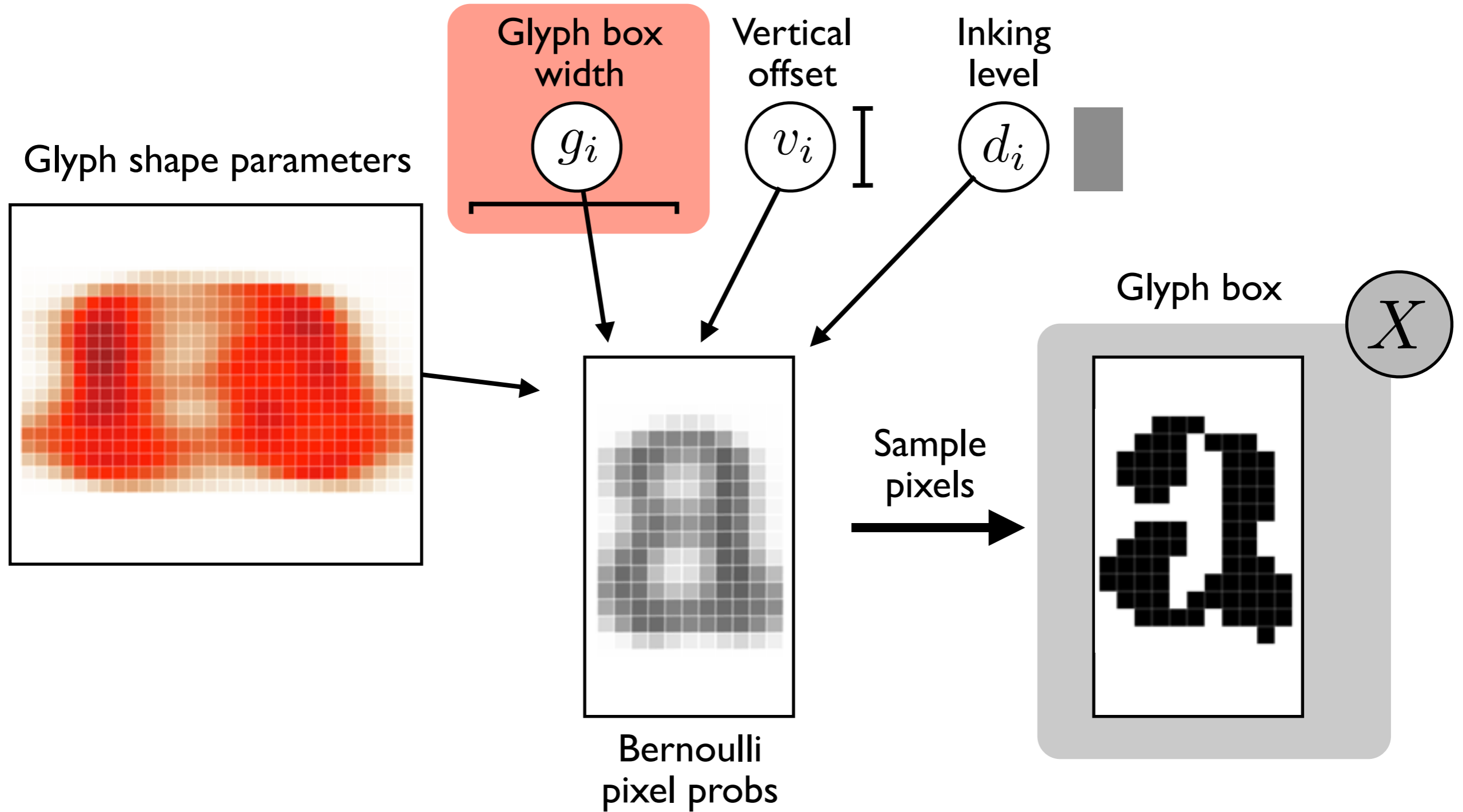
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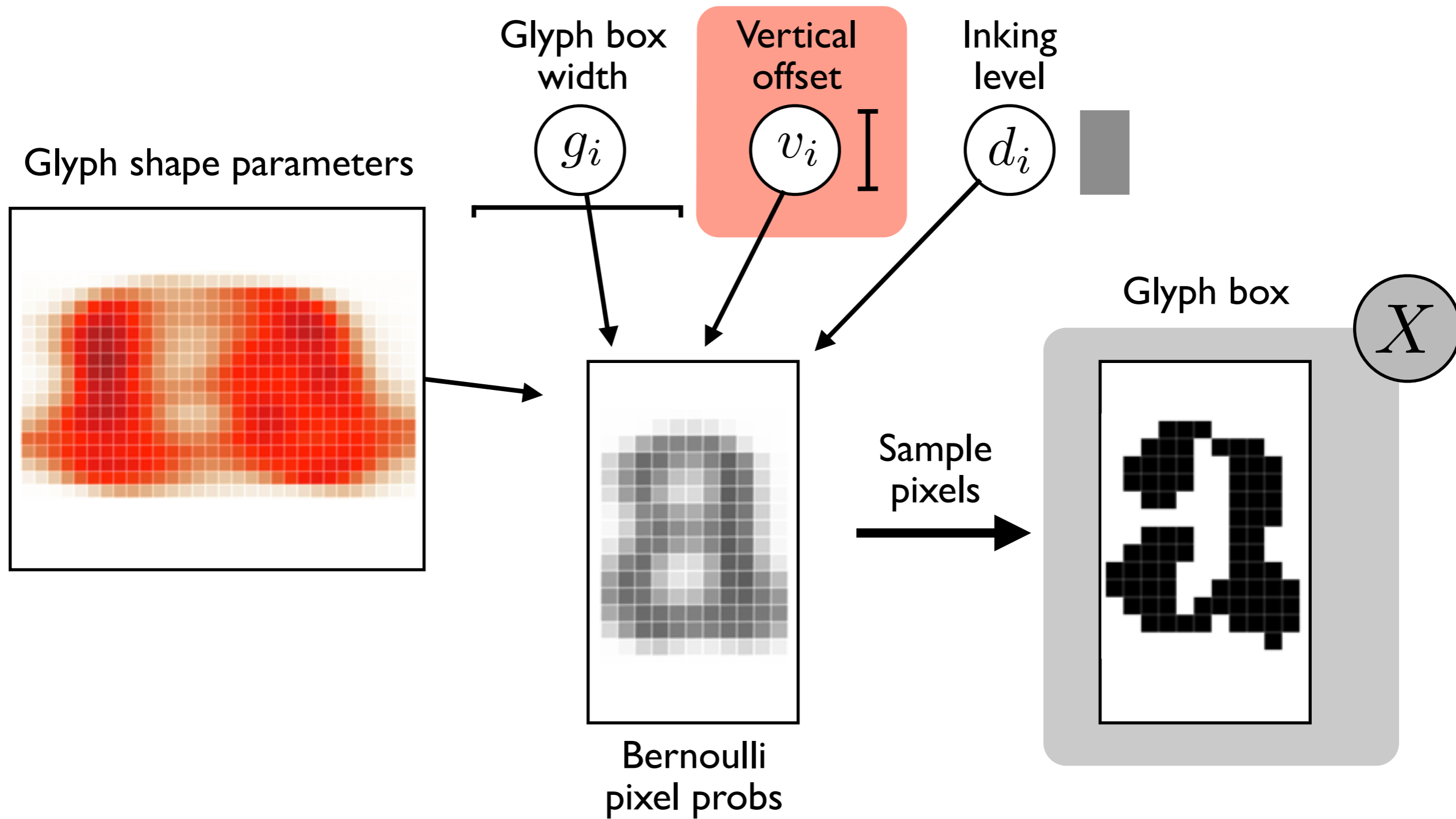
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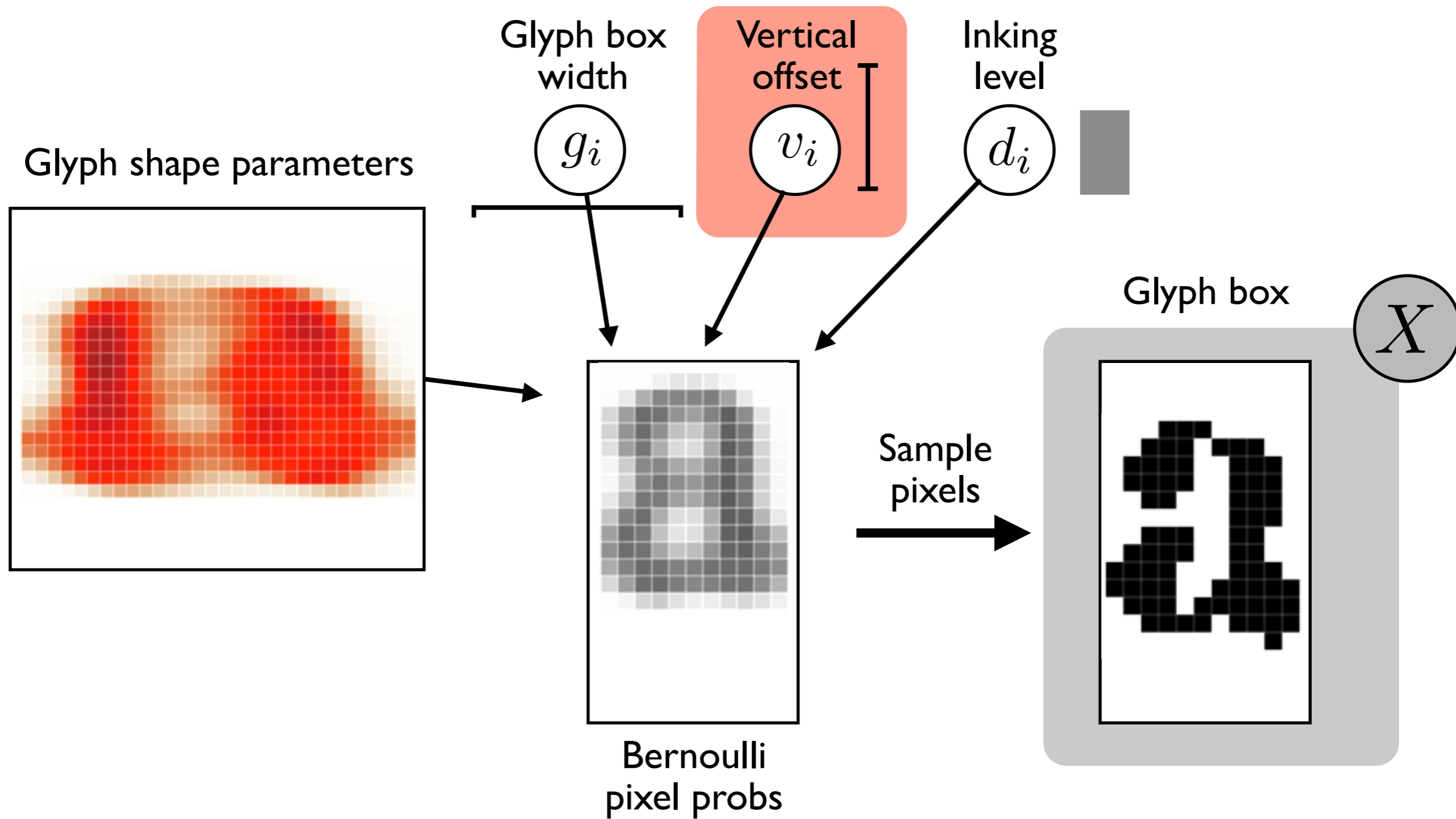
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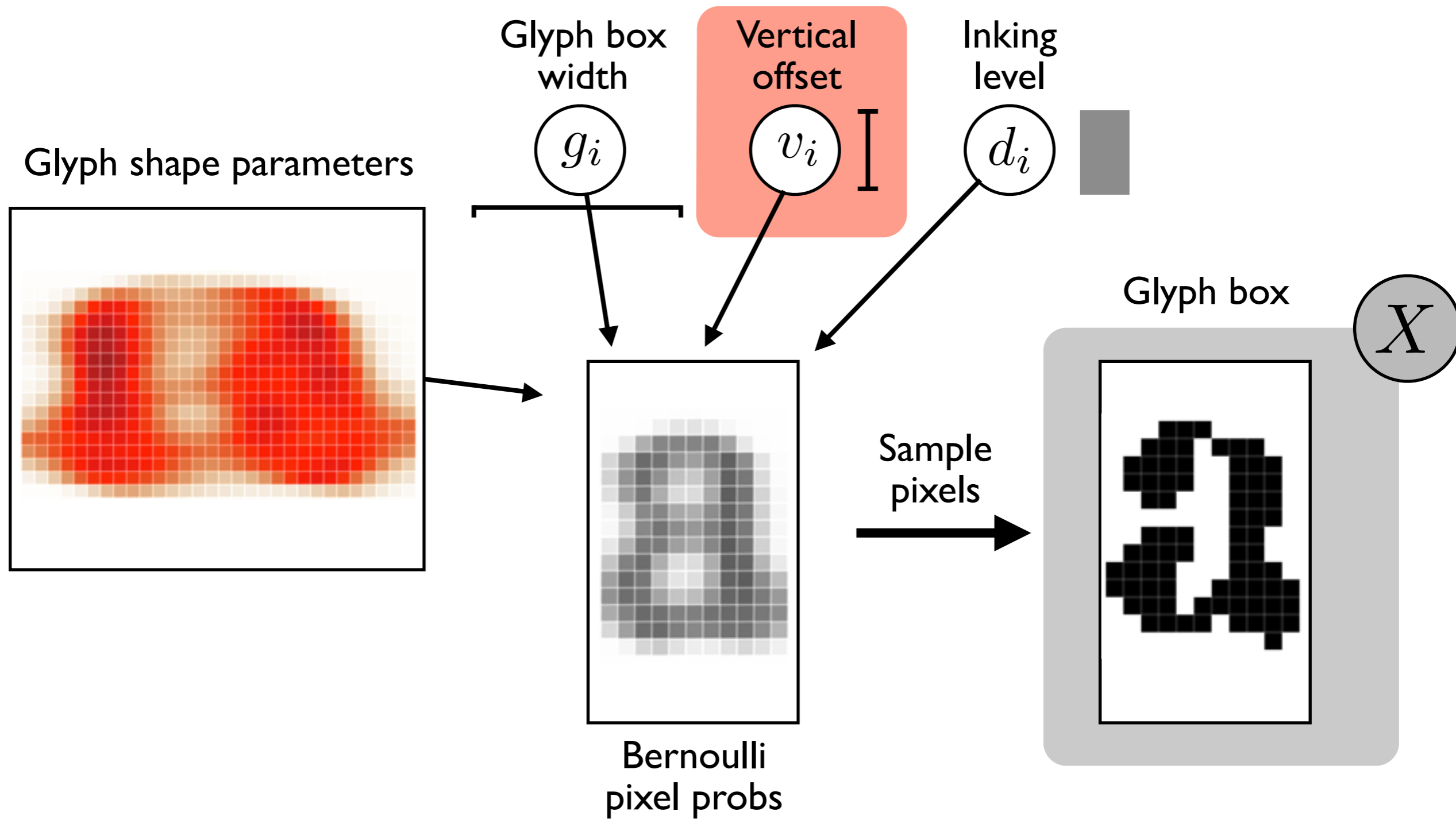
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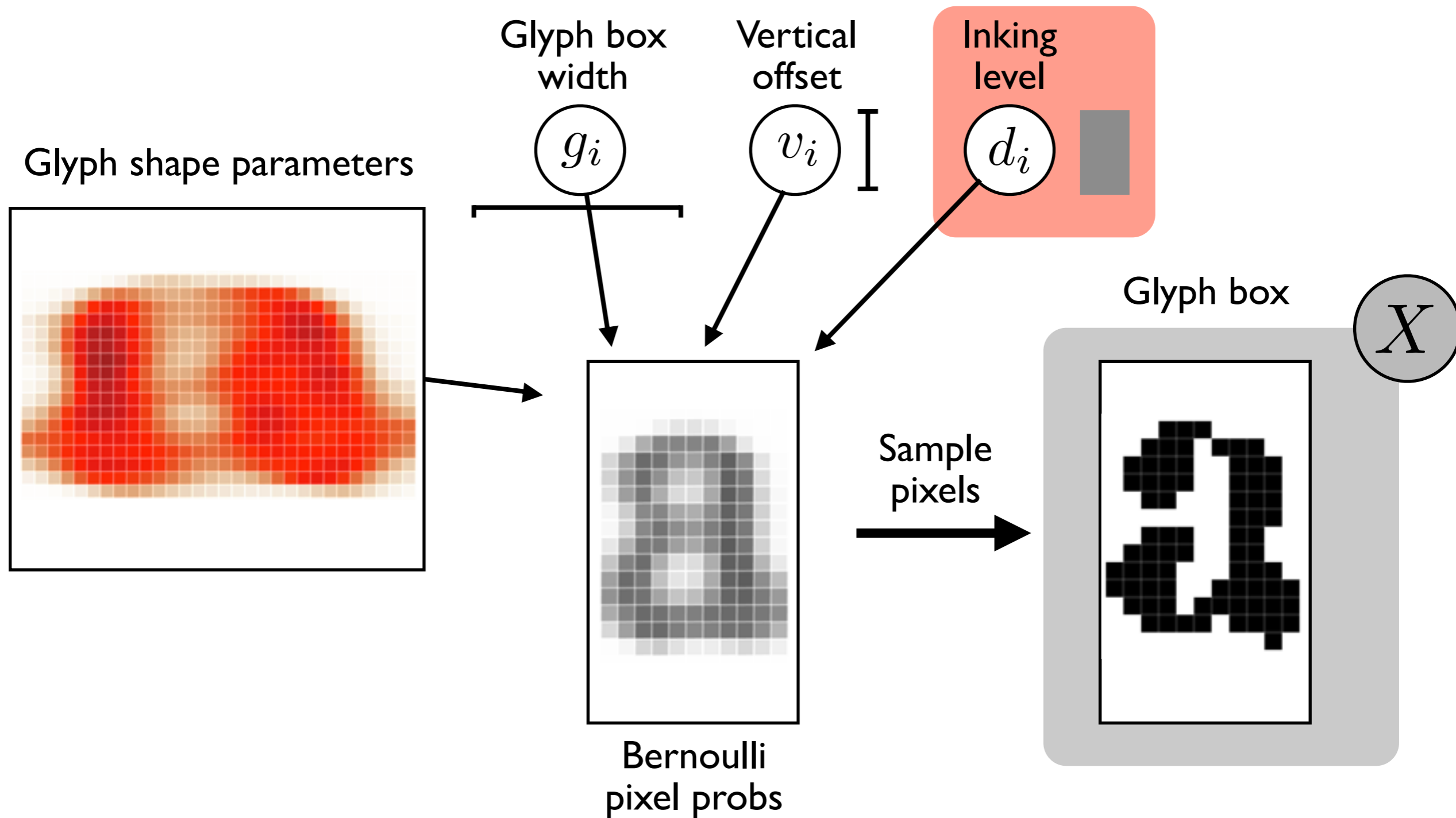
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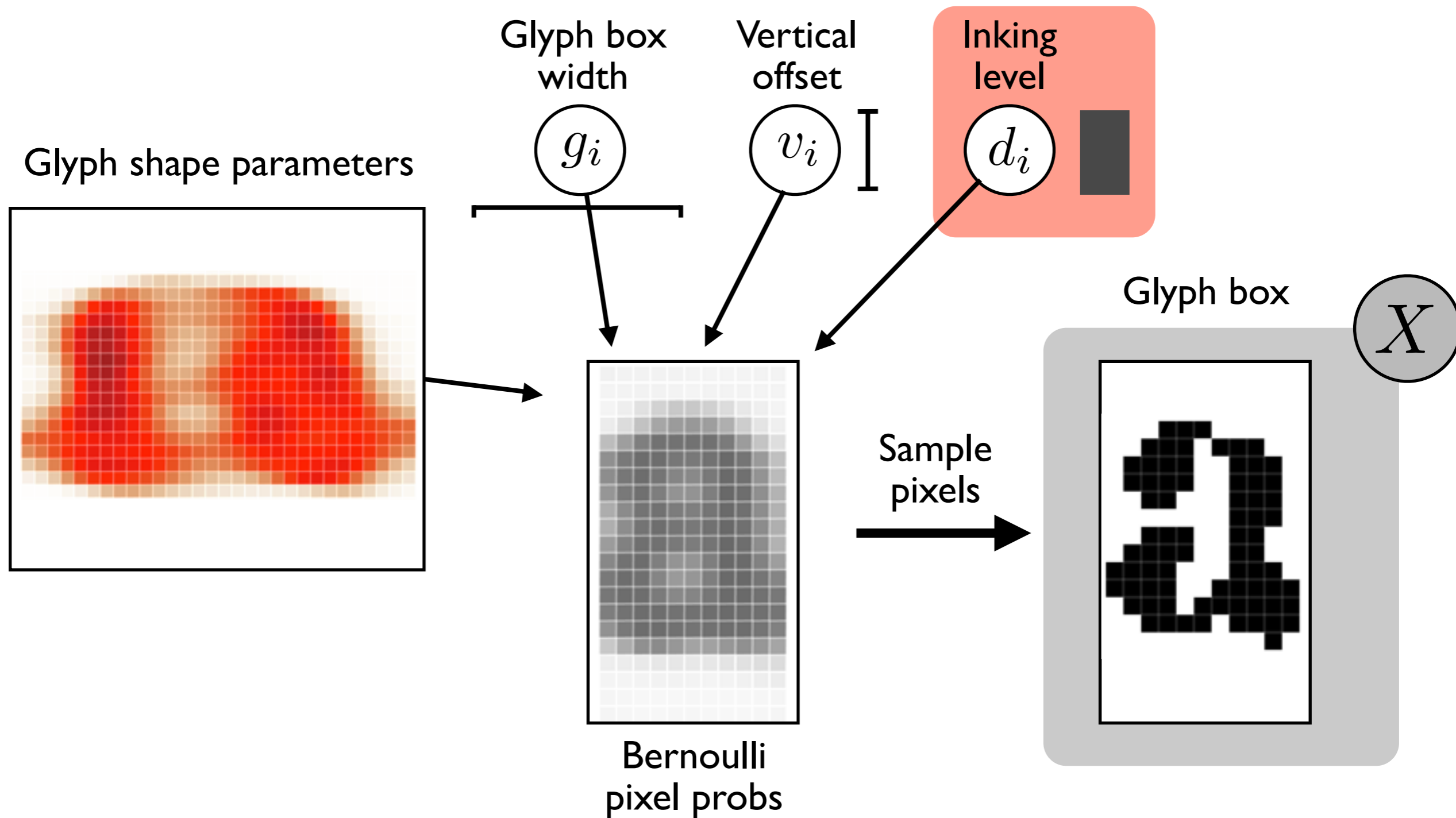
Rendering Model



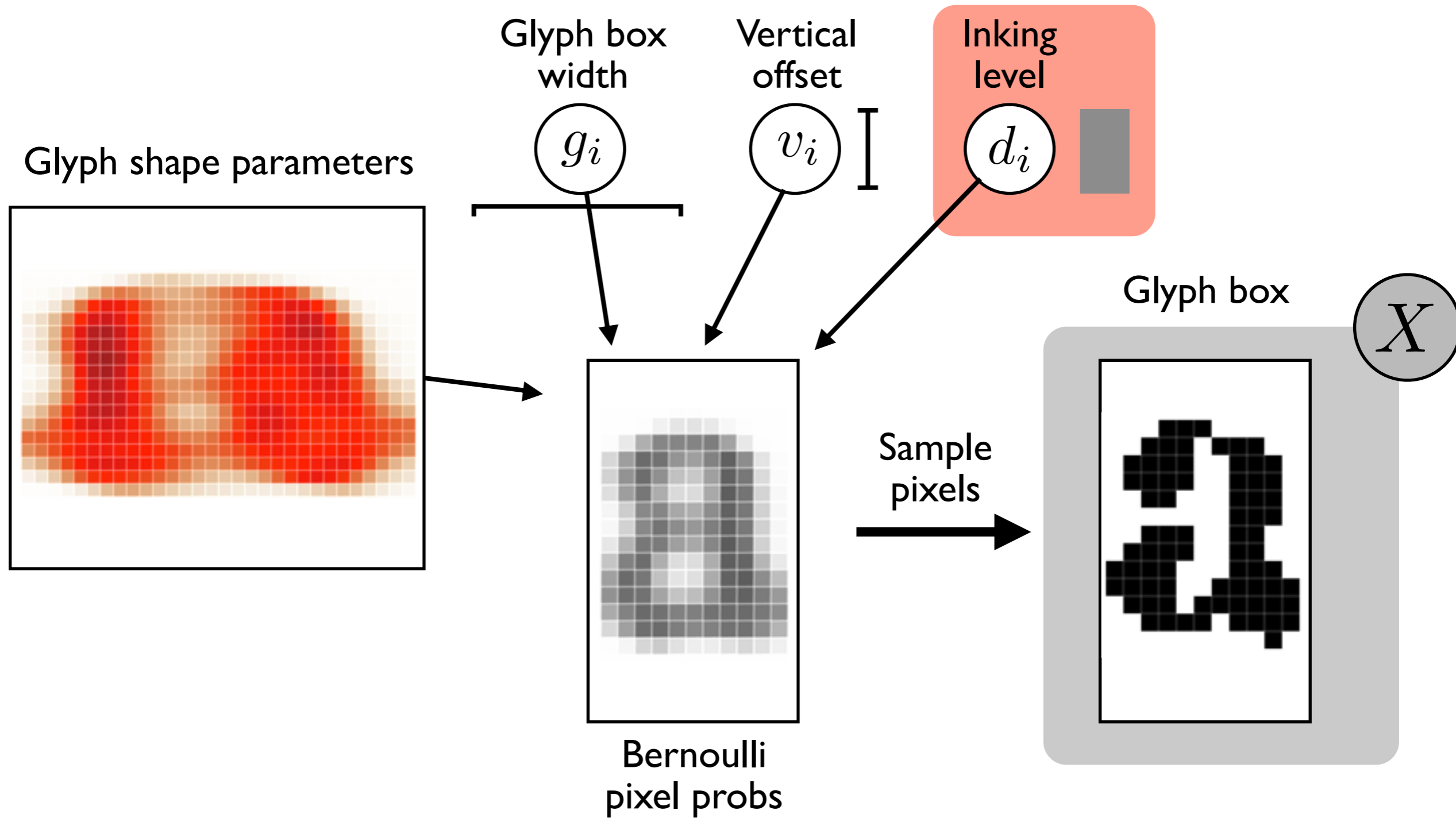
Rendering Model



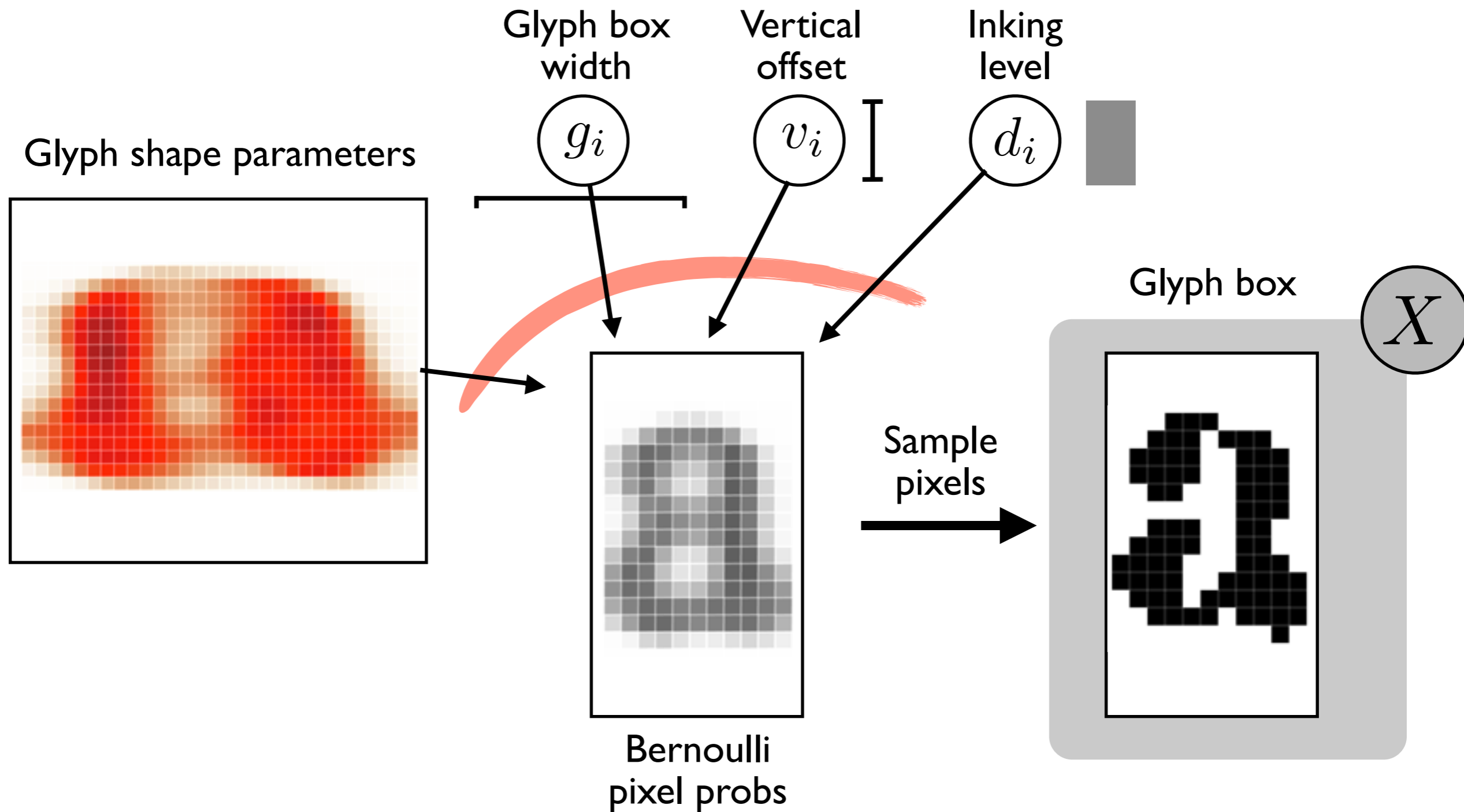
Rendering Model



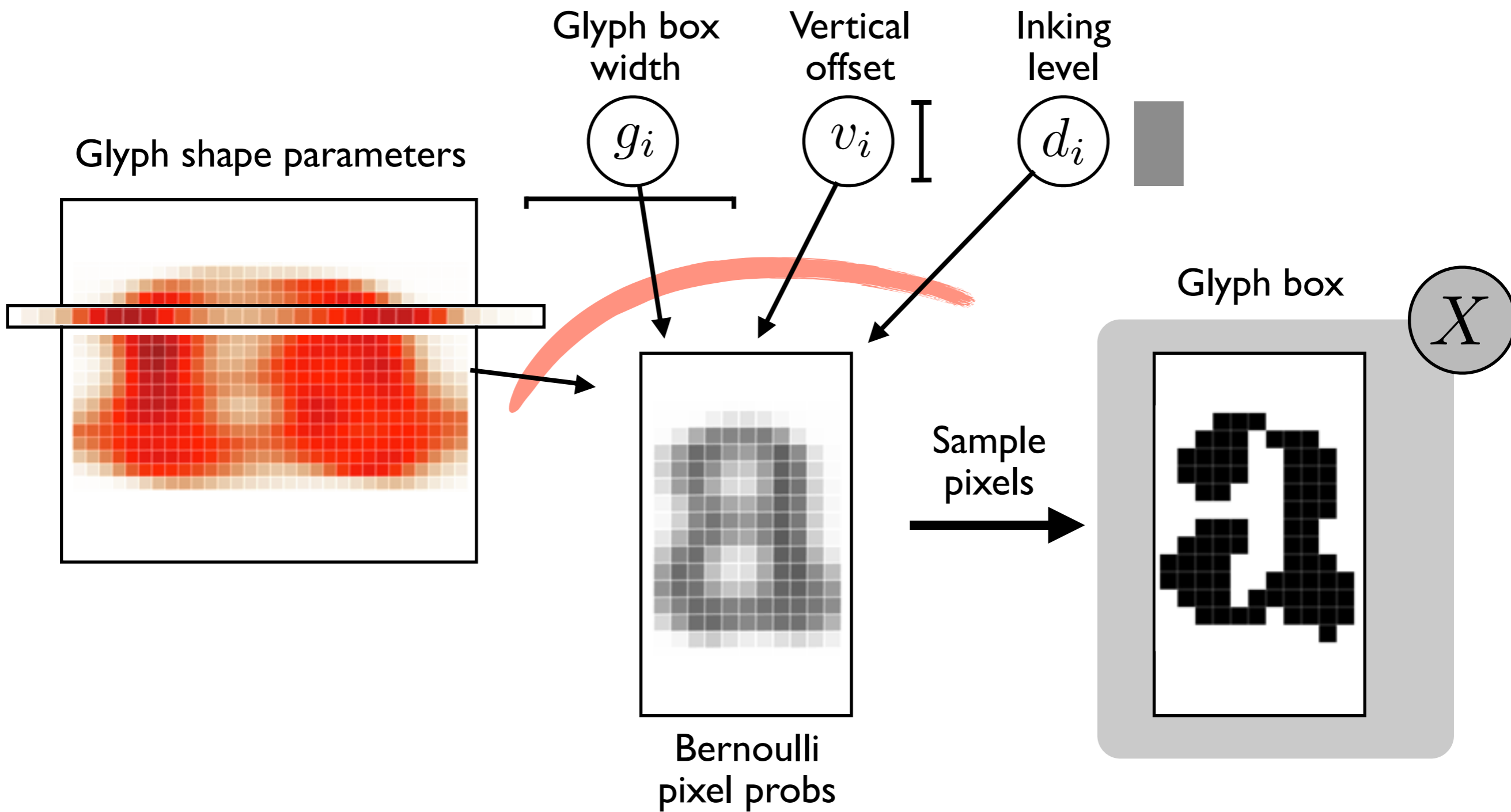
Rendering Model



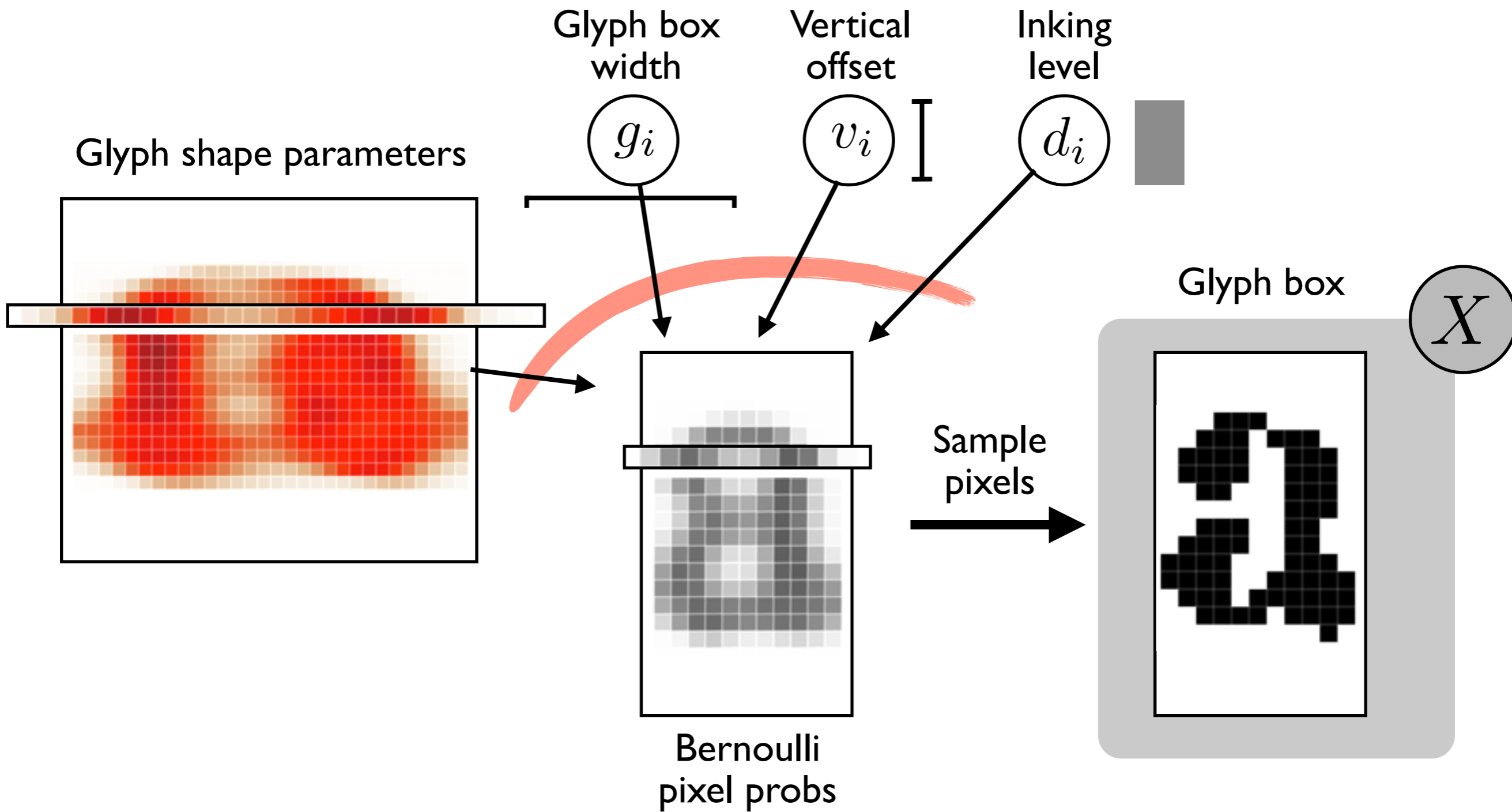
Rendering Model

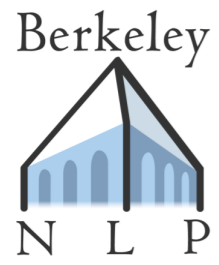


Rendering Model



Rendering Model





Log-linear Interpolation





Log-linear Interpolation

Glyph shape parameters ϕ



Bernoulli pixel probs θ





Log-linear Interpolation

Glyph shape parameters ϕ



Bernoulli pixel probs θ





Log-linear Interpolation

Glyph shape parameters

ϕ



Bernoulli pixel probs

θ





Log-linear Interpolation

Glyph shape parameters ϕ



Bernoulli pixel probs θ





Log-linear Interpolation

Glyph shape parameters ϕ



Bernoulli pixel probs θ

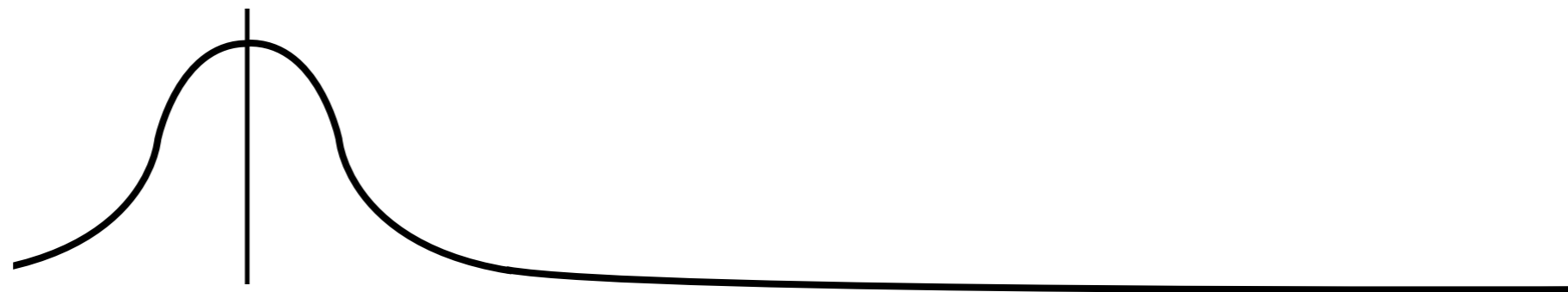




Log-linear Interpolation

Interpolation weights

α



Glyph shape parameters

ϕ



Bernoulli pixel probs

θ

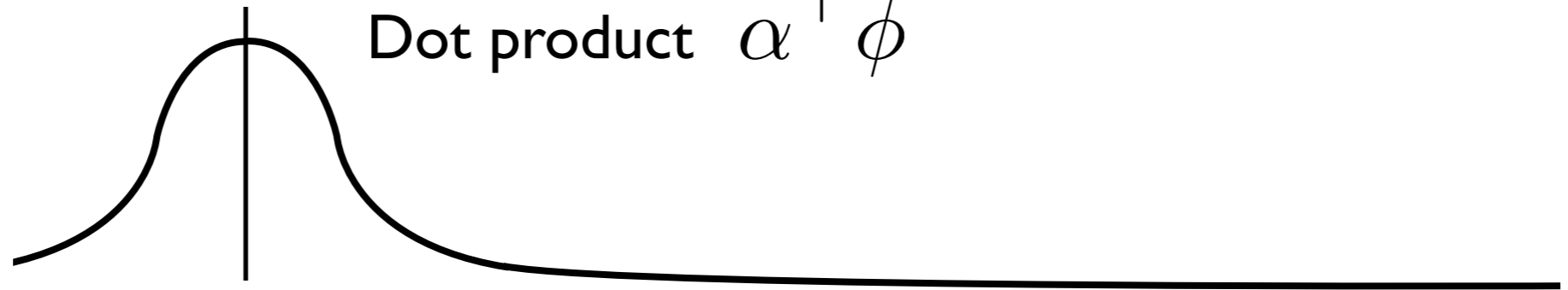




Log-linear Interpolation

Dot product $\alpha^T \phi$

Interpolation weights α



Glyph shape parameters ϕ

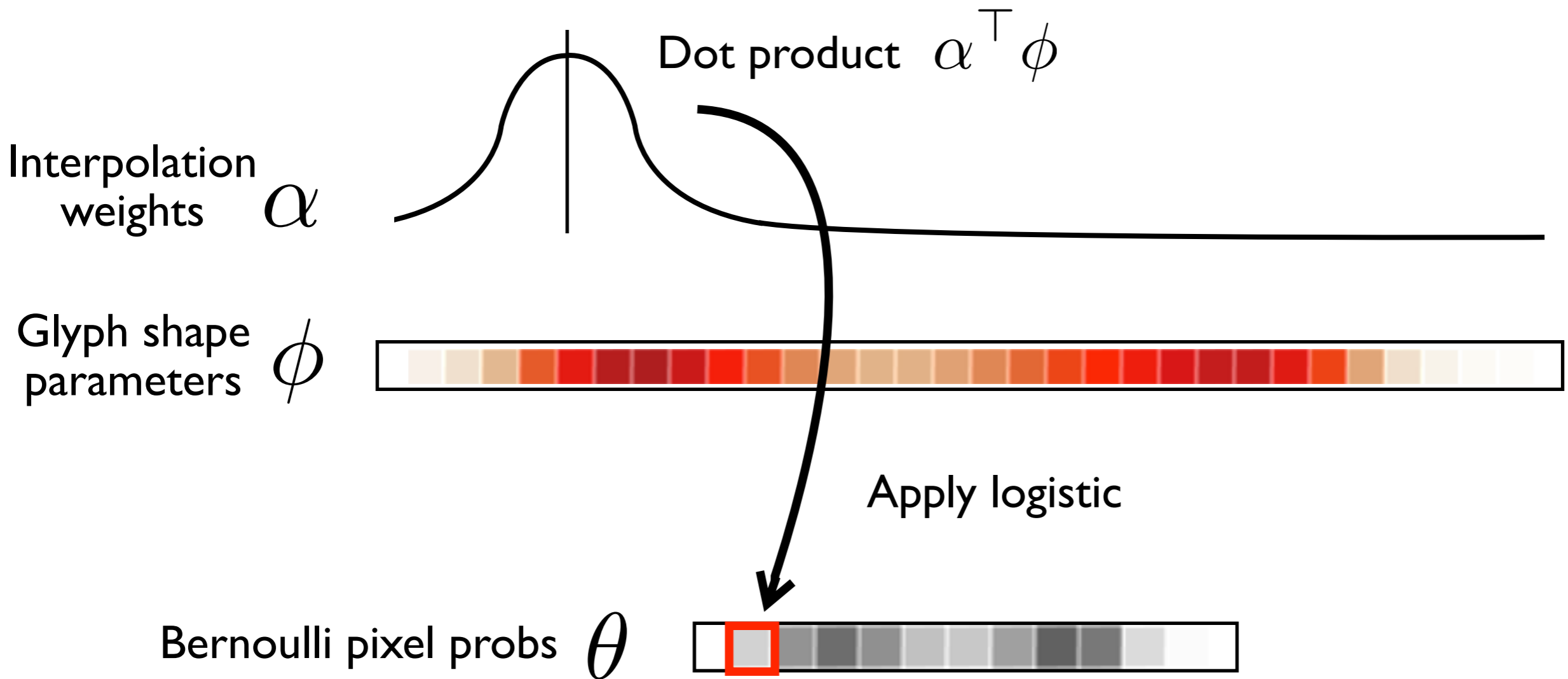


Bernoulli pixel probs θ





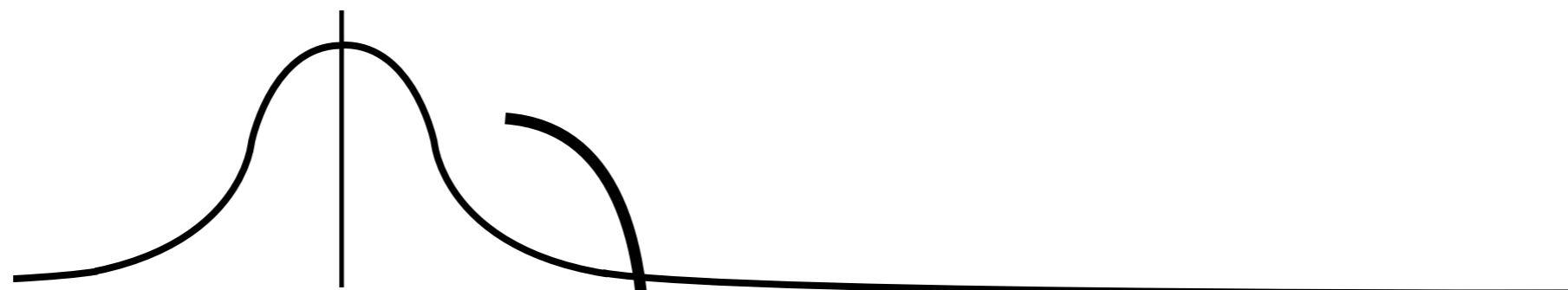
Log-linear Interpolation



Log-linear Interpolation

Interpolation weights α

α



Glyph shape parameters ϕ

ϕ



Bernoulli pixel probs θ

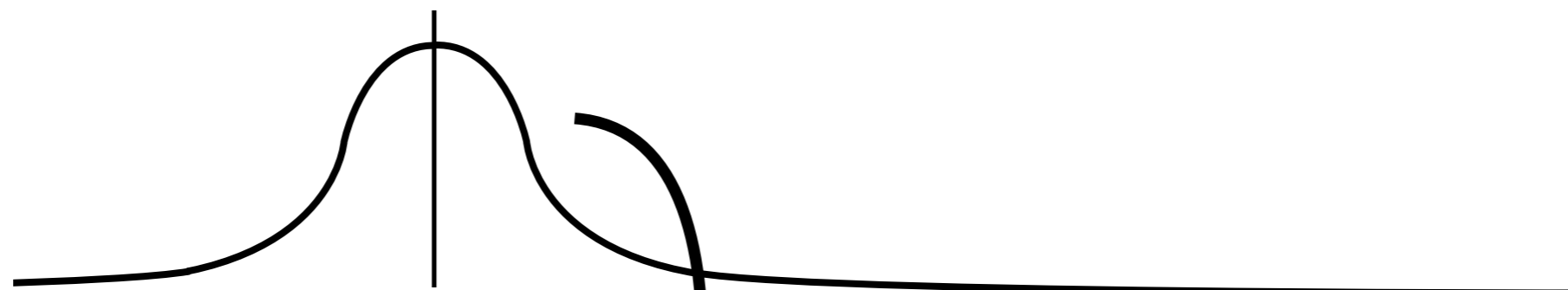
θ



Log-linear Interpolation

Interpolation weights α

α



Glyph shape parameters ϕ

ϕ



Bernoulli pixel probs θ

θ





Log-linear Interpolation

Interpolation weights α

α



Glyph shape parameters ϕ

ϕ



Bernoulli pixel probs θ

θ

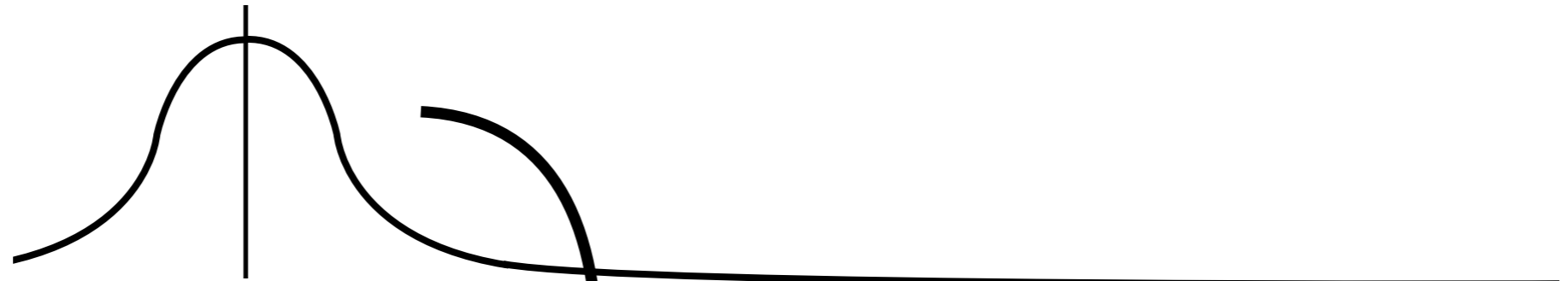




Log-linear Interpolation

Interpolation weights

α_j



Glyph shape parameters

ϕ



Bernoulli pixel probs

θ

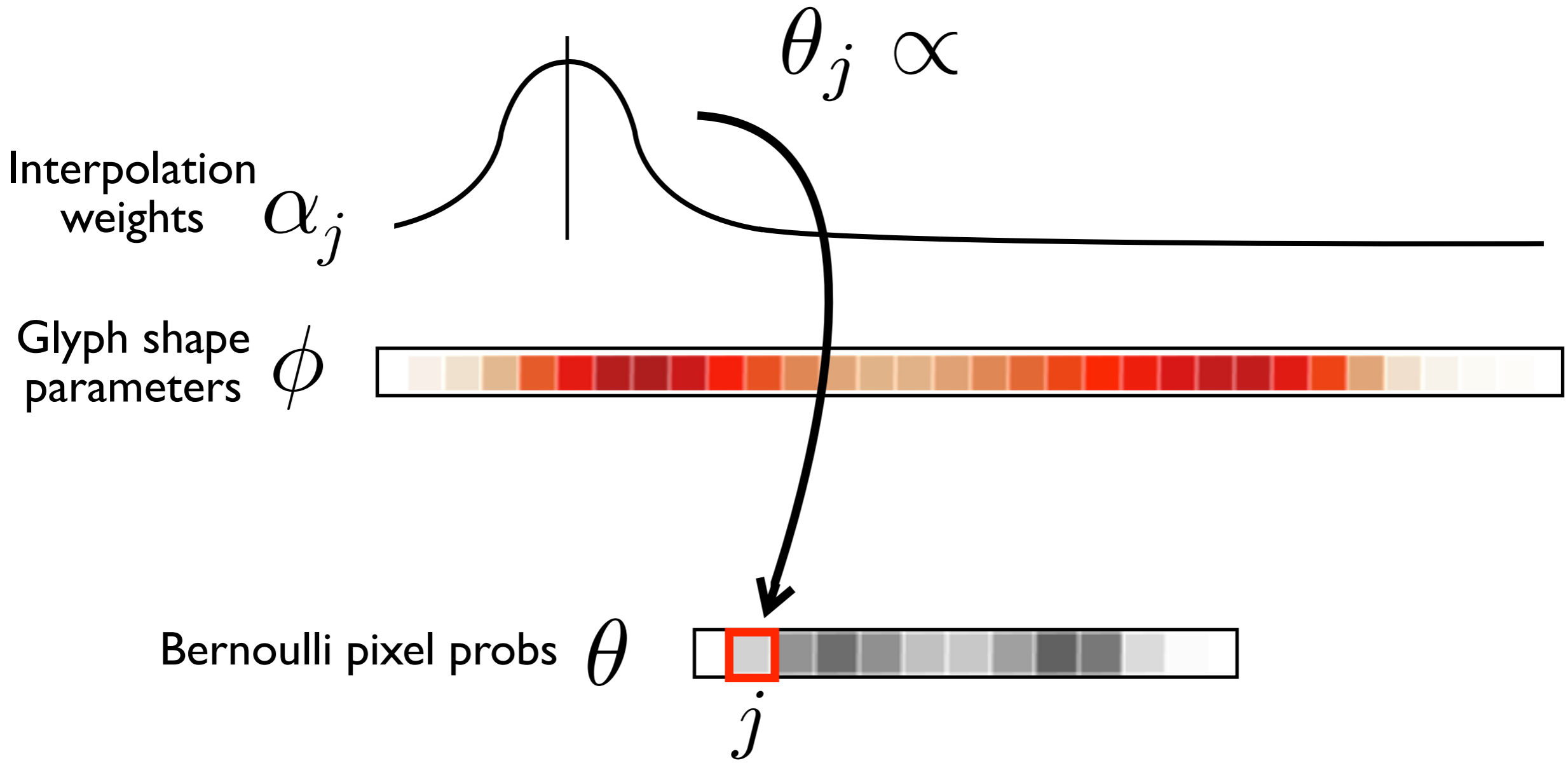


j





Log-linear Interpolation



Log-linear Interpolation

$$\theta_j \propto \exp[\alpha_j^T \phi]$$

Interpolation weights α_j

α_j

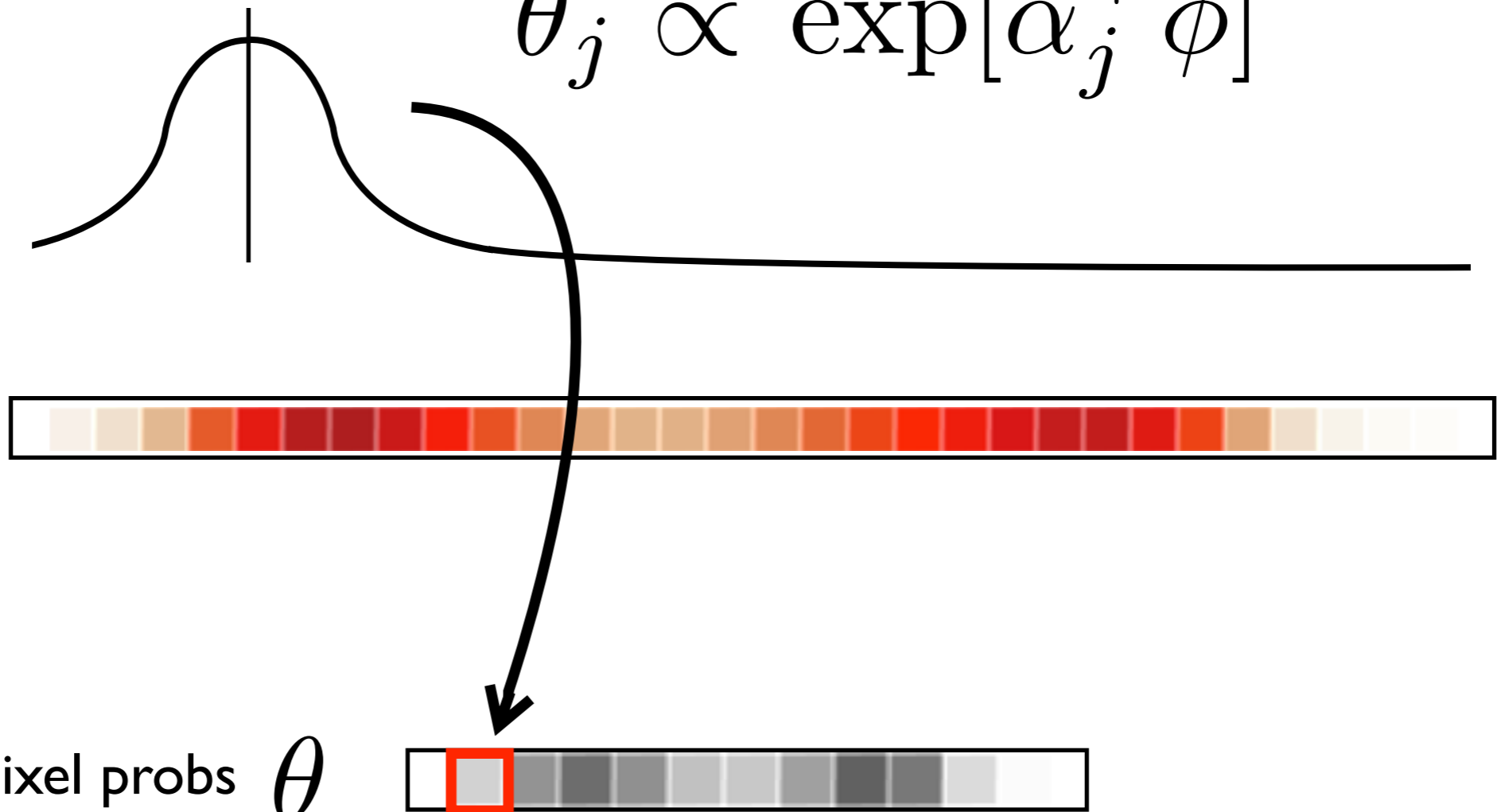
Glyph shape parameters ϕ

ϕ

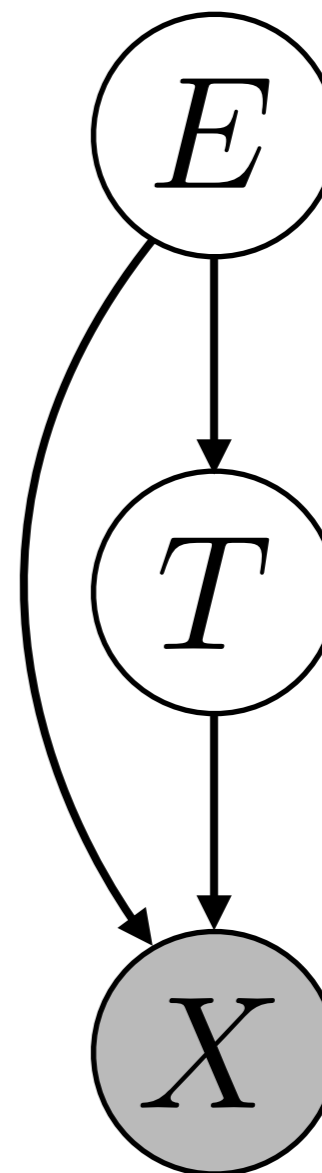
Bernoulli pixel probs θ

θ

j

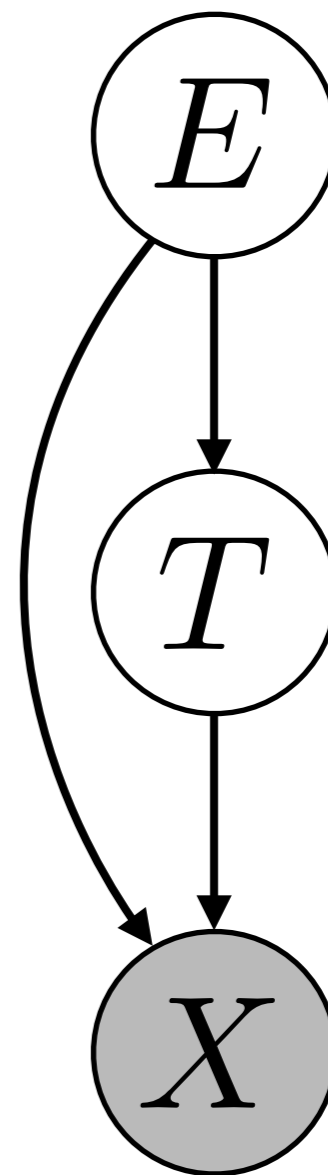


Learning and Inference



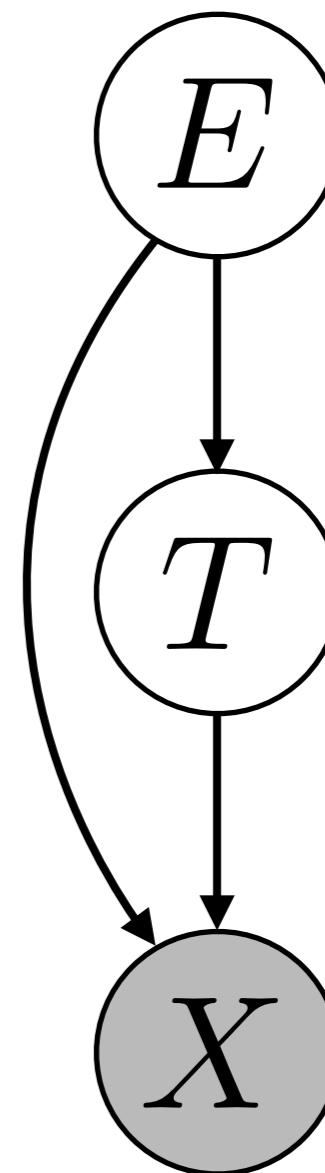
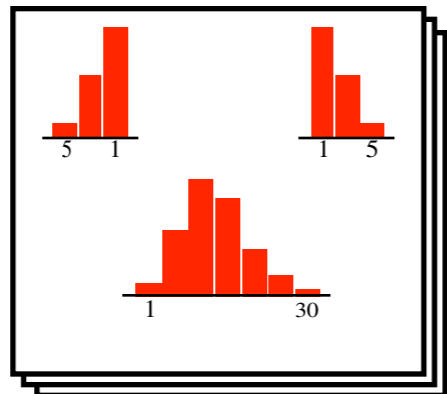
Learning and Inference

- Learn font parameters using EM



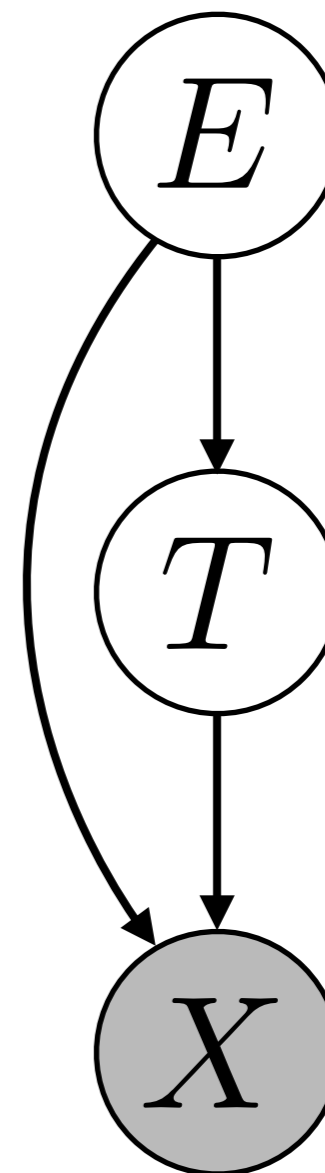
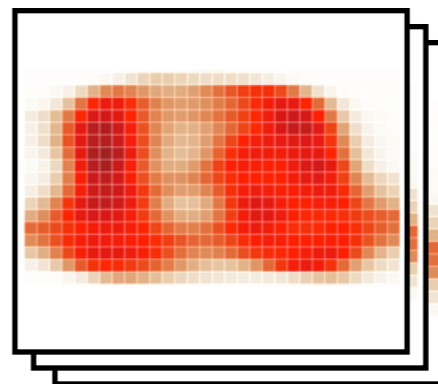
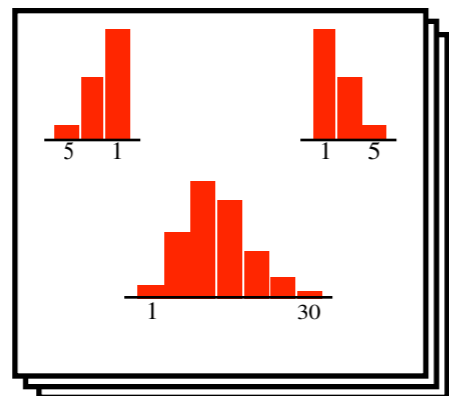
Learning and Inference

- Learn font parameters using EM



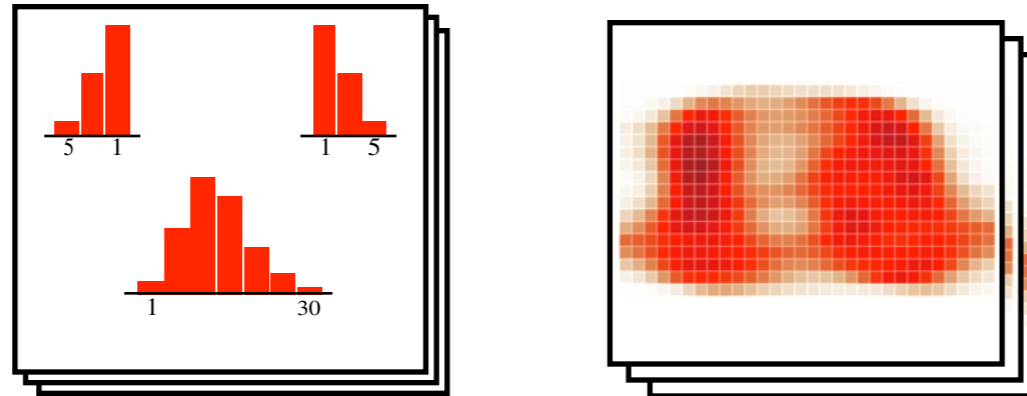
Learning and Inference

- Learn font parameters using EM

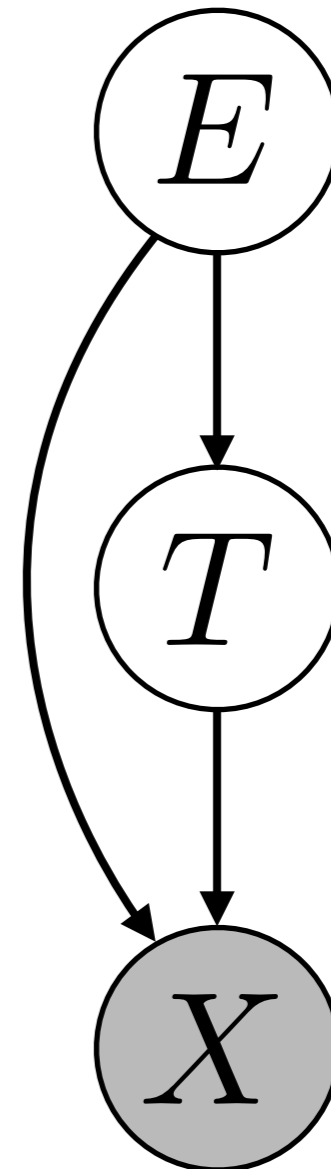


Learning and Inference

- Learn font parameters using EM

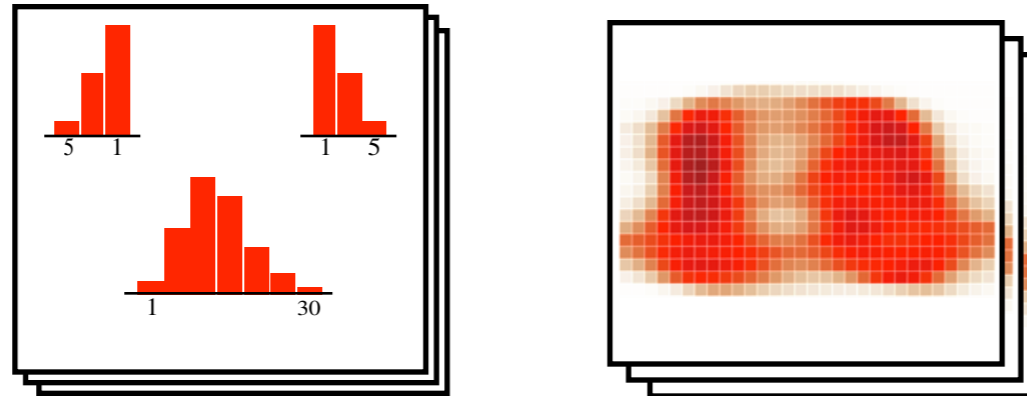


- Initialize font parameters with mixtures of modern fonts

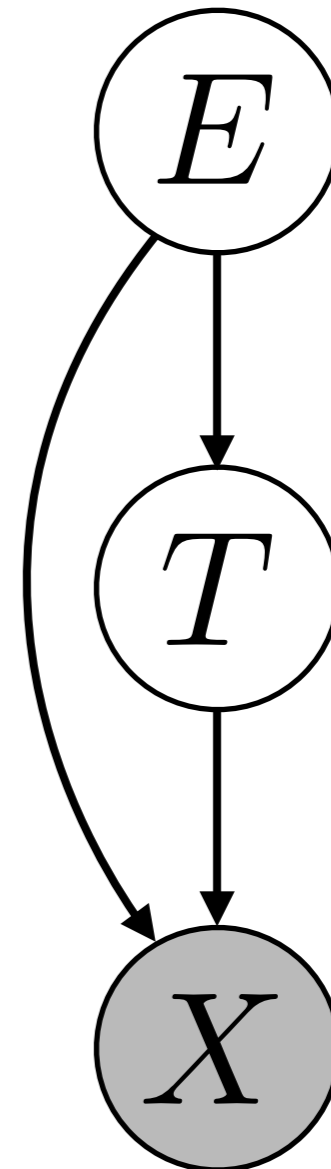


Learning and Inference

- Learn font parameters using EM

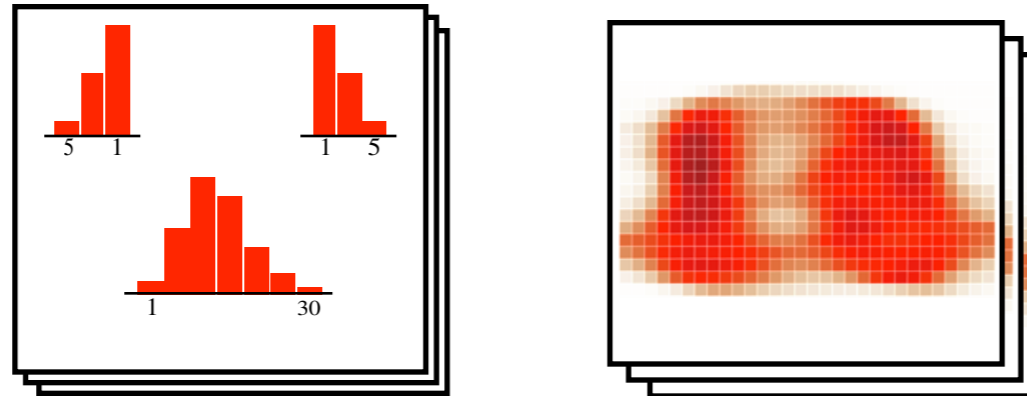


- Initialize font parameters with mixtures of modern fonts
- Semi-Markov DP to compute expectations

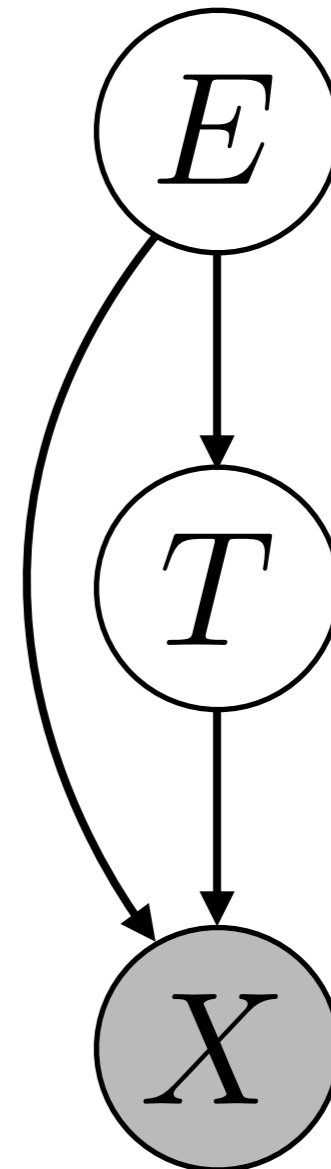


Learning and Inference

- Learn font parameters using EM



- Initialize font parameters with mixtures of modern fonts
- Semi-Markov DP to compute expectations
- Efficient inference using a coarse-to-fine approach

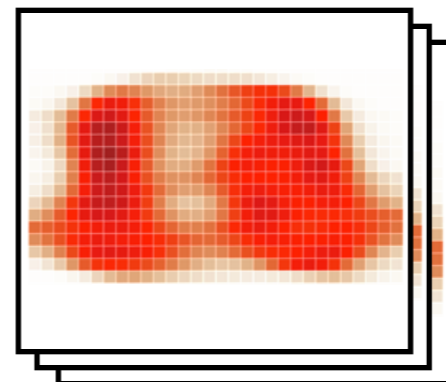
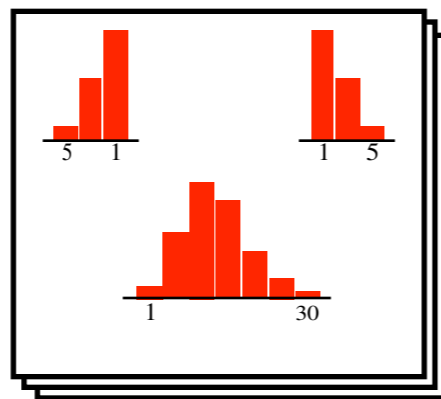




System Output Example

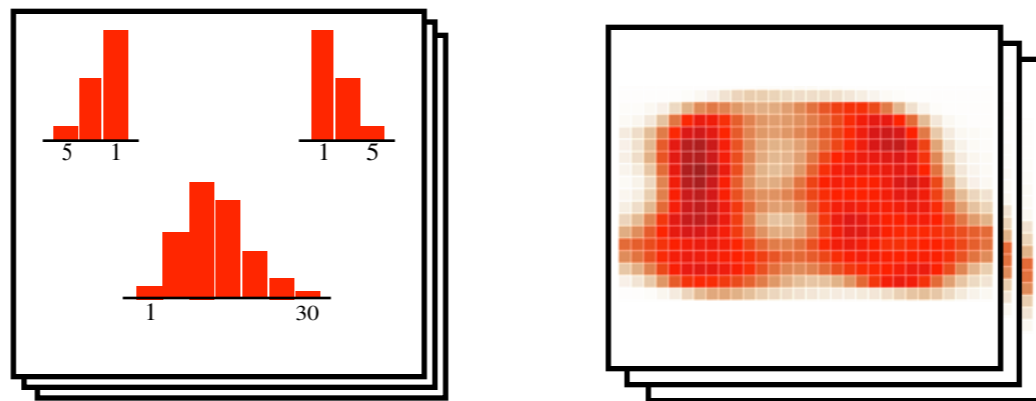
how the murderers came to

System Output Example



how the murderers came to

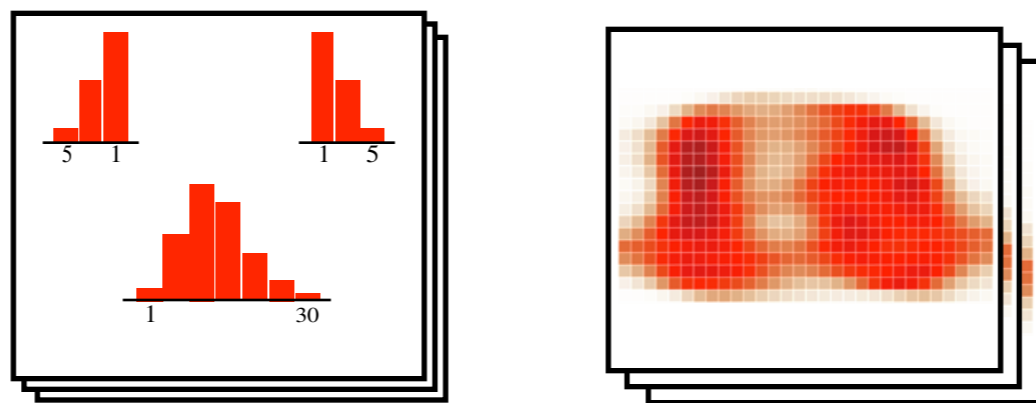
System Output Example



how the murderers came to

how the murderers came to

System Output Example

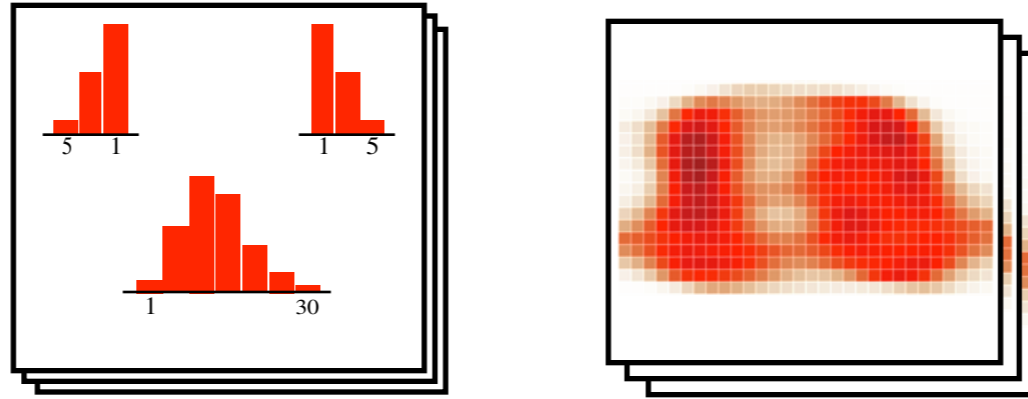


how the murderers came to

how the murderers came to

how the murderers came to

System Output Example

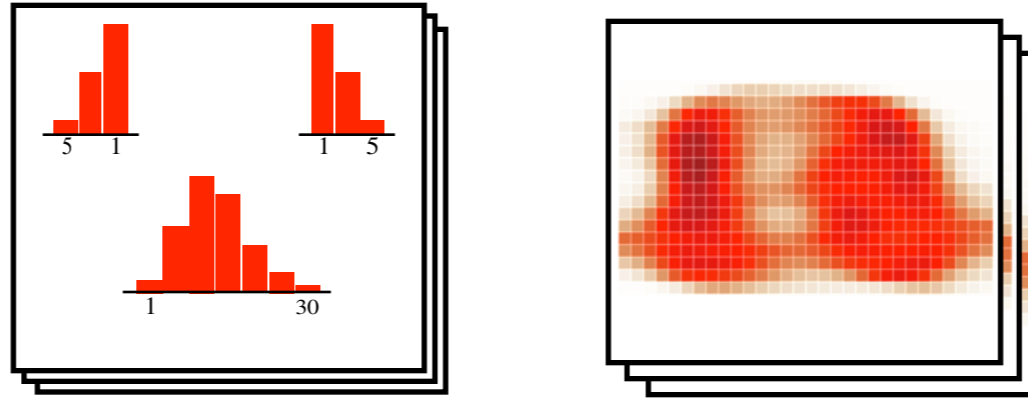


how the murderers came to

how the murderers came to

how the murderers came to

System Output Example

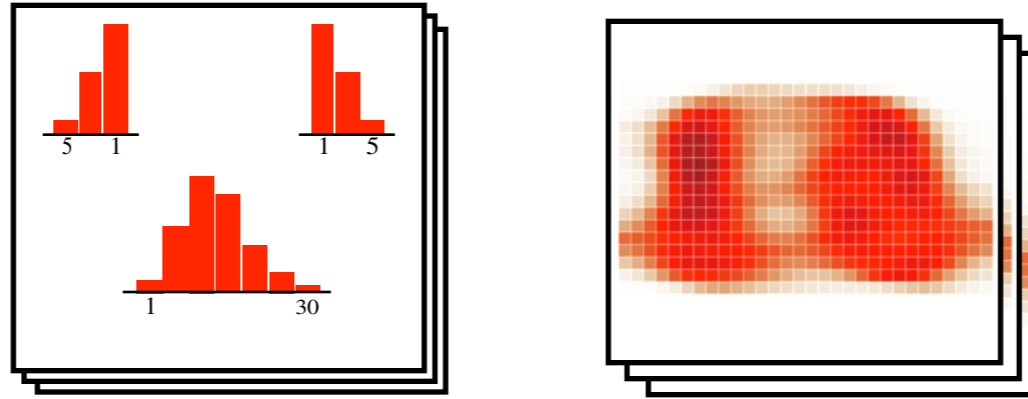


how the murderers came to

how the murderers came to

how the murderers came to

System Output Example



how the murderers came to

how the murderers came to

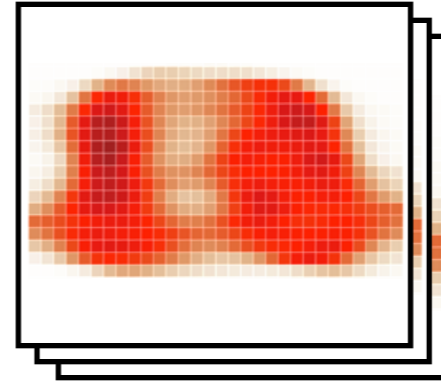
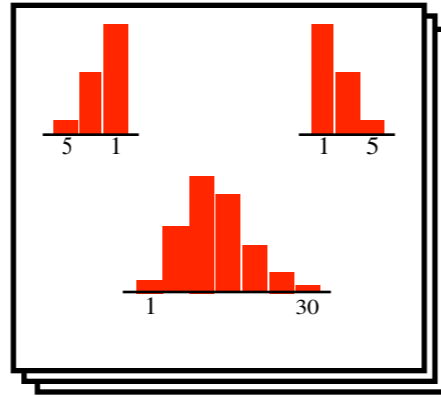
how the murderers came to



System Output Example

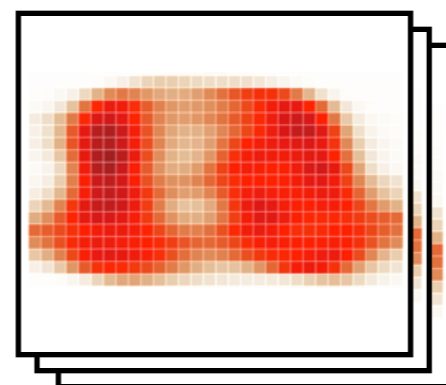
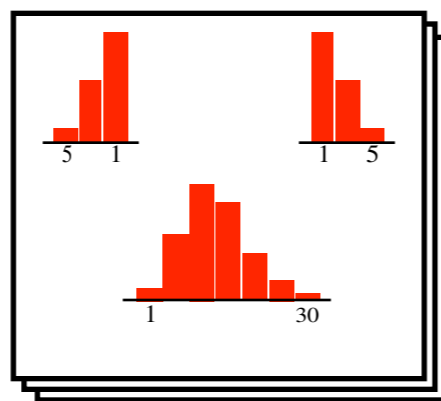
taken ill and taken away—I remember

System Output Example



taken ill and taken away—I remember

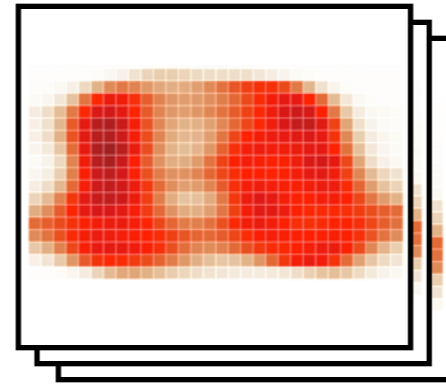
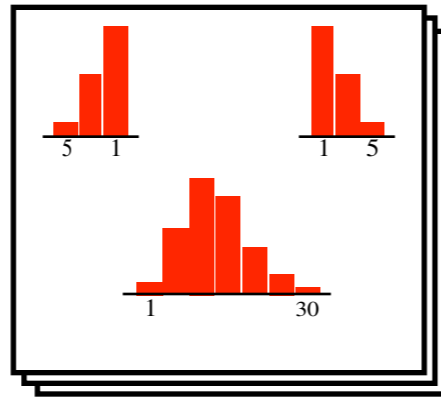
System Output Example



taken ill and taken away -- I remember

taken ill and taken away—I remember

System Output Example

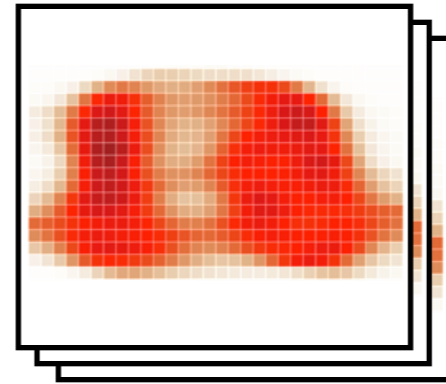
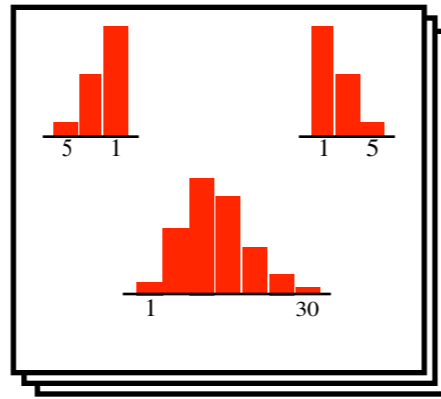


taken ill and taken away -- I remember

taken ill and taken away -- I remember

taken ill and taken away -- I remember

System Output Example

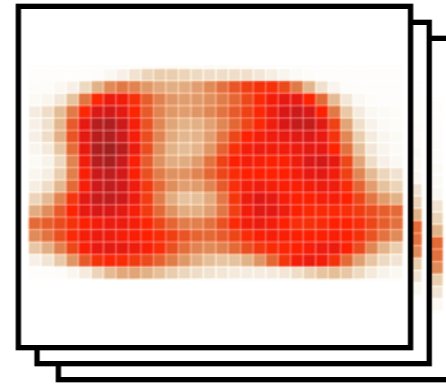
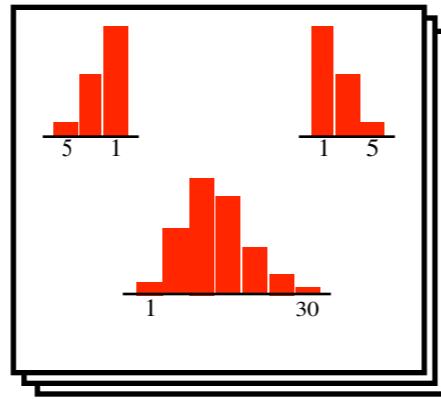


taken ill and taken away -- I remember

taken ill and taken away -- I remember

taken ill and taken away -- I remember

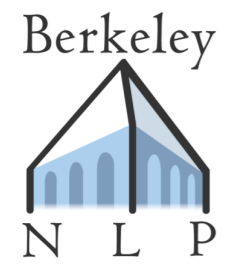
System Output Example



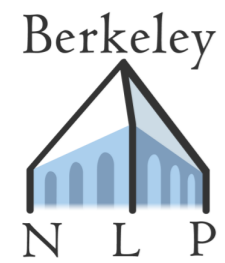
taken ill and taken away -- I remember

taken ill and taken away -- I remember

taken ill and taken away -- I remember



Experiments



Experiments

Test data



Experiments

Test data

- Old Bailey (1715-1905)



Experiments

Test data

- Old Bailey (1715-1905)
20 images, 30 lines each

Test data

- Old Bailey (1715-1905)
20 images, 30 lines each
- Trove (1803-1893)

Test data

- Old Bailey (1715-1905)
20 images, 30 lines each
- Trove (1803-1893)
10 images, 30 lines each

Test data

- Old Bailey (1715-1905)
20 images, 30 lines each
- Trove (1803-1893)
10 images, 30 lines each

Baselines

Test data

- Old Bailey (1715-1905)
20 images, 30 lines each
- Trove (1803-1893)
10 images, 30 lines each

Baselines

- Google Tesseract

Test data

- Old Bailey (1715-1905)
20 images, 30 lines each
- Trove (1803-1893)
10 images, 30 lines each

Baselines

- Google Tesseract
- ABBYY FineReader 11

Experiments

Test data

- Old Bailey (1715-1905)
20 images, 30 lines each
- Trove (1803-1893)
10 images, 30 lines each

Language models

Baselines

- Google Tesseract
- ABBYY FineReader 11

Experiments

Test data

- Old Bailey (1715-1905)
20 images, 30 lines each
- Trove (1803-1893)
10 images, 30 lines each

Language models

- New York Times

Baselines

- Google Tesseract
- ABBYY FineReader 11

Experiments

Test data

- Old Bailey (1715-1905)
20 images, 30 lines each
- Trove (1803-1893)
10 images, 30 lines each

Language models

- New York Times
34M words NYT Gigaword

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- Google Tesseract
- ABBYY FineReader 11

Experiments

Test data

- Old Bailey (1715-1905)
20 images, 30 lines each
- Trove (1803-1893)
10 images, 30 lines each

Language models

- New York Times
34M words NYT Gigaword
- Old Bailey

Baselines

- Google Tesseract
- ABBYY FineReader 11

Experiments

Test data

- Old Bailey (1715-1905)
20 images, 30 lines each
- Trove (1803-1893)
10 images, 30 lines each

Language models

- New York Times
34M words NYT Gigaword
- Old Bailey
32M words manually transcribed

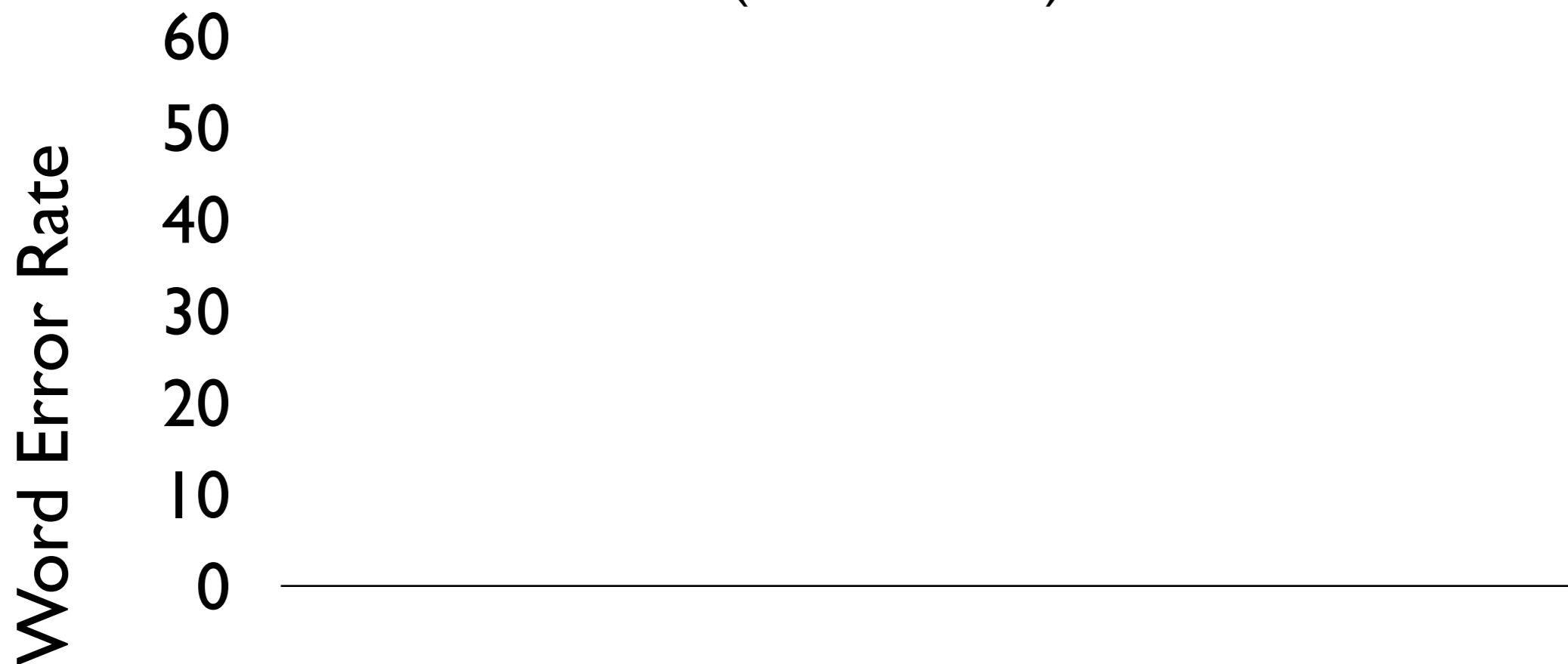
Baselines

- Google Tesseract
- ABBYY FineReader 11



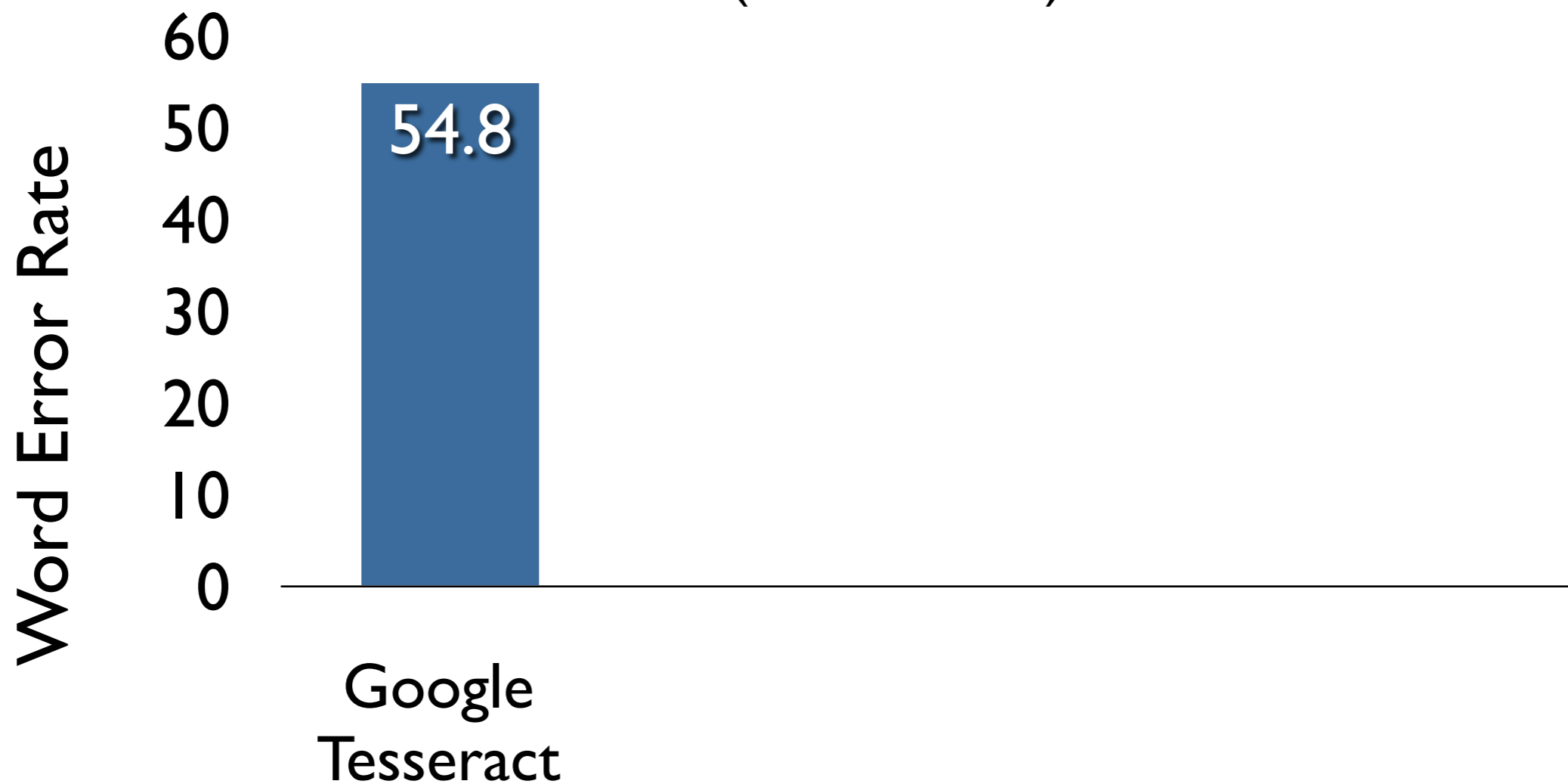
Results

Old Bailey Court Proceedings (1715-1905)



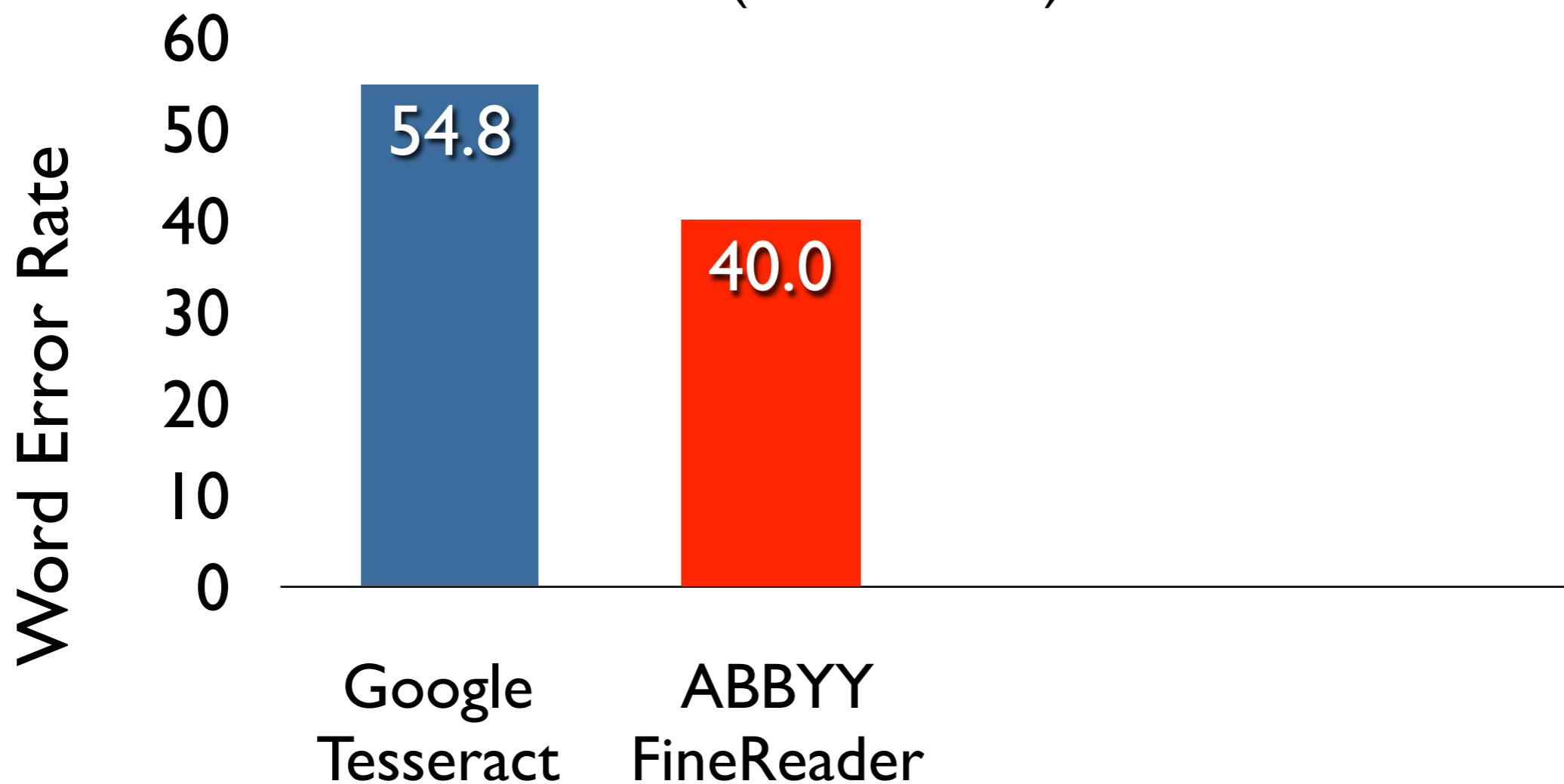
Results

Old Bailey Court Proceedings (1715-1905)



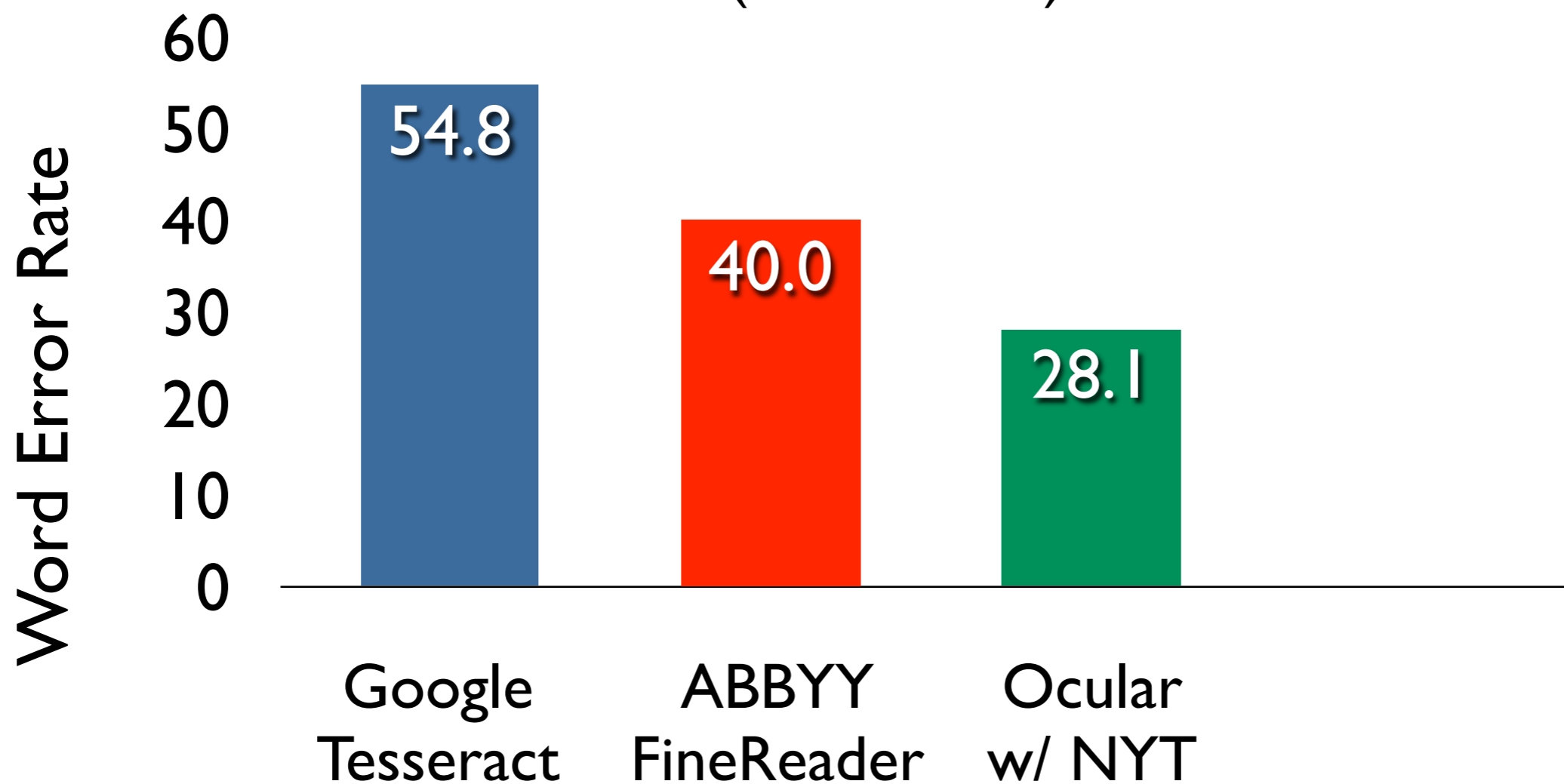
Results

Old Bailey Court Proceedings (1715-1905)



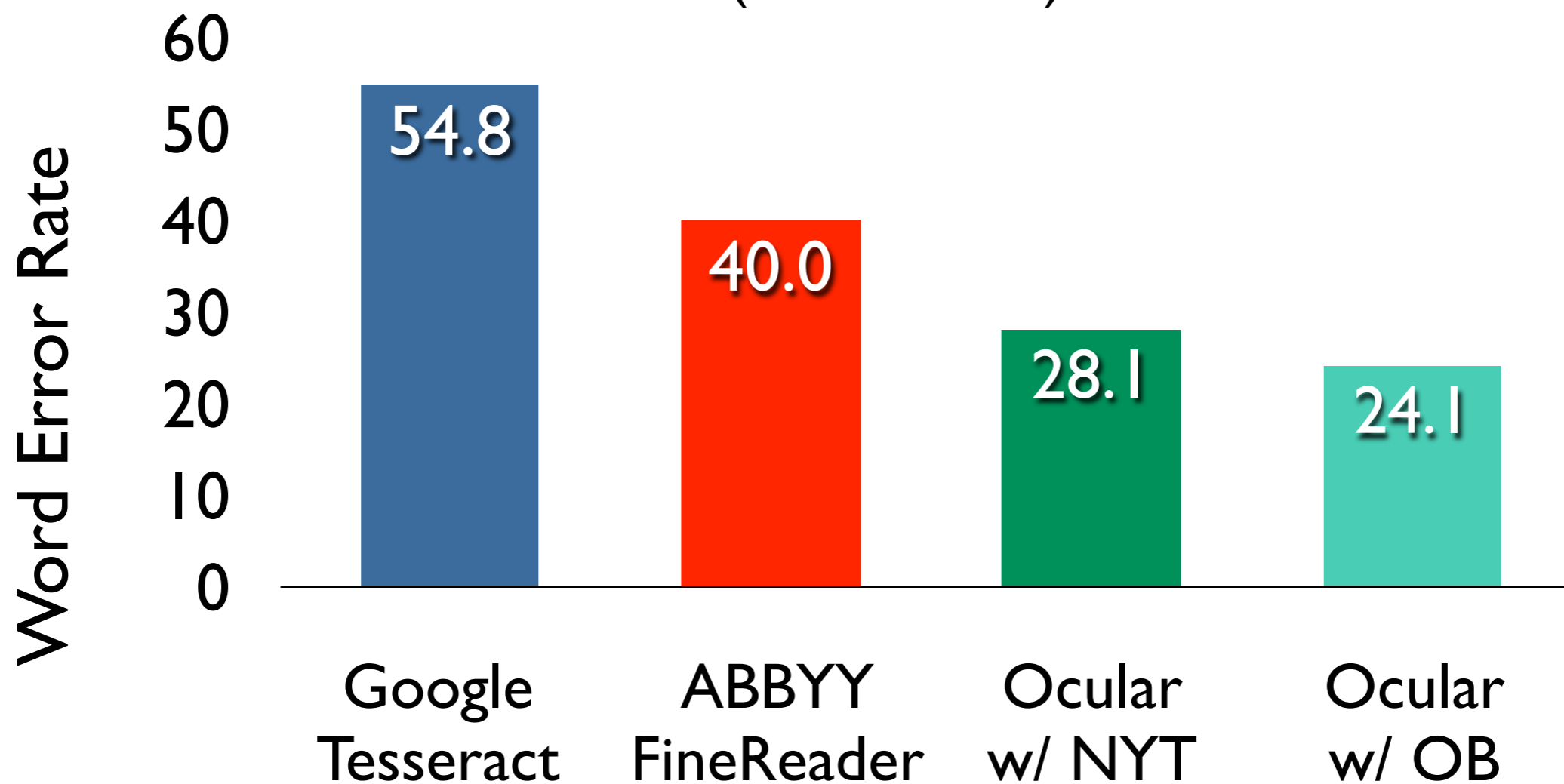
Results

Old Bailey Court Proceedings (1715-1905)



Results

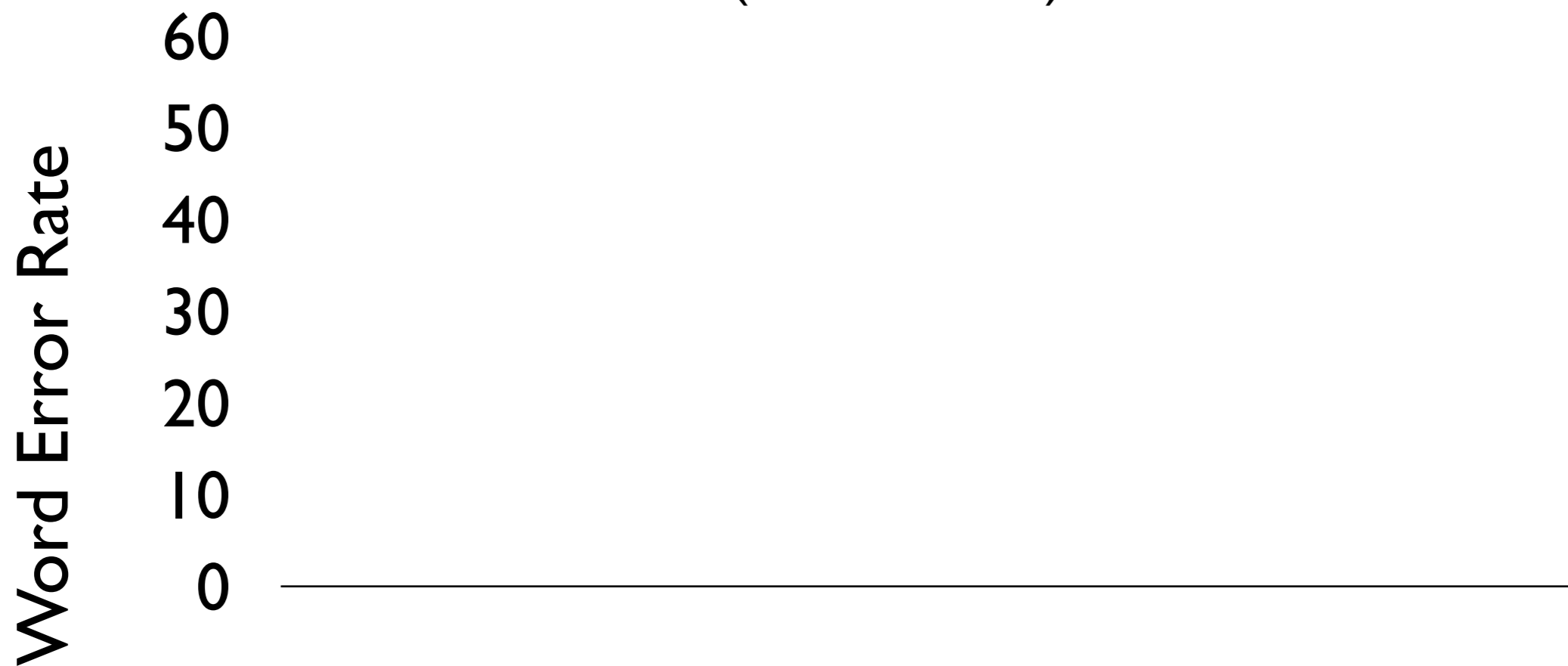
Old Bailey Court Proceedings (1715-1905)





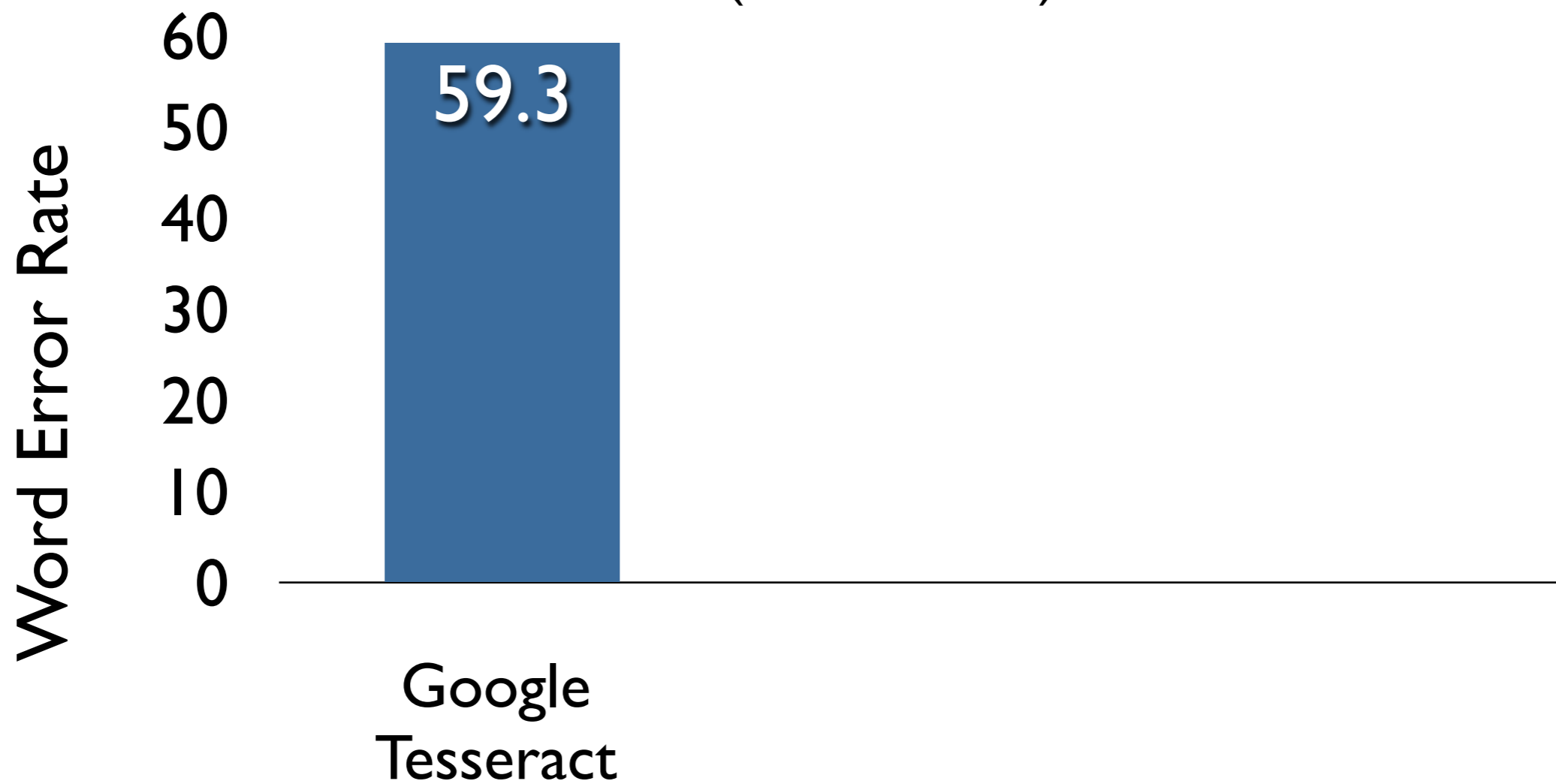
Results

Trove Historical Newspapers (1803-1893)



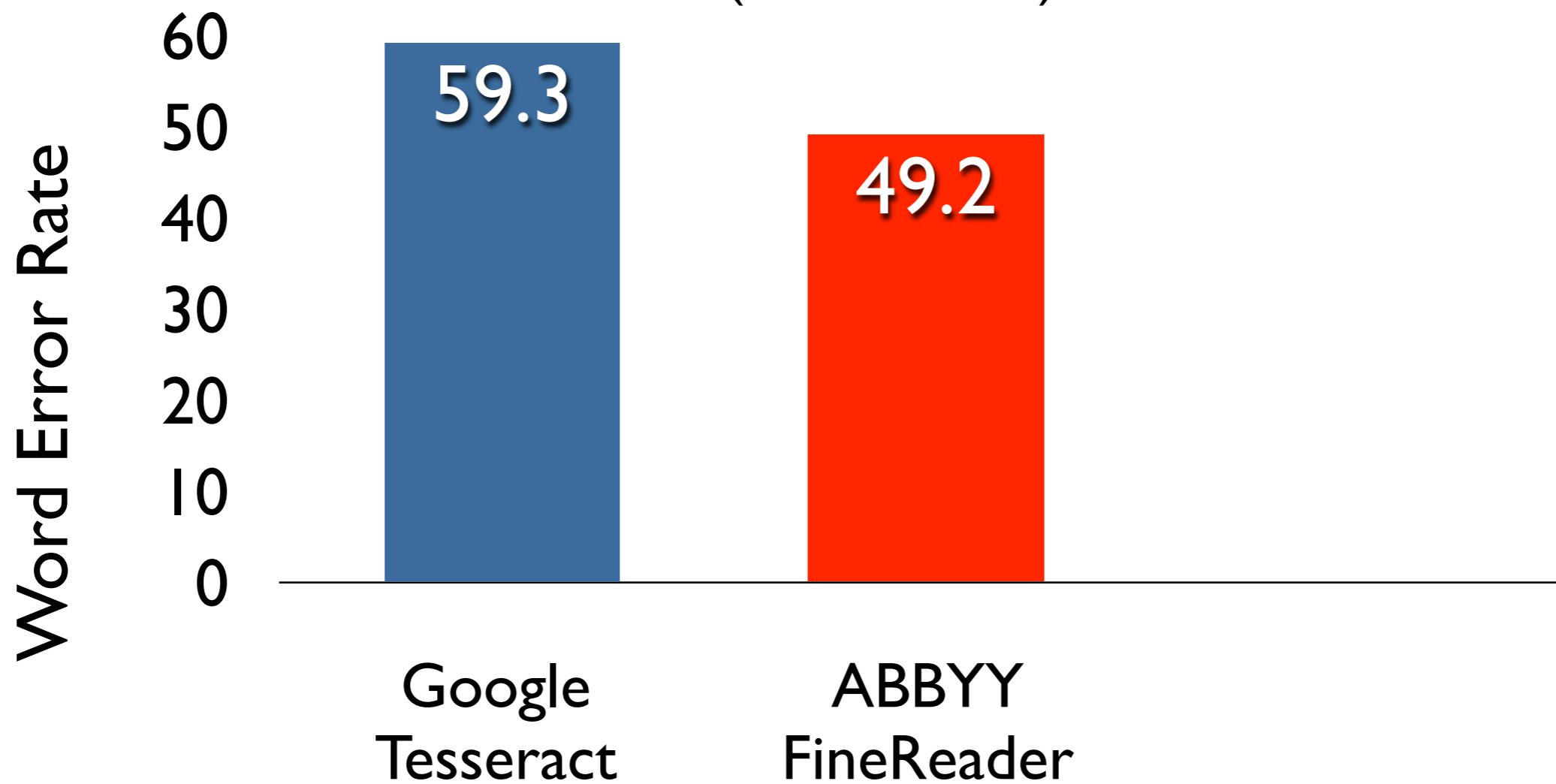
Results

Trove Historical Newspapers (1803-1893)



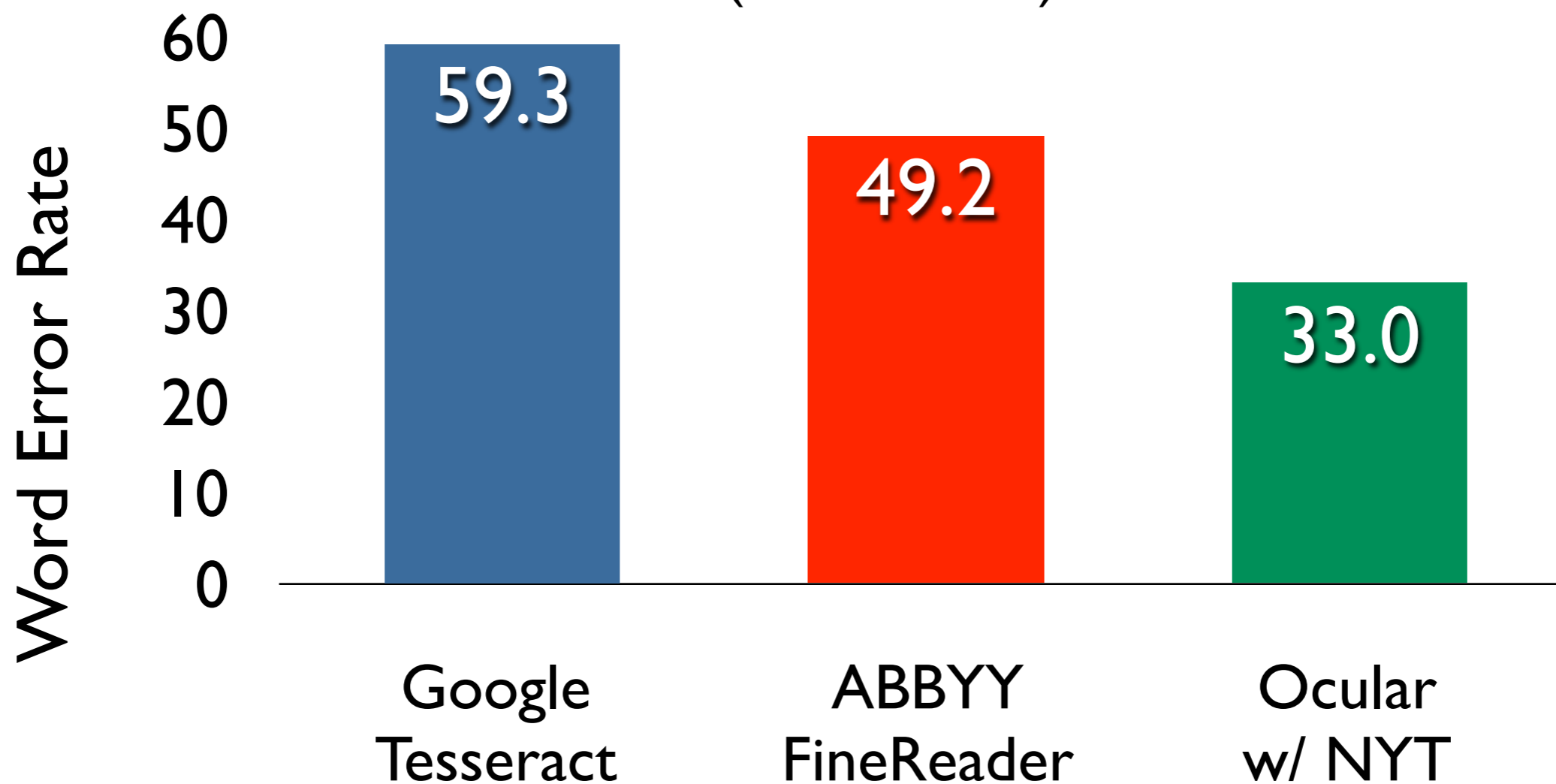
Results

Trove Historical Newspapers (1803-1893)



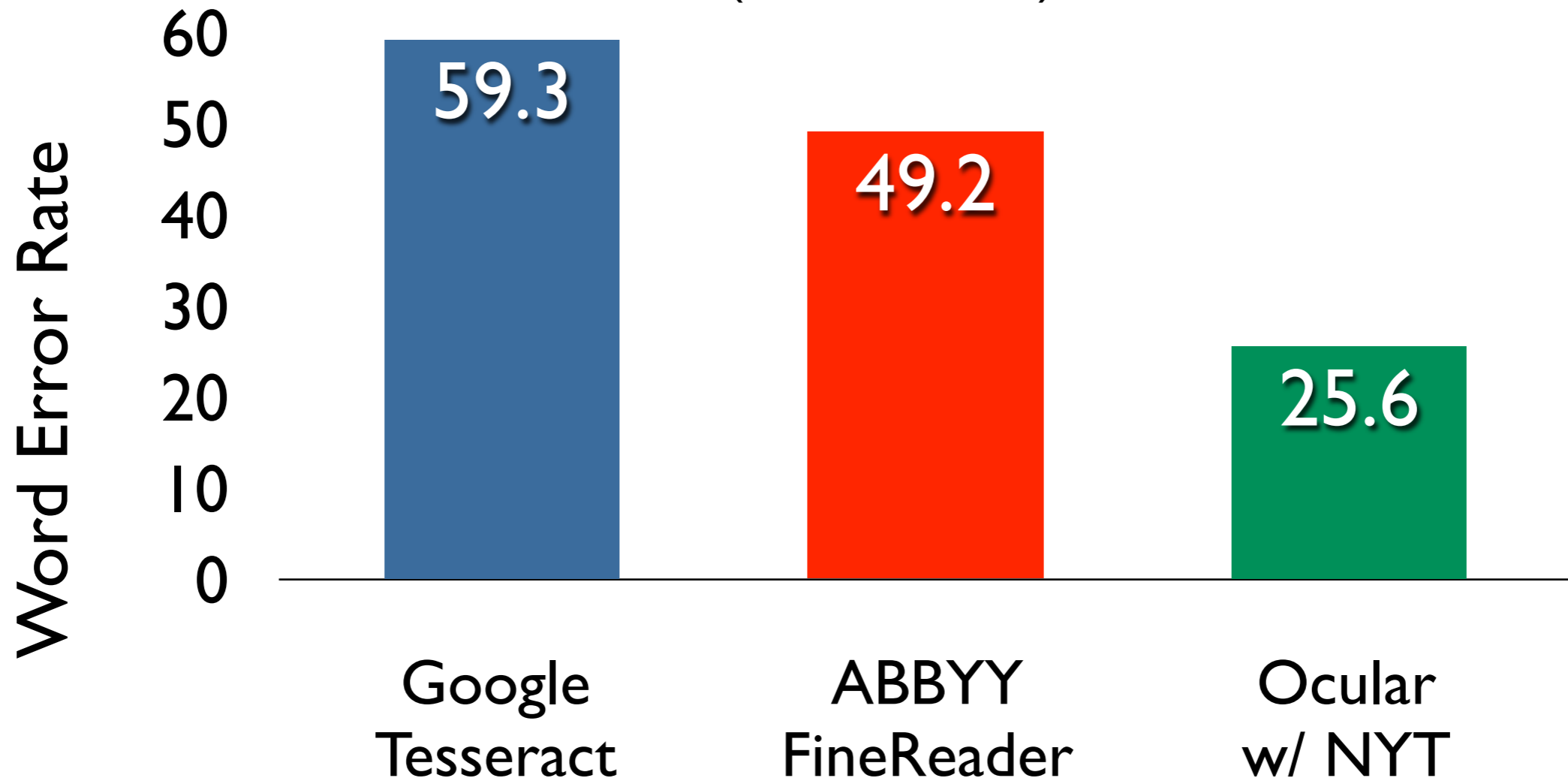
Results

Trove Historical Newspapers (1803-1893)



Results

Trove Historical Newspapers
(1803-1893)



Google Tesseract

and Ch': priftmer anhc bar. Jacob Lazarus and his
 IHP1 uh: prifoner. were both together when!
 rccciacd lhczn. I fold eievén pair of than
 for xiirce guincas, and dclivcrd the rcll'l:.in-
 d:r hack lo :11: prifuner. 1 fold ftvcn pairof
 filk to Mark Simpcr : nncpuir of mixcd. and.
 mo pair of Ifircad to lhz: foolnun, and on:
 pair of zhrzad to lh: barber. '

Q: What is the foolmarfs name?

Fraum Mgfzr. I dun': know.

Hairy Hzrvir. 1 was flandingar the Camp

Icr waizin far the thcrrilfs ufliceruo employ
 in: : Mo 3': daughter came for me to 0 am!
 take the prifoncr. 1 Wm! to |hc Old aailcy

Google Tesseract

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 in: : Mo 3': daughter came for me to 0 am!
 take the prifoncr. I Wm! to |hc Old aailcy

Ocular

the prisoner at the bar. Jacob Lazarus and his
 wife, the prisoners were both together when I
 received them. I sold eleven pair of them
 for three guineas, and delivered the remain-
 der back to the prisoner. I sold, seven pair of
 silk to Mark Simpert one pair of mixed, and
 two pair of thread to the footman, and one
 pair of thread to the barber,

Ms. What in the footman's name?

Franco Asyut, I don't know-

Nearly Norris. I was standing at the Comp-
 ter waiting for the sherrill's officers to employ
 me a Moses's daughter came for me to go and
 take the prisoner. I went to the Old Bailey

Learned Fonts



Initializer

Learned Fonts



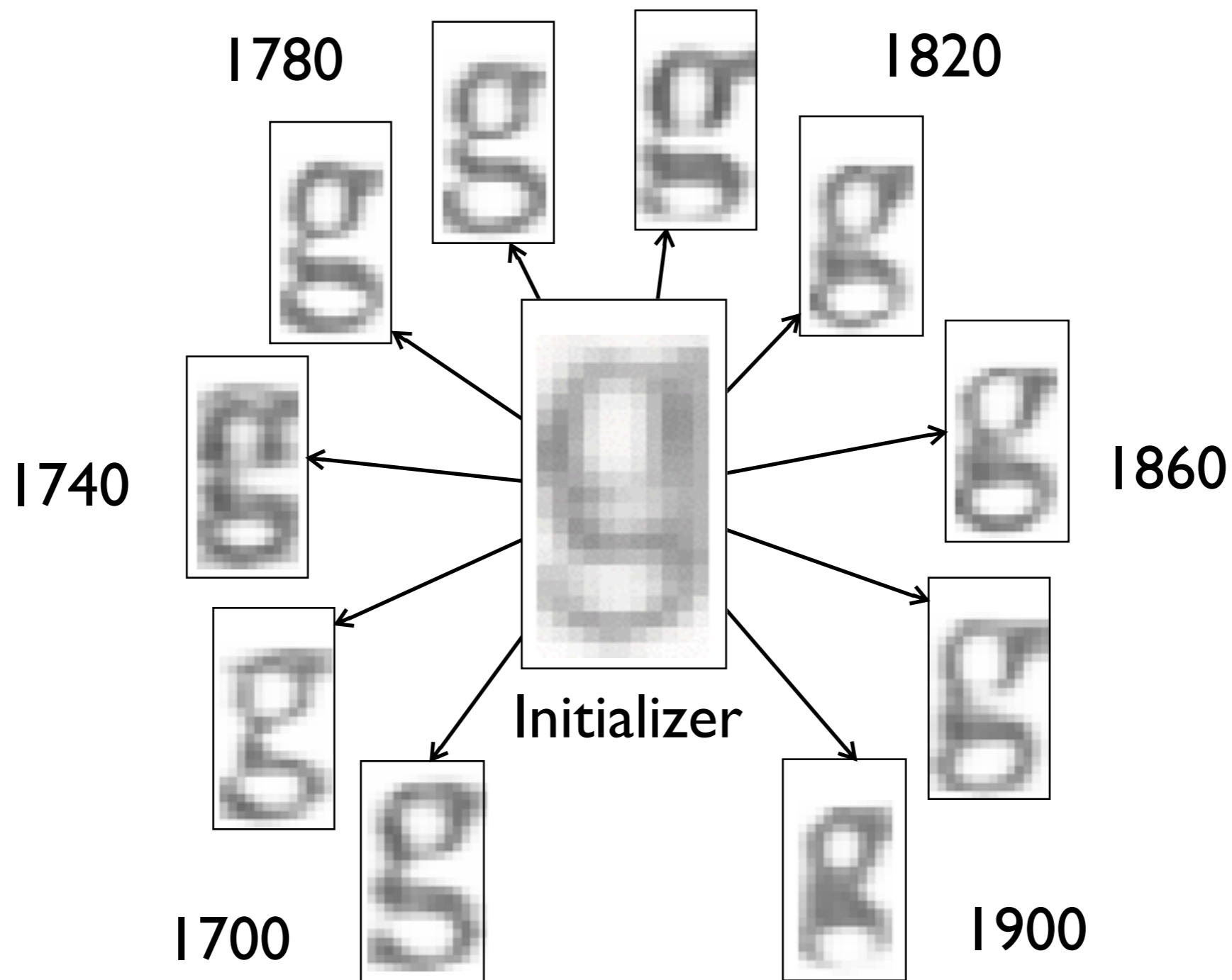
Initializer

Learned Fonts



Initializer

Learned Fonts





Unobserved Pixels

g his Mouth, & found it was
inability, which when he had de



Unobserved Pixels

g his Mouth, God found it was
inability, which when he had de

g his Mouth, God found it was
inability, which when he had de



Unobserved Pixels





Unobserved Pixels

g his Mouth, God found it was
inability, which when he had de

g his Mouth, God found it was
inability, which when he had de

Berkeley



Conclusion

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- Unsupervised font learning yields state-of-the-art results on documents where font is unknown

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- Unsupervised font learning yields state-of-the-art results on documents where font is unknown
- Generatively modeling sources of noise specific to printing-press era documents is effective
- Ocular available as a downloadable tool:
nlp.cs.berkeley.edu/ocular.shtml



Conclusion

Thanks!