

# UNSL at eRisk 2021:

## A Comparison of Three Early Alert Policies for Early Risk Detection

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I M A S L



Universidad  
Nacional de  
San Luis

# Outline

- Early text classification framework
- Proposed models
- Runs and results:
  - Task 1
  - Task 2



[https://jmloyola.github.io/files/talks/2021\\_erisk.pdf](https://jmloyola.github.io/files/talks/2021_erisk.pdf)



# Early Text Classification Framework

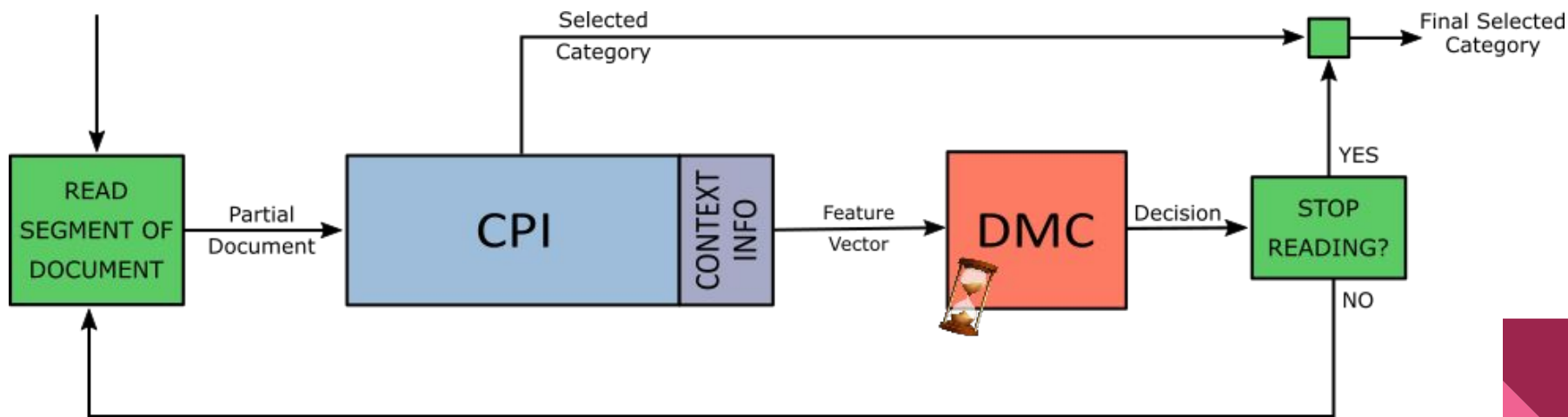
# Early Text Classification Framework

- Development of predictive models that can determine the category of a document as soon as possible.
- Find an adequate balance between:
  - precision of the classification
  - minimum time for a prediction to be reliable.
- It can be conceptualized in two parts:
  - Classification with Partial Information (CPI).
  - Decision of the Moment of Classification (DMC).



# Early Text Classification Framework

- CPI → Classification with Partial Information
- DMC → Decision of the Moment of Classification



# Early risk detection

- Special case of early text classification.
- We are only concerned with predicting the risk category as early as possible.
- If the current partial input is classified as non-risky, the model continues to accumulate information in case, in the future, the user begins to show risky patterns.
- It is essential to recover as many users at risk as possible as their lives could be in danger.



# Proposed Models

# Proposed models

- EarlyModel
- SS3
- EARLIEST



# Proposed models

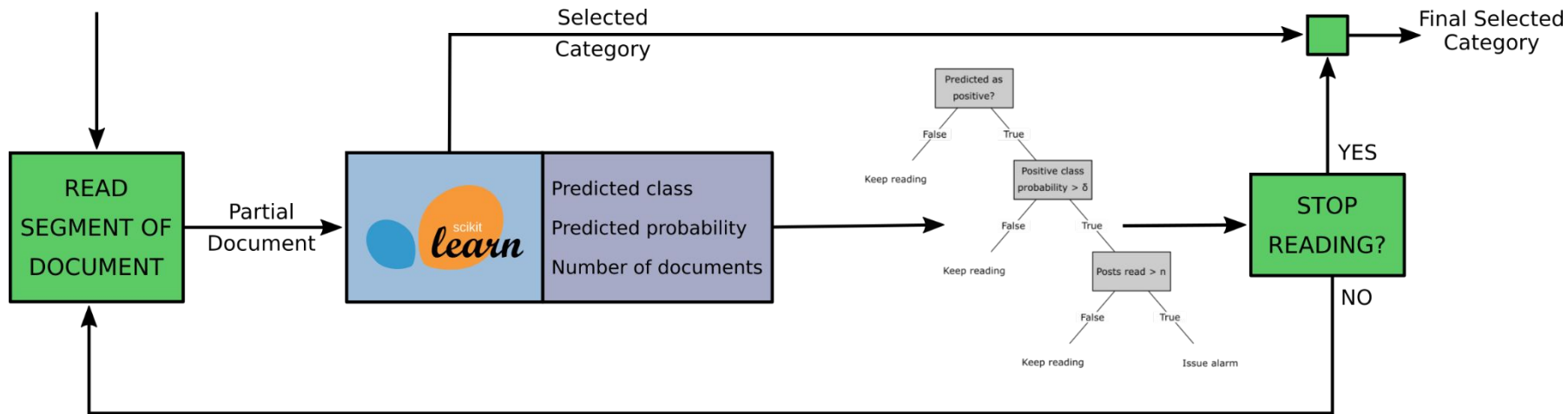
We can identify each model with:

- Input representation
- Model used for classification with partial information (CPI)
- Early alert policy (DMC)



# EarlyModel

# EarlyModel



# EarlyModel

Input representation:

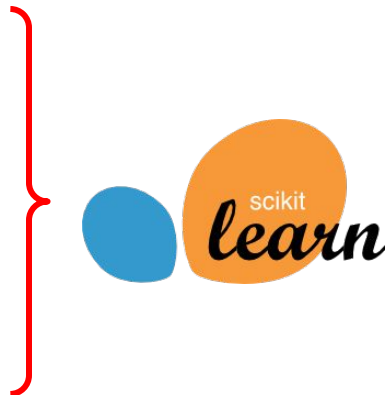
- Bag of words
- Linguistic Inquiry and Word Count (LIWC)
- Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA)
- Latent Semantic Analysis (LSA)
- Doc2vec



# EarlyModel

Models used for classification with partial information:

- Decision trees
- K-nearest neighbors
- Support vector machine (SVM)
- Logistic regression
- Multi-layer perceptron (MLP)
- Random forests
- LSTM
- BERT

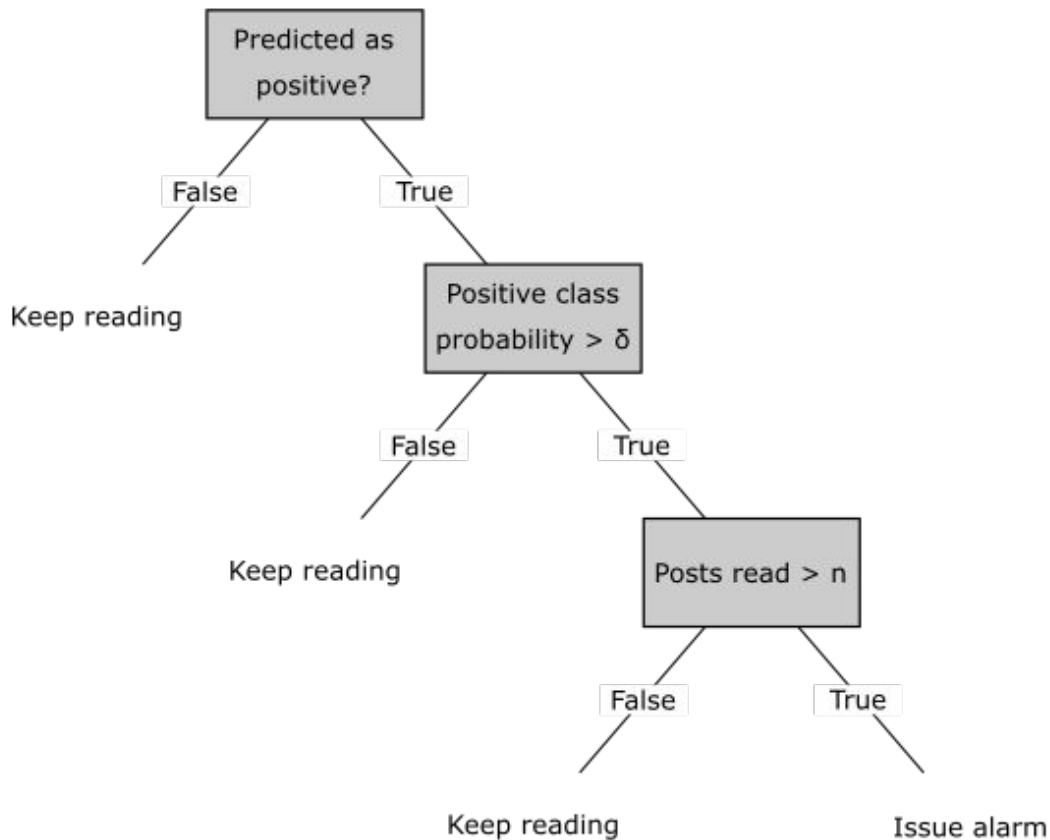


 PyTorch

 **Transformers**

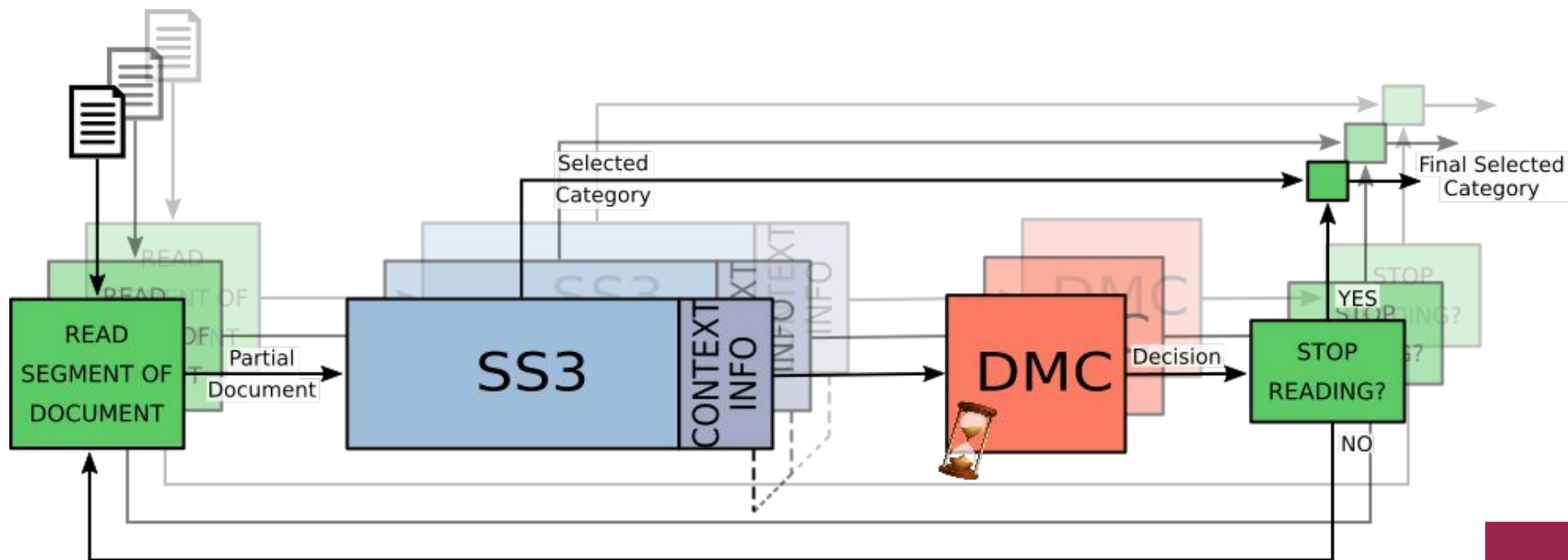
# EarlyModel

Early alert policy:



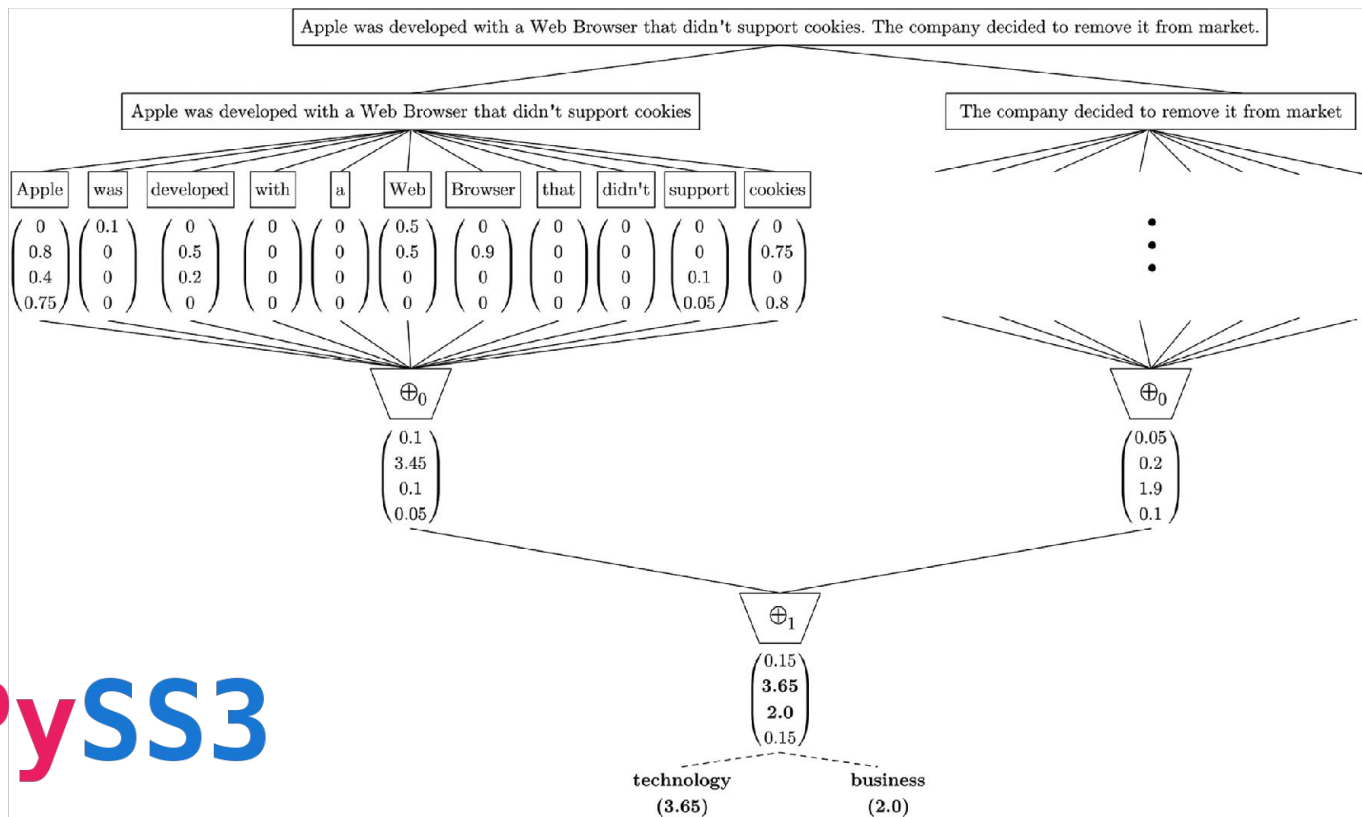
SS3

# SS3

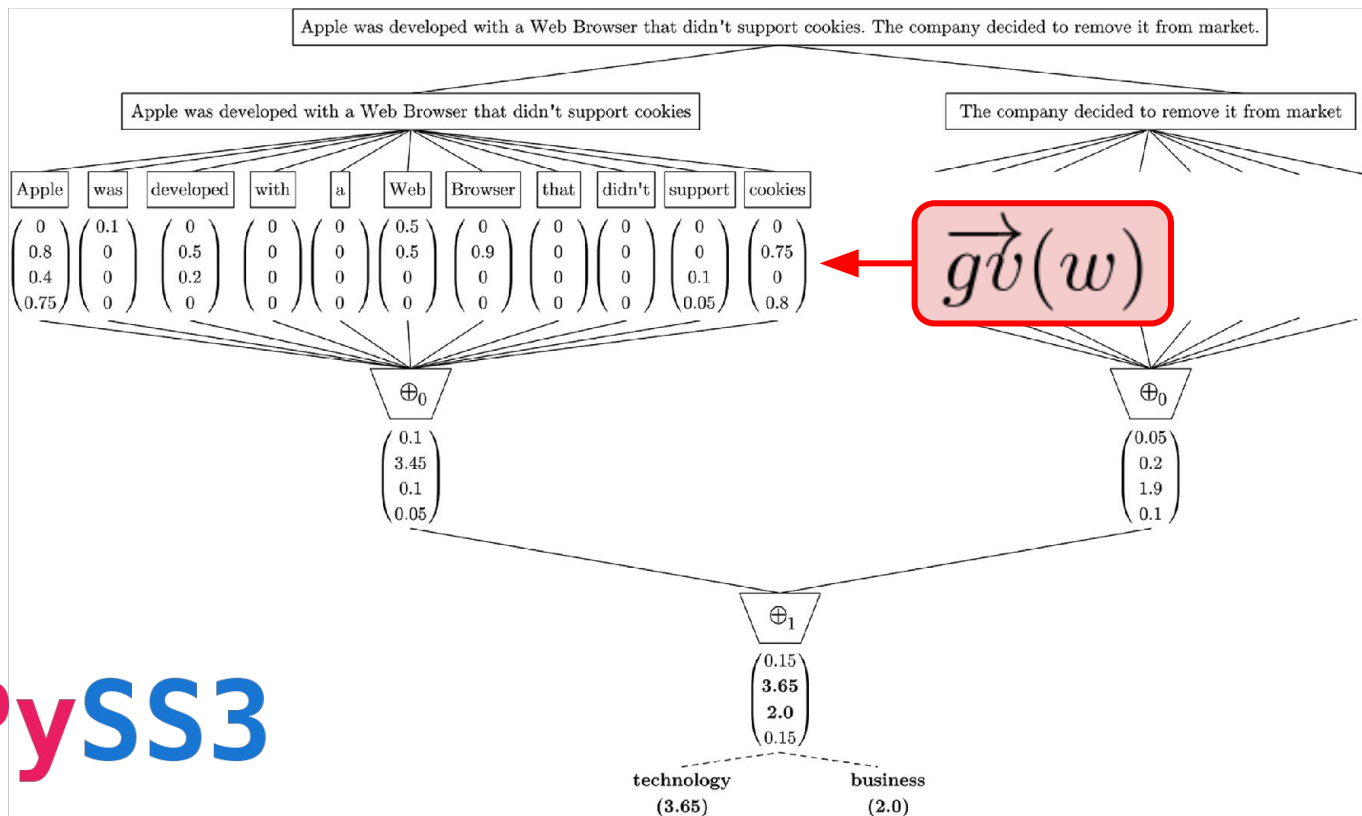




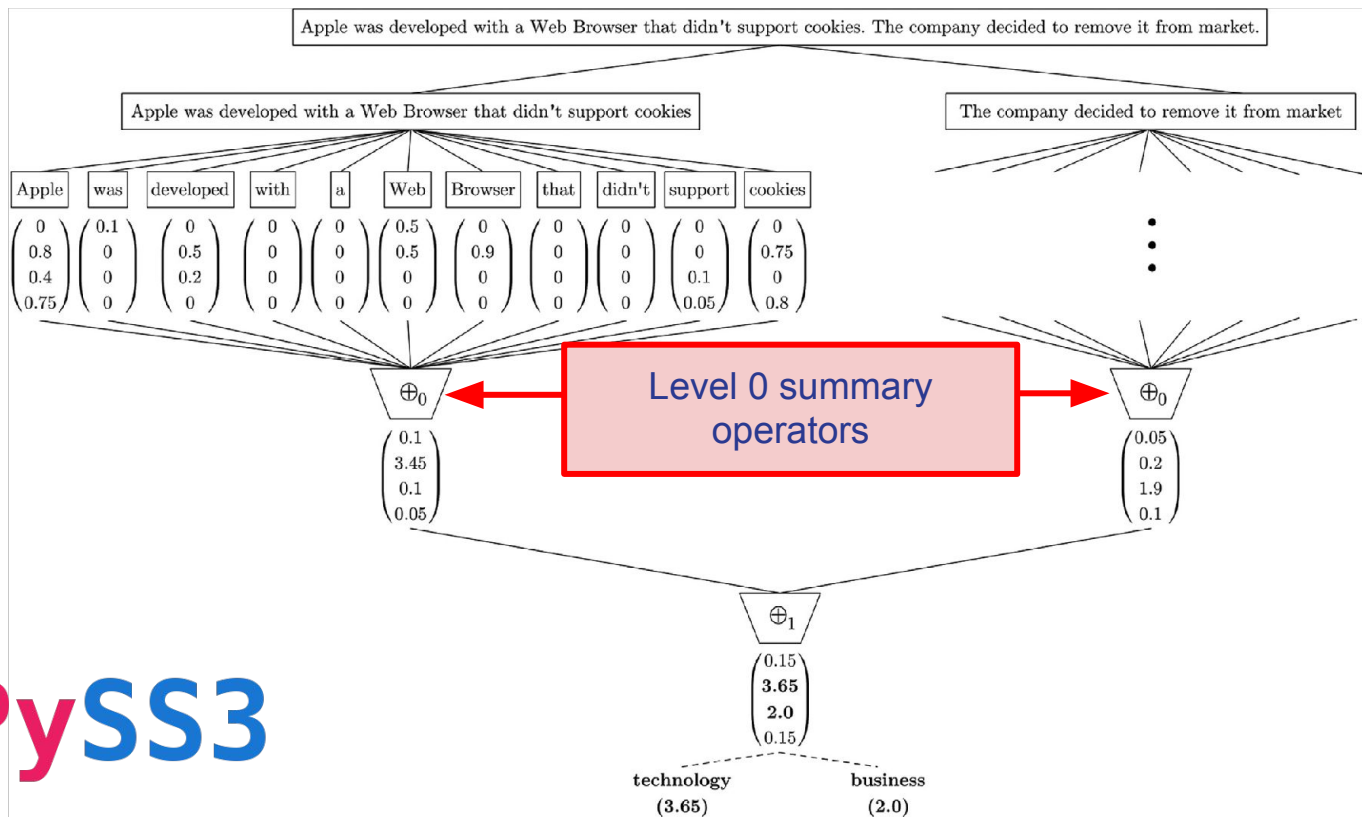
# SS3



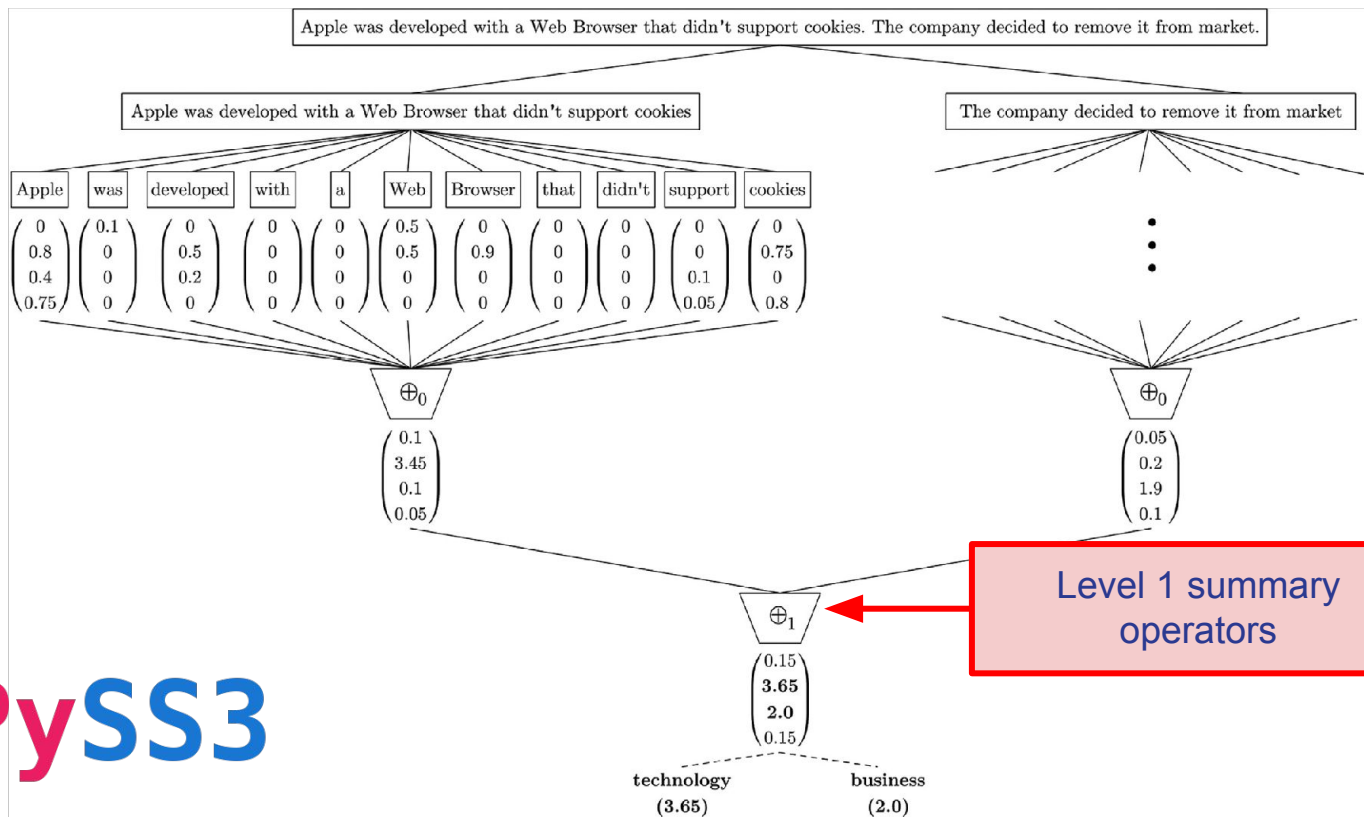
# SS3



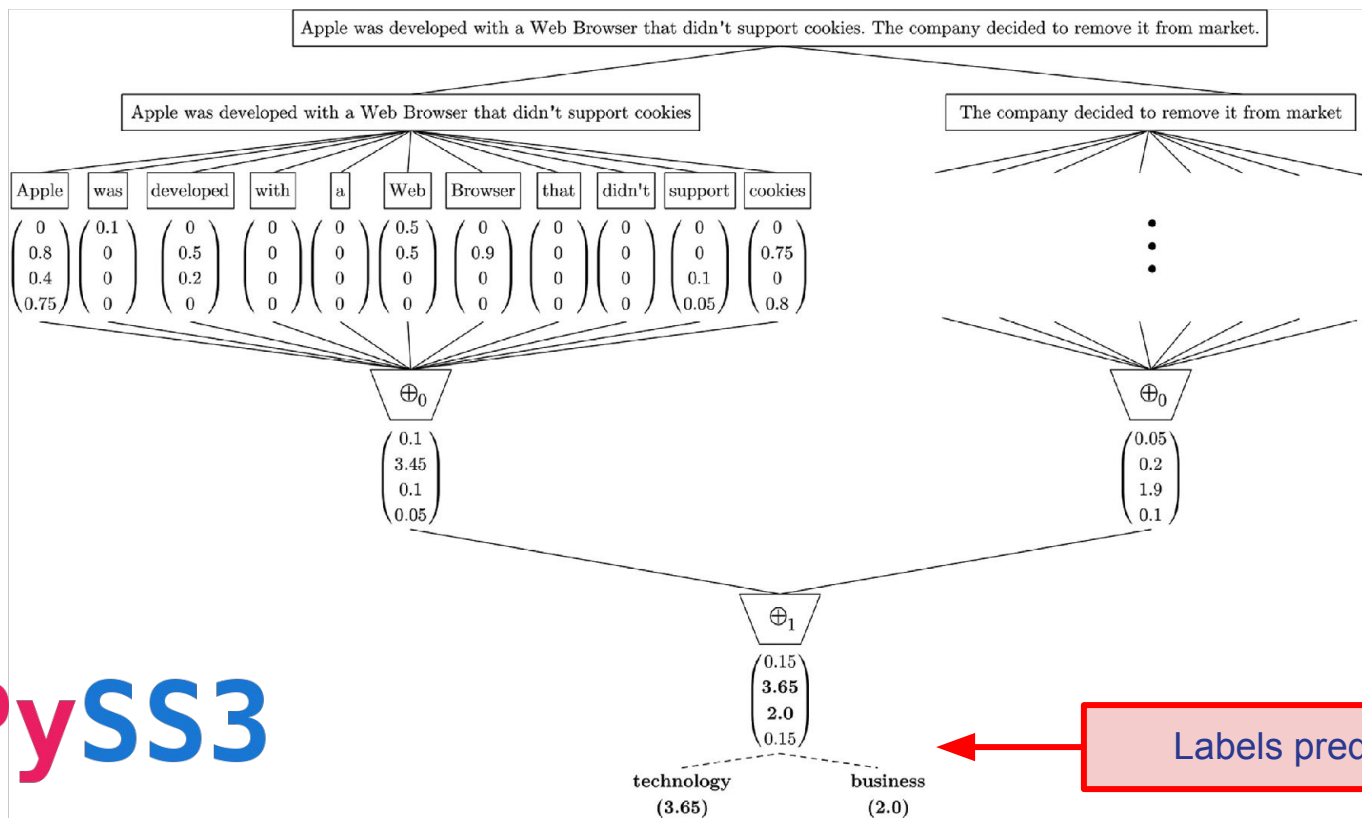
# SS3



# SS3



# SS3



# SS3

Early alert policy:

$$decision_u = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } score_u > \text{median}(scores) + \gamma \cdot \text{MAD}(scores) \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$



# SS3

Early alert policy:

$$decision_u = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \underline{score_u} > \text{median}(scores) + \gamma \cdot \text{MAD}(scores) \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Risk class score

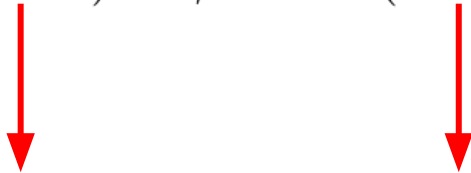
-

Non-risk class score

# SS3

Early alert policy:

$$decision_u = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } score_u > \text{median}(scores) + \gamma \cdot \text{MAD}(scores) \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$



$$scores = \{score_u | u \in \text{Users}\}$$



# SS3

Early alert policy:

$$decision_u = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } score_u > \text{median}(scores) + \gamma \cdot \text{MAD}(scores) \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$



Median Absolute  
Deviation

# SS3

Early alert policy:

$$decision_u = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } score_u > \text{median}(scores) + \gamma \cdot \text{MAD}(scores) \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

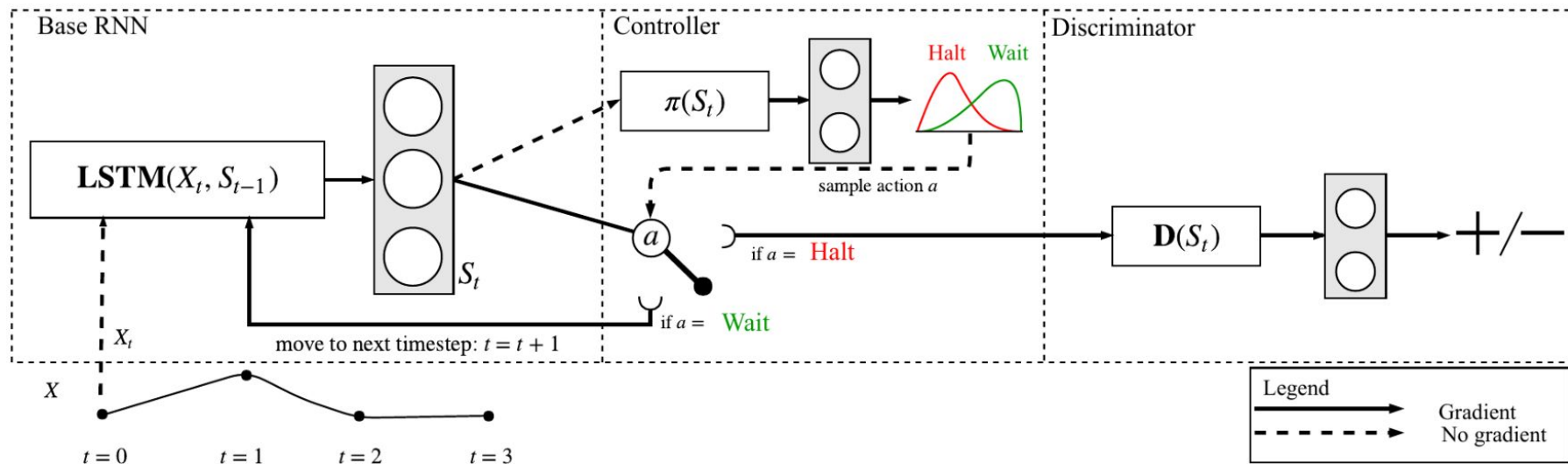


Early alert policy hyper-parameter



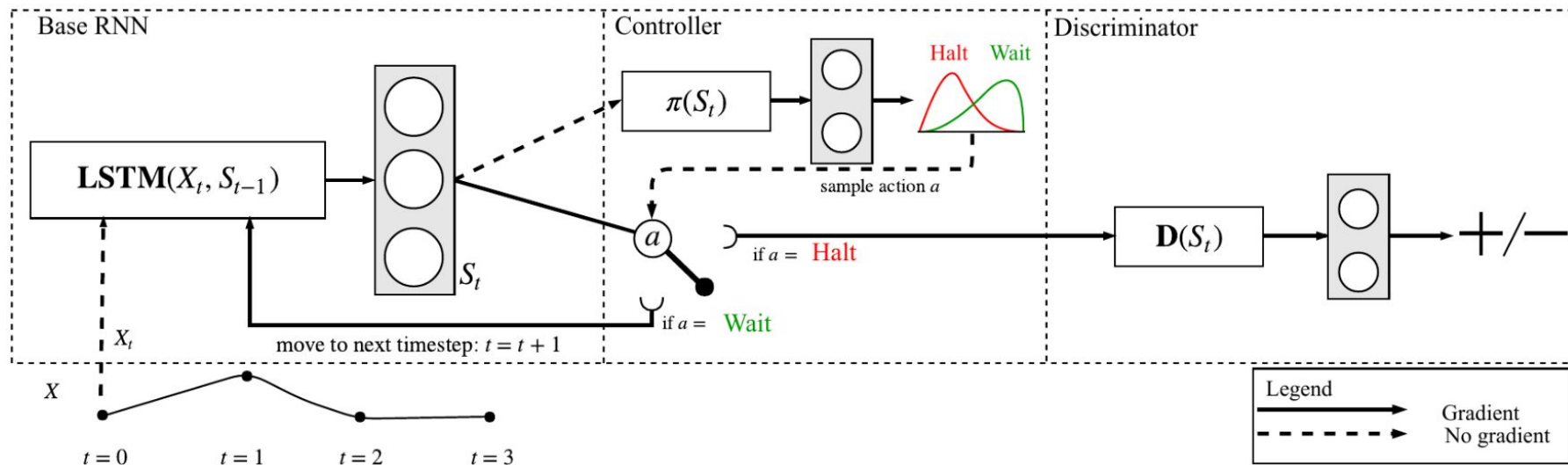
# EARLIEST

# EARLIEST

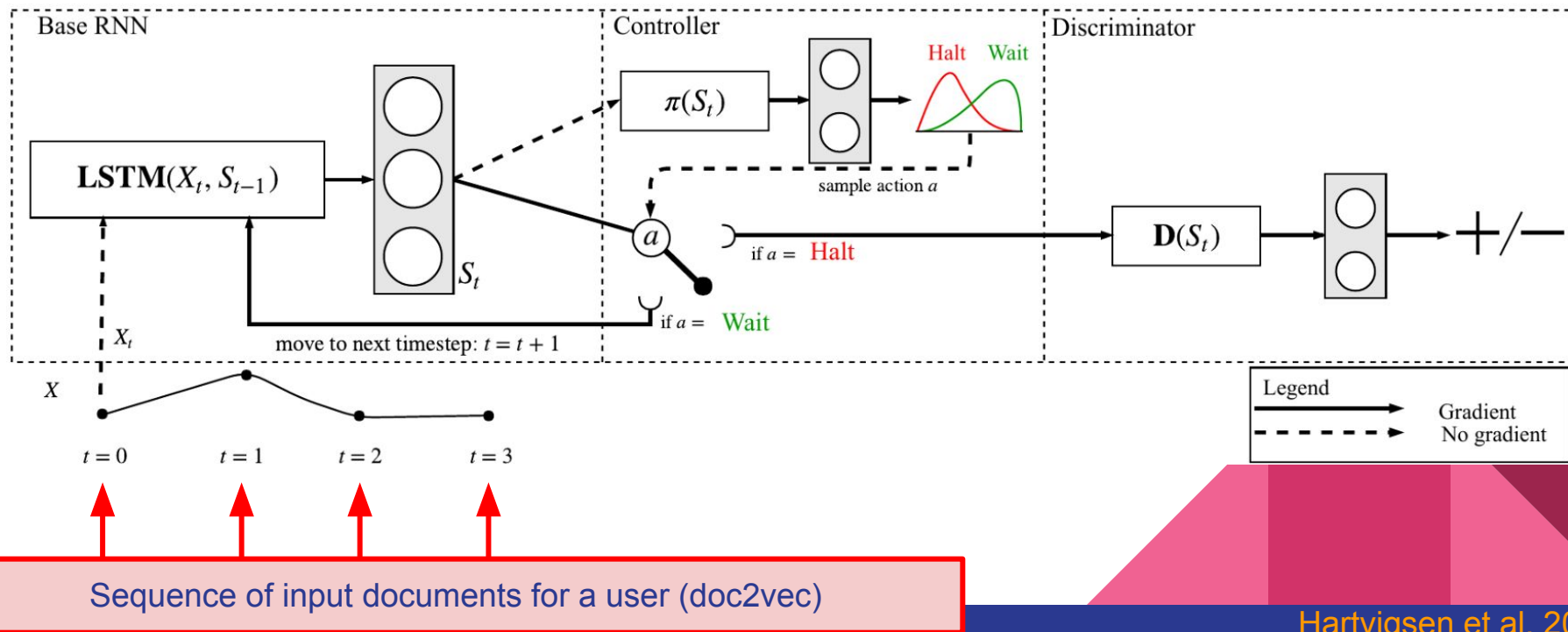


# EARLIEST

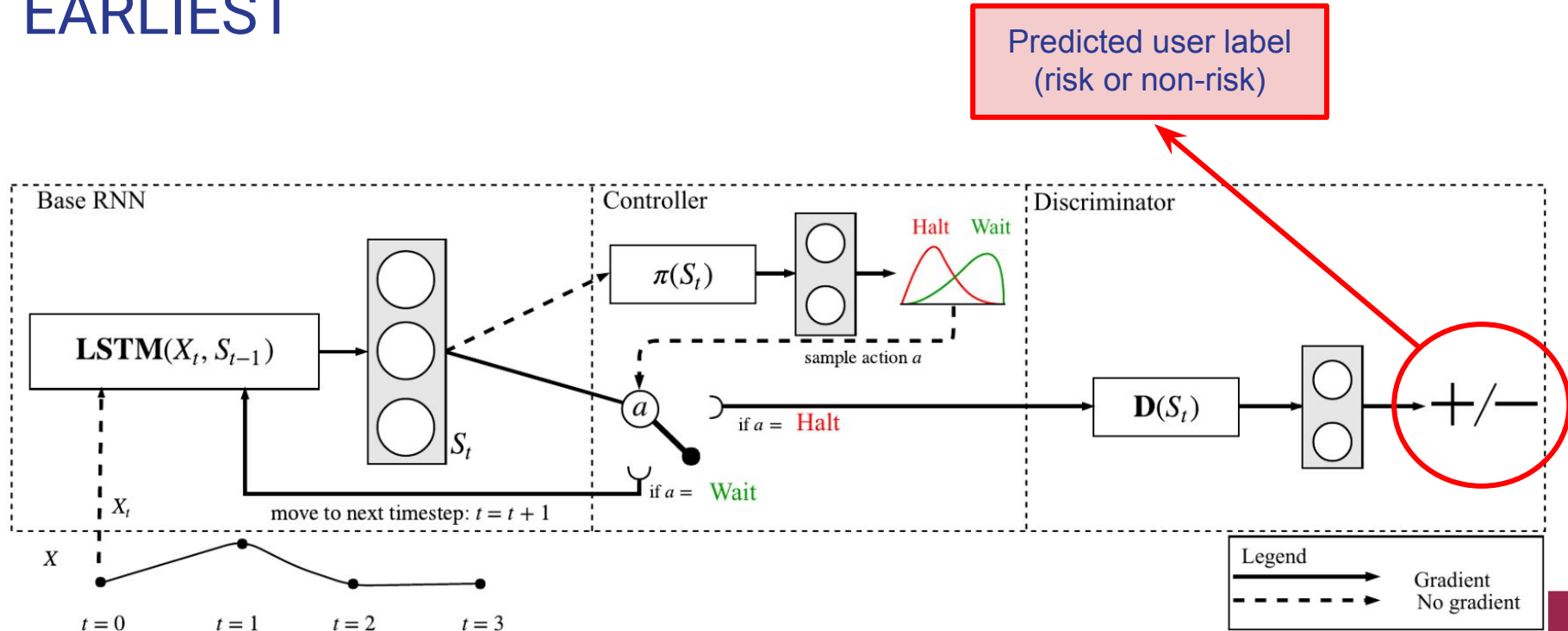
Early and Adaptive Recurrent Label ESTimator



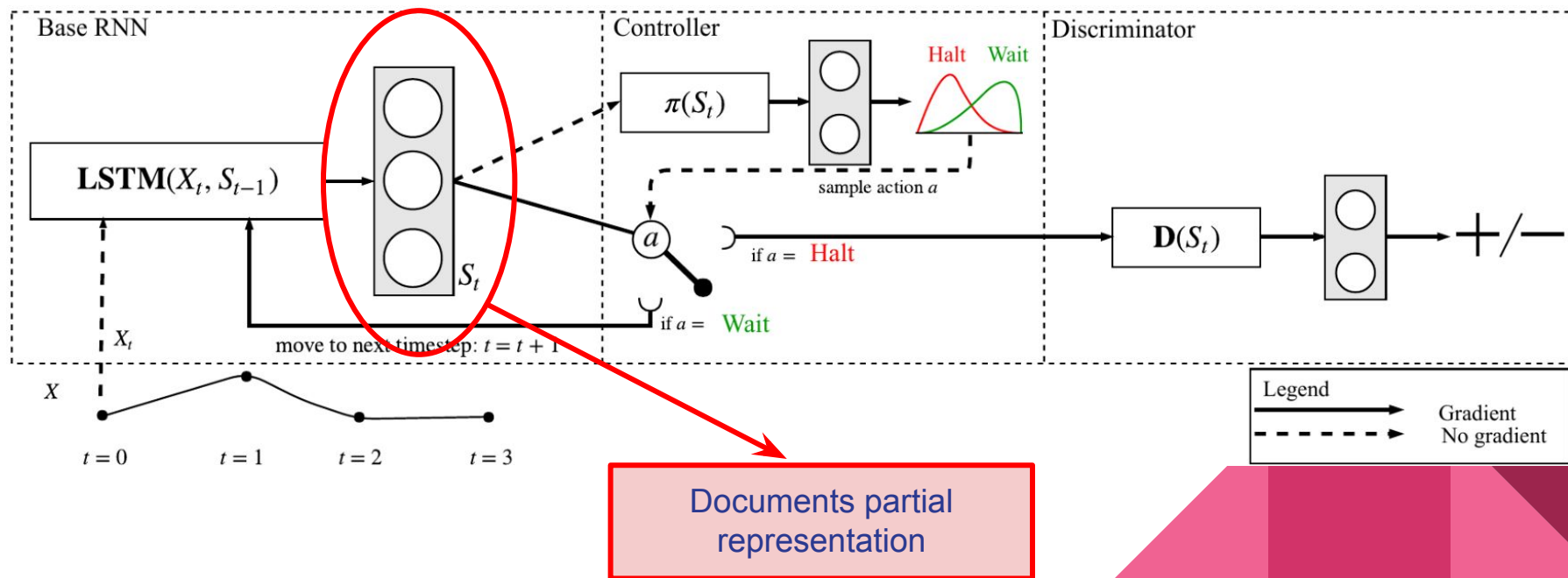
# EARLIEST



# EARLIEST



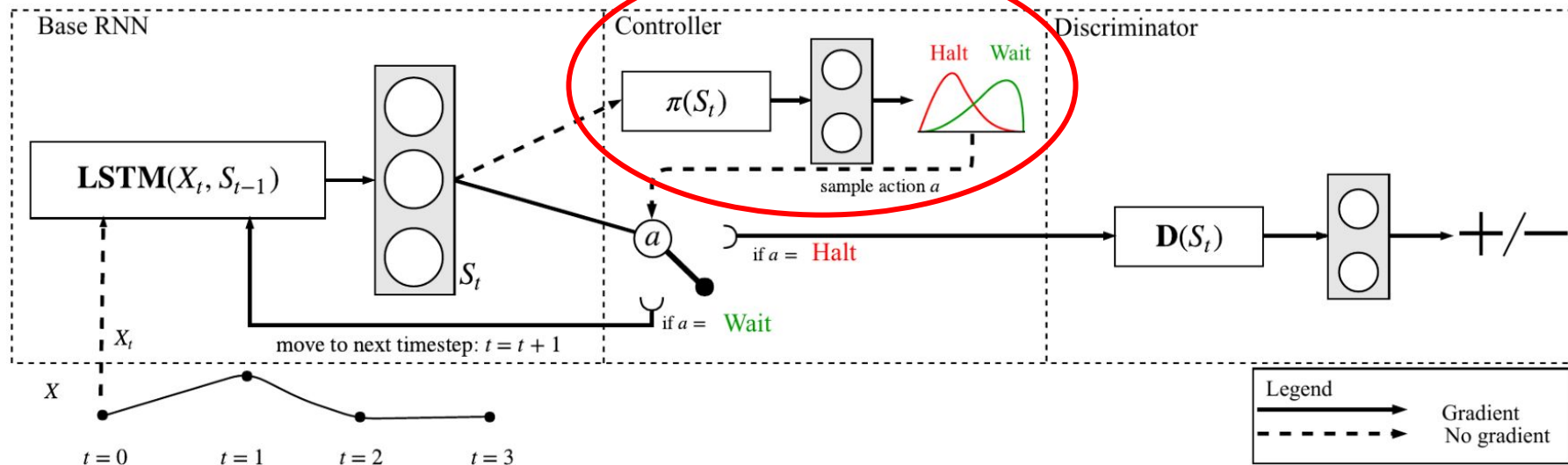
# EARLIEST



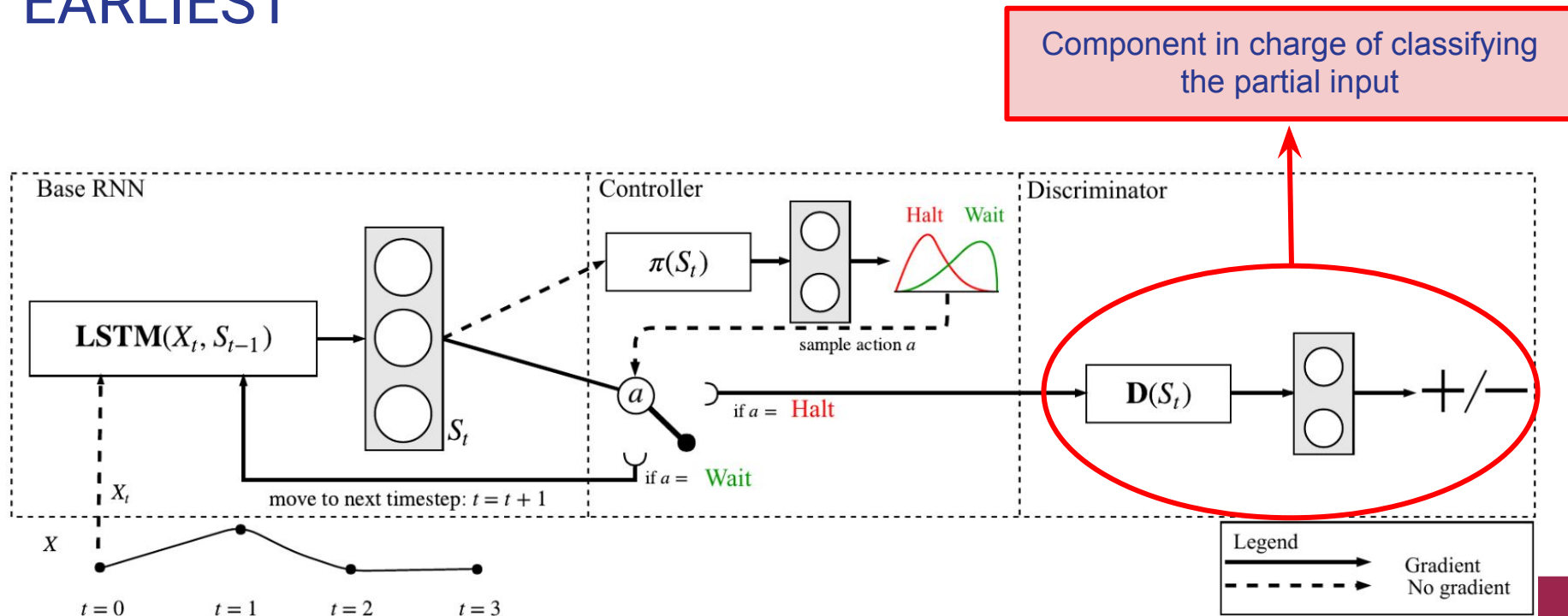


# EARLIEST

Component in charge of deciding  
when to stop processing the input



# EARLIEST



# EARLIEST

The hyper-parameter  $\lambda$  penalizes the delay in the classification while training.

# Runs and Results

Task 1: Early Detection of Pathological Gambling

Task 2: Early Detection of Self-Harm

# T1 - Early Detection of Pathological Gambling - Runs

- UNSL#0 (EarlyModel):
  - Representation → bag of words (unigrams of words with tf-idf)
  - Model → logistic regression
  - Decision policy → threshold = 0.7 and minimum number of post = 10
- UNSL#1 (EarlyModel):
  - Representation → doc2vec
  - Model → logistic regression
  - Decision policy → threshold = 0.85 and minimum number of post = 3
- UNSL#2 (EarlyModel):
  - Representation → bag of words (4-grams of characters with tf-idf)
  - Model → SVM
  - Decision policy → threshold = 0.75 and minimum number of post = 10

# T1 - Early Detection of Pathological Gambling - Runs

- UNSL#3 (EARLIEST):
  - Representation → doc2vec
  - Model → LSTM
  - Decision policy →  $\lambda = 0.000001$
- UNSL#4 (EARLIEST):
  - Representation → doc2vec
  - Model → LSTM
  - Decision policy →  $\lambda = 0.00001$



# T1 - Early Detection of Pathological Gambling - Results

team name	run id	$P$	$R$	$F1$	$ERDE_5$	$ERDE_{50}$	$latency_{TP}$	speed	latency-weighted $F1$
UNSL ( EarlyModel )	0	.326	.957	.487	.079	.023	11	.961	.468
UNSL ( EarlyModel )	1	.137	.982	.241	.060	.035	4	.988	.238
UNSL ( EarlyModel )	2	<b>.586</b>	.939	<b>.721</b>	.073	<b>.020</b>	11	.961	<b>.693</b>
UNSL ( EARLIEST )	3	.084	.963	.155	.066	.060	1	<b>1</b>	.155
UNSL ( EARLIEST )	4	.086	.933	.157	.067	.060	1	<b>1</b>	.157
RELAI	0	.138	.988	.243	<b>.048</b>	.036	1	<b>1</b>	.243
BLUE	1	.157	.988	.271	.054	.036	2	.996	.270
UPV-Symanto	0	.042	.415	.077	.088	.087	1	<b>1</b>	.077
CeDRI	0	.076	<b>1</b>	.142	.079	.060	2	.996	.141
EFE	2	.233	.750	.356	.082	.033	11	.961	.342

**Table 2.** Decision-based evaluation

# T1 - Early Detection of Pathological Gambling - Results

team name	run id	$P$	$R$	$F1$	$ERDE_5$	$ERDE_{50}$	$latency_{TP}$	speed	latency-weighted $F1$
UNSL ( EarlyModel )	0	.326	.957	.487	.079	.023	11	.961	.468
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UNSL ( EarlyModel )	2	<b>.586</b>	.939	<b>.721</b>	.073	<b>.020</b>	11	.961	<b>.693</b>
UNSL ( EARLIEST )	3	.084	.963	.155	.066	.060	1	<b>1</b>	.155
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RELAI	0	.138	.988	.243	<b>.048</b>	.036	1	<b>1</b>	.243
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CeDRI	0	.076	<b>1</b>	.142	.079	.060	2	.996	.141
EFE	2	.233	.750	.356	.082	.033	11	.961	.342

**Table 2.** Decision-based evaluation



## T2 - Early Detection of Self-Harm - Runs

- UNSL#0 (EarlyModel):
  - Representation → doc2vec
  - Model → MLP
  - Decision policy → threshold = 0.7 and minimum number of post = 10
- UNSL#1 (EARLIEST):
  - Representation → doc2vec
  - Model → LSTM
  - Decision policy →  $\lambda = 0.000001$
- UNSL#2 (EARLIEST):
  - Representation → doc2vec
  - Model → LSTM
  - Decision policy →  $\lambda = 0.00001$



# T2 - Early Detection of Self-Harm - Runs

- UNSL#3 (SS3):
  - Representation → raw text
  - Model → SS3
  - Decision policy →  $\gamma = 2$
- UNSL#4 (SS3):
  - Representation → raw text
  - Model → SS3
  - Decision policy →  $\gamma = 2.5$



## T2 - Early Detection of Self-Harm - Results


team name	run id	$P$	$R$	$F1$	$ERDE_5$	$ERDE_{50}$	$latency_{TP}$	speed	latency-weighted $F1$
UNSL (EarlyModel)	0	.336	.914	.491	.125	<b>.034</b>	11	.961	.472
UNSL (EARLIEST)	1	.11	.987	.198	.093	.092	<b>1</b>	<b>1.0</b>	.198
UNSL (EARLIEST)	2	.129	.934	.226	.098	.085	<b>1</b>	<b>1.0</b>	.226
UNSL (SS3)	3	.464	.803	.588	.064	.038	3	.992	.583
UNSL (SS3)	4	.532	.763	<b>.627</b>	.064	.038	3	.992	<b>.622</b>
NLP-UNED	4	.453	.816	.582	.088	.04	9	.969	.564
Birmingham	0	.584	.526	.554	.068	.054	2	.996	.551
Birmingham	2	<b>.757</b>	.349	.477	.085	.07	4	.988	.472
EFE	2	.366	.796	.501	.12	.043	12	.957	.48
BLUE	2	.454	.849	.592	.079	.037	7	.977	.578
UPV-Symanto	1	.276	.638	.385	<b>.059</b>	.056	1	1.0	.385

**Table 5.** Decision-based evaluation

## T2 - Early Detection of Self-Harm - Results

team name	run id	$P$	$R$	$F1$	$ERDE_5$	$ERDE_{50}$	$latency_{TP}$	$speed$	$latency\text{-}weighted\ F1$
UNSL (EarlyModel)	0	.336	.914	.491	.125	<b>.034</b>	11	.961	.472
UNSL (EARLIEST)	1	.11	.987	.198	.093	.092	<b>1</b>	<b>1.0</b>	.198
UNSL (EARLIEST)	2	.129	.934	.226	.098	.085	<b>1</b>	<b>1.0</b>	.226
UNSL (SS3)	3	.464	.803	.588	.064	.038	3	.992	.583
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BLUE	2	.454	.849	.592	.079	.037	7	.977	.578
UPV-Symanto	1	.276	.638	.385	<b>.059</b>	.056	1	1.0	.385

**Table 5.** Decision-based evaluation



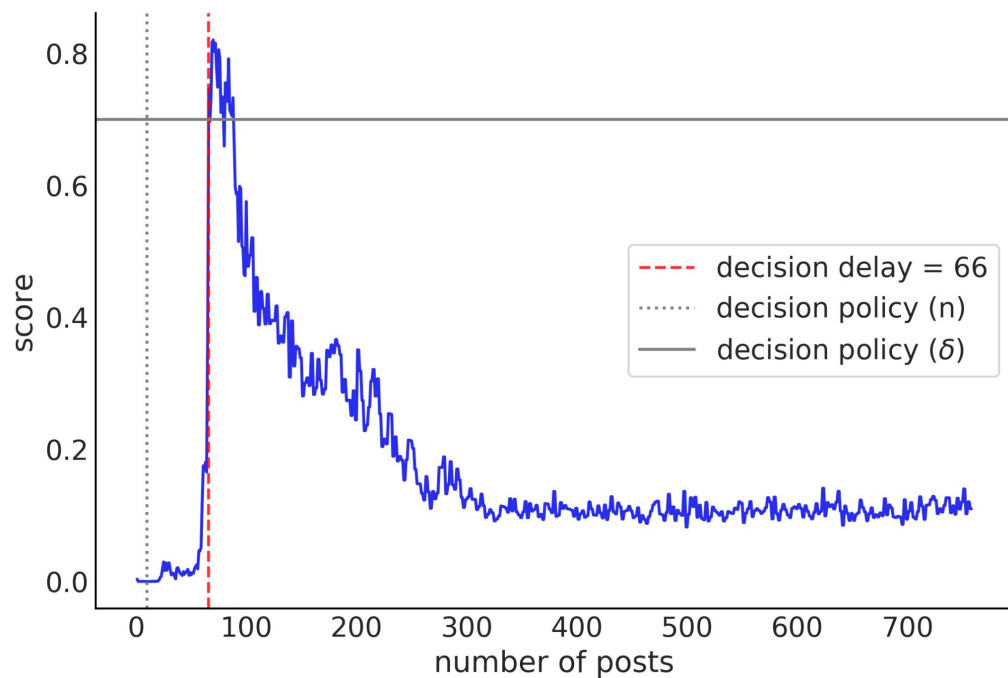
**Thank you for your  
attention.  
Any questions?**

**[jmloyola@unsl.edu.ar](mailto:jmloyola@unsl.edu.ar)**

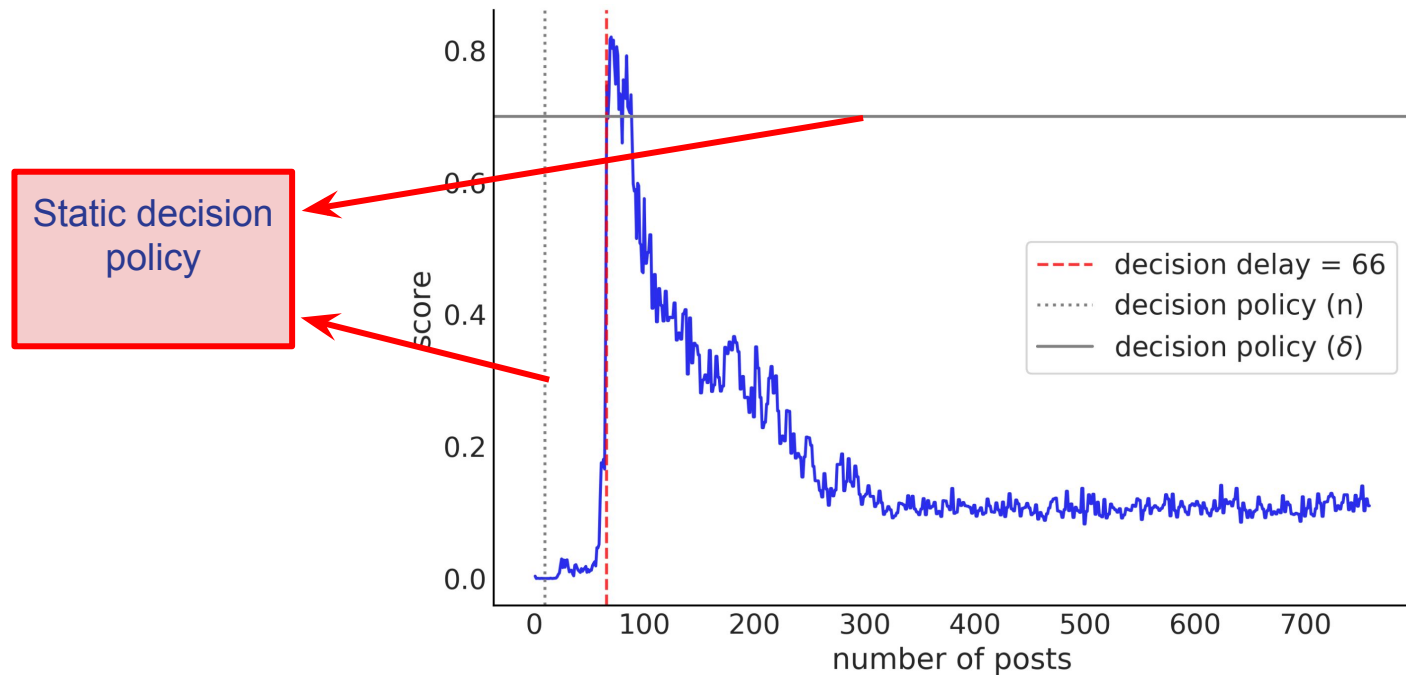
# References

- Loyola, J. M., Errecalde, M. L., Escalante, H. J., & y Gomez, M. M. (2017, October). Learning when to classify for early text classification. In Argentine Congress of Computer Science (pp. 24-34). Springer, Cham.
- Burdisso, S. G., Errecalde, M., & Montes-y-Gómez, M. (2019). A text classification framework for simple and effective early depression detection over social media streams. *Expert Systems with Applications*, 133, 182-197.
- Hartvigsen, T., Sen, C., Kong, X., & Rundensteiner, E. (2019, July). Adaptive-halting policy network for early classification. In *Proceedings of the 25th ACM SIGKDD International Conference on Knowledge Discovery & Data Mining* (pp. 101-110).

# Score and decision policy visualization (EarlyModel)

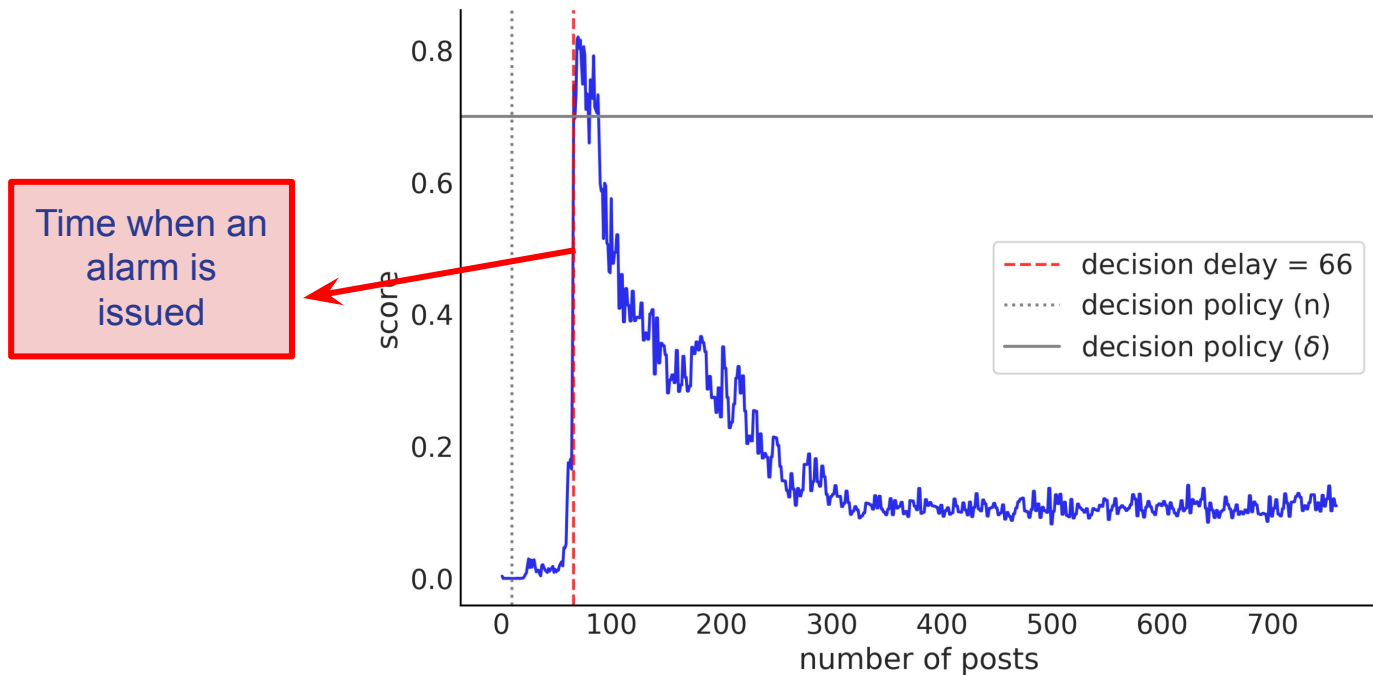


# Score and decision policy visualization (EarlyModel)

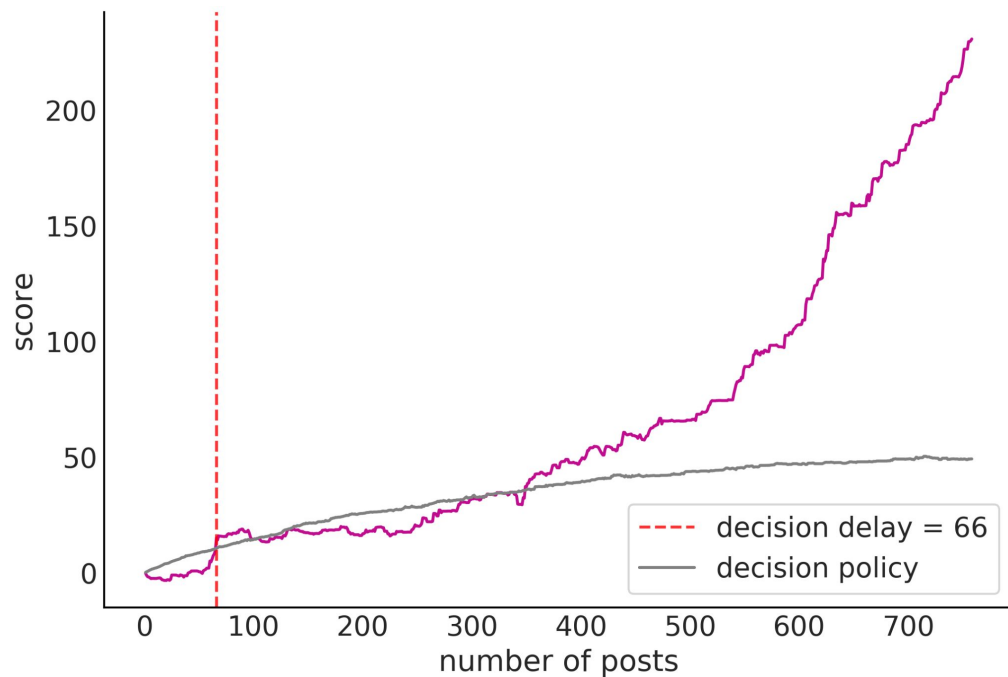




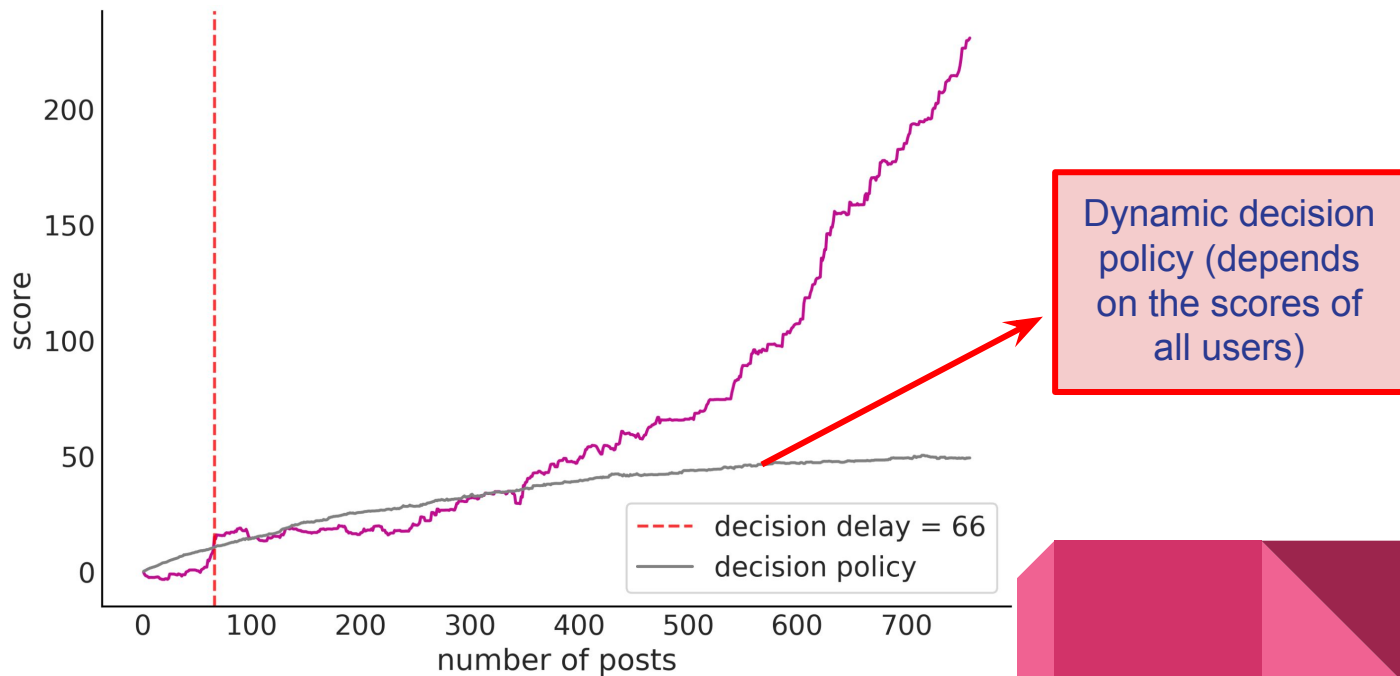
# Score and decision policy visualization (EarlyModel)



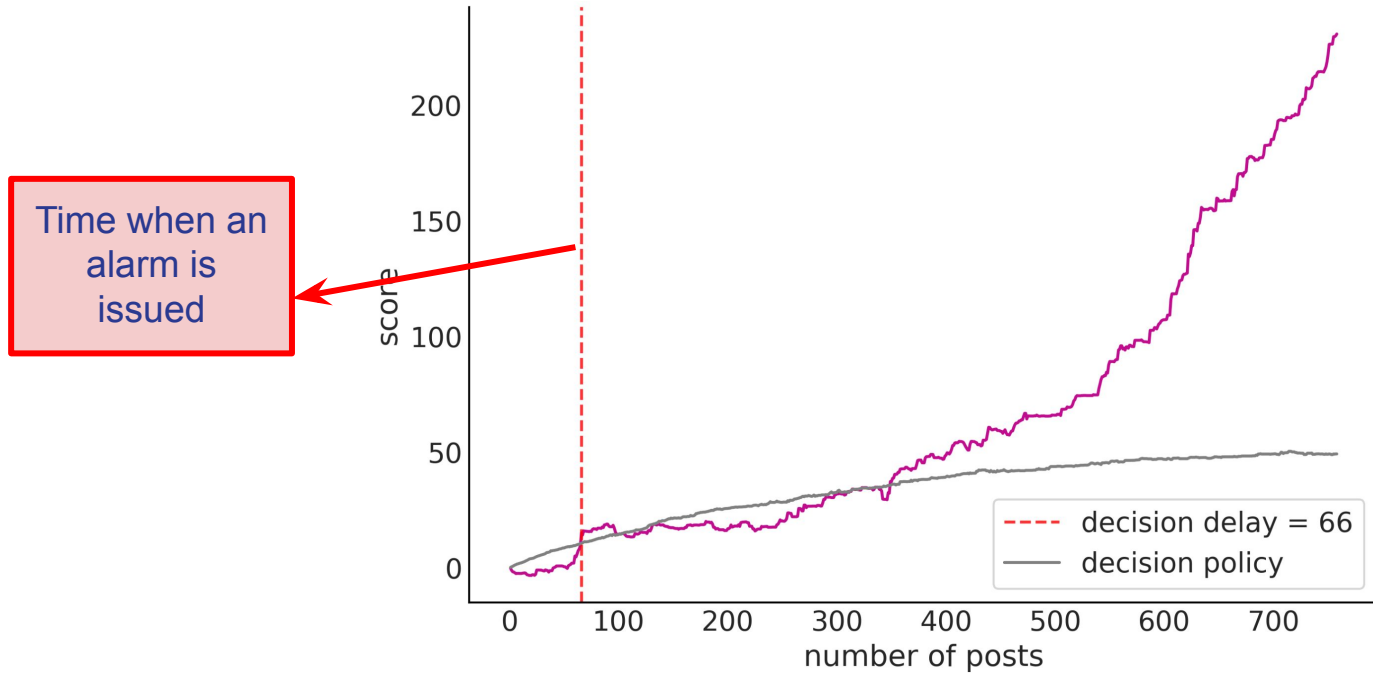
# Score and decision policy visualization (SS3)



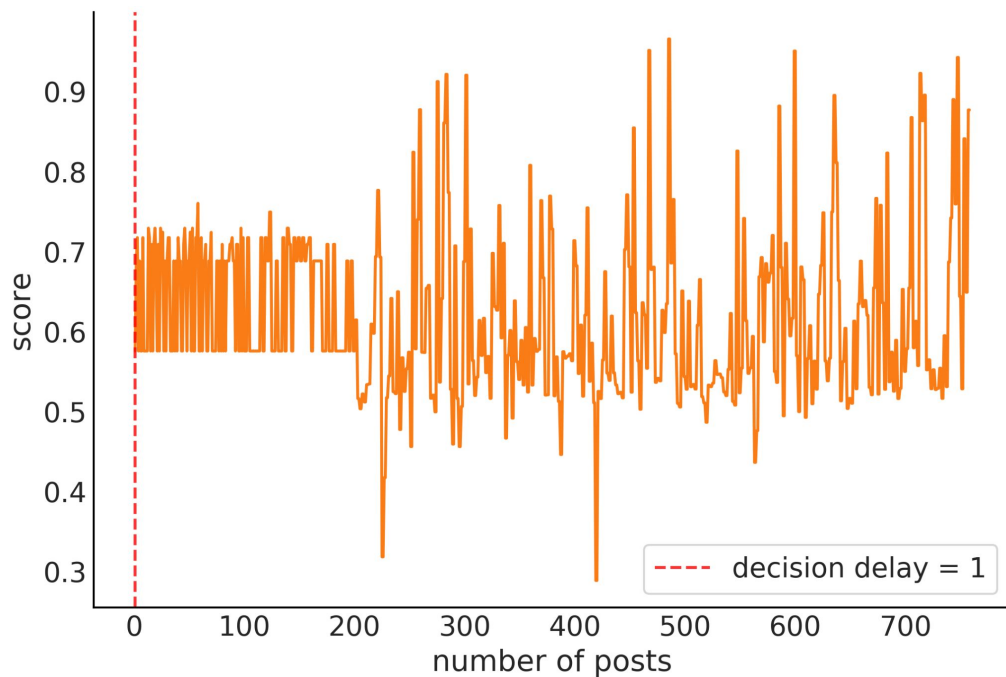
# Score and decision policy visualization (SS3)



# Score and decision policy visualization (SS3)

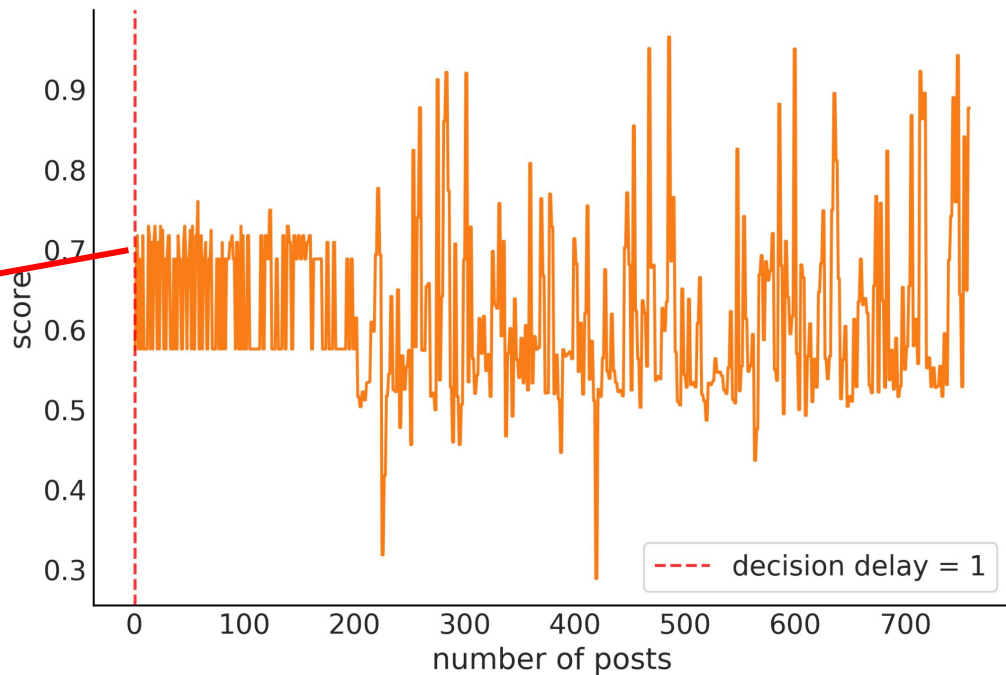


# Score and decision policy visualization (EARLIEST)



# Score and decision policy visualization (EARLIEST)

Time when an  
alarm is  
issued



# Corpus generation procedure

- Based on posts and comments from Reddit (<https://www.reddit.com/>).
- Positive cases were obtained from particular subreddits
  - T1: <https://www.reddit.com/r/problemgambling/>
  - T2: <https://www.reddit.com/r/selfharm/>
- Negative cases were obtained from general subreddits: sports, jokes, gaming, politics, news, y LifeProTips.
- All users with less than 31 posts or comments, or with an average number of words per post less than 15, were discarded.



# T1 - eRisk corpus

- Based on posts and comments from Reddit (<https://www.reddit.com/>).
- No corpus was supplied for training.

Corpus	#users			#posts	#posts per user			#words per post		
	Total	Pos	Neg		Med	Min	Max	Med	Min	Max
T1_test	2,348	164	2184	1,130,792	244	10	2,001	12	0	10,175
T1_train	726	176	550	71,187	54	31	740	20	1	4,516
T1_valid	726	176	550	74,507	55	31	1,234	19	1	7,479



## T2 - eRisk corpus

- Based on posts and comments from Reddit (<https://www.reddit.com/>).
- A training and validation corpus were provided.

Corpus	#users			#posts	#posts per user			#words per post		
	Total	Pos	Neg		Med	Min	Max	Med	Min	Max
T2_test	1,448	152	1296	746,098	275.5	10	1,999	12	0	18,064
T2_train	340	41	299	170,698	282.0	8	1,992	10	1	6,700
T2_valid	423	104	319	103,837	95.0	9	1,990	7	1	2,663
redd_train	1,051	494	557	118,452	61.0	31	1,466	18	1	5,971
redd_valid	1,051	494	557	119,651	59.0	31	1,781	18	1	4,382
comb_train	1,391	535	856	289,150	73.0	8	1,992	13	1	6,700
comb_valid	1,474	598	876	223,488	63.0	9	1,990	11	1	4,382
ilab_train	26,256	10319	15937	259,297	5.0	1	1,825	19	1	11,933

# Pre-processing of the input

1. Convert text to lower case.
2. Convert HTML and Unicode codes into their respective symbols.
3. Replace links to the web with a token.
4. Replace internal reddit links with the name of the subreddit they lead to.
5. Delete any character that is not a number or letter.
6. Replace numbers with a token.
7. Delete new lines, tab, and multiple consecutive white spaces.



## T1 - Overlap between competition corpus and the corpus generated

	# users	# users with >25% overlap	# users with >50% overlap	# users with >75% overlap
positives	164	24	10	2
negatives	2184	2	0	0

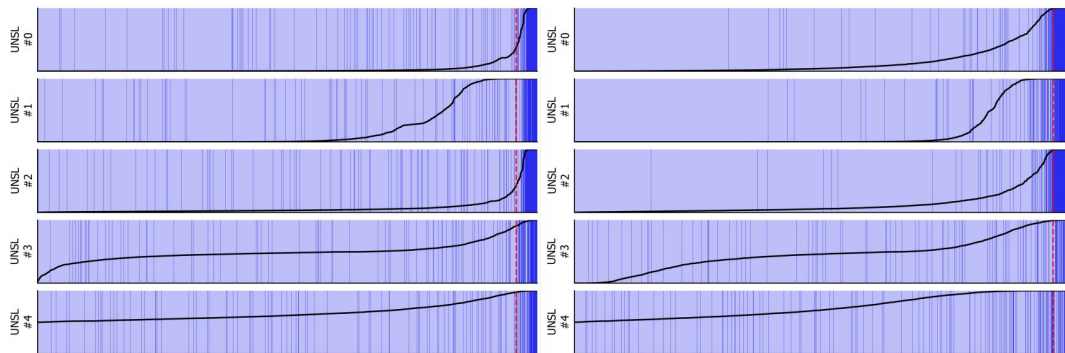


## T2 - Overlap between competition corpus and the corpus generated

	# users	# users with >25% overlap	# users with >50% overlap	# users with >75% overlap
positives	152	6	3	0
negatives	1296	0	0	0

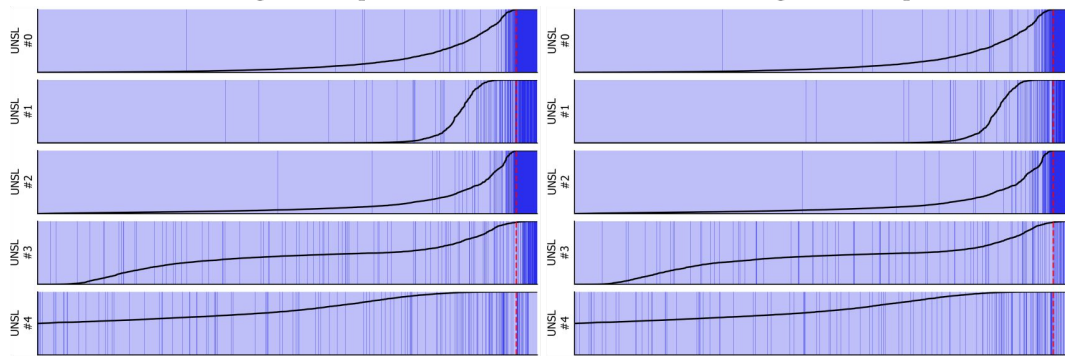


# T1 - Separation plot



(a) Rankings after 1 post

(b) Rankings after 100 posts

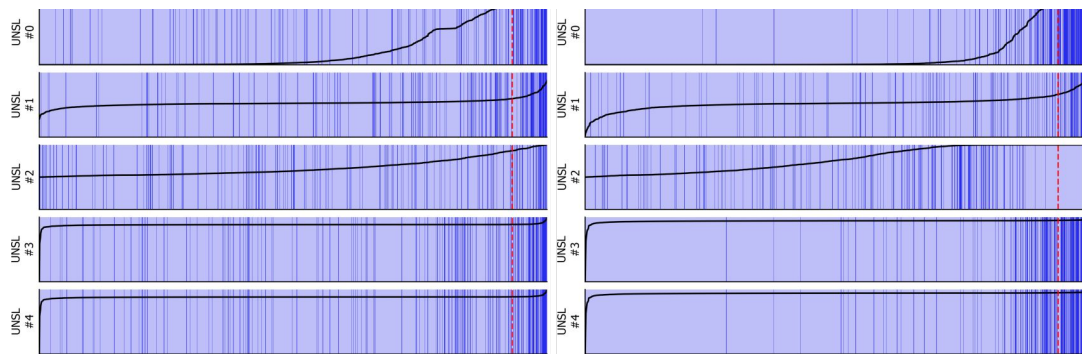


(c) Rankings after 500 posts

(d) Rankings after 1000 posts

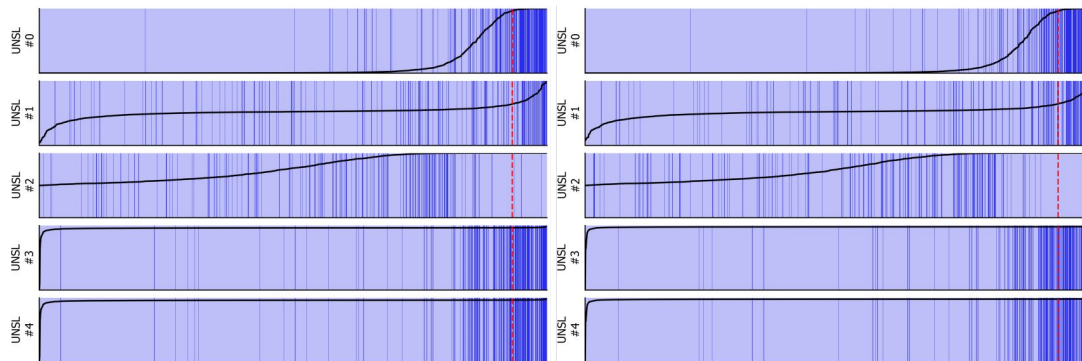


# T2 - Separation plot



(a) 1 post

(b) 100 posts

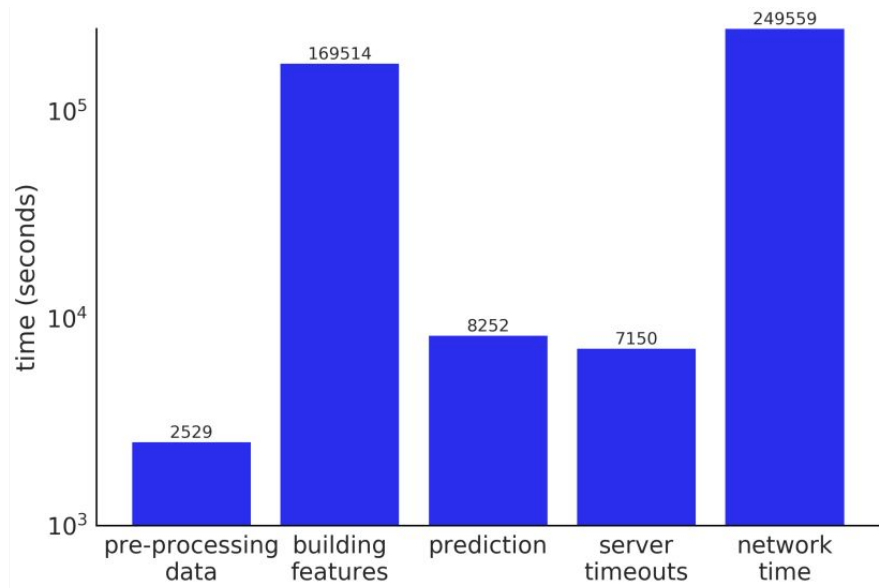


(c) 500 posts

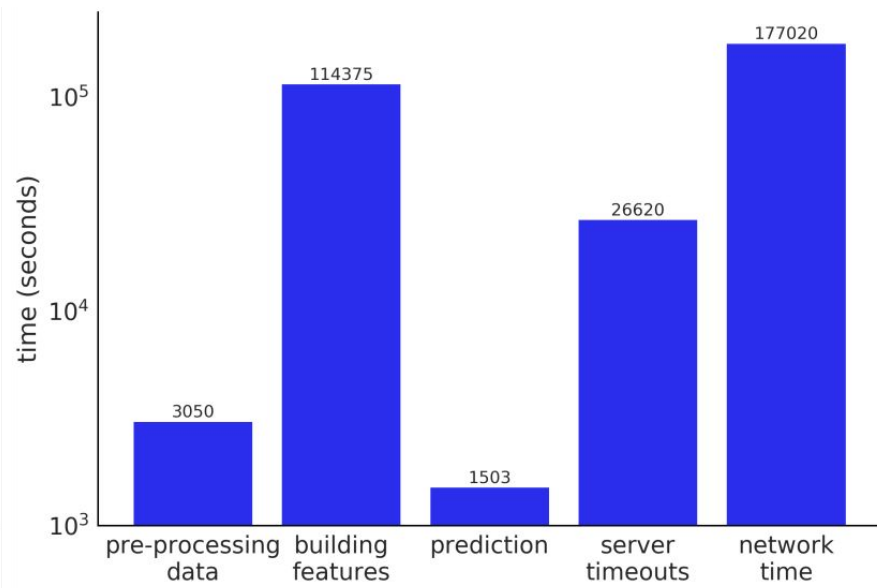
(d) 1000 posts



# Elapsed time

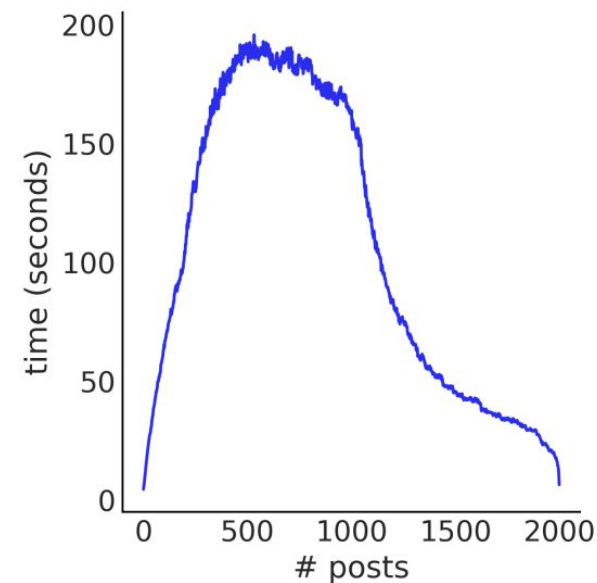


(a) Task T1

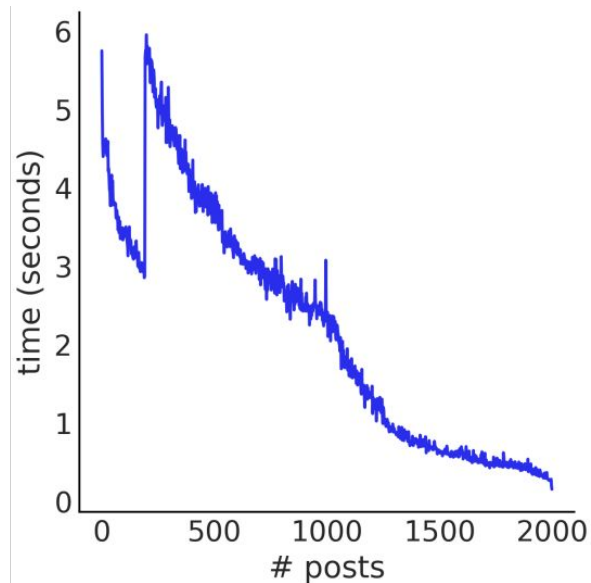


(b) Task T2

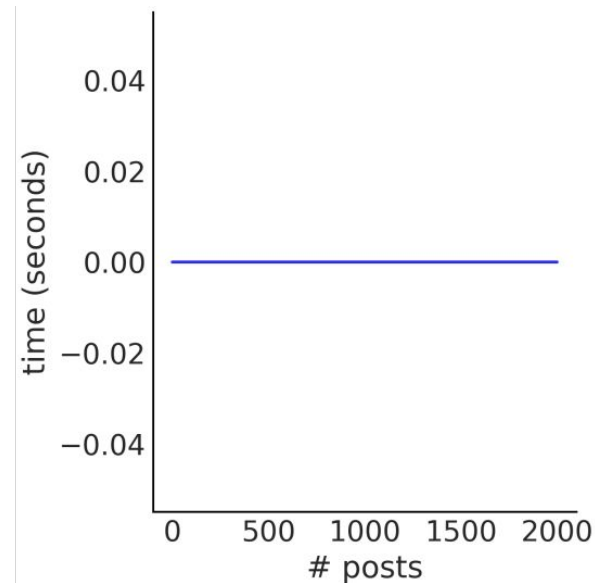
# Time spent during the feature building stage



(a) EarlyModel



(b) EARLIEST



(c) SS3

