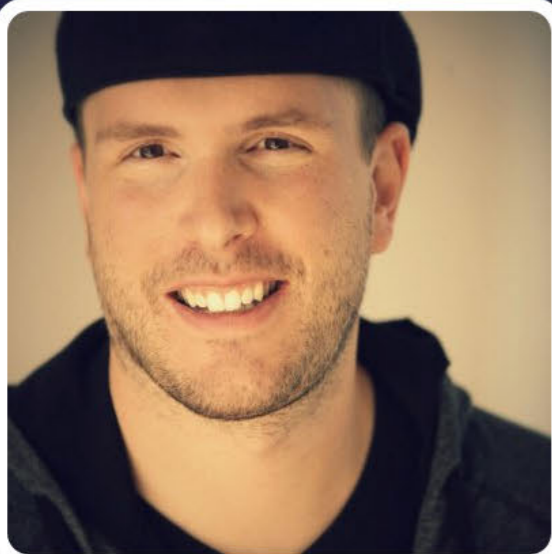


The End is Nigh

Generic Solving of Text-based

Elie Bursztein, Jonathan Aigrain, Angelika Mosciki,
John Mitchell



TWEETS
2,053

PHOTOS/VIDEOS
61

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Elie Bursztein

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Pinned Tweet

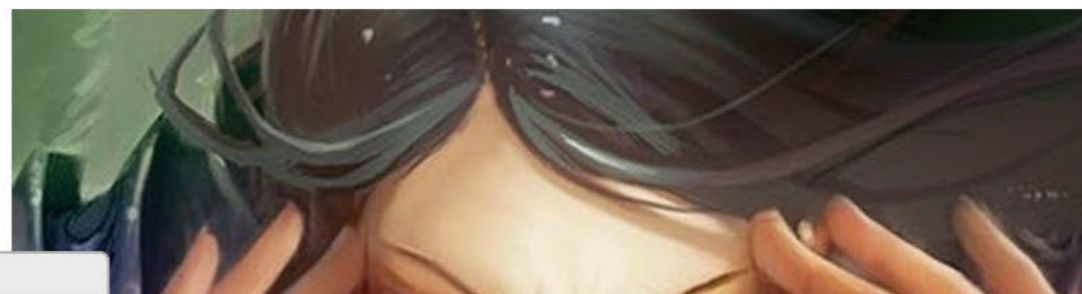


Elie Bursztein @elie · Aug 13

Predicting Hearthstone opponent deck using machine learning - bit.ly/Y5MTkn #hearthstone #game #defcon



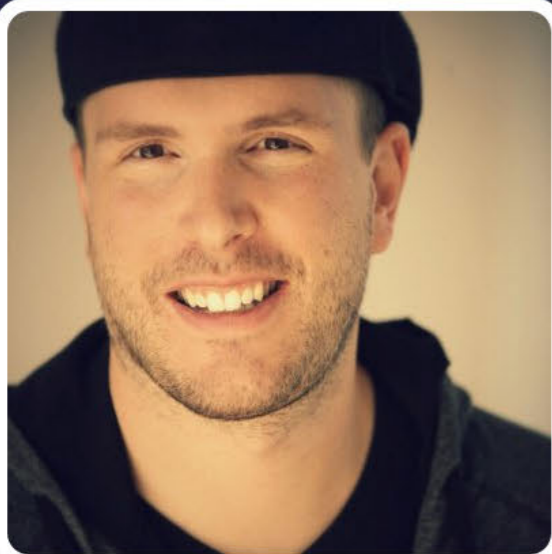
Elie Bursztein



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Tweets

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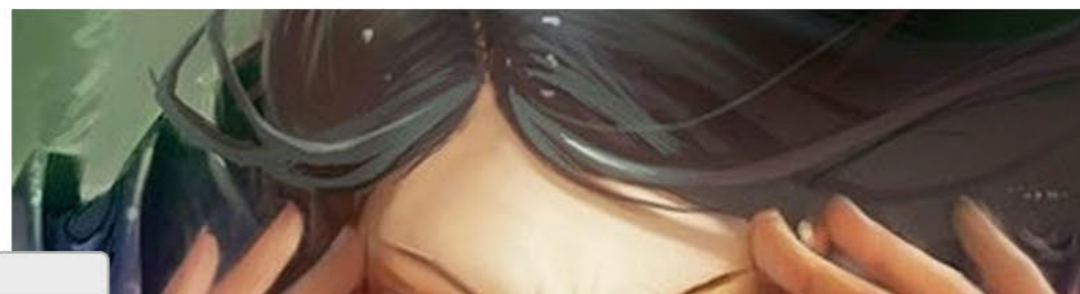


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Joined

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Already use Twitter on your phone? [Finish signup now.](#)

Full name

workshop

✓ ok

Your full name will appear on your public profile

Username

eliedemo

✓ ok

Your public profile: [http://twitter.com/ eliedemo](http://twitter.com/eliedemo)

Password

••••••••••

✓ Good

Are you human?



Before we create your account, we need to make sure you're not a computer.

edisibil from

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Type the words above

Finish

Create my account

I want the inside scoop—please send me email updates!

Elie B

@elie

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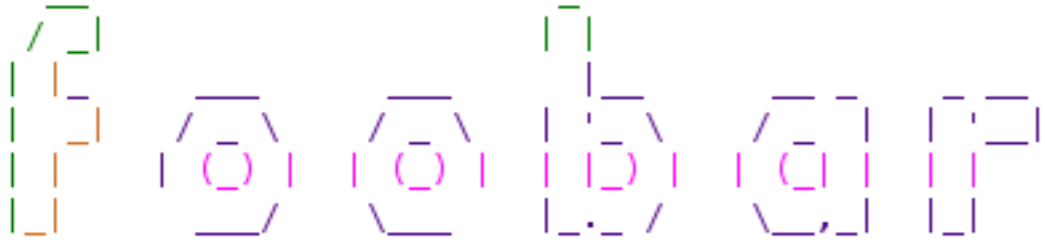
Mour

elie.n

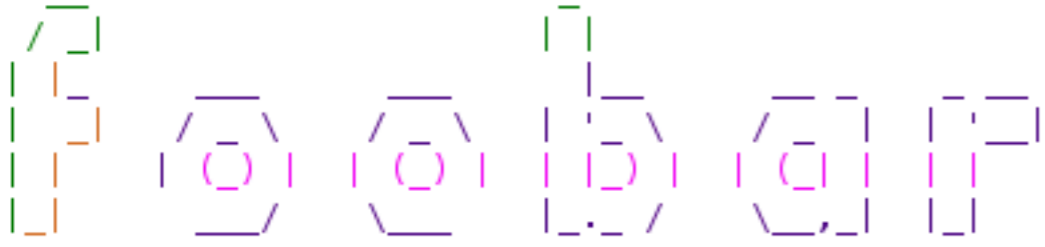
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Captcha Validation: *

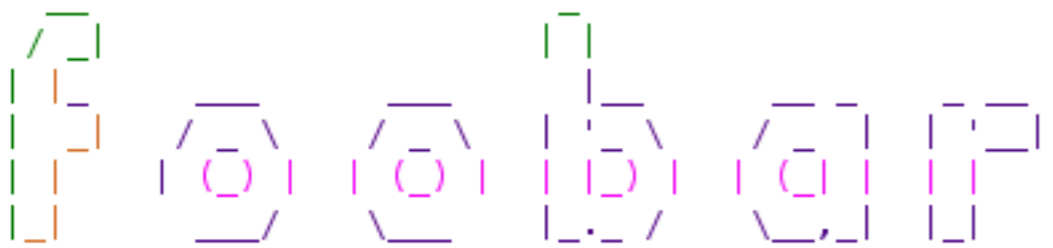


Captcha Validation: *

Защита от автоматической регистрации

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \ln \left(2 + \sqrt{\arctg x \cdot \sin \frac{1}{x}} \right)$

Введите ответ



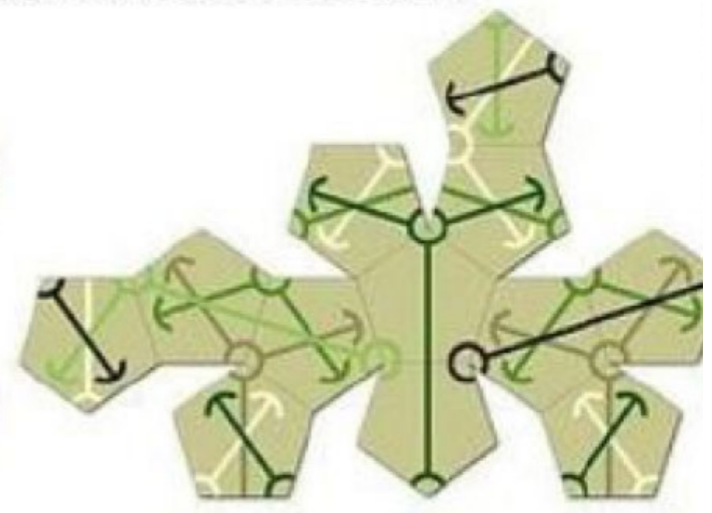
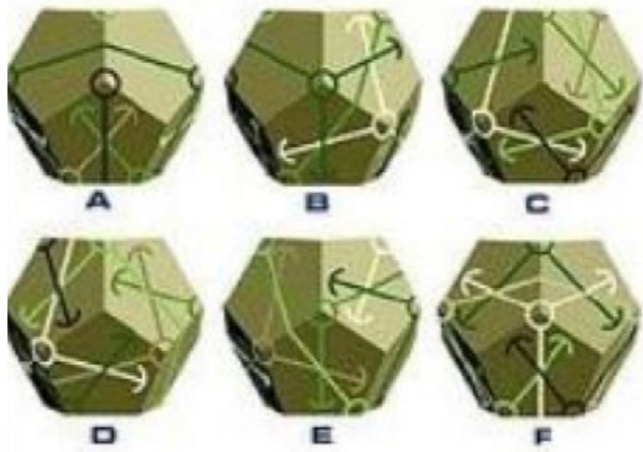
Captcha Validation: *

Защита от автоматической регистрации

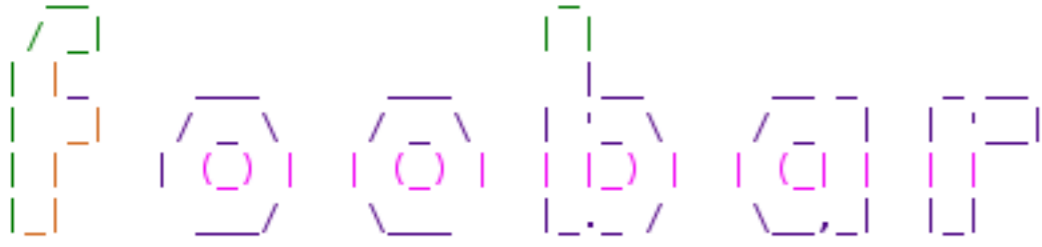
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \ln \left(2 + \sqrt{\arctg x \cdot \sin \frac{1}{x}} \right)$$

Введите ответ

No premium user. Please enter the one that can NOT be created from the unfolded pattern. 29 seconds remain.



Download via Cogent #2



Captcha Validation: *

Защита от автоматической регистрации

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \ln \left(2 + \sqrt{\arctg x \cdot \sin \frac{1}{x}} \right)$$

Введите ответ

Please click on the images that show cats:



No premium user. Please enter the one that can NOT be created from the unfolded pattern. 29 seconds remain.



Captcha Validation: *

Защита от автоматической регистрации

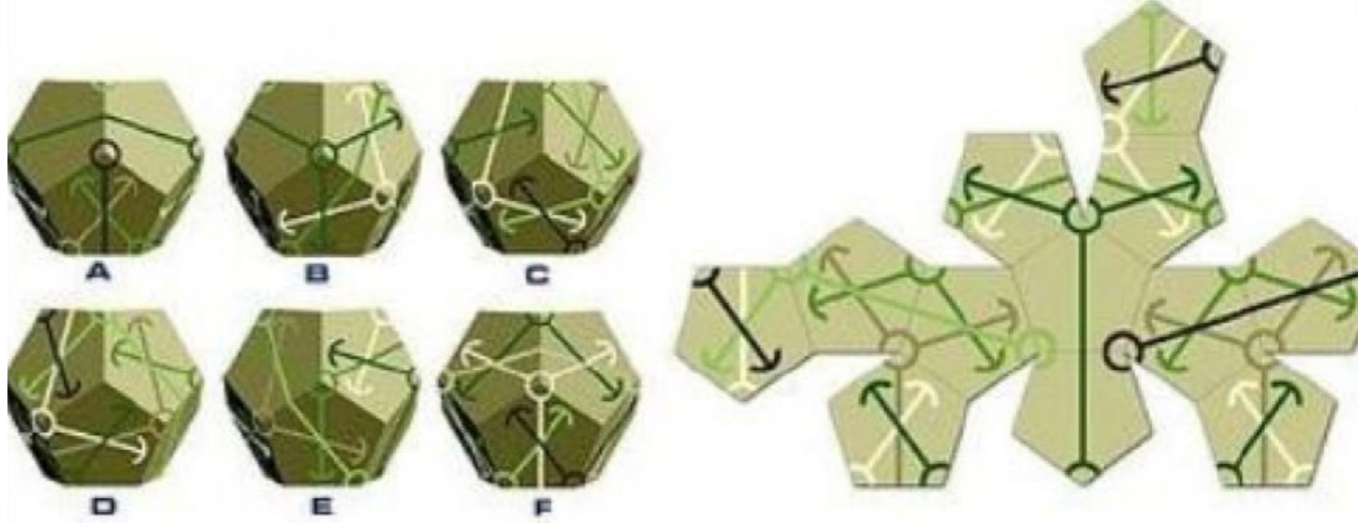
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \ln \left(2 + \sqrt{\arctg x \cdot \sin \frac{1}{x}} \right)$$

Введите ответ

Please click on the images that show cats:



No premium user. Please enter the one that can NOT be created from the unfolded pattern. 29 seconds remain.



Download via Cogent #2

| | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| | meet me | meet me |
| | meet me | |
| | meet me | |
| <input type="button" value="switch to men"/> | | |

hotcaptcha by frozenbear

Real world Captchas

Baidu (2011)

A6YK

Baidu (2013)

A0E9

CNN

5c3xe

eBay

984505

ReCaptcha (2011)

adachi

ReCaptcha (2013)

erL0ps

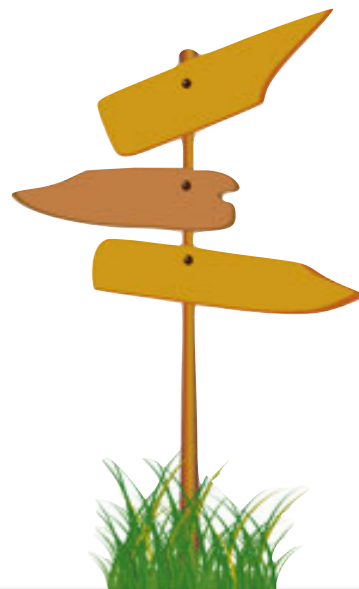
Wikipedia

trustother

Yahoo

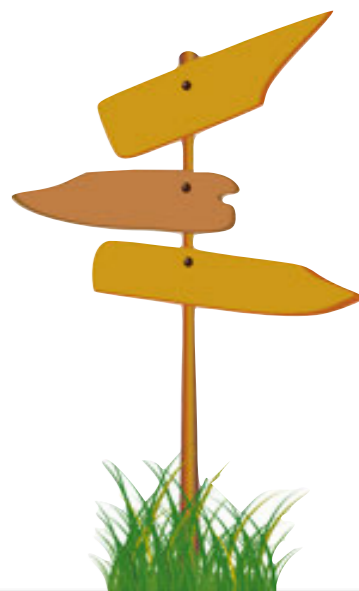
4cz8jyAz

Outline



Outline

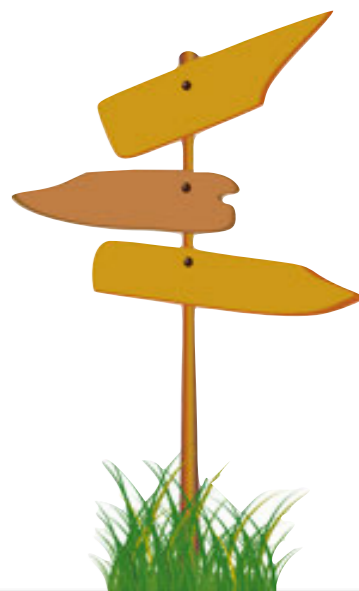
Old approach: segment then recognize



Outline

Old approach: segment then recognize

Our new approach: single machine learning step

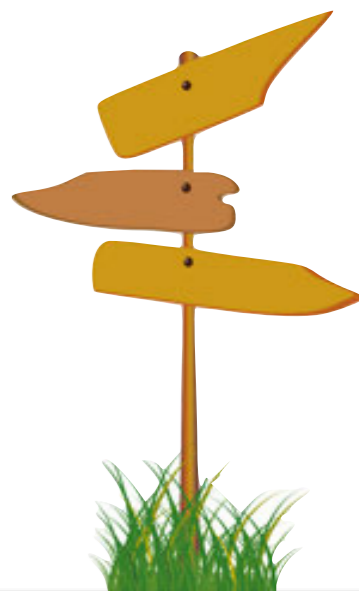


Outline

Old approach: segment then recognize

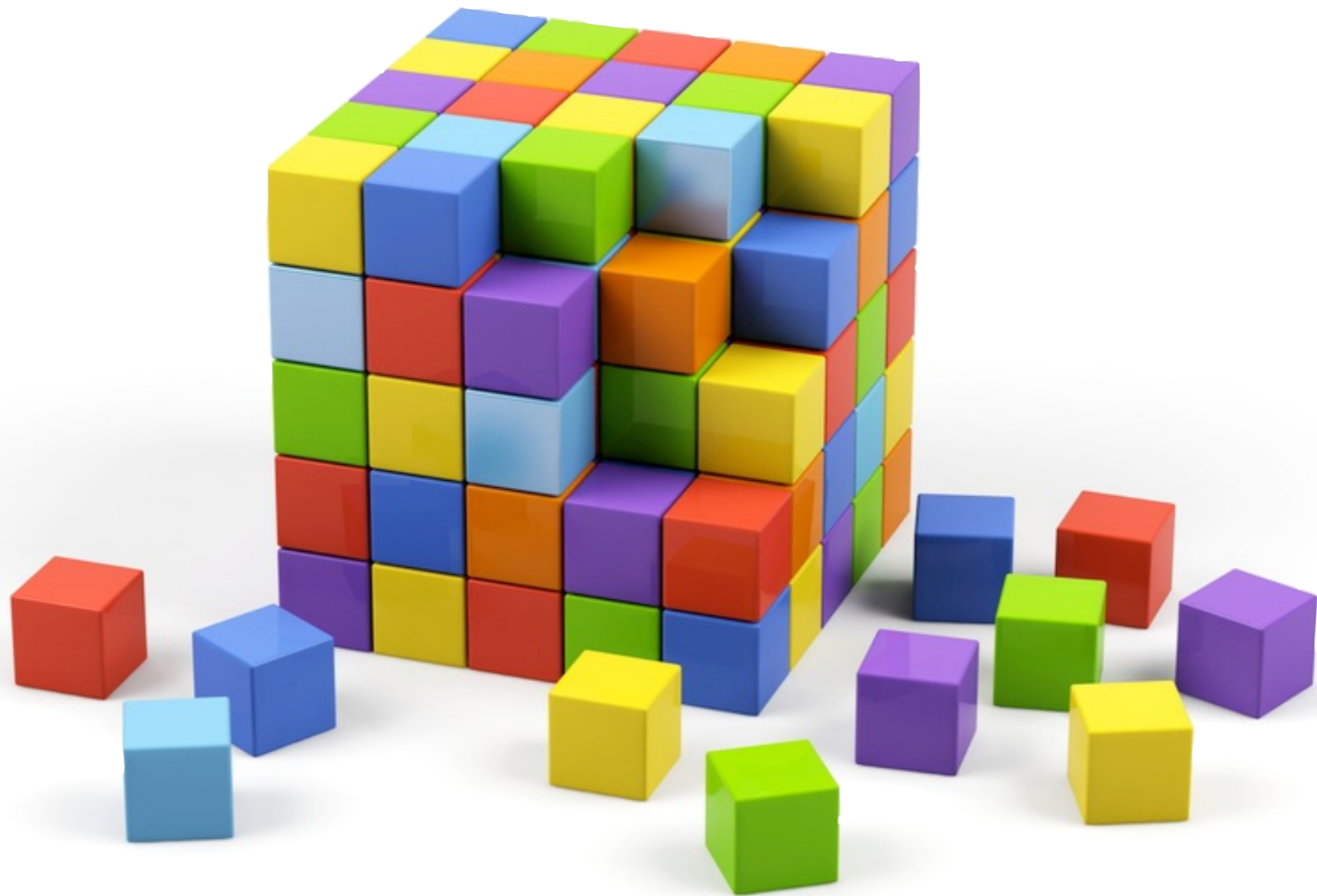
Our new approach: single machine learning step

Evaluation: efficiency on real world captchas



Segment then recognize

How to break captchas the old way



Think lego

The segment then recognize approach

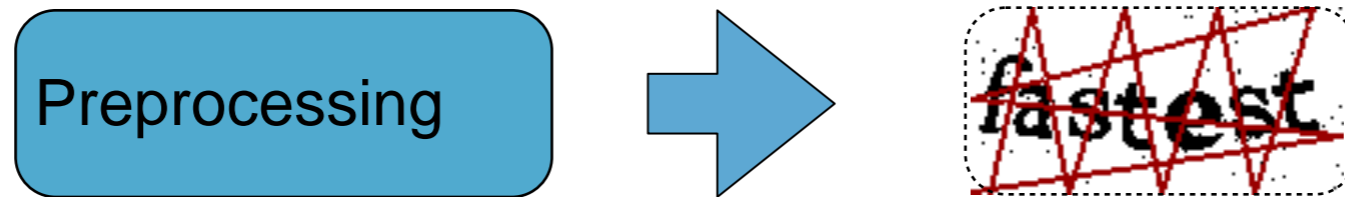


Slashdot captcha

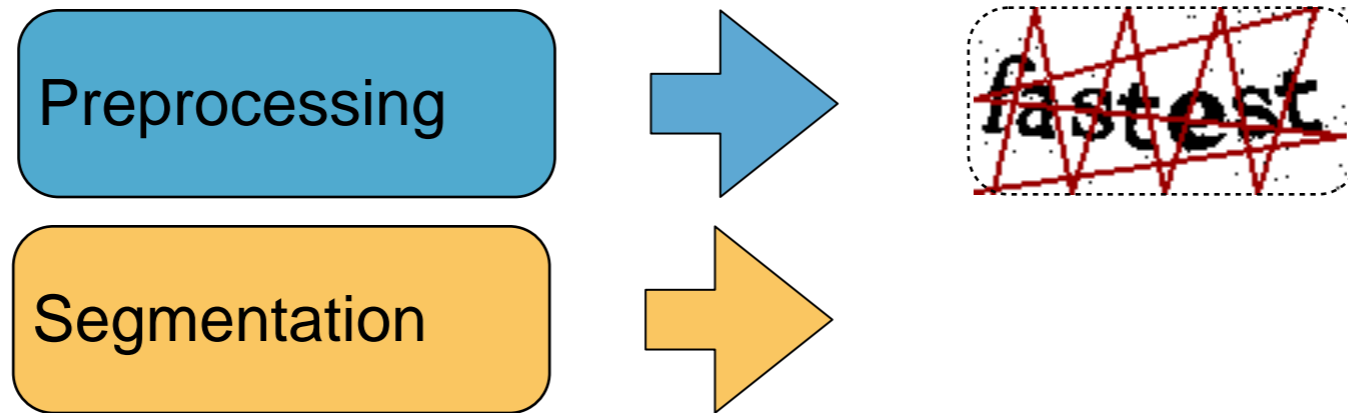
The segment then recognize approach



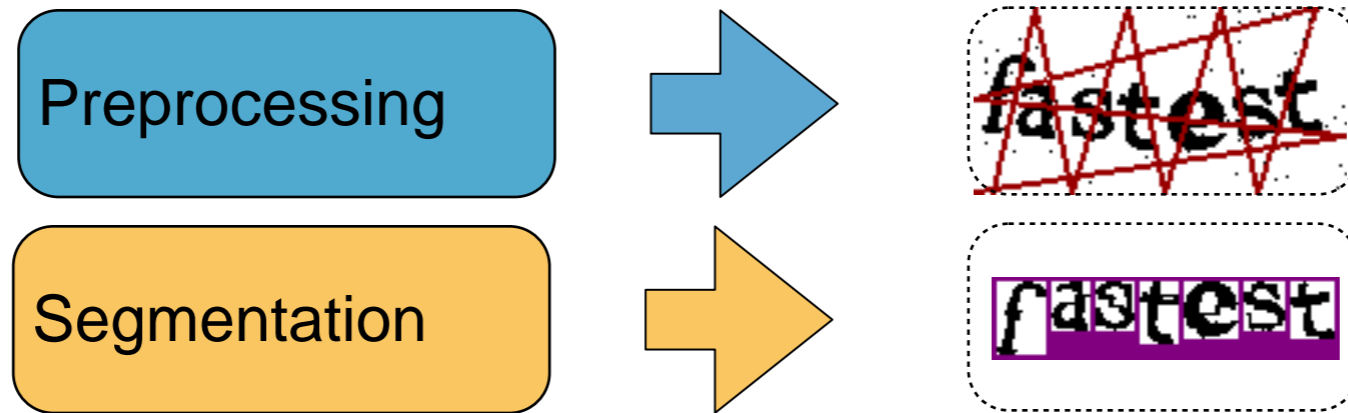
The segment then recognize approach



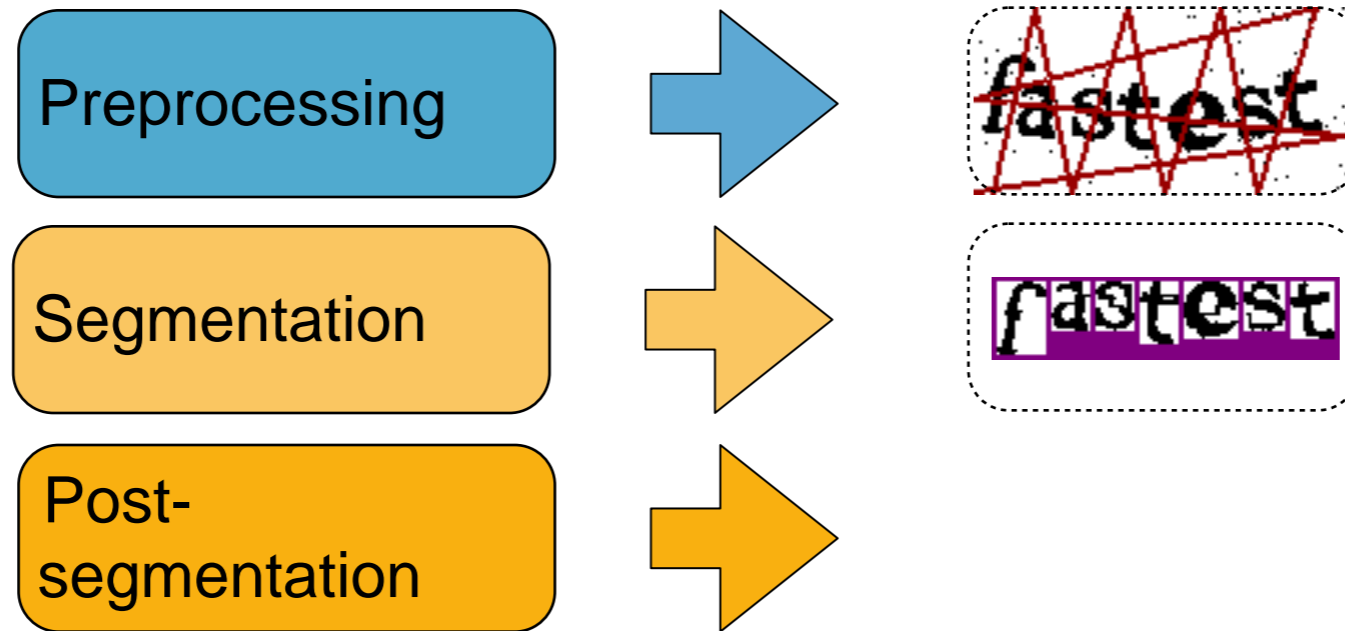
The segment then recognize approach



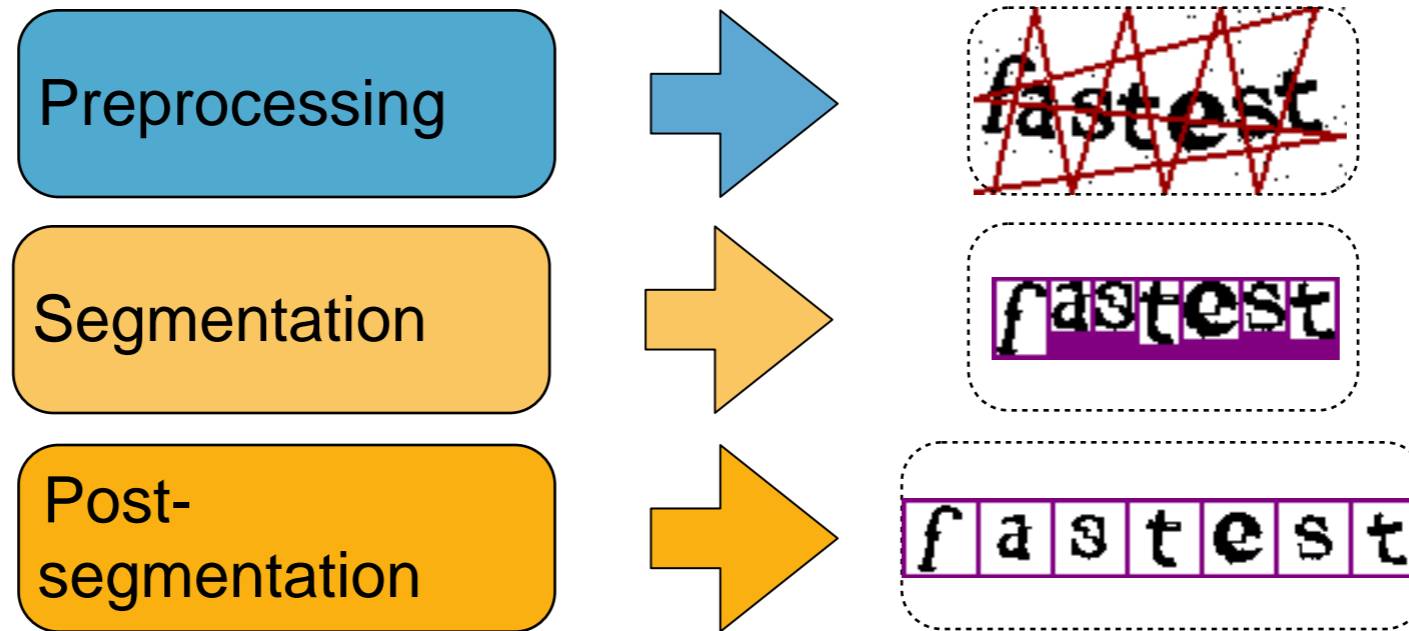
The segment then recognize approach



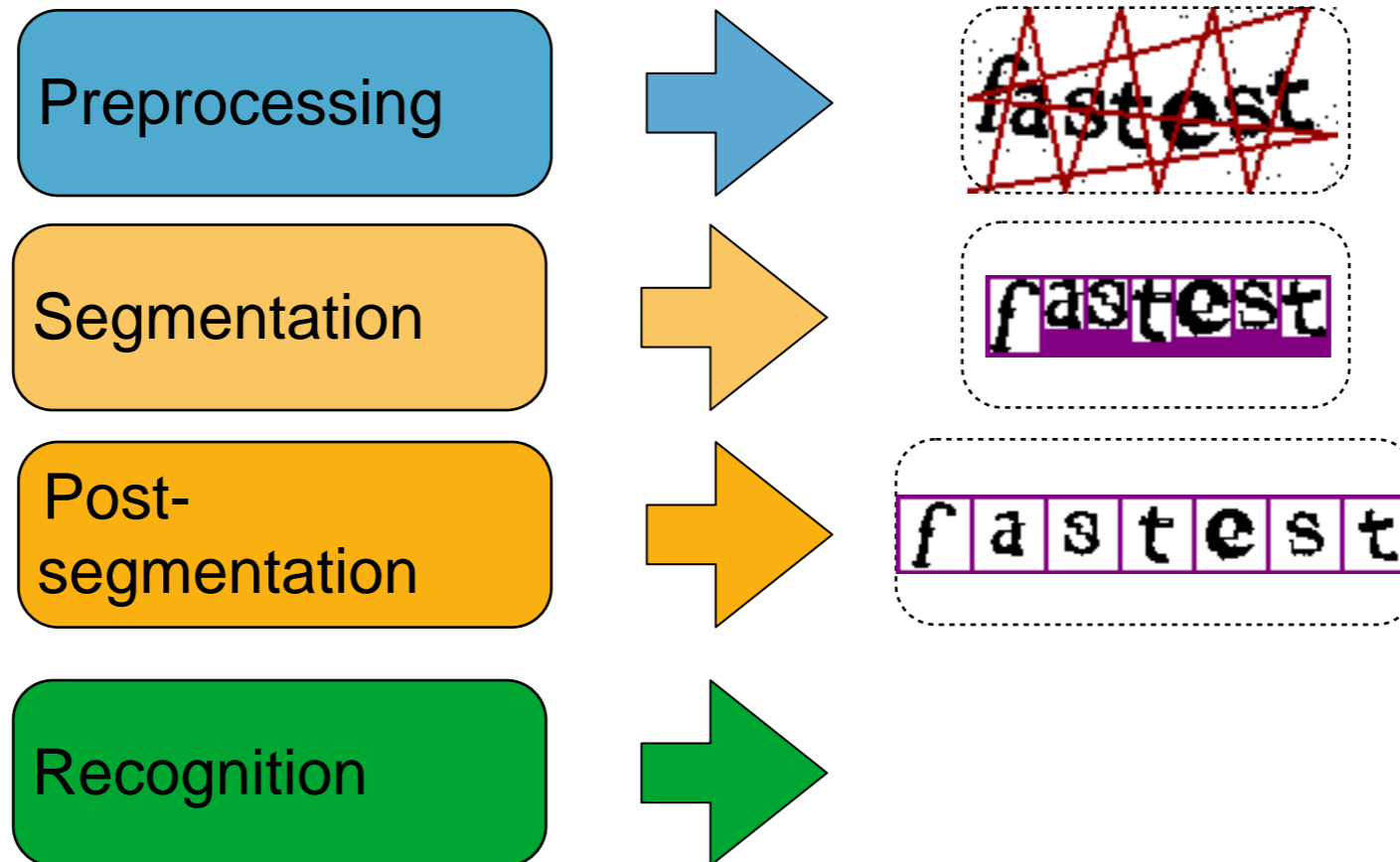
The segment then recognize approach



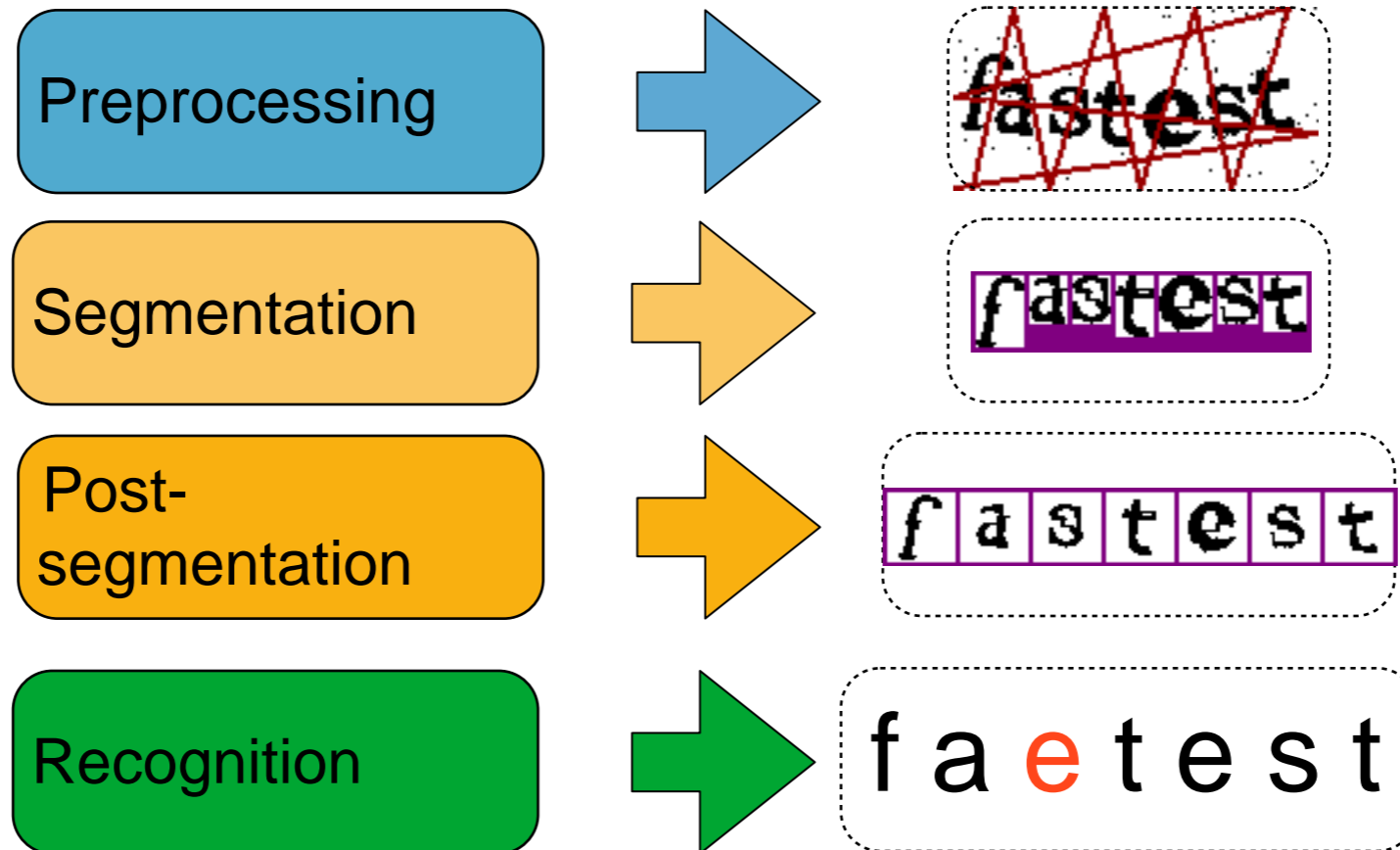
The segment then recognize approach



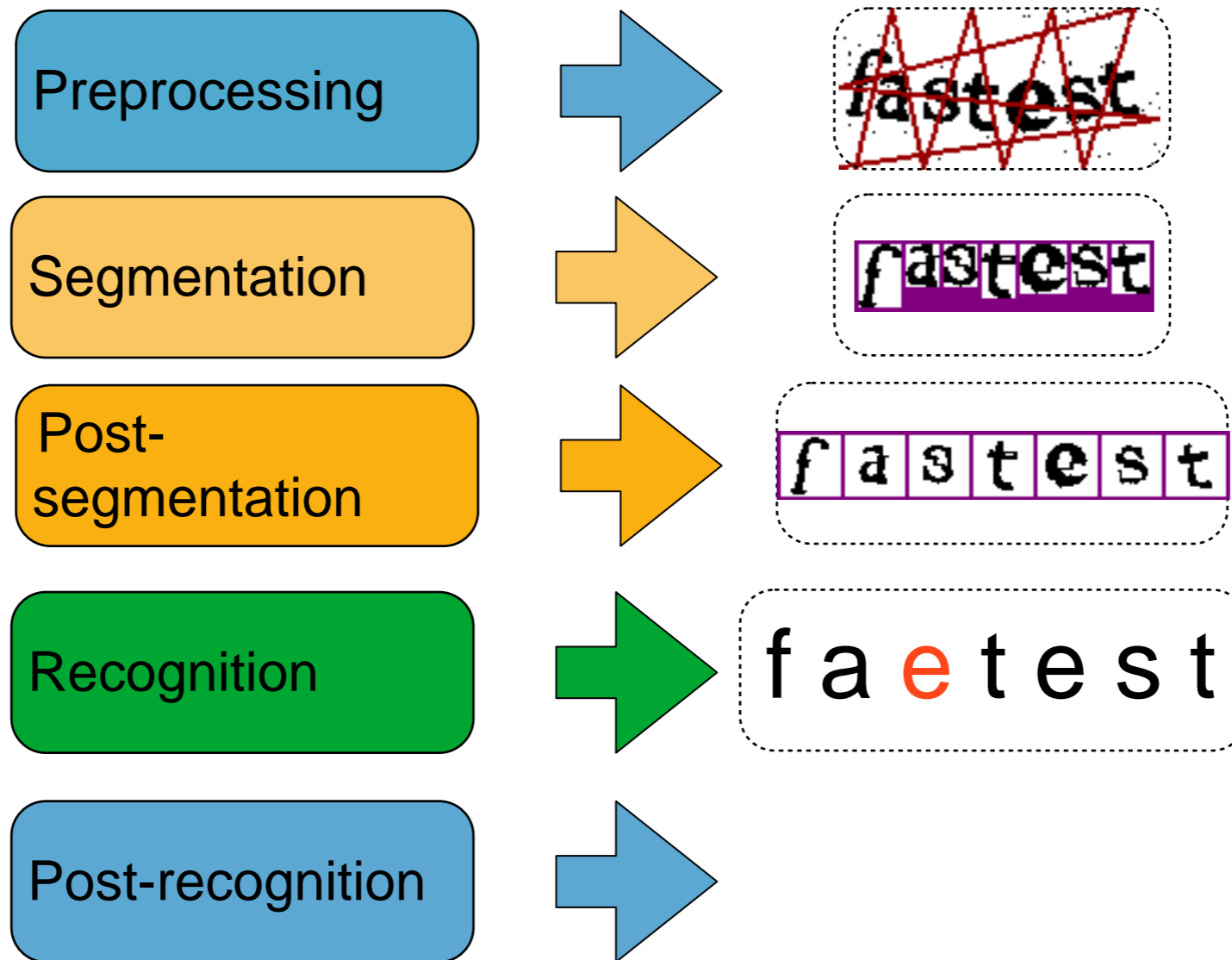
The segment then recognize approach



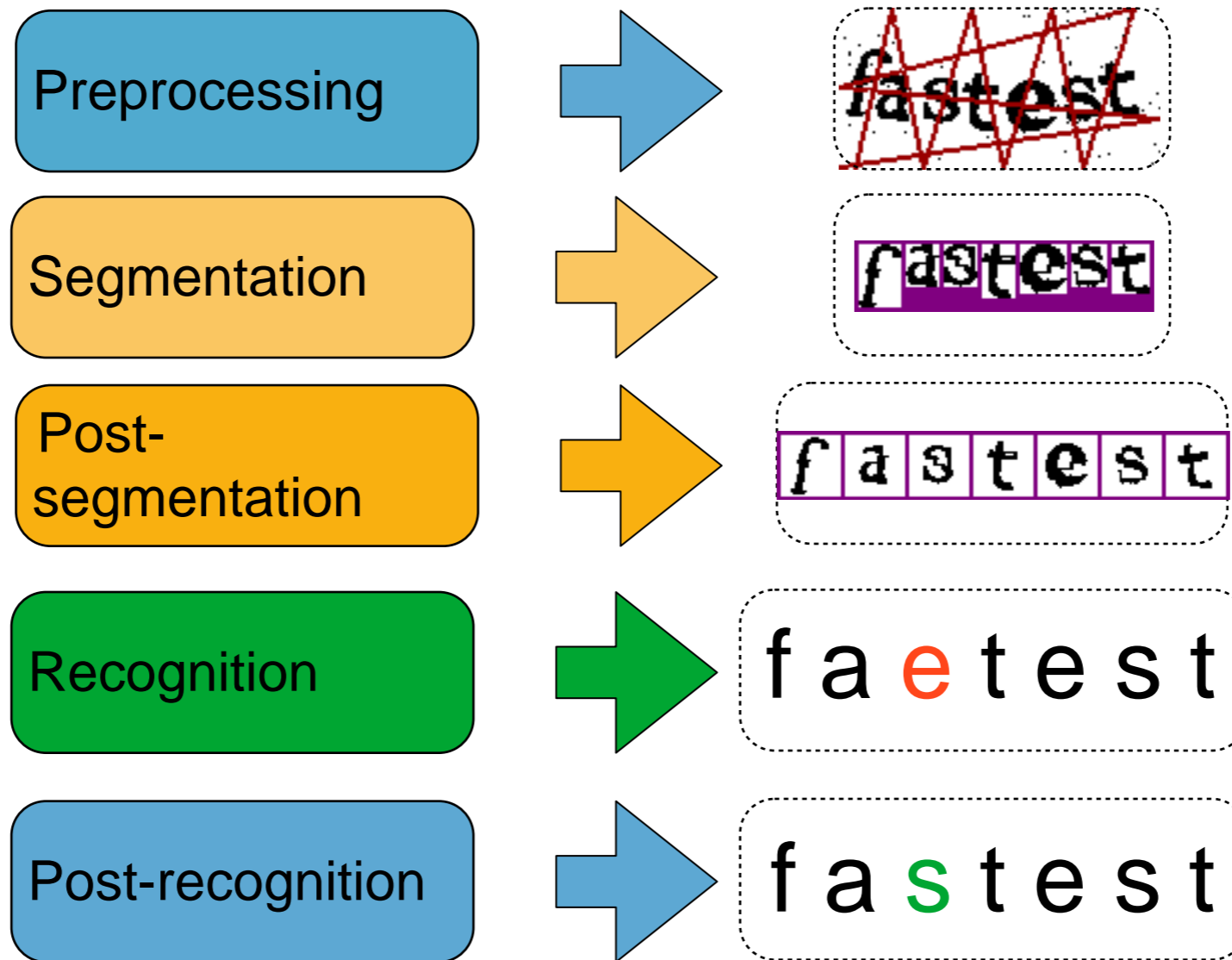
The segment then recognize approach



The segment then recognize approach



The segment then recognize approach



How about collapsing?

Baidu (2011)

A6VK

Baidu (2013)

A0E9

CNN

~~5c3xe~~

eBay

984505

ReCaptcha (2011)

adachi

ReCaptcha (2013)

erL0ps

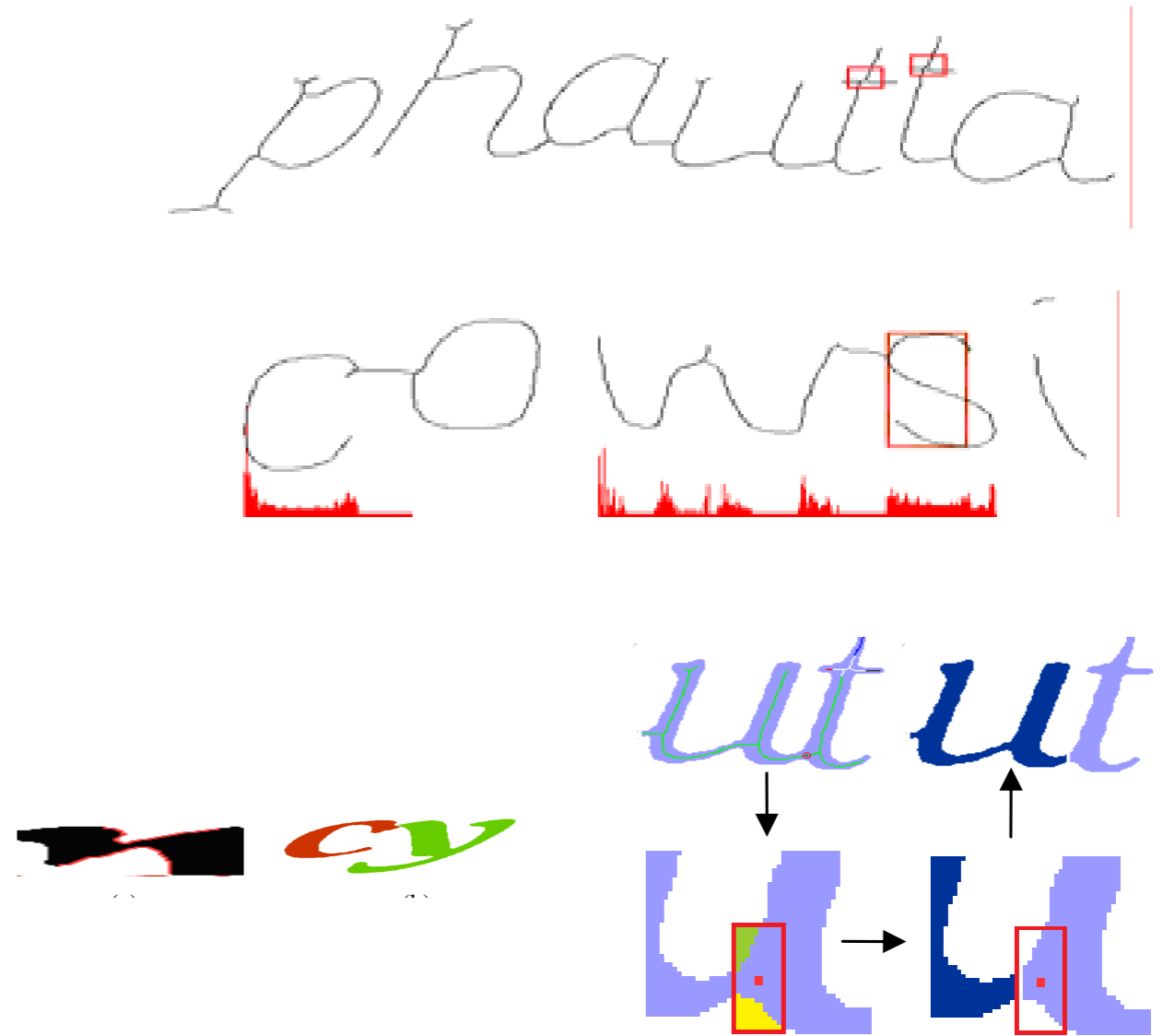
Wikipedia

trustother

Yahoo

4c28jyAz

ad hoc/complicated heuristics





I **don't know** how to **do it** (in the general case)

Captcha breaking reloaded

When AI over-come human limitations

What is wrong with the previous approach?

What is wrong with the previous approach?

Segmentation requires to find an invariant to exploit color, cluster size, number of characters, shape ...

What is wrong with the previous approach?

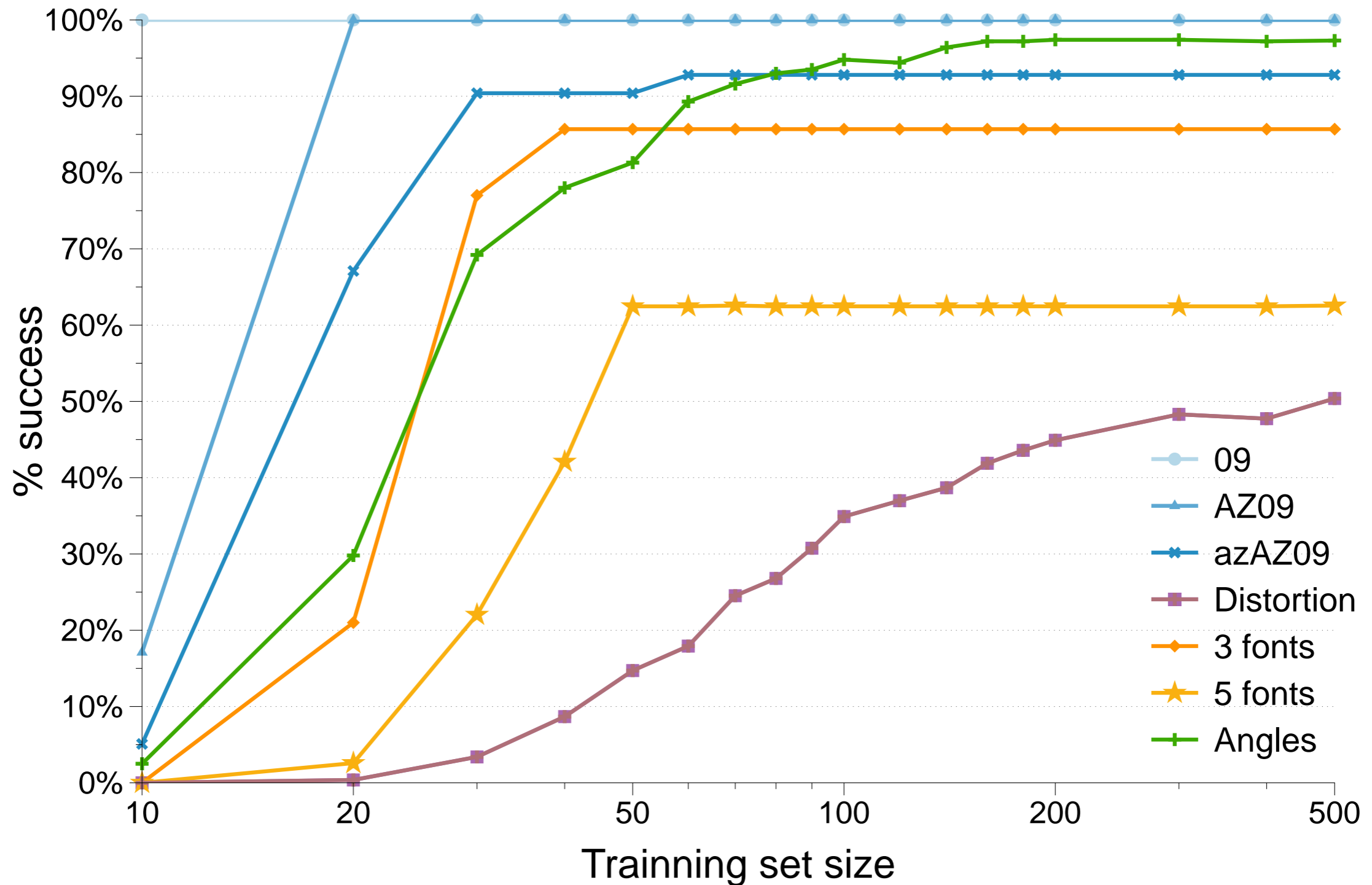
Segmentation requires to find an invariant to exploit color, cluster size, number of characters, shape ...

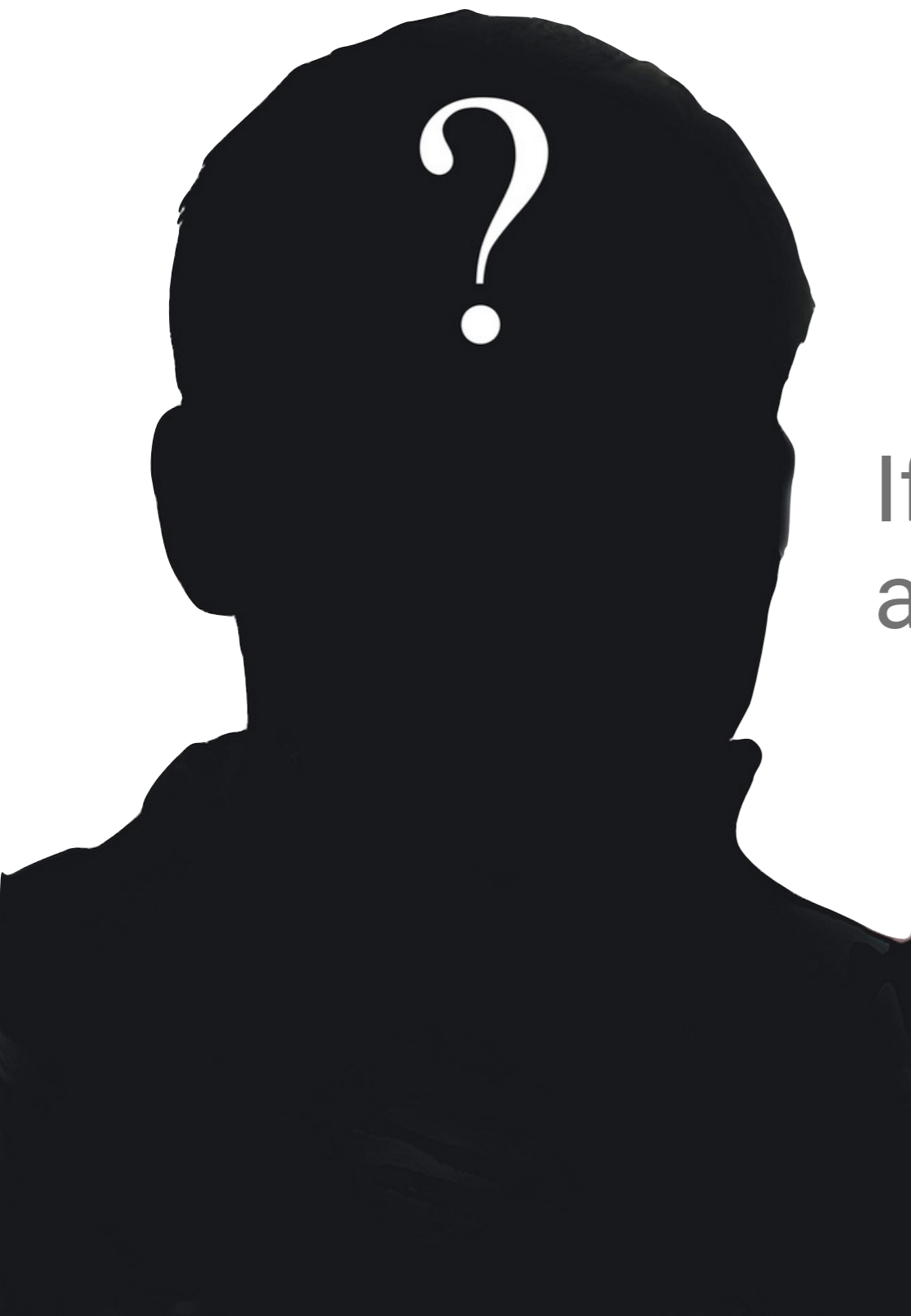
What is wrong with the previous approach?

Segmentation requires to find an invariant to exploit color, cluster size, number of characters, shape ...

Captcha breaking is more exploit writing than machine learning

Classifiers are extremely accuracy (e.g KNN/SVM)





If **classifiers** are that **good**, why are we **doing pre-processing** ?

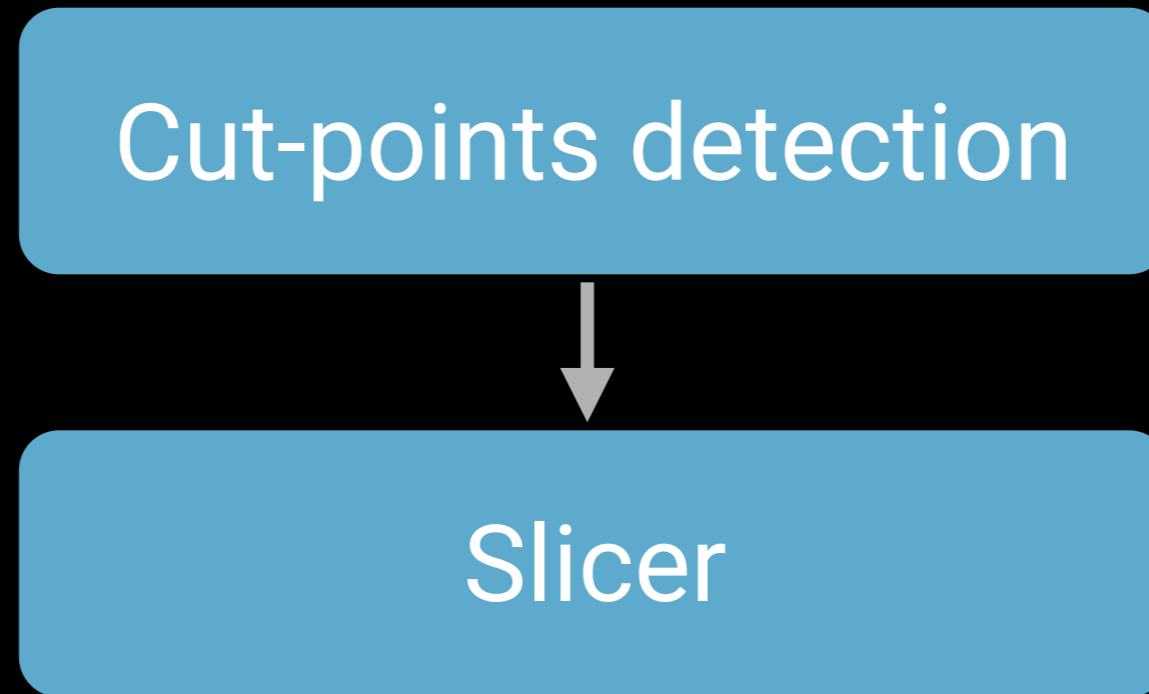


There is no segmentation

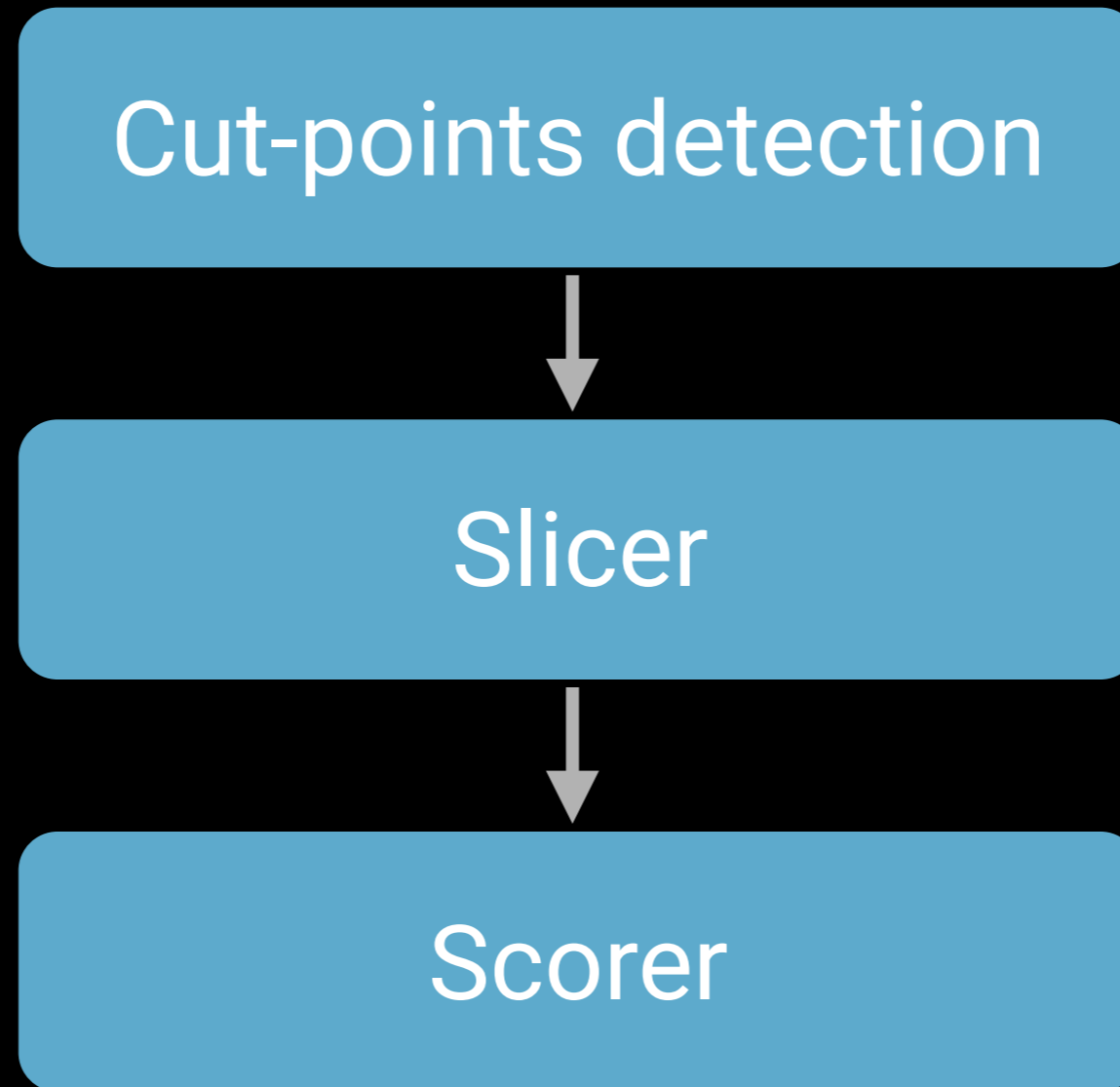
Approach overview

Cut-points detection

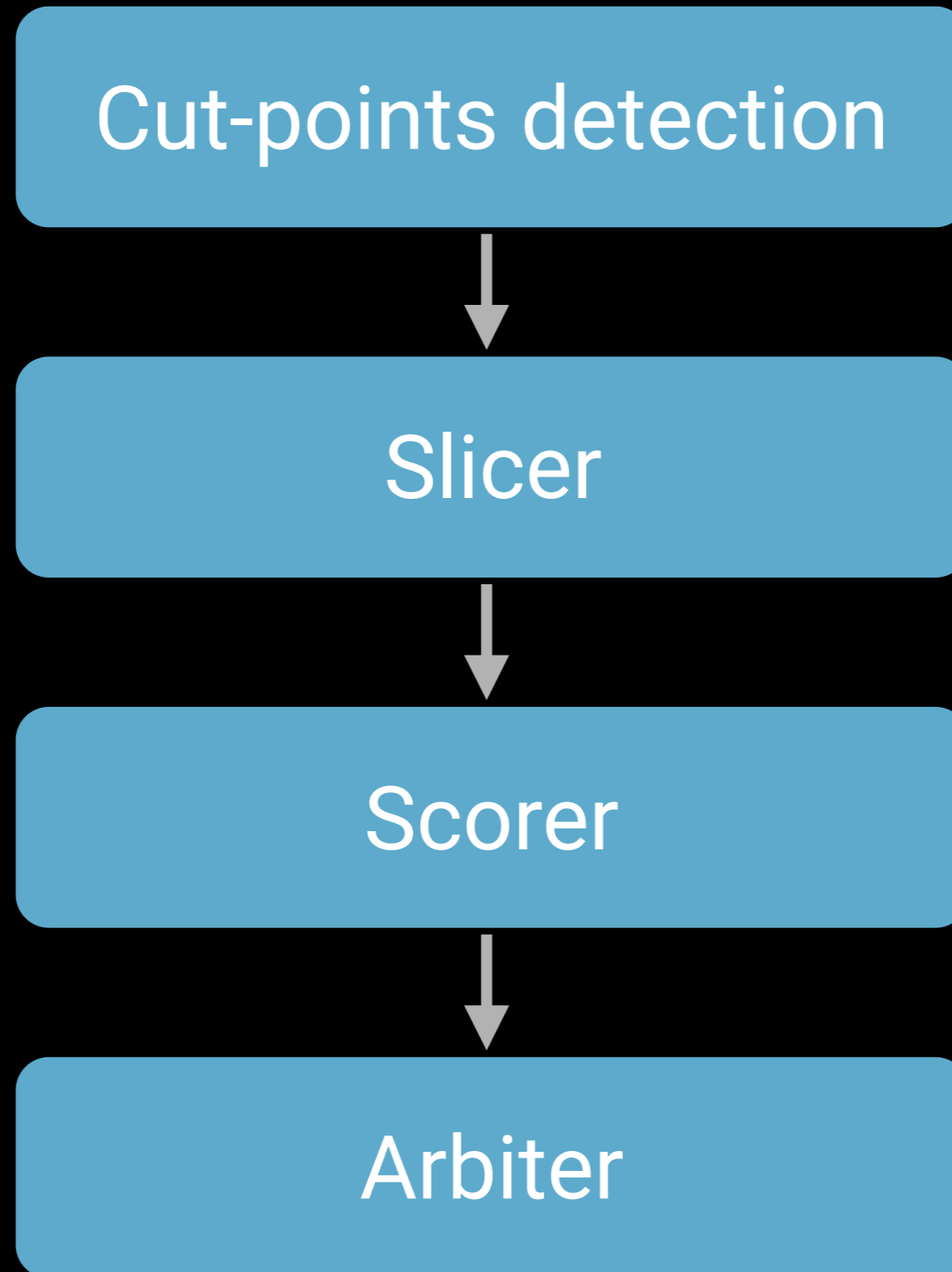
Approach overview



Approach overview



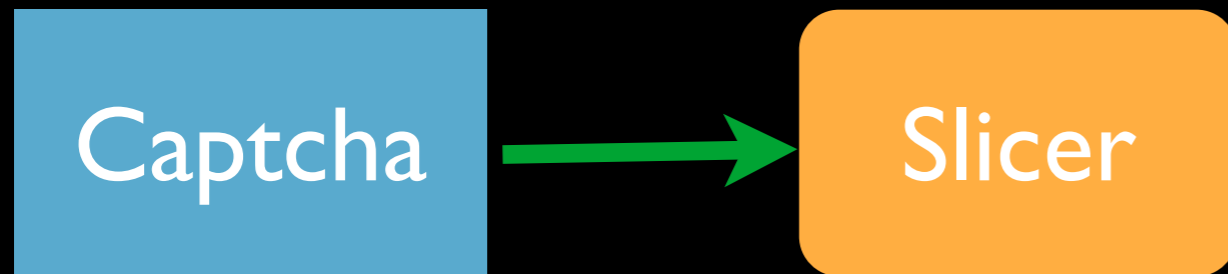
Approach overview



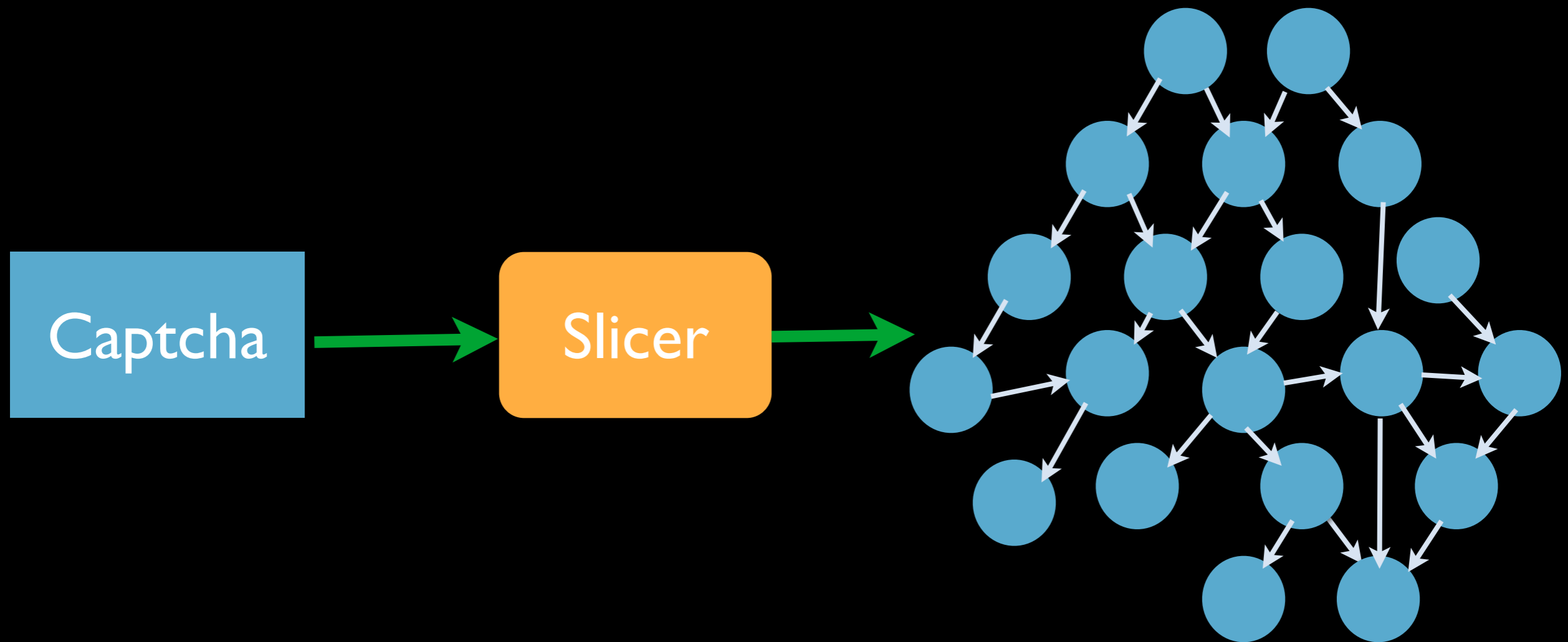
New approach

Captcha

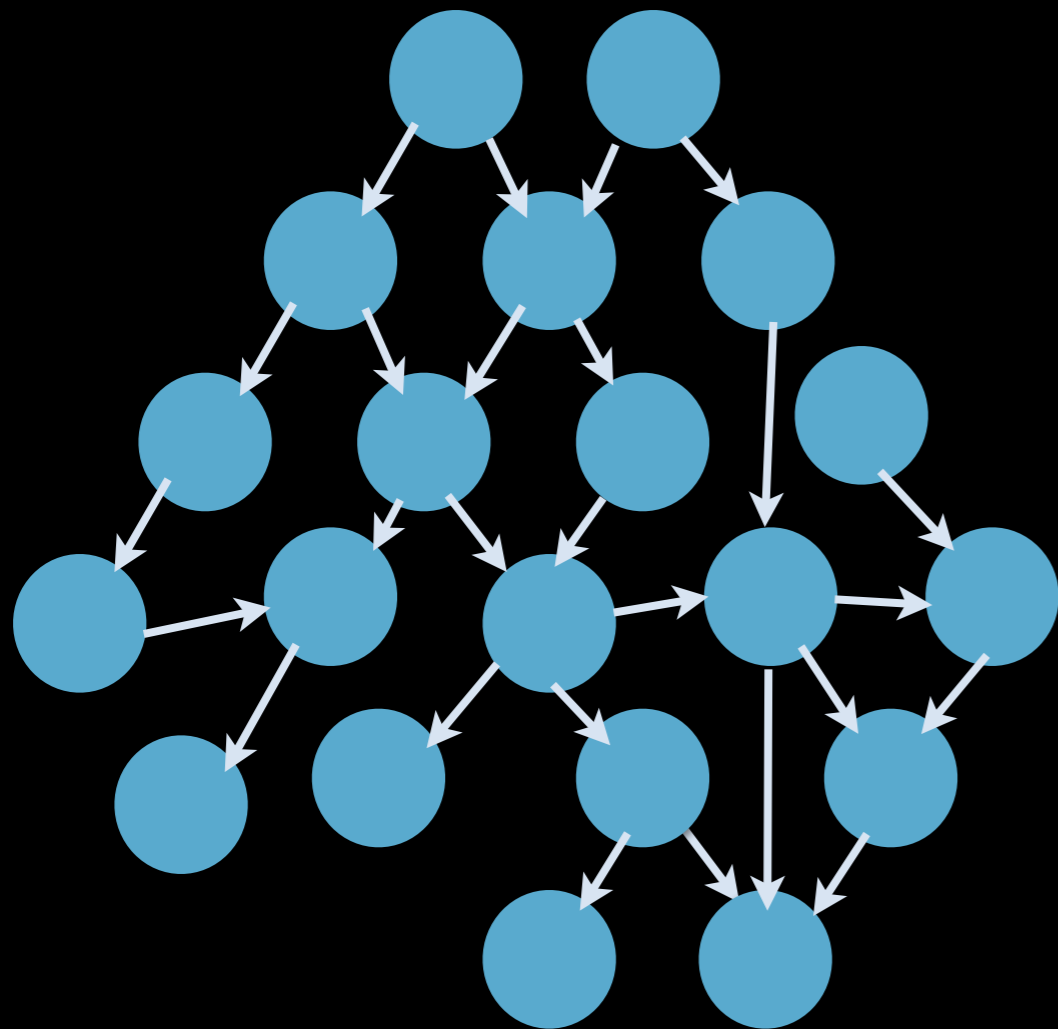
New approach



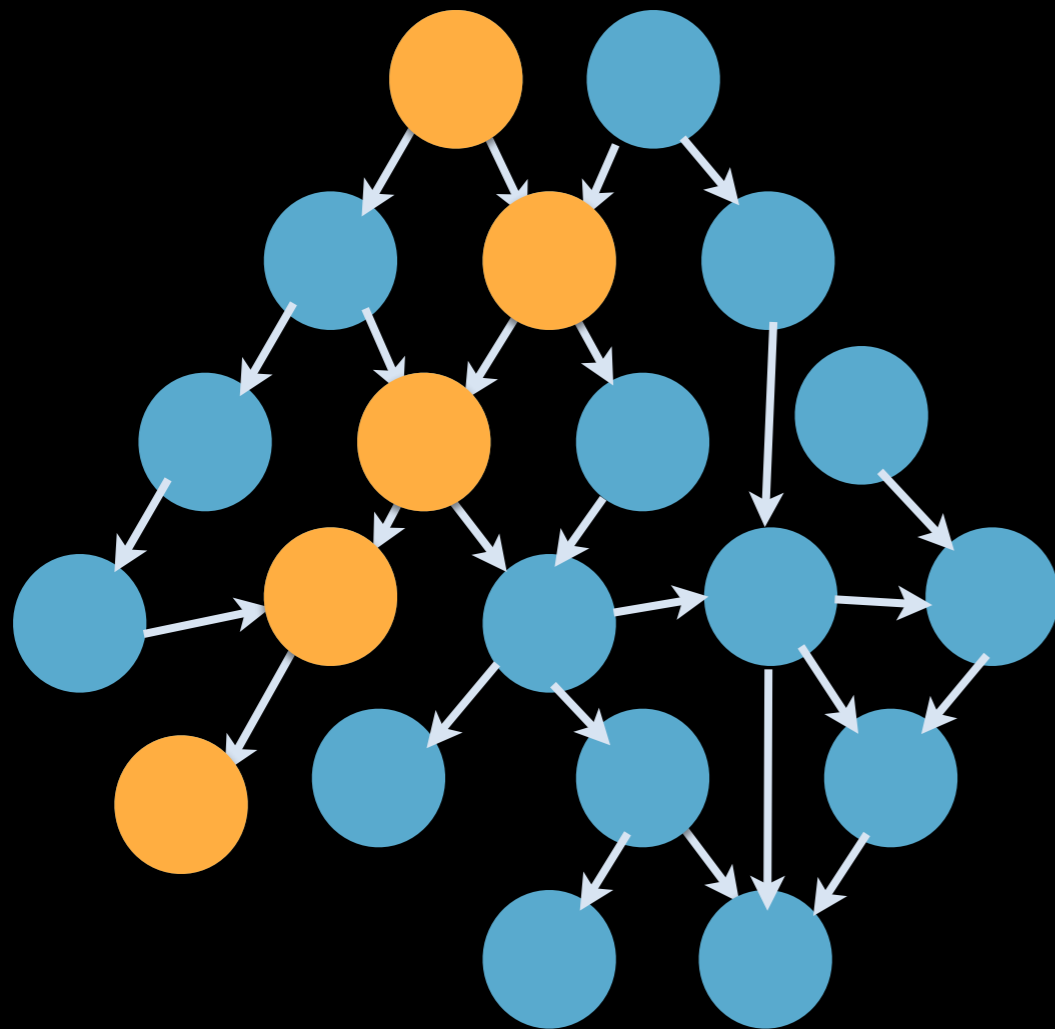
New approach



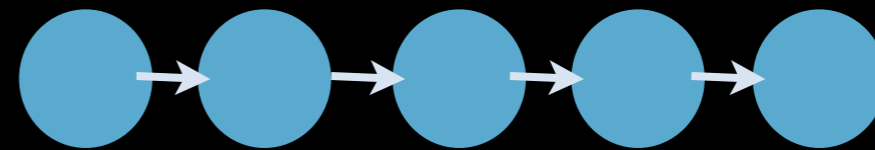
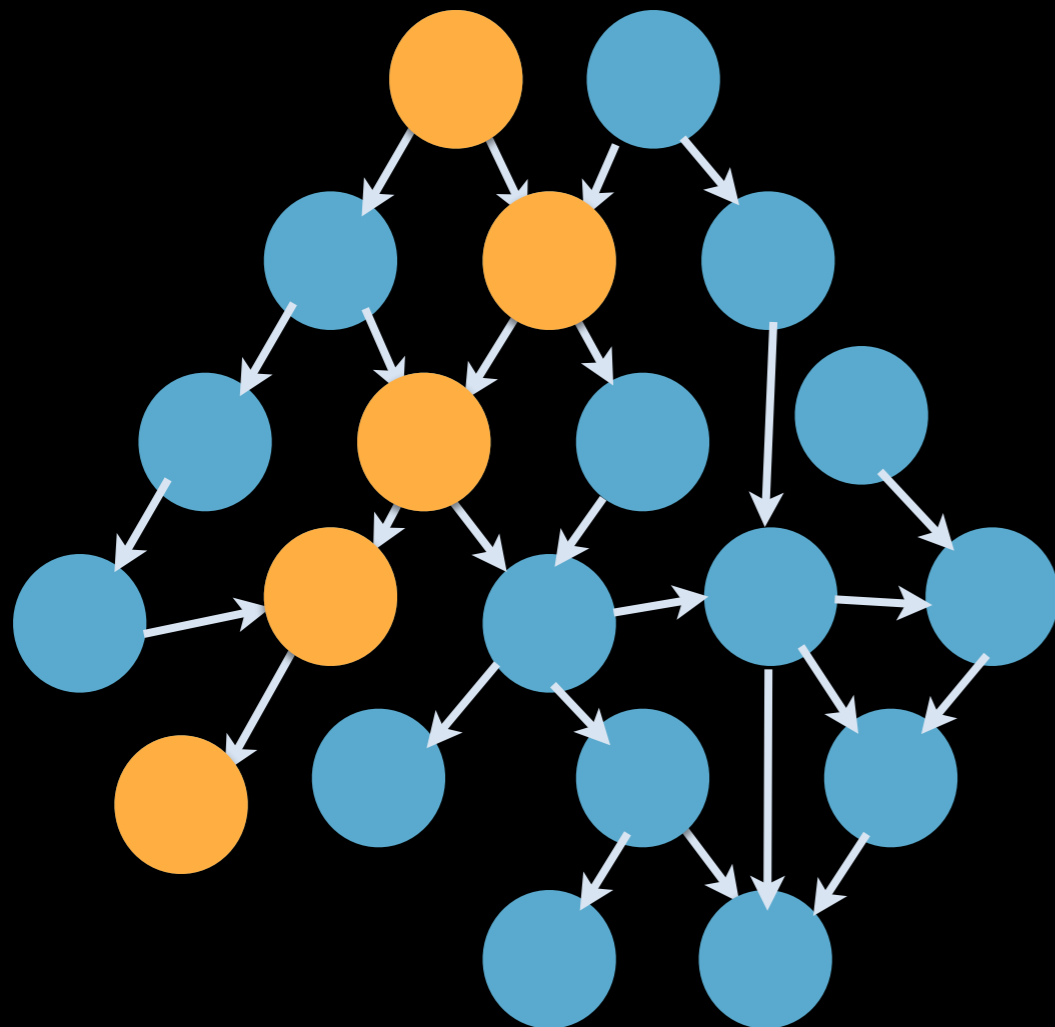
Scorer



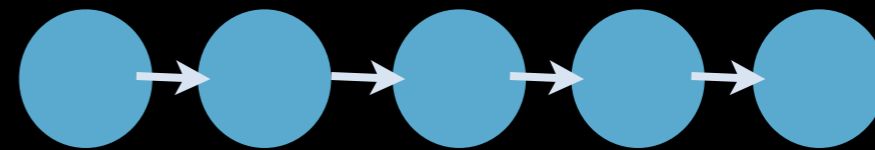
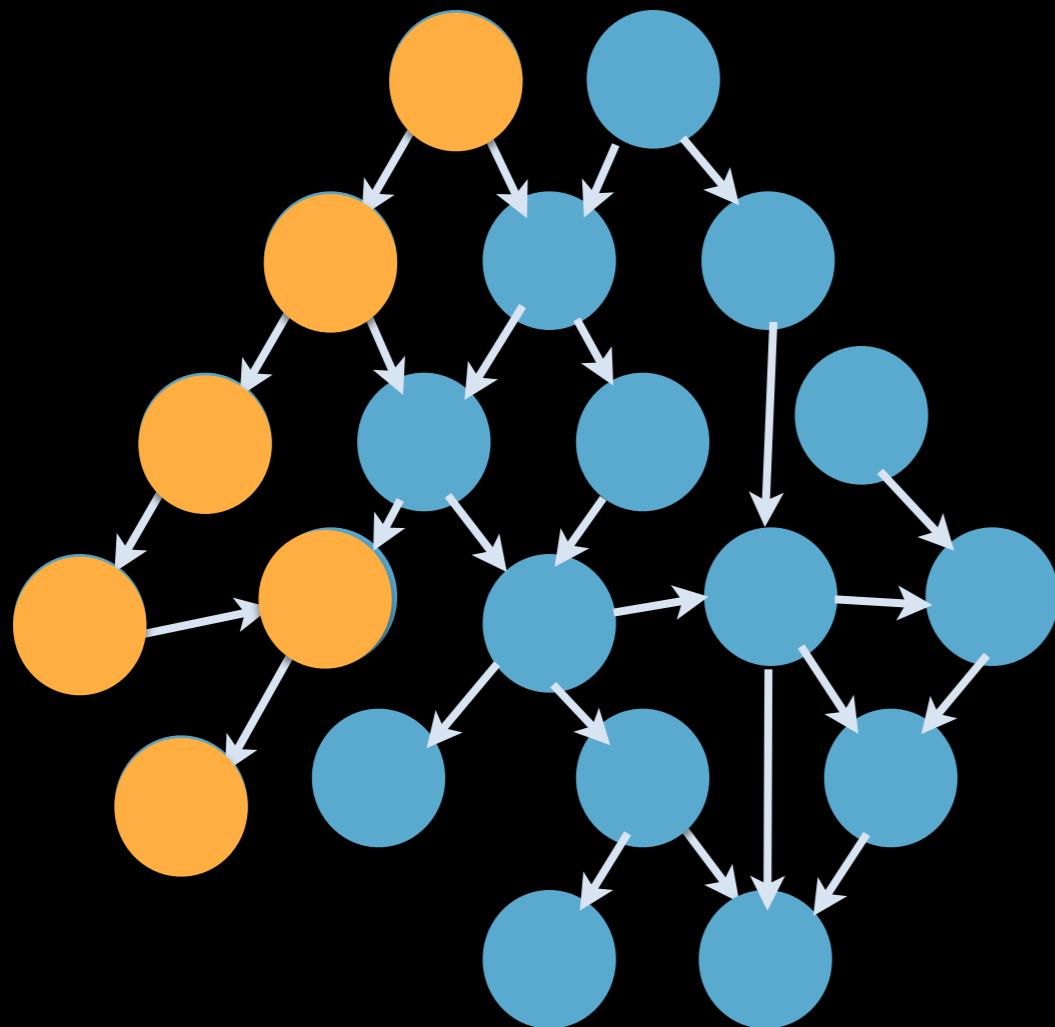
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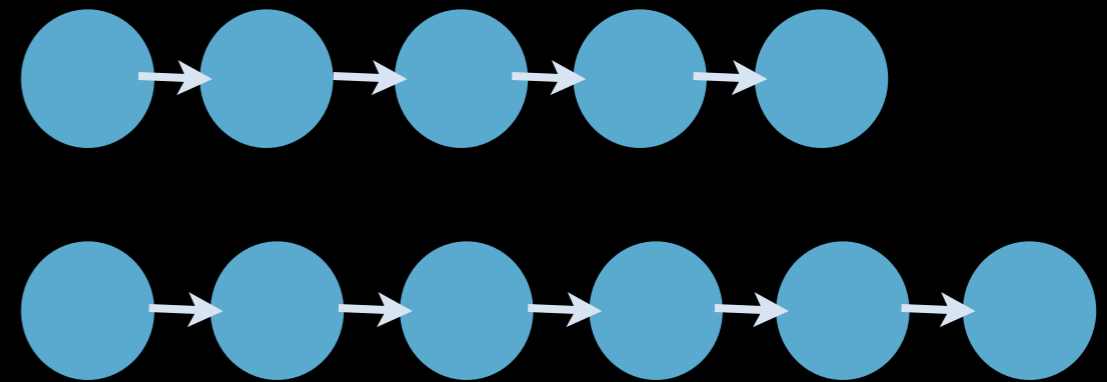
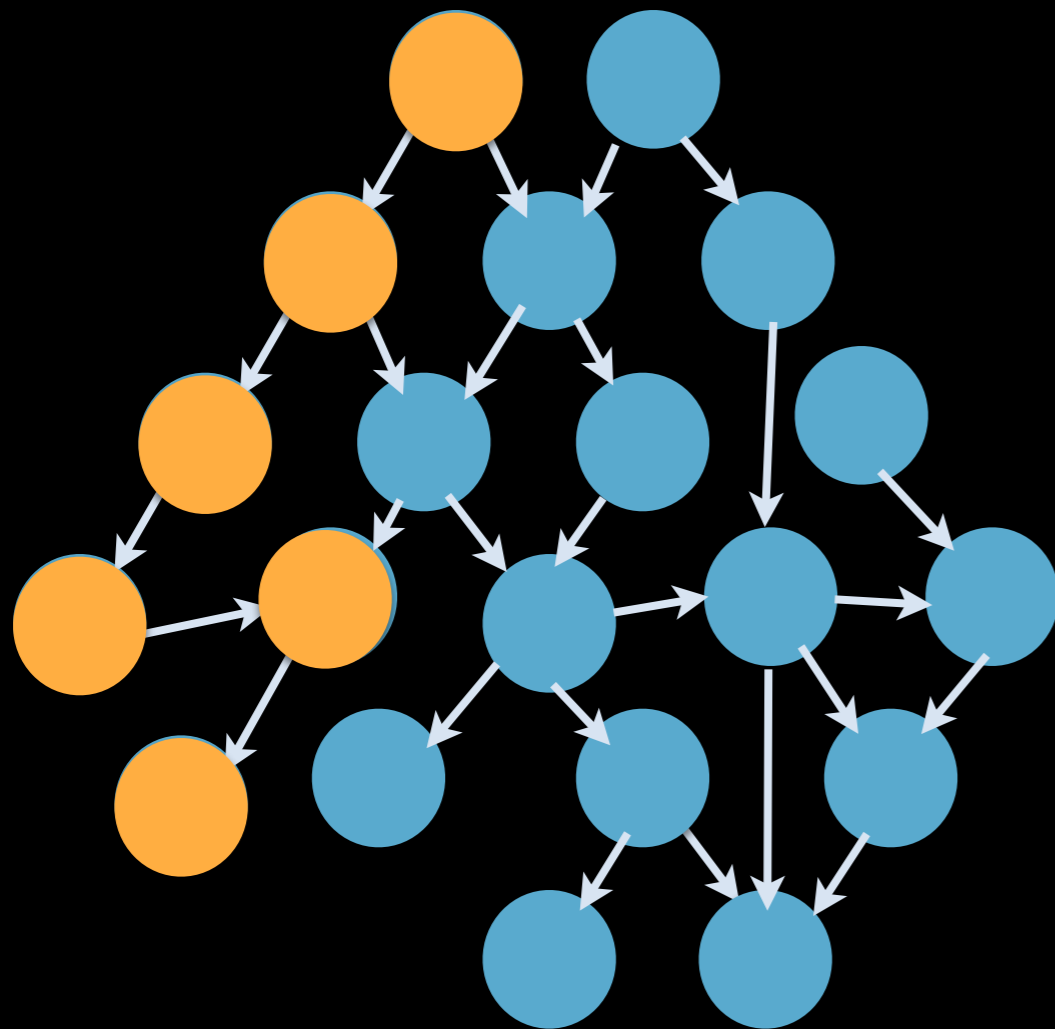
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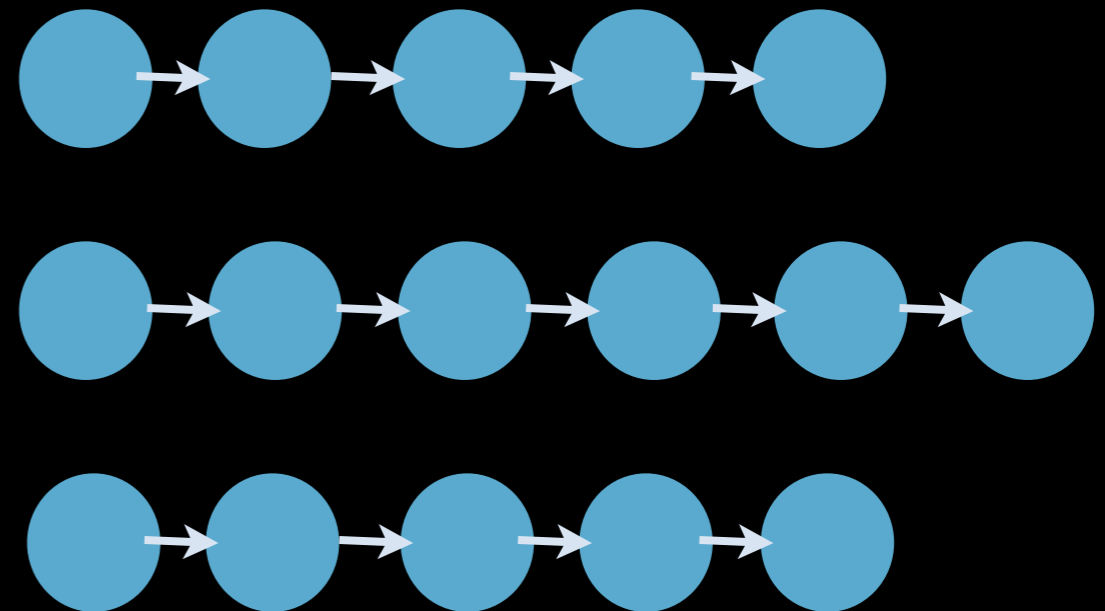
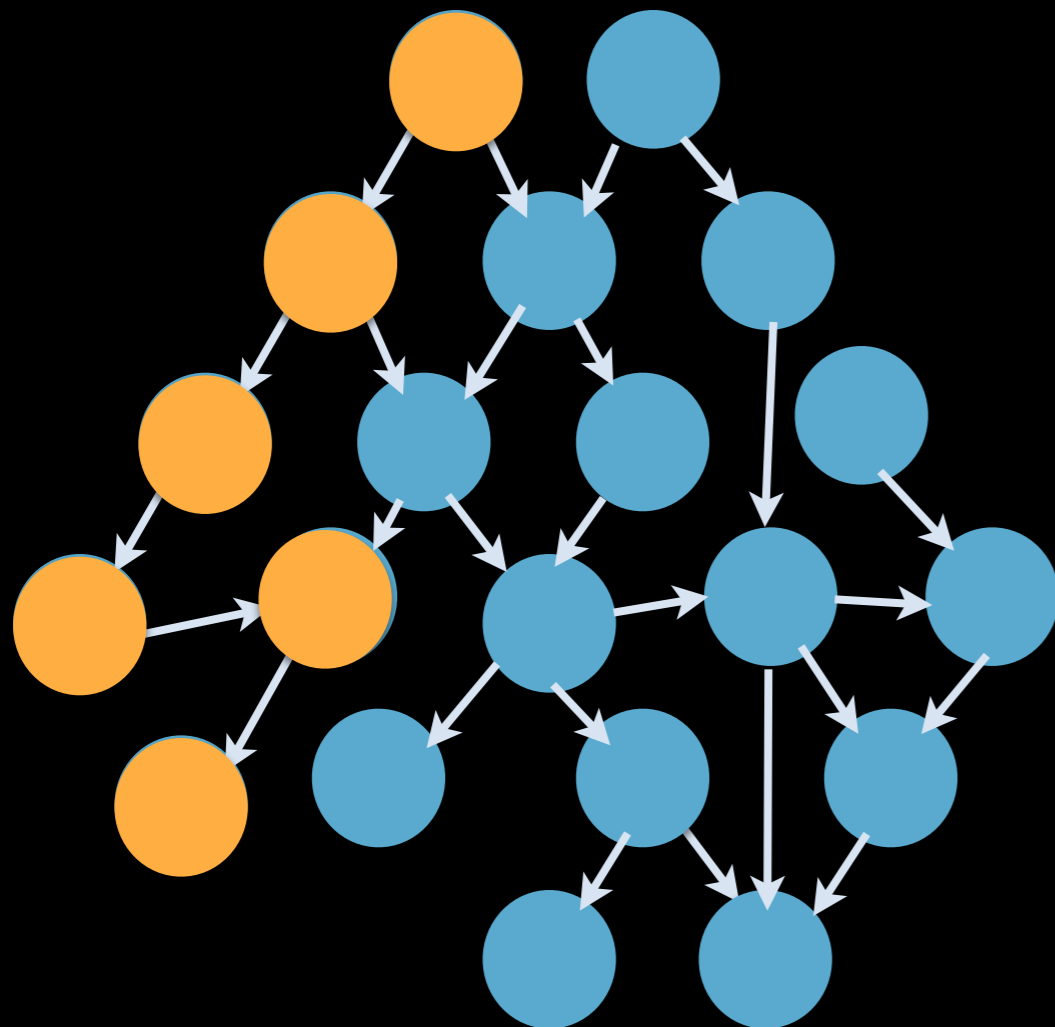
Scorer



Scorer

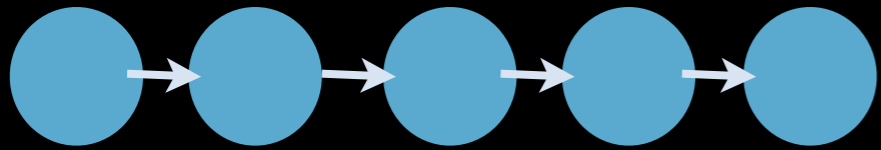


Scorer



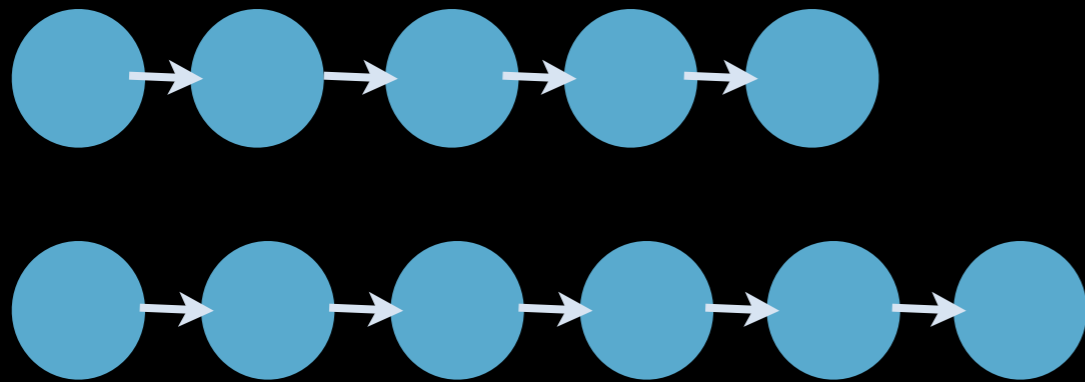
Arbiter

Arbiter



ilebe

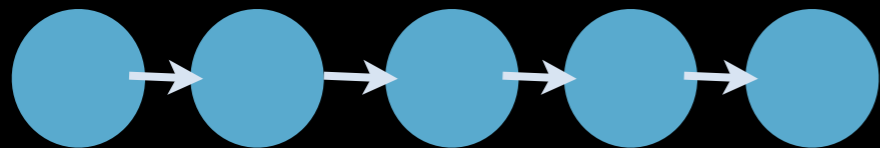
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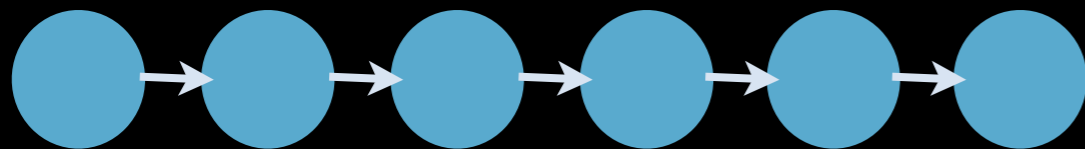
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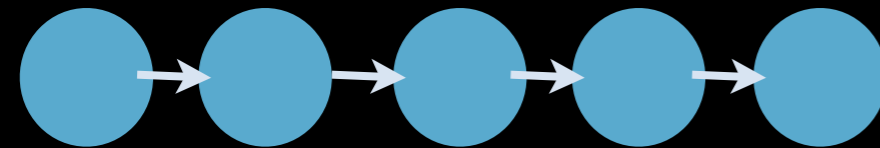
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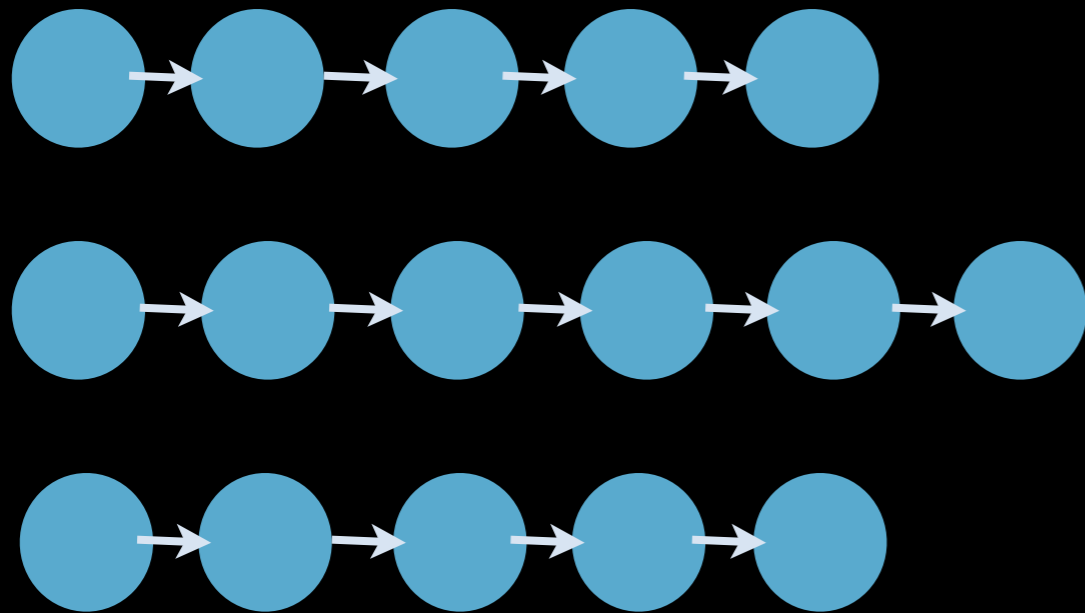


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Arbiter



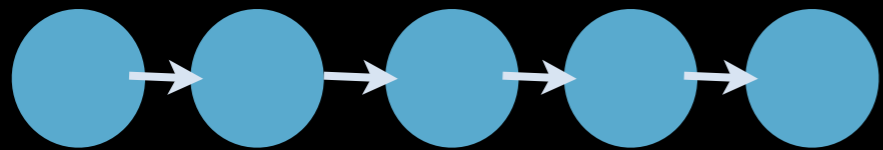
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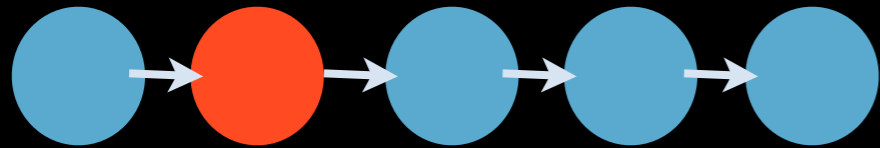
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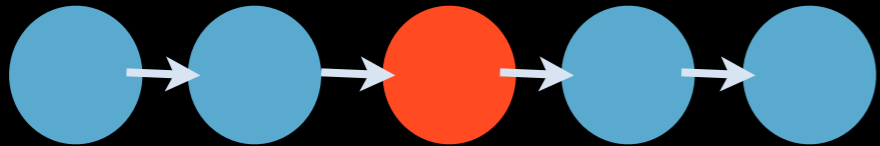
Improving accuracy using reinforcement learning



ilebe

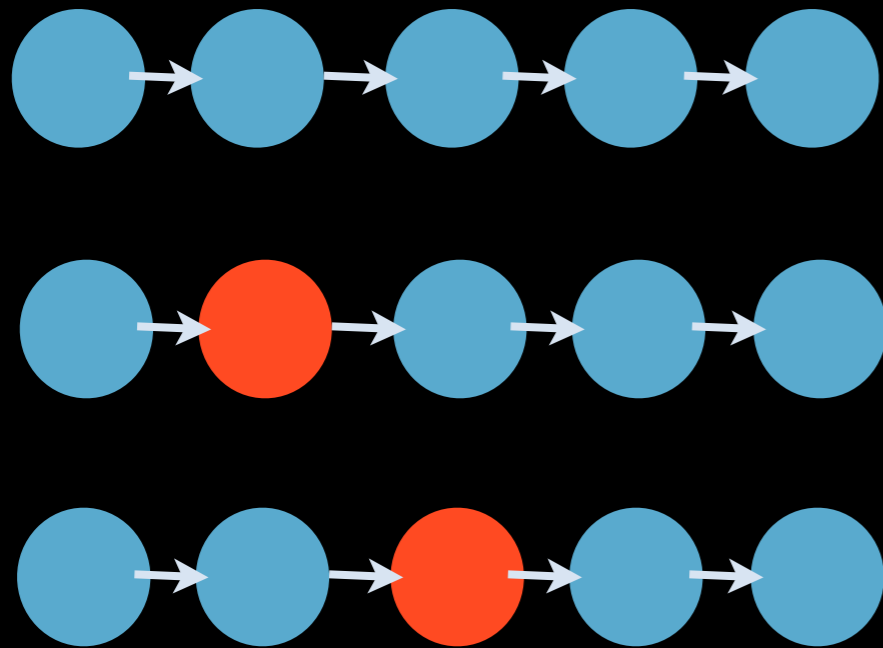


ikebe



ilabe

Improving accuracy using reinforcement learning



ilebe

ikebe

ilabe

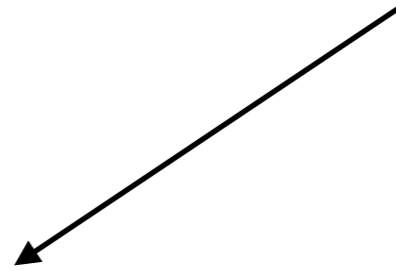
The classifier guide the learning process and tell humans when it need help

Reinforcement illustrated

A K E

Reinforcement illustrated

A K E



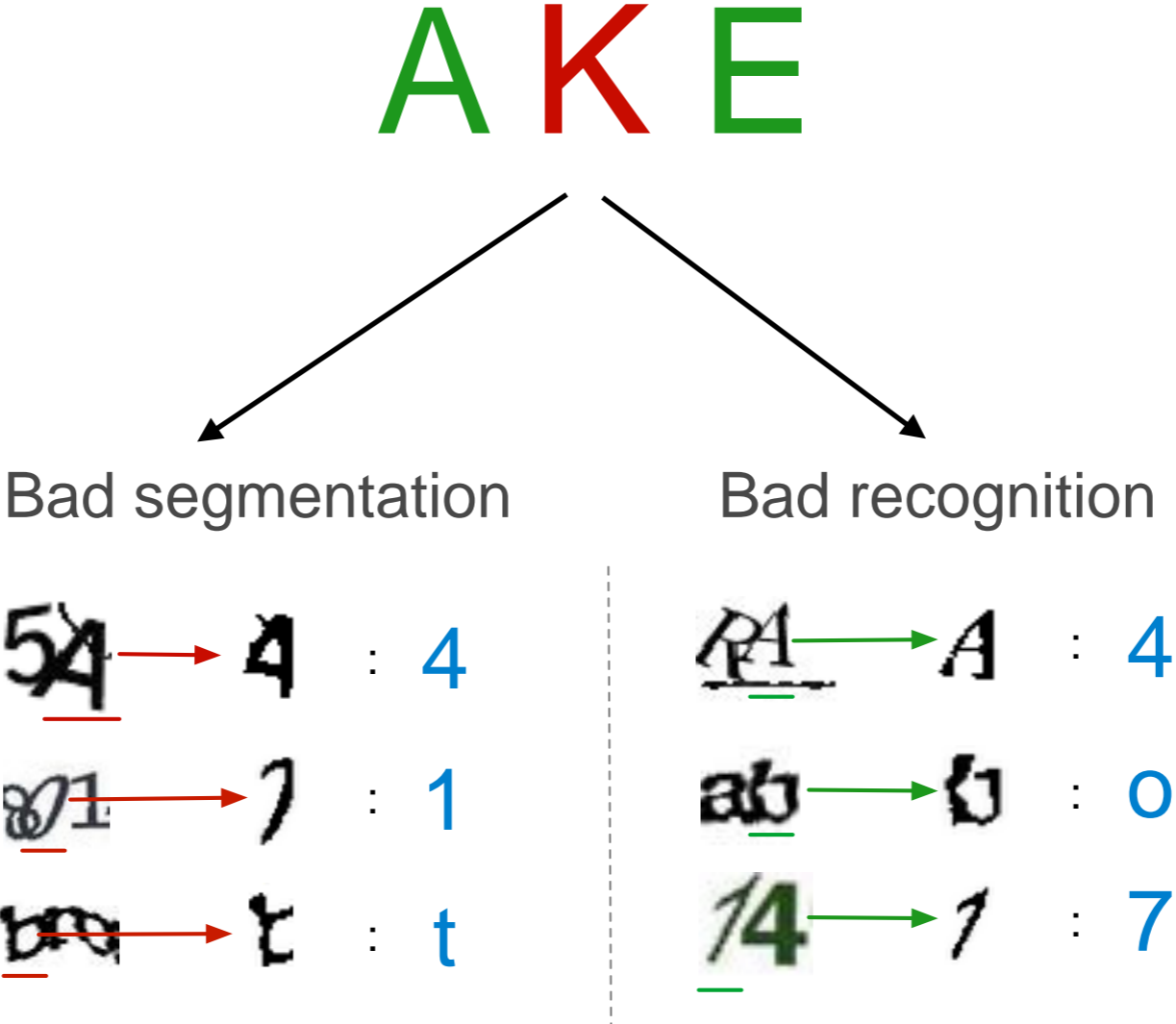
Bad segmentation

54 → 4 : 4

81 → 7 : 1

br → t : t

Reinforcement illustrated



Reducing complexity

Algorithm complexity is extremely high
up to 9h on a single captcha

Reducing complexity

Algorithm complexity is extremely high
up to 9h on a single captcha

Solutions

Reducing complexity

Algorithm complexity is extremely high
up to 9h on a single captcha

Solutions

Reduce the number of possible cuts
inflection points, smart elimination

Reducing complexity

Algorithm complexity is extremely high
up to 9h on a single captcha

Solutions

Reduce the number of possible cuts
inflection points, smart elimination

Faster and less accurate recognition
recognition, left to right

sequentia

Evaluation on real world captchas

Yahoo



Yahoo



Inflection points



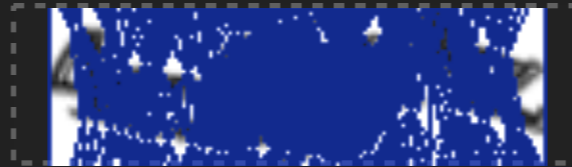
Yahoo



Inflection points



Potential cuts

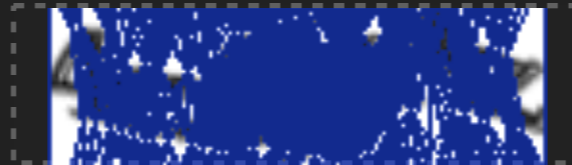


Yahoo

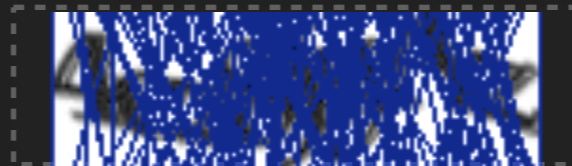
Inflection points



Potential cuts



Removing bad cuts

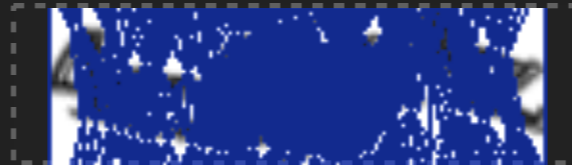


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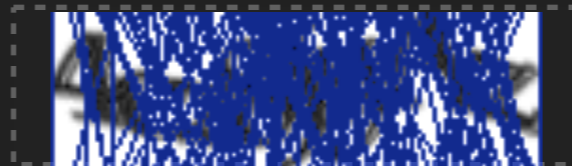
Inflection points



Potential cuts



Removing bad cuts



Compatible cuts
with start

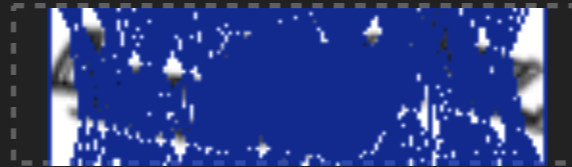


Yahoo

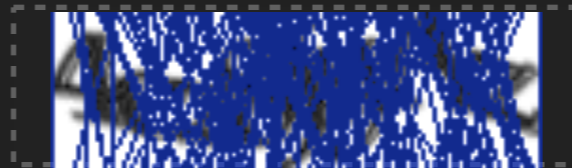
Inflection points



Potential cuts



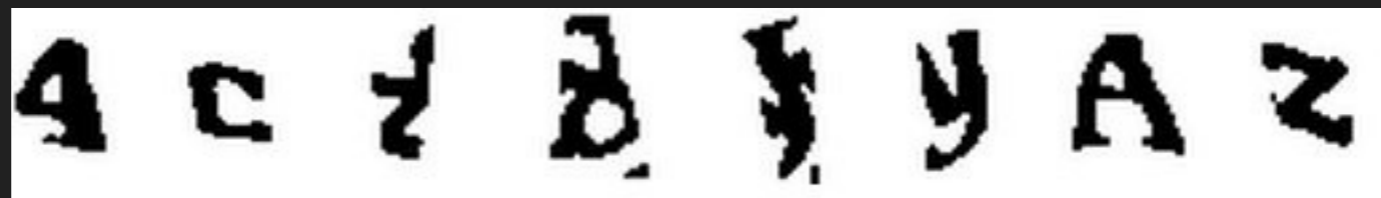
Removing bad cuts



Compatible cuts
with start



Iterative



4cz8jyaz

Recaptcha example



Recaptcha example



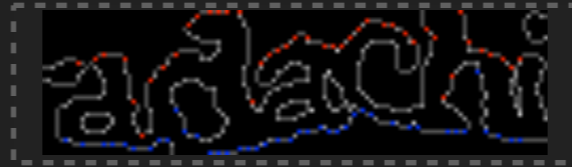
Inflection points



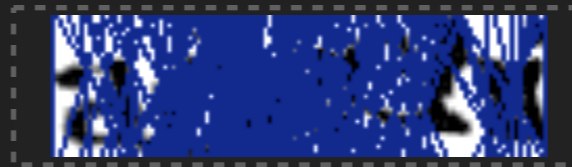
Recaptcha example



Inflection points



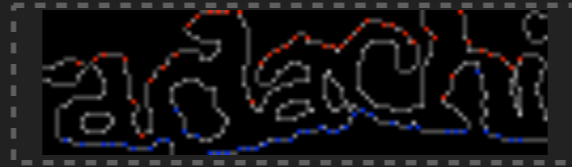
Potential cuts



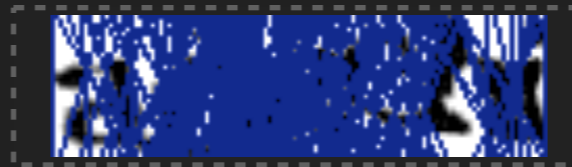
Recaptcha example



Inflection points



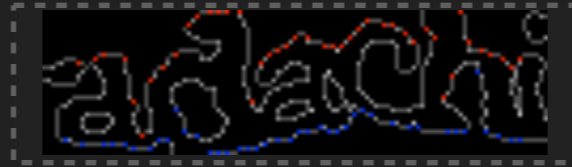
Potential cuts



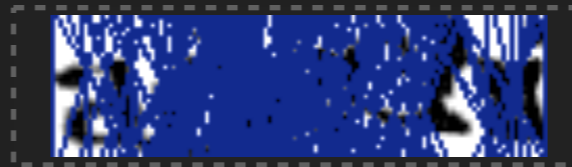
Recaptcha example



Inflection points



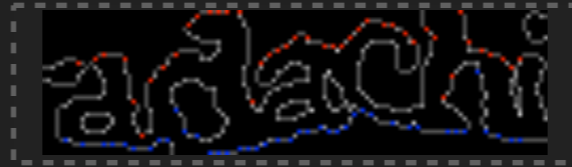
Potential cuts



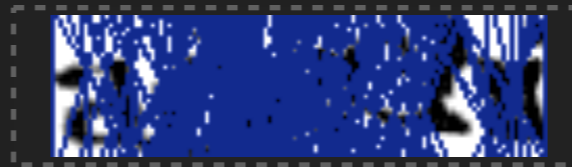
Recaptcha example



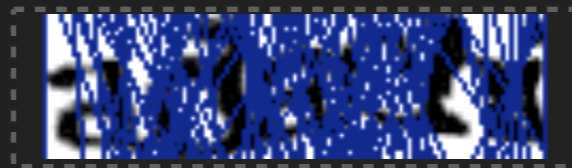
Inflection points



Potential cuts



Removing bad cuts



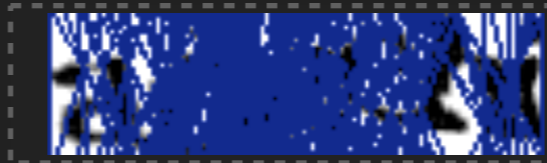
Recaptcha example



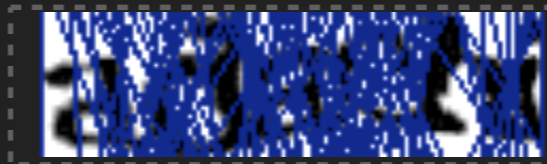
Inflection points



Potential cuts



Removing bad cuts



Compatible cuts
with start



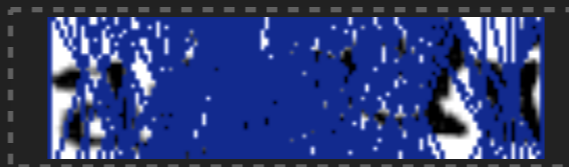
Recaptcha example



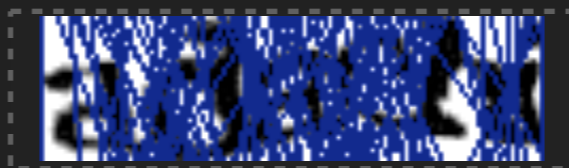
Inflection points



Potential cuts



Removing bad cuts



Compatible cuts
with start



Iterative



adaciv

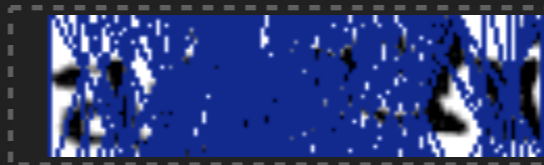
Recaptcha example



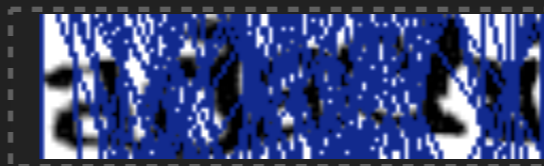
Inflection points



Potential cuts



Removing bad cuts



Compatible cuts
with start

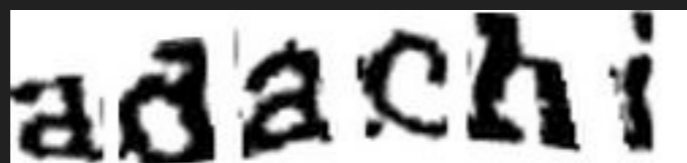


Iterative



adaciv

full graph



adachi

How about lines ?

Realize that **lines** are **known shape**

Train classifier to **recognize them** as **empty character**



Baidu example



Baidu example



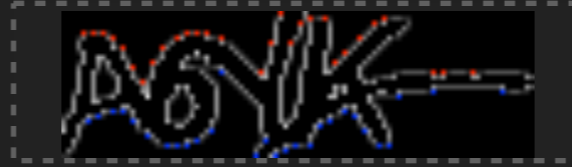
Inflection points



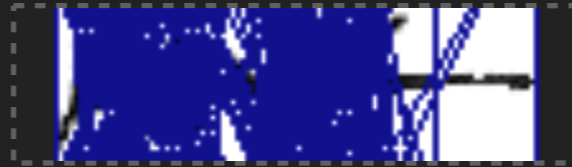
Baidu example



Inflection points



Potential cuts



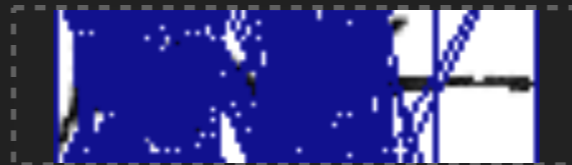
Baidu example



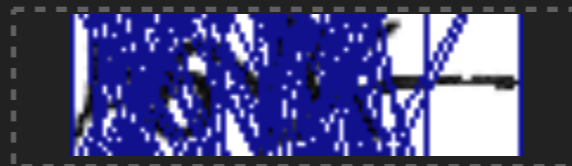
Inflection points



Potential cuts



Removing bad cuts



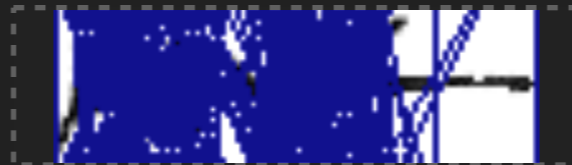
Baidu example



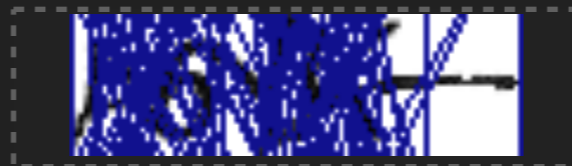
Inflection points



Potential cuts



Removing bad cuts



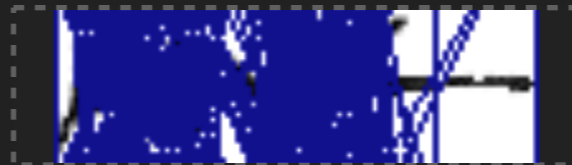
Baidu example



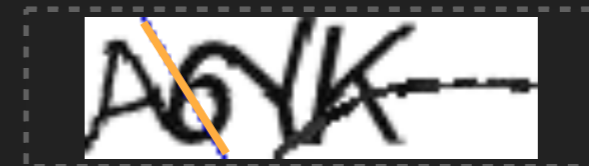
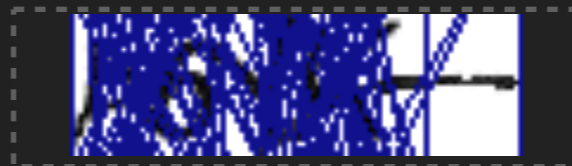
Inflection points



Potential cuts



Removing bad cuts

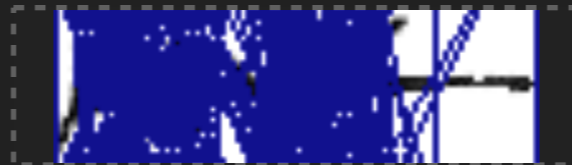


Baidu example

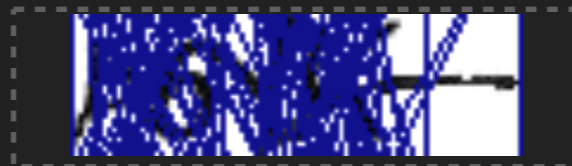
Inflection points



Potential cuts



Removing bad cuts

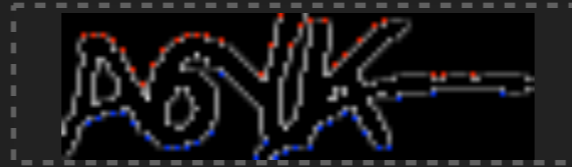


Compatible cuts
with start

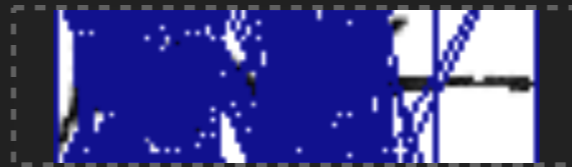


Baidu example

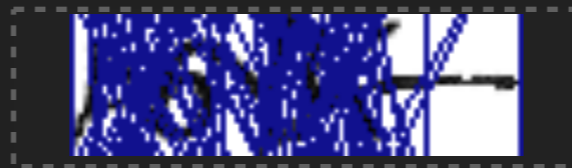
Inflection points



Potential cuts



Removing bad cuts



Compatible cuts
with start



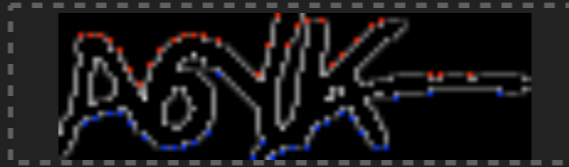
Iterative



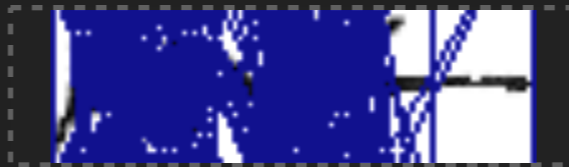
a6yk--

Baidu example

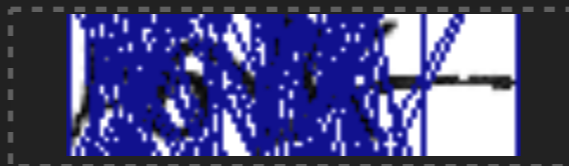
Inflection points



Potential cuts



Removing bad cuts



Compatible cuts
with start



Iterative



a6yk--

full graph



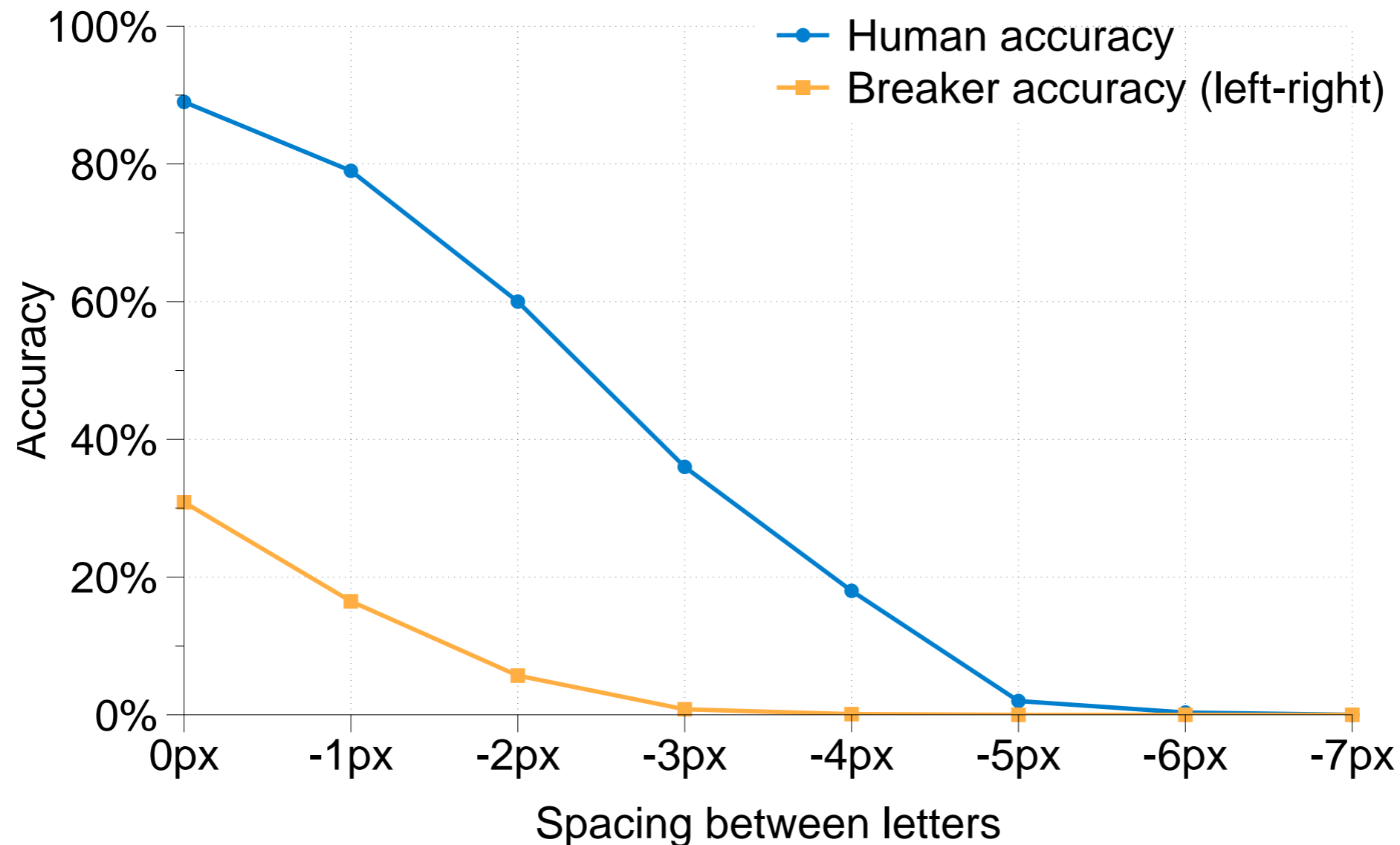
a6yk--

Overall results

| | Reinforcement learning | | | | Simple learning | | | Previous Work | | |
|------------------|------------------------|--------|----------|--------|-----------------|--------|--------|---------------|---------|------|
| | Full | L-R | L-R Time | Seq. | Full | L-R | Seq | Accuracy | Delta | Ref. |
| Baidu (2011) | 38.68% | 33.42% | 3.94 s | 36.58% | 17.27% | 16.55% | 16.69% | 5% | +33.6% | [10] |
| Baidu (2013) | 55.22% | 54.38% | 1.9 s | 54.38% | - | - | - | 51% | +4.22% | [21] |
| CNN | - | 51.09% | 4.9 s | 48.54% | - | 46.40% | 45.96% | 16% | +35.09% | [10] |
| eBay | 51.39% | 47.92% | 2.31 s | 48.61% | 39.43% | 40.14% | 36.29% | 43% | +11.4% | [10] |
| ReCaptcha (2011) | 22.67% | 21.74% | 7.16 s | 19.25% | 19.86% | 18.25% | 17.10% | 40.4% | -17.73% | [15] |
| ReCaptcha (2013) | 22.34% | 19.22% | 4.59 s | 19.74% | 20% | 14.61% | 12.77% | | | |
| Wikipedia | - | 28.29% | - | 26.36% | - | 27.02% | 26.24% | 25% | +3.3% | [10] |
| Yahoo | - | 3.67% | 7.95 s | 5.33% | - | 2.72% | 2.29% | | | |

Generic approach: Succeed where the old approach fail and most often beat it where it worked

Human vs computers



The gap between Human and computer recognition is now too narrow to be considered secure



The end of an era, the dawn of a new one

Summary

Deprecated

Segment and Recognize attacks

Text distortions defense

New generation

Purely based AI Attack

Risk analysis defense

Questions ?



Captcha research

<https://www.elie.net/tag/captcha>

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