

BOND:
BERT-Assisted **O**pen-Domain
Named Entity Recognition
with **D**istant Supervision

Chen Liang*, Yue Yu*, Haoming Jiang*,
Siawpeng Er, Ruijia Wang, Tuo Zhao, Chao Zhang

Georgia Institute of Technology



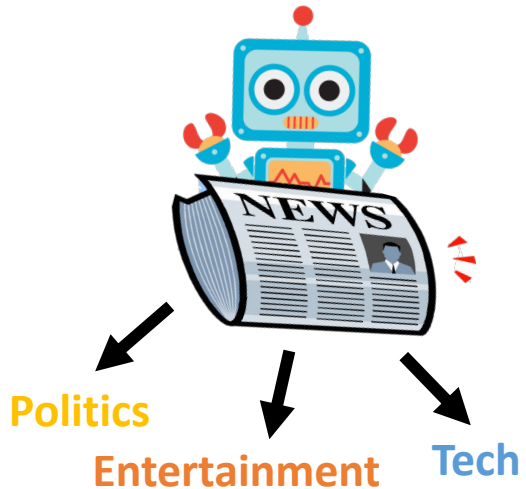
* Equal contributions

Named Entity Recognition (NER)

When **Sebastian Thrun** PERSON started at **Google** ORG in **2007** DATE, few people outside of the company took him seriously. “I can tell you very senior CEOs of major **American** NORP car companies would shake my hand and turn away because I wasn’t worth talking to,” said **Thrun** PERSON, now the co-founder and CEO of online higher education startup Udacity, in an interview with **Recode** ORG **earlier this week** DATE.

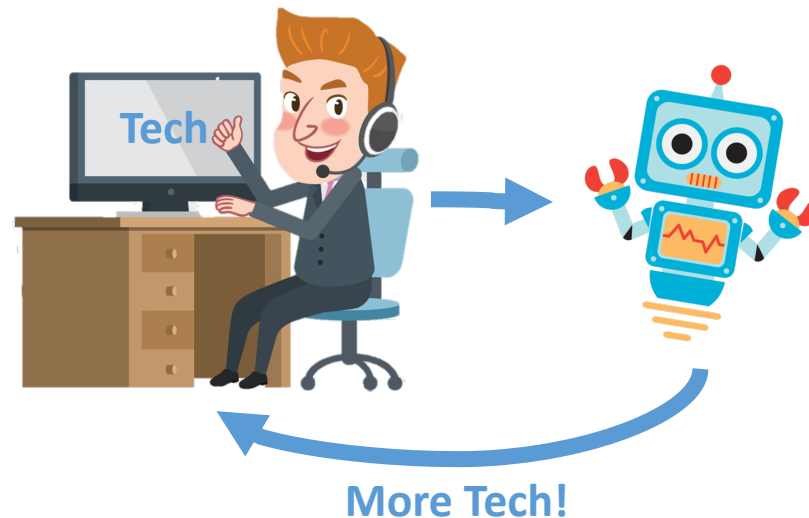
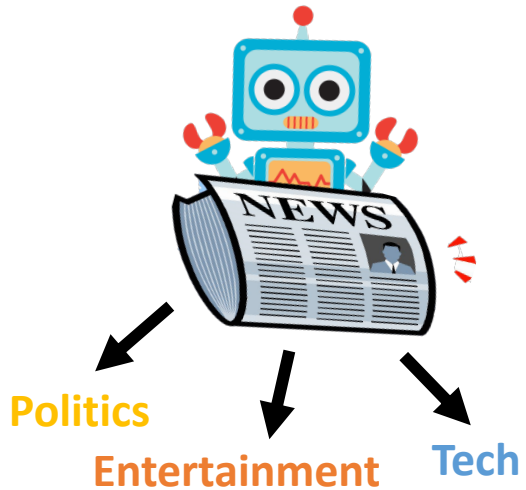
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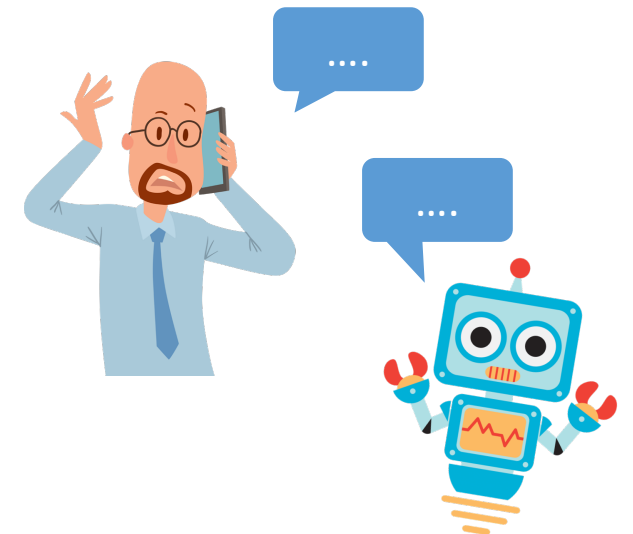
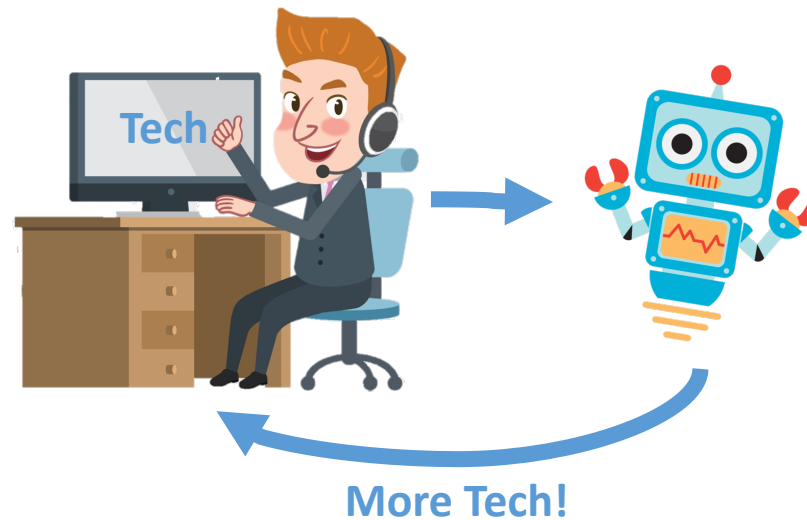
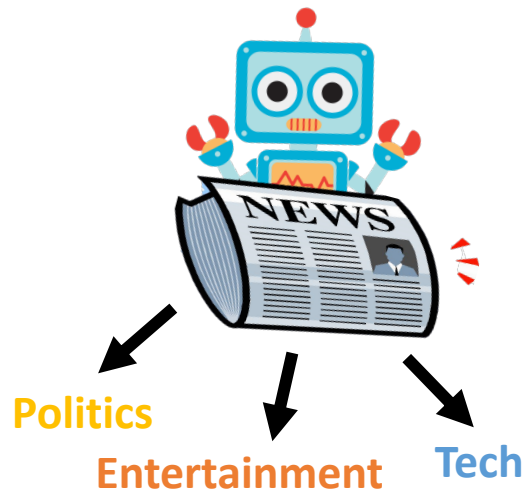
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PROJECT INFO

DATASET ner_fashion_brands
LANGUAGE en
VIEW ID ner_manual

PROGRESS

THIS SESSION 253
TOTAL 253



ACCEPT 237
REJECT 1
IGNORE 15

HISTORY

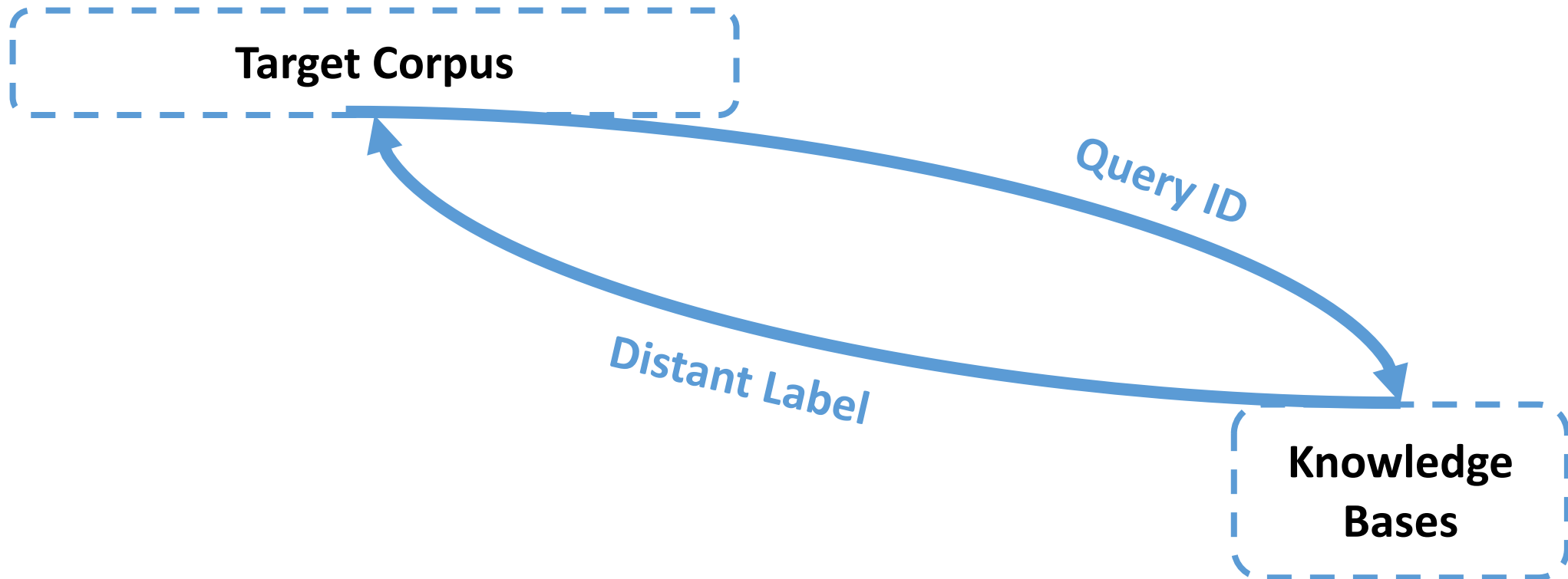
Which company? ✓
Cowboy hat from Gucci ✓
I agree fully, I'm younger than ... ✓
I take pride in my work ✓

FASHION_BRAND 1

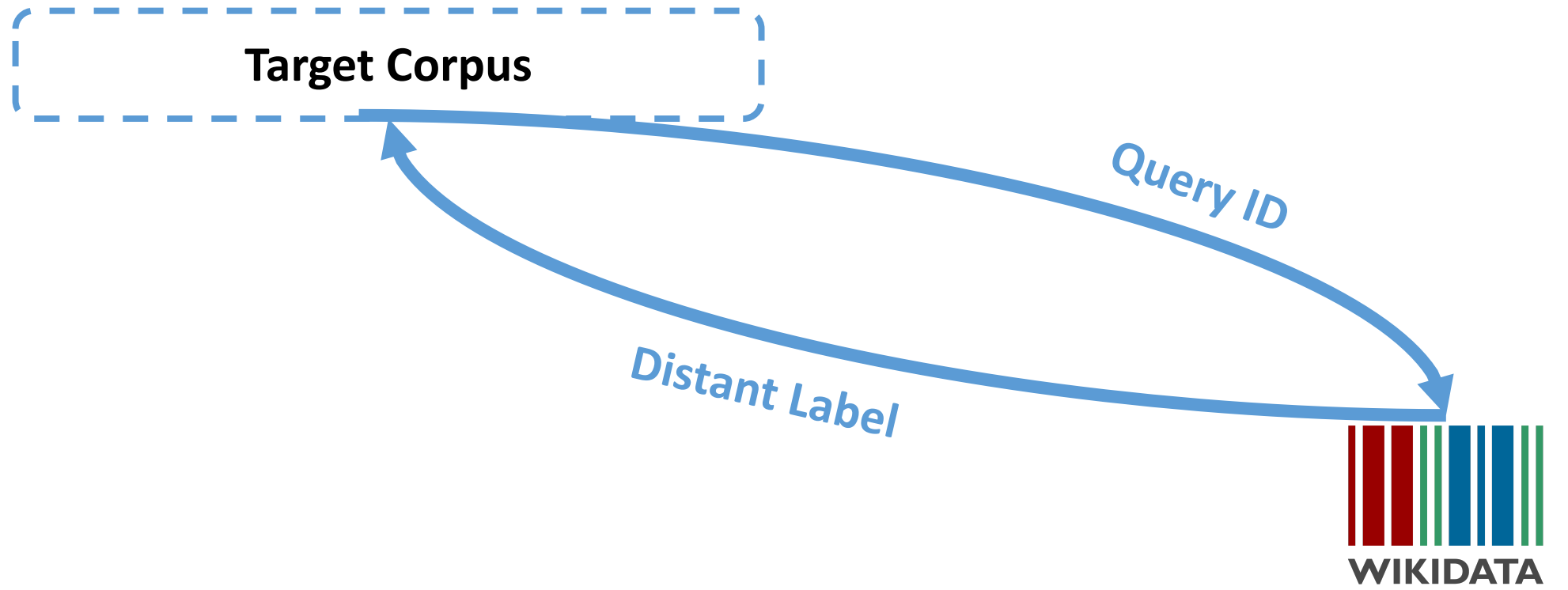
Sounds like a very confusing comment then

SECTION: malefashionadvice





Distant Supervision



Distant Supervision

POS Tagging: ... NNP NNP NNP ...

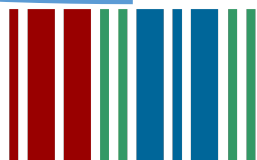
Sentence: ... Liverpool Football Club ...



Potential Entity

Query ID

Distant Label



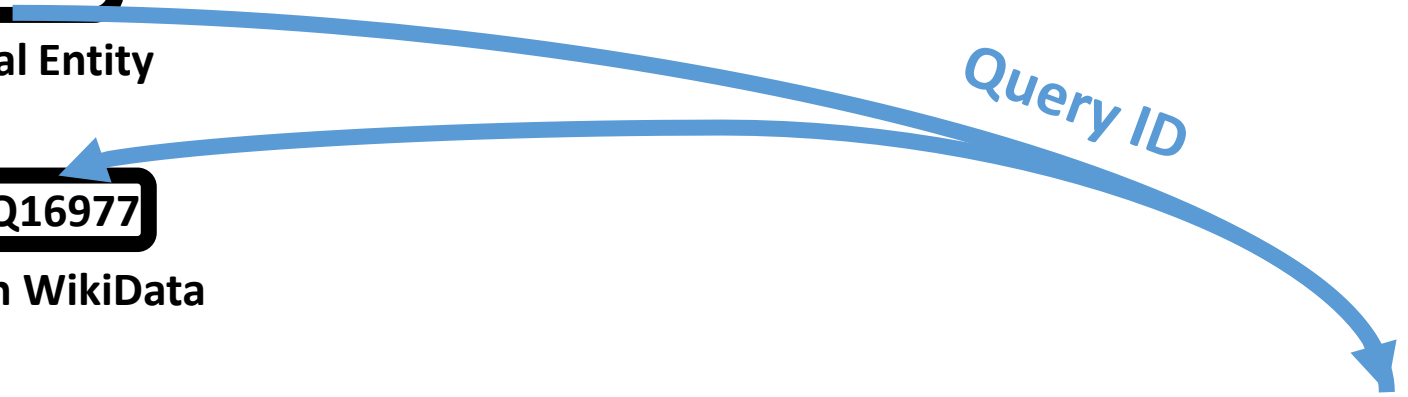
WIKIDATA

POS Tagging: ... NNP NNP NNP ...
Sentence: ... Liverpool Football Club ...

Potential Entity

Liverpool: **Q16977**
ID in WikiData

Query ID



POS Tagging: ... **NNP** NNP NNP ...
Sentence: ... **Liverpool** Football Club ...

Potential Entity

Query ID

Liverpool: **Q16977**
ID in WikiData



Location: **Q1733492** Entity Type ID
in WikiData



Organization: Q215627



```
SELECT ?item WHERE {  
  wd: Q16977 wdt:P31/wdt:P279* ?item.  
  FILTER ( ?item in ( Q1733492 ) ) }
```



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POS Tagging: ... **NNP** ... NNP ... NNP ...
Sentence: ... **Liverpool** ... Football Club ...

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Matched 😊

Unmatched 😞

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POS Tagging: ... **NNP** NNP NNP ...
Sentence: ... **Liverpool** Football Club ...

**Noisy
Annotation!**

Potential Entity

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Matched 😊

~~Unmatched 😞~~
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POS Tagging: ... **NNP** NNP NNP ...
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Incomplete Annotation!

Potential Entity

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Matched 😊

Unmatched 😞

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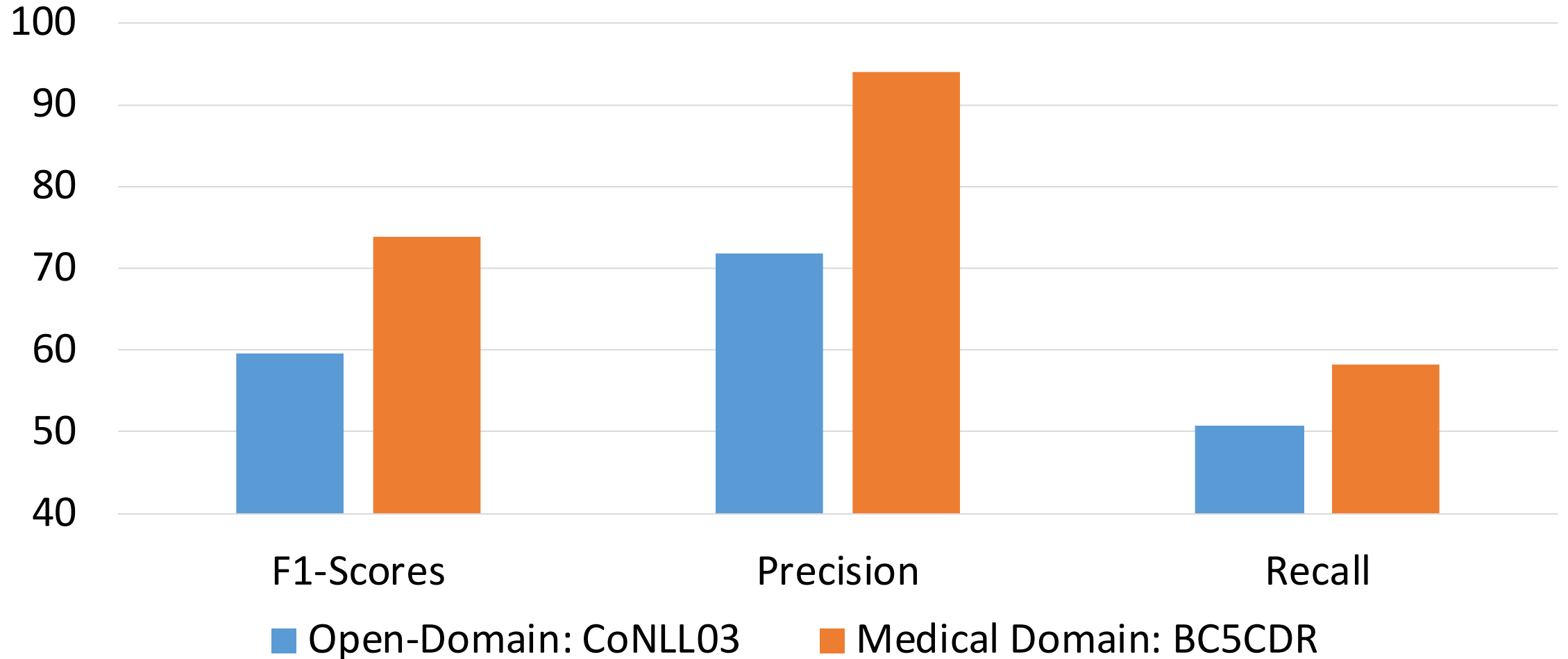


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```



Open Domain NER with Distant Supervision

Matching Performance on **Open-Domain** vs. **Single-Domain** NER Data



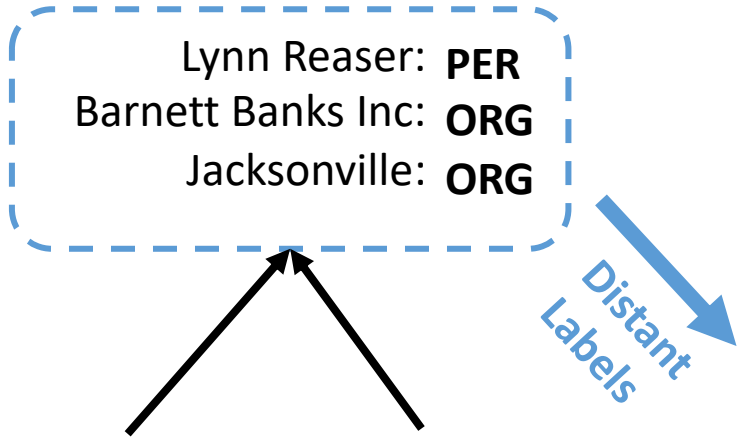
BOND: BERT-Assisted Open Domain NER with Distant Supervision

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- Leverage power of **pre-trained language models** (e.g. BERT, RoBERTa)

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- Leverage power of **pre-trained language models** (e.g. RoBERTa)
- **Two-stage self-training framework**

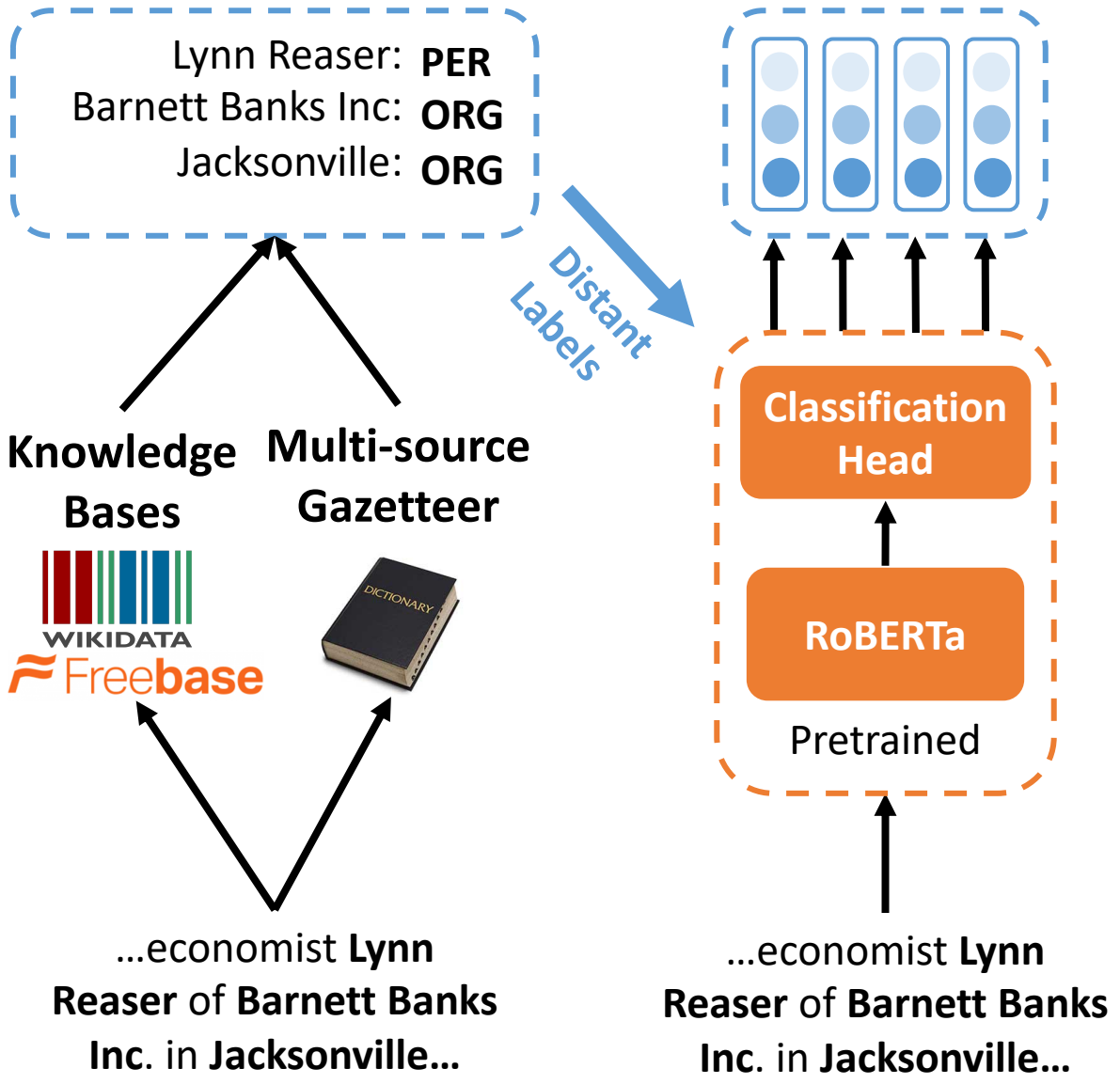


Knowledge Bases **Multi-source Gazetteer**

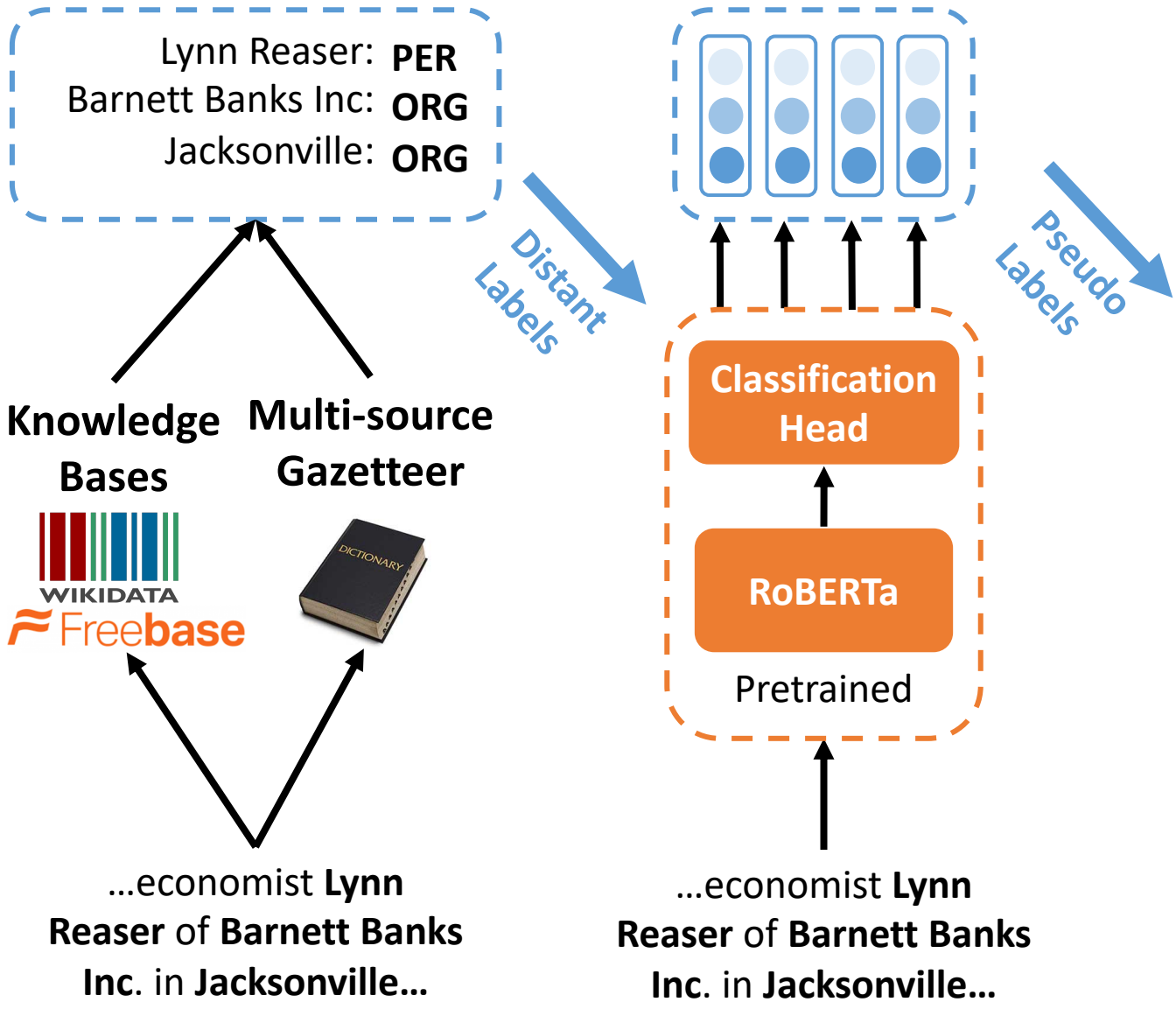


...economist Lynn
Reaser of Barnett Banks
Inc. in Jacksonville...

Stage I: Pseudo Label Generation



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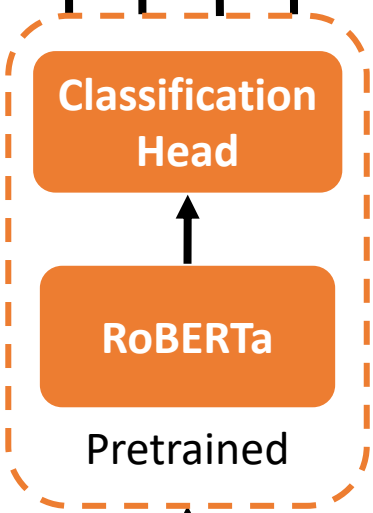
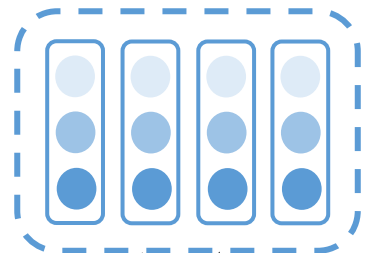
Lynn Reaser: **PER**
Barnett Banks Inc: **ORG**
Jacksonville: **ORG**

Knowledge Bases Multi-source Gazetteer



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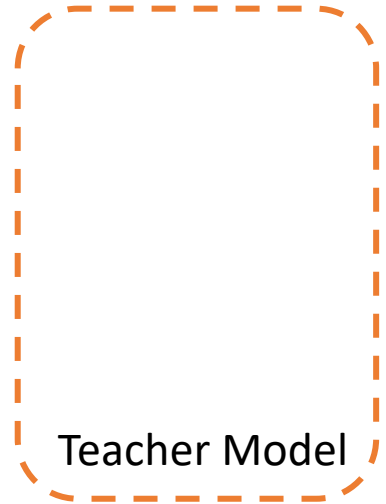
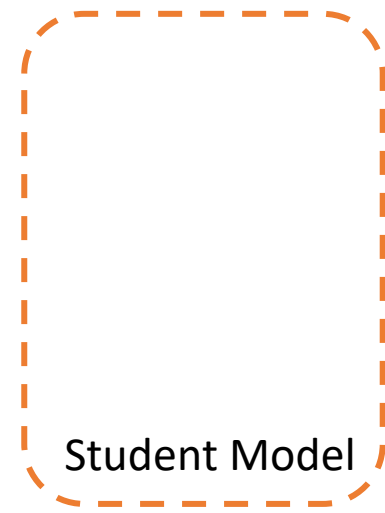
Distant Labels



...economist Lynn Reaser of Barnett Banks Inc. in Jacksonville...

Pseudo Labels

Stage II: Self-Training



Stage I: Pseudo Label Generation

Stage II: Self-Training

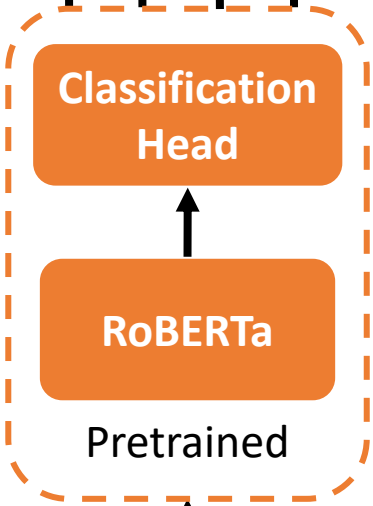
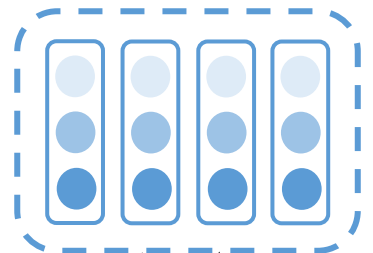
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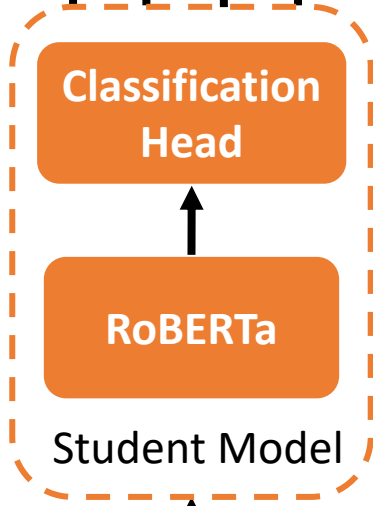
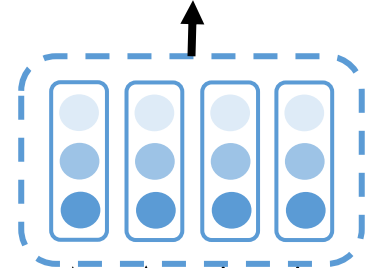


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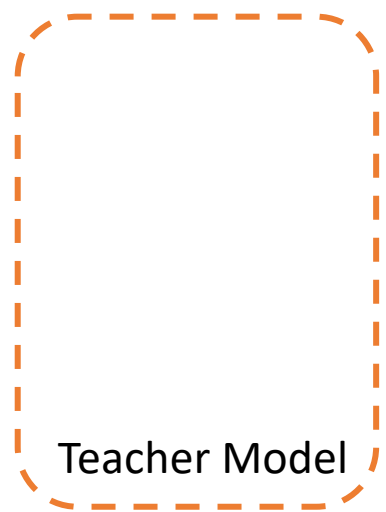
Pseudo Labels

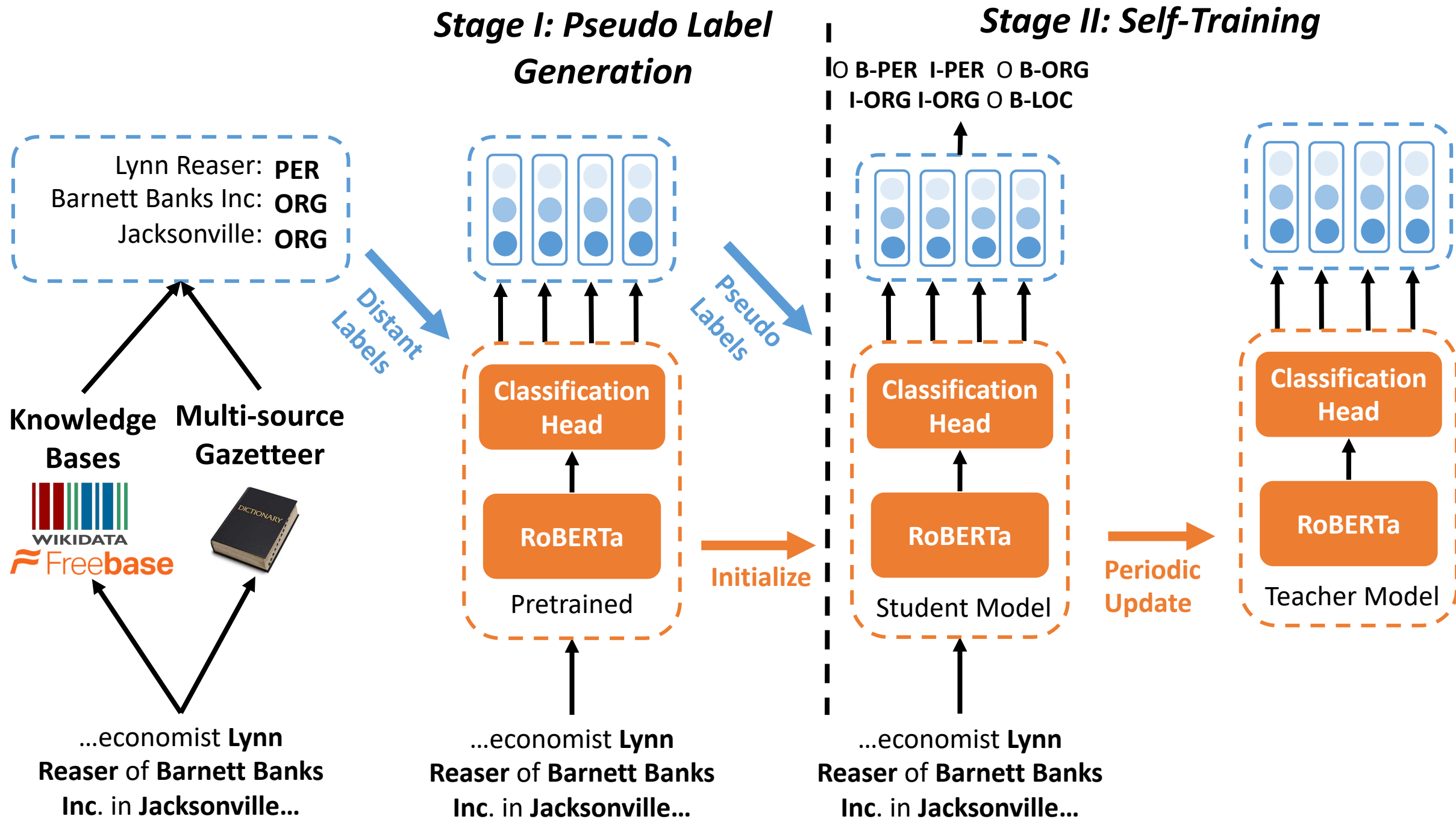
Initialize

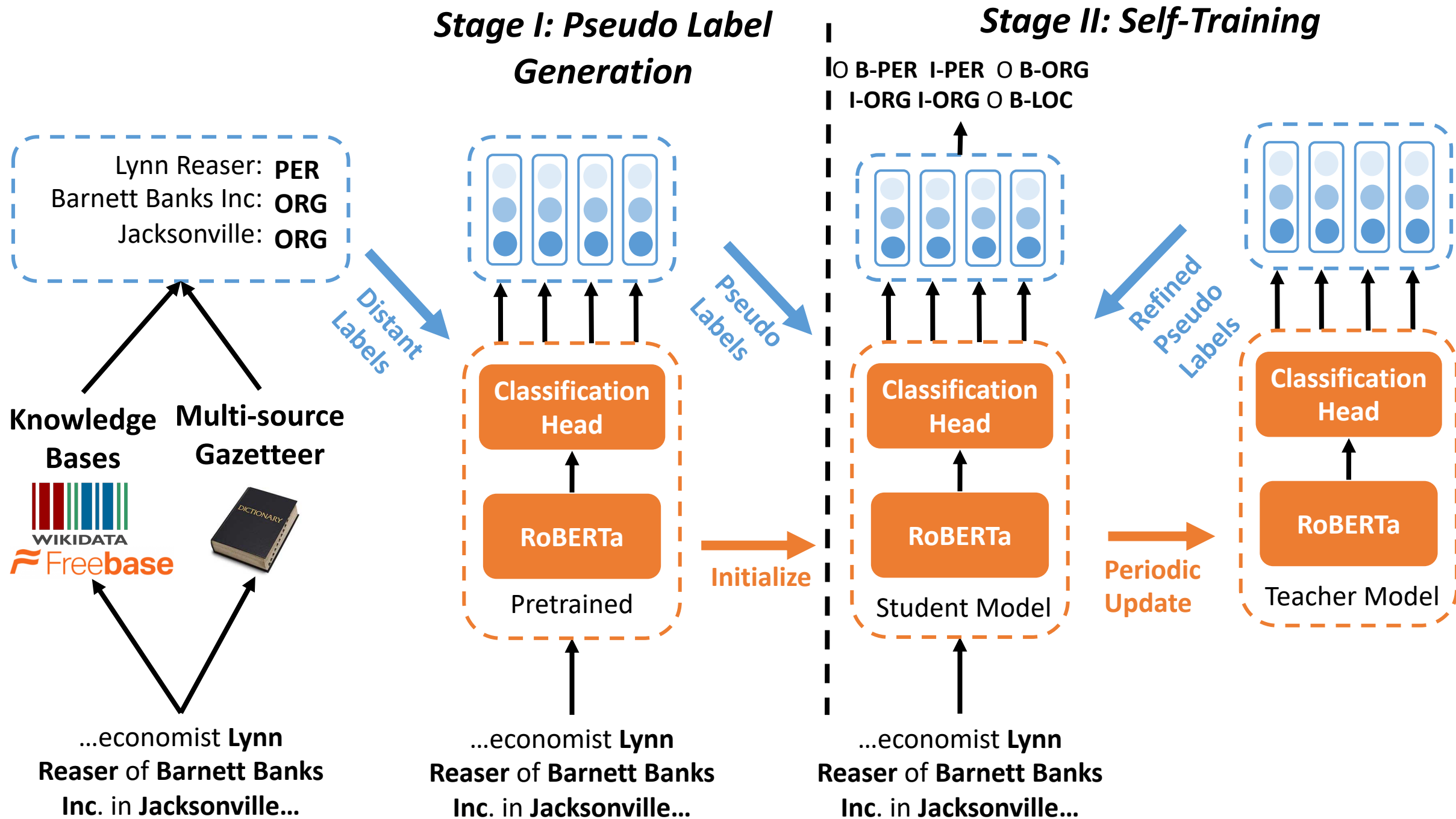
○ B-PER I-PER ○ B-ORG
I-ORG I-ORG ○ B-LOC

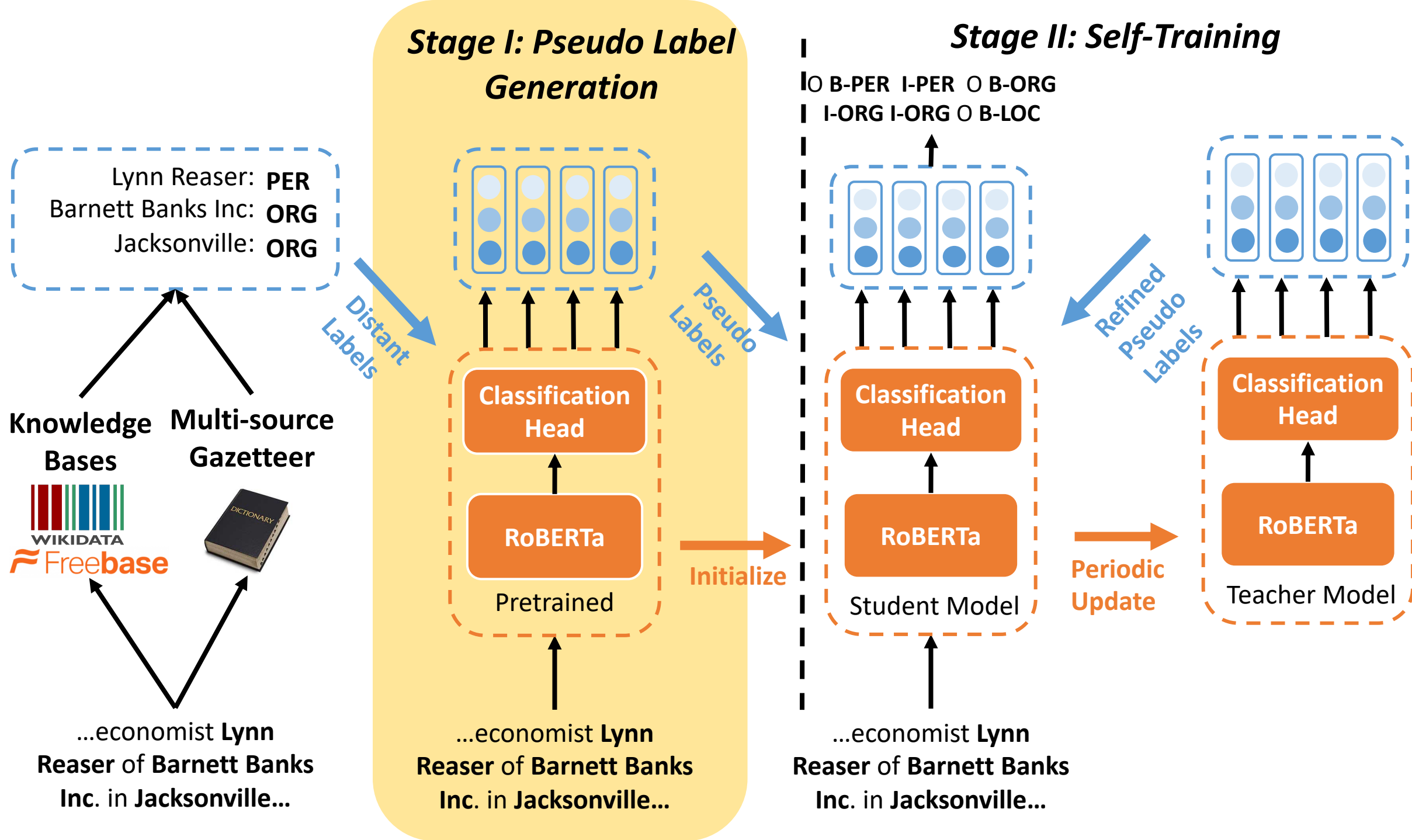


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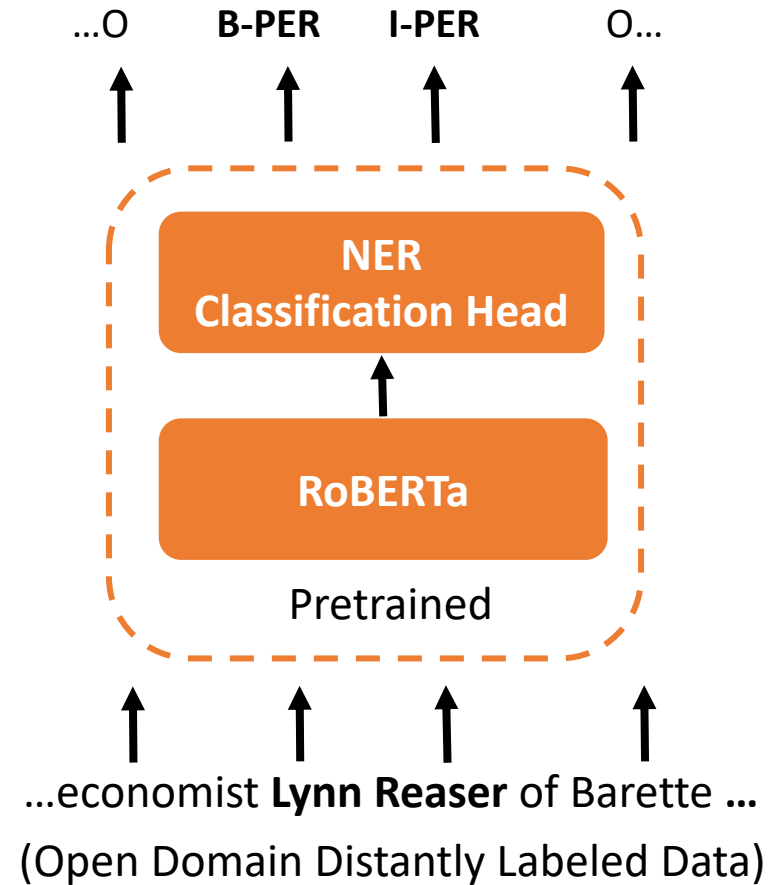




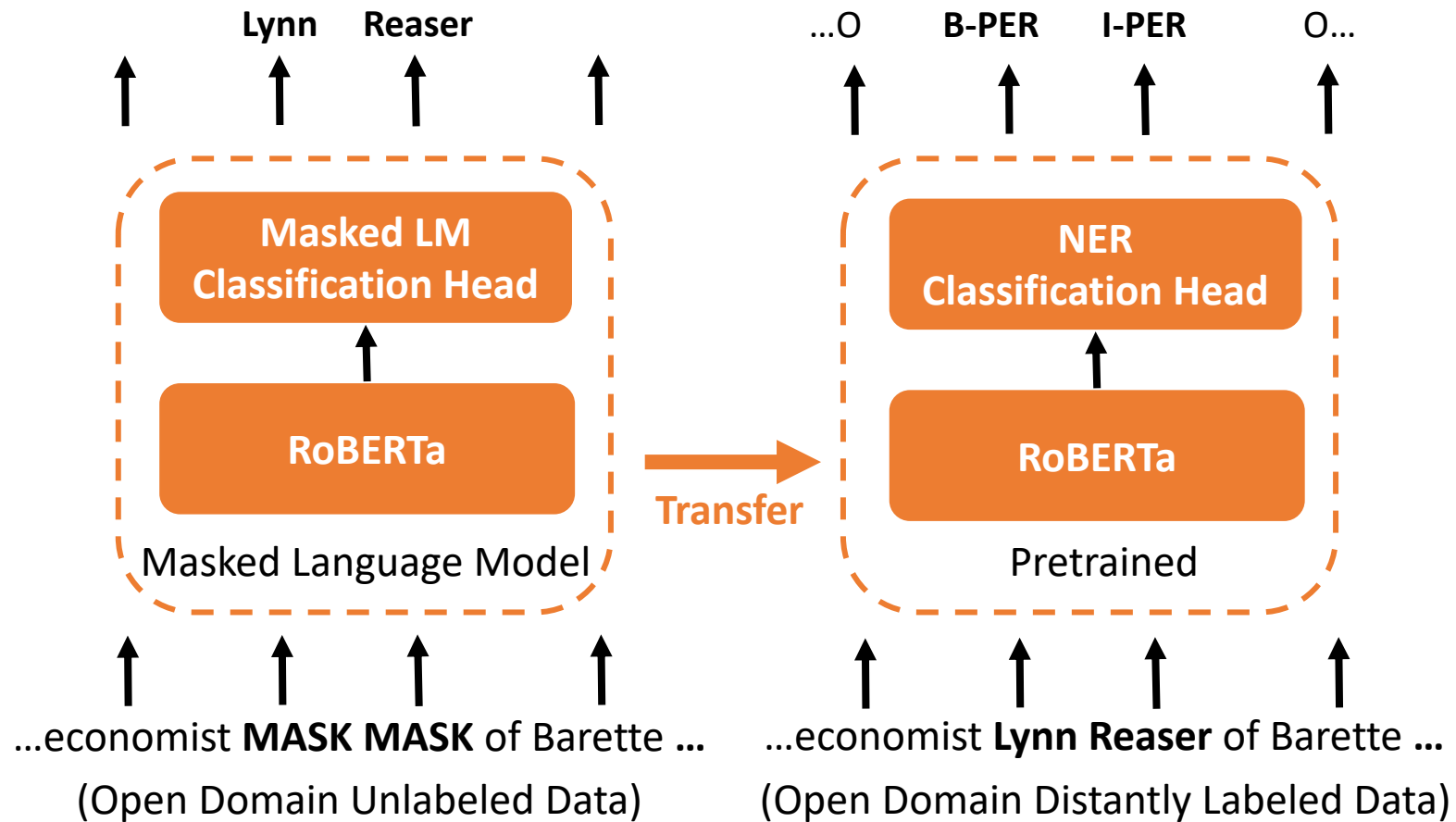




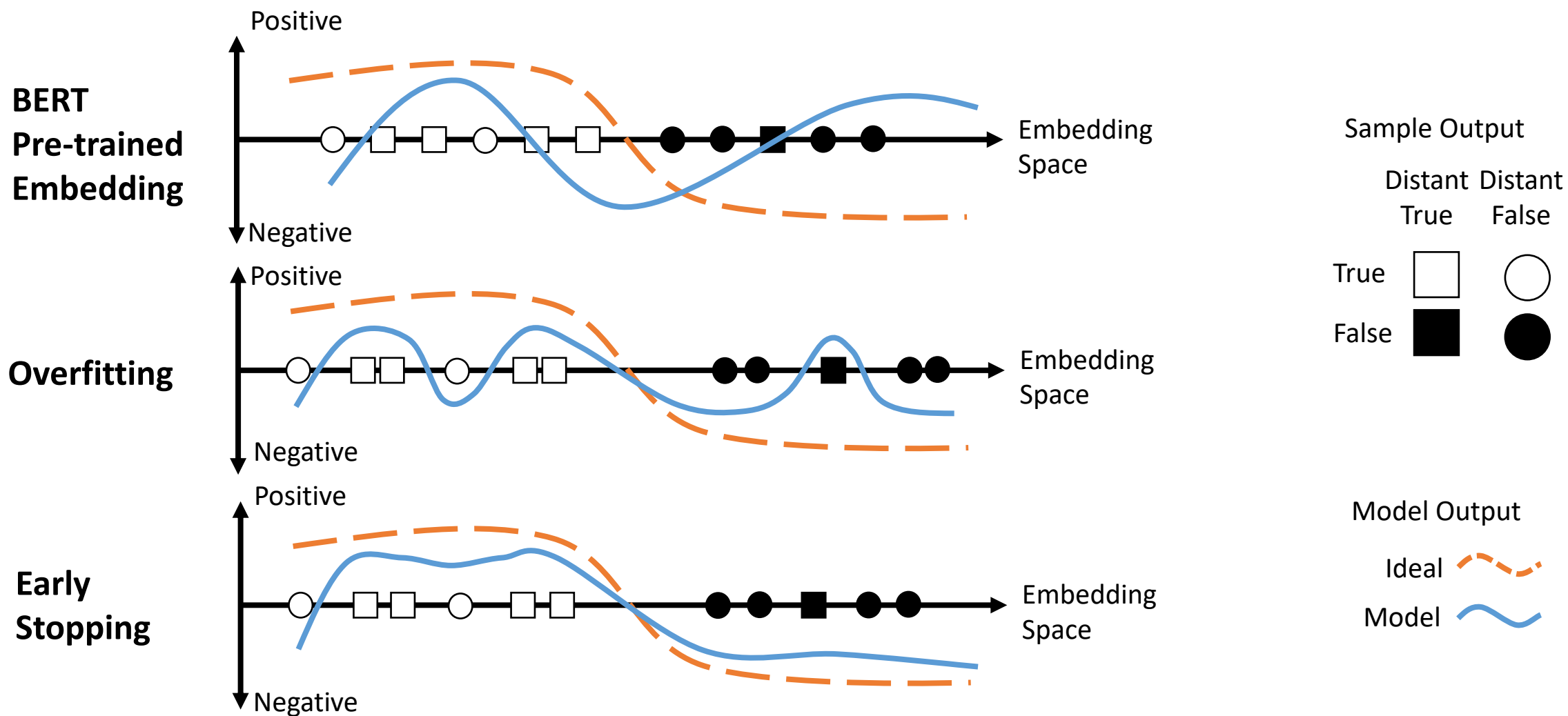
Stage I: BERT-Assisted Distantly Supervised Learning



Stage I: BERT-Assisted Distantly Supervised Learning



Stage I: Early Stopping



Stage I: Pseudo Label Generation

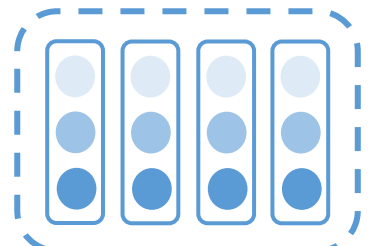
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Knowledge Bases Multi-source Gazetteer



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Distant Labels



Classification Head

RoBERTa

Pretrained

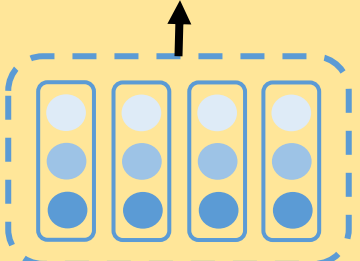
Pseudo Labels

Initialize

...economist Lynn Reaser of Barnett Banks Inc. in Jacksonville...

Stage II: Self-Training

O B-PER I-PER O B-ORG
I-ORG I-ORG O B-LOC



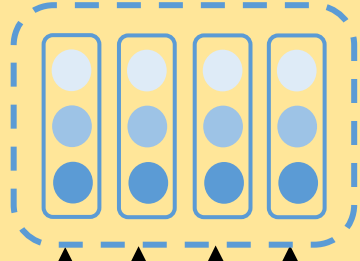
Classification Head

RoBERTa

Student Model

Refined Pseudo Labels

Periodic Update



Classification Head

RoBERTa

Teacher Model

...economist Lynn Reaser of Barnett Banks Inc. in Jacksonville...

Stage II: Teacher-Student Framework

- Initialize the teacher model $f(\cdot; \theta_{tea})$ and the student model $f(\cdot; \theta_{stu})$ with the early stopped model $f(\cdot; \hat{\theta})$ obtained in Stage I

$$\theta_{tea}^{(0)} = \theta_{stu}^{(0)} = \hat{\theta}$$

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- At the t -th iteration
 - The teacher model generates pseudo labeled data $\{X_m, \tilde{Y}_m\}_{m=1}^M$

$$\tilde{y}_{m,n}^{(t)} = \operatorname{argmax}_c f_{n,c}(X_m; \theta_{tea}^{(t)})$$

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- The student model fits these pseudo-labels by solving

$$\theta_{stu}^{(t)} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\theta} \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^M \ell(\tilde{Y}_m^{(t)}, f(X_m; \theta))$$

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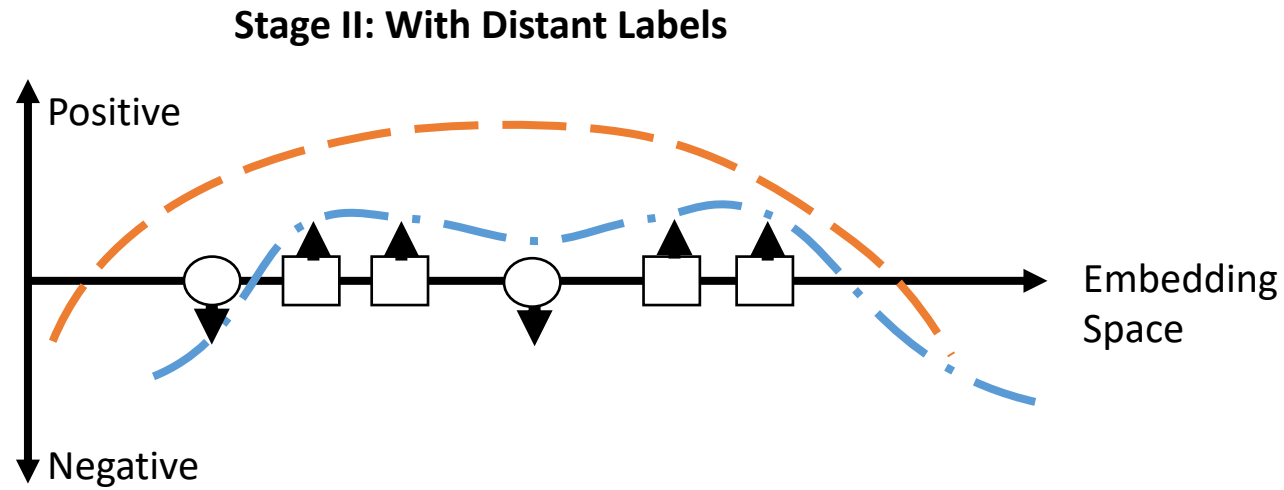
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$$\theta_{stu}^{(t)} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\theta} \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^M \ell(\tilde{Y}_m^{(t)}, f(X_m; \theta))$$

- Update the teacher model and the student model by

$$\theta_{tea}^{(t+1)} = \theta_{stu}^{(t+1)} = \hat{\theta}_{stu}^{(t)}$$

Stage II: Teacher-Student Framework

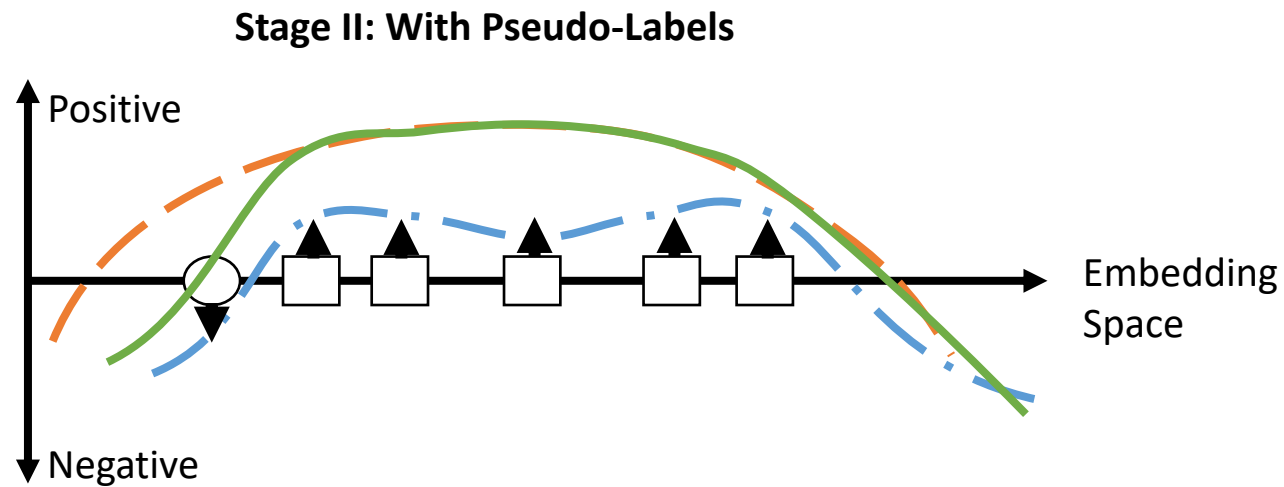


Model Output

Ideal 

Stage I 

Stage II 



Stage II: Soft Labels w/ Confidence Re-weighting

- At the t -th iteration
 - Denote the output probability simplex over C classes as $[f_{n,c}(X_m; \theta)]_{c=1}^C$

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$$p_c = \sum_{m=1}^M \sum_{n=1}^N f_{n,c}(X_m; \theta_{tea}^{(t)})$$

Stage II: Soft Labels w/ Confidence Re-weighting

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- The teacher model generates soft labels $\left\{ S_m^{(t)} = \left[s_{m,n}^{(t)} \right]_{n=1}^N \right\}_{m=1}^M$ by

$$s_{m,n}^{(t)} = \left[s_{m,n,c}^{(t)} \right]_{c=1}^C = \left[\frac{f_{n,c}^2(X_m; \theta_{tea}^{(t)})/p_c}{\sum_{c'=1}^C f_{n,c'}^2(X_m; \theta_{tea}^{(t)})/p_{c'}} \right]_{c=1}^C$$

Stage II: Soft Labels w/ Confidence Re-weighting

- At the t -th iteration

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- The student model fit the soft labels by solving

$$\theta_{stu}^{(t)} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\theta} \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^M \ell_{KL}(S_m^{(t)}, f(X_m; \theta)),$$

where $\ell_{KL}(S_m^{(t)}, f(X_m; \theta)) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{c=1}^C -s_{m,n,c}^{(t)} \log f_{n,c}(X_m; \theta)$

Stage II: High-Confidence Selection

- At the t -th iteration
 - Select a set of high confidence tokens from the m -th sentence by

$$H_m^{(t)} = \left\{ n : \max_c s_{m,n,c}^{(t)} > \epsilon \right\},$$

where $\epsilon \in (0,1)$

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where $\epsilon \in (0,1)$

- The student model fit the high-confidence labels of the selected tokens by solving

$$\theta_{stu}^{(t)} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\theta} \frac{1}{M |H_m^{(t)}|} \sum_{m=1}^M \sum_{n \in H_m^{(t)}} -s_{m,n,c}^{(t)} \log f_{n,c}(X_m; \theta)$$

Experiment: Main Result

Table 2: Main Results on Testing Set: F_1 Score (Precision/Recall) (in %)

Method	CoNLL03	Tweet	OntoNote5.0	Webpage	Wikigold
Entity Types	4	10	18	4	4
KB Matching	71.40(81.13/63.75)	35.83(40.34/32.22)	59.51(63.86/55.71)	52.45(62.59/45.14)	47.76(47.90/47.63)
Fully-Supervised (Our implementation)					
RoBERTa	90.11(89.14/91.10)	52.19(51.76/52.63)	86.20(84.59/87.88)	72.39(66.29/79.73)	86.43(85.33/87.56)
BiLSTM-CRF	91.21(91.35/91.06)	52.18(60.01/46.16)	86.17(85.99/86.36)	52.34(50.07/54.76)	54.90(55.40/54.30)
Baseline (Our implementation)					
BiLSTM-CRF	59.50(75.50/49.10)	21.77(46.91/14.18)	66.41(68.44/64.50)	43.34(58.05/34.59)	42.92(47.55/39.11)
AutoNER	67.00(75.21/60.40)	26.10(43.26/18.69)	67.18(64.63/69.95)	51.39(48.82/54.23)	47.54(43.54/52.35)
LRNT	69.74(79.91/61.87)	23.84(46.94/15.98)	67.69(67.36/68.02)	47.74(46.70/48.83)	46.21(45.60/46.84)
Other Baseline (Reported Results)					
KALM [†]	76.00(— / —)	—	—	—	—
ConNET [◇]	75.57(84.11/68.61)	—	—	—	—
Our BOND Framework					
Stage I	75.61(83.76/68.90)	46.61(53.11/41.52)	68.11(66.71/69.56)	59.11(60.14/58.11)	51.55(49.17/54.50)
BOND	81.48(82.05/80.92)	48.01(53.16/43.76)	68.35(67.14/69.61)	65.74(67.37/64.19)	60.07(53.44/68.58)

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Baseline (Our implementation)					
BiLSTM-CRF	59.50(75.50/49.10)	21.77(46.91/14.18)	66.41(68.44/64.50)	43.34(58.05/34.59)	42.92(47.55/39.11)
AutoNER	67.00(75.21/60.40)	26.10(43.26/18.69)	67.18(64.63/69.95)	51.39(48.82/54.23)	47.54(43.54/52.35)
LRNT	69.74(79.91/61.87)	23.84(46.94/15.98)	67.69(67.36/68.02)	47.74(46.70/48.83)	46.21(45.60/46.84)
Other Baseline (Reported Results)					
KALM [†]	76.00(- / -)	-	-	-	-
ConNET [◇]	75.57(84.11/68.61)	-	-	-	-
Our BOND Framework					
Stage I	75.61(83.76/68.90)	46.61(53.11/41.52)	68.11(66.71/69.56)	59.11(60.14/58.11)	51.55(49.17/54.50)
BOND	81.48(82.05/80.92)	48.01(53.16/43.76)	68.35(67.14/69.61)	65.74(67.37/64.19)	60.07(53.44/68.58)

Experiment: Main Result

Table 2: Main Results on Testing Set: F_1 Score (Precision/Recall) (in %)

Method	CoNLL03	Tweet	OntoNote5.0	Webpage	Wikigold
Entity Types	4	10	18	4	4
KB Matching	71.40(81.13/63.75)	35.83(40.34/32.22)	59.51(63.86/55.71)	52.45(62.59/45.14)	47.76(47.90/47.63)
Fully-Supervised (Our implementation)					
RoBERTa	90.11(89.14/91.10)	52.19(51.76/52.63)	86.20(84.59/87.88)	72.39(66.29/79.73)	86.43(85.33/87.56)
BiLSTM-CRF	91.21(91.35/91.06)	52.18(60.01/46.16)	86.17(85.99/86.36)	52.34(50.07/54.76)	54.90(55.40/54.30)
Baseline (Our implementation)					
BiLSTM-CRF	59.50(75.50/49.10)	21.77(46.91/14.18)	66.41(68.44/64.50)	43.34(58.05/34.59)	42.92(47.55/39.11)
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Experiment: Ablation

Table 3: Ablation Study: F_1 Score (Precision/Recall) (in %)

Method	CoNLL03	Wikigold
Stage I		
Stage I	75.61(83.76/68.90)	51.55(49.17/54.50)
Stage I w/o pre-train	36.66(37.49/35.75)	18.31(18.14/18.50)
Stage I w/o early stop	72.11(81.65/64.57)	49.68(48.67/50.74)
Stage I w/ MT	76.30(82.92/70.67)	46.68(49.82/43.91)
Stage I w/ VAT	76.38(82.58/71.04)	47.54(50.02/45.30)
Stage I + Stage II		
BOND †	77.28(83.42/71.98)	56.90(54.32/59.74)
BOND w/ soft	80.18(81.56/78.84)	58.64(58.29/65.79)
BOND w/ soft+high conf	81.48(82.05/80.92)	60.07(53.44/68.58)
BOND w/ reinit	78.17(85.05/72.31)	58.55(55.31/62.19)
BOND w/ soft+reinit	76.92(83.39/71.38)	54.09(50.72/57.94)
BOND w/ MT	77.16(82.79/72.25)	57.93(55.66/60.39)
BOND w/ VAT	77.64(85.62/70.69)	57.39(55.05/59.41)

Experiment: Ablation

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Experiment: Ablation

Table 3: Ablation Study: F_1 Score (Precision/Recall) (in %)

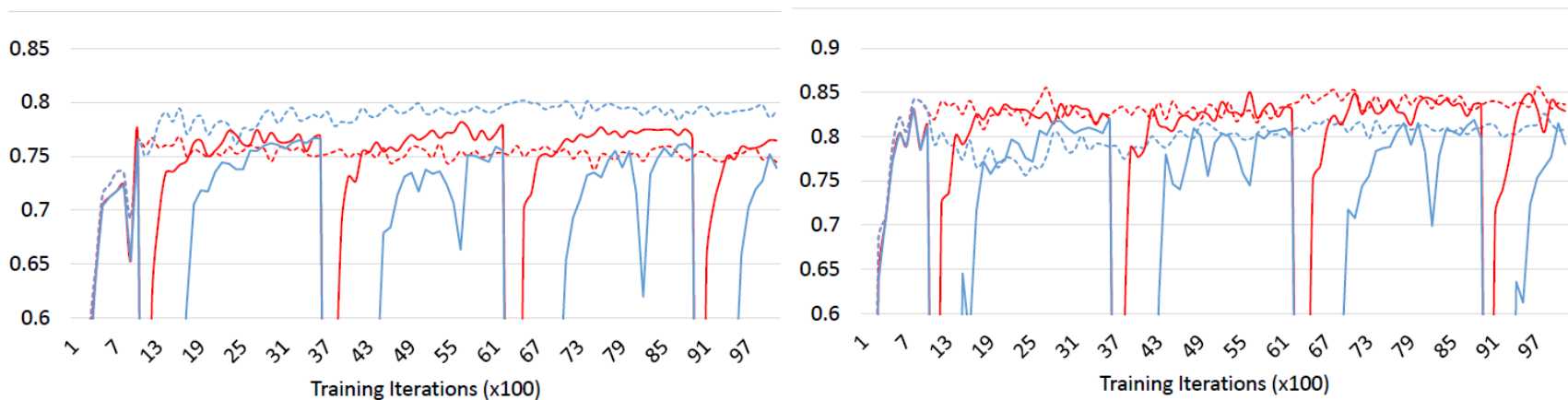
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Experiment: Ablation

Table 3: Ablation Study: F_1 Score (Precision/Recall) (in %)

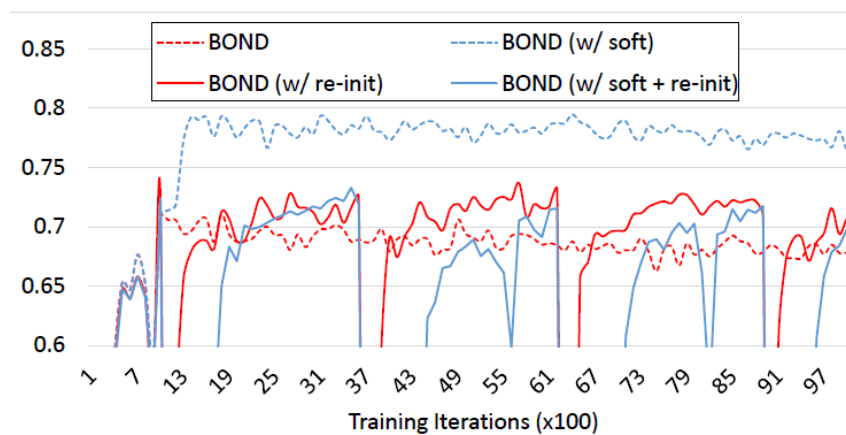
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BOND w/ VAT	77.64(85.62/70.69)	57.39(55.05/59.41)

Experiment: Ablation



(a) F_1 score

(b) Precision



(c) Recall

Figure 6: Learning Curves of BOND, BOND (w/ reinit), BOND (w/ soft) and BOND (w/ soft + reinit)

Experiment: Parameter Study

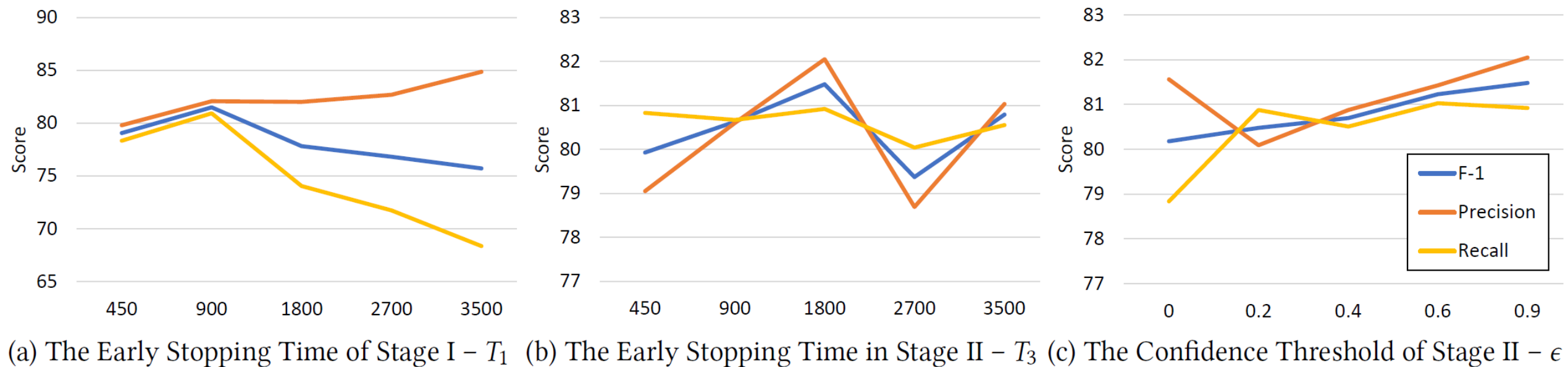
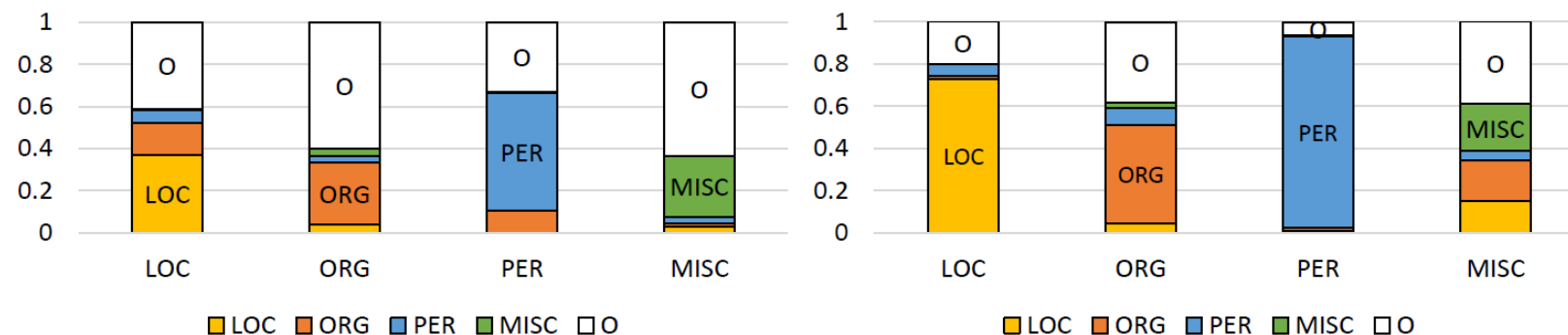


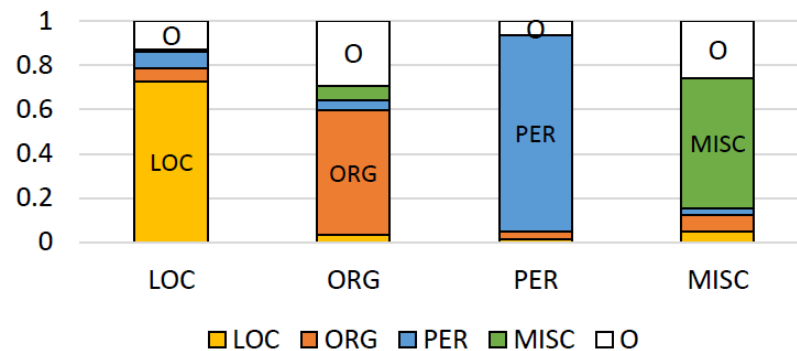
Figure 7: Parameter Study using CoNLL03: F_1 , Precision, Recall on Testing Set (in %)

Experiment: Error Analysis



(a) Knowledge Base Matching

(b) Stage I



(c) Stage II

Figure 8: Recall of Knowledge Base Matching and different stages of BOND.

The horizontal axis denotes the true entity type.

The segments in a bar denote the portions of the entities being classified into different entity types.



Thank You!
To Find Out More?

- 
- Arxiv: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2006.15509>
 - Git: <https://github.com/cliang1453/BOND>