

Unsupervised Transcription of Historical Documents and Classical Music



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UC Berkeley

Joint work with Greg Durrett, Jacob Andreas, and Dan Klein

Historical Document Transcription

Historical Document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

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!
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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 Hrzvir. 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

Unknown Fonts

prisoner

Unknown Fonts

long s glyph

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Unknown Fonts

prisoner

prisoner



Wandering Baseline

the Death of the Deceased,

Wandering Baseline





Wandering Baseline

the Death of the Deceased,

Uneven Inking

rule along in silence

Uneven Inking



Various Historical Documents

1725

the 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; Hemmut 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 lend him to Bridewell; upon which the Prisoner was very free of his ill Language to Mr. Bird,

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

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

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. Onetomahawk is just

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

Our Approach

prisoner

the Death of the Deceased,

role along in silence

[Berg-Kirkpatrick et al. 2013]

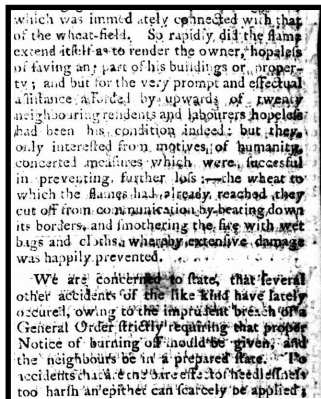
[Berg-Kirkpatrick et al. 2014]

Unsupervised Transcription

Unsupervised Transcription

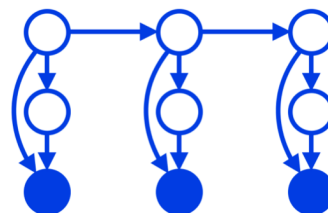
Learning

Doc Image



Generative
Model

prisoner



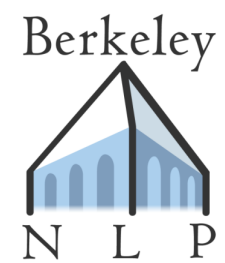
prifoner

Font
Parameters



Text

which was immediately connected with that of the wheat-field. So Pollamou... came into the Kitchen. The little Girl went away, and the Prisoner and Cornish went out together to see for Peg, but while they were gone, Peg came in again by her self and asked Mrs. Provost, the Bar-keeper, where



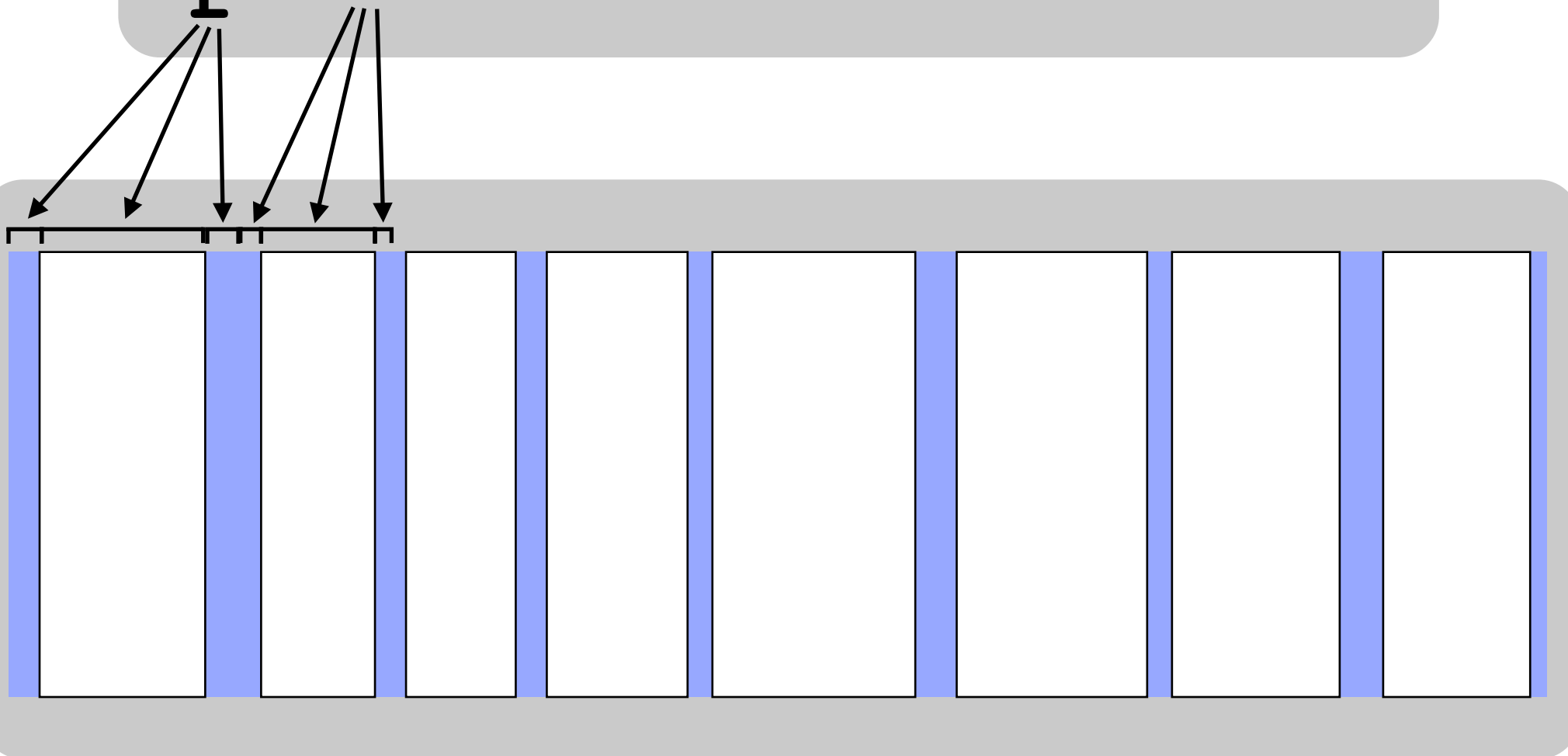
Generative Model

Generative Model

Language
Model

Typesetting
Model

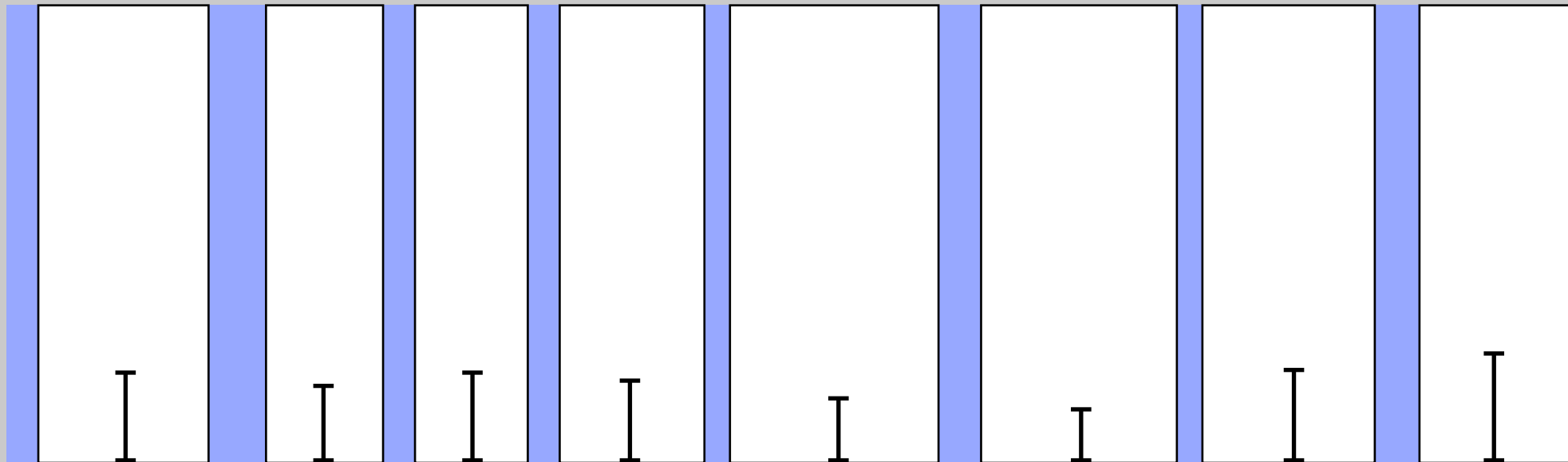
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Generative Model

p r i s o n e r

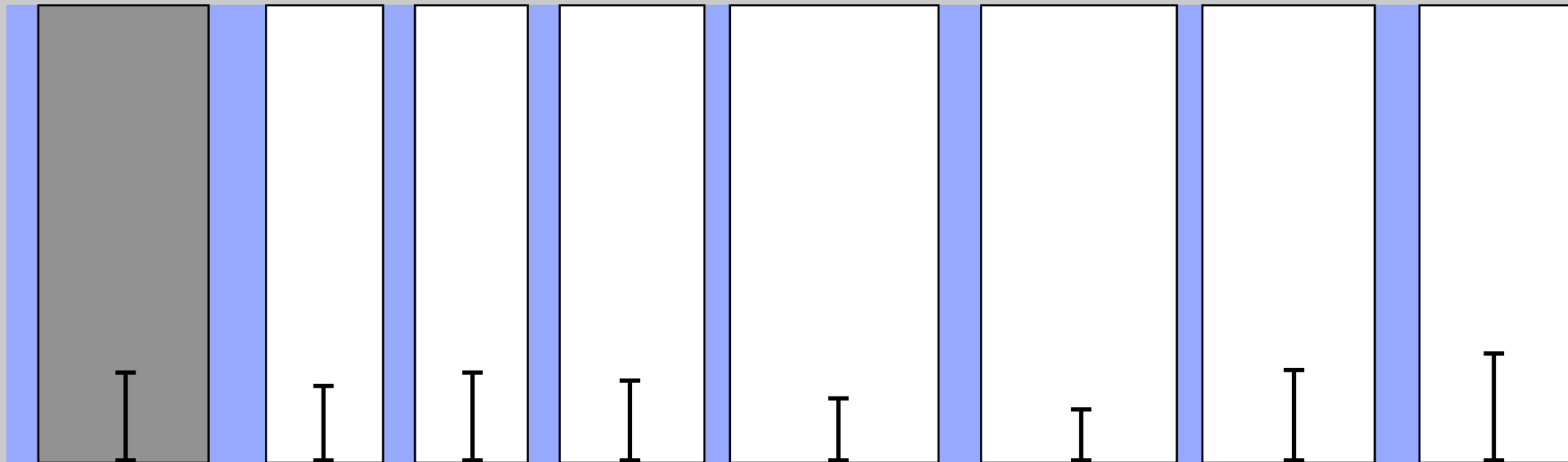
Typesetting
Model



Generative Model

p r i s o n e r

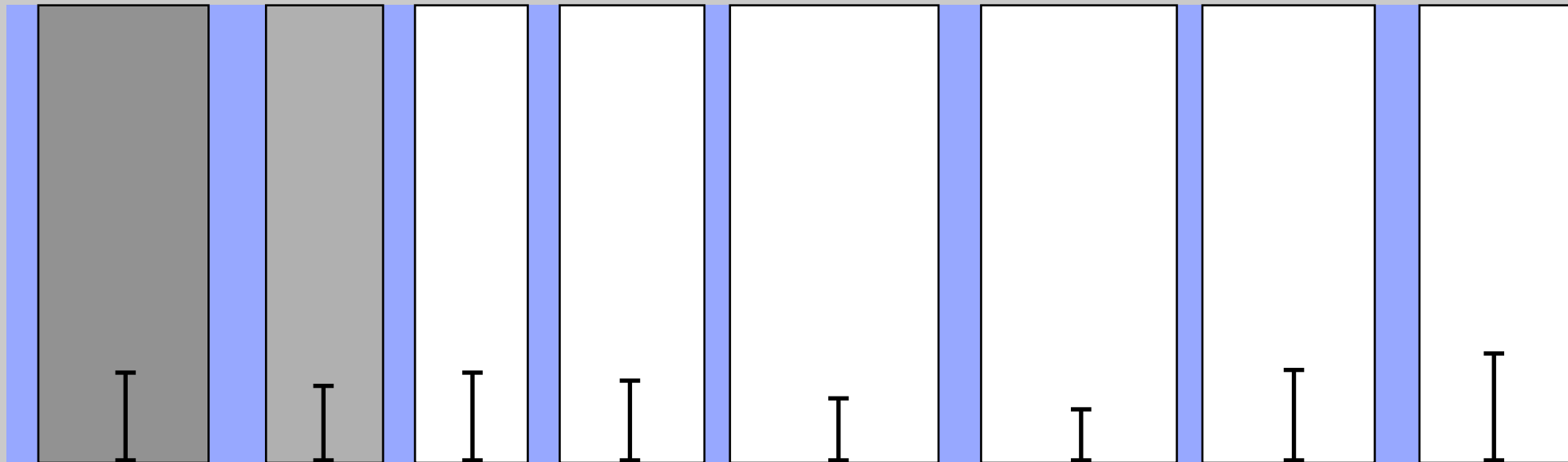
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Generative Model

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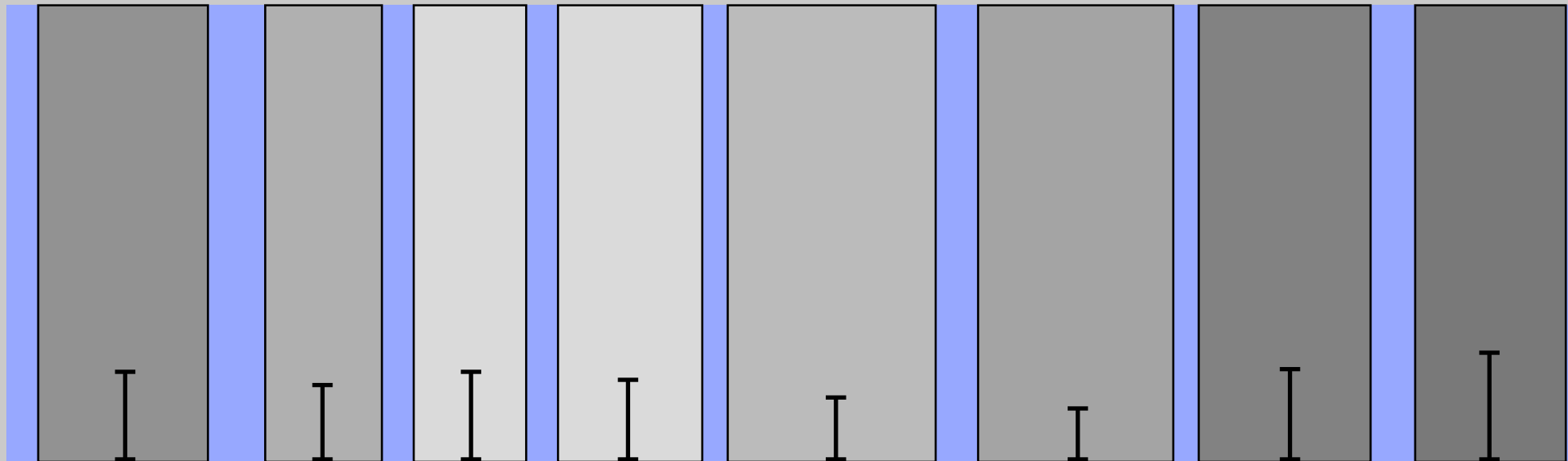
Typesetting
Model



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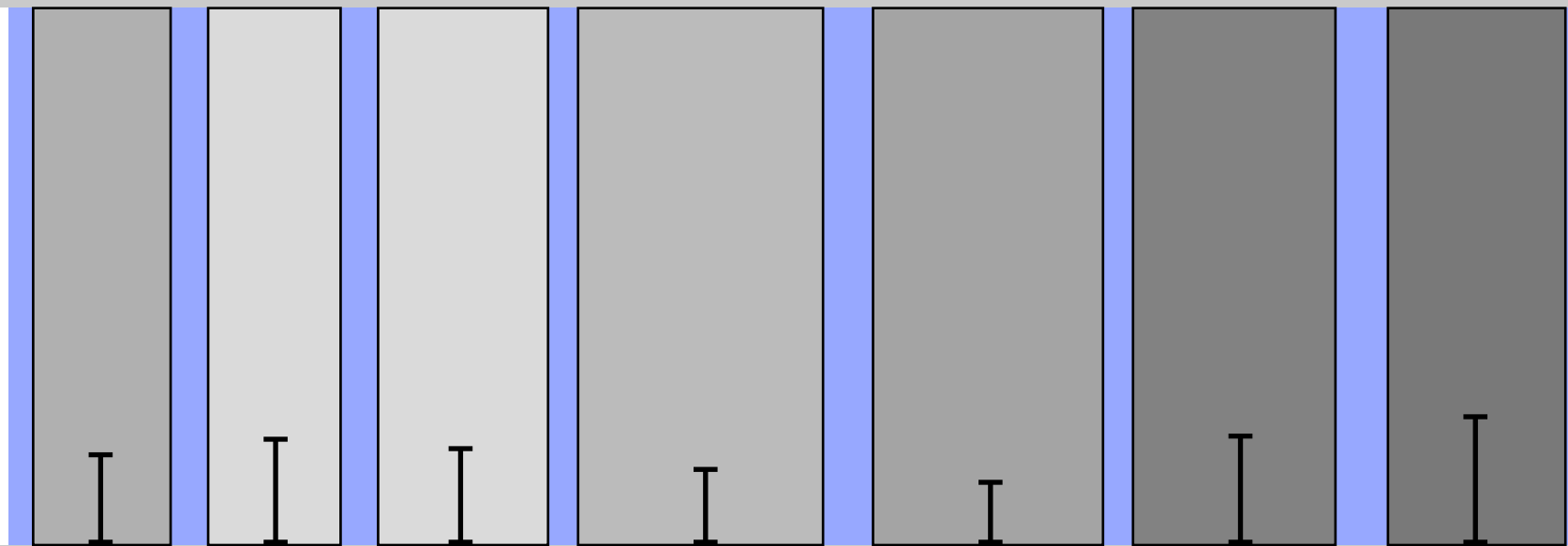
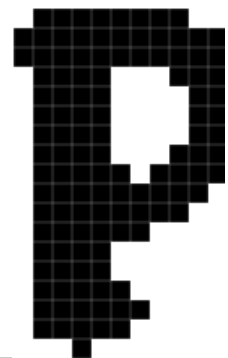
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Typesetting
Model



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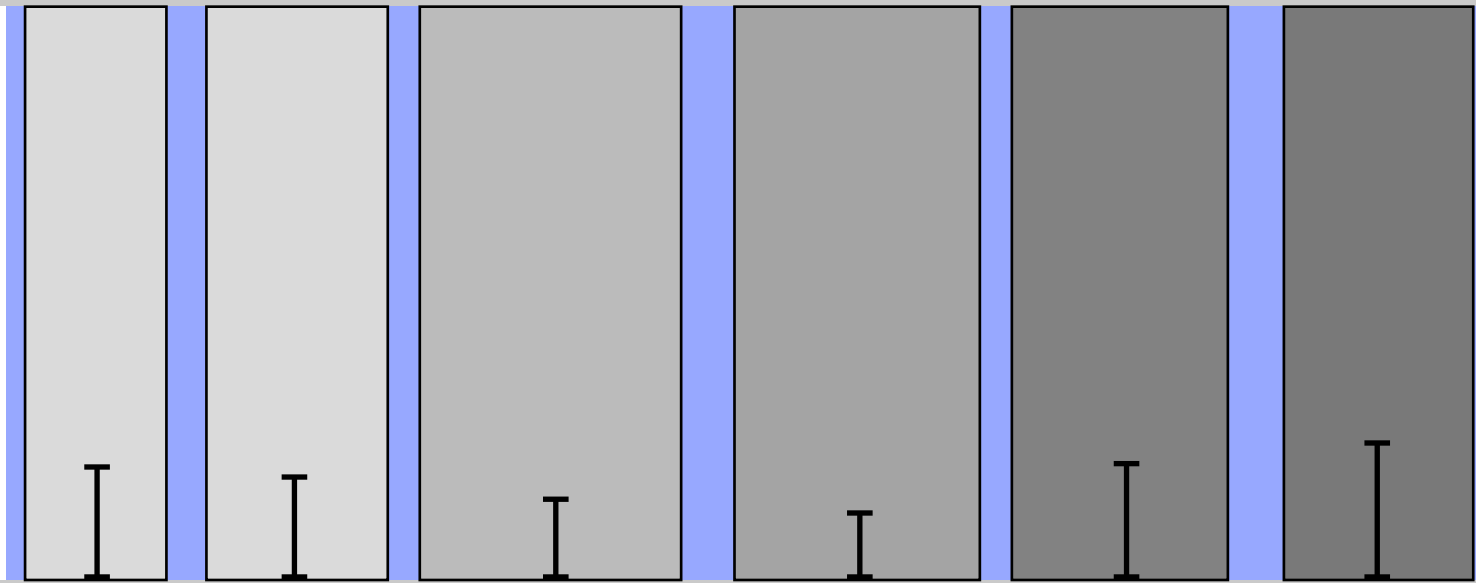
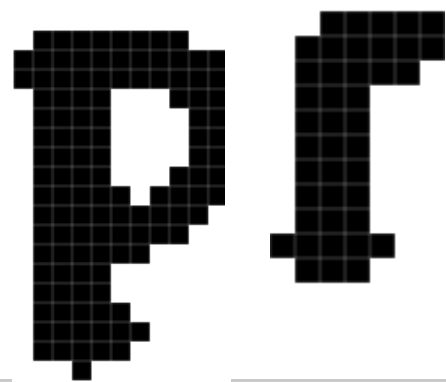
p r i s o n e r



Rendering
Model

Generative Model

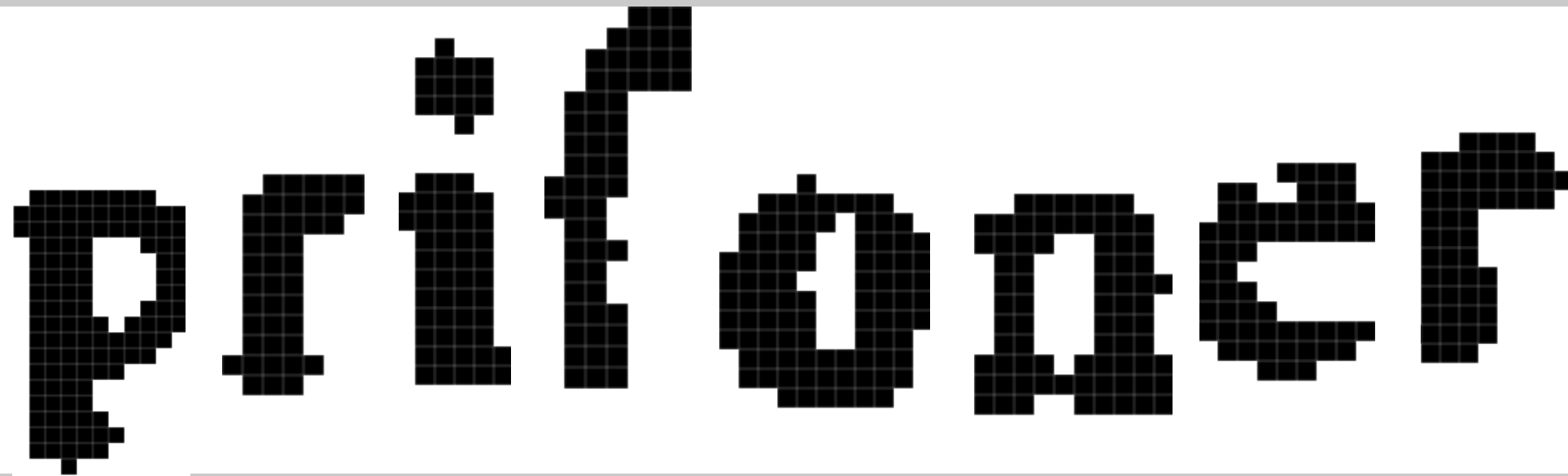
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Rendering
Model

Generative Model

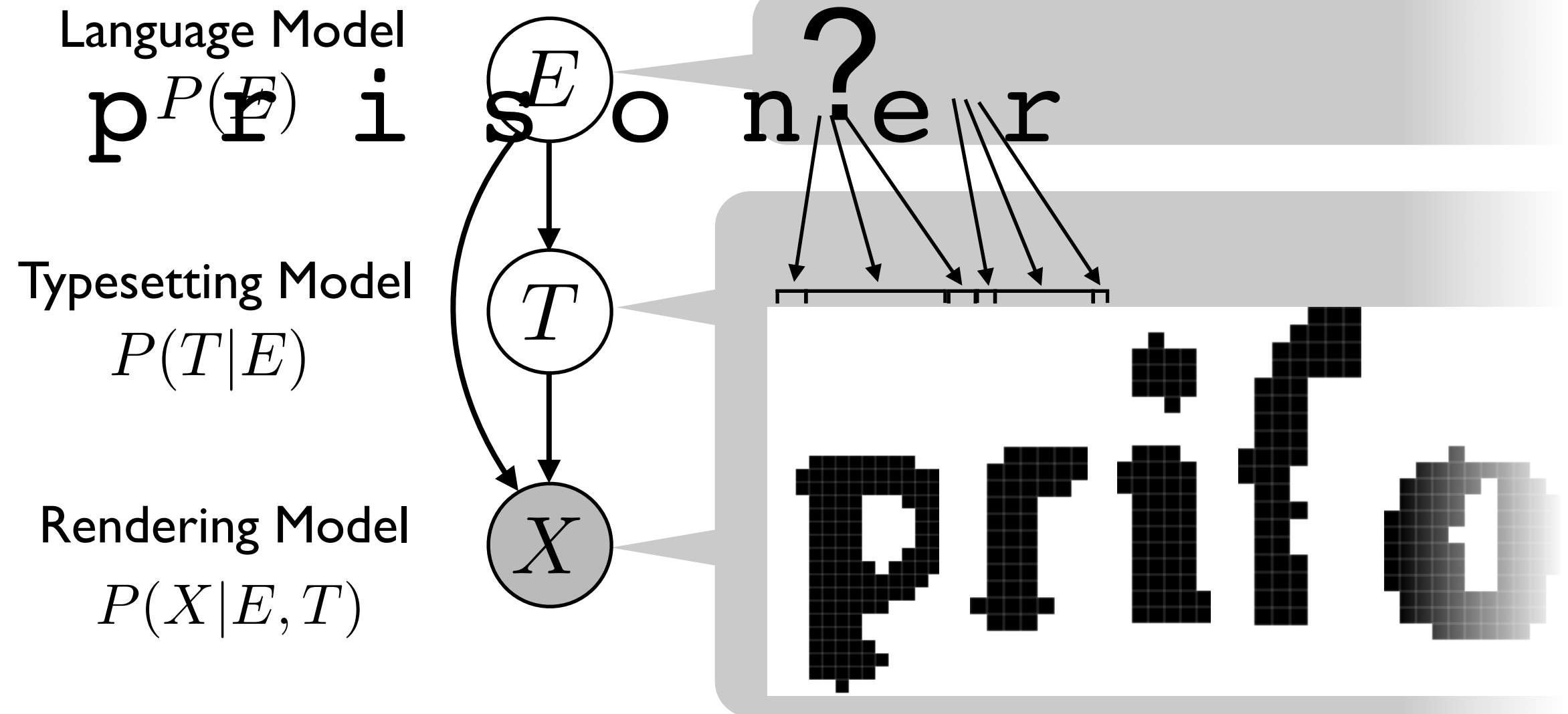
p r i s o n e r



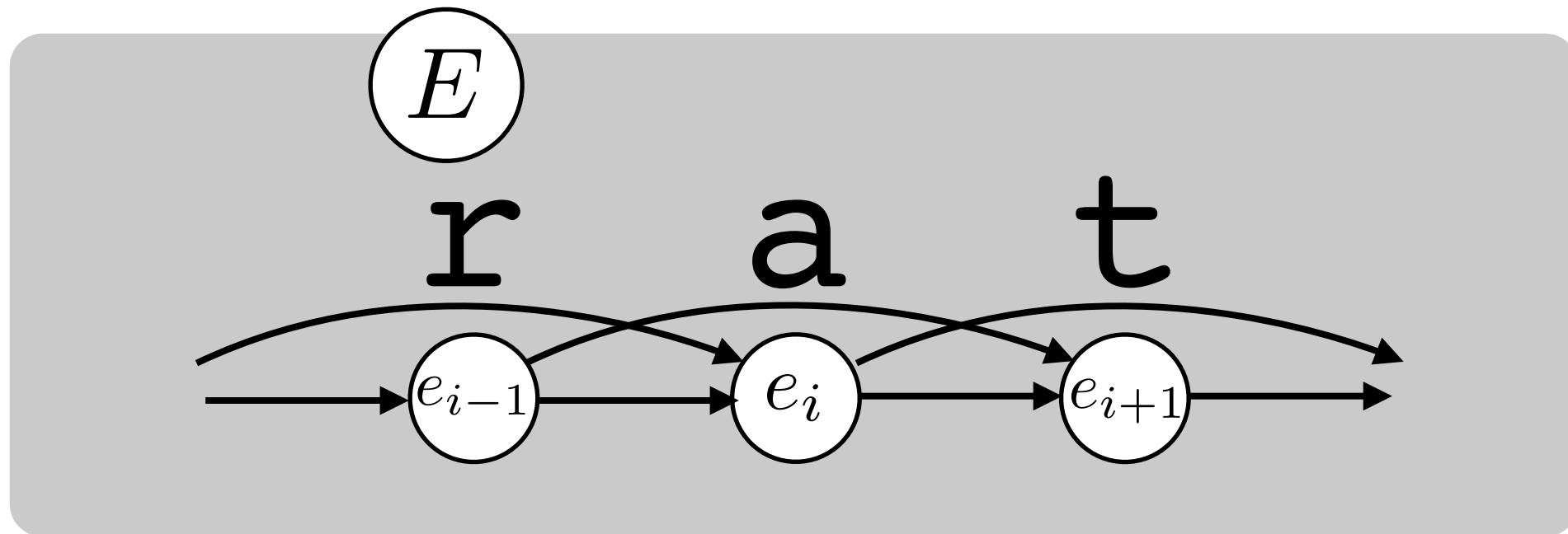
prisoner

Rendering
Model

Generative Model

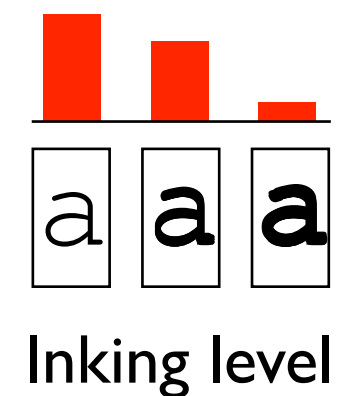
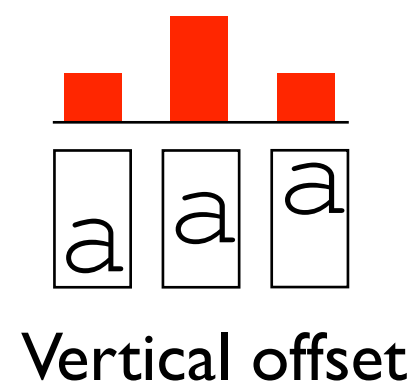
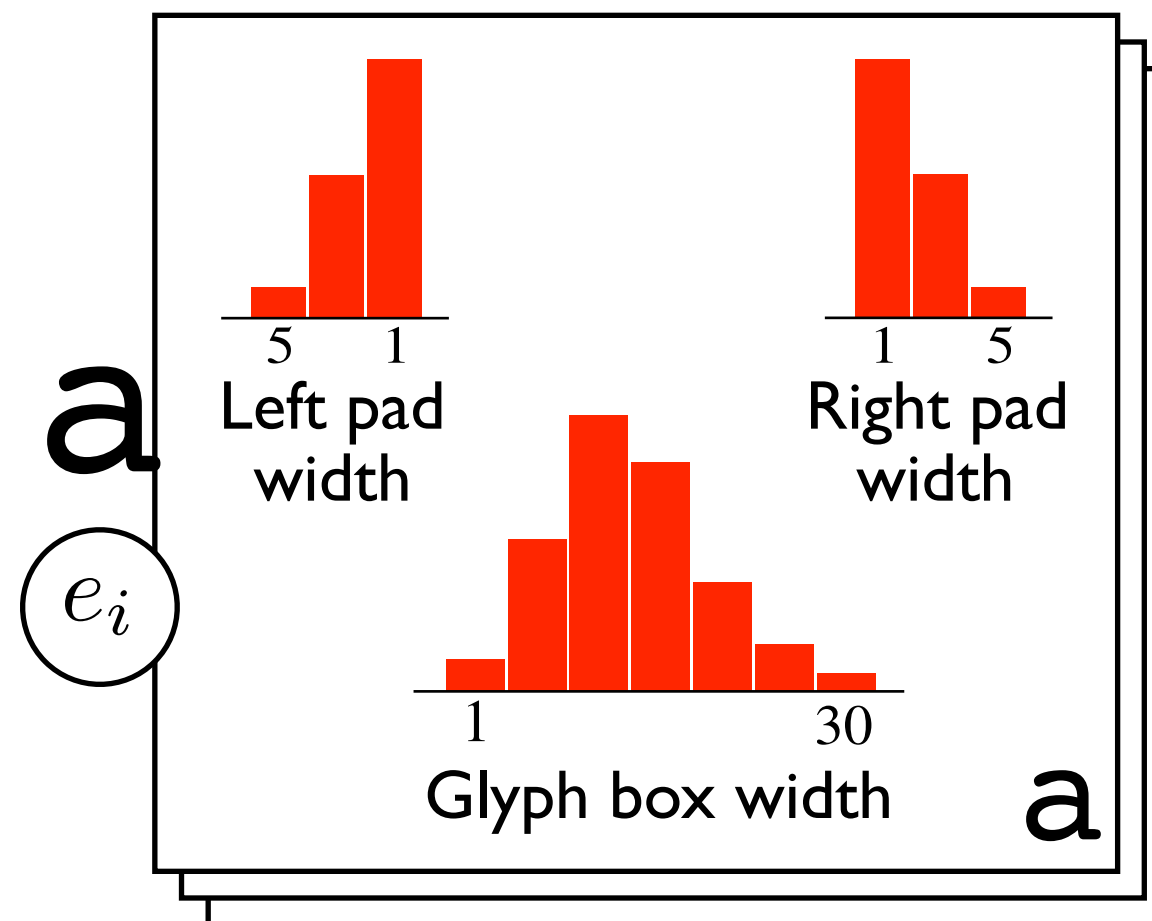
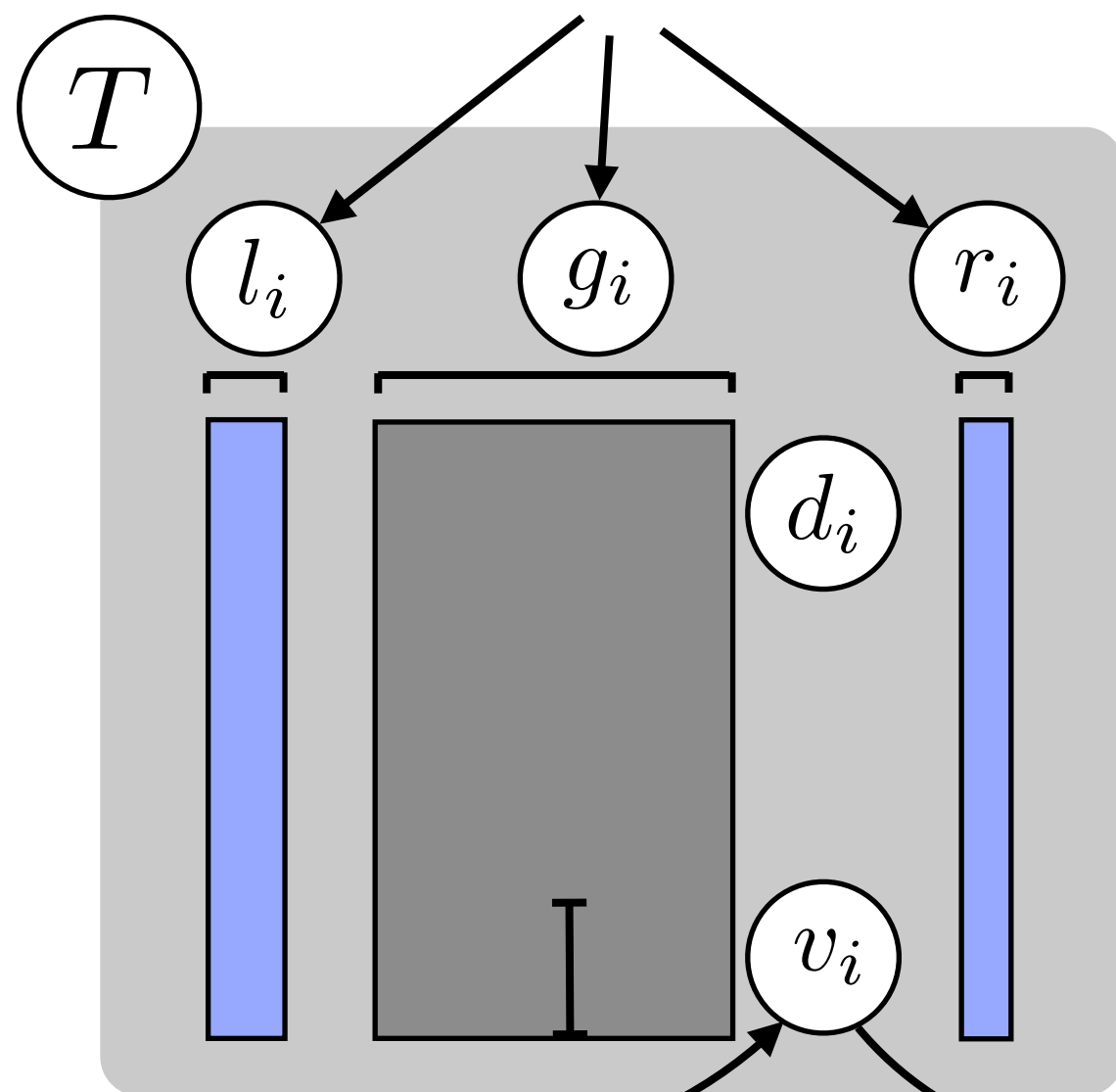


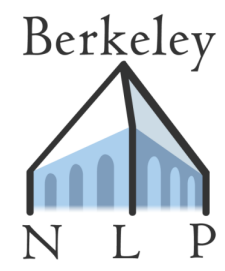
Language Model



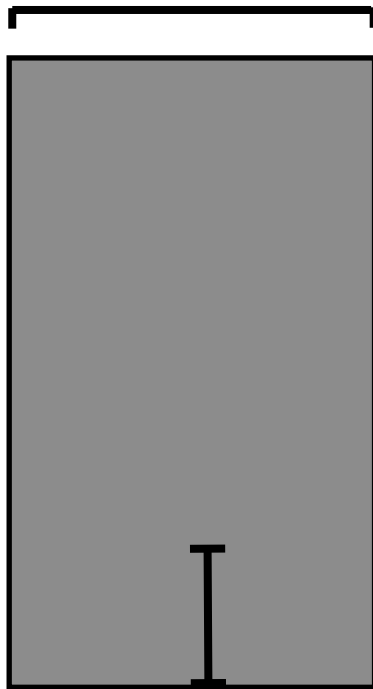
Kneser-Ney smoothed character 6-gram

Typesetting Model

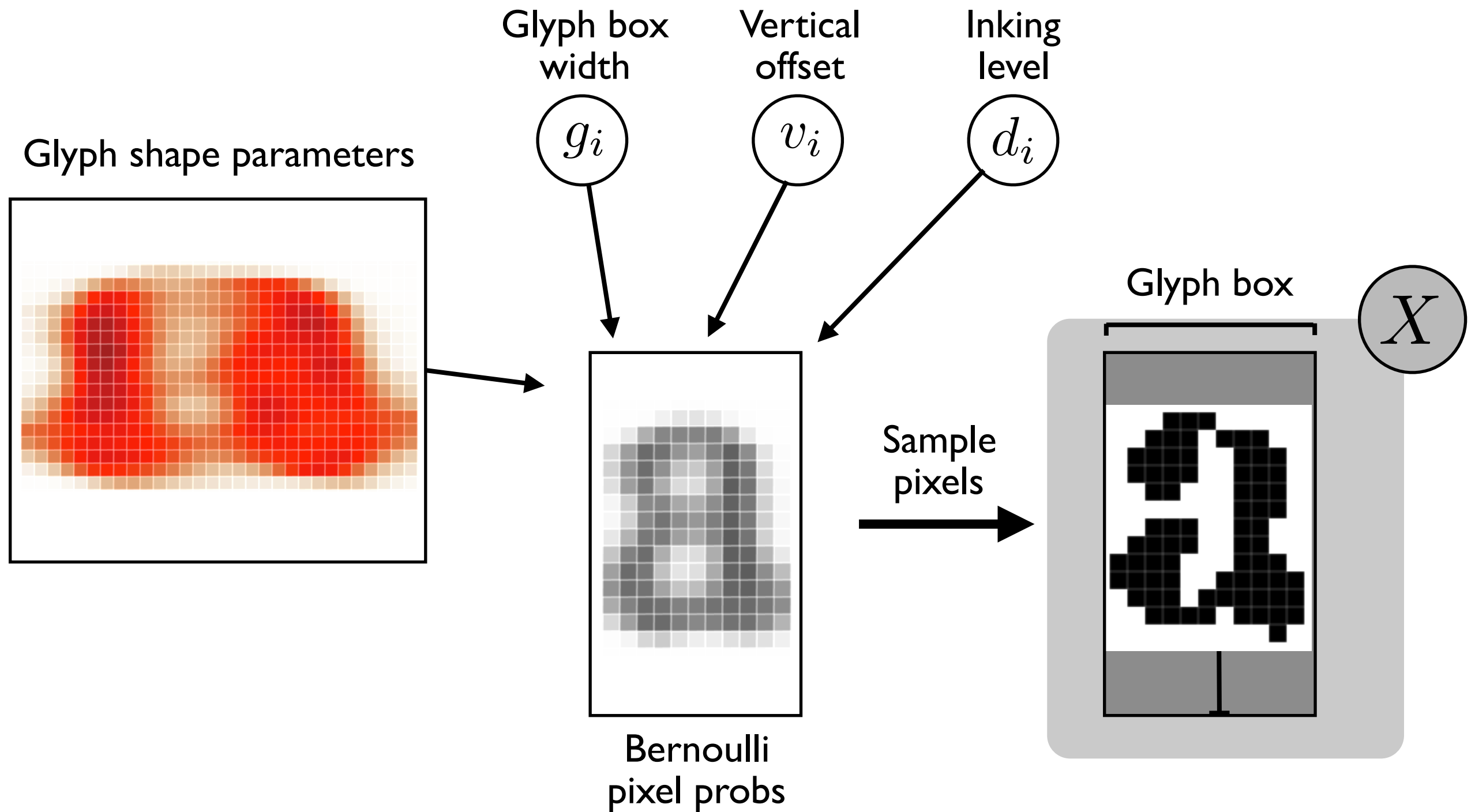




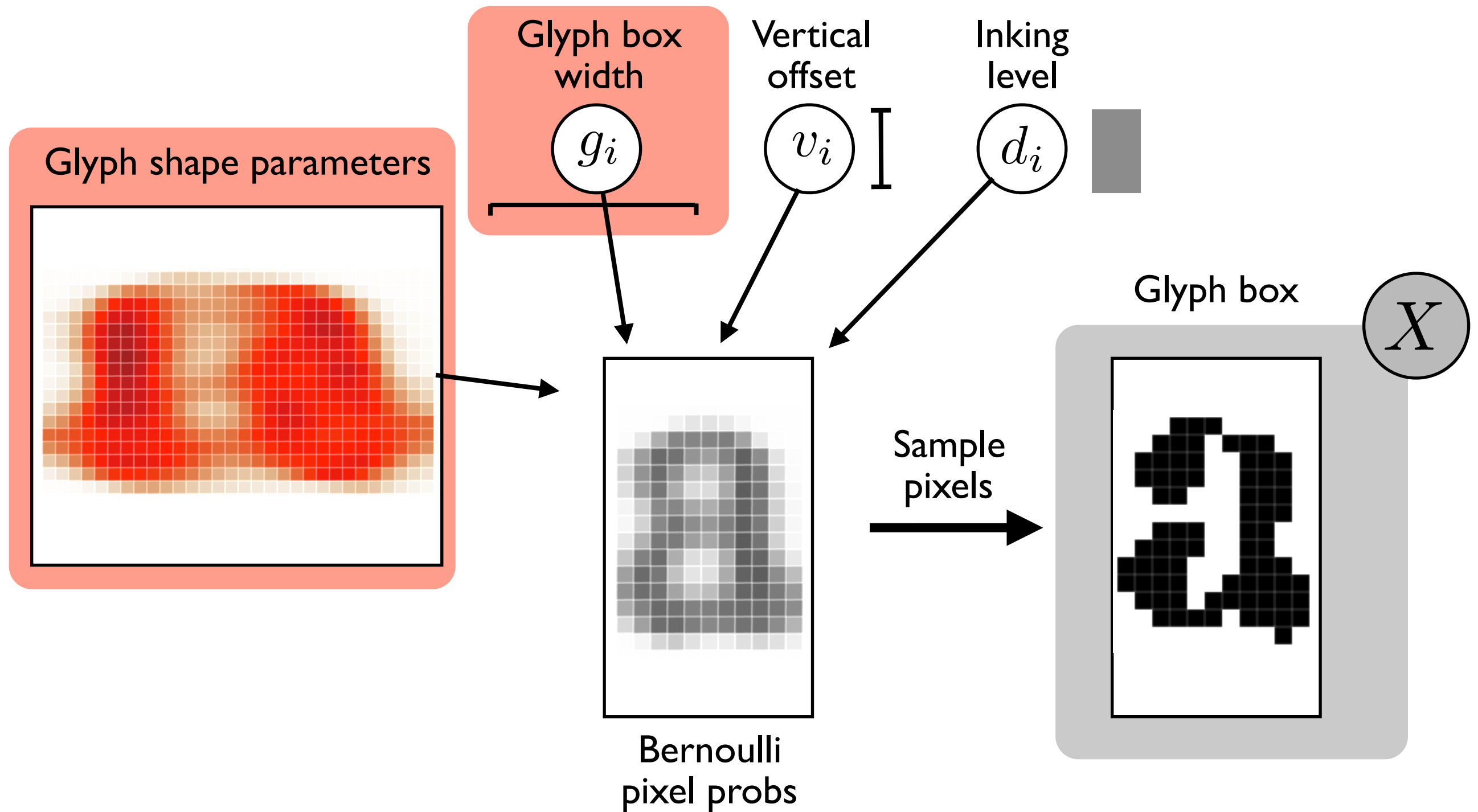
Rendering Model



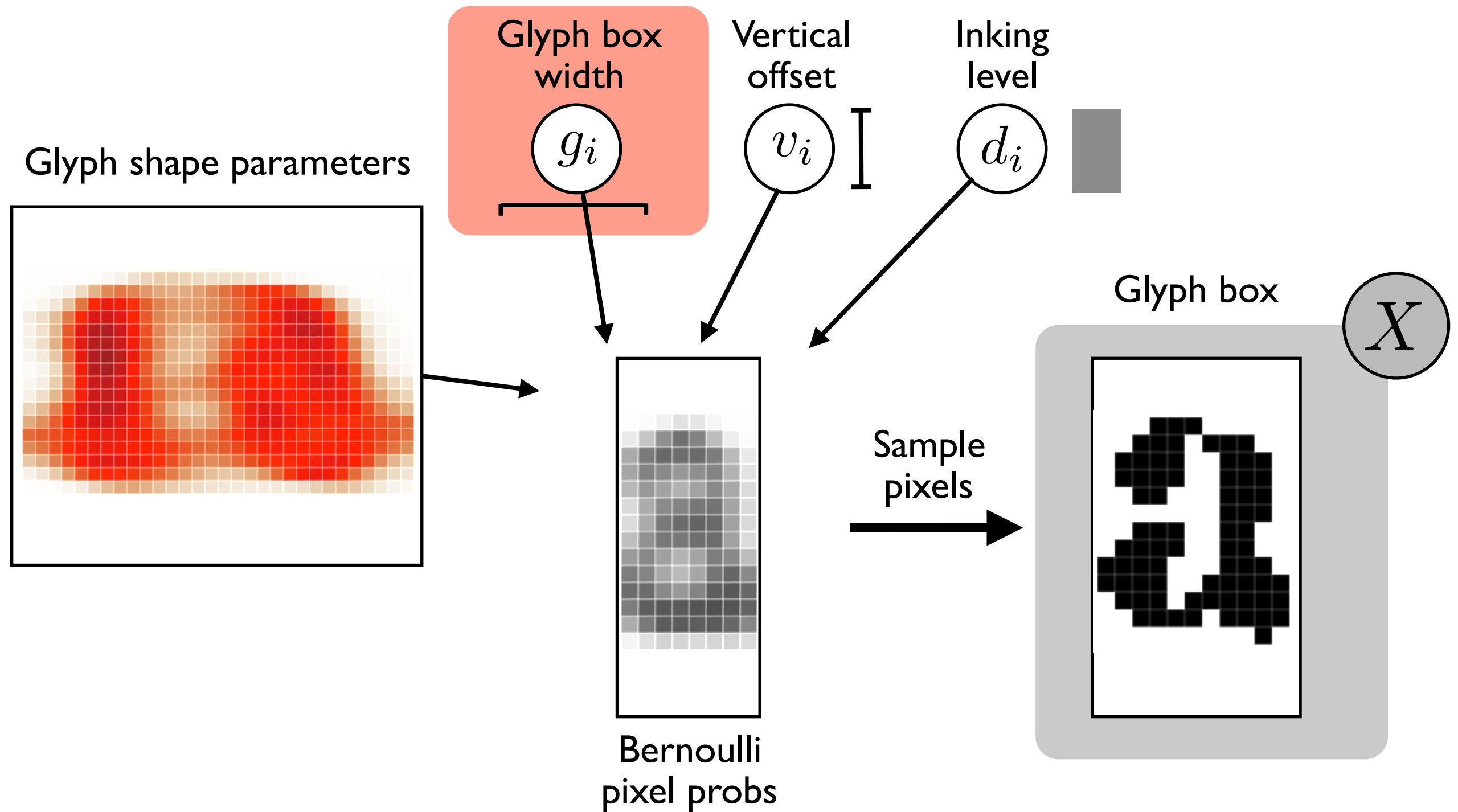
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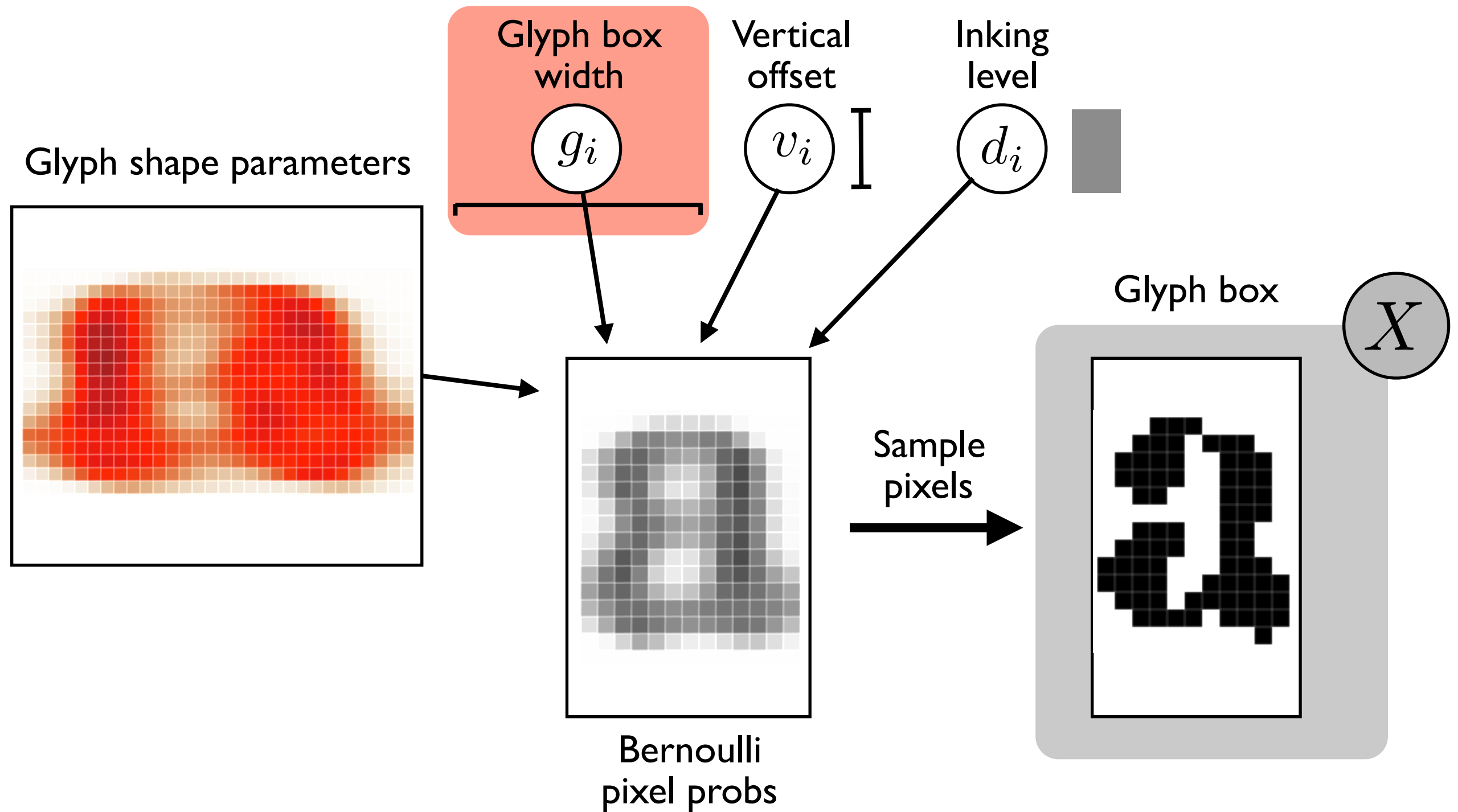
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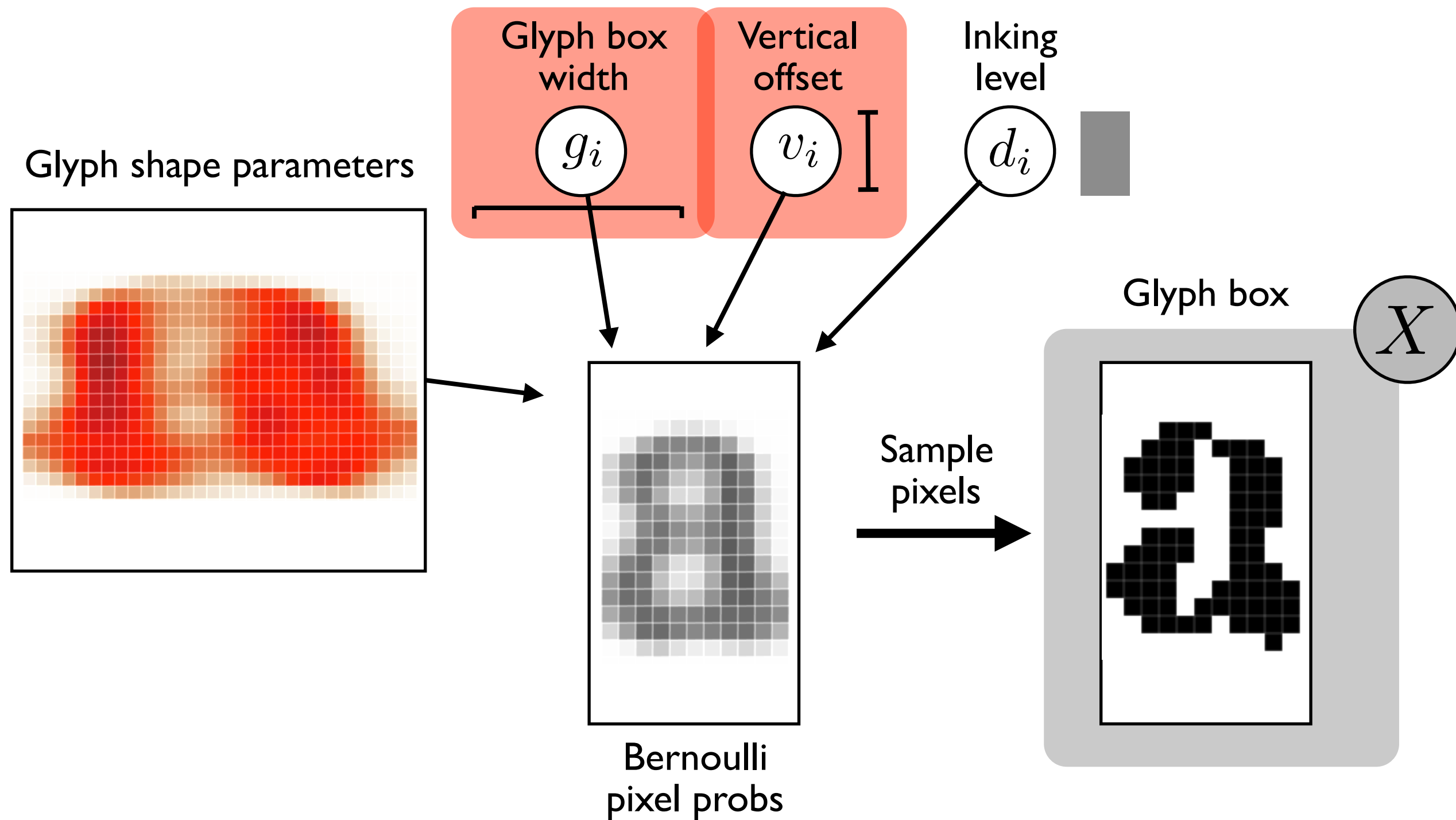
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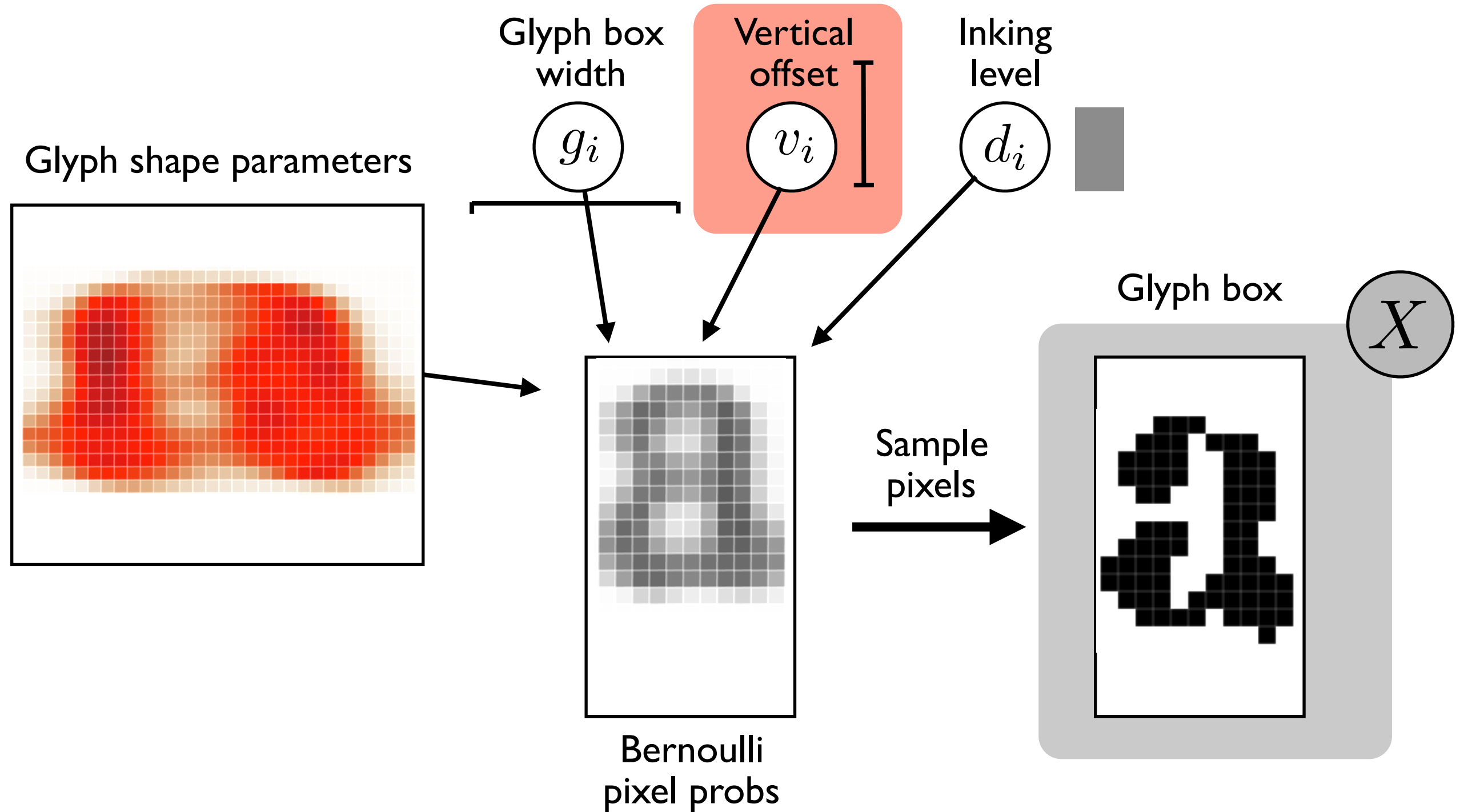
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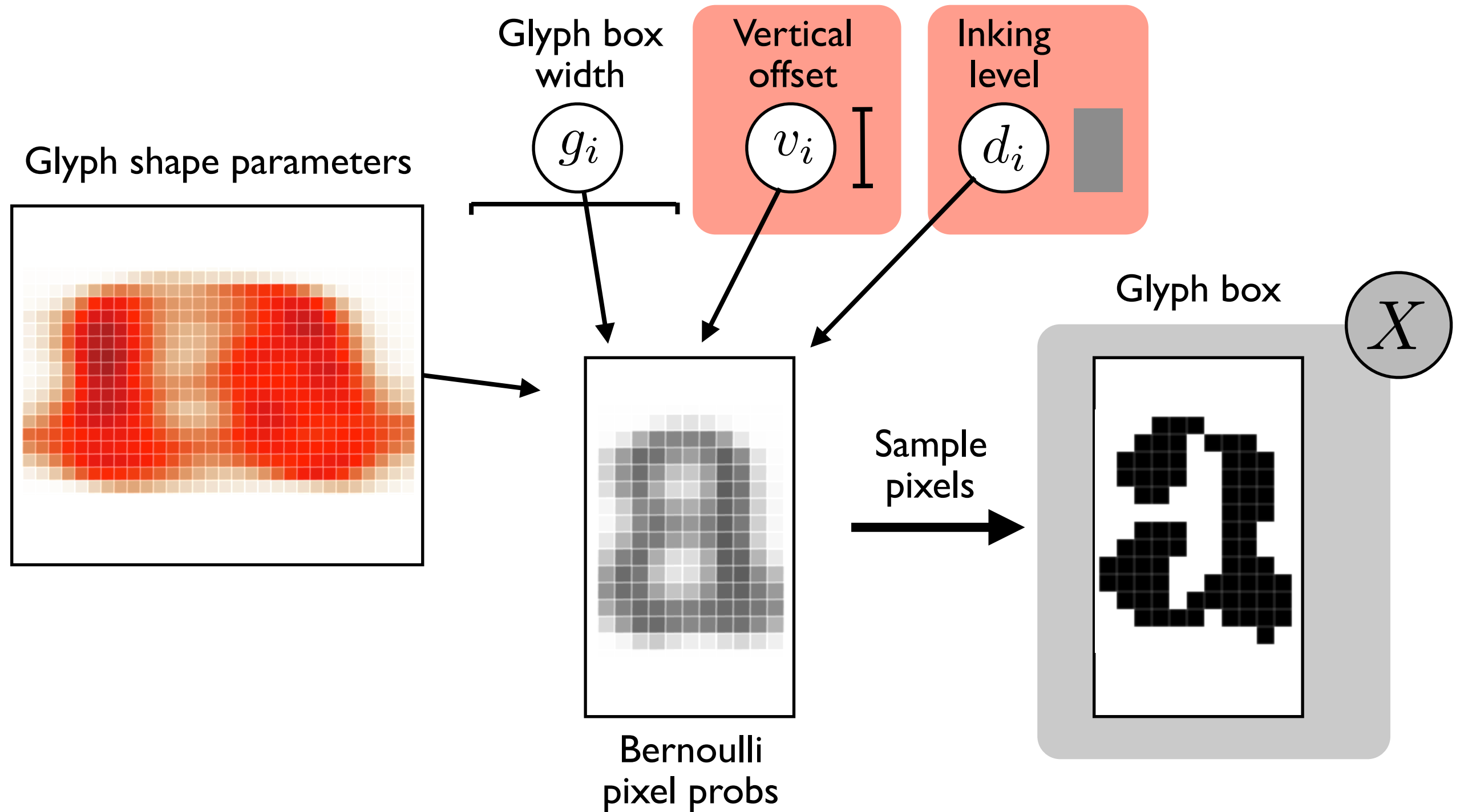
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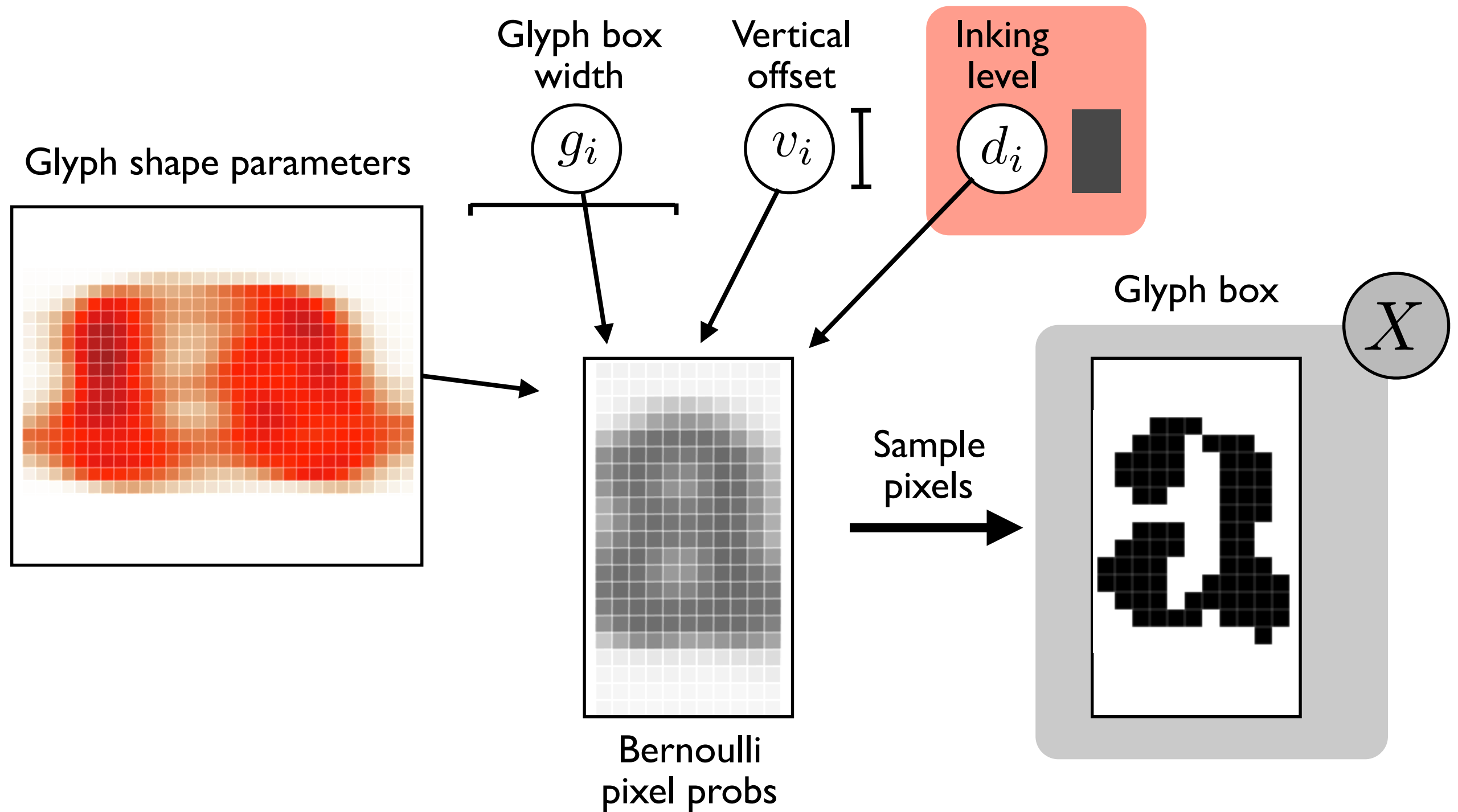
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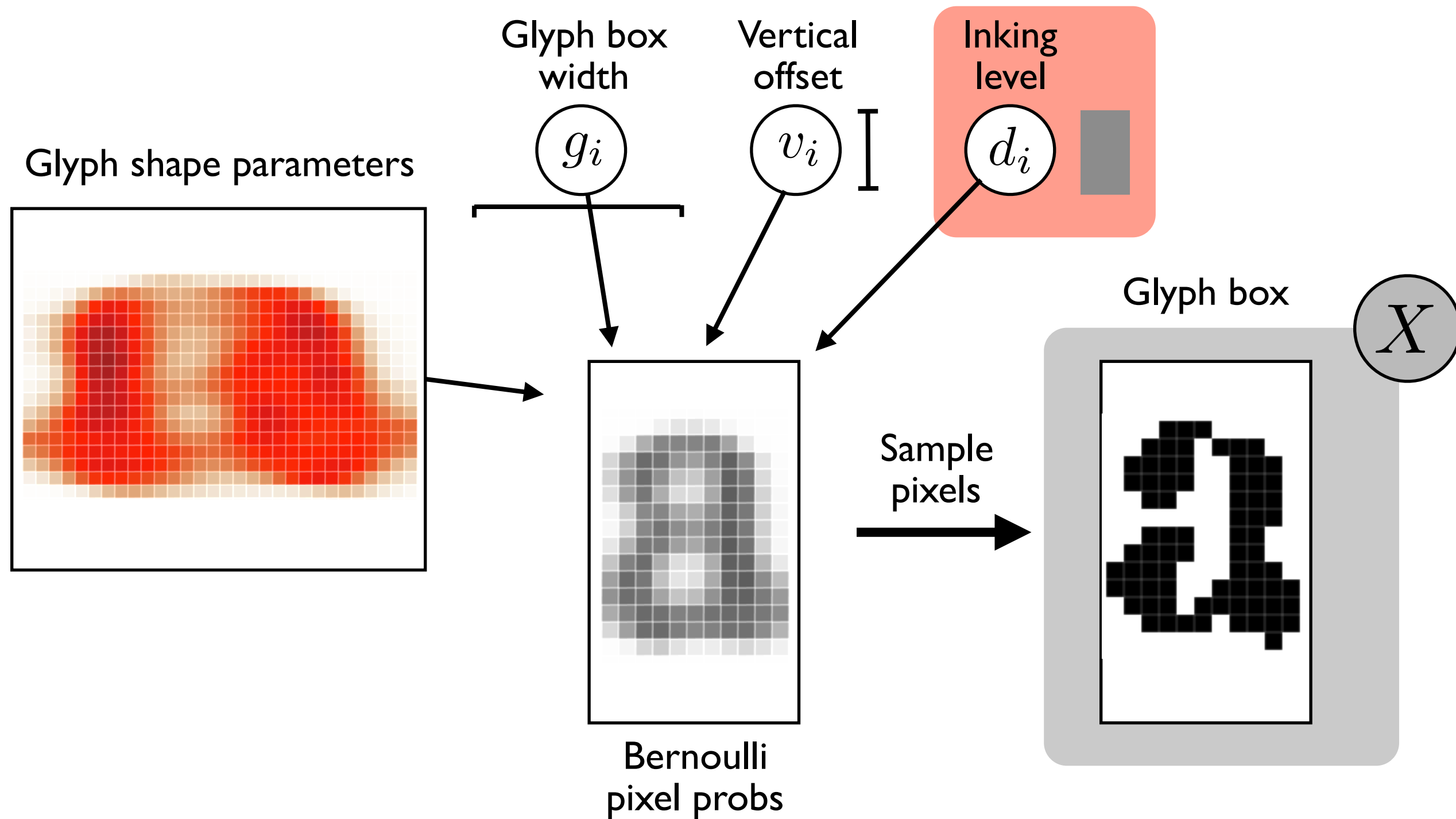
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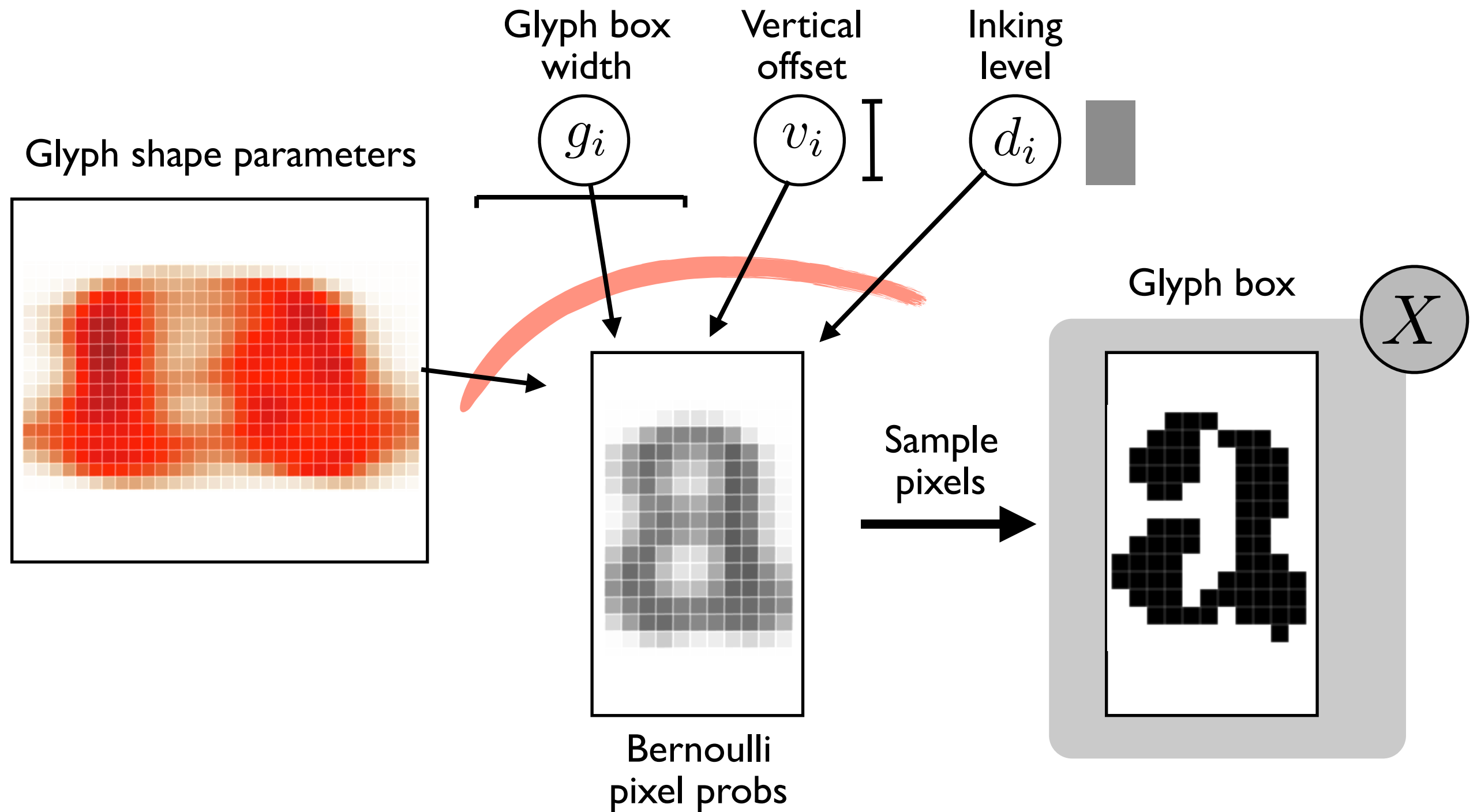
Rendering Model



Rendering Model

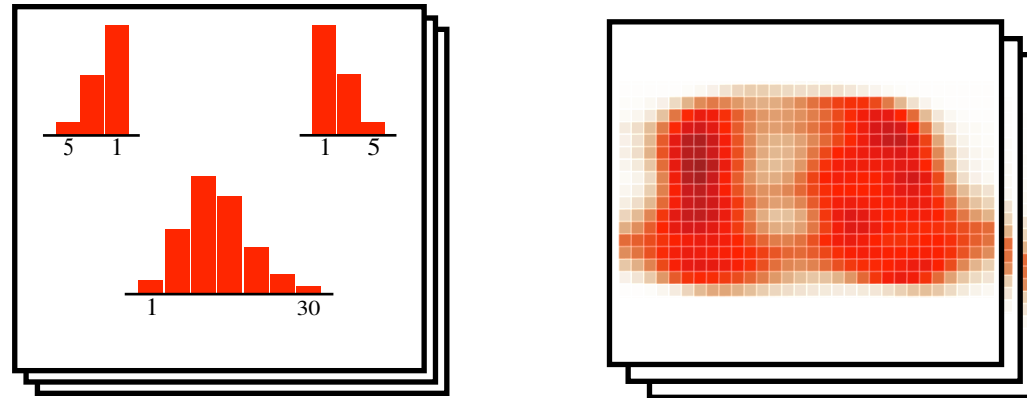


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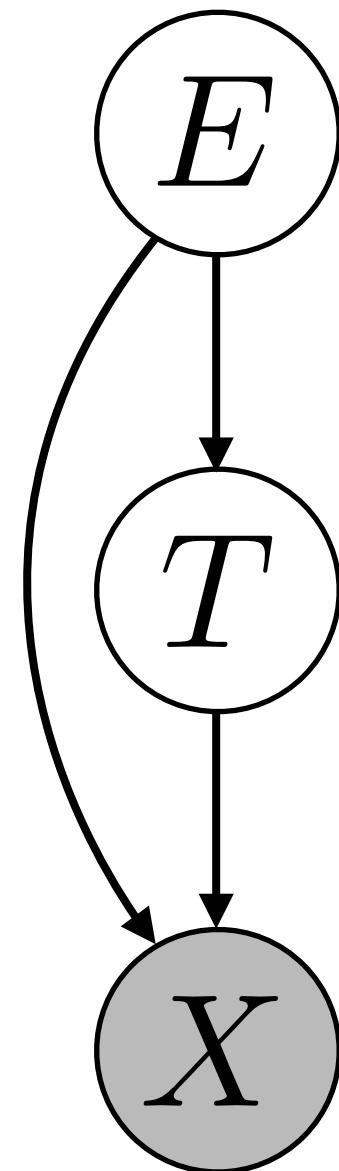


Learning and Inference

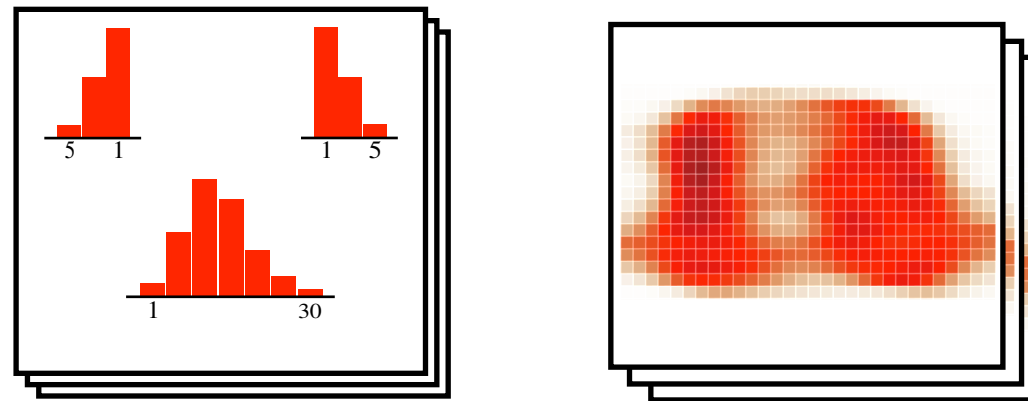
- Learn font parameters using EM



- 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

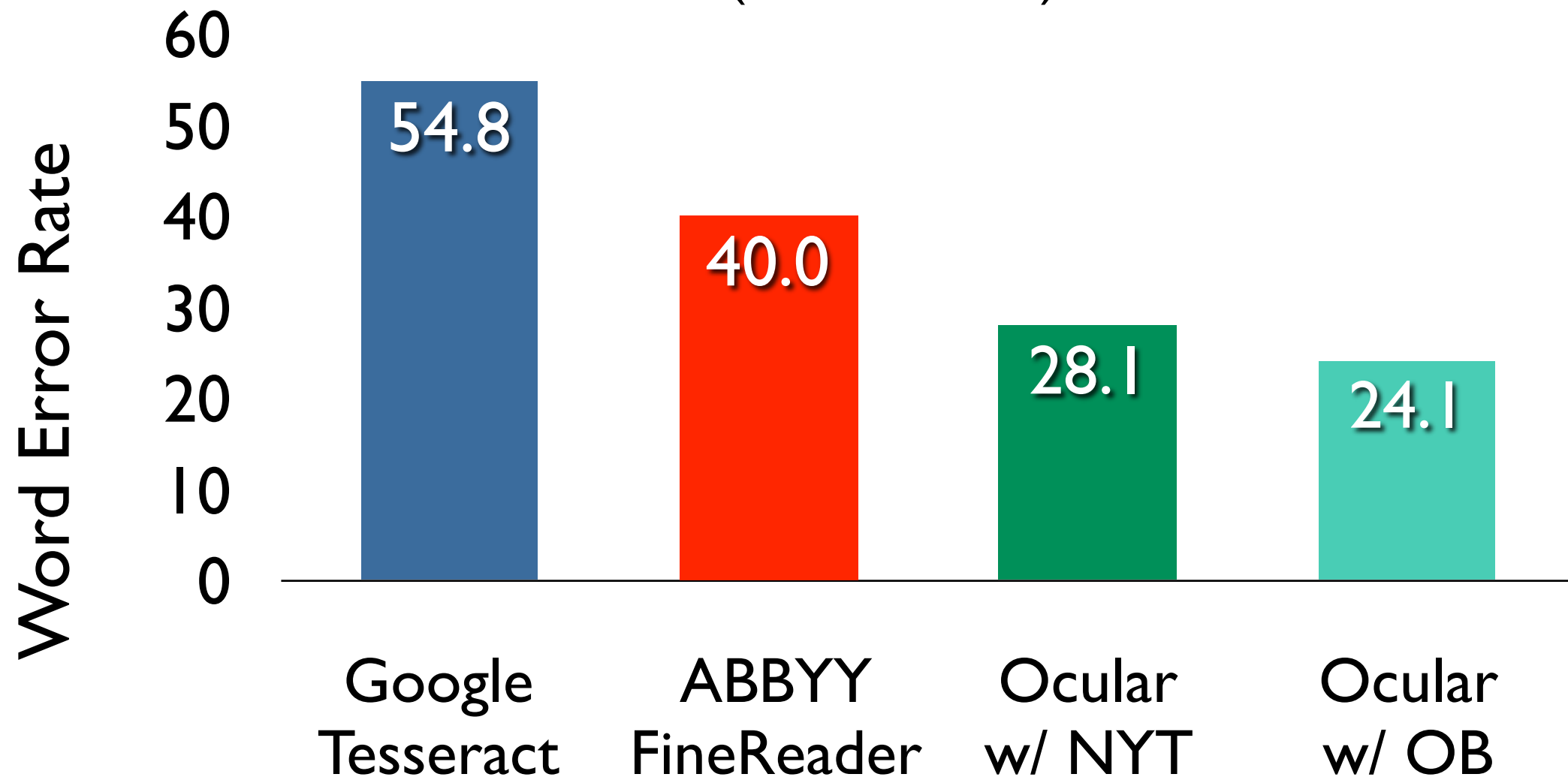
how the murderers came to

how the murderers came to

Experiments

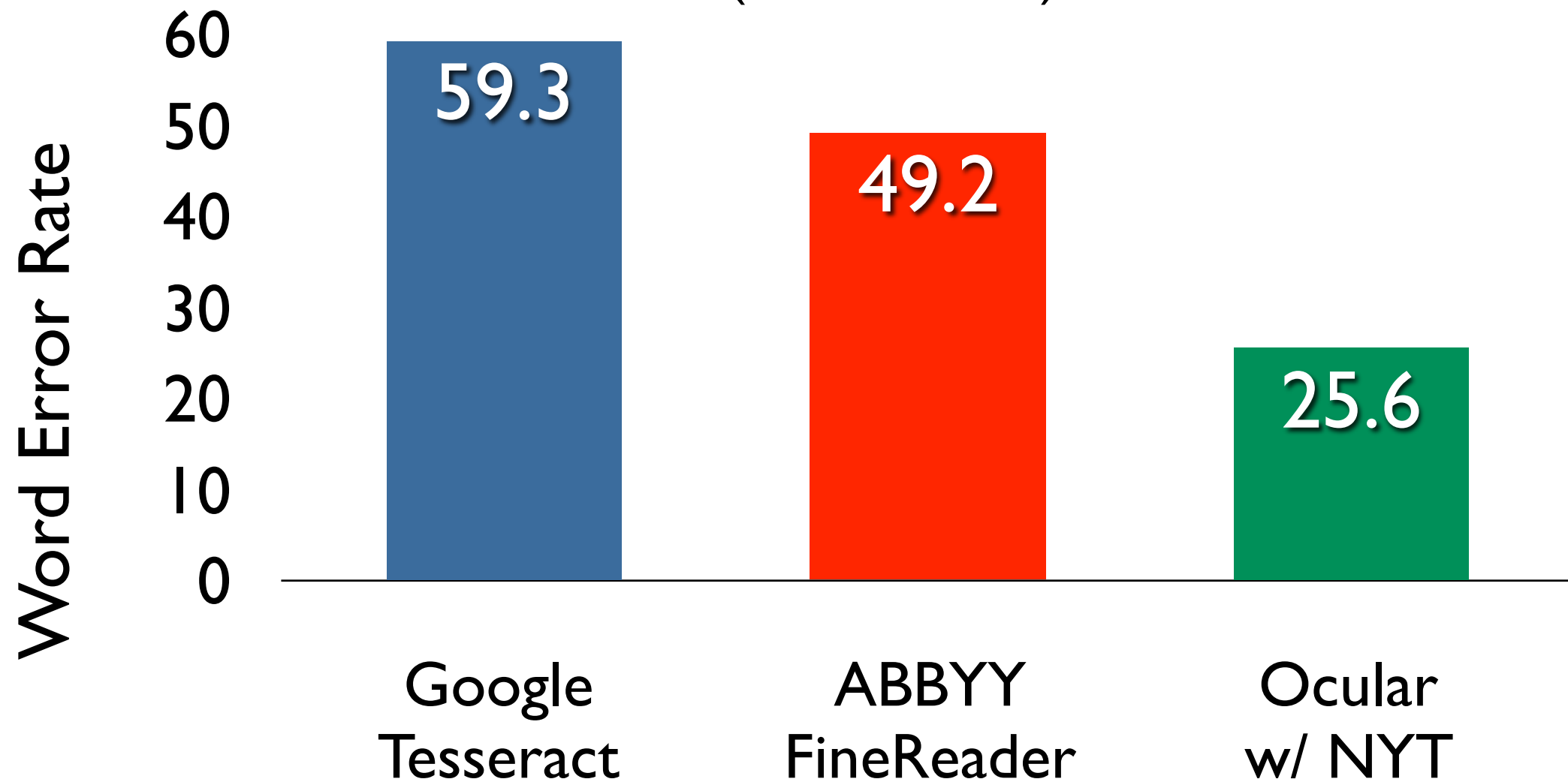
Results

Old Bailey Court Proceedings (1715-1905)



Results

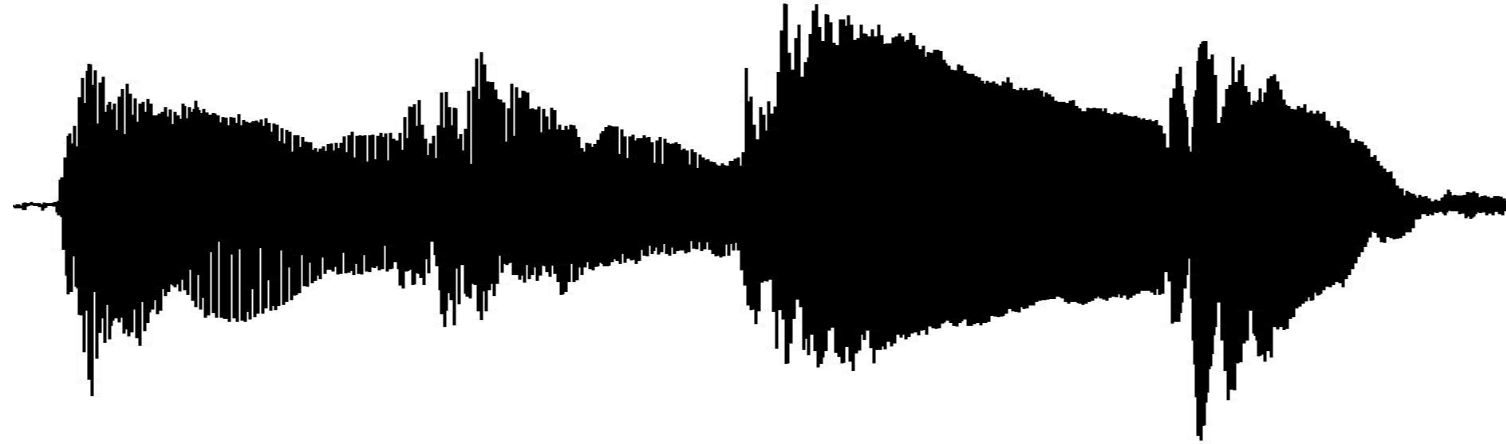
Trove Historical Newspapers (1803-1893)



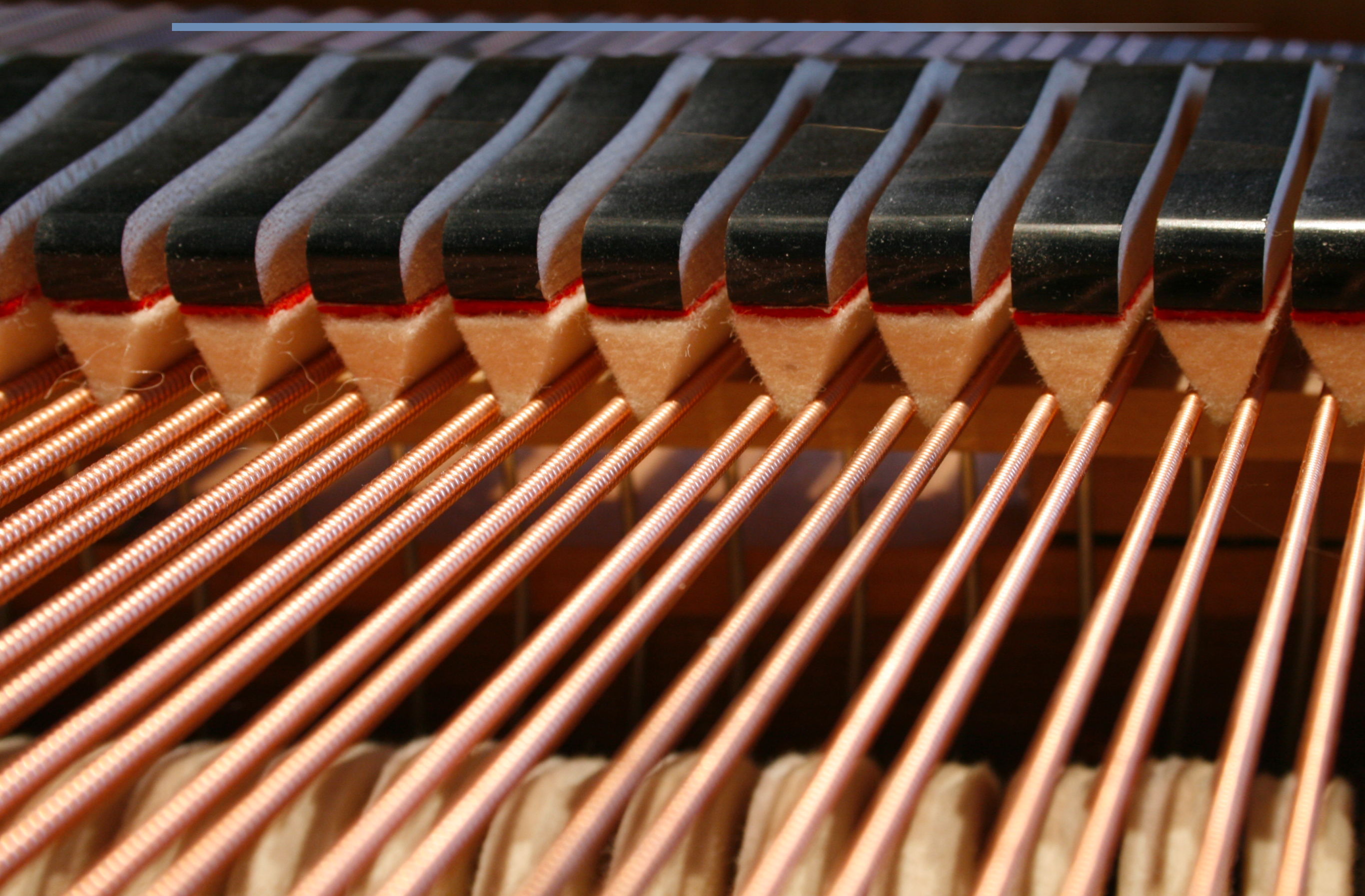
Demo!

Piano Music Transcription

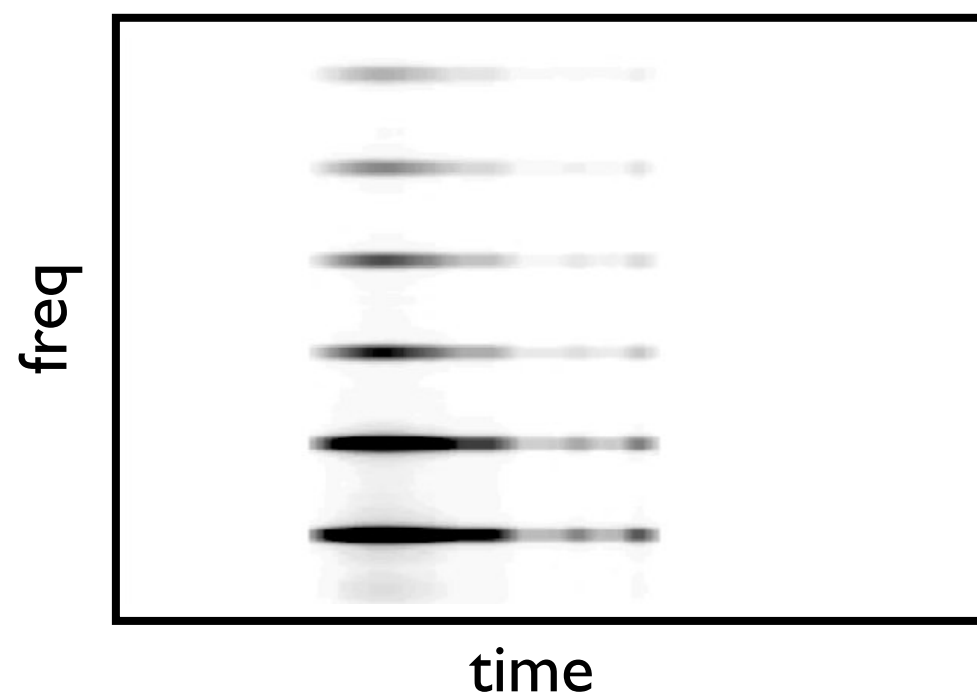
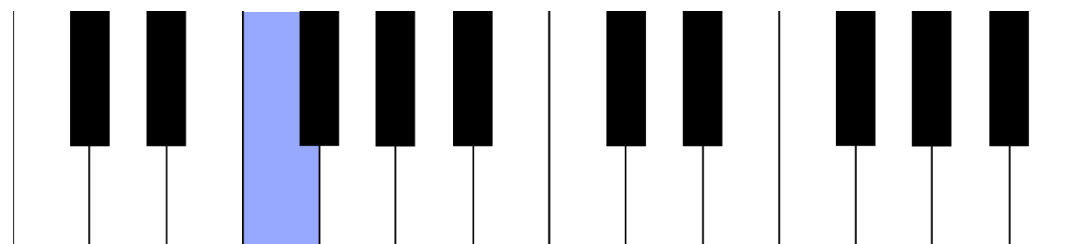
Piano Music Transcription



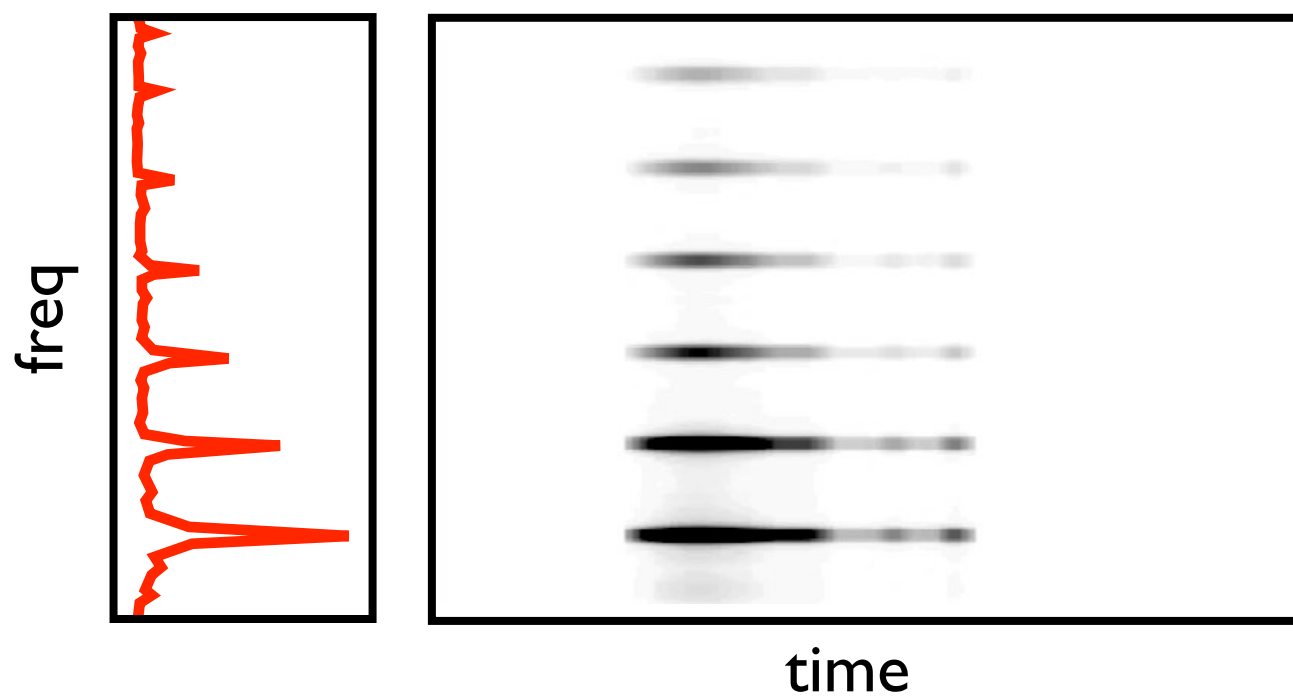
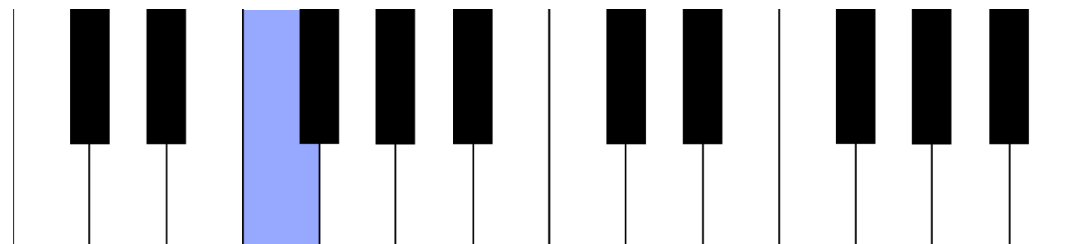
Piano Sounds



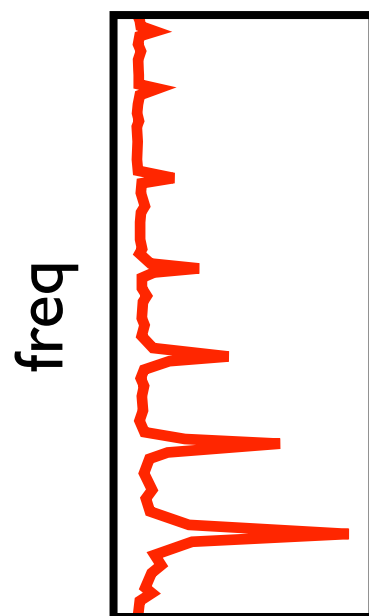
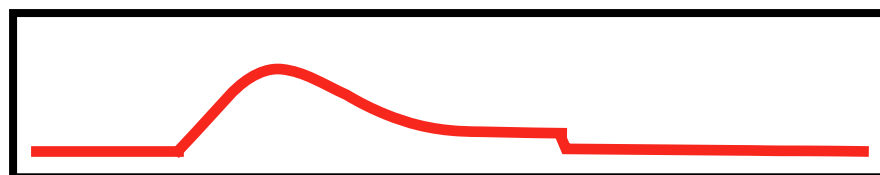
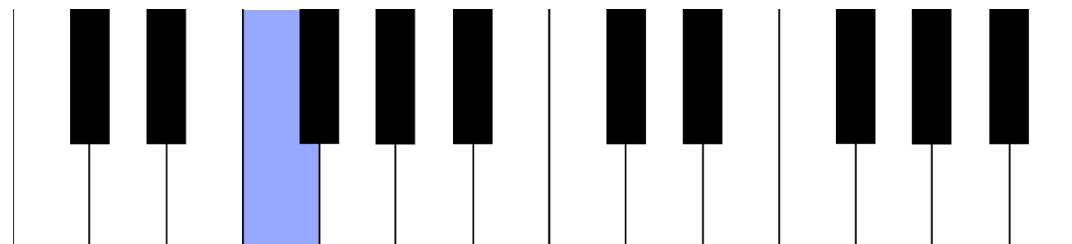
Piano Sounds



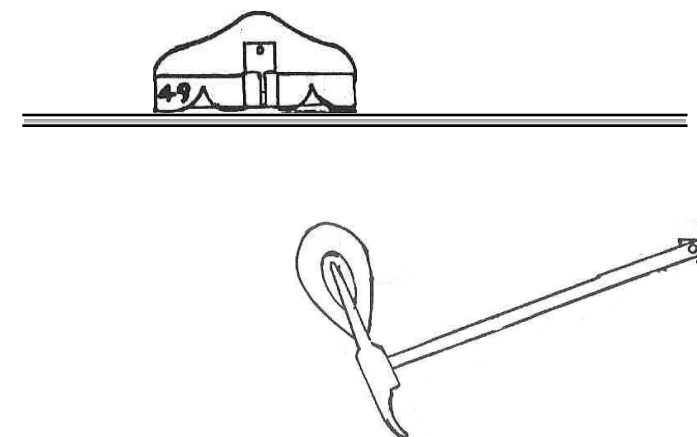
Spectral Shape



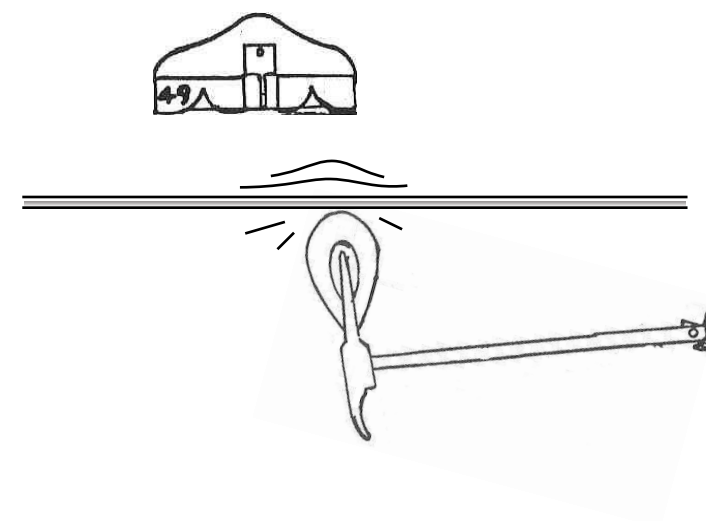
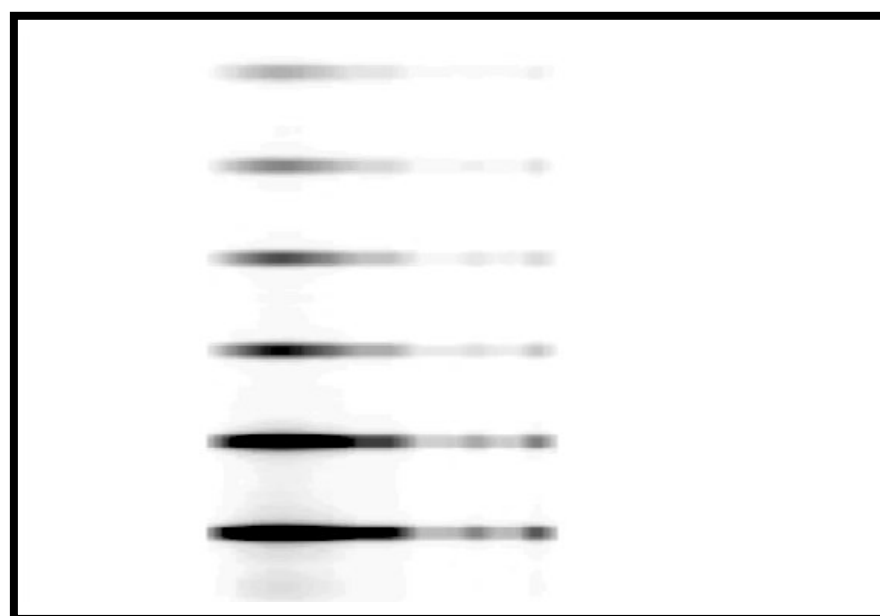
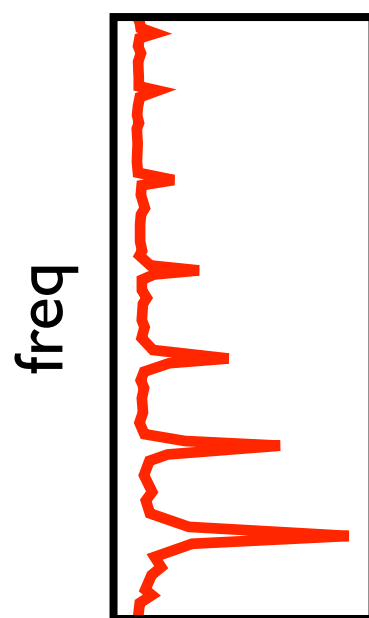
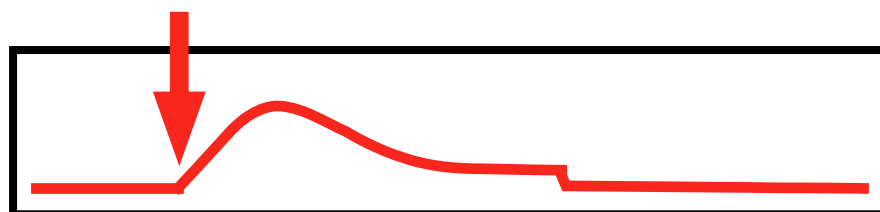
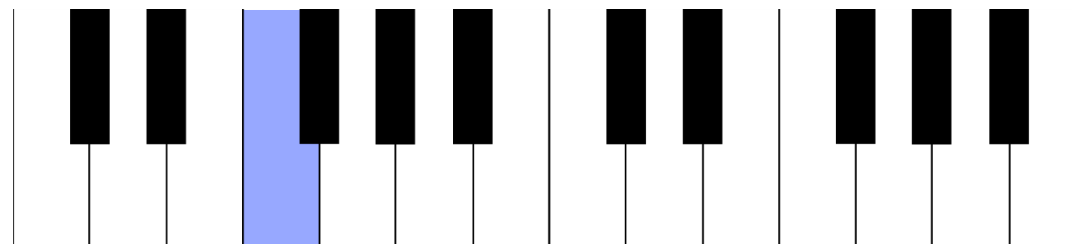
Temporal Shape



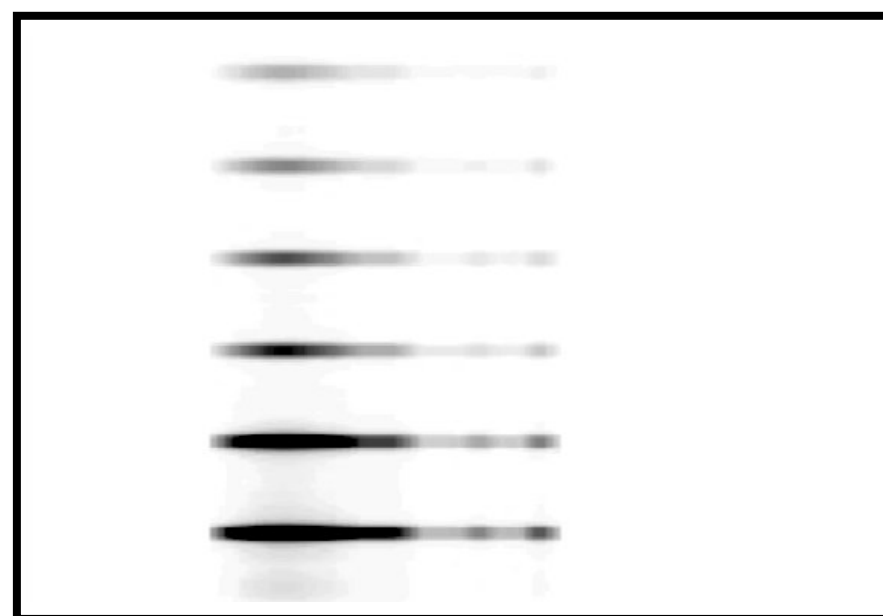
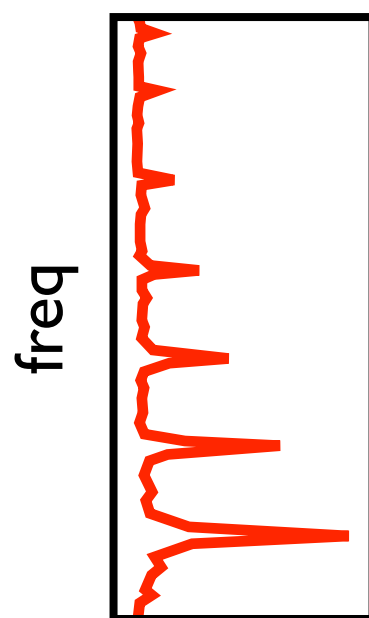
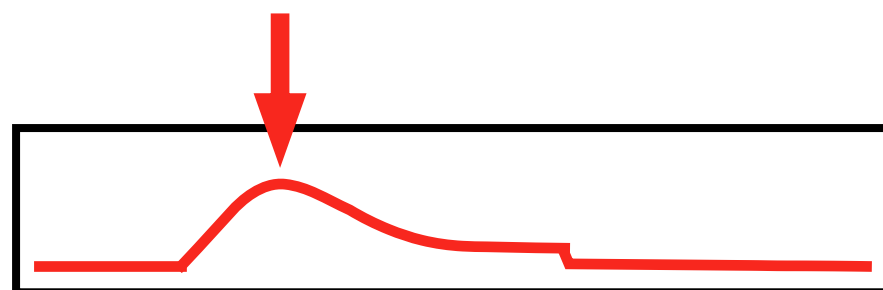
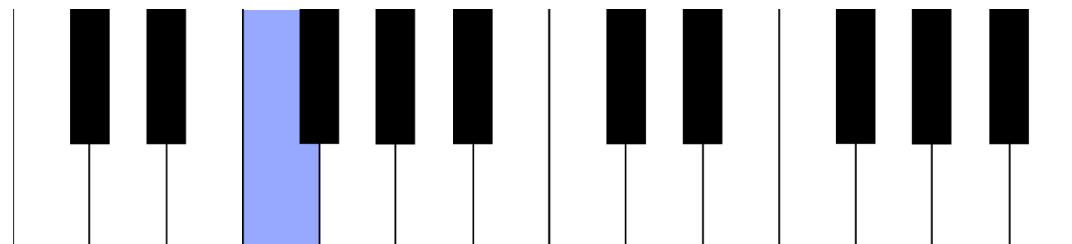
time



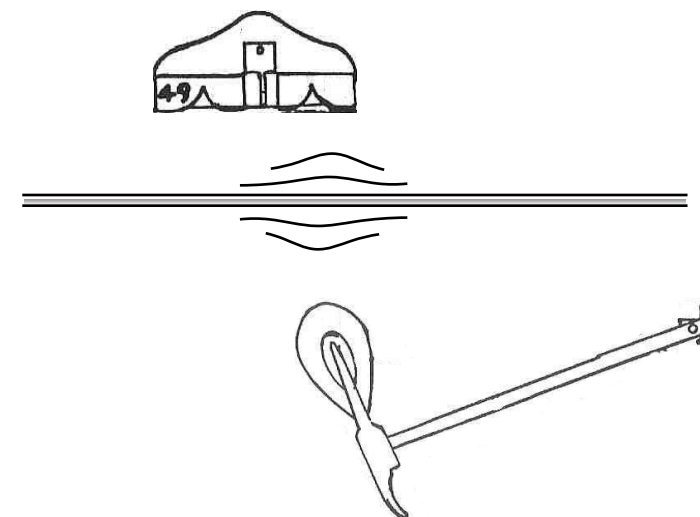
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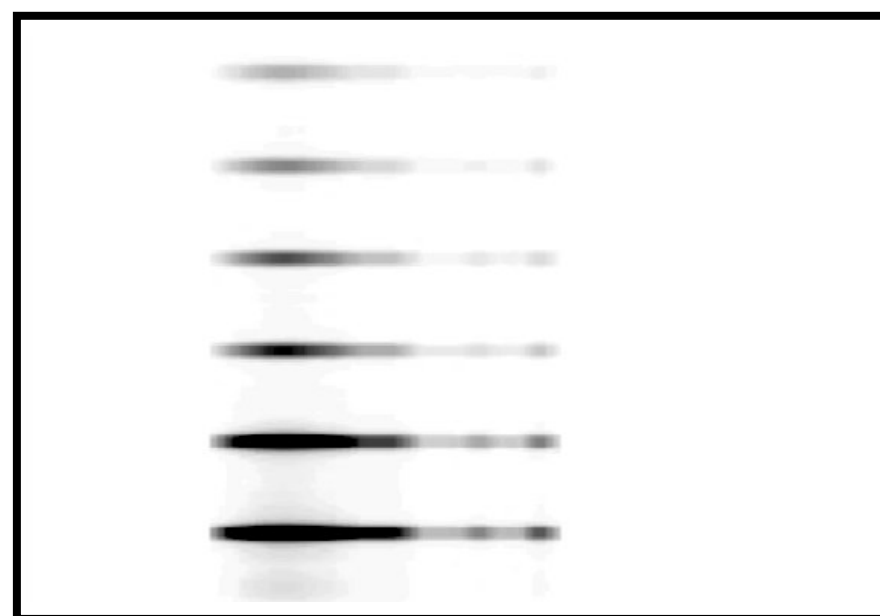
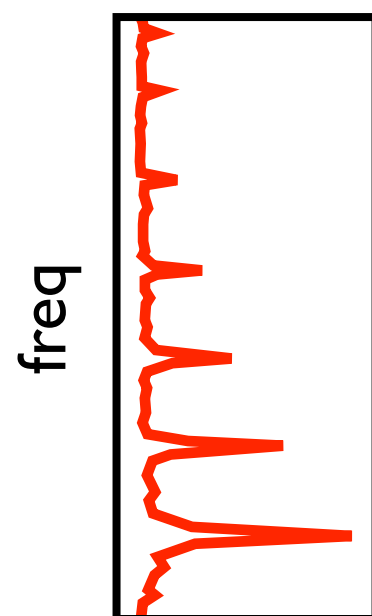
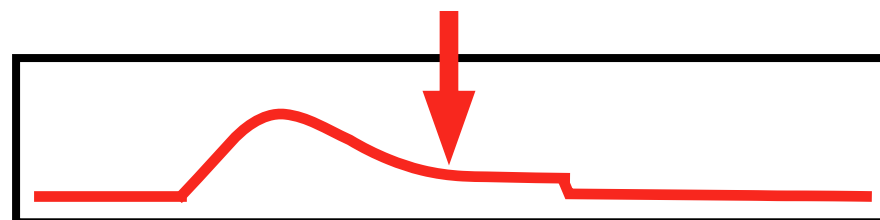
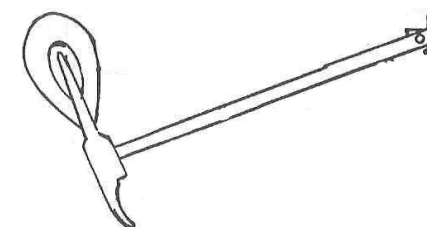
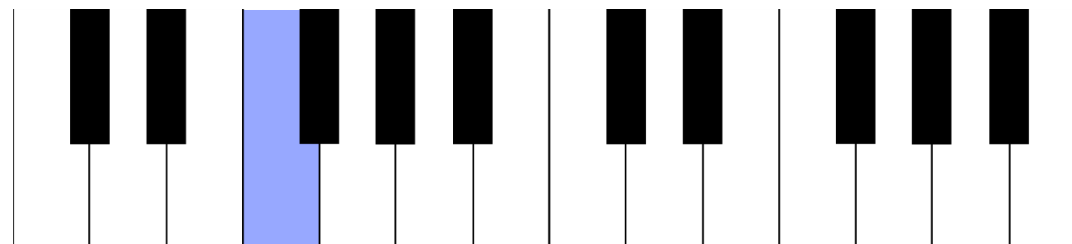
Temporal Shape



time

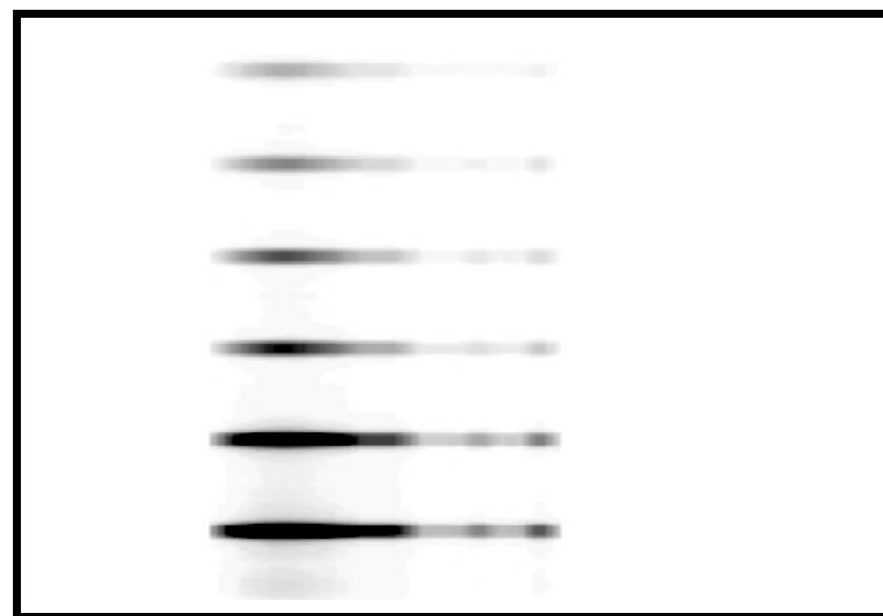
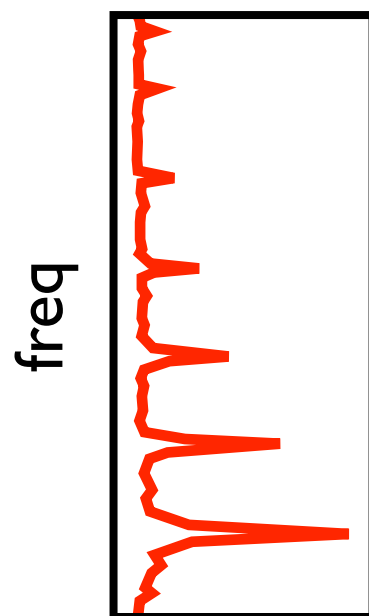
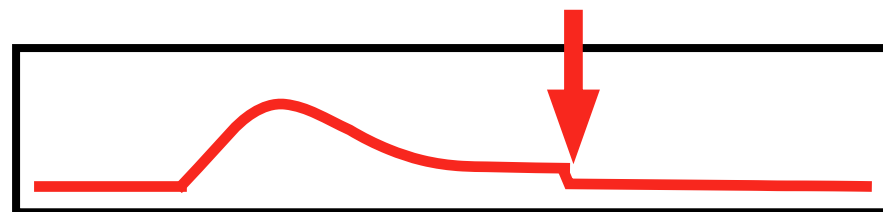
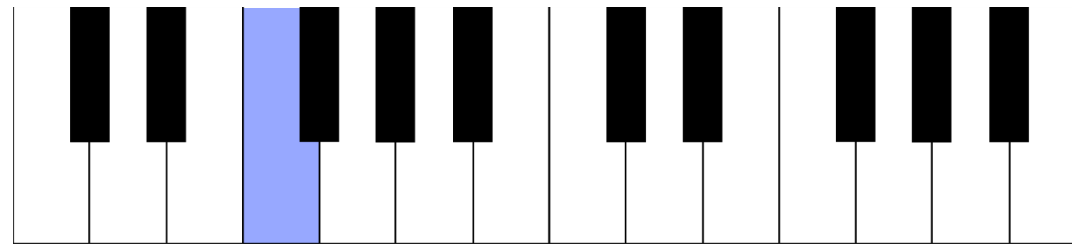


Temporal Shape

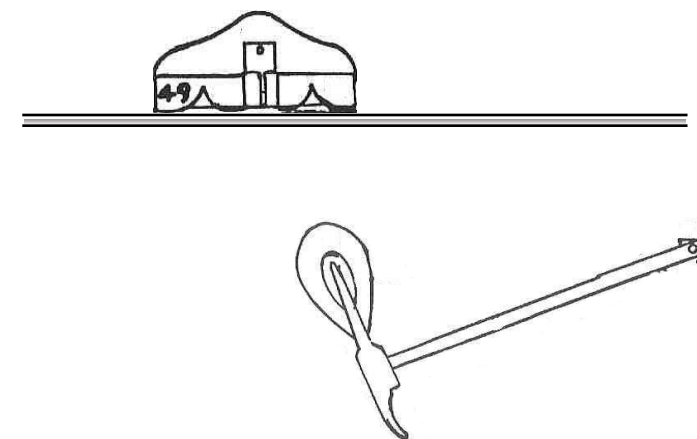


time

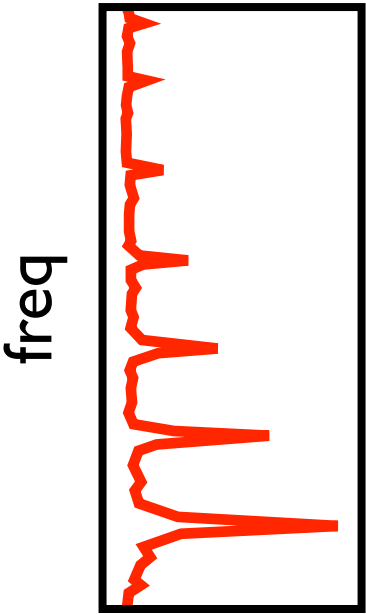
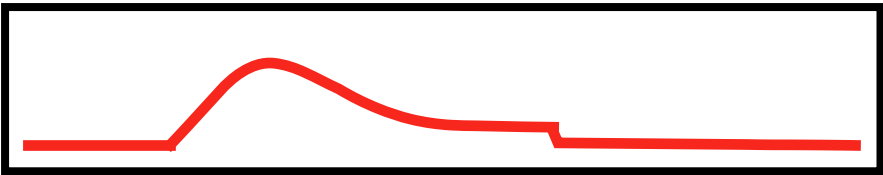
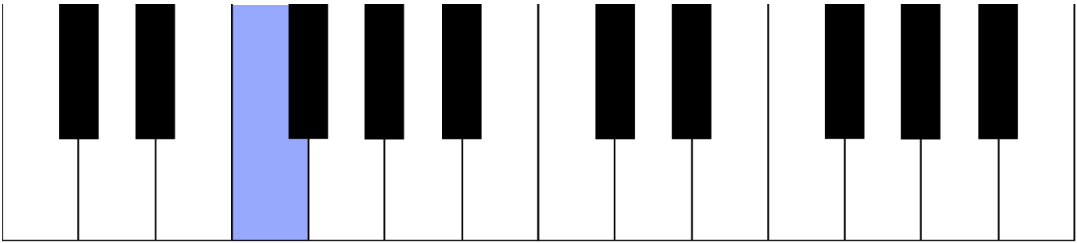
Temporal Shape



time

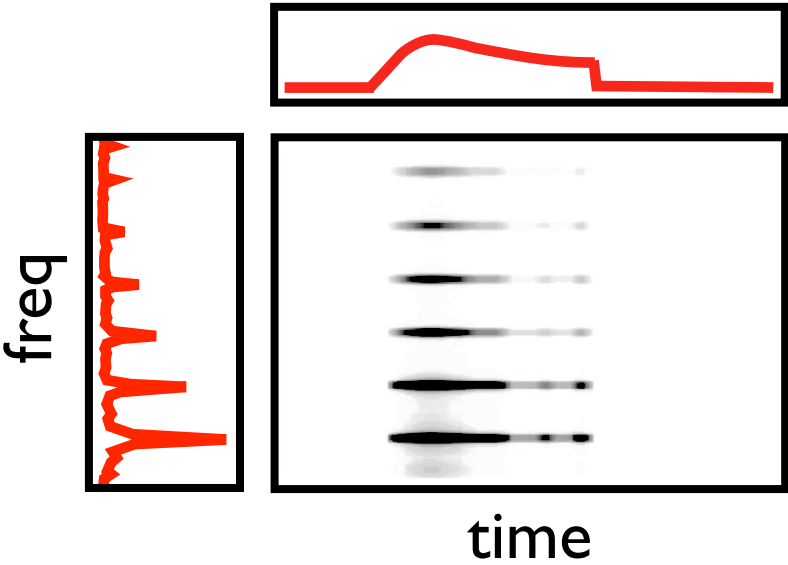
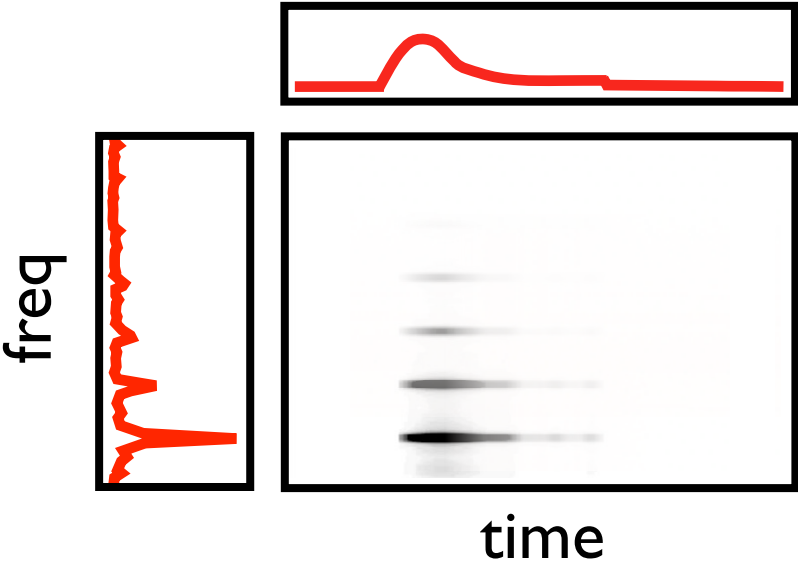
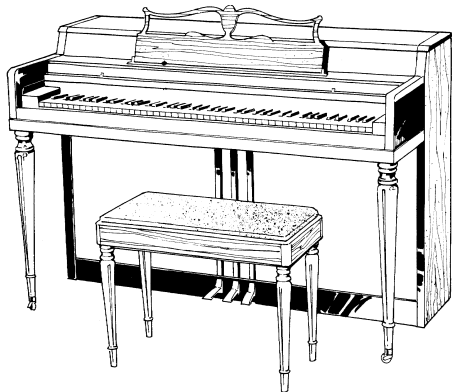
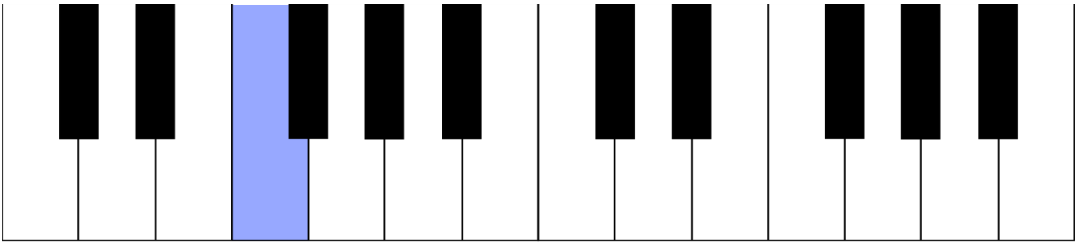


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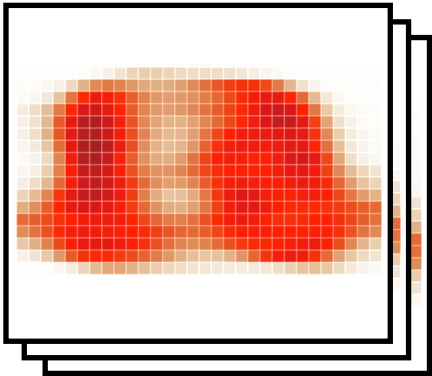
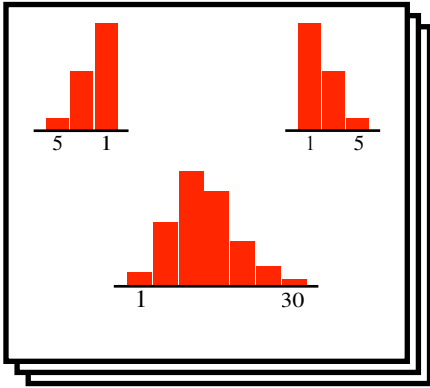
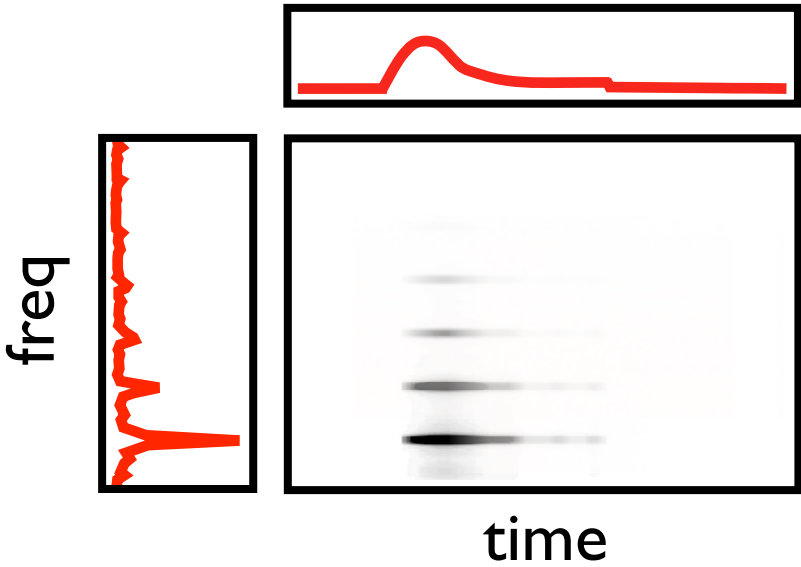
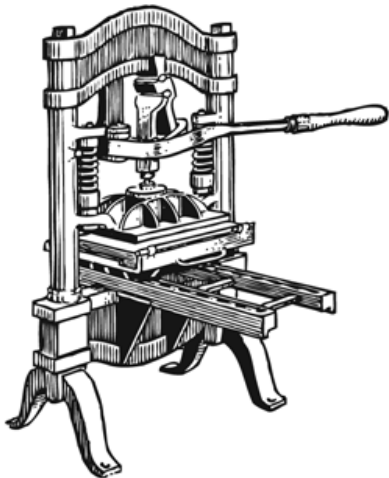
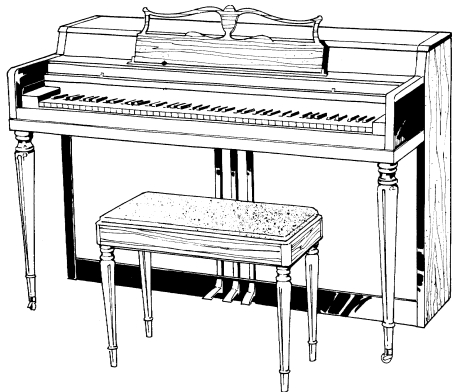
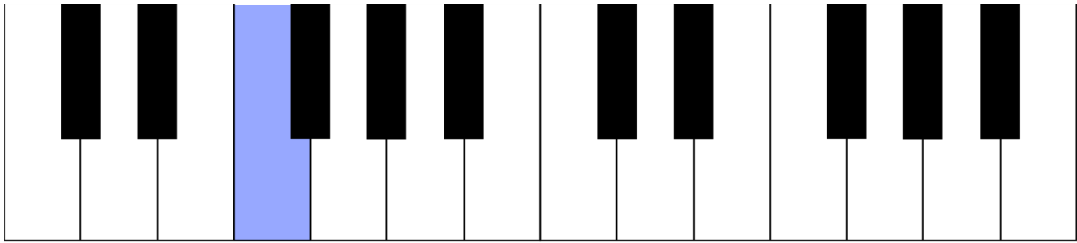


time

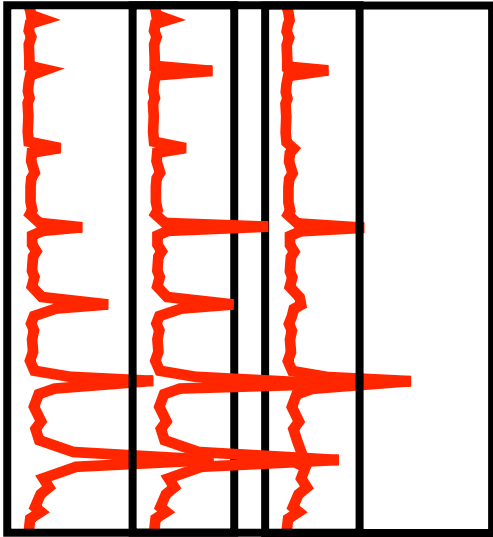
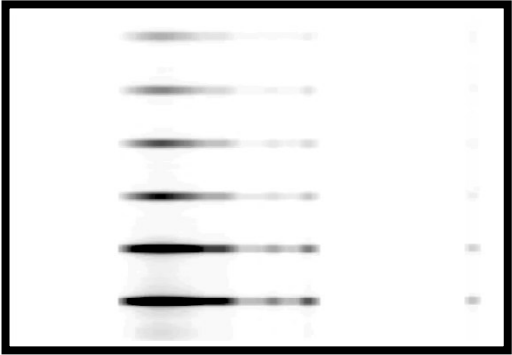
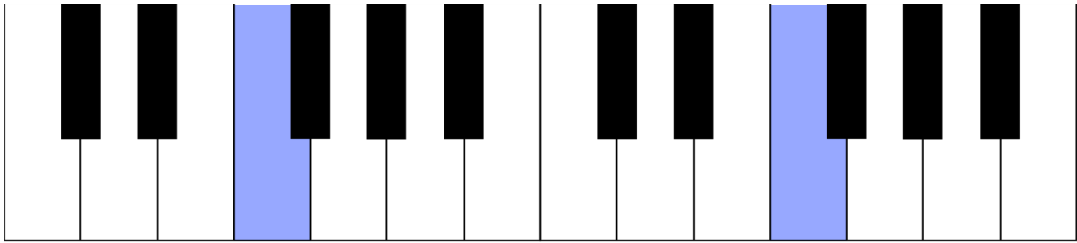
Parameters



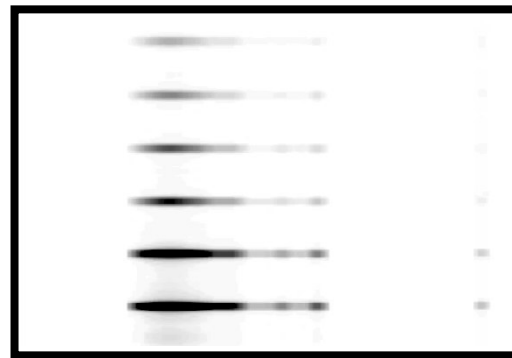
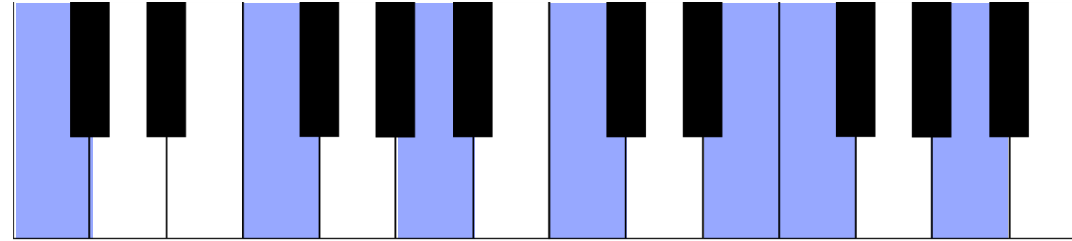
Parameters



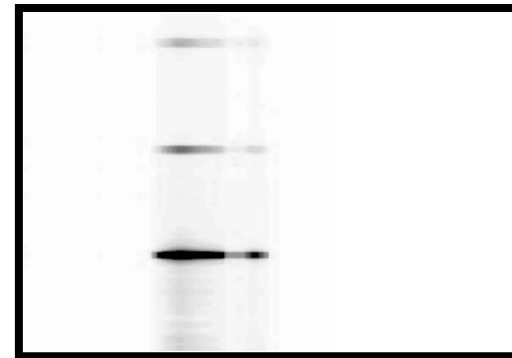
Polyphony



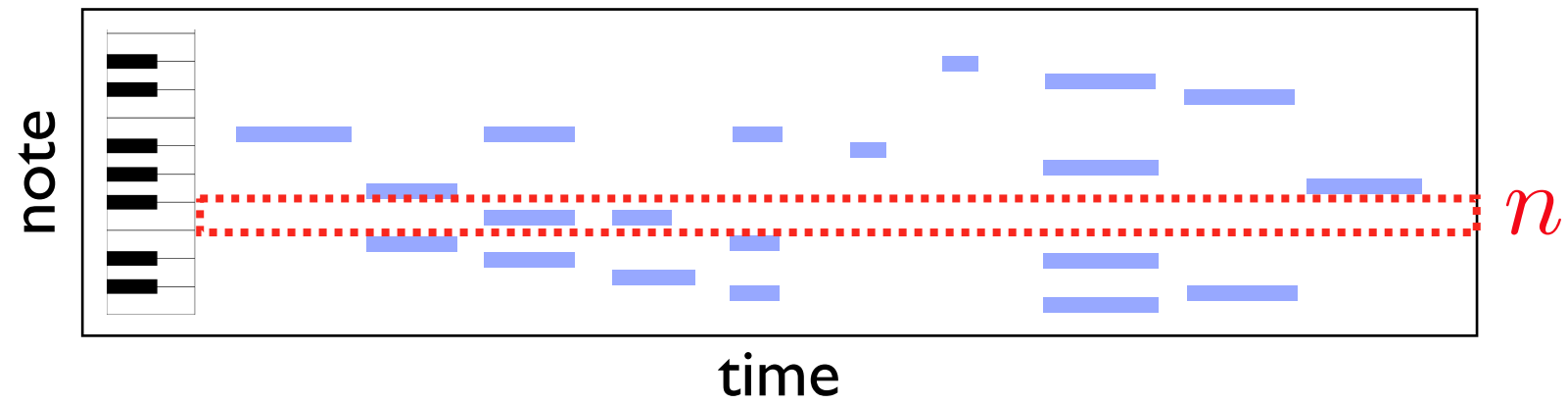
Polyphony



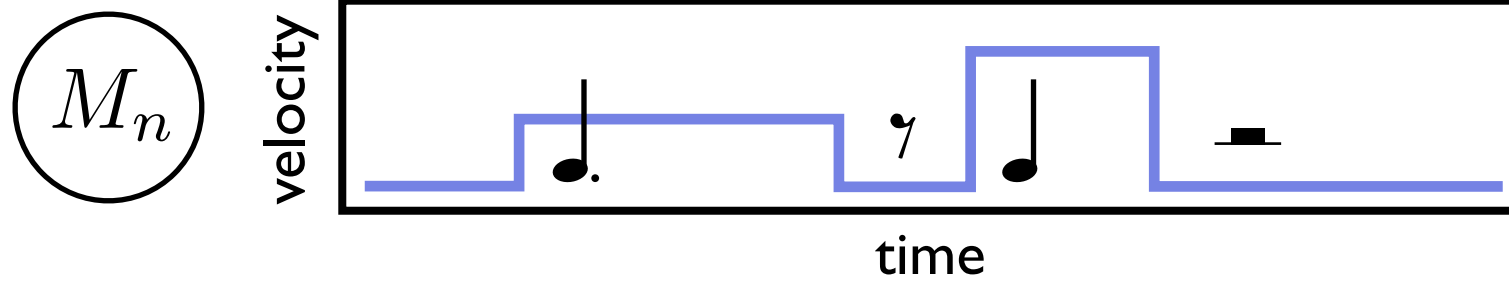
...



Generative Model



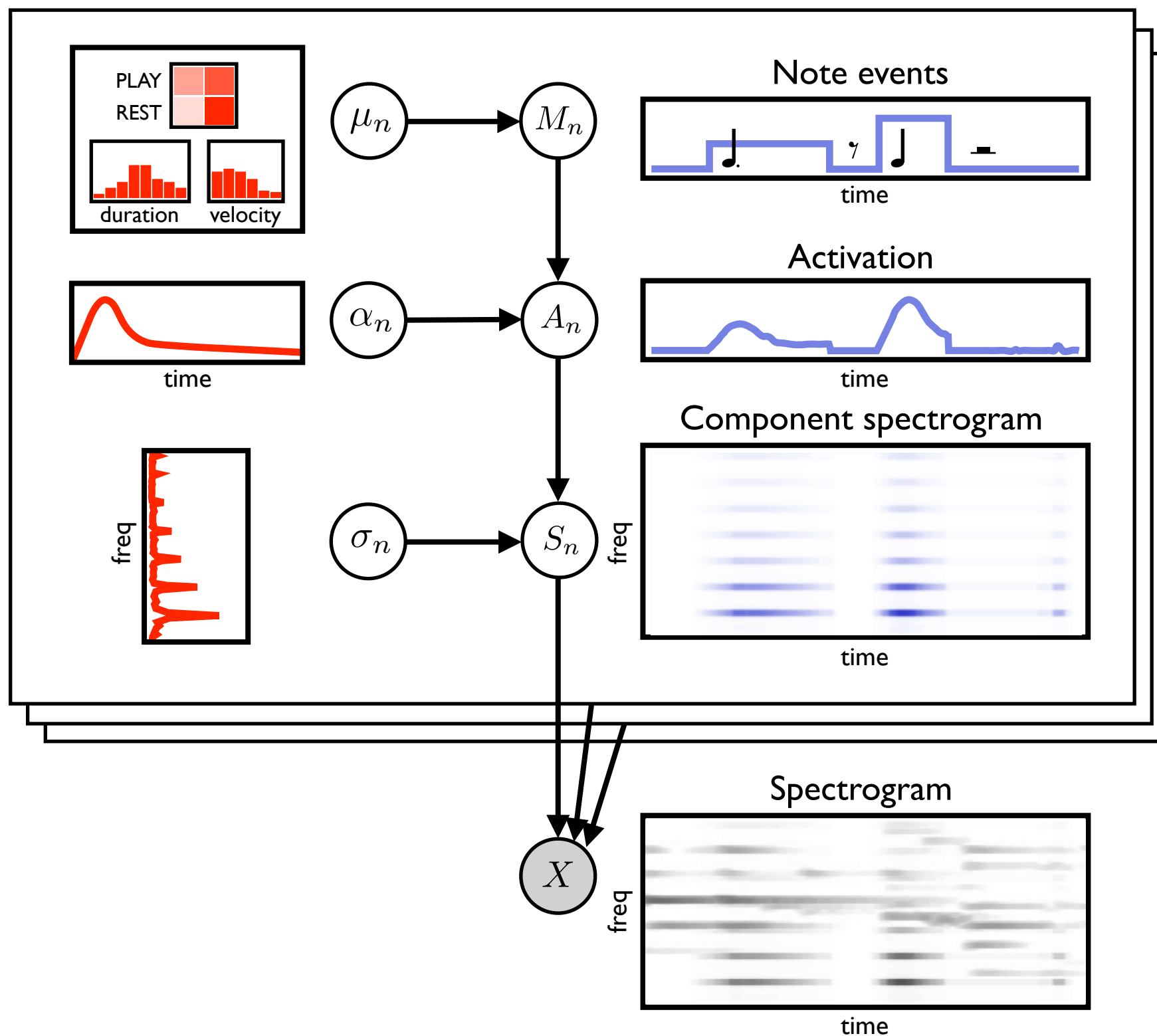
Note events



Generative Model

Parameters

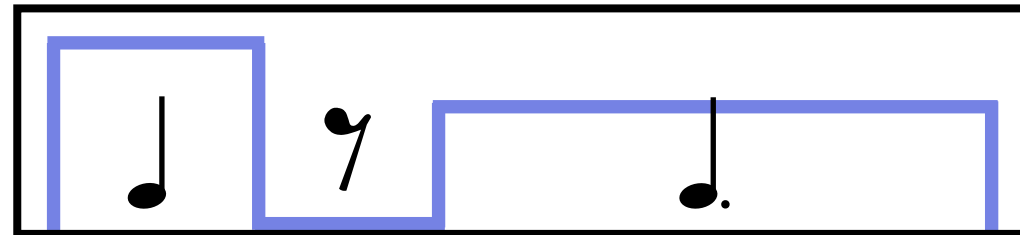
Latent variables



Note Event Model

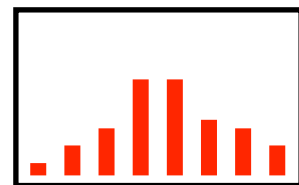
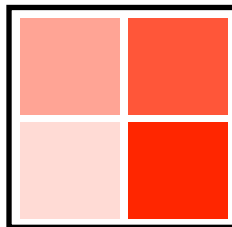
μ_n

M_n

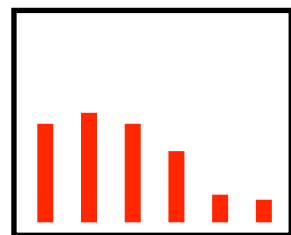


PLAY

REST



duration



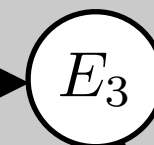
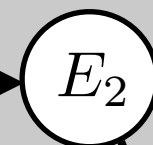
velocity

Event type

PLAY

REST

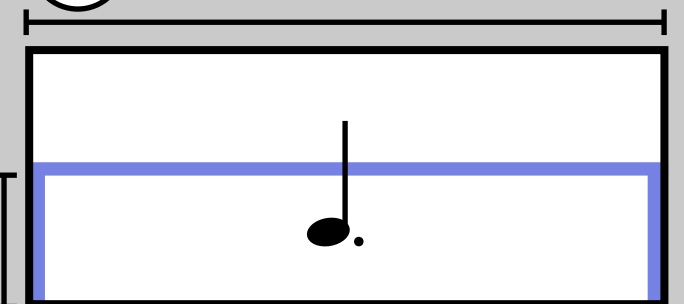
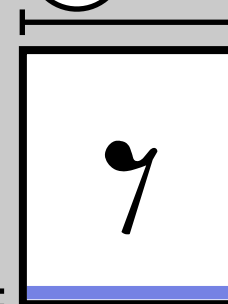
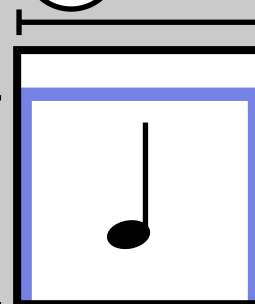
PLAY



Duration

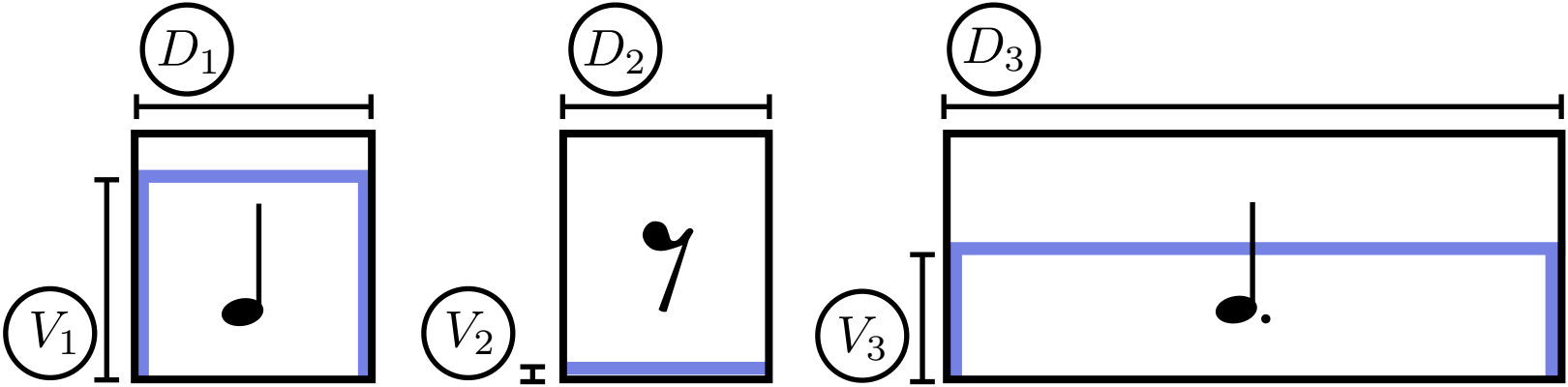


Velocity

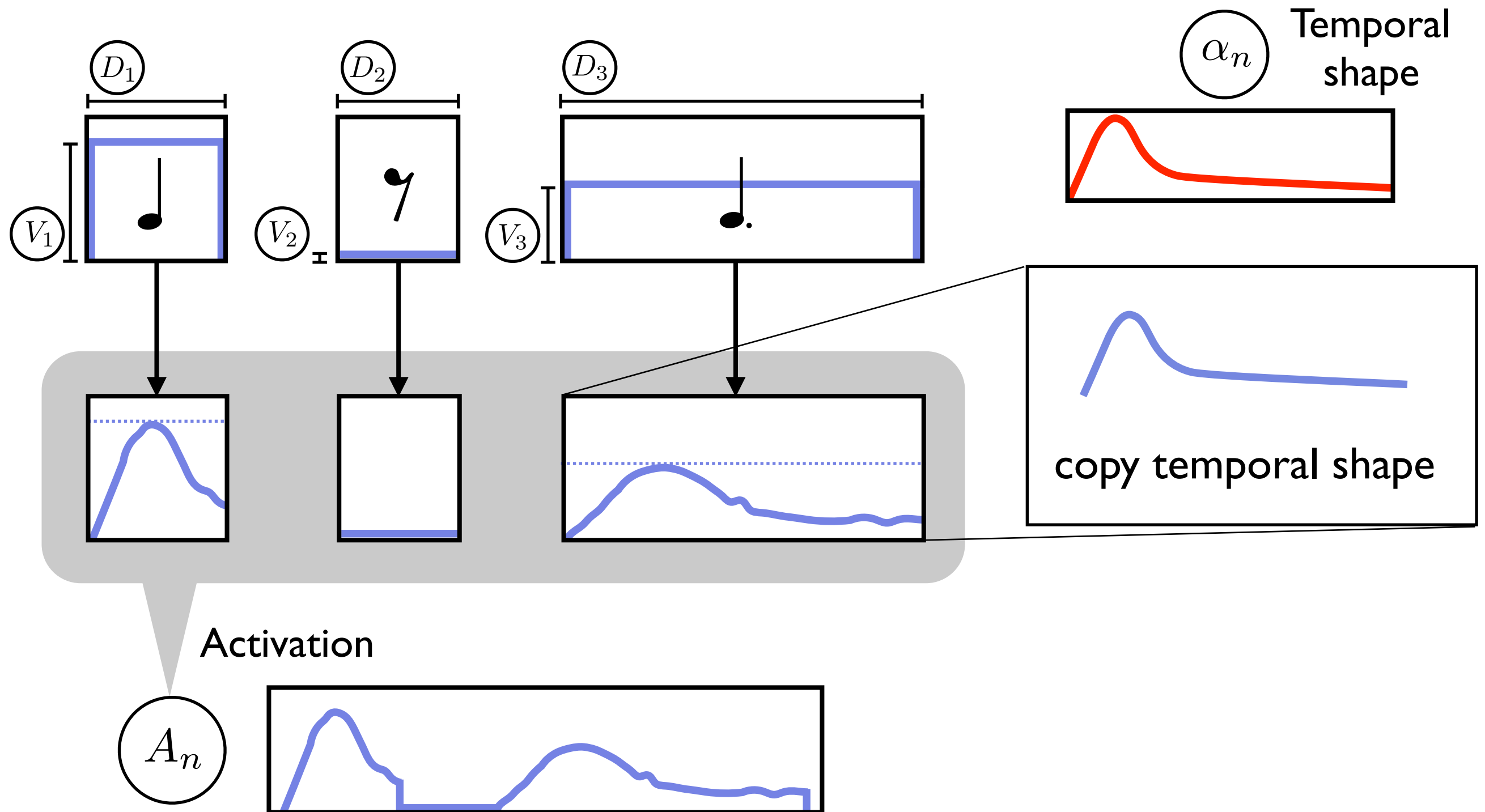




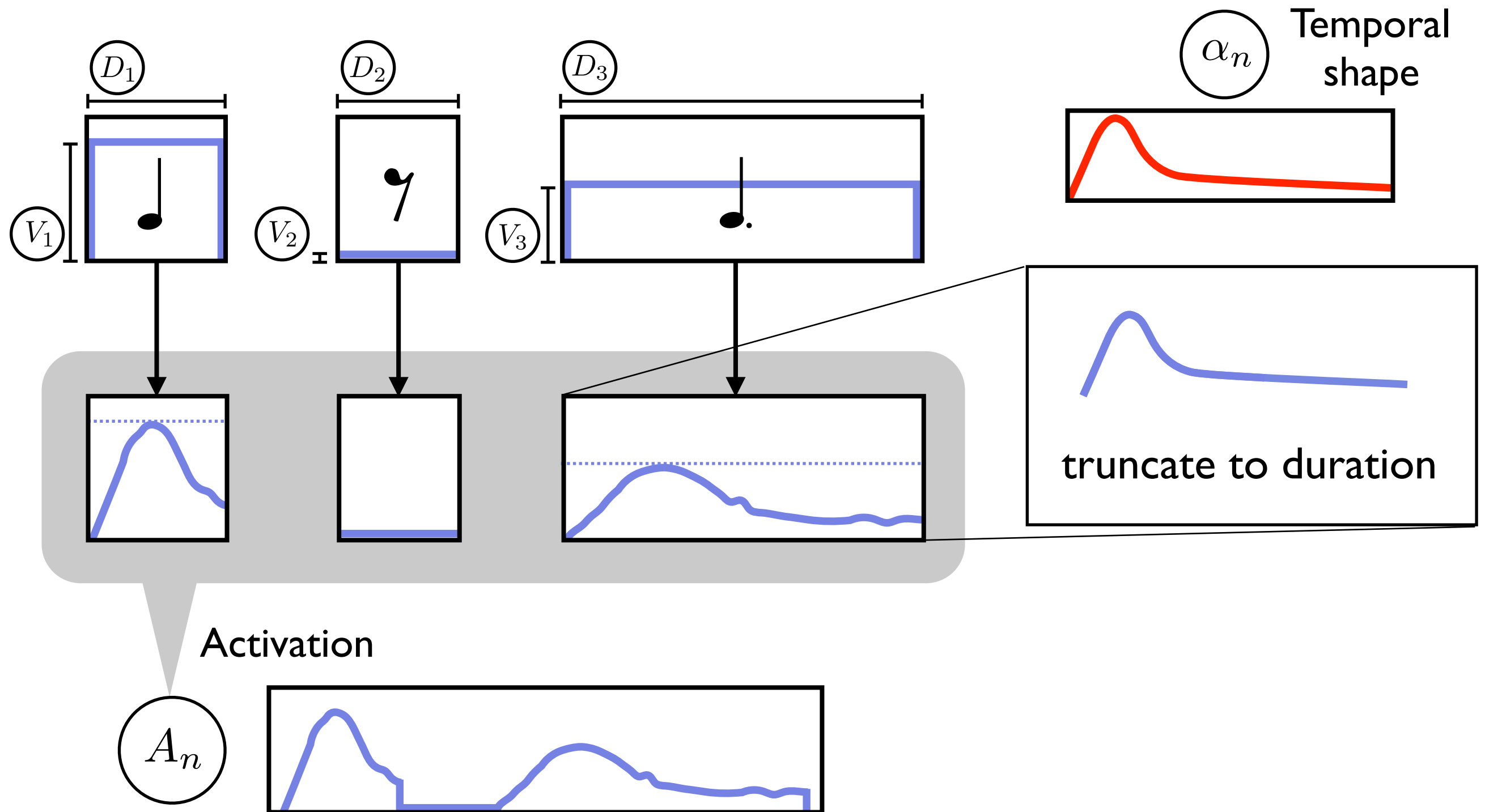
Activation Model



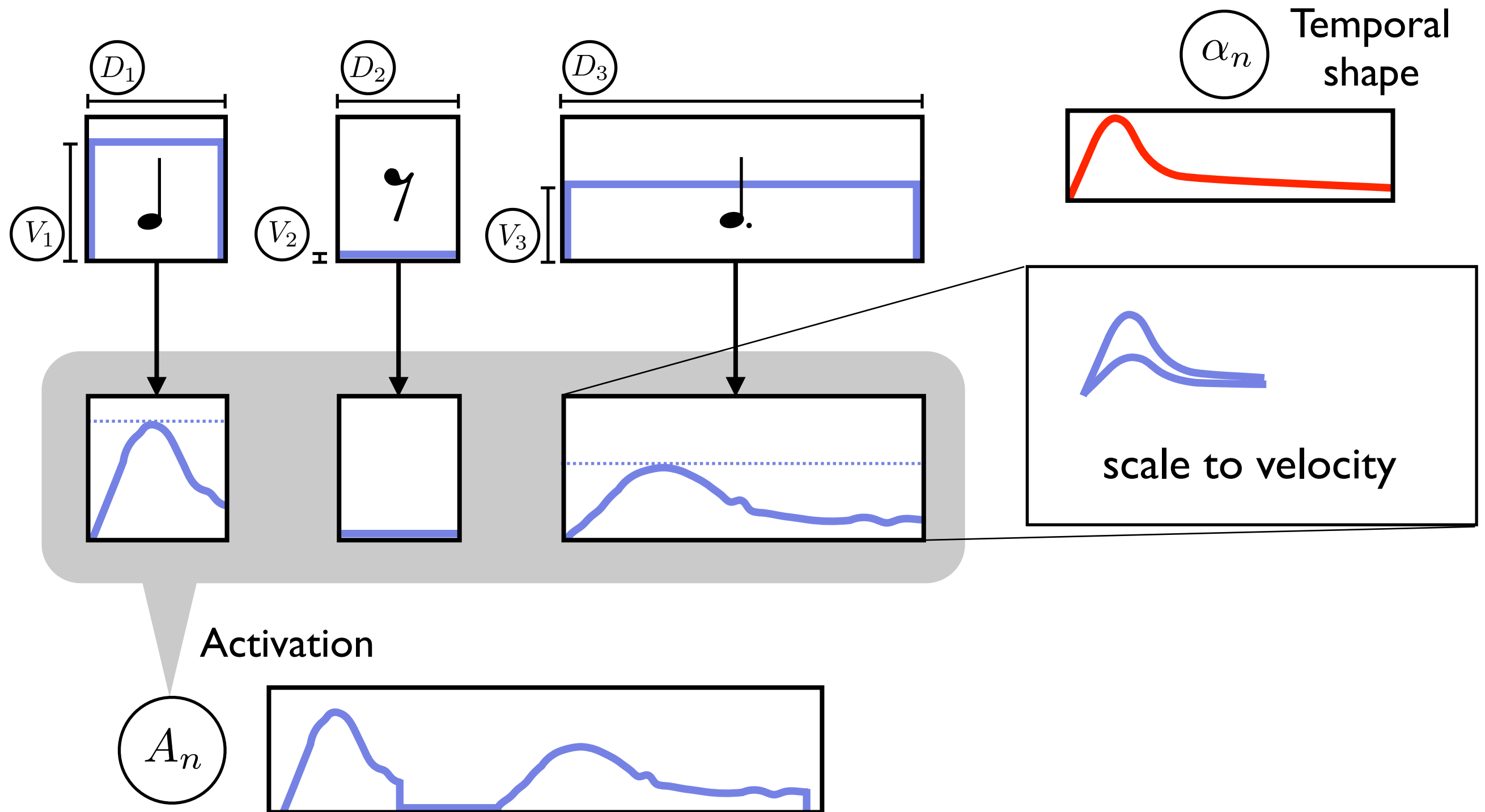
Activation Model



Activation Model

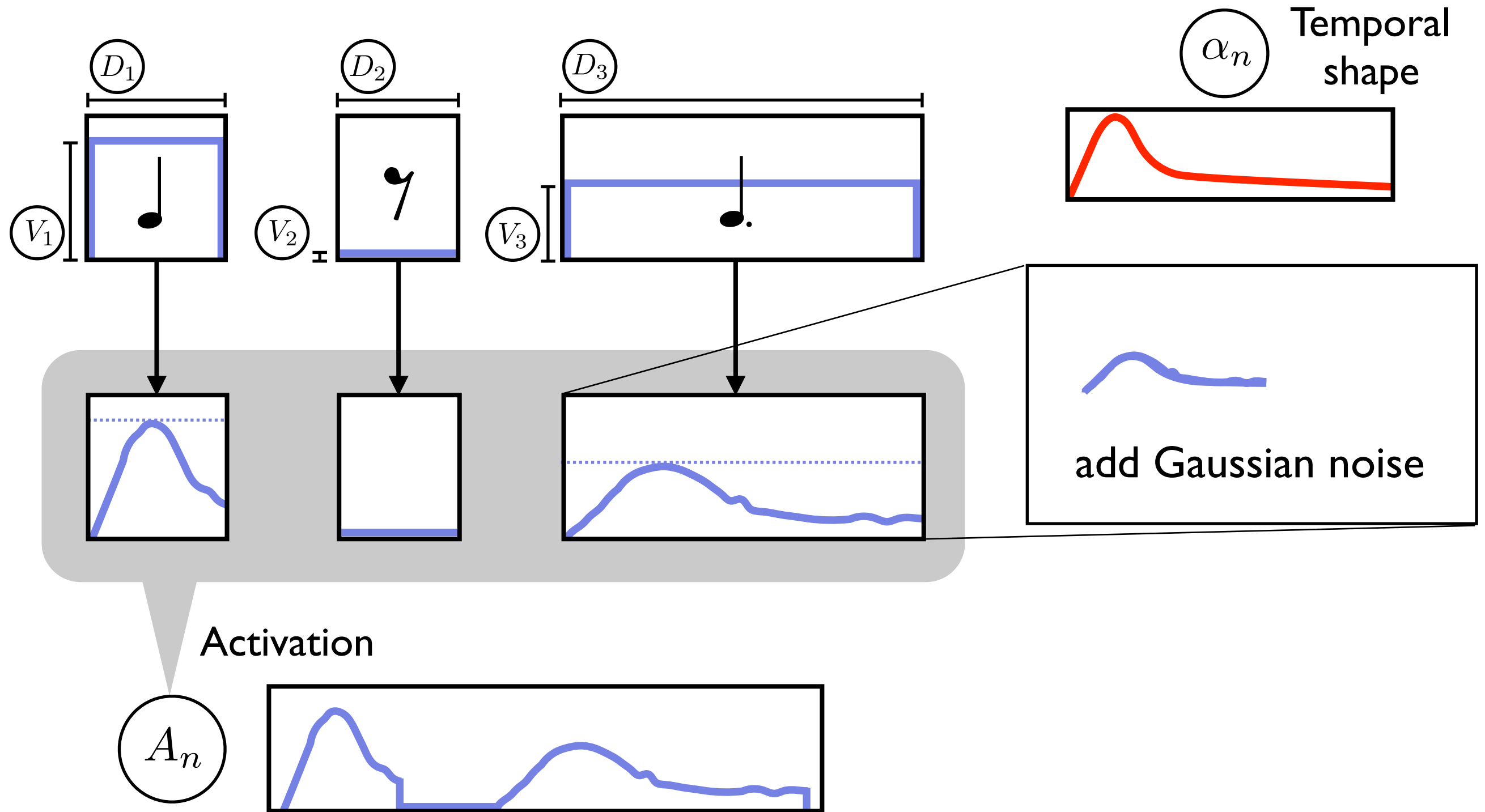


Activation Model

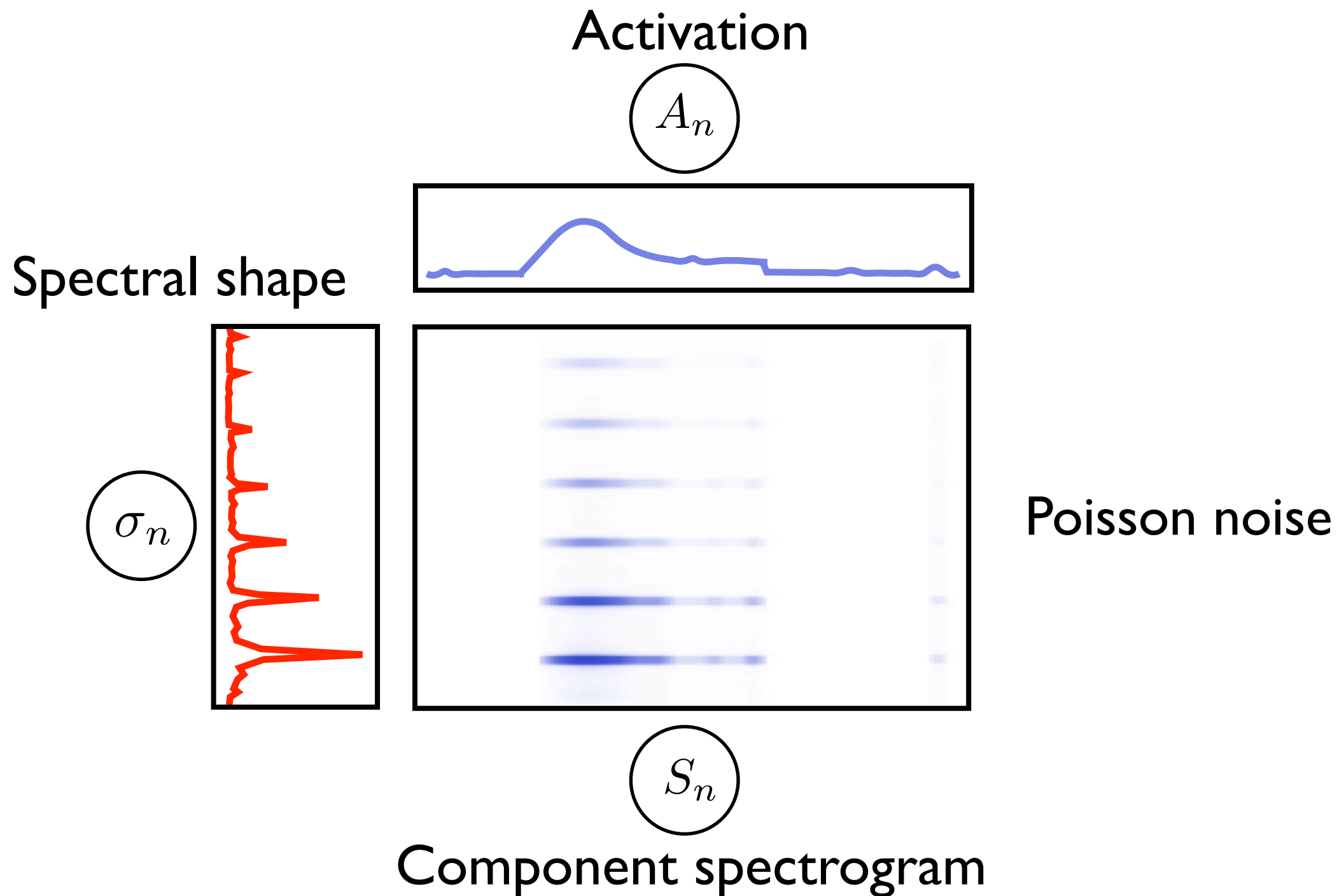




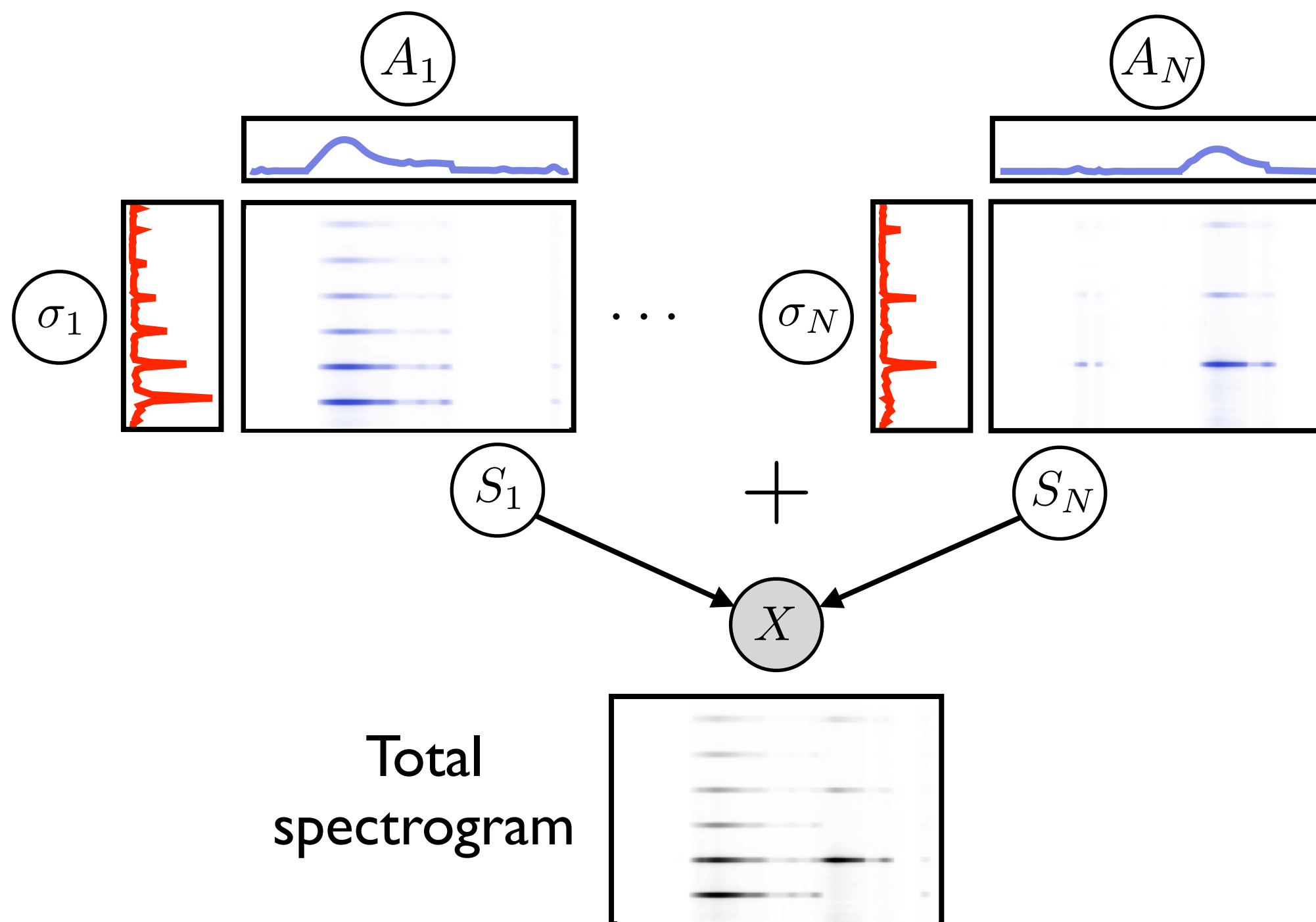
Activation Model



Component Spectrogram Model



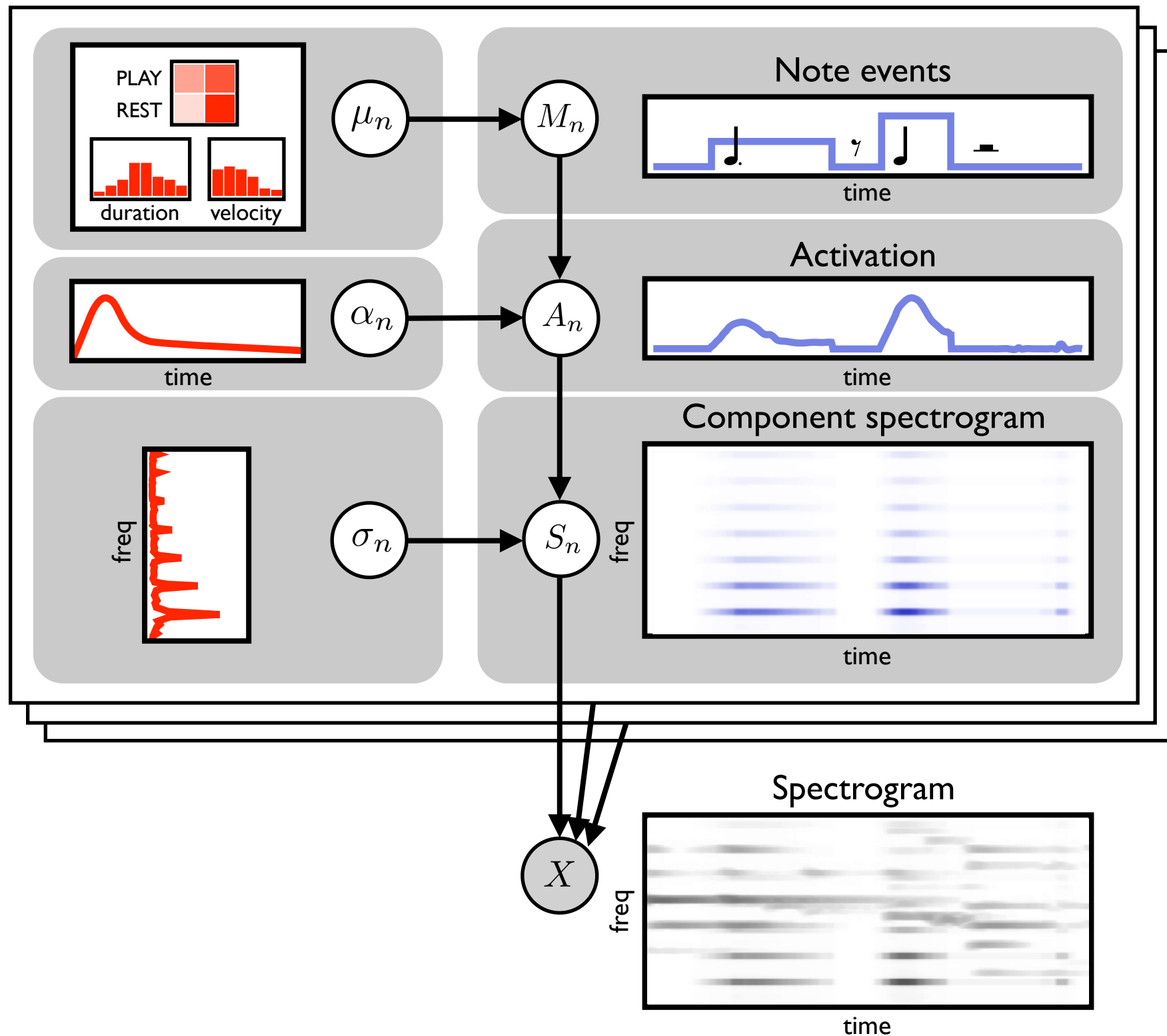
Total Spectrogram Model



Learning and Inference

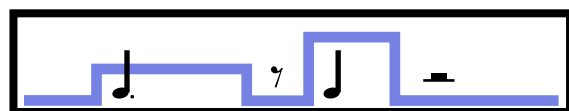
Parameters

Latent variables



Learning and Inference

Note events update:



$$M | A, \alpha, \mu$$

Semi-Markov dynamic program

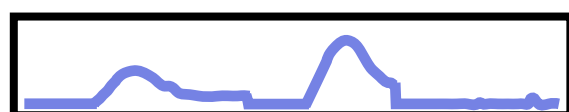
Temporal shapes update:



$$\alpha | A, M$$

Closed form update

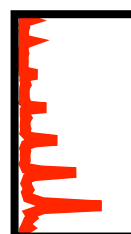
Activations update:



$$A | M, X, \alpha, \sigma$$

Exponentiated gradient ascent

Spectral shapes update:



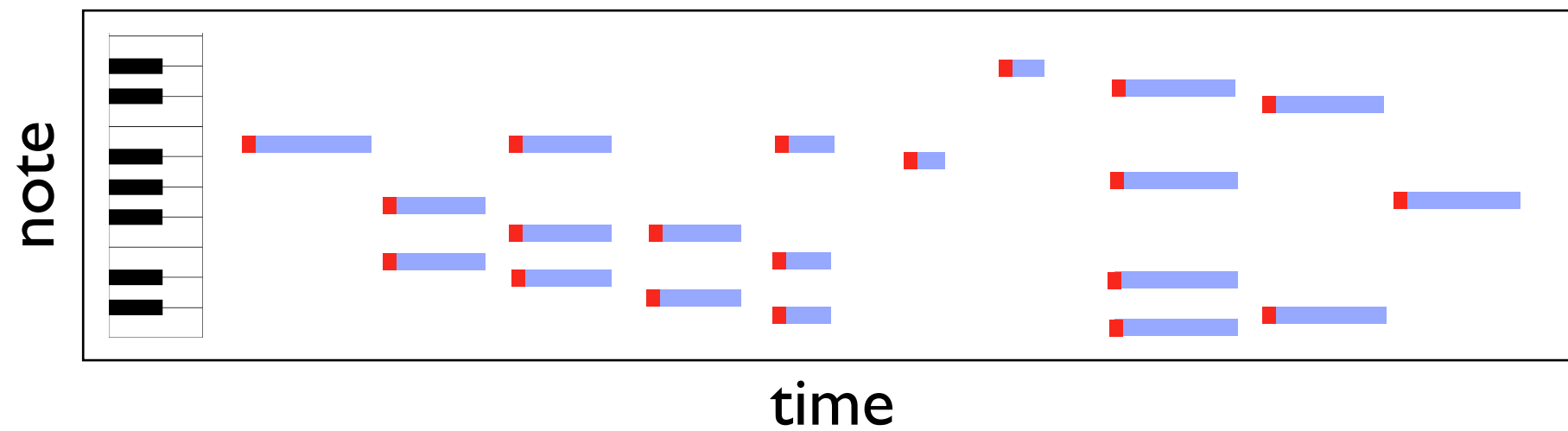
$$\sigma | A, X$$

Exponentiated gradient ascent

Experiments

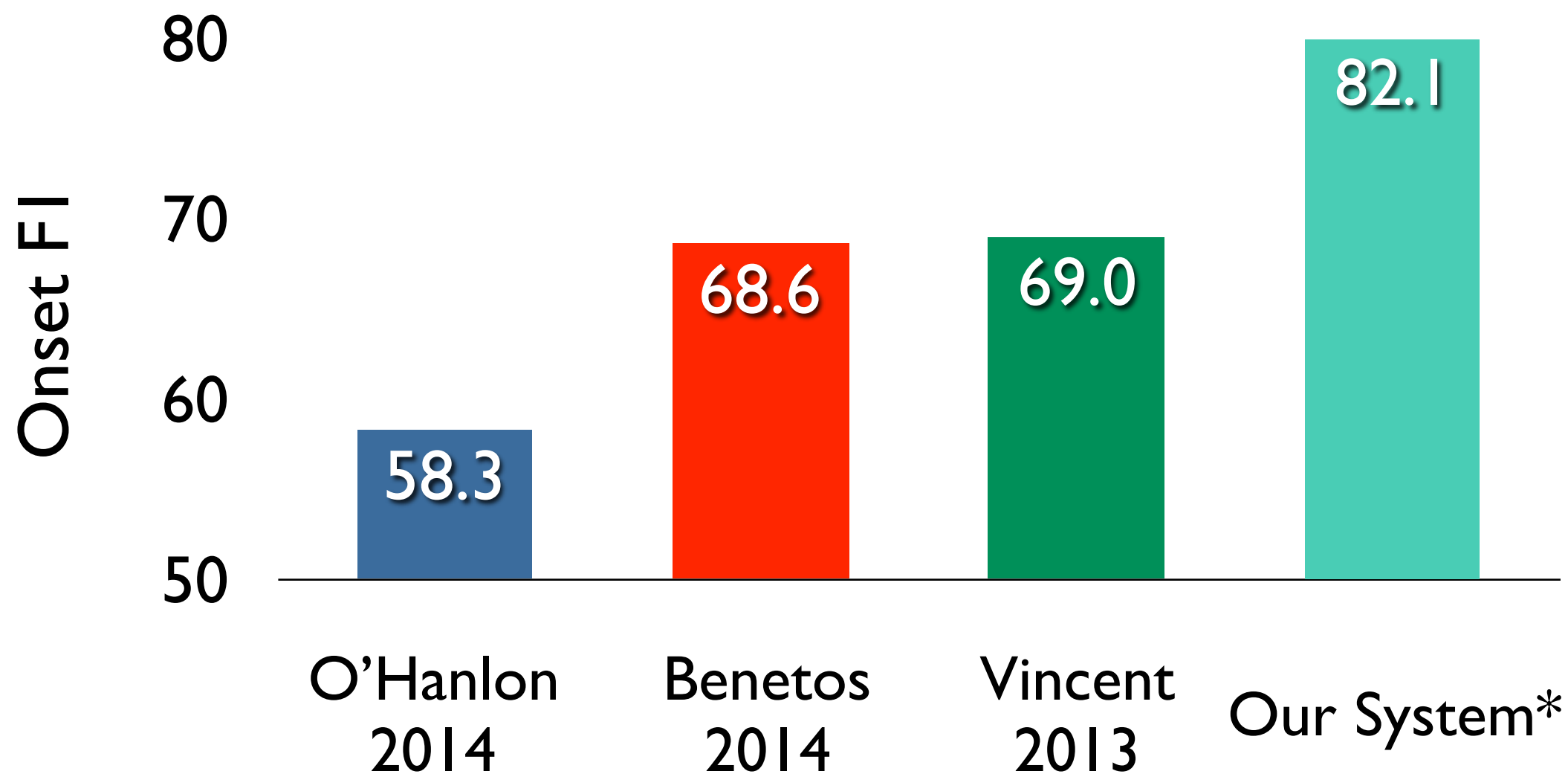
Evaluation

Onset FI



Results

MAPS Corpus



[Valentin et al. 2010]

[Berg-Kirkpatrick et al. 2014]

Demo!

Transcription

Reference



Predicted



Resynthesized Examples

Grieg input

Grieg resynth piano

Grieg resynth guitar

Resynthesized Examples

Chopin input

Chopin resynth piano

Chopin resynth guitar

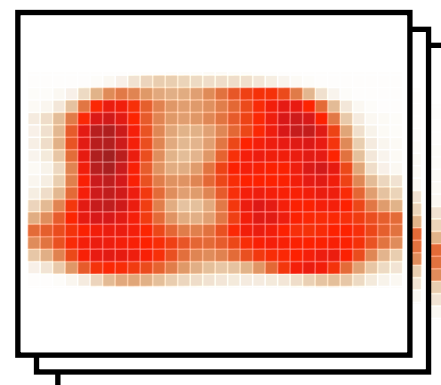
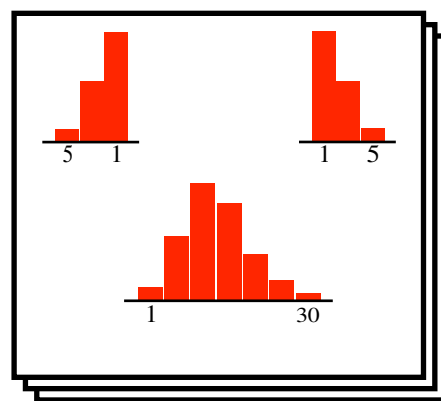
Resynthesized Examples

Beethoven input

Beethoven resynth piano

Beethoven resynth guitar

System Output Example



taken ill and taken away -- I remember

taken ill and taken away -- I remember

taken ill and taken away -- I remember

Transcription

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. 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 flangingar 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

Ocular

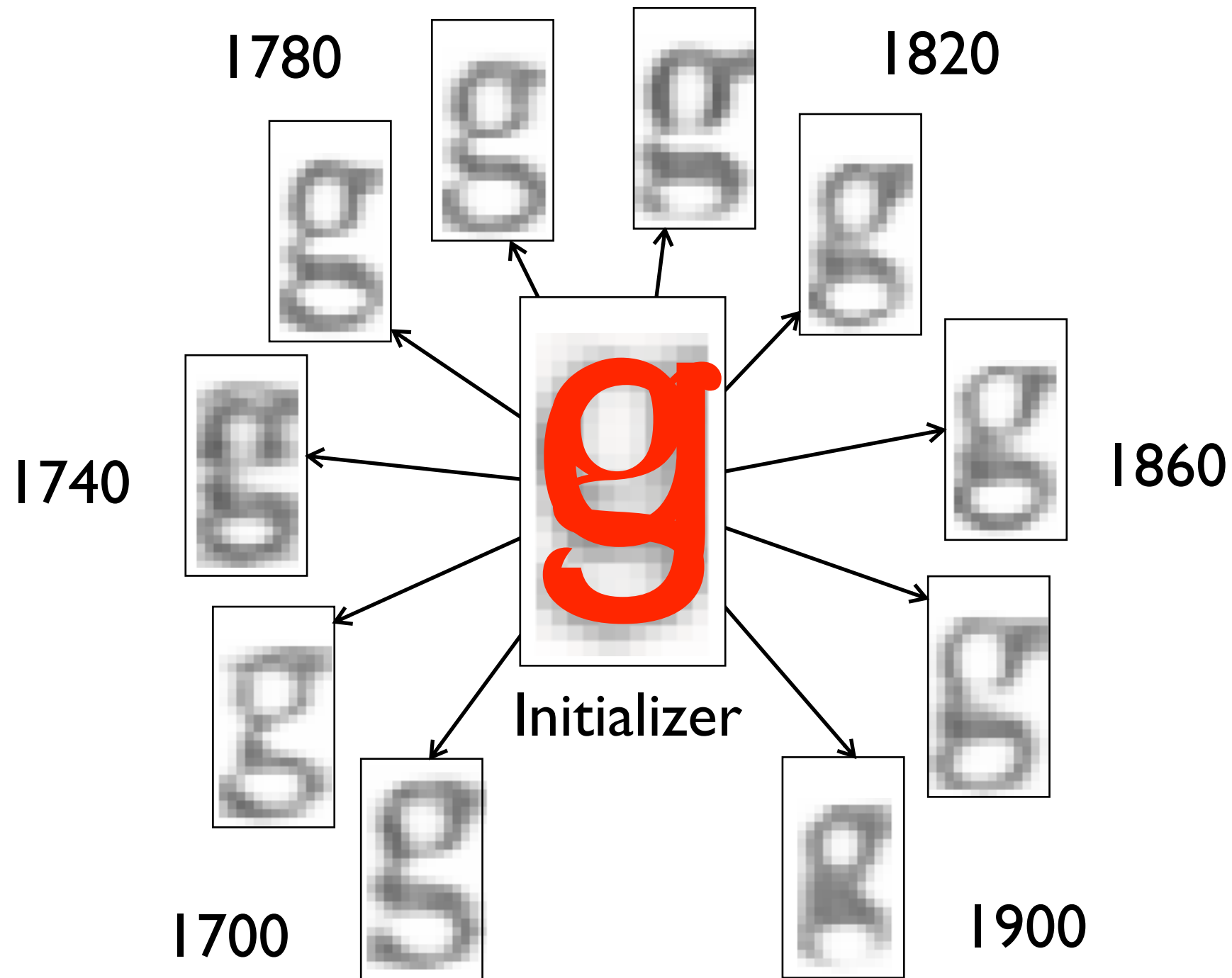
the prisoner at the bar. Jacob Lazarus and his
wife, the prisoners were both together when I
received them. I sold eleven pair of them
for three guineas, and delivered the remain-
der back to the prisoner. I sold, seven pair of
silk to Mark Simpert one pair of mixed, and
two pair of thread to the footman,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

Ms. What in the footman's name?

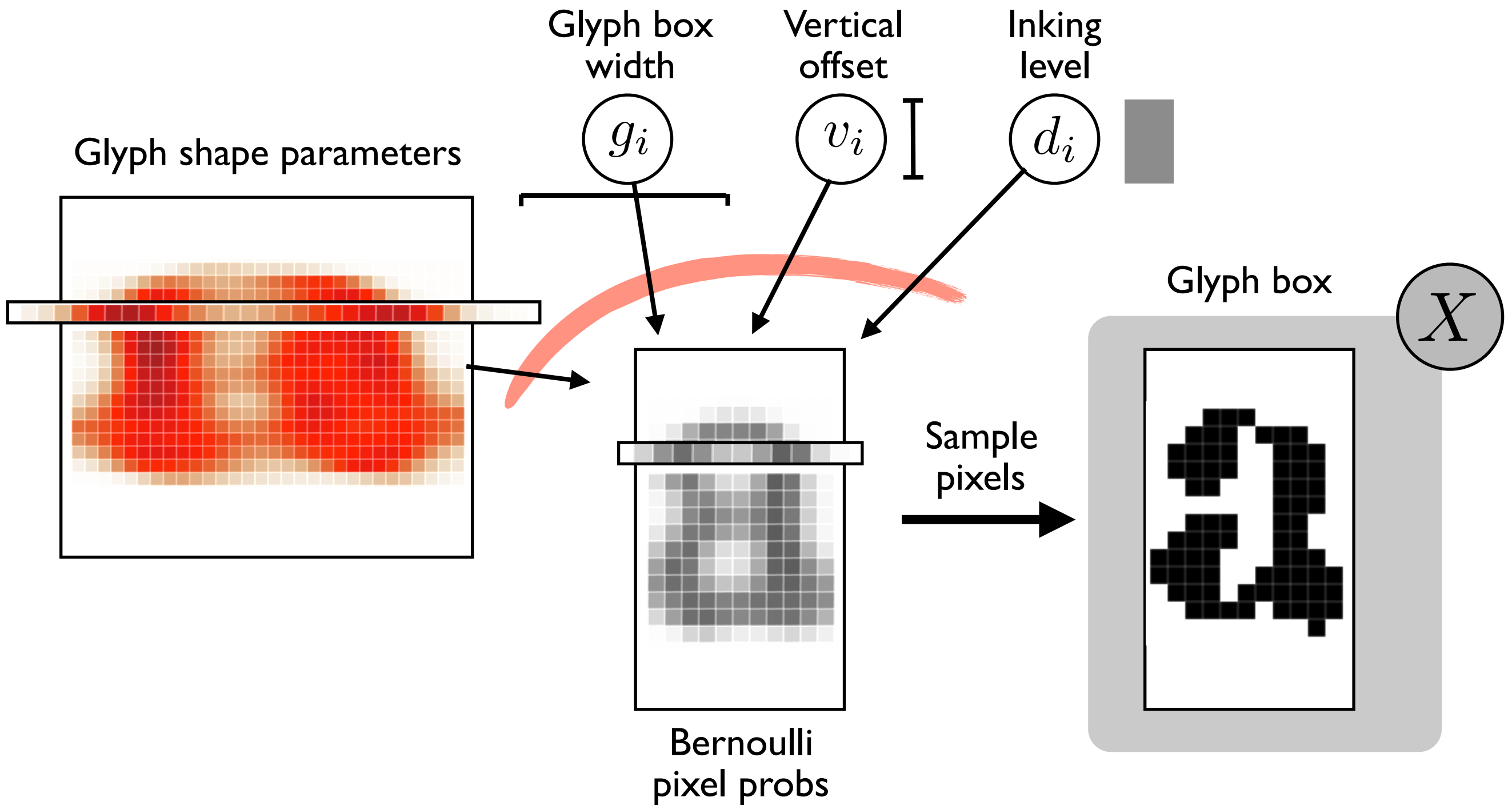
Franco Asyut, I don't know-

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



Rendering Model





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

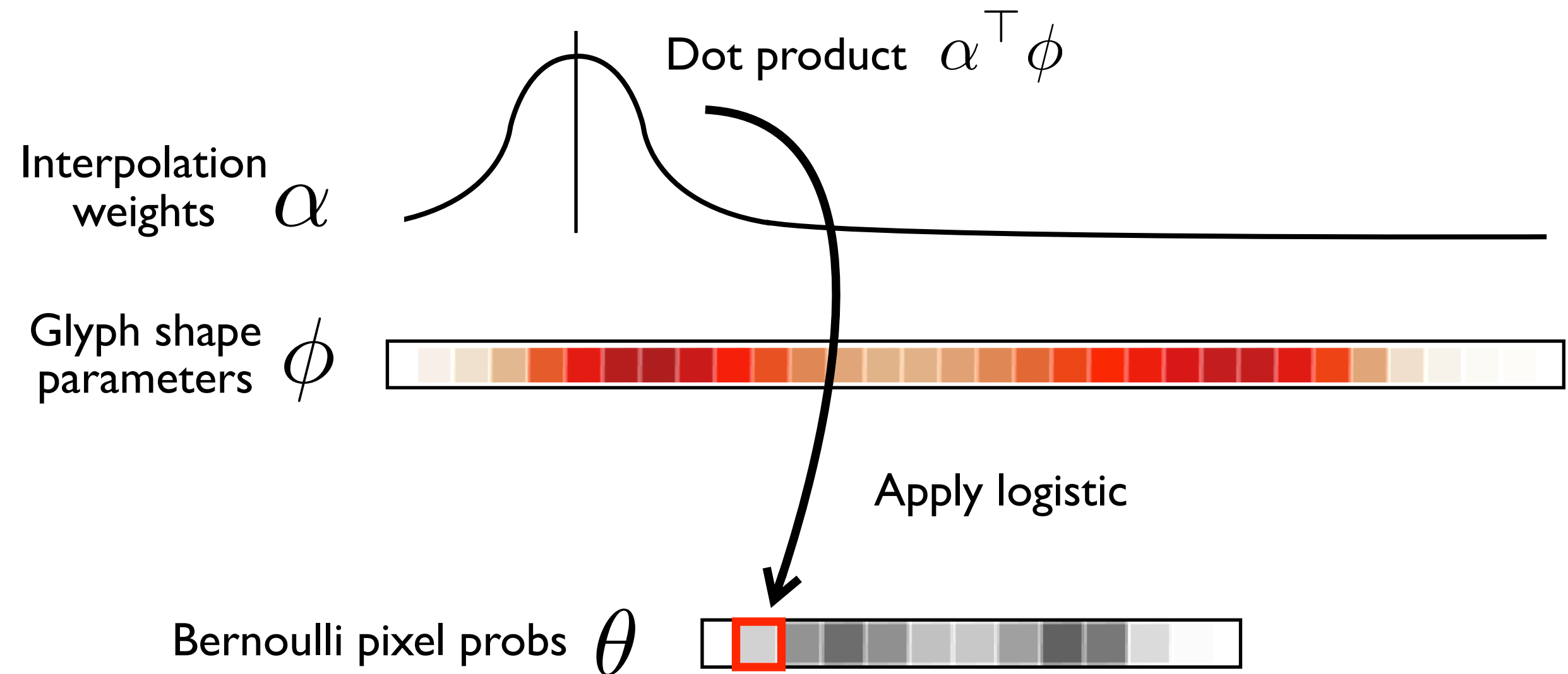
ϕ



Bernoulli pixel probs θ



Log-linear Interpolation

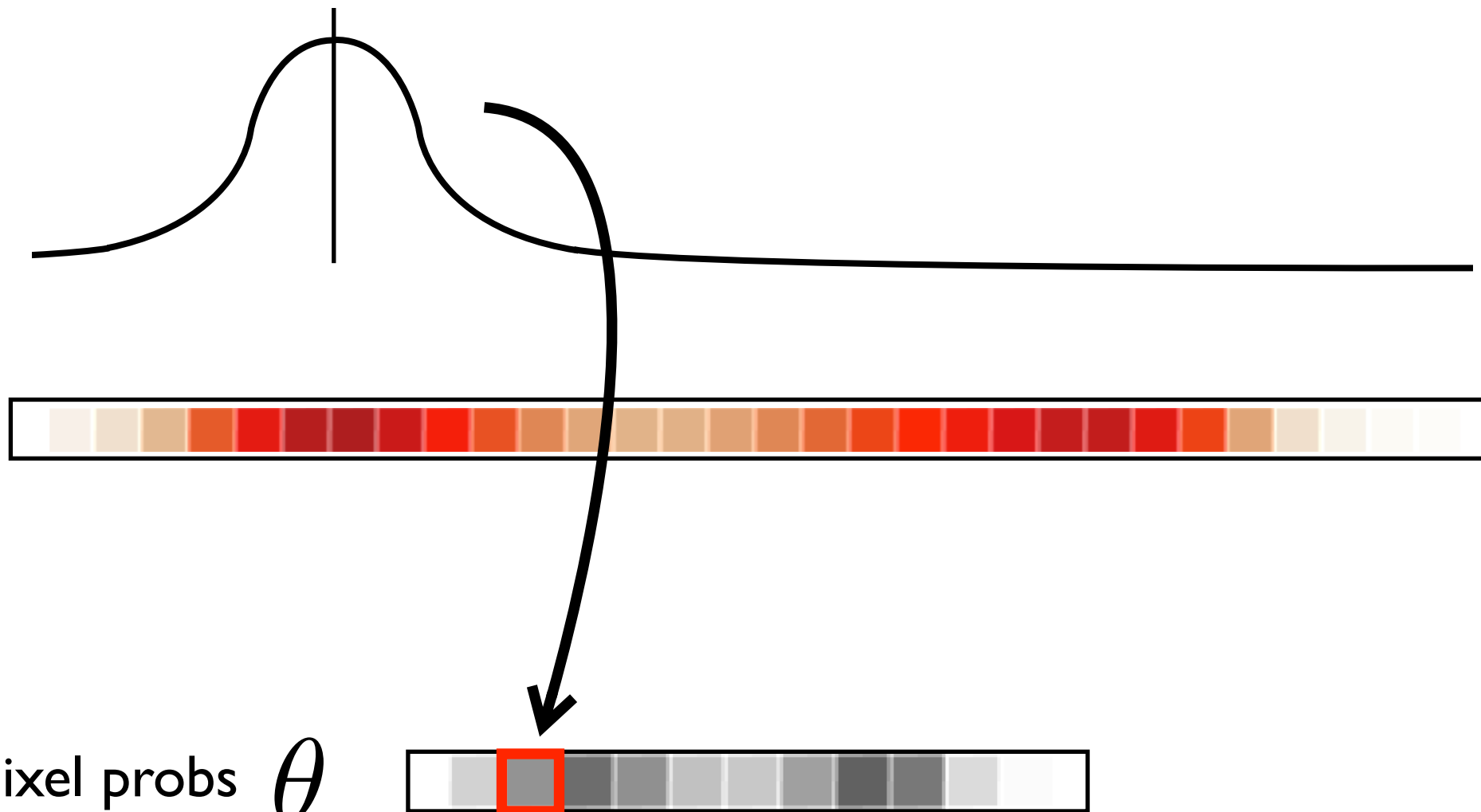


Log-linear Interpolation

Interpolation
weights α

Glyph shape
parameters ϕ

Bernoulli pixel probs θ

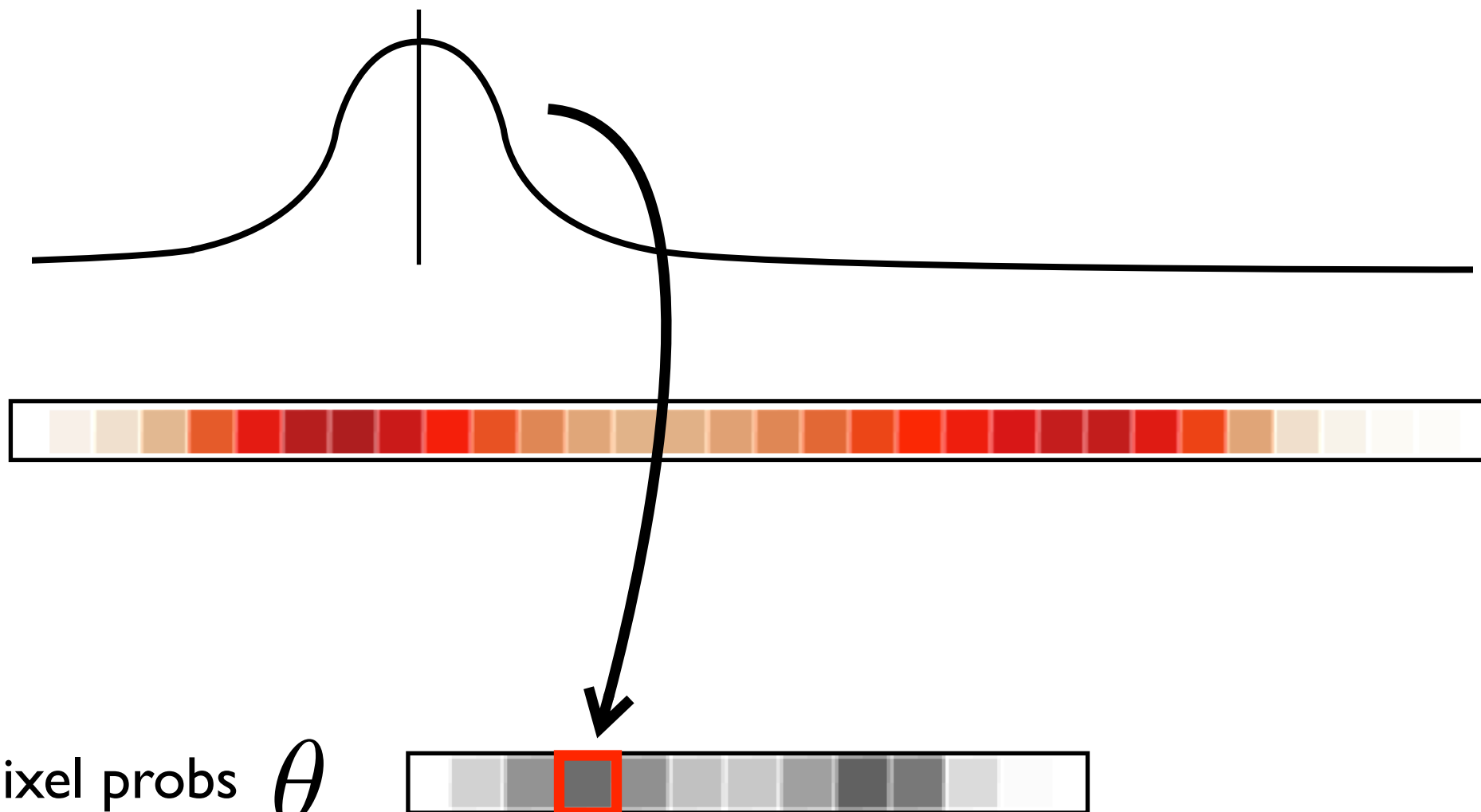


Log-linear Interpolation

Interpolation
weights α

Glyph shape
parameters ϕ

Bernoulli pixel probs θ

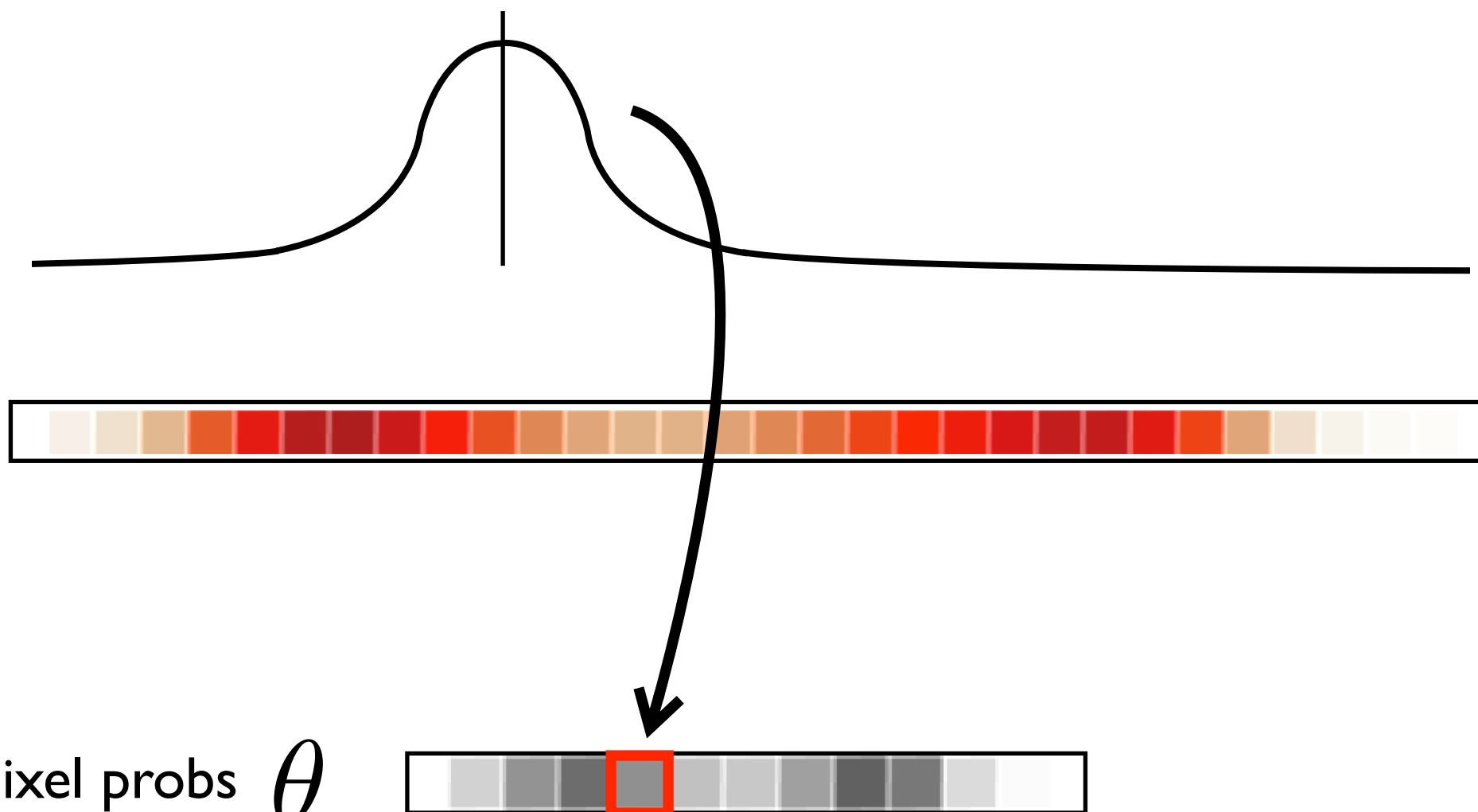


Log-linear Interpolation

Interpolation
weights α

Glyph shape
parameters ϕ

Bernoulli pixel probs θ



Log-linear Interpolation

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

Interpolation
weights

α_j

Glyph shape
parameters

ϕ

Bernoulli pixel probs

θ



j

Unsupervised Transcription

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.



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,

