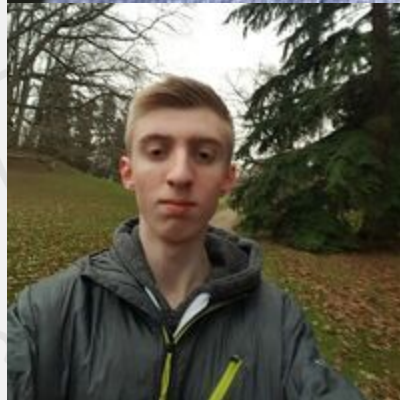


# How can we use AI Language Models for Personalized Guidance and Nutrition?

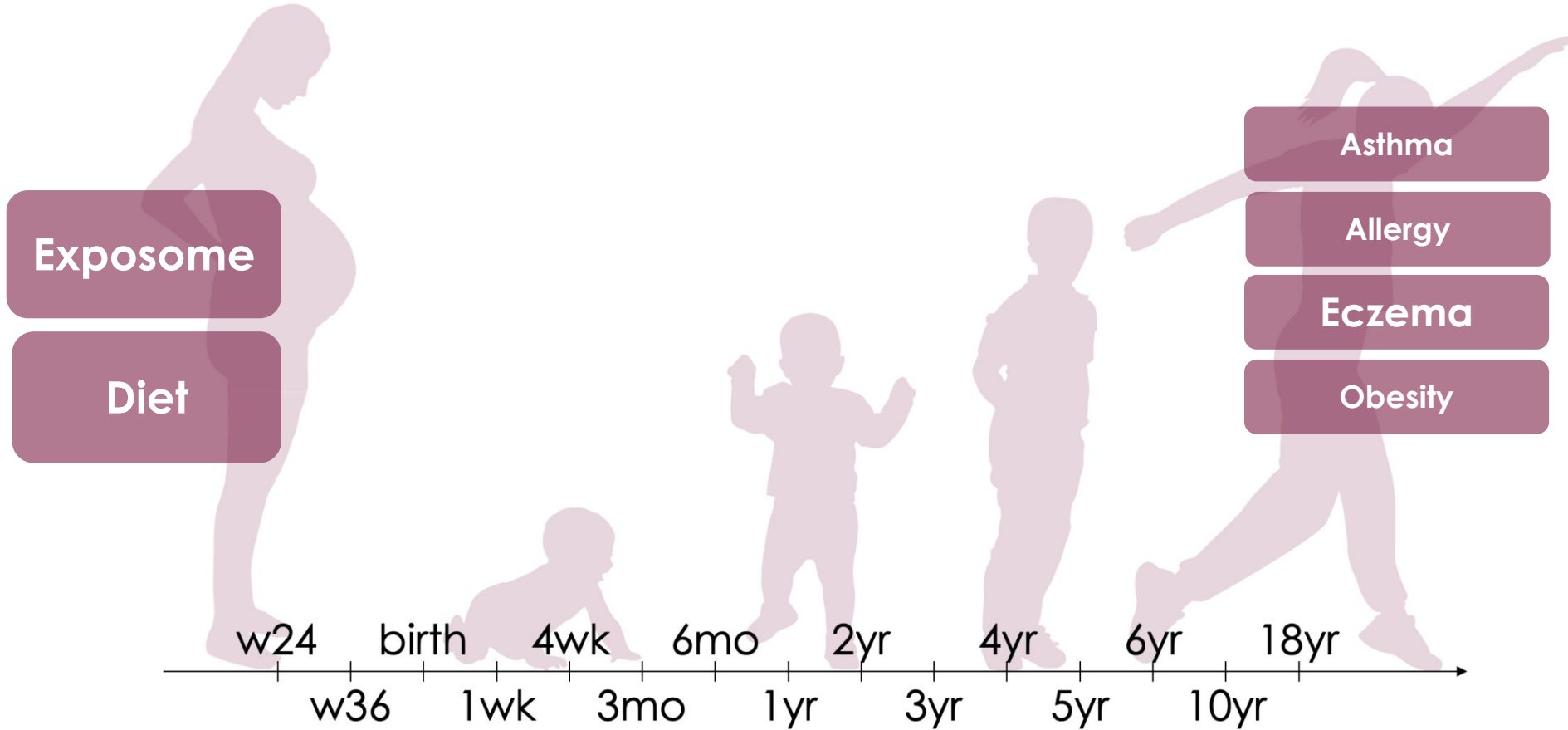
Morten Arendt Rasmussen, Professor, FOOD  
Daniel Hershcovich, Tenure-Track Assistant Professor, DIKU  
Jonathan Sigh Musso, BSc Machine Learning & Data Science  
Lukas Mikelionis, MSc Computer Science

Digital Tech Summit, October 30, 2024

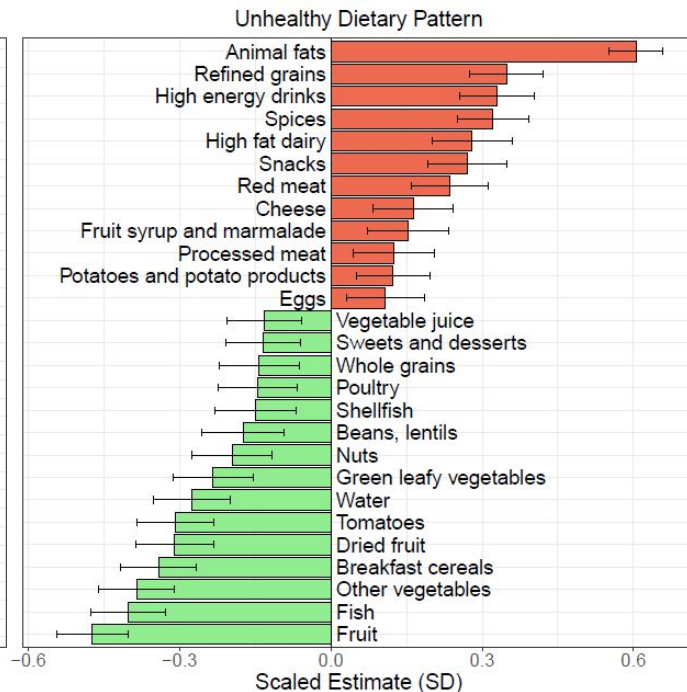
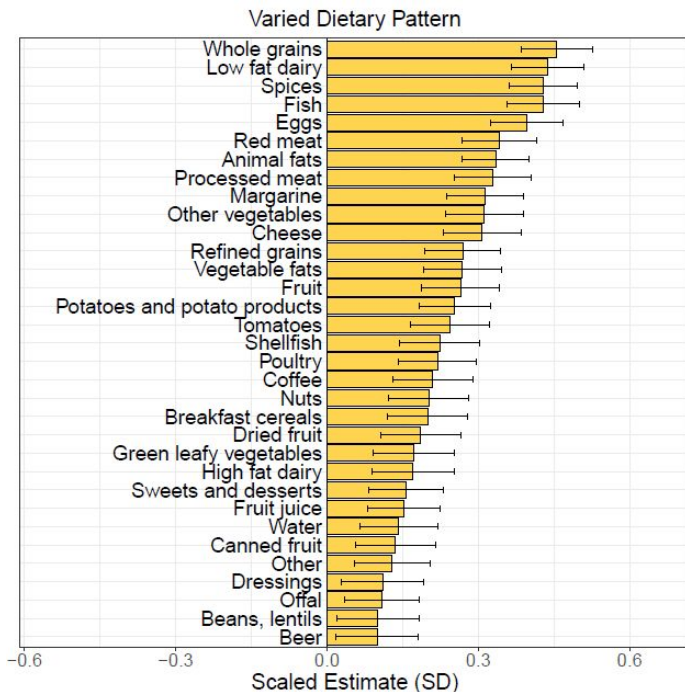
UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN



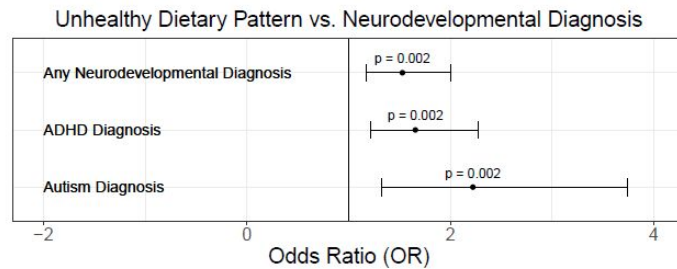
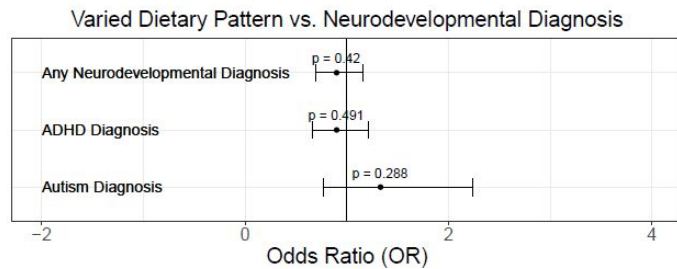
# Why is diet important?



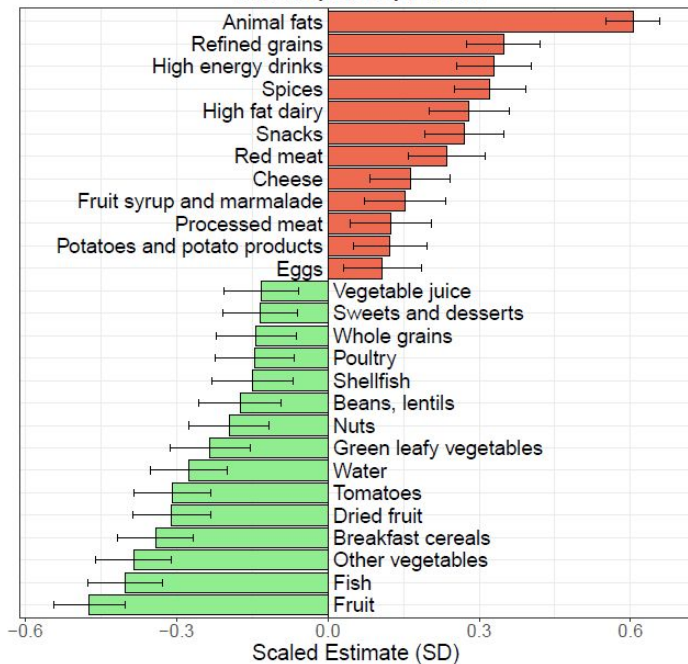
# Diet in Pregnancy and offspring health



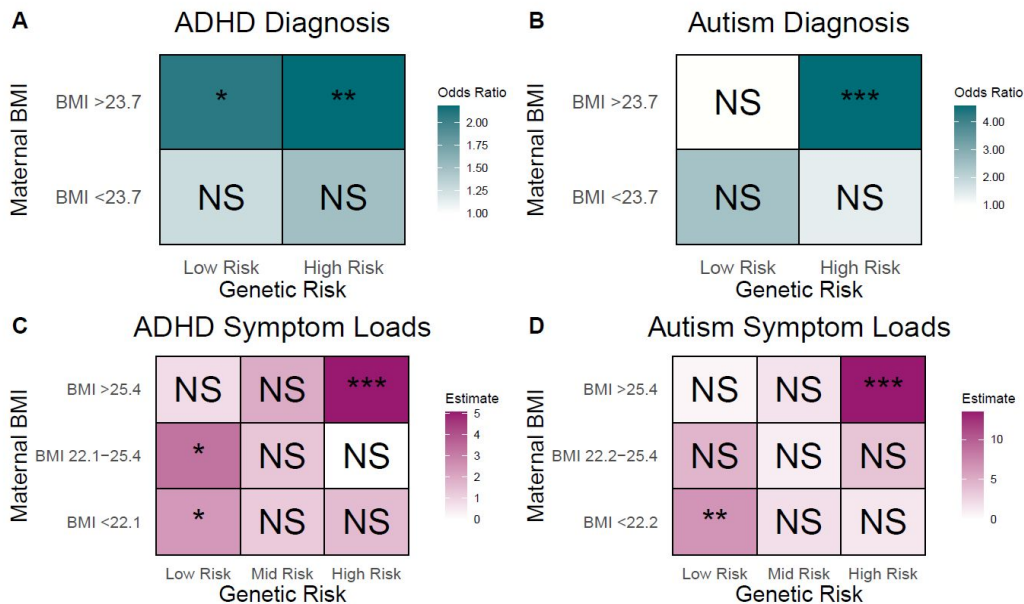
David Horner *et al* (2024) *An Unhealthy Dietary Pattern during Pregnancy is Associated with Neurodevelopmental Disorders in Childhood and Adolescence*. In review



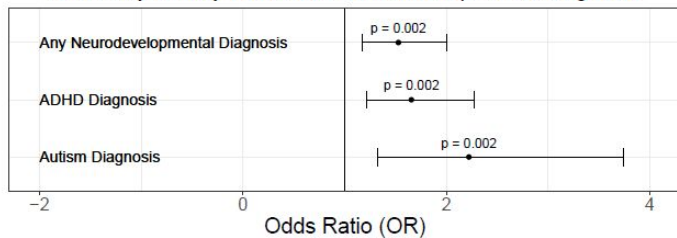
Unhealthy Dietary Pattern



Unhealthy Dietary Pattern Associations with Neurodevelopmental Disorders



Unhealthy Dietary Pattern vs. Neurodevelopmental Diagnosis



David Horner et al (2024) *An Unhealthy Dietary Pattern during Pregnancy is Associated with Neurodevelopmental Disorders in Childhood and Adolescence*. In review

# Personalized Nutrition



Going beyond  
recomm

A tailored

But just  
those who  
play a role  
rest unan

But ***knowing*** what is good is  
one thing

Actually ***doing it*** .... is  
another challenge



# App for improving of health

## Personalize on

- Contemporary diet
- Diet preferences

## Recommendations

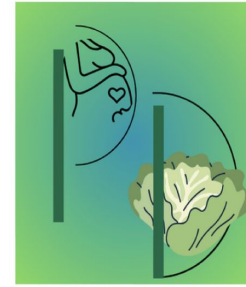
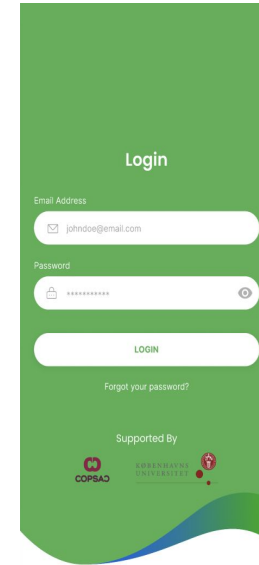
- Recipes
- Ingredients

## Dailies

- Try a new food/ingredient
- Skip sugar
- ...

## Gamification and Rewards

- Leaderboard
- Achievements / Badges



Sangita Sharma  
Poudel  
Dietician and Msc  
Student





## Data on habitual diet

< Survey

How often did you eat the following foods or food products in last month?

1. Sour Milk products without fruit (eg: Galo-without fruits, yoghurt naturel etc.)

→ Not at all

a. Amount of fat in the product

→

2. Breakfast products

Oats

→ Once a month

---

Not at all

**Once a month**

2 to 3 times a month

3 to 4 times a week

5 to 6 times a week

Once a day

2 or more times a day



## Changes

< Suggestions

**LOW INTAKE OF VIT C.**

Your vit C level is lower than recommended intake. You can try following steps to increase your vit C level.

Eat more veg and fruits.  
Add berries to your breakfast.  
Have a glass of fruit juice.  
Add peppers and tomatoes in the sandwiches.

**RECOMMENDED INTAKE OF VIT C**

You are doing well. You are within recommended intake level. Continue the same path.

---

**Recipe**

Lorem Ipsum is simply dummy text of the printing and typesetting industry. Lorem Ipsum has been the industry's standard dummy text ever since the 1500s, when an unknown printer took a galley of type and scrambled it to make a type specimen book. It has survived not only five centuries, but also the leap into electronic typesetting, remaining essentially unchanged. It was popularised in the 1960s with the release of Letraset sheets containing Lorem Ipsum passages, and more recently with desktop publishing software like Aldus PageMaker including versions of Lorem Ipsum.

**OK**



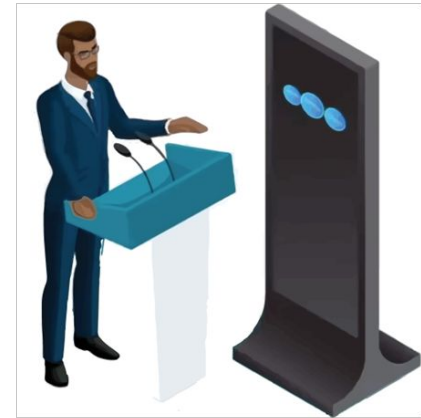
## Performance



# Argumentation

Can AI convince consumers of diverse backgrounds to change their habitual behavior?

What characterizes successful arguments for behavior change in public discourse?



[An autonomous debating system](#)  
Slonim et al. (Nature 2021)



# A Dataset of Sustainable Diet Arguments on Twitter

1

Corpus of  
32840 English  
tweets

2

600 arguments  
annotated for 5  
topics

3

Trained NLP  
models with  
strong  
performance

We should reduce the  
consumption of meat

Plant based food should be  
encouraged

Meat alternatives should be  
encouraged

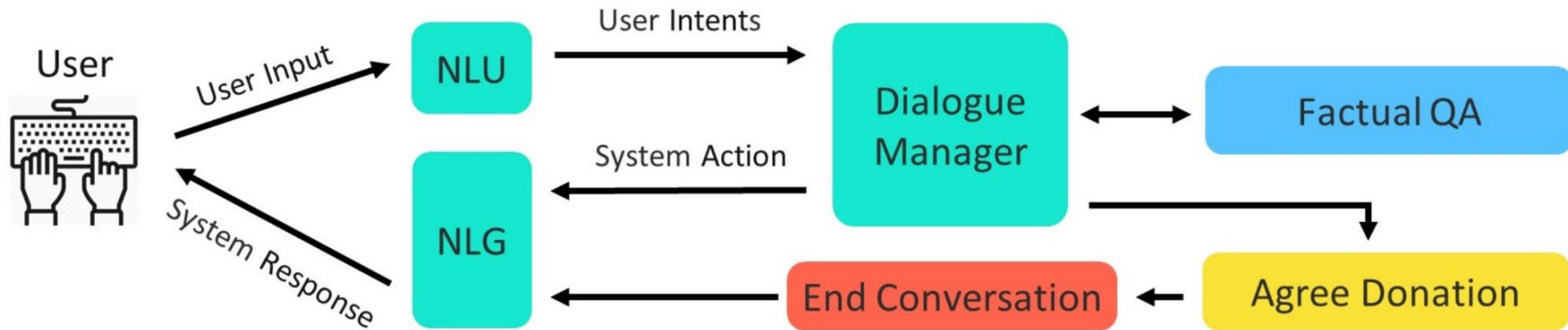
Vegan and vegetarian diets  
should be encouraged

We should pursue policies that  
promote sustainable foods



# AI Influences Human Behavior

Whether through explicit persuasion or implicit priming, user behavior changes as a result of interaction with AI



[How to ask for donations? learning user-specific persuasive dialogue policies through online interactions](#) (Tran et al., UMAP 2022)

## Can we harness this for positive behavior change?

# Risks of AI Influence

10 July 2023

## ChatGPT promotes American norms and values

TECHNOLOGY ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

**ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE** ChatGPT, the revolutionary new AI chatbot, reflects American norms and values – even when queried about other countries and cultures. The mismatch has been demonstrated in research from the University of Copenhagen. The AI spun web of cultural bias is a major problem according to the study's researchers.

Assessing Cross-Cultural Alignment between ChatGPT and Human Societies: An Empirical Study (Cao et al., C3NLP 2023)



Restricting communicative style



Influencing decision making

Perpetuating bias and stereotypes



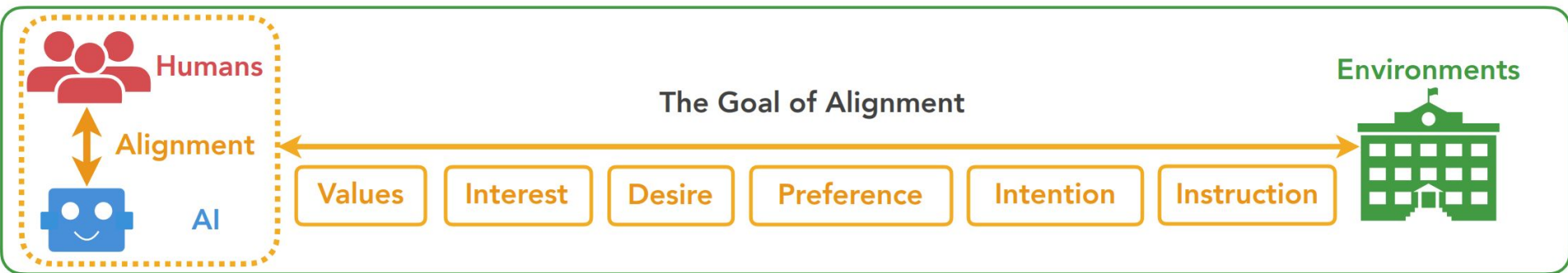
Creating partial/false impressions



# AI Alignment

“our AI systems must do what we **want them to do**” (Russel et al., 2015)

“prevent [autonomous systems] from causing **unintended harm**” (Amodei et al., 2016)



Towards Bidirectional Human-AI Alignment: A Systematic Review for Clarifications, Framework, and Future Directions (Shen et al., 2024), adapted from Gabriel (2020)

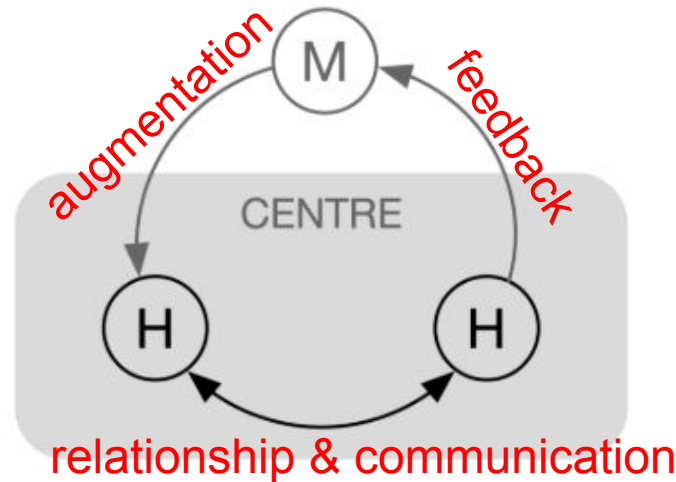
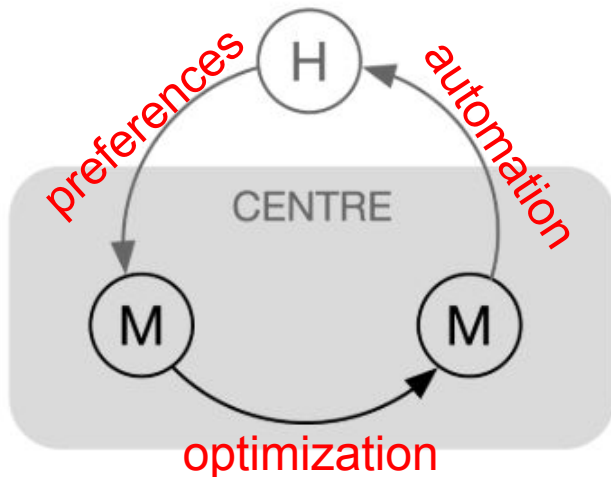
# Our Goal: Reframing Alignment

from

Aligning AI  $\rightarrow$  Humans

to

Aligning Humans + AI  $\rightarrow$  a goal

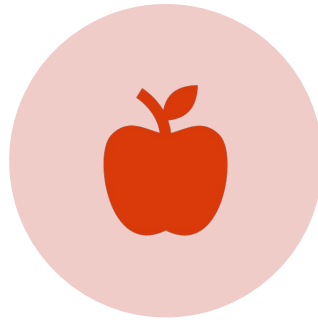


Adapted from [Centering the Speech Community](#) (Bird & Yibarbuk, EACL 2024)

# Food, language and identity



**FOOD IS A  
COMMUNICATIVE  
MEDIUM**



**FOOD IS A  
CARRIER OF  
MEANING**



**FOOD IS TIGHTLY  
LINKED TO  
IDENTITY**

# Recipe adaptation



Dietary restrictions,  
e.g., vegan



Cross-cultural  
differences

Can we automate this process?

红豆汤  
Red Bean Soup



Sweet Red Bean  
Soup

## Ingredients

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 适量红豆<br/><i>Moderate amount of red bean</i></li> <li>2. 适量米酒<br/><i>Moderate amount of rice wine</i></li> <li>3. 适量带皮老姜<br/><i>Moderate amount of ginger with skin</i></li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 2 cups dried adzuki beans</li> <li>2. 1/2 cup sugar</li> <li>3. 1 inch fresh ginger</li> </ol> |
|---|--|

## Cooking Steps

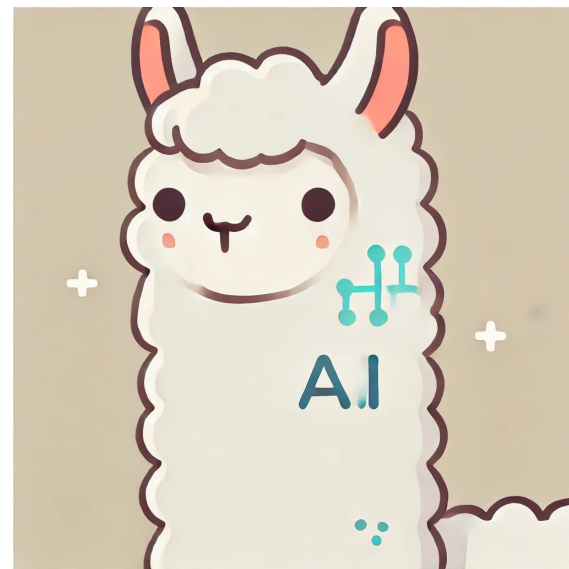
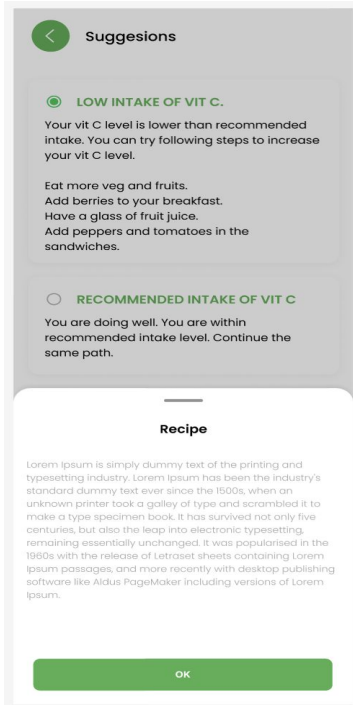
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 姜切成丝<br/><i>Shred ginger.</i></li> <li>2. 将和红豆放入米酒中，搅匀浸泡8小时<br/><i>Put the red beans into the rice wine, stir well and soak for 8 hours.</i></li> <li>3. 浸泡好的红豆放入锅内，大火煮沸，搅拌一下<br/><i>Put the soaked red beans into the pot, boil on high heat, stir well.</i></li> <li>4. 调成小火熬制30分钟。<br/><i>Turn to low heat and simmer for 30 minutes.</i></li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Soak the beans in water for 8 hours.</li> <li>2. Drain the beans and put in a <i>medium-sized pot</i>.</li> <li>3. <i>Peel and julienne</i> the ginger, and add it to the pot.</li> <li>4. Add <b>6 cups</b> of water and sugar. Bring to a boil over high heat, stir, lower the heat and let simmer for 30 minutes.</li> </ol> |
|---|---|

Cultural Adaptation of Recipes (Cao et al., TAACL 2024)



# Aligning Humans + AI for Positive Behavior Change

Vision:  
Combining **adapted recipes** with **tailored diverse argumentation** in a personal AI assistant



# Structured Argument Mining in Persuasive Online Articles on Sustainable Diets



MSc thesis project by Lukas Mikelionis

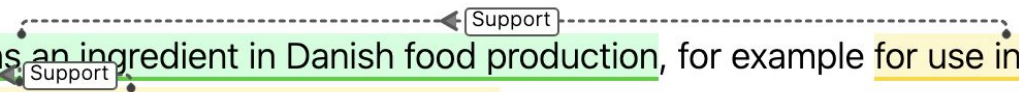
Supervised by Daniel Hershcovich

2023


# Structured Argument Mining in Persuasive Online Articles on Sustainable Diets

1. Structured Argument Mining: extraction of arguments and their relations
2. Persuasive Online Articles: opinionated and influential content for the public
3. Sustainable Diets: relevant topic in the modern society

The soya plant has a very central role as an ingredient in Danish food production, for example for use in feed in animal production. And that has actually been the case for many years.



Soy has a particularly good property in terms of adding proteins to the feed, which ensures that farm animals get the right nutrition. Very few other ingredients have been able to be as effective as soy in food production, as soy's composition of the so-called amino acids is close to ideal.



# Curating a Dataset and Choosing a ML Model

## Articles:

- (10) Altinget
- (5) The Guardian
- (5) Plant Based News (PBN)

## Prevalent sub-topics:

- Innovation in food industry
- Meat alternatives
- Cooking education
- Social and cultural challenges regarding dietary preferences

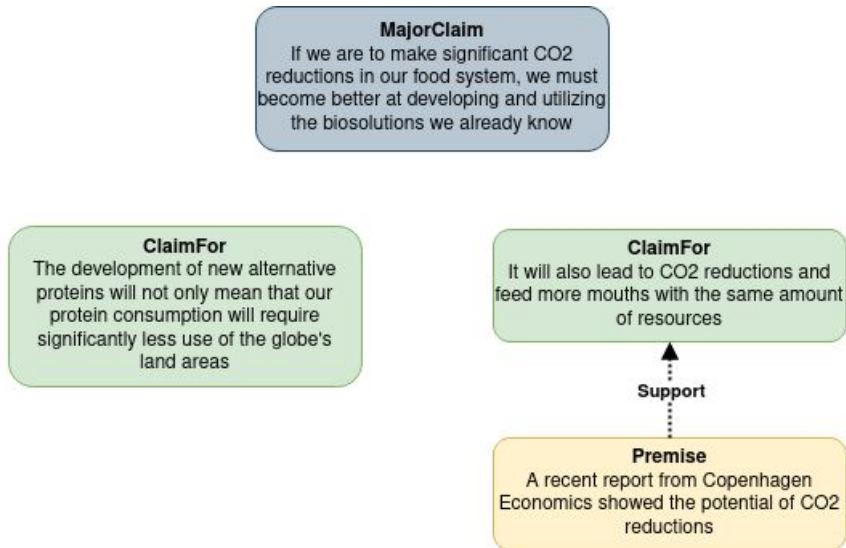
## Annotation:

- Amazon's Mechanical Turk crowdsourcing platform
- Funded by Green Solutions Centre

## ML model:

- Architecture: End-to-End Structured AM (Morio et. al., 2022)
- Base embedding layer: Longformer (Beltagy et al., 2020)

# Structuring Arguments and an Example AI Output



11. april 2023 kl. 05:00

Debat

## DI Fødevarer og Bio: Vi skal udnytte alternative proteiner, hvis vi skal skabe en CO2-reduktion i fødevaresystemet

Hvis vi skal lave markante CO2-reduktioner i vores fødevaresystem, skal vi blive bedre til at udvikle og udnytte de biosolutions, vi allerede kender, skriver branchedirektør i DI Fødevarer og chef i DI Bio, Leif Nielsen og Mikkel Valsted.



# Observations and Possible Applications of Argument Mining

## Observations:

- AM is a challenging task
- Impressive result by ML model
- Future potential of AM

## Applications:

- Summarizing content
- Debate support
- Writing support
- Analysis of actors
- Decision making



# Veganizing Recipes using Language Models

BSc project by Jonathan Sigh Musso

Supervised by Daniel Hershcovich &  
Morten Arendt Rasmussen

2023





# Project Goal and Motivation

- Many benefits of a vegan diet
- Widespread adaptation hindered due to a lack of familiarity with vegan ingredients/methods
- Solution: Apply language models to adapt recipes into vegan alternatives, while preserving dish essence

# Approach & Methodology

- GPT Models from OpenAI API
- Recipes adapted across both English and Danish
- Crowdsourcing used for evaluations due to lack of automatic metric
- Crowdsourcing Humanly Written Adaptations



## Models and Setups:

- Text-Davinci-003 Zero Shot Prompting
- Text-Davinci-003 Two Shot Prompting
- Turbo GPT-3.5 Zero Shot Prompting
- Turbo GPT-3.5 Two Shot Prompting
- GPT-3 Davinci Fine-Tuning

# Adaptations and Crowdsourcing

- English recipes sourced from Food.com dataset (~133k nonvegan and ~7k vegan recipes).
- Danish recipes scraped from popular Danish cooking sites, followed by data cleaning and annotation. (~6500 nonvegan and ~2000 vegan recipes)

## Crowdsourcing

- Prolific online crowdsourcing
- In-Person Food and Meal Consumer Research Course
- 1096 english responses
- 704 danish responses

# Example 1 - Turbo GPT-3.5 Two Shot

Name: chicken stir fry with cashews

Ingredients:

oyster sauce

fish sauce

brown sugar

cornstarch

water

boneless skinless chicken breast halves

cooking oil

onion

red chili peppers

garlic

unsalted cashews

cooked rice

Name: cashew and vegetable stir fry

Ingredients:

vegetable broth

soy sauce

maple syrup

cornstarch

water

extra-firm tofu

vegetable oil

onion

red bell pepper

garlic

ginger

unsalted cashews

cooked rice

## Example 2 - Turbo GPT-3.5 Two Shot

Name: simple pancakes

Ingredients:

egg  
sugar  
vanilla  
milk  
flour  
baking powder

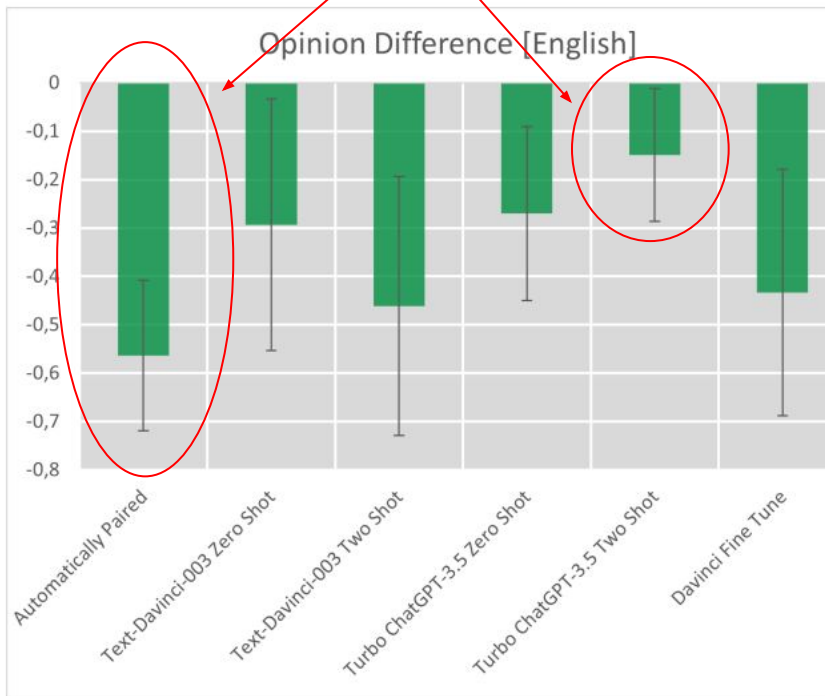
Name: Fluffy Vegan Pancakes

Ingredients:

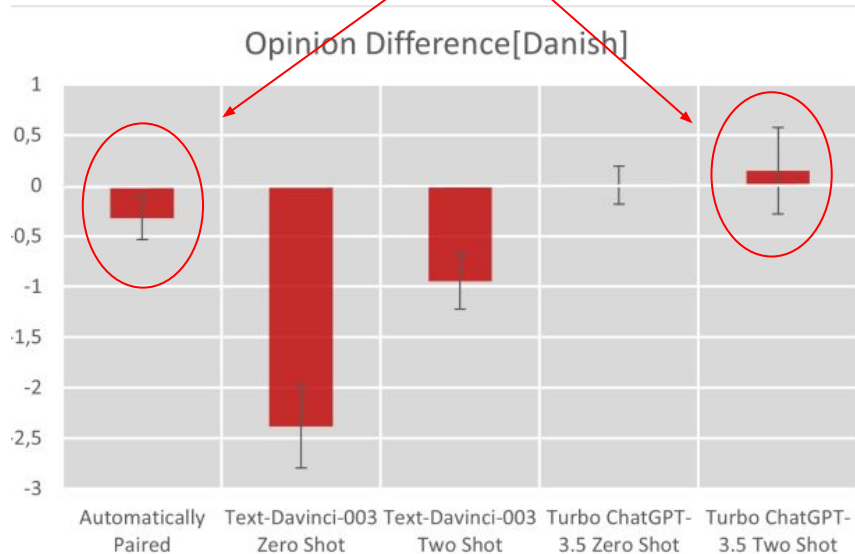
flaxseed meal  
water  
agave syrup  
vanilla extract  
unsweetened almond milk  
all-purpose flour  
baking powder  
salt  
coconut oil for frying

# Results

0.46 absolute Increase

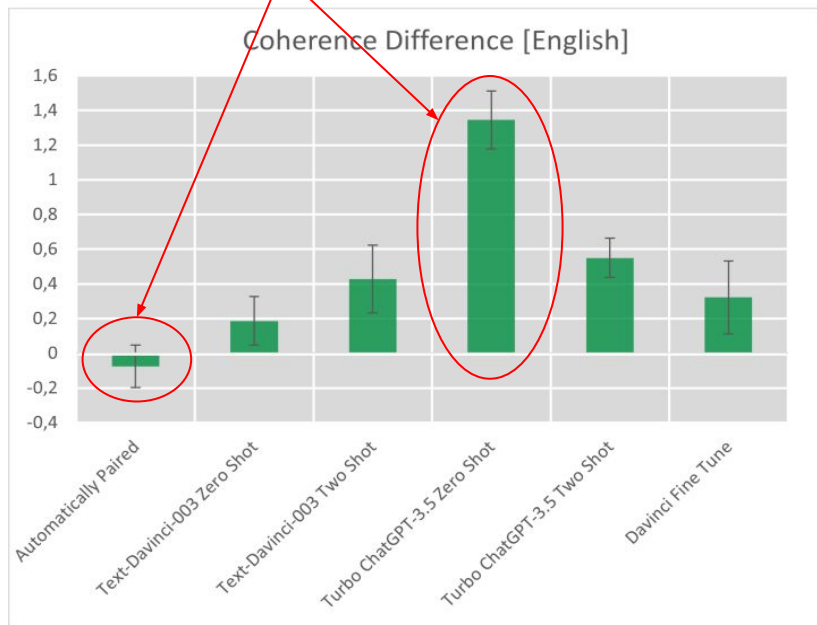


0.43 absolute Increase

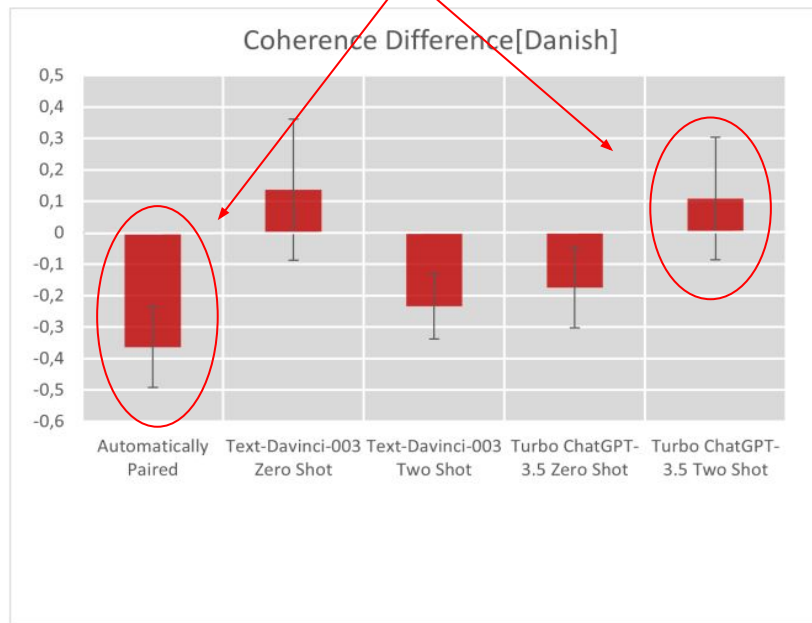


# Results

1.79 absolute Increase



0.46 absolute Increase





## Recap and what's next?

- Results look better than automatically assigned – Is this good enough?
- Lack of benchmark
- GPT-4
- How much can be read from recipes ? - Cooking the dish

# Summary

Adapting recipes and advice to personal preferences and values

Combining with persuasive tailored stories and argumentation

Personal dietary AI to assist behavior change to personal/societal goals



Contact:

[dh@di.ku.dk](mailto:dh@di.ku.dk)

[mortenr@food.ku.dk](mailto:mortenr@food.ku.dk)

# Who Decides?



Researchers



Practitioners



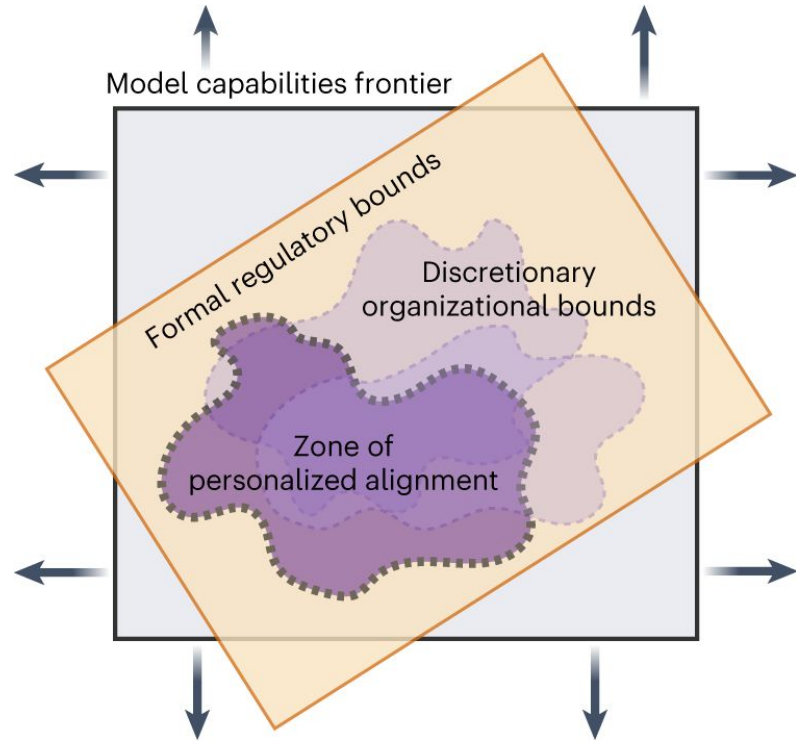
End-users



Affected communities



Regulators



The benefits, risks and bounds of personalizing the alignment of large language models to individuals (Kirk et al., *Nature Machine Intelligence* 2024)