

# Rewarded soups:

towards Pareto-optimal alignment by interpolating weights fine-tuned on diverse rewards.

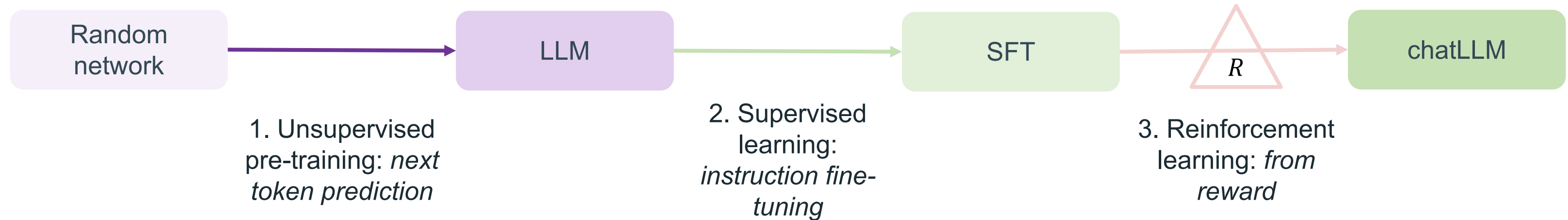


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Laure Soulier, Matthieu Cord.

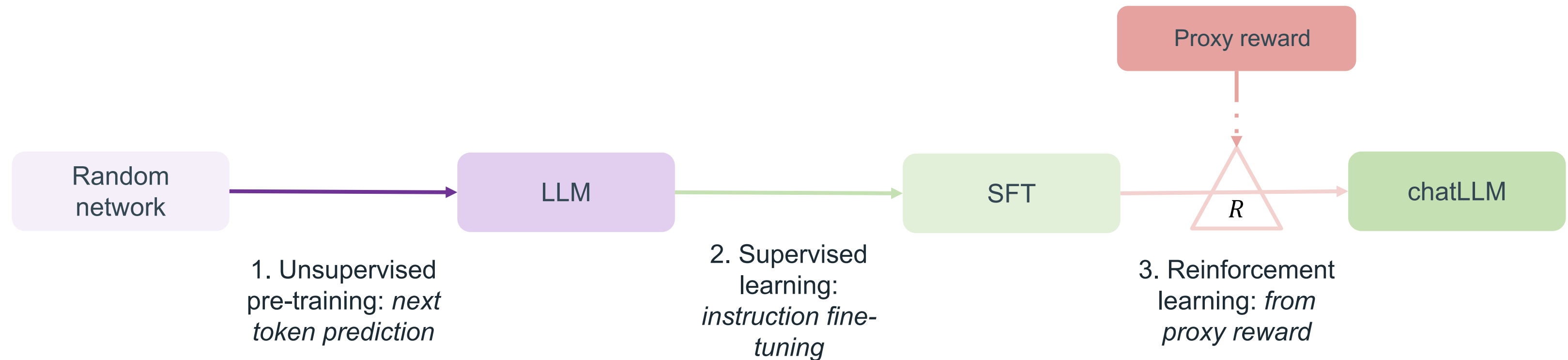
NeurIPS 2023



# LLM training in 3 steps

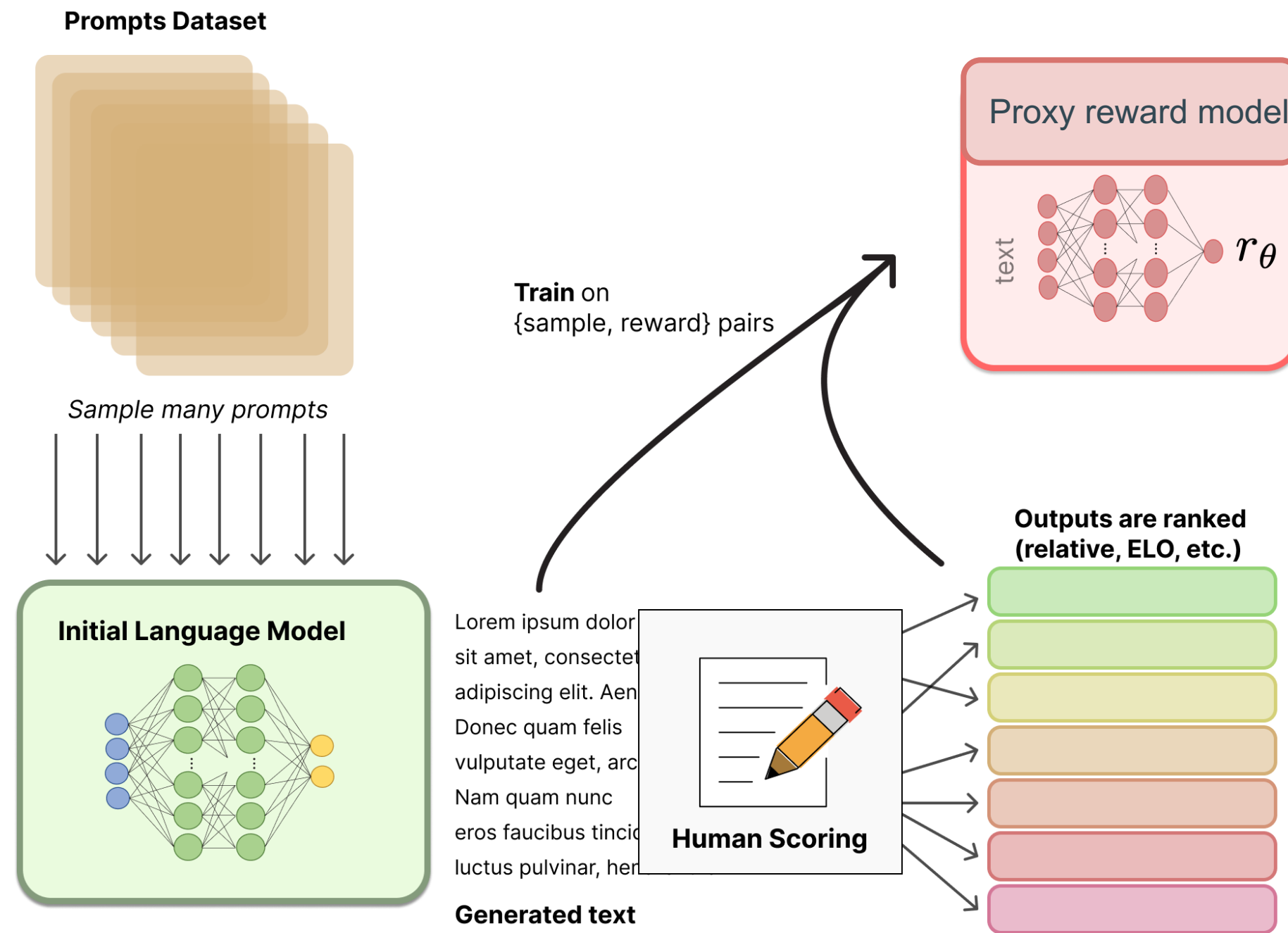


# Need for a proxy reward in the RL step



**Problem:** the true reward is not available.  
**Consequence:** proxy reward.  
**Challenge:** reward misspecification  
(when the training reward is not a good proxy).

# Reward model from human feedback for RLHF



Limitation of single reward

# Diversity of opinions

Consistency issue: only  $\approx 65\%$  agreement across labellers.

Indeed, human opinions are diverse (and subjective):

- **Politics:** democrat vs republican?
- **Uncertain situations:** economic strategy for climate change?
- **Aesthetic:** beautiful vs ugly?

More generally, different expectations from machines:

- **Safety:** helpfulness vs harmlessness?
- **Summarization:** complete or factual ?

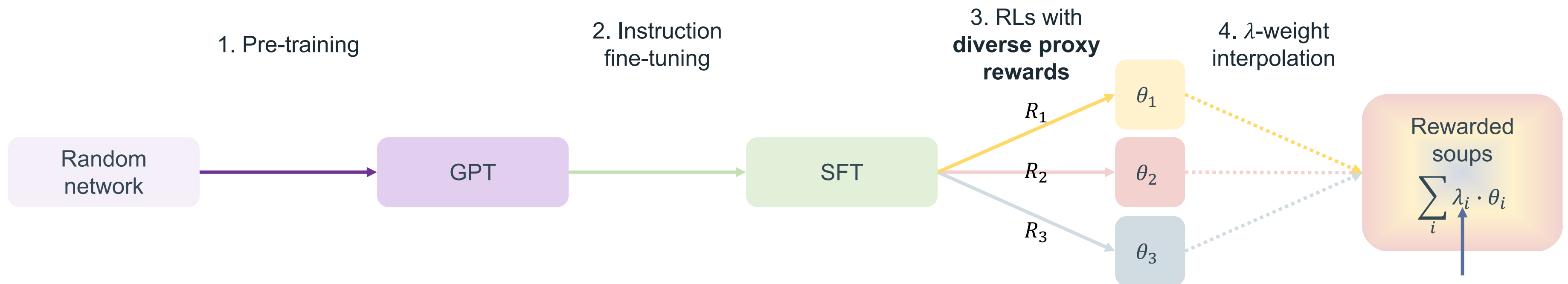
Diversity of people and applications  $\Rightarrow$  which one should we optimize for?



“Human aligned artificial intelligence is a multi-objective problem” [Vamplew2018].  
Move from a single-policy towards a **multi-policy paradigm** to embrace diversity.



# Rewarded soups: towards Pareto-optimal alignment by interpolating weights fine-tuned on diverse rewards

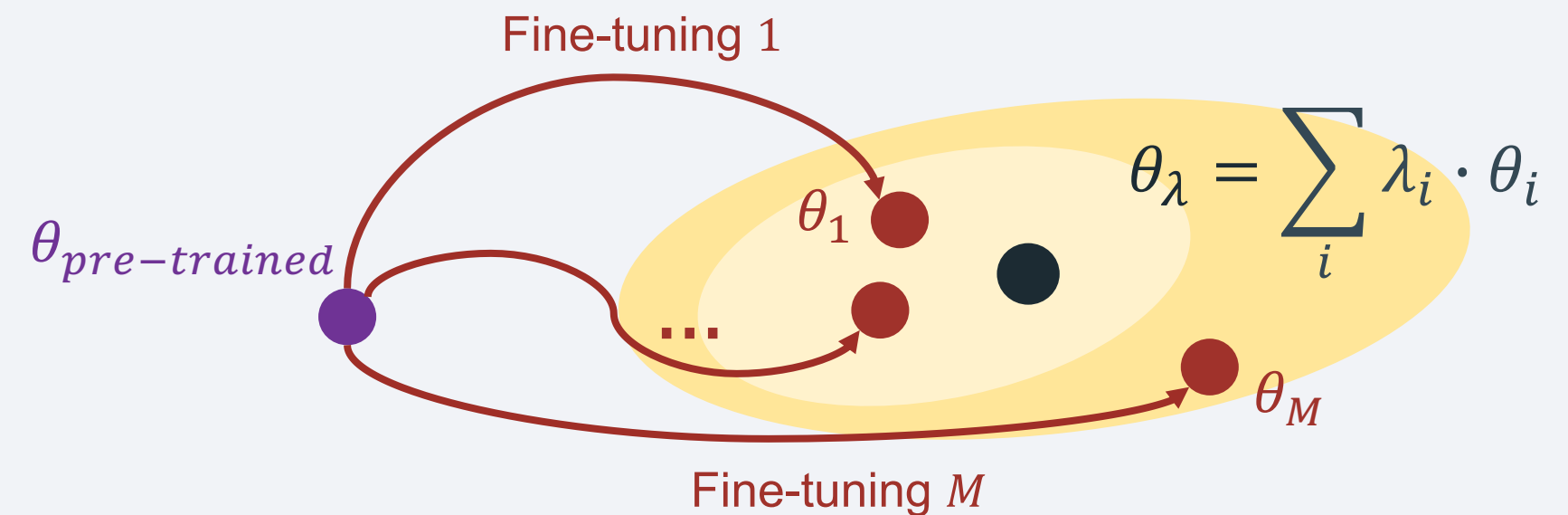


## Rewarded soup:

1. From a shared pre-trained foundation model,
2. Fine-tuned to follow instructions,
3. Launch one RL fine-tuning for each reward, each representing an opinion,
4. Interpolate the weights expert on diverse rewards,
5. Reveal the front of solutions (and select one interpolating coefficient).

# Weight interpolation relies on linear mode connectivity

When fine-tuned from a shared **pre-trained** model, weights remain **linearly connected** and thus can be interpolated despite the non-linearities in the architecture.





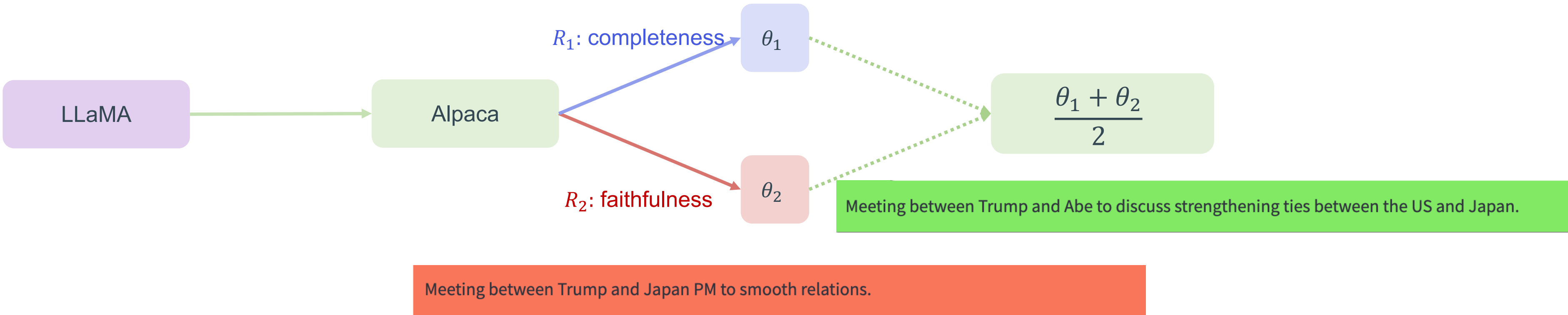
# Summarization with diverse reward models

Trump-Abe meeting

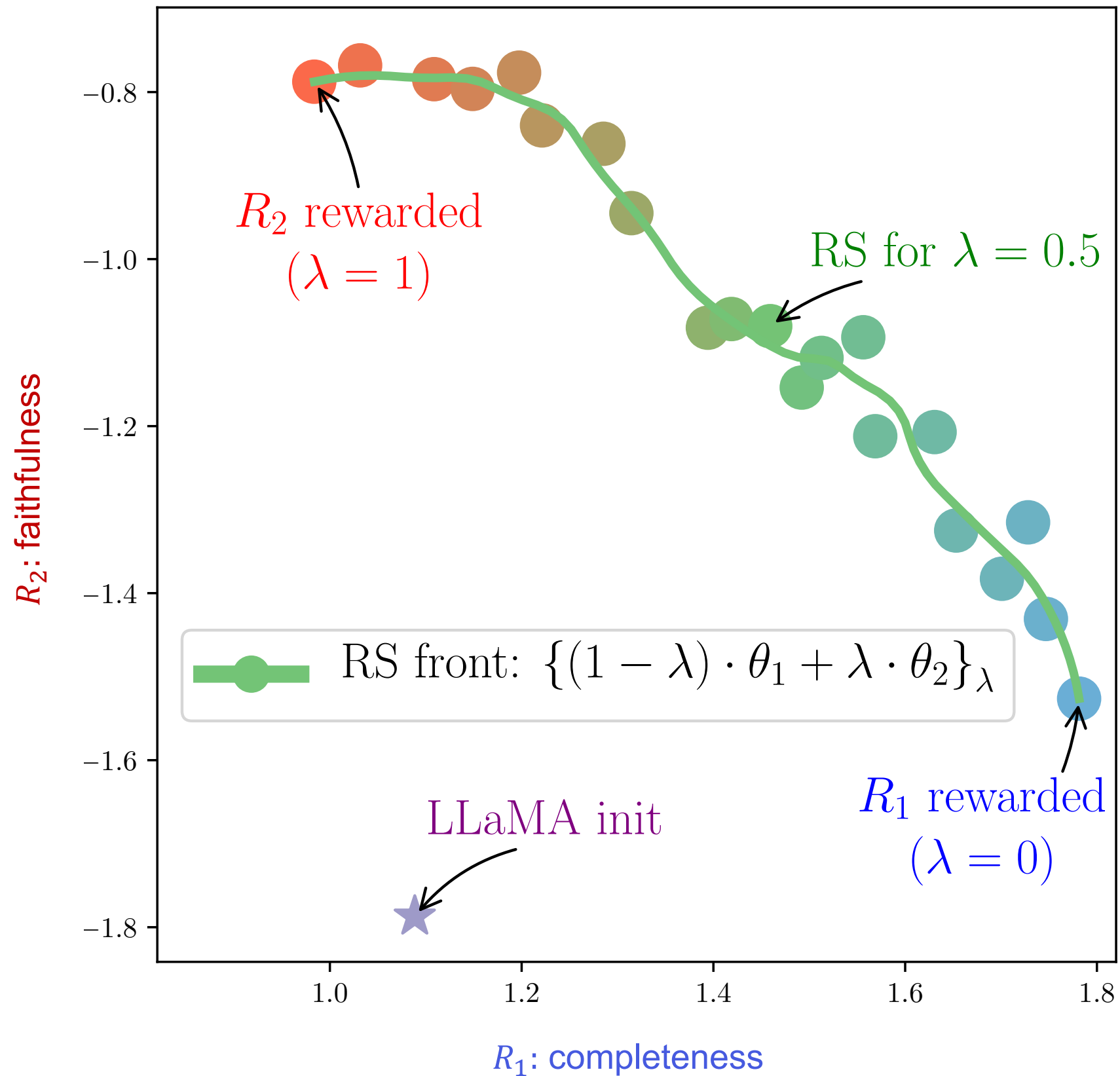
**Text to summarize:**

A meeting in New York on Thursday between U.S. President-elect Donald Trump and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has ended, a Trump transition team official said. The hastily arranged meeting was an attempt to smooth relations following Trump's campaign rhetoric that cast doubt on long-standing U.S. alliances.

Meeting between Trump and Abe in New York to discuss strengthening US-Japan alliance following Trump's campaign rhetoric that cast doubt on long-standing



# Summarization with diverse reward models



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Generated summaries:

$\lambda=0.0$

Meeting between Trump and Abe in New York to discuss strengthening US-Japan alliance following Trump's campaign rhetoric that cast doubt on long-standing

$\lambda=0.5$

Meeting between Trump and Abe to discuss strengthening ties between the US and Japan.

$\lambda=1.0$

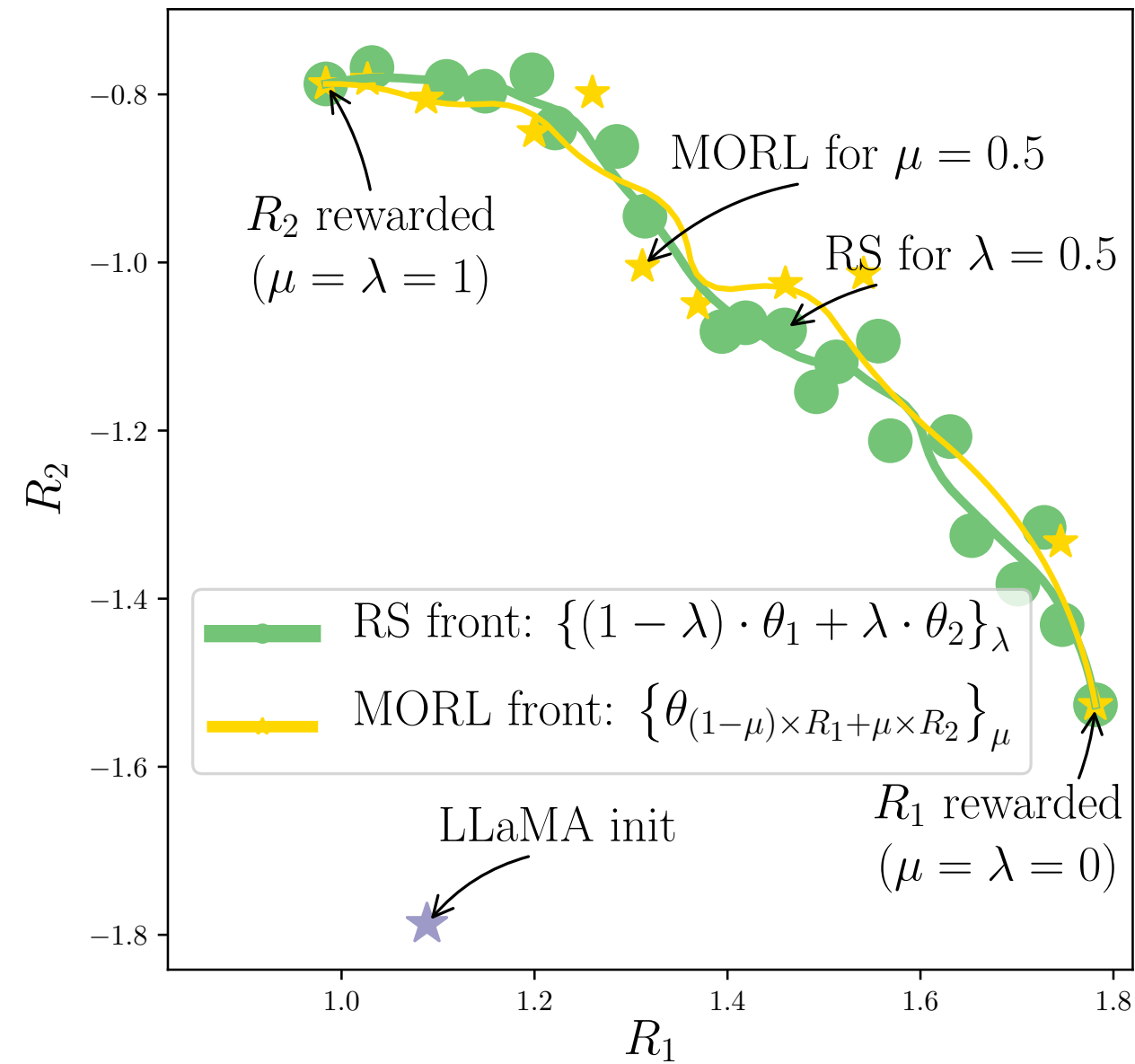
Meeting between Trump and Japan PM to smooth relations.

# Pareto-optimal alignment across rewards

## Rewarded soups

Interpolate the weights a posteriori:

$$\sum_i \lambda_i \cdot \theta_i$$



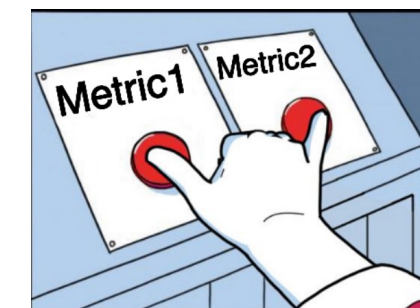
## Multi-objective: MORL

Interpolate the rewards a priori:

$$\sum_i \mu_i \cdot R_i$$

**Issue:** cost, as preference variations result in different solutions, requiring a high level of granularity.

In the paper, we theoretically prove the (approximated) Pareto-optimality of rewarded soups for quadratic rewards.



# We apply rewarded soup in multiple standard learning tasks:

## 1. Text

- Summarization (news, reddit).
- Movie review generation.
- Q&As of technical questions.
- Conversational assistant.

## 2. Multimodal: text and image

- Image captioning.
- Image generation with diffusion.
  - Visual grounding.
- Visual question answering.

## 3. Continuous control

- Locomotion.

# Benefits from rewarded soups

## 1. Efficiency

- 1 single fine-tuning per reward.
  - Parallelization.
- No inference overhead.

## 2. Transparency

- Support decision-making.
- Facilitate regulation by an (external) non-technical committee.

## 3. Updatable

- Easily update the  $\lambda$ .
- Easily add new reward.
- Iterative development process.

## 4. Fairness

- Value pluralism.
  - Under-represented groups.
  - Less ideological hegemony.
  - Federated learning setups?.

## Conclusion

- Human-aligned AI as a multi-objective problem.
- Weight interpolation as a practical pareto-optimal solution.
- Code: <https://github.com/alexrame/rewardedsoups>