



Arxiv: <https://arxiv.org/abs/2206.15462>  
Code: <https://github.com/uvavision/AMC-grounding>  
Demo: <https://vislang.ai/amc>

# Improving Visual Grounding by Encouraging Consistent Gradient-based Explanations



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# Overview

Input Image + Text



*A picture of a cathedral next to a park*

Regular V-L Model Explanation



Attention Map Consistency (AMC)

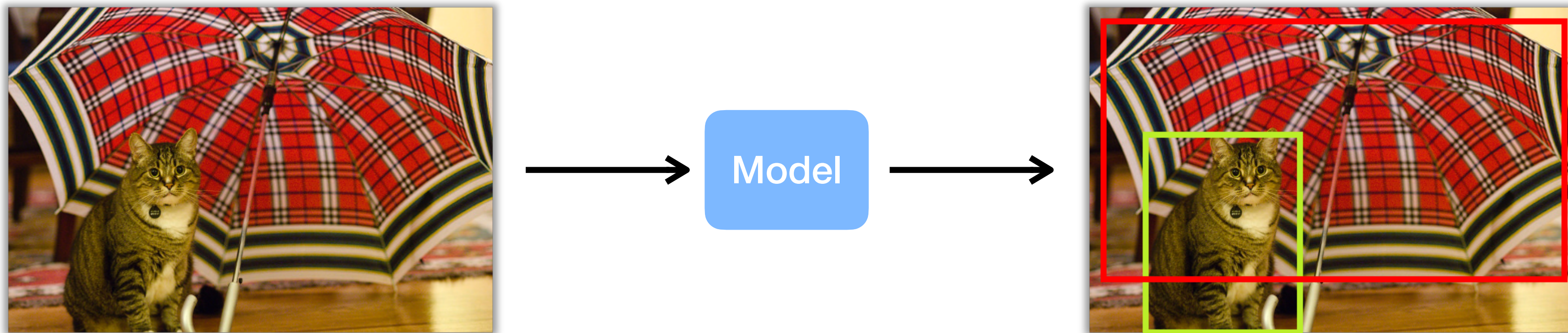


Human Explanation



# Visual Grounding

- Locate the most relevant region corresponding to a given query



a **cat** is sitting under a **red umbrella**

# Visual Grounding



a cat under an umbrella

Object Detectors  
Annotations: bounding boxes



# Visual Grounding

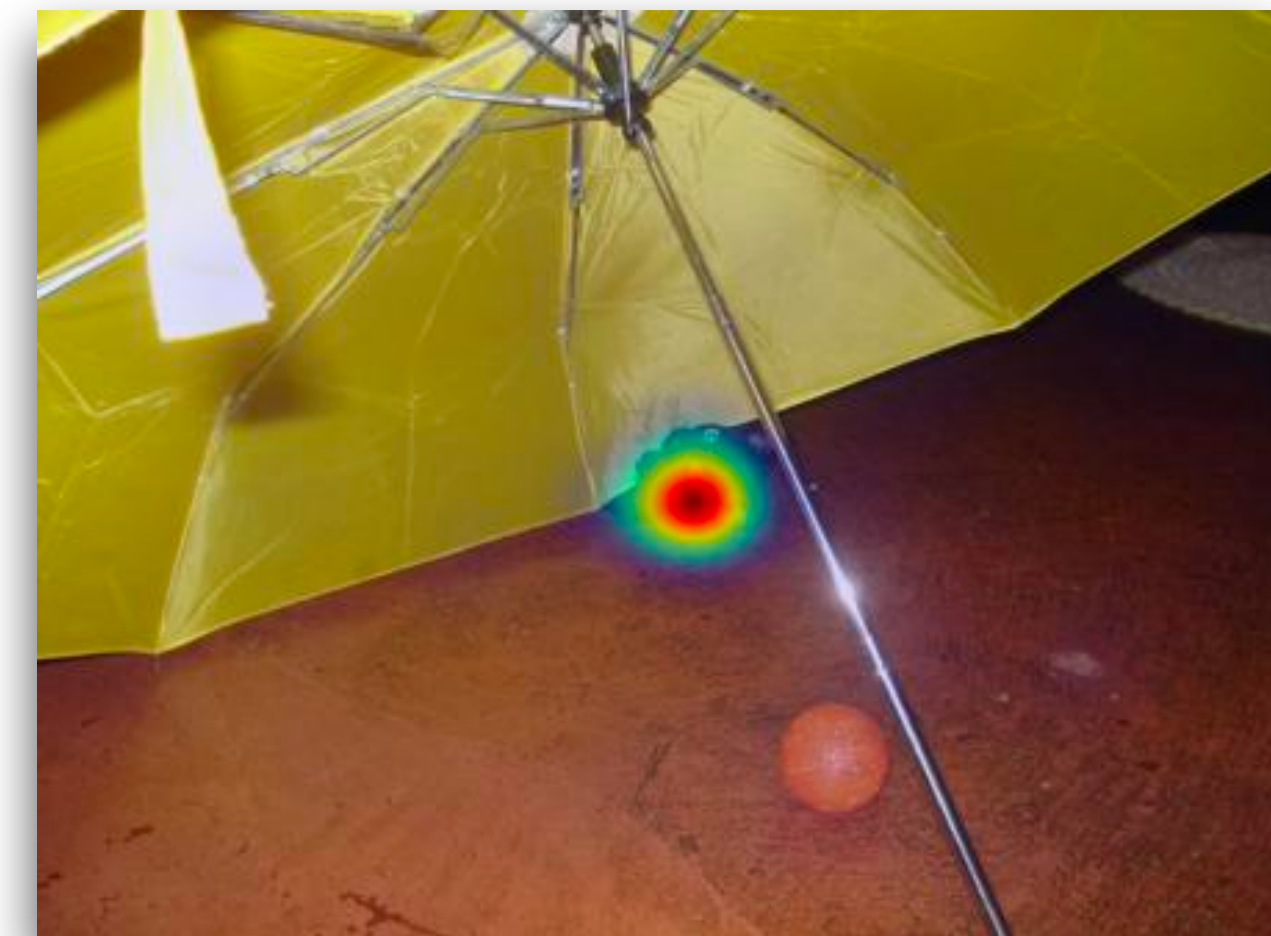


a cat under an umbrella

Object Detectors  
Annotations: bounding boxes

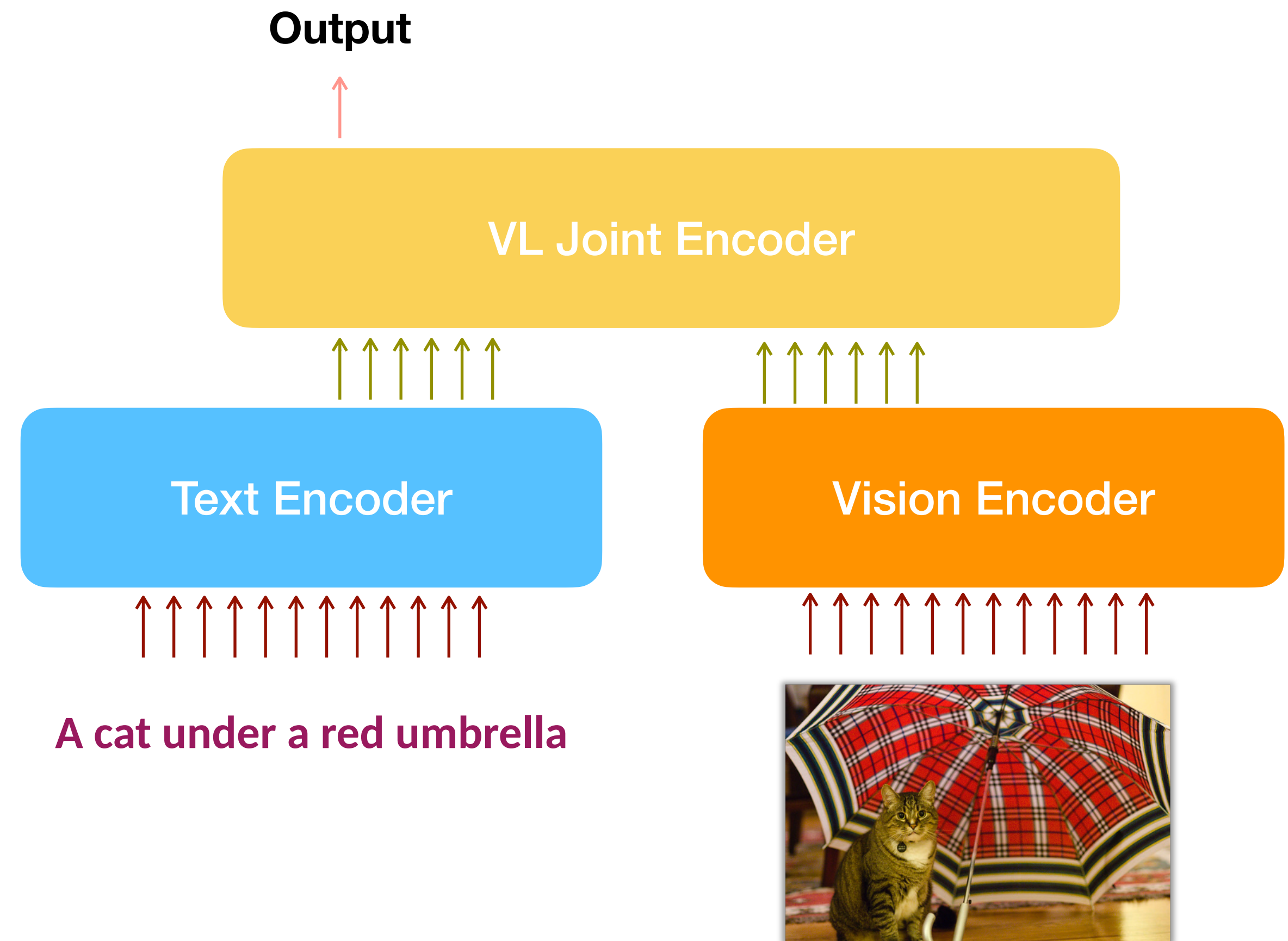


Vision-Language Models  
Annotations: bounding boxes



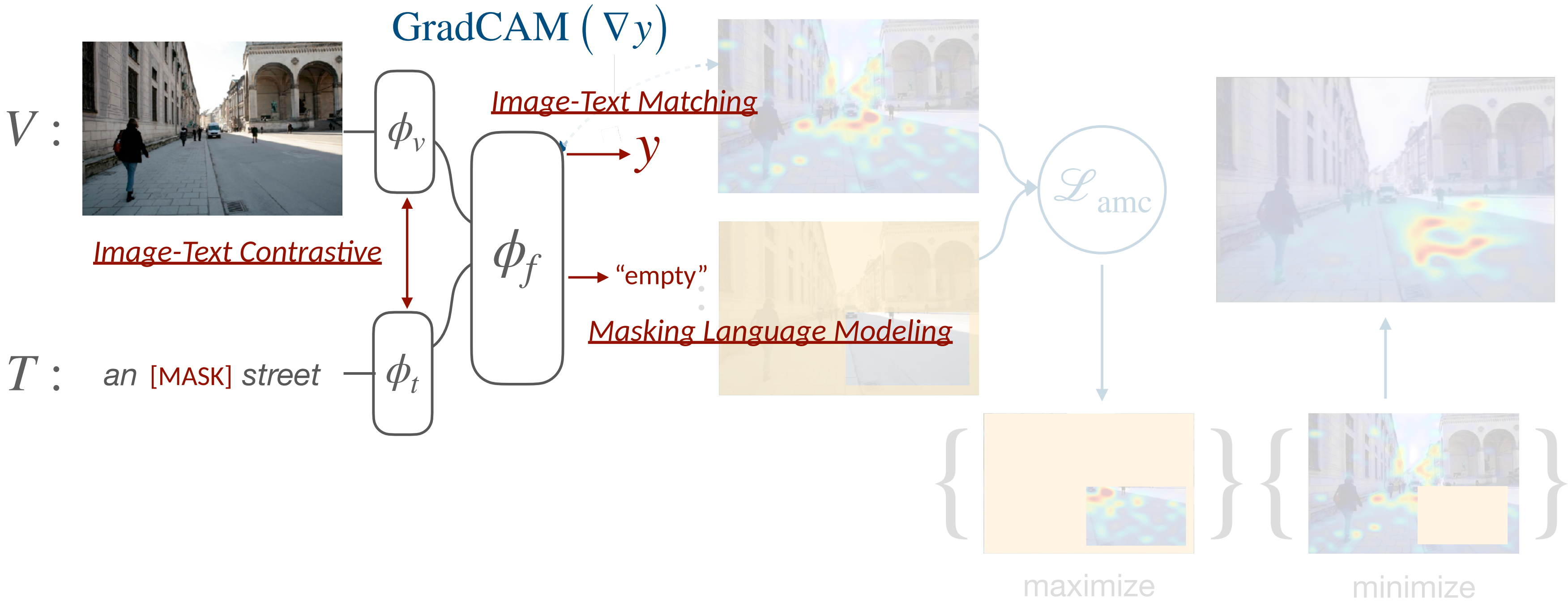
# Pre-trained VLMs

- Encoder-Decoder: **ALBEF**



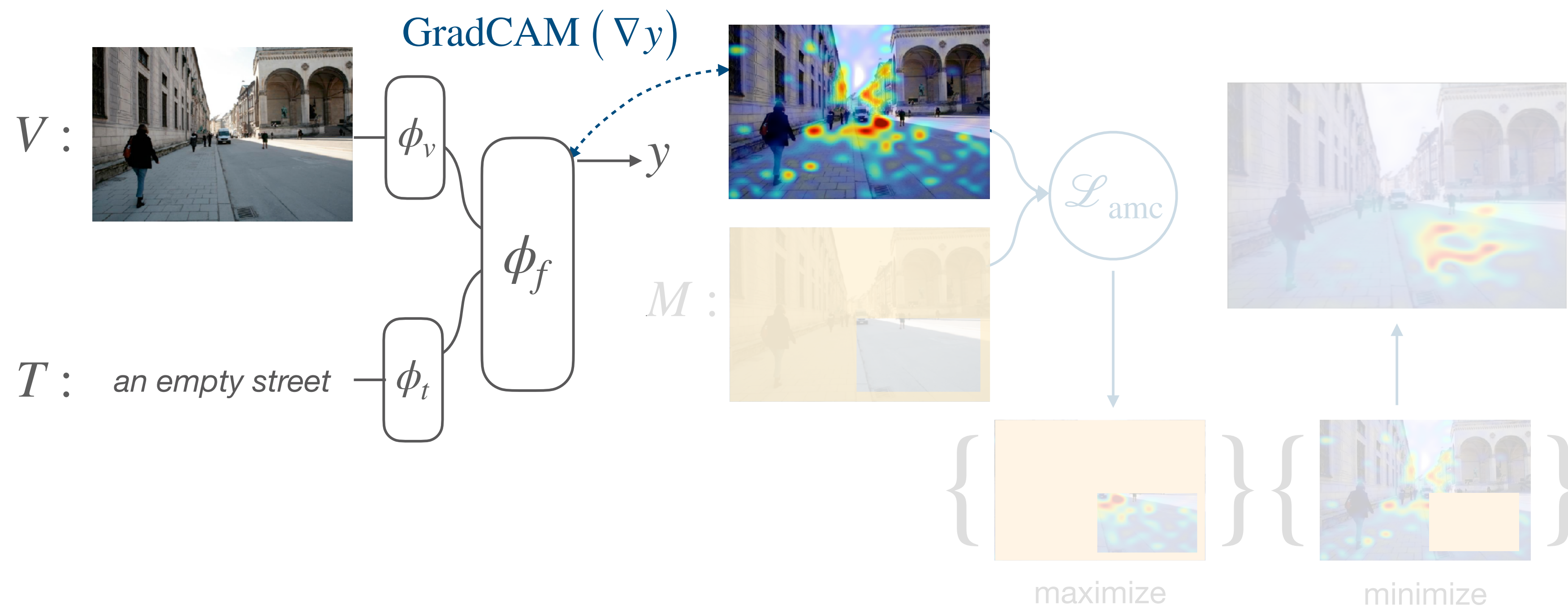
# Overview — our method

- Pretraining – from ALBEF
- Assume each sample has: V, T



# Overview — our method

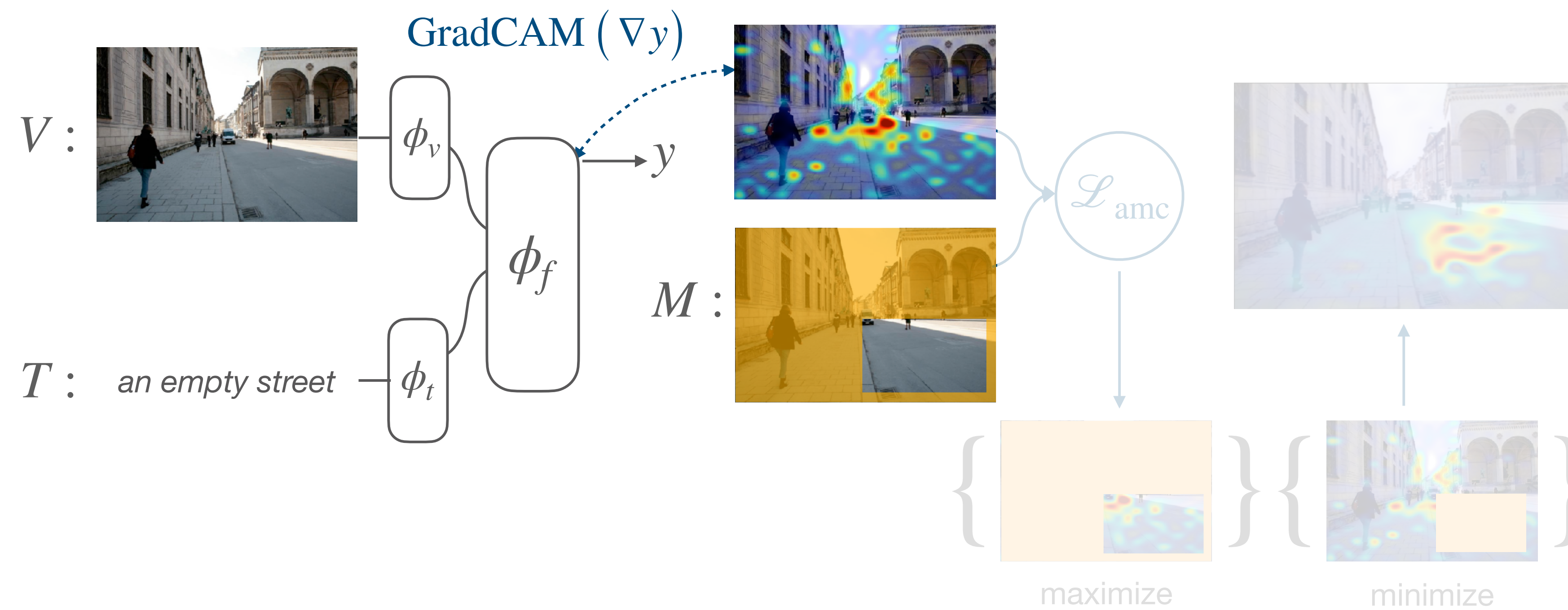
- Pretraining – from ALBEF
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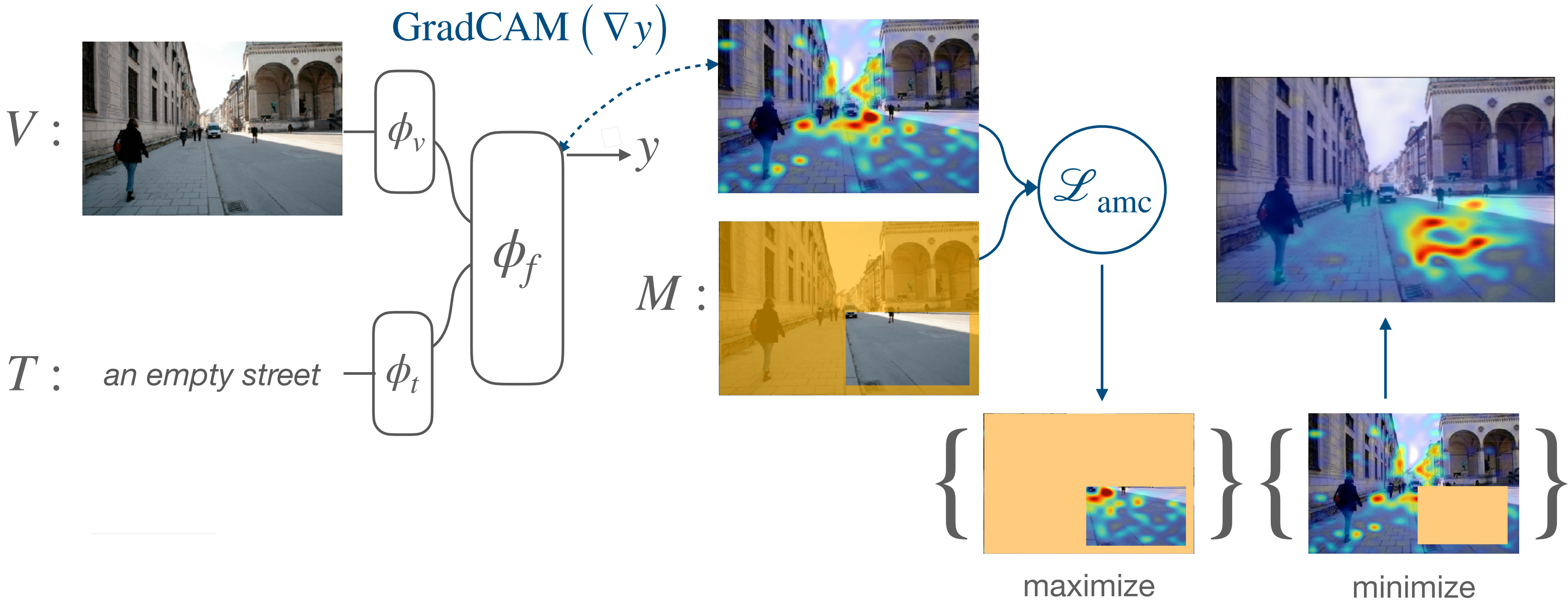
# Overview — our method

- Pretraining – from ALBEF
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# Overview — our method

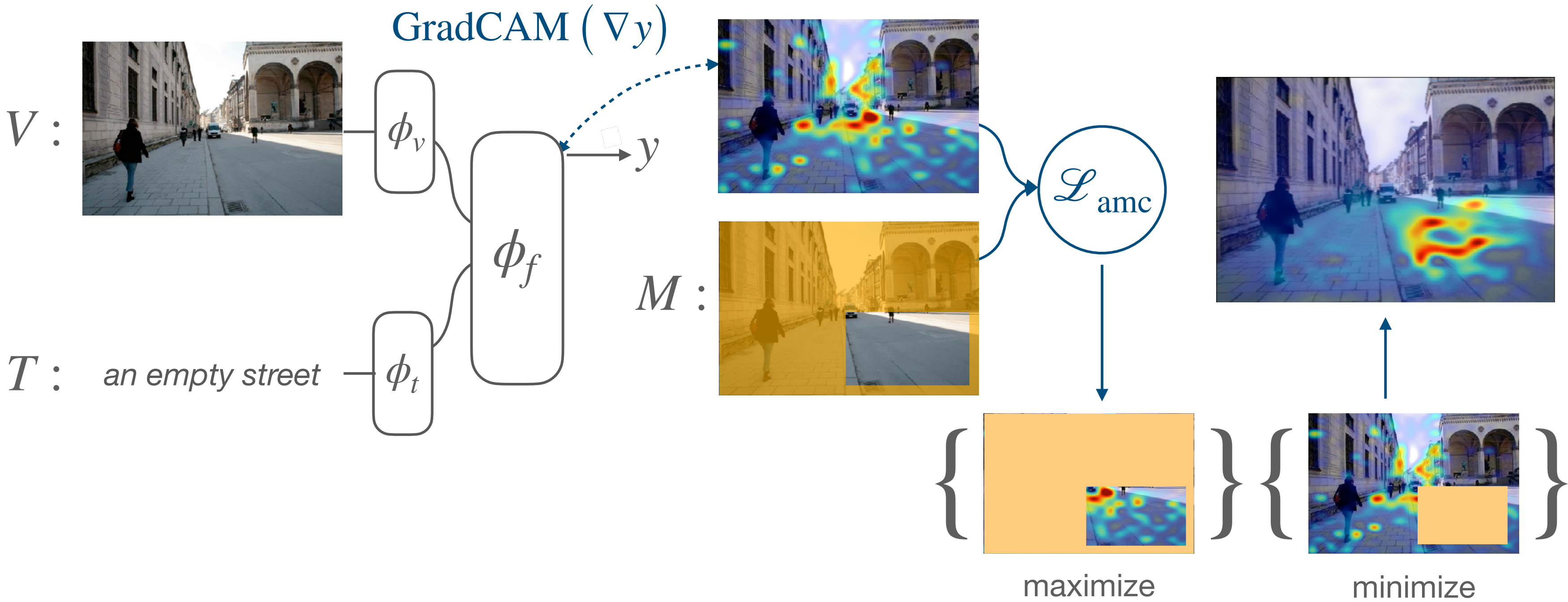
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# Overview — Attention Map Consistency (AMC)

- Pretraining – from ALBEF
- Assume each sample has:  $V$ ,  $T$ ,  $M$

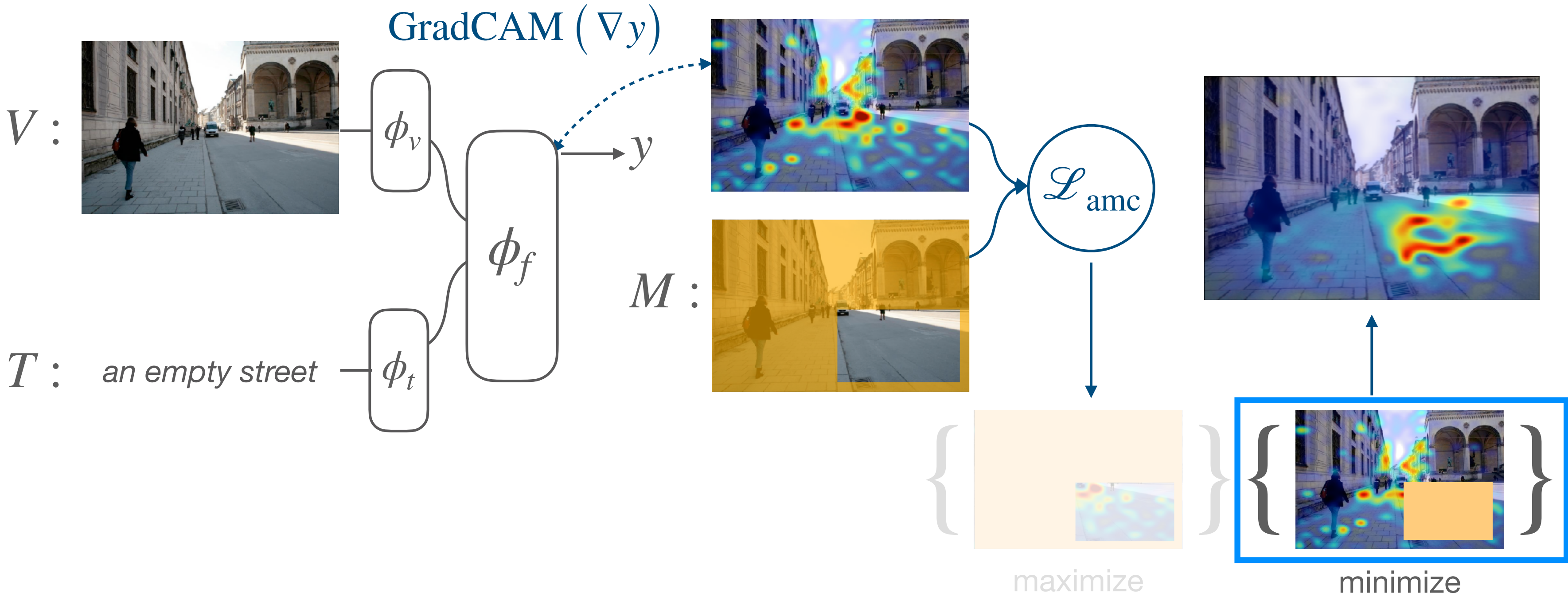
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{mean}} = \max \left( 0, \frac{1}{\sum_{i,j} (1 - M_{i,j})} \sum_{i,j} ((1 - M_{i,j}) A_{i,j}) - \frac{1}{\sum_{i,j} M_{i,j}} \sum_{i,j} M_{i,j} A_{i,j} + \Delta_1 \right)$$



# Overview — Attention Map Consistency (AMC)

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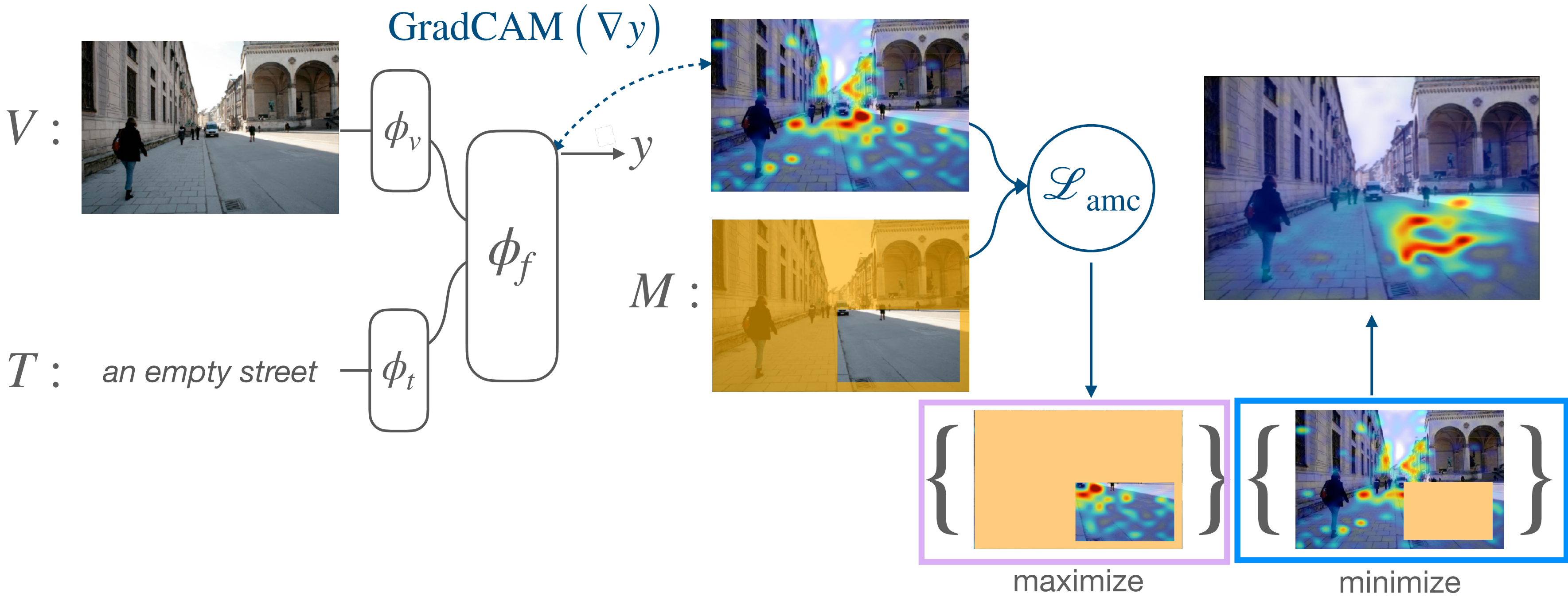
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{mean}} = \max \left( 0, \frac{1}{\sum_{i,j} (1 - M_{i,j})} \sum_{i,j} ((1 - M_{i,j}) A_{i,j}) - \frac{1}{\sum_{i,j} M_{i,j}} \sum_{i,j} M_{i,j} A_{i,j} + \Delta_1 \right)$$



# Overview — Attention Map Consistency (AMC)

- Pretraining – from ALBEF
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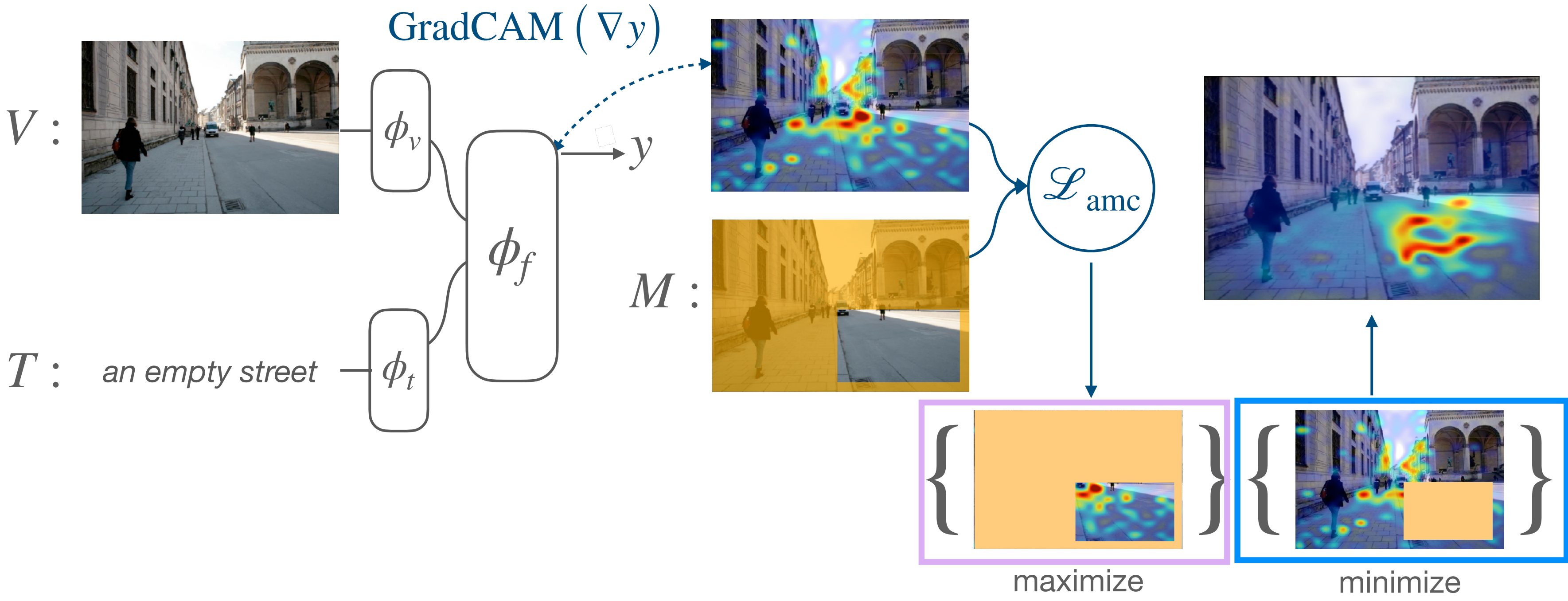
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{mean}} = \max \left( 0, \frac{1}{\sum_{i,j} (1 - M_{i,j})} \sum_{i,j} ((1 - M_{i,j}) A_{i,j}) - \frac{1}{\sum_{i,j} M_{i,j}} \sum_{i,j} M_{i,j} A_{i,j} + \Delta_1 \right)$$



# Overview — Attention Map Consistency (AMC)

- Pretraining – from ALBEF
- Assume each sample has:  $V$ ,  $T$ ,  $M$

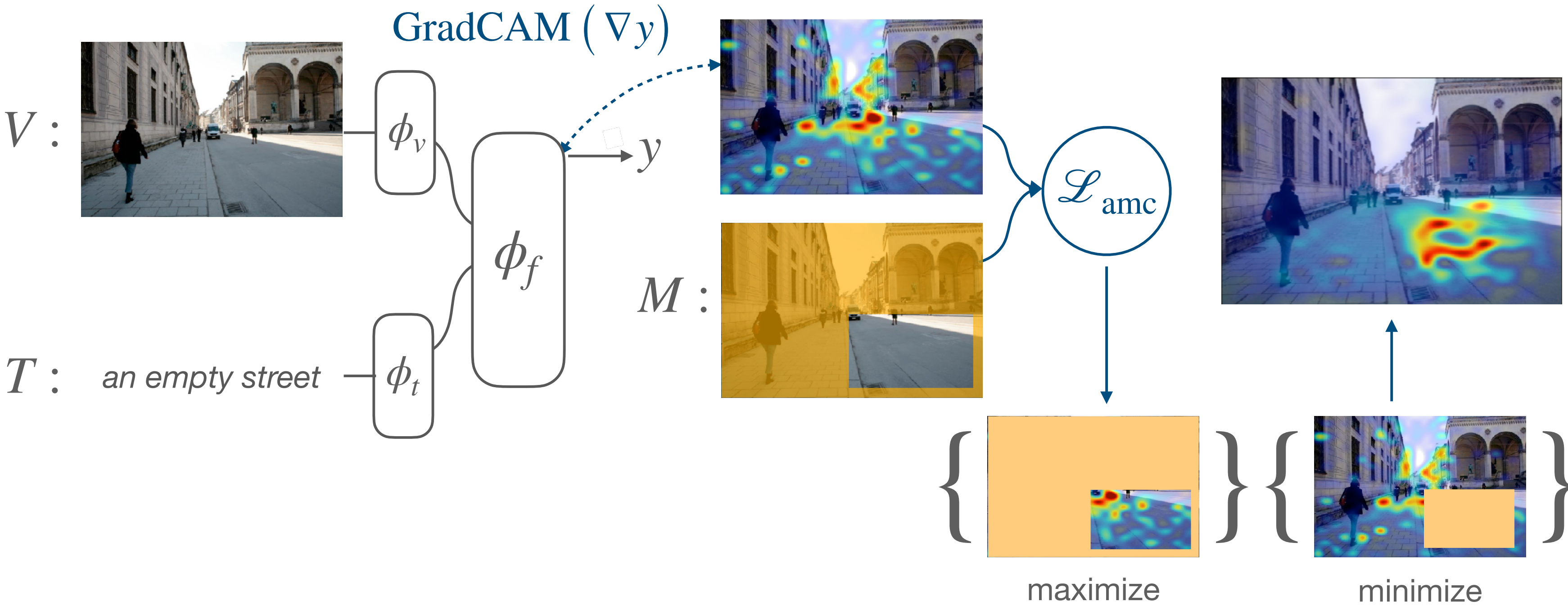
$$\mathcal{L}_{\max} = \max \left( 0, \max_{i,j} ((1 - M_{i,j}) A_{i,j}) - \max_{i,j} M_{i,j} A_{i,j} + \Delta_2 \right)$$



# Overview — Attention Map Consistency (AMC)

- Pretraining – from ALBEF
- Assume each sample has: V, T, **M**

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{amc}} = \lambda_1 \cdot \mathcal{L}_{\text{mean}} + \lambda_2 \cdot \mathcal{L}_{\text{max}}$$



# Experiments

- Training Data:
  - Visual Genome
- Evaluation Data:
  - Flickr30k
  - RefCOCO+
- Evaluation metric:
  - *Pointing Game Accuracy*

A sitting asian male wearing a yellow shirt with a skateboard





# Results

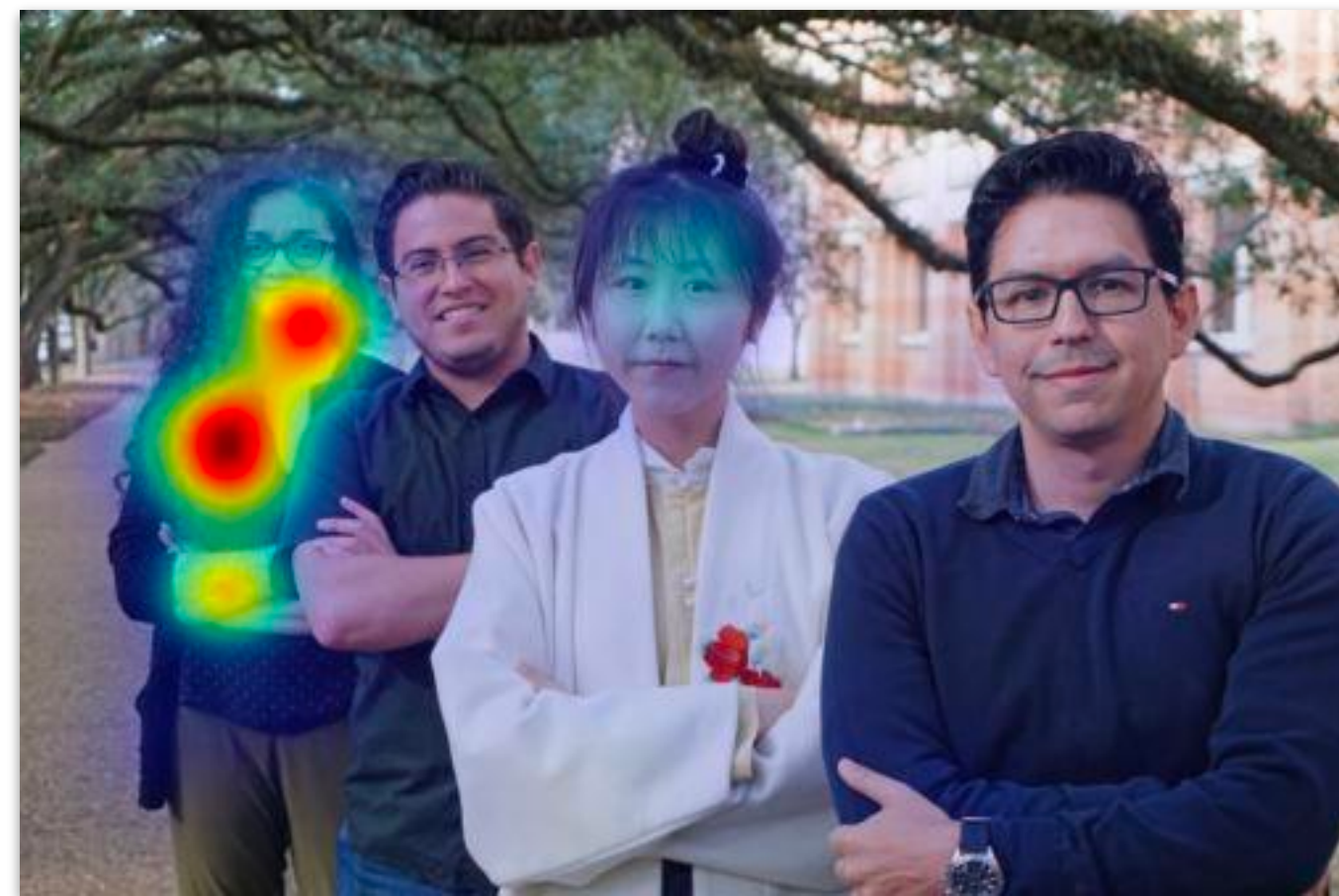
| Method           | Detector         | Flickr30k    | RefCOCO+     |              |
|------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|                  |                  |              | test A       | test B       |
| Align2Ground [7] | Faster-RCNN (VG) | 71.00        | -            | -            |
| 12-in-1 [23]     | Faster-RCNN (VG) | 76.40        | -            | -            |
| InfoGround [11]  | Faster-RCNN (VG) | 76.74        | 39.80        | 41.11        |
| VMRM [10]        | Faster-RCNN (VG) | 81.11        | 58.87        | 50.32        |
| AMC*             | –                | 86.49        | 78.89        | 61.16        |
| AMC (ours)       | –                | <b>86.59</b> | <b>80.34</b> | <b>64.55</b> |

Table 1: Visual Grounding results using *pointing game* accuracy against methods that use different object detectors trained on Visual Genome box annotations.

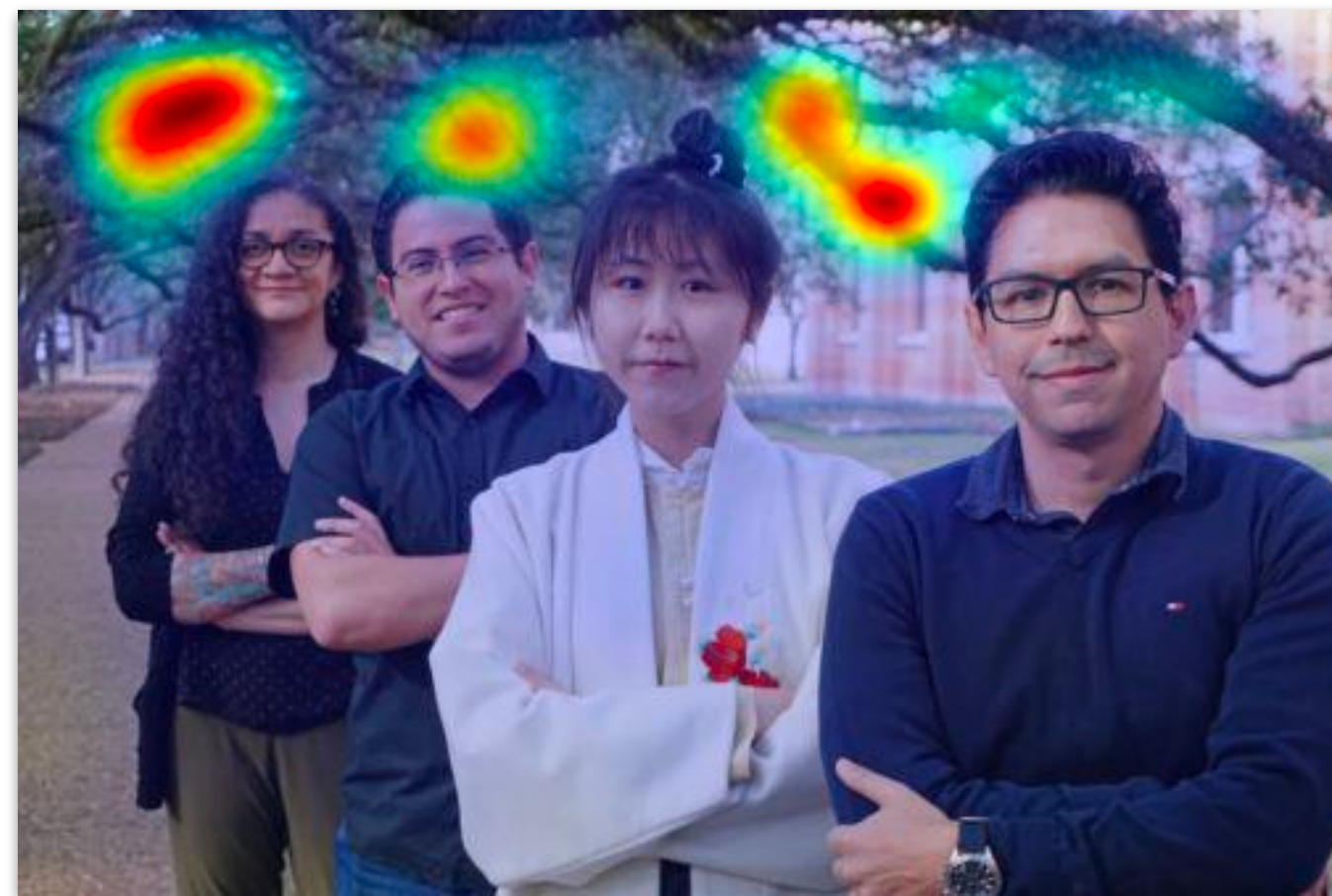
| Method          | VG-Boxes | Backbone       | Flickr30k    |
|-----------------|----------|----------------|--------------|
| gALBEF [17]     | no       | ALBEF          | 79.14        |
| GbS [3]         | no       | PNASNet        | 73.39        |
| MG [1]          | no       | ELMo + PNASNet | 67.60        |
| GAE [5]         | no       | CLIP           | 72.47        |
| WWbL [33]       | no       | CLIP + VGG     | 75.63        |
| GbS+IG [3]      | yes      | PNASNet        | 83.40        |
| GbS+12-in-1 [3] | yes      | PNASNet        | 85.90        |
| AMC (ours)      | yes      | ALBEF          | <b>86.59</b> |

Table 2: Visual Grounding results using *pointing game* accuracy against methods that do not use object detectors or Visual Genome box supervision

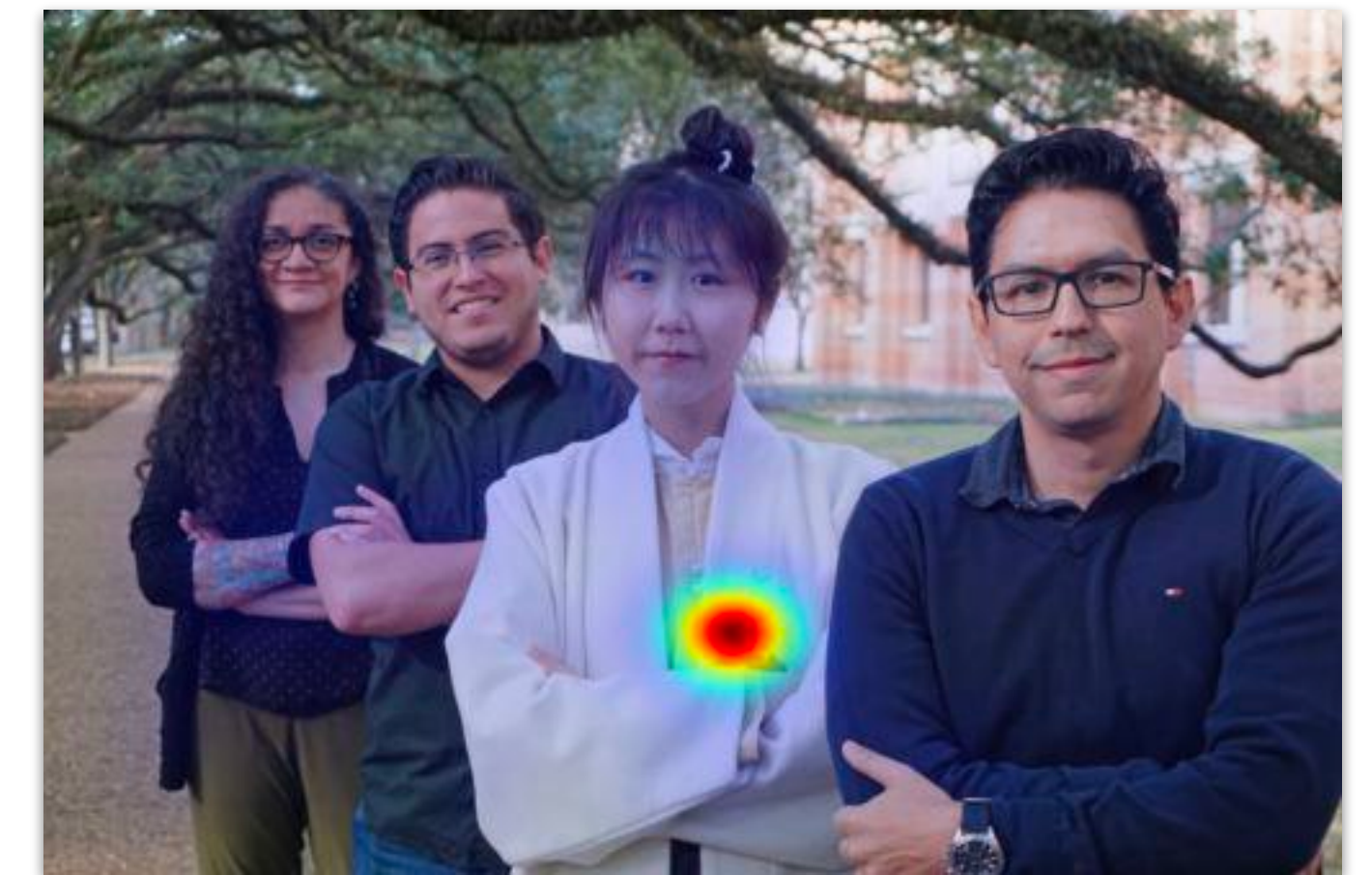
# Results



**a woman with tattoo**



**Tree branches in the background**



**A red flower**