

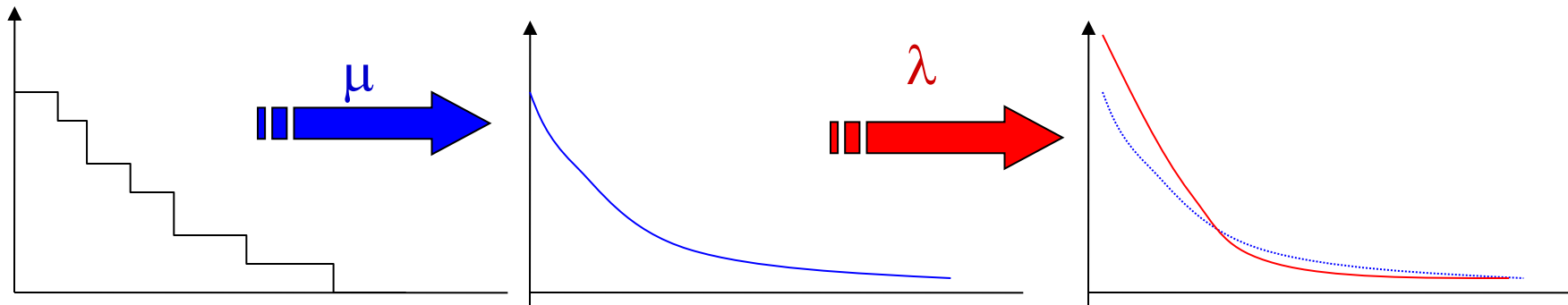
Two-stage Smoothing [Zhai & Lafferty 02]

Stage-1

- Explain unseen words
- Dirichlet prior (Bayesian)

Stage-2

- Explain noise in query
- 2-component mixture



$$P(w|d) = (1-\lambda) \frac{c(w,d) + \underbrace{\mu p(w|C)}_{\text{Collection LM}}}{|d| + \underbrace{\mu}_{\text{User background model}}}} + \lambda p(w|U)$$

Can be approximated by $p(w|C)$