Natural Language Processing



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UC Berkeley

Logistics



Logistics

Enrollment

- Class is "full" but we're expecting space
- Won't know capacity for sure until P0
- We'll announce as we go

Course expectations

- Readings, lectures, ~4 projects
- No sections, no exams
- Engagement with the course
- Workload will be high, self-direction
- Patience: class is under construction

Requirements

ML: A-level mastery, eg CS189

NL: Care a lot about natural language

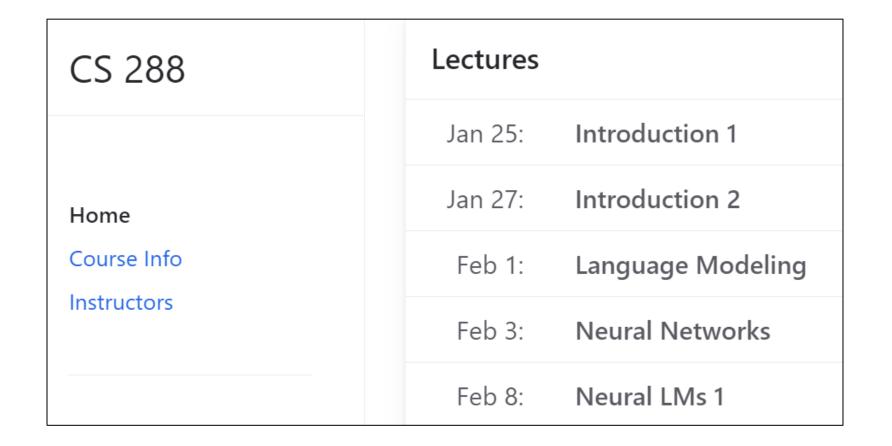
PL: Ready to work in Python/Torch (on colab)

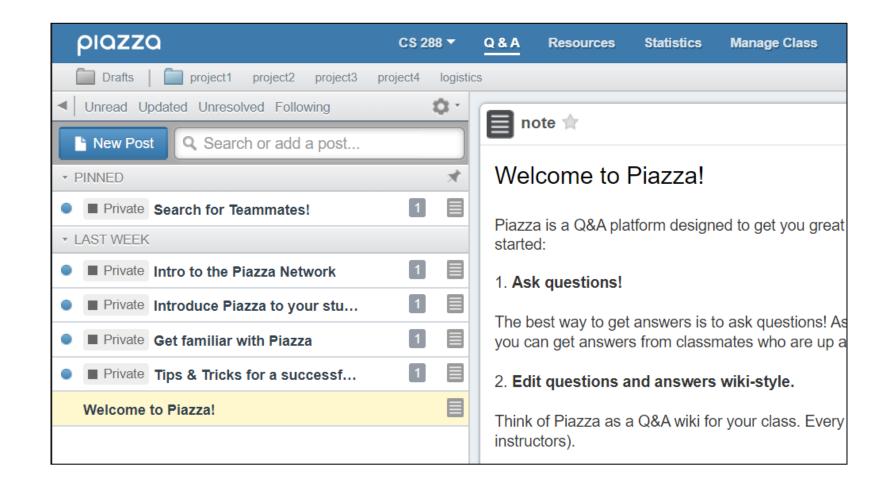


Resources and Readings

Resources

- Webpage (syllabus, readings, slides, links)
- Piazza (course communication)
- Gradescope (submission and grades)
- Compute via Colab notebooks
- Limited webcast policy
- Readings (see webpage)
 - Individual papers will be linked
 - Optional text: Jurafsky & Martin, 3rd (more NL)
 - Optional text: Eisenstein (more ML)







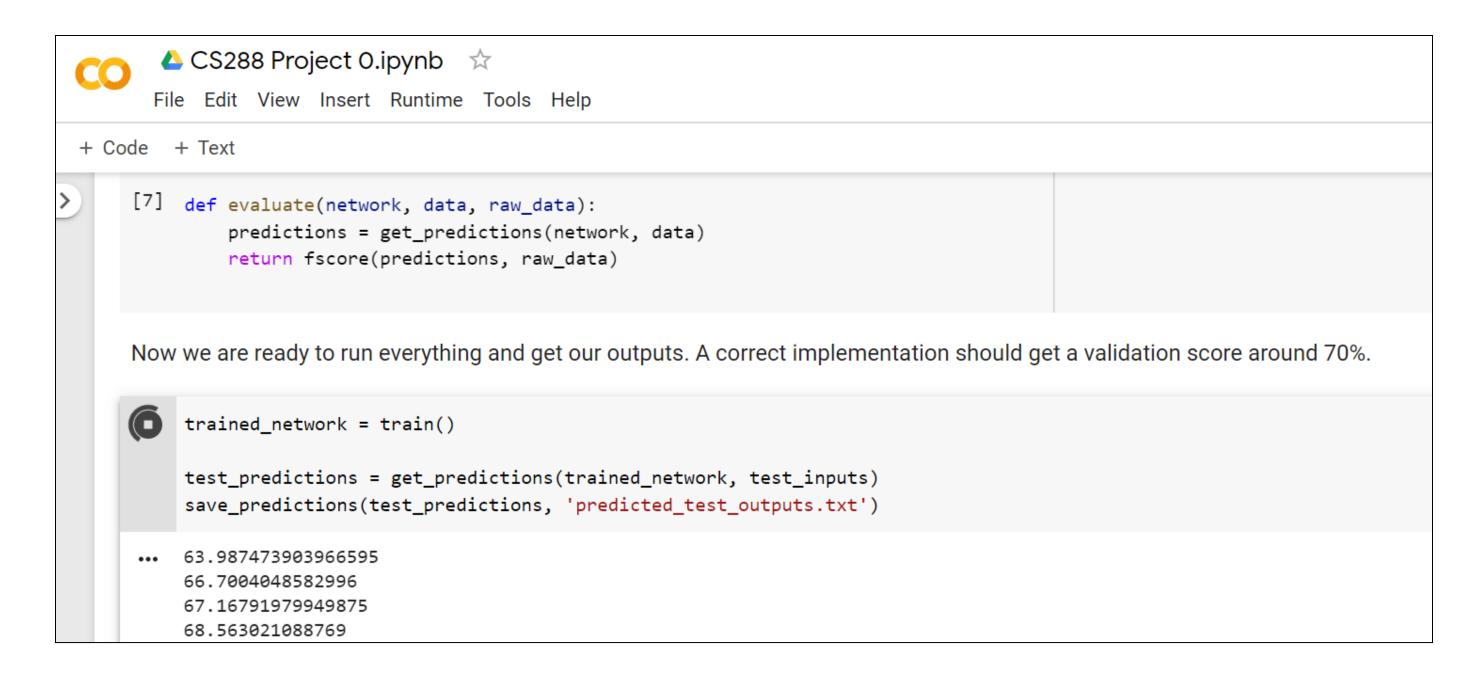
Projects and Compute

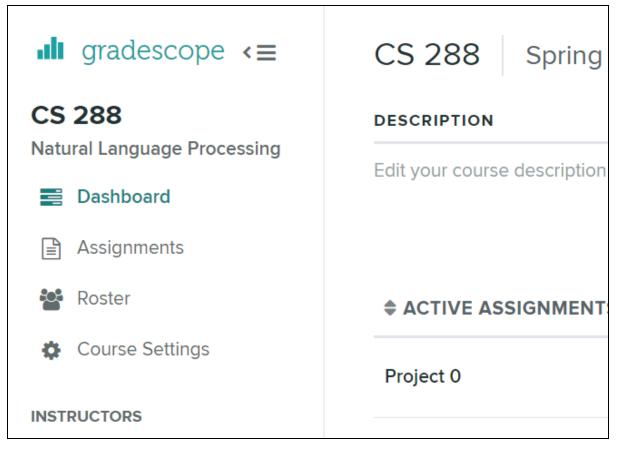
Projects

- P0: Warm-up and calibration
- P1: Language Models
- P2: Machine Translation
- P3: Syntax and Parsing
- P4: Semantics and Grounding

Infrastructure

- Python / PyTorch
- Compute via Colab notebooks
- Grading via Gradescope





What is NLP?



Natural Language Processing



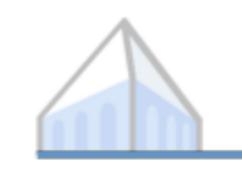


Goal: Deep Understanding

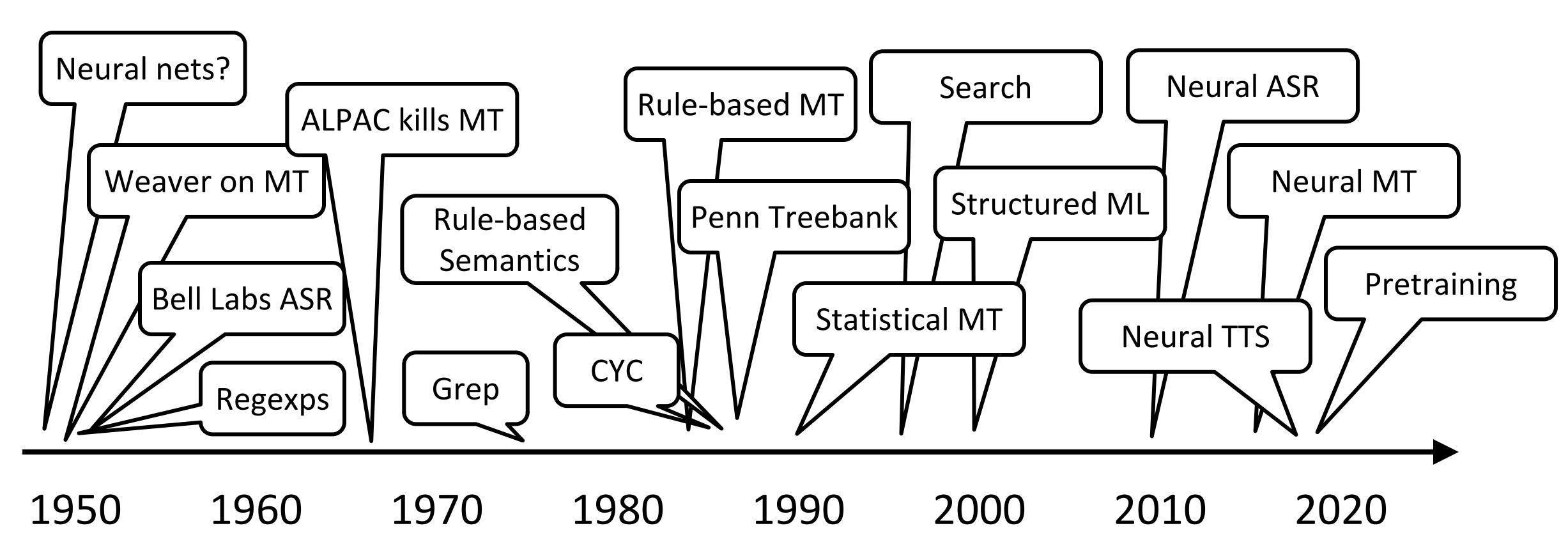
 Requires context, linguistic variables, meanings...

Reality: Shallow Matching

- Requires robustness and scale
- Amazing successes, but fundamental limitations



NLP History



Pre-Compute Era Symbolic Era

Empirical Era

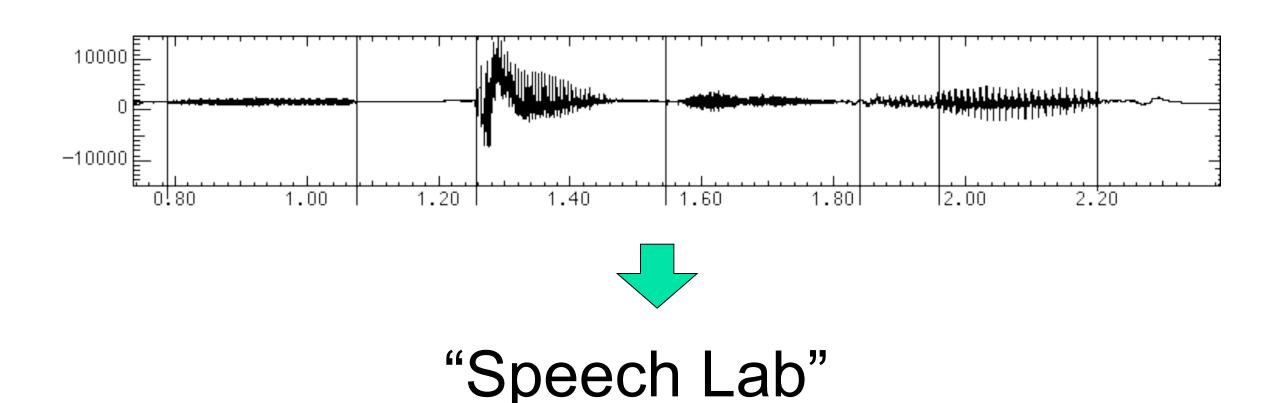
Scale Era

Transforming Language



Speech Systems

- Automatic Speech Recognition (ASR)
 - Audio in, text out
 - SOTA: <<1% error for digit strings, 5% conversational speech, still >>20% hard acoustics



MICROSOFT TECH ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Microsoft reaches 'human parity' with new speech recognition system

- Text to Speech (TTS)
 - Text in, audio out
 - SOTA: nearly perfect aside from prosody



GOOGLE TECH ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Google launches more realistic text-to-speech service powered by DeepMind's Al







Machine Translation





- Translate text from one languag
- Challenges:
 - What's the mapping? [learning to translate]
 - How to make it efficient? [fast translation search]
 - Fluency (next class) vs fidelity (later)

Example: Yejin Choi



Machine Translation

CINÉMA · MÉDIAS



Disney décide de changer le nom du légendaire studio de cinéma Fox

Le nouveau propriétaire va faire disparaître la mention « Fox » à la 20th Century pour que le nom du studio ne soit pas associé à l'image ultra-conservatrice de la chaîne de télévision Fox News.

Le Monde avec AFP • Publié le 18 janvier 2020 à 06h46

Ō Lecture 1 min.

Révolution dans le monde d'Hollywood. Le célèbre studio de cinéma 20th Century Fox va voir une partie de son nom modifiée et devenir 20th Century Studios, décision prise par son nouveau propriétaire, Disney.

Selon plusieurs médias américains, Disney aurait décidé de modifier le nom du studio pour qu'il ne soit plus associé à la grande chaîne Fox mais aussi et surtout à Fox News, la chaîne d'information en continu.

CINEMA · MEDIA



Disney decides to change the name of the legendary Fox film studio

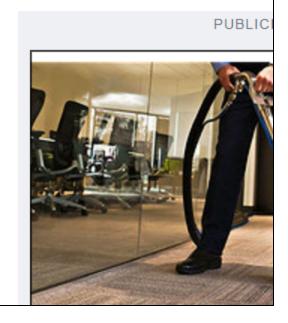
The new owner will remove the mention "Fox" in the 20th Century so that the name of the studio is not associated with the ultra-conservative image of the television channel Fox News.

Le Monde avec AFP • Posted on January 18, 2020 at 06:46

Ö Reading time 1 min.

Revolution in the Hollywood world. The famous film studio 20th Century Fox will see part of its name changed and become 20th Century Studios, decision taken by its new owner, Disney.

According to several American media, Disney has decided to change the name of the studio so that it is no longer associated with the big chain Fox but also and especially with Fox News, the news channel.





Spoken Language Translation



Image: Microsoft Skype via Yejin Choi



Summarization

- Condensing documents
 - Single or multiple docs
 - Extractive or synthetic
 - Aggregative or representative
- Very contextdependent!
- An example of analysis with generation



- CNN: official investigation into yesterday air balloon accident in Luxor could take 2 weeks
- Governor bans all hot air balloon flights until further notice
- Foul play not suspected in fatal balloon accident
- Official: Egypt balloon explosion probe can take 2 weeks
- · Egypt balloon explosion
- An official investigation into the cause of a balloon accident that killed 19 people in Egypt could take two w...
- Egypt: Balloon probe could take weeks
-



Official: Egypt balloon explosion probe can take 2 weeks

By Adam Makary, Saad Abedine and Mariano Castillo, CNN February 27, 2013 — Updated 1614 GMT (0014 HKT)

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

- NEW: No foul play is suspected official says
- The Tuesday accident was the world's deadliest hot air balloon accident in at least 20 years
- Officials: Passengers in the balloon included 19 foreign tourists
- Luxor province bans all hot air balloon flights until further notice

Read a version of this story in Arabic.

Cairo (CNN) -- An official investigation into the cause of a balloon accident that killed 19 people in Egypt could take two weeks, the governor of Luxor province said Wednesday.

The Tuesday accident was the world's deadliest hot air balloon accident in at least 20 years.

Preliminary investigations confirmed no foul play was involved when gas canisters aboard the balloon exploded, causing it to plummet about 1,000 feet (300 meters) to the ground, Gov. Ezzat Saad said.

CNN iReport: After tragedy, vacationers recall glorious balloon rides in Egypt



Passengers in the balloon included 19 foreign tourists: nine from Hong Kong, four from Japan, three from Britain, two from France and one from Hungary, officials said.

How safe is hot air ballooning?

An Egyptian pilot and another Egyptian were also aboard, Luxor province spokesman Badawi al-Masri said.

Balloon rides offering panoramic aerial views of the Nile River and the ancient temples of Karnak and Hatshepsut are a popular tourist attraction in Luxor, about a nine-hour drive southeast of Cairo.

"You can see Valley of the Kings in the background bordered by farmland," Pauline Liang of Vancouver, Canada, told CNN's iReport last year. "Below were banana farms, and behind us was the city of Luxor. There was a great contrast between desert landscape, lush farmland and urban development."

Tuesday's crash prompted the governor to ban all hot air balloon flights until further notice.

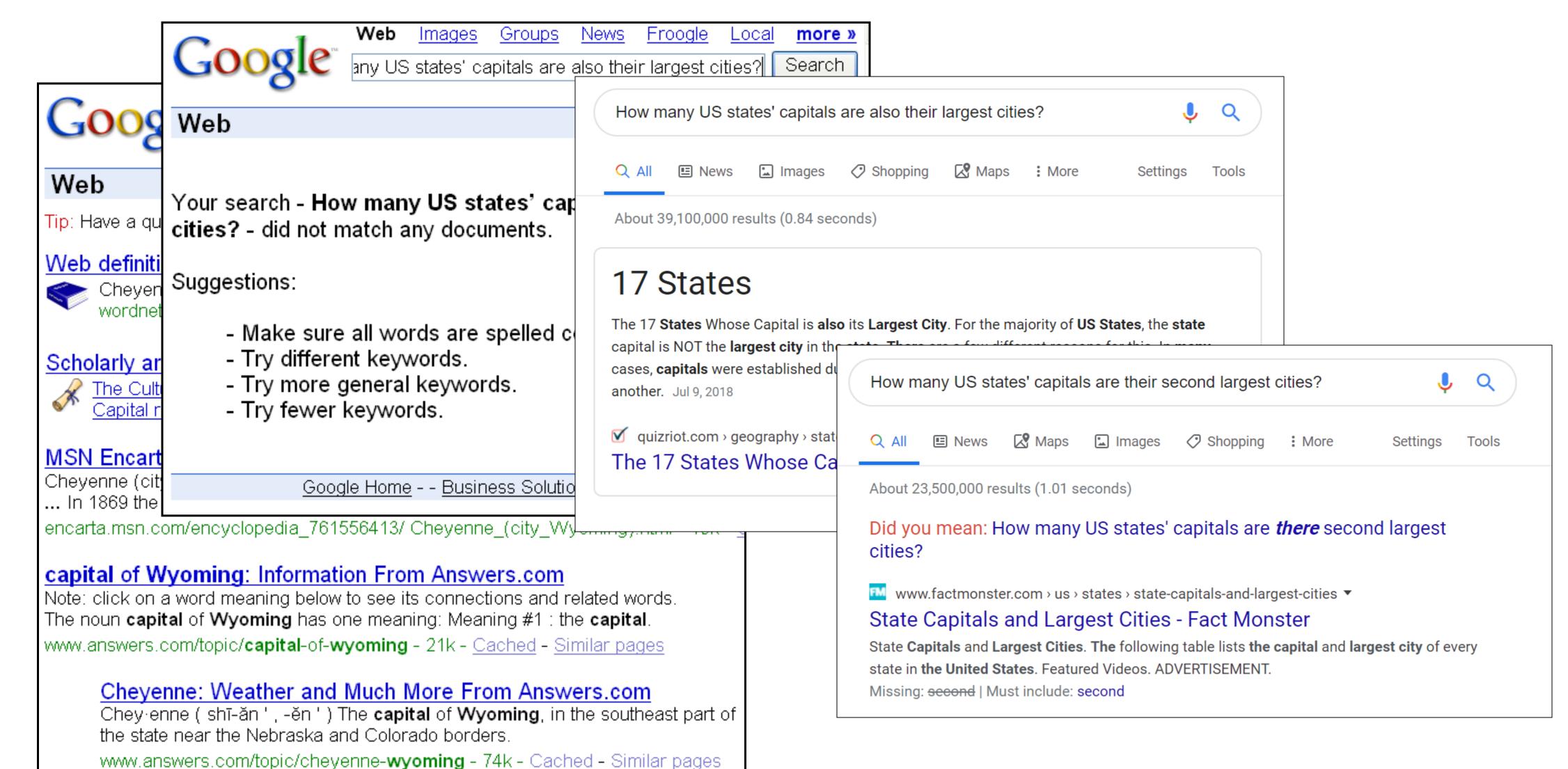




Understanding Language



Search, Questions, and Reasoning





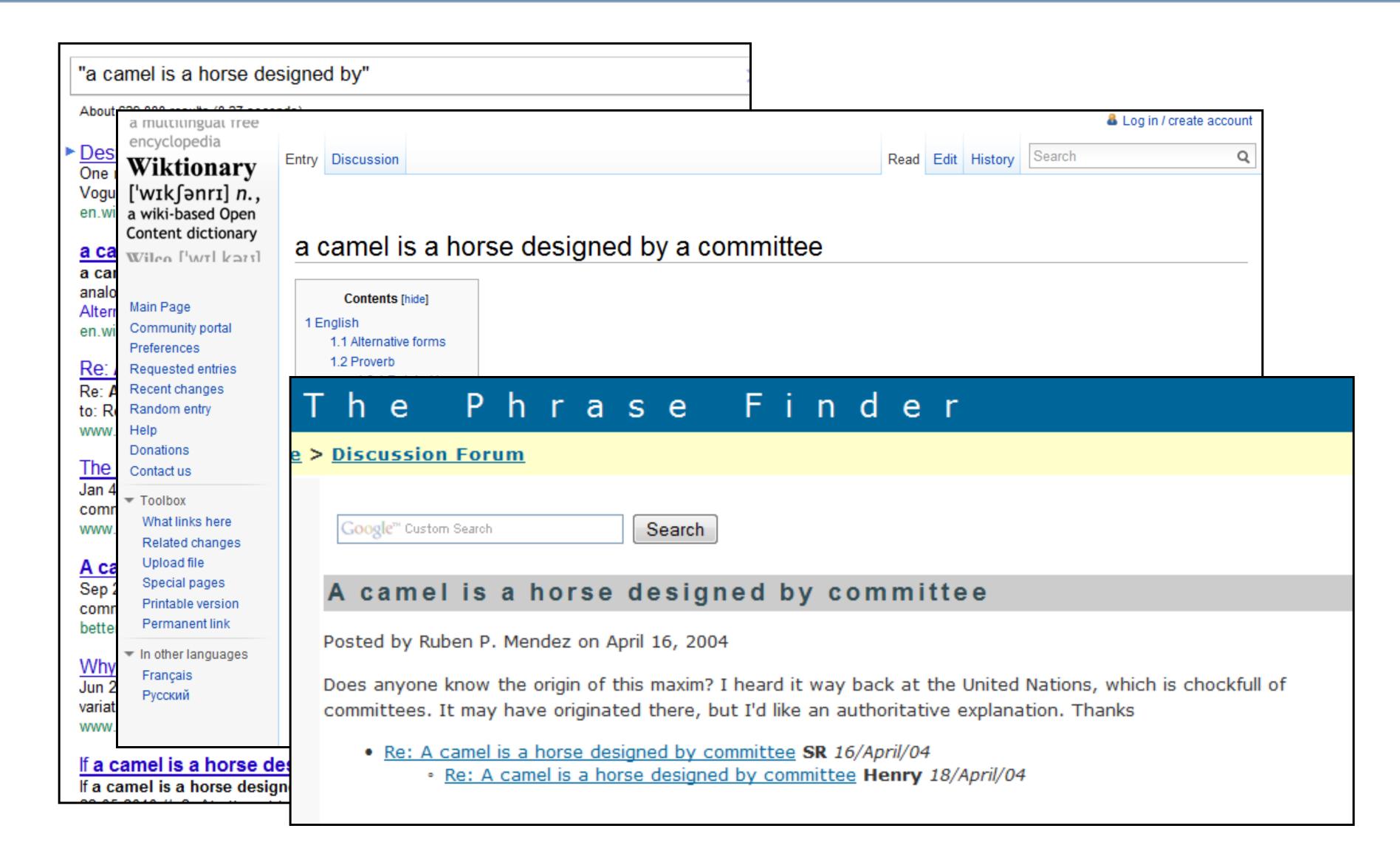
Jeopardy!



Images: Jeopardy Productions



Question Answering: Watson





Question Answering: Watson



Jeopardy! World Champion

US Cities: Its largest airport is named for a World War II hero; its second largest, for a World War II battle.



Slide: Yejin Choi



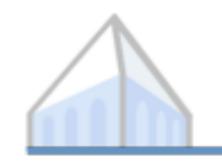
Language Comprehension?

"The rock was still wet. The animal was glistening, like it was still swimming," recalls Hou Xianguang. Hou discovered the unusual fossil while surveying rocks as a paleontology graduate student in 1984, near the Chinese town of Chengjiang. "My teachers always talked about the Burgess Shale animals. It looked like one of them. My hands began to shake." Hou had indeed found a Naraoia like those from Canada. However, Hou's animal was 15 million years older than its Canadian relatives.

It can be inferred that Hou Xianguang's "hands began to shake", because he was:

- (A) afraid that he might lose the fossil
- (B) worried about the implications of his finding
- (C) concerned that he might not get credit for his work
- (D) uncertain about the authenticity of the fossil
- (E) excited about the magnitude of his discovery

Interactive Language



Example: Virtual Assistants



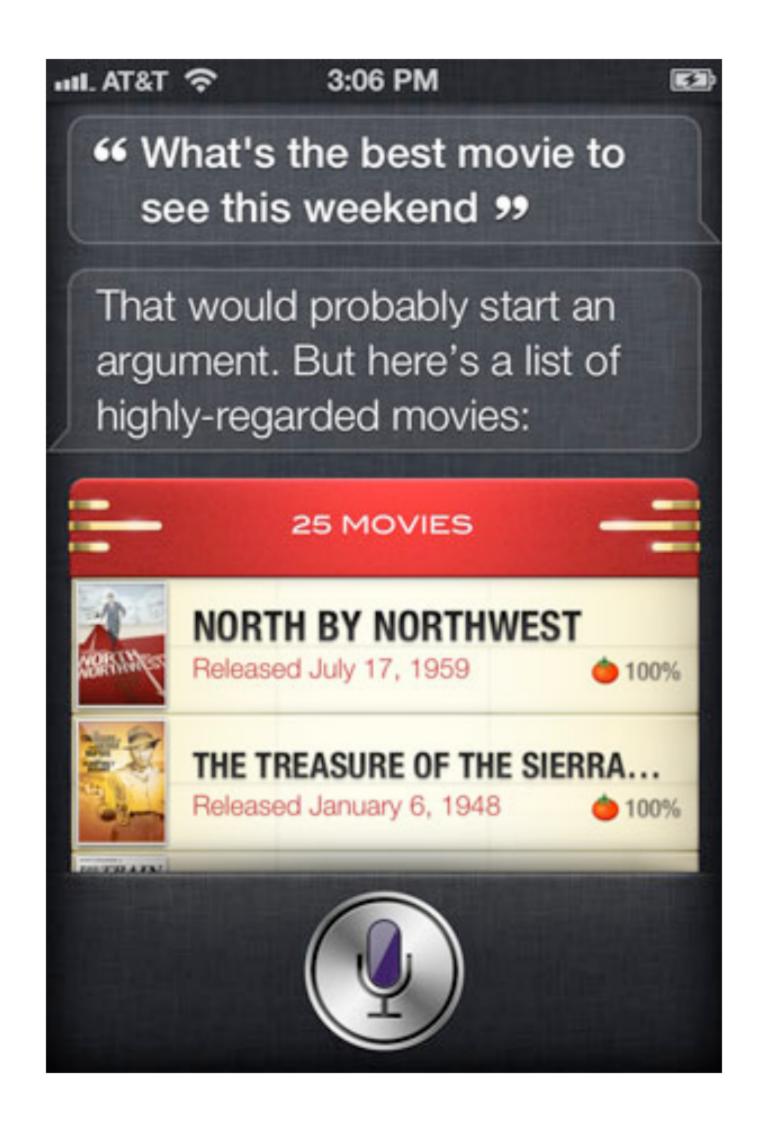
Virtual assistants do

- Speech recognition
- Language analysis
- Dialog processing
- Text to speech
- ... and back-end actions!

Image: Wikipedia



Conversations with Devices?



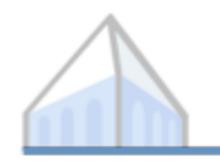


Slide: Yejin Choi



ELIZA

```
ELIZA: You're not really talking about me -- are you ?
YOU:
      What?
ELIZA: What do you think ?
YOU: I mean, I feel happy to be writing right now, to be typing this as we spe
ak. Lately, I've had writer's block.
ELIZA: You say you mean ?
YOU: That's what I said.
ELIZA: Can you elaborate on that ?
YOU: I only really feel happy when I'm writing.
ELIZA: How long have you been writing ?
      Always, but I've been writing seriously since I was eighteen.
YOU:
ELIZA: What incident are you thinking of ?
YOU:
      Um.
ELIZA: What does that suggest to you ?
YOU: I don't think it's enough, to only be happy when you write.
ELIZA: Does that trouble you ?
YOU: ...Um, because you can't write all the time. And then there's the real w
orld, and you still have to deal with real people.
ELIZA: What are your feelings now ?
YOU: I've been thinking a lot of that poem by Yeats: "The Man and the Echo."
Do you know it?
ELIZA: Do you say you've been thinking a lot of that poem by yeats: "the man and
 the echo for some special reason ?
       Yes
YOU:
```



Social Als and Chatbots

Session 1

[Human] Hello, Xiaoice.

[Xiaoice] Hello, your profile pic is interesting. Like I've seen it somewhere.

2 [Human] Really?

[Xiaoice] Is it a comic character?

3 [Human] How do you know that?

[Xiaoice] Guess.

4 [Human] Are you human?

[Xiaoice] Well, you'll know it after chatting with me more.

5 [Human] Aren't you an Al chatbot?

[Xiaoice] So what? I won't be indifferent to you.

6 [Human] What functions do you have?

[Xiaoice] I have over 200 skills. Just name one you need.

•••••

Session 6

1 [Human] Have you watched Inuyasha? (Note: A Japanese comic)

[Xiaoice] Every time Kagome comes back to the modern world, a math test is waiting for her

2 [Human] Bravo, well, do you know how Naraku died?

[Xiaoice] Naraku is not dead and Shikon Jewel does not disappear.

3 [Human] So amazing!

[Xiaoice] Why amazed?

4 [Human] Awesome! Surprised that you also like comic

•••••



Microsoft's Xiaolce

Source: Microsoft



Chatbot Competitions!



- Alexa Prize competition to build chatbots that keep users engaged
 - First winner in 2017: UW's Sounding Board (Fang, Cheng, Holtzman, Ostendorf, Sap, Clark, Choi)
- Compare to the Turing test (eg Loebner Prize) where the goal is to fool people



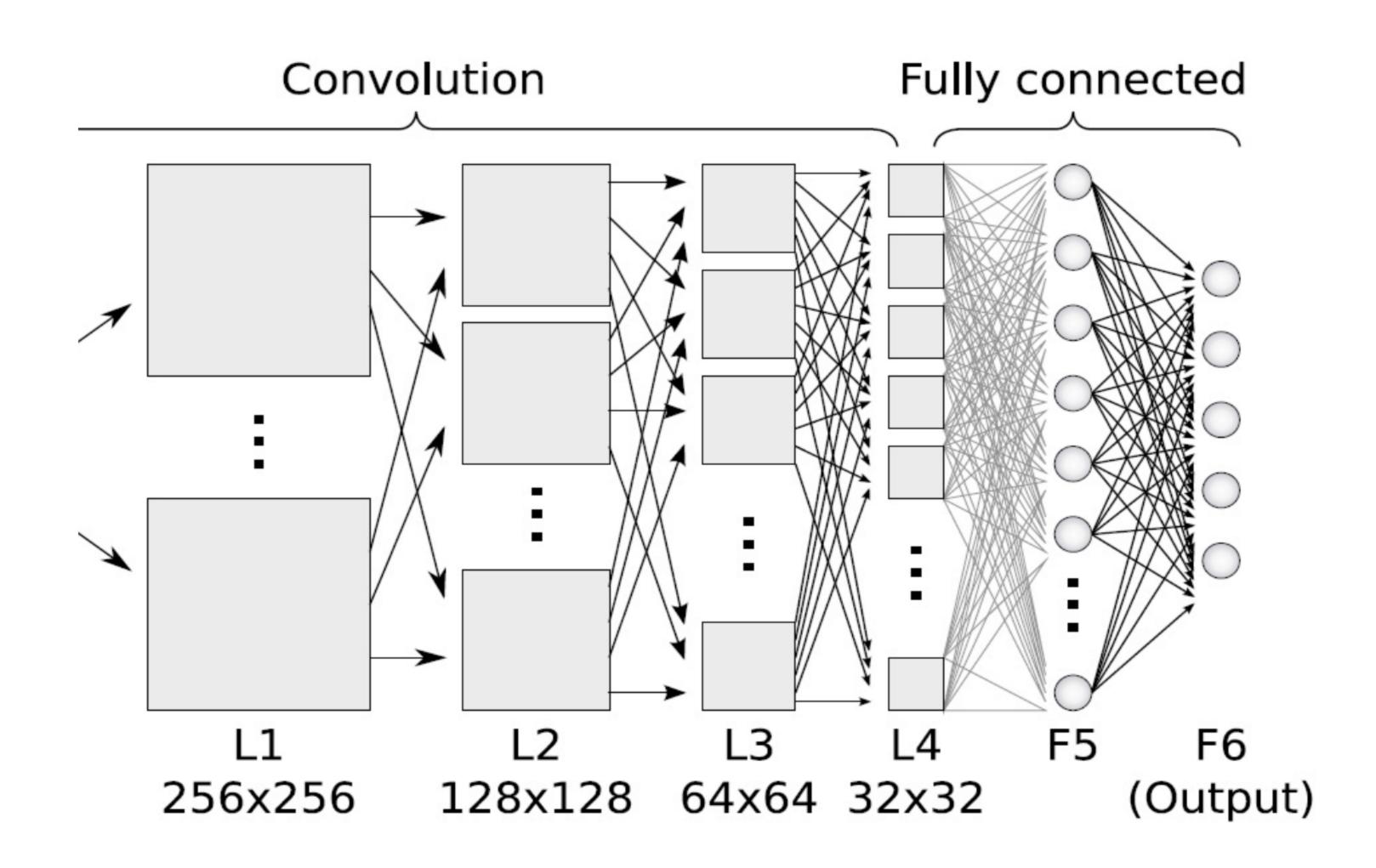
SoundingBoard Example

Turn	User	Sounding Board			
1	Let's chat	Hi! This is an Alexa Prize socialbot. How's your day?			
2	I'm <u>five</u> .	Glad to hear it! We could talk about robots, batman, or supcrease			
		Say "next", to chat about other things. ————— Negotiation			
3	Superman.	It looks like you wanna chat about superman. I was high up in the			
		cloud when I realized: If people don't recognize Clark Kent as			
		Superman because of his glasses, does his eye doctor know his Thought			
		identity?			
4	I guess so.	Did you know that Henry Cavill almost missed the call for the role of			
		Superman cause he was playing "World of Warcraft"			
5	Really, I didn't know	Weird, right? Speaking of superman, Did you see: Superman? It was			
	that.	released in 1997. It's a comedy.			
6	Yes, it was hilarious.	I'm glad you feel this is hilarious. Which part			
		this movie?			
7	The part when he met	Interesting. meccartin, and raffi co-directed this film. The movie has			
	lewis leah.	a 6.3 out of 10 on IMDB. which seems pretty good! do you like the			
		movie's director?			
8	Yeah, he's cool.	Cool! By the way, do you wanna know something interesting about			
		raffi?			
9	Okay, go ahead.	Super! My friend told me that Raffi is a worldwide children's rights			
		activist and has fought against exploitative advertising to children.			

Source: Mari Ostendorf



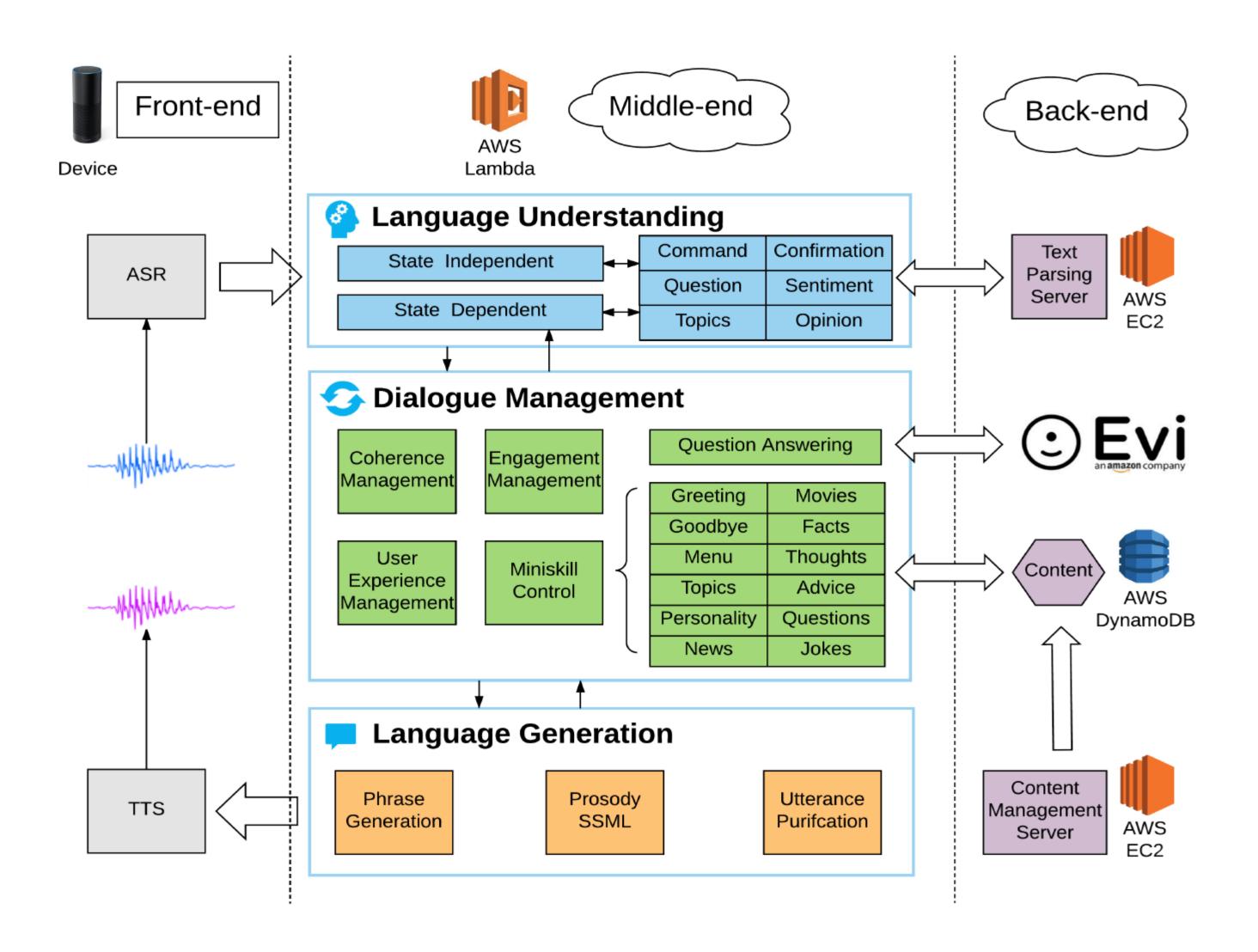
Sounding Board's Architecture



Source: Yejin Choi



Sounding Board's Architecture



Source: Yejin Choi

Related Areas



What is Nearby NLP?

Computational Linguistics

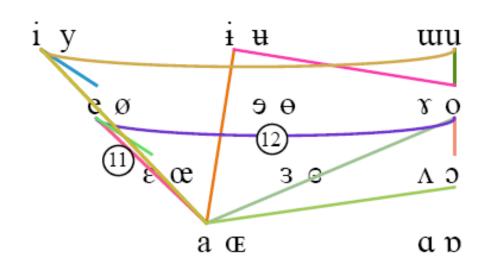
- Using computational methods to learn more about how language works
- We end up doing this and using it

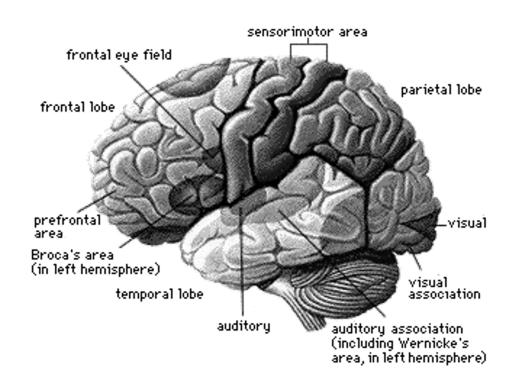


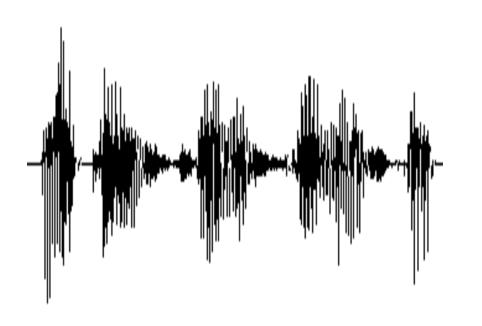
- Figuring out how the human brain works
- Includes the bits that do language
- Humans: the only working NLP prototype!

Speech Processing

- Mapping audio signals to text
- Traditionally separate from NLP, converging

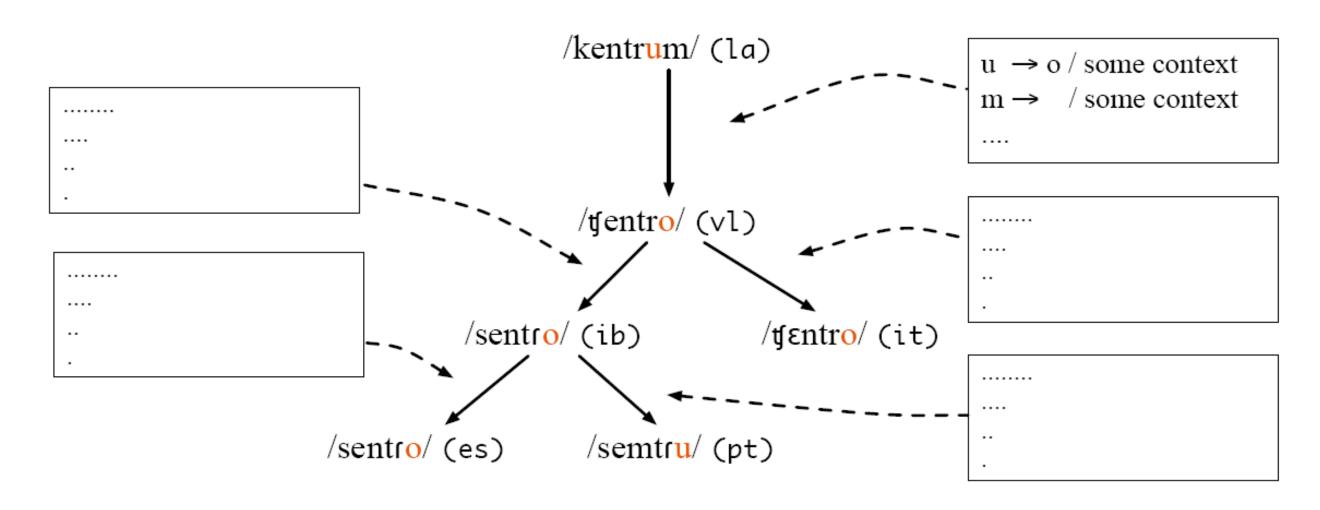








Example: NLP Meets CL



Gloss	Latin	ltalian	Spanish	Portuguese
Word/verb	verb <mark>u</mark> m	verbo	verbo	verbu
Center	centrum	centro	centro	centro

Example: Language change, reconstructing ancient forms, phylogenies
 ... just one example of the kinds of linguistic models we can build

Why is Language Hard?



Ambiguities





Stevie Wonder announces he'll be having kidney surgery during London concert

By Amir Vera, CNN

Updated 11:16 PM EDT, Sat July 06, 2019







(CNN) — Stevie Wonder will be taking a break from music.

The legendary singer-songwriter announced during a concert in London Saturday that he will be undergoing kidney surgery.

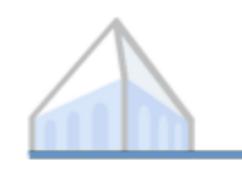


Problem: Ambiguity

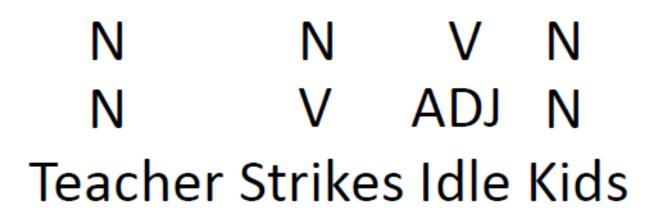
Headlines:

- Enraged Cow Injures Farmer with Ax
- Teacher Strikes Idle Kids
- Hospitals Are Sued by 7 Foot Doctors
- Ban on Nude Dancing on Governor's Desk
- Iraqi Head Seeks Arms
- Stolen Painting Found by Tree
- Kids Make Nutritious Snacks
- Local HS Dropouts Cut in Half
- Why are these funny?

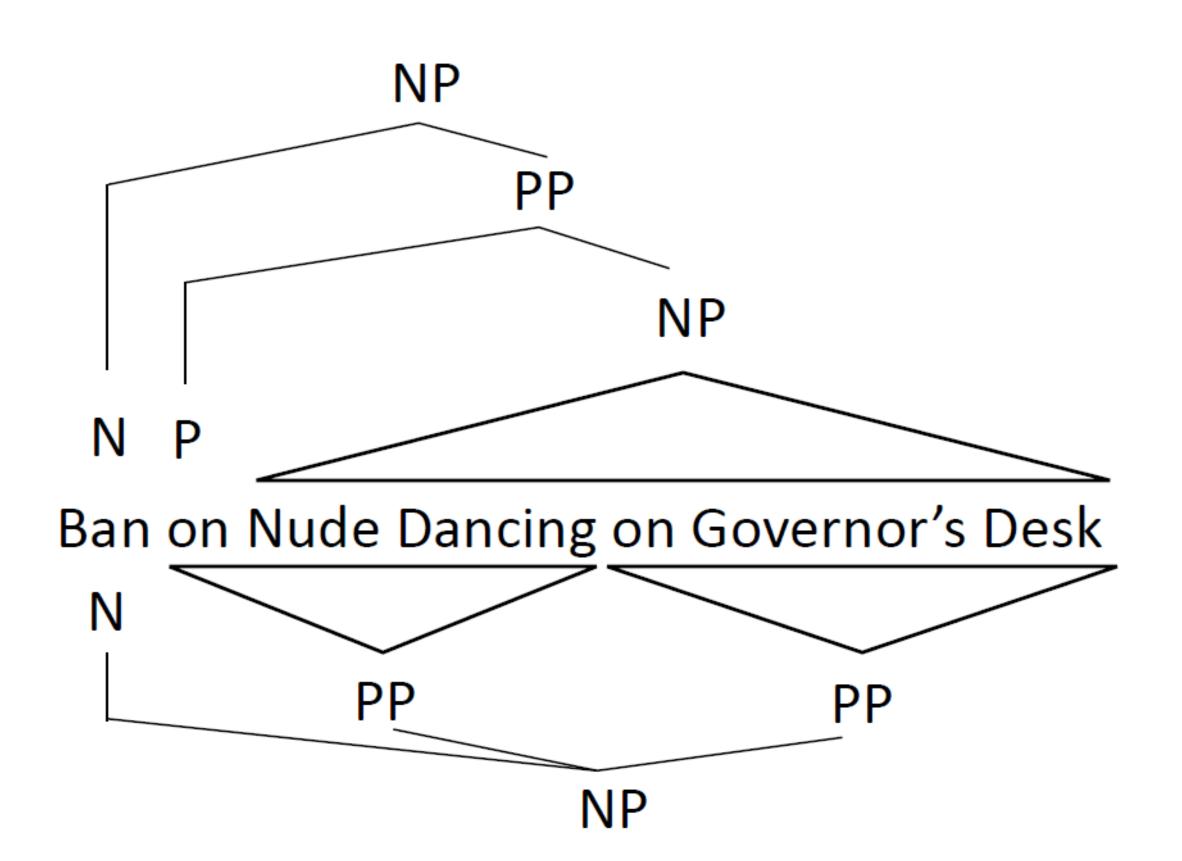
What Do We Need to Understand Language?



We Need Representation: Linguistic Structure



body/ body/
position weapon
Iraqi Head Seeks Arms

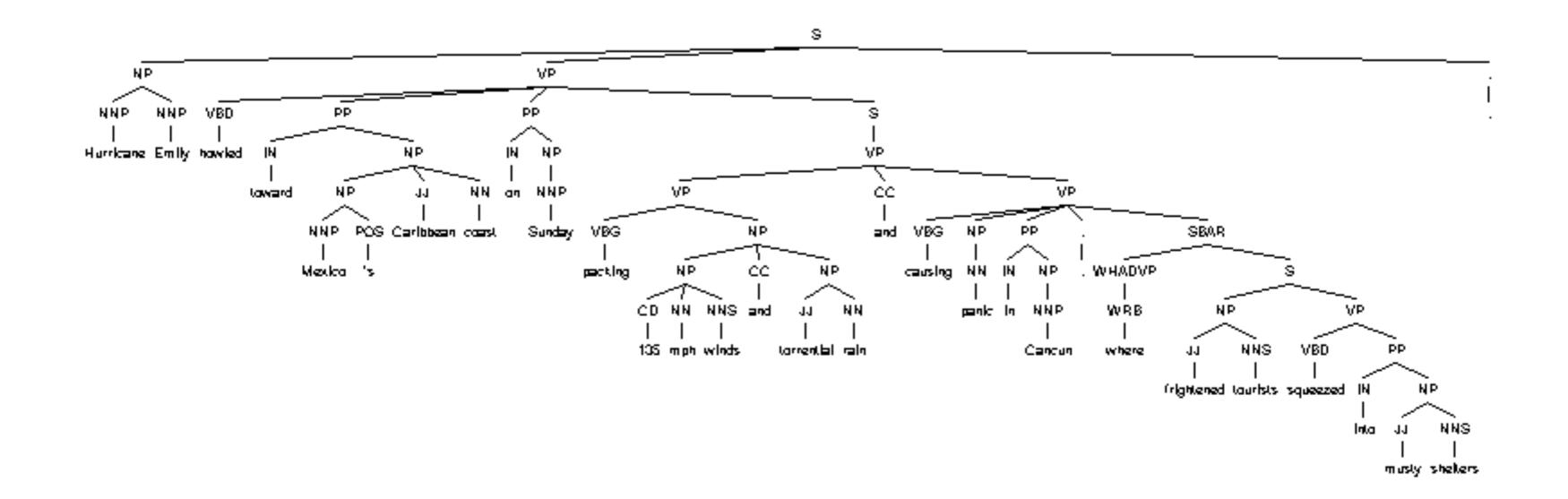


 Syntactic and semantic ambiguities: parsing needed to resolve these, but need context to figure out which parse is correct

Slide: Greg Durrett



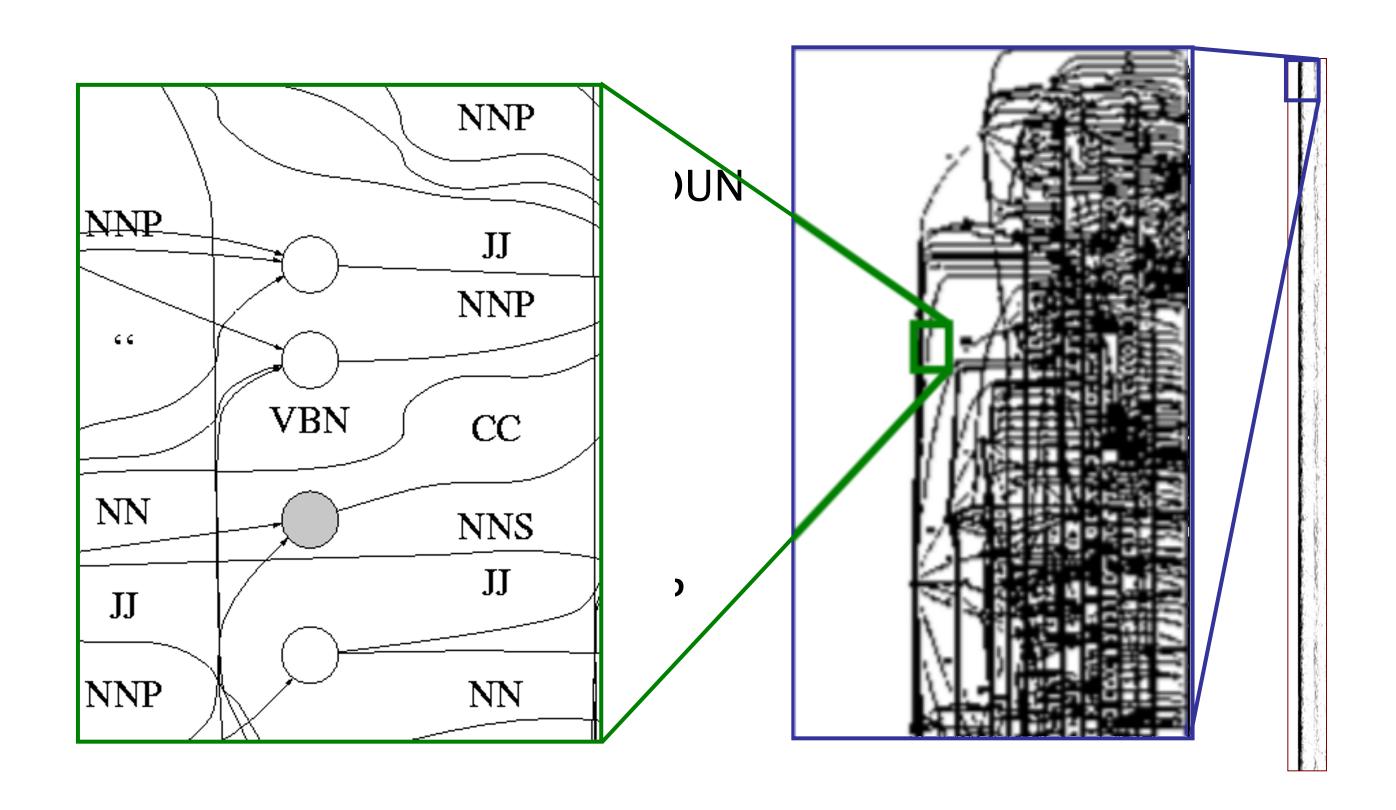
Example: Syntactic Analysis



Hurricane Emily howled toward Mexico 's Caribbean coast on Sunday packing 135 mph winds and torrential rain and causing panic in Cancun, where frightened tourists squeezed into musty shelters.



We Need Data





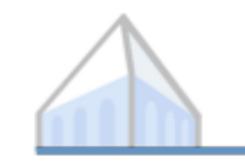
We Need Lots of Data: MT

SOURCE	Cela constituerait une solution transitoire qui permettrait de conduire à terme à une charte à valeur contraignante.
HUMAN	That would be an interim solution which would make it possible to work towards a binding charter in the long term.
1x DATA	[this] [constituerait] [assistance] [transitoire] [who] [permettrait] [licences] [to] [terme] [to] [a] [charter] [to] [value] [contraignante] [.]
10x DATA	[it] [would] [a solution] [transitional] [which] [would] [of] [lead] [to] [term] [to a] [charter] [to] [value] [binding] [.]
100x DATA	[this] [would be] [a transitional solution] [which would] [lead to] [a charter] [legally binding] [.]
1000x DATA	[that would be] [a transitional solution] [which would] [eventually lead to] [a binding charter] [.]



We Need Models: Data Alone Isn't Enough!

				CLASSIC SOUPS	Sm.	Lg.
方	燉 雞	8	57.	House Chicken Soup (Chicken, Celery,		
				Potato, Onion, Carrot)	. 1.50	2.75
雞	飯	2	58.	Chicken Rice Soup		3.25
雞	麵	書	59.	Chicken Noodle Soup		3.25
鹰	東雲	吞	60.	Cantonese Wonton Soup	. 1.50	2.75
*	茄(蛋)	3	61.	Tomato Clear Egg Drop Soup	. 1.65	2.95
雪	る	当	62.	Regular Wonton Soup		2.10
酸	辣	3	63. ₹	Hot & Sour Soup		2.10
零零	毡		64.	Egg Drop Soup		2.10
雲	争	害	65.	Egg Drop Wonton Mix	. 1.10	2.10
豆	腐菜	*	66.	Tofu Vegetable Soup	NA	3.50
雞	玉 米	害	67.	Chicken Corn Cream Soup		
A-3	肉玉米	書	68.	Crab Meat Corn Cream Soup		
海	蜂	害	69.	Seafood Soup		



Learning Latent Syntax

Personal Pronouns (PRP)

PRP-1	it	them	him
PRP-2	it	he	they
PRP-3	It	He	I

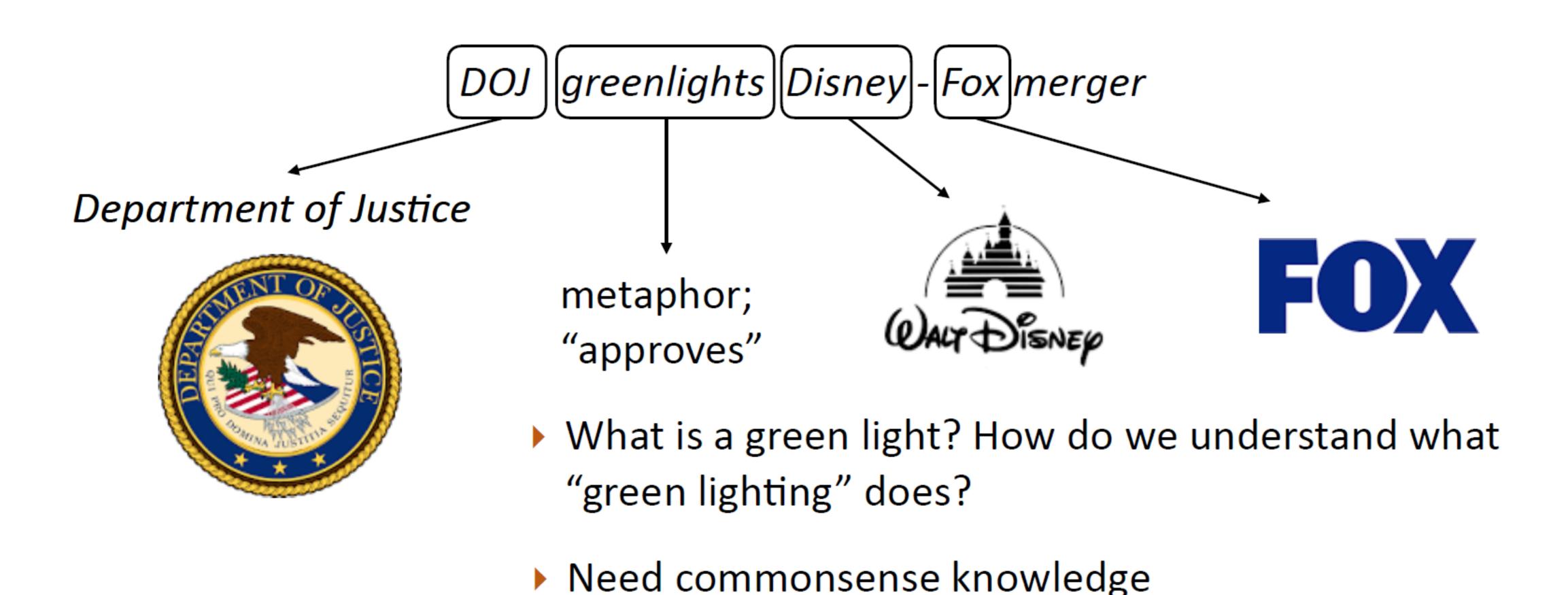
Proper Nouns (NNP)

NNP-14	Oct.	Nov.	Sept.
NNP-12	John	Robert	James
NNP-2	J.	E.	L.
NNP-1	Bush	Noriega	Peters
NNP-15	New	San	Wall
NNP-3	York	Francisco	Street



We Need World Knowledge

World knowledge: have access to information beyond the training data



Slide: Greg Durrett



Data and Knowledge

- Classic knowledge representation worries: How will a machine ever know that...
 - Ice is frozen water?
 - Beige looks like this:
 - Chairs are solid?

Answers:

- 1980: write it all down
- 2000: get by without it
- 2020: learn it from data



Knowledge from Pretraining?

A12 Allen Institute for AI

AllenNLP

Annotate a sentence ^

Semantic Role Labeling

Named Entity Recognition

Constituency Parsing

Dependency Parsing

Open Information Extraction

Sentiment Analysis

- Annotate a passage ^
 Coreference Resolution
- ? Answer a question ^
 Reading
 Comprehension
- Semantic parsing

Language Modeling

This demonstration uses the public 345M parameter OpenAl GPT-2 language model to generate sentences.

Enter some initial text and the model will generate the most likely next words. You can click on one of those words to choose it and continue or just keep typing. Click the left arrow at the bottom to undo your last choice.

Sentence:

At high temperatures, ice becomes more brittle and brittle. This is why the ice is so brittle.

The ice is also more brittle than the water.

This is why the ice is so brittle.

Predictions:

32.0% **The**

10.3% **ce**

5.2%

3.7% Water

2.7% **When**

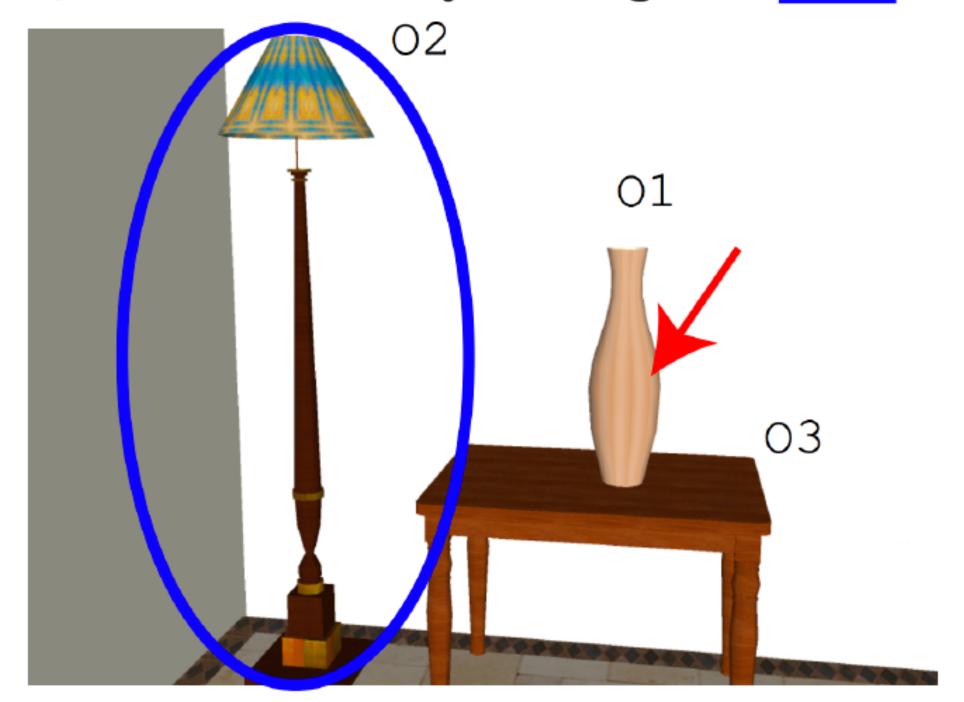
← Undo

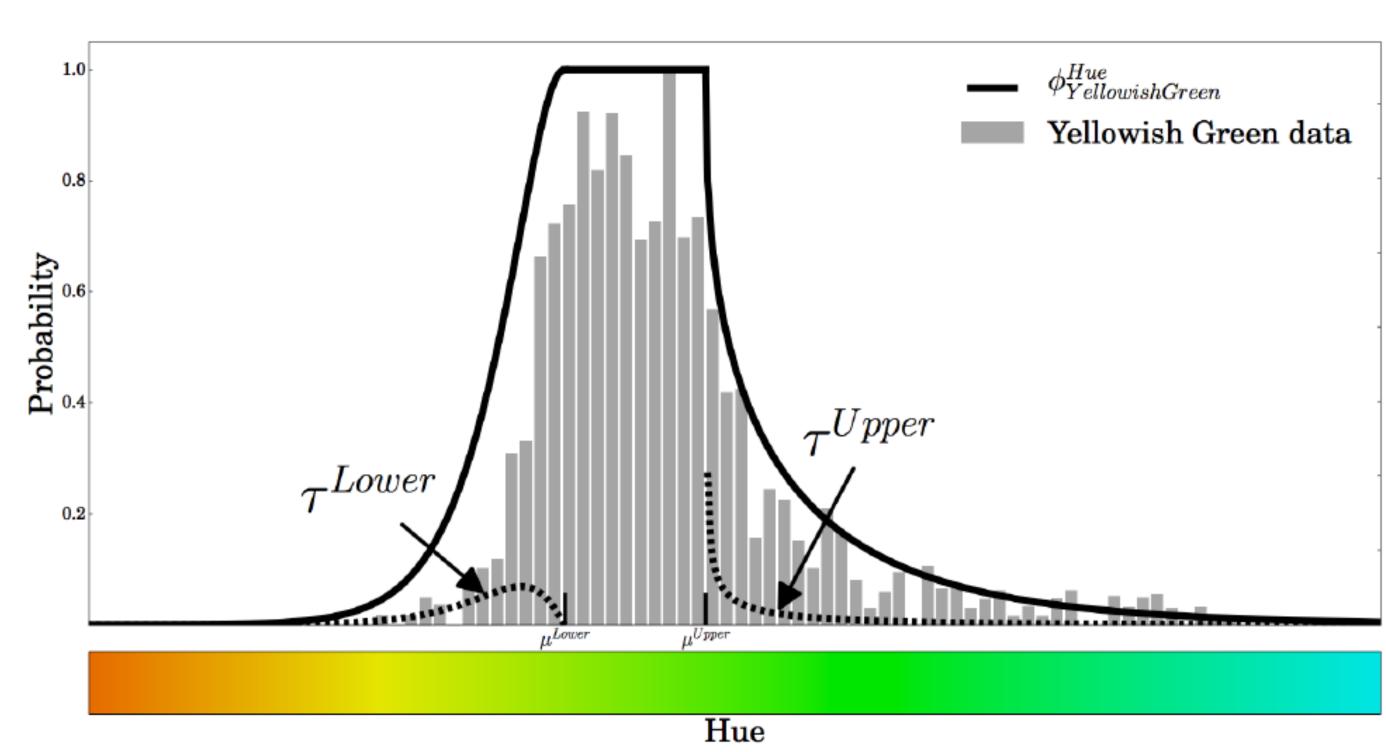


We Need Grounding

Grounding: linking linguistic concepts to non-linguistic ones

Question: What object is right of | 02 | ?





Golland et al. (2010)

McMahan and Stone (2015)

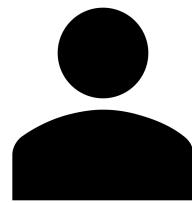
Slide: Greg Durrett



Example: Grounded Dialog

When is my package arriving?

Friday!







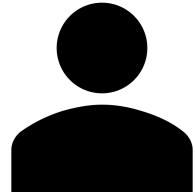
Example: Grounded Dialog



Apple

Who is its CEO?

Tim Cook







Why is Language Hard?

We Need:

- Representations
- Models
- Data
- Machine Learning
- Scale
- Efficient Algorithms
- Grounding
- ... and often we need all these things at the same time

What is this Class?

What is this Class?

- Three aspects to the course:
 - Linguistic Issues
 - What are the range of language phenomena?
 - What are the knowledge sources that let us disambiguate?
 - What representations are appropriate?
 - How do you know what to model and what not to model?
 - Modeling Methods
 - Increasingly sophisticated model structures
 - Learning and parameter estimation
 - Efficient inference: dynamic programming, search, sampling
 - Engineering Methods
 - Issues of scale
 - Where the theory breaks down (and what to do about it)
- We'll focus on what makes the problems hard, and what works in practice...



Class Requirements and Goals

Class requirements

- Uses a variety of skills / knowledge:
 - Probability and statistics, graphical models (parts of cs281a)
 - Basic linguistics background (ling100)
 - Strong coding skills (Python, ML libraries)
- Most people are probably missing one of the above
- You will often have to work on your own to fill the gaps

Class goals

- Learn the issues and techniques of modern NLP
- Build realistic NLP tools
- Be able to read current research papers in the field
- See where the holes in the field still are!
- This semester: new projects, new topics, lots under construction!