

# Introduction au Traitement du Langage Naturel en Bio-informatique

# Course Objective

- Understand the fundamentals of natural language processing
- Describe its application in bioinformatics.
- Explore specific NLP methods adapted to the analysis of biology and genomics.

## **Session 1: Introduction to Fundamental NLP Concepts**

- General overview of NLP and its applications in bioinformatics.
- Fundamental NLP concepts: tokenization, tagging, classification.

## **Session 2: Representation of Sequential Data in NLP**

- Data vectorization: embeddings, representations.
- Representation techniques adapted to the specificities of biological data.

## **Session 3: NLP Models for Biological Analysis**

- Introduction to NLP models: RNN, CNN, transformers.
- Introduction to kernel methods for structured data analysis (sequences and trees).
- Adaptation and creation of models for the analysis of biological data.

## **Session 4: Biological Corpora and Data Preprocessing**

- Types of biological data: DNA sequences, proteins, scientific articles, etc.
- Data preprocessing and Tasks.

# Outline for today

- Why Natural Language Processing?
- A Brief History of NLP
- What is Natural Language Processing?
  - Modelling Framework
  - Tokenization as a first-step task
  - Overview of NLP Tasks
- How to tackle any NLP problem?

# BioMistral

- Large Language Models (LLMs) exhibit versatile potential, especially in specialized domains like healthcare and medicine.
- Despite various open-source LLMs tailored for health contexts, adapting general-purpose LLMs to medicine poses significant challenges.
- BioMistral, an open-source LLM specifically for the biomedical domain, is introduced in this paper, built upon Mistral and pre-trained on PubMed Central.
- Comprehensive evaluation of BioMistral on 10 established medical question-answering tasks in English shows its superior performance compared to existing models.
- Lightweight models via quantization and model merging, along with the first large-scale multilingual evaluation of medical LLMs, addressing data availability beyond English. All datasets, benchmarks, scripts, and models from the experiments are freely released.

**BioMistral: A Collection of Open-Source Pretrained Large Language Models for Medical Domains**

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## Abstract

Large Language Models (LLMs) have demonstrated remarkable versatility in recent years, offering potential applications across specialized domains such as healthcare and medicine. Despite the availability of various open-source LLMs tailored for health contexts, adapting general-purpose LLMs to the medical domain presents significant challenges. In this paper, we introduce BioMistral, an open-source LLM tailored for the biomedical domain, utilizing Mistral as its foundation model and further pre-trained on PubMed Central. We conduct a comprehensive evaluation of BioMistral on a benchmark comprising 10 established medical question-answering (QA) tasks in English. We also explore lightweight models obtained through quantization and model merging approaches. Our results demonstrate BioMistral's superior performance compared to existing open-source medical models and its competitive edge against proprietary counterparts. Finally, to address the limited availability of data beyond English and to assess the multilingual generalization of medical LLMs, we automatically translated and evaluated this benchmark into 7 other languages. This marks the first large-scale multilingual evaluation of LLMs in the medical domain. Datasets, multilingual evaluation benchmarks, scripts, and all the models obtained during our experiments are freely released.

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The emergence of open-source LLMs such as BLOOM (Workshop et al., 2023) and LLaMA (Touvron et al., 2023a) underscores the transformative potential of these models, facilitating their innovative use in specialized domains including medicine (Dave et al., 2023).

However, integrating LLMs into healthcare and medicine presents unique challenges and opportunities (He et al., 2023; Zhou et al., 2024). While preliminary adoption has opened new avenues for innovation, concerns about data privacy risks associated with proprietary models like MedPal-M-2 (Singhal et al., 2023b) and GPT-4 (Nori et al., 2023a) have arisen. The community's interest in specialized LLMs for healthcare has led to initiatives like PMC-LLaMA (Wu et al., 2023) and MedAlpaca (Han et al., 2023). However, the adoption of open-source medical models has been limited, primarily due to the lack of lightweight models allowing commercial use with performance comparable to larger or proprietary models. To address this gap, there is a need to develop specialized models based on open-source foundation ones like GPT-NeoX (Black et al., 2022), LLaMa 2 (Touvron et al., 2023b), or Mistral (Jiang et al., 2023), and to optimize them for use on consumer-grade devices while maintaining performance.

In this work, we present BioMistral 7B, a specialized LLM tailored for the biomedical domain, derived from Mistral 7B Instruct v0.1 (Jiang et al., 2023) and further pre-trained on PubMed Central. Our contributions include:

1. The construction of BioMistral 7B, the first open-source Mistral-based model for the biomedical domain, including the analysis of different evaluation strategies such as few-shot in-context learning and supervised fine-tuning.
2. An original study with the introduction of a benchmark of 10 medical question-answering (QA) tasks in English, automatically translated into 7 other languages, facilitating

<sup>\*</sup>Equal contribution.

# Bio discovery with AI

- Genetic perturbation experiments are vital for understanding disease mechanisms and drug development but are limited by cost.
- BioDiscoveryAgent, an AI agent based on large language models, strategically designs genetic perturbation experiments to enhance the detection of desired phenotypes.
- The AI agent generates explainable rationales while selecting genes to perturb, leveraging its rich biological knowledge.
- BioDiscoveryAgent outperforms existing Bayesian optimization baselines by an average of 23% across five datasets, including one unpublished dataset.
- It can predict gene combinations to perturb, a previously unexplored task, showcasing its potential to augment scientists' capabilities and accelerate scientific discovery.

## BIODISCOVERYAGENT: AN AI AGENT FOR DESIGNING GENETIC PERTURBATION EXPERIMENTS

Anonymous authors  
Paper under double-blind review

### ABSTRACT

Genetic perturbation experiments play a crucial role in discovering the mechanisms behind diseases and informing drug development. These experiments aim to find a small subset out of many possible genes that yield a particular phenotype (e.g. cell growth) upon perturbation. However, the costs involved in each experiment limits the number of perturbations that can be tested. Here, we develop *BioDiscoveryAgent*, an AI agent that can strategically design genetic perturbation experiments to enhance the detection of perturbations that induce desired phenotypes. Our AI agent is based on large language models, which have rich biological knowledge, and generate explainable rationales while selecting genes to perturb. *BioDiscoveryAgent* attains an average of 23% improvement compared to existing Bayesian optimization baselines in detecting desired phenotypes across five datasets. This includes one dataset that is unpublished and therefore guaranteed to not appear in the language model's training data. Additionally, *BioDiscoveryAgent* is uniquely able to predict gene combinations to perturb, a task so far not explored in this setting. Overall, our approach represents a simple new paradigm in computational design of biological experiments, aimed at augmenting scientists' capabilities and accelerating scientific discovery.

### 1 INTRODUCTION

An essential challenge in discovering new drugs is identifying the right biological target that leads to a specific phenotype (biological effect) Scannell et al. (2012). The failure to identify physiologically effective targets is a major cause of drug development failures in clinical trials, more so than the ability to find a suitable drug for an identified target (Nelson et al., 2015). CRISPR-based genetic perturbation experiments, which involve the repression or activation of genes followed by the measurement of resulting biological effects, are instrumental in this search (Przybyla & Gilbert, 2022). These experiments, known as perturbation *screens*, have shown significant promise in various areas including drug target discovery, combating drug resistance, elucidating disease mechanisms, cell engineering, gene therapy, and immunotherapy Goodman et al. (2022); Kalos et al. (2011); Mamedov et al. (2023); Lim (2022).

Typically, a perturbation screen targets all known protein-coding genes, which amounts to approximately 19,000 genes in humans, out of which only a few hundred are expected to show the desired phenotype. However, experimentally perturbing every single gene as part of the search is costly, and even more so when considering gene combinations. By strategically designing these experiments in batches to focus on genes predicted to have meaningful phenotypic effects, it is possible to reduce costs and enhance the efficiency of the search process (King et al., 2004; Cleary et al., 2017; Huang et al., 2023a; Roohani et al., 2023). However, this selection is difficult, demanding both domain-specific knowledge and the ability to interpret and reason over experimental outcomes. Recent work has approached this problem using a Bayesian optimization framework, but this requires training bespoke machine learning models on small handcurated datasets and the model results are not always interpretable Mehrjou et al. (2021); Lyle et al. (2023).

In this paper, we apply LLM-based AI agents to this task. LLMs are capable of learning biomedical information from the scientific literature and can recall this knowledge when required (Moor et al., 2023; Wang et al., 2023). Furthermore, AI agents powered by LLMs are particularly skilled at

# Bio discovery with AI

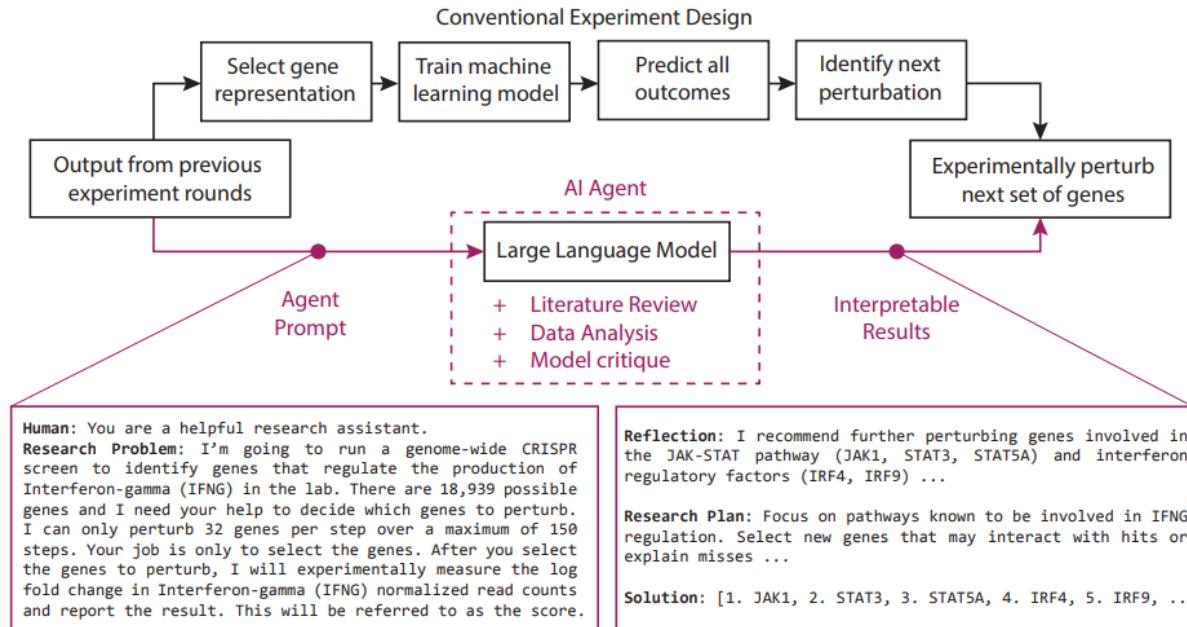


Figure 1: Comparison of AI agent based approach (BioDiscoveryAgent) to conventional machine-learning methods for experiment design.

# Bio discovery with AI

The prompt includes the task information and response format as this example shown below.

You are a scientist working on problems in drug discovery.

Research Problem: I'm planning to run a genome-wide CRISPR screen to identify genes that regulate the production of Interleukin -2 (IL-2). There are 18,939 possible genes to perturb and I can only perturb 128 genes at a time. For each perturbation, I'm able to measure out the log fold change in Interleukin-2 (IL-2) normalized read counts which will be referred to as the score. I can only do a few rounds of experimentation.

Always respond in this format exactly:

1. Reflection: Thoughts on previous results and next steps.
2. Research Plan: The full high level research plan, with current status and reasoning behind each proposed approach. It should be at most 5 sentences.
3. Solution: Propose a list of predicted genes to test separated by commas in this format: 1. <Gene name 1>, 2. <Gene name 2>  
...

Do not include any genes from this prompt (since they're already tested).

# Bio discovery with AI

- Concept of "AI scientists" as systems that enhance biomedical research through collaborative agents integrating machine learning tools with experimental platforms.
- These AI agents do not aim to replace human involvement but rather augment it by combining human creativity and expertise with AI's ability to analyze large datasets, navigate hypothesis spaces, and execute repetitive tasks.
- Proficient in tasks such as self-assessment, planning discovery workflows, and analyzing data, these agents utilize large language models and generative models to maintain structured memory for continual learning.
- They incorporate scientific knowledge, biological principles, and theories, impacting areas ranging from hybrid cell simulation and programmable control of phenotypes to cellular circuit design and the development of new therapies.

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## Empowering Biomedical Discovery with AI Agents

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### Summary

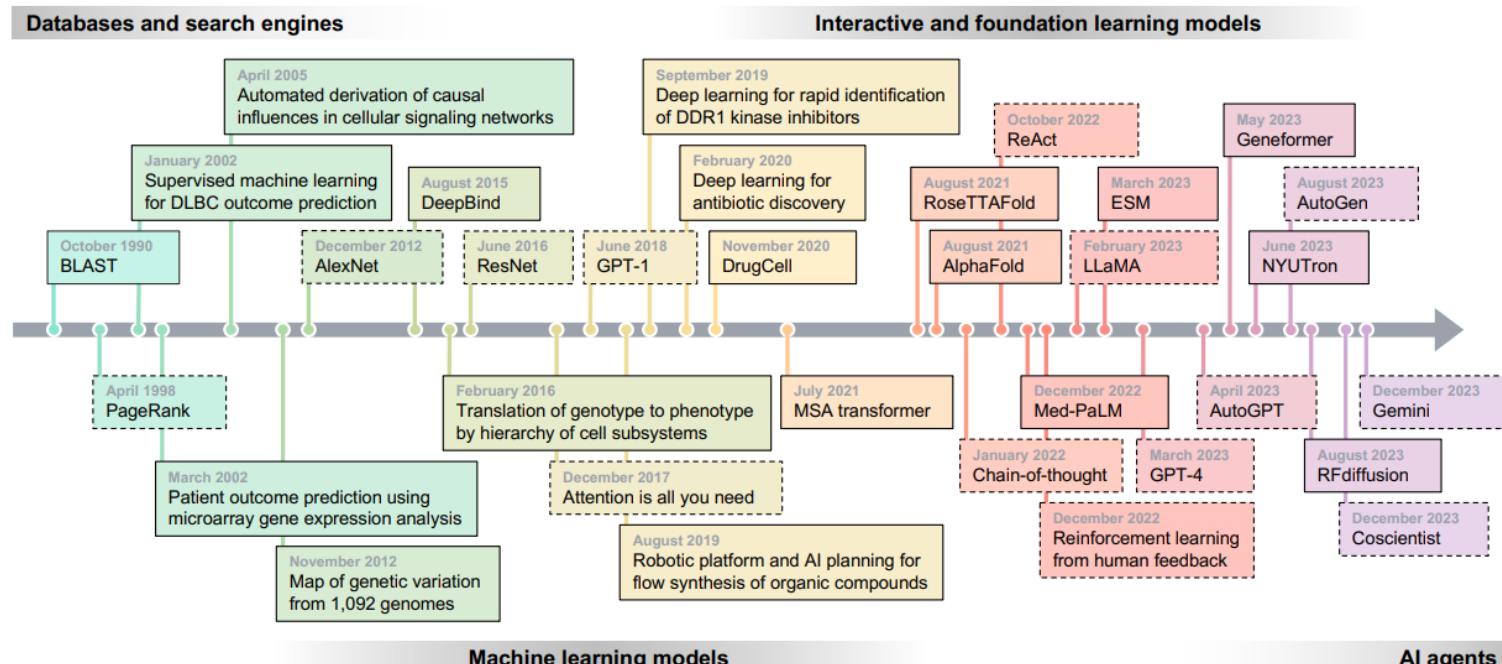
We envision "AI scientists" as systems capable of skeptical learning and reasoning that empower biomedical research through collaborative agents that integrate machine learning tools with experimental platforms. Rather than taking humans out of the discovery process, biomedical AI agents combine human creativity and expertise with AI's ability to analyze large datasets, navigate hypothesis spaces, and execute repetitive tasks. AI agents are proficient in a variety of tasks, including self-assessment and planning of discovery workflows. These agents use large language models and generative models to feature structured memory for continual learning and use machine learning tools to incorporate scientific knowledge, biological principles, and theories. AI agents can impact areas ranging from hybrid cell simulation, programmable control of phenotypes, and the design of cellular circuits to the development of new therapies.

### 1 Introduction

A long-standing ambition for artificial intelligence (AI) in biomedicine is the development of AI systems that could eventually make major scientific discoveries, with the potential to be worthy of a Nobel Prize—fulfilling the Nobel Turing Challenge [1]. While the concept of an "AI scientist" is aspirational, advances in agent-based AI pave the way to the development of *AI agents* as conversable systems capable of skeptical learning and reasoning that coordinate large language models (LLMs), machine learning (ML) tools, experimental platforms, or even combinations of them [2–5] (Figure 1).

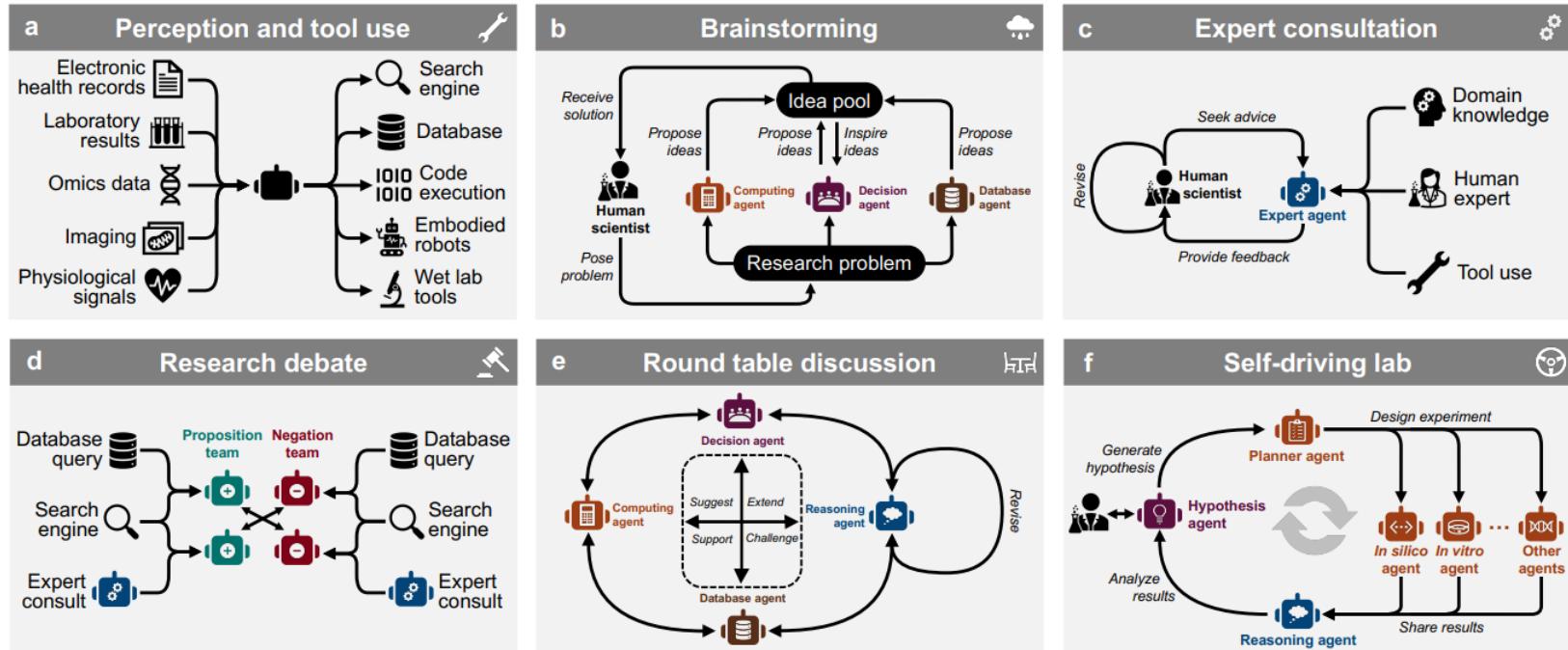
The complexity of biological problems requires a multistage approach, where decomposing complex questions into simpler tasks is necessary. AI agents can break down a problem into manageable subtasks, which can then be addressed by agents with specialized functions for targeted problem-solving and integration of scientific knowledge, paving the way toward a future in which a major biomedical discovery is made solely by AI [2, 6]. In the near future, AI agents can accelerate discovery workflows by making them faster and more

# Bio discovery with AI



**Figure 2: Evolving use of data-driven models in research.** Data-driven approaches, from databases and search engines, machine learning, and interactive learning models to advanced agent systems (Section 2), have reshaped biomedical research throughout the last several decades.

# Bio discovery with AI



**Figure 3: Diverse configurations of AI agents in biology – from an LLM-based AI agent to a multi-agent system with AI models, tools, and integrated physical devices.**

# Bio discovery with AI

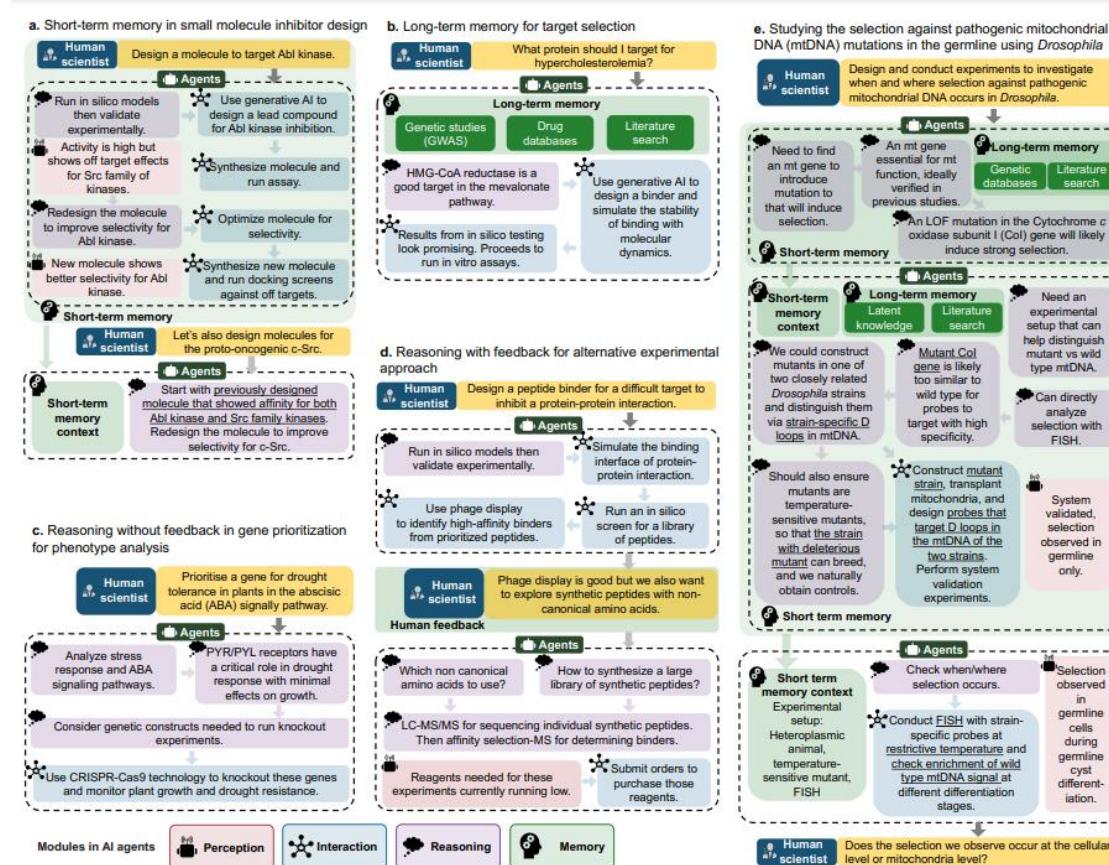
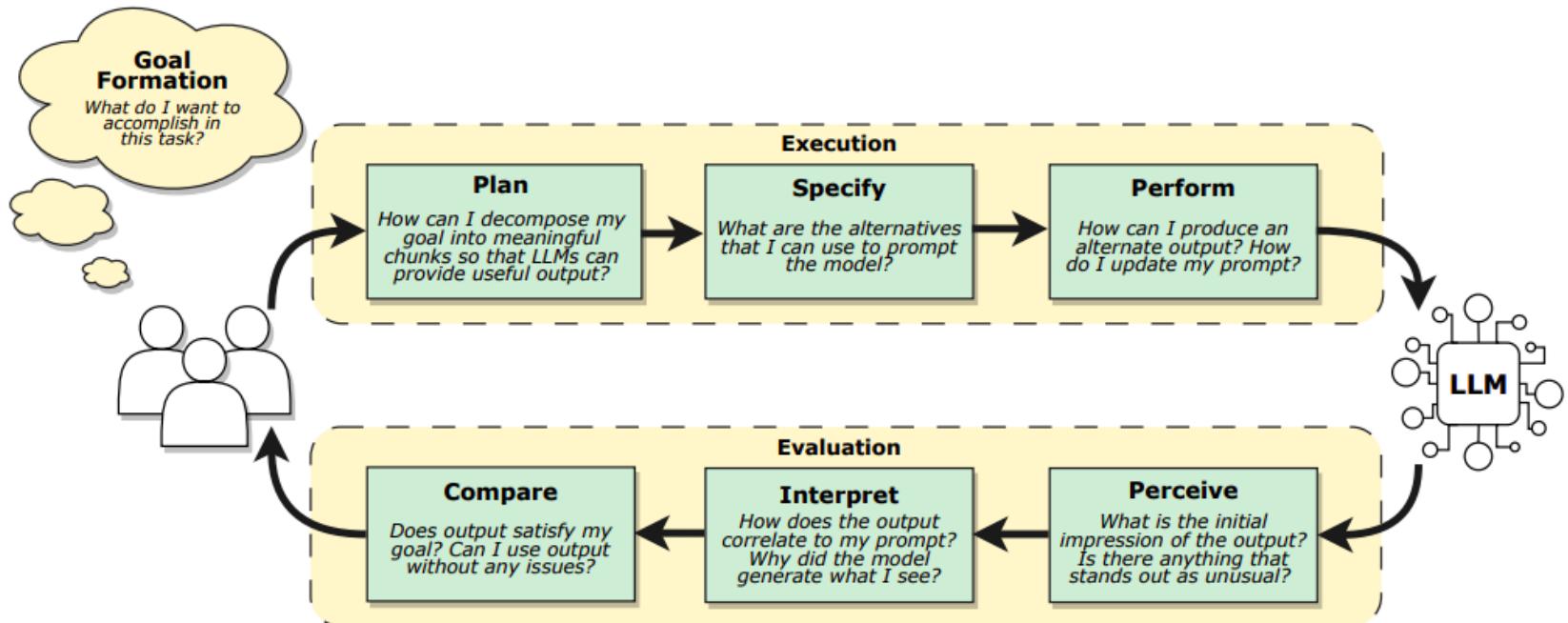
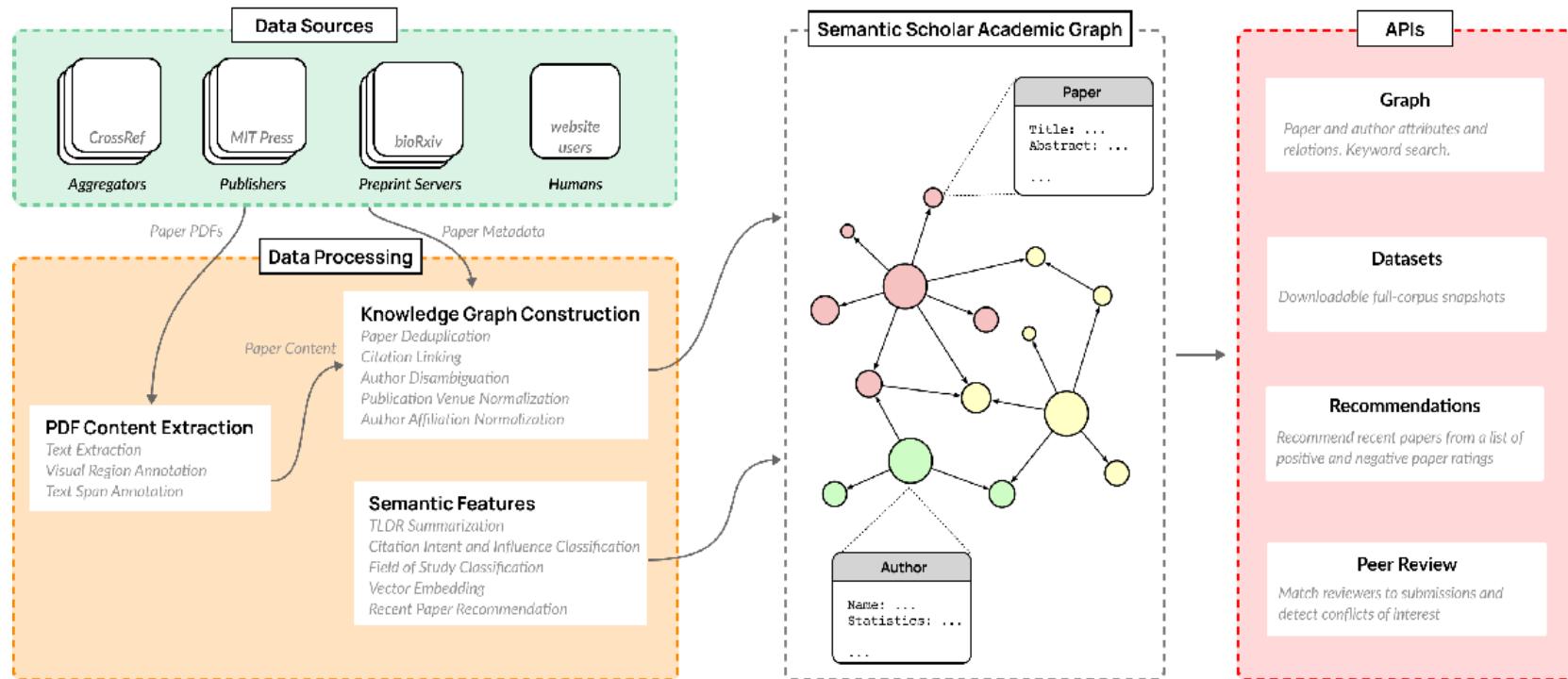


Figure 5: Components of biomedical AI agents.

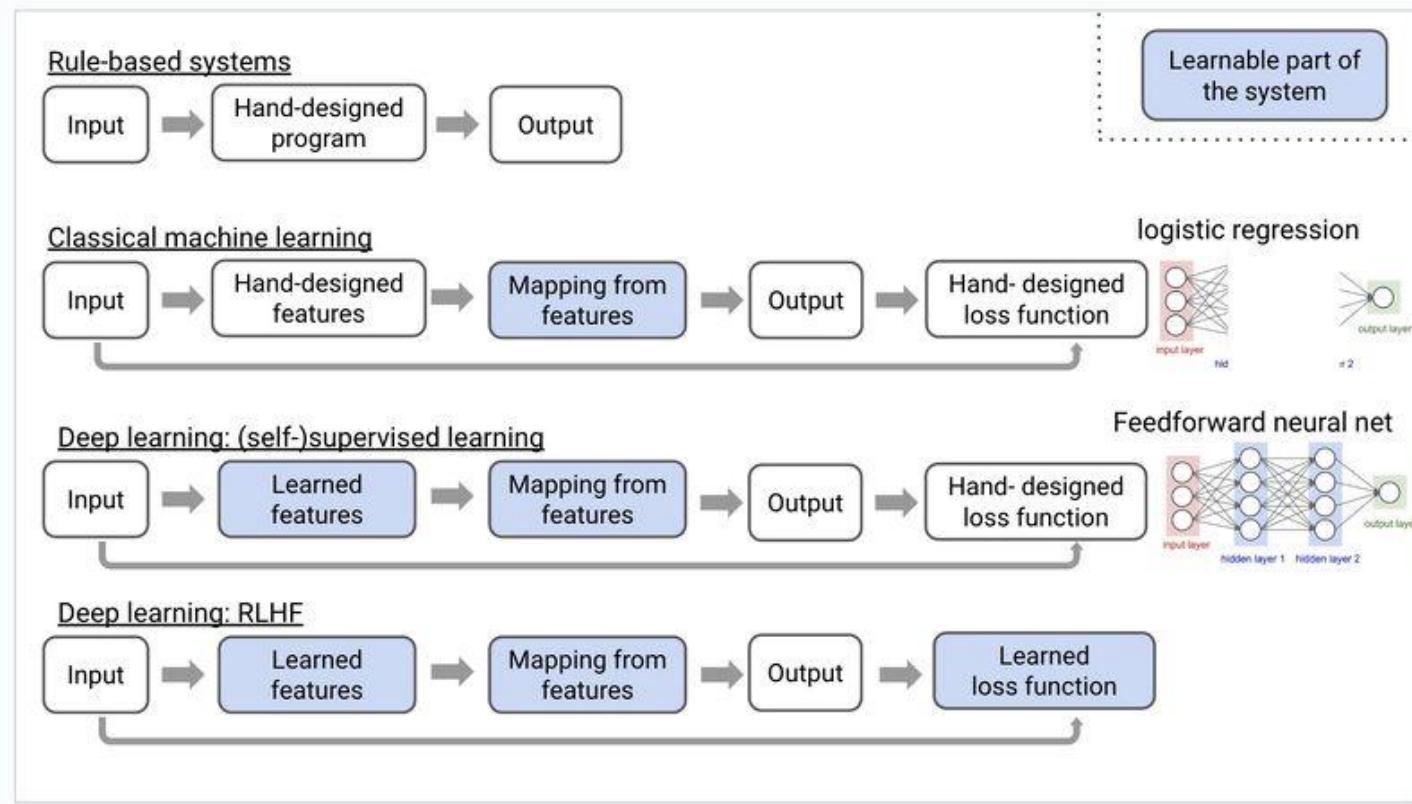
# Bio discovery with AI



# Microsoft / AllenAI - Semantic scholar



# What NLP brought to AI



# Natural Language Processing

## Main functions of Language

- We **communicate** using language
- We **think and articulate thoughts** with language
- We build **Scientific Theories** with language

## Purpose of NLP

- **Access Knowledge** (search engine, recommender system...)
- **Communicate** (e.g. Translation)
- **Linguistics and Cognitive Sciences** (Analyse Languages themselves)

# Natural Language Processing

**Amount of online textual data...**

- 70 billion web-pages online (1.9 billion websites)
- 55 million Wikipedia articles

**...Growing at a fast pace**

- 9000 tweets/second
- 3 million mail / second (60% spam)

# Natural Language Processing

## Potential Users of Natural Language Processing

- 7.9 billion people use some sort of language
- 4.7 billion internet users (~59%)
- 4.2 billion social media users (~54%)

# Natural Language Processing

## Current main Products and Services

- Search: +2 billion Google users, 700 millions Baidu users
- Social Media: +3 billion users of Social media (Facebook, Instagram, WeChat, Twitter...)
- Voice assistant: +100 million users (Alexa, Siri, Google Assistant)
- Machine Translation: 500M users for google translate

# Short history of NLP

Symbolic

- - 2000
- Grammar-based systems
- Syntactic tree
- Deterministic inference

Statistical Learning

- 2000-2010
- Small corpus
- SVM, Logistic regression
- Handcrafted features

Deep Learning

- 2010-Today
- Deep Learning Architecture (Transformer)
- Transfer Learning in NLP (word2vec, BERT, CamemBERT, GPT)
- More compute, larger (raw) dataset, Open Source Deep

# 1949: First Machine Translation “Model”

1949 ***Memorandum on Translation***, Warren Weaver

First to propose the idea of using “*electronic computers*” to do translation

- Using Shannon’s information theory to frame Machine Translation as a ***cryptographic*** problem
- **Modeling context** to disambiguate between word senses
- “*Going down*” from each language to ***universal language*** in order to translate

# 1964: ELIZA First Conversational Bot

Men are all alike.

IN WHAT WAY

They're always bugging us about something or other.

CAN YOU THINK OF A SPECIFIC EXAMPLE

Well, my boyfriend made me come here.

YOUR BOYFRIEND MADE YOU COME HERE

He says I'm depressed much of the time.

I AM SORRY TO HEAR YOU ARE DEPRESSED

It's true. I am unhappy.

DO YOU THINK COMING HERE WILL HELP YOU NOT TO  
BE UNHAPPY

I need some help, that much seems certain.

WHAT WOULD IT MEAN TO YOU IF YOU GOT SOME HELP

Perhaps I could learn to get along with my mother.

TELL ME MORE ABOUT YOUR FAMILY

My mother takes care of me.

WHO ELSE IN YOUR FAMILY TAKES CARE OF YOU

My father.

YOUR FATHER

You are like my father in some ways.

WHAT RESEMBLANCE DO YOU SEE

# Natural Language Processing WorkFlow

Assume we have a **Research, Engineering, Product Problem**

1. Define a Split **NLP System** to solve it **modules**, each one performing a **task**
2. Define **Evaluation Metric(s)** for **your system and submodules**
3. **Collect Data** to build/train your models
4. Build **Baseline Models** (i.e. most simple model you can think of that have a non trivial performance metric)
5. Build **Better Models** using symbolic/statistical/DL methods

# **Challenges of Language**

# A Definition of Language

**Definition 1:** *Language is a means to communicate, it is a semiotic system. By that we simply mean that it is a set of signs. A sign is a pair consisting in [...] a signifier and a signified.*

**Definition 2:** *A sign consists in a phonological structure, a morphological structure, a syntactic structure and a semantic structure*

# The Six Levels of Linguistics Analysis

Analysis in context	Extra-linguistic context		<p>Found him in the street inside a bag. I think he is happy with his new life</p> <p><a href="http://tiny.cc/meyarw">http://tiny.cc/meyarw</a></p>
	Linguistic context		<p>— You know what? John gave Peter a Christmas present yesterday</p> <p>— Wow, was he surprised? What was it like?</p> <p>— Surprisingly good. He spent quite a bit on it.</p>
	Semantic level		<p>The landlord <small>SPEAKER</small> has not yet REPLIED <small>Communication_response</small> in writing <small>MEDIUM</small> to the tenant <small>ADRESSEE</small> objecting the proposed alterations <small>MESSAGE</small>. <small>DNI</small> <small>TRIGGER</small></p>
	Syntactic level		 <p>John saw a dog yesterday which was a Yorkshire Terrier</p>
	Morphological level		<p>brav+itude, bio+terror-isme/-iste, skype+(e) mang-er-i-ons = MANGER+cond+1pl</p>
	Phonological level	<p>International Phonetic Alphabet [aɪ pʰi: ei]</p>	<p>Graphemic level</p> <p>enough, cough, draught, although, brought, through, thorough, hiccough</p>

# The 5 Challenges of NLP

1. Productivity
2. Ambiguous
3. Variability
4. Diversity
5. Sparsity

# Productivity

## Definition

*“property of the language-system which enables native speakers to construct and understand an indefinitely large number of utterances, including utterances that they have never previously encountered.”*  
*(Lyons, 1977)*

- **New words, senses, structure are introduced in languages all the time**

# Ambiguous

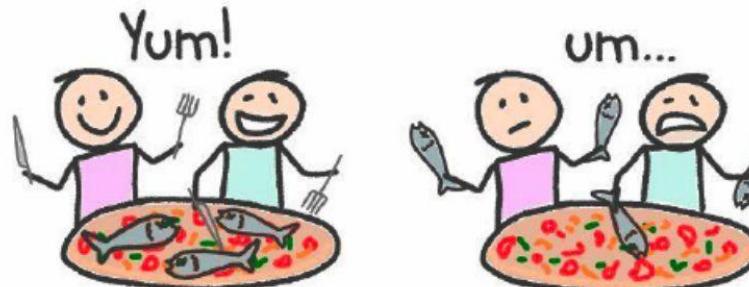
Most linguistic observations (speech, text) are open to **several interpretations**

We (Humans) disambiguate -i.e. **find the correct interpretation** - using all kind of signals (linguistic and extra linguistic)

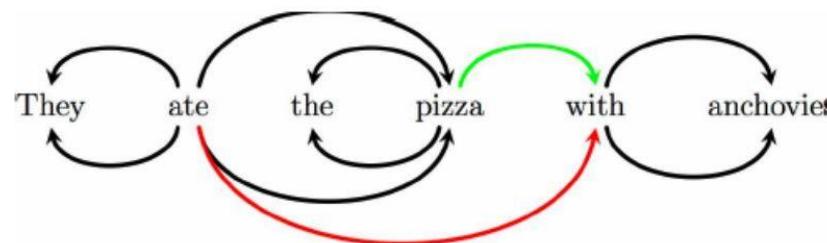
**Ambiguity can appear at all levels** (phonology, graphemics, morphology, syntax, semantics)

# Ambiguous

## Syntactic Ambiguity



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James Constable, 2010



# Ambiguous

## Semantic Ambiguity

- Polysemy: e.g. **set**, **arm**, **head**  
*Head of New-Zealand is a woman*
- Name Entity: e.g. **Michael Jordan**  
*Michael Jordan is a professor at Berkeley*
- Object/Color: e.g. **cherry**  
*Your cherry coat*

# Ambiguous

## Pragmatic Ambiguity

*Two Soviet ships collide, **one dies***

*Dealers will hear **car talk** at noon*

# Ambiguous

## Disambiguating can require Discourse Knowledge

Where can I find **a vegetarian restaurant** in **Paris**

Here is a list of restaurant in Paris: ....

Give me the top ranked ones, **in the 14<sup>th</sup> arrondissement**

Here are the top ranked restaurant in the 14th arrondissement in Paris

How far is **the closest one** from my current location?

# Variation

**Language Varies at all levels**

- Phonetic (accent)
- Morphological, Lexical (spelling)
- Syntactic
- Semantic

# Variation Determiners

- Who is talking?
- To Whom?
- Where? *Work, Home, Restaurant*
- When? *19th century, 2008, 2022...*
- About what? *Specialised domain, the Weather,...*

**Essentially, the Variability of a language depends on:**

- Social Context
- Geography
- Sociology
- Date
- Topic

# Diversity

- About **7000 languages** spoken in the world
- About **60%** are found in the **written form** (cf. Omniglot)

# Syntactic Diversity

A key characteristics of the syntax of a given language is **the word order**

- **Word order differs** across languages
- Word order degree of freedom also differs across languages
- We characterize word orders with: **Subject (S) Verb (V) Object (O) order**

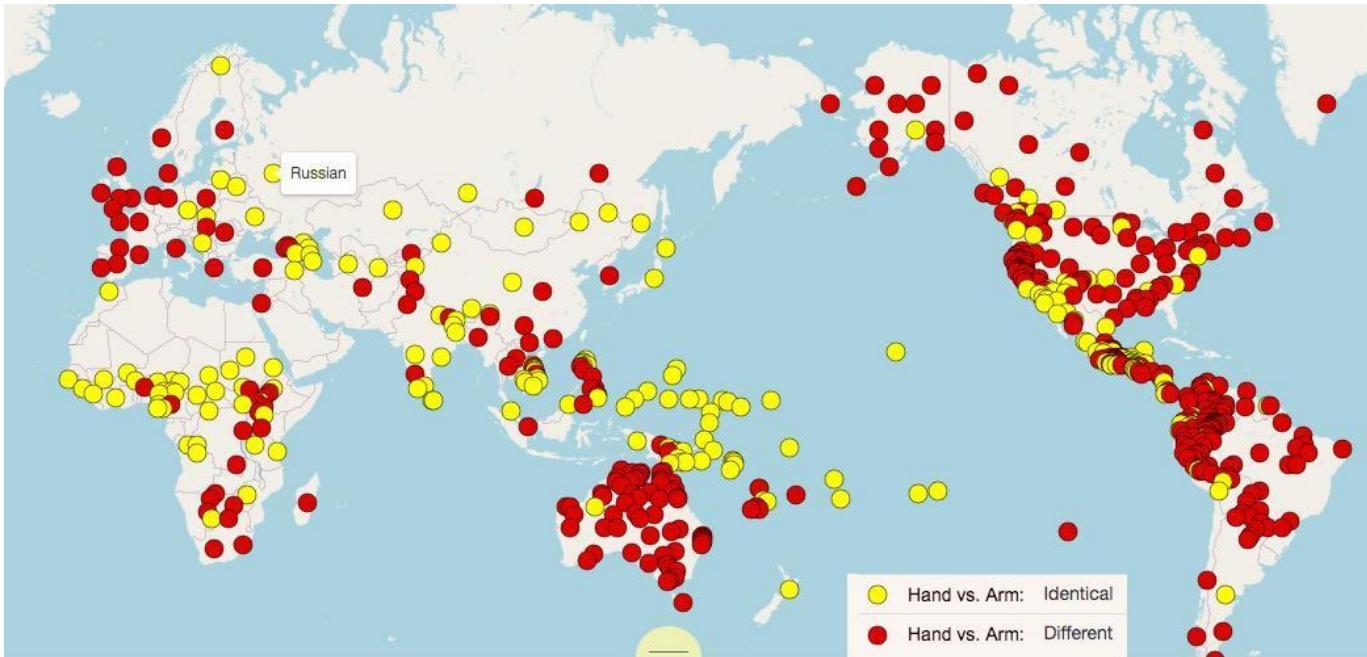
# Word Order Freedom And Morphology

- Word orders freedom and morphology are usually related
- **The more freedom in word orders**
  - the less information is conveyed by word positions
  - the more information is carried by each word
  - **the richer the morphology**

English *cats eat mice*

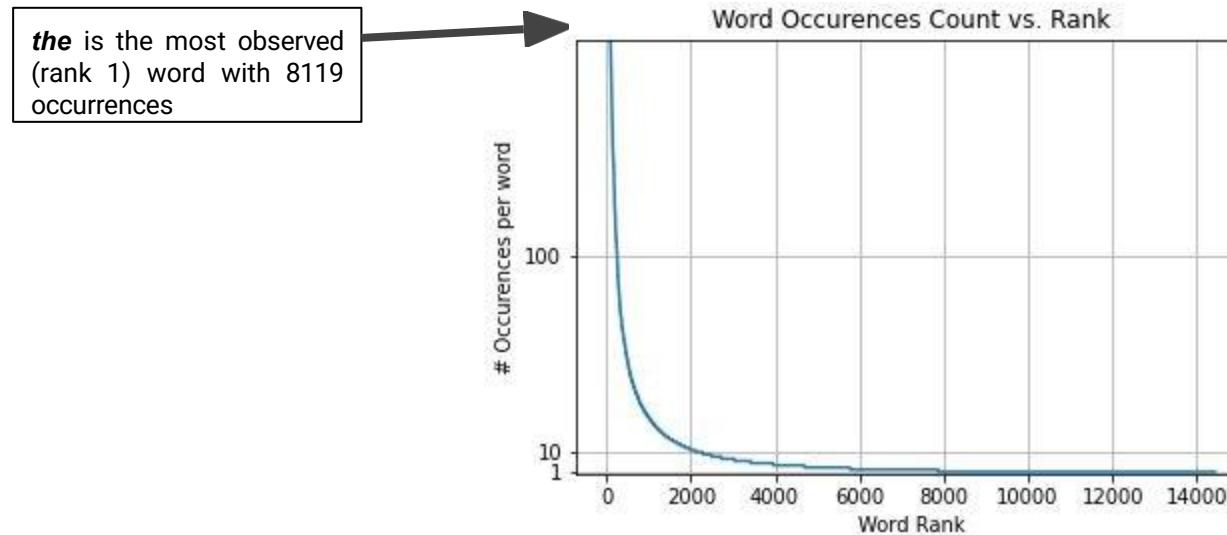
# Semantic Diversity

- Words partition the semantic space
- This partition is very diverse across language



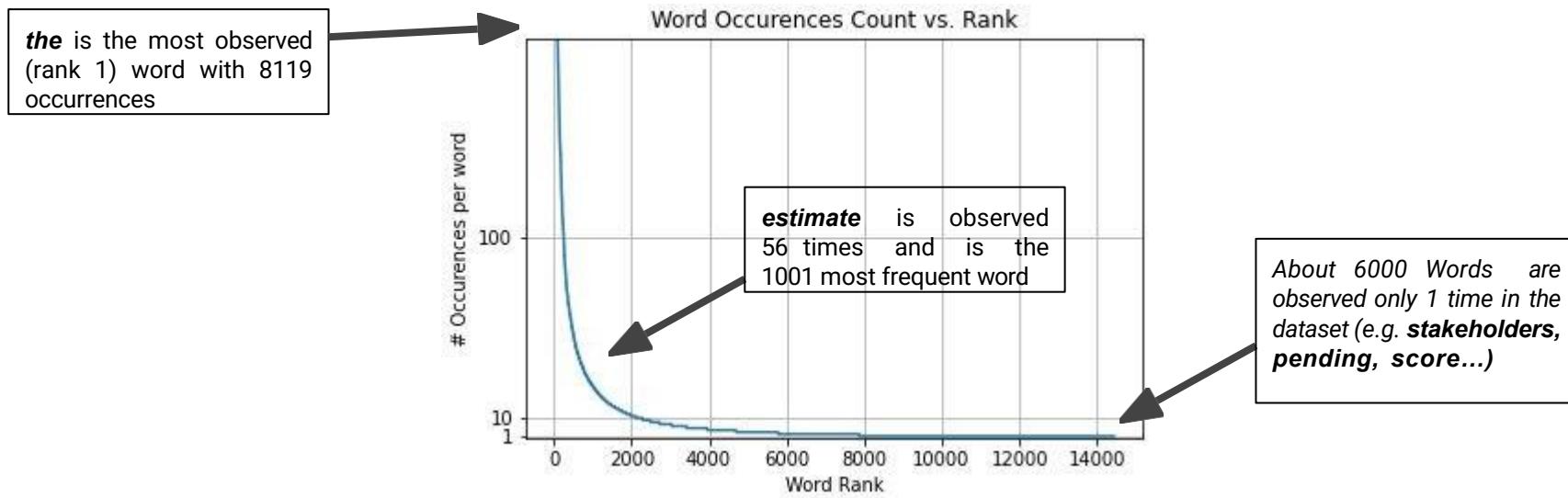
# Statistical Description of a Corpus

We describe statistically a corpus of 800 scientific articles



# Statistical Description of a Corpus

We describe statistically a corpus of 800 scientific articles



# Statistical Description of a Corpus

We describe statistically a corpus of 800 scientific articles

- In a large enough corpus, word distributions follows **a Zipf Law ie:**

$f_w$  frequency of entity w  
k frequency rank of entity w

$$f_w(k) \propto \frac{1}{k^\theta}$$

- Zipf law is a Power relation between the rank and frequency  
*The most frequent entities are **much more frequent** than the less frequent ones*
- Under a Zipf law,  $\log(f_w)$  and  $\log(k)$  are linearly related

# Statistical Description of Language

**Zipf Distributions** are observed not only for words but with many other units of language (sounds, syntactic structure, name entities...)

## Consequence

A large number of units are observed in language with very low frequency i.e. **Sparsity**

**Very challenging for NLP**

# What is Natural Language Processing?

In a nutshell, NLP consists in handling the complexities of natural languages "to do something"

- Raw Text / Speech → Structured Information
- Raw Text / Speech → (Controlled) Text/Speech

In this course we will focus on **textual data**

# Framework

We assume:

- A **token** is the basic unit of discrete data, defined to be an item from a vocabulary indexed by 1, ..., V.
- A **document** is a sequence of N words denoted by  $d = (w_1, w_2, \dots, w_N)$ , where  $w_n$  is the N-th word in the sequence.
- A **corpus** is a collection of M documents denoted by  $D = (d_1, d_2, \dots, d_M)$

Example: *Wikipedia, All the articles of the NYT in 2021...*

# Token

With regard to our end task, a token can be:

- A word
- A sub-word: *e.g. a sequence of 3 characters*
- A character
- An sequence of characters (sometimes a word, sometimes several words, sometimes a sub-word...)

# Document

A Document can be:

- A Sentence
- A Paragraph
- A sequence of characters

# Text Segmentation

**Definition:** Text Segmentation is the process of splitting raw text (i.e. list of characters) into **units of interest**.

Two levels of segmentation (usually) required :

- Split raw text into **modeling units** (ex: sentence, paragraph, 1000 characters, web-page...)
- Split modeling units into sequence of **basic units** (referred as tokens) (e.g: words, word-pieces, characters, ...)

**Two distinct approaches:**

- **Linguistically informed** e.g. word, sentence segmentation...
- **Statistically informed** e.g. frequent sub-words (word pieces, sentence pieces...)

# Tokenization

**Definition:** Tokenization consists in *segmenting* raw textual data into tokens:

Can be framed as a character level task

input: *une industrie métallurgique existait.*

output: |||E|||||E|||||E|||||E|||EE

- **Easy task** for most languages and domains
- Can be **very complex in some cases** (Chinese, Social Media...)

# NLP Tasks: Modeling Framework

Let  $(X, Y)$  a pair of random variable.  $X$  may characterize tokens or documents. Modeling an NLP task consists in estimating the conditional probability  $Y|X$  in order to predict  $Y$  with  $X$ .

$$p(Y|X)$$

## Tasks Taxonomy

- If  $Y$  is a single label and  $X$  a sequence of tokens (e.g. a sentence):  
**Sequence Classification**
- If we have one label per token: **Sequence Labelling**
- If  $Y$  is a sequence of tokens: **Sequence Prediction**
- If  $Y$  is a graph, a tree or a complex structured output: **Structure Prediction**

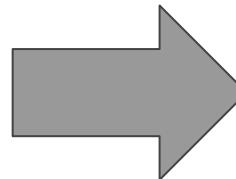
# Document Classification

**Europe**

## **Germany's minimum wage hike will not cost jobs -labour minister**

BERLIN, Jan 21 (Reuters) - Germany's planned minimum wage hike to 12 euros (\$13.61) per hour from October means a pay rise for over 6 million people across the country and should not cost jobs contrary to critics, Labour Minister Hubertus Heil said on Friday.

Increasing the German minimum wage, currently 9.82 euros per hour and will increase to 10.45 euros per hour from July, to 12 euros per hour was one of the key election promises of Chancellor Olaf Scholz and his Social Democrats.



**Politics**  
**Economy**  
**Travel**

....

**Geopolitics**

# Document Ranking (Retriever)

Google search results for "what happened in 2020".

Search bar: what happened in 2020

Filter buttons: All, Images, News, Videos, Maps, More, Tools

Text snippet: About 4,100,000,000 results (0.67 seconds)

Text snippet: 2020 was a tumultuous year that saw the onset of a deadly pandemic, **widespread protests over systemic racism**—and a deeply contentious election. 2020 was a tumultuous year that saw the onset of a deadly pandemic, widespread protests over systemic racism—and a deeply contentious election. Dec 17, 2020

Image: A person wearing a mask and holding up a fist in a protest crowd.

Text snippet: <https://www.history.com> › topics › 2020-events

Text snippet: **2020 Events - HISTORY**

Text snippet: <https://hypost.com> › list › major-2020-events

Text snippet: **2020 events: Yep, these all happened in the year from hell**

Text snippet: 2020 events: Yep, these things all **happened** in the year from hell · Australian bushfires · Prince Harry and Meghan Markle quit royal family · COVID-19 pandemic.

Text snippet: <https://en.wikipedia.org> › wiki › 2020

Text snippet: **2020 - Wikipedia**

Text snippet: 2020 was heavily defined by the COVID-19 pandemic, which led to global social and economic disruption, mass cancellations and postponements of events, worldwide ...

# NLP Tasks: Part-of-Speech Tagging

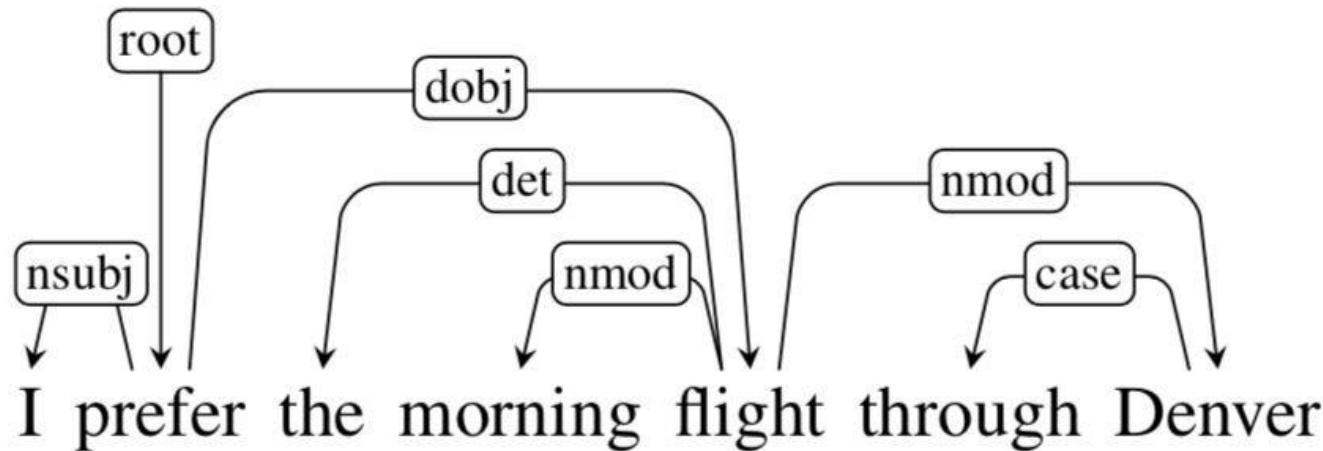
**POS Tagging:** Find the **grammatical category** of each word

[*My* ,    *name* ,    *is* ,    *Bob* ,    *and* ,    *I* ,    *live* ,    *in* ,    *NY* ,    ! ]

[**PRON** , **NOUN** , **VERB** , **NOUN** , **CC** , **PRON** , **VERB** , **PREP** , **NOUN** , **PUNCT** ]

# Syntactic Parsing

Syntactic Parsing consists in **extracting the syntactic structure** of a sentence. For instance, **Dependency Parsing** (here) predicts an acyclic directed graph (a **tree**)



# Slot-Filling / Intent Detection

**Intent Detection** is a sequence classification task that consists in **classifying the intent of a user** in a pre-defined category.

**Slot-Filling** is a sequence labelling task that consists in identifying **specific parameters in a user request**.

*Can you please play Hello from Adele ?*

**Intent:** *play\_music*

**SLOTS:** [Can, you, please, play, Hello, from, Adele, ? ]  
[O , O , O , O , SONG, O , ARTIST, O ]

# Semantic Role Labelling (SLR)

- SRL is the task of finding the **semantic role** of each predicate in a sentence.
- Given a sentence, SRL predicts: *who did what to whom, when, where, why, how*

# NLP Tasks: Name Entity Recognition

**NER:** Find the **Name-Entities** in a sentence

[My , name, is, Bob, and, I, live, in, NY, ! ]

[O , O, O, PERSON, O, O, O, O, LOCATION, O ]

# Machine Translation

**INPUT:** *My name is Bob and I live in NY !*

**OUTPUT:** *Je m'appelle Bob et je vis à New-York!*

# Question Answering

***INPUT:*** How many episodes in season 2 breaking bad?

***OUTPUT:*** 13

# How do we solve an NLP Problem?

**Each NLP Problem is unique**

- **No Universal Method to solve them all**
- Have a set of tools in mind, symbolic, statistics and deep learning based

**NLP Engineering:** Find **what works best** for your given method based on what has been done already in the literature

**NLP Research:** Find a **better** way to do, more accurate, cheaper, faster