IBM's Watson

One of IBM's notable contributions to NLP is their development of Watson, a powerful cognitive computing system initially built for a *Jeopardy!* tv show.. Watson's NLP capabilities based on *"more than 100 different techniques"* allow it to analyze and comprehend vast amounts of unstructured data, including text, audio, and images. By understanding the context and nuances of human language, Watson can provide intelligent insights and answer complex questions in real time.

In 2013 it was reported that Fluid, Welltok and MD Buyline based their services or apps on Watson, providing respectively online shopping advisor, health improving activities advisor or medical equipment procurement advisor. The network of companies using Watson grew quickly and back in 2013 it became as big as 800 organizations and individuals signed up with IBM's product.

Watson seems to be used quite a lot in medicine, its capabilities allowing a wide spectrum of applications. Such as the aforementioned medical purchasing assistant, then education, healthcare or medical recommendation service.

Its spectrum of applications also includes map-based management of municipal water supply and water consumption, reducing maintenance costs. It can be used to help select music, shorten and extract the most important elements from lengthy legal texts or even help freshmen buy their first diamond.

But how does it work? Watson uses IBM's DeepQA software and the Apache UIMA framework implementation. It was created as a Question Answering computing system, it was built to apply advanced machine learning, automated reasoning, knowledge representation, information retrieval and NLP technologies.