

# Statistical Machine Translation without Parallel Data

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Simon Fraser University

# Statistical Machine Translation (SMT)

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$$e = \arg \max_e \{ \Pr(e | f) \}$$

**e:** target sentence

**f:** source sentence



# Statistical Machine Translation (SMT)

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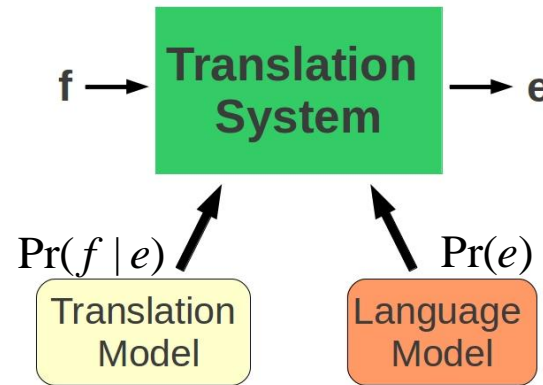
**f: source sentence**

**Noisy channel**

$$\Pr(e | f) \propto \Pr(e) \cdot \Pr(f | e)$$

**Log-linear model**

$$\Pr(e | f) \propto \exp \sum_i \lambda_i h_i(e, f)$$

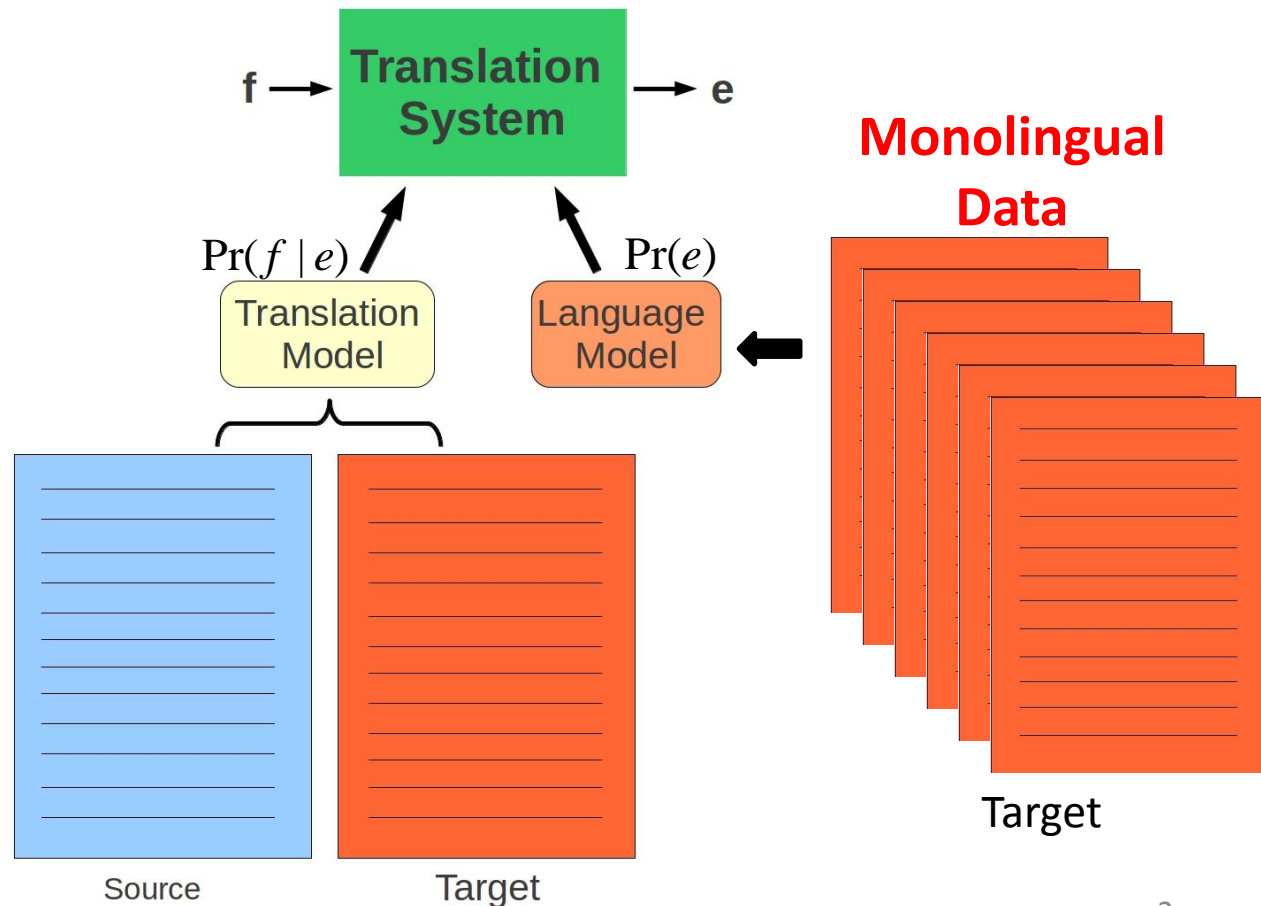


# Statistical Machine Translation (SMT)

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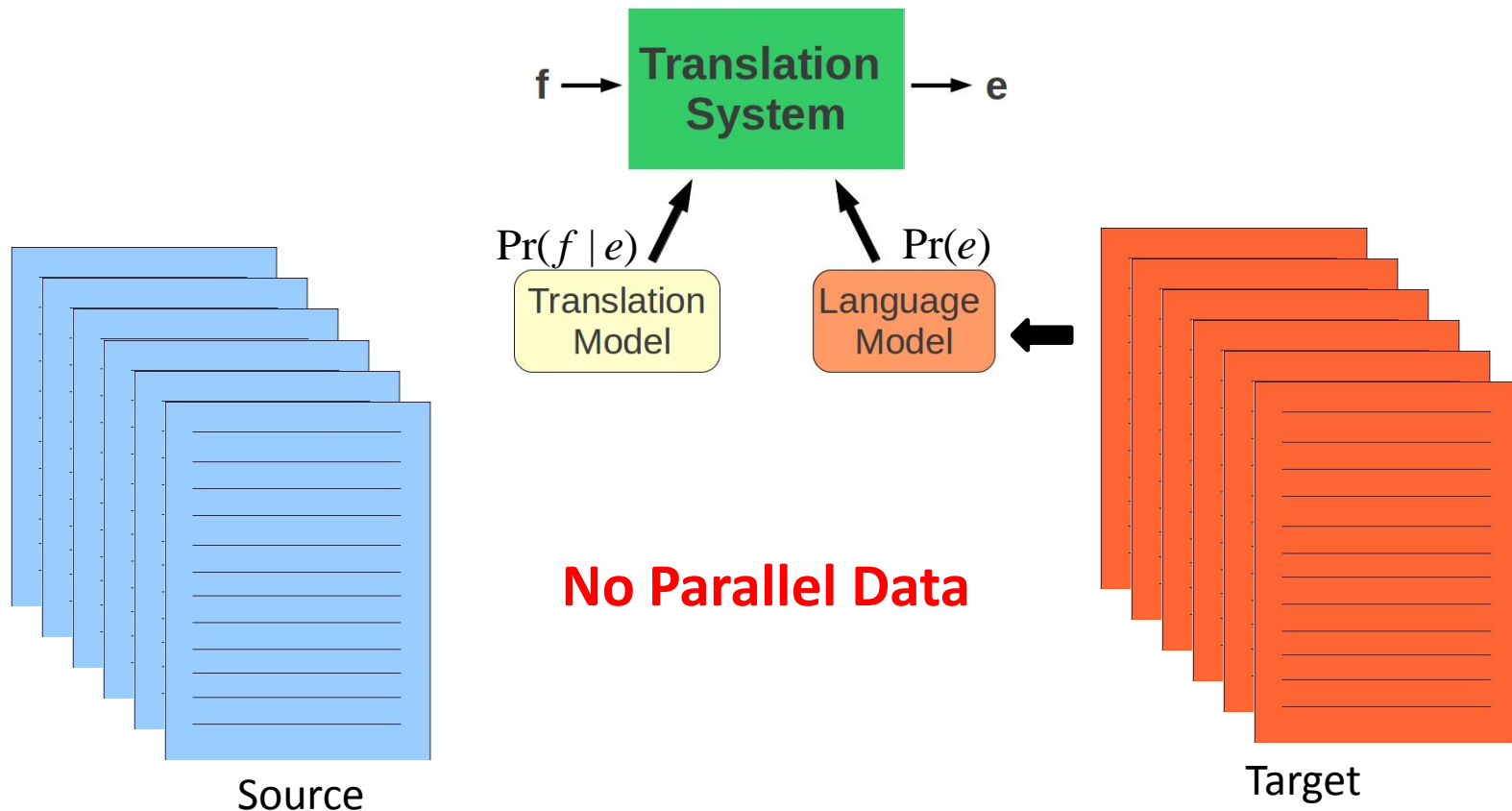
**Parallel Data  
(or bilingual data)**



# Statistical Machine Translation (SMT)

$$e = \arg \max_e \{ \Pr(e | f) \}$$

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# Methods

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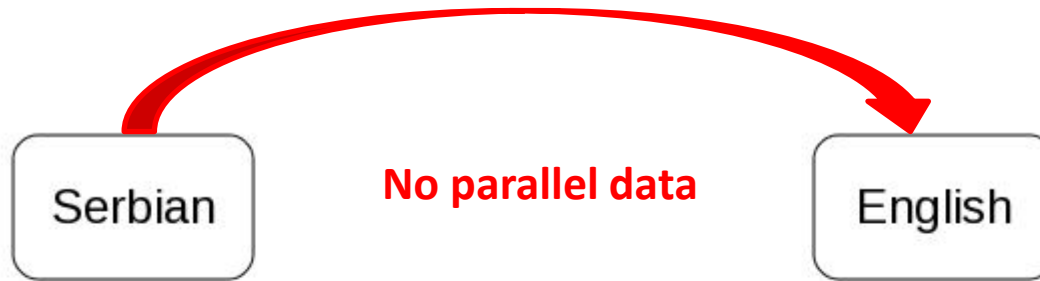
- Translation lexicon
  - Limited parallel resource
  - Monolingual corpora
- Translation system

# Translation Lexicon Induction

## Limited Parallel Data

# Inducing Translation Lexicon: Bridge language

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Prazan



# Inducing Translation Lexicon: Bridge language

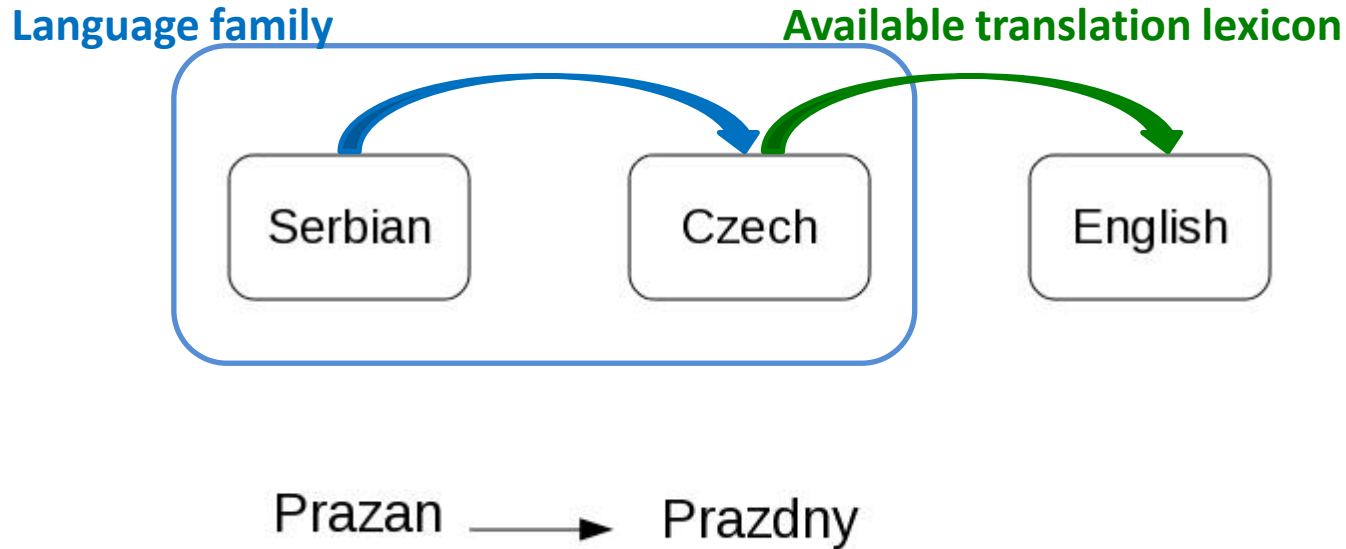
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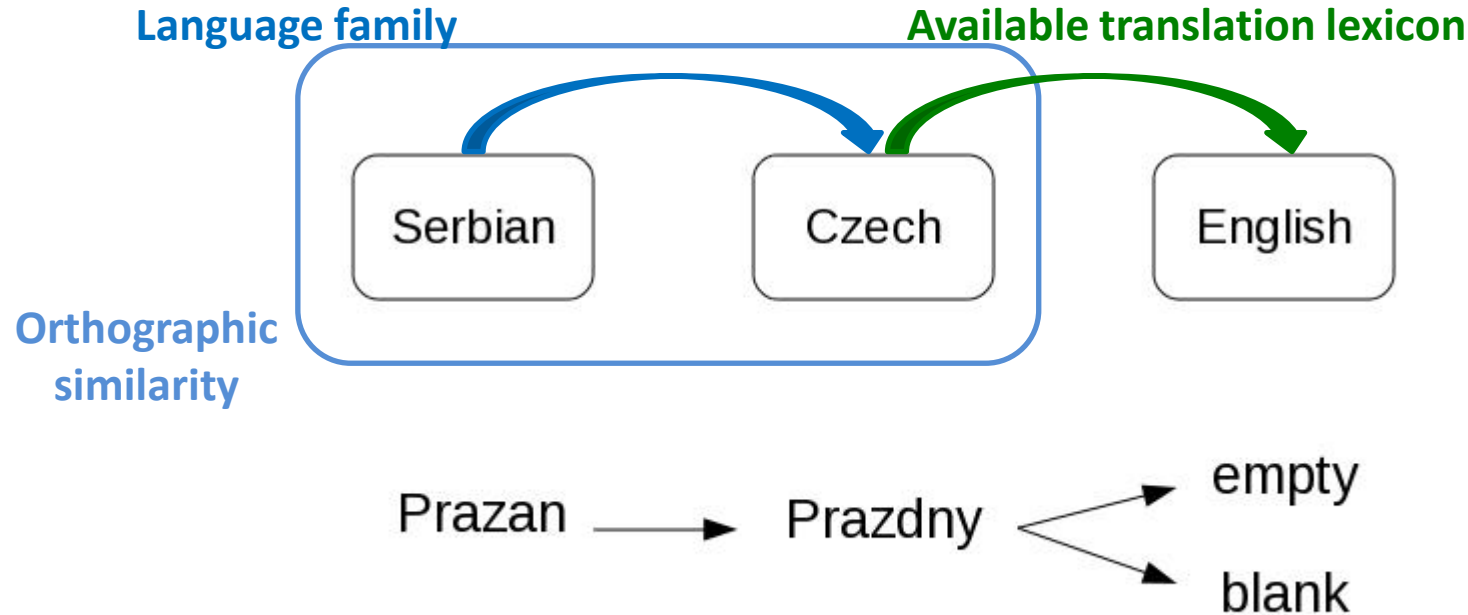
Prazan

# Inducing Translation Lexicon: Bridge language

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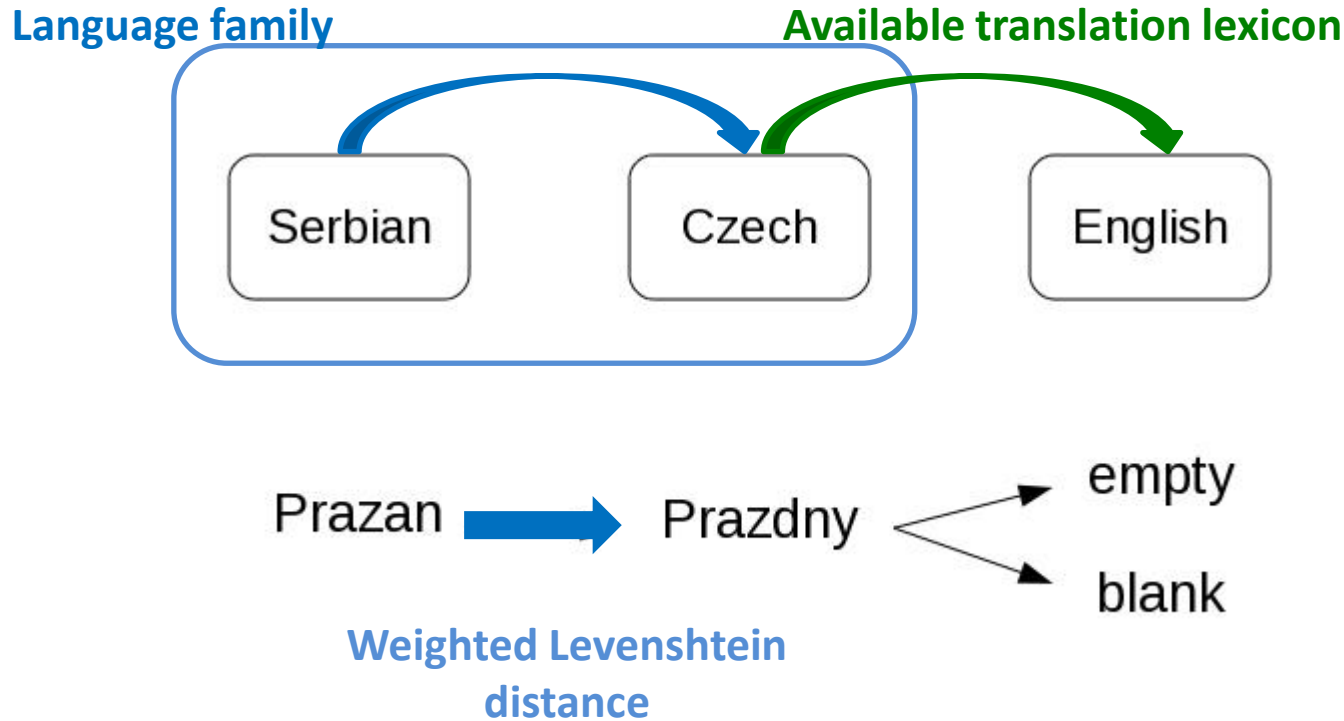
# Inducing Translation Lexicon: Bridge language



# Inducing Translation Lexicon:

## Bridge language (Mann and Yarowsky, 2001)

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### Operations in Levenshtein:

Substitution: O**t**por -> O**d**por, cost (**t**, **d**)

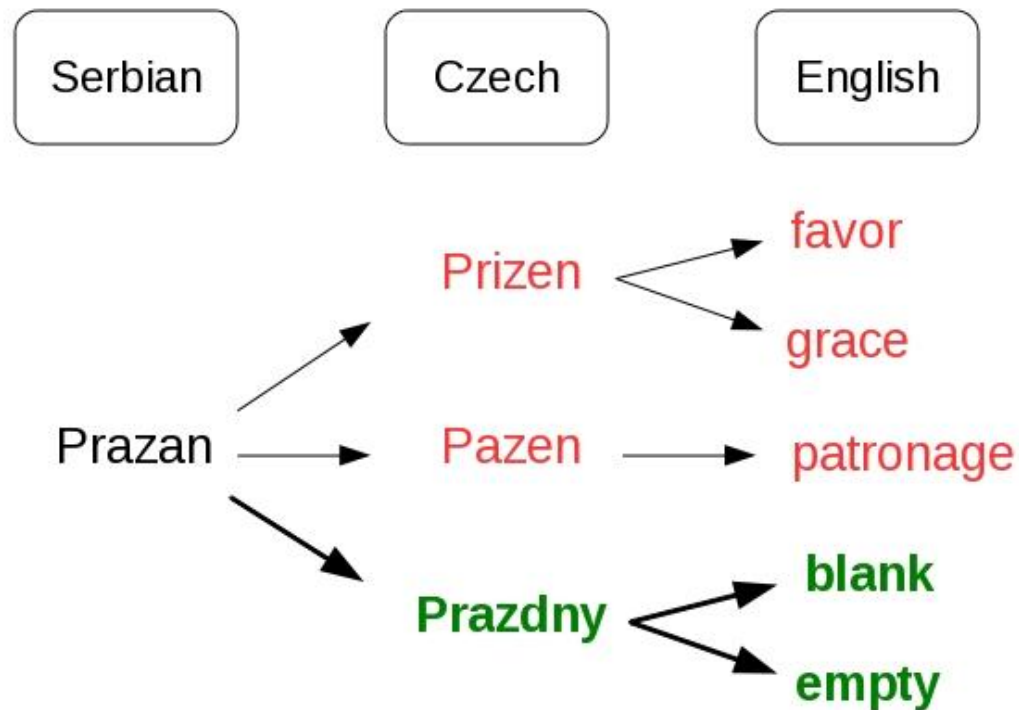
Insertion: Pravo -> **V**provo, cost(**ε**, **v**)

Deletion: **C**hvala -> Hvaliti, cost (**c**, **ε**)

# Inducing Translation Lexicon: Bridge language

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- False cognates

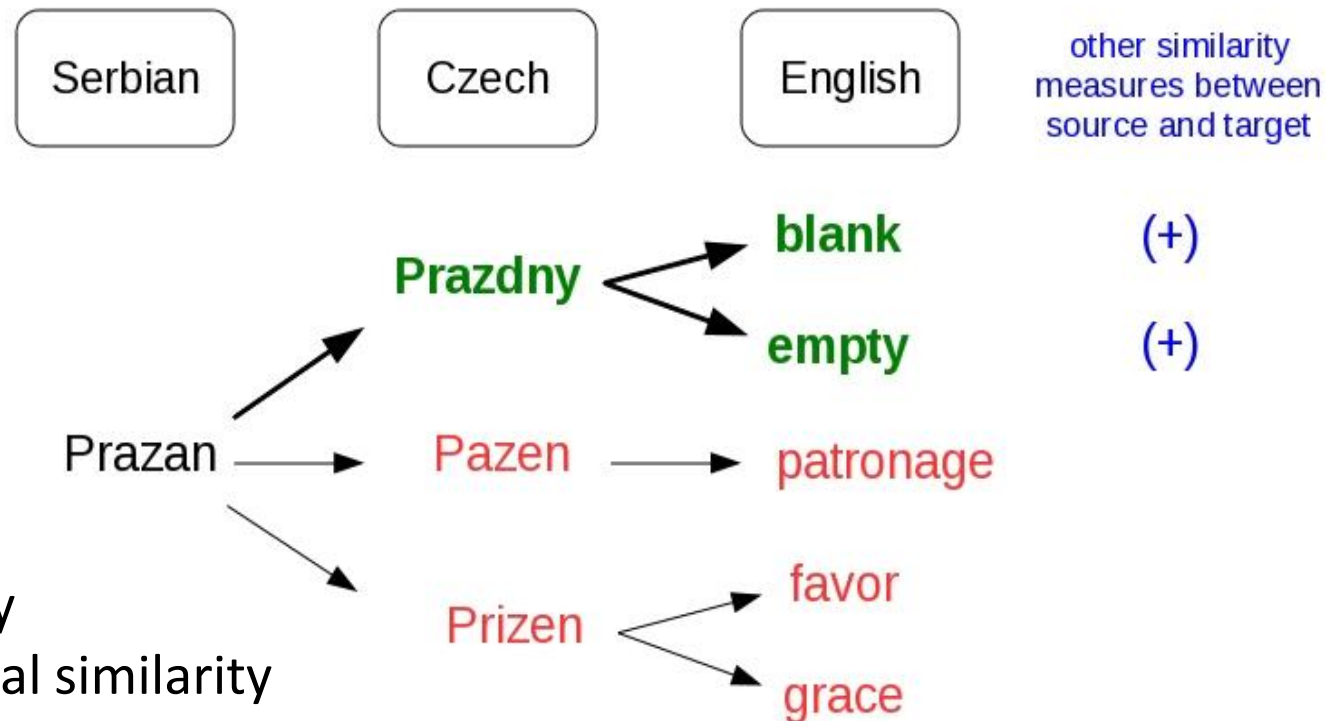


# Inducing Translation Lexicon:

## Bridge language (Schafer and Yarowsky 2002)

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- Additional similarity measures



- Context similarity
- Date distributional similarity
- Word frequency similarity

# Inducing Translation Lexicon:

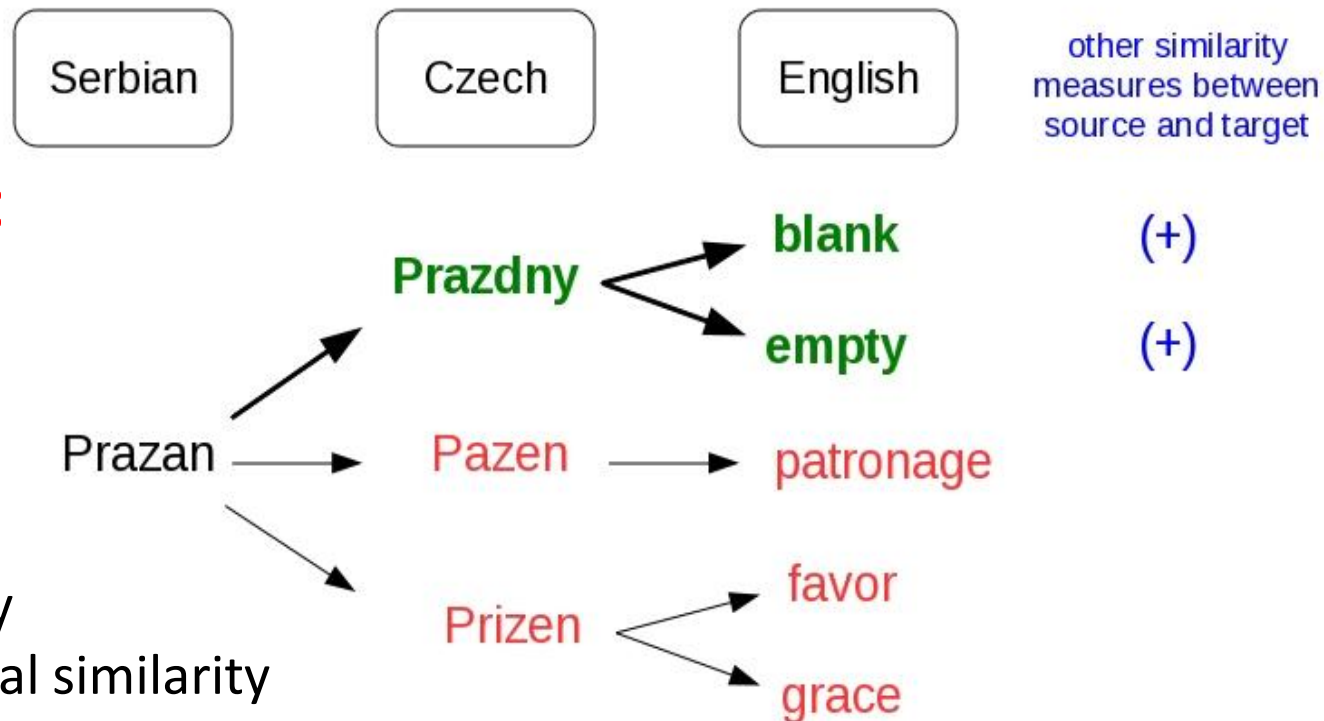
## Bridge language (Schafer and Yarowsky 2002)

- Additional similarity measures

**9% Improvement**

Accuracy measured  
against a gold  
translation lexicon

- Context similarity
- Date distributional similarity
- Word frequency similarity



# Inducing Translation Lexicon: Using Seed Lexicon

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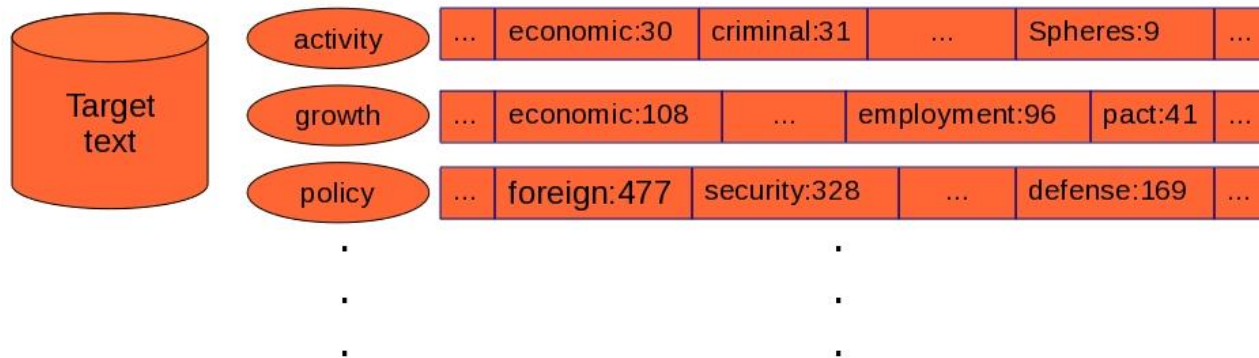
- Given: an initial small lexicon between source and target
- Goal: a translation lexicon between S and T
- Methods: extending the seed lexicon
  - Context similarity



# Inducing Translation Lexicon: Using Seed Lexicon (Context similarity)

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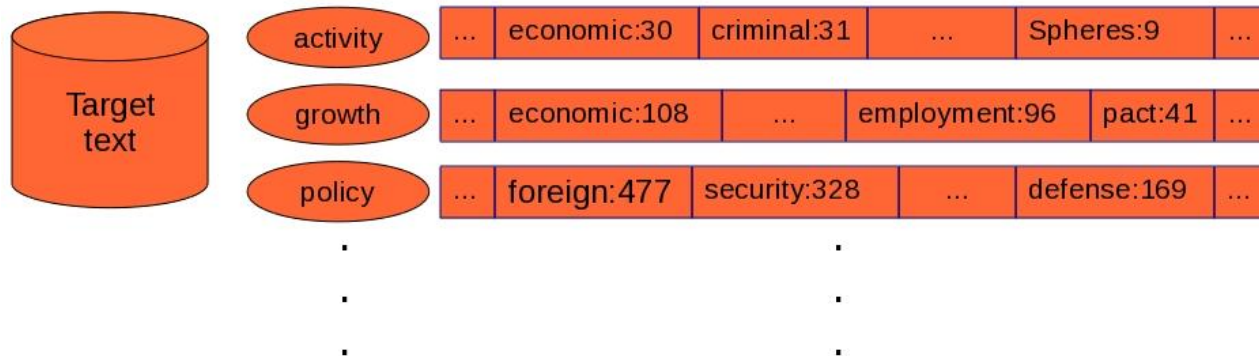
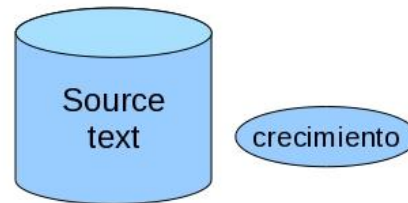
- (Rapp 95),(Rapp 99),(Fung & Yee 98)



# Inducing Translation Lexicon: Using Seed Lexicon (Context similarity)

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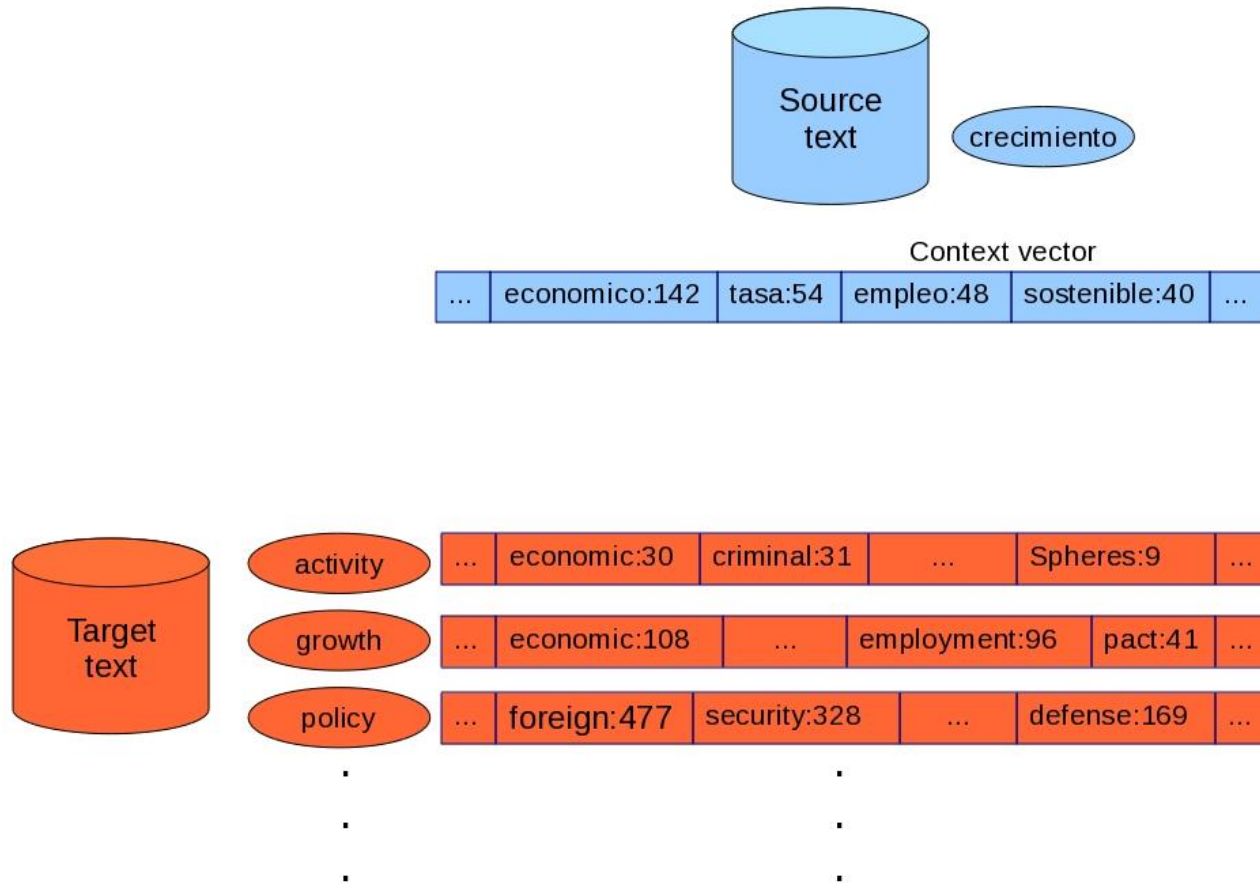
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# Inducing Translation Lexicon: Using Seed Lexicon (Context similarity)

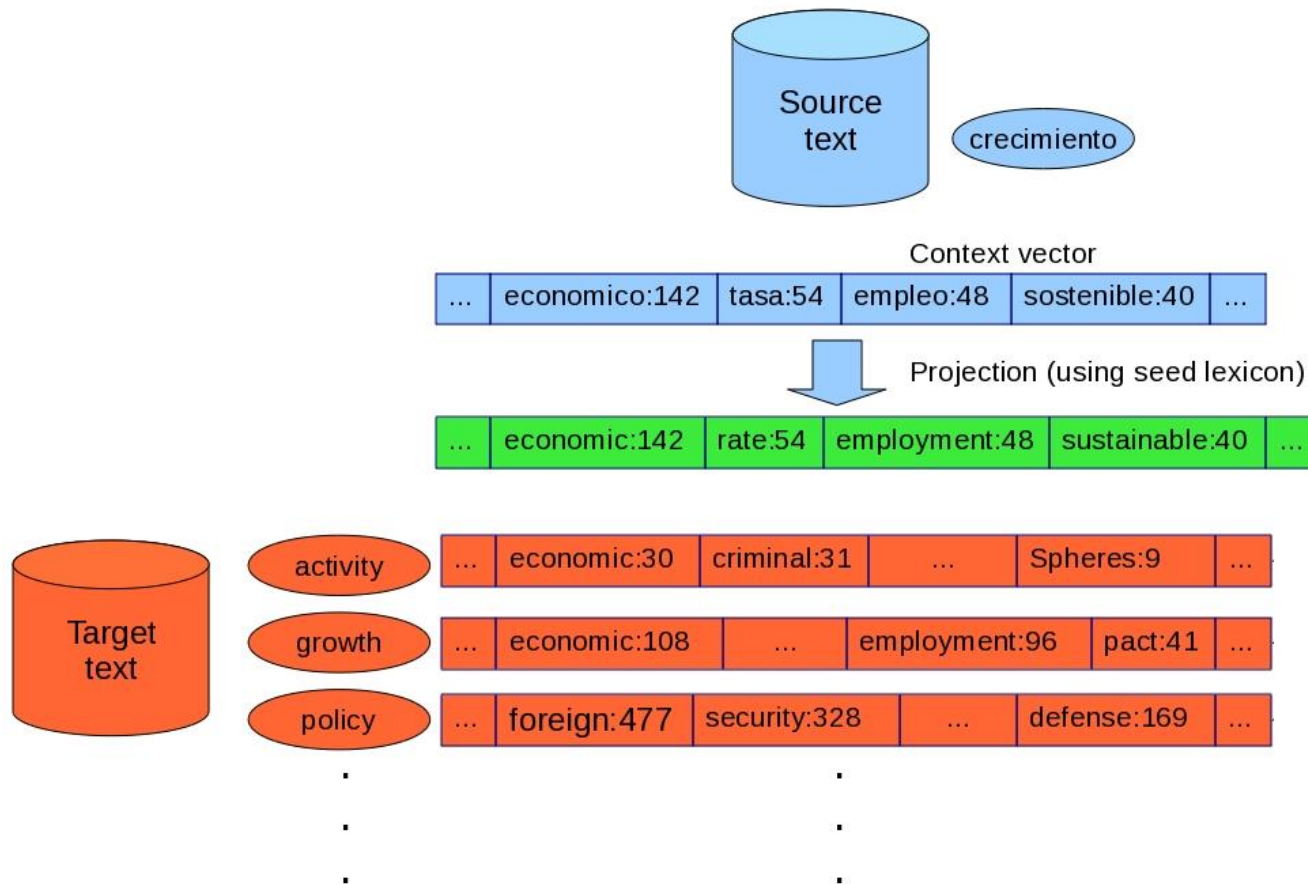
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- (Rapp 95),(Rapp 99),(Fung & Yee 98)



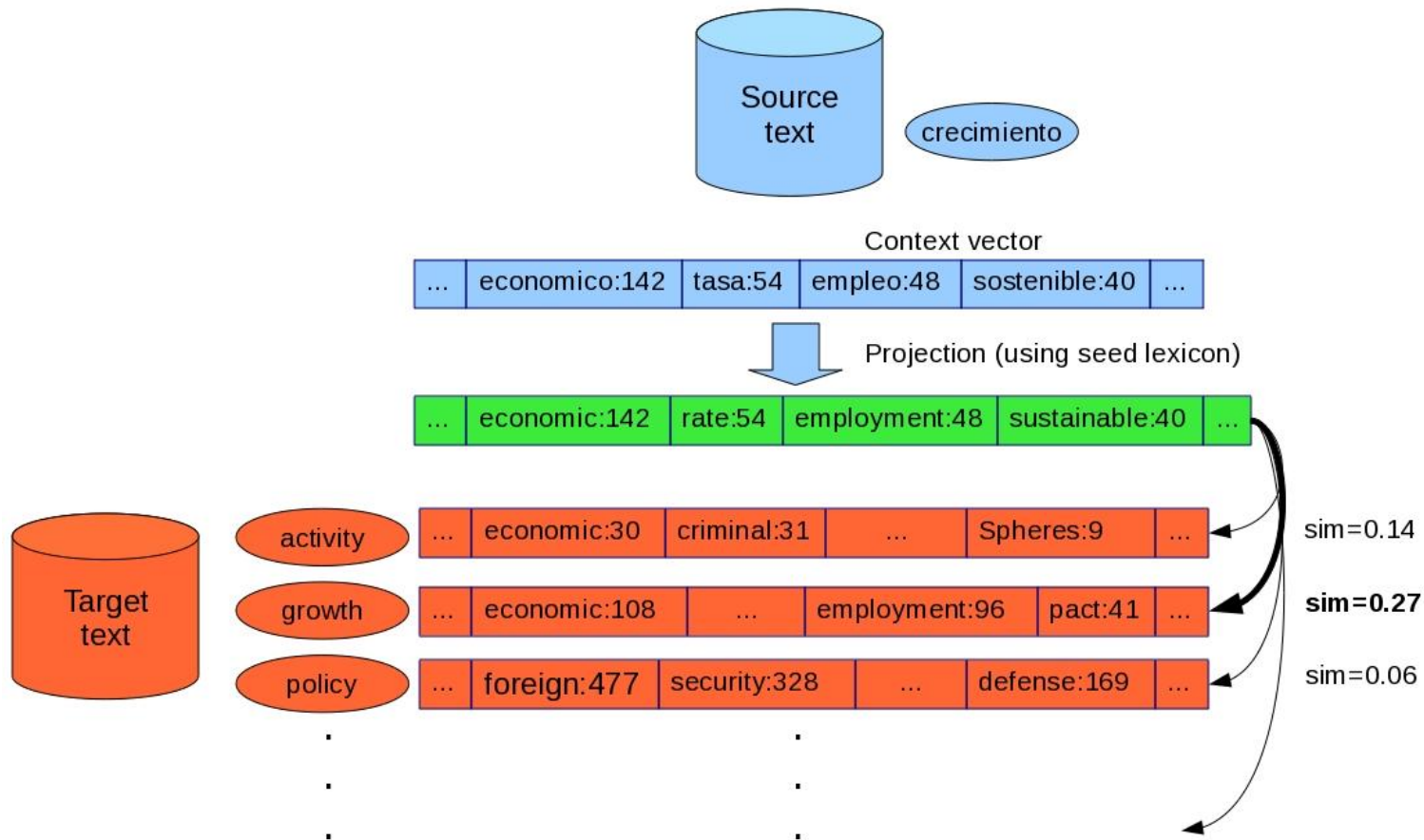
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# Inducing Translation Lexicon: Using Seed Lexicon (Context similarity)

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# Inducing Translation Lexicon: Using Seed Lexicon (Context similarity)

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- Modeling the context
  - Window of fixed size (Rapp 95),(Rapp 99),(Fung & Yee 98)

... el camino para el **crecimiento** y la prosperidad económica ...  
(the) (path) (to) (the) (growth) (and) (the) (prosperity) (economic)

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Position	Adjacent context
-2	para
-1	el
+1	y
+2	la

# Inducing Translation Lexicon: Using Seed Lexicon (Context similarity)

- Modeling the context
  - Window of fixed size (Rapp 95),(Rapp 99),(Fung & Yee 98)
  - Using dependency trees (Garera et al., 2009)



Position	Adjacent context	Dependency context
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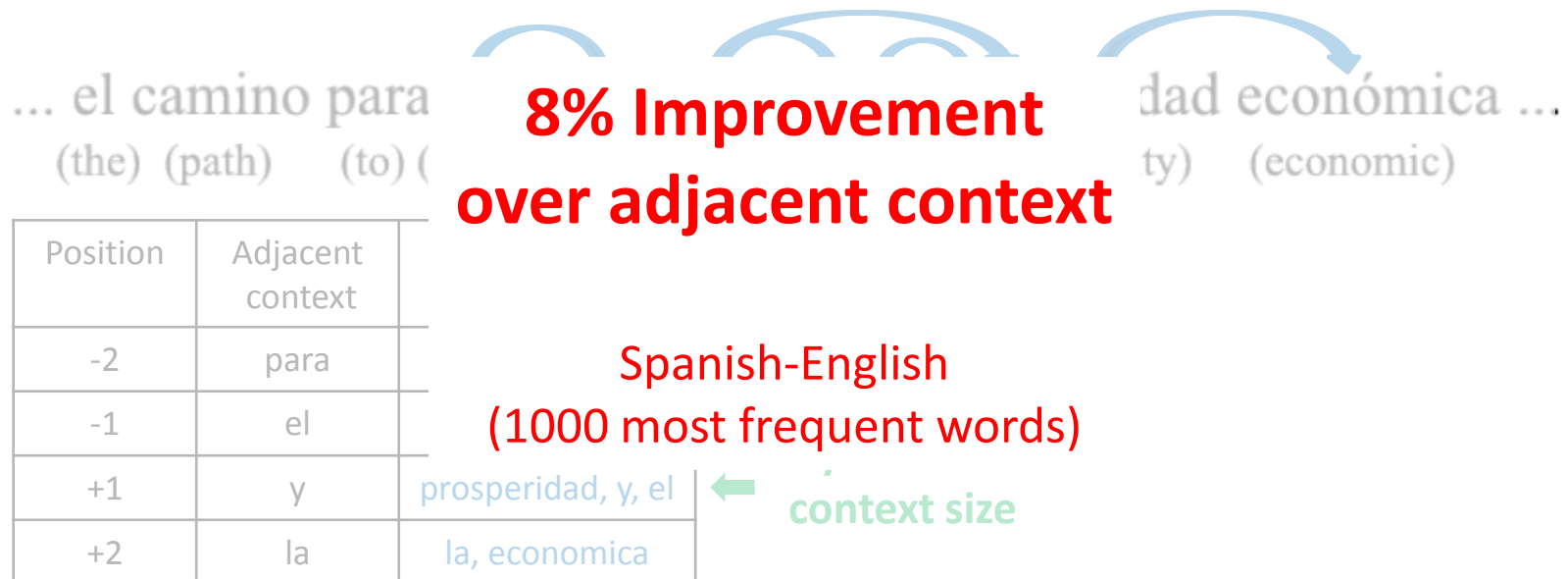


Position	Adjacent context	Dependency context
-2	para	camino
-1	el	para
+1	y	prosperidad, y, el
+2	la	la, economica

← **Dynamic context size**

# Inducing Translation Lexicon: Using Seed Lexicon (Context similarity)

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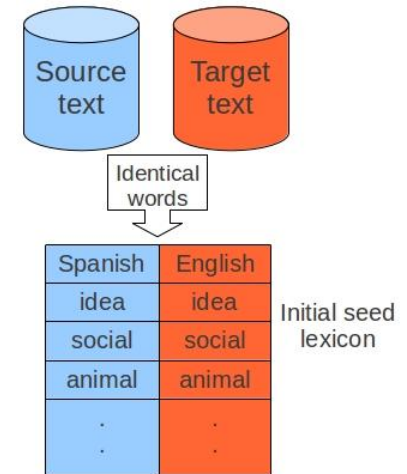


No Parallel Data

# Inducing Translation Lexicon: Monolingual Data (Similarity measures)

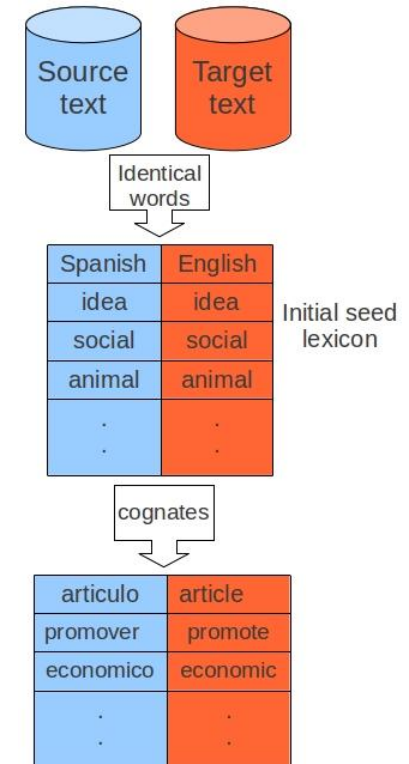
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- Similarities in monolingual corpora (Koehn & Knight 2002)
  - Identical words



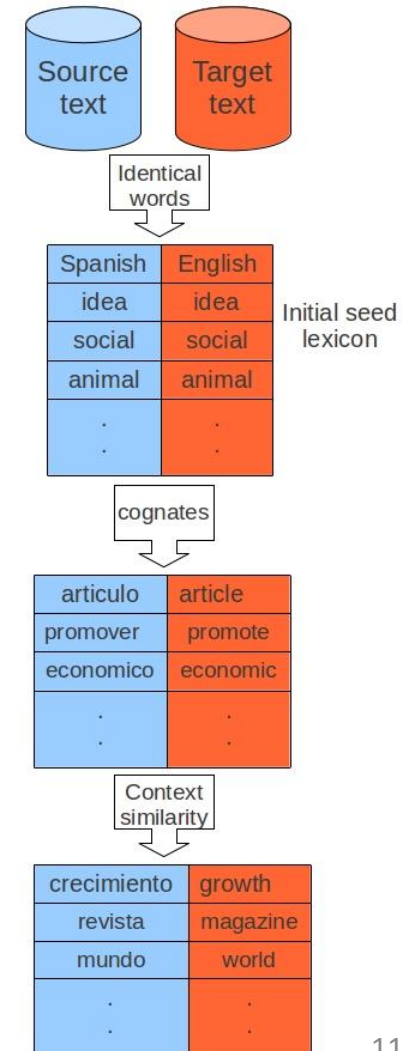
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- Similarities in monolingual corpora (Koehn & Knight 2002)
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  - Orthographic similarity (cognates)



# Inducing Translation Lexicon: Monolingual Data (Similarity measures)

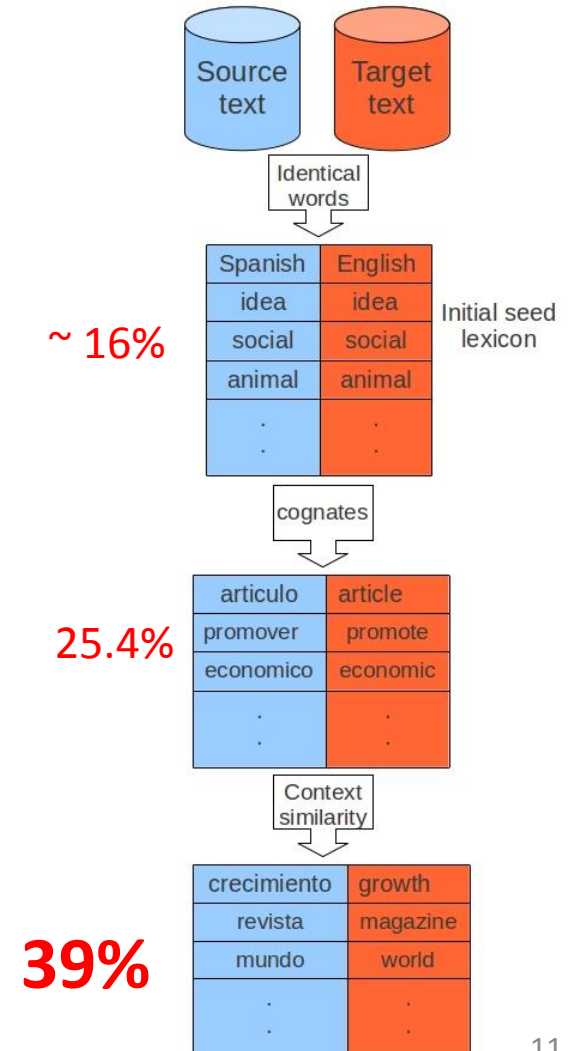
- Similarities in monolingual corpora (Koehn & Knight 2002)
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# Inducing Translation Lexicon: Monolingual Data (Similarity measures)

- Similarities in monolingual corpora (Koehn & Knight 2002)
  - Identical words
  - Orthographic similarity (cognates)
  - Context similarity

German-English  
1000 most frequent nouns



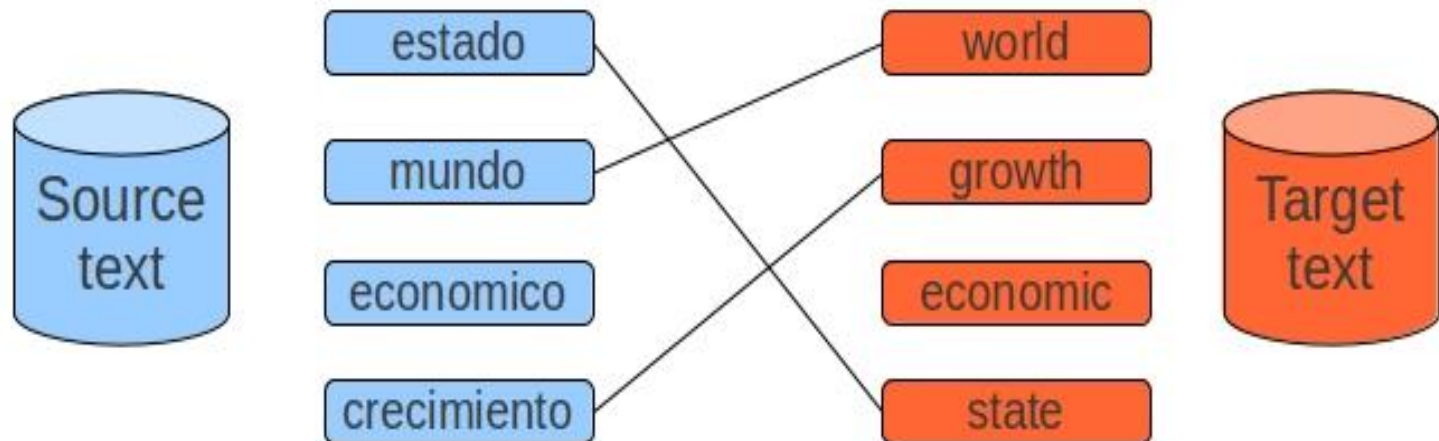


# Inducing Translation Lexicon:

## No Parallel Data (Model Translation Lexicon as a Mapping)

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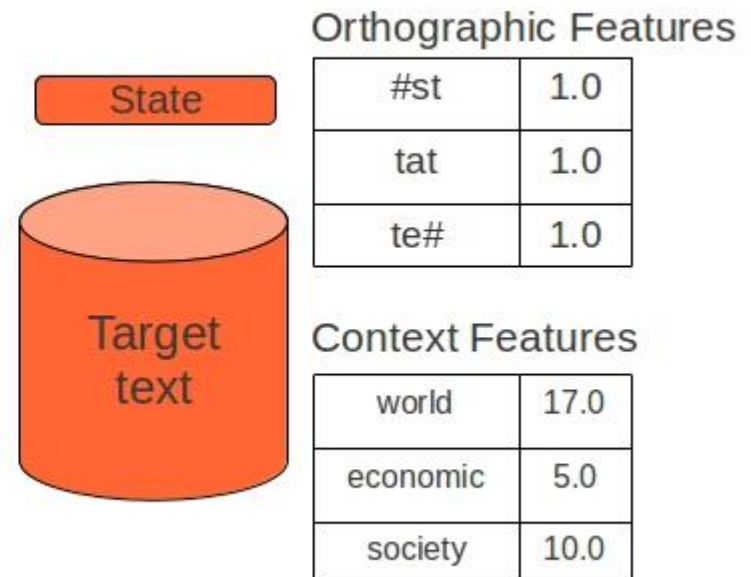
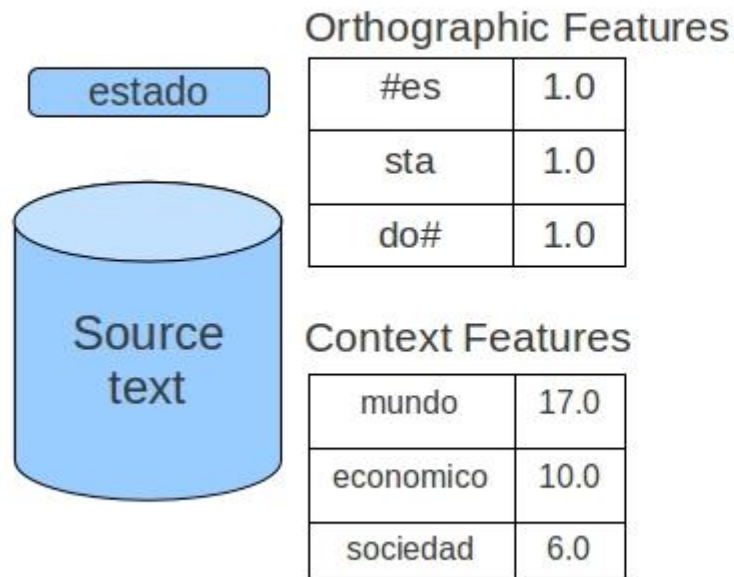
- A generative model for matching between S and T (Haghighi et al., 2008)



# Inducing Translation Lexicon: No Parallel Data (Haghighi et al., 2008)

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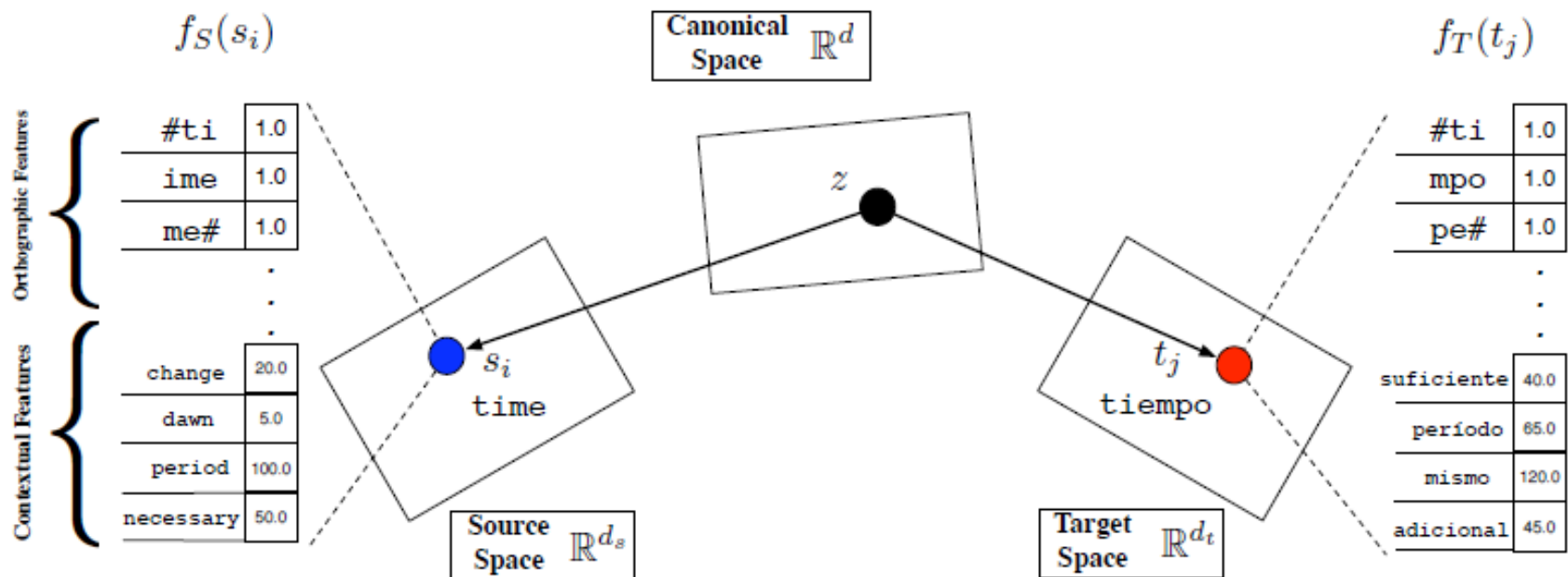
- Orthographic (n-gram characters)
- Contextual features



# Inducing Translation Lexicon: No Parallel Data (Haghighi et al., 2008)

Observed words in source  
and target spaces are  
projected to a common  
latent space

Canonical Correlation  
Analysis (CCA)

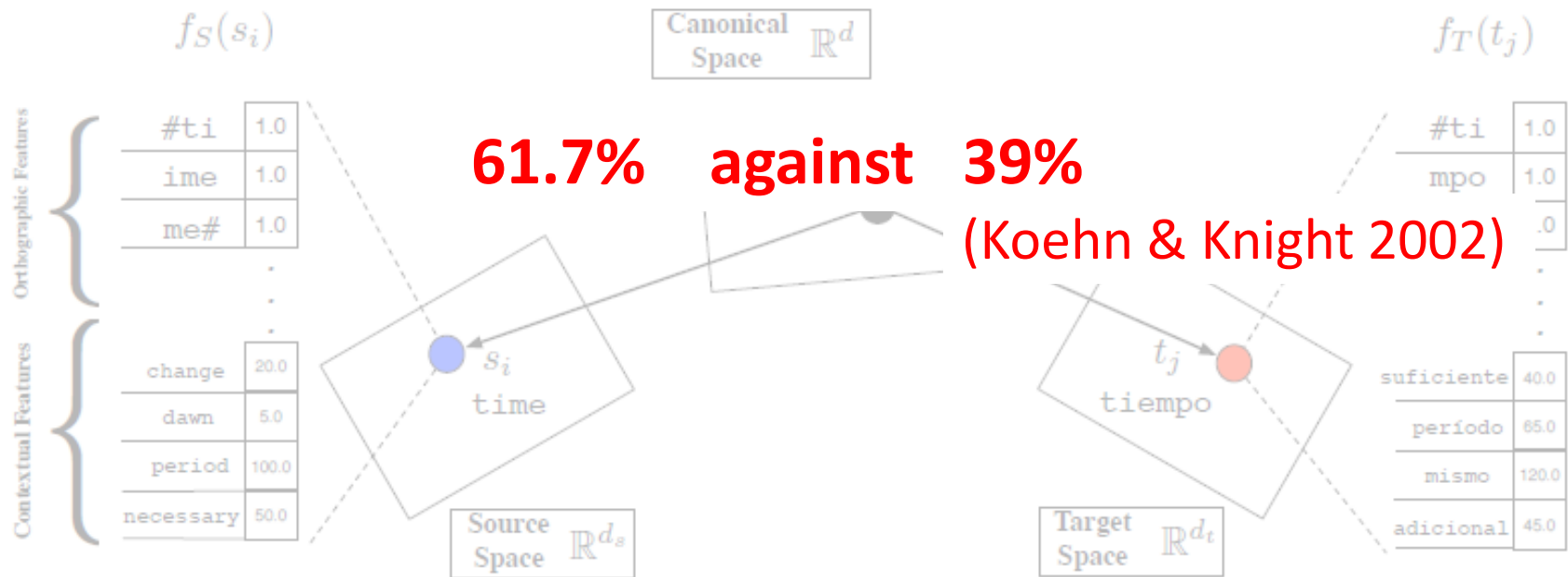


(Haghighi et al., 2008)

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(Haghighi et al., 2008)

# Methods

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- Inducing Translation Lexicon
  - Limited Parallel Data
  - Monolingual Data
- Translation System
  - Word-based
  - Phrase-based

# Translation System:

Word-based: MT as decipherment (Ravi and Knight 2011)

---

**f: source sentence**

**e: target sentence**

Train parameters to maximize probability of **observed sentence pairs (e,f)**:

$$\underset{\theta}{\operatorname{argmax}} P_{\theta}(e, f) \simeq \underset{\theta}{\operatorname{argmax}} \prod_{e, f} P_{\theta}(f | e)$$

$$P(f | e)$$

English-Spanish  
Translation Model



Spanish



English

**Training with Parallel data**

# Translation System:

Word-based: MT as decipherment (Ravi and Knight 2011)

**f: source sentence**

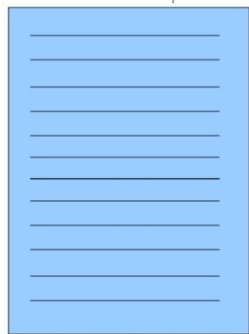
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English-Spanish  
Translation Model



Spanish



English

**Training with Parallel data**

English



Train parameters to maximize probability of **observed source text f**:

$$\operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} P_{\theta}(f) \simeq \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \prod_f P_{\theta}(f)$$

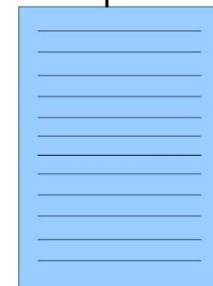
$$\operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \prod_f \sum_e P(e) P_{\theta}(f | e)$$

$$P(e)$$

Language Model

$$P(f | e)$$

English-Spanish  
Translation Model



Spanish

**Training without Parallel data**

# Translation System:

Word-based: MT as decipherment (Ravi and Knight 2011)

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English-Spanish  
Translation Model



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**Training with Parallel data**

English



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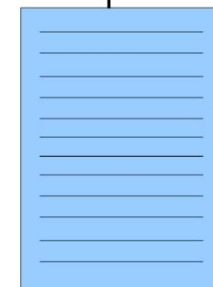
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English-Spanish  
Translation Model



Spanish

**Training without Parallel data**



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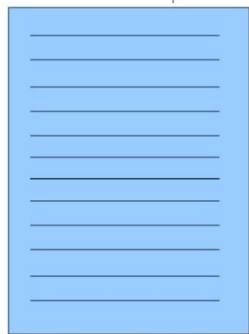
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English-Spanish  
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$$P(e)$$

Language Model

$$P(f | e)$$

English-Spanish  
Translation Model



Spanish

**Training without Parallel data**

**Scalability  
Challenges**

# Translation System:

## Word-based

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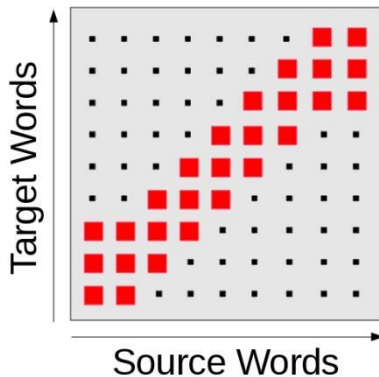
- Restricting the translation model (Nuhn et al., 2012)
  - Determining a set of active translations
  - Estimating the probabilities of active translations

# Translation System:

## Word-based

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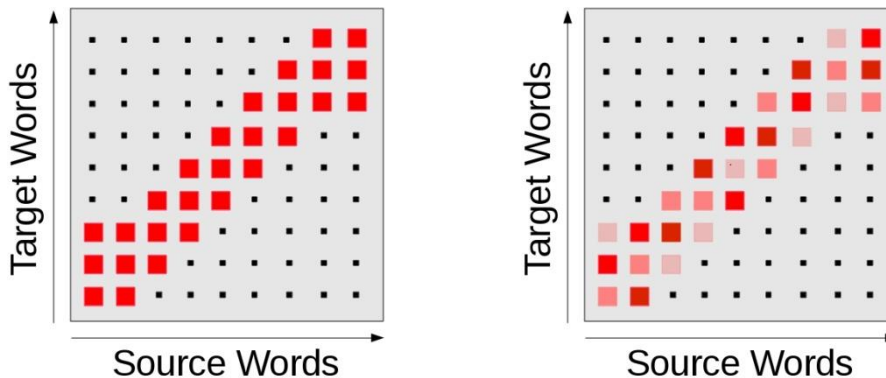


Initialization using  
word frequency ranks

# Translation System: Word-based

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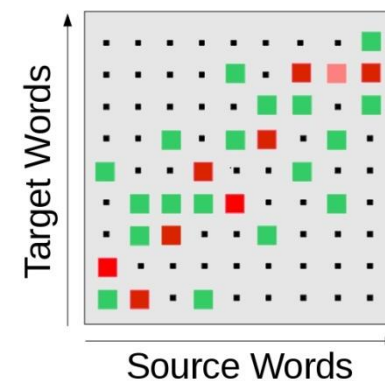
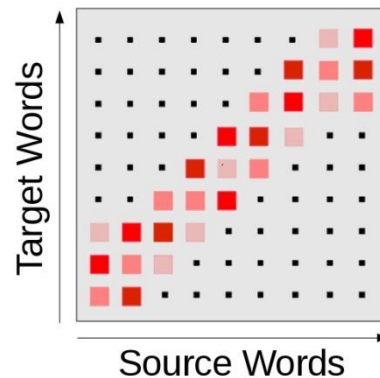
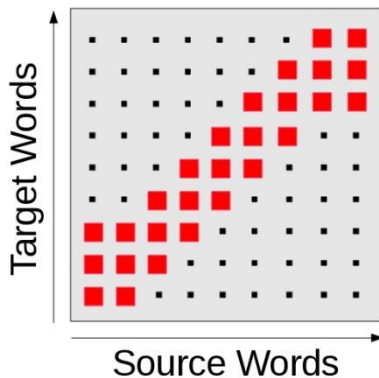


- EM training (Ravi and Knight 2011)  
with limited iterations (20-30)

# Translation System: Word-based

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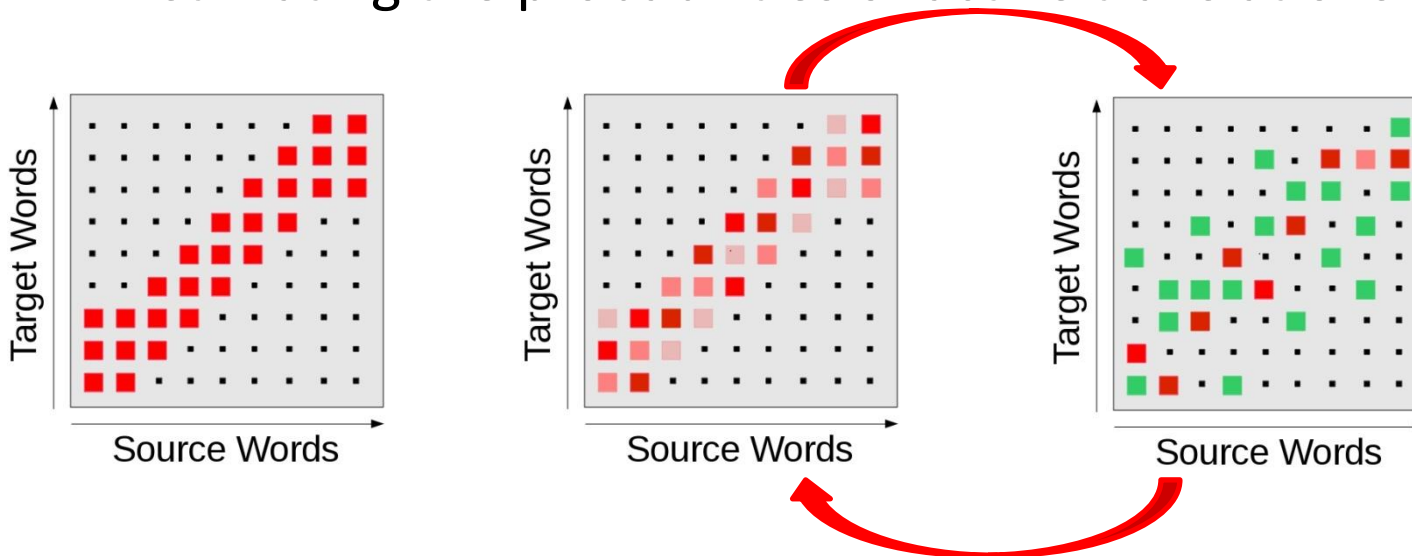


Inducing active  
translations  
using results of EM

# Translation System: Word-based

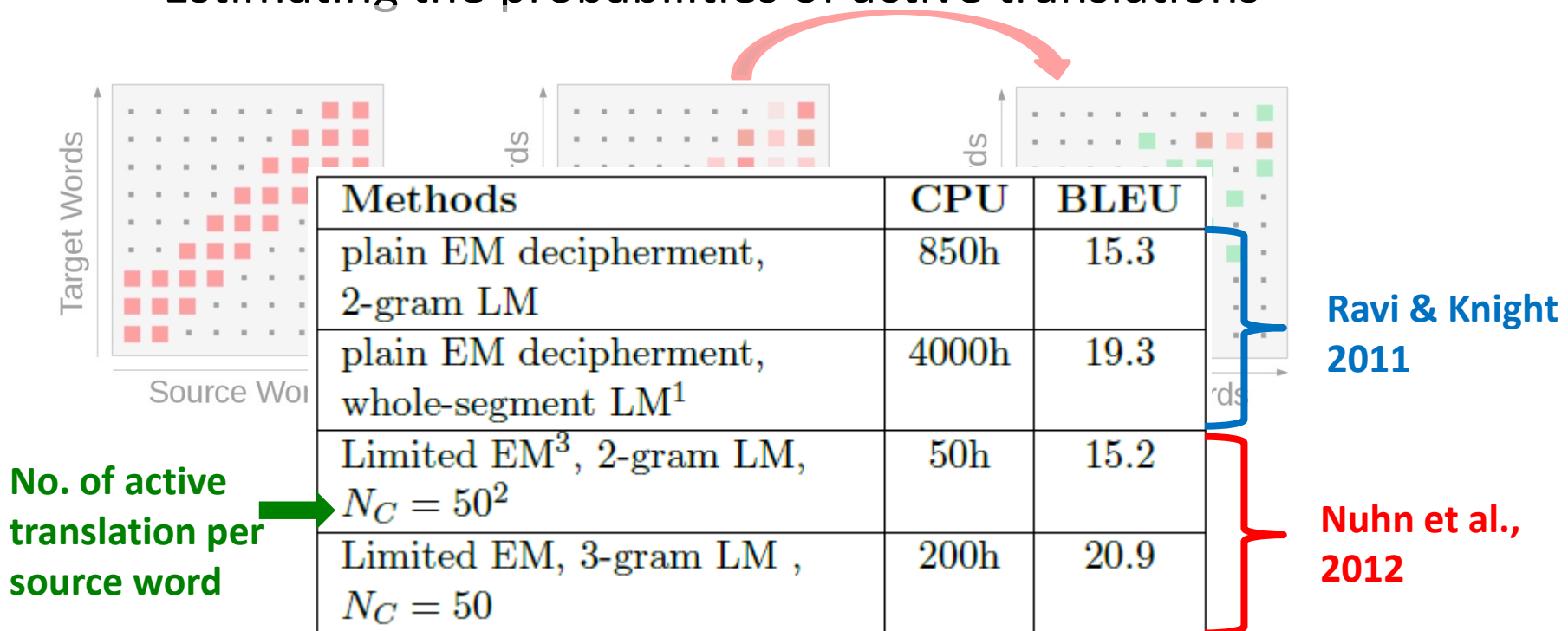
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# Translation System: Word-based

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# Translation System

## Limited Parallel Data



# Phrase-based Translation System: Limited Parallel Data(Klementiev et al.,2012)

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- Parameters in phrase-based translation systems
  - Large amounts of parallel data for estimating parameters

# Phrase-based Translation System: Limited Parallel Data(Klementiev et al.,2012)

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- Parameters in phrase-based translation systems
  - Large amounts of parallel data for estimating parameters
- Extract features from monolingual data
  - Extend the idea of translation lexicon induction to phrases (using seed lexicon)
  - Reordering model

# Phrase-based Translation System: Limited Parallel Data(Klementiev et al.,2012)

---

- Parameters in phrase-based translation systems
    - Large amounts of parallel data
- |   |        |   |
|---|--------|---|
| <p><b>Bilingual Features</b></p> <p><b>21.87</b> BLEU score</p> | from m | <p><b>Monolingual &amp; Bilingual Features</b></p> <p><b>22.92</b> BLEU score</p> |
|---|--------|---|
- Extend the idea of translation lexicon induction to phrases (using seed lexicon)
  - Reordering model

# Conclusion

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- Translation lexicon induction:
  - Depend on context and orthographic similarities
    - Does not work on historically unrelated language pairs
  - Scalability: Just applied on small word sets(1000 or so)
- Translation Systems:
  - New research direction
  - Scalability: applicable to limited vocabularies and data sets
  - Low translation quality

