

# ASR, deep networks, transformers, explainability



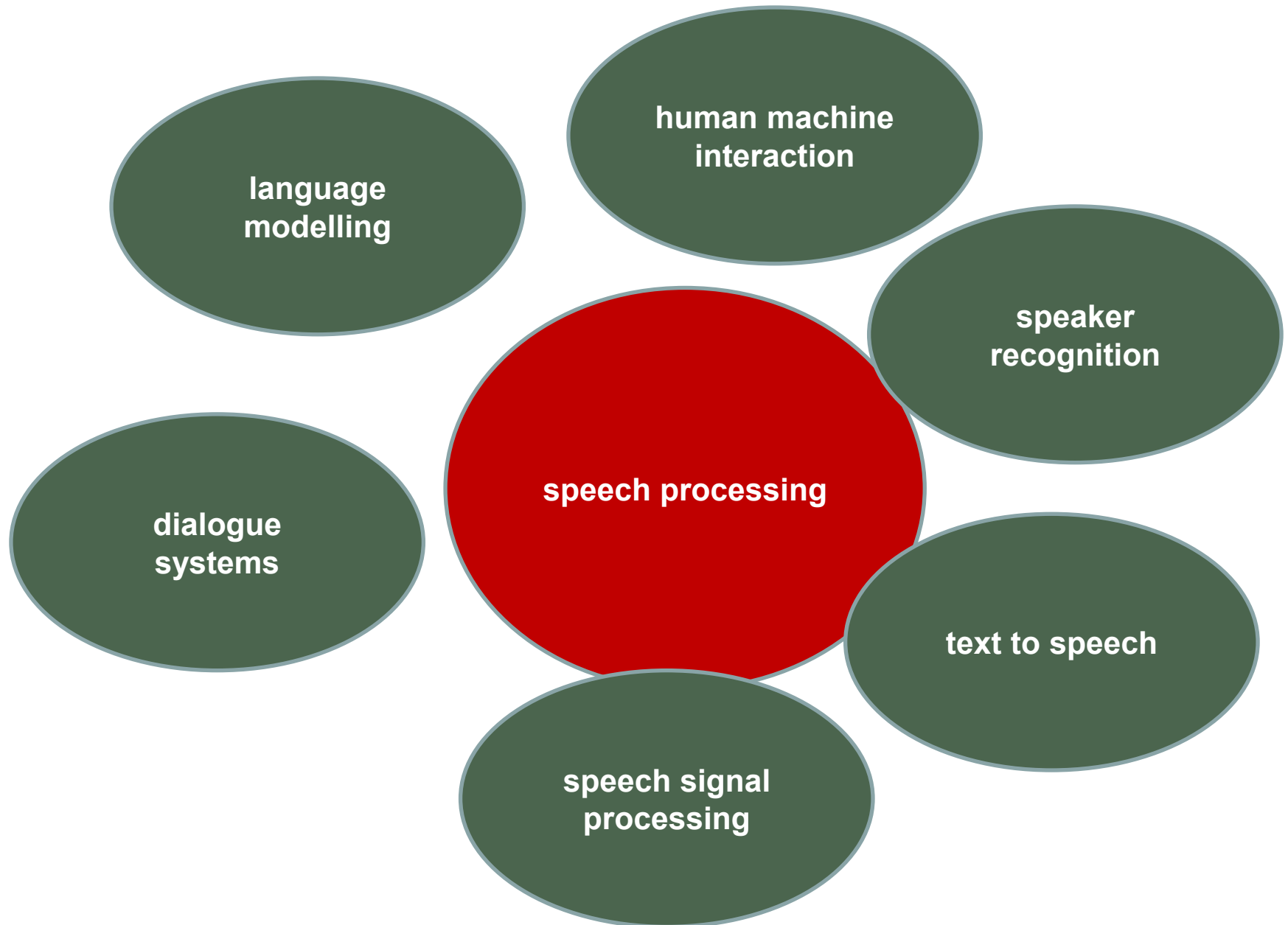
Louis ten Bosch

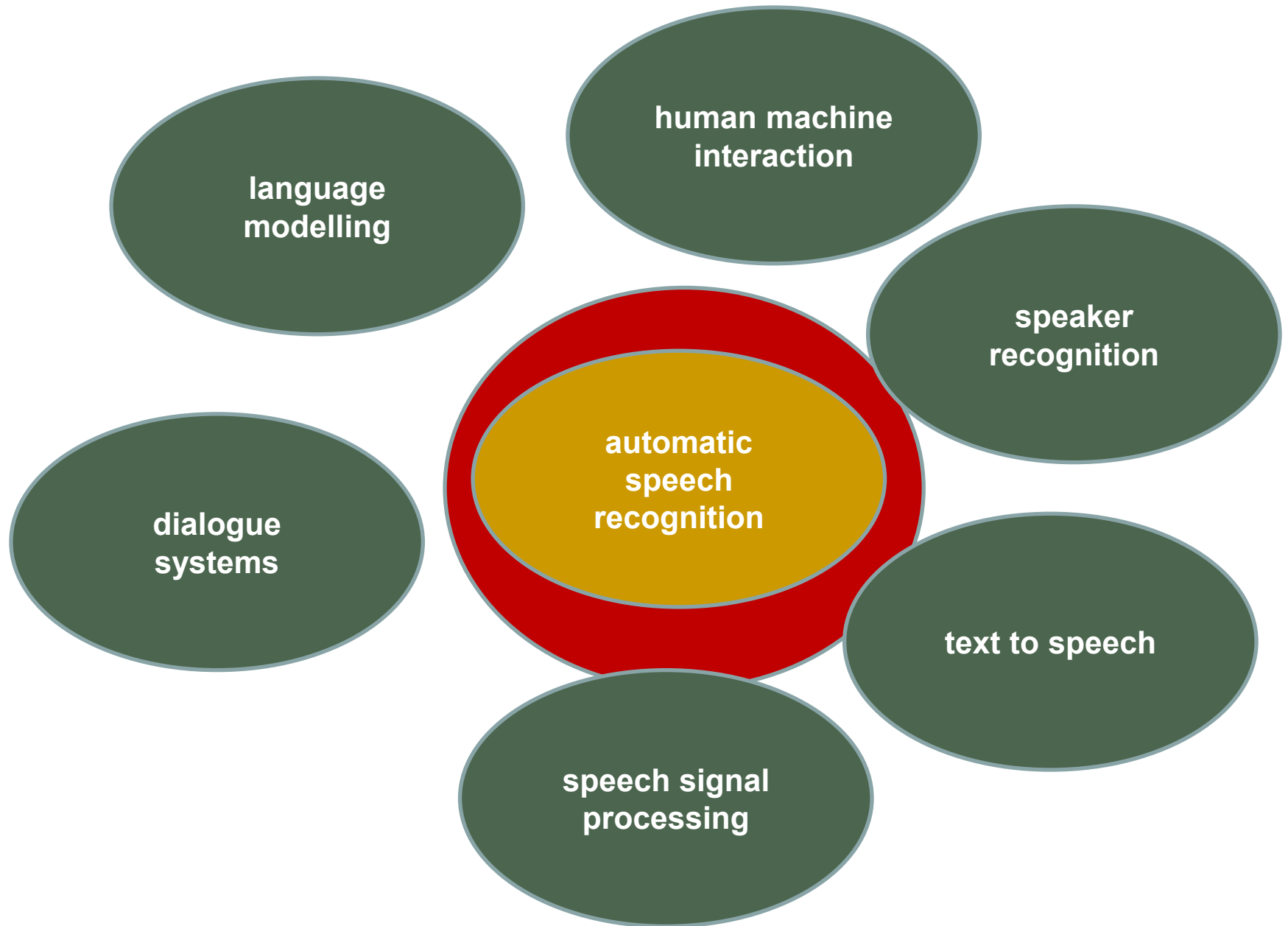
Radboud University  
Nijmegen, NL

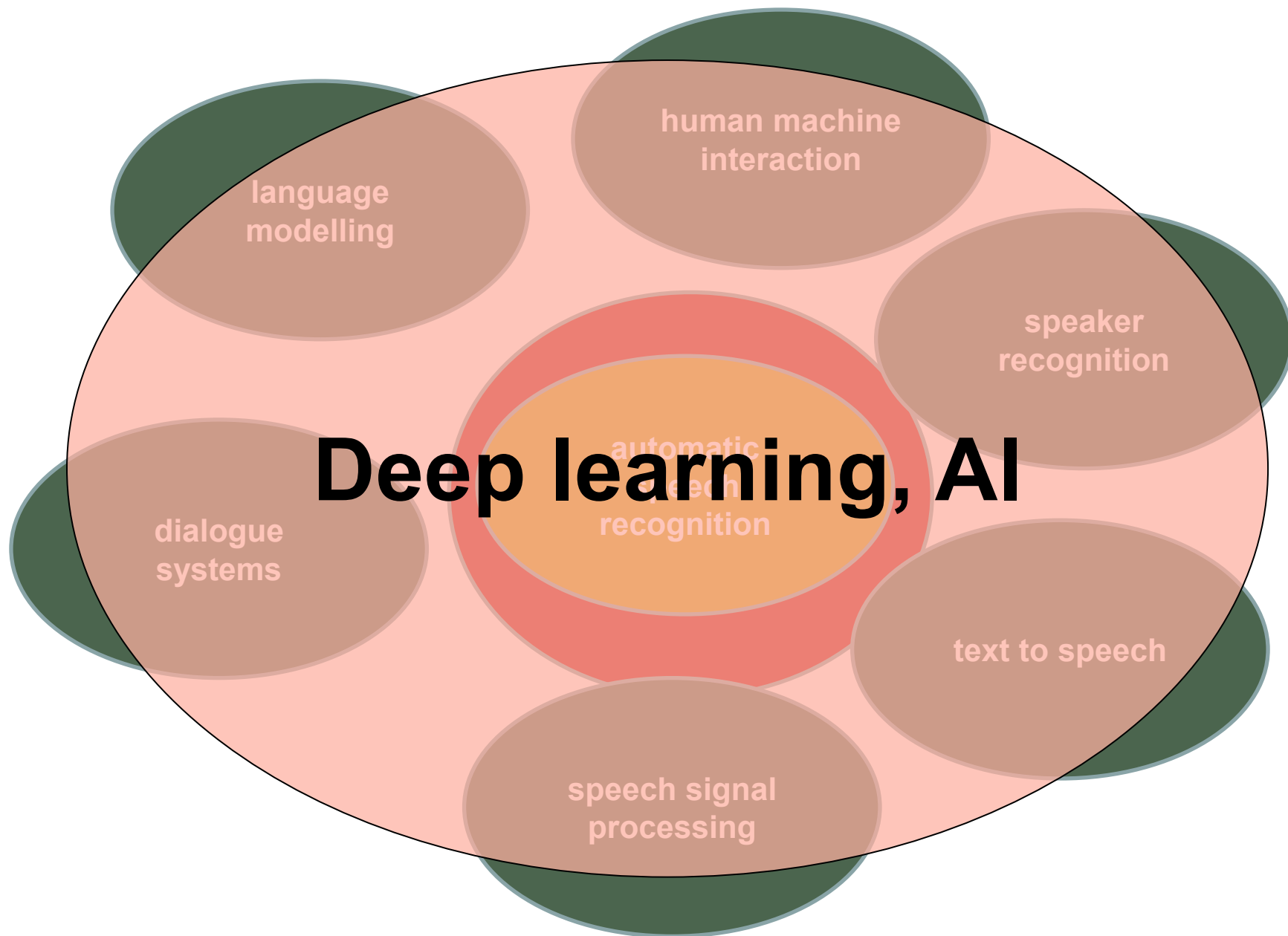
Graz, Nov-Dec 2025

ASR & deep learning & AI are dynamic fields.  
Topics and techniques are changing rapidly.









# Audience?



For now:



- AI
- Data Science
- Linguistics
- ...

# Outline of this course

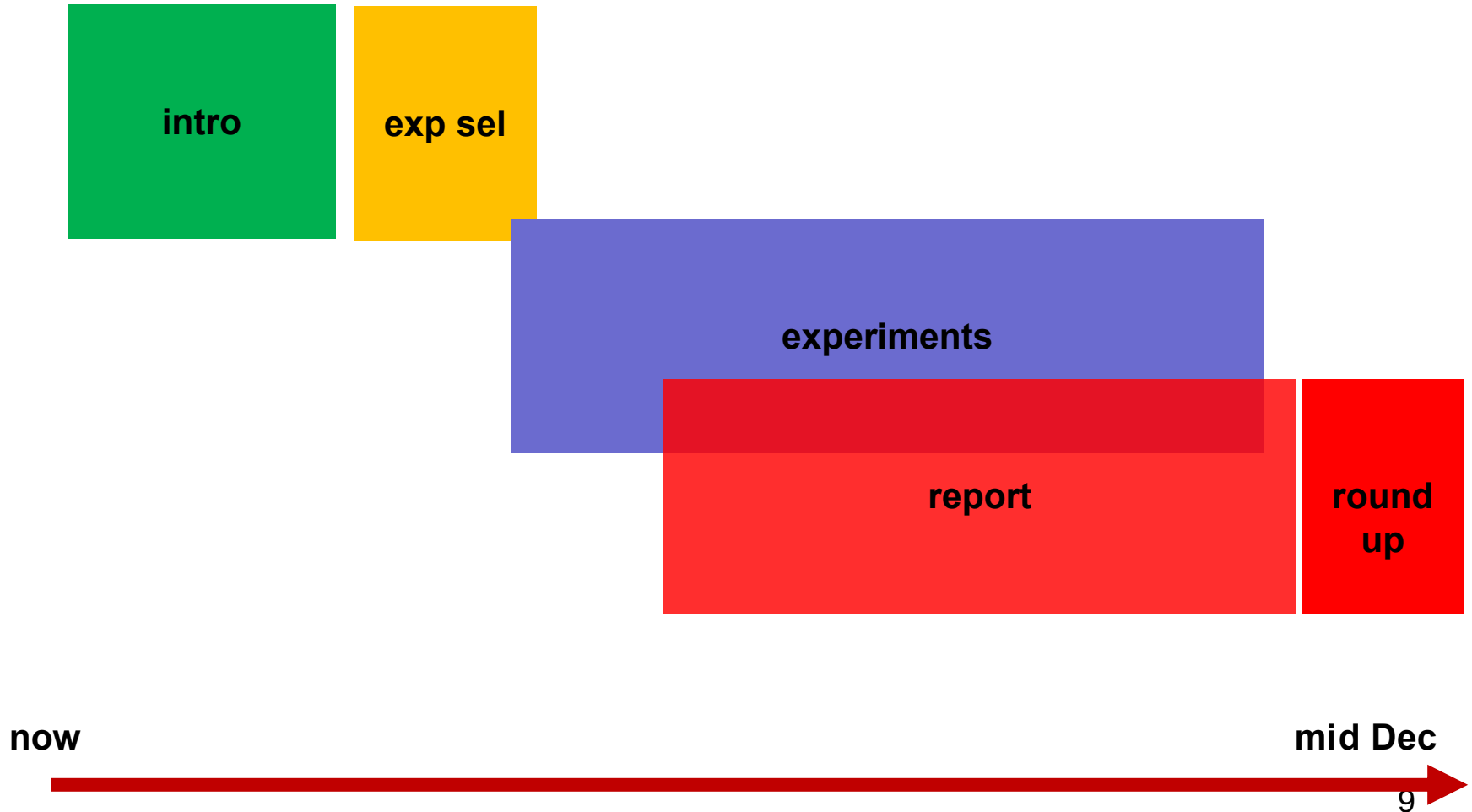
- Lectures
  - Discussion
- Experiments
  - Working individually or in small groups
  - You may choose your own topic/experiment (starting from a list – see later)
  - You may use your own database, or one from the web
- Brief report
  - Assessment done by Dec 15/18 (ideally)
- All material on github: [Itenbosch2/Graz\\_github](#)

# Overview of the course

Date	Topic
Nov 10, 14	Overview course, global intro, literature (Vaswani: NIPS*, Baevski: NeurIPS*) Relation with phonetics
Nov 17, 20	Verdini paper, architectures, a bit on reasoning. Brainstorm topics for experiment
Fr Nov 21	Final selection of experimental topic Set-up of (small) experiments
Nov 24 (2x)	Discussion ongoing experiments
Dec 1	In groups or individual: short presentations of prelim experimental results
Tue Dec 9	Finalization of experiments
Mon Dec 15	Assessments and closing

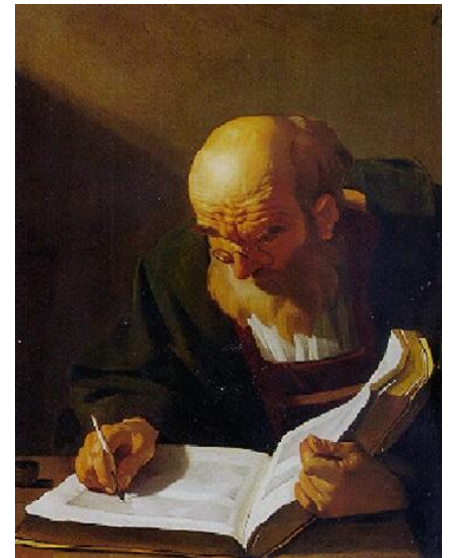


# Time line of this course



# Report

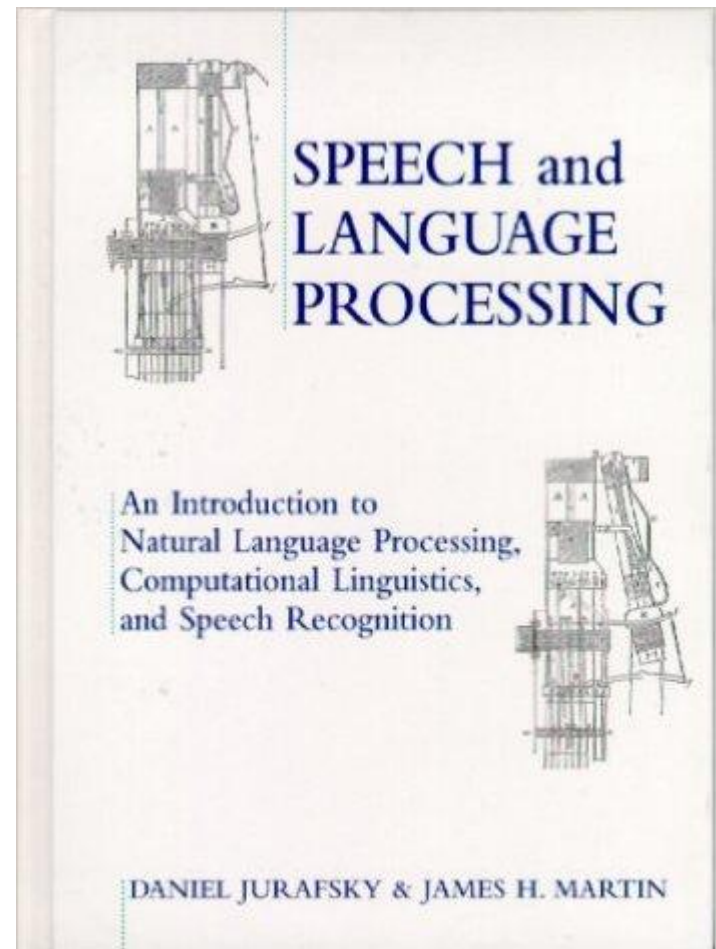
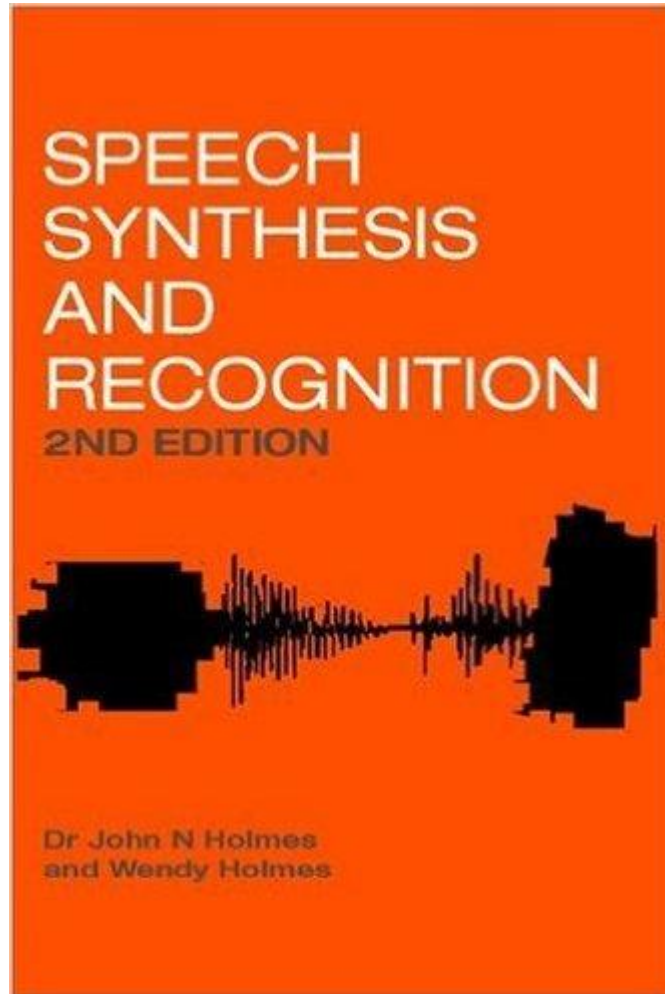
- Topic:
  - ASR/AI is way too broad to be dealt with in a few weeks, so start small
  - based on experimental work
  - (but may also be more theoretical)
  - Topics: will be discussed later
- Experiment: **individual or in a group**
- Writing: always individual
- Assessment: individual



# Reading material

- Classical books
  - Holmes & Holmes
  - Jurafsky and Martin: <https://web.stanford.edu/~jurafsky/slp3/>
- Papers
  - Github
  - the “classics” (e.g., Vaswani et al., Baevski et al.)
  - Interspeech
  - [https://www.isca-archive.org/interspeech\\_2025/index.html](https://www.isca-archive.org/interspeech_2025/index.html)
  - ICASSP
- A number of key papers are given in the course
  - Additional material may vary – depends on your experimental project

# Books – the classical ones



# May be helpful: Interspeech 2025 tutorial presentations

- 1. Tutorials - Automatic Quality Assessment for Speech and Beyond [https://voicemos-challenge-2023.github.io/speech-synthesis-evaluation/IS2025\\_tutorial.pdf](https://voicemos-challenge-2023.github.io/speech-synthesis-evaluation/IS2025_tutorial.pdf)
- 2. Nvidia NeMo toolkit for speech applications [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hlfFnVNrdHQ\\_FrvgVJRw4XNszl-aXVUz/view?usp=drivesdk](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hlfFnVNrdHQ_FrvgVJRw4XNszl-aXVUz/view?usp=drivesdk)
- 3. Speech Technology meets early Language acquisition: How interdisciplinary efforts benefit both the fields <https://zenodo.org/records/17018214>

# As simple as it can be ...

Your three lines of python code!

```
1 from transformers import pipeline
2 classifier = pipeline("sentiment-analysis")
3 classifier(["I've been waiting for a HuggingFace course my whole life.", "I hate this so much!"])
```

```
[{'label': 'POSITIVE', 'score': 0.9598047137260437},  
 {'label': 'NEGATIVE', 'score': 0.9994558095932007}]
```