

# Natural Language Processing

## Week7: Machine Translation

Dr. Haithem Afli

Haithem. afli@cit.ie

@AfliHaithem

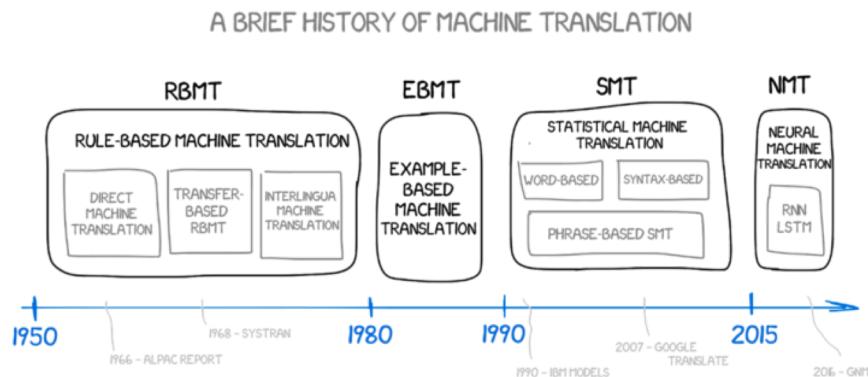
2020/2021



# Overview



- Why MT?
- How are people using MT?
- What's the Role of the Human Translator?
- Why Corpus-Based MT?
- How might you go about translating languages you have no knowledge of?
- The Importance of Data



Thanks to Prof Andy Way

# Volume

The 2014 FIFA World Cup was the biggest event yet for Twitter with **672 million tweets**

Requested translation from Twitter (words)				Grand Total from all World Cup matches
6,459,830		5,141,360	4,847,590	<b>85,047,110</b>

Top 3 languages

English

Portuguese

Spanish

- Source→Target traffic:
- EN→ES 13,614,450 (EN to all languages: 50,545,460)
- ES→EN 5,569,200 (ES to all languages: 10,609,420)
- PT→EN 1,831,750 (PT to all languages: 4,230,880)

# Volume

The 2014 FIFA World Cup was the biggest event yet for Twitter with **672 million tweets**

Requested translation from Twitter (words)	6,459,150	Grand Total from all World Cup matches	85,047,110
		<p><b>85,047,110 total words = 2,835,000 words per day (30 days)</b></p>	

Top 3 languages

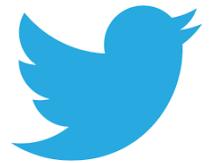
equivalent to 1,134 human translators  
working full-time for 30 days

- Source → Target
- EN → ES      13,380,000 (ES to all languages: 50,545,460)
- ES → EN      5,100,000 (EN to all languages: 10,609,420)
- PT → EN      1,800,000 (PT to all languages: 4,230,880)

# 13 languages and 24 language pairs



24 MT systems trained on Microsoft Translator Hub and used by



## SIZE MACHINE TRANSLATION MARKET IS \$250 MILLION – TAUS PUBLISHES NEW MARKET REPORT

*August 26, 2014, Amsterdam* - TAUS estimates the size of the machine translation market at \$250 million in its newly published machine translation market report. The 60 page report offers a detailed overview of all facets of the machine translation with sections on the different types of offerings, the players, open-source systems, challenges, opportunities and trends.

*"The size of the MT market is relatively small compared to its innovation power and impact"*, says Jaap van der Meel, one of the co-authors of the report. *"MT technology is a key enabler and a force multiplier for new services and growth. MT technology finds a high adoption rate among language service providers. Innovative companies in information technology and other sectors are converging MT technology in new applications and products or they use MT to enhance their existing products."*

For this market report TAUS has identified 65 different MT operators. More than 80 companies responded to the surveys and the TAUS team interviewed 37 users and developers of MT. The largest MT providers in alphabetical order are: [CSLI](#), [Google](#), [IBM](#), [LionBridge](#), [Microsoft](#), [PROMT](#), [Raytheon BBN](#), [SDL](#), [Smart Communications](#), [SYSTRAN](#). The MT market is a vibrant sector with new companies entering the market place and long-term players being acquired. Around 20 of the 65 identified MT players started business in the last five years. At the start of this year [SYSTRAN](#) was acquired by [CSLI](#) from South Korea and [AppTek](#) was acquired by [eBay](#).

*"The dynamics in the MT market have changed dramatically in the last five years"*, says Achim Ruopp, product development manager at TAUS and co-author of the report. *"The increased availability of easy to use and integrate MT with sufficient quality has ignited the emergence of new business models. This has been promoted by many new MT suppliers that base their offering on the open source statistical MT system [Moses](#). A bigger impact still has come from some of the internet giants like Google, Microsoft and Yandex that offer free or very cheap MT services."*

The TAUS Machine Translation Market Report is available on the TAUS website.



# Highlights from TAUS Claims

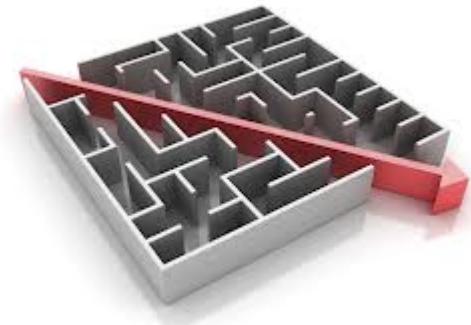
- Size of the market: €250,000,000
- “MT technology is a **key enabler** and a **force multiplier** for new services”
- “**Innovative companies** in IT and other sectors are converging MT technology in new applications and products or they **use MT to enhance their existing products**”
- “The increased availability of **easy to use** and **integrate MT with sufficient quality** has ignited the emergence of new business models. This has been promoted by many **new MT suppliers** that base their offering on the open source statistical MT system **Moses**”

# MT is being used every day...



- Google Translate provides a billion translations a day for 200 million users
- Amount of text translated daily is more than what's in a million books
- Surpasses what professional translators handle in a year

# Client-customised engines



- Improve productivity,
- Translate content previously not feasible due to time or cost constraints,
- Reduce time to market, and
- Reduce translation costs.

# Lots of successful case studies



- Adobe & ProMT
- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints & Microsoft Translator Hub
- Dell & Safaba/welocalize
- DuDu & CapitaTI
- Ford & Systran/SAIC
- Sajan & Asia Online
- text&form & LucySoft

# The time for MT is now!



- At *MT Summit XIV* in France, for the first time the number of commercial attendees exceeded those from academia.
- Ruopp (2013): for the first time in a TAUS survey, largest group of respondents was LSPs & translation agencies, not research institutes.
- Trends likely to continue, with more large multinational companies, LSPs and MT developers attending such events ...

# Not everyone agrees ...



# Why Corpus-Based MT?

- the (relative) failure of rule-based approaches
- the increasing availability of machine-readable text
- the increase in capability of hardware (CPU, memory, disk space) with decrease in cost

# Why is MT Hard?

- Human languages are:
  - Elegant
  - Efficient
  - Flexible
  - Complex
- One word/sentence may mean many things
- Many ways of saying the same thing
- Meaning depends on context
- Literal and figurative language (metaphor)
- Language and culture (different ways of conceptualising the same thing)
- Word order
- Morphology
- ...



Image: <http://workingtropes.lmc.gatech.edu/wiki/index.php/File:Man-vs-machine.jpg>  
License: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

# Why is MT Hard?



## Newspaper Headlines:

1. Minister Accused Of Having 8 Wives In Jail
2. Juvenile Court to Try Shooting Defendant
3. Teacher Strikes Idle Kids
4. Miners refuse to work after death
5. Local High School Dropouts Cut in Half
6. Red Tape Holds Up New Bridges
7. Clinton Wins on Budget, but More Lies Ahead
8. Hospitals Are Sued by 7 Foot Doctors
9. Police: Crack Found in Man's Buttocks

*Thanks to Chris Manning*

# Language & Translation is Complex



- Language/translation is complex
- We cannot compute it exactly
- We tried: rule-based MT and LT ...
- What do we do *now*?
- Machine Learning
  - Learns from **data**  $\Rightarrow$  data is (mostly) all important
  - Approximate solution  $\Rightarrow$  not perfect, needs help
    - Human Professional Translators
    - Post-editing
    - Automated Translation  $\neq$  Automatic



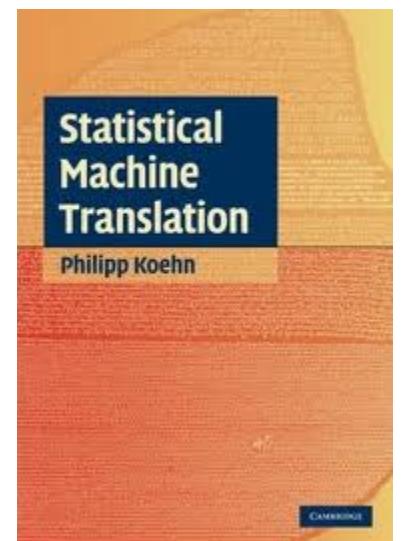
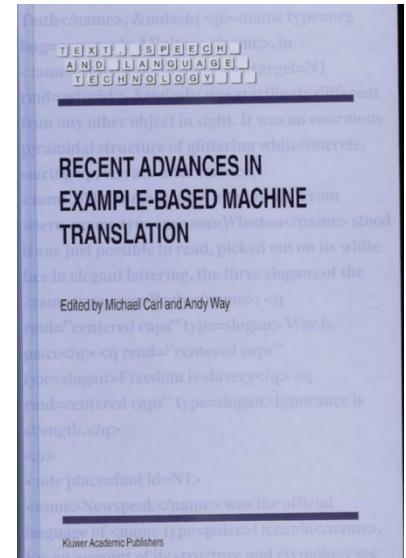
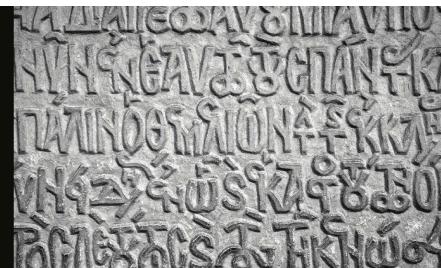
# Types of Corpus-based MT



# Example-Based MT (Nagao, 1984)

# Statistical MT

- 1988: word-based (IBM)
  - 2002—now: phrase-based (Moses)
  - 2005—now: tree-based (Hiero)



# Prerequisite

A prerequisite for Data-Driven MT (and also TM, which is *not* MT, but rather CAT):

- Example-Based MT (EBMT)
- Statistical MT (SMT) & Neural MT (NMT)
- Hybrid Models which use some probabilistic processing

is a *parallel corpus* (or *bitext*) of aligned sentences.

# Parallel data prerequisite for corpus-based MT

PROMT Translation Memory Manager - [Business - entire TM database]

TM Database Edit Tools View Window Help

Translation Memory Database... Business - entire TM database

Source Text Translated Text

Wir wären Ihnen sehr dankbar, wenn Sie diesen Zahlplan annehmen würden.	We should be very grateful to you for accepting this payment plan.
Wir sind über den Ton Ihres Schreibens sehr ungehalten.	We are feeling extremely indignant at the tone of your letter.
Wir können Ihnen keinen weiteren Aufschub gewähren.	We will not be able to allow you any further delay.
Es lief wie am Schnürchen.	It went like clockwork.

TM Database Properties

Title

Name	Business
Source	German
Translation	English
Comments	

Statistics

Find Text

Find: Replace with: Find

Replace with: Replace

Match case Replace All

Regular expressions Search direction: Down Help

9 November  
Ready

German-English Record 1:3266 14

# Parallel data prerequisite for corpus-based MT

PROMT Translation Memory Manager - [Business - entire TM database]

TM Database Edit Tools View Window Help

Translation Memory Database... X

Business  
Idioms  
English-Spanish  
Idioms  
French-English  
Idioms  
German-English  
Business  
Idioms  
Travel  
Portuguese-English

TM Database Properties X

Title  
Name: Business  
Source: German  
Translation: English  
Comments:

Statistics

Find T

Find:  
Replace with:   
 Match case      Field for search:   
 Regular expressions      Search direction:

very grateful to you for payment plan.

extremely indignant at the tone

able to allow you any further

ickwork.

Find

Replace

Replace All

Help

I ❤️ Translators

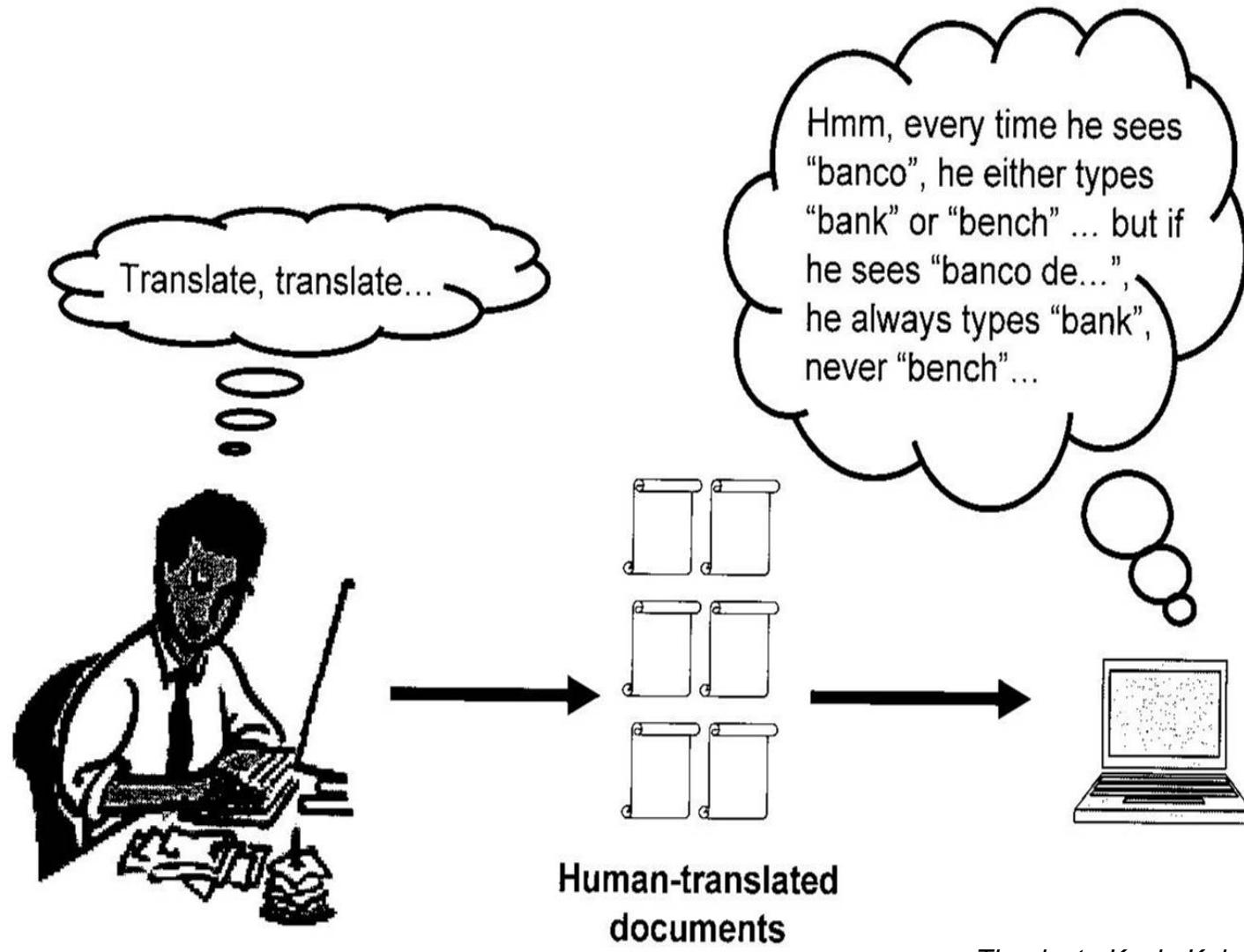
9 November 2020 | German-English | Record 1:3266 | 20

# So how does SMT work?



How might *you* go about translating between two languages you know nothing about?!

# Statistical Machine Translation



*Thanks to Kevin Knight ...*

# Centauri/Arcturan [Knight, 1997]



Your assignment, translate this to Arcturan: farok crrrok hihok yorok clok kantok ok-yurp

1a. ok-voon ororok sprok .	7a. lalok farok ororok lalok sprok izok enemok .
1b. at-voon bichat dat .	7b. wat jjat bichat wat dat vat eneat .
2a. ok-drubel ok-voon anok plok sprok .	8a. lalok brok anok plok nok .
2b. at-drubel at-voon pippat rrat dat .	8b. iat lat pippat rrat nnat .
3a. erok sprok izok hihok ghirok .	9a. wiwok nok izok kantok ok-yurp .
3b. totat dat arrat vat hilat .	9b. totat nnat quat oloat at-yurp .
4a. ok-voon anok drok brok jok .	10a. lalok mok nok yorok ghirok clok .
4b. at-voon krat pippat sat lat .	10b. wat nnat gat mat bat hilat .
5a. wiwok farok izok stok .	11a. lalok nok crrrok hihok yorok zanzanok .
5b. totat jjat quat cat .	11b. wat nnat arrat mat zanzanat .
6a. lalok sprok izok jok stok .	12a. lalok rarok nok izok hihok mok .
6b. wat dat krat quat cat .	12b. wat nnat forat arrat vat gat .

# Centauri/Arcturan [Knight, 1997]



Your assignment, translate this to Arcturan: farok crrrok hihok yorok clok kantok ok-yurp

1a. ok-voon ororok sprok .	7a. lalok <b>farok</b> ororok lalok sprok izok enemok .
1b. at-voon bichat dat .	7b. wat jjat bichat wat dat vat eneat .
2a. ok-drubel ok-voon anok plok sprok .	8a. lalok brok anok plok nok .
2b. at-drubel at-voon pippat rrat dat .	8b. iat lat pippat rrat nnat .
3a. erok sprok izok hihok ghirok .	9a. wiwok nok izok kantok ok-yurp .
3b. totat dat arrat vat hilat .	9b. totat nnat quat oloat at-yurp .
4a. ok-voon anok drok brok jok .	10a. lalok mok nok yorok ghirok clok .
4b. at-voon krat pippat sat lat .	10b. wat nnat gat mat bat hilat .
5a. wiwok <b>farok</b> izok stok .	11a. lalok nok crrrok hihok yorok zanzanok .
5b. totat jjat quat cat .	11b. wat nnat arrat mat zanzanat .
6a. lalok sprok izok jok stok .	12a. lalok rarok nok izok hihok mok .
6b. wat dat krat quat cat .	12b. wat nnat forat arrat vat gat .

# Centauri/Arcturan [Knight, 1997]



Your assignment, translate this to Arcturan: farok crrrok hihok yorok clok kantok ok-yurp

1a. ok-voon ororok sprok .	7a. lalok <b>farok</b> ororok lalok sprok izok enemok . /
1b. at-voon bichat dat .	7b. wat <b>jjat</b> bichat wat dat vat eneat .
2a. ok-drubel ok-voon anok plok sprok .	8a. lalok brok anok plok nok .
2b. at-drubel at-voon pippat rrat dat .	8b. iat lat pippat rrat nnat .
3a. erok sprok izok hihok ghirok .	9a. wiwok nok izok kantok ok-yurp .
3b. totat dat arrat vat hilat .	9b. totat nnat quat oloat at-yurp .
4a. ok-voon anok drok brok jok .	10a. lalok mok nok yorok ghirok clok .
4b. at-voon krat pippat sat lat .	10b. wat nnat gat mat bat hilat .
5a. wiwok <b>farok</b> izok stok . /	11a. lalok nok crrrok hihok yorok zanzanok .
5b. totat <b>jjat</b> quat cat .	11b. wat nnat arrat mat zanzanat .
6a. lalok sprok izok jok stok .	12a. lalok rarok nok izok hihok mok .
6b. wat dat krat quat cat .	12b. wat nnat forat arrat vat gat .

# Centauri/Arcturan [Knight, 1997]



Your assignment, translate this to Arcturan: **farok** crrrok hihok yorok clok kantok ok-yurp

1a. ok-voon ororok sprok .	7a. lalok <b>farok</b> ororok lalok sprok izok enemok . /
1b. at-voon bichat dat .	7b. wat jjat bichat wat dat vat eneat .
2a. ok-drubel ok-voon anok plok sprok .	8a. lalok brok anok plok nok .
2b. at-drubel at-voon pippat rrat dat .	8b. iat lat pippat rrat nnat .
3a. erok sprok izok hihok ghirok .	9a. wiwok nok izok kantok ok-yurp .
3b. totat dat arrat vat hilat .	9b. totat nnat quat oloat at-yurp .
4a. ok-voon anok drok brok jok .	10a. lalok mok nok yorok ghirok clok .
4b. at-voon krat pippat sat lat .	10b. wat nnat gat mat bat hilat .
5a. wiwok <b>farok</b> izok stok . /	11a. lalok nok <b>crrrok</b> hihok yorok zanzanok . ???
5b. totat jjat quat cat .	11b. wat nnat arrat mat zanzanat .
6a. lalok sprok izok jok stok .	12a. lalok rarok nok izok hihok mok .
6b. wat dat krat quat cat .	12b. wat nnat forat arrat vat gat .

# Centauri/Arcturan [Knight, 1997]



Your assignment, translate this to Arcturan: farok crrrok hihok yorok clok kantok ok-yurp

1a. ok-voon ororok sprok .	7a. lalok farok ororok lalok sprok izok enemok . /
1b. at-voon bichat dat .	7b. wat jjat bichat wat dat vat eneat .
2a. ok-drubel ok-voon anok plok sprok .	8a. lalok brok anok plok nok .
2b. at-drubel at-voon pippat rrat dat .	8b. iat lat pippat rrat nnat .
3a. erok sprok izok <b>hihok</b> ghirok .	9a. wiwok nok izok kantok ok-yurp .
3b. totat dat arrat vat hilat .	9b. totat nnat quat oloat at-yurp .
4a. ok-voon anok drok brok jok .	10a. lalok mok nok yorok ghirok clok .
4b. at-voon krat pippat sat lat .	10b. wat nnat gat mat bat hilat .
5a. wiwok farok izok stok . /	11a. lalok nok crrrok <b>hihok</b> yorok zanzanok .
5b. totat jjat quat cat .	11b. wat nnat arrat mat zanzanat .
6a. lalok sprok izok jok stok .	12a. lalok rarok nok izok <b>hihok</b> mok .
6b. wat dat krat quat cat .	12b. wat nnat forat arrat vat gat .

# Centauri/Arcturan [Knight, 1997]



Your assignment, translate this to Arcturan: farok crrrok **hihok** yorok clok kantok ok-yurp

1a. ok-voon ororok sprok .	7a. lalok farok ororok lalok sprok izok enemok . /
1b. at-voon bichat dat .	7b. wat jjat bichat wat dat vat eneat .
2a. ok-drubel ok-voon anok plok sprok .	8a. lalok brok anok plok nok .
2b. at-drubel at-voon pippat rrat dat .	8b. iat lat pippat rrat nnat .
3a. erok sprok izok <b>hihok</b> ghirok .  3b. totat dat arrat vat hilat .	9a. wiwok nok izok kantok ok-yurp .  9b. totat nnat quat oloat at-yurp .
4a. ok-voon anok drok brok jok .	10a. lalok mok nok <b>yorok</b> ghirok clok .
4b. at-voon krat pippat sat lat .	10b. wat nnat gat mat bat hilat .
5a. wiwok farok izok stok .  5b. totat jjat quat cat .	11a. lalok nok crrrok <b>hihok</b> <b>yorok</b> zanzanok .  11b. wat nnat arrat mat zanzanat .
6a. lalok sprok izok jok stok .	12a. lalok rarok nok izok <b>hihok</b> mok .
6b. wat dat krat quat cat .	12b. wat nnat forat arrat vat gat .

# Centauri/Arcturan [Knight, 1997]



Your assignment, translate this to Arcturan: farok crrrok hihok yorok clok kantok ok-yurp

1a. ok-voon ororok sprok .	7a. lalok farok ororok lalok sprok izok enemok . /
1b. at-voon bichat dat .	7b. wat jjat bichat wat dat vat eneat .
2a. ok-drubel ok-voon anok plok sprok .	8a. lalok brok anok plok nok .
2b. at-drubel at-voon pippat rrat dat .	8b. iat lat pippat rrat nnat .
3a. erok sprok izok hihok ghirok .	9a. wiwok nok izok kantok ok-yurp .
3b. totat dat arrat vat hilat .	9b. totat nnat quat oloat at-yurp .
4a. ok-voon anok drok brok jok .	10a. lalok mok nok yorok ghirok clok .
4b. at-voon krat pippat sat lat .	10b. wat nnat gat mat bat hilat .
5a. wiwok farok izok stok .	11a. lalok nok crrrok hihok yorok zanzanok .
5b. totat jjat quat cat .	11b. wat nnat arrat mat zanzanat .
6a. lalok sprok izok jok stok .	12a. lalok rarok nok izok hihok mok .
6b. wat dat krat quat cat .	12b. wat nnat forat arrat vat gat .

# Centauri/Arcturan [Knight, 1997]



Your assignment, translate this to Arcturan: farok crrok hihok yorok clok kantok ok-yurp

1a. ok-voon ororok sprok .	7a. lalok farok ororok lalok sprok izok enemok . /
1b. at-voon bichat dat .	7b. wat jjat bichat wat dat vat eneat .
2a. ok-drubel ok-voon anok plok sprok .	8a. lalok brok anok plok nok .
2b. at-drubel at-voon pippat rrat dat .	8b. iat lat pippat rrat nnat .
3a. erok sprok izok hihok ghirok .	9a. wiwok nok izok kantok ok-yurp .
3b. totat dat arrat vat hilat .	9b. totat nnat quat oloat at-yurp .
4a. ok-voon anok drok brok jok .	10a. lalok mok nok yorok ghirok clok . / ???
4b. at-voon krat pippat sat lat .	10b. wat nnat gat mat bat hilat .
5a. wiwok farok izok stok .	11a. lalok nok crrok hihok yorok zanzanok . /
5b. totat jjat quat cat .	11b. wat nnat arrat mat zanzanat .
6a. lalok sprok izok jok stok .	12a. lalok rarok nok izok hihok mok . /
6b. wat dat krat quat cat .	12b. wat nnat forat arrat vat gat .

# Centauri/Arcturan [Knight, 1997]



Your assignment, translate this to Arcturan: farok crrrok hihok yorok clok kantok ok-yurp

1a. ok-voon ororok sprok .	7a. lalok farok ororok lalok sprok izok enemok .   /
1b. at-voon bichat dat .	7b. wat jjat bichat wat dat vat eneat .
2a. ok-drubel ok-voon anok plok sprok .	8a. lalok brok anok plok nok . /
2b. at-drubel at-voon pippat rrat dat .	8b. iat lat pippat rrat nnat .
3a. erok sprok izok hihok ghirok .	9a. wiwok nok izok kantok ok-yurp .
3b. totat dat arrat vat hilat .	9b. totat nnat quat oloat at-yurp .
4a. ok-voon anok drok brok jok .	10a. lalok mok nok yorok ghirok clok .   <del>X</del> / /
4b. at-voon krat pippat sat lat .	10b. wat nnat <del>gat</del> mat bat hilat .
5a. wiwok farok izok stok .	11a. lalok nok crrrok hihok yorok zanzanok .   / /
5b. totat jjat quat cat .	11b. wat nnat arrat mat zanzanat .
6a. lalok sprok izok jok stok .	12a. lalok rarok nok izok hihok mok .   / / /
6b. wat dat krat quat cat .	12b. wat nnat forat arrat vat gat .

# Centauri/Arcturan [Knight, 1997]



Your assignment, translate this to Arcturan: farok crrrok hihok yorok clok kantok ok-yurp

1a. ok-voon ororok sprok .	7a. lalok farok ororok lalok sprok izok enemok .   /
1b. at-voon bichat dat .	7b. wat jjat bichat wat dat vat eneat .
2a. ok-drubel ok-voon anok plok sprok .	8a. lalok brok anok plok nok . /
2b. at-drubel at-voon pippat rrat dat .	8b. iat lat pippat rrat nnat .
3a. erok sprok izok hihok ghirok . / /	9a. wiwok nok izok kantok ok-yurp .
3b. totat dat arrat vat hilat .	9b. totat nnat quat oloat at-yurp .
4a. ok-voon anok drok brok jok .	10a. lalok mok nok yorok ghirok clok .   / / / / process of 10b. wat nnat gat mat bat hilat . elimination
4b. at-voon krat pippat sat lat .	11a. lalok nok crrrok hihok yorok zanzanok .   / / /
5a. wiwok farok izok stok . /	11b. wat nnat arrat mat zanzanat .
5b. totat jjat quat cat .	12a. lalok rarok nok izok hihok mok .   / / /
6a. lalok sprok izok jok stok . 	12b. wat nnat forat arrat vat gat .
6b. wat dat krat quat cat .	

# Centauri/Arcturan [Knight, 1997]



Your assignment, translate this to Arcturan: farok crrrok hihok yorok clok kantok ok-yurp

1a. ok-voon ororok sprok .	7a. lalok farok ororok lalok sprok izok enemok .   /
1b. at-voon bichat dat .	7b. wat jjat bichat wat dat vat eneat .
2a. ok-drubel ok-voon anok plok sprok .	8a. lalok brok anok plok nok .
2b. at-drubel at-voon pippat rrat dat .	8b. iat lat pippat rrat nnat .
3a. erok sprok izok hihok ghirok .	9a. wiwok nok izok kantok ok-yurp .
3b. totat dat arrat vat hilat .	9b. totat nnat quat oloat at-yurp .
4a. ok-voon anok drok brok jok .	10a. lalok mok nok yorok ghirok clok .
4b. at-voon krat pippat sat lat .	10b. wat nnat <del>gat</del> mat bat hilat .
5a. wiwok farok izok stok .	11a. lalok nok crrrok hihok yorok zanzanok .
5b. totat jjat quat cat .	11b. wat nnat arrat mat zanzanat .
6a. lalok sprok izok jok stok .	12a. lalok rarok nok izok hihok mok .
6b. wat dat krat quat cat .	12b. wat nnat forat arrat vat gat .

cognate?

# Centauri/Arcturan [Knight, 1997]

CIT

Your assignment, put these words in order: { jjat, arrat, mat, bat, oloat, at-yurp }

1a. ok-voon ororok sprok .	7a. lalok farok ororok lalok sprok izok enemok .   /
1b. at-voon bichat dat .	7b. wat jjat bichat wat dat vat eneat .
2a. ok-drubel ok-voon anok plok sprok .	8a. lalok brok anok plok nok .
2b. at-drubel at-voon pippat rrat dat .	8b. iat lat pippat rrat nnat .
3a. erok sprok izok hihok ghirok .	9a. wiwok nok izok kantok ok-yurp .
3b. totat dat arrat vat hilat .	9b. totat nnat quat oloat at-yurp .
4a. ok-voon anok drok brok jok .	10a. lalok mok nok yorok ghirok clok .
4b. at-voon krat pippat sat lat .	10b. wat nnat <del>gat</del> mat bat hilat .
5a. wiwok farok izok stok .	11a. lalok nok <b>crrok</b> hihok yorok zanzanok .
5b. totat jjat quat cat .	11b. wat nnat arrat mat zanzanat .
6a. lalok sprok izok jok stok .	12a. lalok rarok nok izok hihok mok .
6b. wat dat krat quat cat .	12b. wat nnat forat arrat vat gat .

zero  
fertility

# Some more to try ...

- iat lat pippat eneat hilat oloat at-yurp.
- totat nnat forat arrat mat bat.
- wat dat quat cat uskrat at-drubel.

# Some more to try ...

- iat lat pippat eneat hilat oloat at-yurp.
- totat nnat forat arrat mat bat.
- wat dat quat cat uskrat at-drubel.

... if you have trouble sleeping at night!

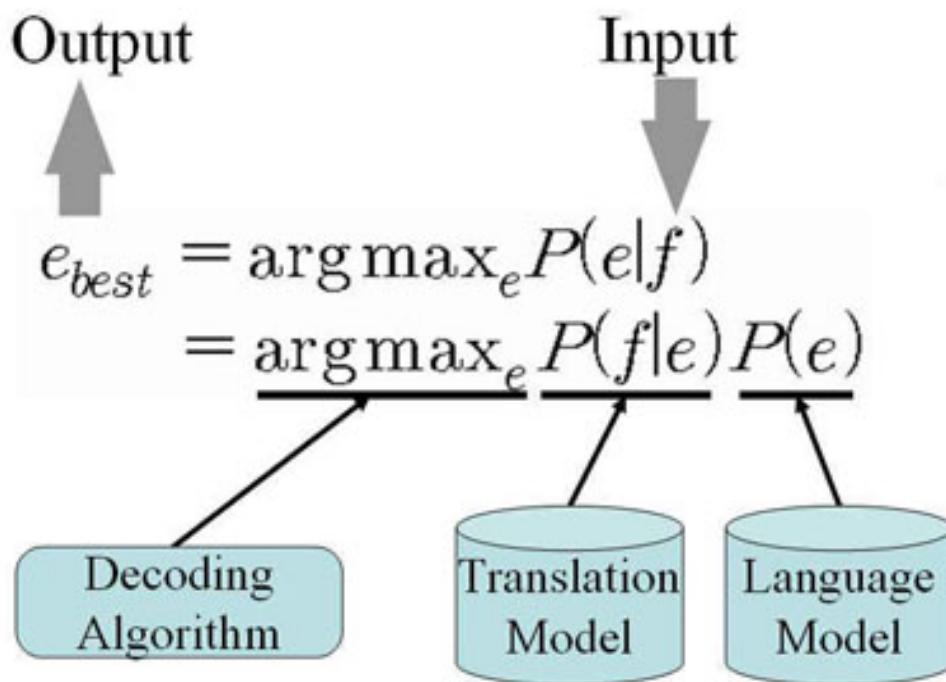


# Discussion



# How does SMT Work?

CIT



- No(t much) maths today ... 
- Instead:
  - The story of SMT in pictures ...
  - It's (mostly) all about the **Data** ...

# How does SMT Work?



Statistical MT learns from data

Two kinds of data:

- Source documents and their human translations
- Target language collections
- The more data the better!
- Also: the **right kind** of data!

GERMAN	ENGLISH	FRENCH
<p>Einleitung</p> <p><i>I. Von dem Unterschiede der reinen und empirischen Erkenntnis</i></p> <p>Daß alle unsere Erkenntnis mit der Erfahrung anfange, daran ist gar kein Zweifel; denn wodurch sollte das Erkenntnisvermögen sonst zur Ausübung erweckt werden, geschähe es nicht durch Gegenstände, die unsere Sinne rühren und teils von selbst Vorstellungen bewirken, teils unsere Verständigkeit in Bewegung bringen, diese zu vergleichen, sie zu verknüpfen oder zu trennen, und so den rohen Stoff sinnlicher Eindrücke zu einer Erkenntnis der Gegenstände zu verarbeiten, die Erfahrung heißt? Der Zeit nach geht also keine Erkenntnis in uns vor der Erfahrung vorher, und mit dieser fängt alle an.</p>	<p>Introduction</p> <p><i>I. Of the difference between Pure and Empirical Knowledge</i></p> <p>That all our knowledge begins with experience there can be no doubt. For how is it possible that the faculty of cognition should be awakened into exercise otherwise than by means of objects which affect our senses, and partly of themselves produce representations, partly rouse our powers of understanding into activity, to compare to connect, or to separate these, and so to convert the raw material of our sensuous impressions into a knowledge of objects, which is called experience? In respect of time, therefore, no knowledge of ours is antecedent to experience, but begins with it.</p>	<p>Introduction</p> <p><i>I. De la différence de la connaissance pure et de la connaissance empirique.</i></p> <p>Que toute notre connaissance commence avec l'expérience, cela ne soulève aucun doute. En effet, par quoi notre pouvoir de connaître pourrait-il être éveillé et mis en action, si ce n'est par des objets qui frappent nos sens et qui, d'une part, produisent par eux-mêmes des représentations et, d'autre part, mettent en mouvement notre faculté intellectuelle, afin qu'elle compare, lie ou sépare ces représentations, et travaille ainsi la matière brute des impressions sensibles pour en tirer une connaissance des objets, celle qu'on nomme l'expérience? Ainsi, chronologiquement, aucune connaissance ne précède en nous l'expérience et c'est avec elle que toutes commencent.</p>

# What can/do we learn from Data?



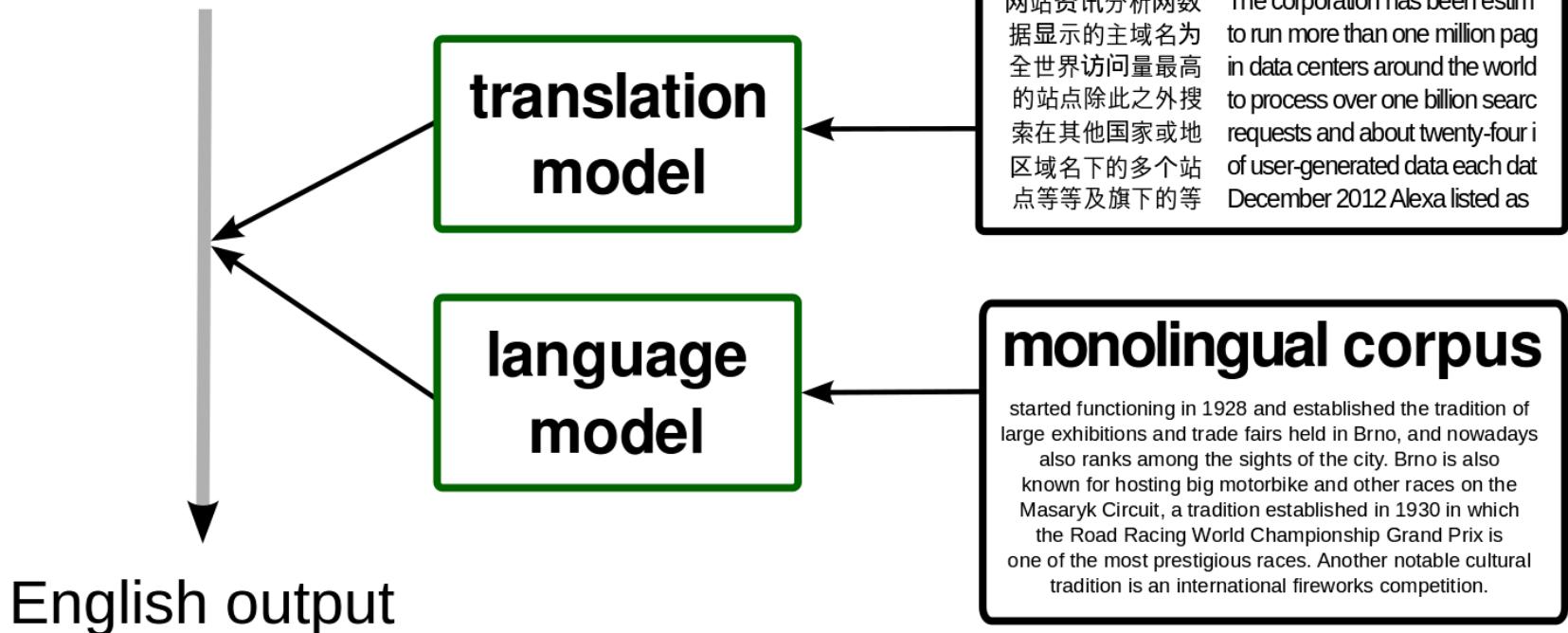
- Which sentences translate as which: **sentence alignment**
- Which words translate as which: **word alignment + translation probabilities => translation model**
- What do good target sentences look like: **language model**

GERMAN	ENGLISH	FRENCH
<p>Einleitung</p> <p><i>I. Von dem Unterschiede der reinen und empirischen Erkenntnis</i></p> <p>Daß alle unsere Erkenntnis mit der Erfahrung anfange, daran ist gar kein Zweifel; denn wodurch sollte das Erkenntnisvermögen sonst zur Ausübung erweckt werden, geschähe es nicht durch Gegenstände, die unsere Sinne rühren und teils von selbst Vorstellungen bewirken, teils unsere Verständigkeit in Bewegung bringen, diese zu vergleichen, sie zu verknüpfen oder zu trennen, und so den rohen Stoff sinnlicher Eindrücke zu einer Erkenntnis der Gegenstände zu verarbeiten, die Erfahrung heißt? Der Zeit nach geht also keine Erkenntnis in uns vor der Erfahrung vorher, und mit dieser fängt alle an.</p>	<p>Introduction</p> <p><i>I. Of the difference between Pure and Empirical Knowledge</i></p> <p>That all our knowledge begins with experience there can be no doubt. For how is it possible that the faculty of cognition should be awakened into exercise otherwise than by means of objects which affect our senses, and partly of themselves produce representations, partly rouse our powers of understanding into activity, to compare to connect, or to separate these, and so to convert the raw material of our sensuous impressions into a knowledge of objects, which is called experience? In respect of time, therefore, no knowledge of ours is antecedent to experience, but begins with it.</p>	<p>Introduction</p> <p><i>I. De la différence de la connaissance pure et de la connaissance empirique.</i></p> <p>Que toute notre connaissance commence avec l'expérience, cela ne soulève aucun doute. En effet, par quoi notre pouvoir de connaître pourrait-il être éveillé et mis en action, si ce n'est par des objets qui frappent nos sens et qui, d'une part, produisent par eux-mêmes des représentations et, d'autre part, mettent en mouvement notre faculté intellectuelle, afin qu'elle compare, lie ou sépare ces représentations, et travaille ainsi la matière brute des impressions sensibles pour en tirer une connaissance des objets, celle qu'on nomme l'expérience? Ainsi, chronologiquement, aucune connaissance ne précède en nous l'expérience et c'est avec elle que toutes commencent.</p>

# How does SMT Work?



似乎格式有問題



# Sentence Alignment

The screenshot shows the TRADOS WinAlign interface with two parallel text windows. The left window contains English text, and the right window contains German text. Both windows have a tree view at the top labeled 'CWatch'. Below the tree view, the English text reads:

This brings you to the calendar where you can begin to enter data.  
After indicating your first cycle date in the dialog box, a calendar appears.  
It indicates the month of your first cycle date.  
The day you indicated as the first cycle day will be marked with a ^g1 in the lower right hand corner and a ^g2.  
If this is not the day you want to indicate as the first cycle day, go to File, Close, and don't save it.  
Then double-click on the CycleWatch icon, enter the correct date, and click on OK.  
You will also see two numbers in each calendar day.  
The number in the upper right

The right window contains German text:

Dadurch gelangen Sie zum Kalender, in dem alle weiteren Eingaben erfolgen.  
Nachdem Sie Ihren ersten Zyklus in das Dialogfenster eingegeben haben erscheint eine Kalenderansicht, die den Monat Ihres ersten Zyklus wiedergibt.  
Der Tag, den Sie als ersten Zyklustag eingegeben haben, wird in der rechten unteren Ecke des Kalenderfensters durch ^g1 und ^g2 dargestellt.  
Falls dies nicht der erste Tag Ihres ersten Zyklus ist, wählen Sie bitte "Datei", "Schließen", und "Nicht Speichern".  
Führen Sie dann bitte erneut einen Doppelklick auf das CycleWatch Icon aus und korrigieren das Datum.  
Um die Eingabe zu bestätigen klicken Sie bitte auf OK.  
Es werden jeweils zwei Zahlen pro Kalendertag dargestellt.

Ready.

Let's try it for another language pair ...

# Statistical MT



I love the boy.  
J'aime le garçon.

I love the dog.  
J'aime le chien.

They love the dog.  
Ils aiment le chien.

They talk to the girl.  
Ils parlent à la fille.

They talk to the dog.  
Ils parlent au chien.

I talk to the mother.  
Je parle à la mère.

Aligned Data

# Statistical MT

CIT

I love the boy.

J'aime le garçon.

I love the dog.

J'aime le chien.

They love the dog.

Ils aiment le chien.

They talk to the girl.

Ils parlent à la fille.

They talk to the dog.

Ils parlent au chien.

I talk to the mother.

Je parle à la mère.



Aligned Data

I	J'	II	mother	mère	1
	Je	I	dog	chien.	III
love	aime	II	they	ils	III
	aiment	I	talk	parlent	II
the	le	III		parle	1
	la	II	to	à	II
boy	garçon	I		au/_the	1
girl	fille	I			

Collated Statistics

# Statistical MT

CIT

I love the boy.  
J'aime le garçon.

I love the dog.  
J'aime le chien.

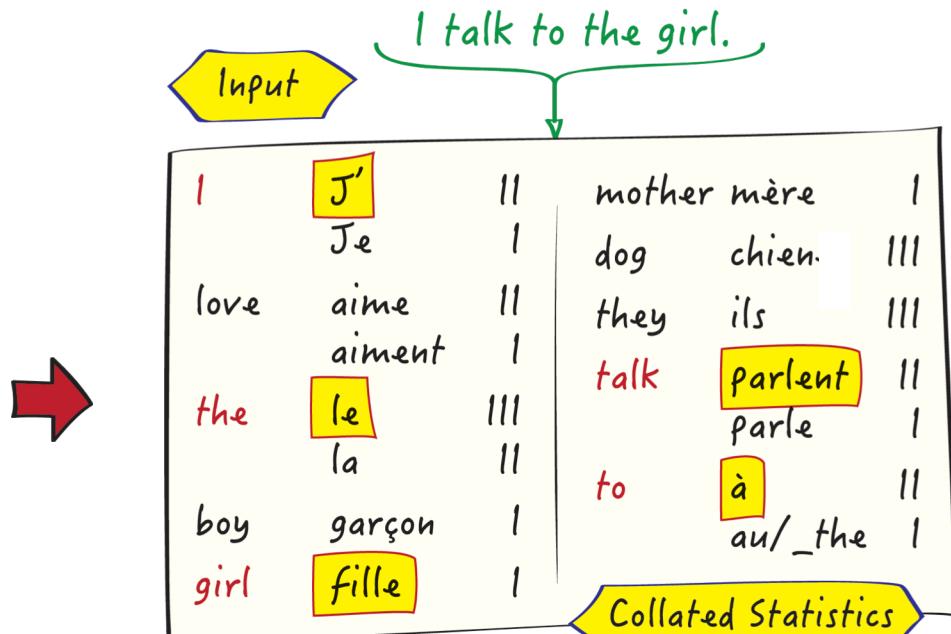
They love the dog.  
Ils aiment le chien.

They talk to the girl.  
Ils parlent à la fille.

They talk to the dog.  
Ils parlent au chien.

I talk to the mother.  
Je parle à la mère.

Aligned Data



# Statistical MT

I love the boy.  
J'aime le garçon.

I love the dog.  
J'aime le chien.

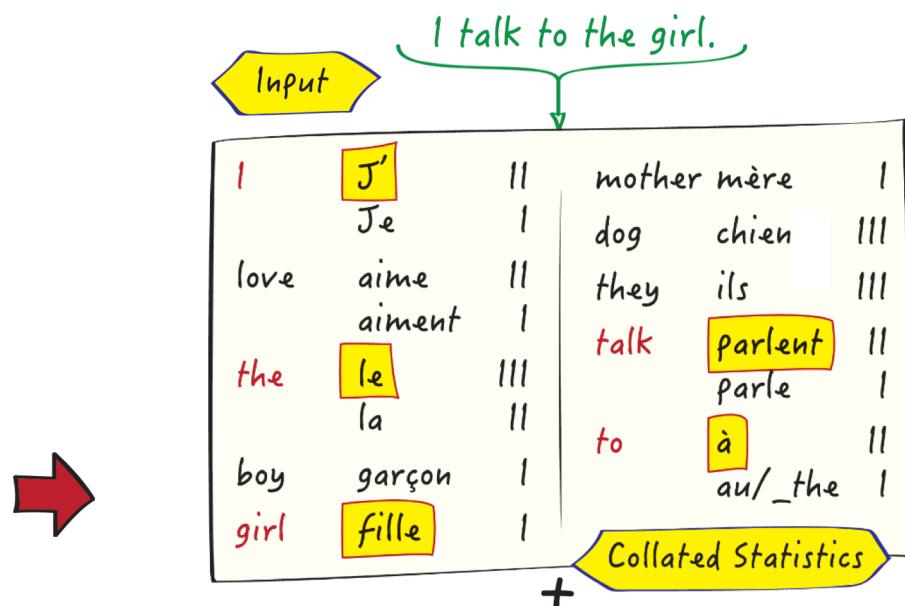
They love the dog.  
Ils aiment le chien.

They talk to the girl.  
Ils parlent à la fille.

They talk to the dog.  
Ils parlent au chien.

I talk to the mother.  
Je parle à la mère.

Aligned Data



Language Model

J'parlent à la fille.

Output

# Statistical MT

CIT

I love the boy.  
J'aime le garçon.  
I love the dog.  
J'aime le chien.  
They love the dog.  
Ils aiment le chien.  
They talk to the girl.  
Ils parlent à la fille.  
They talk to the dog.  
Ils parlent au chien.  
I talk to the mother.  
Je parle à la mère.



Aligned Data

I	talk	to	the	girl
J'	parlent		au	le fille
2/3	2/3		2/3	3/5 1/1
Je	parle	à	la	fille
1/3	1/3	1/3	2/5	1/1

## How to choose?

# Statistical Machine Translation



## The Language Model:

- What is good target language?
- Which words can follow which words and which can't? The “grammar”!
- Learnt from the data ...
  - *Je parle* is good ...
  - *J' parlent* is bad ...
  - *la fille* is good ...
  - *le fille* is bad ...
- *Je parle à la fille >> J' parlent à la fille*

# Noisy Channel Framework

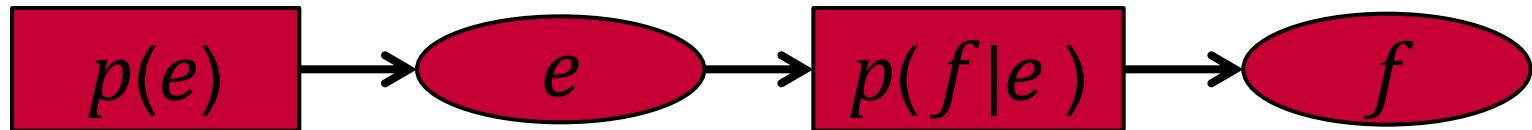


**English**



**French**

# Noisy Channel Framework

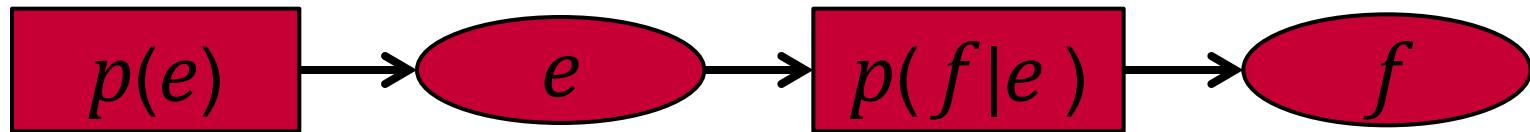


English



French

# Noisy Channel Framework



English

$$p(f) = p(e)p(f|e)$$



French

# Noisy Channel Framework



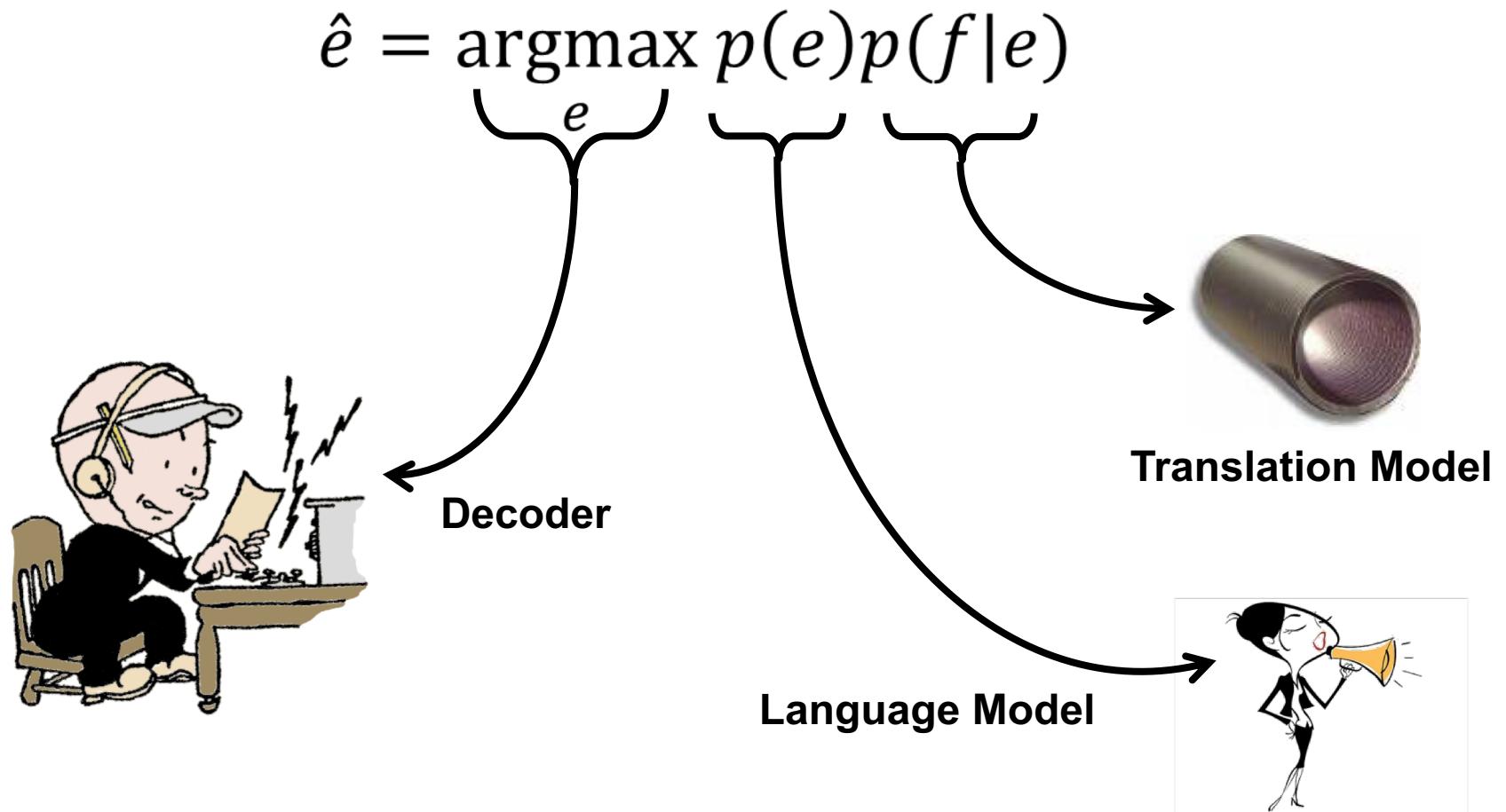
Applying Bayes' Rule, we have:

$$p(e|f) = \frac{p(e)p(f|e)}{p(f)}$$

Thus:

$$\hat{e} = \operatorname{argmax}_e p(e|f) = \operatorname{argmax}_e p(e)p(f|e)$$

# SMT Components



# 1990s-2010s: Statistical Machine Translation



- Core idea: Learn a **probabilistic model** from **data**
- Suppose we're translating French → English.
- We want to find best English sentence  $y$ , given French sentence  $x$   
$$\operatorname{argmax}_y P(y|x)$$
- Use Bayes Rule to break this down into **two components** to be learnt separately:

$$= \operatorname{argmax}_y P(x|y)P(y)$$

**Translation Model**  
Models how words and phrases  
should be translated.  
Learnt from parallel data.

**Language Model**  
Models how to write good English.  
Learnt from monolingual data.

# Noisy Channel Framework



- The *translation model* models how likely it is that  $f$  is a translation of  $e$  – **adequacy**.
- The *language model* models how likely it is that  $e$  is an acceptable sentence – **fluency**.
- The *decoder* searches for the most likely  $e$ .

# Discussion

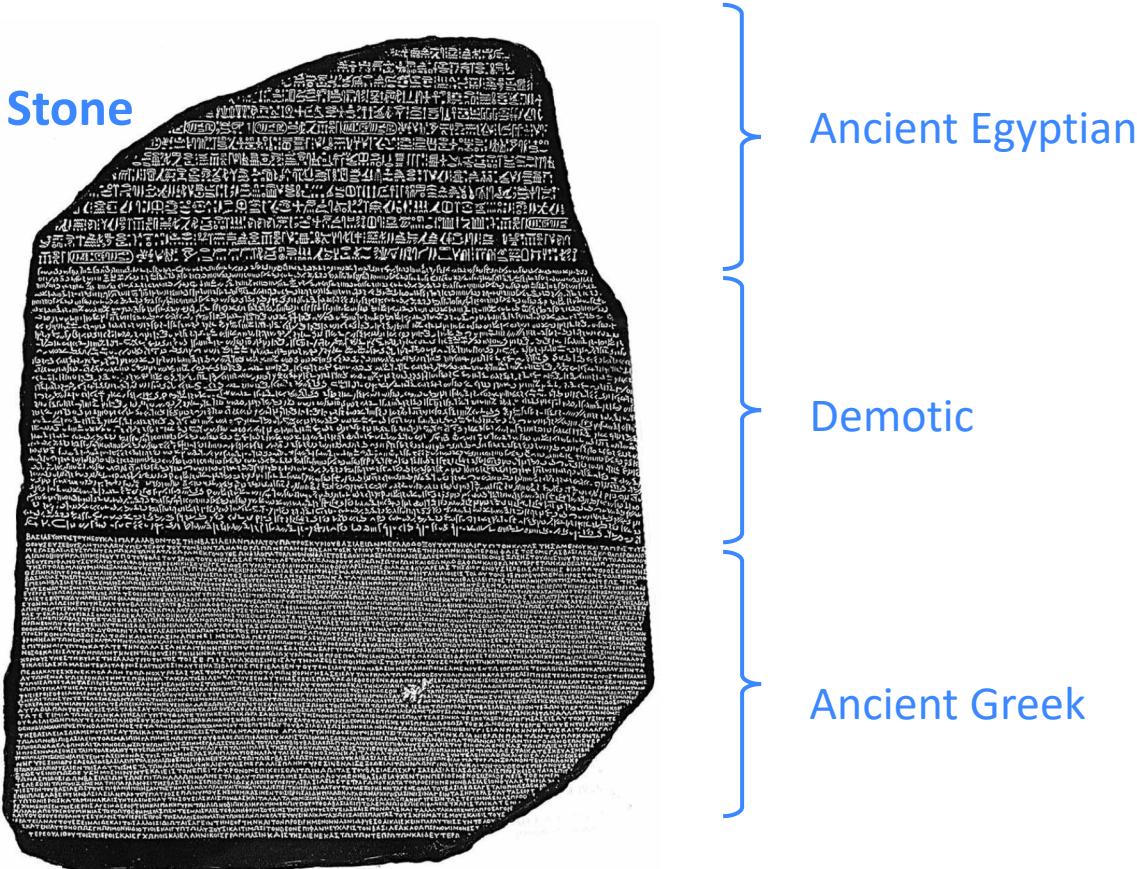


# 1990s-2010s: Statistical Machine Translation



- Question: How to learn translation model  $P(x|y)$  ?
- First, need large amount of parallel data  
(e.g. pairs of human-translated French/English sentences)

The Rosetta Stone



# 1990s-2010s: Statistical Machine Translation



- Question: How to learn translation model  $P(x|y)$  ?
- First, need large amount of **parallel data** (e.g. pairs of human-translated French/English sentences)
- Break it down further: we actually want to consider

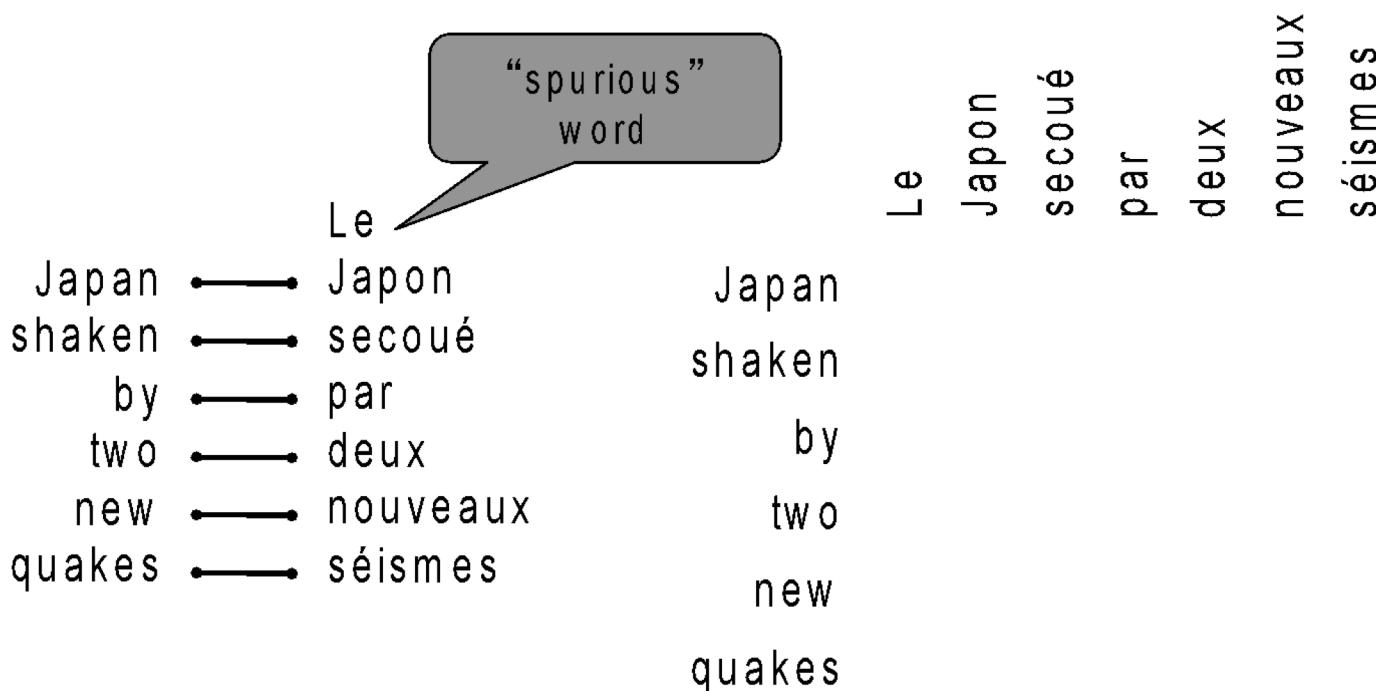
$$P(x, a|y)$$

where  $a$  is the **alignment**, i.e. word-level correspondence between French sentence  $x$  and English sentence  $y$

# What is alignment?

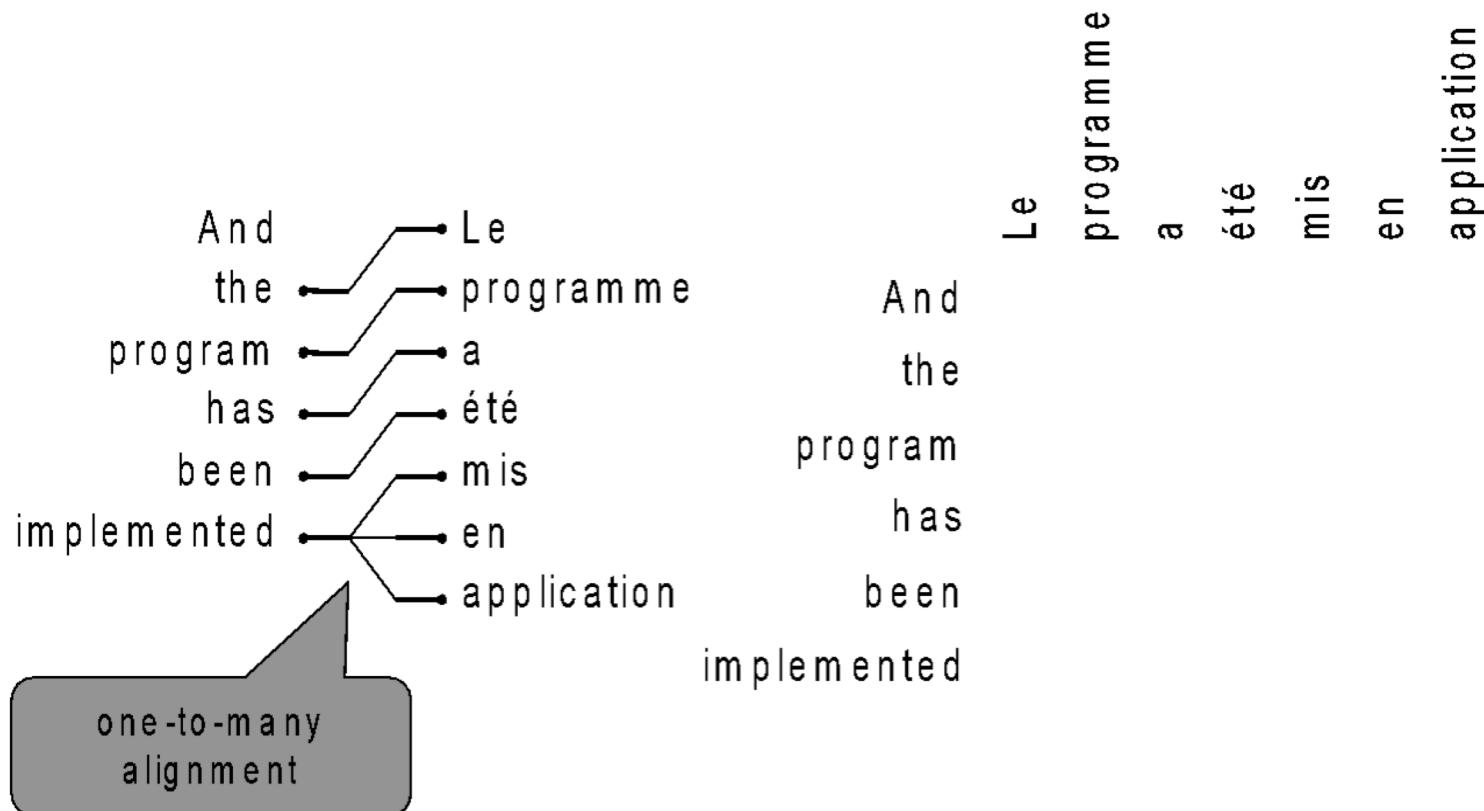
Alignment is the correspondence between particular words in the translated sentence pair.

- Note: Some words have no counterpart



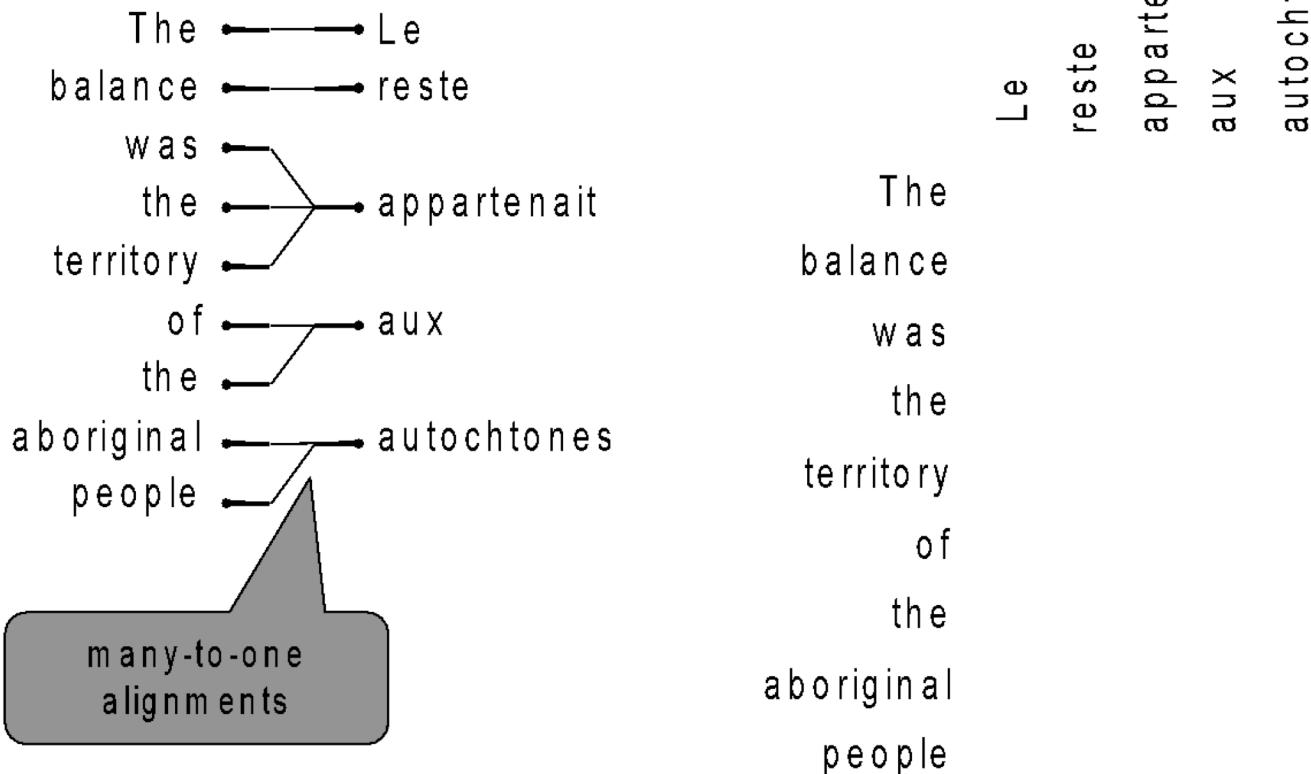
# Alignment is complex

Alignment can be one-to-many (these are “fertile” words)



# Alignment is complex

Alignment can be many-to-one



# Phrase-Based SMT

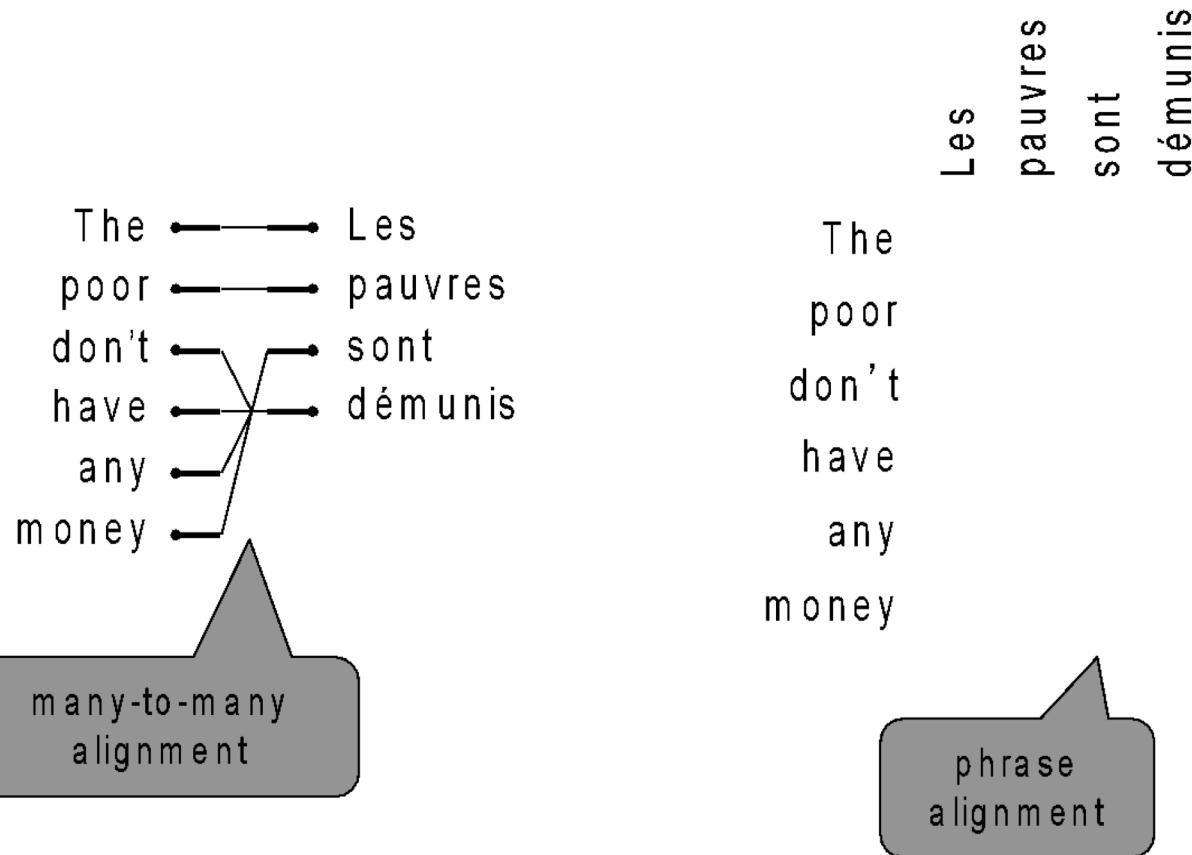


- So far: translating single words
- Loses context: such as agreement (*\*le fille* ...) etc.
- To some extent “**repaired**” by language model
- A better model:
  - Not just translations of single words
  - But also **phrase** translations:

*- the girl : la fille  
- to the girl : à la fille  
- I talk : Je parle*

# Alignment is complex

Alignment can be many-to-many (phrase-level)



# Phrase-Based SMT



I love the boy.  
J'aime le garçon.

I love the dog.  
J'aime le chien.

They love the dog.  
Ils aiment le chien.

They talk to the girl.  
Ils parlent à la fille.

They talk to the dog.  
Ils parlent au chien.

I talk to the mother.  
Je parle à la mère.

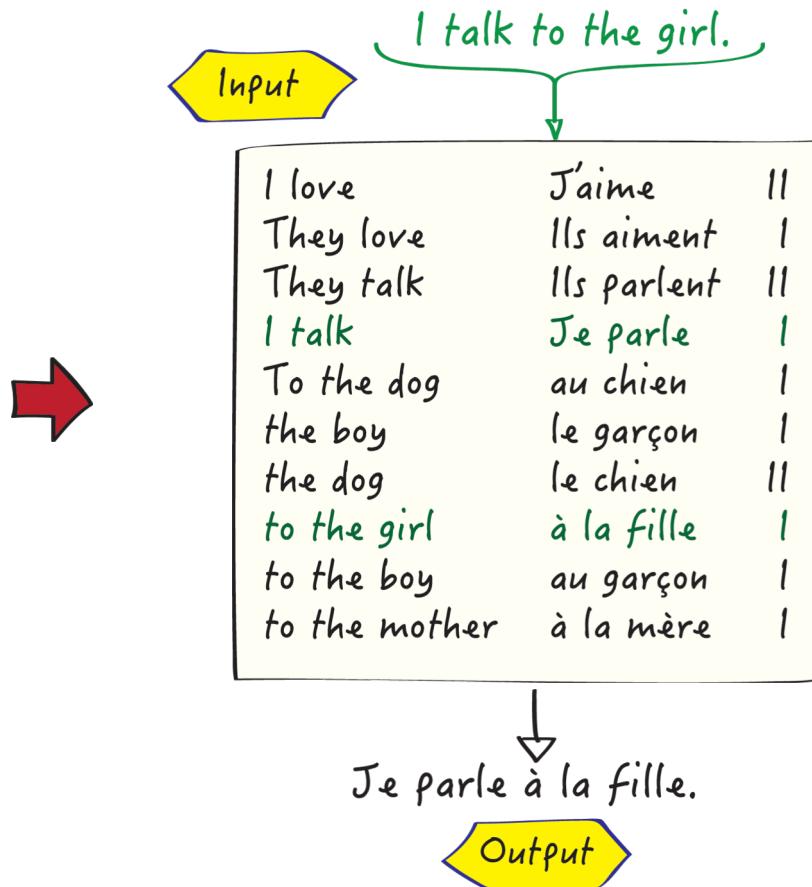
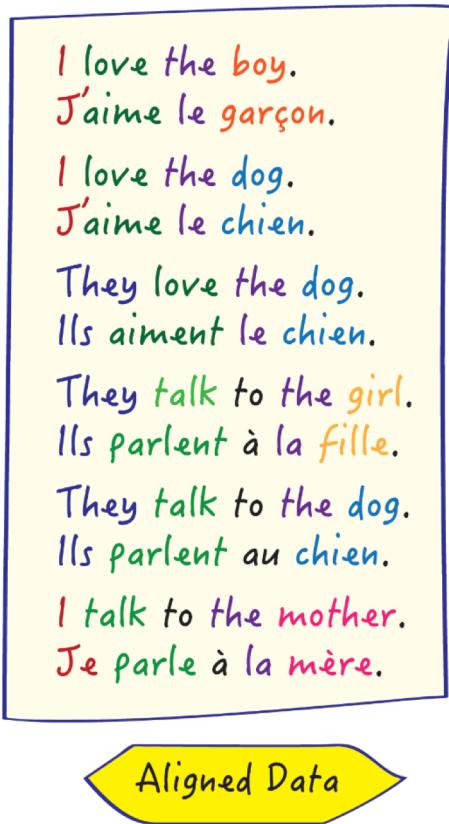


Aligned Data

Input

I love	J'aime	11
They love	Ils aiment	1
They talk	Ils parlent	11
I talk	Je parle	1
To the dog	au chien	1
the boy	le garçon	1
the dog	le chien	11
to the girl	à la fille	1
to the boy	au garçon	1
to the mother	à la mère	1

# Phrase-Based SMT



# Phrase-Based SMT



- *Much* better than word-based SMT!
- Standard technology: global Localisation & Translation industry
- Moses open-source PB-SMT toolkit
- Most widely used SMT platform
- Research funded by EC
- Used by EC DGT's MT@EC

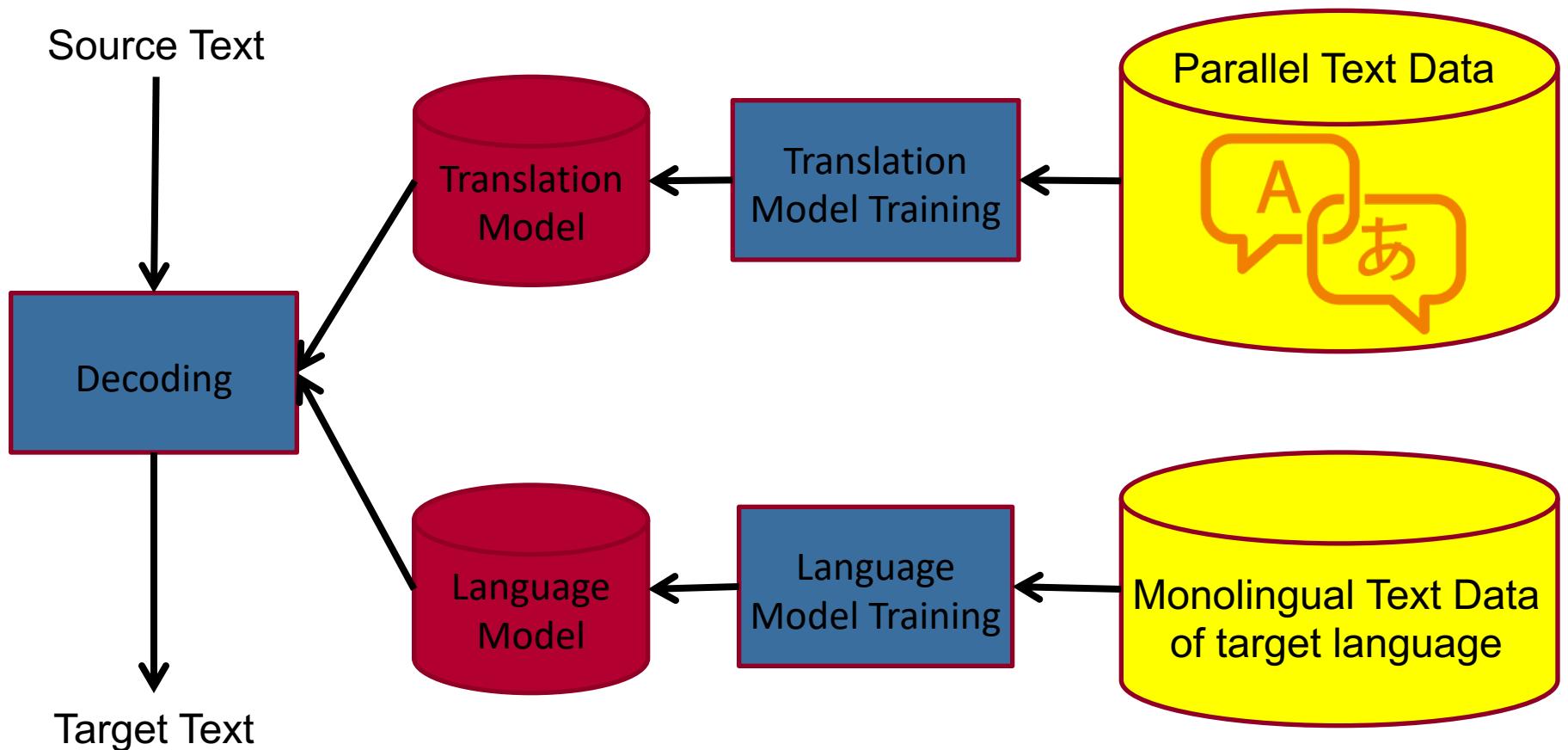


# Good Quality Language & Translation Models



- Any statistical approach to MT requires the availability of aligned bilingual corpora which are:
  - large;
  - good-quality;
  - representative.

# SMT Flow



# 1990s-2010s: Statistical Machine Translation



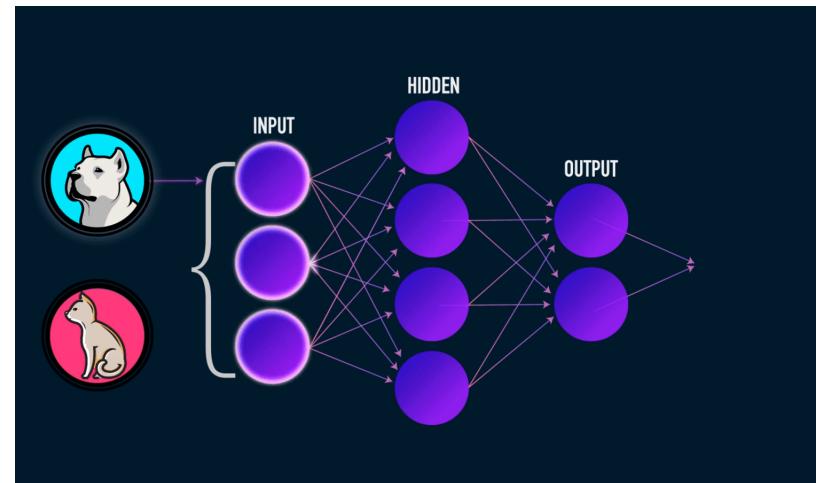
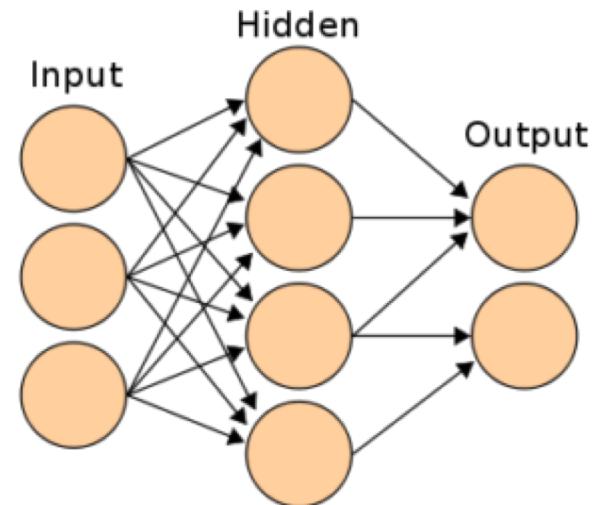
- SMT is a **huge** research field
- The best systems are **extremely complex**
  - Hundreds of important details we haven't mentioned here
  - Systems have many **separately-designed subcomponents**
  - Lots of **feature engineering**
    - Need to design features to capture particular language phenomena
  - Require compiling and maintaining **extra resources**
    - Like tables of equivalent phrases
  - Lots of **human effort** to maintain
    - Repeated effort for each language pair!

# Discussion



# Neural MT

- Paradigm Shift: Machine Learning → Deep Learning
- Hardware: CPU → GPU
- Open-Source Tools:
  - *Theano*
  - *Tensorflow*
  - *Pytorch*
  - *mxnet*
- Slower Training & Decoding



- End-to-end translation, not word-to-word (or phrase-to-phrase)
- Promising results compared to PB-SMT:
  - Good generalisation capability
  - Good predictive performance
- But issues with sentence length, vocab size

# What is Neural Machine Translation?



- Neural Machine Translation (NMT) is a way to do Machine Translation with a *single neural network*
- The neural network architecture is called sequence-to-sequence (aka seq2seq) and it involves *two RNNs*.

# Neural Machine Translation (NMT)



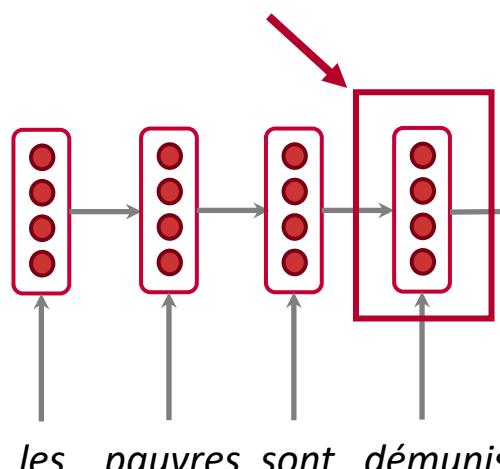
The sequence-to-sequence model

Encoding of the source sentence.

Provides initial hidden state

for Decoder RNN.

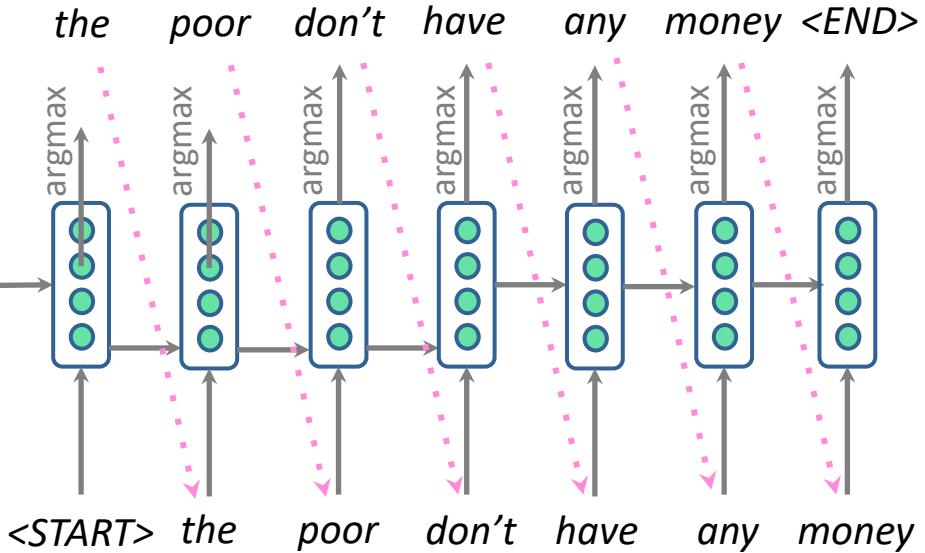
Encoder RNN



Source sentence (input)

Encoder RNN produces  
an encoding of the  
source sentence.

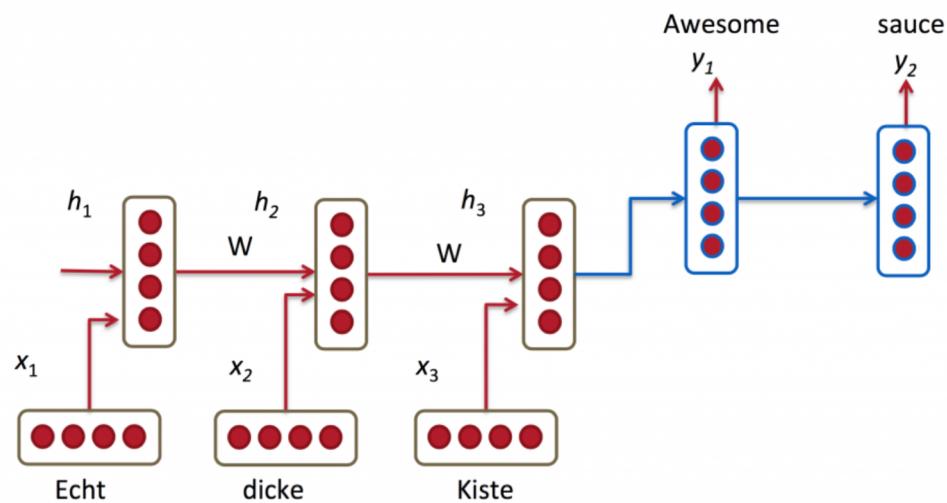
Target sentence (output)



Decoder RNN is a Language Model that generates target sentence conditioned on encoding.

Note: This diagram shows test time behavior:  
decoder output is fed in  $\dots \rightarrow$  as next step's input

Note there's an embedding layer for each CNN  
You have two separate sets of word embeddings, for the two languages



RNN for Machine Translation. Image Source: <http://cs224d.stanford.edu/lectures/CS224d-Lecture8.pdf>

# Neural Machine Translation (NMT)



- The **sequence-to-sequence** model is an example of a **Conditional Language Model**.
  - **Language Model** because the decoder is predicting the next word of the target sentence  $y$
  - **Conditional** because its predictions are *also* conditioned on the source sentence  $x$
- NMT directly calculates  $P(y|x)$ :

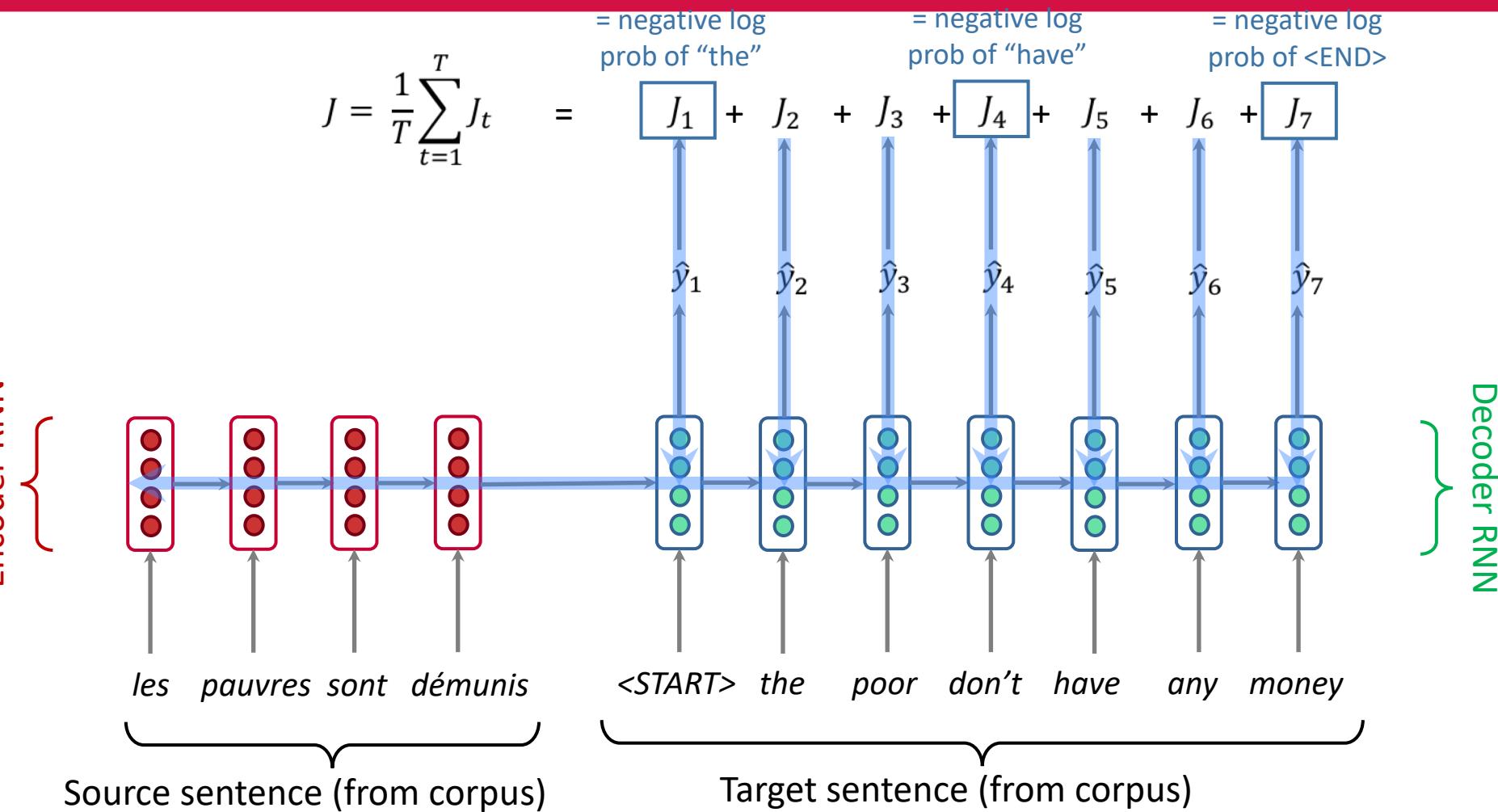
$$P(y|x) = P(y_1|x) P(y_2|y_1, x) P(y_3|y_1, y_2, x) \dots, P(y_T|y_1, \dots, y_{T-1}, x)$$

A blue curly brace is positioned under the final term of the probability product,  $P(y_T|y_1, \dots, y_{T-1}, x)$ .

Probability of next target word, given target words so far and source sentence  $x$

- NMT directly estimates  $p(y|x)$ , whereas SMT modularized into translation model and language model
- **Question:** How to **train** a NMT system?
  - **Answer:** Get a big parallel corpus..

# Training a Neural Machine Translation system



Seq2seq is optimized as a single system.  
Backpropagation operates “end-to-end”.

# Advantages of NMT



Compared to SMT, NMT has many **advantages**:

- Better performance
  - More fluent
  - Better use of context
  - Better use of phrase similarities
- A single neural network to be optimized end-to-end
  - No subcomponents to be individually optimized
- Requires much less human engineering effort
  - No feature engineering
  - Same method for all language pairs

# Disadvantages of NMT?

Compared to SMT:

- NMT is **less interpretable**
  - Hard to debug
- NMT is **difficult to control**
  - For example, can't easily specify rules or guidelines for translation
  - Safety concerns!

# Disadvantages of NMT?

Compared to SMT:

- NMT is **less interpretable**
  - Hard to debug
- NMT is **difficult to control**
  - For example, can't easily specify rules or guidelines for translation
  - Safety concerns!

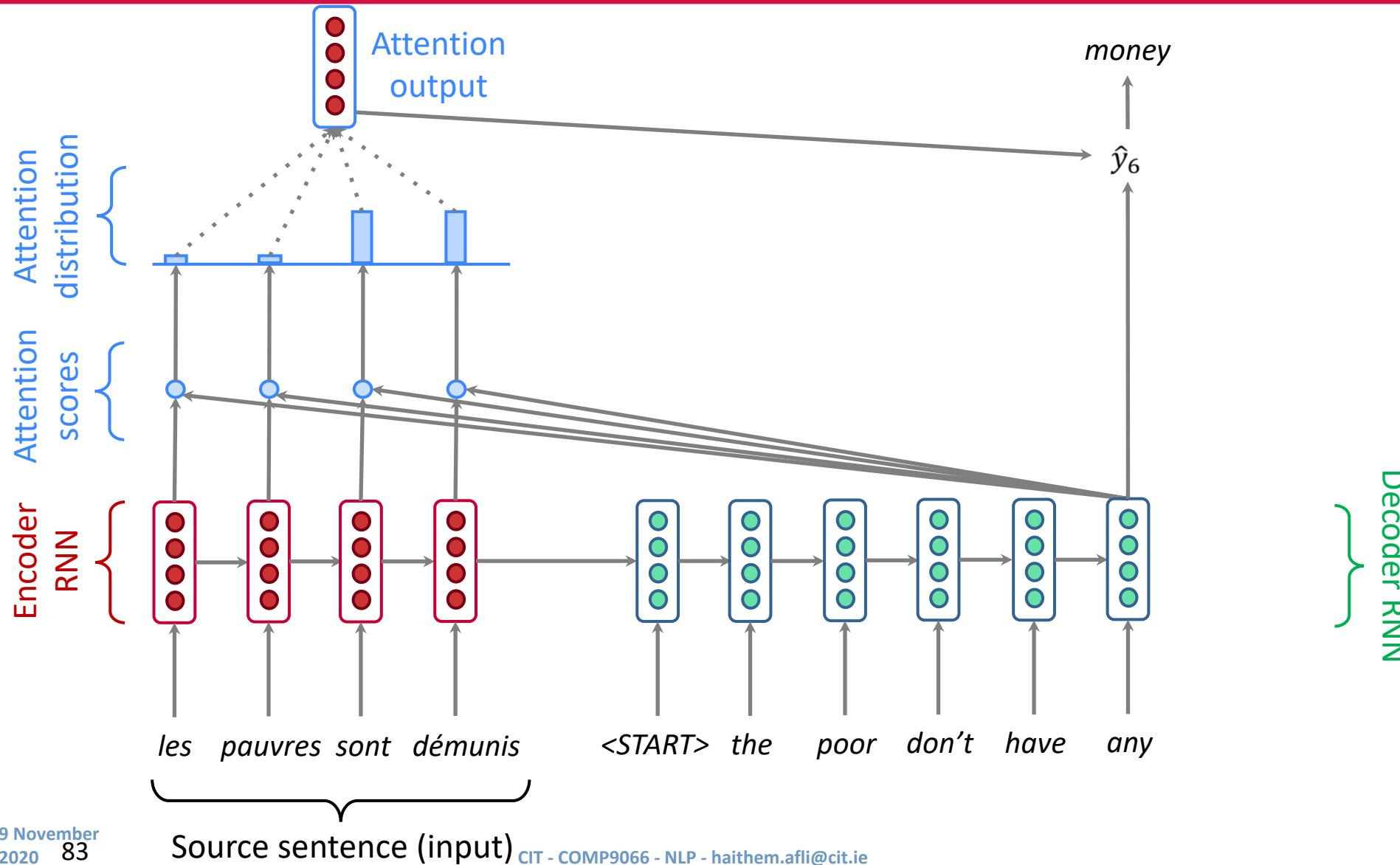
**SMT is still very much in use!**

NMT is the **flagship task** for NLP Deep Learning

- NMT research has **pioneered** many of the recent **innovations** of NLP Deep Learning
- In **2018**: NMT research continues to **thrive**
  - Researchers have found ***many, many improvements*** to the “vanilla” seq2seq NMT system we’ve presented today
  - But **one improvement** is so integral that it is the new vanilla...

## ATTENTION

# Sequence-to-sequence with attention



# Attention is great



- Attention significantly **improves NMT performance**
  - It's very useful to allow decoder to focus on certain parts of the source
- Attention **solves the bottleneck problem**
  - Attention allows decoder to look directly at source; bypass bottleneck
- Attention provides **some interpretability**
  - By inspecting attention distribution, we can see what the decoder was focusing on
  - We get **alignment for free!** 
  - This is cool because we never explicitly trained an alignment system
  - The network just learned alignment by itself

Les pauvres sont démunis

The poor don't have any money

# How Much Attention Do You Need? ..

## You May Not Need Attention

Ofir Press♦ Noah A. Smith♦♦

♦Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science & Engineering, University of Washington

♦Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence

{ofirp, nasmith}@cs.washington.edu

### Abstract

In NMT, how far can we get without attention and without separate encoding and decoding? To answer that question, we introduce a recurrent neural translation model that does not use attention and does not have a separate encoder and decoder. Our **eager translation model** is low-latency, writing target tokens as soon as it reads the first source token, and uses constant memory during decoding. It performs on par with the standard attention-based model of Bahdanau et al. (2014), and better on long sentences.<sup>1</sup>

### 1 Introduction

Nearly all actively-researched NMT models have the following properties:

- The decoder uses an attention mechanism over the source sequence representations. (Bahdanau et al., 2014; Luong et al., 2015; Vaswani et al., 2017).
- The encoder and decoder are two different

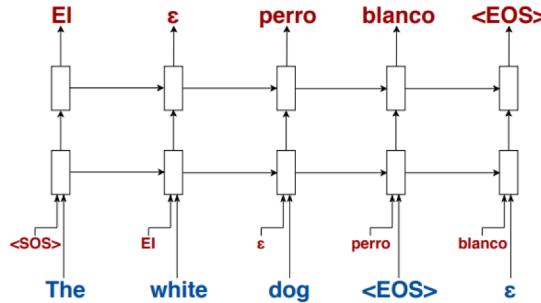


Figure 1: The eager model translating the sentence “The white dog” into Spanish. Source (target) tokens are in blue (red).  $\epsilon$  is the padding token, which is removed during postprocessing. The diagram presents an eager translation model with two LSTM layers.

and can finish translating soon after the last source word is read.

The **eager translation model** uses a constant amount of memory, since it needs to use only one previous hidden state (rather than all previous hidden states) at every timestep. Instead of “cram-

# Machine Translation Evaluation

# Discussion



# Neural Machine Translation (NMT)

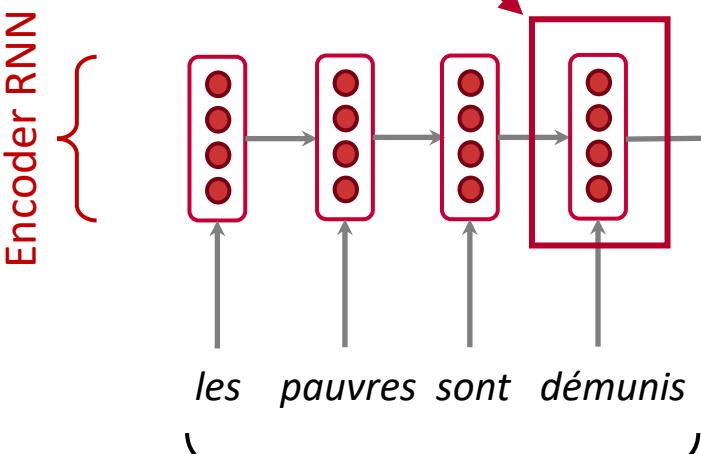


The sequence-to-sequence model

Encoding of the source sentence.

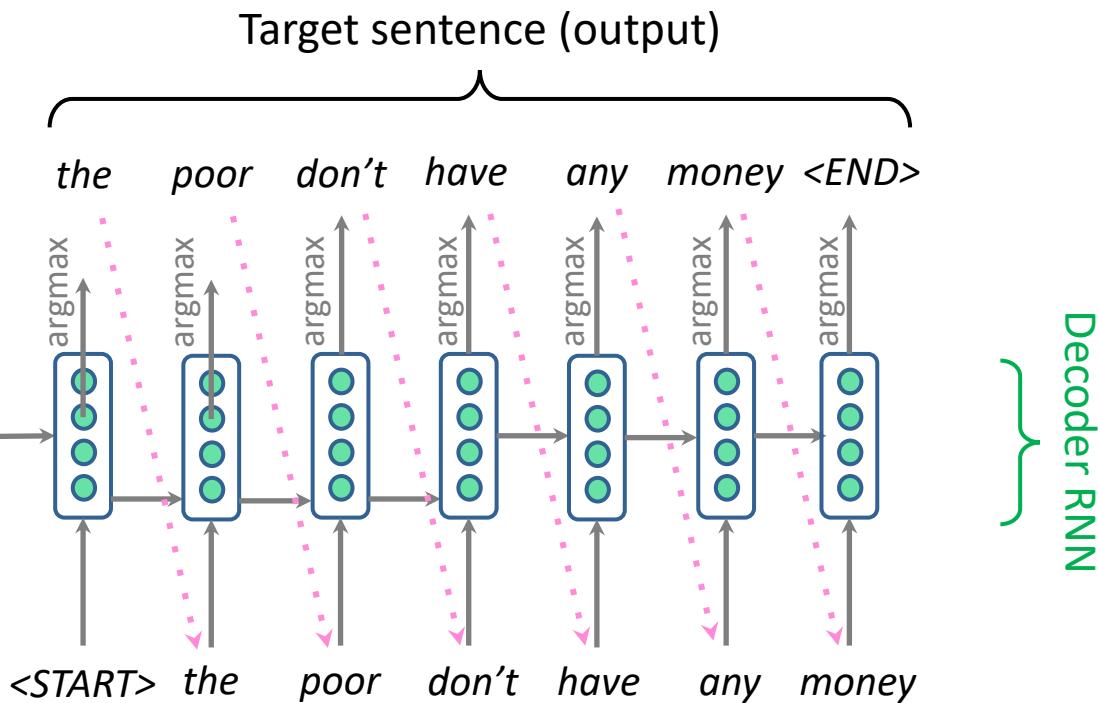
Provides initial hidden state

for Decoder RNN.



Source sentence (input)

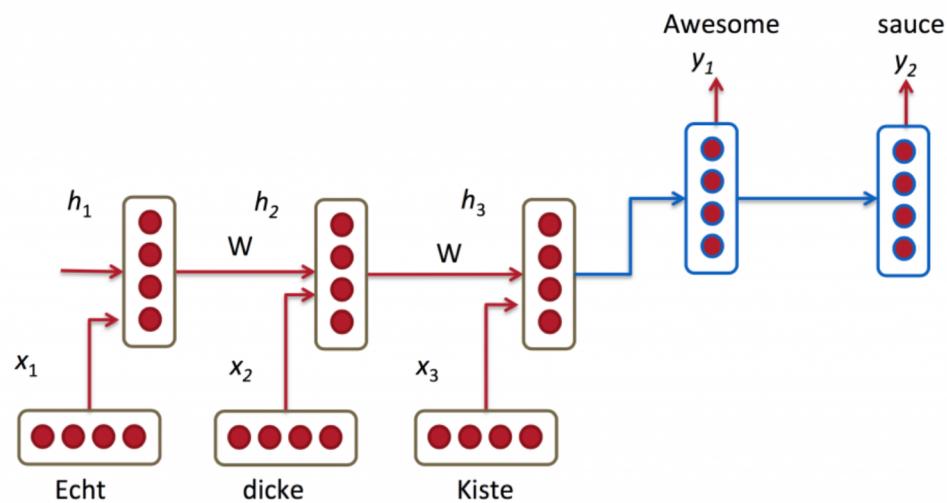
Encoder RNN produces  
an encoding of the  
source sentence.



Decoder RNN is a Language Model that generates target sentence conditioned on encoding.

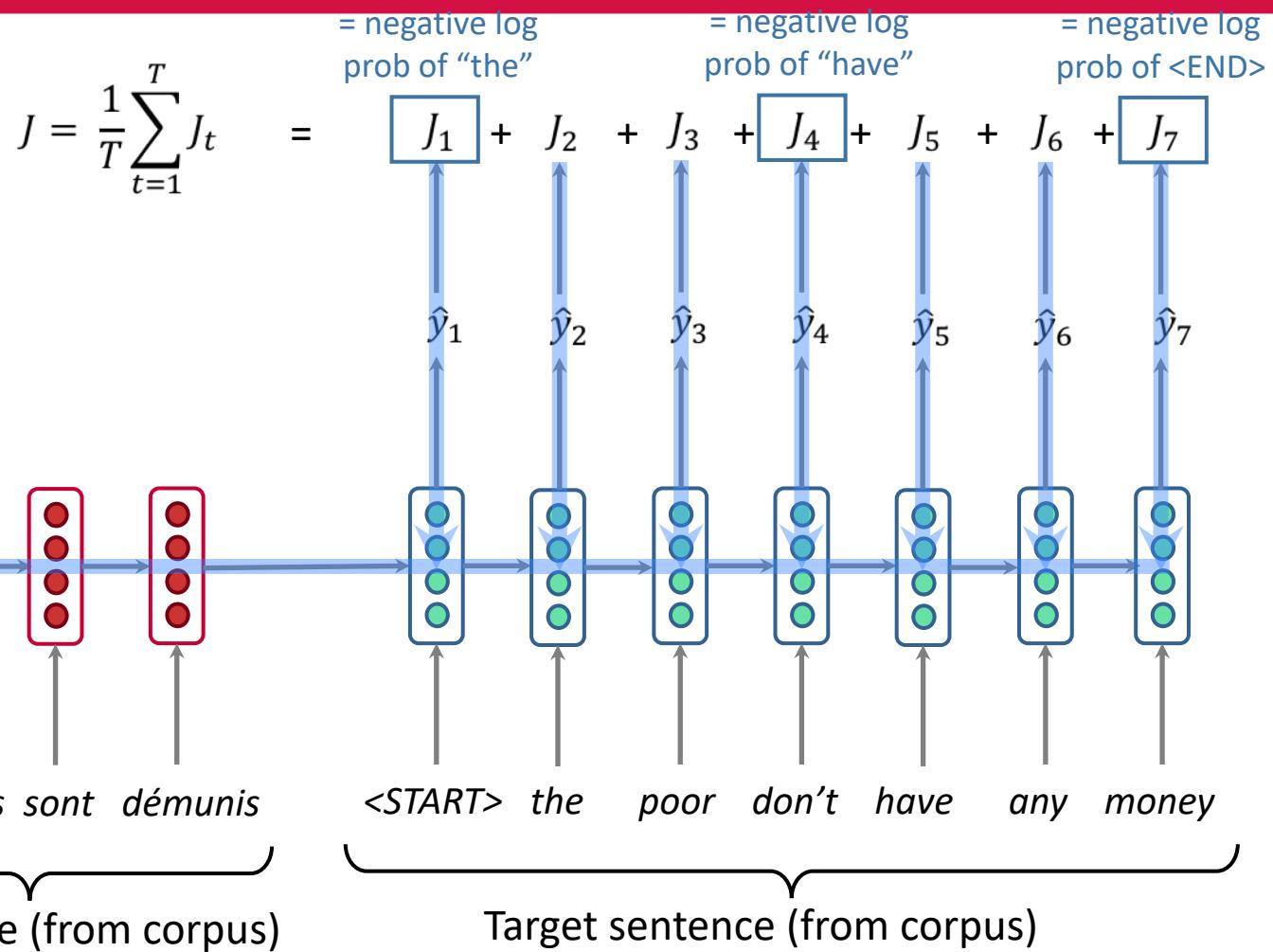
Note: This diagram shows test time behavior:  
decoder output is fed in  $\dots \rightarrow$  as next step's input

Note there's an embedding layer for each CNN  
You have two separate sets of word embeddings, for the two languages



RNN for Machine Translation. Image Source: <http://cs224d.stanford.edu/lectures/CS224d-Lecture8.pdf>

# Training a Neural Machine Translation system

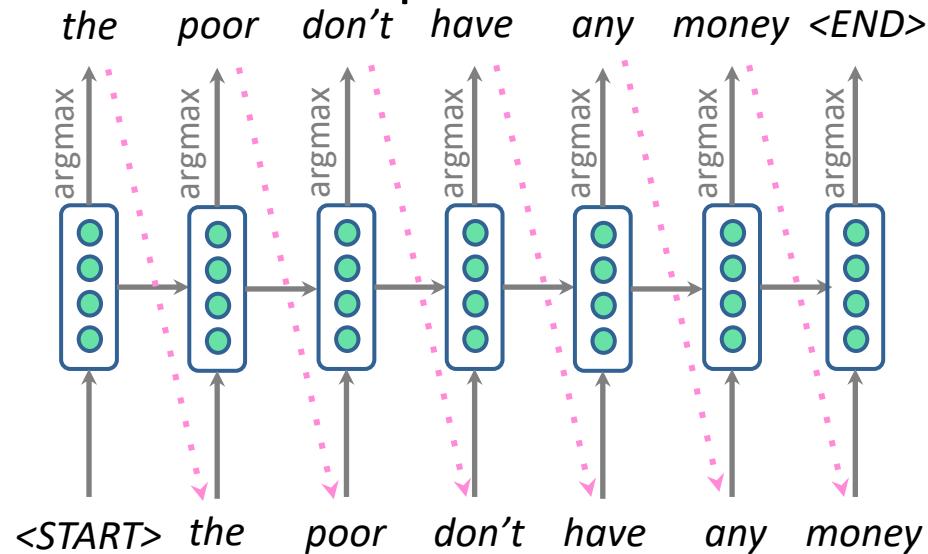


Seq2seq is optimized as a single system.  
Backpropagation operates “end-to-end”.

© COMP9055 - NLP - Faithem.Ali@cit.edu.sa

# Better-than-greedy decoding?

- We showed how to generate (or “decode”) the target sentence by taking argmax on each step of the decoder



- This is **greedy decoding** (take most probable word on each step)
- Problems?**

# Better-than-greedy decoding?



- Greedy decoding has no way to undo decisions!
  - *les pauvres sont démunis* (*the poor don't have any money*)
  - → *the* \_\_\_\_
  - → *the poor* \_\_\_\_
  - → *the poor are* \_\_\_\_
- Better option: use **beam search** (a search algorithm) to explore *several* hypotheses and select the best one

# Beam search decoding

- $P(y|x) = P(y_1|x) P(y_2|y_1, x) P(y_3|y_1, y_2, x) \dots, P(y_T|y_1, \dots, y_{T-1}, x)$
- We could try enumerating all  $y \rightarrow$  too expensive!
  - Complexity  $O(V^T)$  where  $V$  is vocab size and  $T$  is target sequence length
- Beam search: On each step of decoder, keep track of the  $k$  most probable partial translations
  - $k$  is the beam size (in practice around 5 to 10)
  - Not guaranteed to find optimal solution
  - But much more efficient!

# Beam search decoding: example



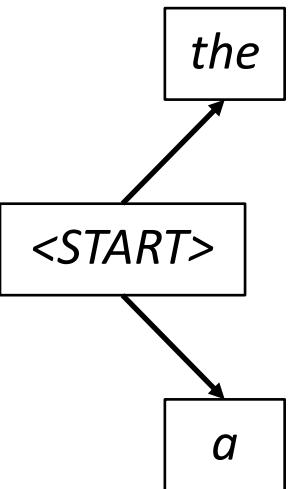
Beam size = 2

<START>

# Beam search decoding: example

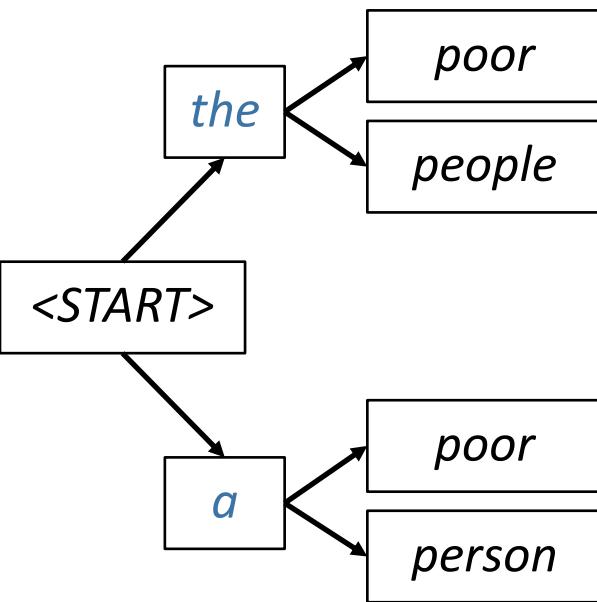


Beam size = 2



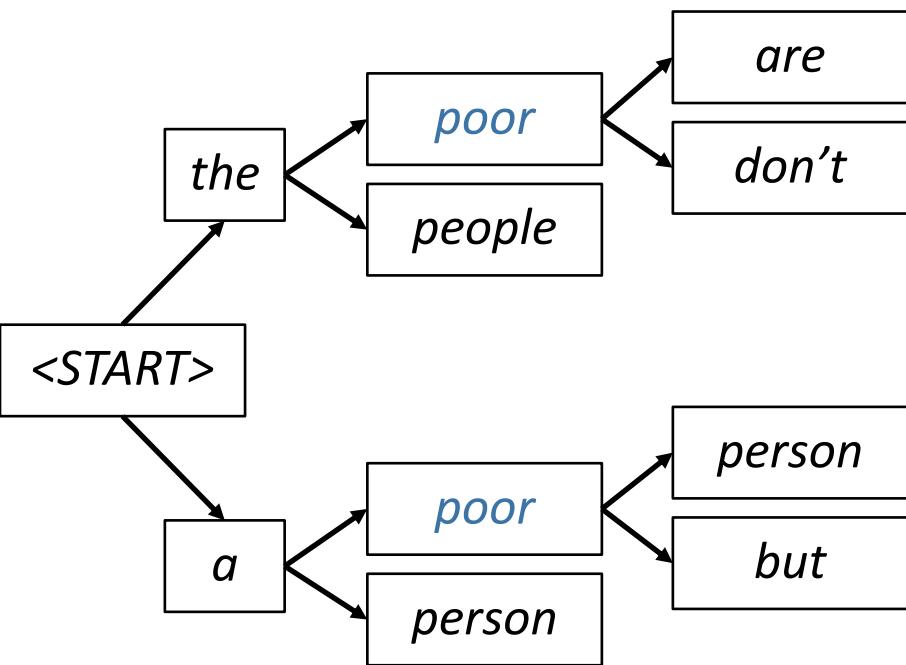
# Beam search decoding: example

Beam size = 2



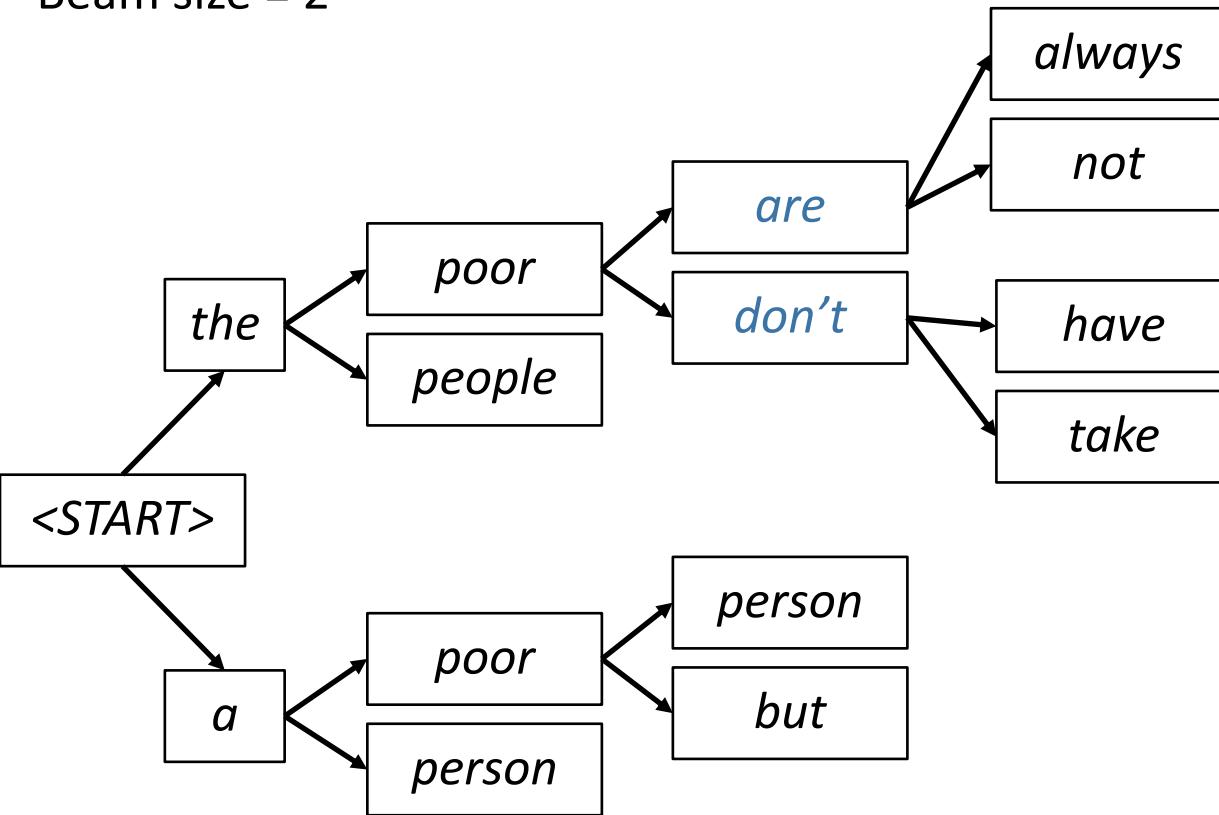
# Beam search decoding: example

Beam size = 2



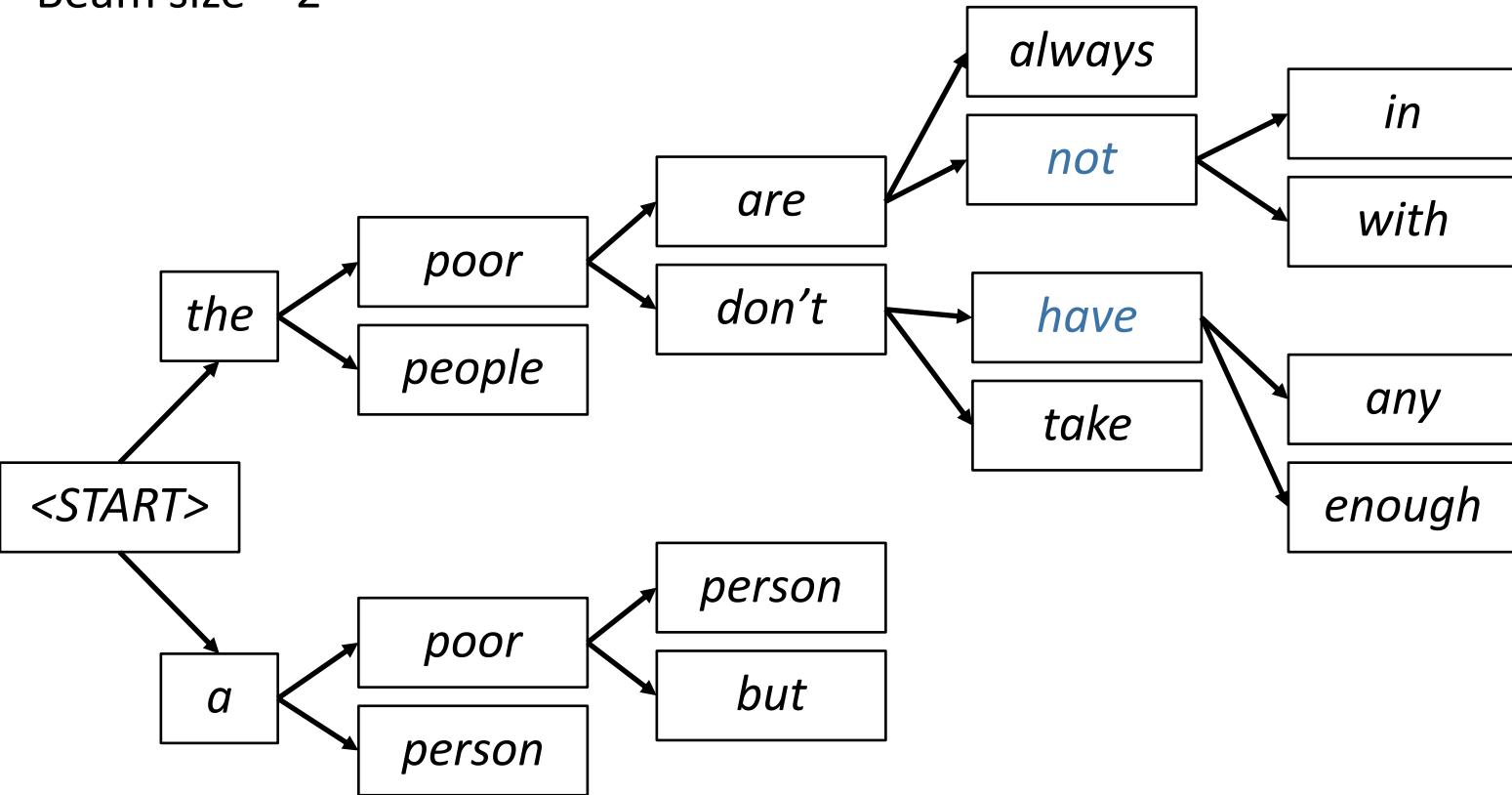
# Beam search decoding: example

Beam size = 2



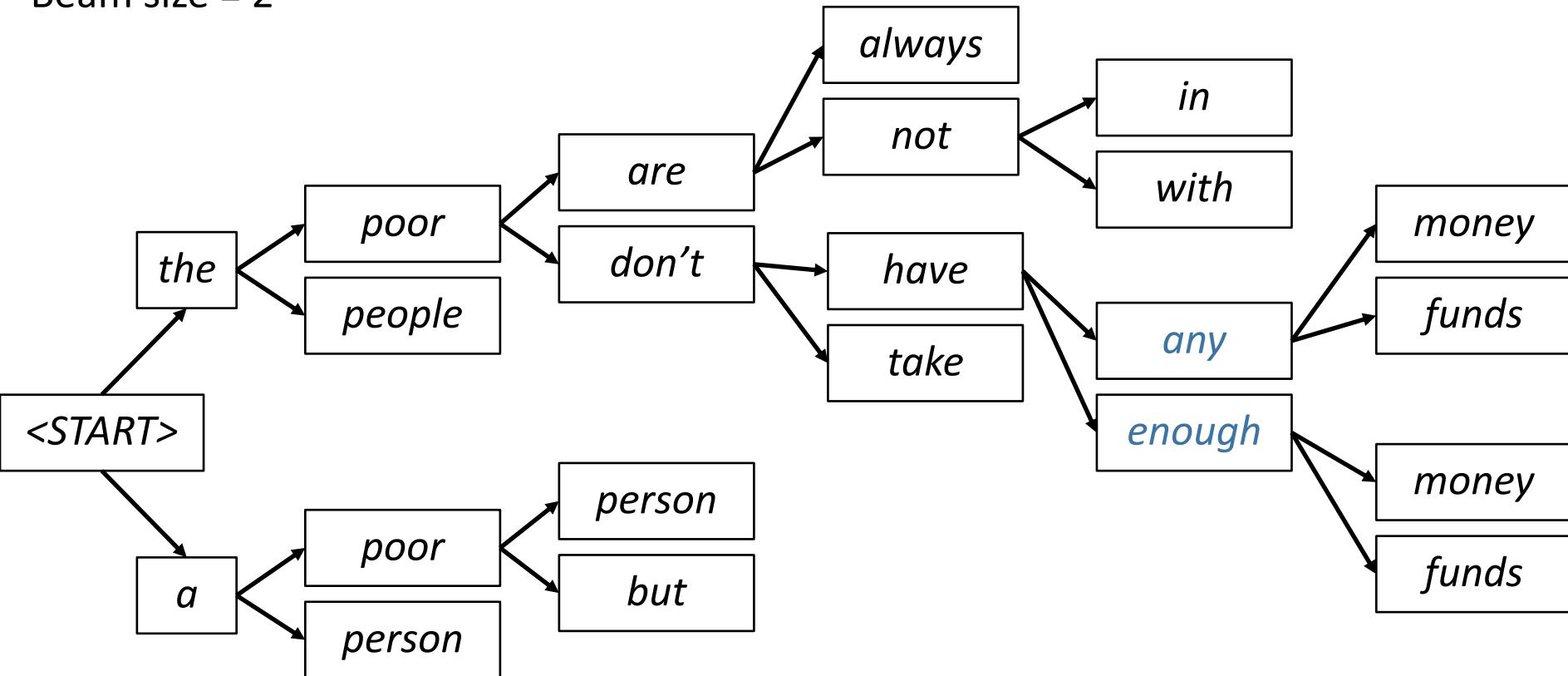
# Beam search decoding: example

Beam size = 2



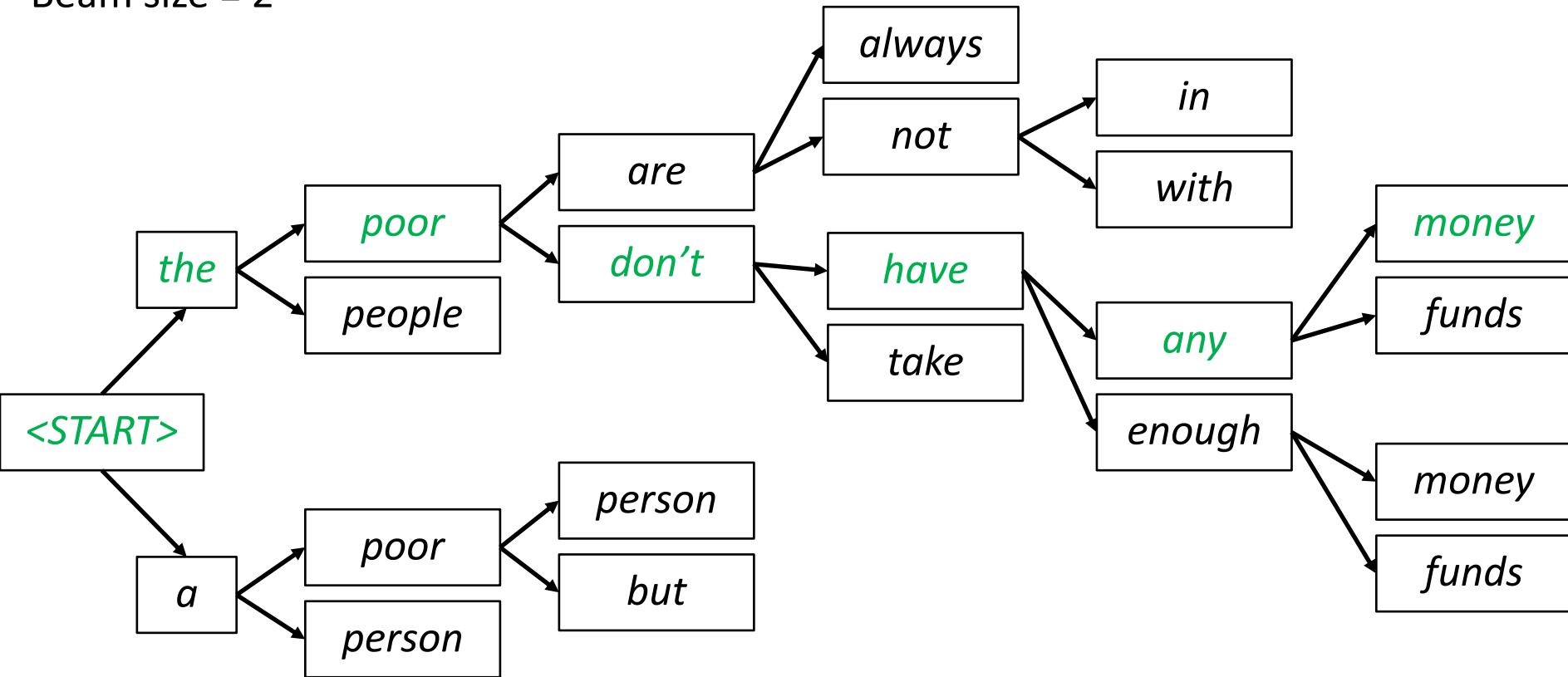
# Beam search decoding: example

Beam size = 2



# Beam search decoding: example

Beam size = 2



# Thank you

[Haithem. afli@cit.ie](mailto:Haithem.afli@cit.ie)

[@AfliHaithem](https://twitter.com/AfliHaithem)