

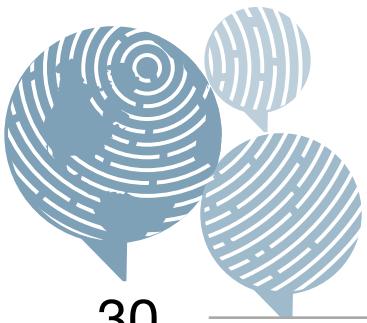
# Creative Data Collection: Crowdsourcing Translation

April 3, 2012

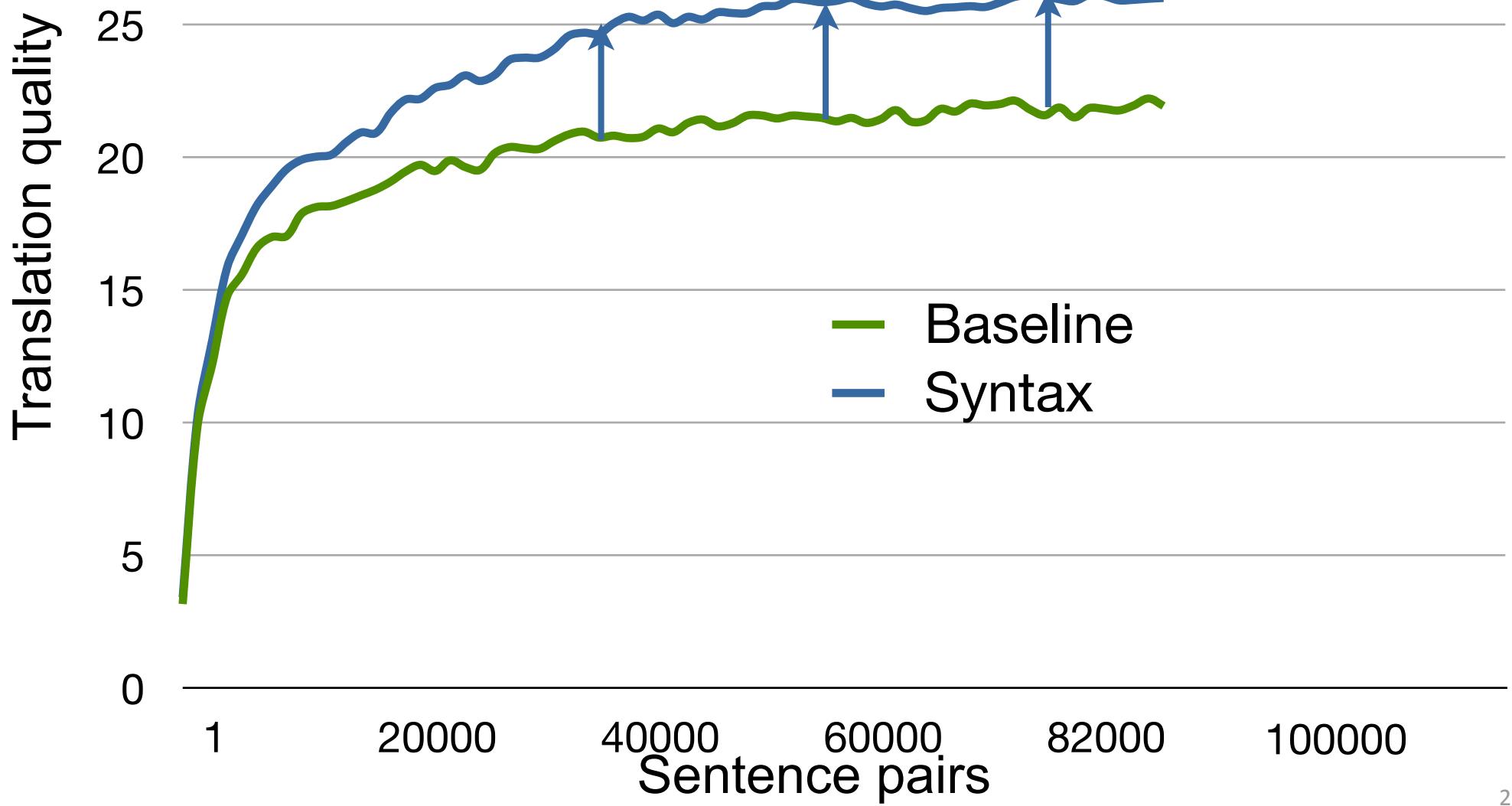


human language technology  
center of excellence

JOHNS HOPKINS  
UNIVERSITY



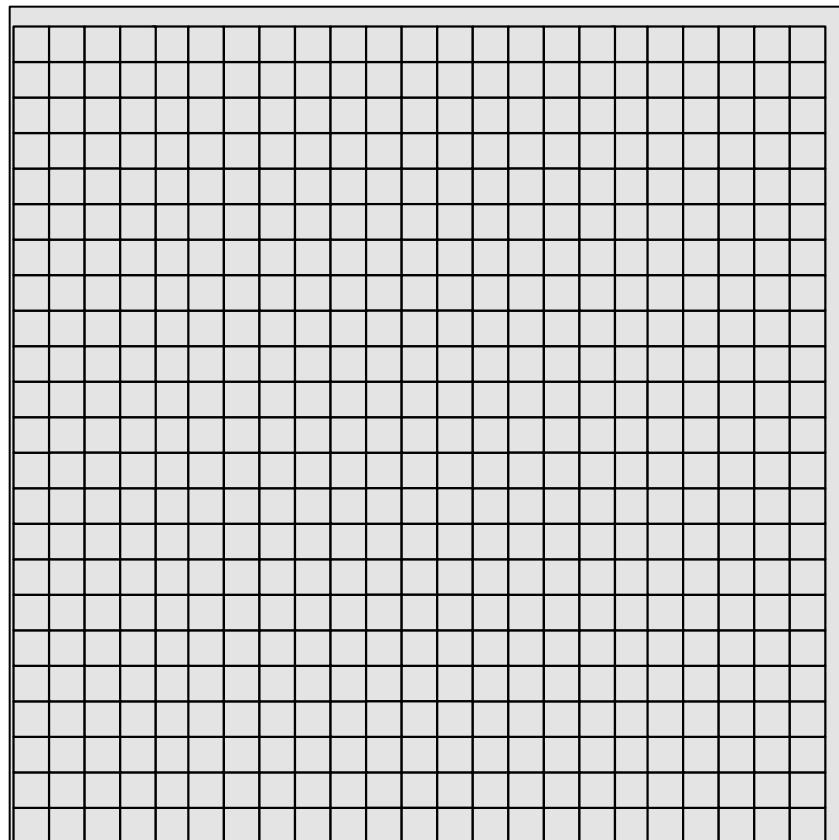
# More data is better





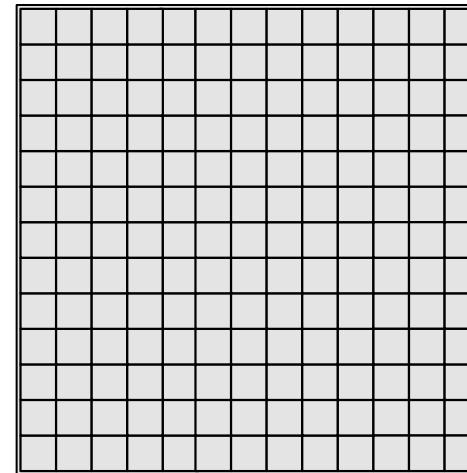
# Few languages have sufficient amounts of data

1000M



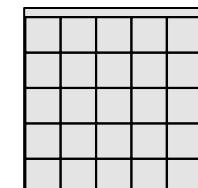
French-English  
10<sup>9</sup> word webcrawl

200M



DARPA  
GALE Program

50M



European  
Parliament

1.5M



Urdu



# Goals for this lecture

- Introduce you to crowdsourcing via Amazon's Mechanical Turk
- Can we create training data for SMT?
  - How good are non-professional translators?
  - How much would it cost to create a parallel corpus?
  - Can we find speakers for low resource languages?
  - Can we train an SMT system from this data?
- What would low cost, high quality translations enable us to do?



[Introduction](#) | [Dashboard](#) | [Status](#) | [Account Settings](#)

## Mechanical Turk is a marketplace for work.

We give businesses and developers access to an on-demand, scalable workforce.

Workers select from thousands of tasks and work whenever it's convenient.

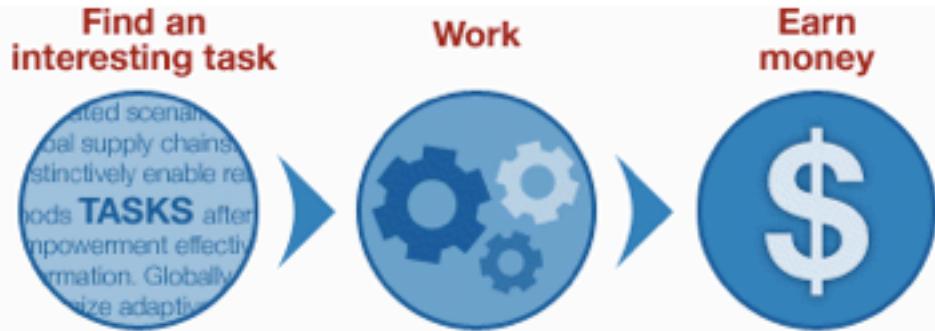
**37,649 HITs** available. [View them now.](#)

## Make Money by working on HITs

HITs - *Human Intelligence Tasks* - are individual tasks that you work on. [Find HITs now.](#)

### As a Mechanical Turk Worker you:

- Can work from home
- Choose your own work hours
- Get paid for doing good work



or [learn more about being a Worker](#)

## Get Results from Mechanical Turk Workers

Ask workers to complete HITs - *Human Intelligence Tasks* - and get results using Mechanical Turk. [Register Now](#)

### As a Mechanical Turk Requester you:

- Have access to a global, on-demand, 24 x 7 workforce
- Get thousands of HITs completed in minutes
- Pay only when you're satisfied with the results



or [learn more about being a Requester](#)

[All HITs](#) | [HITs Available To You](#) | [HITs Assigned To You](#)Search for  containing  that pay at least \$  for which you are quTimer: 00:00:00 of 5 minutes Want to work on this HIT? Want to see other HITs? **Total Earned:** Unavailal[Accept HIT](#)[Skip HIT](#)**Total HITs Submitted:** 0

Enter Postmark &amp; Stamp Information for a Postcard

Requester: Cardcow

Reward: \$0.01 per HIT

HITs Available: 2

Duration: 5 minutes

Qualifications Required: Data Entry for Postcards has been granted

## Enter Postmark & Stamp Information for this card

**Postmark City:****Postmark State:**  
(or Country)**Postmark Date:**  
(Ex: Nov-09)**Postmark Year:**  
(Ex: 1909)**Stamp:** (Ex: 1c, 2c, half penny)  
(month & day)

[All HITs](#) | [HITs Available To You](#) | [HITs Assigned To You](#)Search for  containing  that pay at least \$  for which you are qu:

Timer: 00:00:00 of 5 minutes Want to work on this HIT? Want to see other HITs? Total Earned: Unavailal

[Accept HIT](#)[Skip HIT](#)

Total HITs Submitted: 0

Enter Postmark &amp; Stamp Information for a Postcard

Requester: Cardcow

Reward: \$0.01 per HIT

HITs Available: 2

Duration: 5 minutes

A reward has been granted

**Postmark City:**

Barre

**Postmark State:**

MA

**Postmark Date:**

Oct-11

**Postmark Year:**

1886

**Stamp:**

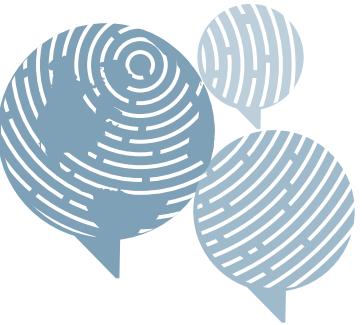
1c

Postmark City:

Postmark State:  
(or Country)Postmark Date:  
(Ex: Nov-09)

\$ 0.01

(month &amp; day)



# Who are the Turkers?

- Requesters are given very little information about Turkers - basically just a serial number
  - No names, no demographic information (like what languages they speak)
  - Cannot assume that they have a particular set of skills
  - They should be treated as non-experts
  - Quality control is a major challenge
  - It important to design tasks to be simple and easy to understand
- 

# Other NLP applications



- Workshop on Using Mechanical Turk for Speech and Language Applications
- 35 researchers spent \$100, wrote papers, and distributed their data
- Mark Dredze and I wrote an overview paper digesting the results

# \$100 Shared Task



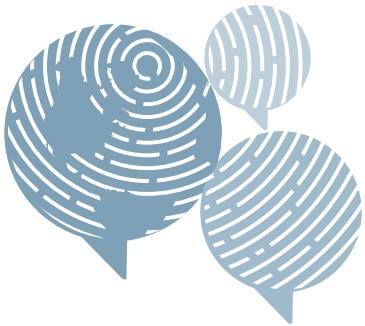
**NAACL  
HLT2010  
LOS ANGELES**

- Traditional NLP tasks
  - ▶ WSD, RTE, NLG, common sense knowledge
- Speech and Vision
  - ▶ Transcribed speech, accented speech, handwriting OCR
- Sentiment, Polarity, Bias
  - ▶ Cross language, blogs
- Information Retrieval
  - ▶ TREC style annotations
- Information Extraction
  - ▶ Relation extraction, NER
- Machine Translation
  - ▶ Paraphrases, alignments, training and eval sets, rule cleaning

# Leaderboard

## Mechanical Turk Monitor: Top-1000 Recent Requesters

	General	Top requesters	Arrivals	Completed	Search	About	
	Requester ID	Requester	#Task	#HITs	Rewards		
1	<a href="#">Dolores Labs</a>	<a href="#">A2IR7ETVOIULZU (RSS)</a>	470	317857	33084.24		
2	<a href="#">ContentGalore</a>	<a href="#">A2XL3J4NH6JI12 (RSS)</a>	674	10622	17554.6		
3	<a href="#">SpeechInk</a>	<a href="#">A1AQ7EJ5P7ME65 (RSS)</a>	9019	13613	12876.67		
4	<a href="#">CastingWords</a>	<a href="#">A3MI6MIUNWCR7F (RSS)</a>	9454	14036	8947.02		
5	<a href="#">QuestionSwami</a>	<a href="#">AD7C0BZNKYGYV (RSS)</a>	629	4116	4750.37		
6	<a href="#">Chris Callison-Burch</a>	<a href="#">A32TTE4XXN6MQZ (RSS)</a>	11	9961	4458.02		
7	<a href="#">Smartsheet.com Clients</a>	<a href="#">A1197OGL0WOQ3G (RSS)</a>	434	38212	3118.28		
8	<a href="#">retaildata</a>	<a href="#">AD14NALRDOSN9 (RSS)</a>	8	50288	3110.85		
9	<a href="#">Classify This</a>	<a href="#">A1CTI3ZAWTR5AZ (RSS)</a>	25	94590	1891.8		
10	<a href="#">Andrew Stephen</a>	<a href="#">A1Y25F6MZCMQGY (RSS)</a>	3	22705	1131.25		
11	<a href="#">Dolores Labs 2</a>	<a href="#">A3JX8WONBL5N9X (RSS)</a>	34	8976	1043.27		
12	<a href="#">RelevanceQuest</a>	<a href="#">A8RMEN71ICE57 (RSS)</a>	15	47881	1029.92		
13	<a href="#">Crowd Task</a>	<a href="#">AFAOUHS65HNDS (RSS)</a>	4	2388	955.6		
14	<a href="#">nlds.soe.ucsc.edu</a>	<a href="#">A1HI9DWCF794RE (RSS)</a>	4	4702	933.9		



# Translation on Mechanical Turk

- Can Turkers do tasks as complex as translation?
- How do we design the task to thwart cheating?
- What mechanisms can we use to ensure high quality translations?



# Translate Urdu into English

## Informed Consent Form

Purpose of research study: We are collecting translations to improve translation software and to make Wikipedia content accessible in all

Help us  
Common  
and Eng  
Google

```
<script language="Javascript">
<!--
function getUserInfo() {
    var userDisplayLanguage = navigator.language ? navigator.language : navigator.userDisplayLanguage;
    var country = sGeobitesCountry;
    var city = sGeobitesCity;
    var region = sGeobitesRegion;

    document.mturk_form.userDisplayLanguage.value = userDisplayLanguage;
    document.mturk_form.country.value = country;
    document.mturk_form.city.value = city;
    document.mturk_form.region.value = region;
}

getUserInfo();
// -->
```

First, ple

Is Urdu

How m

Is Engli

How m

اس کے جنوب اور مشرق میں پاکستان، مغرب میں ایران، شمال مشرق میں چین، شمال میں ترکمانستان، ازبکستان اور تاجکستان ہیں۔

اردگرد کے تمام ممالک سے افغانستان کے تاریخی، مذہبی اور ثقافتی تعلق بہت گزرا ہے۔

اس کے بیشتر لوگ مسلمان ہیں۔

۴۔ ملک بالت تسب ادا انسود، سُنَانِه، عَبَود، تَكَوْ، هَنْگَلَه،

Translation of the second sentence goes here.

Machine Translate

<a href="#">A1B6VQGOT2G4TL</a>			Lahore	Pakistan		two of the other respectable career .	Two were connected with misscellenous honorable professions.	march 1782_OOV amin_OOV british cabinet accepte...
<a href="#">A1B6VQGOT2G4TL</a>	60	60	Lahore	Pakistan		florida initial european nawabadiion_OOV center of which in pansacola_OOV &#44; fort carolaven_OOV and senate agstien_OOV .	Florida became the center of the initial European settlements,which included Pensacola,Fort Caroline and Saint Augustine.	but clear goal in front of revolutionary leaders .
<a href="#">A1B6VQGOT2G4TL</a>	60	60	Lahore	Pakistan		you people of business for the trade with the detainees .	The prophet would also carry the merchantdise of other people for purposes of trading	hazrat talib said that if syria assuaged or chr...
<a href="#">A1B6VQGOT2G4TL</a>	60	60	Woodbury	United States		the increase in employment and construction on a large scale .	The rate of employment increased rapidly and construction work commenced on a huge scale.	isi_OOV near tokyo &#44; yokosuka_OOV area of w...
<a href="#">A1WYSSW33M2FZ2</a>	27	20	Riyadh	Saudi Arabia		palestinian muslim _OOV	Palestinian Muslims,	britain has the second world war from the works...
<a href="#">A1WYSSW33M2FZ2</a>	27	20	Riyadh	Saudi Arabia		which palestinian muslims are dying &#44; but israel_OOV especially fayed_OOV not . OOV	From which Palestinian Muslims continued to die but Israel did not get a special benefit.	moshe_OOV dean_OOV terrorists in spite of the b...
<a href="#">A1WYSSW33M2FZ2</a>	27	20	Riyadh	Saudi Arabia		the german citizenship .	Gained German Nationality once again.	1906a_OOV in zurek_OOV univisti_OOV has .

<u>Worker ID</u>	<u>Years Speaking Hindi</u>	<u>Years Speaking English</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Input.Machine Translation10</u>	<u>Translation10</u>	<u>Input.Machine Translation1</u>
<a href="#">A356LXGP5Z6D75</a>	16	16	Chennai	India	Amravati Division - Vidarbha&#39;s top Hind...		Daily Hindi News - First Antarjaliy lot of Bund...
<a href="#">A6SJI1FPZYT7I</a>	26	20	Taipei	Taiwan	According to area in the world Chauntisven place.	sdfuhgjigvc jashcfiu sdfuhgjigvc jashcfiu	According to the Pakistani government this time...
<a href="#">A3KBG0N9VNAXK3</a>	10	10			Introduction	parichay	Literary texts and the world&#39;s longest ...
<a href="#">A6SJI1FPZYT7I</a>	26	20	Taipei	Taiwan	Introduction	it athu but anal what enna say sol sir iya it a...	Literary texts and the world&#39;s longest ...
<a href="#">A2IZPICYIBNNXL</a>	7	7	Cochin	India	Delhi&#39;s power - change	to India, thus forming the base for the Indo-Persian culture	Mughal state then the spread was only from Kabu...
<a href="#">A6SJI1FPZYT7I</a>	26	20	Taipei	Taiwan	Devanagari intensive Clerk - 100% pure typing t...	sdfuhgjigvc jashcfiu sdfuhgjigvc jashcfiu sdfuh...	Hindiraeatar the Aeme (growth stop)
<a href="#">A6SJI1FPZYT7I</a>	26	20	Hong Kong	Hong Kong (SAR)	So it called India&#39;s financial capital.	sdfhug jsbjg ajksbhjig mkasbnjigh amksfbjigmn j...	It produced lava formed seven small - small isl...
<a href="#">AK320HKIJHRLC</a>			Hyderabad	India	So it called India&#39;s financial capital.		It produced lava formed seven small - small isl...
<a href="#">A6SJI1FPZYT7I</a>	26	20	Hong	Hong	Retikaalen poets of the Kama Sutra if	sdfhug jsbjg nikkhila mukachchilish	But according to many scholars and

<a href="#">A2IZPICYIBNNXL</a>	8	8	Cochin	India	Was the last Mughal King Bahadur Shah Zafar.	Urdu publications are the reason of this language staying alive	It is believed that today&#39;s modern Delh...
<a href="#">A2IZPICYIBNNXL</a>			Bangalore	India	State legislature	The war had profound economic consequences.	Also the governor is a constitutional head is th...
<a href="#">A2IZPICYIBNNXL</a>			Bangalore	India	Ak̄j̄ Ejan (search engine) to give Ssraīh Kāfād ...	The war had profound economic consequences.	Domain name problem
<a href="#">A2T8QQ8P74APXE</a>	10	15	Madurai	India	Ak̄j̄ Ejan (search engine) to give Ssraīh Kāfād ...	search engine	Domain name problem
<a href="#">A6SJI1FPZ2T7I</a>	26	20	Taipei	Taiwan	India [T? Involved] word means or Avideka inner...	HASGDUG JAGFDGACJB AUGFGC JGADUG BAUGF HASGDUG ...	India is the world&#39;s tenth largest econ...
<a href="#">A6SJI1FPZ2T7I</a>	26	20	Hong Kong	Hong Kong (SAR)	2. Supreme Court Nirhnyanusar ST 324 [1] in the...	IT ATHU BUT ANAL WAT ENNE SAY SOL SIR IYA ASFJI...	Election Commission&#39;s procedure / function
<a href="#">A6SJI1FPZ2T7I</a>	26	20	Taipei	Taiwan	Category: Internet	To change which calendars you receive daily age...	Avihaywar top ten lists of blog sites
<a href="#">ADOXDQPX17PHN</a>	27	27	Mumbai	India	Divine Miracle (Maoajja)		For purposes of orders in the Qur&#39;an ha...
<a href="#">A2IZPICYIBNNXL</a>	7	7	Cochin	India	Padoz are rows of other places in the garden an...	in other places in gardens one find trees, its not so over here	Is inscribed on the tomb of Shah Jahan;
			Hong		Dungarpur and Udaipur	sdfhuq ishiq	Similarly&#44;

# Professionals v. Turkers

## Urdu

1994 میں اس خطے میں ابتدائی انسانوں کی باقیات جو تقریباً 8 لاکھ سال پرانی مانی جاتی ہے، دریافت کی گئیں جنہیں ہومو اینٹی سیسر یعنی 'بانی انسان' کا نام دیا گیا۔ اس سے قبل 6 لاکھ پرانے انسان جنہیں سائنسی اصطلاح میں ہومو ہیدلبرجنیس کہا جاتا ہے، اس خطے کے قدیم ترین

## LDC Translation

In 1994, the remains of early human beings who were believed to be eight hundred thousand years old were discovered who were given the name homo antecessor meaning the 'founder man'. Prior to this, the six hundred thousand years old man, called homo heidelbergensis in scientific terms, was believed to be the earliest resident of this area.

## Turk Translation

In 1994, the remains of pre-historic man, which are believed to be 800,000 years old were discovered and they were named 'Home Antecessor' meaning 'The Founding Man'. Prior to that 6 lac years old humans, named as Homogenisens in scientific terms, were believed to be the oldest dwellers of this area.



# Measuring Translation Quality

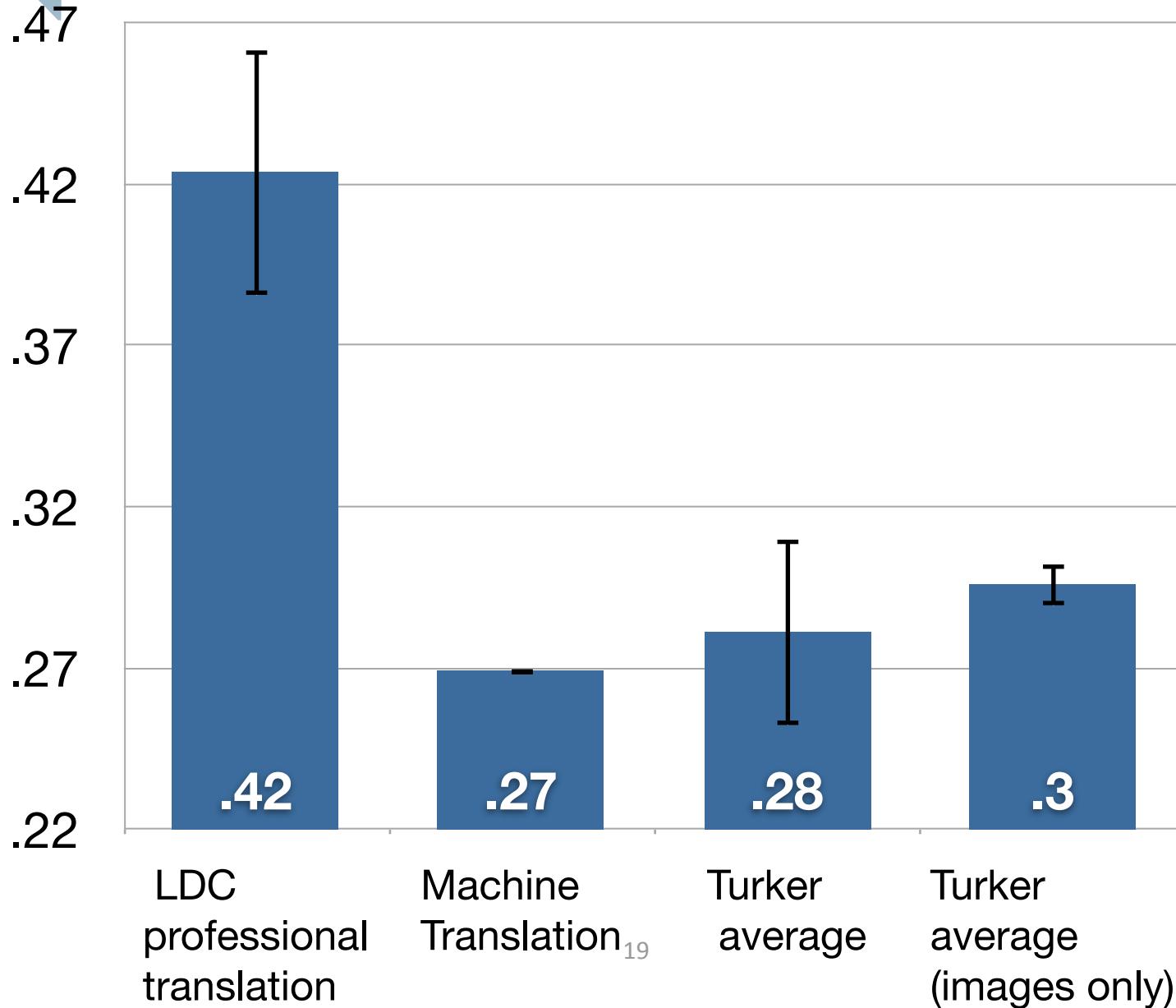
- We'd like to quantify how good (or bad) the translations are
- Automatic metrics (like Bleu) compare a translation against a set of reference translations
- Generally used to measure machine translation quality but we apply them to humans
- Measure one professional translator's translations against three other professionals
  - Gives us a range of what to expect in good translations

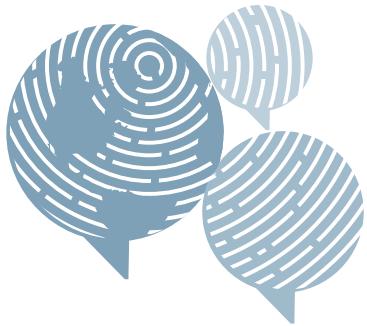




# Bleu Scores

(professional v Turk w/o QC)





# Improving quality through redundancy

- We have collected multiple translations for each source segment
  - 4 translations, a total of 10 edits
- Selection strategies
  - Pick best on a sentence-by-sentence basis
  - try to pick the best Turker
- Goal: use machine learning to predict translation goodness

Avoiding dieting to prevent from flu	abstention from dieting in order to avoid Flu	Abstain from decrease eating in order to escape from flue	In order to be safer from flu quit dieting
This research of American scientists came in front after experimenting on mice.	This research from the American Scientists have come up after the experiments on rats.	This research of American scientists was shown after many experiments on mouses.	According to the American Scientist this research has come out after much experimentations on rats.
Experiments proved that mice on a lower calorie diet had comparatively less ability to fight the flu virus.	It has been proven from experiments that rats put on diet with less calories had less ability to resist the Flu virus.	It was proved by experiments the low calories eaters mouses had low defending power for flue in ratio.	Experimentaions have proved that those rats on less calories diet have developed a tendency of not overcoming the flu virus.
research has proven this old myth wrong that its better to fast during fever.	Research disproved the old axiom that " It is better to fast during fever"	The research proved this old talk that decrease eating is useful in fever.	This Research has proved the very old saying wrong that it is good to starve while in fever.

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COMING  
SOON

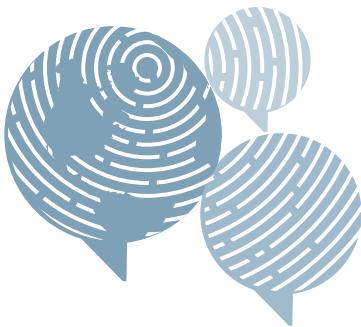
Avoiding dieting to prevent from flu	abstention from dieting in order to avoid Flu	Abstain from decrease eating in order to escape from flue	In order to be safer from flu quit dieting
--------------------------------------	---	---	--

Avoid		dieting		to		prevent	from	flu
Abstention	from	dieting	in order	to		avoid		Flu
Abstain		decrease eating	in order	to		escape		flue
quit		dieting		to	be	safer	from	flu

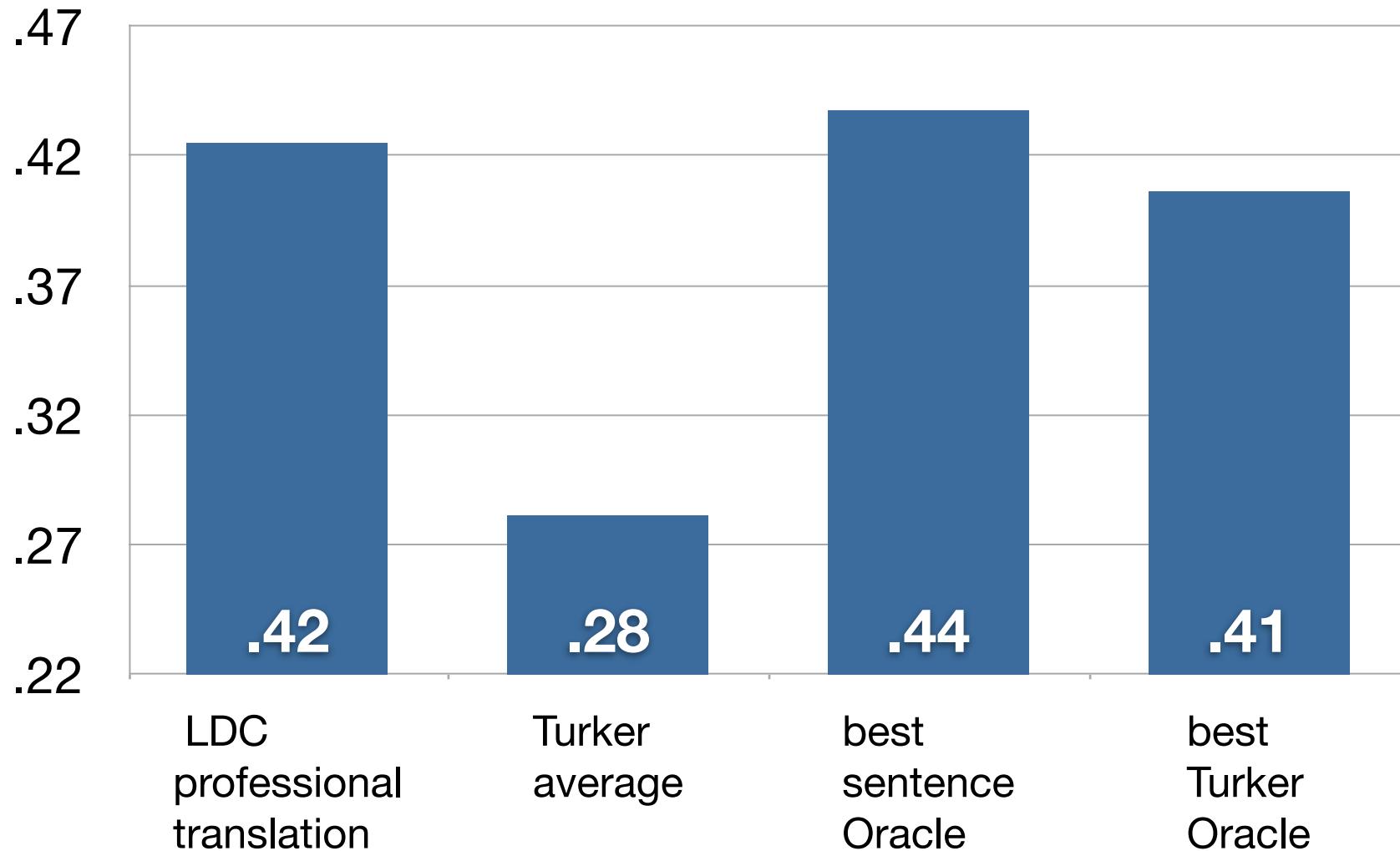
COMING  
SOON

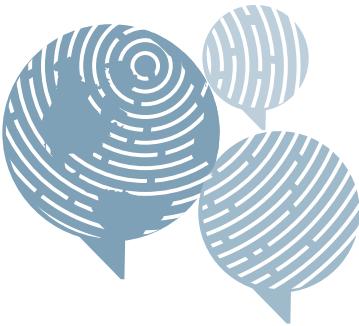
Avoiding dieting to prevent from flu	abstention from dieting in order to avoid Flu	Abstain from decrease eating in order to escape from flue	In order to be safer from flu quit dieting
--------------------------------------	---	---	--

Avoid		dieting		to		prevent	from	flu
Abstention	from	dieting	in order	to		avoid		Flu
Abstain		decrease eating	in order	to		escape	from	flue
quit		dieting		to	be	safer	from	flu



# Bleu Scores (ORACLE selection)

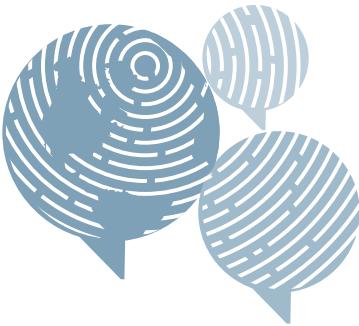




# Quality Control Model

- Model assigns a score to translations based on weighted features
- 4 groups of features
  - Sentence features
  - Turker features
  - Ranking featured (based on second pass vote)
  - Calibration feature (Bleu against professionals)
- Weights are set on a dev set of professional translations

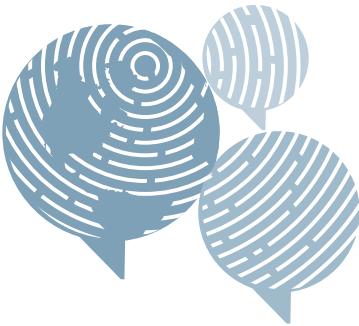




# Quality Control Model

- Sentence Features
  - Language model probability
  - Ratio of source / target sentence lengths
  - Web n-gram match percentage
  - Translation edit rate to other translators





# Quality Control Model

- Worker Features
  - Aggregate of sentence feature scores
  - Self-reported language abilities (Is native speaker? How long speaking?)
  - Worker location (Pakistan? India?)



# Vote for the best translation

Please read the sentences and vote on the one that you think is the best in each group. The sentences are translations that were produced by people who are not native English speakers. Their translations are often ungrammatical, misspelled, disfluent, or bad in other ways. Your goal is to try to pick the best translation among the set. The one that you choose as the best will be forwarded on for editing, and it will undergo a variety of other quality control mechanisms before it is published.

You should consider the following factors when selecting one translation as the best:

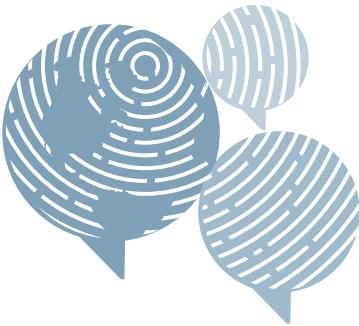
- Does it make more sense than the others?
- Is the English reasonably good?
- Do the grammar and spelling require only minimal correction?

<input type="radio"/>	Experimentaions have proved that those rats on less calories diet have developed a tendency of not overcoming the flu virus .
<input type="radio"/>	in has been proven from experiments that rats put on diet with less calories had less ability to resist the Flu virus.
<input type="radio"/>	Experiments proved that mice on a lower calorie diet had comparatively less ability to fight the flu virus.
<input type="radio"/>	It was proved by experiments the low calories eaters mouses had low defending power for flue in ratio.

<input type="radio"/>	The research proved this old talk that decrease eating is useful in fever.
<input type="radio"/>	Research disproved the old axiom that " It is better to fast during fever"
<input type="radio"/>	research has proven this old myth wrong that its better to fast during fever.
<input type="radio"/>	This Research has proved the very old saying wrong that it is good to starve while in fever.

<input type="radio"/>	According to the scientist a patient should eat more while in fever.
<input type="radio"/>	According to scientists, eat a lot during fever.
<input type="radio"/>	Eat and drink more in fever according to scientists.
<input type="radio"/>	according to the scientists one should eat a lot during fever.

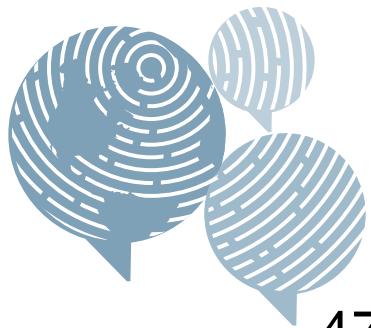
<input type="radio"/>	According to the Researchers of the State of Michigan University diet taking rats have less strength to fight with the infection and also the chances of death increased whereas earlier those rats on common diet had more strength to fight with the flu virus.
-----------------------	---



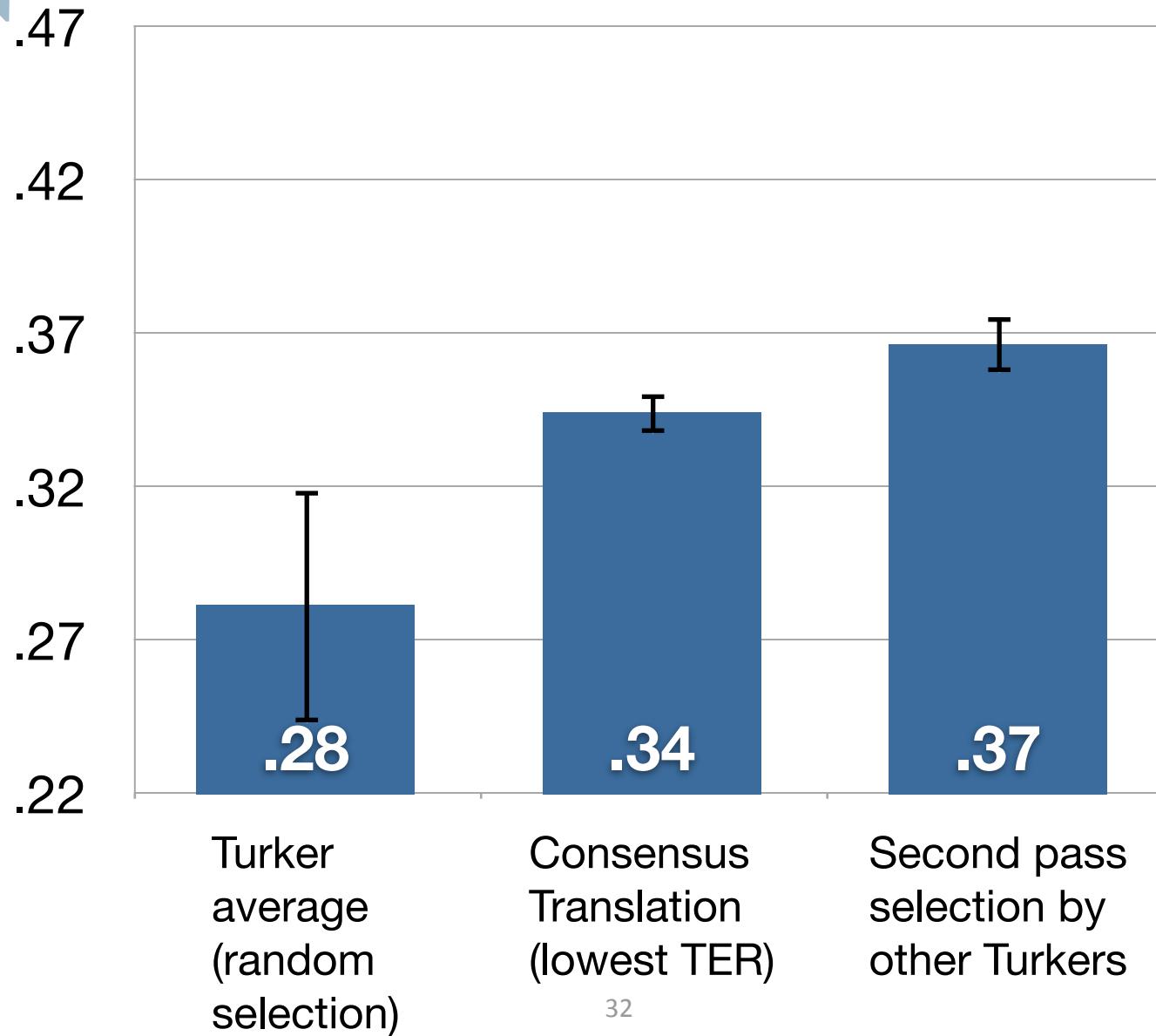
# Quality Control Model

- Ranking features
  - Average rank: averaged over the five rank labels for this translation
  - Is-Best percentage
  - Is-Better percentage



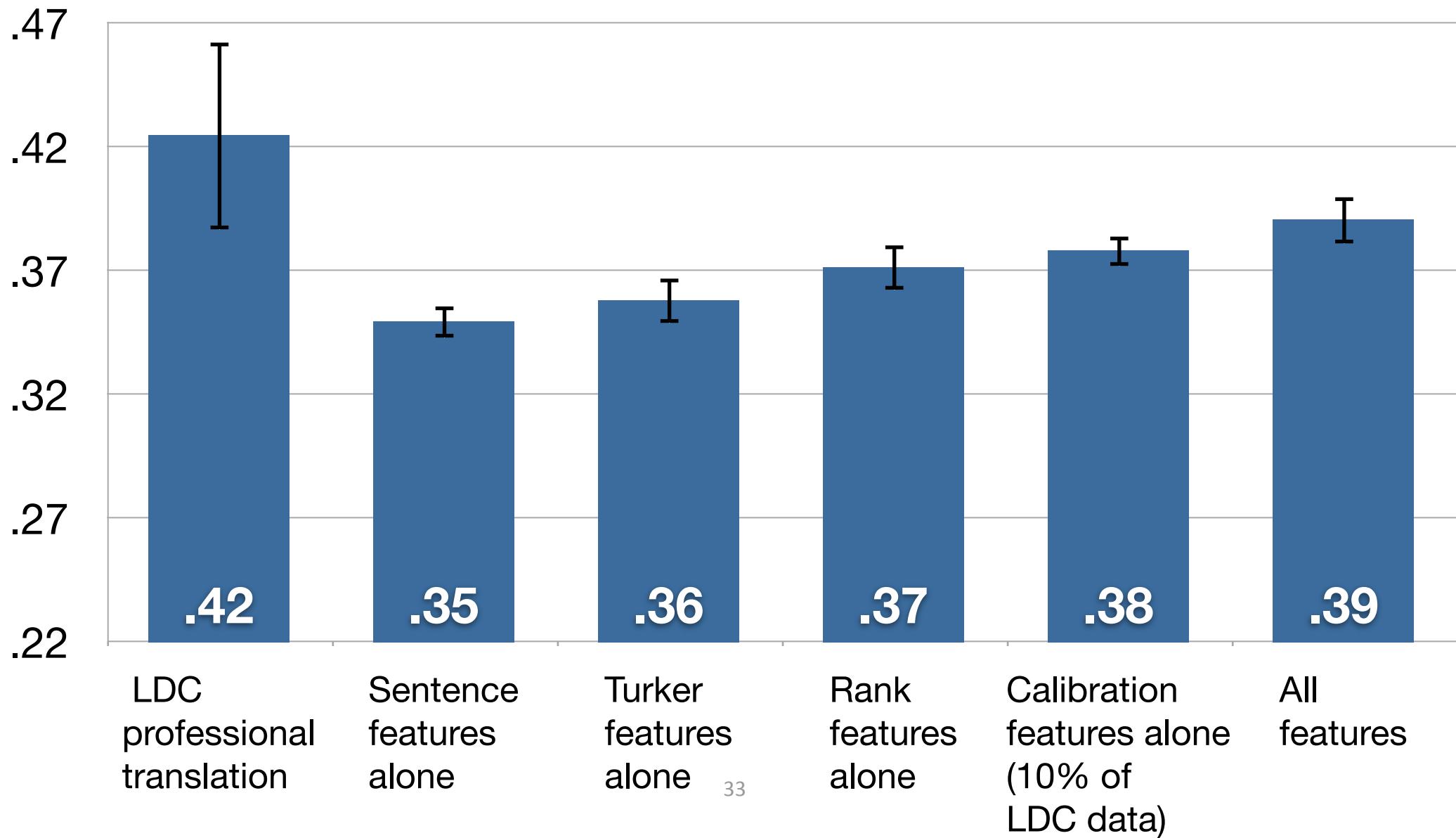


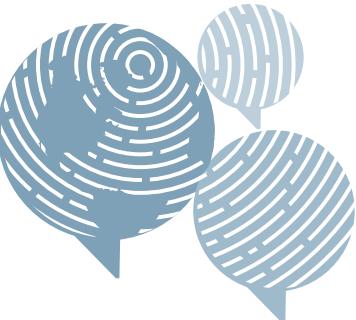
# Baseline selection method



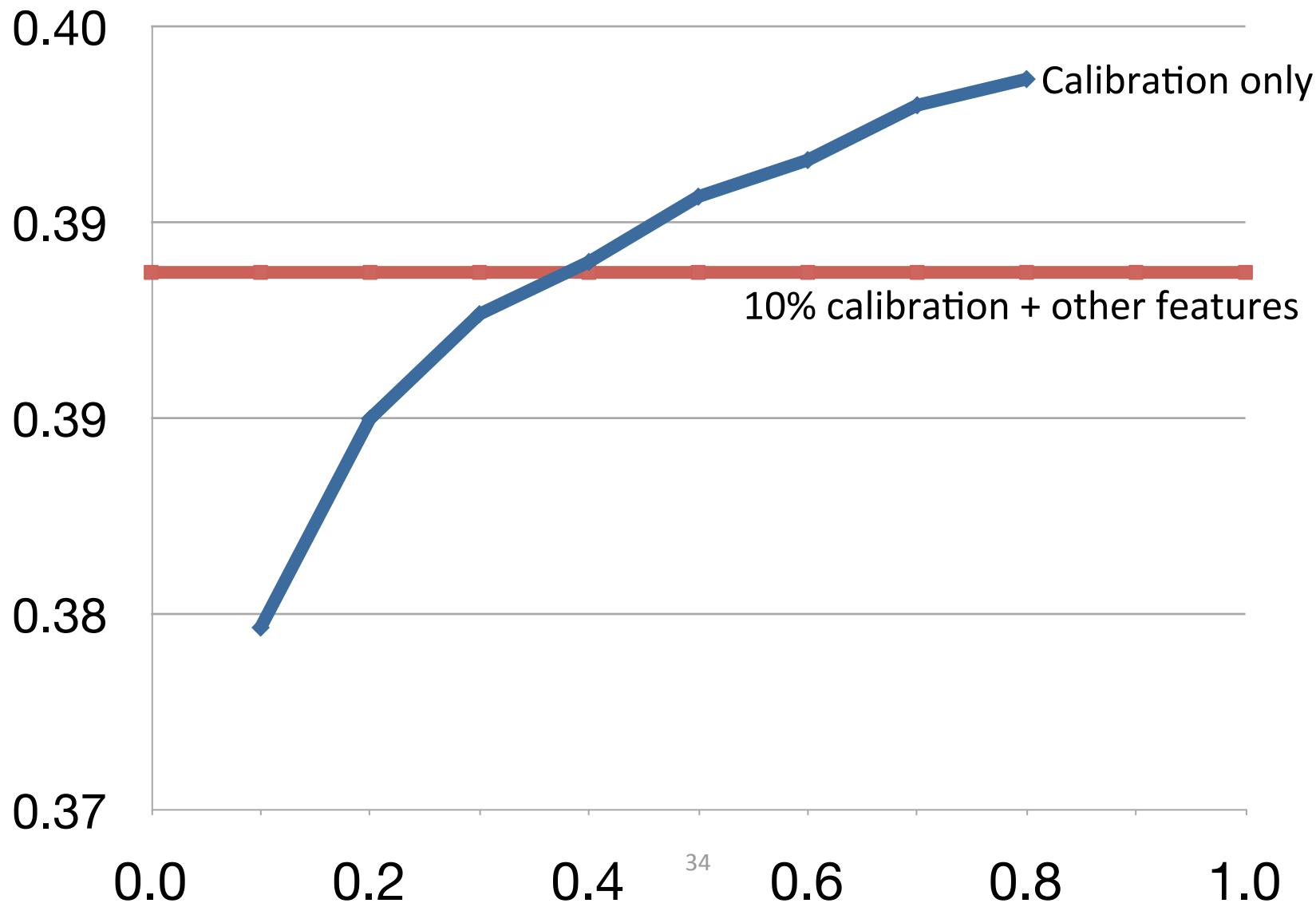


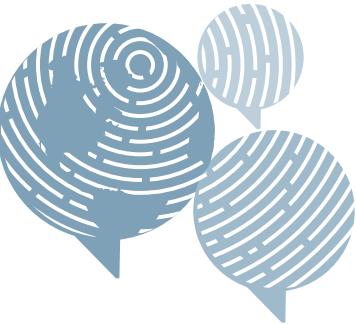
# Quality control model





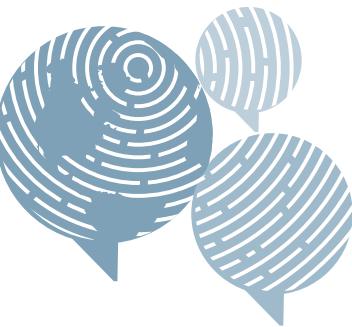
# % of LDC data used for calibration



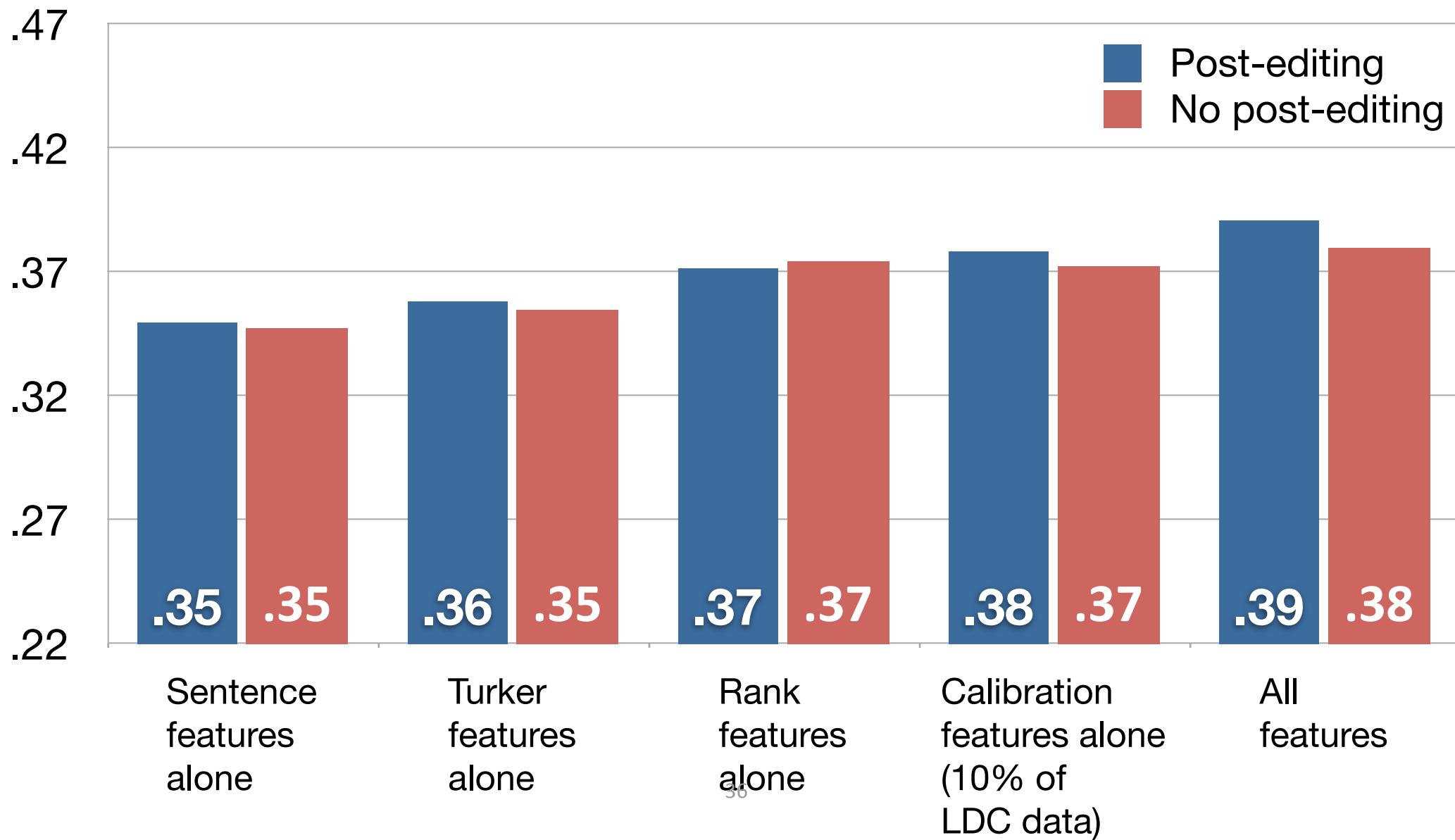


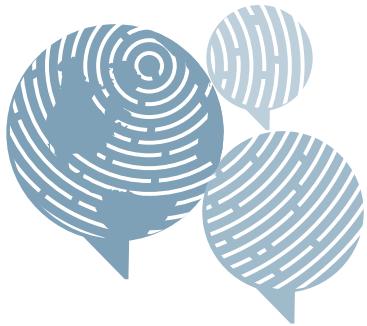
# Post-Editing

- The translations were produced by non-native English speakers
  - Pretty obvious that they have spelling and grammar errors
    - US-based Turkers to the rescue!
  - Each translation was post-edited by 3 other Turkers
  - How much of a difference did it make?
- 



# Post editing





# Why didn't editing help more?

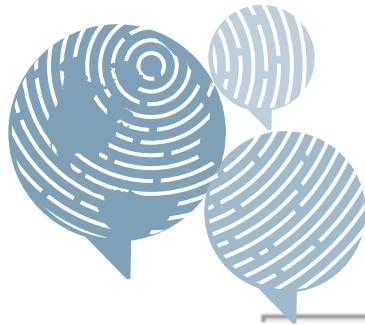
- Post-editing improves results by ~1 Bleu point
- Because there are many easy-to-correct grammatical, spelling errors, we should get more
- One problem is the design of the editing HIT
  - Free form text box
- We have no good mechanism for quality control
  - Turkers tend to be lazy and make few/no corrects
  - So taking a consensus of the edits doesn't work



COMING  
SOON

# A better editing HIT

- Include controls in the editing HIT to distinguish good/bad editors
- Create a sentence with a known set of corrections:
  - Start with a grammatical English sentence
  - Make several transformations to it
    - Break subject-verb agreement / change prepositions / etc
- Measure how many transformations are fixed
- Easier if we require structured corrections



# ESL HIT

---

Sri Lanka 's forest region was destroyed by agriculture , wooden works , veterinary feeds , etc . ,

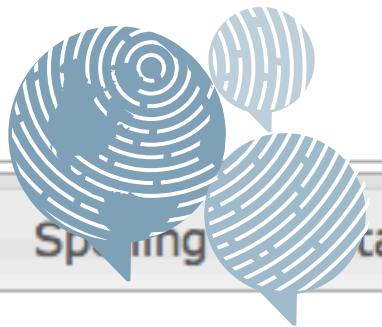
several commissions where created to protect the remaining forest region

Sri Lanka is considered as the bird 's sanctionary place .

For further information please see the article on bird sanctionary rights in Indian Subcontinent

There is thousand of animals living in Sri Lanka which includes several Sri Lanka orignated animals .

When we compare the area of Sri lanka 's Island , birds are highly found here<sup>39</sup> .



# ESL HIT

Sri Lanka 's forest region was destroyed by agriculture , forestry , animal grazing , etc . ,

wooden works

vetary feeds

**Word choice/  
Awk phrases**

Several commissions were created to protect the remaining forest region

several

where

**Spelling and  
capitalization**

Sri Lanka is considered to be a bird 's sanctionary x .

as

the

place

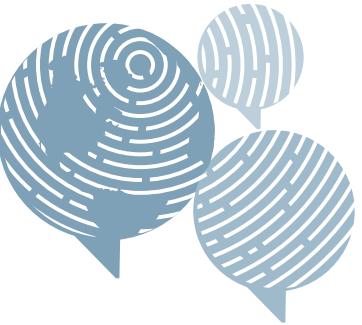
**Wrong/missing  
determiners**

For further information please see the article on bird sanctionary rights in the Indian subcon

Indian Subcontinent

40

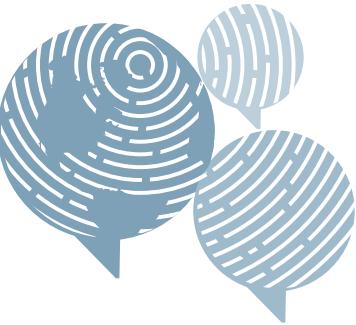
There are thousands of animals living in Sri Lanka which includes several Sri Lanka native a



# Quality wrap up

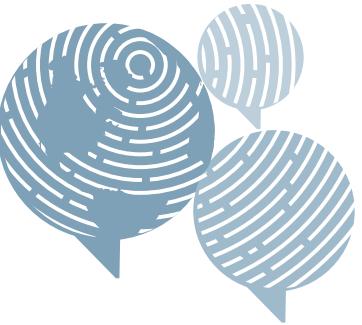
- Crowdsourced translations can reach high quality after quality control
  - Gather redundant translations
  - Calibrate against small amount of professional translations
  - Do second passes over the data where other Turkers select best translations
  - Post-edit the non-native translations
    - In the future: explicitly deal with ESL





# Cost

- Single-pass Mechanical Turk translation is 60 times less expensive than professional translation
  - I pay ~\$1 per 10 sentences = \$0.005 / per word
  - Additional costs:
    - 4x redundancy on translation
    - Second-pass selection
    - Editing by native English speakers
  - Mechanical Turk is still an order of magnitude cheaper than professionals
- 



# Cost

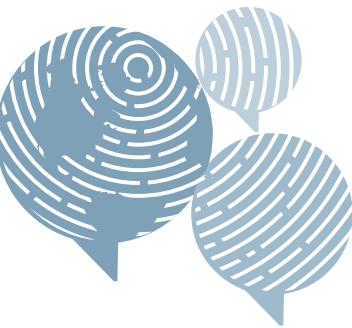
- Paid \$1 to translate 10 sentences, \$0.25 to edit them, and \$0.15 to rank them

**Done once      w/ redundancy**

Translation	\$179.20	\$716.80
Editing	\$44.75	\$447.50
Ranking	\$26.88	\$134.40

- With Amazon's 10% fee our total <\$1,500 for 7k translations, 17k edited sentences, 35k ranks
- For 10% calibration data, cost increases by \$1k

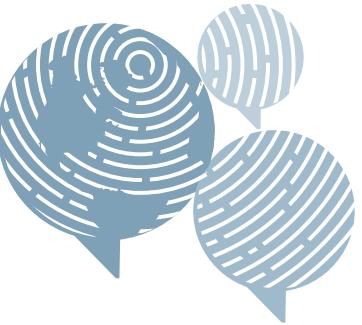




# Cost Reduction

- Current pipeline is dominated by cost of professional translation used for calibration
  - Can we reduce this by using a small % of that data?
  - Can we further reduce by using 1 ref instead of 4?
  - Can we get away with no calibration at all?
  - Does calibration data have to come from the current test set? Or can we just have one calibration set per language for all time?

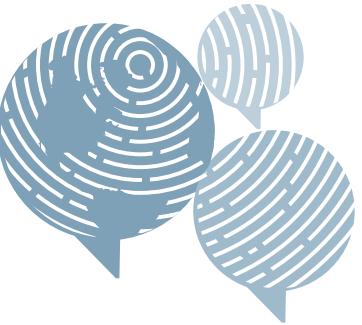




# Cost Reduction

- In terms of the crowdsourced components, the most costly part is redundancy in translation
  - Do we need redundant translations of every sentence?
  - Can we tell whether one translation is “good enough”?
  - I.e. can we predict if we solicit another translation whether it will be better than the ones we have?
  - Can we identify good Turkers and incentivize them to do more, so that we can reduce redundancy?

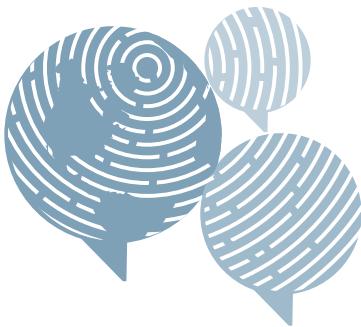




# Cost Variance

- Some language pairs may be more costly than others
  - Some countries have higher costs of living than others
  - Some languages are not as well represented on Mechanical Turk (classic supply and demand)
- Speed / quality may be affected by payment

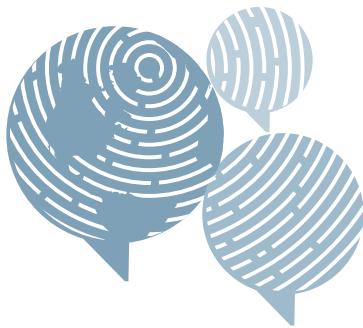




# Less Commonly Taught / Low Resource Languages

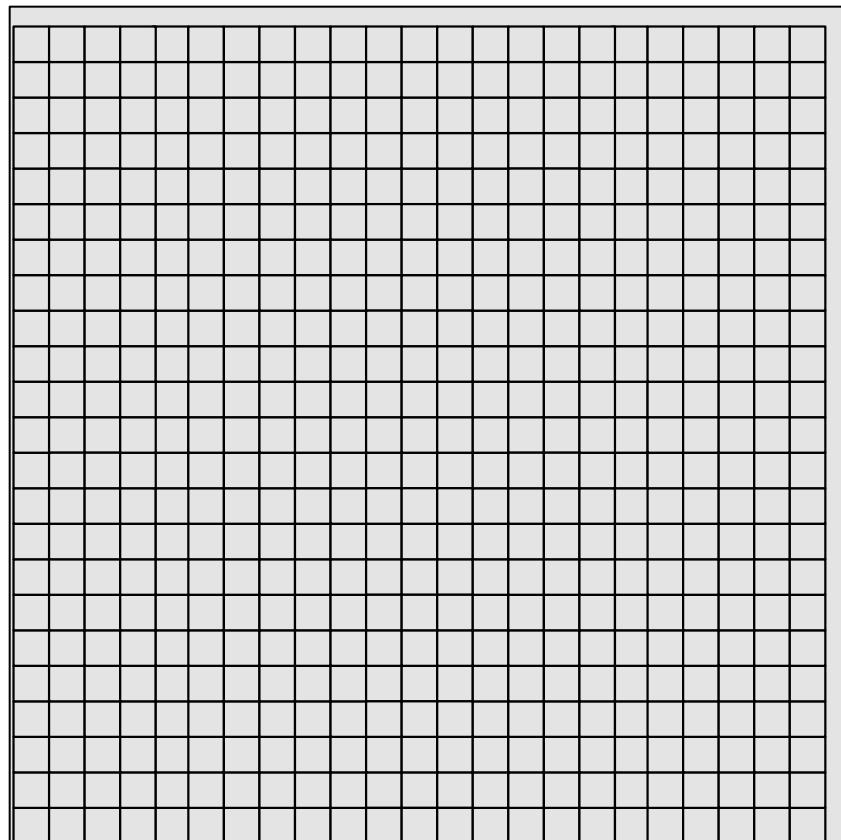
- I would like to use this as a resource for creating data for low resource languages
- Low resource languages are ones where we do not have much parallel data
- Therefore translating statistical machine translation models is problematic





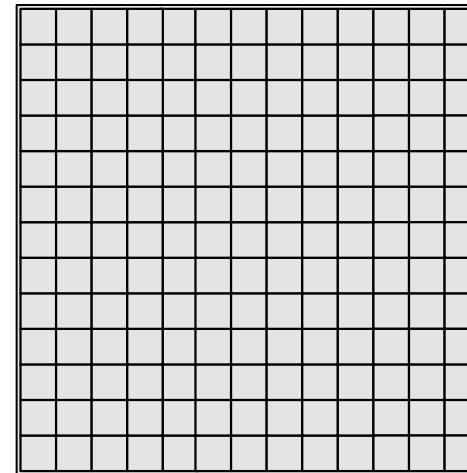
# Volume of training data

1000M



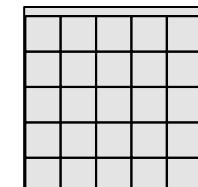
French-English  
10<sup>9</sup> word webcrawl

200M



DARPA  
GALE Program

50M

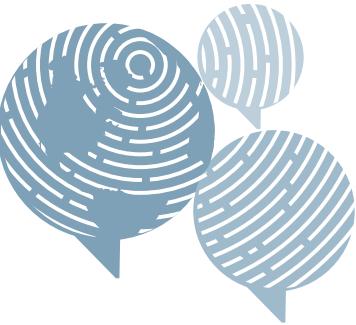


European  
Parliament

1.5M

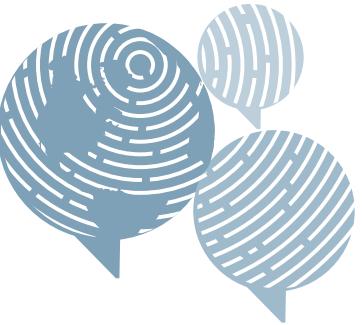


Urdu



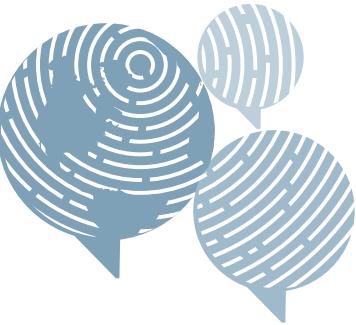
# Feasibility study





# Feasibility study





# Feasibility study



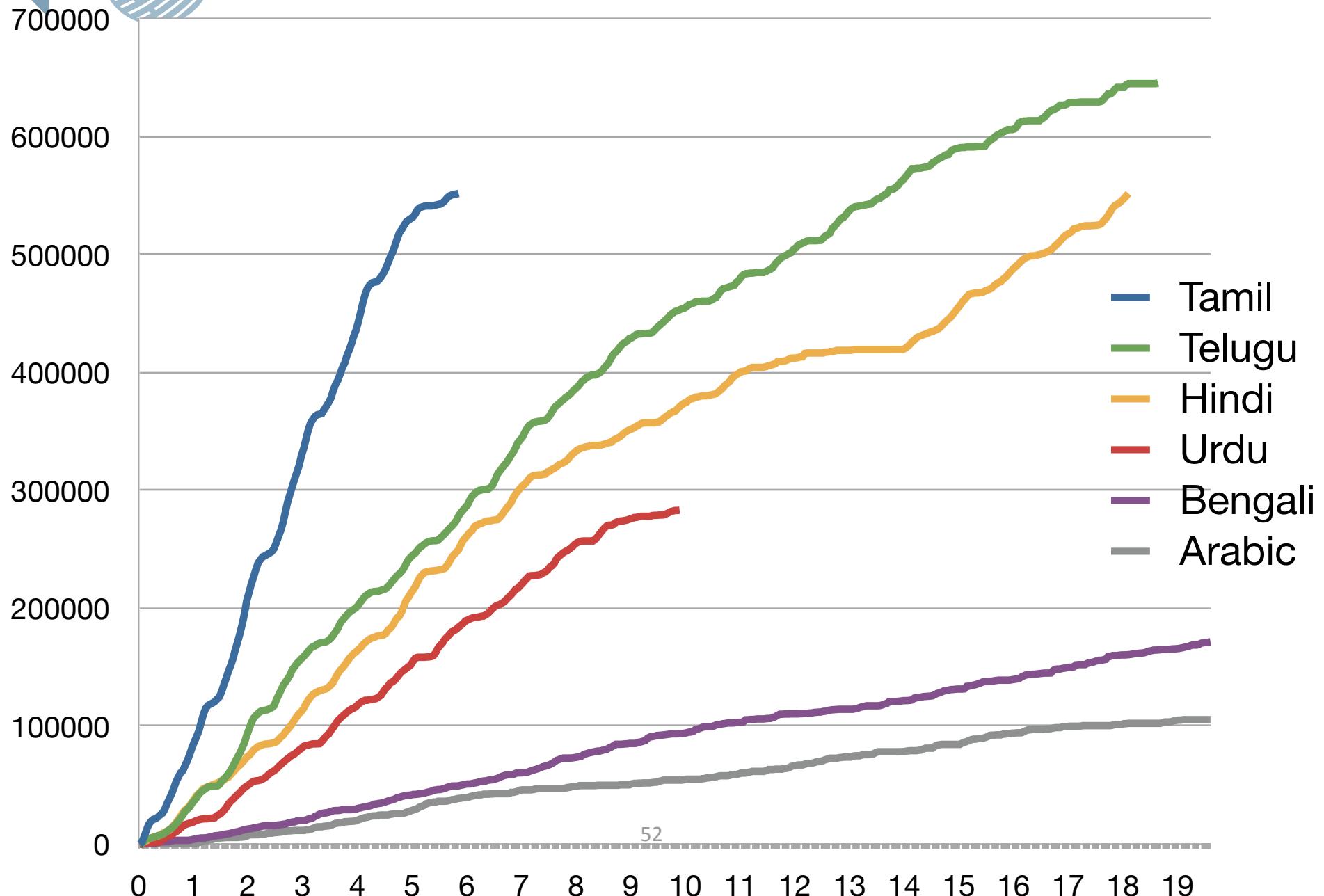
Basque  
Armenian  
Kurdish  
Uzbek  
Igbo

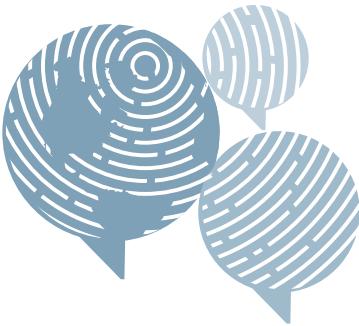




# Volume Study

Translation Volume: total English words after k days

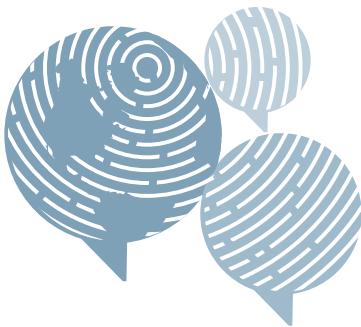




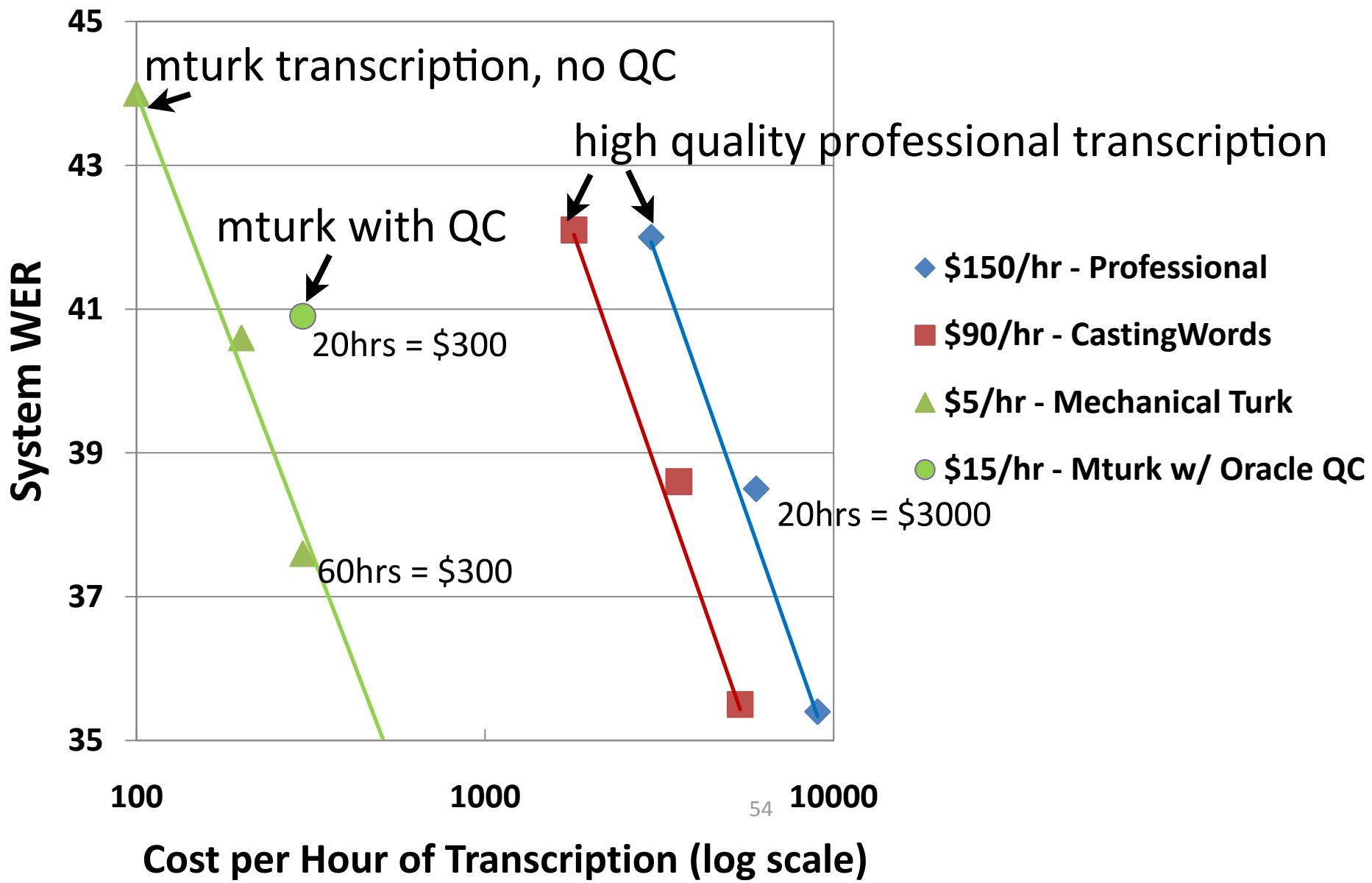
# Quality v quantity when training statistical models

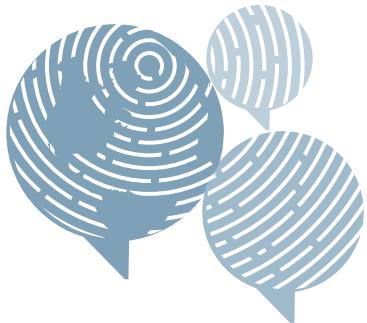
- Investing more money results in higher quality translation, but we get fewer items
- When training a statistical model, how much should we spend to ensure high quality translations?
- How robust to noise are our models?
- ASR experiments suggested not worth worrying too much about quality





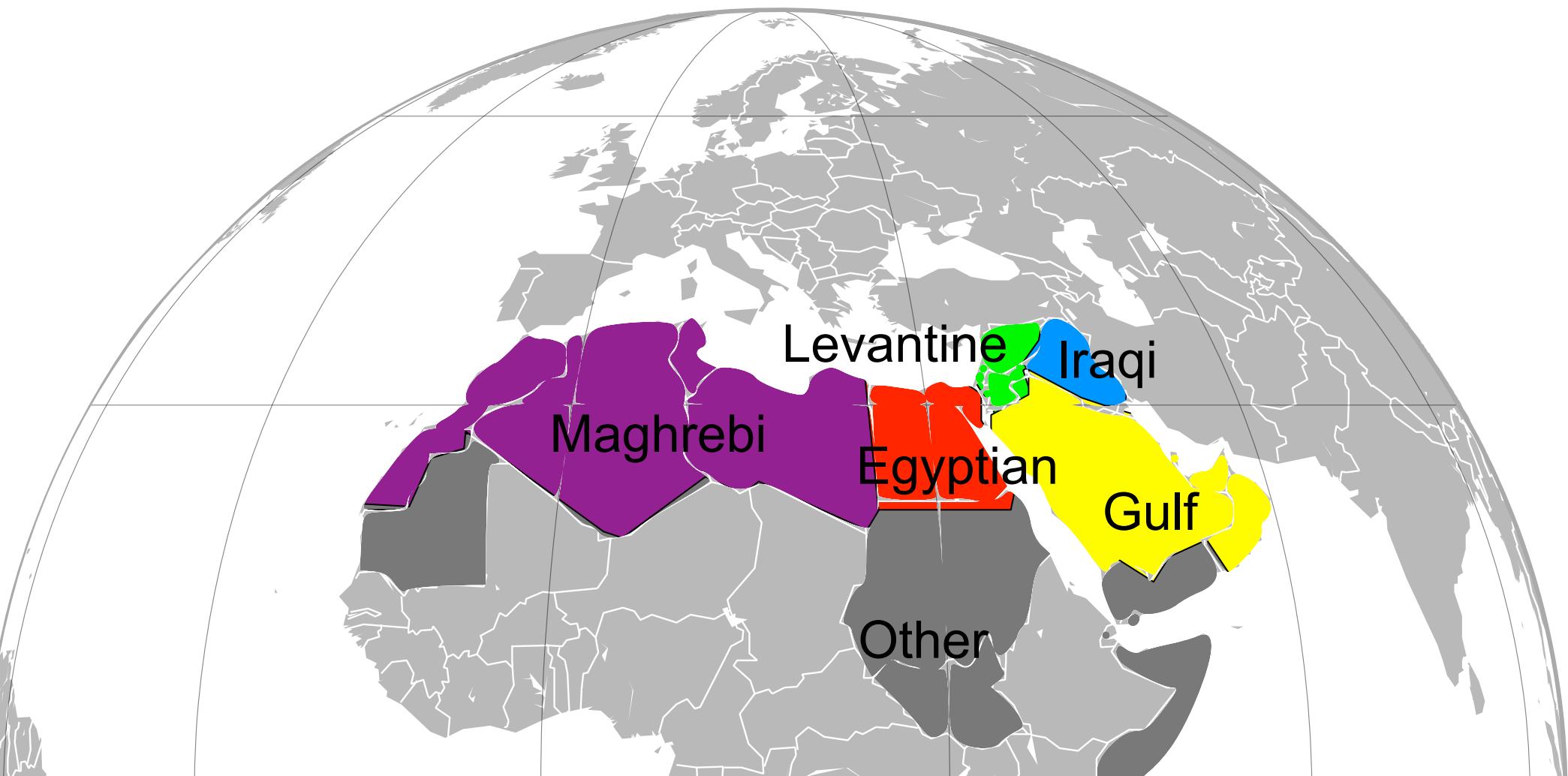
# Quality v quantity when training statistical models





# Arabic Dialects

Arabic has **different varieties**. MSA is the standardized form but there are many **distinct** regional dialects.





# Translating Dialects with MSA MT

MSA:

متى سنرى هذه الثلة من المجرمين تخضع للمحاكمة ؟

*mtY snrY h\*h Alvp mn Almjrmyn txDE llmHAkmp ?*

Levantine:

ايمتى رح نشوف هالشلة من المجرمين بتتحاكم ؟

*AvmtY rH n\$wf hAl\$p mn Almirmvn bttHAKm ?*

PT: Quando veremos esse grupo de criminosos serem julgados?  
ES-EN: **Quando esse** group of criminals see **Serem julgados?**



# Arabic Dialect in Online Comments

## Reader comments

تعليقات (55)

**بلخادم: ما يجمع مصر والجزائر يجعل التقارب أكثر من ضروري**

الخميس، 16 يونيو 2011 - 09:27



عبد العزيز بلخادم الممثل الشخصي للرئيس الجزائري

### Article body ( MSA )

الجزائر (أ.ش.أ)



أكد عبد العزيز بلخادم الممثل الشخصي للرئيس الجزائري والأمين العام لحزب جبهة التحرير الوطني ذات الأغلبية في البرلمان والحكومة، أن العلاقات بين مصر والجزائر قديمة ومتعددة علاوة على مصالح مشتركة قوية تربط بين البلدين.

وقال بلخادم إنه بالتأني فإن ما حدث من "سحابات الصيف" عقب مباراة كرة القدم بين فريقي البلدين في تصفيات كأس العالم عام 2009 لا يؤثر على طبيعة العلاقة والأخوة والروابط بين الشقيقين، مشددا على ضرورة العمل على رفع سقف التعاون بين البلدين على المستوى الحكومي والجماهيري والمؤسساتي

البلدين، لافتا إلى أن مصر والجزائر متحدون في كل القضايا التي تهم شعوب البلدين.

خليك في حالك وا بعد عننا

1

بواسطة: beboooo

بتاريخ: الخميس، 16 يونيو 2011 - 09:39

EGY

خليك في حالك انت وا بعدوا عننا وانتم اخر ناس تتكلم عن التقارب والعروبة

2

الجزائر إخوه أعزاء لنا وأهلاً ومرحاً بقوية العلاقات معهم

MSA

بواسطة: سامي شاهين

بتاريخ: الخميس، 16 يونيو 2011 - 09:55

التقارب بين مصر والجزائر يعتبر حاجة ملحة تستدعيه الظروف الراهنة التي يمر بها الوطن العربي ، أهلاً ومرحاً يأي تقارب عربي بين الأشقاء في الوطن والمغاربة ، يستقطب الاستعمار الجديد المتمثّل في أمريكا والناتو ومن وراءه آل مهيمنون

هزلت

3

بواسطة: مواطن مصرى بسيط

EGY

بتاريخ: الخميس، 16 يونيو 2011 - 09:55

هزلت وعيلت ومشت سفينة نوح على اليابس - الدنيا جري فيها ايه علشان نسمع دروس من امثالكم

تنبيه

4

بواسطة: عدنى

بتاريخ: الخميس، 16 يونيو 2011 - 09:57

MSA

انا الشعب الجزائري يعمل جاهدا من اجل السعي لتوجيد العالم العربي وكذاك السعي ورا طموحات اكبر وهي ، ان تكون كلمت العرب كلما واحدة امام الغرب

أنت.....

5

بواسطة: الفيلسوف

بتاريخ: الخميس، 16 يونيو 2011 - 10:14

MSA

أنت بتكلم مين يا بلخادم كل الأصنفة فاسدة وتابعة لأمريكا وإسرائيل، إن أردتم توحيد العالم العربي في

البرت العظيم، فما على الحكم إلا تكوين جمعية وذهب لمجتمع الحكم المخلوع، يعني بودية وسيبوا في قيام الولايات العربية المتحدة وعاصمتها القدس إنشاء الله (فلسطين) حيث يحيى هو حلم يقظة في يوم من الأيام من هنا يعلم الغيب؟

EGY

# Identify The Arabic Dialect

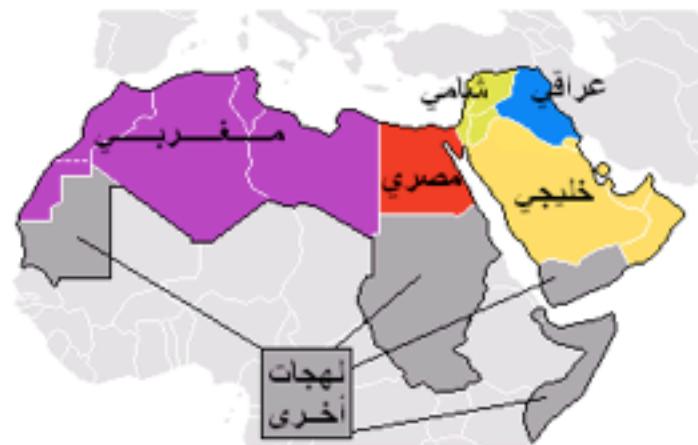
Help us classify Arabic text into dialects! This HIT is for Arabic speakers who understand the different local Arabic dialects (اللهجات العامية، أو الدارجة) (الفصحي)، and can distinguish them from *Fusha* Arabic (الفصحي).

Below, you will see a table that contains several Arabic sentences. For each one:

1. Tell us how much dialect (عامية) is in the sentence, and then
2. Tell us which Arabic dialect it is.

As you expect, **Egyptian** is اللهجة المصرية، and **Iraqi** is اللهجة العراقية. As for the other dialect names, **Levantine** includes all dialects of شامي (شامي) ، **Gulf** (خليجي) includes all dialects of الخليج العربي ، and **Maghrebi** (مغربي) includes all dialects of المغرب العربي.

This following map illustrates the dialect groups:



Which Dialect? أي لهجة	Dialect Level كمية اللهجة العامية	Sentence الجملة
General (ليس لهجة معينة) Levantine (شامية) Gulf (خليجية) <b>✓ Egyptian (مصرية)</b> Iraqi (عراقية) Maghrebi (مغربية) Other (أحد اللهجات الأخرى) I don't know! (لا أعرف) No dialect (فصحي فقط) Not Arabic (لغة أخرى أو رموز) Choose dialect... Choose level first	(القليل من العامية) A bit of dialect	و لعب فيها فريق قلب ابيب جنبا الى جنب مع المنتخبات الآسيوية على ارض قطر
	Choose level...	وكلف رئيس مفوضية الاتحاد الأفريقي جون بينج والأمين العام للجامعة العربية عمرو موسى بإعداد النظام الأساسي لهذا الصندوق وتحديد أهدافه وإدارته وواجه صرف هذه المساعدات وشروطها

## Informed Consent Form

**Purpose of research study:** We are collecting human annotations to improve other languages. These annotations might be class labels, judgments of output, or other types of annotations.

**Benefits:** Although it will not directly benefit you, this study may benefit society by helping computers better process human languages. This could lead to better translation software, improved search engines, and better interfaces for computers and mobile devices.

**Risks:** There are no risks for participating in this study.

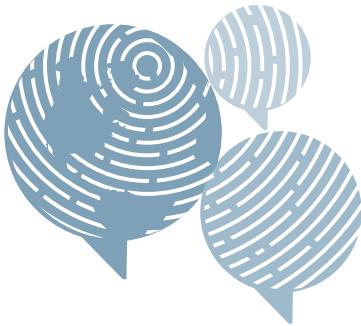
**Voluntary participation:** You may stop participating at any time without penalty by clicking the 'Stop' button, or closing your browser window.

**We may end your participation if you do not have adequate knowledge of the language or culture, if you do not follow the instructions, or your answers significantly deviate from known answers.**

**Confidentiality:** The only identifying information kept about you will be a Web address. This information may be disclosed to other researchers.

**Questions/concerns:** You may e-mail questions to the principle investigator at [arabic-dialects@jhu.edu](mailto:arabic-dialects@jhu.edu). If you feel you have been treated unfairly you many contact the Johns Hopkins University Office of Research Integrity and Compliance.

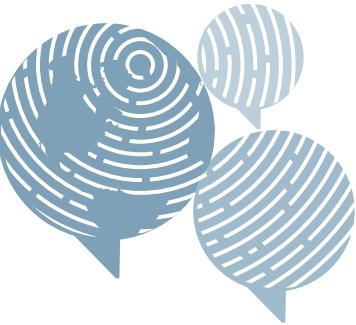
**Clicking on the "Accept HIT"** indicates that you understand the information above and that you are participating voluntarily. You hereby acknowledge that you have not waived any legal rights you otherwise would have as a participant.



# Crowdsourcing Dialect ID

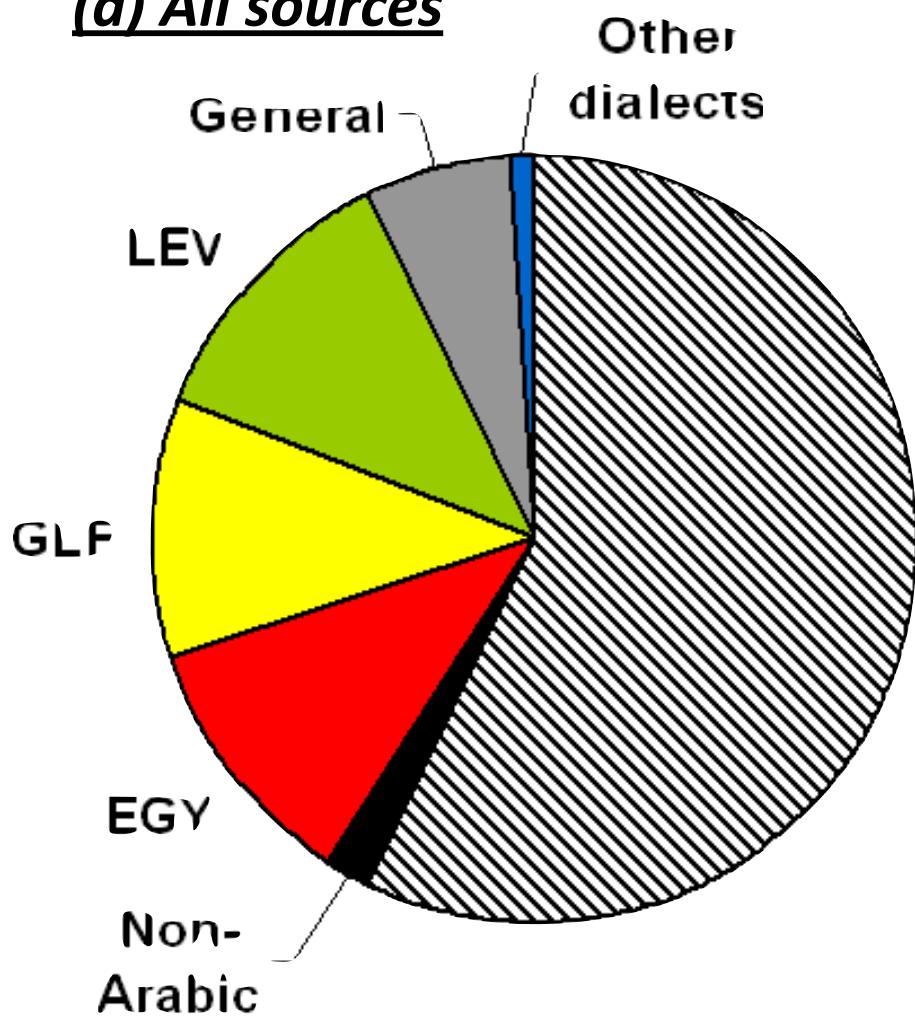
Full details in Zaidan and Callison-Burch (ACL 2011b)

- Labeled 142k comments gathered from three online newspapers:
  - Al-Ghad (الغد), a Jordanian newspaper LEV MSA
  - Al-Riyadh (الرياض), a Saudi newspaper GLF MSA
  - Al-Youm Al-Sabe' (اليوم السابع), an Egyptian newspaper EGY MSA
- 59% MSA, 41% dialect
- Trained classifiers with 80-90% accuracy

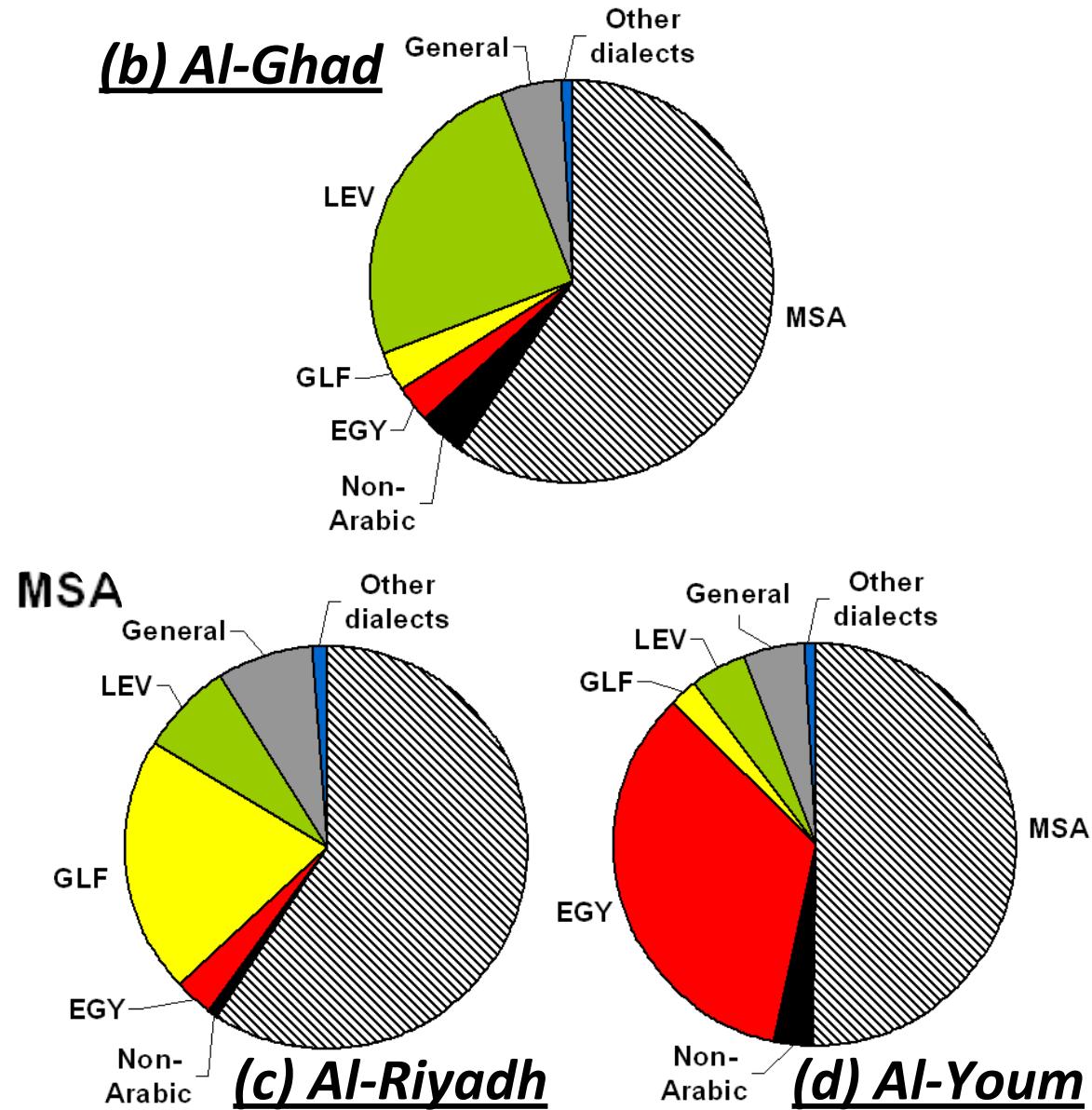


# Label Distribution

**(a) All sources**

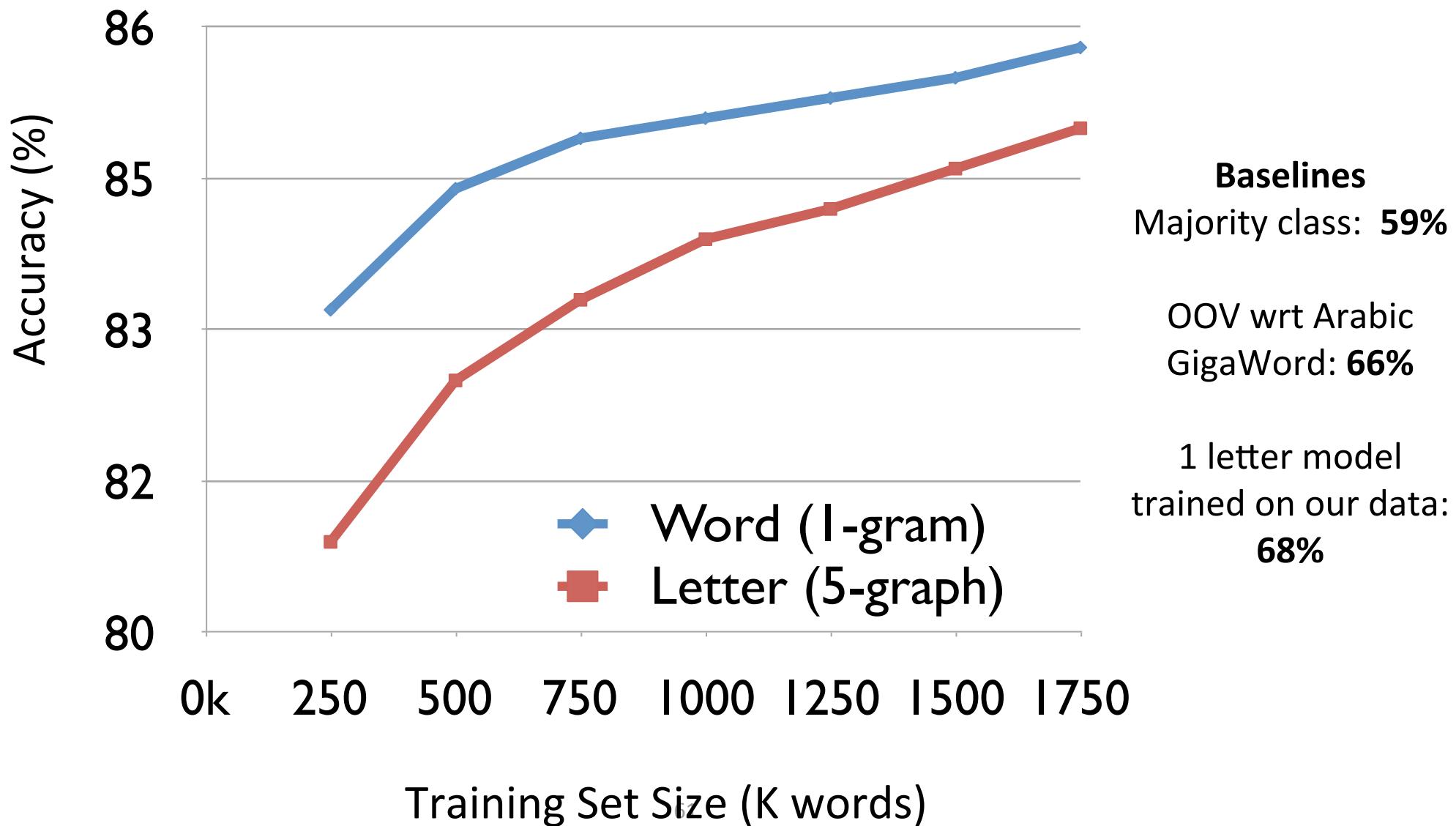


**(b) Al-Ghad**



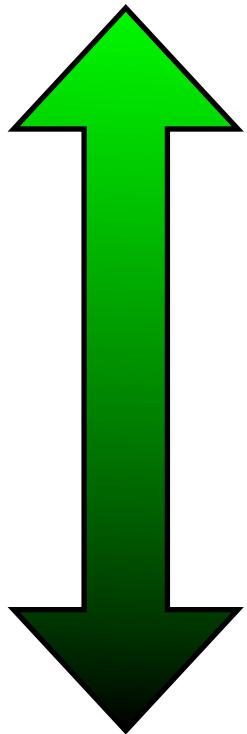


# Automatic dialect ID





Extremely dialectal  
Levantine words

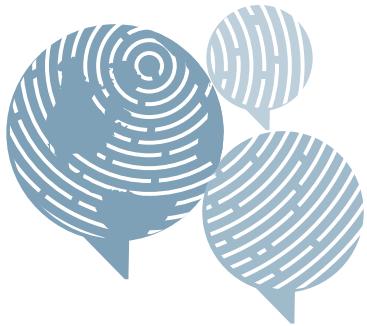


Extremely MSA words  
(i.e. very unlikely in  
dialectal context)

<i>Al-Ghad</i>			
<i>w</i>	Gloss	<i>DF(w)</i>	
\$w	شو	what	139.0
xly	خلي	let	132.8
xlS	خلص	enough	117.5
<i>AlHky</i>	الحكي	the-talk	115.8
<i>Endw</i>	عندو	he has	95.3
<i>bdy</i>	بدي	I will/want	93.6
<i>AzA</i>	ازا	if	93.6
<i>mnyH</i>	منيج	good	93.6
\$wy	شوي	little	92.8
<nw	إنو	that	90.2
<i>hAy</i>	هاي	this (f.)	80.0
<i>bEdyn</i>	بعدين	then	70.2
<i>mw</i>	مو	not	65.5
<i>Ay\$</i>	ايش	what	63.8
<i>bdw</i>	بدو	he will/wants	60.3
:	:		
<i>Ebr</i>	عبر	through	0.146
<i>w&gt;n</i>	وأن	and-that	0.145
<i>Al&lt;slAm</i>	الإسلام	Islam	0.138
<i>tEAlY</i>	تعالي	almighty	0.138
<i>SIY</i>	صلى	blessed	0.127
<i>AldymqrATyp</i>	الديمقراطية	democratic	0.108
<i>Alljnp</i>	اللجنة	the-committee	0.095
<i>f&lt;n</i>	فإن	(declarative)	0.062
<i>AlmfAwDAT</i>	المفاوضات	the-negotiations	0.038
<i>AlmbA\$rp</i>	المباشرة	the-direct	0.029

$$DF(w) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{f(w|D)}{f(w|MSA)}$$

“Dialectness” factor



# What is this useful for?

- Characterizing communicants
  - What is this writer's native dialect?
  - Where are they from?
  - Informal relation with their interlocutor
- Harvesting written dialect from large web crawls
  - Useful for training dialect language models for ASR?
- Identifying dialect sentence to then translate
  - Training data for a statistical machine translation



# Crowdsourcing Translation

- Translated dialect-labeled segments EGY LEV

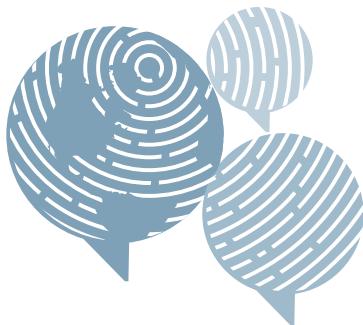
Dialect Classification HIT	\$10,064
Sentence Segmentation HIT	\$1,940
Translation HIT	\$32,061
<hr/>	
Total Cost	\$44,065
Num words translated	1,516,856
Cost per word	2.9 cents/word

- 121 workers completed 20+ assignments
- 200,000 words translated per week
- Trained BBN's machine translation system



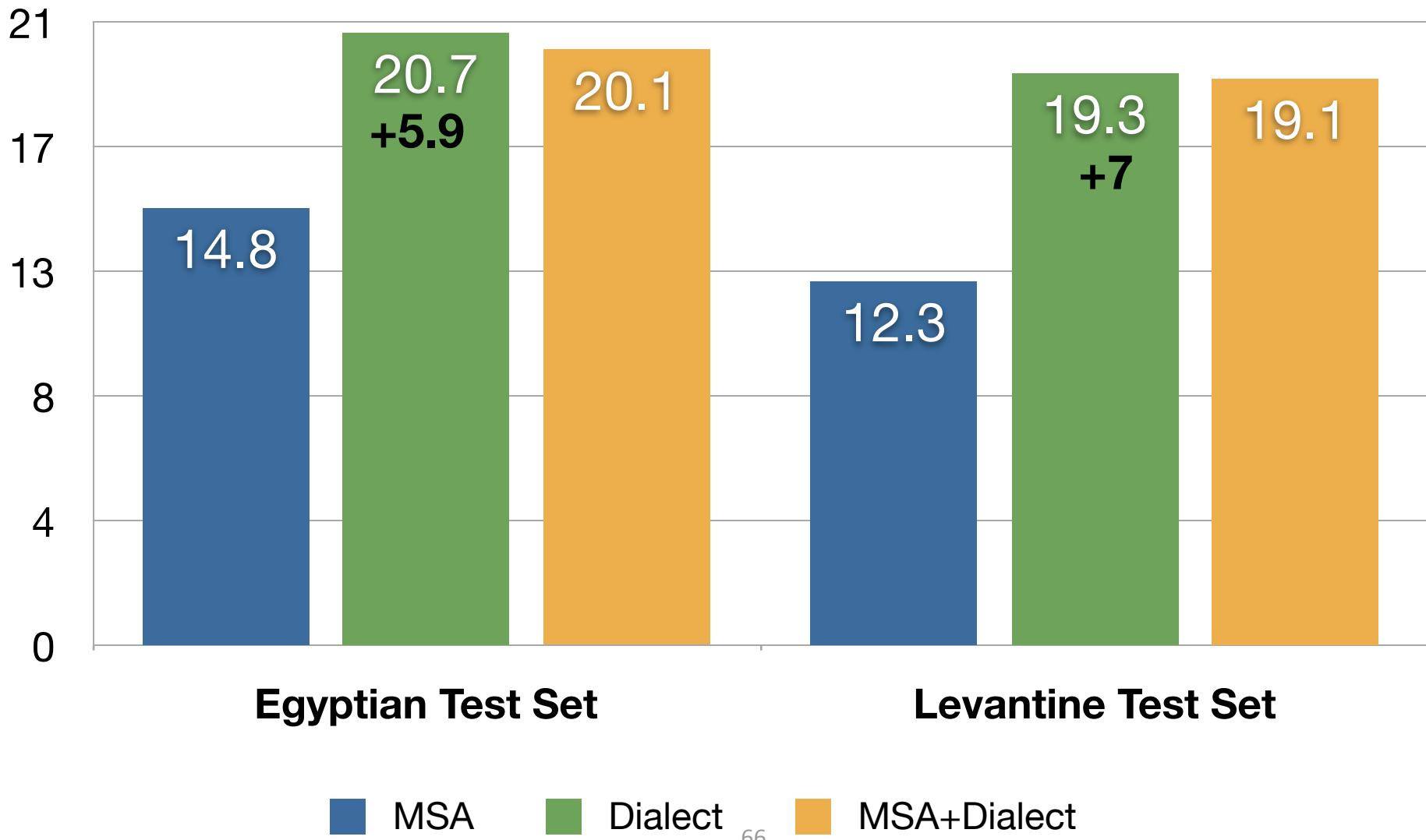
# Examples of Dialect Translation

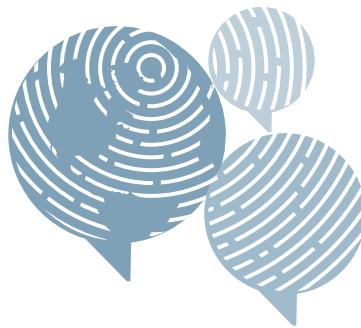
Dialect Input	MSA system	Dialect system	Reference
EGY     انت بتعمـل لـه اعلـان ولـا ايـه ؟ !!	You are working for a declaration and not?	You are making the advertisement for him or what?	Are you promoting it or what??!
EGY     نفسي اطمئـن عـليـه بـعـد مـا شـاف الصـورـه دـي	Myself feel to see this image.	I wish to check on him after he saw this picture.	I want to be sure that he is fine after he saw the images.
LEV     لـهـيـك الـجـو كتـيـيـر لـكـوـوـول	God you the atmosphere.	This is why the weather is so cool	This is why the weather is so cool
LEV     طـول بـالـك عـم نمـزـح	Do you think about a joke long.	Calm down we are kidding	Calm down, we are only kidding



# Dialect versus MSA

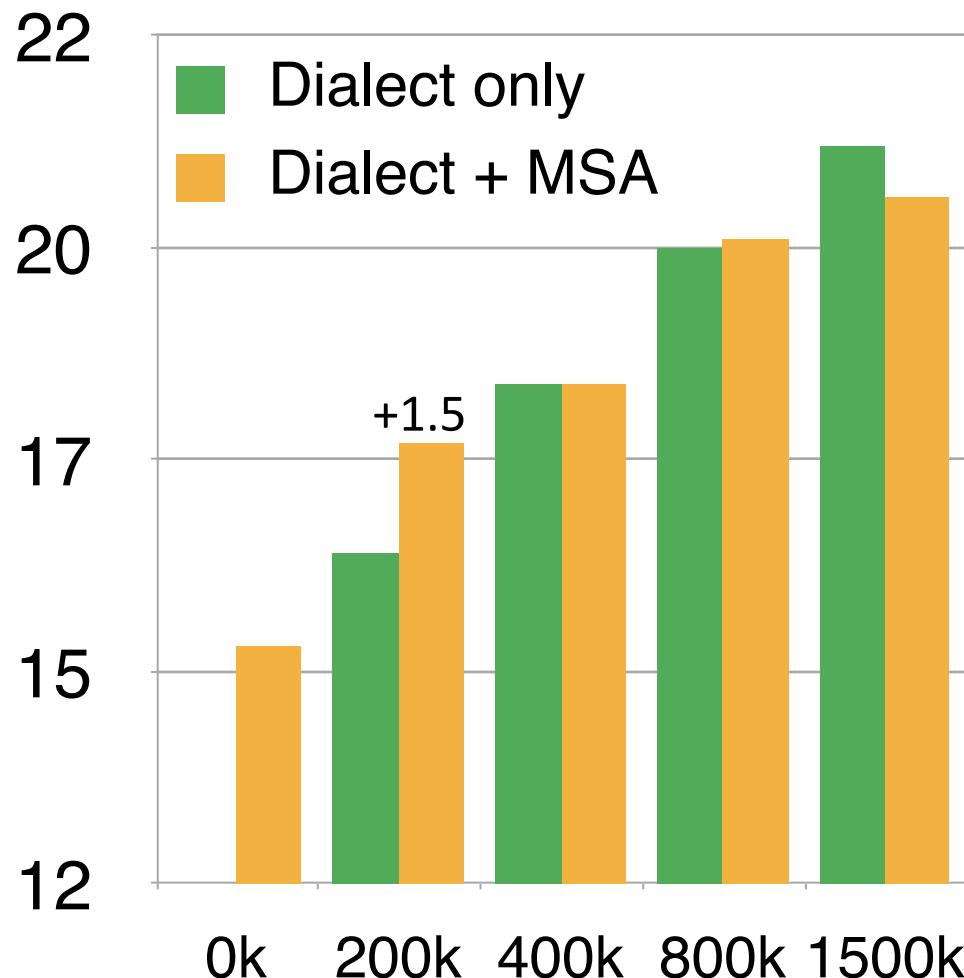
Full details in Zbib, Malchiodi, Devlin, Stallard, Matsoukas, Schwartz, Makhoul, Zaidan, & Callison-Burch (NAACL 2012)



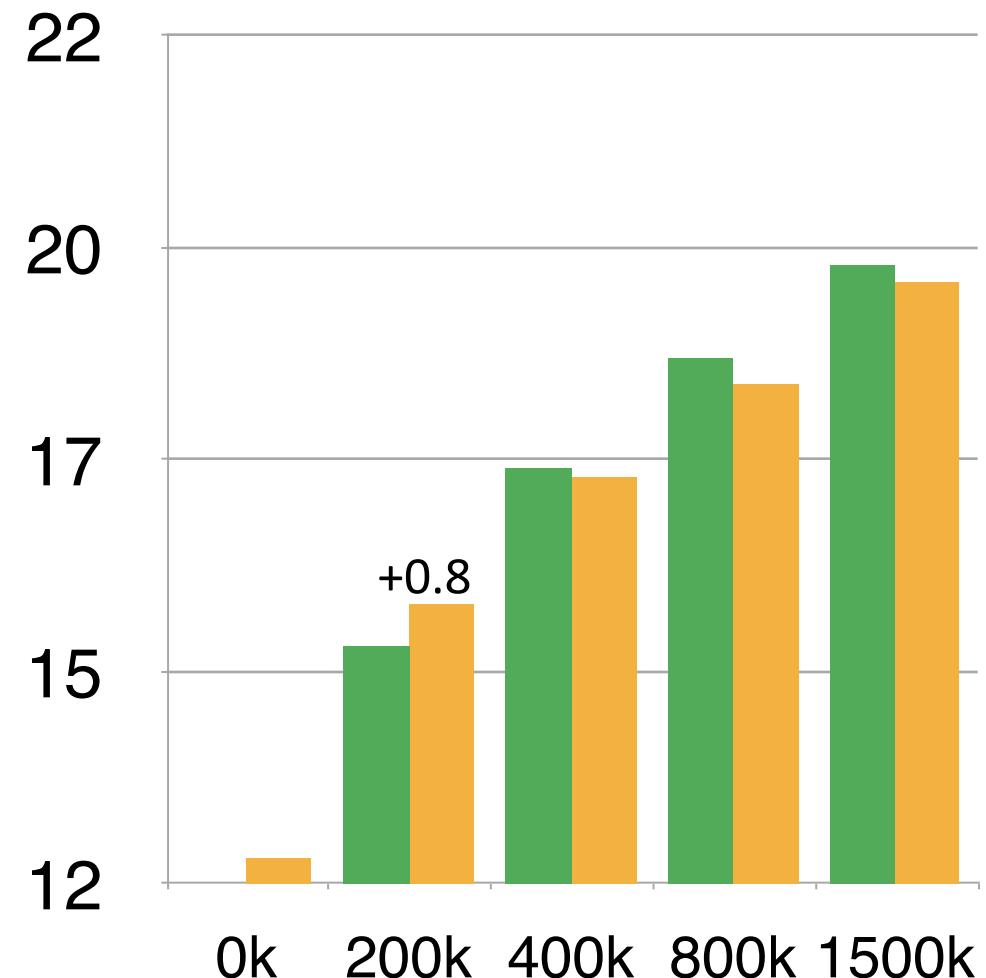


# Value of MSA diminishes as dialect data increases

Egyptian Test Set



Levantine Test Set





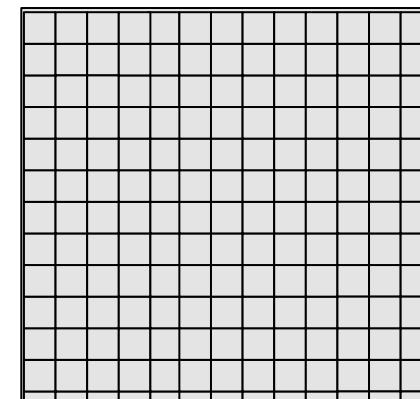
# Dialect v. MSA takeaway

## For dialect translation

1.5M  
□  
Arabic  
Dialect-English



200M+



MSA-English

2 months  
\$44k  
+6 Bleu

5 years  
\$10s of millions  
no added Bleu

Implications of low cost, high  
quality translations for research

# We want to respond to a “Surprise Language”



The Los Angeles Times reported that at about 5:20 P.M. on Tuesday March 4, 2003, a **bomb** concealed in a backpack **exploded** at the airport in Davao City, the second largest city **in the Philippines**. At least 23 people were reported dead, with more than 140 injured, and President Arroyo of the Philippines characterized the blast as a terrorist act.

With the 13 hour time difference, it was then at 4:20 A.M. on the same date in Washington, DC. **Twenty-four hours later**, at 4:13 A.M. on March 5, participants in the Translingual Information Detection, Extraction and Summarization (TIDES) program were notified that **Cebuano** had been chosen as the **language of interest** for a “surprise language” practice exercise that had been planned quite independently to begin on that date. The notification observed that Cebuano is spoken by 24% of the population of the Philippines and that it is the *lingua franca* in the south Philippines, where the event occurred.



# 100 languages

- Microsoft translator does 35 languages
- Google does 57 languages
- The DoD's Center for Applied MT does 64
- There is not enough data to reach acceptably high quality in new languages
- I want us to do 100 languages

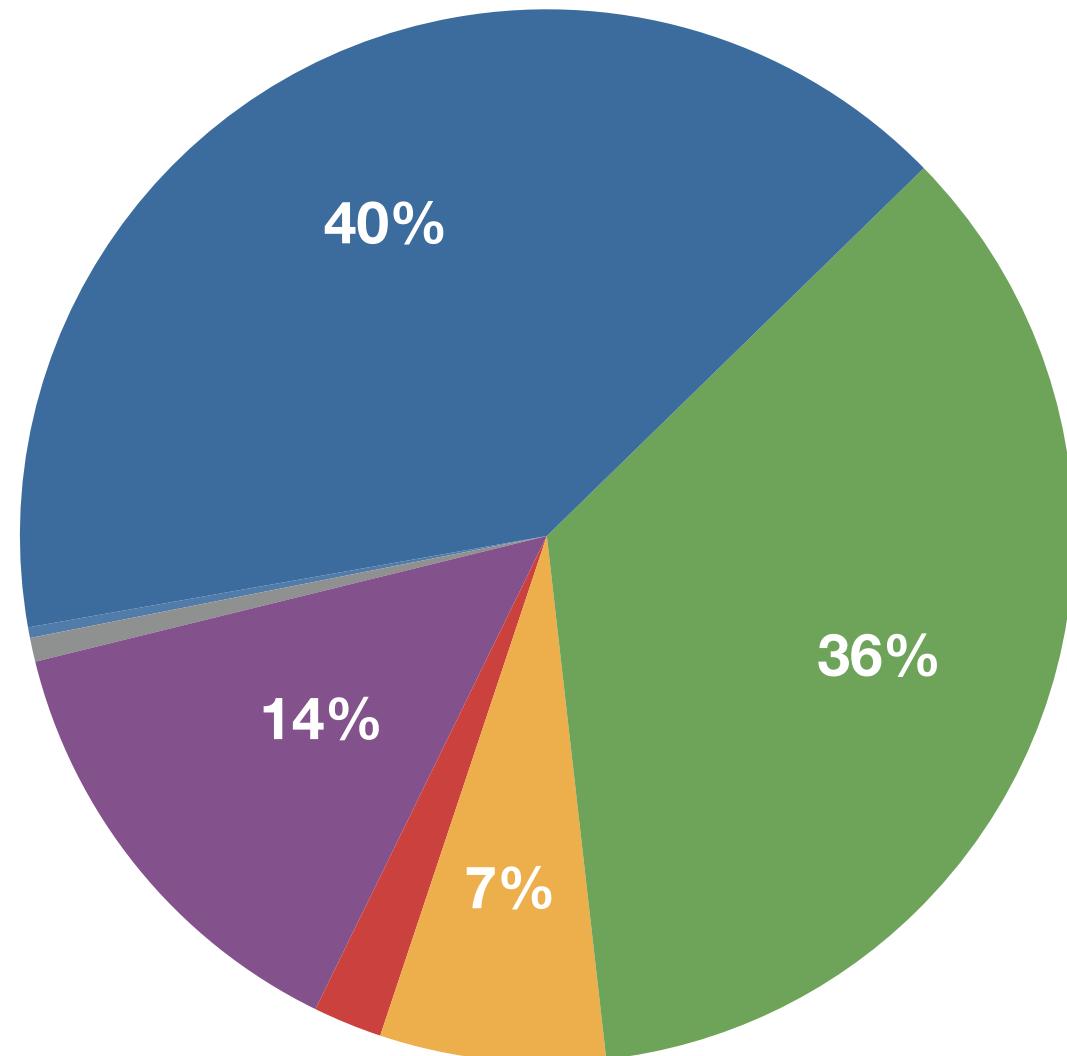


71

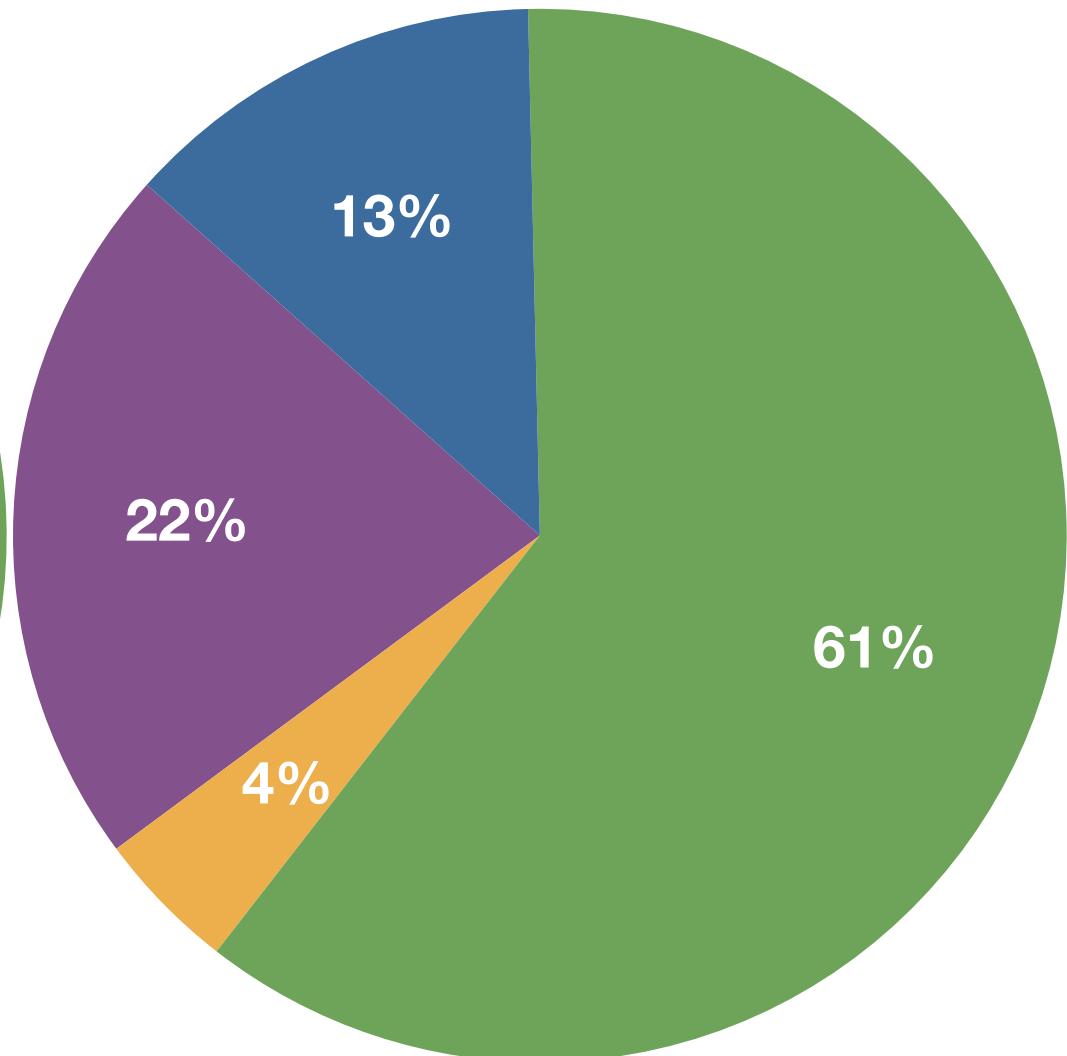
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# Better Representation of Languages

All Languages



SMT Languages



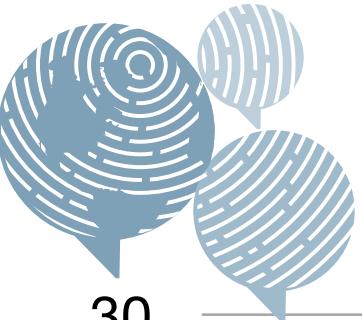
● SOV

● SVO

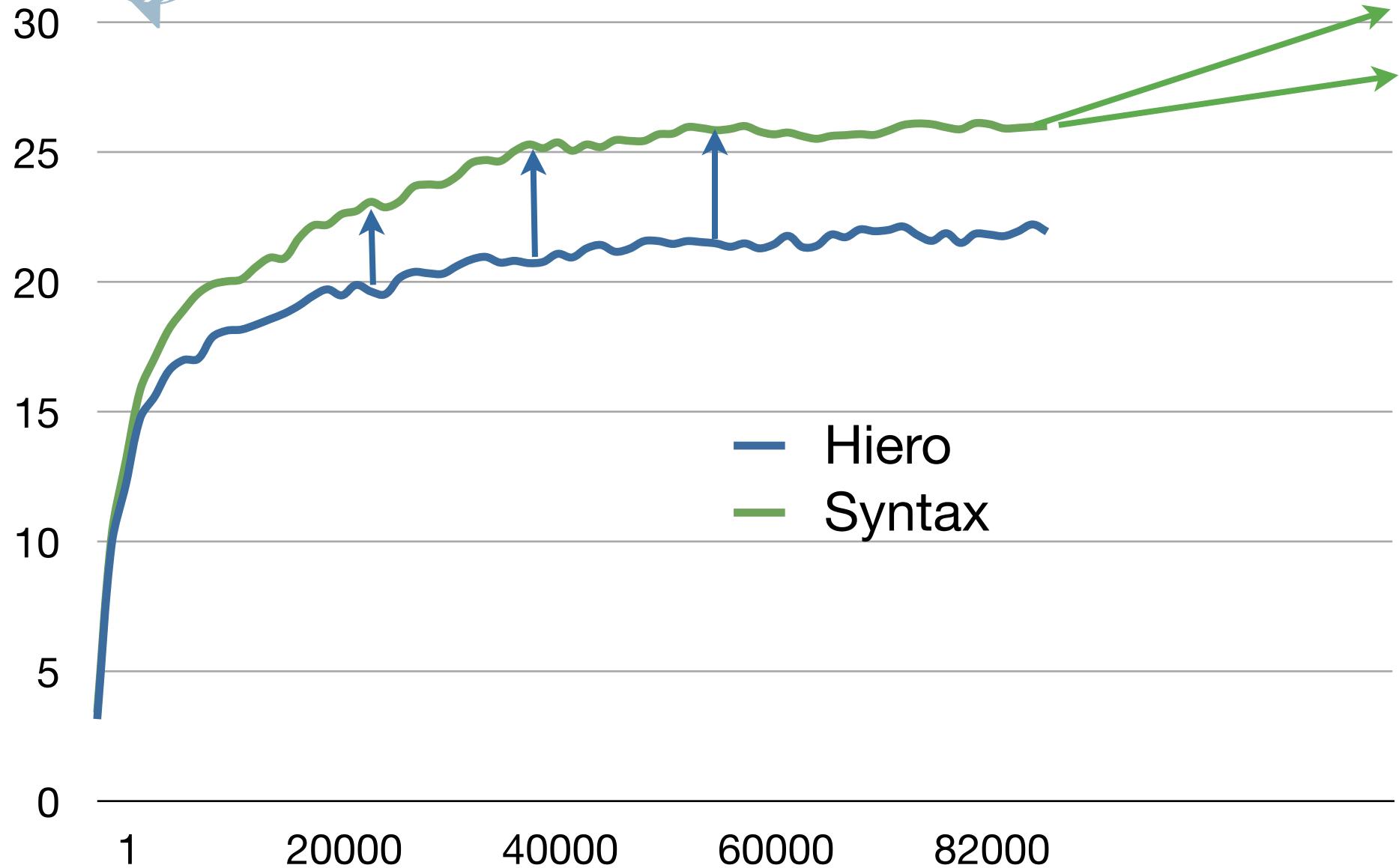
● VSO

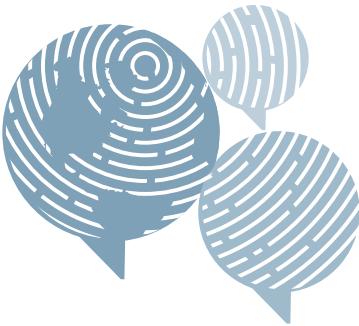
● VOS

● No dominant order



# Active Learning





# Questions?



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