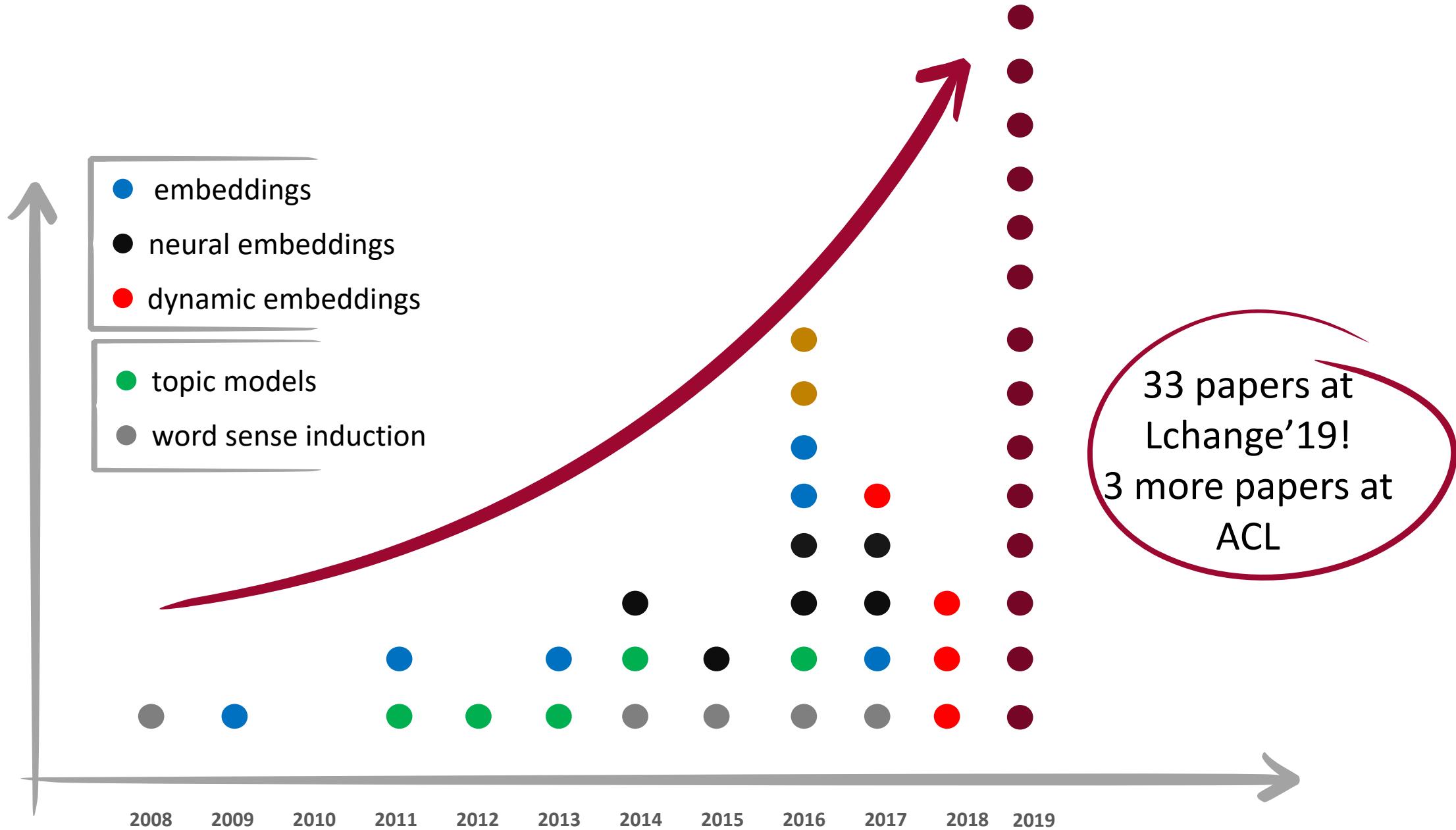


On Lexical Semantic Change and Evaluation

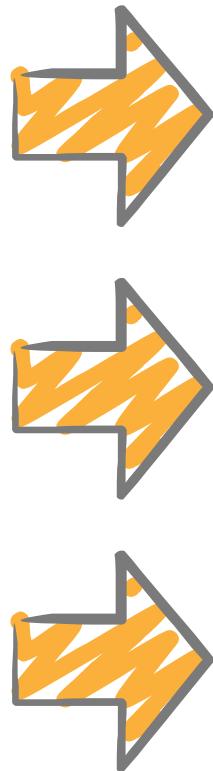
Nina Tahmasebi, PhD

University of Gothenburg

Stuttgart, June 25th, 2019



Outline

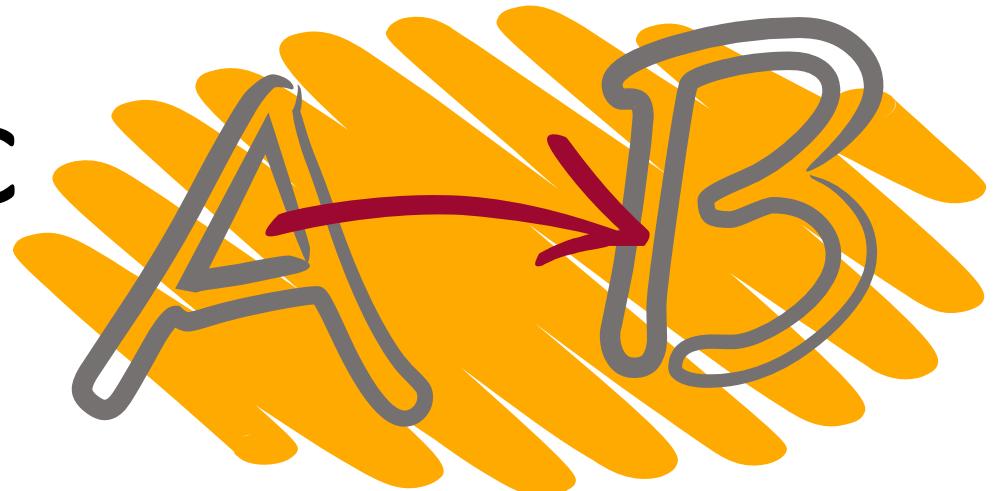


Lexical Semantic
Change

Computational
methods for LSC

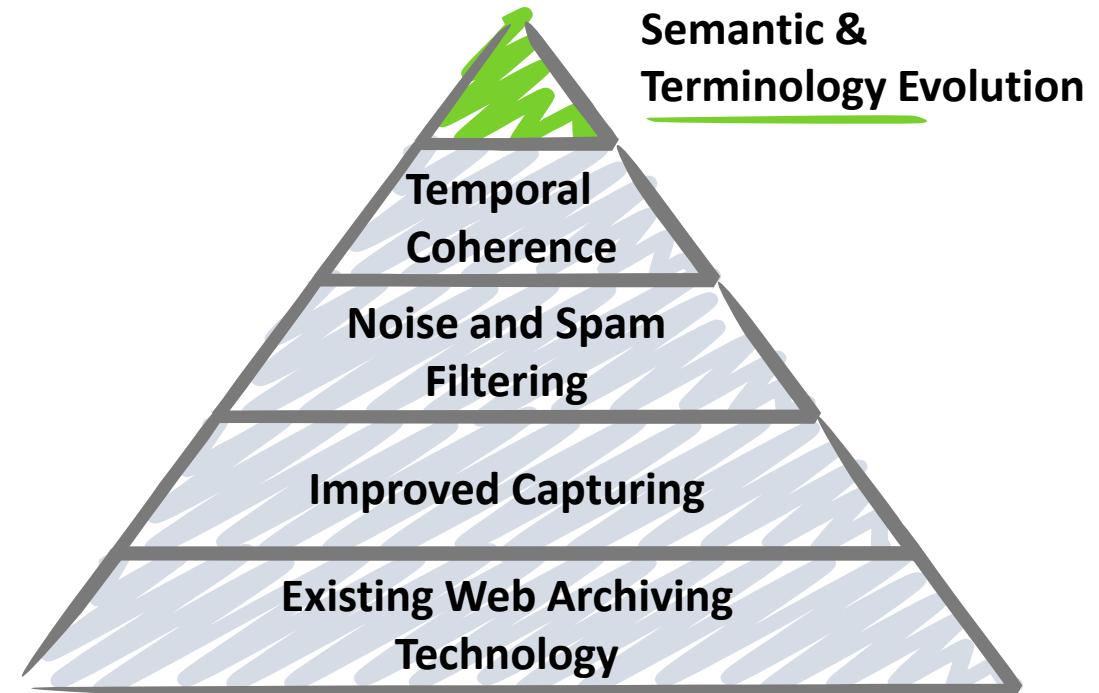
Evaluation

Lexical Semantic Change



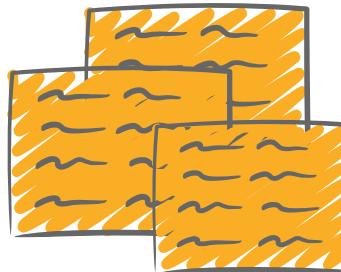
LiWA – Living Web Archives

- dealing with terminology evolution
- preparing for evolution aware access support



Increasing amount of historical texts in digital format

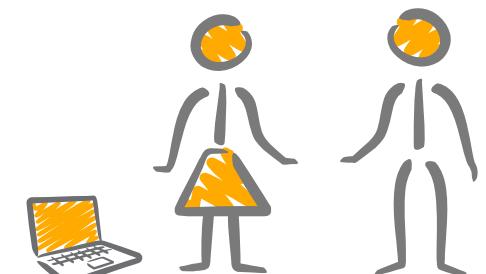
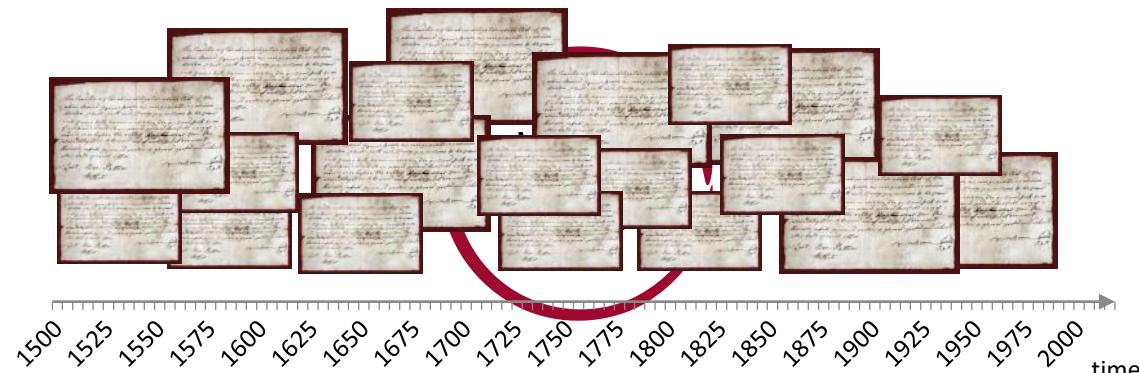
Easy digital access for anyone!
Not only scholars.



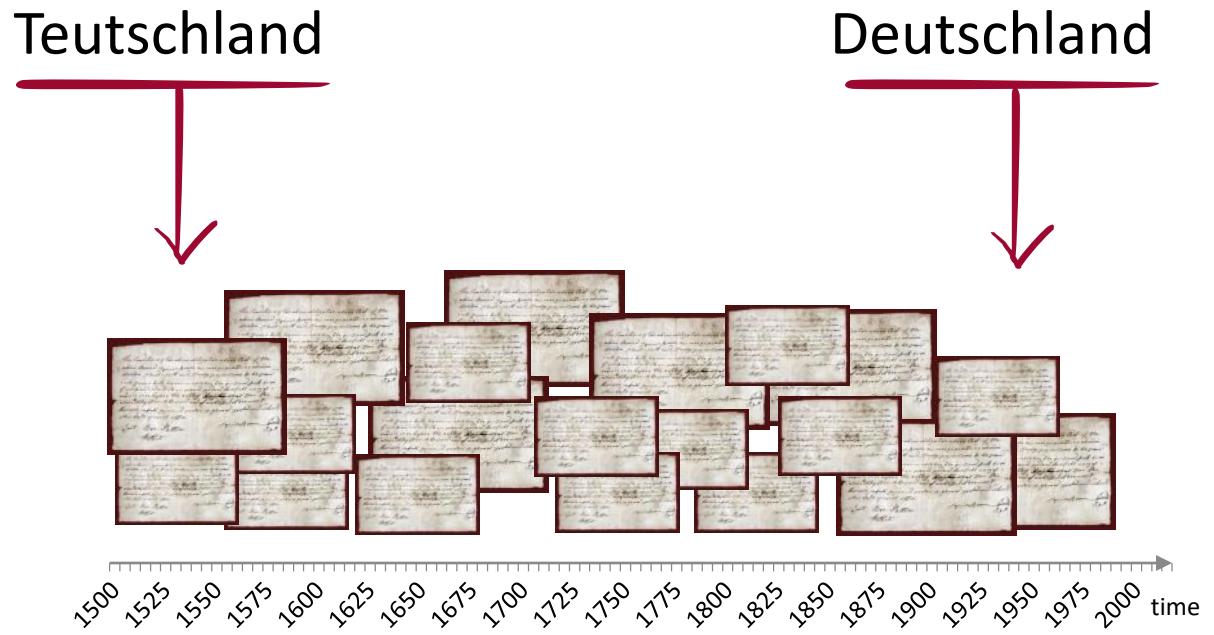
Possibility to **digitally analyze**
historical documents
at **large scale**.

Information from primary sources
Not only modern interpretations.

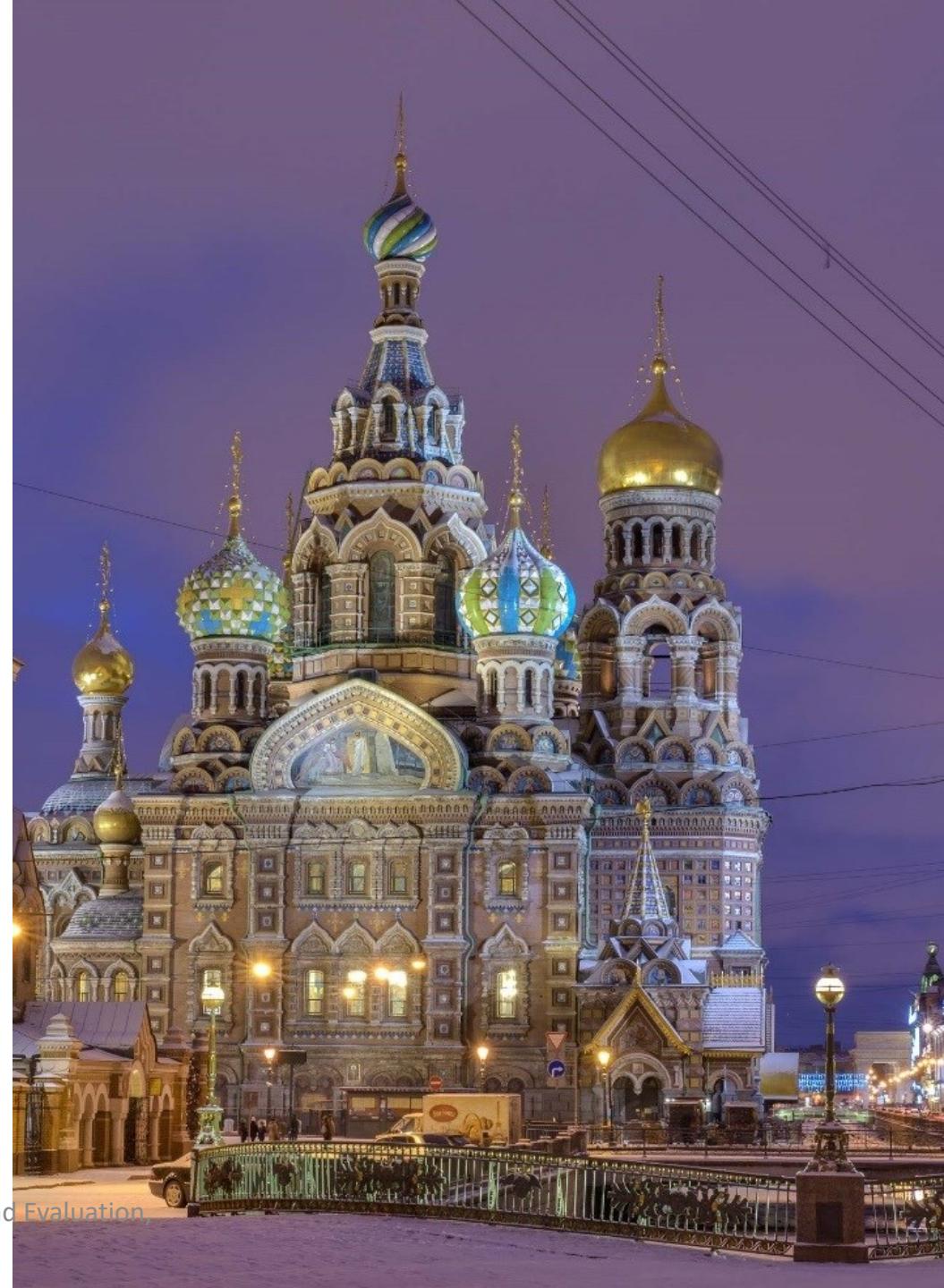
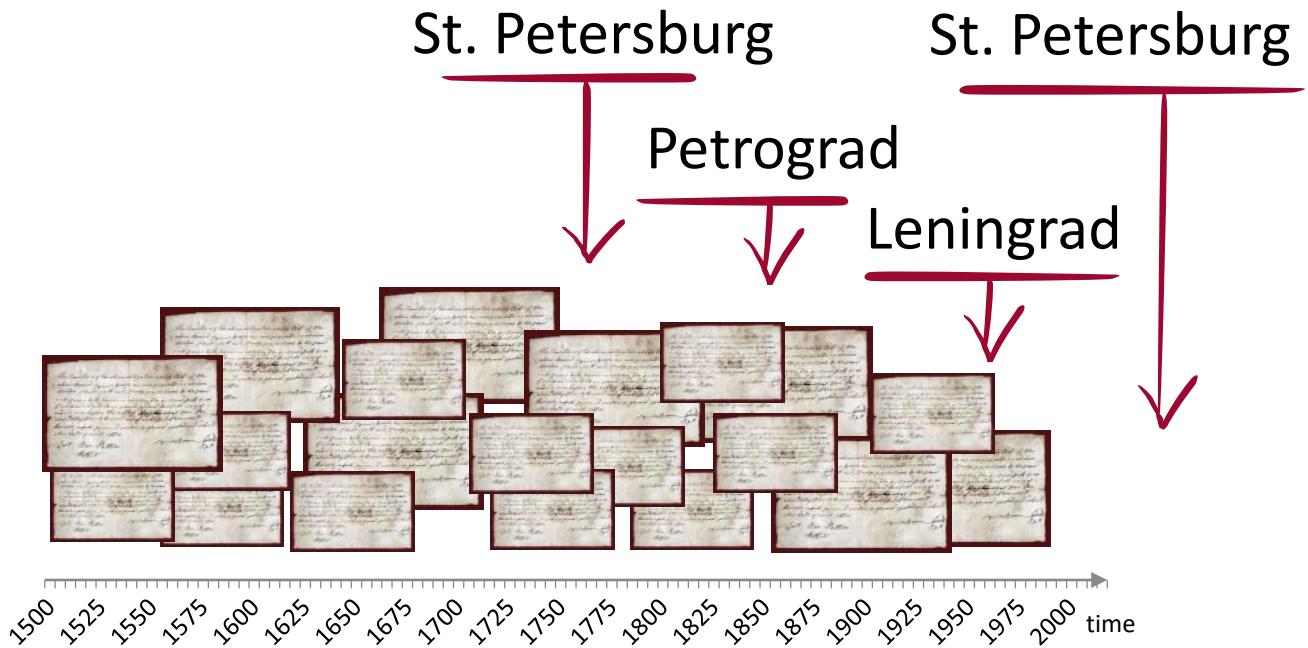
**Text-based
Digital Humanities**



Spelling change



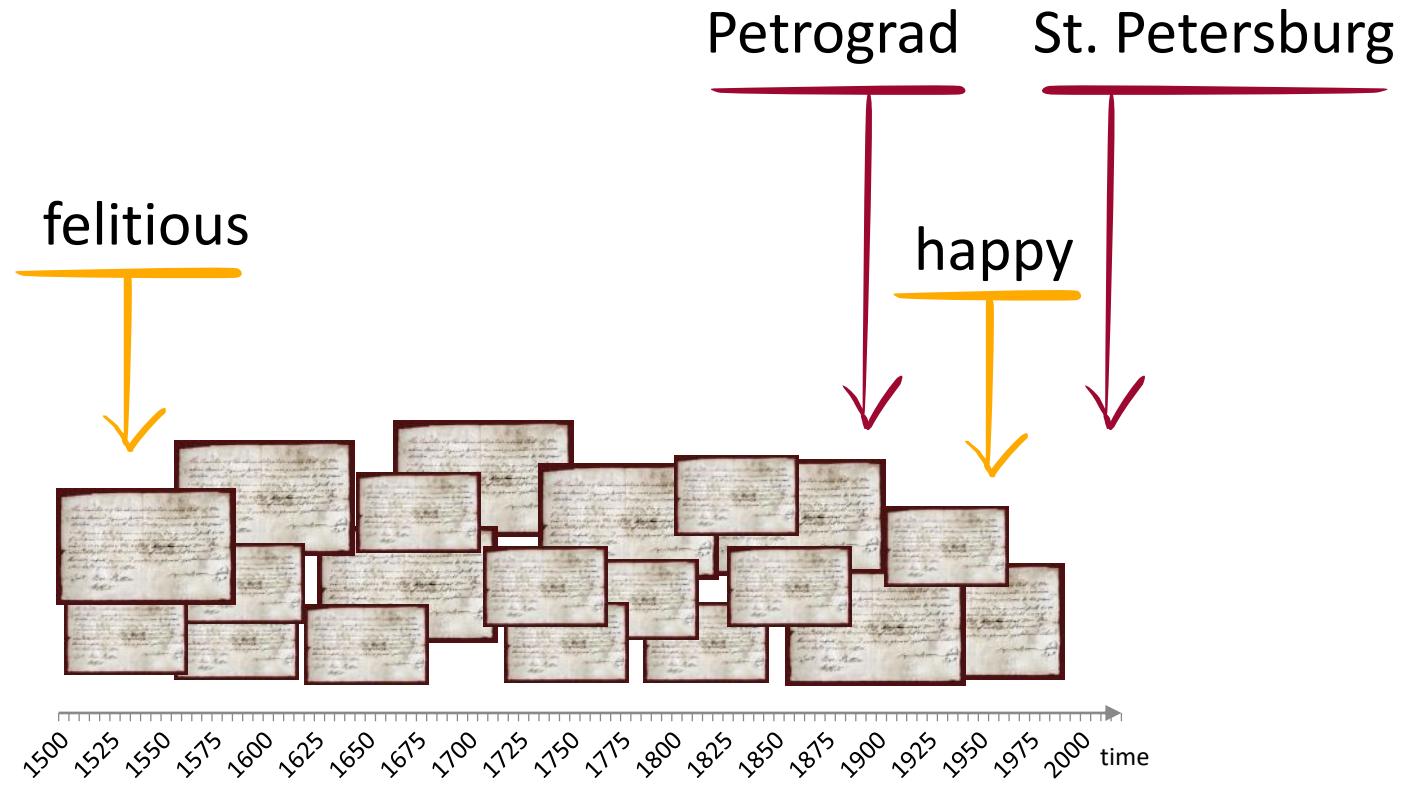
Lexical replacement: Named entity change



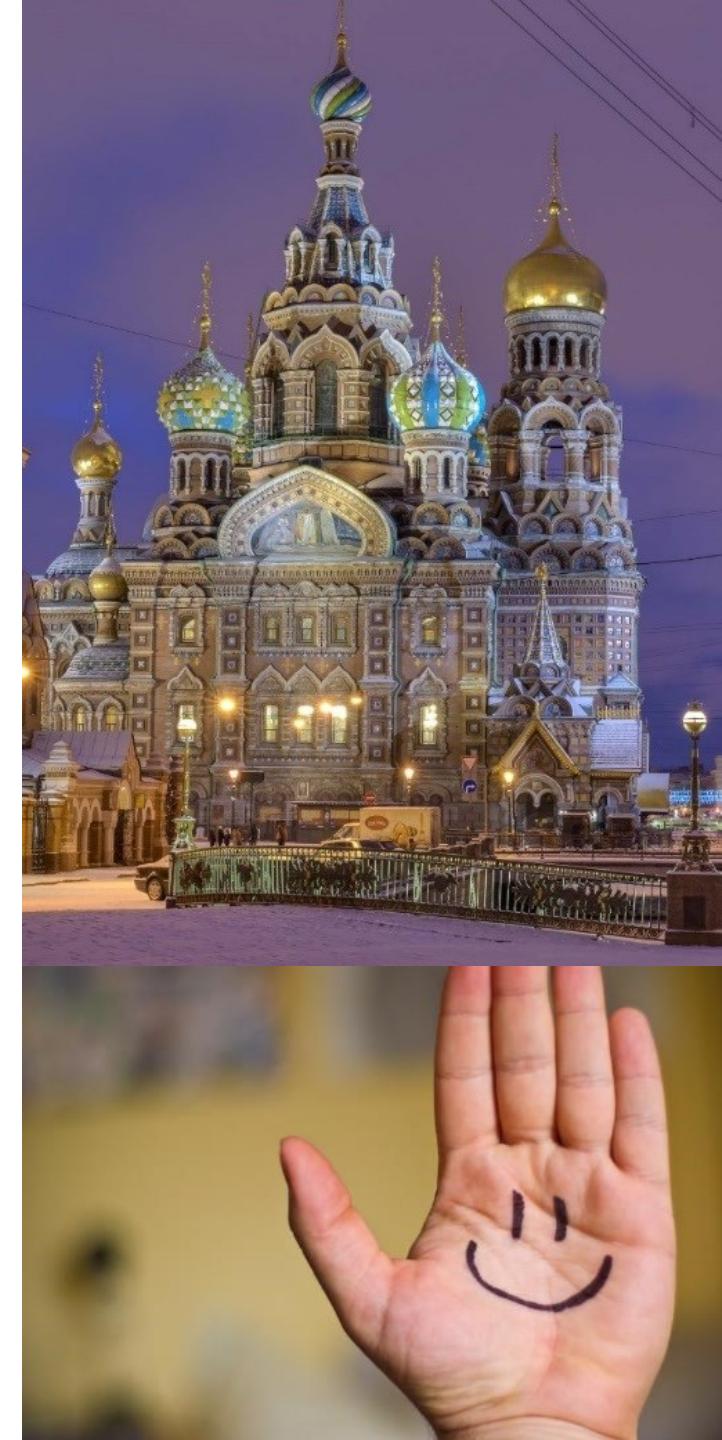


Nina Tahmasebi, On Lexical Semantic Change and Evaluation,
Stuttgart, June 2019

Lexical replacement:



Nina Tahmasebi, On Lexical Semantic Change and Evaluation,
Stuttgart, June 2019



awesome

He was an
awesome leader!



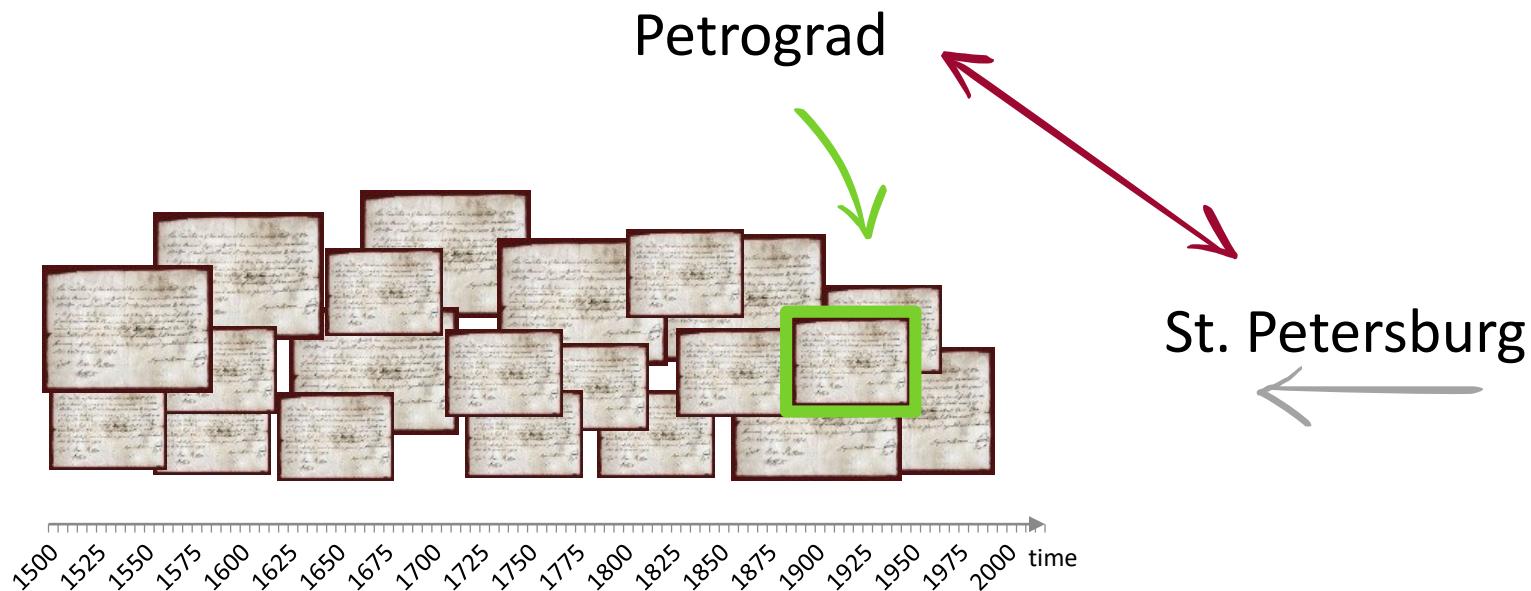
He was an
awesome leader!





Kona ➤ Qwinna ➤ Qvinna ➤ Kvinna

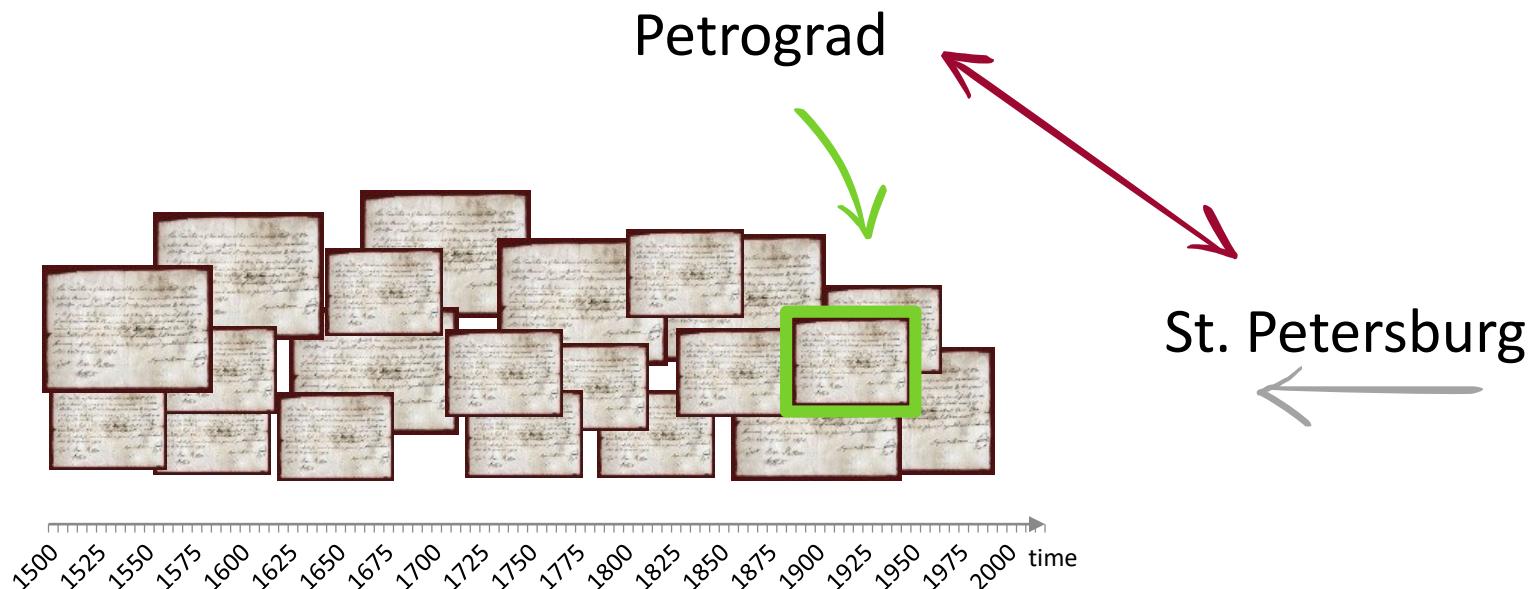
What is the problem?



What is the problem?

Finding

Interpreting



“ Sebastini’s benefit last night at the
Opera House was overflowing with
the fashionable and **gay** ”



Nina Tahmasebi, On Lexical Semantic Change and Evaluation,
Stuttgart, June 2019



Nina Tahmasebi, On Lexical Semantic Change and Evaluation,
Stuttgart, June 2019

“

Sebastini's benefit last night at the
Opera House was overflowing with
the fashionable and **gay**

”

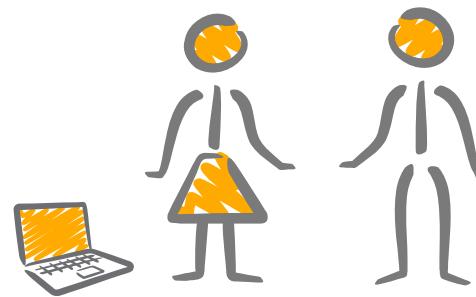
The Times, April 27th, 1787

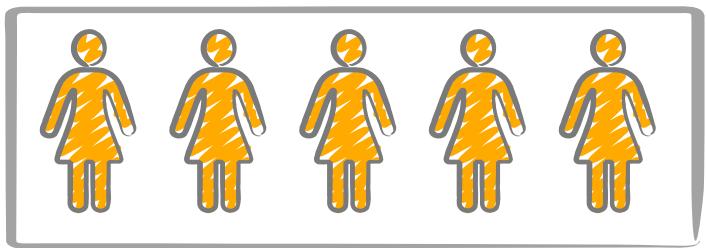
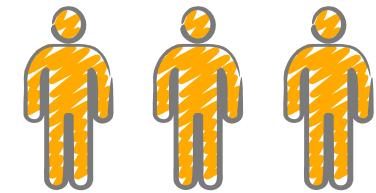


What is the problem?

Finding

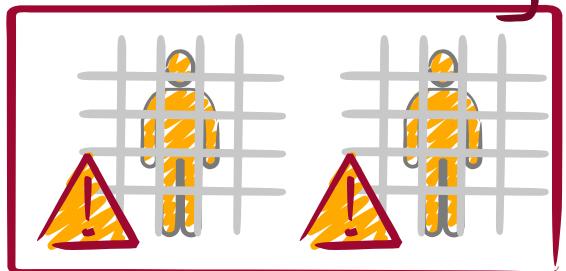
Interpreting



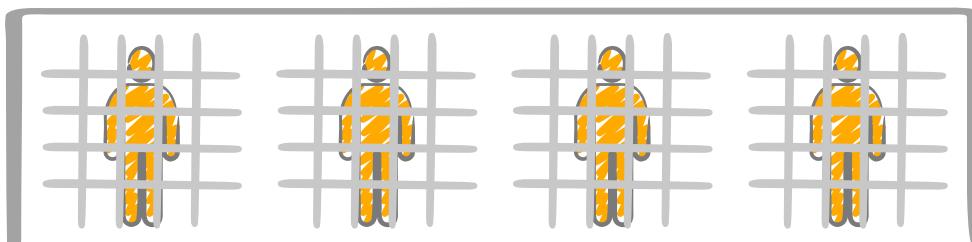


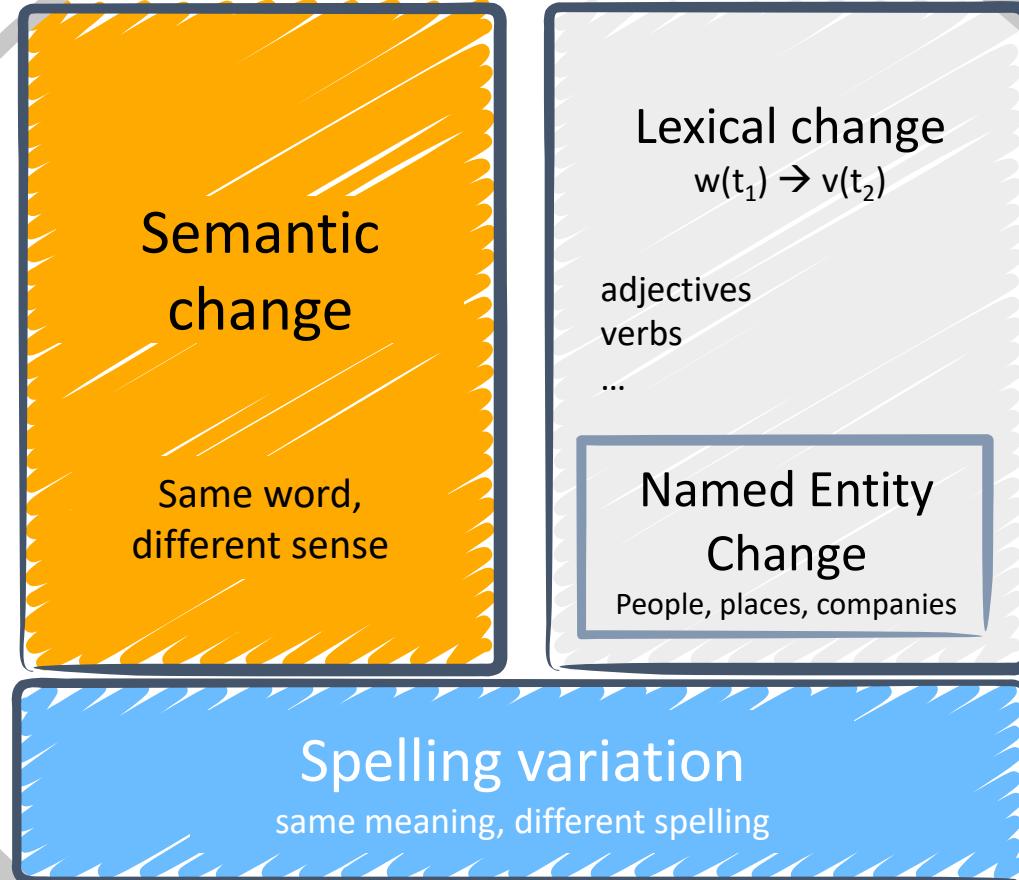
← girl

Wolf 'varq'



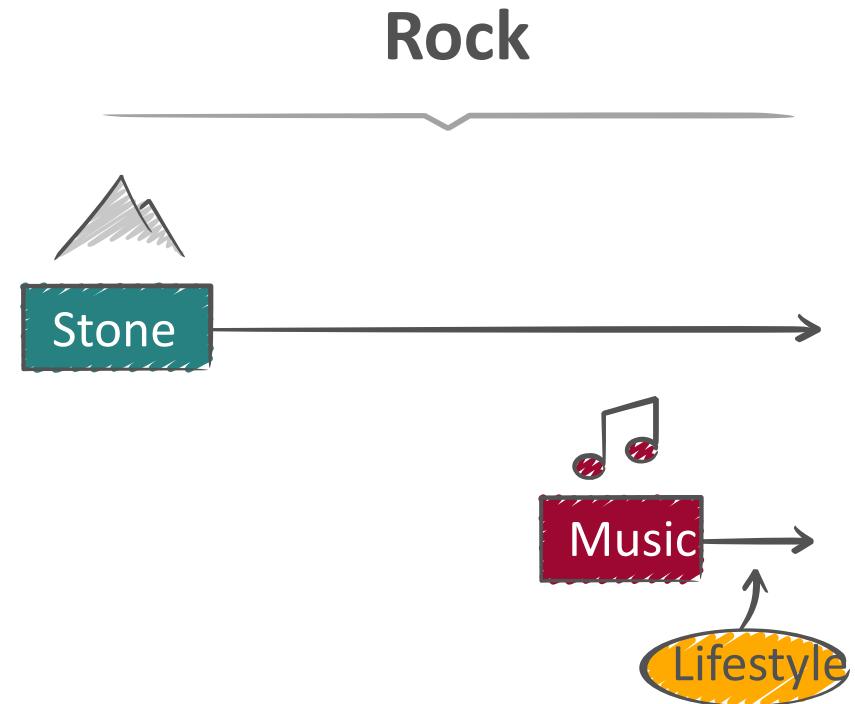
← criminal





Aims

Find word sense changes
automatically to find **what**
changes, **how** it changed and
when it changed

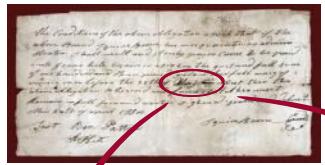


Vision

Given a word in a document at time t

1

Mark words that are likely
to have a changed meaning



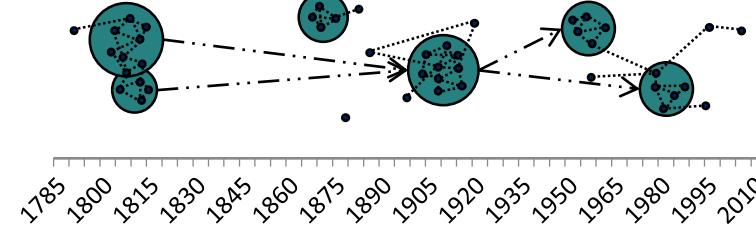
'gay' adjective \gā\

Definition of GAY
1 a : happily excited : MERRY <in a gay mood>
b : keenly alive and exuberant : having or inducing high spirits
<a bird's gay spring song>



2

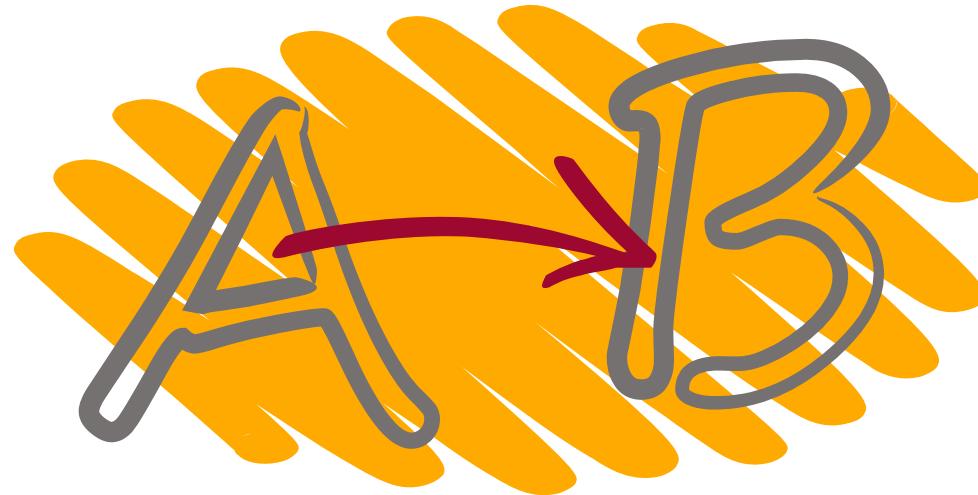
Find all changes to the word





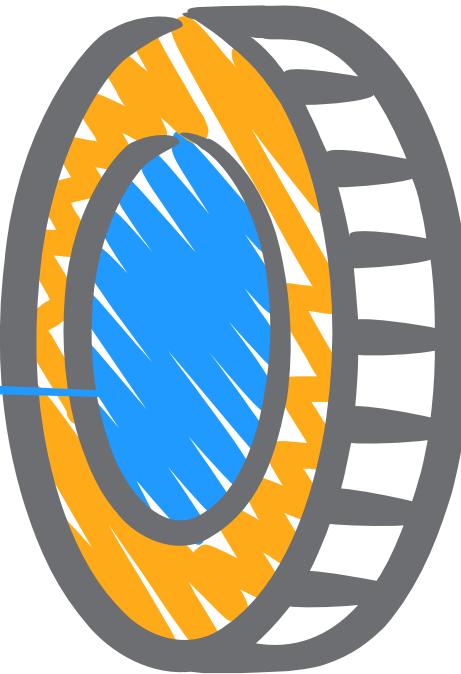
Lexical Semantic Change

The (historical) linguistic perspective

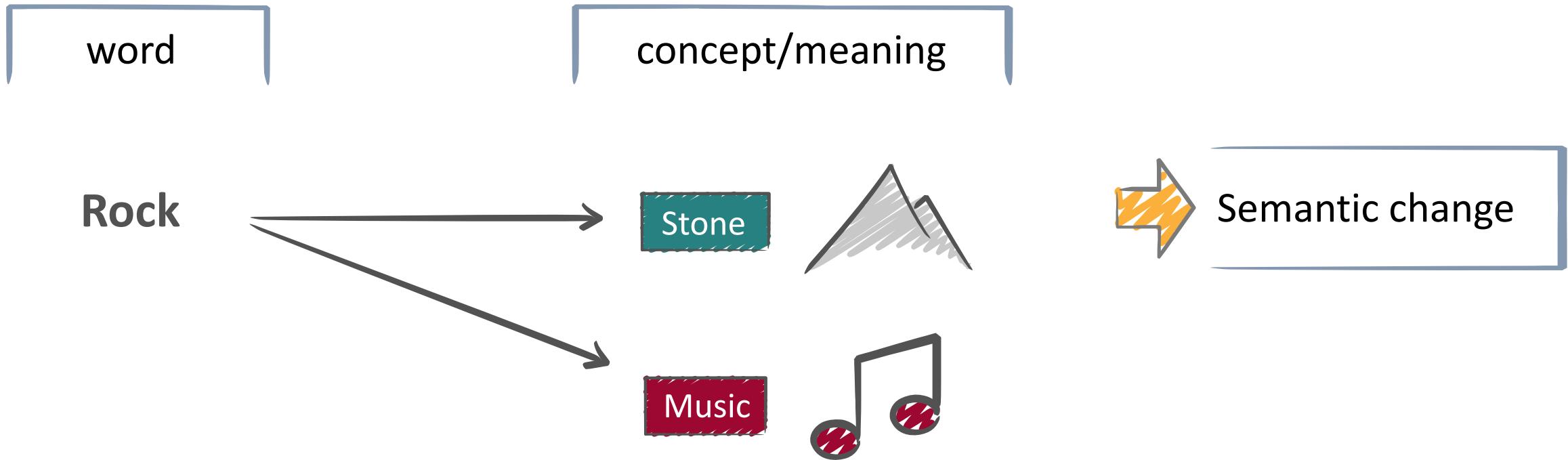


Semasiological

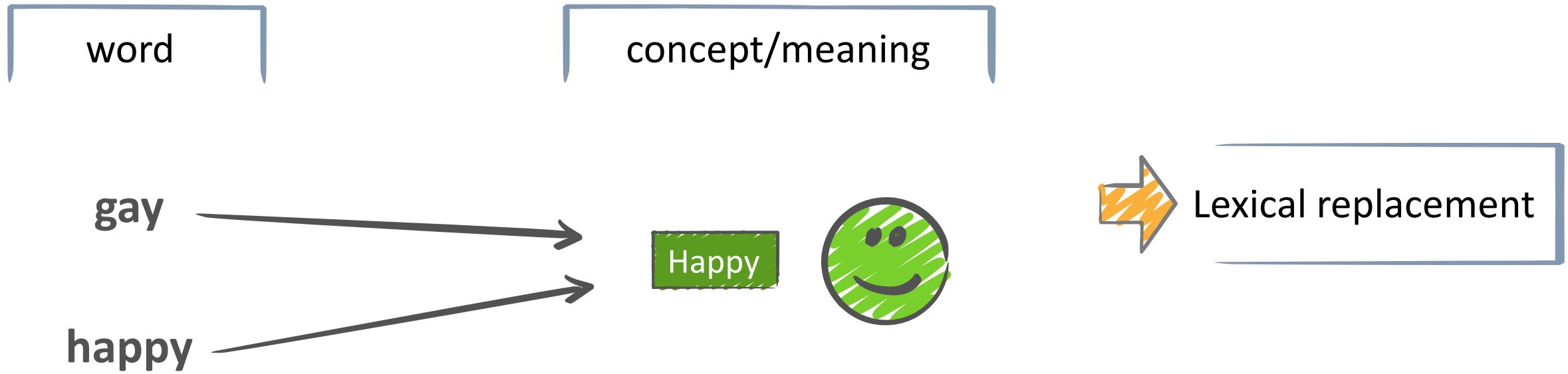
Onomasiological



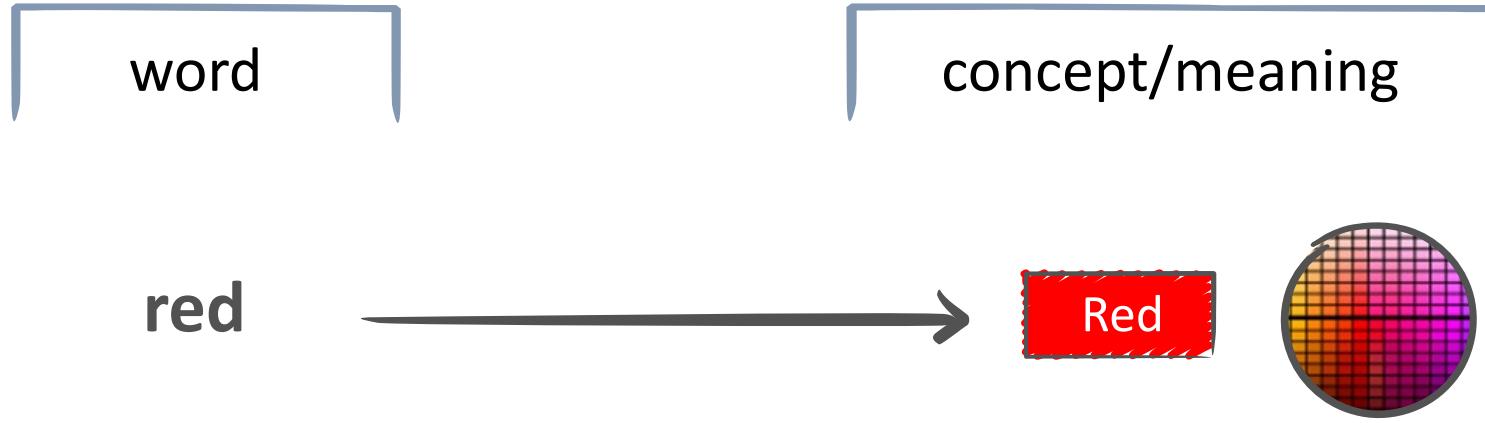
Semasiological perspective



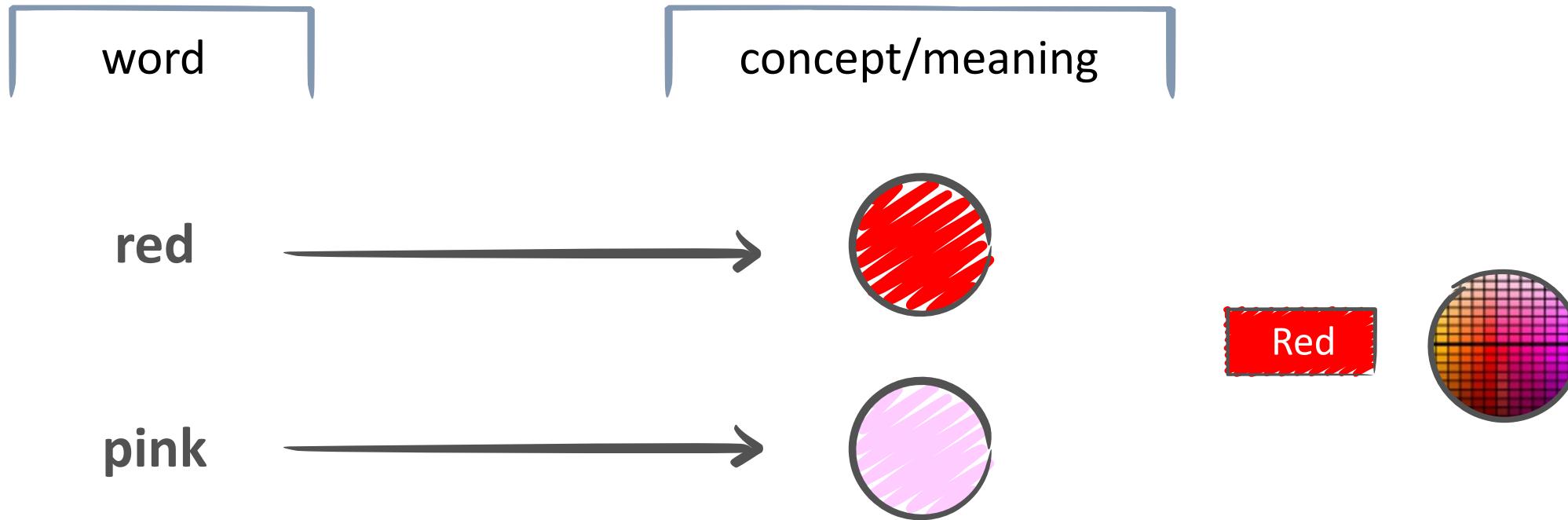
Onomasiological perspective



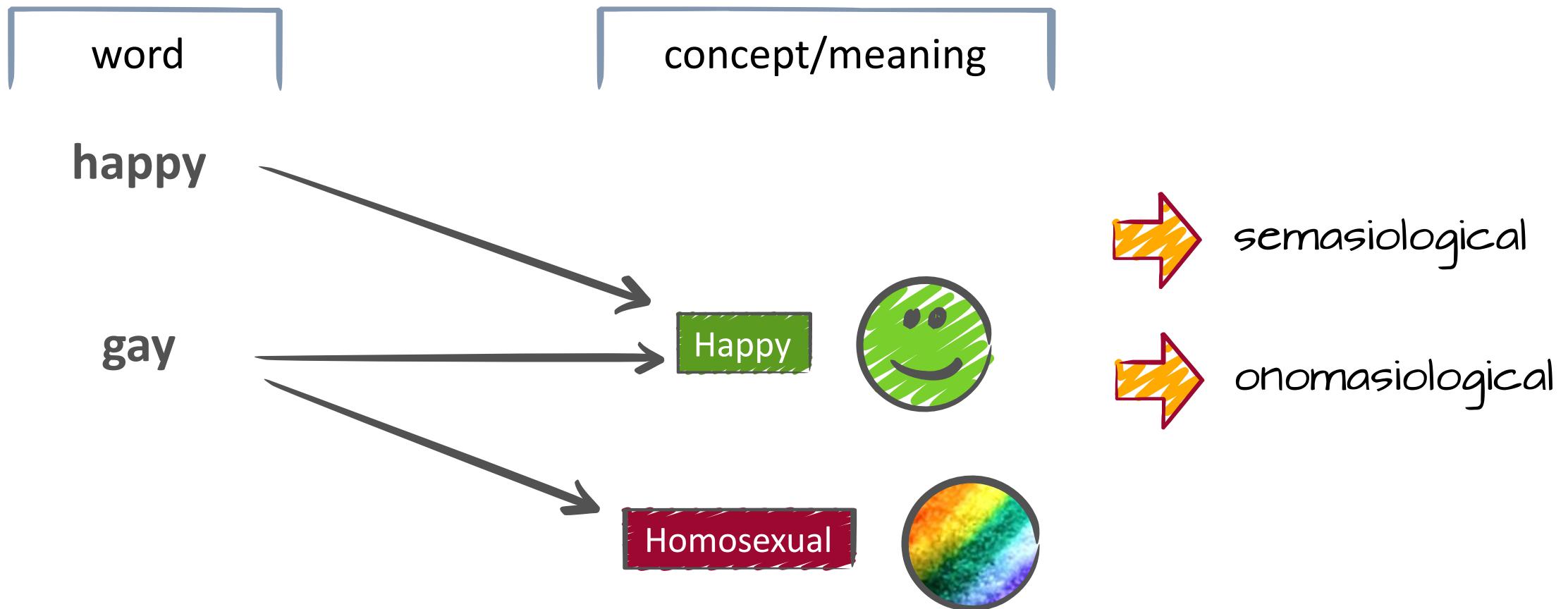
Ono- and Semasiological are interlinked!



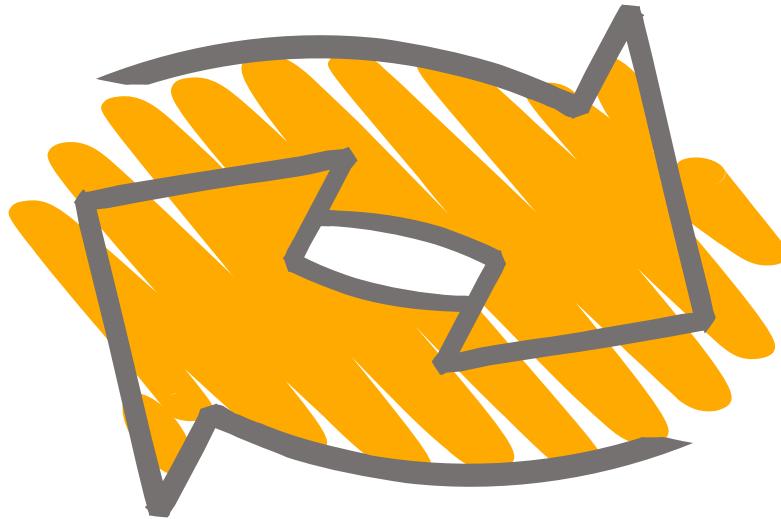
Ono- and Semasiological are interlinked!



One more example



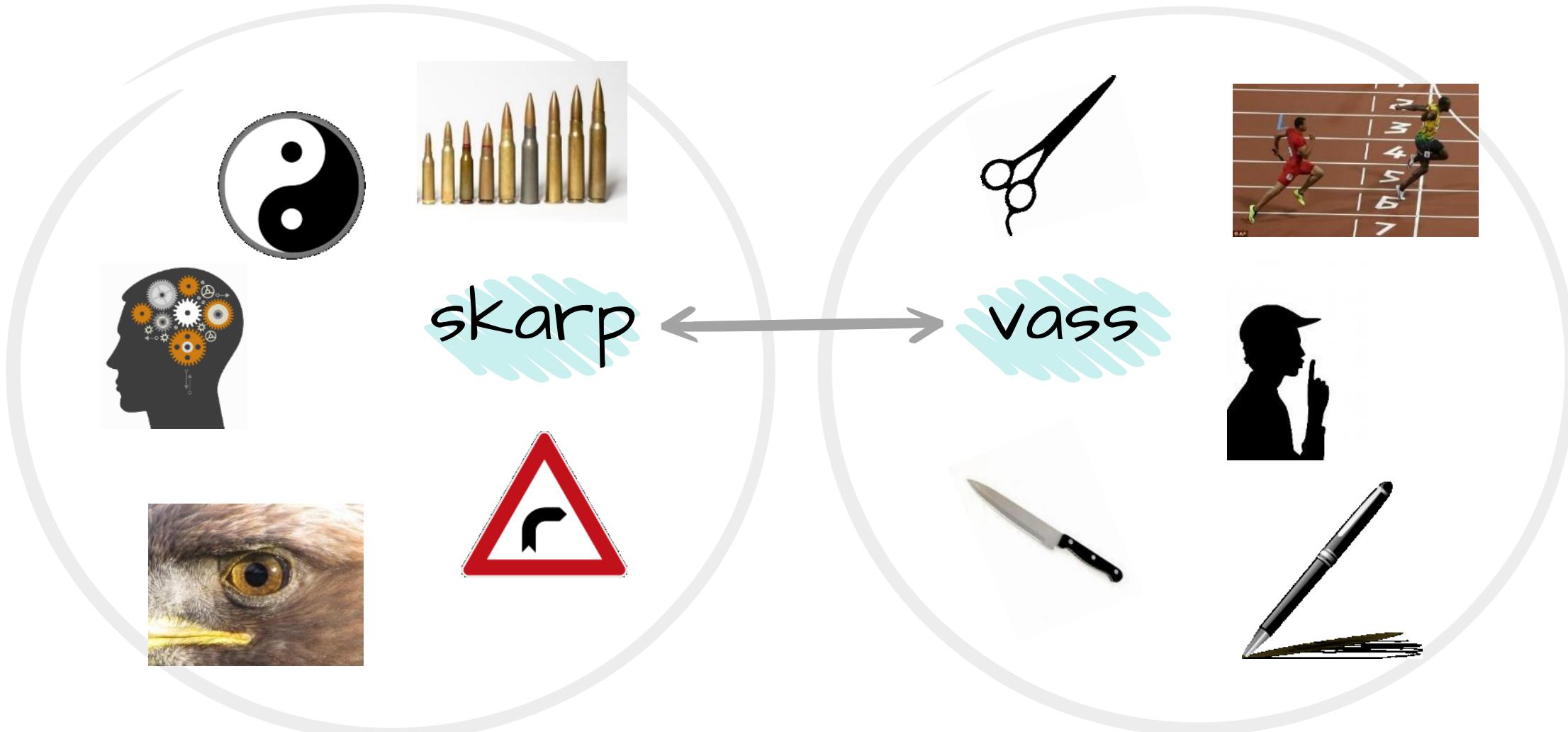
Why?





Nina Tahmasebi, On Lexical Semantic Change and Evaluation,
Stuttgart, June 2019

A division of the semantic field 'sharp'

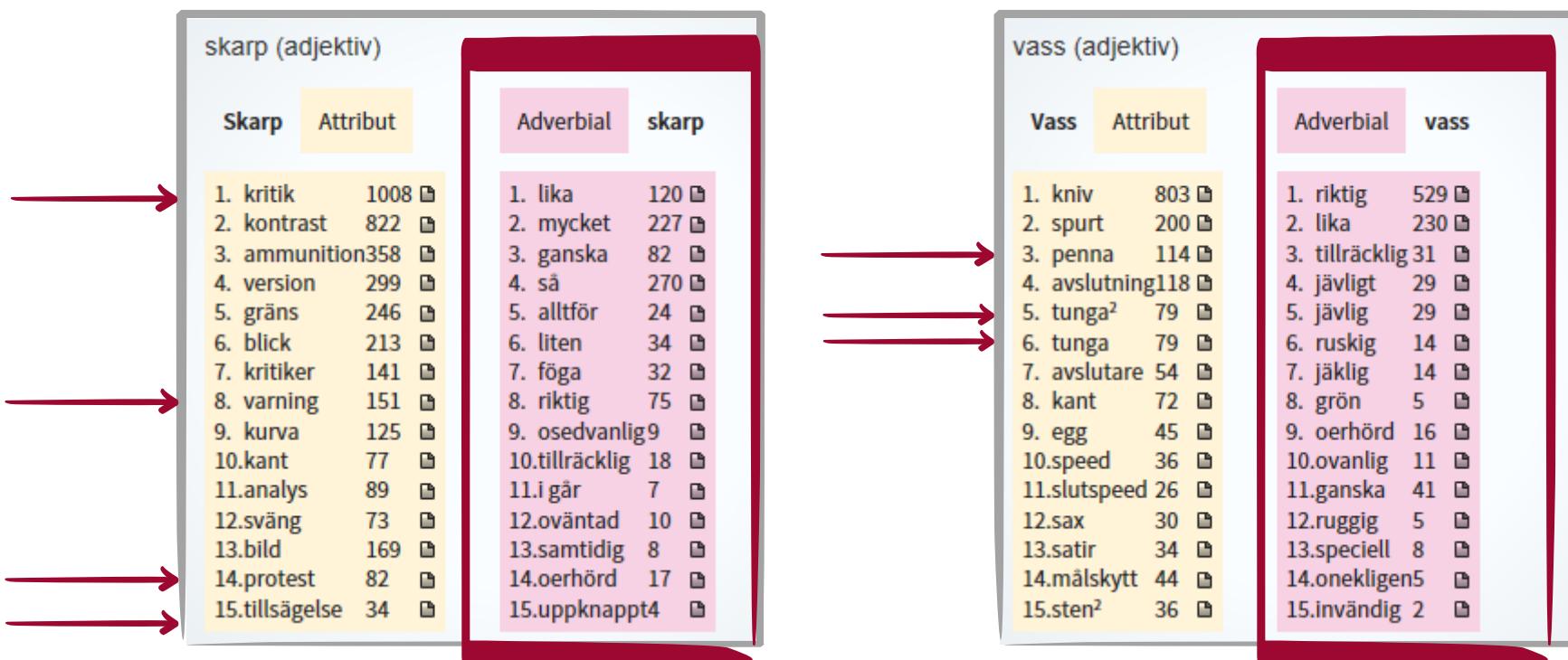




skarp



vass



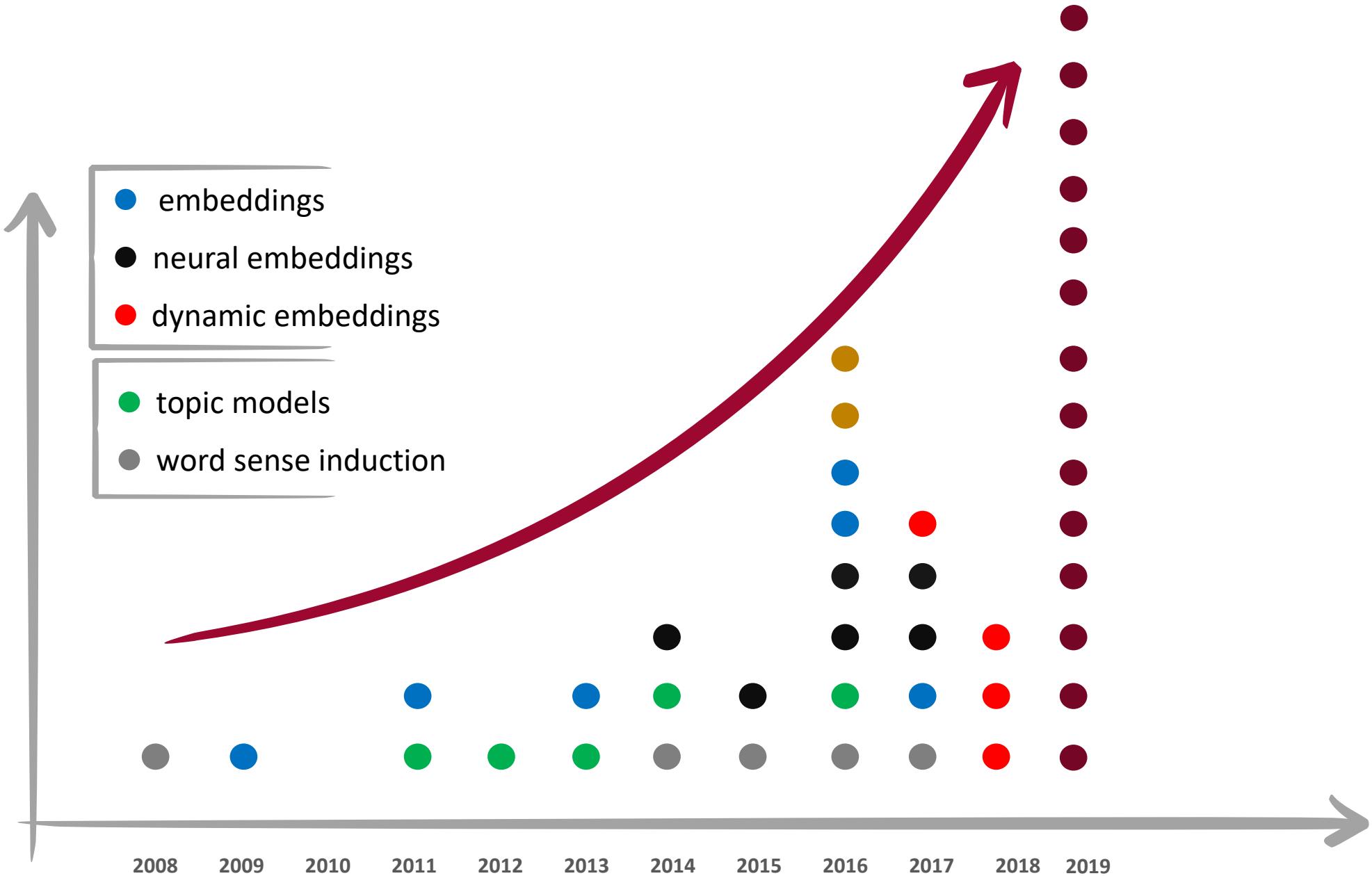
How?



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Stuttgart, June 2019

Methods for computational semantic change





- embeddings
- neural embeddings
- dynamic embeddings

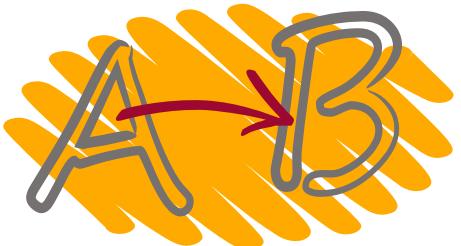
Single-sense



- topic models
- word sense induction

Sense-differentiated

Change type



Novel word
Novel word sense
Novel related ws
Novel unrelated ws
Death

Broadening
Narrowing
Join
Split

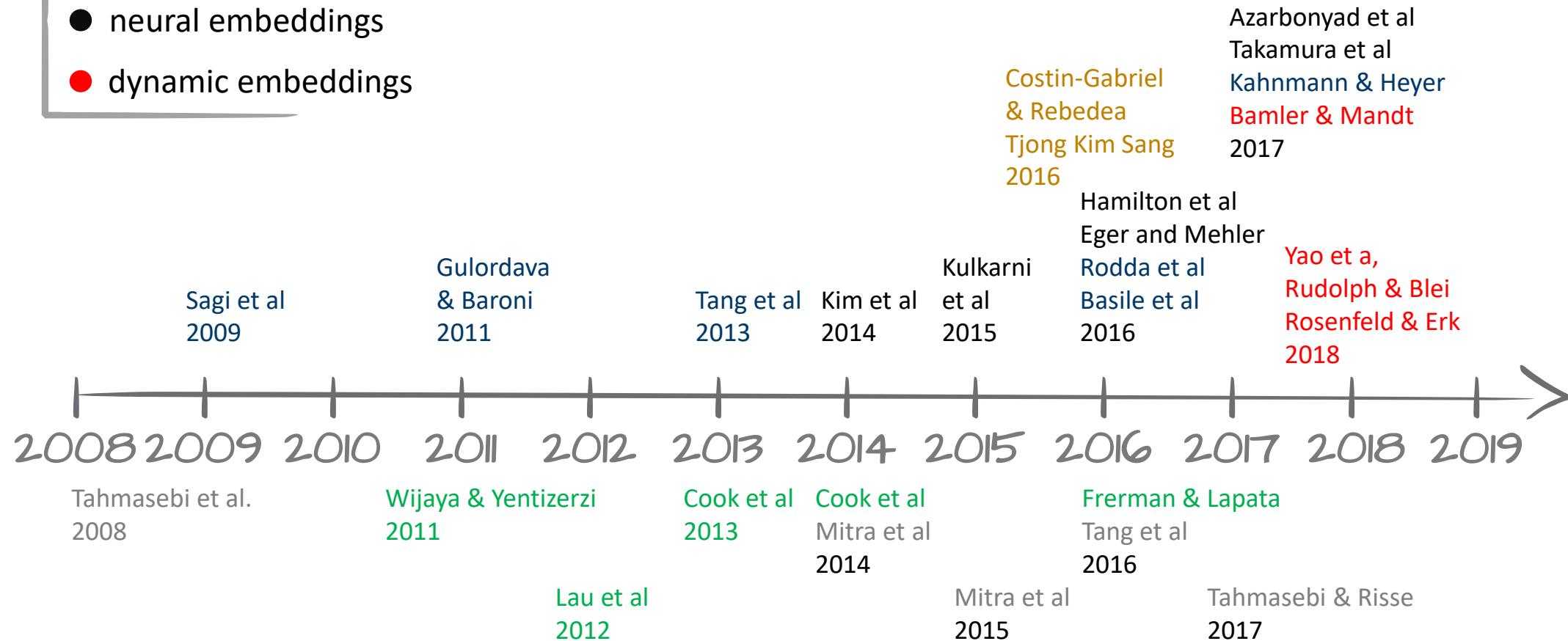
Change

Sense-differentiated

Single-sense

- embeddings
- neural embeddings
- dynamic embeddings

Single-sense

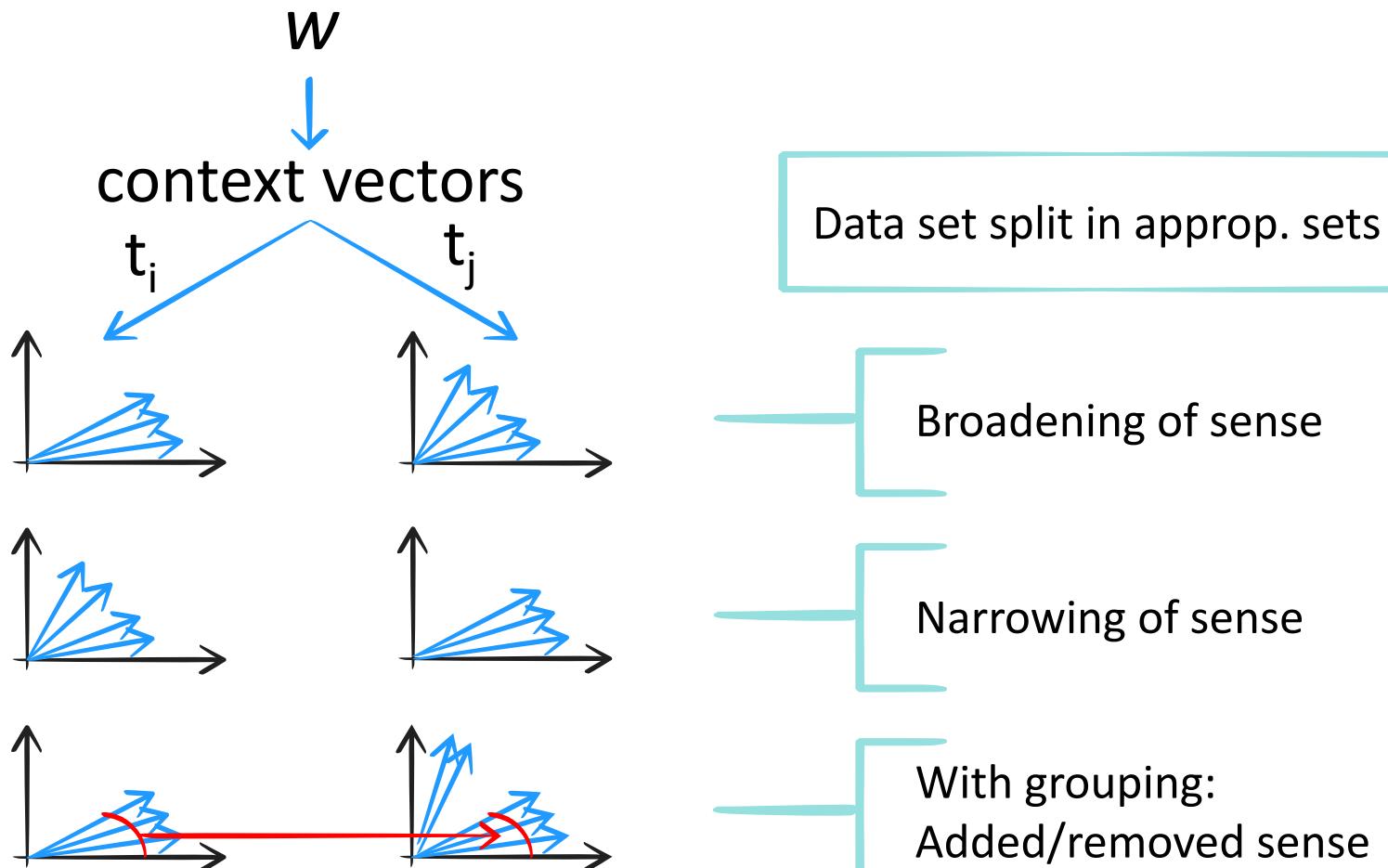


- topic models
- word sense induction

Sense-differentiated

Context-based method

Sagi et al.
GEMS 2009



BUT: 1.

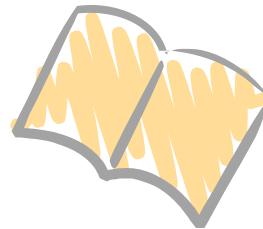
No discrimination between senses

2.

No alignment of senses over time!

Word embedding-based models

Kulkarni et al. WWW'15



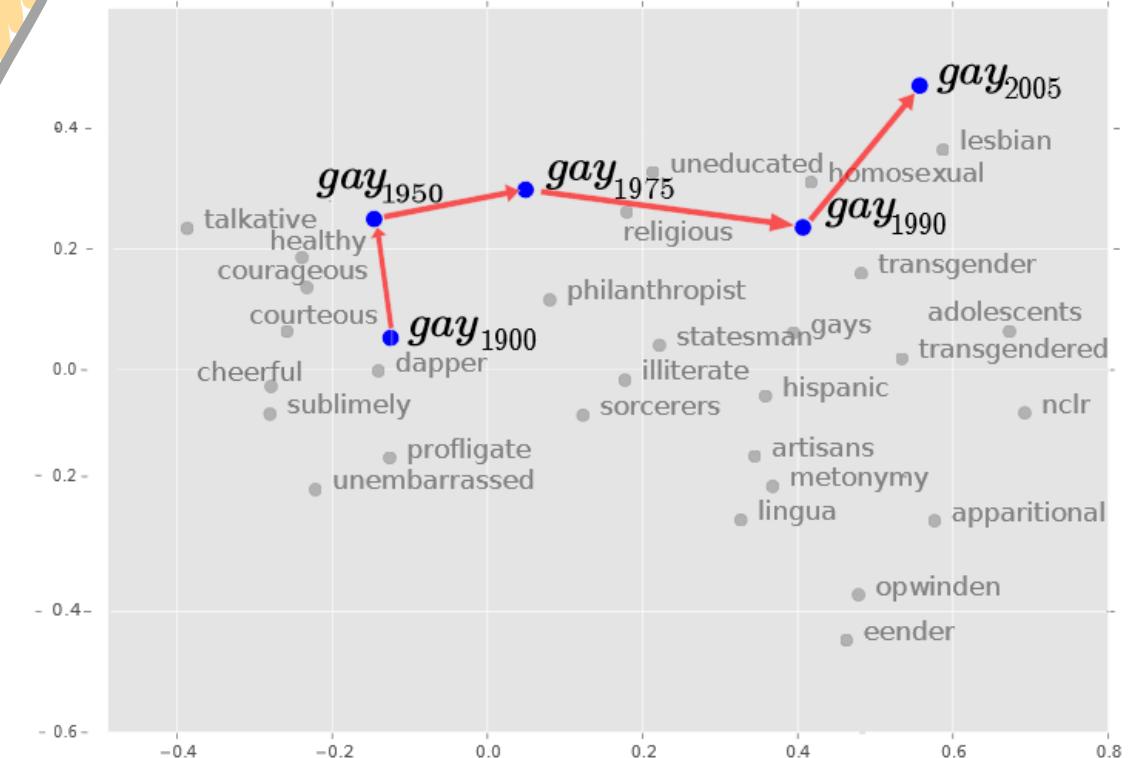
→ Project a word onto a vector/point
(POS, frequency and embeddings)

→ Track vectors over time

Kim et al. LACSS 2014

Basile et al. CLiC-it 2016

Hamilton et al. ACL 2016



Dynamic Embeddings

Share data across all time points

Avoids aligning

Bamler & Mandt:

- Bayesian Skip-gram

Yao et al:

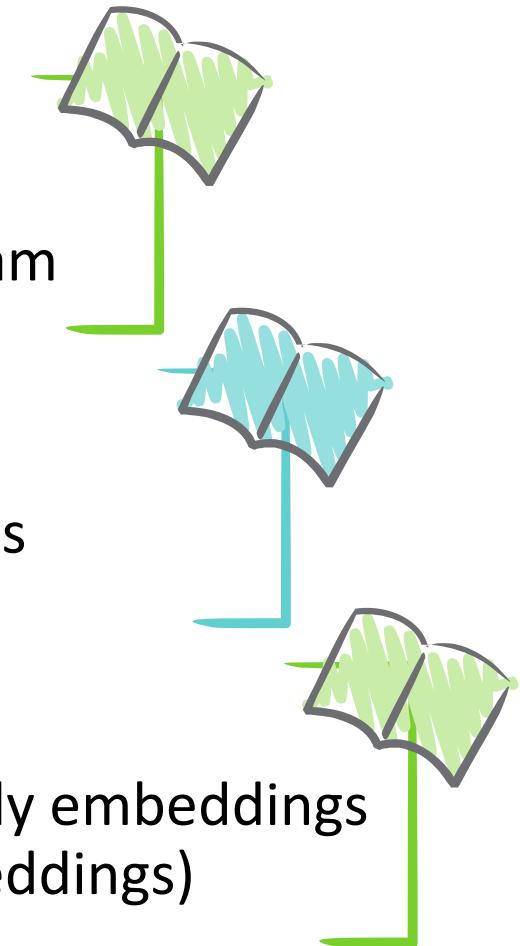
- PPMI embeddings

Rudolph & Blei:

- Exponential family embeddings
(Beronoulli embeddings)



Sharing data is **highly beneficial!**



Temporal Referencing



- Share contexts across all time points
- Individual vectors for words for each bin
- Avoids aligning

Dubossarsky et al

- SGNS
 - PPMI embeddings



Sharing data is **highly** beneficial!

Topic-based methods

1 Topic model (HDP)

2 Assign topics to all instances of a word.

3 If a word sense WS_i is assigned to collection 2 but not 1 then WS_i is a **novel** word sense.

BUT:

A Only two time points (typically there is much noise!)

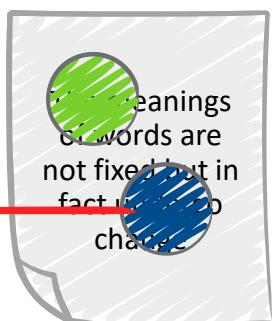
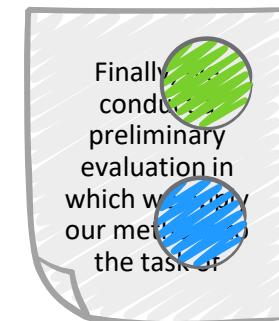
B No alignment of senses over time!

Lau et al.
EACL 2014

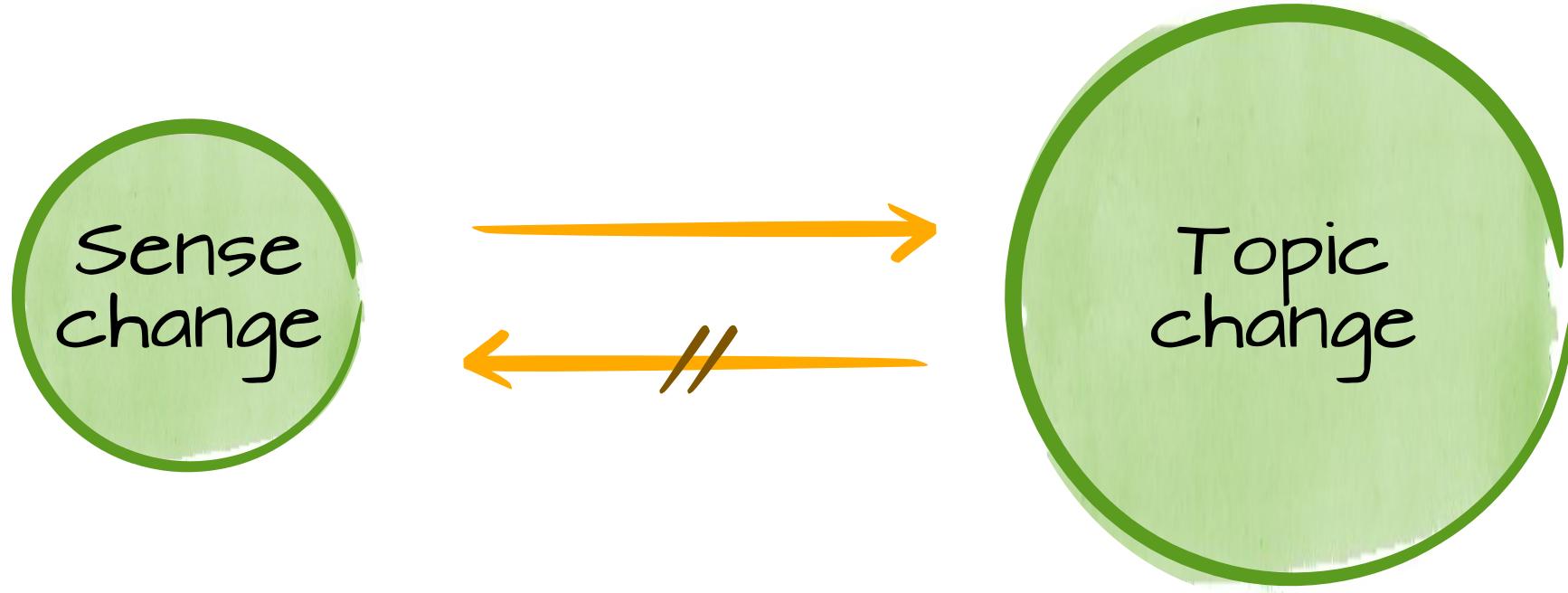
Wijaya & Yeniterzi
DETCT '11

Cook et al.
Coling 2014

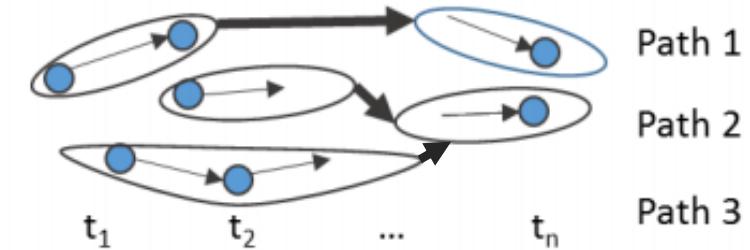
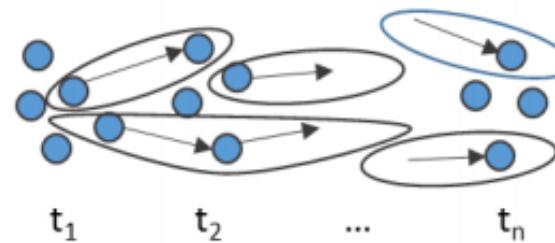
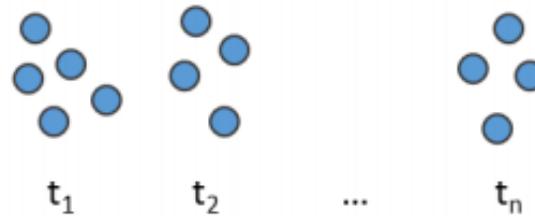
Frermann & Lapata
TACL 2016



Downsides topic models



Word sense induction



Step 1:

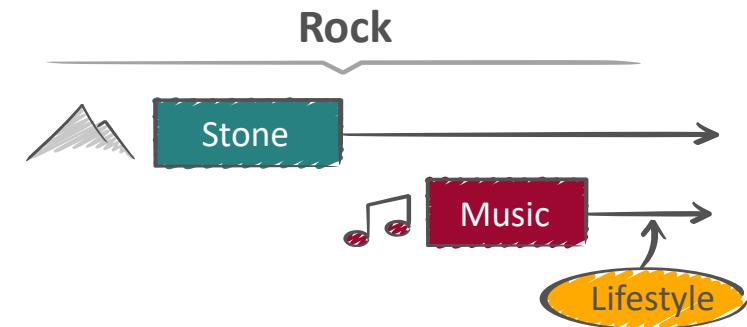
Word sense induction
(curvature clustering)
individual time slices

Step 2:

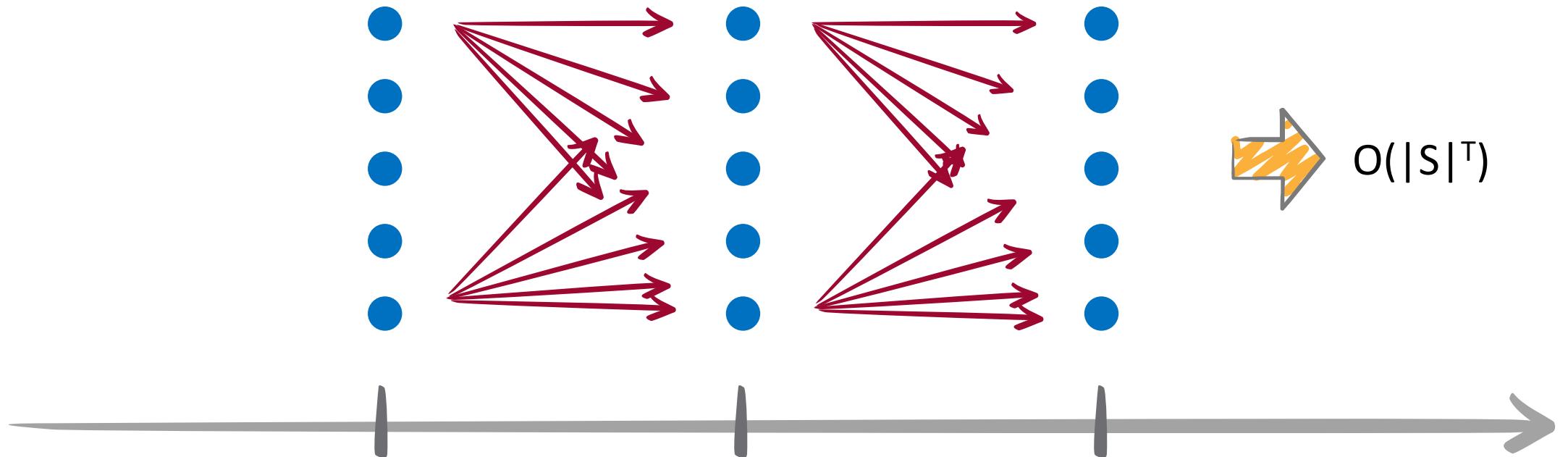
Detecting stable
senses
→ units

Step 3:

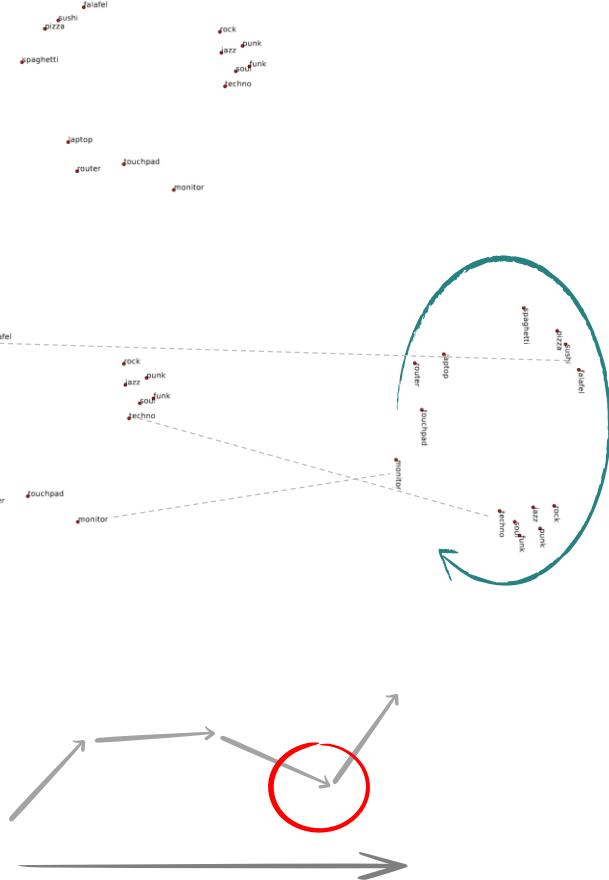
Relating units
→ Paths



Complexity



LSC – individually trained embedding spaces

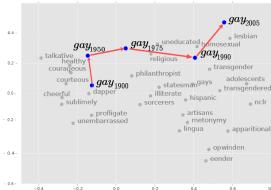


Single-point
embedding space
 t_i

multiple
time points
align

Track an individual
word w over time

Change
point/degree
detection



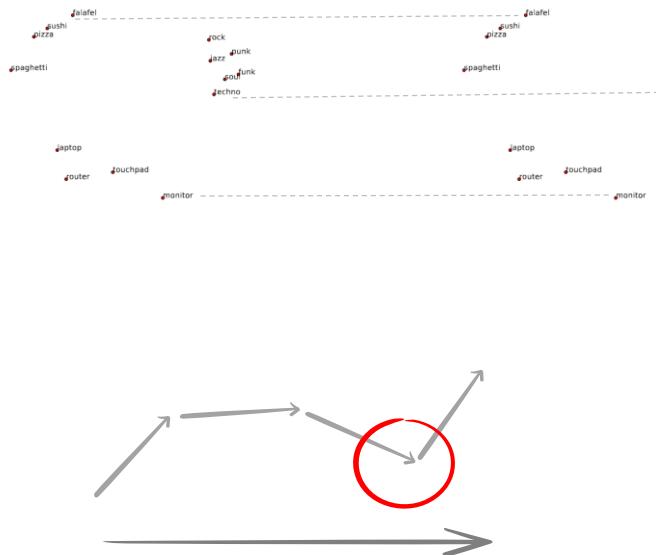
1 Embedding space

2 Alignment

3 Change degree/ point

4 Differentiate between
change types

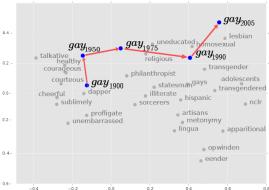
LSC – dynamic embedding spaces



Align while training

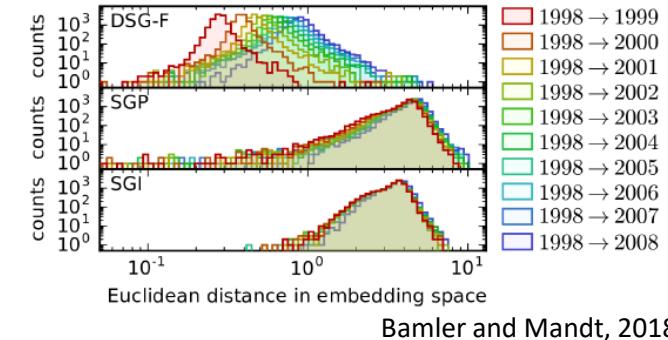
Track an individual word w over time

Change point/degree detection



0 Embedding space

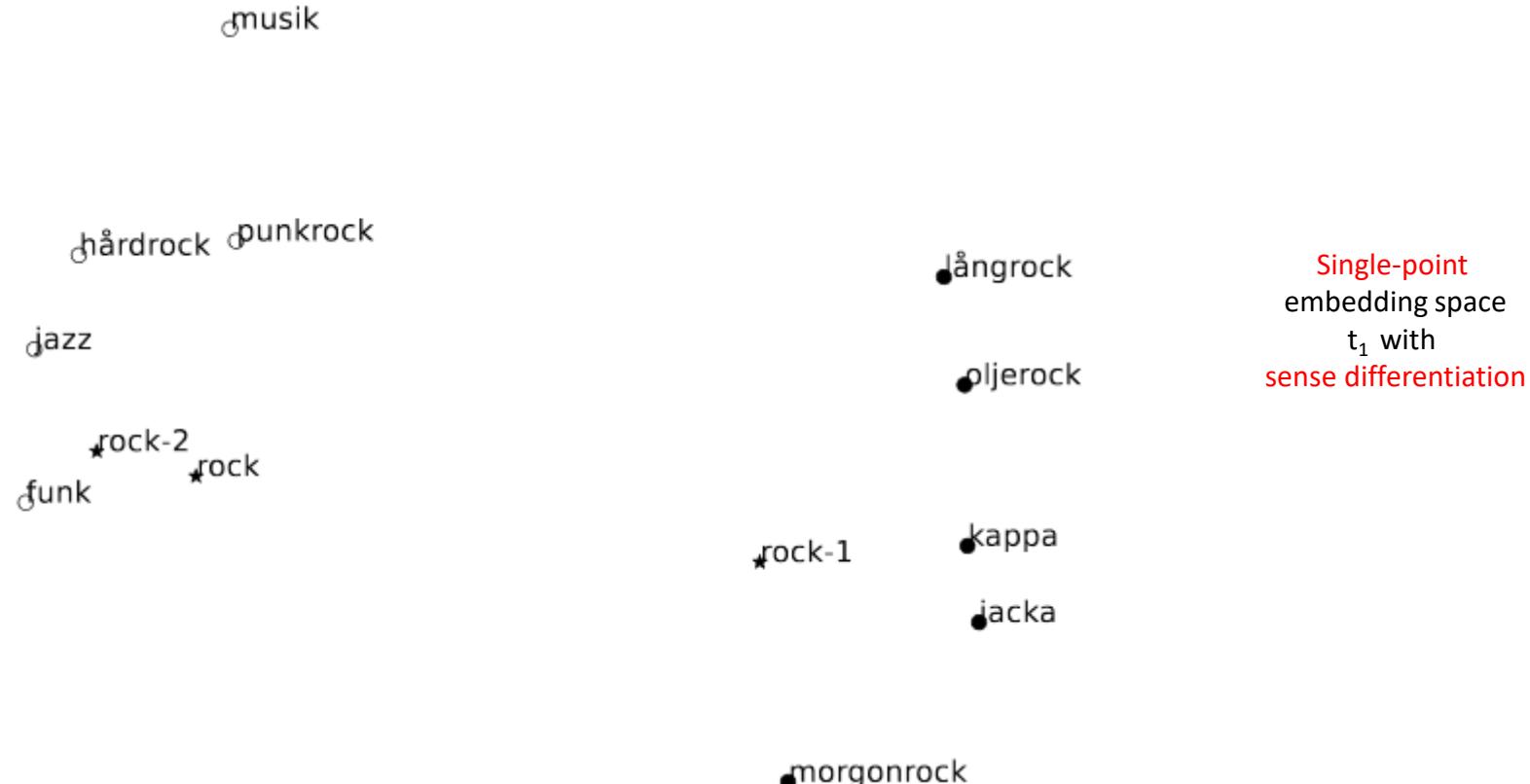
1 Smoothness



2 Change point

3 Differentiate between change types

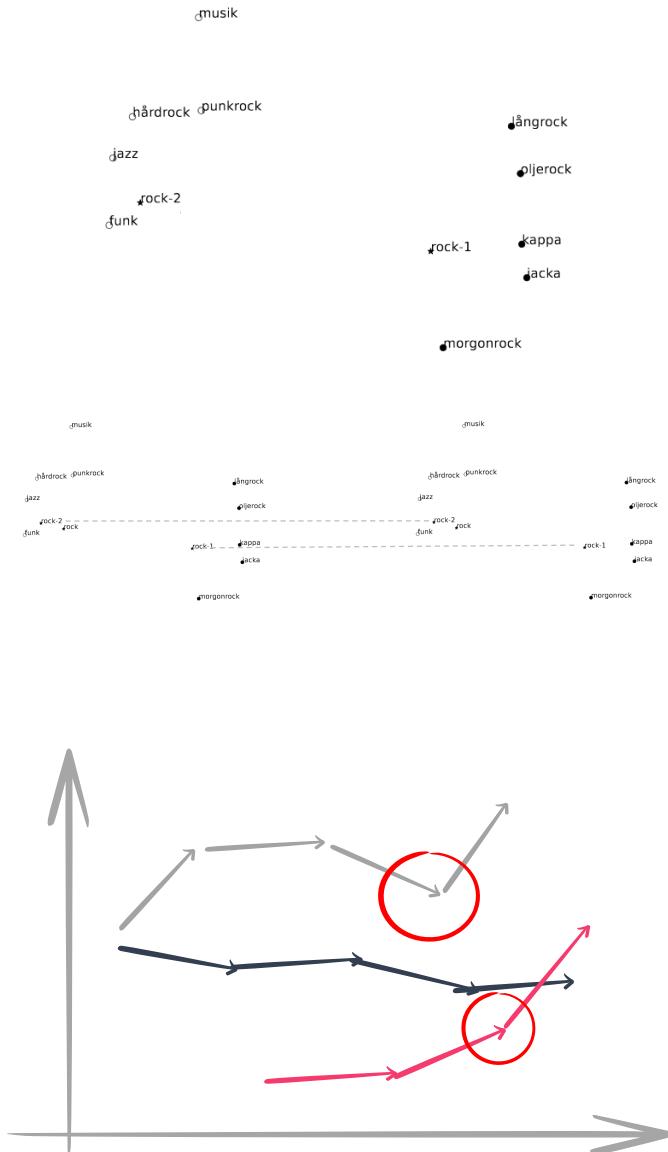
Sense-differentiated embedding spaces



1 Word sense induction

2 Word sense
disambiguation

Sense-differentiated dynamic embeddings



Align while
training, with
multiple senses

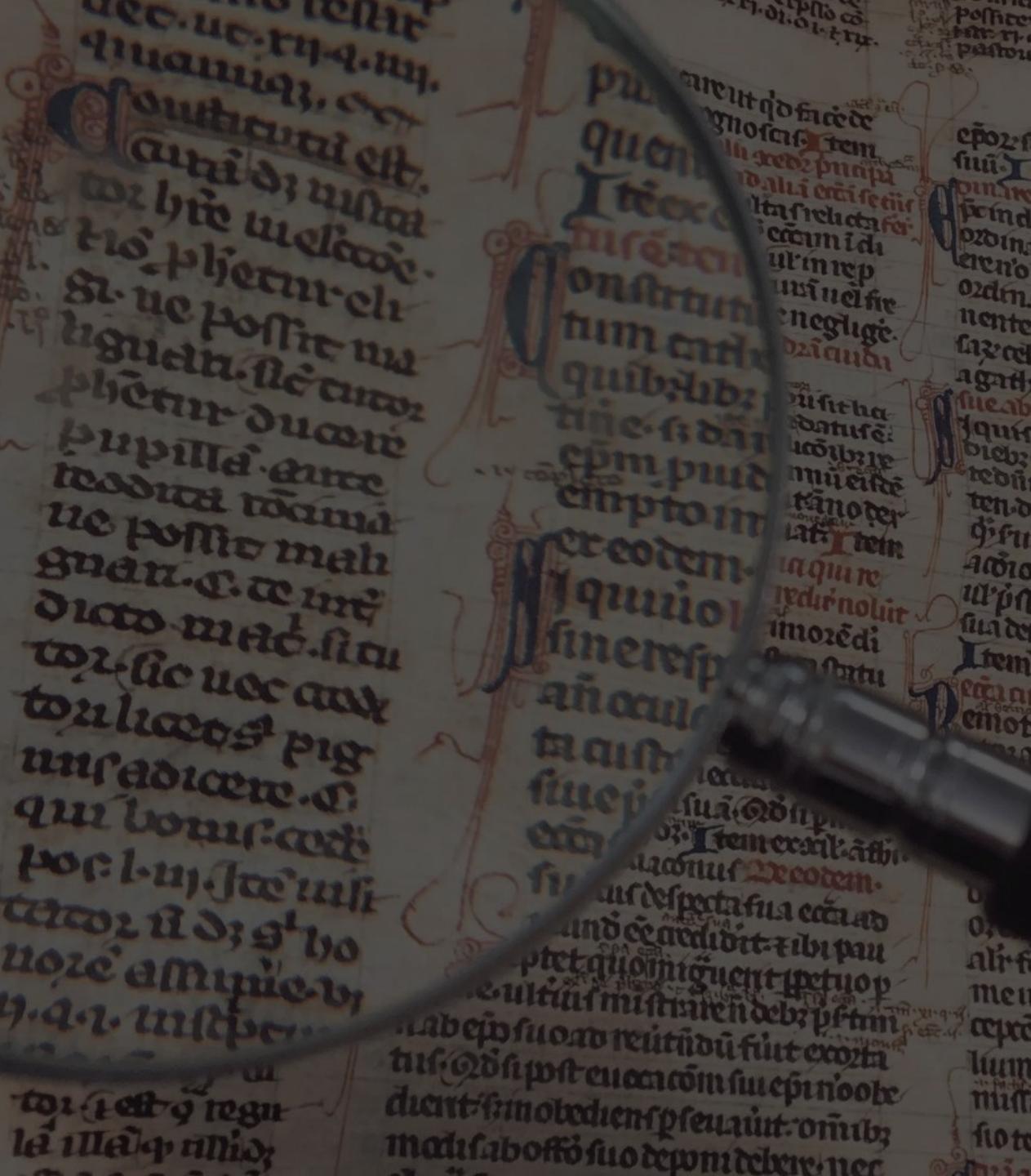
Track a
word's senses
individually
over time

Change point
detection

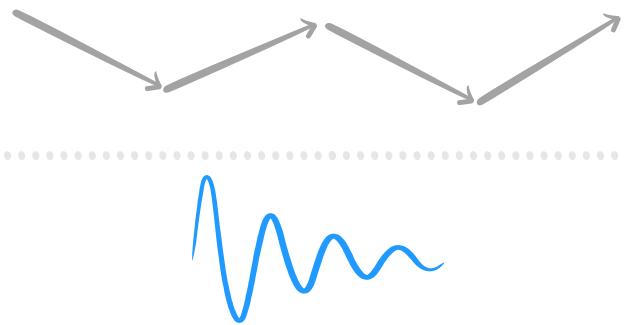
Nina Tahmasebi, On Lexical Semantic Change and Evaluation,
Stuttgart, June 2019

- 1 Word sense induction
- 2 Word sense disambiguation
- 3 Smoothness
- 4 Change point
- 5 Differentiate between change types

Evaluation



Evaluation



signal change



collective text



individual text



individual

minimum

optimum

medium

Evaluation



signal change

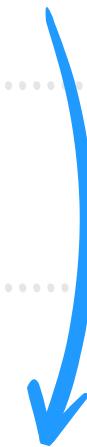


collective text

minimum

optimum

medium



Evaluation



signal change



individual text



individual

minimum

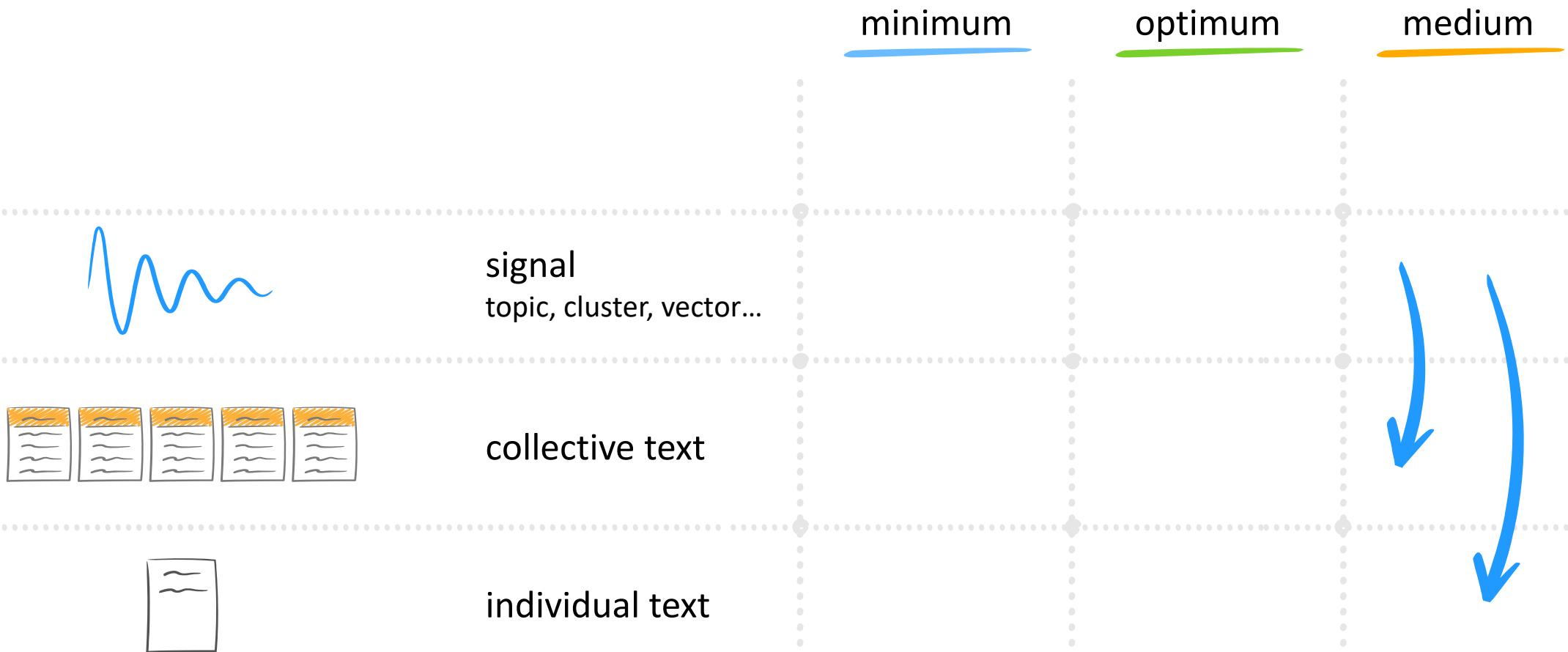
optimum

medium

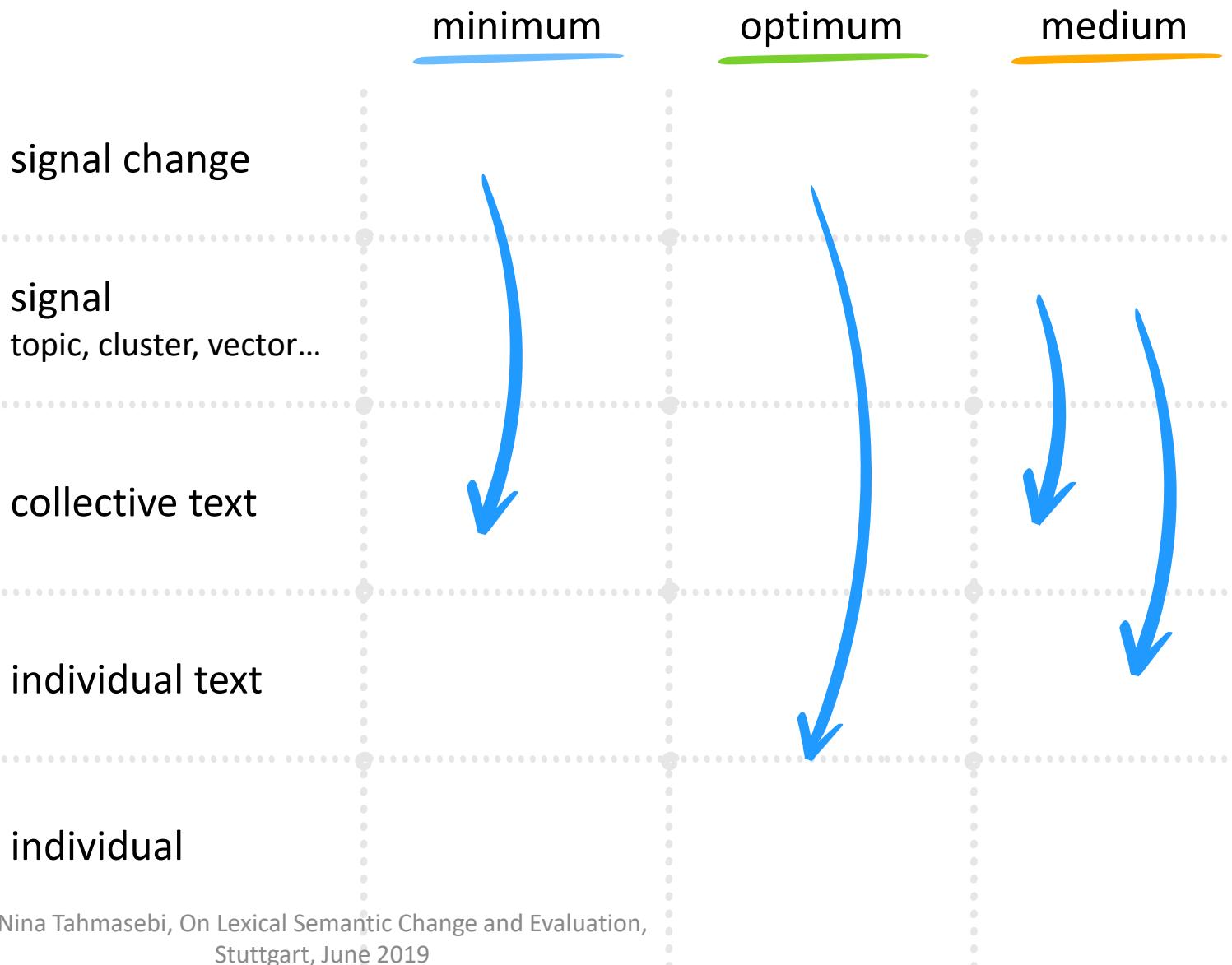


?

Evaluation



Evaluation



Evaluation



signal change

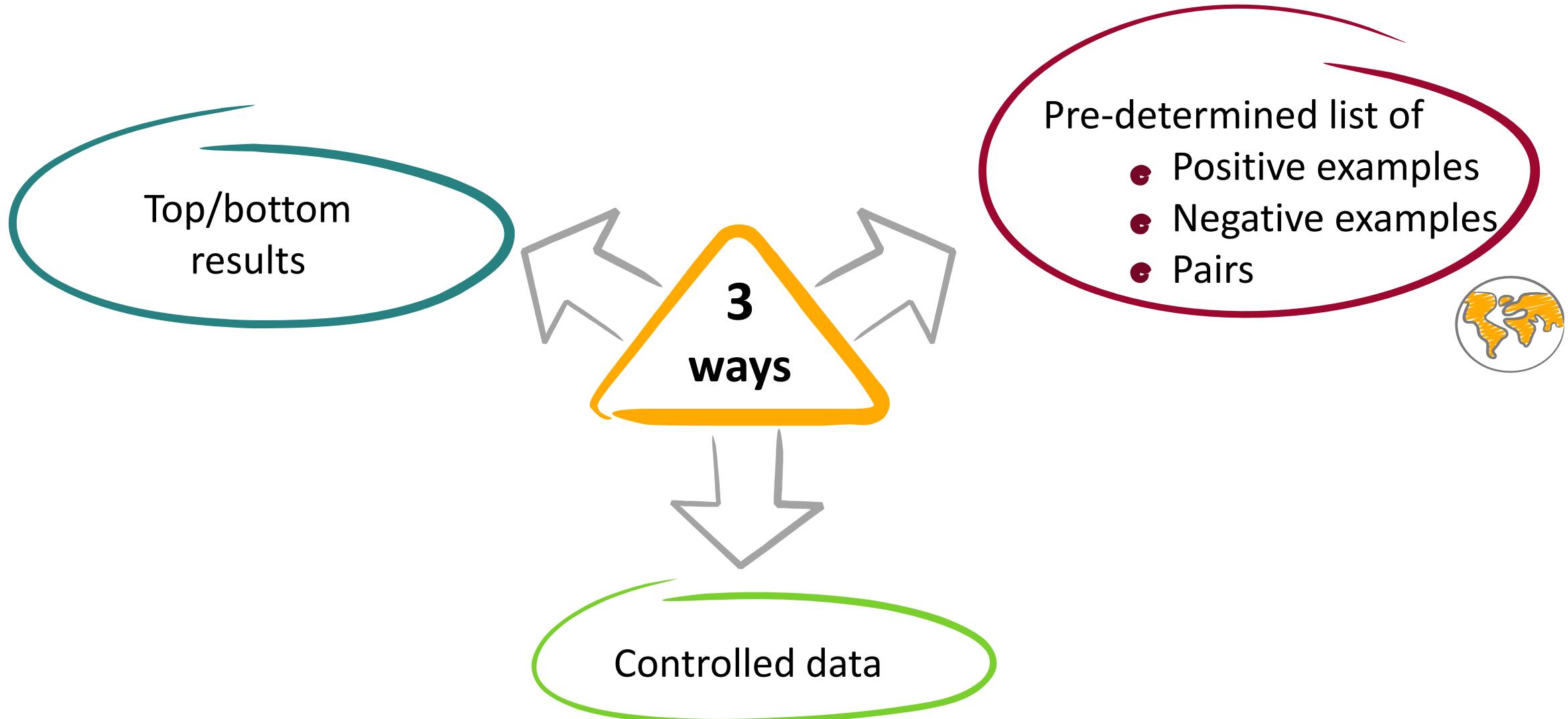
minimum



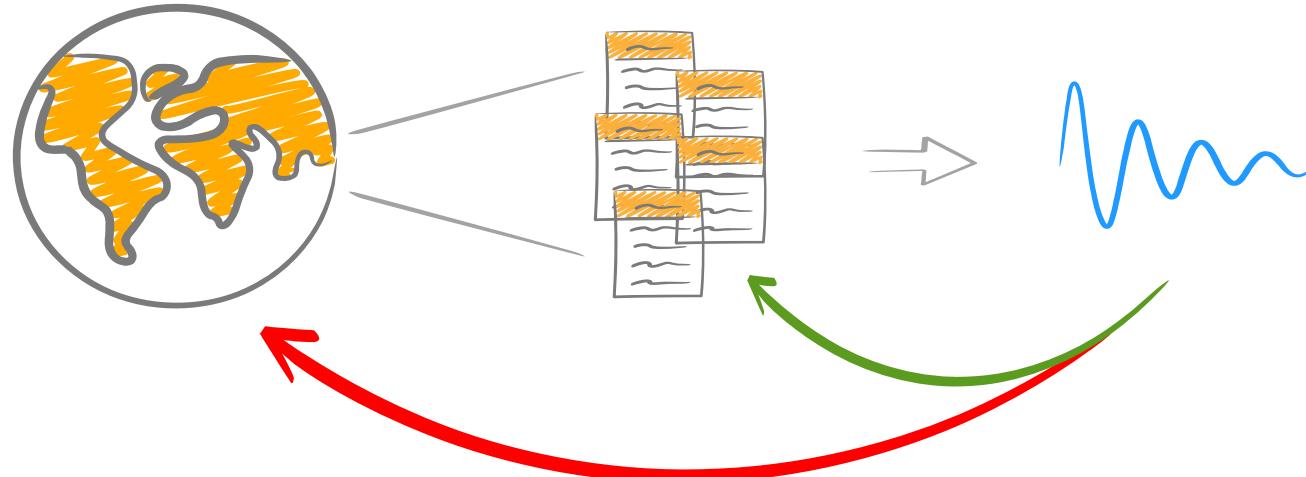
optimum

medium

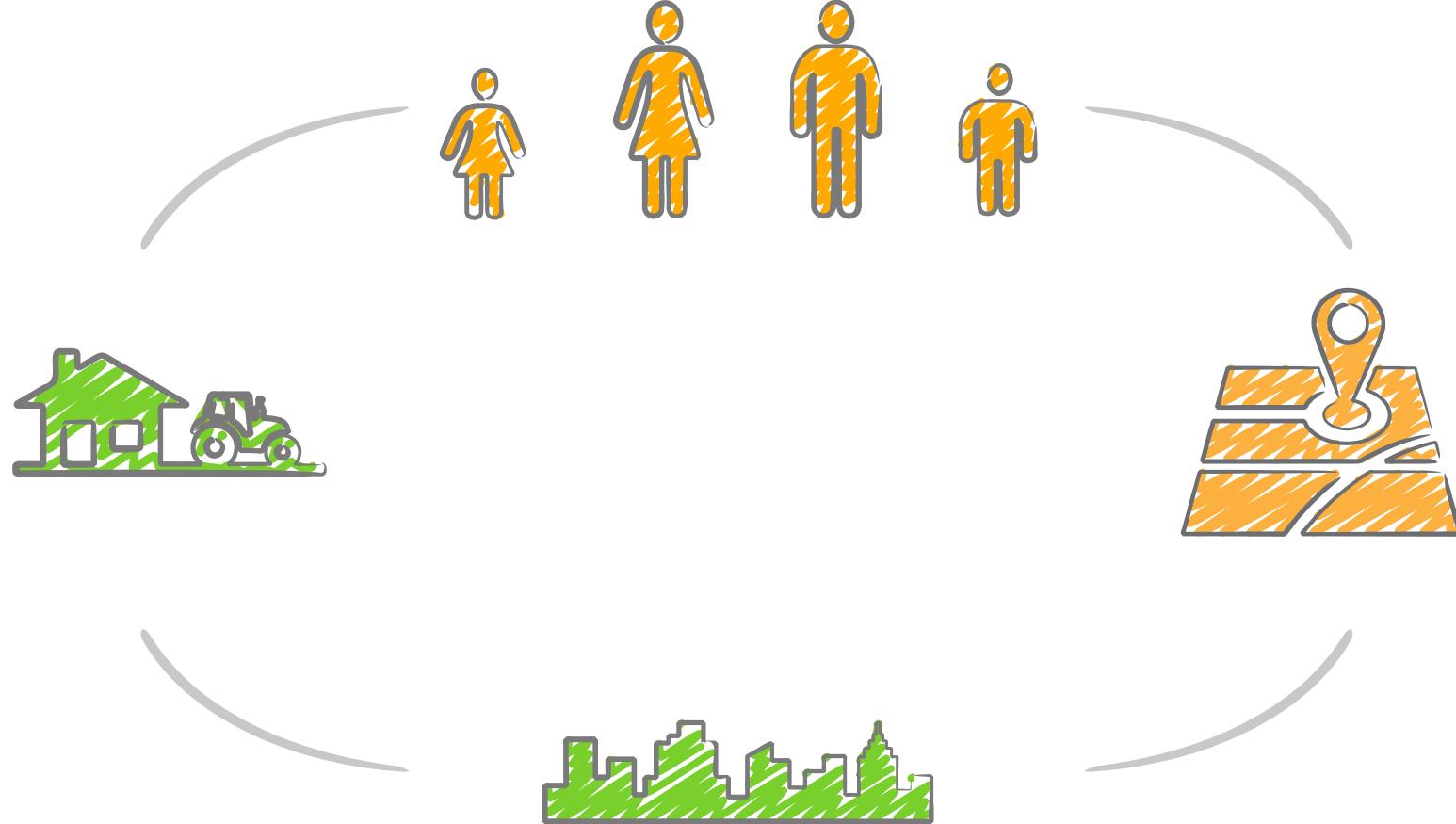
Evaluation



Representativeness



Representativeness (2)



	prechosen		top	entity (S)ingle/ (P)airs	eval. method (M)anual/ (A)utomatic	span	time	# classes	classes	modes	
	# pos	# neg									
Sagi, Kaufmann, and Clark (2009a)	4	0		S	M	569y		4	2	broad./narrow.	no no
Gulordava and Baroni (2011)	0	0	100 ⁵⁴	S	M	40y		2	1	change	no no
Tang, Qu, and Chen (2013)	33	12		S	M	59		59	3	B/N/novel/change ⁵⁵	no no
Kim et al. (2014)	0	0	10/10 ⁵⁶	S/P ⁵⁷	M	110		110	1	change	yes ⁵⁸ no
Kulkarni et al. (2015)	20	0	20 ⁵⁹	S	M/A	105y/12y/2y	21/13/24	1	1	change	yes no
Hamilton, Leskovec, and Jurafsky (2016b)	28	0	10 ⁶⁰	S/P	M	200/190		20	1	change	no no
Rodda, Senaldi, and Lenci (2016)	0	0	50	S	M	1200y		2	1	change	no no
Eger and Mehler (2016)	0	0	21 ⁶¹	S/P	M	200/190		20/19	1	change	no no
Basile et al. (2016)	40	0		S	M	170		17	1	change	yes no
Azarbonyad et al. (2017)	24	0	5/5 ⁶²	S	M	20/11		2/2	1	change	no no
Takamura, Nagata, and Kawasaki (2017)	10	0	100/20 ⁶³	S/P	M	- ⁶⁴		2	1	change	no no
Kahmann, Niekler, and Heyer (2017)	4	0		S	M	≤ 1 ⁶⁵		48	1 ⁶⁶	change	no no
Bamler and Mandt (2017)	6	0	10	S/P	M ⁶⁷	209/230/7	209/230/21	1	1	change	no no
Yao et al. (2018)	4/1888 ⁶⁸	0		S	M/A	27		27	1	change	no no
Wijaya and Yeniterzi (2011)	4	2		S	M	500 ⁶⁹		500	2 ⁷⁰	change novel	yes yes ⁷¹
Lau et al. (2012)	5	5		S	M	43 y		2	1	novel	no yes
Cook et al. (2013)	0	0	30	S	M	14		2	1	novel	no yes
Cook et al. (2014)	7/13	50/164		S	M	43y/17y	2/2	1	1	novel	no yes
Mitra et al. (2015) ⁷²	0	0	69/50	S	M/A	488/2	8/2	3	split/join/novel ⁷³	no yes	
Frermann and Lapata (2016)	4	0	200	S	M/A	311		16	2	change/novel	no yes
Tang, Qu, and Chen (2016) ⁷⁴	197	0		S	M	59		59	6	B/N/novel/change ⁷⁵	no yes
Tahmasebi and Risse (2017a)	35	25		S	M	222y		221	4	novel,B/N,stable	yes yes

<https://languagechange.org/publication/2018-surveypaper/>

Data sets

Table 3

Datasets used for diachronic conceptual change detection. Non-English .

Sagi, Kaufmann, and Clark (2009a)	Helsinki corpus
Gulordava and Baroni (2011)	Google Ngram
Wijaya and Yeniterzi (2011)	Google Ngram
Lau et al. (2012)	British National Corpus (BNC), ukWaC
Cook et al. (2013)	Gigawords corpus
Cook et al. (2014)	BNC, ukWaC, Sibol/Port
Mihalcea and Nastase (2012)	Google books
· Basile et al. (2016)	Google Ngram (Italian)
· Tang, Qu, and Chen (2013, 2016)	Chinese People's Daily
Kim et al. (2014)	Google Ngram
Kulkarni et al. (2015)	Google Ngram, Twitter, Amazon movie reviews
Mitra et al. (2015)	Google Ngram, Twitter
Hamilton, Leskovec, and Jurafsky (2016b)	COHA, Google Ngram
· Eger and Mehler (2016)	COHA, Süddeutsche Zeitung, PL ⁷⁶
Azarbonyad et al. (2017)	New York Times Annotated Corpus, Hansard
· Rodda, Senaldi, and Lenci (2016)	Thesaurus Linguae Graecae
Frermann and Lapata (2016)	DATE corpus
Takamura, Nagata, and Kawasaki (2017)	Wikipedia (English and Japanese)
Kahmann, Niekler, and Heyer (2017)	Guardian (non-public)
Tahmasebi and Risse (2017a)	Times Archive, New York Times Annotated Corpus
Bamler and Mandt (2017)	Google Ngram, State of the Union addresses, Twitter
Yao et al. (2018)	New York Times (non-public)
Rudolph and Blei (2018)	ACM abstracts, ML papers ArXiv, U.S. Senate speech

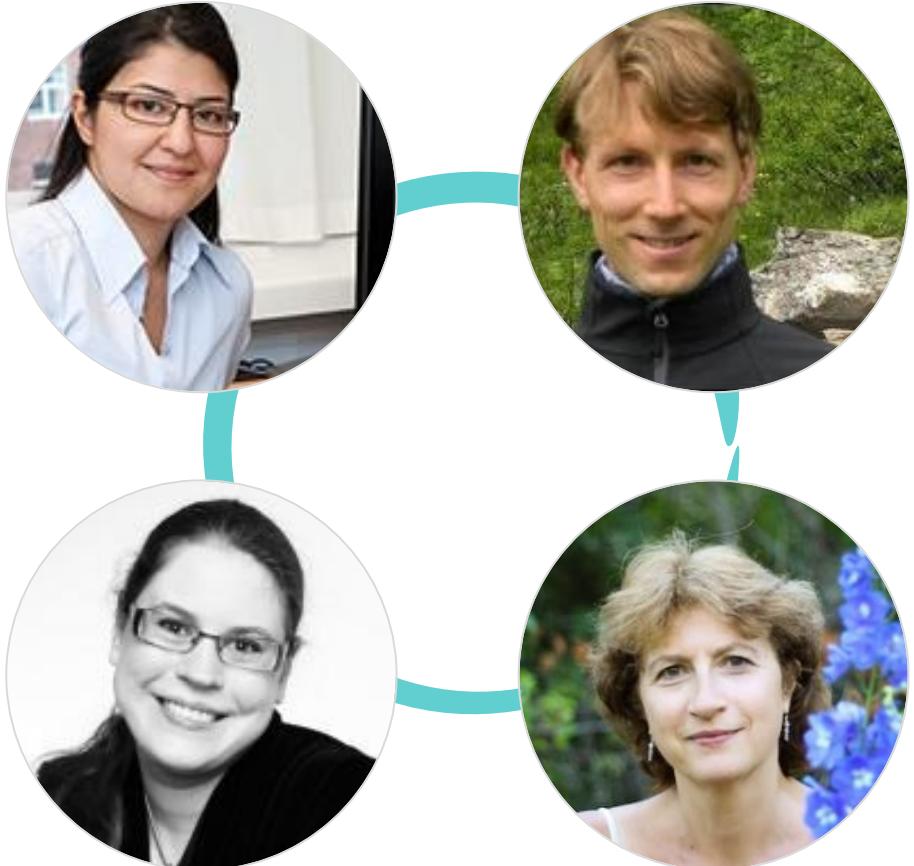


Towards computational lexical semantic change detection

VR funded

6 million sek (+ cofunding Språkbanken ~700k sek)
2019 – 2022

4 year project: <https://languagechange.org/>



Overall goal is to bridge the gap between the four of us and all that can benefit from the results.

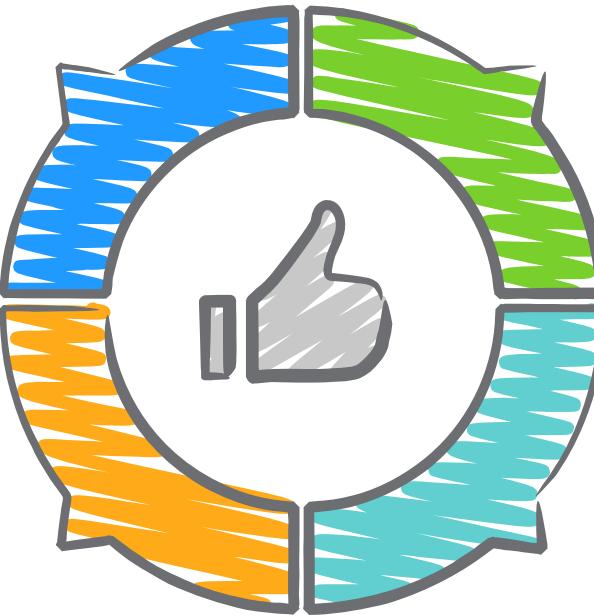
Main goals

Wp1: Swedish word sense induction

- Using sense-differentiated dynamic embeddings

Wp3: Lexical replacements

- On the basis of Wp1
- Or using other textual clues



Wp2: Semantic change

- On the basis of Wp1

Wp4: Applications

- Applied sociology, historical linguistics, history of concepts, ...

WP*: Evaluation

- Integrated in all work packages

Activities

News-list (news@languagechange.org)

Introductory videos to LS change

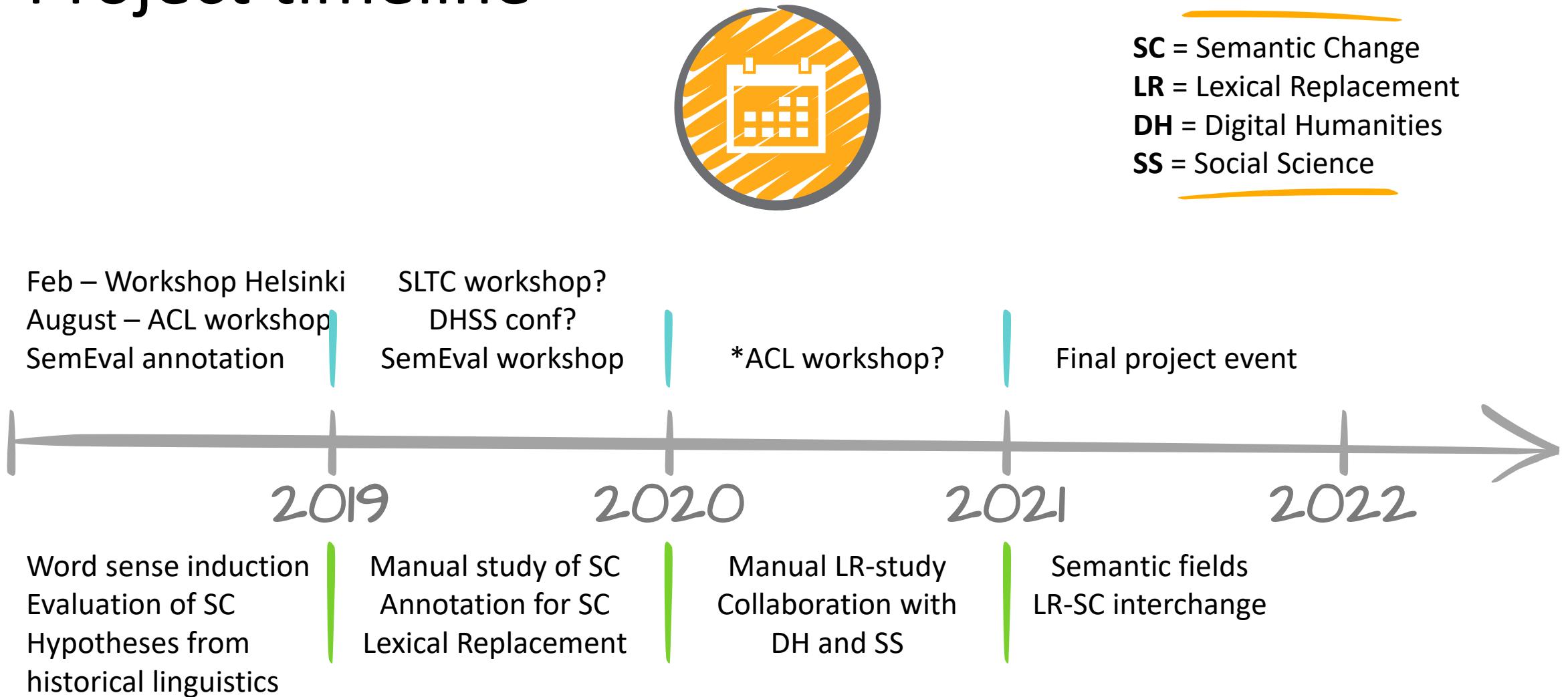
Workshops (next at ACL2019)

Collaboration with other researchers
historians, sociologist, hist. linguists

SemEval2020 task

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the project's homepage. The URL in the address bar is https://languagechange.org. The page title is "Towards Computational Lexical Semantic Change Detection". A navigation menu at the top includes Home, Work Packages, Events, Talks, Publications, Posts, and Contact. Below the menu, there is a circular logo with a glowing orange and yellow background. To the right of the logo, the text "Project Description" is followed by a detailed paragraph about the project's goals and methods. Further down, there is a section about work packages, listing four areas: Word Sense Induction, Semantic Change, Lexical Replacement, and Applications. At the bottom of the page, a footer note mentions "The 1st International Workshop on Computational Approaches to Historical".

Project timeline

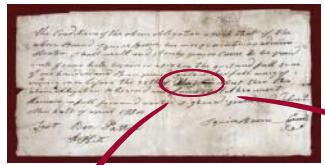


Vision

Given a word in a document at time t

1

Mark words that are likely
to have a changed meaning



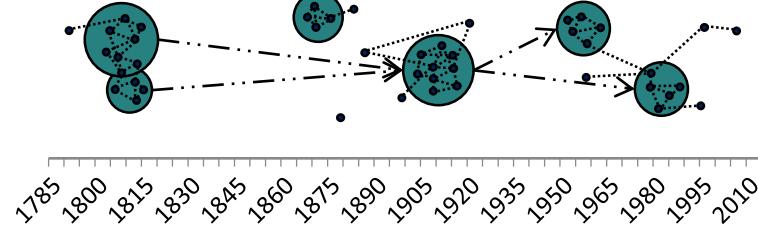
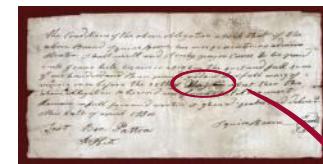
'gay' adjective \gā\

Definition of GAY
1 a : happily excited : MERRY <in a gay mood>
b : keenly alive and exuberant : having or inducing high spirits
<a bird's gay spring song>



2

Find all changes to the word



Conclusions



Complexity in

- Multiple senses
- Many time points

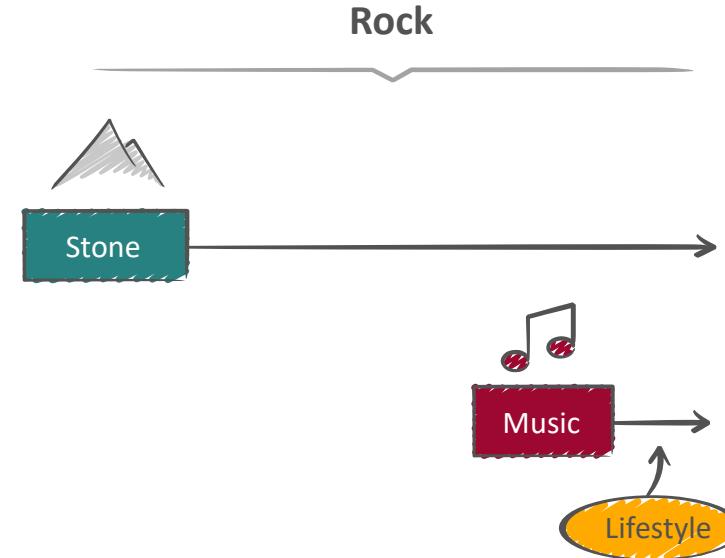


Not all data are big data!



Evaluation

- Common datasets and methods!
 - What is the result valid for?
-



Thank you for listening!



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