


# Artificial Intelligence: Introduction to Natural Language Processing

# Menu

1. Introduction 
2. Bag of word model
3. n-gram models
4. Linguistic features for NLP

# Languages

## ■ Artificial

- ❑ Smaller vocabulary
- ❑ Simple syntactic structures
- ❑ Non-ambiguous
- ❑ Not tolerant to errors (ex. Syntax error)

## ■ Natural

- ❑ Large and open vocabulary (new words everyday)
- ❑ Complex syntactic structures
- ❑ Very ambiguous
- ❑ Robust (ex. forgot a comma, a word... still OK)

# Question Answering: IBM's Watson

WATSON vs. HUMANS			
Round	Watson	Rutter	Jennings
1 (Mon.)	\$5000	\$5000	\$200
2 (Tues.)	\$35,734	\$10,800	\$4,800
3 (Wed.)	\$77,147	\$21,600	\$24,000
Final prize	\$1,000,000	\$200,000	\$300,000

- Won Jeopardy on February 16, 2011!

WILLIAM WILKINSON'S  
"AN ACCOUNT OF THE PRINCIPALITIES OF  
WALLACHIA AND MOLDOVIA"  
INSPIRED THIS AUTHOR'S  
MOST FAMOUS NOVEL



Who is Bram  
Stoker?  
(Dracula)

# Information Extraction

**Subject:** curriculum meeting

**Date:** January 15, 2012

**To:** Dan Jurafsky

Hi Dan, we've now scheduled the curriculum meeting.  
It will be in Gates 159 tomorrow from 10:00-11:30.

-Chris



Create new Calendar entry

**Event:** Curriculum mtg

**Date:** Jan-16-2012

**Start:** 10:00am

**End:** 11:30am

**Where:** Gates 159

# Information Extraction & Sentiment Analysis



Attributes:

zoom  
affordability  
size and weight  
flash  
ease of use



## Size and weight

- ✓ nice and compact to carry!
- ✓ since the camera is small and light, I won't need to carry around those heavy, bulky professional cameras either!
- ✗ the camera feels flimsy, is plastic and very light in weight you have to be very delicate in the handling of this camera

# Machine Translation

Fully automatic

Enter Source Text:

这不过是一个时间的问题。

Translation from Stanford's *Phrasal*:

This is only a matter of time.

Helping human translators

Enter Source Text:

تعرض الرئيس اللبناني اميل لحود لـ حملة عنيفة في مجلس النواب الذي اتعد امس في جلسة تشريعية عادية تحولت الي " محاكمة " لـ رئيس الجمهورية علي موقفه من المحكمة الدولية و " الملاحظات " التي ادلي بها حول هذا الموضوع .

Translate Clear

Enter Translation:

lebanese

- president
- suffered
- exposed
- president emile
- before
- presented
- offer

Done!

# Where we are today

mostly solved

Spam detection

Let's go to Agra! ✓

Buy V1AGRA ... ✗

Part-of-speech (POS) tagging

ADJ ADJ NOUN VERB ADV

Colorless green ideas sleep furiously.


Named entity recognition (NER)


PERSON ORG LOC

Einstein met with UN officials in Princeton

making good progress

Sentiment analysis

Best roast chicken in San Francisco! 

The waiter ignored us for 20 minutes. 

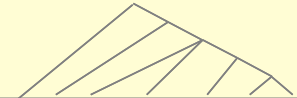
Coreference resolution

Carter told Mubarak he shouldn't run again. 


Word sense disambiguation (WSD)

I need new batteries for my **mouse**. 

Parsing

I can see Alcatraz from the window! 

Machine translation (MT)

第13届上海国际电影节开幕... 

The 13<sup>th</sup> Shanghai International Film Festival...

Information extraction (IE)

You're invited to our dinner party, Friday May 27 at 8:30



Party  
May  
27  
add

Good progress by  
Deep Learning

Question answering (QA)

Q. How effective is ibuprofen in reducing fever in patients with acute febrile illness?

Paraphrase

XYZ acquired ABC yesterday

ABC has been taken over by XYZ

Summarization

The Dow Jones is up

The S&P500 jumped

Housing prices rose



Economy  
is good

Dialog

Where is Citizen Kane playing in SF?



Castro Theatre at 7:30.  
Do you want a ticket?



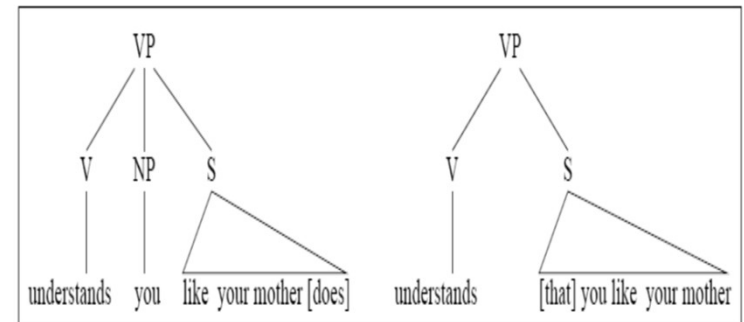


# Why is NLP hard?

“At last, a computer that understands you like your mother”

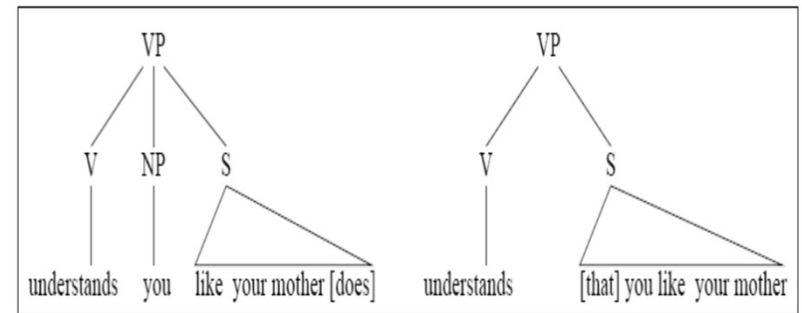
- Because it is ambiguous:

1. The computer understands you as well as your mother understands you.



1. The computer understands that you like (love) your mother.

1. The computer understands you as well as it understands your mother.



# Another Example of Ambiguity

- ❑ Even simple sentences are highly ambiguous
- ❑ *"Get the cat with the gloves"*



# And Even More Examples of Ambiguity

- Iraqi Head Seeks Arms
- Ban on Nude Dancing on Governor's Desk
- Juvenile Court to Try Shooting Defendant
- Teacher Strikes Idle Kids
- Kids Make Nutritious Snacks
- British Left Waffles on Falkland Islands
- Red Tape Holds Up New Bridges
- Bush Wins on Budget, but More Lies Ahead
- Hospitals are Sued by 7 Foot Doctors
- Stolen Painting Found by Tree
- Local HS Dropouts Cut in Half

# NLP vs Speech Processing

## ■ Natural Language Processing

= automatic processing of written texts

- ## 1. Natural Language Understanding

- Input = text

- ## 2. Natural Language Generation

- Output = text

## ■ Speech Processing

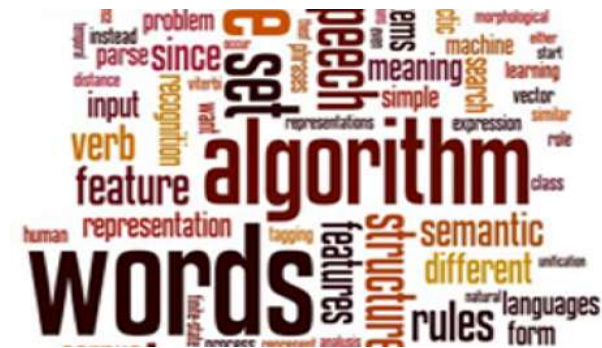
= automatic processing of **speech**

- ## 1. Speech Recognition

- Input = acoustic signal

- ## 2. Speech Synthesis

- Output = acoustic signal



# Remember these slides?

## History of AI

- Another big "hype" ... **Expert Systems** (70s - mid 80s)
  - people realized that general-purpose problem solving (weak methods) do not work for practical applications
  - systems need specific domain-dependent knowledge (strong methods)
  - development of knowledge-intensive, rule-based techniques
  - major expert systems
    - MYCIN (1972): expert system to diagnose blood diseases
  - In the industry (1980s): First expert system shells and commercial applications.

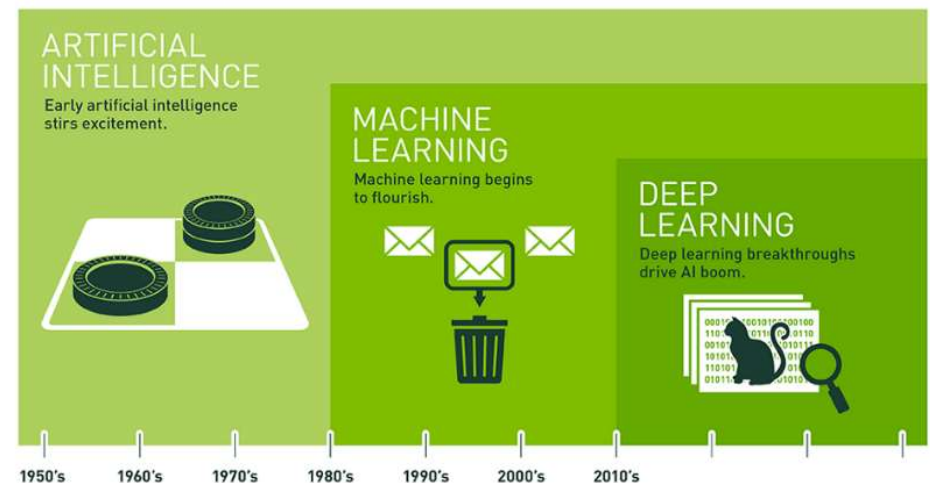
☹️ HUMANS need to write the rules by hand...

## History of AI

- The rise of **Machine Learning** (1980s - 2010)
  - More powerful CPUs -> usable implementation of neural networks
  - Big data -> Huge data sets are available to learn from
    - document repositories in NLP, datasets in ML, billions on images for image retrieval, billions of genomic sequences, ...
  - 😊 Rules are now learned automatically!
  - AI adopts the Scientific Method

## History of AI

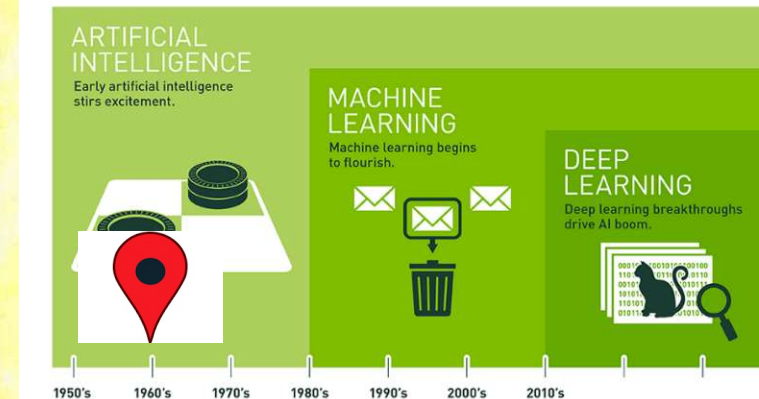
- The era of **Deep Learning** (2010-today)
  - Development of "deep neural networks"
  - Trained on massive data sets
  - Use of GPU for computations
  - Use of "generic networks" for many applications





# The Ancient Land of NLP (aka GOF AI)

(circa A.D. 1950...mid 1980)



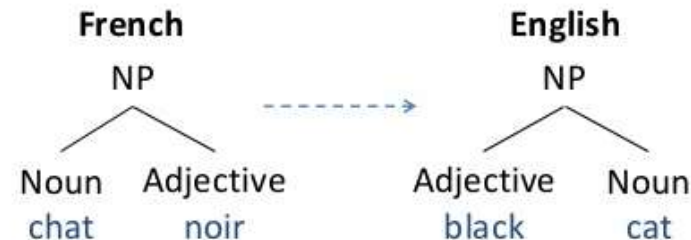
# Rule-based NLP

(circa A.D. 1950...mid 1980)

```
s    --> np, vp.
vp   --> v, np.
vp   --> v.
np   --> n.
n    --> [john].    n    --> [lisa].
n    --> [house].
v    --> [died].    v    --> [kissed].

?- s([john, kissed, lisa], []).
yes
?- s([lisa, died], []).
yes
?- s([kissed, john, lisa], []).
no
```

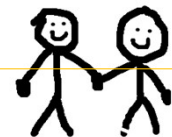
- Rules hand-written by linguists



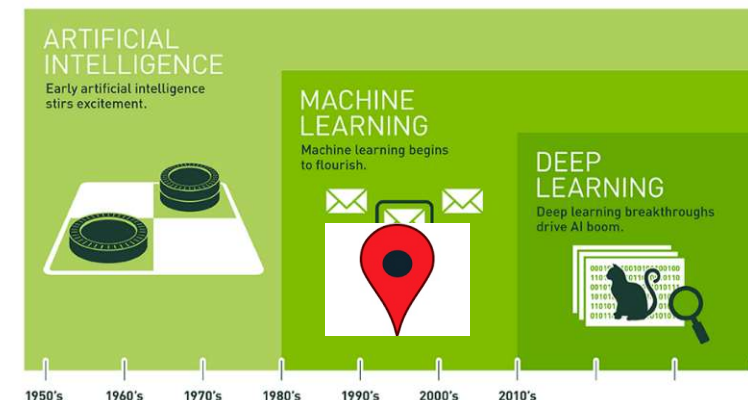
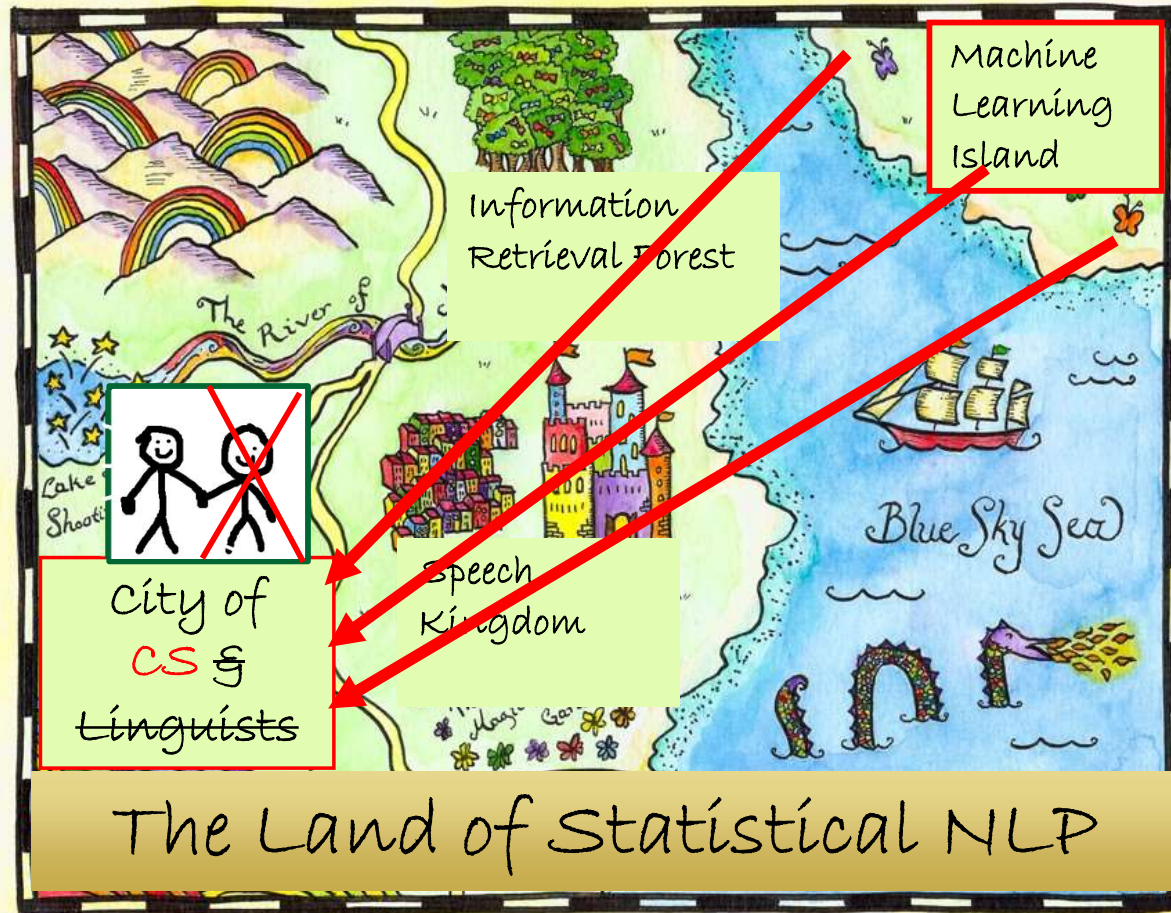
- State of the art until early 2000's
  - e.g. Systran
- Expensive to create maintain and adapt

## Symbolic methods / Linguistic approach / Knowledge-rich approach

- Cognitive approach
- Rules are developed by hand in collaboration with linguists



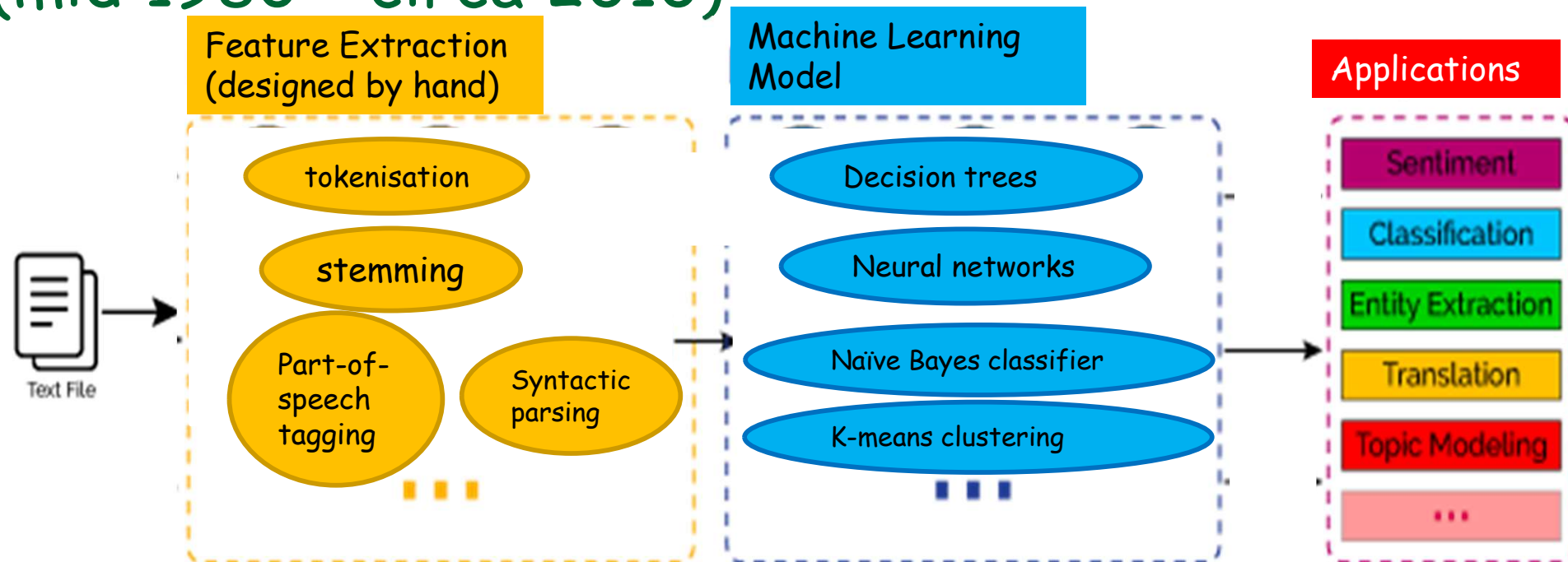
# 1<sup>st</sup> Invasion of NLP, from ML (mid 1980 - circa 2010)





# Statistical NLP

(mid 1980 - circa 2010)



## Statistical methods / Machine Learning / Knowledge-poor method

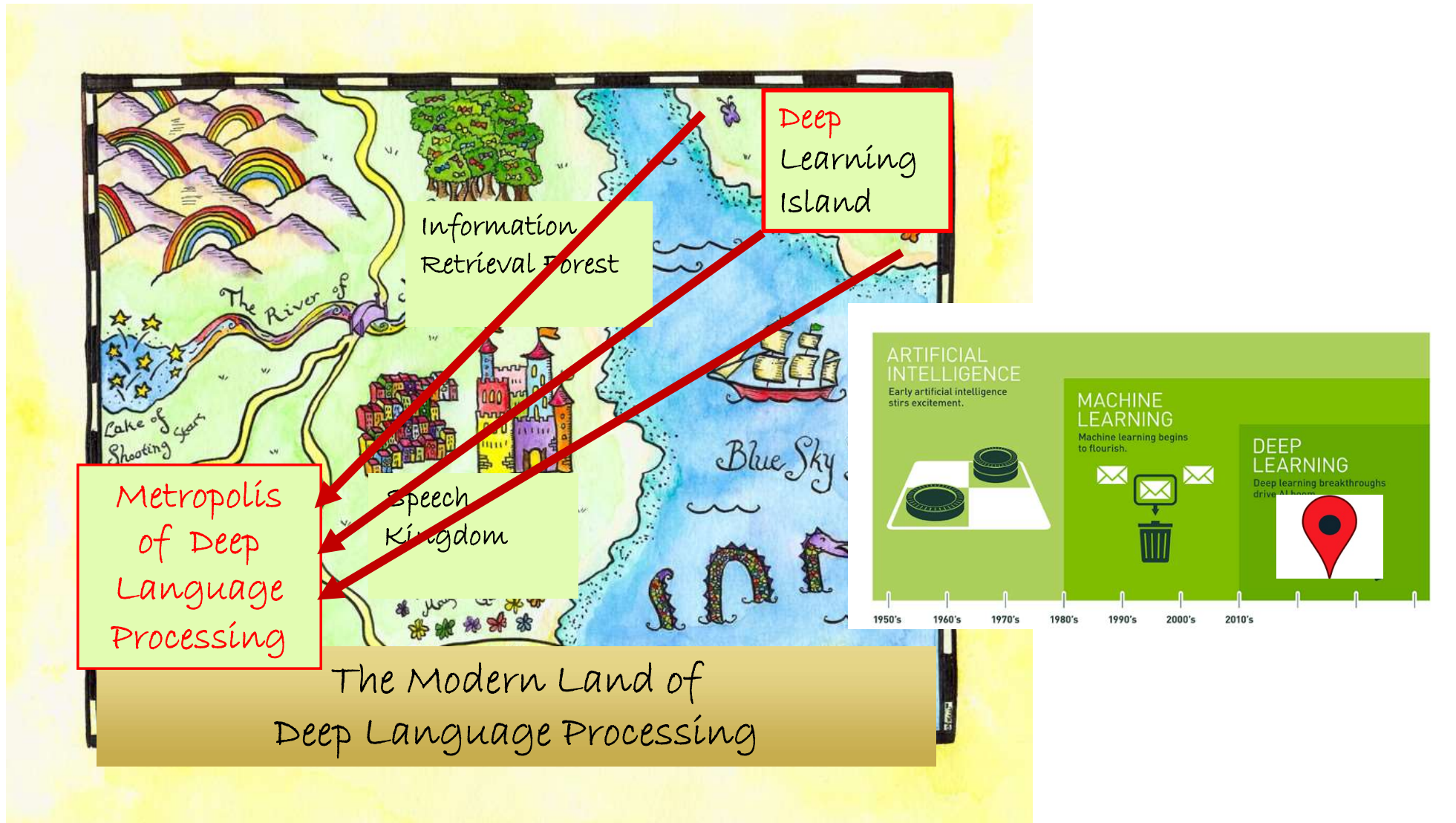
- Engineering Approach
- Rules are developed automatically (using machine learning)
- But the linguistic features are hand-engineered and fed to the ML model
- Applications: Information Retrieval, Predictive Text / Word Completion, Language Identification, Text Classification, Authorship Attribution...

# Statistical NLP (mid 1980 - circa 2010)

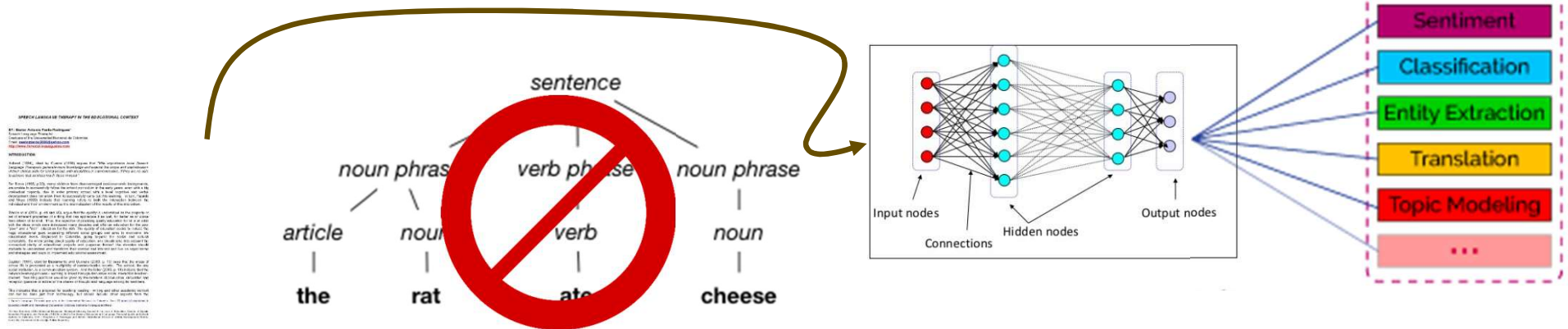


linguistic features are hand-engineered and fed to the ML model

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Invasion of NLP, by Deep Learning (circa 2010-today)



# Deep Language Processing (circa 2010-today)



## Deep Neural Networks applied to NLP problems

- Rules are developed automatically (using machine learning)
- And the linguistic features are found automatically!

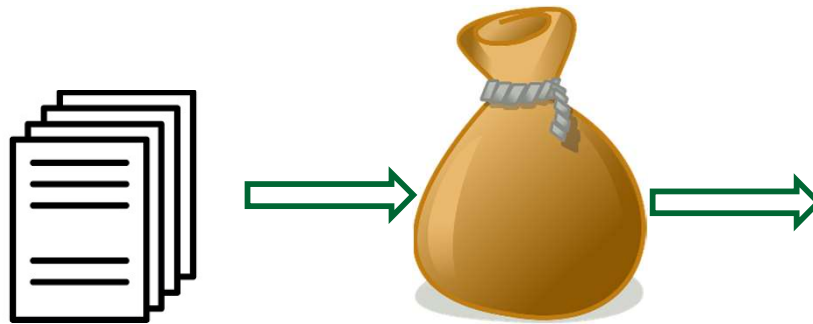
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3. n-gram models
4. Linguistic features for NLP



# Bag-of-word Model (BOW)

- A simple model where word order is ignored



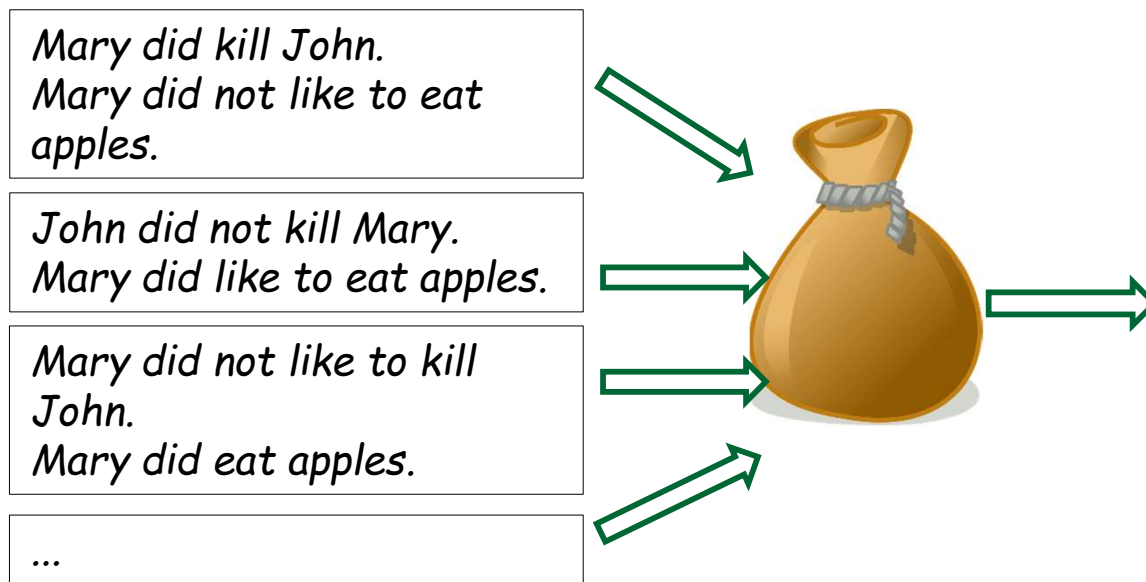
Word	Freq.
Mary	2
apples	1
did	2
eat	1
John	1
kill	1
like	1
not	1
to	1

- used in many applications:
  - NB spam filter seen in class a few weeks ago
  - Information Retrieval (eg. google search)
  - ...
- But has severe limits to understand meaning of text...
- Maybe we should take word order into account...



# Limits of BOW Model

- word order is ignored ==> meaning of text is lost.



Word	Freq.
Mary	2
apples	1
did	2
eat	1
John	1
kill	1
like	1
not	1
to	1

- n-grams take [a bit of] word order into account

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# n-gram Model

- An n-gram model is a probability distribution over sequences of events (grams/units/items)
- models the order of the events
- Used when the past sequence of events is a good indicator of the next event to occur in the sequence
- i.e. To predict the next event in a sequence of event
- E.g.:
  - next move of player based on his/her past moves
    - left right right up ... up? down? left? right?
  - next base pair based on past DNA sequence
    - AGCTTCG ... A? G? C? T?
  - next word based on past words
    - Hi dear, how are ... helicopter? laptop? you? magic?

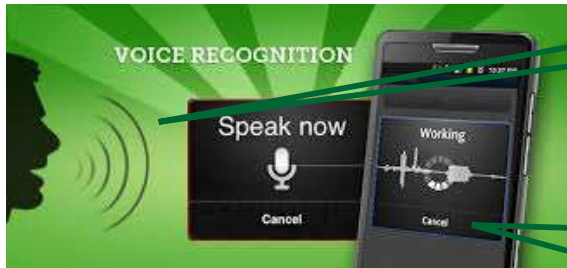
# What's a Language Model?

- A Language model is a n-gram model over word/character sequences
- ie: events = words or events = character
- $P(\text{"I'd like a coffee with 2 sugars and milk"}) \approx 0.001$
- $P(\text{"I'd hike a toffee with 2 sugars and silk"}) \approx 0.0000000001$

# Applications of Language Models

- Speech Recognition
- Statistical Machine Translation
- Language Identification
- Spelling correction
  - *He is trying to fine out.*
  - *He is trying to find out.*
- Optical character recognition / Handwriting recognition
- ...

# In Speech Recognition



Given: Observed sound -  $O$

Find: The most likely word/sentence -  $S^*$

$S1$ : How to recognize speech. ?

$S2$ : How to wreck a nice beach. ?

$S3$ : ...

- Goal: find most likely sentence ( $S^*$ ) given the observed sound ( $O$ ) ...
- ie. pick the sentence with the highest probability:  $S^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{S \in L} P(S | O)$
- We can use Bayes rule to rewrite this as:  $S^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{S \in L} \frac{P(O | S)P(S)}{P(O)}$
- Since denominator is the same for each candidate  $S$ , we can ignore it for the  $\operatorname{argmax}$ :

$$S^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{S \in L} P(O | S) \times P(S)$$

Acoustic model --  
Probability of the possible  
phonemes in the language +  
Probability of  $\neq$  pronunciations

Language model --  $P(\text{a sentence})$   
Probability of the candidate  
sentence in the language

# In Speech Recognition

$$S^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{S \in L} P(O | S) \times P(S)$$

Acoustic model

Language model

$$\operatorname{argmax}_{\text{word sequence}} P(\text{word sequence} \mid \text{acoustic signal})$$

$$\operatorname{argmax}_{\text{word sequence}} \frac{P(\text{acoustic signal} \mid \text{word sequence}) \times P(\text{word sequence})}{P(\text{acoustic signal})}$$

$$\operatorname{argmax}_{\text{word sequence}} P(\text{acoustic signal} \mid \text{word sequence}) \times P(\text{word sequence})$$

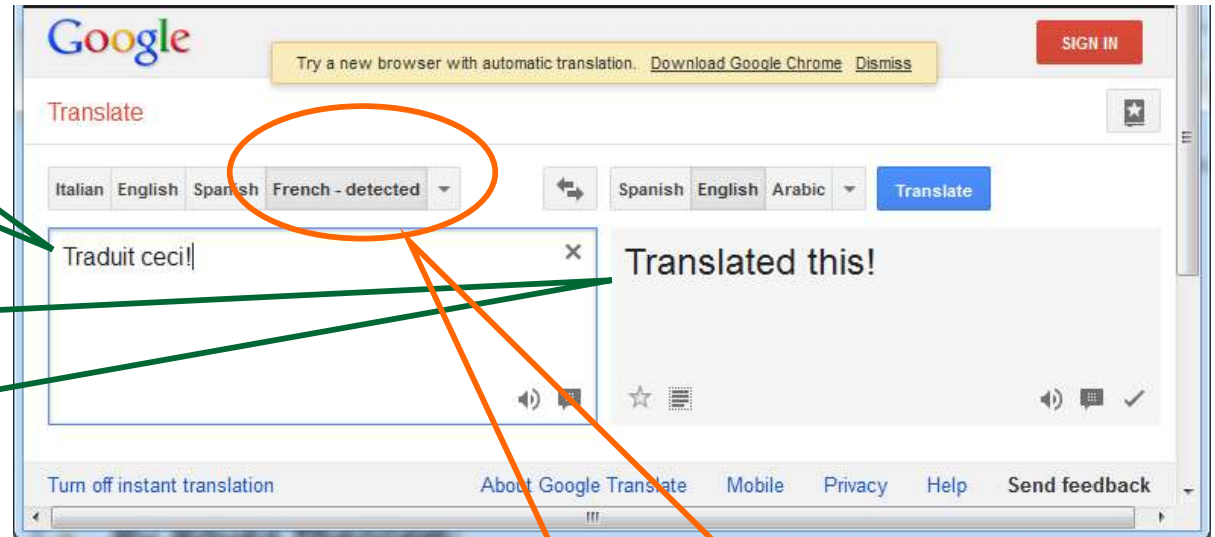
# In Statistical Machine Translation

- Assume we translate from  $fr_{[foreign]}$  to English i.e.:  $(en|fr)$

Given: Foreign sentence - fr

Find: The most likely English sentence -  $en^*$

*S1: Translate that!*  
*S2: Translated this!*  
*S3: Eat your soup!*  
*S4...*



Automatic Language Identification...  
guess how that's done?

$$en^* = \underset{en}{\operatorname{argmax}} P(fr | en) \times P(en)$$

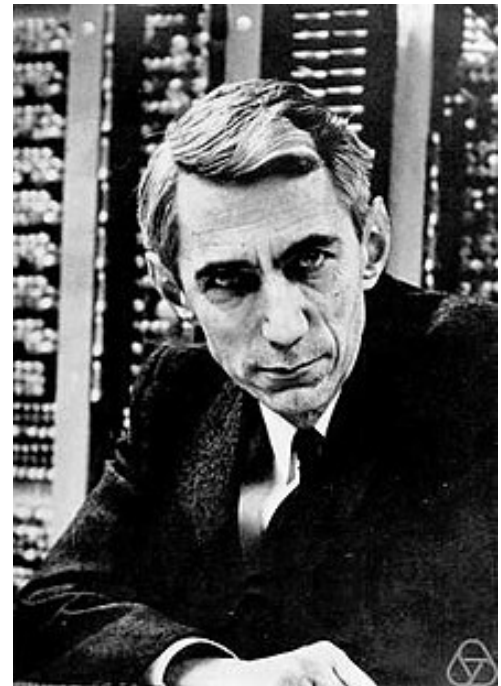
Translation model

Language model

# "Shannon Game" (Shannon, 1951)

*"I am going to make a collect ..."*

- Predict the next word/character given the  $n-1$  previous words/characters.



# 1<sup>st</sup> approximation

- each word has an equal probability to follow any other
  - with 100,000 words, the probability of each word at any given point is .00001
- but some words are more frequent than others...
  - "the" appears many more times, than "rabbit"



## 2<sup>nd</sup> approximation: unigrams

- take into account the frequency of the word in some training corpus
  - at any given point, “the” is more probable than “rabbit”
- but does not take word order into account. This is the **bag of word** approach.
  - *“Just then, the white ...”*
- so the probability of a word also depends on the previous words (the history)

$$P(w_n | w_1 w_2 \dots w_{n-1})$$

# n-grams

- *"the large green \_\_\_\_\_ ."*
  - "mountain"? "tree"?
- *"Sue swallowed the large green \_\_\_\_\_ ."*
  - "pill"? "broccoli"?
- Knowing that Sue "swallowed" helps narrow down possibilities
- i.e., going back 3 words before helps
- But, how far back do we look?

# Bigrams

- first-order **Markov** models

$$P(w_n | w_{n-1})$$

- N-by-N matrix of probabilities/frequencies
- N = size of the vocabulary we are using

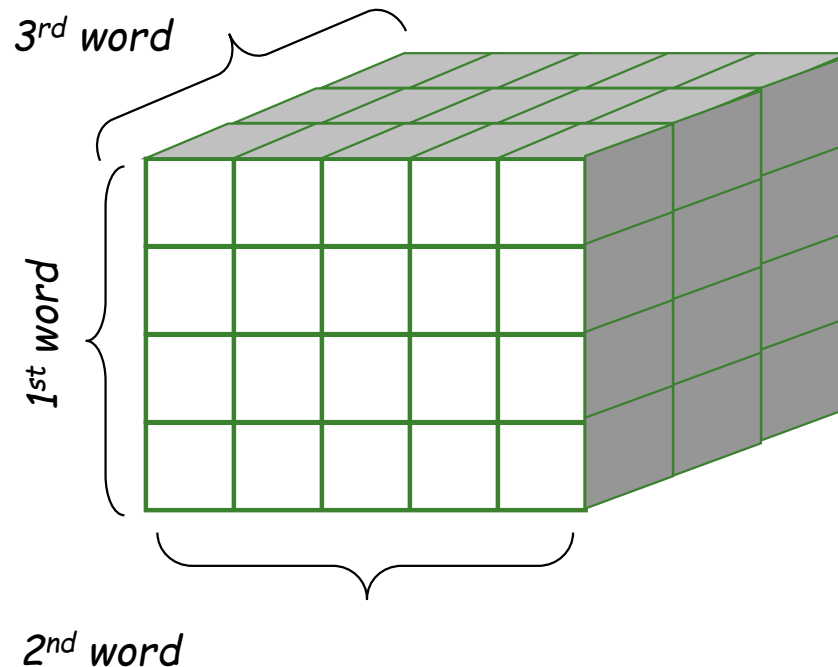
		2 <sup>nd</sup> word						
1 <sup>st</sup> word		a	aardvark	aardwolf	aback	...	zoophyte	zucchini
	a	0	0	0	0	...	8	5
	aardvark	0	0	0	0	...	0	0
	aardwolf	0	0	0	0	...	0	0
	aback	26	1	6	0	...	12	2
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	<u>zoophyte</u>	0	0	0	<u>1</u>	...	0	0
	<u>zucchini</u>	0	0	0	<u>3</u>	...	0	0

# Trigrams

- second-order Markov models

$$P(w_n | w_{n-1} w_{n-2})$$

- N-by-N-by-N matrix of probabilities/frequencies
- N = size of the vocabulary we are using



# Why use only bi- or tri-grams?

- Markov approximation is still costly with a 20 000 word vocabulary:
  - bigram needs to store 400 million parameters
  - trigram needs to store 8 trillion parameters
  - using a language model > trigram is impractical

# Building n-gram Models

## 1. Data preparation:

- ❑ Decide on training corpus
- ❑ Clean and tokenize
- ❑ How do we deal with sentence boundaries?
  - I eat. I sleep.
    - ❑ (I eat) (eat I) (I sleep)
  - <s>I eat </s> <s> I sleep </s>
    - ❑ (<s> I) (I eat) (eat </s>) (<s> I) (I sleep) (sleep </s>)

# Example 1:

- in a training corpus, we have 10 instances of "come across"
  - 8 times, followed by "as"
  - 1 time, followed by "more"
  - 1 time, followed by "a"
- so we have:
  - $P(\text{as} \mid \text{come across}) = \frac{C(\text{come across as})}{C(\text{come across})} = \frac{8}{10}$
  - $P(\text{more} \mid \text{come across}) = 0.1$
  - $P(\text{a} \mid \text{come across}) = 0.1$
  - $P(X \mid \text{come across}) = 0$  where  $X \neq \text{"as"}, \text{"more"}, \text{"a"}$

# Building n-gram Models

## 2. Count words and build model

- Let  $C(w_1...w_n)$  be the frequency of n-gram  $w_1...w_n$

$$P(w_n | w_1...w_{n-1}) = \frac{C(w_1...w_n)}{C(w_1...w_{n-1})}$$

## 3. Smooth your model (see later)



## Example 2:

$P(\text{on} \text{eat}) = .16$	$P(\text{want} \text{I}) = .32$	$P(\text{eat} \text{to}) = .26$
$P(\text{some} \text{eat}) = .06$	$P(\text{would} \text{I}) = .29$	$P(\text{have} \text{to}) = .14$
$P(\text{British} \text{eat}) = .001$	$P(\text{don't} \text{I}) = .08$	$P(\text{spend} \text{to}) = .09$
...	...	...
$P(\text{I} \langle s \rangle) = .25$	$P(\text{to} \text{want}) = .65$	$P(\text{food} \text{British}) = .6$
$P(\text{I'd} \langle s \rangle) = .06$	$P(\text{a} \text{want}) = .5$	$P(\text{restaurant} \text{British}) = .15$
...	...	...

*$P(\text{I want to eat British food})$*

$= P(\text{I}|\langle s \rangle) \times P(\text{want}|\text{I}) \times P(\text{to}|\text{want}) \times P(\text{eat}|\text{to}) \times P(\text{British}|\text{eat}) \times P(\text{food}|\text{British})$

$= .25 \times .32 \times .65 \times .26 \times .001 \times .6$

$= .000008$

# Remember this slide...

## Be Careful: Use Logs

- if we really do the product of probabilities...
  - $\operatorname{argmax}_{c_j} P(c_j) \prod P(w_i|c_j)$
  - we soon have numerical underflow...
  - ex:  $0.01 \times 0.02 \times 0.05 \times \dots$
- so instead, we add the log of the probs
  - $\operatorname{argmax}_{c_j} \log(P(c_j)) + \sum \log(P(w_i|c))$
  - ex:  $\log(0.01) + \log(0.02) + \log(0.05) + \dots$

# Some Adjustments

- product of probabilities... numerical underflow for long sentences
- so instead of multiplying the probs, we add the log of the probs

*P(I want to eat British food)*

$= \log(P(I|\langle s \rangle)) + \log(P(\text{want}|I)) + \log(P(\text{to}|\text{want})) + \log(P(\text{eat}|\text{to})) +$   
 $\log(P(\text{British}|\text{eat})) + \log(P(\text{food}|\text{British}))$

$= \log(.25) + \log(.32) + \log(.65) + \log(.26) + \log(.001) + \log(.6)$

# Problem: Data Sparseness

- What if a sequence never appears in training corpus?  $P(X)=0$ 
  - "come across the men" --> prob = 0
  - "come across some men" --> prob = 0
  - "come across 3 men" --> prob = 0
- The model assigns a probability of zero to unseen events ...
- probability of an n-gram involving unseen words will be zero!
- Solution: smoothing
  - decrease the probability of previously seen events
  - so that there is a little bit of probability mass left over for previously unseen events

# Remember this other slide...

## Be Careful: Smooth Probabilities

- normally:  $P(w_i | c_j) = \frac{(\text{frequency of } w_i \text{ in } c_j)}{\text{total number of words in } c_j}$
- what if we have a  $P(w_i | c_j) = 0$ ...?
  - ex. the word "dumbo" never appeared in the class SPAM?
  - then  $P(\text{"dumbo"} | \text{SPAM}) = 0$
- so if a text contains the word "dumbo", the class SPAM is completely ruled out !
- to solve this: we assume that every word always appears at least once (or a smaller value)
  - ex: add-1 smoothing:

$$P(w_i | c_j) = \frac{(\text{frequency of } w_i \text{ in } c_j) + 1}{\text{total number of words in } c_j + \text{size of vocabulary}}$$

# Add-one Smoothing

- Pretend we have seen every n-gram at least once
- Intuitively:
  - $\text{new\_count}(\text{n-gram}) = \text{old\_count}(\text{n-gram}) + 1$
- The idea is to give a little bit of the probability space to unseen events

# Add-one: Example

unsmoothed bigram counts (frequencies):

*2<sup>nd</sup> word*

<i>1<sup>st</sup> word</i>		<i>I</i>	<i>want</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>eat</i>	<i>Chinese</i>	<i>food</i>	<i>lunch</i>	<i>...</i>	<b>Total</b>
	<i>I</i>	8	1087	0	13	0	0	0		$C(I)=3437$
	<i>want</i>	3	0	786	0	6	8	6		$C(want)=1215$
	<i>to</i>	3	0	10	860	3	0	12		$C(to)=3256$
	<i>eat</i>	0	0	2	0	19	2	52		$C(eat)=938$
	<i>Chinese</i>	2	0	0	0	0	120	1		$C(Chinese)=213$
	<i>food</i>	19	0	17	0	0	0	0		$C(food)=1506$
	<i>lunch</i>	4	0	0	0	0	1	0		$C(lunch)=459$
	<i>...</i>									<i>...</i>
										<i>...</i>
										$N=10,000$

- Assume a vocabulary of 1616 (different) words
  - $V = \{a, aardvark, aardwolf, aback, \dots, I, \dots, want, \dots, to, \dots, eat, Chinese, \dots, food, \dots, lunch, \dots, zoophyte, zucchini\}$
  - $|V| = 1616$  words
- And a total of  $N = 10,000$  bigrams ( $\sim$ word instances) in the training corpus

# Add-one: Example

unsmoothed bigram counts:

	2 <sup>nd</sup> word								
1 <sup>st</sup> word	I	want	to	eat	Chinese	food	lunch	...	Total
I	8	1087	0	13	0	0	0		C(I)=3437
want	3	0	786	0	6	8	6		C(want)=1215
to	3	0	10	860	3	0	12		C(to)=3256
eat	0	0	2	0	19	2	52		C(eat)=938
Chinese	2	0	0	0	0	120	1		C(Chinese)=213
food	19	0	17	0	0	0	0		C(food)=1506
lunch	4	0	0	0	0	1	0		C(lunch)=459
...									
									N=10,000

unsmoothed bigram conditional probabilities:

	I	want	to	eat	Chinese	food	lunch	...	Total
I	0.002 (8/3437)	0.316	0	0.0037	0	0	0		
want	0.0025	0	0.647 (786/1215)	0	0.0049 (6/1215)	0.0066	0.0049		
to	0.0009	0	0.0030	0.264	0.0009	0	0.0037		
eat	0	0	0.002	0	0.020	0.002	0.0554		
Chinese	0.0094	0	0	0	0	0.56	0.0047		
food	0.0126	0	0.0113	0	0	0	0		
lunch	0.0087	0	0	0	0	0.0002	0		
...									

note :

$$P(II) = \frac{8}{10\,000}$$

$$P(I | I) = \frac{8}{3\,437}$$



# Add-one, more formally

$$P_{\text{Add1}}(w_1 w_2 \dots w_n) = \frac{C(w_1 w_2 \dots w_n) + 1}{N + B}$$

N: size of the corpus

i.e. nb of n-gram tokens in training corpus

B: number of "bins"

i.e. nb of different n-gram types

i.e. nb of cells in the matrix

e.g. for bigrams, it's (size of the vocabulary)<sup>2</sup>

# Add-one: Example (con't)

add-one smoothed bigram counts:

	<i>I</i>	<i>want</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>eat</i>	<i>Chinese</i>	<i>food</i>	<i>lunch</i>	...	<i>Total</i>
<i>I</i>	<del>8</del> 9	<del>1087</del> 1088	1	14	1	1	1		3437 $C(I) +  V  = 5053$
<i>want</i>	<del>3</del> 4	1	787	1	7	9	7		$C(want) +  V  = 2831$
<i>to</i>	4	1	11	861	4	1	13		$C(to) +  V  = 4872$
<i>eat</i>	1	1	23	1	20	3	53		$C(eat) +  V  = 2554$
<i>Chinese</i>	3	1	1	1	1	121	2		$C(Chinese) +  V  = 1829$
<i>food</i>	20	1	18	1	1	1	1		$C(food) +  V  = 3122$
<i>lunch</i>	5	1	1	1	1	2	1		$C(lunch) +  V  = 2075$
...									<del>total = 10,000</del> $N +  V ^2 = 10,000 + (1616)^2$ $= 2,621,456$

add-one bigram conditional probabilities:

	<i>I</i>	<i>want</i>	<i>to</i>	<i>eat</i>	<i>Chinese</i>	<i>food</i>	<i>lunch</i>	...
<i>I</i>	.0018 (9/5053)	.215	.00019	.0028	.00019	.00019	.00019	
<i>want</i>	.0014	.00035	.278	.00035	.0025	.0031	.00247	
<i>to</i>	.00082	.0002	.00226	.1767	.00082	.0002	.00267	
<i>eat</i>	.00039	.00039	.0009	.00039	.0078	.0012	.0208	
...								

# Add-delta Smoothing

- every previously unseen n-gram is given a low probability
- but there are so many of them that too much probability mass is given to unseen events
- instead of adding 1, add some other (smaller) positive value  $\delta$

$$P_{\text{AddD}}(w_1 w_2 \dots w_n) = \frac{C(w_1 w_2 \dots w_n) + \delta}{N + \delta B}$$

- most widely used value for  $\delta = 0.5$
- better than add-one, but still...

# Factors of Training Corpus

- Size:

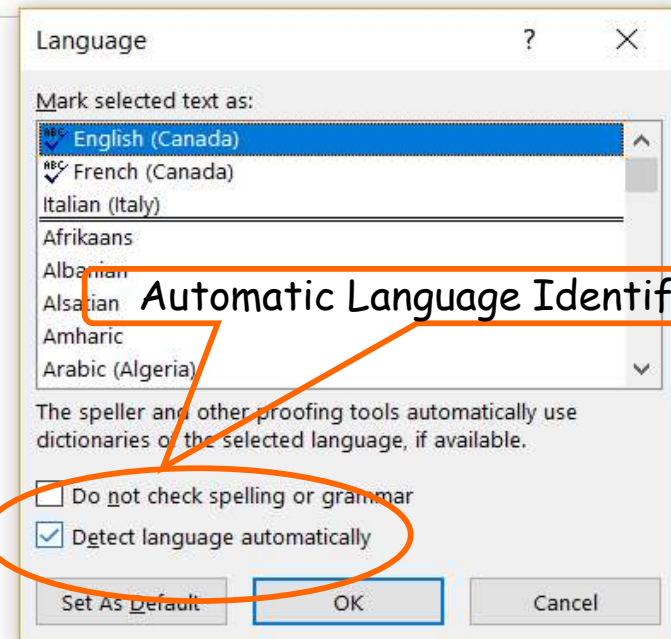
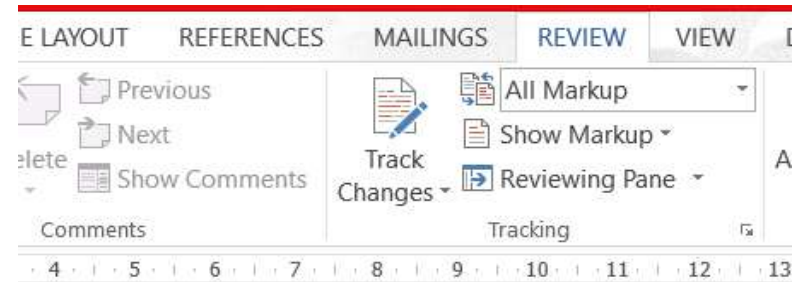
- the more, the better
- but after a while, not much improvement...
  - bigrams (characters) after 100's million words
  - trigrams (characters) after some billions of words

- Genre (adaptation):

- training on cooking recipes and testing on aircraft maintenance manuals

# Example: Language Identification

- hypothesis: texts that resemble each other (same author, same language) share similar character/word sequences
  - In English character sequence "ing" is more probable than in French
- Training phase:
  - construction of the language model
  - with pre-classified documents (known language/author)
- Testing phase:
  - apply language model to unknown text



# Example: Language Identification

- bigram of characters
  - characters = 26 letters (case insensitive)
  - possible variations: case sensitivity, punctuation, beginning/end of sentence marker, ...

# Example: Language Identification

1. Train a character-based language model for Italian:

	A	B	C	D	...	Y	Z
A	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	...	0.0014	0.0014
B	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	...	0.0014	0.0014
C	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	...	0.0014	0.0014
D	0.0042	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	...	0.0014	0.0014
E	0.0097	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	...	0.0014	0.0014
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.0014
Y	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	...	0.0014	0.0014
Z	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014

2. Train a character-based language model for Spanish:

	A	B	C	D	...	Y	Z
A	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	...	0.0014	0.0014
B	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	...	0.0014	0.0014
C	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	...	0.0014	0.0014
D	0.0042	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	...	0.0014	0.0014
E	0.0097	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	...	0.0014	0.0014
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.0014
Y	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	...	0.0014	0.0014
Z	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014

3. Given a unknown sentence "che bella cosa" is it in Italian or in Spanish?

$P(\text{"che bella cosa"})$  with the Italian LM

$P(\text{"che bella cosa"})$  with the Spanish LM

4. Highest probability  $\rightarrow$  language of sentence

# Google's Web 1T 5-gram model

- 5-grams
- generated from 1 trillion words
- 24 GB compressed
  - Number of tokens: 1,024,908,267,229
  - Number of sentences: 95,119,665,584
  - Number of unigrams: 13,588,391
  - Number of bigrams: 314,843,401
  - Number of trigrams: 977,069,902
  - Number of fourgrams: 1,313,818,354
  - Number of fivegrams: 1,176,470,663
- See discussion: <http://googleresearch.blogspot.com/2006/08/all-our-n-gram-are-belong-to-you.html>
- See Google Ngram Viewer: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google\\_Ngram\\_Viewer](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Google_Ngram_Viewer)



# Problem with n-grams

- Natural language is not linear ....
- there may be *long-distance dependencies*.
  - Syntactic dependencies
    - The man next to the large oak tree near ... is tall.
    - The men next to the large oak tree near ... are tall.
  - Semantic dependencies
    - The bird next to the large oak tree near ... flies rapidly.
    - The man next to the large oak tree near ... talks rapidly.
  - World knowledge
    - Michael Jackson, who was featured in ..., is buried in California.
    - Michael Bublé, who was featured in ..., is living in California.
  - ...
- More complex models of language are needed to handle such dependencies.

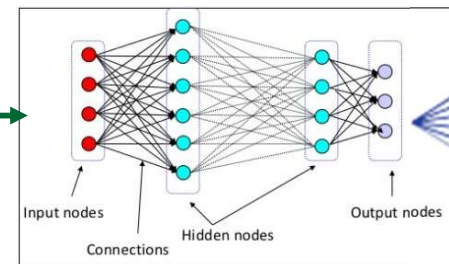
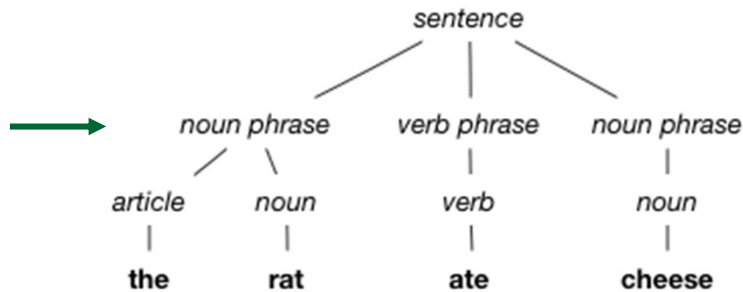
# Menu

1. Introduction
2. Bag of word model
3. n-gram models
4. Linguistic features for NLP



# Linguistic features used for what?

SPEECH LANGUAGE THERAPIST IN THE EDUCATIONAL CONTEXT  
B1: Basic sentence structure  
Sentence structure: the way words are put together to form a sentence.  
The sentence structure is important for understanding the meaning of a sentence.  
The sentence structure is also important for understanding the grammar of a sentence.  
The sentence structure is also important for understanding the syntax of a sentence.  
The sentence structure is also important for understanding the semantics of a sentence.  
The sentence structure is also important for understanding the pragmatics of a sentence.  
The sentence structure is also important for understanding the discourse of a sentence.  
The sentence structure is also important for understanding the context of a sentence.  
The sentence structure is also important for understanding the culture of a sentence.  
The sentence structure is also important for understanding the history of a sentence.  
The sentence structure is also important for understanding the future of a sentence.



## Applications

Sentiment

Classification

Entity Extraction

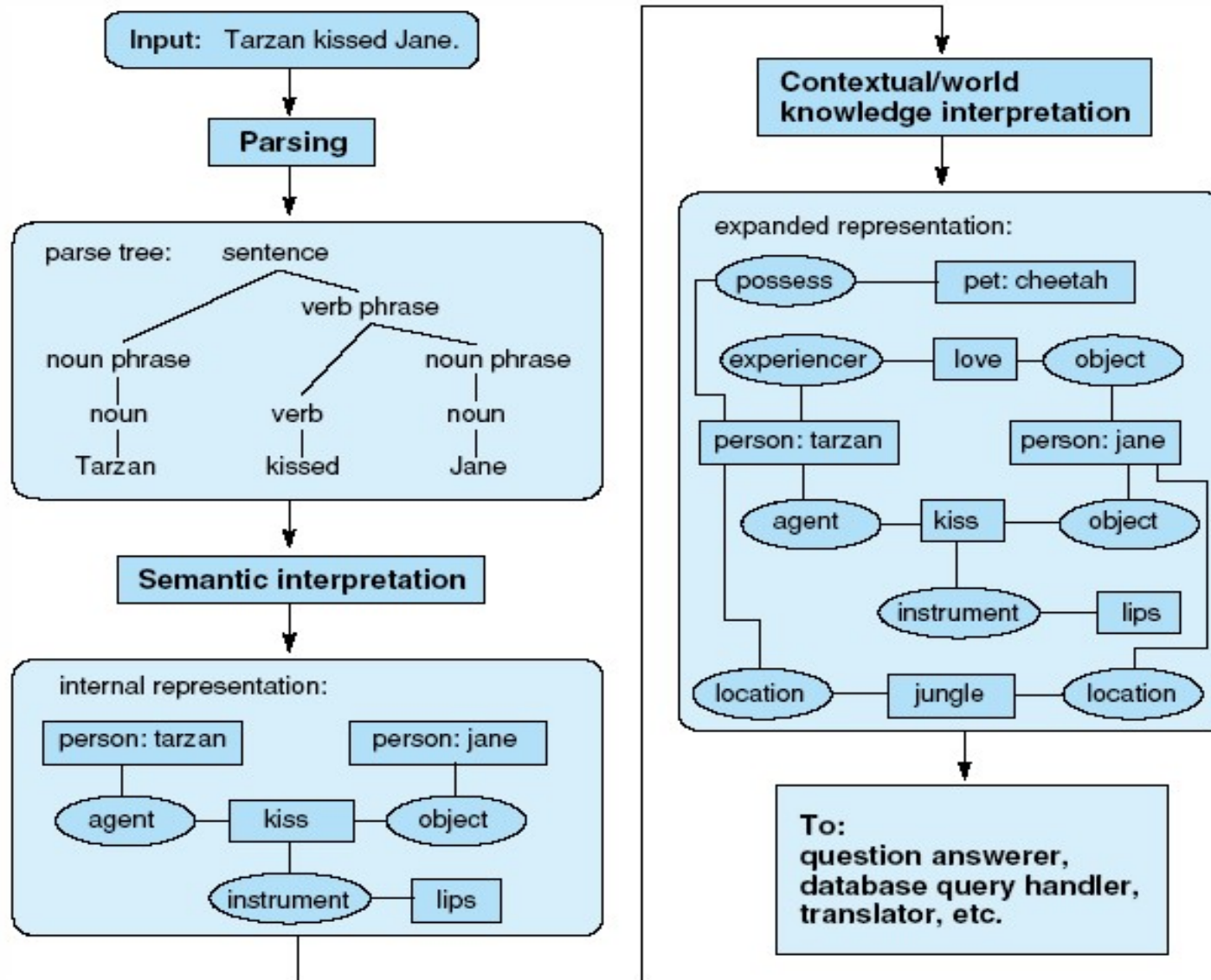
Translation

Topic Modeling

...

linguistic features are hand-engineered and fed to the ML model

# Stages of NLU



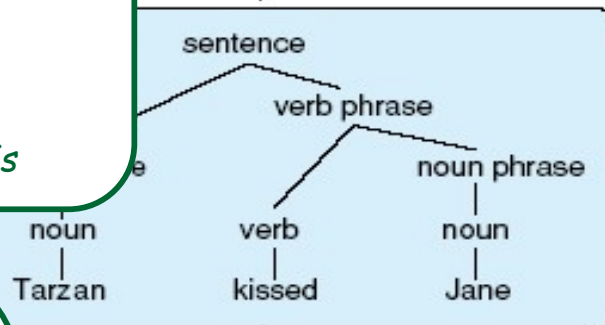
# Stages of NLU

## Parsing (Syntax):

- What words are available in a language? *gfiioudd / table*
- How to arrange words together?  
*the rose is red / red the rose is*

Input: Tarzan kissed Jane.

Parsing

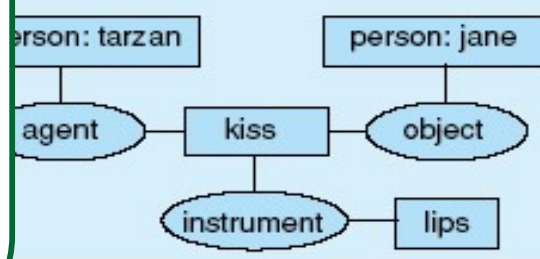


## Semantic interpretation:

- Lexical Semantics :  
What is the meaning/semantic relations between individual words?  
*Chair: person? Furniture?*
- Compositional Semantics: What is the meaning of phrases and sentences?  
*The chair's leg is broken*

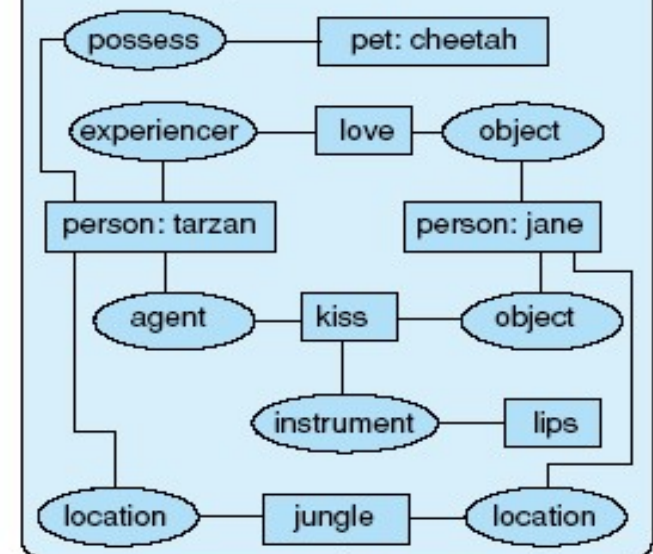
Semantic interpretation

Internal representation:



Contextual/world knowledge interpretation

expanded representation:



To:  
question answerer,  
database query handler,  
translator, etc.

# Stages of NLU

Input: Tarzan kissed Jane.

## ■ Discourse Analysis

How to relate the meaning of sentences to surrounding sentences?

*I have to go to the store. I need butter.*

*I have to go to the university. I need butter.*

## ■ Pragmatics

How people use language in a social environment?

*Do you have a child?*

*Do you have a quarter?*

## ■ World Knowledge

How knowledge about the world (history, facts, ...) modifies our understanding of text?

*Bill Gates passed away last night.*

noun phrase  
noun  
Jane

tation

person: jane

agent — kiss — object  
instrument — lips

Contextual/world  
knowledge interpretation

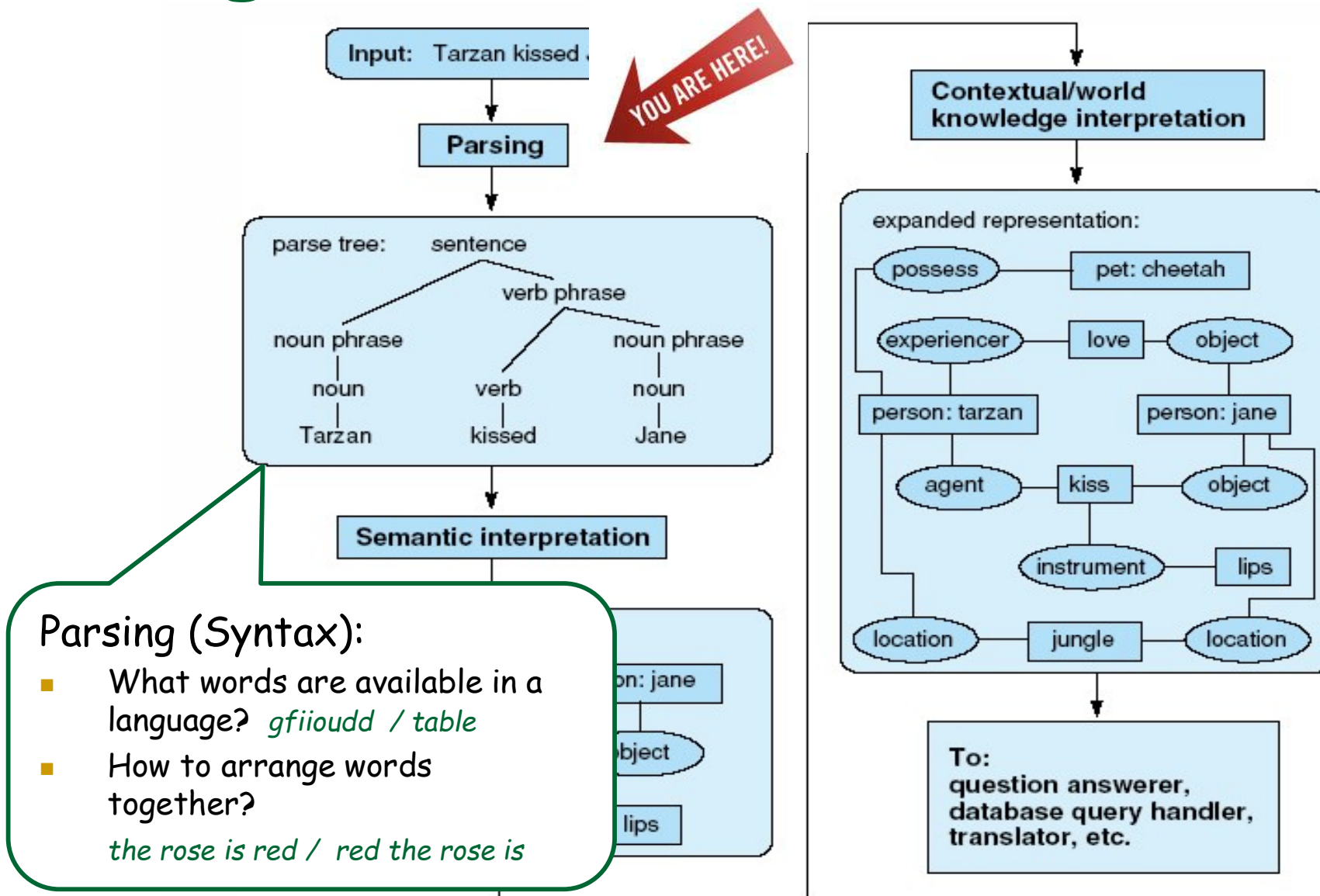
expanded representation:

possess — pet: cheetah  
experiencer — love — object  
person: tarzan — person: jane  
agent — kiss — object  
instrument — lips  
location — jungle — location

To:  
question answerer,  
database query handler,  
translator, etc.



# Stages of NLU



# Syntactic Parsing

1. Assign the right part of speech (NOUN, VERB, ...) to individual words in a text
1. Determine how words are put together to form correct sentences
  - The/DET rose/NOUN is/VERB red/ADJ.
  - Is/VERB red/ADJ the/DET rose/NOUN.



# English Parts-of-Speech

- Open (lexical) class words
  - new words can be added easily
  - nouns, main verbs, adjectives, adverbs
  - some languages do not have all these categories



- Closed (functional) class words
  - generally function/grammatical words
  - aka *stop words*
  - ex. *the, in, and, over, beyond...*
  - relatively fixed membership
  - prepositions, determiners, pronouns, conjunctions, ...

Smurf talk on youtube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7BPx-vl8G00>



# Syntax

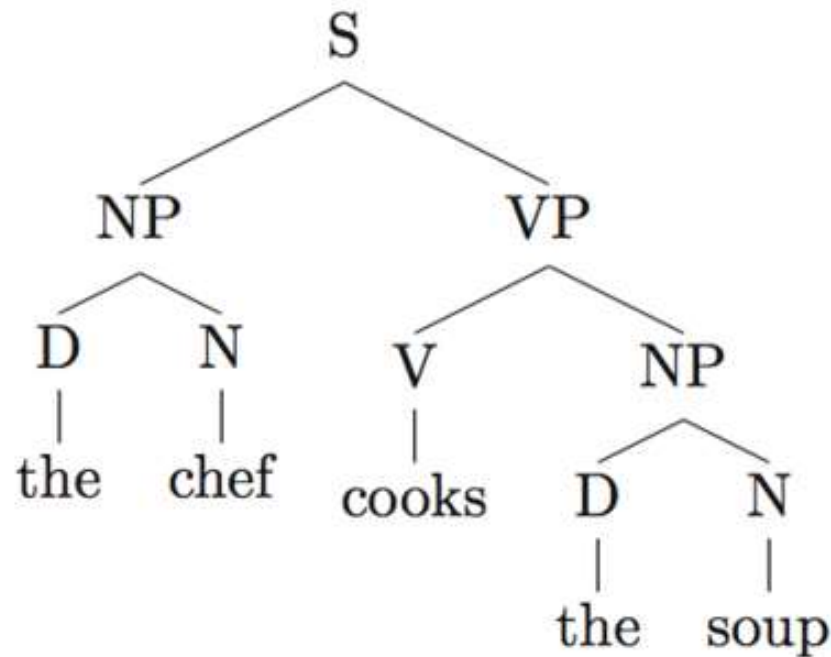
- How parts-of-speech are organised into larger syntactic constituents

- Main Constituents:

- S: sentence *The boy is happy.*
- NP: noun phrase *the little boy from Paris, Sam Smith, I,*
- VP: verb phrase *eat an apple, sing, leave Paris in the night*
- PP: prepositional phrase *in the morning, about my ticket*
- AdjP: adjective phrase *really funny, rather clear*
- AdvP: adverb phrase *slowly, really slowly*

# A Parse Tree

- a tree representation of the application of the grammar to a specific sentence.



# a CFG consists of

- set of non-terminal symbols
  - constituents & parts-of-speech
  - S, NP, VP, PP, D, N, V, ...
- set of terminal symbols
  - words & punctuation
  - *cat, mouse, nurses, eat, ...*
- a non-terminal designated as the starting symbol
  - sentence S
- a set of re-write rules
  - having a single non-terminal on the LHS and one or more terminal or non-terminal in the RHS
  - $S \rightarrow NP VP$
  - $NP \rightarrow Pro$
  - $NP \rightarrow PN$
  - $NP \rightarrow D N$

# An Example

## ■ Lexicon:

```
N --> flight | trip | breeze | morning      // noun
V --> is | prefer | like                      //
    verb
Adj --> direct | cheapest | first             //
    adjective
Pro --> me | I | you | it                    //
    pronoun
PN --> Chicago | United | Los Angeles        // proper noun
D --> the | a | this                          //
    determiner
Prep --> from | to | in                      //
    preposition
Conj --> and | or | but                      //
    conjunction
```

## ■ Grammar:

```
S --> NP VP                                  // I +
    prefer United
NP --> Pro | PN | D N | D Adj N              // I, Chicago, the morning
VP --> V | V NP | V NP PP                   // is, prefer +
    United,
PP --> Prep NP                                //
    to Chicago, to I ??
```

# Parsing

- parsing:
  - goal:
    - assign syntactic structures to a sentence
  - result:
    - (set of) parse trees
- we need:
  - a grammar:
    - description of the language constructions
  - a parsing strategy:
    - how the syntactic analysis are to be computed

# Parsing Strategies

- parsing is seen as a search problem through the space of all possible parse trees
  - bottom-up (data-directed): words --> grammar
  - top-down (goal-directed): grammar --> words
- breadth-first: compute all paths in parallel
  - depth-first: exhaust 1 path before considering another
  - Heuristic search

# Example: *John ate the cat*

- Bottom-up parsing / breadth first

1. John ate the cat
2. PN ate the cat
3. PN V the cat
4. PN V ART cat
5. PN V ART N
6. NP V ART N
7. NP V NP
8. NP VP
9. S

- Top-down parsing / depth first

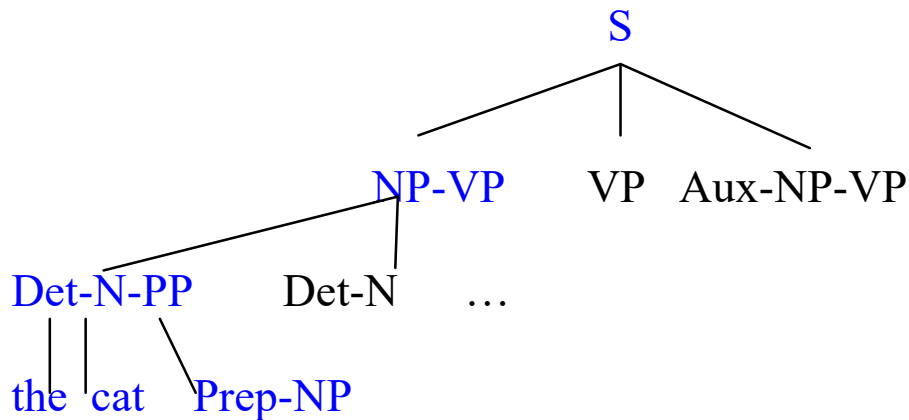
1. S
2. NP VP
3. PN VP
4. John VP
5. John V NP
6. John ate NP
7. John ate ART N
8. John ate the N
9. John ate the cat



# Depth-first vs Breadth-first

*the cat eats the mouse.*

- depth-first: exhaust 1 path before considering another



- breadth-first:
  - compute 1 level at a time
- Heuristic search:
  - e.g. preference to shorter rules

## Grammar:

- (1) S --> NP VP
- (2) S --> VP
- (3) S --> Aux NP VP
- (4) NP --> Det N PP
- (5) NP --> Det N
- (6) PP --> Prep N

...

## Lexicon:

- (10) Det --> the
- (11) N --> cat
- (12) VB --> eats

...

# Summary of Parsing Strategies

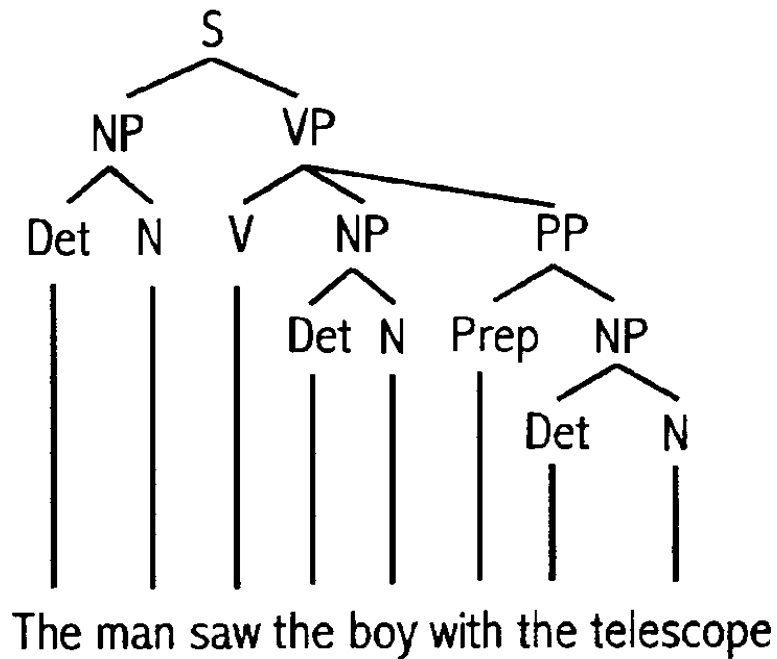
	Depth First	Breath First	Heuristic Search
Top down	✓	✓	✓
Bottom up	✓	✓	✓

# Problem: Multiple parses

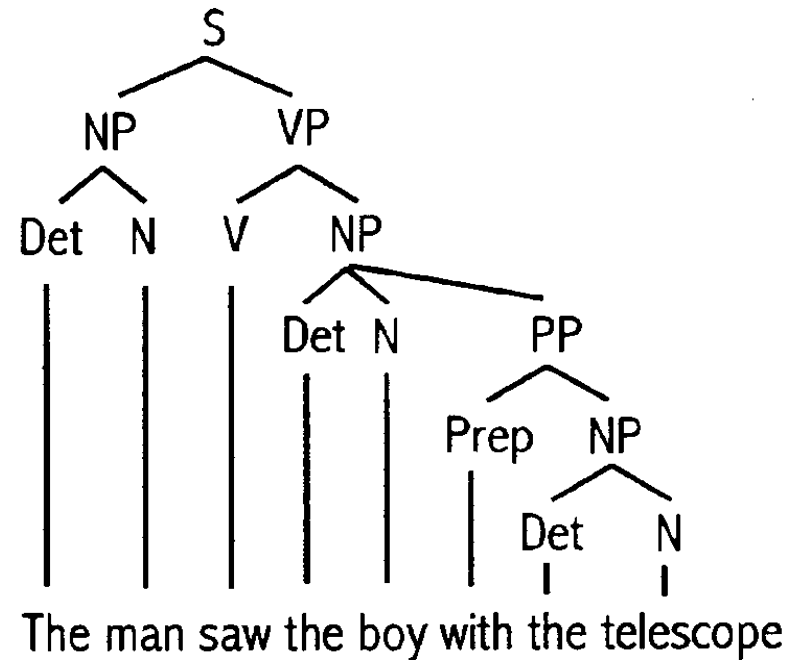
- Many possible parses for a single sentence happens very often...
  - Prepositional phrase attachment (PP-attachment)
    - *We painted the wall with cracks.*
    - *The man saw the boy with the telescope.*
    - *I shot an elephant in my pyjamas.*
  - Conjunctions and appositives
    - *Maddy, my dog, and Samy*
      - > *(Maddy, my dog), and (Samy)*
      - > *(Maddy), (my dog), and (Samy)*
- These phenomena can quickly increase the number of possible parse trees!

# PP attachment:

*The man saw the boy with the telescope.*



Correct parse 1

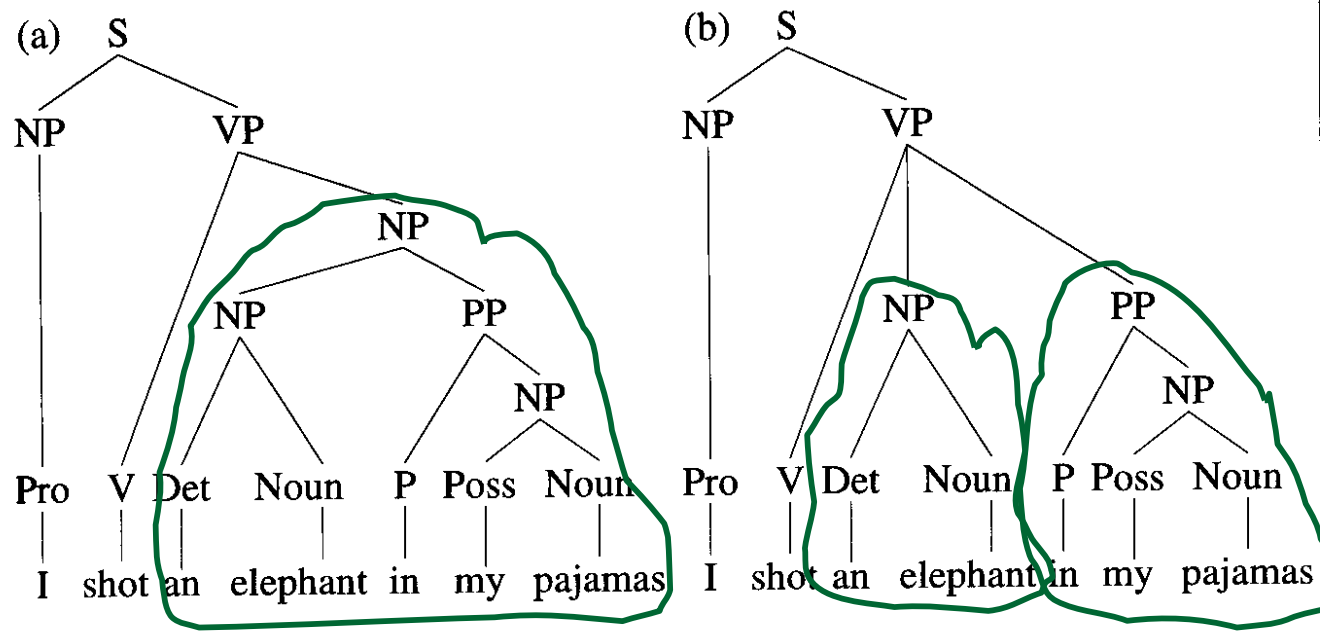


Correct parse 2

# Probabilistic Parsing

*"One morning I shot an elephant in my pyjamas. How he got into my pyjamas, I don't know."*

G. Marx, *Animal Crackers*, 1930.



- Sentences can be very ambiguous...
  - A non-probabilistic parser may find a large set of possible parses
  - --> need to pick the most probable parse one from the set

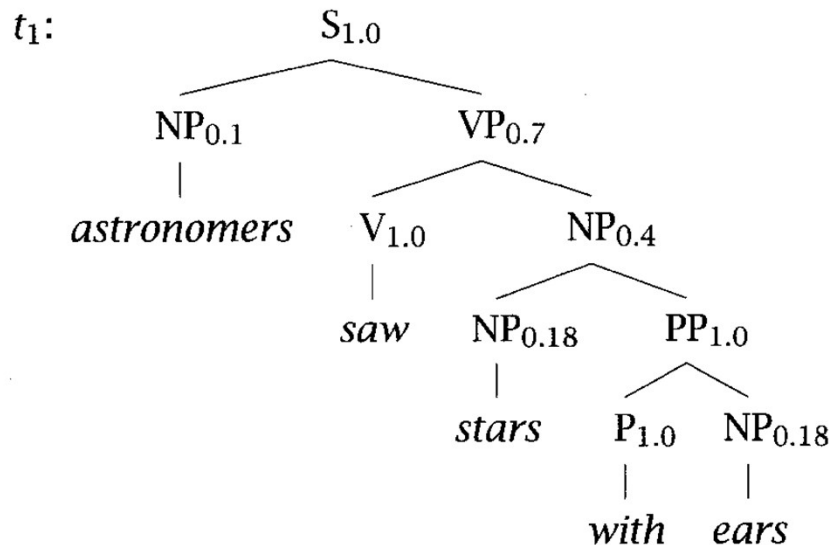
# Example of a PCFG

$S \rightarrow NP VP$	1.0	$NP \rightarrow NP PP$	0.4
$PP \rightarrow P NP$	1.0	$NP \rightarrow \textit{astronomers}$	0.1
$VP \rightarrow V NP$	0.7	$NP \rightarrow \textit{ears}$	0.18
$VP \rightarrow VP PP$	0.3	$NP \rightarrow \textit{saw}$	0.04
$P \rightarrow \textit{with}$	1.0	$NP \rightarrow \textit{stars}$	0.18
$V \rightarrow \textit{saw}$	1.0	$NP \rightarrow \textit{telescopes}$	0.1

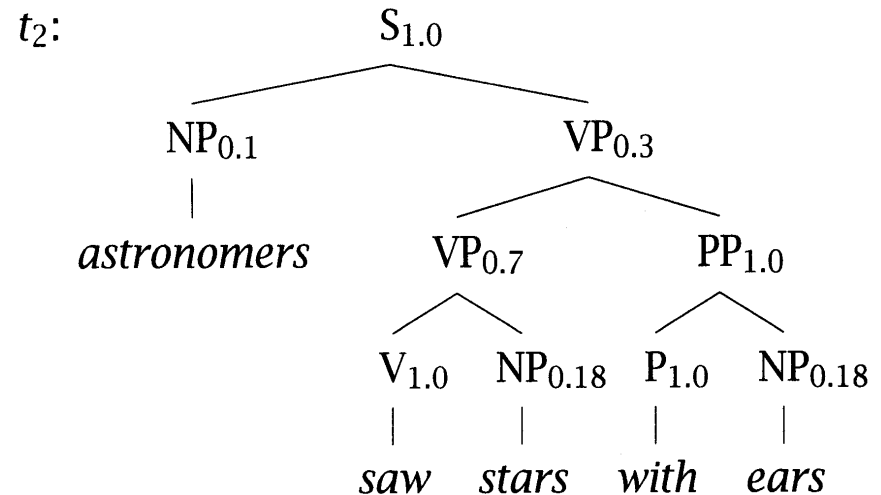
- Intuitively,  $P(VP \rightarrow V NP)$  is:
  - the probability of expanding VP by a V NP, as opposed to any other rules for VP
- So for:
  - VP:  $\forall i \sum_j P(VP \rightarrow B) = .7 + .3 = 1$
  - NP:  $\forall i \sum_j P(NP \rightarrow B) = .4 + .1 + .18 + .04 + .18 + .1 = 1$

# Probability of a parse tree

- Product of the probabilities of the rules used in subtrees
- Ex: "Astronomers saw stars with ears."



$$P(t_1) = 1 \times .1 \times .7 \times 1 \times .4 \times .18 \times 1 \times 1 \times .18 \\ = .0009072$$

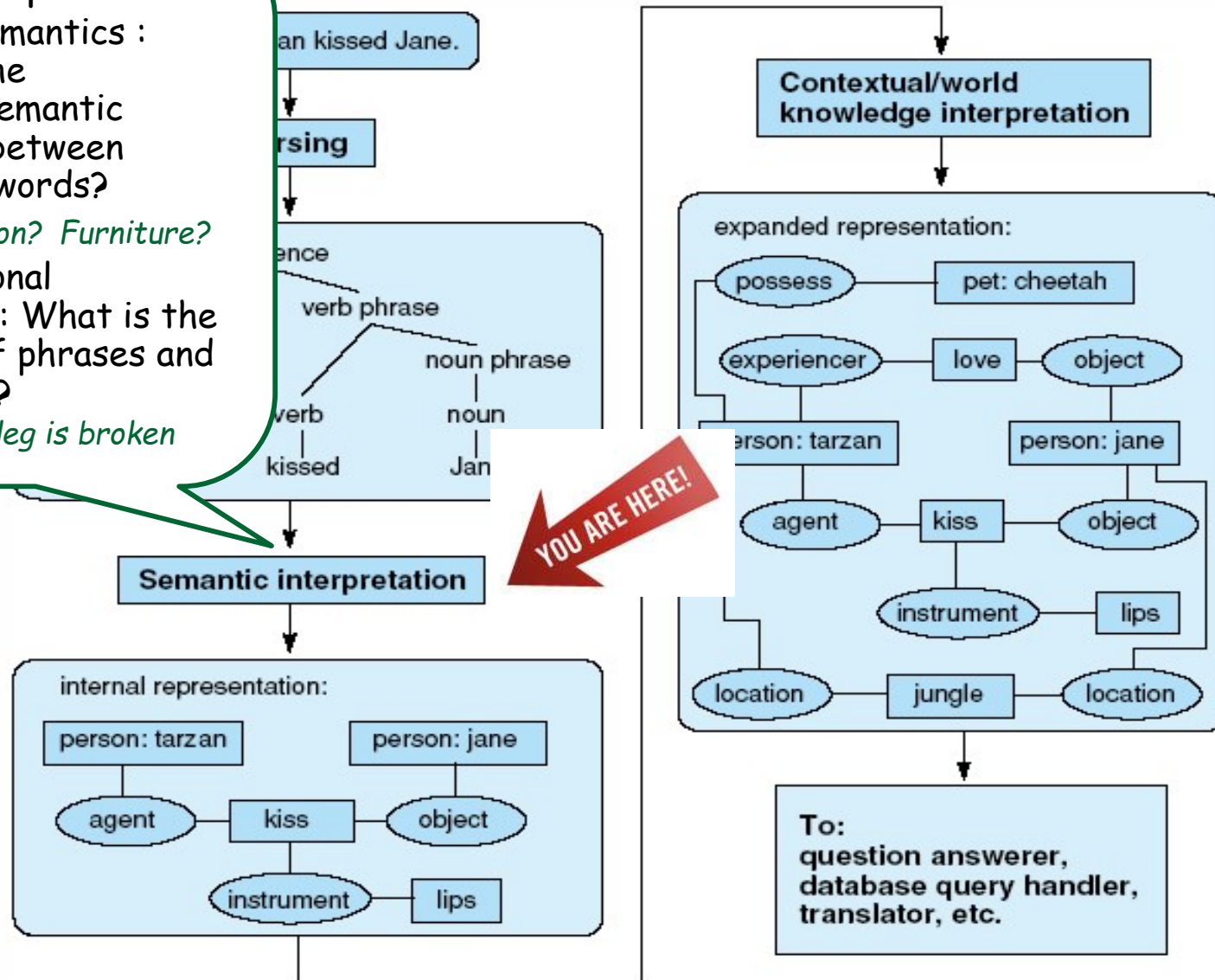


$$P(t_2) = 1 \times .1 \times .3 \times .7 \times 1 \times 1 \times .18 \times 1 \times .18 \\ = .0006804$$

# Stages of NLU

## Semantic interpretation:

- Lexical Semantics :  
What is the meaning/semantic relations between individual words?  
*Chair: person? Furniture?*
- Compositional Semantics: What is the meaning of phrases and sentences?  
*The chair's leg is broken*



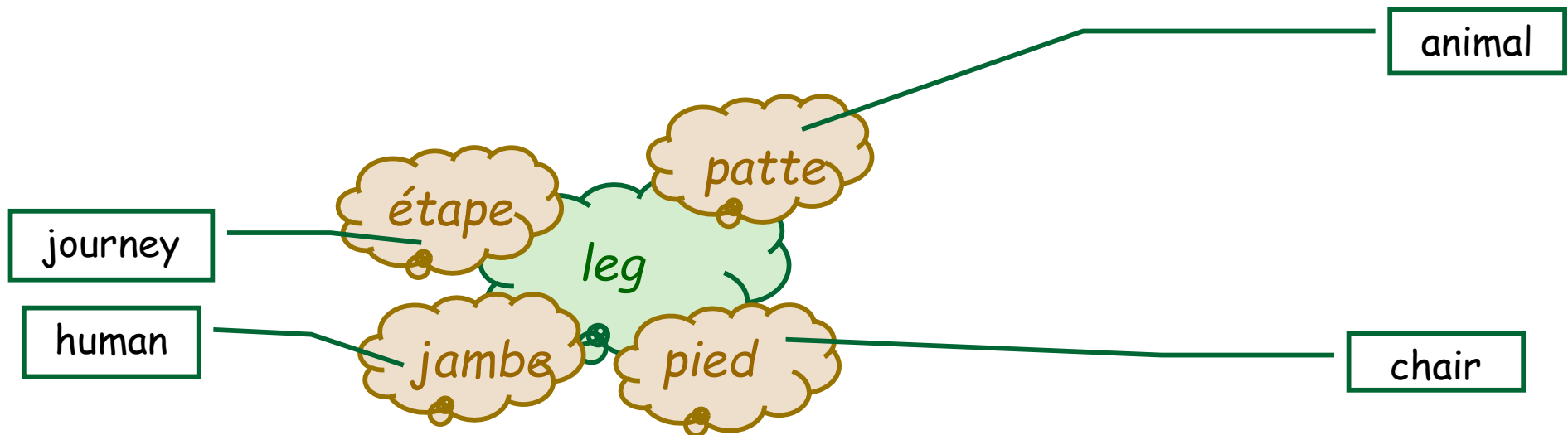


# Semantic Interpretation

- Map sentences to some representation of its meaning
  - e.g., logics, knowledge graph, embedding...
- 1. Lexical Semantics
  - i.e., Meaning of individual words
- 1. Compositional Semantics
  - i.e., Meaning of combination of words

# Lexical Semantics

- ie. The meaning of individual words
  - A word may denote different things (ex. chair)
  - The meaning/sense of words is not clear-cut
  - E.g. Overlapping of word senses across languages



# Word Sense Disambiguation (WSD)

- Determining which sense of a word is used in a specific sentence
  - *I went to the bank of Montreal and deposited 50\$.*
  - *I went to the bank of the river and dangled my feet.*

# WSD as a Classification Problem

- WSD can be viewed as typical classification problem
  - use machine learning techniques (ex. Naïve Bayes classifier, decision tree) to train a system
  - that learns a classifier (a function  $f$ ) to assign to unseen examples one of a fixed number of senses (categories)
- Input:
  - Target word: The word to be disambiguated
  - Features?
- Output:
  - Most likely sense of the word

# Features for WSD

- intuition:
  - sense of a word depends on the sense of surrounding words
- ex: *bass* = fish, musical instrument, ...

Surrounding words	Most probable sense
...river...	fish
...violin...	instrument
...salmon...	fish
...play...	instrument
...player...	instrument
...striped...	fish

- So use a window of words around the target word as features

# Features for WSD

- Take a window of  $n$  words around the target word
- Encode information about the words around the target word
  - *An electric guitar and bass player stand off to one side, not really part of the scene, just as a sort of nod to gringo expectations perhaps.*

# Naïve Bayes WSD

- Goal: choose the most probable sense  $s^*$  for a word given a vector  $V$  of surrounding words
- Feature vector  $V$  contains:
  - Features: words [*fishing, big, sound, player, fly, rod, ...*]
  - Value: frequency of these words in a window before & after the target word [0, 0, 0, 2, 1, 0, ...]
- Bayes decision rule:
  - $s^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{s_k} P(s_k|V)$
  - where:
    - $S$  is the set of possible senses for the target word
    - $s_k$  is a sense in  $S$
    - $V$  is the feature vector

# Naïve Bayes WSD

$$s^* = \underset{s_k}{\operatorname{argmax}} \left( \log P(s_k) + \sum_{j=1}^n \log P(v_j | s_k) \right)$$

- Training a Naïve Bayes classifier
  - = estimating  $P(v_j | s_k)$  and  $P(s_k)$  from a sense-tagged training corpus
  - = finding the most likely sense  $k$

$$P(v_j | s_k) = \frac{\text{count}(v_j, s_k)}{\sum_t \text{count}(v_t, s_k)}$$

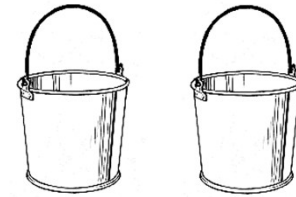
*Nb of occurrences of feature  $j$  over the total nb of features appearing in windows of  $S_k$*

$$P(s_k) = \frac{\text{count}(s_k)}{\text{count}(\text{word})}$$

*Nb of occurrences of sense  $k$  over nb of all occurrences of ambiguous word*



# Example



BANK1 BANK2

- Training corpus (context window =  $\pm 3$  words):

...Today the World Bank/BANK1 and partners are calling for greater relief...  
 ...Welcome to the Bank/BANK1 of America the nation's leading financial institution...  
 ...Welcome to America's Job Bank/BANK1 Visit our site and...  
 ...Web site of the European Central Bank/BANK1 located in Frankfurt...  
 ...The Asian Development Bank/BANK1 ADB a multilateral development finance...  
 ...lounging against verdant banks/BANK2 carving out the...  
 ...for swimming, had warned her off the banks/BANK2 of the Potomac. Nobody...

- Training:

□ $P(\text{the} \text{BANK1}) =$	5/30	$P(\text{the} \text{BANK2}) =$	3/12
□ $P(\text{world} \text{BANK1}) =$	1/30	$P(\text{world} \text{BANK2}) =$	0/12
□ $P(\text{and} \text{BANK1}) =$	1/30	$P(\text{and} \text{BANK2}) =$	0/12
□ $P(\text{off} \text{BANK1}) =$	0/30	$P(\text{off} \text{BANK2}) =$	
□ $P(\text{Potomac} \text{BANK1}) =$	0/30	$P(\text{Potomac} \text{BANK2}) =$	1/12
□ $P(\text{BANK1}) =$	5/7	$P(\text{BANK2}) =$	2/7

- Disambiguation: "I lost my left shoe on the banks of the river Nile."

- $\text{Score}(\text{BANK1}) = \log(5/7) + \log(P(\text{shoe}|\text{BANK1})) + \log(P(\text{on}|\text{BANK1})) + \log(P(\text{the}|\text{BANK1})) \dots$
- $\text{Score}(\text{BANK2}) = \log(2/7) + \log(P(\text{shoe}|\text{BANK2})) + \log(P(\text{on}|\text{BANK2})) + \log(P(\text{the}|\text{BANK2})) \dots$

# Example (with add 0.5 smoothing)

- Training corpus (context window =  $\pm 3$  words):

...Today the World **Bank/BANK1** and partners are calling for greater relief...  
 ...Welcome to the **Bank/BANK1** of America the nation's leading financial institution...  
 ...Welcome to America's Job **Bank/BANK1** Visit our site and...  
 ...Web site of the European Central **Bank/BANK1** located in Frankfurt...  
 ...The Asian Development **Bank/BANK1** ADB a multilateral development finance...  
  
 ...lounging against verdant **banks/BANK2** carving out the...  
 ...for swimming, had warned her off the **banks/BANK2** of the Potomac. Nobody...

- Assume  $V = 50$

- Training:

□ $P(\text{the} \text{BANK1}) = \frac{(5+.5)}{(30+.5V)}$	$P(\text{the} \text{BANK2}) = \frac{(3+.5)}{(12 + .5V)}$
□ $P(\text{world} \text{BANK1}) = \frac{(1+.5)}{55}$	$P(\text{world} \text{BANK2}) = \frac{(0+.5)}{37}$
□ $P(\text{and} \text{BANK1}) = \frac{(1+.5)}{37}$	$P(\text{and} \text{BANK2}) = \frac{(0+.5)}{37}$
□ $P(\text{off} \text{BANK1}) = \frac{(1+.5)}{37}$	$P(\text{off} \text{BANK2}) = \frac{(0+.5)}{55}$
□ $P(\text{Potomac} \text{BANK1}) = \frac{(0+.5)}{37}$	$P(\text{Potomac} \text{BANK2}) = \frac{(1+.5)}{37}$
□ $P(\text{BANK1}) = 5/7$ $P(\text{BANK2}) = 2/7$	

- Disambiguation: "I lost my left *shoe on the banks of the river Nile.*"

---

□ $\text{Score}(\text{BANK1}) = \log(5/7) + \log(P(\text{shoe} \text{BANK1})) + \log(P(\text{on} \text{BANK1})) + \log(P(\text{the} \text{BANK1})) \dots$
□ $\text{Score}(\text{BANK2}) = \log(2/7) + \log(P(\text{shoe} \text{BANK2})) + \log(P(\text{on} \text{BANK2})) + \log(P(\text{the} \text{BANK2})) \dots^{90}$

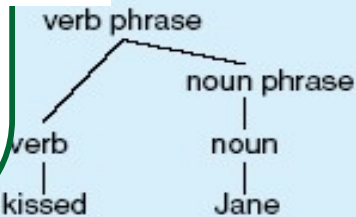
# Stages of NL Understanding

## Semantic interpretation:

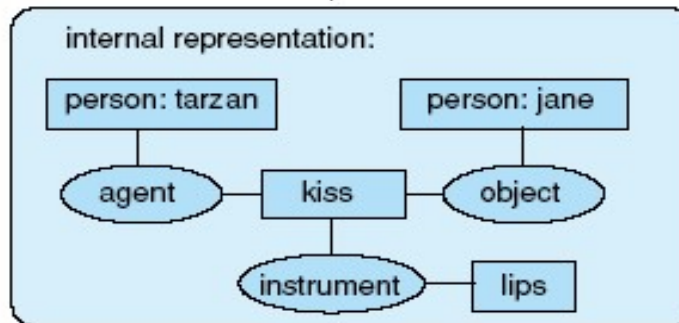
- Lexical Semantics :  
What is the meaning/semantic relations between individual words?  
*Chair: person? Fur?*
- Compositional Semantics: What is the meaning of phrases and sentences?  
*The chair's leg is broken*

YOU ARE HERE!

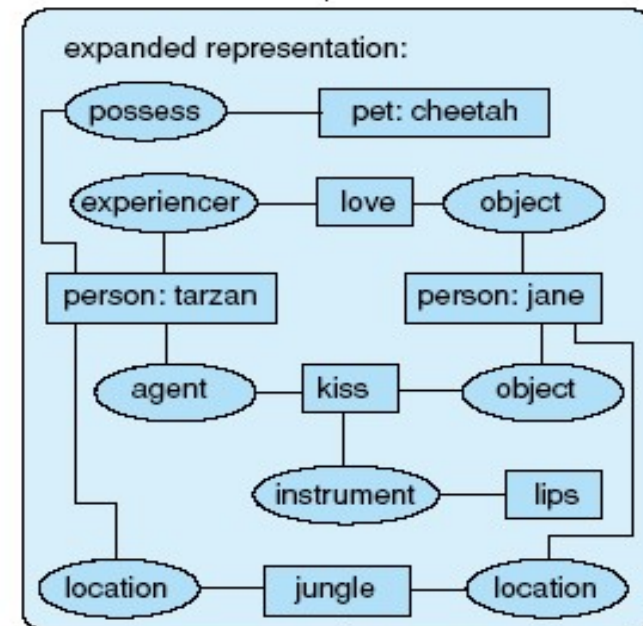
an kissed Jane.



## Semantic interpretation



## Contextual/world knowledge interpretation



To:  
question answerer,  
database query handler,  
translator, etc.

# Compositional Semantics

- *The cat eats the mouse = The mouse is eaten by the cat.*
- Goal:
  - map an expression into a **knowledge representation**
    - a representation of context-independent, literal meaning
    - e.g. first-order predicate logic, conceptual graph, embedding...
  - to assign semantic roles (different from grammatical roles):
    - Semantic roles: Agent, Patient, Instrument, Time, Location, ...
    - Grammatical roles: subject, direct object, ...
- E.g.
  - *The child hid the candy under the bed.*  
Hide (agent=child, patient=candy,  
location=under\_the\_bed, time=past)

# Some Difficulties

## ■ Syntax is not enough

- *I ate spaghetti with a fork.* <instrument>
- *I ate spaghetti with my sister.* <accompanying person>
- *I ate spaghetti with meat balls.* <attribute of food>
- *I ate spaghetti with lots of appetite.* <manner>

...

- *Gun* = instrument that can kill
- *Metal gun*... a gun made out of metal
- *Water gun*... a gun made out of water?
- *Fake gun*... it is a gun anyways? Can it kill?
  
- *General Kane*... person    but *General Motors* ... corporation

## ■ Parallel problems to syntactic ambiguity

- *Happy [cats and dogs] live on the farm*
- *[Happy cats] and dogs live on the farm*

## ■ Quantifier Scoping

- *Every man loves a woman.*
  - $\forall m (\exists f \text{ man}(m) \wedge \text{woman}(f) \wedge \text{loves}(m, f))$
  - $\exists f (\forall m \text{ man}(m) \wedge \text{woman}(f) \wedge \text{loves}(m, f))$



# Stages of NLU

Input:

YOU ARE HERE!

## ■ Discourse Analysis

How to relate the meaning of sentences to surrounding sentences?

*I have to go to the store. I need butter.*

*I have to go to the university. I need butter.*

## ■ Pragmatics

How people use language in a social environment?

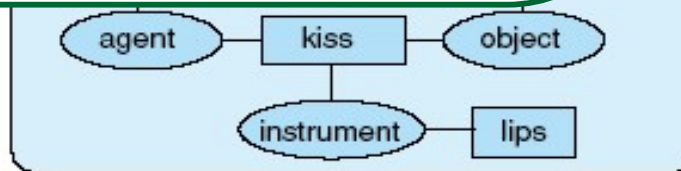
*Do you have a child?*

*Do you have a quarter?*

## ■ World Knowledge

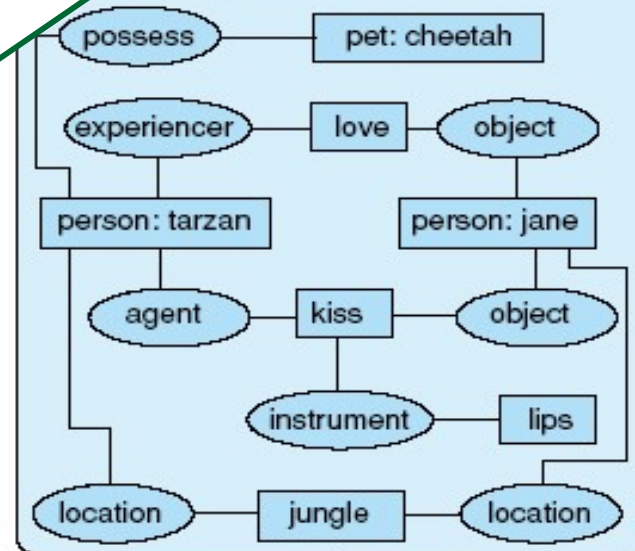
How knowledge about the world (history, facts, ...) modifies our understanding of text?

*Bill Gates passed away last night.*



Contextual/world knowledge interpretation

extended representation:



To:  
question answerer,  
database query handler,  
translator, etc.

# Discourse Analysis

- In logics:  $A \wedge B \wedge C \Leftrightarrow C \wedge B \wedge A$
- Not in NL:
  - *John visited Paris. He bought Mary some expensive perfume. Then he flew home. He went to Walmart. He bought some underwear.*
  - *John visited Paris. Then he flew home. He went to Walmart. He bought Mary some expensive perfume. He bought some underwear.*
- Humans infer relations between sentences that may not be explicitly stated in order to make a text coherent.
  - *(?) I am going to Concordia. I need butter.*

# Examples of Discourse Relations

CONDITION

*If it rains, I will go out.*

SEQUENCE

*Do this, then do that.*

CONTRAST

*This is good, but this is better.*

CAUSE

*assignment.*

*Because I was sick, I could not do my*

RESULT

*blink.*

*Click on the button, the red light will*

PURPOSE

*code.*

*To use the computer, get an access*

ELABORATION

*mathematician living in*

*The solution was developed by Alan Turing.*

*Turing was a great*

*atheist as well as gay.*

*Great Britain. He was an*



# Another Classification Problem, again!

- Discourse tagging can be viewed as typical classification problem
  - use machine learning techniques (ex. Naïve Bayes classifier, decision tree) to train a system
  - that learns a classifier to assign to unseen sentences one of a fixed number of discourse relations (categories)
- Input:
  - Sentence Ex. *If it rains, I will go out.*
  - Features?
    - Connectives such as "if", "however", "in conclusion"
    - Tense of verb (future, past)
    - ...
- Output:
  - Most likely relation in the sentence (none, condition, contrast, purpose, ...)

# Stages of NLU

Input: Tarzan kissed Jane.

## ■ Discourse Analysis

How to relate the meaning of sentences to surrounding sentences?

*I have to go to the store.*

*I have to go to the store.*

YOU ARE HERE!

*utter.*

*ed butter.*

## ■ Pragmatics

How people use language in a social environment?

*Do you have a child?*

*Do you have a quarter?*

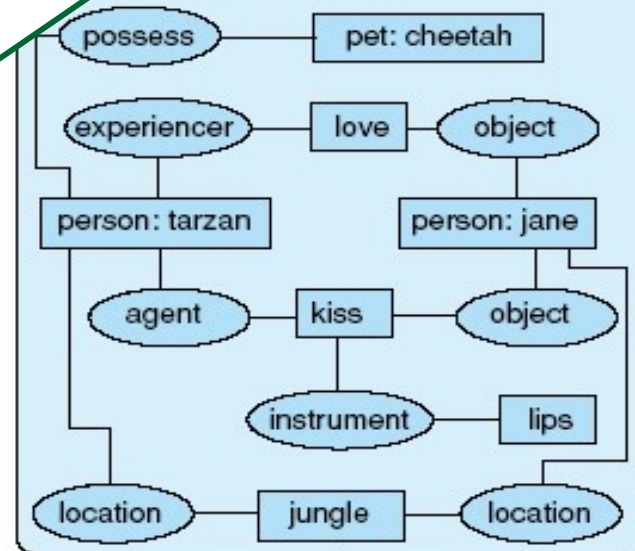
## ■ World Knowledge

How knowledge about the world (history, facts, ...) modifies our understanding of text?

*Bill Gates passed away last night.*

Contextual/world knowledge interpretation

Extended representation:



To:  
question answerer,  
database query handler,  
translator, etc.

# Pragmatics

- goes beyond the literal meaning of a sentence
- tries to explain what the speaker is really expressing
- understanding how people use language socially
  - E.g.: figures of speech, ...
  - E.g.: *Could you spare some change?*

# Stages of NLU

Input: Tarzan kissed Jane.

## ■ Discourse Analysis

How to relate the meaning of sentences to surrounding sentences?

*I have to go to the store. I need butter.*

*I have to go to the university. I need butter.*

## ■ Pragmatics

How people use language in a social environment?

*Do you have a child?*

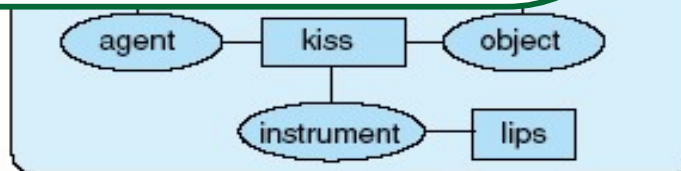
*Do you have a quarter?*

## ■ World Knowledge

How knowledge about the world (history, facts, ...) modifies our understanding of text?

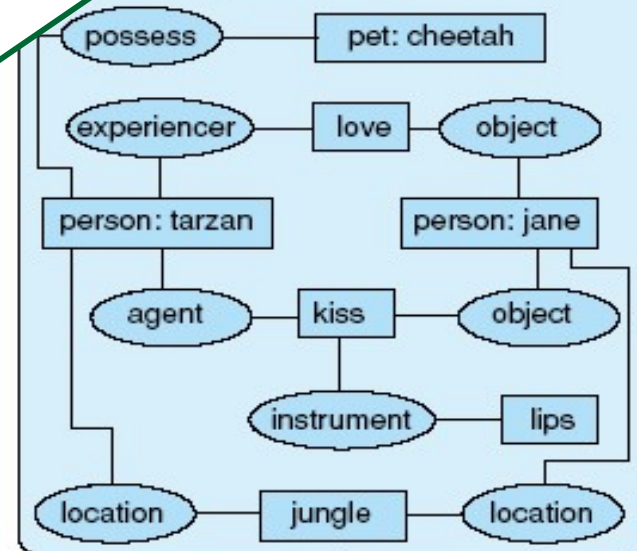
*Bill Gates passed away last night.*

YOU ARE HERE!



Contextual/world knowledge interpretation

extended representation:



To:  
question answerer,  
database query handler,  
translator, etc.

# Using World Knowledge

- Using our general knowledge of the world to interpret a sentence/discourse

- E.g.:

*The trophy would not fit in the brown suitcase because ...*

*... it was too big.*

*... it was too small.*

*The professor sent the student to see the principal because...*

*...he wanted to see him.*

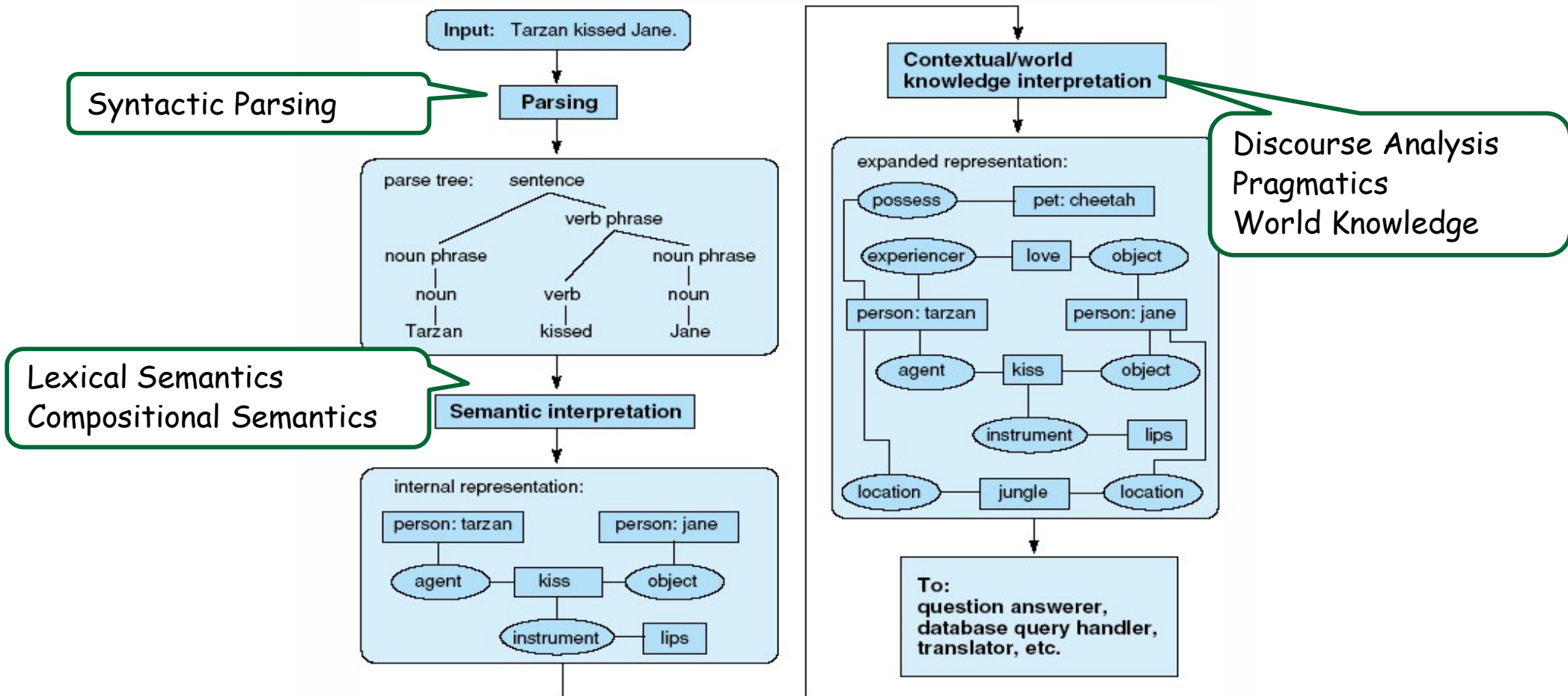
*...he was throwing paper balls in class.*

*...he could not take it anymore.*

- Ex: Silence of the lambs...

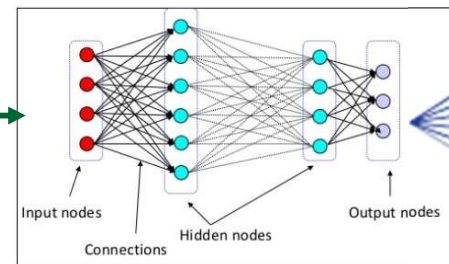
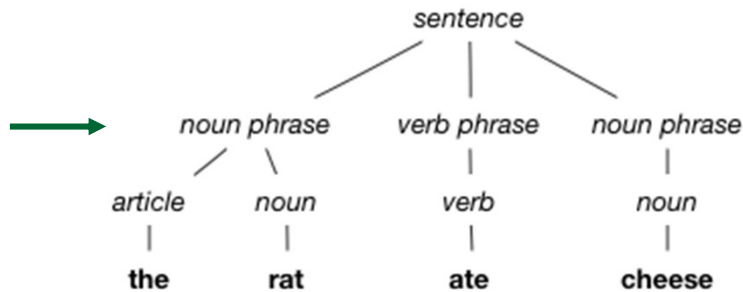
Current Research area: see Winograd Schema Challenge

# Summary of NLU



# Recap

SPEECH LABORS OF THOUGHT IN THE EVOLUTIONAL CONTEXT  
B.1. Basic Analysis Paradigm  
Source: Guy Deleury, 1997  
Copyright © 1997, Deleury, Inc.  
All rights reserved.  
INTRODUCTION  
The basic analysis paradigm is a method for analyzing the structure of a sentence. It is based on the assumption that a sentence is composed of a sequence of words, each of which is assigned a part of speech (POS) tag. The POS tags are then used to identify the syntactic structure of the sentence. This is done by identifying the phrase structures (noun phrases, verb phrases, etc.) that make up the sentence. The basic analysis paradigm is a simple but powerful tool for understanding the structure of a sentence.



## Applications

Sentiment

Classification

Entity Extraction

Translation

Topic Modeling

...

linguistic features are hand-engineered and fed to the ML model



# Remember these slides?

## History of AI

- Another big “hype” ... **Expert Systems** (70s - mid 80s)
  - people realized that general-purpose problem solving (weak methods) do not work for practical applications
  - systems need specific domain-dependent knowledge (strong methods)
  - development of knowledge-intensive, rule-based techniques
  - major expert systems
    - MYCIN (1972): expert system to diagnose blood diseases
  - In the industry (1980s): First expert system shells and commercial applications.

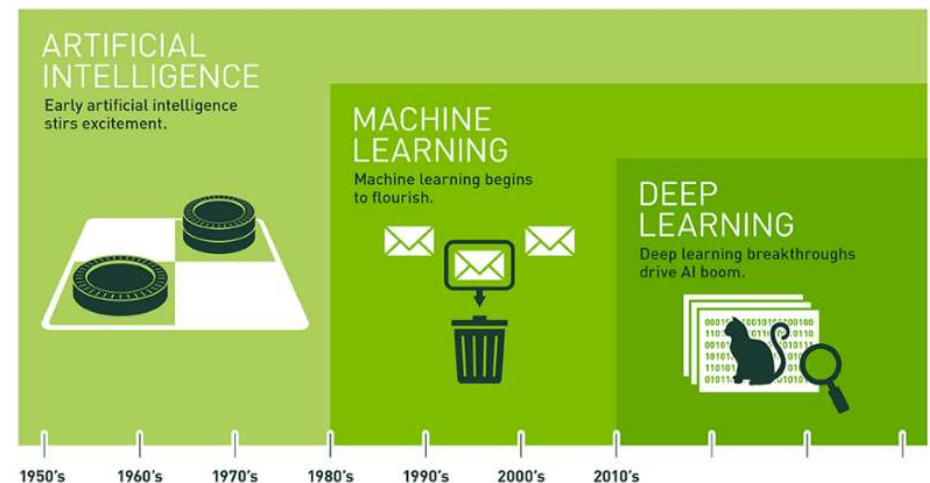
☹️ HUMANS need to write the rules by hand...

## History of AI

- The rise of **Machine Learning** (1980s - 2010)
  - More powerful CPUs -> usable implementation of neural networks
  - Big data -> Huge data sets are available to learn from
    - document repositories in NLP, datasets in ML, billions on images for image retrieval, billions of genomic sequences, ...
  - 😊 Rules are now learned automatically!
  - AI adopts the Scientific Method

## History of AI

- The era of **Deep Learning** (2010-today)
  - Development of “deep neural networks”
  - Trained on massive data sets
  - Use of GPU for computations
  - Use of “generic networks” for many applications



(to see in a few classes)

THE END!

YOU ARE HERE!