

EDOARDO TOPPETTI

FILIPPO BONORA

**PRACTICAL**  
**NATURAL**  
**LANGUAGE**  
**PROCESSING**



# ABOUT US

**EDOARDO**

Statistics  
@ La  
Sapienza

Data scientist  
@ Samsung  
Bixby, Milano

**FILIPPO**

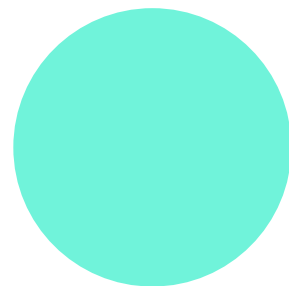
Applied  
linguistics  
@ UNIBO

NLP dev  
@ Volkswagen,  
Berlin

NLP dev  
@ Assist,  
Roma

Data Scientist @





# INDEX

## **1) The main concepts of NLP**

## **2) Math with words**

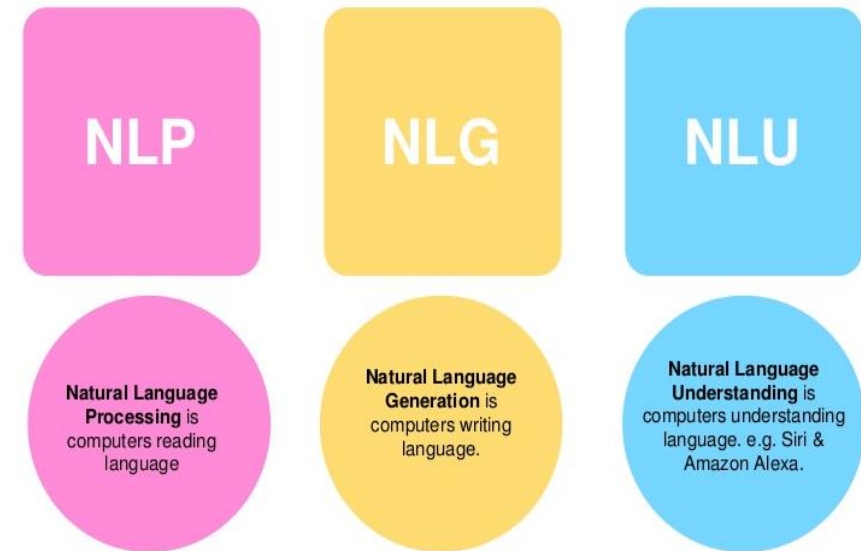
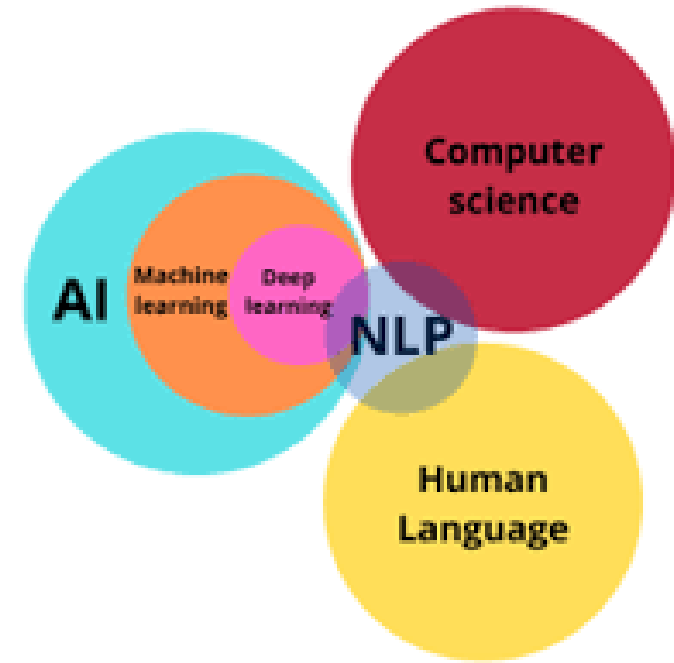
- Word Embeddings
- Big language models

## **3) NLP in practice**

- NLP main tasks
- Use case: Reputational Risk Index

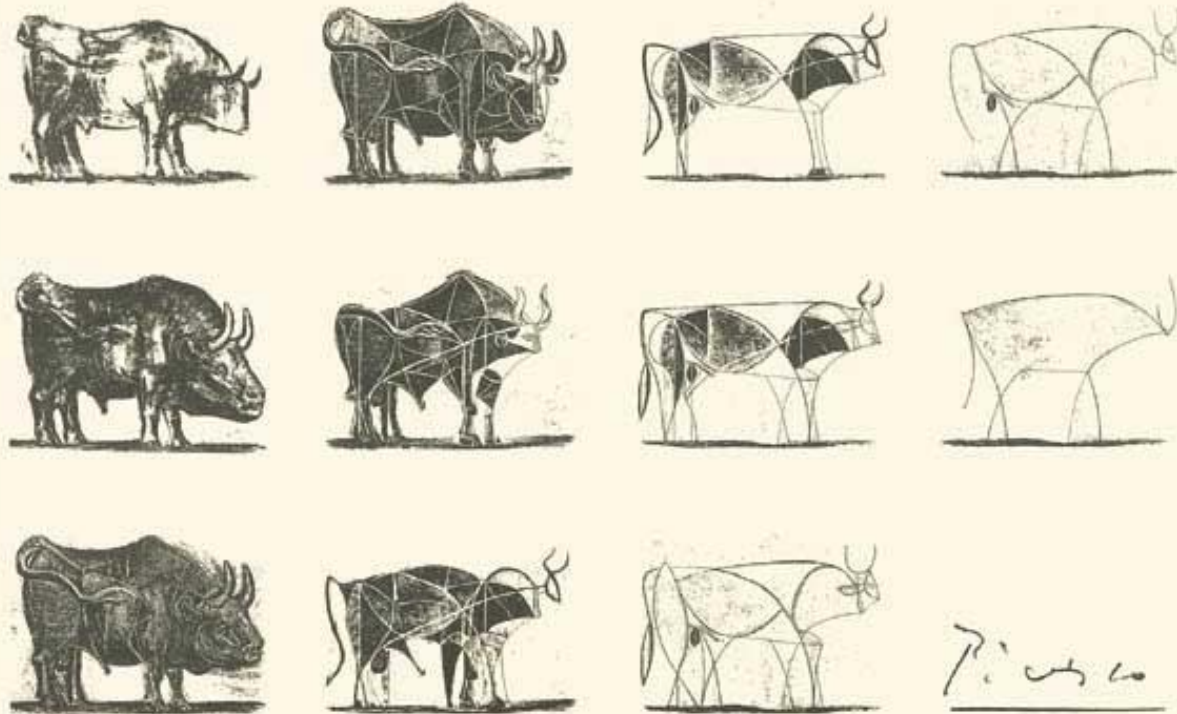
# WHAT IS NLP

**Natural language processing (NLP)** is a set of **techniques** borrowed from different disciplines such as **linguistics**, **computer science**, and **artificial intelligence**, concerned with the *interactions between computers and human language*, in particular how to program computers to process and analyse large amounts of natural language data.



# ENCODING

***"Encoding involves the use of a code to change original data into a form that can be used by an external process"***

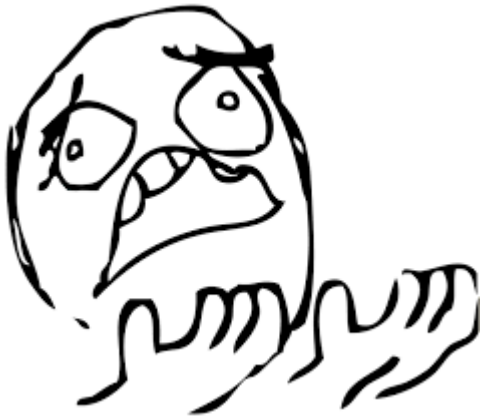
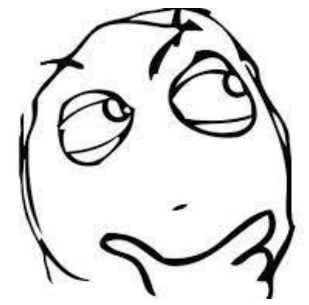


*Picasso needs was to catch the bull essence... Same way we need to catch words or sentences meanings and relations between each other words or sentences*

*" $f(\text{Bull})$  = stylized representation of the bull  
s.t.  $f$  is the creative genius of Picasso*

# HOW TO REPRESENT WORDS?

## EMBED THEM INTO VECTORS!!

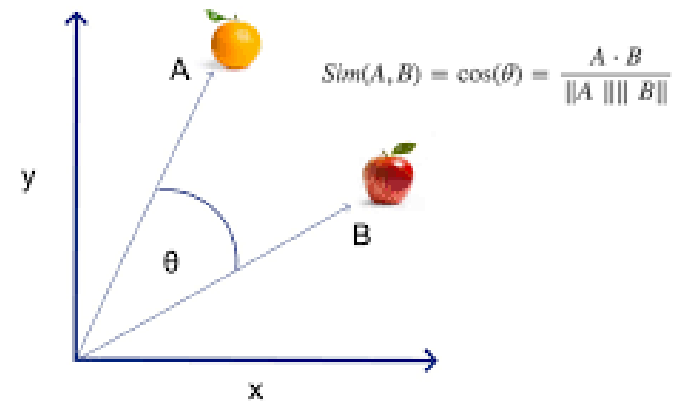


## OK... BUT WHY?

Because vectors are **multidimensional** and **comparable entities**, while with words is tough for a computer.

We want to vectorize words to measure the **semantic similarity** of each other

### Cosine Similarity



# HOW TO REPRESENT WORDS?

## BAG OF WORDS!

### Distributional hypothesis:

*"You shall know a word by the company it keeps"* J.R.Firth 1957

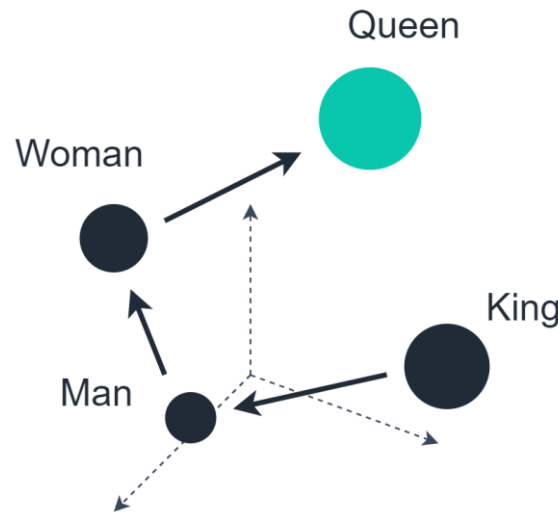
	the	red	dog	cat	eats	food
1. the red dog →	1	1	1	0	0	0
2. cat eats dog →	0	0	1	1	1	0
3. dog eats food →	0	0	1	0	1	1
4. red cat eats →	0	1	0	1	1	0

# DENSE VECTORS: WORD2VEC

But a **sparse vector is not good** as a feature for ML. We need DENSE one!

The word2vec algorithm uses a simple neural network to learn word associations from a large corpus of text (es. Wikipedia). Dimensionality is up to the dev, depends on needs

*Queen ~ King - Man + Woman*



Word	Similar Words	Similarity	Word	Similar Words	Similarity
Linux	windows	0.85	Twitter	facebook	0.90
	redhat	0.83		instagram	0.86
	unix	0.83		netflix	0.84
	mac os	0.82		snapchat	0.82
	citrix	0.81		google	0.81
	serveurs	0.80		tweets	0.80
	microsoft	0.79		youtube	0.80
	ibm	0.79		linkedin	0.77
	windows server	0.79		maddyness	0.77
	emv windows	0.79		tweet	0.77



# LIMITS OF W2V APPROACH

Every word has its vector, but words are **POLYSEMIC** ! In addition, every language is full of **IDIOMS**!



**It's raining cats and dogs!!**



**I really love cats ♥**

[0.43, 0.976, 0.882, ..., 0.921]

How can be efficient to represent the word "cats" in the same way, every time it comes up?

# BERT

## BIDIRECTIONAL ENCODER REPRESENTATIONS FROM TRANSFORMERS

**Transformers architectures** and **attention mechanism**, developed around 2018, have constituted a breakthrough in NLP community.

**It's rainings cats and dogs!!**

[0.43, 0.976, 0.882, ..., 0.921]

**I really love cats** ♥

[0.697, 0.161, 0.292, ..., 0.001]

Compared to previous methods, the model produces **contextual embeddings**, say, it **takes polisemy into account**.



## Large Language Models are becoming very large indeed



### Small models (<= 100b parameters)



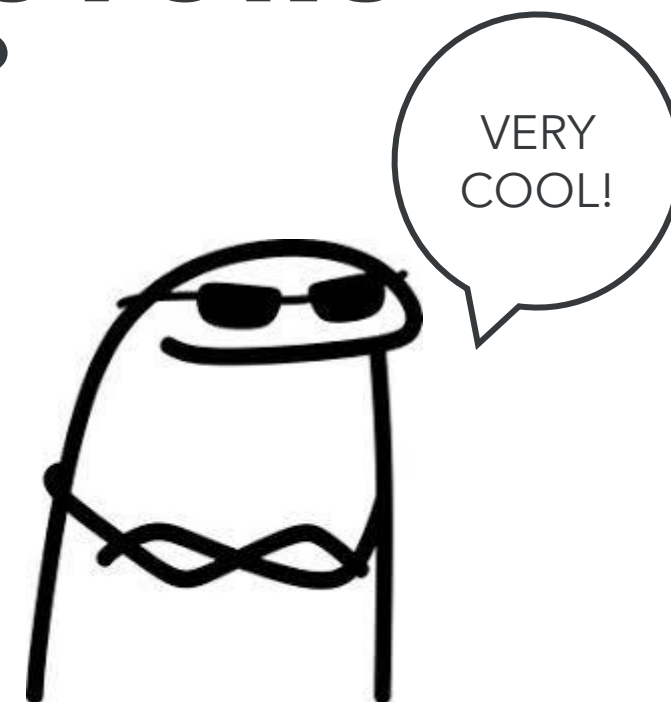
### Large models (>100b parameters)



# WELL.. NOW I GOT VECTORS WHAT I CAN DO?

HERE SOME NLP POPULAR TASKS:

- TEXT CLASSIFICATION  
(E.G. SENTIMENT ANALYSIS)
- MACHINE TRANSLATION
- SUMMARIZATION
- INFORMATION RETRIEVAL
- NAME ENTITY RECOGNITION



EXCUSE ME SIR, I DON'T WANT TO BE UNPOLITE BUT WE ARE  
ECONOMISTS... DOES THIS



TRASH INTEREST US?

# NLP & ECONOMICS: REPUTATIONAL RISK



**Reputational risk** is the **damage** that can occur to a business when it fails to meet the **expectations of its stakeholders**

***"It takes many good deeds to build a good reputation,  
and only one bad one to loose it."***

*cit. Benjamin Franklin*

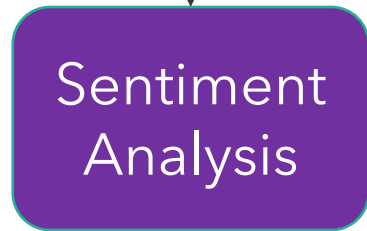
*Seems to be important measure the company reputation! How can we do it?*

# STEP BY STEP - REPUTATIONAL RISK

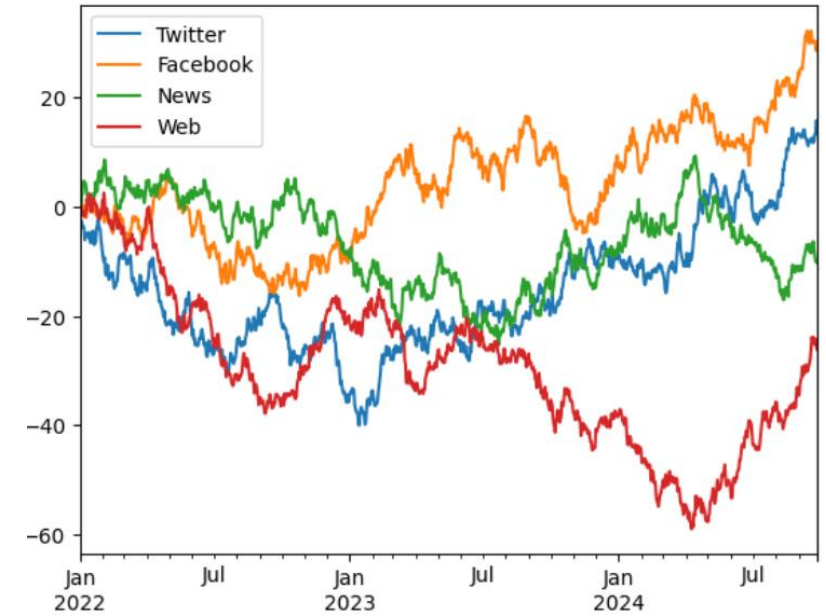
1) Gather text  
company  
related contents



2) Compute  
sentiment on each  
content



3) Apply RepRisk  
Model



## Reputational Risk Model - Some maths

Normalization

$$S(x) = u(x) = \begin{cases} x^\alpha, & x \geq 0 \\ -\lambda(-x)^\alpha, & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

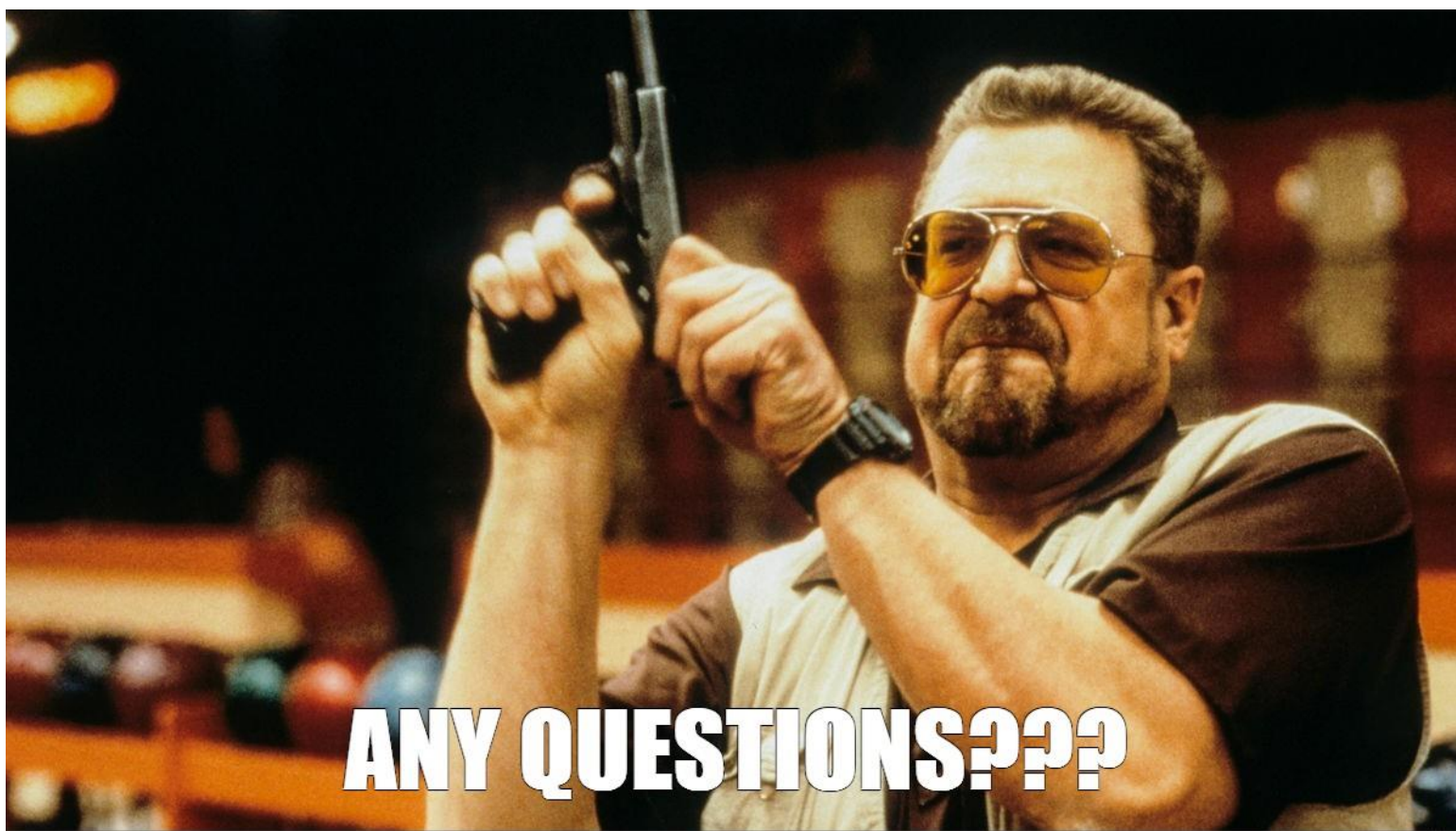
Average scores

$$AS(S_t) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n S_t}{n}$$

Compute index for day t and source m

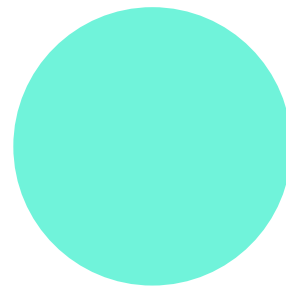
$$Rep_m(t) = \sum_{t' < t} Rep_m(t') + a * AS_m(S_t)$$





# AND NOW...

# HANDS-ON



**For further questions:**

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**Find the code at our [Github](#)**