

# Introduction

Computational Linguistics

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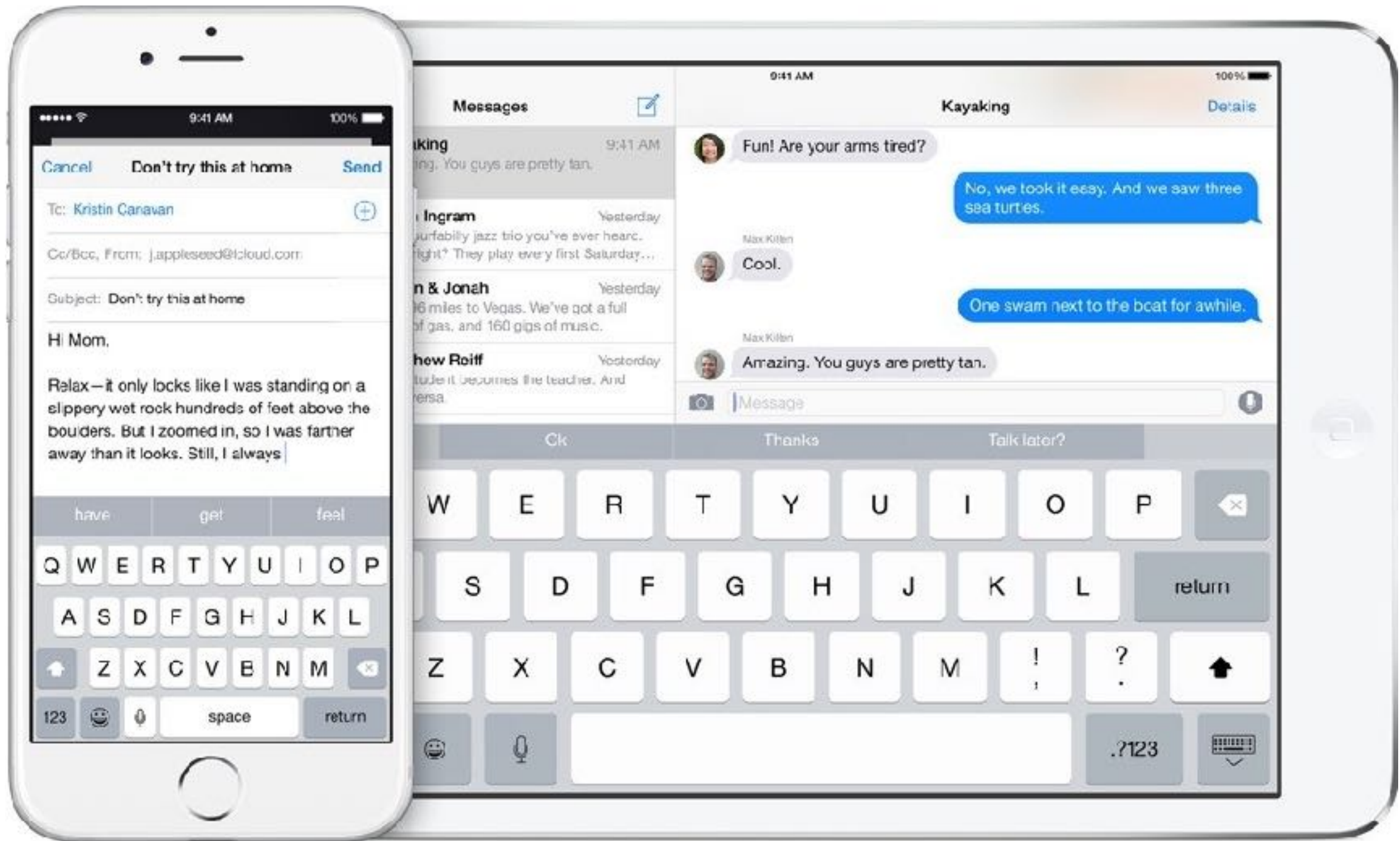
# Outline

- What is computational linguistics?
- Topics of this course
- Organizational issues

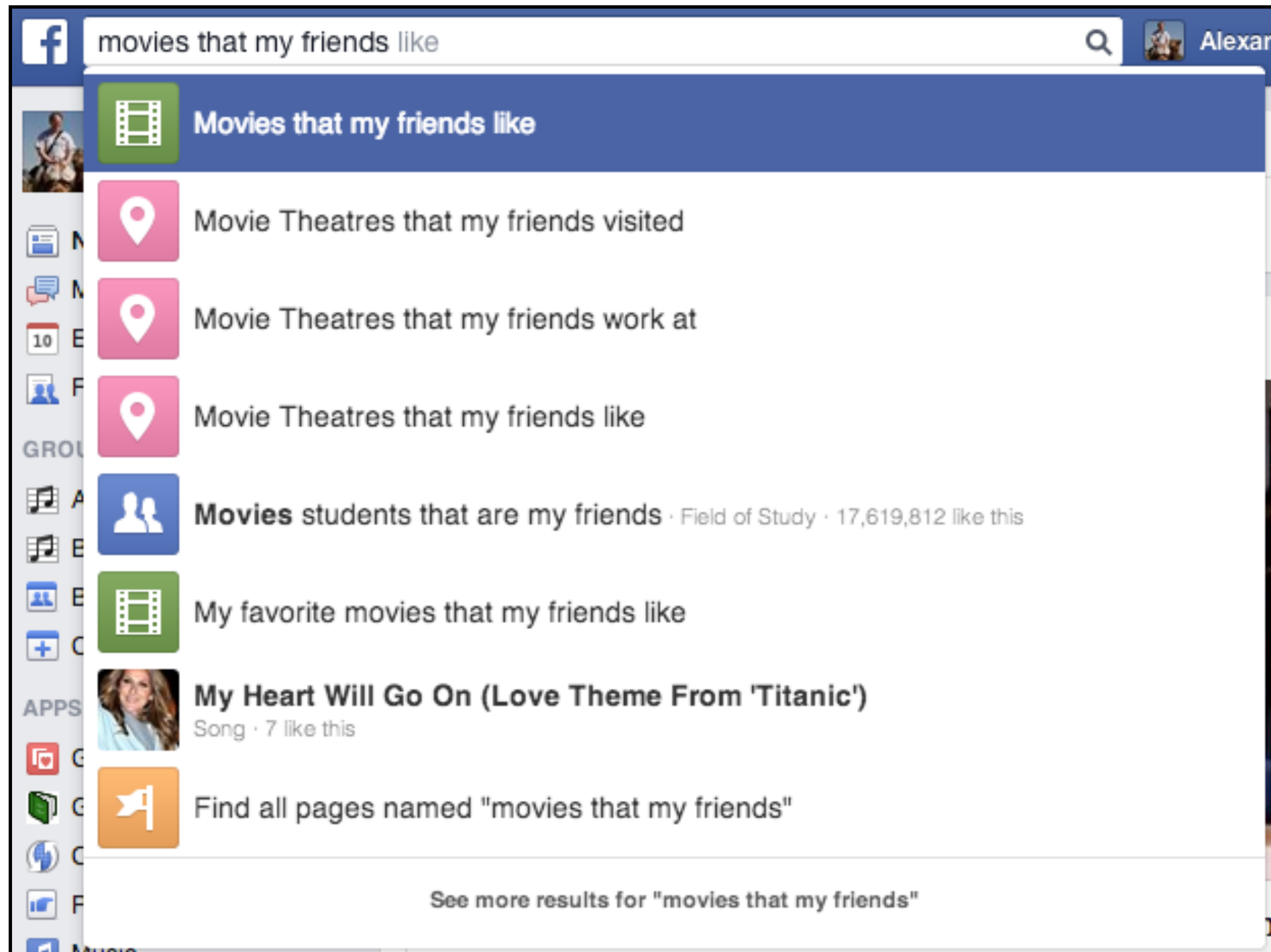
# Siri



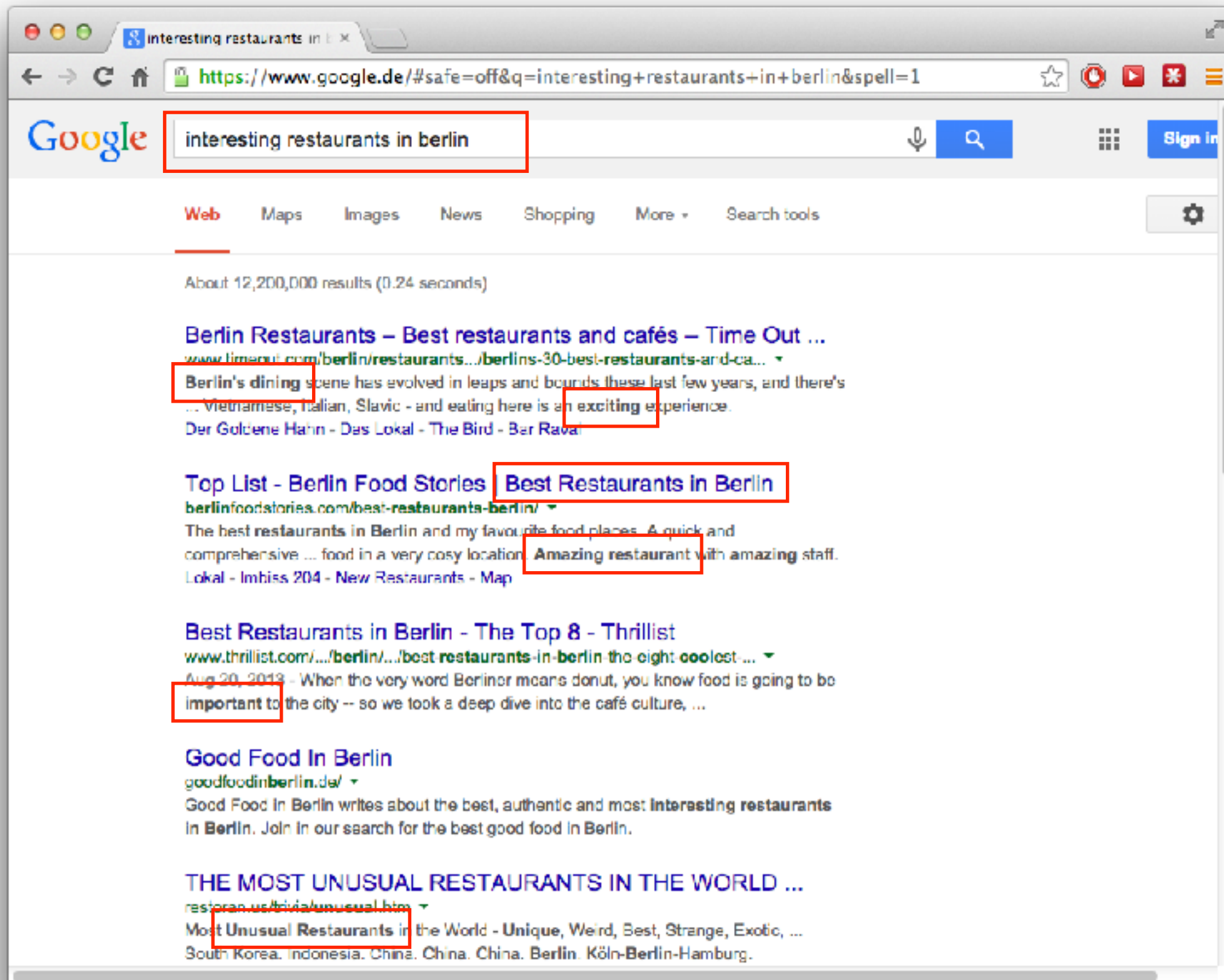
# Text prediction



# Facebook Graph Search

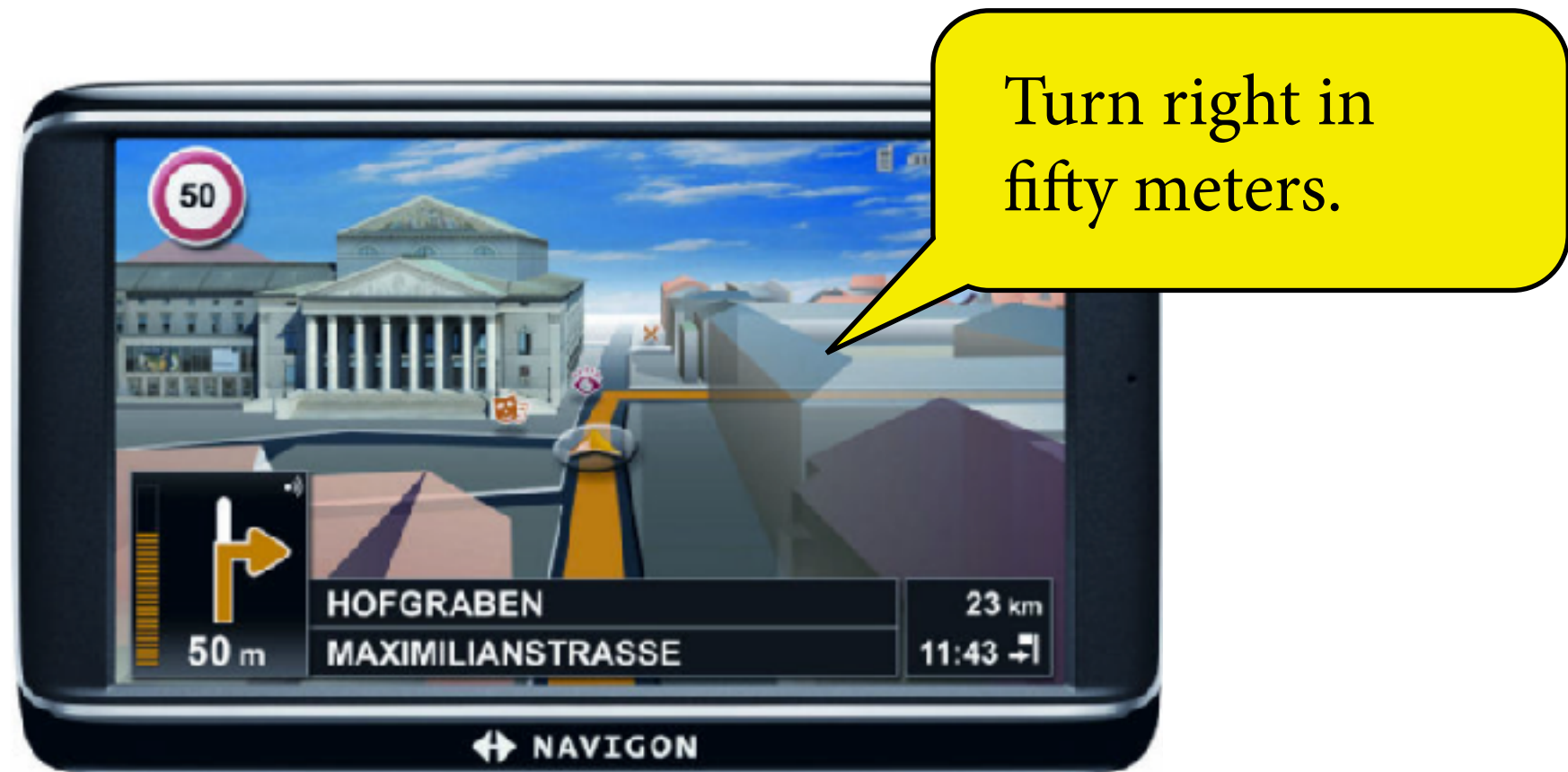


# Similarity in Google Search

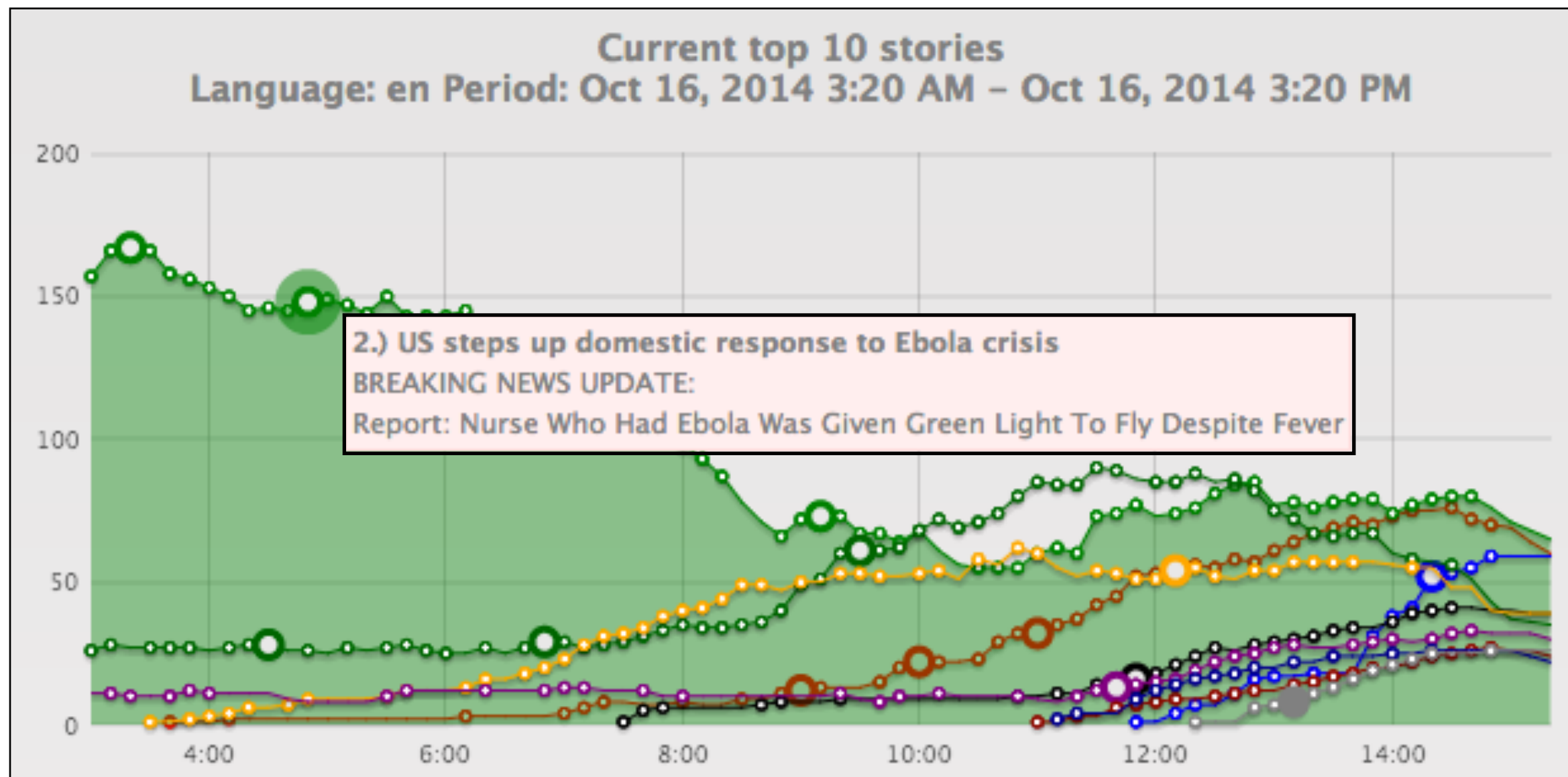




# Navigation Systems

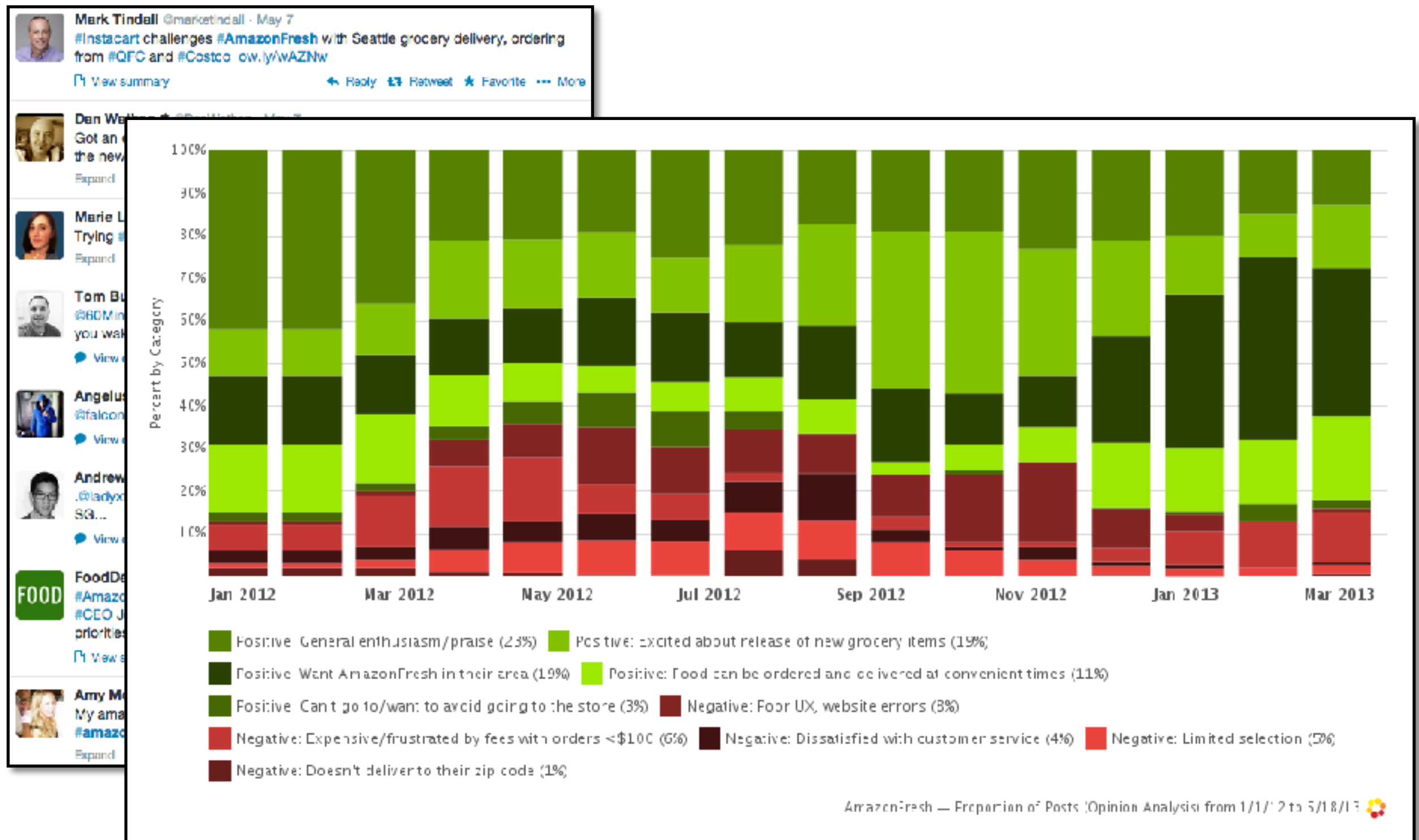


# Information access





# Sentiment Analysis



# Clickbait generation with RNNs



<http://clickotron.com/>

# Google Translate

EL PAÍS

PORTADA INTERNACIONAL

Google

Anmelden

Übersetzer

Spanisch Deutsch

“The medium, who has enjoyed always, the coach’s trust, and has recovered from the rupture of the cruciate ligament and from the inside of the right knee, which ...”

Joachim Löw, seleccionador de Alemania, ha anunciado este jueves la lista de los 30 jugadores preseleccionados para acudir al Mundial de Brasil, en la que destacan la ausencia del futuro portero del Barcelona Ter Stegen, y la incorporación de Sami Khedira, del Real Madrid. El medio, que siempre ha contado con la confianza del seleccionador, ya se ha recuperado de la rotura del ligamento cruzado y el interior de la rodilla derecha que se produjo durante un amistoso ante Italia en el mes de noviembre y que le ha mantenido apartado del terreno de juego durante siete meses.

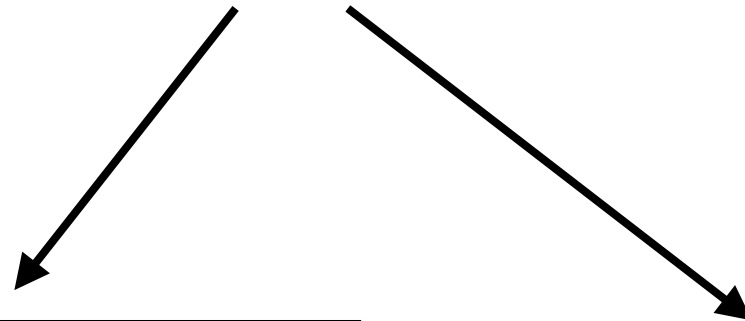
Joachim Löw , Deutschland, am Donnerstag angekündigt, die Liste der 30 Spieler in die engere Wahl , die Weltmeisterschaft in Brasilien, die die Abwesenheit von zukünftigen Barcelona -Torhüter Ter Stegen, und der Einbau von Sami Khedira von Real Madrid gehören zu besuchen. Das Medium , das immer genossen hat, das Vertrauen des Trainers, und hat sich von der Kreuzbandriss und der Innenseite des rechten Knies , die bei einem Freundschaftsspiel gegen Italien im November aufgetreten erholt und er hat sich von der gehalten Feld für sieben Monate.

de Sami Khedira, del Real Madrid. El medio, que siempre ha contado con la confianza del seleccionador, ya se ha recuperado de la rotura del ligamento cruzado y el interior de la rodilla derecha que se produjo durante un amistoso ante Italia en el mes de noviembre y que le ha mantenido apartado del terreno de juego durante siete meses.



# Lexical Ambiguity

“El medio, que siempre ha contado ...”



“Medium”  
(medium)



“Mittelfeldspieler”  
(midfield player)

# Word order

“El medio, que siempre ha contado con la confianza del seleccionador, ...”

Der Mittelfeldspieler der immer hat gezählt auf das Vertrauen des Trainers

Translation ≈ choose words in the other language  
and bring them in the correct order

# Word order

“El medio, que siempre **ha** **contado con** la confianza del seleccionador, ...”

Der Mittelfeldspieler der immer **auf** **das** Vertrauen des Trainers **gezählt** **hat**

Translation  $\approx$  choose words in the other language  
and bring them in the correct order



# Structural Ambiguity

“se ha recuperado de la rotura del ligamento cruzado y el interior de la rodilla derecha”  
has himself recovered of the rupture of the ligament cruciate and the interior of the knee right

the cruciate ligament and the inside of the right knee  
el ligamento cruzado y el interior de la rodilla derecha

el ligamento cruzado y el interior de la rodilla derecha  
cruciate and lateral  
the cruciate and the lateral ligament of the right knee

# Content of this class

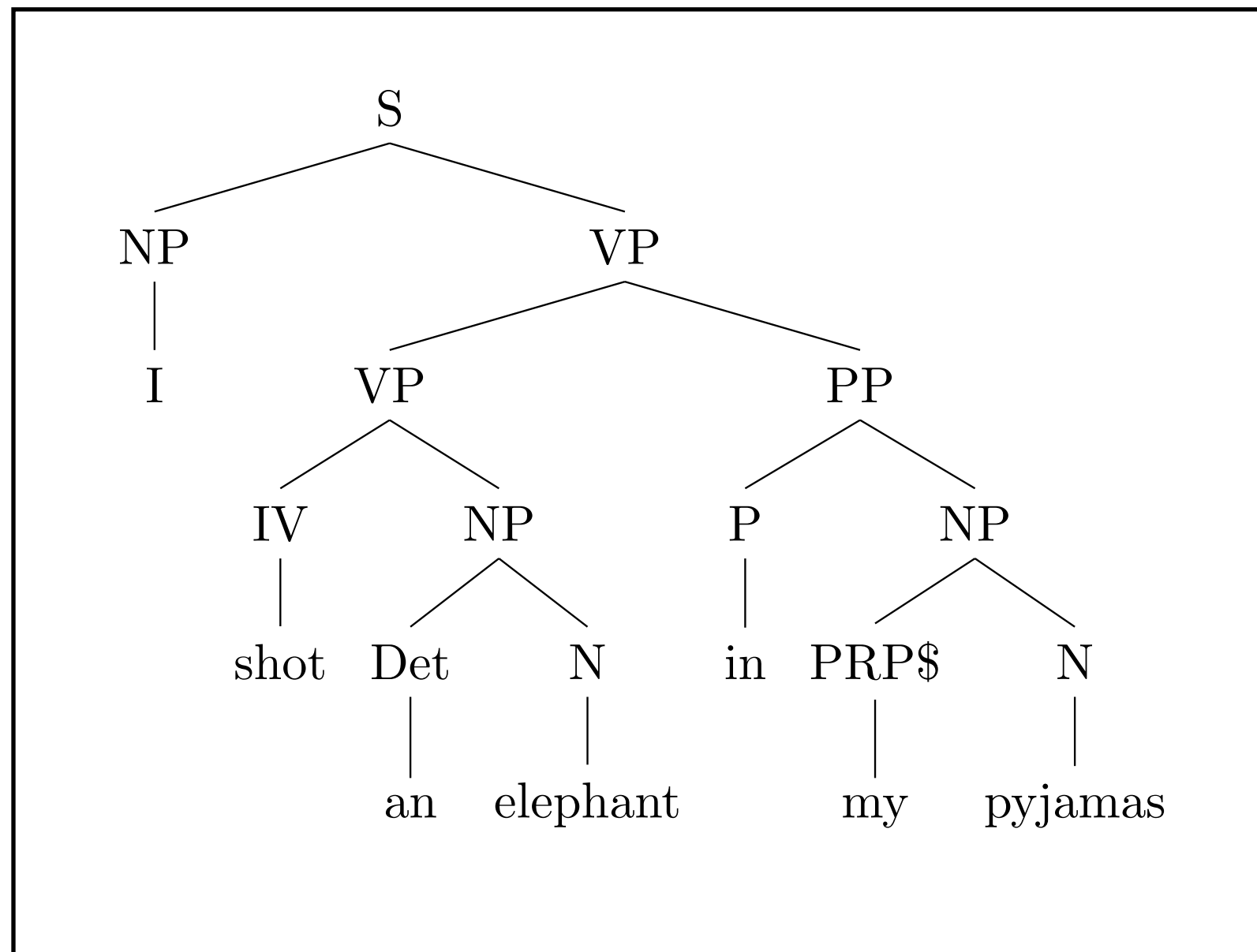
- Fundamental techniques of CL.
- Common themes:
  - ▶ uncovering hidden linguistic structure
  - ▶ dealing with ambiguity
  - ▶ statistical methods
  - ▶ efficient algorithms

# Recovering parts of speech

NNP	VBZ	NN	NNS	CD	NN
Fed	raises	interest	rates	0.5	percent

(POS tags from Penn Treebank)

# Recovering syntactic structure

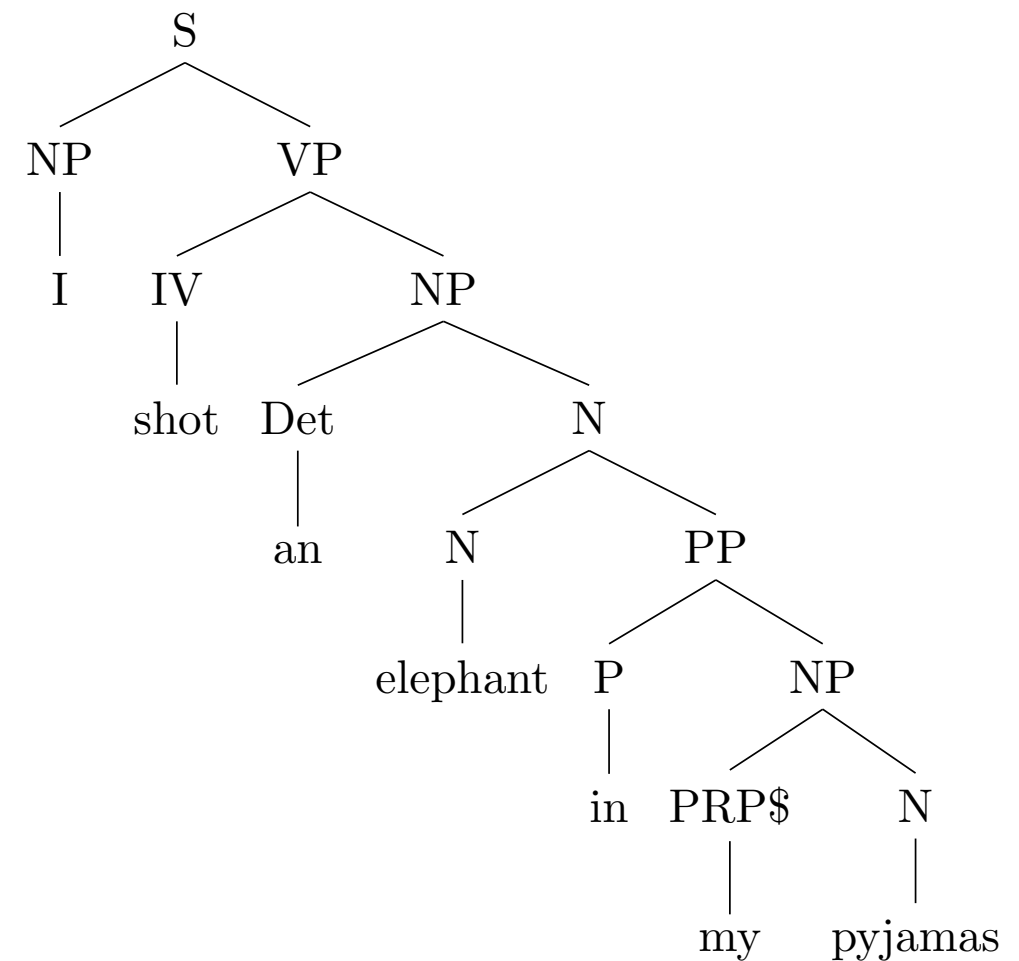
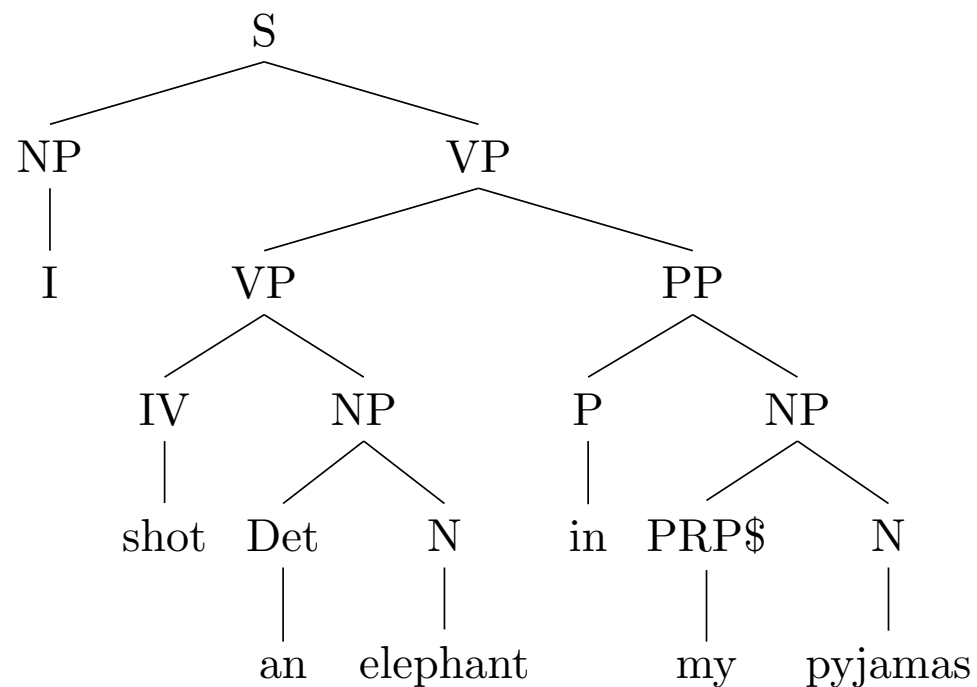


# Ambiguity: parts of speech

VBD		VB				
VBN	VBZ	VBP	VBZ			
NNP	NNS	NN	NNS	CD	NN	
Fed	raises	interest	rates	0.5	percent	

(POS tags from Penn Treebank)

# Ambiguity: Syntax



“ ... How it got there, I have no idea.”



# Other types of ambiguity

- A central problem: NL expressions are frequently highly ambiguous.
  - ▶ lexical ambiguities: “interest” (noun) vs. “interest” (verb)  
— vs. “interest” (the other noun)
  - ▶ structural semantic ambiguities:  
“every student did not pass the exam”
  - ▶ referential ambiguities:  
“John beat Peter up. That really hurt him.”
- Individual analyses are called *readings*.

# The ambiguity challenge

- Number of readings grows exponentially with the sources of ambiguity.
  - ▶ How do we identify the correct one?
  - ▶ e.g. statistical models
- In practice, infeasible to enumerate all readings and choose the right one.
  - ▶ How can we compute the correct reading efficiently?
  - ▶ development of good algorithms

# The knowledge challenge

- Uncovering hidden structure requires *knowledge* about language. Where do we get it?
- Classical approach: hand-written rules.
  - ▶ Can be effective, but is very expensive.
- “Modern” approach: statistical models.
  - ▶ dominant paradigm since the late 1990s
- Tradeoff between depth of modeling and quality of available models.

# Siri of the Future?

User: Book a table at “Da Giovanni” after I finish work, and tell John and Mary to meet me there.

System: Sorry, Giovanni has no free tables until 9pm. Should I find a different Italian restaurant for 6:30pm?

User: Can you find a table in a restaurant with a good wine list?

System: “Ristorante Biscotti” still has an opening.  
It’s in the Financial District, but has a similar travel time.

User: Okay, sounds good.

System: (makes the reservation online)

(Example by Ron Kaplan, Nuance)

# Topics in this class

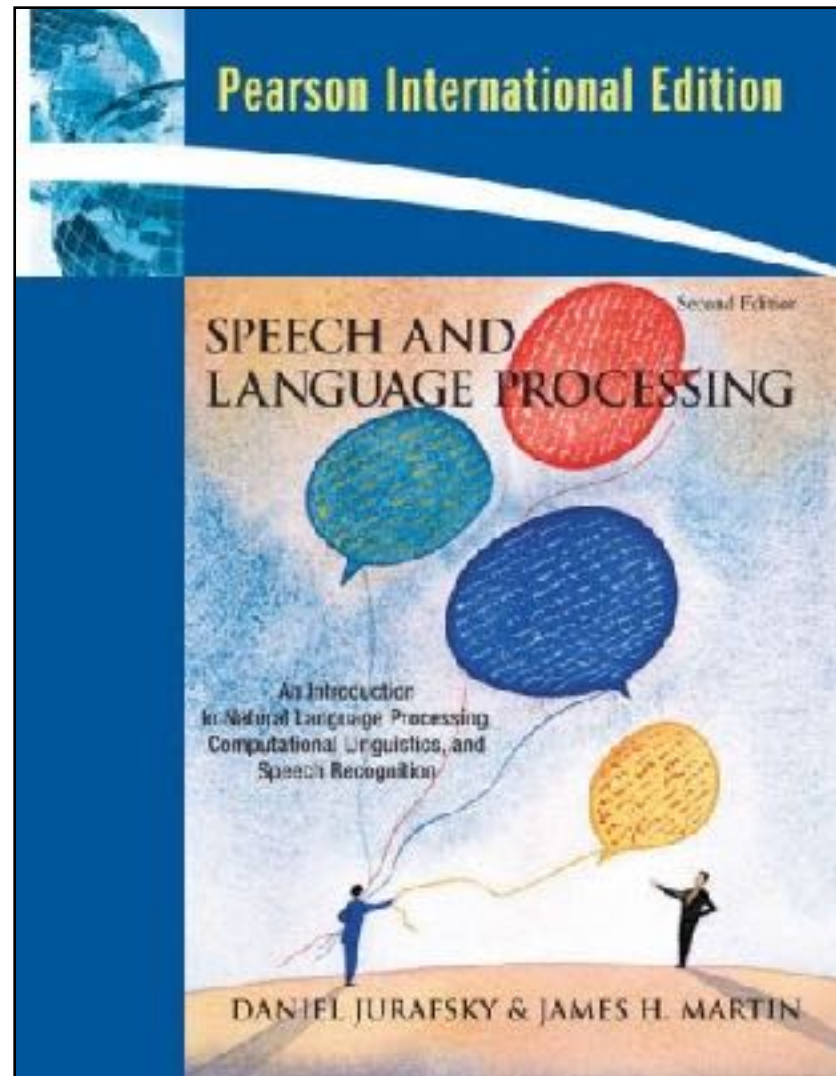
- Elementary statistical models of language
- Tagging: Hidden Markov Models
- Parsing: esp. probabilistic context-free grammars
- Further topics: a bit of ...
  - ▶ semantics
  - ▶ machine translation
  - ▶ grammar induction

# Lectures

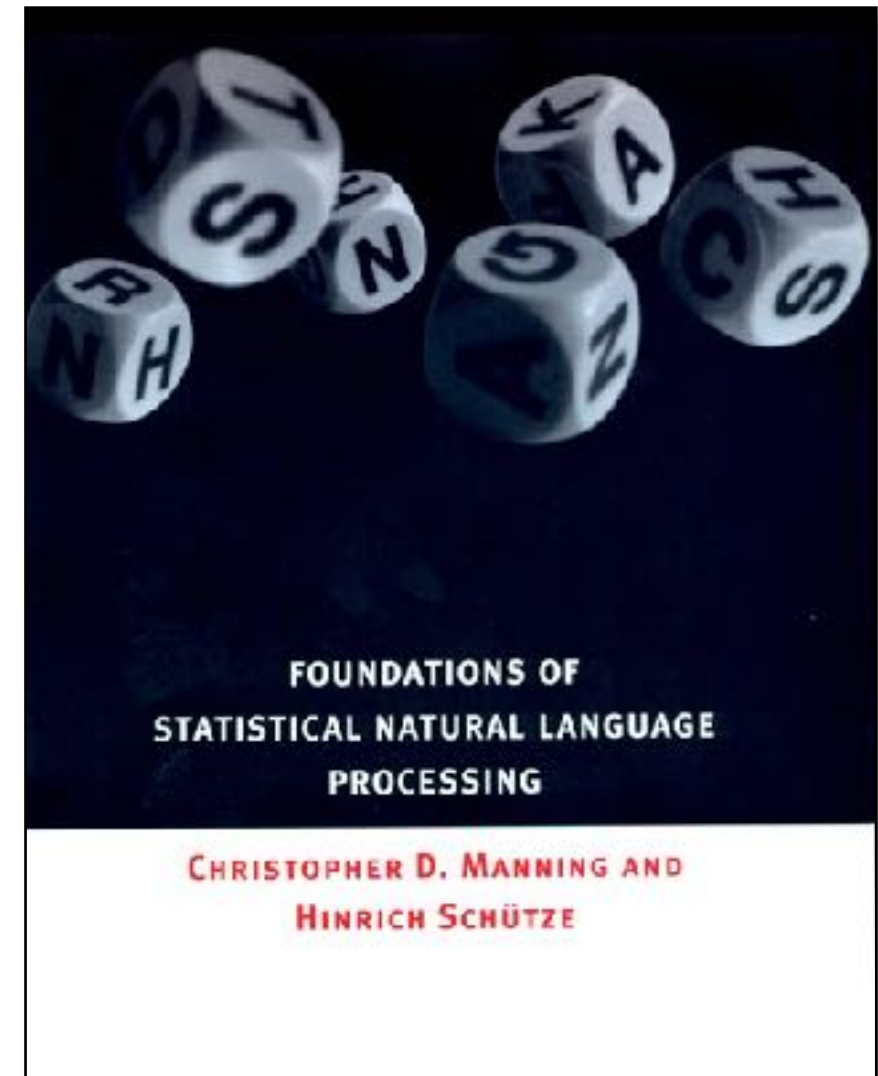
- We will assign you some reading for each lecture. Please read it *beforehand*.
- Lecture will summarize reading, add some extra information, give you a chance to discuss.
- Lectures will be dense but relatively short.
  - ▶ need prior reading to understand everything
  - ▶ ample time for questions and discussion



# Standard Textbooks



Dan Jurafsky and James Martin,  
Speech and Language Processing



Chris Manning and Hinrich Schütze,  
Foundations of Statistical Natural  
Language Processing

# Assignments

- There will be six programming assignments.
  - ▶ Start early and plan enough time.
- Grading:
  - ▶ You need to turn in at least five assignments.
  - ▶ We will add up your best two scores from A1-3 and your best two scores from A4-6.
  - ▶ In total, you must get at least 250 (of 400) points out of these best four assignments.

# Programming skills

- You will need a certain degree of programming skills to complete the assignments.
- We assume that you are familiar with Python 3. Some assignments are easier with NLTK.
- Show of hands — programming skills?

# Final project

- The grade for the class is also determined by a final project, which you work on in the term break.
  - ▶ submit code plus documentation
- You should propose a topic for the project.
  - ▶ size of project = roughly one assignment
- Grade will be based on
  - ▶ difficulty of task
  - ▶ quality of solution
  - ▶ clarity of presentation

# Resources

- Course website:  
<https://coli-saar.github.io/cl16/>
- Piazza (please sign up!):  
<https://piazza.com/class/iufc96ss1yo6sm>
- Weekly voluntary tutorials with Antoine

# Logistics

- Friday 12-14: here
- Tuesday: is 10-12 in this room, after all
  - ▶ “Speech Science” moves into 12-14 timeslot