

Syntax-Based Statistical Machine Translation

(Or: “Can a Machine Translate Without
Knowing What a Verb Is?”)

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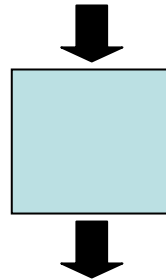
MT Summit, Copenhagen, September, 2007

Topics

- **Quick review of statistical MT essentials**
 - bilingual text
 - phrase substitution models
 - language models
 - decoding
- **Syntax-based statistical MT**
 - syntax-based translation models
 - learning syntactic transformation rules from data
 - decoding
 - tree automata

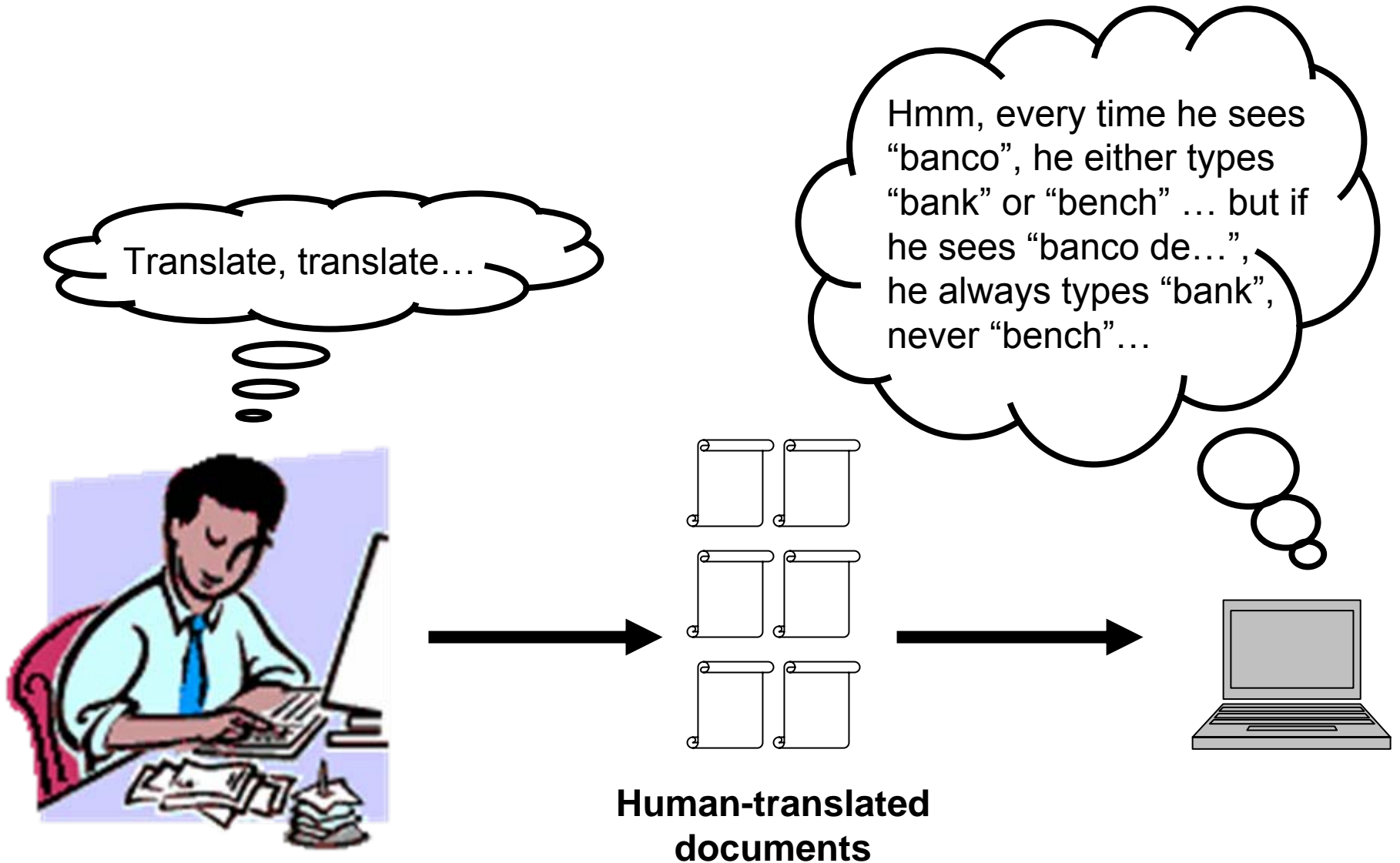
Machine Translation

美国关岛国际机场及其办公室均接获一名自称沙地阿拉伯富商拉登等发出的电子邮件，威胁将会向机场等公众地方发动生化袭击後，关岛经保持高度戒备。



The U.S. island of Guam is maintaining a high state of alert after the Guam airport and its offices both received an e-mail from someone calling himself the Saudi Arabian Osama bin Laden and threatening a biological/chemical attack against public places such as the airport.

Statistical Machine Translation



Spanish/English corpus

Translate: Clients do not sell pharmaceuticals in Europe.

1a. Garcia and associates .

1b. Garcia y asociados .

7a. the clients and the associates are enemies .

7b. los clients y los asociados son enemigos .

2a. Carlos Garcia has three associates .

2b. Carlos Garcia tiene tres asociados .

8a. the company has three groups .

8b. la empresa tiene tres grupos .

3a. his associates are not strong .

3b. sus asociados no son fuertes .

9a. its groups are in Europe .

9b. sus grupos estan en Europa .

4a. Garcia has a company also .

4b. Garcia tambien tiene una empresa .

10a. the modern groups sell strong pharmaceuticals .

10b. los grupos modernos venden medicinas fuertes .

5a. its clients are angry .

5b. sus clientes estan enfadados .

11a. the groups do not sell zenzanine .

11b. los grupos no venden zanzanina .

6a. the associates are also angry .

6b. los asociados tambien estan enfadados .

12a. the small groups are not modern .

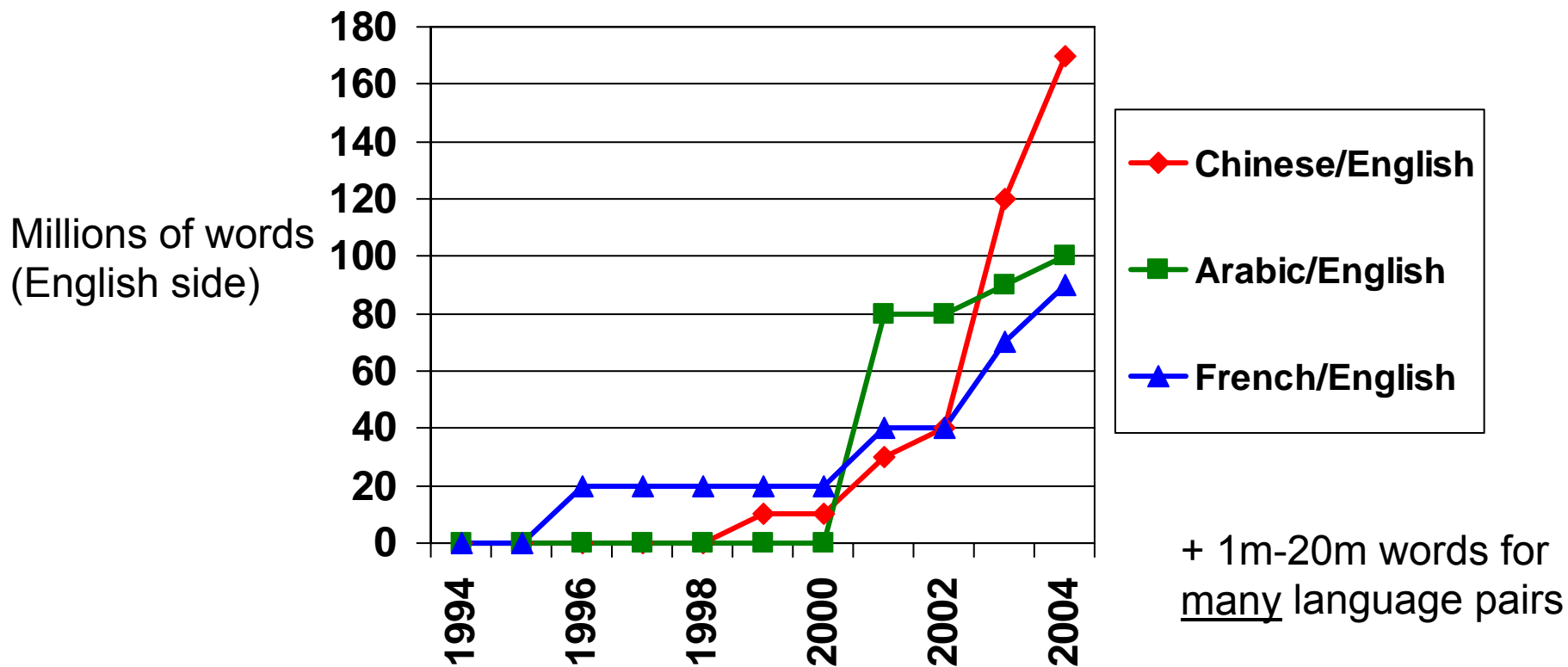
12b. los grupos pequenos no son modernos .

Centauri/Arcturan [Knight 97]

Your assignment, translate this to Arcturan: farok crrok hihok yorok klok kantok ok-yurp

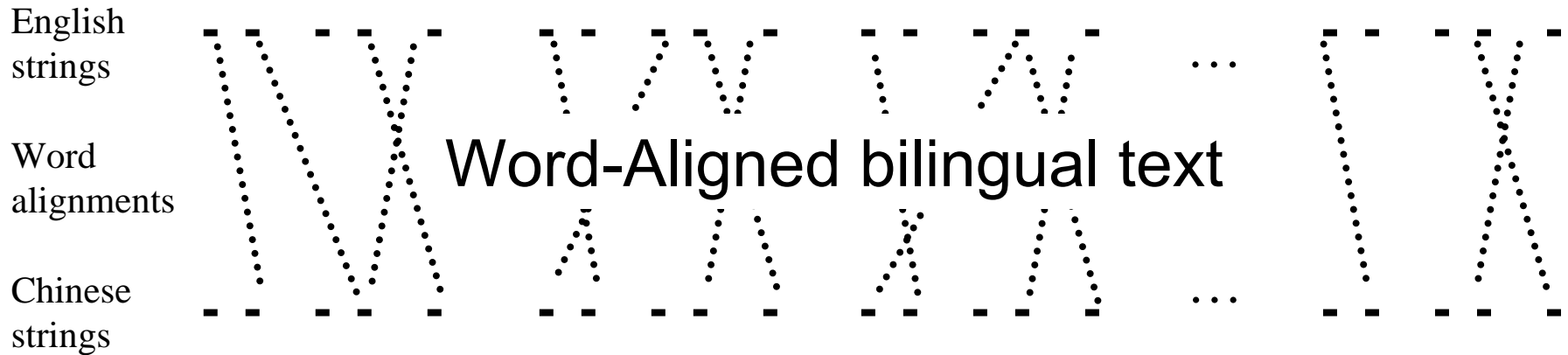
1a. ok-voon ororok sprok .	7a. lalok farok ororok lalok sprok izok enemok .
1b. at-voon bichat dat .	7b. wat jjat bichat wat dat vat eneat .
2a. ok-drubel ok-voon anak plok sprok .	8a. lalok brok anak plok nok .
2b. at-drubel at-voon pippat rrat dat .	8b. iat lat pippat rrat nnat .
3a. erok sprok izok hihok ghrok .	9a. wiwok nok izok kantok ok-yurp .
3b. totat dat arrat vat hilat .	9b. totat nnat quat oloat at-yurp .
4a. ok-voon anak drok brok jok .	10a. lalok mok nok yorok ghrok klok .
4b. at-voon krat pippat sat lat .	10b. wat nnat gat mat bat hilat .
5a. wiwok farok izok stok .	11a. lalok nok crrok hihok yorok zanzanok .
5b. totat jjat quat cat .	11b. wat nnat arrat mat zanzanat .
6a. lalok sprok izok jok stok .	12a. lalok rarok nok izok hihok mok .
6b. wat dat krat quat cat .	12b. wat nnat forat arrat vat gat .

Ready-to-Use Online Bilingual Data



(Data stripped of formatting, in sentence-pair format, available from the Linguistic Data Consortium at UPenn).

Bilingual Text (200m words)



Phrase Pair Extraction [Och & Ney, 2004]

Vast Database of Phrase Pairs

Phrase-Based Translation

这 7人 中包括 来自 法国 和 俄罗斯 的 宇航 员 .

the	7 people	including	by some	and	the russian	the	the astronauts	,
it	7 people included		by france	and the	the russian		international astronautical	of rapporteur .
this	7 out	including the	from	the french	and the russian	the fifth		.
these	7 among	including from		the french and	of the russian	of	space	members .
that	7 persons	including from	the	of france	and to	russian	of the	aerospace members .
	7 include		from the	of france and	russian		astronauts	. the
	7 numbers include		from france	and russian		of astronauts who		."
	7 populations include		those from france	and russian		astronauts .		
	7 deportees included		come from	france	and russia	in	astronautical	personnel ;
	7 philtrum	including those from		france and	russia	a space		member
		including representatives from		france and the	russia		astronaut	
		include	came from	france and russia		by cosmonauts		
		include representatives from		french	and russia		cosmonauts	
		include	came from france	and russia 's		cosmonauts .		
		includes	coming from	french and	russia 's		cosmonaut	
				french and russian	's	astronavigation	member .	
				french	and russia	astronauts		
				and russia 's			special rapporteur	
				, and	russia		rapporteur	
				, and russia			rapporteur .	
				, and russia				
				or	russia 's			

Table 1: #11# the seven - member crew includes astronauts from france and russia .

Scoring: Try to use phrase pairs that have been frequently observed.
 Try to output a sentence with frequent English word sequences.

Phrase-Based Translation

这 7人 中包括 来自 法国 和 俄罗斯 的 宇航 员 .

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these	7 among	including from		the french and	of the russian	of	space	members .
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	7 numbers include	from france		and russian		of astronauts who		."
	7 populations include	those from france		and russian		astronauts .		
	7 deportees included	come from	france	and russia		in	astronautical	personnel ;
	7 philtrum	including those from	france and	russia		a space	member	
		including representatives from	france and the	russia		astronaut		
		include	came from	france and russia		by cosmonauts		
		include representatives from	french	and russia		cosmonauts		
		include	came from france	and russia 's		cosmonauts .		
		includes	coming from	french and	russia 's	cosmonaut		
				french and russian	's	astronautical	member .	
				french	and russia	astronauts		
				and russia 's			special rapporteur	
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Phrase-Based Translation

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this	7 out	including the	from	the french	and the russian	the fifth	.			
these	7 among	including from	the french and	of the russian	of	space	members	.		
that	7 persons	including from the	of france	and to	russian	of the	aerospace	members		
	7 include	from the	of france and	russian	astronauts	.	the			
	7 numbers include	from france	and russian	of astronauts who	.					"
	7 populations include	those from france	and russian	astronauts .						
	7 deportees included	come from	france	and russia	in	astronautical	personnel	;		
	7 philtrum	including those from	france and	russia	a space	member				
		including representatives from	france and the	russia	astronaut					
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	7 include		from the	of france and	russian		astronauts			. the
	7 numbers include		from france		and russian		of astronauts who			.
	7 populations include		those from france		and russian		astronauts .			
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	include	came from		france and russia		by cosmonauts				
	include representatives from			french	and russia		cosmonauts			
	include	came from france		and russia 's			cosmonauts .			
	includes	coming from		french and	russia 's		cosmonaut			
				french and russian		's	astronavigation	member .		
				french	and russia		astronauts			
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Table 1: #11# the seven - member crew includes astronauts from france and russia .

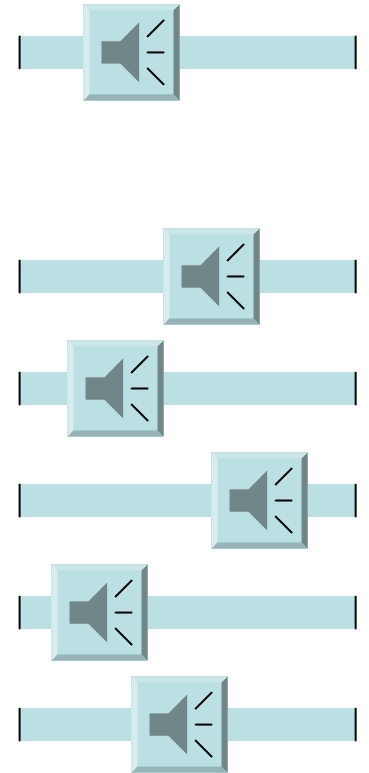
Scoring: Try to use phrase pairs that have been frequently observed.
 Try to output a sentence with frequent English word sequences.

Components

- Training algorithms
 - Word alignment, phrase pair extraction...
 - $P(\text{chinese} \mid \text{english}) = \text{product of conditional phrase pair probabilities}$
 - English n-gram models...
 - $P(\text{english}) = \text{product of trigram probabilities}$
 - $P(w_3 \mid w_1 w_2)$
- Decoding algorithm
 - $\text{argmax}_e P(\text{english} \mid \text{chinese}) = \text{argmax}_e P(\text{english}) * P(\text{chinese} \mid \text{english})$

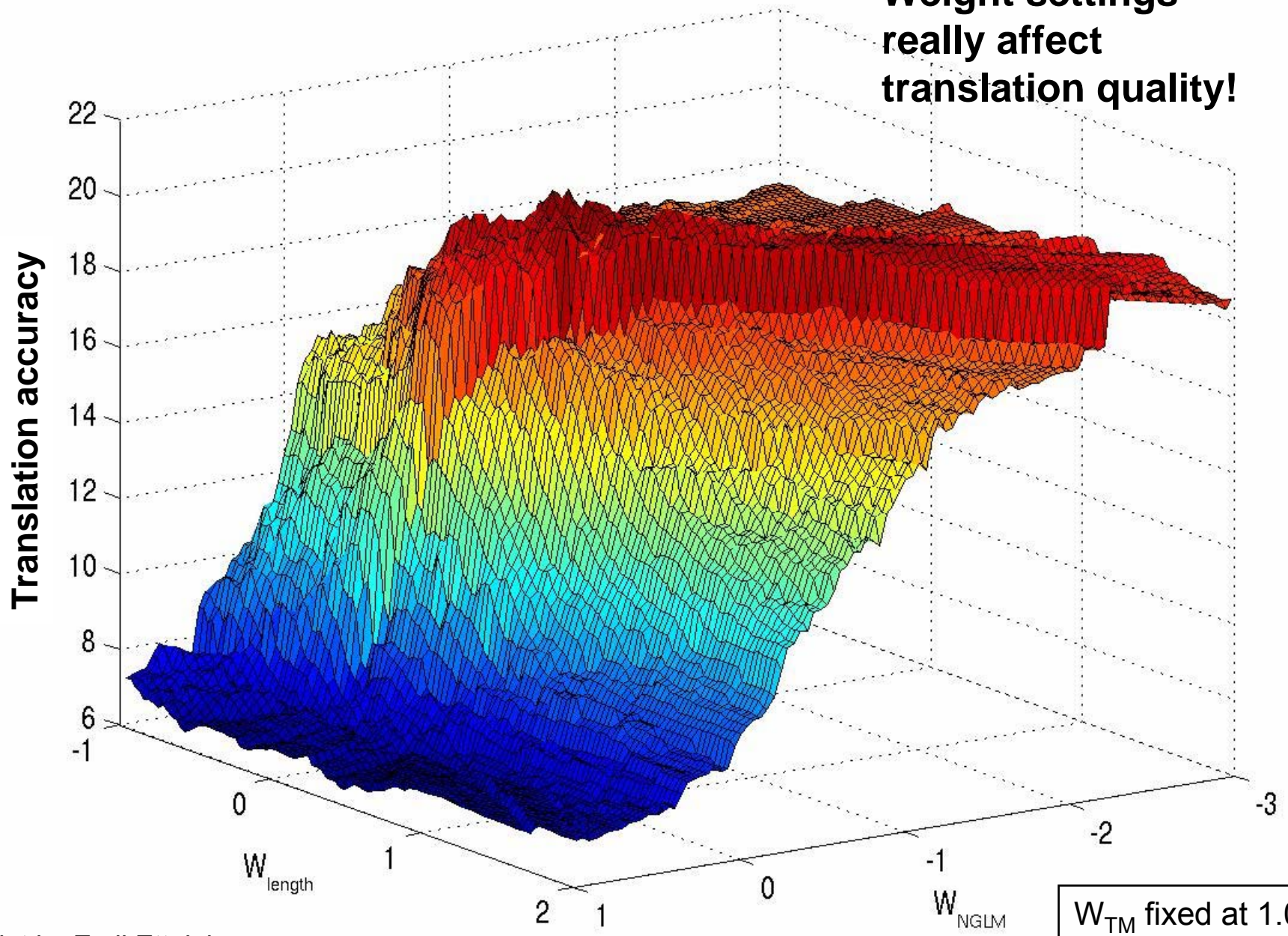
Features and Tuning

- English n-gram language model
- Phrase pairs
 - Corpus probability of phrase pair
 - Bad-phrase spotter
 - Word-drop spotter
 - “Move Me” preference
- English output length



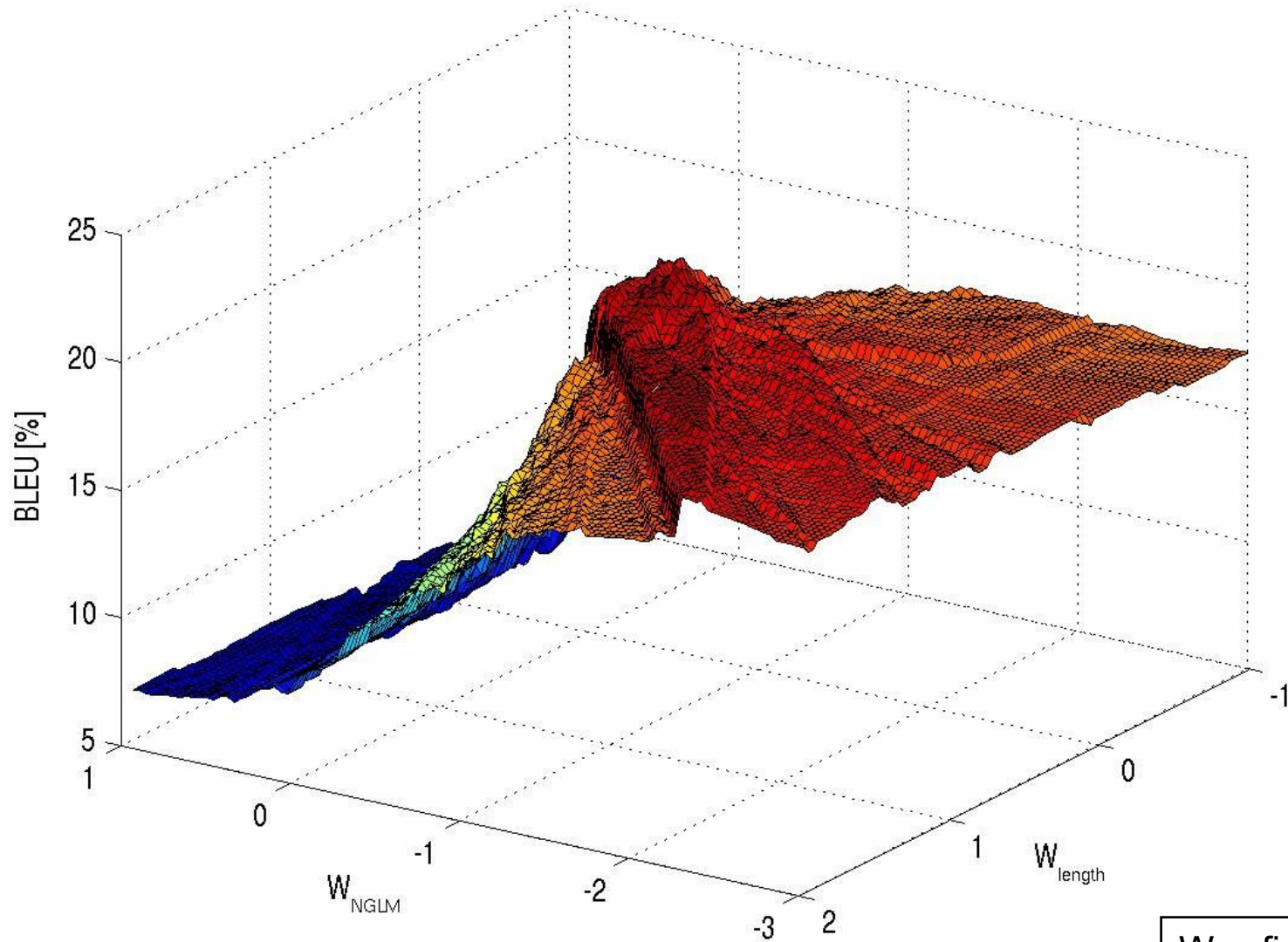
We compute a total score for each possible translation -- a linear weighted combination of these six values. This generalizes the formula from the previous slide, if we switch to log probs.

**Weight settings
really affect
translation quality!**



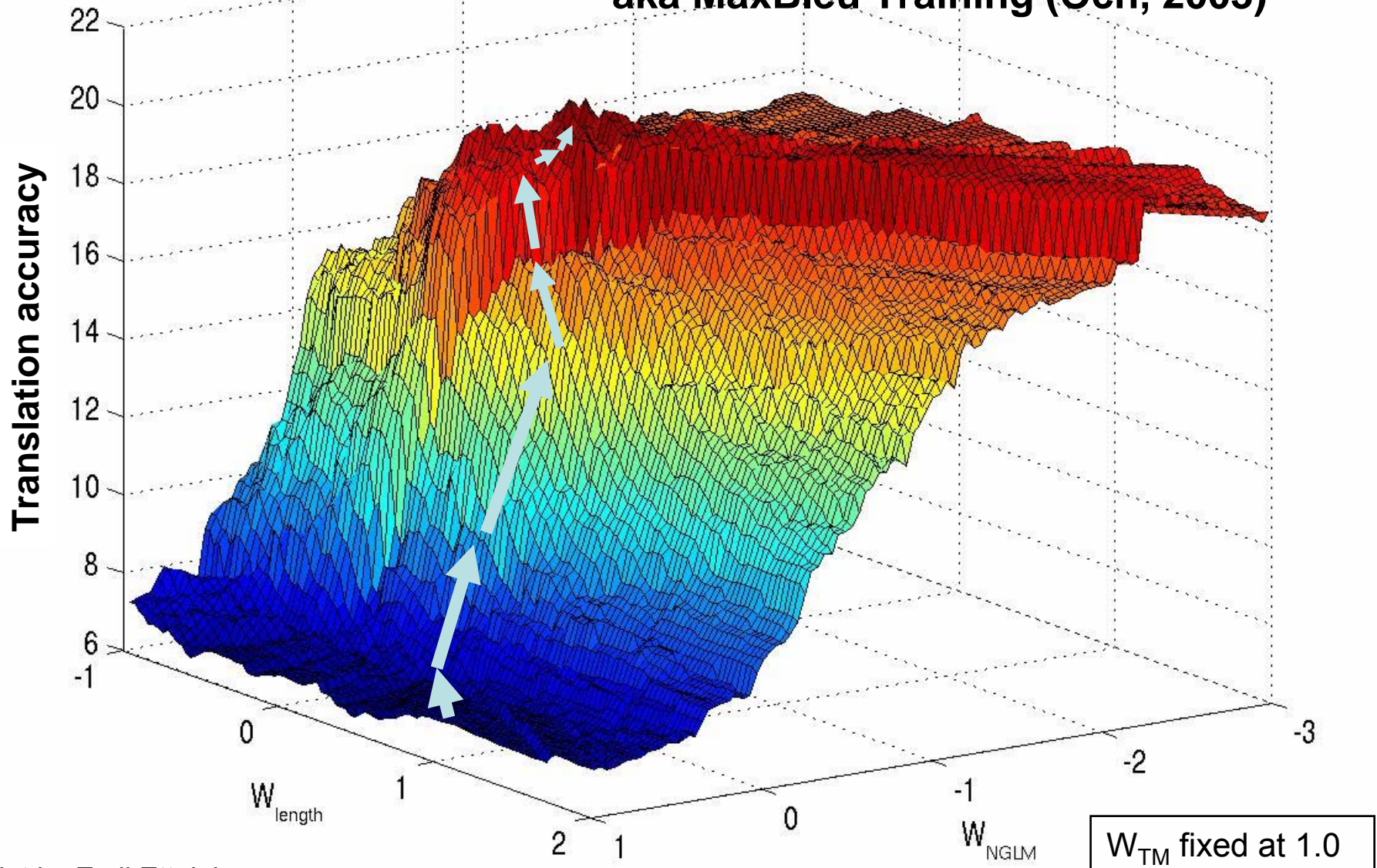
plot by Emil Ettelaie

(A View from the Back)



W_{TM} fixed at 1.0

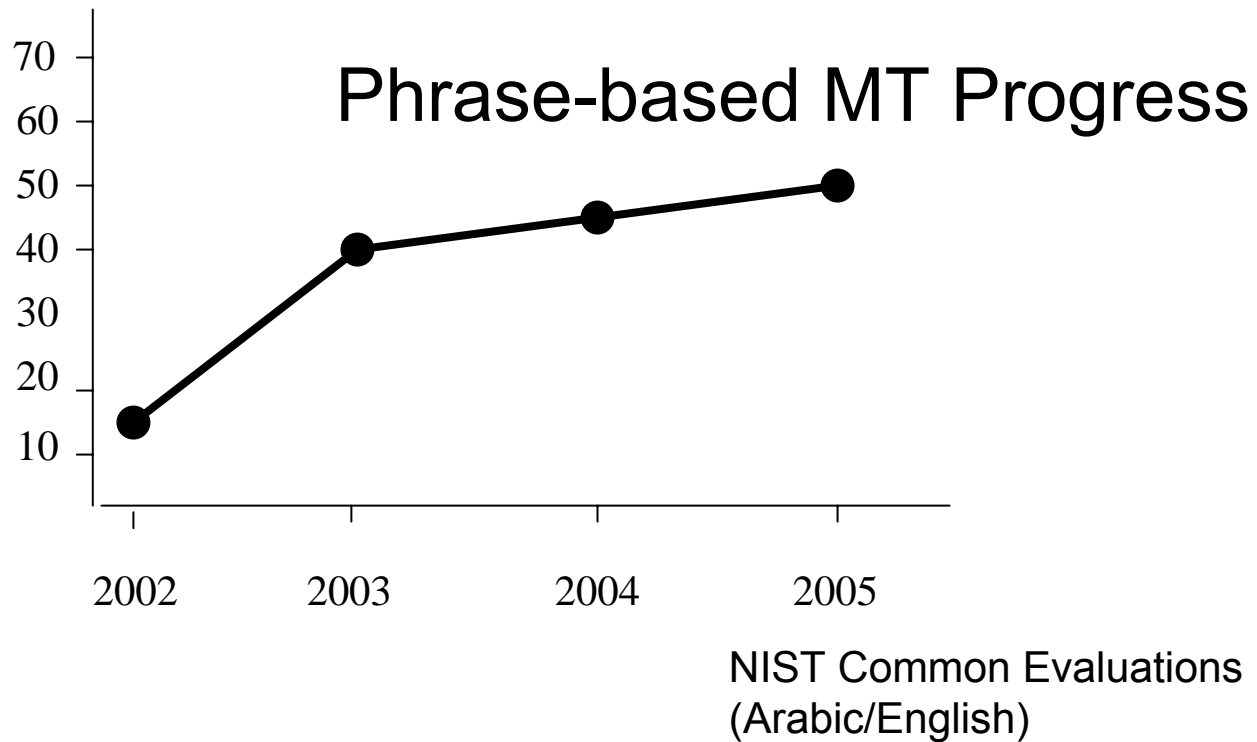
Hill climbing with Minimum Error-Rate Training (MERT) aka MaxBleu Training (Och, 2003)



plot by Emil Ettelaie

These Ideas Work!

Translation Quality
(BLEU)



Some Lessons

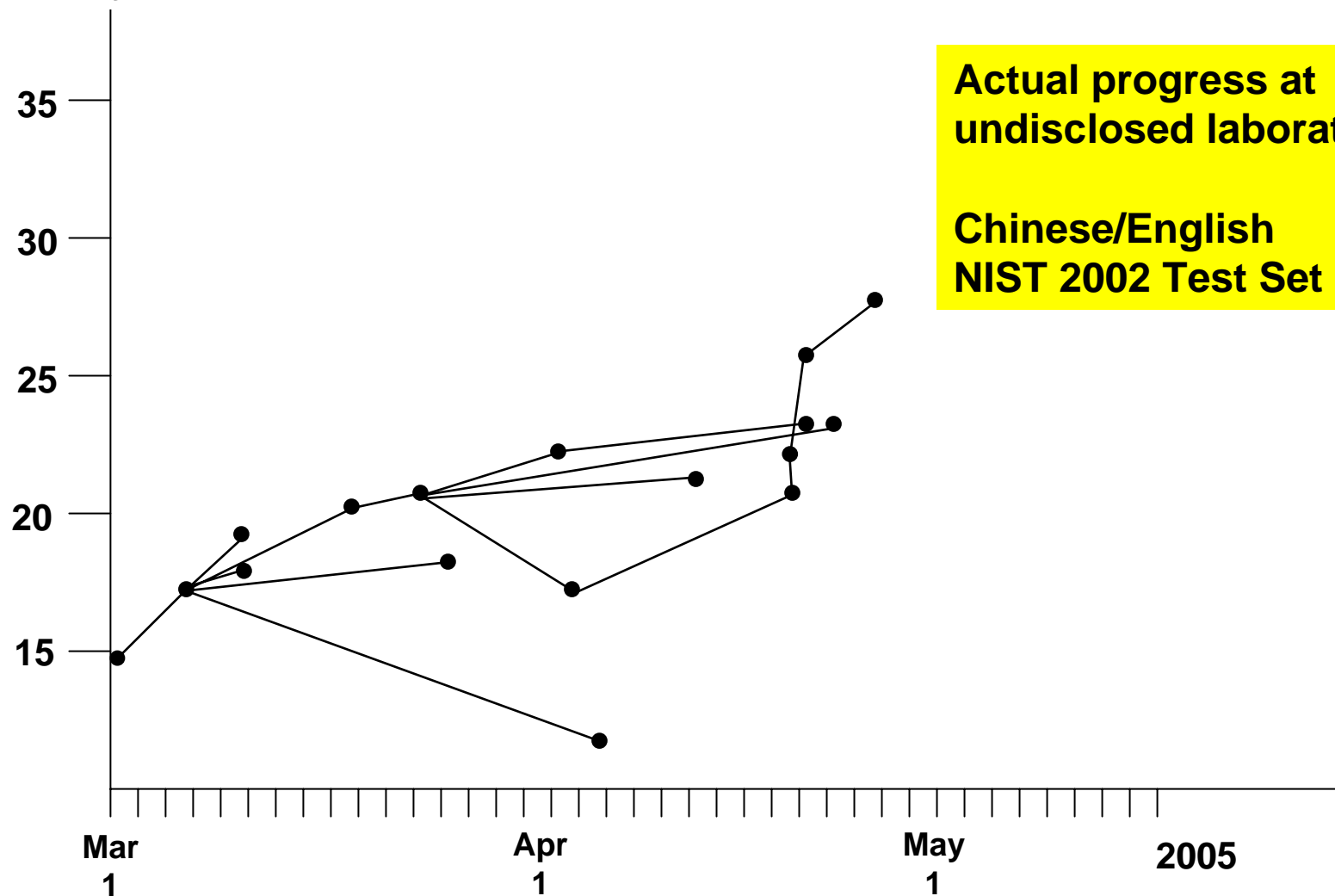
- The simpler, the better
- It takes a long time just to get the bugs out!
- Every change has to be carefully checked
- Good ideas often don't help
- Have to try lots of things
- It's highly experimental

Statistical MT Research is Highly Experimental

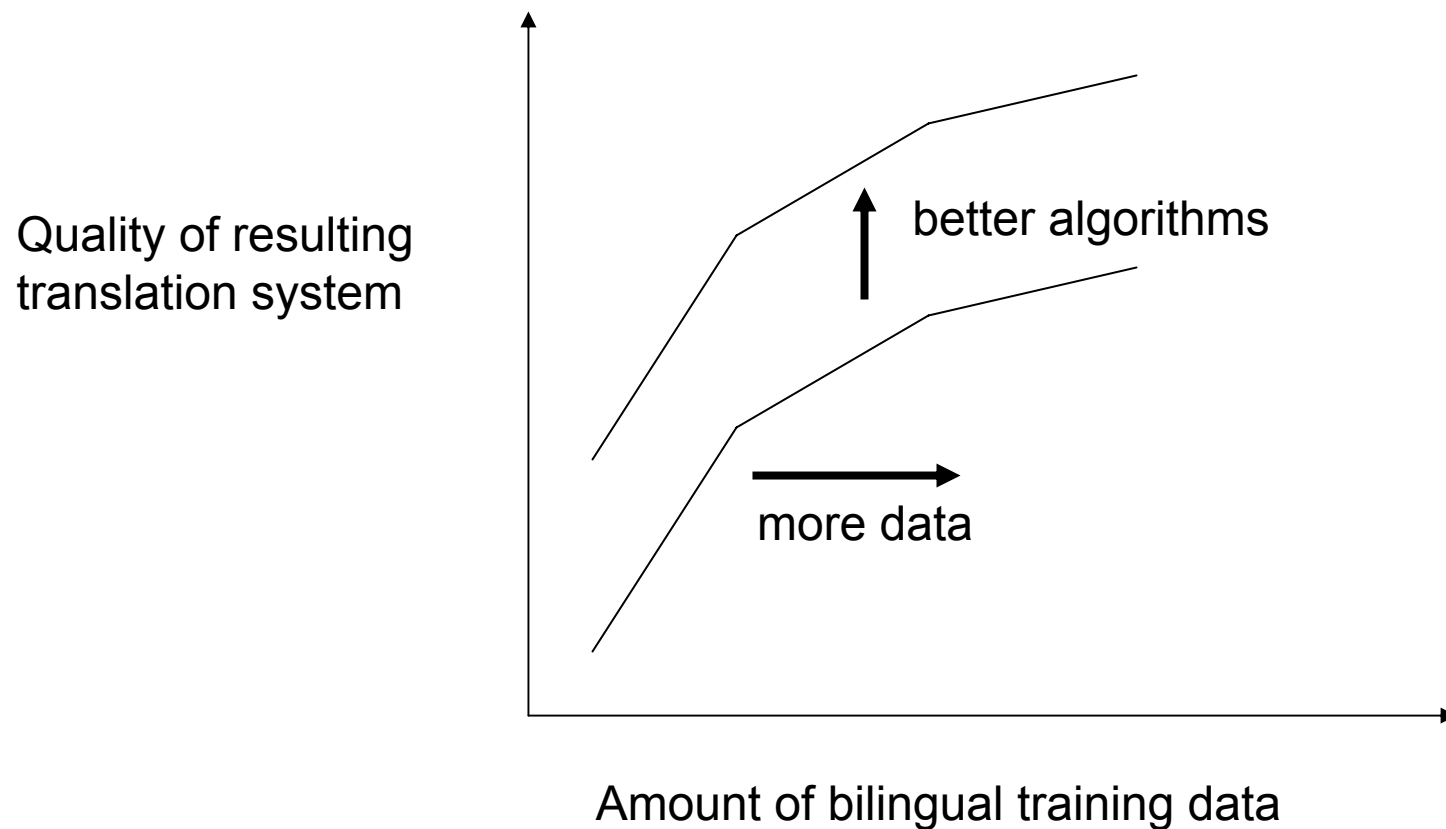
Translation
Accuracy (BLEU)

**Actual progress at
undisclosed laboratory!**

**Chinese/English
NIST 2002 Test Set**



Two Ways to Improve Statistical MT Systems



Can a machine translate between Chinese and English without knowing what a verb is?

- Of course
- But the output is often bad

“Frequent high-tech exports are bright spots for foreign trade growth of Guangdong has made important contributions.”

- Our phrase-based story might need some work

Syntax

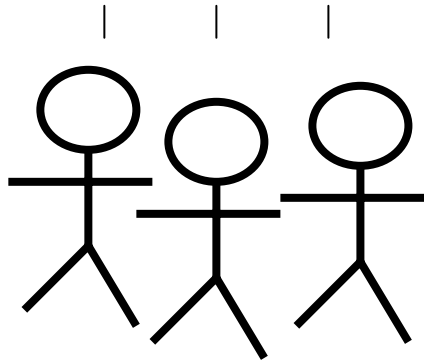
Maybe we need some grammar?

MT Research Landscape

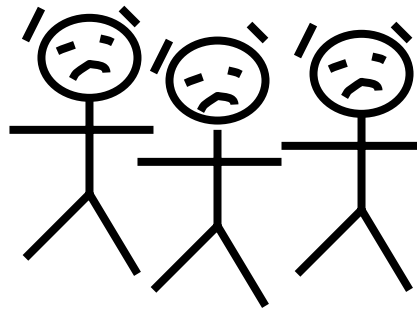
Syntax will never work!

We're better off without syntax!
Syntax has been *shown* to make things worse!
It has never worked in speech recognition!

You are crazy!



ACL Language Engineers

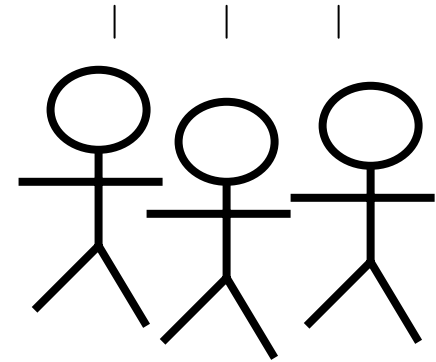


Working on syntax-based approach
to translation (nouns, verbs,
prepositional phrases...)

Syntax will never work!

You need *semantics*!
Language is about the world!

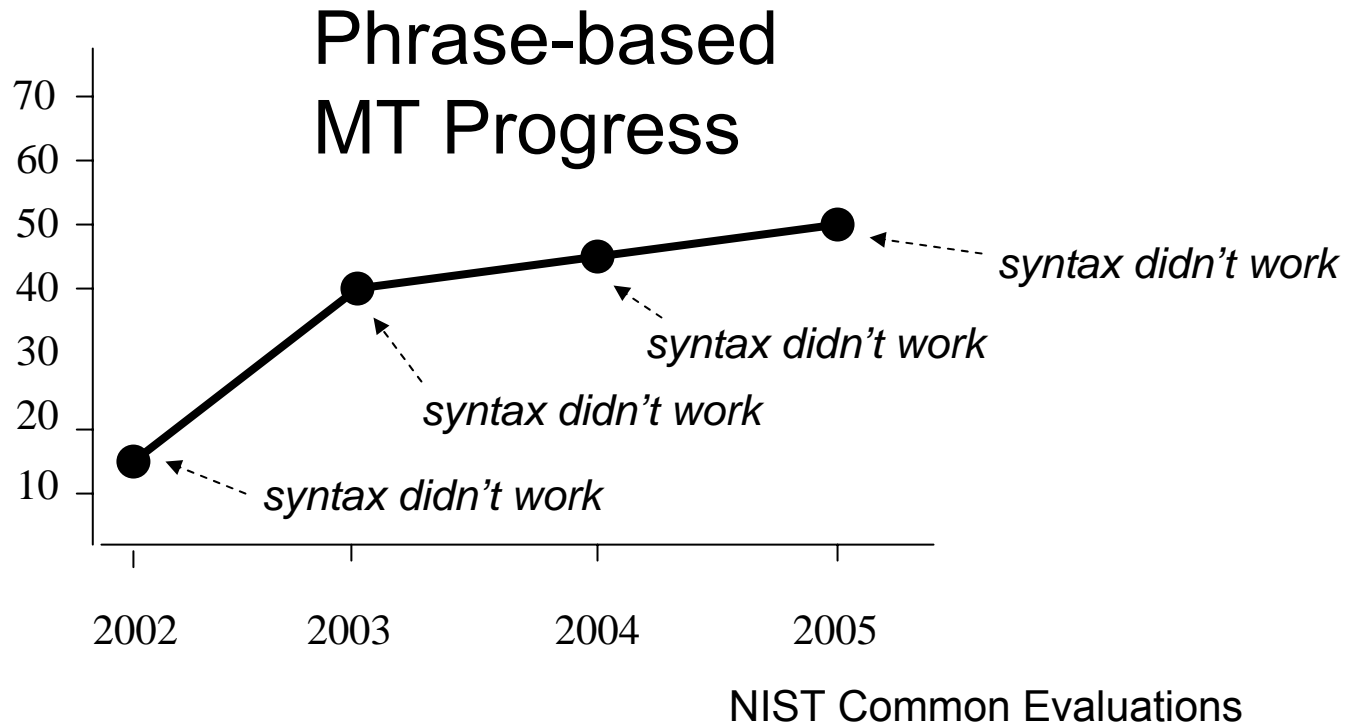
You are crazy!



AAAI Fellows

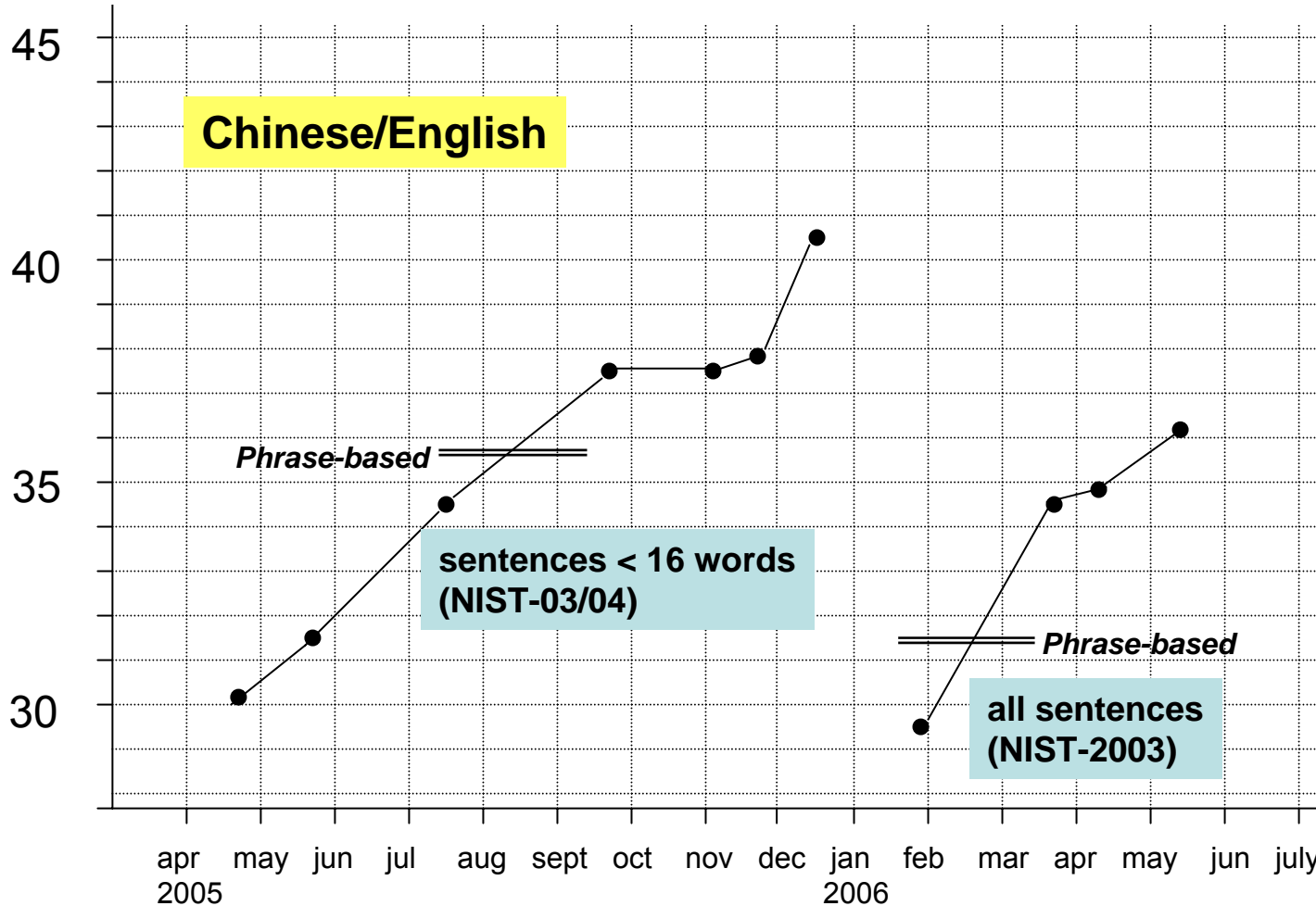
MT Progress

Translation Quality
(BLEU)



Syntax Started to Be Helpful in 2006

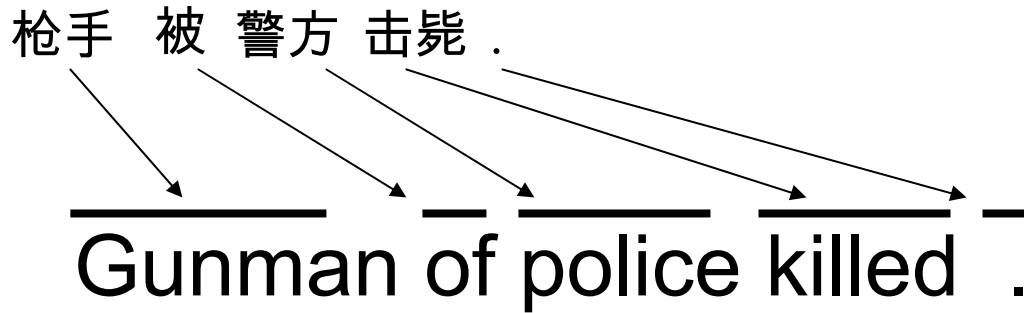
Translation Accuracy



How to Add Syntax?

- Automatically parse training data
 - Many parsers are available: (Collins 97, Charniak 01, etc)
- Then many approaches are possible
 - Add **syntactic features** to phrase-based system
 - many references
 - Syntactically **re-order source sentences** into target-like word order (for training and decoding)
 - (Berger et al 94, Xia & McCord 04, Collins et al 05, etc)
 - Build **tree-to-tree** translation systems
 - (Eisner 03, Gildea 03, Melamed 04, Riezler & Maxwell 06, Cowan et al 06, etc)
 - Build **tree-to-string** translation systems
 - (Quirk et al 05, Huang et al AMTA-06, Liu et al 06, etc)
 - Build **string-to-tree** translation systems
 - (Yamada & Knight 01, Galley et al 04, Venugopal & Zollmann 06, etc)
- Let's just look at one approach & investigate

Phrase-Based Output



*Decoder
Hypothesis #1*

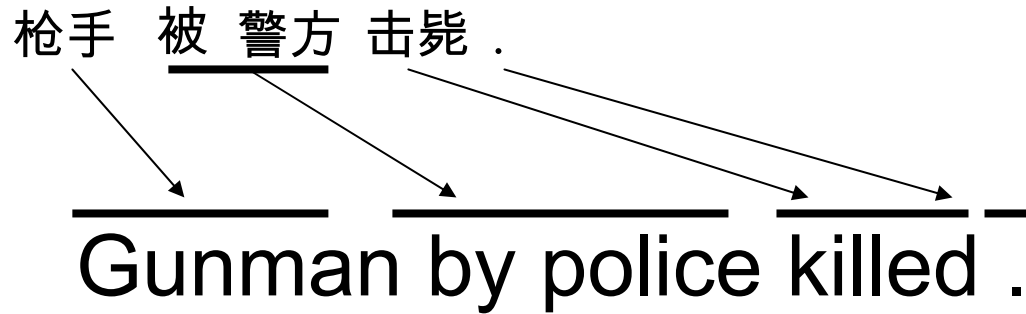
Phrase-Based Output

枪手 被 警方 击毙 .

 .
Gunman of police attack .

*Decoder
Hypothesis #7*

Phrase-Based Output



*Decoder
Hypothesis #12*

Phrase-Based Output

枪手 被警方 击毙 .

Killed gunman by police .

*Decoder
Hypothesis #134*

Phrase-Based Output

枪手 被 警方 击毙 .

Gunman killed the police .

*Decoder
Hypothesis #9,329*

Phrase-Based Output

枪手 被 警方 击毙 .

Gunman killed by police .



*Decoder
Hypothesis #50,654*

Problematic:

- VBD “killed” needs a direct object
- VBN “killed” needs an auxiliary verb (“was”)
- countable “gunman” needs an article (“a”, “the”)
- “passive marker” in Chinese controls re-ordering

Can't enforce/encourage any of this!

Syntax-Based Output

枪手 被 警方 击毙 .

The gunman killed by police .

DT NN VBD IN NN

NPB

PP

NP-C

VP

S

*Decoder
Hypothesis #1*

Syntax-Based Output

枪手 被 警方 击毙 .

Gunman by police shot .

NN

IN

NN

VBD

NPB

PP

NP-C

VP

S

*Decoder
Hypothesis #16*

Syntax-Based Output

枪手 被 警方 击毙 .

The gunman was killed by police .

*Decoder
Hypothesis #1923*

DT NN AUX VBN IN NN

NPB

PP

NP-C

VP

S

highest scoring
output, syntax-
based model

Syntax-Based Output

- Better modeling of target language structure
 - Always a verb
 - Verb is always in the right place
- Better handling of function words
 - They often don't translate
 - But they control how the translation goes
- Better generalization in translation patterns

Syntax-Based Statistical MT

- Terminology
- Mathematical Framework
- Translation Model
- Language Model
- Decoder

word alignment

estring

These 7 people include astronauts coming from France and Russia .

这 7人 中包括 来自 法国 和 俄罗斯 的 宇航员 .

cstring

Mathematical Framework

- String-based system

$$\operatorname{argmax}_{e,a} P(e, a, c)^\alpha \cdot P(e)^\beta \cdot |e|^\gamma \cdot \dots$$

- Tree-based system

$$\operatorname{argmax}_{\text{etree},a} P(\text{etree}, a, c)^\alpha \cdot P(\text{etree})^\beta \cdot |\text{etree}|^\gamma \cdot \dots$$

translation
model

language
model

length
bonus

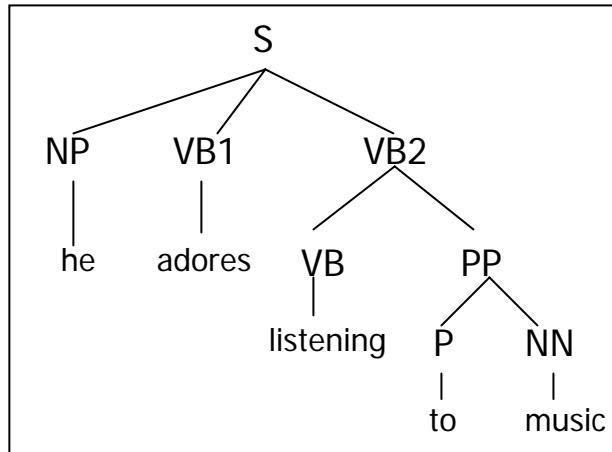
String-to-Tree

- Mathematically, we want a weighted relation with pairs drawn from:
 - (the infinite) set of Chinese strings
 - (the infinite) set of English trees
- Good pairs should have a high weight
- Bad pairs should have a low weight
- Probabilistic generative modeling approach
 - How does a Chinese string become an English tree (or vice-versa)?

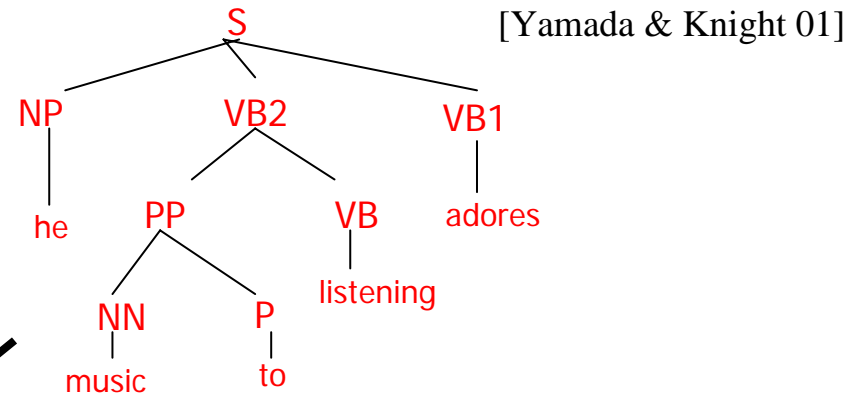
An Early Syntactic Model of Translation

[Yamada & Knight 01]

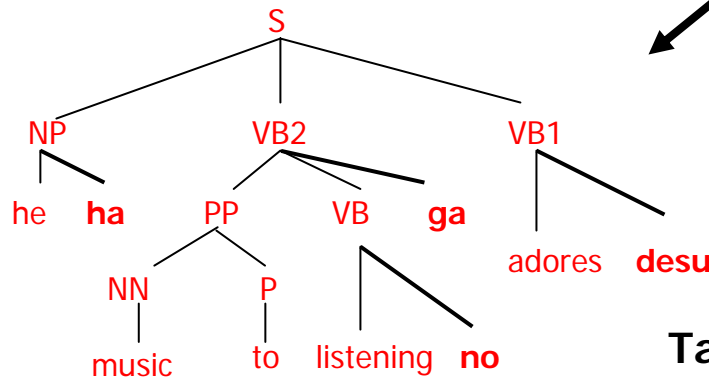
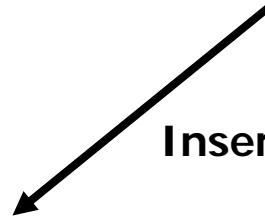
Parse (E)



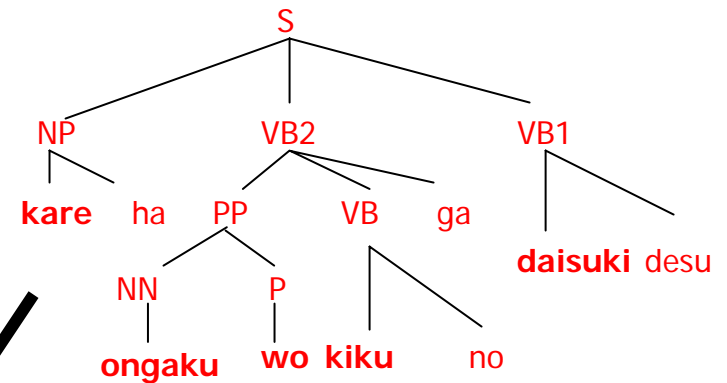
Reorder



Insert



Translate



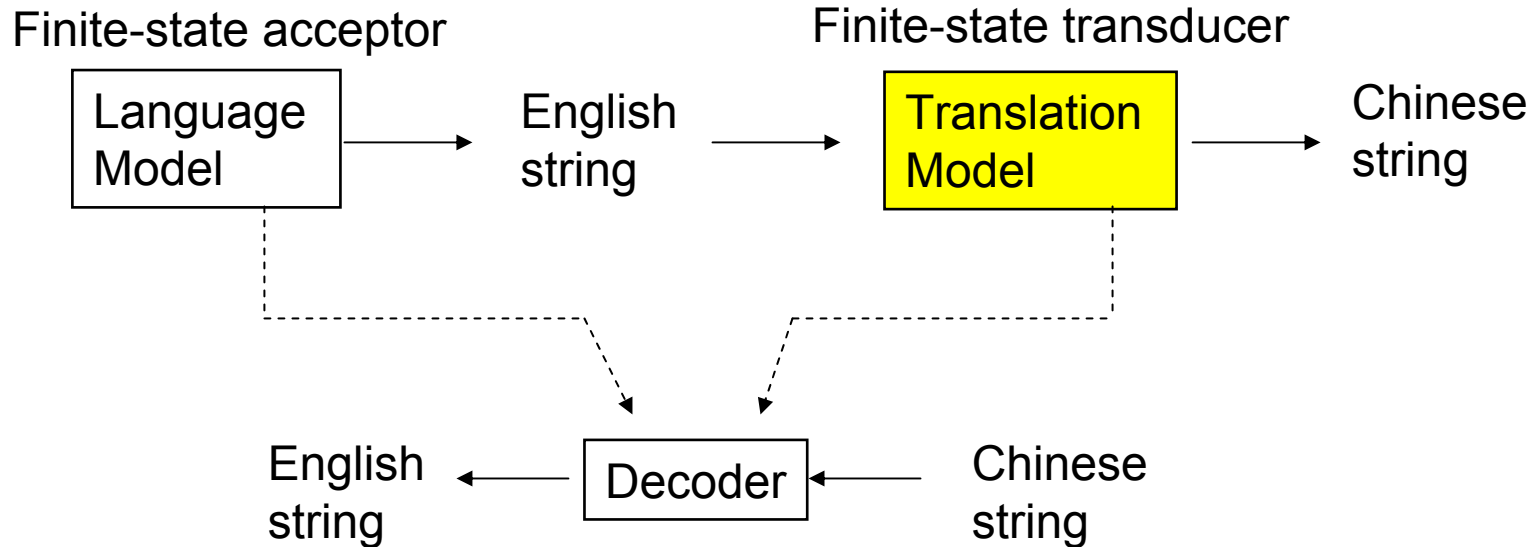
Take Leaves



Sentence (J)

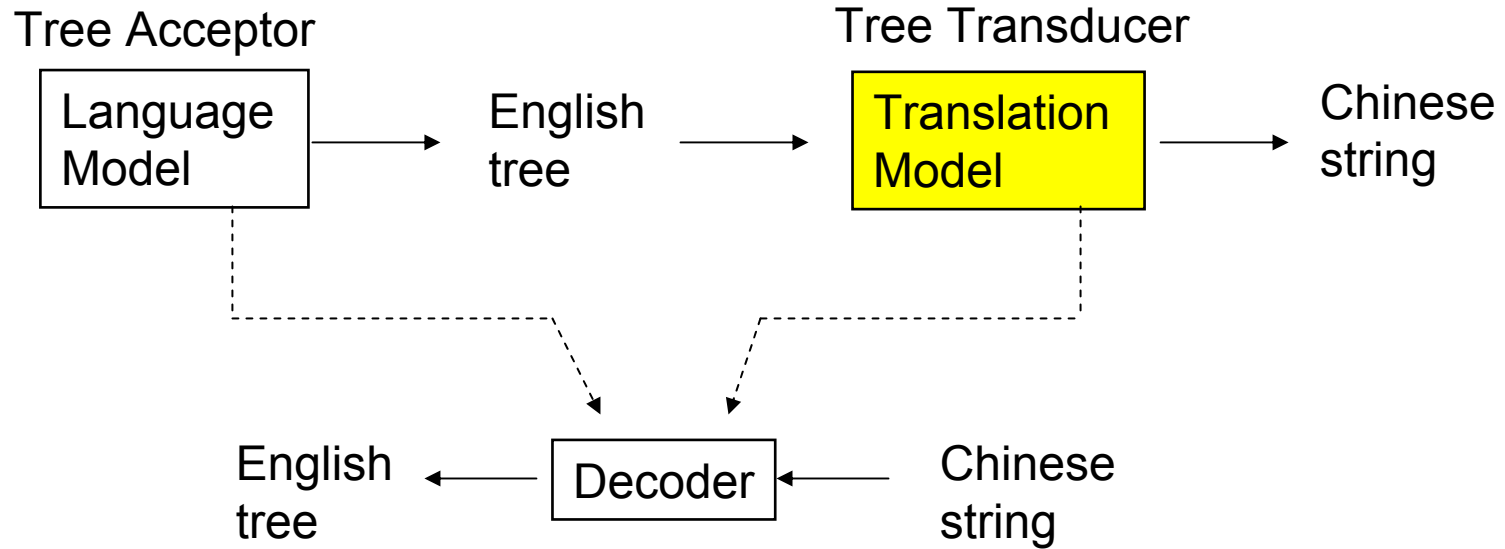
Kare ha ongaku wo kiku no ga daisuki desu

Phrase-Based



- Grab a chunk of English string
- Decide how to translate it (using phrase pair inventory)
- Recurse on remaining input
 - Can be modeled by finite-state string transducer
 - [Mealy, 1959] → [Kumar & Byrne, 2003, HLT]

Syntax-Based

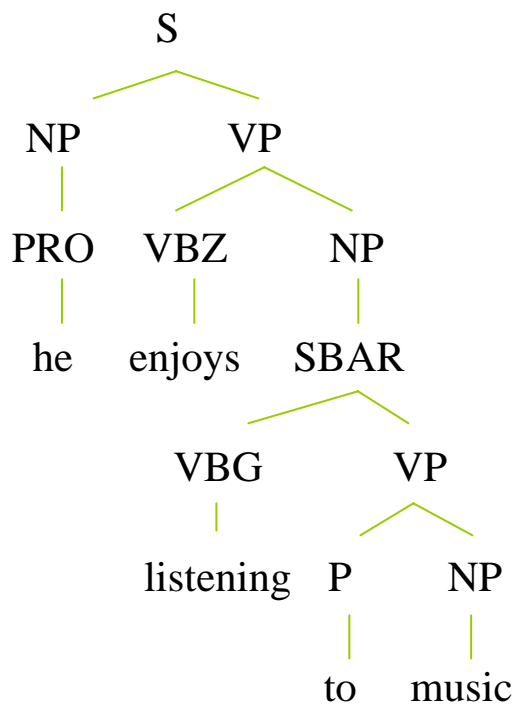


- Grab a chunk of English input tree
- Decide how to translate it
- Recurse of remaining subtrees
 - Can be modeled by tree transducer
 - [Rounds, 1970] → [Graehl & Knight, 2004, HLT]

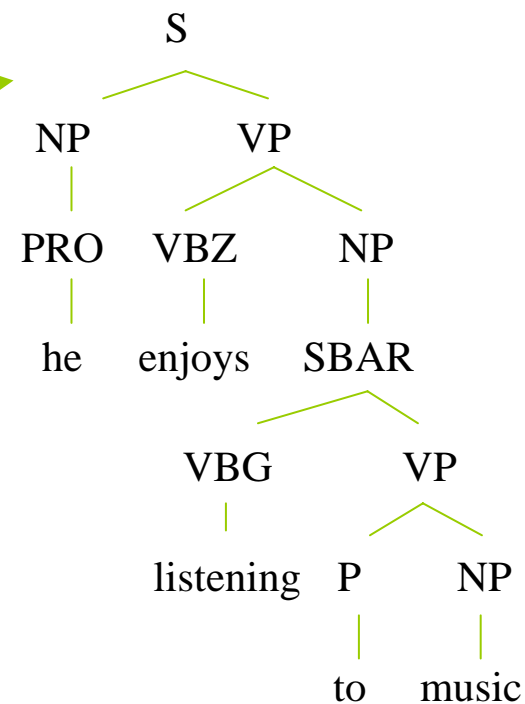
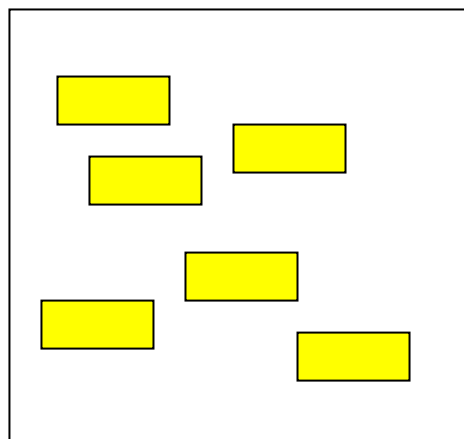
Top-Down Tree Transducer

(W. Rounds 1970; J. Thatcher 1970)

Original input:



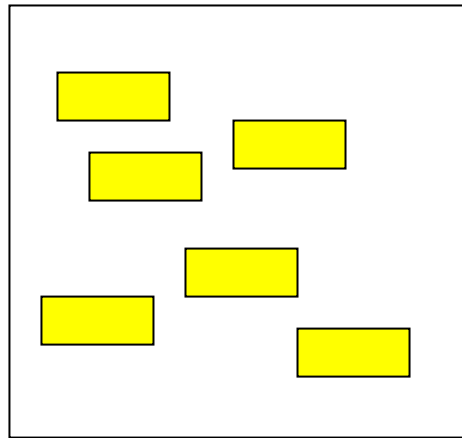
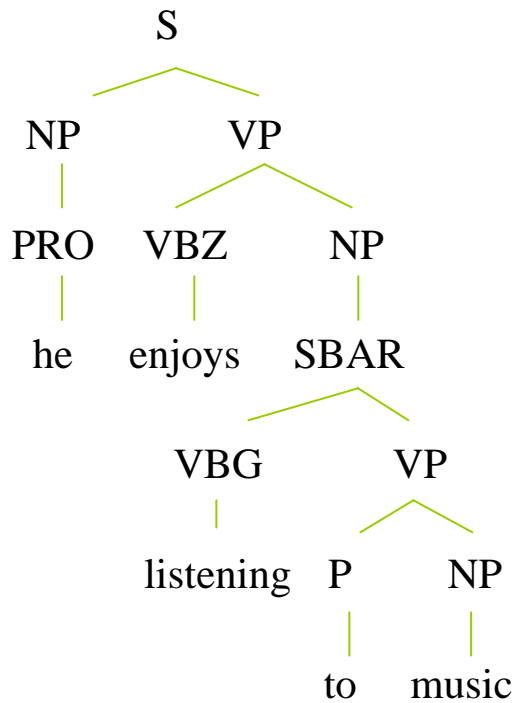
Transformation:



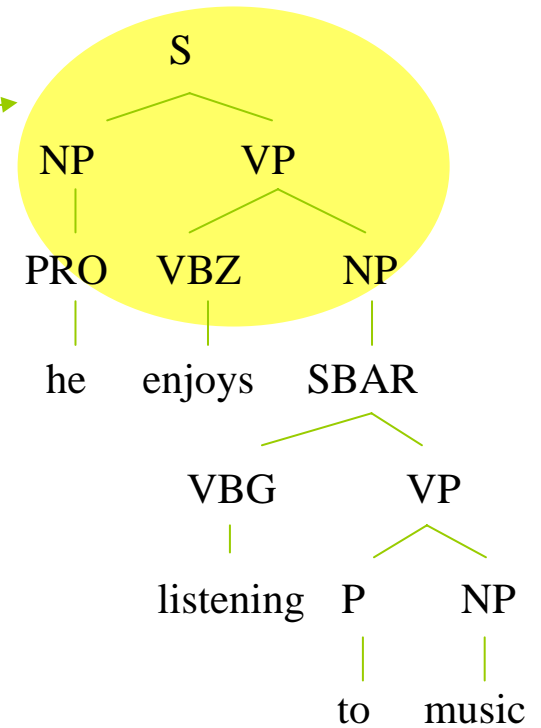
Top-Down Tree Transducer

(W. Rounds 1970; J. Thatcher 1970)

Original input:



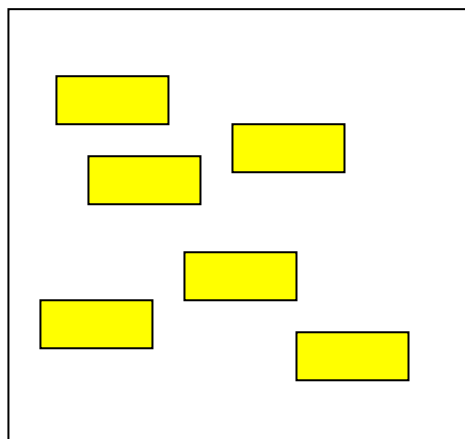
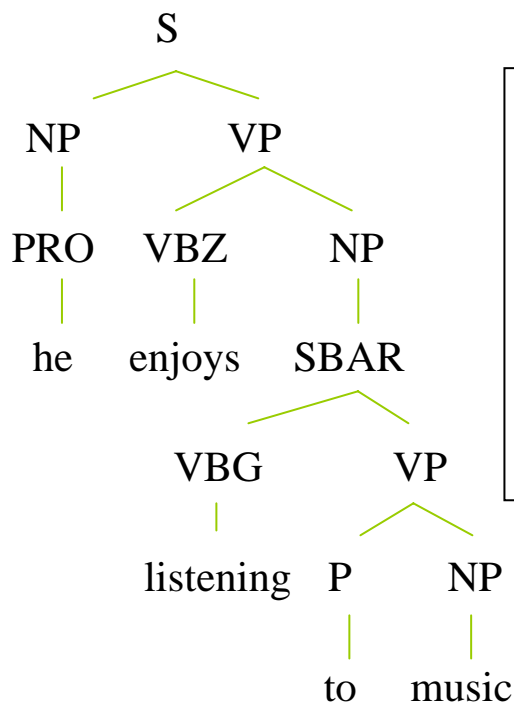
Transformation:



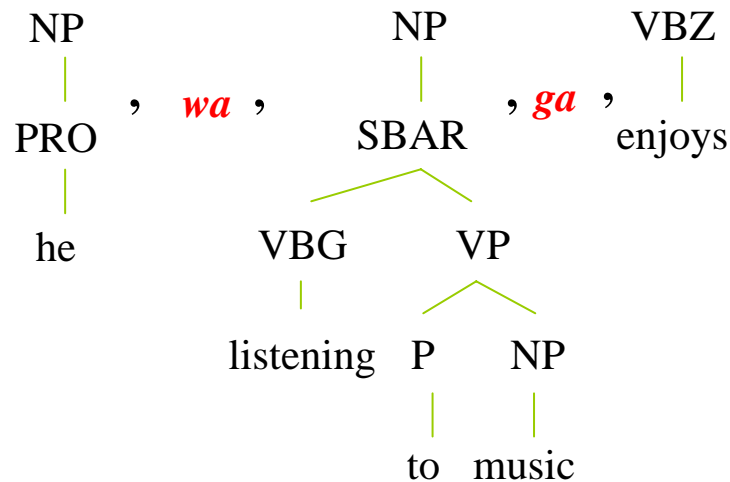
Top-Down Tree Transducer

(W. Rounds 1970; J. Thatcher 1970)

Original input:



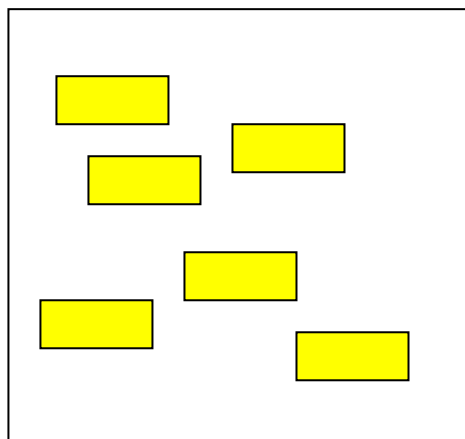
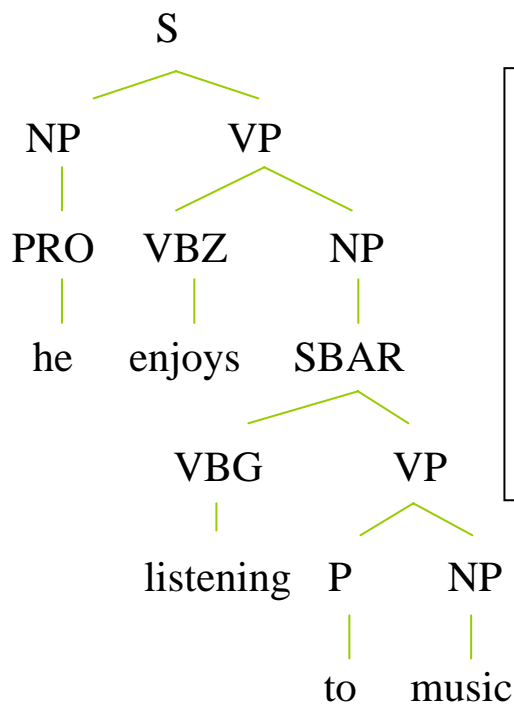
Transformation:



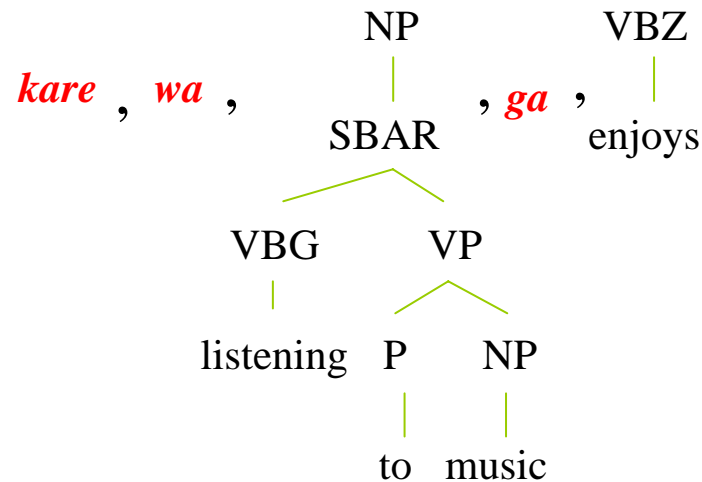
Top-Down Tree Transducer

(W. Rounds 1970; J. Thatcher 1970)

Original input:



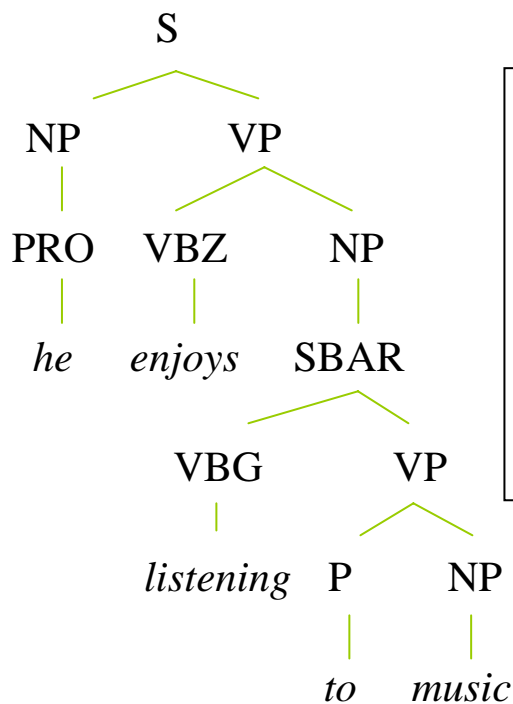
Transformation:



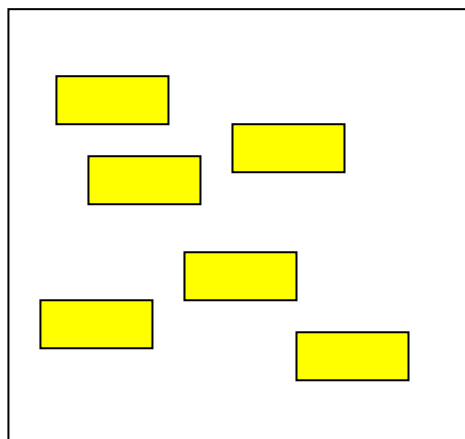
Top-Down Tree Transducer

(W. Rounds 1970; J. Thatcher 1970)

Original input:



Final output:

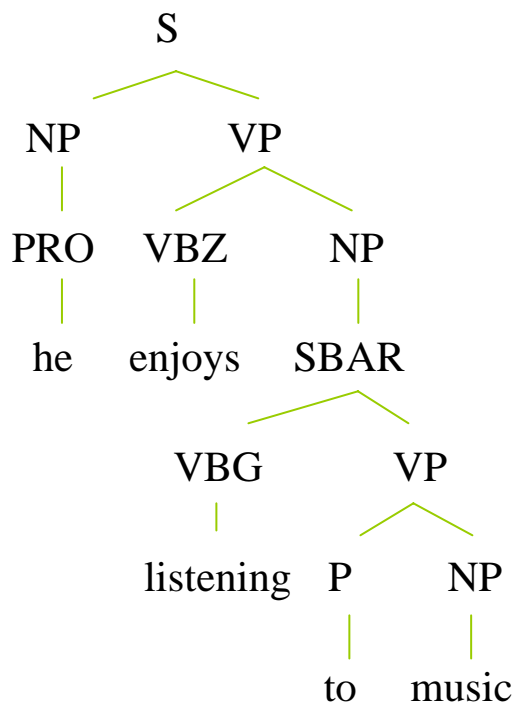


kare, wa, ongaku, o, kiku, no, ga, daisuki, desu

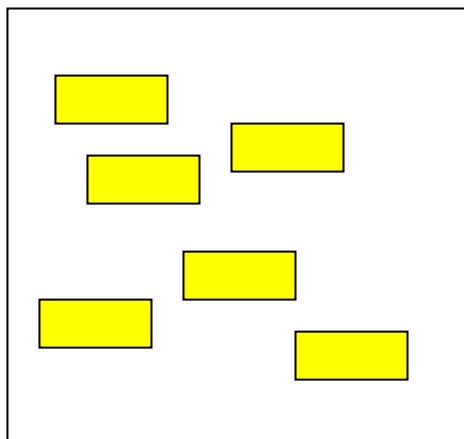
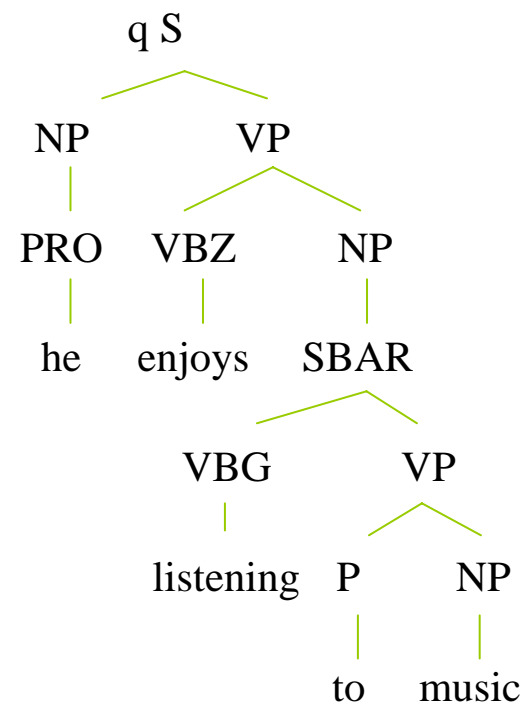
Top-Down Tree Transducer

(W. Rounds 1970; J. Thatcher 1970)

Original input:



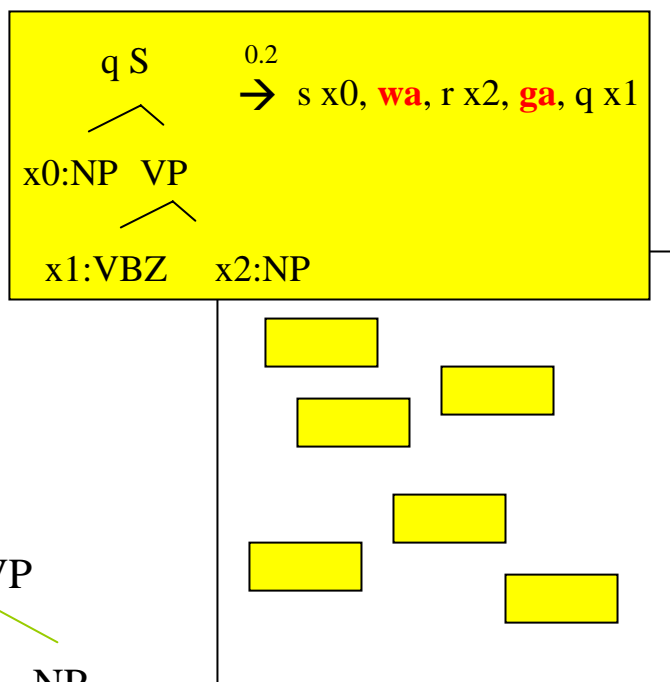
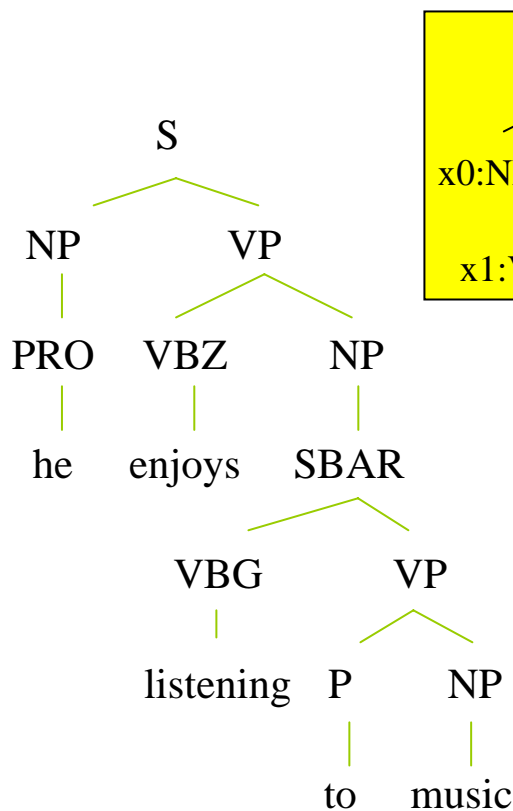
Transformation:



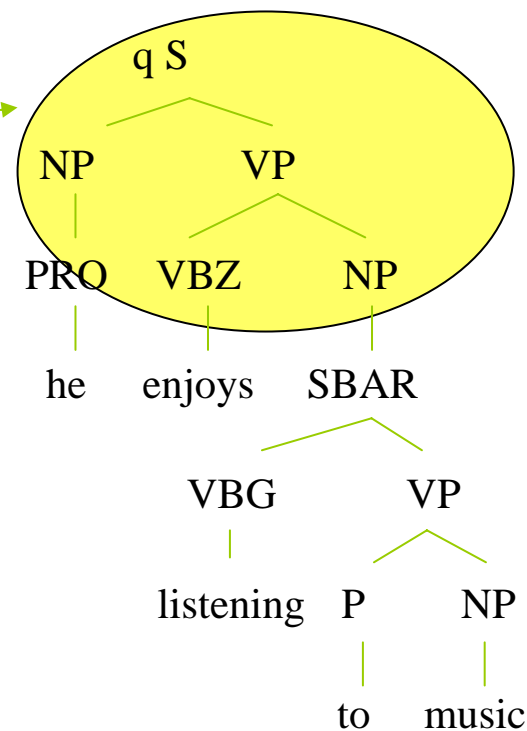
Top-Down Tree Transducer

(W. Rounds 1970; J. Thatcher 1970)

Original input:



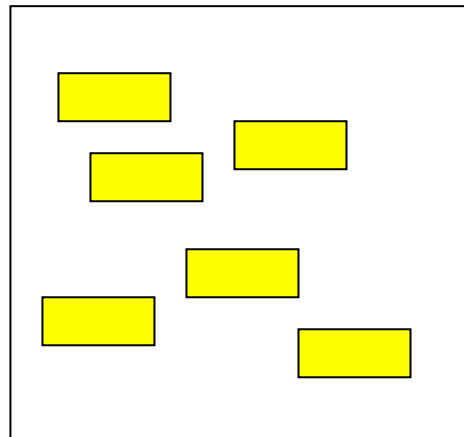
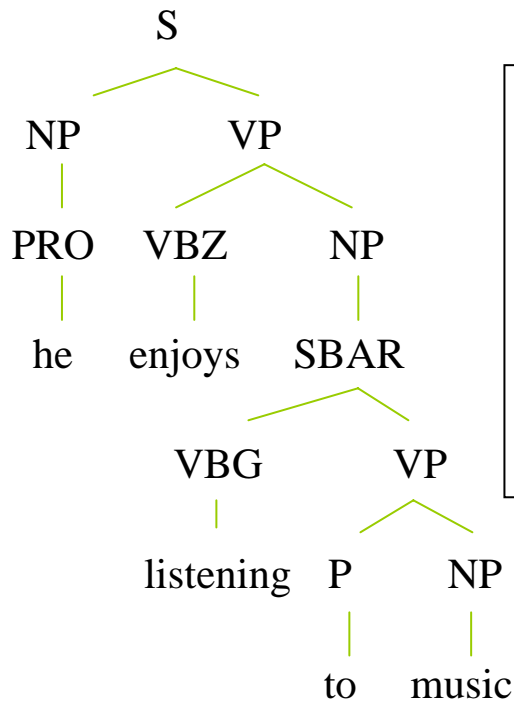
Transformation:



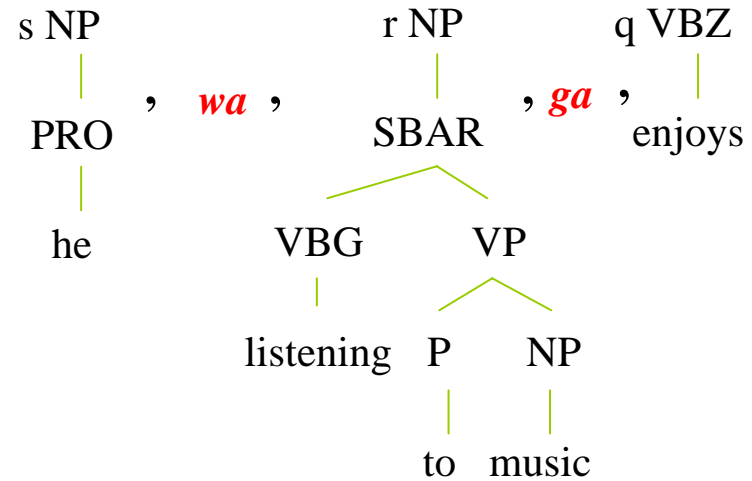
Top-Down Tree Transducer

(W. Rounds 1970; J. Thatcher 1970)

Original input:



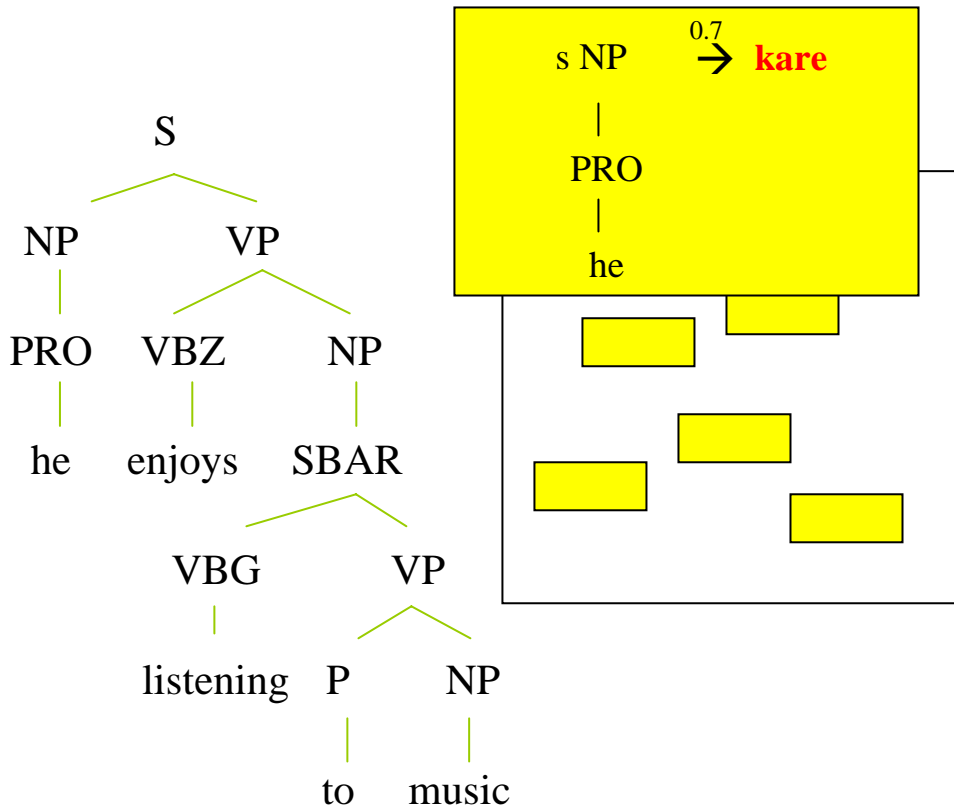
Transformation:



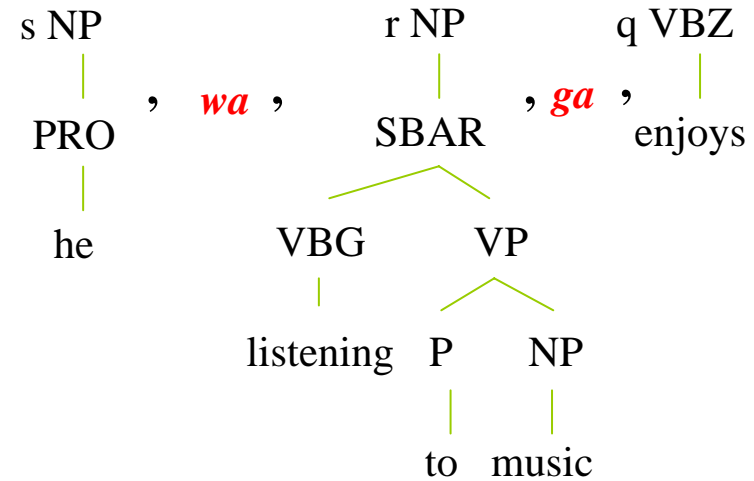
Top-Down Tree Transducer

(W. Rounds 1970; J. Thatcher 1970)

Original input:



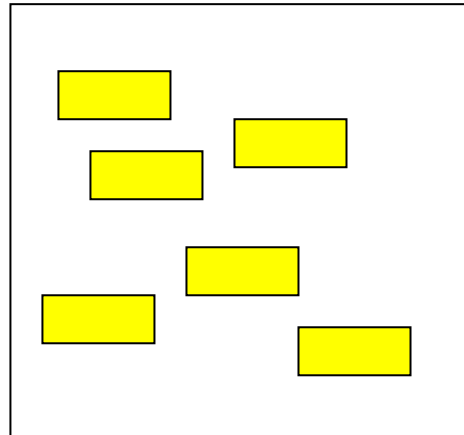
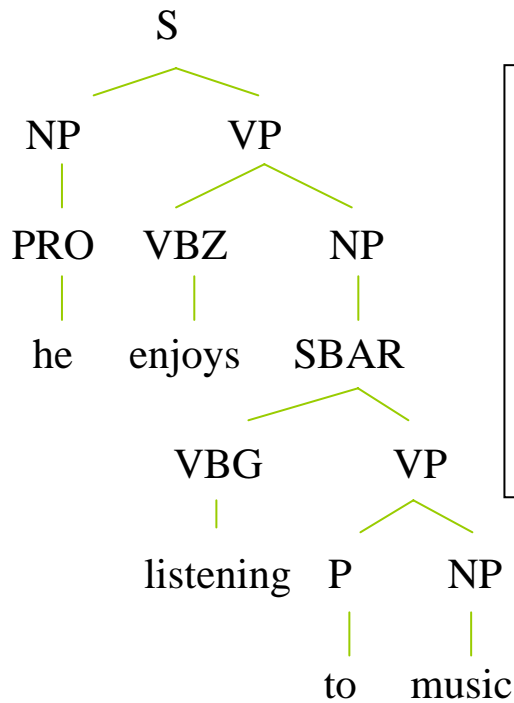
Transformation:



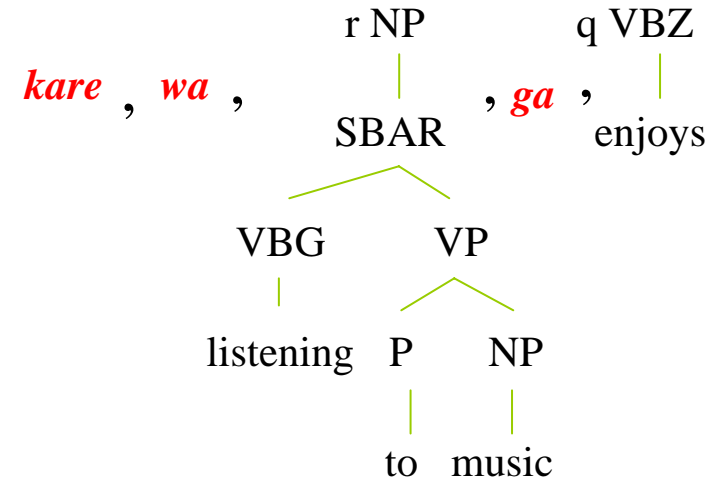
Top-Down Tree Transducer

(W. Rounds 1970; J. Thatcher 1970)

Original input:



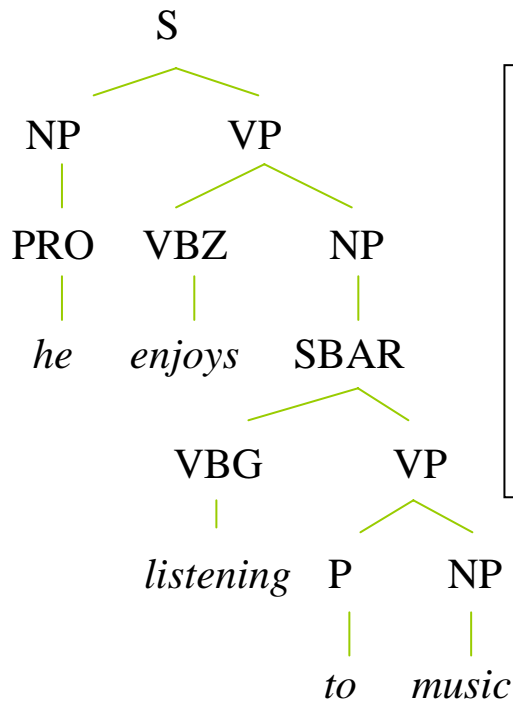
Transformation:



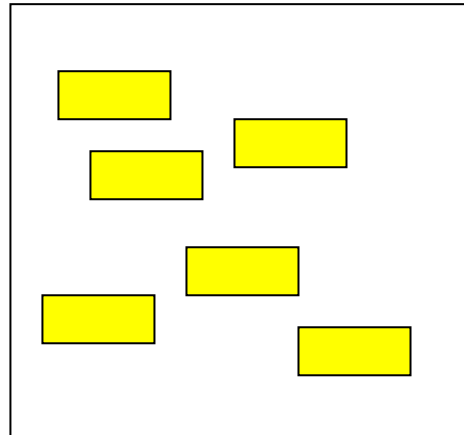
Top-Down Tree Transducer

(W. Rounds 1970; J. Thatcher 1970)

Original input:



Final output:



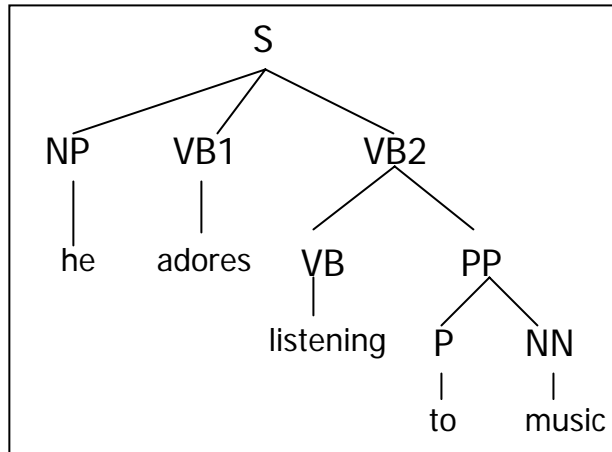
kare , wa , ongaku , o , kiku , no , ga , daisuki , desu

To get total probability,
multiply probabilities of the
individual steps.

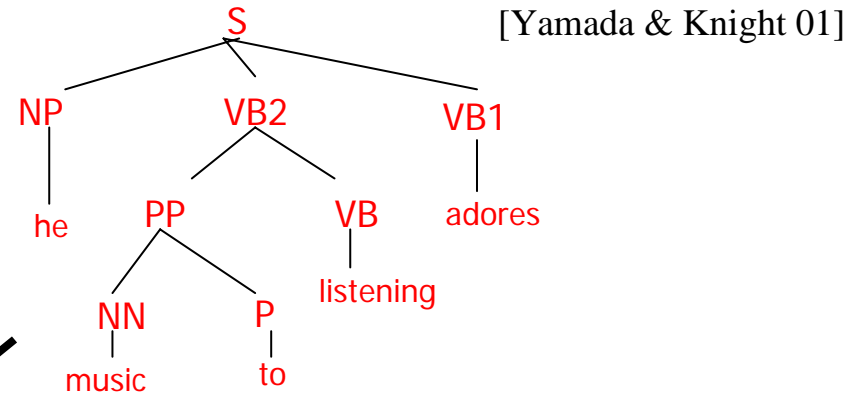
An Early Syntactic Model of Translation

[Yamada & Knight 01]

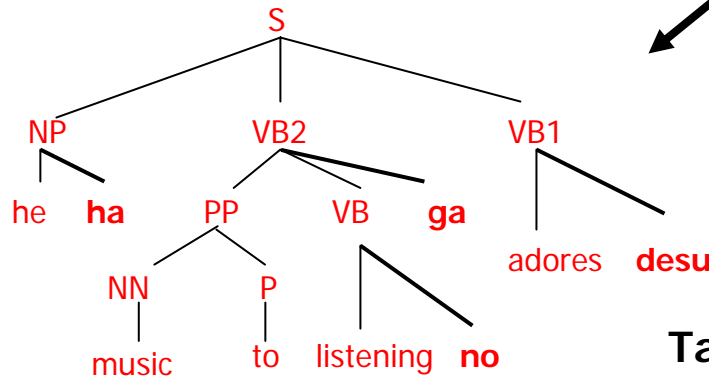
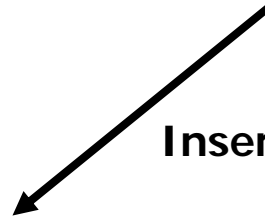
Parse (E)



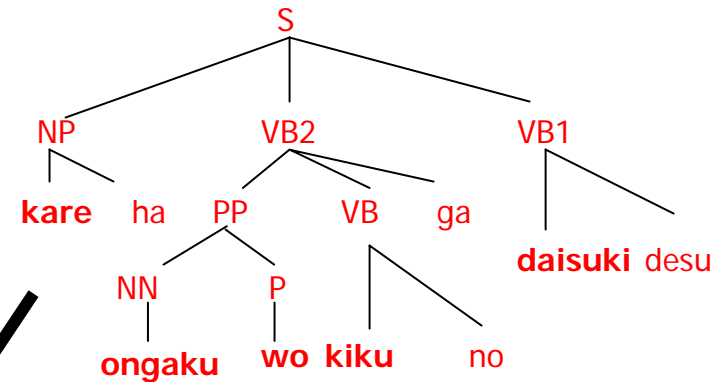
Reorder



Insert



Translate



Take Leaves



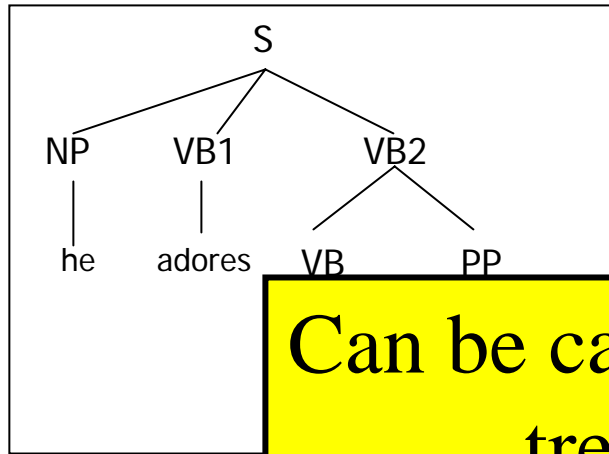
Sentence(J)

Kare ha ongaku wo kiku no ga daisuki desu

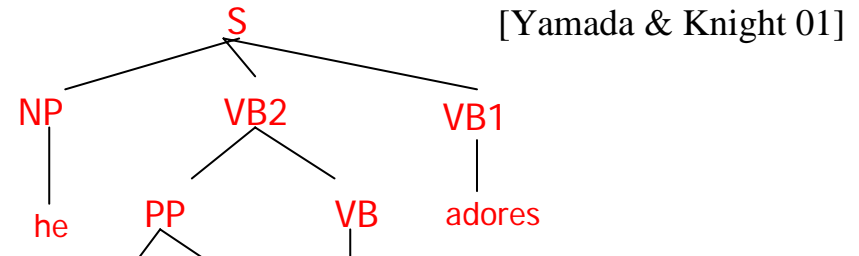
An Early Syntactic Model of Translation

[Yamada & Knight 01]

Parse (E)



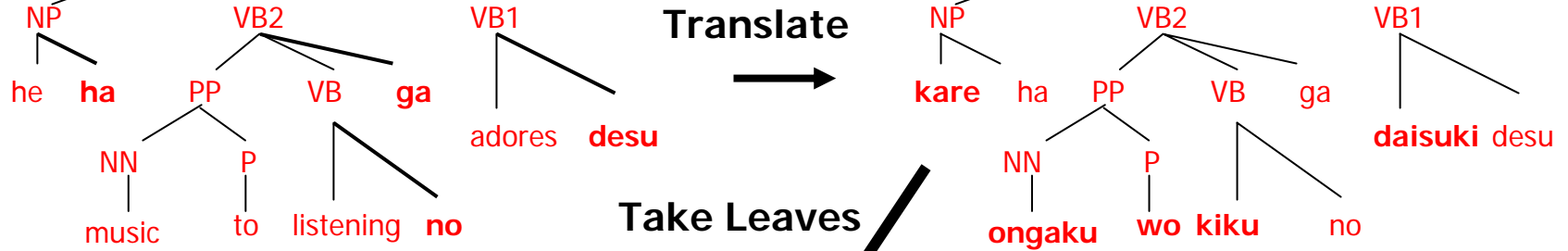
Reorder



Can be cast as a single 4-state tree transducer.

[Graehl & Knight 04; Graehl, Knight & May 08]

Translate



Take Leaves

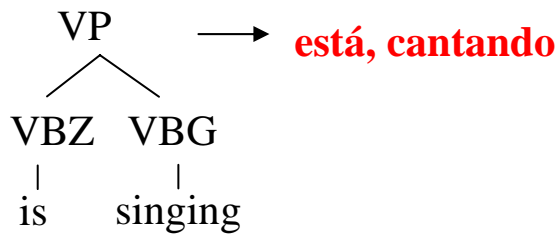


Sentence(J)

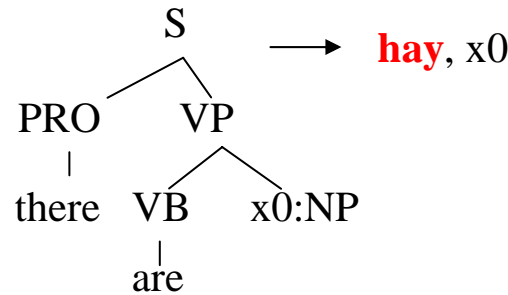
Kare ha ongaku wo kiku no ga daisuki desu

Tree Transducers are Expressive

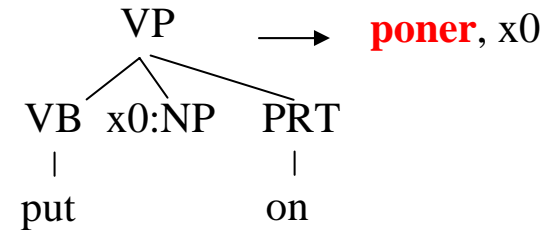
Phrasal Translation



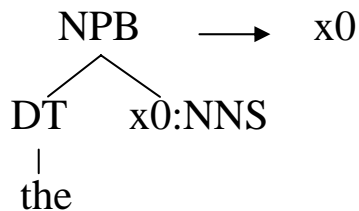
Non-constituent Phrases



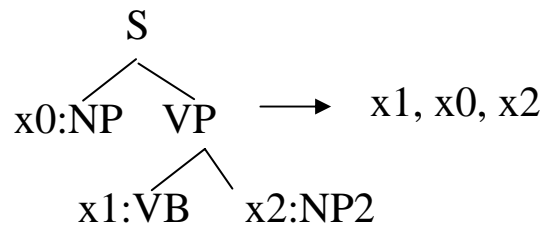
Non-contiguous Phrases



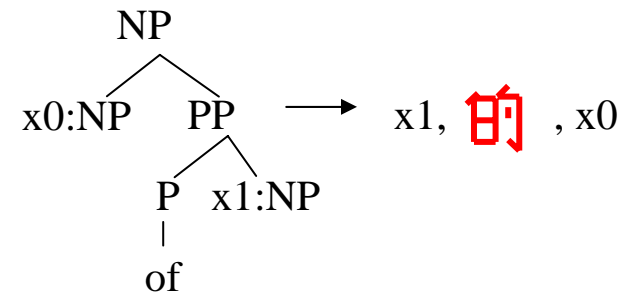
Context-Sensitive Word Insertion



Multilevel Re-Ordering



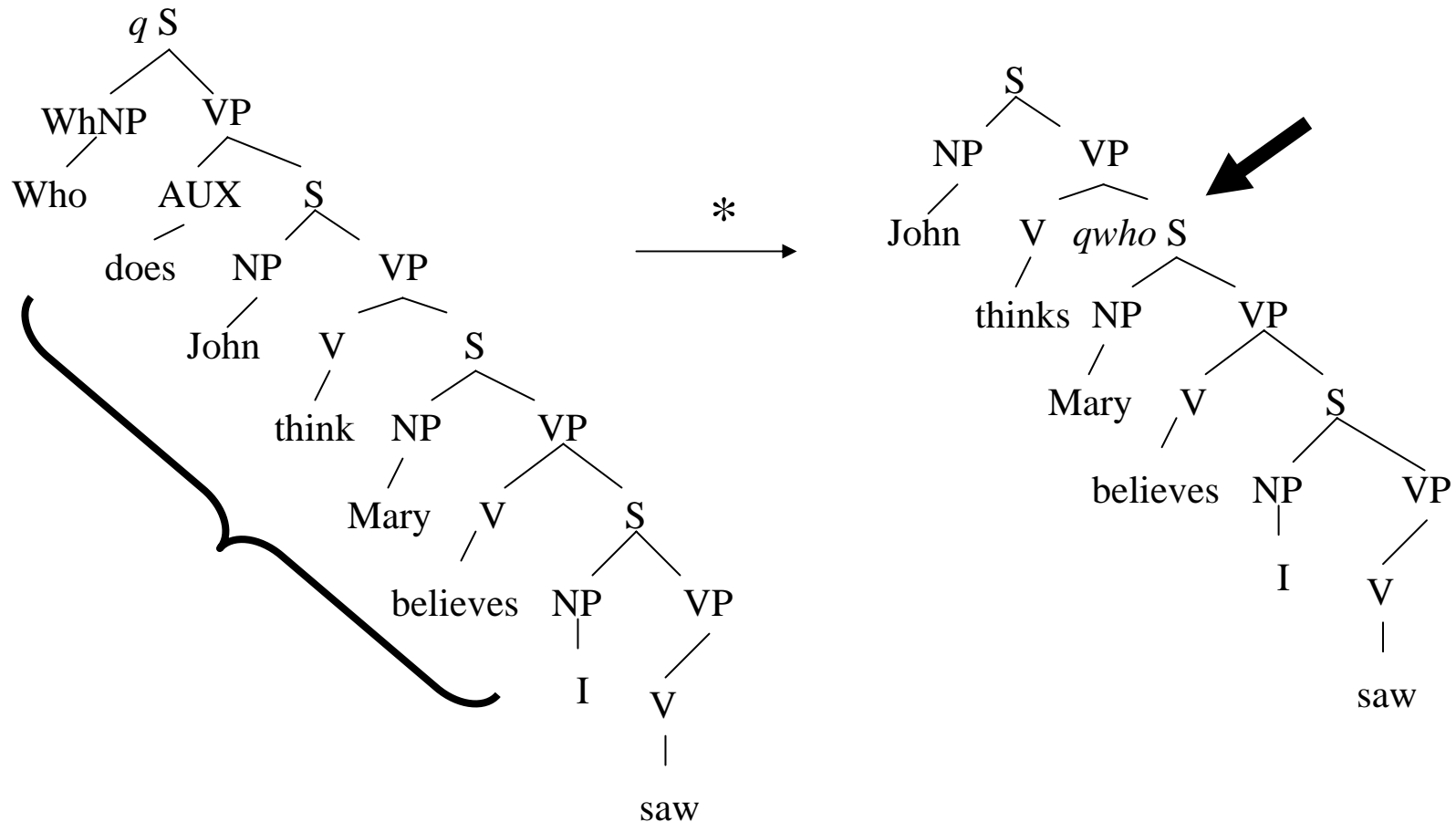
Lexicalized Re-Ordering



also QA, compression, paraphrasing, etc
most probabilistic tree-based models proposed 2000-2005 can be so cast

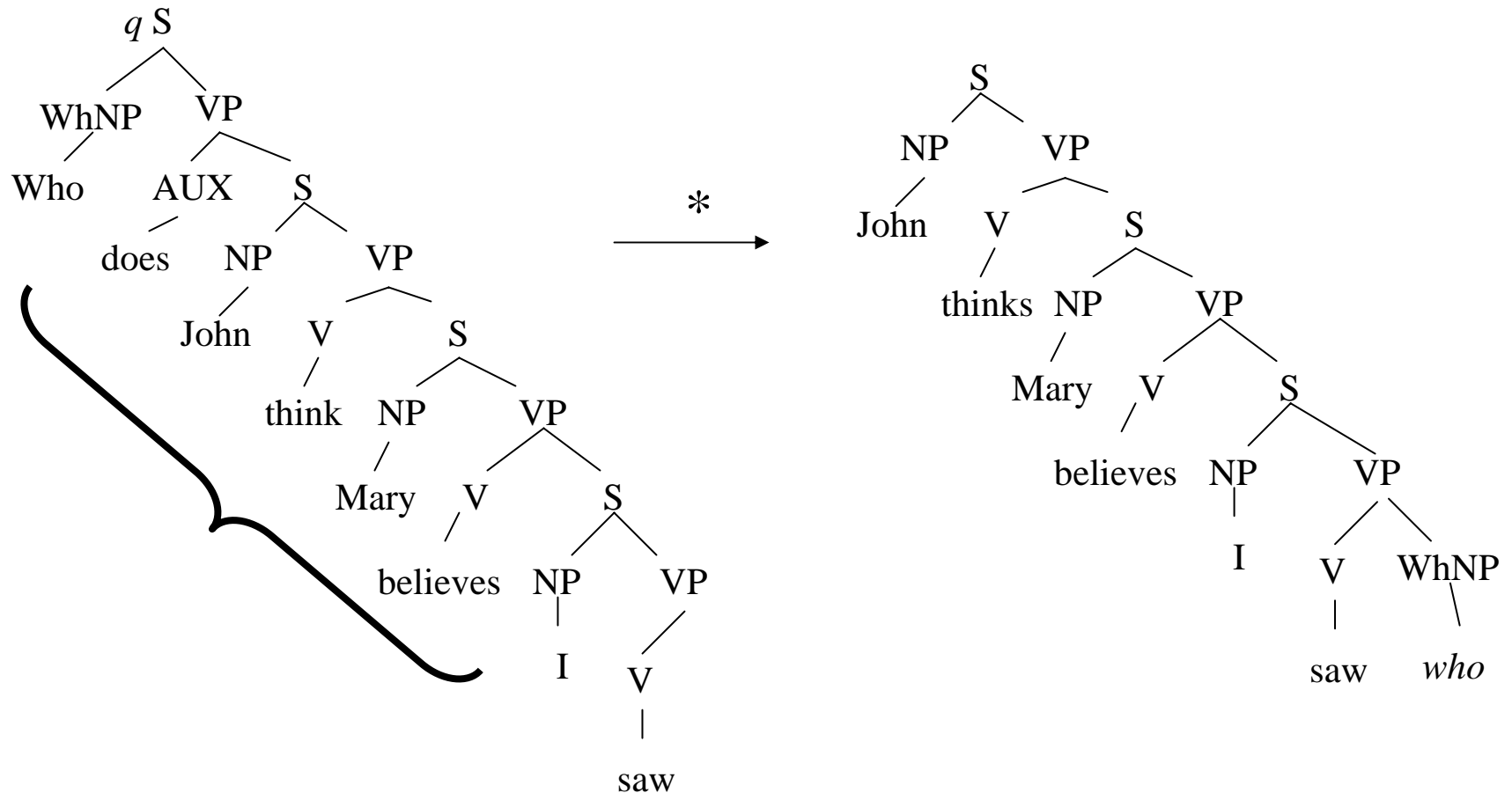
Limitations of the Top-Down Transducer Model

Who does John think Mary believes I saw? → John thinks Mary believes I saw *who*?



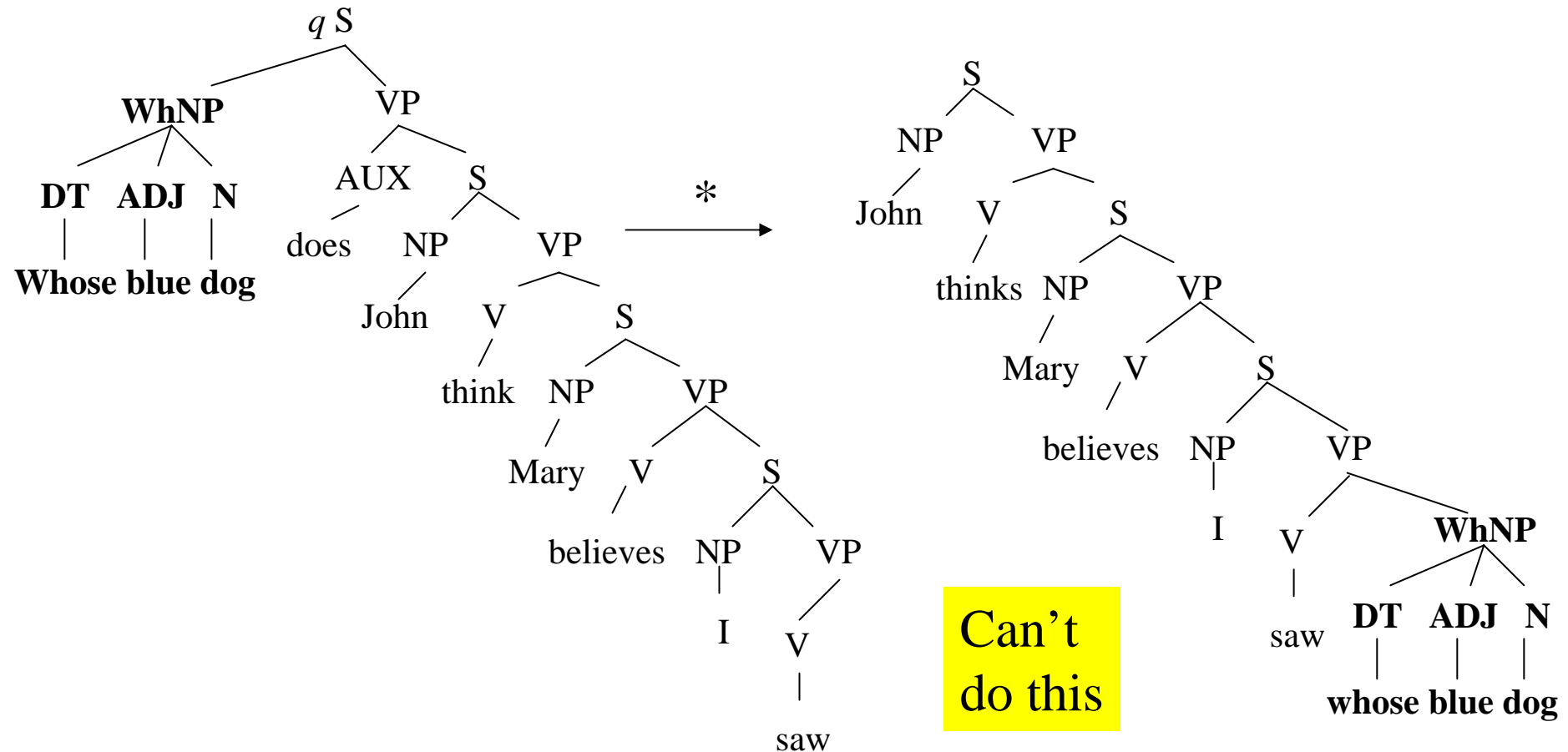
Limitations of the Top-Down Transducer Model

Who does John think Mary believes I saw? → John thinks Mary believes I saw *who*?



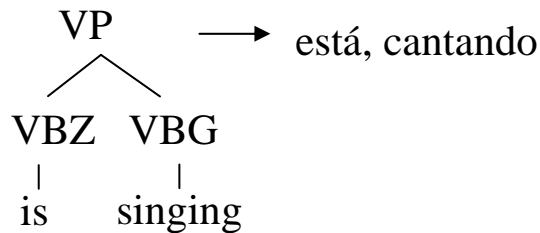
Limitations of the Top-Down Transducer Model

Whose blue dog does John think Mary believes I saw? → John thinks Mary believes I saw *whose blue dog*?

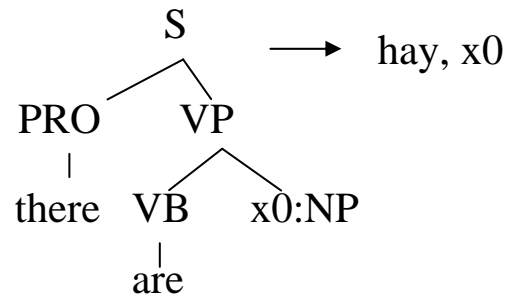


Computer-Friendly Format for Tree Transducer Rules

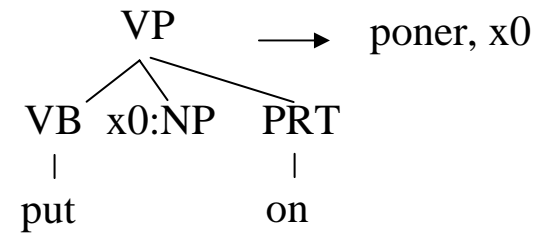
Phrasal Translation



Non-constituent Phrases



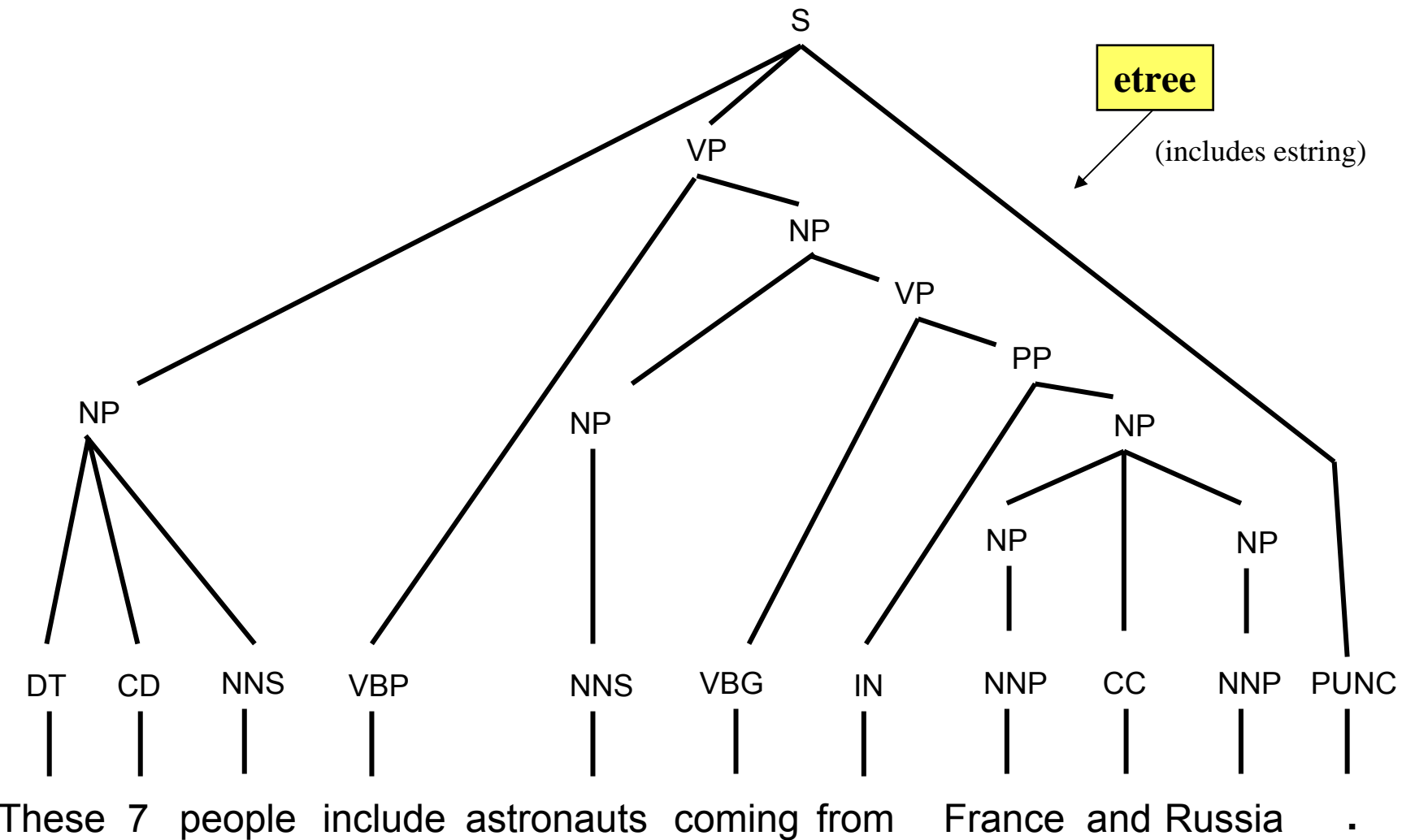
Non-contiguous Phrases



VP(VBZ(is), VBG(singing)) → está, cantando

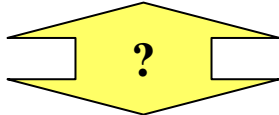
S(PRO(there), VP(VB(are), x0:NP)) → hay, x0

VP(VB(put), x0:NP, PRT(on)) → poner, x0



etree

(includes estring)



这 7人 中包括 来自 法国 和 俄罗斯 的 宇航员 .

cstring

Tree Transformations

1. DT(these) → 这
2. VBP(include) → 中包括
3. VBP(includes) → 中包括
4. NNP(France) → 法国
5. CC(and) → 和
6. NNP(Russia) → 俄罗斯
7. IN(of) → 的
8. NP(NNS(astronauts)) → 宇航 , 员
9. PUNC(.) → .
10. NP(x0:DT, CD(7), NNS(people)) → x0 , 7人
11. VP(VBG(coming), PP(IN(from), x0:NP)) → 来自 , x0
12. IN(from) → 来自
13. NP(x0:NNP, x1:CC, x2:NNP) → x0 , x1 , x2
14. VP(x0:VBP, x1:NP) → x0 , x1
15. S(x0:NP, x1:VP, x2:PUNC) → x0 , x1, x2
16. NP(x0:NP, x1:VP) → x1 , 的 , x0
17. NP(DT("the"), x0:JJ, x1:NN) → x0 , x1

I made these rules up – they capture what is really happening in this Chinese sentence.

Contiguous phrase pair substitution rules (alignment templates)

Higher-level rules

Tree Transformations

1. DT(these) → 这
2. VBP(include) → 中包括
3. VBP(includes) → 中包括
4. NNP(France) → 法国
5. CC(and) → 和
6. NNP(Russia) → 俄罗斯
7. IN(of) → 的
8. NP(NNS(astronauts)) → 宇航 , 员
9. PUNC(.) → .
10. NP(x0:DT, CD(7), NNS(people)) → x0 , 7 , 人
11. VP(VBG(coming), PP(IN(from), x0:NP)) → 来自 , x0
12. IN(from) → 来自
13. NP(x0:NNP, x1:CC, x2:NNP) → x0 , x1 , x2
14. VP(x0:VBP, x1:NP) → x0 , x1
15. S(x0:NP, x1:VP, x2:PUNC) → x0 , x1 , x2
16. NP(x0:NP, x1:VP) → x1 , 的 , x0
17. NP(DT("the"), x0:JJ, x1:NN) → x0 , x1

Both VBP("include") and VBP("includes") will translate to "中包括" in Chinese.

In decoding Chinese, "中包括" is ambiguous and can translate back as either VBP("include") or VBP("includes").

} Higher-level rules

Phrase pairs learned by alignment-templates that are relevant to this particular Chinese input sentence.

这	7人	中包括	来自	法国	和	俄罗斯	的	宇航	员	.
the	7 people	including	by some		and	the russian	the	the astronauts		,
it	7 people included		by france		and the	the russian		international astronautical	of rapporteur .	
this	7 out	including the	from	the french	and the	russian	the fifth			.
these	7 among	including from		the french and		of the russian	of	space	members	.
that	7 persons	including from	the	of france	and to	russian	of the	aerospace	members .	
	7 include		from the	of france and		russian		astronauts		. the
	7 numbers include		from france		and russian		of astron	auts who		."
	7 populations include		those from france		and russian			astronauts .		
	7 deportees included		come from	france	and russia		in	astronautical	personnel	;
	7 philtrum	including those from		france and		russia	a space		member	
		including representatives from		france and the		russia		astronaut		
		include	came from	france and russia			by cosmonauts			
		include representatives from		french	and russia			cosmonauts		
		include	came from france		and russia 's			cosmonauts .		
		includes	coming from	french and		russia 's		cosmonaut		
				french and russian			's	astronavigation	member .	
				french	and russia			astronauts		
					and russia 's				special rapporteur	
					, and	russia			rapporteur	
					, and russia				rapporteur .	
					, and russia					
					or	russia 's				

lattice

Table 1: #11# the seven - member crew includes astronauts from france and russia .

Only top 5 translations-per-Chinese-phrase are shown here – there are many more.

Phrase pairs learned by alignment-templates that are relevant to this particular Chinese input sentence.

这	7人	中包括	来自	法国	和	俄罗斯	的	宇航	员	.
the	7 people	including	by some		and	the russian	the	the astronauts		,
it	7 people included	by france			and the	the russian		international astronautical	of rapporteur .	
this	7 out	including the	from	the french	and the	russian	the fifth		.	
these	7 among	including from		the french and		of the russian	of	space	members	.
that	7 persons	including from	the	of france	and to	russian	of the	aerospace	members .	
	7 include		from the	of france and		russian		astronauts		. the
	7 numbers include		from france		and russian		of astron	auts who		."
	7 populations include		those from france		and russian			astronauts .		
	7 deportees included		come from	france	and russia		in	astronautical	personnel	;
	7 philtrum	including those from		france and		russia	a space		member	
		including representatives from		france and the		russia		astronaut		
		include	came from	france and russia			by cosm	onauts		
		include representatives from		french	and russia			cosmonauts		
		include	came from france		and russia 's			cosmonauts .		
		includes	coming from	french and		russia 's		cosmonaut		
				french and russian		's		astronavigation	member .	
				french	and russia			astronauts		
					and russia 's				special rapporteur	
					, and	russia			rapporteur	
					, and russia				rapporteur .	
					, and russia					
					or	russia 's				

lattice

Table 1: #11# the seven - member crew includes astronauts from france and russia .

Only top 5 translations-per-Chinese-phrase are shown here – there are many more.

Tree Transformations

1. DT(these) → 这
2. VBP(include) → 中包括
3. VBP(includes) → 中包括
4. NNP(France) → 法国
5. CC(and) → 和
6. NNP(Russia) → 俄罗斯
7. IN(of) → 的
8. NP(NNS(astronauts)) → 宇航, 员
9. PUNC(.) → .
10. NP(x0:DT, CD(7), NNS(people)) → x0, 7人
11. VP(VBG(coming), PP(IN(from), x0:NP)) → 来自, x0
12. IN(from) → 来自
13. NP(x0:NNP, x1:CC, x2:NNP) → x0, x1, x2
14. VP(x0:VBP, x1:NP) → x0, x1
15. S(x0:NP, x1:VP, x2:PUNC) → x0, x1, x2
16. NP(x0:NP, x1:VP) → x1, 的, x0
17. NP(DT("the"), x0:JJ, x1:NN) → x0, x1

The phrase “coming from” translates to “来自” only if followed by an NP (whose translation is then placed to the right of “来自”).

base pair
es
plates)

} Higher-level rules

Tree Transformations

1. DT(these) → 这
2. VBP(include) → 中包括
3. VBP(includes) → 中包括
4. NNP(France) → 法国
5. CC(and) → 和
6. NNP(Russia) → 俄罗斯
7. IN(of) → 的
8. NP(NNS(astronauts)) → 宇航
9. PUNC(.) → .
10. NP(x0:DT, CD(7), NNS(peop
11. VP(VBG(coming), PP(IN(from
12. IN(from) → 来自
13. NP(x0:NNP, x1:CC, x2:NNP) → x0 , x1 , x2
14. VP(x0:VBP, x1:NP) → x0 , x1
15. S(x0:NP, x1:VP, x2:PUNC) → x0 , x1, x2
16. NP(x0:NP, x1:VP) → x1 , 的 , x0
17. NP(DT("the"), x0:JJ, x1:NN) → x0 , x1

Translate an English NP (“astronauts”) modified by a gerund VP (“coming from France and Russia”) as follows:

- (1) translate the gerund VP,
- (2) type the Chinese word “的”,
- (3) translate the NP.

In decoding Chinese, if we analyze

- (1) some Chinese into an English NP &
 - (2) some other Chinese into an English VP
- and these two bits are separated by “的”, then create an English NP(NP, VP) structure.

} Higher-level rules

Tree Trans

1. DT(these) → 这
2. VBP(include) → 中包括
3. VBP(includes) → 中包括
4. NNP(France) → 法国
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7. IN(of) → 的
8. NP(NNS(astronauts)) → 宇航, 员
9. PUNC(.) → .
10. NP(x0:DT, CD(7), NNS(people)) → x0, x1, x2
11. VP(VBG(coming), PP(IN(from), x0:NP)) → x0, x1, x2
12. IN(from) → 来自
13. NP(x0:NNP, x1:CC, x2:NNP) → x0, x1, x2
14. VP(x0:VBP, x1:NP) → x0, x1
15. S(x0:NP, x1:VP, x2:PUNC) → x0, x1, x2
16. NP(x0:NP, x1:VP) → x1, 的, x0
17. NP(DT("the"), x0:JJ, x1:NN) → x0, x1

To translate “the JJ NN”, just translate the JJ and then translate the NN (drop “the”).

When we are decoding Chinese, if we create an English JJ and an adjacent English NN, we can hook these together into an NP, and also insert the word “the.”

Most frequent deficiency of lattices is the lack of critical English function words!

} Higher-level rules

Tree Transformations

1. DT(these) → 这
2. VBP(include) → 中包括
3. VBP(includes) → 中包括
4. NNP(France) → 法国
5. CC(and) → 和
6. NNP(Russia) → 俄罗斯
7. IN(of) → 的
8. NP(NNS(astronauts)) → 宇航, 员
9. PUNC(.) → .
10. NP(x0:DT, CD(7), NNS(people)) → x0, 7人
11. VP(VBG(coming), PP(IN(from), x0:NP)) → 来自, x0
12. IN(from) → 来自
13. NP(x0:NNP, x1:CC, x2:NNP) → x0, x1, x2
14. VP(x0:VBP, x1:NP) → x0, x1
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16. NP(x0:NP, x1:VP) → x1, 的, x0
17. NP(DT("the"), x0:JJ, x1:NN) → x0, x1

Note that this rule goes ahead and makes “astronauts” a full NP. Might be better to have two rules:

NNS(astronauts) → 宇航, 员
NP(x0:NNS) → x0

} Higher-level rules

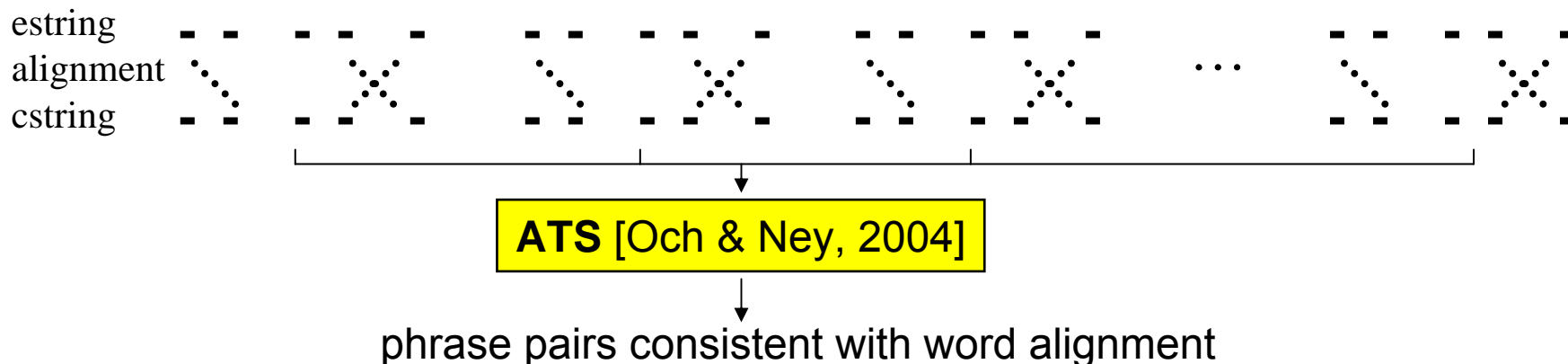
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Okay, these rules look interesting.

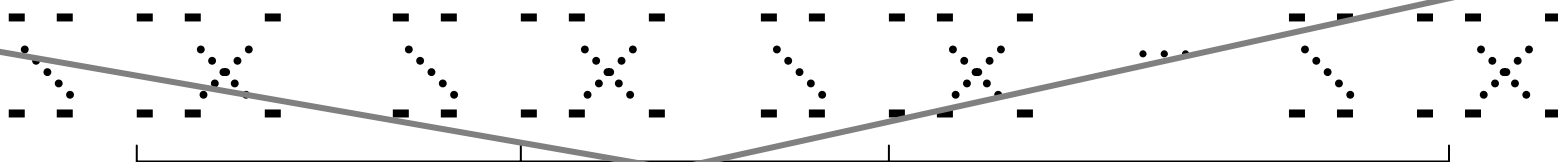
It would be cool if we could
acquire rules like these from data!!

Phrase-Based and Syntax-Based Pattern Extraction



Phrase-Based and Syntax-Based Pattern Extraction

string
alignment
string

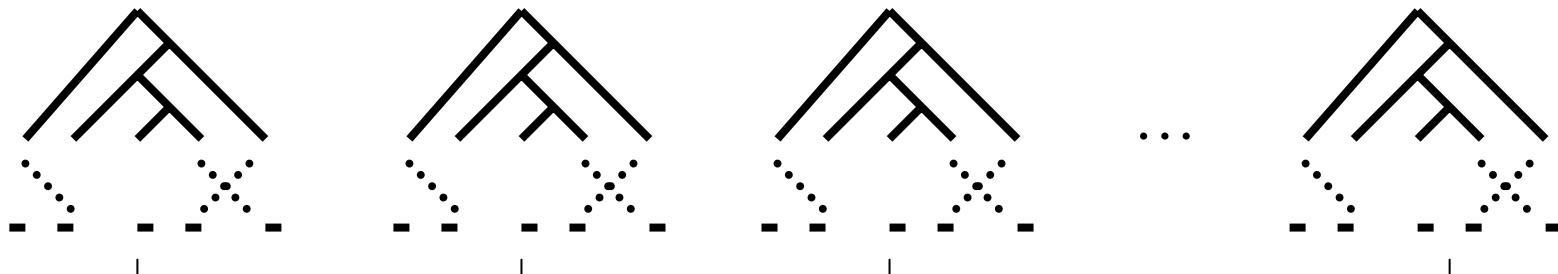


ATS [Och & Ney, 2004]

phrase pairs consistent with word alignment

tree

alignment
string

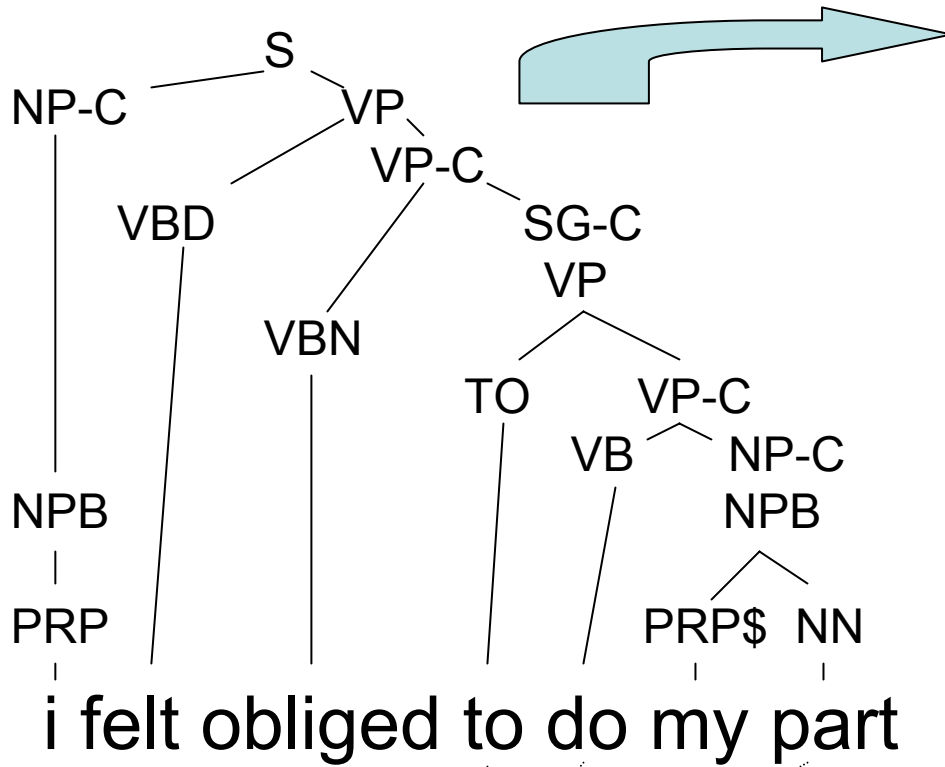


GHKM [Galley et al 2004, 2006]

syntax transformation rules consistent with word alignment

Tree Transducers Can be Extracted from Data

(Galley, Hopkins, Knight, Marcu, 2004)



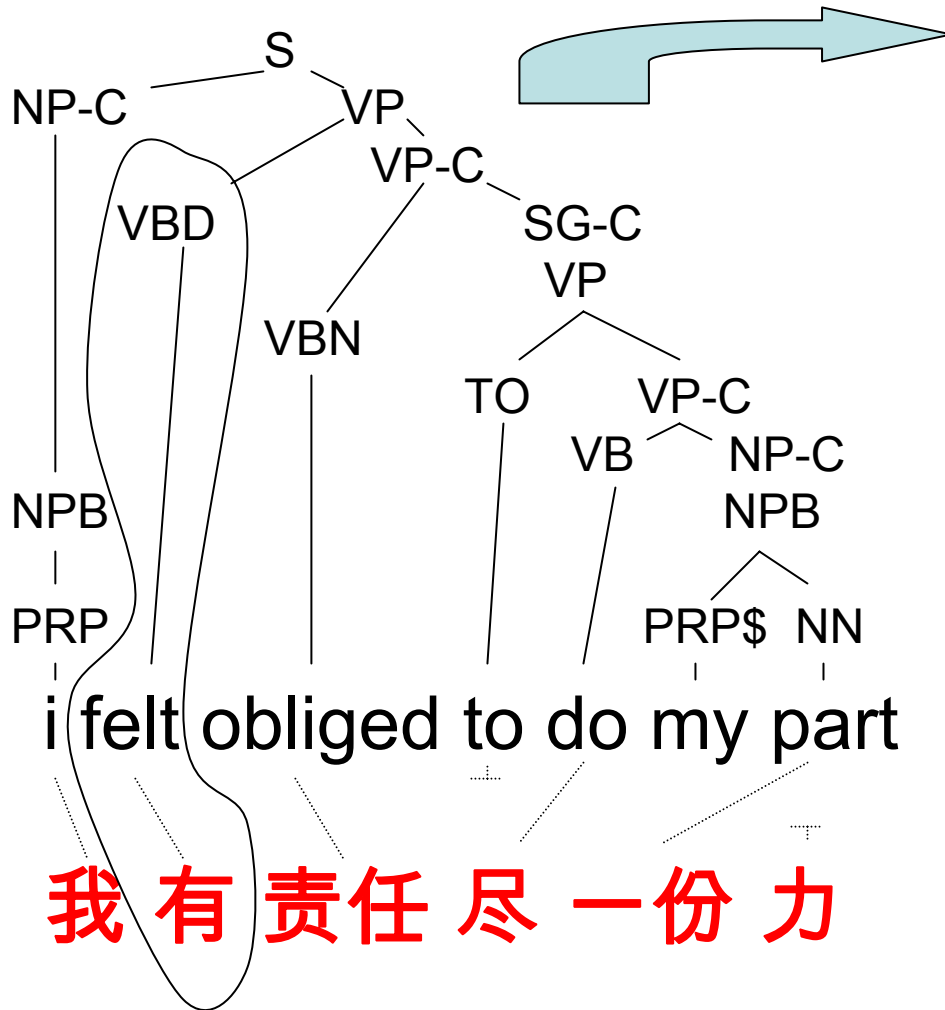
RULES ACQUIRED:

- VBD(felt) → 有
- VBN(obliged) → 责任
- VB(do) → 尽
- NN(part) → 一份
- NN(part) → 一份力
- VP-C(x0:VBN x1:SG-C) → x0 x1
- VP(TO(to) x0:VP-C) → x0
- ...
- S(x0:NP-C x1:VP) → x0 x1

我有责任尽一份力

Tree Transducers Can be Extracted from Data

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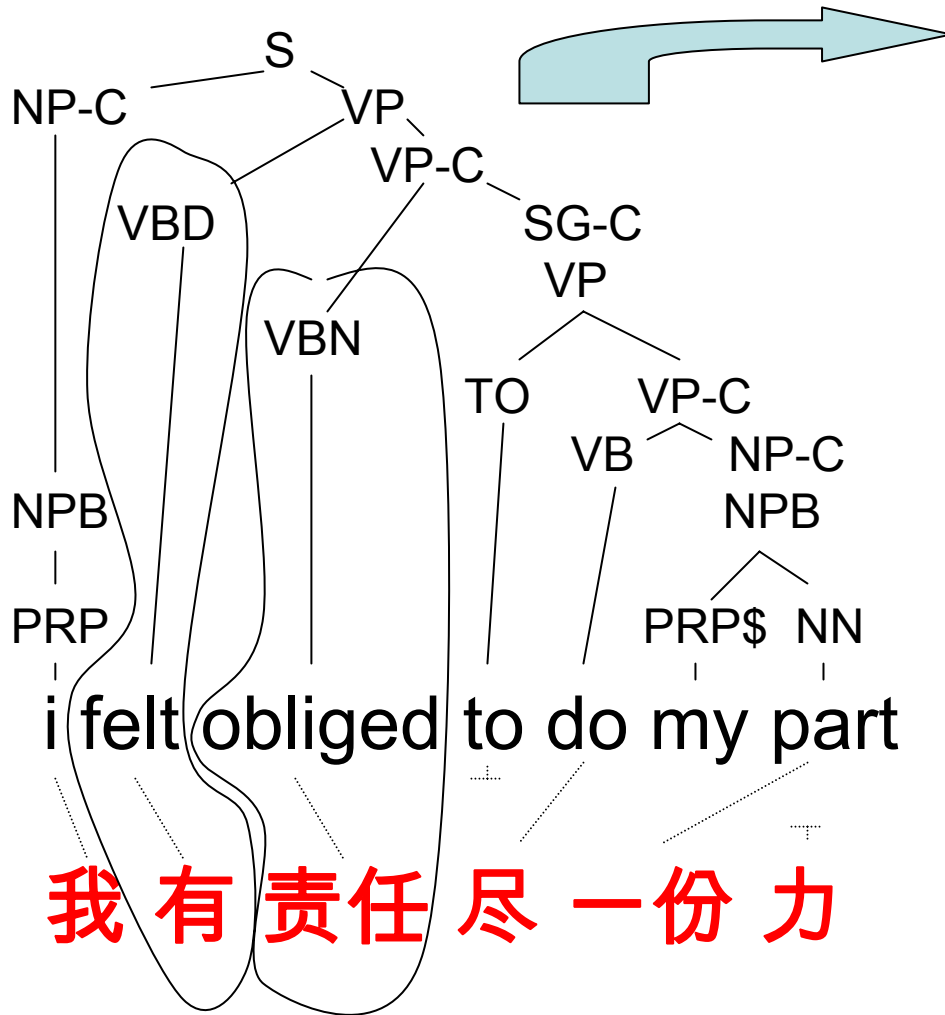


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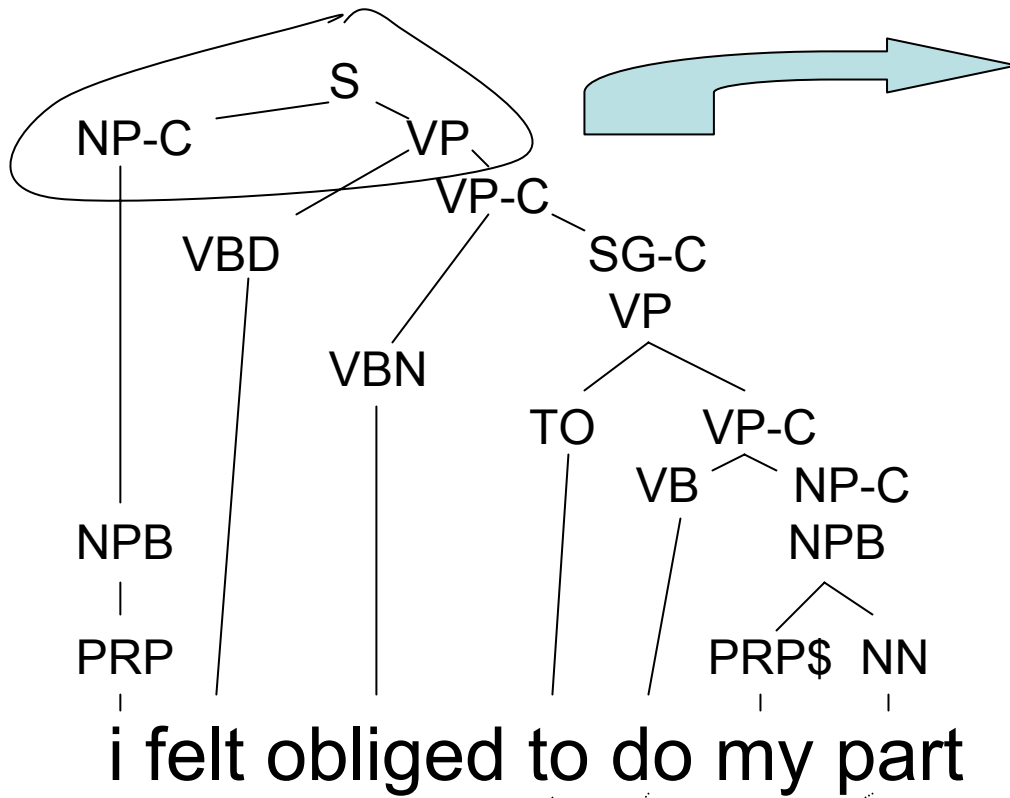


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Tree Transducers Can be Extracted from Data

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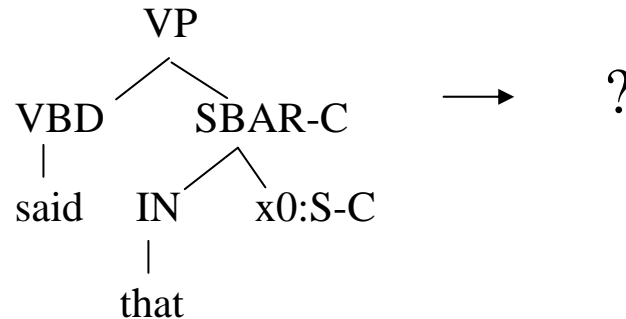
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我有责任尽一份力

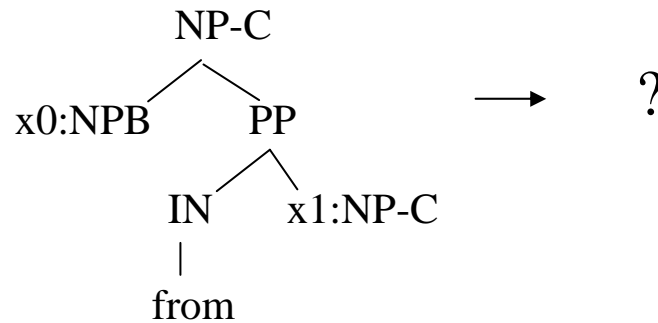
There is a unique tiling that identifies minimal translation units.

Sample “said that” rules



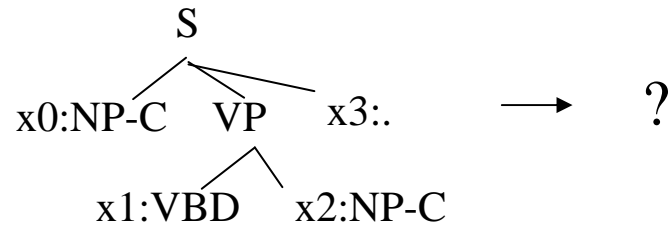
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- 0.01 VP(VBD("said") SBAR-C(IN("that") x0:S-C)) -> 说, x0 的

Sample “NP-from-NP” rules



- 0.27 NP-C(x0:NPB PP(IN("from") x1:NP-C)) -> x1 x0
- 0.15 NP-C(x0:NPB PP(IN("from") x1:NP-C)) -> 来自 x1 x0
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Sample SVO rules



CHINESE / ENGLISH

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0.01 S(x0:NP-C VP(x1:VBD x2:NP-C) x3:.) -> x0 , x1 x2 x3

ARABIC / ENGLISH

0.54 S(x0:NP-C VP(x1:VBD x2:NP-C) x3:.) -> x0 x1 x2 x3

0.44 S(x0:NP-C VP(x1:VBD x2:NP-C) x3:.) -> x1 x0 x2 x3

Extensions to Rule Extraction from Data [Galley et al 06]

Enumerate all ways of dealing with unaligned Chinese words.

Generate rule counts which can be normalized into probabilities.

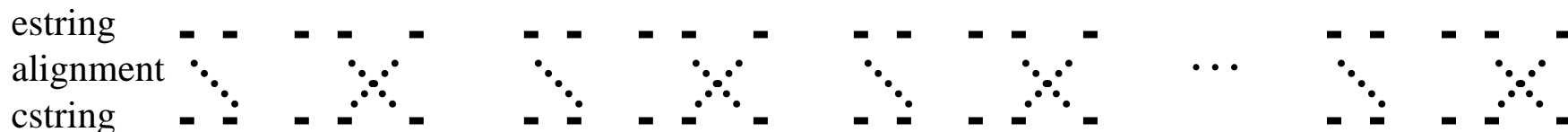
Language Models

- Syntax-based Language Model
 - Assigns $P(\text{tree})$
 - [Collins 97; Charniak 01]
 - NOTE: Unlike parser, must be trained on domain data
- Ngram Language Model
 - Standard trigram model
 - Only judges a tree by its leaves

BREAK

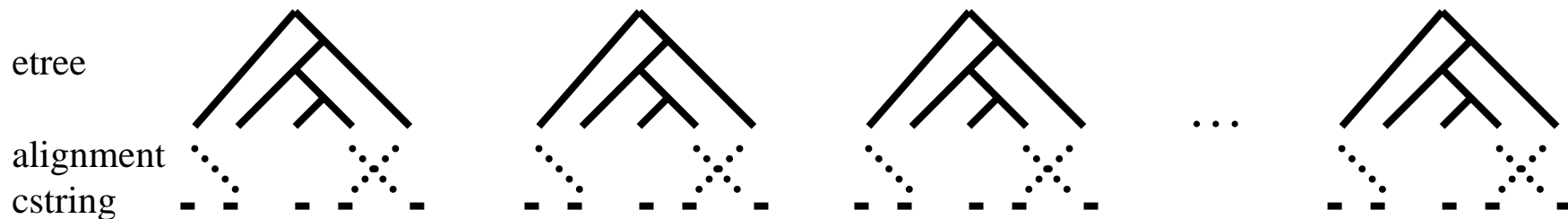
- When We Come Back:
 - Review of syntax-based translation models
 - Syntax-based decoding
 - Is syntax harmful?
 - yes
 - what can be done
 - Sample outputs
 - Open problems
 - Connections to automata
 - Conclusions
 - Discussion

Phrase-Based and Syntax-Based Pattern Extraction



ATS [Och & Ney, 2004]

phrase pairs consistent with word alignment

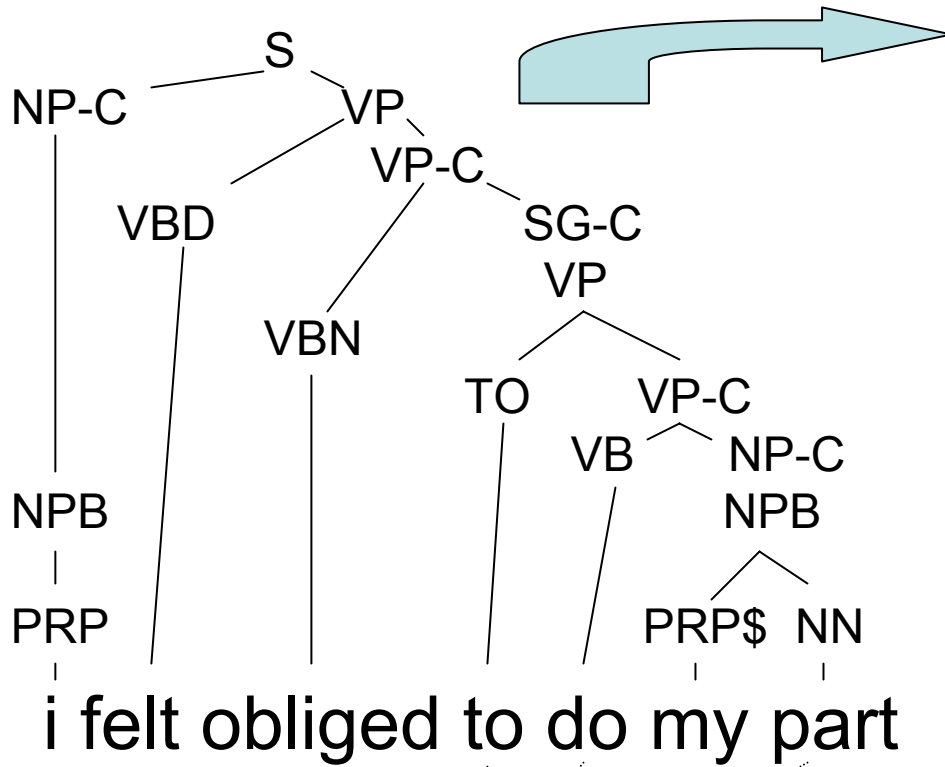


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Tree Transducers Can be Extracted from Data

(Galley, Hopkins, Knight, Marcu, 2004)



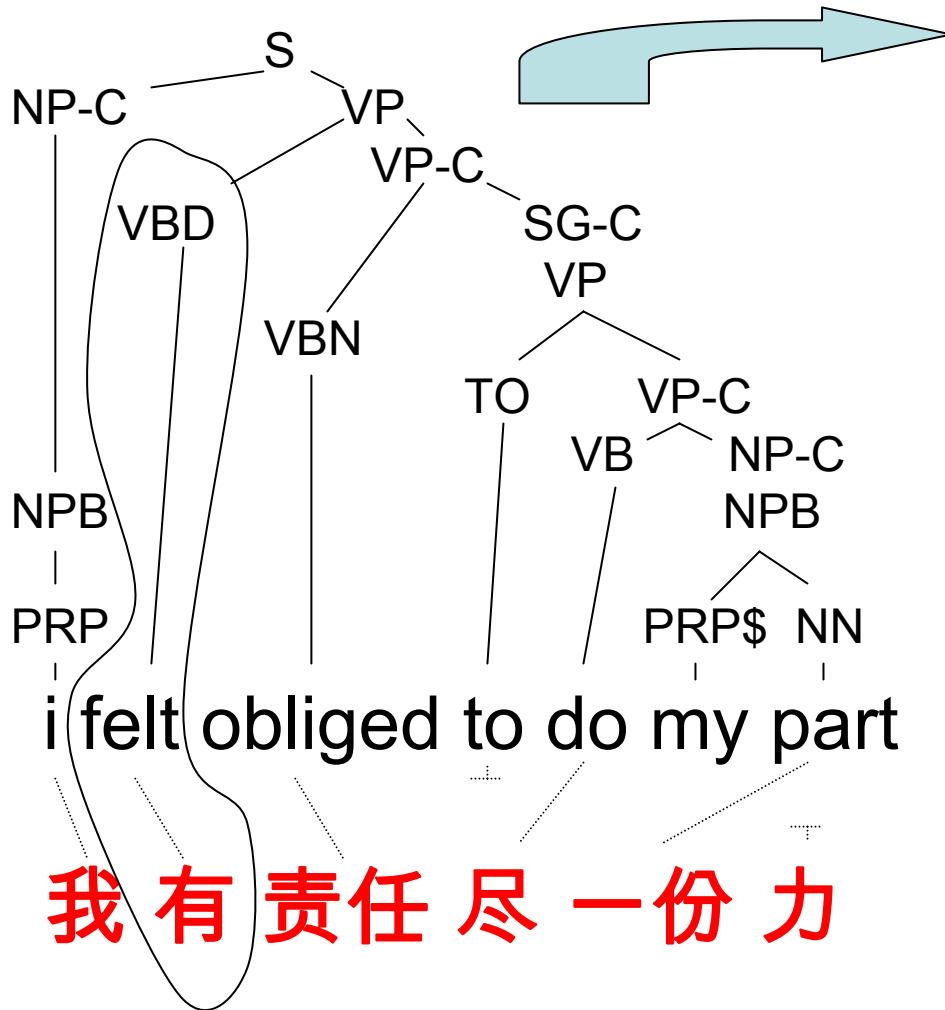
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我有责任尽一份力

Tree Transducers Can be Extracted from Data

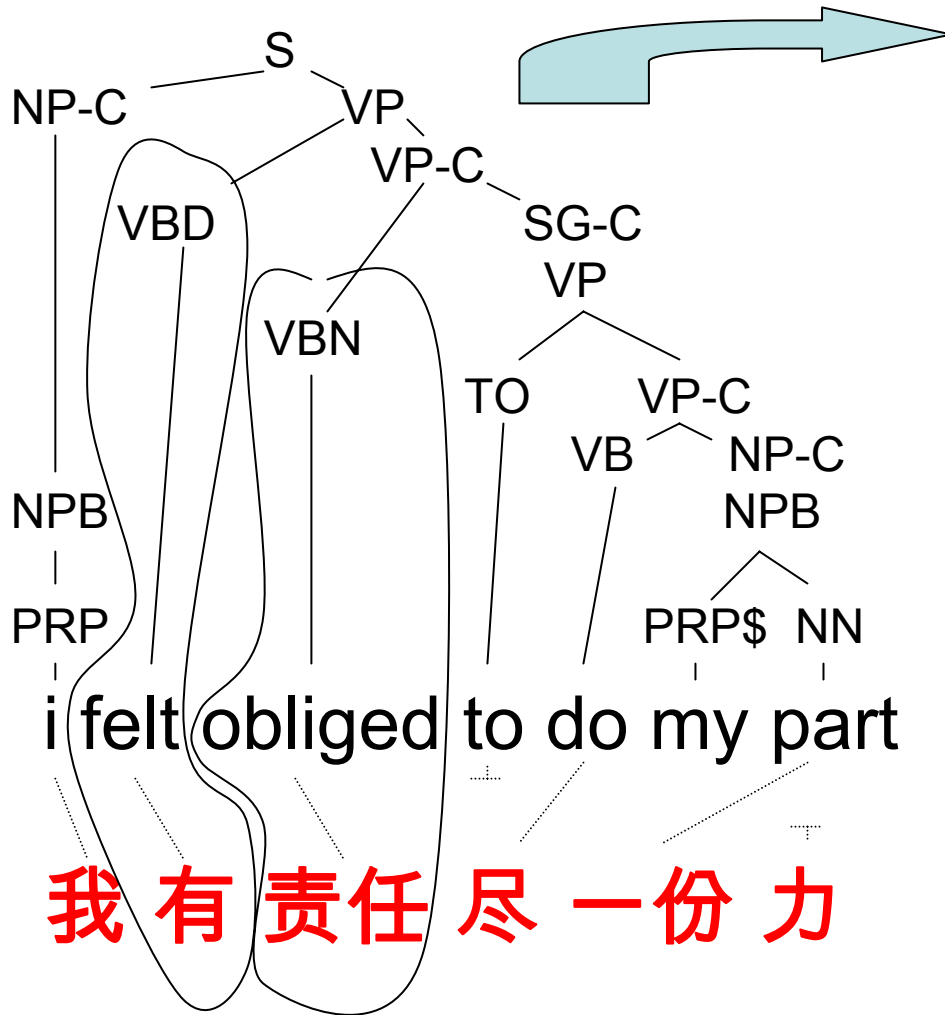
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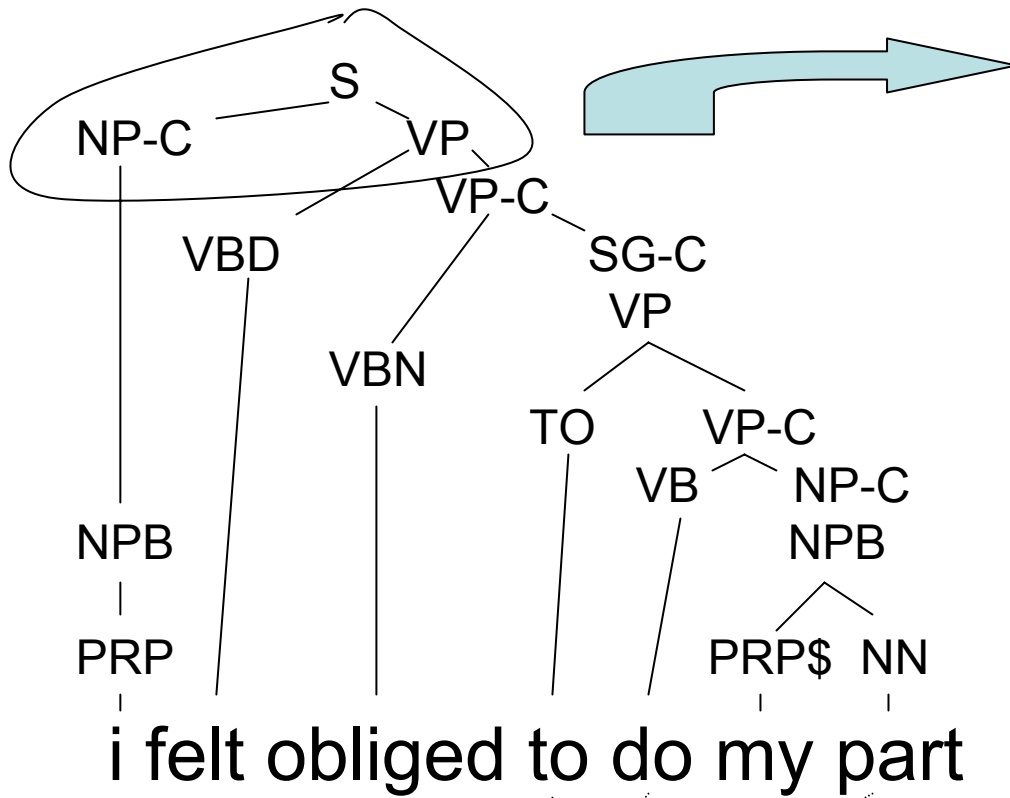


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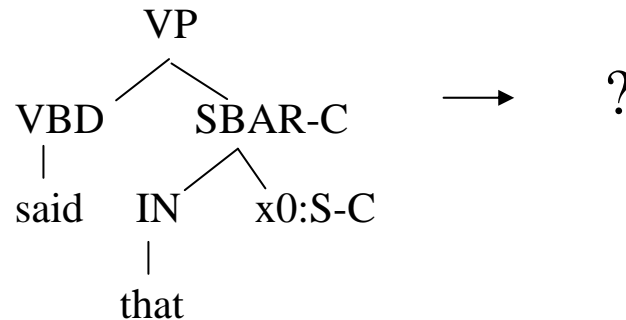


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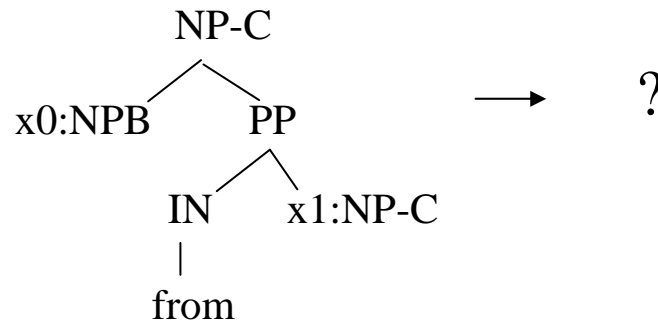
我有责任尽一份力

Sample “said that” rules



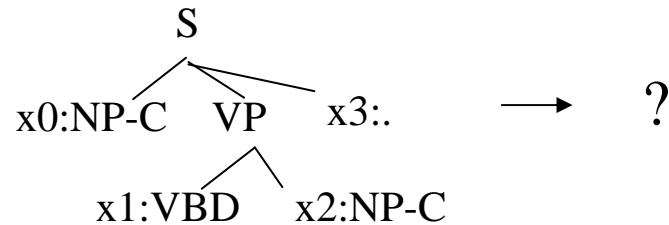
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Sample SVO rules



CHINESE / ENGLISH

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ARABIC / ENGLISH

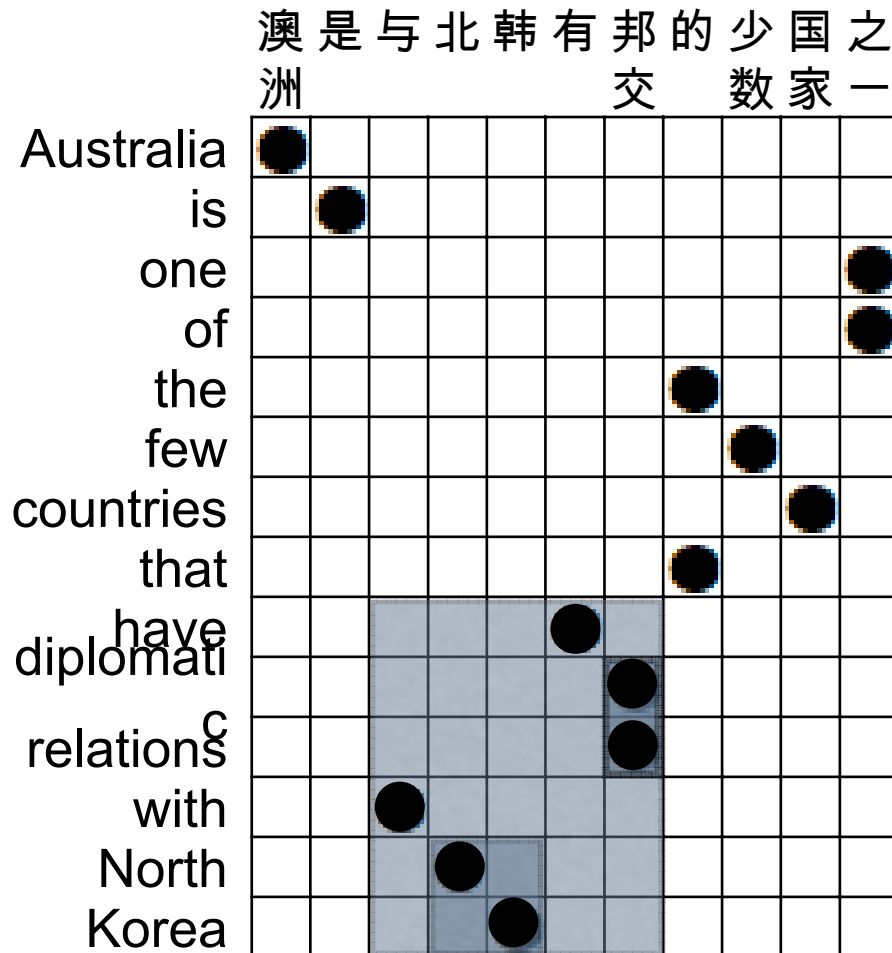
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Hiero (Chiang 05, 07)

- Phrase pairs with variables
 - e.g., “of $X \leftrightarrow X$ de”
- Hierarchical decoding
 - the X itself could be created via other phrase pairs with variables
- Only one syntactic symbol in rules
 - X
- Translation patterns can be extracted without syntactically parses of the training data

Hiero Grammar Extraction



X(diplomatic relations)

→ 邦交

X(North Korea)

→ 北 韩

X(have diplomatic relations with North Korea)

→ 与 北 韩 有 邦交

X(have x0:X with x1:X)

→ 与 x1 有 x0



In Hiero literature, this rule is written in *synchronous grammar* format:

(X → 与 X1 有 X2,

X → have X2 with X1)

Sample Hiero rules

(in tree transducer format)

X('s) → 的

X(the x0:X of x1:X) → x1 的 x0

X(the x0:X that x1:X) → x1 的 x0

X(in) → 在

X(under x0:X) → 在 x0 下

X(before x0:X) → 在 x0 前

X(x0:X this year) → 今年 x0

X(one of x0:X) → x0 之一

X(president x0:X) → x0 总统

Decoding

Reminder: phrase-based decoding

这	7人	中包括	来自	法国	和	俄罗斯	的	宇航	员	.
the	7 people	including	by some	and	the russian	the	the astronauts			,
it	7 people included	by france		and the	the russian		international astronautical	of rapporteur .		
this	7 out	including the	from	the french	and the russian	the fifth		.		
these	7 among	including from		the french	and	of the russian	of	space	members	.
that	7 persons	including from the		of france	and to	russian	of the	aerospace	members	
	7 include		from the	of france and	russian		astronauts			. the
	7 numbers include		from france		and russian		of astronauts who			.
	7 populations include		those from france		and russian		astronauts .			
	7 deportees included		come from	france	and russia		in	astronautical	personnel	;
	7 philtrum	including those from		france and	russia		a space		member	
		including representatives from		france and the	russia		astronaut			
	include	came from		france and russia			by cosmonauts			
	include representatives from			french	and russia		cosmonauts			
	include	came from france		and russia 's			cosmonauts .			
	includes	coming from		french and	russia 's		cosmonaut			
				french and russian		's	astronautical		member .	
				french	and russia		astronauts			
					and russia 's				special rapporteur	
					, and	russia			rapporteur	
					, and russia				rapporteur .	
					, and russia					
					or	russia 's				

Table 1: #11# the seven - member crew includes astronauts from france and russia .

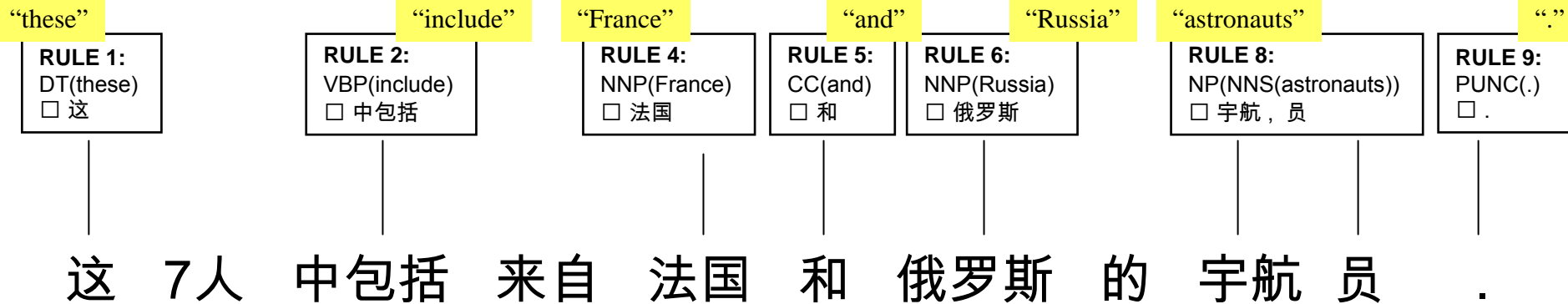
Scoring: Try to use phrase pairs that have been frequently observed.
 Try to output a sentence with frequent English word sequences.

Syntax-Based Decoding

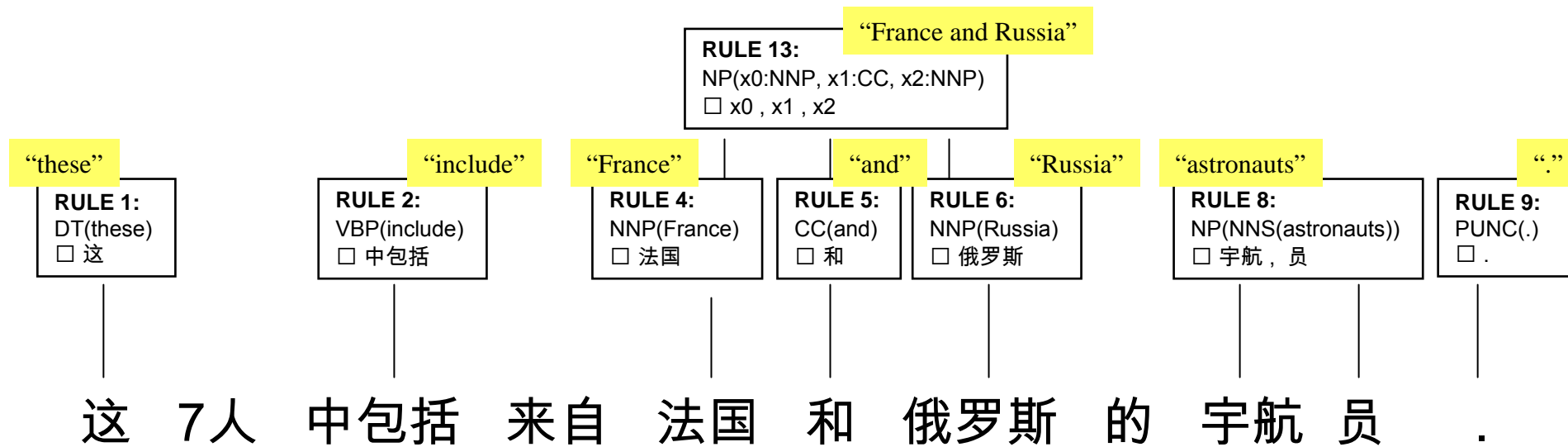
- Bottom-up CKY parser
- Builds English constituents on top of Chinese spans
- Record of rule applications (the derivation) provides information to construct English tree
- Returns k-best trees
- Same decoder can handle syntax translation rules and Hiero rules

Syntax-Based Decoding

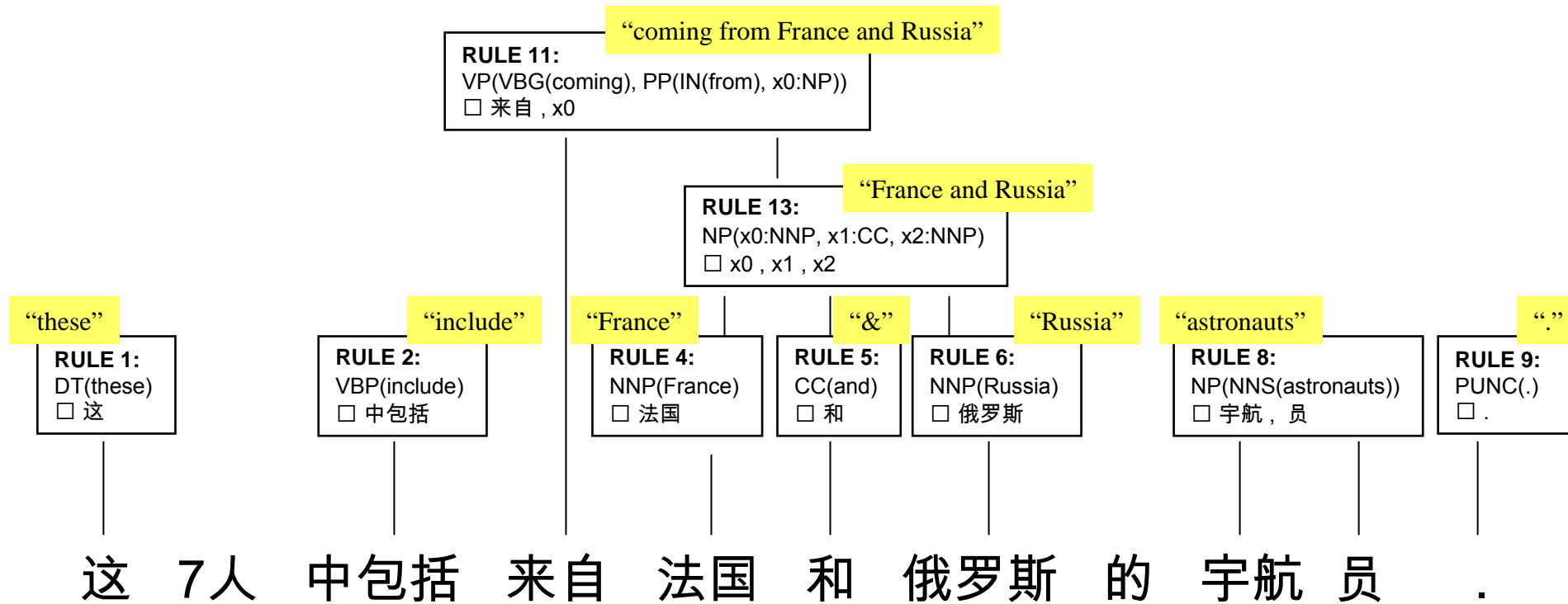
Rules apply when their right-hand sides (RHS) match some portion of the input.



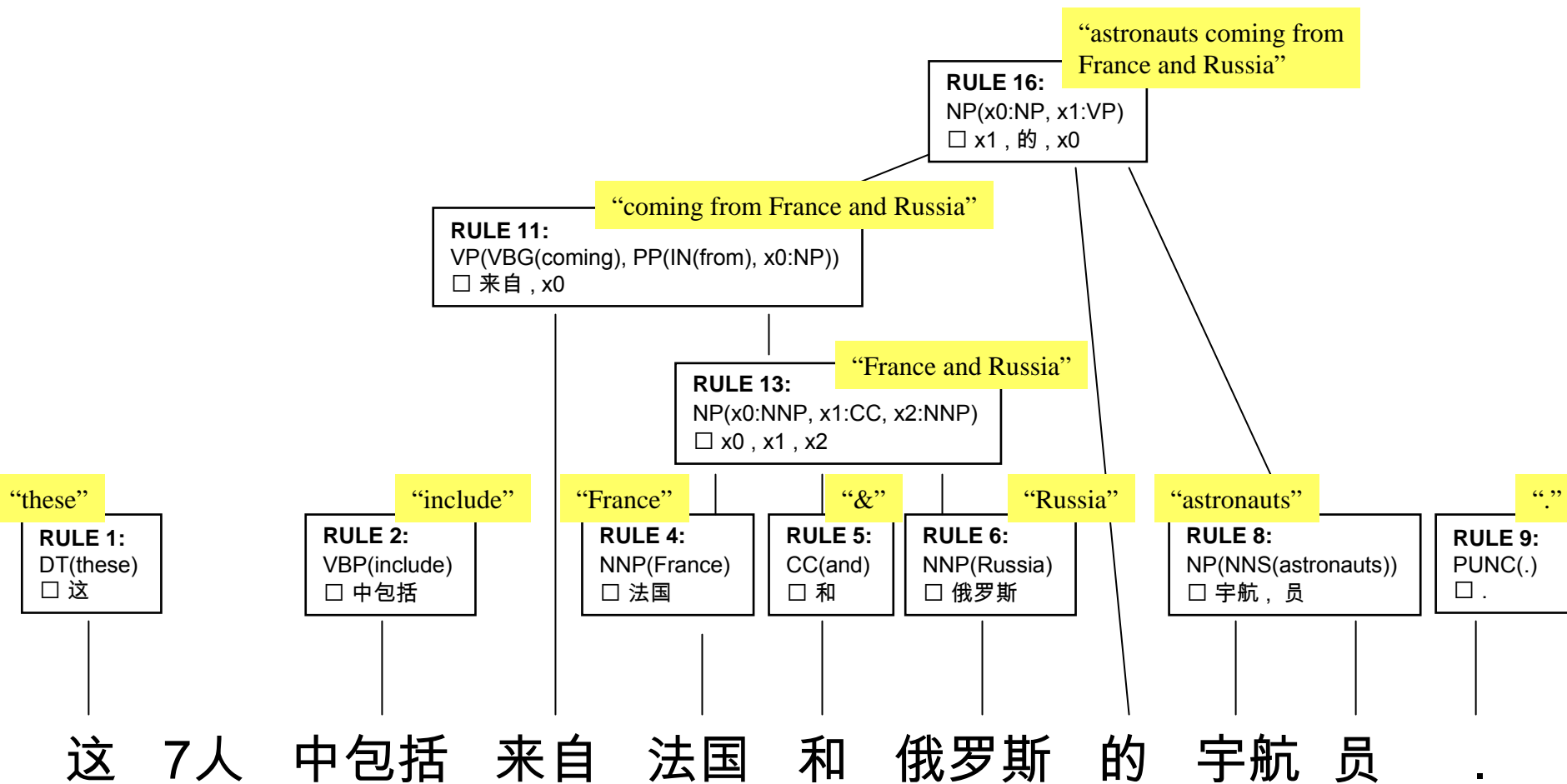
Syntax-Based Decoding

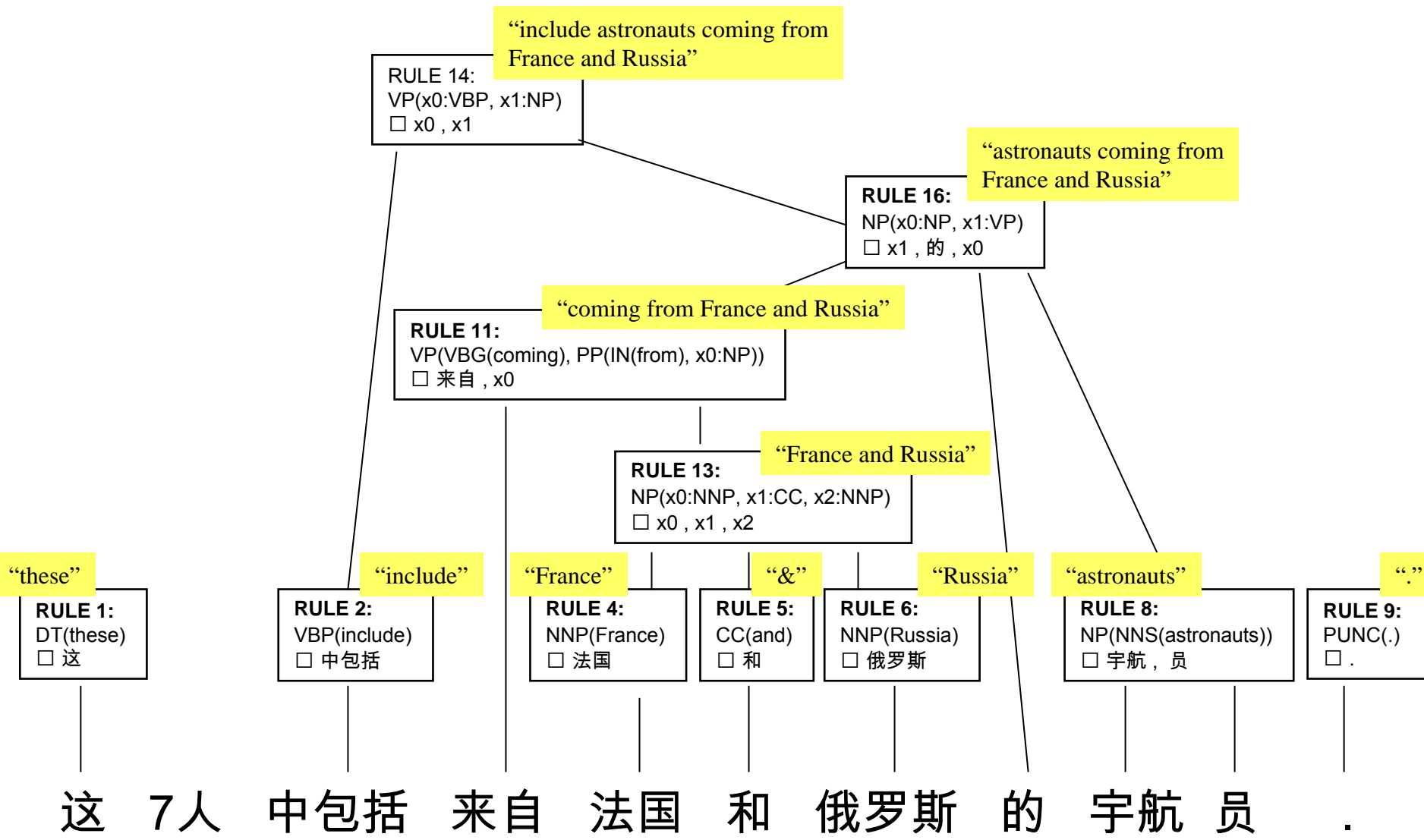


Syntax-Based Decoding

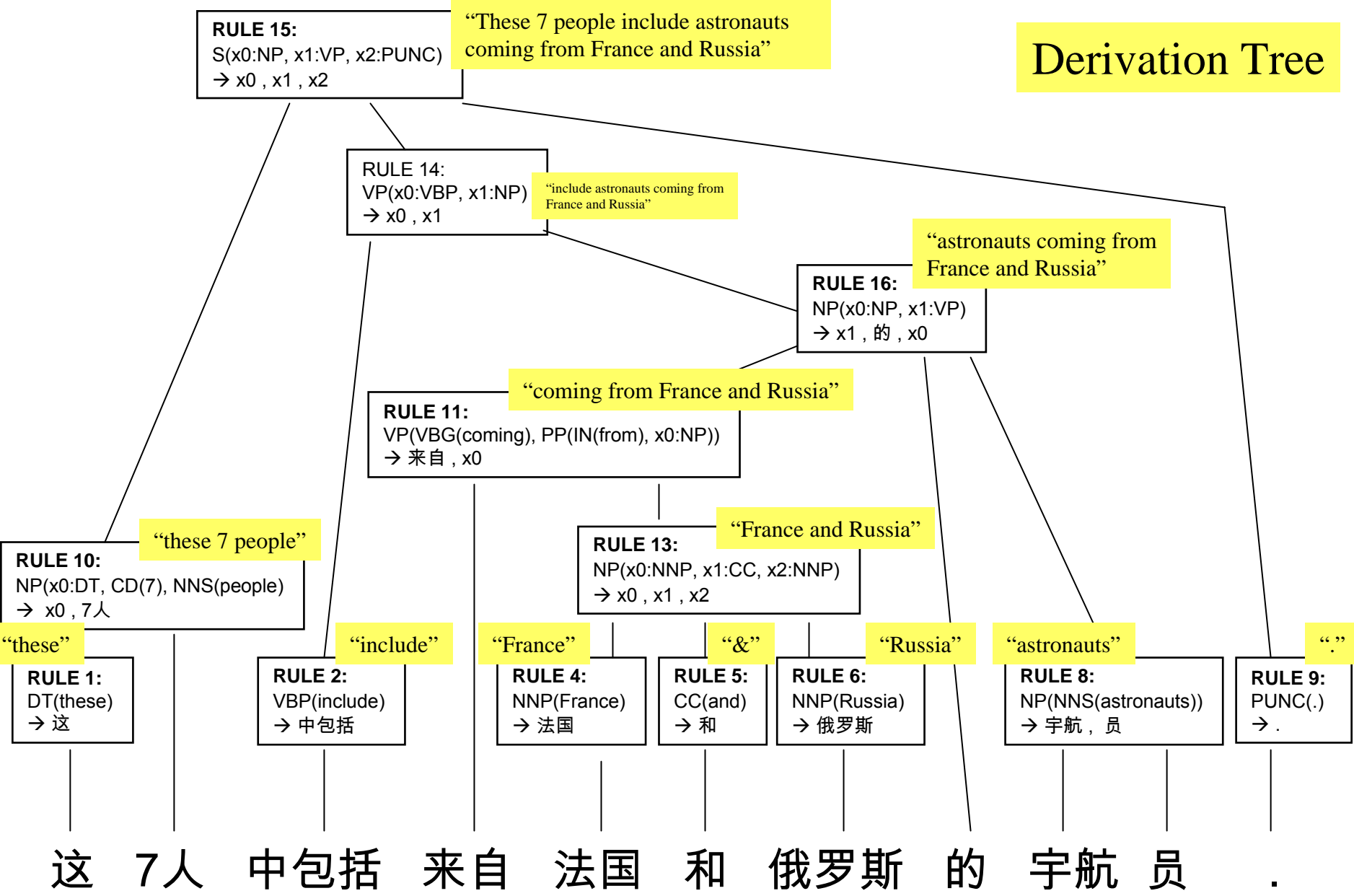


Syntax-Based Decoding

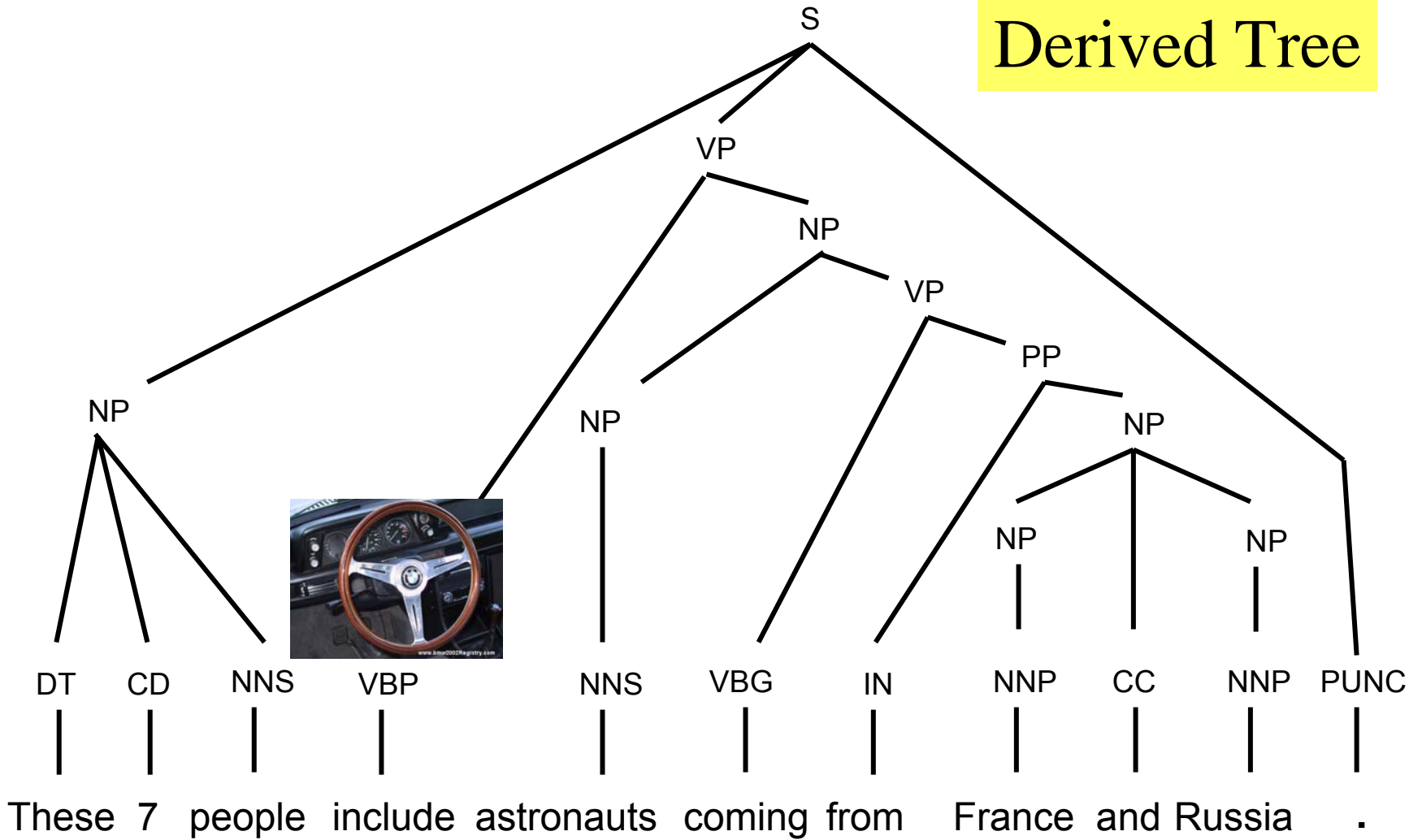




Derivation Tree

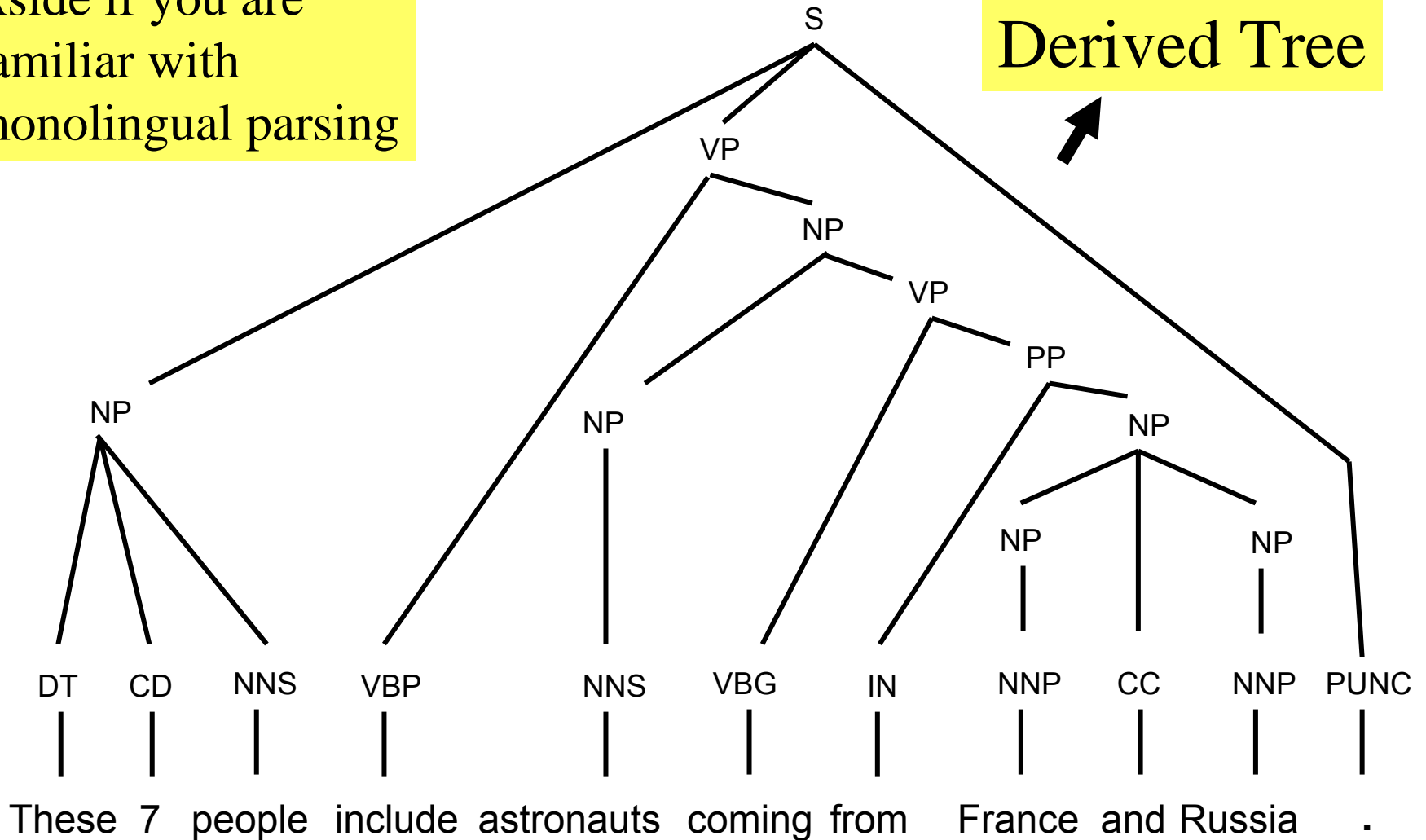


Derived Tree



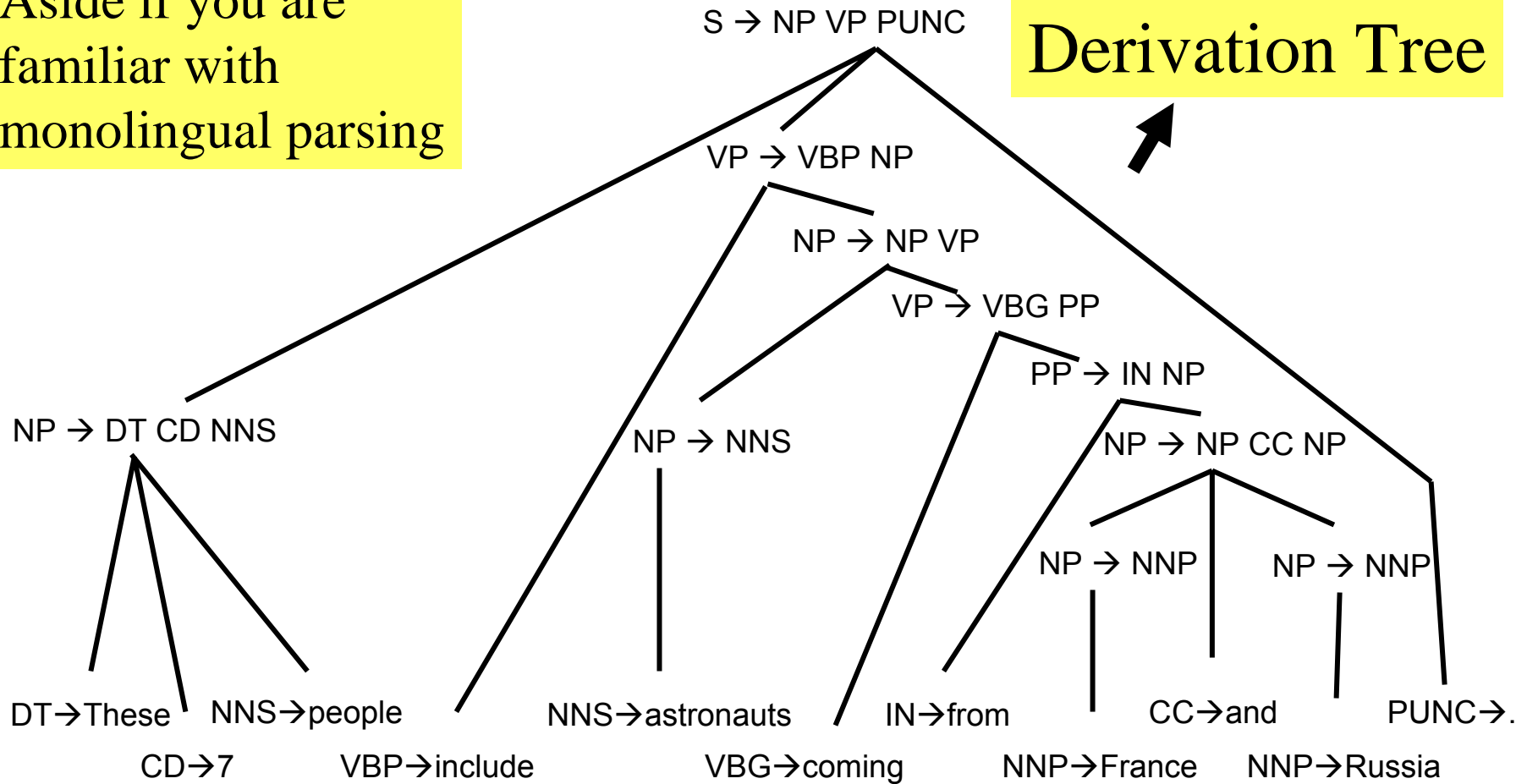
Aside if you are familiar with monolingual parsing

Derived Tree



Aside if you are familiar with monolingual parsing

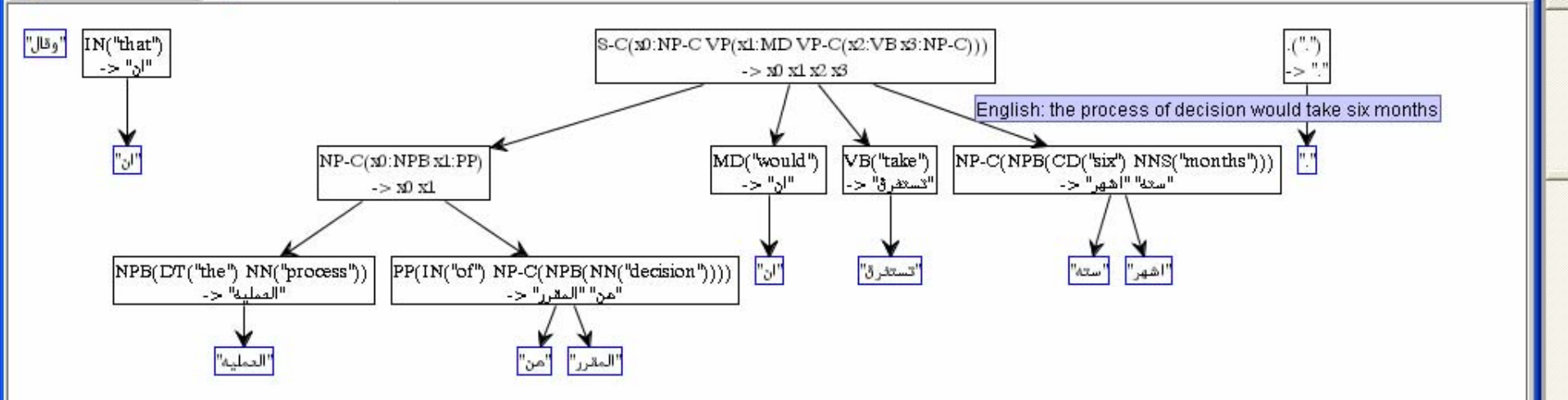
Derivation Tree



Binarization for Decoding

- For CKY decoding, all rules must be *binarized*.
- Rule with $|RHS| > 2$ must be split into rules with $|RHS| = 2$
 - $S(x_0:NP VP(x_1:VBD x_2:NP)) \rightarrow x_1 x_0 x_2$
 - $Z(x_0:NP x_1:VBD) \rightarrow x_1 x_0$**
 - $S(x_0:Z x_1:NP) \rightarrow x_0 x_1$**
- Similar to putting a CFG into Chomsky normal form.
- A rule can be binarized in different ways: must pick best!
- Some translation rules cannot be binarized at all...
 - $A(x_0:B x_1:C x_2:D x_3:E) \rightarrow x_1 x_3 x_0 x_2$ [Wu 96]
- We just delete these.

- Binarization details: [Zhang, Huang, Knight, Gildea, 2006]



English: the process of decision would take six months

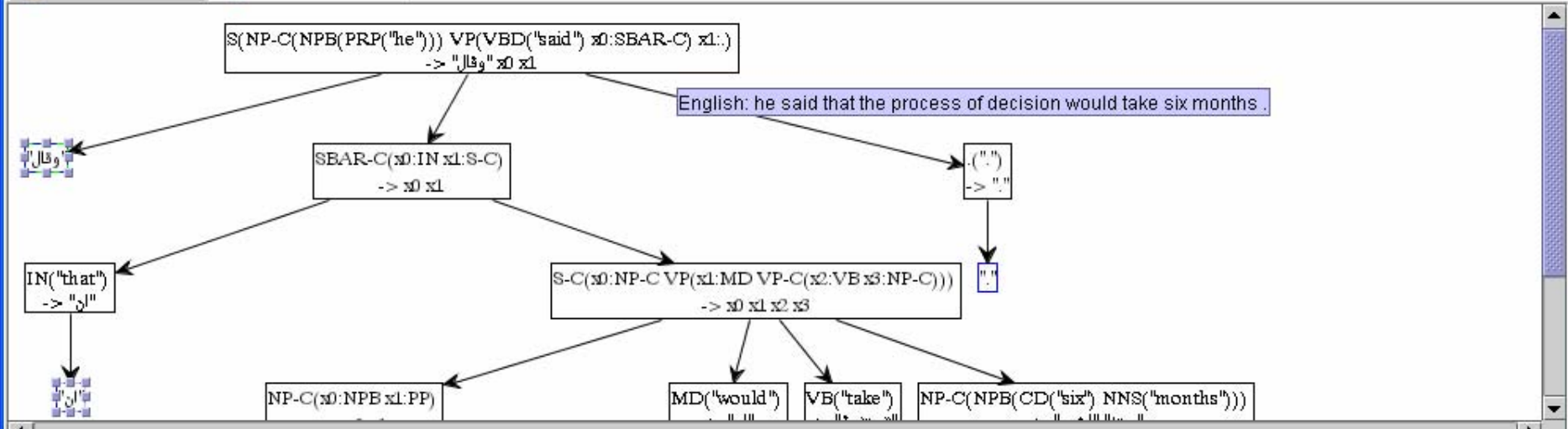
Click, Ctrl-click, or drag above to select. For adding rules, please select a contiguous span of top level nodes. Modify Delete

Phrase-based MT: he said that the process of decision to take six months .

Searching Manual Selecting Template

Lines = 100 Redraw Click below to add rule. (Red=no rules found, Blue=used by AT translation, Green=default translation, Purple=Red+Blue)

"وقال"	"ان"	"العملية"	"من"	"المقرر"	"ان"	"تستغرق"	"ستة"	"اشهر"
he said	that the process is			which would		take	four months	
he		practical		would		takes	six weeks	
that		the process		is to be		last	six months ' time	
he		the operation		were to		took	six months ,	
he said		operation		is		lasting	of six	@-@ mo
was		exercise	from	scheduled to		would take		month
had		operational		planned that		span	six @-@ months '	
his		an operation		be		last for	6 month	
while		the practical		the rapporteur		taken	of six months from	



Click, Ctrl-click, or drag above to select. For adding rules, please select a contiguous span of top level nodes. Modify Delete

Phrase-based MT: he said that the process of decision to take six months .

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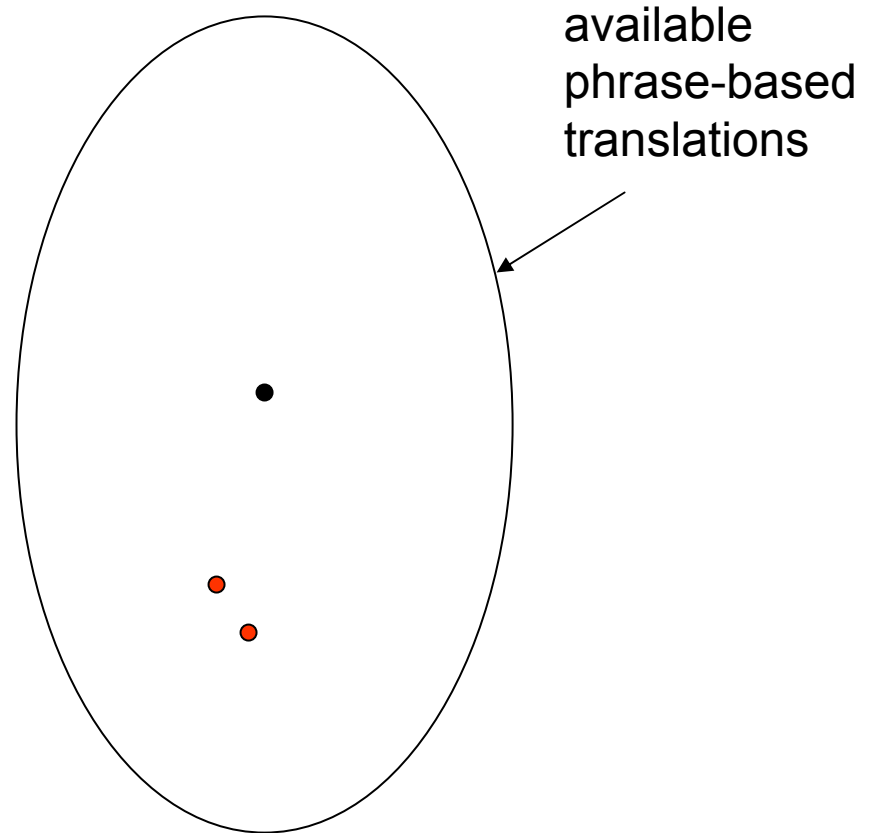
"وقال"	"ان"	"العملية"	"من"	"المقرر"	"ان"	"تستغرق"	"سنة"	"اشهر"
he said	that the process is		which would			take	four months	
he		practical	would			takes	six weeks	
that		the process	is to be			last	six months ' time	
he		the operation	were to			took	six months ,	
he said		operation	is			lasting	of six	@-@ mo
was		exercise	from	scheduled to		would take	month	
had		operational	planned that			span	six @-@ months '	
his		an operation	be			last for	6 month	
while		the practical	the rapporteur			taken	of six months from	

Why Might Syntax Help?

- Phrase-based MT output is “n-grammatical”, not grammatical
 - Every sentence needs a subject and a verb
- Re-ordering is poorly explained as “distortion” -- better explained as syntactic transformation
 - Arabic to English, VSO → SVO
- Function words have syntactic effects even if they are not themselves translated

Why Might Syntax Hurt?

- Less freedom to glue pieces of output together -- search space has fewer output strings
- Search space is more difficult to navigate
- Rule extraction from bilingual text has limitations

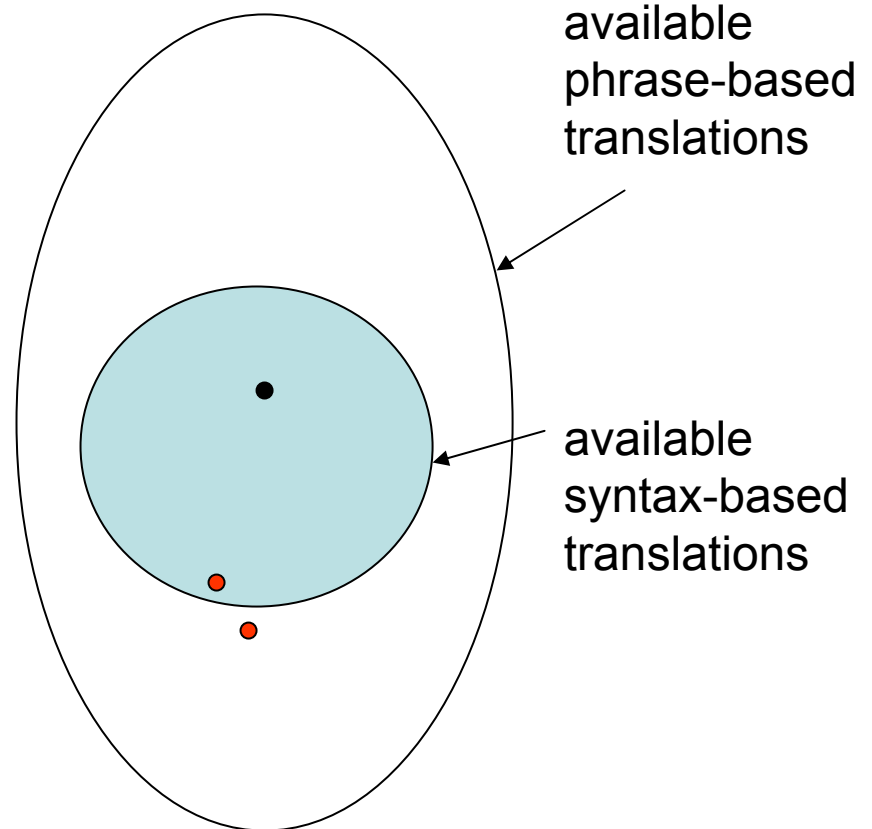


← this section

Why Might Syntax Hurt?

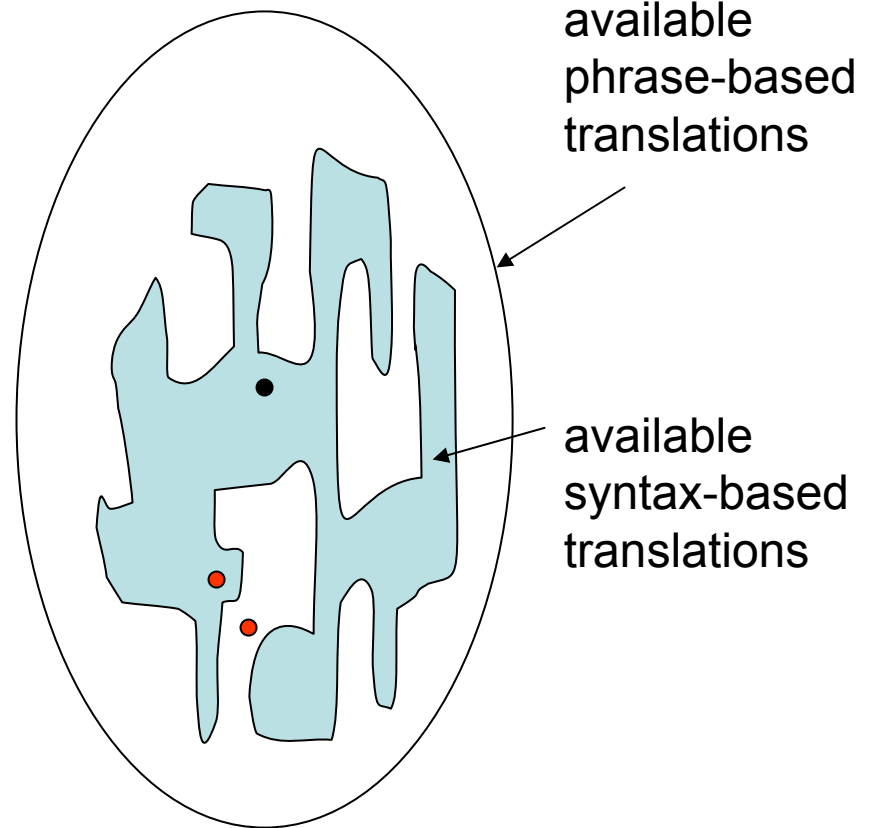
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← this section



Why Might Syntax Hurt?

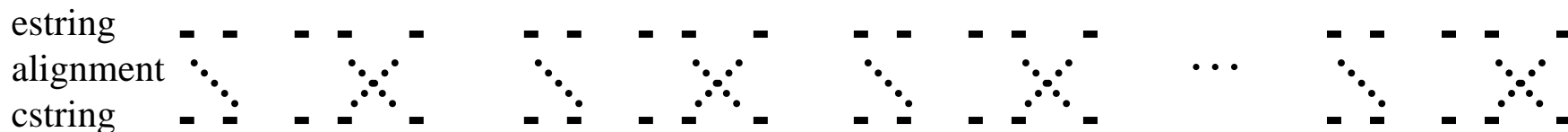
- Less freedom to glue pieces of output together -- search space has fewer output strings
- Search space is more difficult to navigate
- Rule extraction from bilingual text has limitations



Comparing Phrase-Based Extraction with Syntax-Based Extraction

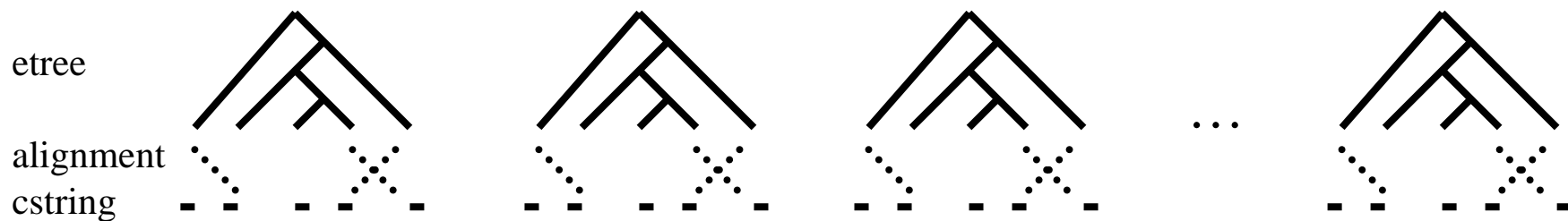
- Quantitatively compare
 - A typical phrase-based bilingual extraction algorithm (**ATS**, Och & Ney 2004)
 - A typical syntax-based bilingual extraction algorithm (**GHKM**, Galley et al 2004)
 - These algorithms picked from two good-scoring NIST-06 systems
- Identify areas of improvement for syntax-based rule coverage

Phrase-Based and Syntax-Based Pattern Extraction



ATS [Och & Ney, 2004]

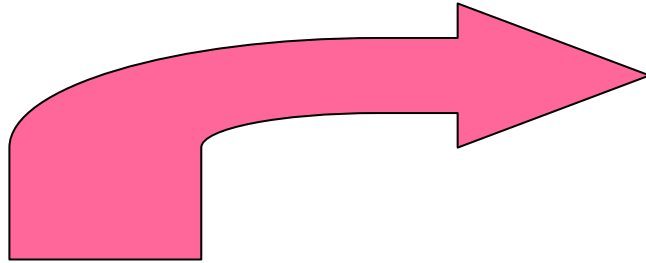
phrase pairs consistent with word alignment



GHKM [Galley et al 2004]

syntax transformation rules consistent with word alignment

ATS (Och & Ney, 2004)



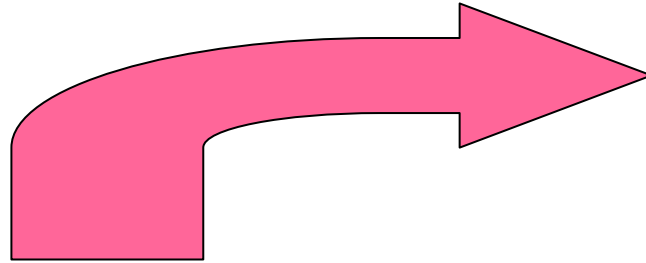
i felt obliged to do my part

我 有 责 任 尽 一 份 力

PHRASE PAIRS ACQUIRED:

felt	→	有
felt obliged	→	有 责任
felt obliged to do	→	有 责任 尽
obliged	→	责任
obliged to do	→	责任 尽
do	→	尽
part	→	一份
part	→	一份 力

ATS (Och & Ney, 2004)

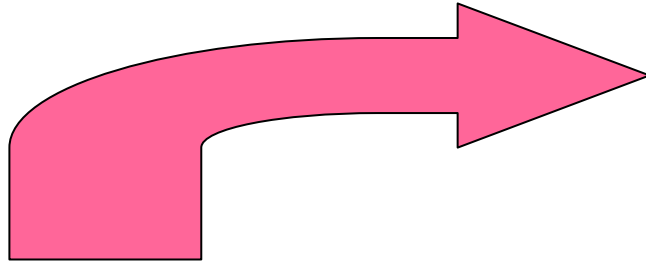


i felt obliged to do my part
我有责任尽一份力

PHRASE PAIRS ACQUIRED:

felt	→ 有
felt obliged	→ 有责任
felt obliged to do	→ 有责任尽
obliged	→ 责任
obliged to do	→ 责任尽
do	→ 尽
part	→ 一份
part	→ 一份力

ATS (Och & Ney, 2004)



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do	→ 尽
part	→ 一份
part	→ 一份 力

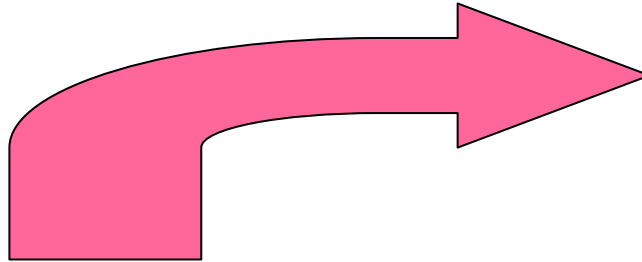
ATS (Och & Ney, 2004)

PHRASE PAIRS ACQUIRED:

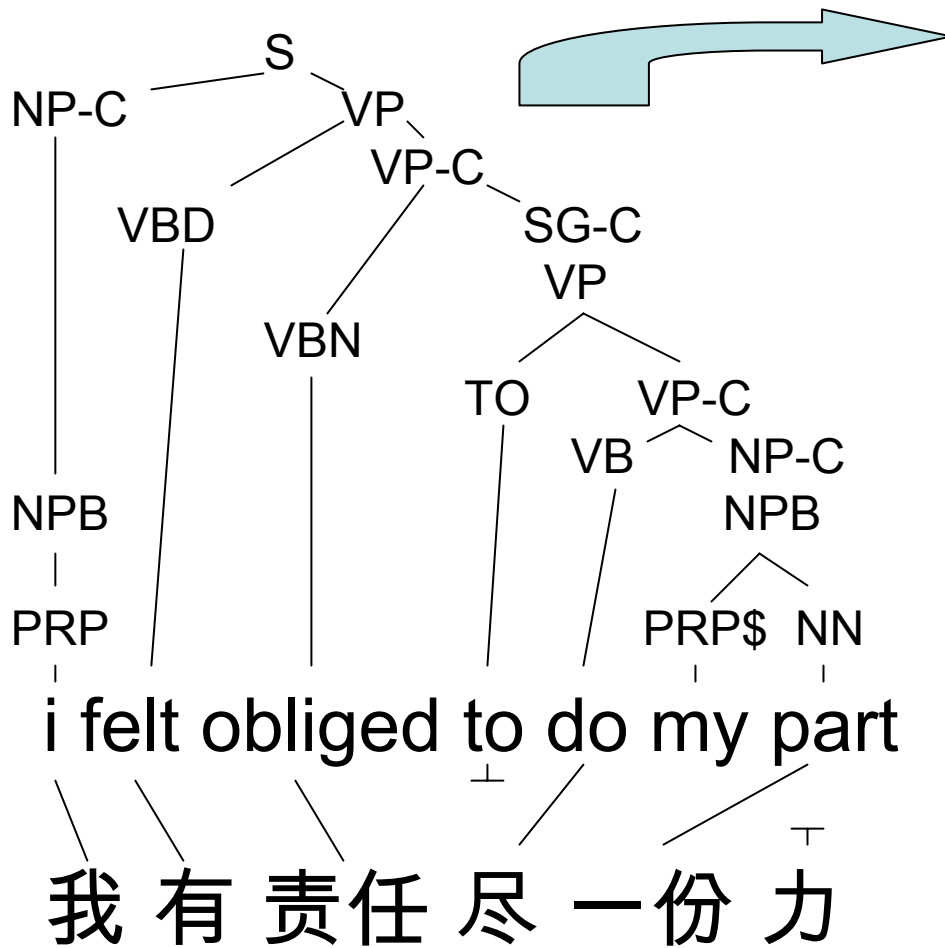
felt	→	有
felt obliged	→	有责任
felt obliged to do	→	有责任 尽
obliged	→	责任
obliged to do	→	责任 尽
do	→	尽
part	→	一份
part	→	一份 力

i felt obliged to do my part

我有责任 尽 一份 力



GHKM (Galley et al, 2004)



RULES ACQUIRED:

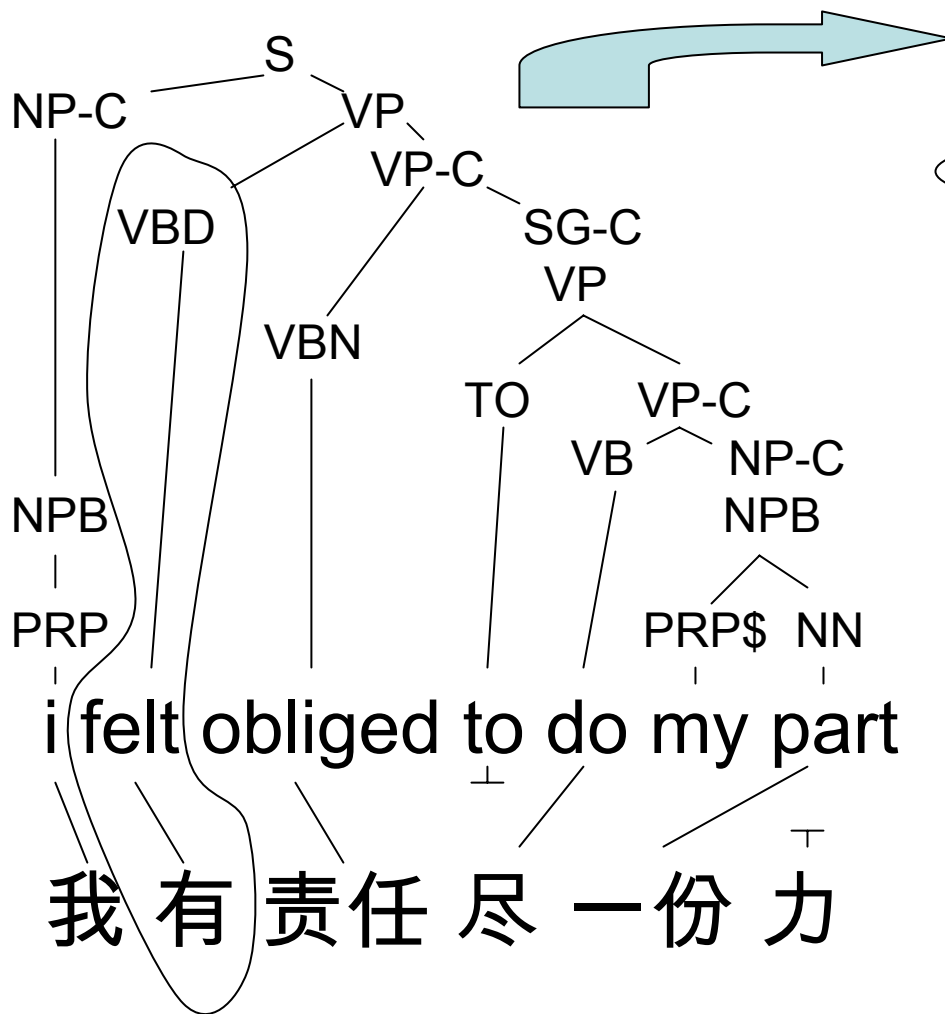
VBD(felt) → 有

VBN(obliged) → 责任

VP(x0:VBD
 VP-C(x1:VBN
 x2:SG-C) → x0 x1 x2

S(x0:NP-C x1:VP) → x0 x1

GHKM (Galley et al, 2004)



RULES ACQUIRED:

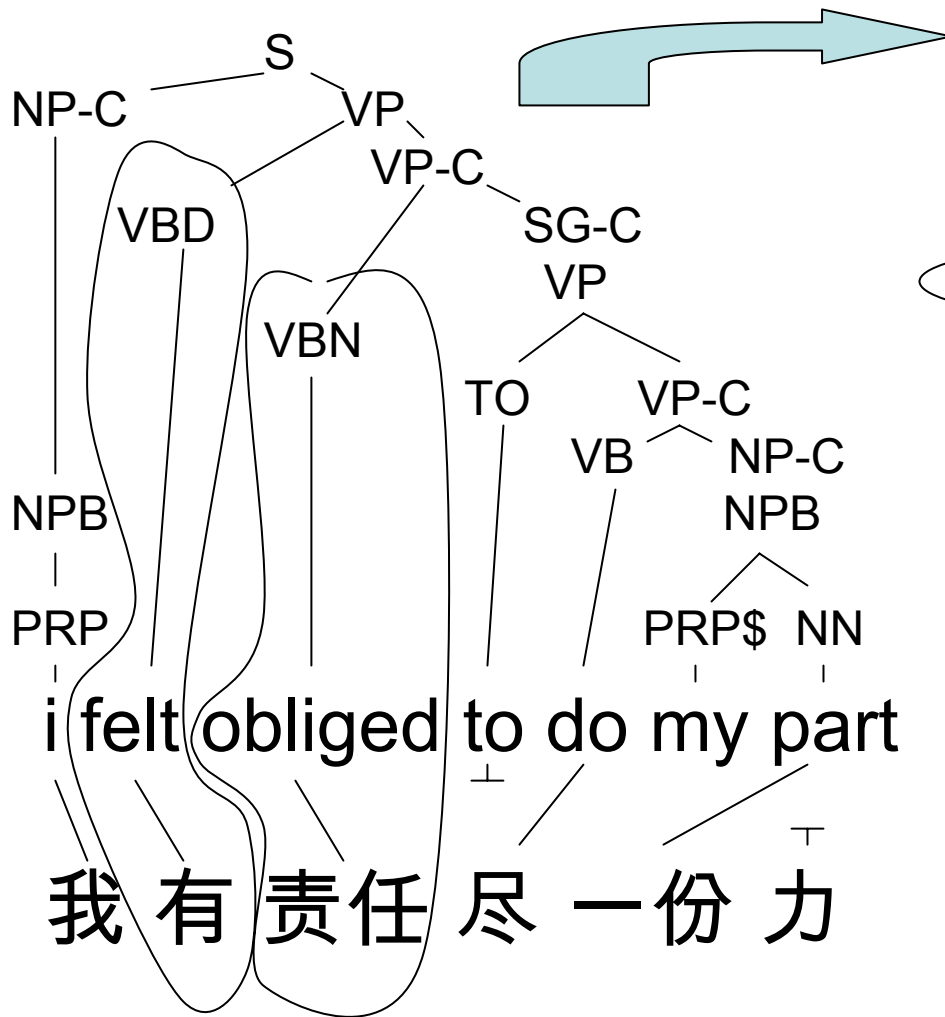
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GHKM (Galley et al, 2004)



RULES ACQUIRED:

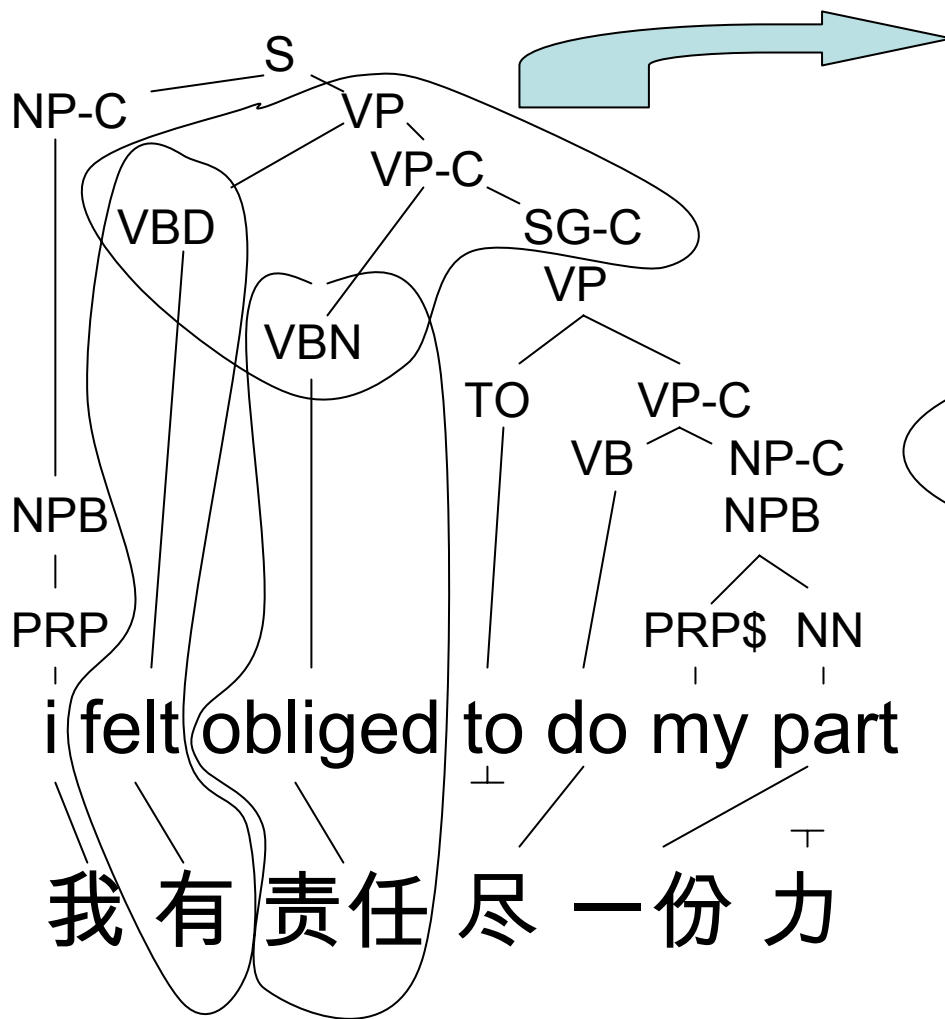
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S(x0:NP-C x1:VP) → x0 x1

GHKM (Galley et al, 2004)



RULES ACQUIRED:

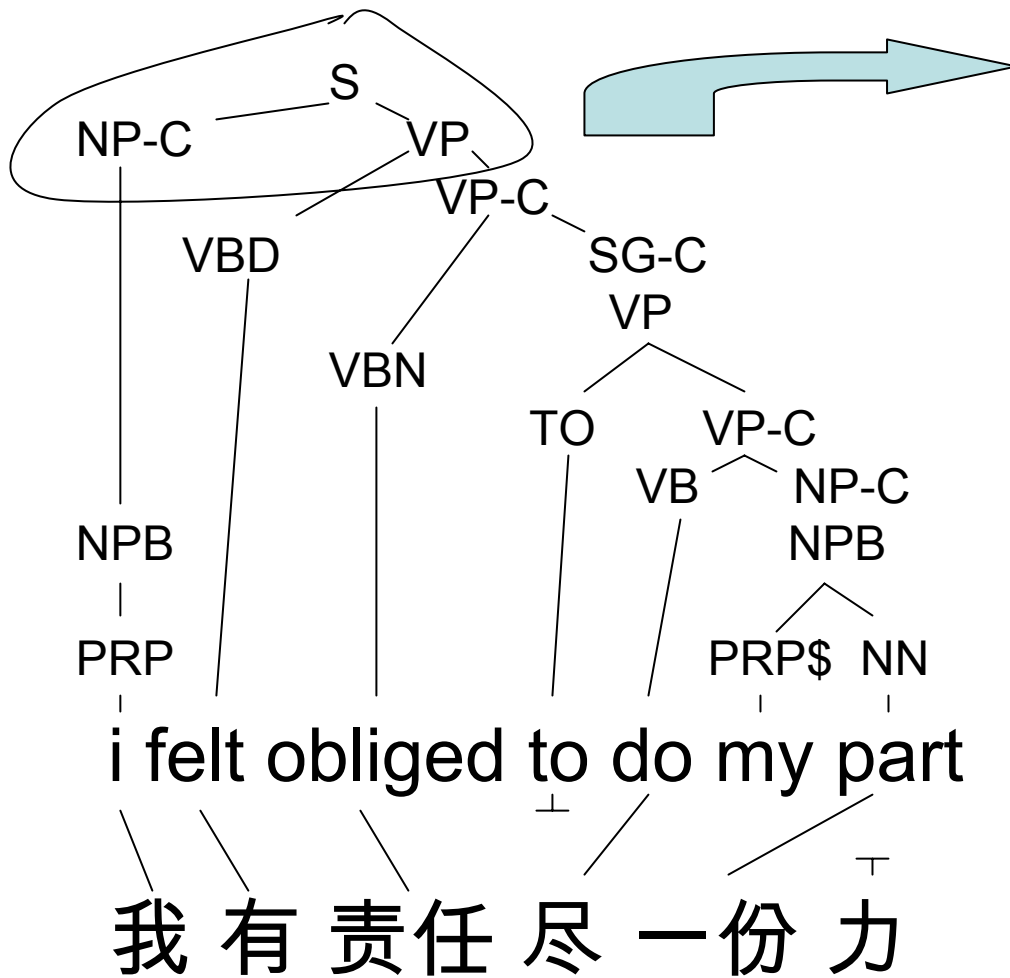
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GHKM (Galley et al, 2004)



RULES ACQUIRED:

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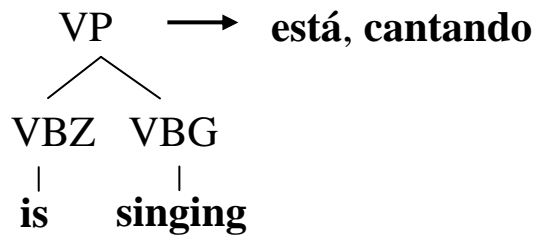
VP(x0:VBD
 VP-C(x1:VBN
 x2:SG-C) → x0 x1 x2

S(x0:NP-C x1:VP) → x0 x1

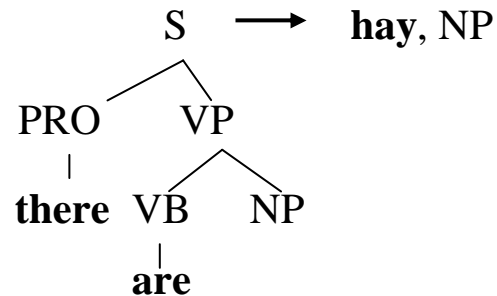
There is a unique tiling that identifies minimal translation units.

GHKM Syntax Rules

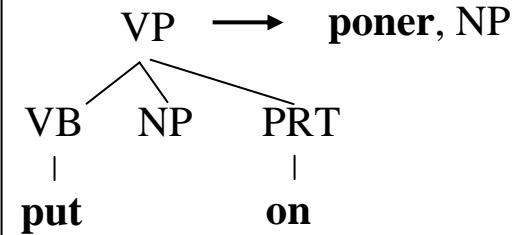
Phrasal Translation



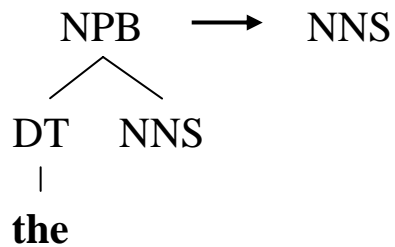
Non-constituent Phrases



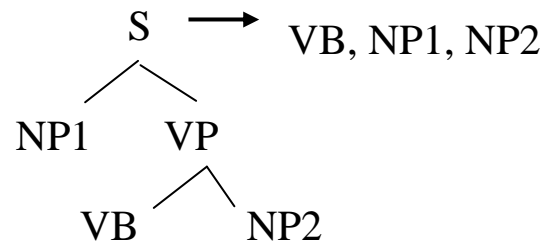
Non-contiguous Phrases



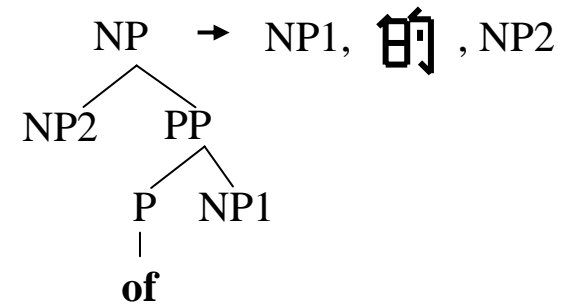
Context-Sensitive Word Insertion



Multilevel Re-Ordering

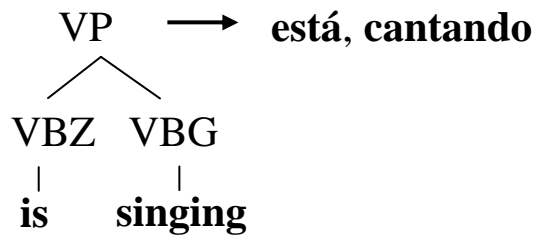


Lexicalized Re-Ordering

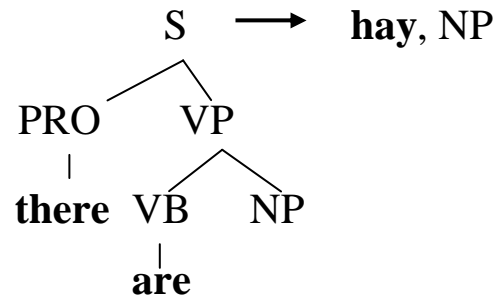


GHKM Syntax Rules

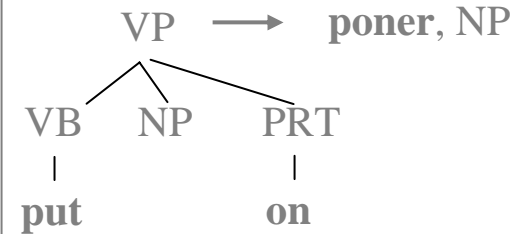
Phrasal Translation



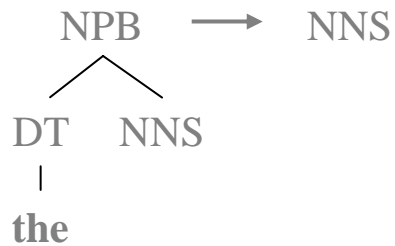
Non-constituent Phrases



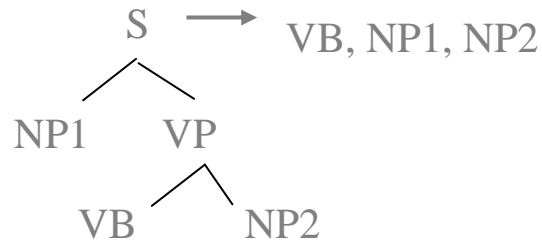
Non-contiguous Phrases



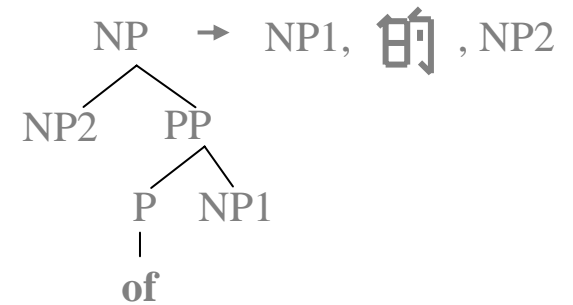
Context-Sensitive Word Insertion



Multilevel Re-Ordering



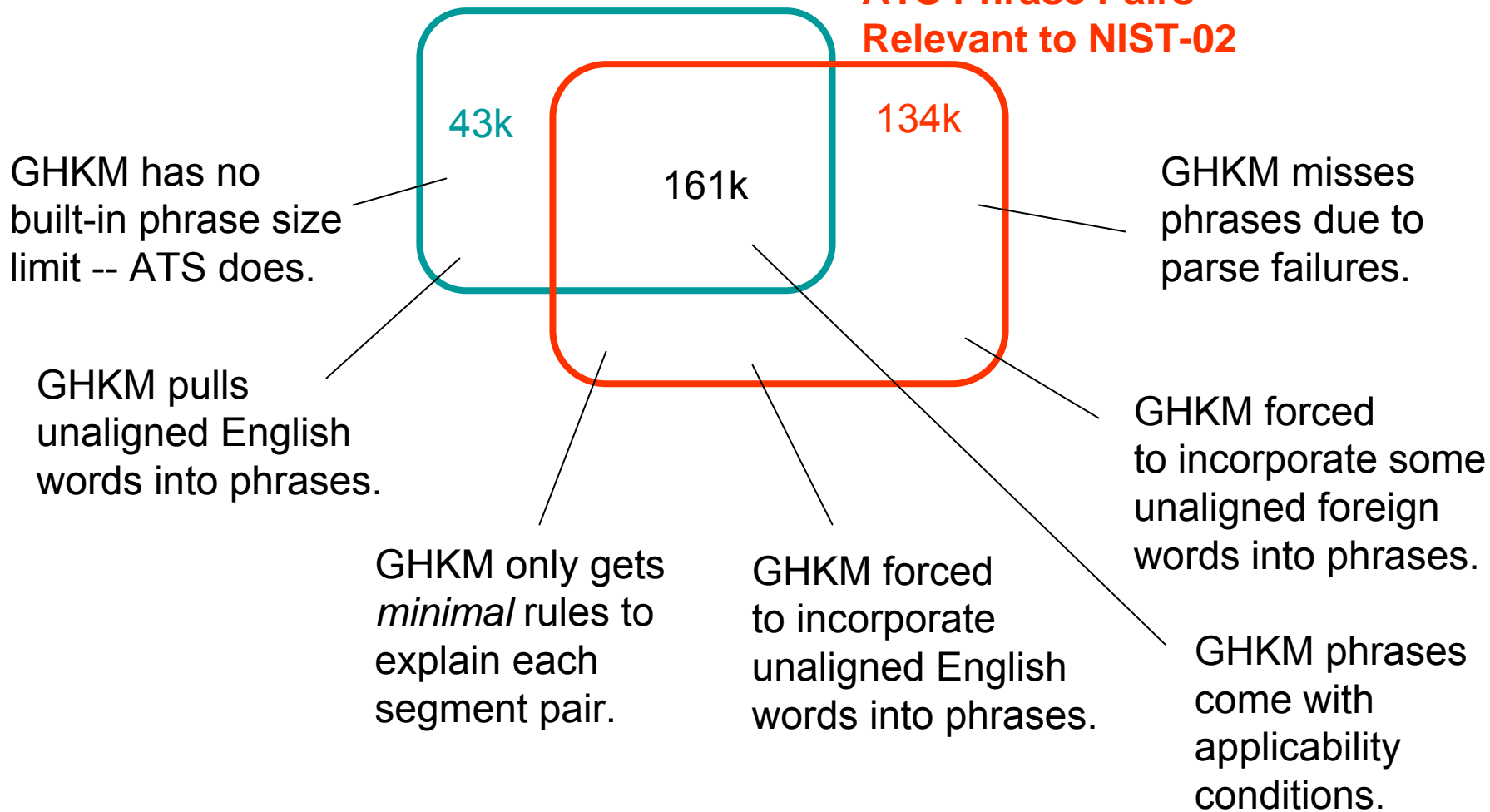
Lexicalized Re-Ordering



ATS and GHKM Methods Do Not Coincide

**GHKM Phrase Pairs
Relevant to NIST-02**

**ATS Phrase Pairs
Relevant to NIST-02**



ATS and GHKM Methods Overlap

GHKM Phrase Pairs
Relevant to NIST-02

ATS Phrase Pairs actually used
in 1-best decodings of NIST-02
(1,994 = 2 per sentence).

CAN WE REDUCE
THIS NUMBER?

1,994

GHKM misses
phrases due to
parse failures.

GHKM phrases
come with
applicability
conditions.

GHKM only gets
minimal rules to
explain each
segment pair.

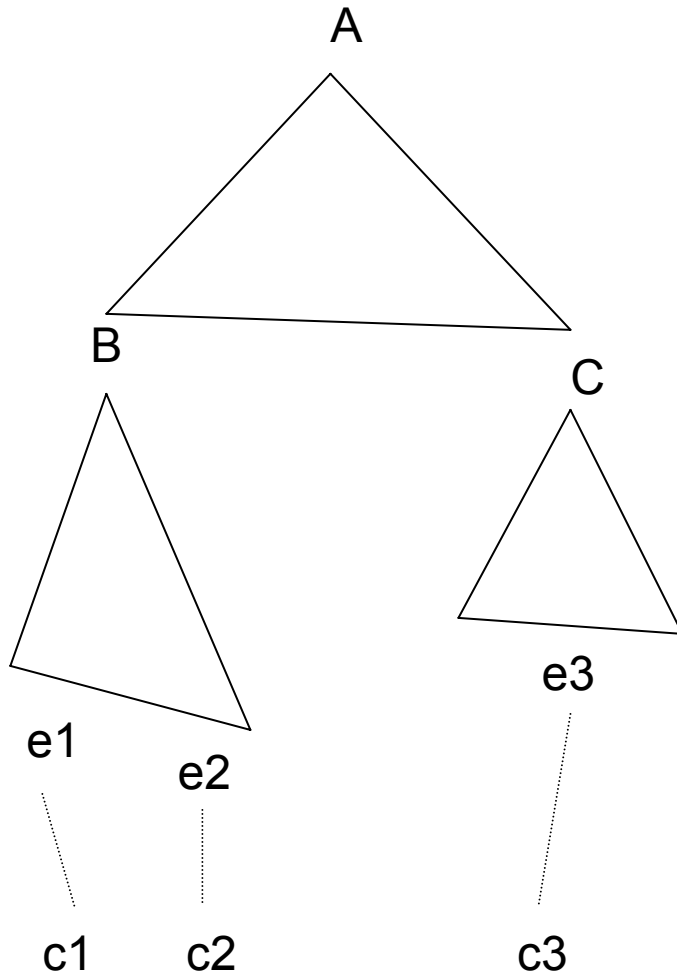
GHKM forced
to incorporate
unaligned English
words into phrases.

GHKM forced
to incorporate some
unaligned foreign
words into phrases.

Some Methods for Improving Syntax-Based Rule Extraction

- Acquire larger rules
 - Composed rules (Galley et al, 06)
 - Phrasal rules (Marcu et al, 06)
- Acquire more general rules
 - Re-structure English trees (Wang et al, 07)
 - Re-align tree/string pairs (May & Knight, 07)
- Expand syntactic category set
 - Slash categories (Zollmann & Venugopal 06)

Larger, Composed Rules



Minimal GHKM Rules:

$$B(e1\ e2) \rightarrow c1\ c2$$

$$C(e3) \rightarrow c3$$

$$A(x0:B\ x1:C) \rightarrow x0\ x1$$

Additional Composed Rules:

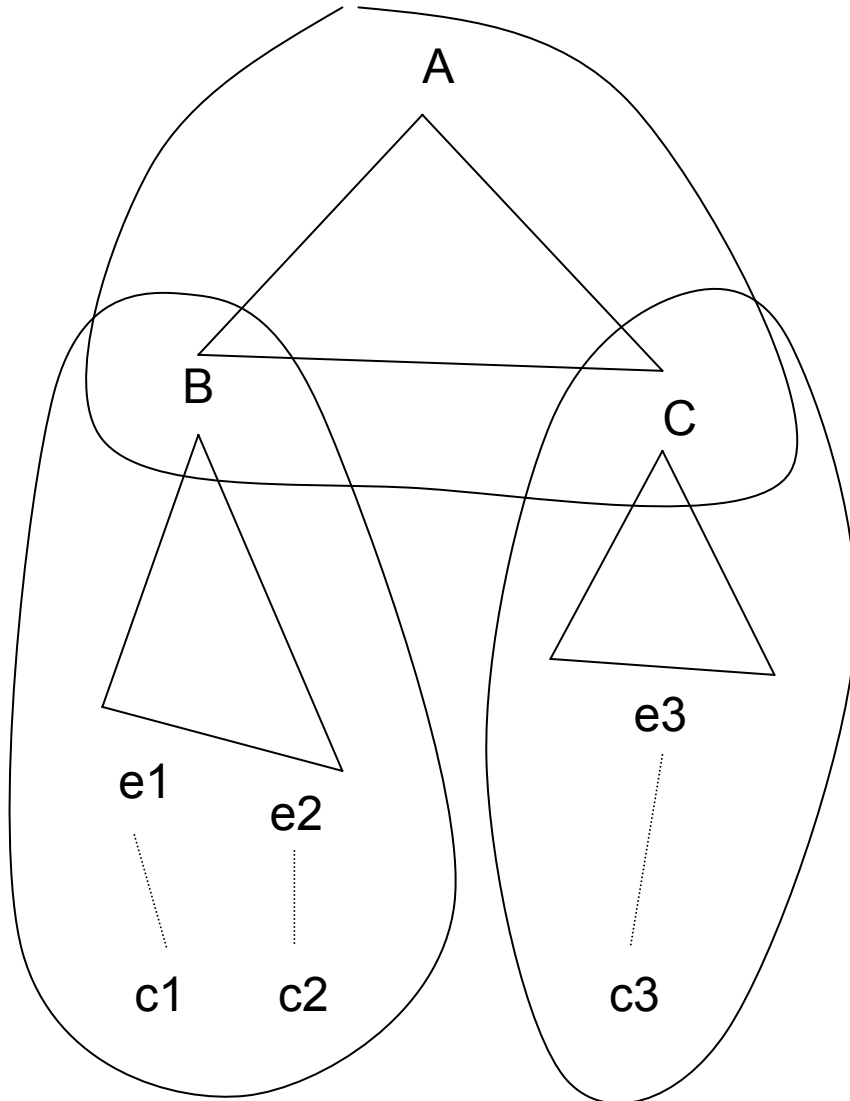
$$A(B(e1\ e2)\ x0:C) \rightarrow c1\ c2\ x0$$

$$A(x0:B\ C(e3)) \rightarrow x0\ c3$$

$$\mathbf{A(B(e1\ e2)\ C(e3)) \rightarrow c1\ c2\ c3}$$

“big phrasal rule”

Larger, Composed Rules



Minimal GHKM Rules:

$$B(e1\ e2) \rightarrow c1\ c2$$

$$C(e3) \rightarrow c3$$

$$A(x0:B\ x1:C) \rightarrow x0\ x1$$

Additional Composed Rules:

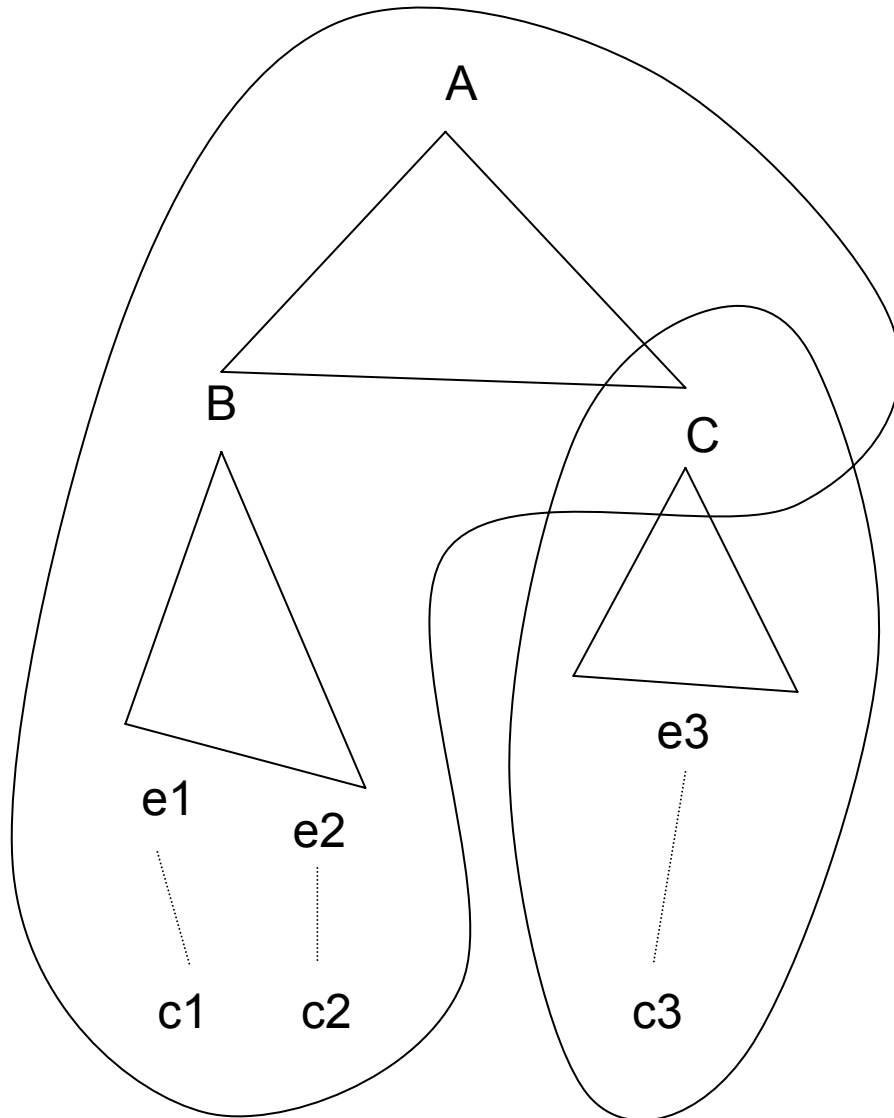
$$A(B(e1\ e2)\ x0:C) \rightarrow c1\ c2\ x0$$

$$A(x0:B\ C(e3)) \rightarrow x0\ c3$$

$$\mathbf{A(B(e1\ e2)\ C(e3)) \rightarrow c1\ c2\ c3}$$

↑
“big phrasal rule”

Larger, Composed Rules



Minimal GHKM Rules:

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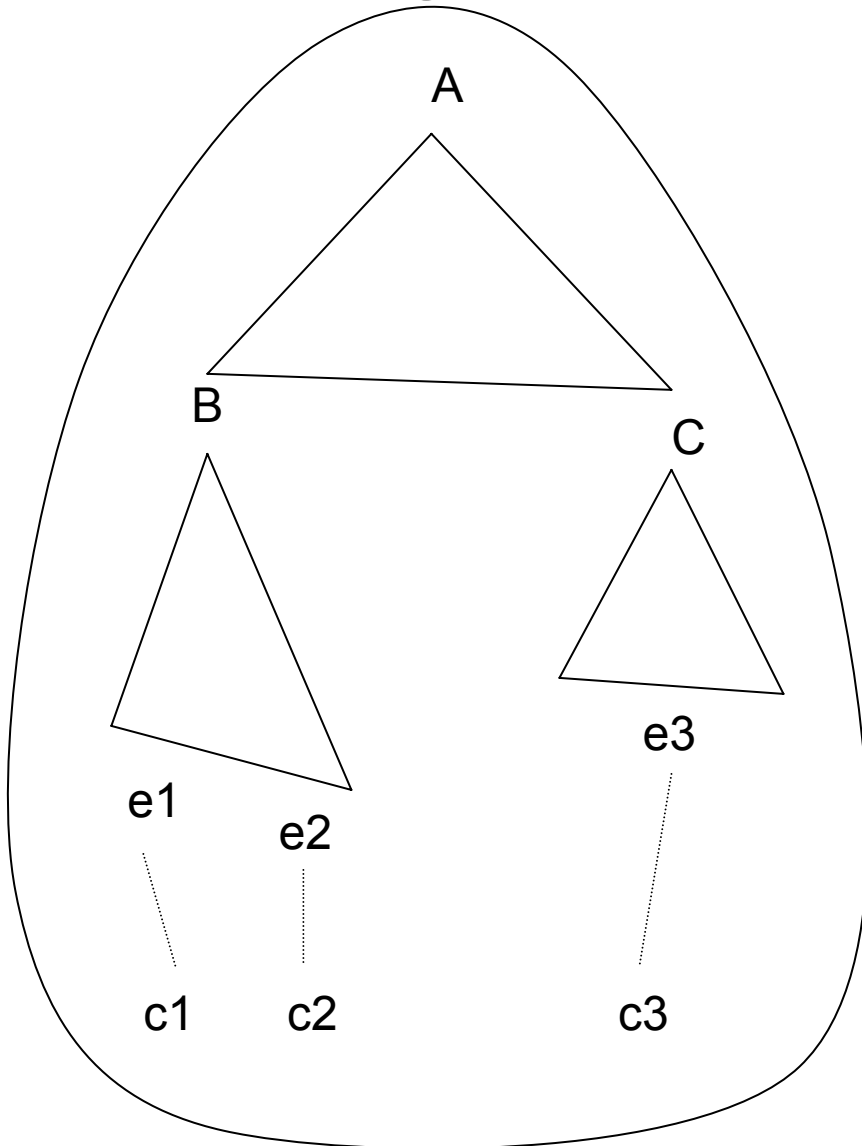
$$A(B(e1\ e2)\ x0:C) \rightarrow c1\ c2\ x0$$

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Larger, Composed Rules



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Additional Composed Rules:

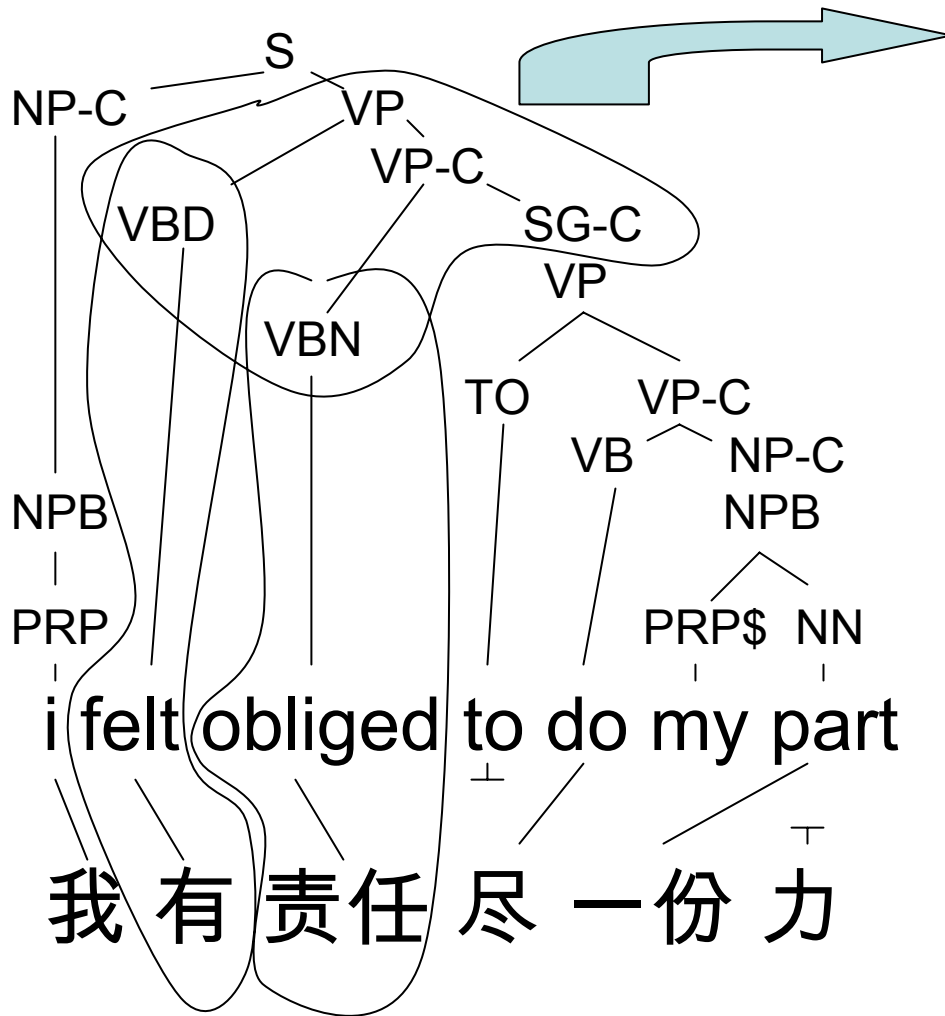
$$A(B(e1\ e2)\ x0:C) \rightarrow c1\ c2\ x0$$

$$A(x0:B\ C(e3)) \rightarrow x0\ c3$$

$$\mathbf{A(B(e1\ e2)\ C(e3)) \rightarrow c1\ c2\ c3}$$

↑
“big phrasal rule”

GHKM (Galley et al, 2006)



RULES ACQUIRED:

VBD(felt) → 有

VBN(obliged) → 责任

VP(x0:VBD
VP-C(x1:VBN
x2:SG-C) → x0 x1 x2

VP(VBD(felt)
VP-C(VBN(obliged))
x0:SG-C) → 有 责任 x0

S(x0:NP-C x1:VP) → x0 x1

GHKM (Galley et al, 2006)



RULES ACQUIRED:

VBD(felt) → 有

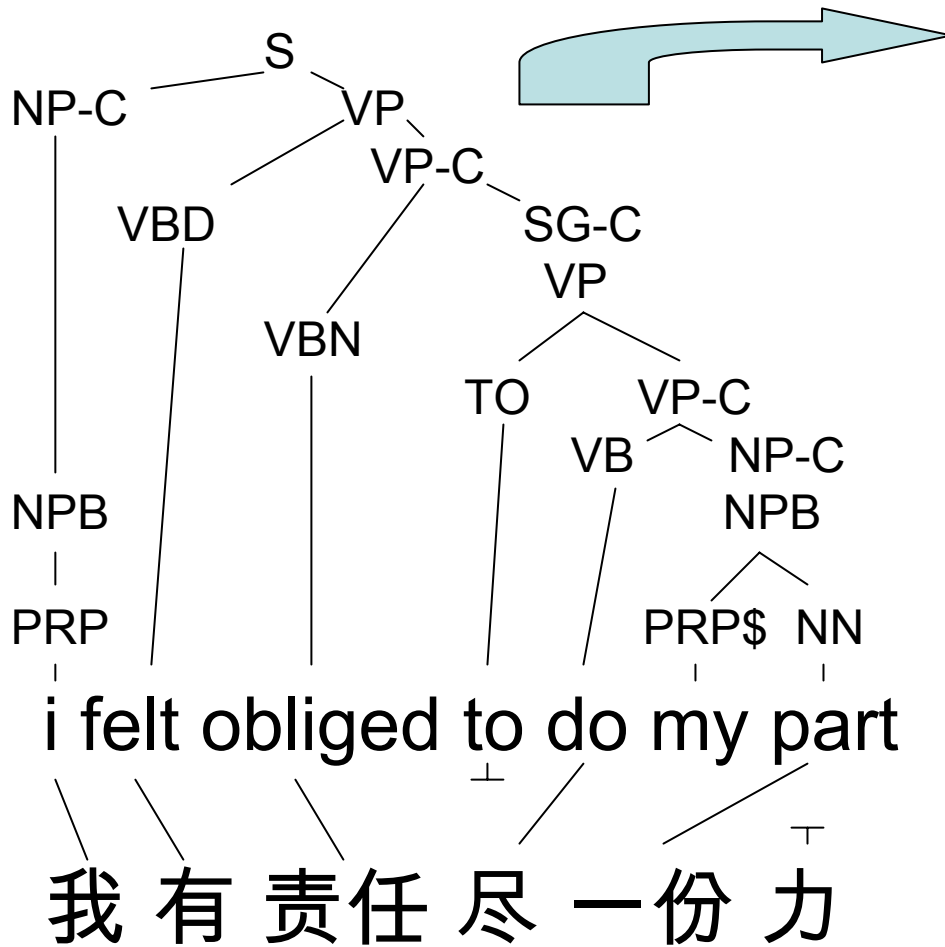
VBN(obliged) → 责任

VP(x0:VBD
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VP(VBD(felt)
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GHKM (Galley et al, 2006)



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**VP(VBD(felt)
VP-C(VBN(obliged))
x0:SG-C) → 有责任 x0**

S(x0:NP-C x1:VP) → x0 x1

minimal rules tile the tree/string/alignment triple.
composed rules are made by combining those tiles.

Larger, Composed Rules

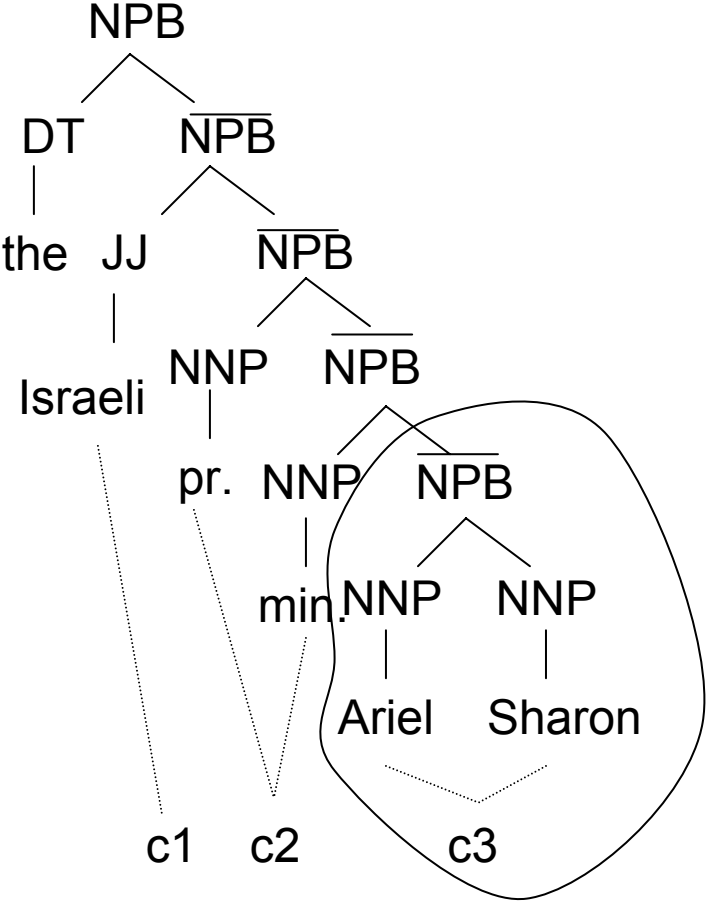
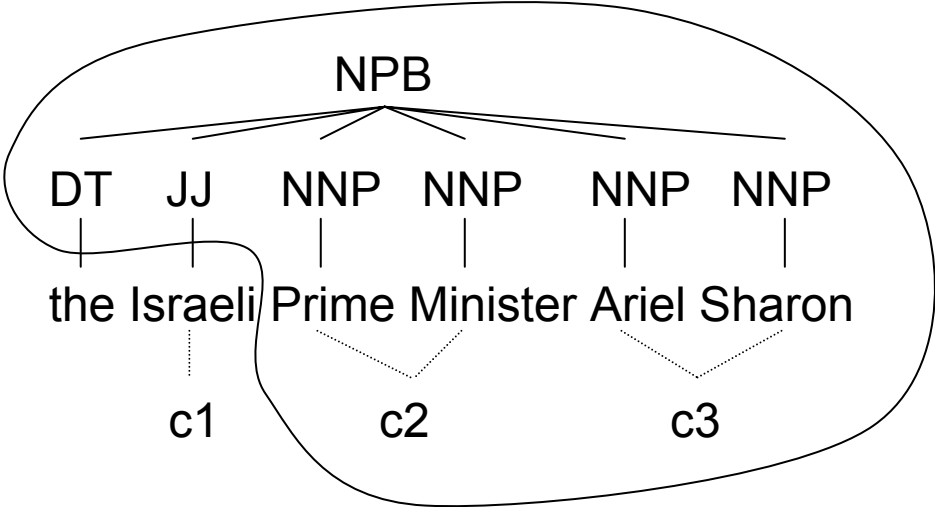
Composed limit (internal nodes in composed rule)	# of rules acquired	Unacquired phrase pairs used in ATS 1- best decodings
0 = minimal	2.5m	1994
2	12.4m	1478
3	26.9m	1096
4	55.8m	900

“Phrasal” Syntax Rules

- SPMT Model 1 (Marcu et al 2006)
 - consider each foreign phrase up to length L
 - extract smallest possible syntax rule that does not violate alignments

Method	Unacquired ATS Phrase Pairs
Minimal	1994
Composed 4	900
SPMT M1	676
Both	663

Restructuring English Training Trees



Restructuring English Training Trees

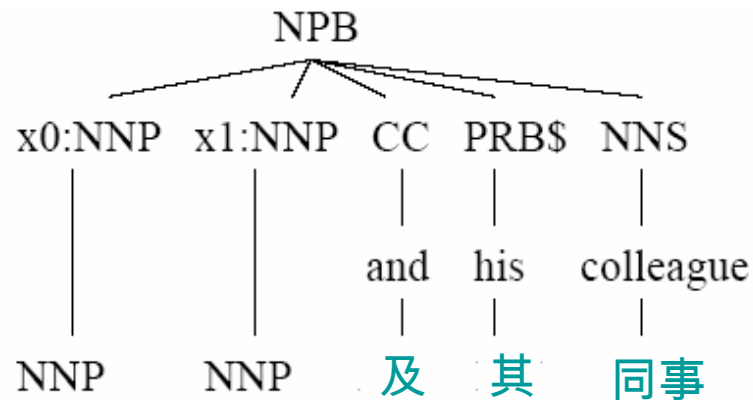
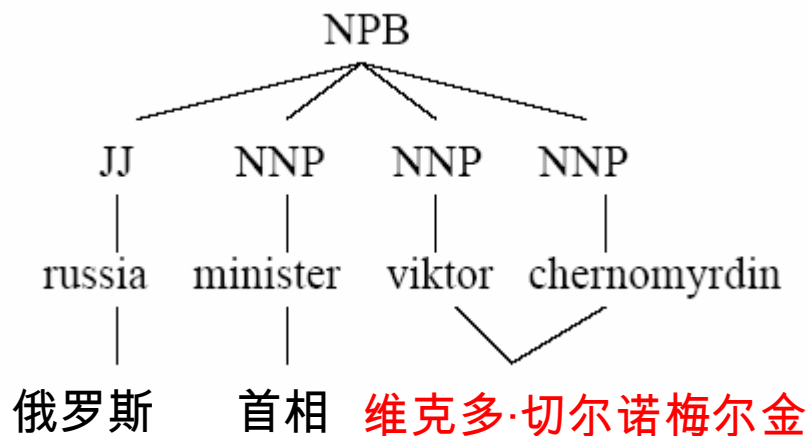
Method	Unacquired ATS Phrase Pairs
Minimal	1994
+ Composed 4	900
+ SPMT M1	663
+ Restructuring	458

Effects of Coverage Improvements on Syntax-Based MT Accuracy

	Chinese/English Trained on 9.8m words		Arabic/English Trained on 4.1m words	
	Dev-02	Test-03	Dev-02	Test-03
ATS	36.00	34.31	50.88	51.04
GHKM minimal	39.11	38.85	49.81	50.46
GHKM composed 2	41.59	40.90	51.18	51.52
GHKM composed 3	42.28	41.62	51.96	52.04
GHKM composed 4	42.63	41.82	52.05	52.26
GHKM minimal + SPMT	41.01	40.34	50.74	51.81
GHKM composed 4 + SPMT	43.30	42.17	52.15	52.12
+ Left binarization of etrees	43.45	42.41	52.86	52.42

Improved English Binarization

Why are Penn Treebank Trees Problematic for Translation?



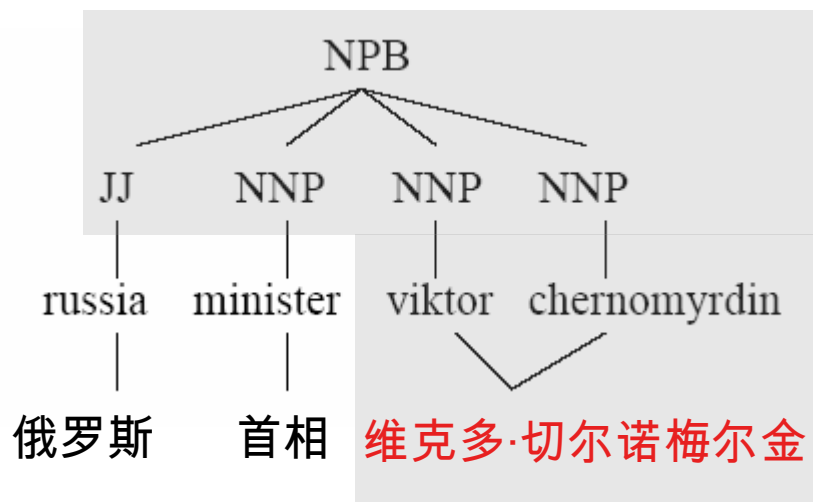
?

维克多·切尔诺梅尔金 及 其 同事

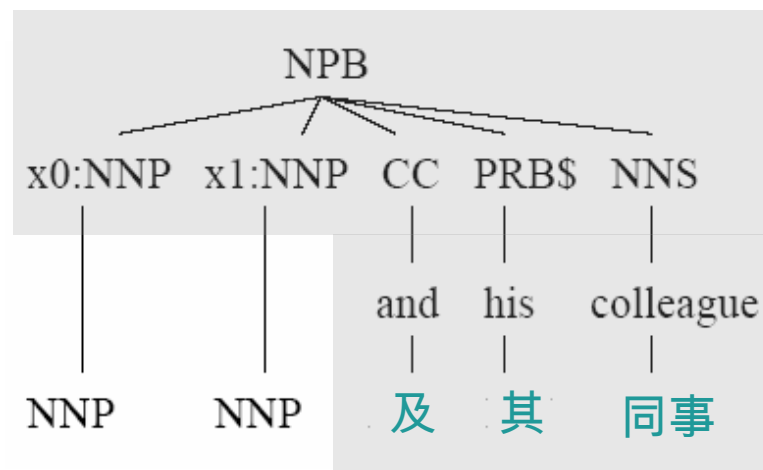
Improved English Binarization

Why are Penn Treebank Trees Problematic for Translation?

R1



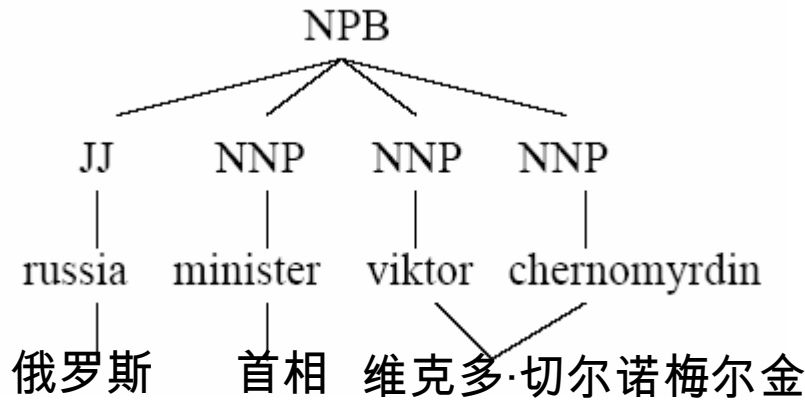
R2



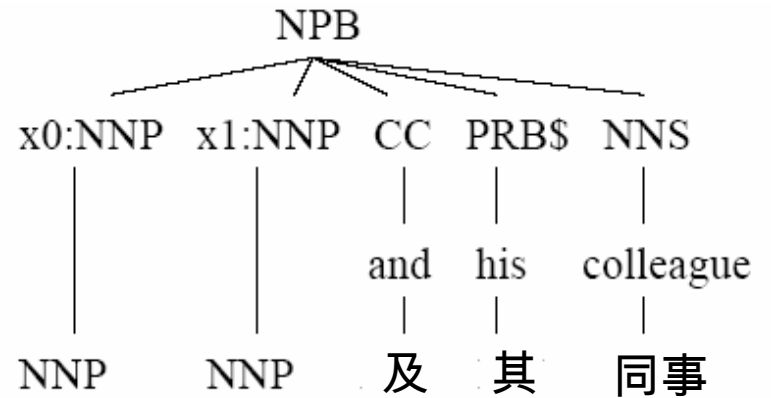
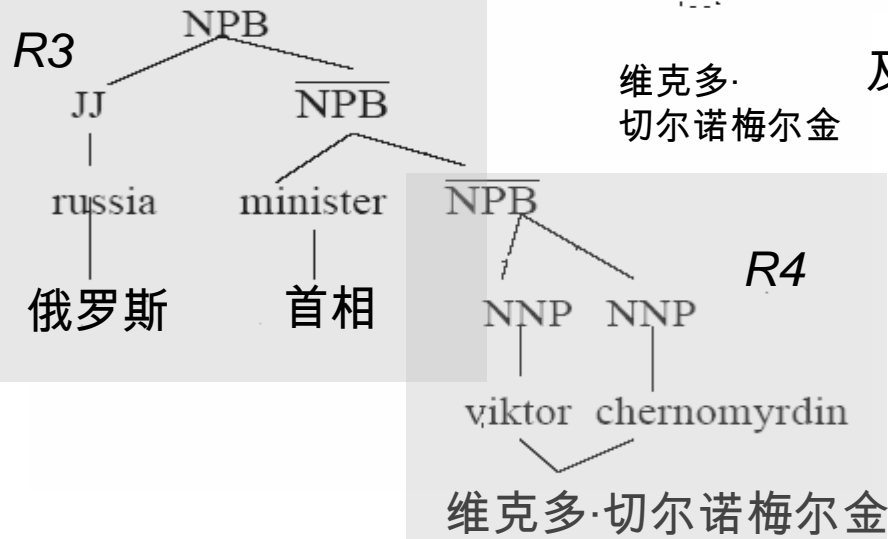
?

维克多·切尔诺梅尔金 及 其 同事

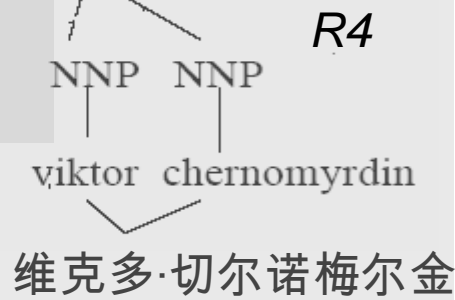
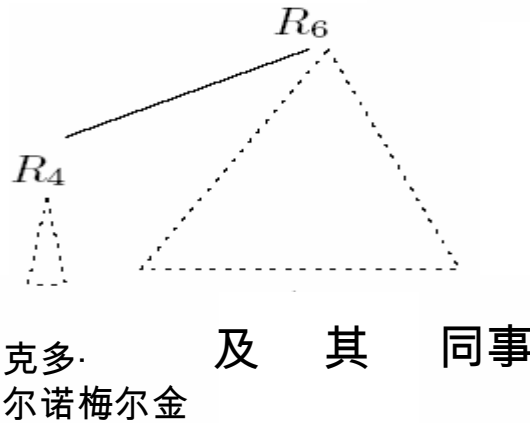
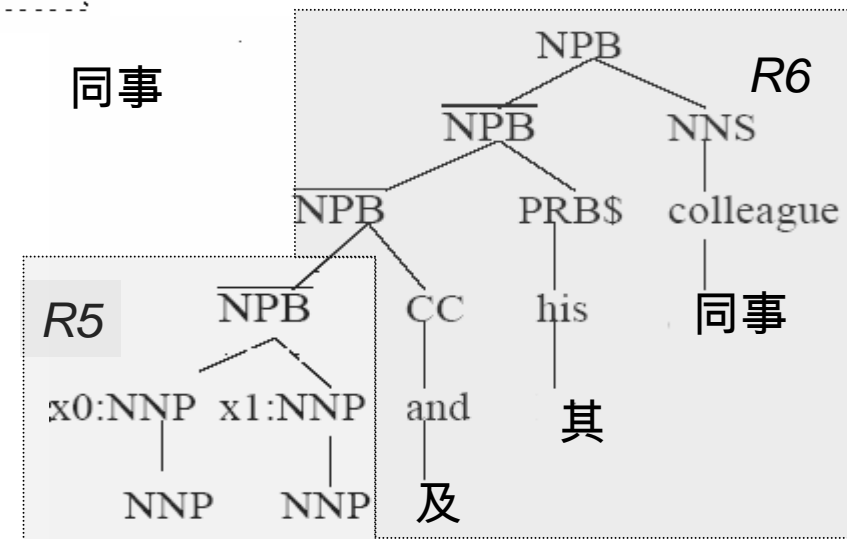
Binarizing English Trees



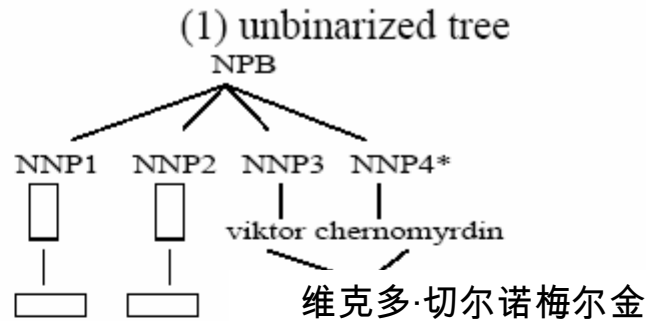
Right binarize



Left binarize

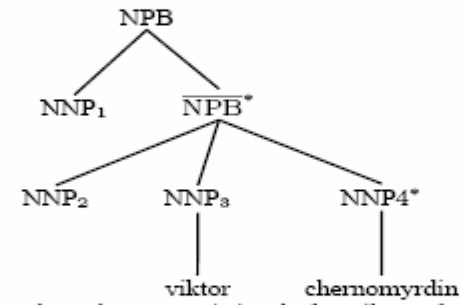
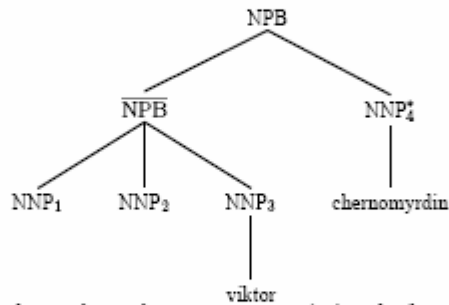


Simple Binarizations



(2) left-binarization

(3) right-/head-binarization

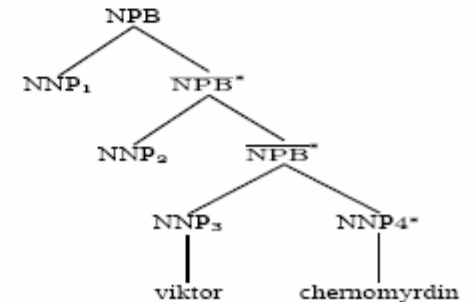
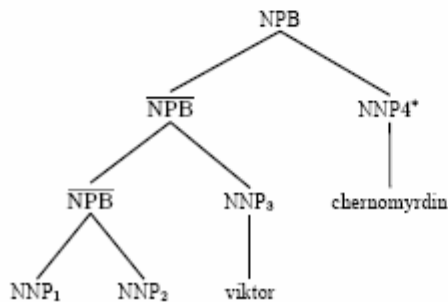


(4) left-binarization

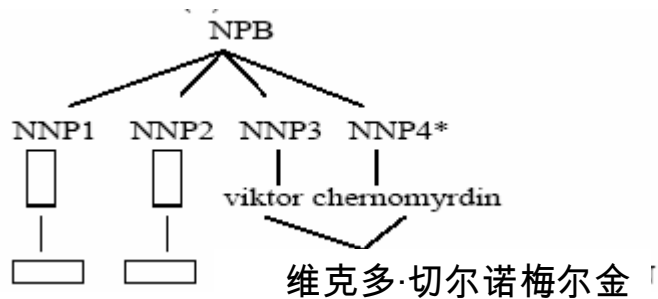
(5) right-binarization

(6) left-binarization

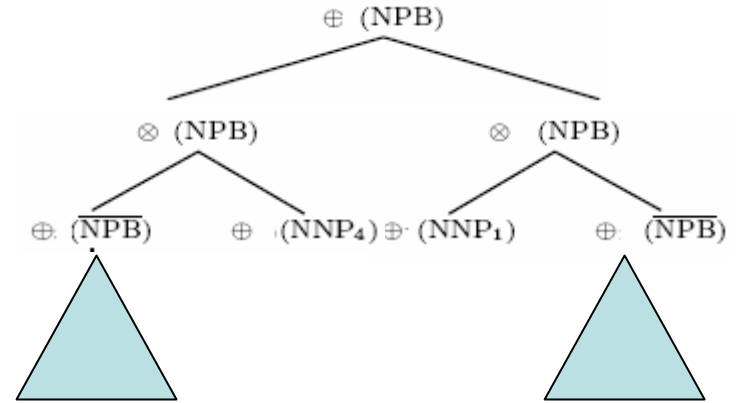
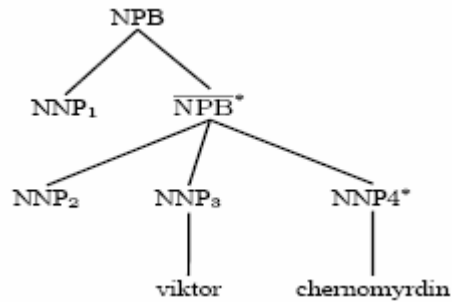
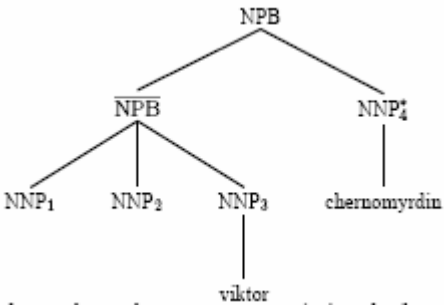
(7) right-/head-binarization



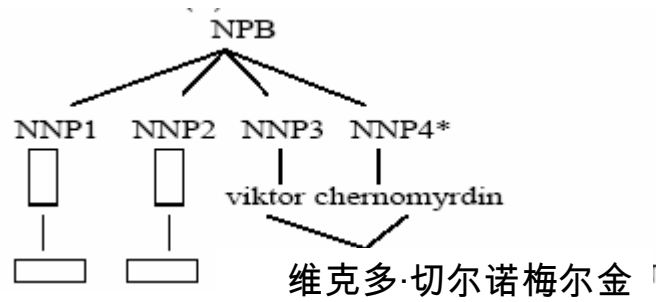
Parallel Binarization



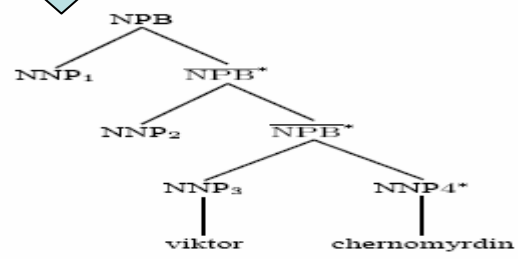
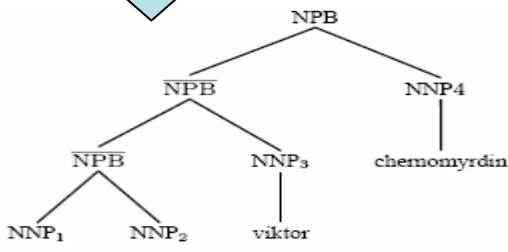
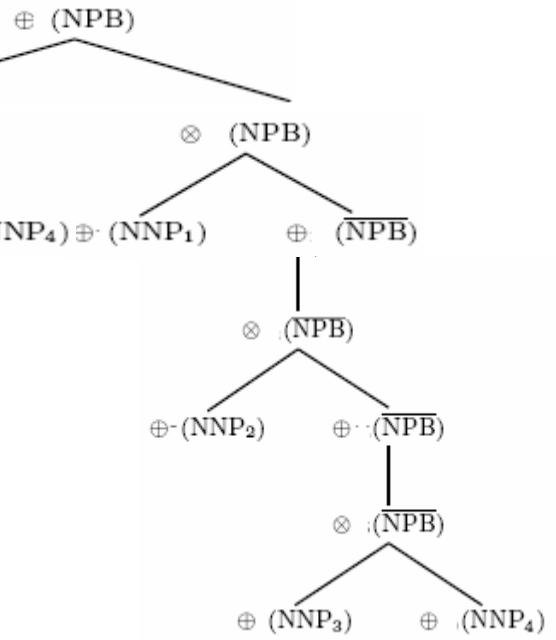
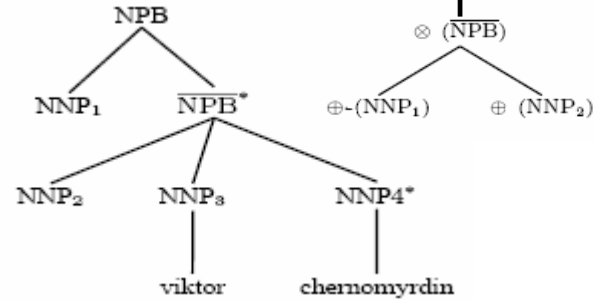
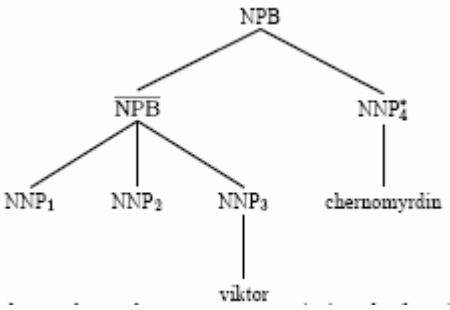
维克多·切尔诺梅尔金



Parallel Binarization



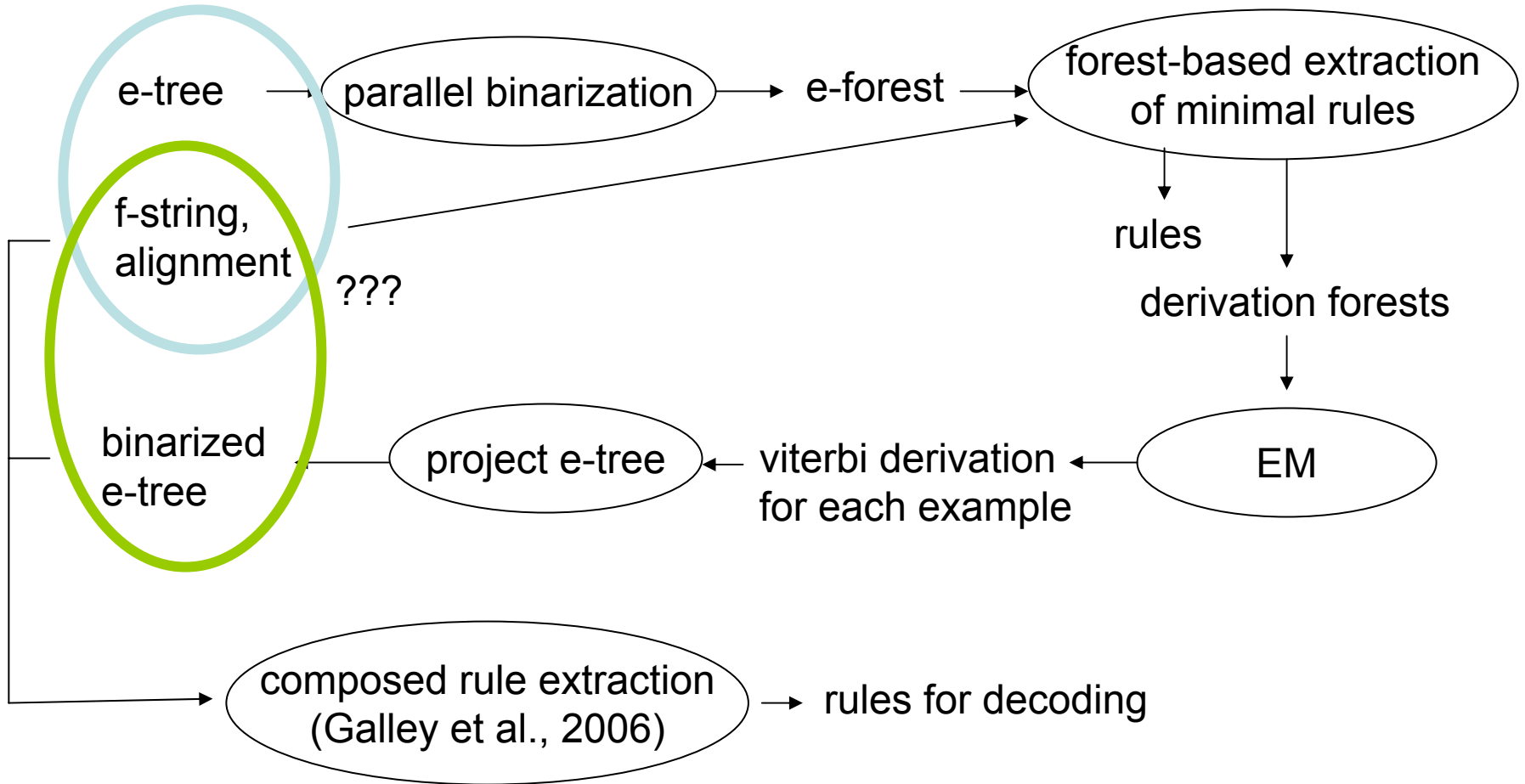
维克多·切尔诺梅尔金



Forest-Based Rule Extraction

- Gets **all** minimal rules consistent with word alignment and **some** binarization
- Run EM algorithm to determine best binarization of each node in each tree

Binarization Using EM

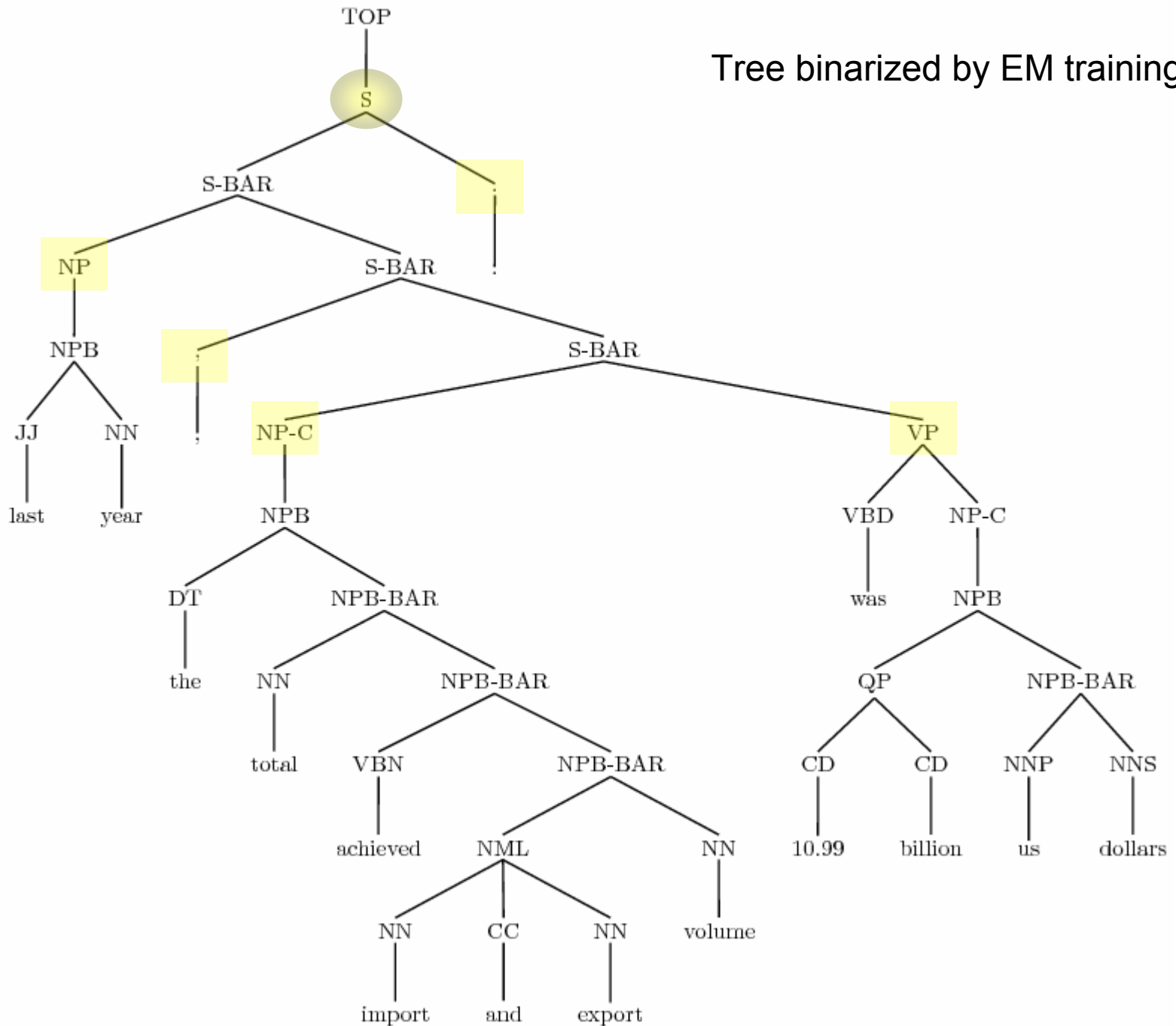


Experimental Results

(Wang, Knight, Marcu 2007)

Type of Binarization	# of Rules Learned	Test Bleu (NIST-03)
None	63.4m	36.94
Left	114.0m	37.47 (p=0.047)
Right	113.0m	37.49 (p=0.044)
Head	113.8m	37.54 (p=0.086)
EM	115.6m	37.94 (p=0.0047)

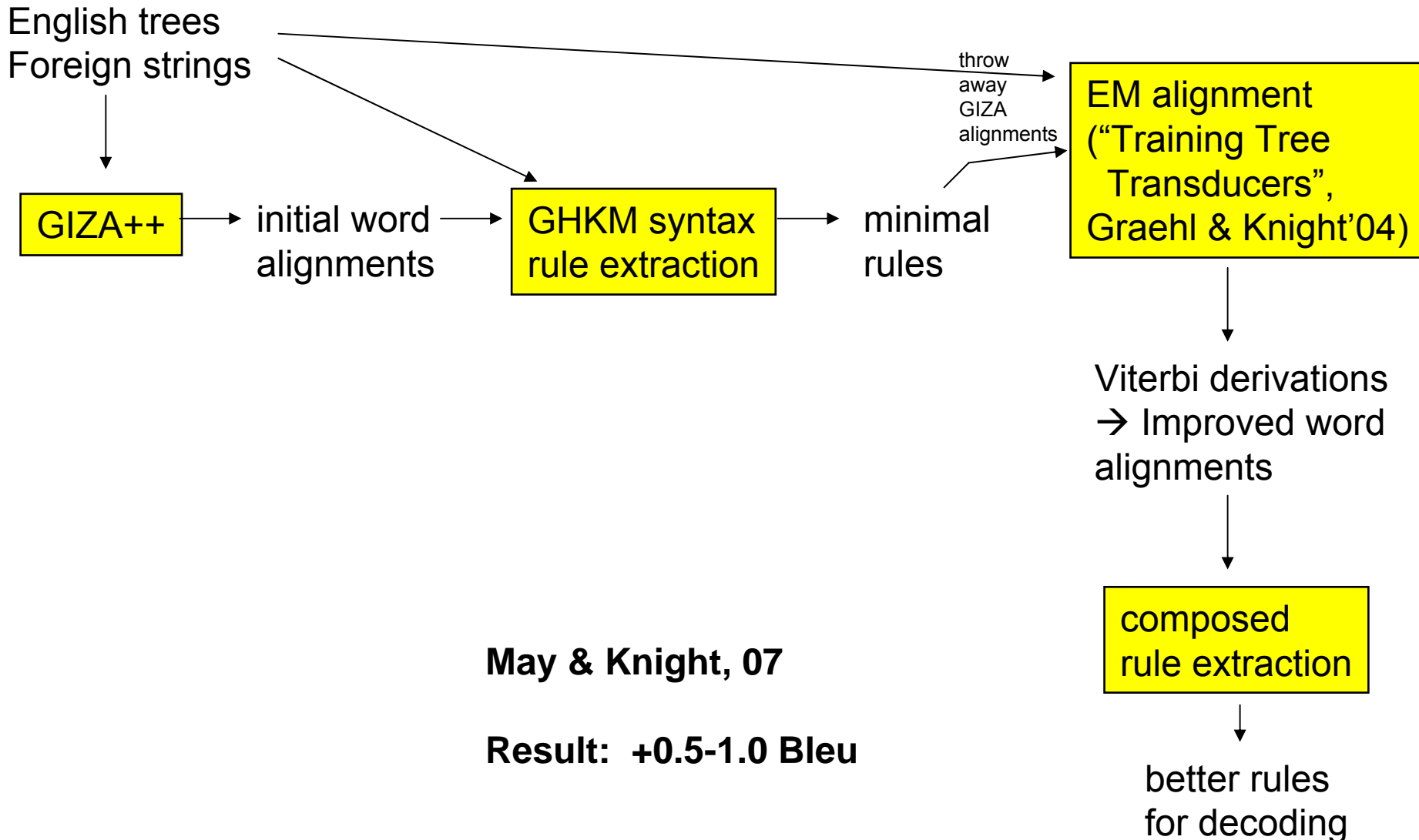
Tree binarized by EM training



Syntax-Based Word Alignment

- GIZA++ string-based alignments
 - are errorful
 - don't match our syntax-based MT system
- We would like to use our tree-based translation model to align data

Syntax-Based Word Alignment



Remarks

- Phrase-based and syntax-based extraction algorithms have different coverage.
- Syntax-based coverage can be improved:
 - composed rules
 - phrasal rules
 - binarizing English trees with EM
 - re-aligning tree/string pairs with EM
- Improvements lead to better translation accuracy.

Some Sample Outputs

dev-little (line 47) - dev-little

Input: 中资已成为澳门最大的外来投资者。

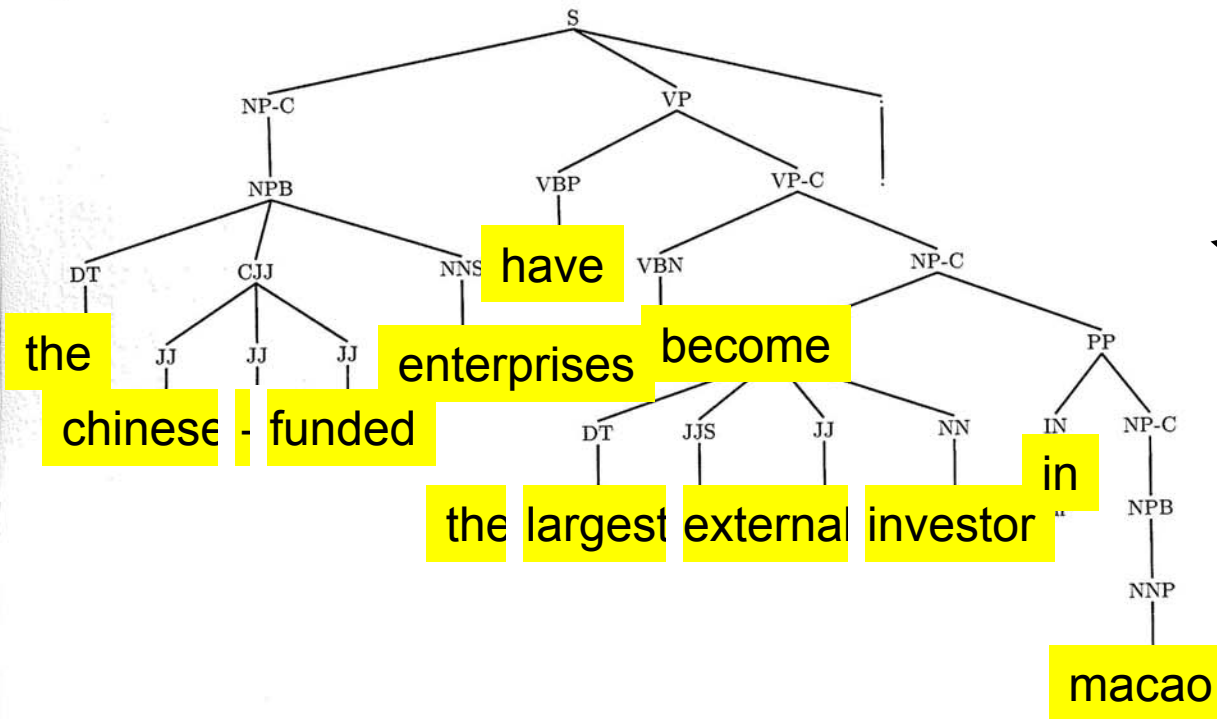
Reference: the chinese enterprises have become the biggest outside investors in macao .

AlTemp-e: investment₀ | in₁ | macao₂ | has₃ | become₄ | the largest₅ | foreign₆ | investors₇ | .₈

AlTemp-f: 中₁ | 资₀ | 已₃ | 成为₄ | 澳门₂ | 最大的₅ | 外来₆ | 投资者₇ | 。₈

[dev-little] 1-Best: the chinese - funded enterprises have become the largest external investor in macao .

[dev-little] 1-Best Tree



input

phrase-based
system output

syntax-based
system output

dev-little (line 59) - dev-little

input

Input: 基纳纳对中国过去向坦桑提供的大量援助表示感谢。

Reference: keenana expressed gratitude to china for its great assistance to tanzania in the past .

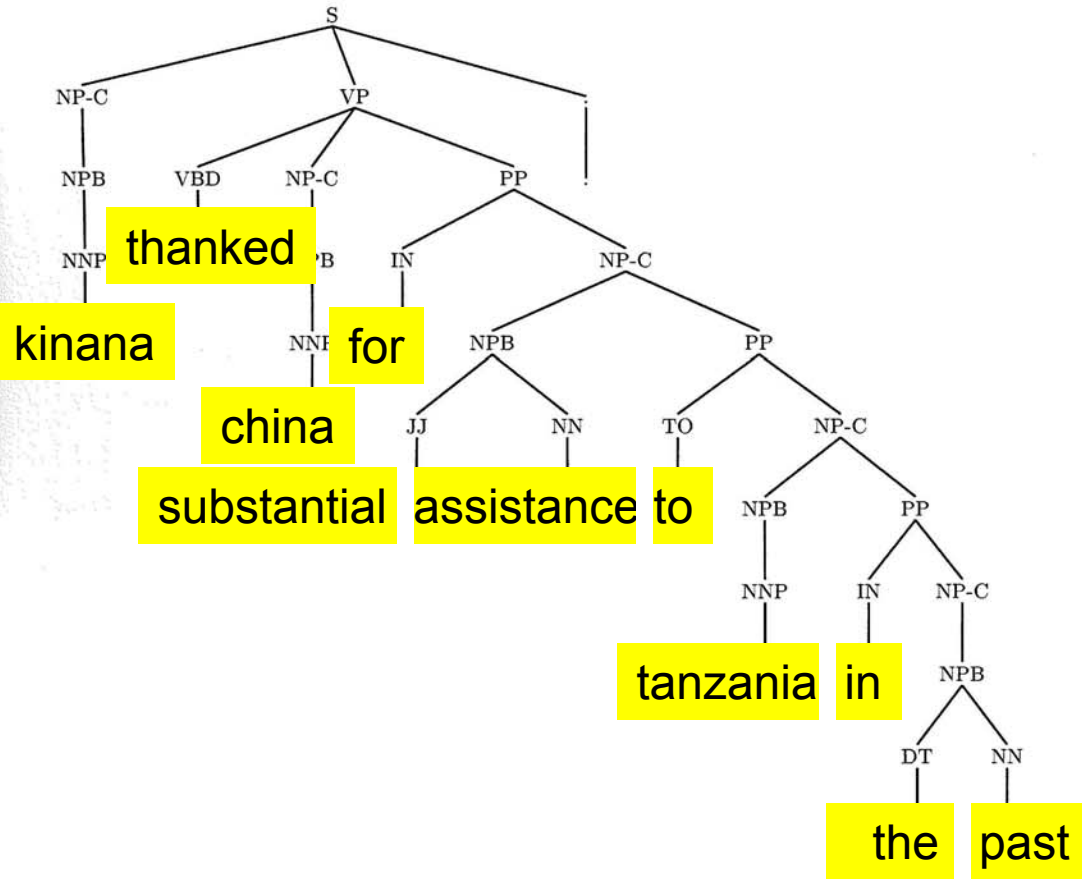
AlTemp-e: kinana₀ | to₁ | china₂ | in the past₃ | tanzania₄ | expressed appreciation₅ | for the substantial₆ | assistance₇ | .₈

AlTemp-f: 基纳纳₀ | 对₁ | 中国₂ | 过去向₃ | 坦桑₄ | 提供的大量₆ | 援助₇ | 表示感谢₅ | 。₈

[dev-little] 1-Best: kinana thanked china for substantial assistance to tanzania in the past .

phrase-based
system output

[dev-little] 1-Best Tree



syntax-based
system output

dev-little (line 38) - dev-little

Input: 此次为期两天的研讨会，由世界贸易组织上海研究中心与上海市对外服务有限公司联合举办。

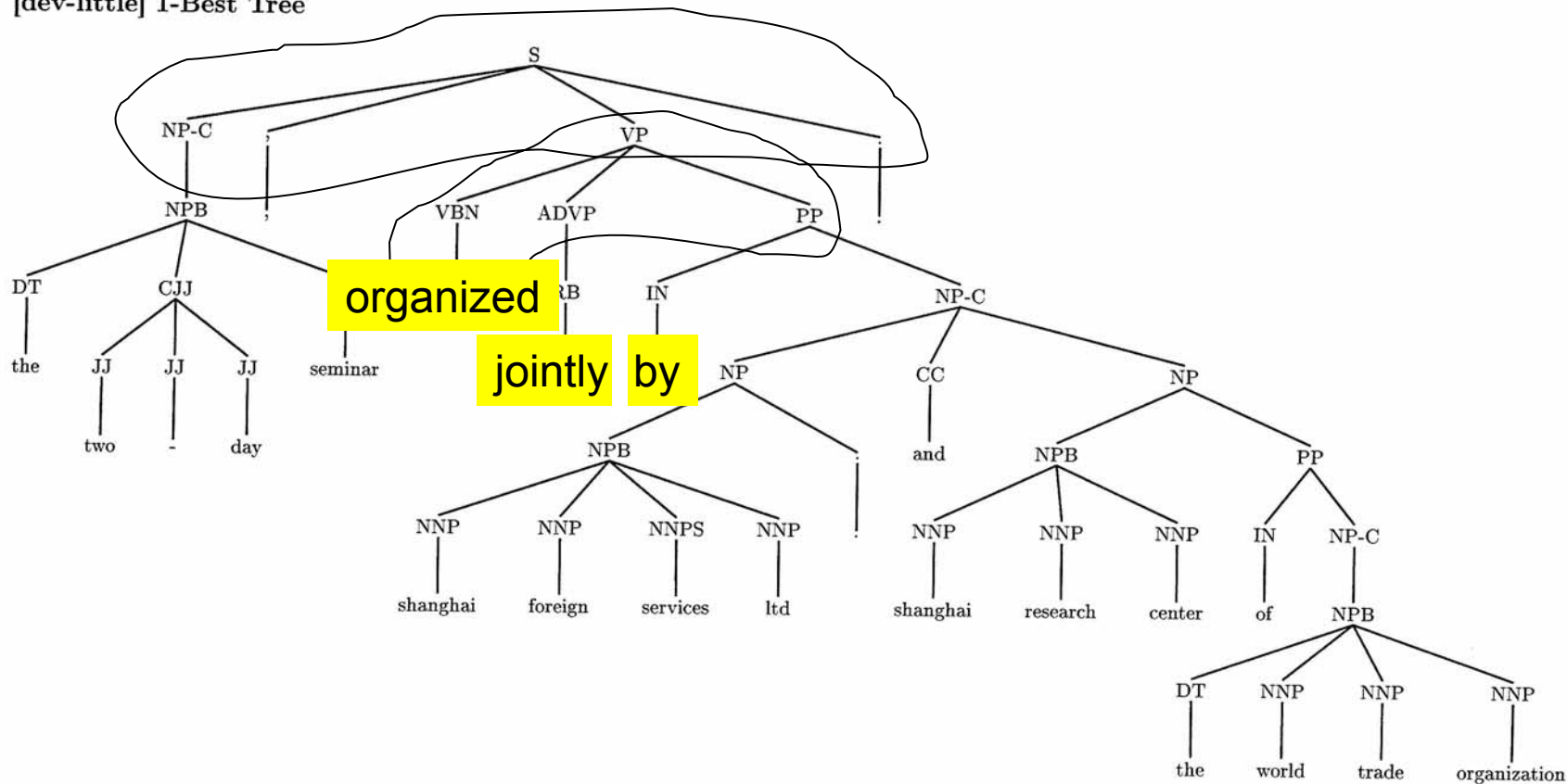
Reference: the two - day seminar is jointly sponsored by the wto shanghai research center and shanghai foreign service company limited .

AITemp-e: the ₀ | two - day ₁ | seminar ₂ | by the world trade organization ₃ | , ₄ | shanghai research center ₅ | and ₆ | shanghai foreign service ₇ | co . , ltd . ₈ | jointly ₉ | . ₁₀

AITemp-f: 此次 ₀ | 为期两天的 ₁ | 研讨会 ₂ | , ₄ | 由世界贸易组织 ₃ | 上海研究中心 ₅ | 与 ₆ | 上海市对外服务 ₇ | 有限公司 ₈ | 联合举办 ₉ | 。 ₁₀

[dev-little] 1-Best: the two - day seminar , organized jointly by shanghai foreign services ltd . and shanghai research center of the world trade organization .

[dev-little] 1-Best Tree



dev-little (line 64) - dev-little

can become very good partners

Input: 他确信，加、中两国可以成为很好的合作伙伴。

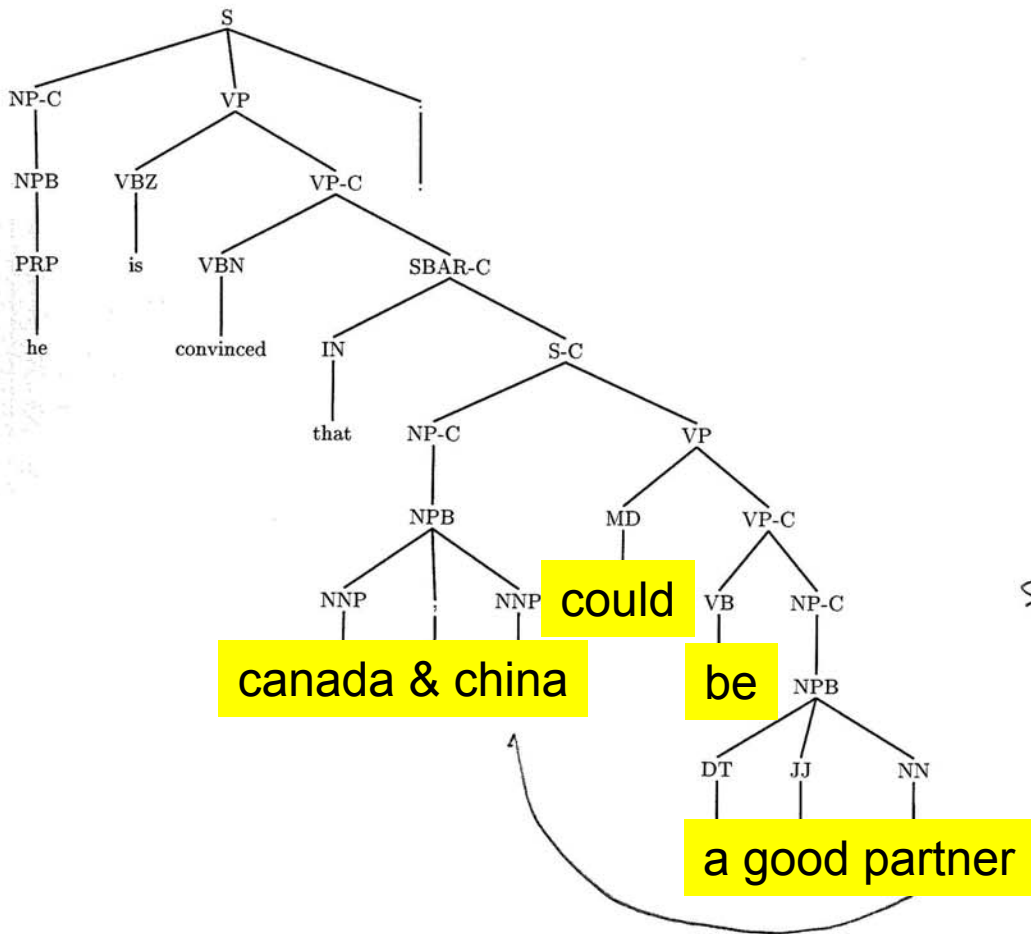
Reference: he assured that canada and china can become very good partners .

AlTemp-e: he was convinced that 0 | the 1 | two countries 2 |, 3 | can 4 | become good 5 | partners 6 | . 7

AlTemp-f: 他确信， 0 |加 1 |、中 3 |两国 2 |可以 4 |成为 很好的 5 |合作 伙伴 6 |。 7

[dev-little] 1-Best: he is convinced that canada , china could be a good partner .

[dev-little] 1-Best Tree



*Subj - obj
number agreement.*

dev-little (line 51) - dev-little

Input: 法国 外长 昨天 是 在 法国 国民议会 外事 委员会 会议 上 发表 上述 声明 的 。

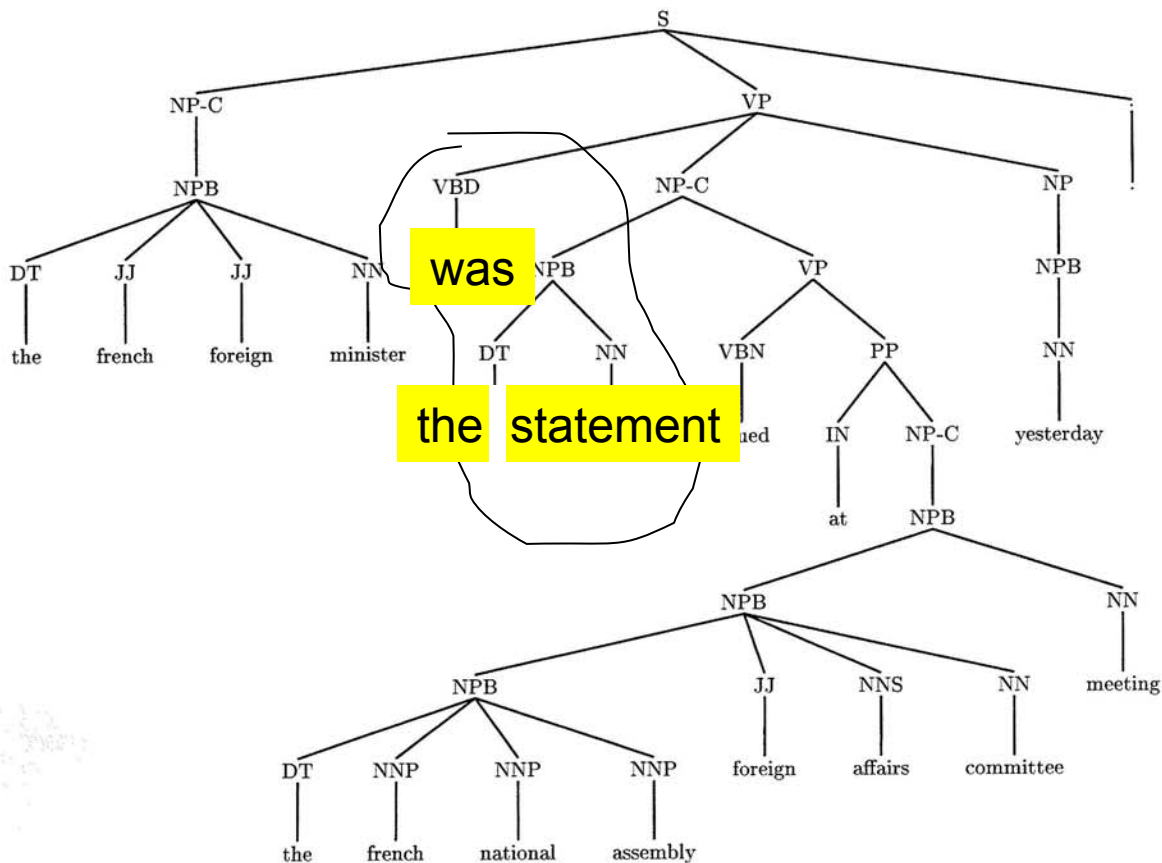
Reference: the french foreign minister made the above statement in a meeting of the foreign affairs commission of the french national congress .

AlTemp-e: french₀ | foreign minister₁ | in the french national assembly₂ | yesterday₃ | the statement delivered by₄ | foreign affairs₅ | committee meeting₆ | .₇

AlTemp-f: 法国₀ | 外长₁ | 昨天 是₃ | 在 法国 国民议会₂ | 外事₅ | 委员会 会议 上₆ | 发表 上述 声明₄ | 的 。₇

[dev-little] 1-Best: the french foreign minister was the statement issued at the french national assembly foreign affairs committee meeting yesterday .

[dev-little] 1-Best Tree



dev-little (line 125) - dev-little

Input: 今年在加利福尼亚州和南部地区^{rain}的豪雨都归咎于厄尔尼诺作宠。

Reference: the torrential rain this year in california and its southern part is attributed to the el nino .

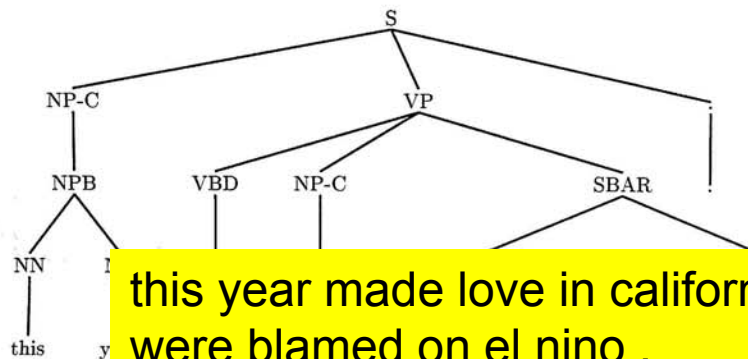
AlTemp-e: this year₀ | in california₁ | and southern₂ | areas₃ | of heavy rains₄ | attributed to₅ | a₆ | favorite₇ | el nio₈ | .₉

AlTemp-f: 今年₀ | 在加利福尼亚州₁ | 和南部₂ | 地区₃ | 的豪雨₄ | 都归咎于₅ | 厄尔尼诺₈ | 作₆ | 宠₇ | 。₉

[dev-little] 1-Best: this year made love in california and southern areas of torrential rains were blamed on el nino .

[dev-little] 1-Best Tree

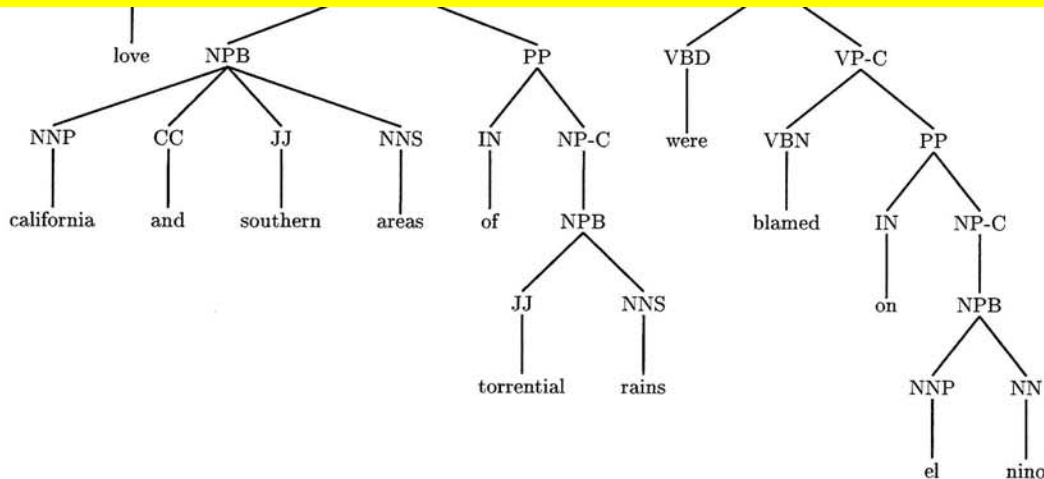
Scope.



funny.

this year really NP-C

this year made love in california and southern areas of torrential rains were blamed on el nino .



Lots of Open Problems

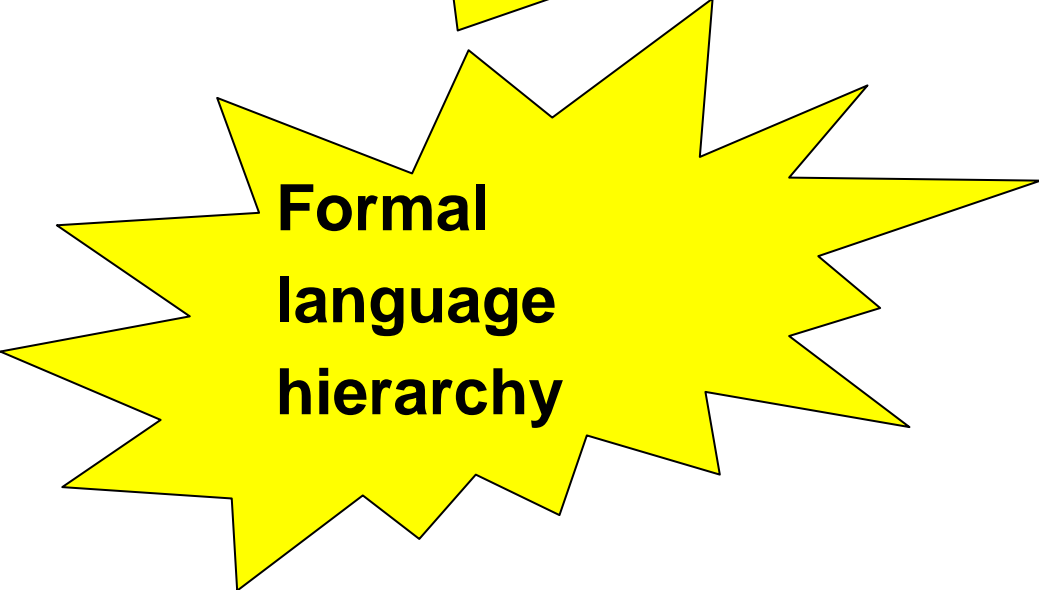
Chomsky's Program [1957]

- **Algorithmically distinguish between grammatical and ungrammatical sentences:**
 - John thinks Sara hit the boy
 - * The hit thinks Sara John boy
 - John thinks the boy was hit by Sara
 - Who does John think Sara hit?
 - John thinks Sara hit the boy and the girl
 - * Who does John think Sara hit the boy and?
 - John thinks Sara hit the boy with the bat
 - What does John think Sara hit the boy with?
 - Colorless green ideas sleep furiously.
 - * Green sleep furiously ideas colorless.

This Research Program has Contributed Powerful Ideas



Context-free grammar



**Formal
language
hierarchy**



**Syntax,
Phonology...**

This Research Program is Really Unfinished

Type in your English sentence here:

Is this grammatical?

Is this sensible?

Lots of Open Problems

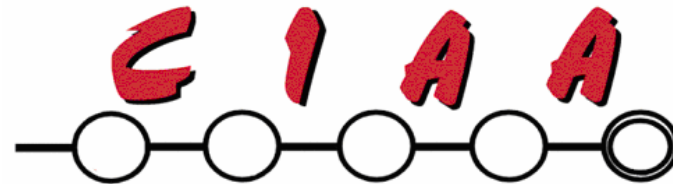
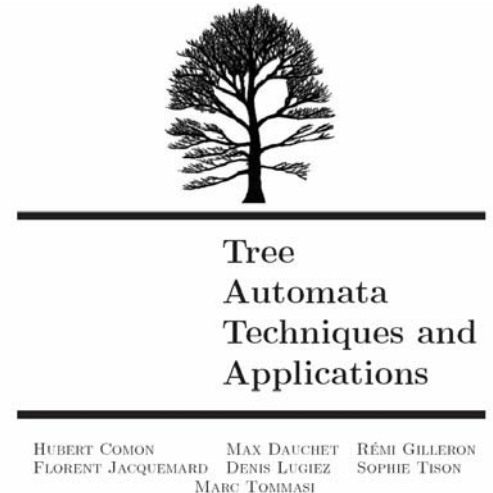
- Modeling English fluency, using trees
 - phrase-based output – need to parse it to score it
 - syntax-based output – already in scorable tree form
 - initial work: [Charniak, Knight, and Yamada, 2003]
- Choosing syntactic categories that are appropriate for translation
 - initial work: [B. Huang and K. Knight, 2006]
- Decoder search in runtime translation
 - Search errors hurt MT accuracy
 - Faster speed is needed to support experimentation
 - Some key ideas to date:
 - cube pruning [Chiang, 2007]
 - rule binarization [Zhang, Huang, Knight, Gildea, 2006]

Lots of Open Problems

- More context for rule choice
 - compare word-based SMT
 - context-sensitive word translation probabilities [Berger et al 96]
 - compare phrase-based SMT
 - bilingual n-gram translation models [de Gispert & Mariño 02]
 - context-based phrasal TM “WSD” [Chan, Ng, Chiang 07; Carpuat & Wu 07]
- Morphology in translation rules
- More generally applicable rules
 - Adjoining transducers (tree-adjoining grammar)
- Open theory problems in the underlying automata models...

Tree Automata

Doner (1968), Rounds (1970), Thatcher (1970), Engelfriet PhD thesis (1975), Gecseg & Steinby textbook (1984), ...



Conference on Implementation
and Application of Automata

Tiburon: A Tree Automata Toolkit

- Developed by Jonathan May, ISI
- First version distributed in April 2006, includes tutorial
- Inspired by string automata toolkits
- Prototype ideas, teach tree automata to yourself or others

- You cast your problem in terms of tree acceptors and transducers
 - doesn't have to be MT
- You get implemented algorithms for free
 - e.g., Kumar/Byrne'03 (use AT&T FSM for MT)
 - e.g., Pereira/Riley'96 (use AT&T FSM for ASR)

Tiburon: A Tree Automata Toolkit

Towards simplifying system ideas:

```
e = yield(best-tree(intersect(lm.rtg,  
                                b-apply(cstring, tm.tt)))
```

What tree automata operations are
needed/supported?

String World & Tree World

	String World	Tree World
N-best paths through a lattice (Viterbi, 1967; Eppstein, 1998)	... trees in a forest (Huang & Chiang, 2005)
EM training	Forward-backward EM (Baum & Welch, 1971)	Tree transducer EM training (Graehl & Knight, 2004)
Determinization of weighted string acceptors (Mohri, 1997)	... of weighted tree acceptors (May & Knight, 2005)
Intersection	WFSA intersection	Tree acceptor intersection (despite CFG not closed)
Applying transducers	string \rightarrow WFST \rightarrow WFSA	tree \rightarrow TT \rightarrow weighted tree acceptor
Transducer composition	WFST composition (Pereira & Riley, 1996)	Many tree transducers are not closed under composition! (Rounds 70; Engelfriet 75)

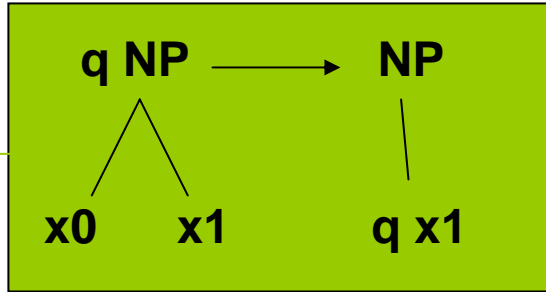
Classes of Tree Transducers

copying

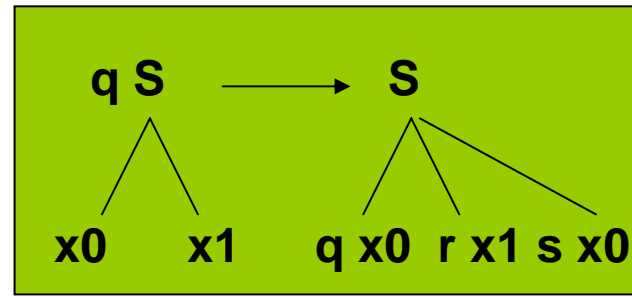
non-copying

deleting

non-deleting



deleting rule



copying rule

T

LT

LNT

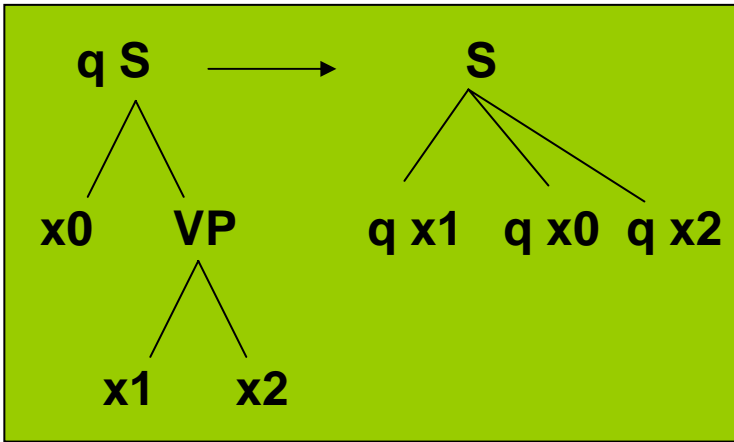
Classes of Tree Transducers

copying

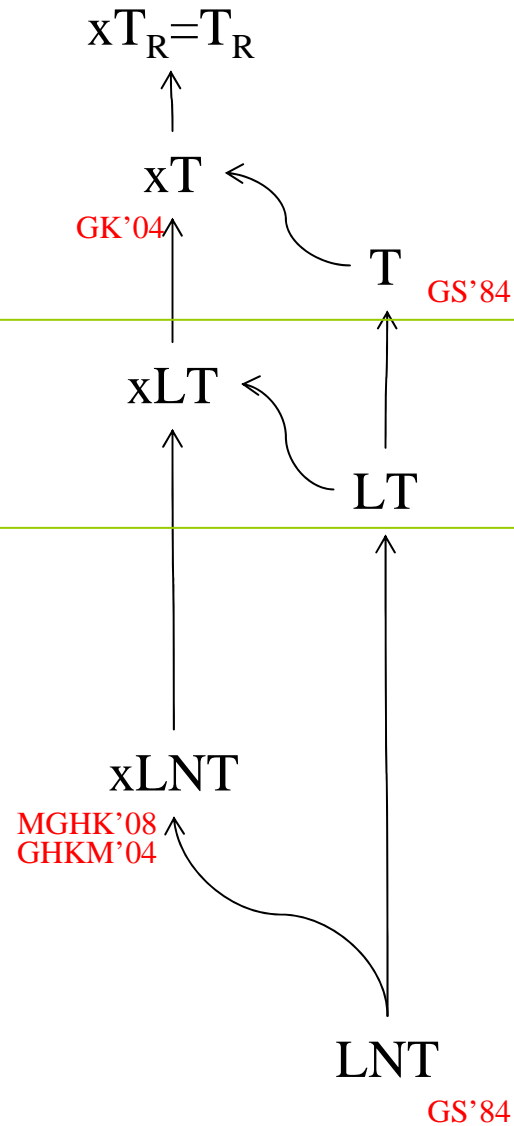
non-copying

deleting

non-deleting



x-tended rule



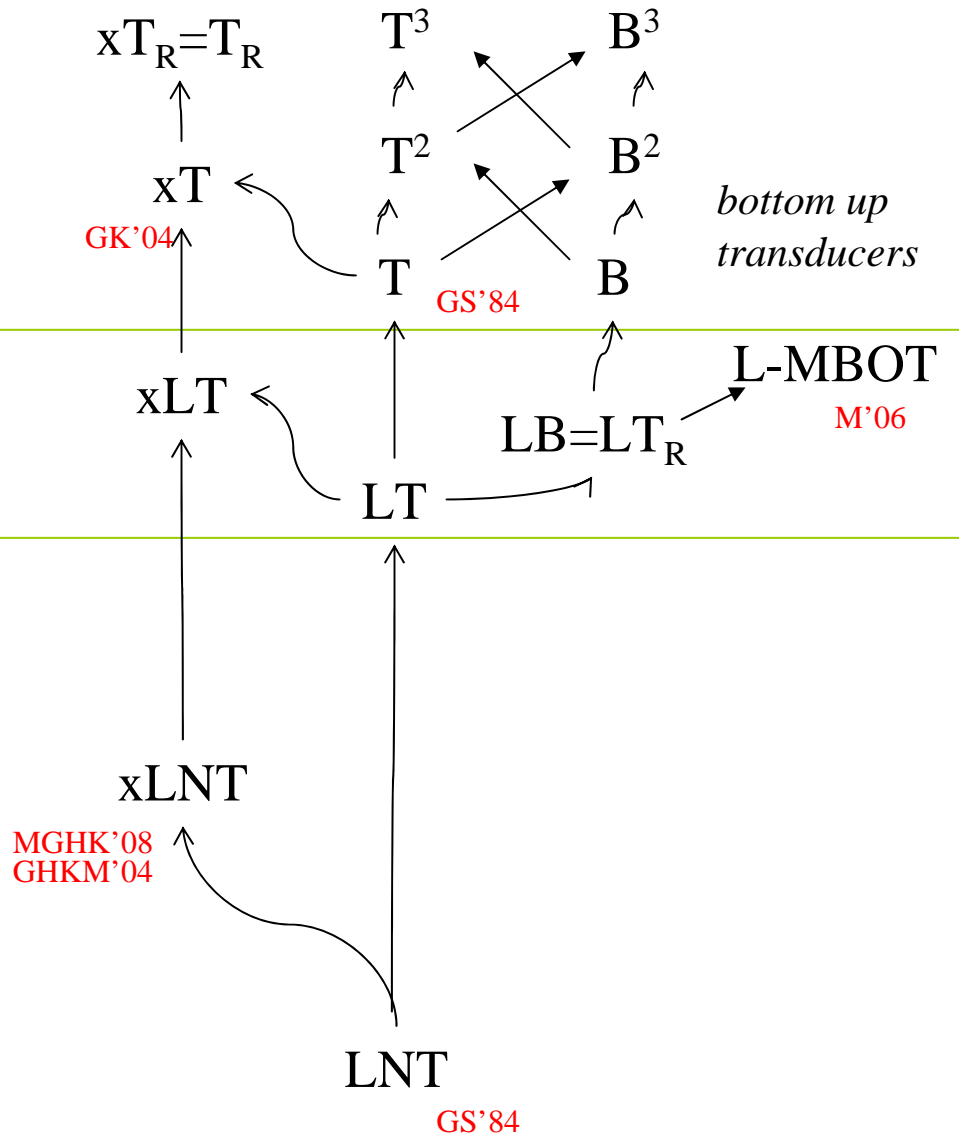
Classes of Tree Transducers

copying

non-copying

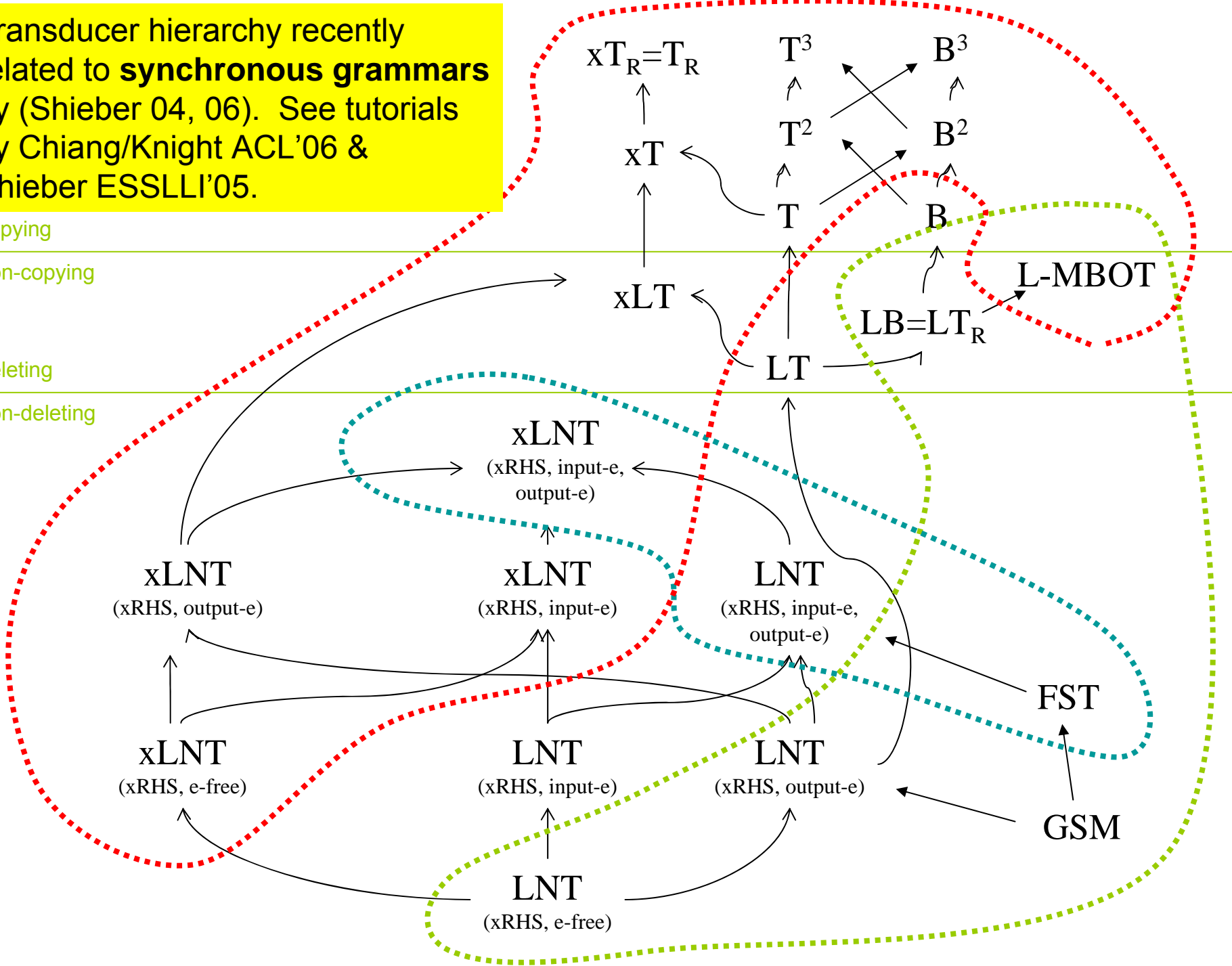
deleting

non-deleting

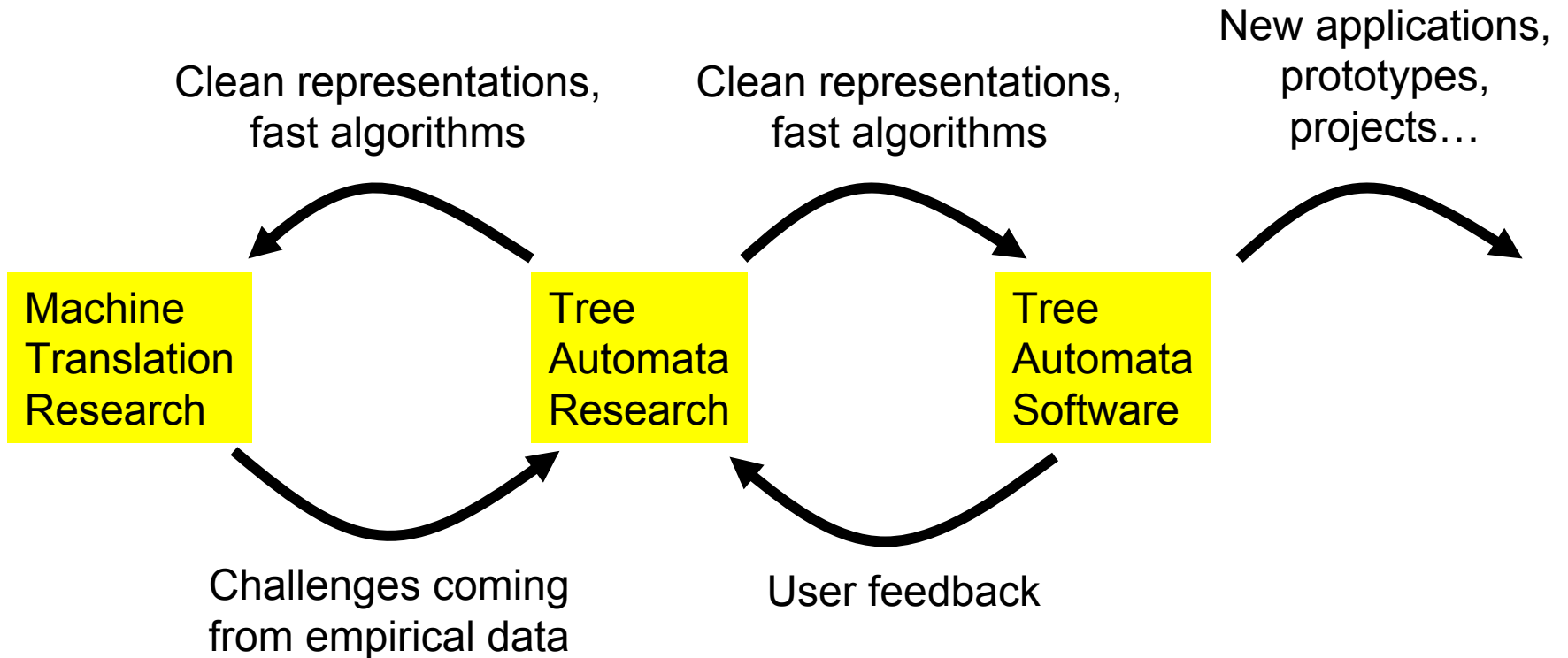


Transducer hierarchy recently related to **synchronous grammars** by (Shieber 04, 06). See tutorials by Chiang/Knight ACL'06 & Shieber ESSLLI'05.

copying
 non-copying
 deleting
 non-deleting



Research Synergy



This Is Interdisciplinary Research

- Machine Learning
- Engineering
- Linguistics
- Data
- Efficient search algorithms
- Automata theory
- Grid computing

...