

Elaborazione del Linguaggio Naturale: Interpretazione, Ragionamento automatico e Apprendimento delle macchine

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dblp: <http://dblp.uni-trier.de/pers/hd/b/Basili:Roberto.html>

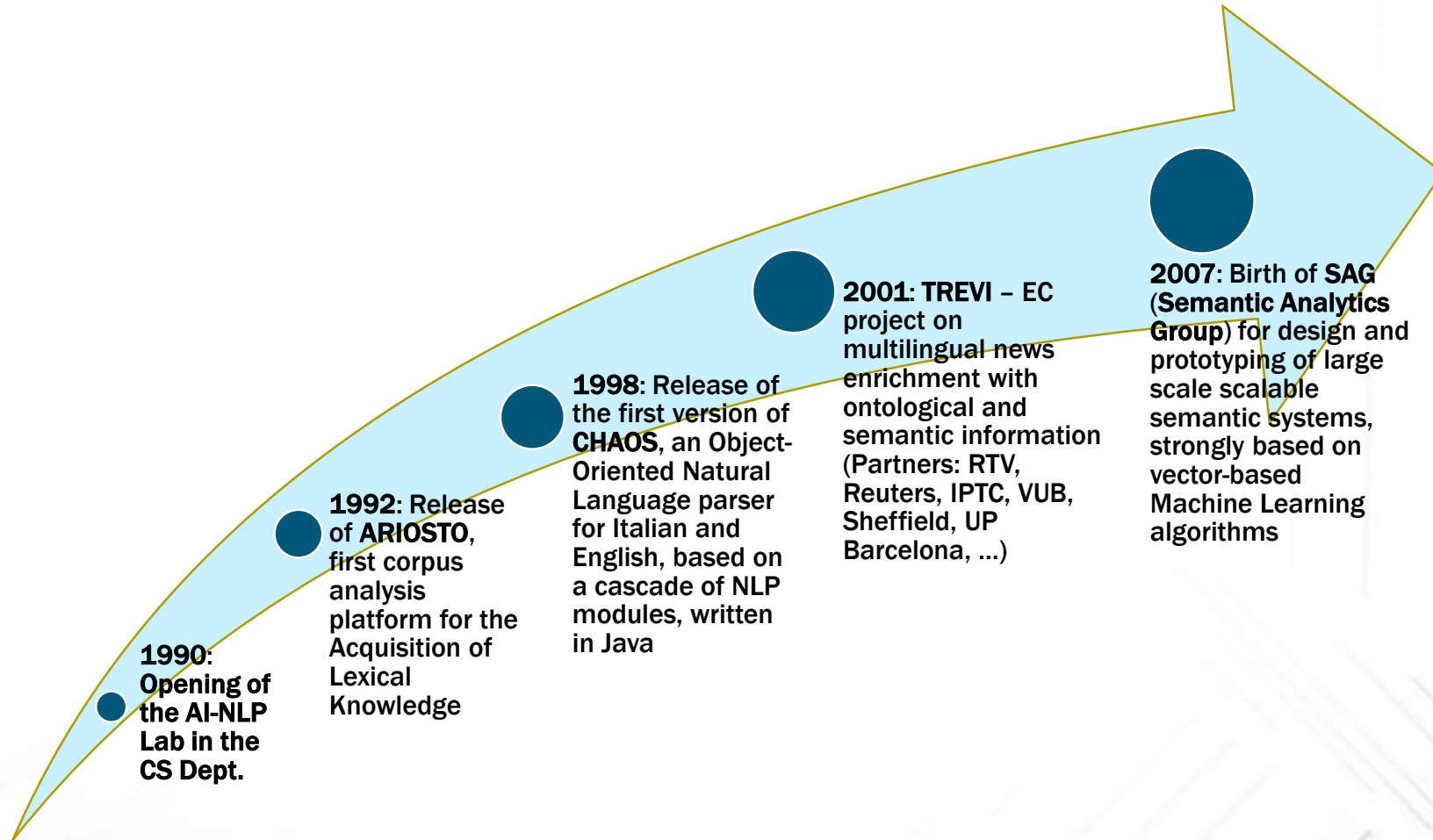
Google scholar: <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=U1A22fYAAAAJ&hl=it&oi=sra>

Università di Bologna, 16 Maggio 2016

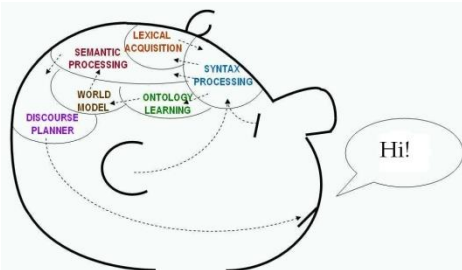
Overview

- **Intelligenza Artificiale e Lingue parlate e scritte**
 - Informazioni, Rappresentazioni coinvolte, Sfide (ri)correnti, success (and unsuccessful) stories
- **Elaborazione Automatica delle Lingue: Modelli, Metodi e *Risultati***
- **break**
- **Ruolo delle Tecnologie dell'Apprendimento ed Applicazioni:**
 - Sviluppo Automatico di Dizionari, Lessici Semantici ed Ontologie
 - Trattamento Semantico della Documentazione Investigativa
 - Sistemi Web-based di Opinion Mining, Market Watch & Brand Reputation Management

SAG: a not-so-short history



2012:
Birth of
Reveal srl



Research@ART

Artificial intelligence at RTV

Robust Statistical Language Processing

- Terminological Dictionaries
- IE Template Filling Rules
- Relation Extraction
- Automatic Text Classification
- Distributional Models
- Semantic Word Similarity

Lexical Semantics

- Lexical Semantics
- Coreference
- Semantic Role Labeling
- Verb Argument Structure
- Frame Semantics

Machine Learning Knowledge Acquisition

- Acquisition
- Ontology Learning
- NERC and Coreference
- Ontology Maintenance
- Ontology Learning
- Multilingual Ontology Representation

Ontology Engineering

- Information Extraction
- Information Retrieval
- Learning to Rank
- Automatic Document Categorization
- Question Answering
- Multimedia Indexing and Retrieval
- Dialogue & Interactive Question Answering
- Social Web Analytics (Opinion Mining)

Web IR and IE

<http://sag.art.uniroma2.it/>

Semantic Analytics Group @ Uniroma2

SAG is the Semantic Analytics Group at the University of Rome, Tor Vergata

People

Research

Teaching

Publications

Projects

Demo & Software

Contacts

Content Processing and Acquisition

Ontology Engineering

Machine Learning

Web & Information Retrieval

Text Processing and Natural Language Parsing

Distributional Semantics

Human-Robot Interaction

Semantic Role Labeling

Sentiment Analysis

People

[Professors](#)

[Postdocs](#)

[PhD Students](#)

[Fellows](#)



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Postdoc

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[Details...](#)

Authentication

[Log In](#)

News

- [SAG's KeLP team ranked first at the SemEval 2016 Community Question Answering Task](#) February 16, 2016
- [KeLP 2.0.2 released!](#) February 16, 2016
- [KeLP 2.0.1 released](#) January 13, 2016
- The FCIR 2016 paper has been

Overview

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- ➔ • Informazioni e Rappresentazioni coinvolte, Sfide (ri)correnti, ...
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Semantics, Open Data and Natural Language

The screenshot shows a Mozilla Firefox browser window with several tabs open. The active tab is 'www.takungpao.com.hk'. The page content includes a header with the site logo and a banner for the '2011 Golden Bauhinia Awards'. Below the banner is a navigation bar with various categories. The main content area features a news article with a photo of Hu Jintao and Li Ka-shing shaking hands. The article title is '胡總語特首:防範經濟金融風險'. To the right of the main article is a '即時新聞' (Real-time News) section with a list of items. Below that is a '焦點關注' (Focus) section with images and headlines. The browser's address bar shows 'http://www.takungpao.com.hk/news/11/11/13/2011_apec_xgbd-1423309.htm'.

Web contents, characterized by rich multimedia information, are mostly opaque from a semantic standpoint

Information, Web and Natural Languages

Hu meets KMT honorary chairman in Hawaii - People's Daily Online - Mozilla Firefox

File Modifica Visualizza Cronologia Segnalibri Yahoo! Strumenti Aiuto

Hu meets KMT honorary chairman... +

Indietro Avanti DownloadHelper english.peopledaily.com.cn/90785/7642916.html

Set as Homepage | Register | Sign In Chinese | Big 5 | French | Russian | Spanish | Japanese | Arabic

人民网 English Feedback RSS


Study Forum

y 15 / 1 City Forecast

HONOLULU, United States, Nov. 11 (Xinhua) -- Hu Jintao, general secretary of the Central

Hu meets KMT honorary chairman in Hawaii

(Xinhua)
11:10, November 12, 2011



Chinese President Hu Jintao (R) shakes hands with Honorary Chairman of the Chinese Kuomintang (KMT) Lien Chan, in Honolulu, Hawaii, the U.S., Nov. 11, 2011. (Xinhua/Huang Jingwen)

Miao ethnic group celebrates Miao's New Year in SW China

World's first Angry Birds exclusive shop opens in Helsinki

Who is Hu Jintao?

- 1 Hu reaffirms support to Hong Kong's sta...
- 2 Hu meets KMT honorary chairman in Hawaii
- 3 China in APEC: a mutually beneficial en...
- 4 Night life in Shanghai
- 5 China's 2011 foreign trade to grow 20 p...
- 6 Beijing house prices stumble 5.1 pct as...
- 7 Lama students start school in Tibet Col...
- 8 Police in central China crack money ca...
- 9 China-ASEAN cooperation sees notable pr...



Hu Jintao



Ricerca

Circa 725.000 risultati (0,09 secondi)

Tutto

Immagini

Mappe

Video

Notizie

Shopping

Più conte

Tutti i ri

Per argomento

Qualsiasi dimensione

Grandi

Medie

Icone

Maggiori di...

Dimensioni esatte...

Qualsiasi colore

A colori

Bianco e nero



Qualsiasi tipo

Volti

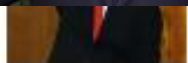
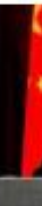
Foto

Clip art

Disegni

Visual standard

Mostra dimensioni



Content Semantics and Natural Language

Engineering
Natural Language Processing
Knowledge Language Interactions
Human-Computer Meaning

- Human languages are the main carrier of the information involved in processes such as *retrieval*, *publication* and *exchange* of knowledge as it is associated to the open Web contents
- Words and NL syntactic structures express concepts, activities, events, abstractions and conceptual relations we usually share through data
- “*Language is parasitic to knowledge representation languages but the viceversa is not true*” (Wilks, 2001)
- From **Learning to Read** to **Knowledge Distillation** as a (integrated pool of) Semantic interpretation Task(s)

Semantics, Natural Language & Learning: tasks



- From **Learning to Read** to **Knowledge Distillation** as a (integrated pool of)

Semantic interpretation Task(s)

- **Information Extraction**
 - Entity Recognition and Classification
 - Relation Extraction
 - Semantic Role Labeling (Shallow Semantic Parsing)
- **Estimation of Text Similarity**
 - Structured Text Similarity/Textual Entailment Recognition
 - Sense disambiguation
- **Semantic Search, Question Classification and Answer Ranking**
- **Knowledge Acquisition**, e.g. ontology learning
- **Social Network Analysis, Opinion Mining**

Overview

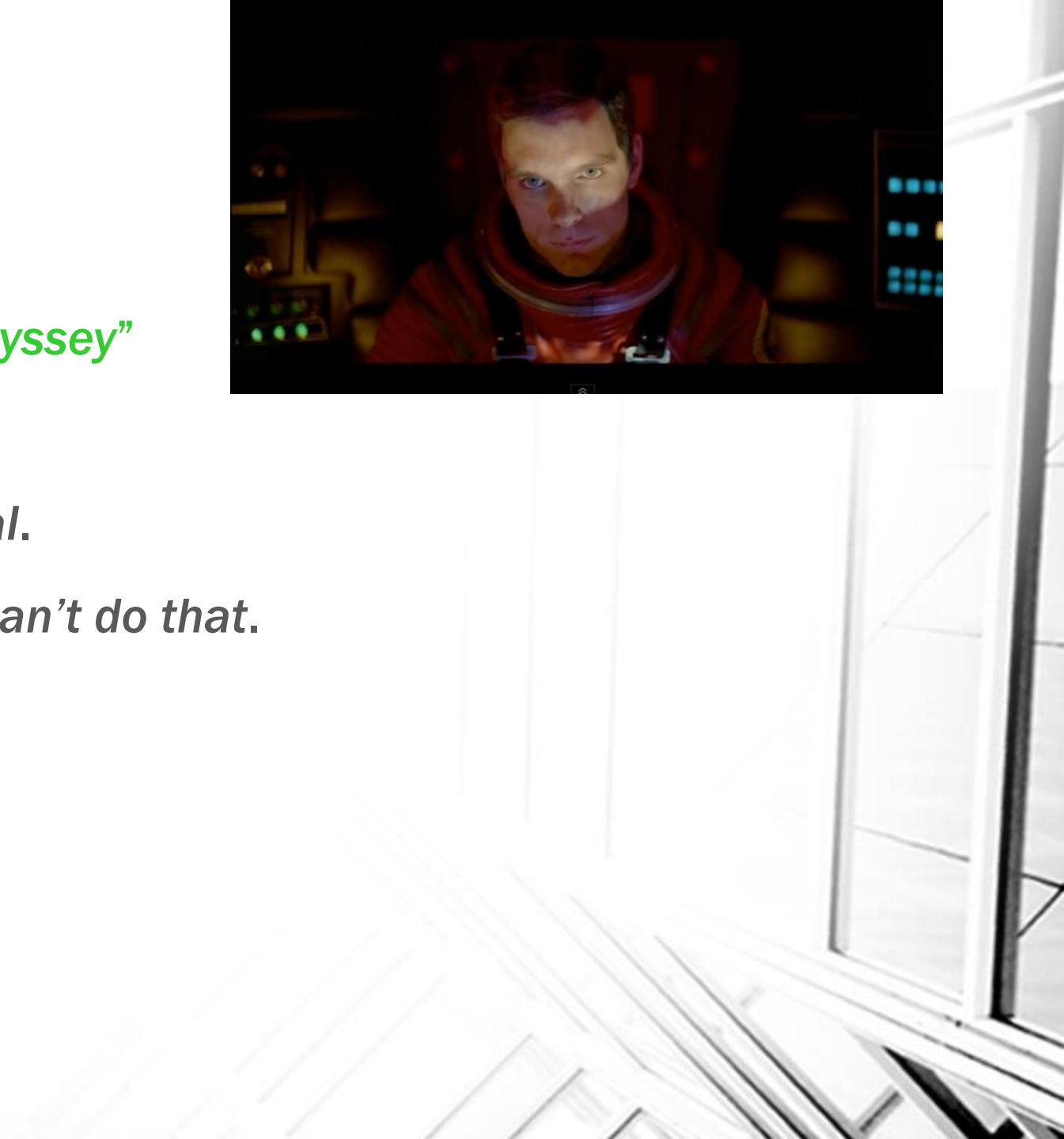
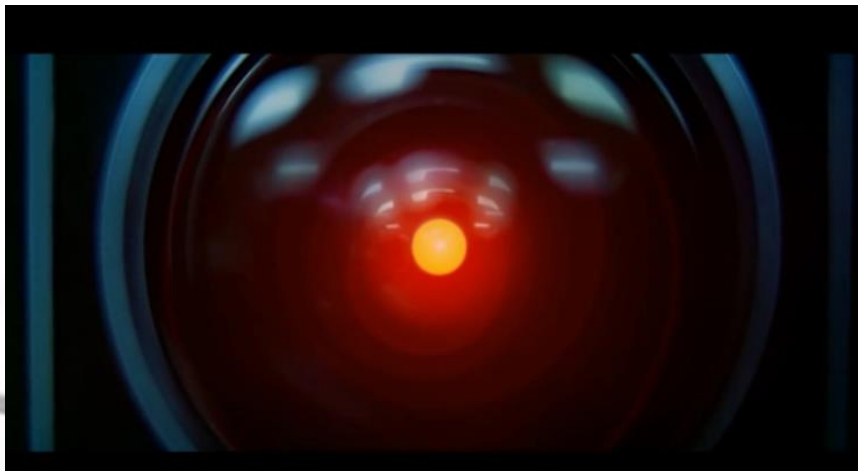
- **Intelligenza Artificiale e Lingue parlate e scritte**
 - Informazioni e Rappresentazioni coinvolte
 - Sfide (ri)correnti, battaglie (già) vinte e rischi inerenti ...

Elaborazione Automatica delle Lingue: Modelli, Metodi e *Risultati*

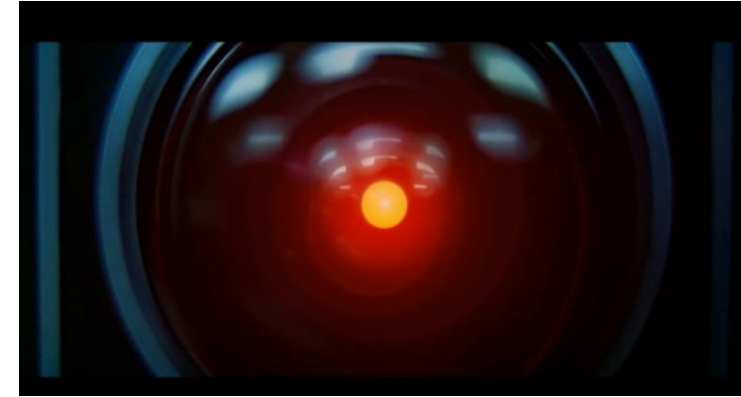
- break
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Which Knowledge?

- HAL 9000, da “2001: A Space Odyssey”
- Dave: *Open the pod bay doors, Hal.*
- HAL: *I’m sorry Dave, I’m afraid I can’t do that.*

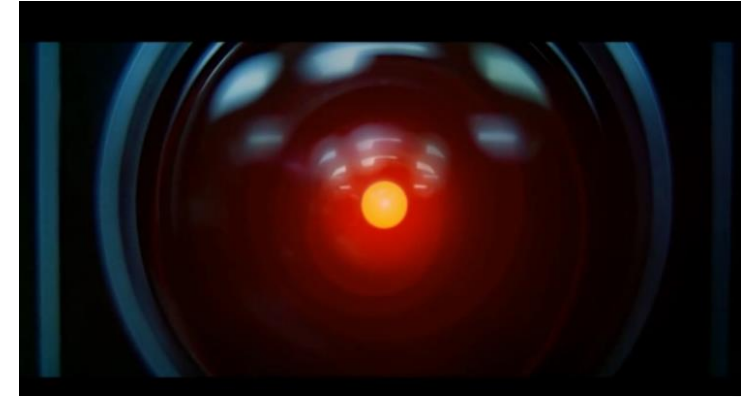


What's HAL knowledge?



- **Recognition & Synthesis of spoken language**
 - Dictionaries (spelling)
 - Phonetics (how to produce/recognize sound)
- **Understanding**
 - **Lexical Knowledge**
 - What do the words mean?
 - How they combine (*˘ pod bay door'*)
 - **Knowledge about the syntagmatic structure of sentences**
 - *I'm I do, Sorry that afraid Dave I'm can't*

What's HAL knowledge?



- **Dialogue & pragmatics**

- “*open the door*” is a request (and not a declaration or a search query)
- Replying is a type of action that imply kindness (even if a planning to kill is in progress ...)
- It is useful to behave cooperatively (*I'm afraid, I can't...*)
- What about *that* in *I can't do that*?

Language Processing as a (semantic) *interpretation process*

- Processing a text corresponds to the understanding of a number of aspects related to its *meaning*
 - Thematic Domain (e.g. science/economics/sport)
 - Operational Objectives (e.g. **e-mail spam**)
 - Involved Entities, such as people or locations
 - Potential events described (e.g. facts told by news)
 - Communicative Objectives (e.g. dialogue, orders/declarations/planning)
- Outcome: an explicit *representation of the text meaning* ...
- able to trigger different inferences
(e.g. IR *relevance, planning, knowledge updates,*)

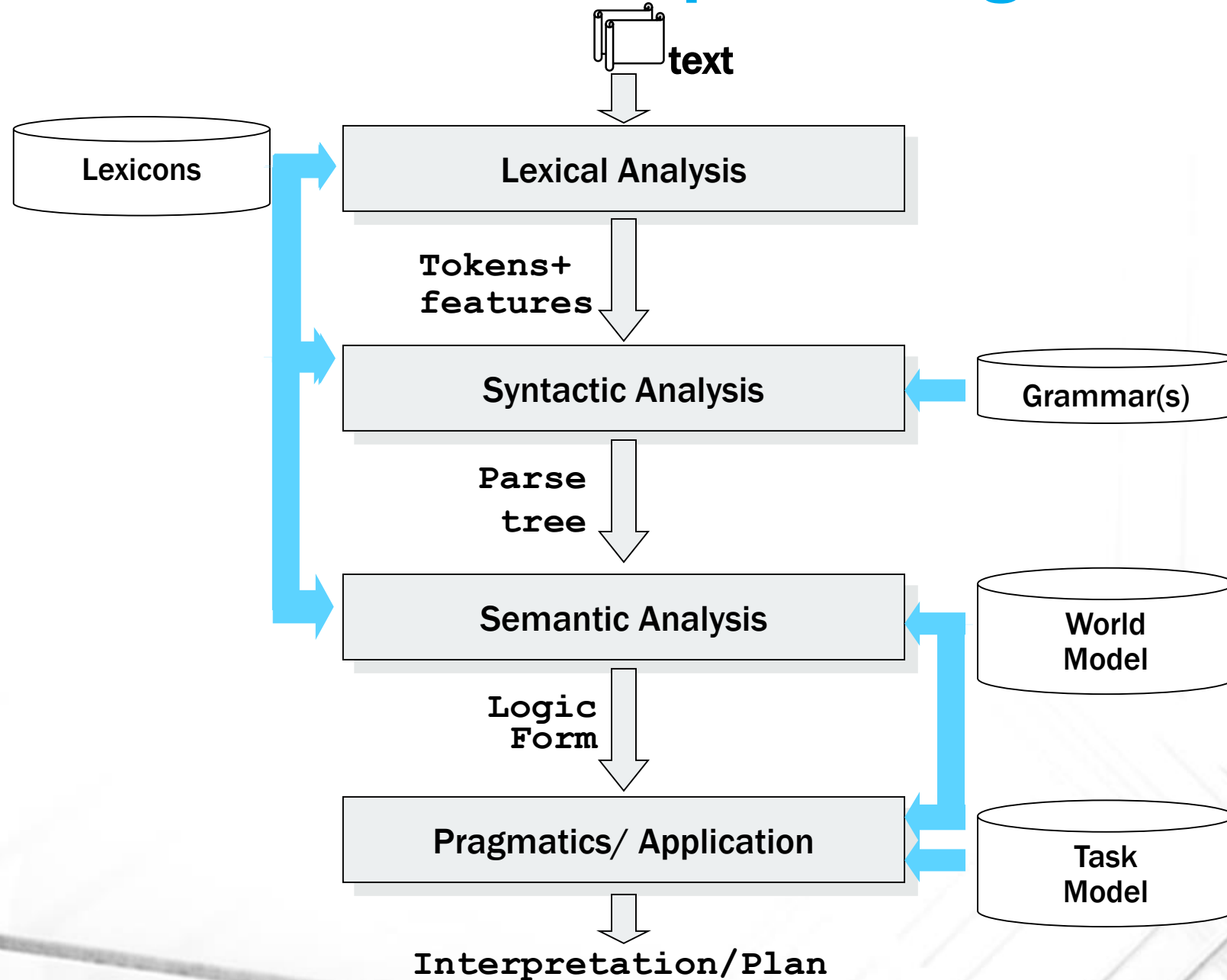
Some Reflections

- Understanding *linguistic information* requires specific knowledge about:
 - The natural language itself (e.g. *grammar*)
 - The world (e.g. *bay door, Dave* or *opening*)
 - How language make **reference** to the world
- NLP applications deals with texts by exploiting the specific context:
 - Application purposes, e.g. document search
 - The domain and the operational context of an application
 - The distinction between language producer (speaker/writer) and consumer (hearer/reader)

Major Challenges

- *Linguistic Accuracy* in approximating the human-level of performance
- *Robustness* (errors/noise/incompleteness)
- *Scale*
 - Coverage of the phenomena (Lexicons/Grammars)
- *Expressivity*
 - Dictionaries, Lexicons and *Thesauri*
 - World Models and types of inference
- *Flexibility*
 - Adequate performance across linguistic variability (e.g. producer vs. consumer)
- *Naturalness*

NLP: the standard processing chain



Grammaticatical Analysis

UK Economy News Headlines - FT.com - Mozilla Firefox

File Modifica Visualizza Cronologia Segnalibri Strumenti Aiuto

http://www.ft.com/world/uk/economy

Più visitati Corso: Basi di dati Gruppi Posta :: Benvenuto a H... ClustrMaps - map of vi... UniversitaCedol Tree Kernels in SVM-lig... Net RicercaAteneo Keysrc Calls EMEROTECA GEMS2010 Summer09

Ripristino della sessione PrestoSpace UK Economy News Headlines - FT....

Mortgage approvals fall back to January level

Mortgage approvals fell sharply in June, lending yet more weight to the theory of a dip in the UK housing market as the Nationwide index showed UK house prices starting to fall in July - Jul-29

- ▶ Halifax index shows 0.6% fall in house prices
- ▶ In depth: UK house prices
- ▶ House prices rise at slowing rate

Default retirement age to be scrapped

Move delights pressure groups but dismays business organisations, which

Default retirement age to be scrapped

Move delights pressure groups but dismays business organisations, which warn that the measure is being introduced too quickly - Jul-29

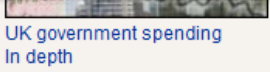
Global Insight: Cameron needs to be more subtle

David Cameron has led the largest official delegation to India since its independence from Britain 63 years ago. By doing so, he has tested Britain's place in the world, and how far it has travelled since 1947 - Jul-29

Gilts lose lustre for overseas investors

Flight from eurozone risk to UK government bonds is moderating - Jul-29

UK government spending In depth



Westminster blog
With Alex Barker and Jim Pickard

RECRUITERS

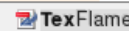
SEARCH

Enter keywords Go

Regional Business Controller
Consumer Products

UK Business Development Manager -
Building Services Projects
Mechanical & Electrical Engineering

Deputy Director of Finance
London Ambulance Service

Italiano (Italia) 

Syntax and Semantics in textual data

- Compositionality
- The meaning of a complex expression is solely determined by the meanings of its constituent expressions and the rules used to combine them.
- *"I will consider a language to be a set (finite or infinite) of sentences, each finite in length and constructed out of a finite set of elements. All natural languages are languages in this sense. Similarly, the set of "sentences" of some formalized system of mathematics can be considered a language"*
Chomsky 1957

Syntax

- In linguistics, **syntax** is the study of the rules that govern the structure of sentences, and which determine their relative grammaticality.
- Such rules govern a number of language phenomena as systems for phonology, morphology, syntax as well as discourse

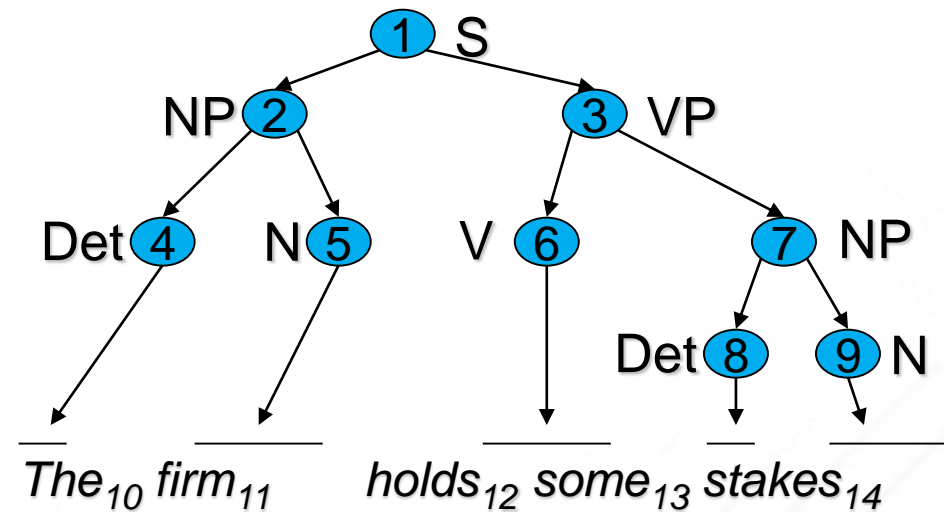
Parse Trees

- The representation of the parsing result is a structure that expresses:
 - The **order of constituent elements** in the sentence
 - The **grammatical type** of constituents
 - The **hierarchical organization** of constituents
- The structures able to express these properties are the derivation trees also called **parse trees**

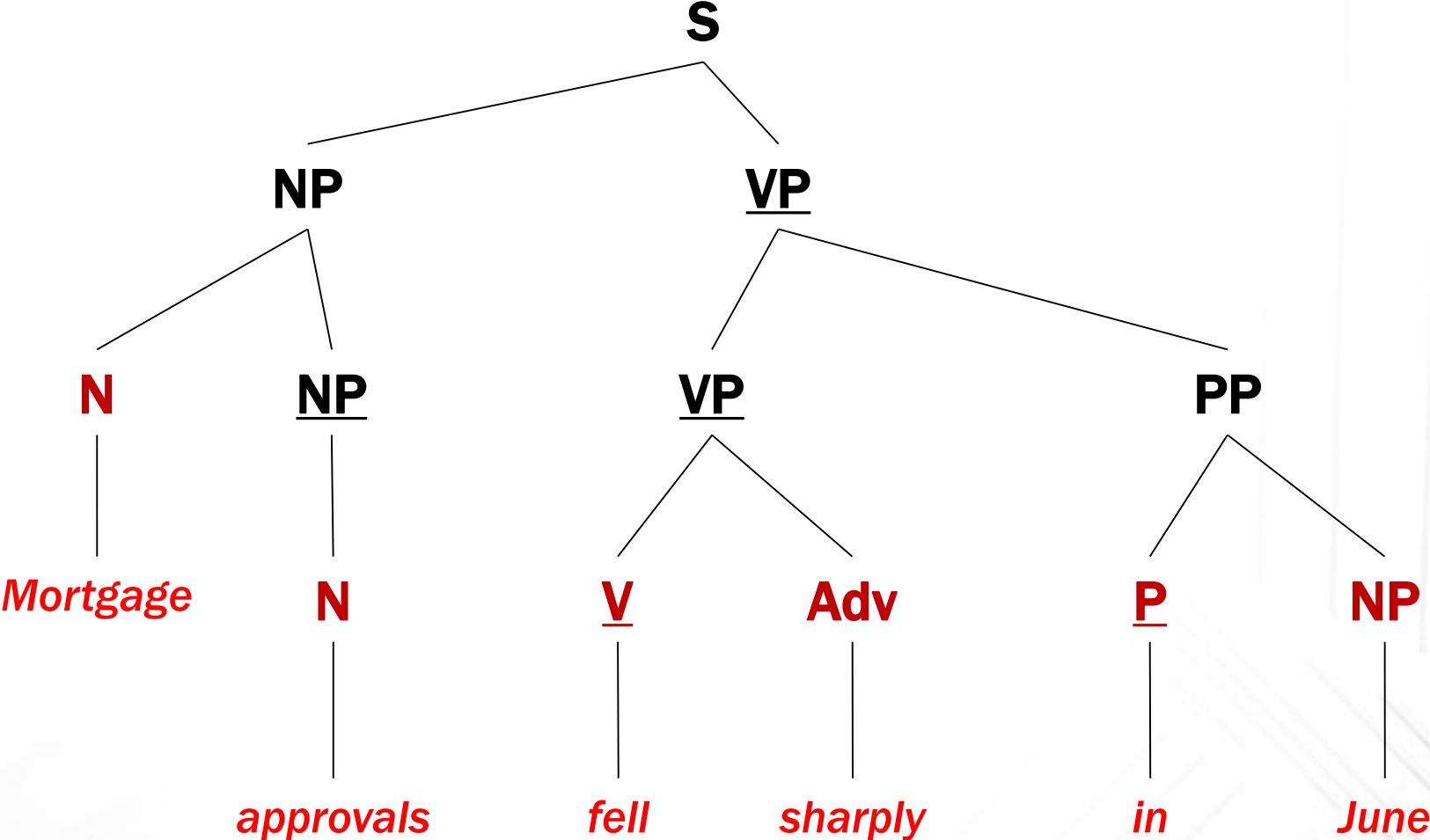
Grammars and Trees

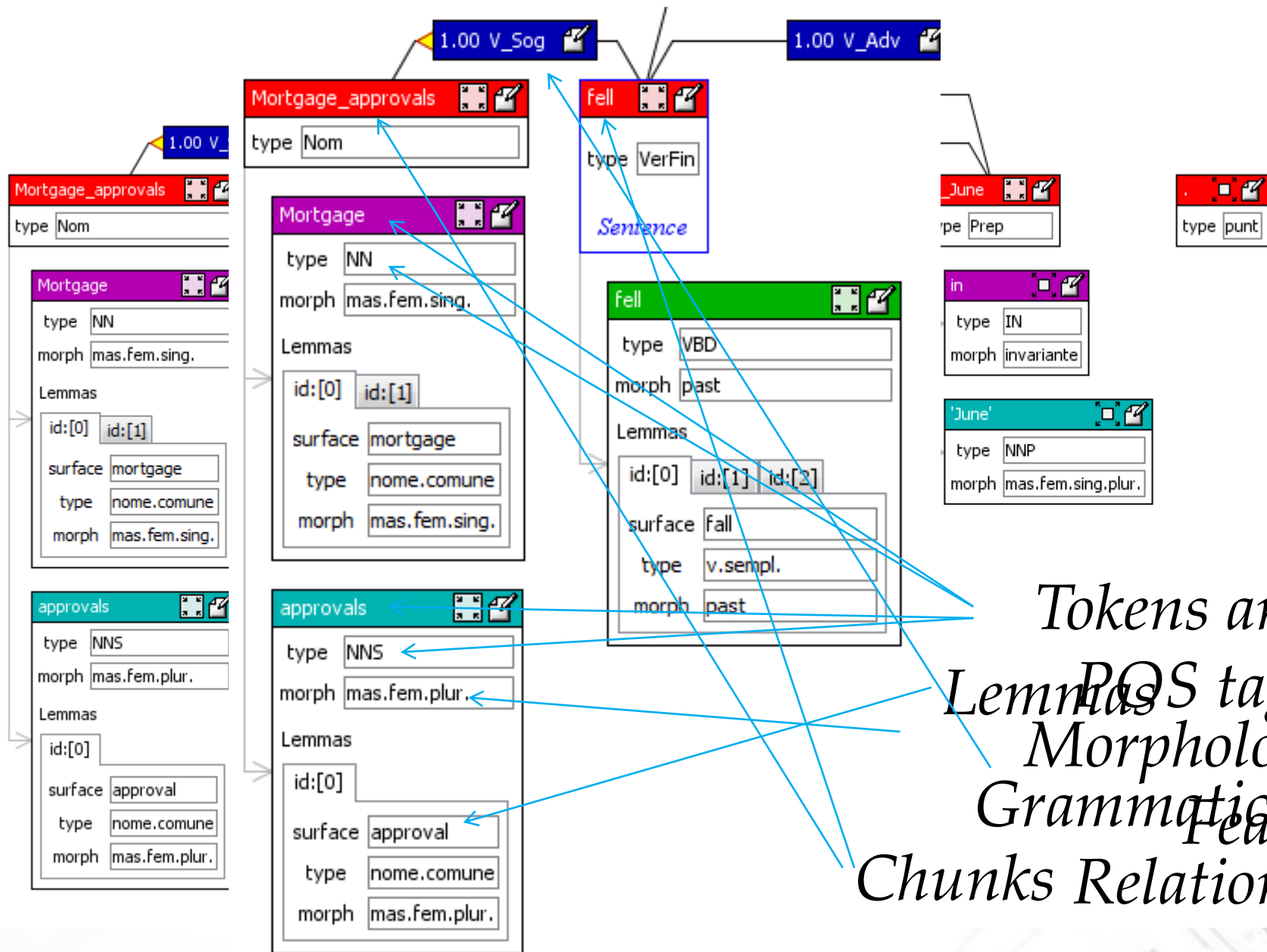
“The firm holds some stakes”

- $V_n = \{S, NP, VP, Det, N\}$, Axiom: S
- Productions: $\{S \rightarrow NP VP, VP \rightarrow V NP, NP \rightarrow Det N\}$
- Derivation:
 - $S > NP VP > Det N VP > The N VP > The firm VP > The firm V NP > The firm holds NP > The firm holds Det N > The firm holds some N > The firm holds some stakes$



Constituency-based Parsing





Tokens and
 POS tags
 Lemmas
 Morphological
 Grammatical
 Features
 Chunks Relations

FT (July, 29): Mortgage approvals fell sharply in June.

Challenges for Parsing

- Huge complexity as for the ambiguity in the morphosyntactic descriptions of words
 - E.g. La vecchia porta la sbarra
- Interdependency with semantic information
 - Most ambiguity cannot be solved only at the grammatical level
 - Lexical Semantic information is crucial as grammatical structures are constrained by word senses
 - Operating in a market vs. Operating a patient

Semantics

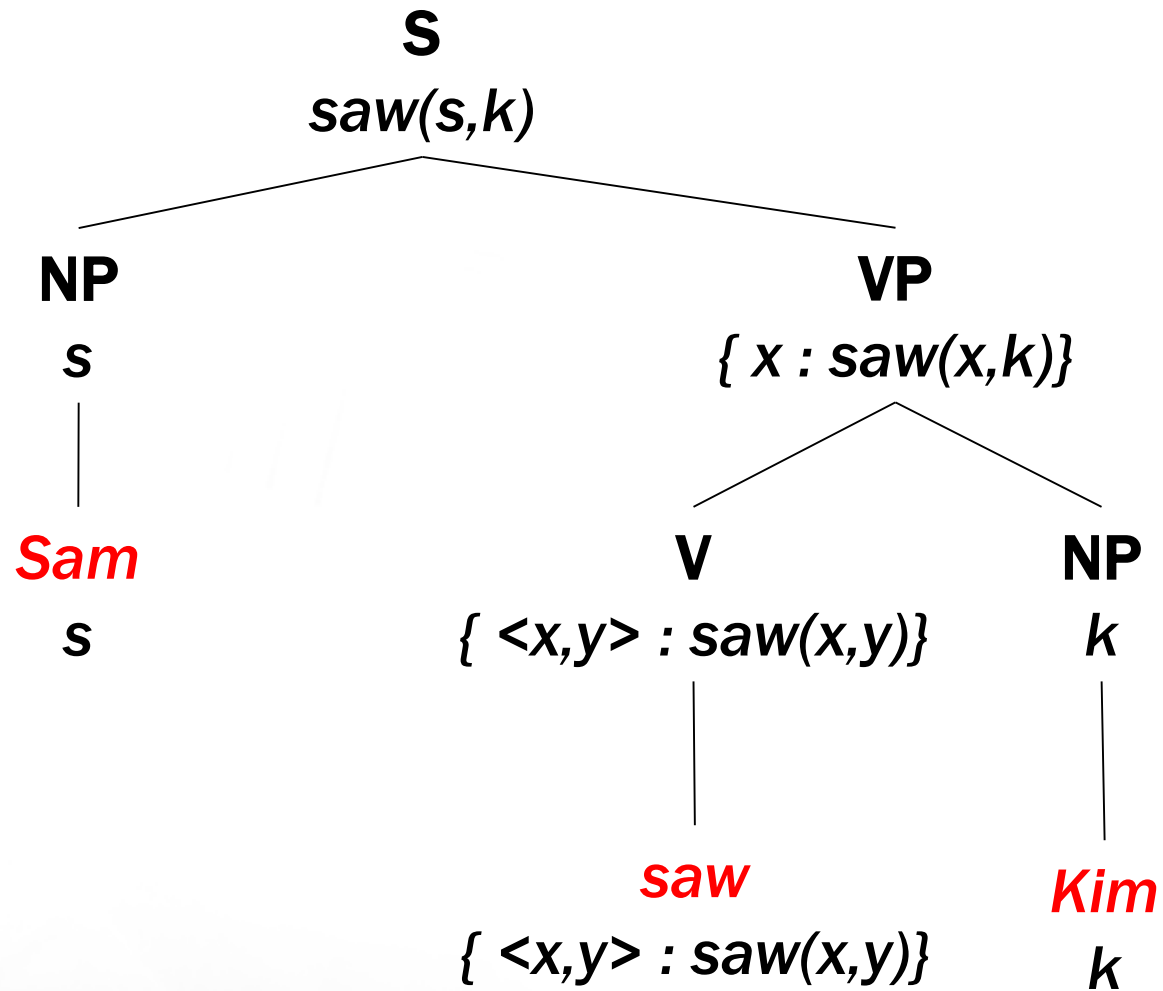
- What is the meaning of the sentence

John saw Kim?



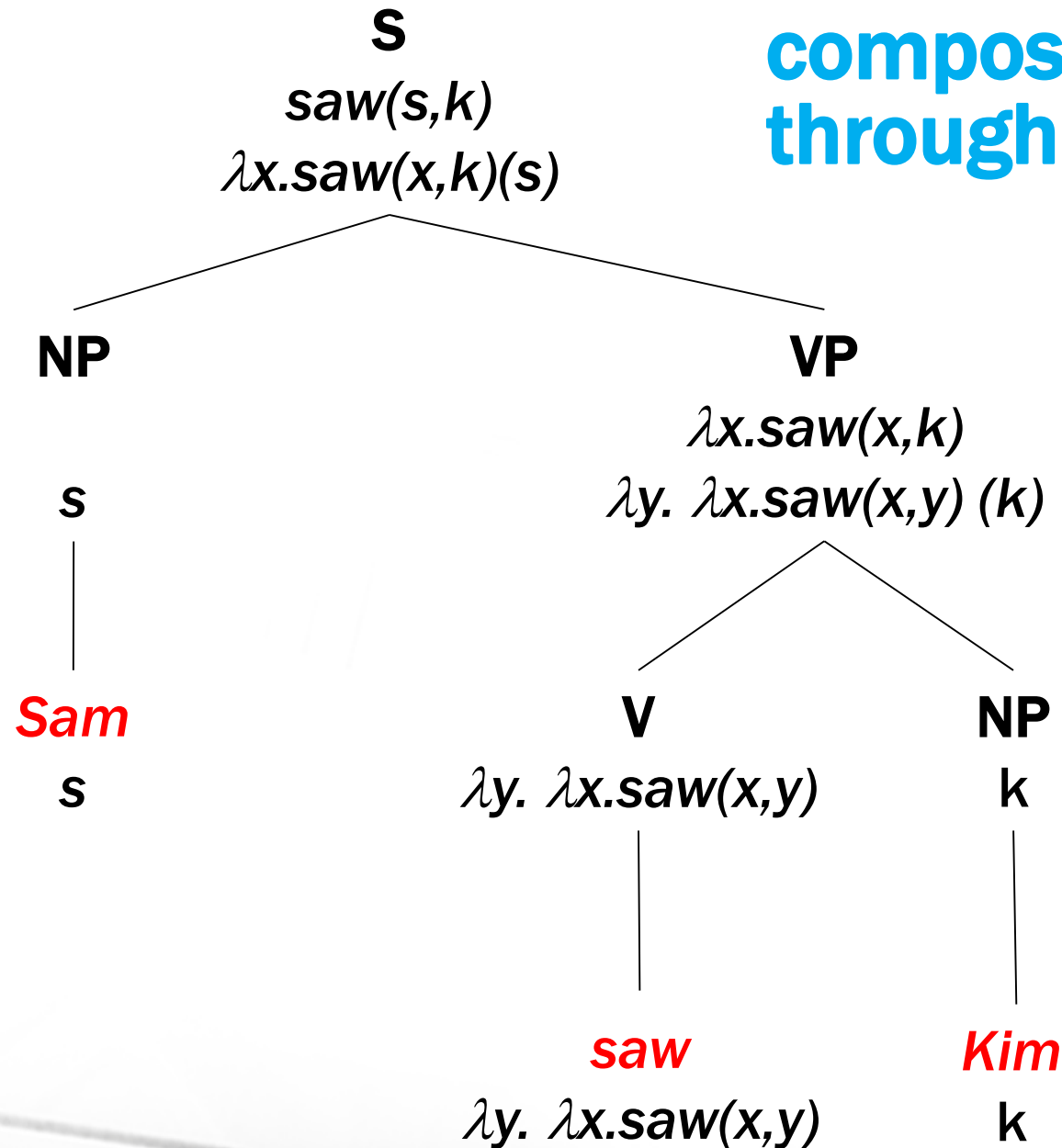
- Desirable Properties:
 - It should be derivable as a function of the individual constituents, i.e. the meanings of constituents such as *Kim*, *John* and *see*
 - Independent from syntactic phenomena, e.g. *Kim was seen by John* is a paraphrase
 - It must be directly used to trigger some inferences:
 - Who was seen by John? *Kim!*
 - John saw Kim. He started running to her.

A Truth conditional semantics



John saw Kim

NL Interpretation as compositional processing through *lambda expressions*



Target Semantic Phenomena



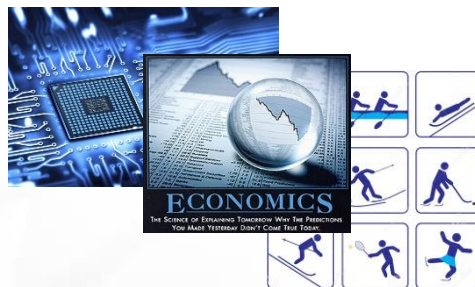
- **Entities.** Entità descritte nei testi (persone, luoghi, organizzazioni, date, espressioni numeriche o monetarie)



- **Relations.** Relazioni / Associazioni tra entità



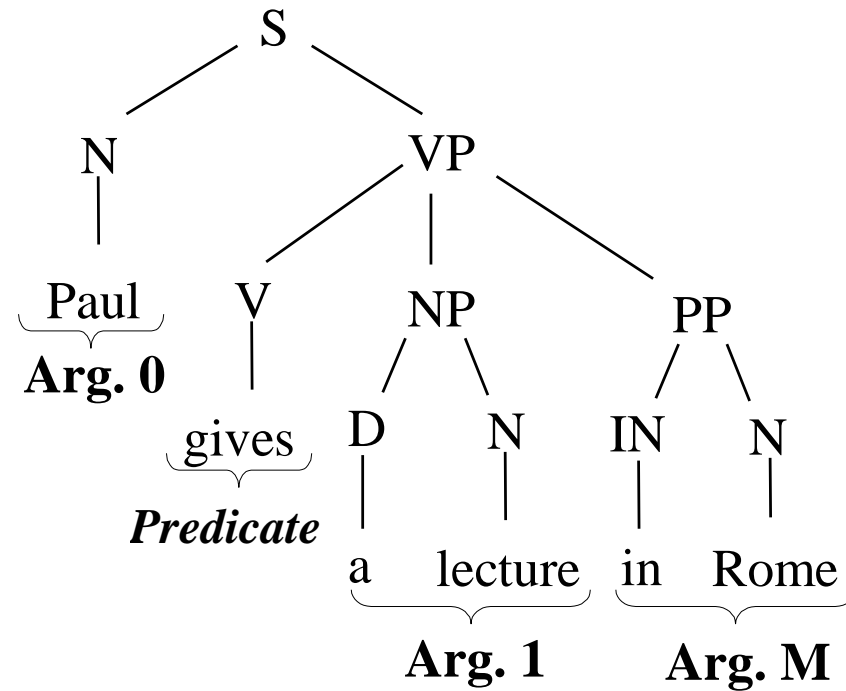
- **Facts.** Fatti ed Eventi



- **Topics.** Temi / Contesto / Dominio

Predicazione ed Argomenti

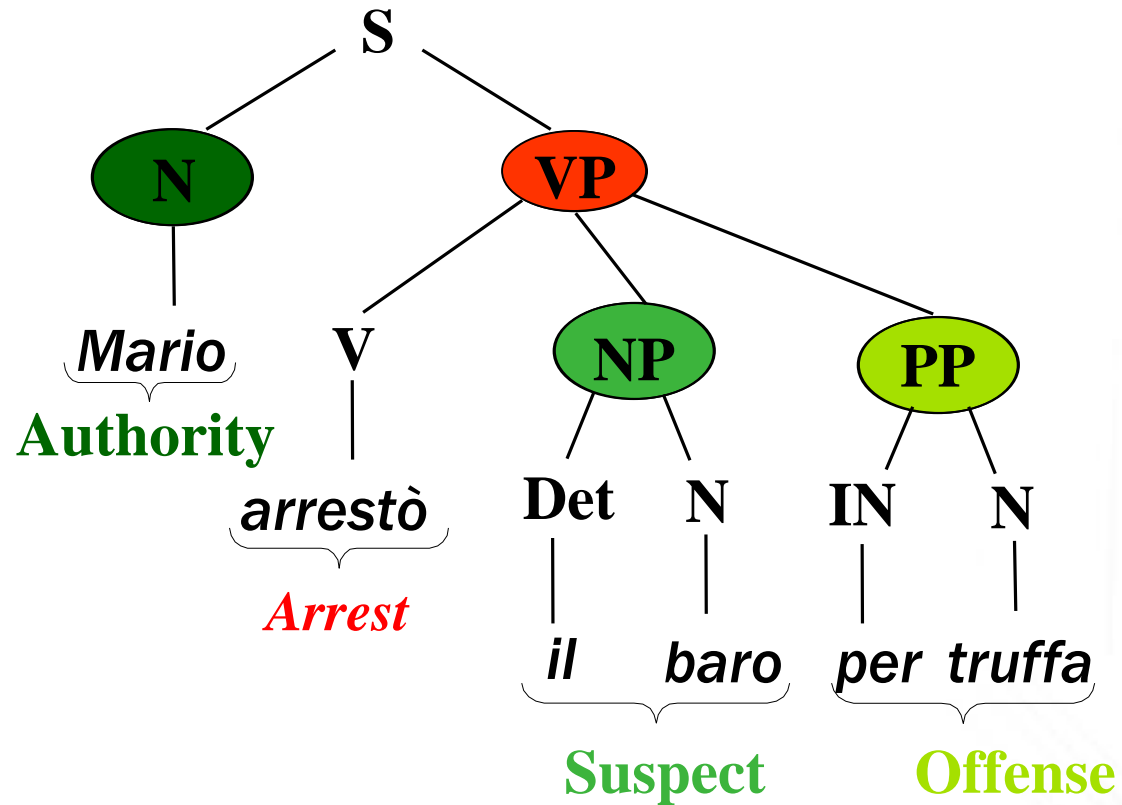
- Il *mapping* sintassi-semantica



Annotazioni Semantiche diverse: PropBank vs. FrameNet

Linking syntax to semantics: see later slides on Semantic Role Labeling

Mario arrestò il baro per truffa



[Il baro]_{Suspect} [fu arrestato]_{Arrest} [da Mario]_{Authority} [per truffa]_{Offense}

Computational Semantics

- See slides on «*Compositional Semantics in Prolog*»

Three Linguistic Perspectives on Meaning

- **Lexical Semantics**
 - The meanings of individual words
- **Formal Semantics** (or Compositional Semantics or Sentential Semantics)
 - How those meanings combine to make meanings for individual sentences or utterances
- **Discourse or Pragmatics**
 - How those meanings combine with each other and with other facts about various kinds of context to make meanings for a text or discourse
 - Dialog or Conversation is often lumped together with Discourse

Lexical Semantic: Relationships between word meanings

- Homonymy
- Polysemy
- Synonymy
- Antonymy
- Hypernymy
- Hyponymy
- Meronymy

Homonymy

- **Homonymy:**
 - Lexemes that share a form
 - Phonological, orthographic or both
 - But have unrelated, distinct meanings
 - Clear example:
 - Bat (wooden stick-like thing) vs
 - Bat (flying scary mammal thing)
 - Or bank (financial institution) versus bank (riverside)
 - Can be also homophones, homographs, or both:
 - Homophones:
 - *Write* and *right*
 - *Piece* and *peace*

Polysemy

- The **bank** is constructed from red brick
I withdrew the money from the **bank**
- Are those the same sense?
- Or consider the following WSJ example
 - **While some banks furnish sperm only to married women, others are less restrictive**
- Which sense of bank is this?
 - Is it distinct from (homonymous with) the river bank sense?
 - How about the savings bank sense?

Metaphor and Metonymy

- Specific types of polysemy
- Metaphor:
 - Germany will pull Slovenia out of its economic slump.
 - *I spent 2 hours on that homework.*
- Metonymy
 - The White House announced yesterday.
 - This chapter talks about part-of-speech tagging
 - Bank (building) and bank (financial institution)

Synonyms

- Word that have the same meaning in some or all contexts.
 - *filbert / hazelnut*
 - *couch / sofa*
 - *big / large*
 - *automobile / car*
 - *vomit / throw up*
 - *Water / H₂O*
- Two lexemes are synonyms if they can be successfully substituted for each other in all situations
 - If so they have the same **propositional meaning**

Synonyms

- But there are few (or no) examples of perfect synonymy.
 - Why should that be?
 - Even if many aspects of meaning are identical still may not preserve the acceptability based on notions of politeness, slang, register, genre, etc.
- Example:
 - Water and H₂O
 - **I would not say**
I like fresh H₂O after the tennis

Some terminology

- Lemmas and wordforms
 - A **lexeme** is an abstract pairing of meaning and form
 - A **lemma** or **citation form** is the grammatical form that is used to represent a **lexeme**.
 - *Carpet* is the lemma for *carpets*, *Dormir* is the lemma for *duermes*.
 - Specific surface forms *carpets*, *sung*, *duermes* are called **wordforms**
- The lemma *bank* has two **senses**:
 - **Instead, a bank can hold the investments in a custodial account in the client's name**
 - **But as agriculture burgeons on the east bank, the river will shrink even more.**
- A **sense** is a discrete representation of one aspect of the meaning of a word

Antonyms

- Senses that are opposites with respect to one feature of their meaning
- Otherwise, they are very similar!
 - dark / light
 - short / long
 - hot / cold
 - up / down
 - in / out
- More formally: antonyms can
 - define a binary opposition or opposite ends of a scale (*long/short, fast/slow*)
 - Be reversives: *rise/fall, up/down*

Hyponymy

- One sense is a **hyponym** of another if the first sense is more specific, denoting a subclass of the other
 - *car* is a hyponym of *vehicle*
 - *dog* is a hyponym of *animal*
 - *mango* is a hyponym of *fruit*
- **Conversely**
 - *vehicle* is a hypernym/superordinate of *car*
 - *animal* is a hypernym of *dog*
 - *fruit* is a hypernym of *mango*

superordinate	vehicle	fruit	furniture	mammal
hyponym	car	mango	chair	dog

Hypernymy more formally

- **Extensional:**
 - The class denoted by the superordinate extensionally includes the class denoted by the hyponym
- **Entailment:**
 - A sense A is a hyponym of sense B if being an A entails being a B
- **Hyponymy is usually transitive**
 - (A hypo B and B hypo C entails A hypo C)

II. WordNet

- A hierarchically organized **lexical** database
- On-line thesaurus + aspects of a dictionary
 - Versions for other languages are under development

Category	Unique Forms
Noun	117,097
Verb	11,488
Adjective	22,141
Adverb	4,601

WordNet

- Home page:
 - <http://www.cogsci.princeton.edu/cgi-bin/webwn>

WordNet Search - 3.1

- [WordNet home page](#) - [Glossary](#) - [Help](#)

Word to search for:

Display Options:

Key: "S:" = Show Synset (semantic) relations, "W:" = Show Word (lexical) relations

Display options for sense: (gloss) "an example sentence"

Noun

- **S: (n) meaning, [significance](#), [signification](#), [import](#)** (the message that is intended or expressed or signified) *"what is the meaning of this sentence"; "the significance of a red traffic light"; "the signification of Chinese characters"; "the import of his announcement was ambiguous"*
 - [direct hyponym](#) / [full hyponym](#)
 - [direct hypernym](#) / [inherited hypernym](#) / [sister term](#)
 - [derivationally related form](#)
- **S: (n) meaning, [substance](#)** (the idea that is intended) *"What is the meaning of this proverb?"*

How is “sense” defined in WordNet?

- The set of near-synonyms for a WordNet sense is called a **synset (synonym set)**; it’s their version of a sense or a concept
- Example: **chump** as a noun to mean
 - ‘a person who is gullible and easy to take advantage of’

{chump¹, fool², gull¹, mark⁹, patsy¹, fall guy¹, sucker¹,
soft touch¹, mug²}

- Each of these senses share this same gloss
- Thus for WordNet, the meaning of this sense of **chump** is this list.

Format of Wordnet Entries

The noun “bass” has 8 senses in WordNet.

1. bass¹ - (the lowest part of the musical range)
2. bass², bass part¹ - (the lowest part in polyphonic music)
3. bass³, basso¹ - (an adult male singer with the lowest voice)
4. sea bass¹, bass⁴ - (the lean flesh of a saltwater fish of the family Serranidae)
5. freshwater bass¹, bass⁵ - (any of various North American freshwater fish with lean flesh (especially of the genus Micropterus))
6. bass⁶, bass voice¹, basso² - (the lowest adult male singing voice)
7. bass⁷ - (the member with the lowest range of a family of musical instruments)
8. bass⁸ - (nontechnical name for any of numerous edible marine and freshwater spiny-finned fishes)

The adjective “bass” has 1 sense in WordNet.

1. bass¹, deep⁶ - (having or denoting a low vocal or instrumental range)
*”a deep voice” ; ”a bass voice is lower than a baritone voice” ;
”a bass clarinet”*

WordNet Noun Relations

Relation	Also called	Definition	Example
Hypernym	Superordinate	From concepts to superordinates	<i>breakfast</i> ¹ → <i>meal</i> ¹
Hyponym	Subordinate	From concepts to subtypes	<i>meal</i> ¹ → <i>lunch</i> ¹
Member Meronym	Has-Member	From groups to their members	<i>faculty</i> ² → <i>professor</i> ¹
Has-Instance		From concepts to instances of the concept	<i>composer</i> ¹ → <i>Bach</i> ¹
Instance		From instances to their concepts	<i>Austen</i> ¹ → <i>author</i> ¹
Member Holonym	Member-Of	From members to their groups	<i>copilot</i> ¹ → <i>crew</i> ¹
Part Meronym	Has-Part	From wholes to parts	<i>table</i> ² → <i>leg</i> ³
Part Holonym	Part-Of	From parts to wholes	<i>course</i> ⁷ → <i>meal</i> ¹
Antonym		Opposites	<i>leader</i> ¹ → <i>follower</i> ¹

WordNet Verb Relations

Relation	Definition	Example
Hypernym	From events to superordinate events	<i>fly</i> ⁹ → <i>travel</i> ⁹
Troponym	From a verb (event) to a specific manner elaboration of that verb	<i>walk</i> ¹ → <i>stroll</i> ¹
Entails	From verbs (events) to the verbs (events) they entail	<i>snore</i> ¹ → <i>sleep</i> ¹
Antonym	Opposites	<i>increase</i> ¹ ↔ <i>decrease</i> ¹

WordNet Hierarchies

Sense 3

bass, basso --

(an adult male singer with the lowest voice)

- => singer, vocalist, vocalizer, vocaliser
- => musician, instrumentalist, player
- => performer, performing artist
- => entertainer
- => person, individual, someone...
- => organism, being
- => living thing, animate thing,
- => whole, unit
- => object, physical object
- => physical entity
- => entity
- => causal agent, cause, causal agency
- => physical entity
- => entity

Sense 7

bass --

(the member with the lowest range of a family of musical instruments)

- => musical instrument, instrument
- => device
- => instrumentality, instrumentation
- => artifact, artefact
- => whole, unit
- => object, physical object
- => physical entity
- => entity

Word Similarity

- Synonymy is a binary relation
 - Two words are either synonymous or not
- We want a looser metric
 - Word similarity or
 - Word distance
- Two words are more similar
 - If they share more features of meaning

Word Similarity

- Actually these are really relations between **senses**:
 - Instead of saying “*bank is like fund*”
 - We say
 - *Bank1 is similar to fund3*
 - *Bank2 is similar to slope5*
- Similarity are computed over both words and senses

Why word similarity

- Spell Checking
- Information retrieval
- Question answering
- Machine translation
- Natural language generation
- Language modeling
- Automatic essay grading

Lexical Semantics: toward predicates

Syntactic Argument Structures

- (Verbal) Relations require a fixed number of participants, called **arguments**
- The syntactic structure predicts the number and type of arguments through **subcategorization frames**
 - (Bob (gave (**Mary**) (**the book**) (on Monday)))
 - (Bob (gave (**the book**) (**to Mary**) (on Monday)))

Lexical Semantics: Predicates & Thematic roles

- Arguments play specific roles, called **thematic roles**, depending on the predicate but invariant across different syntactic structures giving rise to **predicate argument structures**
 - *give* (Agent: *Bob*, Theme: *the_book*, Recipient: *Mary*)
- Thematic roles of individual arguments are indexed by their predicates
- *General* and *lexicalized* roles have been introduced

THEMATIC ROLES

AGENT: Deliberately performs the action described by the verb

THEME (PATIENT): Undergoes the action of the verb or is in the state described by the verb

EXPERIENCER: Experiences the emotional or mental state or change described by the verb

INSTRUMENT: Entity used to carry out the action described by the verb

LOCATION: Place where action or state occurs

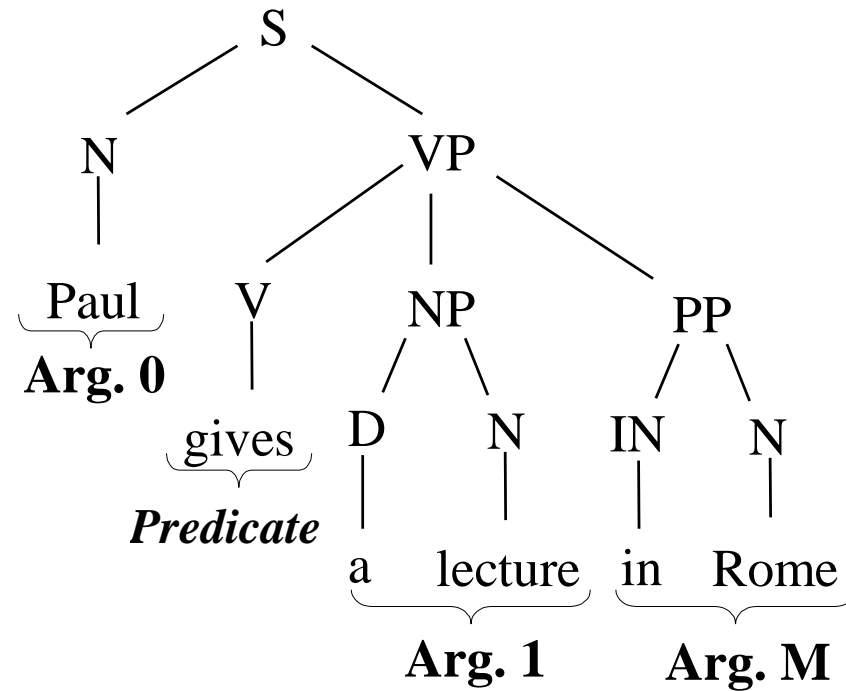
GOAL: Place toward which action is directed

SOURCE: Place from which action originates

ASSOCIATIVE: Performs action with Agent.

Lexical Semantics: Predicates, Arguments & Roles

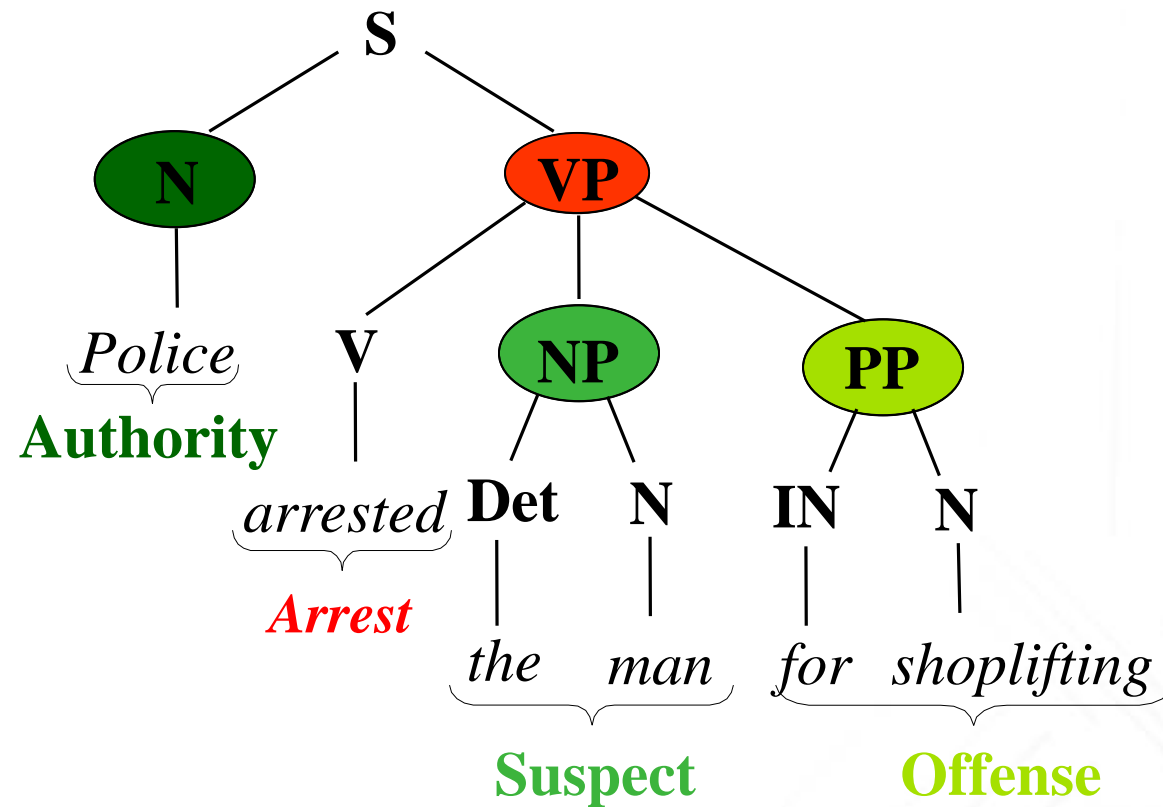
- The syntax-semantic mapping



- Different semantic theories
(e.g. PropBank vs. FrameNet)

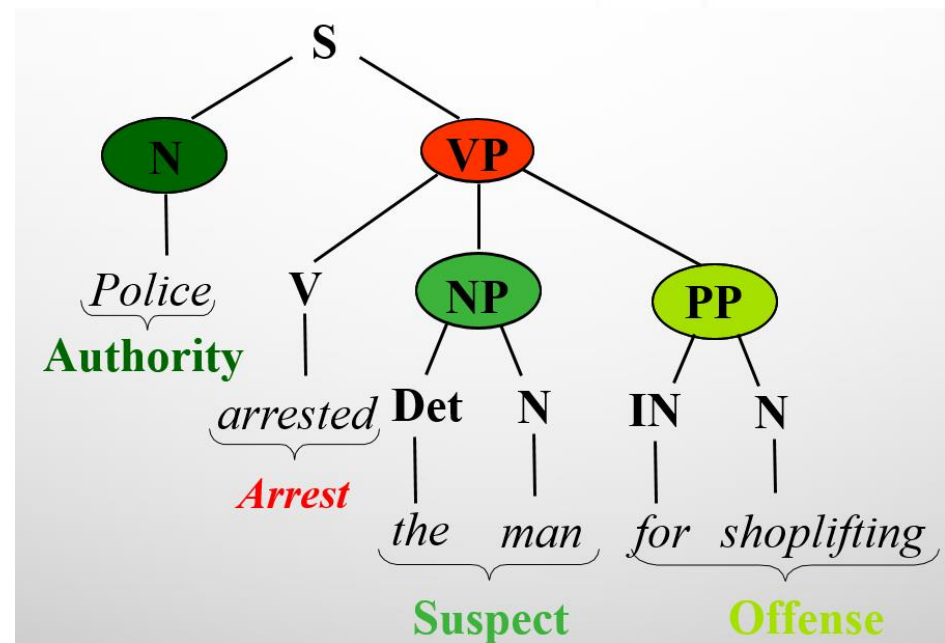
Linking syntax to semantics (Framenet)

- *Police arrested the man for shoplifting*



A tabular vision

• Word	Predicate	Semantic Role
• <i>Police</i>	-	<i>Authority</i>
• <i>arrested</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Arrest</i>
• <i>the</i>	-	<i>SUSPECT</i>
• <i>man</i>	-	<i>SUSPECT</i>
• <i>for</i>	-	<i>OFFENSE</i>
• <i>Shoplifting</i>	-	<i>OFFENSE</i>



Semantics in NLP: Resources

- Lexicalized Predicate Models
 - Propbank
 - NomBank
- Framenet
 - Inspired by frame semantics
 - Frames are lexicalized prototypes for real-world situations
 - Participants are called frame elements (roles)

Frame Semantics

- Research in Empirical Semantics suggests that **words represents categories of experience** (*situations*)
- A **frame** is a cognitive structuring device (i.e. a kind of prototype) indexed by *words* and used to support understanding (Fillmore, 1975)
 - Lexical Units **evoke** a Frame in a sentence
- Frames are made of *elements* that express participants to the situation (Frame Elements)
- During communication LUs evoke the frames

Frame

Frame: KILLING	
A KILLER or CAUSE causes the death of the VICTIM.	
Frame Elements	KILLER John <u>drowned</u> Martha.
	VICTIM John <u>drowned</u> Martha .
	MEANS The flood <u>exterminated</u> the rats by cutting off access to food .
	CAUSE The rockslide <u>killed</u> nearly half of the climbers.
	INSTRUMENT It's difficult to <u>suicide</u> with only a pocketknife .
Predicates	annihilate.v, annihilation.n, asphyxiate.v, assassin.n, assassinate.v, assassination.n, behead.v, beheading.n, blood-bath.n, butcher.v, butchery.n, carnage.n, crucifixion.n, crucify.v, deadly.a, decapitate.v, decapitation.n, destroy.v, dispatch.v, drown.v, eliminate.v, euthanasia.n, euthanize.v, ...

Frame Semantics

- Lexical descriptions are expected to define the indexed frame and the frame elements with their realization at the syntactic level:
 - *John bought a computer from Janice for 1000 \$*
- Mapping into syntactic arguments
 - the buyer is (usually) in the subject position
- Obligatory vs. optional arguments
- Selectional preferences
 - *The seller* and *the buyer* are usually “humans” or “social groups”

The FrameNet project

- **The aims**
 - Create a lexical resource by describing a significant portion of English in terms of precise and rich frame semantics
- **The output**
 - **Frame Database:** a structured system of Frames and Fes
 - **Lexical database:** syntactic and semantic descriptions of frame-evoking words (N,V,A)
 - **Annotated Corpus:** wide coverage examples



Frame Report (recent data)

[| Top of Frame Index](#) | [| Top of Lexical Unit Index](#) |

Committing_crime

Definition:

A **Perpetrator** (generally intentionally) commits a **Crime**, i.e. does something not permitted by the laws of society.

They PERPETRATED a felony by substituting a lie for negotiations.

The suspect had allegedly COMMITTED the crime to gain the attention of a female celebrity.

FEs:

Core:

Crime [Cr]

An act, generally intentional, that has been formally forbidden by law.

How can he COMMIT treason against the King of England in a foreign country , if he is not English?

He PERPETRATED a crime against mother nature.

Perpetrator [Perp] The individual that commits a **Crime**.

How can he COMMIT treason against the King of England in a foreign country , if he is not English?

He PERPETRATED a crime against mother nature.

Non-Core:

Frequency [Freq] The frequency with which a **Crime** is committed.

The average serial killer COMMITTS a crime every five years.

Instrument [Inst] The **Instrument** used in committing the crime.

Most crimes are COMMITTED with a firearm.

Killing

D

FEs:

A

Non-Core:

F

Beneficiary [ben]

This extra-thematic FE applies to participants that derive a benefit from the occurrence of the event specified by the target predicate.

C

Circumstances []

Circumstances describe the state of the world (at a particular time and place) which is specifically independent of the event itself and any of its participants.

C

Ex

Semantic Type: Physical_entity

It's difficult to **SUICIDE** with only a pocketknife.

Excludes: Cause

Instru

Semant

Exclud

Killer [Kill]

The person or sentient entity that causes the death of the **Victim**.

Excludes: Cause

Killer

Means []

The method or action that the **Killer** or **Cause** performs resulting in the death of the **Victim**.

Exclud

Semantic Type: State_of_affairs

The flood **EXTERMINATED** the rats by cutting off access to food.

Mean

Excludes: Cause

Semant

Exclud

Victim []

The living entity that dies as a result of the killing.

Victim

Semantic Type: Sentient

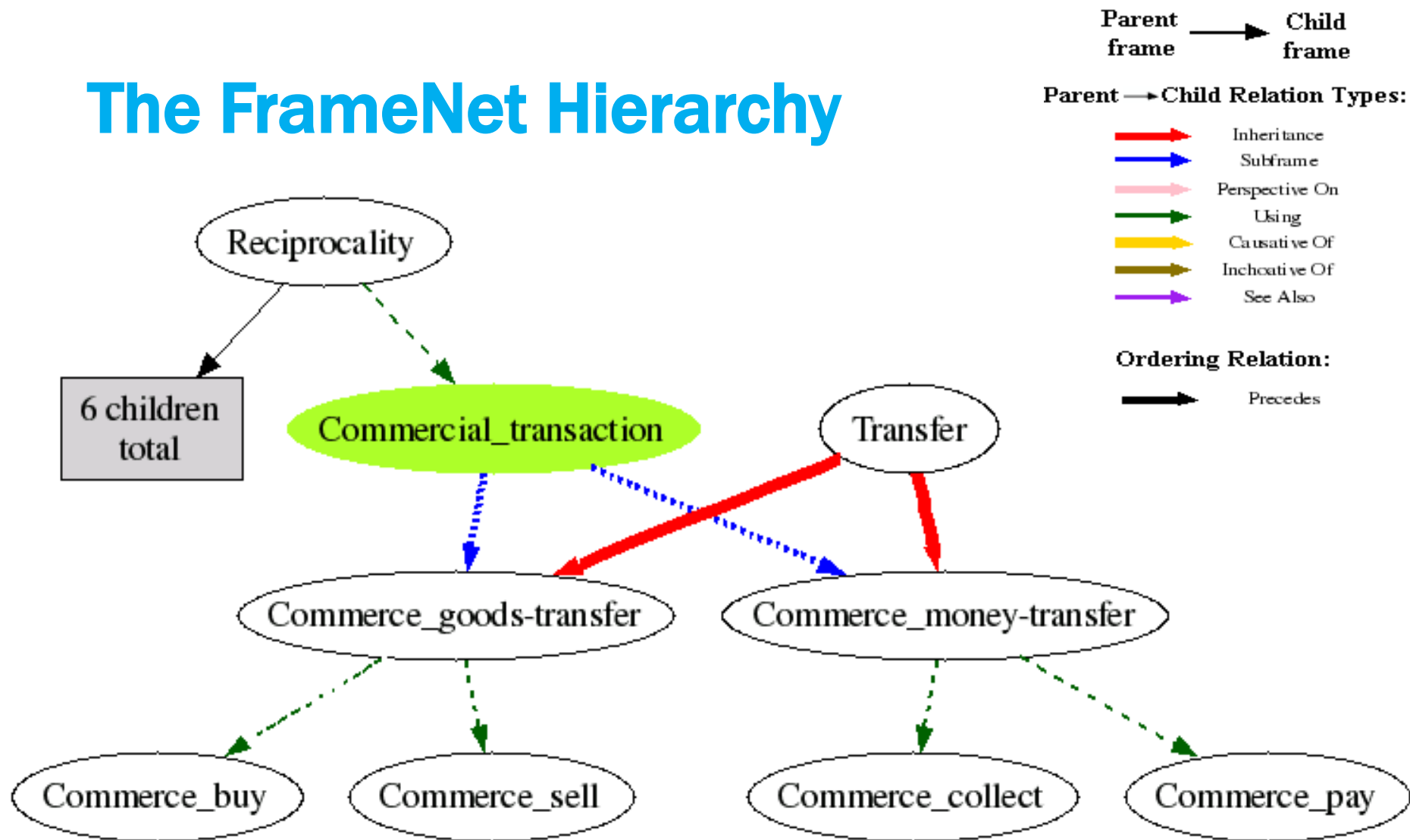
Semant

Non-Core:

Beneficiary [ben]

This extra-thematic FE applies to participants that derive a benefit from the occurrence of the event specified by the target predicate.

The FrameNet Hierarchy

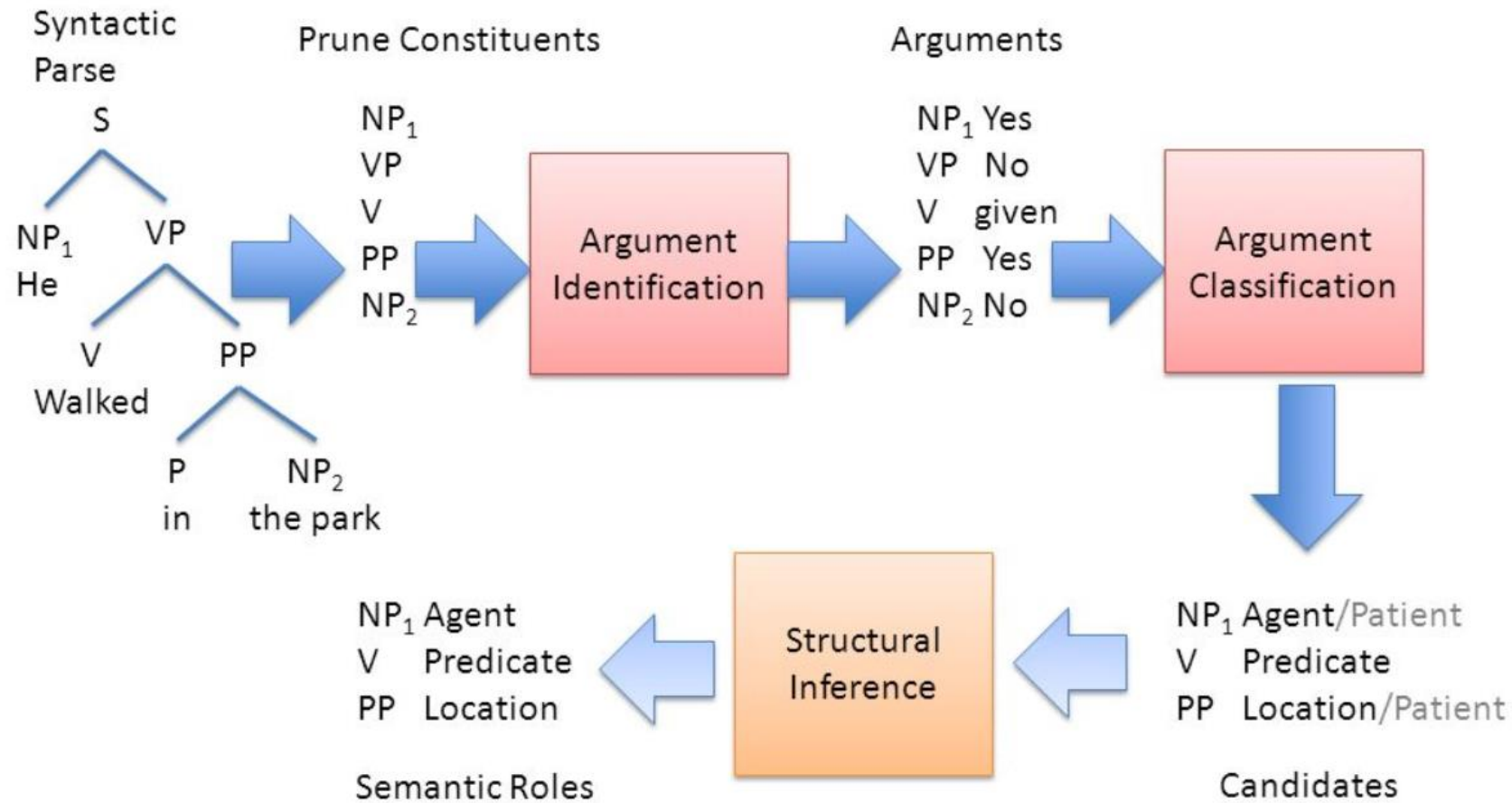


FrameNet - Data

- **Methodology of constructing FrameNet**
 - Define/discover/describe frames
 - Decide the participants (frame elements)
 - List lexical units that evoke the frame
 - Find example sentences in the BNC and annotate them
- **Corpora**
 - FrameNet I -British National Corpus only
 - FrameNet II -LDC North American Newswire corpora
- **Size**
 - >10,000 lexical units, >825 frames, >135,000 sentences
- **<http://framenet.icsi.berkeley.edu>**

Using Framenet/PropBank

SRL Pipeline



Overview


- **Intelligenza Artificiale e Lingue parlate e scritte**
 - Informazioni e Rappresentazioni coinvolte
 - Sfide (ri)correnti, battaglie (già) vinte e rischi inerenti ...
- **Elaborazione Automatica delle Lingue: Modelli, Metodi e *Risultati***

➔ break

- **Ruolo delle Tecnologie dell'Apprendimento ed Applicazioni:**
 - Sviluppo Automatico di Dizionari, Lessici Semantici ed Ontologie
 - Trattamento Semantico della Documentazione Investigativa
 - Sistemi Web-based di Opinion Mining, Market Watch & Brand Reputation Management



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Conclusioni

- I dati della odierna società della conoscenza **sono opachi dal punto di vista epistemologico** e l'intermediazione dei sistemi di calcolo deve sostenere **processi complessi di interpretazione**
- Le tecnologie del linguaggio possono svolgere un ruolo fondamentale nel **sostenere in modo accurato i processi agenti sui Big Data** e nel renderli **economicamente sostenibili**
- In NLP le metodologie di **Rappresentazione della Conoscenza e Reasoning** conoscono una specifica **sinergia** con le metodologie di **Machine Learning**
 - Strutture Dati particolarmente **complesse** (alberi e grafi etichettati)
 - **Enormi volumi** di conoscenza coinvolti
 - **Vaghezza** ed **Incompletezza** caratteristici delle diverse inferenze necessarie
- Questi processi di AI (NLP&ML) costituiscono una branca attiva dell'Informatica che determina in modo rilevante il successo di processi innovativi della automazione in diversi ambiti industriali
 - Gestione Documentale
 - Semantic Search
 - Opinion Analysis & Brand Reputation

Riferimenti

- AI & Robotics. «Robot Futures», Ilah Reza Nourbakhsh, MIT Press, 2013
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- Sitografia:
 - SAG, Univ. Roma Tor Vergata: <http://sag.art.uniroma2.it/>
 - Reveal s.r.l.: <http://www.revealsrl.it/>

