



# INF5820

Natural Language Processing - NLP



H2009

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# [ Today ]

- Overview: course content
- Practicalities
- Beginning tagging

# [ NLP applications - examples ]

## 1. General:

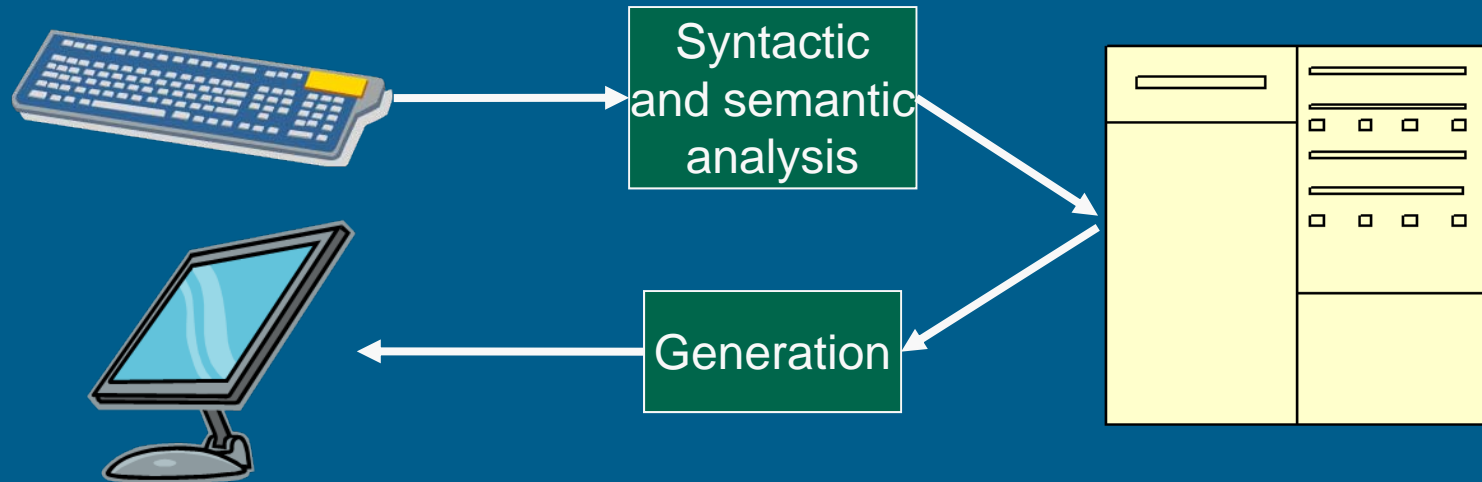
1. Translation
2. Dialogue
3. Information processing

## 2. Speech

1. Speech  $\leftrightarrow$  text
2. Voice control
3. Language support

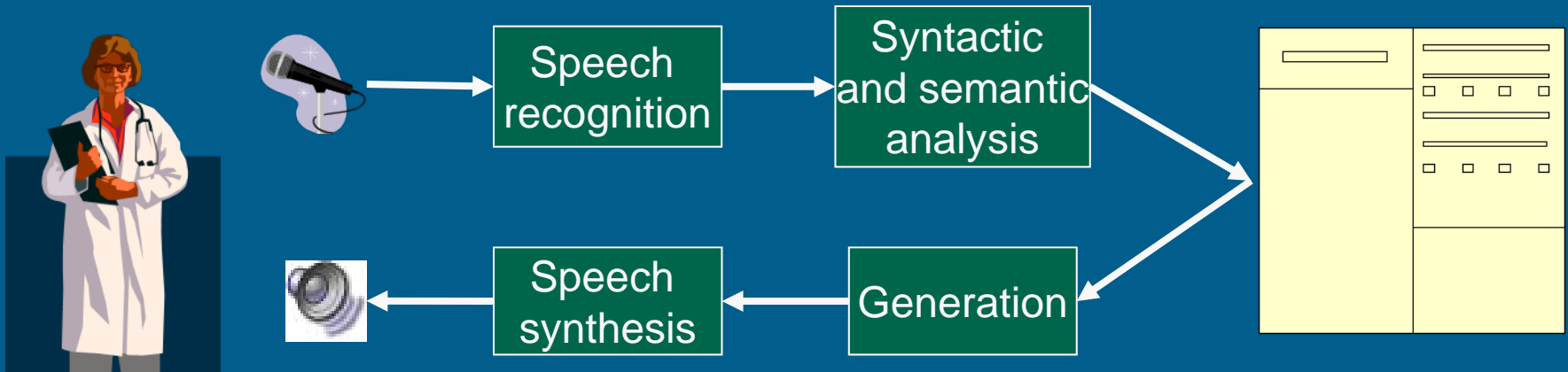


# Communicating with the computer



- The model of the computer as communicator:
  - Analysis
  - Process
  - Generate/synthesis

# [ Oral communication ]

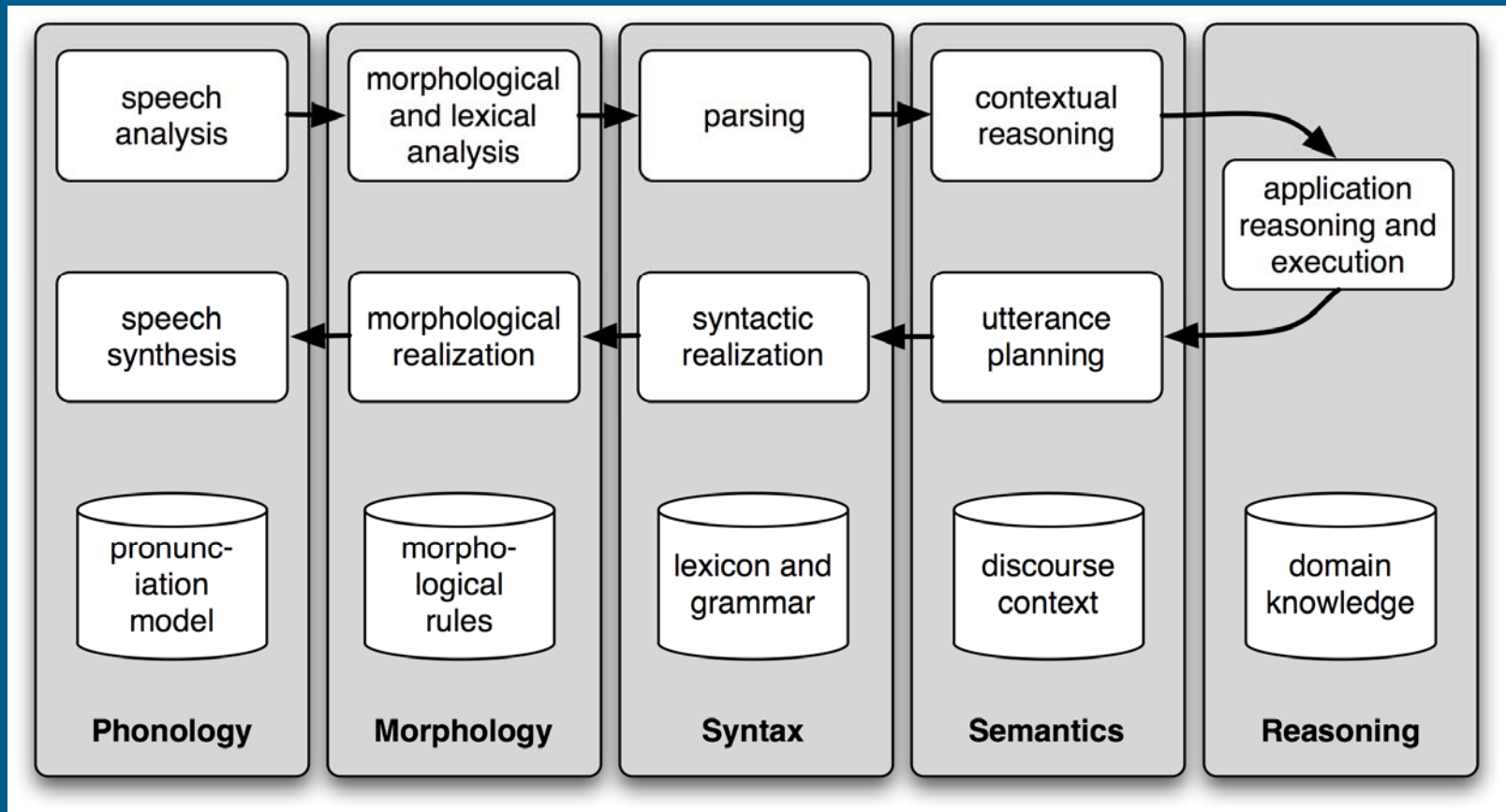


- The model of the computer as communicator:
  - Analysis: speech, grammar, semantics, pragmatics
  - Process
  - Generate/synthesis: content, grammar, speech

# [ The communicating computer ]

- This model fits many applications
  - Translation
  - Dialogue
  - Information processing
  - (with or without speech)
- The processing step varies:
  - Translation
  - Find an answer
  - Carry out an order

# From NLTK



# [ Analysis: two approaches ]

- Theoretical, formal
  - Build a declarative model using
    - Linguistics
    - Logic
  - Algorithms
  - How does it fit data?
- Empirical
  - Start with naturally occurring text
  - What information can we get?



# [ Grammars (formal approach) ]

## Context Free Phrase-Structure Grammar (CF P-SG)

$S \rightarrow NP VP$

$NP \rightarrow DET N$

$VP \rightarrow IV$

$VP \rightarrow TV NP$

$NP \rightarrow NP \text{ som } VP$

$NP \rightarrow NP PP$

$PP \rightarrow P NP$

$NP \rightarrow \text{kari} \mid \text{ola}$

$N \rightarrow \text{barn} \mid \text{by} \mid \text{mann}$

BNF (Backus-Naur Form)

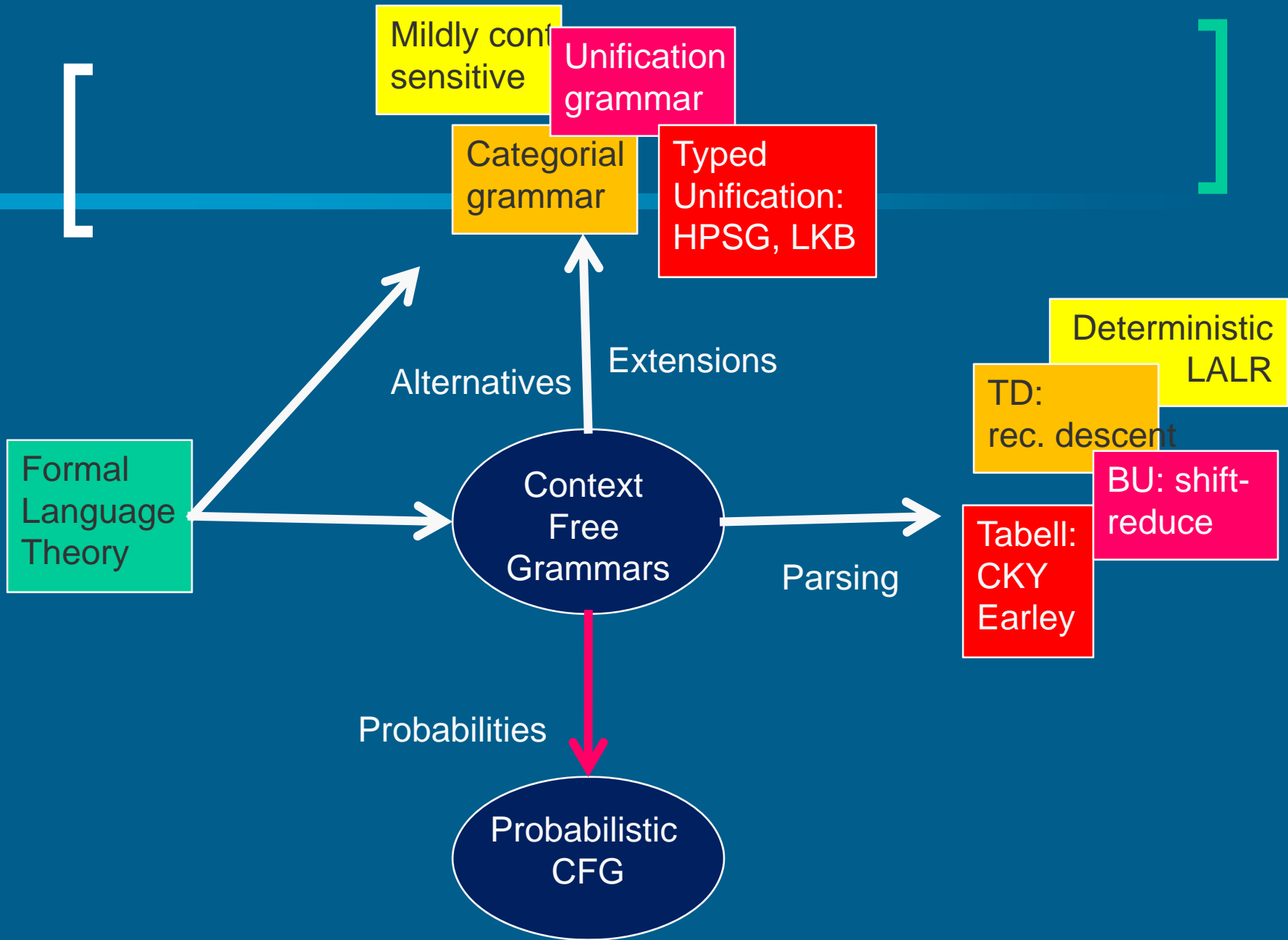
$S ::= NP VP$

$NP ::= DET N \mid NP \text{ som } VP \mid$   
 $NP PP \mid \text{kari} \mid \text{ola}$

$VP ::= IV \mid TV NP$

$PP ::= P NP$

$N ::= \text{barn} \mid \text{by} \mid \text{mann}$



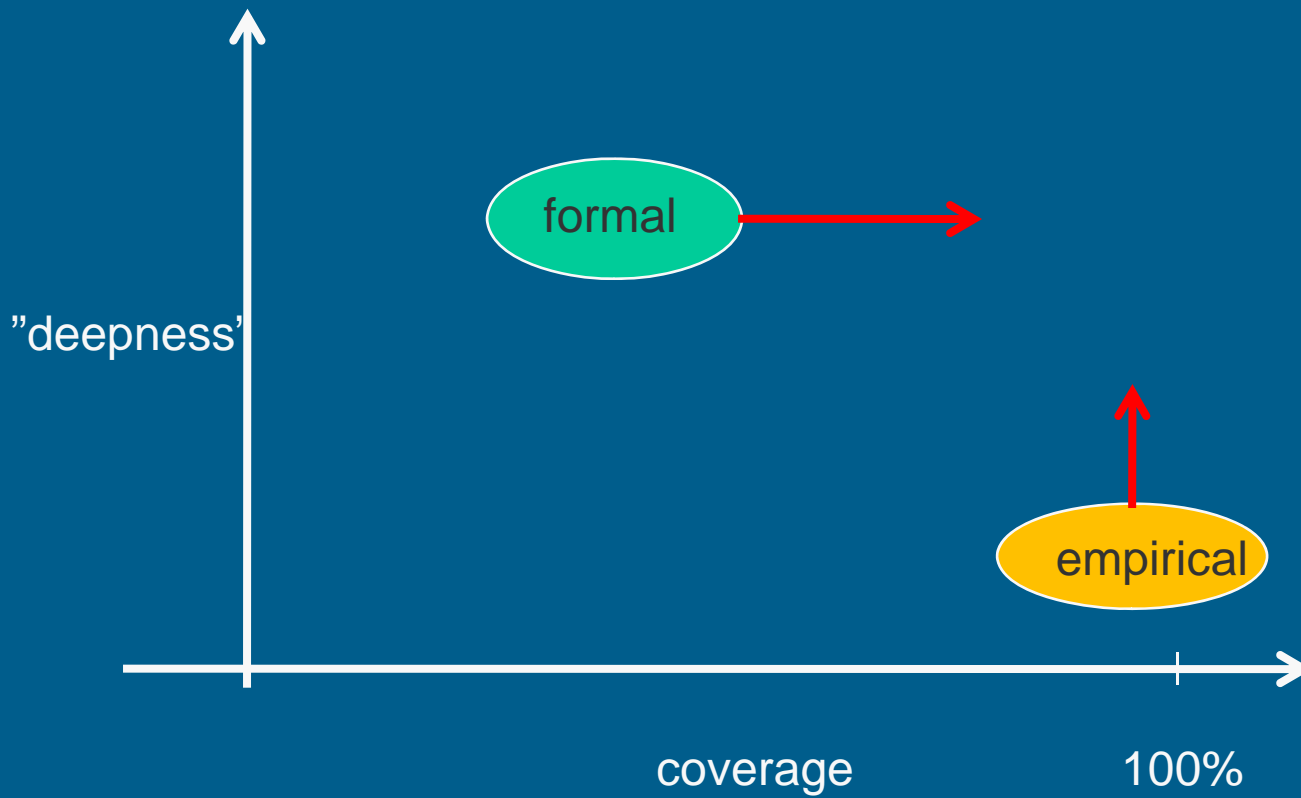
# [ Formal approach: challenges ]

- Coverage
  - Ca 80%
  - The grammar isn't complete
  - The text isn't grammatical
- Ambiguities
  - Sentences are ambiguous
  - Long sentences may get many parses (in the thousands)
- Larger coverage → more rules → more ambiguities
- Efficiency

# [ Empirical methods ]

- Examples:
  - Tagging
  - Speech recognition
  - Statistical MT
- Learn from examples: generalize
- Stochastic methods: probabilities
- Challenge for analysis:
  - Input to compositional semantics

# [ Two approaches ]



# [ From formal towards hybrid ]

- Coverage:
  - Supply with simpler methods where the formal method fails
  - Challenge: compatible output
- Ambiguities
  - Stochastic methods

# [ A decisive difference ]

- Formal methods:
  - A clearcut division between
    - Grammatical – ungrammatical
    - Possible analysis – impossible
  - Choosing the most probable between the grammatical ones
- Empirical, stochastic approach
  - Choose the "best" (most probable)
  - No division between possible and impossible

# [ INF5830 ]

- <http://www.uio.no/studier/emner/matnat/ifi/INF580/index.xml>
- Bygger på INF4820 (kan tas samtidig)
- Alternativer med INF5820 Language technological applications



# [ Mixed audience ]

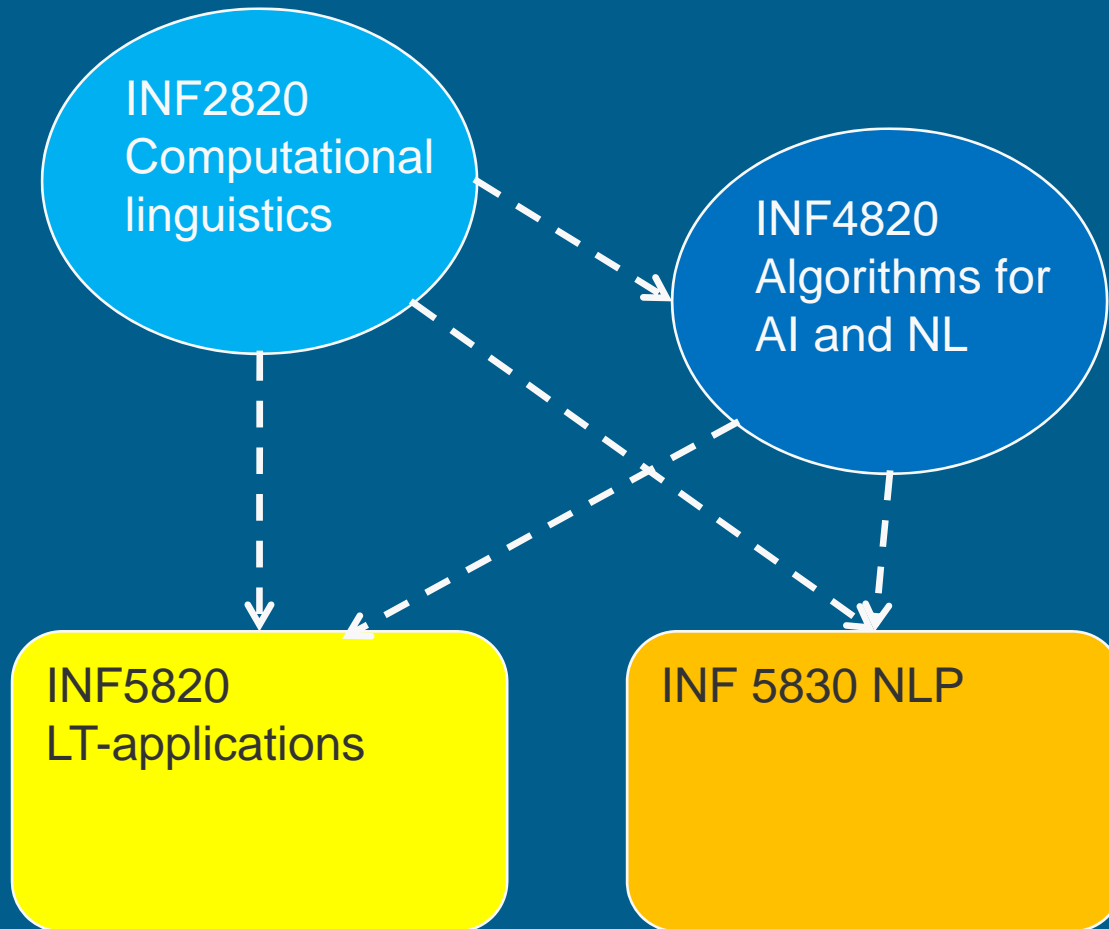
- Challenge:

- Participants have different backgrounds (e.g. INF4820, 5820)
- Content of some courses have changed
  - E.g. HMM in INF4820
  - Probabilistic CFG in INF2820/INF4820

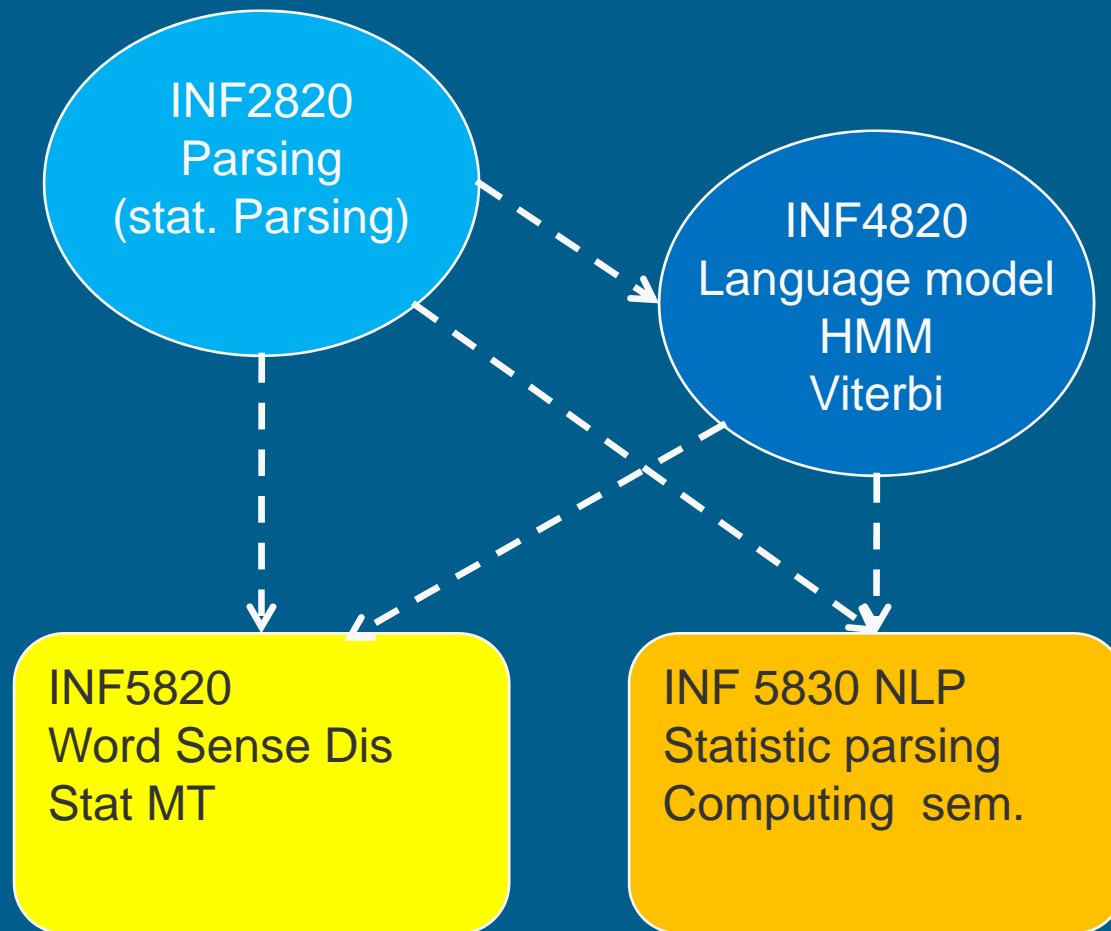
- Goal:

- INF2820 or INF4820 sufficient background
- Avoid repetition
- Consult INF4820

# [ Related courses ]



# [ Statistical NLP ]



-stat.  
inference ?  
- smoothing ?  
- information  
theory ?

# Content

- Probabilities 28.8 (=INF4820, 5820)
- Tagging
  - CG
  - HMM, short (more in INF4820: Viterbi)
  - Max Ent
- Probabilistic CFG
  - Basic
  - CKY-parsing
  - Charniak-parser
  - Collins-parser

# [ Content, contd. ]

- RASP-systemet
- Dependency parsing
- From parsing to semantics
  - PropBank, FrameNet
  - Role labeling
  - Relation detection

# [ Schedule ]

- Class

- Monday 14.15-16
- Wednesday 10.15-12 (not every week)

- Exam

- Dec. 10, 2:30 PM

# [ Assignments ]

- 3 sets
- Familiarize ourselves with techniques and tools
  1. N-gram tagging
  2. Prob. Parsing
  3. Small group project

# [ PhD-students ]

- Use code INF9830
- Supposed to do more than master students
- Class presentation



[

]

**PART OF SPEECH TAGGING**

# [ Part of speech tagging ]

- Example: [Oslo-Bergen-tagger](#)

# [ Parts of Speech ]

- 8 (ish) traditional parts of speech
  - Noun, verb, adjective, preposition, adverb, article, interjection, pronoun, conjunction, etc
  - Called: parts-of-speech, lexical categories, word classes, morphological classes, lexical tags...
  - Lots of debate within linguistics about the number, nature, and universality of these
    - We'll completely ignore this debate.

# [ POS examples ]

- N noun *chair, bandwidth, pacing*
- V verb *study, debate, munch*
- ADJ adjective *purple, tall, ridiculous*
- ADV adverb *unfortunately, slowly*
- P preposition *of, by, to*
- PRO pronoun *I, me, mine*
- DET determiner *the, a, that, those*

# [ POS Tagging ]

- J&M: “The process of assigning a part-of-speech or lexical class marker to each word in a collection.”

WORD

tag

**the**

**DET**

**koala**

**N**

**put**

**V**

**the**

**DET**

**keys**

**N**

**on**

**P**

**the**

**DET**

**table**

**N**

# Why is POS Tagging Useful?

- First step of
  - Chunking (partial parsing)
  - Named entity recognition
  - Word sense disambiguation
- Speech synthesis
  - How to pronounce "lead"? No: "passasjer"?
  - INsult                      inSULT
  - OBject                      obJECT
  - OVERflow                  overFLOW
  - DIScount                  disCOUNT
- Information extraction
  - Lemmatization
  - Finding names, relations, etc.
- POS brings info to neighboring words
  - Speech recognition

# Choosing a Tagset

- There are so many parts of speech, potential distinctions we can draw
- To do POS tagging, we need to choose a standard set of tags to work with
- Could pick very coarse tagsets
  - N, V, Adj, Adv.
- More commonly used set is finer grained, the “Penn TreeBank tagset”, 45 tags
  - PRP\$, WRB, WP\$, VBG
- Even more fine-grained tagsets exist
- Tradeoff:
  - How much information is needed?
  - How difficult is the disambiguation?

# Pen TreeBank POS Tagset

Tag	Description	Example	Tag	Description	Example
CC	coordin. conjunction	<i>and, but, or</i>	SYM	symbol	<i>+, %, &amp;</i>
CD	cardinal number	<i>one, two, three</i>	TO	“to”	<i>to</i>
DT	determiner	<i>a, the</i>	UH	interjection	<i>ah, oops</i>
EX	existential ‘there’	<i>there</i>	VB	verb, base form	<i>eat</i>
FW	foreign word	<i>mea culpa</i>	VBD	verb, past tense	<i>ate</i>
IN	preposition/sub-conj	<i>of, in, by</i>	VBG	verb, gerund	<i>eating</i>
JJ	adjective	<i>yellow</i>	VBN	verb, past participle	<i>eaten</i>
JJR	adj., comparative	<i>bigger</i>	VBP	verb, non-3sg pres	<i>eat</i>
JJS	adj., superlative	<i>wildest</i>	VBZ	verb, 3sg pres	<i>eats</i>
LS	list item marker	<i>1, 2, One</i>	WDT	wh-determiner	<i>which, that</i>
MD	modal	<i>can, should</i>	WP	wh-pronoun	<i>what, who</i>
NN	noun, sing. or mass	<i>llama</i>	WP\$	possessive wh-	<i>whose</i>
NNS	noun, plural	<i>llamas</i>	WRB	wh-adverb	<i>how, where</i>
NNP	proper noun, singular	<i>IBM</i>	\$	dollar sign	<i>\$</i>
NNPS	proper noun, plural	<i>Carolinas</i>	#	pound sign	<i>#</i>
PDT	predeterminer	<i>all, both</i>	“	left quote	<i>‘ or “</i>
POS	possessive ending	<i>'s</i>	”	right quote	<i>’ or ”</i>
PRP	personal pronoun	<i>I, you, he</i>	(	left parenthesis	<i>[, (, {, &lt;</i>
PRP\$	possessive pronoun	<i>your, one’s</i>	)	right parenthesis	<i>], ), }, &gt;</i>
RB	adverb	<i>quickly, never</i>	,	comma	<i>,</i>
RBR	adverb, comparative	<i>faster</i>	.	sentence-final punc	<i>. ! ?</i>
RBS	adverb, superlative	<i>fastest</i>	:	mid-sentence punc	<i>: ; ... --</i>
RP	particle	<i>up, off</i>			



# Using the Penn Tagset

- The/DT grand/JJ jury/NN  
commented/VBD on/IN a/DT  
number/NN of/IN other/JJ topics/NNS ./.
- Prepositions and subordinating  
conjunctions marked IN (“although/IN  
I/PRP..”)
- Except the preposition/complementizer  
“to” is just marked “TO”.

# [ POS Tagging ]

- Words often have more than one POS:  
*back*
  - The *back* door = JJ
  - On my *back* = NN
  - Win the voters *back* = RB
  - Promised to *back* the bill = VB
- The POS tagging problem is to determine the POS tag for a particular instance of a word.

# How Hard is POS Tagging? Measuring Ambiguity

	87-tag Original Brown	45-tag Treebank Brown
<b>Unambiguous (1 tag)</b>	<b>44,019</b>	<b>38,857</b>
<b>Ambiguous (2–7 tags)</b>	<b>5,490</b>	<b>8844</b>
Details:		
2 tags	4,967	6,731
3 tags	411	1621
4 tags	91	357
5 tags	17	90
6 tags	2 ( <i>well, beat</i> )	32
7 tags	2 ( <i>still, down</i> )	6 ( <i>well, set, round, open, fit, down</i> )
8 tags		4 ( <i>'s, half, back, a</i> )
9 tags		3 ( <i>that, more, in</i> )

# [ Two Methods for POS Tagging ]

1. Rule-based tagging
  - (ENGTWOL)
2. Stochastic
  1. Probabilistic sequence models
    - HMM (Hidden Markov Model) tagging
    - MEMMs (Maximum Entropy Markov Models)

# [ Rule-Based Tagging ]

- Start with a dictionary
- Assign all possible tags to words from the dictionary
- Write rules by hand to selectively remove tags
- Leaving the correct tag for each word.

# [ Start With a Dictionary ]

- she: PRP
- promised: VBN,VBD
- to TO
- back: VB, JJ, RB, NN
- the: DT
- bill: NN, VB
  
- Etc... for the ~100,000 words of English with more than 1 tag

# [Assign Every Possible Tag]

NN

RB

VBN

JJ

VB

PRP VBD

TO

VB

DT

NN

**She promised to back the bill**

# [ Tagging vs parsing ]

- A tagger faces the same two tasks as a grammar-based parser
- Ambiguity:
  - Choose the correct tag sequence between several candidates
- Coverage:
  - Assigning tags to words not in the lexicon:
    - Proper names
    - New words
    - Compounds
    - typos



# [ Ambiguity ]

- How to tag genuine ambiguities?

	VB	PRP\$	NN
PRP	VBD	PRP	VB
I	saw	her	duck

- Possible parses:
  - PRP VB PRP\$ NN
  - PRP VBD PRP\$ NN
  - PRP VBD PRP VB
- Impossible
  - PRP VBD PRP VB
  - + 4more