

Projektgruppe



Henning Wachsmuth

Information Extraction An Incomplete Overview

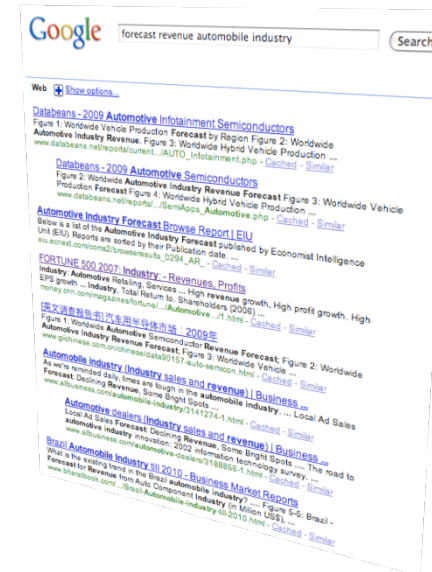
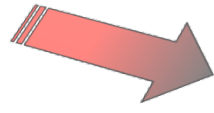
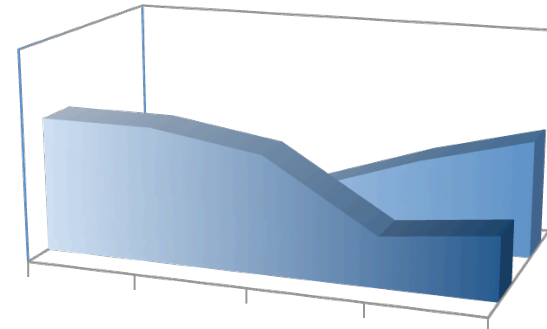
12. Mai 2010

Einführungsvorträge

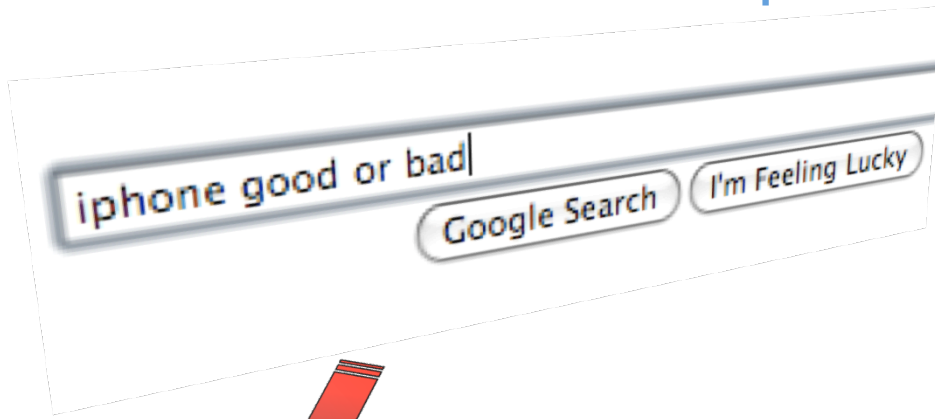


- **Verfassen von Seminarvortrag und –paper**
Prof. Dr. Gregor Engels, Donnerstag 15.4., 16h-18h
- **Interactive Knowledge – Semantische CMS-Systeme**
Fabian Christ, Donnerstag 29.4., 16h-18h
- **Maschinelles Lernen**
Dr. Theodor Lettmann, Freitag 7.5., 15h-17h
- **Information Extraction**
Henning Wachsmuth, Mittwoch 12.5., 16h-18h
- **Aktuelle Probleme des Software Engineering**
Benjamin Nagel, **Donnerstag 20.5., 16h-18h**
- **Plagiatanalyse**
Prof. Dr. Benno Stein, Bauhaus-Universität Weimar, **Freitag 28.5., 14h-16h**
- **Projektmanagement**
Stefan Sauer, Geschäftsführer s-lab

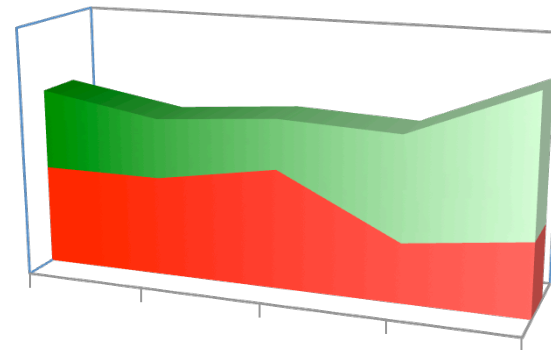
Motivation: Automatic market forecasting



Motivation: Trends and opinions



amazon.de
Elektronik & Foto
Kundenrezensionen
Apple iPhone 3G 16GB - Schwarz
5 Sterne: (30)
4 Sterne: (7)
3 Sterne: (6)
2 Sterne: (12)
1 Sterne: (10)
Durchschnittliche Kundenbewertung: 3.8 Sterne (65 Kundenrezensionen)
Eigene Rezension erstellen



Outline

What is IE? [1] Introduction, definitions and applications	[2] Techniques A common IE pipeline and its algorithms
Evaluation [3] Why, what and how to evaluate	[4] Outlook Problems, current state and conclusion

What is Information Extraction (IE)?



„Information Extraction is a technology that is **futuristic from the user's point of view** in the current information-driven world.“

*(from the website of the
National Institute of Standards and Technology)*



**Some marketing
from Open Calais...**

A little more precise...

„Information Extraction is a technology **based on analysing natural language** in order to extract snippets of information.“

(Hamish Cunningham, University of Sheffield)



„Recovering structured data from formatted text, i.e., **identifying fields, understanding relations, normalization** and deduplication.“



(Kamal Nigam, Google Pittsburgh)

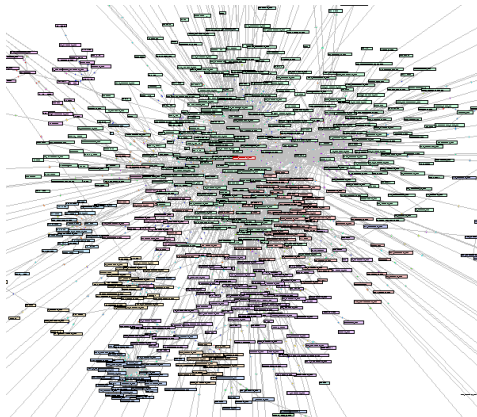
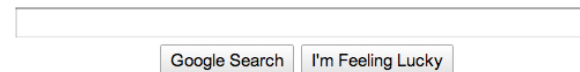
„**Filling slots in a database from sub-segments of text.** IE = segmentation + classification + association + clustering.“

(William W. Cohen, Carnegie Mellon University)



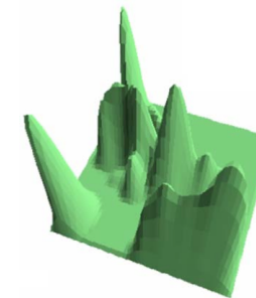
What isn't?

- Google (search) is not IE
 - Search is **Information Retrieval!**
Next slide...



- **Text understanding** is not IE
 - IE is only interested in specific parts of the text
 - IE is usually much more efficient and realistic at present

- Inferring patterns and information from databases isn't.
 - That's **Data Mining**.

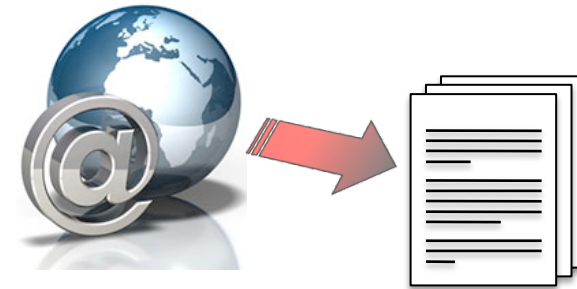


Retrieval vs. Extraction



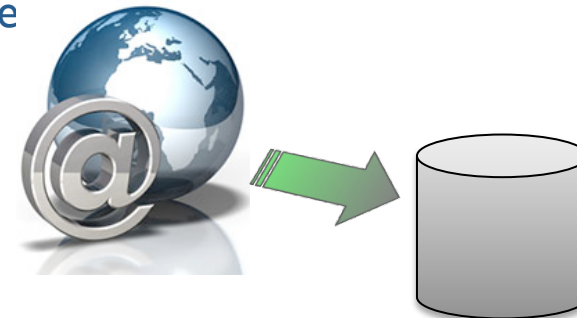
- **Information Retrieval (IR):** Index and search

- Returns relevant documents to a query based on similarity measures and statistics
- YOU analyze the documents!
- Advantage: widely applicable, problem: sometimes still too much information

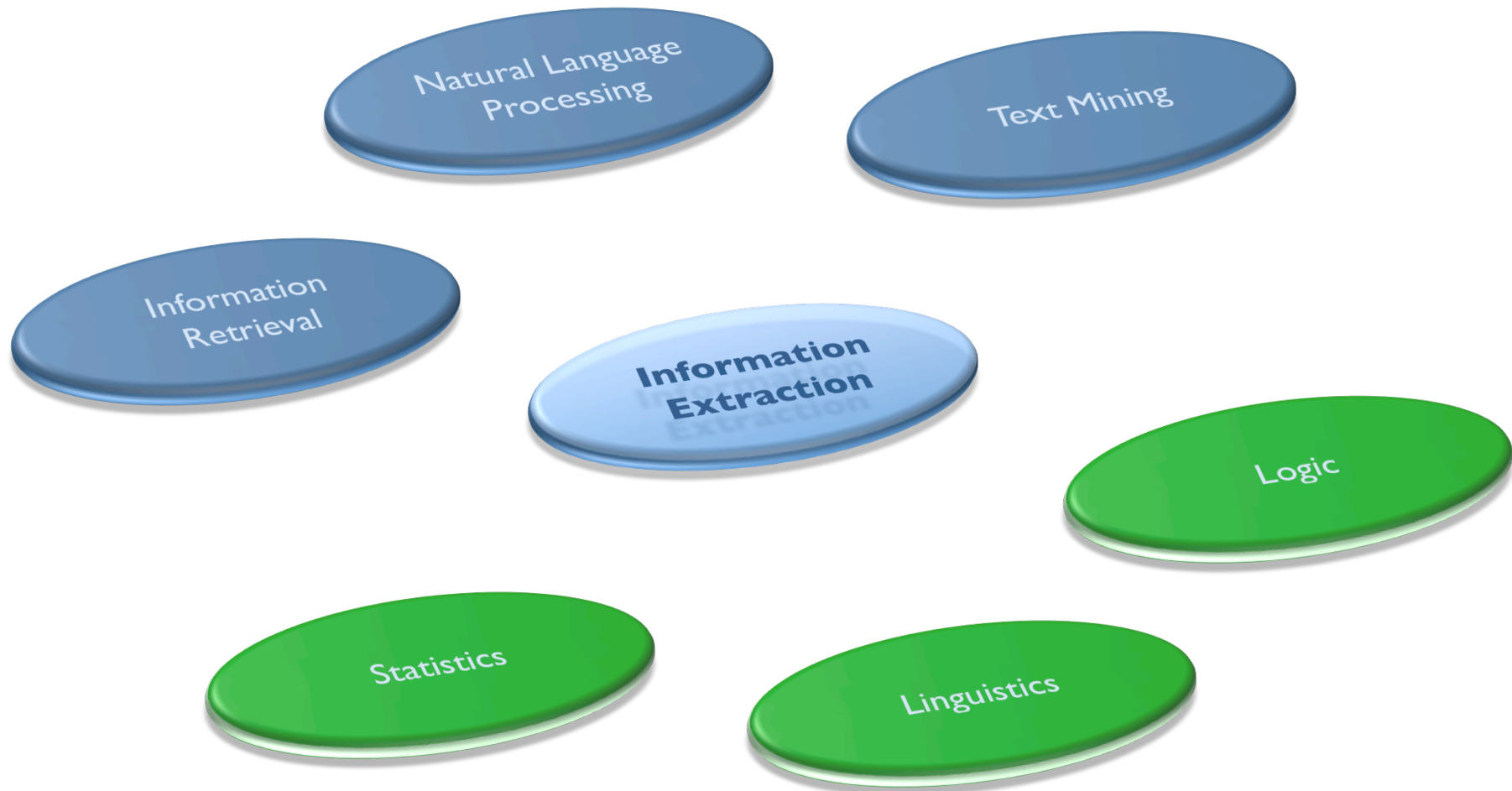


- **Information Extraction (IE):** Find and structure

- Returns facts and specific information of predefined types
- YOU analyze the facts!
- Advantage: allows for automatic aggregation, problem: often domain-specific



Related fields and sciences



Applications



- **Entity search**
- **Faceted search**
- Media monitoring
- Tourism offers
- Job Descriptions
- **Trend analysis and opinion mining**
- **Market forecasts**
- Health care delivery
- Monitor terrorist activities
- ...



Outline revisited

What is IE? [1] Introduction, definitions and applications	[2] Techniques A common IE pipeline and its algorithms
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Extraction: example



LOEWE AG: VORLÄUFIGE NEUN-MONATS-ZAHLEN 2007

Kronach, 6. November 2007 – Auf vorläufiger Basis konnte das Ergebnis des Loewe Konzerns in den ersten neun Monaten deutlich verbessert werden. (...)

Beim Umsatz strebt der Chef des Konzerns, Rainer Hecker, für das Jahr 2007 weiterhin ein Wachstum von 10 % auf ca. 380 Mio. Euro an.

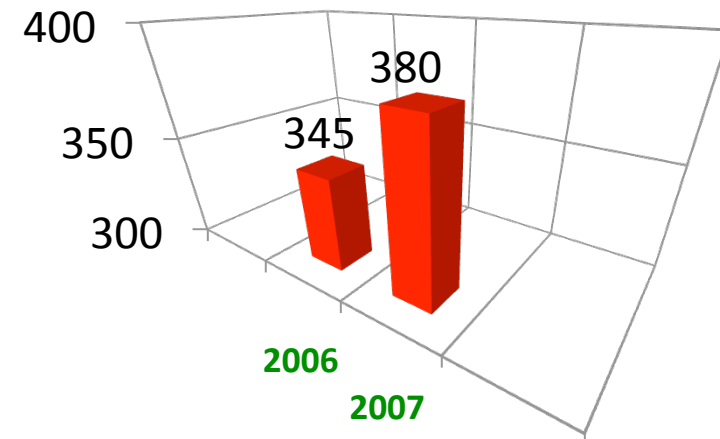
Loewe AG:

T = (01.01.2007, 31.12.2007)

M = (380.0, 10.0)

t = (06.11.2007)

A = ("Rainer Hecker")



Loewe AG: Revenues in million €

Rule-based vs. statistical approaches



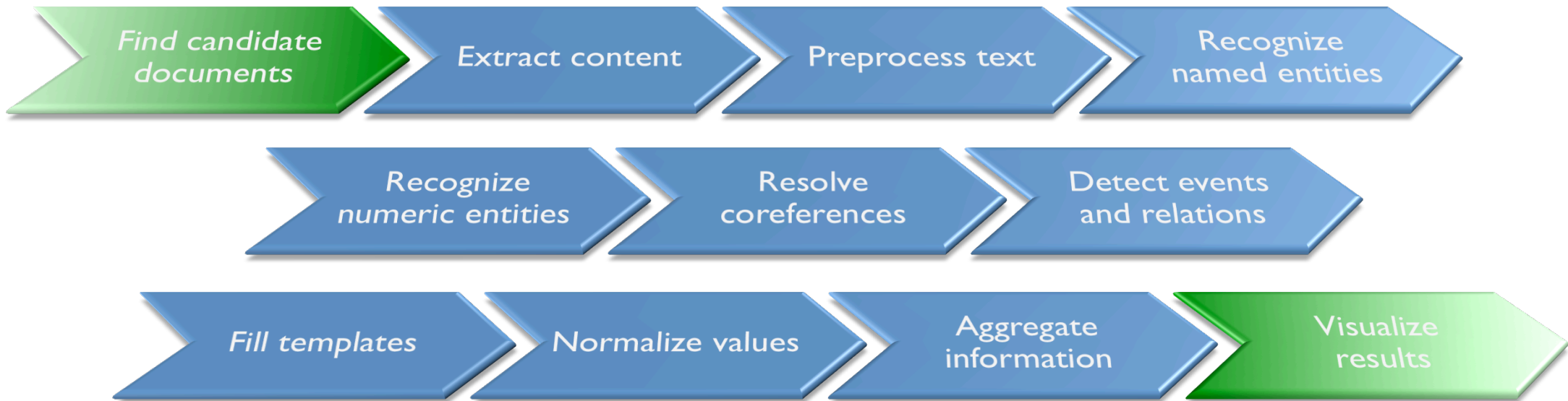
- **Knowledge engineering** based on language experience
- Make use of human intuition
- Only **few training data** needed
- Often very time consuming **hand-crafted** development
- Changes may be hard to accomodate



- Use **Machine Learning** techniques
- Results may be counterintuitive
- Large amounts of **annotated training data** needed
- Main work is **feature engineering**
- Changes often easy (but sometimes require reannotation)

High-level IE pipeline

- **Normal IE tasks** may consist of several steps, which are sequentially executed
- An IE pipeline can look like the following:

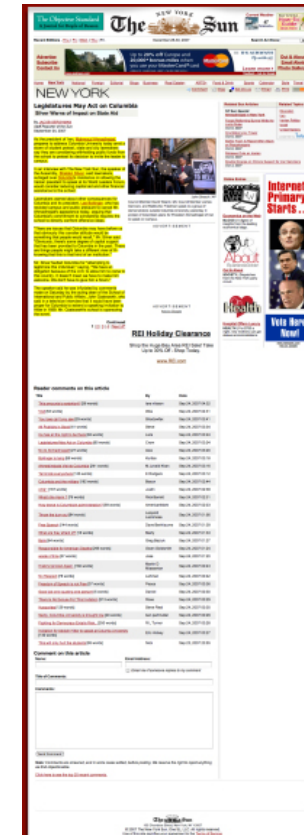


(Note that the segmentation and naming of steps differ in literature, so take the given pipeline as an example)

Content Extraction



- **Content Extraction** is the process of determining the parts of a document which contain the main textual content
 - Common example: finding the main text of an HTML document
- For semi-structured documents, approaches to this task mostly rely on **analyzing the underlying markup structure**
 - Instead of syntactic trees, often only heuristics on the **density** are used
 - Passages with content often consists of very few tags



from spinn3r.com

Text preprocessing

- Many Information Extraction algorithms are based on the results of **syntactic and linguistic preprocessing**, namely:
 - Tokens and sentences
 - Stems, lemmata and part-of-speech of tokens
 - Phrase structure of sentences

**More on this in the
talk of Michael Meier**

Named Entity Recognition (NER)

- **Named entities** are nameable objects in the world



- Traditionally, IE concentrates on **persons, organizations, and locations**, but many categories are possible (e.g. markets, etc.)
- NER seeks to find all entities in a text that belong to **predefined categories**
- NER is the **most popular IE task** and has many applications

- Most state-of-the-art systems use **sequential classifiers** based on Machine Learning techniques:

Die Loewe AG erzielt zum 3. Mal in Folge mehr Umsatz.

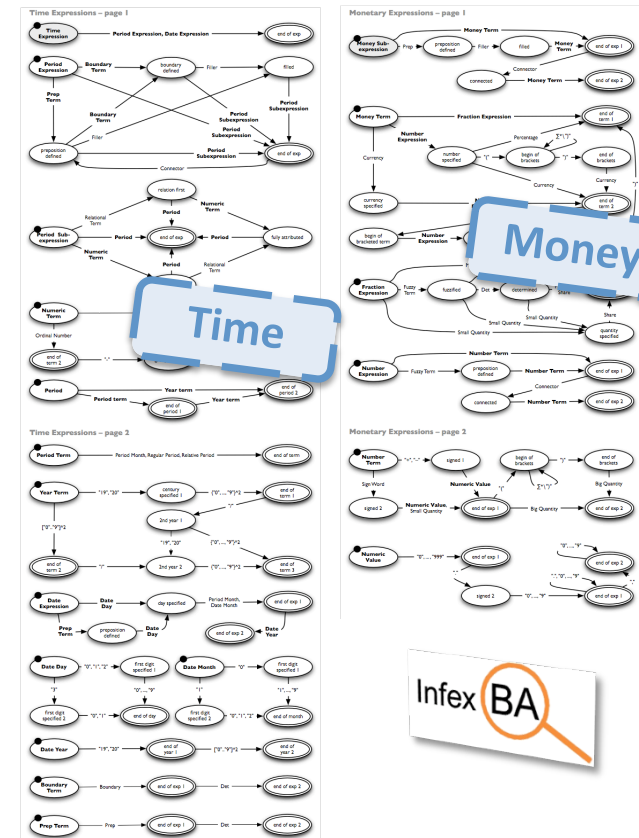
O B-ORG I-ORG O O O ...

More on this labeling in the talk of Enes Yigitbas

More on NER in the talk of Michael Meier

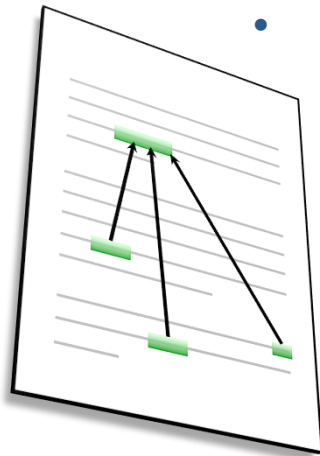
Numeric Entity Recognition*

- **Numeric entities** can be time and money expressions, quantities, percentages, and the like
 - Sometimes also counted as named entities
 - Some standards distinguish **30 classes** of number expressions
- Numeric Entity Recognition can be done with Sequence Labeling or with rule-based approaches
 - In InfexBA, we found more than 96% of all time and money information with **regular expressions**



* also often only called **Temporal Expression Recognition (TER)**

Coreference Resolution

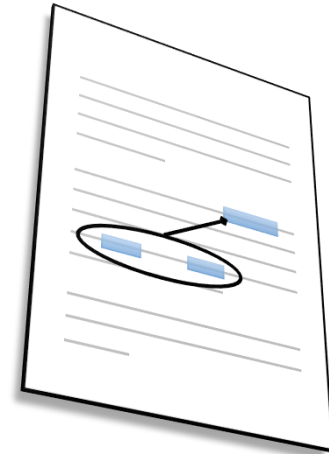


- Resolving coreferences is the task of **finding and unifying** different identifiers for the same referent
 - Anaphoric:** relations between pronouns (etc.) and names
 - Proper-noun:** different spellings and compoundings of the same object
- Example** from above: **LOEWE AG: VORLÄUFIGE NEUN-MONATS-ZAHLEN 2007**
*Kronach, 6. November 2007 – Auf vorläufiger Basis konnte das Ergebnis des **Loewe** Konzerns in den ersten neun Monaten deutlich verbessert werden. (...)*
*Beim Umsatz strebt der Chef des **Konzerns** (...)*
 - Both **hand-crafted and statistical** approaches used in literature:
 - Identifying same head words, considering noun phrase types, distance features...

Relation Extraction and Event Detection



- **Relation Extraction (RE)** is on the recognition of relationship between entities
- **Event Detection** seeks for the events entities take part in
- Both tackle the identification of certain relations and classifying roles of entities:
 - Identification can be based on supervised learning (bag of words, etc.)
 - **Syntactic parsing** may then be used to determine roles
- Since parsing is quite inefficient, we need to minimize the set of candidate relations:
 - **Example:** Discard the following sentence, because it's not on revenue!
Auf vorläufiger Basis konnte das Ergebnis des Loewe Konzerns in den ersten neun Monaten deutlich verbessert werden.



Template Filling



- **Compose** all information that refers to an instance of the scenario of interest
 - Use **entities** and **relations** from the previous stages
 - Maybe find further **attributes, properties** etc. (with the help of word lists, classifiers, etc.)

- **Example:** In InfexBA, we do the following:
 1. Extract named entities, time and money information
 2. Identify sentences that represent statements on revenue
 3. Determine type of statement and the relation between time and money
 4. Find subject, scope, statement time, etc.



Normalization

- **Resolve** in-text references
 - Example: „Kronach, 6. November 2007 – Das Ergebnis des Loewe Konzerns konnte in den ersten neun Monaten deutlich verbessert werden. (...)“
- **Transform** numeric expressions into a normalized form
 - Example: „um 3 Millionen auf 21 Millionen Euro“ → (21.0, 16.67)
 - Example: „in den ersten neun Monaten 2007“ → (01.01.2007, 30.09.2007)
- **Match and unify** synonymous entity identifiers
 - Example: „Loewe“ and „Loewe AG“ → („Loewe AG“)

Master thesis possible!

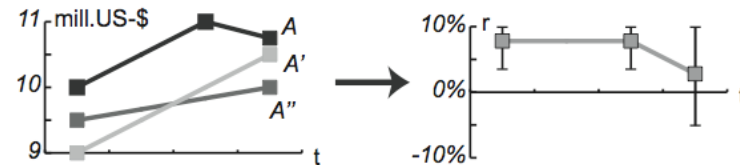
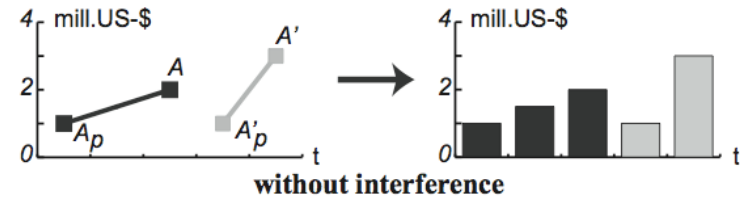
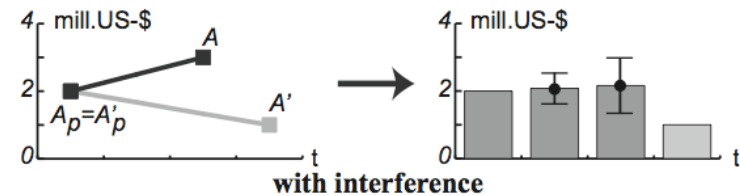
Aggregation

- With aggregation, we mean **merging, deduplication, and inference** on the normalized information

Example: Market Forecast Information

- Chronological merge values, compute average and deviations
- Infer information on given topic from information on subtopics
 - e.g., from companies to markets

Bachelor thesis possible.
Tell your friends!



Visualization

- Once normalization and aggregation is done, visualization is straightforward

Loewe AG

Dez 06:

(01.01.2006, 31.12.2006): 345,0 Mio. €

(01.01.2007, 31.12.2007): 380,0 Mio. €

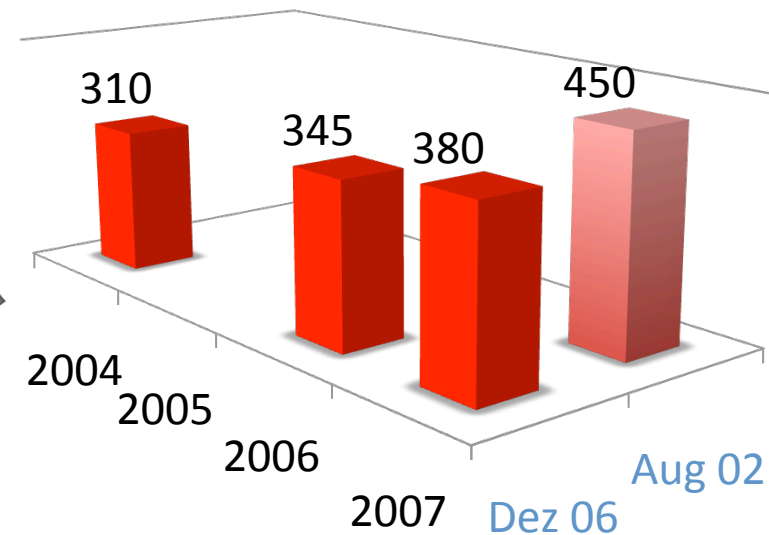
Dez 04:

(01.01.2004, 31.12.2004): 310,0 Mio. €

Aug 02:

(01.01.2007, 31.12.2007): 450,0 Mio. €

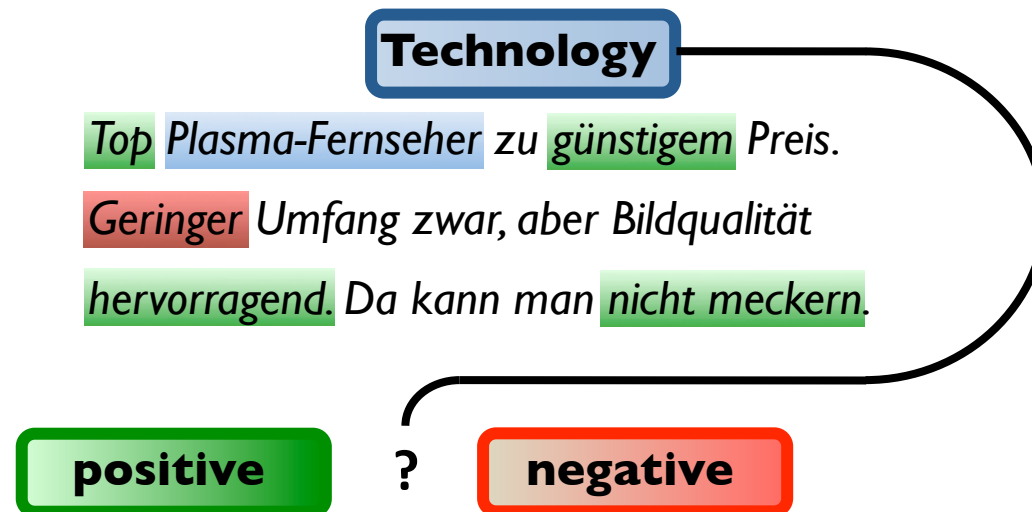
**Bachelor thesis possible.
Tell your friends!**



Loewe AG: past/predicted revenues

Text classification in IE

- Besides sequential classifiers, the classification of texts may be connected to Information Extraction
- Techniques like **genre analysis** or **opinion mining** are related to IE in that they often include the extraction of specific information:



Outline, the 3rd



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Evaluation



Discover points of failure

Prove that your ideas are good

Why evaluate?

Decide between alternative methods

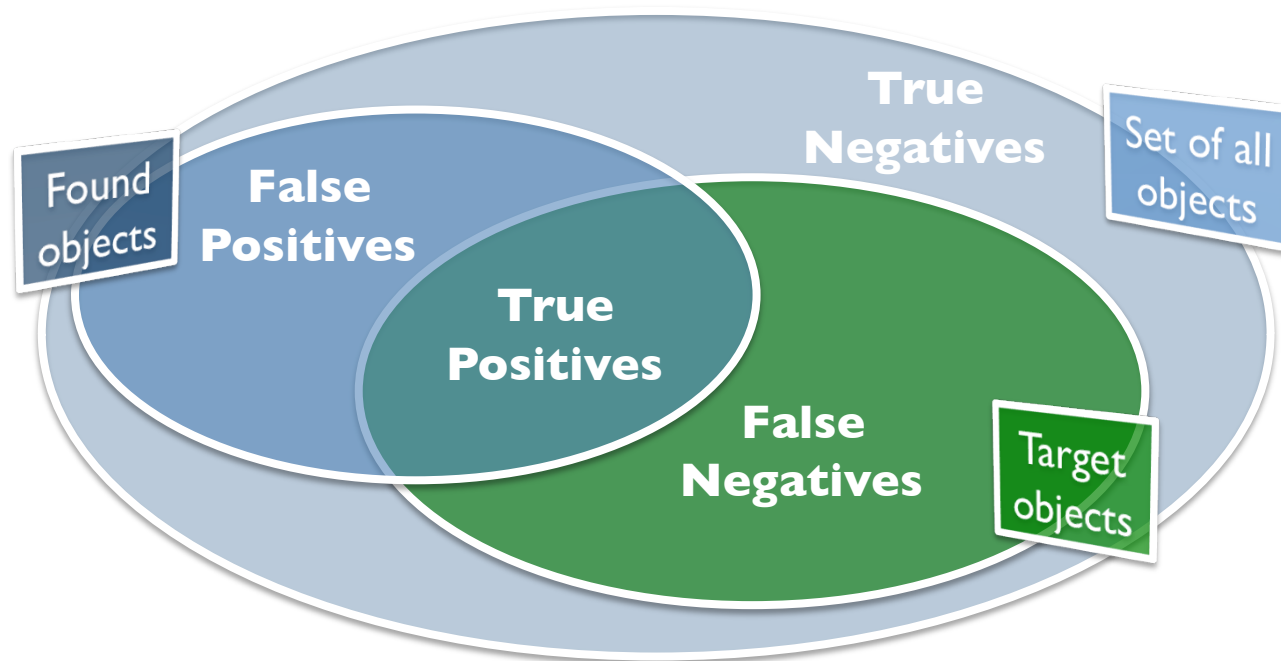
Tune / Optimize your system

How to evaluate? Some recommendations...



- **Clarify what you want to show:** efficiency vs. exactness vs. completeness vs. the best algorithm vs. proof of concept vs. ...
 - Can you make your results comparable?
- **Design your experiments in a scientific way:** Use test sets different from your training data, and make explicit what you've done!
 - Could someone else reproduce your results from your documentation? How many variables are there? ...
- **Decide how to measure:** performance measures, correctness criteria, scope of evaluation (e.g. single vs. overall algorithms)...
 - Often standard measures such as precision and recall are used (next slide...)
 - What is a match (exact vs. overlap)? Is there only one correct text span?

Performance measures: Precision and Recall



Precision (P) =

$$TP / (TP + FP)$$

Recall (R) =

$$= TP / (TP + FN)$$

F-Measure =

$$(2 \cdot P \cdot R) / (P+R)$$

- **Precision** is a measure for the exactness of your algorithm: How many of the found objects are correct?
- **Recall** is a measure for the completeness of your algorithm: How many of the target objects have been found?

Evaluation: example



Precision = $95 / (95+5) = 0.95$

Recall = $95 / (95+105) = 0.475$

F-Measure = $(2 \cdot 0.95 \cdot 0.475) / (0.95 + 0.475) = 0.62$

Confusion Matrix

	Target	Other
Found	95 (TP)	5 (FP)
Not found	105 (FN)	295 (TN)

What to do with your results?

- Analyze your **false positives and false negatives**



- Can you avoid some false extractions or classifications and can you find some of the missed true positives?
- In consequence, introduce **better features/rules** and redo experiments
- In case results are new, innovative, best ever seen, scientifically important, or whatever: **publish them ;-)**
- Choose the best of your alternatives
 - In theory**, the one that fits best to the problem at hand
 - In practice**, the best-performing algorithm even if it's simple



State-of-the-art



- State-of-the-art **NER systems** achieve near-human performance:
 - F-Measure > 93% (humans ~ 96%)
 - **For English only!**
 - In German: F-Measure < 80%...WHY?
 - **Your task:** Improve German state-of-the-art ;-)
It's all about feature engineering...



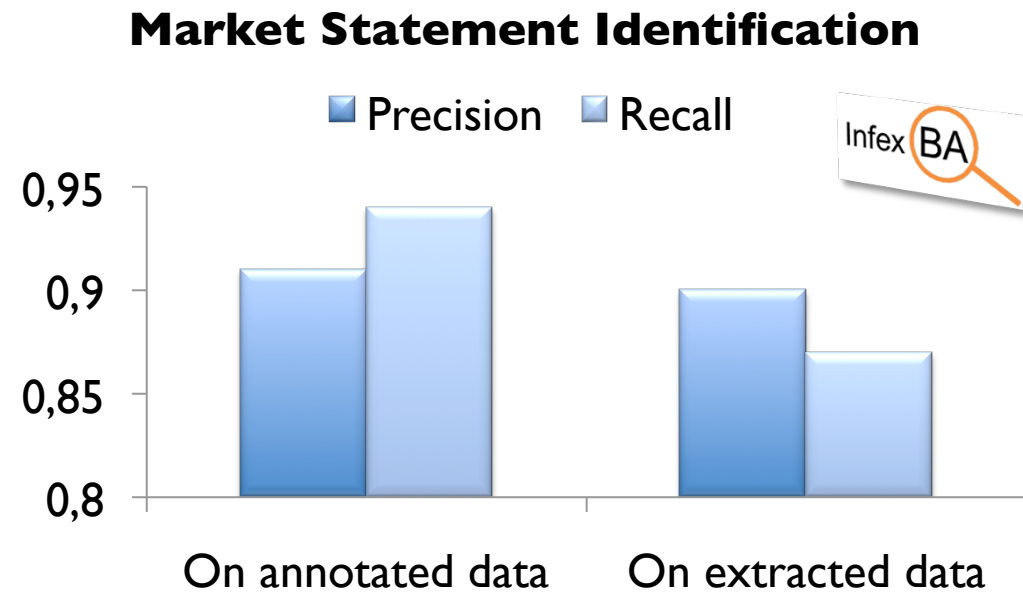
- **Coreference Resolution:** Results very domain-dependent, in hard cases only 50%-60% may be relied upon
- **Relation Extraction:** Good Systems have F-Measure > 75%
- **Template Filling:** Systems score around 60% while humans achieve 80%+

Error propagation

- **Imagine** you have a pipeline with 7 algorithms
 - Each has 95% F-Measure and is only based on the preceding one
 - What is your **overall F-Measure**?

- **In the worst case:**
 $F\text{-Measure} = 0.95^7 = 0,698$

- **In practice**, things are often not that bad. The problem is obvious, though:



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The big problems

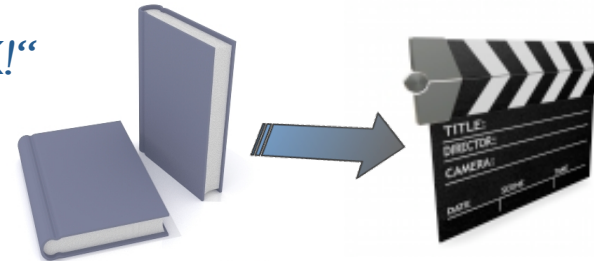
- **Limited accuracy** is actually often not that a big problem:
 - „Even if results are not always accurate, they can be valuable if linked back to the original text“ (Diana Maynard, University of Sheffield)
 - However, we know how to work on improvements of accuracy
- The **need for training data** is a problem of time and resources and leads to the really big problems:

Domain dependency

Language dependency

Domain dependency

- Most IE techniques are more or less domain-dependent!
- **Example** from opinion mining: „*READ THE BOOK!*“
 - Positive statement on a **book**?
 - Positive statement on a **movie**?
- General **problems** refer to style of writing, specific scenarios of interest, etc.
- We need **annotated text corpora** for training and evaluation from the target domain
 - Collection of documents representative for the domain
 - Manually annotated by domain experts (for the project group: **YOU**)
- **Alternative:** research on domain adaptation, but evaluation problem remains

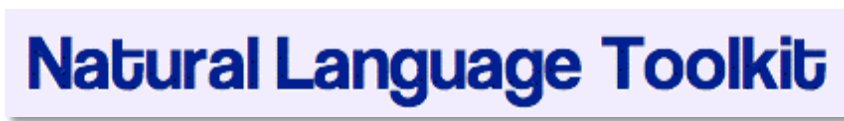
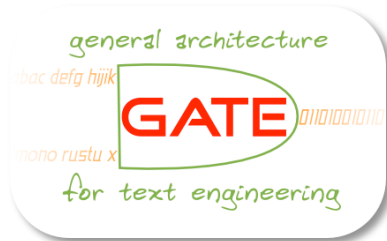


Language dependency



- Many rules or features tend to rely on language-specific properties even if no word lists are used
 - **German:** capitalization, words are spaced, etc.,
 - **English:** no capitalization
 - **Japanese:** words aren't even spaced
- Adaptation to new languages is the focus of much current work
 - Called **multilingual** or **language-independent IE**
 - **Needed:** language-independent features, bilingual dictionaries, annotated or at least unannotated data, support for non-latin scripts, different encodings, ...
 - Maybe language adaptation is just a special case of domain-adaptation?
- However, this is **not the focus** of the project group!

Frameworks, toolkits and the like



Stanford Named Entity Recognizer (NER)

SVMlight **TreeTagger**



What you should have learned...



- IE is about **extracting specific information** from natural language text
 - Uses linguistic and statistical phenomena
 - IE is „hot“ for the current industry
- A common IE pipeline consists of **several text analysis algorithms** such as
 - Entity Recognition and Relation Extraction
 - Normalization and aggregation
- **Evaluation is necessary** to show that your algorithms work
- IE is **often domain-specific** and thus needs the creation of and the work with annotated text corpora





Thanks for your attention!

Questions?