Cross-Language Retrieval

LBSC 796/INFM 718R Douglas W. Oard Session 12: April 27, 2011

Agenda

- Questions
- Overview
- Cross-Language Search
- User Interaction

User Needs Assessment

• Who are the potential users?

• What goals do we seek to support?

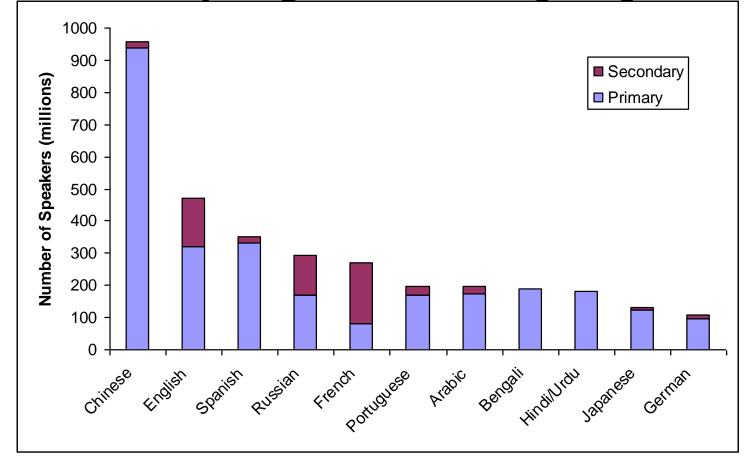
• What language skills must we accommodate?

Who needs Cross-Language Search?

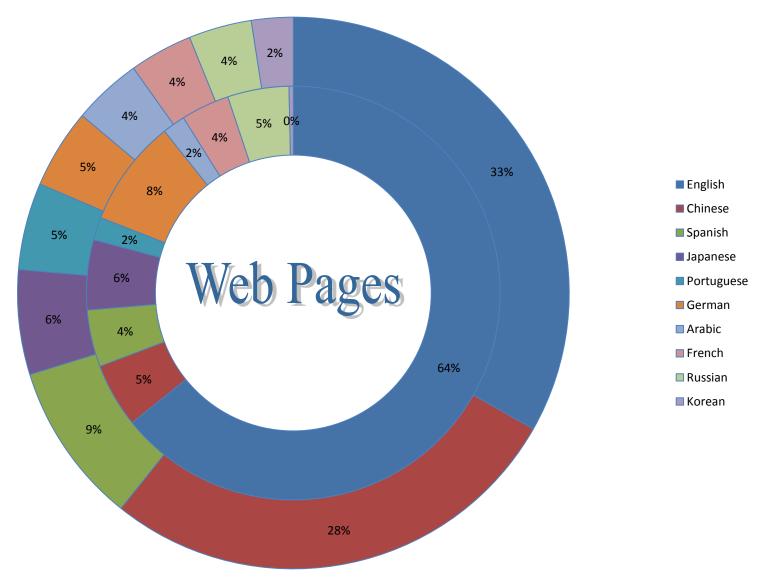
- When users can read several languages
 - Eliminate multiple queries
 - Query in most fluent language

- Monolingual users can also benefit
 - If translations can be provided
 - If it suffices to know that a document exists
 - If text captions are used to search for images

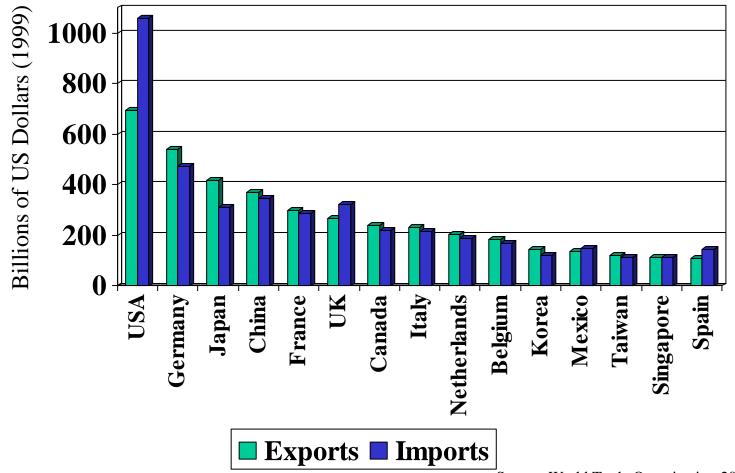
Most Widely-Spoken Languages



Global Internet Users



Global Trade



Source: World Trade Organization 2000 Annual Report

The Problem Space

- Retrospective search
 - Web search
 - Specialized services (medicine, law, patents)
 - Help desks
- Real-time filtering
 - Email spam
 - Web parental control
 - News personalization
- Real-time interaction
 - Instant messaging
 - Chat rooms
 - Teleconferences

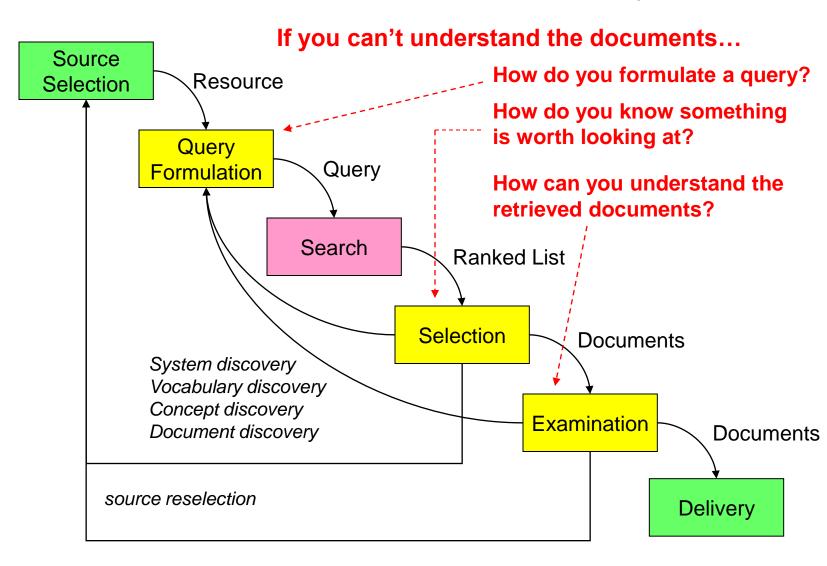
Map across languages

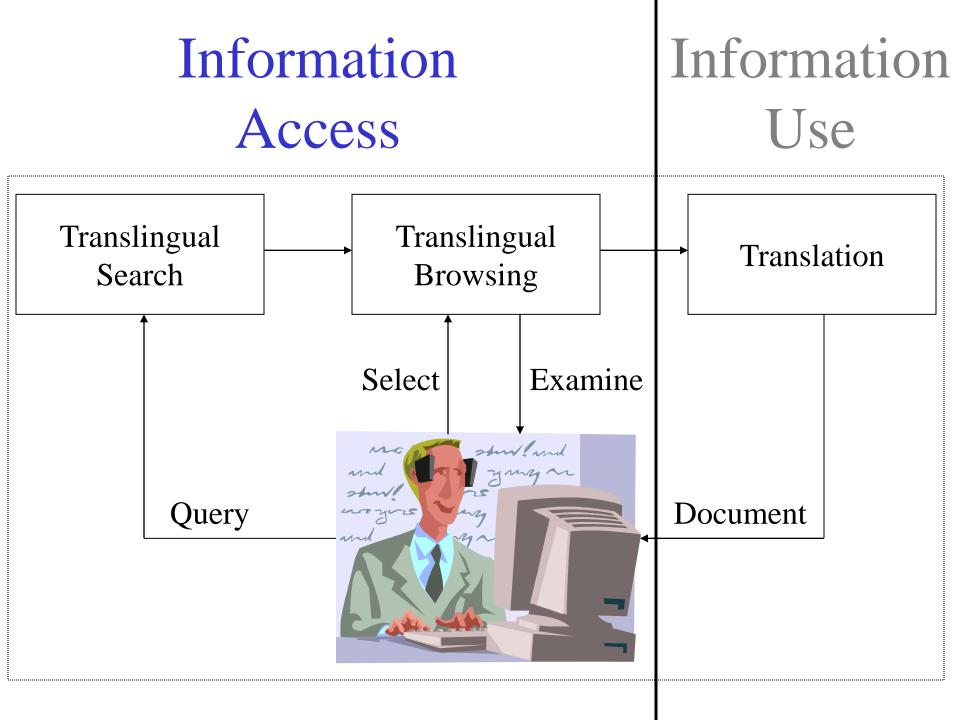
- For human understanding
- For automated processing

A Little (Confusing) Vocabulary

- Multilingual document
 - Document containing more than one language
- Multilingual collection
 - Collection of documents in different languages
- Multilingual system
 - Can retrieve from a multilingual collection
- Cross-language system
 - Query in one language finds document in <u>another</u>
- Translingual system
 - Queries can find documents in <u>any</u> language

The Information Retrieval Cycle





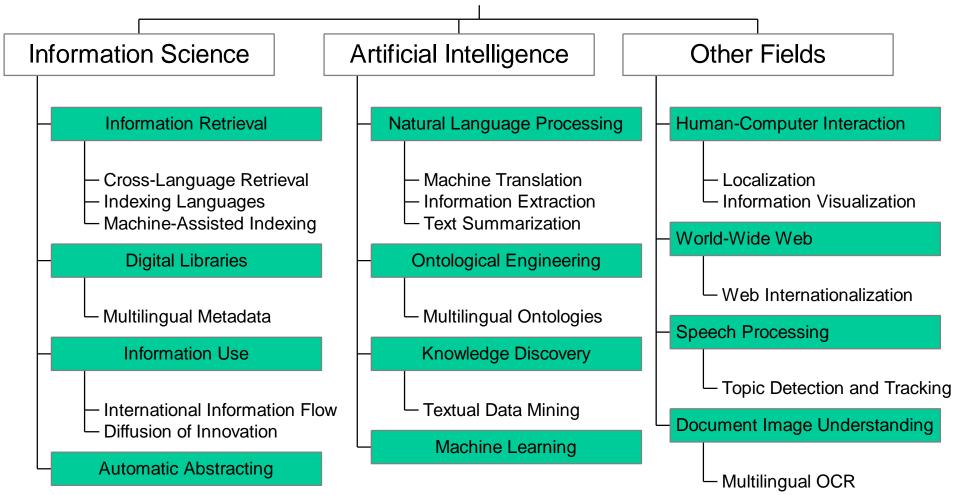
Early Work

- 1964 International Road Research
 - Multilingual thesauri
- 1970 SMART
 - Dictionary-based free-text cross-language retrieval
- 1978 ISO Standard 5964 (revised 1985)
 - Guidelines for developing multilingual thesauri
- 1990 Latent Semantic Indexing
 - Corpus-based free-text translingual retrieval

Multilingual Thesauri

- Build a cross-cultural knowledge structure
 - Cultural differences influence indexing choices
- Use language-independent descriptors
 - Matched to language-specific lead-in vocabulary
- Three construction techniques
 - Build it from scratch
 - Translate an existing thesaurus
 - Merge monolingual thesauri

Multilingual Information Access



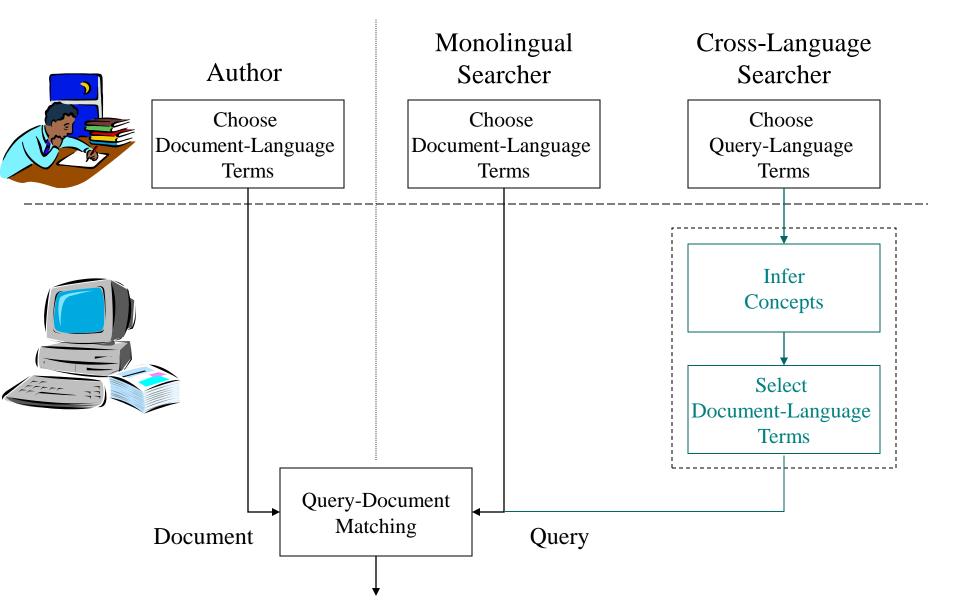
Free Text CLIR

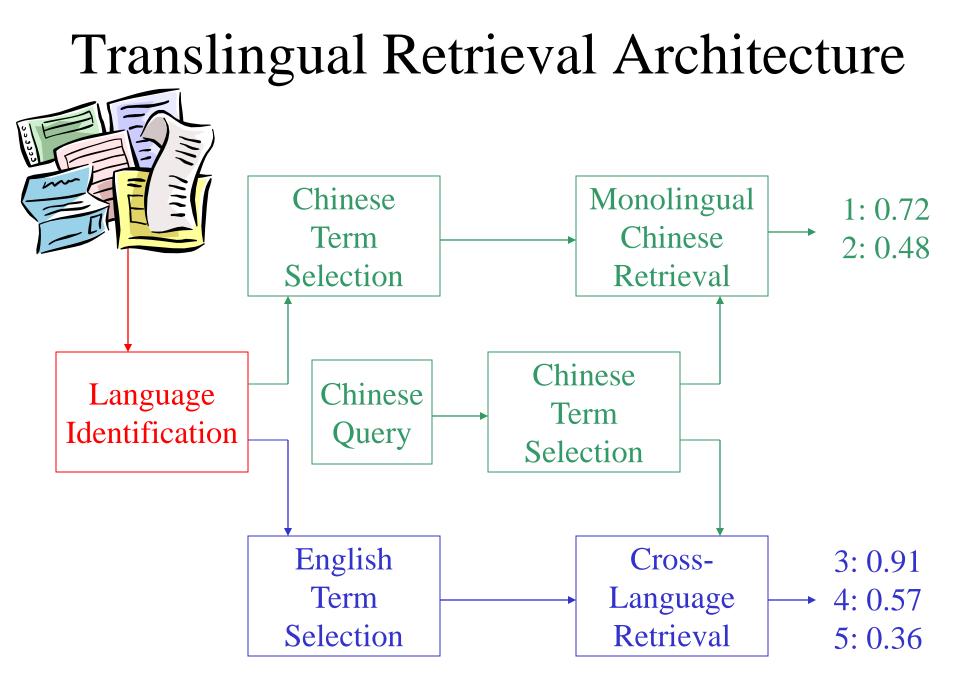
- What to translate?
 - Queries or documents

Where to get translation knowledge?
 Dictionary or corpus

• How to use it?

The Search Process





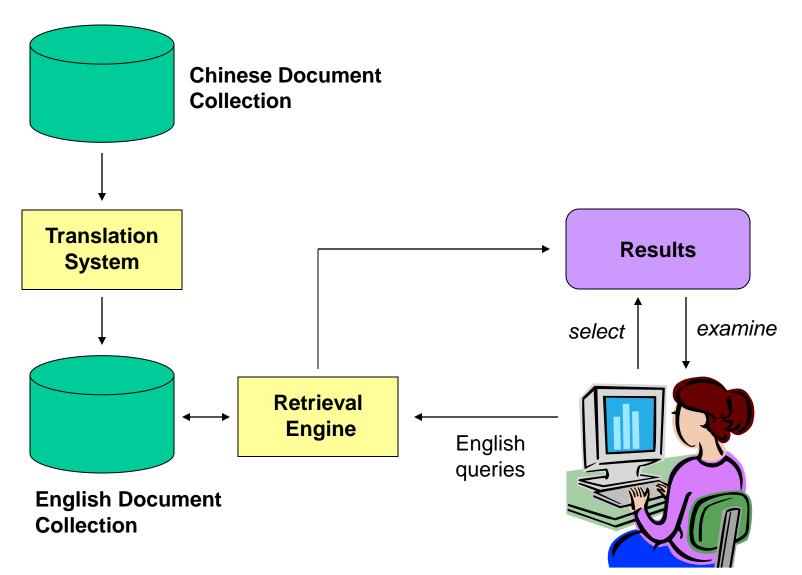
Evidence for Language Identification

- Metadata
 - Included in HTTP and HTML

- Word-scale features
 - Which dictionary gets the most hits?

- Subword features
 - Character n-gram statistics

Query-Language IR



Example: Modular use of MT

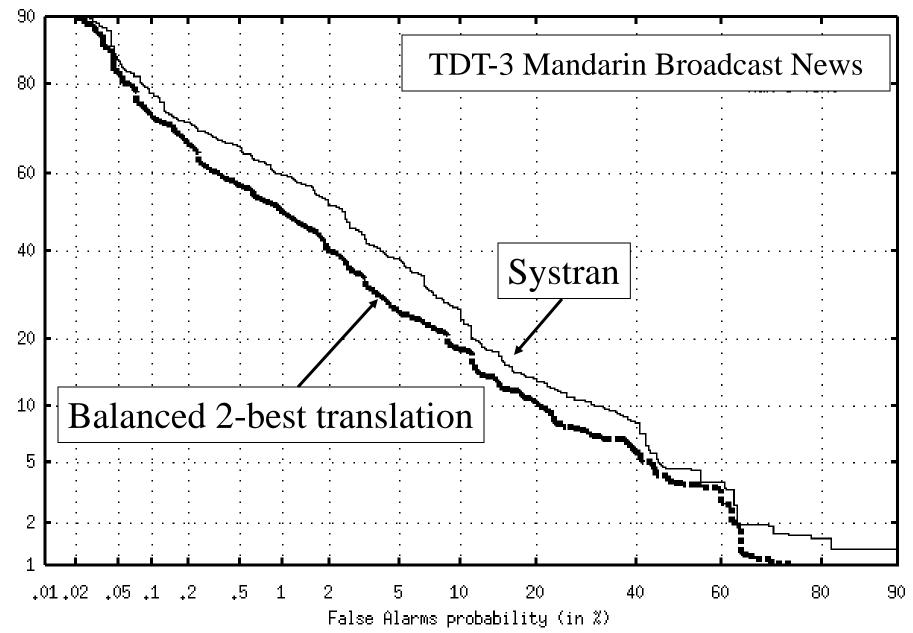
• Select a single query language

• Translate every document into that language

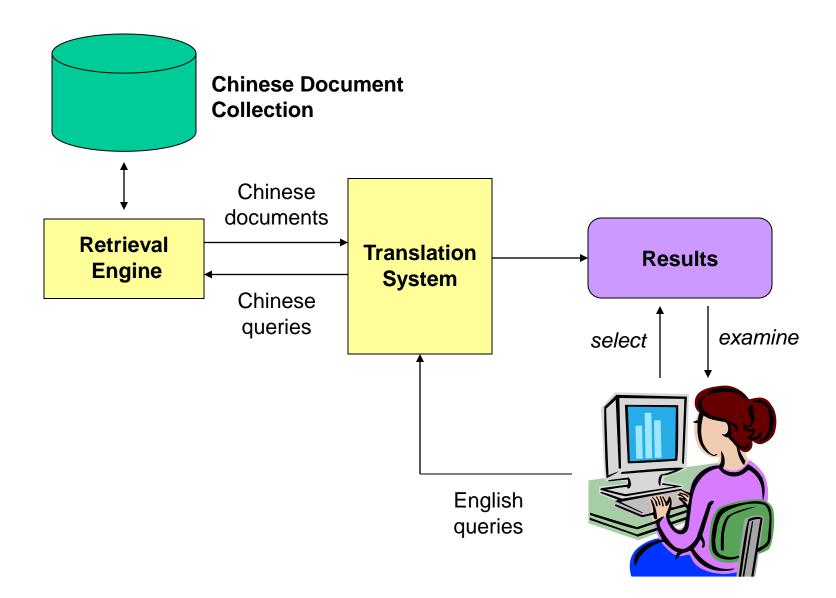
• Perform monolingual retrieval

Is Machine Translation Enough?

Miss probability (in %)

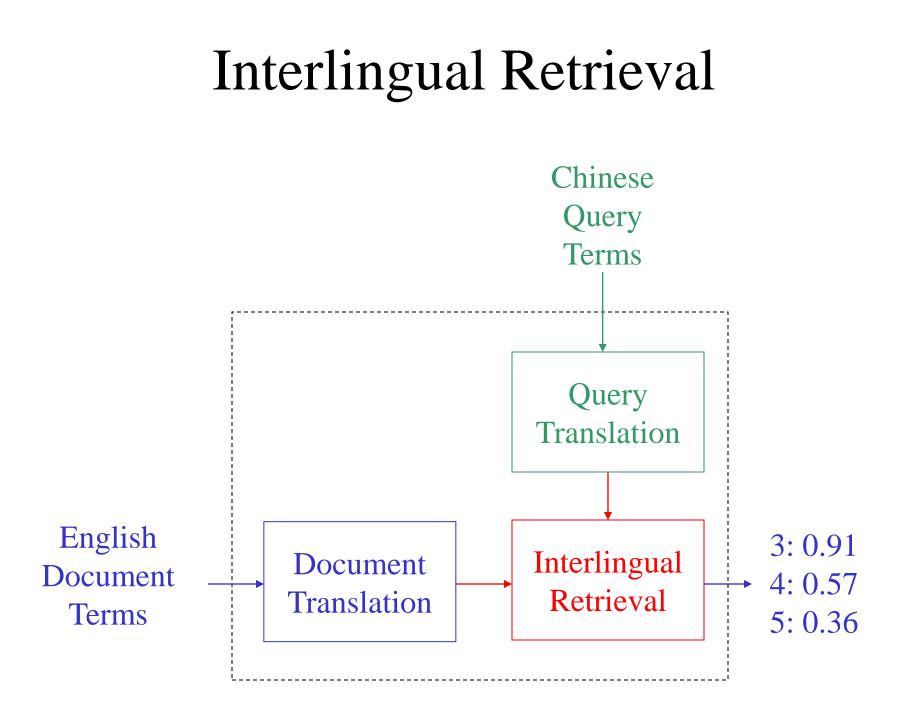


Document-Language IR



Query vs. Document Translation

- Query translation
 - Efficient for short queries (not relevance feedback)
 - Limited context for ambiguous query terms
- Document translation
 - Rapid support for interactive selection
 - Need only be done once (if query language is same)
- Merged query and document translation
 - Can produce better effectiveness than either alone



Learning From Document Pairs

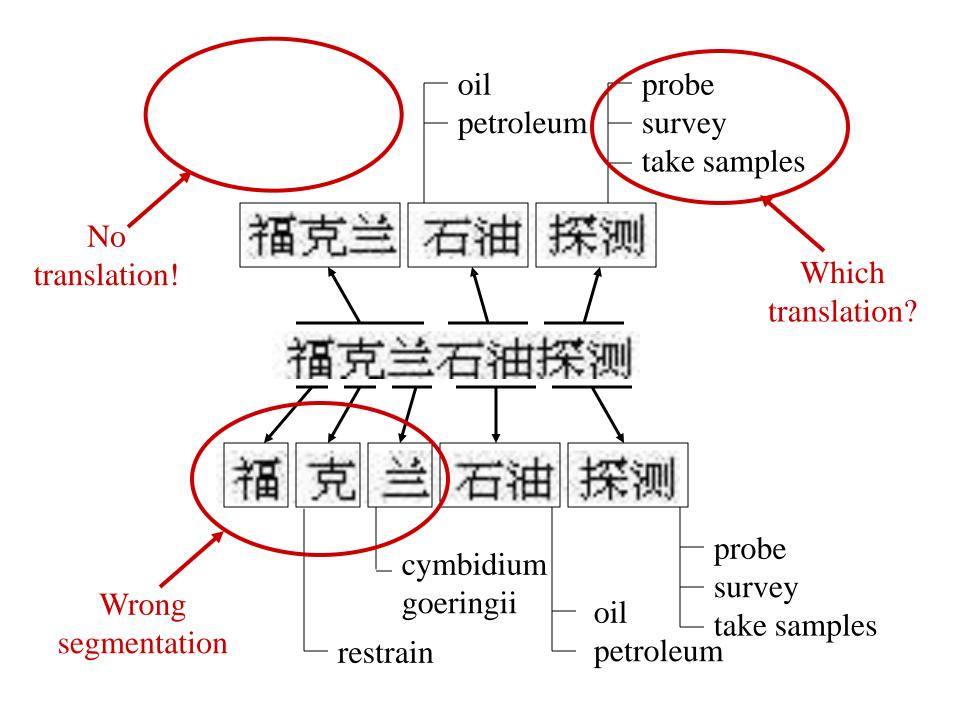
	English Terms					Spanish Terms			
	E1	E2	E3	E4	E5	S 1	S 2	S 3	S 4
Doc 1	4		2			2			1
Doc 2	8		4			4			2
Doc 3		2		2			2	1	
Doc 4		2	1				2		1
Doc 5	4				1	2		1	

Generalized Vector Space Model

- "Term space" of each language is different
 Document links define a common "document space"
- Describe documents based on the corpus
 Vector of similarities to each corpus document
- Compute cosine similarity in document space
- Very effective in a <u>within-domain</u> evaluation

Latent Semantic Indexing

- Cosine similarity captures noise with signal
 Term choice variation and word sense ambiguity
- Signal-preserving dimensionality reduction
 Conflates terms with similar usage patterns
 - Reduces <u>term choice</u> effect, even across languages
- Computationally expensive



What's a "Term?"

- Granularity of a "term" depends on the task
 Long for <u>translation</u>, more fine-grained for <u>retrieval</u>
- Phrases improve translation two ways
 - Less ambiguous than single words
 - Idiomatic expressions translate as a single concept
- Three ways to identify phrases
 - Semantic (e.g., appears in a dictionary)
 - Syntactic (e.g., parse as a noun phrase)
 - Co-occurrence (appear together unexpectedly often)

Learning to Translate

- Lexicons
 - Phrase books, bilingual dictionaries, ...
- Large text collections
 - Translations ("parallel")
 - Similar topics ("comparable")
- Similarity
 - Similar pronunciation
- People

Types of Lexical Resources

- Ontology
 - Organization of knowledge
- Thesaurus
 - Ontology specialized to support search
- Dictionary
 - Rich word list, designed for use by people
- Lexicon
 - Rich word list, designed for use by a machine
- Bilingual term list
 - Pairs of translation-equivalent terms

Dictionary-Based Query Translation

Original query: El Nino and infectious diseases

Term translation: (传 传染病 易传染的) (变质 弊病 病) (Dictionary coverage: "El Nino" is not found)

"El Nino" infectious diseases

Translation selection: (传染病 易传染的) 病

Query formulation:

Term selection:

Structure: op1(op2(传染病 易传染的) 病))

Four-Stage Backoff

• Tralex might contain stems, surface forms, or some combination of the two.

Document

Translation Lexicon

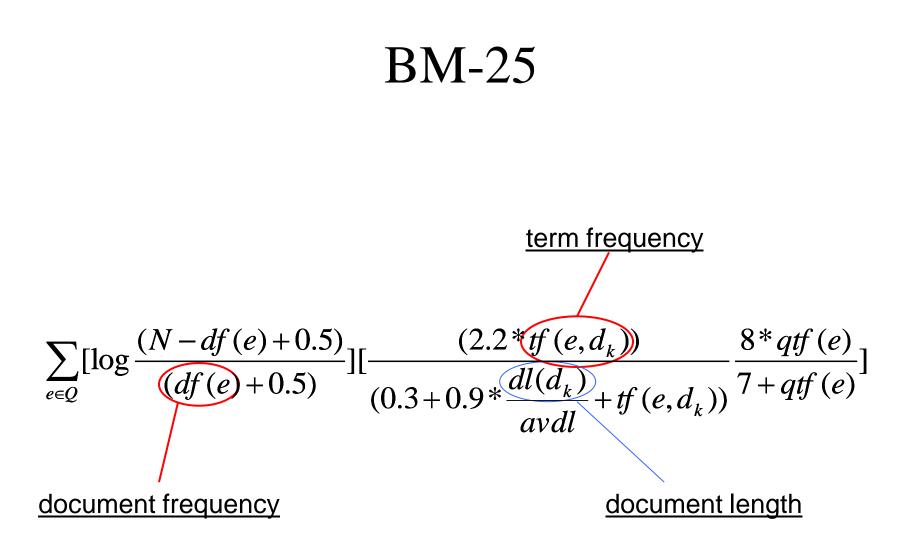


French stemmer: Oard, Levow, and Cabezas (2001); English: Inquiry's kstem

Exploiting Part-of-Speech (POS)

- Constrain <u>translations</u> by part-of-speech
 Requires POS tagger and POS-tagged lexicon
- Works well when queries are full sentences
 Short queries provide little basis for tagging

Constrained <u>matching</u> can hurt monolingual IR
 Nouns in queries often match verbs in documents



"Structured Queries"

- Weight of term *a* in a document *i* depends on:
 - TF(a,i): Frequency of term a in document i
 - DF(a): How many documents term *a* occurs in
- Build <u>pseudo-terms</u> from alternate translations
 TF (syn(a,b),i) = TF(a,i)+TF(b,i)
 - DF ($syn(a,b) = |\{docs with a\}U\{docs with b\}|$
- Downweight terms with <u>any</u> common translation
 Particularly effective for long queries

Computing Weights

• Unbalanced:

$$\frac{1}{3} \left[\frac{TF_1}{DF_1} + \frac{TF_2}{DF_2} + \frac{TF_3}{DF_3} \right]$$

- Overweights query terms that have many translations
- Balanced (#sum): $\frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{TF_1}{DF_1} + \frac{TF_2}{DF_2} \right) + \frac{TF_3}{DF_2} \right]$

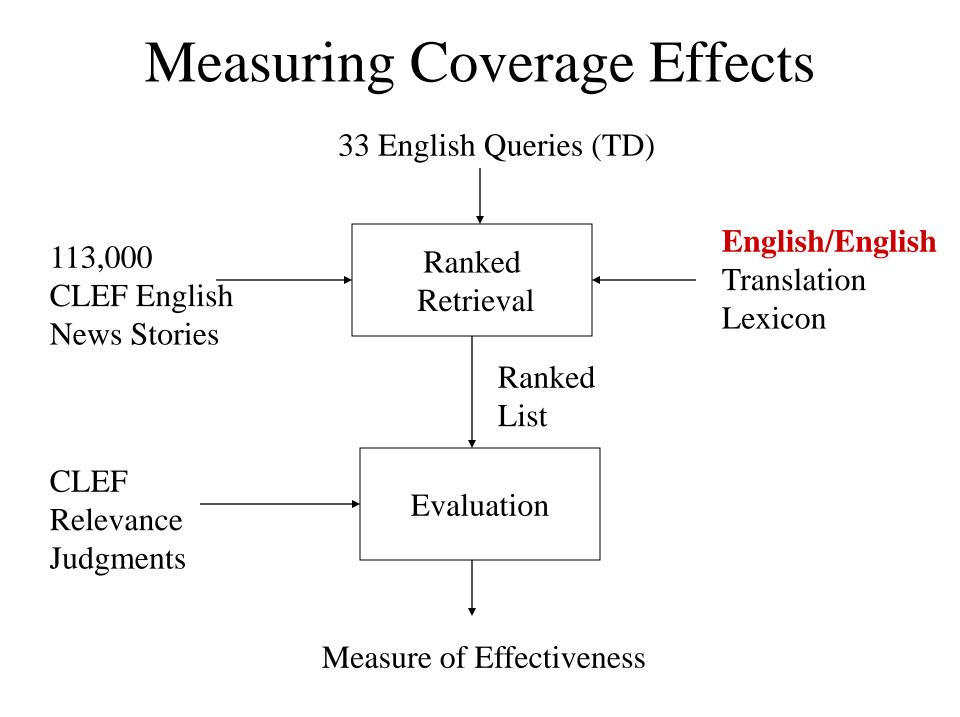
• Pirkola (#syn):

- Sensitive to rare translations

$$\frac{1}{2}\left[\frac{TF_1 + TF_2}{DF_1 \cup DF_2} + \frac{TF_3}{DF_3}\right]$$

- Deemphasizes query terms with <u>any</u> common translation

(Query Terms: 1: 传染病 2: 易传染的 3: 病)

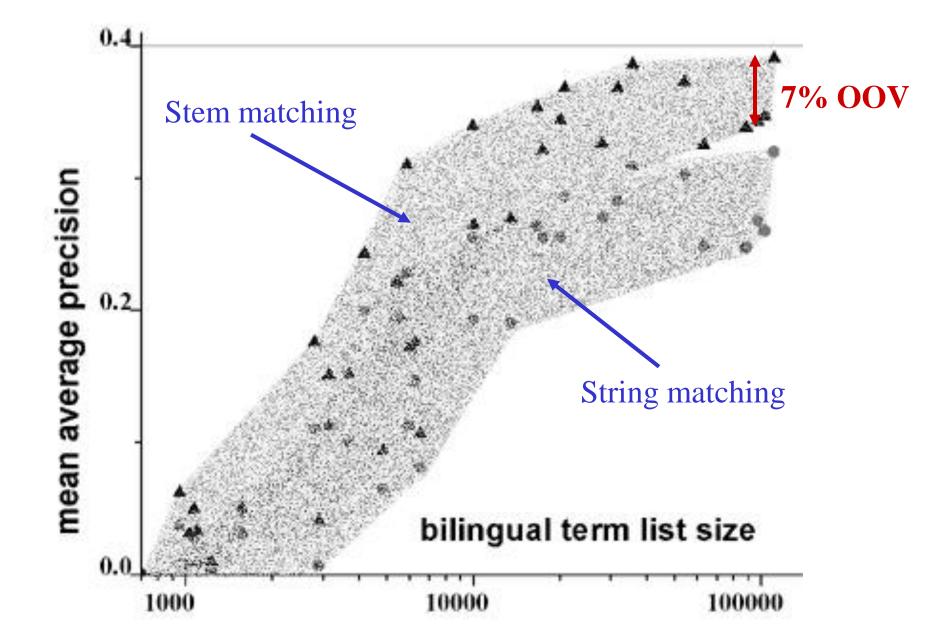


35 Bilingual Term Lists

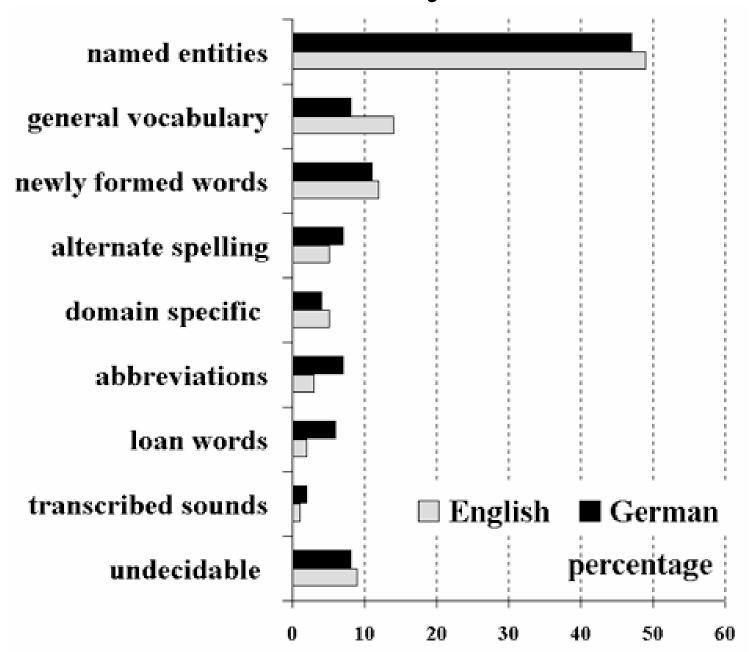
- Chinese (193, 111)
- German (103, 97, 89, 6)
- Hungarian (63)
- Japanese (54)
- Spanish (35, 21, 7)
- Russian (32)
- Italian (28, 13, 5)
- French (20, 17, 3)
- Esperanto (17)
- Swedish (10)
- Dutch (10)
- Norwegian (6)

- Portuguese (6)
- Greek (5)
- Afrikaans (4)
- Danish (4)
- Icelandic (3)
- Finnish (3)
- Latin (2)
- Welsh (1)
- Indonesian (1)
- Old English (1)
- Swahili (1)
- Eskimo (1)

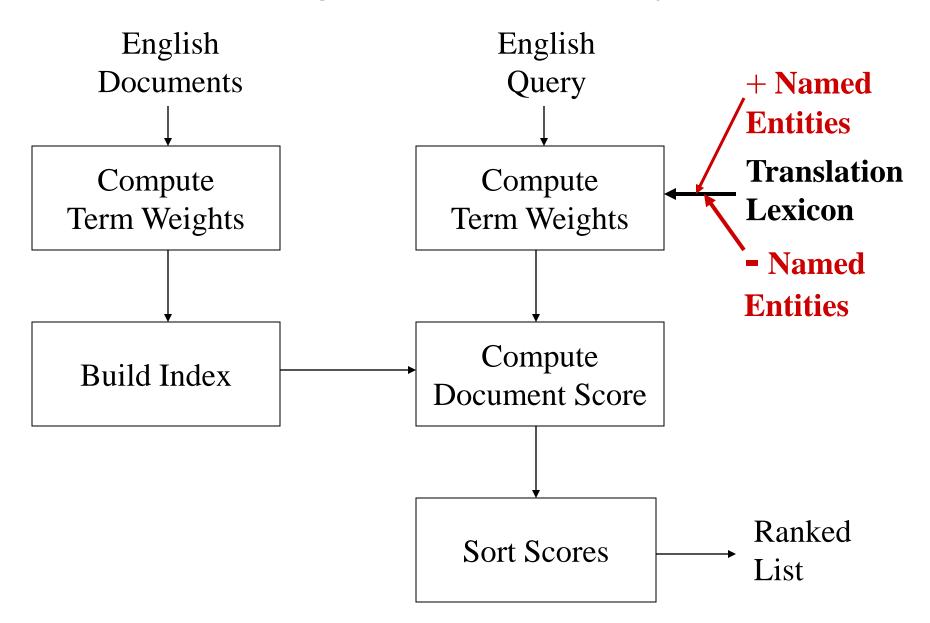
Size Effect

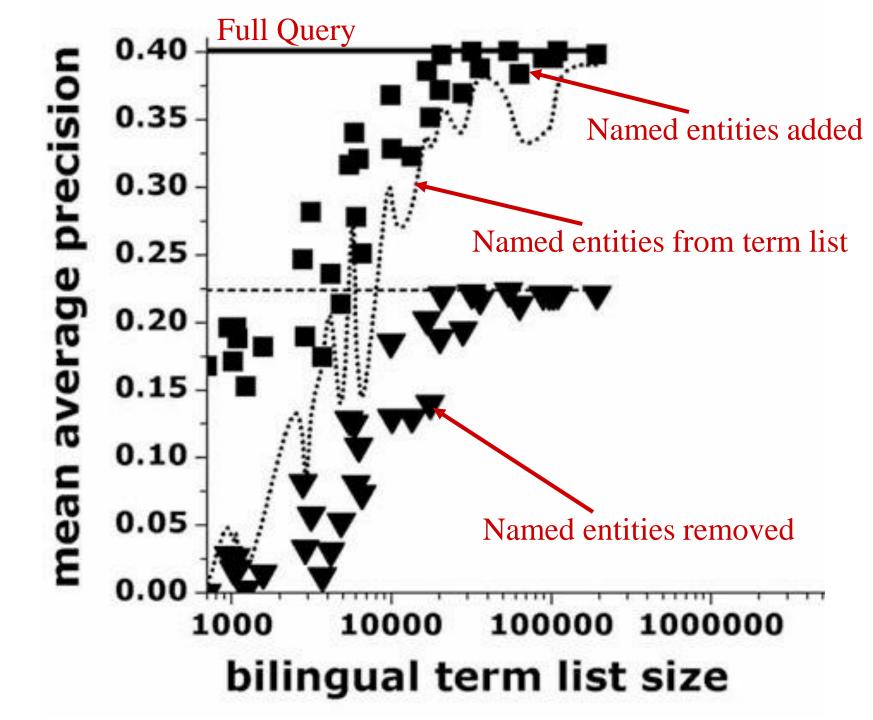


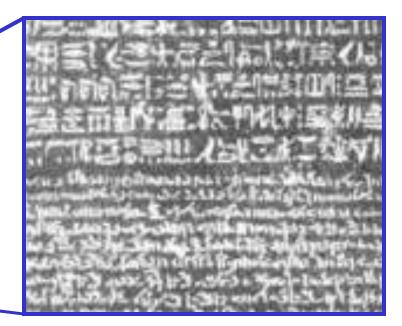
Out-of-Vocabulary Distribution

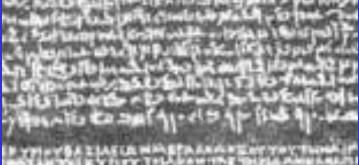


Measuring Named Entity Effect









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2.6.5

UIIIIII 648-20 「北京記書用」といこよこない

10 19 () a put 21 23 15

Hieroglyphic

Egyptian Demotic

A MIT

Greek

Types of Bilingual Corpora

- Parallel corpora: translation-equivalent pairs
 - Document pairs
 - Sentence pairs
 - Term pairs
- Comparable corpora: topically related
 - Collection pairs
 - Document pairs

Exploiting Parallel Corpora

- Automatic acquisition of translation lexicons
- Statistical machine translation
- Corpus-guided translation selection
- Document-linked techniques

Some Modern Rosetta Stones

- News:
 - DE-News (German-English)
 - Hong-Kong News, Xinhua News (Chinese-English)
- Government:
 - Canadian Hansards (French-English)
 - Europarl (Danish, Dutch, English, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Italian, Portugese, Spanish, Swedish)
 - UN Treaties (Russian, English, Arabic, ...)
- Religion
 - Bible, Koran, Book of Mormon

Parallel Corpus

• Example from DE-News (8/1/1996)

English: Diverging opinions about planned tax reform

German: Unterschiedliche Meinungen zur geplanten Steuerreform

English: The discussion around the envisaged major tax reform continues.

German: Die Diskussion um die vorgesehene grosse Steuerreform dauert an .

English: The FDP economics expert, Graf Lambsdorff, today came out in favor of advancing the enactment of significant parts of the overhaul, currently planned for 1999.

German: Der FDP - Wirtschaftsexperte Graf Lambsdorff sprach sich heute dafuer aus , wesentliche Teile der fuer 1999 geplanten Reform vorzuziehen .

Word-Level Alignment

English

Diverging opinions about planned tax reform

Unterschiedliche Meinungen zur geplanten Steuerreform

German

English Madam President, I had asked the administration ...

Señora Presidenta, había pedido a la administración del Parlamento ... Spanish

A Translation Model

• From word-aligned bilingual text, we induce a translation model

$$p(f_i \mid e)$$
 where, $\sum_{f_i} p(f_i \mid e) = 1$

• Example:

p(探测|survey) = 0.4 *p*(试探|survey) = 0.3 *p*(测量|survey) = 0.25 *p*(样品|survey) = 0.05

Using Multiple Translations

- Weighted Structured Query Translation
 - Takes advantage of multiple translations and translation probabilities
- *TF* and *DF* of query term *e* are computed using *TF* and *DF* of its translations:

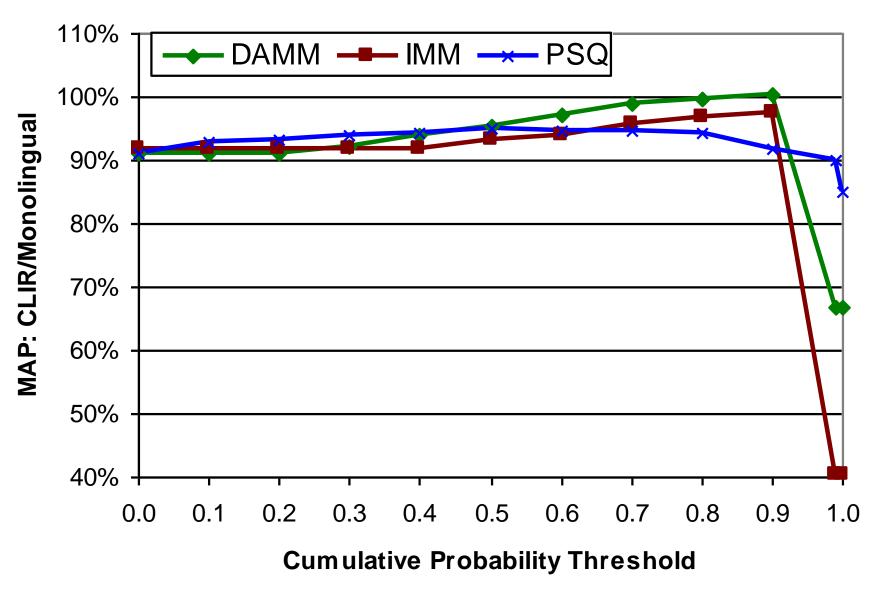
$$TF(e, D_k) = \sum_{f_i} p(f_i \mid e) \times TF(f_i, D_k)$$
$$DF(e) = \sum_{f_i} p(f_i \mid e) \times DF(f_i)$$

Evaluating Corpus-Based Techniques

- Within-domain evaluation (upper bound)
 - Partition a bilingual corpus into training and test
 - Use the training part to tune the system
 - Generate relevance judgments for evaluation part

- Cross-domain evaluation (fair)
 - Use existing corpora and evaluation collections
 - No good metric for degree of domain shift

Retrieval Effectiveness



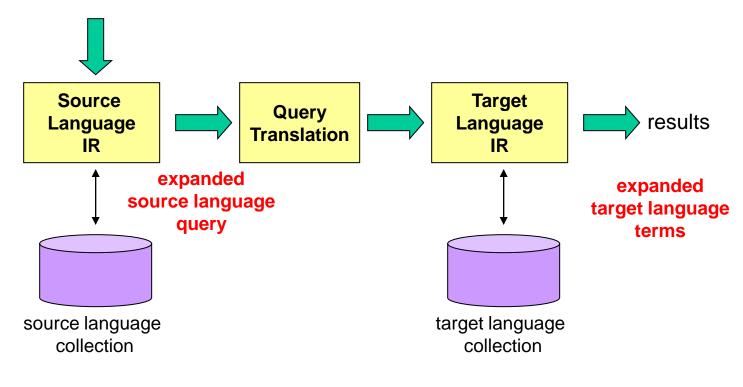
CLEF French

Exploiting Comparable Corpora

- Blind relevance feedback
 - Existing CLIR technique + collection-linked corpus
- Lexicon enrichment
 - Existing lexicon + collection-linked corpus
- Dual-space techniques
 Document-linked corpus

Bilingual Query Expansion

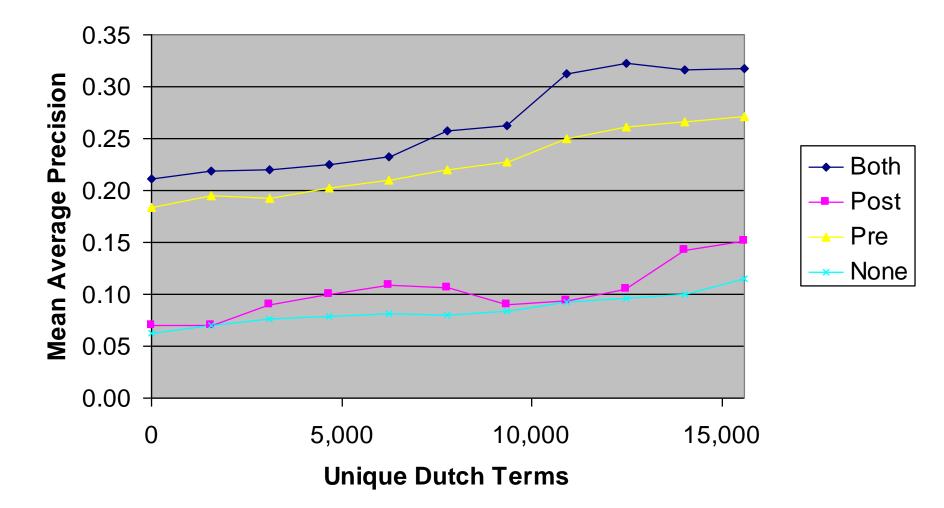
source language query



Pre-translation expansion

Post-translation expansion

Query Expansion Effect



Paul McNamee and James Mayfield, SIGIR-2002

Blind Relevance Feedback

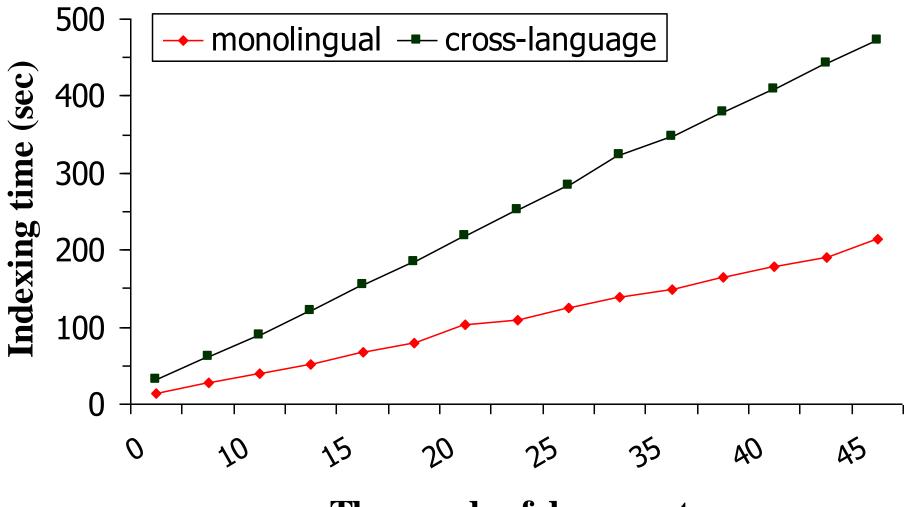
- Augment a representation with related terms

 Find related documents, extract distinguishing terms
- Multiple opportunities:
 - Before doc translation:
 - After doc translation:
 - Before query translation:
 - After query translation:

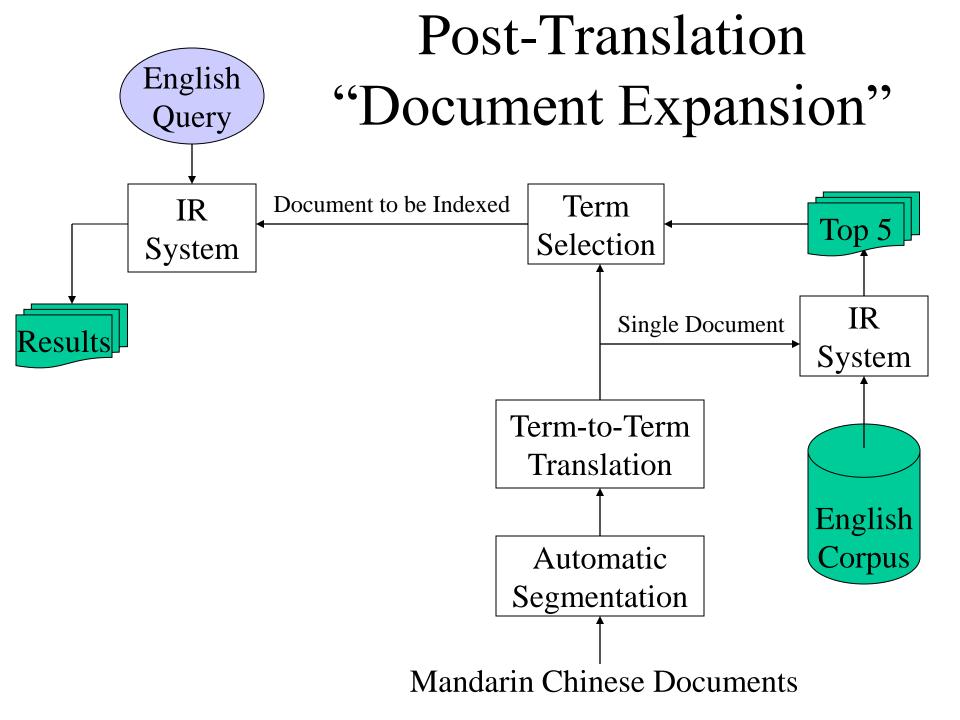
Enrich the vocabulary Mitigate translation errors Improve the query Mitigate translation errors

• Short queries get the most dramatic improvement

Indexing Time: Doc Translation



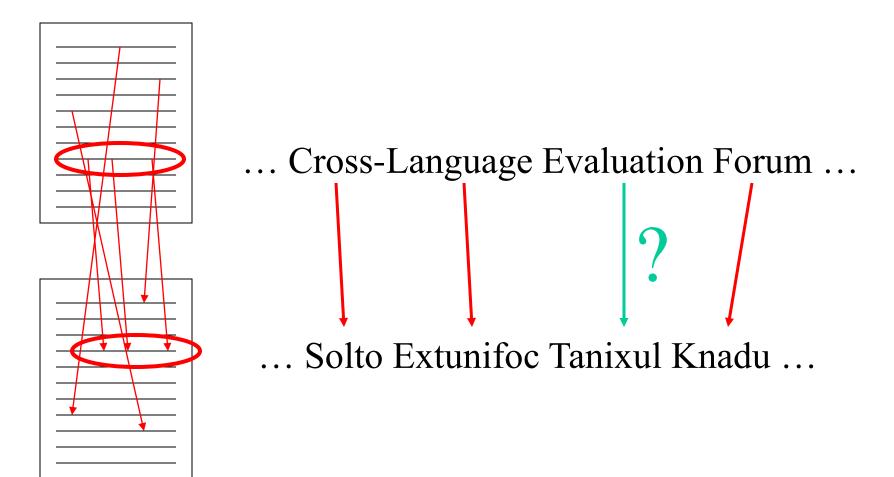
Thousands of documents



Why Document Expansion Works

- Story-length objects provide useful context
- Ranked retrieval finds signal amid the noise
- Selective terms discriminate among documents
 Enrich index with low DF terms from top documents
- Similar strategies work well in other applications
 - CLIR query translation
 - Monolingual spoken document retrieval

Lexicon Enrichment



Lexicon Enrichment

- Use a bilingual lexicon to align "context regions"
 Regions with high coincidence of known translations
- Pair <u>unknown</u> terms with <u>unmatched</u> terms

 Unknown: language A, not in the lexicon
 Unmatched: language B, not covered by translation
- Treat the most surprising pairs as new translations

Cognate Matching

- Dictionary coverage is inherently limited
 - Translation of proper names
 - Translation of newly coined terms
 - Translation of unfamiliar technical terms
- Strategy: model derivational translation
 - Orthography-based
 - Pronunciation-based

Matching Orthographic Cognates

- Retain untranslatable words unchanged
 Often works well between European languages
- Rule-based systems
 - Even off-the-shelf spelling correction can help!
- Character-level statistical MT

- Trained using a set of representative cognates

Matching Phonetic Cognates

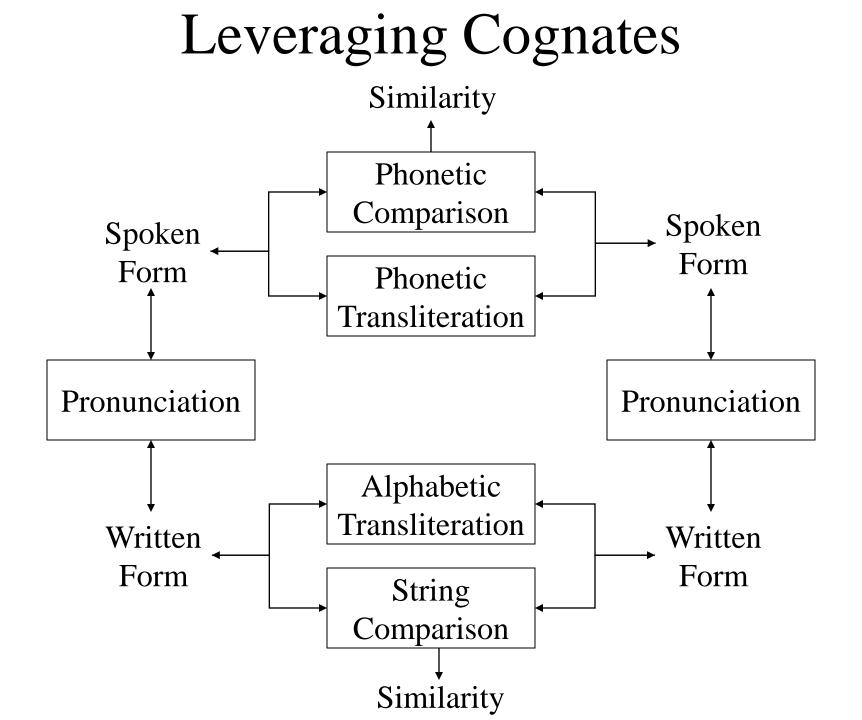
• Forward transliteration

- Generate all potential transliterations

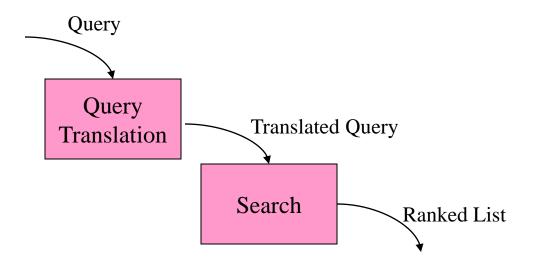
• Reverse transliteration

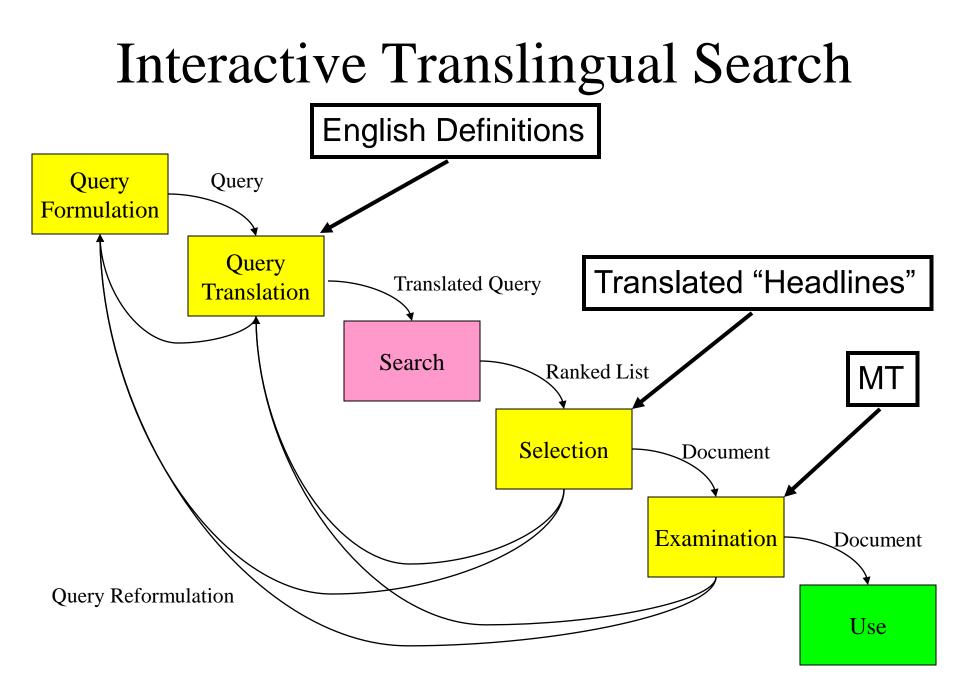
- Guess source string(s) that produced a transliteration

• Match in phonetic space



Cross-Language "Retrieval"





Selection

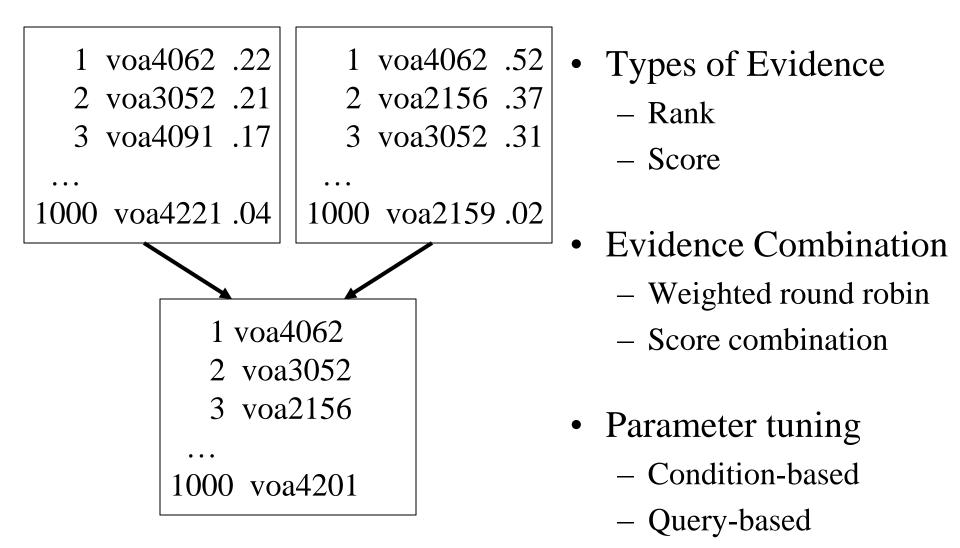
• Goal: Provide information to support <u>decisions</u>

May not require very good translations
 – e.g., Term-by-term title translation

People can "read past" some ambiguity
May help to display a few alternative translations

🌺 MIRACLE: Maryland Interactive Retrieval Advanced Cross-Language Engine				
Collections Configure Display Dictionaries Help				
Look for: indian film and social and cultural impact				Search Reset
VIOUS QUERIES	FILM		Select All	Deselect All
RRENT QUERY	Hindi	Probability	Synonym List	Sample Usage 1
indian film	🗹 bak.ckaahtaeraiy		film	
	🗹 chaikata 🛛		bacterial, sticky, of, film	
bak.ckaahtaeraiyaaa	🗹 failaahmaon		designs, cartoon, film	
🗋 chaikata	🗹 jhailaahlaii		peritonitis, lining, membrane, film	There is a #film# of
🗋 failaahmaon	🗹 kaaimarae kaii r		film	
🗋 jhailaahlaii	🗹 sainaemaaa		trip, matinee, cinema, be, film	The #film# now sho
🗋 kaaimarae kaii raiila				
🗋 sainaemaaa	-			
social				
Search Again				
	<u> </u>			
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imagination perhaps a was				
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programme to address				
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				Previous Next
System Status: (CLIENT) Retrieving Results (1-10) of 1000. Done!				

Merging Ranked Lists



Examination Interface

- Two goals
 - Refine document delivery decisions
 - Support vocabulary discovery for query refinement
- Rapid translation is essential
 - Document translation retrieval strategies are a good fit
 - Focused on-the-fly translation may be a viable alternative

Uh oh...

Query bridge and tunnel construction for the Beijing-Kowloon Railroad

Title coal eastward

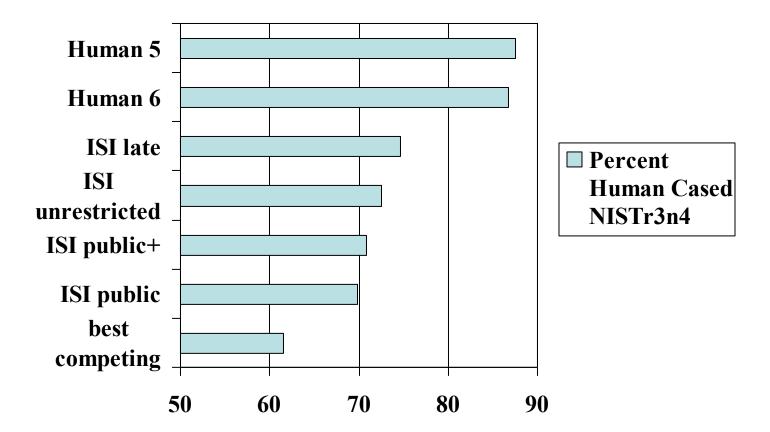
Date 99/07/07

西煤东运大通道神华工程生命线 朔黄铁路优质高效加快建设 神肃段明年10月1日前率先开通运煤 990707 西煤东 朔黄铁路优质高效加快建设 神肃段明年10月1日前率先开通运煤 本报讯记者 "程牛命线" 大通道神华 [程神华工程的生命线 举世 瞩目的跨世纪 朔黄铁路正在 报道: 我国西煤 运的第 大诵谊、 年代末科技 水平的现代化铁路。 为具有我国 朔黄铁路西起神 丰中, ポオ 优质 全长588公 里 总概 铁道部 东至黄 倚193亿元, 站. 站 由神华集团、 北省、 Yel 资建设, 来源于 银行和日 金贷款。 除 主要 余 国冢 ਨ 甲 段正线 为双线电气(王 家 概算投 的神 (神池南 肃 419. 6公 21Z ĸ 6 云中山脉和忻定盆地, 沿滹沱河谷 穿越太行山进入 と平原 线地质情况极 西段 穿恒山 兀。 15 ;隧道中居第2位的长梁山隧道和位居第 泉湾隧道, 线路 在我国 4和第5位的寺铺 尖隧道 5米的庄里、 滴流磴3座悬灌梁 跨最大达80米。 有墩高达61. 山崖、 É 东段河网交 152 ΞĽ 跨越运 输繁忙的京广、京九铁路干线和京深高速公路、 107国道等公路 错 | 棚密 跨京深高速公路特大桥 (667米) 主跨以64米下承钢桁梁跨越公路, 为我国铁路之仅有。 就有5座 [期目标是2000年5月31日神肃段铺通,10月1] 日与京九接通运煤, 2002年与黄骅港同 |朔黄铁路的]| 目 肃段已完成路基土石方5000多万立方米, 占设计总量的90%多, 工程完成3万多双成 萴 桥梁 占设计总量的70%多, 量 设计的77座隧道已贯通6 勺90%多, 隊谊完成 5万 多成峒米 0壓: 止线 轨完成40多公里 占设计总长的20%多, 架 公 占设计总 长的30%多 完成500多孔 站 [程均由中标单位承担, 20%多。 朔黄 不准 的各项主体 何 斻 可控状态。 强 管理严格, 在朔黄铁路 全 能 建设甲 Ħ 陑 FΪ 程质量合 100%, 优良率93%。 据 `解, 朔昔 量目标 路 iΨ 程要赶超京九、南昆线, 站后工程要面向21世纪。 豚等结构 計超車 载铁路大秦线 报社版权所有,未经授权禁止复 (1999年07月07日第2版) 民 日 制 或 建立镜像。 A info@peopledaily.com.cn 电话: (010)65092993 (010)65091079

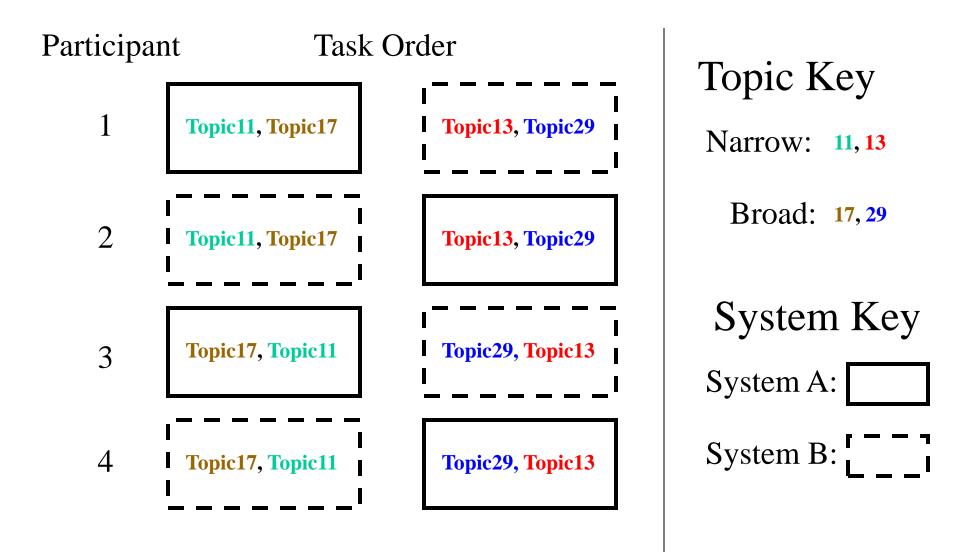
Translation for <u>Assessment</u>

Indonesian City of Bali in October last year in the bomb blast in the case of imam accused India of the sea on Monday began to be averted. The attack on getting and its plan to make the charges and decide if it were found guilty, he death sentence of May. Indonesia of the police said that the imam sea bomb blasts in his hand claim to be accepted. A night Club and time in the bomb blast in more than 200 people were killed and several injured were in which most foreign nationals....

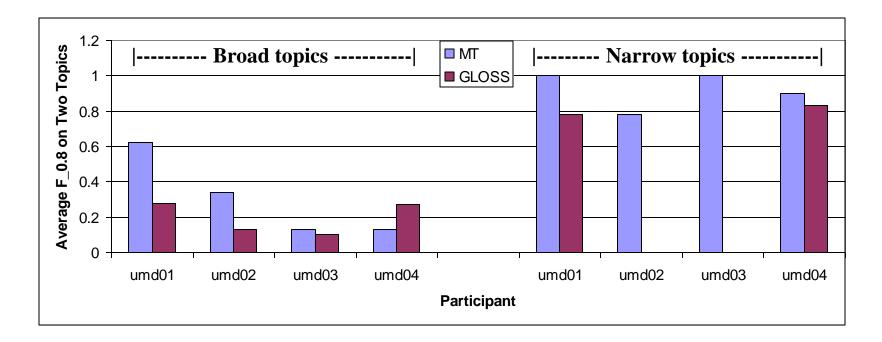
MT in a Month



Experiment Design



Maryland Experiments



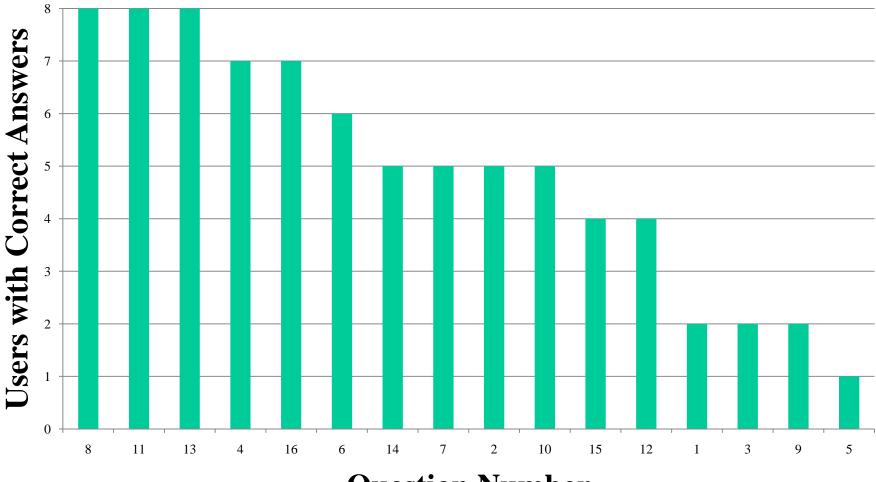
- MT is almost always better
 - Significant overall and for narrow topics alone (one-tailed t-test, p<0.05)
- F measure is less insightful for narrow topics
 - Always near 0 or 1

Delivery

Use may require high-quality translation
 Machine translation quality is often rough

- Route to best translator based on:
 - Acceptable delay
 - Required quality (language and technical skills)
 - Cost

Interactive Question Answering



Question Number

Questions, Grouped by Difficulty

- 8 Who is the managing director of the International Monetary Fund?
- 11 Who is the president of Burundi?
- 13 Of what team is Bobby Robson coach?
- 4 Who committed the terrorist attack in the Tokyo underground?
- 16 Who won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1994?
 - 6 When did Latvia gain independence?
- 14 When did the attack at the Saint-Michel underground station in Paris occur?
 - 7 How many people were declared missing in the Philippines after the typhoon "Angela"?
- 2 How many human genes are there?
- 10 How many people died of asphyxia in the Baku underground?
- 15 How many people live in Bombay?
- 12 What is Charles Millon's political party?
 - 1 What year was Thomas Mann awarded the Nobel Prize?
 - 3 Who is the German Minister for Economic Affairs?
 - 9 When did Lenin die?
 - 5 How much did the Channel Tunnel cost?

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Among London Tai Po Yan in London in northern Luton medical team has support terrorist activities allegations A	the morning local time five points about a total of six suspects arrested arrested one person this six individuals at the age of Albania matron t present these terrorist suspects are in custody in London 's Paddington is to carry out terrorist activities for terrorist funds the London police investigation and the relevant search			
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in the police spokesman said Scotland Yard it suspect abroad house of the financing of terrorism reported sev	arrested six people during raids that alive in the West and East London ted in the establishment of six men incitement to commit terrorist acts eral television networks British in the preparation of the Abu Ezz Eddin rement of outsiders extremist emanating from the group of immigrants tish navy			
storyboard annotate play download it view stories	Al_Arabiya 2007/04/30 18:14:00 GMT Arabic			
Summary: Sadique Khan enlightenment They two of executors of London attacks terrorist Police extended the Supreme Court activities and documentation about was arrested in his country coincided with the American attention Mohammed Babar boarding On the basis that relieve the against question unanswered Why is not intentionally British intelligence bodies to intervene to try to derailing the process of seven terrorist here in London Drums of knowledge clear connects seven cell cell July chemical bombs entry of Arab before the Supreme Court since from London with US political analyst Shamseddin Shamseddin Shamseddin heard the question Antoine Khoury Title: News Duration: 120 secs				
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Pakistan to the beginning of the Year 2004 during contro executors of London attacks terrorist Police extended the	ial. the intelligence organs was watched the cell between Britain and I retirement tents four times Mohammed Sadique Khan the They two of Supreme Canadian accent of but Khawaja was arrested in his country On the basis try to frustrate operations seven terrorist here in London			
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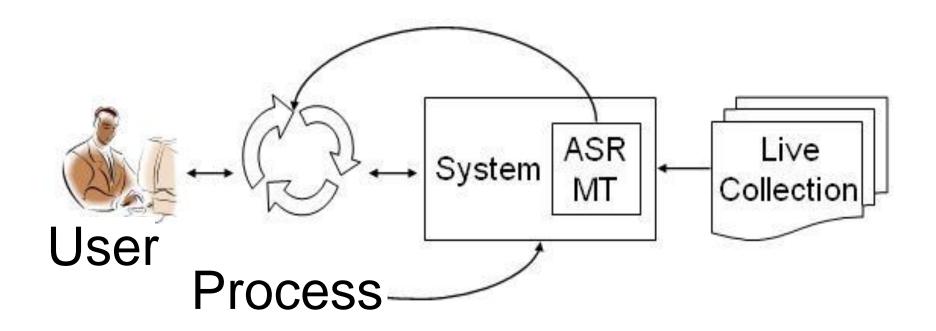
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€ 100% ▼

Done

Side-by-side Translation





Task Scenario

Task Scenario: Hezbollah (abridged version)Time

Time: 60 min.

Foreign (U.S., Canadian, Australian, and European) citizens are evacuating Lebanon as a result of the recent armed conflict between Israel, Palestinian fighters, and Hezbollah [Hizbullah].

You are assisting with the extraction of US citizens. Compile sites of recent armed conflict (in the last month) in this area. Your supervisor will use these data to develop evacuation plans.

For each attack you find, place a number on the map and complete as much as you can of the following template:

Location:	Date:
Type of attack:	Number killed/wounded:

Include attacks in an areas not shown on the map. For multiple attacks, list each occurrence.

User Success

Hezbollah scenario: number of attacks reported

	1	2	6	7
Correct/Reported	59/91	49/51	37/53	64/76
Precision	65%	96%	70%	84%
Relative Recall	29%	24%	18%	32%

Where Things Stand

- Ranked retrieval works well across languages
 - Bonus: easily extended to text classification
 - Caveat: mostly demonstrated on news stories
- Machine translation is okay for niche markets
 Keep an eye on this: accuracy is improving fast
- Building explainable systems seems possible

For More Information

- Cross-Language IR Algorithms
 - Levow et al., IP&M 2005
 - Wang and Oard, SIGIR 2006
- Interactive CLIR
 - Oard et al., IP&M 2007
 - Oard et al., in Olive et al, Springer 2011