



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE



MATERIAL

Designing an MT Program for IARPA

Dr. Carl Rubino
IARPA

INTELLIGENCE ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS ACTIVITY (IARPA)



Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity

IARPA envisions and leads *high-risk, high-payoff research* that delivers innovative technology for *future overwhelming intelligence advantage*

- Our problems are **complex** and **multidisciplinary**
- We emphasize **technical excellence** & **technical truth**

4 Core Research Thrusts



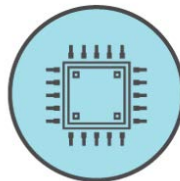
Analysis



Anticipatory Intelligence



Collection



Computing

The United States Intelligence Community





IARPA does everything “from AI to Zika” and is a world scientific leader

Although best known for quantum computing, superconducting computing and forecasting tournaments – IARPA’s research portfolio is diverse, including math, physics, chemistry, biology, neuroscience, linguistics, political science, cognitive psychology and more.

- 70% of completed research transitions to U.S. Government partners
- 2,000+ journal articles published through FY2016
- Physicist David Wineland won the Nobel Prize in Physics for quantum computing research funded by IARPA
- World’s leading funder of quantum computing academic research, and quantum research cited as Science Magazine’s “Breakthrough of the Year”
- White House BRAIN Initiative, National Strategic Computing Initiative
- Dr. Craig Gentry named a MacArthur Fellow



Program Impetus

ახალი ცოცხი კარგად ჰგვის, ძველი – მოატანს ქვიშასა.
අපදා අත. අඟිආ ත-ඡදදඟ් අසදදදා සඡඟඡ



No me olvides.



东南西北 方方 福星高照

ගිය දුලා මහා ඵකා දු



ආඟ අඡුරඟා ඡාඡඟි ඡිඡඡර අඡ
ආඟ අඡිත ඟ කලිඡඡිඡඡ.
අඡිත ඟ ඡඡඡ කඡඡඡඡ

Kuelekeza si kufuma,
na kuchumbia si kuoa

नजाने गाउँको बाटै नसोध्नु ।

Утопающий за
солóминку хватáется.

미국 투자이민의 생각이 바뀐다
අඡඡඡඡඡඡඡඡඡඡඡ





MATERIAL Goal

- Revolutionize multilingual triage by enabling rapid development of language-independent methods (when possible) to field systems capable of fulfilling domain-specific cross-language information retrieval tasks over both text and speech data, with:
 - Limited bitext and transcribed speech training data
 - English domain-specific queries as input
 - English summaries of retrieved results as output
 - Methods for domain adaptation and portability to new languages
 - Assessment of the technology via a resonating end-to-end use case



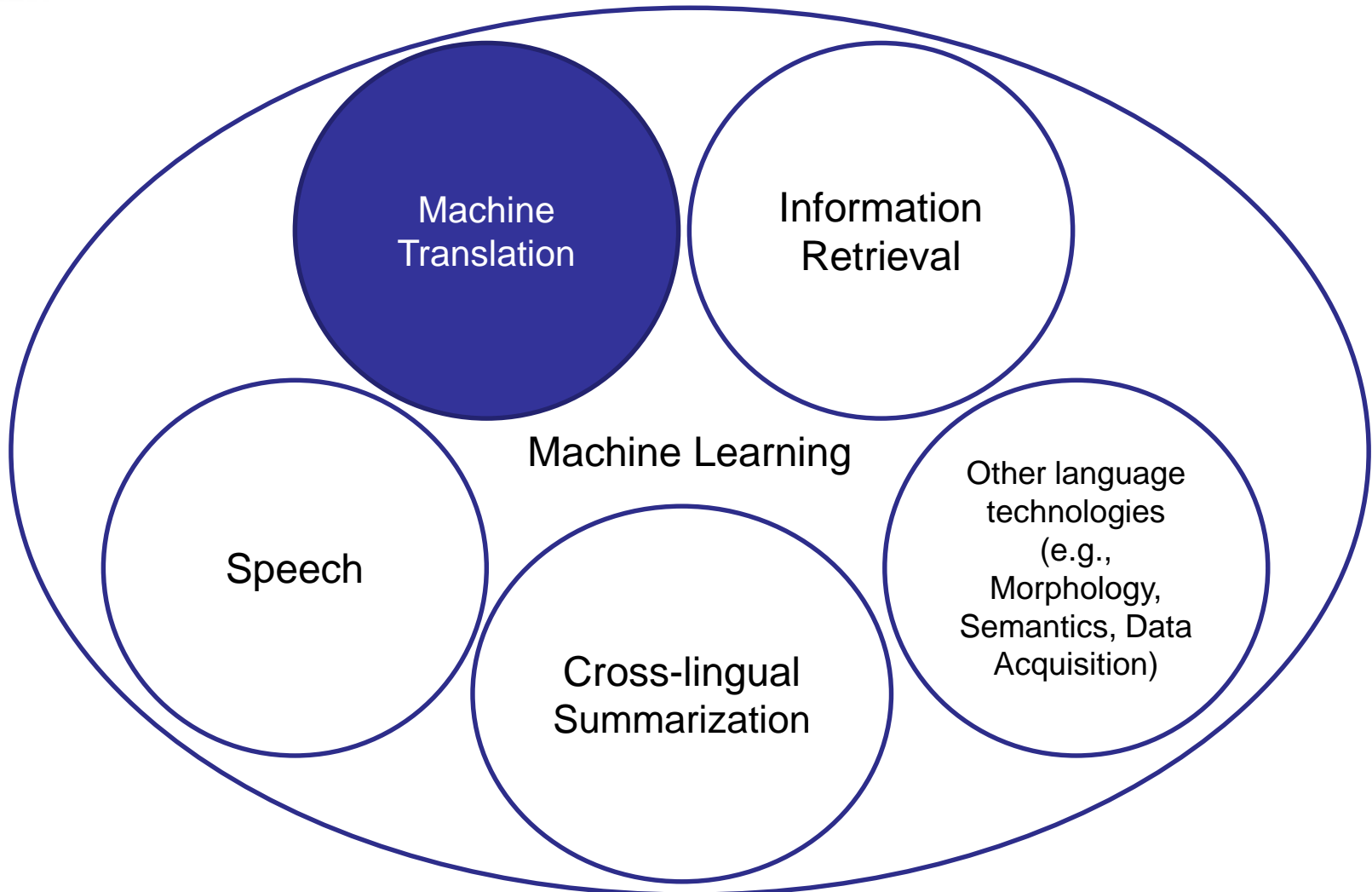
The MATERIAL System

- An “English-in, English-out” information retrieval system that, given a domain-sensitive English query, will retrieve relevant data from a large multilingual repository and display the retrieved information in English as summaries that reflect the document relevance:





MATERIAL Technical Areas





Why Low Resource Languages?

ಅಂಕಾರಾ: ಟರ್ಕಿ ರಾಜಧಾನಿ ಅಂಕಾರದಲ್ಲಿ **ಮಿಲಿಟರಿ ಪಡೆಯನ್ನು** ಗುರಿಯಾಗಿರಿಸಿ ಬುಧವಾರ ಸಂಭವಿಸಿದ **ಕಾರು ಬಾಂಬ್** ದಾಳಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 28 ಮಂದಿ ಸಾವಿಗೀಡಾಗಿದ್ದು, 61 ಮಂದಿಗೆ ಗಾಯಗಳಾಗಿವೆ. **ಮಿಲಿಟರಿ** ವಾಹನಗಳು ಹಾದು ಹೋಗುತ್ತಿರುವ



• Fundamental Challenges

- Lack of bitexts or commercial products to exploit
- Incomplete grammatical descriptions
- Scant lexical resources
- May have radically divergent typologies and complex morphologies
- May have encoding anomalies
- Segmentation issues
- Lack of orthographic standardization; Multiple scripts
- Informal genres of text will capture orthographic deviation (typos vs. truncations)



Query Format

- Domain-specific (e.g., Government, Lifestyle)
- Address domain-restricted information need



“polio vaccine”

Domain: Government and Politics

Subject Domain



...In response, the Armenian **Ministry of Health** urged all Syrian Armenians under age 15 to get the **polio vaccination**...



...Severe adverse reactions to this **vaccine** are rare....



...The oral **vaccine** was made by weakening the three strains of **poliovirus** that caused disease by growing them in monkey kidney cells...

Non-traditional Query Constructs



Semantic Expansion:

“environmental protection”+
“planting okra”+
Surigao, irrigation+

Constraint Disambiguation:

Fly [hypernym: insect]
Light [event frame:weight]
“Buddha’s hand” [synonym: *Citrus medica sarcodactylis*]

Categorical Membership:

EXAMPLE_OF (mammal)
EXAMPLE_OF (dairy product)

Morphological Constraint:

<helicopters>

+ domain!





Key Technical Challenges

- Techniques appropriate for a wide variety of languages
- Performance on formal and informal text and speech in a wide variety of genres that do not match the training conditions
- Development of new methods for domain adaptation without monolingual or parallel training data in that domain
- Limited time to develop a fully automatic E2E system to process a new language
- Inter-language domain mismatches reflecting a cultural component
- Use of web resources to complement limited training data

**Performers must develop methods
that are not data intensive.**

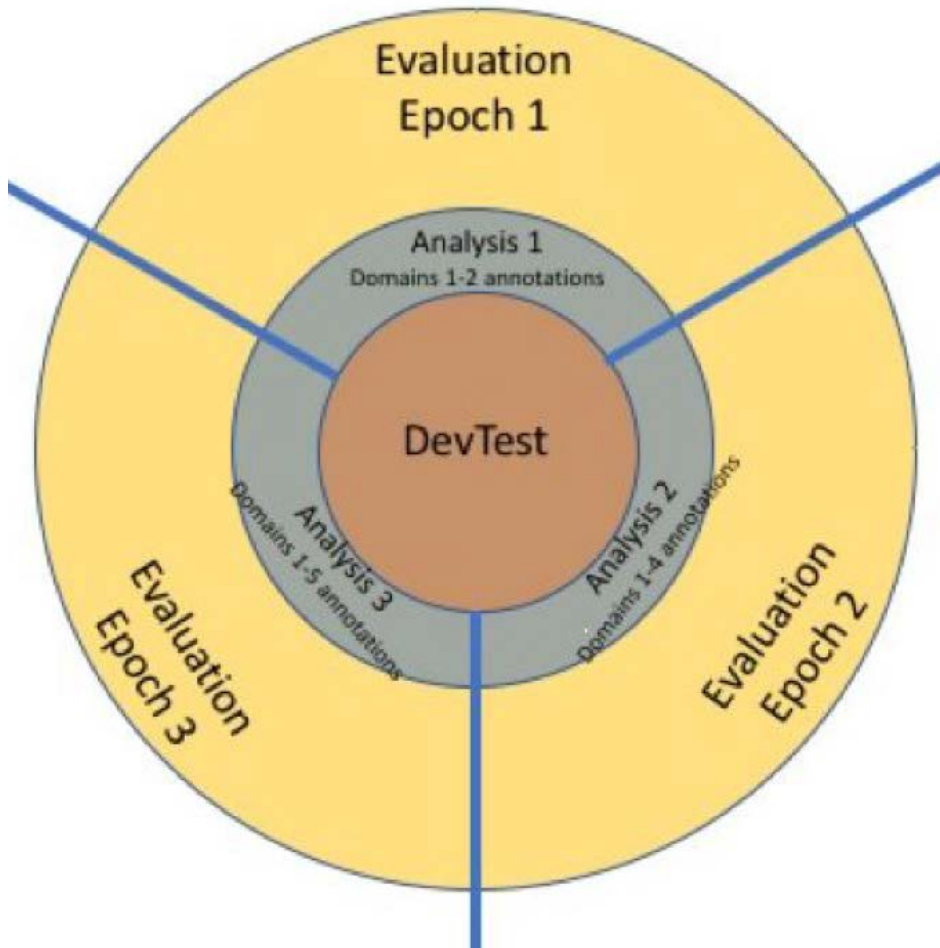


MATERIAL Training Data

- Each language will be provided at kick-off to performers in a “pack” from the IARPA T&E Team that will contain training data for MT and ASR as well as relevant language information
- Speech data will include:
 - Roughly 50 hours of conversational speech transcriptions in a *normalized orthography* in two demographically balanced partitions (40 hours training; 10 hours dev test)
 - Phonetic Lexica
 - Not all genres and domains will be present in the training data
- MT Training data will include:
 - 800K word bitexts in each program language, sentence-aligned. Up to five sentences may be included with a denoted grouping. Translations are purely human and new.
 - Not all genres and domains will be present in the training data
- Language information will include:
 - Description of the language (e.g., dialect regions, phoneme set definitions)
 - Basic information on dialects, spelling and encoding



MATERIAL Data Partitioning



Query Releases:

QR1: 2 Domains – Open

QR2: 4 Domains – Closed

QR3: 5 Domains – Closed

Build Packs for Training:

ASR Training & Phonetic Lexica
MT Bitexts



Domains and Genres Used for Development and Evaluation

Program data will include formal and informal varieties of text and speech, including genres that are not present in the MT or ASR training data.

Mode	% Collect	Genre
Text	~ 75	News
		Topical
		Social Media
Speech	~ 25	Broadcast News
		Topical Broadcasts
		Conversation

Domains (Broad Subject Fields) will vary from language to language based on corpus characteristics, e.g. Government and Politics, Health, Military, etc.



Test Structure Rationale

- T&E regimen designed to drive R&D towards the program goal, viz:
Language independent methods, tools, and technologies to provide **rapid-deployment** of **domain-adapted** MT for **low-resource** languages effectively integrated in a usable CLIR system
- So:
 - Multiple languages with varying characteristics
 - Only small amounts of IARPA-furnished bitexts for training
 - Domain contextualized queries
 - Decreasing lead-time for development & surprise language evaluation

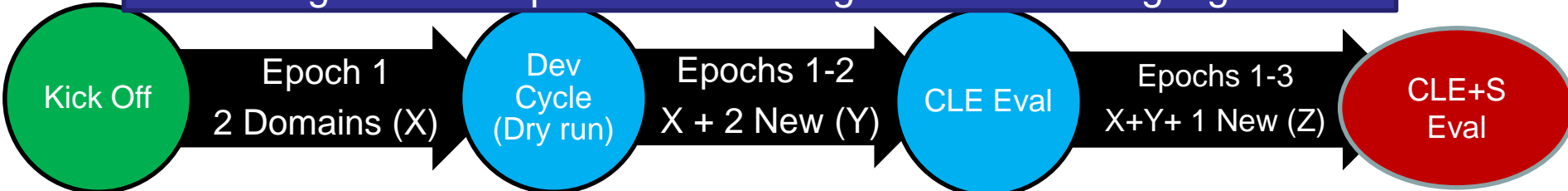
	Base	Option 1	Option 2
Length (months)	18	16	12
# Practice Languages	2	2	3
Surprise Language Period (months)	6	4	1.5



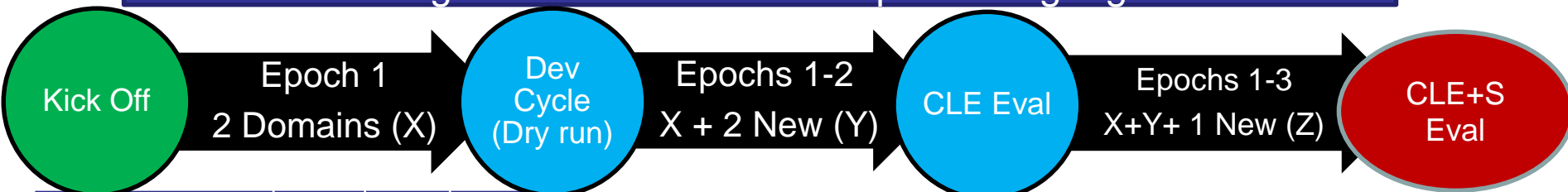
Program at a Glance

Training Data at Each Kickoff Period per language: 800K Words Bitexts; 50 Hours Transcribed Audio

Stage 1: Development and Testing on Practice Languages



Stage 2: Evaluation on 1 Surprise Language



	Base	Opt 1	Opt 2
# Dev Languages	2	2	3
Phase Duration	18	16	13
Practice CLE	7	8	8
Practice CLE+S	10	10	9
Surprise CLE	13	12	10.5
Surprise CLE+S	16	14	11.5
Surprise duration	6	4	1.5

Staging in of Queries:

Kickoff	Test 1	Test 2
50% X queries	75% X & 50% Y queries	100% X, Y & Z queries

10% responsive data translations provided at each stage for analysis that cannot be used for further training.



CLIR Detection Metric: AQWV Actual Query Weighted Value

- All queries are treated equally (regardless of whether they generate single or multiple hits).
- Must be able to calibrate the metric against a baseline CLIR system that has two inputs: GOTS MT and human translation.
- Metrics will be reported to performers as an average over the set of queries (not individually for each query).
- Calculated as a representation of error rate taking into account probability of hits, false alarms, and the total number of responsive documents. These parameters will be set by T&E once the data are collected and evaluated.

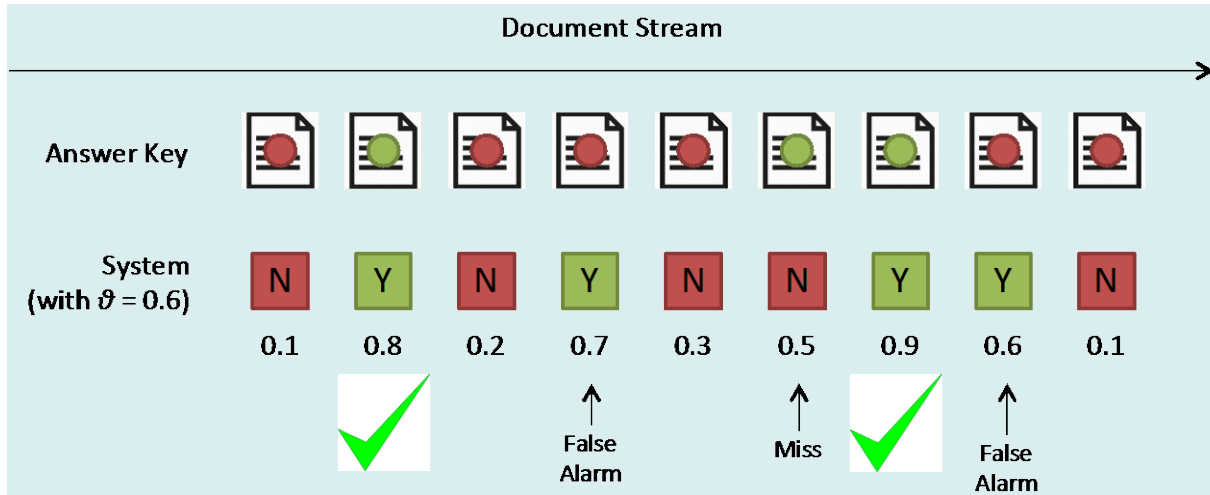


Actual Query Weighted Value (AQWV)

Developers choose Θ , the detection threshold for their “Actual Decisions”, to optimize query-weighted value

- V is the *a priori* value (benefit) of a correct response
- C is the *a priori* cost of an incorrect response
- P_{rel} is the prior probability that a document is relevant to a query, e.g. 10^{-3}

$$Value_Q(\theta) = 1 - \text{average}_Q \left\{ p_{miss}(Q, \theta) + \frac{C}{V} (p_{rel}^{-1} - 1) \cdot p_{fa}(Q, \theta) \right\}$$



Developers will tune their systems to the threshold that maximizes the AQWV. Note that 1 is a perfect score; that is, error rate is zero.



Evaluating Summarization

CLIR Contingency Matrix

		Y	N
Key	Y	X_1 True Positive	X_2 False Negative
	N	X_3 False Positive	X_4 True Negative

$$QWV = 1 - \frac{X_2}{(X_1 + X_2)} - \beta \frac{X_3}{(X_3 + X_4)}$$

Crowd Summary Judgments

		Y	N
CLIR/ Key	Y/Y (= X_1)	A	B
	Y/N (= X_3)	C	D

CROWD-SOURCED JUDGMENTS:

Y/Y: Retrieved docs that are relevant

Y/N: Retrieved docs that are not relevant

A : # Relevant docs judged relevant

B : # Relevant docs judged non-relevant

C : # Non-relevant docs judged relevant

D : # Non-relevant docs judged non-relevant

A "perfect" summarization capability would hold B at zero and reduce C to zero



Evaluating Summarization (cont.)

CLIR Contingency Matrix

		Y	N
Key	Y	X_1 True Positive	X_2 False Negative
N	X_3 False Positive	X_4 True Negative	

$$QWV = 1 - \frac{X_2}{(X_1 + X_2)} - \beta \frac{X_3}{(X_3 + X_4)}$$

Crowd Summary Judgments

		Y	N
CLIR/ Key	Y/Y (=X ₁)	A	B
Y/N (=X ₃)	C	D	

A "perfect" summarization capability would hold B at zero and reduce C to zero

Summarization can reduce the false alarm rate ($C \leq X_3$) but cannot reduce the number of missed detections ($B \geq 0$)

End to End Contingency Matrix

		Y	N
Key	Y	A	$X_2 + B$
N	C	$X_4 + D$	

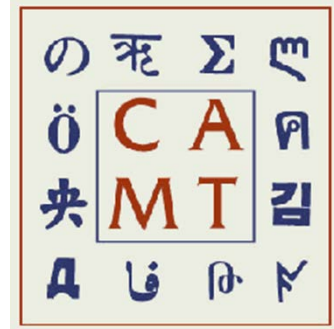
$$QWV = 1 - \frac{X_2 + B}{(A + X_2 + B)} - \beta \frac{C}{(C + X_4 + D)}$$



T&E (Test and Evaluation)

- The Data

Data and/or annotation were supplied from four primary sources: Appen Butler Hill, Inc. (Appen), The Center for Applied Machine Translation at NSA, The National Virtual Translation Center at FBI, and Air Force Research Laboratories (AFRL).



- The T&E Team

Test & Evaluation





T&E Team Roles



- The Center for the Advanced Study of Language (CASL) provides guidance on the languages, data quality, annotation and linguistic aspects of evaluation.

POCs: Anne David and Aric Bills



- The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is the evaluation lead for the T&E team. They design and administer the CLIR test sets via their test server.

POCs: Greg Sanders and Audrey Tong



T&E Team Roles



- MIT Lincoln Laboratory (LL) supports the program with data collection, data annotation, partitioning and vetting. They have built a baseline system to better understand program challenges and appropriately set expectations.

POCs: Nick Malyska and Jennifer Melot



- Tarragon Consulting provides ontological support for the program, crucial for our data annotation contract effort. They also lead the efforts for summary evaluation.

POC: Richard Tong

First Two Practice Languages

- From a Broad language portfolio:
 - Different Language Families
 - Mixed language typology (i.e., with different phonotactic, morphological, syntactic characteristics)

Tagalog



Swahili





Swahili (1A)

- SVO Word Order
- Agglutinative Morphology with prefixes and suffixes
- Verbs and adjectives agree with noun class of subjects and objects
- 18 noun classes
- Latin script, 5 vowels, 33 consonants (4 pre-nasalized, 4 borrowed)
- Variability (dialects)

Mama	anamlisha	mtoto	uji.
mama	a-na-m-lish-a	m-toto	u-ji
mother	3SG-PRES-CL1.OBJ-feed-FV	CL1-child	CL14-porridge

'Mother is feeding the child porridge.'

Mti	mrefu	mwembamba	ulianguka.
m-ti	m-refu	m-embamba	u-li-anguk-a
CL3-tree	CL3-tall	CL3-thin	CL3-PST-fall-FV

'The tall thin tree fell.'



Tagalog (1B)

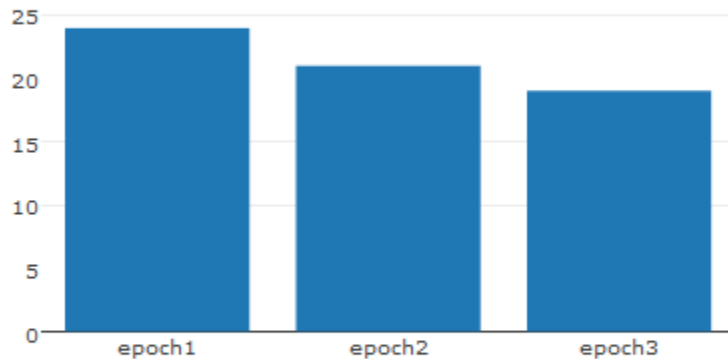
- Predicate-initial word order, Agent usually precedes patient
- Agglutinative Morphology with prefixes, suffixes, infixes and reduplication
- Verbs take derivational affixes to denote semantic relation of NOM
- Latin script. Contrastive lexical stress. Heavy borrowing – diglossia.
- Agglutinative morphology with reduplication:
 - Prefix: mag-Tagalog = ‘to speak Tagalog’
 - Suffix: Tagalog-in = ‘say in Tagalog’
 - Infix: T[in]agalog = ‘translated into Tagalog’
 - Circumfix: ka-Tagalog-an = ‘Tagalog area’
 - Reduplication: nag-**ta**-Tagalog = “speaking Tagalog”
 - And combinations thereof
- Predicate initial language, Agent usually precedes patient
 - Inubus ko yung pansit niya.
 - finished 1s SPEC noodles 3s.GEN
 - ‘I finished his/her noodles’
- Traditionally a three vowel system written with five vowels
 - Word final vowel lowering: U > O, I > E / _#
 - Kababaihan (from babae)
 - Tagalugin (from Tagalog)



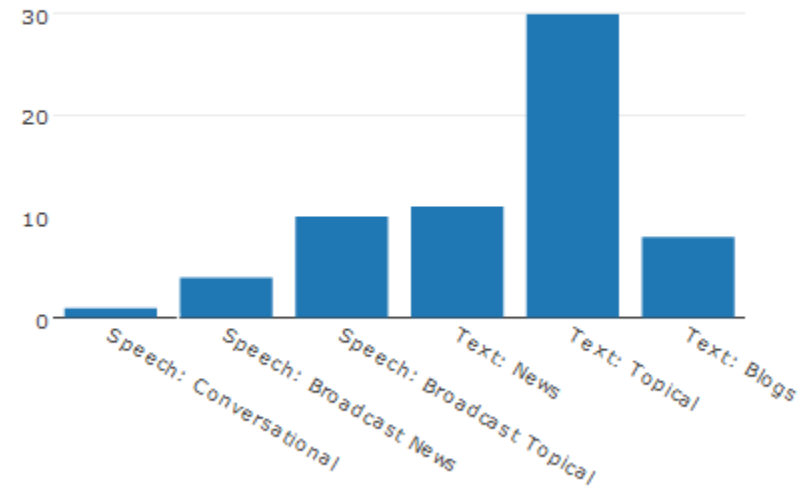
Query Development

Query 1B-2034
Domain GOV
Named Entity

Number of Results in All Epochs

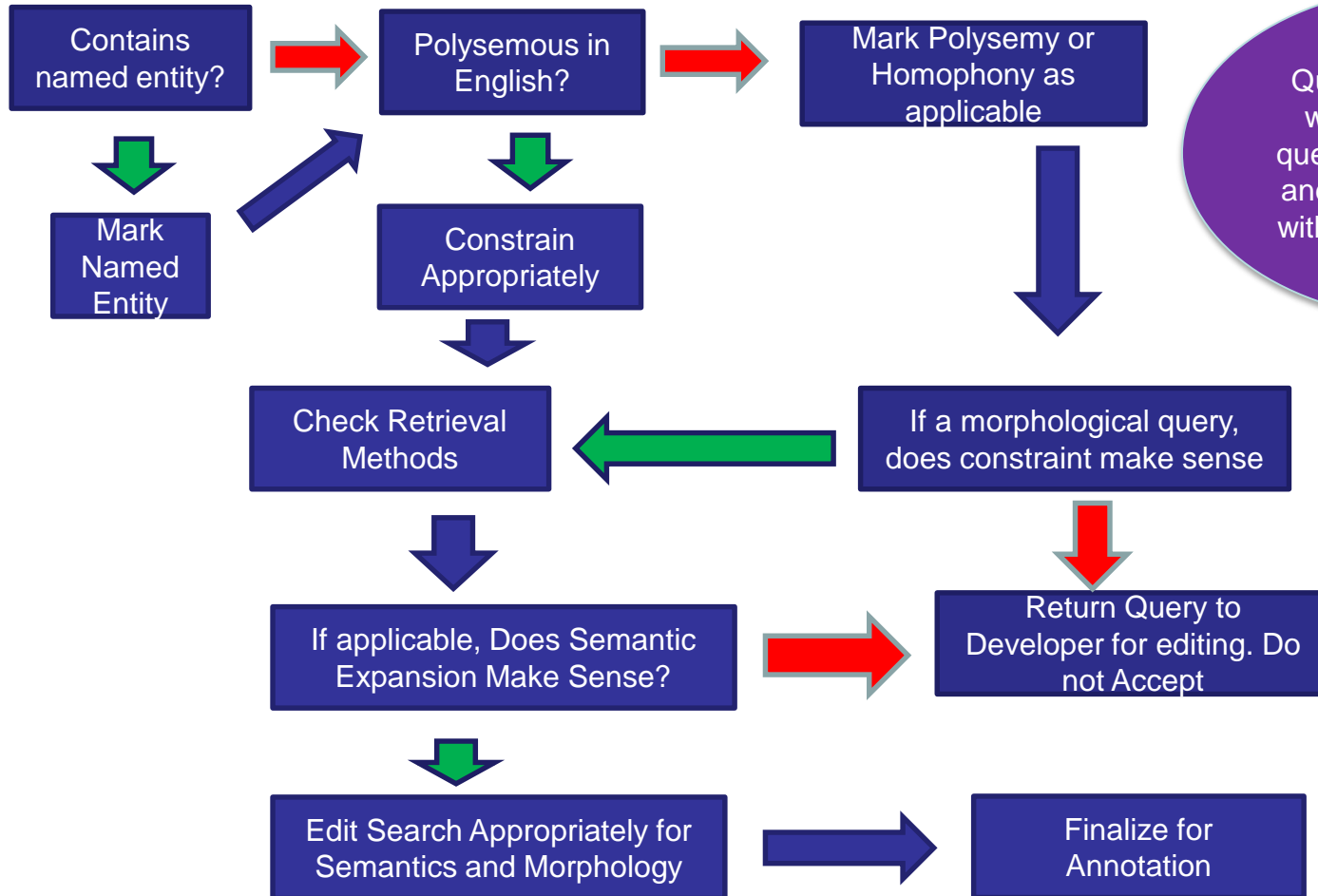


Number of Results in All Genres





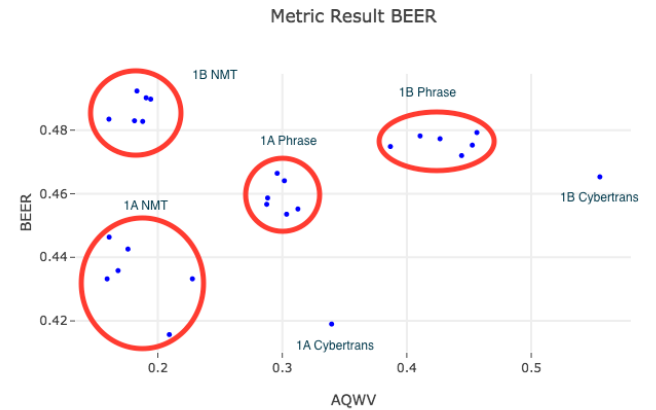
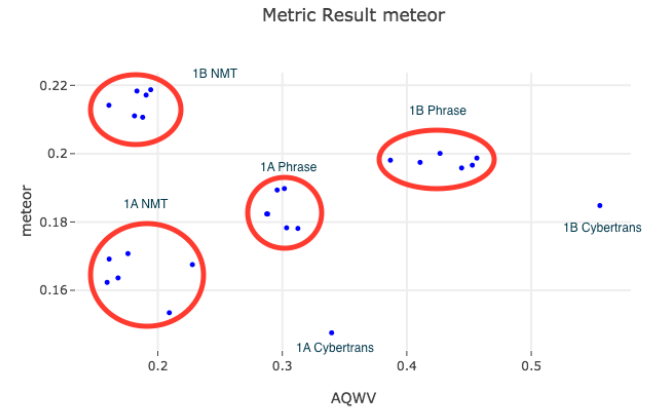
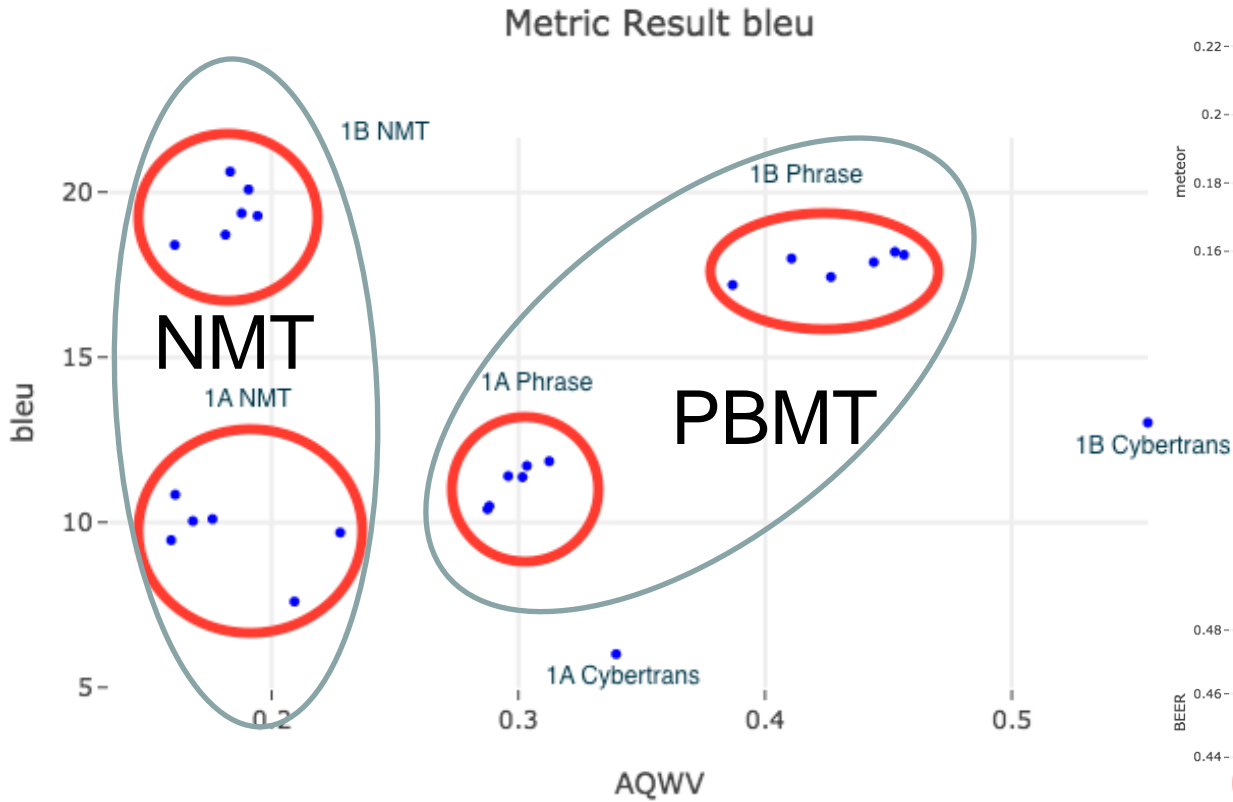
Vetting Query Development



Query Developers will want to try to create queries that hit both text and speech documents with a reasonable pREL

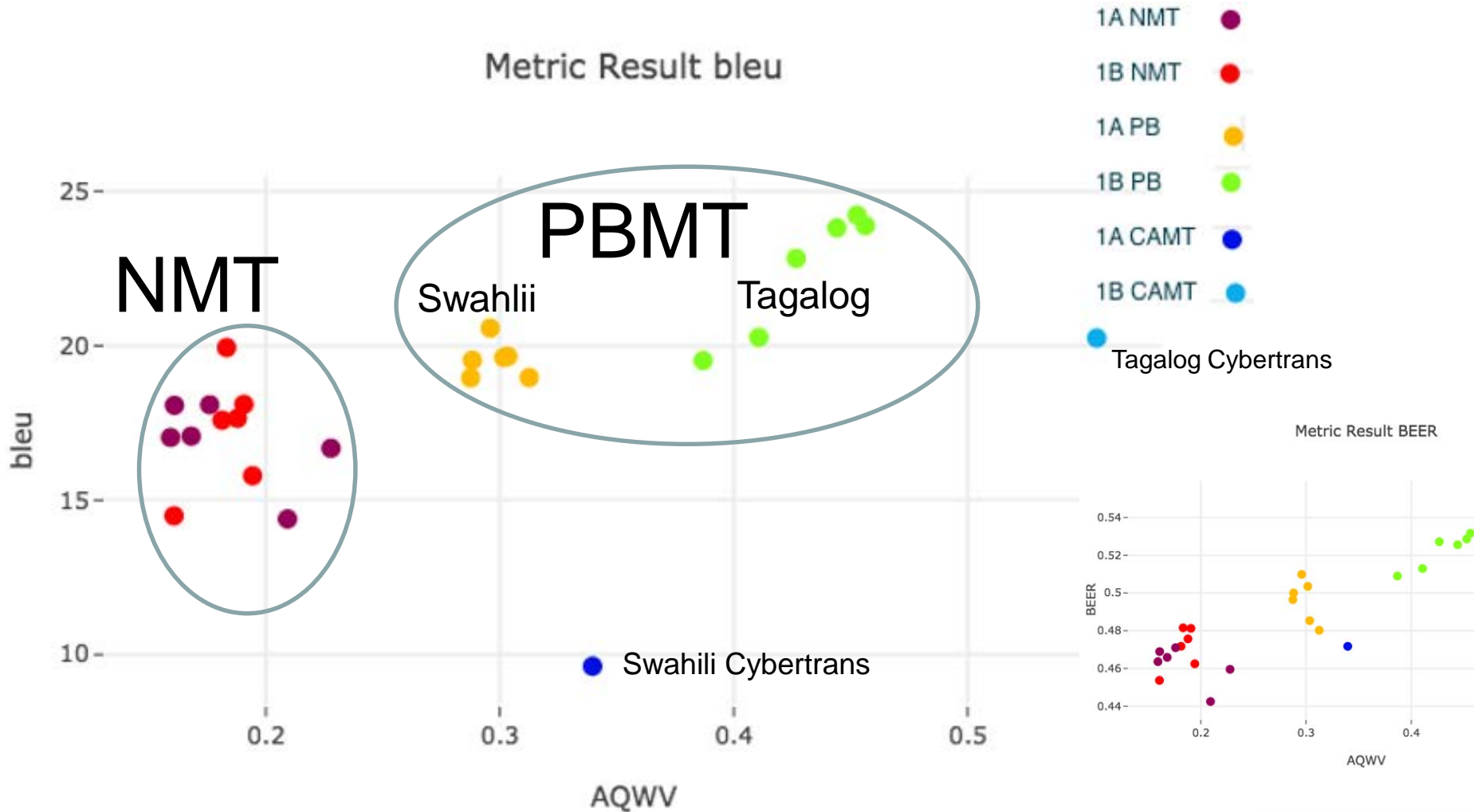


Baseline Metric Correlation, Eval1





Baseline Metric Correlation, Analysis1





Four MATERIAL Performing Teams



Raytheon

Raytheon
BBN Technologies



... and some initial results and discoveries



Team Scoring

- Web-based scoring server hosted by NIST
- Allows performer teams to submit their system outputs and get score feedback on various datasets

Detailed results for CLIR task include AQWV breakdown by:

Document types (text, speech)

Domains

Query types (lexical, conceptual, hybrid)

Query characteristics

EXAMPLE_OF

Semantic constraint (hypernym, synonym, event frame)

Morphological constraint

Conjunction

Constituent phrase

Multi-word phrase

Contains capital letter

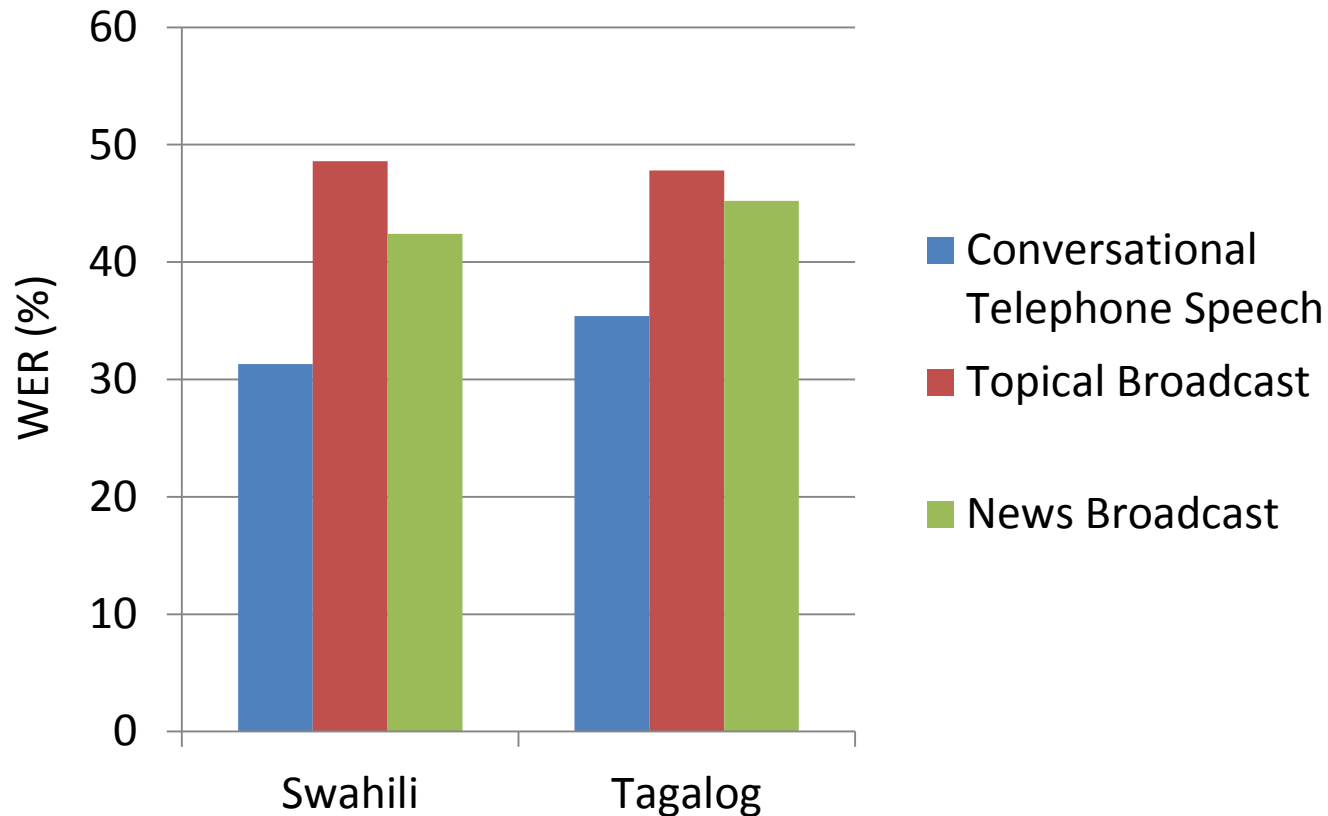
Datasets	Num. of Submissions Allowed Per Week	Feedback
Analysis	200	detailed
Dev	200	detailed
Analysis+Dev	100	detailed
Eval	1	limited



Mismatch Degradation from Analysis Docs

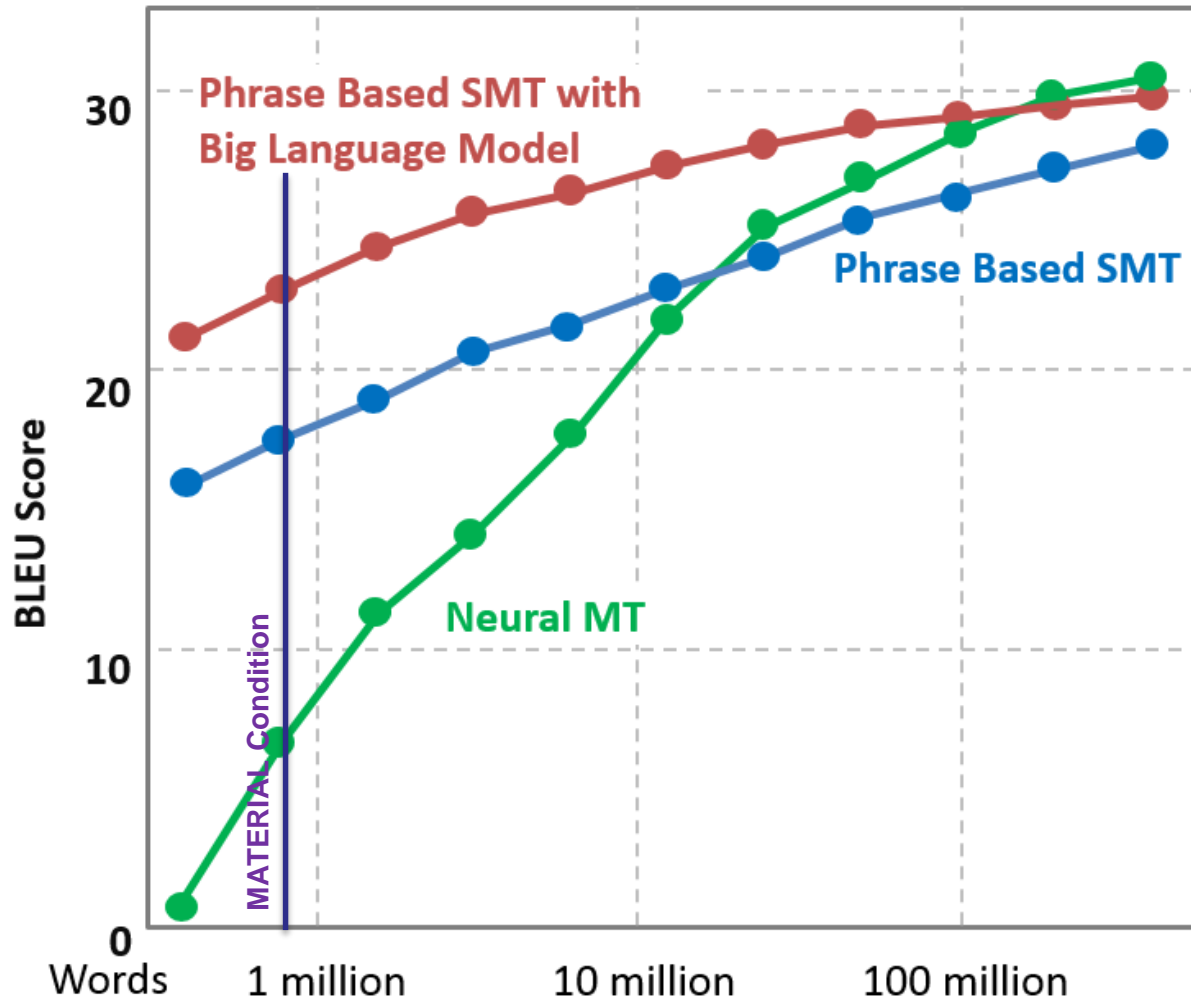
- Conversational vs. Broadcast Performance

Word Error Rate Metric – Lower is Better





Data Needs: SMT vs. NMT



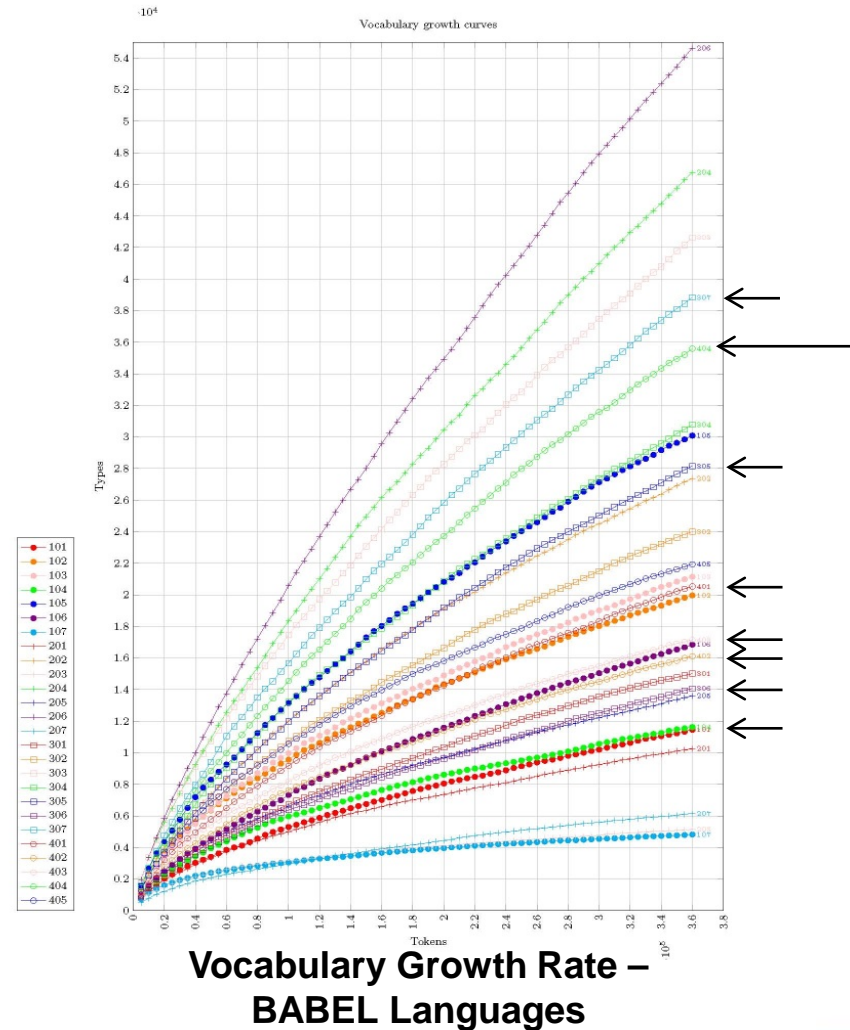
Corpus Size

Adapted from:
Philipp Koehn
Johns Hopkins University



Substantial OOV Problem

- Languages with a large number of word variants will not be covered by the very limited amounts of training data.
- Doing well with limited training data requires accurate search for word forms not observed in training.
- 10% of queries OOV from English training; 15% not seen in Analysis Pack





Chinese Room Editor

Tagalog · dev-top-50 · guest

load save manual logout

O O+R R L/R

Dictionary Lookup Tagalog side English side

中文室

English: empty

[28] tgl_dev1_1341.1

Gloss: when ended that the chaos in Marawi, said of Aquino that needs remove that of government the martial law and rush the when in normal of place .

Tagalog: Kapag natapos na ang kaguluhan sa Marawi, sinabi ni Aquino na kailangang alisin na ng pamahalaan ang Martial Law at madaliin ang pagbalik sa normal ng lugar .

English: empty

[29] tgl_dev1_1353.1

Gloss: fact, said of Justice Secretary Vitaliano Aguirre that more heavy the penalty to against in the proven made of terrorism .

Tagalog: Katunayan, sinabi ni Justice Secretary Vitaliano Aguirre na mas mabigat ang parusang ipinataw laban sa mga mapapatunayang nakagawa ng terorismo .

English: empty

[30] tgl_dev1_1362.1

Gloss: identified the victim that, Rudy Feliciano, 49 old, stay - in caretaker of Lighthouse Tagaytay Events place in barangay . Cat, Alfonso, Cavite .

Special ops: group · ungroup · confidence · donate · cancel/end

Tagalog: pamahalaan

T-table: pamahalaan: government (573) governments (8) NULL (5) said (1) way (0.5) administration (0.5) welcoming (0.5) are (0.5) demolished (0.5) released (0.5)

T-table: Pamahalaang: NULL (3) · closely (1) · Provincial (1) · Government (1)

T-table: pamahalaang: government (34.8) · NULL (2) · administration (0.5) · the (9.3) · of (0.5) · present (0.3) · local (0.5)

T-table: pamahalaan: government (2)

T-table: pamahalan: government (1.3) · now (0.3) · appealed (0.3)

T-table: pamahalang: government (1.2) · our (0.2) · let (0.2) · business (0.2) · local (0.2) · this (0.2)

T-table: tagapamahalang: administrator (1.5) · overall (0.5)

T-table: tagapamahala: NULL (3) · administrator (2) · manager (2) · managers (1)

T-table: ipamahala: NULL (2) · let (1) · former (1)

T-table: mahalaan: government (1) · NULL (1)

T-table: mahalay: perverted (1.3) · NULL (1) · scene (0.5) · indecent (0.5) · she (0.3) · did (0.3) · something (0.3)

T-table: mahal: love (225) · loved (189.8) · loves (101.7) · NULL (24) · ones (23.5) · expensive (21.5) · one (20.3) · beloved (12) · really (10) · very (4.8)

T-table: MAHAL: expensive (22.5) · is (1)

T-table: Mahal: NULL (26) · dear (6) · Holy (6.5) · the (0.5) · holy (1.5) · Blessed (1) · Week (1.5) · king (1)

T-table: pama: through (2)

T-table: Pama: Pama (8)

T-table: pam: NULL (1) · majority (1) · schools (1) · commuters (1)

T-table: pagmamahalan: love (33.3) · loving (4) · NULL (2) · relationship (2) · affection (1.5) · feelings (1.5) · other (1.3) · romance (1) · passion (1) · intimate (1)

T-table: pinakamahalangang: most (4.3) · important (3.3) · NULL (2) · single (0.3)





Data Crawling

- Performers collecting heterogeneous monolingual and parallel corpora from large number of sources
 - **Text:** News/tabloids/blogs, Bible/Quran, bilingual dicts, Wikipedia
 - **Audio/Video:** News, YouTube, Bible

	Swahili	Tagalog
Text	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3M documents, 130M sentences• 22K dictionary entries• 15K Bible verses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9M documents, 300M sentences• 36K dictionary entries• 63K Bible verses
Audio	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 93 hours of YouTube videos• 1600 hours of News videos• 99 hours of Audio Bible	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5 hours of YouTube videos• 260 hours of News videos• 25 hours of Audio Bible

- Provided boost in ASR and MT domain/genre adaptations; eventually will be used in *all* MATERIAL tasks



Using Raw Crawled Data

- Unfiltered harvest, high-recall crawling output
- Data from Johns Hopkins University

	5%	10%	20%	50%	100%
Raw crawl data	<u>27.4</u> <u>24.2</u> +0.2 +0.2	<u>26.6</u> <u>24.2</u> -0.9 +0.2	<u>24.7</u> <u>24.4</u> -2.5 +0.4	<u>20.9</u> <u>24.8</u> -6.3 +0.8	<u>17.3</u> <u>25.2</u> -0.0 +1.2

Benefit to SMT , severe harm to NMT 



Comparing MT Systems with BLEU

(Columbia's Baseline MT Results on Eval using Bitexts only)

MT Engine	Config	SW-EN	TL-EN	EN-SW	EN-TL
Neural (Marian)	Baseline	21.82	25.73	25.98	21.21
	Best (deep + ensemble)	31.33	32.54	36.00	30.51
Neural (Sockeye)	Baseline	30.16	28.83	36.01	27.49
	Best (tied embeddings+ ensemble)	32.58	32.10	39.75	31.38
Phrase Based (Moses)	Baseline	31.02	29.81	36.92	28.33



Comparing MT Systems with BLEU

(Columbia's Improved MT Results using parallel + monolingual texts)

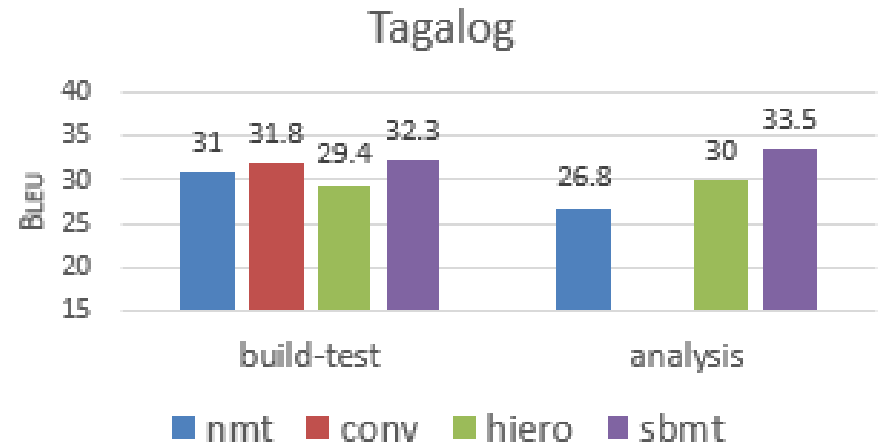
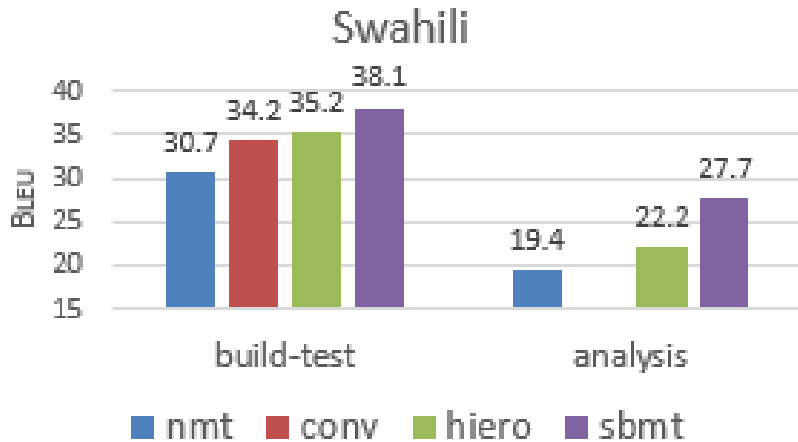
MT Engine	Config	SW-EN	TL-EN	EN-SW	EN-TL
Neural (Sockeye)	Parallel only	32.58	32.10	39.75	31.38
	+monolingual (best config)	35.36	34.16	42.42	33.32
Phrase-based (Moses)	Parallel only	31.02	29.81	36.92	28.33
	+monolingual (target LM)	31.94	30.78	41.57	30.24



Comparing MT Systems with BLEU

(ISI's 90%/6.5%/3.5% train/dev/test split of the build set)

- Baseline systems
 - sbmt: Syntactic string-to-tree (from Galley et al. 2004)
 - hiero: Hierarchical Phrase-Based (from Chiang, 2005)
 - nmt: Neural seq2seq (Luo and Barzilay 2018, based on Bahdanau et al. 2014)
 - conv: Pure convolutional neural (adapted from Gehring et al., 2017)

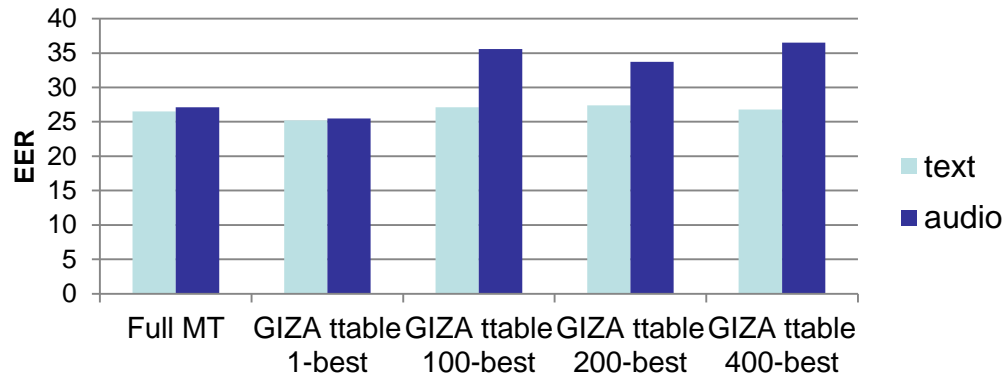




DOMAIN DETECTION

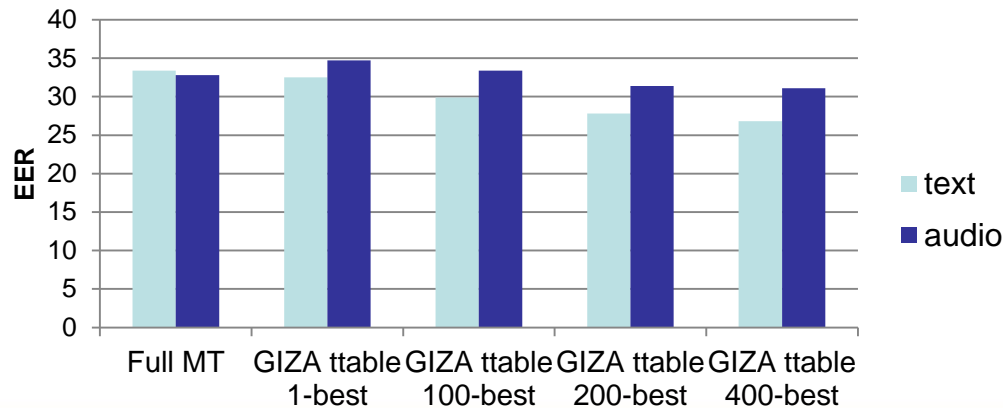
Equal Error Rate results with seeded Analysis 1 docs

Swahili



Reminder: “GIZA ttable” is a translation table that contains word-to-word probabilities computed from the GIZA alignments of the parallel data.

Tagalog



The two practice languages behave quite differently!

Source: BBN



What's Next?

MATERIAL BASE PERIOD SCHEDULE

April 6, 2018	Development Cycle for Base Period Ends
May 14, 2018	CLIR Eval; Practice Summary Submissions
May 18, 2018	Domain 5 Released for both languages
May 25, 2018	CLIR/Domain ID Results Disseminated
July 5, 2018	Third query set release; Eval 3 Data released
July 24, 2018	CLIR+Summary Dry Run
Aug 6, 2018	CLIR+Summary Eval
Aug 14, 2018	Analysis Set 3 Release
Sept 5, 2018	Surprise Language Kickoff; DC Area Workshop
January 2019	CLIR+S Eval for Surprise Language
March 2019	CLIR+S Results Disseminated; Performer downselect



How to Engage with IARPA

Getting Started with IARPA

At IARPA, we take real risks, solve hard problems, and invest in high-risk/high-payoff research that has the potential to provide our nation with an overwhelming intelligence advantage.

Are you interested in partnering with us to advance the state-of-the-art in research and development?

[Read More](#)

iarpa.gov | 301-851-7500

info@iarpa.gov

Reach out to our Program Managers.

Schedule a visit if you are in the DC area or invite us to visit you

Opportunities to Engage:

RFIS AND WORKSHOPS

Opportunities to learn what is coming, and to influence programs.

"SEEDLINGS"

Typically a 9-12 month study; you can submit your research proposal at any time. We strongly encourage informal discussion with a PM before proposal submission.

PRIZE CHALLENGES

No proposals required. Submit solutions to our problems – if your solutions are the best, you receive a cash prize and bragging rights.

RESEARCH PROGRAMS

Multi-year research funding opportunities on specific topics.



Questions?
May tanong ba?
Maswali?



MATERIAL 2017

