11 – Extracting structured information from text

IA161 Advanced Techniques of Natural Language Processing

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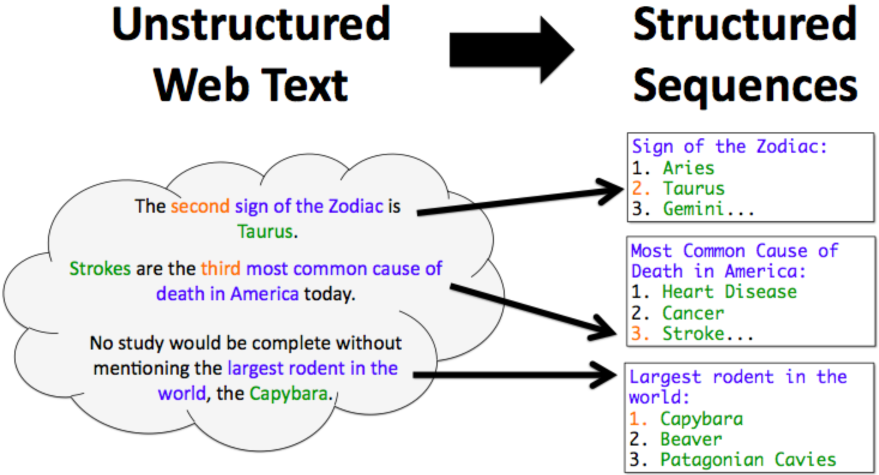
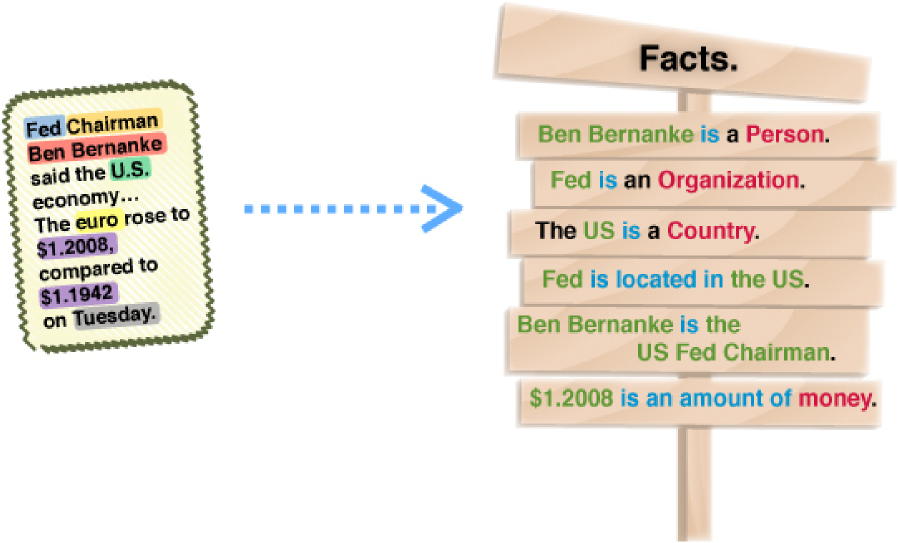
1. What?
2. Why?
3. How?
4. Who?

Making Unstructured Information Structured



Information Extraction Goals



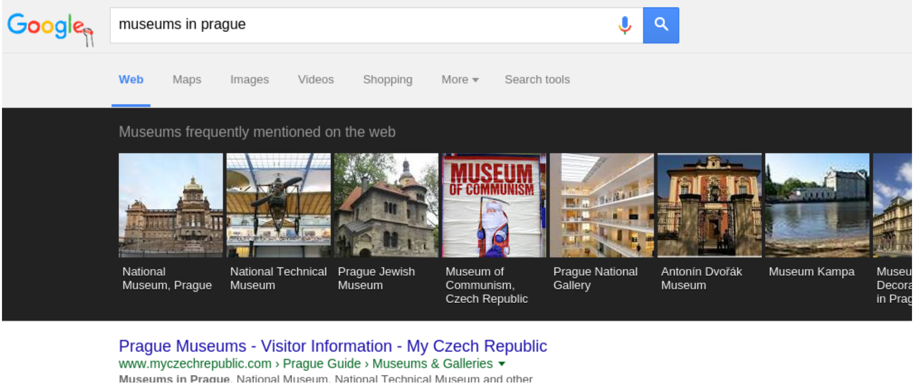
Information Extraction Goals

- Types of Factual Information
  - keywords
  - entities
  - relations
  - events
- Extracted from
  - Different text types: news articles, emails, novels, output from speech recognizer
  - Partially structured resources: lists, databases
  - Different domains or the general domain

Information Extraction Applications

- Direct applications for specific users:
  - financial analysts
  - media analysts
  - PR workers
- Use in subsequent computer applications
  - information systems
  - question answering
  - automatic reasoning
  - automatic summarization
  - ...
- Disambiguate and shorten the information
- Find informational redundancy, aggregate information from several sources

Successful Information Extraction Systems



Google Knowledge Graph (ontologies available at `http://schema.org`)

Successful Information Extraction Systems

- `x.ai` – automatic personal assistant Amy
  - agrees automatically on meeting times
  - recognizes/asks for contact details
  - operates over Google calendar
- Extracting protein interaction from research texts
- Summarizing and filtering stock market news
- Extracting information about conflicts from news
- Smaller systems for more specialized tasks

Information Extraction Evaluation

- Message Understanding Conference + Text REtrieval Conference
- series of conferences starting in 80s and 90s
- shared tasks + competition among systems
- helped standardization in the field
- datasets available
- more recently, many datasets appeared on Kaggle, Zindi, and similar platforms

Information Extraction Approaches

- Specific domain / Complex information
  - precise, narrow requests from small homogeneous corpora
  - weighting/ordering/refining results
- General domain / Simple snippets of information
  - vague request from huge data
  - aggregation of the response

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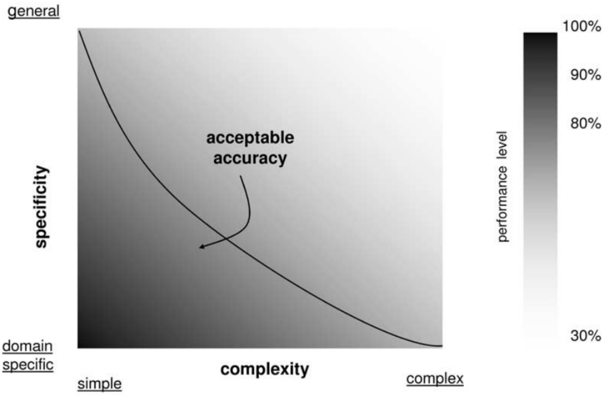

Information Extraction Components

named entity recognition (NE)	finds and classifies names, places, dates, keywords etc.
coreference resolution (CO)	finds identity relations between entities
relation extraction (RE)	add description to entities, finds relation between entities (based on CO)
event extraction (EE)	fits RE into event scenarios

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event extraction (EE)	fits RE into event scenarios	rocket launching event

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Information Extraction Components

named entity recognition (NE)	discussed in detail in lecture 04	Z. Nevěřilová, 27/11/2017, A219, IA161
coreference resolution (CO)	discussed later in this course	it = IA161
relation extraction (RE)	discussed in lecture 07 and later in this lecture	A219 = computer room, IA161 – being taught – 27/11/2017
event extraction (EE)	event recognition, "filling the gaps"	course: name [IA161], date [27/11/2017], lecture room [A219], teacher [Z. Nevěřilová]

The course IA161 takes place every Wednesday in the computer room A219.
The 27th November 2019, it is taught by Zuzana Nevěřilová.

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domain dependent
tied to scenarios of interest
(ontologies can be used)

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Relation Extraction

In the 09 lecture, a large scale pattern recognition was presented. Here, we focus on processing every single piece of information. The methods overlap heavily, however, the scale is different. So are the criteria for precision/recall.

- noun/verb/adjective/adverbial phrase recognition
- partial parsing
- semantic role labeling (SRL)
- event recognition: actors = noun phrases, action = verb, place = adverbial phrase, time = adverbial phrase
- anaphora and co-reference resolution
- rule-based, statistical, machine learning, deep learning

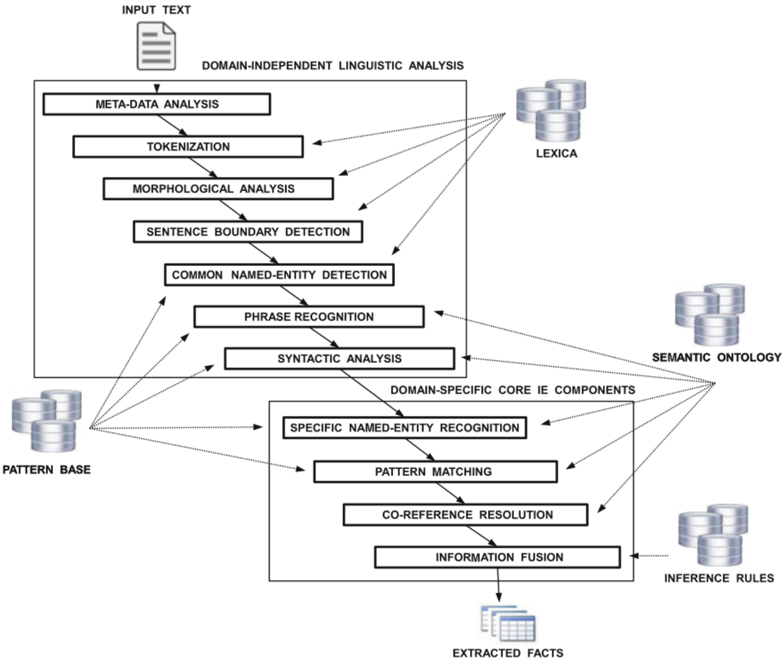
within a given task, the set of relations is *fixed*
Best MUC results from rule-based or statistical methods: $\approx$ 75–80% (humans $\approx$ 90%)

Scenario Templates

prototypical outputs

- precision–recall trade-off
- other evaluation metric: slot error rate
  $S = \frac{incorrect+missing}{key}$,
  where *incorrect* is the number of incorrectly assigned slots,
  missing is the number of missing slots,
  and *key* is the total number of slots.

Best MUC results: $\approx$ 60% (humans $\approx$ 80%)


INPUT TEXT
DOMAIN-INDEPENDENT LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS
META-DATA ANALYSIS
TOKENIZATION
MORPHOLOGICAL ANALYSIS
SENTENCE BOUNDARY DETECTION
COMMON NAMED-ENTITY DETECTION
PHRASE RECOGNITION
SYNTACTIC ANALYSIS
LEXICA
SEMANTIC ONTOLOGY
DOMAIN-SPECIFIC CORE IE COMPONENTS
SPECIFIC NAMED-ENTITY RECOGNITION
PATTERN MATCHING
CO-REFERENCE RESOLUTION
INFORMATION FUSION
PATTERN BASE
INFERENCE RULES
EXTRACTED FACTS

Accuracy

- Still not very consistent evaluation metrics
- General texts
  - “fill in the gaps” task (as in MUCs): around 60 %
  - EFa – precision of phrase detection and classification: 70 %
  - far from reliable and usable analysis
  - OIE reports over 80 % *precision*
- Specialized systems
  - simpler task, e.g. only dates, places, ...
  - e.g. Amy, the automated personal assistant
  - much better, human level accuracy

Information extraction: Summary

- extracting structured information from text
- named entity detection + coreference resolution + relation extraction
- event recognition = domain specific, task specific
- successful in very specialized tasks, not very usable in general tasks

Trends:

- social media
- cross-lingual extraction
- open (general) domain

Information Extraction Systems

- Open Information Extraction (OIE), or TextRunner
  - `http://openie.allenai.org`
  - 100 million web pages
  - 500 million assertions
- GATE – general architecture for text engineering
  - `http://gate.ac.uk`
  - huge system for language annotation and all levels of automatic processing
  - contains a customizable information extraction component
- EFa – Extraction of Facts
  - `http://nlp.fi.muni.cz/projects/set/efa`
  - in NLP centre at FI
  - analysis of running text
  - syntactic analysis
  - phrase detection
  - semantic classification of phrases

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