

# **Traduzione Automatica del Parlato di Sessioni del Parlamento Europeo**

**M. Federico, N. Bertoldi, R. Cattoni, M. Cettolo, B. Chen, D. Gupta**

**ITC-irst - Centro per la Ricerca Scientifica e Tecnologica  
38050 Povo (Trento), Italy**

**SMT goal: given a source string  $f$ , find the best translation  $e$ :**

$$e^* = \arg \max_e \Pr(e \mid f)$$

**Maximum Entropy framework for the word-alignment MT approach:**

$$e^* = \arg \max_e \max_a \Pr(e, a \mid f) = \arg \max_e \max_a \sum_i \lambda_i h_i(e, f, a)$$

where  $a$  = alignment, and  $h_i(e, f, a)$  are suitable **feature functions**.

**Special case: feature functions IBM-style:**

$$h_1(e, f, a) = \log p(e) \quad \text{(target language model)}$$

$$h_2(e, f, a) = \log p(a \mid e) \quad \text{(re-ordering model)}$$

$$h_3(e, f, a) = \log p(f \mid e, a) \quad \text{(lexicon model)}$$

**Note: ML or minimum error training can be applied to estimate free parameters ( $\lambda$ 's).**

# Phrase-based Machine Translation

- A **phrase** is a sequence of one or more words without semantic/syntactic meaning

target  
words

- Generative process:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

$f_1$

$f_2$

$f_3$

$f_4$

$f_5$

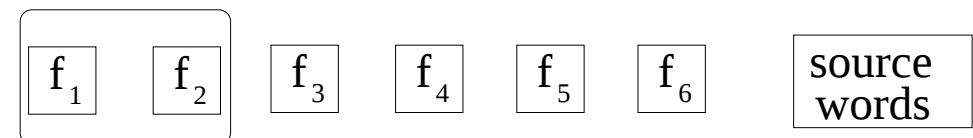
$f_6$

source  
words

- A **phrase** is a sequence of one or more words without semantic/syntactic meaning

target words

- Generative process:
  1. cover new source positions (re-ord. mdl)
  - 2.
  - 3.
  - 4.



- A **phrase** is a sequence of one or more words without semantic/syntactic meaning

target words

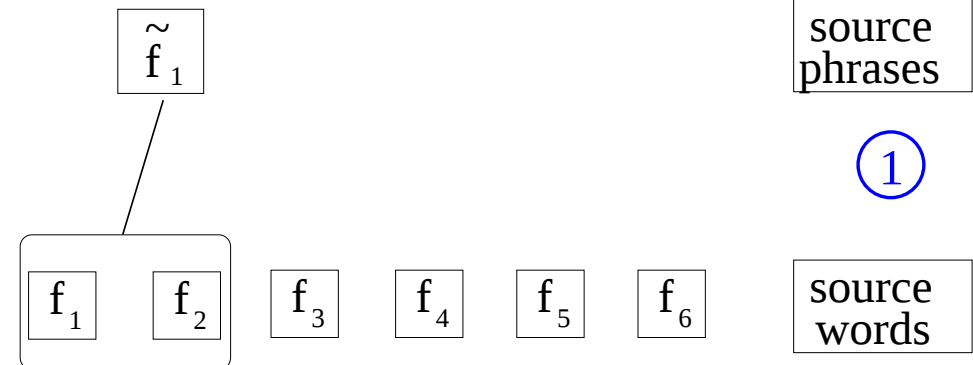
- Generative process:

1. cover new source positions (re-ord. mdl)

2.

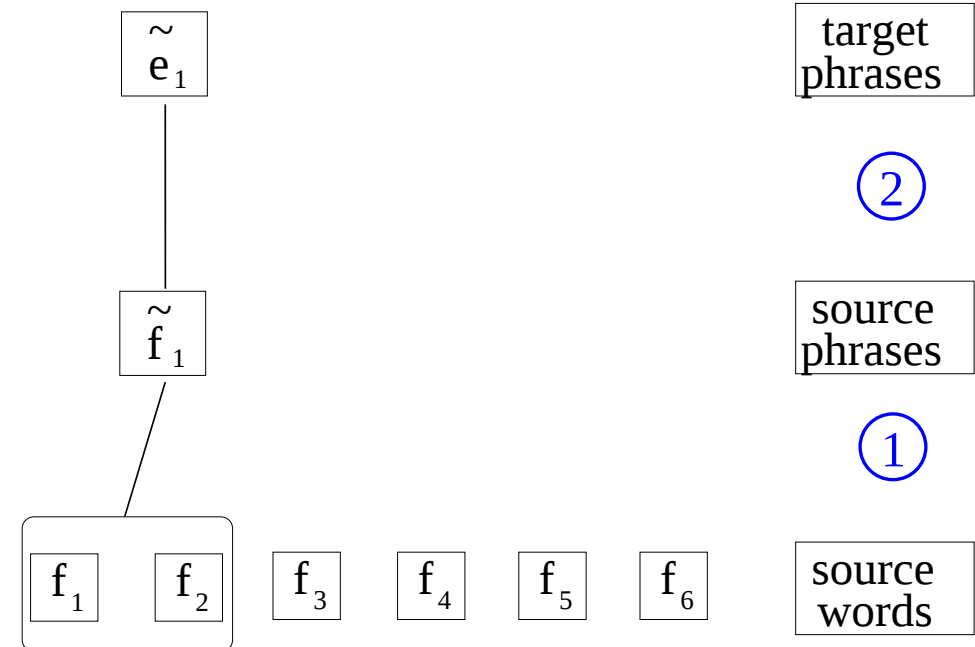
3.

4.



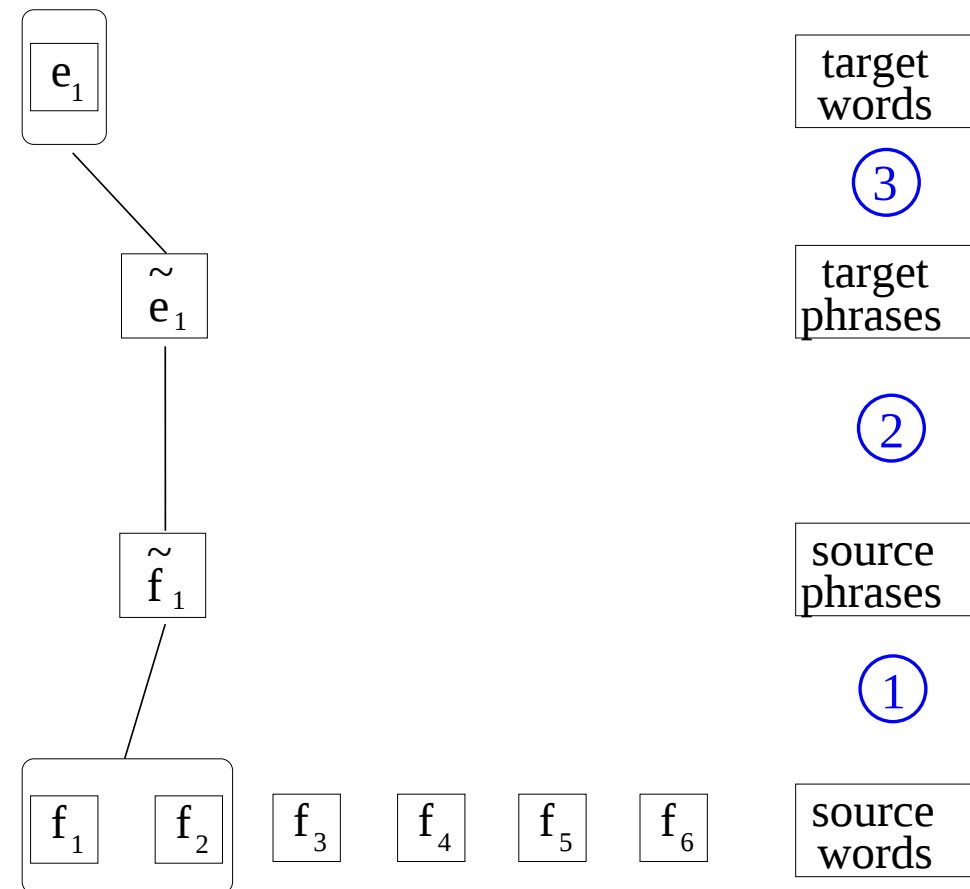
# Phrase-based Machine Translation

- A **phrase** is a sequence of one or more words without semantic/syntactic meaning
- Generative process:
  1. cover new source positions (re-ord. mdl)
  2. link to target phrase (lexicon model)
  - 3.
  - 4.



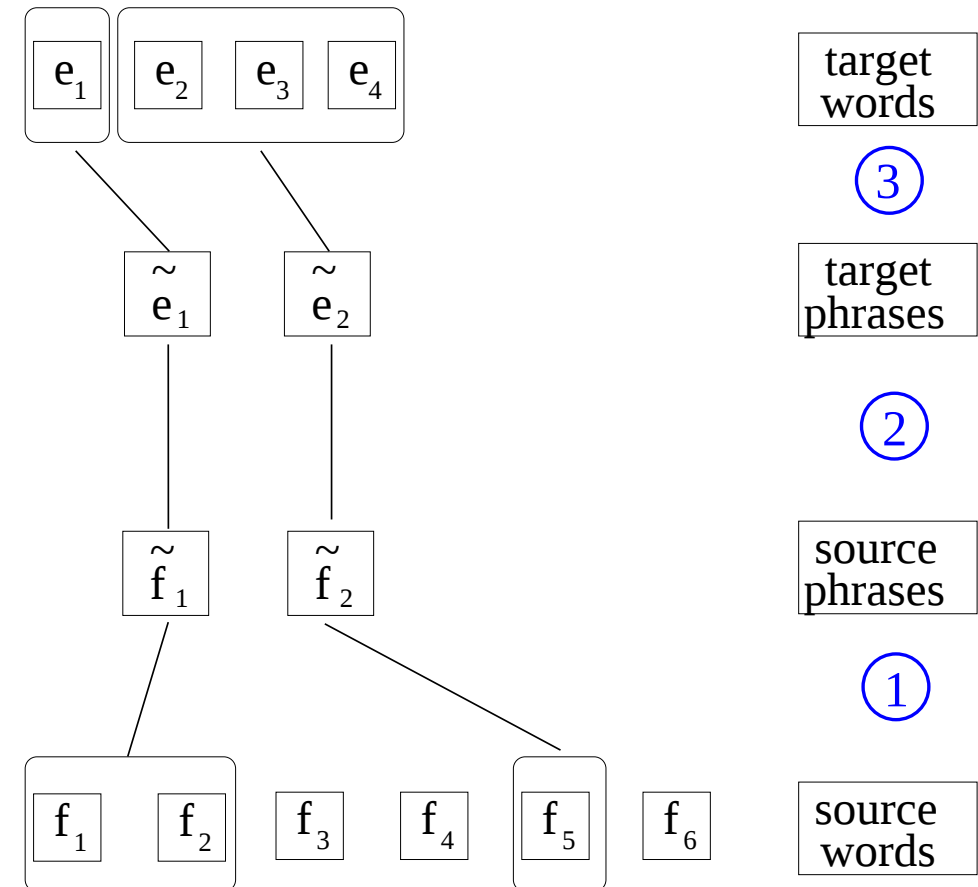
# Phrase-based Machine Translation

- A **phrase** is a sequence of one or more words without semantic/syntactic meaning
- Generative process:
  1. cover new source positions (re-ord. mdl)
  2. link to target phrase (lexicon model)
  3. add target phrase (language model)
  - 4.



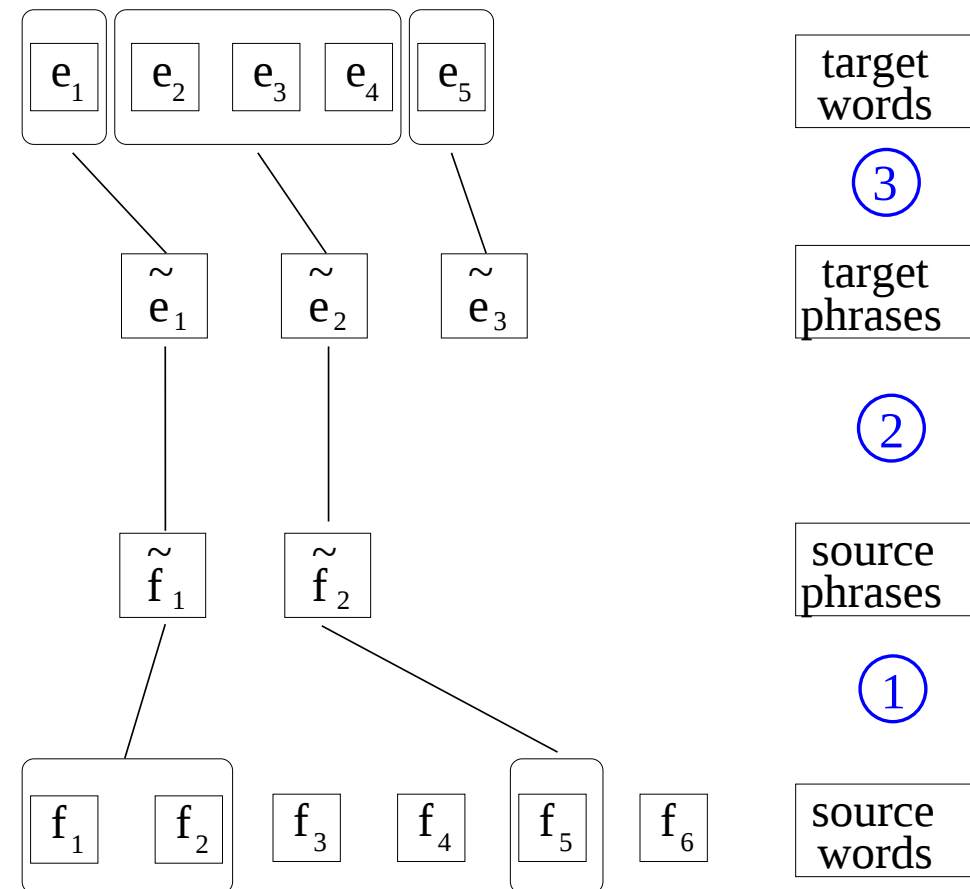
# Phrase-based Machine Translation

- A **phrase** is a sequence of one or more words without semantic/syntactic meaning
- Generative process:
  1. cover new source positions (re-ord. mdl)
  2. link to target phrase (lexicon model)
  3. add target phrase (language model)
  - 4.

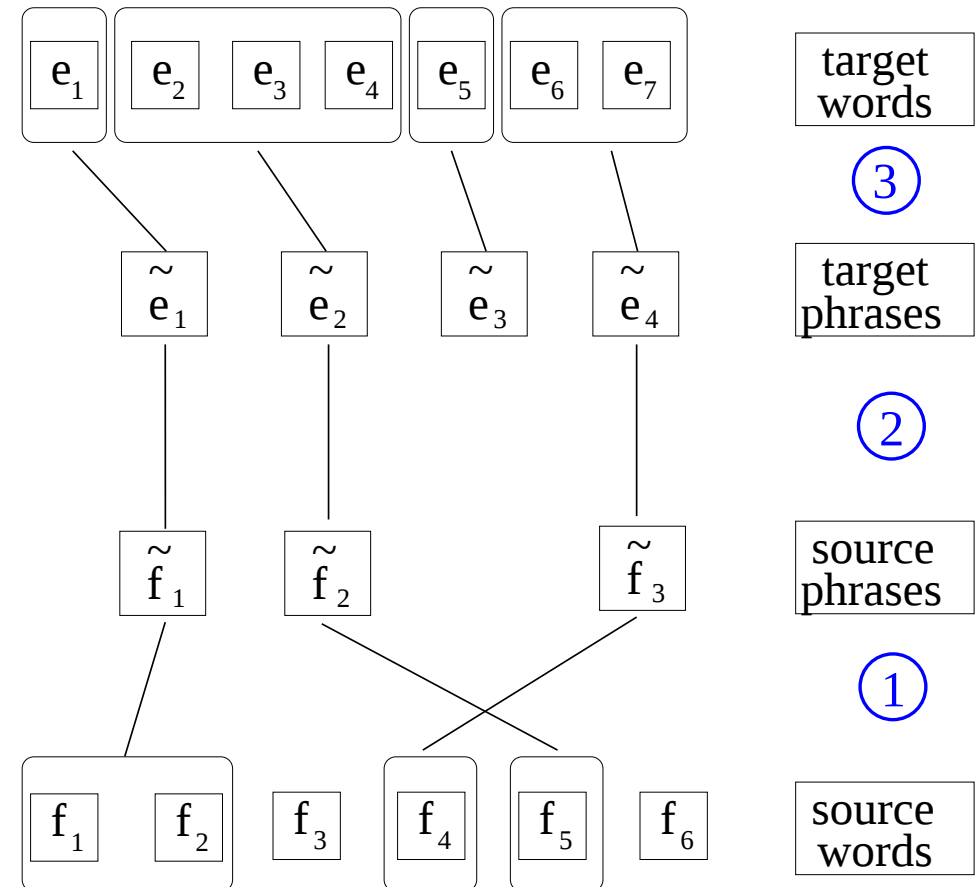


# Phrase-based Machine Translation

- A **phrase** is a sequence of one or more words without semantic/syntactic meaning
- Generative process:
  1. cover new source positions (re-ord. mdl)
  2. link to target phrase (lexicon model)
  3. add target phrase (language model)
  - 4.

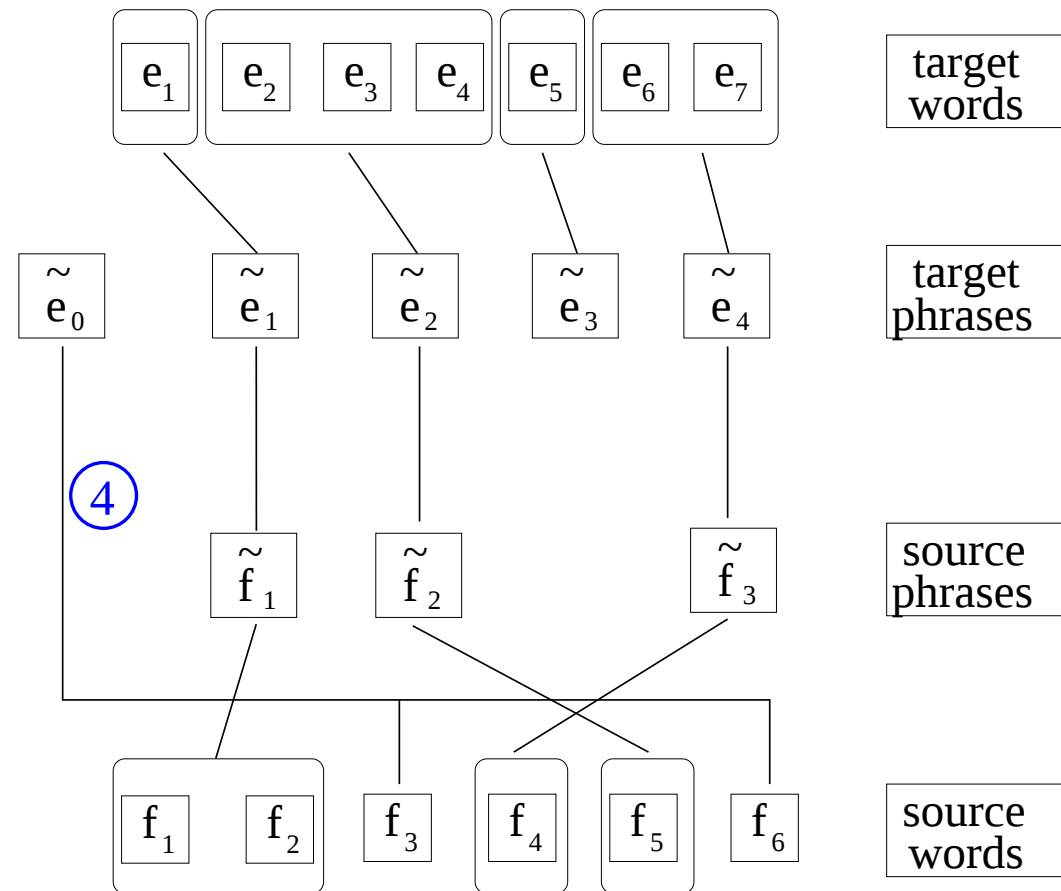


- A **phrase** is a sequence of one or more words without semantic/syntactic meaning
- Generative process:
  1. cover new source positions (re-ord. mdl)
  2. link to target phrase (lexicon model)
  3. add target phrase (language model)
  - 4.



# Phrase-based Machine Translation

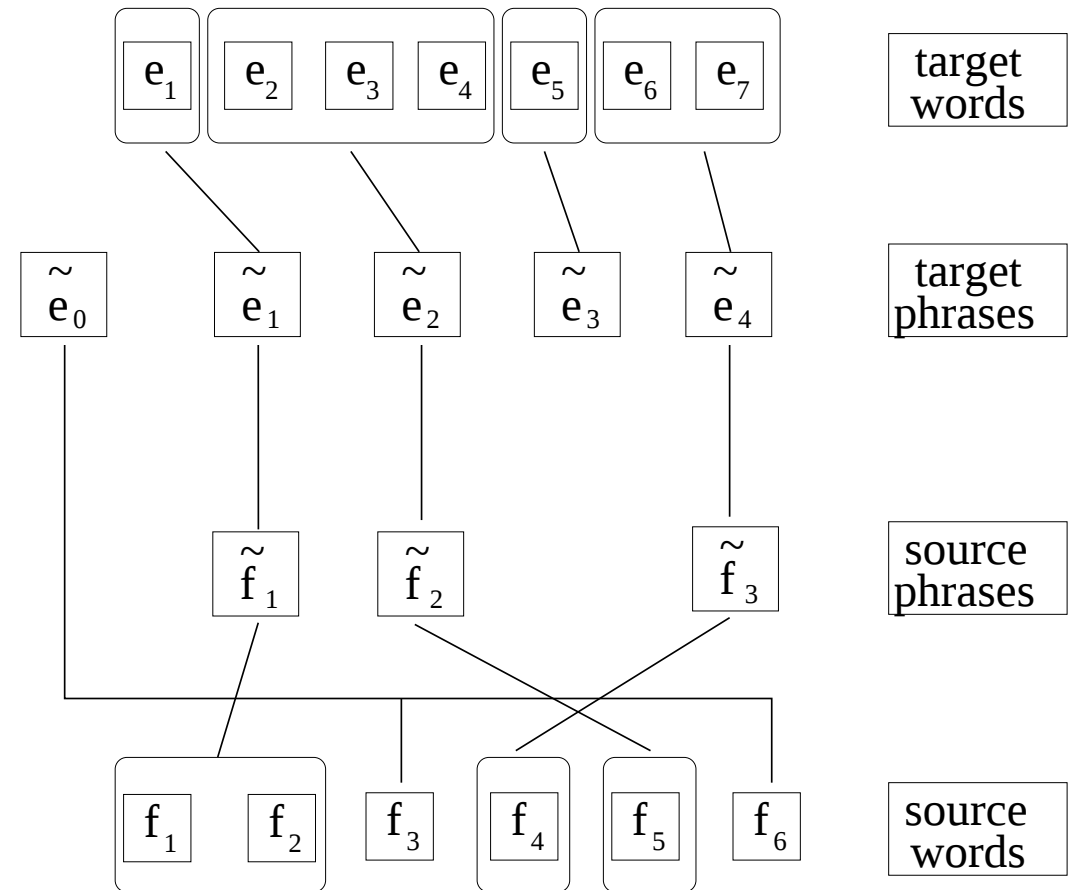
- A **phrase** is a sequence of one or more words without semantic/syntactic meaning
- Generative process:
  1. cover new source positions (re-ord. mdl)
  2. link to target phrase (lexicon model)
  3. add target phrase (language model)
  4. untranslated words (lexicon model)



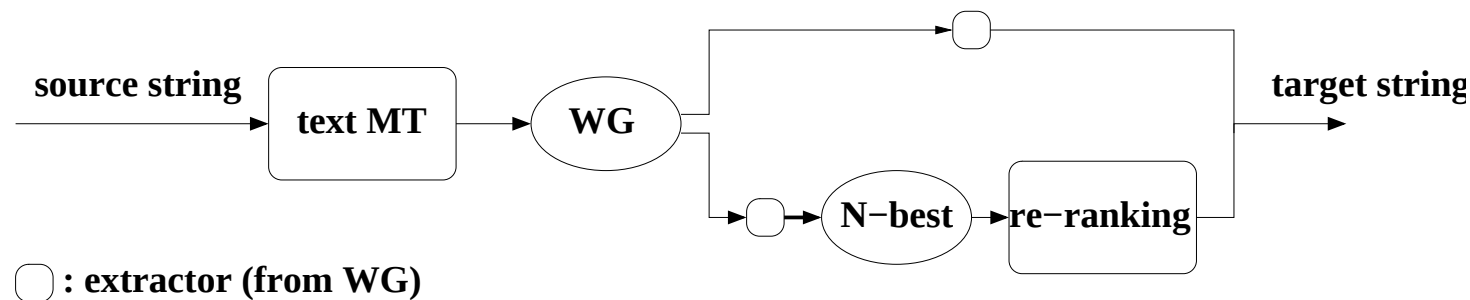
- A **phrase** is a sequence of one or more words without semantic/syntactic meaning
- Generative process:
  1. cover new source positions (re-ord. mdl)
  2. link to target phrase (lexicon model)
  3. add target phrase (language model)
  4. untranslated words (lexicon model)

Search is over strings of phrases:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{e}}^* = \arg \max_{\tilde{\mathbf{e}}} \max_{\mathbf{a}} \sum_i \lambda_i h_i(\tilde{\mathbf{e}}, \mathbf{f}, \mathbf{a})$$



# Two Pass Search Strategy



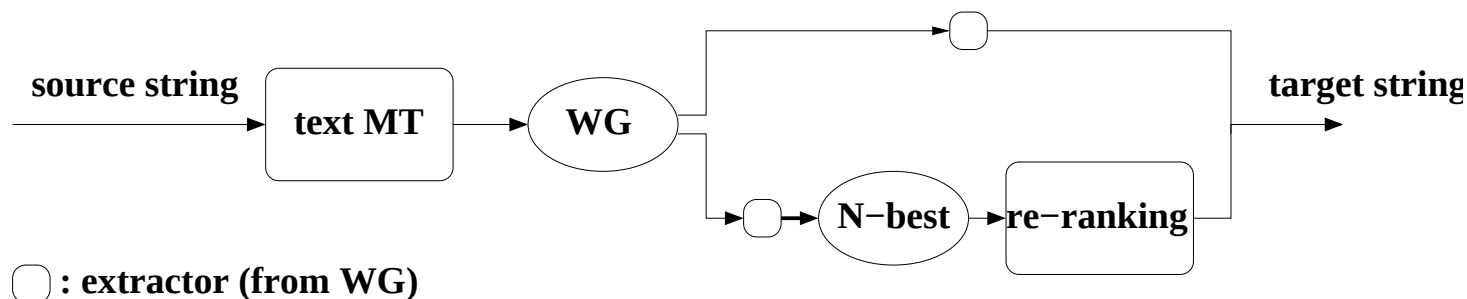
## First Pass:

- Log-linear Model
- Dynamic programming algorithm
- Beam search decoder:
  - threshold and histogram pruning
- Non-monotone search constraints
  - max number of vacancies on the left
  - max distance from left-most vacancy
- Output: word-graph (WG)

## Second Pass:

- Extraction of 1,000-best
- Log-linear Model
- Re-ranking algorithm

# Two Pass Search Strategy



## First Pass feature functions:

- Target 3-gram LM
- Fertility model target phrases
- Direct phrase-based lexicon
- Inverse phrase-based lexicon
- Negative distortion
- Positive distortion
- $\tilde{e}_0$  fertility
- $\tilde{e}_0$  permutation

## Second Pass (additional) feature functions:

- IBM model 1 lexicon score
- IBM model 3 lexicon score
- CLA lexicon score
- Question feature
- Frequency of n-grams within n-best
- ratio of target source lengths
- 2-,4-,5-gram target LMs

# Spoken Language Translation

Translating speech implies:

- speech recognition
- spontaneous language
- fast response time

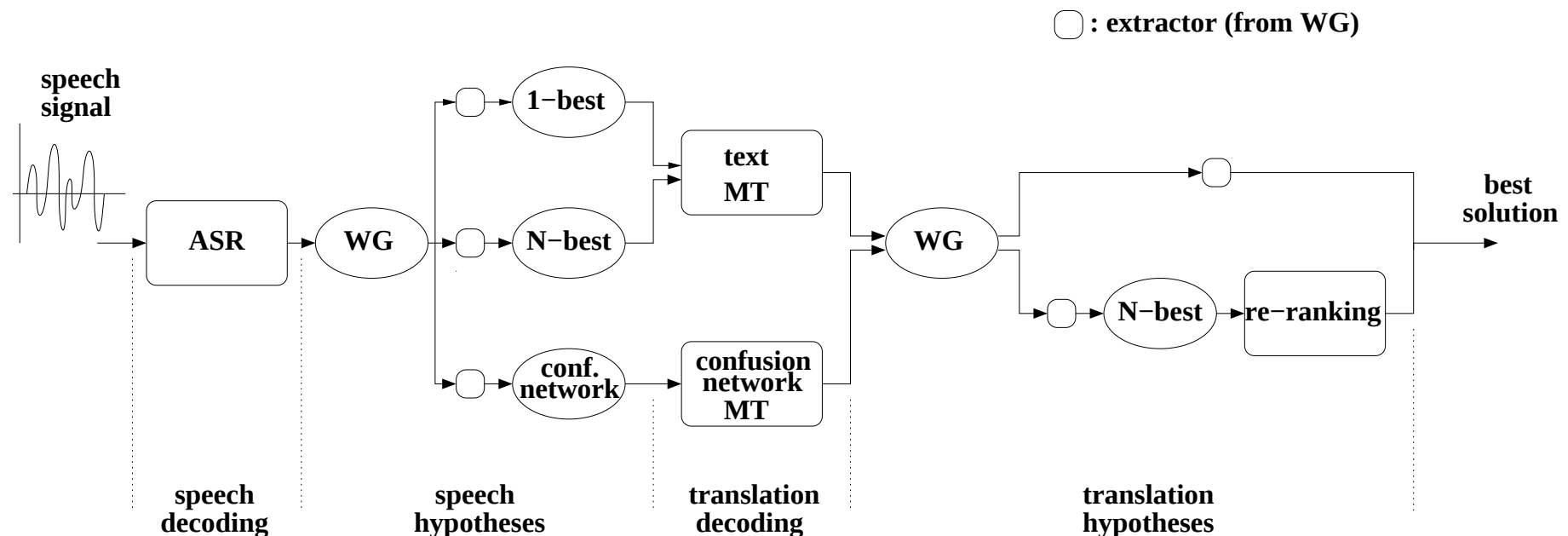
Technical problems:

- error propagation
- complexity
- spontaneous speech, poor syntax
- training mismatch



# Integration of ASR and MT: Interfaces and Search Methods

- 1-best hypothesis → MT decoder
- N-best hypotheses → MT decoder + re-ranking
- Word-Graph/Confusion Network → Finite State Transducer, CN decoder (ITC-irst)



# TC-STAR

**Technology and Corpora for Speech to Speech Translation: integrated project funded by the European Union within the 6th framework**

- **Partners: ITC-irst, RWTH, LIMSI, UPC, UKA, IBM, Nokia, Siemens, Sony, ELDA, RU-SPEX**
- **Translation directions (first evaluation, March 2005):**
  - **Spanish  $\Leftrightarrow$  English (European Parliament)**
  - **Chinese  $\Rightarrow$  English (agency news)**
- **EPPS Data:**
  - **Spanish speeches of the European Parliament Plenary Sessions**
  - **train:  $\approx$  30Mw**
  - **test:  $\approx$  20Kw**

## EPPS Results

| output          | DEV           |              |       |              |                  | TEST          |              |       |              |                  |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------|-------|--------------|------------------|---------------|--------------|-------|--------------|------------------|
|                 | input<br>size | input<br>WER | BLEU  | BLEU<br>+opt | decoding<br>time | input<br>size | input<br>WER | BLEU  | BLEU<br>+opt | decoding<br>time |
| <b>verbatim</b> | 1             | 0            | 49.65 | 51.26        | 0.6              | 1             | 00.00        | 44.69 | 45.82        | 1.7              |
| <b>1-best</b>   | 1             | 11.77        | 43.92 | 45.50        | 0.6              | 1             | 14.60        | 39.74 | 40.78        | 2.1              |
| <b>100-best</b> | 38            | 5.07         | 43.77 | 45.73        | 33.2             | 56            | 09.09        | 39.75 | 40.99        | 135.3            |
| <b>cn-p00</b>   | 1             | 11.67        | 43.39 | 45.70        | 4.0              | 1             | 14.46        | 39.23 | 40.75        | 28.4             |
| <b>cn-p60</b>   | 194           | 8.41         | 43.59 | 45.84        | 6.7              | 1284          | 10.71        | 39.43 | 40.87        | 37.9             |

# IWSLT 2005

The International Workshop on Spoken Language Translation 2005 (Pittsburgh, Oct 2005)  
organized an evaluation campaign, which ITC-irst took part in:

- Translation directions:

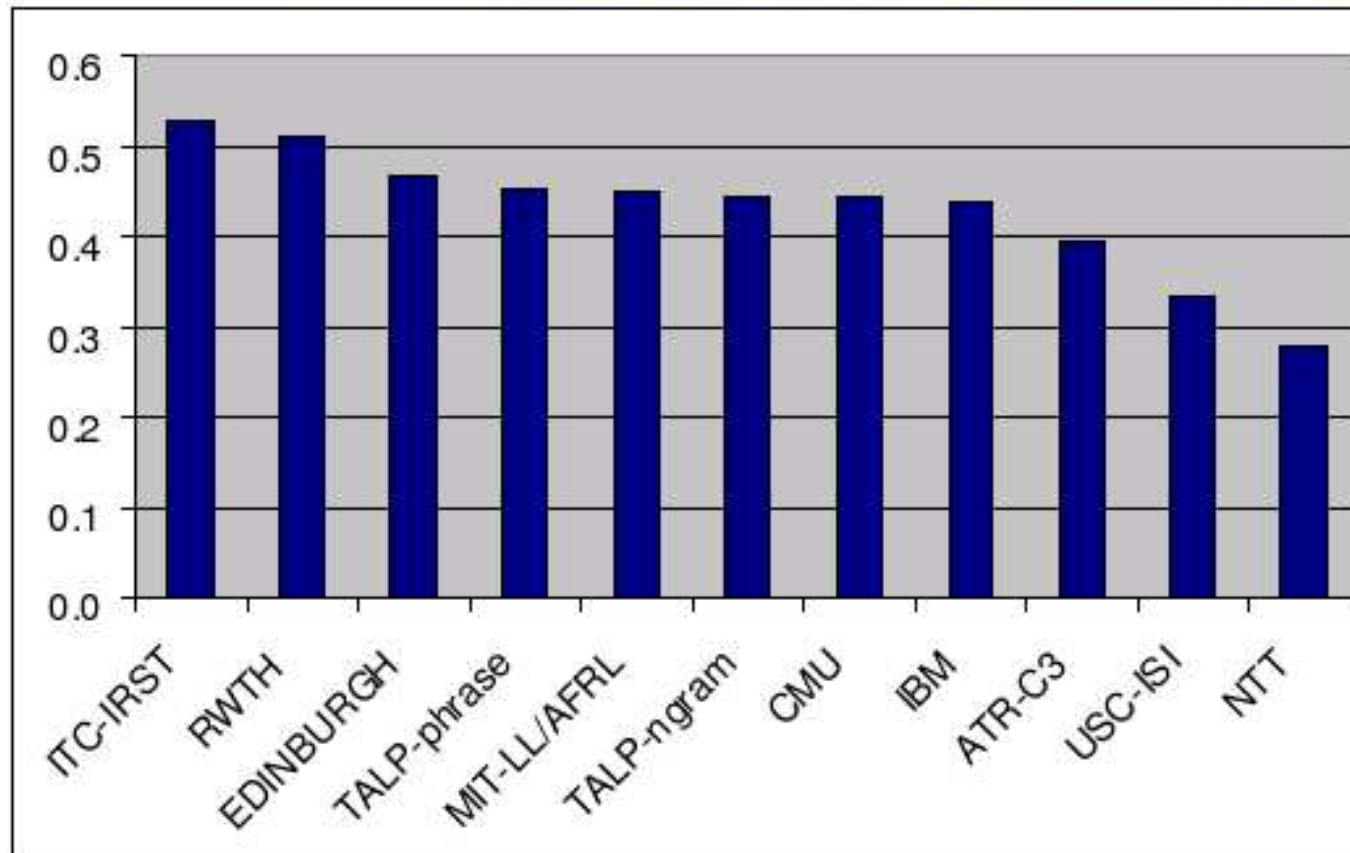
- Chinese  $\Leftrightarrow$  English
- Japanese  $\Rightarrow$  English (manual transcription + ASR)
- Korean  $\Rightarrow$  English
- Arabic  $\Rightarrow$  English

- Data:

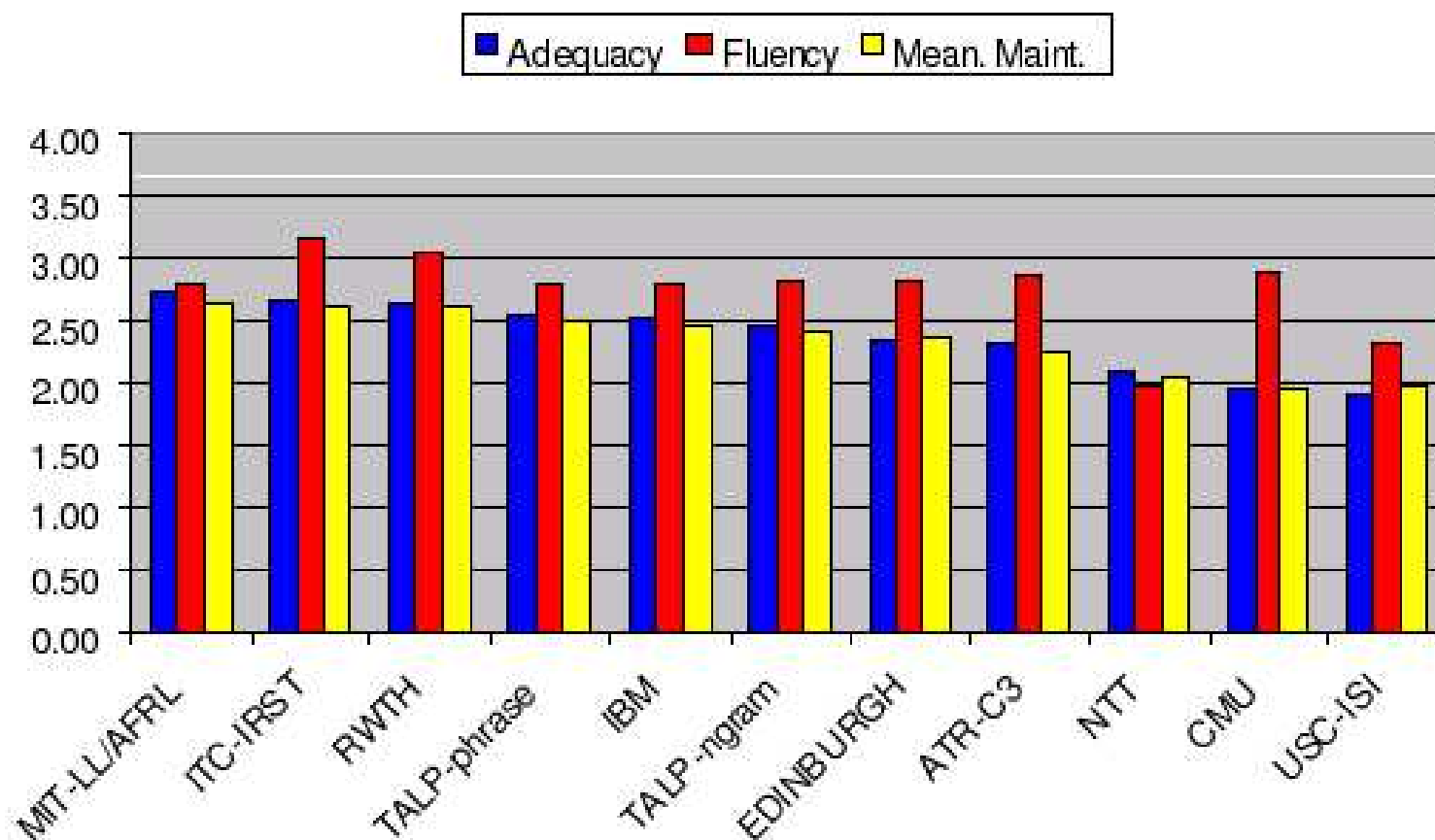
- BTEC, Basic Traveling Expressions Corpus: a collection of traveling expressions
- train:  $\approx$  500Kw
- test:  $\approx$  25Kw

# IWSLT 2005

## BLEU: Chinese $\Rightarrow$ English – MT – Supplied Data

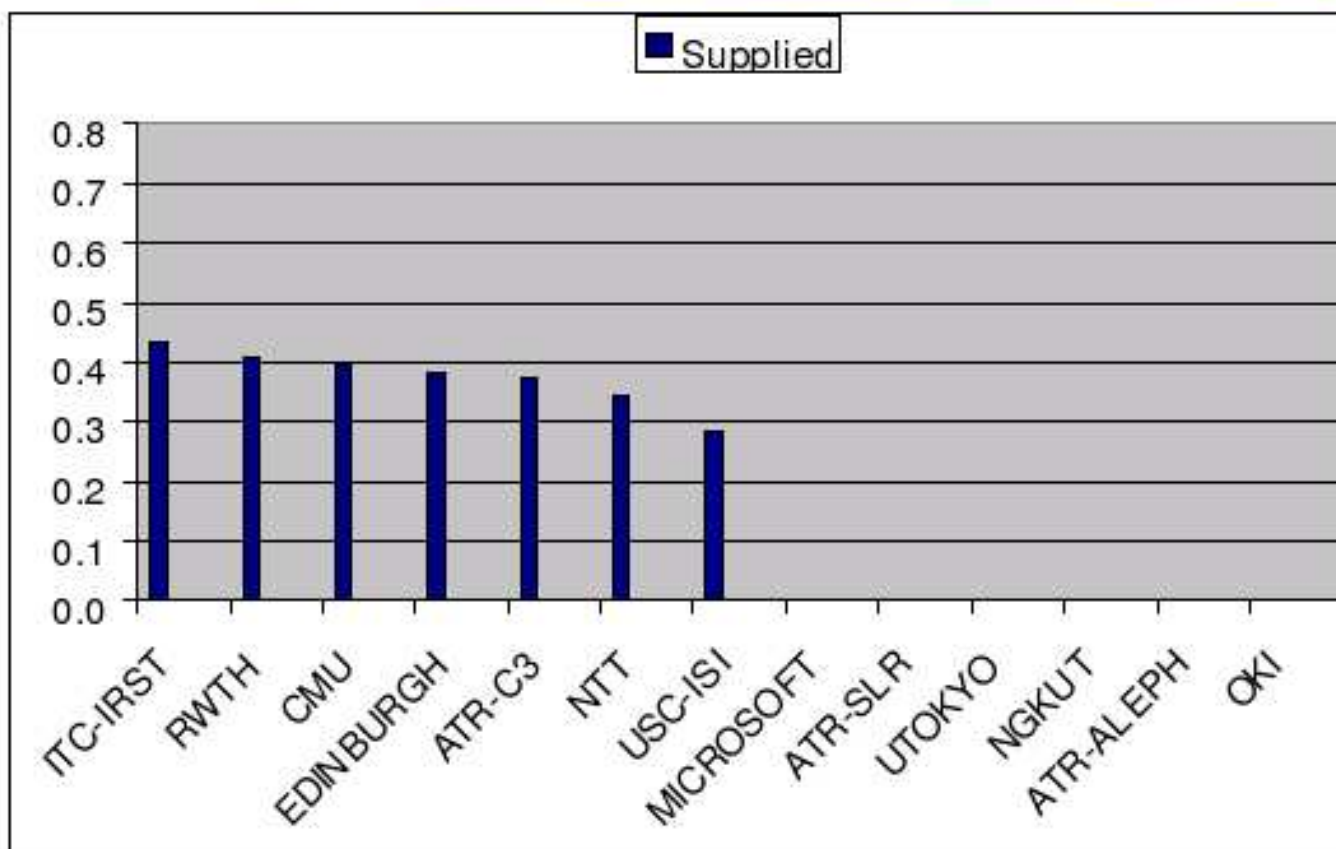


## IWSLT 2005: Subjective Evaluations (CHI $\Rightarrow$ ENG)



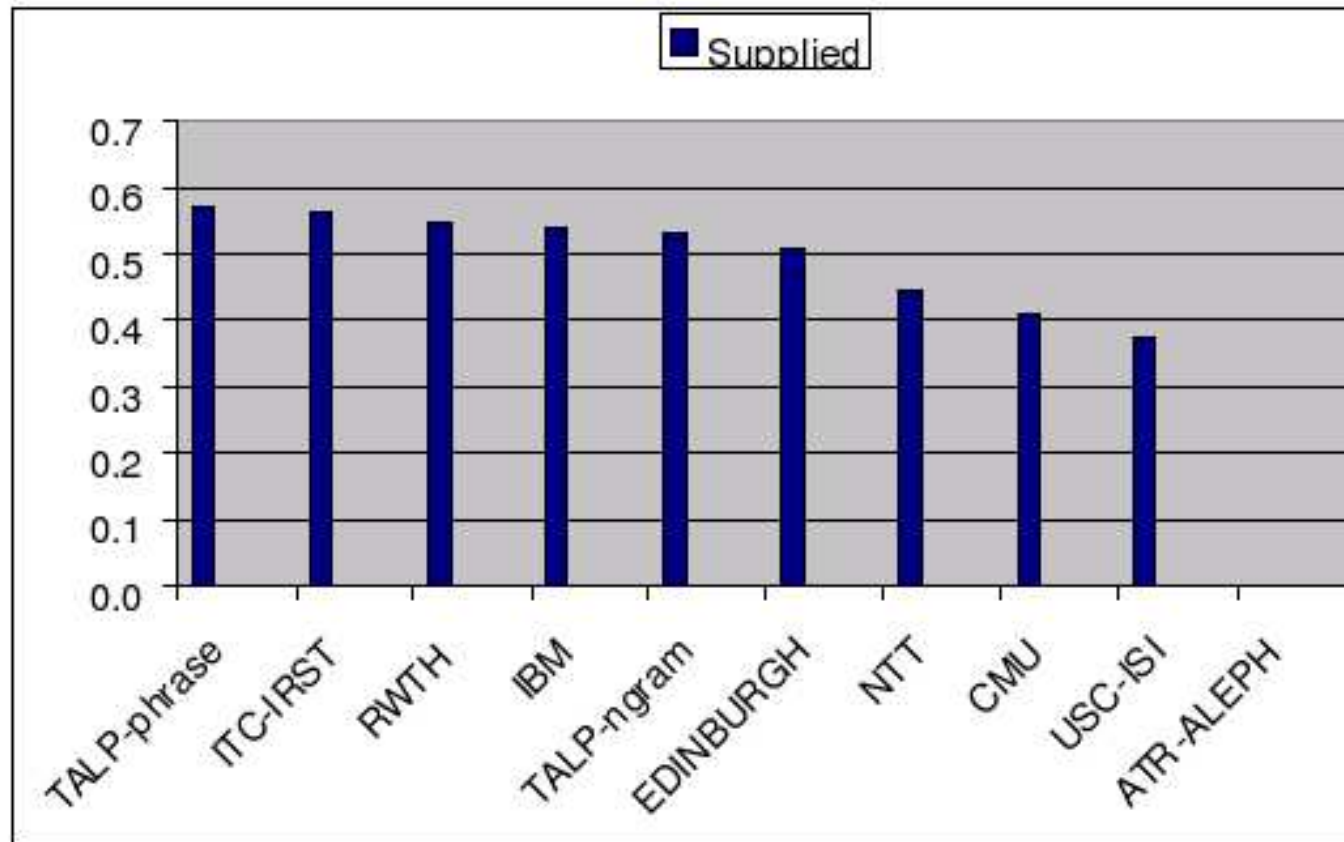
# IWSLT 2005

## Japanese ⇨ English – BLEU Scores



# IWSLT 2005

## Arabic $\Rightarrow$ English – BLEU Scores



**The End ... Thank You!**