

# Event Extraction

Slides were adapted from Ellen Riloff

# Event Information Extraction

Extracting role fillers associated with events.

## Examples

Terrorism: perpetrator, victim, target, date, location

Management succession: person fired, successor,  
position, organization, date

Disease outbreaks: disease, victim, symptoms,  
containment measures

## Sample Text

*perpetrator*

Alleged guerrilla urban commandos launched two  
highpower bombs against a car dealership in downtown  
San Salvador this morning . A police report said that the  
attack set the building on fire , but did not result any  
casualties.

# Filled Terrorism Event Template

Date	10 January 1990
Location	El Salvador: San Salvador (city)
Event type	bombing
Weapon	“highpower bombs”
Perpetrator individual	“guerrilla urban commandos”
Perpetrator organization	-
Physical target	“car dealership”
Physical target effect	some damage
Human target	-
Human target effect	no injury or death

# IE in the Wild: ProMed Disease Outbreak Reports

## EBOLA HEMORRHAGIC FEVER - UGANDA (09)

\*\*\*\*\*  
A ProMED-mail post

ProMED-mail, a program of ISID  
<<http://www.promedmail.org>>

[see also:

Ebola hemorrhagic fever - Uganda20001016.1769Ebola hemorrhagic fever - Uganda (08)20001022.1826]

[1]

Date: Sun, 22 Oct 2000 22:18:31 -0200

From: ProMED-mail <[promed@promedmail.org](mailto:promed@promedmail.org)>

Source: WHO Disease Outbreaks Report, Sun 21 Oct 2000 [edited]

<<http://www.who.int/disease-outbreak-news/>>

[HEADLINE : 1 line]

---

[TEXT : 11 lines]

\*\*\*\*\*

[2]

Date: Sun, 22 Oct 2000 22:18:31 -0200

From: ProMED-mail <[promed@promedmail.org](mailto:promed@promedmail.org)>

Source: WHO Disease Outbreaks Report, Sun 21 Oct 2000 [edited]

<<http://www.who.int/disease-outbreak-news/>>

[HEADLINE : 1 line]

---

[TEXT : 3 lines]

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[PROMED DISCLAIMER : 22 lines]

# Disease Outbreak Template Definition

<b>Story:</b>	<document id>
<b>ID:</b>	<template id>
<b>Date:</b>	<date>
<b>Event:</b>	<i>outbreak</i>
<b>Status:</b>	<i>confirmed, suspected, or possible</i>
<b>Containment:</b>	<i>culling, disinfecting, facility closing, inspection, medicine, pesticide, quarantine, vaccine, or other</i>
<b>Country:</b>	<set fill>
<b>Victims:</b>	<string list>
<b>Disease:</b>	<string>

## Ebola Haemorrhagic Fever In Uganda - Update 5

As of Sat 21 Oct 2000, the Ugandan Ministry of Health has reported 139 cases including 51 deaths. The increase of 17 cases in the last 24 hours reflects the intensified active surveillance.

A team from the WHO Collaborating Centre at the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), United States is establishing a field diagnostic laboratory in Gulu district. The last laboratory equipment arrived Sat 20 Oct 2000 and the laboratory is expected to be operational shortly. A WHO information officer from Geneva arrived in Uganda on Wed 18 Oct 2000 and is based in Gulu district. He is working with the Ugandan Ministry of Health as media focal point.

## Ebola Haemorrhagic Fever In Uganda - Update 6

As of Sun 22 Oct 2000, the Ugandan Ministry of Health has reported 149 cases, including 54 deaths. [This represents an increase of 10 cases and 3 deaths in the last 24 hours. - Mod.CP]

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# Unstructured vs. Semi-structured Text

*Unstructured text* depends 100% on language understanding.  
*Semi-structured text* has some structure (layout) that can aid in understanding.

## Unstructured Text

Professor John Skvoretz, U. of South Carolina, Columbia, will present a seminar entitled “Embedded Commitment,” on Thursday, May 4th from 4-5:30 in PH 223D.

## Semi-Structured Text

Laura Petitte  
Department of Psychology  
McGill University

Thursday, May 4, 1995  
12:00 pm  
Baker Hall 355

# Another Semi-Structured Seminar Announcement

Name: Dr. Jeffrey D. Hermes

Affiliation: Department of AutoImmune Diseases

Research & Biophysical Chemistry Merch Research Laboratories

Title: "MHC Class II: A Target for Specific  
Immunomodulation of the Immune Response"

Host/e-mail: Robert Murphy

Date: Wednesday, May 3, 1995

Time: 3:30 p.m.

Place: Mellon Institute Conference Room

Sponsor: MERCK RESEARCH LABORATORIES

# Event Extraction vs. Named Entity Recognition

- *Named Entity Recognition* = identifying types of entities
- *Event Extraction* = identifying role relationships associated with events.

Paul Nelson killed John Smith.

Paul Nelson was killed by John Smith.

IBM purchased Microsoft.

IBM was purchased by Microsoft.

IBM was purchased on Tuesday by Microsoft.

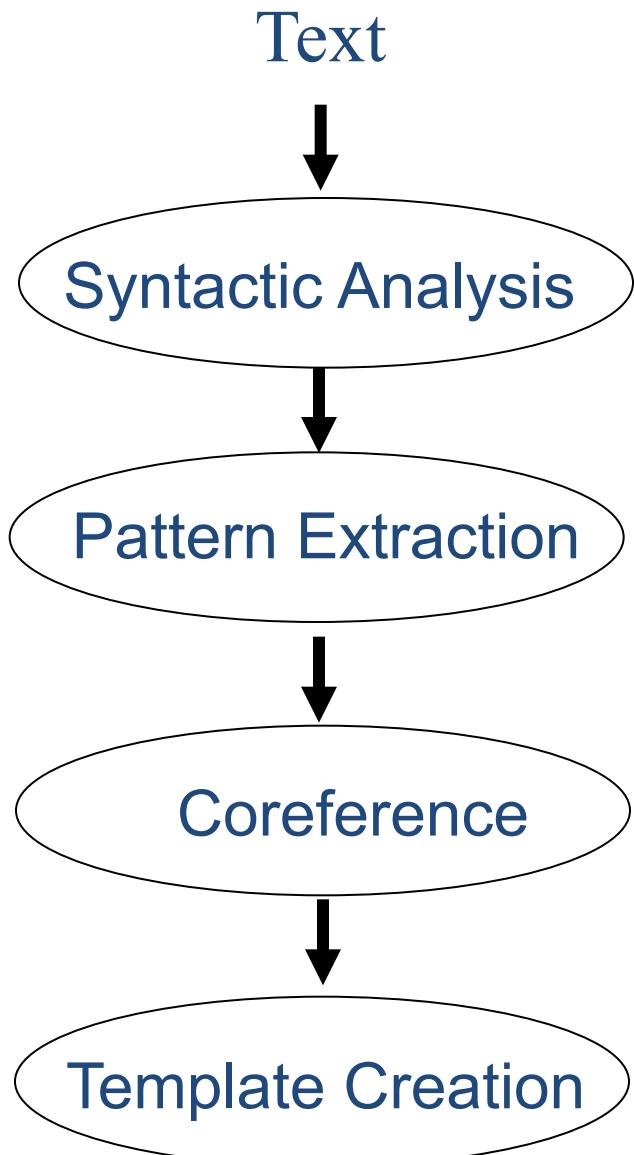
# Patterns/Rules vs. Sequence Tagging

Two general approaches to IE:

*Pattern-based systems* use patterns or rules that are applied to text.

*Sequence tagging models* classify individual tokens as to whether or not they should be extracted.

# Pattern-based Template-Filling Pipeline



IBM fired its CEO.

IBM fired its CEO.  
*Subj VP Dobj*

*Event:* FIRING  
*Agent:* IBM      *Fired:* its CEO

IBM fired its CEO.  
John Smith was let go on Monday.

*Event:* FIRING  
*Agent:* IBM  
*Fired:* John Smith, CEO  
*Date:* Monday

# Case Frames

5000 people were infected with the Ebola virus in a horrific outbreak in western Africa.



Trigger: (passive-vp “infected”) Event: OUTBREAK

SynRole	EventRole	Semantic	Extraction
subject	victim	animate	5000 people
PP(with)	disease	disease	the Ebola virus
PP(by)	disease	disease	
PP(in)	location	place	western Africa
PP(in)	date	time	

# Lexico-Syntactic Patterns

Five priests were murdered by armed guerrillas.



*Trigger:* VP-passive("murdered")

*EventType:* MURDER

*Victim:* Subject = Five priests

*Semantic Constraints:* {HUMAN}

*Trigger:* VP-passive("murdered")

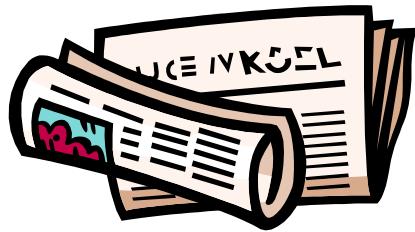
*EventType:* MURDER

*Perpetrator:* PP(by) = armed guerrillas

*Semantic Constraints:* {HUMAN}

# AutoSlog [Riloff 1993]

Annotated Texts



Parser

SUBJ: The World Trade Center

(target)

VP: was bombed

PP: by terrorists



Syntactic Rules



Extraction Pattern:  
<target> was bombed

<subject> passive-vp  
<subject> active-vp  
<subject> active-vp dobj  
<subject> active-vp infinitive  
<subject> passive-vp infinitive  
<subject> auxiliary dobj

---

active-vp <dobj>  
infinitive <dobj>  
active-vp infinitive <dobj>  
passive-vp infinitive <dobj>  
subject auxiliary <dobj>

---

passive-vp prep <np>  
active-vp prep <np>  
infinitive prep <np>  
noun prep <np>

*<target> was bombed*  
*<perpetrator> bombed*  
*<perpetrator> threw dynamite*  
*<perpetrator> tried to kill*  
*<perpetrator> was hired to kill*  
*<victim> was fatality*

---

*bombed <target>*  
*to kill <victim>*  
*tried to kill <victim>*  
*was hired to kill <victim>*  
*fatality was <victim>*

---

*was killed by <perpetrator>*  
*exploded in <target>*  
*to kill with <weapon>*  
*assassination of <victim>*

# Supervised Learning for IE

- In the mid-1990s, researchers began to develop methods to automatically create (learn) IE systems.
- Supervised learning requires annotated training data.
- Trade-off: annotating texts vs. manual knowledge engineering
  - weeks vs. months
  - domain experts vs. computational linguists

# Annotating Texts for IE

*perpetrator*

Alleged guerrilla urban commandos launched two  
highpower bombs against a car dealership in downtown  
San Salvador this morning . A police report said that the  
attack set the building on fire , but did not result any  
casualties.

# IE as Sequence Tagging

- A different approach: build a classifier as a sequence tagging model.
- Each document is processed sequentially and each token is labeled as Extraction or Non-Extraction.

Ex: B (beginning), I (inside), or O (outside) tags.

- Features are usually simple: e.g., words, POS tags, orthography, and a small context window of preceding/following words.

# Sequence Tagging Example

*perpetrator*

Alleged guerrilla urban commandos launched two

B I I I O B

*weapon*

*target*

highpower bombs against a car dealership in downtown

I I O B I I O O

*location*

*date*

San Salvador this morning .

B I B I

# The Perils of Manual Text Annotation

- Time consuming
- Tedious
- Deceptively tricky
- A new corpus must be annotated for each domain!

# Weakly Supervised Learning for IE

- Idea: can we train an IE system using only unannotated texts?
- Yes, if we have "Context Relation Propagation" preclassified texts:
  - One pile of relevant texts
  - One pile of irrelevant texts
  - Manual review of ranked patterns
- Much easier than annotating texts!

# AutoSlog [Riloff 1993]

Annotated Texts



Parser

SUBJ: The World Trade Center

(target)

VP: was bombed

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Syntactic Rules



Extraction Pattern:  
<target> was bombed

<subject> passive-vp  
<subject> active-vp  
<subject> active-vp dobj  
<subject> active-vp infinitive  
<subject> passive-vp infinitive  
<subject> auxiliary dobj

---

active-vp <dobj>  
infinitive <dobj>  
active-vp infinitive <dobj>  
passive-vp infinitive <dobj>  
subject auxiliary <dobj>

---

passive-vp prep <np>  
active-vp prep <np>  
infinitive prep <np>  
noun prep <np>

*<target> was bombed*  
*<perpetrator> bombed*  
*<perpetrator> threw dynamite*  
*<perpetrator> tried to kill*  
*<perpetrator> was hired to kill*  
*<victim> was fatality*

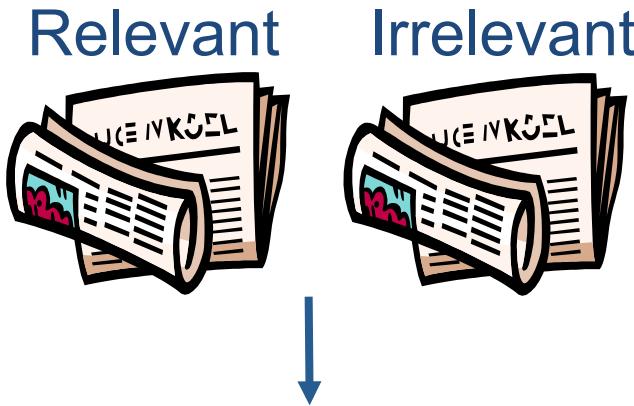
---

*bombed <target>*  
*to kill <victim>*  
*tried to kill <victim>*  
*was hired to kill <victim>*  
*fatality was <victim>*

---

*was killed by <perpetrator>*  
*exploded in <target>*  
*to kill with <weapon>*  
*assassination of <victim>*

# AutoSlog-TS [Riloff 96] (Step 1)



[The World Trade Center], [an icon] of [New York City],  
was horrifically attacked on [an otherwise beautiful day]  
in [September 2001] by [Al Qaeda].

↓

Shallow Parser

↓

Syntactic Templates →

Extraction Patterns:

<subj> was attacked  
icon of <np>  
was attacked on <np>  
was attacked in <np>  
was attacked by <np>

# AutoSlog-TS (Step 2)

Relevant



Irrelevant



## Extraction Patterns:

<subj> was attacked  
icon of <np>  
was attacked on <np>  
was attacked in <np>  
was attacked by <np>

Extraction Patterns	Freq	Prob
<subj> was attacked	100	.90
icon of <np>	5	.20
was attacked on <np>	80	.79
was attacked in <np>	85	.87
was attacked by <np>	95	.95

# Top Terrorism Extraction Patterns

1. <subject> exploded
2. murder of <np>
3. assassination of <np>
4. <subject> was killed
5. <subject> was kidnapped
6. attack on <np>
7. <subject> was injured
8. exploded in <np>
9. death of <np>
10. <subject> took\_place
11. caused <dobj>
12. claimed <dobj>
13. <subject> was wounded
14. <subject> occurred
15. <subject> was located
16. took\_place on <np>
17. responsibility for <np>
18. occurred on <np>
19. was wounded in <np>
20. destroyed <dobj>
21. <subject> was murdered
22. one of <np>
23. <subject> kidnapped
24. exploded on <np>
25. <subject> died

# Examples of Learned Disease Patterns

outbreak of <np>  
<subj> spread  
cases of <np>  
<subj> was confirmed  
outbreaks of <np>

<subj> was transmitted  
contracted <dobj>  
spread of <np>  
<subj> infected  
<subj> killed

# The Bootstrapping Era

Unannotated Texts

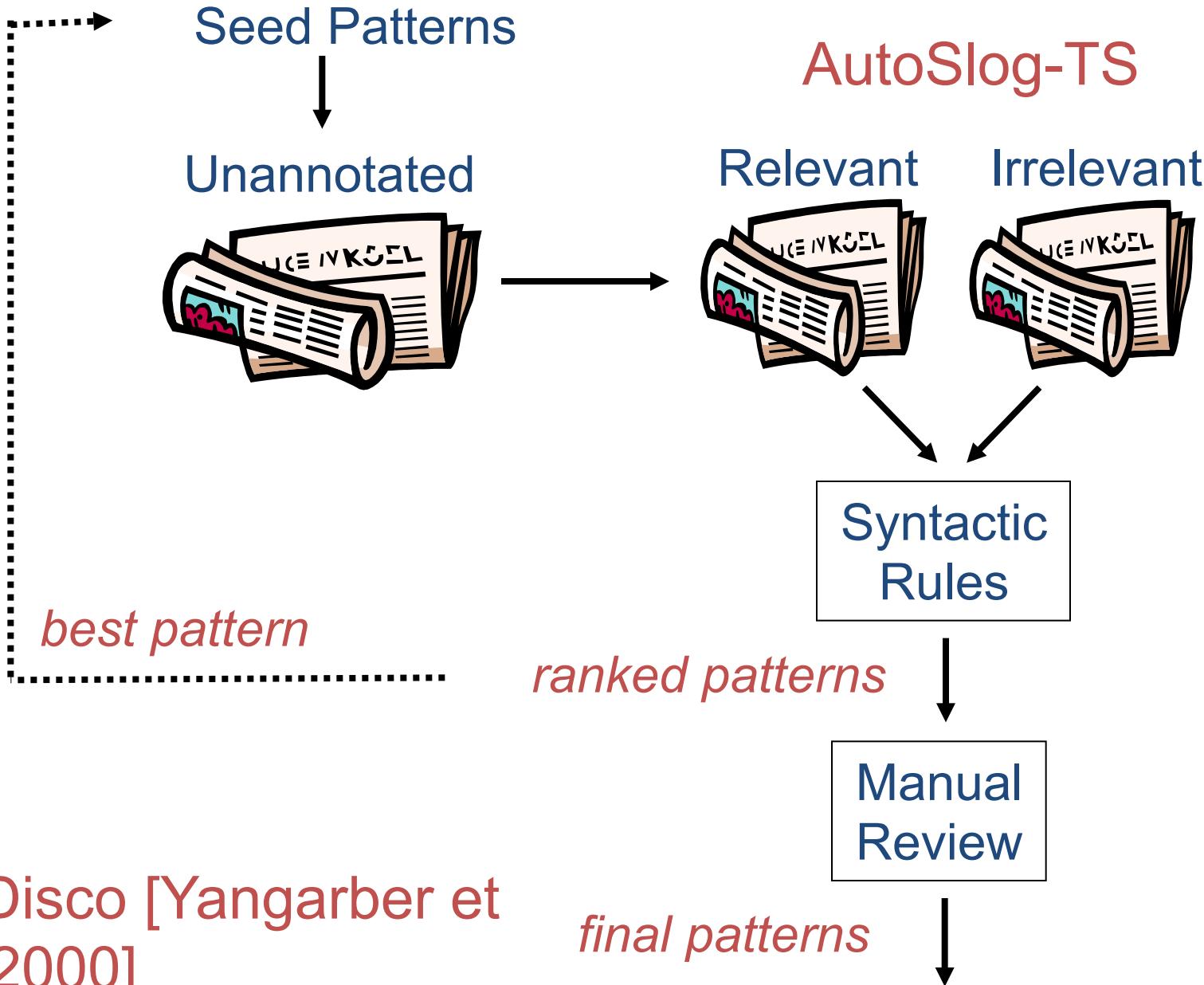


+



= KNOWLEDGE !

# Learning Extraction Patterns



# Event Keywords

Keywords alone are not as reliable as you might think due to ambiguity, metaphor, and context.

*The comedian bombed at the club ...*

*Parliament exploded in anger about ...*

*Obama was attacked by House Republicans ...*

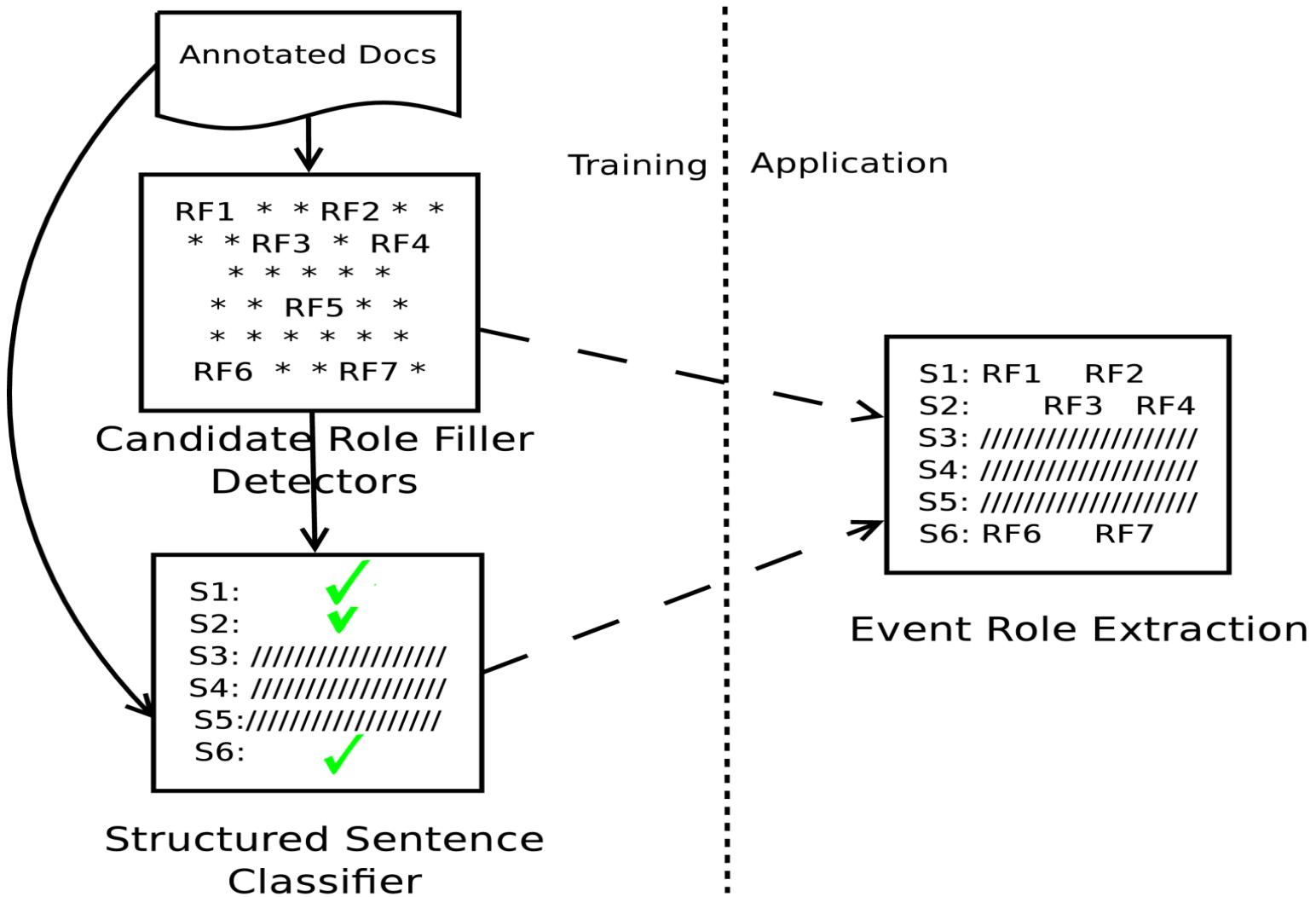
# Secondary Contexts

*A terrorist arrested by the Salvadoran national police, has been identified as Ruth Esperanza Aguilar Marroquin.*

*Oqueli's body was found next to the body of Guatemalan politician Gilda Flores.*

*There were seven children, including four of the Vice President's children, in the home at the time.*

# Linker [Huang & Riloff 2012]



# Event Extraction Performance

System	Average (P/R/F)
AutoSlog-TS (1996)	<b>45/48/46</b>
GLACIER (2009)	<b>48/57/52</b>
TIER (2011)	<b>51/62/56</b>
Linker (2012)	<b>58/60/59</b>

# Challenges for the Future

- Contextual Effects

*The man took the money and fled.*

→ robbery

*Abilio Diniz is in the hands of a group  
presumed to be Chilean terrorists.*

→ kidnapping

# Challenges for the Future

- Inference

*He was shot.*

*He was shot to death.*

*He was riddled with machine gun fire.*

*He was shot. His body was found yesterday.*

- Metaphor

*killing two birds with one stone*

*shot in the arm; shot in the dark*