



france telecom

# Hahooa Arabic Web Directory

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## Natural Language Processing for Arabic Information Retrieval

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# 1. Arabic Web

- Internet users (2002) :  
12 M / 240 M
- Arabic Web :  
High speed development.  
MS, Word, FrontPage, IE.
- Character encoding :
  - Microsoft CP1256
  - ISO-8859-6
  - UNICODE-UTF8



تأسست الجامعة في أيلول  
سبتمبر ( 1991 ، وتقع في )  
ضاحية سكنية من ضواحي  
مدينة عمان على شارع مطار  
الملكة علياء الدولي ، وعلى  
بعد 7 كيلومترات من الدوار  
السابع . ويبلغ عدد الطلاب  
الملتحقين بالجامعة في العام  
الحالي حوالي (1600) طالب وطالبة من (30) دولة عربية وأجنبية مختلفة مما يوفر  
لهؤلاء الطلبة جوّاً متنوع الثقافات ومتميزاً بالحياة والانفتاح

ويوجد في الجامعة خمس كليات تقدم (15) تخصصاً مختلفاً يمكن  
للطالب أن يحصل على درجة البكالوريوس في أي منها . وقد حرصت هذه الكليات  
على توفير أحدث التجهيزات  
التعليمية والأجهزة المختبرية بما يكفل حصول طلابها على أقصى ما يمكن من  
الخبرات النظرية والعملية



## 2. Arabic directories and portals

### **Directories and Portals (Arabic & English) :**

- <http://www.albawaba.com>
- <http://www.arabia.com>
- <http://www.arabicseek.com>
- <http://www.ayna.com>
- <http://www.konouz.com>
- <http://www.maktoob.com>
- <http://www.naseej.com>

### **Directories and Portals (Arabic, English & French) :**

- <http://www.hahooa.com>



## 3. Arabic search engines

- **Search engines for directories and portals**
  - **Extense-Voila** (Echo-Wanadoo, France)  
<http://www.hahooa.com>
  - **Ayna** (Ayna, USA)  
<http://www.ayna.com>
  - **Al-Idrisi** (Sakhr, Egypt)  
<http://www.sakhr.com/>
  - **Konouz** (Alladin, Australia)  
<http://www.konouz.com/>
- **Search engines for the Web**
  - **Arabvista** (Emirates Internet & Multimedia and Compaq)  
<http://www.arabvista.com>

# 4. Hahooa Arabic Web directory





## **Hahooa : *Here it is*** ***<http://www.hahooa.com>***

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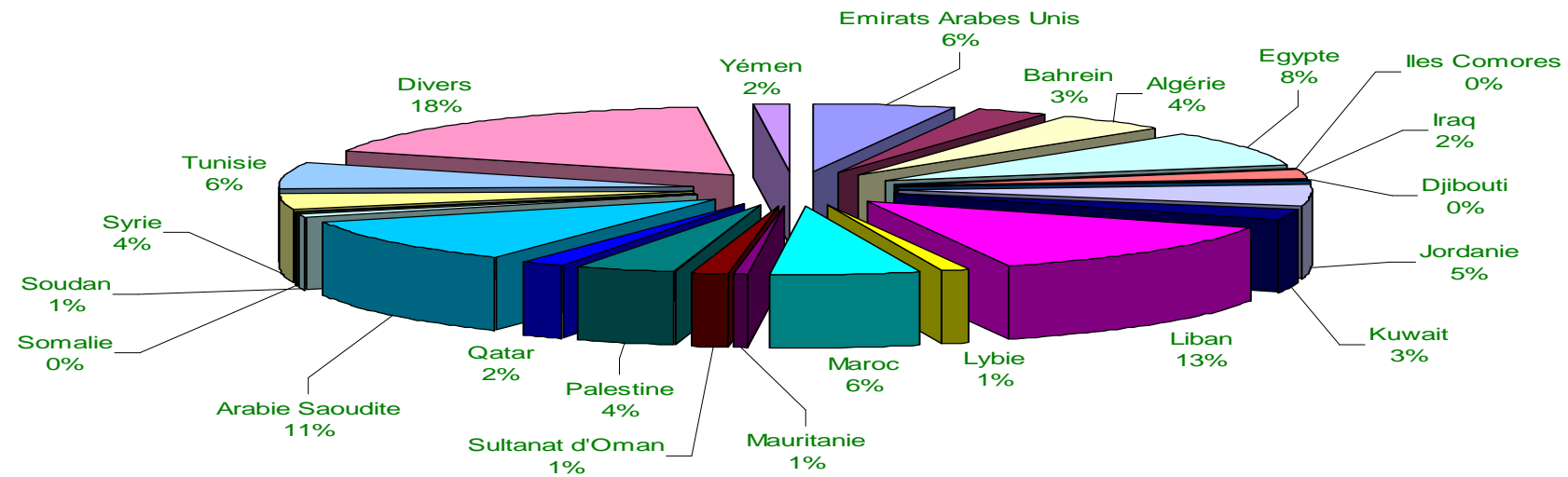


- Echo-Wanadoo, France Telecom (Voila search engine <http://www.voila.fr>).
- Hahooa is trilingual : Arabic, English and French.
- More than 7600 URLs (Arabic around 3000).
- 418 themes (commerce and economy : more than 42%).
  
- Navigation languages : Arabic 49% , English, French
- Users : France, Saudia, Lebanon, Morocco, Jordan, Canada, Belgium, etc.
- Frequent themes : Arts & Culture (music, ...), Arab world, News & Media.
  
- Hahooa is regularly updated.



# Hahooa by countries

Répartition des sites par pays

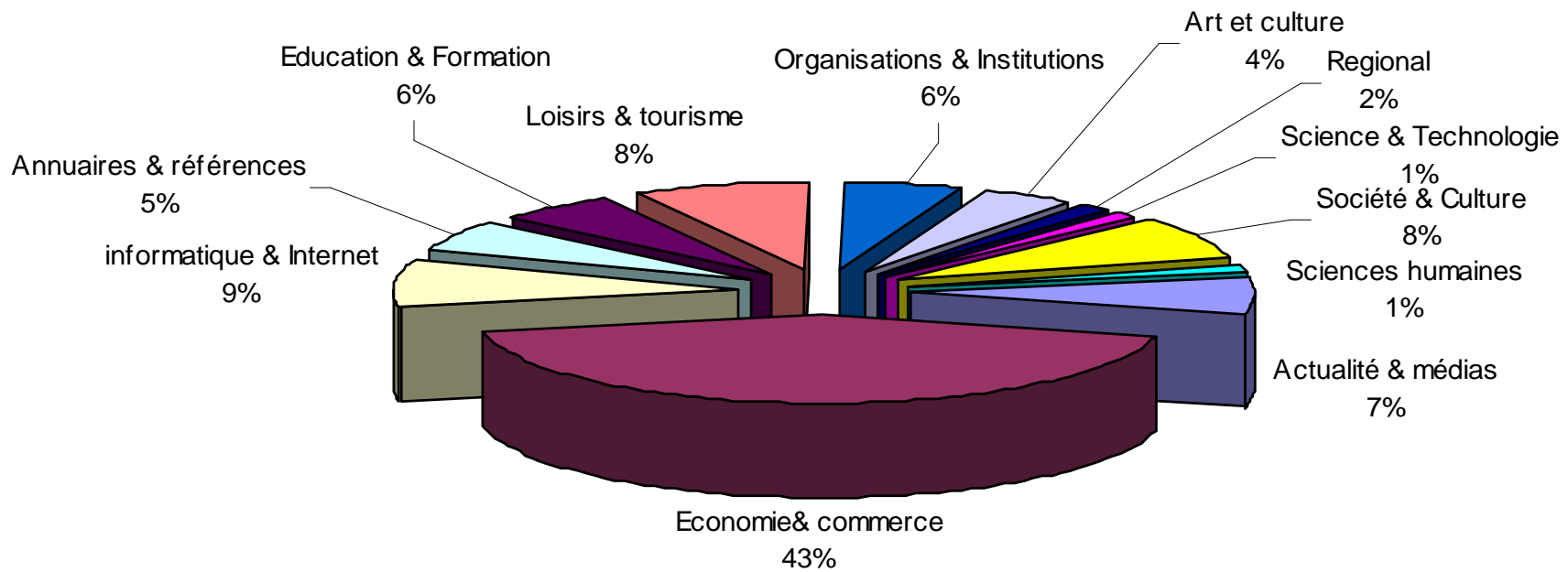






# Hahooa by themes

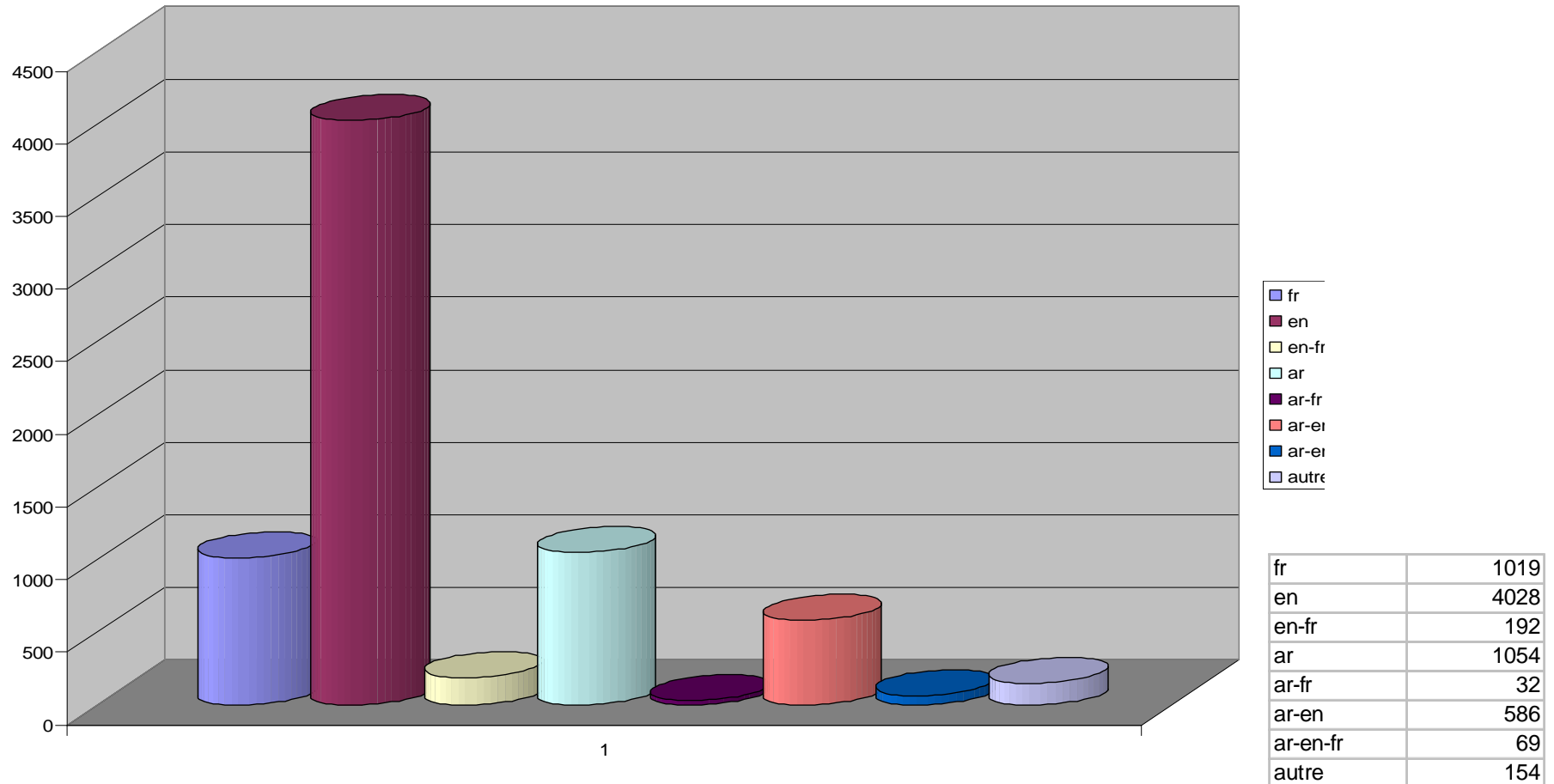
## Répartition des catégories





# Hahooa by languages

Répartition des sites pa langue



# 5. Some problems with Arabic information retrieval

## Keyword

## Answers or documents

مجتمع (society)	3012
المجتمع (the society)	20695
مجتمعات (societies)	599
علم (science)	12410
علوم (sciences)	3925
إمراة (woman)	193
نساء (women)	11970
كتب (book/write)	44133
كتابة (writing)	2990
تعليم (education)	46728
تدريس (education)	770

*Some tests using one of the search engines*



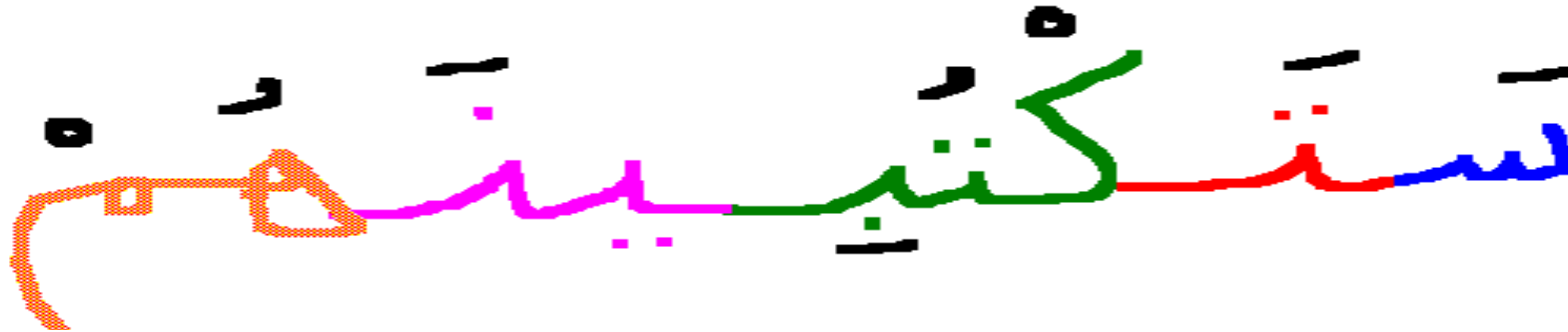
## 6. Arabic linguistic features

*Morphology*

*Syntax*

*Vowels*

...



Enclitic	Suffix Morphem	Radical	Prefix Morphem	Proclitic
<hom'>	<yna>	< ktobi>	<ta>	<sa>
Object Masculine Plural	Subject Feminine singular	Root "ktb"	Subject- Pronoun "you"	Temporal affix

**You (féminine) will write them (masculine)**



# Examples of morphological features

## Inflected morphology by prefix (or by determination) :

مجتمع (society) : المجتمع (the society)

## Inflected morphology by suffix :

مجتمع (society) : مجتمعات (societies)

## Inflected morphology by infix :

علم (science) : علوم (sciences)

## Irregular plural :

إمرأة (femme) : نساء (femmes)

## Derivational morphology :

كتب (book/write) : كتابة (writing)



## Arabic vowels

Le mot سلم

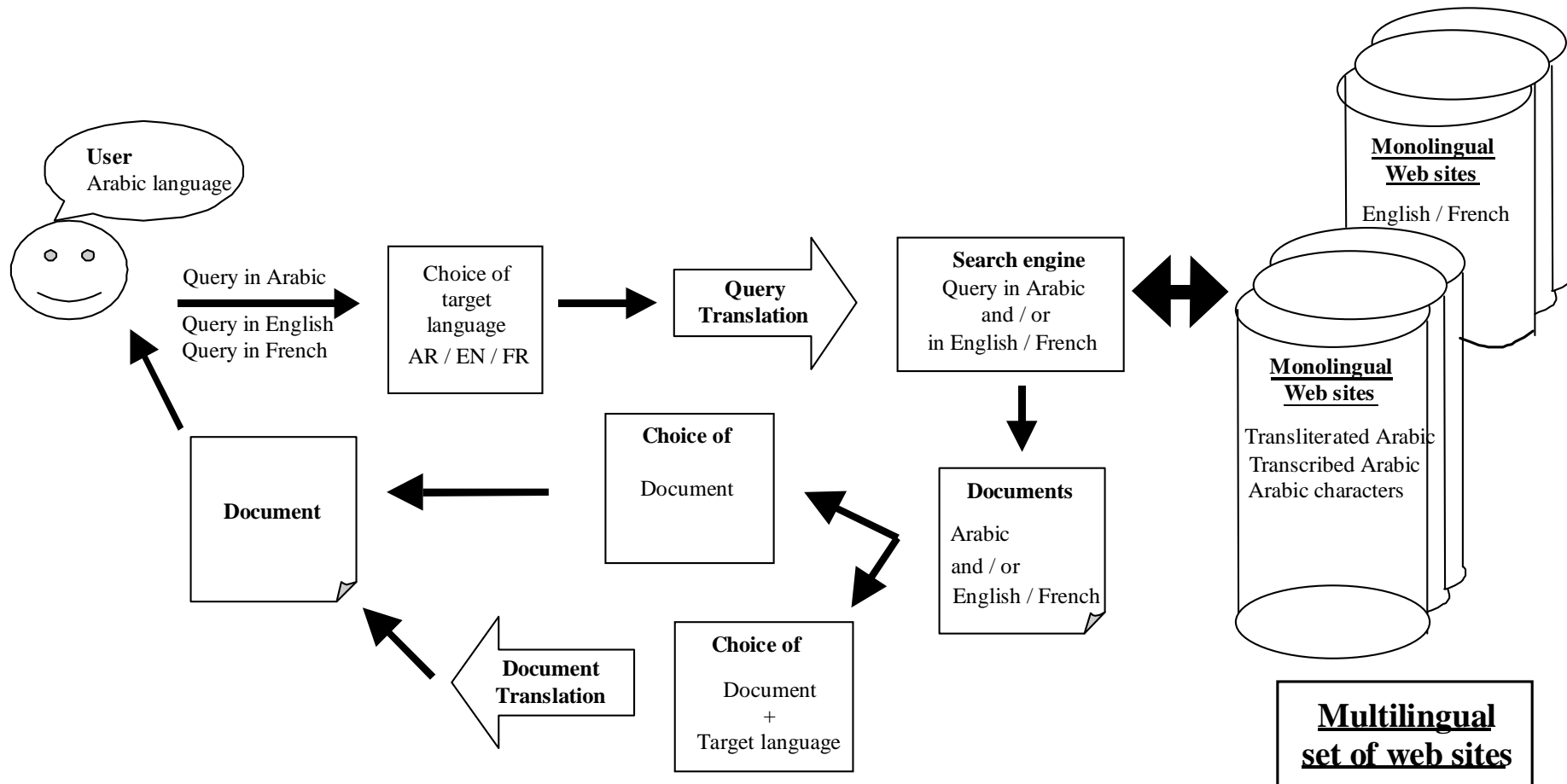
- signifie "paix" lorsqu'il est voyellé ainsi : سلم
- signifie "échelle" lorsqu'il est voyellé ainsi : سلم
- signifie "a transmis" lorsqu'il est voyellé ainsi : سلم
- signifie "est guéri" lorsqu'il est voyellé ainsi : سلم

- *Arabic texts that are published on the Web could be with/without/partially-with vowels.*
- *Queries on search engines should not contain vowels.*
- *Search engines should take this important morpho-syntactic feature into account.*

# Cross-Language Information Retrieval



*Most of the Arabic countries are bilingual*





# 7. Natural language processing

**The *eaats* mouse *tthe* cat**

Orthography : **NO**

➡ Lexicons and morphology

**The *eats* mouse *the* cat**

Orthography : **YES**

Syntax : **NO**

➡ Grammar

**The *mouse* eats *the* cat**

Orthography : **YES**

Syntax : **YES**

Semantic : **NO**

*(animal or computer ?)*

➡ Meaning

**The *mouse* eats *the* cat**

Orthography : **YES**

Syntax : **YES**

Semantic : **YES**

Pragmatic : **NO**

*(mousses do not eat cats !)*

➡ Domain, real word



## 8. Arabic NLP activities at France Telecom R&D



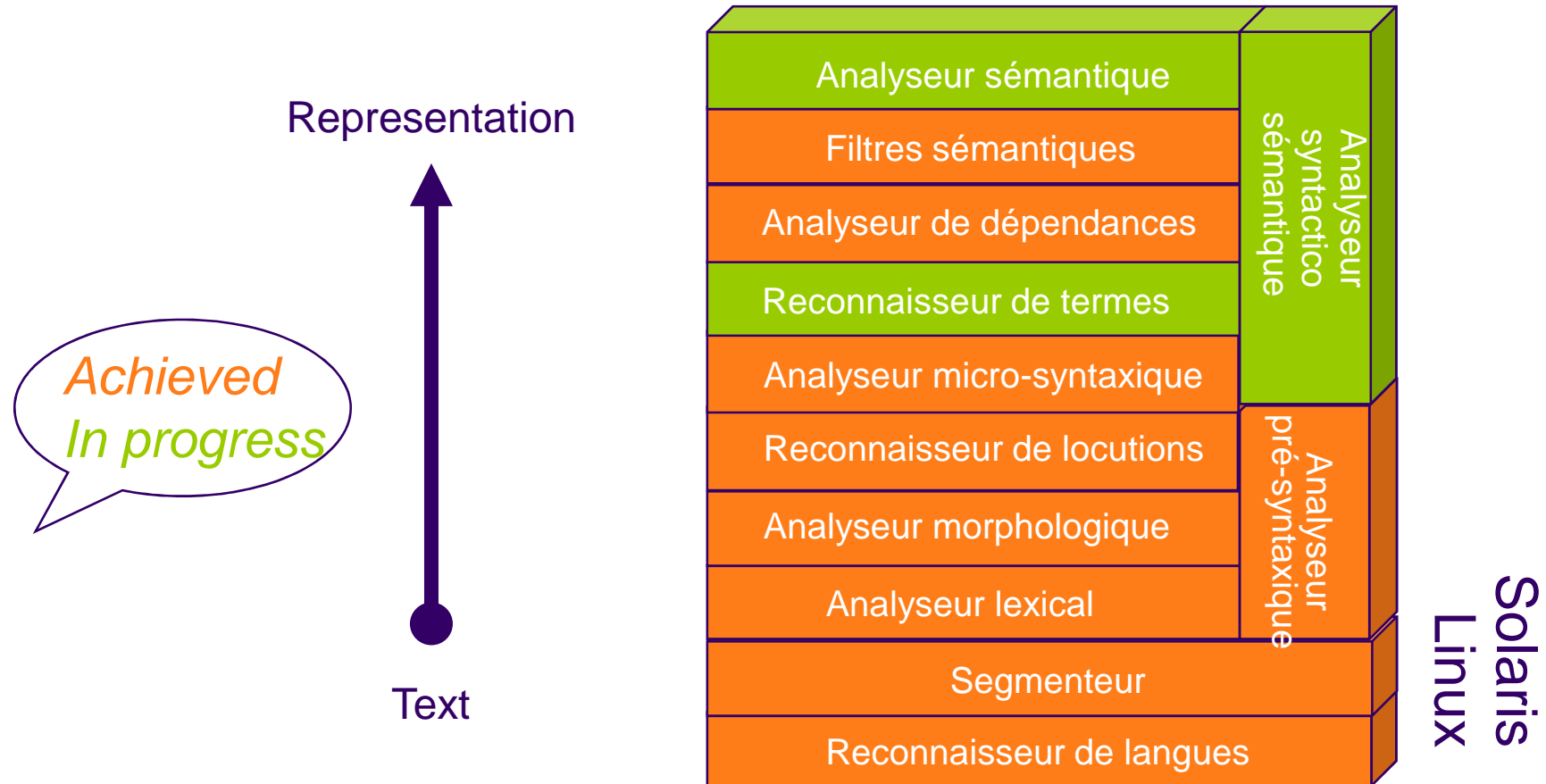
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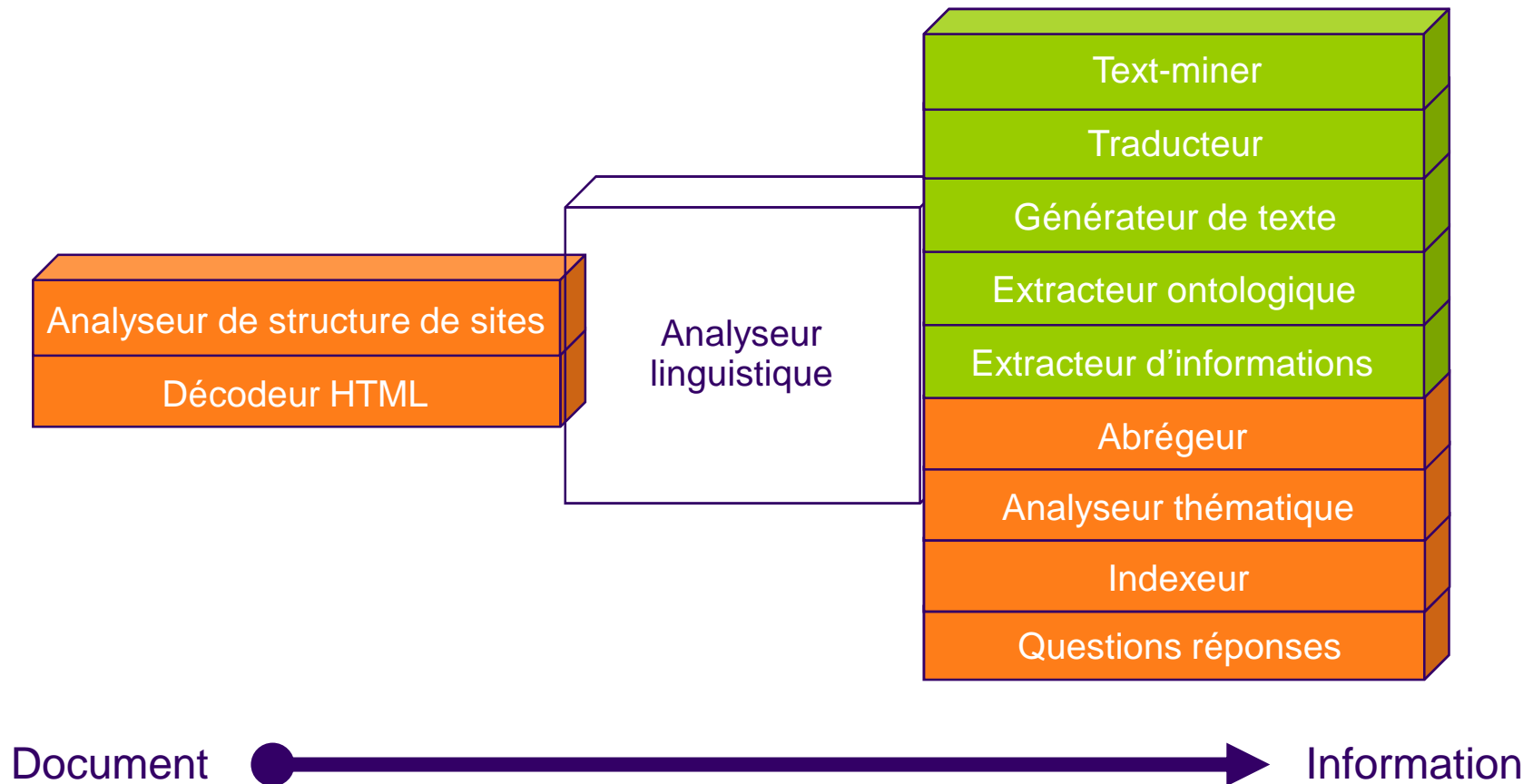


# Linguistic analysis tool : TiLT





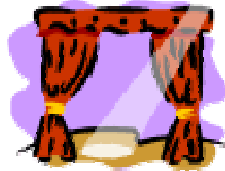
# Application modules



# Catalogue



**Language and  
charset  
Identification**



**Thematic  
classification**



**Automatic  
generation  
of linguistic  
exercises**



**Linguistic  
filtering**



**Question /  
Answering**



**Linguistic  
localization**



**Summarization**



**HTML parsing**

# Languages



**French**

**English**

**Spanish**

**German**

**Polish**

**Arabic**

## Contact



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