Computer-assisted stylistic revision with incomplete and noisy feedback

A pilot study

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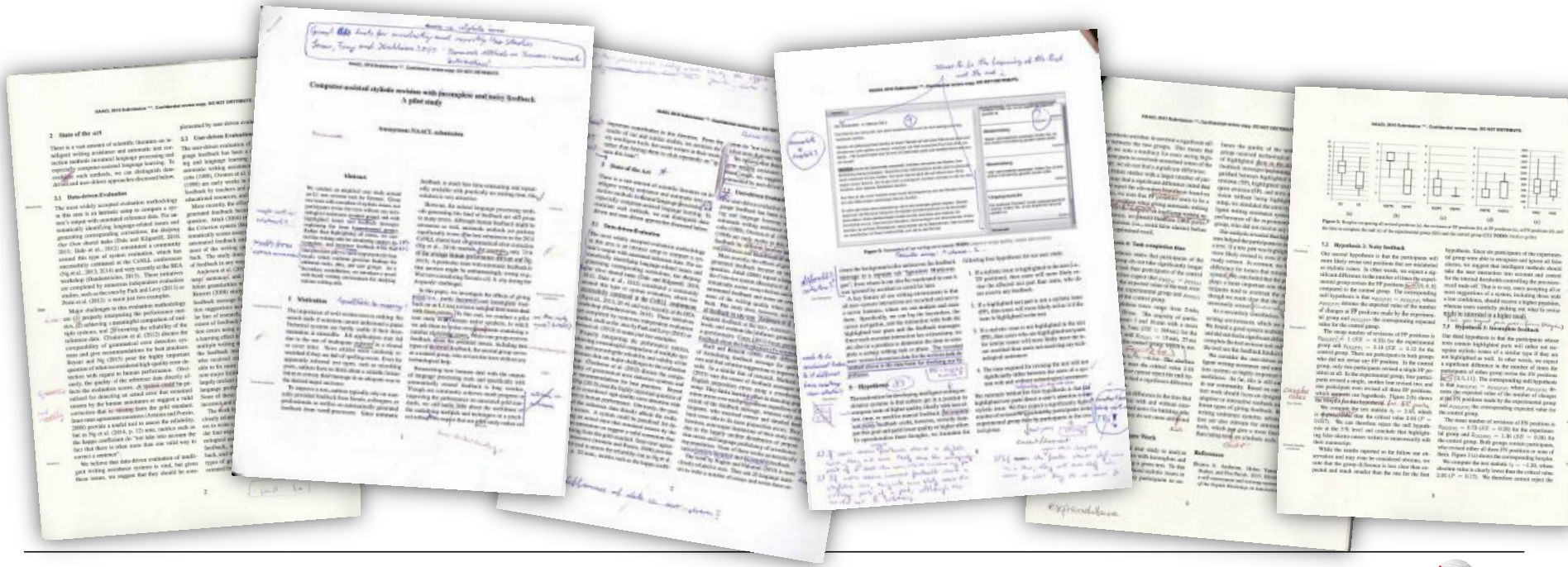
for Building Educational Applications (BEA)
June 16, 2016. San Diego, CA, USA.

Vision

- Bryant & Ng (2015): best grammar correction software achieves only 73% of human performance
- **Our vision:** research new <u>useful</u> approaches to intelligent writing assistance with a focus on German native speakers



Goal of this work

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There won't be perfect systems! ☹

How do users deal with incorrect and incomplete feedback?

- **Pilot user study**
- German L1 text revision task
- focus on stylistic issues

Previous Work

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Data-driven evaluation

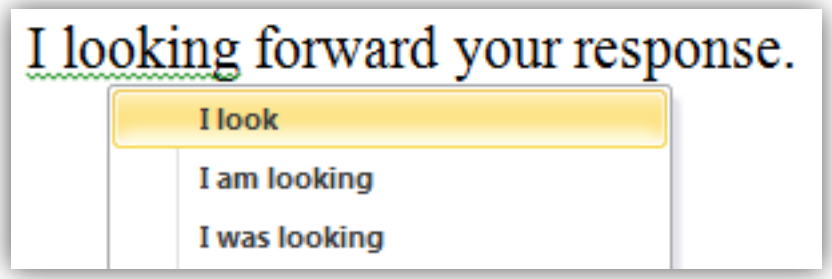
- Shared tasks: HOO, CoNLL, BEA,…
- meaningful system comparison?
- interpretation of evaluation metrics?
- reliability of the reference data?

User-driven evaluation

- (Manual) feedback by teachers and peers
- Variation of feedback granularity, extent & formulation, time
- Nagata & Nakatani (2010): *"precision-oriented error detection is better than recall-oriented"*

Hypotheses

H1 If users receive **correct feedback**, they will more likely revise the corresponding section



Hypotheses

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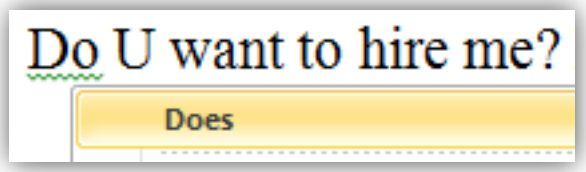
H1 If users receive **correct feedback**, they will more likely revise the corresponding section

H2 If users receive **incorrect feedback**, they will more likely revise the corresponding section
– although it would not be necessary



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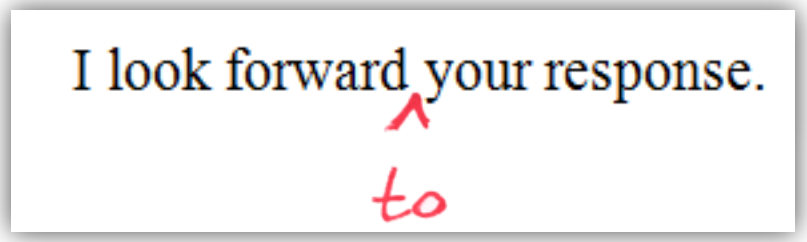

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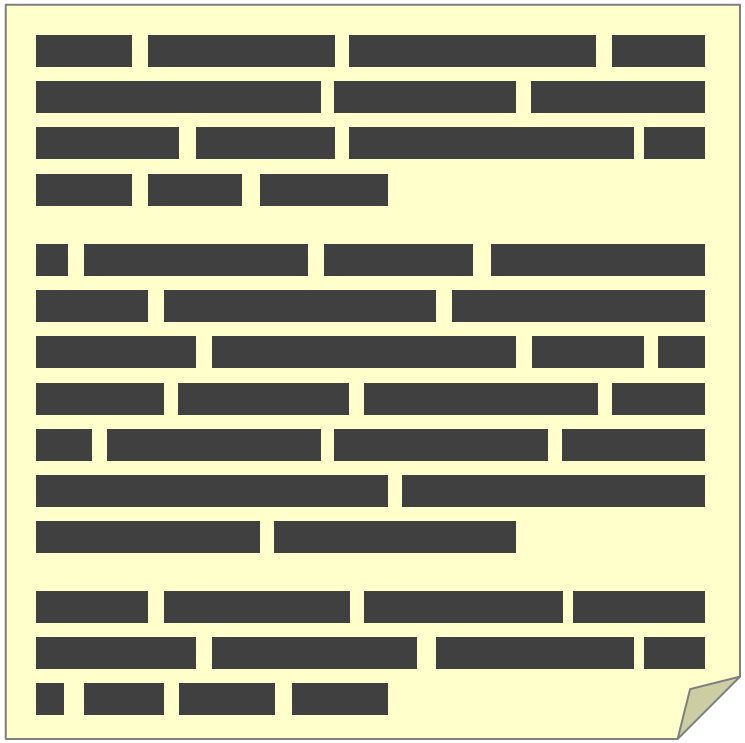
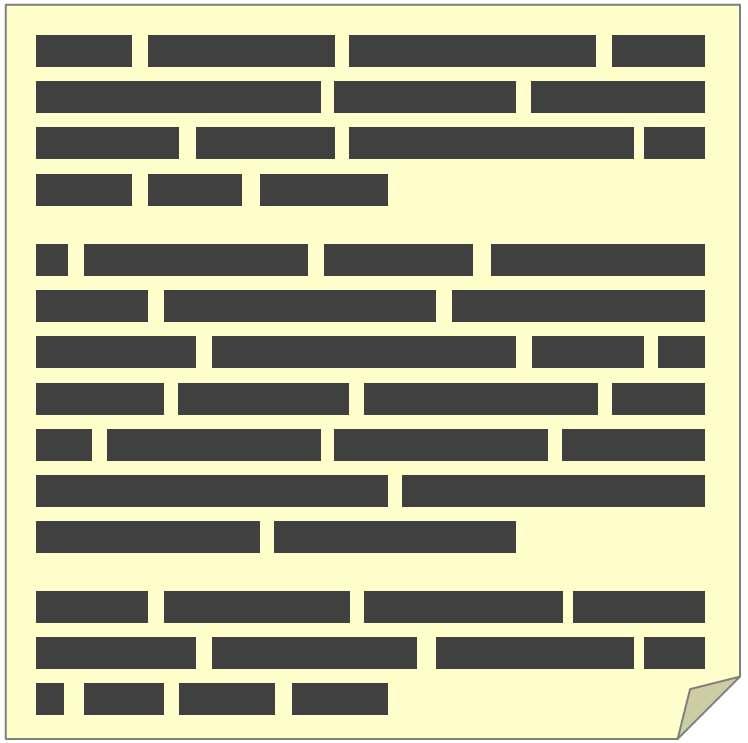
H4 Providing automatic feedback does not affect the required **time to complete the task**

Experimental Setup: Data

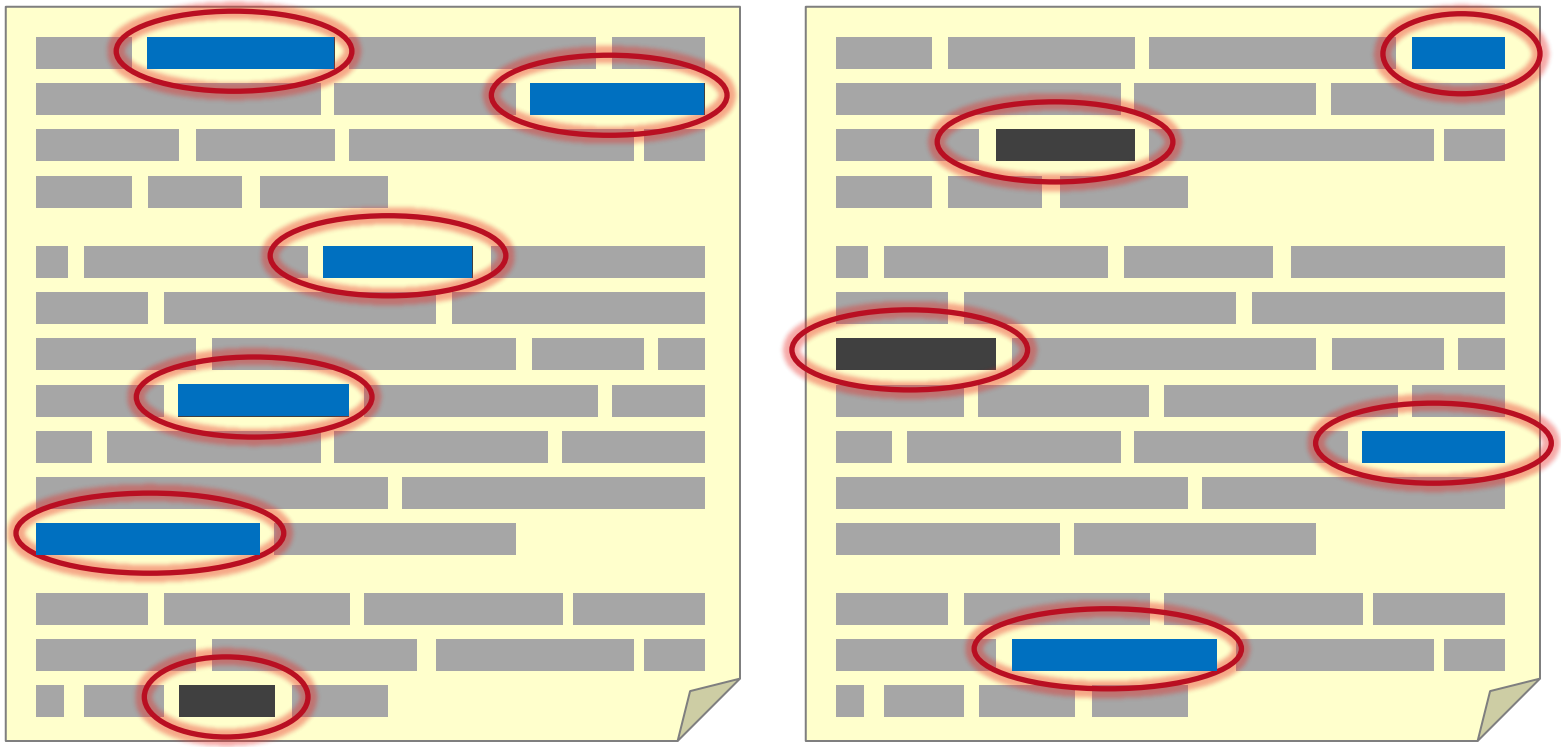


T_1 News item
206 words



T_2 Wikipedia article
183 words

Experimental Setup: Data



11 text positions **8 introduced issues**

Experimental Setup: Data

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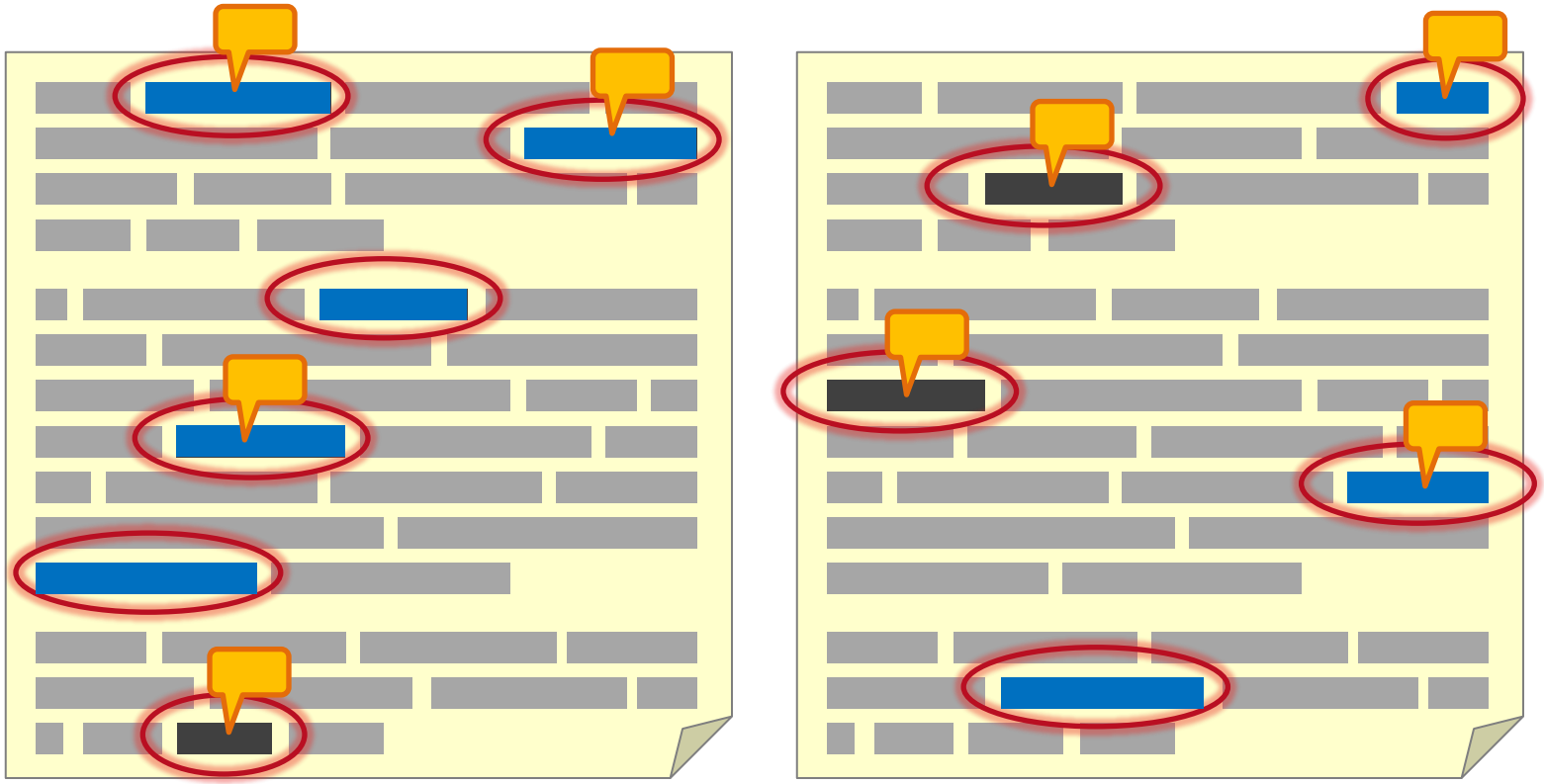

TP correct feedback

FP incorrect feedback

FN incomplete feedback

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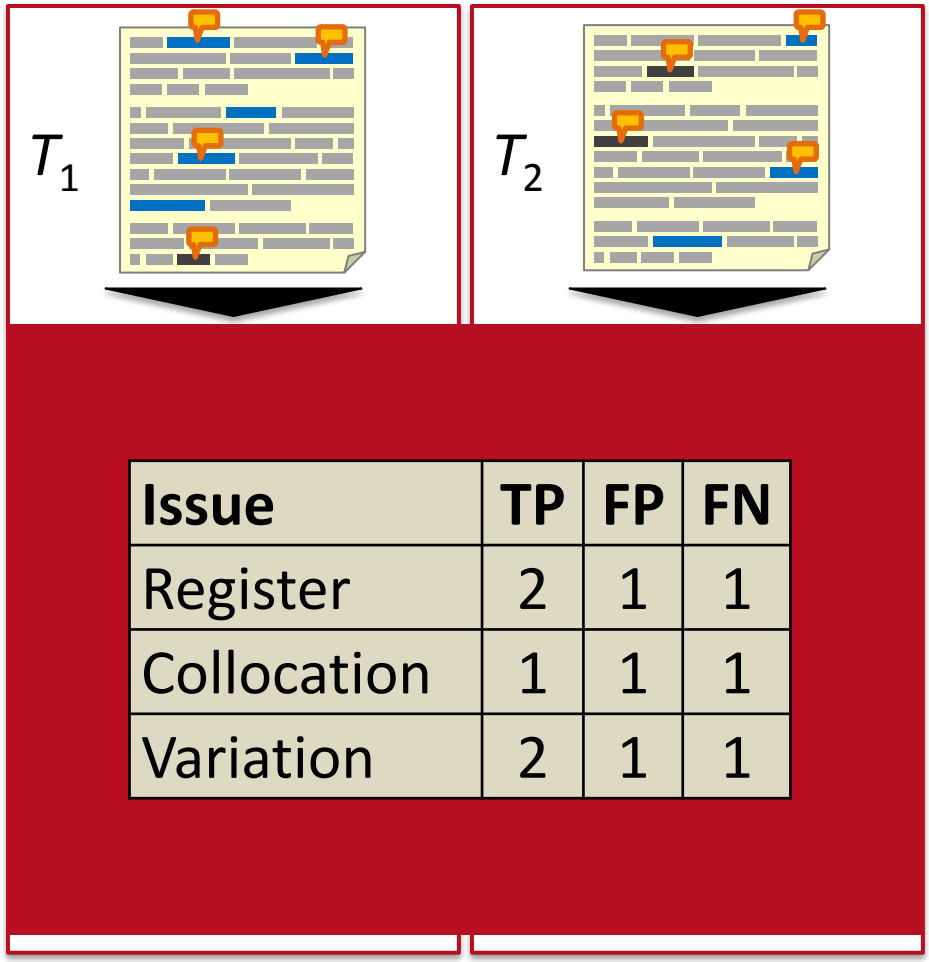
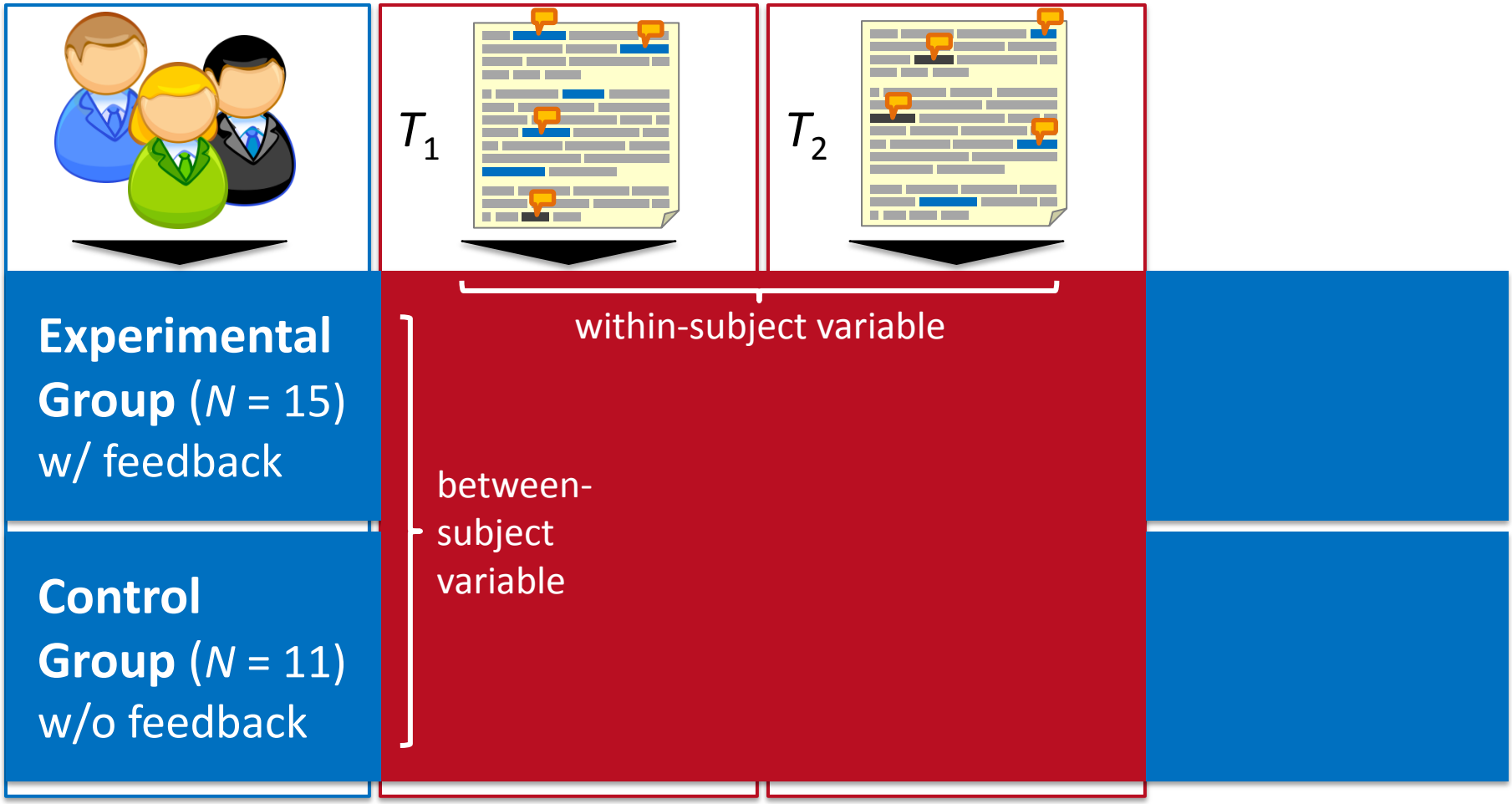
Experimental Setup: Data



Issue	TP	FP	FN
Register	2	1	1
Collocation	1	1	1
Variation	2	1	1

Experimental Setup: Population



Experimental Setup: Tool

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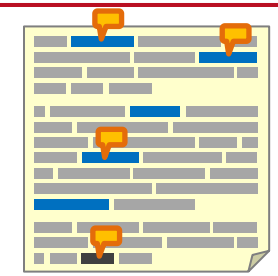
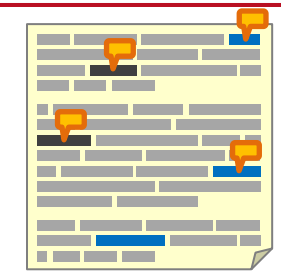
T_1



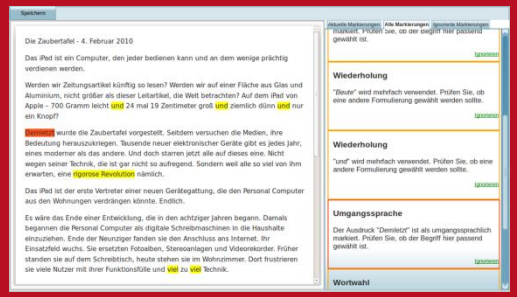
T_2



Experimental Group (*N* = 15)
w/ feedback

Control Group (*N* = 11)
w/o feedback

User Study



New tool: InViEdit

https://github.com/UKPLab/naacl-bea2016-writing-study

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Writing Assistance Software

https://github.com/UKPLab/naacl-bea2016-writing-study

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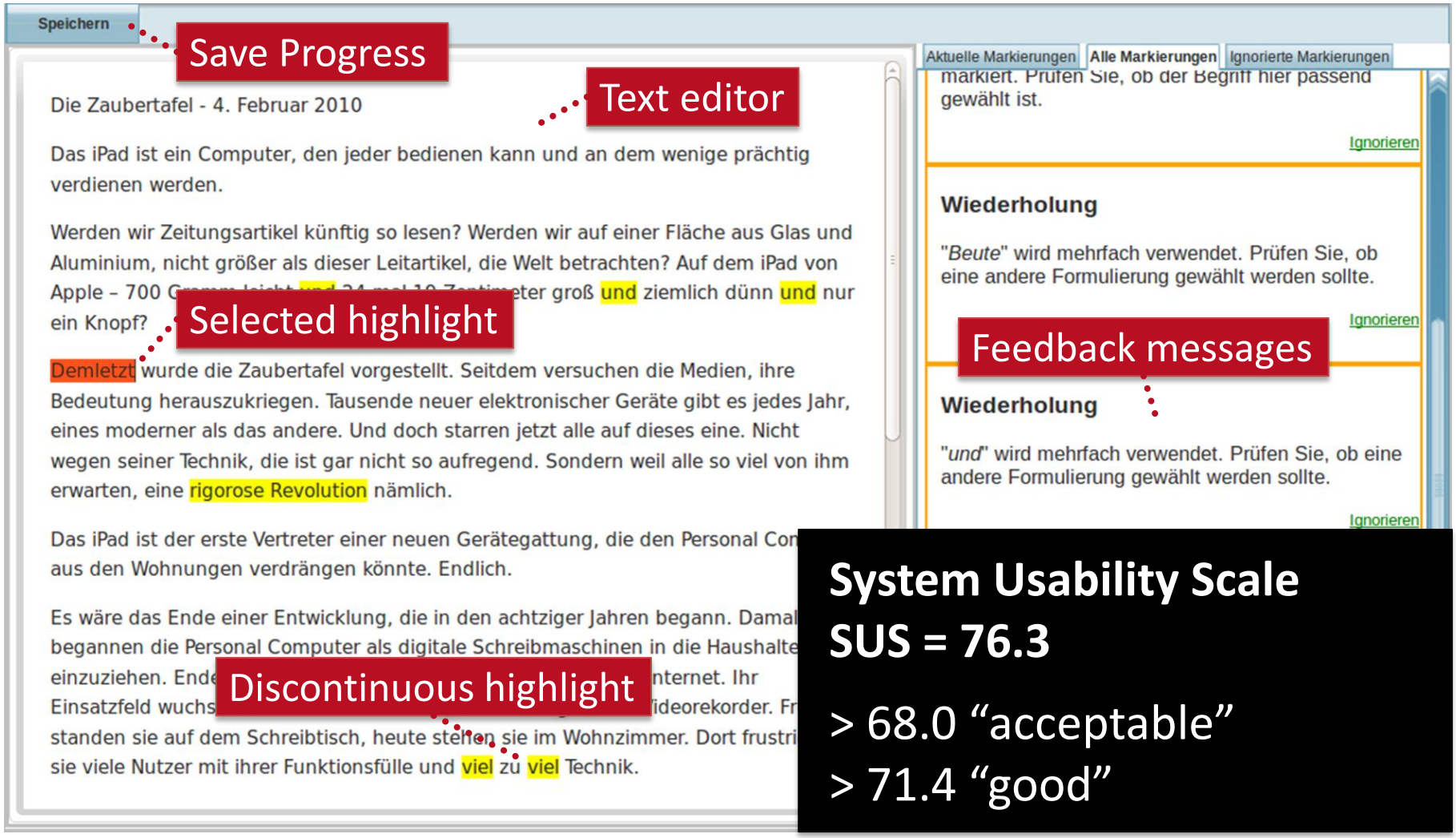

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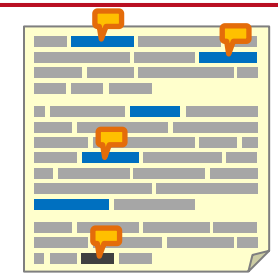
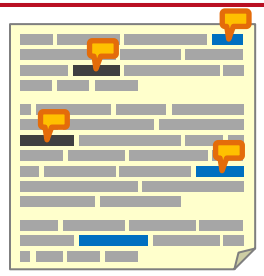
Experimental Setup: Analysis

T_1



T_2



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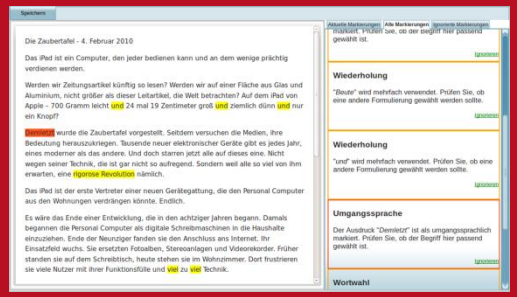

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https://github.com/UKPLab/naacl-bea2016-writing-study

revised vs. not revised positions

revised vs. not revised positions

H1–H4

Data Analysis

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	11	positions (TP/FP/FN)
×	26	participants
=	286	data points

Data point *x* = (revised vs. not revised)

	min(*x*)	$\bar{x}$	*SE*	max(*x*)
EG	2	5.86	0.53	10
CG	0	3.18	0.74	8

Unpaired two sample Student's *t* test
with significance level $\alpha = 0.05$ ($P \leq 0.05$)

H1: Correct Feedback helps

Expectation: $\mu_{EG(TP)} \neq \mu_{CG(TP)}$

Arithmetic mean:

$\bar{x}_{EG(TP)} = 4.13$ (SE = 0.23)

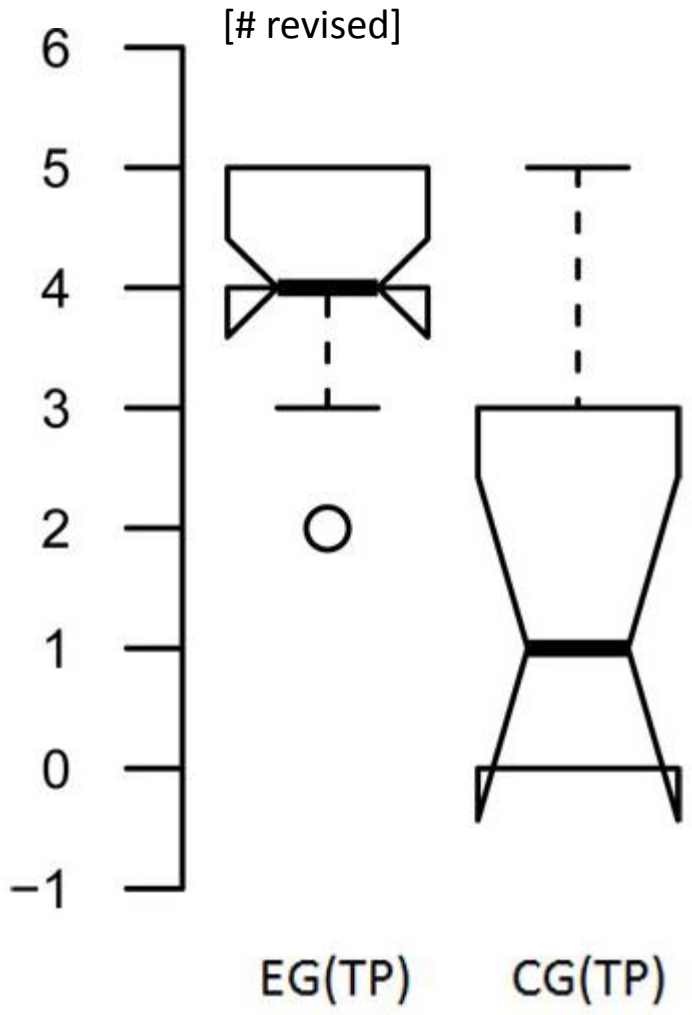
$\bar{x}_{CG(TP)} = 1.63$ (SE = 0.51)

Test statistic:

$t_{H1} = 4.85$

$|t_{H1}| > 2.06 \quad (P < 0.0001)$

- reject null hypothesis at 5% level
- significant difference b/w groups ✓



H2: Incorrect Feedback causes unnecessary revisions

Expectation: $\mu_{EG(FP)} \neq \mu_{CG(FP)}$

Arithmetic mean:

$\bar{x}_{EG(FP)} = 1$ (SE = 0.25)

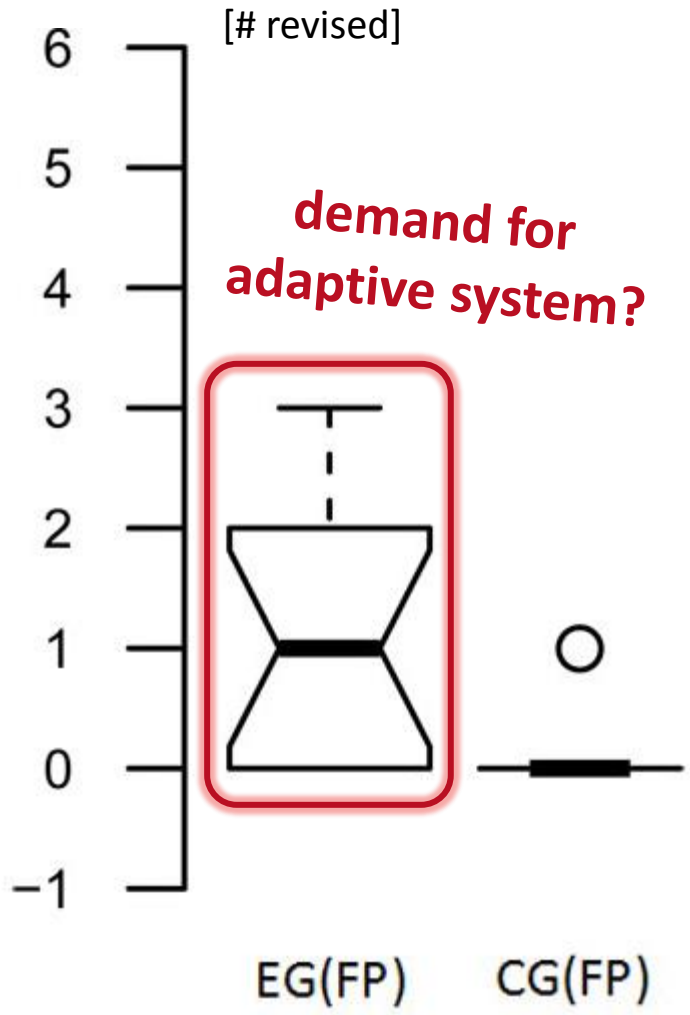
$\bar{x}_{CG(FP)} = 0.18$ (SE = 0.12)

Test statistic:

$t_{H2} = 2.55$

$|t_{H2}| > 2.06$ ($P = 0.017$)

- reject null hypothesis at 5% level
- significant difference b/w groups ✓



H3: Incomplete Feedback causes users to miss similar issues

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Expectation: $\mu_{EG(FN)} \neq \mu_{CG(FN)}$

Arithmetic mean:

$\bar{x}_{EG(FN)} = 0.73$ (SE = 0.28)

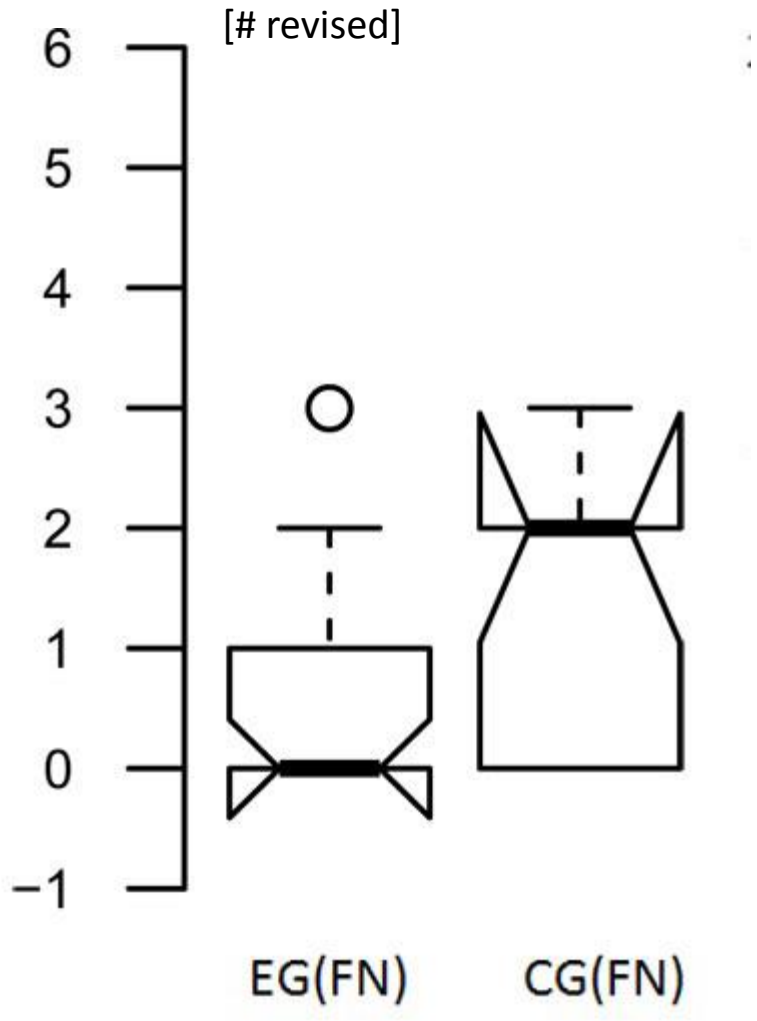
$\bar{x}_{CG(FN)} = 1.36$ (SE = 0.36)

Test statistic:

$t_{H3} = -1.39$

$|t_{H3}| < 2.06$ ($P = 0.17$)

- cannot reject null hypothesis
- cannot find significant difference



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H4: Task completion time similar

Expectation: $\mu_{EG(\tau)} = \mu_{CG(\tau)}$

Arithmetic mean:

$\bar{x}_{EG(\tau)}$ = 13 min, 3 sec (SE = 104 sec)

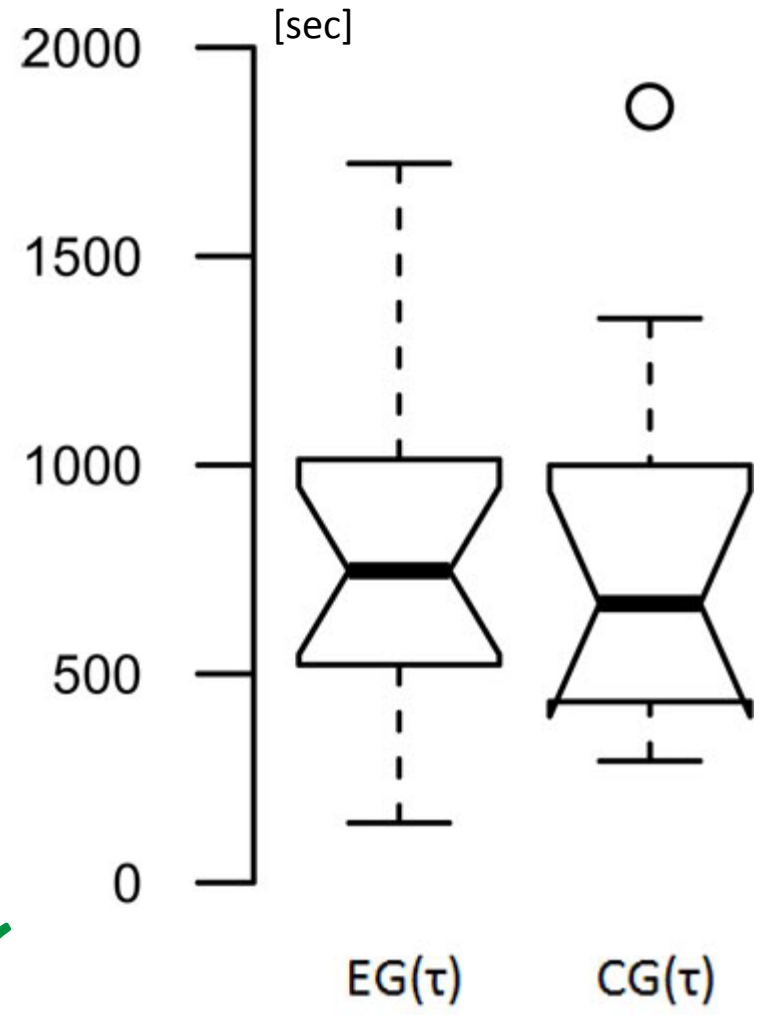
$\bar{x}_{CG(\tau)}$ = 13 min, 27 sec (SE = 144 sec)

Test statistic:

$t_{H4} = -0.14$

$|t_{H4}| < 2.06 \quad (P = 0.89)$

- cannot reject null hypothesis
- cannot find significant difference ✓



Conclusion

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What we learned from this work:

- correct feedback helps (H1)
- incorrect feedback problematic (H2) – overtrust?
  - but: demand for **adaptive systems**!
- tendency to miss FNs, but not significant (H3)
  - confirms "**precision** more important than recall"
- using feedback didn't take longer (H4)

Software for evaluating writing assistance tools:
https://github.com/UKPLab/naacl-bea2016-writing-study

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