



# Computer-assisted stylistic revision with incomplete and noisy feedback

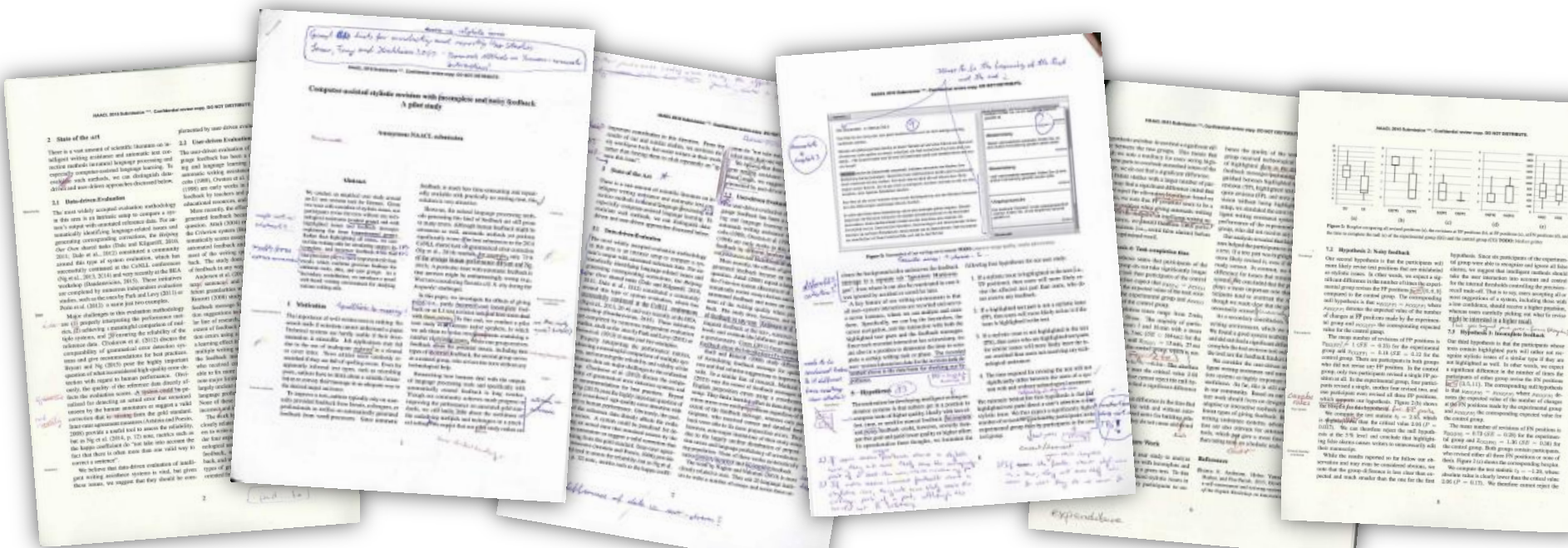
## A pilot study

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The 11th Workshop on Innovative Use of NLP  
for Building Educational Applications (BEA)  
June 16, 2016. San Diego, CA, USA.

# Vision

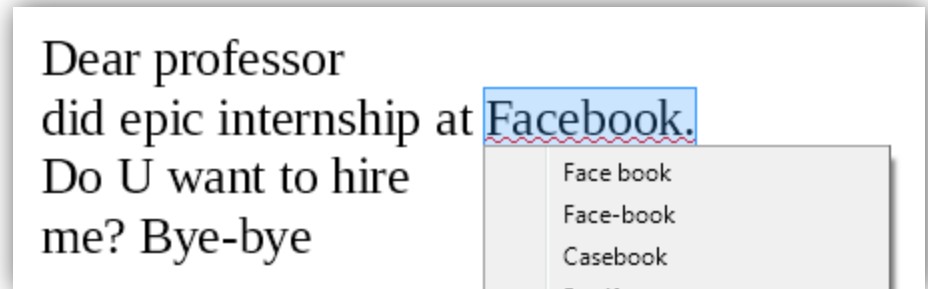
- Bryant & Ng (2015): best grammar correction software achieves only 73% of human performance
- **Our vision:** research new useful approaches to intelligent writing assistance with a focus on German native speakers



# Goal of this work

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

## Data-driven evaluation

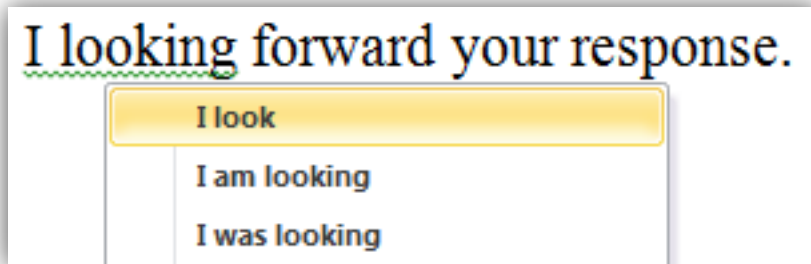
- Shared tasks: HOO, CoNLL, BEA,...
- meaningful system comparison?
- interpretation of evaluation metrics?
- reliability of the reference data?

## 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”*

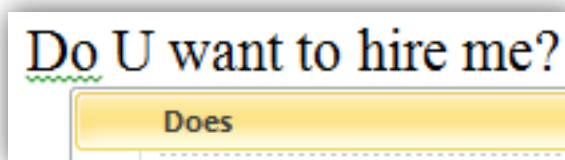
# Hypotheses

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



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– although it would not be necessary
- H3** If users receive **incomplete feedback**, they will more likely miss issues not highlighted to them

I look forward your response.

^  
to

# Hypotheses

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- H2** If users receive **incorrect feedback**, they will more likely revise the corresponding section  
– although it would not be necessary
- H3** If users receive **incomplete feedback**, they will more likely miss issues not highlighted to them
- H4** Providing automatic feedback does not affect the required **time to complete the task**



# Experimental Setup: Data

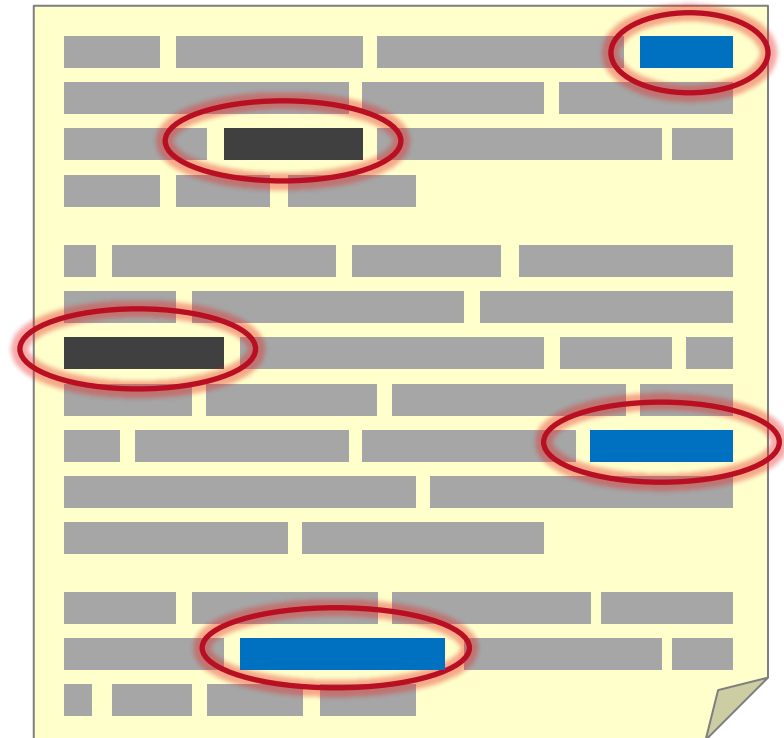
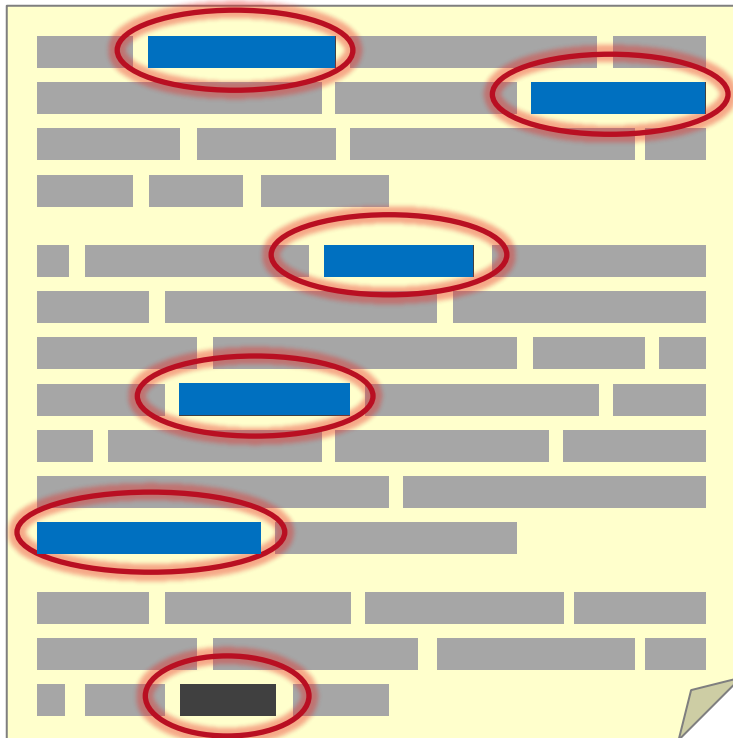


**$T_1$  News item**  
206 words



**$T_2$  Wikipedia article**  
183 words

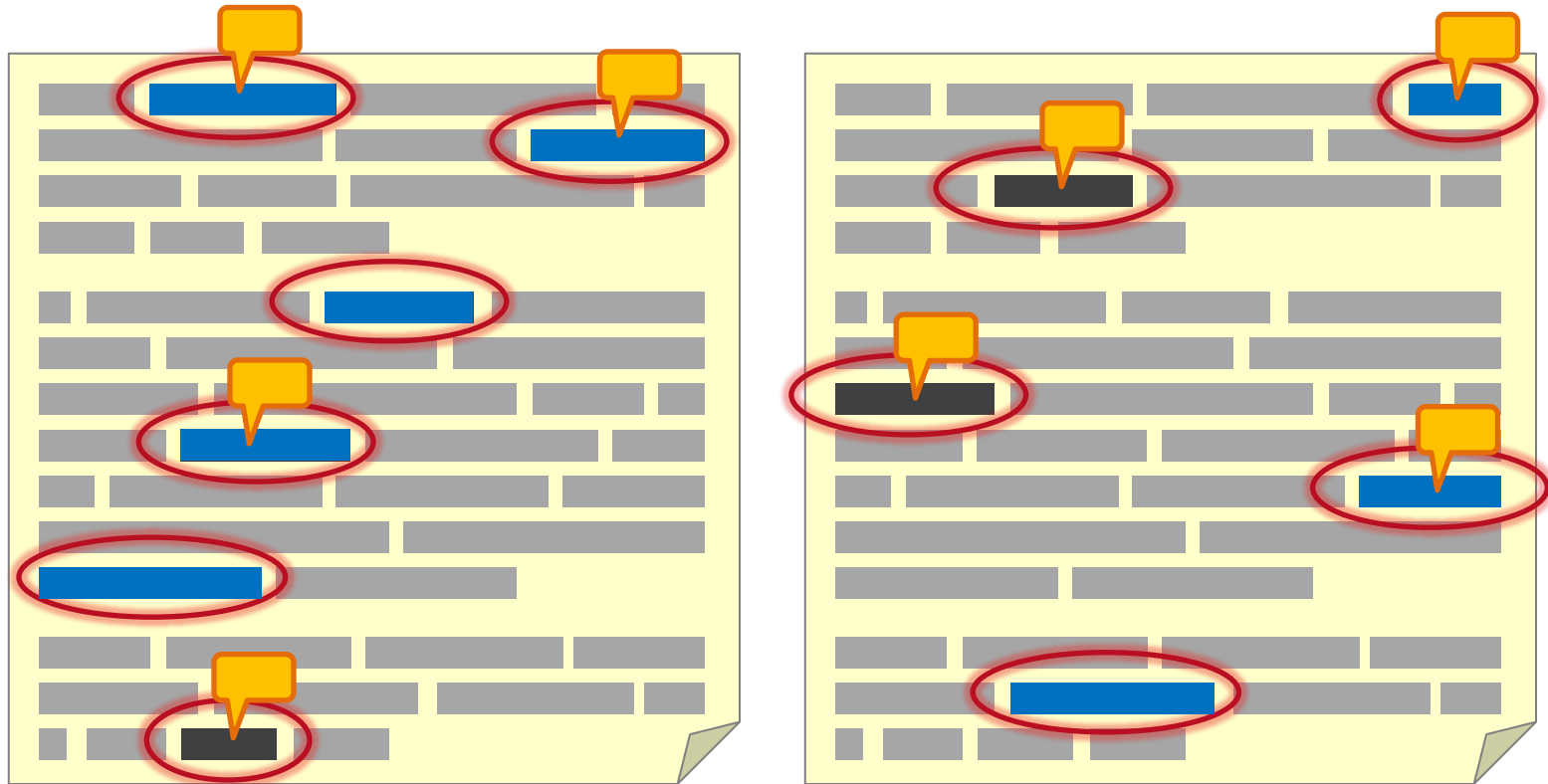
# Experimental Setup: Data



**11 text positions**

**8 introduced issues**

# Experimental Setup: Data

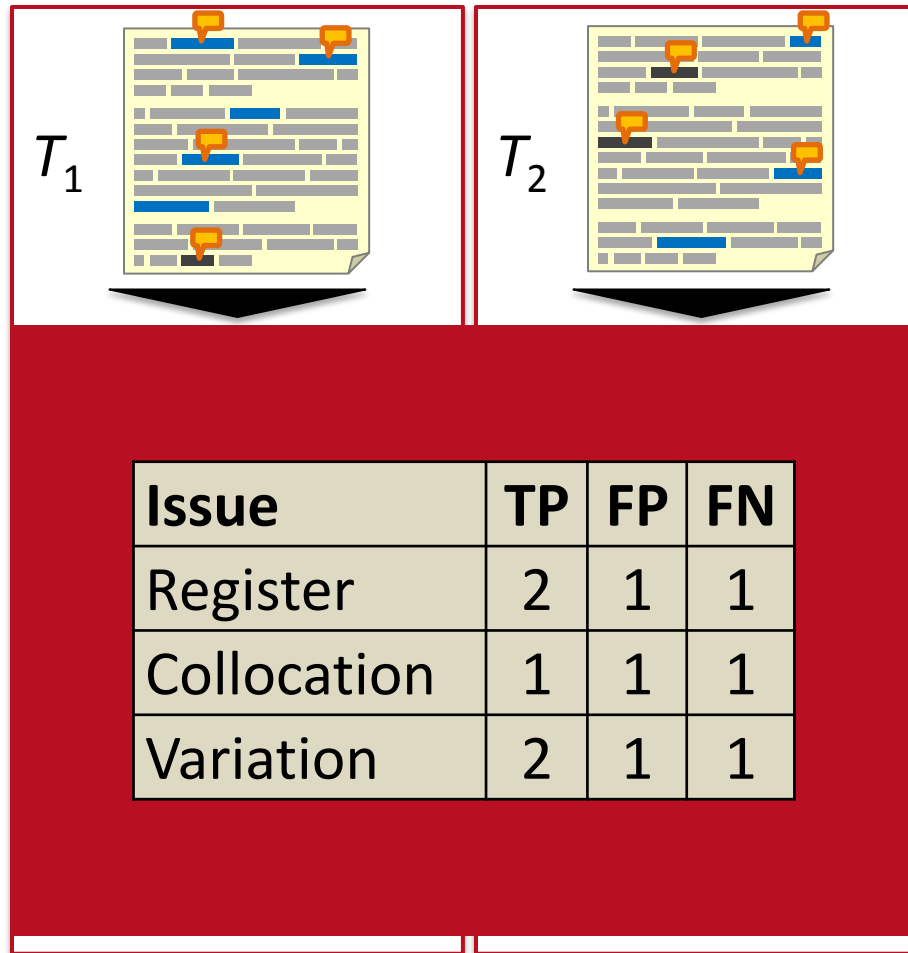


 **TP**  
 **correct feedback**

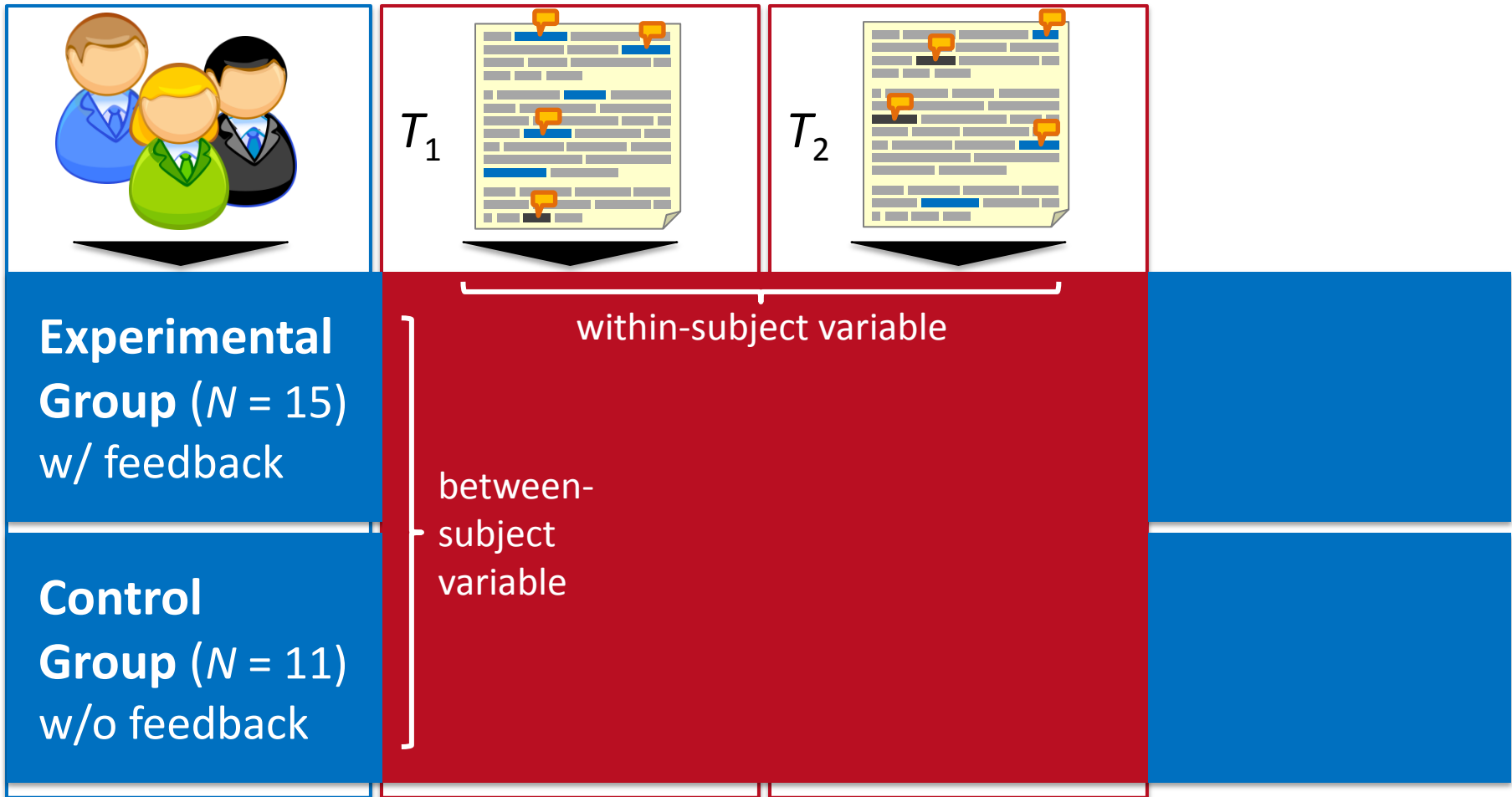
 **FP**  
 **incorrect feedback**

**FN**  
 **incomplete feedback**

# Experimental Setup: Data



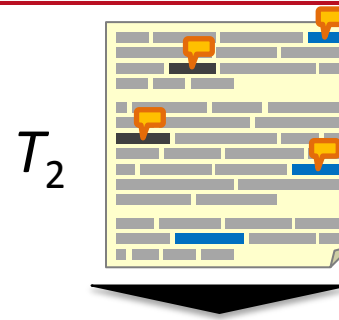
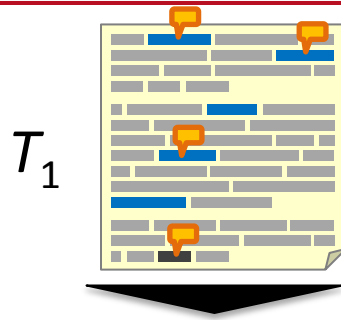
# Experimental Setup: Population



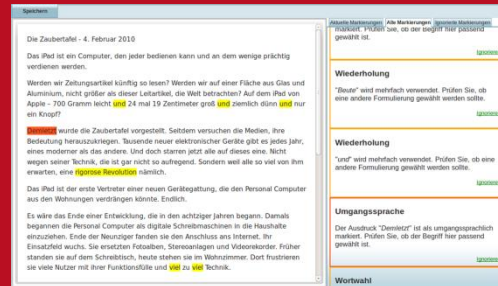
# Experimental Setup: Tool



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



## User Study



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

## New tool: InViEdit

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

# Writing Assistance Software

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



TECHNISCHE  
UNIVERSITÄT  
DARMSTADT

The screenshot shows a text editor window with a document titled "Die Zaubertafel - 4. Februar 2010". The text discusses the iPad and the "rigorose Revolution". Annotations include:

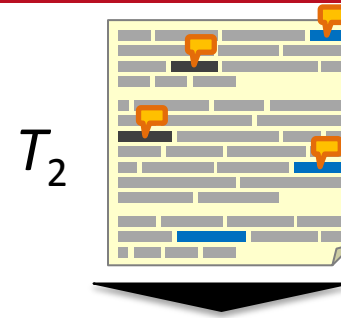
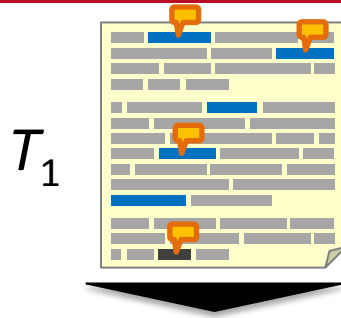
- Save Progress**: A red box pointing to the "Speichern" button in the top left.
- Text editor**: A red box pointing to the main text area.
- Selected highlight**: A red box pointing to a yellow highlight on the word "und".
- Discontinuous highlight**: A red box pointing to a yellow highlight on the word "viel".
- Feedback messages**: A red box pointing to a sidebar on the right that displays "Wiederholung" messages, such as "Beute" wird mehrfach verwendet and "und" wird mehrfach verwendet, with "Ignorieren" buttons.

**System Usability Scale**  
**SUS = 76.3**  
> 68.0 "acceptable"  
> 71.4 "good"

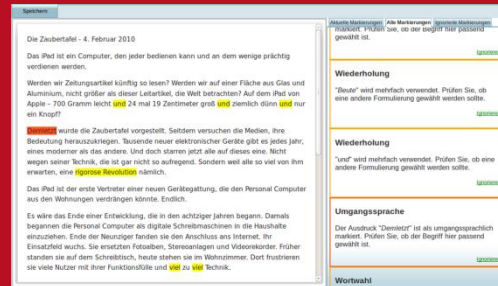
# Experimental Setup: Analysis



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



## User Study



### New tool: InViEdit

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

revised vs.  
not revised  
positions

revised vs.  
not revised  
positions

H1-H4



# Data Analysis

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:**

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

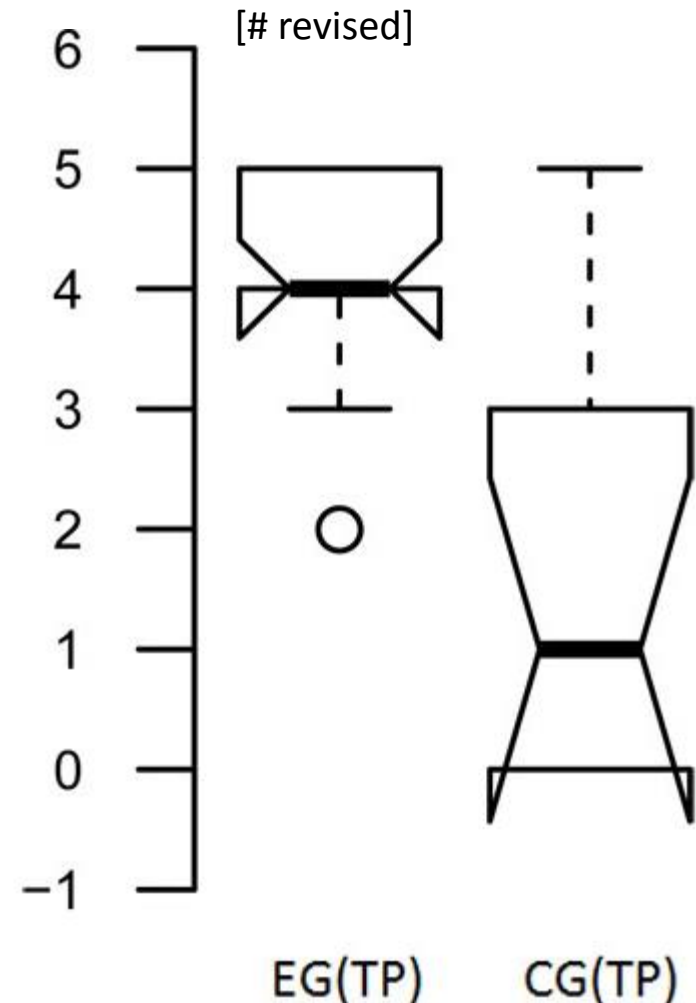
$$\bar{X}_{CG(TP)} = 1.63 \quad (SE = 0.51)$$

**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:**

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

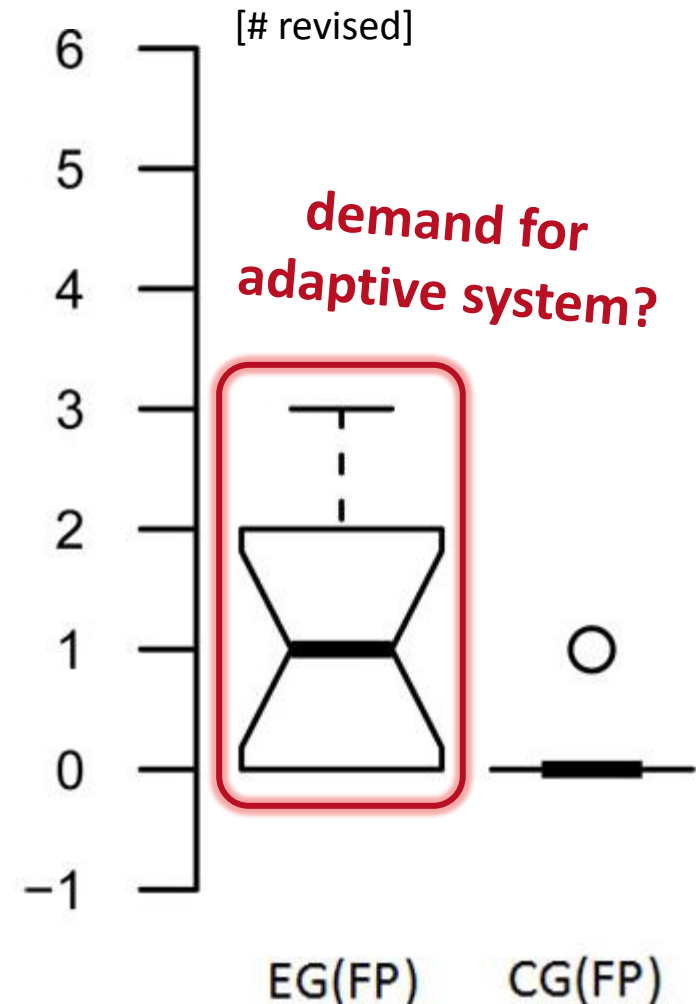
$$\bar{X}_{CG(FP)} = 0.18 \quad (SE = 0.12)$$

**Test statistic:**

$$t_{H2} = 2.55$$

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

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



# H3: Incomplete Feedback causes users to miss similar issues

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

**Arithmetic mean:**


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

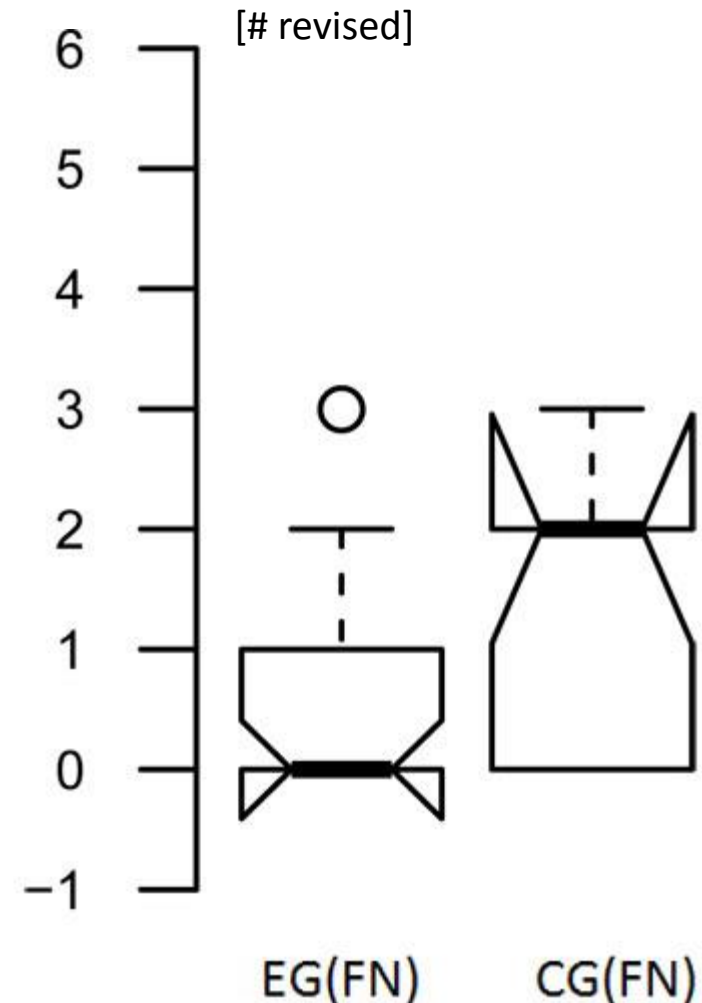
$$\bar{X}_{CG(FN)} = 1.36 \quad (SE = 0.36)$$

**Test statistic:**

$$t_{H3} = -1.39$$

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

- cannot reject null hypothesis
- cannot find significant difference 



# H4: Task completion time similar

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

**Arithmetic mean:**

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

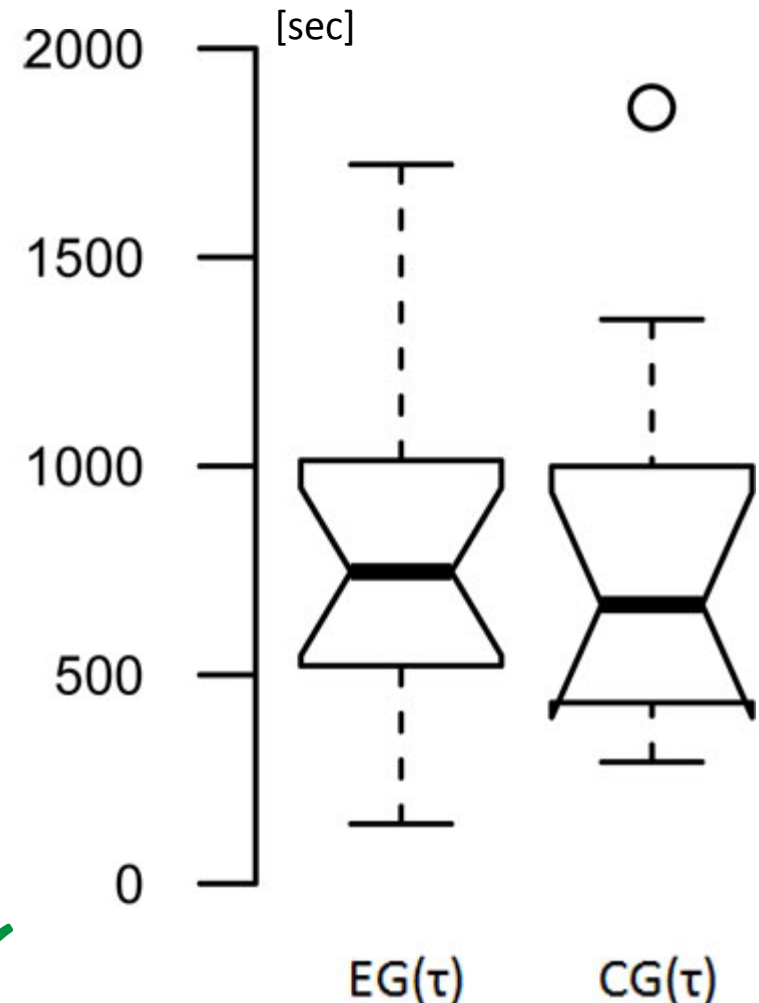
$\bar{X}_{CG(\tau)} = 13 \text{ min, } 27 \text{ sec (SE = 144 sec)}$

**Test statistic:**

$t_{H4} = -0.14$

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

- cannot reject null hypothesis
- cannot find significant difference ✓



# Conclusion

## 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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