Workshop on Evaluation of Machine Translation

Introduction

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This Workshop will be the first in a series of workshops on the topic, that have as goals:

to discuss the establishment of a theory of the methodology of evaluation of MT;

to develop a general framework in which existing evaluation measures for any particular application of MT can be housed in a systematic and organized way;

to illustrate the theory and methodology, and to take further the previous work of EAGLES, by creating a specific framework for evaluating several machine translation systems and other tools for translation. This work involves not only taxonomizing pertinent aspects of the nature and use of MT, but also gathering and classifying individual evaluation measures in the most suitable groupings, and creating criteria for the application of each measure.

We hope that the results of this workshop will be a first step toward outlining a general framework to guide MT evaluators, which will ultimately include a taxonomy of the most important aspects pertinent to MT evaluation, evaluation measures associated with each aspect, and a set of example studies. The work begun in this workshop will be augmented and further elaborated in future workshops in the EAGLES/ISLE project.

In addition, this workshop will be linked to the international MT System Certification initiative, currently being developed by the International Association for Machine Translation (IAMT).