22nd International Conference on Computational Linguistics

Proceedings of the workshop on Human Judgements in Computational Linguistics

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Introduction

The papers in these proceedings were presented at the *Coling 2008 workshop on human judgements in Computational Linguistics*, held in Manchester on 23 August 2008.

Human judgements play a key role in the development and the assessment of linguistic resources and methods in Computational Linguistics. They are commonly used in the creation of lexical resources and corpus annotation, and also in the evaluation of automatic approaches to linguistic tasks: In the developmental phase, human judgements help to define an inventory of categories as well as robust annotation criteria, and in the assessment phase they are used to evaluate the results of automatic systems against existing linguistic standards. Furthermore, systematically collected human judgements provide clues for research on linguistic issues that underlie the judgement task, providing insights complementary to introspective analysis or evidence gathered from corpora.

The workshop included papers about experiments that collect human judgements for Computational Linguistic purposes. A particular focus of the workshop was concerned with human judgements on ‘controversial’ linguistic tasks (those that are not clear from a theoretical point of view, such as many tasks having to do with semantics or pragmatics). Such experimental tasks are usually difficult to design and interpret, and they typically result in low agreement scores. They are often poorly documented in the literature; however, they are especially well-suited as a basis for a fruitful discussion.

We were pleased to receive 22 submissions, of which we accepted eight papers for presentation at the workshop. We would like to thank the program committee for the excellent job they did in reviewing the submissions. As well as the paper presentations, the workshop also included a keynote talk by Martha Palmer of the University of Colorado at Boulder. These proceedings include an abstract of her talk.

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Bettina Schrader, Universität Potsdam
Suzanne Stevenson, University of Toronto

Invited Speaker:
Martha Palmer, University of Colorado at Boulder
# Table of Contents

Invited Talk: *The Relevance of a Cognitive Model of the Mental Lexicon to Automatic Word Sense Disambiguation*

Martha Palmer and Susan Brown ................................................................. 1

Analyzing Disagreements

Beata Beigman Klebanov, Eyal Beigman and Daniel Diermeier .................... 2

Exploiting ‘Subjective’ Annotations

Dennis Reidsma and Rieks Op den Akker .................................................... 8

*Human Judgement as a Parameter in Evaluation Campaigns*

Jean-Baptiste Berthelin, Cyril Grouin, Martine Hurault-Plantet and Patrick Paroubek .......... 17

*Native Judgments of Non-Native Usage: Experiments in Preposition Error Detection*

Joel Tetreault and Martin Chodorow ......................................................... 24

*Polysemy in Verbs: Systematic Relations between Senses and their Effect on Annotation*

Anna Rumshisky and Olga Batiukova ......................................................... 33

*Eliciting Subjectivity and Polarity Judgements on Word Senses*

Fangzhong Su and Katja Markert .............................................................. 42

*Human Judgements in Parallel Treebank Alignment*

Martin Volk, Torsten Marek and Yvonne Samuelsson .................................. 51

*An Agreement Measure for Determining Inter-Annotator Reliability of Human Judgements on Affective Text*

Plaban Kumar Bhowmick, Anupam Basu and Pabitra Mitra .......................... 58
Workshop Programme

Saturday, 23 August 2008

9:20–9:30 Introductory remarks

9:30–10:30 Invited Talk: The Relevance of a Cognitive Model of the Mental Lexicon to Automatic Word Sense Disambiguation
Martha Palmer and Susan Brown

10:30–11:00 Break

11:00–11:30 Analyzing Disagreements
Beata Beigman Klebanov, Eyal Beigman and Daniel Diermeier

11:30–12:00 Exploiting ‘Subjective’ Annotations
Dennis Reidsma and Rieks Op den Akker

12:00–12:30 Human Judgement as a Parameter in Evaluation Campaigns
Jean-Baptiste Berthelin, Cyril Grouin, Martine Hurault-Plantet and Patrick Paroubek

12:30–14:00 Lunch

14:00–14:30 Native Judgments of Non-Native Usage: Experiments in Preposition Error Detection
Joel Tetreault and Martin Chodorow

14:30–15:00 Polysemy in Verbs: Systematic Relations between Senses and their Effect on Annotation
Anna Rumshisky and Olga Batiukova

15:00–15:30 Eliciting Subjectivity and Polarity Judgements on Word Senses
Fangzhong Su and Katja Markert

15:30–16:00 Break

16:00–16:30 Human Judgements in Parallel Treebank Alignment
Martin Volk, Torsten Marek and Yvonne Samuelsson

16:30–17:00 An Agreement Measure for Determining Inter-Annotation Reliability of Human Judgements on Affective Text
Plaban Kumar Bhowmick, Anupam Basu and Pabitra Mitra

17:00–17:30 Discussion