Today's Topics:

1. Re: Call for Contributions for a Special Issue of MT Journal  
   (Mark Przybocki)
2. Scholarships for developing MT software in Google Summer of Code  
   (Mikel L. Forcada)
3. ACL-IJCNLP-09 CALL FOR SOFTWARE DEMONSTRATIONS  
   (Andy Way)
4. Re: Announcing NIST Open MT09 - LDC data list now available  
   (Kay Peterson)
5. Conference announcement: LREC 2010 (info@elda.org)
6. ELRA - Language Resources Catalogue - Update (info@elda.org)
7. PR: 2009 ELRA Membership (info@elda.org)

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Mark Przybocki <mark.przybocki@nist.gov>
To: Multiple recipients of list <mt_list@nist.gov>, mt-list@eamt.org, metricsmt_list@nist.gov, metricsm2008 eval@nist.gov
Date: Thu, 19 Mar 2009 13:54:35 -0400
Subject: [Mt-list] Re: Call for Contributions for a Special Issue of MT Journal
I would like to remind those who are potential contributors to the special issue of MT Journal on automated metrics that the "intent to submit" deadline is fast approaching (April 1st). The original call for contributions may be reviewed below.

Thank you. -Mark Przybocki

Mark Przybocki wrote:

Call for Contributions for a Special Issue of MT Journal
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Machine Translation Journal
http://www.springer.com/computer/artificial/journal/10590
Special Issue on: Automated Metrics for MT Evaluation

Building on the success of the first NIST Metrics for Machine Translation Challenge (MetricsMATR), an organized evaluation of automated MT evaluation metrics, the Machine Translation Journal is now issuing a call for contributions for a special issue of the journal on the topic of automated metrics for MT evaluation. The special issue will primarily focus on the MetricsMATR evaluation and workshop. We encourage research groups that are engaged in innovative and exciting research on automated MT metrics, and particularly those groups that participated in the MetricsMATR evaluation, to submit extended papers describing their metrics and their research. In addition, NIST will contribute an extensive paper to the special issue documenting the evaluation and containing a comprehensive analysis of results. This special issue will provide a forum for this vital research to be published and archived, so that it is accessible to the broad Machine Translation and Computational Linguistics communities.

Submission Guidelines:
- Contributors must send a "Submission Intent" email message to "MATR@nist.gov" by no later than April 1, 2009.
- Contributions will be accepted April 1, 2009 through May 10, 2009.
- Authors should follow the "Instructions for Authors" available on the MT Journal website at: http://www.springer.com/computer/artificial/journal/10590
- Submissions must be limited to 12 pages of content, with an additional page for references.
- Authors should explicitly identify the special issue in the title of their submission.

Important Dates:
- April 1, 2009: Submission Intent email due
- May 10, 2009: Full paper contributions due
- May 31, 2009: Reviews completed
- June 15, 2009: Acceptance notifications sent out
- August 14, 2009: Final versions of papers due
- Fall 2009: Special Issue is published
Special Issue Guest Co-Editors:
- Alon Lavie (Carnegie Mellon University)
- Mark Przybocki (National Institute of Standards and Technology)

Contact:
- Please send inquiries to "MATR@nist.gov".

******************************************************************************
Supporting Information
******************************************************************************
MetricsMATR web site:
http://www.nist.gov/speech/tests/metricsmatr/
MetricsMATR 2008 results:
******************************************************************************

--
Mark Przybocki
301-975-3347

NIST IAD Multimodal Information Group
http://www.nist.gov/itl/iad/mig/

--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: "Mikel L. Forcada" <mlf@dlsi.ua.es>
To: mt-list@eamt.org
Date: Fri, 20 Mar 2009 09:43:22 +0100
Subject: [Mt-list] Scholarships for developing MT software in Google Summer of Code

Dear colleagues:

A quick note just to let you know that the free/open-source machine translation project Apertium (http://www.apertium.org) has been selected by Google as one of the 151 projects of the 2009 edition of their Google Summer of Code (http://socghop.appspot.com).

Students wishing to work this summer in one of the ideas that project Apertium has published in http://socghop.appspot.com/org/show/google/gsoc2009/apertium, can apply starting the 23 of March to try and get a 4,500 dollar scholarship.

Would you please pass this on to interested parties?

Thank you very much

--
Mikel L. Forcada <mlf@dlsi.ua.es>
http://www.dlsi.ua.es/~mlf/

--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Andy Way <away@computing.dcu.ie>
To: mt-list@eamt.org
Date: Mon, 23 Mar 2009 12:25:13 +0000
Subject: [Mt-list] ACL-IJCNLP-09 CALL FOR SOFTWARE DEMONSTRATIONS

CALL FOR SOFTWARE DEMONSTRATIONS
at the joint conference of the 47th Annual Meeting of the ACL and the 4th IJCNLP
Suntec, Singapore
August 2-7, 2009

http://isoft.postech.ac.kr/~hernus/acl_demo/

Deadline for submission: March 30, 2009

The ACL-IJCNLP-09 Program Committee invites proposals for the Demonstrations Program. We encourage both the submission of early
research prototypes and interesting mature systems. Commercial sales and marketing activities are not appropriate in the Demonstrations Program, and should be arranged as part of the Exhibit Program.

Areas of Interest

Areas of interest include all topics related to theoretical and applied computational linguistics, such as (but not limited to) the topics listed for the conference paper submission: http://www.acl-ijcnlp-2009.org/main/callforpapers.html

The systems may be of the following kinds:
* Natural Language Processing systems or system components
* Application systems using language technology components
* Software tools for computational linguistics research
* Software for demonstration or evaluation
* Development tools

Format for Submissions

Demo proposals consist of the following parts, which should all be sent to the Demo Chairs. Please use the main ACL-IJCNLP paper formatting guidelines.

* An extended abstract of the technical content to be demonstrated, including title, authors, full contact information, references, and acknowledgements.

* A "script outline" of the demo presentation, including accompanying narrative, and either a Web address for accessing the demo or visual aids (e.g., screenshots, snapshots, or diagrams).

* A detailed description of the hardware, software and internet service requirements expected to be provided by the local organizer.

The entire proposal should not be more than four pages.

Submissions Procedure

The deadline for proposals is March 30, 2009. Submissions must be received electronically. Please submit your proposals and any inquiries to (both chairs):

Gary Geunbae Lee (gblee@postech.ac.kr) and Sabine Schulte im Walde (schulte@ims.uni-stuttgart.de)

Submissions will be evaluated on the basis of their relevance to computational linguistics, innovation, scientific contribution, presentation, as well as potential logistical constraints.

Accepted submissions will be allocated maximum four pages in the Companion Volume to the Proceedings of the Conference.

Demonstrations Chairs

Gary Geunbae Lee (Pohang University of Science and Technology)
Sabine Schulte im Walde (University of Stuttgart)

Demonstrations Program Committee

Paul Buitelaar (DFKI, Germany)
Massimiliano Ciaramita (Google, Switzerland)
Sadako Kurohasi (Kyoto University, Japan)
Ee-Peng Lim (Singapore Management University, Singapore)
Dekang Lin (Google, USA)
Jong Park (KAIST, Korea)
Ted Pedersen (University of Minnesota, USA)
Dan Roth (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA)
Ming Zhou (MSRA, China)
I'm pleased to let you know that the list of resources available from the LDC for the MT09 Constrained training track, as well as the corresponding LDC license agreement, are now available. You can find them here:


Please note that the license agreement applies not just to Constrained training resources, but also to the MT09 evaluation data. All who register must submit the license agreement to the LDC and minimally check off the "MT09 Evaluation Data" item at the bottom of the list.

Also note that there may be a slight delay in processing requests for data that requires distribution on DVD media. E-corpus requests are usually accommodated within 2-5 business days.

You can find the original announcement of MT09 below. Please direct any questions to mt_poc@nist.gov. We hope to see you participate in MT09!

Best,
Kay / NIST Open MT Team.

Quoting Kay Peterson <kay.peterson@nist.gov>:

MT folks,

NIST is pleased to announce the next NIST Open Machine Translation Evaluation, MT09.


Evaluation Highlights:

Schedule:
- Registration deadline: May 14, 2009
- Evaluation period: June 8-12, 2009
- Workshop: August 31 - September 1, 2009 (co-located with MT Summit XII in Ottawa, Canada)

Tasks include text-to-text translation for the following language pairs:
- Arabic-to-English (Current and Progress test)
- Chinese-to-English (Progress test)
- Urdu-to-English (Current test)

New system tracks:
- To distinguish single system and system combination submissions

Visit the NIST Open MT09 web site for more information: http://www.nist.gov/itl/iad/mig/tests/mt/2009

Also, please note that while registration for MT09 is now open, the license agreement that will allow you to receive training and development data for MT09 purposes from the LDC will not be available for another couple of weeks. We will send a notification to this mailing list once the agreement becomes available.

Please e-mail mt_poc@nist.gov for comments or questions.

Thank you,
Kay / NIST Open MT Team.

--
Kay Peterson

ELRA is happy to announce that 1 new Evaluation Package and 2 Speech Resources are now available in its catalogue:

**ELRA-E0033 CHIL 2007 Evaluation Package**
The CHIL Seminars are scientific presentations given by students, faculty members or invited speakers in the field of multimodal interfaces and speech processing. The language is European English spoken by non native speakers. The recordings comprise the following: videos of the speaker and the audience from 4 fixed cameras, frontal close ups of the speaker, close talking and far-field microphone data of the speaker’s voice and background sounds. The CHIL 2007 Evaluation Package consists of:
1) A set of audiovisual recordings of interactive seminars. The recordings were done between June and September 2006 according to the “CHIL Room Setup” specification.
2) Video annotations.
3) Orthographic transcriptions.
For more information, see: http://catalog.elra.info/product_info.php?products_id=1092

**ELRA-S0297 Hungarian Speecon Database**
The Hungarian Speecon database comprises the recordings of 555 adult Hungarian speakers and 50 child Hungarian speakers who uttered respectively over 290 items and 210 items (read and spontaneous). For more information, see: http://catalog.elra.info/product_info.php?products_id=1094

**ELRA-S0298 Czech Speecon Database**
The Czech Speecon database comprises the recordings of 550 adult Czech speakers and 50 child Czech speakers who uttered respectively over 290 items and 210 items (read and spontaneous). For more information, see: http://catalog.elra.info/product_info.php?products_id=1095

For more information on the catalogue, please contact Valérie Mapelli mailto:mapelli@elda.org
2009 ELRA Membership

Join ELRA

2009 ELRA membership is open to all institutions wishing to benefit from ELRA services. To join, please fill in the online membership form here:

http://www.elra.info/scripts/adhform.php

Members’ Benefits

By joining us and becoming an ELRA member, you will benefit from:

- Price discounts on the resources, up to 70% reduction on some items. In addition, discounts on related technical publications, commercial reports, etc.
- Information on other databases available or databases being developed.
- Legal and contractual assistance. This could be when you are negotiating for a resource with a producer or if you need information on other contractual or legal matters.
- Various publications: Special News and Updates on association affairs are issued via e-mail in the monthly Members Bulletin. The ELRA Web site features a section for members only, where internal reports and statistics can be found.
- First-hand information on the results from the ELRA studies.
- Discount of LREC registration fees

Contact: Valerie Mapelli (mailto:mapelli@elda.org)

***************************************************************************

The European Language Resources Association (ELRA) is a non-profit making organisation founded under the auspices of the European Commission in 1995, with the mission of providing a clearing house for language resources and promoting Human Language Technologies (HLT). Find out more about ELRA by visiting our web site: http://www.elra.info

ELRA’s missions are to promote Language Resources (LRs) for the Human Language Technology (HLT) sector, and to evaluate language engineering technologies. To achieve these two major missions, we offer the following range of services: identification of LRs, production of LRs, validation of LRs, evaluation of systems, products, tools, etc., related to LRs, distribution of LRs, promotion of best practices and standardisation.

To play a determining role as a HLT community leader, ELRA also supports the infrastructure for evaluation campaigns and the development of a scientific field of LRs and evaluation, e.g. via the organisation of the LREC conference (http://www.lrec-conf.org).