Overview of the Patent Translation Task at the NTCIR-8 Workshop

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Motivation

- Systematic evaluation in NLP / IR is crucial
 - Large Test Collections are needed
- We have produced test collections for patent retrieval at NTCIR since 2001
 - What is the next task for patent information?

History of Patent IR at NTCIR

- NTCIR-3 (2001-2002)
 - Technology survey
 - Applied conventional IR problems to patent data
- NTCIR-4 (2003-2004)
 - Invalidity search
 - Addressed patent-specific IR problems
- NTCIR-5 (2004-2005)
 - Enlarged invalidity search
- NTCIR-6 (2006-2007)
 - Added English patents

2 years of JPO patent applications *

* JPO = Japan Patent Office

5 years of JPO patent

Both document sets were published in 1993-2002

10 years of JPO patent applications

10 years of USPTO patents granted **

** USPTO = US Patent & Trademark Office ³

PATMT at NTCIR-7 (2007-2008)

- Patent machine translation (MT) is realistic
 - Parallel corpus can potentially be produced from JPO / USPTO patent document sets
 - Decoders for Statistical MT are available and easily trained by our parallel corpus
- Participants = research groups
 - Any types of MT can be used:
 - Statistical MT (SMT)
 - Rule-based MT (RBMT)
 - Example-based MT (EBMT)
- Utility of patent MT
 - Cross-lingual patent retrieval
 - Filing patent applications in foreign countries

Important from science, engineering, & industry points of view

Findings at NTCIR-7

- Which MT method was effective?
 - BLEU: Phrase-based SMT
 - Human rating: Rule-based MT
- Correlation b/w evaluation measures



with multiple reference translations (RTs)

 MT for regular sentences was effective for translating patent claims

PATMT at NTCIR-8

- Larger document sets 🤤
 - 15 years of JPO/USPTO patent documents
- We miss human rating & multi RTs for BLEU
- Subtasks
 - Machine translation
 - Cross-lingual IR Cancelled (no participation)
 - MT results by other participants can be used
 - Evaluation
 - Developing automatic evaluation methods highly correlated with human rating

Overview for Evaluation subtask will be given by Prof. Ehara later ဝဝဂ

Contents

- 1. Method to produce parallel corpus
- 2. Method to evaluate participating MT systems
- 3. Results of Formal run

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Patent families

- Member patents often claim "priority" under the Paris Convention
 - Related patents can easily be identified by priority numbers
- Merit of priority-based patent families
 - The application date is retroactive to the original date
 - First-to-file system in many countries



claiming

priority

Free (or inexpensive) bilingual corpora are growing!!!

Example of patent family



English: cpu 1 performs the control of the whole electronic musical instrument such as key assigning and tone generating control.

Step 1

Translating Eng to Jpn on a word/phrase basis
Eng-Jpn alignments are trained by parallel corpus



Step 2

Reordering words to produce a fluent sentence
Jpn word N-gram is trained by Jpn corpus

Japanese: CPU1はキーアサイン、発音制御など電子楽器全体の制御を行う。12

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Evaluation methods

• Intrinsic evaluation Same as existing MT WS - RI FI I E.g., NIST, ACL, & IWSLT

- Reference translation (= aligned counterparts)
- Extrinsic evaluation
 - Contribution to Cross-Lingual Patent Retrieval (CLPR)
 - Invalidity search
 - BLEU

Distinctive feature **f** NTCIR

BLEU: BiLingual Evaluation Understudy

- BLEU = Automatic evaluation measure for MT
 Comparing MT and reference translation (RT)
- However, exact match b/w MT and RT is rare
 - Comparing MT and RT on an Ngram-by-Ngram basis
 - Ngram = N consecutive words in sentence
 - BLUE score = Geometric mean of Ngram-based scores
- More than one acceptable translation exist
 - For each test sentence, multiple RTs are required
 - However, in NTCIR-8 only single RT was used

Intrinsic evaluation



Example J/E test sentences

- さらに、図4に示すように、システム全体を制御するホストコンピュータ46も通信ネットワーク47上に接続することによって、ホストコンピュータ46とプロセッサ44とを接続する専用線をなくすことができる。
- Further, by connecting the host computer 46, which controls the whole system, also onto the communication network 47 as shown in FIG. 4, the exclusive line for connecting the host computer 46 and the processor 44 to each other can be eliminated.
- また、圧縮機ユニット33にも、I/O変換部(図示せず)が搭載 されている。
- An I/O conversion section (not shown) is mounted also on the compressor unit 33.

Extrinsic evaluation



Example search topic

claim = long and complex noun phrase

An ultrasonic probe including an ultrasonic oscillator and an oscillator retaining member for retaining the ultrasonic oscillator provided within a flexible sheath, an ultrasonic transmitting medium filled around the ultrasonic oscillator to obtain an ultrasonic image by ultrasonic scanning, the flexible sheath having, at the tip of its cavity, an ultrasonic transmitting medium sealing member having a curved surface protruded to the oscillator holding member side located closer to this side in the sheath axial direction from this tip.



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Intrinsic J-E: BLEU with 95% confidence interval



Intrinsic **E-J**: BLEU with 95% confidence interval



Extrinsic E-J: BLEU with 95% confidence interval



Comparing BLEU: Int E-J& Ext E-J



(R = 0.87)
 MT for regular sentences was also effective for translating claims

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Extrinsic E-J: BLEU & IR measures



Recall@100,200 are highly correlated with BLEU (R = 0.86)

Summary of Translation subtask

- Produced a large test collection for J/E patent MT
 - 15 years of JPO/USPTO documents
 - 3.2 M J/E aligned sentences for training
 - 1000 sentences for evaluation
- BLEU and IR measures were highly correlated, as in NTCIR-7
- A hybrid method (EIWA) substantially outperformed Moses for J-E MT

Overview of the Patent Translation Task Evaluation Subtask (AE subtask)

Terumasa EHARA Yamanashi Eiwa College

Aim of the subtask

- To improve automatic evaluation methods for machine translation accuracy
- To overcome the difference of automatic evaluation and human evaluation [Fujii, 2008]

[Fujii, 2008] Atsushi Fujii, Masao Utiyama, Mikio Yamamoto and Takehito Utsuro: Overview of the Patent Translation Task at the NTCIR-7 Workshop, Proceedings of NTCIR-7 Workshop Meeting, Dec. 2008, Tokyo, Japan.

Data 1

- The results of the NTCIR-7 patent translation task (only JE direction)
- Training data: NTCIR-7 patent translation task, dry run data
 - Source and reference data: 100 sentences
 MT output data: 100 (sent.) × 11 (systems)
 Human evaluation results (adequacy and fluency): 100 (sent.) × 11 (systems) × 3 (human raters)

Data 2

- Test data: NTCIR-7 patent translation task, formal run data
 - Source and reference data: 100 sentences
 MT output data: 100 (sent.) × 12 (systems)
 Human evaluation result (adequacy and fluency): 100 (sent.) × 12 (systems) × 3 (raters)

Data sample

Source

・プリント機構は、感光体ドラム11を備えている。
・定着ローラ39によって定着処理が施された転写紙は、図示しない 排出機構を介して排出トレイ43上に送られる。

the printing mechanism has a photoconductor drum 11.
the transfer paper and fixed by a fixing roller 39 thus processed is discharged through a discharge tray 43 is sent to a mechanism

(not shown).

Test (MT)

Reference

the printing mechanism comprises the photosensitive drum 11.
the copy paper which has been subjected to fixing processing by the fixing roller 39 is fed onto a discharge tray 43 through a discharge mechanism (not shown).

Meta-evaluation measures

 Pearson's correlation coefficients between adequacy/fluency and automatic evaluation result

 Spearman's rank correlation coefficients between adequacy/fluency and automatic evaluation result

Result

• AE subtask has only one participant

participant	Correlation coefficients to the adequacy data				Correlation coefficients to the fluency data			
	Pearson		Spearman		Pearson		Spearman	
	Avg	All	Avg	All	Avg	All	Avg	All
HCU-1	0.2992	0.2463	0.2712	0.2234	0.2608	0.2285	0.2486	0.2126

Avg : average value for the correlation coefficients for the 12 test systems

All : correlation coefficient for all data of the 12 test systems

Remarks

- We plan to provide all human evaluation data composed in the NTCIR-7 and NTCIR-8 patent translation task.
- They will be provided from NII's Informatics Research Data Repository.