MTTT – Machine Translation Training Tool: A tool to teach MT, Evaluation and Post-editing

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Abstract

MTTT is an open-source tool conceived to help students and non-savvy users get started with the core technologies involved in a classical workflow of MT+PE without having to deal with the purely technical aspects of installing, training and evaluating MT models. In that sense, this tool is a graphical user interface abstracting the underlying command; it also provides post-editing functionalities, which would be the final stage in the workflow. MTTT is available at http://pln.famaf.unc.edu.ar/?q=node/6.

1 Description

The translation industry has widely accepted the so-called MT+PE or PEMT workflow, which involves machine translation and post-editing to deliver translations. Accordingly, many institutions have incorporated these topics in courses at different levels (MA, BA) and in different disciplines that could be involved in the process of developing MT or applying PE (Gaspari et al., 2015; Kenny & Doherty, 2014; O’Brien, 2002). In order to avoid any bias due to the use of a particular commercial software for the practical exercises, we have explored the use of open-source solutions. However, despite the many open-source tools available for MT, evaluation and PE, it is difficult to carry out practical exercises on these topics because not all of them provide graphical user interfaces (GUI), highly convenient for non-technical students, and more importantly none of them implements the whole MTPE workflow. This has motivated the development of an open-source prototype, MTTT, conceived to help students and non-savvy users get started with the core technologies without having to deal with the purely technical aspects of installing, training and evaluating MT models, usually done through the command line. MTTT is a GUI that abstracts the commands needed to create statistical models using Moses (Koehn et al., 2007). It also provides functionalities to: (a) evaluate the models generated with standard automatic metrics; (b) post-edit machine translated text; and (c) generate basic statistics about post-editing productivity. Additionally, we are planning to extend its functionalities by allowing the user to access the resulting models to explore its contents and gain more insights about the internals of the PEMT process.

References