

Preface

It is our pleasure to welcome you to the Second International Workshop on Free/Open-Source Rule-Based Machine Translation to be held in Barcelona, Spain. This second edition has been inspired by the successful workshop we had in Alacant on November 2009, where rule-based machine translation practitioners shared their experiences and opinions.

The free/open-source development model has been adopted by many machine translation researchers and developers who are opening their code to the community. This benefits, on the one hand, machine translation users who have access to machine translation software that they can adapt to suit their needs, and, on the other hand, to machine translation researchers and developers who get valuable feedback to improve their systems. Machine translation systems mainly depend on both algorithms (translation engines) and data (linguistic rules, parallel corpora, etc.), and therefore, not only the translation engines must be free/open-source, but also the data themselves.

This workshop aims at bringing together the experience of researchers and developers in the field of rule-based machine translation who have decided to free/open-source their code and are effectively contributing to create a commons of explicit knowledge: machine translation rules and dictionaries, and machine translation systems whose behaviour is transparent and clearly traceable through their explicit logic. 16 papers from 14 different countries were submitted to the workshop; each paper was peer-reviewed by two independent reviewers from the program committee, resulting in a selection of the 10 papers included in these proceedings.

Our special thanks goes to Dr. Aarne Ranta, from the University of Gothenburg, and Dr. Lluís Padró, from Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, who kindly agreed to give keynote addresses at the workshop. We also acknowledge all the reviewers, whose names are subsequently listed, for their detailed reviews and useful recommendations which were vital in helping authors to improve their contributions. We also appreciate the dedicated efforts of Luis Villarejo Muñoz and Mireia Farrús Cabecera who worked hard to organise this workshop. We are also very grateful to the sponsors who supported this workshop: European Association for Machine Translation, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Universitat d'Alacant, Transducens Research Group of Universitat d'Alacant and Prompsit Language Engineering. Finally, a big thank you goes to all the authors who made this workshop both possible and successful.

All the papers included in this proceedings can be found at the Open Access Repository of Universitat Oberta de Catalunya on <http://hdl.handle.net/10609/4661>.

We look forward to an exciting and productive workshop.

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