LINA: Identifying Comparable Documents from Wikipedia

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BUCC-2015 Shared Task

Introduction

- ► How far can we go with a language agnostic model?
- We experiment with [Enright and Kondrak, 2007]'s parallel document identification method
- ▶ We adapt the method to the BUCC-2015 Shared task based on two assumptions:
 - 1. Source documents should be paired 1-to-1 with target documents
 - 2. We have access to comparable documents in several languages



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Method

► Fast parallel document identification [Enright and Kondrak, 2007]

- Documents = bags of hapax words
- Words = blank separated strings that are 4+ characters long
- Given a document in language A, the document in language B that shares the largest number of words is considered as parallel
- Works very well for parallel documents
 - 99.96% accuracy on EUROPARL [Enright and Kondrak, 2007]
 - ▶ 80% precision on Wikipedia [Patry and Langlais, 2011]
- ▶ We use this approach as *baseline* for detecting comparable documents

Improvements using 1-to-1 alignments

- ► In *baseline*, document pairs are scored independently
 - Multiple source documents are paired to a same target document
 - ho pprox 60% of English pages are paired with multiple pages in French or German
- We remove multiply assigned source documents using pigeonhole reasoning
 - ▶ From 60% to 11% of multiply assigned source documents



Improvements using cross-lingual information

- Simple document weighting function \rightarrow score ties
- We break the remaining score ties using a third language
 - ▶ From 11% to less than 4% of multiply assigned source documents



Outline

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Experimental settings

- ▶ We focus on the French-English and German-English pairs
- > The following measures are considered relevant
 - Mean Average Precision (MAP)
 - Success (Succ.)
 - Precision at 5 (P@5)

Results (FR \rightarrow EN)

		Train			Test	
Strategy	MAP	Succ.	P@5	MAP	Succ.	P@5
baseline	31.4	28.0	7.4	32.9	30.0	7.5
+ pigeonhole	57.7	56.4	11.9	_	_	_
+ cross-lingual	58.9	57.7	12.1	59.0	57.7	12.1

Results (DE \rightarrow EN)

		Train			Test	
Strategy	MAP	Succ.	P@5	MAP	Succ.	P@5
baseline	28.7	24.9	6.9	29.0	24.9	7.1
+ pigeonhole	61.6	60.1	12.8	—	_	—
+ cross-lingual	62.3	60.9	12.8	62.2	60.7	12.8

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- Unsupervised, hapax words-based method
- Promising results, about 60% of success using pigeonhole reasoning
- Using a third language slightly improves the performance
- Future work
 - Finding the optimal alignment across the all languages
 - Relaxing the hapax-words constraint

Thank you

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