Context-based Evaluation of MT Systems: Principles and Tools

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Evaluation of MT software: two views

- MT researchers and developers
 - focus on the core functionality of their system, i.e. quality of MT output, in a given domain
- MT users / buyers
 - consider also other qualities of MT output
 - e.g. terminological correction
 - □ are also sensitive to a larger range of qualities
 - core functionality remains important
 - plus: speed, adaptability, user-friendliness, etc.
 - → indicators of quality depend on the context of use





Goal of this tutorial

 Outline a model for context-based evaluation, applied to MT systems

Introduce a tool that automates the design of context-dependent evaluation plans: FEMTI

Apply the model and tool to design a simple evaluation plan for a given scenario of use





Overview of the tutorial

1. Principles

1.1. Role of the context of use in MT evaluation

1.2. ISO standards for software evaluation: terminology and role of context of use

1.3. FEMTI guidelines: theoretical model

2. Tools

- 2.1. Implementation of FEMTI interfaces
- 2.2. Use of FEMTI by evaluators & evaluation experts
- 3. Practical application





The increasing importance of « utility » for the evaluation of MT systems (1/3)

- "Good applications for crummy MT" (Church & Hovy 1993)
 - quality of MT systems can have various aspects
 - e.g., translation speed or ease of dictionary update
 - quality of MT output (translated text) can itself be decomposed
 - e.g. translation of technical terms, correctness of punctuation
 - the relative importance of these parameters varies with the intended use of an MT system
- OVUM Report (Mason & Rinsche 1995)
 - comparison of commercial MT systems by decomposing "quality" on a dozen dimensions





The increasing importance of « utility » for the evaluation of MT systems (2/3)

- Task-based quality metrics (White & Taylor 1998)
 - quality of MT systems for a given use of their output can be measured by assessing the performance of humans using MT output to accomplish a specific task
 - e.g. automatic summarization, or document classification
 - required quality levels vary with the task





The increasing importance of « utility » for the evaluation of MT systems (3/3)

- JEIDA Report (Nomura & Isahara 1992)
 - objective: to characterize the *intended context of use* and the *performance* of an MT system
 - two radar charts with 7 dimensions
 - can be matched to indicate how relevant is an MT system in a given context



ISLE Evaluation Work Group

- ISLE Project : International Standards for Language Engineering
 - □ EU, Switzerland, USA (1999-2002)
 - Evaluation Work Group
 - http://www.issco.unige.ch/projects/isle/ewg.html
- Achievements
 - apply the EAGLES guidelines for NLP evaluation to MT
 - normalize MT evaluation in a comprehensive framework
 - ensure compatibility with the ISO/IEC standards for software evaluation
- ➔ First proposal of FEMTI
 - □ Framework for the Evaluation of Machine Translation in ISLE





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ISO/IEC Standards on software evaluation

ISO 14958 – product evaluation process

- quality in the software life cycle
- process for developers, acquirers and evaluators

ISO 9126 – product quality

- model for software product quality
- defines six main quality characteristics
 - functionality, reliability, usability, efficiency, maintainability, portability
- further subdivided into subcharacteristics
 - terminal nodes of this hierarchy (*quality model*) can be measured using internal or external metrics





ISO/IEC Standards on software evaluation: list

- ISO/IEC 9126 quality models
 - first version : 1991
 - 9126-1 (2001) : quality models overview
 - 9126-2 (2003) : internal quality characteristics
 - 9126-3 (2003) : external quality characteristics
 - 9126-4 (2004) : characteristics of quality in use
- ISO 14958 evaluation process
 - □ 14958-1 (1999) : overview
 - □ 14958-2 (2000) : planning and management of the process
 - □ 14958-3 (2000) : process for developers
 - □ 14958-4 (1999) : process for acquirers
 - □ 14958-5 (1998) : process pour evaluators
 - □ 14958-6 (2001) : documentation of process





Software development life cycle: role of quality and evaluation

- SpecificationImplementation
- evaluation of user needs quality in use evaluation of external quality external qualities requirements evaluation of internal quality internal qualities requirements





Influence of the intended context of use on evaluation procedures in ISO/IEC standards

- Visible in standards for quality in use, measured in context
- ISO 14598-4
 - required system integrity: the higher this is, the more complete the evaluation should be
- ISO 14598-5
 - "evaluation levels" should be related to level of risks (4-point scale) resulting from system malfunction
 - risks to environment, safety of persons, installations, data
 - more demanding evaluation procedures should be applied when the level of risk is higher





Evaluation metrics in ISO/IEC standards (1/2)

- ISO/IEC 14598:
 - "a measurement is the use of a metric to assign a value (i.e., a measure, be it a number or a category) from a scale to an attribute of an entity"
- ISO/IEC standards provide
 - explanation of how to apply metrics
 - a basic set of metrics for each sub-characteristic
 - examples of application during software lifecycle
- Normalized description of metrics
 - name, method, measure, scale, target audience, notes







Evaluation metrics in ISO/IEC standards (2/2)

- Internal metrics (9126-3:2003)
 - Measure quality of intermediate deliverables
 - example: reliability maturity: number of mistakes removed during design/coding
- External metrics (9126-2:2003)
 - Measure derived indirectly from its behaviour
 - example: reliability maturity: number of mistakes removed during testing
- Quality in use metrics (9126-4:2004)
 - measure whether product meets specifications by user
 - Inot covered below by FEMTI)





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FEMTI: Context-based evaluation

- FEMTI: Framework for the Evaluation of Machine Translation in ISLE
 - ISLE : International Standards for Language Engineering European project (1999 – 2002)
 - collected & structured knowledge from the MT community
 - □ 100+ evaluation metrics, from over 30 years
 - Developed, based on ISO/IEC standards
 - classification of contexts of use
 - classification of quality characteristics
 - Context based evaluation guidelines





ISLE workshops on MT evaluation

(URLs available at http://www.issco.unige.ch/projects/isle/ewg.html)

- "Hands-on MTEval" @ AMTA 2000
 - first presentation of ISLE taxomonies
- "MTEval: An invitation to get your hands dirty!" @ UniGe/ETI, avril 2001
 - experiments with the taxonomies
- "MTEval: Who did what to whom?" @ NAACL, June 2001
 - experiments with task-based evaluation
- "MTEval at MTSummit VIII" @ MT Summit VIII, September 2001
 - reports and analyzes of previous evaluations
- "MTEval: human evaluators meet automated metrics" @ LREC, May 2002
 - experiments with correlations between metrics on human translations and MT output
- "MTEval: expert sessions" @ USC/ISI, février 2003
 - update and stabilize the taxonomies
- MTEval @ MTSummit IX, September 2003
 - presentations of work based on the FEMTI guidelines





Classifications based on ISO/IEC standards

Quality characteristics ISO generic quality particular to MT characteristics Functionality functionality reliability Suitability usability Accuracy □ Fidelity efficiency Consistency maintainability Terminology portability





Definitions adapted for MT from ISO/IEC 9126

- Context of use
 - Environment where the system is to be used
 - FEMTI: classification of the characteristics of the translation task / user / input (along with the purpose and object of the evaluation)
 - Examples: document routing, email translation, information extraction
- Quality characteristics
 - Attributes that constitute software quality
 - FEMTI: classification of *MT software* quality characteristics
 - Examples: fidelity, readability, terminological correctness, speed
- Quality model
 - Quality characteristics + related metrics
 - Depends on the intended context of use





Contents of the FEMTI guidelines

- Part 1 : contexts of use + relation to quality models
 - defines types of tasks, users, input data
 - helps to specify the needs for an MT system and relates them to required qualities
- Part 2 : quality models + relation to metrics
 - particularizes the six ISO/IEC quality characteristics
 - functionality, reliability, usability, efficiency, maintainability, portability
 - suggests metrics for each quality characteristic
 - references to studies of metrics
 - recommendations for choosing metrics





Design of a context-based evaluation plan using the FEMTI guidelines

- 1. Define the intended context of use (Part 1) of the system
 - □ task, user, input data
- 2. Select the relevant quality characteristics (Part 2) and attributes
 - among those that apply to the system's type and task
 - including relative importance
 - ➔ quality model
- 3. Select appropriate metrics for each attribute
 - drawn from the literature, or new ones
 - define what counts as an acceptable score
- NB: This is a part of the larger ISO/IEC evaluation process





Example 1: contextual evaluation of an MT system for instant messaging

- Task
 - Communication
 - Synchronous
- User
 - Non specialist
 - No knowledge of TL
- Type of input
 - Document type
 - colloquial messages
 - not domain-specific

« Part 1 »

- Functionality
 readability
 - fidelity
 - 🛛 grammar
 - punctuation

« Part 2 »

- Efficiency
 - speed
- Reliability
 - (low) crashing frequency

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« Links »

Example 2: contextual evaluation of an MT system for routing of multilingual patents

- Functionality Task Assimilation accuracy **Document routing** terminological correctness readability User style Specialist Amount of linguistic Knowledge of TL resources size/type of dictionaries Type of input Doc. type Maintainability patent-related doc. Changeability Author type Ease of dictionary updating domain specialist « Part 1 » « Links » « Part 2 »
 - UNIVERSITY of Geneva



Overview of entire evaluation process: based on ISO/IEC + role of FEMTI (1/2)

- 1. Preliminary considerations [FEMTI 1.1]
 - objective of evaluation
 - □ stakeholders do they all have the same objective?
 - object of evaluation how is it accessible?
- 2. Define the context of use of the system [FEMTI 1.2-1.4]
 - what are the tasks the system is aimed for?
 - who are its potential users?
 - which types of texts will have to be translated?
- 3. Define the required quality characteristics [FEMTI 2]
 - □ i.e., the quality models resulting from (1) and (2)
 - list quality characteristics with their relative importance
 - possibly decomposed into elementary characteristics





Overview of entire evaluation process: based on ISO/IEC + role of FEMTI (2/2)

- 4. Specification of the evaluation [FEMTI 1+2]
 - decompose all qualities into elementary ones (attributes)
 - select metrics for each attribute
 - define assessment criteria for each metric: how will the measured value be transformed into a score? what are the acceptable values? how will the scores be aggregated?
- 5. Design of the evaluation
 - write *evaluation plan*: summarize previous points, state how metrics will be applied [FEMTI 2 + literature], assign responsibility to persons
- 6. Execution of the evaluation
 - follow the evaluation plan, then write preliminary version of evaluation report
- 7. Conclusion
 - formulate results in response to evaluation objectives
 - write final version of report





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Requirements for a support tool

- Help evaluators characterize the intended context of use as a set of features
 - list known context characteristics
- Help evaluators define a quality model for evaluation
 - list known quality characteristics, attributes and metrics
 - depending on the selected context characteristics, suggest relevant quality characteristics
- Generate a summary of context and quality model





How are the relevant quality characteristics computed from context characteristics?

- FEMTI stores an a priori list of relevant quality characteristics for each context characteristic
 GCQM = generic contextual quality model
- When an evaluator selects a list of context characteristics, all the relevant quality characteristics are combined and ranked
 - → FEMTI proposes a quality model, to be adapted by evaluators





How is the GCQM constructed?

Expert interface

- allows experts to build and view individual GCQMs
- experts indicate for each context characteristic what are the most relevant quality characteristics
- The global FEMTI GCQM
 synthesis of individual GCQMs





Generic Contextual Quality Model (GCM)

- Defined as matrix of weights for each couple (CC_i, QC_j)
 - Initially set with equal weights, no dependency between context characteristics
 - Ex. Translation task / MT user







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Recent developments of FEMTI

- «Quality models and resources for the evaluation of MT»
 - Swiss National Science Foundation Project (2004 2006)
 - Continued 2006-2008
- Converting FEMTI guidelines into a tool
 - Automatic linking between contexts and metrics
 - □ Flexible implementation: XML \rightarrow HTML, PDF, RTF
 - Continuous development not affecting online service
 - Dynamic (vs. static) generation of documents
 - Experts' interface
 - Create links between Part I and Part II
 - Put weights on the links (relevance: high, medium, low, n/a)





Developments of FEMTI (2/2)







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Using FEMTI as evaluator

Content accessible though pop-up windows










Using FEMTI as evaluator

Content accessible though pop-up windows

Part I: context characteristics

Define context of use











Using FEMTI as evaluator

- Content accessible though pop-up windows
- First define context of use
 - Part I context characteristics
- Select relevant aspects of quality
 - Part II: quality characteristics
 - Relevant QC from GCQM highlighted
 - Select metrics to apply











Using FEMTI as evaluator

- Content accessible though pop-up windows
- First define context of use
 - Part I context characteristics
- Select relevant aspects of quality
 - Part II: quality characteristics
 - Relevant QC from GCQM highlighted
 - Select metrics to apply
- Save evaluation plan











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Evaluation experts: access & modify GCQMs

- Used to suggest relevant QC given a context of use
- Expert interface
 - allow experts to build and view individual GCQMs
 - experts indicate for each context characteristic what are the most relevant quality characteristics
- Merge several GCQMs
 generate the global FEMTI GCQM





Using FEMTI as expert

- Similar interface as before
 Experts work on 1 CC at time
- First select 1 context characteristic to work on





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| [Printable version][References][Comments] | |
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Using FEMTI as expert

- Similar interface as before
 Experts work on 1 CC at time
- First select 1 context characteristic to work on
- Create links to QC
 - by selecting them in Part II
 - If possible, indicate relevance of the link





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Using FEMTI as expert

- Similar interface as before
 Experts work on 1 CC at time
- First select 1 context characteristic to work on
- Create links to QC
 by selecting them in Part II
 If possible, indicate relevance of the link

Save/view GCQM





🥮 GCQM - Mozilla Firefox

<u>File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help</u>

Generic contextual quality model

Columns: context of use characteristics Rows: quality characteristics

| | Assimilation | Document routing or sorting | Information extraction or summarization | Search | Dissemination | Internal or in-house dissemination | Routine internal dissemination | Experimental internal dissemination | External dissemination-export-publication | Single cli external disseminal |
|--|--------------|---|---|--------|---------------|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| Accuracy | | | | | | | | High | | ~ |
| Terminology | | (<mark> </mark> |]] | | | | | Medium | | |
| Fidelity - correctness - precision | High | | | | | | | Medium | | |
| Well-formedness | | | | | | | | | | |
| Morphology | | | | | | | | | | |
| Punctuation errors | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lexis - Lexical choice | | | | | | | | | | |
| Grammar - Syntax | | | | | | | | | | |
| Consistency | | | | | <u>.</u> | | | | | |
| Interoperability | | |]] | | | | |]] | | |
| Functionality compliance | | | | | | | | | | |
| Security | | | | | | | | | | |
| Reliability | Medium | | | | | | | | | |
| Maturity | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fault tolerance | Medium | | | | | | |)] | | |
| Crashing frequency | | | | | | | | | | |
| Recoverability | | | | | | | | | | ~ |





Future work on FEMTI

- Keep refining both taxonomies
 - refine contexts of use
 - refine qualities and metrics
- Better management of weights for a quality model
 - change the selection mode of characteristics
 - current: binary
 - future: 'essential', 'important', 'not important'
- Poll experts for the two taxonomies
- Poll experts for individual GCQMs
- Best method to integrate several GCQMs





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Outline of the exercise (1/3)

Objective

- define a contextualized evaluation plan for an MT system
- compare the plans defined by various groups
- improve the current Generic Contextual Quality Model
- 1. Select one of the two scenarios of use outlined below for the MT system under evaluation
 - options: (a) focus the entire group on only one scenario;
 (b) enrich the selected scenario with additional specifications of the intended use; (c) propose your own scenarios of use





Outline of the exercise (2/3)

- 2. What context characteristics are relevant? Which are the most *vs*. least important?
 - select from the list of characteristics of the context of use (FEMTI Part I) the ones that best describe the intended context of use of the MT system under evaluation
- 3. What quality characteristics correspond to each of the system characteristics you have picked out? What is their relative importance?
 - Based on the context characteristics, on your own experience of MT systems, and on the indications available in FEMTI for these characteristics, proceed to select (from FEMTI Part II) a list of relevant quality characteristics that the MT system under evaluation should possess.





Outline of the exercise (3/3)

- Indicate for each characteristic of the context, which qualities from the list (FEMTI Part II) are important for an MT system that will be used in that context; you can also quantify the importance on a 3-point scale (3: very important; 2: important, 1: nice to have)
 - Use the numbers of the characteristics (rather than names) to refer to them on the form.
- The final list of quality characteristics constitutes the contextualized quality model to be used for evaluation
- 4. When you have finished defining your contextualized quality model, please hand your form to the presenters, who will synthesize the results in preparation for a general discussion.





Conclusion

- FEMTI in its current state is useful, but ...
 - Content still needs work
- Feedback is needed
 - To improve FEMTI's content in three directions
 - Improve taxonomies and GCQMs
 - Diversify contexts of use based on MT case studies
 - Questionnaire at <u>http://www.issco.unige.ch/mt-use/</u>
 - Integrate general/specific suggestions
 - Using FEMTI's integrated comments mechanism

http://www.issco.unige.ch/femti/





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