

Introduction

The main purpose of the workshop is to discuss recent results in word sense disambiguation (WSD), with reference to SENSEVAL-2. The second purpose is to begin planning SENSEVAL-3, the next evaluation exercise for WSD systems.

SENSEVAL-2, held 5-6 July 2001 in conjunction with ACL-01, unveiled the results of over 90 systems submitted by 35 teams to tasks in 10 different languages. At the time, it was not possible to do any in-depth analysis, so it was agreed to organize a follow-up workshop in 2002 after sufficient analysis could be done.

The result is this one-day workshop dedicated to “*Word Sense Disambiguation: Recent Successes and Future Directions*”, with 17 regular papers accepted for presentation. This includes 4 papers to be presented in a special session on preposition semantics.

The quality of the submissions was remarkably high. The wide range of problems addressed in these papers is encouraging, including in-depth analyses of systems participating in SENSEVAL-2, improvements and new approaches, comparative results, proposals for application-based evaluations and for new tasks to be undertaken during SENSEVAL-3. The workshop culminates in a session to start planning SENSEVAL-3. The central question is: Can we, and should we, move towards a more-real application scenario? Panelists will present positions on the aim and scope of SENSEVAL-3.

We believe that this mixture of interesting approaches, results, and discussion will provide a better insight into the *recent successes* in Word Sense Disambiguation, and will help create a roadmap for *future R&D* in this field.

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on behalf of the workshop organizers