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Deadline extended
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The Fourth Linguistic Annotation Workshop (LAW IV)

Held in conjunction with ACL-2010
Uppsala, Sweden
15-16 July 2010

http://www.cs.brandeis.edu/~clp/LAW4

Linguistic annotation of natural language corpora is the backbone of supervised methods of statistical natural language processing. The Fourth LAW will provide a forum for presentation and discussion of innovative research on all aspects of linguistic annotation, including creation/evaluation of annotation schemes, methods for automatic and manual annotation, use and evaluation of annotation software and frameworks, representation of linguistic data and annotations, etc. As in the past, the LAW will provide a forum for annotation researchers to work towards standardization, best practices, and interoperability of annotation information and software. Specifically, the goals of this workshop include:

(1) The exchange and propagation of research results with respect to the annotation, manipulation and exploitation of corpora, taking into account different applications and theoretical investigations in the field of language technology and research;

(2) Working towards the harmonization and interoperability from the perspective of the increasingly large number of tools and frameworks that support the creation, instantiation, manipulation, querying, and exploitation of annotated resources;

(3) Working towards a consensus on all issues crucial to the advancement of the field of corpus annotation.

We invite submissions of long and posters, and demonstrations relating to any aspect of the linguistic annotation. Long papers should reflect work in an advanced state, but posters may describe more preliminary work and pilot studies. Posters and proposals for a system demonstration are to be submitted in the form of a short paper. A demonstration proposal should provide an overview of the system to be demonstrated, including functionality, supported input/output formats or structures, supported languages and modalities, etc. Accepted proposals will also appear in the proceedings and are intended to provide background for the demonstration. Papers are invited to address issues in all aspects of linguistic

annotation, including but not limited to:

Annotation schemes:

- New and innovative annotation schemes
- Comparison of annotation schemes

Annotation procedures:

- Innovative automated and manual strategies for annotation
- Creation, maintenance, and interactive exploration of annotation structures and annotated data

Annotation software and frameworks:

- Machine learning and knowledge-based methods for automation of corpus annotation
- Development, evaluation and/or innovative use of annotation software frameworks

Annotation evaluation:

- Inter-annotator agreement and other evaluation metrics and strategies
- Qualitative evaluation of linguistic representation

Annotation access and use:

- Representation formats/structures for merged annotations of different phenomena, and means to explore/manipulate them
- Linguistic considerations for merging annotations of distinct phenomena

Annotation guidelines and standards:

- Best practices for annotation procedures and/or development and documentation of annotation schemes
- Interoperability of annotation formats and/or frameworks among different systems as well as different tasks, frameworks, modalities, and languages

The special themes for LAW IV are:

- Demands on annotation for machine-learning purposes, such as the size and composition of annotated corpora, the granularity of the linguistic categories that are amenable to supervised machine learning
- Annotation of text transcripts of informal modalities: spoken language, blogs, correspondence, etc.
- Annotation of figurative language (metaphor, metonymy, etc.)

Submissions

Long paper submissions are limited 8 pages in length plus references. Posters and demo descriptions are limited to 4 pages plus references. Format requirements are the same as for full papers of ACL 2010. See http://acl2010.org/authors.html for style files. Submission will be electronic, using the Workshop's submission webpage at START: https://www.softconf.com/acl2010/LAW/

Please indicate on the front page:
- long paper, poster, or demonstration proposal;
- all applicable paper categories from the following list (indicate
   multiple categories if appropriate): annotation frameworks and/or
   physical formats, annotation scheme design (on linguistic grounds),
   annotation tools and systems, corpus annotation, syntax, semantics,
   predicate-argument structure, morphology, anaphora, discourse,
   opinion/sentiment;
- language(s) your work applies to, as well and those you plan to
   handle in the future. If your work is language independent, indicate
   this as well;
- any non-standard equipment needed for your paper or demonstration.

All papers must be written and presented in English.

Reviewing

The reviewing of the papers will be blind. The paper should not include the authors' names and affiliations. Furthermore, self-citations and other references (e.g. to projects, corpora, or software) that could reveal the author's identity should be avoided. For example, instead of "We previously showed (Smith, 1991) ...", write "Smith previously showed (Smith, 1991) ...".

Important Dates

Papers due: April 10, 2010
Acceptance/rejection notification: May 9, 2010
Camera-ready final version due: May 16, 2010
Workshop Dates: July 15-16, 2010

Organizers

Nancy Ide (Vassar College)
Adam Meyers (New York University)

Chu-Ren Huang (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)

Antonio Pareja-Lora (SIC, UCM / OEG, UPM)
Sameer Pradhan (BBN Technologies)
Nianwen Xue (Brandeis University)

Program Committee co-chairs:

Nianwen Xue (Brandeis University)
Massimo Poesio (University of Trento)

Program committee Members:

Nicoletta Calzolari   (ILC/CNR)
Steve Cassidy   (Macquarie University)
Tomaz Erjavec   (Josef Stefan Institute)
Katrin Erk   (University of Texas at Austin)
Alex Chengyu Fang   (City University of Hong Kong)
Chu-Ren Huang   (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)
Nancy Ide   (Vassar College)
Richard Johansson   (University of Trento)
Aravind Joshi   (University of Pennsylvania)
Sandra Kubler   (Indianda University)
Seth Kulick   (University of Pennsylvania)
Adam Meyers   (New York University)
Eleni Miltsakaki (University of Pennsylvania)
Antonio Pareja-Lora   (SIC, UCM / OEG, UPM)
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Theresa Wilson   (University of Edinburgh)
Andreas Witt   (Universität Tübingen)