Medical Machine Translation Workshop

Overview

Dates: 4, 5 December
Venue: UCT, room CS LT220 in the Computer Science Building (map:
https://www.cs.uct.ac.za/contact)
Purpose:
- To build research ties between computational linguistics researchers at the University of Edinburgh and research community connected to the University of Cape Town. The immediate goals are to
    - learn more from each other in the interdisciplinary area of the MeMaT project (i.e., computer science, linguistics, health care) and
    - to pursue future funding applications linked to the Global Challenges Research Fund lead by the UK's EPSRC research council, or other sources of funding.
- To plan deployment and evaluation of English-Xhosa translation app amongst doctors at the Gugulethu Health Centre.
- Aligning requirements and current research and tooling in CL/HLT/NLP between stakeholders.

Slides: http://www.meteck.org/files/MeMaT17/

Schedule

4 December

0900-0915 Welcome and Introductions (Keet)
0915-1000 Overview of Machine Translation (UEdin)
1000-1030 Medical Machine Translation Project (UEdin)
1030-1100 Coffee
1100-1230 NLP for isiXhosa and isiZulu (overview of ongoing work at UCT--part 1)
- Natural Language generation with Nguni languages (Keet)
- isiZulu and isiXhosa spellcheckers (Keet)
1230-1400 Lunch
1400-1500 Language barriers in medical practice in Cape Town and the Mobile Xhosa Project (Moolla)
1500-1515 Speech (Kamper)
1515-1600 Challenges and strategies for CL/NLP/HLTs for under-resourced languages, and discussion

5 December

0900-1000 Overview of isiXhosa Linguistics (Motinyane-Masoko/Jama)
1000-1045 NLP for isiXhosa and isiZulu (overview of ongoing work at UCT--part 2)
- African Language Information Retrieval (Suleman)

1045-1115 Coffee
1115-1145 Planning app development and evaluation, deployment and accessibility
1145-1245 Brainstorming and planning future collaborations:
- Corpus creation and tool creation for South African languages
- Applications of translation and possibly speech technology in RSA
- Student/staff exchanges
- Proposals
- Current problems and gaps to fill

1245-1300 Wrap up
1300-1400 Lunch

Participants

Confirmed
Lexi Birch, senior researcher (University of Edinburgh)
Kenneth Heafield, lecturer (University of Edinburgh)
Proyag Pal, researcher (University of Edinburgh)
Maria Keet, senior lecturer (University of Cape Town)
Zola Mahlaza, MSc student (University of Cape Town)
Langa Khumalo, senior lecturer (University of KwaZulu-Natal)
Blessing Ojeme, PhD student (University of Cape Town)
Joan Byamugisha, PhD student (University of Cape Town)
Saadiq Moolla, medical doctor (Tygerberg Hospital, Mobile Translate MD)
Mohohlo Tsoeu, senior lecturer (University of Cape Town, Engineering); 4th only
Herman Kamper, lecturer (University of Stellenbosch)
Norman Pilusa, CS Honours student (University of Cape Town)
Zukile Jama (University of the Western Cape, Linguistics)
Mantoa Motinyane-Masoko (University of Cape Town, Linguistics); 5th only
Aslam Safla, lecturer (University of Cape Town)
Nthabiseng Mashiane, Honours student (University of Cape Town)
Wanjiru Mburu, PhD student (University of Cape Town)
Hussein Suleman, associate professor (University of Cape Town); 5th

More TBA

<u>Tentative</u>
More TBA

<u>Invited</u>
Derek Hellenberg (University of Cape Town, Health Sciences)
Mbulungeni Madiba (University of Cape Town, CHED)
Digital Libraries group members (University of Cape Town, CompSci)
Siseko Neti, CS Honours student (University of Cape Town)
Jennie Morgan (Gugulethu CHC)
More TBA