Evaluating Modified-BLEU Metric for English to Hindi Language Using ManTra Machine Translation Engine

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Abstract: Evaluation of MT is required for Indian languages because the same MT is not works in Indian language as in European languages due to the language structure. So, there is a great need to develop appropriate evaluation metric for the Indian language MT. The main objective of MT is to break the language barrier in a multilingual nation like India. The present research work aims at studying the Evaluation of Machine Translation Evaluation’s Modified-BLEU Metric for English to Hindi for tourism domain. This work will help to give the feedback of the MT engines. We may make the changes in the MT engines and further we may revise the study.


INTRODUCTION

Indian languages are highly inflectional, with a rich morphology, relatively free word order, and default sentence structure as Subject-Object-Verb. In addition, there are many stylistic differences. So the evaluation of MT is required for Indian languages because the same MT is not works in Indian language as in European languages. The same tools are not used directly because of the language structure. So, there is a great need to develop appropriate evaluation metric for the Indian language MT.

English is understood by less than 3% of Indian population. Hindi, which is official language of the country, is used by more than 400 million people. MT assumes a much greater significance in breaking the language barrier within the country’s sociological structure. The main objective of MT is to break the language barrier in a multilingual nation like India. English is a highly positional language with rudimentary morphology, and default sentence structure as Subject-Verb-Object. The present research work aims at studying the “Evaluation of Machine Translation Evaluation’s Modified-BLEU Metric for English to Hindi” for tourism domain. The present research work is the study of statistical evaluation of machine translation evaluation for English to Hindi. The research aims to study the correlation between automatic and human assessment of MT quality for English to Hindi. The main goal of our experiment is to determine how well a variety of automatic evaluation metric correlated with human judgment.

In the present work we propose to work with corpora in the tourism domain and limit the study to English – Hindi language pair. It may be assumed that the inferences drawn from the results will be largely applicable to translation for English to other Indian Languages. Our test data consisted of a set of English sentences that have been translated from expert and non-expert translators. The English source sentences were randomly selected from the corpus of tourism domain. These sentences are taken randomly from the different resources like websites, pamphlets etc. Each output sentence was score by Hindi speaking human evaluators who were also familiar with English. It may be assumed that the inferences drawn from the results will be largely applicable to translation for English to other Indian Languages, as assumption which will have to be tested for validity. We used ManTra MT engine for this work.

ManTra: C-DAC Pune has developed a translation system called ManTra. The work in ManTra has to be viewed in its potentiality of translating the bulk of texts produced in daily official activities. The system is facilitated with pre-processing and post-processing tools, which enables the user to overcome the problems/errors with minimum effort.

OBJECTIVE

The main goal of this work is to determine how well a variety of automatic evaluation metrics correlated with human scores. The other specific objectives of the present work are as follows.

1. To design and develop the parallel corpora for deployment in automatic evaluation of English to Hindi machine translation systems.
2. Assessing how good the existing automatic evaluation metrics Modified-BLEU, will be as MT evaluating strategy for evaluation of Indian language machine translation systems by comparing the results obtained.
by this with human evaluator’s scores by correlation study.

3. To study the statistical significance of the evaluation results as above, in particular the effect of-
   - size of corpus
   - sample size variations
   - increase in number of reference translations

Creation of parallel corpora: Corpus quality plays a significant role in automatic evaluation. Automatic metrics can be expected to correlate very highly with human judgments only if the reference texts used are of high quality, or rather, can be expected to be judged high quality by the human evaluators. The procedure for creation of parallel corpora is as under:

1. Collect English corpus from the domain from various resources.
2. Generate multiple references (we limit it to three) for each sentence by getting the source sentence translated by different expert translators.
3. XMLise the source and translated references for use in Automatic evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain</th>
<th>Source Language</th>
<th>Target Language</th>
<th>No. of Sentences</th>
<th>No. of Human Translation</th>
<th>Name of MT Engine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tourism</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mantra</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the corpus collection our first motive was to collect as possible to get better translation quality and a wide range vocabulary. For this purpose the first corpus we selected to use in our study is collected from different sources. We have manually aligned the sentence pairs.

In our study for tourism domain we take 1000 sentences. When the text has been collected, we distributed this collected text in the form of Word File. Each word files having the 100 sentences of the particular domain. In this work our calculation will be based on four files- source file and three reference files. Reference files are translated by the language experts. We give the file a different identification. For e.g. our first file name is Tr_0001_En where Tr_ for tourism 0001 means this is the first file and En means this is the Candidate file. We treat this as the candidate file. In the same way our identification for the Hindi File is Tr_0001_Hi, in this Hi is for the Hindi file and we have called this a reference file. As we already mention that we are taking the three references we named them reference 1(R1), reference 2(R2), reference 3(R3). In the study we take the candidate sentence and the reference sentences, as shown below. For e.g.

Source Sentence: Known for their fine architecture, elegant speech and intellectual pursuits, they were the ancestors of the famous Aztecs.

Candidate Sentence: प्रसिद्ध के लिए उनका अनुकूल अवस्थापन और वृद्धि जीवित आत्मनर्तक का पूर्वज का अहंकार तथा सुंदर भाषण और संगीत अनुसूची के लिए जाने जाने वाले, प्रसिद्ध एजटेक्स के पूर्वज थे।

Reference Sentences:
R1: अपने उत्कृष्ट स्थापत्य कहा, सुंदर भाषण और वृद्धि अनुसूची के लिए जाने जाने वाले, प्रसिद्ध एजटेक्स के पूर्वज थे।
R2: अपने उत्कृष्ट स्थापत्य कहा तथा सहज भाषण तथा वृद्धि शौक के लिए जाने गये, प्रसिद्ध एजटेक्स के पूर्वज थे।
R3: वे प्रसिद्ध एजटेक्स के पूर्वज थे, उत्कृष्ट शिल्प शिष्ट वाणी और मानसिक खोज के लिए जाने जाते हैं।

HUMAN EVALUATION

Human evaluation is always best choice for the evaluation of MT but it is impractical in many cases, since it might take weeks or even months (though the results are required within days). It is also costly, due to the necessity of having a well trained personnel who is fluent in both the languages, source and targeted. While using human evaluation one should take care for maintaining objectivity. Due to these problems, interest in automatic evaluation has grown in recent years. Every sentence was assigned a grade in accordance with the following four point scale for adequacy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ideal</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acceptable</td>
<td>.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Acceptable</td>
<td>.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If a criterion does not apply to the translation</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AUTOMATIC EVALUATION BY MODIFIED-BLEU METRIC

We used Modified-BLEU evaluation metric for this study. This metric is specially designed for English to Hindi. Modified-BLEU metric, designed for evaluating MT quality, scores candidate sentences by counting the number of n-gram matches between candidate and reference sentences. Modified-BLEU metric is probably known as the best known automatic evaluation for MT. To check how close a candidate translation is to a reference translation, an n-gram comparison is done between both. Metric is designed from matching of candidate translation and reference translations. We have chosen correlation analysis to evaluate the similarity between automatic MT evaluations and human evaluation. Next, we obtain scores of evaluation of every translated sentence from both MT engines. The outputs from both MT systems were scored by human judges. We used this human scoring as the benchmark to judge the automatic evaluations. The same MT output was then evaluated using both the automatic scoring systems. The automatically scored segments were analyzed for Spearman’s Rank Correlation with the ranking defined by the categorical scores assigned by the human judges. Increases in correlation indicate that the automatic
systems are more similar to a human in ranking the MT output.

Statistical significance is an estimate of the degree, to which the true translation quality lays within a confidence interval around the measurement on the test sets. A commonly used level of reliability of the result is 95%. To reach at decision, we have to set up a hypothesis and compute p-value to get final conclusion.

The present research is the study of statistical evaluation of machine translation evaluation’s Modified-BLEU metric. The research aims to study the correlation between automatic and human assessment of MT quality for English to Hindi. While most studies report the correlation between human evaluation and automatic evaluation at corpus level, our study examines their correlation at sentence level. The focus in this work is to examine the correlation between human evaluation and automatic evaluation and its significance value, not to discuss the translation quality. In short we can say that this research is the study of statistical significance of the evaluated results, in particular the effect of sample size variations.

So, firstly we take source sentences and then get these sentences translated by our MT engine, here we consider the Anuvadaksh. We have the different references of these sentences. After doing this we do the evaluations of these sentences human as well as the automatic evaluations and we collect the individual scores of the given sentences considering all the three references one by one. The following table shows the individual scores of the five sentences (particular sentences can be seen at the end of the paper) using different no. of references.

Table 2: Human Evaluation and Modified-BLEU Evaluation scores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Human Eval.</th>
<th>Modified-BLEU Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>one no. of references</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>0.1503</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>0.4971</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.2649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.1747</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>0.1152</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In this way we also collect the individual scores of all the sample sizes like 20, 60,100,200,300,500 and 1000 sentences. After this we do the correlation analysis of these values. In order to calculate the correlation with human judgements during evaluation, we use all English-Hindi human rankings distributed during this shared evaluation task for estimating the correlation of automatic metrics to human judgements of translation quality, were used for our experiments. In our study the rank is provided at the sentence level.

For correlation analysis we calculate the correlation between human evaluation and automatic evaluations one by one by the Spearman’s Rank Correlation method. The Spearman’s rank correlation coefficient is given as (when ranks are not repeated):

$$\rho = 1 - \frac{6 \sum d^2}{n(n^2-1)}$$

where d is the difference between corresponding values in rankings and n is the length of the rankings. An automatic evaluation metric with a higher correlation value is considered to make predictions that are more similar to the human judgements than a metric with a lower value. Firstly, we calculate the correlation value in between the human evaluation and automatic evaluation Modified-BLEU metric means human evaluation with Modified-BLEU for sample size 20, 60, 100, 200, 300, 500 and 1000.

Table 3: Correlation (\(\rho\)) values

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample Size</th>
<th>one no. of references</th>
<th>two no. of references</th>
<th>three no. of references</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>.270</td>
<td>.104</td>
<td>.196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>.287</td>
<td>.245</td>
<td>.289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>.183</td>
<td>.179</td>
<td>.187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>.046</td>
<td>.008</td>
<td>.046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300</td>
<td>.050</td>
<td>.024</td>
<td>.054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>.002</td>
<td>.050</td>
<td>.056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000</td>
<td>.027</td>
<td>.053</td>
<td>.033</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

After calculating the correlation, we need to find out which type of correlation is there between the variables and of which degree and whether the values of the correlation are significant.

**ANALYSIS OF STATISTICAL SIGNIFICANCE TEST FOR HUMAN EVALUATION AND AUTOMATIC EVALUATION**

Statistical significance is an estimate of the degree, to which the true translation quality lays within a confidence interval around the measurement on the test sets. A commonly used level of reliability of the result is 95%, for e.g. if, say, 100 sentence translations are evaluated, and 30 are found correct, what can we say about the true translation quality of the system? To reach at decision, we have to set up a hypothesis and compute p-value to get final conclusion that whether there is any correlation between the human evaluations and automatic evaluations. If yes, then what is the type and degree of correlation? Also, what is the significance of the correlation value? In this work, we set the hypothesis that there is no correlation between the values of human and automatic evaluation. The p-value will provide the answer about the significance of the correlation value.

A Z-test is a statistical test for which the distribution of the test statistic under the null hypothesis can be approximated by a normal distribution. For each significance level, the Z-test has a single critical value (for example, 1.96 for 5% two
tailed) which makes it more convenient than the Student’s t-test which has separate critical values for each sample size. The test statistic is calculated as:

$$Z = \frac{x_1 - x_2}{\sqrt{\frac{s_1^2}{n_1} + \frac{s_2^2}{n_2}}}$$

where $x_1$ and $x_2$ are the sample means, $s_1^2$ and $s_2^2$ are the sample variances, $n_1$ and $n_2$ are the sample sizes and $z$ is a quartile from the standard normal distribution.

Table 4: p-values of output of Anuvadaksh using different number of references

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample Size</th>
<th>p-values</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>one no. of reference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>0.0001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>0.0001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>0.0001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>0.0183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300</td>
<td>0.0262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>0.0314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000</td>
<td>0.0322</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now on the basis of these values we conclude our results like which type and degree of correlation is there between the given variables and whether the correlation results are significant. In the above example we have done all the calculations by considering the single reference sentence and in tourism domain using 5 numbers of sentences.

But in our research work we consider the different references like 1, 2, 3 and we use the different sample sizes like 20, 60, 100, 200, 300, 500, and 1000. We see whether the results remains uniform for different sample sizes and different number of references in particular domains.

For above calculation we used following sentences:

English Sentences:
1. The other factor on Cortes side was the lucky coincidence that 1519 was the exact year when legend had it that the Aztec god, Quetzalcoatl, would return from the east and so Cortes was mistaken for a god.
2. Mexico City has a peculiar charm, possessing Mexico in microcosm: pollution and poverty intermingled with streets named after philosophers.
3. For those who love sailing, yachting and windsurfing, there are facilities in Goa as well as at Kovalam beach in Kerala.
4. Traverse the lonely stretches of the That Desert, like the travelers of old.
5. Boparaais organization is situated on Chandigarh Shimla highway.

Candidate Sentences (translated by ManTra):

| English Sentences |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. The other factor on Cortes side was the lucky coincidence that 1519 was the exact year when legend had it that the Aztec god, Quetzalcoatl, would return from the east and so Cortes was mistaken for a god. |
| 2. Mexico City has a peculiar charm, possessing Mexico in microcosm: pollution and poverty intermingled with streets named after philosophers. |
| 3. For those who love sailing, yachting and windsurfing, there are facilities in Goa as well as at Kovalam beach in Kerala. |
| 4. Traverse the lonely stretches of the That Desert, like the travelers of old. |
| 5. Boparaais organization is situated on Chandigarh Shimla highway. |

In the domain tourism there is significance difference between the average evaluation score of human with Modified-BLEU at 5% level of significance and this is for sample sizes 20, 60 and 100.

In Table 2 (Correlation (r) values) correlation value for Modified-BLEU is .046 and .050 these values are for sample size 200 and 300 for three and tone number of references which is insignificant at 5% level of significance and same result are seen for the sample sizes 500 and 1000.

I. CONCLUSION

Corpus quality plays a significant role in automatic evaluation. This work will help to give the feedback of the MT engines. In this way we may make the changes in the MT engines and further we may revise the study.

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Seminar and Conference Attended/Organized: 12