

C SC 620
Advanced Topics in Natural
Language Processing

Lecture 25

5/4

Administrivia

- Next Semester
 - **LING 438/538**
 - The official graduate computational linguistics course
 - Not a seminar series: wide range of topics
 - Hands-on computer lab homeworks
 - See LING 388 homepage and on-line notes for examples
 - **LING 478/578 Speech Technology**
 - Main topics: speech synthesis, automatic speech recognition
 - Prerequisite: either a phonetics course (e.g. Ling. 314, 515) or good programming skills.
 - Counts as an elective for the Computer Science minor.
 - Oriented toward skills for work in the speech tech. industry.
 - It's fun! (Really, I promise.) [Nastasha Warner]

MT Summit IX

- Year is 2003
- Online proceedings at
 - <http://www.amtaweb.org/summit/MTSummit/papers.html>

MT Summit IX

- Two parts
 - Panel Discussion
 - **Have we found the Holy Grail?**
 - At the TMI-92 Conference in Montreal, Robert Mercer, one of the leading researchers on the IBM Candide project, provocatively asserted that “rationalist methods in MT will be on the scrapheap five years from now.”
 - Although Candide performed surprisingly well in the DARPA competition organized in the mid 1990’s, it did not actually surpass SYSTRAN.
 - At this year’s NIST competition, on the other hand, statistical MT (SMT) systems similar to Candide did outperform all the participating commercial off-the-shelf systems, according to the NIST score.
 - Paper
 - **J. Hutchins:** *Has machine translation improved? Some historical comparisons.*

Have we found the Holy Grail?

- Panel Questions
 - http://www.amtaweb.org/summit/MTSummit/FinalPapers/MTSummit_Sept2003.ppt
- Panel Slides (Some)
 - Hermann Ney
 - http://www.amtaweb.org/summit/MTSummit/FinalPapers/MT_Summit_Panel_18Sep03.pdf
 - Steve Richardson
 - <http://www.amtaweb.org/summit/MTSummit/FinalPapers/MTSummit2003Panel.ppt>
 - Eduard Hovy
 - <http://www.amtaweb.org/summit/MTSummit/FinalPapers/panel-hovy.pdf>

Has Machine Translation Improved?

- **J. Hutchins:** *Has machine translation improved? Some historical comparisons.*
 - <http://www.amtaweb.org/summit/MTSummit/FinalPapers/12-Hutchins-final.pdf>
 - Examples
 - Russian to English
 - French to English
 - German to English