Multilingual Information Access

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This tutorial will address the application of techniques at the intersection of computational linguistics and information retrieval to help users search multilingual collections. The tutorial will draw from several perspectives, examining the contributions of the computational linguistics and information retrieval communities to cross-language information retrieval, and augmenting that with a discussion of related issues from machine translation, text summarization and human-computer interaction. Alternative techniques for each key component will be explained and illustrated using working systems and reported experimental results. Evaluation issues, best present practice, and open research questions will be highlighted throughout the tutorial. The worldwide series of cross-language information retrieval evaluation venues will also be introduced, with particular attention to evaluations that focus on Asian languages. The tutorial will conclude with an assessment of the prospects for adoption of this technology for Internet searching, commercial information retrieval systems, and special-purpose applications.

[The tutorial will be joint between ACL and IRAL'2000, the 5th International Workshop on Information Retrieval with Asian Languages]