

## Exploiting the World Wide Web for MT Teaching

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Looked at:

A) What is currently available:

- reference material
- software tools
- course material

B) Ways of improving:

- access to resources for MT teaching
- content of resources for MT teaching

### **WWW increasingly first port of call for seeking information**

#### **Advantages:**

- fast, easy access to reference material that may otherwise be difficult to obtain
- distance no object – makes access available to a wider range of students
- access usually free

#### **Disadvantages:**

- resource discovery sometimes difficult
- quality of material not always guaranteed
- skill required in writing/using online material

### **MT teaching for whom?**

- Computational linguists
  - Translating/interpreting students/practitioners
  - Interested public
  - Other computing personnel, e.g. I.R. researchers/developers
- Number and type of person interested in learning about MT set to increase as MT becomes more accessible
  - Different users have different needs

#### **Methods of Resource Discovery**

- search engines (e.g. Altavista)
- directories (e.g. Yahoo)
- subject gateways (e.g. Sosis)
- organisational homepages (inc. academic departments)
- home pages of known experts
- project home pages
- publishers' home pages

#### **Locating Resources:**

**EAMT** and sister organisations

**ACL** (Association of Computational Linguistics)

**ELSNET** (European Network for Language and Speech)

**HLT** (Human Language technology) gateway

**Natural Language Translation Group**, British Computer Society

**Human Language Page**

**Linguist List**

#### **Reference material**

•books:

—Cole et al.: Survey of the State of the Art in HLT

—Arnold et al.: MT: An Introductory Guide

•Scholarly articles

•Popular articles

•Conference Proceedings

•Phd Theses

#### **Software Tools**

•MAT (Machine Aided Translation) tools include:

—dictionaries

—terminologies

—thesauri

—concordancers (e.g. Tsralli)

•MT

—commercial

—research

•Other NLP tools (e.g. parsers, etc.)

#### **Other teaching materials**

•most difficult category to research

•Some initiatives:

—JEWELS project: has searchable database on H.E. curricula for language and speech, including NLP

—information available on producing web-based materials

e.g. Lee et al.: Online teaching: Tools and Projects

#### **Improving Resource Creation, Management and Exploitation**

Problem common to all academic disciplines

Some initiatives:

•**ELRA**: European Language Resources Association

•**ACL/EACL 2001 Workshop** on Sharing Tools and Resources

•**DNER** (Distributed National Electronic Resource), part of JISC (Joint Information Systems Committee) in UK.

#### **DNER**

2 components:

- the underlying information environment: how to find, access and disseminate quality information resources for Higher and Further Education

- a collection of information resources of particular value to the research and education community

Resource discovery served by

- **RDN Training suite**:

a suite of teach yourself tutorials delivered over the web for students and researchers who want to improve their internet skills and learn what the internet offers in their subject discipline

- the notion of subject gateways

select/describe/develop resource collection

**An MT Gateway**

should:

- allow browsing and searching of material
- search should be on the basis of different criteria  
(e.g. type/level of material)
- multilingual resources and interface
- Content?

—Users need to be consulted

—more “classical” papers

—up to date conference proceedings