

ELRA Workshop on Human Language Technology Evaluation

Celebrating ELRA's 10th anniversary,

1995 - 2005

workshop dedicated to

Human Language Technology (HLT) Evaluation

Malta, December 1st and 2nd 2005.

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Presentation Outline

- Quick presentation of ELRA (European Language Resources Association)
- Introduction to the workshop
 - Why organize this workshop?
 - Structure
 - Expectations and Objectives (short & long term)

European Language Resource Association

An Improved infrastructure for Data sharing & HLT evaluation



(1) An Association of users of Language Resources

⇒ **A Repository Center:**

⇒ **Technical & Logistic issues**

⇒ **Commercial issues (prices, fees, royalties)**

⇒ **Legal issues (Licensing, IPR)**

⇒ **Information Dissemination**

(2) Infrastructure for the evaluation of Human Language Technologies
providing resources, tools, methodologies, logistics,
Exit strategies / Capitalization on evaluation packages

ELRA: An efficient infrastructure to serve the HLT Community

5 years of establishment



- **1994-1995 RELATOR** a European-wide consortium with the support of the European Commission, striving to establish a **European repository of linguistic resources**.
- **1995** Set up of the European Language Resources Association (**ELRA**) as an Archiving House, set up of a Distribution Agency (**ELDA**)
- **1996** Our first “List” of identified Language Resources followed by a first Catalogue
- **1997** Negotiation of Distribution rights, Start of Distribution activities, R&D projects on issues related to LRs (co-funded EU, French agencies, etc.)
- **1998** 1st LREC,
Introduction of the BLARK Concept (with ELSNET), Later on ELARK
Production & commissioning the production of LRs (Internal & network of production units)
Market Analysis , Technologies-State of the Art
Evaluation Activities (Else project Jan’98), Integration of ASR & MT (Systran & Dragon), TTS
- **1999** Strong focus on Production (**SpeechDat** family, LRs-P&P, **SpeeCon**, etc.),
Validation of LRs and LRs quality assessment, Set up of validation units, Bug reporting & Correction patches

ELRA: An efficient infrastructure to serve the HLT Community

5 years of consolidation



- **2000- The European HLT landscape – HLT benchmark (HLT players Directory - EUROMAP)**
Start of an active partnership with LDC: Coordination of legal & production issues
Launch of EVALUATION Campaigns (Amaryllis, Aurora, ...)
- **2001- Launch of CLEF : Cross-Lingual Evaluation Forum**
Identification of New types of Resources **Multimodal Resources** (Isle project)
HLT & LRs **roadmaps**, survey of existing national activities,
- **2003- Evaluation projects: Technolangue, CHIL, TC-STAR, Over 20 technology components**
LangTech2003 (Paris),
Boost of networking actions/Partnership Europe Mediterranean countries (**NEMLAR**)
Meta-Data for LRs cataloguing (**Intera**)
- **2004- Universal Catalogue**
- **2005 HLT Portal: Information, evaluation packages, evaluation services**
LRs Unification Project

2005- Extension of ELRA's official mission to promote LRs and evaluation for the Human Language Technology (HLT):

The mission of the Association is to promote language resources (henceforth LRs) and evaluation for the Human Language Technology (HLT) sector in all their forms and all their uses;

=> to coordinate and carry out identification, production, validation, distribution, standardization of LRs, as well as support for evaluation of systems, products, tools, etc. - related to language resources. Other resources will be considered as well if developments of the field make this desirable: e.g. multimedia resources both with and without language.

Introduction to the workshop

➤ **Why organise this workshop?**

➤ **Program**

➤ **Structure**

➤ **Expectations and Objectives**

(short & long term)

Why organise this workshop?

- ELRA's mission!
- Growing interest in evaluation
- Growing interest in evaluation methodologies
- Growing understanding of what it takes to do evaluation properly
 - Technology evaluation/Usage evaluation
 - Competitions/methodologies
- Time to join forces

- Presentation by the European Commission
- Malta
- General presentations on evaluation methodologies and approaches
- Evaluation principles for various types of technologies (not technology evaluation)

- Evaluation types and purposes
- Evaluation initiatives
- LR for evaluation
- Closing panel – future actions
- Close at 16.00

Workshop Structure

- For each Theme: introduction by a speaker
- Debate & Discussion launched by a discussant or the Audience
- Collection of a number of Key “ideas”/”topics” for the wrap up session and future recommendations

Expectations and Objectives

- Clarify what is being done vs. what should be done
- Identify Potential synergies between technologies & areas
- Recommend Critical technologies and areas for evaluation ...
- Support for “Less lucrative technologies” & “Less lucrative languages”
- Promote “Evaluation packages” as part of any “Blark” development
- Establish future collaboration

Objectives cont.

Have fun and promote our field!

Practical aspects of the two days

- **Day 1:**
 - **Coffee breaks**
 - **Lunch**
 - **Gala Dinner** (Please confirm and fill your menu choice on the list)

- **Day 2**
 - **Coffee Break**
 - **Lunch**
 - **Dinner** (Please confirm)