

Report on visit to Pisa

10/6-13/6 2013

Walter Daelemans (University of Antwerp)

The meeting lasted 2 full days, with travel the day before and after the meeting. Present were Vito Pirelli, host Marcello Ferro, Claudia Marzi, Walter Daelemans and Emmanuel Keuleers.

Purpose of the visit.

Initiate cooperate research in computational psycholinguistics, mores specifically child language acquisition among the research groups in Pisa, Antwerp, and Ghent. As target area, language acquisition (esp. second language acquisition) was chosen. The computational modeling paradigms to be compared are TSOMs and memory-based language processing.

Description of the work carried out during the visit

Day 1 (June 11):

In depth study of the TSOM approach for lexical acquisition and processing by means of presentations, demonstrations, and discussion. Discussion of possible application areas for the joint work, available datasets and realistic goals.

Day 2 (June 12):

Discussion of memory-based language processing, and comparison with TSOMs. Discussion of the Machine Learning context. Further discussion of the details of TSOM and possible areas of evaluation, baselines to compares with, and planning of next visit and goals / milestones before this next visit.

Description of the main results obtained

Common ground among the representatives of the three labs on the possibilities and limitations of the two modeling paradigms, insight into the technical details of the methods. Clearer ideas on the type of phenomena to be modeled, how to compare with baseline methods, and where to get data. Planning for the next month.

Future collaboration with host institution

Next meeting planned in Antwerp in July.

Projected publications / articles resulting or to result from the grant

No concrete publication plans yet.

A presentation for the Networks workshop is planned.