

MLQE-PE : A Multilingual Quality Estimation and Post-Editing Dataset

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André F. T. Martins and Lucia Specia

LREC, 2022



TL;DR

We present a multilingual dataset with sentence and word level annotations for Machine Translation (MT) Quality Estimation (QE)

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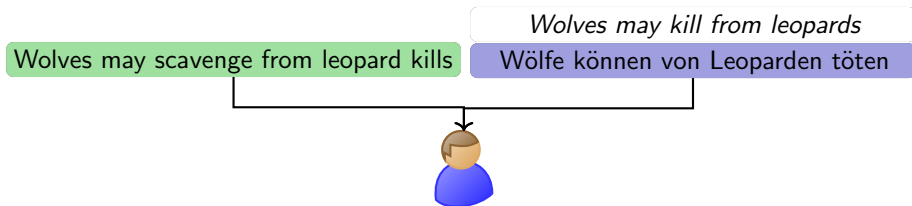
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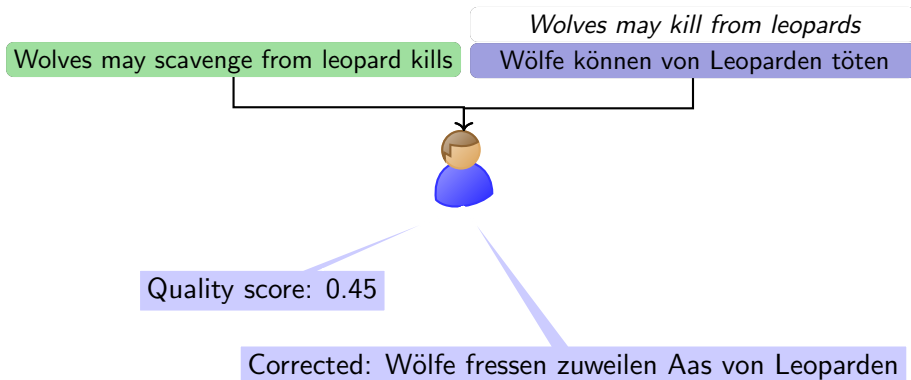
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Why Quality Estimation?

Why Quality Estimation?

Wolves may scavenge from leopard kills

source sentence

Wölfe können von Leoparden töten

Wolves may kill from leopards

MT sentence

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Wölfe fressen zuweilen Aas von Leoparden

Wolves sometimes eat carrion of leopards

human reference

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MT Evaluation



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Quality estimation

Allow for quality estimation methods **without** the need for human references

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MT sentence

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MT Evaluation

BLEU ChRF BERTScore BLEURT COMET

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Why Quality Estimation?

MT Evaluation is not always possible/desired:

- ▶ Expensive and time consuming to obtain references
- ▶ On-the-fly translation
 - ▶ Flag potentially critical errors
 - ▶ Decide which segments need human-editing
- ▶ Zero-shot applications:
 - ▶ Apply to low-resource languages
 - ▶ Adapt to domains without human references

MLQE-PE Quality Estimation Data Annotations

For each segment (source - MT sentence pair) we provide:

MLQE-PE Quality Estimation Data Annotations

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Sentence level scores:

MLQE-PE Quality Estimation Data Annotations

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 - 3 annotators per segment → mean z-score as final value
 - Scale 0-100:



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- Minimum number of edits needed to reach from the MT to the post-edited sentence
- Normalised by sentence length → 0-1 scale

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Word level scores:

- ▶ Binary OK or BAD tags
 - ▶ On the target (MT) tokens: Wrong or irrelevant tokens
 - ▶ On the target gaps (between tokens): Missing tokens
 - ▶ On the source tokens: Mistranslated or non-translated tokens

Word-level tag extraction

How do we extract OK and BAD tags from post-edited sentences?

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- ▶ Extract alignments between PE and MT, SRC
 - ▶ MT-PE $\rightarrow$ Monolingual: TERcom
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□ Wölfe □ können □ von □ Leoparden □ töten □ . □ MT

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Wölfe fressen zuweilen Aas von Leoparden .

PE

□ *Wölfe* □ *können* □ *von* □ *Leoparden* □ *töten* □ *.* □

MT

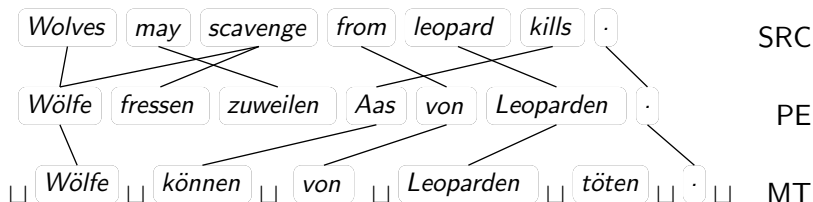
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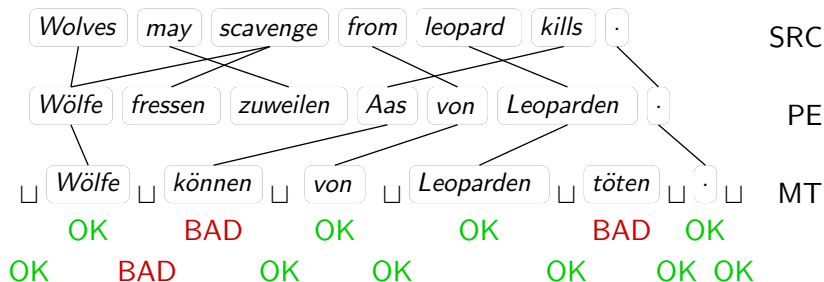
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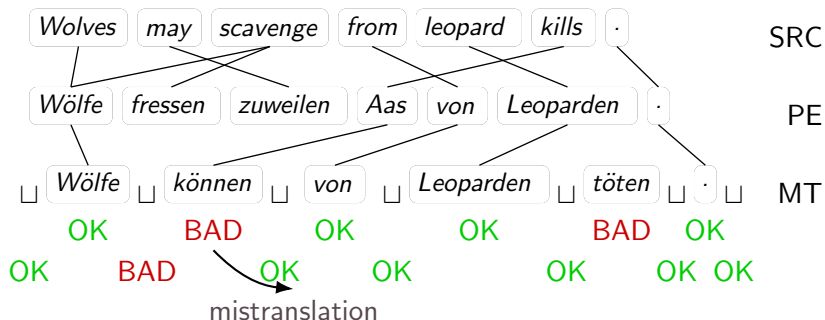
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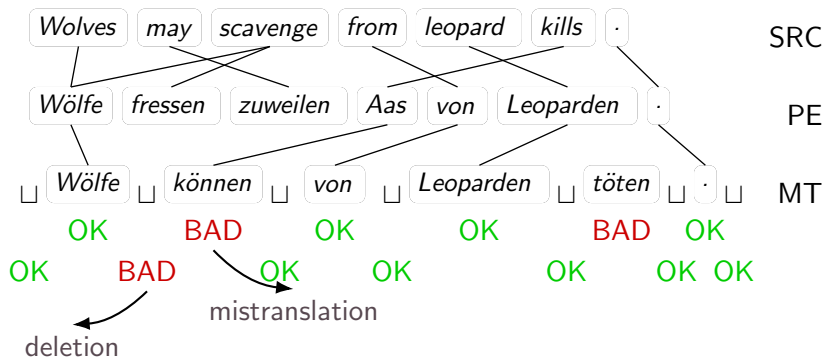
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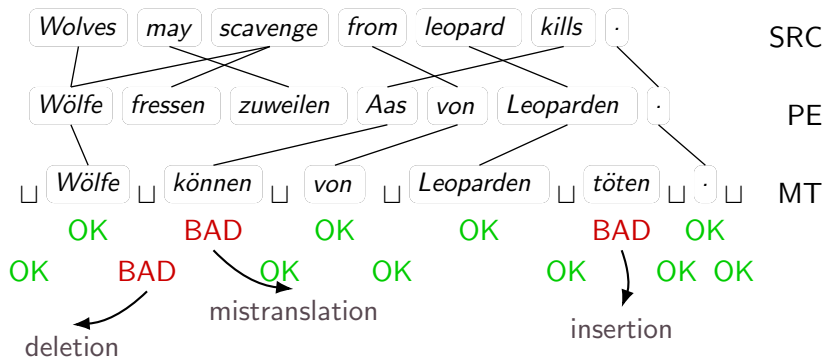
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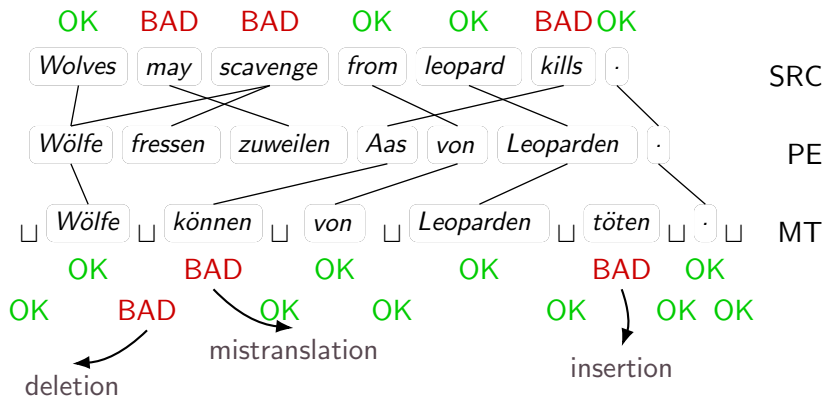
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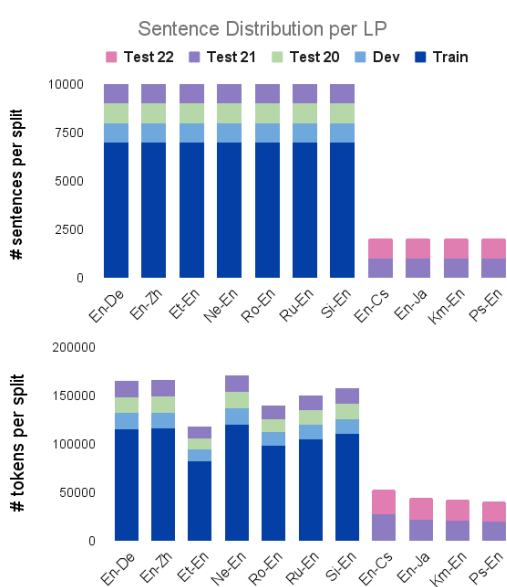
High
resource

English - German
English - Chinese
English - Japanese
Russian - English
Estonian - English
English - Czech
Romanian - English
Pashto - English
Sinhala - English
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Nepali - English

Low
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- } motivate **context aware** approaches

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 - Use title/surrounding sentences
- ✓ Useful features for quality estimation

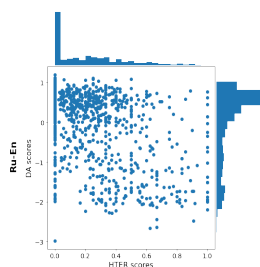
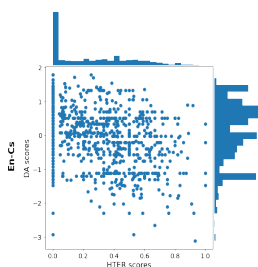
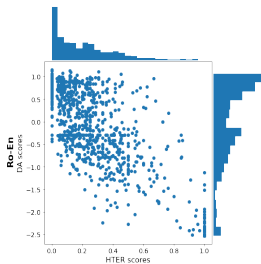
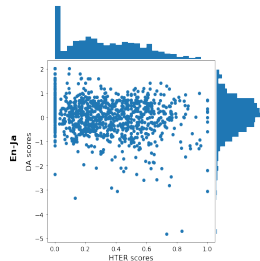
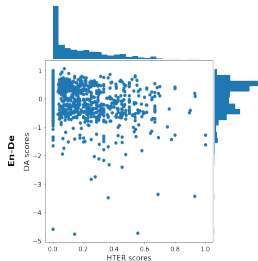
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DA-HTER score correlations

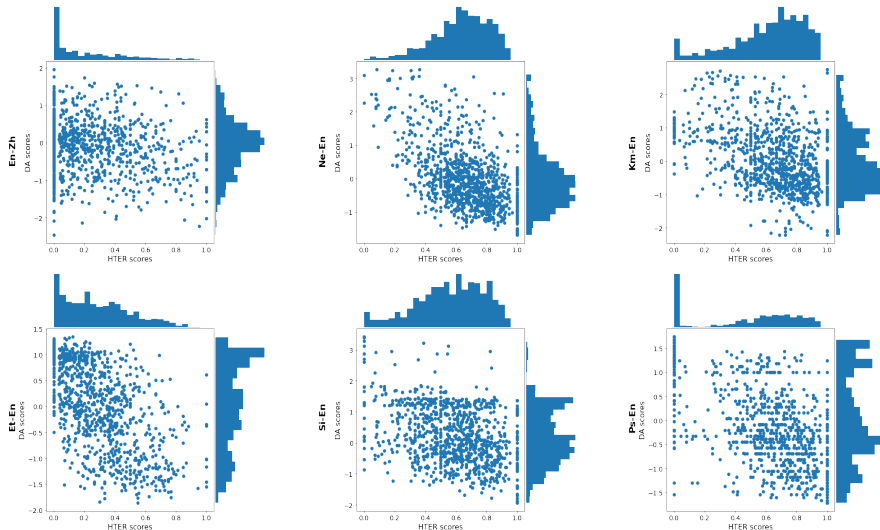
High-resource language pairs:

- Different score distributions
- HTER scores (horiz.) are skewed to zero
- Upper-left corner $\rightarrow$ high-quality translations



DA-HTER score correlations

Mid & Low resource language pairs:



More on scores and correlations

	Avg. DA $\uparrow$	Avg. HTER $\downarrow$		Pearson	Spearman
En-De	82.61	0.18	En-De	-0.42	-0.48
Ro-En	69.18	0.24	Ro-En	-0.76	-0.71
En-Ja	67.96	0.36	En-Ja	-0.14	-0.11
En-Cs	66.94	0.26	En-Cs	-0.41	-0.46
En-Zh	62.86	0.23	En-Zh	-0.21	-0.16
Et-En	60.09	0.29	Et-En	-0.61	-0.63
Ps-En	53.53	0.53	Ps-En	-0.71	-0.67
Si-En	51.42	0.59	Si-En	-0.29	-0.28
Km-En	46.58	0.65	Km-En	-0.49	-0.43
Ne-En	36.51	0.66	Ne-En	-0.54	-0.49
Ru-En	68.67	0.23	Ru-En	-0.51	-0.47

Discrepancies

Case 1: Minimal post-editing

He wakes up in a cage, and enjoys rubbing the rusted bars.

MT

他在笼子里醒来, 喜欢擦生锈的酒吧。

*He wakes up in a cage, and enjoys rubbing the rusted **pub**.*

PE

他在笼子里醒来, 喜欢摩擦生锈的铁条。

*He wakes up in a cage, and enjoys rubbing the rusted **metal bar**.*

- ▶ Average DA score: 0.33 → low quality
- ▶ HTER score from PE: 0.33 → high quality

Discrepancies

Case 2: Heavy post-editing

The two battled to a standstill and eventually rendered one another comatose.

MT

这两个人的战斗陷入停顿, 最后彼此昏迷不已.

The two people's battle fell into a standstill, finally both were in a coma.

PE

两人对战陷入僵局, 最后双双昏倒。

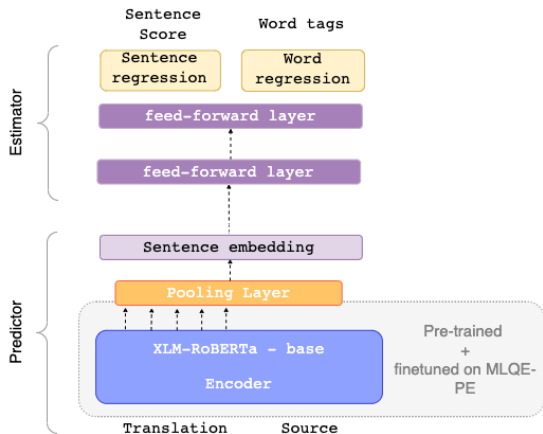
The two people battled to a standstill and both fell into a coma.

- ▶ Average DA score: 0.73 → high quality
- ▶ HTER score from PE: 1.00 → low quality

Baseline model

One of the main goals is to support the development of better QE models

- Predictor-Estimator architecture
 - Based on OpenKiwi
- Single head for sentence level DA
- Multitasking for:
 - Sentence-level HTER
 - Word-level tags



Baseline sentence-level results

Languages	Pearson $r \uparrow$	RMSE $\downarrow$	Languages	Pearson $r \uparrow$	RMSE $\downarrow$
Direct Assessment			HTER		
En-De	0.403	0.433	En-De	0.529	0.129
En-Zh	0.525	0.534	En-Zh	0.282	0.246
Ru-En	0.677	0.492	Ru-En	0.448	0.188
Ro-En	0.818	0.408	Ro-En	0.862	0.111
Et-En	0.660	0.543	Et-En	0.714	0.149
Ne-En	0.738	0.524	Ne-En	0.626	0.160
Si-En	0.513	0.626	Si-En	0.607	0.159
En-Cs	0.352	0.686	En-Cs	0.306	0.206
En-Ja	0.230	0.617	En-Ja	0.098	0.232
Km-En	0.562	0.614	Km-En	0.576	0.196
Ps-En	0.476	0.711	Ps-En	0.503	0.290
AVG	0.541	0.562	AVG	0.502	0.188

Baseline word-level results

Languages	Words in MT		Words in SRC	
	MCC $\uparrow$	F ₁ -Multi $\uparrow$	MCC $\uparrow$	F ₁ -Multi $\uparrow$
En-De	0.370	0.415	0.322	0.363
En-Zh	0.247	0.308	0.241	0.295
Ru-En	0.256	0.319	0.251	0.292
Ro-En	0.536	0.553	0.511	0.539
Et-En	0.461	0.512	0.405	0.459
Ne-En	0.440	0.483	0.390	0.438
Si-En	0.425	0.456	0.335	0.379
En-Cs	0.273	0.372	0.224	0.312
En-Ja	0.131	0.217	0.175	0.272
Km-En	0.351	0.409	0.279	0.355
Ps-En	0.313	0.425	0.249	0.361
AVG	0.346	0.402	0.307	0.370

In practice

Already used:

In practice

Already used:

✓ WMT Quality Estimation Shared Tasks

- 2020 Edition: En-De, En-Zh, Et-En, Ne-En, Ro-En, Ru-En, Si-En
- 2021 Edition: En-De, En-Zh, Et-En, Ne-En, Ro-En, Ru-En, Si-En, En-Cs, En-Ja, Km-En, Ps-En

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Maybe also:

- ▶ Catastrophic error detection
- ▶ Active learning approaches
- ▶ Context-aware quality estimation

That's not all

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MLQE-PE is intended to be a continuously expanding resource

- ✓ Contribute resources:
 - New language pairs (especially low-resource)
 - New domains - challenge sets
 - Additional annotations - references
- ✓ Use
 - New tasks
 - Compare performance on existing tasks
- ✓ Provide feedback :)

Thank you!

THANK YOU!

Questions?



arxiv paper



github code