Specialist English: Assignment 5

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This fifth assignment (worth 5% of the final mark) looks at a selection of frequently occurring problems in titles; these same problems occur throughout papers (not just in titles).

My marking will be affected by (a) your English writing, (b) your LaTeX typesetting, and (c) your understanding of the underlying computer science. Basically, I will "peer review" your assignments. (No mark scaling this time.)

Topics covered: (a) writing succinct titles, (b) countable noun phrases, and (c) compound adjectives. (Last year's class found this to be one of the hardest assignments; I feel they thought it was "easy" and were consequently not careful enough.)

These are actual papers, and can be found by searching `dl.acm.org`.

Problem 1 For the following three titles, (a) identify the countable noun phrase which results in a grammar error, and (b) explain one way to fix it. [3 marks]

Fast Deep Matting for Portrait Animation on Mobile Phone

Bingke Zhu[1,2], Yingying Chen[1,2], Jinqiao Wang[1,2], Si Liu[2,3], Bo Zhang[4], Ming Tang[1,2]
[1]National Lab of Pattern Recognition, Institute of Automation, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China

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Unbiased Sampling in Directed Social Graph

Tianyi Wang   Yang Chen   Zengbin Zhang

Index-based Genetic Algorithm for Continuous Optimization Problems

Ni Chen and Jun Zhang (Corresponding Author)
Department of Computer Science, Sun Yat-sen University

Problem 2 How can we use compound adjectives to improve the following titles? [2 marks]

Automatic Recognition of Sign Language Subwords based on Portable Accelerometer and EMG Sensors

Yun Li[†] Xiang Chen[†] Jianxun Tian[†] Xu Zhang[†] Kongqiao Wang* Jihai Yang[†]

DI-DAP:An Efficient Disaster Information Delivery and Analysis Platform in Disaster Management

Tao Li[1,2], Wubai Zhou[1], Chunqiu Zeng[1], Qing Wang[1], Qifeng Zhou[3], Dingding Wang[4], Jia Xu[2]
Yue Huang[2], Wentao Wang[1], Minjing Zhang[1], Steve Luis[1], Shu-Ching Chen[1], Naphtali Rishe[1]

(There are other issues with these titles, but for this problem, we focus on compound adjectives.)

Problem 3 Describe two ways to improve the following title. [2 marks]

A Robust and Scalable Clustering Algorithm for Mixed Type Attributes in Large Database Environment

Tom Chiu

American Century Investments
4500 Main Street
Kansas City, MO 64111-7709

DongPing Fang, John Chen, Yao Wang, Christopher Jeris
SPSS Inc.
11ᵗʰ Fl., 233 S. Wacker Drive
Chicago, IL 60606-6307

Problem 4 Rewrite the following title to make it more succinct. (Remember: the reader of the title is only deciding whether or not to read the paper.) [2 marks]

I recommend looking at the paper: `https://dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=2665683`. It's easier to write a suitable title if you know what the paper is about.

MemGuard: A Low Cost and Energy Efficient Design to Support and Enhance Memory System Reliability

Long Chen   Zhao Zhang
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Iowa State University, Iowa, US

Problem 5 I'm not sure why, but I repeatedly see the following type of problem in English writing by Chinese authors: we introduce a grammar error by using an unnecessary word like "approach", "algorithm", or "method". What's the problem in the following example? [1 mark]

Blind Signal Separation
Using Oblique Projection Operators Method

Yan-Qun Zhang, Bin Cao, Qin-Yu Zhang, and Xi Chen
Communication Engineering Research Center, Department of Electronics and Information Engineering,