Specialist English: Assignment 7

Rebecca J. Stones

`rebecca.stones82@nbjl.nankai.edu.cn`

Date due: 27 November 2017

In this seventh assignment (worth 5% of the final mark), we will look at the introductory material in a computer science paper.

I'll scale the marks on this assignment according to $m \mapsto \min(m, 10)$ for Master's students and $m \mapsto \lceil m/1.3 \rceil$ for Ph.D. students.

My marking will be affected by (a) your English writing, (b) your LaTeX typesetting, (c) your mathematical presentation, and (d) your understanding of the underlying computer science. Basically, I will "peer review" your assignments.

We've looked at many examples of poor writing and how to fix them. This time we'll look at an example of good-quality writing. The paper is:

> Wang et al., *Regularity and Conformity: Location Prediction Using Heterogeneous Mobility Data*, Proc. ACM Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining, 2015.

It is available from the ACM website `dl.acm.org/citation.cfm?id=2783350` or via its DOI: `doi.org/10.1145/2783258.2783350`. I have also sent it to the WeChat group, and I've uploaded it to `cc.nankai.edu.cn`, along with a version with my annotations.

From this paper, we'll look at Section 1 (Introduction) and Section 2 (Related Work), where the authors present the introductory material.

Structuring a paper makes its contents more readily understandable (i.e., makes it more readable). Sections 1 and 2 by Wang et al. are an excellent example of a well-structured introduction to a paper. While it still contains grammar errors, etc., these problems are less important because of the paper's structure.

Structural elements include many things, such as (a) paragraph structure, (b) sections, subsections, etc., (c) bulleted lists, (d) the use of bold and italics, (e) the use of tables and figures, and (f) the use of equations and notation.

Problem 1   Identify four (or more) distinct structural elements used by Wang et al. in Sections 1 and 2, and briefly explain how they improve the paper's readability.   [4 marks]

Problem 2   Why have I described this sentence as illogical?   [1 mark]

> To bridge the gap between actual prediction performance and [the] theoretical limit, many challenges still remain to be addressed: ...

Problem 3   Why have I underlined these and described them as "too far apart"?   [1 mark]

> In this paper, we tackle the above challenges by proposing a hybrid <u>model</u> called **RCH**, combining both **R**egularity and **C**onformity, and employing **H**eterogeneous mobility data <u>for location prediction</u>.

(Continued on next page.)

Problem 4   There's something important missing from Section 2.1. (I mention it among my annotations.)

1. What is missing from Section 2.1?   [1 mark]

2. Where does it occur in Section 2.2 (before the start of Section 2.2.1), and Sections 2.2.1 and 2.2.2?   [2 marks]

Problem 5   Identify eight (or more) distinct problems with these two sections, excluding those in Problems 1 to 4. Among these, please include examples the following: [4 marks]

- A grammar error.

- A spelling error.

- A capitalization problem.

- A punctuation problem.

- A problem related to LaTeX.

- An example where a complicated (or colloquial, or over-the-top) word is used in place of a simple word.