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	authors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Wei Zhao</li><li>Goran GlavaÅ¡</li><li>Maxime Peyrard</li><li>Yang Gao</li><li>Robert West</li><li>Steffen Eger</li></ul>	authors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Wei Zhao</li><li>Goran GlavaÅ¡</li><li>Maxime Peyrard</li><li>Yang Gao</li><li>Robert West</li><li>Steffen Eger</li></ul>			NOT DUPLICATES	414
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	abstract		abstract	Evaluation of cross-lingual encoders is usually performed either via zero-shot cross-lingual transfer in supervised downstream tasks or via unsupervised cross-lingual textual similarity. In this paper, we concern ourselves with reference-free machine translation (MT) evaluation where we directly compare source texts to (sometimes low-quality) system translations, which represents a natural adversarial setup for multilingual encoders. Reference-free evaluation holds the promise of web-scale comparison of MT systems. We systematically investigate a range of metrics based on state-of-the-art cross-lingual semantic representations obtained with pretrained M-BERT and LASER. We find that they perform poorly as semantic encoders for reference-free MT evaluation and identify their two key limitations, namely, (a) a semantic mismatch between representations of mutual translations and, more prominently, (b) the inability to punish "translationese", i.e., low-quality literal translations. We propose two partial remedies: (1) post-hoc re-alignment of the vector spaces and (2) coupling of semantic-similarity based metrics with target-side language modeling. In segment-level MT evaluation, our best metric surpasses reference-based BLEU by 5.7 correlation points.				
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