

Lexical Blends Overview

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Ideally, an NLP system could identify neologisms as such, and then infer various aspects of their syntactic or semantic properties necessary for the computational task at hand.

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Most blends are formed by combining a prefix of one source word with a suffix of another source word (brunch - breakfast and lunch).

There may be overlap in the contribution of the source words (fantabulous - fantastic and fabulous).

It is also possible that one or both source words are entirely present (jetiquette - jet etiquette).

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We are more interested in the ranking of the word pairs and we only need the top ranked pair of words (if blend is made from two words).

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Paul Cook and Suzanne Stevenson “Automatically Identifying the Source Words of Lexical Blends in English”.

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Goals:

- i) recreate Cook's system,
- ii) add more features of the blends,
- iii) try out different machine learning techniques,
- iv) experiments with the systems using the original Cook's system as the baseline and evaluate the performance of my added features and machine learning techniques.

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Overall, my goal is to improve the system, which is described in Cook's and Stevenson's paper, and have a valid system for finding source words for the blends.

My time lines for the project is:

- i) to have Cook's system by the end of this semester,
- ii) try out different features of blends and different machines learning techniques by the half of second semester,
- iii) experiment and evaluate the systems and write the report by the end of second semester.

Thank you for your time