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Computational Linguistics

December 2006, Vol. 32, No. 4, Pages 471-484
Posted Online November 21, 2006.
(doi: 10.1162/coli.2006.32.4.471)
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Automatic Evaluation of Information Ordering: Kendall's Tau

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PDF (164.564 KB) | PDF Plus (219.67 KB)

This article considers the automatic evaluation of information ordering, a task underlying many text-based applications such as concept-to-text generation and multidocument summarization. We propose an evaluation method based on Kendall's τ , a metric of rank correlation. The method is inexpensive, robust, and representation independent. We show that Kendall's τ correlates reliably with human ratings and reading times.

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