

1 NACLO problems

Complete the Maasai problem (handed out during lecture) and the Hawaiian problem from the North American Computational Linguistics Olympiad.

2 Online machine translation

Choose an online translation system, translate.google.com is one possibility, but you may use any you like (if you use another, indicate the URL you chose). Using this system, complete the following tasks.

- a) Translate a few sentences from the reading (e.g., Chapter 1 of the textbook) into another language, and then translate the result back into English. Include the original and resulting text in your writeup. What do you think of this translation? Does it preserve the meaning of the original text? Is it grammatical? What sorts of errors are made?
- b) Go to a news site in a language you *do not know*. Translate the webpage into English, and choose an article. What do you think of the translation? Can you understand what the article is about? What sorts of errors are made?

3 What to submit

You should submit one document, containing the following pieces:

- Your solutions to the NACLO problems
- The translation system you used
- For 2a: The result of translating selected sentences from the textbook. Include the original sentences. Your answers to the questions in 2a.
- For 2b: The URL (web address) of the news site. Your answers to the questions in 2b.

Hawaiian

Puzzle by V. Belikov. English adaptation by Valentin Vydrin and Thomas E. Payne

Hawaiian is a Polynesian language, spoken fluently by about 2000 people.

The following Hawaiian sentences, with their English translations, are about a girl named Mele and a boy named Keone:

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|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. He has seven elder brothers. | Ehiku ona kaikuaana. |
| 2. Mele has one brother. | Ekahi o Mele kaikunane. |
| 3. Keone has one younger brother. | Ekahi o Keone kaikaina. |
| 4. Mele has no elder sisters. | Aohe o Mele kaikuaana. |
| 5. Keone has no sisters. | Aohe o Keone kaikuahine. |
| 6. I have one canoe. | Ekahi ou waa. |
| 7. Mele has no younger sisters. | Aohe o Mele kaikaina. |

A: There are two possible English translations for the following Hawaiian sentence. What are they?

Aohe ou kaikuaana.

B: Translate the following sentence into English and indicate who is speaking, Mele or Keone:

Aohe ou kaikuahine.

C. The following English sentences would be difficult to translate directly into Hawaiian. Explain why this is true.

Keone has one brother.

Mele has one younger brother.