

Preface

The second Workshop on Anaphora Resolution was held at Marsteinen Hotel, just outside of Bergen, on the last days of August (28-31). We were very lucky with the weather, and it was three sunny days, at least that is how I remember them.

The international community was well represented, despite this being a very small workshop. We had participation from Japan, India, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, Germany, Denmark, and Norway.

Anaphora resolution is an important task in computational linguistics, and language technology. There are clearly much more to be done in this field, and especially in our understanding of how humans deal with anaphora and coreference, but also how to represent and process anaphora correctly in computational systems, as well as building up annotated resources.

We got a good variety of contributions for the workshop, and it turned out that there were overlapping interests for many of the issues raised at the workshop; for example how preferences for *it*, *that* and *this* has changed and developed differently in the languages of the world. We also had a discussion on problems of linguistic representation in DRT (Discourse Representation Theory), and Complement Anaphora. There was one contribution on psycholinguistic experiments that involved anaphora resolution and factors affecting the resolution process for humans. Other contributions discussed implemented systems, and the performance of systems and how machine learning can be used to implement systems and possibly improve performance. Building up processing resources (such as parts-of-speech taggers and ontologies) and annotated corpora were discussed in several papers, and we got an idea of how this is done for various languages in India, Italy, Spain and elsewhere. Developing resources for Sanskrit is one good example, which also puts some light on the importance of developing resources, not only to provide for technical or commercial purposes but also for understanding ourselves and our cultural heritage.

I hope that the proceedings will be as enjoyable as the conference.

Christer Johansson

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