

UNED@iCLEF: Are Users Willing To Search CL?

Cross Language Evaluation Forum 2006

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Alicante. September, 21 2006

1 Motivation to participate on iCLEF

2 Experimental Design

3 Results

- Comparison among Search Modes
- Comparison among Languages
- Observational Study
- Users' Questionnaires

4 Conclusions

Why UNED@iCLEF?

Real world tasks in a naturally multilingual images database: [flickr](#)

Issues to study:

- How do users react to CL search facilities?
- If searching CL is an option, do users take advantage of it?
- How do language skills influence the task?
- Do users perceive the system as useful?

Focus on search behavior rather than on the outcome

iCLEF Guidelines

- 1 Test collection: public pictures uploaded onto flickr before 21/06/2006
- 2 flickr's API to access the collection
- 3 Three search 20-minute activities:
 - ad hoc Find as many European parliament buildings as possible
 - creative Find five illustrations to an article about saffron cultivation in Italy
 - visual What's the name of the beach where this crab is lying?



Experimental Setting

- 22 users, Spanish speakers, with a range of skills in other languages
- a search front-end to flickr
- a pre-search questionnaire about their experience about searching images and their language skills
- a post-search questionnaire about perceived usefulness of CL facilities and their satisfaction with the results

Search Front-end

- 3 search modes:
 - **no translation**: the system launches the query as it's submitted
 - **automatic translation**: the system picks up the first translation available for each query term
 - **assisted translation**: the user can change the default translation chosen by the system
- Spanish, English, French, Italian, German and Dutch
- databases for all language pairs from <http://dicts.info>

Search Interface: no translation mode

FlickLing

crab

Busca

Opciones de búsqueda

- ☐ Buscar en las etiquetas (☐ cualquiera de las palabras, ☐ todas las palabras)
☒ Buscar todas las palabras en los títulos, las descripciones y las etiquetas

Sin traducción

crab

[\[X\]](#)

Paginas: 1 (39316 fotos)

Search Interface: automatic translation

FlickLing

Opciones de búsqueda













☐ Buscar en las etiquetas (☐ cualquiera de las palabras, ☐ todas las palabras)
☒ Buscar todas las palabras en los títulos, las descripciones y las etiquetas

Traducción automática ▼

Escribo en... ▼

Traducir azafrán ...

☐ Inglés
☒ Francés
☒ Español
☒ Alemán
☒ Italiano
☐ Holandés

spanish: (azafrán) <input type="button" value="X"/>	french: (crocus) <input type="button" value="X"/>	german: (krokus) <input type="button" value="X"/>	italian: (croco) <input type="button" value="X"/>
			
			
			

Search Interface: assisted translation

FlickLing

Opciones de búsqueda

- ☐ Buscar en las etiquetas (☐ cualquiera de las palabras,
- ☐ todas las palabras)
- ☒ Buscar todas las palabras en los títulos, las descripciones y las etiquetas

Traducción asistida

Escribo en...

Español

Traducir **parlamento** **oslo** ...

- ☒ Inglés **parliament** **oslo**
- ☒ Francés **parlement** **oslo**
- ☒ Español **parlamento** **oslo**
- ☒ Alemán

parlament **unterredung** **verhandlung** **oslo**

☐ Italiano

☒ Holandés

parlement **volksvertegenwoordiging** **oslo**

english:
(parliament [X]
oslo)



french:
(parlement [X]
oslo)



spanish:
(parlamento [X]
oslo)



german:
(parlament [X]
oslo)

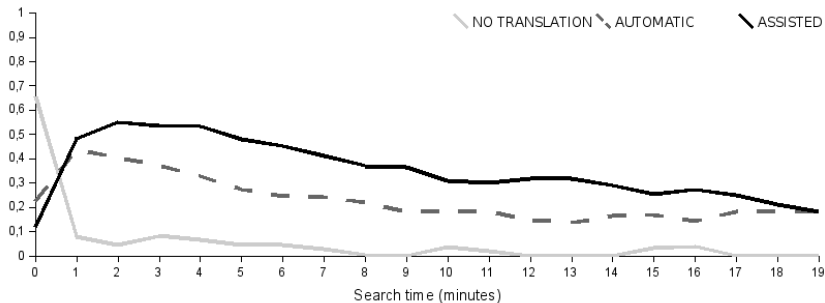


dutch:
(parlement [X]
oslo)



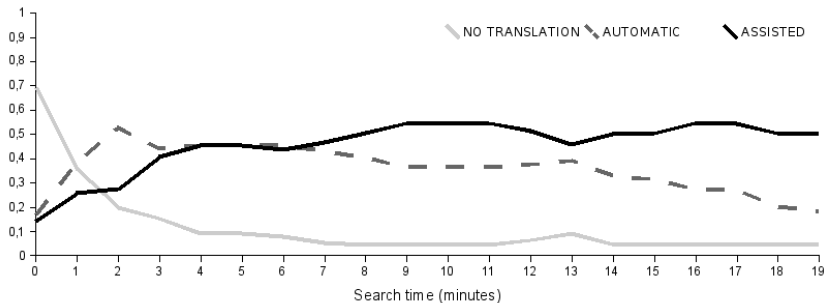
Where is the Crab?

use of search modes (where is the crab?)



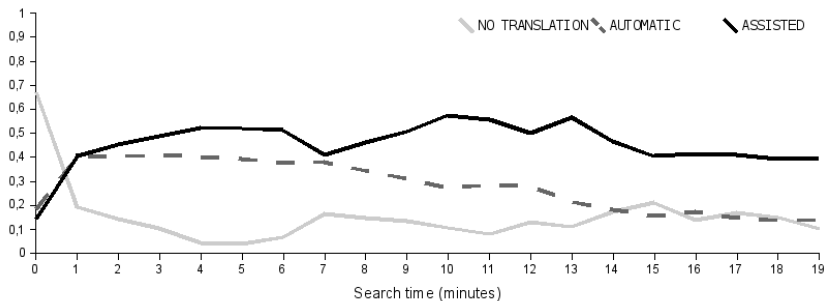
European Parliaments

use of search modes (European parliament buildings)



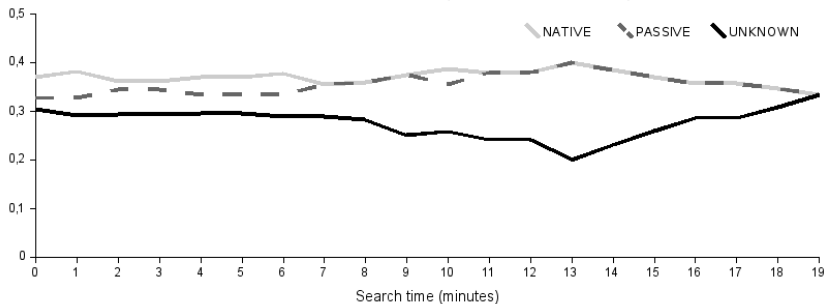
Saffron Text

use of search modes (illustrate saffron text)



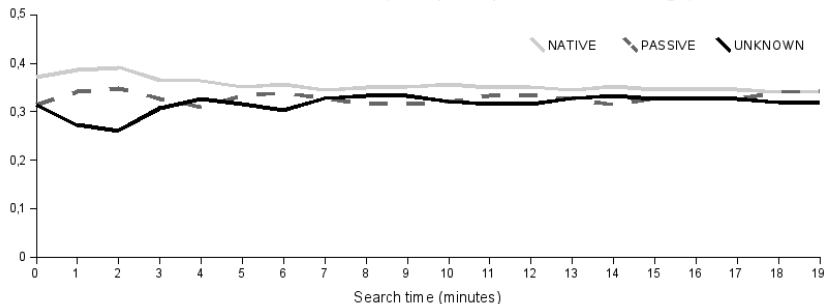
Where is the Crab?

use of translation facilities (where is the crab?)



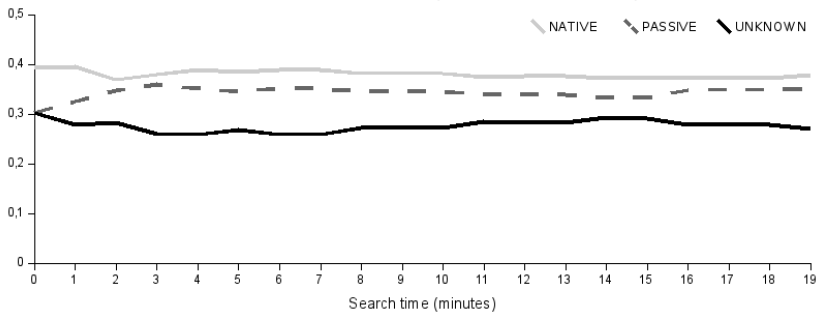
European Parliaments

use of translation facilities (European parliament buildings)



Saffron Text

use of translation facilities (illustrate saffron text)



Observational Study

- The task is strongly visual
- Users feel more confident when searching in languages they know
- Users tend to assume they could find everything in English
- The more experience the user has, the more s/he notices the mistranslations and search options and the more s/he uses the *assisted translation* mode
- 3 search strategies:
 - depth first: broad query and exhaustive inspection
 - breadth first: query refinements and quick inspections
 - random impulses

Users' Questionnaires

Pre-search:

- Users: Spanish speakers, 20-45 years old
- Education: from PhD to high school diplomas
- Languages: native in Spanish, most of them had English skills and passive knowledge in other languages (French and Italian). Dutch and German unknown by most of them

Post-search:

- Most users pleased with their overall performance
- Precision-oriented tasks need CL mechanisms

Conclusions

- 1 Even in the most favorable setting (the images that can be interpreted as relevant) users avoid translating queries into unknown languages
- 2 Mastering CL facilities was fast, even though users rarely interacted with the system to fix an incorrect translation
- 3 21 out of 22 users declared they would use CL search if they had to find pictures: **we finally have a use case!!**

Any questions?



Thank you!