Single Document Summarization Task at NLPCC 2017

1. Overview

Traditional news document summarization techniques have been widely explored on the DUC and TAC conferences, and existing datasets for document summarization are mainly focused on western languages, while Chinese news summarization has seldom been explored. In this evaluation task, we aim to investigate single document summarization techniques for automatically generating short summaries of Chinese news articles. We will provide a large dataset for evaluating and comparing different document summarization techniques.

2. The Task

The single document summarization task is defined as a task of automatically generating a short summary for a given Chinese news article, and the short summary is used for news browsing and propagation on Toutiao.com. The length of the short summary is less than 60 Chinese characters. We will provide a sample/training dataset consisting of a large number of Chinese news articles with reference summaries, together with a large number of news articles without reference summaries (for semi-supervised methods). The test dataset will be provided to the participants later.

3. Scoring Metric

The peer summaries will be automatically compared with the reference/model summaries by using the ROUGE toolkit. Character-based ROUGE-2 and ROUGE-SU4 Recall / F-measure will be used as evaluation metrics.