

Brief description of the study group on

Computational Modeling of Narrative Text

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Computational text analysis has, for various reasons, traditionally focused on only a few genres, such as newspaper text, social media, or online reviews. In this study group, we consider the computational analysis of narrative, which lately enjoys some increased attention. Specifically, we explore how several „standard tasks“ of computational text modeling fare when applied to a selection of narrative text: (1) the detection of „named entities“ - characters, locations, institutions, etc.; (2) coreference resolution - what entities are being referred to by anaphoric pronouns and other noun phrases; (3) speech event detection - how can we delimit the boundaries of speech and thought in a story; (4) rhetorical structure - can relational approaches to modeling text structure be applied to narrative. In general, the traditional approaches to these tasks do not map easily to narrative. We will test this with suitable software and explore the reasons for certain difficulties. In addition to discussing methodologies, the participants will also conduct hands-on experiments on narrative texts, esp. detective stories.