



Garcia, L and Oliveira, L (2008) *Geração Automática de Abreviaturas para Sistema de Comunicação Alternativa do Português Europeu* [Automatic Abbreviation Generation for a Portuguese Augmentative and Alternative Communication System] <http://comum.rcaap.pt/handle/123456789/1317>

Abstract

Abbreviation expansion is a rate enhancement technique that can be used by persons with disabilities to accelerate communication. In this study we analysed the performance of abbreviation schemes generated automatically for European Portuguese. For the generation of these abbreviation schemes, corpora from different sources were used:

- Texts from a student with special needs (Corpa);
- Texts from textbooks by Porto Editora (CorpPE);
- Texts from the *O Público* journal (CorpPub).

Two abbreviation techniques were analysed: contraction and truncation.

Main findings

Simulations were performed using the different abbreviation schemes. A maximum of 18% keystrokes savings was obtained using 500 abbreviations generated with truncation. With only 250 abbreviations this rate decreased to 16.2%. The introduction of bigrams and trigrams in the abbreviation schemes did not significantly affect the performance. Abbreviation schemes generated by truncation generally showed the best results.