

# Measuring Sequence Iconicity

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## Abstract

This paper describes the temporal relations of events. Events can be described in the same order as they occur but sometimes they may be described otherwise. TimeML is a way to describe a given text by means of annotation. It is an excellent specification language for annotating event and time related or temporal expression in a text consisting of natural language. Studying the iconicity of temporal relations is important to know what prompts a speaker or a writer to write one way or the other. The iconicity principle states that the positioning of subordinate and main clauses in a text follow the same order as they have occurred. Besides iconicity principle factors such as length, complexity and pragmatic import may also affect the positioning of adverbial clauses. There are thirteen Allen Relations which can be used to annotate a given text. There have been several studies on how to annotate a given text to know the temporal relations between events. In this paper we attempt to use the machine learning algorithms to predict the iconicity in terms of 'BEFORE' and 'AFTER' when a certain combination of annotations is given.