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# Modelling consequence relationships between two action, state or process Vietnamese sentences for improving the quality of new meaning-summarizing sentence

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## Abstract

**Purpose** – The purpose of this paper is to enhance the quality of new reducing sentence in sentence-generation-based summarizing method by establishing consequence relationship between two action, state or process Vietnamese sentences.

**Design/methodology/approach** – First, types of pairs of Vietnamese sentences based on presupposition about the consequence relationship is classified: the verb indicating action or state at the first sentence is considered as the consequence of the verb indicating action, state or process at the second sentence. Then main predicates in Discourse Representation Structure – a logical form which represents the semantic of a given pair of sentences – is analyzed and inner- and inter-sentential relationships are determined. The next step is to generate the syntactic structure of the new reducing sentence. Finally, a combination with the built set of lexicons is done to complete the new meaning-summarizing Vietnamese sentence.

**Findings** – This method makes the new meaning-summarizing Vietnamese sentence satisfy two requirements: summarize the semantic of the given pair of Vietnamese sentences and have naturalism in common Vietnamese communication. In addition, it is possible to extend the method and apply for the purpose of summarizing the more complex Vietnamese paragraphs as well as paragraphs in other languages.

**Research limitations/implications** – At the first step, only inter-sentential consequence relationship is considered and this is applied to the limit types of pairs of Vietnamese sentences which have a simple structure.

**Originality/value** – This study presents improvements in sentence-generation-based summarization method to enhance the quality of new meaning-summarizing Vietnamese sentences. This method proves effective in summarizing the considered pairs of sentences.

**Keywords** Anaphoric pronoun, Discourse representation, Inter-sentential anaphora, Meaning summarization, Sentence generation

**Paper type** Research paper



## 1. Introduction

From the 1950s, the idea about summarizing the meaning of the given paragraph has attracted much attention of computer scientists. Until recent years, the study in text summarization field also has a boom with many different solutions and techniques which have been applied for several types of paragraphs (Das and Martins, 2007; Fattah and Ren, 2008; Hovy and Lin, 1999; Jezek and Steinberger, 2008; Jones, 2007, 1999; Le *et al.*, 2010; Lloret, 2008; Mani and Maybury, 1999; Mani, 2001b; Nguyen and Nguyen, 2013; Nguyen *et al.*, 2013; Nguyen and Le, 2008; Radev *et al.*, 2002). Although there are many different approaches, to make a transition from a given paragraph into a more concise text which contains the main source content, a common summarizing system has to perform three main phases (Jones, 2007, 1999):

- (1) the first phase is to transform the input text into the first representation form;
- (2) the second phase is to generate the second representation form from the first representation form; and
- (3) the third phase is to generate the concise text from the second representation form.

Based on the classification of the results of performing the third phase, there are two main direction approaches to summarize the given paragraph (Jezek and Steinberger, 2008; Lloret, 2008):

- (1) “extraction” in which every sentence in the source text is determined the degree of importance based on different factors and methods, from which the sentence which is to be the most important will be chosen to form the summarizing paragraph; and
- (2) “abstraction” in which the system determines the main content of the input text so that it generates a new, meaningful, concise paragraph.

Starting from the elementary research (Tran and Nguyen, 2014b), we proposed the new summarizing solution based on the “abstraction” approach including the combination of ideas and techniques in text-generation field (Dale, 1992; Dale and Haddock, 1991; Reiter and Dale, 1997a, 1997b, 1995; Reiter *et al.*, 2000). The main idea in the solution presented by Tran and Nguyen (2014b) is to generate a new complete Vietnamese sentence having content that summarizes the meaning of a given pair of Vietnamese sentences. We followed the above three summarizing phases into the following three phases:

- (1) the first phase is to transform the original pair of Vietnamese sentences into a Discourse Representation Structure (DRS) (Blackburn and Bos, 1999; Covington and Schmitz, 1989; Covington *et al.*, 1988; Kamp, 1981) representing the semantic;
- (2) the second phase is to analyze this DRS for determining the predicates containing the main content and generating the syntactic structure of the new Vietnamese sentence; and
- (3) the third phase is to combine with the built set of lexicons for completing the new Vietnamese sentence.

According to Discourse Representation Theory (Blackburn and Bos, 1999; Covington and Schmitz, 1989; Covington *et al.*, 1988; Kamp, 1981), a DRS represents the semantic of a paragraph through two ordered lists:

- (1) the first list called U contains indexes denoting objects (expressed by nouns) in the paragraph; and
- (2) the second list called Con contains predicates (or can be called conditions – a semantic representation form) describing the semantic information of objects, actions or states (respectively expressed by nouns, verbs or adjectives) which associates with indexes in list U.

Continuing with sentence-generation-based summarization solution, we set out the requirement that is to improve the quality of the generated Vietnamese sentence for satisfying the naturalism for the cognition of native Vietnamese speakers. To satisfy this requirement, in Tran and Nguyen (2014c), we made some improvements, in comparison with Tran and Nguyen (2014b), with the following main points:

- Re-classified verbal categories base on the Functional Grammar theory (Cao, 2006; Halliday and Matthiessen, 2004) about the classification of action and state sentences. These verbal categories also established the priority orders based on the sustainable level for the context: the verb denoting status state had priority 1; the verb denoting intransitive action had priority 2; the verb denoting transitive action had priority 3; and the verb denoting property state had priority 4. The studied pairs of Vietnamese sentences in Tran and Nguyen (2014c) had the general characteristic: the first sentence had the verb denoting action or state which had the higher priority and the second sentence had the verb denoting action or state which had the lower priority.
- Considered consequence relationships in the original pairs of sentences: the verb at the first sentence having the higher priority took the consequent role of the verb at the second sentence.
- Re-defined the information in semantic predicates of lexicons in list Con of DRS to fit the classification and defined only one lexical class when building original lexical set.
- Adjusted the algorithm for generating the syntactic structure of the new reducing Vietnamese sentence.
- Proposed the new evaluation method suitable for the sentence-generation approach with the main idea is to compare the semantic similarity between automatically generated Vietnamese sentence by the proposed solution with some manually generated Vietnamese sentences.

Based on the idea of Tran and Nguyen (2014c), we consider additional process sentences besides action and state sentences. According to the Functional Grammar theory (Cao, 2006; Halliday and Matthiessen, 2004), in the process sentence, a non-animated object experiences an event involuntarily. There are three kinds of process sentence (Cao, 2006; Halliday and Matthiessen, 2004):

- (1) State-changed process: the occurrence that changes the state of a non-animated object.

Example 1: *Bức tượng bị vỡ.*

(English: The statue is broken.)

- (2) Position-changed process: the occurrence that changes the position of a non-animated object.  
Example 2: *Chiếc bình bị rơi.*  
(English: The vase falls.)
- (3) Impact process: the occurrence when a natural or artificial phenomenon affects the state of position of a non-animated object.  
Example 3: *Sét đánh chiếc thuyền.*  
(English: Lightning hits the boat.)

The additional pairs of sentences have main contents: a non-animated object is affected by an action at the first sentence and experiences a process at the second sentence. To summarize these types of pair of sentences, the presupposition about the consequence relationship is used as foundation: the verb denoting the transitive action at the first sentence takes the consequence role of the verb denoting the process at the second sentence. The reason of this presupposition is that, in our experience, in most reality contexts, a process that will happen first will then lead to an action being performed. Besides, we adjust the information in semantic predicates of lexicons for two purposes:

- (1) to determine more exactly the antecedence for pronoun “nó” – a special pronoun in Vietnamese, indicates human, animate or non-animated object depending on the context of the paragraph; and
- (2) to determine which verb in the context denotes the transitive action and which verb in the context denotes the impact process.

To evaluate the quality of generated Vietnamese sentences in the experiment, we apply the new human-based evaluation method introduced by [Tran and Nguyen \(2014c\)](#).

## 2. The process of performing summarization

### 2.1 *Classifying types of pairs of sentences based on the presupposition about the consequence relationship*

The main objective of [Tran and Nguyen \(2014c\)](#) and this research is to summarize some types of pairs of simple Vietnamese sentences based on considering the presupposition about the consequence relationship for enhancing the quality of new reducing Vietnamese sentences. The main studied objects are pairs of Vietnamese sentences in which each sentence belongs to one of three forms which are action, state and process. We establish the inter-sentential relationship <Consequence Relationship> between the verb in the first sentence and the verb in the second sentence for limiting considered sentence pairs:

- In the study by [Tran and Nguyen \(2014c\)](#), based on establishing priorities for verbs denoting action or state (presented in Introduction), we considered pairs of sentences with consequence relationships: the verb denoting action or state in the first sentence has the higher priority and the verb denoting action or state in the second sentence has the lower priority.

- In this research, with the consideration in the common context, an action that is taken against an object will follow a process which this object experiences, we consider pairs of sentences with consequence relationships: the verb denoting transitive action in the first sentence takes the consequence role of the verb denoting process in the second sentence.

Based on categorizing verbs denoting action, state and process, we synthesize, in Table I, the considered types of pairs of Vietnamese sentences in the study by Tran and Nguyen (2014c) and this research. We use the notations A, B, C, D, E and F that indicate the verb denoting intransitive action, transitive action, status state, property state, state-changed process and position-changed process, respectively. For the impact process sentence, a verb denoting transitive action, which takes the role, is the impact process.

Type	First verb	Second verb	Example
1	C	D	Example 4: <i>Mai hãnh diện. Cô ấy xinh đẹp.</i> (English: Mai is proud. She is beautiful.)
2	A	D	Example 5: <i>Trí tính toán. Anh ta gian xảo.</i> (English: Trí calculates. He is shifty.)
3	B	D	Type 3.1: The pronoun in the second sentence stands alone, indicates the object taking the subject role in the first sentence. Example 6: <i>Lan học võ. Cô ấy mạnh mẽ.</i> (English: Lan learns martial arts. She is strong.) Type 3.2: The pronoun in the second sentence stands with a demonstrative adjective [“ta” / “ây” / “này”], indicates the object taking the object role in the first sentence. Example 7: <i>Nghĩa ghét Tín. Anh ta keo kiệt.</i> (English: Nghĩa hates Tín. He is stingy.)
4	C	A	Example 8: <i>Lễ thư thái. Anh khiêu vũ.</i> (English: Lễ is relaxed. He dances.)
5	C	B	Type 5.1: The pronoun in the second sentence takes the subject role. Example 9: <i>Nhân thoải mái. Anh mặc đồ thể thao.</i> (English: Nhân is comfortable. He dresses sport clothes.) Type 5.2: The pronoun in the second sentence takes the object role. Example 10: <i>Trúc hạnh phúc. Tín cầu hôn cô.</i> (English: Trúc is happy. Tín proposes to her.)
6	B	E	Example 11: <i>Lễ vá lốp xe. Nó bị thủng.</i> (English: Lễ patches the tyre. It is punctured.)
7	B	F	Example 12: <i>Cúc nhặt chiếc bình. Nó bị rơi.</i> (English: Cúc picks up the vase. It falls.)
8	B	B	Example 13: <i>Nghĩa sửa anten. Sét đánh nó.</i> (English: Nghĩa fixes the antenna. Lightning hits it.)

**Table I.**  
Synthesize  
considered pairs of  
Vietnamese  
sentences based on  
consequence  
relationships

## 2.2 Building the DRS to represent the semantic of the source pair of Vietnamese sentences and determine inner- and inter-sentential relationships

As presented in the Introduction, at the phase of transforming the original pair of Vietnamese sentences into a DRS representing the semantic of this pair, we perform the following steps as in the study by [Tran and Nguyen \(2014c\)](#): apply methods and techniques as in the studies by [Tran and Nguyen \(2013b\)](#) and [\(2014b\)](#) to:

- analyze the syntactic structure of the source pair of sentences into two separated sentences and each sentence into smaller constituents;
- describe appropriate characteristic information for each lexicon; and
- determine the antecedent for the anaphoric pronoun appearing at the second sentence.

However, to consider additional types of pairs of sentences in which the second sentence has the verb denoting process and a pronoun “nó”, indicating the object which experiences the process, we also add some adjustment in comparison with [Tran and Nguyen \(2014c\)](#) as follows:

- (1) Add the factor identifying the context in the sentence indicating process or action in the lexical semantic predicate form in DRS. This factor helps for determining:
  - a non-animated object taking the subject role in the context of the sentence indicating process; and
  - a verb denoting transitive action which when in the context of action sentence and when in the context of process sentence.

`semantic(index 1, index 2, content, category, sub category, sentence class`

**Figure 1.** The lexical semantic predicate form with information: (i) `semantic` takes the value is a morphology form of lexicon, expresses the lexical name and `semantic`; (ii) `index_1` takes the value is the index of the object taking the subject role of the verb denoting action, state or process; (iii) `index_2` takes the value is the index of the object taking the object role of the verb denoting transitive action; (iv) `content` takes the value is the lexical content, includes lexical entries; (v) `category` takes the value is category [object / action / state / process]; (vi) `sub_category` takes the value is the subclass of category – [human / nonanimated / phenomenon] for category [object], [intransitive / transitive] for category [action], [status / property] for category [state], [position\_changed / state\_changed] for category [process]; (vii) `sentence_class` takes the value is the context of action or process sentence [action\_sentence / process\_sentence].

- (2) Resolve pronoun “nó” appearing in pairs of sentences belonging to Type 6, 7 and 8 in [Table I](#). The strategy in this research is to determine the non-animated object appearing at the first sentence as the antecedent of anaphoric pronoun “nó”.



The result of this phase is the DRS representing the semantic of the original pair of Vietnamese sentences. As an example, consider a pair of sentences in Example 13 in Table I, the DRS representing the semantic of this pair is:

```
[1,2,3]
nghĩa(1,[nghĩa],[object],[human],[action_sentence])
subject_role_at(1,[action_sentence])
age_gen(1,[young_age])
species(1,[human])
role(1,[agent])
position(1,[first])
angten(2,[angten],[object],[nonanimated],[process_sentence])
subject_role_at(2,[process_sentence])
species(2,[nonanimated])
role(2,[goal])
position(2,[first])
sửa(1,2,[sửa],[action],[transitive],[action_sentence])
sét(3,[sét],[object],[phenomenon],[process_sentence])
subject_role_at(3,[process_sentence])
species(3,[phenomenon])
role(3,[agent])
position(3,[second])
đánh(3,2,[đánh],[action],[transitive],[process_sentence])
```

**Figure 2.** The DRS represents the semantic of pair “*Nghĩa sửa angten. Sét đánh nổ.*” with two lists: (i) list U contains indexes “1” / “2” / “3”, respectively, denotes objects “nghĩa” / “angten” / “sét”; and (ii) list Con contains predicates associating to these indexes. The lexical semantic predicates (are highlighted) are determined as main predicates in the DRS according to Tran and Nguyen (2014b). The verb denoting transitive action “sửa” (fix) is in the context of the action sentence, so `information_sentence_class` takes value [action\_sentence]. The verb denoting transitive action “đánh” (hit), which is in the context of process sentence so `information_sentence_class` takes value [process\_sentence].

Based on the idea and techniques in the study by Tran and Nguyen (2014c), we analyze main predicates in the DRS of each pair of sentences to determine:

- the inner relationship is determined when considering `information_index_1` and `information_index_2` in the semantic predicate of verb; and
- based on the presupposition about relationship <Consequence Relationship> to determine the inter-sentential relationship when considering `information_category`, `sub_category` and `sentence_class` in the semantic predicate of the first and second verb.

In Table II, we synthesize and analyze the DRS with main predicates of each pair type in Table I.

Type	The DRS structure with main predicates
1	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <pre>[1] named(1, [mai], [object], [human], [action_sentence]) hanh_dien(1, [hanh, dien], [state], [status]) xinh_dep(1, [xinh, dep], [state], [property])</pre> </div> <p><b>Figure 3.</b> The DRS structure with main predicates of the pair of sentences in Example 4 “<i>Mai hãnh diện. Cô ấy xinh đẹp.</i>”.</p> <p>Analyze:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The inner relationship: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The first sentence: [1] → hanh_dien(1)</li> <li>○ The second sentence: [1] → xinh_dep(1)</li> </ul> </li> <li>● The inter-sentential relationship: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Information category in the semantic predicate of verb “hãnh diện” (proud) and “xinh đẹp” (beautiful) take value [state].</li> <li>○ Information sub_category in the semantic predicate of verb “hãnh diện” (proud) takes value [status].</li> <li>○ Information sub_category in the semantic predicate of verb “xinh đẹp” (beautiful) takes value [property].</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>➔ Relationship: hanh_dien(1) → &lt;Consequence Relationship&gt; ➔ xinh_dep(1)</p>
2	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <pre>[1] tri(1, [tri], [object], [human], [action_sentence]) tinh_toan(1, [tinh, toan], [action], [intransitive]) gian_giao(1, [gian, giao], [state], [property])</pre> </div> <p><b>Figure 4.</b> The DRS structure with main predicates of the pair of sentences in Example 5 “<i>Trí tính toán. Anh ta gian xảo.</i>”.</p> <p>Analyze:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The inner relationship: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The first sentence: [1] → tinh_toan(1)</li> <li>○ The second sentence: [1] → gian_giao(1)</li> </ul> </li> <li>● The inter-sentential relationship: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Information category in the semantic predicate of verb “tính toán” (calculate) takes value [action].</li> <li>○ Information category in the semantic predicate of verb “gian xảo” (shifty) takes value [state].</li> <li>○ Information sub_category in the semantic predicate of verb “tính toán” (calculates) takes value [intransitive].</li> <li>○ Information sub_category in the semantic predicate of verb “gian xảo” (shifty) takes value [property].</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>➔ Relationship: tinh_toan(1) → &lt;Consequence Relationship&gt; ➔ gian_giao(1)</p>

**Table II.**  
The DRS structure with main predicates and determine the inner and inter-sentential relationship

(continued)

3	<p>Type 3.1:</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <pre>[1,2] lan(1,[lan],[object],[human],[action_sentence]) võ(2,[võ],[object],[nonanimated],[process_sentence]) hoc(1,2,[hoc],[action],[transitive],[action_sentence]) manh_mẽ(1,[manh,mẽ],[state],[property])</pre> </div> <p><b>Figure 5.</b> The DRS structure with main predicates of the pair of sentences in Example 6 “<i>Lan học võ. Cô ấy mạnh mẽ.</i>”.</p> <p>Analyze:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The inner relationship:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The first sentence: <math>[1] \rightarrow \text{hoc}(1,2) \rightarrow [2]</math></li> <li>○ The second sentence: <math>[1] \rightarrow \text{manh\_mẽ}(1)</math></li> </ul> </li> <li>• The inter-sentential relationship:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Information category in the semantic predicate of verb “hoc” (learn) takes value [action].</li> <li>○ Information category in the semantic predicate of verb “manh mẽ” (strong) takes value [state].</li> <li>○ Information sub_category in the semantic predicate of verb “hoc” (learn) takes value [transitive].</li> <li>○ Information sub_category in the semantic predicate of verb “manh mẽ” (strong) takes value [property].</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>➔ Relationship: <math>\text{hoc}(1,2) \rightarrow \langle \text{Consequence Relationship} \rangle \rightarrow \text{manh\_mẽ}(1)</math></p> <p>Type 3.2:</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <pre>[1,2] nghĩa(1,[nghĩa],[object],[human],[action_sentence]) tin(1,[tin],[object],[human],[action_sentence]) ghét(1,2,[ghét],[action],[transitive],[action_sentence]) keo_kiệt(2,[keo,kiệt],[state],[property])</pre> </div> <p><b>Figure 6.</b> The DRS structure with main predicates of the pair of sentences in Example 7 “<i>Nghĩa ghét Tín. Anh ta keo kiệt.</i>”.</p> <p>Analyze:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The inner relationship:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The first sentence: <math>[1] \rightarrow \text{ghét}(1,2) \rightarrow [2]</math></li> <li>○ The second sentence: <math>[2] \rightarrow \text{keo\_kiệt}(2)</math></li> </ul> </li> <li>• The inter-sentential relationship:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Information category in the semantic predicate of verb “ghét” (hate) takes value [action].</li> <li>○ Information category in the semantic predicate of verb “keo kiệt” (stingy) takes value [state].</li> <li>○ Information sub_category in the semantic predicate of verb “ghét” (hate) takes value [transitive].</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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(continued)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Information sub_category in the semantic predicate of verb “keo kiệt” (stingy) takes value [property].</li> </ul> <p>➔ Relationship: ghét (1, 2) ➔ &lt;Consequence Relationship&gt; ➔ keo_kiệt (2)</p>
4	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>[1]</p> <p>lẽ(1, [lẽ], [object], [human], [action_sentence])</p> <p>thư_thái(1, [thư, thái], [state], [status])</p> <p>khiêu_vũ(1, [khiêu, vũ], [action], [intransitive])</p> </div> <p><b>Figure 7.</b> The DRS structure with main predicates of the pair of sentences in Example 8 “<i>Lẽ thư thái. Anh khiêu vũ.</i>”.</p> <p>Analyze:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The inner relationship:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The first sentence: [1] ➔ thư_thái (1)</li> <li>○ The second sentence: [1] ➔ khiêu_vũ (1)</li> </ul> </li> <li>● The inter-sentential relationship:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Information category in the semantic predicate of verb “thư thái” (relax) takes value [state].</li> <li>○ Information category in the semantic predicate of verb “khiêu vũ” (dance) takes value [action].</li> <li>○ Information sub_category in the semantic predicate of verb “thư thái” (relax) takes value [status].</li> <li>○ Information sub_category in the semantic predicate of verb “khiêu vũ” (dance) takes value [intransitive].</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>➔ Relationship: thư_thái(1) ➔ &lt;Consequence Relationship&gt; ➔ khiêu_vũ(1)</p>
5	<p>Type 5.1:</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>[1, 2]</p> <p>nhân(1, [nhân], [object], [human], [action_sentence])</p> <p>thoải_mái(1, [thoải, mái], [state], [status])</p> <p>đồ_thể_thao(2, [đồ, thể, thao], [object], [nonanimated], [process_sentence])</p> <p>mặc(1, 2, [mặc], [action], [transitive], [action_sentence])</p> </div> <p><b>Figure 8.</b> The DRS structure with main predicates of the pair of sentences in Example 9 “<i>Nhân thoải mái. Anh mặc đồ thể thao.</i>”.</p> <p>Analyze:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The inner relationship:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The first sentence: [1] ➔ thoải_mái(1)</li> <li>○ The second sentence: [1] ➔ mặc(1, 2) ➔ [2]</li> </ul> </li> <li>● The inter-sentential relationship:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Information category in the semantic predicate of verb “thoải mái” (comfortable) takes value [state].</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

(continued)

Table II.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Information category in the semantic predicate of verb “mặc” (dress) takes value [action].</li> <li>○ Information sub_category in the semantic predicate of verb “thoải mái” (comfortable) takes value [status].</li> <li>○ Information sub_category in the semantic predicate of verb “mặc” (dress) takes value [transitive].</li> </ul> <p>➔ Relationship: <math>\text{thoải\_mái}(1) \rightarrow \langle \text{Consequence Relationship} \rangle \rightarrow \text{mặc}(1, 2)</math></p>
	<p>Type 5.2:</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;"> <pre>[1, 2] trúc(1, [trúc], [object], [human], [action_sentence]) hạnh_phúc(1, [hạnh, phúc], [state], [status]) tín(2, [tín], [object], [human], [action_sentence]) cầu_hôn(2, 1, [cầu, hôn], [action], [transitive], [action_sentence])</pre> </div> <p><b>Figure 9.</b> The DRS structure with main predicates of the pair of sentences in Example 10 “<i>Trúc hạnh phúc. Tín cầu hôn cô.</i>”.</p> <p>Analyze:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The inner relationship: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The first sentence: <math>[1] \rightarrow \text{hạnh\_phúc}(1)</math></li> <li>○ The second sentence: <math>[2] \rightarrow \text{cầu\_hôn}(2, 1) \rightarrow [1]</math></li> </ul> </li> <li>● The inter-sentential relationship: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Information category in the semantic predicate of verb “hạnh phúc” (happy) takes value [state].</li> <li>○ Information category in the semantic predicate of verb “cầu hôn” (propose) takes value [action].</li> <li>○ Information sub_category in the semantic predicate of verb “hạnh phúc” (happy) takes value [status].</li> <li>○ Information sub_category in the semantic predicate of verb “cầu hôn” (propose) takes value [transitive].</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>➔ Relationship: <math>\text{hạnh\_phúc}(1) \rightarrow \langle \text{Consequence Relationship} \rangle \rightarrow \text{cầu\_hôn}(2, 1)</math></p>
6	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;"> <pre>[1, 2] lễ(1, [lễ], [object], [human], [action_sentence]) lớp_xe(2, [lớp, xe], [object], [nonanimated], [process_sentence]) vá(1, 2, [vá], [action], [transitive], [action_sentence]) thùng(2, [thùng], [process], [state_changed])</pre> </div> <p><b>Figure 10.</b> The DRS structure with main predicates of the pair of sentences in Example 11 “<i>Lễ vá lớp xe. Nó bị thùng.</i>”.</p> <p>Analyze:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The inner relationship: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The first sentence: <math>[1] \rightarrow \text{vá}(1, 2) \rightarrow [2]</math></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

(continued)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The second sentence: [2] → thùng (2)</li> <li>● The inter-sentential relationship:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Information category in the semantic predicate of verb “vá” (patch) takes value [action].</li> <li>○ Information category in the semantic predicate of verb “thùng” (punctured) takes value [process].</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>→ Relationship: vá (1, 2) → &lt;Consequence Relationship&gt; → thùng (2)</p>
7	<pre>[1,2] cúc(1,[cúc],[object],[human],[action_sentence]) chiếc_bình(2,[chiếc,bình],[object],[nonanimated],[process_sentence]) nhặt(1,2,[nhặt],[action],[transitive],[action_sentence]) roi(2,[roi],[process],[position_changed])</pre> <p><b>Figure 11.</b> The DRS structure with main predicates of the pair of sentences in Example 12 “Cúc nhặt chiếc bình. Nó bị rơi.”.</p> <p>Analyze:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The inner relationship:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The first sentence: [1] → nhặt (1, 2) → [2]</li> <li>○ The second sentence: [2] → rơi (2)</li> </ul> </li> <li>● The inter-sentential relationship:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Information category in the semantic predicate of verb “nhặt” (pick up) takes value [action].</li> <li>○ Information category in the semantic predicate of verb “rơi” (fall) takes value [process].</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>→ Relationship: nhặt (1, 2) → &lt;Consequence Relationship&gt; → rơi (2)</p>
8	<pre>[1,2,3] nghĩa(1,[nghĩa],[object],[human],[action_sentence]) angten(2,[angten],[object],[nonanimated],[process_sentence]) sửa(1,2,[sửa],[action],[transitive],[action_sentence]) sét(3,[sét],[object],[phenomenon],[process_sentence]) đánh(3,2,[đánh],[action],[transitive],[process_sentence])</pre> <p><b>Figure 12.</b> The DRS structure with main predicates of the pair of sentences in Example 13 “Nghĩa sửa angten. Sét đánh nó.”.</p> <p>Analyze:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The inner relationship:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The first sentence: [1] → sửa (1, 2) → [2]</li> <li>○ The second sentence: [3] → đánh (3, 2) → [2]</li> </ul> </li> <li>● The inter-sentential relationship:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Information category in the semantic predicate of verb “sửa” (fix) takes value [action].</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

(continued)

Table II.

- Information category in the semantic predicate of verb “đánh” (hit) takes value [action].
  - Information sub\_category in the semantic predicate of verb “sửa” (fix) takes value [transitive].
  - Information sub\_category in the semantic predicate of verb “đánh” (hit) takes value [transitive].
  - Information sentence\_class in the semantic predicate of verb “sửa” (fix) takes value [action\_sentence].
  - Information sentence\_class in the semantic predicate of verb “đánh” (hit) takes value [process\_sentence].
- ➔ Relationship: sửa (1, 2) ➔ <Consequence Relationship> ➔ đánh (3, 2)

Table II.

### 2.3 Generate the syntactic structure of the new reducing Vietnamese sentence

After determining inner- and inter-sentential relationships, at the next performing phase, we generate the syntactic structure of the new meaning-summarizing Vietnamese sentence. The main idea for generating the syntactic structure is to combine elements in the inner- and inter-sentential relationship structures. The general algorithm is performed through the following steps:

```
(i) Step 1: With first inner relationship
  If (Type 1 / Type 2 / Type 4 / Type 5.1 / Type 5.2) Then
    Put: [1] ➔ first_predicate(1);
  Else If (Type 3.1 / Type 3.2 / Type 6 / Type 7 / Type 8) Then
    Put: [1] ➔ first_predicate(1,2);
(ii) Step 2: With inter relationship
  Put: <Consequence Relationship>;
(iii) Step 3: With second inner relationship
  If (Type 1 / Type 2 / Type 3.1 / Type 4) Then
    Put: second_predicate(1);
  Else If (Type 3.2) Then
    Put: [2] ➔ second_predicate(2);
  Else If (Type 5.1) Then
    Put: second_predicate(1,2) ➔ [2];
  Else If (Type 5.2) Then
    ➔ Passive voice
    Put: second_predicate(2,1) ← [2];
  Else If (Type 6 / Type 7) Then
    Put: [2] ➔ second_predicate(2);
  Else If (Type 8) Then
    ➔ Passive voice
    Put: [2] ← second_predicate(3,2) ← [3];
```

**Figure 13.** The general algorithm for generating the syntactic structure of the new meaning-summarizing Vietnamese sentence.

We perform steps of this algorithm for each pair type in Table I as follows:

- Type 1:

- Step 1: With the first inner relationship  
⇒ Add: [1] → hãnh\_diện(1)
- Step 2: With the inter-sentential relationship  
⇒ Add: <Consequence Relationship>
- Step 3: With the second inner relationship  
⇒ Add: xinh\_đẹp(1)

→ The syntactic structure:

[1] → hãnh\_diện(1) + <Consequence Relationship> + xinh\_đẹp(1)

- Type 2:

- Step 1: With the first inner relationship  
⇒ Add: [1] → tính\_toán(1)
- Step 2: With the inter-sentential relationship  
⇒ Add: <Consequence Relationship>
- Step 3: With the second inner relationship  
⇒ Add: gian\_giáo(1)

→ The syntactic structure:

[1] → tính\_toán(1) + <Consequence Relationship> + gian\_giáo(1)

- Type 3.1:

- Step 1: With the first inner relationship  
⇒ Add: [1] → học(1,2) → [2]
- Step 2: With the inter-sentential relationship  
⇒ Add: <Consequence Relationship>
- Step 3: With the second inner relationship  
⇒ Add: mạnh\_mẽ(1)

→ The syntactic structure:

[1] → học(1,2) → [2] + <Consequence Relationship>  
+ mạnh\_mẽ(1)

- Type 3.2:

- Step 1: With the first inner relationship  
⇒ Add: [1] → ghét(1,2) → [2]
- Step 2: With the inter-sentential relationship  
⇒ Add: <Consequence Relationship>
- Step 3: With the second inner relationship  
⇒ Add: [2] → keo\_kiệt(2)

→ The syntactic structure:

[1] → ghét(1,2) → [2] + <Consequence Relationship> + [2]  
→ keo\_kiệt(2)



- Type 4:
  - Step 1: With the first inner relationship  
⇒ Add: [1] → thu\_thái(1)
  - Step 2: With the inter-sentential relationship  
⇒ Add: <Consequence Relationship>
  - Step 3: With the second inner relationship  
⇒ Add: khiêu\_vũ(1)
- ➔ The syntactic structure:  
[1] → thu\_thái(1) + <Consequence Relationship>  
+ khiêu\_vũ(1)
- Type 5.1:
  - Step 1: With the first inner relationship  
⇒ Add: [1] → thoải\_mái(1)
  - Step 2: With the inter-sentential relationship  
⇒ Add: <Consequence Relationship>
  - Step 3: With the second inner relationship  
⇒ Add: mặc(1,2) → [2]
- ➔ The syntactic structure:  
[1] → thoải\_mái(1) + <Consequence Relationship>  
+ mặc(1,2) → [2]
- Type 5.2:
  - Step 1: With the first inner relationship  
⇒ Add: [1] → hạnh\_phúc(1)
  - Step 2: With the inter-sentential relationship  
⇒ Add: <Consequence Relationship>
  - Step 3: With the second inner relationship  
⇒ Add: cầu\_hôn(2,1) ← [2]
- ➔ The syntactic structure:  
[1] → hạnh\_phúc(1) + <Consequence Relationship>  
+ cầu\_hôn(2,1) ← [2]
- Type 6:
  - Step 1: With the first inner relationship  
⇒ Add: [1] → vá(1,2) → [2]
  - Step 2: With the inter-sentential relationship  
⇒ Add: <Consequence Relationship>
  - Step 3: With the second inner relationship  
⇒ Add: [2] → thùng(2)

→ The syntactic structure:

[1] → vá(1,2) → [2] + <Consequence Relationship> + [2]  
→ thủng(2)

• Type 7:

○ Step 1: With the first inner relationship

⇒ Add: [1] → nhặt(1,2) → [2]

○ Step 2: With the inter-sentential relationship

⇒ Add: <Consequence Relationship>

○ Step 3: With the second inner relationship

⇒ Add: [2] → rơi(2)

→ The syntactic structure:

[1] → nhặt(1,2) → [2] + <Consequence Relationship> + [2]  
→ rơi(2)

• Type 8:

○ Step 1: With the first inner relationship

⇒ Add: [1] → sửa(1,2) → [2]

○ Step 2: With the inter-sentential relationship

⇒ Add: <Consequence Relationship>

○ Step 3: With the second inner relationship

⇒ Add: [2] ← đánh(3,2) ← [3]

→ The syntactic structure:

[1] → sửa(1,2) → [2] + <Consequence Relationship> + [2]  
← đánh(3,2) ← [3]

#### 2.4 Complete the new reducing Vietnamese sentence

To perform the last phase which is to complete the new reducing Vietnamese sentence, we proceed in two steps:

(1) Step 1 – build the lexical set; and

(2) Step 2 – replace elements in the syntactic structure by appropriate lexicons.

Based on the idea of [Tran and Nguyen \(2014c\)](#) when proceeding Step 1, we define only one object class `Lexicon` (is an improvement compared with the study by [Tran and Nguyen, 2014b](#) when defining many object classes for different lexical categories) in which each property corresponding to one information in lexical semantic predicate: `Lexicon{flagSemantic – corresponding to information semantic; flagContent – corresponding to information content; flagCategory – corresponding to information category; flagSubCategory – corresponding to information sub_category; flagMorphology – is a form of practical use of lexicon}`.

Consider examples are lexicons belonging to different categories:

- Consider lexicon “Nghĩa” in the pair of sentences at Example 13 in Table I, which has the semantic predicate presented in the DRS in Figure 12, the defined lexical object: `ohNghia{flagSemantic - nghĩa; flagContent - [nghĩa]; flagCategory - [object]; flagSubCategory - [human]; flagMorphology - Nghĩa}`.
- Consider lexicon “đánh” () in the pair of sentences at Example 13 in Table I, which has the semantic predicate presented in the DRS in Figure 12, the defined lexical object: `atDanh{flagSemantic - đánh; flagContent - [đánh]; flagCategory - [action]; flagSubCategory - [transitive]; flagMorphology - đánh}`.
- Consider lexicon “roi” () in the pair of sentences at Example 12 in Table I, which has the semantic predicate presented in the DRS in Figure 11, the defined lexical object: `ppcNghia{flagSemantic - roi; flagContent - [roi]; flagCategory - [process]; flagSubCategory - [position_changed]; flagMorphology - roi}`.
- Consider lexicon “hạnh phúc” () in the pair of sentences at Example 10 in Table I, which has the semantic predicate presented in the DRS in Figure 9, the defined lexical object: `ssHanhPhuc{flagSemantic - hạnh phúc; flagContent - [hạnh,phúc]; flagCategory - [state]; flagSubCategory - [status]; flagMorphology - hạnh phúc}`.

The general algorithm for performing Step 2:

```

Consider syntactic structure
  With element  $\epsilon$  first inner relationship
    Replace semantic predicate by flagMorphology of corresponding lexicon
    object;
  With inter relationship
    Replace <Consequence Relationship> by “vi” (English: Because of);
  With element  $\epsilon$  second inner relationship
    If (Type 1 / Type 2 / Type 3.1 / Type 3.2 / Type 4 / Type 5.1)
      Replace semantic predicate by flagMorphology of corresponding
      lexicon object;
    Else If (Type 5.2)
      Add “được” (English: is - passive voice);
      Replace semantic predicate of second transitive action by
      flagMorphology of corresponding lexicon object;
      Add “bởi” (English: by);
      Replace semantic predicate of second object by flagMorphology of
      corresponding lexicon object;
    Else If (Type 6 / Type 7)
      Replace semantic predicate of second object by flagMorphology of
      corresponding lexicon object;
      Add “bị” (English: is);
      Replace semantic predicate of process by flagMorphology of
      corresponding lexicon object;
    Else If (Type 8)
      Replace semantic predicate of second object by flagMorphology of
      corresponding lexicon object;
      Add “bị” (English: is);
      Replace semantic predicate of third object by flagMorphology of
      corresponding lexicon object;
      Replace semantic predicate of second transitive action by
      flagMorphology of corresponding lexicon object;

```

**Figure 14.** The algorithm for completing the new reducing Vietnamese sentence.

The result of performing the algorithm in Figure 14 for each example sentence pair in Table I is presented in Table III.

### 3. Experiment and evaluation

The main content of this section is based on the idea of Tran and Nguyen (2014c).

With the given requirement that the generated Vietnamese sentence through proposed method has to satisfy naturalism in common Vietnamese communication, we test and evaluate the quality of new reducing Vietnamese sentence based on these criteria. To be consistent with the sentence-generation approach (in Tran and Nguyen, 2014c) and to extend this research, we propose the method for evaluating the sentential quality with the main idea: for each tested pair of Vietnamese sentences, compare the semantic similarity between new reducing Vietnamese sentence which is automatically generated through proposed method in Section 2 with some Vietnamese sentences which are manually generated in different real contexts. These semantic similarities are used to calculate a quality index. We compare the quality index with an established threshold to identify: the generated

Type	The syntactic structure	The complete Vietnamese sentence
1	“Mai” + “hãnh diện” + “vì” + “xinh đẹp”	“ <i>Mai hãnh diện vì xinh đẹp</i> ” (English: Mai is proud because of being beautiful.)
2	“Trí” + “tính toán” + “vì” + “gian xảo”	“ <i>Trí tính toán vì gian xảo</i> ” (English: Trí calculates because of being shifty.)
3	“Lan” + “học” + “võ” + “vì” + “mạnh mẽ”	“ <i>Lan học võ vì mạnh mẽ</i> ” (English: Lan learns martial arts because of being strong.)
	“Nghĩa” + “ghét” + “Tin” + “vì” + “Tin” + “keo kiệt”	“ <i>Nghĩa ghét Tin vì Tin keo kiệt</i> ” (English: Nghĩa hates Tin because Tin is stingy.)
4	“Lê” + “thư thái” + “vì” + “khiêu vũ”	“ <i>Lê thư thái vì khiêu vũ</i> ” (English: Lê is relaxed because of dancing.)
5	“Nhân” + “thoải mái” + “vì” + “mặc” + “đồ thể thao”	“ <i>Nhân thoải mái vì mặc đồ thể thao</i> ” (English: Nhân is comfortable because of dressing sport clothes.)
	“Trúc” + “hạnh phúc” + “vì” + “được” + “cầu hôn” + “bởi” + “Tin”	“ <i>Trúc hạnh phúc vì được cầu hôn bởi Tin</i> ” (English: Trúc is happy because of being proposed by Tin.)
6	“Lê” + “vá” + “lốp xe” + “vì” + “lốp xe” + “bị” + “thủng”	“ <i>Lê vá lốp xe vì lốp xe bị thủng</i> ” (English: Lê patches the tyre because the tyre is punctured.)
7	“Cúc” + “nhặt” + “chiếc bình” + “vì” + “chiếc bình” + “bị” + “rơi”	“ <i>Cúc nhặt chiếc bình vì chiếc bình bị rơi</i> ” (English: Cúc picks up the vase because the vase falls.)
8	“Nghĩa” + “sửa” + “angten” + “vì” + “angten” + “bị” + “sét” + “đánh”	“ <i>Nghĩa sửa angten vì angten bị sét đánh</i> ” (English: Nghĩa fixes the antenna because the antenna is hit by lightning.)

**Table III.**  
The complete  
Vietnamese sentence

Vietnamese sentence has the quality which is accepted if the quality index has the value which is higher than the threshold.

At the first step, we build a dataset which is used in the experiment composing pairs of Vietnamese sentences which satisfy following requirements:

- (1) Have the characteristic belonging to one of the types in Table I.
  - Types 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5: the first sentence has the verb having the higher priority than the verb in the second sentence.
  - Types 6, 7 and 8: The first sentence denotes transitive action, and the second sentence denotes process.
- (2) Can exactly determine the antecedence at the first sentence for the anaphoric pronoun at the second sentence and build the DRS. We only focus on evaluating the quality of the new reducing Vietnamese sentence which is generated through the presented method in Section 2.

With the above requirements, we collected 292 pairs of Vietnamese sentences for testing: following Tran and Nguyen (2014c), there are 29 sentence pairs belonging to Type 1; 47 sentence pairs belonging to Type 2; 83 sentence pairs belonging to Type 3; 11 sentence pairs belonging to Type 4; and 22 sentence pairs belonging to Type 5; added in this research are 30 sentence pairs belonging to Type 6, 11 sentence pairs belonging to Type 7 and 59 sentence pairs belonging to Type 8.

Next, we test each pair of sentence in the dataset and generate the new meaning-summarizing Vietnamese sentence by the system which is developed according to the presented method in Section 2. We also manually generate some Vietnamese sentence according to different real context. The semantic similarity between the automatically generated Vietnamese sentence and each manually generated Vietnamese sentence is calculated using the Jaccard formula (Manning and Schutze, 1999; Nivattanakul *et al.*, 2013; Tanimoto, 1958). In this formula, set  $AuS$  as set of lexicons in the automatically generated Vietnamese sentence and  $MaS$  as the set of lexicons in the manually generated Vietnamese sentence. The Jaccard formula for calculating the semantic similarity is:

$$J(AuS, MaS) = \frac{|AuS \cap MaS|}{|AuS \cup MaS|}$$

After calculating the semantic similarity by the Jaccard formula between the automatically generated Vietnamese sentence and each manually generated Vietnamese sentence, we calculate the sum of these semantic similarities and divide by the number of manually generated Vietnamese sentences. The obtained result is an index called quality index. The formula for calculating this quality index is as follows (in which  $n$  is the number of manually generated Vietnamese sentences and can be different for different original pairs of Vietnamese sentences):

$$Quality\ Index = \frac{\sum_{i,j} (AuS, MaS_i)}{n}$$

Finally, we compare the quality index of each automatically generated Vietnamese sentence with an established threshold to evaluate: if the quality index a has the higher value than the threshold, then the quality of the automatically generated Vietnamese sentence is accepted. We establish the threshold as follows: for pairs of sentences belonging to Types 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, the threshold is 0.7 according to [Tran and Nguyen \(2014c\)](#) and for pairs of sentences belonging to Types 6, 7 and 8, the threshold is 0.75. To evaluate the degree of accuracy, we calculate indexes Precision, Recall and  $F$ -measure ([Nivattanakul et al., 2013](#); [Powers, 2011](#)).

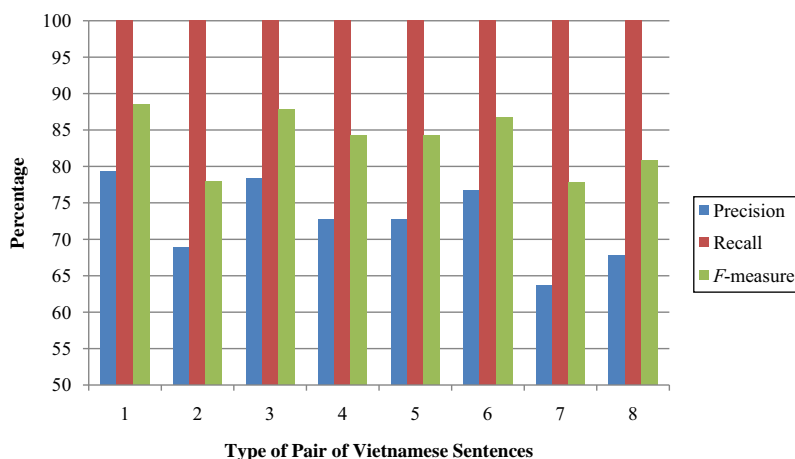
Experimental and evaluation result is presented in [Table IV](#) and [Figure 15](#).

#### 4. Conclusion

To summarize the given pair of Vietnamese sentences by the method of generating a new reducing Vietnamese sentence is a new approach in the text summarization field with the combination of ideas in the text-generation field. As different traditional text summarization systems, but with the new approach, we perform phases according to the definition of [Jones \(2007\)](#), (1999):

**Table IV.**  
The experiment  
result and degree of  
accuracy with  
Precision, Recall and  
 $F$ -measure index

Type	The no. of tested pairs of sentences	The no. of new reducing Vietnamese sentences having accepted quality	Precision	Recall	$F$ -measure
1	29	23	79.31	100	88.46
2	47	30	68.83	100	77.92
3	83	65	78.31	100	87.84
4	11	8	72.73	100	84.21
5	22	16	72.73	100	84.21
6	30	23	76.67	100	86.79
7	11	7	63.64	100	77.78
8	59	40	67.80	100	80.81



**Figure 15.**  
The result of  
calculating Precision,  
Recall and  $F$ -measure  
index for 292 tested  
pairs of Vietnamese  
sentences

- the first phase is to understand and represent the semantic of the original pair of Vietnamese sentences by a logical form is DRS (Blackburn and Bos, 1999; Covington and Schmitz, 1989; Covington *et al.*, 1988; Kamp, 1981);
- the second phase is to transform this meaning representation form into the syntactic structure of the new meaning-summarizing Vietnamese sentence; and
- the third phase is to combine the syntactic structure with the lexical set for completing the new meaning-summarizing Vietnamese sentence.

With this new approach, the question is how to guarantee the quality of the generated Vietnamese sentence so that it can satisfy the naturalism in the common Vietnamese communication. To handle this issue, we based our study on the appropriate linguistic theory which is the Functional Grammar theory (Cao, 2006; Halliday and Matthiessen, 2004) to establish the inter-sentential relationship <Consequence Relationship> in universal contexts and classify considered pairs of sentences. The proposed experiment and evaluation method shows that the percentage of new reducing Vietnamese sentences having accepted quality is high (from 70-80 per cent for Precision index and from 80-90 per cent for *F*-measure index).

To analyze the performing process and tested result, we acknowledge some remaining points:

- The sentence-generation method was applied for pairs of Vietnamese sentences having simple structures. In some situations, the new generated Vietnamese sentence has the quality that was not accepted; the reason is that there is no factor expressing the context about time or space in the source pair of sentences. This leads to the real context in which these pairs appear; the inter-sentential relationship is not identical with <Consequence Relationship> which we established at the beginning.
- For paragraphs composed of more than two sentences, we realize that we can apply the new summarizing method. However, an important issue that needs to be set out is to establish some presuppositions about relationships and considering priorities.
- The Jaccard index (Manning and Schutze, 1999; Nivattanakul *et al.*, 2013; Tanimoto, 1958) which is applied in the new experiment and evaluation method may be not totally correct in some situations. This index only calculates the semantic similarity between two sentences based on the number of resembling lexicons but not on other factors.

With obtained results, we will still apply the sentence-generation approach to summarize the meaning for pairs of sentences having complex structures and paragraphs composing more than two sentences. In next studies, we also consider and establish some more relationships to enhance the quality of generated Vietnamese sentences.

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