

a folha

Boletim da língua portuguesa nas instituições europeias

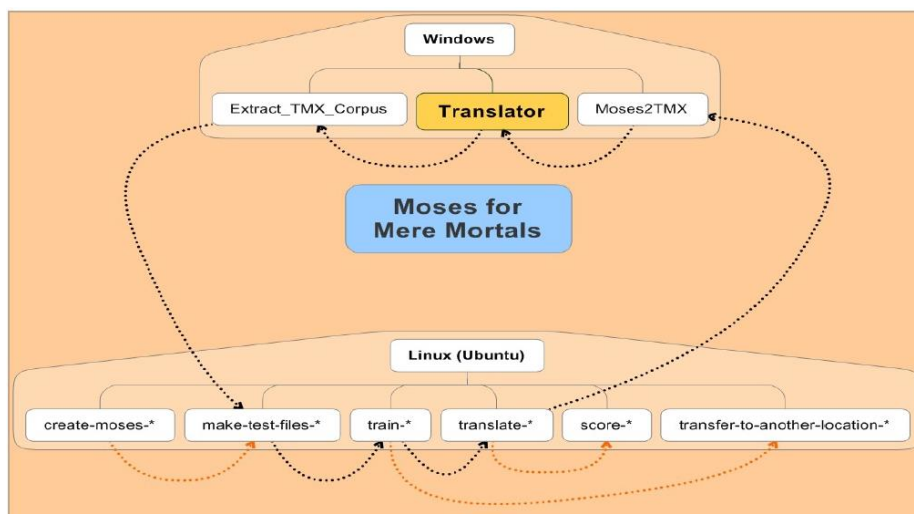
<http://ec.europa.eu/translation/portuguese/magazine>

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MOSES FOR MERE MORTALS — Latest release, new hosting site, new tutorial and new videos

Maria José Bellino Machado, João Luís Rosas and Hilário Leal Fontes

Moses for Mere Mortals has already been the subject of several articles in «a folha»⁽¹⁾. However, just as a reminder, Moses for Mere Mortals (MMM) is a machine translation package intended to allow users with no background in computational linguistics or computer science to train their own machine translation engines. Hence the ‘for mere mortals’.



Moses is the most used statistical machine translation system both in research and in commercial and public MT applications all over the world. MMM makes available to a wider number of users this fantastic, state-of-the-art open-source Statistical Machine Translation System.

⁽¹⁾ Machado, M. J., Leal Fontes, H., Rosas, J., «Sistema de tradução automática Moses e... Moses for Mere Mortals» in «a folha», no. 32 — Spring 2010, http://ec.europa.eu/translation/portuguese/magazine/documents/folha32_pt.pdf;
Machado, M. J., Leal Fontes, H., «Avaliação do sistema de tradução automática Moses no Departamento de Língua Portuguesa da DGT utilizando os scripts Moses for Mere Mortals — estudo de caso inglês-português», in «a folha», no. 37 — Autumn 2011, http://ec.europa.eu/translation/portuguese/magazine/documents/folha37_pt.pdf;
Leal Fontes, H., «Corpora multilingues da União Europeia para reutilizar na tradução», in «a folha» no. 45 — Summer 2014, http://ec.europa.eu/translation/portuguese/magazine/documents/folha45_pt.pdf.

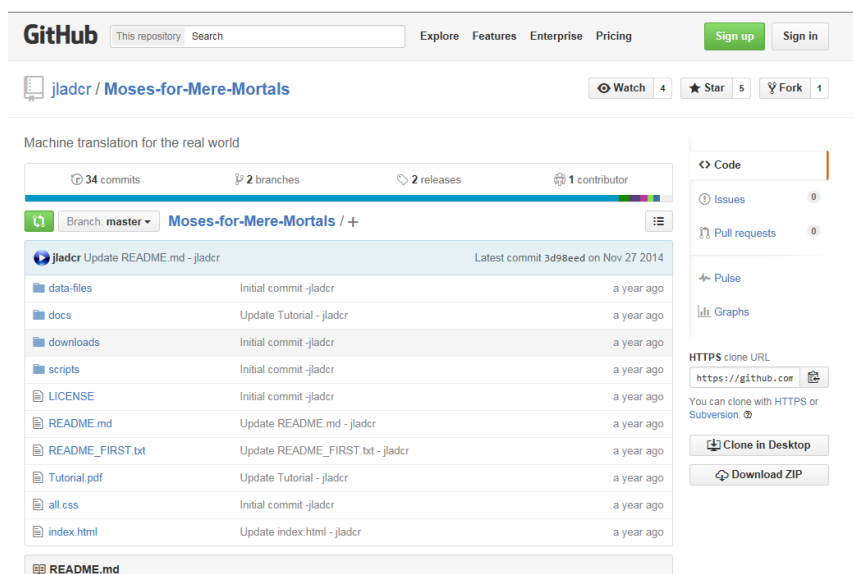
With MMM, it is possible to create a real-world machine translation chain — for almost any language pair — with either small or large corpora (of even more than 10 million segments) in a domestic 1000 Euro computer in a few hours or days, depending on the size of the training corpus, on the computer capacity and on the selected settings.

The only requirements needed to use MMM are to have some basic knowledge of the **Linux** operating system and an **Ubuntu** distribution — 14.04 (LTS) (64 bits) — installed in a computer.

Ubuntu is very easy to install and use. It can be installed as the only operating system or with dual booting so that another operating system like Windows can be used in the same computer.

Ubuntu can also be installed in a virtual machine on top of a different operating system (e.g. Windows or Mac), and this kind of installation may even be adequate just for testing how MMM works or to train engines with small corpora. However, for training MT engines with medium/large corpora, a virtual machine in a personal computer will probably not be a good solution as the resources have to be shared between the host and the guest (virtual machine) systems.

The latest MMM release is now hosted in **github**: <https://github.com/jladcr/Moses-for-Mere-Mortals>.



The screenshot shows the GitHub repository page for 'Moses-for-Mere-Mortals' by user 'jladcr'. The repository is titled 'Machine translation for the real world'. It has 34 commits, 2 branches, 2 releases, and 1 contributor. The latest commit is '3d98eed' on Nov 27, 2014. The repository contains several files and folders: 'data-files', 'docs', 'downloads', 'scripts', 'LICENSE', 'README.md', 'README_FIRST.txt', 'Tutorial.pdf', 'all.css', and 'index.html'. The 'README.md' file is currently selected and its content is visible in the 'Code' tab on the right. The page also shows options to 'Clone in Desktop' and 'Download ZIP'.

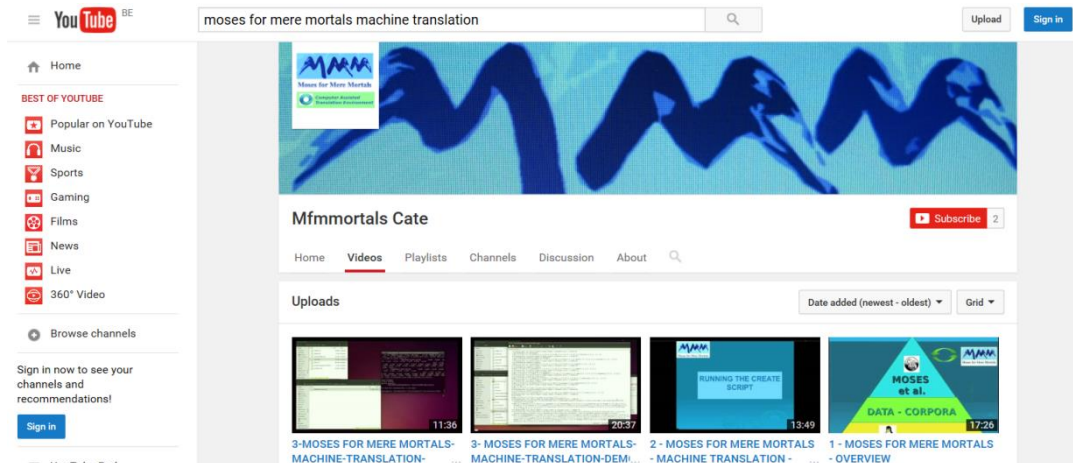
There is also a new **Tutorial** which we hope will be more user-friendly for absolute beginners in Machine Translation.

Since installing and using such a sophisticated MT system is probably a daunting prospect that few non-experts will dare to attempt unguided, in the **Tutorial** there is a **Section on What Makes Moses Tick** (Annex 1) which presents an (outrageously!) simplified overview of basic concepts on Statistical Machine Translation in general — and Moses in particular — to give absolute beginners an idea of what Moses is about.

Also, in the Section **Further reading and videos**, we have selected — from the large amount of information available on the Internet — some information that you may find interesting.

Furthermore, we have just published in **YouTube** some videos⁽²⁾ that show how simple it really is to install, train engines with corpora and start producing machine translations with Moses for Mere Mortals.

We know it is hard to believe that it is possible to be up and running after a few hours with such a sophisticated Statistical Machine Translation system. But believe us, it can be done!



⁽²⁾ YouTube, *Mfmmortals Cate*, https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfWAWcG_9AUjSMj7pPGHTrw.