Australasian Language Technology Association Workshop 2009

Proceedings of the Workshop

Editors:
Luiz Augusto Pizzato
Rolf Schwitter

3-4 December 2009
University of New South Wales
Sydney, Australia
Preface

This volume contains the papers accepted for presentation at the Australasian Language Technology Workshop (ALTA) 2009, held as part of HCSNet (ARC Network in Human Communication Science) SummerFest at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia on December 3-4, 2009. This is the seventh annual installment of the ALTA workshop in its most-recent incarnation, and the continuation of an annual workshop series that has existed in various forms Down Under since the early 1990s.

The goals of the workshop are:

- to bring together the growing Language Technology (LT) community in Australia and New Zealand and encourage interactions;
- to encourage interactions and collaboration within this community and with the wider international LT community;
- to foster interaction between academic and industrial researchers, to encourage dissemination of research results;
- to provide a forum for the discussion of new and ongoing research and projects;
- to provide an opportunity for the broader artificial intelligence community to become aware of local LT research; and, finally, to increase visibility of LT research in Australia, New Zealand and overseas.

This years ALTA Workshop includes full paper presentations as well as short paper presentations. Of the 27 papers submitted to ALTA, 18 papers were selected by the program committee for publication. One of these 18 papers was withdrawn by the authors after the review process. The remaining 17 papers appear in these proceedings; 10 papers as full papers (9 pages in length) and 7 papers as short papers (5 pages in length).

Each paper was independently peer-reviewed by at least two members of an international program committee, in accordance with the DEST requirements for E1 conference publications. The ALTA Workshop is classified as a Tier B conference in the Computing Research and Education Association of Australasia (CORE) classification system which will form the basis of ranking computer science conference publications for the ARC.

We would like to thank all the authors who submitted papers to ALTA; the members of the program committee for the time and effort they put into the review process; and to our international plenary speaker, Prof. David Traum, University of Southern California, Institute for Creative Technologies.

Our thanks also go to HCSNet for its invaluable financial and organisational support, and for bringing together a large number of research communities under one multidisciplinary roof. In particular, we would like to thank Kym Buckley, Chris Cassidy, and Ben Phelan for their perfect organization of this event.

Luiz Augusto Pizzato and Rolf Schwitter
Program Co-Chairs
ALTA 2009 Committees

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- Luiz Pizzato (University of Sydney)
- Rolf Schwitter (Macquarie University)

Workshop Local Organiser

- HCSNet (The ARC Network in Human Communication Science)

Program Committee

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- Harold Somers (Dublin City University)
- Jette Viethen (Macquarie University)
- Martin Volk (University of Zuerich)
- Menno van Zaanen (Tilburg University)
- Simon Zwarts (Macquarie University)
# ALTA 2009 Program

**Thursday, 3rd December 2009**

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<td>9:00-10:00</td>
<td>HCSNet Plenary talk: Eckart Altenmuller</td>
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**Session 1 - 10:45 - 12:30**

- **10:45-11:15** Ben Hachey  
  *Evaluation of Generic Relation Identification*
- **11:15-11:45** Will Radford, Ben Hachey, James R Curran and Maria Milosavljevic  
  *Tracking Information Flow in Financial Text*
- **Short papers**
- **11:45-12:00** Christopher Chua, Maria Milosavljevic and James R. Curran  
  *A Sentiment Detection Engine for Internet Stock Message Boards*
- **12:00-12:15** Su Nam Kim, Timothy Baldwin and Min-Yen Kan  
  *Extracting Domain-Specific Words - A Statistical Approach*
- **12:15-12:30** Jon Patrick and Min Li  
  *A Cascade Approach to Extracting Medication Events*

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<td>HCSNet Plenary talk: Jonathan Harrington</td>
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**Session 2 - 3:30-4:30**

- **3:30-4:00** Nicky Ringland, Joel Notnman, Tara Murphy and James R Curran  
  *Classifying articles in English and German Wikipedia*
- **Short papers**
- **4:00-4:15** Sam Tardif, James R Curran and Tara Murphy  
  *Improved Text Categorisation for Wikipedia Named Entities*
- **4:15-4:30** Aleksandar Igić, Catherine Watson, Jonathan Teutenberg, Elizabeth Broadbent, Rie Tamagawa and Bruce MacDonald  
  *Towards a flexible platform for voice accent and expression selection on a Healthcare Robot*

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<td>James Breen and Timothy Baldwin, <em>Corpus-based Extraction of Japanese Compound Verbs</em></td>
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<td>11:30—12:00</td>
<td>Meladel Mistica, Wayan Arka, Timothy Baldwin and Avery Andrews, <em>Double Double, Morphology and Trouble: Looking into Reduplication in Indonesian</em></td>
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<td>Bahadorreza Ofoghi and John Yearwood, <em>From Lexical Entailment to Recognizing Textual Entailment Using Linguistic Resources</em></td>
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