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Symposium: Linguistics of ‘Ba’ on Day 2: November 6th (Sat) is supported in part and organized in conjunction with JSPS Kakenhi, or Grant-in-Aid for Challenging Exploratory Research Number 21652041, entitled Construction of Linguistics of ‘Ba’, Semantics and Pragmatics of ‘Ba’.
Foreword

Welcome to the beautiful city of Sendai and to PACLIC 24. Tohoku University thank you for your participation, the Logico-Linguistic Society of Japan thank you for your contribution, and I thank you for coming to join us.

We are gathered here for the 24th Pacific Asia Conference on Language, Information and Computation, to be held for the first time in Sendai. To our call for papers distributed earlier this year, we received a total of 102 submissions, out of which 28 are selected for oral presentations, 25 for poster presentations and 20 for the student session. This year, we witnessed a sudden increase of submissions from South Asia and on languages in the region, augmenting diversity of languages discussed and countries and regions of participants. With increasing number of submissions, we are no longer able to follow our earlier PACLIC tradition to organize the program into one series of single sessions, but we still hope to keep our spirit in which researchers in theoretical and computational linguistics from diverse research backgrounds on various issues of different languages gather together, share results and go home with fresh ideas and new friendships. Following the practice of PACLIC 23 held in 2009 at the City University of Hong Kong, we set up multiple sessions to accommodate more oral presentations, but the two invited open symposia and three plenary talks do not have counterpart parallel sessions. We have two pre-workshops, one on corpus and the other on meaning, on Day 0, which is Thursday November 4th, and on Day 3, which is Sunday November 7th, we have a special workshop, proposed and organized by Dr. Chungmin Lee, in honor of Professor Akira Ikeya, who is one of the “founding fathers” of this PACLIC series of conferences.

We introduced two new “innovations” in our program: the two organized symposia on Day 1 and Day 2 are open to the general public, namely general audience who are not registered for PACLIC 24 can attend the presentations for free. Another new attempt is to set up a Student Session and Student Awards. The session is for graduate students and authors of several best papers are awarded partial travel expense support. The former is intended to attract more audience, mostly from within Japan and especially from the area around the hosting institution, and the latter to motivate increased interests in submission, especially from students outside Japan.

All these new attempts were possible by the dedicated efforts by our Organizing Chair, Professor Kei Yoshimoto, Program Chair, Ryo Otoguro, and other members of both the Organizing and Program Committees and additional reviewers, with financial support from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science and Tohoku University.

Now, please enjoy the presentations, get connected and get ready to start a new collaboration!

October, 2010
Yasunari Harada
Honorary Program Chair of PACLIC 24
President of the Logico-Linguistic Society of Japan
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Table of Contents

Foreword ......................................................................................................................... iii
Organizers ......................................................................................................................... iv

Invited and Plenary Talks

Symposium on Language Resources

*PodCastle: A Spoken Document Retrieval Service Improved by Anonymous User Contributions*
  Masataka Goto and Jun Ogata ................................................................. 3

*The Future Role of Language Resources for Natural Language Parsing (We Won’t Be Able to Rely on Pierre Vinken Rorever . . . or Will We Have to?)*
  Julia Hockenmaier ................................................................. 13

*The Acquisition of Word Order in a Topic-prominent Language: Corpus Findings and Experimental Investigation*
  Thomas Hun-Tak Lee ................................................................. 15

Symposium: Toward a Linguistic Theory of Ba: Semantics and Pragmatics of Ba

*How and Why Two Strangers Can Co-create a Story: An Application of the ‘Ba’-Theory Based Approach to the Discourse*
  Sachiko Ide ................................................................. 19

*Situated Language: Case of Japanese*
  Hideyuki Nakashima ................................................................. 25

*Listening In*
  Stanley Peters ................................................................. 31

Plenary Talks

*Basic Units of Lexicons and Ontologies: Words, Senses and Concepts*
  Hee-Rahk Chae ................................................................. 35

*A Morphosyntactic Analysis of the Pronominal System of Philippine Languages*
  Shirley N. Dita ................................................................. 45

*Statistical Translation Model Based On Source Syntax Structure*
  Qun Liu, Yang Liu and Haitai Mi ................................................................. 61
Regular Papers

**Lexical Semantics-Syntactic Model for Defining and Subcategorizing Attribute Noun Class**
Xiaopeng Bai and Hui Wang ................................................................. 65

**Benglish Verbs: A Case of Code-mixing in Bengali**
Shishir Bhattacharja ................................................................. 75

**Enhanced Genre Classification through Linguistically Fine-Grained POS Tags**
Alex Chengyu Fang and Jing Cao ................................................................. 85

**Identifying Emotional Expressions, Intensities and Sentence Level Emotion Tags Using a Supervised Framework**
Dipankar Das and Sivaji Bandyopadhyay ................................................................. 95

**Decision Theory and Discourse Particles: A Case Study from a Large Japanese Sentiment Corpus**
Christopher Davis ................................................................. 105

**Finding Appropriate Subset of Votes Per Classifier Using Multiobjective Optimization: Application to Named Entity Recognition**
Asif Ekbal, Sriparna Saha and Md. Hasanuzzaman ................................................................. 115

**Experimental Approach to Reference in Discourse: Working Memory Capacity and Language Comprehension in Russian**
Olga Fedorova, Ekaterina Delikishkina and Anna Uspenskaya ................................................................. 125

**A Computational Model of Language Generation Applied to Japanese Wh-questions**
Jason Ginsburg ................................................................. 133

**Chains in Syntax and Morphology**
Thomas Gross ................................................................. 143

**Feature Subset Selection Using Genetic Algorithm for Named Entity Recognition**
Md. Hasanuzzaman, Sriparna Saha and Asif Ekbal ................................................................. 153

**Developing Punjabi Morphology, Corpus and Lexicon**
Muhammad Humayoun and Aarne Ranta ................................................................. 163

**Effective Use of Linguistic Features for Sentiment Analysis of Korean**
Hayeon Jang and Hyopil Shin ................................................................. 173

**Word Order and NP Structure in Korean: A Constraint Based Approach**
Jong-Bok Kim, Nam-Guen Lee and Yae-shiek Lee ................................................................. 183

**Evidentials and Epistemic Modal in Korean: Evidence from Their Interactions**
Chungmin Lee ................................................................. 193
Implementation of Korean Syllable Structures in the Typed Feature Structure Formalism
Gyu-hyung Lee, Ye-seul Park and Yong-hun Lee .................................................. 203

Focus Types and Subject-Object Asymmetry in Korean Case Ellipsis:
A New Look at Focus Effects
Hanjung Lee and Haejeong Choi ................................................................. 213

eSpatialML: An Event-Driven Spatial Annotation Framework
Kiyong Lee, Jonathan Webster and Alex Chengyu Fang .............................. 223

Domain-Independent Novel Event Discovery and Semi-Automatic Event Annotation
Hao Li, Xiang Li, Heng Ji and Yuval Marton ................................................. 233

Developing an Online Indonesian Corpora Repository
Ruli Manurung, Bayu Distiawan and Desmond Darma Putra ....................... 243

Topicalization and Truth Conditions: A Categorial Account
Hiroaki Nakamura ................................................................. 251

Unsupervised Classification of Biomedical Abstracts Using Lexical Association
Jonathon Read, Jonathan Webster and Alex Chengyu Fang ........................ 261

Licensing Nominals in the Multiple Nominative Constructions in Korean:
A Mereological Perspective
Byong-Rae Ryu ................................................................. 271

Combination of 3 Types of Speech Recognizers for Anaphora Resolution
Kazutaka Shimada, Noriko Tanamachi and Tsutomu Endo ...................... 281

Syntactic and Semantic Discrepancies among the Verbs for ‘kill’
in English, Chinese and Thai
Kingkarn Thepkanjana and Satoshi Uehara ...................................... 291

Expanding Chinese Sentiment Dictionaries from Large Scale Unlabeled Corpus
Hongzhi Xu, Kai Zhao, Likun Qiu and Changjian Hu ............................ 301

Representing Events in Japanese Complex Predicates
Yoshie Yamamori ................................................................. 311

Fault-Tolerant Learning for Term Extraction
Yuhang Yang, Hao Yu, Yao Meng, Yingliang Lu and Yingju Xia .............. 321

Syntactically Complex Demonstratives and Sortal Inherency
Richard Zuber ................................................................. 331

Poster Papers

On Automated Hyperonym Hierarchy Construction
Using an Internet Search Engine
Sergey Afonin ................................................................. 341
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An Ontological Analysis of Japanese and Chinese Kinship Terms</td>
<td>349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Songiy Baik and Hee-Rahk Chae</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRASP: Grammar- and Syntax-based Pattern-Finder</td>
<td>357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for Collocation and Phrase Learning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mei-hua Chen, Chung-chi Huang, Shih-ting Huang and Jason S. Chang</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitigating Problems in Analogy-based EBMT with SMT and vice versa:</td>
<td>365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Case Study with Named Entity Transliteration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandipan Dandapat, Sara Morrissey, Sudip Kumar Naskar and Harold Somers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Why the English Easiest Type Became the Hardest in Russian,</td>
<td>373</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or Russian Adults’ Comprehension of before and after sentences</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olga Fedorova</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simpler Is Better: Re-evaluation of Default Word Alignment Models in Statistical MT</td>
<td>381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Fishel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The TXM Platform: Building Open-Source Textual Analysis Software</td>
<td>389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compatible with the TEI Encoding Scheme</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serge Heiden</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using Corpus-based Linguistic Approaches in Sense Prediction Study</td>
<td>399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jia-Fei Hong, Sue-Jin Ker, Chu-Ren Huang and Kathleen Ahrens</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synthetic Compounds in Mandarin</td>
<td>409</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shuang Hong</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Specialized Vocabulary of Modern Patent Language: Semantic</td>
<td>417</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associations in Patent Lexis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darren Hsin-hung Lin and Shelley Ching-yu Hsieh</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The KOLON System: Tools for Ontological Natural Language Processing in Korean</td>
<td>425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juliano Paiva Junho, Yumi Jo and Hyopil Shin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Approach toward Register Classification of Book Samples in the Balanced Corpus of Contemporary Written Japanese</td>
<td>433</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wakako Kashino and Manabu Okumura</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Computational Treatment of Korean Serial Verb Constructions</td>
<td>439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jong-Bok Kim, Jaehyung Yang and Sanghoun Song</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Supervised Machine Learning Approach for Event-Event Relation Identification</td>
<td>447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anup Kumar Kolya, Asif Ekbal and Sivaji Bandyopadhyay</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arguments for Parallel Distributed Parsing:</td>
<td>455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toward the Integration of Lexical and Sublexical (Semantic) Parsings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kow Kuroda</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Student Papers

Clitics in Arabic Language: A Statistical Study
Fahad Alotaiby, Salah Foda and Ibrahim Alkharashi ............................................. 595

AUTOLEX: An Automatic Lexicon Builder for Minority Languages
Using an Open Corpus
Evan Liz C. Buhay, Marie Joy P. Evardone, Hansel B. Nocon,
Davis Muhajereen D. Dimalen and Rachel Edita O. Roxas ............................. 603

Improving Information Extraction Using Knowledge Model
Yue Chen ........................................................................................................... 613

Finding Emotion Holder from Bengali Blog Texts: An Unsupervised Syntactic Approach
Dipankar Das and Sivaji Bandyopadhyay ....................................................... 621

Terminological Ontology and Cognitive Processes in Translation
Fumiko Kano Glückstad .................................................................................. 629

Detection of Users Suspected of Pretending to Be Other Users in a Community Site
by Using Messages Submitted to Non-Target Categories
Naoki Ishikawa, Ryo Nishimura, Yasuhiko Watanabe,
Masaki Murata and Yoshihiro Okada .......................................................... 637

Detecting Nasty Comments from BBS Posts
Tatsuya Ishisaka and Kazuhide Yamamoto .................................................. 645

Using Various Features in Machine Learning to Obtain High Levels of Performance
for Recognition of Japanese Notational Variants
Masahiro Kojima, Masaki Murata, Jun’ichi Kazama, Kow Kuroda, Atsushi Fujita,
Eiji Aramaki, Masaaki Tsuchida, Yasuhiko Watanabe and Kentaro Torisawa .... 653

Korean Kes-Relative Clauses as Stages
Sang-Hee Park ................................................................................................. 661

Finite State Morphology and Sindhi Noun Inflections
Mutee U Rahman Muslim and Mohammad Iqbal Bhatti .............................. 669

The Acquisition of Imperfective Aspect Marking in Korean as a Second language
by Japanese Learners
Ju-Yeon Ryu, Kaoru Horie and Yasuhiro Shirai ........................................... 677

Multi-aspects Review Summarization Based on Identification of Important Opinions
and their Similarity
Ryosuke Tadano, Kazutaka Shimada and Tsutomu Endo .......................... 685

Generation of Summaries that Appropriately and Adequately Express the Contents
of Original Documents Using Word-Association Knowledge
Kazuki Takigawa, Masaki Murata, Masaaki Tsuchida, Stijn De Saeger,
Kazuhide Yamamoto and Kentaro Torisawa .............................................. 693

xiii
Adjectival Modification to Nouns in Mandarin Chinese:
Case Studies on “cháng+noun” and “adjective+tú shǔ gu n”
Shan Wang and Chu-Ren Huang ........................................ 701

Compositional Operations of Mandarin Chinese Perception Verb “kàn”:
A Generative Lexicon Approach
Shan Wang and Chu-Ren Huang ........................................ 707

Workshop on Advanced Corpus Solutions

Workshop on Advanced Corpus Solutions
Janne Bondi Johannessen ........................................ 717

Degrees of Orality in Speech-like Corpora:
Comparative Annotation of Chat and E-mail Corpora
Eckhard Bick ......................................................... 721

Parallel Suffix Arrays for Corpus Exploration
Johannes Goller ....................................................... 731

Fast Syntactic Searching in Very Large Corpora for Many Languages
Miloš Jakubíček, Adam Kilgarriff, Diana McCarthy and Pavel Rychlý .......... 741

A Multilingual Speech Resource: The Nordic Dialect Corpus
Janne Bondi Johannessen, Joel Priestley and Anders Nøklestad .............. 749

Dialect Corpora Taken Further:
The DynaSAND Corpus and Its Application in Newer Tools
Jan Pieter Kunst and Franca Wesseling ................................ 759

Advanced Corpus Solutions for Humanities Researchers
James Wilson, Anthony Hartley, Serge Sharoff and Paul Stephenson .......... 769

Entity Coherence in Comparable Learner Corpora: Seeking Pedagogical Insights
Mitsuko Yamura-Takei, Miho Fujiwara and Etsuko Yoshida .................. 779

Workshop on Model and Measurement of Meaning (M3)

The Use of a Cultural Protocol for Quantifying Cultural Variations in Verb Semantic between Chinese and French
Hintat Cheung, Yann Desalle, Karine Duvignau, Bruno Gaume, Chunhan Chang and Pierre Magistry ........................................ 791

Towards the Global SentiWordNet
Amitava Das and Sivaji Bandyopadhyay .................................. 799

Towards an Automatic Measurement of Verbal Lexicon Acquisition:
The Case for a Young Children-versus-Adults Classification in French and Mandarin
Yann Desalle, Shu-Kai Hsieh, Bruno Gaume and Hintat Cheung ............. 809
Graph Representation of Synonymy and Translation Resources
for Crosslinguistic Modelisation of Meaning
Benoît Gaillard, Yannick Chudy, Pierre Magistry, Shu-Kai Hsieh
and Emmanuel Navarro ................................................................. 819

Exploring Chinese Verbal Lexicon Developmental Trend with Semantic Space
Ching-Fen Pan ................................................................. 831

Computational Modeling of Verb Acquisition, from a Monolingual to a Bilingual Study
Laurent Prévot, Chun-Han Chang and Yann Desalle ........................................ 841

Cross-sortal Predication and Polysemy
Petr Šimon and Chu-Ren Huang ................................................................. 853

Verb Use in Chinese Children: Extensibility of Instrument
Te-Hsin Wu ................................................................. 863

Workshop on Semantics and Logical Flavor: In Honor of Professor Akira Ikeya

Natural Language Production in Database Semantics
Roland Hausser ................................................................. 875

Change of Location and Change of State: How Telicity is Attained
Chungmin Lee ................................................................. 885

Various Evidentials in Korean
Kyung An Song ................................................................. 895

A Note on Pseudo-comparatives like “John is rich like X!” and “Like X, John is rich!”
Benjamin T’sou ................................................................. 907