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Petr Sojka Ivan Kopeček  
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# Text, Speech and Dialogue

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## Preface

The annual Text, Speech and Dialogue Conference (TSD), which originated in 1998, is now coming to the end of its first decade. During this time almost 400 authors from 36 countries have contributed to the proceedings. TSD constitutes a recognized forum for the presentation and discussion of state-of-the-art technology and recent achievements in the field of natural language processing. It has become an interdisciplinary forum, interweaving the themes of speech technology and language processing. The conference attracts researchers not only from Central and Eastern Europe but also from other parts of the world. Indeed, one of its goals has always been to bring together NLP researchers with different interests from different parts of the world and to promote their mutual cooperation.

This volume contains the proceedings of the Ninth TSD Conference, held in Brno, Czech Republic in September 2006. Following the review process, 87 papers were accepted out of 175 submitted, an acceptance rate of 49.7%. The number of the submissions this year was the highest so far. We would like to thank all the authors for the efforts they put into their submissions and the members of the Program Committee and reviewers who did a wonderful job helping us to select the most appropriate papers. We are also grateful to the invited speakers for their contribution. Their talks provided insight into important issues, applications and techniques related to the conference topics.

Special thanks are due to the members of the Local Organizing Committee for their tireless effort in organizing the conference. Dagmar Janoušková and Dana Komárková carried the main administrative burden and contributed in many other ways to the preparation of the conference. The *TEXpertise* of Petr Sojka resulted in the production of the volume that you are holding in your hands.

We hope that you benefitted from the event and that you also enjoyed the social program prepared by the Organizing Committee.

July 2006

Ivan Kopeček, Karel Pala

# Organization

TSD 2006 was organized by the Faculty of Informatics, Masaryk University, in cooperation with the Faculty of Applied Sciences, University of West Bohemia in Plzeň. The conference Webpage is located at <http://www.tsdconferences.org/tsd2006/>

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# Table of Contents

---

## I Invited Papers

---

- Learning by Reading: An Experiment in Text Analysis ..... 3  
*Eduard Hovy (ISI, University of Southern California, USA)*

- Depth of Feelings: Alternatives for Modeling Affect in User Models ..... 13  
*Eva Hudlicka (Psychometrix Associates, Blacksburg, USA)*

---

## II Text

---

- The Lexico-Semantic Annotation of PDT ..... 21  
*Eduard Bejček, Petra Möllerová, Pavel Straňák (Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic)*

- Czech Verbs of Communication and the Extraction of Their Frames ..... 29  
*Václava Benešová, Ondřej Bojar (Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic)*

- Featuring of Sex-Dependent Nouns  
in Databases Oriented to European Languages ..... 37  
*Igor A. Bolshakov (National Polytechnic Institute, Mexico City, Mexico), Sofia N. Galicia-Haro (National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), Mexico City, Mexico)*

- On the Behaviors of SVM and Some Older Algorithms  
in Binary Text Classification Tasks ..... 45  
*Fabrice Colas (Leiden University, The Netherlands), Pavel Brazdil (University of Porto, Portugal)*

- A Knowledge Based Strategy for Recognising Textual Entailment ..... 53  
*Óscar Ferrández, Rafael M. Terol, Rafael Muñoz, Patricio Martínez-Barco, Manuel Palomar (University of Alicante, Spain)*

- Paragraph-Level Alignment of an English-Spanish Parallel Corpus of  
Fiction Texts Using Bilingual Dictionaries\* ..... 61  
*Alexander Gelbukh, Grigori Sidorov, José Ángel Vera-Félix*

- Some Methods of Describing Discontinuity in Polish and Their  
Cost-Effectiveness ..... 69  
*Filip Grajński (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland)*

## VIII Table of Contents

Exploitation of the VerbaLex Verb Valency Lexicon in the Syntactic Analysis of Czech .....	79
<i>Dana Hlaváčková, Aleš Horák, Vladimír Kadlec (Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic)</i>	
Hungarian-English Machine Translation Using GenPar .....	87
<i>András Hócza, András Kocsor (University of Szeged, Hungary)</i>	
Combining Czech Dependency Parsers .....	95
<i>Tomáš Holan and Zdeněk Žabokrtský (Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic)</i>	
Processing Korean Numeral Classifier Constructions in a Typed Feature Structure Grammar .....	103
<i>Jong-Bok Kim (Kyung Hee University, Seoul, Korea), Jaehyung Yang (Kangnam University, Korea)</i>	
Parsing Head Internal and External Relative Clause Constructions in Korean .....	111
<i>Jong-Bok Kim (Kyung Hee University, Seoul, Korea)</i>	
A Hybrid Model for Extracting Transliteration Equivalents from Parallel Corpora .....	119
<i>Jong-Hoon Oh (NICT, Republic of Korea), Key-Sun Choi (KAIST, Republic of Korea), Hitoshi Isahara (NICT, Republic of Korea)</i>	
Sentence Compression Using Statistical Information About Dependency Path Length .....	127
<i>Kiwamu Yamagata, Satoshi Fukutomi, Kazuyuki Takagi, Kazuhiko Ozeki (The University of Electro-Communications, Tokyo, Japan)</i>	
Transformation-Based Tectogrammatical Analysis of Czech .....	135
<i>Václav Klimeš (Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic)</i>	
The Effect of Semantic Knowledge Expansion to Textual Entailment Recognition .....	143
<i>Zornitsa Kozareva, Sonia Vázquez and Andrés Montoyo (Alicante University, Spain)</i>	
Segmentation of Complex Sentences .....	151
<i>Vladislav Kuboň, Markéta Lopatková, Martin Plátek (Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic), Patrice Pognan (CERTAL INALCO, Paris, France)</i>	
Enhanced Centroid-Based Classification Technique by Filtering Outliers .....	159
<i>Kwangcheol Shin, Ajith Abraham, SangYong Han (Chung-Ang University, Seoul, Korea)</i>	

Multilingual News Document Clustering: Two Algorithms Based on Cognate Named Entities .....	165
<i>Soto Montalvo (URJC, Spain), Raquel Martínez (UNED, Spain), Arantza Casillas (UPV-EHU, Spain), Víctor Fresno (URJC, Spain)</i>	
A Study of the Influence of PoS Tagging on WSD .....	173
<i>Lorenza Moreno-Monteagudo, Rubén Izquierdo-Beviá, Patricio Martínez-Barco, Armando Suárez (Universidad de Alicante, Spain)</i>	
Annotation of Temporal Relations Within a Discourse .....	181
<i>Petr Němec (Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic)</i>	
Applying RST Relations to Semantic Search.....	189
<i>Nguyen Thanh Tri, Akira Shimazu, Le Cuong Anh, Nguyen Minh Le (JAIST, Ishikawa, Japan)</i>	
Data-Driven Part-of-Speech Tagging of Kiswahili .....	197
<i>Guy De Pauw (University of Antwerp, Belgium), Gilles-Maurice de Schryver (Ghent University, Belgium), Peter W. Wagacha (University of Nairobi, Kenya)</i>	
Hand-Written and Automatically Extracted Rules for Polish Tagger .....	205
<i>Maciej Piasecki (Wrocław University of Technology, Poland)</i>	
Effective Architecture of the Polish Tagger .....	213
<i>Maciej Piasecki, Grzegorz Godlewski (Wrocław University of Technology, Poland)</i>	
Synthesis of Czech Sentences from Tectogrammatical Trees .....	221
<i>Jan Ptáček, Zdeněk Žabokrtský (Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic)</i>	
ASeMatch: A Semantic Matching Method .....	229
<i>Sandra Roger (University of Alicante, Spain &amp; University of Comahue, Argentina), Augustina Buccella (University of Comahue, Argentina), Alejandra Cechich (University of Comahue, Argentina), Manuel Sanz Palomar (University of Alicante, Spain)</i>	
Extensive Study on Automatic Verb Sense Disambiguation in Czech .....	237
<i>Jiří Semecký, Petr Podveský (UFAL MFF UK, Czech Republic)</i>	
Semantic Representation of Events: Building a Semantic Primes Component .....	245
<i>Milena Slavcheva (Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria)</i>	
Cascaded Grammatical Relation-Driven Parsing Using Support Vector Machines .....	253
<i>Songwook Lee (Dongseo University, Busan, Korea)</i>	

Building Korean Classifier Ontology Based on Korean WordNet . . . . .	261
<i>Soonhee Hwang, Youngim Jung, Aesun Yoon, Hyuk-Chul Kwon (Pusan National University, Busan, South Korea)</i>	
Exploiting the Translation Context for Multilingual WSD . . . . .	269
<i>Lucia Specia, Maria das Graças Volpe Nunes (Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil)</i>	
Post-annotation Checking of Prague Dependency Treebank 2.0 Data . . . . .	277
<i>Jan Štěpánek (ÚFAL UK Prague, Czech Republic)</i>	
Language Modelling with Dynamic Syntax . . . . .	285
<i>David Tugwell (University of St Andrews, Scotland, UK)</i>	
Using Word Sequences for Text Summarization . . . . .	293
<i>Esaú Villatoro-Tello, Luis Villaseñor-Pineda, Manuel Montes-y-Gómez (National Institute of Astrophysics, Optics and Electronics, Mexico)</i>	
Exploration of Coreference Resolution: The ACE Entity Detection and Recognition Task . . . . .	301
<i>Ying Chen, Kadri Hacioglu (University of Colorado at Boulder, USA)</i>	
Parsing with Oracle . . . . .	309
<i>Michal Žemlička (Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic)</i>	

---

### III Speech

---

Evaluating Language Models Within a Predictive Framework: An Analysis of Ranking Distributions . . . . .	319
<i>Pierre Alain, Olivier Boëffard, Nelly Barbot (Université de Rennes 1, France)</i>	
Another Look at the Data Sparsity Problem . . . . .	327
<i>Ben Allison, David Guthrie, Louise Guthrie (University of Sheffield, UK)</i>	
Syllable-Based Recognition Unit to Reduce Error Rate for Korean Phones, Syllables and Characters . . . . .	335
<i>Bong-Wan Kim, Yongnam Um, Yong-Ju Lee (Wonkwang University, Korea)</i>	
Recognizing Connected Digit Strings Using Neural Networks . . . . .	343
<i>Lukasz Brocki, Danijel Koržinek, Krzysztof Marasek (Polish-Japanese Institute of Information Technology, Warsaw, Poland)</i>	

Indexing and Search Methods for Spoken Documents . . . . .	351
<i>Lukáš Burget, Jan Černocký, Michal Fapšo, Martin Karafiát, Pavel Matějka, Petr Schwarz, Pavel Smrž, Igor Szöke (Brno University of Technology, Czech Republic)</i>	
Analysis of HMM Temporal Evolution for Automatic Speech Recognition and Verification . . . . .	359
<i>Marta Casar, José A.R. Fonollosa (Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Barcelona, Spain)</i>	
Corpus-Based Unit Selection TTS for Hungarian . . . . .	367
<i>Márk Fék, Péter Pesti, Géza Németh, Csaba Zainkó, Gábor Olaszy (Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary)</i>	
Automated Mark Up of Affective Information in English Texts . . . . .	375
<i>Virginia Francisco, Pablo Gervás (Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain)</i>	
First Steps Towards New Czech Voice Conversion System . . . . .	383
<i>Zdeněk Hanzlíček, Jindřich Matoušek (University of West Bohemia, Plzeň, Czech Republic)</i>	
Are Morphosyntactic Taggers Suitable to Improve Automatic Transcription? . . . . .	391
<i>Stéphane Huet, Guillaume Gravier, Pascale Sébillot (IRISA, France)</i>	
Fast Speaker Adaptation Using Multi-stream Based Eigenvoice in Noisy Environments . . . . .	399
<i>Hwa Jeon Song, Hyung Soon Kim (Pusan National University, Korea)</i>	
Phonetic Question Generation Using Misrecognition . . . . .	407
<i>Supphanat Kanokphara, Julie Carson-Berndsen (University College Dublin, Ireland)</i>	
Speech Driven Facial Animation Using HMMs in Basque . . . . .	415
<i>Maider Lehr (University of the Basque Country, Spain), Andoni Arruti (VICOMTech Research Centre, Donostia - San Sebastián, Spain), Amalia Ortiz, David Oyarzun, Michael Obach (University of the Basque Country, Spain)</i>	
Comparing B-Spline and Spline Models for F0 Modelling . . . . .	423
<i>Damien Lalive, Nelly Barbot, Olivier Boëffard (University of Rennes 1, France)</i>	
Environmental Adaptation with a Small Data Set of the Target Domain . . . . .	431
<i>Andreas Maier, Tino Haderlein, Elmar Nöth (University of Erlangen Nürnberg, Germany)</i>	

Current State of Czech Text-to-Speech System ARTIC.....	439
<i>Jindřich Matoušek, Daniel Tihelka, Jan Romportl (University of West Bohemia, Pilsen, Czech Republic)</i>	
Automatic Korean Phoneme Generation Via Input-Text Preprocessing and Disambiguation .....	447
<i>Mi-young Kang, Sung-won Jung, Hyuk-Chul Kwon, Aesun Yoon (Pusan National University, Busan, South Korea)</i>	
Robust Speech Detection Based on Phoneme Recognition Features .....	455
<i>France Mihelič, Janez Žibert (University of Ljubljana, Slovenia)</i>	
Composite Decision by Bayesian Inference in Distant-Talking Speech Recognition .....	463
<i>Mikyong Ji, Sungtak Kim, Hoirin Kim (Information and Communications University, Daejeon, Korea)</i>	
Speech Coding Based on Spectral Dynamics .....	471
<i>Petr Motlíček (IDIAP, Switzerland &amp; Brno University of Technology, Czech Republic), Hynek Hermansky (IDIAP, Switzerland &amp; Brno University of Technology, Czech Republic &amp; EPFL, Switzerland), Harinath Garudadri, Naveen Srinivasamurthy (Qualcomm Inc., San Diego, USA)</i>	
Detecting Broad Phonemic Class Boundaries from Greek Speech in Noise Environments .....	479
<i>Iosif Mporas, Panagiotis Zervas, Nikos Fakotakis (University of Patras, Greece)</i>	
A System for Information Retrieval from Large Records of Czech Spoken Data .....	485
<i>Jan Nouza, Jindřich Ždánský, Petr Červa, Jan Kolorenč (TU Liberec, Czech Republic)</i>	
A Structure of Expert System for Speaker Verification .....	493
<i>Aleš Padrtá, Jan Vaněk (University of West Bohemia in Pilsen, Czech Republic)</i>	
Automatic Online Subtitling of the Czech Parliament Meetings .....	501
<i>Aleš Pražák, J. V. Psutka, Jan Hoidekr, Jakub Kanis, Luděk Müller, Josef Psutka (University of West Bohemia in Pilsen, Czech Republic)</i>	
Character Identity Expression in Vocal Performance of Traditional Puppeteers .....	509
<i>Milan Rusko, Juraj Hamar (Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovakia)</i>	
A Dissonant Frequency Filtering for Enhanced Clarity of Husky Voice Signals .....	517
<i>Sangki Kang, Yongserk Kim (Samsung Electronics Co., Korea)</i>	

Post-processing of Automatic Segmentation of Speech Using Dynamic Programming.....	523
<i>Marcin Szymański, Stefan Grochowelski (Poznań University of Technology, Poland)</i>	
Diphones vs. Triphones in Czech Unit Selection TTS .....	531
<i>Daniel Tihelka, Jindřich Matoušek (University of West Bohemia in Pilsen, Czech Republic)</i>	
Silence/Speech Detection Method Based on Set of Decision Graphs .....	539
<i>Jan Trmal, Jan Zelinka, Jan Vaněk, Luděk Müller (University of West Bohemia in Pilsen, Czech Republic)</i>	
Prosodic Cues for Automatic Phrase Boundary Detection in ASR .....	547
<i>Klára Vicsi, György Szaszák (Budapest University for Technology and Economics, Hungary)</i>	
Dynamic Bayesian Networks for Language Modeling .....	555
<i>Pascal Wiggers, Leon J. M. Rothkrantz (Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands)</i>	

## IV Dialogue

Feature Subset Selection Based on Evolutionary Algorithms for Automatic Emotion Recognition in Spoken Spanish and Standard Basque Language .....	565
<i>Aitor Álvarez, Idoia Cearreta, Juan Miguel López, Andoni Arruti, Elena Lazcano, Basilio Sierra, Nestor Garay (University of the Basque Country, Spain)</i>	
Two-Dimensional Visual Language Grammar .....	573
<i>Siska Fitrianie, Leon J.M. Rothkrantz (Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands)</i>	
Are You Looking at Me, Are You Talking with Me: Multimodal Classification of the Focus of Attention .....	581
<i>Christian Hacker (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany), Anton Batliner (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany), Elmar Nöth (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany)</i>	
Visualization of Voice Disorders Using the Sammon Transform .....	589
<i>Tino Haderlein, Dominik Zorn, Stefan Steidl, Elmar Nöth (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany), Makoto Shozakai (Asahi Kasei Corp.), Maria Schuster (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany)</i>	

Task Switching in Audio Based Systems .....	597
<i>Melanie Hartmann, Dirk Schnelle (Darmstadt University of Technology, Germany)</i>	
Use of Negative Examples in Training the HVS Semantic Model .....	605
<i>Filip Jurčíček, Jan Švec, Jiří Zahradil, Libor Jelínek (University of West Bohemia in Pilsen, Czech Republic)</i>	
Czech-Sign Speech Corpus for Semantic Based Machine Translation .....	613
<i>Jakub Kanis (University of West Bohemia), Jiří Zahradil (SpeechTech), Filip Jurčíček (University of West Bohemia), Luděk Müller (University of West Bohemia)</i>	
Processing of Requests in Estonian Institutional Dialogues: Corpus Analysis .....	621
<i>Mare Koit, Maret Valdisoo, Olga Gerassimenko (University of Tartu, Estonia), Tiit Hennoste (University of Helsinki, Finland and University of Tartu, Estonia), Riina Kasterpalu, Andriela Rääbis, Krista Strandson (University of Tartu, Estonia)</i>	
Using Prosody for Automatic Sentence Segmentation of Multi-party Meetings .....	629
<i>Jáchym Kolář (ICSI, Berkeley, USA and University of West Bohemia in Pilsen, Czech Republic), Elizabeth Shriberg (ICSI, Berkeley, USA and SRI International, Menlo Park, USA), Yang Liu (ICSI, Berkeley, USA and University of Texas at Dallas, USA)</i>	
Simple Method of Determining the Voice Similarity and Stability by Analyzing a Set of Very Short Sounds .....	637
<i>Konrad Lukaszewicz, Matti Karjalainen (Helsinki University of Technology, Finland)</i>	
Visualization of Prosodic Knowledge Using Corpus Driven MEMOInt Intonation Modelling .....	645
<i>David Escudero Mancebo, Valentín Cardeñoso-Payo (University of Valladolid, Spain)</i>	
Automatic Annotation of Dialogues Using <i>n</i> -Grams .....	653
<i>Carlos D. Martínez-Hinarejos (Universidad Politécnica de Valencia, Spain)</i>	
PPChecker: Plagiarism Pattern Checker in Document Copy Detection ...	661
<i>NamOh Kang (Chung-Ang University, South Korea), Alexander Gelbukh (National Polytechnic Institute, Mexico), SangYong Han (Chung-Ang University, South Korea)</i>	

Segmental Duration Modelling in Turkish . . . . .	669
<i>Özlem Öztürk (Dokuz Eylül University, Izmir, Turkey), Tolga Çiloglu (Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey)</i>	
A Pattern-Based Methodology for Multimodal Interaction Design . . . . .	677
<i>Andreas Ratzka, Christian Wolff (University of Regensburg Germany)</i>	
A Pattern Learning Approach to Question Answering Within the Ephyra Framework . . . . .	687
<i>Nico Schlaefer, Petra Gieselmann (University Karlsruhe, Germany), Thomas Schaaf, Alex Waibel (Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, USA)</i>	
Explicative Document Reading Controlled by Non-speech Audio Gestures . . . . .	695
<i>Adam J. Sporka (Czech Technical University in Prague, Czech Republic), Pavel Žikovský (Academy of Performing Arts in Prague, Czech Republic), Pavel Slavík (Czech Technical University in Prague, Czech Republic)</i>	
Hybrid Neural Network Design and Implementation on FPGA for Infant Cry Recognition . . . . .	703
<i>I. Suaste-Rivas, A. Díaz-Méndez, C.A. Reyes-García (Instituto Nacional de Astrofísica Óptica y Electrónica, México), O.F. Reyes-Galaviz (Instituto Tecnológico de Apizaco, México)</i>	
Speech and Sound Use in a Remote Monitoring System for Health Care . . . . .	711
<i>Michel Vacher, Jean-François Serignat, Stéphane Chaillol, Dan Istrate, Vladimir Popescu (CLIPS-IMAG, Grenoble, France)</i>	
<b>Author Index . . . . .</b>	<b>719</b>