
FOREWORD

Special Section on Natural Language Processing and its Applications

In these days, the ubiquitous information and communications infrastructure has been spreading rapidly. The rapid progress enables us to communicate with people in remote places and also promote the intellectual creativity of individuals. However, there are various problems regarding the question of whether “anyone” can use these information systems freely and flexibly. It is clear that Natural Language Processing is very important for enabling us to easily access information resources worldwide via the Internet, and to effectively utilize the available information.

We organized the 1st “Special Section on Natural Language Processing and its Applications” to offer innovative contributions from theoretical to application points of view, and also to share the recent progress and the future problems of natural language processing.

29 papers were submitted to this special section. After the careful review process, 12 papers were selected. Topics of the selected papers include Machine Translation, Spoken Dialogue System, Document Analysis and other linguistic technologies.

All the Guest Editors of this special section finally express their sincere appreciation to the authors for their contributions and to the reviewers for their cooperation in completing the review process.

Special Section Editorial Committee Members:

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Naomi Inoue, Guest Editor-in-Chief

Naomi Inoue (*Member*) received the B.E., M.E. and Ph.D. from Kyoto University in 1982, 1984 and 1998, respectively. He joined KDD (currently KDDI) in 1984. From 1987 to 1991, he was on loan to ATR (Advanced Telecommunications Research Institute International). He returned to KDD R&D (currently KDDI R&D) in 1991 and studied on Natural Language Processing, Information Retrieval/Filtering, Speech Recognition and Graphic Processing. He was on loan to ATR and NICT from KDDI R&D in 2005 and in 2009, respectively. He is currently an executive researcher of NICT. His current research interests include natural language processing and its applications to cellular phone service, and also ultra-realistic communication, especially 3D display, 3D audio and multisensory interaction technologies. He is a member of the IPSJ and the ASJ.

