Coling 2010

23rd International Conference on Computational Linguistics

Proceedings of the Conference Volume 2

Chu-Ren Huang and Dan Jurafsky

23 – 27 August 2010
Beijing International Convention Center
Beijing, China

Published by
Tsinghua University Press
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Block A, Xue Yan Building, Tsinghua University
Beijing, 100084
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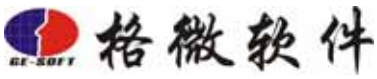

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Preface

You will find in this volume papers from the 23rd International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING 2010) held in Beijing, China on August 23-27, 2010 under the auspices of the International Committee on Computational Linguistics (ICCL), and organized by the Chinese Information Processing Society (CIPS) of China. For this prestigious natural language processing conference to be held in China is a significant event for computational linguistics and for colleagues in China, demonstrating both the maturity of our field and the development of academic areas in China.

COLING started as a friendly gathering in New York in 1965, and has grown steadily since. Yet COLINGs aspiration to be a different conference remains the same. COLING strives to maintain its key qualities of embracing different theories and encouraging young scholars in spite of its growing size. A new component introduced at COLING 2010 underlines this quality. A RefreshINGenious (RING) session, organized by Aravind Joshi, our General Chair, allows new and un-orthodox ideas to be presented before they are fully developed in order to generate more discussion and stimulate other new ideas. We hope that this can become an important feature of COLING in the future.

The 155 oral papers included in the hardcopy proceedings published by Tsinghua University Press, as well as the 334 papers included in the electronic proceedings (the same 155 oral papers plus 179 poster papers) are selected from among 815 effective submissions among the more than 840 submissions received. The very selective acceptance rate of 19.02% for oral presentations (155/815 submissions) indicates the extremely high quality of the papers. An additional 21.96% (179/815) are selected for poster presentations to bring the overall acceptance rate to 40.98% (334/815).

We would like to thank the program committee area chairs for their dedicated and efficient review work, and our 738 reviewers for giving us very high quality reviews with a very short turnaround time, allowing us to maintain both the review quality and schedule even given the extraordinary number of submissions. Of course we thank the authors of the 840 papers for submitting their labor of love to COLING. Although we were only able to accept a minority of the submitted papers, we do hope that all authors and reviewers benefit from this process of indirect dialogue. We are especially grateful to the incredibly hard-working team of Stanford volunteers Jenny Finkel, Adam Vogel, and Mengqiu Wang, and HIT volunteers Sam Liang and Lemon Liu, who provided timely and efficient support for the two program chairs at every step of the review and publication processes.

Last but not least, we would like to thank the people who made COLING 2010 and this volume possible. We thank local arrangement committee co-chairs Professor Chengqing Zong and Professor Le Sun for their tireless work which will make COLING-2010 a sure success. Our special appreciation goes to the Chinese Information Processing Society (CIPS) and Professor Youqi Cao for their generous support as the COLING 2010 organizer. Lastly, Professor Qin Lu and Professor Tiejun Zhao should be recognized for their meticulous preparation for editing and publication, which brought this volume to reality.

Chu-Ren Huang and Dan Jurafsky,
COLING 2010 Program Committee Co-chairs

July 8, 2010

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