

Editors' foreword

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**Recent Advances in Natural Language Processing V:
Selected papers from RANLP 2007**

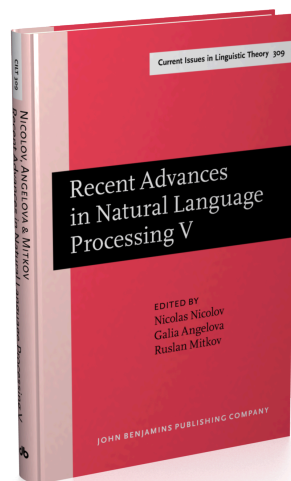
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Editors' Foreword

This volume brings together revised versions of a selection of papers presented at the Sixth International Conference on "Recent Advances in Natural Language Processing" (RANLP'07) held in Borovets, Bulgaria, 27–29 September 2007. The aim of the conference was to give researchers the opportunity to present new results in Natural Language Processing (NLP) based on modern theories and methodologies.

The conference was preceded by three days of tutorials (23–25 September 2007). Invited lecturers were:

Elisabeth Andre (University of Augsburg)

Speech-based multimodal dialogue

Karin Verspoor & Kevin Bretonnel Cohen (University of Colorado)

NLP and the biomedical domain

Bernardo Magnini (FBK-irst, Trento)

Textual entailment

Frederique Segond (Xerox Research Centre Grenoble)

Industrial developments in NLP

Stelios Piperidis (ILSP Athens)

Multimedia content processing and applications

Dimitar Kazakov (University of York)

Information retrieval

Keynote speakers who gave invited talks were:

Lauri Karttunen (Palo Alto Research Center–PARC, U.S.A.)

Wasting a chance is not like wasting a dollar;

Yorick Wilks (University of Sheffield, U.K.)

Pragmatics, dialogue phenomena and the COMPANIONS project;

Bernardo Magnini (FBK-irst, Trento, Italy)

"Where can I eat paella this evening?": Context aware question answering with textual inferences;

Allan Ramsay (University of Manchester, U.K.)

Intensionality in everyday language;

Ellen Riloff (University of Utah, U.S.A.)

Finding mutual benefit between information extraction and subjectivity analysis;

Karin Verspoor (University of Colorado, U.S.A.)

Semantics, text and a cure for cancer.

From the papers presented at RANLP'07 we have selected the best for this book, in the hope that they reflect the most significant and promising trends (and successful results) in NLP.

The book covers a wide variety of NLP topics: ontologies, named entity extraction, translation and transliteration, morphology (derivational and inflectional), part-of-speech tagging, parsing (incremental processing, dependency parsing), semantic role labeling, word sense disambiguation, temporal representations, inference and metaphor, semantic similarity, coreference resolution, clustering (topic modeling, topic tracking), summarization, cross-lingual retrieval, lexical and syntactic resources, multi-modal processing. To help the reader find his/her way we have added an index which contains major NLP terms used throughout the volume. We have also included a list and addresses of all contributors.

We would like to thank all members of the Program Committee. Without them the conference, although well organised, would not have had an impact on the development of NLP. Together they have ensured that the best papers were included in the final proceedings and have provided invaluable comments for the authors, so that the papers are 'state of the art'. The following is a list of those who participated in the selection process and to whom a public acknowledgement is due:

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Petya Osenova	(Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria)
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We believe that this book will be of interest to researchers, lecturers and graduate students interested in Natural Language Processing and, more specifically, to those who work in Computational Linguistics, Corpus Linguistics, Machine Translation.

We would like to acknowledge the unstinting help received from our series editor, E.F.K. Koerner, and from Ms Anke de Looper of John Benjamins in Amsterdam. We have built upon our experience from the work on the previous RANLP volumes. Both, E.F.K. Koerner and Anke de Looper have continued to be ever so professional. We also would like to thank Janet Eden-Harris, Chance Parker and Dr. Richard Wolniewicz of J.D. Power and Associates (McGraw-Hill) for the support on the editing project.

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