Preliminary Announcement and Call for Papers
Seventh International Conference on Text, Speech and Dialogue
TSD 2004
September 8–11, 2004, Brno, Czech Republic

TSD 2004 is organized by the Faculty of Informatics, Masaryk University, Brno, and the Faculty of Applied Sciences, University of West Bohemia, Pilsen. The conference is supported by International Speech Communication Association.

TSD series evolved as a prime forum for interaction between researchers in both spoken and written language processing from the former East Block countries and their Western colleagues. Proceedings of TSD form a book published by Springer-Verlag in their Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence (LNAI) series.

Topics: Topics of the TSD 2004 conference will include (but are not limited to): text corpora and tagging; transcription problems in spoken corpora; sense disambiguation; links between text and speech oriented systems; parsing issues, especially parsing problems in spoken texts; multi-lingual issues, especially multi-lingual dialogue systems; information retrieval and information extraction; text/topic summarization; machine translation semantic networks and ontologies; speech modeling; speech segmentation; speech recognition; text-to-speech synthesis; dialogue systems; development of dialogue strategies; prosody in dialogues; user modeling; knowledge representation in relation to dialogue systems; assistive technologies based on speech and dialogue; applied systems and software; facial animation; visual speech synthesis. Papers on processing of languages other than English are strongly encouraged.

Program Committee: Frederick Jelinek, USA (general chair); Hynk Hermansky, USA (executive chair); Eneko Agirre, Spain; Geneviève Baudoin, France; Jan Cernochck, Czech Rep; Attila Ferencz, Romania; Alexander Gelbukh, Mexico; Eva Hajicová, Czech Rep; Jaroslava Hlavacová, Czech Rep; Eduard Horn, Czech Rep; Ivan Kopček, Czech Rep; Steven Krauwer, The Netherlands; Václav Matoušek, Czech Rep; Elmar Nieth, Germany; Karel Oliva, Czech Rep; Karel Pala, Czech Rep; Nikola Pavesić, Slovenia; Vladimír Petkevic, Czech Rep; Josef Psutka, Czech Rep; James Pustejovsky, USA; Leon Rothkrantz, The Netherlands; E.G. Schukat-Talamazzini, Germany; Pavel Skrelin, Russia; Pavel Smrz, Czech Rep; Taras Vintsyuk, Ukraine; Yorick Wilks, GB.

Format of The Conference: The conference program will include presentation of invited papers, oral presentations, and a poster/demonstration sessions. Papers will be presented in plenary or topic oriented sessions. Social events including a trip in the vicinity of Brno will allow for additional informal interactions.

Submission of papers: Authors are invited to submit papers not exceeding 8 pages formatted in the LNCS style (see below). Those accepted will be presented either as oral or posters. The decision about the presentation format will be based on the recommendation of the reviewers. The authors are asked to submit their papers using the online form accessible from the conference website. Papers submitted to TSD 2004 must not be under review by any other conference or publication during the TSD review cycle, and must not be previously published or accepted for publication elsewhere. As reviewing will be blind, the paper should not include the authors' names and affiliations. Furthermore, self-references that reveal the author's identity should be avoided. Papers that do not conform to the requirements above are subject to be rejected without review.

The authors are strongly encouraged to write their papers in TeX or LaTeX formats. These formats are necessary for the final versions of the papers that will be published in the Springer Lecture Notes. Authors using a WORD compatible software for the final version must use the LNCS template for WORD and within the submit process ask the Proceedings Editors to convert the paper to LaTeX. For this service a fee of CZK 1500 will be levied automatically! The paper format has to be either PDF or Postscript file with all required fonts included. Upon notification of acceptance, presenters will receive further information on submitting their camera-ready and electronic sources (see [http://www.springer.de/comp/lncs/authors.html#Proceedings]). Authors are also invited to present actual projects, developed software or interesting material relevant to the topics of the conference. The authors of the demonstration should provide the abstract not exceeding one page. The abstracts will not appear in the conference proceedings.

Important Dates:
March 29, 2004 Submission of papers
May 10, 2004 Notification of acceptance
May 31, 2004 Final papers (camera ready) and registration
July 23, 2004 Submission of demonstration abstracts
July 30, 2004 Notif. of acceptance for demonstrations
September 8–11, 2004 Conference date

The contributions to the conference will be published in proceedings that will be made available to participants at the time of the conference.

Official Language of the conference will be English.

Conference Fees: The conference fee depends on the date of payment and on your status. It includes one copy of the proceedings, refreshments, social events and organizing costs. The fee does not include accommodation and meals.

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<td>Early Payment (by May 24th):</td>
<td>CZK 8000</td>
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<td>Payment (by August 15th):</td>
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<td>On-site payment:</td>
<td>CZK 12000</td>
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The organizing committee will provide discounts and grants for participants from East European countries. To apply for a grant, send an email to tsd2004@aurora.fi.muni.cz with subject ‘Grant Application’, in which you briefly describe the reasons for your application. Each applicant must send a separate e-mail.

Accommodation: The organizing committee will arrange accommodation in a 3 star hotel and student dormitories at reasonable prices.

Address: All correspondence regarding the conference should be addressed to:
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Location: Brno is the the second largest city in the Czech Republic with a population of almost 400,000 and is the country’s judiciary and trade-fair centre. It had been the King’s town since 1347 and with its six Universities it forms a cultural center of the region.
Brno can be reached easily by direct trains or buses from Prague (200 km) or Vienna (130 km).

For more and up-to-date information see the web page [http://nlp.fi.muni.cz/tsd2004/].