Anaphora Processing and Applications

8th Discourse Anaphora and Anaphor Resolution Colloquium, DAARC 2011
Faro, Portugal, October 6-7, 2011
Revised Selected Papers
Preface

Anaphora has been studied from different perspectives and these studies have given new insights into resolving this complex language phenomenon both at discourse and sentence level. As the resolution of anaphora is vital for the interpretation of language, new advances from multi- and inter-disciplinary areas such as cognitive science, artificial intelligence and human language technology, theoretical and applied linguistics and philosophy of language are urgently needed to account for the better understanding of this phenomenon and to provide a better basis for its modelling.

The ever-growing importance of this topic in different disciplines made this a frontier area of research. This is seen from the high-quality submissions received for the 8th Discourse Anaphora and Anaphora Resolution Colloquium (DAARC). This colloquium is unique in that it covers the research area in anaphora within the gamut of multidisciplinary research ranging from theoretical linguistic approaches through psycholinguistic and cognitive science to corpus studies and computational treatment. It also keeps a strong focus on automatic anaphora resolution and its applications.

Since its inception in 1996 at Lancaster University and subsequent move to the University of Lisbon in 2002, DAARC remained in Europe until its sixth edition. It moved out of Europe for the first time in 2009 to Goa, India, hosted by Anna University and in 2011 it moved back to the University of Lisbon for the eighth edition which was held at Faro, Portugal. DAARC has established itself as a specialised and competitive forum for the presentation of the latest results on anaphora processing.

The program of the eighth edition of DAARC was selected from 45 initial submissions. It included 27 oral presentations, and 5 posters from over 60 authors coming from 16 countries: Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, India, Italy, The Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Switzerland, Spain, UK and USA. The 16 best rated papers according to the reviews among the 27 selected were considered for this volume. These are the regular papers presented at DAARC. As a whole the accepted papers provide a unique overview of cutting-edge research in the field of anaphora resolution conducted at present. The submissions were anonymised and submitted to a selection process in which each received three evaluation reports by experts from the Programme Committee listed here.

The eighth edition of DAARC2011 lasted for two days, with invited talks, two parallel paper sessions and a poster session. These were further complemented with a tutorial on an open source anaphora resolution system. This edition of DAARC was honoured to have two invited speakers: Maria Mercedez Piñango, from Yale University, USA, and Emiel Krahmer, from Tilburg University, The Netherlands.
We would like to thank all the authors of submitted papers for choosing DAARC2011 for the presentation of their research results. Due to the high quality of the submitted papers, selecting the 32 papers was a very difficult task. We are deeply indebted to all the Programme Committee members for their conscientious and impartial judgment in the reviewing process of DAARC, and in particular of the papers included in the present volume. Without them neither this colloquium nor the present volume would have been possible.

October 2011

Iris Hendrickx
Sobha Lalitha Devi
António Branco
Ruslan Mitkov
Organisation

The 8th DAARC colloquium was organized by the University of Lisbon.

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Sobha Lalitha Devi  
Ruslan Mitkov  

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Renata Vieira Pontifícia Universidade do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
Jos van Berkum University of Utrecht, The Netherlands
Klaus von Heusinger University of Stuttgart, Germany
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