

Preface

NLDB 2005, the 10th International Conference on Applications of Natural Language to Information Systems, was held on June 15–17, 2005 at the University of Alicante, Spain. Since the first NLDB conference in 1995 the main goal has been to provide a forum to discuss and disseminate research on the integration of natural language resources in information system engineering.

The development and convergence of computing, telecommunications and information systems has already led to a revolution in the way that we work, communicate with each other, buy goods and use services, and even in the way that we entertain and educate ourselves. The revolution continues, and one of its results is that large volumes of information will increasingly be held in a form which is more natural for users than the data presentation formats typical of computer systems of the past. Natural language processing (NLP) is crucial in solving these problems, and language technologies will make an indispensable contribution to the success of information systems. We hope that NLDB 2005 was a modest contribution to this goal.

NLDB 2005 contributed to advancing the goals and the high international standing of these conferences, largely due to its Program Committee, composed of renowned researchers in the field of natural language processing and information system engineering. Papers were reviewed by three reviewers from the Program Committee. This clearly contributed to the significant number of papers submitted (95). Twenty-nine were accepted as regular papers, while 18 were accepted as short papers.

We would like to express here our thanks to all the reviewers for their quick and excellent work. We extend these thanks to our invited speakers, Ruslan Mitkov and Branimir Boguraev, for their valuable contribution, which undoubtedly increased the interest in the conference. We are also indebted to a number of individuals for taking care of specific parts of the conference program, specially to Miguel Angel Varó who built and maintained all Web services for the conference.

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