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Preface

The annual Text, Speech and Dialogue Conference (TSD), which originated in 1998, is in the middle of its second decade. So far more than 1,000 authors from 45 countries have contributed to the proceedings. TSD constitutes a recognized platform for the presentation and discussion of state-of-the-art technology and recent achievements in the field of natural language processing. It has become an interdisciplinary forum, interweaving the themes of speech technology and language processing. The conference attracts researchers not only from Central and Eastern Europe but also from other parts of the world. Indeed, one of its goals has always been to bring together NLP researchers with different interests from different parts of the world and to promote their mutual cooperation. One of the ambitions of the conference is, as its title says, not only to deal with dialogue systems as such, but also to contribute to improving dialogue between researchers in the two areas of NLP, i.e., between text and speech people. In our view, the TSD Conference was successful in this respect in 2012 again.

This volume contains the proceedings of the 15th TSD Conference, held in Brno, Czech Republic, in September 2012. In the review process, 82 papers were accepted out of 173 submitted, an acceptance rate of 47%.

We would like to thank all the authors for the efforts they put into their submissions and the members of the Program Committee and reviewers who did a wonderful job in helping us to select the most appropriate papers. We are also grateful to the invited speakers for their contributions. Their talks provide insight into important current issues, applications, and techniques related to the conference topics.

Last year the workshop on Natural Language Processing of Baltic and Slavonic Languages took place in the frame of the TSD Conference. This year a workshop on Hybrid Machine Translation was organized together with the conference. In part it was related to the EU project PRESEMT (FP7/2007-2013, ICT 248307) in which organizers participate.

Special thanks are due to the members of Local Organizing Committee for their tireless effort in organizing the conference.

The TEXpertise of Petr Sojka resulted in the production of the volume that you are holding in your hands.

We hope that the readers will benefit from the results of this event and disseminate the ideas of the TSD Conference all over the world. Enjoy the proceedings!

July 2012

Aleš Horák
Ivan Kopeček
Karel Pala
Petr Sojka

Organization

TSD 2012 was organized by the Faculty of Informatics, Masaryk University, in co-operation with the Faculty of Applied Sciences, University of West Bohemia in Plzeň. The conference webpage is located at http://www.tsdconference.org/tsd2012/

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