

**PAPERS ON AND AROUND  
THE LINGUISTICS OF *BA*  
2017**

**Edited by**

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## Papers on and around the Linguistics of BA 2017

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## Foreword

This compilation of papers represents part of the work toward establishment of the linguistics of *BA*, the study of syntax, semantics and pragmatics in relation to the field of communication in which communicating agents are situated relative to each other and to this field. When our initial research project started in 2009 partly funded by JSPS Kaken Grant-in-Aid for Challenging Exploratory Research (#21652041, “Toward Construction of Linguistics of *BA*: Semantics and Pragmatics of *BA*”), the participants were at a loss how to deal with those issues. Our bewilderment deepened as we continued discussion and we started a new project in 2014 again partly funded by JSPS Kaken Grant-in-Aid for Challenging Exploratory Research (#26580074, “Construction of Linguistics of *BA*: *BA* and Emergence of Meaning”) headed by Yasuhiro KATAGIRI at Future University Hakodate.

Although our central notion was that of *BA*, or field in which communicating agents interact, we tried to avoid concentrating on defining what *BA* might be or how *BA* could be formulated in theoretical models, because we felt that by doing so, our research aim would get too narrowly focused, with only very limited number and kind of researchers getting interested in sharing ideas and concerns. We organized quite diverse kinds of workshops, domestic and international, linguistically and non-linguistically oriented, formal and informal, and each time we tried to invite researchers from different countries or regions and with diverse research backgrounds.

The collection of papers in this particular volume represents only a small part of those discussions. Most are based on presentations at the first International Workshop on Linguistics of *BA* and The 11th Korea-Japan Workshop on Linguistics and Language Processing, held at Waseda University in December 2011. We called the event "an International Workshop" because at the time we were not quite sure if there would ever be a second, as our initial Grant-in-Aid project period was coming to an end. The turn of events brought us a second in July 2015 and a third in March 2016, and the fourth took place in December 2016. Now, we are relatively sure that it would be OK to include the definite article in the title of this collection. There are a few papers that were independently contributed but it is based on or inspired by the discussions at the Second International Workshop on the Linguistics of *BA*.

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