

Preface

We take great pleasure in presenting the proceedings of the First Pacific Asia Conference on Formal and Computational Linguistics. These papers come from the first collaborative conference co-sponsored by institutions from Hong Kong, Japan, and Taiwan. It provides a unique opportunity to further the scholarly exchange among linguists in the Pacific Asia region in the areas of formal and computational linguistics. We hope that it will foster a cooperative environment as well as a better understanding of new trends in theoretical and computational linguistics in the Pacific Asia area.

We would like to express our heart-felt appreciation to the five invited speakers -- Kenneth Church, Mary Dalrymple, Mark Liberman, John Nerbonne, and Charles Ting-chi Tang -- for sharing their knowledge and newest research with us. They are leading scholars representing a wide diversity of research orientation, including pure computational work, LFG, HPSG, and GB. They also come from different geographical areas, including the two coasts of the U.S., as well as Holland, and Taiwan. They set a good example of scholarly exchange among different backgrounds.

Papers to be presented in this conference include theoretical and computational studies in syntax, semantics, corpus linguistics, and the contrastive analysis of Pacific Asian languages. Contributions come from Japan, Singapore, Korea, Hong Kong, PRC, Malaysia, America and Taiwan. We would like to thank all the conferees for their participation.

This conference is the result of collaboration among organizations in the Pacific Asian region in addition to local institutes in Taiwan. We would like to thank the Logico-Linguistics Society of Japan and the Linguistics Society of Hong Kong for co-sponsoring the conference. The four local institutes involved are: National Cheng-chi University, the Computational Linguistic Society of the ROC, and the Institutes of the Information Science and History & Philology, Academia Sinica. Financial support is provided by Computer and Communication Research Laboratories, Behavior Design Corporation, Matsushita Electric Institute of Technology in Taipei, Ministry of Education and the National Science Council of the ROC. This support is an

essential part of the success of this conference. We are grateful for their generosity. The prompt and careful reviews offered by our program committee, as well as outside reviewers, ensured the quality of the accepted papers.

We would like to thank the following people for their support during all stages of the organization of the conference: Professor Hui-chen Chan of Chengchi University, Ms. Shu-Hui Tsai of the Computational Linguistics Society of the ROC, and members of the Chinese Knowledge Information Processing Group at Academia Sinica.

It is earnestly hoped this conference will be a cornerstone in the future cooperation and exchange among scholars in the Pacific Asian area.

PACFoCoL I Organizing Committee

Claire Hsun-Hui Chang

Keh-jiann Chen

Chu-Ren Huang

Cheng-Hui Liu

August 10, 1993