SPECIAL ISSUE ON NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING AND KNOWLEDGE ENGINEERING

Fuji Ren[1] and Xiaojie Wang[2]

[1]Institute of Technology and Science
The University of Tokushima
Minami Josanjima, Tokushima, 770-8506, Japan
ren@is.tokushima-u.ac.jp

[2]Department of Intelligence Science and Network Engineering
Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications
Beijing, 100876, P. R. China
xjwang@bupt.edu.cn

As the explosive increase of web data and the rapid advancement of computing technology, Natural Language Processing (NLP) and Knowledge Engineering (KE) have become two of the most attractive focus areas in research. While NLP is essentially a knowledge based task, and NLP gives a promising way to knowledge representation and acquisition. We believe the combination of NLP and KE will not only contribute to each other, but also contribute to other topics, such as man-machine interactive and multimodal processing.

This Special Issue of International Journal of Innovative Computing Information and Control is dedicated a variety of original papers presented at *The 2008 IEEE International Conference on Natural Language Processing and Knowledge Engineering*, Beijing, China, October 19-22, 2008. It has attracted many papers from researchers who are currently active in NLP and KE areas, so that their research results can be disseminated widely for use in solving complex scientific and engineering problems faced by people working in different application domains. This special issue is the cross-pollination of ideas among NLP, KE researchers, and people working in different application domains. We have accepted only 9 papers out of 28 submissions. The published papers are of high quality and represent both theoretical and application favors. Among these 9 papers, three are on NLP based knowledge abstraction, two are on man-machine communication and emotion based conversation, two are on language learning, one is on robot and one is on data fusion.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the contributors and the reviewers for their contribution and devoted efforts. Special thanks go to the Executive Editor of International Journal of Innovative Computing Information and Control, Prof. Yan Shi, for hosting this special issue. We believe the work reported in this special issue represents latest progress in the fields of Natural Language Processing, Knowledge Engineering and related topic. We hope readers will share our evaluations and make this special issue a good reference in their works, and motivate further research and development efforts in this fascinating and challenging area.