

We are glad to introduce CLiC-it 2014 (<http://clic.humnet.unipi.it>), the first edition of the Italian Conference on Computational Linguistics, a new event aiming to establish a reference forum for research on Computational Linguistics of the Italian community. CLiC-it covers all aspects of automatic language understanding, both written and spoken, and targets state-of-art theoretical results, experimental methodologies, technologies, as well as application perspectives, which may contribute to advance the field.

CLiC-it 2014 is held in Pisa on December 9-10 2014, and it is co-located with EVALITA-2014 (<http://www.evalita.it>), the fourth edition of the evaluation campaign of Natural Language Processing and Speech tools for Italian and with the XIII Symposium on Artificial Intelligence (Pisa, 10-12 December 2014, <http://aiia2014.di.unipi.it/>).

Pisa is a special place in the history of Italian Computational Linguistics. Here, Padre Roberto Busa carried out his pioneering research on automatic text processing in the late '60s with Antonio Zampolli, who then founded the Istituto di Linguistica Computazionale of CNR in Pisa, the first research center thoroughly devoted to Computational Linguistics and Natural Language Processing. The University of Pisa also hosted the first professorship in Computational Linguistics held by Antonio Zampolli until his death in 2003.

It is therefore highly symbolic that the Italian community on Computational Linguistics gathers for the first time in Pisa, there where its roots lie. Italian Computational Linguistics has come a long way. Research groups and centers are now spread nationwide and play an active role on the international scene. The large number of researchers that have decided to present their work to CLiC-it is the best proof of the maturity of our community, strongly committed to shape the future of Computational Linguistics.

The spirit of CLiC-it is inclusive. In the conviction that the complexity of language phenomena needs cross-disciplinary competences, CLiC-it intends to bring together researchers of related disciplines such as Computational Linguistics, Linguistics, Cognitive Science, Machine Learning, Computer Science, Knowledge Representation, Information Retrieval and Digital Humanities.

CLiC-it covers all aspects of automated language processing. Relevant topics for the conference include, but are not limited to, the following thematic areas:

- *Cognitive modeling of language processing and psycholinguistics*. Area chairs: Marco Baroni (University of Trento) and Vito Pirrelli (ILC-CNR, Pisa).
- *Digital Humanities*. Area chairs: Sara Tonelli (FBK, Trento) and Fabio Massimo Zanzotto (University of Rome Tor Vergata).
- *Information Extraction*. Area chairs: Maria Teresa Pazienza (University of Rome Tor Vergata) and Paola Velardi (University of Rome Sapienza)
- *Information Retrieval*. Area Chair: Fabrizio Sebastiani (ISTI-CNR, Pisa)
- *Linguistic Resources*. Area chairs: Elisabetta Jezek (University of Pavia) and Monica Monachini (ILC-CNR, Pisa)
- *Machine Translation*. Area chair: Marcello Federico (FBK, Trento)
- *Pragmatics and Creativity*. Area chairs: Rodolfo Delmonte (University of Venezia) and Malvina Nissim (University of Bologna)

- *Semantics and Knowledge Acquisition*. Area chairs: Gianni Semeraro (University of Bari) and Alessandro Moschitti (University of Trento)
- *Spoken Language Processing*. Area chairs: Franco Cutugno (University of Napoli Federico II) and Cinzia Avesani (ISTC-CNR, Padova)
- *Syntax and Parsing*. Area chairs: Giuseppe Attardi (University of Pisa) and Alessandro Mazzei (University of Torino)

We have received a total of 97 paper submissions, out of which 75 have been accepted to appear in the Conference proceedings, which are available online in a joint volume with Evalita 2014.

We are very proud of the scientific program of the conference: it includes two invited speakers, Eduard Hovy (Carnegie Mellon University) and John Nerbonne (University of Groningen), long and short oral presentations, as well as two poster sessions. We are also happy to assign best paper awards to young authors (PhD students and Postdocs) who appear as first author of their paper.

We would like to share the great success of CLiC-it 2014, the first edition of the Italian Conference on Computational Linguistics, with the whole Italian community. We thank the conference sponsors for their generous support:



We also thank the following organizations and institutions for endorsing CLiC-it:

- Università di Pisa
- Società Italiana di Glottologia (SIG)
- Associazione Italiana per l'Intelligenza Artificiale (AI*IA)
- Società di Linguistica Italiana (SLI)
- Associazione Italiana di Linguistica Applicata (AITLA)
- Associazione per l'Informatica Umanistica e la Cultura Digitale (AIUCD)
- Associazione Italiana Scienze della Voce (AISV)

Special thanks to Gianluca Leboni for his precious help to organize CLiC-it 2014 and prepare the conference proceedings.

Last but not least, we thank the area chairs and all the reviewers for their incredible work, the invited speakers for their contribution to make CLIC-it an international event, and all the persons involved in the organization of the conference in Pisa.

November 2014

CLiC-it 2014 CO-CHAIRS

Roberto Basili
Alessandro Lenci
Bernardo Magnini