WAT 2026

The 13th Workshop on Asian Translation

Proceedings of the Workshop

November 9, 2026

©2026 Association for Computational Linguistics

Order copies of this and other ACL proceedings from:

Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)
317 Sidney Baker St. S
Suite 400 - 134
Kerrville, TX 78028
USA
Tel: +1-855-225-1962
acl@aclweb.org

ISBN 979-8-89176-446-0

Preface

Many Asian countries are rapidly growing these days and the importance of communicating and exchanging the information with these countries has intensified. To satisfy the demand for communication among these countries, machine translation technology is essential.

Machine translation technology has rapidly evolved recently and it is seeing practical use especially between European languages. With the recent progress of AI technology, machine translation is now frequently treated as one of the benchmarks for large language models (LLMs). Nevertheless, machine translation technology is still far from perfect: the translation quality of Asian languages remains lower than that of European languages, and problems such as low-resource languages persist. This is not only due to the lack of the language resources for Asian languages but also due to the lack of techniques to correctly transfer the meaning of sentences from/to Asian languages. Consequently, a place for gathering and sharing the resources and knowledge about Asian language translation is necessary to enhance machine translation research for Asian languages, and WAT will continue to provide a venue for analyzing the current state of machine translation technology and discussing its further development.

The Conference on Machine Translation (WMT), the world's largest machine translation conference, mainly targets on European language. The International Workshop on Spoken Language Translation (IWSLT) has spoken language translation tasks for some Asian languages using TED talk data, but there is no task for written language. The Workshop on Asian Translation (WAT) is an open machine translation evaluation campaign focusing on Asian languages. WAT gathers and shares the resources and knowledge of Asian language translation to understand the problems to be solved for the practical use of machine translation technologies among all Asian countries. WAT is unique in that it is an "open innovation platform": the test data is fixed and open, so participants can repeat evaluations on the same data and confirm changes in translation accuracy over time. WAT has no deadline for the automatic translation quality evaluation (continuous evaluation), so participants can submit translation results at any time.

Following the success of the previous WAT workshops (WAT2014 – WAT2025), WAT2026 will bring together machine translation researchers and users to try, evaluate, share and discuss brand-new ideas about machine translation. For the 13th WAT, we have the 2nd Patent Claims Translation/Evaluation Task and the English→Indic Multimodal Translation Tasks. We have 4 teams who submitted their results.

In addition to the shared tasks, WAT2026 also features research papers on topics related to machine translation, especially for Asian languages. We received 9 research papers submitted including ARR commitment, and the program committee accepted 7 research papers.

We would like to thank all the authors who submitted papers. We express our deepest gratitude to the committee members for their timely reviews. We also thank the AACL-IJCNLP2026 organizers for their help with administrative matters.

WAT 2026 Organizers

Organizing Committee

Organizers

Toshiaki Nakazawa, National Institute of Informatics (NII), Japan
Isao Goto, Ehime University, Japan
Chenhui Chu, Kyoto University, Japan
Haiyue Song, National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (NICT), Japan
Raj Dabre, Google Research Australia, Australia
Shohei Higashiyama, National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (NICT), Japan
Anoop Kunchookuttan, Microsoft AI and Research, India
Shantipriya Parida, AMD Silo AI, Finland
Ondřej Bojar, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic
Katsuhito Sudoh, Nara Women's University, Japan
Masaaki Nagata, NTT, Inc., Japan
Sadao Kurohashi, National Institute of Informatics, Japan

Program Committee

Program Committee Members

Raj Dabre, Google Research Australia, Australia
Shohei Higashiyama, NICT
Hideya Mino, NHK
Takashi Ninomiya, Ehime University
Shantipriya Parida, AMD Silo AI
Katsuhito Sudoh, Nara Women's University
Masao Utiyama, NICT
Takehito Utsuro, University of Tsukuba
Thanmay Jayakumar, Indian Institute of Technology
Deepon Halder, Indian Institute of Technology
Masaaki Nagata, NTT, Inc.
Takashi Tsunakawa, Shizuoka University
Toshiaki Nakazawa, National Institute of Informatics
Isao Goto, Ehime University

Table of Contents

PSMT-eval: A Benchmark Dataset for Machine Translation Evaluation in Punjabi Shahmukhi
Abdul Basit and Abdul Hameed Azeemi 1

LIPI: Transliterating Hindi the Way People Type It
Abhishek Gautam 9

Style Diagnostic Profile for Translation: A Preliminary JA–EN Study
Yuri Amimoto, Ryosuke Mitani, Rem Hida, Ritvik Choudhary and Toshiyuki Sekiya 17

HexaBee-4B: Six-Language Translation with Multilingual Answering and Bidirectional Supervision
Iman Barati, Mohammadmostafa Rostamkhani and Mohammad Badzohreh 46

SerialDistill: Retrieval-Conditioned On-Policy Distillation for Data-Scarce Serial Subtitle Translation
Yiran Zhang and Ziqi Zhang 71

Towards a Rubric-based LLM-as-a-Judge for Patent Claim Translation Evaluation
Yingyi Fu, Takehito Utsuro and Masaaki Nagata 84

Machine-Translated Bengali in the Wild: A Provenance Benchmark and a Detector-Flagged Shift Toward Translation in Common Crawl
Mantaqa Abedin and Jeba Afia Khan 104

UTSK26 at WAT2026 Patent Claims Translation/Evaluation Tasks
Yingyi Fu, Kosei Buma and Takehito Utsuro 119

Ehime-U System for the WAT 2026 Patent Claims Evaluation Task: LLM-Based Translation Error Prediction Using Word Alignments
Wang Xu Yin, Isao Goto and Takashi Ninomiya 134

GABU@WAT 2026: Zero Shot and QLoRA Adaptation of Gemma 4 E4B for Multimodal English to Indic Translation
Shiv Ram Saud, Aashish Mahato, Prajwal Ghimire, Sundeep Dawadi, Ramesh Saud and Sunil Regmi 145

Findings of the 2nd Patent Claims Translation/Evaluation Task at WAT 2026
Toshiaki Nakazawa, Takashi Tsunakawa, Isao Goto, Katsuhito Sudoh, Shoichi Okuyama, Takashi Ieda and Masaaki Nagata 155

Program

Monday, November 9, 2026

09:00 - 09:05 *Welcome by Toshiaki Nakazawa*

09:05 - 10:20 *Research Paper I*

HexaBee-4B: Six-Language Translation with Multilingual Answering and Bidirectional Supervision
Iman Barati, Mohammadmostafa Rostamkhani and Mohammad Badzohreh

LIPI: Transliterating Hindi the Way People Type It
Abhishek Gautam

SerialDistill: Retrieval-Conditioned On-Policy Distillation for Data-Scarce Serial Subtitle Translation
Yiran Zhang and Ziqi Zhang

10:20 - 11:00 *Coffee Break*

11:00 - 12:40 *Research Paper II*

Style Diagnostic Profile for Translation: A Preliminary JA–EN Study
Yuri Amimoto, Ryosuke Mitani, Rem Hida, Ritvik Choudhary and Toshiyuki Sekiya

Machine-Translated Bengali in the Wild: A Provenance Benchmark and a Detector-Flagged Shift Toward Translation in Common Crawl
Mantaqa Abedin and Jeba Afia Khan

PSMT-eval: A Benchmark Dataset for Machine Translation Evaluation in Punjabi Shahmukhi
Abdul Basit and Abdul Hameed Azeemi

Towards a Rubric-based LLM-as-a-Judge for Patent Claim Translation Evaluation
Yingyi Fu, Takehito Utsuro and Masaaki Nagata

12:40 - 14:00 *Lunch Break*

14:00 - 14:50 *Invited Talk by Prof. Alham Fikri Aji*

Monday, November 9, 2026 (continued)

14:50 - 15:05 *Shared Task - English to Indic Multimodal Translation Task: Findings of the English to Indic Multimodal Translation Tasks (Shantipriya Parida)*

15:05 - 15:30 *Shared Task - English to Indic Multimodal Translation Task*

GABU@WAT 2026: Zero Shot and QLoRA Adaptation of Gemma 4 E4B for Multimodal English to Indic Translation
Shiv Ram Saud, Aashish Mahato, Prajwal Ghimire, Sundeep Dawadi, Ramesh Saud and Sunil Regmi

15:30 - 16:00 *Coffee Break*

16:00 - 17:15 *Shared Task - Patent Claims Translation/Evaluation Task*

Findings of the 2nd Patent Claims Translation/Evaluation Task at WAT 2026
Toshiaki Nakazawa, Takashi Tsunakawa, Isao Goto, Katsuhito Sudoh, Shoichi Okuyama, Takashi Ieda and Masaaki Nagata

Ehime-U System for the WAT 2026 Patent Claims Evaluation Task: LLM-Based Translation Error Prediction Using Word Alignments
Wang Xu Yin, Isao Goto and Takashi Ninomiya

UTSK26 at WAT2026 Patent Claims Translation/Evaluation Tasks
Yingyi Fu, Kosei Buma and Takehito Utsuro

17:15 - 17:20 *Closing by Toshiaki Nakazawa*