ALTA's Mission

The Australasian Language Technology Association was founded in 2003 and operates according to the ALTA Constitution. The purpose of ALTA is to promote language technology research and development in Australia and New Zealand. ALTA organises regular events for the exchange of research results and for academic and industrial training, and co-ordinates activities with other professional societies.

Why Should I Join ALTA?

ALTA gathers people like you, who are working in the area of language technology, no matter if you are a student, an academic or a researcher at a commercial institution. By joining ALTA, it becomes easier to meet new people, learn about their work and exchange experiences. ALTA actively supports exchange of ideas and collaboration by organizing various events, for example regular annual workshops.

How Do I Join ALTA?

Joining ALTA is easy and free!
Go to our website: http://alta.asn.au and fill in the "Subscribe to ALTA Announce" box. Subscribing to the ALTA-Announce mailing list is equal to joining ALTA.

Organisation

The ALTA Executive Committee for 2023-2024 is:

Massimo Piccardi (president)	University of Technology Sydney
Maria Kim (secretary)	Defence Science and Technology Group
Mel Mistica (treasurer)	University of Melbourne
Rui Xing (student representative)	University of Melbourne
Jey Han Lau	University of Melbourne
Diego Mollá	Macquarie University
Gabriela Ferraro	University of Technology Sydney

Get in touch: exec@alta.asn.au

Stay Informed

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  http://alta.asn.au

• Subscribe to ALTA Lists:
  http://alta.asn.au/mailing_lists

• Join our social networking groups:

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t   @altanlp

in   ALTA LinkedIn Group

Australasian Language Technology Association

http://www.alta.asn.au

What is Language Technology?

Most human knowledge, and most human communication, is represented and expressed using language, both in written and spoken forms. Language technologies permit computers to process human language, providing more natural human-machine interfaces, and more sophisticated access to stored information. Language technologies will play a central role in the multilingual information society of the future.

Research in Language Technology

The cutting-edge nature of Language Technology means that research is particularly important: there are many unsolved problems in the automated processing of spoken and written language, and in many cases we have only begun to scratch the surface. Research in Language Technology, which for our purposes covers a space that also includes Natural Language Processing and Computational Linguistics, draws on work in a diverse array of disciplines, including linguistics, psychology, philosophy and computer science, and now, with the increasing role played by statistical methods, also mathematics.

Research Activity in Australasia

Given the wide range of contributing disciplines, research in Language Technology in Australia and New Zealand is carried out in many different contexts. Research in this area is very dynamic and active. Our webpages list the main clusters of activity (see http://alta.asn.au/).

Language Technology Workshop

With the goal to promote research and development in language technology in Australia and New Zealand, we organise an annual workshop. The main goal of the workshop is to serve as a forum for Australian and New Zealander people actively participating in Language Technology activities or simply interested in them. Often the workshop includes tutorials and presentations by invited international speakers. Occasionally, there are summer schools with courses at beginner and advanced levels. The main audience of the summer schools is postgraduate students and researchers in academia and industry.

The proceedings of the ALTA Workshops are registered at the National Library of Australia with the ISSN 1834-7037 and are freely available online at our website. They are also published by ACL Anthology.

OzCLO

The Australian Computational and Linguistics Olympiad (OzCLO) is an annual high-school competition supported by ALTA. It was first made possible in 2008 through a grant from HCSNet and has now been established Australia-wide. In addition to the traditional linguistics problems, OzCLO endeavours to introduce students to computational problem solving as it relates specifically to natural language data. For more information, see http://www.ozclo.org.au.

ALTA for Students

ALTA has something to offer to students at any level of their education. High school students can participate in OzCLO and undergraduate students can participate in ALTA's programming competitions. After completing undergraduate studies, students considering continuing as postgraduates obtain through ALTA's resources links to research centers, potential supervisors and future colleagues and peers. Contacting these people can substantially help candidates to decide where, what and with whom to do their research. ALTA provides on its website an archive of past theses and a collection of resources related to PhD activities. We run mailing lists – a forum for seeking help on particular problems you might have. Occasionally, we inform through this channel about available scholarships, overseas exchange possibilities, workshops, summer schools, seminars etc. For those finishing PhD, ALTA's resources may be very useful to learn how and where to apply for a post-doc position. Throughout the whole research carrier, ALTA helps you to stay informed about what is happening in the area of Language Technology in Australasia and to keep in touch with other students and researchers.