

## Preface

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Volume 7 of the CLIN journal contains full papers of work which was presented at the 27th CLIN (Computational Linguistics in the Netherlands). Thirteen papers were submitted and reviewed by at least three members of the editorial board or an additional reviewer, of which ten were accepted.

The topics cover, amongst other things, text normalization, historical language, machine translation, author profiling, semantic parsing, word embeddings, agent-based modeling and treebank search.

The 27th CLIN took place on Friday 10 February 2017 in Leuven, Belgium. It was organised by the Centre for Computational Linguistics (CCL) of the KU Leuven – University of Leuven, which organised it for the third time. The members of the organisation committee of CLIN27 were Frank Van Eynde, Ineke Schuurman, Vincent Vandeghinste, Tom Vanallemeersch, Liesbeth Augustinus, Leen Sevens and Peter Dirix, with some additional help from Bram Vanroy.

The conference welcomed over 150 participants, a new record. It featured 43 regular talks, organised in 4 parallel sessions, 26 posters and one debate. The plenary session featured a presentation by Frieda Steurs of the renewed Institute for the Dutch Language (Instituut voor de Nederlandse Taal) and an invited lecture by Ann Copestake (University of Cambridge) about "Symbolic models of natural language in the era of deep learning".

We thank Erik Tjong Kim Sang for continuing the CLIN shared task, introduced in the previous CLIN in Amsterdam. This year's topic was *Translating Historical Text to Contemporary Language for Improving Automatic Linguistic Annotation*. The results are presented in this journal.

CLIN 27 was sponsored by Textkernel, the Dutch Language Union (Nederlandse Taalunie), Acapela group, Textgain, Intersystems, Elsevier, Clariah, and the Research Group of Formal and Computational Linguistics (ComForT) at the Faculty of Arts of the KU Leuven.