

Language Grid Bangkok

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We started the Language Grid Bangkok Operation Center in 2009. It has been more than 3 years since then. We agreed that a collection of language services could be a very efficient site for language processing related service in terms of exploration and mash up to create an on-top service. Many useful language processing tools and language resources can be exposed widely for not only study but also advanced service development. The explicit examples of usage can be seen in the cross language services and the composite services of language translation across a sequence of language translation node. The non-existing services of translation pair can be realized comparably simpler than the traditional development. The Operation Center has to present its merits in joining the Language Grid to draw the intention of language resource owners. Many language resource owners are aware of the fate of their resources after joining the Language Grid. On the other hand, the sophisticated mechanism in preparing the service wrapper and converting the existing application into service is another barrier in participating the Language Grid. Quality of service is also needed to monitor timely to keep the service alive.

For some times, we have organized a series of workshops and hands-on training for developers and resource owners. This seems to be an efficient way to gain more contribution from the resource owners. A series of training workshops and contests is expected to establish the viral marketing strategy.

We think that the complicate paper works in participating the current Language Grid policy can discourage the newcomers. Concerning the concept of Open Language Grid if not yet established, we need to discuss how to make it open in terms of connectability, usability, and distributability. Openness of Open Source or Free Software and Open Standard can be the baseline to consider about the openness of Language Grid. Open Standard will guarantee the connectivity while Open Source or Free Software will be adopted as a guideline for the service usability, and distributability of the composite service after the service mashing up. We are expecting a better collaboration on the Language Grid platform.

Currently, we started up a service platform called APIdd.com, which is marketplace for the open API services. All APIs are connected through the APIdd.com platform, and each is allowed to set up its own distribution policy. This will basically include both free access APIs and commercial APIs. The service can be registered in three different categories, namely data, tools, and showcase. Not only the language processing services but any types of services can be exposed on this platform. Testing interface and utilization condition of each service can be observed for API exploration before the adoption.