## A Framework Design of Mongolian Idioms Knowledge Base

## Hai Yinhua

Abstract—Building a "Knowledge Base of Mongolian Idioms" is not only the effective way of protecting, developing and utilizing Mongolian language resources, but also providing formal knowledge for machine translation, corpus processing, text proofreading, and other fields which can meet the urgent needs of Mongolian Information Processing. Developing a teaching-aid program will provide a convenient tool for the Mongolian students of different ages and at different levels. The aim of this paper is using the computational linguistic theory and method to developing a "Knowledge Base of Mongolian Idioms". This paper will dissertate a framework of the knowledge base from the perspective of the scale and structure, attribute field, management software, and the analysis of application prospect and etc.

Index Terms—Mongolian, knowledge base of idioms, framework design.

## I. THE URGENCY OF DEVELOPING KNOWLEDGE BASE OF MONGOLIAN IDIOMS

In recent years, the research of idioms, fixed phrases for natural language understanding has become a hot topic in information processing field. This research is a part of the project of Inner Mongolia University about building language knowledge base supported by National Social Science Fund from 2012. Since 1980s, the Mongolian information processing has made certain accomplishments in basic research and application. As a special element of multi-level and complicated Mongolian language system, Mongolian idioms, ranging from word processing to sentence processing, have been ignored. Much work in the digitization of Mongolian idioms needs to be done.

As an essential part of the Mongolian language resources, idioms have run a long course and carried a lot of cultural heritages. It can reflect the delicate feelings, interests, values and thinking styles of Mongolian people. Also, it provides valuable resources for the study of different aspects of Mongolian civilization. Hence, in order to get a better protection and utilization, detailed study and further research in the exploitation, development and collection of the Mongolian idioms are needed. The rapid development of information age has brought a great challenge to the vocabulary and application of Mongolian idioms. Mongolian linguist, Professor Nasun-urt held the knowledge base of idioms as an important language resources construction in his *"the Presumption of Mongolian Language Resource Platform Framework"* [1]. In addition, we discussed in detail the importance and urgency of constructing and using Mongolian idioms knowledge base in another text [2].

Human-oriented, traditional study of Mongolian idioms with multiple methods, from the multi perspective carried on the multi-dimensional research. The results of those studies provide a reference for our topic. Wood-block version of Mongolian idioms lexicography was developed in Qing Dynasty in the late 19thcentury, and the version lasted for more than 200 years. Nowadays, some reference dictionaries, such as Brief Dictionary of Mongolian Idioms (2000) [3], Dictionary of Mongolian Idioms (2001) [4], have met the various needs of people to a large extent. However, from the perspective of information processing, with the change of serving target, certain contents of the printed dictionaries cannot be directly applied to the machine dictionary. Particularly, the information like classification and interpretation of individual understanding are not applicable to the machine dictionary.

Previously, scholars have in-depth studies on formalization issues related to grammatical features of Mongolian fixed phrases for computer understanding. The representative works are *Dictionary of Modern Mongolian Fixed Phrases with Detailed Description of Grammatical Information* (2005)[5] and A *study on compound words for Mongolian information processing*[6]. However, Mongolian idioms cover a wide range, either in forms of phrases and sentences, or in different types, and with quite a number of sub-categories; including not only xoršiy\_a üge<sup>1</sup> ( $\frac{4\pi i \pi^2}{2\pi i \pi^2}$ ), xebšil üge ( $\frac{6\pi i \pi^2}{2\pi i \pi^2}$ ), togtamal üge ( $\frac{6\pi i \pi^2}{2\pi i \pi^2}$ ), ner\_atomiy\_a ( $\frac{1}{2\pi i \pi^2}$ ), but also j ür üge( $\frac{1}{2\pi i \pi^2}$ ), sečen üge ( $\frac{4\pi \pi^2}{2\pi i \pi^2}$ ), xošong üge( $\frac{6\pi i \pi^2}{2\pi i \pi^2}$ ), ceger üge ( $\pi^{nc}$   $\frac{1}{2\pi i \pi^2}$ ), surgal üge ( $\frac{4\pi i \pi^2}{2\pi i \pi^2}$ ), lorjoo üge( $\frac{1}{2\pi i \pi^2}$   $\frac{1}{2\pi i \pi^2}$ ) and other sub-categories.

Essentially these sub classification and fixed phrases belong to different level. At present, a lot of researches related on Mongolian idioms still lingering on a blank stage, such as classification, clarification of sub-categories, and semantic features of sentence-formed idioms, especially the research on the semantic properties of the machine-understanding-oriented whole idioms. The relevant research of Mongolian idioms for Natural Language Understanding is underdeveloped, which not only directly affects the corpus processing, text classification, machine translation, information retrieval and a lot of other current

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Hai Yinhua is with the School of Mongolian Studies, Inner Mongolia University, Hohhot,010021,China (e-mail: haiyh2008@163.com).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Mongolian notes in this paper is in the form of the International Phonetic Alphabet.

undergoing research work, but also may cause a lot of barriers to the further research and application in the future.

#### II. THE SCALE AND STRUCTURE OF KNOWLEDGE BASE

Conceiving the overall framework of Mongolian idioms knowledge base is based on the theory of lexicology and lexicography, will collect common idioms as the source of entries from *One Million Word Mongolian Corpus*<sup>2</sup> and some current people-oriented idiom dictionaries, such as *The Dictionary of Mongolian Idiom*<sup>3</sup>, *Dictionary of Mongolian language*(1997) [7], *Mongolian Dictionary with Detailed Explanation* (2008) [8] to establish the knowledge general base of Mongolian idioms( the sample of knowledge base of Mongolian idioms as shown in Fig. 1).

Up to now, the knowledge base has collected 22000 idioms in total. To clear up ambiguity, several branch base and supplementary base will be established to represent idioms of synonymy or antonym, with single or polysemy, same or similar, reverse or opposite meanings, providing multiple solutions for auto-processing semantic analysis.

#### A. The Explanation of Attributes Field of General Base

- 1) Number (No): Automatically generated digital numbers involve the number of specific idiom entries in the knowledge base resources.
- 2) Entry (HELECE): fill in the Latin transformed script of Mongolian idioms. For example, fill in "NAMVR-VN EBESU HABVR-VN ALTA" in the corresponding field of Mongolian script "How of 1966 of 1967" instead.

First, as a blueprint, our main resource--- the Dictionary of Mongolian Idioms (2001), we artificially selected the common idioms from it. Secondly, relying mainly on the program and supported by our artificial selection, we include all idioms from One Million Word Mongolian Corpus with POS Tagging, and make sure to exclude double counting.

3) Sub-category (BTOROL): fill the information marks of grammatical classification as the sub-category codes, for example, fill in "R" in the corresponding field of "Hore and Hore and Hore", indicating "juir üge" (proverb).

A RUN Y 11.98 Y 284 - A RUN RUSS 11.88 Y 284 - A RUN RUN RUSS 11.88 Y 284 - A RUN RUN RUSS 11.88 Y 284 - A RUN RUSS 11.88 Y 284 - A RUN RUN RUSS 11.88 Y 284 - A RUN RUN RUSS 11.88 Y 284 - A RUN RUN RUN RUN RUSS 11.88 Y 284 - A RUN RUN RUN RUSS 11.88 Y 284 - A RUN RUN RUN RUN RUSS 11.88 Y 284 - A R	■	第二 5000000000000000000000000000000000000	*18 B Z U	<u>A</u> - ♥			「「「 」 」 「 」 」 「 」 」 」 「 」 」 」 」 」 」 」 」
数据版 5 排序和路达 记录	查找	間日			文本模式		5 中文策繁转换
HELECE	MONGGO			VB1 ·	11410/20	HVB3 *	
A USUG ERDEM-VN DEGEJI, AYAG_A CAI IDEGEN-U DEGEJ	بريم إندريشكر لتعرضو رام	) بېشو يخ تر ټخې	A U	USUG ER	A USUG EI	RA USUG EF	COUSUG BICIg B
A USUG-UN TOLOGAI MEDEHU UGEI	ها يشيد إدانيند إد	a mesc H					USUG BICIg ULU
A USUG NOM-VN DEGEDU, ABV EJI HOMON-U DEGEDU	با ينبس بدا ما منيو .	ve v≺ nev/s ≈ G					<b>OUSUG BOL ERD</b>
A MA UGEI	14 60	Y					①USUG BICIg U
A LAMA	14	Y					<b>OULU TOGOMSAR</b>
A-YI JIGAGAD E-YI HARIYAHV	بالاسيية بلامية	- H					BITEGUU HECEGU
A-YIN ACVG UGEI, ARBA-YIN TEG UGEI	א הו זישיי זיוור ישיין	arl say said. H	A (	GEDEG U			USUG BICIg ULU
AYIMAG ALHVJV, HOSIGV GVLASAHV	بينا بينية ، بيبية إين	wheel R	AY	MAG AL			ORON SAGVCA UG
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AYIL AYIMAG EYETEI NI SAYIHAN, AH_A DEGUU NAYIRTA	net network of new prime	-/·/,					HOMOS-UN HARIC
AYIL-ACA ERIHU-BER, ABDAR_A-ACA-BAN ERI	ر بينه بدنيه ايد تيه	wlwr G	AY	L-ACA	AYIL-ACA	AYIL-ACA	THEREG YABVDA
AYIL-ACA-BAN BVSVD-VN EGVDE-YI TADAL UGEI, AH_A-A		d e and mer H					EHENER-ECE-BEN
AYIL ERUHE BVSHAHV	مية بربام فاسط	Y					GERLEHU
AYIL-IYAN GOLOHV-ACA AGASI-BAN GOLO, AJIL-IYAN GO	المراجد ومنتقر المراجد	- ها جند - بينا = G					AYIL SAGAH A-T
AYIL-VN AHAMAD, AYIMAG-VN TURUGUU	محا مشيا ، بينا با	weekin K					AYIL SAGAHALTA
AYIL-VN ALAG-ACA, ADVGVN-V ALAG	البيبية ايد الماد	G Sur	AY	L-VN A			AVIL HOTA-DAGA
AVIL-VN EGUDE AMARAGADAG UGEI	wind stud strength s	ex H					AVIL YEHE TOGO

Fig. 1. The Sample of knowledge base of Mongolian idioms.

 $^2\,R$  & D institution of this corpus is Academy of Mongolian Studies, Inner Mongolia University.

<sup>3</sup> Burintegus compiled, "Mongolian Idioms Dictionary ", Inner Mongolia Education Press, 2001.

TABLE I: FRAMEWORK (	OF SUB-CATEGORY	OF MONGOLIAN IDIOM

Mongolian Idioms(a)							
Phrase of Idioms							
xoršiy_a üge	xebšil üge	xabu üge	tu	togtamal üge		ner_a tomiy_a	
Y	X	K		J		Ŋ	Г
Mongolian Idioms(b)							
Sentence of Idioms							
jüir üge	sečen üge	xošong üge		eger su: ge üg		rgal e	lorjoo üge
R	S	Н		С	G		L

We have re-defined the various sub-categories and boundaries of the Mongolian idioms from the perspectives of the Mongolian information processing, which will fill up the gap of idiom sub-category marks that have not been set up in the "Information Technology-Information Processing Oriented Mongolian Word and Expression Mark Set" [9]. Thus, a reasonable and integrated Framework of Sub-categories of Mongolian Idiom and its Marks set will be developed. At present, we have set the marks of some sub-categories shown in Table I.

4) Topic (VTOROL): fill in the marks of subject classification. For example, fill in "NuM" in the corresponding field of " Here are the free of the "nomadic topic ".

According to semantic and pragmatic properties of Mongolian idioms, we classify the thematic meanings it expressed, and develop a system of "*Topic Classification Framework of Idioms*" (as follows) and its corresponding marks set. In traditional Mongolian linguistics, the study on idiomatic meanings, the topics that convey cultural themes and cultural connotation was rather weak. So we have limited direct reference materials. When we initially developed the framework of the topic classification, we based on the corpus analysis results, benefited from the previous theoretical studies, we also consulted the recommendations containing cultural connotations in the Mongolian idioms in such works as "A Study on Mongolian Idioms" [10], "The Cultural Heritage of Mongolian Idioms" [11] and so on as the reference.

- Materials (B0d)
  1.1.nomadism (NuM)
  1.1.1 five kinds of domestic animals (TaM)
  1.1.1 ... other poultr ies (BvM)
  1.2 hunting (AA)
  1.3.food (IV)
  1.3.1.dairy products (CaI)
  1.3.1.1 ...
  1.3.2 meat(MaI)
  1.4. Residence (0R)
  1.5 clothing and accessories (HvJ)
  2.Wisdom (VV)
  2.1 Morals (Y0S)
  2.1.1 marriage (H0N)
  2.1.2 entertainment (NaN)
- 2.2 family (GeB)
- 2.3 faith, sacrifice (\$aT)

- 2.3.1 religion (\$aS)
- 2.3.2 worship (TaH)
- 2.3.2.1 heaven worship (TeT)
- 2.3.2.2 fire worship (GaT)
- 2.3.2.3 earth worship (GaJ)
- 2.3.3 color (OnG)
- 2.3.4 number (T0G)
- 2.4 taboo (CeG)...
  - 5) Interpretation (VDH\_A): Fill in the corresponding words or phrase to paraphrase each idiom. For example, fill in "http://www.interpretation.com/ in the corresponding field of "http:// bitto:// http:// http:// bitto:// http:// bitto:// http:// bitto:// http:// bitto:// http:// bitto:// http:// bitto:// http:// http:// bitto:// http:// bitto:// http:// bitto:// http:// bitto:// http:// bitto:// http:// bitto:// http:// http:// bitto:// http:// http:// bitto:// http:// http:// bitto:// http:// bitto:// http:// bitto:// http:// bitto:// http:// bitto:// http:

The knowledge base uses the equivalent or similar words to interpret each idiom. As a lexical unit, specifically, an idiom indicates a lexical meaning regardless of its length, which makes the computer easier to understand and process idioms semantically.

When filling in the "interpretation" field of knowledge base, we consulted the interpretation of *"The Dictionary of Mongolian Idioms"*, select the words or phrase which embodies the corresponding meaning of the idiom.

6) Sample (JI\$IY\_E): Fill in the sample words or phrase selected from the corpus and the printed dictionary. For example, fill in " نقع المعالية الله المعالية ال

It's been observed that the examples appeared in the printed dictionary are longer. So we can use the base's "sample" field, construct an independent text "Corpus of Mongolian Idioms "(as shown in Fig.2), provide the basic data for future research.

- Ph (phrase): Fill out "Y" if the entry is a phrase idiom, fill out "N" if not.
- 8) S(sentence): Fill out "Y" if the entry is a sentence idiom, fill out "N" if not.

In all, up to now, we have established the "General Base" of the idioms, including 22000 idioms, and with the basic properties, such as "number", "entry", "interpretation", "subcategory", "topic", "example", "phrase" and "sentence" (as shown in Fig. 1).



Fig. 2. A Sample of corpus of Mongolian idioms.

Through the General base we can get the basic information of the Mongolian idioms. For instance, the information of the idiom in the General Base "tümen-ü exe "( $\operatorname{outinf} \mathcal{O} \mathcal{H}_{\mathcal{O}}$ ) is : 1.[number]2213(in Arabic numbers); 2.[entry]: tümen-ü exe; 3.[interpretation]: xurdun x öl ög (the horse that has won many races); 4.[sample]:"aimag sumun-u tümen-ü exe aluxan sara-tay ganggang xula"(J.Pürpüdorji "šarlang-un <xar\_a>"has)<sup>4</sup>; 5.[subcategory]: xoršiy\_aüge (compound word); 6.[topic]:tabun xusigu mal (five animals);7.[phrase] : Y (xelxiče).8.[sentence]:N.

## B. Sub-Bases and Supplementary bases

A number of sub-bases will be built on the basis of General base, such as the sub-bases of jüir üge (fixed phrases), sečen üge (proverbs), xorsiy\_a üge (sayings), xošong üge (satirize or mock words), xabutu üge (taboo phrases), čeger üge (quotations), lorjoo üge (advice) and so on. Each sub-base will possess its own unique attribute, meanwhile retaining the attributes of the General Base. The features of each sub-category need to be described in the sub-base.

#### C. The Program Design of Knowledge Base

The program is composed of "management software" and "learning software" (as shown in Fig. 3). The former module will scientifically manage and maintain the knowledge base through many functions like retrieving, adding, deleting, browsing. The latter module is a dedicated module for education field, providing a learning platform for the users where they can get basic information of Mongolian idioms such as sub-categories, meaning types, instances, interpretations, as well as a variety of semantic knowledge of Mongolian idioms, such as polysemy, antonym, synonym and so on.



Fig. 3. The structure of software of Mongolian idioms.

In addition, a separate "question-and-answer format" will

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Burintegus comp, *Dictionary of Mongolian Idiom*, 1st ed. Hohhot, CH.: Inner Mongolia educational press, p. 1165, 2001.

be functioned for the parallel idioms so as to offer a convenient tool to promote user's mastery of Mongolian idioms. For an idiom " $\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{2}$ 

## III. MATH THE ANALYSIS OF THE PROSPECT FOR APPLICATION

#### A. The Explanation of Attributes Field of General Base

A new era of informationization, modernization constantly promote the development of language education, which bring about significant changes in many aspects, in particular of language use. The great changes have also caused the declining trend of idiom use. The serious impacts on the idioms even cause the obvious shrink of using idioms in certain places. Such phenomenon has never happened before. Because of the shrinking vocabulary of Mongolian idioms, resulting in the disappearing cultural connotation that the idioms conveyed, and thus a serious challenge shows up. Facing the predicament of rhetorical function of Mongolian language, and in order to develop and utilize the abundant treasures of the Mongolian language, it is an urgent task for each Mongolian researcher to collect and record the idioms which are being forgotten or lost in the national cultural heritage. This is the best way to repair the Mongolian vocabulary, rescue endangered Mongolian idioms. "In this way, we can ensure the healthy, sustainable development and long-term usage of language resources" [12].

# B. The Application in the Fields of Mongolian Information Processing

1) Making the computer recognize and understand the knowledge of Mongolian idioms, improving the accuracy of Machine Translation.

The knowledge base will provides formalized description of idiom knowledge for a variety of applications of Mongolian information processing systems. Since Mongolian language belongs to agglutinative language, an important vocabulary feature of it is that a "root word" can not only derive a word and but also contribute to a fixed phrase and even a sentence-formed idiom. For example, as a root word, "nidü-" (eye) can form a verb like "nidü/le/xü" (gaze at) or "nidüle/gde/xü" (to be noted .....) through suffixes, by means of derivation. In succession, it can form some fixed phrases such as "nidü aldam\_a" (boundless), or "nidü üjügürlexü" (to discriminate against), or even constitute the sentence-formed idioms such as "nidün-degen xabčixu ügey" (to look down upon), "nidün-dü orogsan xog,sidün-dü orogsan mix\_a" (pain in the neck) and so on. No matter for a computer or a human being, when meets an idiom, the biggest problem is word meaning, if grammar structure analysis is not in consideration. The knowledge base uses the equivalent or similar word to describe each interpretation of the idiom. As a lexical unit, an idiom indicates a lexical meaning regardless of

its length. This is a new "interpretation" method for the semantic unit of idioms. For instance, the meaning of "for the semantic unit of idioms. For instance, the meaning of "for the meaning of "for the equal to an adjective "for the "for the meaning of "for the equal to an adjective "for the "for the meaning of "for the equal to a verb "for the "for the idiom, which can solve the problem of semantic processing of the idiom in syntactic processing and Machine Translation, can increase the accuracy of Machine Translation. It can also provide knowledge support for the construction of tree base, semantic network , and what's more, it may provide knowledge support for high-level research such as metaphor, cognitive model.

2) Provide a basis of lexical resources for corpus annotation and idiom tagging, lay the foundation for the multilevel processing of Mongolian corpus.

The idiom is a common phenomenon in natural languages. From the analysis of language, the corpus processing is hard to avoid the problem. The research on Chinese idioms and the relevant corpus studies have made remarkable progress. Such as a study of idiom unit based on corpus [13], the mark of idioms [14], research on tagging English and Chinese idioms [15], even its semantic processing model [16], explanatory model of semantic structure [17], etc.. However, formalized researches on Mongolian idioms are relatively underdeveloped. As mentioned above, the base was developed Dictionary of Modern Mongolian Fixed Phrases with Detailed Description of Grammatical Information (2005) including more than 7000 commonly used Mongolian fixed phrases, setting 17 fields to describe the grammatical attribute of each fixed phrase. The fixed phrases are defined in the dictionary involving 5 main categories, such as xoršiy a ᡗᠬᡋᢦᢎ᠋ᡋᠥᢉᡢ ᢉ᠇ᡋᠰᡳᠯᡡᠬᡃ , xabutu üge üge( المراجر ) مرجع xebšil üge ᡐᠣᡣᢎ᠇ᡏ᠇ᠯᠥᢉᡢ togtamal üge and ner\_e tomiy\_a <sup>†</sup><sup>\*</sup><sup>°</sup><sup>°</sup><sup>°</sup><sup>°</sup>).Compounds are classified into compound nouns, compound adjectives, compound pronouns, compound verbs, and etc. [18]. As the dictionary is unable to cover sentence-formed idioms, we can't achieve the tagging work of sentence form idioms on corpus. As shown in the following example, the underlined part on corpus is not marked.

## Example 1:

## <</Wp1 TANI/Ve1+LCA/Fe4+HV/Ft12-ACA/Fc41 EM UN E/OaTAL A/Ne2-YIN/Fc11 GVRBA/Mu+N/Zx GOR OGESU/Ne1 ./Wp1TANI/Ve1+LCA/Fe4+GSAN/Ft11-V/Fc 12H0YIN A/On-BAN/Fx11TANGNAI/Ne2-YIN/Fc11GV RBA/Mu+N/Zx SVDASV/Ne1>>/Wp1.

We will utilize the "Knowledge Base of Idioms" to tag information of subcategory for the above corpus, as shown in the following example 2 (Here, we use square brackets for idioms, we use slash marks followed by subcategory, "R" represents proverbs.)

## Example 2:

<</Wp1[TANI/Ve1+LCA/Fe4+HV/Ft12-ACA/Fc41 EM UN\_E/OaTAL\_A/Ne2-YIN/Fc11 GVRBA/Mu+N/Zx GOR OGESU/Ne1 ,/Wp1TANI/Ve1+LCA/Fe4+GSAN/Ft11-V/Fc 1 H0YIN A/On-BAN/Fx11 TANGNAI/Ne2-YIN/Fc11 GVRBA/Mu+N/Zx SVDASV/Ne1]/R>>/Wp1.

Therefore, the "knowledge Base of idioms" provides basic

resources for constructing a multi- level idiom processing corpus with subcategory tagging and topic tagging.

## C. The Value on Language Teaching

On the one hand, the construction of knowledge base of idioms and its software will provide idiom learning platform for Mongolian language education, such as learning mother tongue and writing of primary and middle students, foster and improve the quality of students' mother tongue usage.

On the other hand, it is a new teaching aid service in language teaching for foreigners. Mongolian idiom is a kind of fixed form, which has a rhetorical function, it can produce strong language effects. Therefore, it is an indispensable element for writing and translation. While, in recent years the using of Mongolian idioms has become rare among young people, there even appears the fading phenomenon of Mongolian idioms in many Mongolian teenagers, especially the urban primary and secondary school students. We think that long sentence-formed idioms and parallel-formed idioms are hard part in learning Mongolian idioms. For instance, when students encounter a sentence-formed idiom, such as " אינהם המאל אינהיל אינהיל אינהיל אינהיל אינהיל ובין אינה important steps are: the first step is to know the proper segments in terms of its emotive (appreciative, pejorative) values, and to understand the idiom meaning it contains correctly; the second step is the practical application, that is, to apply the idiom to an appropriate occasion or situation. For a parallel formed idiom such as " much whether and and and and and and and the key is the correct connection of the first and second parts, preventing deviation in mastery.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

In Mongolian vocabulary system, there are copious stocks of idioms, and in many categories. In traditional Mongolian research, there remain the researches under discussion, the unclear divisions of certain sub-categories of idioms, uncertain distinctions of some synonymy and variants, and other inconsistencies or deficiencies. Those have been the obstacles for this study. In Mongolian language study, to be particular in language information processing, the generalization and formalized research on semantic features of the idioms are at a beginning stage, such as topic classification according to semantics and pragmatics, and formalized description and analysis on phrase-formed idioms and sentence-formed idioms as a whole. So, this study aims at construct an idioms knowledge base which is helpful for people to understand idioms and contributes to language information processing applications, making full use of previous research achievements, and drawing on relevant theories and methods in English, Chinese, as the reference.

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Hai Yinhua was born in Inner Mongolia, China on September 27, 1981. She received her bachelor degree of language and literature from September 1999 to June 2003, Inner Mongolia Normal University (the major is Mongolian language and literature), Hohhot, Inner Mongolia, China, master of literature from September 2003 to June 2006, Inner Mongolia Normal University (the major is Mongolian language information processing), Hohhot, Inner Mongolia, China, and

doctor of literature, from September 2006 to June 2010, Inner Mongolia University (the major is Mongolian language information processing), Hohhot, Inner Mongolia, China.

She is a doctor of School of Mongolian Studies, Inner Mongolia University. She is teaching natural language processing since September, 2010. She has been published about 30 papers on domestic and foreign journals in the research of Mongolian information processing.

Dr. Hai is a membership of Chinese Information Processing Society of China.