

Sir William Jones initiated modern historical linguistics when he noted that the "strong affinity" between Sanskrit, Latin and Greek could "not possibly have been produced by accident" (1786). Computing operationalizes the "strength of affinity" and the chance of "accidental" affinity by applying quantitative and statistical processing to large data reserves.

Meeting topics include detecting cognates, correspondences and changes as well as modelling commonalities due to contact or common genesis.

Keynote speaker:

Brett Kessler

Word similarity metrics and multilateral comparison

Program: Chris Brew, Pierre Darlu, Michael Dunn, Mark Ellison, Sheila Embleton, Hans Goebl, Russell Gray, Sheldon Harrison, Wilbert Heeringa, Brian Joseph, Brett Kessler, Simon Kirby, Greg Kondrak, Bill Kretzschmar, Franz Manni, Hermann Moisl, David Nash, John Nerbonne, Michael Oakes, Jon Patrick, Gerald Penn, Janet Pierrehumbert, Thomas Pilz, Joe Salmons, Tandy Warnow, David Yarowsky

CFP and more: http://www.let.rug.nl/alfa/Prague/

