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of the  
Association for  
Computational Linguistics

Proceedings of the Conference

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## PREFACE

This volume is the official record of the proceedings of the 19th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics, held on the campus of Stanford University, from June 29 to July 1, 1981. It contains both the refereed papers presented at the meeting and the position statements of the participants to the two invited panels, the first on the evaluation of natural language interfaces to databases, and the second on parsing.

The conference is the result of the efforts of many individuals and institutions, all of whom get my thanks and those of the Association. The program committee consisted of Chip Bruce, Jaime Carbonell, Mitch Marcus, Ellen Prince, Ralph Weischedel, and myself. Jane Robinson and Norman Sondheimer organized the panels. Norman also oversaw the production of these proceedings. Jerry Kaplan handled the local arrangements. Don Walker produced the Call for Papers and the Advanced Program, and was always available to make sure the rest of us didn't forget what to do next.

I could never have undertaken to be program chairman without the support I received from my hosts, SRI International and Bolt Beranek and Newman, Inc., while I was on sabbatical from the University of Toronto. My special thanks go to Jane Perry of SRI and Beverly Tobiason of BBN for their secretarial assistance.

Financial assistance came from several sources. SRI International produced the Call for Papers and the Advanced Program. Bolt Beranek and Newman provided secretarial support to the program committee. Sperry Univac produced the proceedings. The Department of Computer Science at Stanford provided support for the local arrangements.

Most importantly, thanks to all who took the time to write and submit papers. Particular thanks go to those whose submissions could not be accommodated in our limited schedule. Finally, thanks to those who in these days of soaring transportation costs attended the meeting. You make it all worthwhile.

C. Raymond Perrault  
Program Chairman

Session I

A Practical Comparison of Parsing Strategies Jonathan Slocum.....	1
Computational Complexity and Lexical Functional Grammar Robert C. Berwick.....	7
Chart Parsing and Rule Schemata in PSG Henry Thompson.....	167
Corepresentational Grammar and Parsing English Comparatives Karen Ryan.....	13
Performance Comparison of Component Algorithms for Phonemicization of Orthography Jared Bernstein and Larry Nessler.....	19
PHONY: A Heuristic Phonological Analyzer Lee A. Becker.....	23

Session II

Panel: Evaluation of Natural Language Interfaces to Database Systems

Norman K. Sondheimer, Chair.....	29
J. Norwood Crout.....	31
William C. Mann.....	33
S. R. Petrick.....	35
Earl D. Sacerdoti.....	***
Harry Tennant.....	37
Bozena Henisz Thompson.....	39

Session III

Two Discourse Generators William C. Mann.....	43
A Grammar and a Lexicon for a Text-Production System Christian M.I.M. Matthiessen.....	49
Language Production: the Source of the Dictionary David D. McDonald.....	57

Session IV

Analogies in Spontaneous Discourse Rachel Reichman.....	63
Investigation of Processing Strategies for the Structural Analysis of Arguments Robin Cohen.....	71
What's Necessary to Hide?: Modeling Action Verbs James F. Allen.....	77
A Rule-based Conversation Participant Robert E. Frederking.....	83
Search and Inference Strategies in Pronoun Resolution: An Experimental Study Kate Ehrlich.....	89

Session V

Panel: Perspectives on Parsing Issues

Jane J. Robinson, Chair.....	95
Robert J. Bobrow and Bonnie L. Webber.....	97
Ralph D. Grishman.....	101
Ronald M. Kaplan.....	103
Martin Kay.....	***
Mitchell M. Marcus.....	***
Christopher K. Riesbeck.....	105

Session VI

Presupposition and Implicature in Model-Theoretic Pragmatics	
Douglas B. Moran.....	107
Some Computational Aspects of Situation Semantics	
Jon Barwise.....	109
A Situation Semantics Approach to the Analysis of Speech Acts	
David Andreoff Evans.....	113
Problems in Logical Form	
Robert C. Moore.....	117
A Case for Rule-Driven Semantic Processing	
Martha Palmer.....	125
A Taxonomy for English Nouns and Verbs	
Robert A. Amsler.....	133

Session VII

Interpreting Natural Language Database Updates	
S. Jerrold Kaplan and Jim Davidson.....	139
Dynamic Strategy Selection in Flexible Parsing	
Jaime G. Carbonell and Philip J. Hayes.....	143
A Construction-Specific Approach to Focused Interaction in Flexible Parsing	
Philip J. Hayes.....	149
Controlled Transformational Sentence Generation	
Madeleine Bates and Robert Ingria.....	153
Transportable Natural-Language Interfaces to Databases	
Gary G. Hendrix and William H. Lewis.....	159

\*\*\* Paper not received at time of publication

