

METAL-Austin Monthly Report

April 1990

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Status: Report

Scope: METAL Project-Austin

The following is a summary of METAL and METAL-related activities for the Austin METAL group during the month of April 1990.

Software

Jennifer Oppenheim completed two drafts of the specifications for a uniform window interface for the Intercoder. These have been sent to Munich. She also installed the lexicon send from Munich and sent our lexicon patches to Munich.

Lexicon

Robert Boone finished coding the missing NSTs for the transfer lexicon.

Susan Chapman completed making changes to the English lexicon as suggested by Lesley Jezierny. She also corrected some errors in the coding of HOM and worked on preparing files for Lesley Jezierny's use.

Lesley Jezierny completed her review and correction of English-German transfer entries.

Grammar

Robert Khan examined the entries for productive English prefixes and suffixes used in the formation of adjectives, nouns, and verbs. Of particular interest were those which had consistent and productive German counterparts, e.g., English-*able* and German-*bar* or English-*-ize* and German-*-isieren*. He also looked into using the derivational morphology in the analysis of unknowns, i.e., using morphological information to analyze unknown strings correctly by lexical category.

Jocelyn Liu focused on improvements to the grammar prior to going to Germany. On 14 May she flew to Munich to spend seven weeks preparing the grammar for the customer release scheduled for early June. She has been working with Michael Wiesner there on the grammar since 17 April.

Ana Santisteban did testing and debugging work on portions of the grammar and attempted to streamline our current treatment of parentheticals and quoted strings. This attempt at streamlining was unsuccessful due to problems in rewriting the appropriate topmost nodes as PAR just in case the delimiters were parentheses or brackets.

I worked on a number of tasks including implementing and testing new P0 and P1 hierarchies, cleaning up the frame tests, finding a solution to the framing problem involved in passivized VPRC constructions, and participating in the general testing and debugging prior to sending the grammar to Munich. Additionally, I worked on some minor lexicon problems.

The 'ownership' of the English grammar and lexicons was temporarily put in the hands of the Munich site as of 13 April; 'ownership' will revert to the Austin site the first part of June.