2^d *Workshop on*

Statistical Physics, Pattern Recognition and Grammar Selection.

Instituto de Estudos Avançados, Universidade de São Paulo

to be held at the Centro de Biologia Marinha da USP,
São Sebastião, SP, Brazil, September 4-9, 1995[⋆]

In Chomsky's Principles and Parameters model, a child acquiring his native language selects a grammar by fixing a point in a region of the space of parameters, satisfying the constraints of Universal Grammar. This selection involves a complex optimization procedure whose nature is far from being understood. A new light was recently shed on the field by both studies on language change and the probabilistic modelling of the selection procedure. In the workshop, these issues will be discussed in connexion with the problem of structure recognition at the A-P interface, using ideas coming from the statistical physics approach to pattern recognition.

List of participants:

Maria Bernadete Abaurre (IEL/UNICAMP, *organizer*),

Marzio Cassandro (Dip. Fisica, Roma *La Sapienza*, *organizer*),

Pablo Ferrari (IME/USP),

Luiz Renato Fontes (IME/USP)

Robert Frank (Linguistics Department/University of Delaware),

Antonio Galves (IME/USP, *organizer*),

Charlotte Galves (IEL/UNICAMP, *organizer*),

Pilar Iglesias (Pontificia Universidad Catolica, Chile),

Mary Kato (IEL/ UNICAMP),

Anthony Kroch (Linguistics Department/ University of Pennsylvania),

Artur Lopes (Matemática, UFRGS),

Ilza Ribeiro (Letras, UEFS),

Ester Scarpa (IEL/UNICAMP).

[⋆]*Supported by FAPESP and CNPq*

Program

Monday, 4/9/95
14h: *Collective discussion on the goals of the meeting.*
chairperson: Maria Bernadete Abaurre

15-18: Robert Frank: *On the Use of Triggers in Parameter Setting.*
advocati diaboli: Marzio Cassandro/Charlotte Galves

Tuesday, 5/9/95
9-12: Anthony Kroch: *Morphossyntax and Variation.*
advocati diaboli: Antonio Galves/ Mary Kato/ Ilza Ribeiro

15-18: Maria Bernadete Abaurre: *The Prosodic Pattern of Brazilian Portuguese.*
advocati diaboli: Antonio Galves/ Ester Scarpa

Wednesday, 6/9/95
9-12: Antonio Galves/ Charlotte Galves: *Prosody Driven Language Acquisition and Change*
advocatus diaboli: Anthony Kroch/ Mary Kato/ Ilza Ribeiro

15-18: Round Table on *Formal Grammars and Acquisition.*
chairperson: Robert Frank

Thursday, 7/9/95
9-12: Ester Scarpa: *When Syllabes are Utterances.*
advocati diaboli: Charlotte Galves/ Maria Bernadete Abaurre

15-18: Marzio Cassandro: *Language Acquisition and Change in a Generalized Gibson-Wexler Model.*
advocati diaboli: Pablo Ferrari/ Luiz Renato Fontes/ Robert Frank

Friday, 8/9/95
9-12: Mary Kato: *Functional Categories and Full Competence.*
advocati diaboli: Anthony Kroch/ Ester Scarpa

15-18: Artur Lopes: *Maximum Likelihood and Minimum Entropy Identification of Grammars.*
advocatus diaboli: Marzio Cassandro/ Pablo Ferrari/ Pilar Iglesias

Saturday, 9/9/95
9-12: Round Table on *Statistical Physics, Pattern Recognition and Grammar Selection.*
chairperson: Marzio Cassandro