

## PREFACE

TWLT is an acronym of Twente Workshop(s) on Language Technology. These workshops on natural language theory and technology are organized by Project Parlevink (sometimes with the help of others), a language theory and technology project conducted at the Department of Computer Science of the University of Twente, Enschede, The Netherlands.

The first workshop (TWLT1), was held on 22 March, 1991, with the title *Tomita's Algorithm: Extensions and Applications*. It was attended by almost fifty Dutch researchers from industry and university. The proceedings contain invited papers on several aspects of the generalized LR algorithm ('Tomita's algorithm'), including theoretical observations, extensions for context-sensitive and type-0 grammars, error-correcting techniques and parallel implementations. The second workshop (TWLT2), was held on 20 November, 1991, with the title *Linguistic Engineering: Tools and Products*. It was attended by more than seventy Dutch researchers from industry and university. The proceedings contain invited papers on spelling and style correction, information retrieval, grammar workbenches, machine translation, natural language interfaces and information extraction. The third workshop (TWLT3), was held on May 12 and 13, 1992, with the title *Connectionism and Natural Language Processing*. The aim of the third workshop was to feature current connectionist natural language research. The speakers were from the USA, Great Britain, Ireland and the Netherlands. About eighty participants from different European countries attended the workshop. The topics in the papers of the proceedings include syntactic and semantic analysis, grammar learning, idiom representation, syllable segmentation, models for human word recognition and speech synthesis.

These proceedings contain the papers that were presented at TWLT4, held on 23 September, 1992, with the title *Pragmatics in Language Technology*. The aim of the workshop was to bring together several approaches towards this subject, starting from a more general basis of pragmatics and semiotics. Papers in these proceedings deal with semiotics, epistemology, grammar formalisms that deal with functional aspects of language use, concept formation, situation semantics, the use of Peirce's existential graphs for a theory of communication and belief contexts in human-computer dialogue. Fortunately the broad coverage of topics was met with an as broad interest of about fifty participants of the workshop

We are grateful to the Linguistic Research Foundation (Stichting Taalwetenschap) and PTT Research, Leidschendam, for their financial support of the workshop.

A workshop is the result of a concerted effort of many people. Obviously, we are grateful to the authors and the organizations they represent for the efforts that made the workshop successful. Charlotte Bijron, Alice Hoogvliet-Haverkate and Joke Lammerink took care of organizational tasks. The workshop took place at the Logica Building of the University of Twente. We thank the participants for being there and contributing to the discussions. We hope that TWLT5, the fifth workshop in the series, with its topic "Natural Language Interfaces", on June 3 and 4, 1993 will be as successful as this one.

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