

Formal Issues in Natural Language Generation

Preface

The literature on Natural Language Generation tends to emphasize application-oriented issues. The present collection of papers will inform a series of 5 lectures which will emphasize *formal* aspects, such as the logical completeness and computational complexity of the generators, and the problem of Logical Form Equivalence. With the exception of the first paper (which offers a brief introduction to Natural Language Generation), the papers in this syllabus reflect this emphasis on formal aspects. Special attention will be given to one particular component of Natural Language Generation systems, which is responsible for the generation of referring expressions.

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Content

1. Reiter & Dale 1997, "Building Applied Natural Language Generation Systems", *Natural Language Engineering* **3**, 1 pp.57-87.
2. Shieber 1993. "Logical Form Equivalence". *Computational Linguistics* **19**, 1, pp.179-190.
3. Dale & Reiter 1995. "Computational Interpretations of the Gricean Maxims in the Generation of Referring Expressions". *Cognitive Science* **19**, pp. 233-263.
4. Krahmer & Theune (in press) "Efficient Context-Sensitive Generation of Referring Expressions". To appear in K. van Deemter and R. Kibble (Eds.) *Information Sharing: Reference and Presupposition in Language Generation and Interpretation*. To appear with CSLI Publications, Autumn 2002. (pp 223-265)
5. Stone et al. (forthcoming) "Microplanning with Communicative Intentions: The SPUD system"
6. van Deemter 2002. "Generating Referring Expressions: Boolean Extensions of the Incremental Algorithm". *Computational Linguistics* **28**, 1, pp.37-52.