

Implementing a theory at scale: the English Resource Grammar at 30

Dan Flickinger

In the same year that Pollard and Sag published their book introducing the HPSG framework to the world, a grammar implementation effort building on that new framework began at Stanford, initially to be used to parse and generate relatively short sentences of English in a spoken language translation system called Verbmobil. In the 30 years since that start, the English Resource Grammar has steadily expanded the range of phenomena and genres of language use that it aims to describe. This talk provides a progress report on that implementation effort, evaluating the grammar's descriptive adequacy in parsing a variety of text sources, as well as its alignment of analyses with Huddleston and Pullum's 2002 Cambridge Grammar of the English Language.