

FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON COMPUTATIONAL LINGUISTICS:

Pisa, 27 August - 1 September 1973

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The fifth International Conference on Computational Linguistics was held in Pisa from 27 August to 1 September 1973 at the Palazzo della Sapienza, Pisa University, under the sponsorship of the *Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche* (CNR), the *Centro Nazionale Universitario di Calcolo Elettronico* (CNUCE), and the IBM Scientific Centre of Pisa.

As is known, the International Conference on Computational Linguistics is held every other year under the aegis of the International Committee on Computational Linguistics, with the purpose of presenting a survey of the trends, research and achievements in the various sectors of computational linguistics. This is an area of study into which interests and results of diverse disciplines converge, and therefore an international conference is most valuable for an exchange both of ideas and of information. The previous gatherings were held in New York (1965), Grenoble (1967), Stockholm (1969), and Debrecen (1971).

#### *Participants*

Three hundred and twenty-eight scholars participated in the Pisa conference from thirty-four countries, some of which were represented for the first time: Australia 1, Austria 2, Belgium 12, Bulgaria 3, Canada 16, Czechoslovakia 5, Denmark 6, Finland 3, France 43, Germany 66, Great Britain 15, Greece 1, Holland 9, Hong Kong 1, Hungary 7, India 2, Israel 2, Italy 61, Ivory Coast 1, Japan 3, Norway 6, Poland 3, Portugal 2, Republic of Zaire 1, Rumania 2, Russia 5, South Africa 1, Spain 6, Sweden 8, Switzerland 5, Turkey 1, Uruguay 1, USA 25, Yugoslavia 3. By comparison with previous conferences in the series the number of participants had almost doubled. There has been a notable increase in the number of scholars engaged in work on integrated computer systems for language processing (question-answering, speech understanding systems, man-machine communication, etc.), often in direct connection with the sector of artificial intelligence. There has also been an increase in the number of scholars engaged in analysis of large corpora of texts for lexicographic, statistical and stylometric studies, and generally in the gathering of large amounts of linguistic data.

#### *Programme*

After the inaugural session during which many high-ranking members of the academic communities greeted the participants, the two invited papers were read.<sup>1</sup> Owing to their high number the one hundred and ten accepted papers were distributed in two parallel sessions, each communication being allotted thirty or forty minutes, according to its content.

During the conference the CNUCE computers, in particular the IBM 360/67 and 370/155, were made available to the participants for demonstrations and other work. Demonstrations given were: the Transformational Grammar Tester of J. Friedmann by I. Batori; J. Courtin and G. Veillon's program; the CALTEC REL system by B. Heniz-Dostert and F. Thompson; the Grenoble ATEF system by M. Quezel-Ambrunaz and P. Guillaume; and LEXZAMP by G. Ferrari and E. Picchi of CNUCE.