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GRACIAS: GRAMMAR ANALYSIS USING
AUGMENTED TRANSITION NETWORKS

A Thesis
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by

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Grammar analysis is one important application of natural language processing (NLP), a field in artificial intelligence that is concerned with enabling man to communicate directly with the computer using his own natural language. The main objective addressed by this study is the development of a processor for the English language with grammar-checking capabilities. The study involved analyzing the basic syntax and semantic structures of the English language and representing these using a suitable notation.

An integrated grammar-checking system has been developed, using natural language processing concepts. Aside from the grammar analysing facility, this system includes a built-in text editor, file management routines and dictionary maintenance facilities. The syntax notations were represented using augmented transition networks (ATNs), an NLP processing approach based on state-transition diagrams.

It is recommended that the sentence constructs that may be derived as outputs of the system may be used as inputs to other NLP systems that perform more complicated tasks, like language translation.



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