

NADJET BOUAYAD-AGHA

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Nationality: French
Marital Status: Married
Date of Birth: 11/09/74

WORK EXPERIENCE

2000-2001 Research Fellow for the PILLS project, *Information Technology Research Institute, University of Brighton*.

The EU-funded one-year preparatory PILLS project which involves ITRI, the Institute of Medical Informatics at Freiburg University (Germany) and Berlitz GlobalNet (UK), aims at providing a working prototype for the multilingual generation of healthcare information documents as well as assessing the need and impact of such a tool on the pharmaceutical market. In close collaboration with Freiburg, who has expertise on medical ontologies, and Berlitz, who acquired knowledge about the pharmaceutical companies' needs and requirements, my work involves developing the ontology, linguistic resources and generation capabilities of the prototype.

2000-2001 Research Fellow on a contract basis for the Content Determination project, *Department of Psychology, Staffordshire University*.

This project, funded by the British Academy, aims at understanding the cognitive processes by which people retrieve and manipulate information in order to produce coherent texts. This collaborative research involves (1) developing and refining the methodology for exploiting the data, and (2) analysing and comparing the final texts and pre-writing protocols produced by university students on argumentative subjects, drawing parallels between product and process.

1997-2000 Research Officer for the ICONOCLAST project, *Information Technology Institute, University of Brighton*.

The aim of this EPSRC-funded project was to generate formatted documents of various linguistic and layout styles in a constraint-based environment. The work included building an electronic corpus of documents (i.e., Patient Information Leaflets) using specific SGML annotation. A subsequent stage consisted in the development of prototypes to investigate the viability of the constraints and their interaction, as well as the interaction between the different modules in the generation process. This work was carried out in close relation with my PhD research.

July-Nov 1996 Placement in the GRABIG Project, *Département d'Informatique et Recherche Opérationnelle, University of Montréal*.

Study and implementation of an interface between a deep generation module (SPIN) developed by the SCRIPTUM team (University of Montréal) and a surface generation module (FLAUBERT, which uses G-TAG) developed by the TALANA team (University of Paris 7).

Nov 1994-June 1995 and April-July 1993 Analyst Programmer, *Informatique Gestion Rationnelle (Paris) and Enichem Elastomères France (Grenoble)*.

Design and implementation of customised database applications.

EDUCATION

1997-2001 PhD, *Information Technology Research Institute, University of Brighton*.

Title: “The Role of Document Structure in Text Generation”.

Advisors: Pr. Donia Scott and Dr. Richard Power.

1996-1997 Diplôme d’Etudes Approfondies (Master eq.) in Computational Linguistics, *University of Paris 7*.

1994-1996 Maîtrise and Licence in Computational Linguistics, *University of Paris 7*.

1993-1994 BSc (Hons) in Computing for Real-Time Systems (Upper Second), *University of the West of England (Bristol)*.

1991-1993 Diplôme Universitaire de Technologie in Computing, *University Pierre Mendès France (Grenoble)*.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Intelligent information processing.
- Multilingual and multimodal document generation.
- Corpora (annotation, management, exploitation).
- Discourse.
- Cognitive aspects of language production.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- General development skills: Object-oriented analysis, design and implementation; C, Java, Perl, Prolog,...
- Web development skills: HTML/SGML/XML design; JSP, CGI programming.
- OS tools and software: Unix shells, awk, grep, Emacs, Latex,...

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- French (mother tongue)
- English (fluent)
- Arabic (good)
- Spanish (average)

PUBLICATIONS

August 2001 - Nadjat Bouayad-Agha, Donia Scott and Richard Power *The influence of Layout on the interpretation of referring expressions*, Presented at the 4th International Multidisciplinary Approaches to Discourse (MAD) Workshop, August 2001, Ittre, Belgium.

August 2001 - Marc Torrance and Nadjat Bouayad-Agha *Rhetorical Structure Analysis as a Method for Understanding Writing Processes*, Presented at the 4th International Multidisciplinary Approaches to Discourse (MAD) Workshop, August 2001, Ittre, Belgium.

October 2000 - Nadjat Bouayad-Agha *Using an abstract rhetorical representation to generate a variety of pragmatically congruent texts*, Companion Volume to the Proceedings of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL-2000), Student Workshop, pp 16-22, Hong-Kong.

June 2000 - Nadjet Bouayad-Agha, Richard Power and Donia Scott. *Can text structure be incompatible with document structure?* Proceedings of the International Natural Language Generation (INLG) Conference, Israël.

June 2000 - Nadjet Bouayad-Agha. *Layout Annotation in a Corpus of Patient Information Leaflets*, Language Resources and Evaluation Conference (LREC) in Athens.

Year 2000 - Nadjet Bouayad-Agha, Donia Scott and Richard Power. *Integrating Content and Style in Documents: a Case Study of Patient Information Leaflets*, Information Design Journal, 9:2, pp 161-176.

November 1999 - Nadjet Bouayad-Agha. *Annotating Logical Structure in a Corpus of Information Leaflets*, AAAI Symposium on "Using Layout for the Understanding, Retrieval and Generation of Documents" in Cape Cod.

January 1999 - Nadjet Bouayad-Agha and Adam Kilgarriff. *Duplication in Corpora*, 2nd Cluk Colloquium at Colchester.

MEMBERSHIPS

- CLUK
- SIGGEN
- Member of the Organising Committee for the ACL'2001 student workshop