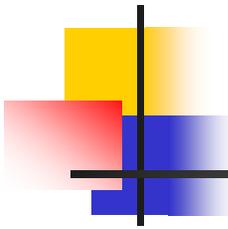




# Clint Tustison

## Brigham Young University

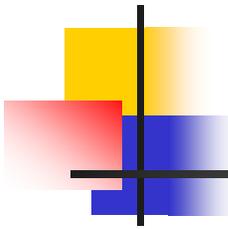
Research funded in part by the NSF



# Introduction

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- Challenge
  - Extract predicates from various natural language texts
    - Newspaper headlines
    - Eligibility criteria for medical clinical trials
    - GEDCOM files (format for encoding genealogical information)
- Issues
  - Variability in linguistic structure of utterances
  - Final (extracted) representation must be usable
  - Soar integration: Flexible multipurpose platform
    - Goal-directed problem solving
    - Agent-based architecture
    - Proven in other applications



# Approach

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- Tools

- Link-Grammar Parser

- Sleator, Lafferty, Temperley

- Characteristics

- Syntactic dependency parse

- Constraints for determining grammaticality

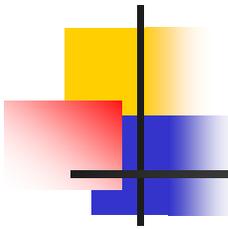
- Benefits

- written in C → very fast

- Robust - ability to process (un)grammaticality / spelling errors

- Free - <http://www.link.cs.cmu.edu/link>

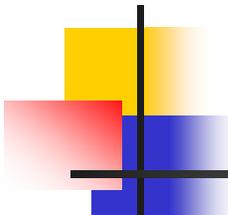
- Easily integrated



# Tools: representation

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- Discourse Representation Theory
  - Hans Kamp & Uwe Reyle (University of Stuttgart)
  - Theory to represent relations that exist within and across utterances
  - Ability to account for semantic and pragmatic information
  - Easily translatable into predicate logic
- Predicate Logic
  - Formal properties, allow for wide range of applications, usable crosslinguistically
  - Vocabulary, syntax, semantics
    - First-order: quantification over individuals (FOPC)
    - Higher-order: quantification over relations, etc.



# News headlines extraction

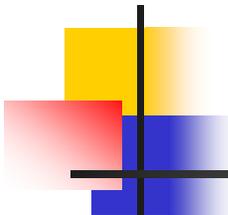
---

x y z
grenade attack(x)
U.S. soldier (y)
Iraq(z)
in(y,z)
kills(x,y)

grenade attack(x) & u.s.  
soldier(y) & iraq(z) & in(y,z) &  
kills(x,y).

x y
wall street analysts (x)
stock prices(y)
inflate(x,y)
routinely(inflate)

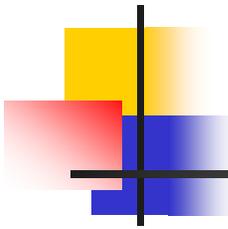
wall street analysts(x) &  
stock prices(y) & inflate(x,y)  
& routinely(inflate).



# Clinical trials extraction

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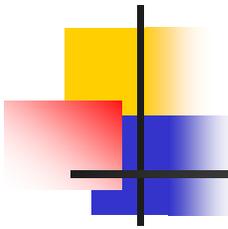
- Novel Adjuvants for Peptide-Based Melanoma Vaccines
  
- INCLUSION CRITERIA:
  - Ages Eligible for Study: 18 Years and above
  - Genders Eligible for Study: Both
  - Diagnosis of stage III or IV cutaneous, mucosal, or ocular melanoma
  - . . .
  
- EXCLUSION CRITERIA:
  - Steroid therapy
  - Allergic reaction to Montanide ISA 51
  - Positive for hepatitis B, hepatitis C, or HIV
  - . . .



# Predicates: inclusion criteria

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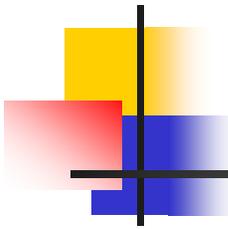
- Ages Eligible for Study: 18 Years and above
  - `age(Person,X) & X >= 18.`
- Genders Eligible for Study: Both
  - `gender(Person,X) & (female == X || male == X).`
- Diagnosis of stage III or IV cutaneous, mucosal, or ocular melanoma
  - `diagnosis(Person,X) & melanoma(X) & type(X,Y) & (cutaneous(Y) || mucosal(Y) || ocular(Y)) & stage(X,Z) & (Z == 3 || Z == 4).`



# Predicates: exclusion criteria

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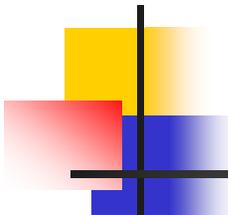
- Allergic reaction to Montanide ISA 51
  - $\neg(\text{allergy}(\text{Person}, X) \ \& \ \text{montanide}(X)).$
- Steroid therapy
  - $\neg(\text{therapy}(\text{Person}, X) \ \& \ \text{steroid}(X)).$
- Positive for hepatitis B, hepatitis C, or HIV
  - $\neg(\text{condition}(\text{Person}, X) \ \& \ \text{hepatitis\_B}(X) \ || \ \text{hepatitis\_C}(X) \ || \ \text{hiv}(X)).$



# GEDCOM Extraction

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- individual(i1,name('Dovie MELLISSIA /STEVENSON/'),sex(f),parentin(f1),childin(f2),birthdate('18 Sep 1908'),baptismdate('10 Apr 1919'),endowdate('9 Mar 1976'),deathdate(''),birthplace('OKTAHA, MUSKOGEE, OK, USA'),deathplace(''),burialplace('')).
- individual(i2,name('WILLIAM JAMES /STEVENSON/'),sex(m),parentin(f4),childin(f5),birthdate('5 Sep 1880'),baptismdate('13 Sep 1903'),endowdate('9 May 1969'),deathdate('22 Nov 1964'),birthplace('PENDLETON, WARREN, PA'),deathplace('TULARE, TULARE, CA'),burialplace('VISALIA, TULARE, CA')).



# Inferencing

/\*\*\*\*\*\*  
Which husband/wife combination was born on the same day in the same place?  
\*\*\*\*\*  
/

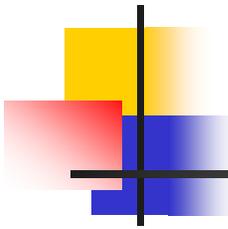
Which husband/wife combination was born on the same day in the same place?

\*\*\*\*\*  
/

```
husband_wife(HusbandName, HBirthdate, WifeName, WBirthdate, X) :-  
    individual(Husband, name(HusbandName), _, _, birthdate(HBirthdate), _, _,  
    birthplace(X), _, _), family(_, husband(Husband), _, _),  
    parse_date(HBirthdate, HDay, HMonth, HYear), individual(Wife, name(WifeName), _,  
    _, birthdate(WBirthdate), _, _, birthplace(X), _, _), family(_, wife(Wife), _),  
    parse_date(WBirthdate, WDay, WMonth, WYear), HYear == WYear, HMonth == WMonth,  
    HDay == WDay.
```

HusbandName = Garland /Bailey/  
HBirthdate = 16 Apr 1912  
WifeName = Carolyn /Warren/  
WBirthdate = 16 Apr 1912  
Place = Gracemont, Caddo, Oklahoma

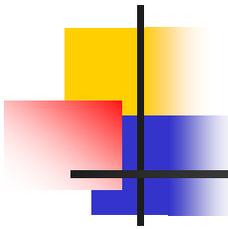
HusbandName = Charles Arthur /Goodpasture/  
HBirthdate = 25 Dec 1894  
WifeName = Betty Lucille /Rittga/  
WBirthdate = 25 Dec 1894  
Place = Gracemont, Caddo, Oklahoma



# LG-Soar Progress

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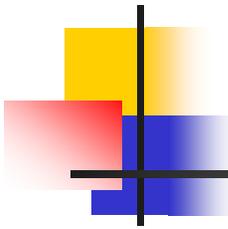
- Ability to handle various grammatical structures
  - Transitives
  - Intransitives
  - Imperatives
  - Negation
  - Definiteness/indefiniteness
  - Modals
  - Certain anaphoric constructions
  - Nominal compounds
  - Modification
  - Prepositional phrase attachment to NPs
  - Relative clauses



# Contributions/Future Work

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- Contributions
  - Robustly extract predicates from natural language
    - Multiple domains
    - Various natural language syntactic constructions
  - Use applications to access predicates
    - Inferencing and querying
- Future Work
  - Additional domains
  - Integrate with external knowledge sources
    - Wordnet
    - UMLS
  - Upgrade to higher-order predicate calculus to allow predication over relations and events, not just individuals
  - Senseval 3



# Conclusion

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- Coals
  - Vocabulary is difficult to write
  - Only one parsed output per utterance
  - Coverage and correctness need improvement
- Nuggets
  - Fast
  - Robust
  - Implementation in other languages
  - Can be easily integrated with other applications/corpora