Survey of English Usage

ANNUAL REPORT 1994-95

1. Research at the Survey

The main areas of research this past year have been related to parsing and to the Leverhulme Project.
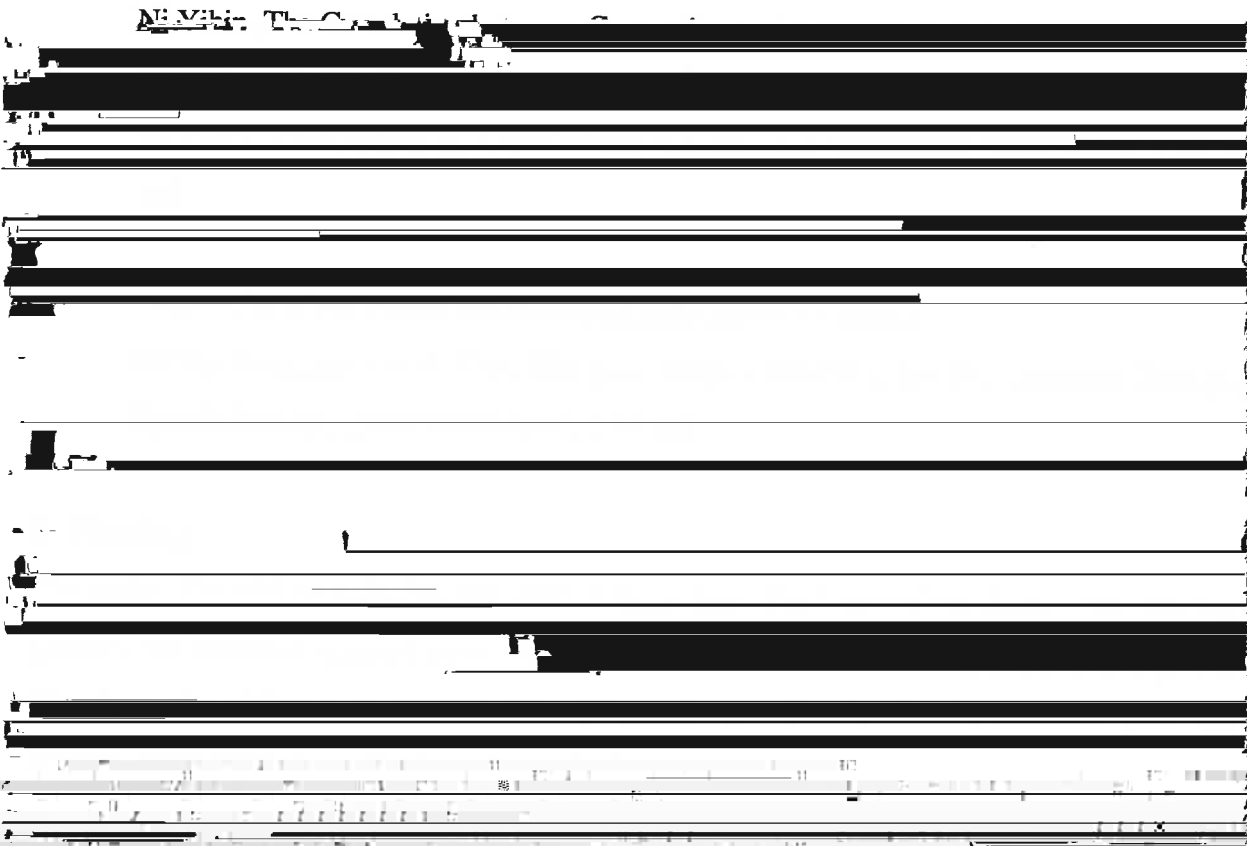
1a. The Survey Parser

Alex Chengyu Fang has been developing the Survey parser, which has progressed through several versions. Progress is expected to be speeded up as a result of a substantial grant from EPSRC

The remaining 38 per cent of ICE has been parsed by the Survey parser that is being developed by Alex Fang. The Survey parser does not require pre-editing. It offers just one parse, which is displayed on ICETree. The parses are checked manually and (if necessary) corrected. So far about 50 texts have been checked. We have recruited additional staff to speed up the checking.

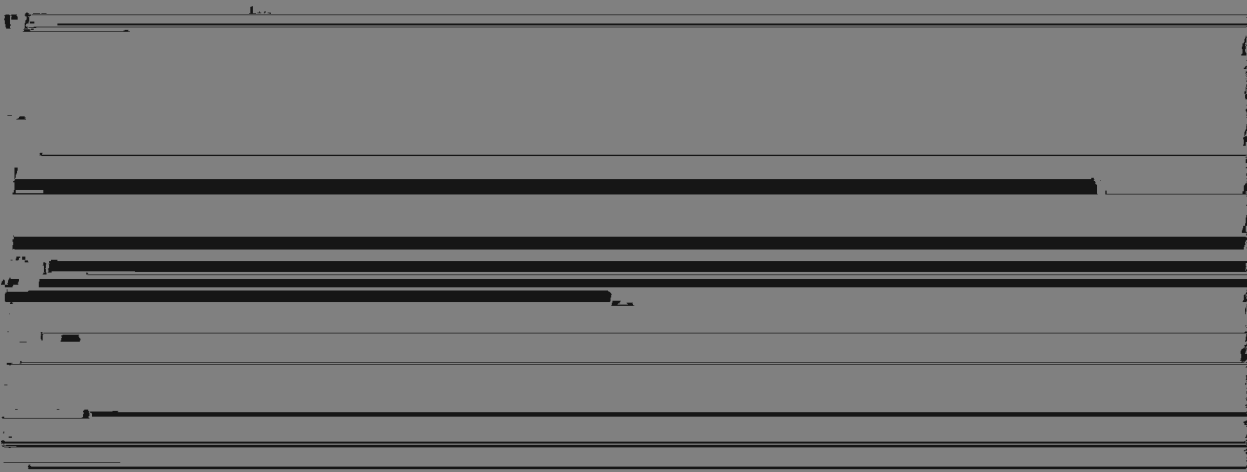Documents were also produced on the new Survey ICE parsing system:

Ni Yibin, The ICE Parsing Manual (180 pp)

Ni Yibin, 'Comparison of Terminology between ICE Tagset and TOSCA for ICE' (9 pp)

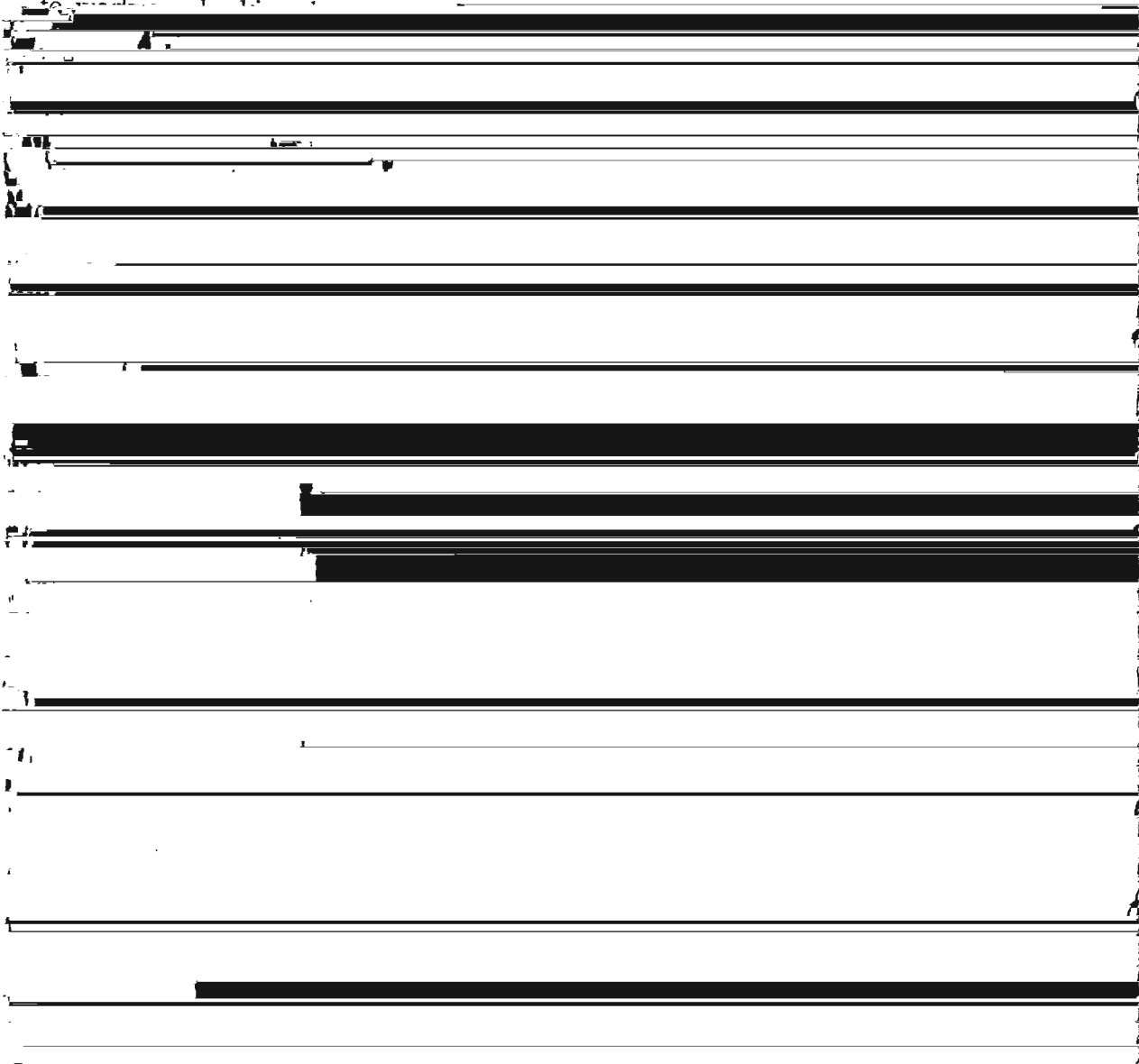The results of the British Telecom contract appear in a report:

Sidney Greenbaum and Alex Chengyu Fang, Evaluating the BT Laureate Text to

Speech System. Technical Report. (121 pp)

Continuing staff from last year are Judith Broadbent, Justin Buckley, Alex Chengyu Fang, Gerry Nelson, Oonagh Sayce, and Ni Yibin. Continuing voluntary participants are Isaac Hallegua and René Quinault. Neil Morgenstern, who was employed in the Department of Computer Science, also volunteered his services when required.

We welcome Sean Wallis, who joined Alex Fang as Research Fellow on the EPSRC project at the beginning of October 1995. Other staff joined us in October or November 1995

Neal.

Nick Porter mainly worked on ICETree and ICECUBE (the software package for preparing and installing ICECUP). Isaac Hallegua continued his activities on system and data management. In addition to his usual archive duties, René Quinault has continued working on reducing the ICE recordings to those used in the ICE corpus.

participants. At a reception in his honour at the conference he was presented with a book dedicated to him: <u>The Verb in Contemporary English: Theory and Description</u> (edited by Bas Aarts and Charles F. Meyer, Cambridge University Press 1995). He gave a presentation at a postgraduate seminar in the Phonetics and Linguistics Department at UCL.

Alex Fang was appointed Deputy Director of the Survey in June 1995. He gave a paper and a software presentation of AUTASYS at the Toronto ICAME conference. He also gave a presentation at a postgraduate seminar in the Phonetics and Linguistics Department at UCL. He participated in a BBC World Service series on English internationally.

Gerry Nelson participated in a BBC World Service discussion on the future of English throughout the world.

Nick Porter demonstrated ICECUP and ICETree at the Toronto ICE conference. Jointly with Judith Broadbent and Justin Buckland

Tom Lavelle
University of Stockholm

nominalizations

Professor Magnus Ljung
University of Stockholm

nonfinite adverbial clauses

Other visitors were:

Gordan Adgey	Mercury Telecommuncations plc
Julian Amey	Department of Trade and Industry
Janet Baker	Dragon Systems Ltd
Simon Bell	Routledge
Nigel Birch	Engineering & Physical Sciences Research Council
Andy Breen	British Telecom
John Bridle	Dragon Systems Ltd

Peter Lawrence	Lifeline and Humanitarian Association
Sophie Lawrence	Macmillan
Mark Le Fanu	Society of Authors
Gill Macmillan	Cambridge Training and Development Ltd.
Lord and Lady Marks of Broughton	U.K.
Dr Martinez	University of Granada
Professor G. Miglior	University of Venice
Steve Minnis	British Telecom
Professor Tsukao Mitsunaga	University of Nihon, Tokyo
Dr Olga Müllerová	Czech Language Institute, Prague
Dr Paroo Nihilani	University of ...

Susanne Ostertag	University of Stuttgart
Nick Ostler	Linguacubun Ltd.
John Pickford	BBC World Service
Jonathan Price	Macmillan
Professor Herbert and Ute Schendel	University of Vienna
Professor Josef Schmied	Technical University of Chemnitz, Germany
Rob Scriven	Oxford University Press

Algeo, John (1995) '...expanded predicates', The Verb in Contemporary
eds. Bas Aarts and Charles F. Meyer, 203-217.
Press.

Cheepen, C. (1995) 'Discourse considerations in transcription and analysis', Spoken English

Coates, Jennifer (1995) 'The expression of root and epistemic possibility in English', The Verb

Johansson, Stig (1995) '"This scheme is badly needed"': some aspects of verb-adverb combinations', eds. Bas Aarts and Charles F. Meyer, 218-240. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Kruk Kastovsky, B. (1995) 'D...