

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>1</b>
1.1	Background Knowledge .....	1
1.2	The Structure of the Book .....	2
<b>2</b>	<b>The ACT-R Cognitive Architecture and Its <code>pyactr</code> Implementation</b> .....	<b>7</b>
2.1	Cognitive Architectures and ACT-R .....	7
2.2	ACT-R in Cognitive Science and Linguistics .....	10
2.3	ACT-R Implementation .....	11
2.4	Knowledge in ACT-R .....	13
	2.4.1 Declarative Memory: Chunks .....	13
	2.4.2 Procedural Memory: Productions .....	14
2.5	The Basics of <code>pyactr</code> : Declaring Chunks .....	15
2.6	Modules and Buffers .....	18
2.7	Writing Productions in <code>pyactr</code> .....	20
2.8	Running Our First Model .....	24
2.9	Some More Models .....	27
	2.9.1 The Counting Model .....	27
	2.9.2 Regular Grammars in ACT-R .....	31
	2.9.3 Counter Automata in ACT-R .....	34
2.10	Appendix: The Four Models for Agreement, Counting, Regular Grammars and Counter Automata .....	36
<b>3</b>	<b>The Basics of Syntactic Parsing in ACT-R</b> .....	<b>39</b>
3.1	Top-Down Parsing .....	39
3.2	Building a Top-Down Parser in <code>pyactr</code> .....	41
	3.2.1 Modules, Buffers, and the Lexicon .....	42
	3.2.2 Production Rules .....	44
3.3	Running the Model .....	48
3.4	Failures to Parse and Taking Snapshots of the Mind When It Fails .....	50

3.5	Top-Down Parsing as an Imperfect Psycholinguistic Model . . . .	54
3.6	Appendix: The Top-Down Parser . . . . .	56
<b>4</b>	<b>Syntax as a Cognitive Process: Left-Corner Parsing with Visual and Motor Interfaces . . . . .</b>	<b>57</b>
4.1	The Environment in ACT-R: Modeling Lexical Decision Tasks . . . . .	57
4.1.1	The Visual Module . . . . .	59
4.1.2	The Motor Module . . . . .	60
4.2	The Lexical Decision Model: Productions . . . . .	60
4.3	Running the Lexical Decision Model and Understanding the Output . . . . .	63
4.3.1	Visual Processes in Our Lexical Decision Model . . . . .	65
4.3.2	Manual Processes in Our Lexical Decision Model . . . . .	67
4.4	A Left-Corner Parser with Visual and Motor Interfaces . . . . .	68
4.5	Appendix: The Lexical Decision Model . . . . .	81
<b>5</b>	<b>Brief Introduction to Bayesian Methods and <code>pymc3</code> for Linguists . . . . .</b>	<b>83</b>
5.1	The Python Libraries We Need . . . . .	85
5.2	The Data . . . . .	85
5.3	Prior Beliefs and the Basics of <code>pymc3</code> , <code>matplotlib</code> and <code>seaborn</code> . . . . .	89
5.4	Our Function for Generating the Data (The Likelihood) . . . . .	92
5.5	Posterior Beliefs: Estimating the Model Parameters and Answering the Theoretical Question . . . . .	98
5.6	Conclusion . . . . .	102
5.7	Appendix . . . . .	103
<b>6</b>	<b>Modeling Linguistic Performance . . . . .</b>	<b>105</b>
6.1	The Power Law of Forgetting . . . . .	106
6.2	The Base Activation Equation . . . . .	115
6.3	The Attentional Weighting Equation . . . . .	120
6.4	Activation, Retrieval Probability and Retrieval Latency . . . . .	127
6.5	Appendix . . . . .	132
<b>7</b>	<b>Competence-Performance Models for Lexical Access and Syntactic Parsing . . . . .</b>	<b>133</b>
7.1	The Log-Frequency Model of Lexical Decision . . . . .	133
7.2	The Simplest ACT-R Model of Lexical Decision . . . . .	137
7.3	The Second ACT-R Model of Lexical Decision: Adding the Latency Exponent . . . . .	142
7.4	Bayes+ACT-R: Quantitative Comparison for Qualitative Theories . . . . .	146

- 7.4.1 The Bayes+ACT-R Lexical Decision Model Without the Imaginal Buffer . . . . . 147
- 7.4.2 Bayes+ACT-R Lexical Decision with Imaginal-Buffer Involvement and Default Encoding Delay for the Imaginal Buffer . . . . . 154
- 7.4.3 Bayes+ACT-R Lexical Decision with Imaginal Buffer and 0 Delay . . . . . 157
- 7.5 Modeling Self-paced Reading with a Left-Corner Parser . . . . . 159
- 7.6 Conclusion . . . . . 165
- 7.7 Appendix: The Bayes and Bayes+ACT-R Models. . . . . 166
  - 7.7.1 Lexical Decision Models . . . . . 166
  - 7.7.2 Left-Corner Parser Models . . . . . 167
- 8 Semantics as a Cognitive Process I: Discourse Representation Structures in Declarative Memory . . . . . 169**
  - 8.1 The Fan Effect and the Retrieval of DRSs from Declarative Memory . . . . . 172
  - 8.2 The Fan Effect Reflects the Way Meaning Representations (DRSs) Are Organized in Declarative Memory . . . . . 178
  - 8.3 Integrating ACT-R and DRT: An Eager Left-Corner Syntax/Semantics Parser . . . . . 182
  - 8.4 Semantic (Truth-Value) Evaluation as Memory Retrieval, and Fitting the Model to Data . . . . . 192
  - 8.5 Model Discussion and Summary . . . . . 203
  - 8.6 Appendix: End-to-End Model of the Fan Effect with an Explicit Syntax/Semantics Parser . . . . . 204
    - 8.6.1 File ch8/parser\_dm\_fan.py . . . . . 204
    - 8.6.2 File ch8/parser\_rules\_fan.py . . . . . 205
    - 8.6.3 File ch8/run\_parser\_fan.py . . . . . 205
    - 8.6.4 File ch8/estimate\_parser\_fan.py . . . . . 205
- 9 Semantics as a Cognitive Process II: Active Search for Cataphora Antecedents and the Semantics of Conditionals . . . . . 207**
  - 9.1 Two Experiments Studying the Interaction Between Conditionals and Cataphora . . . . . 209
    - 9.1.1 Experiment 1: Anaphora Versus Cataphora in Conjunctions Versus Conditionals . . . . . 210
    - 9.1.2 Experiment 2: Cataphoric Presuppositions in Conjunctions Versus Conditionals . . . . . 214
  - 9.2 Mechanistic Processing Models as an Explanatory Goal for Semantics . . . . . 218
  - 9.3 Modeling the Interaction of Conditionals and Pronominal Cataphora . . . . . 221

- 9.3.1 Chunk Types and the Lexical Information Stored  
in Declarative Memory . . . . . 222
- 9.3.2 Rules to Advance Dref Peg Positions, Key Presses  
and Word-Related Rules . . . . . 228
- 9.3.3 Phrase Structure Rules . . . . . 230
- 9.3.4 Rules for Conjunctions and Anaphora Resolution . . . . . 239
- 9.3.5 Rules for Conditionals and Cataphora Resolution . . . . . 249
- 9.4 Modeling the Interaction of Conditionals and Cataphoric  
Presuppositions . . . . . 262
  - 9.4.1 Rules for ‘Again’ and Presupposition Resolution . . . . . 262
  - 9.4.2 Rules for ‘Maximize Presupposition’ . . . . . 271
  - 9.4.3 Fitting the Model to the Experiment 2 Data . . . . . 275
- 9.5 Conclusion . . . . . 278
- 9.6 Appendix: The Complete Syntax/Semantics Parser . . . . . 280
  - 9.6.1 File ch9/parser\_dm.py . . . . . 280
  - 9.6.2 File ch9/parser\_rules.py . . . . . 280
  - 9.6.3 File ch9/run\_parser.py . . . . . 281
  - 9.6.4 File ch9/estimate\_parser\_parallel.py . . . . . 281
- 10 Future Directions . . . . . 283**
- Bibliography . . . . . 287**