

Final report of the visit of Prof. Giorgio Satta
(SICSA Distinguished Visitor Fellowship)

Prof. Satta visited the University of St Andrews from Sep 3 (2012) to Sep 9. From there he made a visit to the University of Aberdeen from Sep 5, returning in the afternoon of Sep 6. His host at the University of St Andrews was Mark-Jan Nederhof. His hosts in Aberdeen were Kees van Deemter and Advait Siddharthan. In St Andrews Prof. Satta worked together with Mark-Jan Nederhof on a wide range of topics, including non-projective parsing, and grammatical formalisms with extended domains of locality. In Aberdeen he discussed an ongoing local natural language generation project with Advait Siddharthan. Prof. Satta's presentation at the University of Aberdeen on Sep 5 and at the University of St Andrews on Sep 7 was on "Grammatical Formalisms for Natural Language Parsing". On both occasions, the lecture was attended by staff and postgrad students.

Prof. Satta visited the University of Edinburgh from Sep 10 until Sep 15. On Sept 11th and 12th he presented a two-day mini-course called "Introduction to Tabular Parsing Algorithms" intended mainly for postgrad students. The mini-course was also attended by three faculty professors. Further he presented ongoing research work at the CCG meeting of the natural language group in Edinburgh. He worked with Mark Steedman on Combinatory Categorical Grammar and discussed his latest paper with him. He also discussed several ongoing local research projects with PhD students and staff, ranging over the following subjects: concept-to-text translation, incremental parsing, induction of lexical preferences, and use of parsing techniques in plan recognition.