

An online collaborative platform for the linguistic development of computational grammars

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E-mail, web pages, FTP servers, etc. were the tools that allowed collaboration over the web 1.0. Development still happened within the researcher's local environment, but synchronization was done over the internet. Data could be shared, opinions exchanged. With the advent of the web 2.0, even more powerful tools are available for collaboration. Servers are fast and affordable and browsers are powerful, and able to perform most of the online and offline tasks needed by users.

The aim of this project is to take advantage of this new model of computation, and build an online platform for the linguistic development of computational grammars. The central aspect of the platform will be on-site collaboration, by letting researchers both share knowledge and data on-site and develop resources and computational models directly on it.

The platform will integrate an HPSG toolbox able to edit, test and use HPSG grammars online. As a demonstration of the platform's capabilities, a small Spanish HPSG grammar will be written. As a demonstration of the future potential of such platforms, a data-centric application will also be integrated. For example, this might be an application where linguist experts can rate parse trees, and the information obtained can be compiled as weights for grammar rules in order to implement a probabilistic grammar.