

## **Mental Mechanisms**

Diego Rios

Mainstream cognitive science is a paradigmatic example of interdisciplinary research, ranging together disciplines such as linguistic, psychology, anthropology, neuroscience and philosophy. Prior to the cognitive revolution these disciplines were mostly disconnected. With the emergence of cognitive science, some important concepts became common ground across them, facilitating exchanges amongst researchers affiliated to different disciplines. The crucial unifying element was the exportation of the notion of computation from artificial intelligence and computer science to cognitive sciences. There are in fact different ways to exploit the notion of computation, and these alternative frameworks have implications on the facts that needs to be explained as well as on the format that cognitive modeling must take. Interdisciplinary research is an exercise in assimilation and accommodation; this paper is a discussion of how the notion of computation was assimilated within the cognitive sciences, and how these disciplines accommodated the new tools with their own internal constrains.