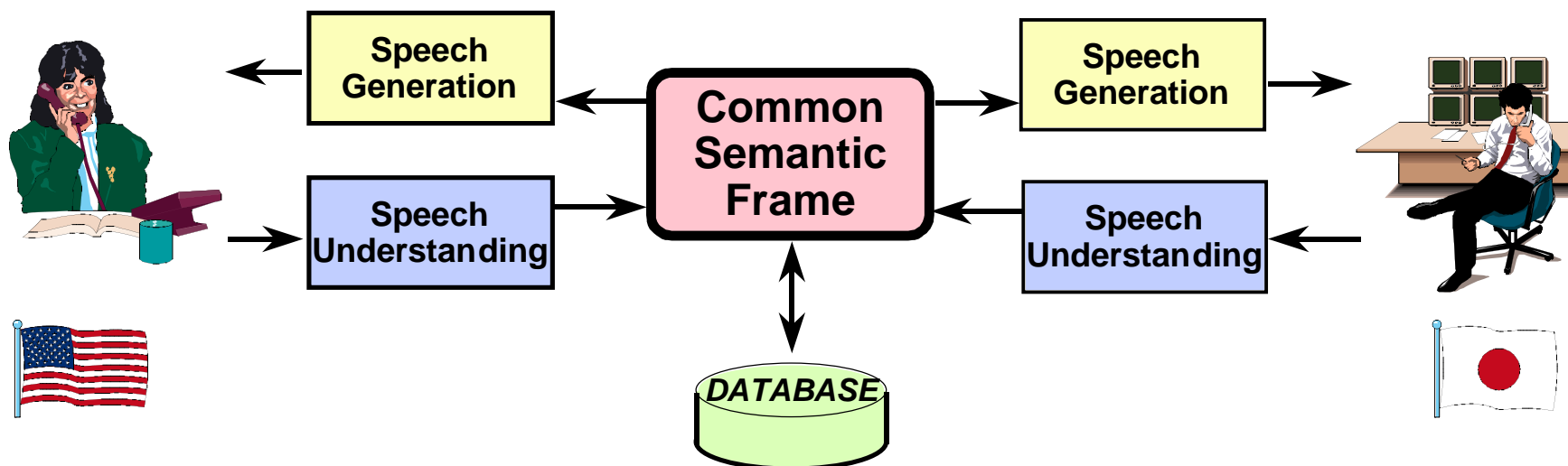




## Project Overview



- Develop technology for natural conversational interfaces
- Create methods to facilitate the rapid development of multi-lingual and multi-modal conversational systems
- Use existing SpeechBuilder utility as the basis for incorporating and evaluating research for Japanese systems



## Progress Through December 2001

- Continued Japanese Mokusei data collection on toll-free telephone numbers in Japan and U.S.
- Created a bilingual conversational system
  - Combined language identification and speech recognition
  - Parallel search paths for Japanese and English
  - Integrated into conversational system with common semantic frame, discourse and dialogue capability
- Developed initial Japanese SpeechBuilder utility
  - Augmented interface to handle Japanese inputs
  - Compiled prototype domains at MIT and NTT



## Research Plan for the Next Six Months

- Expand SpeechBuilder dialogue capability to enable more sophisticated dialogues
- Create Japanese weather information system within SpeechBuilder framework
- Develop corpus-based speech synthesis capability for Japanese SpeechBuilder domains
- Continue Japanese data collection efforts