

ACT-R Updates

2023 ACT-R Workshop

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Prerelease of next version available

- <http://act-r.psy.cmu.edu/next/>
 - 7.27.9
- Will become current version early August

7.27.8

- More retrieval request parameters
 - All of the mechanisms can be adjusted within a request

```
+retrieval>
```

```
:mp-value    temp-:mp
```

```
:rt-value    temp-:rt
```

```
:bll-value   temp-:bll
```

```
:mas-value   temp-:mas
```

```
:ans-value   temp-:ans
```

7.27.9

- Added the reusable-buffer-p command
 - Check if a buffer is using the same chunk every time
 - Can be useful for modules to check if chunk names are being recorded

Other updates

- Error handling around all calculations using exp and log
- There are test models for all of the extras
- The save-model extra now has hooks to write additional information into the model definition
- Tutorial Lisp tasks updated to avoid warnings in SBCL

Bug fixes

- Production compilation wasn't always unifying all variables
 - Catches all the dynamics when appropriate now

```
(P PRODUCTION0
  "bad"
  =GOAL>
    =S =VAL
    STATE =S
    =S0 =VAL0
    STATE =S0
  ==>
)
```

- Visual-location requests specifying a value of current when the attention shift was made with a “non-visual” chunk sometimes failed
 - Always maps current request to the actual visual feature now

Mac Software updates

- The standalone Mac software has a startup script to clear all of the quarantine flags
- Added an Environment application built for Apple silicon
 - Built with the Tcl/Tk in Python
- There's an Apple silicon version of the ACT-R app in the standalone
 - Built with SBCL
- The running scripts pick the correct version(s) to run
 - run-mac-environment.command
 - All of the standalone scripts (both versions are included)

Discussion Questions

- Should all of the standalones be built with SBCL?
- Should there be separate downloads for the Mac standalones?
- Does anyone use the Docker container version?
 - The Dockerfile doesn't build correctly now, but the cached container works