



Grammar Development with LFG and XLE

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Last Time

- imperatives (empty nodes)
 - Parsing
 - Generation
- coordination
 - regular expression macros
 - metarulemacros

This Time: Lesson 7

1. Integrating a Finite-State Morphological Analyzer
 - Morphology Section: Analyze
 - Sublexical rules
 - Sublexical entries
 - The -unknown entry
2. The XLE Lexicon Lookup Model

Interfacing finite-state transducers

- Maintaining a full-form lexicon is tedious.
- Many lexicon entries are the same (e.g., nouns).
- Is there a way to get information from somewhere about
 - the category of a word (Part-of-Speech; POS)
 - along with information about morphosyntax (tense, mood, case, number, person, etc)

Finite-State Morphologies (FSM)

- Yes – there is!
- Finite-state morphological analyzers
 - often commercially produced
 - often available from research institutions
 - very easy to implement on your own
 - finite amount of time necessary to build one
 - efficient
 - can be composed with tokenizers
 - easy to integrate into XLE

Software for Implementing FSMs

- XFST (PARC/Xerox)

- www.fsmbook.com
- Kenneth R. Beesley and Lauri Karttunen. 2003. *Finite State Morphology*. CSLI Publications.

- FOMA: Finite-State Compiler and C Library

- Hulden, Mans. 2009. Foma: a finite-state compiler and library. *Proceedings of the 12th EACL Conference*, 29-32.

- SFST

- Helmut Schmid, A Programming Language for Finite State Transducers, Proceedings of the 5th International Workshop on Finite State Methods in Natural Language Processing (FSMNLP 2005), Helsinki, Finland

Software for Implementing FSMs

- OpenFST (Google Research and NYU)
 - HFST (Helsinki)
 - Kleene Programming Language (Beesley)

Interfacing finite-state transducers

- Cascade of finite-state transducers is specified in MORPHOLOGY section.
- At least two subsections:
 - TOKENIZE
 - ANALYZE
- By default, the transducers listed are used both for parsing and for generation.
- This behavior can be altered by prefixing the names of transducer files with P! or G!

Tokenization

- Recall that in the first grammars only white spaces were considered as token boundaries.
- However, there are more kinds of token boundaries in real-word text:
 - Punctuation has to be split off the preceding token.
 - Some white spaces should not be treated as token boundaries, e.g. “Sri Lanka” (MWE).
 - Upper-case letters at sentence beginnings should optionally be lower-cased.
- A finite-state tokenizer takes care of these things.

Tokenization

Integrated from Starter Grammar when we did punctuation.

```
DEMO ENGLISH MORPHOLOGY (1.0)
```

```
TOKENIZE:
```

```
P!basic-parse-tok.fst G!default-gen-tokenizer.fst
```

Finite-state morphologies

Map surface forms to canonical form (lemma) and series of “morphological” tags.

Examples:

rode	ride	+Verb	+PastTense	+123P
rides	ride	+Verb	+Pres	+3sg
	ride	+Noun	+Pl	
children	child	+Noun	+Pl	

Both generation and parsing directions available.

Interfacing Finite-state Morphology

- From XLE's perspective, the output of a FSM needs to be parsed, just like a string.

ride +Verb +Pres +3sg

- So we need a (sublexical) rule that can parse a given sequence of lemma+tags.
- This means that we need lexical entries for the lemma and all of the tags.
 - They are treated as (sublexical) terminal nodes.
 - We can also code functional information in the lexical entries.

Interfacing Finite-state Morphology

- Sublexical lexicon entries look just like regular lexicon entries.
- **Difference:** morphcode XLE instead of * .

```
+Pres   TNS   XLE @VPRES .
```

- This signifies that the lexical look up is being done with reference to a morphological analyzer.
- In contrast, * tells XLE to take the lexical item “as is” (i.e., as a fully inflected lexical item).

Lexical Look up in XLE

- XLE has a very powerful and complex mechanism for lexical entry look up.
- Can combine entries from different files and block readings.
- The * is useful for items that the morphological analyzer cannot deal well with in terms of grammar writing .
 - Functional elements with a specialized role in the grammar (e.g., auxiliaries).
 - Elements that do not inflect (much).
 - Punctuation (take “as is”, no morphological analysis)

Sublexical Rules

- The sublexical entries corresponding to the tags produced by the FSM are treated as sublexical c-structure categories (terminal nodes).
- They must be parsed by sublexical rules
 - These look like regular rules.
 - Can have f-annotations like regular rules.
 - **Difference:** Sublexical categories are marked with the suffix `_BASE`.

Sublexical Rules and Lexical Entries

V --> V-S_BASE
V-POS_BASE
{ TNS_BASE
PERS_BASE
| ASP_BASE } .

ride +Verb +Pres +3sg

+Verb	V-POS	XLE	.
+Pres	TNS	XLE	@VPRES.
+Prog	ASP	XLE	@VPROG.
+3sg	PERS	XLE	@S-AGR.
ride	V-S	XLE	@(TRANS %stem).

Demo

grammar6.lfg
testsuite6.lfg

verbs via FSM

The unknown Entry

- Lemmas with non-predictable subcategorization frames must be listed in the lexicon.

hate V-S XLE @ (TRANS %stem) .

donate V-S XLE @ (DITRANS %stem) .

- Other lemmas with predictable information can be dealt with by the `-unknown` entry

`-unknown` A-S XLE @ (PRED %stem) ;

N-S XLE @ (PRED %stem) .

The unknown Entry

- The unknown entry is a very powerful device.
- Saves effort of individually specifying lexical items that belong to the same class.
- In our grammars it should now become unnecessary to specify nouns, adjectives and adverbs separately.
- Verbs, auxiliaries, determiners and pronouns contain specialized information.
- For these it is better to write explicit lexical entries.

XLE Lookup Model

- Recall: we can have only one entry per headword per lexicon section.
- But – there are situations in which the same headword may be covered by
 - an explicit entry
 - and by an-unknown entry
- In order to for allow this, XLE uses **edit entries**.
- The possibilities allowed by XLE are very complex – see the XLE documentation.
- Here, just two examples.

XLE Lookup Model – ETC

- ETC signals that other entries are allowed.
- So other if another entry for the same headword is encountered, this entry is added to the entry that has already been processed.
- Example: noun version of *sleep* coming from the unknown entry is added to the explicitly specified verb version.

```
sleep      V-S @ (INTRANS sleep); ETC.  
-unknown  N-S @ (PRED %stem).
```

XLE Lookup Model – ONLY

- ONLY signals that this is the only entry.
- So if another entry for the same headword is encountered, this entry is ignored by XLE.
- Example:
 - the noun version of *sleep* coming from the unknown entry is ignored
 - only the verb version of *sleep* is used by the grammar.

```
sleep      V-S @ (INTRANS sleep) ; ONLY.  
-unknown  N-S @ (PRED %stem) .
```

Practical Work

- This concludes Lesson 7.
- The practical work you should do now is detailed in Exercise 7.
- You will practice with
 - integrating a finite-state morphological analyzer
 - writing sublexical rules for nouns and adjectives
 - writing sublexical entries for the tags associated with nouns and adjectives

