

The Lexicon in MT

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SALT Club MT Workshop
UMIST
2-3 June 1990

1 Exclusions

Not much to say on derivational and inflectional morphology

2 Assumptions

- Rule-based vs Information Theoretic
- Rules vs Principles
- 3 Conceptual components: Analysis - Transfer - Synthesis
 - Analysis
 - * = computation from strings to some appropriate underlying representation
 - * part of general NLP programme
 - Synthesis
 - * = computation from underlying representation to surface strings
 - * part of general NLP programme
 - Transfer
 - * = matching up elements in underlying representations (difference grammar)
 - * specific to MT programme
 - * but should be assimilable to general interlevel mapping
- Generality of Interlevel Mapping
- Sequential vs Simultaneous resolution of constraints
- Constraints and Modularity and Redundancy

Comment Possible at multiple levels simultaneously e.g. we could say that [AP N] in English goes to [N AP] in French as well as specifying more generally that restrictive mods go to restrictive mods. Certain transfer generalisations may well be best characterised at a constituency level. Possibility of redundant transfer specification.

Comment Notion of transfer modularity questionable - depends on autonomy of underlying (interface) representations: but can ARG1 of a given predicate be interpreted entirely without reference to associated string sets?

3 General structure

- Grammar = Rules + Lexicon

Comment No particular view taken on partitioning of work. Everything can be in the lexicon if we want.

- Analysis/Synthesis: Monolingual dictionaries - relation between strings and underlying representation

atomic e.g. house \Leftrightarrow **house1**

Comment Integrity of the word and "Fido \Leftrightarrow **Fido**" theory of meaning

non-atomic eg. vp flattening

- Transfer: Multilingual dictionaries
a relation on elements of underlying representation

atomic e.g. house1 \Leftrightarrow **maison1**

non-atomic ideally, a homomorphism
in practice, more complex maps usually required

e.g. compounds \Leftrightarrow phrases

e.g. argument-changing verb pairs etc

$$\tau(S_{sb}, S'_{it}) = \tau_{Lex}(S_{sb}, S'_{it}) \wedge \tau_{Tns}(S_{sb}, S'_{it}) \wedge \tau_{Asp}(S_{sb}, S'_{it}) \wedge \dots$$

4 Sample Entry from Monolingual Lexicon

PHON	blew																	
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- Types and Hierarchies

5 Sample Entry from Bilingual Lexicon

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- Relation-preserving verbs & Types

6 Monolingual Entries

blow¹ /blow/ *vi, vt* 1 [VP2A,C] (with air, *wind* or *it* as subject), move along, flow as a current of air: *It was ~ing hard*, there was a strong wind. *It was ~ing a gale / great guns*, there was a violent gale.... 2[VP15A,B] (of the wind) cause to move 3 12 (compounds from the *v*) **~dry** vt [VP6A] ... **~fly** *n* common meat fly

13 [VP2C,3A,15B] (special uses with *adverbial particles* and *preps*): **blow** back,(of gas in a tube etc) explode ... **blow up** (a) explode..... (d) exaggerate: *His abilities have been greatly blown up by the papers*

blow² /blow/ *n* blowing: (*Give your nose a good ~*, clear it thoroughly. **have/go for a ~**, go outdoors for fresh air

blow³ /blow/ *n* 1 hard stroke (given with the hand, a stick etc):*He struck his enemy a heavy~on the head*, **at one ~;at a (single) ~**, in a single effort: *I killed six flies at a single ~* 2 shock; disaster: *His wife's death was a great ~to him*

blow⁴ /blow/ *vi* ..(chiefly in *pp* as) *full blown roses*, wide open **OALD**

7 Structure of an Entry

Headword fields superscripts usually indicate (OALD) homonyms. (Problem: Nominalisations having the same wordform as source predicate usually part of same entry; different wordform, then different entry.)

Pronunciation fields something for the speech people

Inflection fields something for everyone else

Definition fields varieties of word meaning

- classic dictionary = relation on dictionary elements
- NLP = e.g. operations on database
- MT = translation via multilingual dictionary i.e. a string set in target language
- MT/NLP = relation on lexical primitives

Example fields ideally, redundant; typically, catch all for pattern gaps

Senses and Patterns Is there a systematic relation?

- Different synonyms, different selectional restrictions - noun classes

13 blow up (a)bridges etc. (FR: *exploser/sauter*)

(b) tyres (FR: *gonfler*)

(c) photographs (FR: *agrandir*)

(d) reputations, events, situations (FR: *exagerer*)
(OALD)

Bridges, tyres, photographs - concrete

Reputations, events, situations - abstract

- Argument Realisation (patterns)

1. Sense-preserving alternations:

—one sense, same valency, same focus, different arg realisation

[VP2C,E] *The hat blew off/into the pond*

—one sense, same valency, different focus

The wind blew the door down

The door was blown down (by the wind) (Passive)

A drought followed

There followed a drought (Presentational *it/there*)

Comment OALD notes this as a possible variation in the realisation of an intransitive pattern - but no note on its availability.

—one sense, same valency, ?same focus, particle shift

The wind blew the door down

The wind blew down the door

- one sense, same valency, different focus, different Aktionsart

He emptied the tank of petrol

He emptied petrol from the tank

(N.B. Issue of variation in durative modification)

2. Productive sense-changing alternations

- Causative/Anticausative

The wind blew off his hat

FR:Le vent a fait s'envoler son chapeau

His hat blew off

FR:Son chapeau s'est envolé

Comment OALD notes *The ref. blew his whistle* vs *The whistle blew* but does not assign the two forms different senses

- Resultative

He blew bubbles

FR:Il a fait des bulles

- Middle

This shirt washes well

Comment OALD pattern assimilates this to plain intransitive

3. Idiosyncratic sense-changing alternations

11 spend money recklessly or extravagantly: ~£10

on a dinner with a girl friend

(OALD)

Modification Need for specification of possible modifier types e.g. psych-verbs exclude locationals

8 Multi-Word Units

- Typically, represent completely frozen units (sayings), failures of compositionality (idioms) or lexical selectional constraints on environment (collocations)
- Typically, appear within sense fields i.e. a particular mwu associated with a particular headword sense.
- General translation strategy: associate tree/graph fragments with corresponding t.l. tree/graph fragments e.g.

#1 *blow the gaff* ⇔ #2 *vendre la mèche*

where $\tau(\#1, \#2)$

Some issues:

Operators Mel'cuk style LFs: reducing the transfer coding effort Support and Headedness

(X *attack* Y) vs (X *made an attack on* Y)
(X *raise/lift the blockade*)
Oper₁₂ (attack) = make
Term₁₂ (blockade) = raise

MWU Syntax: Well-formedness Need to ensure that MWUs denoted by well-formed trees/graphs.

MWU Semantics Transformational Deficiencies and Modifiability

- Discourse referential status of idiom elements
e.g. *The donkey kicked the bucket*
- Blocking type constructors / modification

MWU: Size What constitutes an idiom chunk?

EN: He gave me *a blow-by-blow account*
FR: Il ne m'a fait grâce d'aucun détail

Operators and Idiom units
Dative shift: handled pre-IS

Reanalysis *To blow the gaff on somebody* ⇔ *Dénoncer qn.*
Reanalyse as **denounce**?

denounce X (as Y) (to Z)
blow the gaff on X (as Y) (to Z)
make a denunciation of X (as Y) (to Z)