The SPECIALIST lexicon and lexical tools

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The SPECIALIST lexicon

- A syntactic lexicon
- Biomedical and general English
- Over 448,000 records
Lexicon Growth
George A. Miller
The Science of Words
1991
Frequency Spectrum: Alice in Wonderland

Bayaan, 2001
The Long Tail

Number of Words ->

Word Frequency ->
The SPECIALIST LEXICON

- Morphology
  - Inflection
  - Derivation
- Orthography
  - Spelling variants
- Syntax
  - Complementation for verbs, nouns, and adjectives
Morphology

- **Inflectional**
  - nucleus, nuclei
  - cauterize, cauterizes, cauterized, cauterizing
  - red, redder reddest

- **Derivational**
  - laryngeal -- larynx
  - transport -- transportation
Orthography

Spelling Variation

- align -- aline
- Grave’s disease -- Graves’s disease -- Graves’ disease
- anesthetize -- anesthetise
- Esophagus -- oesophagus
- foetus – fetus
- centre -- center
Syntax -- Verb Complements

- **intran**
  - I’ll treat.

- **tran=np**
  - He treated the patient.

- **ditran=np, pphr(with, np)**
  - She treated the patient with the drug.
Syntax -- Verb Complements

{base=treat
 entry=E0061964
  cat=verb
  variants=reg
  intran
  tran=np
  tran=pphr(with,np)
  tran=pphr(of,np)
  ditran=np,pphr(to,np)
  ditran=np,pphr(with,np)
  ditran=np,pphr(for,np)
  cplxtran=np,advbl
  nominalization=treatment|noun|E0061968
}

Syntax -- Verb Particle Constructions

clean up
scrub down
look up
{base=clean
entry=E0017272
cat=verb
variants=reg
intran
intran;part(up)
tran=np
tran=np;part(up)
nominalization=clean|noun|E0017273
nominalization=cleanup|noun|E0319808}
Lexicon Unit Records

\{
  base=Kaposi's sarcoma
  spelling_variant=Kaposi sarcoma
  entry=E0003576
    cat=noun
    variants=uncount
    variants=reg
    variants=glreg
\}

\{
  base=chronic
  entry=E0016869
    cat=adj
    variants=inv
    position=attrib(1)
    position=pred
    stative
\}

\{
  base=aspirate
  entry=E0010803
    cat=verb
    variants=reg
    tran=np
    nominalization=aspiration|noun|E0010804
\}

\{
  base=in
  entry=E0033870
    cat=prep
\}
Orthographic vs. Lexicographic Word:

Why, for instance, if a two-word boy scout feels chilly on his one-word campground, does he pull up a two-word camp chair in front of his one-word campfire? Anyone who seeks a strictly logical answer to such questions is chasing will-o'-the-wisps (chargeable in telegrams as a single word, because of the hyphens) in a semantic bog.

{base=resume
  spelling_variant=résumé
  spelling_variant=resumé
  entry=E0053099
  cat=noun
  variants=reg
}

{base=role
  spelling_variant=rôle
  entry=E0053757
  cat=noun
  variants=reg
}

{base=deja vu
  spelling_variant=deja-vu
  spelling_variant=déjà vu
  entry=E0021340
  cat=noun
  variants=uncount
}

{base=café
  spelling_variant=café
  entry=E0420690
  cat=noun
  variants=reg
}
Noun Variants

{base=Kaposi's sarcoma
spelling_variant=Kapossi sarcoma
entry=E0003576
  cat=noun
  variants=uncount
  variants=reg
  variants=glreg
}

- Kaposi’s sarcoma
- Kaposi’s sarcomas
- Kaposi’s sarcomata
- Kaposi sarcoma
- Kaposi sarcomas
- Kaposi sarcomata
Regular Nouns

The plural suffix is *s*.
y becomes *ie* following a consonant before *s*.
e is inserted before *s* if the base ends in *s*, *z*, *x*, *ch*, or *s*

Leach – Leaches
Stomach – Stomachs ⇐ irregular
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>singular ends with:</th>
<th>plural ends with:</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-us</td>
<td>-i</td>
<td>focus/foci</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-ma</td>
<td>-mata</td>
<td>trauma/traumata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-a</td>
<td>-ae</td>
<td>larva/larvae</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-um</td>
<td>-a</td>
<td>ilium/ilia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-on</td>
<td>-a</td>
<td>taxon/taxa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-sis</td>
<td>-ses</td>
<td>analysis/analyses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-is</td>
<td>-ides</td>
<td>cystis/cystides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-men</td>
<td>-mina</td>
<td>foramen/foramina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-ex</td>
<td>-ices</td>
<td>index/indices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-x</td>
<td>-ces</td>
<td>matrix/matrices</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Uncount Nouns
(abstract or mass)

{ base=smallpox
  entry=E0056359
  cat=noun
  variants=uncount
}

{ base=potassium
  entry=E0049387
  cat=noun
  variants=uncount
}

* a smallpox
* two smallpoxes
much smallpox
* a potassium
* two potassiums
much potassium

* This form does not occur
Countability

- Mail
  * A mail
  much mail
  * many mails

- E-Mail
  An e-mail
  much e-mail
  many e-mails

* This form does not occur
Fixed Plural Nouns

{base=police
  entry=E0048616
  cat=noun
  variants=plur
}

{base=scissors
  entry=E0054633
  cat=noun
  variants=plur
}
Irregular Nouns

{base=corpus
type=noun
variants=irreg|corpora|
variants=reg
}

{base=larynx
type=noun
variants=irreg|larynges|
variants=reg
}
Regular Verbs

- The third person present tense suffix is *s*.
  - *y* becomes *ie* following a consonant before *s*.
  - *e* is inserted between *z*, *x*, *ch*, or *sh* and *s*.

- The past tense suffix is *ed*.
  - *y* becomes *ie* following a consonant before *ed*.
  - Final *e* is deleted before *ed*.

- The past participle is the same as the past tense.

- The present participle suffix is *ing*.
  - *y* becomes *ie* following a consonant before *ing*.
  - Final *e* is deleted before *ing*
  - unless preceded by *e*, *y* or *o*. 
Regular Verbs

- **dismiss**: dismisses, dismissed, dismissing
- **agree**: agrees; agreed; agreeing
- **dry**: dries, dried, drying
Regular Doubling Verbs

- End in a CVC pattern
- Double the final consonant before *ed* and *ing*.
- Are otherwise regular
- variants=regd

control: controls, controlled, controlling
Irregular Verbs

Bite: bite, bites, bit, bitten
Irregular Verbs

{base=bite
 entry=E0013219
 cat=verb
 variants=irreg|bite|bites|bit|bitten|biting|
   intran
 tran=np
 cplxtran=np,advbl
}

Ancillary Data Bases

- Synonymy
  - sm.db
- Derivation
  - dm.db, dm.rules
- Inflection
  - im.rules
- Neoclassical compounds
  - nc.db
Derivational Facts and Rules

dm.facts
treatment|noun|treat|verb
prohibition|noun|prohibitive|adj
cell lineage|noun|cell line|noun
photochemotherapeutic|adj|photochemotherapy|noun
pharmacotherapeutic|adj|pharmacotherapy|noun
Derivational Facts and Rules

dm.rules

# e.g. alienation|alienate
ation$|noun|ate|verb
ration|rate; station|state;
Inflectional Facts and Rules

\texttt{im.rules}

\# Noun rules (glreg)
us$\mid\text{noun}\mid\text{singular}\mid i$\mid\text{noun}\mid\text{plural}
antus\mid\text{anti};
ma$\mid\text{noun}\mid\text{singular}\mid mata$\mid\text{noun}\mid\text{plural}
a$\mid\text{noun}\mid\text{singular}\mid\text{ae}$\mid\text{noun}\mid\text{plural}
um$\mid\text{noun}\mid\text{singular}\mid\text{a}$\mid\text{noun}\mid\text{plural}
on$\mid\text{noun}\mid\text{singular}\mid\text{a}$\mid\text{noun}\mid\text{plural}
sis$\mid\text{noun}\mid\text{singular}\mid\text{ses}$\mid\text{noun}\mid\text{plural}
is$\mid\text{noun}\mid\text{singular}\mid\text{ides}$\mid\text{noun}\mid\text{plural}
men$\mid\text{noun}\mid\text{singular}\mid\text{mina}$\mid\text{noun}\mid\text{plural}
ex$\mid\text{noun}\mid\text{singular}\mid\text{ices}$\mid\text{noun}\mid\text{plural}
x$\mid\text{noun}\mid\text{singular}\mid\text{ces}$\mid\text{noun}\mid\text{plural}
Neoclassical compounds

nc.db

abdomin(o)|abdomen|root
ab|away from|prefix
acanth(o)|prickle|root
acar(o)|mite|root
acetabul(o)|acetabulum|root
ad|towards|prefix
agogue|inducing|terminal
albumin(o)|albumin|root
sis|condition|terminal
stomy|surgical opening|terminal
PNEUMONONULTRAMICROSCOPICS ILICOVOLCANOCONIOSIS

Pneumono-ultramicroscopic silicovolcanocosis: a pneumoconiosis caused by the inhalation of very fine silicate or quartz dust.

The Protein of a tobacco mosaic virus, Dahlemense strain

acetylserlyrosylserlylsoleucylthreonylserylprolylserylglutaminylphenylalanylvalylphenylalanylleucylserylserylvalyltryptophylalanyleaspartylprolylsoleucylglutamylleucylleucylasparaginylationcysteinyllthreonylserylserylleucylglycllassparaginyllglutaminylphenylalanylalanylearginyllthreonylthreonylglutaminylvalylglutaminylglutaminylglutaminylphennylanlserylglutaminylvalylthreonylvalylarginylphenylalanylprolylglycylaspartylvalyltyrosyllsyvlvalyltyrosylarginyltyrosylasparaginyllalanyleucreuclecyllaspartylprolylsoleucylthreonylalanyleucylglyclythryonylphenylalanleaspartylthreonylarginylasparaginyllarginylisoleucylsoleucylisoleucylglutamyllvalylglutamyllasparaginyllglutaminylglutaminylserylprolylthreonylthreonylalanyleutrymylthreonylleucylaspartyllalanylethreonylarginylalanlylaspartylaspartyllalanylethreonylvalylalanlylsoleucylarginyliseryllalanlylasparyglnlylssoleucylisoreucylglutamyllvalylglutamyllasparaginyllglutaminylglutaminylserylprolylthreonylthreonylalanyleutrymylthreonylleucylaspartyllalanylethreonylarginylalanlylaspartylaspartyllalanylethreonylvalylalanlylsoleucylarginyliseryllalanlylasparyglnlylssoleucylisoreucylglutamyllvalylglutamyllasparaginyllglutaminylasparaginyllthreonylphenylalanylglutamyllserylmethionylserylglyclylleucylvalyltryptophyllthreonyliserylalanlylprolylalanlylserine
Synonyms

**sm.db**

alar|adj|wing|noun
amygdaline|adj|tonsil|noun
articulare|adj|joint|noun
bulbar|adj|medulla oblongata|noun
fununcular|adj|boil|noun
geniculare|adj|knee|noun
hepatocellular|adj|liver cells|noun
lazar|adj|leprosy|noun
lenticular|adj|crystalline lens|noun
ypsiliform|adj|upsiloid|adj
wolfram|noun|tungsten|noun
double vision|noun|diplopia|noun
Lexical tools

SPECIALIST LEXICON

Text processing
Lexical Tools

- **Wordind** -- breaks strings into words
  - Produces the Metathesaurus word indexes (MRXW)
- **LVG** -- performs various lexical transformations
- **NORM** -- a selection of LVG transformations,
  - Used for Metathesaurus indexing
  - Produces the Metathesaurus Normalized word and string indexes (MRXNW & MRXNS)
  - Used to access those indexes
Normalization

- Hodgkin Disease
- HODGKINS DISEASE
- Hodgkin's Disease
- Disease, Hodgkin's
- HODGKIN'S DISEASE
- Hodgkin's disease
- Hodgkins Disease
- Hodgkin's disease NOS
- Hodgkin's disease, NOS
- Disease, Hodgkins
- Diseases, Hodgkins
- Hodgkins Diseases
- Hodgkins disease
- hodgkin's disease
- Disease;Hodgkins
- Disease, Hodgkin
- disease hodgkin
The Lexical Systems Group

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