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Chris Lu

The SPECIALIST Lexicon and Lexical Tools

July 21, 2014
The SPECIALIST lexicon

- A syntactic lexicon
- Biomedical and general English
- Over 476,000 records
Lexicon Growth
George A. Miller
The Science of Words
1991
Frequency Spectrum of Medline 2006

\[ V(m,N) \]

\[ M \]
Frequency Spectrum: Alice in Wonderland

Bayaan, 2001
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
I suppose you could say I'm a dictionaryologist.

Dictionary+ology+ist
Orthography

Spelling Variation

- align -- aline
- Grave’s disease -- Graves’s disease -- Graves’ disease
- anesthetize -- anesthetise
- Esophagus -- oesophagus
- foetus -- fetus
- centre -- center
Orthography

Hagar the Horrible

I need the correct spelling for the records...

How do you spell ‘crocodile’?

Dr. Zook

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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}
Categories – Parts of Speech
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Base</th>
<th>Spelling Variant</th>
<th>Entry</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Variants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>resume</td>
<td>résumé</td>
<td>E0053099</td>
<td>noun</td>
<td>reg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deja vu</td>
<td>déjà vu</td>
<td>E0021340</td>
<td>noun</td>
<td>uncounted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>role</td>
<td>rôle</td>
<td>E0053757</td>
<td>noun</td>
<td>reg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cafe</td>
<td>café</td>
<td>E0420690</td>
<td>noun</td>
<td>reg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Noun Variants

{base=Kaposi's sarcoma
 spelling_variant=Kaposi sarcoma
 entry=E0003576
   cat=noun
   variants=uncount
   variants=reg
   variants=glreg
 }
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
Greco-latin Regular nouns

<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>
Octopuses

"Fellow octopi, or octopuses ... octopi? ... Dang, it's hard to start a speech with this crowd."
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 potassiams
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
Uncount Nouns

S

Spaghetti

Broccolo

Jacuzzo
Fixed Plural Nouns

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

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

{base=corpus
  entry=E0019113
  cat=noun
  variants=irreg|corpora|
  variants=reg
}

{base=larynx
  entry=E0036919
  cat=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
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

im.rules

# Noun rules (glreg)
us$|noun|singular|i$|noun|plural
  antus|anti;
ma$|noun|singular|mata$|noun|plural
a$|noun|singular|ae$|noun|plural
um$|noun|singular|a$|noun|plural
on$|noun|singular|a$|noun|plural
sis$|noun|singular|ses$|noun|plural
is$|noun|singular|ides$|noun|plural
men$|noun|singular|mina$|noun|plural
ex$|noun|singular|ices$|noun|plural
x$|noun|singular|ces$|noun|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
PNEUMONOULTRAMICROSCOPIC SILLICOVOLCANOCONIOSIS

A pneumoconiosis caused by the inhalation of very fine silicate or quartz dust.

The Protein of a tobacco mosaic virus, Dahlemense strain

acetylserlyrosylserlylisoleucylthreonylserylprolylserylglutaminylnlphenylalanylnvalylphenylalanylleucylserylserylvalyltryptophylalanylaspartylprolylisoleucylglutamylleucylleucyllasparaginylnvalylcysteinyltthreonylserylserylleucylgycyllasparaginylglutaminyllylnlphenylalanynglutaminyllthreonylglutaminylnvalylglutaminylnlglutaminylglutaminylalanylnlarginylthreonyltthreonylglutaminylnvalylglutaminylnlglutaminylglutaminylpheylnlalanylnlserylglutaminylnvalyltryptophylllysylprolylphenylalanylprolylglutaminylserylthreonylnvalylarginylphenylalanylnlprolylglycyclaspartylvalyltyrosyllsylvalyltyrosylarginyltyrosylasparaginylnlalanylnlvalylleucylaspartylprolylleucylisoleucylthreonylnlalanylleucylleucylglyclylthryonylnlphenylalanylaspartylthreonylarginylasparaginylnlglutaminylglutaminylserylprolylthreonyltthreonylnlalanylglymthreonylleucylaspartylleucylthreonyldlalanylglyclylvalylvalyltcysteinyllasparaginylnlglutaminylnlalanylnlarginylmethionylserylglyclylthreonylnlalanylnlarginylmethionylserylglyclylleucylleucylvalyltryptophylthreonylnlalanylnlalanyllprolylalanylseryln
Synonyms

sm.db

alar|adj|wing|noun
amygdaline|adj|tonsil|noun
articular|adj|joint|noun
bulbar|adj|medulla oblongata|noun
fununcular|adj|boil|noun
geniccular|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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