#### Words and Wordforms

- Lexical items
- Dictionary lookup
- Word segmentation
- Morphological analysis
- Morphophonology
- Lexical semantics
- Distributed representations
- Part-of-speech tagging
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- uncovering the internal structure of a word/wordform ("word syntax")
  - how a word/wordform can be composed/decomposed? (morphotactics)
  - how the linguistic meaning is derived from the components?
- morphological processes
  - inflection: e.g. word + inflectional ending  $\rightarrow$  word form
  - derivation: e.g. word + affix  $\rightarrow$  word
  - ullet compounding: e.g. word [+ linking morpheme] + word ullet word

## Morphological processes

- concatenative processes
  - affixation: prefixation, suffixation, circumfixation, infixation
  - compounding: concatenating several words, perhaps separated by linking elements
- non-concatenative processes
  - clitization: e.g. word + phonologically reduced word → word proclitics/enclitics
  - ablaut: part of the root undergoes phonological change
  - transfixation: intercalating a consonantal root with a vowel pattern
  - reduplication: all or part of the root is duplicated
  - truncation: removing part of the root

# Morphological Processes

|                | inflection | derivation | compounding |
|----------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| prefixation    | _          | +          | _           |
| suffixation    | +          | +          | _           |
| circumfixation | _          | +          | _           |
| infixation     | _          | +          | _           |
| compounding    | _          | _          | +           |
| clitization    | _          | _          | +           |
| ablaut         | +          | +          | _           |
| transfixation  | _          | +          | _           |

#### Inflection

- construction of wordforms from lexemes
- determines the morpho-syntactic features of the form
- never affects the syntactic category
  - but: syntactic categorization is theory- and language-specific
- mostly achieved by means of suffixation
  - different suffixes used for different features

• less often combined with ablaut (i.e. stem inflection in German)

```
der Apfel, die Äpfel
der Nagel, die Nägel
```

#### Derivation

- modfies the syntactic category and/or part of the lexical semantics
- wide variety of concatenative and non-concatenative processes
  - prefixation
  - suffixation
  - circumfixation
  - infixation
  - transfixation

prefixation: does not affect the grammatical category

```
Bau: Ab-bau, Auf-bau, Nach-bau, ... N \to N
schlafen: ein-schlafen, aus-schlafen, ... V \to V
schön: un-schön Adj \to Adj
```

 often German prefixation results in discontinuous words: detatchable prefixes

```
ab\text{-}reis\text{-}t 	o reis\text{-}t \dots ab to travel vs. to depart ab\text{-}setz\text{-}t 	o setz\text{-}t \dots ab to set, to place, to put, ... vs. to relocate, to sediment, to dispose, ... auf\text{-}misch\text{-}t 	o misch\text{-}t \dots auf to mix, to blend, to collate, ... vs. to rough up
```

suffixation: might change the grammatical category

#### circumfixation

```
sch\ddot{o}n(en) \rightarrow be-sch\ddot{o}n-ig(en)
glaub(en) \rightarrow be-glaub-ig(en)
                     *be-schön(en), *schön-ig(en)
renn(en) \rightarrow (das) Ge-renn-e
raun(en) \rightarrow (das) Ge-raun-e
                      *ge-renn(en), *(das) Renn-e
sag(en) \rightarrow (hat) ge-sag-t
schlaf(en) \rightarrow (hat) ge-schlaf-en
                     *ge-sag(en), *(hat) sag-t,
schwei\beta(en) \rightarrow (ist) ge-schwei\beta-t,
laufe(en) \rightarrow (ist) ge-lauf-en,
                     *ge-schweiß(en), *(ist) schweiß-t,
```

- infixation: in case of detachable prefixes the infix is placed between the prefix and the root
  - for past participles and infinitives with zu
     auf-tret(en) → auf-ge-tret(en)
     nach-lesen(en) → nach-zu-les(en),
- true infixation inserts the affix into the root

#### Derivation

usually complex lexemes can be built:

```
under-achieve-ment, ir-ratio-nal-ity
Ein-heit-lich-keit, Ab-er-kennen-ung, Un-zu-ver-läss-ig-keit
```

some affixes are ambiguous

```
wir geh-en, sie geh-en
ab-zu-lehnen, un-zu-lässig
```

#### Derivation

- derivational morphology is full of accidental gaps
- many potential derivations (as well as compounds) are not considered well formed
- e.g. in English

| verb     | noun <i>(-al)</i> | noun <i>(-ion)</i> |
|----------|-------------------|--------------------|
| recite   | recital           | recitation         |
| propose  | proposal          | proposition        |
| arrive   | arrival           |                    |
| refuse   | refusal           |                    |
| derive   |                   | derivation         |
| describe |                   | description        |

• e.g. in German

treffen, Treffer, zutreffen, \*Zutreffer (der) Hausbau, (beim) Hausbauen, \*(ich) hausbaue

## Compounding

 compounding: frequent and highly productive phenomenon e.g. in German, Swedish and Greek

| Tür-klink-en-griff        | N + N + en + N |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Send-ung-s-be-wuss-t-sein | N + s + N      |
| blass-grün                | Adj + Adj      |
| teil-nehmen               | N + V          |
| arbeit-s-scheu            | N + s + Adj    |
| stein-alt                 | N + Adj        |

 the rightmost component determines the syntactic and morphosyntactic properties of the compound

### Compounding

relatively rare cases of (morphological) compounding in English

 compounding is predominantly a syntactic mechanism in English middle class high school student

#### **Transfixation**

- root-pattern morphology: intercalating a consonantal root with a vowel pattern:
  - usually the root consists of three consonants (radicals)
  - the pattern is subject to the requirements of vowel harmony
  - the root determines the basic meaning
  - the pattern affects the syntactic and semantic properties

#### **Transfixation**

- dominating morphological process for verb derivation in many semitic languages (Arabic, Hebrew, Amharic, ...)
- e.g. Arabic

```
ktbkitābookskutubookskātibwriterkutābwriterskatabahe wroteyaktubuhe writes
```

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- modelling morphological processes and their consequences by means of finite state transducers
  - · special focus on concatenative word formation
- morpho-syntactic information
  - stem-related: part-of-speech (POS), gender (nouns), valency (verbs)
  - derivational: part-of-speech (POS), valency(verbs), genus verbi,
  - inflectional: case, number, tense, ...
- usually described as features

```
cat = N, case = nom, gender = fem, ...
```

- lexical categories are distributional classes: words which can be replaced by each other without rendering a sentence ungrammatical
- e.g. for nouns

Linguistics can be a pain in the neck.

John can be a pain in the neck.

Girls can be a pain in the neck.

Television can be a pain in the neck.

- \*Went can be a pain in the neck.
- \*For can be a pain in the neck.
- \*Older can be a pain in the neck.
- \*Conscientiously can be a pain in the neck.
- \*The can be a pain in the neck.
- in inflecting languages abstraction from morphosyntactic agreement phenomena might be necessary

other criteria for lexical categories (RADFORD 1988)

phonological evidence: explanation of systematic pronunciation variants

We need to increase productivity.
We need an increase in productivity.
Why do you torment me?
Why do you leave me in torment?
We might transfer him to another club.
He's asked for a transfer.

semantic evidence: explanation of structural ambiguities

Mistrust wounds.
..., wo die wilden tiere jagen.
Er hat liebe genossen.

semantic properties are irrelevant:

| verbs      | actions | to walk, to carry, to laugh,  |
|------------|---------|-------------------------------|
|            |         | laufen, tragen, lachen,       |
| nouns      | objects | desk, horse, Jack,            |
|            |         | Tisch, Pferd, Hans,           |
| adjectives | states  | ill, happy, krank, glücklich, |

- morphological evidence
  - different inflectional patterns for verbs, nouns, adjectives but: irregular inflection: strong verbs, to be,sein
  - unterschiedliche Wortbildungsmuster
    - comparison for adjectives large/larger/largest, groß/größer/am größten
    - verbalization: modern-iz-e/modern-isier-en
    - nominalization: modern-iz-ation/Modern-isier-ung, correct-ness/Korrekt-heit
    - no derivation for prepositions and auxiliaries

#### Typical lexical categories:

| N   | noun        | house/Haus, dog/Hund, teacher/Lehrer,        |
|-----|-------------|--|
| V   | verb        | to search/suchen, to ask/fragen, to be/sein, |
| Р   | preposition | on/auf, between/zwischen, after/nach,        |
| Α   | adjective   | beautiful/schön, good/gut, red/rot,          |
| ADV | adverb      | differently/anders, completely/ganz,         |
| М   | modal verbs | can/können, may/dürfen, should/sollen,       |
| D   | determiner  | the/der, this/diese, all/alle, enough/genug, |

- distributional analysis leaves room for alternative design decisions
  - Engl.: particles and conjunctions as prepositions
  - Engl.: adjectives und adverbs as positional variants of the same category
    - adjectives modify nouns
       There is a real crisis.
    - adverbs modify adjectives, adverbs, prepositions and verbs

He is a really nice guy. He walks really slowly. He is really down. He must really squirm.

- major categories: N, V, A, P
- feature representation for major categories:

|       | [V +]     | [V -]       |
|-------|-----------|-------------|
| [N +] | adjective | noun        |
| [N -] | verb      | preposition |

- useful to specify cross-categorial generalizations
  - Engl.: only [N −] words allow for nominal complements

```
John loves [Mary] (V + NP)
John bought a present for [Mary] (P + NP)
*John's admiration [Mary] (N + NP)
*John is fond [Mary] (A + NP)
```

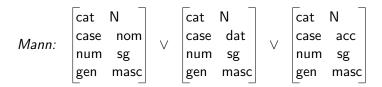
Ital.: [N +] inflectes for gender, [N -] does not
 bravo ragazzo (guter Junge)
 brava ragazza (gutes Mädchen)
 bravi ragazzi (gute Jungen)
 brave ragazze (gute Mädchen)

more fine grained classification of verbs

|                   | [AUX +]       |               |  |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|--|
| [AUX –]           | [M +]         | [M –]         |  |
| to sleep/schlafen | should/sollen | to have/haben |  |
| to go/gehen       | can/können    | to be/sein    |  |
| to say/sagen      | may/dürfen    |               |  |
|                   |               |               |  |

- open word classes: productive, neologisms are possible
  - nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs
- closed word classes: almost fixed inventory, function words
  - prepositions, determiner, pronous, conjunctions, auxiliary verbs, particles, numerals

- features can be combined into feature structures: partial functions mapping features to values
  - number of features is finite, but arbitrary
  - feature structures are sideways extensible



- feature structures can be underspecified
- two interpretations of a missing feature value
  - monotone: feature can take any (possible) value which can be specified as soon as additional information becomes available
    - → information accumulation in unification-based grammars

- non-monotone: feature takes a default value (e.g. sg or nom) that may be overridden by additional information
  - ightarrow non-monotonic reasoning in DATR

- feature structures can be recursively embedded
  - the value of a feature can be a feature structure
  - can be used for data abstraction and recursive data structures

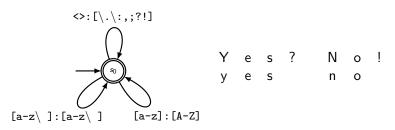
Frauen: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathsf{cat} & \mathsf{N} \\ \mathsf{agr} & \begin{bmatrix} \mathsf{num} & \mathsf{pl} \\ \mathsf{gen} & \mathsf{fem} \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix}$$

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- finite state transducers (FST) are FSAs over pairs of symbols
  - one corresponds to an input string, the other to an output string
  - an FST specifies a relationship between two strings
  - the relationship is reversible
  - an FST defines an alignment between input and output string

a simple tokenizer



```
([a-z]:[A-Z] \mid [a-z \mid ]:[a-z \mid ] \mid <>:[ \cdot \cdot :, ;?!])*
```

- pairs of caracters/strings are of the form \( \) output \( \) : \( \) input \( \)
- special characters have to be quoted, e.g. '.', ':', '

- shortcuts
  - [a-c]: [A-C] expands to [abc]: [ABC]
  - [abc]: [ABC] expands to a:A | b:B | c:C
- simplifications

$$([a-z]:[A-Z] \mid [a-z \setminus ]:[a-z \setminus ] \mid <>:[ \setminus . \setminus :,;?!])*$$

- lower and upper case letters can be combined in a single range  $([a-za-z \ ]:[A-Za-z \ ] \ | <>:[ \ . \ ])*$
- a single symbol expands to an identity mapping: a ≡ a:a

```
([a-z]:[A-Z] | [a-z ] | <>:[ . . ; ?!])*
```

- shortcuts
  - [a-c]: [A-C] expands to [abc]: [ABC]
  - [abc]: [ABC] expands to a:A | b:B | c:C
- simplifications

$$([a-z]:[A-Z] \mid [a-z \setminus ]:[a-z \setminus ] \mid <>:[ \setminus . \setminus :,;?!])*$$

- lower and upper case letters can be combined in a single range  $([a-za-z \ ]:[A-Za-z \ ] \ | <>:[ \ . \ ])*$
- a single symbol expands to an identity mapping: a ≡ a:a  $([a-z]:[A-Z] \mid [a-z \setminus ] \mid <>:[ \setminus . \setminus :,;?!])*$
- FSTs are a special case of FSAs

- FSTs are closed under union, inversion and composition
  - union (A|B): two FSTs are alternatives, they have to be processed in parallel
  - inversion (^\_T):  $\mathsf{T}^{-1}$  maps from  $\alpha$  to  $\beta$ , iff  $\mathsf{T}$  maps from  $\beta$  to  $\alpha$
  - composition (A || B): A  $\circ$  B maps  $\alpha$  to  $\gamma$ , iff A maps  $\alpha$  to some  $\beta$  and B maps  $\beta$  to  $\gamma$
- only some subclasses of FSTs are closed under difference, complementation, and intersection
  - problem case:  $\epsilon$ -pairs

- stipulation
  - input: lexical level
  - output: surface level
  - inline encoding: the lexical level is enriched with feature values
- feature values are specified as complex symbols:

```
<abc>, <Noun>, <sg>, <pl>
```

full enumeration of the alternatives:

```
frau <Noun>:<> <femin>:<> (<sg>:<> | <pl>:{en})
  frau ↔ frau<Noun><femin><sg>
 frauen ← frau<Noun><femin><pl>
```

partial specification with an implict default assumption (<sg>)

```
frau <Noun>:<> <femin>:<> (<pl>:{en})?
   frau ← frau<Noun><femin>
 frauen \leftrightarrow frau<Noun><femin><pl>
```

ambiguous feature assignments (version 1)

```
berg <Noun>:<> <masc>:<> \
     (<nom>:<> <sg>:<> | <dat>:<> <sg>:<> |\
      <acc>:<> <sg>:<> | <gen>:<> <sg>:es |\
      <nom>:<> <pl>:e | <gen>:<> <pl>:e | \
      <acc>:<> <pl>:e | <dat>:<> <pl>:en)</pr>
  berg \leftrightarrow berg < Noun > < masc > < nom > < sg >
             berg<Noun><masc><dat><sg>
             berg<Noun><masc><acc><sg>
 berge \leftrightarrow berg<Noun><masc><nom><pl>
             berg<Noun><masc><gen><pl>
             berg<Noun><masc><acc><pl>
```

- ambiguous feature assignment (version 2):
  - factoring out common features

```
berg <Noun>:<> <masc>:<>
     (<sg>:<> (([<nom><dat><acc>]:<>) | \
                 <gen>:{es}) |
      (<pl>:<> (([<nom><gen><acc>]:e) | \
                 <dat>:{en}) ) )
```

- ambiguous feature assignment (version 3):
  - mapping a sequence of complex symbols (instead of two separate ones) to the inflectional ending

```
berg <Noun>:<> <masc>:<> \
     ({<nom><sg>}:<> | {<dat><sg>}:<> |\
      {<acc><sg>}:<> | {<gen><sg>}:{es} |\
      {<nom><pl>}:e | {<gen><pl>}:e |\
      {\acc>\pl>}:e | {\dat>\pl>}:{en})
```

- ambiguous feature assignment (version 4):
  - combining two separate feature values into a single complex symbol
  - common mapping for a set of alternative feature combinations

```
berg <Noun>:<> <masc>:<> \
      ([<nom_sg><dat_sg><acc_sg>]:<> |\
       <gen_sg>:{es} |\
       [<nom_pl><gen_pl><acc_pl>]:e |\
       <dat_pl>:{en})
```

even more ambiguity: verb or noun?

```
berg <Noun>:<> <masc>:<> \
      ([<nom_sg><dat_sg><acc_sg>]:<> | <gen_sg>:{es} |\
       [<nom_pl><gen_pl><acc_pl>]:e | <dat_pl>:{en}) |\
berg <Verb>:<> \
     ([<inf><1st_pl><3rd_pl>]:{en} |\
      <1st_sg>:e | <2nd_pl>:t) |\
be:irg <Verb>:<> (<2nd_sg>:{st} | <3rd_sg>:t)
```

even more ambiguity: verb or noun?

```
bergen
            berg<Noun><masc><dat\_pl>
       \leftrightarrow
             berg<Verb><inf>
             berg<Verb><1st\_pl>
             berg<Verb><3rd\_pl>
 berge
        \leftrightarrow
            berg<Noun><masc><nom\_pl>
             berg<Noun><masc><gen\_pl>
             berg<Noun><masc><acc\_pl>
             berg<Verb><1st\_sg>
 birgst
       ↔ berg<Verb><2nd\_sg>
```

- generalizing into inflectional classes
  - variables can represent complete FSTs
  - they have to be bound ...

```
$Noun_masc_pl_e$ = zwerg | tisch | strich |\
                   mond | berg
```

... before they can be used

```
$Noun_masc_pl_e$ <Noun>:<> <masc>:<> \
      ([<nom_sg><dat_sg><acc_sg>]:<> |\
       <gen_sg>:{es} |\
       [<nom_pl><gen_pl><acc_pl>]:e |\
       <dat_pl>:{en})
```

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#### Deriving Features Non-Monotonically

• default reasoning with DATR

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# Categories

- major categories: N(oun), V(erb), A(djective), P(reposition)
  - sometimes represented as binary features:

|    | V+          | V-            |  |
|----|-------------|---------------|--|
| N+ | A(djective) | N(oun)        |  |
| N- | V(erb)      | P(reposition) |  |

major categories can become the head of a phrase:

VP. NP. AP. PP

 minor categories: Adv(erb), Det(erminer), Pro(noun), Rel(ative pronoun), Refl(exive pronoun), Conj(unction), ...

- often more fine grained categories are required
  - e.g. to describe possible contexts in which a word my appear
- subcategories of verbs

intransitive/unary cannot be complemented by objects

to sleep, to sit, ...

transitive/binary requires to be complemented by a direct object

to buy something, to call someone, ...

bitransitive/ternary requires two complementing objects

to give something to someone

 subcategorization might introduce additional ambiguity: intransitive/transitive?

```
he sings vs. he sings a song
er schläft vs. er schläft den Schlaf der Gerechten
```

• transitivity: the object takes the subject role if the verb appears in its passive form

```
to carry the bag \rightarrow the bag was carried
   to honor him \rightarrow he was honored
```

- other subcategorization requirements for verbs
  - case government:

accusative: etwas tragen dative: ihm drohen

genitive: seiner gedenken

prepositional complements
 [PP über etwas] aufregen
 [PP in sich] gehen

• clausal complements:

dass-sentences: er weiß/glaubt, dass es Ärger geben wird.

- subcategorization is affected by derivation
  - passive voice: direct object → subject
  - nominalization: direct object → prepositional phrase he discovered America → the discovery of America

#### subcategories can be

- atomic: V<sub>intrans</sub>, V<sub>trans</sub>, ...
- encoded as an additional (atomic) feature:

more flexible encoding by means of subcategorization lists

schlafen:
$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathsf{cat} & \mathsf{V} \\ \mathsf{subcat} & \mathsf{V} \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix}$$
tragen: $\begin{bmatrix} \mathsf{cat} & \mathsf{V} \\ \mathsf{subcat} & \mathsf{V} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathsf{cat} & \mathsf{NP} \\ \mathsf{case} & \mathsf{acc} \end{bmatrix} \rangle$ drohen: $\begin{bmatrix} \mathsf{cat} & \mathsf{V} \\ \mathsf{subcat} & \mathsf{V} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathsf{cat} & \mathsf{NP} \\ \mathsf{case} & \mathsf{dat} \end{bmatrix} \rangle$ geben: $\begin{bmatrix} \mathsf{cat} & \mathsf{V} \\ \mathsf{subcat} & \mathsf{V} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathsf{cat} & \mathsf{NP} \\ \mathsf{case} & \mathsf{dat} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathsf{cat} & \mathsf{NP} \\ \mathsf{case} & \mathsf{acc} \end{bmatrix} \rangle$ 

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graphical or phonological modification of morphemes

phonology: final devoicing, flapping, vowel lengthening,

schwa-epenthese

orthography: ablaut, schwa-epenthese

applications:

• text-to-speech synthesis

"intelligent" dictionary access (phonetically induced typos)
 entlich → endlich, Wände ↔ Wende, ...

- can be well described by means of finite state transducers
- different kinds of rules for the transformation of symbol strings available
- e.g. upward replacement/phonological rules (CHOMSKY AND HALLE 1968)
  - mapping from the lexical to the surface level
  - context conditions are only specified on the lexical level

- c: transducer, 1,r: FSAs for left/right context
- any character that is not specified on the lexical level of c is mapped according to the active ALPHABET

simple rule for schwa-epenthese

```
ALPHABET = [a-zäöüß\ ] \^:<> \^:e ^-> [dt]__[st]
```

- as a default the morpheme boundary ^ is deleted
- except it appears between d oder t on the left and s or t on the right side, then it is replaced by e

```
(er/ihr) \ bad^t \rightarrow badet

(du) \ bad^st \rightarrow badest

(er/ihr) \ leg^t \rightarrow legt

(du) \ leg^st \rightarrow legst
```

simple rule for schwa-epenthese

```
ALPHABET = [a-zäöüß\ ] \^:<>
\^:e ^-> [dt]__[st]
```

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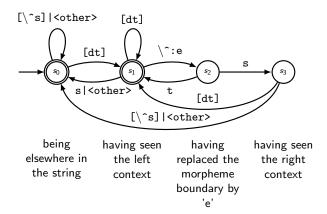
(du) \ bad^st \rightarrow badest

(er/ihr) \ leg^t \rightarrow legt

(du) \ leg^st \rightarrow legst
```

in welchen Fällen versagt die Modellierung?

every rule can be compiled into an FST



the FST as a transition table

|                       | d:d                   | t:t                   | ^:e                   | s:s                   | other                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>s</i> <sub>0</sub> | s <sub>1</sub>        | <i>s</i> <sub>1</sub> | _                     | <i>s</i> <sub>0</sub> | <i>s</i> <sub>0</sub> |
| <i>s</i> <sub>1</sub> | <i>s</i> <sub>1</sub> | <i>s</i> <sub>1</sub> | <i>s</i> <sub>2</sub> | <i>s</i> <sub>0</sub> | <i>s</i> <sub>0</sub> |
| <i>s</i> <sub>2</sub> | _                     | <i>s</i> <sub>1</sub> | _                     | <b>s</b> 3            | _                     |
| <i>5</i> 3            | <i>s</i> <sub>1</sub> | <i>s</i> <sub>1</sub> | _                     | <i>s</i> <sub>0</sub> | <i>s</i> <sub>0</sub> |

 the missing continuations make sure that schwa is only inserted in the proper contexts

alternative modelling with a two-level rule

(1) 
$$a \iff b (r)$$

- maps a to b in the context 1\_\_r
- ALPHABET needs to license all possible mappings

```
ALPHABET = [a-z\ äöüß] [\^]:[<>e] ([dt]) \^ <=> e([st])
```

- context conditions are specified with identity mappings
- as a default the morpheme boundary ^ is deleted
- in the contexts [dt]\_\_[st] the morpheme boundary ^ is replaced by e