

CHILDES, ESPRESSIONI REGOLARI E PC-KIMMO

Strumenti di analisi ed Espressioni Regolari per CHILDES

(1) Cos'è CHILDES?

Childes (Child Language Data Exchange System) è un archivio di trascrizioni spontanee di bambini (solitamente dai 14 mesi ai quattro anni di età) che interagiscono con adulti in varie situazioni. Generalmente ogni trascrizione si riferisce ad una conversazione di durata variabile dai 20 ai 60 minuti. Tali trascrizioni sono codificate secondo il formato standardizzato **CHAT** che prevede le seguenti convenzioni:

Obligatory Headers

@**Begin** marks the beginning of a file
@**End** marks the end of the file
@**ID**: code for a larger database
@**Participants**: lists actors in a file

Constant Headers

@**Age of XXX**: marks a speaker's age
@**Birth of XXX**: shows date of birth of speaker
@**Coder**: people doing transcription and coding
@**Coding**: version of CHAT coding
@**Education of XXX**: indicates educational level of speaker
@**Filename**: shows name of file
@**Font**: sets the default font for the file
@**Group of XXX**: indicates the subject's group in group studies
@**Language**: the principal language of the transcript
@**Language of XXX**: language(s) spoken by a given participant
@**SES of XXX**: indicates socioeconomic status of speaker
@**Sex of XXX**: indicates gender of speaker
@**Stim**: indicates stimulus for elicited production
@**Transcriber**: gives the transcriber's name or initials
@**Warning**: marks defects in file

Changeable Headers

@**Activities**: component activities in the situation
@**Bg** and @**Bg**: begin gem
@**Bck**: backgrounding information
@**Comment**: comments
@**Date**: date of the interaction
@**Eg** and @**Eg**: end gem
@**g**: simple gems
@**Location**: geographical location of the interaction
@**New Episode**: point at which a new episode begins and old one ends
@**Room Layout**: configuration of furniture in room
@**Situation**: general atmosphere of the interaction
@**Tape Location**: footage markers from tape
@**Time Duration**: beginning and end times
@**Time Start**: beginning time

Words

@ special form markers
xxx unintelligible speech, not treated as a word
xx unintelligible speech, treated as a word
yyy unintelligible speech transcribed on %pho line, not treated as a word
yy unintelligible speech transcribed on %pho line, treated as a word
www untranscribed material
0 actions without speech
& phonological fragment
[?] best guess
text(text)text noncompletion of a word
0word omitted word
0*word ungrammatical omission
00word (grammatical) ellipsis

Basic Utterance Terminators

. period
? question
! exclamation

Tone Unit Marking

-? rising final contour
-! final exclamation contour
-., falling final contour
-'. rise-fall final contour
-., fall-rise final contour
-, level nonfinal contour
-_ falling nonfinal contour
- low level contour
-' rising nonfinal contour
, syntactic juncture
,, tag question
pause between words
-: previous word lengthened

Prosody Within Words

/ stress
// accented nucleus
/// contrastive stress
: lengthened syllable
:: pause between syllables
^ blocking

Special Utterance Terminators

+... trailing off

+..? trailing off of a question
+! question with exclamation
+/. interruption
+/? interruption of a question
+// self-interruption

Scoped Symbols

·%**mov**: "0_1073" time alignment marker
[= **text**] paralinguistics, prosodics
[!] stressing
[!:] contrastive stressing
["] quotation marks
[= **text**] explanation
[: **text**] replacement
[0 **text**] omission
[:=x **text**] translation
[=? **text**] alternative transcription
[%**xxx**: **text**] dependent tier on main line
[% **text**] comment on main line
[\$**text**] code on main tier
[?] best guess
[>] overlap follows
[<] overlap precedes
<**text**> [<>] overlap follows and precedes
[>number][<number] overlap enumeration
[/] retracing without correction
word (*N) word repetition
[//] retracing with correction
[///] retracing with reformulation
[-] false start without retracing
[/?] unclear retrace type
[*] error marking
[+ **text**] postcode
[+ **bck**] excluded utterance
[+ **trn**] included utterance

Dependent Tiers

%**act**: actions
%**add**: addressee
%**alt**: alternative transcription
%**cod**: general purpose coding
%**coN**: additional general coding categories, co1, co2
%**coh**: cohesion tier
%**com**: comments by investigator
%**def**: codes from SALT

%**eng**: English translation
%**err**: error coding
%**exp**: explanation
%**fac**: facial actions
%**flo**: flowing version
%**gls**: target language gloss for unclear utterance
%**gpx**: gestural and proxemic activity
%**int**: intonation
%**lan**: language
%**mod**: model or target phonology
%**mor**: morphemic semantics
%**mov**: movie tier
%**par**: paralinguistics
%**pho**: phonetic transcription
%**sit**: situation
%**snd**: sonic CHAT sound tier
%**sps**: speech act coding
%**syn**: syntactic structure notation
%**ssy**: simple syntactic categories
%**tim**: time stamp coding

Dependent Tier Special Codes

\$ indicates codes
\$=N occurs for N following utterances
\$cc=N-M codes refer to words N through M on the main tier
<bef> occurrence before an utterance
<aft> occurrence after an utterance

Error Coding

\$= source of an error in the %err line
= placed between error and target
; separates errors on %err line

Morphosyntactic Coding

- suffix marker
prefix marker
+ compound or rote form marker
~ clitic marker
~# placed after separable prefix
~~ placed before second part of discontinuous morpheme
& fusion marker
= English translation for the stem
-0 omitted affix
-0* incorrectly omitted affix
| follows part-of-speech on %mor line
& nonconcatenated morpheme in %mor line
prefix delimiter on %mor line
+ (Plus) compound delimiter on %mor line
- (Dash) suffix delimiter on %mor line
: feature fusion on %mor line
~ (Tilde) clitic delimiter on %mor line
0 precedes omitted element
0* precedes incorrectly omitted element

(2) ecco un **breve esempio** di trascrizione:

```
@UTF8
@Begin
@Participants: CHI Cam Target_Child, DON Mother
@ID: it|romance|CHI|3;4.9|female|||Target_Child||
@ID: it|romance|DON|||Mother||
@Age of CHI: 3;4.9
@Sex of CHI: female
@Birth of CHI: 3-MAY-1988
@Date: 12-SEP-1991
@Filename: cx40
@Situation: registrazione seduta
*DON: ma non si sente # prima si registra, e dopo # ... come una cosa che
      prima si scrive, e dopo si legge .
%sit: come sempre, quando Camilla vede il registratore, le viene in mente
      di ascoltare le cassette, e vuole impossessarsene per premere i
tasti
*DON: ora bisogna registrarlo # adesso giochiamo un attimino, scusa !
*CHI: io io c'ho messo io ho preso quello che volevo .
*DON: quale volevi ?
*CHI: io volevo questo .
*DON: e e cosa quale, quello .
*CHI: ... un nastrino .
*DON: si ma cosa, che canzoni ci sono, sopra .
*CHI: non lo so .
*DON: come non lo sai ?
*CHI: la scuola della &scuo e &dimin .
%act: canticchia, inventando un po' le parole
*DON: ah@i !
*CHI: puffi.
[...]
```

(3) **come si usa CHILDES?**

Il sistema è corredato di un sistema di analisi chiamato **CLAN (Computerized Language Analysis)** che mette a disposizione dell'utente una serie di strumenti che permettono di effettuare varie operazioni:

CHAINS	Tracks sequences of interactional codes across speakers.
CHECK	Verifies the accuracy of CHAT conventions in files.
CHIP	Examines parent-child repetition and expansion.
CHSTRING	Changes words and characters in CHAT files.
COLUMNS	Reformats the transcripts into columnar form.
COMBO	Searches for complex string patterns.
COOCUR	Examines patterns of co-occurrence between words.
DATES	Uses the date and birthdate of the child to compute age.
DIST	Examines patterns of separation between speech act codes.
DSS	Computes the Developmental Sentence Score.
FLO	Reformats the file in simplified form.
FREQ	Computes the frequencies of the words in a file or files.
FREQMERG	Combines the outputs of various runs of FREQ.
FREQPOS	Tracks the frequencies in various utterance positions.
GEM	Finds areas of text that were marked with gem markers.
GEMFREQ	Computes frequencies for words inside gem markers.
GEMLIST	Lists the pattern of gem markers in a file or files.
KEYMAP	Lists the frequencies of codes that follow a target code.
KWAL	Searches for word patterns and prints the line.
MAKEDATA	Converts data formats for CHAT files across platforms.

MAKEMOD	Adds a %mod line for the target SAMPA phonology
MAXWD	Finds the longest words in a file.
MLT	Computes the mean length of turn.
MLU	Computes the mean length of utterance.
MODREP	Matches the child's phonology to the parental model.
MOR	Inserts a new tier with part-of-speech codes.
PHONFREQ	Computes the frequency of phonemes in various positions.
POST	Probabilistic disambiguator for the %mor line
POSTLIST	Displays the patterns learned by POSTTRAIN
POSTTRAIN	Trains the probabilistic network used by POST
RELY	Measures reliability across two transcriptions.
SALTIN	Converts SALT files to CHAT format.
STATFREQ	Formats the output of FREQ for statistical analysis.
TEXTIN	Converts straight text to CHAT format.
TIMEDUR	Uses the numbers in sonic bullets to compute overlaps.
VOCD	Computes the VOCD lexical diversity measure.
WDLEN	Computes the length of utterances in words.

(4) L'uso di **espressioni regolari**:

From "manual-entry: **GREP**" in Gnu Emacs 20.7.4.

REGULAR EXPRESSIONS

A regular expression is a pattern that describes a set of strings. Regular expressions are constructed analogously to arithmetic expressions, by using various operators to combine smaller expressions.

Grep understands two different versions of regular expression syntax: "basic" and "extended." In GNU grep, there is no difference in available functionality using either syntax. In other implementations, basic regular expressions are less powerful. The following description applies to extended regular expressions; differences for basic regular expressions are summarized afterwards.

The fundamental building blocks are the regular expressions that match a single character. Most characters, including all letters and digits, are regular expressions that match themselves. Any metacharacter with special meaning may be quoted by preceding it with a backslash.

A list of characters enclosed by [and] matches any single character in that list; if the first character of the list is the caret ^ then it matches any character not in the list. For example, the regular expression [0123456789] matches any single digit. A range of ASCII characters may be specified by giving the first and last characters, separated by a hyphen. Finally, certain named classes of characters are predefined. Their names are self explanatory, and they are:

[[:alnum:]], [[:alpha:]], [[:cntrl:]], [[:digit:]], [[:graph:]], [[:lower:]], [[:print:]], [[:punct:]], [[:space:]], [[:upper:]], and [[:xdigit:]].

For example, [[:alnum:]] means [0-9A-Za-z], except the latter form is dependent upon the ASCII character encoding, whereas the former is portable. (Note that the brackets in these class names are part of the symbolic names, and must be included in addition to the brackets delimiting the bracket list.)

Most metacharacters lose their special meaning inside lists.

To include a literal] place it first in the list. Similarly, to include a literal ^ place it anywhere but first. Finally, to include a literal - place it last.

The period . matches any single character. The symbol \w is a synonym for [[:alnum:]] and \W is a synonym for [^[:alnum:]].

The caret ^ and the dollar sign \$ are metacharacters that respectively match the empty string at the beginning and end of a line. The symbols \< and \> respectively match the empty string at the beginning and end of a word. The symbol \b matches the empty string at the edge of a word, and \B matches the empty string provided it's not at the edge of a word.

A regular expression may be followed by one of several repetition operators:

- ? The preceding item is optional and matched at most once.
- * The preceding item will be matched zero or more times.

Qualche osservazione da verificare

1. I bambini producono espressioni esclusivamente nominali all'inizio (es. *pappa*)
2. ... iperregolarizzano (es. *Mario ha corruto qua!*)
3. ... omettono gli articoli (es. *voglio bambola*)
4. ... producono root infinitives (es. *io mangiare!*)
5. ... è plausibile l'idea del troncamento (i bambini accettano strutture funzionali ridotte)
6. ... sbagliano/omettono gli ausiliari (es. *ho caduto*)
7. ... usano gli imperfetti in senso modale (es. *tu eri la regina io il re*)
8. ... usano i modali in modo deontico prima che in modo epistemico (es. *devi andare via!* (vai via!) Vs. *deve essere qua* (penso che sia qua))
9. ... usano molti imperativi (es. *mangia!*)
10. ... omettono le copule (es. *Marco felice*)
11. ... usano aggettivi sia in posizione prenomiale che postnominale (es. *la bella rosa* Vs. *la rosa bella*)

Analisi morfologica con PC-Kimmo

WHAT IS PC-KIMMO?

PC-KIMMO is a new implementation for microcomputers of a program dubbed KIMMO after its inventor Kimmo Koskenniemi (see Koskenniemi 1983). It is of interest to computational linguists, descriptive linguists, and those developing natural language processing systems. The program is designed to generate (produce) and/or recognize (parse) words using a two-level model of word structure in which a word is represented as a correspondence between its lexical level form and its surface level form.

Work on PC-KIMMO began in 1985, following the specifications of the LISP implementation of Koskenniemi's model described in Karttunen 1983. The coding has been done in Microsoft C by David Smith and Stephen McConnel under the direction of Gary Simons and under the auspices of the Summer Institute of Linguistics. The aim was to develop a version of the two-level processor that would run on an IBM PC compatible computer and that would include an environment for testing and debugging a linguistic description. The PC-KIMMO program is actually a shell program that serves as an interactive user interface to the primitive PC-KIMMO functions. These functions are available as a C-language source code library that can be included in a program written by the user.

A PC-KIMMO description of a language consists of two files provided by the user: a **rules** file, which specifies the alphabet and the phonological (or spelling) rules, and a **lexicon** file, which lists lexical items (words and morphemes) and their glosses, and encodes morphotactic constraints.

The theoretical model of phonology embodied in PC-KIMMO is called **two-level phonology**. In the two-level approach, phonological alternations are treated as direct correspondences between the underlying (or lexical) representation of words and their realization on the surface level. For example, to account for the rules of English spelling, the surface form *spies* must be related to its lexical form *`spy+s* as follows (where ` indicates stress, + indicates a morpheme boundary, and 0 indicates a null element):

Lexical Representation: ` s p y + 0 s
Surface Representation: 0 s p i 0 e s

Rules must be written to account for the special correspondences `:0, y:i, +:0, and 0:e. For example, the two-level rule for the y:i correspondence looks like this (somewhat simplified):

y:i => @:C__+:0

Notice that the environment of the rule is also specified as a string of two-level correspondences. Because two-level rules have access to both underlying and surface environments, interactions among rules can be handled without using sequential rule ordering. All of the rules in a two-level description are applied simultaneously, thus avoiding the creation of intermediate levels of derivation (an artifact of sequentially applied rules).

The two functional components of PC-KIMMO are the generator and the recognizer. The generator accepts as input a lexical form, applies the phonological rules, and returns the corresponding surface form. It does not use the lexicon. The recognizer accepts as input a surface form, applies the phonological rules, consults the lexicon, and returns the corresponding lexical form with its gloss. Figure 1 shows the main components of the PC-KIMMO system.

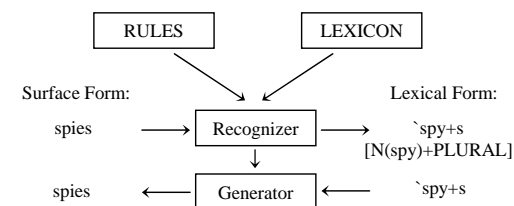


Figure 1: Main components of PC-KIMMO

The rules and lexicon are implemented computationally using finite state machines. For example, the two-level rule shown above for the y:i correspondence must be translated into the following finite state table for PC-KIMMO to use:

