

# ***FLEXTrans Rule Generator* User Documentation**

**UNDER CONSTRUCTION!**

*H. Andrew Black*

*SIL International*

blackhandrew@gmail.com

20 October, 2023

Copyright © 2023 SIL International

## **Contents**

1	Introduction . . . . .	1
1.1	Installation . . . . .	2
1.2	Invoking <i>FLEXTrans Rule Generator</i> from within <i>FLEX</i> . . . . .	2
1.3	Appearance . . . . .	2
2	Restarting <i>FLEXTrans Rule Generator</i> . . . . .	3
3	Error messages . . . . .	3
4	Known problems . . . . .	3
5	Support . . . . .	4

## **1 Introduction**

*FLEXTrans Rule Generator* is a tool that works as a utility in *FieldWorks Language Explorer* (aka *FLEX*). *FLEXTrans Rule Generator* allows you to define operations on a form in an entry to produce new Stem Allomorphs in the entry of the matching form. You can use what is in the Citation Form, Lexeme Form, or in the first Etymology Source form for what to match on. It is possible to use a custom field, too. *FLEXTrans Rule Generator* defaults to using the Citation Form.

*FLEXTrans Rule Generator* works with version 9.1.18 Beta or higher of *FLEX* and is only available on 64-bit Windows computers.

Each operation defined in *FLEXTrans Rule Generator* describes a pattern that is used to match the indicated kind of form in the *FLEX* database. There also is a set of actions that are to be applied to each such form. The result of the action will produce a new Stem Allomorph in that entry.

## 1.1 Installation

To install *FLEXTrans Rule Generator*, obtain the installer from <https://github.com/sillsdev/FLEXAllomorphGenerator/blob/master/Installer/Output/AllomorphGeneratorDllSetup.exe>. The installer will check to see if you have installed *FieldWorks Language Explorer* version 9. If not, it will abort.

We recommend that you close *FieldWorks Language Explorer* before running the *FLEXTrans Rule Generator* installer.

## 1.2 Invoking *FLEXTrans Rule Generator* from within *FLEX*

While running *FLEX*, use **Tools** menu item / **Utilities....** Find the “Allomorph Generator” item, check it, and then click on the “Run Checked Utilities Now” button.

## 1.3 Appearance

*FLEXTrans Rule Generator* looks something like what is shown in (1).

(1)

The top portion shows the file containing the allomorph generation operations. Below it are three tabs, one for editing the operations, one for running them, and one for editing the master list of replace operations. See section for information on using the Edit Operations tab. In one project, the Run Operations tab looks like what is in (2).

(2)

This tab is explained in section below. In this same project, the Edit Replace Operations tab looks like what is in (3).

(3)

This tab is explained in section below.

The “Create New File” button is used to create a new file containing a new set of operations. When saving an *FLEXTrans Rule Generator* file, I suggest you put it in a folder under the “My FieldWorks” directory in your “Documents” folder.

The “Browse” button is used to select an operations file. *FLEXTrans Rule Generator* files by convention have an extension of “.agf” and this is what the file browser uses.

The “Help” button is used to get this user documentation file or to show the “About” dialog box.

## 2 Restarting *FLEXTrans Rule Generator*

Whenever you exit and restart *FLEXTrans Rule Generator*, it will do the following:

1. remember its window size, location, and layout;
2. remember which *FLEXTrans Rule Generator* file you last chose;
3. remember which tab you last selected;
4. remember which operation you last selected for each tab.

## 3 Error messages

In certain situations, *FLEXTrans Rule Generator* will issue an error message.

Table 1 lists the errors *FLEXTrans Rule Generator* reports along with a brief description of what the error might mean.

Error	Meaning
The category ' <i>category name</i> ' was not found in the FLEX database	The indicated category is no longer found in the <i>FLEX</i> project. Try to change it to one that is now present. This can appear when setting a Stem Name in an action.
No operations are selected, so there's nothing to do	This is shown when the “Apply Checked Operations” button is pressed but no operations have been checked. Try checking at least one operation.
The environment ' <i>environment</i> ' is no longer found. Please fix it in operation ' <i>operation name</i> '.	The indicated environment is no longer in the <i>FLEX</i> project. You will need to fix it in the indicated operation.
The stem name ' <i>stem name</i> ' is no longer found. Please fix it in operation ' <i>operation name</i> '.	The indicated Stem Name is no longer in the <i>FLEX</i> project. You will need to fix it in the indicated operation.

**Table 1:** *Error messages*

If you get an error message not in the list above, please report it. See section 5.

## 4 Known problems

The following items are known to be less than desirable with this version of *FLEXTrans Rule Generator*:

1. *FLExTrans Rule Generator* only works with version 9.1.18 Beta or higher of *FLEx*.
2. The user interface is in English only.
3. When you start *FLExTrans Rule Generator*, if *FLEx* is showing as full screen, you may not see the *FLExTrans Rule Generator* dialog. You may have to either make *FLEx* be in its “Restore” mode or find the *FLExTrans Rule Generator* dialog and move it to another screen.
4. Whenever you upgrade your version of *FLEx*, you may have to re-install *FLEx-Trans Rule Generator*. In particular, the “Allomorph Generator” item under **Tools** menu item / **Utilities...** may not show.

## 5 Support

If you have any questions with *FLExTrans Rule Generator* or find bugs in it, please send an email to [blackhandrew@gmail.com](mailto:blackhandrew@gmail.com).