

ISMLA Session 5 - UIMA

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Plan

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- 2 Approach
- 3 Code examples
 - Porting AEs to uimaFIT
 - Running an AE
 - Porting a Collection Reader
 - Porting a CAS Consumer
 - JCasUtil
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Flashback: First UIMA Session

UIMA Component Definition

most UIMA components consists of two parts:

- ① XML descriptor
- ② Java² code

→ modular, reusable, self-descriptive components

²for this seminar

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advantages:

- explicit standoff description of Java code for reusable, documented components
- non-developers can develop pipelines/AAEs by only referring to the descriptor file
- clear division of labour: component description vs. application logic
- separate GUIs for user-friendly assembly of components

disadvantages:

- synchronization of code and descriptor necessary
- certain information encoded twice, e.g. configuration parameter name
- descriptors needed for every variant of a parameter, e.g. testing numerical values in an interval
- refactoring code potentially difficult
- at least two files for one component doubles project size

Approach

- uimaFIT approach: only write Java code, no descriptors
- XML descriptor files and external tools (e.g. DocumentAnalyzer) replaced by programmatic solutions
- ability to dynamically work with components without (static) descriptor files

Approach

the following information is based on the developer documentation of uimaFIT¹

two main design goals of uimaFIT:

- ① simpler implementation of components
- ② simpler instantiation/running/testing of components

essentially the information from XML descriptors and external tools is expressed in Java objects

¹[https:](https://uima.apache.org/d/uimafit-current/tools.uimafit.book.html)

[//uima.apache.org/d/uimafit-current/tools.uimafit.book.html](https://uima.apache.org/d/uimafit-current/tools.uimafit.book.html)

Integration of uimaFIT

add the following dependency to your pom.xml:

artifact id	uimafit-core
group id	org.apache.uima
version	2.3.0

Different scenarios:

- 1 porting existing code to uimaFIT
- 2 simplifying UIMA code with utilities
- 3 implementing new components directly in uimaFIT

Porting an AE to uimaFIT

Step 1: parent class

change the annotator's parent class from

`org.apache.uima.analysis_component.JCasAnnotator_ImplBase`
to

`org.apache.uima.fit.component.JCasAnnotator_ImplBase`

Porting an AE to uimaFIT

Step 2: configuration parameters

change the config param initialization from

```
(String)
```

```
aContext.getConfigParameterValue("modelLocation");
```

to

```
public static final String PARAM_MODEL_LOCATION =  
"modelLocation";
```

```
@ConfigurationParameter(name = PARAM_MODEL_LOCATION,  
defaultValue="en-sent.bin",
```

```
description="the path to the sentence detector file")
```

```
private String modelLocation;
```

Porting an AE to uimaFIT

configuration parameters

- configuration parameters are assumed to be mandatory unless a `mandatory=false` field in the annotation is present
- values are automatically cast and injected into the non-final fields
- by convention every final declaration of a parameter name starts with `PARAM_`

Porting an AE to uimaFIT

Step 3: code simplification

check whether the code can be simplified via JCasUtils (see sub section 5)

Demonstration

Porting the sentence detector wrapper to uimaFIT

Running a uimaFIT pipeline

```
// create type system
```

```
TypeSystemDescription tsd = TypeSystemDescriptionFactory  
.createTypeSystemDescription("src/main/resources/TypeSystem");
```

```
// create analysis engine
```

```
AnalysisEngine ae = AnalysisEngineFactory.createEngine(  
SentenceDetectorFit.class, tsd,  
SentenceDetectorFit.PARAM_MODEL_LOCATION, "en-sent.bin");
```

```
// create JCas for testing
```

```
JCas jcas = JCasFactory.createJCas(tsd);  
jcas.setDocumentLanguage("en");  
jcas.setDocumentText(input);
```

```
// run analysis engine
```

```
ae.process(jcas);
```

- JCas can have different “views” / “Sofas”², i.e. perspectives on a document
- Example:
 - parallel corpus
 - same content expressed in different languages
 - one view for each language variant of a specific text
- Example:
 - content in multiple modalities
 - one view for video, one for text

²Subject of Analysis

- every JCas defines default view `_InitialView`
- attention: the `process` method of AEs when not specified differently always operates on `_InitialView`

view reference: https://uima.apache.org/d/uimaj-2.4.0/tutorials_and_users_guides.html#ugr.tug.aas

Defining views in Collection Reader:

```
getNext(JCas jcas){  
    JCas targetAnswer = jcas.createView("targetAnswer");  
    targetAnswer.setDocumentLanguage(langCode);  
    targetAnswer.setDocumentText(...)  
  
    JCas studentAnswer = jcas.createView("studentAnswer")  
    ...  
    ...  
}
```

Views

Processing different views:

```
...
String sofas[] = { "targetAnswer", "studentAnswer" };
AggregateBuilder builder = new AggregateBuilder();

for (String sofa : sofas) {

    AnalysisEngineDescription tokenizer =
        createEngineDescription(Tokenizer.class);
    builder.add(tokenizer, "_InitialView", sofa);
    ...
}

AnalysisEngine sofaAggregate = builder.createAggregate();
...
SimplePipeline.runPipeline(reader, sofaAggregate, consumer);
```

Porting a Collection Reader

- 1 parent class:
`org.apache.uima.fit.component.CasCollectionReader_ImplBase`
- 2 initialize with additional argument `UIMAContext`
- 3 config parameters like for AE

Porting a CAS Consumer

- 1 parent class:
`org.apache.uima.fit.component.JCasAnnotator_ImplBase`
i.e. consumers are AEs with uimaFIT !
- 2 cf. AE port instructions

SimplePipeline

```
TypeSystemDescription tsd = TypeSystemDescriptionFactory
    .createTypeSystemDescription("src/main/resources/TypeSystem");

CollectionReaderDescription reader =
    CollectionReaderFactory.createReaderDescription(
        RecursiveFileReaderFit.class, tsd, RecursiveFileReaderFit.PARAM_
        RecursiveFileReaderFit.PARAM_LANG, "en");

AnalysisEngineDescription sent =
    AnalysisEngineFactory.createEngineDescription(SentenceDetector
        SentenceDetectorFit.PARAM_MODEL_LOCATION, "en-sent.bin");

AnalysisEngineDescription consumer = AnalysisEngineFactory.create
    TableConsumerFit.PARAM_OUTPUT_DIR, outputDir);

SimplePipeline.runPipeline(reader, sent, consumer);
```

replace

```
Iterator sentIter = arg0.getAnnotationIndex(Sentence.type)
    .iterator();
```

```
while (sentIter.hasNext()) {
    Sentence sent = (Sentence) sentIter.next();
```

by

```
for (Sentence sent : JCasUtil.select(arg0, Sentence.class)) {
```

replace

```
Iterator tokenIter = arg0.getAnnotationIndex(Token.type).iterator();
```

```
while (tokenIter.hasNext()) {
    Token token = (Token) tokenIter.next();
    if (token.getBegin() >= sent.getBegin()
        && token.getEnd() <= sent.getEnd()) {
```

by

```
for (Token token : JCasUtil.selectCovered(Token.class, sent))
```


method	fetches
<code>select(cas, type)</code>	all annotations of this type
<code>selectAll(cas)</code>	all annotations
<code>selectCovered(type, annotation)</code>	all annotations “below” another annotation
<code>selectPreceding(type, annotation, n)</code>	maximally n preceding annotations of this type

full list: <https://uima.apache.org/d/uimafit-current/tools.uimafit.book.html#ugr.tools.uimafit.casutil>

- exercises for porting UIMA components to uimaFIT and assembling pipelines
- see handout

References

parts of the slides are based on the official documentation found under

<https://uima.apache.org/uimafit.html>

and

<https://uima.apache.org/d/uimafit-current/tools.uimafit.book.html>

(last accessed 2017-11-14)

the official uimaFIT article is [Ogren and Bethard, 2009]

Philip Ogren and Steven Bethard. Building test suites for UIMA components. In *Proceedings of the Workshop on Software Engineering, Testing, and Quality Assurance for Natural Language Processing (SETQA-NLP 2009)*, pages 1–4, Boulder, Colorado, June 2009. Association for Computational Linguistics. URL <https://www.aclweb.org/anthology/W/W09/W09-1501>.