Designing finite-state morphological transducers for Kypchak languages

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- Turkic languages (SOV, agglutinative, vowel harmony)

	Kyrgyz /qɯrɣɯz/	Kazakh /qazaq/	Tatar /tʊtar/	Kumyk /qumuq/
classification	Eastern	Southern	Northern	Western
population of speakers				
number	3M	8M-12M	5.4M	430K
primary	Kyrgyzstan	Kazakhstan	Tatarstan	Dagestan
secondary	China, etc.	China, Mongolia	Bashqortostan	—
external influences				
Mongolic	moderate	moderate	light	light
Oghuz	—	—	light	moderate
Persian	heavy	heavy	heavy	heavy
Russian	heavy	heavy	heavy	heavy

Morphological transducers

- Take a surface form, and produce valid lexical form(s)
- Take a lexical form, and produce valid surface form(s)

‘алдым’ ↔ `ал<v><tv><ifi><p1><sg>, алд<n><px1sg><nom>`

Transducers for Turkic languages

- Turkish (Çöltekin, 2010 & 2014; Oflazer, 1994)
- Crimean Tatar (Altıntaş, 2001)
- Turkmen (Tantuğ et al., 2006)
- Kazakh (Бекманова & Махимов, 2013)
- our Kyrgyz, Kazakh, Tatar, Kumyk: all GPL (=free and open)!

Framework: HFST

- Reimplements Xerox FST formalisms (`lexc` & `twol`)
- Also provides a wrapper around popular free/open-source FST toolkits: SFST, OpenFST, and Foma

- Part of Apertium Turkic project: `http://wiki.apertium.org/wiki/Apertium_Turkic`
- Transducers available live at `turkic.apertium.org`
- Source code available from apertium’s svn repo
- Turkic RBMT mailing list (>25 subscribers): `apertium-turkic@lists.sourceforge.net` Feel free to post in any language!
- See our papers in LREC proceedings (2012: Kyrgyz, 2014: Kazakh, Tatar, Kumyk)
- And feel free to contact the authors any time!

Gloss

(1) Кудай Өзү жараткандыгын баарына карап, өтө жакшы экенин көрдү.
Құдай Өзінің жаратқандығының бәріне қарап, өте жақсы екенін көрді.
Аллаһ Үзе яраткан нәрсәләргә карап, аларның бик яхшы икәнен күрде.
Аллагъ Оьзю яратгъан затлагъа къарап, олар бек яхшы экенин гёрген.
God own-his created [everything/thing-s]-to looked.at, they/their very good being saw.

‘*God looked at everything he had created and saw that it was very good.*’ (Bible, Genesis 1:31)

Output

Kyrgyz (kir)

```
Кудай Өзү жаратканынын баарына карап, өтө жакшы экенин көрдү.
```

```
Кудай<n><nom>
Өз<prn><ref><px3sp><nom>
жарат<vv><tv><ger_past><px3sp><gen>
баары<prn><qnt><px3sp><dat>
кара<v><tv><gna_perf>
,<cm>
—
өтө<adv>
жакшы<adj>
э<cop><ger_past><px3sp><acc>
көр<v><tv><ifi><p3><sg>
.<sent>
```

Kazakh (kaz)

```
Құдай Өзінің жаратқандарының бәріне қарап, өте жақсы екенін көрді.
```

```
Құдай<n><nom>
Өз<prn><ref><px3sp><gen>
жарат<vv><tv><ger_past><pl><px3sp><gen>
бәрі<prn><qnt><px3sp><dat>
қара<v><tv><gna_perf>
,<cm>
—
өте<adv>
жақсы<adj>
е<cop><ger_past><px3sp><acc>
көр<v><tv><ifi><p3><sg>
.<sent>
```

Tatar (tat)

```
Аллаһ Үзе яраткан нәрсәләргә карап, аларның бик яхшы икәнен күрде.
```

```
Аллаһ<n><nom>
Үз<prn><ref><px3sp><nom>
ярат<vv><tv><ger_past>
нәрсә<n><pl><dat>
кара<v><tv><gna_perf>
,<cm>
алар<prn><pers><p3><pl><gen>
бик<adv>
яхшы<adj>
и<cop><ger_past><px3sp><acc>
күр<v><tv><past><p3><sg>
.<sent>
```

Kumyk (kum)

```
Аллагъ Оьзю яратгъан затлагъа къарап, олар бек яхшы экенин гёрген.
```

```
Аллагъ<n><nom>
Оьз<prn><ref><px3sp><nom>
ярат<vv><tv><ger_past>
зат<n><pl><dat>
къара<v><tv><gna_perf>
,<cm>
олар<prn><pers><p3><pl><nom>
бек<adv>
яхшы<adj>
э<cop><ger_past><px3sp><acc>
гёр<vv><tv><past><p3><sg>
.<sent>
```

Tagset

`<n>`	Noun	`<iv>`	Intransitive	`<nom>`	‘Nominative’	`<sent>`	Sentence
`<v>`	Verb	`<tv>`	Transitive	`<gen>`	Genitive	`<past>`	Past (General)
`<prn>`	Pronoun	`<p3>`	Third person	`<acc>`	Accusative	`<ifi>`	Past (Eyewitness/Recent)
`<det>`	Determiner	`<pl>`	Plural	`<dat>`	Dative		
`<adj>`	Adjective	`<ref>`	Reflexive	`<qnt>`	Quantifier	`<px3sp>`	3rd person poss. (Singular/Plural)
`<adv>`	Adverb	`<pers>`	Personal	`<cm>`	Comma		

`<gna_perf>`	Verbal adverb (Perfect)		
`<gpr_past>`	Verbal adjective (Past)		
`<ger_past>`	Verbal noun (Past)		

- Example: morphologically distinct adjective classes (not documented elsewhere)
- Other Turkic transducers: `0`-derivation (overgenerates)
- Our approach: categorisation (generates/analyses only correct forms)

Type	Gloss	`<adj>(<comp>)`	`<adj>(<comp>)<subst>`	`<adj>(<comp>)<advl>`
A1	‘*good*’	яхшы (яхшырак)	яхшы (яхшырак)	яхшы (яхшырак)
A2	‘*old*’	иске (искерәк)	иске (искерәк)	— (—)
A3	‘*dead*’	үле (—)	үле (—)	— (—)
A4	‘*basic*’	төп (—)	— (—)	— (—)

Ambiguous characters

- Have front- and back-vowel readings in native words

	letters	values	examples
kaz	и, у, ю	/ə j, əw, jəw/ /ɘj, ɘw, jɘw/	қиюда ‘*chopping down*’ киюде ‘*getting dressed*’
tat	е	э / C _ /j/+ы /j/+ə	дәресләр ‘*lessons*’ еллар ‘*years*’ егетләр ‘*boys*’
kum	ё, ю	/ø, y/ / C _ /jø, jy/ /jo, ju/	гюнлер ‘*days*’ гёзлер ‘*eyes*’ юреклер ‘*hearts*’ ёнкюлер ‘*darlings*’ юлдузлар ‘*stars*’ ёллар ‘*roads*’

- solution: hairy `twol` rules cover majority of examples
- unaccounted-for words get a harmony-forcing character
- adjust rules for harmony-forcing characters

Loanwords

- Letters that represent front vowels in native words may represent “back” vowels in Russian words

	native word example	Russian word example
kaz	елдің ‘*country*’s’	Назарбаевтың ‘*Nazarbayev*’s’
tat	галимнәр ‘*scientists*’	артистлар ‘*artists*’
kum	сёзлер ‘*words*’	самолётлар ‘*airplanes*’

- solution: separate continuation lexicon (messy rules)

```
LEXICON N1-RUS
:%{а%} N1 ;

LEXICON Nouns
артист:артист N1-RUS ; !  ”artist”
галим:галим N1 ; !  ”scientist”
```

Acronyms and numerals

- `twol` rules handle phonology for spelt-out words

Number of stems

Part of speech	Number of stems			
	Kyrgyz	Kazakh	Tatar	Kumyk
Noun	4582	2640	2795	2568
Verb	1193	1470	1143	386
Adjective	1211	754	816	219
Proper noun	5887	5701	5361	1443
Adverb	312	171	177	63
Numeral	66	63	63	44
Conjunction	77	46	45	13
Postposition	50	50	43	12
Pronoun	51	32	28	17
Determiner	64		39	34
Total:	13749	11224	10737	4845

Test corpora

	Wikipedia	News	Religion
Kyrgyz	Wikipedia	azattyk.org	Quran + Bible
Kazakh	Wikipedia	azattyq.org	Quran + Bible
Tatar	Wikipedia	tat.tatar-inform.ru	Quran + New Testament
Kumyk	—	yoldash.etnosmi.ru	Genesis + New Testament

Evaluation measures

- **Naïve coverage** - percentage of surface forms in a given corpus receiving ≥ 1 analysis
- **Mean ambiguity** - average number of analyses for each surface form found in analysed corpus
- **Precision** - of a form’s analyses, % correct
- **Recall** - % of analyses provided by transducer that are correct for a form, by comparing against a gold standard

Evaluation results

	Corpus	Tokens	Coverage (%)	Amb.
Kyrgyz	Wikipedia	M	±	
			±	
(r54474)	Average		±	
Kazakh	Wikipedia	25.6M	85.61 ± 1.37	2.43
	News	3.8M	92.12 ± 2.72	2.88
	Religion	851K	92.49 ± 1.66	2.63
(r50547)	Average		90.07 ± 1.91	2.64
Tatar	Wikipedia	159K	86.35 ± 2.17	2.24
	News	5.2M	89.75 ± 0.07	2.30
	Religion	382K	91.25 ± 2.55	2.24
(r50260)	Average		89.12 ± 1.60	2.26
Kumyk	News	286K	91.10 ± 0.86	1.53
	Religion	227K	92.47 ± 1.03	1.53
(r50300)	Average		91.78 ± 0.94	1.53

- selected & proofed unique random surface forms from news corpora

Language	Forms	Precision (%)	Recall (%)
Kazakh	1000	98.61	57.98
Tatar	1000	95.03	85.65
Kumyk	500	96.57	69.11

- Disambiguation, more stems
- Clean up Kyrgyz transducer
- Machine translation between these languages
- Bring our other Kypchak transducers to comparable performance: Qaraqalpaq, Bashqort, Nogay, Crimean Tatar
- Other Turkic lgs.: Uzbek, Uyghur, Chuvash, Yakut, Tuvan, etc.