Q3.5 Limitations

There are still lots of sentences, even ones similar to those given in the handout, that my parser cannot accept or reject correctly due to the limitations. First of all, I was not asked to implement subject-verb agreement. In this case, “Nadia have left” will be accepted because it is the same thing as “Nadia has left” base on my existing grammar. However, this should be rejected in English and it is a case in Overgen.

For the Verbs with the Adverbs, we have both cases of adverbs in front of a verb and adverbs after the verbs in English. In order to consider both cases, I have rules which would allow both cases. But my rule is not preventing both cases happens at the same time. For example, “I immediately left immediately”. This is not grammatically correct and should be rejected in real life English, but due to the limitation of my grammar, my parser accepted this sentence.

For the Nouns, I separated Nouns base on mass and consonants and whether first letter is vowel. This can handle the cases of adding the Det “a”, “an” or nothing in front of the Noun. However, there are way more subcategories for Nouns in English. For example, in the agreement of Monotransitive Verbs – Object Nouns, not all Object Nouns can attach with every monotransitive verbs. “I ate menu” is a sentence will be accepted by my parser since it is grammatically correct but the content makes no sense at all in English. Another example, “I helped of the fur”. This is also not enough subcategories and lack to agreements between verbs and PP/P.

For Undergen example, “I eat egg” was rejected by my parser. However this sentence is grammatically correct and it means I have a habit of eating egg. This got rejected due to the lack of present tense agreement in my parser.

Also for the Adverb cases we mentioned above, my parser also have the limitation that no grammar cover the case when an Adverb appear at the beginning of a sentence itself. An example will be “immediately I believed Nadia”. This Adverb “immediately” is describing the Verb “believed” and it appeared in front of the whole Verb Phase ”I believed Nadia”.

My test strategy is to recall sentence we use in daily life and play around the order of VP NP and PP to see if any cases are not covered in my grammar.