Rules of Realization and Rules of Referral: A View from Construction Morphology

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The most widely practiced approach to word-and-paradigm morphology today is probably Construction Morphology (CxM). This is the framework for Haspelmath & Sims (2010)[1] as well as a lot of other recent work in the area.

[1]

The fundamental idea of CxG is that words are signs (like in IA morphology). However, signs are not necessarily compositional combinations of smaller signs. Constructions are like rules or schemas that combine smaller signs into bigger signs (sometimes in non-compositional ways). These signs exists and different levels of abstraction. Concrete words are constructions (instances of a more abstract construction). Constructions themselves may be instances of more abstract (or general) constructions.
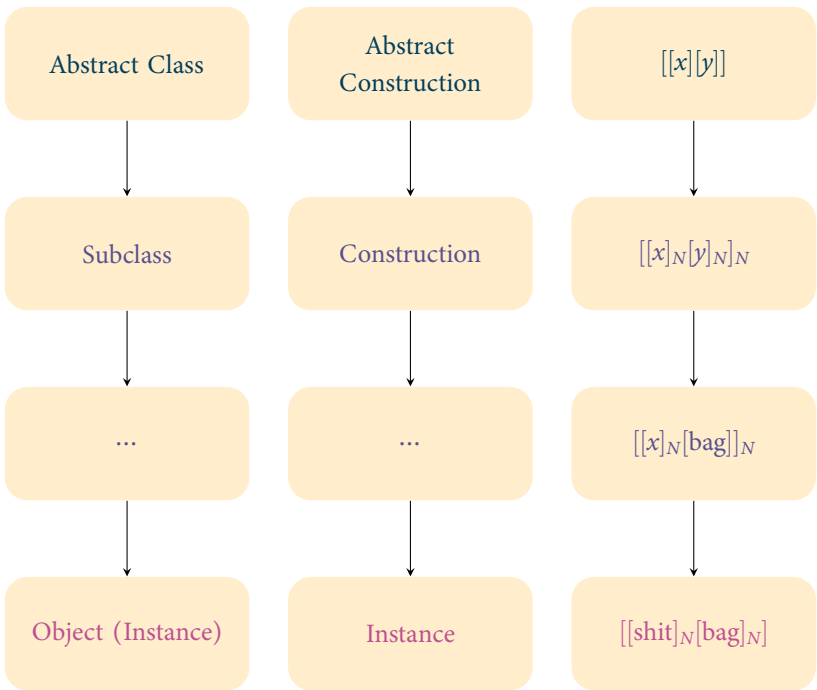

Figure 1: Comparison of Object Oriented Programming and Construction Grammar

Abstract Class	Abstract Construction	$[[x][y]]$
Subclass	Construction	$[[x]_N[y]_N]_N$
...	...	$[[x]_N[\text{bag}]]_N$
Object (Instance)	Instance	$[[\text{shit}]_N[\text{bag}]_N]$

References