

Unit 3

Morphology and Finite-State Transducers

Morphology

- Study of Words

- Their **internal structure**

washing → wash + -ing

- How they are **formed**?

bat	→	bats	∴	rat	→	rats
write	→	writer	∴	browse	→	browser

- Morphology tries to formulate rules

What is Morphology

- **Morph** = form or shape, **ology** = study of
- Morphology is the study of the way words are built up from smaller meaning-bearing units, ***morphemes***.
- A morpheme is often defined as the **minimal meaning-bearing unit in a language**.

Example:

Singular	Plural
Fox	Foxes
Peccary	Peccaries
Goose	Geese
Fish	Fish

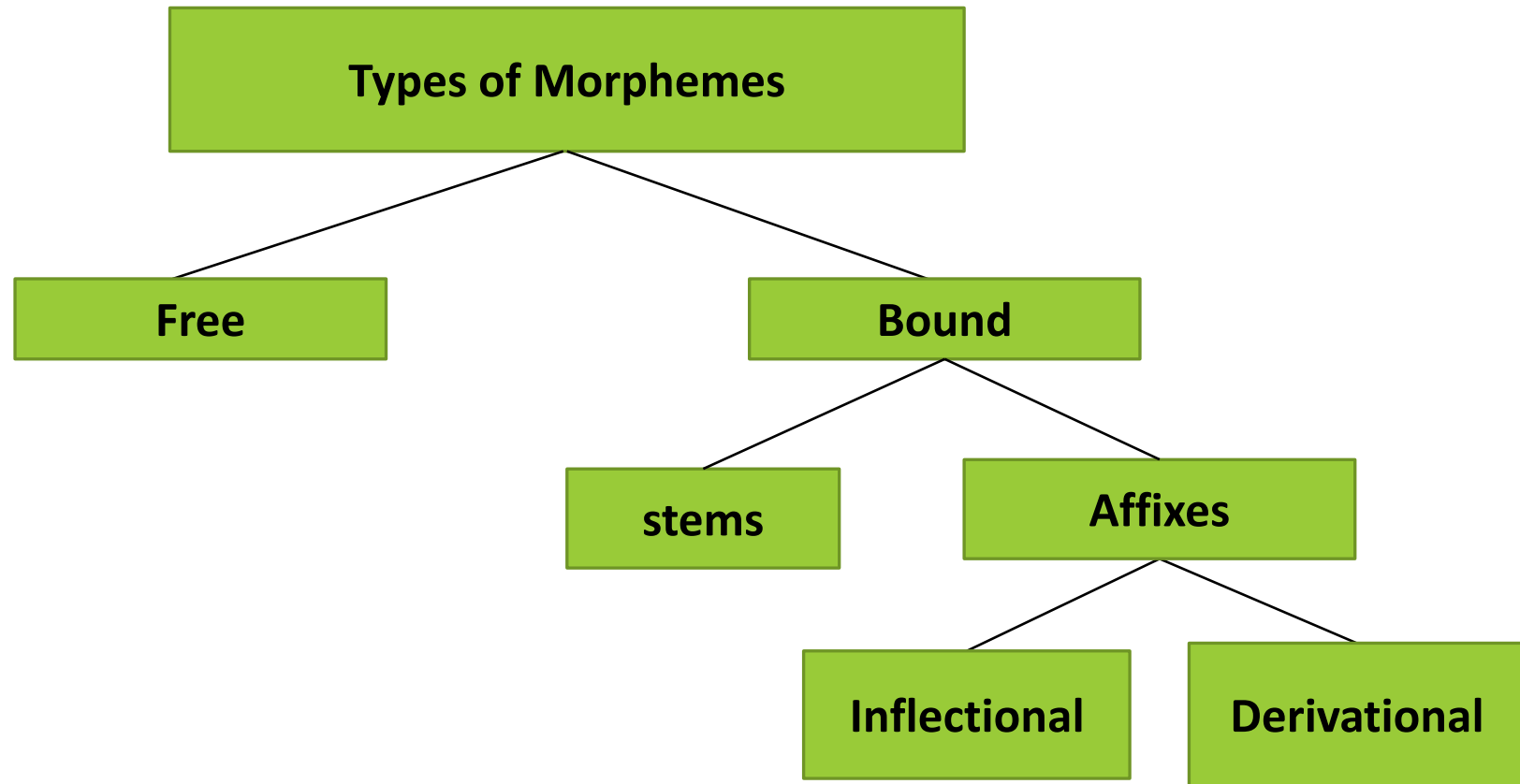
- The word **fox** consists of a single morpheme (the morpheme fox)
- The word **cats** consists of two: the morpheme **cat** and the morpheme **-s**

Morphological Parsing

*The problem of recognizing that **foxes** break down into two morphemes **fox** and **-es** is called **morphological parsing***

- **Parsing** means taking an input and producing some sort of structure for it
- In information retrieval domain, the similar problem of mapping from **foxes** to **fox** is called **stemming**
- It takes two kinds of knowledge to correctly search for singulars and plurals of these forms:
 - **Spelling rules** : tells that English words ending in **-y** are pluralized by changing the **-y** to **-i** and adding an **-es**.
 - **Morphological rules** : tells that **fish** has null plural, and the plural of **goose** is formed by changing the vowel.

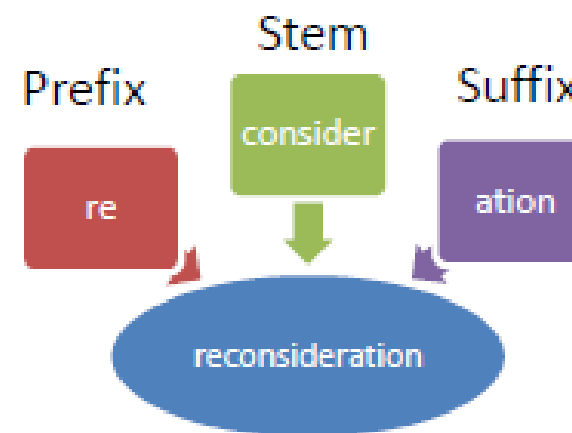
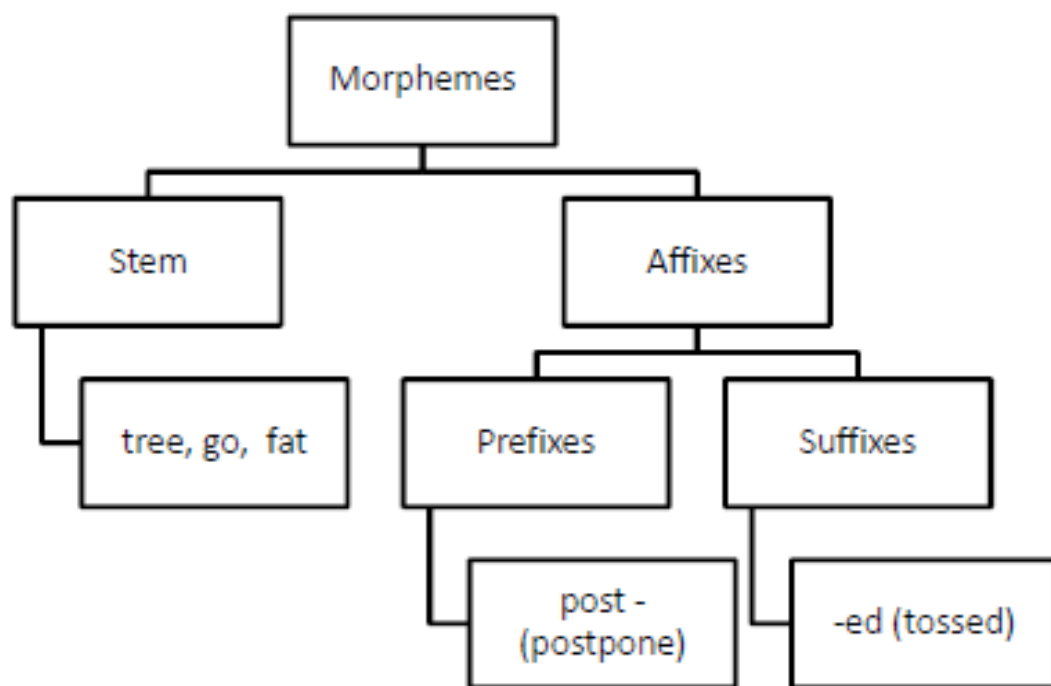
Types of morphemes



Survey of English Morphology

- Two broad classes of morphemes
 - **Stems** – is the “*main*” morpheme of the word, supplying the main meaning
 - **Affixes** – add “*additional*” meanings of various kinds
 - **Prefixes** – precede the stem Eg: the word **unbuckle** composed of **buckle** and prefix **-un**
 - **Suffixes** – follow the stem Eg: the word **eats** composed of stem **eat** and suffix **-s**
 - **Circumfixes** – do both prefix and suffix operation Ex: the word **enlighten** has **en** as prefix and suffix
 - **Infixes** – inserted inside the stem and generally found in plural forms in English. Eg: plural form of **cupful** is **cupsful** and **spoonful** is **spoonsful**.

Survey of English Morphology



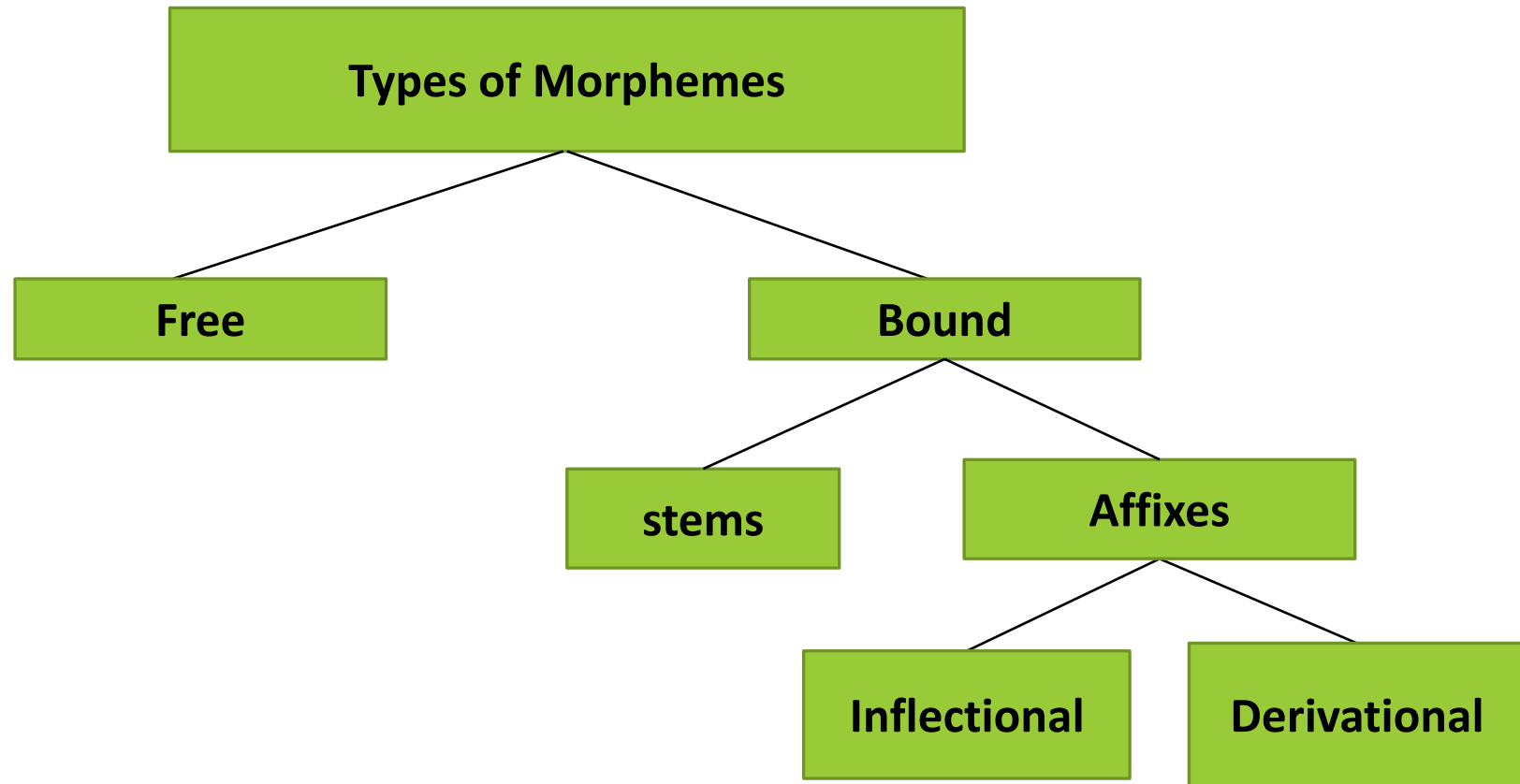
Survey of English Morphology - Another classification of morphology

- **Concatenative morphology** – word is composed of a number of morphemes concatenated together or two morphemes are ordered one after another.
i.e. **affixation** and **compounding**
- **Affixation**: involves attachment of morphemes to stems. (Suffix, prefix, circumfixes, infix)
 - Example: multiple affixations: **anti- inter- govern -ment -al-ist** . Here govern is root or stem.
- **Compounding**: New words formed by combining two stems. Can be formed with many parts of speech.
 - Example: **noun-noun : horse-shoe,**
noun-verb : trouble-shoot,
adjective- verb : high-jump,
adjective-adjective: bitter - sweet

Survey of English Morphology - Another classification of morphology Contd.

- **Non-Concatenative morphology (templatic morphology)**- morphemes are combined in more complex ways
 - **Reduplication** : process that involves taking part of the base and attaching it as an affix; description involves how much is copied.
 - Examples: *bang-bang* : sound of a gun when firing, *bye-bye* : goodbye
 - **Internal modification (vowel modification)** : grammatical opposition expressed via a vowel alternation
 - Examples: *sing – sang – sung- song, begin-began, goose-geese , bind- bound*
 - **Consonant modification** : changes made for other than vowel
 - Examples: *belief-believe, grief-grieve*
 - **Mixed modification** : present/past , verb/noun
 - Examples: *catch-caught, seek-sought, live-life, defence-defend, bent-bend*

Types of morphemes



Ways to form words from Morphemes

Two broad classes:

- I. **Inflectional Morphology** : the combination of a word stem with a grammatical morpheme usually resulting in a word of the same class as the original stem
- II. **Derivational Morphology** : the combination of a word stem with a grammatical morpheme usually resulting in a word of a different class, often with a meaning hard to predict exactly

Inflectional Morphology

- In English, only nouns, verbs, and sometimes adjectives can be inflected. The number of affixes is small
- English nouns have only two kinds of inflection:
 - An affix that marks plural
 - An affix that marks possessive
- **Regular nouns** are nouns that can be converted into their plural form by simply adding “-s” and “-es” to their end, whereas **irregular nouns** are nouns that do not follow a standard rule in converting plurals.

An affix marking plural

cat(-s)	finch(-es),
ibis(-es),	box(-es)
thrush(-es)	butterfly(-lies)
ox (oxen) [irregular nouns]	waltz(-es)
mouse (mice) [irregular nouns]	

An affix that marks possessive (realized by apostrophe's)

Regular singular noun	Llama's
Plural nouns not ending in –s	Children's
Regular plural nouns	Llamas'
Names ending in –s or –z	Euripides' , comedies'

Inflectional morphology Contd.

Morphological forms of Irregular verbs

Irregular verbs are those that have some more or less peculiar forms of inflection.

- Often have five different forms, but can have as many as eight (eg. Verb **be**) or as few as three (eg. **cut** or **hit**).

Morphological Form Classes	Irregularly Inflected Verbs		
Stem	eat	catch	cut
-s form	eats	catches	cuts
-ing participle	eating	catching	cutting
Past form	ate	caught	cut
-ed participle	eaten	caught	cut

Derivational Morphology

- **Nominalization in English:** formation of new nouns, often from verbs or adjectives.

Suffix	Base Verb/Adjective	Derived Noun
-ation	computerize (V)	computerization
-ee	appoint (V)	appointee
-er	kill (V)	killer
-ness	fuzzy (A)	fuzziness

- Adjectives can also be derived from nouns and verbs.

Suffix	Base Noun/Verb	Derived Adjective
-al	computation (V)	computational
-able	embrace (V)	embraceable
-less	clue (N)	clueless

Derivational Morphology

- Derivation in English is more complex than inflection because
 - It is generally less productive
 - A nominalizing affix like *-ation* cannot be added to every verb. Thus, cannot be said as *eatation*, *spellation*
 - There are subtle and complex meaning differences among nominalizing suffixes.

Finite-State Morphological Parsing

- Aim is to take the input forms like those in first column and produce output forms like those in second column
- Second column contains stem of each word and asserted morphological features. (asserted features specify additional information of the stem)
 - Example: *+N for Noun, +SG for singular, +PL for plural.*

Input	Morphological Parsed Output
cats	cat + N + PL
cat	cat + N + SG
cities	city + N + PL
geese	goose + N + PL
goose	(goose + N + SG)
merging	(merge + V + PRES-PART)
caught	(catch + V + PAST-PART) or (catch + V + PAST)

Finite-State Morphological Parsing

To build a morphological parser, the following are needed:

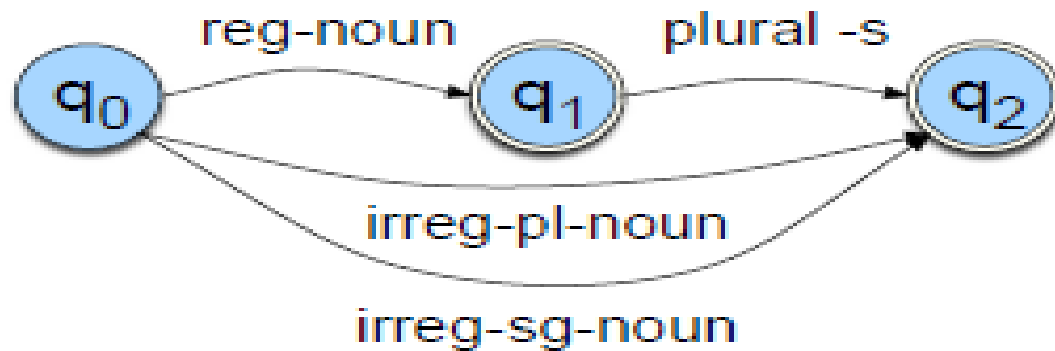
- i. **Lexicon:** the list of stems and affixes, together with basic information about them
E.g., Noun stem or Verb stem, etc.
- ii. **Morphotactics:** the model of morpheme ordering that explains which classes of morphemes can follow other classes of morphemes inside a word.
E.g., the rule that English plural morpheme follows the noun rather than preceding it.
- iii. **Orthographic rules: spelling rules** are used to model the changes that occur in a word, usually when two morphemes combine
E.g., the **y→ie** spelling rule changes **city + -s** to **cities** instead of **citys**.

Lexicon and Morphotactics

- A lexicon is a repository for words.
 - The simplest one would consist of an explicit list of every word of the language. i.e. including abbreviations and proper names.
 - Example: a, AAA, AA, Aachen, aardvark, aba, abaca,
- Computational lexicons are usually structured with
 - a list of each of the stems and
 - Affixes of the language together with a representation of morphotactics telling us how they can fit together.
- The most common way of modeling morphotactics is the **finite-state automaton**.

Lexicon and Morphotactics Contd...

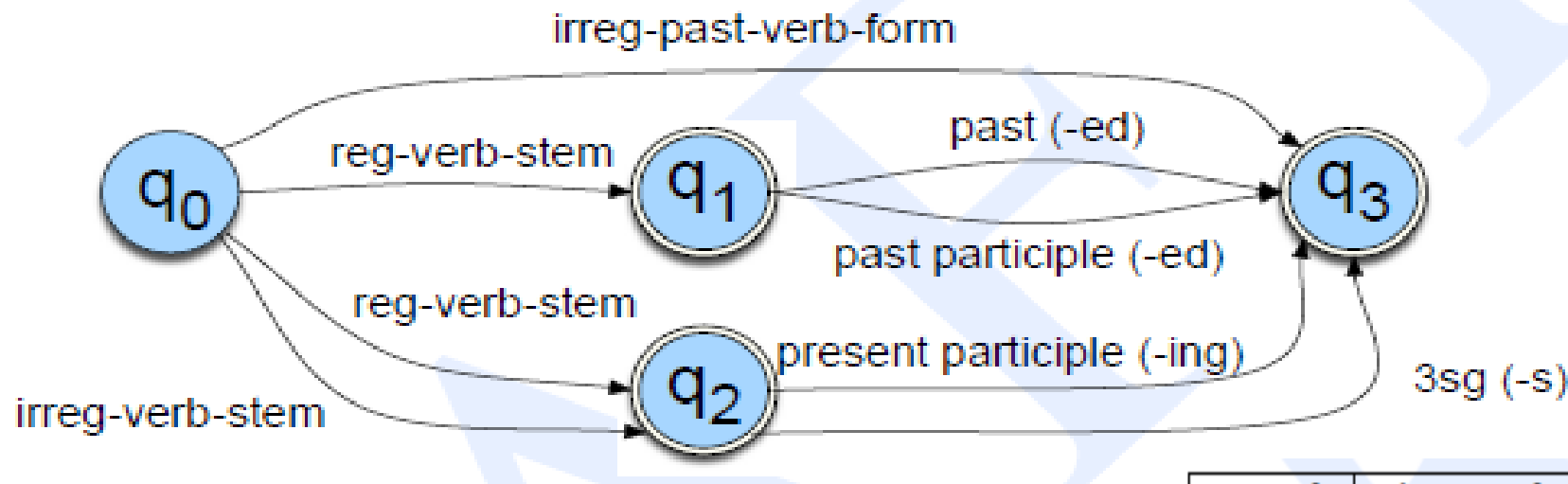
A finite-state automaton for English nominal inflection



reg-noun	irreg-pl-noun	irreg-sg-noun	plural
fox	geese	goose	-s
cat	sheep	sheep	
aardvark	mice	mouse	

Lexicon and Morphotactics Contd.

A finite-state automaton for English verbal inflection



reg-verb-stem	irreg-verb-stem	irreg-past-verb	past	past-part	pres-part	3sg
walk fry talk impeach	cut speak sing	caught ate eaten sang	-ed	-ed	-ing	-s

Lexicon and Morphotactics Contd.

- English derivational morphology is more complex than English inflectional morphology, and so automata of modeling English derivation tends to be quite complex.
 - Some are even based on Context free Grammars
- A small part of morphosyntactics of English adjectives is shown:



An FSA for a fragment of English adjective morphology: #1

big, bigger, biggest

cool, cooler, coolest, coolly

red, redder, reddest

clear, clearer, clearest, clearly, unclear, unclearly

happy, happier, happiest, happily

unhappy, unhappier, unhappiest, unhappily

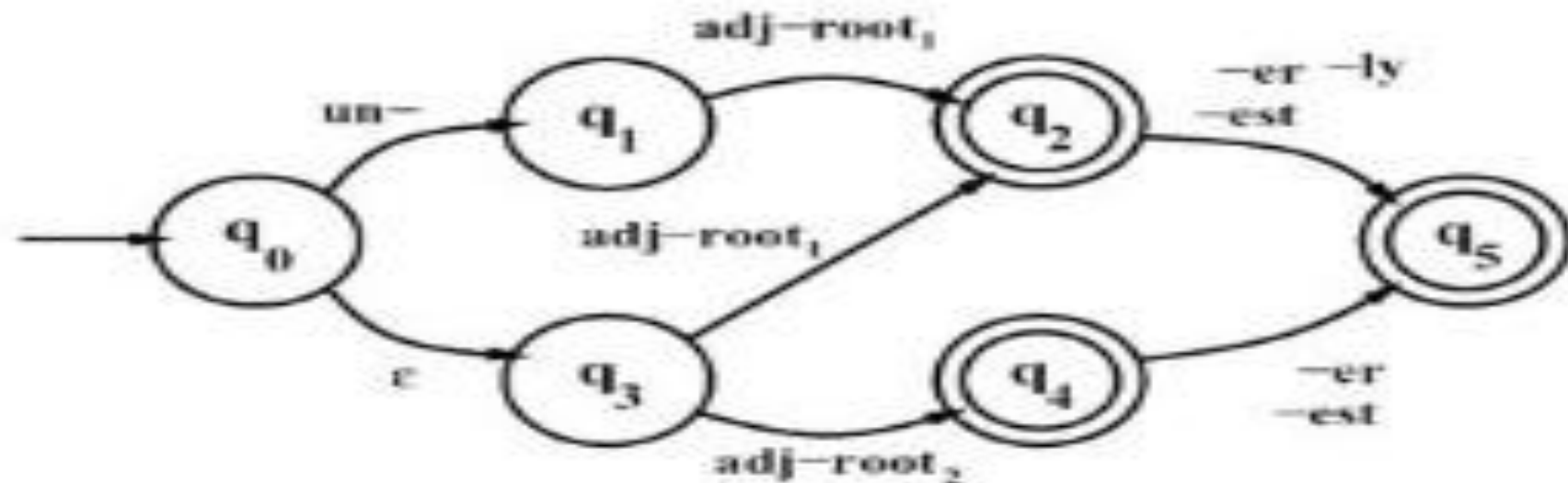
real, unreal, really

Lexicon and Morphotactics Contd.

- The FSA#1 recognizes all the listed adjectives, and ungrammatical forms like unbig, redly, and realest.
- Need to setup classes of roots and specify which can occur with which suffixes. Thus #1 is revised to become #2.
 - adj-root_1 would include adjectives that can occur with un- and -ly (clear, happy)
 - adj-root_2 will include adjectives that can't occur with un- and -ly (big, red)

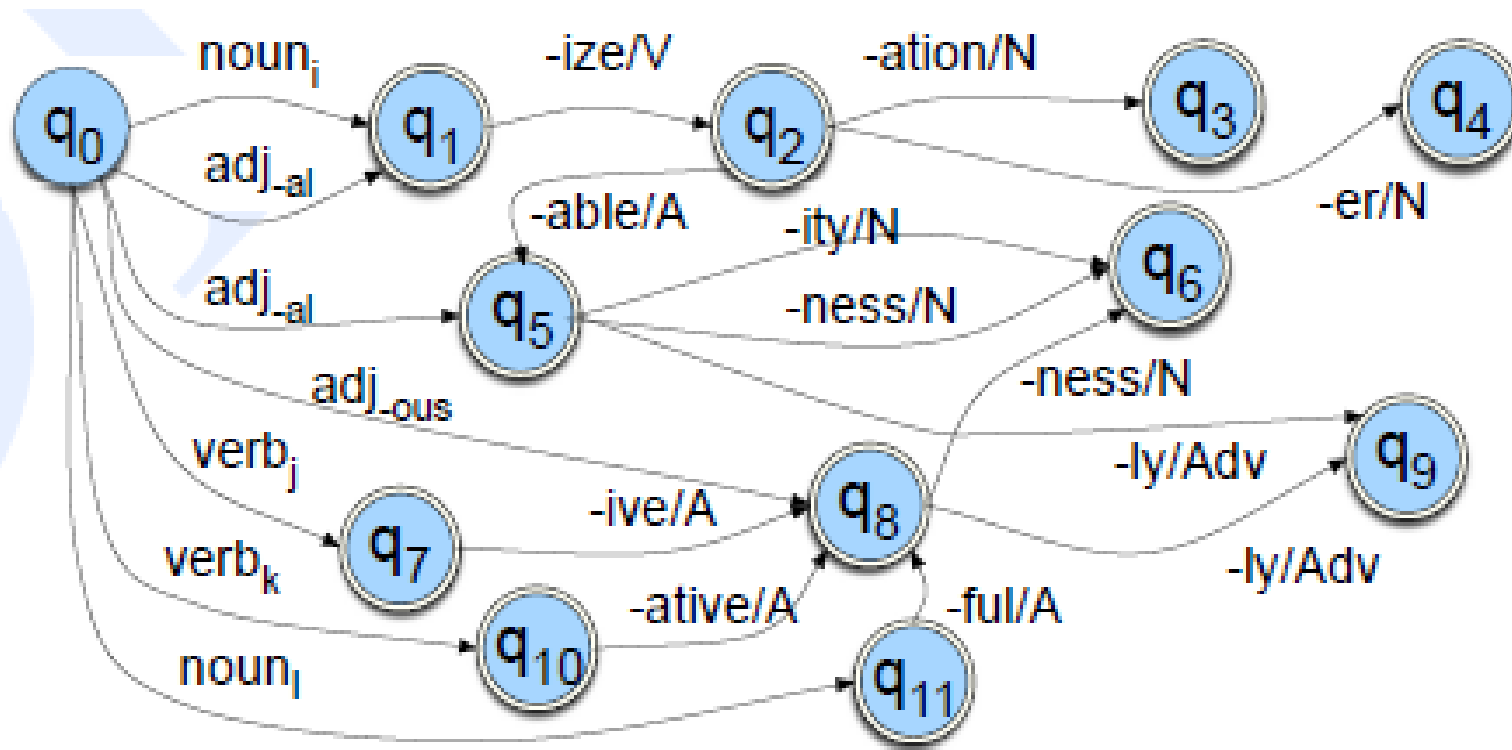
An FSA for a fragment

of English adjective Morphology #2



Lexicon and Morphotactics Contd.

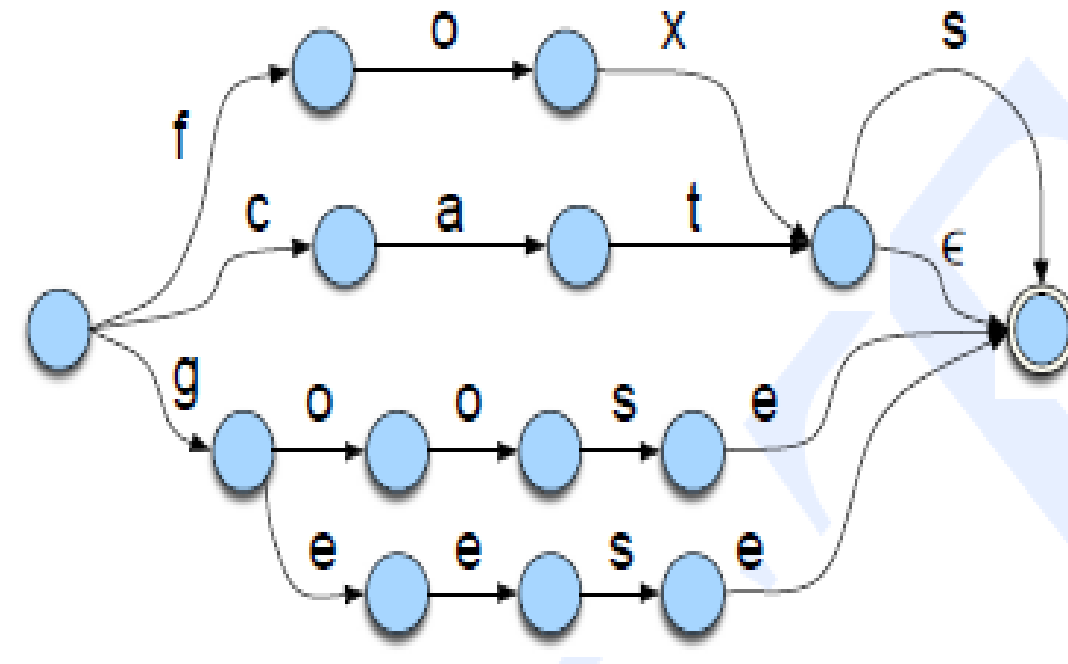
An FSA for English nominal and verbal derivational morphology



- Verb ending with **-ize** can be followed by nominalizing suffix **-ation**
- For the word **fossilize**, the word **fossilization** can be predicted by following the states q_0 , q_1 , q_2 .

Lexicon and Morphotactics Contd.

- FSAs can be used to solve the problem of **morphological recognition**.
- Morphological recognition**: determining whether an input string of letters makes up a legitimate English word or not.
- This is done by taking morphotactic FSAs, and plugging in each “**sub-lexicon**” into FSA. (i.e. expand each arc (eg. the **reg-noun-stem** arc) with all the morphemes that make up the set of **reg-noun-stem**.)
- The resulting FSA can then be defined at the level of the individual user.



Compiled FSA for a few English nouns
with their inflections

Finite State Transducers

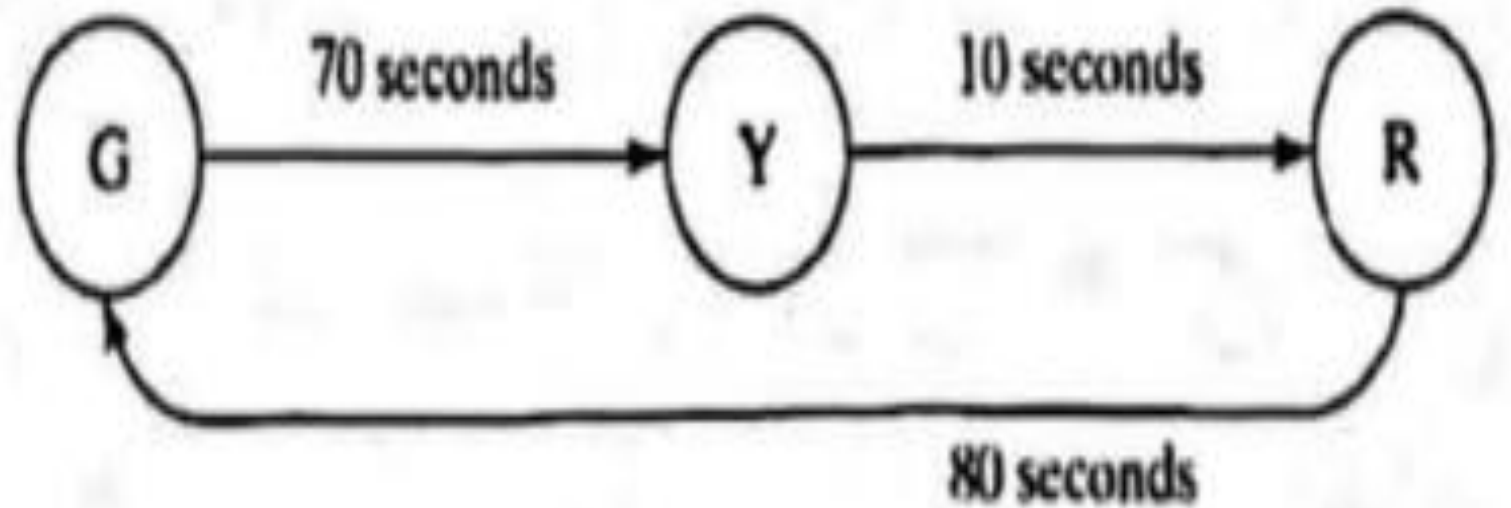
Finite State Transducers are loops that simply run forever, processing inputs

- An automaton that produces outputs based on current input and/or previous state is called a transducer
- Transducers can be of two types:
 - Moore Machine -The output depends only on the current state
 - Mealy Machine- The output depends both on the current state and the current input

Finite State Transducers

Moore Machine: The output depends only on the current state.

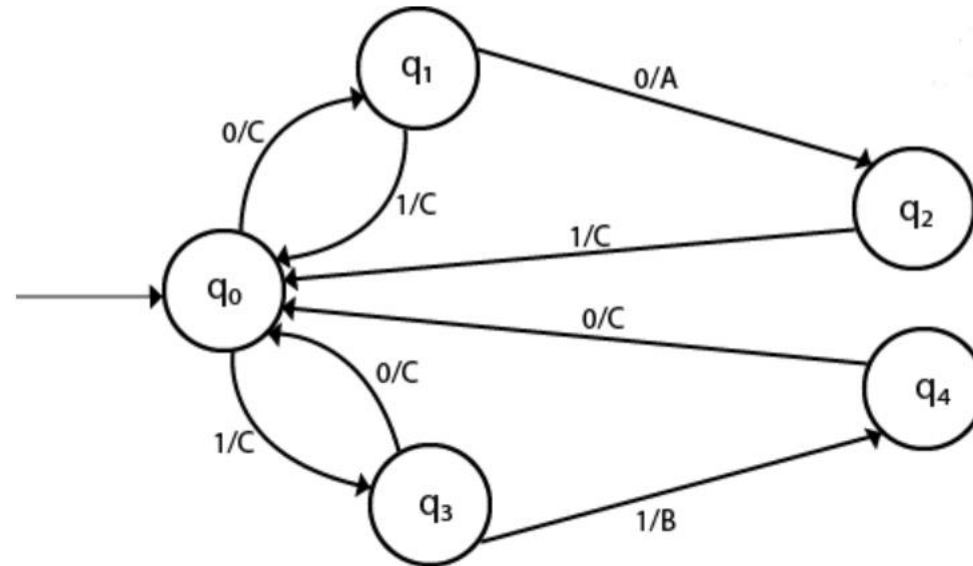
Example: Traffic light



Finite-State Transducers

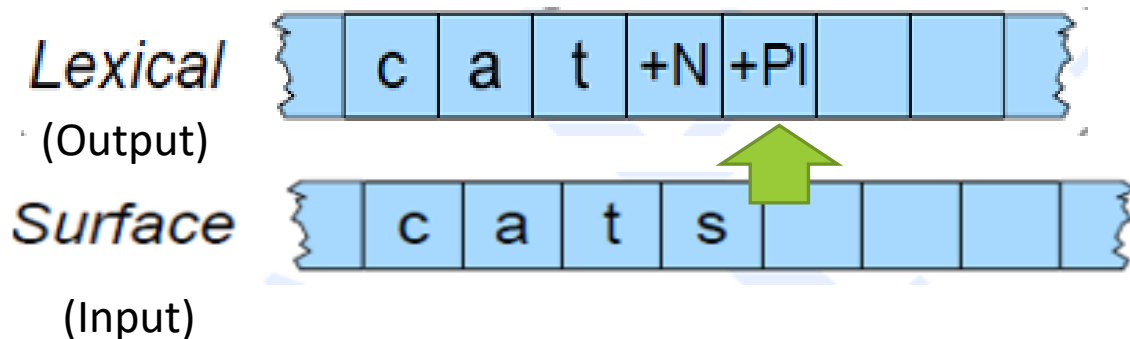
2. **Mealy Machine:** The output depends both on the current state and the current input

- I. Generating parity bits (adds odd parity bit after every four bits)
- II. Design a mealy machine that scans sequence of input of 0 and 1 and generates output 'A' if the input string terminates in 00, output 'B' if the string terminates in 11, and output 'C' otherwise



Morphological Parsing with Finite-State Transducers

- Given the input, for example, **cats**, we would like to produce **cat +N +PL**.
- Two-level morphology**, by Koskenniemi (1983)
 - The lexical level** represents a simple concatenation of morphemes making up a word
 - The surface level** which represents the actual spelling of the final word.
- Morphological parsing is implemented by building mapping rules that maps letter sequences like **cats** on the surface level into morpheme and features sequence like **cat +N +PL** on the lexical level.



- Figure shows two levels: lexical and surface level for the word **cats**.
- Lexical level has the stem word followed by morphological information **+N +PL** that tells **cats** is a plural noun

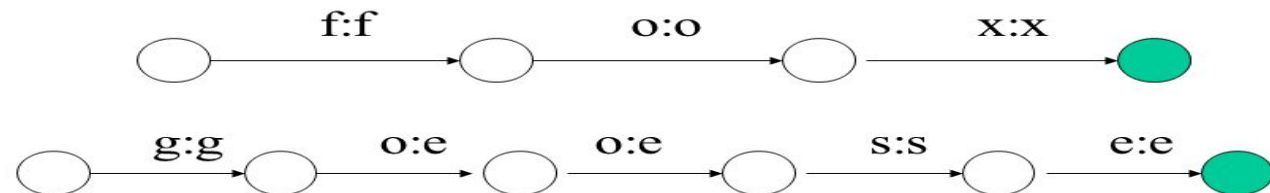
Morphological Parsing with Finite-State Transducers

- The automaton we use for performing the mapping between these two levels is the **Finite-State Transducer or FST**.
- A transducer maps one set of symbols with another set via a **finite automaton**.
- Thus an FST can be seen as a **two-tape automaton which recognizes or generates pairs of strings**.
- The FST has a more general function than an FSA:
 - An FSA defines a **formal language** by defining set of strings, whereas FST defines a **relation between sets of strings**.

1) FSA recogniser for "fox"



2) FST transducers for fox/fox; goose/geese



Morphological Parsing with Finite-State Transducers

- Another view of an FST is that it is a machine that reads one string and generates another.

$L_{IN} = \{\text{cat, cats, fox, foxes, ...}\}$

$L_{out} = \{\text{cat +N +SG, cat +N +PL, fox +N +SG, fox +N +PL ...}\}$

$T = \{<\text{cat, cat +N +SG}>, <\text{cats, cat +N +PL}>, <\text{fox, fox +N +SG}>, <\text{foxes, fox +N +PL}> \dots\}$

Morphological Parsing with Finite-State Transducers

Four-fold way thinking about transducers

- **FST as recognizer:** a transducer that takes (recognizes) a pair of strings as input and outputs ***accept*** if the string-pair is in the string-pair language, and a ***reject*** if it is not.
- **FST as generator:** a machine that outputs pairs of strings of the language. Thus the output is a yes or no, and a pair of output strings.
- **FST as transducer(translator):** A machine that reads a string and outputs another string.
 - Morphological parsing: letter(input), morphemes (output)
- **FST as set relater:** A machine that computes relations between sets.

Morphological Parsing with Finite-State Transducers

- A formal definition of FST (Mealy machine extension to a simple FSA):

- **Q**: a finite set of **N** states q_0, q_1, \dots, q_N
- **Σ** : a finite alphabet of complex symbols.

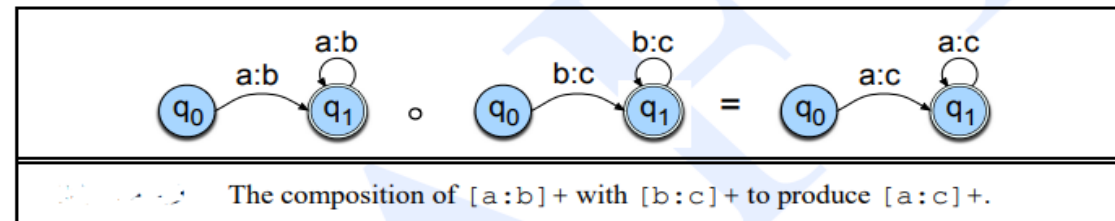
Each complex symbol is composed of an input-output pair $i : o$. I and O may each also include the epsilon symbol ϵ .

- **q_0** : the start state
- **F**: the set of final states, $F \subseteq Q$
- **$\delta(q, i:o)$** : the transition function or transition matrix between states. Given a state $q \in Q$ and complex symbol $i:o \in \Sigma$, **$\delta(q, i:o)$** returns a new state $q' \in Q$. **δ** is thus a relation from $Q \times \Sigma$ to Q

Morphological Parsing with Finite-State Transducers

- Two useful closure properties of FSTs:

- Inversion:** Inversion of transducers switches input and output labels. Thus, If T maps from Input alphabet I to output alphabet O , then the inverse of T , T^{-1} maps from O to I .
- Inversion is useful because it makes it easy to convert a **FST-as-parser** into an **FST-as-generator**.
- Composition:** If T_1 is a transducer from I_1 to O_1 and T_2 a transducer from I_2 to O_2 , then $T_1 \circ T_2$ maps from I_1 to O_2
- Composition is useful because it allows us to take two transducers that run in series and replace them with one complex transducer.
- $T_1 \circ T_2(S) = T_2(T_1(S))$



Morphological Parsing with Finite-State Transducers

- Morphological parser maps the surface forms to lexical forms by **cascading** the lexicon with singular or plural automaton.
- **Cascading**: running two automata in series with the output of first feeding the input to the second
- lexicon of stems are represented as FST T_{stems} . Example: dog to **reg-noun-stem**
- For suffixes: T_{stems} allows the forms to be followed by **@:@** (any feasible pair)
- Alternative to cascading is **composing** the transducer using **composition operator**.
- **Composing** is a way of taking a cascade of transducers with many different levels of inputs and outputs and converting them into single **“two level”** transducer with one input tape and one output tape.
- Composed automaton is $T_{lex} = T_{num} \circ T_{stems}$

Morphological Parsing with Finite-State Transducers

- Regular expressions can be written in the complex alphabet Σ as in FSA
- For two-level morphology, FST is viewed as having two level tapes.
 - **The upper or lexical tape, The lower or surface tape**
- Each symbol **a:b** in the transducer alphabet Σ expresses how the symbol **a** from one tape is mapped to the symbol **b** on the another tape
 - Example: **a:ε** means **a** on the upper tape will correspond to nothing in lower tape.
- Generally, symbols map to themselves, in two level morphology. Hence called as **default pairs**. Example: **a:a** (referred to this by single letter a)
- A simple pair of symbols in Σ are called **feasible pairs**. Example: **a:!**, **a:ε**

Morphological Parsing with Finite-State Transducers

- FSA accepts a language stated over a finite alphabet of single symbols.

Example: alphabet of sheep language $\Sigma=\{\mathbf{b},\mathbf{a},!\}$

- FST accepts a language stated over a pair of symbols

Example: $\Sigma=\{\mathbf{a:a}, \mathbf{b:b}, \mathbf{!:!}, \mathbf{a:!, a:\epsilon}, \mathbf{\epsilon:!}\}$

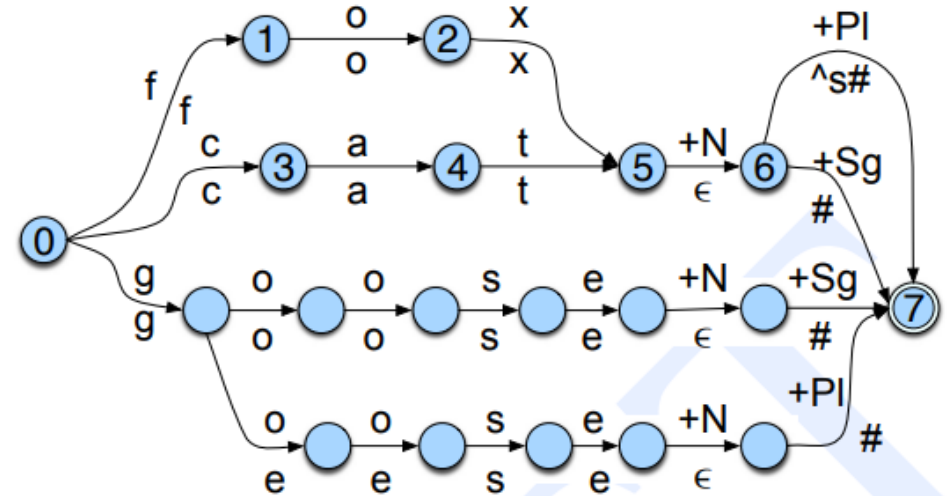
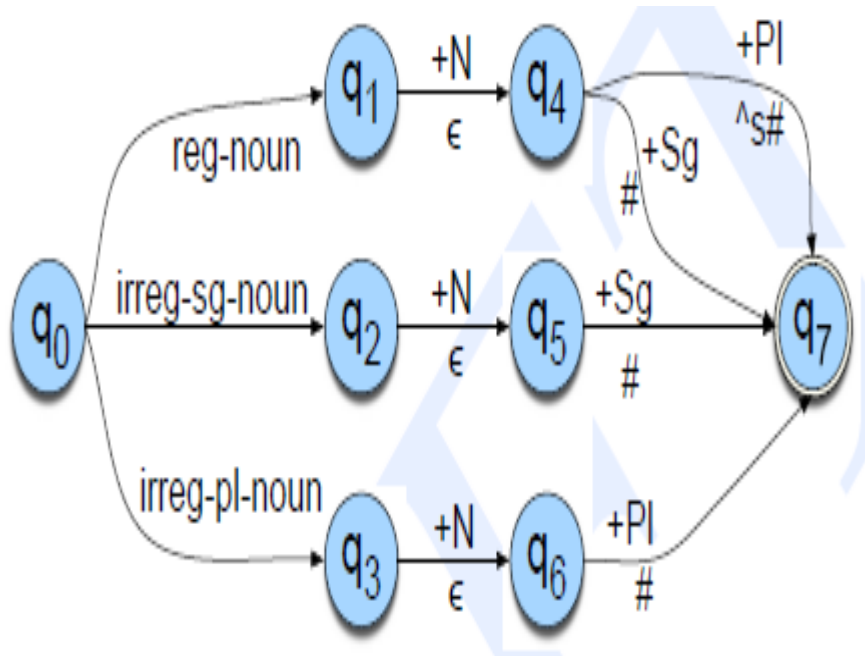
- FSAs are isomorphic to regular languages, FSTs are isomorphic to regular relations.
 - Regular relations are sets of pairs of strings, an extension of the regular language, which are sets of strings.

Morphological Parsing with Finite-State Transducers

- **Application**

- An FST morphological parser is built for earlier morphotactic FSAs and lexica by adding an extra *“lexical”* tape and appropriate morphological features.
 - Nominal morphological features map to the empty string ϵ or the word/morpheme boundary symbol $\#$ since there is no segment corresponding to them on the output tape.

Morphological Parsing with Finite-State Transducers



A fleshed-out English nominal inflection FST T_{lex} , expanded from T_{num} by replacing the three arcs with individual word stems (only a few sample word stems are shown).

Morphological Parsing with Finite-State Transducers

- For morphological noun parser, all the individual regular and irregular noun stems are augmented.

- Lexicon of the transducer is updated so that regular plurals like **geese** will parse into correct stem **goose +N +PL**.

Example: surface **geese** maps to underlying **goose**, the new lexical entry will be “g:g o:e o:e s:s e:e”.

- Regular forms are simpler. Two level entry for fox will be “f:f o:o x:x”, but relying on orthographic convention that **f** stands for **f:f**, **o** stands for **o:o** etc. it can be referred to as “**fox**” and **goose** as “g o:e o:e s e”.

Morphological Parsing with Finite-State Transducers

- Maps plural nouns into stem plus the morphological marker **+PL**, and singular nouns into stem plus **+SG**.
- Thus, surface **cats** will map to **cat +N +PL** as :
c:c a:a t:t +N:ε +PL: ^ s #
- Symbol **^** indicates morpheme boundary
- Symbol **#** indicates word boundary.

reg-noun	irreg-pl-noun	irreg-sg-noun
fox	go:ɛ o:ɛ s e	goose
cat	sheep	sheep
aardvark	m o:ɪ u:ɛ s:c e	mouse

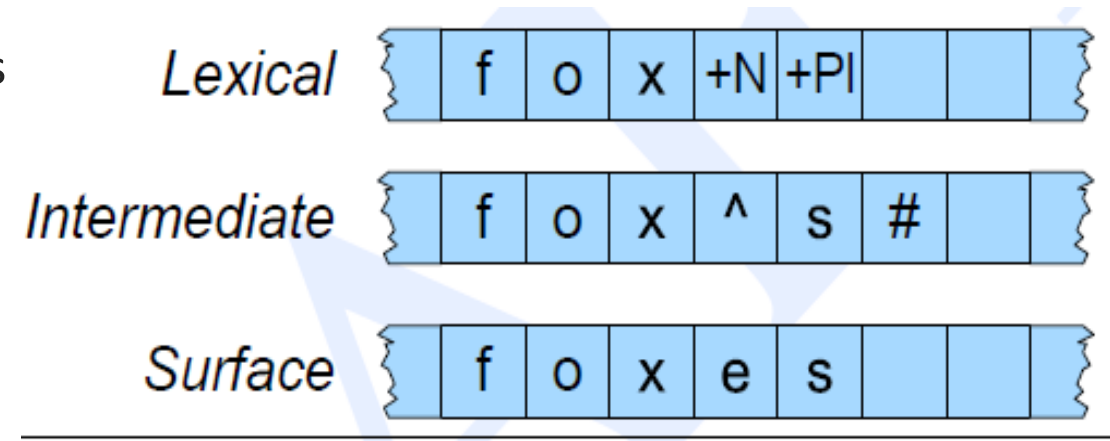
Orthographic rules and Finite-State Transducers

- Concatenating the morphemes can work to parse the words like “**dog**”, “**cat**”.
- But this simple method does not work. *Example*: “**foxes**” is to be parsed into lexicons “**fox +N +PL**” etc.
- This requires introduction of spelling rules (also called orthographic rules).
- Some of the spelling rules:

Name	Description of Rule	Example
Consonant doubling	1-letter consonant doubled before <i>-ing/-ed</i>	beg/begging
E deletion	Silent e dropped before <i>-ing</i> and <i>-ed</i>	make/making
E insertion	e added after <i>-s,-z,-x,-ch,-sh</i> before <i>-s</i>	watch/watches
Y replacement	<i>-y</i> changes to <i>-ie</i> before <i>-s</i> , <i>-i</i> before <i>-ed</i>	try/tries
K insertion	verbs ending with <i>vowel + -c</i> add <i>-k</i>	panic/panicked

Orthographic rules and Finite-State Transducers

- To account for the spelling rules, another tape is introduced, called intermediate tape.
- **Intermediate tape**: produces the output slightly modified, thus going from 2-level to 3-level morphology
- Between each level of tapes is a **two-level transducer**.
 - **Lexical transducer** - between lexical and intermediate levels
 - **E-insertion spelling rule** - between the intermediate and surface levels
- E-insertion spelling rule inserts an **e** on the surface tape when the intermediate tape has a morpheme boundary **^** followed by the morpheme **-s**



Orthographic rules and Finite-State Transducers

- The E-insertion rule states that : *“insert an **e** on the surface tape just when the lexical tape has a morpheme ending in **x** (or **z**, etc) and the next morpheme is **-s**”.*

Formalization of the rule :

$$\epsilon \rightarrow e / \left\{ \begin{array}{c} x \\ s \\ z \end{array} \right\} ^ \wedge \text{---} s \#$$

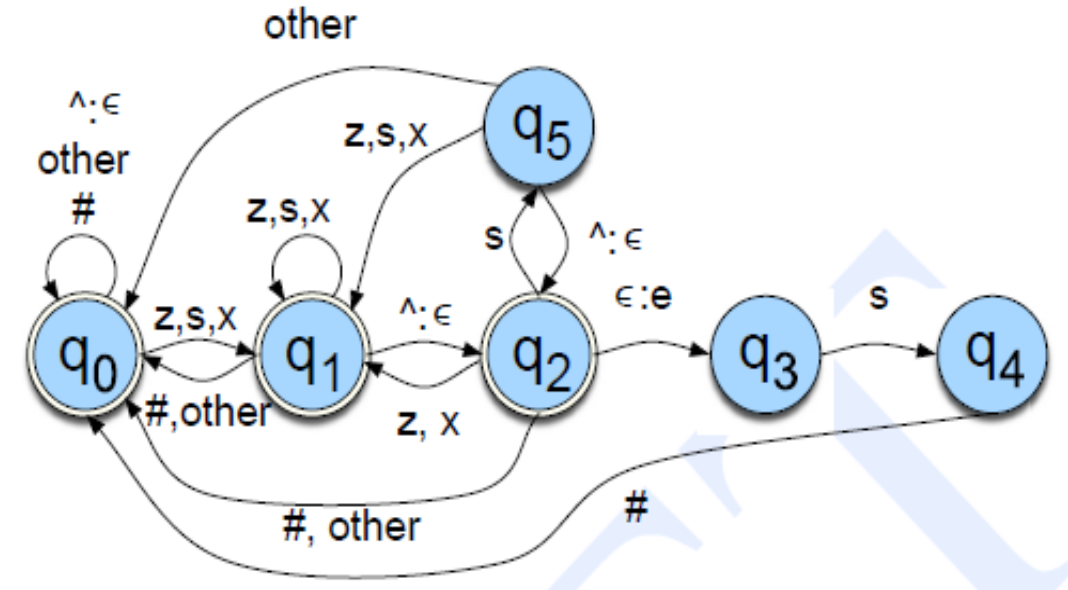
Meaning: Insert **e** after a morpheme-final **x**, **s**, or **z**, and before the morpheme **s**

This follows the rule notation of Chomsky and Halle(1968); (**a** \rightarrow **b/c** **___** **d** means “rewrite **a** as **b** when it occurs between **c** and **d**”)

- ε** is the **empty transition**, replacing it means inserting something.
- the symbol **^** indicates morpheme boundary. Boundaries are deleted by including the symbol **^: ε** in the default pairs of transducer. Thus morpheme boundary markers are deleted on the surface level by default.
- The **#** symbol marks the word boundary.

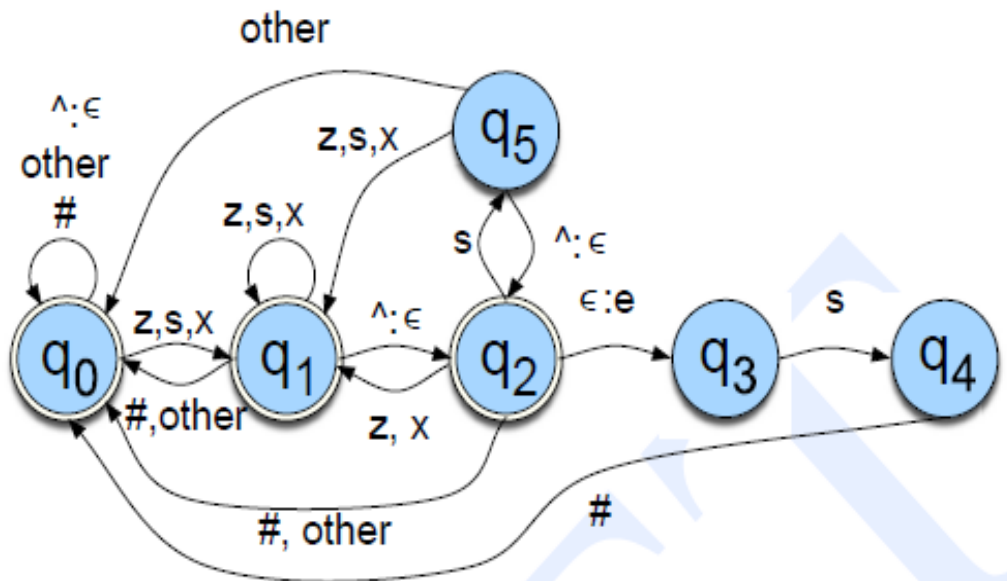
Orthographic rules and Finite-State Transducers

- Building a transducer for any rule is to express only the constraints necessary for that rule, allowing any other strings of symbols to pass through unchanged. (i.e. it ensures only $\epsilon:e$ pair is seen in proper context)
- State q_0 models when seeing only default pairs unrelated to the rule. It is an accepting state.
- State q_1 models having seen z , s , or x and it's an accepting state
- State q_2 models having seen the morpheme boundary. It is also an accepting state
- State q_3 models having seen the **E-insertion**; *it is not an accepting state since the insertion is only allowed if it is followed by the s morpheme and then the end-of-the-word symbol $\#$*



Orthographic rules and Finite-State Transducers

- The **other** symbol is used to pass through any parts of words that don't have a role in E-insertion rule. (*other means "any feasible pair that is not in this transducer"*)

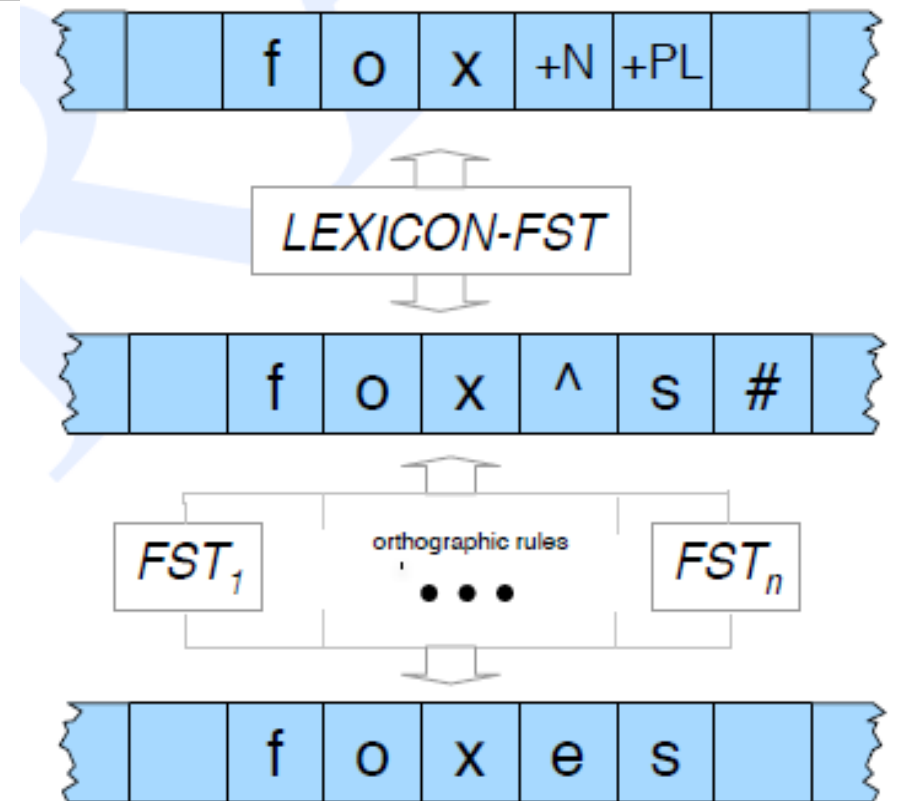


State \ Input	s : s	x : x	z : z	$\wedge : \epsilon$	$\epsilon : e$	#	other
q_0 :	1	1	1	0	-	0	0
q_1 :	1	1	1	2	-	0	0
q_2 :	5	1	1	0	3	0	0
q_3 :	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
q_4 :	-	-	-	-	-	0	-
q_5 :	1	1	1	2	-	-	0

State-transition table for E-insertion rule

Combining FST Lexicon and Rules

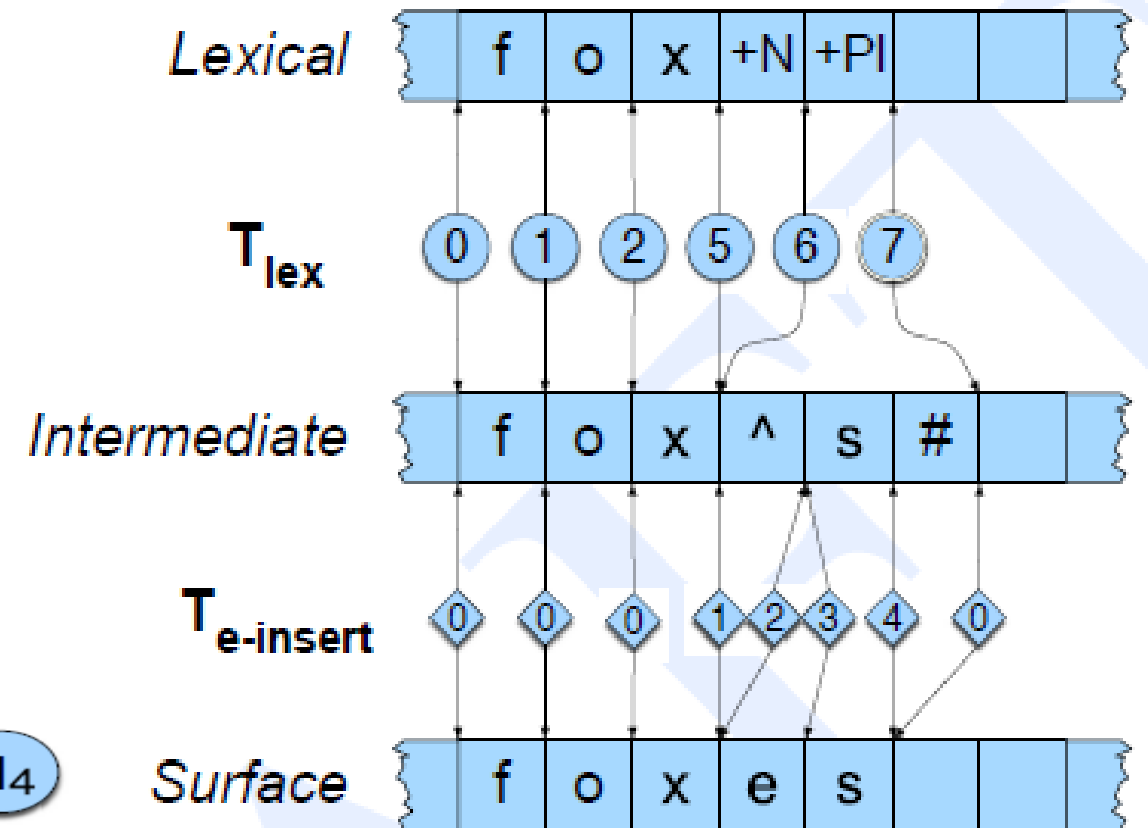
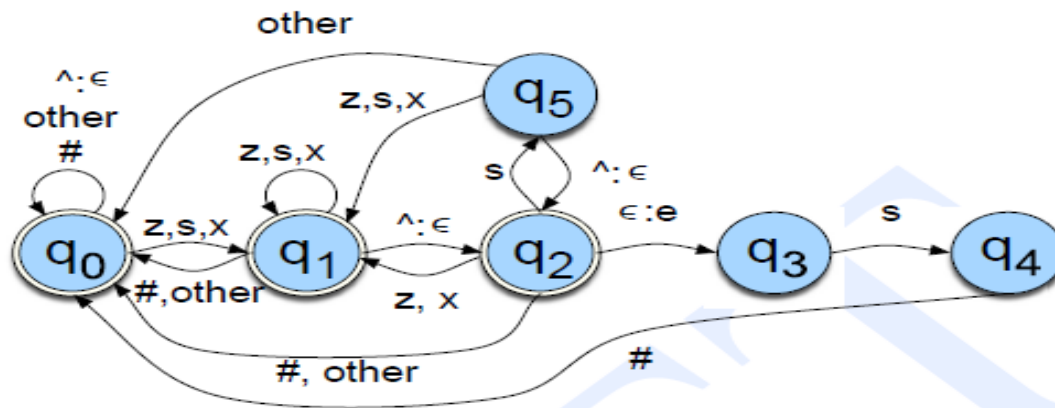
- Two-level morphology system used for parsing or generating.
- **Lexicon transducer** – maps between the *lexical level* (stems and morphological features) and an *intermediate level* (represents concatenation of morphemes)
- **Host of transducers** – (*each represents a single spelling rule*) – run in parallel; maps between *intermediate level* and *surface level*
- *Putting the spelling rules in parallel or in series (cascading) is a design choice.*
- The architecture is a **two level cascade of transducers**
- The output from one transducer acts as an input to another transducer
- *The cascade can be run top-down to generate a string, or bottom-up to parse it*



Generating or parsing with FST lexicon and rules

Combining FST Lexicon and Rules

- Figure shows a trace of the system **accepting** the mapping from **fox +N +PL** to **foxes**.
- Generation:** (surface tape from lexical tape)
 - Running lexicon transducer, for **fox +N +PL**, it will produce **fox^#** on the intermediate tape.
 - Running all possible orthographic transducers to run in parallel, will produce the **foxes** in the surface tape.



Generating or parsing with FST lexicon and rules

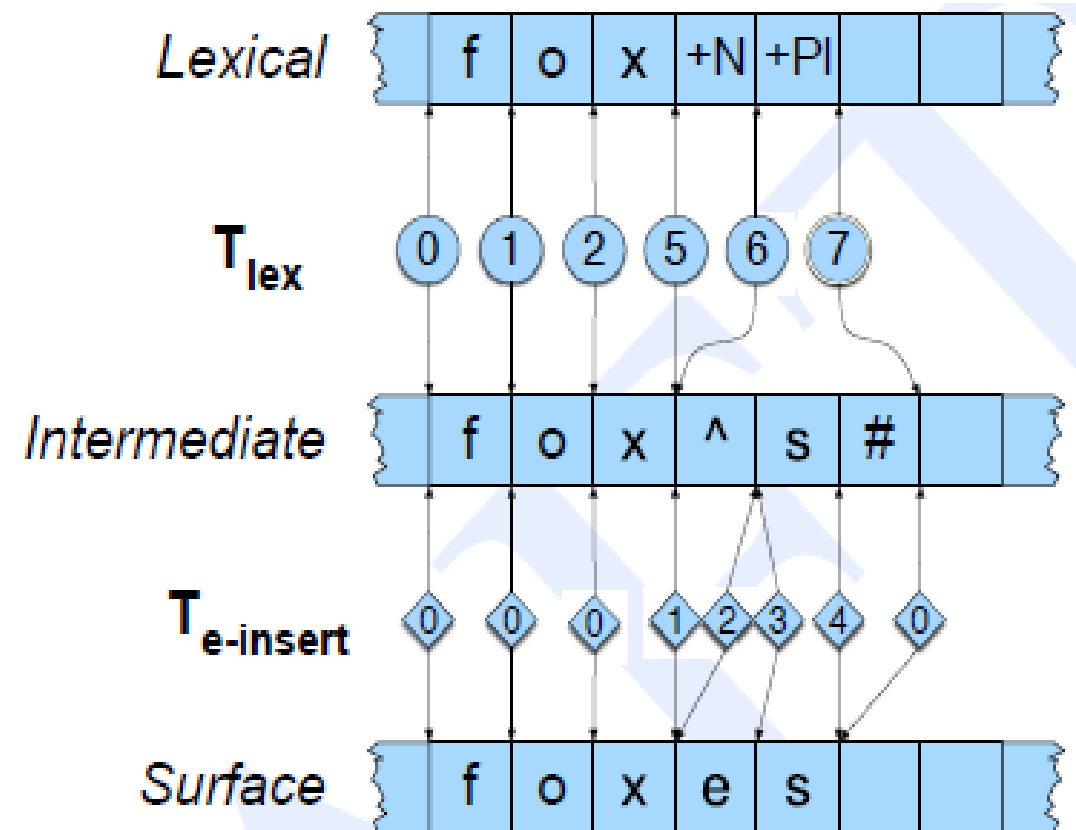
Combining FST Lexicon and Rules

- **Parsing:** Complicated because of the problem of “ambiguity”
- Example: *foxes* can be verb and hence lexical parse for *foxes* could be *foxes +V +3SG* or *fox +N +PL*
(Cant decide on the correct parse by the transducer)
- **Disambiguating:** require external evidence such as surrounding words

Example: “*I saw two foxes yesterday*”. (*Foxes will be noun*)

“*That trickster foxes me every time!*” (*Foxes will be verb*)

Disambiguation algorithms are used to solve this. If not both the choices are considered. (Noun and verb)



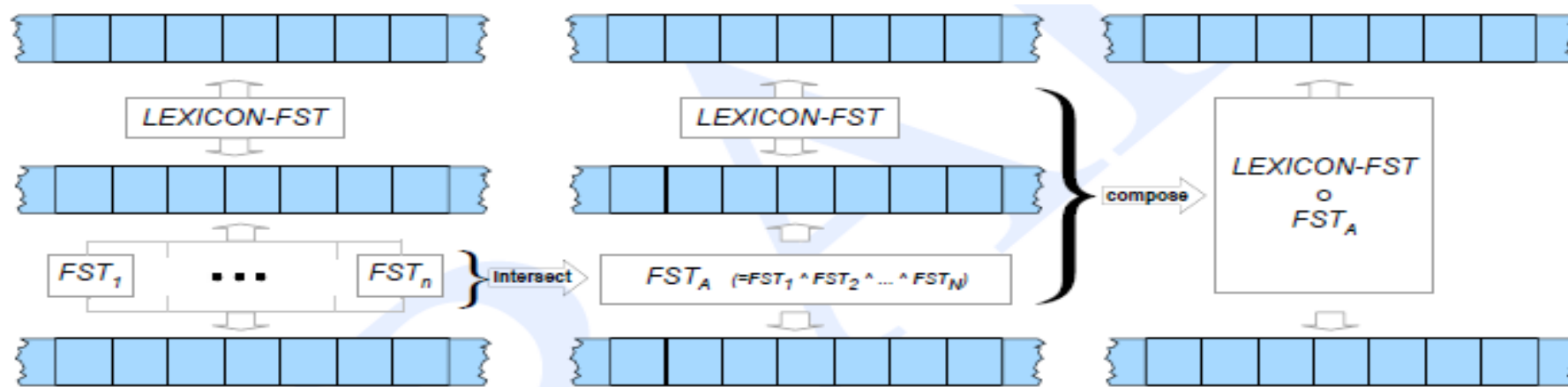
Generating or parsing with FST lexicon and rules

Combining FST Lexicon and Rules

- **Local ambiguity**: occurs during the process of parsing
- Example:
 - Parsing the input verb “*assess*”
 - E-insertion transducer, after seeing the word “*ass*” may propose that, *e* that follows is inserted by spelling rule. Hence, the word “*asses*” would be parsed instead of “*assess*”
 - But *#* symbol is not present after “*asses*” instead another *s* is seen. Then its realized that wrong word is parsed
- Solution: FST-parsing algorithm need to incorporate search algorithms.

Combining FST Lexicon and Rules

- Composing a cascade of transducers in series into a single complex transducer
- Transducers running in parallel can be combined by **automaton intersection**
- **Automaton intersection algorithm takes cartesian product of the states.**
 - i.e. for each state q_i in machine 1 and state q_j in machine 2, we create a new state q_{ij} . Then for any input symbol a , if machine 1 would transition to state q_n and machine 2 would transition to state q_m , we transition to state q_{nm} .



Intersection and composition of transducers

Lexicon-Free FSTs: The Porter Stemmer

- **Information Retrieval (IR) tasks** like web search - a query such as a Boolean combination of relevant **keywords or phrases**, e.g., *(kangaroo)* returns documents that have these words in them.
- A document with the word *kangaroos* might not match the keyword *kangaroo*. Hence, some IR systems first **run a stemmer on the query and document words**.
- Morphological information in IR is used to determine that two words have the **same stem**; the suffixes are thrown away.
- The most widely used such **stemming algorithm** is the *Porter algorithm (1980)*.

Human Morphological Processing

- Modern experimental evidence suggests that both the theories (full listing and minimum redundancy) are not completely true
- Instead it states that some kinds of morphological relationships are mentally represented for some words (inflections and certain derivations) and for others, words are being fully listed.
 - **Example:** derived forms happiness, happily are stored separately from their stem happy
- But regularly inflected forms (pouring) are distinct in the lexicon from their stems (pour). This is done by using a repetition priming experiment.
 - *Repetition priming* – word is recognized faster if it has been seen before (primed)
- **Marslen-Wilson (1994)** found that spoken words can prime their stems, but only if the meaning of the derived form is closely related to the stem
 - **Example:** Government primes govern, but department does not prime depart

Human Morphological Processing

Speech errors (slips of the tongue)

- In normal conversation, speakers often mix up the order of the words or initial sounds:

Example:

- *If you break it it'll drop*
- *I don't have time to work to watch television because I have to work*

- Inflectional and derivational affixes can appear separately from their stems:

Example:

- *Easily enoughly (for “easily enough”)*
- *Words of rule formation (for “rules of word formation”)*

This shows that mental lexicon must contain some representation of the morphological structure of these words

Hence, Morphology play a role in the human lexicon

Summary

1. Morphological Parsing
2. Affixes: prefixes, suffixes
3. Survey of English Languages
4. Inflectional and Derivational morphology
5. Finite-state Morphological parsing
6. Lexicon and Morphotactics
7. Finite-state Transducers (FST) – FST Morphological parsing
8. Spelling rules (Orthographic rules) and Finite-state Transducers
9. Combining FST lexicon and spelling rules (composing and intersecting)
10. Lexicon-Free FSTs - (Porter stemmer algorithm)
11. Human Morphology processing

END