

PcPatrEditor User Documentation

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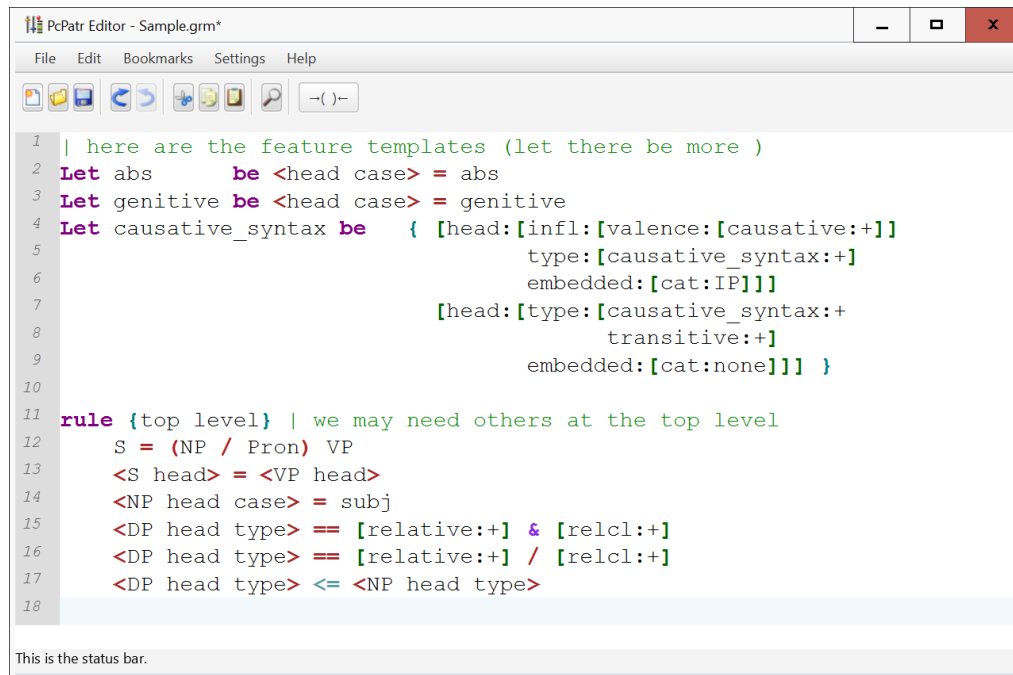
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1 Introduction

PcPatrEditor is a tool to edit **PcPatr** grammar files. It is designed to help you see the grammar file items more easily. Eventually, we hope to make it even show things like the feature system implied within the grammar file

PcPatrEditor looks like what is shown in (1).

(1)



The file name of the grammar file is shown in the upper left part of the window. You edit the grammar in the main pane.

You can drag the edges of the window to make it larger.

2 Edit menu items

The **Edit** menu item has the standard set of options such as copy, cut and paste. It also allows you to undo and redo changes. There are two other items as described below.

2.1 Find/Replace

Using the **Find/Replace** item brings up the Find/Replace dialog. It looks something like what is in example (2).

(2)

Find/Replace

Find: case

Replace with:

Direction: ☒ Forward ☐ Backward

Scope: ☒ All ☐ Selection

Options:

☐ Case sensitive ☒ Wrap search

☐ Whole word ☐ Incremental

☐ Regular expression

Find Replace/Find

Replace Replace All

Close

It is fairly straightforward. The “Incremental” option can be used to have **PcPatrEditor** search for the text in the “Find:” box as you type.

Some things to note about how this dialog box works:

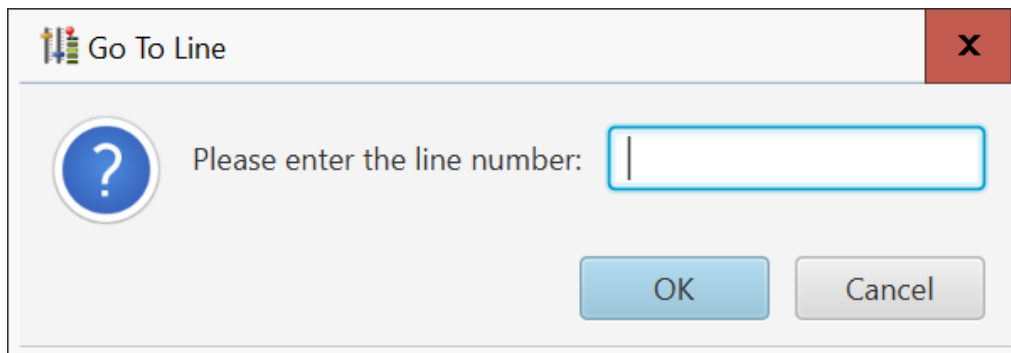
1. Using the “Selection” option will search within whatever text you currently have selected. It will only find any item once (because it loses the selection when it selects what it found).
2. The “Whole word” option will fail if you try and find any combination of letters (and numbers) with something else (e.g., a minus sign).
3. If the item found is off to the right of the window (i.e., you need to scroll to the right in order to see it), that found item will not be visible (but will be selected). It may work better if you set the **PcPatrEditor** window to be full screen.
4. The “Replace All” process does not work when the “Selection” option is set.

For information on how to use a regular expression to find (and replace), see <https://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/util/regex/Pattern.html>. If PcPatrEditor finds an error in the syntax of a regular expression in either the find or replace fields, an error message in red will be shown. Hopefully, it will give you enough information to know how to fix the problem.

2.2 Go to line

Using the **Go to line** item brings up a chooser that looks like what is in example (3).

(3)



Enter the line number and click the “OK” button. That line number will be shown.

2.3 Comments

When you select a portion of text, you can insert (or remove) the comment character at the beginning of each line in the selected portion. If the selected text does not start at the beginning of a line, a comment character will still be inserted (or removed) at the beginning of that text material.

To insert comments in selected material, use either **Edit / Insert comment** or type **Ctrl-Shift-C**. To remove comments in selected material, use either **Edit / Remove comment** or type **Ctrl-Shift-R**.

3 Bookmarks menu items

PcPatrEditor has an ability for you to mark certain lines with bookmarks. You can then move quickly from one bookmark to another. PcPatrEditor will remember your bookmarks for each grammar file.¹

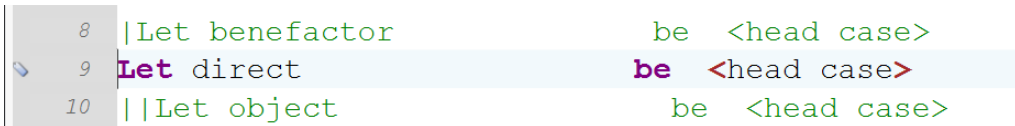
To toggle a bookmark, use either **Bookmarks / Toggle bookmark** or type **Ctrl-F2**. To go to the next bookmark, use either **Bookmarks / Next bookmark** or type **F2**. To

¹This is done on a machine-by-machine basis. That is, if you use PcPatrEditor on one computer and then copy a grammar file to another computer, the second computer will not know where the bookmarks are. You will have to create the bookmarks again. (On Windows, the bookmarks are stored in C:\ProgramData\SIL\PcPatrEditor\bookmarks.xml; on Linux and Mac OS X, they are in ~/.pcpatreditor/bookmarks.xml.)

go to the previous bookmark, use either **Bookmarks / Previous bookmark** or type **Alt-F2**. For the latter, you may have to use the right-hand Alt key as the left hand one tends to turn on menu keyboard shortcuts. When moving from one bookmark to another, if there are no more bookmarks, an audible beep will sound.

If you wish to remove or clear all bookmarks, use **Bookmarks / Clear all bookmarks**.

When a line has a bookmark set for it, there will be a tag-like icon before the line number. It might look like line 9 in example (4).

(4) 

4 User convenience options

The **Settings** menu item has several options you can use to (hopefully) improve your experience with using **PcPatrEditor**. These are described below.

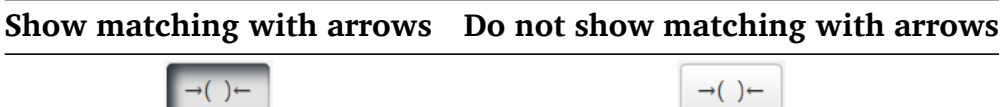
Please note that these settings are associated with the **PcPatrEditor** program on your computer. Once you set them, they will be used each time you use **PcPatrEditor** (until you change them, of course).

4.1 Show matching parentheses, braces, brackets, and/or wedges with arrow keys

Whenever you key an opening parenthesis ('('), brace ('{'), bracket ('['), or wedge ('<'), **PcPatrEditor** will automatically insert the matching closing item.

There are times when you need to see the matching items. For this reason, there is the first item under the main **Settings** menu item: **Show matching items with arrow keys**. When this is checked, whenever you use an arrow key to cross over a parenthesis (or brace or bracket or wedge) in the grammar, **PcPatrEditor** will temporarily select the item that matches the one crossed over.

Besides using this menu option, you can also use the toolbar button shown in (5).

(5) 

4.2 Delay to use when showing matching parentheses

The second item under the main **Settings** menu item is **Delay to use when showing matching items**. The default delay is 750 milliseconds (i.e., three quarters of a second). Depending on your typing speed, you may want to change this value. Use this menu item to change the delay value to be shorter or longer. The shortest allowed value is 125 milliseconds (i.e., one eighth of a second) and the longest value allowed is 4000 milliseconds (i.e., 4 seconds).

4.3 Font size for the grammar

The last item under the main **Settings** menu item is **Font size**. This lets you set the font size for the text of the grammar file.

5 Support

If you have any questions with **PcPatrEditor** or find bugs in it, please send an email to blackhandrew@gmail.com.