Linguistic Search Engine Searching Tagged Hebrew Text

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Corpus Linguistics

- Data driven methodology:
 - Collect dataset
 - Manually inspect data
 - Tag the data
 - Learn from the data
 - Analyze errors
- Searching tagged corpora is useful but difficult

Tagged Corpus

The/AT grand/JJ jury/NN commented/VBD on/IN a/AT number/NN of/IN other/AP topics/NNS ,/, AMONG/IN them/PPO the/AT Atlanta/NP and/CC Fulton/NP-tl County/NN-tl purchasing/VBG departments/NNS which/WDT it/PPS said/VBD ``/`` ARE/BER well/QL operated/VBN and/CC follow/VB generally/RB accepted/VBN practices/NNS which/WDT inure/VB to/IN the/AT best/JJT interest/NN of/IN both/ABX governments/NNS "/" ./.

Interesting queries:

Sentences containing W tagged as T 2 proper nouns followed by a definite feminine adjective A past verb followed by a masculine noun, with no more than two words between them

Searching Corpora

Standard search engines are not directly adapted to tagged corpora:

- Document vs. sentence granularity
- Support mixed queries tag/words
- Avoid intrusive indexing methods (stemming, tokenization, query expansion)
- Control content of the corpus

Our Linguistic Search Engine

Based on the open source Lucene platform

Added the capability of indexing based on both words and their many morphological properties.

Efficient search over orthographic word forms, as well as linguistic properties (part-of-speech, lemma, gender, tense)

Hebrew Support

 Text is automatically tagged using the BGU morphological disambiguator and chunker

 We indexed about 110M tokens (~8M sentences) from various genres including blogs, news, Knesset proceedings and medical articles.

Query Language

We designed a specific query language that combines words and their properties

- Word is X and gender is Y
 - \$w.form="x" & \$w.gender="y"; \$w
- Word is X and gender is Y inside Z
 - \$w.form="x" & \$w.gender="y"; [\$w # "z"]
- Word X 3 words after word Y
 - \$w.form="x" & \$w1.form="Y"; \$w!~3 \$w1

Query Compilation

Queries are compiled into a Lucene query, for example:

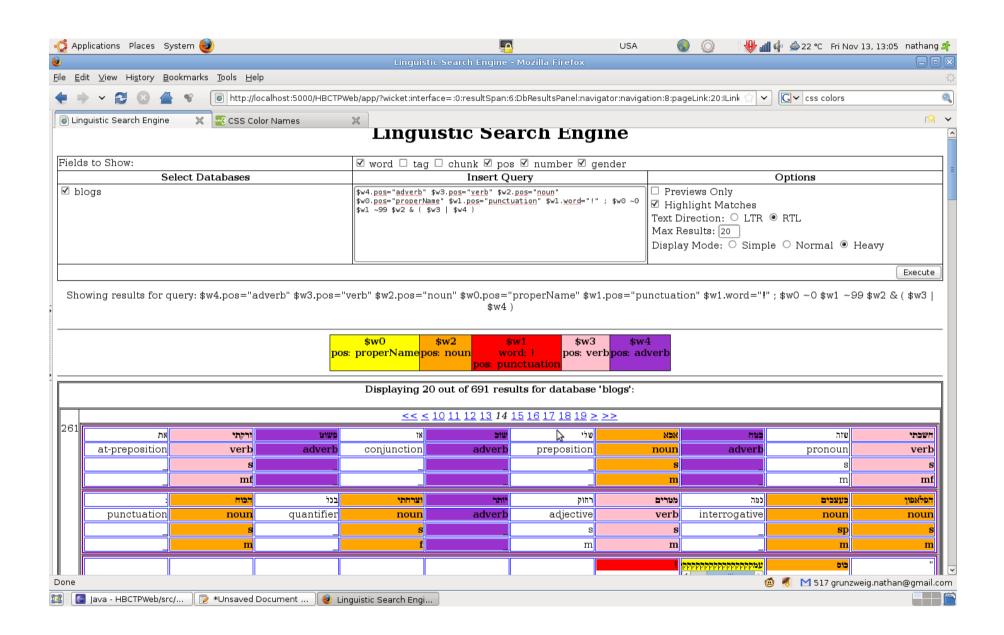
\$w.word="נתן" & \$w1.pos="adjective" & \$w2.word="נתן" & \$w2.pos="properName" & prefix="ה*" & suffix="ל";
[\$w ~0 & (\$w1 | \$w2) # "NP" + \$prefix + \$suffix] ~0 pos="verb"

spanNear([spanNear([spanWithin(spanNot(spanOr([spanNear ([property:word= א, property:pos=verb], 0, false), spanNear ([property:word= א, spanNear([property:word= ב, property:pos=properName], -1, false)], 0, false)]), spanOr([property:@E-N-D@=NP, property:@S-T-A-R-T@=NP])), 1, spanNear([spanNot(spanNear ([property:@S-T-A-R-T@=NP, spanWildcardQuery(property:word= ב, true), property:@E-N-D@=NP), spanNot(spanNear([spanWildcardQuery (property:word= א'), property:@E-N-D@=NP], 0, true), property:@S-T-A-R-T@=NP)], 9999, true)), spanNear([spanNot(spanNear([property:@S-T-A-R-T@=NP, spanWildcardQuery(property:word= ב, true), property:@E-N-D@=NP), spanOr([spanNear([property:word= x, property:pos=verb], 0, false),

.

Additional Features

- Web Application (embedded in Jetty server)
- Match highlighting (multicolored)
- Highlighting Legend
- Several result formats
- RTL\LTR
- Selectable properties to display



Availability

Indexed corpora are available at:

http://www.cs.bgu.ac.il/~yoavg/nathan/HBCTPWeb/app

Software available