



Extending Alpino with Flexible MWEs

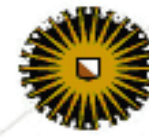
An unexpected possible use of PaQu

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Overview

- Alpino Dutch parser
- PaQU
- Minitreebank
- Recognizing flexible MWEs
- Examples:
 - *de plaat poetsen, (een) bok schieten, (een) flater slaan,*
 - *(een) bok geschoten hebben, iets (niet) kunnen velen*
- Conclusions





Alpino

- Parser for Dutch
- Deals with some fixed MWEs
- Deals with some flexible MWEs that require special syntax
- <http://www.let.rug.nl/vannoord/alp/Alpino/>





PaQu

- Search interface to (Dutch) treebanks
- Enables you to
 - upload your own corpus
 - have it parsed by Alpino
 - and then to search in it
- <http://portal.clarin.nl/node/4182>



Flexible MWEs

- MWE:
 - word combination with idiosyncratic linguistic properties
- Flexible:
 - No fixed word order, not necessarily contiguous, inflectional variation (in principle) possible on multiple words
- Examples
 - *Hij heeft gisteren **de plaat** **gepoetst***
 - *Hij **poetste** gisteren **de plaat***
 - *...dat hij **de plaat** wilde **poetsen***





Recognizing MWEs

- MWE same synt str. as literal
- MWE in a sentence
 - replace it in semantics or deep syntax
 - by a single node (opaque idioms)
 - By multiple nodes ((semi-)transparent idioms)
 - Replacement: not here
- MWE identification: XPATH Query





Minitreebank

- 35 example sentences relevant for MWEs (mostly V+NP idioms)
- Go to [PaQu](#)
 - Login with your e-mail address
 - Click on the link in the mail sent to you
 - Select Corpus: PARSEME MWE Test
- [List all sentences](#): //node[@cat="top"]
- Download fully parsed corpus



Minitreebank

- Morpho-syntactic phenomena:
 - Verb: Vfinal, V2, V1 (YNQ), VR
 - NP: Topicalisation, Wh-questioning, scrambling, independent occurrence
 - N: (internal) modification, relativisation, diminutives, plural, other dets
 - V+NP: passive





De plaat

'the plate'

```
//node[@lemma="plaat"]
```



De plaat poetsen

‘to polish the plate’ (‘to bolt’)

```
//node[node[@rel="su"] and  
  node[@pos="verb" and  
    @lemma="poetsen" and @root="poets"] and  
node[node[@rel="det" and @lemma="de"] and  
node[@rel="hd" and @lemma="plaat" and  
@getal="ev" and @gen="de" and  
@graad="basis" and @naamval="stan" and  
@ntype="soort" and @pos="noun" ]]]
```





bok

‘male goat’

//node[@lemma="bok"]



(een) bok schieten

To shoot a male goat ('to make a blunder')

```
//node[node[@rel="su"] and
```

```
node[@pos="verb" and
```

```
@lemma="schieten" and @root="schiet"] and
```

```
node[node[@rel="hd" and @lemma="bok" and
```

```
@gen="de" and @naamval="stan" and
```

```
@ntype="soort" and @pos="noun" ]]]
```



flater

blunder

```
//node[@lemma="flater"]
```



(een) flater slaan

hit a blunder (make a blunder)

```
//node[node[@rel="su"] and
```

```
node[@pos="verb" and @lemma="slaan"
```

```
and @root="sla"] and
```

```
node[node[@rel="hd" and @lemma="flater" and
```

```
@gen="de" and @naamval="stan" and
```

```
@ntype="soort" and @pos="noun" ]]]
```





een bok geschoten hebben

To have shot a male goat ('to have made a blunder')

```
//node[
  node[@rel="su"] and
  node[@lemma="hebben" and @rel="hd" and @pos="verb" ] and
  node[@cat="ppart" and @rel="vc" and
    node[@rel="su" and
      @index=../..//node[@rel="su"]/@index] and
    node[@rel="obj1" and @cat="np" and
      node[@rel="hd" and @lemma="bok"]
    ] and
  node[ @buiging="zonder" and
    @lemma="schieten" and
    @pos="verb" and
    @wvorm="vd"
  ]
]
]
```





lets (niet) kunnen velen

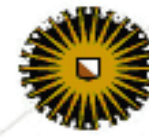
- *(not) be able to endure something*
- *Velen* as a verb is a *cranberry word*
- Alpino parses it as a pronoun
 - ‘many (persons)’
- Alpino lexicon must be extended



Conclusions

- Extensions/adaptations of Alpino needed:
- Overacceptance (extension needed)
 - Modification of *plaat*
 - Scrambling of *de plaat*, Topicalisation of *de plaat*
 - Passivisation (idiosyncratic MWE property)
- Underacceptance
 - Relativisation of *bok*, *flater* (adaptation)
 - MWEs with cranberry words (extension)





Caveats

- Internal Alpino structure / analysis may be different
- Rules in the Alpino system may differ from XPATH queries (esp. wrt matching properties)
- Maybe sufficient for analysis (parsing), but not for production.

