



Xposition: An Online Multilingual Database of Adpositional Semantics



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Introduction

- Integrated platform for **annotation guidelines**, **lexicographic databases**, and **annotated corpora** for the SNACS project
- Centralization of these components aids discoverability, maintenance, and development
- Live at <http://xposition.org/>

SNACS

- Semantic Network of Adposition and Case Semantics:** cross-linguistic framework for annotating adposition semantics
- Inventory of 50 supersenses
 - Miriam will go to the beach **for** ^{Duration~>Duration} a week
 - Miriam will go to the beach **for** ^{Purpose~>Purpose} vacation
 - Miriam went to the beach **from** ^{Source~>Source} the airport
 - Miriam gazed at the sunset **from** ^{Locus~>Source} the beach
- Guidelines and data exist for 6 languages, alongside UD annotations

Design Goals

- Multilingual support:** full support for Unicode and typological variation (e.g. postpositions vs. prepositions)
- Approachability:** UI/UX designed to assume as little knowledge of SNACS as possible and minimize clutter/jargon
- Discoverability:** bidirectional linking between data, guidelines, and lexicographic entries
- Easy guideline maintenance:** guidelines should be easy to edit
- Versioning:** everything (data, guidelines, lexicographic entries) should be versioned, and past versions should be retained

Implementation

- Implemented as a fork of a Python wiki system (django-wiki)
- Custom hypertext format allows consistent HTML formatting

Future Work

- Parallel corpus support
- Annotation interface
- Much more

XpositionHome / Direction

View

View Source

Changes

Attachments

Metadata

Categories

Direction

Direction

How motion or an object is aimed/oriented.

A **Direction** expresses the orientation of a stationary figure or of a figure's motion. Prototypical markers¹ are **away** and **back**; **up** and **down**; **off**; and **out**, provided that no specific **Source** or **Goal** is salient:

- The bird flew **up/out/away/off**. 001
- I walked **over** to where they were sitting. 002
- The price shot **up**. 003

In addition, transitive **toward/towards**, **for**, and **at** can indicate where something is aimed or directed (but see discussion at **Goal**):

- The camera is aimed **at** the subject. 004
- The toddler kicked **at** the wall. 005

See discussion of **away_from** at **Source**.

Distance

Locus~>Direction is used for expressions of static distance between two points:

- The mountains are 3 km **away/apart**. (Locus~>Direction) 006
- The mountains are 3 km **away_from** our house. (Locus~>Direction) 007

This also applies to distances measured by *travel time* (the amount of time is taken to be metonymic for the physical distance):

- The mountains are an hour **away/apart**. (Locus~>Direction) 008

Compare **Extent**, which is the length of a path of motion or the amount of change.

Informal direction modifier in location description

- They live (way) **out** past_{Locus~>Path} the highway/**over** by_{Locus} the school (Locus~>Direction) 009 .

Cf. Interval#003 at **Interval**.

1. Known variously as *adverbs*, *particles*, and *intransitive prepositions*. ↩

XpositionHome / English / over / over: Direction ~> Direction

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over: Direction ~> Direction

Direction-Direction

over: Direction ~> Direction

Examples

TODO

Metadata

description

adposition over

obj_case Accusative

construal Direction~>Direction

Data (1–9 of 9)

Ex	P	Role	~> Function	i	Adposition Part of Speech	Governor Head	Governor Part of Speech	Governor Supersense	Object Head	Object Part of Speech	Object Supersense	Governor Object Syntax
(17404) Then , the French sent their partners	over to be with them .	Direction =	Direction		ADV	send	VERB					default
(16103) I just got ta get back to my cabin then you can come	over and help me pack !	Direction =	Direction		ADV	come	VERB					default
(17508) He bent his head	over the drawing : " Not so small that ~ Look !	Direction =	Direction		ADP	bend	VERB		draw	NOUN		default
(17665) He looked at me there , with my hammer in my hand , my fingers black with engine - grease , bending down	over an object which seemed to him extremely ugly ...	Direction =	Direction		ADP	bending	VERB		object	NOUN		default
(9903) Flipped the square	over and saw it riddled with green mold !!!!	Direction =	Direction		ADP	flip	VERB	v.contact				default
(12065) I sent my wife and daughter	over to check out a pre-owned 2009 XF .	Direction =	Direction		ADV	send	VERB	v.motion				default
(12564) We go	over about 5 times a year .	Direction =	Direction		ADV	go	VERB	v.motion				default
(12784) Drove all the way	over from the highway ... closed at 7 .	Direction =	Direction		ADV	way	NOUN					default
(14192) I chose the later , but approached the front desk about the hotel policy to push	over their responsibilities on local authorities , not to mention the good night s sleep i paid for but did nt get .	Direction =	Direction		ADP	push	VERB	v.social				default