An XMG account of derivational polysemy

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How do we model and constrain possible readings?

In this paper,

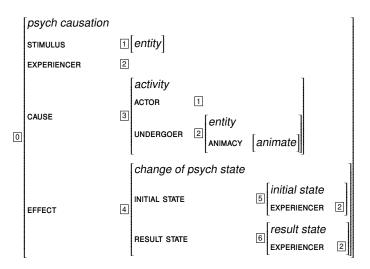
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 - Frame Semantics (Kallmeyer & Osswald, 2013; Löbner, 2013, 2014; Petersen, 2007)
 - XMG (eXtensible MetaGrammar)
- Data: -ment on psych verbs, e.g. amusement, enrapturement (Kawaletz & Plag, 2015; Plag et al., in press)

Attributre-value matrix for psych verbs



Kawaletz and Plag (2015): -ment on psych verbs derives

■ EVENT 'transpositional'

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- monosemy and
- polysemy.

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- more specific meanings of affixes derive from a general highly underspecified meaning by means of
 - semantic extension rules
 - interaction between the semantics of the base and the affix
 - contextual and encyclopedic information.

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Abstract core meaning of *-ment*: 'eventuality or entity having to do with X' (with 'X' denoting the base).

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- -ment derivatives, however, do not always denote an entity. They may be eventualities as well.

The desirable underspecified meaning cannot always be reduced to a single unitary meaning.

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This is not verified by data (e.g. EXPERIENCER readings).

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- Attested readings of words of a given morphological category result from indexation of particular elements (e.g. arguments) of the semantic representation of the verb, combined with inheritance mechanisms.
 - e.g. In an eventive noun, the reference of the derivative is identified with the EVENT argument of the base

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- we constrain possible readings by introducing constraints. e.g. -ment derivatives are always inanimate.

eXtensible MetaGrammar

- XMG (Crabbé, Duchier, Gardent, Le Roux, & Parmentier, 2013): modular and extensible tool used to generate various types of linguistic resources from an abstract and compact description.
- Metagrammar: based on the concepts of logic programming and constraints.
- Dimensions: separate the different levels of linguistic description, and provide dedicated languages adapted to the structures the user wishes to generate.
- The <frame> dimension (Lichte & Petitjean, 2015): description of semantic frames using typed feature structures descriptions.
- XMG webpage: http://xmg.phil.hhu.de/

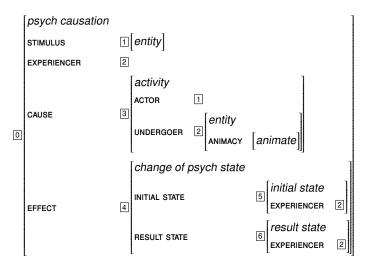
The implementation

- Idea: defining abstractions and combining them with logical operators
- Abstractions: for the base (*amuse*) and the affix (*ment*)
- Polysemy: generate the 5 valid models (event, stimulus, activity, change of psych state, result state) of the description
- 2 implementations: stating explicitely what is valid, or leaving it underspecified (+ constraints)
- Using type constraints → type hierarchy

An abstraction for amuse

```
class amuse
export ?Root ?Cause ?Stimulus ?Effect ?Result
declare ?Root ?E ?Cause ?Stimulus ?Effect ?Result ?T
{<frame>{
 ?Root[psych_causation,
       stimulus: ?Stimulus,
       experiencer: ?E,
       cause: ?Cause[activity,
                   actor:?Stimulus[entity],
                   undergoer:?E[entity,
                                   animacy:[animate]
       effect: ?Effect[change_of_psych_state,
                  initial-state: [initial_state,
                    experiencer:?E],
                  result-state: ?Result[result_state,
                    experiencer:?E[experiencer]] ] ]
```

An abstraction for amuse



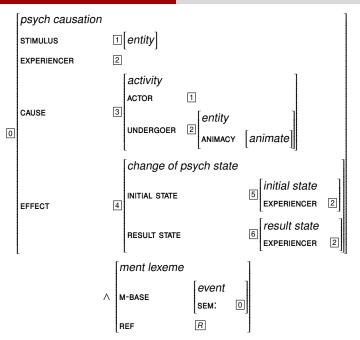
An abstraction for ment: fully specified rule

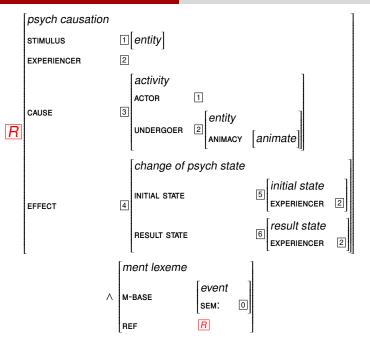
```
class ment
import amuse[]
declare ?Ref
  {<frame>{
   [ment-lexeme,
         m-base: [event,
               sem:?Root]
         ref:?Ref
       ?Root=?Ref | ?Cause=?Ref | ?Stimulus=?Ref
       ?Effect=?Ref | ?Result=?Ref }
```

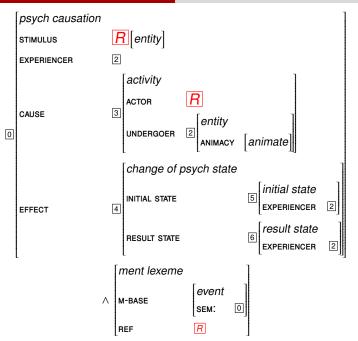
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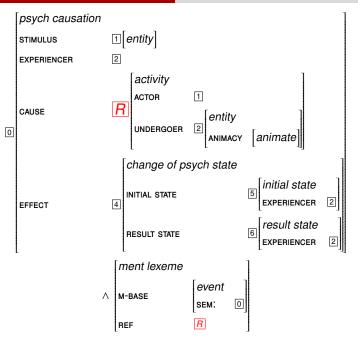
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declare ?Ref
  {<frame>{
   [ment-lexeme,
         m-base: [event,
               sem:?Root]
         ref:?Ref
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       ?Effect=?Ref | ?Result=?Ref }
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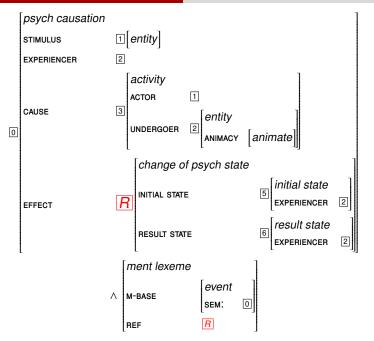


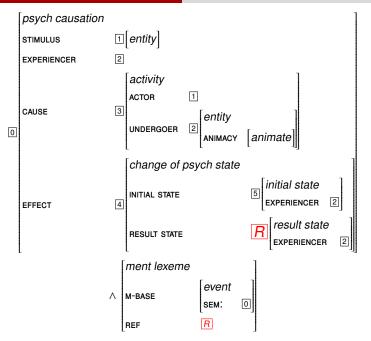








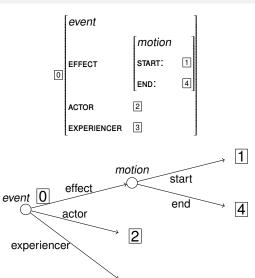




Underspecification and frames

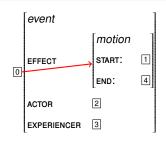
- XMG: traditionally uses constraints in descriptions
- The compiler generates all the models which do not violate any constraint
- <frame> dimension: introduction of a new operator, >*
- ?A >* ?B: there is a path in the frame from ?A to ?B

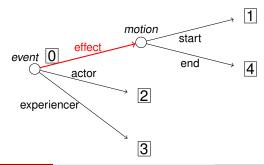
Paths in AVM



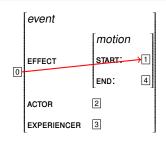
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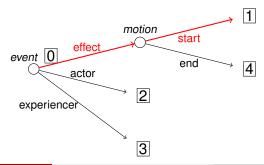
Paths in AVM



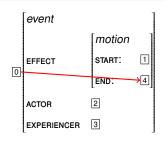


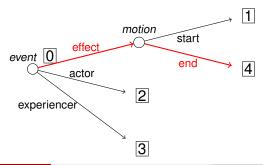
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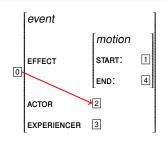


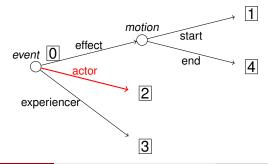
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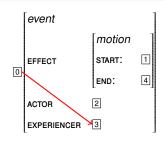


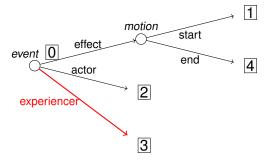
Paths in AVM





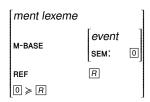
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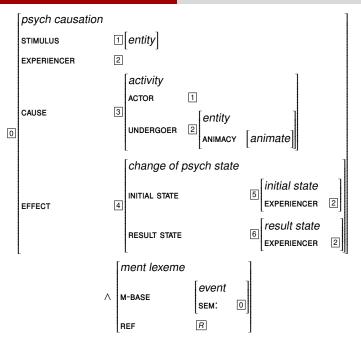


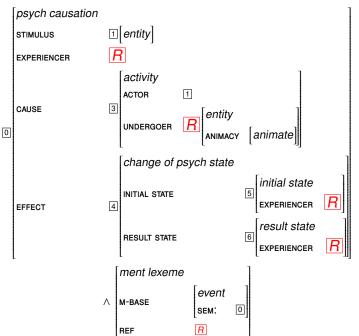
An abstraction for ment: underspecified rule

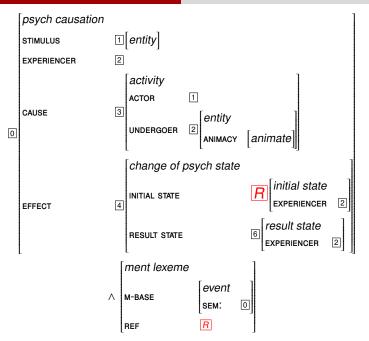
An abstraction for ment: underspecified rule



→ Monosemy without constraints: overgeneration







An abstraction for *ment*: underspecified rule with constraints

```
<frame>{
        [ment-lexeme,
                   m-base: [event,
                                  sem:?Root1
                   ref:?Ref
                   ?Root >* ?Ref;
                    { ?Ref[result_state] | ?Ref[event]
                       ?Ref[entity, animacy:[inanimate]] }
ment lexeme
                    \begin{bmatrix} \text{event} & \\ \text{sem:} & \boxed{0} \\ \land & \\ & \boxed{R} [\text{result state}] \lor \boxed{R} [\text{event}] \lor \boxed{R} \\ & \\ \text{ANIMACY} & [\text{inanimate}] \\ \end{bmatrix}
```

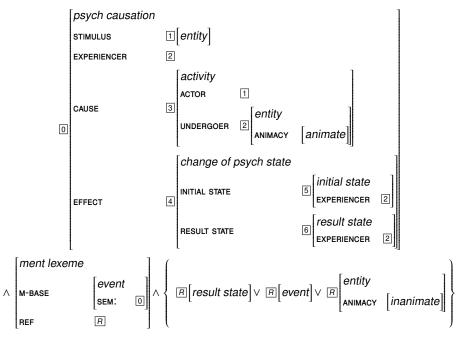
XMG modeling: the type hierarchy

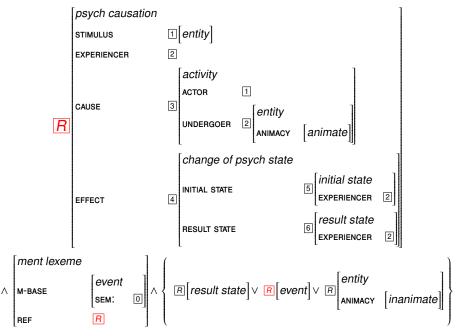
```
frame-constraints = {
  state event -> -,
    ...
  psych_causation -> event,
  experiencer -> entity,
  stimulus -> entity,
```

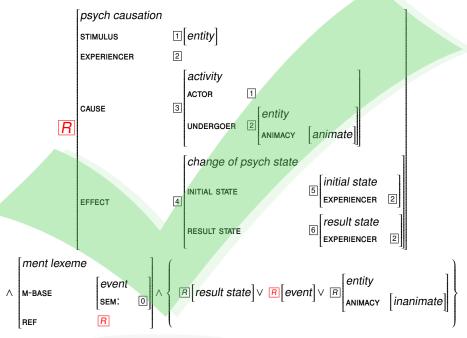
```
experiencer stimulus -> -,
...
entity -> animacy:animacy,
...
}
```

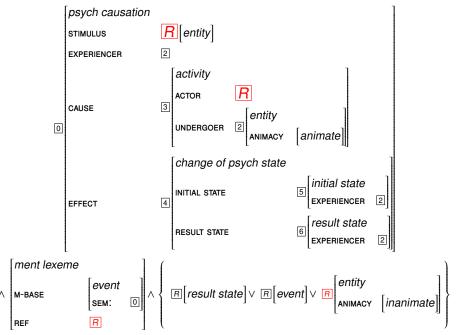
XMG modeling: the type hierarchy

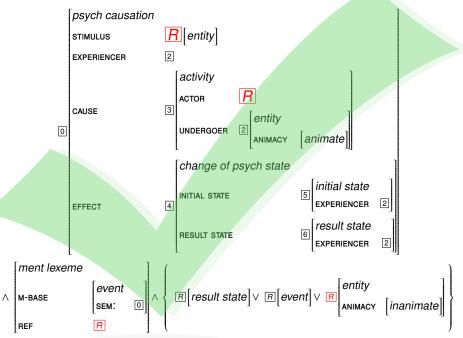
```
frame - constraints = {
                                              experiencer stimulus -> -,
       state event -> -,
                                              entity -> animacy: animacy,
       psych_causation -> event,
       experiencer -> entity,
       stimulus -> entity,
                                                                entity
                 event
                                        state
                      psych causation
change of psych state
                                                     experiencer
                                                                      stimulus
                activity
                              initial state
                                              result state
```

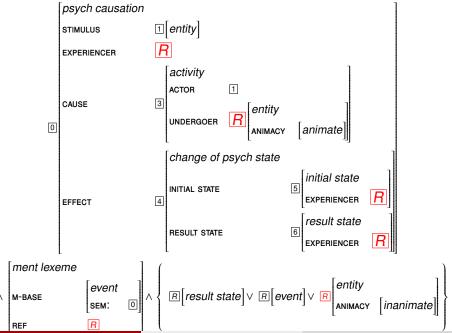


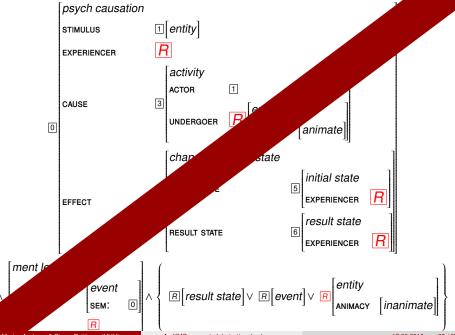


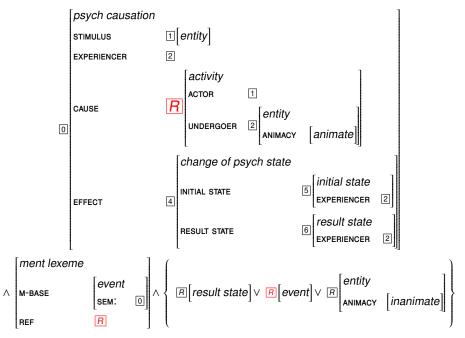


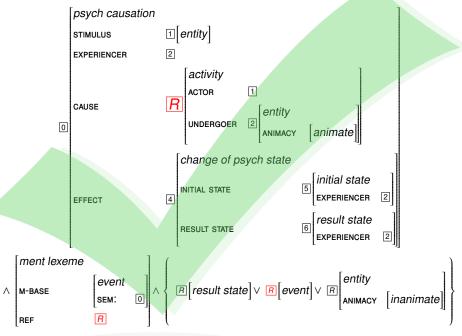


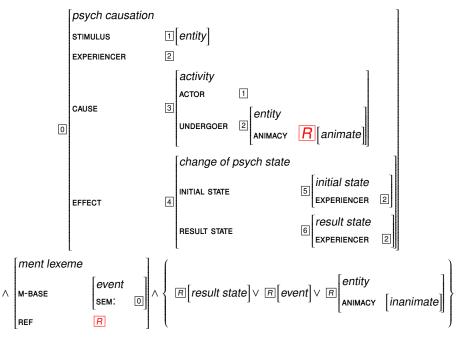


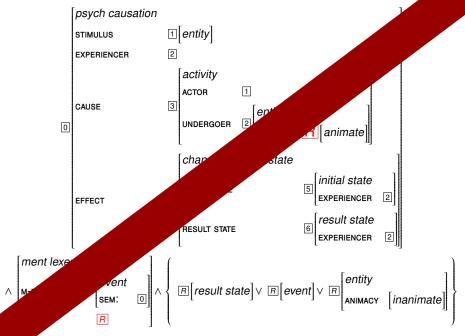


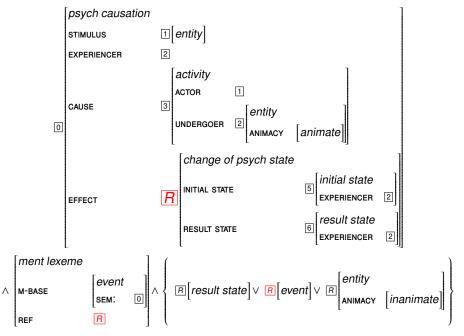


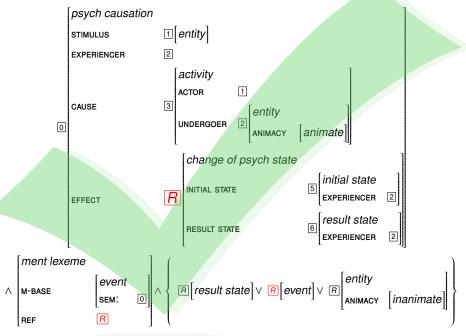


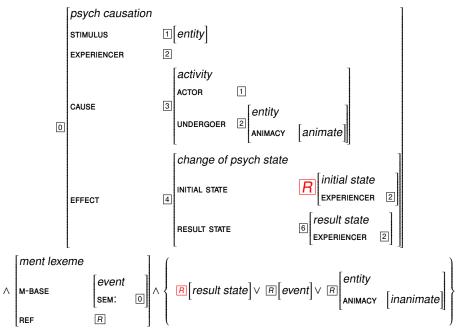


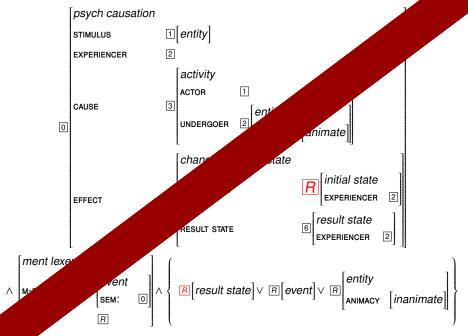


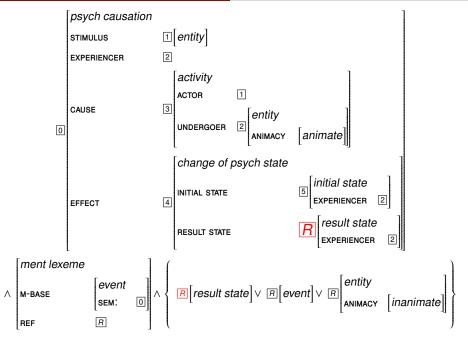


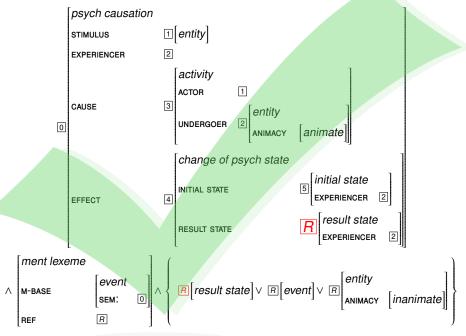












Conclusion

- Our analysis allows one to model and test the various theoretical approaches to a long-standing issue in word formation
- XMG implementation: shows that the underspecified meaning of affixes cannot always be reduced to a single unitary meaning
- Also shows that an extreme version of the monosemy approach leads to massive overgeneration
- Claim: the polysemy approach and the introduction of type constraints into derivational rules is more judicious
- Future research: more verb classes, affixes.

Thank You

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