The Story of MorphoLogic's MetaMorpho Project

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Abstract

MetaMorpho is a machine-translation program family supporting different areas of translation: comprehension assistance for beginners, MT for standard users and TM for professional translators.

Development of MetaMorpho began in 2000, using all the language technology results of MorphoLogic achieved in the previous 10 years. Since then there have been 30 programmers and linguists working on the project. It means about 200 more man-month for this period. At the beginning there were three developers – and now we have thirteen full-time people and several PhD students.

MetaMorpho is a combination of rule-based and example-based systems. We use the term pattern for both linguistic rules and lexical entries depending on their specification level. MetaMorpho thus unifies the advantages of the RBMT and EBMT systems.

The first aim of this project is a running English-Hungarian translation module. Since the basic idea behind the software tool is language independent, new language-pairs can be developed relatively easily.

Presently, we are working on a tool improving efficiency of grammar development.

The first publicly available results of this 4-year project are going to be published next year. The very first product called MoBiCAT is a higher-level version of the intelligent comprehension assistant, the popular MoBiMouse.