

# Plan Optimization for Creating Bilingual Dictionaries of Low-Resource Languages

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**Abstract**—The constraint-based approach has been proven useful for inducing bilingual lexicons for closely-related low-resource languages. When we want to create multiple bilingual dictionaries linking several languages, we need to consider manual creation by bilingual language experts if there are no available machine-readable dictionaries available as input. To overcome the difficulty in planning the creation of bilingual dictionaries, the consideration of various methods and costs, plan optimization is essential. We adopt the Markov Decision Process (MDP) in formalizing plan optimization for creating bilingual dictionaries; the goal is to better predict the most feasible optimal plan with the least total cost before fully implementing the constraint-based bilingual dictionary induction framework. We define heuristics based on input language characteristics to devise a baseline plan for evaluating our MDP-based approach with total cost as an evaluation metric. The MDP-based proposal outperformed heuristic planning on total cost for all datasets examined.

## 1. Introduction

Nowadays, machine-readable bilingual dictionaries are being utilized in actual services [1] [2] to support intercultural collaboration [3], but low-resource languages lack such sources. Previous work on high-resource languages showed the effectiveness of parallel corpora [4] [5] and comparable corpora [6] [7] in inducing bilingual lexicons. Clearly bilingual lexicon extraction is highly problematic for low-resource languages due to the paucity or outright omission of parallel and comparable corpora. We recently introduced the promising approach of treating pivot-based bilingual lexicon induction for low-resource languages as an optimization problem [8]. Bilingual dictionaries are the only language resource required by our approach. Despite the high potential of our approach in enriching low-resource languages, it faces numerous issues when trying to create plans to implement multiple bilingual dictionaries for a set of low-resource languages like Indonesian ethnic languages. When actually implementing our constraint-based bilingual lexicon induction approach, we need to consider the inclusion of more traditional methods like manually creating the bilingual dictionaries by bilingual language

experts. Despite of the high cost, this will be unavoidable if no machine-readable dictionaries are available. Given the various methods and costs that may need to be considered, plan optimization is required. We address the following research goals:

- *Formalization of plan optimization in creating bilingual dictionaries*: Modeling bilingual dictionary dependency with AND/OR graphs, and employing the Markov Decision Process for plan optimization.
- *Creating heuristic plans as baselines for evaluating plans*: We create plans that follow some basic heuristics and then use total cost as the evaluation metric for comparing performance.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows: In Section 2, we will briefly discuss related research on pivot-based bilingual dictionary induction. Section 3 discusses how to model dictionary dependency. Section 4 details the formalization of plan optimization, a core component of our proposal. Section 5 describes our experiments and the results. Finally, Section 6 concludes this paper.

## 2. Pivot-Based Bilingual Lexicon Induction

The first work on bilingual lexicon induction to create bilingual dictionaries (language A and language C) via pivot language B is Inverse Consultation (IC) [9]. It utilizes the structure of input dictionaries to measure the closeness of word meanings and then uses the results to prune erroneous translation pair candidates. The IC approach identifies equivalent candidates of language A words in language C by consulting dictionary A-B and dictionary B-C. These equivalent candidates will be looked up and compared in the inverse dictionary C-A.

The pivot-based approach is very suitable for low-resource languages, especially when dictionaries are the only language resource required. Unfortunately, for some low-resource languages, it is often difficult to find machine-readable inverse dictionaries and corpora to identify and eliminate the erroneous translation pair candidates. To overcome this limitation, our team [10] proposed to treat pivot-based bilingual lexicon induction as an optimization

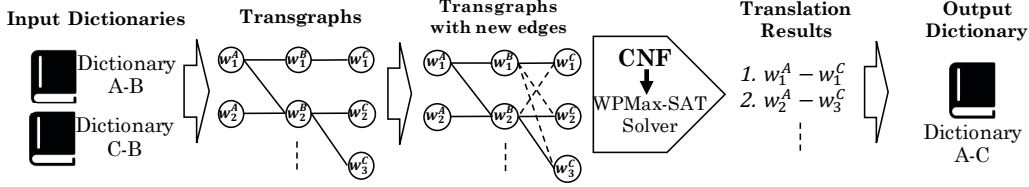


Figure 1. One-to-one constraint approach to pivot-based bilingual dictionary induction.

problem. The assumption was that lexicons of closely-related languages offer instances of one-to-one mapping and share a significant number of cognates (words with similar spelling/form and meaning originating from the same root language). This assumption yielded the development of a constraint optimization model to induce an Uyghur-Kazakh bilingual dictionary using Chinese language as the pivot, which means that Chinese words were used as intermediates to connect Uyghur words in an Uyghur-Chinese dictionary with Kazakh words in a Kazakh-Chinese dictionary. The proposal uses a graph whose vertices represent words and edges indicate shared meanings; following [11] it was called a transgraph. The proposal proceeds as follows: (1) use two bilingual dictionaries as input, (2) represent them as transgraphs where  $w_1^A$  and  $w_2^A$  are non-pivot words in language A,  $w_1^B$  and  $w_2^B$  are pivot words in language B, and  $w_1^C$ ,  $w_2^C$  and  $w_3^C$  are non-pivot words in language C, (3) add some new edges represented by dashed edges based on the one-to-one assumption, (4) formalize the problem into conjunctive normal form (CNF) and use the Weighted Partial MaxSAT (WPMAXSAT) solver [12] to return the optimized translation results, and (5) output the induced bilingual dictionary as the result. These steps are shown in Figure 1. However, the assumption of one-to-one mapping is too strong to induce the many translation pairs needed to offset resource paucity because few such pairs can be found. Therefore, we generalized the constraint-based bilingual lexicon induction framework by extending constraints and translation pair candidates from the one-to-one approach to attain more voluminous bilingual dictionary results with many-to-many translation pairs extracted from connected existing and new edges [8].

### 3. Modeling Dictionary Dependency

Our constraint-based bilingual dictionary induction requires two bilingual dictionaries that share the same pivot language. We can induce bilingual dictionary A-C from bilingual dictionary A-B and B-C as input (language B is the pivot). Nevertheless, we can also induce bilingual dictionary A-C with different input bilingual dictionaries using language D as the pivot language for instance. We use an AND/OR graph to model the dependency: bilingual dictionary A-C can be induced from bilingual dictionaries A-B AND B-C OR from bilingual dictionaries A-D AND D-C as shown in Figure 2.

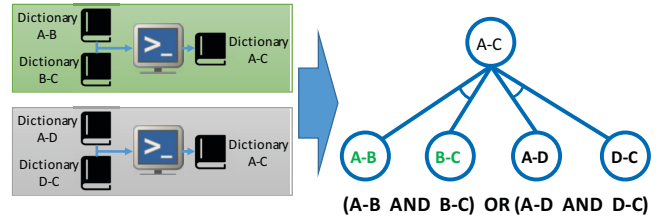


Figure 2. Modeling Bilingual Dictionary Induction Dependency.

If two sets of input dictionaries can be used to induce bilingual dictionary A-C, if we have to choose between the two sets, we need to prioritize input dictionaries that can induce bilingual dictionary A-C with more correct translation pairs. But, the number of correct translation pairs that can be induced depends on the quality of the constraint-based bilingual dictionary induction which also depends on the size and quality of the input dictionaries which can best be treated as a search problem with uncertainty.

## 4. Formalizing Plan Optimization

We assume that user provides the number of existing translation pairs for existing bilingual dictionaries. We calculate language similarity between each language pair with ASJP. Both characteristics are crucial in predicting the performance of constraint-based bilingual dictionary induction which also determines the number of translation pairs in the output bilingual dictionary. User can also set the minimum number of translation pairs the output bilingual dictionary should have. Markov Decision Process (MDP) is a well-known technique to solve problems containing uncertainty. An MDP is the tuple  $(S, A, T_{s,a,s'}, C_{s,a,s'})$ , where  $S$  is a set of states,  $A$  is a set of actions,  $T_{s,a,s'}$  is a transition probability distribution over the state space when action  $a$  is taken in state  $s$ , and  $C_{s,a,s'}$  is the negative reward or cost for taking action  $a$  in state  $s$ .

### 4.1. State

If  $n$  is a number of languages of interest specified by user, the total number of all possible combinations of bilingual dictionaries in the state is  $m = C_2^n$ . For example, if we have 4 languages  $(L_1, L_2, L_3, L_4)$ , there will be  $m = C_2^4 = 6$  bilingual dictionaries.

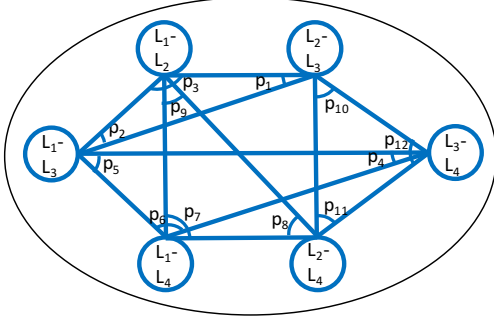


Figure 3. Bilingual Dictionary Induction Dependency Model.

Each state stores  $m$  bilingual dictionaries, each  $D_{(x,y)}$  with four possible status types: not existing  $D_{(x,y):n}$ , existing but number of translation pairs is below user requested size  $D_{(x,y):eu}$ , induced from pivot action with  $z$  as pivot language but the number of translation pairs is below user request  $D_{(x,y):pu(z)}$ , and existing or induced from pivot action where the number of translation pairs equals or exceeds user requested number of translation pairs  $D_{(x,y):s}$ , hence, the maximum number of MDP states is  $4^m = 4^6 = 4,096$ . Based on the status, we further categorize the bilingual dictionary as either SATDict ( $D_{(x,y):s}$ ) or UnSATDict ( $D_{(x,y):n}$ ,  $D_{(x,y):eu}$ , or  $D_{(x,y):pu(z)}$ ). Each state also stores information about the dependency between its dictionaries as shown in Figure 3.

After an agent takes an action in state  $s$  to enrich an UnSATDict of language  $x$  and  $y$ , if the size of the output dictionary satisfies user request, the agent will transit to the next one step ahead state,  $s'$ , which has an SATDict of the same languages,  $x$  and  $y$ , while the other bilingual dictionaries in  $s'$  are unchanged from the previous state,  $s$ . State  $s'$  takes its state, SATState or UnSATState, from that of state  $s$ , as shown in Figure 4.

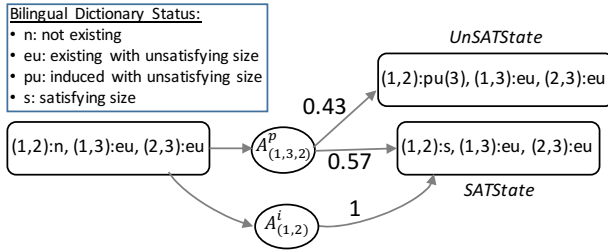


Figure 4. Example of State Transition to SATState or UnSATState.

The number of states increases exponentially with the number of languages as shown in Table 1. So as to cast formulation complexity into a graph theory problem, we initially create only one Start-State where each bilingual dictionary status is calculated from the input bilingual dictionaries size given by user. We then generate all possible actions, including the next one step ahead states  $s'_k$  that would result

TABLE 1. EXPONENTIAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN NUMBER OF LANGUAGES AND STATES

#Languages (n)	#Dictionaries (m)	#states
2	1	4
3	3	64
4	6	4,096
5	10	1,048,576
6	15	1,073,741,824

from taking those actions, based on the bilingual dictionary induction dependency model as shown in Figure 3. We iterate the same procedure on  $s'_k$  until the Final-State is reached where all  $m$  bilingual dictionaries from  $n$  languages are available where the number of translation pairs equals or exceeds user requested number of translation pairs.

## 4.2. Action

Some bilingual dictionary creation methods require only bilingual dictionaries as input, and thus they can be used in this MDP model such as the Inverse Consultation method, the one-to-one constraint-based approach, and our generalized constraint-based bilingual lexicon induction framework. However, since our method outperformed both previous methods, we apply our method as one of MDP action and call it pivot action  $A^p_{(x,z,y)}$  where  $z$  is the pivot language. As we assume low-resource language, adequate machine-readable bilingual dictionaries will be unavailable, and we define manual bilingual dictionary creation by a language expert as investment action  $A^i_{(x,y)}$ . The purposes of the pivot action and investment action are to enrich and change the category of the bilingual dictionaries stored in each state from UnSATDict to SATDict. An UnSATDict with status  $D_{(x,y):n}$  or  $D_{(x,y):eu}$  can be enriched by both investment action and pivot action. For an UnSATDict with status  $D_{(x,y):pu(z)}$ , however, we limit the next action to investment action only because pivot action  $A^p_{(x,z,y)}$  was already tried exactly one step prior. A pivot action can be taken from input dictionaries with status  $D_{(x,y):s}$  and  $D_{(x,y):eu}$ .

## 4.3. Cost

In the MDP model, the agent expects to get a reward after taking some actions. The reward will guide the agent to reach the final state and obtain the best path or in this case the best plan. Because for creating a bilingual dictionary we need to pay some cost instead of getting some rewards afterward, here we cast the reward as a cost. The terms of reward and cost are interchangeable in many previous MDP studies [13]. When we take an investment action, we are actually asking a language expert to manually create a bilingual dictionary and we need to pay for the time and effort incurred. For the sake of modeling simplicity, we take \$0.3 to be the cost of the investment action for one translation pair. For taking pivot action, i.e., using the constraint-based bilingual lexicon induction framework, when we already

have the input dictionaries, we can generate the output dictionary in a short time. Thus, we assume that there is no cost in taking the pivot action.

#### 4.4. State Transition Probability

The number of translation pairs in the current state affects the performance of the pivot action taken in the current state, and thus the number of induced translation pairs in the next state. When the bilingual dictionary output by the pivot action  $A_{(x,z,y)}^p$  equals or exceeds user requested size, the agent will transit to the next state,  $s'$  in which the bilingual dictionary status of languages  $x$  and  $y$  is  $D_{(x,y):s}$  or else transit to the next state,  $s'$  in which the bilingual dictionary status of languages  $x$  and  $y$  is  $D_{(x,y):pu(z)}$  and the remaining bilingual dictionaries in the state  $s'$  are unchanged from the previous state  $s$ .

The state transition probability for taking a pivot action depends on the size of output bilingual dictionary which also depends on the precision of the constraint-based bilingual lexicon induction framework. If the precision is 1, then all translation pair candidates are taken as translation pairs. The experiment results in our previous work [8] showed a trend that precision is greater than input language similarity and we can obtain at least as many translation pair candidates as number of entries of the smaller of the input bilingual dictionaries. For the sake of simplicity, we assume that we can obtain as many translation pair candidates as the number of entries of the smaller input bilingual dictionaries and that the precision of constraint-based bilingual lexicon induction equals or exceeds input languages similarity. Nevertheless, since we do not know the exact precision for the different input language sets before implementing the constraint-based bilingual lexicon induction and evaluating the result, we do not know the exact number of translation pairs of the evaluated output bilingual dictionary  $EPair$ . Therefore, we calculate the probability of the transition to the SATState by Equation 1 where  $SATRange$  is the range of precision that will ensure that the output dictionary size will satisfy user request while  $UnSATRange$  is the range of precision that will not satisfy user requested size. We use Equations 2 and 3 to calculate  $SATRange$  and  $UnSATRange$ , respectively, given precision  $SATPrec$ , i.e., the minimum precision required to satisfy user request following Equation 4. We assume that output bilingual dictionary size is linear to pivot action precision as shown in Figure 5.

$$T_{s,a,s'} = SATRange / (SATRange + UnSATRange) \quad (1)$$

$$SATRange = maxPrec - SATPrec \quad (2)$$

$$UnSATRange = SATPrec - minPrec \quad (3)$$

$$SATPrec = RPair / CPair \quad (4)$$

For instance, when we want to enrich UnSATDict  $D_{(1,2):n}$  with pivot action  $A_{(1,3,2)}^p$  from existing UnSATDict  $D_{(1,3):eu}$  with input dictionary size equals 6,000 and  $D_{(2,3):eu}$  with input dictionary size equals 8,500, we can

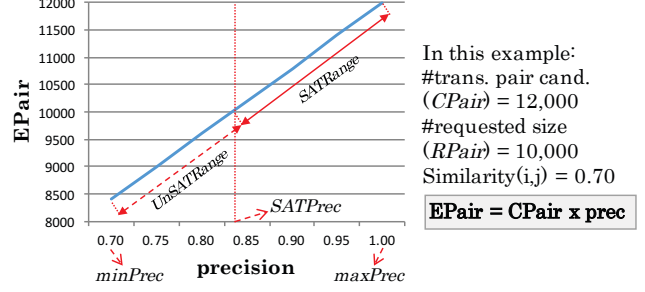


Figure 5. Example of Linear Relationship between Output Bilingual Dictionary's Size and Precision.

get the number of translation pair candidates ( $CPair$ ) that equals the minimum input dictionary size which is 6,000. If we also get information about user requested size of output bilingual dictionary ( $RPair$ ) which is 5,000 with 0.70 language similarity, we can assume the minimum precision ( $minPrec$ ) of the pivot action is also 0.70 and the maximum precision ( $maxPrec$ ) is 1. In this example,  $SATPrec = 5,000/6,000 = 0.83$ , and we can further calculate  $SATRange = 1 - 0.83 = 0.17$  and  $UnSATRange = 0.83 - 0.70 = 0.13$ . Thus, the transition probability when taking action  $a$  which in this case  $A_{(1,3,2)}^p$  in state  $s$  which has UnSATDict  $D_{(1,2):n}$  to a SATState  $s'_{SAT}$  which has SATDict  $D_{(1,2):s}$  is  $T_{s,a,s':SAT} = 0.17 / (0.17 + 0.13) = 0.57$ . Consequently, the transition probability to UnSATState  $s'_{UnSAT}$  which has UnSATDict  $D_{(1,2):pu(3)}$  is  $T_{s,a,s':UnSAT} = 1 - T_{s,a,s':SAT} = 1 - 0.57 = 0.43$ . To enrich the bilingual dictionary  $D_{(1,2):n}$  with investment action  $A_{(1,2)}^i$ , we assume that the language expert can always satisfy user requested output bilingual dictionary size, thus the agent will transit to SATState with probability of 1. This state transition example is depicted in Figure 4.

#### 4.5. Value Iteration

We use value iteration algorithm [14] to calculate utility (optimal policy) of each state by summing the cost for starting at state  $s$  and acting according to policies thereafter as shown in Equation 5. Every state will have a policy of best action in order to minimize cumulative costs.

$$U_{i+1}(s) = \min_{a \in A(s)} \sum_{s'} T_{s,a,s'} (C_{s,a,s'} + U_i(s')) \quad (5)$$

### 5. Experiment

Automated Similarity Judgment Program (ASJP) was proposed by [15] with the main goal of developing a database of Swadesh lists [16] for all of the world's languages from which lexical similarity or lexical distance matrix between languages can be obtained by comparing the word lists. We utilize ASJP to select the target languages used in our simulation case studies. Indonesia has 707 low-resource ethnic languages [17], all of which are suitable

TABLE 2. SIMILARITY MATRIX OF 6 INDONESIAN ETHNIC LANGUAGES RANKED BY NUMBER OF SPEAKERS

Language	Indonesian	Old Javanese	Minangkabau	Makasar	Sasak
Old Javanese	0.2409				
Minangkabau	0.6159	0.2501			
Makasar	0.3305	0.2239	0.3307		
Sasak	0.4391	0.2045	0.4439	0.3507	
Lampung	0.2070	0.1960	0.1910	0.1990	0.2079

TABLE 3. EXISTING PRINTED BILINGUAL DICTIONARY SIZE

Bilingual Dictionary	Number of Translation Pair
Indonesian - Old Javanese	8,600
Indonesian - Minangkabau	12,600
Indonesian - Makasar	4,300
Indonesian - Sasak	19,300
Indonesian - Lampung	9,200

as target languages in our study. From them we selected Indonesian, Old Java, Minangkabau, Makasar, Sasak, and Lampung. We then generated the language similarity matrix by utilizing ASJP as shown in Table 2. There is no available dictionary either machine readable or printed format between these Indonesian ethnic languages. Nevertheless, we can find several printed bilingual dictionaries for Indonesian (the official language) and several ethnic languages as shown in Table 3. Actually we need to convert those printed dictionaries to machine readable dictionaries either manually by human or automatically as shown in [18]. For test simplicity, we assumed that all printed dictionaries had been converted into machine readable form.

### 5.1. Experiment Settings

To show effectiveness of our method, we use, as baselines, heuristic plans to choose an action to take based on input language characteristics as follows:

#### A. Heuristic 1:

- Only investment actions are considered.

#### B. Heuristic 2:

- Prioritizing pivot actions over investment actions as the first priority.
- Prioritizing input bilingual dictionary size (bigger is better) as the second priority.
- Prioritizing language similarity (closer is better) as the third priority.
- Before taking the selected pivot action, an investment action can be taken to ensure that the input dictionaries specified by the selected pivot action satisfying user requested size.

#### C. Heuristic 3:

- Prioritizing pivot actions over investment actions as the first priority.

- Prioritizing language similarity (closer is better) as the second priority.
- Prioritizing input bilingual dictionary size (bigger is better) as the third priority.
- Before taking the selected pivot action, an investment action can be taken to ensure that the input dictionaries specified by the selected pivot action satisfying user requested size.

We conducted experiments on four datasets from the printed dictionaries of Indonesian ethnic languages. We randomly selected language pairs to get two four-languages datasets and two five-languages datasets. Dataset 1 had four languages: (1) Indonesia, (2) Minangkabau, (3) Lampung, and (4) Sasak. Dataset 2 also had four languages: (1) Indonesia, (2) Minangkabau, (3) Makasar, and (4) Old Java. Dataset 3 had five languages: (1) Indonesia, (2) Minangkabau, (3) Lampung, (4) Sasak, and (5) Makasar. Dataset 4 also had five languages: (1) Indonesia, (2) Minangkabau, (3) Lampung, (4) Makasar, and (5) Old Java. Plans were evaluated by comparing the total cost of MDP and heuristic-based optimal plan.

### 5.2. Experiment Result

The heuristic approach that uses only the language characteristics with rules to follow fails to find the optimal path with the least cost. The language characteristics should be processed into more useful information like both cost of action and transition probability as in the proposed MDP approach to get the feasible optimal plan with the least cost. The result depicted in Table 4 shows that our MDP model outperformed the heuristic plans as regards total cost of the optimal plan for all datasets. Compared to heuristic 1, heuristic 2 and heuristic 3 plans, respectively, our MDP plan reduced total cost by, for dataset 1, 75%, 65%, and 68%; for dataset 2, 59%, 47%, and 47%; for dataset 3, 77%, 68%, and 68%, and for dataset 4, 62%, 51%, and 51%.

Our recursive algorithm greatly reduced the complexity of the MDP model as shown in Table 5. In datasets 1 and 2, both of which held 4 languages, the number of states was reduced by 93% compared to the maximum number of states shown in Table 1. For datasets 3 and 4, which had 5 languages, the reduction was 99%.

### 6. Conclusion

Our constraint-based bilingual lexicon induction approach has the potential to enrich low-resource languages



TABLE 4. TOTAL COST COMPARISON BETWEEN MDP AND HEURISTICS APPROACH

Dataset	Method	Planning	Total Cost
1	Heuristic 1	$A^i_{(1,2)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,3)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,3)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(3,4)}$	\$23,670
	Heuristic 2	$A^i_{(1,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,2)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,1,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,3)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,1,3)} \rightarrow A^p_{(3,1,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,3)} \rightarrow A^i_{(3,4)}$	\$16,937
	Heuristic 3	$A^i_{(1,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,2)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,1,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,3)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,4)} \rightarrow A^p_{(3,2,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,3)} \rightarrow A^i_{(3,4)}$	\$18,515
	MDP	$A^i_{(1,3)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,1,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,4)} \rightarrow A^p_{(1,4,2)} \rightarrow A^p_{(3,1,4)} \rightarrow A^p_{(1,2,4)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,4,3)}$	\$5,884
2	Heuristic 1	$A^i_{(1,2)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,3)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,3)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(3,4)}$	\$28,350
	Heuristic 2	$A^i_{(1,2)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,4)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,1,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,3)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,1,3)} \rightarrow A^p_{(3,1,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,3)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(3,4)}$	\$21,992
	Heuristic 3	$A^i_{(1,2)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,3)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,1,3)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,4)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,1,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,3)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,4)} \rightarrow A^p_{(3,2,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(3,4)}$	\$21,973
	MDP	$A^i_{(1,3)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,4)} \rightarrow A^p_{(3,1,4)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,1,3)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,3)} \rightarrow A^p_{(1,3,2)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,3,4)}$	\$11,629
3	Heuristic 1	$A^i_{(1,2)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,3)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,5)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,3)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,5)} \rightarrow A^i_{(3,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(3,5)} \rightarrow A^i_{(4,5)}$	\$46,380
	Heuristic 2	$A^i_{(1,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,2)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,1,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,3)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,1,3)} \rightarrow A^p_{(3,1,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,5)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,1,5)} \rightarrow A^p_{(4,1,5)}$ $\rightarrow A^p_{(3,1,5)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,5)} \rightarrow A^i_{(4,5)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,3)} \rightarrow A^i_{(3,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(3,5)}$	\$33,380
	Heuristic 3	$A^i_{(1,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,2)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,1,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,5)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,1,5)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,5)} \rightarrow A^p_{(4,2,5)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,3)}$ $\rightarrow A^p_{(2,1,3)} \rightarrow A^p_{(3,1,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(4,5)} \rightarrow A^i_{(3,4)} \rightarrow A^p_{(3,4,5)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,3)} \rightarrow A^i_{(3,5)}$	\$33,325
	MDP	$A^i_{(1,3)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,5)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,1,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,4)} \rightarrow A^p_{(1,4,2)} \rightarrow A^p_{(3,1,4)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,4,3)} \rightarrow A^p_{(4,1,5)} \rightarrow A^p_{(1,2,4)}$ $\rightarrow A^p_{(2,4,5)} \rightarrow A^p_{(3,2,5)}$	\$10,594
4	Heuristic 1	$A^i_{(1,2)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,3)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,5)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,3)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,5)} \rightarrow A^i_{(3,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(3,5)} \rightarrow A^i_{(4,5)}$	\$49,590
	Heuristic 2	$A^i_{(1,2)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,3)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,1,3)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,5)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,1,5)} \rightarrow A^p_{(3,1,5)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,4)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,1,4)} \rightarrow A^p_{(4,1,5)}$ $\rightarrow A^p_{(3,1,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,5)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,3)} \rightarrow A^i_{(4,5)} \rightarrow A^i_{(3,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(3,5)}$	\$38,443
	Heuristic 3	$A^i_{(1,2)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,4)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,1,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,5)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,1,5)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,3)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,1,3)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,5)}$ $\rightarrow A^p_{(4,2,5)} \rightarrow A^p_{(3,1,4)} \rightarrow A^p_{(3,1,5)} \rightarrow A^i_{(4,5)} \rightarrow A^i_{(3,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(3,5)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,3)}$	\$38,424
	MDP	$A^i_{(1,3)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(1,5)} \rightarrow A^p_{(3,1,4)} \rightarrow A^p_{(4,1,5)} \rightarrow A^i_{(4,5)} \rightarrow A^p_{(3,4,5)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,1,4)} \rightarrow A^i_{(2,4)}$ $\rightarrow A^p_{(1,4,2)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,4,3)} \rightarrow A^p_{(2,3,5)}$	\$18,761

TABLE 5. MDP MODEL COMPLEXITY REDUCTIONS

Dataset	#Languages	#States	#Invest. Action	#Pivot Action
1 & 2	4	280	408	432
3 & 4	5	8,704	12,800	15,360

with the only input being machine readable bilingual dictionaries. Unfortunately, the scarcity of such dictionaries for low-resource languages makes it difficult to plan which bilingual dictionary should be invested first or which bilingual dictionary should be induced right from the start in order to obtain all possible combination of bilingual dictionaries from the language set with the minimum total cost to be paid. The exponential complexity of formulating the bilingual dictionary creation planning into a graph theory problem indicates a greater complexity of obtaining the optimal planning with the least total cost by only following the heuristic. Nevertheless, our algorithm greatly reduced the complexity, so that the MDP planning can find the feasible optimal plan with less total cost compared to heuristic planning. Our MDP model can calculate the cumulative cost while predicting and considering the probability of the pivot action to yield a satisfying output bilingual dictionary as utility for every state to better predict the most feasible optimal plan with the least total cost.

Our key research contribution is a formalization of planning optimization for creating bilingual dictionaries. Our formalization with MDP allow user to predict the feasible

optimal plan with the least total cost before implementing the constraint-based bilingual dictionary induction framework in a big scale. To the best of our knowledge, our study is the first attempt to formalize planning optimization for creating bilingual dictionaries.

## Acknowledgments

This research was partially supported by a Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (A) (17H00759, 2017-2020) and a Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (A) (17H04706, 2017-2020) from Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS). The first author was supported by Indonesia Endowment Fund for Education (LPDP).

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