

Lexeme Relations and Lexeme Constructions

as represented in the
Filemaker version of TLS

Lexeme (Word) Relations

TLS: “... classical Chinese words in TLS are taken to be defined by their place in a network of systematic semantic Word Relations.”

The words in CC very often reveal their potential meanings just within particular semantic relationships with other words in the text. From the point of view of stylistics, these relations are typically actualised in parallel sentences.

In the old version of TLS we have distinguished so far 12 types of various Lexeme Relations, all these types have been already imported into the new

The screenshot shows the TLS website interface. A dropdown menu is open, listing various word relation types with their counts: Ant (1420), Assoc (2105), Contrast (720), Conv (25), Epithet (614), Inconsist (21), Object (365), Oppos (613), Relat (20), Result (71), Subject (29), and Synon (433). The 'Conv' option is selected and circled in red. Below the menu, the page displays a list of word relations under the heading 'nv: converse (與 - 受)'. The list is organized into three columns: Left Word, Right Word, and Text / Ref. Each entry includes a Chinese character and its English translation, followed by a reference source and year.

Left Word	Right Word	Text / Ref
丈夫/HUSBAND	婦人/WIFE	左轉詞彙研究 MAO YUANMING 1999
乞/BEG	與予/GIVE	左轉詞彙研究 MAO YUANMING 1999
事/SERVE	畜/REAR	必使仰足以事父母 / 俯足以畜妻子 (孟子1)
學/STUDY	誨/TEACH	學而不厭 / 誨人不倦 (論語7)
弓/BOW	矢/ARROW	彤弓盧矢 / 彤弓盧矢 (法言8)
慈/LOVE	孝/LOVE	為人父則慈 / 為人子則孝 (睡虎地)
		民猶薄於孝而厚於慈 / 民猶薄於孝而厚於慈 (禮記)
		言孝不言慈 / 言孝不言慈 (禮記31)
授受/GIVE	受/RECEIVE	左轉詞彙研究 MAO YUANMING 1999 298
教/TEACH	學/STUDY	左轉詞彙研究 MAO YUANMING 1999
教/TEACH	習/STUDY	左轉詞彙研究 MAO YUANMING 1999
求/SEEK	與/GIVE	求之與 / 抑與之與 (論語1)
		彼求我予 / 彼求我予 (韓非子8)
治/GOVERN	治於/GOVERN	勞心者治人 / 勞力者治於人 (孟子5)

Example:

道 *dào* {METHOD}
{PRINCIPLE} Contrast 理 *lǐ*

行 *xíng* {ACT} Opposite 言 *yán* {SPEAK}

爾時毒蛇見有一人順道而過 “ At that time a poisonous snake saw a man passing by following the way.

復道而行 [The man] returned to the way and continued walking.”

(賢愚經 18)

正直者
順道而行，
順理而言。

“The correct and upright act in accordance with the True Way and speak in accordance with right principles.”

(韓詩外傳 7)

“Texts” file, “Lexeme Relation Attribution” Layout

The screenshot displays a software interface for lexeme relation attribution. The main window is titled "lex rel attr" and shows a text editor with Chinese text and its English translation. A dropdown menu is open, listing various attribution types, with "lexeme relation attribution" highlighted. Below the text editor, there is a table of "lexeme relation lookup results".

Text Editor Content:

text label	seq nos	query character	book ref
HSWZ	7 21	1	韓詩外傳

Attribution Menu:

- text with notes
- list view
- lexeme entry attribution
- lexeme relation attribution
- rhetorical devices attribution
- CHANT alignment
- text division
- text union for copy
- text union for export
- external notes
- dating
- link text
- external
- audit trail

Lexeme Relation Lookup Results:

<	Contr(導/道/LEAD) = (使/GOVERN)	add
<	Contr(本/BASIS) = (道/WAY)	add
<	Contrast(道/WAY) = (徑/PATH)	add
<	Contrast(道/WAY) = (德/VIRTUE)	add
<	Contrast(道/METHOD) = (數/METHOD)	add
<	Contrast(道/METHOD) = (理/PRINCIPLE)	add
<	Contrast(道/METHOD) = (術/METHOD)	add
<	Contrast(道/METHOD) = (命/FATE)	add
<	Epithet(道/WAY) = (遠/DISTANT)	add
<	Epithet(道/METHOD) = (天/GOD)	add
<	Equival(導/道/LEAD) = (齊/CORRECT)	add

Lookup Results Detail:

Contrast(道/METHOD) = (理/PRINCIPLE)	1
<	<

“Lexeme Relations” file

FileMaker Pro Advanced File Edit View Insert Format Records Scripts Tools Window Help

main 2015 05. 28 Lexeme Relations

sources files layouts CH << < > >> record 13 of 26 found X 0 Q

Contrast(道/METHOD) = (理/PRINCIPLE)

revised to be deleted

left lexeme

<	道	METHOD	dào *dau **g-luu?	11	10	nab.post-N, nab.post-V{NUM}, nab, nadN, vi, vtoN
---	---	--------	-------------------	----	----	--

Dào 道 is a way of being, of functioning, as well as a way of doing things, and this Way may be either exoteric or esoteric.

lexeme relation type

right lexeme

<	理	PRINCIPLE	lǐ *li **g-rw?	6	46	nab.adV, nab, vi, vtoN
---	---	-----------	----------------	---	----	------------------------

Lǐ 理 refers to inherent structuring patterns of things.

notes

天道，地理，人紀
This triad is not conveniently represented in our categorial system. Triads of this sort can only be recorded by annotation until we introduce lexeme relations with more than two related items.

examples, provisional examples

lexeme relation attributions 3

<	呂氏春秋·1·1·6·1	無變天之道，	無絕地之理，	One should not change the Way of Heaven	one should not disrupt the principles of Earth
<	呂氏春秋·1·1·6·1	無變天之道，	無絕地之理，	One should not change the Way of Heaven	one should not disrupt the principles of Earth
<	韓詩外傳·7·21/1	正直者順道而行，		The correct and upright act in accordance with the True Way	

“Lexeme Relation Types” file

The screenshot shows the FileMaker Pro Advanced interface for a database named "Lexeme Relation Types". The current record is "Contrast" (ID 585). The interface includes a menu bar, a toolbar with navigation and record management icons, and a main workspace with several fields: "sources", "definition", and "notes". A red circle highlights the record navigation controls (back, forward, first, last, search) and the record ID field.

At the bottom, a table displays the following data:

Lexeme Relation	Count	Description
Contrast(/) = (倦/TIRED)	2	Ya4n 厭 refers to dissatisfaction caused by a kind of surfeit of what one takes in, concrete or abstract
Contrast(主/RULER) = (人主/RULER)	1	
Contrast(久/ENDURING) = (常/ENDURING)	1	
Contrast(久/ENDURING) = (/)	1	
Contrast(乖/CONTRARY) = (異/DIFFERENT)	0	
Contrast(乘/DRIVE) = (駕/DRIVE)	1	
Contrast(予/EGO) = (我/EGO)	7	
Contrast(予/EGO) = (朕/EGO)	24	
Contrast(予/EGO) = (朕躬/EGO)	6	
Contrast(予/與/GIVE) = (受/授/GIVE)	1	The contrast is that yu3 與 is to give with an intention to benefit the receiver; sho4u 授 is simply to
Contrast(予/與/GIVE) = (歸/GIVE)	1	"Give" versus "give to where something belongs".
Contrast(予一人/EGO) = (朕躬/EGO)	1	
Contrast(事/WORK) = (作/WORK)	1	
Contrast(事/WORK) = (功/ACHIEVE)	2	
Contrast(事/SERVE) = (為/SERVE)	1	事 is serving formally, as a subordinate, 為 is choosing to work for and thus serve.
Contrast(二/TWO) = (雙/TWO)	0	
Contrast(人/OTHER) = (朋友/FRIEND)	1	

Lexeme Constructions

One of the specific features of the Chinese language is the lack of a clear boundary between word-formation and syntax.

Morphemes are combined into larger units according to a set of the same rules, regardless whether we consider these higher units being words or syntactic constructions.

(Of course, by "morpheme" we mean the traditional complex of sound, meaning and graphical representation and not the hypothetical sub-syllabic units like the suffix *-s.)

With few exceptions, this applies to most periods in the history of the Chinese language.

陸志韋：《漢語的構詞法》，1965.

據我們的經驗，新詞裡並不發現新的結構類型，這就是說新詞都是按著舊詞的結構形式造成的。

According to our experience, in new words we do not at all discover new construction types, which means that new words are entirely built according to the structural forms of the old words.

Some MSC examples:

- 知道 *zhīdao* KNOW VPt {vtoN}

compare: 喝酒 *hē jiǔ* DRINK ALCOHOL vtoN

- 白菜 *báicài* CABBAGE NP {vadN}

compare: 白紙 *bái zhǐ* WHITE PAPER vadN

- 說明 *shuōmíng* EXPLAIN VPt{vpostadV}

compare: 吃飽 *chī bǎo* EAT ENOUGH vpostadV

- 不好 *bùhǎo* BAD VPi {padV}

compare : 不好 *bù hǎo* NOT GOOD padV

The inventory of MSC morphemes which can be combined into bi- or polysyllabic compounds, as collected e.g. in 新華字典, used to be to a great extent part of the CC vocabulary.

This shows the importance of the CC studies for better understanding of MSC morphology and word-formation.

呂叔湘：《漢語語法分析問題》，1979.

辨認語素跟讀沒讀過古書有關係。… 詞根的分類主要還得看它在古漢語裡的用法。

Identification of morphemes relates to the fact whether one has or has not read old books. ... As for classification of the word roots, one has still mainly to look at their usage in Old Chinese.

“Lexemes” file

The screenshot shows the Lexemes software interface. At the top, there are navigation buttons: Records, Show All, New Record, Delete Record, Find, and Sort. The main area displays the entry for 'WIFE' with its Chinese representation '婦人' and its phonetic transcription 'fù - rén *biu - n̄in 並尤上 - 日真平 **bu? - njin'. A red circle highlights the 'Lexeme constructions' section, which shows the construction '婦/WIFE/npost-N >ad{ROLE}< 人/HUMAN/n@indefinite'. Another red circle highlights the 'Lexeme relations' section, which shows the relation 'Conv(丈夫/HUSBAND) = (婦人/WIFE)'. A dropdown menu is open over the 'layouts' tab, listing various actions such as 'find lexeme', 'create lexeme', 'delete lexeme', 'compare lexemes', 'create lexeme constructions', 'add lexeme representation', 'remove lexeme representation', 'attach lexeme to different synonym group', 'attach lexeme entries to different lexeme', 'Karlgrn & Pulleyblank', and 'external'. The interface also shows a table of 'Lexeme entries attached to the current lexeme' and 'Lexeme relation attributions attached to lexeme relations attached to the current lexeme'.

3 / 29073 Found (Unsorted)

Records Show All New Record Delete Record Find Sort

Lexemes

main

View As: [icon] [icon] [icon] Preview

Main 2015 05. 28 actions files layouts CH << < > >> record 1 of 3 found X 0 Q

sources < [input] [input] [input]

The current lexeme is defined by its synonym group

< WIFE Δ 字 詞

and its lexeme representation(s) 1

< 婦人 fù - rén *biu - n̄in 並尤上 - 日真平 **bu? - njin

Its lexeme constructions are 1

< 婦/WIFE/npost-N >ad{ROLE}< 人/HUMAN/n@indefinite

Lexeme definition

fù rén 婦人 is said to refer to the wife of a gentleman rather than a mere commoner. (LIJI 2.2.16)

Lexeme derivation

Lexeme entry attributions attached to lexeme entries attached to the current lexeme: 10

Lexeme entries attached to the current lexeme 2	
< NP	< 8 wife
< NP{N1adN2}	< 2 wives in general; married women in general

Lexeme relation attributions attached to lexeme relations attached to the current lexeme: 0

Lexeme relations attached to the current lexeme 1

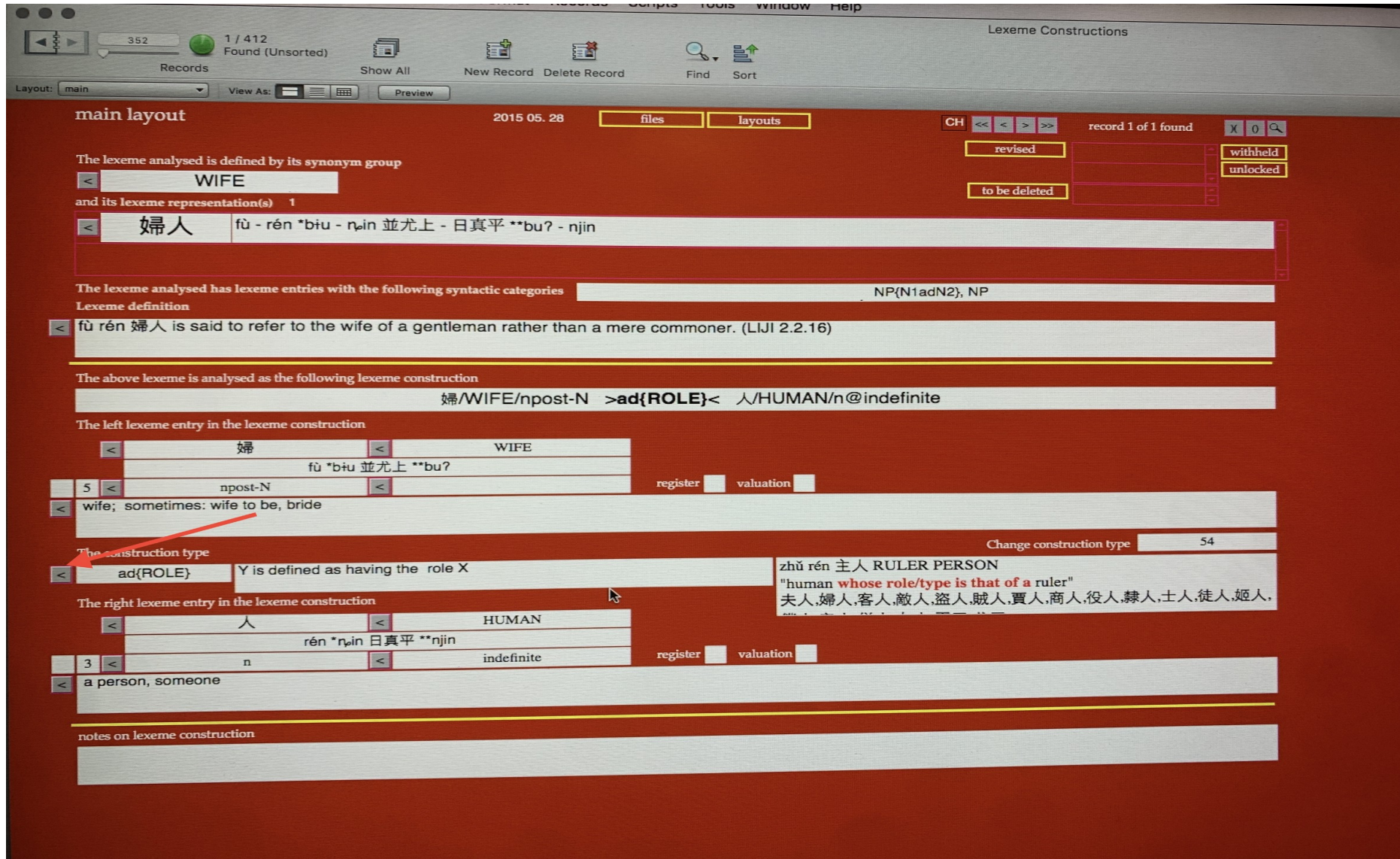
< Conv(丈夫/HUSBAND) = (婦人/WIFE)

“Lexemes” file, “Create Lexeme Constructions” layout

The screenshot displays the 'Create lexeme constructions' window in the Lexemes application. The window title is 'Lexemes' and the subtitle is 'Create lexeme constructions'. The interface is divided into several sections:

- Navigation:** 'actions', 'files', and 'layouts' tabs are visible at the top.
- Record Information:** 'CH << >>' and 'record 1 of 3 found' are shown.
- Buttons:** 'to be deleted', 'revised', 'published', and 'unlocked' buttons are present.
- Current Lexeme:** The current lexeme is 'WIFE' (婦人), defined by its synonym group. Its lexeme representation is 'fù - rén *biu - n̄in 並尤上 - 日真平 **bu? - njin'.
- Syntactic and Semantic Categories:** The current lexeme has syntactic categories 'NP(N1adN2), NP' and semantic categories 'nonreferential'.
- Lexeme Definition:** 'fù rén 婦人 is said to refer to the wife of a gentleman rather than a mere commoner. (LIJI 2.2.16)'. Below this, there are tabs for 'left constituent', 'construction type', and 'right constituent'.
- Construction Type Selection:** A dropdown menu is open, showing a list of candidate lexeme construction types: 'ad', 'ad={EPEXEGETIC}', 'ad={ATTRIBUTIVE}', 'ad={BELONG}', 'ad={CONTENT}', 'ad={DISCONFIRMING}', 'ad={ENJOY}', 'ad={FOR}', 'ad={FROM}', 'ad={INSTR}', 'ad={MATERIAL}', 'ad={NONRESTRICTIVE}', 'ad={OBJ}', 'ad={OCCUPATION}', 'ad={PART-INVERSE}', 'ad={PART}', 'ad={PLACE}', 'ad={POSS-INVERSE}', and 'ad={POSS}'. A 'create lexeme construction' button is highlighted at the bottom.

“Lexeme Construction” file



The screenshot displays the Lexeme Constructions software interface. At the top, there is a menu bar with options like 'Records', 'Scripts', 'Tools', 'Window', and 'Help'. Below the menu bar, a toolbar contains icons for navigation and actions. The main window is titled 'Lexeme Constructions' and shows the following information:

- main layout** (2015 05. 28)
- Files** and **Layouts** buttons.
- record 1 of 1 found** with search and refresh icons.
- revised** and **to be deleted** buttons.
- withheld** and **unlocked** buttons.

The main content area is divided into several sections:

- The lexeme analysed is defined by its synonym group**: WIFE
- and its lexeme representation(s)**: 婦人 fù - rén *b+u - n+in 並尤上 - 日真平 **bu? - njin
- The lexeme analysed has lexeme entries with the following syntactic categories**: NP(N1adN2), NP
- Lexeme definition**: fù rén 婦人 is said to refer to the wife of a gentleman rather than a mere commoner. (LJI 2.2.16)
- The above lexeme is analysed as the following lexeme construction**: 婦/WIFE/npost-N >ad{ROLE}< 人/HUMAN/n@indefinite
- The left lexeme entry in the lexeme construction**:
 - 婦 WIFE
 - fù *b+u 並尤上 **bu?
 - 5 npost-N
 - wife; sometimes: wife to be, bride
- The construction type**: ad{ROLE} Y is defined as having the role X
- The right lexeme entry in the lexeme construction**:
 - 人 HUMAN
 - rén *n+in 日真平 **njin
 - 3 n
 - indefinite
- notes on lexeme construction**: zhǔ rén 主人 RULER PERSON "human whose role/type is that of a ruler" 夫人, 婦人, 客人, 敵人, 盜人, 賊人, 賈人, 商人, 役人, 隸人, 士人, 徒人, 姬人, ...

“Lexeme Construction Types” file

The screenshot displays a software interface for managing Lexeme Construction Types. The main window title is "Lexeme Construction Types". The interface includes a menu bar (Records, Scripts, Tools, Window, Help) and a toolbar with icons for navigation and record management. The main area is divided into several sections:

- main**: Shows the date "2015 05. 28" and tabs for "files" and "layouts".
- sources**: A table with one entry: PAN WENGUO.
- description**: "Y is defined as having the role X".
- note**: "zhǔ rén 主人 RULER PERSON" and "human whose role/type is that of a ruler".
- number of lexeme constructions**: 1.
- Table of Lexeme Constructions**:

Construction	Form	Category
婦人	fù-rén *biu-n̄in **bu?-njin	WIFE
婦/WIFE/npost-N >ad{ROLE}< 人/HUMAN/n@indefinite		NP(N1adN2), NP

The header area of the table is circled in red, showing "CH", navigation arrows, and "record 27 of 30 found".

THANK YOU!