

A Cognitive Grammar for Writing: Version 1.0

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John B. Smith  
Mark C. Rooks  
Gordon J. Ferguson

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
Department of Computer Science  
CB#3175, Sitterson Hall  
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3175  
919-962-1792  
jbs@cs.unc.edu



**A TextLab Report**

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## Overview

A cognitive grammar, for purposes of this discussion, is a computer program that interprets the actions of a user working with an interactive application system in order to infer the cognitive activities taking place in the mind of that user. The "language" that is parsed is the set of concurrent protocols automatically recorded by the computer system for sessions in which users work with that system. The resulting parse tree is a representation of a users' strategy for a session or task. The terminal symbols of the grammar are basic user actions, such as selecting a particular menu option or designating a position in a window with the mouse. The nonterminals are symbols that designate the researcher's interpretation of the user's cognitive acts as indicated by the system actions selected. Thus, a cognitive grammar can be considered a formal descriptive model of users' cognitive interaction with a particular computer system in accord with a particular analytic perspective.

When used in conjunction with an application system that produces machine-recorded protocols, a cognitive grammar can provide a form of automatic protocol analysis. Thus, the researcher can study statistically significant samples of user sessions. Thus, the researcher can study the effects of long-term experience with a system, the differences in strategies among various groups of users, patterns of individual differences, and other actual-use issues. Such studies are impractical for think-aloud and other protocol methods that require human encoding. Shifting protocol studies from, literally, a hand craft to an automated procedure could be an important step toward basic principles that can guide development of more natural and more useful interactive systems and toward fundamental insights into complex mediated cognitive behavior.

The grammar described here is part of a larger project in which we are building an advanced hypertext writing environment and then using that environment to study writers' cognitive strategies. It is the principal tool we use to analyze machine recorded protocols for writers working with our system.

The discussion of the grammar is divided into two parts. In Part 1, we discuss its background. We first describe its theoretical basis with respect to composition theory and cognitive psychology. Second, since the grammar characterizes the cognitive behavior of writers using a particular system, we briefly describe that system. Finally, we discuss the grammar as it fits within a set of analytic tools and as it relates to several methodological issues -- especially protocol analysis techniques. In Part 2, we describe the grammar, itself, and illustrate its use with a sample protocol.

We denote the grammar as version 1.0 to indicate that it describes our views at a particular time. This is a tough nut to crack, and we do not believe that our current understanding is complete. Consequently, we anticipate producing other versions in the future. In the meantime, we issue this report to document the current form of the grammar and to encourage discussion that can help us refine it.

## Part 1: Background

## 1.0 Theoretical Basis

As noted above, a cognitive grammar implicitly includes in its definition a particular analytic perspective, regardless of whether its developers are aware of that perspective or not. Here, we wish to make explicit the theoretical basis for the grammar described in this report.

Synthesizing concepts from cognitive psychology, reading comprehension, and composition theory, we suggest that writing (and other open-ended intellectual activities) draws on a number of different *cognitive modes* [Smith & Lansman, 1987]. We view a cognitive mode as a particular way of thinking that is engaged in for a specific purpose, is more or less constrained relative to other modes, emphasizes certain cognitive processes, which are used to create certain forms of (intermediate) cognitive products. Thus, a cognitive mode is an interdependent combination of goal(s), constraints, processes, and products.

Figure 1 shows seven modes that we believe are important for expository writing. As an illustration of the concept, consider the differences between exploratory and organizational thinking .

Many writers engage in an early exploratory mode of thinking in which the goal is to externalize ideas, consider various possibilities, and to gain a general sense of the material available to be included in the document. In this mode, constraints are loosened, relative to other modes, to encourage creativity and alternative perspectives. The cognitive processes that are favored are memory recall, associative thinking, categorizing, and noting basic subordinate and superordinate relations. Consequently, the intellectual products produced tend to be concrete representations of ideas, clusters of related ideas, and small conceptual structures, often represented graphically.

Organizational mode is a very different way of thinking. Here, the goal is to work out the overall plan for the document to be written. Consequently, organizational thinking is much more constrained than exploratory thinking. Thinking tends to be logical and controlled, emphasizing analysis, synthesis, and abstract construction. The product that is built is a single large, often hierarchical, structure.

While different modes represent different ways of thinking, they are not independent from one another. The cognitive products created in one mode often become the raw material that is worked on in another. For example, a small hierarchical relation created during exploration might be incorporated into the larger hierarchical structure being built during organization. Thus, intermediate products tend to flow between modes in an overall process of conceptual refinement.

The cognitive grammar described in Part 2 incorporates this theory of cognitive modes by including nonterminal symbols that represent the *cognitive products* developed by writers, the *cognitive processes* used in their creation or transformation, and the *cognitive modes* engaged by writers during a session.

**Figure 1:**  
**Cognitive Modes for Writing**

	Processes	Products	Goals	Constraints
Exploration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recalling</li> <li>• Representing</li> <li>• Clustering</li> <li>• Associating</li> <li>• Noting subordinate superordinate relations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual concepts</li> <li>• Clusters of concepts</li> <li>• Networks of related concepts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To externalize ideas</li> <li>• To cluster related ideas</li> <li>• To gain general sense of available concepts</li> <li>• To consider various possible relations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flexible</li> <li>• Informal</li> <li>• Free expression</li> </ul>
Situational Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analyzing objectives</li> <li>• Selecting</li> <li>• Prioritizing</li> <li>• Analyzing audiences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High-level summary statement</li> <li>• Prioritized list of readers (types)</li> <li>• List of (major) actions desired</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To clarify rhetorical intentions</li> <li>• To identify &amp; rank potential readers</li> <li>• To identify major actions</li> <li>• Consolidate realization</li> <li>• To set high-level strategy for document</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flexible</li> <li>• Extrinsic perspective</li> </ul>
Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analyzing</li> <li>• Synthesizing</li> <li>• Building abstract structure</li> <li>• Refining structure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hierarchy of concepts</li> <li>• Crafted labels</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To transform network of concepts into coherent hierarchy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rigorous</li> <li>• Consistent</li> <li>• Hierarchical</li> <li>• Not sustained prose</li> </ul>
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linguistic encoding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coherent prose</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To transform abstract representation of concepts &amp; relations into prose</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustained expression</li> <li>• Not (necessarily) refined</li> </ul>
Editing: Global Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noting large scale relations</li> <li>• Noting &amp; correcting inconsistencies</li> <li>• Manipulating large scale structural components</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refined text structure</li> <li>• Consistent structural cues</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To verify &amp; revise large-scale organizational components</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus on large-scale features and components</li> </ul>
Editing: Coherence Relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noting coherence relations between sentences &amp; paragraphs</li> <li>• Restructuring to make relations coherent</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refined paragraphs and sentences</li> <li>• Coherent logical relations between sentences and paragraphs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To verify &amp; revise coherence relations within intermediate sized components</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus on structural relations among sentences &amp; paragraphs</li> <li>• Rigorous logical and structural thinking</li> </ul>
Editing: Expression	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading</li> <li>• Linguistic analysis</li> <li>• Linguistic transformation</li> <li>• Linguistic encoding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refined prose</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To verify &amp; revise text of document</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus on expression</li> <li>• Close attention to linguistic detail</li> </ul>

## 1.1 The WE System

While the theory of modes is quite general, strictly speaking the grammar incorporating that theory characterizes writers' cognitive interaction with one particular computer Writing Environment -- WE 1.0 [Smith, et.al, 1986; Smith, et.al, 1987]. Consequently, one should have a general sense of that system in order to understand the grammar.

The architecture of WE 1.0 closely matches the cognitive architecture implicit in the theory of modes. The system is multimodal. It includes different system modes that correspond with the major cognitive modes for writing. A network mode, shown in the upper left quadrant of Figure 2, is provided for exploration. In it, the user can represent ideas as nodes (small boxes with a label inside), move them around to form clusters, link them to one another to denote more explicit relationships and to form conceptual structures. The underlying rules for network mode are those for a directed graph, thus providing the user considerable flexibility with respect to the relations and structures that can be formed.

A tree mode, shown in the lower left quadrant of Figure 2, supports both the organization and the global editing modes. Here the user can build and edit the conceptual structure for the document as a whole, expressed graphically as a tree or organization chart, by creating parent and child relations among nodes or by moving structures created earlier in network mode into the tree. Since the underlying rules are those of a hierarchy, the user gives up flexibility in using tree mode but gains assurance that the structure produced will be a well-defined hierarchy.

An editor mode, shown in the lower right quadrant of Figure 2, is provided for writing and for editing sentences and paragraphs. By selecting a node in either tree or network mode, the user gains access to a text editor with which to write or edit a block of text that will be associated with that particular node.

Finally, a linear text mode, shown in the upper right quadrant of Figure 2, is provided for coherence editing. The system produces a continuous linear perspective of the text by stepping through the tree. In text mode, users can verify and revise, as needed, the transitions between text contained in separate nodes. They can also move segments of text from one node to another.

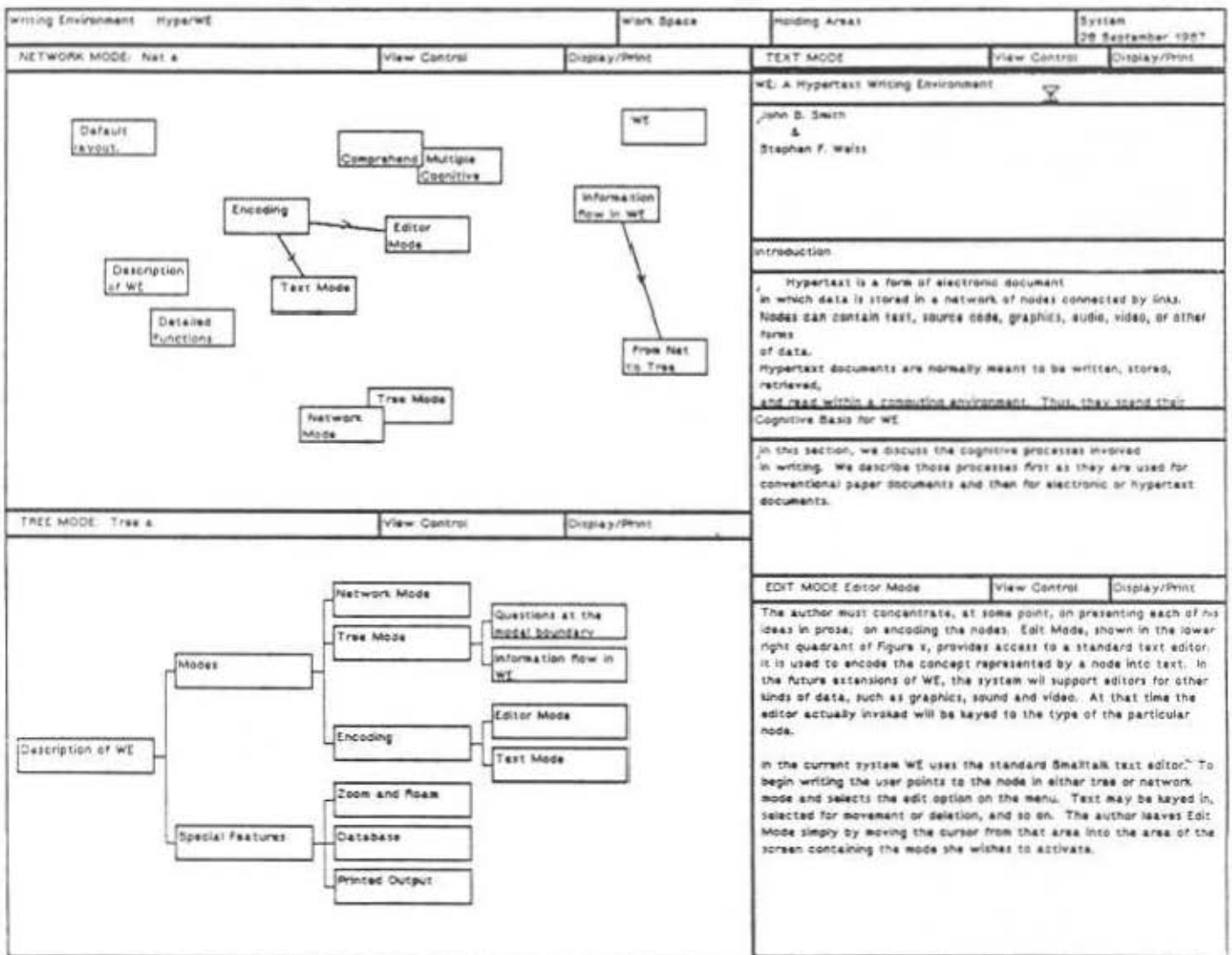
Thus, six of the seven cognitive modes shown in Figure 1 are supported by the four system modes of WE 1.0, shown in Figure 2. The one cognitive mode not covered is reader analysis mode, which is left to extrinsic heuristics, such as those described in [Smith & Smith, 1987]. Thus, system architecture matches underlying cognitive architecture implicit in the concept of cognitive modes and the flow of cognitive products among them.

## 1.2 Methodology

Cognitive grammars can provide alternative methods for studying human-computer interaction and other issues of mediated cognitive behavior. Consequently, in order to understand the grammar, one needs to understand how it relates to other methods. As mentioned above, our project is ultimately concerned with substantive issues dealing with writing and other open-ended design tasks. To help us with

Figure 2:

## WE System Modes (Network, Tree, Editor, & Text)





## Background

experiments that address these issues, we have developed several other tools that we use in conjunction with the grammar. These include a protocol recording function embedded in WE, a session replay function, the cognitive grammar that is the primary topic of this report, and several display tools that assist interpretation of the parses produced by the grammar. In this section, we discuss these tools briefly, relating each to one another and to other methods used in studying human-computer interaction.

### 1.3 Concurrent Protocols

To help us gather protocols of users of the system unobtrusively and in a form ready for analysis, we installed a tracking function in the WE system that records each user action, its time, and other information of interest, such as the location in network mode where a node is created. These action-level data are written by the system to a file ready for analysis.

This approach contrasts with conventional methods for studying human-computer interaction. The most common form of data used for this purpose as well as to evaluate cognitive models, in general, has been think-aloud protocols. More recently, some researchers have begun to use keystroke records of user sessions. Both approaches present problems that are overcome by action-level protocols.

Think-aloud protocol methods were developed by Newell, Simon, and others at Carnegie-Mellon University to study complex, problem-solving behavior. Using this technique, the researcher asks subjects to narrate their thinking continuously while performing a given task. By doing so, the researcher is no longer forced to observe only the external behavior of subjects but is given a window into their minds and can observe, at one-step remove, subjects' thinking. While this technique has provided a rich source of information, it has also generated considerable controversy as to the validity of the data and the possible interference verbalization may have with the task being performed [Nisbett & Wilson, 1977]. Ericsson and Simon [1980] have answered their critics by arguing that concurrent verbal protocols do constitute valid data for what they term Level 1 verbalization -- verbalization of concepts that are stored in short term memory in verbal form. They found in their studies no evidence that concurrent think-aloud protocols affect this type of cognitive processing or that such data are incomplete or distorted. However, for Level 2 and Level 3 conditions -- respectively, verbalization of data that would not be heeded as part of the cognitive process and verbalization of data that is not part of the cognitive process and, hence, must be generated -- think-aloud protocols did significantly change the cognitive process, especially recognizing complex patterns and relationships presented visually [Ericsson & Simon, 1980; Claparede, 1933; Henry, 1934]. Computer systems that run on workstations with high-resolution graphic displays normally use representations that are highly spatial and provide control by direct manipulation of spatially located icons. Consequently, using think-aloud protocols to evaluate cognitive models for users of this type of system should be expected, from a theoretical perspective, to result in significant distortions.

Think aloud protocols also present problems of reliability. Typically, they are not used in their raw form but, rather, are coded according to some set of categories in which the model under examination is defined [Swarts, Flower & Hayes, 1984]. While training and practice increase reliability and consistency, encoding remains a highly subjective process that is subject to error on the order of 25% [Hayes & Flower, 1980].

- A third issue is practicality. An hour of think-aloud data often requires fifteen pages for transcription [Hayes & Flower, 1980]. This is an enormous explosion of information that places significant limits on the number of subjects that one can study and the range of questions that can be examined.

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Keystroke protocols record every keystroke performed by the user of a system. While they solve the problems of validity and reliability raised by think-aloud protocols, they still present practical problems. They produce substantially more data than action protocols. They also increase the complexity of any grammar that would be used to parse them since the grammar would have to include the full interpretive capability of the user interface as the first stage in a parse.

Thus, we believe that automatically generated action-level protocols are an attractive alternative to both think-aloud and keystroke protocols.

A second tool we built is a replay program that takes the session transcript created by the tracker and recreates the session. Thus, we can visually inspect subjects' use of the system by watching the session as if it were a video recording of the screen, except we can speed it up, slow it down, or step through it manually, action by action. We have found this tool far more useful than we had anticipated. Using the "fast" replay option, we can view a two-hour session in 8-10 minutes. This time compression produces a very clear, albeit intuitive, sense of a writer's strategy. To test and refine these impressions, we use more precise analytic techniques, described below.

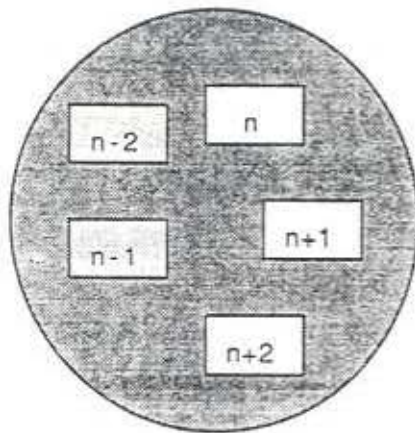
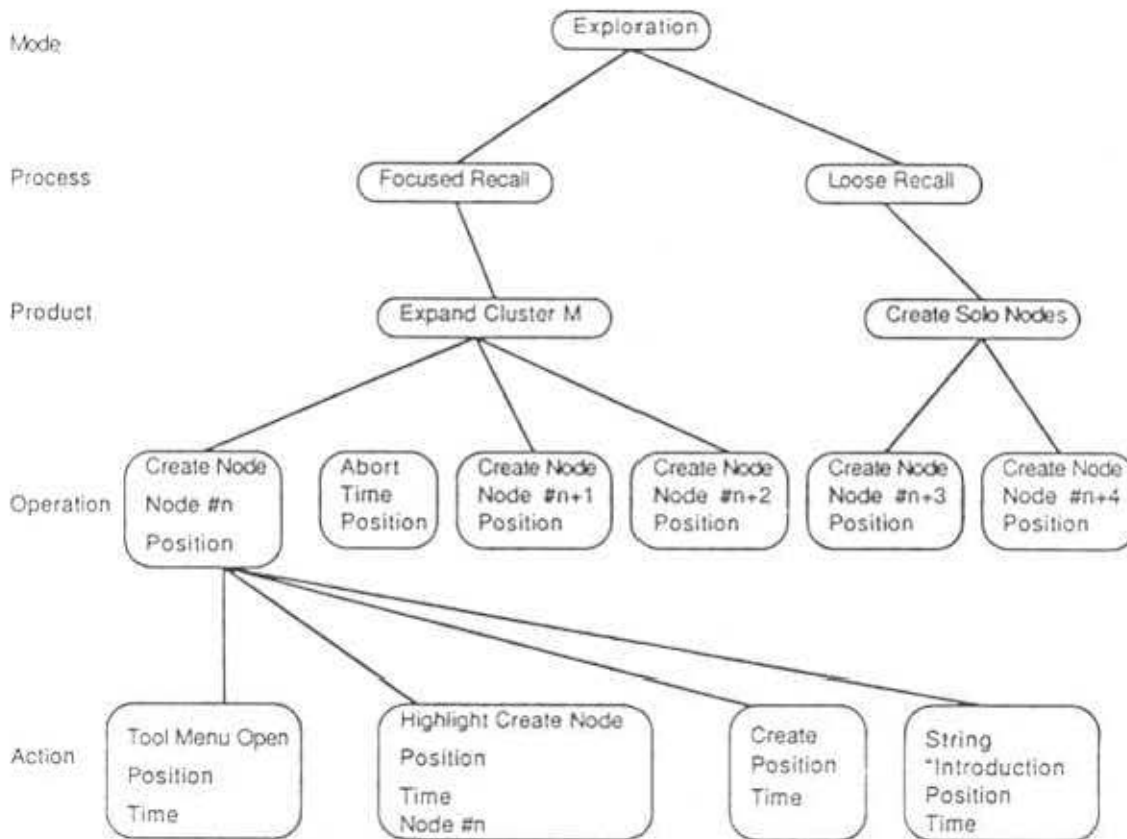
Our third tool is the cognitive grammar that is the subject of this report. We describe it in detail in Part 2, below; we give a brief, general description of it here to indicate its relation to the three other tools being discussed.

The grammar is defined in terms of five levels of abstraction, as shown in Figure 3. It takes as input a sequence of symbols, each of which represents a single user action. It then maps short sequences of *actions* -- for example, click with the mouse somewhere in the space for network mode, select the "create node" option from the menu, type a label for the node, and then type "return" -- into a system *operation*--create-node. Operations are then mapped into changes to the set of cognitive products; we call this the *delta product* level. This interpretation is highly context sensitive; for example, creating a node can be interpreted as adding to the set of individual concepts or as adding to an existing cluster of related ideas, depending on its spatial proximity to other nodes/concepts. Note the different interpretation for the five nodes that form a cluster, indicated by the shaded circle in Figure 3, and the two, presumably unrelated nodes created in other parts of the space. From sequences of delta product symbols, the grammar infers the *cognitive process* used to produce changes in the conceptual products being constructed. Finally, sequences of process symbols are mapped into *cognitive mode* symbols.

The parse trees produced by the grammar as output provide concrete representations of users' cognitive strategies for the sessions being analyzed. In those structures, we can see users shift from one cognitive mode to another, the sequences of processes being used in each mode, and the particular cognitive products being created or modified by those processes.

These data provide rich material for analysis and interpretation. We are just beginning the fourth methodological step of developing tools to help us analyze and understand this information. As an illustration of both the kind of insights the grammar can provide and of one particular interpretive tool we have developed, consider Figures 4 and 5. They show horizontal slices of the parse trees from sessions by two different subjects. The particular slice is the delta-product level, showing the intermediate products created by the subjects during the session. Down the left side of the diagram are symbols that designate the various types of products

Figure 3:  
Cognitive Grammar Parse Tree



Cluster M

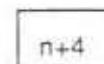
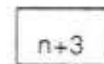


Figure 4:  
Protocol Display Example

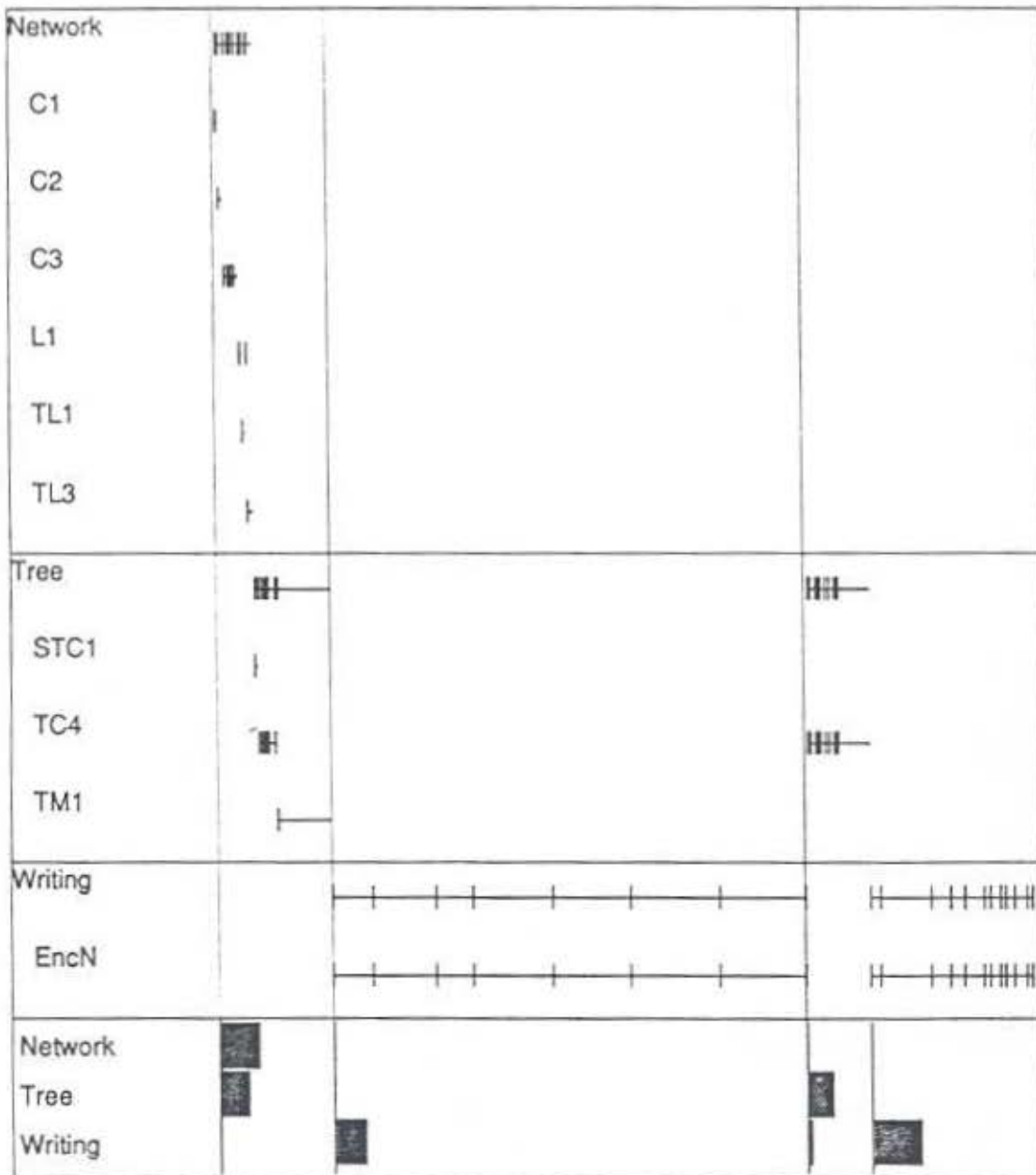
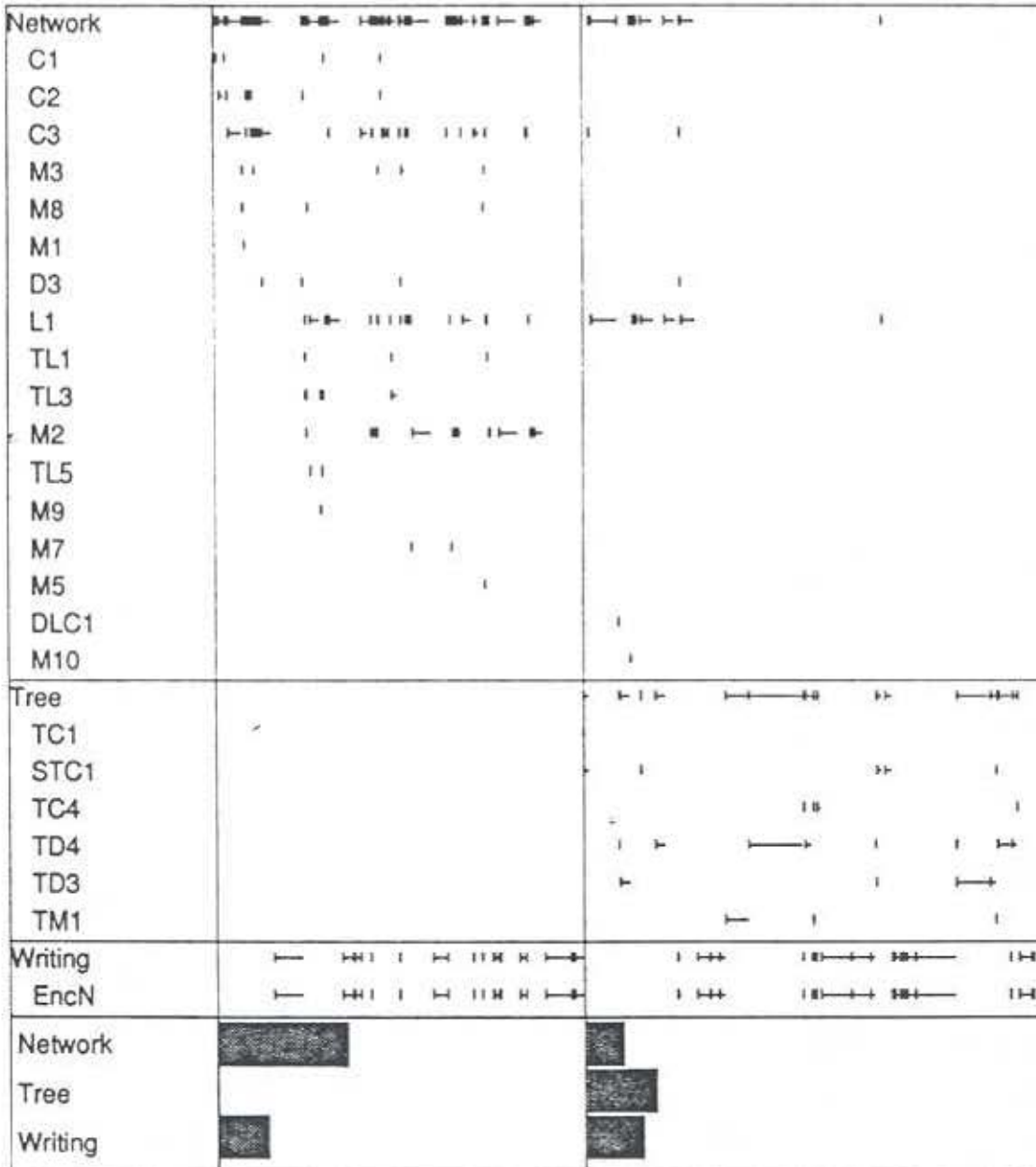


Figure 5:  
Protocol Display Example



## Background

created, such as isolated nodes, clusters of nodes, additions to the tree being built, etc. Each instance of a product is represented by one of the short vertical lines. The horizontal axis represents time. Thus, we can see each user's strategy as it is reflected in the kinds of products created and when they were produced. In Figure 4, the user follows a nearly perfect "waterfall" or "stages" strategy, doing all of his exploratory thinking first, followed by organizational thinking used to build the top of his tree, followed by writing. He then goes back to the tree, fills out the more detailed levels, and completes his writing. This strategy is markedly different from that of the second subject who constantly moves back and forth between structure operations and writing.

Thus, the grammar is an integral part of a set of tools for recording protocols, replaying them, analyzing the data, and displaying results in a form in which they can be comprehended, interpreted, and compared.

In the preceding discussion, we first described the theoretical basis for the grammar in terms of cognitive modes. Since the grammar characterizes the cognitive strategies of users working with a particular system, we next described the WE 1.0 system to which it applies. Finally, we placed the grammar within a methodological context by discussing how it fits both within a set of tools we have developed and within a set of issues pertaining to the study of human-computer interaction. In Part 2, we give a detailed technical description of the grammar.

## Acknowledgments

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## **Part 2: Technical Description**

## 2.1 Introduction

In Part 2 we describe in detail our Cognitive Grammar for Writing, Version 1.0. We first provide an overview of the architecture of the grammar. Then, in subsequent sections, we discuss in detail each major component.

The grammar can be considered as five separate grammars that work in conjunction with one another or as a single grammar that produces five separate, but logically connected, levels of analysis. Three different levels are shown in Figure 3, above.

The terminal symbols recognized by the grammar are encoded representations of actions performed by the user of the WE 1.0 system. Each symbol denotes a single primitive act, such as selecting a specific menu option or typing a label. These symbols also carry additional information in the form of attributes specific to the particular act, such as the string entered as a label or the location in the background of a window selected by the user by pointing with the mouse. All symbols carry the time at which the action was enacted. The sequence of such symbols for a session constitutes a transcript of that particular session adequate to recreate it. The set of all such sequences is, thus, the "language" that is parsed by the grammar; and instances of it are designated the Action Level Transcript in the discussion that follows..

The Action Level Transcript is first parsed to produce what we term the Operation Level Transcript. Each operation represents a pattern or sequence of several action symbols. Each is the kind of operation one would normally designate in the specifications of a user interface -- such as `create_node` -- that, in turn, would require several user actions -- such as, select position with mouse, select menu option, type label, type carriage return. This stage of the grammar also deletes errors, cancelled command sequences, etc. Thus, the transcript consists of a sequence of symbols analogous to those for actions. It may be treated as a "language"; however, each symbol on the Operation Level is linked by a symbolic pointer to the sequence of Action Level symbols it characterizes. Consequently, it may also be considered to be a broad hierarchical bush that will eventually be linked by higher levels to form the parse tree for the session as a whole.

The Action and Operation levels of the grammar are closely tied conceptually to the computer system. The third level, which we call the Delta Product Level, shifts the analytic perspective from the system to the mind of the user. In this level, we begin to characterize the user's cognitive behavior based on our interpretation of his or her interaction with the system. This level of the grammar actually contains two steps. In the first, each operation symbol is mapped to a corresponding symbol that interprets the effects of the system operation on the set of intellectual products the user is constructing. These products are well-defined, consisting of structural forms that are important for writing, such as an isolated concept, a cluster of ideas, a relation between two ideas, a primitive subordinate/superordinate relationship, a block of text, etc. The effects of individual changes in the set of cognitive products are then aggregated. Thus, each Delta Product symbol represents the changes produced by one operation or a sequence of operations on one of these conceptual forms. The sequence of these symbols can be considered a language in which each symbol is linked to one or more Operation Level symbols; thus, these links extend the hierarchical bush another level upward.

The fourth level of the grammar is the Cognitive Process Level. Here, each symbol represents the cognitive process inferred to be active in producing one or more changes to the set of cognitive products, identified in the Delta Product Level. Thus, for example, a sequence of additions to a group of nodes in close spatial proximity to one another is interpreted as an instance of sustained "Focused Recall" whereas, if the nodes are "far apart", the process is assumed to be unfocused or free recall. Again, the grammar produces a transcript that can be treated as a language or as a sequence of symbols, each of which can be linked to one or more symbols in a lower level. Thus, the bush grows by one more level of abstraction.

A Cognitive Mode level is inferred from sequences of Cognitive Process symbols. Shifts in Cognitive Mode are strongly suggested when the user shifts from one system mode to another. But the two are not always the same. For example, when a user working in network mode shifts from building small conceptual structures to linking them into a larger hierarchical structure, this may indicate a shift in Cognitive Mode. On the other hand, when the user is building a large hierarchical structure in tree mode and returns to network mode to copy a structural component into the tree, that shift in system mode may not indicate a shift in Cognitive Mode. At present, this portion of the grammar is incomplete. We currently infer shifts in cognitive mode largely from shifts in system mode operations, but we will add rules to infer shifts from context sensitive sequences of cognitive process symbols. Again, the resulting transcript can be viewed as a language, but, again, the symbols at this level are linked to sequences of lower level symbols. Thus, the Mode Level extends the bush one more level.

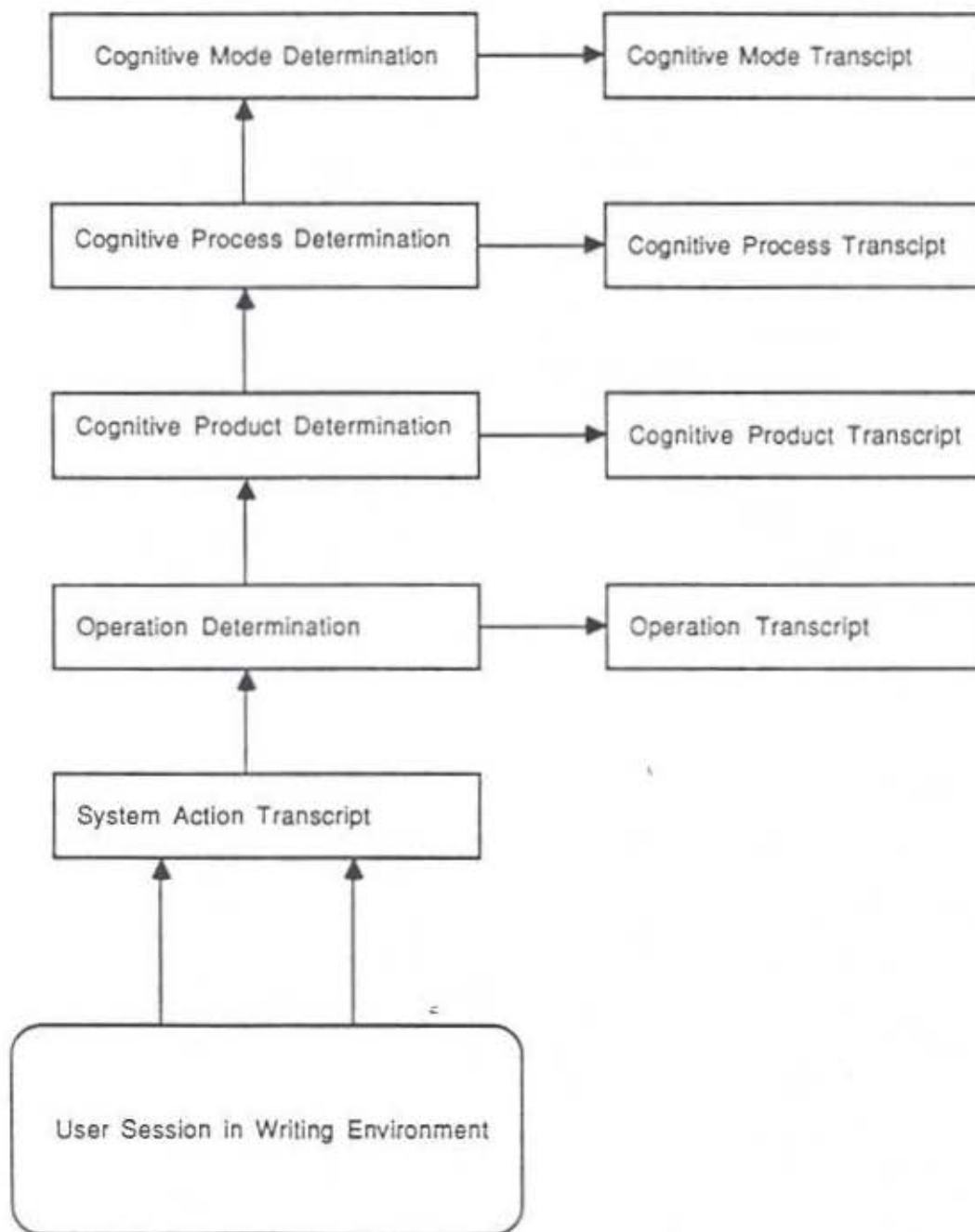
The Cognitive Mode Level symbols can be linked, finally, to a symbol representing the session as a whole. Thus, the separate branches can be joined to form a tree. It depicts the session as a hierarchy of cognitive and system activities in which the user's strategy is manifest as a series of mode shifts, each of which includes a series of shifts in cognitive processes, used to produce changes in the set of intellectual products being constructed, as indicated by short sequences of operations, each of which consists of several system actions.

The grammar is implemented as an OPS-83 program. Figure 6 provides a schematic view of its dataflow. OPS is an expert system shell that provides a programming language based on production rules. Thus, from another perspective, the grammar can be considered as an expert system that simulates the actions of an expert interpreter of the Action Level transcript. At present, the program is run as a "batch" program on the complete transcript after the session has been concluded. A topic for future research is running the grammar concurrently with the session and thereby building a real-time parse structure that represents the user's strategy as his or her strategy evolves. This capability could serve as the basis for an intelligent tutor, more powerful intelligent functions within WE, and functions that might search an external database for material relevant to the structure of ideas being built. But these possibilities must await future versions of the grammar.

In the remainder of Part 2, we first describe, briefly, the general form of the transcription language used at all five levels of the grammar. Following that are descriptions of the grammar for each level. Each discussion includes an introduction, a description of the transcription language symbols for that level, the grammar that maps symbol sequences from lower levels to symbols at that level, and a sample annotated transcript. The one exception is the Action Level section: it does not include a grammar since it constitutes the level of primitive or terminal symbols.

Figure 6:

Cognitive Grammar Data Flow



## 2.2 Protocol Language Overview

At each of the five levels of abstraction, our system of analysis provides a description - by way of a transcript - of what occurred during a given session of the writing environment. At each level, the transcript of a session consists of an eight-line header followed by a blank line, followed by a series of one-line event records. Since these transcripts share a common format, this format is outlined below.

### Header

The header lists the following items, in the following order:

- 1) The version of the Writing Environment (WE) which was being used when the transcript was recorded.
- 2) The date of the transcript.
- 3) The time at which the session began.
- 4) The name of the user.
- 5) The clock at the beginning of the session.
- 6) The name of the database being used.
- 7) A boolean indicating whether the database began with an empty workspace.

### Event Records

Each line of a transcript following the blank line which follows the header is an event record. At each of the five posited levels, each event record contains two mandatory fields, followed by zero or more additional fields (depending on the level and event-type). Every event record of every transcript conforms to the following template:

Time	Event-token	{Event parameters}
------	-------------	--------------------

The first field - Time - indicates the amount of time (in milliseconds) elapsed since the beginning of the session until the beginning of the event being recorded. The second field - Event-token - indicates what event the analysis has posited as having occurred. Finally, certain event-types are always followed by additional fields which are required to complete records which contain event-tokens of the type in question. These "event parameters" are fully documented at each level with their associated "event-types."

## 2.3 Action Level

### Introduction

The Action Level consists of symbols produced by the tracking function in WE 1.0. Each action represents an act performed by the user, such as designating a location in the system mode window, selecting a menu item, typing a label, etc. These symbols also carry additional information in the form of attributes specific to the particular act, such as the string entered as a label or the location in the background of a window selected with the mouse. All symbols carry the time at which the action was enacted. Thus, the sequence of symbols constitutes a machine-recorded protocol for a user during a particular session. Since actions are the primitive or terminal symbols for the grammar, this section does not include a grammar component. It does, however, include a complete description of all menu items included in the WE 1.0 interface as well as every action that causes a line to be recorded in the Action Level Transcript.

#### 2.3.1 Action Level Transcript Language

An action level transcript file consists of a header, followed by a blank line, followed by a sequence of event records. The transcript is essentially a record of all the actions performed by a user of the Writing Environment (WE) during a session. Each action of the user is represented by a line (or event record) in the transcript. Additional lines may appear in the transcript, which do not correspond to user actions, but which are necessary for replaying the program from the transcript. The possible actions are listed below, with whatever collateral information is collected with the action (i.e. the action's parameters).

##### Header

The header lists the following items, in the following order:

- 1) The version of the Writing Environment (WE) which was being used when the transcript was recorded.
- 2) The date of the transcript.
- 3) The time at which the session began.
- 4) The name of the user.
- 5) The clock at the beginning of the session.
- 6) The name of the database being used.
- 7) A boolean indicating whether the database began with an empty workspace.

### Action Records

Each line of the transcript is an event record. The event records are grouped into "actions ." We distinguish two types of actions: actions which the user initiates and actions the user takes in response to prompts. Each action begins with an action record possibly followed by one or more support records. The support records either supply additional parameters (Parameter records) or provide information for the benefit of the replay mechanism (Replay Records).

The format for the action records is consistently followed through the five levels of abstraction currently recognized by our method of analysis. That format is simply:

Time Symbol Attributes

where:

Time = The time (in milliseconds) from the beginning of the user session until the beginning of the action (operation, etc.) which that particular line of the transcript purports to record.

Symbol = The symbol which represents the type of action (operation, etc.) which is recorded on the transcript.

Attributes = A list of zero or more attributes which may include 1) the object of the particular action (operation, etc.), 2) the logical relationship of the object of the action to other objects, and/or 3) additional spatio-temporal information about the object.

The various kinds of actions are detailed below. Each action record is presented with all its fields; any additional Parameter or Replay records for this kind of action are also identified if possible. In some cases the support records needed depend on the context; these cases are indicated.

Of prime import to subsequent analysis is the menu action. Most user-initiated actions are begun by highlighting a menu item. In a menu action record, we record whatever menu item was highlighted, along with whatever object is the current agent and whatever mode is current. The possible menu items which may be highlighted are detailed following the discussion of action record types.

A sample annotated transcript concludes the section (terminals are in quotes).

Actions the user initiates include:

- Moving into a new mode; the mode action  
time "mode" globalX globalY localX localY mode
- Moving the cursor over an agent; the agent action  
time "agent" globalX globalY localX localY object
- Using a menu to get help for an option - the helpMenu action  
time "helpMenu" globalX globalY localX localY menuitem
- Raising a menu, whether an option is chosen or not - the menu action

## Action Level Transcript Language

time **menuItem** globalX globalY localX localY mode:object

-Adding text to a node - the encode action

time **"encode"** time globalX globalY localX localY object

-Initiating a roam operation - the roamStart action

time **"roamStart"** globalX globalY

Actions the user takes in response to prompts:

-Entering a string into a prompt box - the string action

time **"string"** globalX globalY string

-Answering a yes/no prompt - the boolean action

time **"boolean"** globalX globalY boolean

-Selecting a point when requested (e.g. when moving a node) - the point action

time **"point"** globalX globalY localX localY

-Selecting the terminal node for a link; the link action

time **"link"** globalX globalY node

-Selecting the position below the selected sibling, to which to paste a node or subtree in tree mode - the below action

time **"below"** globalX globalY localX localY node

-Selecting the position above the selected sibling, to which to paste a node or subtree in tree mode - the above action

time **"above"** globalX globalY localX localY node

-Selecting the position as a child of the selected parent, to which to paste a node or subtree in tree mode - the child action

time **"child"** globalX globalY localX localY node

-Changing the viewing space by resizing or moving the roaming box - the viewing action

time **"view"** globalX globalY left top right bottom

In addition to these actions, there are support records which supply additional information to the parser:

-Indicates that a new node or link is created;

time **"create"** globalX globalY localX localY object

-Indicates that a roam operation was completed

time **"roam"** globalX globalY

-Indicates that an action failed (for whatever reason)

time **"cancel"** globalX globalY localX localY [object]



## Action Level Transcript Language

### Explanation of the parameters:

- 1) time: The amount of time in milliseconds since the beginning of the session.
- 2) globalX, globalY: The x and y coordinates of the event on the screen.
- 3) localX, localY: The x and y coordinates of the event within the particular mode screen in which the event transpired.
- 4) mode: One of several of the possible system modes. The modes are abbreviated as follows:

Edit Mode:	ParaMode1
Control Panel Mode:	CP1Mode
Network Mode:	NetMode1
Tree Mode:	TreeMode1
Text Mode:	ReviseMode1
- 5) object: Either a node, or an arc (identified by a unique number), or one of the modes listed above.
- 6) menuitem: A menuitem may be any one of the possible menu items which may be highlighted from any of the several modes. A complete list of these items appears at the end of this section.
- 7) boolean: Either true or false.
- 8) string: Used to indicate the first few letters of text used for node names, link names, etc.
- 9) left, top, right, bottom: The upper left and lower right coordinates of the current mode.
- 10) node: A unique node identifier.

### Replay Event Records

There are some events which are only present for the benefit of the Replay Manager. Event records which begin with the following words can be ignored:

```
openSession  
firstmode  
closeSession  
notify  
wbase  
menuStart  
helpMenuStart  
menuEnd
```

**MenuItems**

	<b>Menu</b>	<b>In Transcript</b>
System Control Panel Menu:		
	Writing Environment menu:	
	Redraw All:	redrawOpt
	Default Layout:	defaultOpt
	Quit:	finished
	Workspace menu:	
	Save WS:	saveWS
	Change WS:	changeWS
	Rename WS:	renameWS
	Reset WS:	resetWS
	Garbage Collect:	collectGarbage
	Delete WS:	deleteWS
	Holding Areas menu:	
	Show Nodes:	showNodes
	Show Trees:	showTrees
	Holding Areas submenu:	
	Move to Top:	moveToTop
	Delete:	throwOut
	System menu:	
	Screendump:	screendump
	Snapshot:	snapshot
	Prompt before saving text:	editPromptToggle
	Change WS Directory:	changeWSdir
	Printing Options:	printMenu
	Create WS Directory:	createWSdir
	To Smalltalk:	toSmalltalk
Network Mode Menus:		
	Control Panel Menu:	
	View menu:	
	Redraw:	redrawOpt
	Resize:	resizeOpt
	Switch size:	switchSize
	Roam:	roam
	Display/print menu:	
	Show in text window:	toTextMode
	Send to line printer:	toLinePtr
	Write as a TeX file:	asTeX

	Menu	In Transcript
Background menu:		
	Create Node:	createNode
	Paste Node:	pasteNode
	Paste Tree:	pasteStructure
	Show/Hide Links:	toggleLinks
	Show/Hide Link Names:	toggleLinkNames
	Subtract Tree:	deletePastedStructure
Node menu:		
	Move:	moveNode
	Link:	addLink
	Edit Name:	editNodeNameS
	Edit Text:	editNodeText
	Copy Node:	copyNode
	Copy Tree:	copyTree
	Delete Node:	deleteNode
Link menu:		
	Edit Link Name:	rename
	Delete Link:	delete
Tree mode menus:		
	Control Panel menus:	same as for Network mode
Background menu:		
	Paste Node:	pasteNode
	Paste Tree:	pasteTree
	Create Tree:	createTree
	Copy Node:	copyNode
	Copy Tree:	copyTree
	View Context:	viewContext
	Set Node Size:	setDepth
Node menu:		
	Add Node: above:	addAbove
	Add Node: below:	addBelow
	Add Node: child:	addChild
	Add Node: Parent:	addParent
	Edit Name:	rename
	Edit Text:	textEdit
	Copy Node:	copyNode
	Delete Node:	deleteNode
Subtree menu:		
	Move Subtree:	moveSubtree
	Show Text for Subtree:	printOutSubtree
	Display Subtree:	newCurrRoot
	Copy Subtree:	copyOutSubtree
	Delete Subtree:	deleteSubtree

## Action Level Transcript Language

### Printing Options Menu:

Laser Writer:	specLaserWriter
Line Printer	specLaserWriter
file name:	outfile
auto send	autoPrint

### 2.3.2 Sample Annotated Transcript

In the following transcript, lines which are comments rather than actual lines of the transcript are preceded by two asterisks.

'Writing Environment Transcript version 2.0'

version: 2.0  
 date: 23 September 1988  
 time: 1:23:26 pm  
 user: jenkins  
 clock: 27947  
 database: emptyWS  
 empty: true

```

40 openSession 492 240 0 0
80 mode 0 0 -701 -561 ParaMode1
205420 mode 10 153 9 92 NetMode1
    
```

\*\* The subject moves the cursor to network mode

```

205480 agent 10 153 9 92 NetMode1
206180 menuStart 105 184 ToolHelpedMenu
206860 createNode 108 187 104 123 NetMode1 Net
206880 create 108 187 104 123 Nodes 23482710
210480 string 108 187 bird
    
```

\*\* Node # 2348270 is created in network mode and given the label "bird."

\*\* The node creator began 206180 milliseconds after the beginning of  
 \*\* the session.

```

211160 agent 122 191 121 130 Nodes 23482710
211340 agent 290 153 289 92 NetMode1
211660 menuStart 302 147 ToolHelpedMenu
212120 createNode 305 150 301 86 NetMode1 Net
212140 create 305 150 301 86 Nodes 24006711
21406 string 305 150 cat
    
```

\*\* A second node with the label "cat" is created.

```

215000 menuStart 208 273 ToolHelpedMenu
215420 createNode 215 274 207 212 NetMode1 Net
215440 create 215 274 207 212 Nodes 24336712
217920 string 216 275 fish
219300 menuStart 250 211 ToolHelpedMenu
219740 createNode 253 214 249 150 NetMode1 Net
219780 create 253 214 249 150 Nodes 24770713
223740 string 253 214 dtg
224780 agent 305 169 304 108 Nodes 24006711
225000 agent 399 161 398 100 NetMode1
    
```

Sample Annotated Transcript - Action Level

225260	menuStart	417	151				ToolHelpedMenu
225820	createNode	420	154	416	90		NetMode1 Net
225860	create	420	154	416	90		Nodes 25378714
227740	string	420	154				mouse
228720	agent	379	151	378	90		Nodes 24006711
229480	agent	408	161	407	100		NetMode1
229580	agent	418	163	417	102		Nodes 25378714
230100	agent	397	156	396	95		NetMode1
230140	agent	377	152	376	91		Nodes 24006711
231300	agent	295	197	294	136		NetMode1
231480	agent	283	213	282	152		Nodes 24770713
231800	menuStart	277	221				ToolHelpedMenu
232580	addLink	281	240	282	152		Nodes 24770713 Net
233840	link	322	170				Nodes 24006711
234780	create	322	170	282	152		Arcs 26264715

\*\* Node # 24770713 is linked to Node # 2400611 in network mode. The arc  
 \*\* is given the # 26264715 by the system.

235460	agent	323	162	322	101		Nodes 24006711
236120	menuStart	331	162				ToolHelpedMenu
236940	addLink	334	181	322	101		Nodes 24006711 Net
238260	link	438	170				Nodes 25378714
238340	create	438	170	322	101		Arcs 26622716
239360	agent	417	246	416	185		NetMode1
240400	agent	435	185	434	124		Nodes 25378714
241200	agent	438	191	437	130		NetMode1
242320	menuStart	438	192				ToolHelpedMenu
242520	createNode	441	195	437	131		NetMode1 Net
242540	create	441	195	437	131		Nodes 27048717
245260	string	441	195				elephant
245420	agent	428	182	427	121		Nodes 25378714
246280	agent	452	202	451	141		Nodes 27048717
246460	agent	478	228	477	167		NetMode1
246520	agent	478	226	477	165		Nodes 27048717
246920	menuStart	472	212				ToolHelpedMenu
248900	moveNode	485	213	477	165		Nodes 27048717 Net
250060	point	453	159	452	98		

\*\* Node # 27048717 is moved in network mode to coordinates 453,159,452,98

251100	agent	388	195	387	134		NetMode1
251560	agent	314	193	313	132		Arcs 26264715
251980	agent	410	171	409	110		NetMode1
252080	agent	424	169	423	108		Nodes 25378714
252780	agent	501	162	500	101		Nodes 27048717
253560	agent	390	232	389	171		NetMode1
254020	agent	324	223	323	162		Nodes 24770713
254300	agent	316	199	315	138		Arcs 26264715
254740	agent	326	205	325	144		NetMode1
255600	agent	401	168	400	107		Arcs 26622716
256260	agent	373	152	372	91		Nodes 24006711
256440	agent	369	214	368	153		NetMode1
256620	agent	321	230	320	169		Nodes 24770713

Sample Annotated Transcript - Action Level

256820	agent	287	256	286	195	NetMode1
257020	agent	271	278	270	217	Nodes 24336712
257760	agent	95	249	94	188	NetMode1

\*\* The subject moves the cursor around touching on arcs, nodes, and  
 \*\* network mode itself in the preceding 16 "agent" records.

258360	menuStart	55	277			ToolHelpedMenu
258940	createNode	58	280	54	216	NetMode1 Net
258980	create	58	280	54	216	Nodes 28688718
260840	string	58	280			eagle
261780	agent	180	212	179	151	Nodes 23482710
262180	menuStart	158	200			ToolHelpedMenu
263300	addLink	163	225	179	151	Nodes 23482710 Net
264220	link	75	291			Nodes 28688718
264300	create	75	291	179	151	Arcs 29218719
265140	agent	180	274	179	213	NetMode1
265260	menuStart	180	274			ToolHelpedMenu
265820	createNode	183	277	179	213	NetMode1 Net
265840	create	183	277	179	213	Nodes 29376720
267940	string	183	277			ostrich
268880	agent	149	205	148	144	Nodes 23482710
269340	menuStart	145	193			ToolHelpedMenu
270020	addLink	148	212	148	144	Nodes 23482710 Net
270960	link	222	298			Nodes 29376720
271040	create	222	298	148	144	Arcs 29892721
272160	agent	221	298	220	237	Nodes 29376720
272480	menuStart	221	297			ToolHelpedMenu
273800	moveNode	228	310	220	237	Nodes 29376720 Net
277700	point	196	384	195	323	
279180	agent	170	419	169	358	NetMode1
279860	agent	96	291	95	230	Nodes 28688718
280060	agent	100	253	99	192	NetMode1
280340	agent	142	211	141	150	Nodes 23482710
280520	agent	156	179	155	118	NetMode1
281540	menuStart	125	85			ToolHelpedMenu
281980	createNode	128	88	124	24	NetMode1 Net
282000	create	128	88	124	24	Nodes 30992722
284620	string	128	88			Animals
285760	agent	134	92	133	31	Nodes 30992722
286440	menuStart	158	94			ToolHelpedMenu
287520	addLink	177	119	133	31	Nodes 30992722 Net
288820	link	133	193			Nodes 23482710
288880	create	133	193	133	31	Arcs 31678723
290240	menuStart	169	97			ToolHelpedMenu
291060	addLink	172	116	133	31	Nodes 30992722 Net
292440	link	226	286			Nodes 24336712
292520	create	226	286	133	31	Arcs 32040724
294080	menuStart	154	105			ToolHelpedMenu
295820	addLink	159	126	133	31	Nodes 30992722 Net
301720	link	277	235			Nodes 30857223 Net
302170	create	277	238	145	123	Arcs 32968725
303560	agent	233	167	232	106	NetMode1
303740	agent	232	167	231	106	Arcs 32968725

Sample Annotated Transcript - Action Level

304140	menuStart	232	167			ToolHelpedMenu
304860	rename	245	177	231	106	Arcs 32968725 Net
306620	string	245	177			none

\*\* A link is renamed to the null string

306940	agent	245	193	244	132	NetMode1
307720	agent	228	164	227	103	Arcs 32968725
308180	menuStart	228	164			ToolHelpedMenu
309080	delete	232	183	227	103	Arcs 32968725 Net

\*\* Arc # 32968725 is deleted

310340	agent	229	185	228	124	NetMode1
310620	agent	169	115	168	54	Nodes 30992722
310980	menuStart	161	101			ToolHelpedMenu
312460	copyTree	184	186	168	54	Nodes 30992722 Net

\*\* The tree with root at node # 30992722 is copied into the holding area

312740	agent	183	188	182	127	Nodes 23482710
312920	agent	161	368	160	307	NetMode1
313260	mode	137	574	136	73	TreeMode1

\*\* The subject moves to tree mode

313300	agent	137	574	136	73	TreeMode1
314100	menuStart	137	574			ToolHelpedMenu
315440	pasteNode	158	589	136	73	TreeMode1 Tree
317120	notify	158	589			

\*\* An attempt is made to paste a node from the holding to tree mode,

\*\* but the copy fails (probably because no node is in the holding

\*\* area).

318320	pasteTree	170	608	157	88	TreeMode1 Tree
--------	-----------	-----	-----	-----	----	----------------

\*\* A tree is successfully pasted into tree mode

328420	menuStart	169	607			ToolHelpedMenu
329760	agent	324	716	323	215	Subtree 23482710
330020	agent	174	612	173	111	TreeMode1
330220	menuStart	174	612			ToolHelpedMenu
334420	agent	263	659	262	158	Nodes 28688718
334600	agent	179	715	178	214	Nodes 24336712
335260	agent	100	727	99	226	TreeMode1
335720	agent	43	703	42	202	Nodes 30992722
336700	agent	174	677	173	176	Nodes 23482710
337760	agent	110	711	109	210	Nodes 30992722
337940	agent	4	707	3	206	TreeMode1
338120	agent	16	703	15	202	Nodes 30992722
338400	agent	38	713	37	212	Nodes 30992722
338940	agent	74	685	73	184	TreeMode1
339360	agent	78	686	77	185	Nodes 30992722



Sample Annotated Transcript - Action Level

340180	menuStart	71	700			ToolMenu
342800	textEdit	87	780	77	185	Nodes 30992722 Tree
345480	mode	926	548	225	-13	ParaMode1

\*\* The subject enters into Edit mode with the contents of Node # 30992722  
 \*\* in the Edit mode buffer.

353880	encode	725	542	210	12	Nodes 30992722
421220	encode	577	581	81	38	Nodes 30992722

\*\* The subject enters text into the Edit mode buffer.

421260	mode	425	565	424	64	TreeMode1
421300	agent	425	565	424	64	TreeMode1
421700	agent	351	658	350	157	Nodes 28688718
422120	menuStart	291	656			ToolMenu
424920	addBelow	327	682	350	157	Nodes 28688718 Tree
424960	create	327	682	350	157	Nodes 46668738
427900	string	327	682			eaglet

\*\* A sibling node to node # 28688718 is created and placed below node #  
 \*\* 28688718 on the screen (in tree mode).

428560	agent	305	683	304	182	Nodes 46668738
429400	menuStart	300	683			ToolMenu
430220	addBelow	303	702	304	182	Nodes 46668738 Tree
430240	create	303	702	304	182	Nodes 47198740
436240	string	305	701			parrot
436960	agent	305	699	304	198	Nodes 47198740
437500	agent	281	669	280	168	Nodes 46668738
437920	menuStart	279	667			ToolMenu
439500	moveNode	322	792	280	168	Nodes 46668738 Tree
441540	child	330	627	280	168	Nodes 28688718

\*\* Node # 46668738 is moved to become a child of node # 28688718 in tree  
 \*\* mode.

443020	agent	343	683	342	182	Nodes 47198740
443180	agent	243	715	242	214	Subtree 23482710
443520	agent	235	751	234	250	TreeMode1
443840	agent	177	723	176	222	Nodes 24336712
444140	agent	167	679	166	178	Nodes 23482710
444320	menuStart	167	677			ToolMenu
445880	cancel	66	807	166	178	Nodes 23482710 Tree
445980	agent	92	795	91	294	TreeMode1
446340	agent	134	727	133	226	Nodes 23449280
447830	addAbove	203	721	133	226	Nodes 24336712 Tree
449300	create	203	721	133	226	Nodes 49104743
453780	string	203	721			Reptile
454860	agent	184	699	183	198	Nodes 49104743
455960	agent	70	708	69	207	Nodes 30992722
456800	menuStart	52	702			ToolMenu
458280	addChild	84	739	69	207	Nodes 30992722 Tree
458320	create	84	739	69	207	Nodes 50004745

Sample Annotated Transcript - Action Level

462120	string	84	739			Mammal
463640	agent	116	751	115	250	Subtree 30992722
464080	agent	170	747	169	246	Nodes 50004745
464560	menuStart	173	745			ToolMenu
468220	moveNode	202	872	169	246	Nodes 50004745 Tree
469900	above	166	673	169	246	Nodes 49104743
472220	menuStart	182	677			ToolMenu
474560	copyNode	194	781	183	182	Nodes 50004745 Tree

\*\* Node # 50004745 is copied from tree mode onto the holding stack.

474640	agent	194	781	193	280	TreeMode1
474960	agent	199	742	198	241	Nodes 24336712
477000	mode	463	239	462	178	NetMode1
477060	agent	463	239	462	178	NetMode1
477080	menuStart	463	239			ToolHelpedMenu
478980	pasteNode	497	259	462	178	NetMode1 Net
479460	agent	497	259	496	198	Nodes 50004745
480500	agent	468	336	467	275	NetMode1
481760	mode	100	686	99	185	TreeMode1
481820	agent	100	686	99	185	Nodes 30992722
482160	agent	127	674	126	173	Subtree 30992722
482500	agent	165	670	164	169	Nodes 50004745
482680	menuStart	169	676			ToolMenu
484340	deleteNode	196	810	164	169	Nodes 50004745 Tree

## 2.4 Operation Level

### Introduction

The Operation Level represents the kinds of operations one would normally designate in specifying a user interface -- such as `create_node`. Each such operation would then be implemented by several user actions -- such as, select position with mouse, select menu option, type label, type carriage return. The grammar for this level maps sequences of Action Level symbols -- normally, three or four -- into individual Operation Level symbols. In the sections that follow, we first discuss the transcription language for this level, then the grammar, and, finally, a sample annotated transcript.

#### 2.4.1 Operation Level Transcript Language

An operation level transcript consists of a header followed by a series of one or more operation records. Any operation a user wishes to perform in WE must be initiated by highlighting a menu item (with one exception). An operation is a grouping of the sequence of actions initiated by the user in highlighting a menu item. Each operation consists of two or more actions. For example the "create node" operation entails opening a menu, highlighting the appropriate menu item, and giving the new node a name. A user may perform a system mode shift operation by simply moving the cursor from one system mode to another (and this is the exception). Each operation record occupies one line of the transcript file.

##### Header

The header lists the following items, in the following order:

- 1) The version of the Writing Environment (WE) which was being used when the transcript was recorded.
- 2) The date of the transcript.
- 3) The time at which the session began.
- 4) The name of the user.
- 5) The clock at the beginning of the session.
- 6) The name of the database being used.
- 7) A boolean indicating whether the database began with an empty workspace.

##### Operation Record

The format for the action records is consistently followed through the five levels of abstraction currently recognized by our method of analysis. That format is simply:

Time Symbol Attributes

where:

## Operation Level Transcript Language

Time = The time (in milliseconds) from the beginning of the user session until the beginning of the action (operation, etc.) which that particular line of the transcript purports to record.

Symbol = The symbol which represents the type of action (operation, etc.) which is recorded on the transcript.

Attributes = A list of zero or more attributes which may include 1) the object of the particular action (operation, etc.), 2) the logical relationship of the object of the action to other objects, and/or 3) additional spatio-temporal information about the object.

Thus, preceding the operation identifier of each record, is the time elapsed since the beginning of the session until the time at the end of the action event which triggered the creation of the operation record (labeled "Time"). The operation identifier follows "Time" in the operation record. For certain operations, a list of attributes follows the operation identifier in the transcript.

Below is a list of all possible operation types in operation level transcripts. A short description of the type precedes the template (for the transcript) of that operation. A sample annotated transcript concludes the section.

-Aborting an operation (e.g. when a user attempts to paste a node when the holding area is empty) - the abort operation

Time      abort

-Changing the viewing space of a mode by using a roaming operation or changing the viewing space to view the entire tree or a subtree - the context operation

Time      context      view [tree | view rectangle]

-Copying a node or tree (in tree mode) into the holding area - the copy operation

Time      copy      object

-Copying a tree into the holding area from network mode - the cp-tree operation

Time      cp-tree      root node

-Deleting an object from the workspace - the delete operation

Time      delete      object

-Associating text with a node in edit mode - the encode operation (Note: There is no comparable operation for revise mode. This is a design flaw.)

Time      encode      node

-Hiding the link names - the hidelinknames operation

Time      hidelinknames

-Hiding the links- the hidelinks operation

Time      hidelinks

-Changing the viewing space of a mode by resizing or switching the size of the mode - the layout operation

## Operation Level Transcript Language

- Time      layout      screen rectangle
- Changing modes - the mode operation  
Time      mode      mode
- Moving a node to a new position - the move operation  
Time      move      node      position
- Creating a new link - the newLink operation  
Time      newLink      link      From node      To node
- Creating a new node - the newNode operation  
Time      newNode      node      position      string
- Pasting a node from the holding area into a mode - the paste operation  
Time      paste      object      position
- Renaming a node or link - the rename operation  
Time      rename      object      string
- Reading a saved file into the workspace - the session operation  
Time      session
- Displaying the link names - the showlinknames operation  
Time      showlinknames
- Displaying the links - the showlinks operation  
Time      showlinks
- Performing one of several possible system operations (e.g. showing Tex output, saving the workspace, etc.) - the system operation  
Time      system
- Viewing the text associated with a node in edit mode, or associated with a tree or subtree in text mode - the view operation  
Time      view      object      mode

The attributes of the various operations are:

mode	Either CP (control panel), Tree (tree), Net (network), Para (edit), or Revise (text) modes.
node	A node followed by a number (in parenthesis) which identifies it.
link	A link followed by a number (in parenthesis) which identifies it.
object	Either a node, arc, or tree. If the object is a node or link, it is identified by a number in parenthesis. If the object is a tree, it is identified by the number of the node which is

## Operation Level Transcript Language

	its root.
tree	A tree identified by its root node.
position	<p>Either x, y coordinates (a point) if in network mode, or tree position if in tree mode. If tree position, then either "parent", "above", "below", or "child" will be given, followed by a node and its identifying number. Thus if node 8 of a tree is moved, a possible line of the transcript might be:</p> <pre>"1020399 756 move node(8) (above, node(6))."</pre> <p>"Above" and "below" indicate the node becomes the sibling (above or below it on the screen) of the given node, "child" that it becomes the child, and "parent" that it becomes the parent.</p>
screen rectangle	The mode coordinates of the new view port after a roam operation.
view rectangle	The screen coordinates of the new mode location after a resize or shift size operation.
From node, To node	The nodes which a link links. The To node is the node to which the link points.
string	A string.

## 2.4.2 Operation Level Grammar

The following attribute grammar clarifies the origin in the action level transcript of every item of information output in the operation level transcript. Following each operation record type is a parenthesized list of attributes which will appear with that operation type in the operation level transcript. Within the parenthesized list may appear literals (which are enclosed in quotes) of the operation level record. Following this parenthesized list (i.e. after the '::=' symbol), is a list of the action level record type(s) (with their associated attributes) which cause the operation record type in question to be generated.

Operation Transcript ::= Operation Record<sup>+</sup>

Operation Record ::=

- Abort Record
- Context Record
- Copy Record
- Copy Tree Record
- Delete Record
- Encode Record
- Hide LinksRecord
- Hide Link Names Record
- Layout Record
- Mode Record
- Move Record
- NewLink Record
- NewNode Record
- Paste Record
- Rename Record
- Session Record
- Show Links Record
- Show Link Names Record
- System Record
- View Record

Abort Record (time) ::=

- addLink(time) [cancel | link] |
- addAbove(time) [cancel | ⌀ ] |
- addBelow(time) [cancel | ⌀ ] |
- addChild(time) [cancel | ⌀ ] |
- addParent(time) notify |
- cancel (time) |
- changeWS (time) [boolean (false) | string] |

## Operation Level Grammar

```
copyTree (time) |
createTree (time) |
createWSdir (time) string |
deletePastedStructure (time) |
finished (time)boolean (false) |
moveNode (time) cancel |
moveSubtree (time) cancel |
pasteNode (time) [cancel | ø] |
pasteTree (time) [cancel | ø] |
printMenu (time) cancel

Context Record (time, "tree(", subtree,")" ) ::=
    newCurrRoot (time, subtree)

Context Record (time, "tree (0)" ) ::=
    viewContext (time)

Context Record (time, rectangle) ::=
    roam (time) view (rectangle)

Copy Record (time, "node(", node,")" ) ::=
    copyNode (time, node)

Copy Record (time, "tree(", node,")" ) ::=
    copyOutSubtree (time, node)

Copy Tree Record (time, node) ::=
    copyTree (time, node)

Delete Record (time, node) ::=
    deletePastedStructure (time, node) |
    deleteNode (time, node)

Delete Record (time, arc) ::=
    delete (time, arc)
```



## Operation Level Grammar

Delete Record (time, subtree) ::=  
    deleteSubtree (time, subtree)

Encode Record (time, node) ::=  
    encode (time, node)

HideLinks Record (time) ::=  
    hideLinks (time)

HideLinkNames Record (time) ::=  
    hideLinkNames (time)

Layout Record (time, rectangle) ::=  
    resizeOpt (time) view (rectangle) |  
    switchSize (time) view (rectangle)

Mode Record (time, modetype) ::=  
    mode (time, modetype)

Move Record (time, node, localx, localy) ::=  
    moveNode (time, node) point (localx, localy) |

Move Record (time, node<sub>1</sub>, "(above", node<sub>2</sub>,)") ::=  
    moveNode (time, node<sub>1</sub>) above (node<sub>2</sub>)

Move Record (time, node<sub>1</sub>, "(below", node<sub>2</sub>,)") ::=  
    moveNode (time, node<sub>1</sub>) below (node<sub>2</sub>)

Move Record (time, node<sub>1</sub>, "(parent", node<sub>2</sub>,)") ::=  
    moveNode (time, node<sub>1</sub>) child (node<sub>2</sub>)

Move Record (time, "tree(", node<sub>1</sub>, ")", "(above", node<sub>2</sub>,)") ::=  
    moveSubtree (time, node<sub>1</sub>) above (node<sub>2</sub>)

Move Record (time, "tree(", node<sub>1</sub>, ")", "(below", node<sub>2</sub>,)") ::=  
    moveSubtree (time, node<sub>1</sub>) below (node<sub>2</sub>)

NewLink Record (time, arc, node<sub>1</sub>, node<sub>2</sub>) ::=  
    addLink (time, node<sub>1</sub>) link (node<sub>2</sub>) create (arc)

## Operation Level Grammar

NewNode Record (time, node2, "(above", node1,")" , string) ::=  
    addAbove (time, node1) create (node2) string (string-token)

NewNode Record (time, node2, "(below", node1,")" , string) ::=  
    addBelow (time, node1) create (node2) string (string-token)

NewNode Record (time, node2, "(child", node1,")" , string) ::=  
    addChild (time, node1) create (node2) string (string-token)

NewNode Record (time, node2, "(parent", node1,")" , string) ::=  
    addParent (time, node1) create (node2) string (string-token)

NewNode Record (time, node, "(root )", string) ::=  
    createtree (time) create (node) string (string-token)

NewNode Record (time, node, localx, locally, string) ::=  
    createNode (time, localx, locally) create (node) string (string-token)

Paste Record (time, node, localx, locally) ::=  
    pasteNode (time, localx, locally, node)

Paste Record (time, "node(0)", "(above ",node,")") ::=  
    pasteNode (time) above (node)

Paste Record (time, "node(0)", "(below ",node,")") ::=  
    pasteNode (time) below (node)

Paste Record (time, "node(0)", "(parent ",node,")") ::=  
    pasteNode (time) child (node)

Paste Record (time, "node(0), root") ::=  
    pasteNode (time)

Paste Record (time, "tree(0)", "(above ",node,")") ::=  
    pasteTree (time) above (node)

Paste Record (time, "tree(0)", "(below ",node,")") ::=  
    pasteTree (time) below (node)

## Operation Level Grammar

Paste Record (time, "node(0)", "(parent ",node,")") ::=  
    pasteTree (time) child (node)

Paste Record (time, "tree(0), root") ::=  
    pastetree (time)

Rename Record (time, node, string) ::=  
    editNodeName (time, node) string (string-token)

Rename Record (time, node, string) ::=  
    rename (time, node) string (string-token)

Rename Record (time, arc, string) ::=  
    rename (time, arc) string (string-token)

Session Record (time) ::=  
    finished (time) boolean (true) |  
    changeWS (time) |  
    changeWS (time) boolean (true) string |  
    changeWSdir (time) boolean (true) |  
    resetWS (time) boolean (true) |  
    toSmalltalk (time) boolean (true)

Show Links Record (time) ::=  
    showLinks (time)

Show Link NamesRecord (time) ::=  
    showLinkNames (time)

System Record (time)::=  
    asTeX (time) |  
    suspend (time) |  
    collectGarbage (time) |  
    deleteWS (time) |  
    printMenu (time) specLaserWriter |

## Operation Level Grammar

```
printMenu (time) specLinePrinter |  
printMenu (time) outFile string |  
printMenu (time) toggleAutoPrint |  
redrawOpt (time) |  
renameWS (time) string |  
saveWS (time) string |  
screenDump (time) |  
throwOut (time)
```

View Record (time, node, mode) ::=

```
editNodetext (time, node, mode) |  
printOutSubtree (time, node, mode) |  
printOutLine (time, node, mode) |  
textEdit (time, node, mode) |  
toTextMode (time, node, mode)
```

### 2.4.3 Sample Annotated Transcript - Operation Level

The following is an annotated operation level transcript. Annotations follow lines (or groups of lines) which they annotate, and are preceded by two asterisks.

'Writing Environment Transcript version 2.0'

version: 2.0  
 date: 23 September 1988  
 time: 1:23:26 pm  
 user: jenkins  
 clock: 27947  
 database: emptyWS  
 empty: true

80 40 mode Para  
 205420 205340 mode Net

\*\* The subject moves to net mode.

206860 680 newNode node(1) (104,123) "bird"

\*\* A first node is created and given the label "bird." The  
 \*\* creation began 206860 milliseconds after the beginning of the session,  
 \*\* and occurred at x,y coordinates 104, 123.

212120 460 newNode node(2) (301,86) "cat"  
 215420 420 newNode node(3) (207,212) "fish"  
 219740 440 newNode node(4) (249,150) "dog"  
 225820 560 newNode node(5) (416,90) "mouse"  
 232580 780 newLink link(1) node(4) node(2)

\*\* A new link (link #1) is created linking nodes # 4 and 2.

236940 820 newLink link(2) node(2) node(5)  
 242520 200 newNode node(6) (437,131) "elephant"  
 248900 1980 move node(6) (452,98)

\*\* Node 6 is moved to new x,y coordinates 452, 98.

258940 580 newNode node(7) (54,216) "eagle"  
 263300 1120 newLink link(3) node(1) node(7)  
 265820 560 newNode node(8) (179,213) "ostrich"  
 270020 680 newLink link(4) node(1) node(8)  
 273800 1320 move node(8) (195,323)  
 281980 440 newNode node(9) (124,24) "Animals"  
 287520 1080 newLink link(5) node(9) node(1)  
 291060 820 newLink link(6) node(9) node(3)  
 295820 1740 newLink link(7) node(9) node(4)  
 304860 720 rename link(7) "none"  
 309080 900 delete link(7)

## Sample Transcript - Operation Level

\*\* Link # 7 is deleted.

312460 1480 cptree node(9)

\*\* The tree with root # 9 is copied from network node into the  
\*\* holding area.

313260 340 mode Tree

\*\* The subject shifts to tree mode.

315440 1340 abort

\*\* Some action is aborted.

318480 1200 paste tree(0) (root)

\*\* The tree on top of the holding stack area is pasted into tree mode.

342960 2620 view node(9) Tree  
345640 2680 mode Para

\*\* The subject moves into Edit mode with the contents of node # 9 in the  
buffer.

354040 8400 encode node(9)  
421380 67340 encode node(9)

\*\* Text is associated with node # 9.

421420 40 mode Tree  
425080 2800 newNode node(10) (below,node(7)) "eaglet"

\*\* A new node (node # 10) is created as a sibling node to node # 7,  
\*\* and placed below node # 7 on the screen.

430380 820 newNode node(11) (below,node(10)) "parrot"  
439660 1580 move node(10) (parent,node(7))  
446040 1560 abort  
449440 2480 newNode node(12) (above,node(3)) "Reptile"  
458440 1480 newNode node(13) (child,node(9)) "Mammal"  
468380 3660 move node(13) (above,node(12))  
474720 2340 copy node(13)

\*\* Node # 13 is copied into the holding area from tree mode.

477160 2040 mode Net  
479140 1900 paste node(0) (462,178)  
481920 1260 mode Tree  
484500 1660 delete node(13)

## 2.5 $\Delta$ -Product Level

### Introduction

The  $\Delta$ -Product Level shifts the perspective to the mind of the user. In this level, we begin to infer the user's cognitive behavior based on his or her interaction with the system. This level of the grammar actually contains two steps. In the first, each operation symbol is mapped to a corresponding symbol that interprets the effects of the system operation on the set of intellectual products the user is constructing. These products are well-defined, consisting of structural forms that are important for writing, such as an isolated concept, a cluster of ideas, a relation between two ideas, a primitive subordinate/superordinate relationship, a block of text, etc. The effects of individual changes in the set of cognitive products are then aggregated. Thus, each  $\Delta$ -Product symbol represents the changes produced by one operation or a sequence of operations on one of these conceptual forms. In the sections that follow, we first discuss the transcription language for this level, then the grammar, and, finally, a sample annotated transcript.

### 2.5.1 $\Delta$ -Product Level Transcript Language

A  $\Delta$ -product level transcript is a record of transformations in the population of the abstract entities recognized as cognitively significant. These abstract entities are of five types: 1) nodes 2) links 3) trees (defined as any noncyclic linked structure with at least two links and a root in network mode or any structure in tree mode) 4) networks (defined as any linked structure with at least two links and not a tree) and 5) clusters (defined as any group of at least two nodes within some constant distance of one another). A  $\Delta$ -product level transcript is preceded by a header giving information identical to that at earlier levels.

Not every cognitively significant action (or operation) results in the creation of a  $\Delta$ -product record; only those actions (or operations) which affect the population of abstract entities cause a  $\Delta$ -product record to be created. Thus, although we may (and do) regard mode shifts as cognitively significant, the cognitive significance of the shift will be registered at some other level.

#### Header

The header lists the following items, in the following order:

- 1) The version of the Writing Environment (WE) which was being used when the transcript was recorded.
- 2) The date of the transcript.
- 3) The time at which the session began.
- 4) The name of the user.
- 5) The clock at the beginning of the session.
- 6) The name of the database being used.
- 7) A boolean indicating whether the database began with an empty workspace.

### Δ-Product Record

The format for the Δ-product records is consistent with that followed at other levels. That format is simply:

Time Symbol Attributes

where:

Time = The time (in milliseconds) from the beginning of the user session until the beginning of the action (operation, etc.) which that particular line of the transcript purports to record.

Symbol = The symbol which represents the type of action (operation, etc.) which is recorded on the transcript.

Attributes = A parenthesized list headed by the mode of the transformation and followed by the entities affected by the transformation.

Thus, preceding the Δ-product identifier of each record, is the time elapsed since the beginning of the session until the time at the end of the action event which triggered the creation of the operation record (labeled "Time"). The Δ-product identifier follows "Time" in the operation record. For certain operations, a list of attributes follows the operation identifier in the transcript.

The attribute list following the Δ-product symbol is parenthesized. Every Δ-product record has as an attribute the mode in which the transformation occurred. Following the mode in the attribute list, is a list of products altered in the transformation, both before and after the transformation. The list of altered products before the transformation is separated from the list of altered products after the transformation by the symbol '->'. If the list of products before or after the transformation is nil, then 'nil' is written on the transcript. Thus a sample line from a Δ-product transcript might be:

1233211 M3 (Net: N:3 -> C4)

indicating that 1233211 milliseconds after the beginning of the session, the Δ-product transformation 'M3' began in network mode altering nodes 3 and cluster 4. The record

4325433 C1 (Net: nil -> N:4)

indicates that 4325433 milliseconds after the beginning of the session, the Δ-product transformation 'C1' (a singleton node creation) began in network mode with no products involved prior to the transformation and with Node 4 involved after the transformation.

Frequently a product might appear both before and after a transformation. For example if a node is moved within a cluster, the cluster undergoes a transformation in the position of its elements. In such a case, the cluster will only be cited in the after transformation list. On the other hand, moved and deleted nodes always appear on the list before transformation, while created nodes always appear after transformation. The Δ-product transcript should be read with the Δ-product rule documentation at hand.



## $\Delta$ -Product Level Transcript Language

Listed below are the  $\Delta$ -product symbols with a short description of each.

<u><math>\Delta</math>Product-Type</u>	<u>Description</u>
M1	Move singleton node to empty space
M2	Move node within cluster
M3	Move node from cluster to empty space
M4	Move node empty space to cluster
M5	Move node outside of cluster creating new cluster
M6	Move node destroying cluster into existing cluster
M7	Move node from existing cluster to existing cluster
M8	Move node from cluster destroying cluster
M9	Move node from empty space creating cluster
M10	Move node destroying cluster creating another
C1	Node creation in empty space
D1	Node deletion in empty space
C2	Node creation creating cluster
D2	Node deletion destroying cluster
C3	Node creation within existing cluster
D3	Node deletion with existing cluster
C4	Node creation destroying a cluster but creating another
D4	Node deletion destroying a cluster but creating others
L1	Link node to another node
UL1	Unlink node
DL1	Delete linked node
DL2	Delete linked node within cluster
DLC1	Delete linked node destroying cluster
TC1	Node creation tree mode creating tree
TD1	Node deletion destroying tree
TC2	Node creation tree mode new tree root
TD2	Node deletion net mode destroying tree root (but not tree)
TC3	Node creation tree mode new subtree
TD3	Node deletion tree mode shrinking subtree
TC4	Node creation tree mode new leaf
TD4	Node deletion tree mode of leaf
STC1	Subtree deletion in tree mode
STD1	Subtree addition in tree mode
TPC1	Tree creation by pasting in tree mode
TM1	Node movement in tree mode
TL1	Link node (net mode) creating tree
TL2	Unlink node (net mode) destroying tree
TL3	Link node (net mode) two trees become one
TL4	Unlink node destroying one tree creating two others
TL5	Link node (net mode) new root to tree
TL6	Unlink node net mode shrinking tree by deleting old root
TL7	New Link which destroys a tree ( by (e.g.) creating a cycle)
EncN	Associating text with a node in edit mode

## 2.5.2 $\Delta$ -Product Level Grammar

The grammar of the  $\Delta$ -product level differs markedly from the operation level grammar. The operation level grammar was a string grammar which formally described the context-free parse of action level strings. In the  $\Delta$ -product grammar, we take into account certain "cognitive entities" or "cognitive products" as well operation level event records in determining whether a certain  $\Delta$ -product rule type applies.

Hence the domain of a  $\Delta$ -product level parse is the operation level transcript as well as a well-defined conceptual space kept resident in the computer's memory, which purports to represent the conceptual space (to some degree) of a user of WE at a particular point in time.

Currently five types of entities are recognized as cognitively significant. The creation, modification, and deletion of these entities serves as the basis for grammatical analysis at the cognitive product level, which in turn serves as input for the analysis at the cognitive process and cognitive mode levels. The five types of entities and their informal definition are as follows:

1) **singleton node**: An atomic rectangular entity of network and tree modes which is the building block of the system. Text may be associated with nodes in either Edit or Revise mode.

2) **relation**: A directed arc linking two nodes. Relations are linked structures not considered networks or trees.

3) **cluster**: Any group of two or more nodes in network mode in which the top left corner of each node of the group is separated by no more than some constant distance from the top left corner of some other node within the group. Currently this constant distance is set at 145 pixels. Thus (e.g.) in the current implementation, two nodes separated by 145 pixels (or less) form a cluster, as will twenty nodes side-by-side in which every node is within 145 pixels of some other node of the group. Clusters may only be created in network mode.

4) **tree**: Any linked structure of two or more links in network mode which contains a unique root node (a node with no parent), and in which every other node of the structure has one and only one parent. In tree mode, every structure (including a structure with only one node) is defined as a tree of one or more nodes.

5) **network**: Any linked structure of two or more links in network mode which is not a tree. Networks exist only in network mode.

More formally we define the cognitive products in the following manner:

**Cluster:**

- 1) Partition the node set,  $N$ , with the transitive closure of the  $\text{dist} \leq \text{minimum\_cluster\_distance}$  relation.
- 2) Any such partition,  $c$ , such that  $|c| \geq \text{minimum\_cluster\_distance}$  is a cluster.

## $\Delta$ -Product Grammar

### Singleton Node:

Any node not in a cluster is referred to as a singleton node.

### Tree, Network, Relation:

- 1) Partition the node set using the transitive closure of the `is_linked_to` relation `L` ( $n_1Ln_2 \leftrightarrow$  there is a link `L` from  $n_1$  to  $n_2$ ).
- 2) Define a path of length `K` as some node sequence  $n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k$  such that  $n_iLn_{i+1}$   $1 \leq i \leq k$  and a cycle as a path of length  $> 1$  such that  $n_1 = n_k$ .
- 3) Any partition `s` such that i)  $|s| \geq \text{minimum\_tree\_size}$  and ii) `S` contains no cycles is a tree.
- 4) Any partition `s` such that i)  $|s| \geq \text{minimum\_network\_size}$  and ii) `S` is not a tree is a network.
- 5) All other partitions are relations.
- 6) Nodes with no links are not classified.

With the current state of these cognitive products (their number and composition) in memory, after each operation the parser attempts to determine whether a transformation of a well-defined type has occurred in the "conceptual space" of the system.

For each rule of the  $\Delta$ -product grammar, 4 items are given:

- 1) A description of what the rule is supposed to capture;
- 2) A description of the change(s) in the cognitive product population effected by the transformation in question;
- 3) A horn-clause like formal rule describing the transformation, and
- 4) a graphic image of the transformation.

For 2) (the population description), a number of abbreviations are used. They are:

- C: cluster
- N: singleton node
- L: link
- W: network
- S: structure
- >: the transformation in question

Every population description is prefixed with either a "C" (for cluster) or "S" (for structure), depending on whether the transformation affects the cluster population or the structure population. Of course certain transformation may affect both the structure and cluster population; for these transformations, the population description will have 2 entries: one entry for the transformation in cluster population and one for transformation in structure population.

A sample population description is: "(C: <C> --> <C,N>)." From this description we can tell that as regards the cluster population, the transformation is from a cluster to a cluster and a singleton node. Or we might see: "(S: <N,T> --> <T>)." From this description we can deduce that the structure population has been modified in the following manner: Prior to the transformation we had a singleton node and a tree; following the transformation we only had a tree. This example indicates the limitation of this sort of description various operations could lead to this transformation in the cognitive product population.

The horn-clause like ("like" since (e.g.) skolem functions have not been used) grammar description has the following form:

## $\Delta$ -Product Grammar

operation-type(variable)(Predicates 1 .. N -> Predicates 1..M)

where the "operation-type" refers to one of the operation event-types at the operation level (e.g. "newNode", or "move"), the variable ranges over the node, link, or tree which the operation acted on, the "->" is the transformation symbol, and the "Predicates" are one or more of the following:

Node(x)	: x is a Node
Link(x)	: x is a Link
Relation(x)	: x is a Relation
Tree(x)	: x is a Tree
Cluster(x)	: x is a Cluster
Network(x)	: x is a Network
IsIn(x,y)	: x is in y
InCluster(x)	: x is in a Cluster
Root(x,y)	: x is the root of y
Interior(x,y)	: x is in the interior of y
Leaf(x,y)	: x is a leaf of y
Source(x,y)	: x is the source of y
Destination(x,y)	: x is the destination of y
Create(x)	: x is created
Delete(x)	: x is deleted

For example the rule for M1 is:  $\text{move}(x)(\text{Node}(x), \sim(\text{InCluster}(x)) \rightarrow \sim(\text{InCluster}(x))$

From this rule we learn that if the operation was a "move" operation, and a node was moved, and prior to the operation the node was not in a cluster, and after the operation the node was still not in a cluster, then we have an M1. Or if we see the rule for TD4:

$\text{delete}(x)(\text{Node}(x), \text{Tree}(y), \text{IsIn}(x,y), \text{Leaf}(x,y) \rightarrow \text{Delete}(x))$

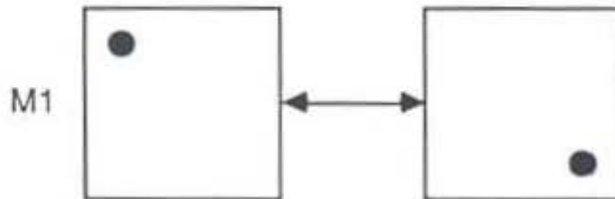
we know that if we have a "delete" of some node x, and x is the leaf of some tree y prior to the transformation, and the transformation entails the deletion of node x, then we have an instance of rule TD4.

**Rule M1**

Description: A move of a node in empty space, affecting neither clusters nor networks.

Population: (C:  $\langle N \rangle \leftrightarrow \langle N \rangle$ )

M1 :- move(x)(Node(x), $\sim$ (InCluster(x))  $\rightarrow$   $\sim$ (InCluster(x)))



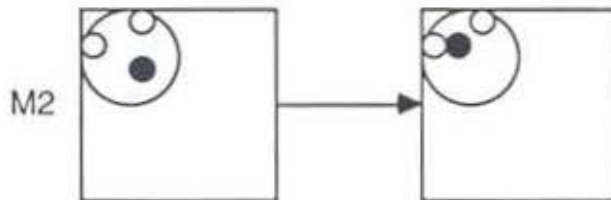
$\Delta$ -Product Grammar

**Rule M2**

Description: A move of a node within a cluster.

Population: (C: <C>--> <C>)

M2 :- move(x)(Node(x),Cluster(y),IsIn(x,y) -> Cluster(z), IsIn(x,z), (z=y))



## $\Delta$ -Product Grammar

Rules M3 & M4

### Rule M3

Description: A move of a node from within a cluster to empty space.

Population: (C:  $\langle C \rangle \rightarrow \langle C, N \rangle$ )

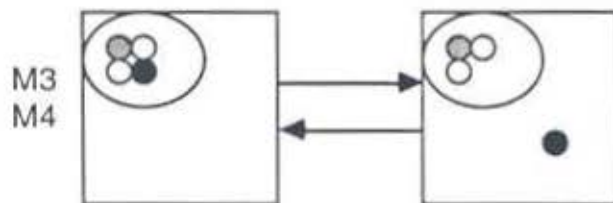
M3 :-  $\text{move}(x)(\text{Node}(x), \text{Cluster}(y), \text{IsIn}(x,y) \rightarrow \sim(\text{IsIn}(x,y)))$

### rule M4

Description: A move of a node from empty space to a cluster

Population: (C:  $\langle C, N \rangle \rightarrow \langle C \rangle$ )

M4 :-  $\text{move}(x)(\text{Node}(x), \text{Cluster}(y), \sim(\text{InCluster}(x)) \rightarrow \text{IsIn}(x,y))$



## $\Delta$ -Product Grammar

### Rules M5 & M6

#### Rule M5

Description: A move of a node from a cluster creating a new cluster

Population:  $(C: \langle C1, N \rangle \leftrightarrow \langle C1, C2 \rangle)$

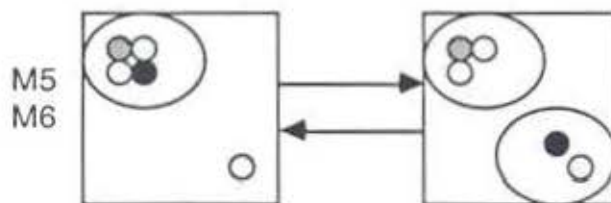
M5 :- move(x)(Cluster(y), Node(x), IsIn(x,y) -> Cluster(z),  $\sim(z=y)$ ,  
IsIn(x,z), Create(z))

#### rule M6

Description: A move of a node from a cluster to another cluster  
destroying the first cluster

Population:  $(\langle C1, C2 \rangle \leftrightarrow \langle C1, N \rangle)$

M6 :- move(x)(Cluster(y), Node(x), IsIn(x,y) -> Cluster(z), IsIn(x,z),  
 $\sim(z=y)$ , Delete(y))





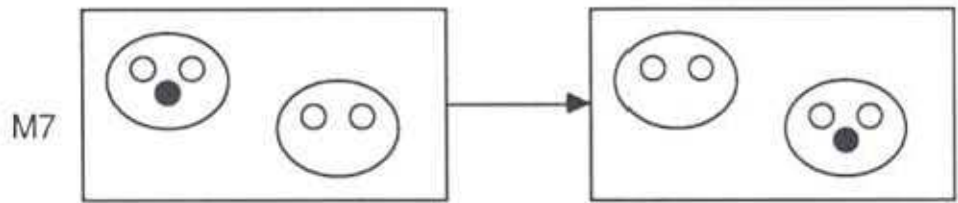
$\Delta$ -Product Grammar

**Rule M7**

Description: A move from one cluster to another cluster; cluster status unchanged

Population: (C:  $\langle C1, C2 \rangle \leftrightarrow \langle C1, C2 \rangle$ )

M7 :- move(x)(Cluster(y), Node(x), IsIn(x,y)  $\rightarrow$  Cluster(z), IsIn(x,z),  $\neg(y=z)$ )



## $\Delta$ -Product Grammar

### Rules M8 & M9

#### Rule M8

Description: A move of a node from empty space to another singleton creating a cluster

Population: (C: <C>  $\leftrightarrow$  <N1,N2>)

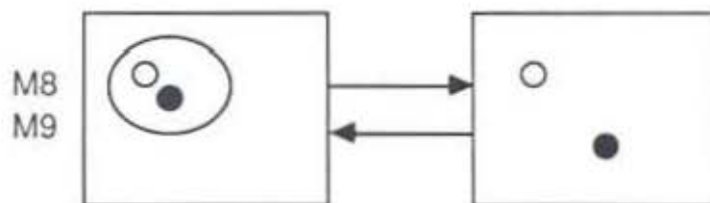
M8 :- move(x)(Cluster(y), Node(x), IsIn(x,y)  $\rightarrow$   $\sim$ (InCluster(x), Delete(y))

#### Rule M9

Description: A move of a node from a cluster destroying the cluster leaving nodes in empty space

Population: (C: <N1,N2>  $\rightarrow$  <C>)

M9 :- move(x)(Node(x),  $\sim$ (InCluster(x))  $\rightarrow$  Cluster(y), IsIn(x,y), Create(y))



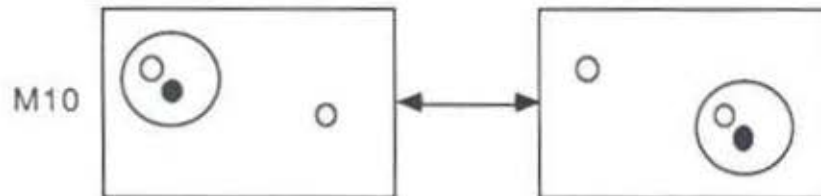
$\Delta$ -Product Grammar

**Rule M10**

Description: Move of a node from one cluster (destroying it) to a singleton creating a cluster

Population: (C:  $\langle C1, N1 \rangle \leftrightarrow \langle C2, N2 \rangle$ )

M10 :- move(x)(Node(x), Cluster(y), IsIn(x,y) -> Cluster(z), IsIn(x,z),  
Create(z), Delete(y),  $\sim(z=y)$ )



## $\Delta$ -Product Grammar

Rule C1 & D1

### Rule C1

Description: Creation of a singleton node

Population: (C:  $\langle \rangle \rightarrow \langle N \rangle$ )

C1 :- newNode(x)(Node(x)  $\rightarrow$  Create(x),  $\sim$ (InCluster(x))) |

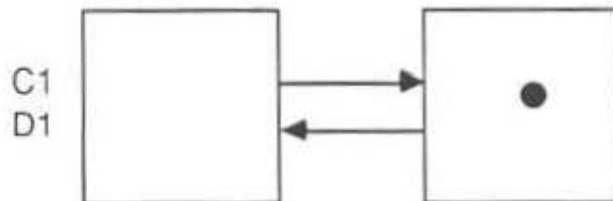
C1 :- pasteNode(x)(Node(x)  $\rightarrow$  Create(x),  $\sim$ (InCluster(x)))

### Rule D1

Description: Deletion of a singleton node

Population: (C:  $\langle N \rangle \rightarrow \langle \rangle$ )

D1 :- delete(x)(Node(x),  $\sim$ (InCluster(x))  $\rightarrow$  Delete(x))



## $\Delta$ -Product Grammar

### Rules C2 & D2

#### Rule C2

Description: Creation of a node causing creation of a cluster

Population: (C:  $\langle N \rangle \rightarrow \langle C \rangle$ )

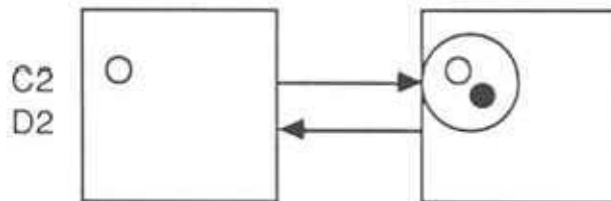
C2 :- newNode(x)(Node(x) -> Create(x), Cluster(y), Create(y), IsIn(x,y)) |  
C2 :- pasteNode(x)(Node(x) -> Create(x), Cluster(y), Create(y), IsIn(x,y))

#### Rule D2

Description: Deletion of a node causing deletion of a cluster

Population: (C:  $\langle C \rangle \rightarrow \langle N \rangle$ )

D2 :- delete(x)(Node(x), Cluster(y), IsIn(x,y) -> Delete(x), Delete(y))



## $\Delta$ -Product Grammar

Rules C3 & D3

### Rule C3

Description: Creation of a node within a cluster

Population:  $(C: \langle C \rangle \rightarrow \langle C \rangle)$

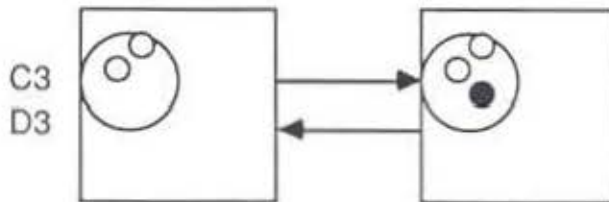
C3 :- newNode(x)(Node(x), Cluster(y)  $\rightarrow$  Create(x),Cluster(z), IsIn(x,z),  
 $(x=y)$ ) |  
C3 :- pasteNode(x)(Node(x), Cluster(y)  $\rightarrow$  Cluster(z), IsIn(x,z), (x=y))

### Rule D3

Description: Deletion of a node within a cluster

Population:  $(C: \langle C \rangle \rightarrow \langle C \rangle)$

D3 :- delete(x)(Node(x), Cluster(y), IsIn(x,y)  $\rightarrow$  Delete(x),Cluster(y),  
 $(x=y)$ )



## $\Delta$ -Product Grammar

### Rules C4 & D4

#### Rule C4

Description: Creation of a node creating a new cluster, and destroying other clusters.

Population: (C:  $\langle C1, C2 \rangle \rightarrow \langle C3 \rangle$ )

C4 :- newNode(x)(Node(x), Cluster(y), Cluster(z) -> Create(x), Cluster(w),  
IsIn(x,w), Create(w), Delete(y), Delete(z))

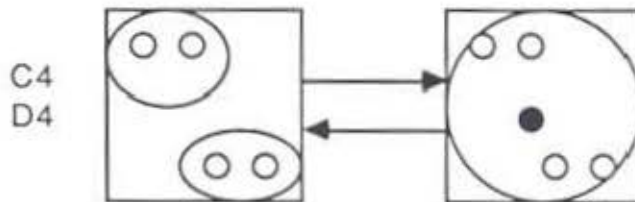
C4 :- pasteNode(x)(Node(x), Cluster(y), Cluster(z) -> Create(x), Cluster(w),  
IsIn(x,w), Create(w), Delete(y), Delete(z))

#### Rule D4

Description: Deletion of a node destroying one cluster but creating other clusters.

Population: (C:  $\langle C1 \rangle \rightarrow \langle C2, C3 \rangle$ )

D4 :- delete(x)(Node(x), Cluster(y), IsIn(x,y) -> Delete(x), Delete(y),  
Cluster(z), Cluster(w), Create(z), Create(w))



## $\Delta$ -Product Grammar

### Rules L1 & UL1

#### Rule L1

Description: Creation of an isolated link

Population: (S:  $\langle N1, N2 \rangle \rightarrow \langle L \rangle$ )

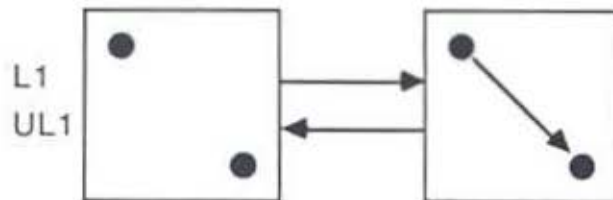
L1 :- newLink(x)(Link(x)  $\rightarrow$  Relation(y), IsIn(x,y), Create(x), Create(y))

#### Rule UL1

Description: Deletion of an isolated link

Population: (S:  $\langle L \rangle \rightarrow \langle N1, N2 \rangle$ )

UL1 :- delete(x)(Link(x), Relation(y), IsIn(x,y)  $\rightarrow$  Delete(x), Delete(y))





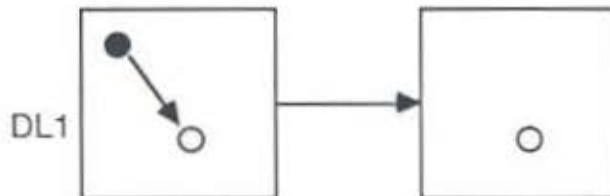
## $\Delta$ -Product Grammar

### Rule DL1

Description: Deletion of an isolated node which is linked

Population: (S: <L> --> <N>)

DL1 :- delete(x)(Node(x), Relation(y), IsIn(x,y), ~(InCluster(x)) ->  
Delete(x),Delete(y))



$\Delta$ -Product Grammar

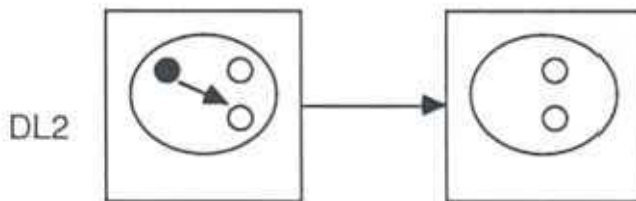
**Rule DL2**

Description: Deletion of a node which is within a cluster;  
cluster status unchanged

Population: (S:  $\langle L \rangle \rightarrow \langle N \rangle$ )

Population: (C:  $\langle C \rangle \rightarrow \langle C \rangle$ )

DL2 :- delete(x)(Node(x), Relation(y), Cluster(z), IsIn(x,y), IsIn(x,z) ->  
Delete(x), Delete(y))



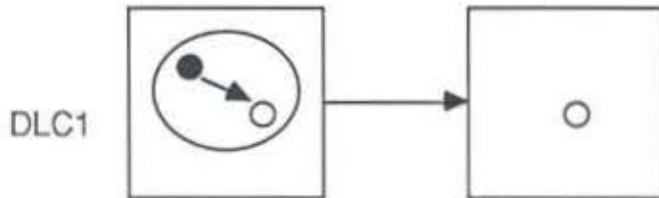
$\Delta$ -Product Grammar

**Rule DLC1**

Description: Deletion of a linked node destroying a cluster

Population: (S:  $\langle L \rangle \rightarrow \langle N \rangle$ ) (C:  $\langle C \rangle \rightarrow \langle N1 \dots NN \rangle$ )

DLC1 :- delete(x)(Node(x), Link(w),Relation(y), Cluster(z), IsIn(x,y), IsIn(x,z) ->  
Delete(w),Delete(x),Delete(y), Delete(z))



## $\Delta$ -Product Grammar

### Rules TC1 & TD1

#### Rule TC1

Description: Creation of a tree in tree mode

Population: (S:  $\langle T \rangle \rightarrow \langle T \rangle$ )

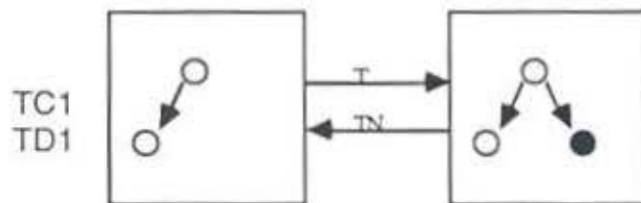
TC1 :- newNode(x)(Node(x)  $\rightarrow$  Tree(y), IsIn(x,y), Create(x), Create(y),  
Root(x,y))

#### Rule TD1

Description: Deletion of a node destroying a tree

Population: (S: Net:  $\langle T \rangle \rightarrow \langle L \rangle$ )  
(Possibly) (C:  $\langle C1..Cn \rangle \rightarrow \langle C1..Cm, N1..Nj \rangle$ )

TD1 :- delete(x)(Node(x), Tree(y), IsIn(x,y), leaf(x,y)  $\rightarrow$  Delete(x), Delete(y))



## $\Delta$ -Product Grammar

### Rules TC2 & TD2

#### Rule TC2

Description: New root creation in tree mode

Population: (S:  $\langle T \rangle \rightarrow \langle T \rangle$ )

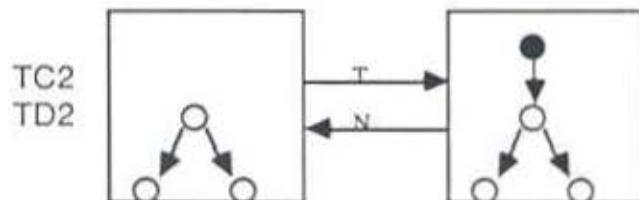
TC2 :- newNode(x)(Node(x), Tree(y) -> Tree(z), Create(x), IsIn(x,z),  
Root(x,z), (y=z))

#### Rule TD2

Description: Deletion of a linked node which is the root of a  
tree in net mode

Population: (S:  $\langle T \rangle \rightarrow \langle T \rangle$ )  
(Possibly)(C:  $\langle C1..Cn \rangle \rightarrow \langle C1..Cm, N1..Nj \rangle$ )

TD2 :- delete(x)(Node(x), Tree(y), IsIn(x,y), Root(x,y) -> Delete(x))



$\Delta$ -Product Grammar

Rules TC3 & TD3

Rule TC3

Description: Addition of an interior node in tree mode

Population: (S: <T> --> <T>)

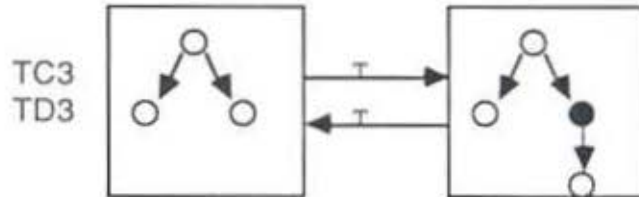
TC3 :- newNode(x)(Node(x), Tree(y) -> Create(x), Tree(z), IsIn(x,z), (z=y), Interior(x,z))

Rule TD3

Description: Deletion of an interior node in tree mode.

Population: (S: <T> --> <T>)

TD3 :- delete(x)(Node(x), Tree(y), IsIn(x,y), Interior(x,y) -> Delete(x))



$\Delta$ -Product Grammar

Rules TC4 & TD4

**Rule TC4**

Description: Addition of a leaf node in tree mode

Population: (S:  $\langle T \rangle \rightarrow \langle T \rangle$ )

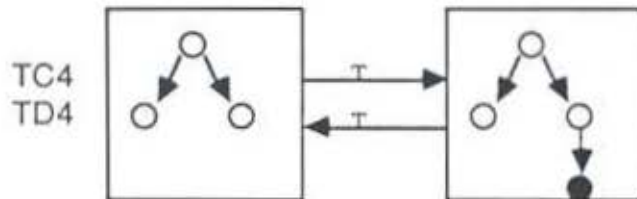
TC4 :- newNode(x)(Node(x), Tree(y)  $\rightarrow$  Create(x), Tree(z), IsIn(x,z), (y=z),  
Leaf(x,z))

**Rule TD4**

Description: Deletion of a leaf node in tree mode

Population: (S:  $\langle T \rangle \rightarrow \langle T \rangle$ )

TD4 :- delete(x)(Node(x), Tree(y), IsIn(x,y), Leaf(x,y)  $\rightarrow$  Delete(x))



## $\Delta$ -Product Grammar

### Rules STC1 & STD1

#### Rule STC1

Description: Addition of a subtree in tree mode

Population: (S:  $\langle T1, T2 \rangle \rightarrow \langle T1 \rangle$ )

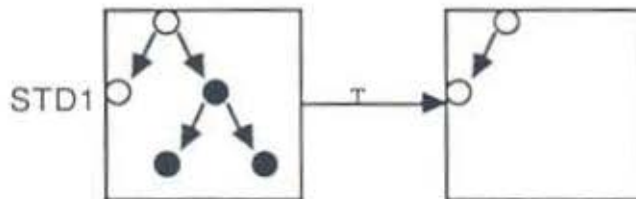
STC1 :- pasteTree(x)(Tree(x), Tree(y)  $\rightarrow$  Tree(z), IsIn(x,z), (y=z))

#### Rule STD1

Description: Deletion of a subtree in tree mode

Population: (S:  $\langle T \rangle \rightarrow \langle T \rangle$ )

STD1 :- deleteSubtree(x)(Tree, Tree(x), Tree(y), IsIn(x,y)  $\rightarrow$  Delete(x))





## $\Delta$ -Product Grammar

### Rule TPC1

Description: Creation of a tree in tree mode by pasting.

Population: (S: Nil --> <T>)

TPC1 :- pasteTree(x)(Tree,Tree(x) -> Create(x))

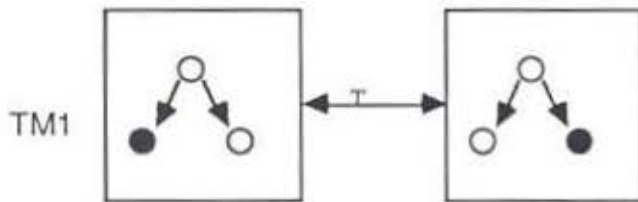
$\Delta$ -Product Grammar

**Rule TM1**

Description: Movement of a node in a tree in tree mode

Population: (S:  $\langle T \rangle \rightarrow \langle T \rangle$ )

TM1 :- move(x)(Node(x), Tree(y), IsIn(x,y)  $\rightarrow$  Tree(z), IsIn(x,z), (y=z))



## $\Delta$ -Product Grammar

### Rules TL1 & TL2

#### Rule TL1

Description: Link creation causing creation of a tree in net mode

Population:  $\langle L, N \rangle \rightarrow \langle T \rangle$

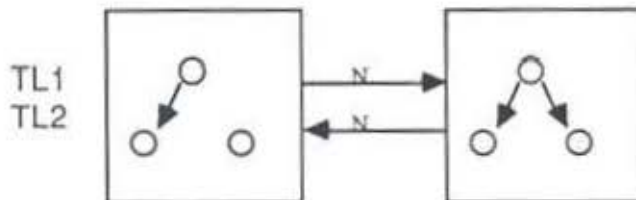
TL1 :- newLink(x)(Link(x), Relation(y) -> Tree(z), IsIn(x,z),  
IsIn(y,z), Create(z), Create(x))

#### Rule TL2

Description: Deletion of a link causing a tree to be destroyed

Population:  $\langle S: \langle T \rangle \rightarrow \langle L, N \rangle$

TL2 :- delete(x)(Link(x), Tree(y), Root(y,Source(x)),  
(Leaf(y, Destination(x))  $\vee$  (Interior(y, Destination(x)), IsIn(x,y) ->  
Delete(x), Delete(y))



## $\Delta$ -Product Grammar

Rules TL3 & TL4

### Rule TL3

Description: Addition of a link giving a tree a new root

Population:  $\langle L, T \rangle \rightarrow \langle T \rangle$

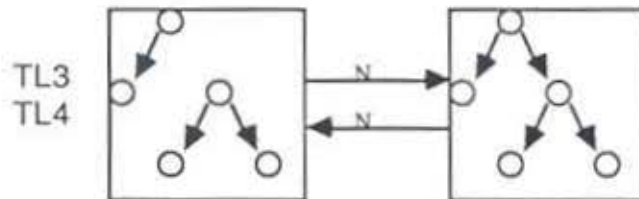
TL3 :- newLink(x)(Link(x), Tree(y) -> Create(x), IsIn(x,y))

### Rule TL4

Description: Deletion of a link leaving a tree and a relation

Population:  $(S: \langle T \rangle \rightarrow \langle L, T \rangle)$

TL4 :- delete(x)(Link(x), Tree(y), IsIn(x,y) -> Delete(y))



## $\Delta$ -Product Grammar

### Rules TL5 & TL6

#### Rule TL5

Description: Addition of a link (from a singleton node) giving a tree a new root

Population: (S:  $\langle N, T \rangle \leftrightarrow \langle T \rangle$ )

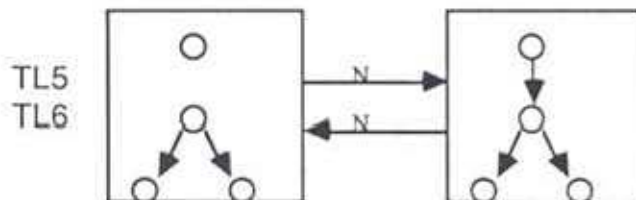
TL5 :- newLink(x)(Link(x), Tree(y) -> Create(x), Tree(z), IsIn(x,z),  
Root(z,Source(x)), Interior(z,Destination(x)), (z=y))

#### Rule TL6

Description: Deletion of a link leaving a tree and a singleton node

Population: (S:  $\langle T \rangle \leftrightarrow \langle T, N \rangle$ )

TL6 :- delete(x)(Link(x), Tree(y), IsIn(x,y), Root(y, Source(x)),  
Interior(y, Destination(x)) -> Delete(x), Tree(z), (z=y))



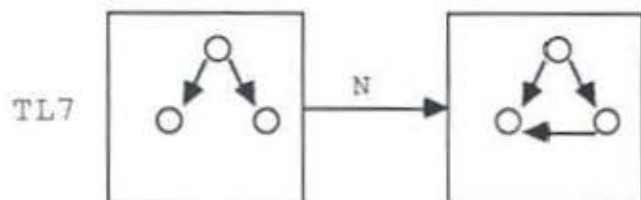
$\Delta$ -Product Grammar

**Rule TL7**

Description: Creation of a link destroying a tree and creating a network.

Population: (S: <T> --> <W,L>)

TL7 :- newLink(x)(Link(x), Tree(y), Network(z), IsIn(x,y) ->  
Create(x), Create(z), IsIn(x,z))



## $\Delta$ -Product Grammar

rule EncN

Description: Associating text with a node in edit mode

EncN :- encode(x)(Node(x) -> Encoded(x))

### 2.5.3 Sample Annotated Transcript - $\Delta$ -Product Level

The following is an annotated  $\Delta$ -product level transcript. Annotations follow lines (or groups of lines) which they annotate, and are preceded by two asterisks.

'Writing Environment Transcript version 2.0'

version: 2.0  
date: 23 September 1988  
time: 1:23:26 pm  
user: jenkins  
clock: 27947  
database: emptyWS  
empty: true

206860 5260 C1 (Net: nil -> N:1 )

\*\* Node # 1 is created in network mode; the node is created outside  
\*\* of any existing cluster.

212120 3300 C1 (Net: nil -> N:2 )  
215420 10400 C2 (Net: nil -> N:3 C:1 )

\*\* Node # 3 is created in network mode; the node creation causes a  
\*\* cluster to be created. The C2 indicates that a node is created  
\*\* creating a cluster.

225820 6760 C3 (Net: nil -> N:5 C:3 )  
232580 4360 L1 (Net: nil -> L:1 )

\*\* A link is created creating a relation between nodes.

236940 5580 TL1 (Net: nil -> T:1 L:2 )

\*\* A second link is created creating a tree.

242520 6380 C3 (Net: nil -> N:6 C:3 )

\*\* A node is created within cluster 3.

248900 10040 M2 (Net: N:6 -> C:3 )

\*\* A node is moved within cluster 3.

258940 4360 C3 (Net: nil -> N:7 C:3 )  
263300 2520 L1 (Net: nil -> L:3 )  
265820 4200 C3 (Net: nil -> N:8 C:3 )  
270020 3780 TL1 (Net: nil -> T:2 L:4 )

\*\* A link is creating creating a second tree.



Sample Annotated Transcript - Δ-Product Level

273800	8180	M2	(Net: N:8 -> C:3 )
281980	5540	C3	(Net: nil -> N:9 C:3 )
287520	3540	TL5	(Net: T:2 -> T:3 L:5 )

\*\* A link is created linking two trees (two trees become one).

291060	62980	TL3	(Net: nil -> L:6 )
354040	67340	EncN	(Edit: N:9 -> nil)
421380	3700	EncN	(Edit: N:9 -> nil)

\*\* Text is associated with node # 9.

425080	5300	TC4	(Tree: N:10 -> nil)
430380	9280	TC4	(Tree: N:11 -> nil)
439660	9780	TM1	(Tree: N:10 -> nil)
449440	9000	TC4	(Tree: N:12 -> nil)
458440	9940	TC4	(Tree: N:13 -> nil)
468380	10760	TM1	(Tree: N:13 -> nil)
479140	5360	C3	(Net: nil -> N:14 C:3 )
484500	37640	TD4	(Tree: N:13 -> nil)

## 2.6 Cognitive Process Level

### Introduction

The Cognitive Process Level represents the cognitive process inferred to be active in the mind of the user in producing one or more changes to the set of cognitive products. Thus, for example, a sequence of additions to a group of nodes in close spatial proximity to one another is interpreted as an instance of sustained "Focused Recall" whereas, if the nodes are "far apart", the process is assumed to be unfocused or free recall. Currently, the grammar also inserts system mode shift operations into the Cognitive Process Transcript to facilitate the Cognitive Mode portion of the grammar, described below. However, we anticipate removing these symbols in the near future when that portion of the grammar is completed. In the sections that follow, we first discuss the transcription language for the Cognitive Process Level, then the grammar, and, finally, a sample annotated transcript.

### 2.6.1 Cognitive Process Transcript Language

A cognitive process transcript is a record of the cognitive processes posited as having occurred in the mind of a user of the Writing Environment during the course of a session. A cognitive process transcript is preceded by a header and followed by a list of cognitive process records (one per line).

#### Header

The header lists the following items, in the following order:

- 1) The version of the Writing Environment (WE) which was being used when the transcript was recorded.
- 2) The date of the transcript.
- 3) The time at which the session began.
- 4) The name of the user.
- 5) The clock at the beginning of the session.
- 6) The name of the database being used.
- 7) A boolean indicating whether the database began with an empty workspace.

#### Cognitive Process Record

The format for the cognitive process records is consistent with that followed at other levels. That format is simply:

Time Symbol Attributes

## Cognitive Process Transcript Language

where:

**Time** = The time (in milliseconds) from the beginning of the user session until the beginning of the action (operation, etc.) which that particular line of the transcript purports to record.

**Symbol** = The symbol which represents the type of cognitive process which is recorded on the transcript.

**Attributes** = The object of the cognitive process where object=the entity which is the focus of the current cognitive process. Certain processes (e.g. "Shift Perspective Network" (ShiN)) have no object.

A cognitive process symbol is output only if either: a) the cognitive process is different from the previous cognitive product, or b) if the cognitive process is the same as the previous process, the entity which is the focus of the two processes is different. Thus if a "Loose Recall" is followed by a "Focused Recall", two records will always be created. If a "Focused Recall" is followed by a "Focused Recall", two records will be created only if two different clusters were the subject of the disparate "Focused Recalls".

<u>Cognitive Process</u>	<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Modes</u>	<u>Description</u>
Loose Recall	LOO	N	Node Creations in Empty Space
Focused Recall	FCC	N	Node Creations in Clusters
Cluster	CLU	N	Node Movements into Clusters
Decluster	DEC	N	Node Deletions/Movements out of Clusters
Refine Cluster	REC	N	Node Movement within Clusters
Relate	REL	N,T	Linking One Node to Another/No Tree
Derelate	DER	N,T	Unlinking an UnTree
Hierarchize	HIE	N,T	Creation of a Tree
Dehierarchize	DEH	N,T	Destruction of a Tree
Develop Hierarchy	DEV	N,T	Adding to a Tree
Shrink Hierarchy	SHK	N,T	Shrinking a Tree
Synthesize Hier.	SYN	N,T	Joining Two Trees
Desynth. Hier.	DES	N	Breaking one tree into two trees
Refine Hier.	REF	N,T	Rearranging the Nodes in a Tree
Shift Perspective Net	ShiN	N	Shift Perspective To Network Mode
Shift Perspective Tree	ShiT	T	Shift Perspective To Tree Mode
Shift Perspective Edit	ShiE	E	Shift Perspective To Edit Mode
Shift Perspective Revise	ShiR	R	Shift Perspective To Revise Mode
Shift View	ShiV	N,T,E,R	Shift the viewing space of a mode
Shift Context	ShiC	T	Shift the portion of a tree being viewed
Encode	ENC	E	Associating Text with a Node

## 2.6.2 Cognitive Process Grammar

The grammar for the cognitive process level is very simple. Every cognitive process rule is mapped to either one or more  $\Delta$ -products, or one or more operations. These mappings are summarized here in two ways. First, two tables are given. Table 1 lists those cognitive processes which rewrite one or more  $\Delta$ -product symbols. Table 2 lists those cognitive processes which rewrite one or more operation symbols.

Secondly, a string parsing grammar similar to the grammars found at the action and operation level is given formally describing the rewrite rules used in obtaining a mapping from previous levels to the cognitive process level.

**Table 1:**

Cognitive Process	Symbol	$\Delta$ -Product(s)
Loose Recall	LOO	C1
Focused Recall	FCC	C2,C3,C4
Cluster	CLU	M4,M5,M6,M7,M9,M10
Decluster	DEC	M3,M8,D2,DLC1
Refine Cluster	REC	M2,D3
Relate	REL	L1
Derelate	DER	UL1,DL1,DL2
Hierarchize	HIE	TC1,TL1
Dehierarchize	DEH	TD1,TL2,TL7
Develop Hierarchy	DEV	TC3,TC4
Shrink Hierarchy	SHK	TD3,TD4,STD1
Synthesize Hier.	SYN	TC2,TL3,TL5
Desyn. Hier.	DES	TD2,TL4,TL6
Refine Hier.	REF	TM1

**Table 2:**

Cognitive Process	Symbol	Operation(s)
Shift to Network	ShiN	mode "Net"
Shift to Tree	ShiT	mode "Tree"
Shift to Edit	ShiE	mode "Para"
Shift to Revise	ShiR	mode "Revise"
Shift View	ShiV	layout   view
Shift Context	ShiC	context
Encode	Enc	encode

### The Grammar:

Loose Recall Record (Time) ::= C1(Time);

Focused Recall Record (Time) ::= C2 (Time) |  
C3 (Time) |  
C4 (Time);

## Cognitive Process Grammar

Cluster Record (Time)	::= M4 (Time)   M5 (Time)   M6 (Time)   M7 (Time)   M9 (Time)   M10 (Time);
Decluster Record (Time)	::= M3 (Time)   M8 (Time)   D2 (Time)   DLC1 (Time);
Refine Cluster Record (Time)	::= M2 (Time)   D3 (Time);
Relate Record (Time)	::= L1 (Time);
Derelate Record (Time)	::= UL1 (Time)   DL1 (Time)   DL2 (Time);
Hierarchize Record (Time)	::= TC1 (Time)   TL1 (Time);
Dehierarchize Record (Time)	::= TD1 (Time)   TL2 (Time)   TL7 (Time);
Develop Hierarchy Record (Time)	::= TC3 (Time)   TC4 (Time);
Shrink Hierarchy Record (Time)	::= TD3 (Time)   TD4 (Time)   STD1 (Time);
Synthesize Hierarchy Record (Time)	::= TC2 (Time)   TL3 (Time)   TL5 (Time);
Desynthesize Hierarchy Record (Time)	::= TD2 (Time)   TL4 (Time)   TL6 (Time);
Refine Hierarchy Record (Time)	::= TM1 (Time);

\*\* The right-hand sides of the following rules refer to records found at the operation  
\*\* level.

Encode Record	::= Encode (Time);
Shift Tree Mode Record (Time)	::= Mode ("Tree", Time);
Shift Network Mode Record (Time)	::= Mode ("Net", Time);

## Cognitive Process Grammar

Shift Edit Mode Record (Time) ::= Mode ("Para", Time);  
Shift Revise Mode Record (Time) ::= Mode ("Revise", Time);  
Shift View Record (Time) ::= Layout (Time) |  
View (Time);  
Shift Context Record (Time) ::= Context (Time).

### 2.6.3 Sample Annotated Transcript - Cognitive Process Level

The following is an annotated cognitive process level transcript. Annotations follow lines (or groups of lines) which they annotate, and are preceded by two asterisks.

'Writing Environment Transcript version 2.0'

version: 2.0  
date: 23 September 1988  
time: 1:23:26 pm  
user: jenkins  
clock: 27947  
database: emptyWS  
empty: true

80 205340 ShiE

\*\* The subject shifts to edit mode.

205420 1440 ShiN

\*\* The subject shifts to network mode.

206860 5260 Loo  
212120 3300 Loo

\*\* Two instances of loose recall occur.

215420 10400 Foc  
225820 6760 Foc

\*\* Two instances of focused recall occur.

232580 4360 Rel  
236940 5580 Hie

\*\* The subject "hierarchizes."

242520 6380 Foc  
248900 10040 Rcl

\*\* The subject refines a cluster.

258940 4360 Foc  
263300 2520 Rel  
265820 4200 Foc  
270020 3780 Hie  
273800 8180 Rcl  
281980 5540 Foc  
287520 3540 Hie

Sample Transcript - Cognitive Process Level

291060 22200 Syn

\*\* The subject synthesized a hierarchy.

313260 29700 ShiT

\*\* The subject shifts to tree mode.

342960 2680 ShiV

\*\* The subject shifts view (by for example viewing a subtree).

345640 8400 ShiE

354040 67340 Enc

\*\* The subject writes for a period of 67340 milliseconds in edit mode.

421380 40 Enc

421420 3660 ShiT

425080 5300 Dev

430380 9280 Dev

\*\* The subject develops a hierarchy.

439660 9780 Reh

\*\* The subject refines a hierarchy.

449440 9000 Dev

458440 9940 Dev

468380 8780 Reh

477160 1980 ShiN

479140 2780 Foc

481920 2580 ShiT

484500 7300 Shk

The subject shrinks a hierarchy.



## 2.7 Cognitive Mode Level

### Introduction

The Cognitive Mode level represents the largest shifts in cognitive behavior modeled by the grammar. Shifts in Cognitive Mode are strongly suggested when the user shifts from one system mode to another. But the two are not always the same. For example, when a user working in network mode shifts from building small conceptual structures to linking them into a larger hierarchical structure, this may indicate a shift in Cognitive Mode. On the other hand, when the user is building a large hierarchical structure in tree mode and returns to network mode to copy a structural component into the tree, that shift in system mode may not indicate a shift in Cognitive Mode. At present, this portion of the grammar is incomplete. We currently infer shifts in cognitive mode largely from shifts in system mode operations inserted into the Cognitive Process Transcript, but we will add rules in the near future to infer shifts from context sensitive sequences of cognitive process symbols. In the sections that follows, we first discuss the transcription language for this level, then the grammar, and, finally, a sample annotated transcript.

### 2.7.1 Cognitive Mode Transcript Language

A cognitive mode level transcript consists of a header followed by a series of one or more cognitive mode records. Currently we posit four cognitive modes in which a user of WE may function: an exploration mode, an organization mode, a writing mode, and a revision mode. By design these four cognitive modes correspond closely to the four system modes (in order - network mode, tree mode, edit mode, and text mode), although the mapping is not one-to-one. The user may shift system modes without shifting cognitive mode or shift cognitive modes without shifting system mode. (See grammar.) Each cognitive mode record occupies one line of the transcript.

#### Header

The header lists the following items, in the following order:

- 1) The version of the Writing Environment (WE) which was being used when the transcript was recorded.
- 2) The date of the transcript.
- 3) The time at which the session began.
- 4) The name of the user.
- 5) The clock at the beginning of the session.
- 6) The name of the database being used.
- 7) A boolean indicating whether the database began with an empty workspace.

## Cognitive Mode Transcript Language

### Cognitive Mode Record

Each line of the cognitive mode transcript contains three columns. The first column contains the absolute time since the beginning of the transcript at which the cognitive mode began. This value is obtained directly from the first column of the operation level transcript.

The second column contains the duration of the cognitive mode, and is obtained simply by subtracting the absolute time of the next cognitive mode from the absolute time of the current cognitive mode. The duration of the last cognitive mode of the transcript is obtained by subtracting the last absolute time listed on the operation transcript from the absolute time of the current cognitive mode.

The third column of the cognitive mode transcript lists a symbol which represents the system's posit as to what cognitive mode was underway during the period represented by columns one and two. Currently four such symbols appear in the transcript:

1. Explore: The symbol for exploration mode.
2. Organize: The symbol for organization mode.
3. Edit: The symbol for write mode.
4. Revise: The symbol for revise mode.

Thus the template for a line of the cognitive mode transcript is:

Time	Duration	Symbol
------	----------	--------

where "Symbol" is either "Explore," "Organize," "Edit," or "Revise."

## 2.7.2 Cognitive Mode Grammar

The cognitive mode grammar tries to capture from the operation level transcript along with certain additional information the current cognitive mode of a user of WE. The cognitive mode ascription is based primarily on the current system mode. However shifts in system mode do not necessarily signal shifts in cognitive mode. For example the operation record will record a shift in system mode in response to the cursor passing momentarily over (e.g.) the text mode area of the screen. The user may move the cursor from tree to network mode, but do nothing before returning to tree mode. We filter the operation record transcript to avoid positing cognitive mode shifts in such circumstances.

On the other hand, we posit that the user may shift cognitive modes while remaining in the same system mode. For example the user may be in network mode, with Exploration mode being posited as the current cognitive mode. The user may begin systematically building a large tree, during which we might be warranted in positing a shift in cognitive mode from Exploration mode to Organization mode. In the current implementation we do not capture this sort of cognitive shift. In later implementations the cognitive mode posits will be based upon the cognitive process transcript; we then will be able to capture this type of cognitive mode shift.

The operation level transcript lists all system mode changes which occur during a user session. Every mode change is one of five possible types:

- 1: Network mode: the network system mode;
- 2: Tree mode: the tree system mode;
- 3: Edit mode: the edit system mode;
- 4: Revise mode: the text system mode;
- 5: Control Panel mode: the mode in which a user has access to the system-wide menus. These menus are accessed through the bar at the top of the writing environment.

Every such mode change will result in the creation of an cognitive mode event record with three exceptions:

- i: The mode "cp" does not result in the creation of an event record;
- ii: If the duration of the mode change was less than one second, an event record is not created. The duration of the mode is relative to the next mode change; thus duration is calculated by subtracting the time at the beginning of the next mode from the time at the beginning of the current mode;
- iii: If the mode change was either to network or tree mode, and the user does nothing in the mode before changing to a different mode, an event record is not created. Nothing is done in the mode if the operation (in the operation level transcript) following the mode change to tree or network mode is another mode change.

From points ii. and iii. it follows that an event record is created for the current mode change only after the next mode change. The last event record of the cognitive mode transcript is created (or not created) by using the last time given on the operation level transcript.

## Cognitive Mode Grammar

Thus (informally) the rules are:

Exploration Mode (Time1, (Time2-Time1)) :-  
(Operation Record = Time1 "mode" "Net") &  
(Time Until Next Mode Change > 1 second) &  
(Next Operation Record ≠ Time "mode" ) &  
((Next Record of a Mode Change = Time2 "mode") V  
(Next Record = Time2 "closeSession"))

Organization Mode (Time1, (Time2-Time1)) :-  
(Operation Record = Time1 "mode" "Tree") &  
(Time Until Next Mode Change > 1 second) &  
(Next Operation Record ≠ Time "mode" ) &  
((Next Record of a Mode Change = Time2 "mode") V  
(Next Record = Time2 "closeSession"))

Write Mode (Time1, (Time2-Time1)) :-  
(Operation Record = Time1 "mode" "Edit") &  
(Time Until Next Mode Change > 1 second)  
((Next Record of a Mode Change = Time2 "mode") V  
(Next Record = Time2 "closeSession"))

Revise Mode (Time1, (Time2-Time1)) :-  
(Operation Record = Time1 "mode" "Net") &  
(Time Until Next Mode Change > 1 second) &  
((Next Record of a Mode Change = Time2 "mode") V  
(Next Record = Time2 "closeSession"))

### 2.7.3 Sample Annotated Transcript - Cognitive Mode Level

The following is an annotated cognitive mode level transcript. Annotations follow lines (or groups of lines) which they annotate, and are preceded by two asterisks.

'Writing Environment Transcript version 2.0'

version: 2.0  
date: 23 September 1988  
time: 1:23:26 pm  
user: jenkins  
clock: 27947  
database: emptyWS  
empty: true

80 205340 Edit

\*\* The subject begins in edit mode.

205420 107840 Explore

\*\* The subject moves into exploratory mode.

313260 32380 Organize

\*\* The subject shifts to organizational mode.

345640 75780 Edit  
421420 55740 Organize  
477160 4760 Explore  
481920 9880 Organize  
491800 4920 Explore