# On the Construction of Śivasūtra-Alphabets 

Wiebke Petersen<br>Institute of Language and Information<br>University of Düsseldorf, Germany<br>petersew@uni-duesseldorf.de<br>IIT Bombay, 7th February 2009<br>\[ \begin{gathered} अइउण्। ऋल्क्। एओड्। ऐऔच्। हयवरट्।<br>लण्। अमडणनम्। झभञ्। घढधष्। जबगडदश्।<br>खफछठथचटतव्। कपय्। शषसर्। हल्। \end{gathered} \]

## Phonological Rules

## modern notation

$A$ is replaced by $B$ if preceded by $C$ and succeeded by $D$.

$$
A \rightarrow B / C \_D
$$

## example: final devoicing

$$
\left[\begin{array}{ll}
+ & \text { consonantal } \\
- & \text { nasal } \\
+ & \text { voiced }
\end{array}\right] \rightarrow\left[\begin{array}{ll}
+ & \text { consonantal } \\
- & \text { nasal } \\
- & \text { voiced }
\end{array}\right] /_{-}
$$

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## Pāṇini's linear Coding

$A+$ genitive, $B+$ nominative, $C+$ ablative, $D+$ locative.

## example

- sūtra 6.1.77: iko yanaci (इको यणचि )
- analysis: $[\mathrm{ik}]_{\text {gen }}[y a n]_{\text {nom }}[\mathrm{ac}]_{\text {loc }}$
- modern notation: $[\mathrm{iK}] \rightarrow[\mathrm{yN}] / \_[\mathrm{aC}]$


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# Pāṇini faced the problem of giving a linear representation of the nonlinear system of sound classes. 

A similar problem occurs in ...

## Libraries



## Warehouses and stores



## Pānini's solution: Śivasūtras

अइउण्। ऋल्टक्।

$$
\begin{aligned}
& a \cdot i \cdot u n|r \cdot l k| \\
& \text { एओङ्। ऐेऔच्। } \\
& \text { e.oin| ai.auc| } \\
& \text { हयवरट्।लण्। } \\
& \text { hayavarat } \mid \text { laṇ } \mid \\
& \text { अमङणनम्। झभज्। } \\
& \text { namanananam| jhabhañ| } \\
& \text { घढधष्। जबगडदश्। } \\
& \text { ghaḍadhaṣ| jabagaḍadaś| } \\
& \text { खफछठथचटतव्। } \\
& \text { khaphachathathacaṭatav| } \\
& \text { कपय्। शषसर्। हल्। } \\
& \text { kapay | śaṣasar| hal| }
\end{aligned}
$$

## Pānini's solution: Śivasūtras

| 1. | a iu |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2. | r! |
| 3. | eo |
| 4. | ai au |
| 5. | h y v r |
| 6. | 1 |
| 7. | ñ m n $n$ n |
| 8. | jh bh |
| 9. | gh dh dh |
| 10. | jbg d d |
| 11. | kh ph ch th th ctt |
| 12. | kp |
| 13. | śs s |
| 14. | h |

अइउण्। ऋल्टक्।

## $a \cdot i \cdot u n|r \cdot l k|$

एओङ्। ऐेऔच्।
e.oì | ai.auc|

हयवरट्।लण्।
hayavarat $\mid$ lan $\mid$
अमङणनम्। झभञ्।
namañaṇanam | jhabhañ|
घढधष्। जबगडदश्।
ghaḍhadhaṣ| jabagaḍadaś|
खफछठथचटतव्।
khaphachathathacaṭatav|
कपय्। शषसर्। हल्।
kapay| śaṣasar| hal|

## Pānini's solution: Śivasūtras

| 1. | a iu | N |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2. | r! | K |
| 3. | e o | $\dot{N}$ |
| 4. | ai au | C |
| 5. | h y v r | T |
| 6. | 1 | N |
| 7. | ñm n n n | M |
| 8. | jh bh | Ñ |
| 9. | gh ḍ dh | S |
| 10. | $\mathrm{jbgg} d$ | Ś |
| 11. | kh ph ch th th ct t | V |
| 12. | kp | Y |
| 13. | śs s | R |
| 14. | h | L |

अइउण्। ऋल्टक्।

## $a \cdot i \cdot u n|r \cdot l k|$

एओङ्। ऐेऔच्।
e.oì |ai.auc|

हयवरट्।लण्।
hayavaraṭ|lan|
अमड•णनम्। इभज्।
namañaṇanam | jhabhañ|
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## Pratyāhāras



## Pratyāhāras

| 1 |  | a | i | u |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2 |  |  | r | ! |
| 3 |  |  | e | $\bigcirc$ |
| 4 |  |  | ai | au |
| 5 | h | y | $v$ | r |

## Pratyāhāras



## Analysis of iko yanaci: $[\mathrm{iK}] \rightarrow[y \mathrm{~N}] / \_[\mathrm{aC}]$

| 1. |  | a | i | u |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2. |  |  | r | ! |
| 3. |  |  | e | $\bigcirc$ |
| 4. |  |  | ai | au |
| 5. | h | y | V | $r$ |
| 6. |  |  |  |  |

- $[\mathrm{iK}] \rightarrow[\mathrm{yN} \mathrm{N}] / \_[\mathrm{aC}]$
- $\langle\mathrm{i}, \mathrm{u}, \mathrm{r},!\rangle \rightarrow\langle\mathrm{y}, \mathrm{v}, \mathrm{r}, \mathrm{I}\rangle / \_\langle\mathrm{a}, \mathrm{i}, \mathrm{u}, \mathrm{r}, \text { ! , e, o, ai, au }\rangle$


## Analysis of iko yanaaci: $[\mathrm{iK}] \rightarrow[\mathrm{yN}] / \_[\mathrm{aC}]$

| 1. |  | a | i | u | N |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2. |  |  | r | ! | K |
| 3. |  |  | e | $\bigcirc$ | N |
| 4. |  |  | ai | au | C |
| 5. | h | y | v | $r$ | T |
| 6. |  |  |  | 1 | N |

- $[\mathrm{iK}] \rightarrow[\mathrm{yN}] / \_[\mathrm{aC}]$
- $\langle\mathrm{i}, \mathrm{u}, \mathrm{r}, \mathrm{l}\rangle \rightarrow\langle\mathrm{y}, \mathrm{v}, \mathrm{r}, \mathrm{l}\rangle / \_\langle\mathrm{a}, \mathrm{i}, \mathrm{u}, \mathrm{r}, \mathrm{l}, \mathrm{e}, \mathrm{o}, \mathrm{ai}, \mathrm{au}\rangle$


## General problem of S-sortability

Given a set of classes, order the elements of the classes (without duplications) in a linear order (in a list) such that each single class forms a continuous interval with respect to that order.

- The target orders are called S-orders
- A set of classes is S-sortable if it has an S-order


## General problem of Śivasūtra-alphabets (S-alphabets)

Given a set of classes, find an S-order of the elements of the classes. Interrupt this list by markers such that each single class can be denoted by a sound-marker-pair (pratyāhāra).

Note that every S-order becomes a Sivasūtra-alphabet (S-alphabet) by adding a marker behind each element.

Given the set of classes $\{\{a, b\},\{a, b, c\},\{a, b, c, d\}\}$, the order abcd is one of its S-orders and a $M_{1} b M_{2} \subset M_{3} d M_{4}$ is one of its S-alphabets.

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Note that every S-order becomes a Sivasūtra-alphabet (S-alphabet) by adding a marker behind each element.

Given the set of classes $\{\{a, b\},\{a, b, c\},\{a, b, c, d\}\}$, the order $a b c d$ is one of its S-orders and a $M_{1} b M_{2} \subset M_{3} d M_{4}$ is one of its S-alphabets.

## Some more Examples

## S-sortable example

The set of classes:
$\{\{d, e\},\{a, b\},\{b, c, d, f, g, h, i\},\{f, i\},\{c, d, e, f, g, h, i\},\{g, h\}\}$ is
S-sortable;
one of its S -orders is
$a b c g h f i d e$

## non-S-sortable example

The set of classes:
$\{\{a, b\},\{b, c\},\{a, c\}\}$ is not S-sortable.

## non-S-sortable example

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## Some more Examples

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## Some more Examples

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abcghfide

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## Some more Examples

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## Some more Examples

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$a b c d e$ or edcba

## Some more Examples

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## Visualize relations



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$$
\{\{d, e\},\{a, b\},\{b, c, d, f, g, h, i\},\{f, i\},\{c, d, e, f, g, h, i\},\{g, h\}\}
$$



## Visualize relations


$\{\{d, e\},\{a, b\},\{b, c, d\}$, $\{b, c, d, f\}\}$

not S-sortable

## Main theorem of S-sortability

A set of classes is S -sortable without duplications if one of the following equivalent statements is true:
(1) Its concept lattice is

Hasse-planar and for any element $a$ there is a node labeled $a$ in the S-graph.
(2) The concept lattice of the enlarged set of classes is Hasse-planar.
(3) The Ferrers-graph of the enlarged set of classes is bipartite.

S-sortable example


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not S-sortable example


## Hasse-planarity

$$
\{\{a, b\},\{a, c\},\{b, c\}\}
$$


planar, but not Hasse-planar

## 2nd condition: Hasse-planar $\Rightarrow$ S-sortable


$\{\{d, e\},\{a, b\},\{b, c, d, f, g, h, i\},\{f, i\},\{c, d, e, f, g, h, i\},\{g, h\}\}$

## 2nd condition: S-sortable $\Rightarrow$ Hasse-planar




## 2nd condition: evaluation

- It is of no help in the construction of S-alphabets with minimal number of markers.
- The planarity of a graph is difficult to check.


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## S-sortable example


non S-sortable examples


## 1st condition $\Leftrightarrow$ 2nd condition



## S-alphabets with a minimal number of markers



## procedure

Start with the empty sequence and choose a walk through the S-graph:

- While moving upwards do nothing.
- While moving downwards along an edge add a new marker to the sequence unless its last element is already a marker.
- If a labeled node is reached, add the labels in arbitrary order to the sequence, unless it has been added before.


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- If a sound is reached, add the sound to the sequence, unless it has been added before.


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## S-alphabets with a minimal number of markers


e

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## S-alphabets with a minimal number of markers


ed $M_{1} c$

## procedure

Start with the empty sequence and choose a walk through the S-graph:

- While moving upwards do nothing.
- While moving downwards along an edge add a new marker to the sequence unless its last element is already a marker.
- If a sound is reached, add the sound to the sequence, unless it has been added before.


## S-alphabets with a minimal number of markers


ed $M_{1} c f i$

## procedure

Start with the empty sequence and choose a walk through the S-graph:

- While moving upwards do nothing.
- While moving downwards along an edge add a new marker to the sequence unless its last element is already a marker.
- If a sound is reached, add the sound to the sequence, unless it has been added before.


## S-alphabets with a minimal number of markers


ed $M_{1} c f i M_{2}$

## procedure

Start with the empty sequence and choose a walk through the S-graph:

- While moving upwards do nothing.
- While moving downwards along an edge add a new marker to the sequence unless its last element is already a marker.
- If a sound is reached, add the sound to the sequence, unless it has been added before.


## S-alphabets with a minimal number of markers


ed $M_{1} c f i M_{2} g h$

## procedure

Start with the empty sequence and choose a walk through the S-graph:

- While moving upwards do nothing.
- While moving downwards along an edge add a new marker to the sequence unless its last element is already a marker.
- If a sound is reached, add the sound to the sequence, unless it has been added before.


## S-alphabets with a minimal number of markers


ed $M_{1} \subset f i M_{2} g h M_{3}$

## procedure

Start with the empty sequence and choose a walk through the S-graph:

- While moving upwards do nothing.
- While moving downwards along an edge add a new marker to the sequence unless its last element is already a marker.
- If a sound is reached, add the sound to the sequence, unless it has been added before.


## S-alphabets with a minimal number of markers


ed $M_{1} c f i M_{2} g h M_{3} b$

## procedure

Start with the empty sequence and choose a walk through the S-graph:

- While moving upwards do nothing.
- While moving downwards along an edge add a new marker to the sequence unless its last element is already a marker.
- If a sound is reached, add the sound to the sequence, unless it has been added before.


## S-alphabets with a minimal number of markers


ed $M_{1} c f i M_{2} g h M_{3} b M_{4} a$

## procedure

Start with the empty sequence and choose a walk through the S-graph:

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- If a sound is reached, add the sound to the sequence, unless it has been added before.


## S-alphabets with a minimal number of markers


$\underline{e d M_{1} c f i M_{2} g h M_{3} b M_{4} a M_{5}}$

## procedure

Start with the empty sequence and choose a walk through the S-graph:

- While moving upwards do nothing.
- While moving downwards along an edge add a new marker to the sequence unless its last element is already a marker.
- If a sound is reached, add the sound to the sequence, unless it has been added before.


## 1st condition: evaluation

+ Allows the construction of S-alphabets with minimal number of markers.
- The planarity of a graph is difficult to check.


## Main theorem of S-sortability

A set of classes is S -sortable without duplications if one of the following equivalent statements is true:
(1) Its concept lattice is Hasse-planar and for any element $a$ there is a node labeled $a$ in the S-graph.
(2) The concept lattice of the enlarged set of classes is Hasse-planar.
(3) The Ferrers-graph of the enlarged set of classes is bipartite.

- The Ferrers-graph can be computed directly from the set of classes.
- Its bipartity can be checked algorithmically.


## 3rd condition: terminology \& proof

## Theorem (Zschalig 2007)

The concept lattice of a formal context is Hasse-planar if and only if its Ferrers-graph is bipartite.


## 3rd condition: terminology \& proof

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## 3rd condition: terminology \& proof

## Theorem (Zschalig 2007)

The concept lattice of a formal context is Hasse-planar if and only if its Ferrers-graph is bipartite.


## 3rd condition: example

|  | a | b | c | d | e | f |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 |  |  |  | $\times$ | $\times$ |  |
| 1 |  | $\times$ | $\times$ | $\times$ |  |  |
| 2 | $\times$ | $\times$ |  |  |  |  |
| 3 |  | $\times$ | $\times$ |  |  | $\times$ |



## 3rd condition: example



## 3rd condition: evaluation

- It is of no help in the construction of S-alphabets with minimal number of markers.
+ It can be checked easily by an algorithm.


## Getting back to Pāṇini's problem



$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { a•i•uṇ| r•lk| e•on } \mid \text { ai•auc } \mid \text { hayavarat } \mid \\
& \text { laṇ| ñamanananam } \mid \text { jhabhañ } \mid \text { ghadhadhaṣ } \mid \text { jabagaḍadaś } \mid \\
& \text { khaphachathathacatatav } \mid \text { kapay } \mid \text { śaṣasar } \mid \text { hal } \mid
\end{aligned}
$$

Q: Are the Śivasūtras minimal (with respect to length)?

## What does minimal mean?

$a \cdot i \cdot u \underline{n}|r \cdot l k| e \cdot o \dot{n} \mid$ ai•auc $\mid$ hayavarat $\mid$
laṇ| ñamañaṇanam| jhabhañ| ghaḍadhaṣ| jabagaḍadaś|
khaphachaṭhathacaṭatav| kapay| śaṣasar| hal|
The Śivasūtras are not minimal if it is possible to rearrange the Sanskrit sounds in a new list with markers such that
(1) each pratyāhāra forms an interval ending before a marker,
(2) no sound occurs twice
or one sound occurs twice but less markers are needed.
$\Rightarrow$ duplicating a sound is worse than adding markers





## Is it necessary to duplicate a sound?

## Main theorem on S-sortability (part 1a)

If a set of classes is S-sortable, then its concept lattice is Hasse-planar.

concept lattice of Pāṇini's pratyāhāras

## Is it necessary to duplicate a sound?

## Criterion of Kuratowski

A graph which has the graph
 as a minor is not planar.


## Is it necessary to duplicate a sound?

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A graph which has the graph

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A graph which has the graph $\square$ as a minor is not planar.


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## Is it necessary to duplicate a sound?

## Criterion of Kuratowski

A graph which has the graph
 as a minor is not planar.


There is no S-alphabet for the set of classes given by Pāṇini's pratyāhāras without duplicated elements!


## $h$ and the independent triples

|  | $h$ | $l$ | $v$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\{h, l\}$ | $\times$ | $\times$ |  |
| $\{h, v\}$ | $\times$ |  | $\times$ |
| $\{v, l\}$ |  | $\times$ | $\times$ |



Altogether there exists 249 independent triples.
$h$ is included in all of them.


## Concept lattice of Pāṇini's pratyāhāras with duplicated $h$



## Concept lattice of Pāṇini's pratyāhāras with duplicated $h$



## Concept lattice of Pānini's pratyāhāras with duplicated $h$



With the Śivasūtras Pānini has chosen one out of nearly 12 million minimal S-alphabets!


## Open problems

The story is much more intricate

- We have neither shown that Pānini's technique for the representation of sound classes is optimal
- nor that he has used his technique in an optimal way.
- not all sound classes are denoted by pratyāhāras
- rules overgeneralize
- sūtra 1.3.10: yathāsaṃkhyamanudeśah samānām


## Open problems

## The story is much more intricate

- We have neither shown that Pānini's technique for the representation of sound classes is optimal
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$$
\begin{aligned}
& \left\langle a, i, u, M_{1},\{r,!\}_{1}, M_{2},\left\{\left\langle\{e, o\}_{2}, M_{3}\right\rangle,\left\langle\{a i, a u\}_{3}, M_{4}\right\rangle\right\}_{4}\right. \\
& \quad h, y, v, r, M_{5}, l, M_{6}, \tilde{n}, m,\{\dot{n}, n, n,\}_{5}, M_{7}, j h, b h, M_{8} \\
& \{g h, d h, d h\}_{6}, M_{9}, j,\{b, g, d, d\}_{7}, M_{10},\{k h, p h\}_{8},\{c h, t h, t h\}_{9} \\
& \left.\quad\{c, t, t\}_{10}, M_{11},\{k, p\}_{11}, M_{12},\{s, s, s, s\}_{12}, M_{13}, h, M_{14}\right\rangle \\
& \\
& \begin{array}{l}
2!\times 2!\times 2!\times 2!\times 3!\times 3!\times 4!\times 2!\times 3!\times 3!\times 2!\times 3! \\
\left\}_{1}\right. \\
=2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 6 \times 6 \times 24 \times 2 \times 6 \times 6 \times 2 \times 6=11943936
\end{array}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Some numbers

- Pāṇini denotes 42 sound classes by pratyāhāras.
- The Śivasūtras allow the construction of 281 pratyāhāras.
- $2^{42}-43\left(>2 \cdot 10^{12}\right)$ possible sound classes.
- 11 (resp. 10, if unmarked classes are permitted) binary features are necessary to denote Pāṇini's pratyāhāras $\left(\Rightarrow 2^{11}=2048\right.$, resp. $2^{10}=1024$ classes can be constructed).
- Pāṇini has chosen 1 out of 11.943 .936 minimal S-alphabets
- The 42 sounds can be ordered in nearly $43!\left(>6 \cdot 10^{52}\right)$ lists in which $h$ occurs twice.


## Literature

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－Petersen，W．（2008），Zur Minimalität von Pāṇinis Śivasūtras－Eine Untersuchung mit Mitteln der Formalen Begriffsanalyse．PhD thesis， university of Düsseldorf．

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圊 Zschalig，C．（2007），Bipartite Ferrers－graphs and planar concept lattices．In： S．O．Kuznetsov and S．Schmidt（eds．）：Proceedings of the 5th ICFCA．LNCS 4390，p．313－327，Springer．

## Origin of Pictures

- libraries (left):
http://www.meduniwien.ac.at/medizinischepsychologie/bibliothek.htm
- libraries (middle): http://www.math-nat.de/aktuelles/allgemein.htm
- libraries (right):
http://www.geschichte.mpg.de/deutsch/bibliothek.html
- warehouses:
http://www.metrogroup.de/servlet/PB/menu/1114920_11/index.html
- stores: http://www.einkaufsparadies-schmidt.de/01bilder01/

