

*Laempel System  
for  
Intelligent Text  
Processing*

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## Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why must the user dictionary words.usr reside in the directory in which a file is checked for spelling?

A: This is really no restriction. Create a command file that (1) copies a central user dictionary into the current directory, (2) calls Laempel, and (3) copies the new user dictionary back to the central location. Actually, we advise against this process since it is better to have special user dictionaries for the different environments. That way contamination of a user dictionary with wrong words is less of a problem.

Q: May I add words directly to the user dictionary words.usr?

A: Adding words directly to words.usr is asking for trouble. The file words.usr has a special format, and the Laempel System assumes that this format is strictly adhered to. If you want to add words to words.usr, put those words into a file, and process that file with the Laempel System, using in params.dat the option

`accept all unknown words as correct ('yes' or 'no') = yes`

Q: How do I delete a word from the user dictionary words.usr?

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- A: Using any editor, delete the entire record containing that word from words.usr.
- Q: The system frequently declares names, initials, and text strings like “<word>-” or “<word>-” as unknown words. Can this be eliminated?
- A: No. The system tries to find all possible errors, and the cited examples may be part of an error. So simply accept these words as correct, if indeed they are correct. On the other hand, due to this rule, the spell checker sometimes identifies errors in mathematical formulas, a desirable result.
- Q: If I select as choice “... for THIS occurrence”, will the word be added to the user dictionary?
- A: No matter which choice is made, the selected word WILL be added to the user dictionary. In fact, the user cannot prevent a word from being added to the user dictionary. This approach is required for the functioning of the syntax checking module.
- Q: Could the Laempel System be adapted to other languages?
- A: Yes, but only in principle. The Laempel System contains a lot of information about the English language. That knowledge is used by the spell checking and syntax checking modules. A large number of small and medium sized logic modules are embedded into the Laempel System that carry out the reasoning. They were created using the Leibniz System and are encoded in the files of type .prg. Adapting the logic modules to another language would be a major undertaking.