

ONP data description

A Dictionary of Old Norse Prose (ONP) is a dictionary project based at the Department of Nordic Studies and Linguistics at the University of Copenhagen. ONP records the vocabulary of prose writing in Old Norse, as transmitted in Norwegian and Icelandic manuscripts, the earliest of which date from the middle of the 12th century. For some decades work on the dictionary consisted in selected excerption of texts covering all Old Norse prose genres. This citation corpus constituted the basis for subsequent editorial work and has now been digitized and integrated into the online version of ONP.

ONP is stored and edited as an Oracle relational database with linked tables representing lemmas, entry head, entry sections, senses with definitions and citations — as shown in the table below. The text is stored in a custom 8-bit encoding, which was necessary prior to Unicode for representing the original orthography of the manuscripts in the citations. It is converted to UTF-8 for web publication. The dictionary was originally based on citation slips; these have been scanned and are available through the web interface. All citations are based on the best available published editions, most of which have also been scanned, and the database also records in detail the manuscript sources for the citations, and the prose works in which they are found — in separate tables as shown in the schema below. This information is combined in the entry to show the citation text, edition page reference, with manuscript datings used to order the citations within each definition. The tables include columns which contain the published material for print and web, as well as a large number of columns that record information for internal use by the project and its applications.

Examples (PDF export of each is also available):

kǫttr (cat): <http://onpweb.nfi.sc.ku.dk/webart/k/k4/47088art.htm>

eta (eat): <http://onpweb.nfi.sc.ku.dk/webart/e/et/18602art.htm>

kátr (happy): <http://onpweb.nfi.sc.ku.dk/webart/k/ka/42722art.htm>

Table	Rows	Schema table name	TEI equivalent data
Entry / Lemma	75,000	O_LEMMA	<entry> / <hom> <form> <gramGrp> <pos> <gen> <number>
Entry header info	27,000	H_AZ	<iType>
Section	18,000	A_AZ	<sense n="I">
Definition	64,000	D_AZ	<sense n="1"> <def> <sense n="a"> ...
Citation	806,000	C_AZ	<cit> <quote>

ONP Schema

