ELEXIS project overview

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COST: European Network of e-Lexicography (ENeL)
October 2013-2017

Working Groups

- **WG 1:** Integrated interface to European dictionary content
- **WG 2:** Retro-digitized dictionaries
- **WG 3:** Innovative e-dictionaries
- **WG 4:** Lexicography and lexicology from a pan-European perspective

Observations

- Prevalence of user-generated dictionaries/growing gap between scholarly dictionaries and the general public;
- Lack of common standards and solutions for retrodigitized dictionaries;
- Lack of a common research paradigm, common standards and solutions for e-lexicography;
- In dictionaries languages are treated as isolated entities.
ELEXIS FACT SHEET

• Call & Topic: INFRAIA-02-2017
  • Integrating Activities for **Starting Communities** (Publication: October 2015)
  • Model: two-stage (March 2016, March 2017), results: August 2017
• Start date: **1 February 2018**
• Duration: **48 months** (31 January 2022)
• Total cost: **5M €**
• Coordinator: Jožef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia
• Number of partners: 17 from 15 countries
• Web site: [www.elex.is](http://www.elex.is)
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• Partners with:
  • lexicographic data and/or expertise
  • computational linguistics data and/or expertise
  • expertise in standardisation
  • digital humanities partners
  • technology partners
GOALS

• To integrate, extend and harmonise national and regional efforts in the field of lexicography,
  • both modern and historical,
• with the goal of creating a sustainable infrastructure which will
  • (1) enable efficient access to high quality lexical data in the digital age, and
  • (2) bridge the gap between more advanced and lesser-resourced scholarly communities working on lexicographic resources.
EXPECTED IMPACTS

• Providing efficient **access to** quality lexicographic **data**
• Enabling massive **integration of** knowledge-based **resources**
  • Facilitating inclusion of innovative lexicography in **research** and **education**
  • Enabling the use of new technology and data in **industry**
  • Establishing **inter-infrastructure** synergies and optimisation

• RESULT: a **new type of lexicography** that no longer views languages as isolated entities
VIRTUOUS CIRCLE/CYCLE OF E-LEXICOGRAPHY

• “In the best of all possible worlds, computational enhancement and lexicographical upgrading would build upon each other in a virtuous circle that knew no bounds”.
  • Abstract: “NLP needs dictionaries, and dictionary-makers can use NLP to make better dictionaries, so there is great potential for synergy between the two activities.
  • To date, there has been only very limited collaboration.
  • This is substantially owing to dictionary publishers’ concerns regarding intellectual property. In this paper I explore the different interests of publishers and NLP researchers, and present a business model which pays heed to both.”
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THREE TYPES OF ACTIVITIES

• Joint research activities
  • tools and methods for enabling linked lexicographic resources
  • tools and methods to support innovative e-lexicography

• Trans-national access or virtual access activities

• Networking activities
  • documentation, guidelines, collections of best practices
  • online training modules
  • data seal of compliance for lexicographic data
  • workshops, seminars, and conferences
  • international forum
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What happens with your dictionary?

• (It gets (retro)digitised)

• You are using your own data model for your dictionary (Word, XML etc)
  • CONVERSION TO COMMON DATA MODEL (e.g. TEI, TEI-LEX-0)

• The human oriented common data model is not really NLP friendly
  • CONVERSION TO MACHINE READABLE FORMAT (e.g. Ontolex, Lemon)

• Now it can be linked with other dictionaries via shared concepts
  • LINKING DIRECTLY OR VIA BABELNET

• Shared concepts end up in MATRIX dictionary together with links to your original dictionary
  • MATRIX DICTIONARY, OPEN ACCESS RESOURCE WITH LINKED DATA
What happens with your corpus?

• It is processed on lower levels (POS-tagging, parsing etc.) and babelfied or wikified
  • WORD SENSE DISAMBIGUATION BASED ON BABELNET OR WIKIPEDIA
• now some methods can be applied to explore semantic behaviour of the vocabulary (also MWEs), to look for translation equivalents etc.
  • SEMANTIC ANALYTICS AND MULTILINGUAL SEMANTIC PARSING
• also, the corpus and the dictionary start functioning almost as one resource in push/pull model
  • ENRICHMENT OF LEXICOGRAPHIC RESOURCES
• the automatically extracted or enriched data can be manually curated in various dictionary writing systems, crowdsourcing platforms or in games
  • DWS, CROWDSOURCING TOOLS, GAMIFICATION
What is in the middle?

• a **universal repository** of linked
  • senses, meaning descriptions, etymological data, collocations, phraseology, translation equivalents, examples of usage and all other types of lexical information found in all types of existing lexicographic resources, monolingual, multilingual, modern, historical etc.

• a universal **lexicographic meta-structure**; a **dictionary matrix** spanning across languages and time
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Thank you