Latvian WordNet

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Latvian WordNet

- Release of the first WordNet for Latvian
 - "1.0" release now, a work-in-progress was presented at LREC 2022
- Wrapping up a 3-year project 2020 2022
- Fully manually curated for most frequent words in Latvian
- 11 000 senses from 7 600 words linked in 6 500 synsets

Motivation

- Resource for building Natural Language Processing systems
 - Natural language understanding, semantic parsing
 - Word sense disambiguation
 - Natural language generation, especially in context of multilingual systems
- Facilitate Latvian linguistic research of semantics and lexicography
- Improvement of Tezaurs.lv online dictionary
- Bringing Latvian to multilingual tools and resources

Latvian semantic resources before this project

- "FullStack" annotated corpus with multiple layers
 - FrameNet
 - PropBank for the frame target words
 - Morphology, syntax, named entities, coreference
- Digital dictionary Tezaurs.lv that unites most dictionaries of Latvian
- A relatively old synonym dictionary
- No WordNet
- No valence dictionaries

Goals and priorities

- High quality core WordNet
 - Start with most frequently used words (nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs)
 - Basis for bootstrapping for larger coverage
 - Usable for both linguists and end-users
- Based on corpus evidence to reflect the lexical system of Latvian
 - Existing Latvian dictionaries were based on linguistic intuition
 - Avoid copying English concepts and hierarchy
- Mapping to other WordNets
 - Princeton WordNet
 - Open Multilingual WordNet

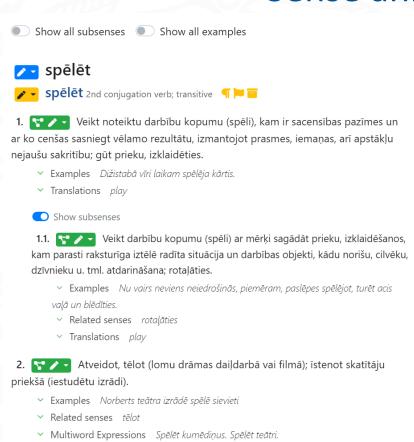
Data sources for building Latvian WordNet

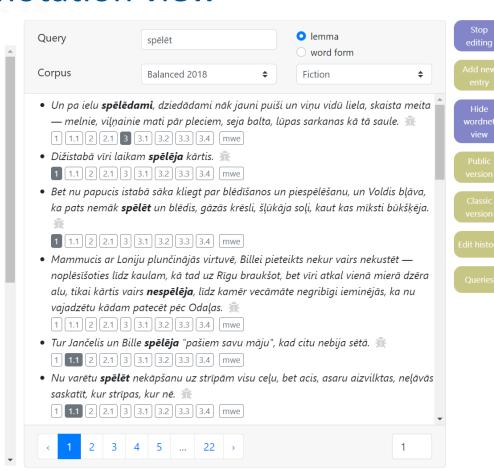
- Tēzaurs.lv online dictionary
 - Largest dictionary for Latvian, 384 000 entries
 - Fully electronic, structured entries
 - Summarized many dictionaries, so a lack of consistency
- Latvian National Corpora collection korpuss.lv
 - Balanced contemporary corpus of Latvian (10M tokens)
 - Common Crawl web corpus (400M tokens)
 - Blogs and parliament debates

Methodology

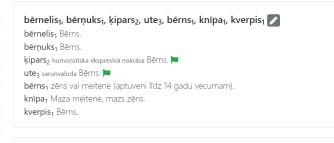
- Rebuild word sense inventory for the word based on corpus evidence
 - Consistent principles and granularity
 - Two level hierarchy senses and subsenses
- Assign corpus examples (10-20 per sense)
 - Validation of sense inventory and sense separation/overlap
- Link synsets and semantic relations
 - similarity, hyponymy, antonymy, meronymy, gradation sets
- Map to Princeton WordNet
 - Not only full equivalence, but also interlingual hyponymy if no exact match found

Sense annotation view





Translations act, play, represent, roleplay, playact



Synonym dictionary

bērns - mazulis, mazais, bērņuks, bērnelis, ķipars

meitene

Translations

 $b\bar{e}rns$ - preadolescent, wean, bairn, youngling, babe, child, children, tad, kid, trick, baby, infant, fruit of the womb



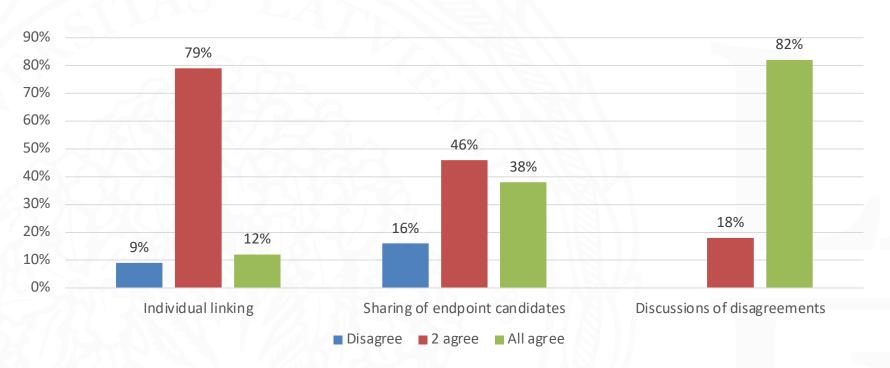
Only senses With subsenses Finalish Finalish*

Link annotation view

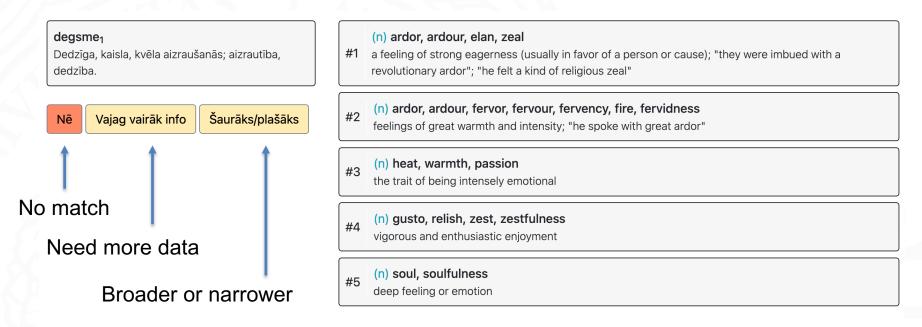
ortono	o only sense	Only senses With subscribes Canglish Canglish		
Senses		Synsets		Links
jaunmeitene ₁	+	jaunekle ₁ , jauniete ₁ , meitene ₂ , skuķis _{1.1} ,	+	External links:
Jauniete.	*	meitēns ₂ , jaunmeita ₁ , mamzele ₁	-	(n) girl, miss, missy, young_lady,
Ganu meitene ₁	+	Jauniete ₁ Sieviete vecuma starp pusaudzes u	١	young_woman, fille a young woman; "a young lady of 18"
g			Hyperonyms:	
zemniekmeitene ₁ Meitene, kas aug zemnieku ģimenē; arī zemniekmeita.	+	skuķis _{1,1} Nepieredzējusi, arī nenopietna jauniete. meitēns ₂ Meitene (2).		sieva ₂ , sieviete ₁ sieva ₂ Sieviete. sieviete ₁ Cilvēku dzimuma būtne, kuras organisma
zvejniekmeitene ₁	+	jaunmeita₁ Jauna meitene. mamzele₁ novecoiis Jaunkundze. ▶		morfoloģiskās un fizioloģiskās īpašības ir piemērotas bērņu dzemdēšanai: pieaugusi šāda cilvēku

Evaluation of semantic linking

Three experiments on links from 20 words (85 senses)

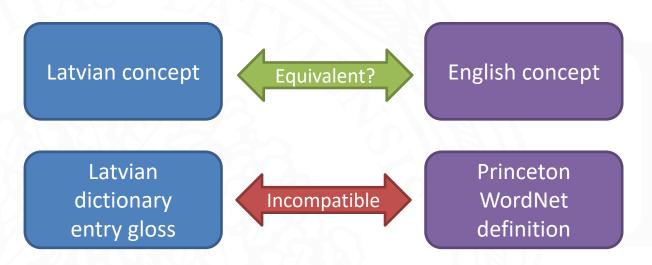


IAA experiment for interlingual links



57% interannotator agreement (390/684 words)

Problem with overspecific definitions



- bass guitar "the guitar with six strings that has the lowest pitch"
- apache "a Parisian gangster" vs apašs "a French gangster"

Extending Tezaurs.lv as "3 in 1" dictionary

baznīca

baznīca sieviešu dzimtes 4. deklinācijas lietvārds V Locīšana

- 1. Kristīgo konfesiju reliģiskajam kultam paredzēta celtne.
 - Piemēri Bille ieskatās cauri kokiem saredzama balta baznīca ar ziliem un zaliem torniem. Saistītās nozīmes Sinonīmi 🕕 dievnams 1 — Baznīca, lūgšanas nams. Hiponīmi 🕕 <u>svētnīca</u>₁ — Reliģiska kulta celtne, telpa, arī vieta; arī templis, baznīca, dievnams. <u>templis</u>₁ — Sakrāla celtne reliģiskajiem rituāliem; arī baznīca, mošeja, pagoda, sinagoga u. tml. Hiperonīmi 📵 celtne 1 — Celtniecības procesā izveidots objekts vai objektu komplekss; arī ēka. <u>ēka</u>1 — Celtne, ko parasti izmanto dzīvošanai, saimnieciskām, ražošanas vai sabiedriskām vajadzībām; atsevišķs objekts celtņu kompleksā. Stabili vārdu savienojumi let baznīcā. ^ Tulkojumi church, church building [4] a place for public (especially Christian) worship; "the church was empty" [Princeton WordNet 3.0]
- Explanatory dictionary
 - Existed already
- Synonym dictionary
 - WordNet semantic links
- Translation dictionary
 - Links to Princeton WordNet
 - Sense-to-sense translation
- Widely used in Latvia
 - Students
 - Language learners
 - Translators, linguists

- 2. Vienas konfesijas ticīgo organizācija ar noteiktu dogmatiku un kultu.
 - Piemēri Viņi iekasēja desmito daļu no visa mužiku nopelnītā un algas dienā saņemtā kā katoļu baznīca viduslaikos.

Results and impact

- 11 227 senses from 7 609 words linked in 6 515 synsets
- Served to general public via Tezaurs.lv dictionary platform
- Available as open data via Clarin and on wordnet.ailab.lv
- Basis for ongoing WSD tool development for Latvian
 - 75 247 usage examples linked to senses
- Advanced Latvian lexicography and semantics

Conclusions

- Largest task review of sense inventory
 - Overlap, consistency, granularity of existing dictionaries is problematic
 - The new corpus-based sense inventory seems much better
 - Very time consuming
- Working topic-by-topic might have been more efficient
- Annotation is highly subjective, teamwork helps
- Many options for future work
 - Extending both manually and with semi-automated methods
 - Additional types of semantic links
 - Multiword expressions
 - Derivation relations

Thank you!

Questions?

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