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Lexicography and Semantics

Proceedings of the XXI EURALEX International Congress

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FOREWORD

This book contains papers presented at the XXI EURALEX International Congress, Cavtat, Croatia. 8–12 October 2024.

The main topic of the XXI EURALEX International Congress was Lexicography and Semantics.

Lexicography and semantics, particularly lexical semantics, share a deep connection, as the accurate representation of meaning is a fundamental aspect of both disciplines. The intersection of lexicography and semantics is a fertile ground for exploring how words convey meaning and how meaning is structured in language.

Over the past century and a half, various significant theoretical approaches to understanding word meaning have left their mark on the field of lexicography. Notably, the influence of semantic theories on lexicography and the compilation of digital lexical resources has become particularly prominent with the rise of cognitive semantics, and more specifically, the advent of frame semantics, which has played a pivotal role in enhancing the way lexicographers analyse and describe word meanings, resulting in more comprehensive lexical resources.

These resources include traditional dictionaries, thesauri, and linguistic corpora, but also extend to more specialized databases, ontologies, word embeddings, and semantic networks. This remarkable range of lexical resources has had a profound impact on the field of semantics, stimulating new lines of research and enriching our understanding of how language works. These resources have found applications beyond these two linguistic fields: They are used in fields like information retrieval, sentiment analysis, machine translation, and Large Language Models development, demonstrating the practical relevance of the synergy between lexicography and semantics, which is very well represented at this conference.

EURALEX 2024 fostered valuable discussions, and promoted collaboration within the fields of lexicography and semantics, with a particular focus on cognitive approaches and their applications.

Papers, posters, presentations of new projects, and software demonstrations were invited on the topic *Lexicography and Semantics* (theoretical and applied perspectives) as well as on all lexicographically relevant topics including, but not limited to, the following fields:

- $\hbox{\bf Monolingual, bilingual, and multilingual lexicography, including commercial dictionary publishing } \\$
- The dictionary-making process
- The use of dictionaries, and the needs of the user
- Lexicography and language technologies: the use of computational linguistics, natural language processing and computer science technologies and language resources in lexicography
- Terminology, terminography, and specialized forms of lexicography
- · Lexicography of lesser-used and under-researched languages
- Phraseology and collocations

- · Lexicography and etymology
- Lexicological issues of lexicographical relevance
- Reports on lexicographical and lexicological projects
- Academic lexicography, historical lexicography, scholarly lexicography
- Theoretical linguistic research, especially those branches most directly related to the interests and needs of compilers of dictionaries and/or computer lexicons, including word meaning, syntax, word combinations (phraseology), morphology, phonology, etc.

All submissions underwent a double-blind peer review process by at least two members of the Scientific Committee, whose support we deeply appreciate (see page 19). Decisions to accept or reject submissions for presentation at the congress and full papers for publication in the conference proceedings were based on the average review scores, and in many cases, further evaluation by members of the Programme Committee, to whom we are immensely grateful (see page 14). We extend our special gratitude to the EURALEX Board members who supported us as part of the Programme Committee: **Annette Klosa-Kückelhaus**, **Iztok Kosem**, **Robert Lew**, and **Philipp Stöckle**. Without the expertise and dedication of all colleagues serving on the Scientific and Programme Committees, we would not have been able to maintain the high academic standards of EURALEX congress presentations and proceedings. Thank you!

Our plenary speakers were invited to explore various aspects of the congress theme, *Lexicography and Semantics*. However, given the high relevance and timeliness of Large Language Models, it is no surprise that this topic resonates throughout all the keynotes and the entire conference program. We are deeply grateful to the keynote speakers for their timely, relevant, thought-provoking, and engaging talks.

In his plenary talk *Lexical Semantics, Lexicography and LLMs*, **Dirk Geeraerts** explores the evolving role of Large Language Models (LLMs) in lexical studies from both lexicographic and theoretical linguistic perspectives. From a theoretical perspective, LLMs currently constitute the epitome of distributional semantics, and distributional semantics is eminently suited as a methodological basis for usage-based cognitive semantics, allowing for a convergence of major theoretical trends in lexical semantics. From the lexicographical perspective, Geeraerts draws attention to the too often ignored process through which lexicography not only gave a major descriptive impetus to the development of corpus linguistics, but also specifically contributed to an essential step in the emergence of computational methods for corpus research: LLMs are a tool with lexicographic roots, at least to some extent. But, given that the tool has grown well beyond its original format, how does that affect its relationship to lexicography?

Tony Veale's talk You Talk Funny! One Day Me Talk Funny Too explores the intriguing challenge of teaching Large Language Models (LLMs) to understand and generate humour. While AI has made significant strides in various areas of human intelligence, humour remains a uniquely human trait that machines struggle to grasp. The talk emphasizes the importance of humour in AI, both for practical applications and in pushing the boundaries of human-machine interaction. It outlines current research efforts to equip LLMs with a "sense of humour" and highlights the complexities, such as navigating social norms and ensuring value alignment, given that humour often tests the limits of acceptability. The ultimate goal is to develop AI that can not only comprehend human jokes but also create its own, adding a new dimension to AI's capabilities.

In her talk *Case Studies in the Successes and Limits of Frame Semantics in Practical Lexicography*, **Kory Stamper** examines how frame semantics has influenced modern lexicography, particularly in the U.S., where traditional methods have long dominated. Frame semantics offers lexicographers a broader, more user-cantered approach to defining meanings, helping them overcome unconscious biases. However, recent technological and social shifts, such as the spread of misinformation, the rise of AI-generated text, and the changing use of online dictionaries, present challenges in further integrating frame semantics. The talk highlights case studies showcasing both the successes and limitations of this approach in the evolving field of lexicography.

Tiago Torrent talks about *Possible Futures for Semantic Lexical Resources in the Age of Artificial Intelligence* exploring the future of combining semantic lexical resources with Large Language Models (LLMs) in language technology. While LLMs have made significant strides in NLP, recent research shows their limitations, suggesting that hybrid approaches integrating LLMs with language resources may offer more potential. Tiago highlights possible research directions, including the application of the FrameNet model in developing tools to identify regions prone to gender-based violence and expanding into the field of multimodal NLP. These examples illustrate how blending AI with semantic resources could drive future advancements in language technology.

Lana Hudeček offers us valuable insight into the perspective of a lexicographer and the intricate process of dictionary making. The presentation on the *Croatian Web Dictionary – Mrežnik* highlights the development and evolution of this project, which began in 2017 and is now funded by the EU's NextGeneration program. Mrežnik is a free, online, corpus-based, monolingual, and normative e-dictionary of the Croatian language, consisting of modules for native speakers, schoolchildren, and non-native speakers. Utilizing tools like Sketch Engine and TLex, it integrates contemporary e-lexicography practices and computational linguistics methods. Mrežnik aims to be dynamic and continually updated, integrating features like gamification and recorded pronunciation. The project addresses the lack of an e-dictionary in Croatia and focuses on user-centered design, ensuring accessibility and relevance for various audiences.

I would like to extend special thanks to the keynote speakers of the *Figurative Language and Large Language Models* workshop: **Eve Sweetser** and **Alexander Ziem**.

Eve Sweetser, who has long been both an academic and personal role model, as well as a dear friend, discusses the current status and future directions of the Berkeley MetaNet project. The new MetaNet Wiki is under construction, and will (fairly soon) become accessible, including databases of French, English, and Spanish metaphors relating to (1) COVID and the pandemic; (2) cancer; and (3) climate change. This project has all of the scholarly community's shared concerns with the methods of metaphor identification and analysis: the talk therefore recaps the MetaNet procedure for searching, identifying, and verifying data. The particular focus of the talk is on the comparative aspects of the project. How can we use the wealth of documentation of English metaphors as a resource, without allowing our knowledge about English to "colonialize" our other databases?

Alexander Ziem's talk focuses on (a) examining the role of conceptual metaphors (CM) within a construction, (b) explaining how CMs—understood as frames with conventionalized mappings between a source and target frame—have been conceptually integrated into the construction, and (c) detailing the empirical methods used to identify and implement CMs within the system.

This book contains the full papers from keynotes, talks, posters, and software demonstrations presented at the XXI EURALEX International Congress. A total of sixty-seven full papers were accepted for publication. An alphabetical index at the end of this volume lists all authors and their details. The papers are thematically divided into the following chapters:

Chapter I. Lexicography and Semantics

Chapter II. Lexicography and Language Technologies

Chapter III. Dictionary Writing Systems and Lexicographic Tools

Chapter IV. Reports on Lexicographical and Lexicological Projects

Chapter V. Specialized Lexicography, Terminology, and Terminography

Chapter VI. Bi- and Multilingual Lexicography

Chapter VII. Dictionary (in) Use

Chapter VIII. Historical Lexicography.

The congress was organized by the Institute for the Croatian Language (ICL) in Zagreb, Croatia. Our sincere thanks go to all our colleagues at the ICL who supported the organization of the congress and the publication of both the Book of Abstracts and the Proceedings. We are especially grateful to $\check{\mathbf{Zeljko Jozi\acute{c}}}$ for his unwavering support, not only as the director of the Institute but also as a member of the Local Organizing Committee.

We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the **sponsors** (see page 17, 18), whose financial support made EURALEX 2024 possible. Without their generosity, this congress would not have taken place.

As Chair of the XXI EURALEX Organizing Committee, I would like to express my deep gratitude to all members of our Local Organizing Committee (see page 19). I would also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to **Annette Klosa-Kückelhaus**, who has been invaluable to us both as EURALEX President and as the exceptional organizer of EURALEX 2022. Her help and support have made this journey far smoother, and without her, it would have been significantly more challenging. Finally, a huge thank you goes to my co-editors, **Ana Ostroški Anić** and **Ivana Brač**, whose tireless efforts were invaluable not only in bringing this publication to life but also in ensuring the success of the entire conference.

Kristina Š. DespotChair of EURALEX 2024
September 2024

PART I: CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

Acknowledgements

We are deeply grateful to all those who generously supported the XXI EURALEX International Congress financially. Your contributions have been invaluable, and we sincerely appreciate your commitment to making this event a success.

Main Sponsors











Sponsors







Republic of Croatia Ministry of Culture and Media Republika Hrvatska Ministarstvo kulture i medija We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who dedicated their time and expertise to reviewing the submissions and papers. Your invaluable contributions have greatly enriched the quality of our conference, and we are truly appreciative of your efforts.

We wish to express our deepest gratitude to the members of the Local Organizing Committee for their remarkable dedication and hard work in making this event a reality. We truly appreciate all the time and energy you've invested in creating a memorable and smooth experience for everyone.

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Marie-Claude L'Homme Sanja Perić Gavrančić Federica Vezzani
Anja Lobenstein-Reichmann Ralf Plate Craig Volker
Irina Lobzhanidze Boris Pritchard Sabine Wahl

Henrik Lorentzen Ida Raffaelli Ana Werkmann Horvat
Magdalena Majdak Natascia Ralli Geoffrey Williams
Tinatin Margalitadze Geraint Paul Rees Sascha Wolfer
Saša Marijanović Irene Renau Alexander Ziem

Ivana Matas Ivanković Ana Salgado Tanara Zingano Kuhn John P. McCrae Thomas Schmidt Mojca Žagar Karer Peter Meyer Hindrik Sijens Slavko Žitnik

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Hudeček, Lana Croatian Web Dictionary – MREŽNIK

Stamper, Kory Case Studies in the Successes and Limits of Frame Semantics in

Practical Lexicography

Torrent, Tiago Possible Futures for Semantic Lexical Resources in the Age of

Artificial Intelligence

Veale, Tony You Talk Funny! One Day Me Talk Funny Too. Investigating the

Capacity of Large Language Models for Humour

Keynotes of the Workshop Figurative Language and Large Language Models

Sweetser, Eve METANET – Its Current Status and Future Directions

Ziem, Alexander Conceptual Metaphors in the German FrameNet Construction:

From Conception to Implementation

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Despot, Kristina Š. and Ana Ostroški Anić Figurative Language and Large

Language Models

Krek, Simon Large Language Models and

Lexicography

Reese, Gerrraint Paul, Blanca Arias-Badia,

Elisenda Bernal, and Sergi Torner

Lexicography and Accessibility









