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► **To cite this version:**

Rute Costa, Ana Salgado, Margarida Ramos, Fahad Khan, Sara Carvalho, et al.. Integrating Terminological and Ontological Principles into a Lexicographic Resource. 1st International Conference on “Multilingual digital terminology today. Design, representation formats and management systems”, Jun 2022, Padova, Italy. hal-04170779

HAL Id: hal-04170779

<https://hal.science/hal-04170779>

Submitted on 25 Jul 2023

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Integrating Terminological and Ontological Principles into a Lexicographic Resource

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Abstract

In this paper we will present the research that is taking place at the NOVA CLUNL¹ where an international team is working on a financed project MORDigital². MORDigital’s goal is to encode the selected editions of *Diccionario de Lingua Portuguesa* by António de Morais Silva (MOR), first published in 1789.

Keywords

dictionary, lexicography, digital humanities, standards

1. Introduction

MORDigital’s ultimate goals are, on the one hand, to promote accessibility to cultural heritage while fostering reusability and, on the other hand, to contribute towards a more significant presence of lexicographic digital content in Portuguese through open tools and standards. MOR represents a significant legacy, since it marks the beginning of Portuguese dictionaries, having served as a model for all subsequent lexicographic production. The team follows a new paradigm in lexicography, which results from the convergence between lexicography, terminology, computational linguistics, and ontologies as an integral part of digital humanities and linked (open) data. In the Portuguese context, this research fills a gap concerning searchable online retrodigitised dictionaries, built on current

¹ https://clunl.fcsh.unl.pt/grupos_clunl/lexicologia-lexicografia-terminologia/

² https://www.fct.pt/apoios/proyectos/consulta/vglobal_proyecto?idProjecto=164850&idElemConcurso=14818

1st International Conference on “Multilingual digital terminology today. Design, representation formats and management systems”, June 16 – 17, Padova, Italy

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CEUR Workshop Proceedings (CEUR-WS.org)

standards and methodologies which promote data sharing and harmonisation, namely TEI Lex-0⁴ and Ontolex-Lemon⁵. The team will further ensure the connection to other existing systems and lexical resources, particularly in the Portuguese-speaking world.

For this paper, after posing the theoretical background (terminology and lexicography) that /underpins our methodology, we will present 4 interrelated tasks:

1. Structuration of MOR's digitised versions using GROBID-Dictionaries⁶, a specific software for the parsing, extraction and structuring of information extracted from dictionary text. In our case, the tool will be used to parse the constituent parts of each dictionary entry, which involves the preparation of a native encoding format that is compliant with the XML/TEI metamodel.
2. Presentation of a systematic analysis of the Mathematical Sciences and Medical Sciences domains, their related domain labels [6], [1] and other mechanisms, such as the use of formulae present in the definition which identifies the specialised field of knowledge. We will propose a hierarchical organisation that constitutes the foundation of domain ontologies.
3. Representation of the model in OWL resorting to Protégé⁷, a free, open-source ontology editor. This means each class or individual in the ontology will be assigned a URI (Universal Resource Identifier), used to reference the label present in each of the lexicographic entries in accordance – whenever possible – with the TEI schemas.
4. Conversion of the TEI Lex-0 output of Task 4 into linked data using the RDF-based model Ontolex-Lemon; the conversion will be based on work already carried out in the scope of previous initiatives in rendering the two models more interoperable. The Ontolex-Lemon model has recently been extended by a lexicography module – lexicog⁸ –, which facilitates interoperability in modelling dictionaries as linked data.

At the end of the paper, we will discuss the results, highlighting the challenges that we faced.

2. Acknowledgements

This paper is supported by the MORDigital – Digitalização do Dicionário da Língua Portuguesa de António de Morais Silva [PTDC/LLT-LIN/6841/2020] project financed by the Portuguese National Funding through the FCT – Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia.

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⁴ <https://dariah-eric.github.io/lexicalresources/pages/TEILex0/TEILex0.html>

⁵ <https://www.w3.org/community/ontolex/>

⁶ <https://github.com/MedKhem/grobid-dictionaries>

⁷ <https://protege.stanford.edu/>

⁸ <https://www.w3.org/2019/09/lexicog/>

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