# A method for language specific metaphorical conceptualization analysis

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#### **INTRODUCTION**

MetaNet.HR is a repository of conceptual metaphors, semantic frames, image schemas, and cognitive primitives of the Croatian language (Despot et al., in press). It schematically shows the organization of complex metaphor systems, including experiences on which the metaphorical systems of the Croatian language are based. MetaNet.HR combines a theory-driven introspective top-down approach (Sweetser et al., in press; Dodge et al., 2015) that analyzes the system of conceptual metaphors in the Croatian language with a bottom-up corpusbased approach that analyzes how metaphors are used in discourse.

For each conceptual metaphor (CM), its *type* (primary, complex, and entailed metaphors) and *level* (general, specific) are determined, as well as its *family*, *source*, *target frame*, and *mappings*. The *relations* and the *types of relations* between the metaphor in question and other metaphors in the database (e.g., "is both a source and a target subcase of", "is a source subcase of", "is a target subcase of", "is a mapping within" etc.) are also indicated. Finally, linguistic examples from the Croatian Web Corpus (hrWaC) are listed for each CM.

#### **METHODOLOGY**

The MetaNet.HR method for metaphorical conceptualization analysis is a bottom-up corpus based analysis that enables language-specific and English independent examination of conceptual systems. It complements the MetaNet's method of defining conceptual metaphors (defining the metaphor family, the source and target frames, mappings and metaphor relations, and providing linguistic metaphors), but in order to ensure that the database reflects the metaphorical system of the Croatian language, it starts from the actual language use as reflected in web corpora.



The method involves the following steps:

- a) choosing metaphor families;
- b) creating a list of target words;
- c) linguistic metaphor identification and annotation;
- d) conceptual metaphor identification;
- e) data entry.

Figure 1. Thesaurus in Sketch Engine for the word *mind* in the English enTenTen13 corpus.

For each concept in the metaphor, a web corpus is analyzed using Sketch Engine (Kilgarriff et al., 2004). A list of target words for which the corpus is queried is compiled using the relevant word sketches and the thesaurus option. A word sketch and a random concordance sample of 300 lines per target word is analyzed for each of the target words. The samples are then annotated on the linguistic level using the MIPVU procedure (Steen et al., 2010), and on the conceptual level using more annotators and measuring the IAA. The main strength of this manual annotation procedure is that it enables a thorough and language-specific analysis of metaphor families.

Source	HJR
Note	
Example: text	Ta je ideja odbačena iz sigurnosnih razloga.
Literal translation	This idea was thrown away from security reasons.
English translation	This idea was rejected for security reasons.
Source	HJR
Note	
Example: text	Držim da je to pogrešno.
Literal translation	I_am_holding that this is false.
English translation	I think this is false.
Source	HJR
Note	
Example: text	Krade mi misao.
Literal translation	He is stealing my thought.
English translation	He is stealing my thought.
Source	HJR
Note	
Example: text	Dala si mi sjajnu ideju!
Literal translation	You gave me a shiny idea!
English translation	You gave me a great idea!

Figure 2. Examples of Croatian linguistic metaphors for the CM IDEA IS AN OBJECT.

#### **CONCLUSIONS**

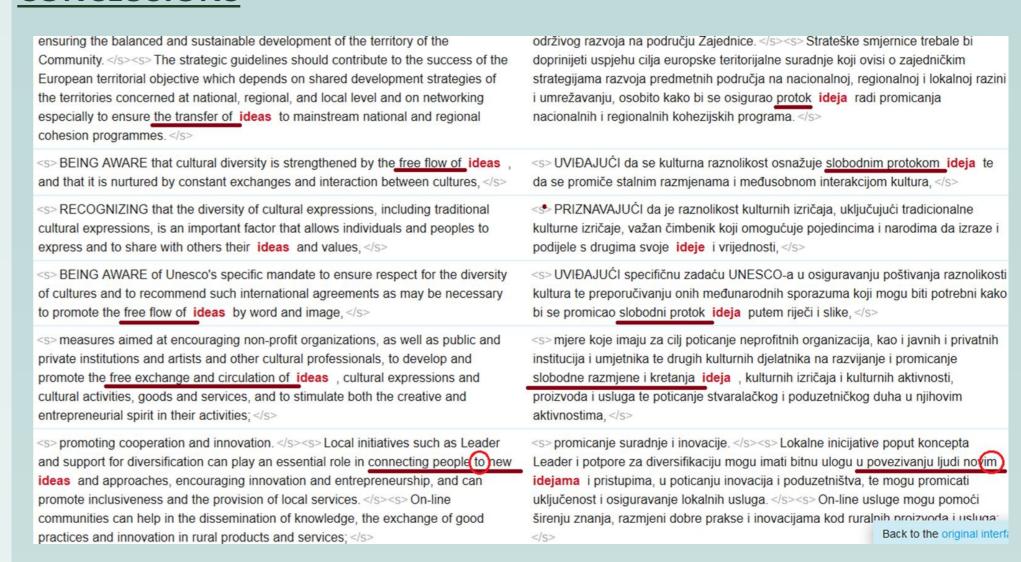


Figure 3. Parallel concordances of the English word *idea* and its Croatian equivalent *ideja*.

When it comes to comparing linguistic manifestations of conceptual metaphors in two or more languages – which is a prerequisite for reaching conclusions about the universality of CM systems – parallel corpora prove to be an invaluable resource. Figure 3. shows the parallel concordances containing linguistic metaphors of the English and Croatian CMs IDEAS ARE GOODS.

The next step in the database development will include the visualization of metaphorical concepts, as shown in Figure 4.



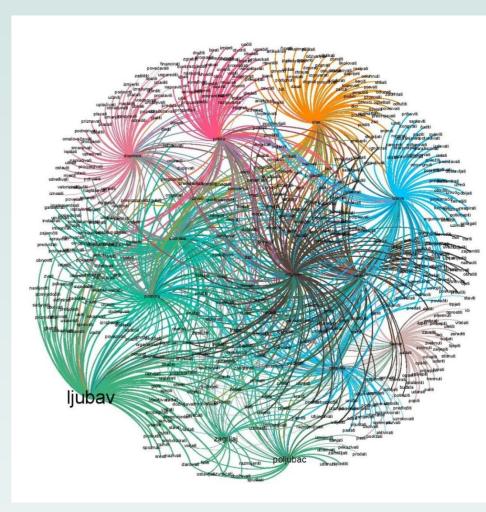


Figure 4. Visualization of the concept *ljubav* 'love' and its related concepts.

Figure 5. List of conceptual metaphors in MetaNet.HR

This procedure is ready to be used for other languages in achieving the ultimate goal of creating a large-scale multilingual figurative thought and language repository. Such a repository has the potential to revolutionize the field by enabling further non-speculative comparative analyses and by answering many open questions concerning metaphor and linguistic diversity, most important of which is what is universal and what is culturally specific in the ways humans conceptualize.

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