
Advances in investigating demonstrative systems from a typological perspective

A Data Management Plan created using DMPTuuli

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Project abstract:

Building on findings uncovered in an ongoing research project, the main goal of this research project is to expand the development of a new framework for investigating and identifying morphosyntactic and semantic features of demonstratives, and further study new categories of demonstratives recently uncovered. Demonstratives have been traditionally classified into basic lexical categories, which do not necessarily match their actual syntactic behavior. My framework departs from traditional approaches by using an ontological approach, in which demonstratives form their own domain, and a category of demonstratives is a category in an independent semantic system, which may not necessarily fit very well into an individual language's lexical classes. This is an entirely new way of categorizing demonstratives and their cross-linguistic behavior, requiring detailed cross-linguistic semantic and syntactic analysis.

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Aineiston yleiskuvaus

This research is based primarily on secondary materials, such as published grammatical descriptions. Data on demonstratives is gathered from grammars of individual languages which is then entered into a database. There is currently an excel file as well as a text file; future formats will be decided by Kielipankki.

The data should be organized and labeled clearly. The details of the demonstrative categories in the database will require advance planning.

Eettisten periaatteiden ja lainsäädännön noudattaminen

As the data sources are primarily secondary published sources, handling of sensitive data and protecting identities will not be relevant.

Sources of data will be properly cited. Once the database is organized properly, I plan to make it open source and publicly available.

Dokumentointi ja metatiedot

The database would be produced in collaboration with members of FIN-CLARIN at the Department of Modern Languages, and published with Kielipankki (the language bank). This would ensure that the database relies on standardized formats and metadata (which the members of FIN-CLARIN are aware of and work with daily), and that it will remain accessible even after the project ends.

Tallentaminen ja varmuuskopiointi tutkimushankkeen aikana

Data is currently stored primarily on my computer at the University of Helsinki, but I make regular back ups to an external hard drive and to my home computer. Kielipankki have strong measures in place for data backup, for when the database is published.

Protected access is not relevant; the database will eventually be made openly available.

Aineiston avaaminen, julkaiseminen ja arkistointi tutkimushankkeen päättyttyä

There will not be any restrictions on data originating from published secondary sources, and the database will not use primary data materials.

Kielipankki handles questions on archiving length, but the database will likely not take up much space, nor will it get much traffic, so I don't foresee any problems. In the unlikely event that Kielipankki itself runs out of funding, there are alternatives for database storage like Autotyp.

Organizing and publishing the database would take approximately six months, and is included in the timetable of the research project.