

STSM SHORT SCIENTIFIC REPORT

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COST Action: IC1207 PARSEME

STSM type: Regular (from Serbia to France)

STSM Applicant: Bojana Đorđević, Faculty of Philology, University of Belgrade, Serbia, bojana@lingvistika.org

STSM Topic: Describing syntactic phenomena of Serbian, including specific Multi-Word Units, using a metagrammar

Host: Yannick Parmentier, Université d'Orléans, Orléans, France, yannick.parmentier@univ-orleans.fr

1. Purpose of the STSM

The purpose of this STSM was to become familiar with the XMG (eXtensible Meta Grammar) formalism, which allows to describe and generate linguistic resources of different types (including tree-based grammars such as Tree-Adjoining Grammars – TAG). More concretely, we planned to study the application of XMG to the description of Serbian syntax in the TAG formalism. The plan was to also look into some of the specific syntactic phenomena in Serbian, as well as some MWUs.

2. Description of the work carried out during the STSM

We covered the theoretical backgrounds of the XMG formalism. We then applied it to the description of basic syntactic units of Serbian (namely of TAG elementary trees) and worked on several syntactic features (word order, position of clitics), managing to successfully parse a number of basic and semi-basic sentences of Serbian. We theoretically covered the treatment of some types of MWUs within that system (e.g. some semi-fixed MWUs).

3. Description of the main results obtained

3.1. A toy grammar for Serbian covering the subject, verb and object types combined into basic sentence models created.

3.2. The issue of the constrained placement of clitics at this stage successfully solved.

3.3. A satisfactory solution for dealing with word order found.

3.4. A theoretical base for dealing with MWUs created, left to be modeled and tested.

4. Future collaboration with host institution

The applicant will continue working on developing a TAG for Serbian using XMG in collaboration with the host institution.

5. Foreseen publications/articles resulting or to result from the STSM

The Ph.D. thesis of the applicant.

6. Confirmation by the host institution of the successful execution of the STSM

We (Y. Parmentier and S. Petitjean, LIFO, University of Orléans) confirm the successful execution of Bojana's visit: it allowed to establish a fruitful collaboration on the application of metagrammars to the description of the syntax of a variety of languages. Bojana succeeded in learning the concepts underlying the XMG formalism, together with the use of its implementation (i.e. how to use the XMG language and its compiler). She applied the XMG formal framework to the description of several challenging syntactic phenomena in Serbian, and by the end of the STMS (which lasted one week), she succeeded in using the core Serbian Tree-Adjoining Grammar she developed with XMG, to parse a small hand-made test-suite.