Expanding the Conceptual Description of Verbs in WordNet with Semantic and Syntactic Information

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Enriching the Semantic Network WordNet with Conceptual Frames





- Mapping VerbNet (VN) classes and semantic roles (SRs) and FrameNet (FN) frames and frame elements (FEs) with WordNet (WN) synsets
 - **extending** existing alignments between FrameNet and WordNet and thus enriching WordNet with **conceptual information** from FN.
- Enhancing the description of WordNet synsets and literals with syntactic patterns in addition to the WN sentence frames:
- From mapping syntactic patterns towards cross-linguistic analyses:
 - transferring valid patterns and adapting them for languages with limited valency and syntactic dictionaries.







{move:2; displace:4} `cause to move or shift into a new position or place, both in a concrete and in an abstract sense'

{transport:2; carry:1} `move while supporting, either in a vehicle or in one's hands or on one's body'



lexical and conceptual knowledge represented via conceptual schemata (frames) describing types of objects, situations, or events along with their components (frame elements)



represents the syntactic and semantic patterns of English verbs. The semantic patterns (configurations of semantic roles) are projected onto syntactic structures.







{move:2; displace:4} `cause to move or shift into a new position or place, both in a concrete and in an abstract sense'

{transport:2; carry:1} `move while supporting...



FrameNet frame:

This frame concerns the movement of a Theme and an Agent and/or Carrier. The Agent, a person or other sentient entity, controls the shared Path by moving the Theme from a Source to a Goal.

VerbNet PAS:

Assigned FN frame: Bringing



 Agent
 VERB
 Theme
 {to,
 towards}
 Destination

 Agent
 VERB
 Theme
 {to,
 towards}
 Destination

 Agent
 VERB
 Theme
 {PREP}
 Initial_location
 {to,
 towards}
 Destination

 Agent
 VERB
 Theme
 {PREP}
 Initial_location
 {to,
 towards}
 Destination

 Assigned
 VERS
 VERB
 Theme
 {to,
 towards}
 Destination







{move:2; displace:4} `cause to move or shift into a new position or place, both in a concrete and in an abstract sense'

{transport:2; carry:1} `move while supporting...

Somebody -----s something Somebody -----s somebody Something -----s somebody Something -----s something Somebody -----s somebody PP Somebody -----s something PP

WN sentence frames

- Somebody ----s somebody $PP \leftarrow PP$ can express initial location (source)
 - or destination (goal)





- The three resources have been aligned automatically using existing mappings, in particular:
 - a mapping of the VerbNet 3.4 verb classes to WordNet 3.0 synsets;
 - two types of mappings of FN frames and WordNet 3.0 synsets:
 - indirectly via SemLink and SemLink+;
 - directly through the system described by Laparra & Rigau (2010).

These mappings have resulted in the assignment of FrameNet frames to 4,306 verb synsets.

 On top of this: automatic procedures for assigning frames on synsets based on hierarchical relations between synsets in WordNet and between frames in FrameNet. Additional manual validation was performed.



Mapping the units of the Resources

FrameNet

Mother frame: Cause_motion FEs: Agent [Sentient], Theme [Physical_object], Area, Cause, Source, Goal, Initial_state, Path, Result

 Child frame: Bringing
 FEs: Agent [Sentient], Theme [Physical_object], Carrier, Cause, Source, Goal, Path VerbNet Class: slide-11.2 Sem. roles: Agent, Theme, Initial_Location, Destination, Trajectory

Class: carry-11.4 Sem. roles: Agent, Theme, Initial_Location, Destination

WordNet

Hypernym: eng-30-01850315-v *move*:2; *displace*:4 'cause to move or shift into a new position or place, both in a concrete and in an abstract sense'

 Hyponym: eng-30-01449974-v transport:2; carry:1 'move
 while supporting, either in a vehicle or in one's hands or on one's body'



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WordNet

FN frame assigned to synset **Hypernym:** eng-30-01850315-v *move*:2; *displace*:4 'cause to move or shift into a new position or place, both in a concrete and in an abstract sense'

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VN class assigned to synset



FrameNet

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Mother frame: Cause motion

Child frame: Bringing

FEs: Agent [Sentient], Theme [Physical_object], Area,

FEs: Agent [Sentient], Theme [Physical_object],

Cause, Source, Goal, Initial state, Path, Result

Carrier, Cause, Source, Goal, Path

Mapping the units of the Resources

 $FN \leftarrow \rightarrow VN$

mapping

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VN class assigned to synset

VerbNet

Class: slide-11.2

Class: carry-11.4

Destination

Destination, **Trajectory**

Sem. roles: Agent, Theme, Initial Location,

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Mapping syntactic patterns in the resources aiming at **providing a syntactic layer** to the conceptual description of verbs in WordNet.

- Step 1: Identifying FN frame-to-WN synsets alignments and selecting only manually validated ones so as to ensure the quality of the dataset.
- Step 2: Identifying VN class-to-WN synsets alignments. Out of these, as a matter of validation, we select only those that have been aligned to FrameNet frames.
- Step 3: Aligning syntactic pattern from the FN frame and VN class mapped to the same synsets.
- Step 4: Aligning patterns from FN and VN to the generalised sentence frames in WordNet.



- In order to do that, we first need to map FN frame elements to VN semantic roles
 - on the basis of identity, similarity or correspondence in the naming of elements and roles, and comparing their definitions using heuristic procedures or by
 - inferring knowledge from the structure of FrameNet, many frame elements being more specific than VerbNet semantic roles, and trying to map FrameNet FEs to VerbNet SR:
 - based on a shallow frame-specific hierarchy of FEs.



> Assigned to WN synsets:

breathe:1; take a breath:1; respire:1; suspire:1

'draw air into, and expel out of, the lungs'

respire:3 'breathe easily again, as after exertion or anxiety'
hyperventilate:1 'breathe excessively hard and fast'



Mapping semantic components

FrameNet frame: Breathing

VerbNet verb class: breathe-40.1.2

Agent Actor in an event who initiates and carries out the event intentionally or consciously, and who exists independently of the event.
Theme Undergoer that is central to an event or state that does not have control over the way the event occurs, is not structurally changed by the event
Source The starting point (possibly metaphoric) of an action; it exists independently of the event.
Destination Goal that is a concrete, physical location.

Mapping semantic components

	Identity of naming + semantic correspondence acc. to the definitions
Agent The Agent's breathing causes the motion of the Air. Agent is generally the External Argument. Lee breathed the hot desert air.	Agent Actor in an event who initiates and carries out the event intentionally or consciously, and who exists independently of the event.
Air Air is the substance that the Agent causes to move. Lee breathed the hot desert air.	Theme Undergoer that is central to an event or state that does not have control over the way the event occurs, is not structurally changed by the event
Source Source identifies the starting point of the Air. Lee exhaled from the bottom of his lungs.	Source The starting point (possibly metaphoric) of an action; it exists independently of the event.
Goal This FE identifies the point at which the Air ends up as a result of the motion. Lee breathed into Ann's mouth.	Destination Goal that is a concrete, physical location.



Mapping semantic components

mapping based on established general (frame/class non-specific) correspondences in the naming conventions adopted in the two resources

Agent The Agent's breathing causes the motion of the Air. Agent is generally the External Argument. Lee breathed the hot desert air.	Agent Actor in an event who initiates and carries out the event intentionally or consciously, and who exists independently of the event.
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Mapping semantic components

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Inferring knowledge about the relations between more general and more concrete FEs	Obtained from a s hierarchy of frame based on chain of between frames:	hallow elements: inheritance	Air Breath	> Fluid ing > Fluidic_m	> Theme otion > Motion
Agent The Agent's breathing causes the Agent is generally the External Argumer hot desert air.	Agent Actor in an event who initiates and carries out the event intentionally or consciously, and who exists independently of the event.				
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- > The criteria for equivalence between **two syntactic patterns** include:
 - correspondence between the core FrameNet frame elements and VerbNet semantic roles expressed in a syntactic pattern;
 - correspondence in the syntactic restrictions (PP heads, clause types or subordinating elements) defined for the mapped frame elements and semantic roles;
 - correspondence between the syntactic expression of each mapped frame element and semantic role – both in terms of the type of syntactic phrase by means of which they are expressed (NP, PP, etc.), and the syntactic position in which they are projected (e.g. subject, object).



- Taking into consideration these prerequisites, we implement the syntactic pattern alignment procedure devised as set of mapping rules.
- As a result of their application, we obtain a list of the equivalent syntactic models for a given FrameNet frame and VerbNet class.
- Where no correspondence is discovered, the patterns are included as unmapped (marked as **NONE**).





The resulting dataset includes:

- 1,121 WordNet synsets and a total of 5,264 verb literals;
- each synset is assigned a pair <FN frame : VN class>.
- a total of **329** such pairs involving **195** FrameNet frames and **165** VerbNet classes.
- There are VerbNet classes that participate in more than one pair of alignments, as well as FrameNet frames that correspond to more than one semantic class.

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Alignment between syntactic patterns

F

F

<Breathing : breathe-40.1.2>

breathe; take a breath; respire; suspire

WN	Somebody	-S	
VN	NP(Agent)	V	
FN	*NP.Ext(Agent)	V	
WN	Somebody	<u>-s</u>	
VN	NP(Agent)	V	PP.destination[on,onto]
			(Destination)
FN	*NP.Ext(Agent)	V	INC(Air) PP[in,on](Goal)
WN	Somebody	-s	something
VN	NP(Agent)	V	NP(Theme)
FN	*NP.Ext(Agent)	V	NP(Air)
WN	Somebody	-s	something
VN	NP(Agent)	V	NP(Theme)
			PP.destination[on,onto]
			(Destination)
FN	*NP.Ext(Agent)	V	NP(Air)
le contraction			PP[in,on](Goal)

VN N	Somebody NONE	-s	
N	NP.Ext(Agent)	V	INC(Air) PP[down] (Path)
	NP.Ext(Agent)	V	INC(Air) PP[in] (Place)
	*NP.Ext(Agent)	V	INC(Air) PP[at] (Exter- nal_cause)
	*NP.Ext(Agent)	V	INC(Air) AVP (Manner)
	NP.Ext(Agent)	V	INC(Air) PP[by,without] (Means)
	NP.Ext(Agent)	V	INC(Air) PP[as] (Depictive)
	NP.Ext(Agent)	V	INC(Air) PP[from,out] (Source)
	NP.Ext(Agent)	V	INC(Air) VPto (Purpose)
VN N	Somebody NONE	- <u>s</u>	something
N	NP.Ext(Agent)	V	NP(Air) PP[down] (Path)
	NP.Ext(Agent)	V	NP(Air) AVP (Manner)
	NP.Ext(Agent)	V	NP(Air) PP[in](Goal) PP[from,out] (Source)
	NP.Ext(Agent)	V	NP(Air) PP[in](Goal) PP[through] (Instrument)



Alignment between syntactic patterns

<killin< th=""><th>g</th><th></th><th>: m</th><th>urder-42.1></th><th><kil< th=""><th>ling</th><th>:</th><th>su</th><th>ffocate-40.7</th></kil<></th></killin<>	g		: m	urder-42.1>	<kil< th=""><th>ling</th><th>:</th><th>su</th><th>ffocate-40.7</th></kil<>	ling	:	su	ffocate-40.7
kill					asph	iyxiate, c	hok	ce, suffocat	te
WN Some VN NP(A FN NP.E:	ebody Agent) xt(Killer)	V V	somebody NP(Patient) NP.Obj(Victim)		WN VN FN	Somebody NP(Agent) NP.Ext(Killer)	-s V V	somebody NP(Patient) NP.Obj(Victim)	
WN Some VN NP(A	ebody agent)	-s V	somebody NP(Patient)	{with} PP.instrument	WN VN	Somebody NP(Agent)	−s V	somebody NP(Patient)	{with} PP.instrument
FN NP.E	xt(Killer)	v	NP.Obj(Victim)	(Instrument) PP[with].Dep (Instrument)	FN	NP.Ext(Killer)	V	NP.Obj(Victim)	(Instrument) PP[with].Dep (Instrument)
WN Some VN NP.in (Instr	ething strument	-s V	somebody NP(Patient)		VN FN	NONE NP.Ext (Instrument)	V	NP.Obj(Victim)	
FN NP.E. (Instr	xt ument)	V	NP.Obj(Victim)		WN VN	Something NONE	-s	somebody	
WN Some VN NON	ething E	—s	somebody		WN VN	NP.Ext(Cause) Somebody NP(Agent)	-s V	somebody NP(Patient)	{to into}
FN NP.E	xt(Cause)	V	NP.Obj(Victim)		FN	NONE		(i adont)	PP.result(Result)





The resulting dataset covers:

- the VerbNet classes in the dataset include 32 unique SRs matched to a total of 217 FrameNet frame elements;
- **29** (out of the 35) generalised WordNet sentence frames
 - aligned to **451** VerbNet syntactic patterns and **13,884** FrameNet syntactic patterns;
- FN patterns have been filtered based on frequency (of examples exhibiting the pattern included in the FN dataset), resulting in
 811 FrameNet syntactic patterns with frequency of 3 or more.





The greater number of FN syntactic realisations is due to:

- the large number of peripheral and extra-thematic frame elements (the syntactic patterns we analysed include some peripheral and extra-thematic elements with high frequency) and the variety of configurations they enter in the different realisations;
- the representations of alternations and variations (e.g., passives, incorporation of FEs, various prepositions in PPs, etc.).

Additionally, we employ semantically annotated corpora to use as a source for usage examples of the syntactic patterns:

- SemCor (Miller et al., 1993) used for observing syntactic patterns in English and comparing syntactic patterns for verbs in the same FN frame and VN class;
- BulSemCor (Koeva et al., 2010) provides material for comparative analysis between syntactic patterns in English and Bulgarian for the investigation of possible syntactic knowledge transfer.



Alignment between syntactic patterns

<Becoming_aware : see-30.1> learn; hear; get word; discover; see 'get to know or become aware of, usually accidentally'

Williams is learning the difficulties of diplomacy rapidly.

Have you ever **heard** of thuggee?

I was anxious to hear about those dazzling days on the Great White Way.

We **learned** this year that our older son, Daniel, is autistic.

We want to **find out** who knew about it.

We had merely been **discovered** by the pool sharks. What obsessions had she **picked up** during these long nights of talk?

Most frequent aligned patterns:

VN: NP (Experiencer) V NP (Stimulus) FN: NP (Cognizer) V NP (Phenomenon)

VN: NP (Experiencer) V
 PP.stimulus[about,of] (Stimulus)
FN: NP (Cognizer) V PP (Phenomenon)

VN: NP (Experiencer) V
 S[that,wh*,∅] (Stimulus)
FN: NP (Cognizer) V
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- The dataset is supplemented with a set of **16,059** SemCor corpus examples illustrating the annotated synsets (on average, **14** examples per synset).
- + the usage examples provided in all of the resources: WordNet examples and FrameNet and VerbNet illustrative examples.
- The newly developed resource containing pairs of a FrameNet frame and a VerbNet class with their corresponding syntactic patterns for realisation of FEs and semantic roles is distributed under a CC by 4.0 license.



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Thank you!

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