Connecting Corpora and ISOcat

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Edisyn project

Edisyn (European Dialect Syntax) is a project on dialect syntax, its goals are twofold:

1. To establish a network of dialect syntacticians
2. To use this network to compile an extensive list of so-called doubling phenomena and to study them as a coherent object.

One of the deliverables of Edisyn is the ‘Edisyn search engine’.

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Edisyn search engine

- The Edisyn search engine enables unified searches across corpora. Currently we have incorporated corpora on Scandinavian, English, Dutch, Estonian, Italian, Portuguese, Slovene dialects.
- It is possible to search for text, English glosses or PoS tags within these corpora and/or make a comparison hereof between the corpora.
- To make searches across corpora possible, these corpora need to be synchronized, i.e. correspond to the (structure of the) search engine.

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Edisyn search engine

- A tag set has been developed which applies to all tagged items of each corpus.
- In constructing such a tag set it is important to keep the set up, content and theoretical views of the original corpus intact.
- Thus minimal deletion of tags. But: keep tag set transparent.

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Edisyn tag set

- Edisyn tag set consists of Categories (word classes) and Features (specifications).
- These may be combined freely (e.g. Category ‘V’ with Features ‘fin’, ‘pres’, ‘1’, ‘sg’, resulting in ‘V(fin,pres,1,sg)’) or searched for separately (e.g. ‘V’ or ‘sg’).
- All tags that are used in a corpus can be mapped to Edisyn tags.

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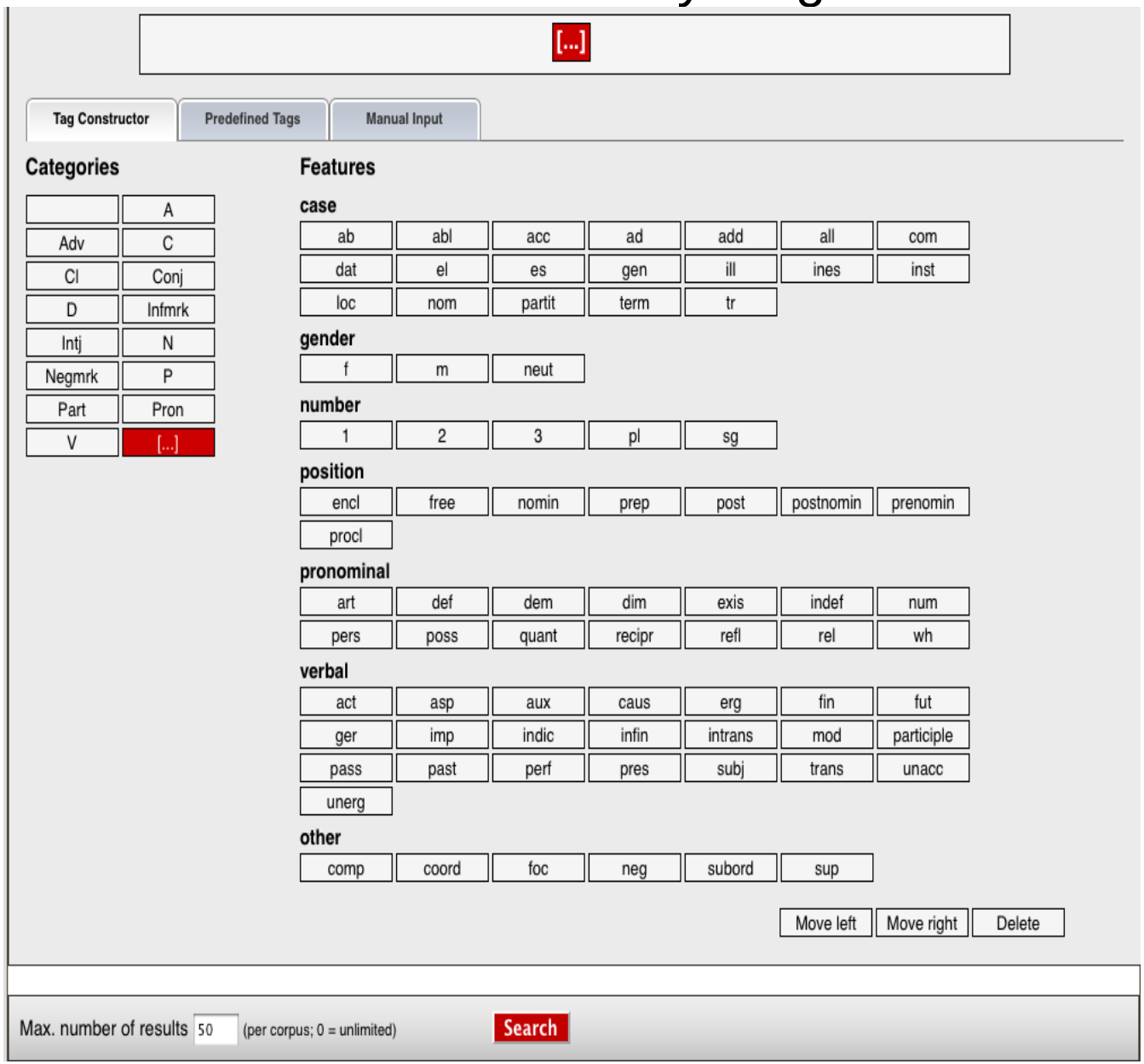
Edisyn tag set

Screenshot of Edisyn tag set:



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Edisyn - ISOcat

Edisyn tags have been linked to ISOcat Data Categories (DC's) so that the Edisyn search engine is able to fit into the CLARIN research infrastructure.

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Edisyn – ISOcat

Screenshot of conversion table Edisyn – ISOcat – other corpora:

Category:	Edisyn search engine	ISOcat	SAND (Dutch dialects)	Cordial-Sin (Portuguese dialects)	ASIt (Italian di	EMK (Estonian (	NDC (Nordic Dia
Infinitive marker	Infmrk	1896 infinitive particle	inf-mrk				inf-marker
Noun	N	1333 noun	N	N	N(proprio)	S / H	noun / prop
	N(sg)	3580 Noun(singular)	N(s)	N / NPR		S(sg) / H(sg)	noun(sg) / prop(s
	N(pl)	3581 Noun(plural)	N(pl)	N-P / NPR-P		S(pl) / H(pl)	noun(pl) / prop(p
	N(dim)	2225 diminutive noun	N(dim)				
Verb	V(infin)	1312 infinitive	V-infin	VB / SR / HV / ET / TR / VB-F / SR-F / HV-F / ET-F / TR-F	inf sempl/ 2 inf /	V(inf) / V(sup)	inf

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Advantages of ISOcat

- Creates uniformity within proliferation of tag sets: diverse tag sets can be easily connected to ISOcat and thereby to each other.
- ISOcat DC's can easily be linked to existing tags / tag sets.
- We do not need everyone to use the same tag set (which is practically nearly impossible) but transparency is very welcome and needed.
- Also, in creating a new tag set for project X one can look at ISOcat DCS's and be inspired.

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ISOcat - RELcat

- Disadvantage of ISOcat is impossibility to combine DC's. E.g. Edisyn tag 'V(fin,pres,1,sg)' has to be defined (created) in ISOcat.
- RELcat (in progress) does provide option to combine DC's, that is, DC's can be linked to each other.

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Thank you

- Edisyn:
  www.dialectsyntax.org
- Edisyn search engine:
  www.meertens.nl/edisyn/searchengine

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