Features of Annotation of Verb Complements in Different Stages and Varieties of Armenian (Research project idea)

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Aims of the Project

- To develop a combined annotation system and a tagset of linguistic universals for verb complements for different historical stages and varieties of Armenian, utilizing the NLP-applicable universality of terminologies and methodologies (typologically oriented grammatical theories and dependency grammar).
- To promote the improvement of digital sets of tags and relations developed for Armenian.

What do we have?

2 corpora for Eastern Armenian and 1 for Western Armenian in UD (also, a corpus of Classical Armenian developed lately by another team)

More than 40 verb complements in traditional grammar VS 10 relations in UD corpora for Armenian

Challenges

• Inconsistencies and gaps in traditional approaches concerning core-noncore distinction and voice determination, that need to be clarified in order to obtain high-quality corpus annotation for NLP purposes.

Issues and solutions

Accusative-like dependents for middle and passive verbs, determination of dependency relations of ditransitive causative verbs. The issue of causative voice.

Some solutions found due to reconsidering some aspects in tradition and the inventory of syntactic relations in UD while working on the corpus of Western Armenian developed later than the corpus of Eastern Armenian.

Perspectives

• To provide a suitable basis for bringing out inter-linguistic parallelism across varieties of Armenian compiling a general set of tags and relations for verb complements. This will be a step towards further bigger projects for creating diachronic and/or parallel corpora for Armenian.