

This paper outlines an approach to produce a prototype WordNet system for Malay semi-automatically, by using bilingual dictionary data and resources provided by the original English WordNet system. Senses from an English-Malay bilingual dictionary were first aligned to English WordNet senses, and a set of Malay synsets were then derived. Semantic relations between the English WordNet synsets were extracted and re-applied to the Malay synsets, using the aligned synsets as a guide. A small Malay WordNet prototype with 12429 noun synsets and 5805 verb synsets was thus produced. This prototype is a first step towards building a full-fledged Malay WordNet.