



UNIVERSITY OF
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Evaluating the Stanza NLP toolkit's performance on historical Polish

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Roadmap

- Research Context
 - Original project
 - Related work
- Data
 - Example
- Research Question
- Experiment
- Results
- Ethical Considerations
- Future Work
- Conclusions

Related Research

- MA thesis project at the University of Gothenburg
- History of Polish
- Quantitative and corpus research in historical linguistics
- Part-of-speech tagging of historical data
- Methods for dealing with language variation in NLP
- Detecting and modelling language variation and change



DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY,
LINGUISTICS AND THEORY OF SCIENCE

IŻ SWÓJ JĘZYK MAJĄ!

An exploration of the computational methods for identifying language variation in Polish

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Master's Thesis:	30 credits
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Ja go w towarzystwie jak dawniej. Mówią że mimo pańskiego życia i wydatków pańskich dla Matki i Siostry ma złożony kapitał 80.000 fl w banku Londyńskim.

Stanisławowi Zukrowi o którym wspomniałem że mi przedświadczył za dług 400 fl., a ja już pod naciskiem złych interesów rady sobie dać nie mogłem nawet z tak małą kwotą i z naigrasaniem egzekwował swój weksel mimo że wiedział, że byle mi trochę pofolgował dług mu u mnie nieprzepadnie w tym celu zasycowałem psim Dawida " kto się w opiekę odda Panu swemu " - Musiał być przed swoimi rybnymi sztydzieć ze mnie. Ale to było już wyszczytanie urności mojej w Boga ! Odjechał do Inowa - nassjutrz miał wrucić i wrucił, ale w trumnie. Apoplexyą tchnięty został w hotelu po jakiejś libacji. Niewiedząc o niczem przyjeżdżałem do Łódki, a tu widzę przed sobą tłum parotysięczny żydów na rynku. Gdy mi zobaczyli żydzi, jak na komendę podkrywali sobie głowy i poglądają na mnie ze strachem szubocnym, bo właśnie wjechała furą z trumną, we wieku była szyba nad twierdą nieboszczyka -Przy- pomniały się im słowa moje z Psalmów Dawida " A tyś sam swoim ciałem wyrzucił powstę nad grzesznymi ".

Koniec

Łódź, 26^o Czerwiec 1899.

Data

- 1899 memoir.
- Copied over from a manuscript.
- Visible variation in e.g. spelling, still intelligible for a native speaker.
- Manual UD-style annotation (with pre-annotation).
 - Total: 37 405 tokens.
 - UPOS-annotated: 10 286 tokens.
 - XPOS-annotated, lemmatized: 3271 tokens.

Data – example

Original:

*Odjechał do Lwowa – nazajutrz miał wrucić i wrucił, ale w trumnie.
Apoplexyą tknięty został w hotelu po jakiejś libacyi.*

Modernized spelling:

*Odjechał do Lwowa – nazajutrz miał wrócić i wrócił, ale w trumnie.
Apopleksją tknięty został w hotelu po jakiejś libacji.*

Heavily modernized language:

*Pojechał do Lwowa – miał wrócić dzień później, i wrócił, ale w trumnie.
Dostał udaru w hotelu po jakiejś imprezie.*

English:

He drove away to Lviv – and he was supposed to return the day after and that he did, but in a coffin.
He had suffered a stroke at a hotel after some party.

Research Question

How well does the Stanza NLP toolkit perform on a sample of 19th-century Polish and what errors does it tend to make?

Experiments

- XPOS- and UPOS-tagging, lemmatization
- Error annotation
- Tools and resources:
 - Stanza NLP toolkit
 - Jupyter Notebook
 - PDB-UD

Results: lemmatization

	Accuracy (original)	Accuracy (lowercase)
PDB-UD	90.89%	92.34%
Historical	83.58%	86.55%

	raw	relative
error		
unidentified	215	40.04%
stanza	94	17.50%
spelling	94	17.50%
name	61	11.36%
ambiguous	36	6.70%
vocabulary	20	3.72%
grammar	9	1.68%
abbreviation	8	1.49%

	raw	relative
error		
unidentified	212	48.18%
spelling	96	21.82%
name	60	13.64%
ambiguous	35	7.95%
vocabulary	20	4.55%
grammar	9	2.05%
abbreviation	8	1.82%

Results: UPOS-tagging

	Accuracy
PDB-UD	98.40%
Historical	93.31%

	raw	relative
error		
spelling	301	43.75%
ambiguous	244	35.47%
name	55	7.99%
unknown	52	7.56%
vocabulary	29	4.22%
abbreviation	6	0.87%
grammar	1	0.15%

Results: XPOS-tagging

	Accuracy
PDB-UD	94.29%
Historical	87.71%

	raw	relative
error		
ambiguous	196	48.76%
spelling	61	15.17%
name	55	13.68%
unknown	54	13.43%
vocabulary	20	4.98%
abbreviation	5	1.24%
annotation	4	1.00%
numeral	4	1.00%
grammar	3	0.75%

Results: trends in errors

- Spelling: *y* (*suchey* instead of *suchej*)
- Spelling: *nie* (*niemają* instead of *nie mają*)
- Spelling/pronunciation: *e* (*małem* instead of *małym*)
- Spelling/pronunciation: *rż* (*warżenia* instead of *warzenia*)
- Spelling: capitalization (*Dziedzica* instead of *dziedzica*)

Results: trends in errors

- Grammar: nonstandard inflection (*człowiecze* instead of *człowieku*)
- Grammar: vocative vs. nominative (*Asińdźka* instead of *Asińdźko*)
- Grammar: impersonal verb forms
- Vocabulary: proper names
- Vocabulary: other OOV items
- Ambiguity: numerals
- Ambiguity: verb-derived nouns and adjectives
- Miscellaneous errors.

Ethical considerations

- Old data.
- Not expecially computationally heavy.
- Explores utilizing tools for underrepresented dialects or languages.
- Gender annotation on pronouns – gender bias?
 - # `sent_id` = `train-s2896`
 - # `text` = - `Ty nie wiesz?` (ENG: Do you not know?)
 - # `orig_file_sentence` = `200-2-000093_morph_5.47-s#7092`
 - ...
 - 2 `Ty` `ty` `PRON` `ppron12:sg:nom:m1:sec` ...
 - ...

Future work

- Comparison to more data
 - More data from the same time and region
 - Older data
 - Contemporary non-standard data
- Research on pre-processing methods

Conclusions: back to Research Question

- How well does the Stanza NLP toolkit perform on a sample of 19th-century Polish and what errors does it tend to make?
 - Significantly worse performance
 - Errors related to dialectical and diachronic variation
 - Miscellaneous errors
- Stanza is not fully reliable as an annotation tool for nonstandard data, but can be used for preannotation

Thesis and conference repository

- Thesis and code available at: <https://github.com/Turtilla/swe-ma-thesis>
- Presentation and code available at: <https://github.com/Turtilla/WSMF-presentation>



Thank you for your attention!

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