

# Enrichment of Legacy Language Data: Linking Lexical Concepts in Data Collection Questionnaires on the example of exploreAT!

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## Presentation outline

- Background
- exploreAT! – Motivation and aims
- Description of questionnaires
- Technical approach
- Workflow
- Challenges
- Conclusion

## Background

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 1911      | Establishment of the „Commission for the creation of a Bavarian-Austrian dictionary in Austria“ (WBÖ) at the Austrian Academy of Sciences |
| 1913–1935 | Compilation & mailing of 120 questionnaires to the collectors to build up a lexical collection  |
| 1993–2011 | Digitisation of the collection within the framework of the database project DBÖ   |
| 2007–2010 | Project „Database of the Bavarian Dialects in Austria electronically mapped“ (dbo@ema)  |
| 2015–2020 | Project exploreAT!  |

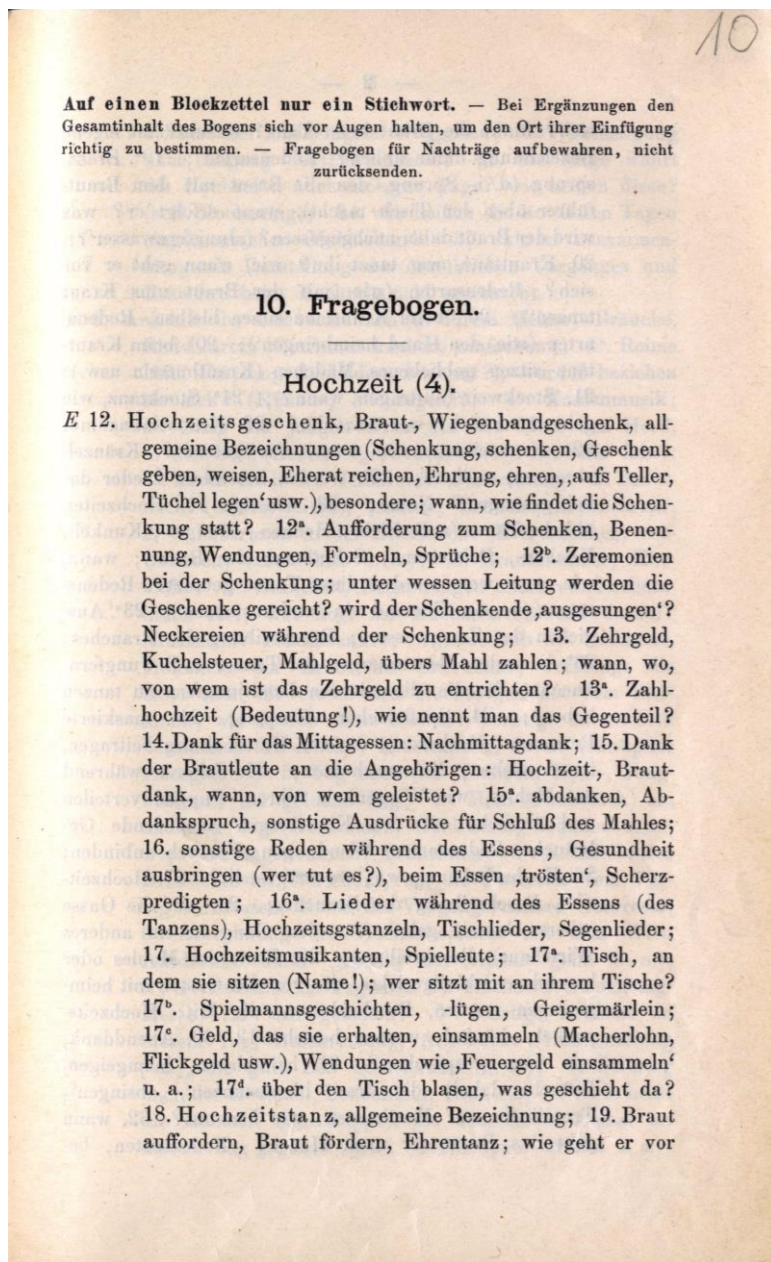
## exploreAT!: Motivation and aims

- Exploit this non-standard German language resource from the perspective of semantic technologies, visual analysis tools, citizen science and **cultural lexicography**
- Reveal cultural knowledge contained in the DBÖ and make this information accessible
- Opening up the questionnaires by adding of lexical concepts and their linking to other resources
- Enable and foster to understand rural life in the early 20th century

## Questionnaires (1)

- 109 „Systematic questionnaires“
- Dedicated to a **special theme** (focusing on rural life) – but a topic can also span several questionnaires, if necessary
- Most of the questionnaires are **divided in sections** with an emphasis on a specific issue
- Sections contain **numbered questions** that sometimes are partitioned in sub-questions
- Structure of the questionnaires **changed** over time

## Questionnaires (2)



- Questions are rather elaborated
- Question items often contains several questions
- A question item often has different kinds of questions
- Further subdivision of the section with guiding themes

Fig. 1. Systematic questionnaire Nr. 10 (Wedding 4); edited in 1913.

## Questionnaires (3)

D. 1. Rausch, Mz., Vfl.; Kaa. wie: Wie im Rausch; der schläft seinen Rausch aus. 2. Zuff. wie Wolds-, Felsrausch. 3. Sinnverwandte Ausdrücke für „Rausch“ mit Angabe ihrer besonderen Bedeutungsfärbung wie: Affe, Schwips, Dampf, Dampus, Fahn, Strich, Hieb, Sturm, Tüsel, Tschaggele, Stibus, Spitz, Brand, Schuß, Haarbeutel, Säbel, Schwindel, Much, Better, Stobar, Kamerad, Taumel, Sportele, Habemus, Mugel, Fezen usw. 4. Der ist berauscht, betrunken und andere Ausdrücke wie: besoffen, beschwipst, rauschig, angefäuselt, stern-, hagel-, blitz-, horn-, stohenvoll, zugedeckt, zugeluckt, angeschossen, benebelt, angebrannt, angezunden, schwer geladen, nicht richtig u. dgl. 5. Ein Berauschter (Rauschiger). 6. Sonstige Kaa. zur Bezeichnung der Berauschtigkeit wie: Der hat zu viel aufgelegt; hat zu tief ins Glas geschaut, geguckt; hat über die Schnur gehaut; hat seinen Teil; dem ist der Wein zu Kopfe gestiegen u. ä.

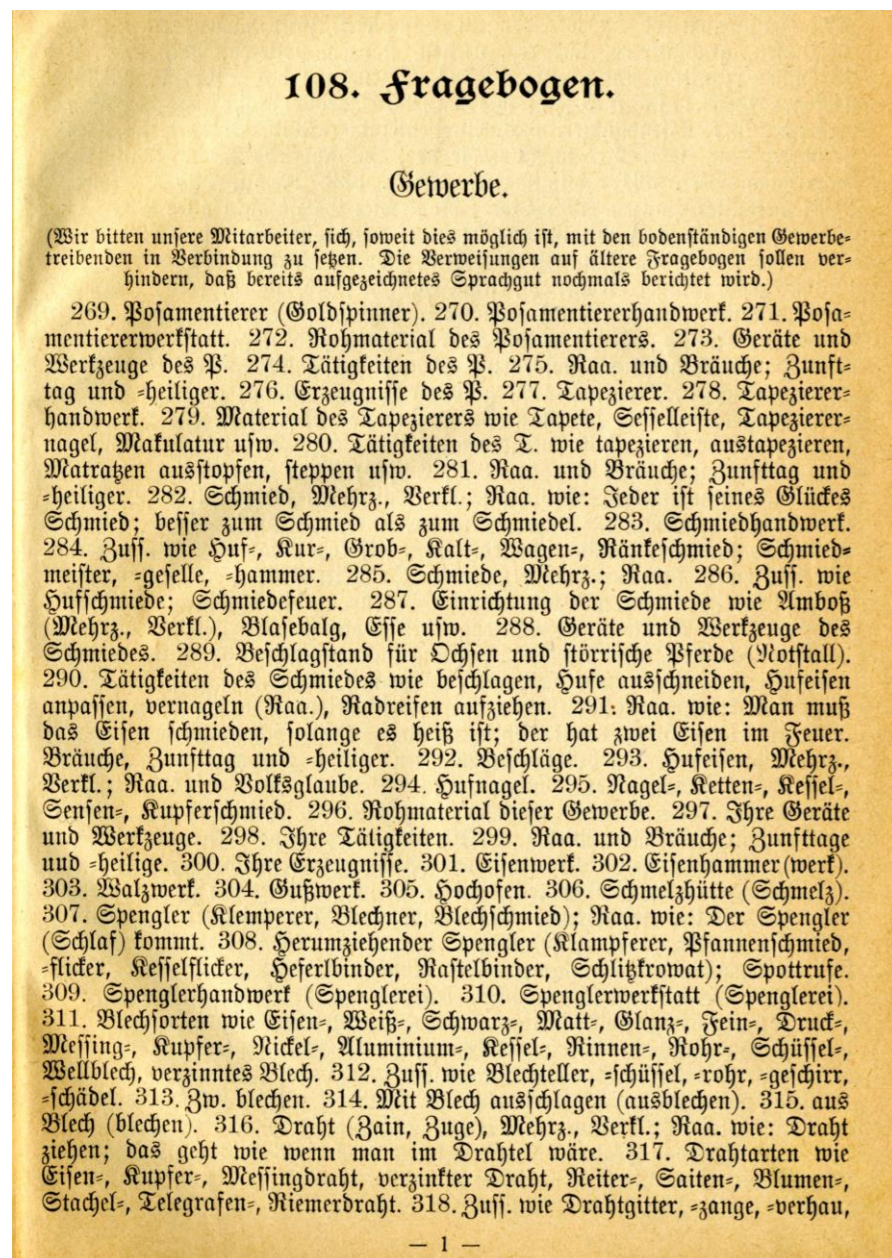
E. Die Mahlzeiten: 1. Mahlzeit, Mahl; Mz., Vfl.; zwischen den Mahlzeiten (unter, hinter Mahlen). 2. Zuff. wie Henkers-, Fraß-, Gras-, Fest-, Gastmahl (Gastung). 3. Frühstück (Suppe, Früh-, Vormeh, Imbiß). 4. Zw. frühstücken (Suppe, Mahl essen). 5. Zweites Frühstück, Gabelfrühstück (das Untern, Untermahl, Untermischel, Halbmittag=Tagwerklein, die Zause, Zwischen, Vormarende). 6. Das Gabelfrühstück einnehmen (unter, z' unter, gen Untern essen, Zwischenessen, jausnen). 7. Mittagmahl, =essen. 8. Zu Mittag essen. 9. Vespermahlzeit (Untern, Zause, Marende); Kaa. wie: Marendlein umherwandeln (= an verschiedenen Stellen vespern). 10. Die Nachmittagsmahlzeit einnehmen (unter, vespern, jausnen, marenden). 11. Zuff. wie aufmarenden (= alles aufessen, einen zugrunde richten). 12. Das Nachtmahl (Abendmahl) einnehmen (nachtmahlen).

F. Das Gasthaus: 1. Gast-, Wirtshaus (Restauration, die Wirte); Kaa. wie: Ins Wirtshaus gehen. 2. Kleines, minderes Gasthaus (Beisel, Tschoch, Tschacherl). 3. Schenke (Tasferne). 4. Buschenschenke. 5. Ausschank für heurigen Wein. 6. Es ist ausgesteckt, der hat ausgesteckt. 7. Gibt es besondere Wirtshauszeichen (etwa Kronen aus Holz, Weinlaub und Hopfen darstellend)? 8. Stehbier-, Stehweinhalle; Bier-, Weinstube. 9. Gasthof, Hotel. 10. Kleinere Herberge. 11. Kaffeehaus (Café). 12. Kaffeefieder. 13. Billard; Billard spielen. 14. Schank (Geschlecht). 15. Zuff. wie Ausschank, Bier-, Weinschank, Schnaps-

- Questions are more like key terms
- Abbreviations are common
- Suggestions, leading questions

Fig. 2. Detail from Systematic questionnaire Nr. 97 (Eat and Drink); edited in 1928.

## Questionnaires (4)



- No numbering of title
- Only few words or short phrases per question item
- No subdivisions
- Consecutive numbers

Fig. 3. Systematic questionnaire Nr. 108 (Trade); edited ca. 1932.



## Technical approach

- **DBpedia:** Crowd-sourced community effort
- Extracts structured content from the information created in various Wikimedia projects for the Semantic Web
- This information resembles an open knowledge graph, in a machine-readable form
- Standards: Resource Description Framework (RDF) and SPARQL as query language
- **DBpedia Spotlight:** Tool for automatically annotating mentions of DBpedia resources in text, useful for Named Entity Recognition
- it links unstructured information sources to the Linked Open Data cloud through DBpedia

# Workflow (1)

Baking Bread	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Baking">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Baking</a>	0,999999988
Baking Bread	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Bread">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Bread</a>	0,9999982133
Consanguinity and Ages	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Consanguinity">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Consanguinity</a>	0,9999998715
Consanguinity and Ages	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Ages_of_Man">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Ages_of_Man</a>	0,4632036979
Movement	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/International_Red_Cross_and_Red_Crescent_Movement">http://dbpedia.org/resource/International_Red_Cross_and_Red_Crescent_Movement</a>	0,4962919378
Religion and Church	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Religion">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Religion</a>	0,9909724509
Religion and Church	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Catholic_Church">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Catholic_Church</a>	0,8741306615
Movement	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/International_Red_Cross_and_Red_Crescent_Movement">http://dbpedia.org/resource/International_Red_Cross_and_Red_Crescent_Movement</a>	0,4962919378
Tailoring	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Bespoke_tailoring">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Bespoke_tailoring</a>	0,9999938676
Cutlery, scales, weights and measures	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Cutlery">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Cutlery</a>	0,9999999246
Cutlery, scales, weights and measures	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Weighing_scale">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Weighing_scale</a>	0,9558299177
Cutlery, scales, weights and measures	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Units_of_measurement">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Units_of_measurement</a>	0,6317335139
Cutlery, scales, weights and measures	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Measure_(mathematics)">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Measure_(mathematics)</a>	0,7479263735
Traffic	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Traffic">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Traffic</a>	0,9813941006
Mythological matters	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Mythology">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Mythology</a>	0,999999343
Nose, Ear	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Human_nose">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Human_nose</a>	0,5038536109
Nose, Ear	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Ear">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Ear</a>	0,9999950228
Animals	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Animal">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Animal</a>	0,918021904
Body parts	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Human_body">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Human_body</a>	0,8271304661
Body parts	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/List_of_auto_parts">http://dbpedia.org/resource/List_of_auto_parts</a>	0,6127437825
Apiculture	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Beekeeping">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Beekeeping</a>	0,9999998947
Clothing	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Clothing">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Clothing</a>	0,9992486079
Arm , Hand	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/ARM_architecture">http://dbpedia.org/resource/ARM_architecture</a>	0,4900467368

## Workflow (2)

Consanguinity and Ages	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Ages_of_Man">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Ages_of_Man</a>	0.4632036979		
Movement	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/International_Red_Cross_a">http://dbpedia.org/resource/International_Red_Cross_a</a>	0.4962919378		
Religion and Church	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Religion">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Religion</a>	0.9909724509		
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Tailoring	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Bespoke_tailoring">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Bespoke_tailoring</a>	0.9999938676		
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Cutlery, scales, weights and measures	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Measure_(mathematics)">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Measure_(mathematics)</a>	0.7479263735		
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Arm , Hand	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/ARM_architecture">http://dbpedia.org/resource/ARM_architecture</a>	0.4900467368		
Arm , Hand	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Hand">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Hand</a>	0.9848029733		
Human Hair and Beard	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Human">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Human</a>	0.9991456628		
Human Hair and Beard	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Hair">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Hair</a>	0.9998387464		
Human Hair and Beard	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Beard">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Beard</a>	0.9995603698		

## Workflow (3)

Colour	Farben	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Color">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Color</a>	Color	Farbe
Companionship, friendship and love	Geselligkeit, Freundschaft und Liebe	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Social_relation">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Social_relation</a>	Social relation	Soziale Beziehung
Companionship, friendship and love	Geselligkeit, Freundschaft und Liebe	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Friendship">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Friendship</a>	Friendship	Freundschaft
Companionship, friendship and love	Geselligkeit, Freundschaft und Liebe	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Love">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Love</a>	Love	Liebe
Consanguinity and Ages	Blutsverwandtschaft, Altersstufen	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Consanguinity">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Consanguinity</a>	Consanguinity	Blutsverwandtschaft
Consanguinity and Ages	Blutsverwandtschaft, Altersstufen	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Category:Human_life_stages">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Category:Human_life_stages</a>	---	---
Consanguinity and Ages	Blutsverwandtschaft, Altersstufen	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Childhood">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Childhood</a>	Childhood	Kindheit
Consanguinity and Ages	Blutsverwandtschaft, Altersstufen	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Youth">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Youth</a>	Youth	Jugend
Consanguinity and Ages	Blutsverwandtschaft, Altersstufen	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Adult">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Adult</a>	Adult	Erwachsener
Consanguinity and Ages	Blutsverwandtschaft, Altersstufen	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Old_age">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Old_age</a>	Old age	Alter
Coopery	Maurerhandwerk. Binderei	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Cooper_(profession)">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Cooper_(profession)</a>	Cooper (profession)	Küfer
Cutlery, scales, weights and measures	Eßzeug, Waage, Gewichte und Maße	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Tableware">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Tableware</a>	Tableware	Essgeschirr
Cutlery, scales, weights and measures	Eßzeug, Waage, Gewichte und Maße	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Weighing_scale">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Weighing_scale</a>	Weighing scale	Waage
Cutlery, scales, weights and measures	Eßzeug, Waage, Gewichte und Maße	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Units_of_measurement">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Units_of_measurement</a>	Units of measurement	Maßeinheit
Death	Tod	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Death">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Death</a>	Death	Tod
Dog and Cat	Hund und Katze	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Dog">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Dog</a>	Dog	Haushund
Dog and Cat	Hund und Katze	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Cat">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Cat</a>	Cat	Hauskatze
Eye	Auge (Kopf 5)	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Eye">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Eye</a>	Eye	Auge
Earth's surface	1. Erdoberfläche. 2. Straße und Weg	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Terrain">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Terrain</a>	Terrain	Relief (Geologie)
Easter week	Die Osterwoche (1)	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Holy_Week">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Holy_Week</a>	Holy Week	Karwoche
Easter week	Die Osterwoche (2)	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Holy_Week">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Holy_Week</a>	Holy Week	Karwoche
Easter week	Die Osterwoche (2)	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Easter">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Easter</a>	Easter	Ostern
Eat and Drink	Essen und Trinken	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Eating">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Eating</a>	Eating	---
Eat and Drink	Essen und Trinken	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/Drinking">http://dbpedia.org/resource/Drinking</a>	Drinking	Trinken

## Challenges

- Lack of concepts („Human life stages“)
- Concepts only in English („Human nose“)
- Different focus or aspect of a concept („Baking“; „Water“)
- Different definitions of English/German concepts („Schuster“ vs. „Cordwainer“/„Cobbler“; „Cutaneous conditions“)
- Title is a more of a description of a concept („Period between Midsummer and New Year“)

## Conclusion

- Finer divisions can help solving some challenges
- Knowledge of the detailed content of the questionnaires is crucial
- Comparison and verification of the assigned concept can be necessary



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Thank you for your attention!

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Team **exploration space @ ACDH-OeAW**

Twitter: **#explorations4u**

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