



UNIVERSITETET I OSLO
DET HUMANISTISKE FAKULTET

Russian in Contrast: A view from parallel corpora

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Where Russian meets Norwegian –
languages at the interfaces

<http://www.hf.uio.no/ilos/forskning/forskningsprosjekter/run/index.html>

Встреча русского с норвежским –
языки в пересечении

<http://www.hf.uio.no/ilos/forskning/forskningsprosjekter/run/russian/index.html>



The RuN project (2008-2010)

- Funding from the *Norwegian Centre for International Cooperation in Higher Education (SIU)*.
- Contrastive linguistics
- Translation studies
- Development of new tools in L2-teaching
- The RuN corpus



Plan

- Parallel corpora and the RuN corpus
- Some simple examples from
Russian in Contrast
- Other applications



Parallel corpora

- Quantitative and representative data
- Methodological advantages in grammar, lexicography and translation studies.



Russian Parallel Corpora

- Russian-Slovak Parallel Corpus
- Russian-Finnish Parallel Corpus (dissertation of Mikhail Mikhajlov)
- The Russian National Corpus (English-Russian; German-Russian)



Parallel corpora in Oslo

- OMC – Oslo Multilingual Corpora

(Norwegian, English, German, French ...)

- RuN

(Norwegian, Russian, English ...)

- Common interface: "Glossa", developed by the Text Laboratory (ILN, UiO).



The RuN corpus

List of texts:

<http://www.hf.uio.no/ilos/forskning/forskningsprosjekter/run/corpus/>

Size as of September 2009:

- 1,2 million words in Norwegian
- 1,2 million words in Russian
- 500 000 words in English



Counterfactuals – with data from RuN-OMC

Grønn & von Stechow (in progress):

Hadde ikke Anders vært i Lofoten, så **hadde** han nok sagt et ord og gitt ham gode råd.

Had Anders not been in the Lofoten Islands, he **would** surely have given his brother good advice.

Wäre Anders nicht auf den Lofoten gewesen, dann **hätte** er wohl ein Wort gesagt und ihm einen guten Rat gegeben.

Si Anders n'**avait** pas été aux Lofoten, il y **aurait** probablement mis son mot et donné quelques bons conseils.

Если бы Андерс не был сейчас на Лофотенах, он **мог бы** дать Нильсу дельный совет.



Student work related to the RuN-corpus

- perfective prefixes (Aktionsarten)
- relative tense
- indefinite pronouns
- discourse particles
- lexical semantics
- translation strategies etc.



Some applications at *Russian in Contrast*

Filiouchkina Krave: converbs (gerunds) in
Russian/English/Norwegian

Klonova: impersonal sentences in Russian and Norwegian

Janygina: implicit information in literary texts

Other approaches based on electronic corpora: **Kuznecova**,
Ljashevskaja, **Paducheva**, **Sokolova** (comparing data from
monolingual corpora for different languages)



Idioms

Inspired by **Berthemet, Kozerenko**

han kanskje gjorde sin beste venn en **bjørnetjeneste** ved å gi ham Dina

he might be doing his best friend an **unintentional disservice** by giving Dina to him

il rendait peut-être un **mauvais service** à son meilleur ami en lui donnant Dina

er seinem besten Freund vielleicht einen **Bärenienst** erwies, er ihm Dina gab

выдавая Дину за своего лучшего друга, он оказывает тому **медвежью услугу**.



Lexical and cultural concepts

Inspired by Ivanishcheva	
LU1R.s1415	аспирант
LU1TE.s1502	postgraduate
LU1TN.s1528	doktorgradsstudent



Puzzling translations

Inspired by Parrott	
LU1R.s3404	— Ой, Маш , ты, что ли?
LU1TN.s3611	Oj, Masja , er det deg, da?
LU1TE.s3586	Oy, Mash , is that you?



Representativity in lexicography

Inspired by **Smirnova**

однако =

however, but,
though (*Oxford
Russian-English
dictionary*)

однако – **however**: 25%

однако – **but**: 31%

однако – **though**: 16%



Raw data: word classes

Inspired by **Zorikhina Nilsson**

ovenpå = 39 hits

поверх = 34 hits

ovenpå – поверх = 0 hits



”ovenpå” *cont.*

ovenpå – *.*верх.** = 37 hits

[LNT2R.s97](#)

Наверху приготовить?

[LNT2TN.s92](#)

Skal jeg gjøre i stand *ovenpå*?

[LNT2TE.s88](#)

Is the room to be got ready *upstairs*?

ovenpå in Norw. is not a preposition, but an adverb.



Raw data: conjunctions, Russian "a"

Inspired by **Jasinskaja, Post**

a – and (Eng.) 938 hits	a – og (Norw.) 2975 hits
a – but (Eng.) 531 hits	a – men (Norw.) 1615 hits



Searching for zero elements

Inspired by Mažara	
LU1R.s1582	— Ну, как тебе мой грим, Валер?
LU1TE.s1677	Well, what do you think of my makeup, Valerii?
LU1TN.s1700	Nå, hva synes du om sminken min, da, Valerij?



Subordinate tense: relative clauses

Preview of **von Stechow & Grønn**

Charles Dickens.
Oliver Twist

(Russian
National Corpus)

It **was** the very place for a homeless boy,
who **must die** in the streets unless some
one **helped** him.

Это **было** самое подходящее место
для бездомного мальчика, которому
придется умереть на улице, если никто
ему не **поможет**.



Спасибо за внимание!
Enjoy the conference!