

EUROPEAN LANGUAGE DATA SPACE



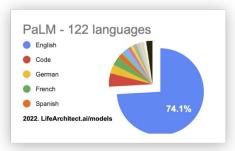
Country Workshop Poland

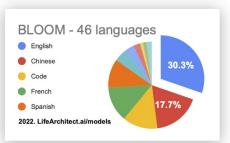
Prof. Dr. Georg Rehm, Katrin Marheinecke (DFKI GmbH, Germany) – LDS Coordination (georg.rehm@dfki.de, katrin.marheinecke@dfki.de)

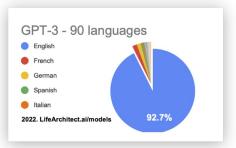
29-05-2025 LDS Country Workshop Poland https://language-data-space.ec.europa.eu

Context: Large Language Models (LLMs)

- Unprecedented capabilities: Large language models are the most disruptive breakthrough in AI in recent history (GPT-3, ChatGPT, GPT-4, Claude, Gemini etc.)
- LLMs are trained on vast amounts of data and optionally also image, video, audio etc. data, i.e., multimodal data
- Multilingualism makes everything much harder (data imbalance):
 Europe's languages are vastly under-resourced, except English
- Unprecedented opportunities:
 - The global LT/NLP market is expected to reach 439.85B\$ by 2030
 - The global Gen AI market is expected to reach 1.3T\$ by 2032
- A concerted effort for the collection of data for all European languages is very much needed to be able to develop LLMs according to our needs and cultures ...
- ... and to make a difference with European data and European stakeholders.
- Already now billions and billions are made but ...









Futurism

TAP RUNNETH DRY 11.13.23, 4:05 PM EST by MAGGIE HARRISON DUPRÉ

AI Companies Are Running Out of Training Data

The well is running dry.

/ Artificial Intelligence / Ai / Ai Industry / Ai Training





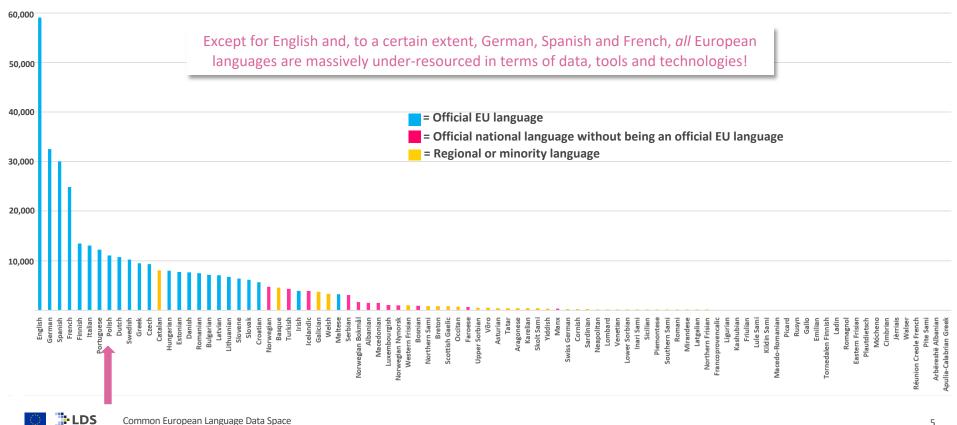
European Initiatives

- European initiatives for the development of LLMs
 - Large research projects in almost every country, e.g., Spain, Poland, Italy, Germany etc.
 - Companies in many countries, e.g., Finland (Silo.ai), France (Mistral), Germany (Aleph Alpha)
 - EU-funded projects, e.g., HPLT, TrustLLM, OpenEuroLLM, LLMs4EU
 - New pan-European initiative: ALT-EDIC
 - New EU initiative: AI Factories (tightly coupled with national HPC centres and EuroHPC JU)
- Challenges:
 - HPC facilities (amount, access and ease-of-use)
 - Speed of the big tech players in the US and Asia vs. speed of Europe
 - Availability of data for all European languages right now the most crucial bottleneck by far



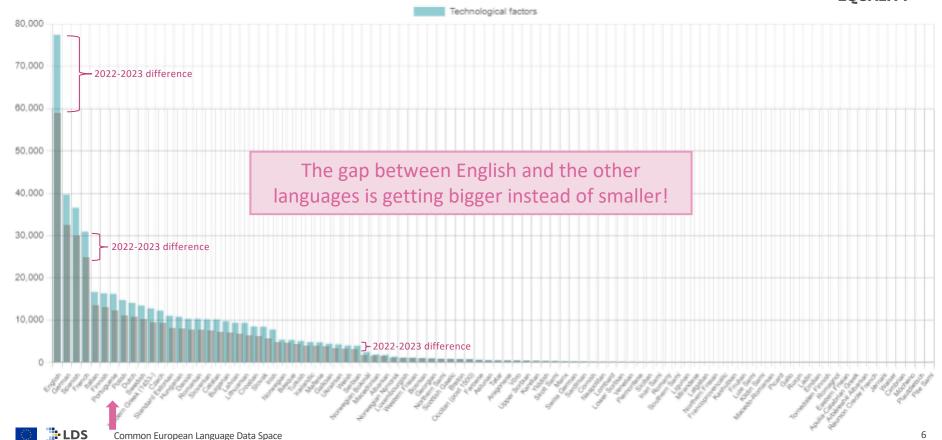
Digital Language Equality Metric: Technological Scores





DLE Metric: 2022 vs. 2023





EU Data Strategy & Data Spaces

- Data Spaces are an inherent part of the EU Data Strategy
- Data Spaces will help establish and grow the data economy in Europe
 - Organisations can sell and monetise their data, i.e., they can benefit from its value
- Convergence of the data economy initiatives in Europe (Gaia-X, IDSA, FIWARE, BDVA).
- Important initiatives in Europe:
 - DSSC blueprint and specification development, community coordination and events
 - Simpl development of Open Source data space components
 - Approx. 20 data space initiatives with the EU's official mandate
 - The Common European Language Data Space is one of the official EU data space projects with a strong focus on industry
- European investment (both national and EU) already more than 2 billion Euros



Common European Language Data Space





EUROPEAN LANGUAGE DATA SPACE

- Type of action: procurement (CNECT/LUX/2022/OP/0026)
- Budget: 6M€ (+ 2M€ if renewed) runtime: 36 months (+ 12 months if renewed)
- Objective: Develop and deploy a trustworthy and secure European infrastructure and marketplace for the collection, creation, sharing and re-use of multilingual and multimodal language data
- LDS is a marketplace for all organisations commercial and public.
- LDS provides helpdesks for legal and for technical questions.
- Salient features: governance framework, technical infrastructure, openness, promotion
- Stakeholders: industry, research, public administration, cultural associations, NGOs and citizens
- The four core partners have been involved in many projects.
- Technical development informed by ELG, ELRC-SHARE, META-SHARE.











LDS Launch Conference – 19 March 2025 – Villers-Cotterêts, France

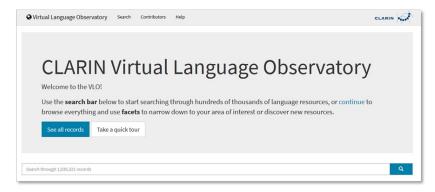






META=SHARE LEARN + DISCOVER + PARTICIPATE + CONNECT + 1 LOGIN Search & exchange language resources Share your own resources! META-SHARE is an open and secure network of repositories for sharing and exchanging language data, tools and related web services earch the META-SHARE inventory number of text corpora downloads

Long History of Language Data Sharing





Language Data – Language Resources – Data Products – Data Offers

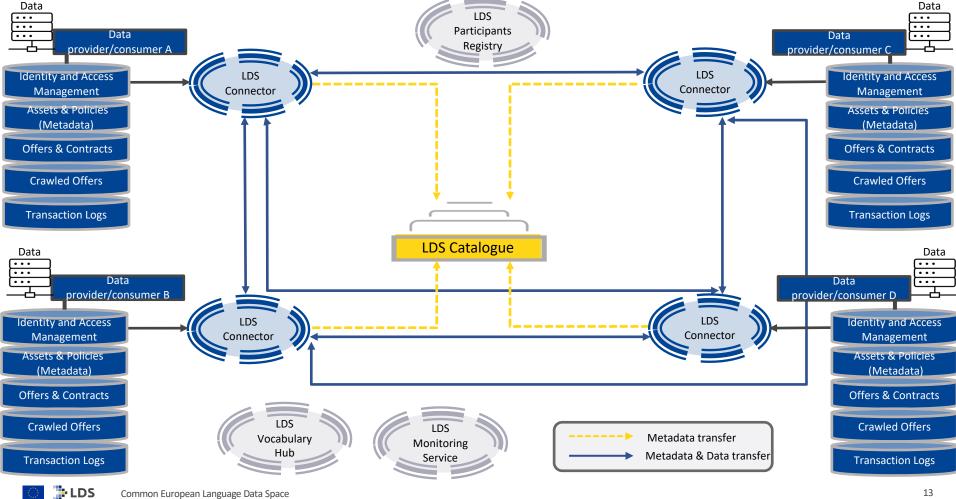
- The NLP and Computational Linguistics community has been sharing language data since the 1990s
- Back then: annotated corpora, treebanks, grammars, lexicons, smaller language models
- The term "language resource" (LR) was established (data, documentation, evaluation, metrics etc.)
- language resource ≈ data product
- Of utmost importance now: identify and make available, through the LDS, large amounts of language data to enable industry and research to pre-train large language models for Europe
- Typical availability of LRs since the late 90s and early 2000s:
 - For research purposes: free of charge
 - For commercial use: often for a certain fee
 - Many unique LRs developed by European research organisations were licensed by European but also large US tech companies, e.g., for online NLP services (Machine Translation)



Classes of Data

Class of Data	Typical Size	Providers	Integration into LDS	Relevance, especially for LLM Development
Regular Corpora and Language Resources	Small (MB, GB)	Primarily NLP/LT research: ELG, META-SHARE, CLARIN, ELRA, ELDA etc.	Can be easily integrated by connecting the repositories to LDS	Usually very high quality data and thus relevant for LLMs but not as base data
Web Crawls	Very big (TB, PB)	Common Crawl (and OSCAR- processed CC dumps), Internet Archive dumps etc.	Challenge due to their size (hard to transfer, hard to preprocess, hard to store; must be close to the HPC)	Indispensable due to their size and coverage – but: high level of noise, massive need for pre-processing
New, fresh data from industry and other organisations	Arbitrary size, ideally as large as possible	Publishing houses, media companies, libraries, call centres, broadcasters etc.; also: Media Data Space	Can be easily integrated by connecting these organisations to LDS	High quality data; domain-specific data; data covering specific languages; raw data; processed data; evaluation data; data relevant for LLM development etc.





LDS Infrastructure – Basic Functionalities

- **Discover** data offers (= data products) through the joint Language Data Space (LDS) catalogue
- Apply, i.e., become a participant in the LDS marketplace
- Install the connector to view or offer data products and metadata
- Negotiate access to a data product
- **Transfer** data product from provider to consumer
- Provide data products



Typical Workflow – Purchase Process: Providers

- Data provider prepares a new data asset and adds a license (obligatory) and policy (optional)
- Data provider asks LDS helpdesk for advice regarding certain technical or legal questions
- Data provider publishes an offer through their LDS Connector
- This offer is now visible throughout the whole LDS marketplace, i.e., in all LDS Connector instances
 - Find the process summarised in this <u>YouTube video</u>



Typical Workflow – Purchase Process: Providers





Typical Workflow – Purchase Process: Consumers

- Data consumers can now discover this new offer through their own LDS Connector
- **Specific data consumer** evaluates the new offer ...
- ... and decides to purchase the data offer from the data provider through the LDS Connector
- The corresponding data set is transferred from the provider's connector to the buyer's connector
 - Find the process summarised in this <u>YouTube video</u>

You will find more practical guidance on http://www.youtube.com/@LangDataSpace and in the LDS User Guide at https://docs.language-data-space.eu



Typical Workflow – Purchase Process: Consumers





Language Data Space Marketplace – Value Proposition

Data Providers

- Sell data products (= data sets, data offers)
 - Find new customers
 - Extend or enrich datasets using AI/NLP services offered in the wider LDS ecosystem
- Legal compliance by design
 - Stay in control over use and access of data
 - Compliance with EU regulation and standards
- Limited effort
 - Keep existing infrastructure and workflows
 - Interoperability with other data spaces
 - Legal and technical helpdesks available
- Contribute to European LLMs: *from* and *for* Europe

Data Consumers

- Buy or access data products to develop better Albased services (including LLMs)
 - Multilingual data
 - Multimodal data
 - Domain-specific data
 - All European languages
 - Easy discoverability and access
- Limited effort: keep existing infrastructure
- Legal compliance by design
 - Compliance with EU regulation and standards
 - Transparency: emphasis on data provenance
- Find new customers for services and products



Technical Helpdesk – Legal Helpdesk – Business Development Helpdesk



- Legal helpdesk: provides legal advice and assistance to all stakeholders involved in the LDS. It provides guidance for legal questions related to the collection and sharing of language data, licensing schemes, IPR clearance, data protection requirements as well as confidentiality aspects. These may include:
 - questions related to any kind of utilisation of language data in the LDS;
 - legal queries, e.g., how to exploit the LDS by clearing specific legal aspects, etc.



- **Technical helpdesk:** provides technical advice and assistance to all stakeholders involved in the LDS, providing first-line support to technical questions. These may include:
 - general troubleshooting and assistance on the usage of the LDS;
 - technical support, e.g., validation of technical compliance of data assets
- Business Development helpdesk (under development): helps monetise language data



Data Quality

- FAQ: "What about data quality? Do you measure or enforce a certain quality level?"
 - No, we don't.
 - Reason: the quality of language data cannot be measured in a generic way.
- Nota bene: this is different in other domains, e.g., sensor data, where there are various quality-related aspects, e.g., resolution, continuity etc.
- For one person and use case, a specific data set can be very high quality and extremely useful and for another person, the same data set can be useless.
- LDS relies on meaningful metadata records that provide sufficient detail about a certain dataset.
- Goal: the quality or substance of a dataset should be conveyed through its metadata record.



Next Steps

- LDS is in full swing: technical development, promotion, dissemination, governance etc.
- Testing: LDS software, metadata model, license and policy templates
- Adoption of LDS by industry and other organisations → grow the LDS User Group
- Collaborations with
 - Data Spaces Support Centre (DSSC), Simpl and ALT-EDIC
 - European projects, e.g., HPLT, Hivemind, OpenWebSearch
 - Other relevant data spaces, especially Media, Tourism and Cultural Heritage (Europeana)
 - EuroHPC Joint Undertaking (PPP)
- Identify and make available new, fresh, interesting, novel, relevant language data, especially from industry and covering all European languages and modalities



LDS User Group

https://language-data-space.ec.europa.eu

Meetings and Conferences

- Inaugural meeting in March 2024
- Second meeting in June 2024
- Third meeting in November 2024
- Next meeting planned for fall 2025 (next release)
- The LDS User Group is constantly growing
- Testing the LDS connector (currently 15 instances)





LDS User Group (as of 27 May 2025)				
Individual	Unique			
Members	Organisations			
244	190			

Please join the LDS User Group or encourage members of your networks to join!

 Validation of concepts, ideas, software; first test installations of the LDS connector (currently ongoing!); first trial exchanges of data; surveys etc.





Common European Language Data Space

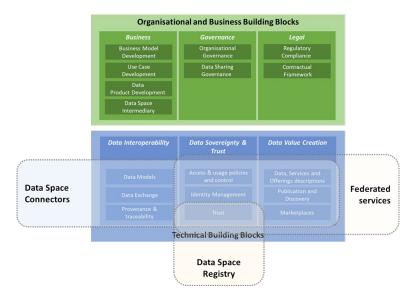
Thank you!





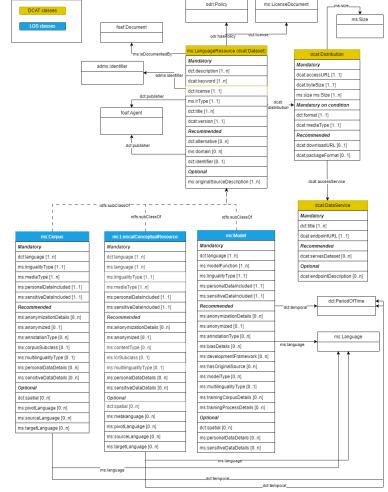
A Common European Language Data Space – funded under contract LC-01936389 with the European Union. Prof. Dr. Georg Rehm, Katrin Marheinecke (DFKI GmbH, Germany) – LDS Coordination coordination@language-data-space.eu

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Built on Existing Solutions

- Following the DSSC blueprint (see above)
- Eclipse Data Space Components (EDC)
- DCAT-AP, Language DCAT-AP (see right), ODRL
- Mappers from existing platforms



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LDS