[MCSQ] The Multilingual Corpus of Survey Questionnaires

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Digital Approaches to Multilingual Text Analysis

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[MCSQ]: The Multilingual Corpus of Survey Questionnaires

- **The MCSQ is the first publicly available corpus of survey questionnaires**

  - Version 3 (Rosalind Franklin): 306 distinct questionnaires from the European Social Survey (ESS), the European Values Study (EVS), Survey of Health Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE), and the WageIndicator Survey (WIS)
    - More than 4 million words
    - ≅ 766.000 sentences
  - Questionnaires comprise more than 40 years of survey research from large-scale comparative survey projects that provide cross-national and cross-cultural data to the Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH)
  - **Open access, searchable, sentence aligned, and annotated (Pos-tagging e NER)**

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Languages included in the MCSQ

Source language: **English localized for Great Britain**

- **8 target languages adding to 30 language varieties**:
  - Catalan
  - Czech
  - French localized for France, Switzerland, Belgium and Luxembourg
  - German localized for Austrian, German, Swiss and Luxembourg
  - Norwegian localized for Bokmål
  - Portuguese localized for Portugal and Luxembourg
  - Spanish localized for Spain
  - Russian localized for Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldavia, Russia and Ukraine

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A corpus of highly specialized text

- Questionnaires in the MCSQ follow the Ask the same question (ASQ method)
  - Any translation is expected to produce texts that are *functionally equivalent* for the purpose of statistical analysis.
- Concepts to be measured must be kept the same across languages in order to capture the same psychological variables (e.g. opinions and attitudes)
- Low quality translations hamper data comparability and increase errors of measurement

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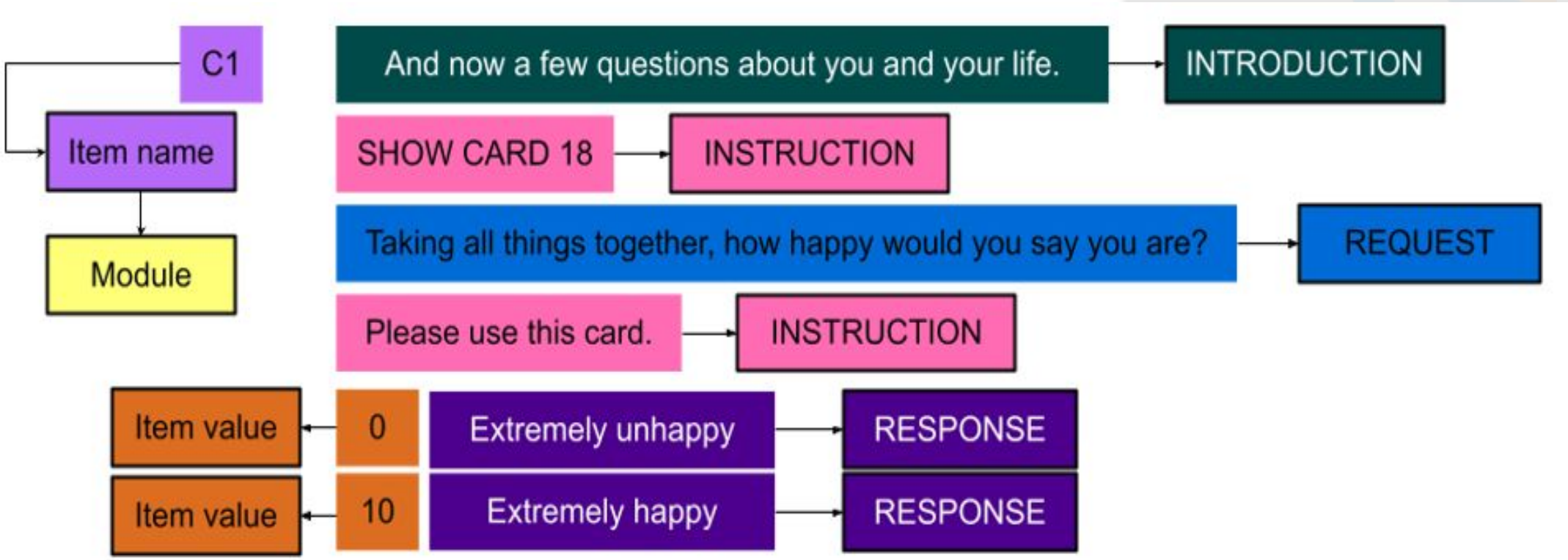
Visualizing the structure of survey items



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Visualizing the alignment

- Sentence alignment in the MCSQ was conducted as a computational task that establishes the correspondence between a given sentence in a source language and its translation in the target languages
- The sentence alignment allows the creation of translation memories (TMX format)

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To sum up: the [MCSQ] as a resource

- MCSQ is open source and open access that follows **FAIR** (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable Reproducible) principles
- The MCSQ data is freely available in the CLARINO repository
  - https://repo.clarino.uib.no/xmlui/handle/11509/142
- The corpus and all its metadata are available for visualization and download through the MCSQ interface: http://easy.mcsq.upf.edu
  - Registration free of charge
  - Many interesting functionalities: word search with metadata filters, customization of translation memories, frequencies and collocations, etc
- Code
  - MCSQ compiling: https://github.com/dsorato/MCSQ_compiling
  - MCSQ interface: https://github.com/dsorato/MCSQ_interface

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Thank you for your attention!

https://www.upf.edu/web/mcsq

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