



Technology in language documentation

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Language documentation:

Aim:

Maintain, consolidate or revitalize endangered languages

Through:

Creation of a representative, multipurpose and long-lasting record of languages

By:

Recording language events, speech and gesture in natural context etc.

Storing the resources in an [organized](#), [accessible](#) and [persistent archive](#)





In this presentation:

Why archiving?

What is an organized, accessible and persistent archive?

Which technology is required (and offered by the MPI)

- Metadata tool

- Archive upload and access management tools

- Browsing, searching and accessing the resources

- Enrichments with ELAN, LEXUS and ViCoS





Why archiving?

Misconceptions about archiving

1. Your stuff is buried here and gone forever



(from Andrew Garret
Berkeley Archives)



Why archiving?

Misconceptions about archiving

1. Your stuff is buried here and gone forever
2. Other linguists will take advantage of your hard work and take away your good ideas



(from Andrew Garret
Berkeley Archives)



Why archiving?

But the actual truth is that:

1. Other linguists do not really care about your work
2. The people who do care are the members of the speech communities – and they care about it in a different way than you do

“The coolest thing to do with your data will be thought of by someone else”



Why archiving?

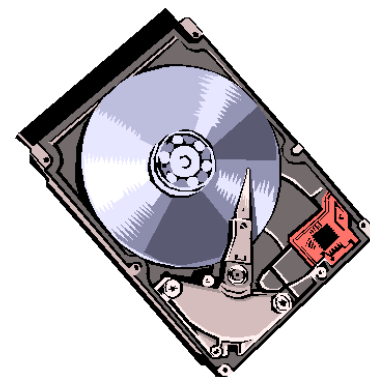
Is there a danger that we loose digital data?

YES,

UNESCO: 80% of our recordings is endangered

How much of your data and files on the notebook is organized, backed-up?

How long can media and formats be accessed?





Why archiving?

Is there a danger that we loose the data?

YES, a few messages

Archive data into a trusted archive (long term preservation and accessibility)
Create high quality metadata so that you can find the way back to the data
Use open standards

MPI-PL archive:

Trusted archive,

ORGANIZED information
Continuous extension
Collaboration and interaction
Commentary and relation drawing (enrichment)
Supporting centre for cross-corpus and language work





Why archiving?

Correct conceptions about archiving

1. It requires discipline
2. It creates a bit of techno noise





Task of the 'archiving instance'

Organization of corpora or data following [clear principles](#)

Creation of a [coherent and consistent](#) archive

Store data in an accessible and [persistent](#) form (long-term)

Give [access](#) to data to different users, but [protect](#) data against unauthorized access

Adhere to code of conduct and adhere to [ethical and legal](#) issues

Provide tools to researchers



Clear principles: Data organization and access infrastructure

IMDI Metadata editor
Browser and search

Coherent, consistent and persistent: Data management

LAMUS Checks the content of the files, and file type check
Assigns a persistent identifier to the uploaded file
Allows the creation of corpus structures
Web based, easy to use

Safe access: Data access rights and protection

AMS All metadata in the archive is open
All resource access can be controlled by AMS (web based)
Users remain the owners and stay in control of the access
Setting of licenses and code of conducts





Tools required

Workflow and tool requirements:

Recording



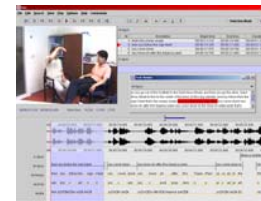
Capturing
(DV)



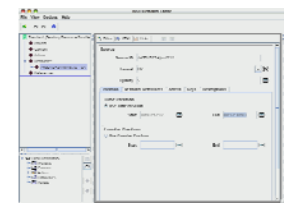
Transcoding
(MPEG1 & 2, WAV)



Enrichments



Describe
resources with
metadata



Uploading
metadata &
resources

Setting access
rights to the
resources

Browsing,
searching,
viewing
downloading





Tools required

Workflow and tool requirements:

Recording



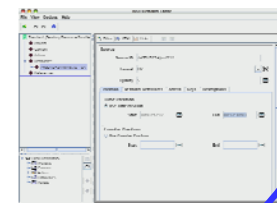
Capturing
(DV)



Transcoding
(MPEG1 & 2, WAV)



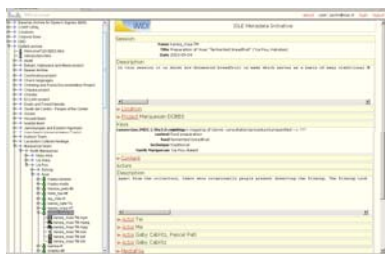
Describe
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Tools required

Describe resources with metadata

IMDI metadata

Metadata is data about data

Structured and machine readable

Elements describe the content of the resource files

IMDI set:

General data: project, location

Content data: Genre, Interactivity, Modality, Language

Actor data: Age, gender, languages

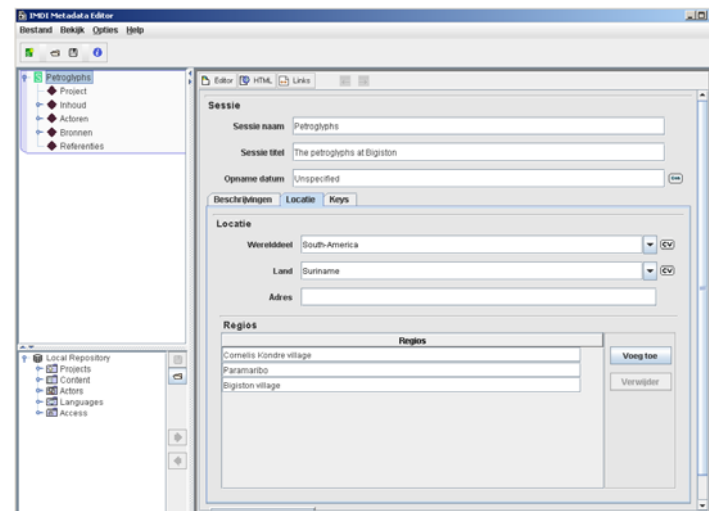
Resource data: format, size

IMDI editor – downloadable from the LAT page



LAT – Language archiving technology

www.mpi-lat.eu





Tools required

Workflow and tool requirements:

Recording



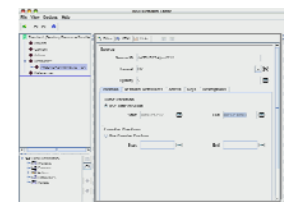
Capturing
(DV)



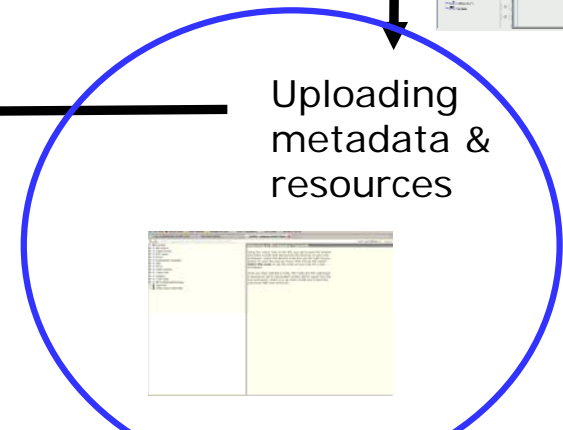
Transcoding
(MPEG1 & 2, WAV)



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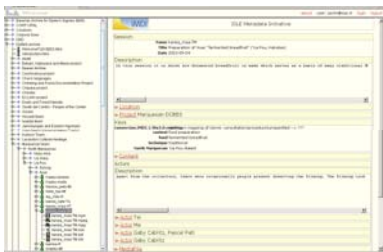
Uploading
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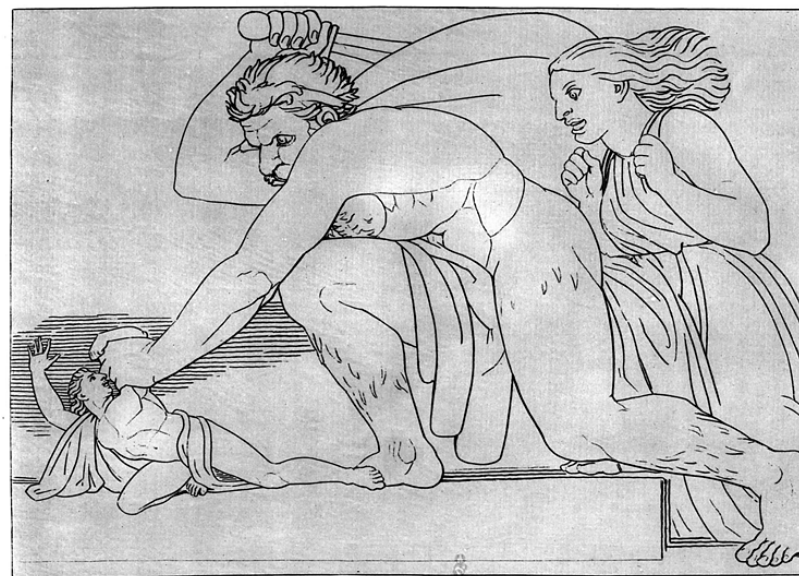




Upload resources and metadata files with LAMUS

LAMUS

- Checks the content of the files, and file type check
- Assigns a persistent identifier to the uploaded file
- Allows the creation of corpus structures
- Web based, easy to use





Tools required

Workflow and tool requirements:

Recording



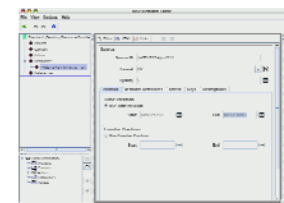
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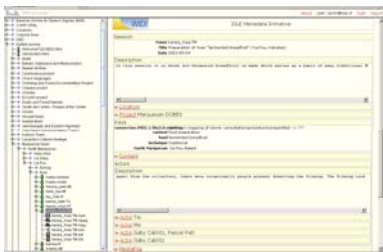
Uploading
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Setting access
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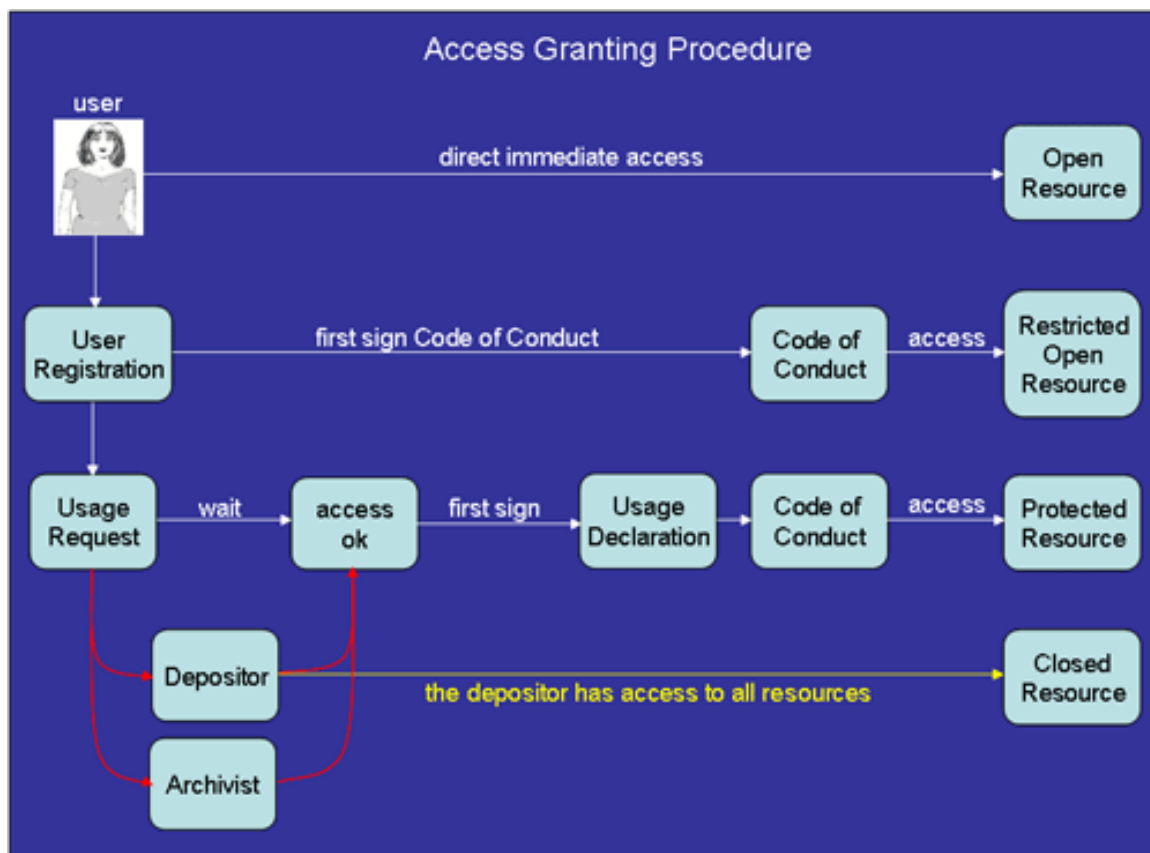




Tools required

Setting access rights: AMS

Access on resources: IPR, privacy, copyright etc.
(Metadata is always open!)



Default setting after upload



Tools required

Workflow and tool requirements:

Recording



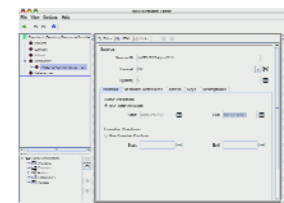
Capturing
(DV)



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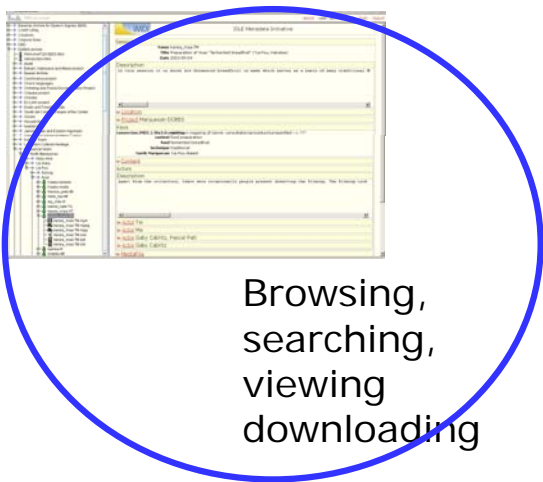
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Tools required

Browsing the data: IMDI browser

The screenshot shows the IMDI browser interface in a Windows Internet Explorer window. The address bar displays http://corpus1.mpi.nl/ds/imdi_browser/. The browser's menu bar includes File, Edit, View, Favorites, Tools, and Help. The address bar also shows <http://www.mpi.nl/corpus/a...> and the page title "IMDI Browser".

The main content area is titled "IMDI-Browser" and includes navigation links: [about](#), [user: anonymous](#), [login](#), and [logout](#). The interface is divided into two main sections:

- Left Panel (Tree View):** A hierarchical tree structure of corpora. The root is "IMDI-corpora", which branches into various categories like "WelcomeToIMDIDomain.html", "index.html", "AILLA", "ANDES", "Bavarian Archive for Speech Signals", "CORP-ORAL", "Coralrom", "Corpora Soas", "DBD", "DoBeS archive", "ECHO", "ESF corpus", "Endangered Languages", "DoBeS archive [5271]", "Donated Corpora [284]", "Buryat [53]", "Carib (Karinya) [127]", "Section 4 [52]", "A_Stjoera [2]", "Petroglyphs [1]", "PolishStones [1]", "Elisa_Veron [1]", "J_Mande [14]", "Ph_Cornelis [11]", "Several_People [1]", "Th_Banga [21]", "Unknown [1]", "W_Kassels [1]", "Section 5 [17]", "Section 6 [34]", "Section 7 [24]", "Chakali [0]", "Gammölsvänsk [0]", "Guanchet [71]", and "Kauwani [0]".
- Right Panel (Metadata View):** A detailed view for the selected "Petroglyphs" corpus. It features a header "IMDI ISLE Metadata Initiative" and several sections:
 - Session:** Name: Petroglyphs; Title: The petroglyphs at Bigiston; Date: Unspecified.
 - Location:** Continent: South-America; Country: Suriname; Region: Cornelis Kondre village; Region: Paramaribo; Region: Bigiston village; Address: (empty).
 - Project:** The Carib (Karinya) Language.
 - Content:** (empty).
 - Actors:** Actor: Alfons Stjoera; Actor: dr. Berend Hoff.
 - MediaFile:** (empty).
 - Anonyms:** (empty).
 - References:** Description: The Carib Language, Phonology, Morphology, Texts and Word Index. Verhandelingen van het Koninklijk Instituut voor Taal-, Land-, en Volkenkunde (Royal Institute of Linguistics and Anthropology) Vol. 55 (1968), Martinus Nijhoff: The Hague. Section 4.



Tools required

Viewing the data: ANNEX viewer

The screenshot shows the ANNEX viewer interface within a Windows Internet Explorer browser window. The browser's address bar displays the URL: `http://corpus1.mpi.nl/ds/annex/protected/no_auth.jsp?jsessionid=50AD6071C8F06AAB9DCBD239CD220F58&transferuid=1`. The browser's menu bar includes File, Edit, View, Favorites, Tools, and Help. The ANNEX interface itself has a top navigation bar with a red ribbon icon, the text "ANNEX", and links for "manual", "?", and "settings". On the right side of this bar, it shows "user: anonymous" and a "login" link.

The main content area is divided into several panels:

- Text:** A vertical sidebar on the left with options: Text, Grid, Subtitle, and Timeline (highlighted in blue).
- Video display:** A central panel showing a video player with a thumbnail of a group of people sitting on the ground. Below the video are playback controls (stop, play, next, previous) and a "Settings" button.
- Media information:** A panel on the right containing the following text:
Resource: demo_r03_v21_s1.eaf
Media file: demo_r03_v21_s1.m ...
Elapsed time: 00:00:15:000
Selected chunk:
Begin time: -
End time: -
Text: -
- Mini Data Frame:** A panel on the right with a "Tier:" dropdown menu set to "none" and a "Font size:" dropdown menu set to "14".

Below these panels is a **Timeline** section with a "Play video" button. The timeline features a horizontal axis with time markers from 0:12:000 to 00:00:15:500. Three horizontal bars represent different data layers:

- Gloss2:** Contains the text "??", "stone axe business is the reason", and "and".
- Gloss1:** Is currently empty.
- Andrew:** Contains the text "chomo ch:aa u l:êê cîy:o ????" and "wuu".

On the left side of the timeline, there are several navigation buttons: "|<" and ">|", "<<" and ">>", "<" and ">", and "+" and "-" buttons.



Tools required

Searching the metadata and content data: Search engines: IMDI and TROVA

ANNEX Annotation Content Search - Windows Internet Explorer

http://corpus1.mpi.nl/ds/annex/search.jsp?jsessionid=50AD6071C8F06AAB9DCBD239CD220F588&transferuid=1&nodeid=Mf

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

ANNEX Annotation Content Search

TROVA help user: anonymous login

Simple Single Layer Multiple Layer

Domain: YeleAnnexDemo

EAF (3)

History: Tpile Annotation case insensitive substrinq match in All Tiers

Mode: Annotation case insensitive substrinq match

Find Tpile in All Tiers

#hits	:	55
#annotations with a hit	:	54
#annotations investigated	:	5260

Options >

Hit 1 - 15 of 55 hits

a ka mye dēē wo, kwono d:oo mye a kwodé. d:oo alanté mu nē tóó nyāā kī **tpile** nyi kēmē t:āmo ka kwo, ngmēdē kāā até dnye chedē m:uu ka kwo, mye d

ropwo, u mo yópu ngē a ka dumu wó apē Njipee yópu ngē da ghē kī pini ala **tpile** a ka myaa diy:a, wiye éé kī ngē puwā kī tpókni a kmaapi té, ngmēnē n:aa

ods, still looking down) ??u nkāāng..?? (throws head back) :ee? ??u nga ó **tpile** ngmē ngee kwo nga yedē wee, kī p:eeni yili k:ii a wupwo. mu daa y

ì yoo yi péé dé, chi ny:oo? M:aa ngē u nj:ee a ka daa ch:emí ngē, M:aa ngē **tpile** a ka daa ch:emí ngē a chóó nī ghēēdī wo (taps knee) al:ii nē ghēēdī wo! a

yāā kwonē mbwēmē nya (ngi) yi kópu u kwo nē kuwo ngē kwonē, d:oo, u **tpile** u kwo nyinē kuwo ngi éé ye **tpile** p:uu kópu daa tóó ?? ... daa tóó ??

i kópu u kwo nē kuwo ngē kwonē, d:oo, u **tpile** u kwo nyinē kuwo ngi éé ye **tpile** p:uu kópu daa tóó ?? ... daa tóó ?? daa a nani, ngmēnē nté ngmēnēne

d:oo kēdē ngmo ?? mw:āākó d:oo a p:o yinté nē módu ? ala **tpile** a nimo kuwo, nē, mbwēmē tp:oo a ka a ngma a kē mw:āākó pyāā tp:oo

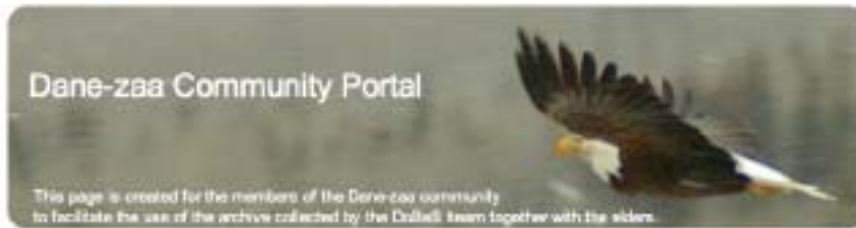
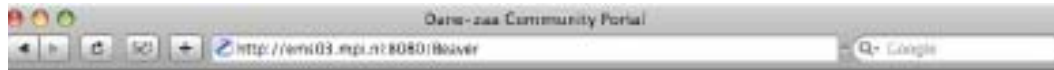
mber one u kópu ala d:oo dnyinē kēēlī, nimo ala d:oo dnyinē kēēlī, kī d:oo kī **tpile** wunē kēēlī kēēlī m:uu a yiyé nyāā. ngmē dnyinē kēēlī my:ooni kēdē yé. M



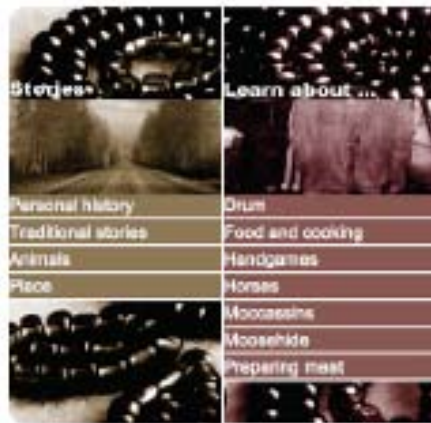
Tools required

Different ways of accessing:

Community portals



Google Earth Layers





Tools required

Workflow and tool requirements:

Recording



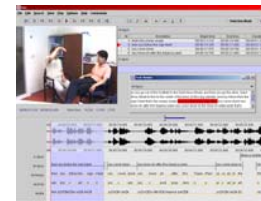
Capturing (DV)



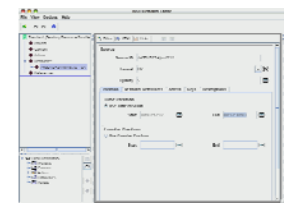
Transcoding (MPEG1 & 2, WAV)



Enrichments



Describe resources with metadata



Uploading metadata & resources

Setting access rights to the resources

Browsing, searching, viewing downloading





Enrichments

- ELAN: annotating video and audio resources

The screenshot displays the ELAN software interface. At the top, there is a menu bar (File, Edit, Search, View, Play, Options, Help, Commands) and a toolbar with various playback and editing icons. The main window is divided into several sections:

- Video View:** A window showing two people sitting in chairs, engaged in a conversation. The video is currently paused at 00:00:15.330.
- Annotation Table:** A table listing annotations with columns for Nr, Annotation, Begin time, End time, and Duration. The selected annotation is Nr 4: "then you follow the sign kleeft".
- Text Viewer:** A window showing the full transcript of the video. The selected text is highlighted in red: "then you follow the sign kleeft".
- Audio Waveform:** A visual representation of the audio signal, showing amplitude over time.
- Transcription Layers:** Below the waveform, there are several layers of text annotations:
 - K-Spch:** "then you follow the sign kleeft" | "you come down" | "you know eh after this trajanus plein" | "you come down to" | "rhine eh v"
 - W-Spch:** "then you follow the sign kleeft" | "you come down" | "you know eh after this trajanus plein" | "you come down to" | "rhine eh v"
 - W-Words:** "then" | "you" | "follow" | "the" | "sign" | "kleeft" | "you" | "come" | "down" | "you" | "know" | "eh" | "after" | "this" | "Trajan" | "Plein" | "yo" | "co" | "do" | "to" | "the" | "Rhine"
 - W-POS:** "adv" | "pro" | "v" | "art" | "n" | "n" | "pro" | "v" | "adv" | "pro" | "v" | "post" | "prep" | "dem" | "n" | "n" | "pr" | "v" | "ad" | "pr" | "art" | "n"
 - W-IPA:** "ðen ju fɔləw ðe saŋ kleɪft" | "ju kɔm daʊn" | "ju nəʊ əftə ðɪs trɑːdʒən pleɪn" | "ju kɔm daʊn tu" | "raɪn eɦ v"



Enrichments

LEXUS & ViCoS: Web based lexicon tool, multimedia encyclopedia

The screenshot displays two overlapping web browser windows. The background window is the 'demo rossel lexicon' interface, showing a list of entries under the letter 'm'. The entry 'mbudu' is highlighted, showing its description: 'fish type (green parrot fish) miracle worker'. The foreground window is the 'ViCoS Editor and Navigator', which visualizes a network graph. The central node is 'nmo'. It is connected to various other nodes, including 'te', 'tpile tp:oo', 'wu', 'yomo', 'kuu', 'tii', 'ghii', 'ghém', 'yemwe', 'pyipo', 'kidi', 'ghêpê', 'tâ', 'kêêlvé', 'kiye p', 'chile', 'chu', 'kèèlvé', 'kinî', 'kpéé', 'keepi', 'ghèèdi kuu', 'maafi', 'tada', 'kinî', 'kpéé', 'taa', and 'chuu'. A red node 'mgâmu' is also present. A legend on the right side of the ViCoS window defines relationship types: 'is_father_of' (red dot), 'eats' (red dot), 'sounds' (red dot), 'is_a_kind_of' (green dot), 'is_not_a_kind_of' (red dot), 'is_part_of' (red dot), 'is_antonym_of' (red dot), 'is_synonym_of' (red dot), and 'is_related_to' (red dot). Below the legend are 'Modes' (browse, move, connect, delete, lexus, world, attach, detach) and 'Relation Types'.



Archiving instance, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics

Archive managers: 3

Archive developers: 2

System manager: 1

Archiving software development: 4

Enrichment software development: 4

Archive for language data:

40 Terabyte of data

400.000 archived objects





Training sessions:

We regularly organize training sessions on:

Audio and video handling

Archiving technology

Enrichment of data

We do welcome participants from other than DoBeS or MPI projects

Its 4-5 days in one week

Interested: please check our MPI website/Events section (www.mpi.nl/events/)

Contact:

jacquelijm.ringersma@mpi.nl

paul.trilsbeek@mpi.nl