Technology in language documentation

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Language (archiving) technology

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

Misconceptions about archiving

1. Your stuff is buried here and gone forever

(from Andrew Garret
Berkeley Archives)

Misconceptions about archiving

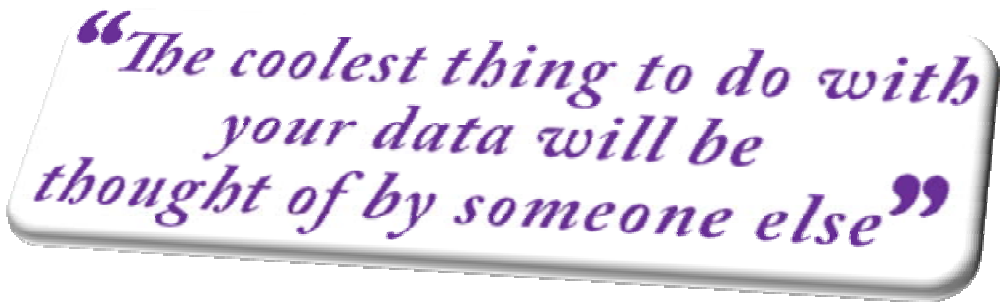
1. Your stuff is buried here and gone forever
2. Other linguists will take advantage of your hard work and take away your good ideas

(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



(attributed to Rufus Pollack)

Why archiving?

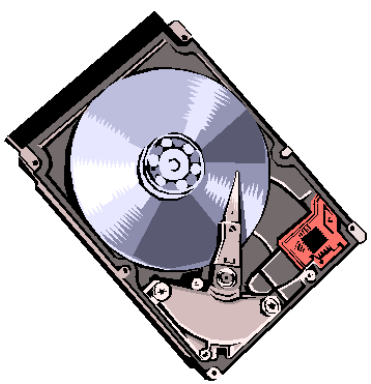
Is there a danger that we loose digital data?

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

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

Language archiving technology

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:

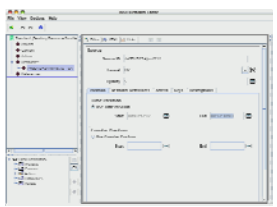
Recording

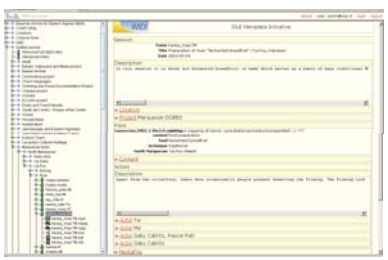
Capturing (DV)

Transcoding (MPEG1 & 2, WAV)

Enrichments

Describe resources with metadata





Browsing, searching, viewing downloading

Setting access rights to the resources

Uploading metadata & resources

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Workflow and tool requirements:

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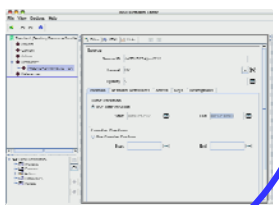

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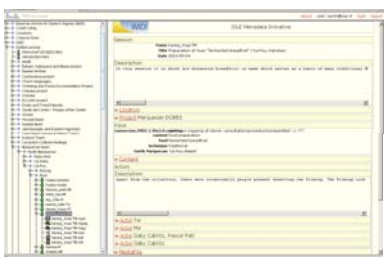


Describe resources with metadata

IMDI metadata

Metadata is data about data

Structured and machine readable

Elements describe the content of the resource files

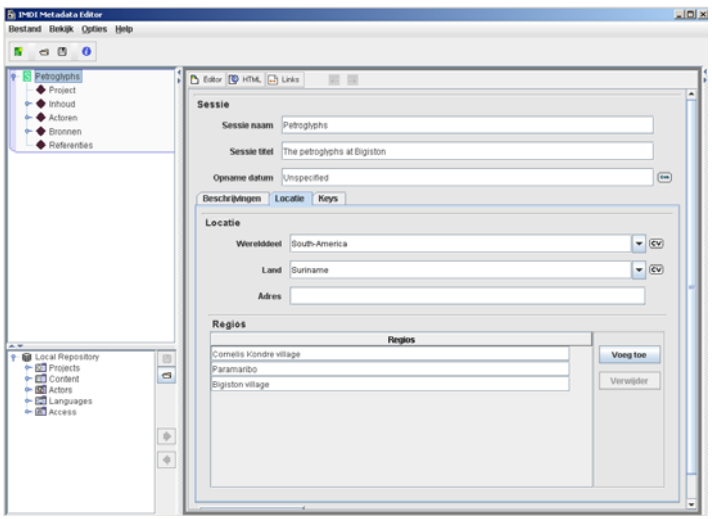
IMDI set:

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

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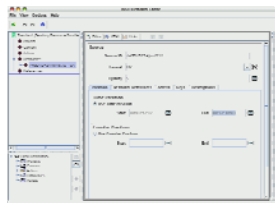

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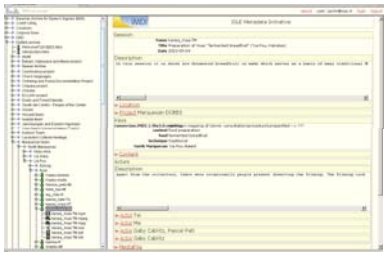


Upload resources and metadata files with LAMUS

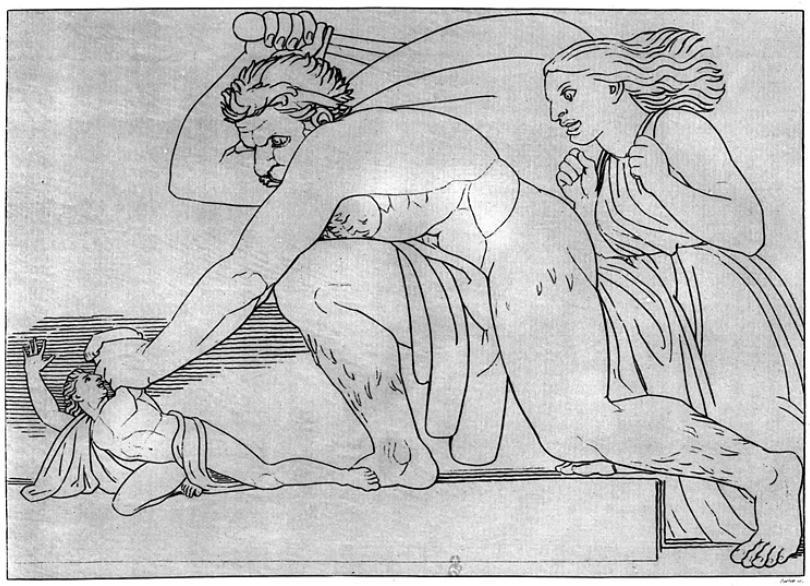
LAMUS

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



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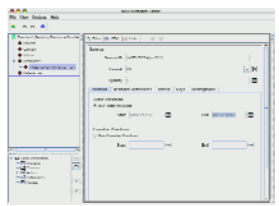
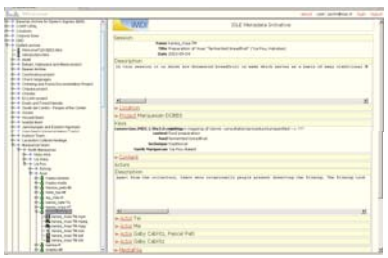


Uploading metadata & resources

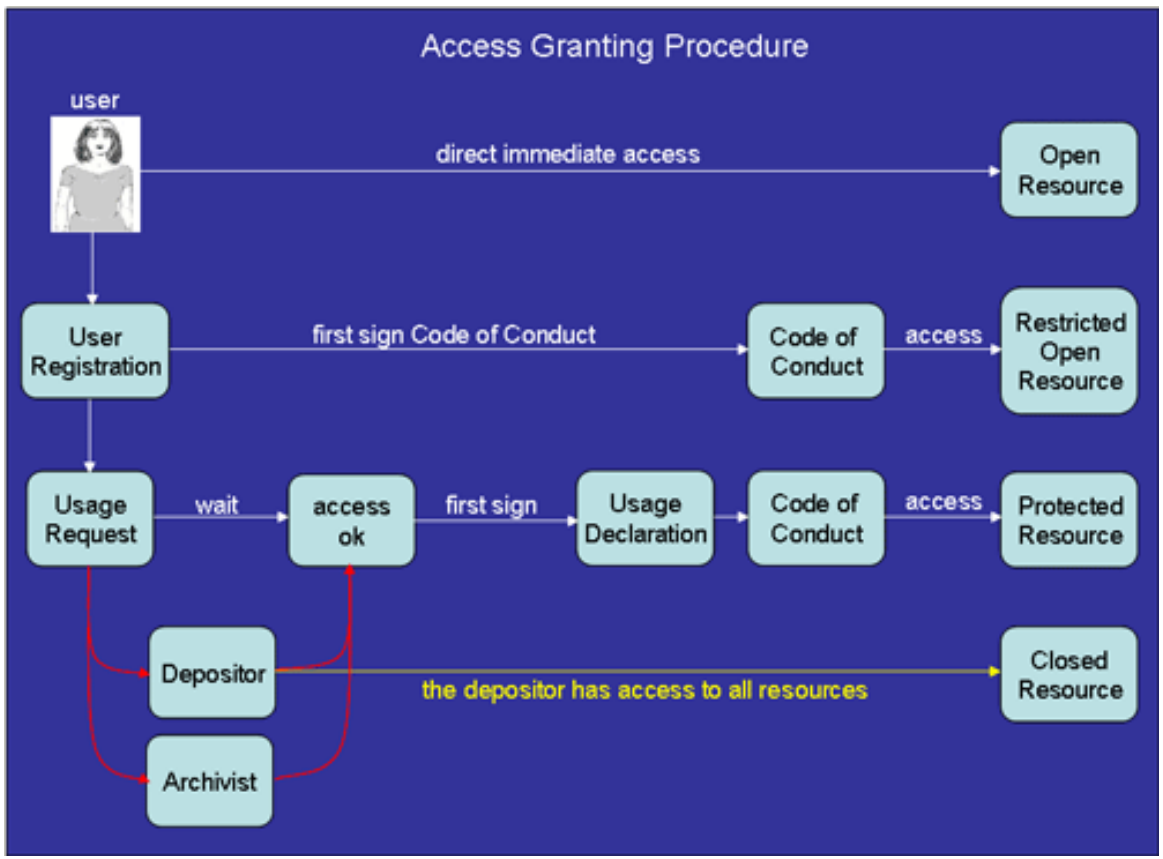
Setting access rights to the resources

Browsing, searching, viewing downloading



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:

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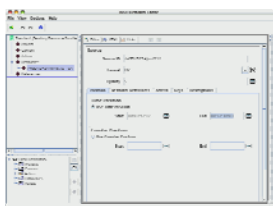
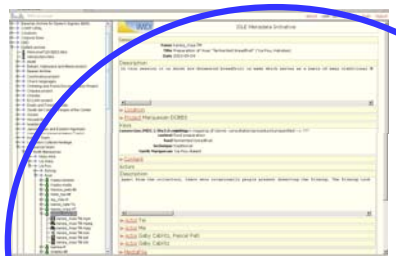
Describe resources with metadata



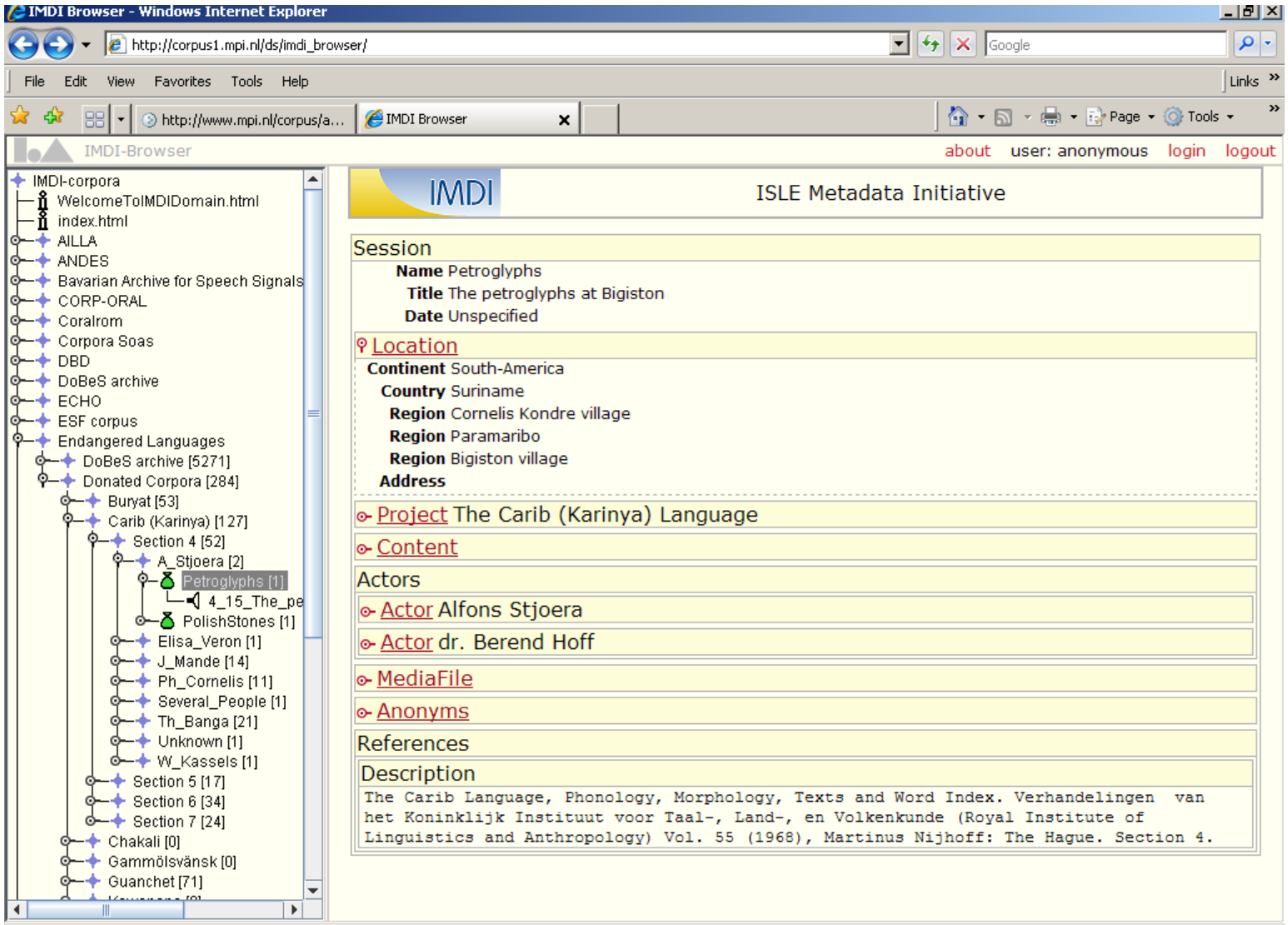
Uploading metadata & resources

Setting access rights to the resources

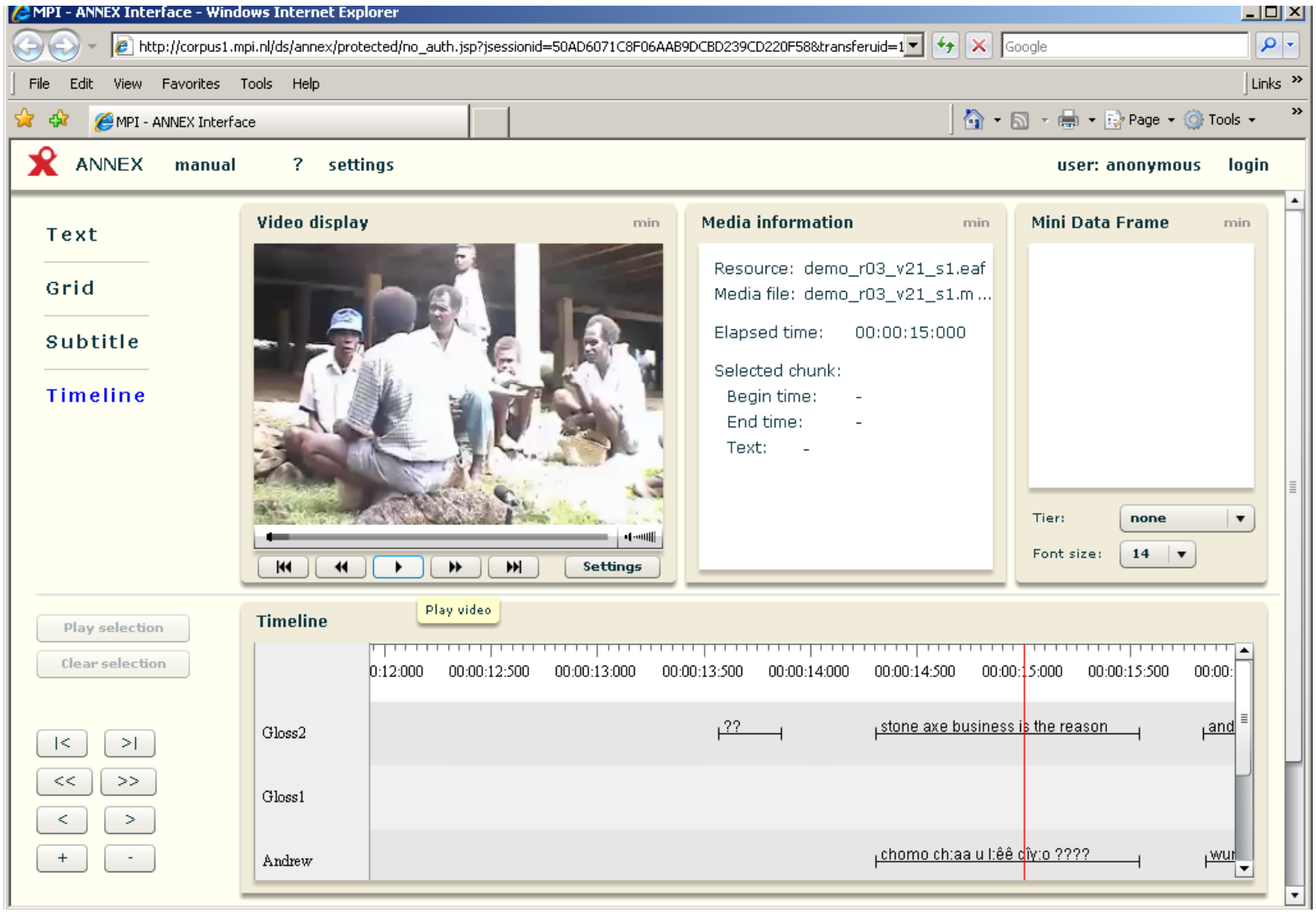
Browsing, searching, viewing downloading



Browsing the data: IMDI browser

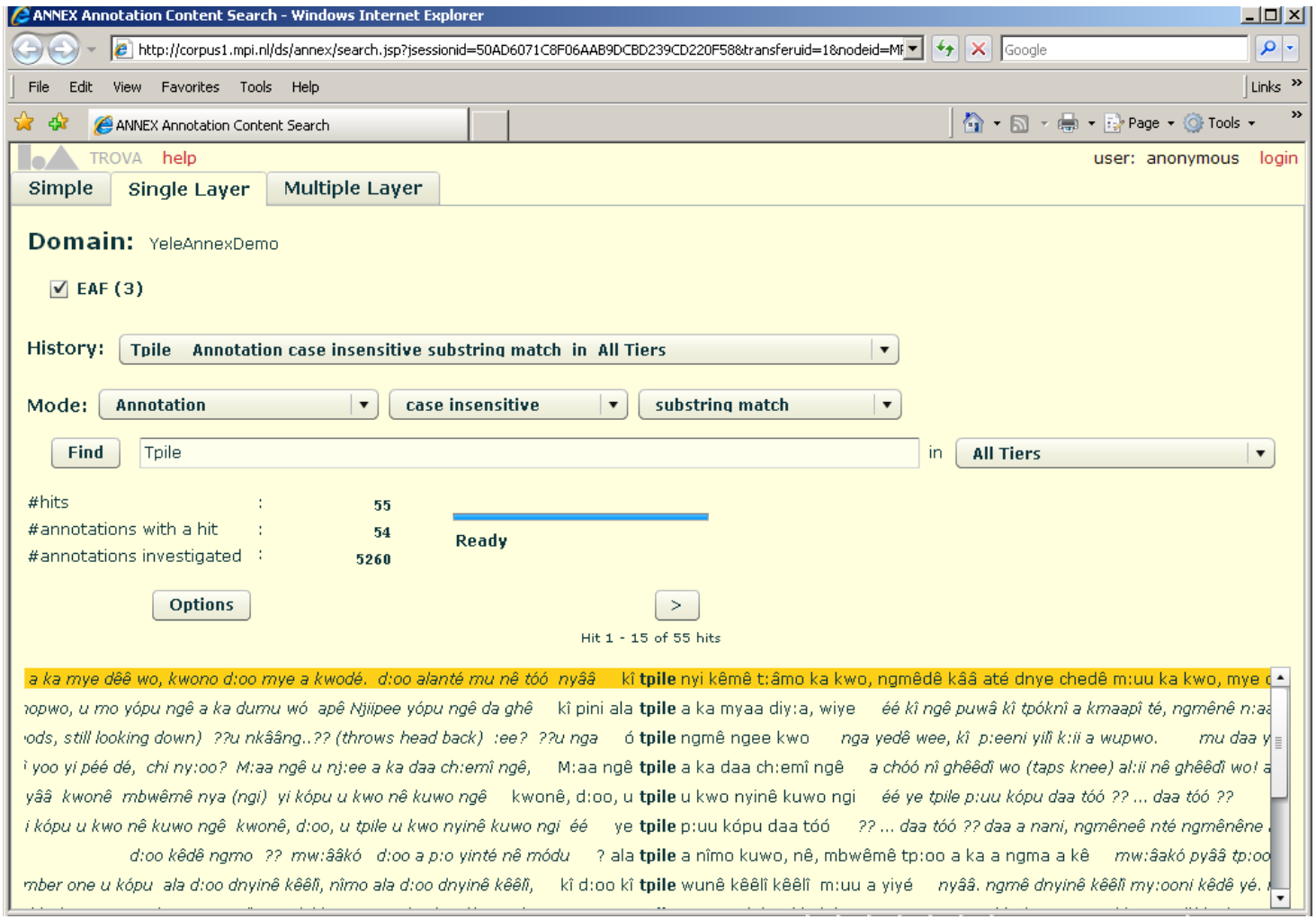


Viewing the data: ANNEX viewer



Tools required

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



Tools required

Different ways of accessing:

Community portals

Google Earth Layers

Tools required

Workflow and tool requirements:

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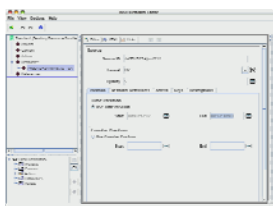
Enrichments

Describe resources with metadata



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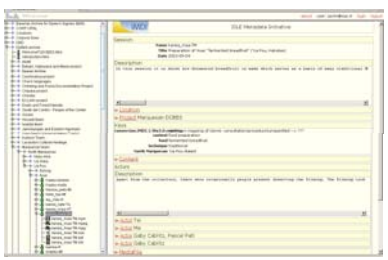
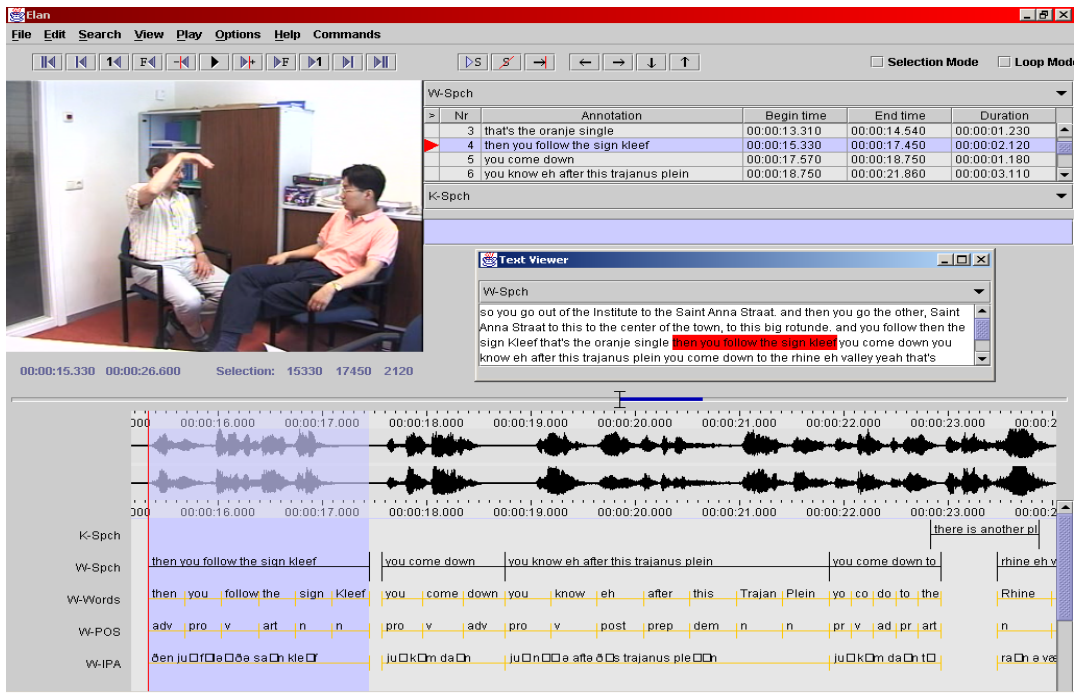


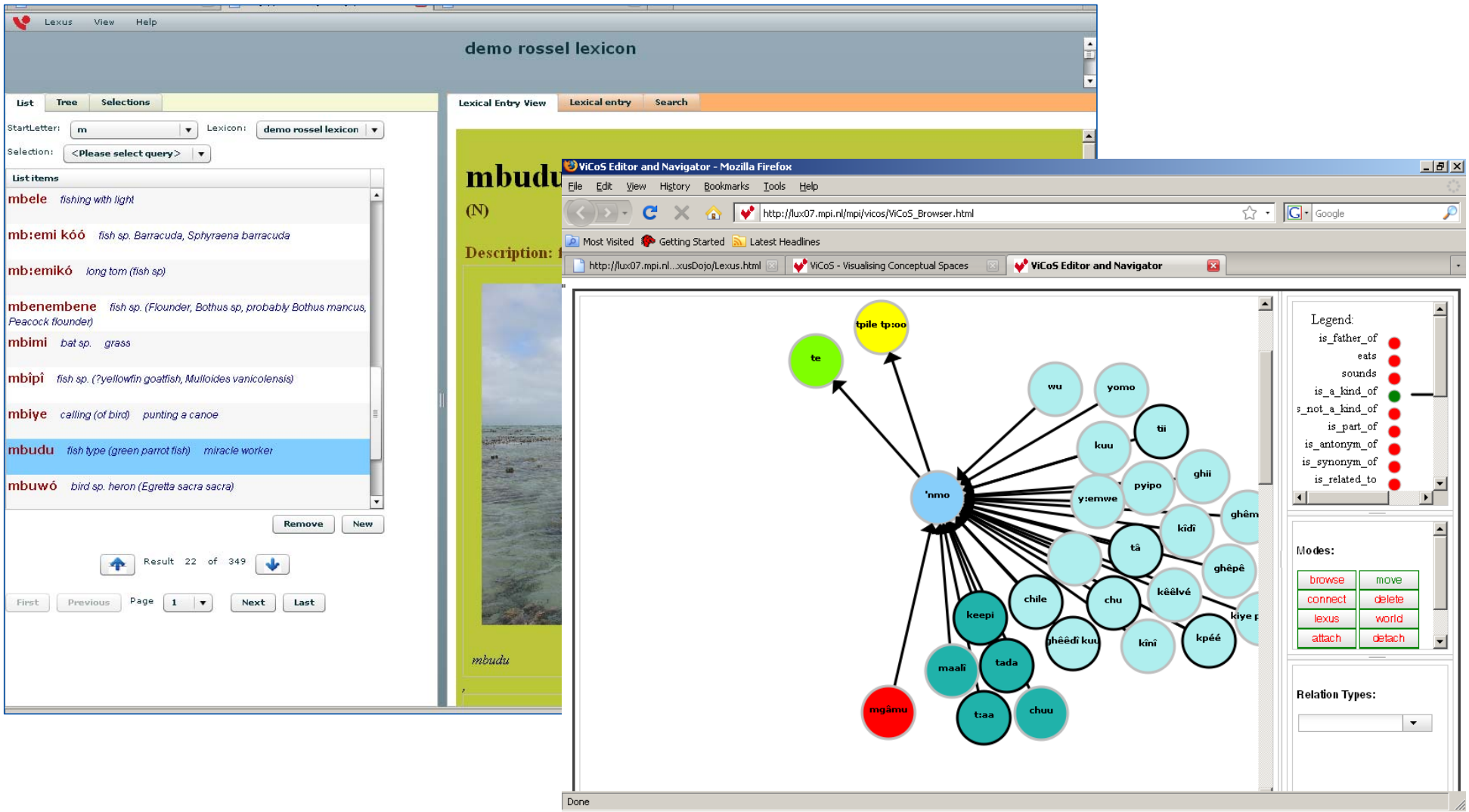
Enrichments

- ELAN: annotating video and audio resources



Enrichments

LEXUS & ViCoS: Web based lexicon tool, multimedia encyclopedia



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:

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paul.trilsbeek@mpi.nl