Introductions

Chair for Multilingual Computational Linguistics (MCL) at University of Passau

Where to find us: https://www.geku.uni-passau.de/en/mcl/

Teaching

- Comparative linguistics, computational linguistics, historical linguistics, cognitive linguistics.
- Teaching of this year included e.g. Language History and Historical Language Description, Culture documentation and fieldwork, Language diversity

Research

- Investigation into evolutionary, typological, and cognitive aspects of linguistic variation
- Ongoing projects on e.g. computational approaches to fieldwork documentation, language processing, polysemy, object naming, phonological vectors, etc pp

Tools

• Development of data and tools for computer-assisted linguistic analysis such as CLDF, LingPy, Edictor and more (discussed in part 2)



Jessica

- PhD 2021 in General Linguistics @ Heinrich-Heine University in Düsseldorf Passau since July 2023
- Research focus on Maltese, language processing and distributional semantic representations
- Area of linguistics: psycholinguistics, morphology, phonetics & phonology, computational linguistics



Kellen

- MA @ Tsing Hua University 國立清華大學 Taiwan PhD @ La Trobe University Australia Postdoc @ Universität Zürich until 2023 Asst. Prof @ Passau since October 2023 Adjunct research fellow @ La Trobe since 2019
- Research: linguistic fieldwork, reconstruction of linguistic history (phonological reconstruction, migration, probabilistic phylogenies, maps), anthropological linguistics, tone systems
- Minority Sinitic languages (Wu, Datian Min, Hakka); Tibeto-Burman languages of NW Myanmar & NE India



Schedule

Day 1 - data collection & data structures

- Day 2 data continued + hands on practice
- Day 3 linguistic phylogenies. what they are, how they're done, how to read them

Day 4 - language processing



Part 1 - Data collection & structuring

SSOL 2024, České Budějovice

Jessica NIEDER & Kellen Parker van DAM Lehrstuhl für Multilinguale Computerlinguistik Universität Passau, Germany

21 August 2024



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Informal survey What languages do you work with? Informal survey What languages do you work with? Where does the data come from? Informal survey What languages do you work with? Where does the data come from? What format is it in? Informal survey What languages do you work with? Where does the data come from? What format is it in? Do you do any first-hand data collection? (show of hands)

Data sources

Lots of data are available in some conventional sources (old published word lists etc) Plenty of these have been digitised, and are readily available in computer-friendly formats.

Languages without many data sources

- Wolam Ngio (max 6000 speakers in 2011)
 - dictionary, descriptive grammar, phonological description, account of tonogenesis imagefor it's sub-branch. full documentation. *with Ms. Keen Thaam*
- Gongvanpounyiu (maybe 1500 speakers?)
 - sketch grammar, phonology, tone work with Ms. Methiam Thangjiu
- Muishaung (around 2000 speakers?)
 - descriptive grammar, dictionary, etc. full documentation with Mr. Wanglung Keluim
- Kaisan (maybe 1000 speakers?)
 - sketch grammar, oral history corpus with Mr. L. Bahnkong Kaisan, Ms. Nora Muheim

search 'Patkaian' on Glottolog for a bigger tree image



Lots of data are available in some conventional sources (old published word lists etc) Plenty of these have been digitised, and are readily available in computer-friendly formats.

For major languages, published sources are often sufficient, but what if you're not after English or German data? Or after non-standard varieties?

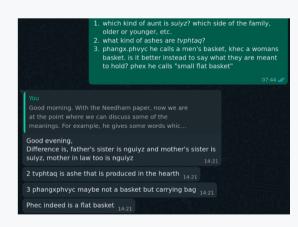
question: What are some potential **non-traditional data sources** which you may use?

Some less conventional sources

WhatsApp discussions with native-speakers

Social media plays a huge part in how people interact with their languages, whether they have standard spellings or not.

Even basic concept data in published word lists can be severely lacking, as languages don't always divide the lived experience in the same way, or certain terms carry additional semantics that can be easily missed.



Data structuring

Structuring data

Computer-assisted language processing begins with good data. What does that look like?

- 1. machine readable text
 - OCR'd text if scans
 - Unicode or something comparable

Great! our WhatsApp chats are good computational data then?

Structuring data

Computer-assisted language processing begins with good well structured data . What does that look like?

- 1. machine readable text
 - OCR'd text if scans
 - Unicode or something comparable
- 2. machine readable structure
 - flat (two-dimensional) format
 - standardised, ideally

What we'll go over today

- 1. Data format comparison
- 2. tabular data
 - 2.1 why it's good
 - 2.2 keeping it flat
- 3. CLDF (cross-linguistic data format)
 - 3.1 benefits/costs
 - 3.2 tools
 - 3.3 future-proofing you work in case you some day need it
- 4. wrapping up

Examples

Data structures differ from application to application. If you've dealt with legacy projects or inherited data, or maybe even if not, you'll have seen some of these. Let's quickly see some examples.

- Toolbox / Shoebox
- FLeX
- ELAN
- Google Sheets (or equivalent)

Toolbox (& Shoebox, Lexique Pro)

A standard linear textfile used for the discontinued **Shoebox** and **Toolbox** programs. Each field has a name, with custom fields available.

Each pre-set field has a standard meaning, e.g. \lx for lexeme, and custom fields can be added.

Files are read top to bottom, with \lx starting each new entry.

\lx kkq
\ph kAk4
\ps v.
\de to keep one portion
\xv kkqwjmYigqwj
\xr kAk4 wai4 maiN1 wai4
\so phk_kaak4wai4maiN1wai4.wav
\dt 16/Jan/2022
\lx kkD

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Hailowng, Morey & van Dam (in press) Tai Phake dictionary

File Edit Database Project Tools Checks View Window Help

Phake Dictionary_Ailot.tx		1		h 8 1 (L 01 (77)	1. D. C. M.						
Vx Lexeme	\ph Phonetic form	<u>\hm</u>	Homonym numbe					\pd Couplet form	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	\notes *	\dt Date (last edited)	2 1
നന്	kāk ¹	2		n.	spoon	bamboo or		*empty*	ອີກກາ	ailot	07/Apr/2016	
നന്	kak ¹	5		ν.	stammer	stammer, s	ൾന്നന	lin ⁴ kak ¹	ကက်ကျ	ailot	07/Apr/2016	
ကက်	kāk ³ kāk ³	1		ν.	caws of cro	Onom -cav	*empty*	*empty*	*no field*	ailot	13/Apr/2016	
നന്	kāk ⁴	3		ν.	keep.portior	to keep on	ကက်မြို	kāk4 wai4 1	ကက်မျိုင်	ailot	14/Apr/2016	
നന്ഡ്വ	kāk³ sō²	1		n.	lock	a lock	*empty*	*empty*	*no field*	ailot	07/Apr/2016	
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ಣ್	kaŋ ³	20	🐘 Phake Dictiona	ary_Ailot.txt:2							04/Apr/2016	
ಣ್	kaŋ ³	21	\lx Lexeme			നന്	ഡ				04/Apr/2016	
ಗ್	kāŋ ⁴	1		ternative Spellin	9						07/Apr/2016	
೧೯	kāŋ²	10	\ph Phonetic			kāk ³	sð² aak3sQ2.v	vav			07/Apr/2016	
೧೧೯	kāŋ²	11	. Vhm Homonyn	nnumber		î -					07/Apr/2016	
೧೯	kāŋ²	12	\ps Part of s \sn Sense			n. 1					07/Apr/2016	
೧೧೯	kāŋ ²	14	\de Defin			a lock lock					07/Apr/2016	
೧೧೯	kāŋ ²	15	\pc1 Pict				_kAk3sQ	2.jpg			07/Apr/2016	
ಣ್	kan ³	16	\pc2 Pict			2_phk	_kAk3sQ	2.jpg			07/Apr/2016	
			\pl Coupl									
				plet form phonet								
				uplet form Englis uplet form Assar								
				ition Assamese	11030							
			\rf Refere									
			(w Exa	mple Phake								
			Vr Evr	mple Phonetic								

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Toolbox (& Shoebox, Lexique Pro)

pro – Works well for smaller projects or when the user is incredibly consistent.

con –Any inconsistency majorly complicates one's ability to convert to other formats, such as 2D tabular data.

e.g.: inconsistent use of examples, subentries, erroneous placement in the wrong field, etc.

con – one dimensional

\lx kkq
\ph kAk4
\ps v.
\de to keep one portion
\xv kkqwjmYigqwj
\xr kAk4 wai4 maiN1 wai4
\so phk_kaak4wai4maiN1wai4.wav
\dt 16/Jan/2022

\lx kkD

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Hailowng, Morey & van Dam (in press) Tai Phake dictionary

FLeX - FieldWorks Language Explorer

XML (e<u>x</u>tensible <u>m</u>arkup <u>l</u>anguage) formatted documents, as a mostly standard format.

Interoperability with other recent SIL software forces an internal standard.

<FreeTranslation>
 <AStr ws="en">
 <Run ws="en">'I the Wihu singer of the original place.'</Run>
 </AStr>
 </FreeTranslation>
 <Reference>
 <Str>
 <Run ws="en">Tangsa_Mossang: nst-mos_20130218_12:142</Run>
 </Str>
 </Reference>
 </Str>
 </Reference>
 </Str>
 </Reference>
 </Reference>
 </Str>
 </Reference>
 </Refer

Morey, S. (2013) unpublished Wihu transcripts

FLeX - FieldWorks Language Explorer

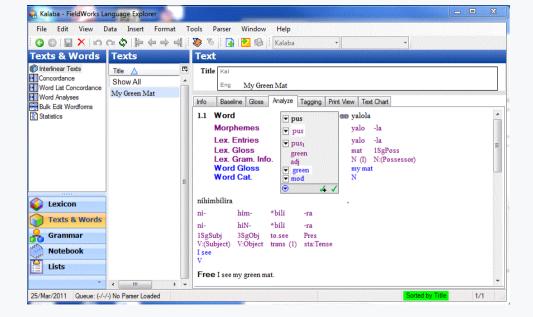
pro – Wide range of capabilities

con – Not very human readable, difficult to programmatically deal with, **but** many export options are available in FLeX.

con – Multi-dimensional file format means difficulty in using for computer-assisted processing.

con - Windows-only SIL software

Morey, S. (2013) unpublished Wihu transcripts



ELAN - FieldWorks Language Explorer

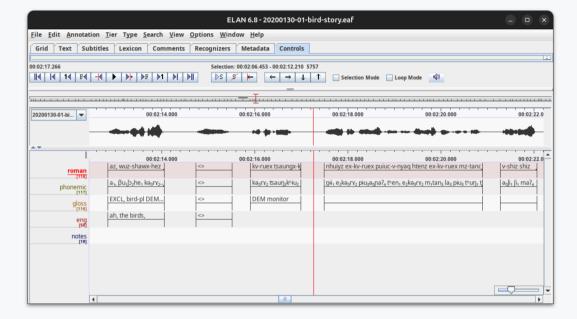
XML format, mostly focused on time-aligned transcripts but can be used to generate dictionaries as well.

ELAN documents are not consistently structured, and very susceptible to individual users' changing habits. Difficult to automate data extraction for.

Same **pros/cons** as FLeX but not Windows-only.

<TIME_SLOT TIME_SLOT_ID="ts839" TIME_VALUE="315587"/> <TIME_SLOT TIME_SLOT_ID="ts840" TIME_VALUE="315587"/> </TIME_ORDER> <TIER ANNOTATOR="Kellen" LINGUISTIC_TYPE_REF="default-lt" PARTICIPANT="Ngunxkhuingz" TIER_ID="roman"> <ANNOTATON> <ALIGNABLE_ANNOTATION ANNOTATION_ID="a1" TIME_SLOT_REF1="ts4" TIME_SLOT_REF2="ts6"> <ANNOTATION_VALUE> ngvyz muingc kuex Ngunxkhuingz </ANNOTATION_VALUE> </ANNOTATION_VALUE> </ANNOTATION> </ANNOTATION>

van Dam, K. P. (2018) unpublished Muishaung transcript



JSON - Javascript Object Notation

Multi-dimensional plaintext file format used for a few difference purposes.

This example is its use in an ELAN-like text transcription, but with a different data structure.

The same issues with automating work based on inconsistent structures apply.

```
"stories": [
    {
        "title": "méiyǒu wǎng shàng zǒu de kōngjiān",
        "date": "20120315"
    "transcript": {
        "5dFouFnv": {
            "time": "0",
            "roman": "Nà, nĭ diyīfèn gōngzuò shì shénme?
            Shì zhèige ma?",
            "english": "So, what was your first job? Was
            it this one?",
        },
        "yeqGhsk": {
            "time": "3.7",
            "roman": "Bù shì. Wǒ dì yī fèn gōngzuò shì..."
```

van Dam, K. P. (2018) unpublished Muishaung transcript

Dimensionality of the data?

2-dimensional data is preferred because

- · It's what most tools expect
- It ensures that the program/script reads it properly

Any more dimensions require more work to ensure that things are being read with the correct dependencies, and that we're not missing anything.

It's not necessary for everything, but for computer assisted language comparison, staring with 2D data is necessary.

Let's look at what might be an easy solution but which can still be complicated: spreadsheets

Spreadsheets

Spreadsheets may seem 2D, with rows and columns. but it's easy to add more without meaning to.

To be 2D, only pairs of data should be linked. Take the example on the right from one of my spreadsheets.

The data value ²³sy ²³me? corresponds to a language (Thang), a source (Weidert97), and a concept (THREE).

Weidert, Alfons. "Tibeto-Burman Tonology." (1987): 1-530.

source	Weidert87	Thaam24	Wayesha10
language	Thang	Wolam	Lainong
three	²³ sy ²³ mę?	ha.me?	∫iam ⁵³
four	¹² by²lę	pə.le	ba ²¹ li ³³
five	¹² bɣ ²ŋo̥u	pə.ŋu	bə²¹ŋəu³³

adapted from van Dam (in preparation)



Spreadsheets

We're already at three dimensions here.

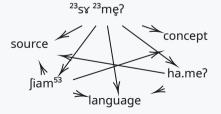
We've put in the source in a new row, but computational tools will not like this.

But actually our data value also links to every other data value in the same row.

To be properly 2-dimensional, each column should be exactly one type of data, and each row should be exactly one piece of data.

Not to mention spreadsheet comments/notes!

adapted from van Dam (in preparation)



TSVs & CSVs

We can talk about spreadsheets, but what we're really talking about is tabular data .

Simply put, this is data separated by new lines and tabs (or commas).

This has the additional benefit that its plain text. You don't need an .xlsx compatible program to read the data.

```
source,Weidert87,Thaam24,Wayesha10
language,Thang,Wolam,Lainong
three,<sup>23</sup>sv<sup>23</sup>me?,ha.me?,∫iam<sup>53</sup>
four,<sup>12</sup>bv<sup>2</sup>le,pə.le,ba<sup>21</sup>li<sup>33</sup>
five,<sup>12</sup>bv<sup>2</sup>nou,pə.nu,bə<sup>21</sup>nou<sup>33</sup>
```

comma-separated values (CSV)

Flattinging the data

To flatten our data, we need to separate out the values so that each row refers to exactly one linguistic value, in this case our word forms. So we need to modify this...

source language three four five	Weidert87 Thang ²³ sy ²³ mę? ¹² by ² lę ¹² by ² nou	Thaam24 Wolam ha.me? pə.le	Wayesha1o Lainong ∫iam ⁵³ ba ²¹ li ³³
five	¹² bɣ ²ŋջu	pə.ŋu	bə²¹ŋəu³³

Thaam, K and K. P. van Dam (2024). Wolam Ngiopit dictionary Wayesha, A. J. (2010). A phonological description of Leinong Naga. Chiang Mai.

concept three three four four four five five five	form ²³ sy ²³ mę? ha.me? Jiam ⁵³ ¹² by ² lę pə.le ba ²¹ li ³³ ¹² by ² ŋջu pə.ŋu bə ²¹ ŋəu ³³	language Thang Wolam Lainong Thang Wolam Lainong Thang Wolam Lainong	source Weidert87 Thaam24 Wayesha10 Weidert87 Thaam24 Wayesha10 Weidert87 Thaam24 Wayesha10	comment *s>h
---	--	---	---	-----------------

... into something like this

Notice we can also include relevant comments here that may have been in the spreadsheet.

Why is this helpful?

It can be less intuitive to read, and I often start out less flat. But this is where we should be trying to end up for programmatical uses.

Now we can pull the whole table into Python, R, Julia or whatever else we're using, split it by lines and tabs (or commas), and we know that column o will have the concept, 1 the form, 2 the language, 3 the source and 4 the comments.

concept three three four four four five five	form ²³ SY ²³ mę? ha.me? Jiam ⁵³ ¹² bY ² lę pə.le ba ²¹ li ³³ ¹² bY ² ŊĢU pə.Ŋu pə.Ŋu	language Thang Wolam Lainong Thang Wolam Lainong Thang Wolam	source Weidert87 Thaam24 Wayesha10 Weidert87 Thaam24 Wayesha10 Weidert87 Thaam24 Wayesha10	comment *s>h
five	bə²¹ŋəu³³	Lainong	Wayesha10	

Doing the same with the original structure is much harder, and requires a lot more conditional coding to handle the data.

Why is this helpful?

This also lets us easily handle multiple forms per language. Imagine something like this with two values for FIVE.

source language three four	Weidert87 Thang ²³ sy ²³ mę? ¹² by ² lo	Thaam24 Wolam ha.me?	Wayesha1o Lainong ∫iam ⁵³ ba ²¹ li ³³
four	¹² bx²lę	pə.le	ba ²¹ li ³³
five	¹² bx ²ŋǫu	pə.ŋu; <mark>pa.ŋu</mark>	bə ²¹ ŋəu ³³

We can simply have two rows to account for this, rather than worrying about searching for the semicolon.

concept	form	language	source
three	²³ sy ²³ mę?	Thang	Weidert87
three	ha.me?	Wolam	Thaam24
three	Jiam ⁵³	Lainong	Wayesha10
four	¹² by ² lę	Thang	Weidert87
four	pə.le	Wolam	Thaam24
four	ba ²¹ li ³³	Lainong	Wayesha1o
five	¹² bx ² ŋǫu	Thang	Weidert87
five	pə.ŋu	Wolam	Thaam24
<mark>five</mark>	pa.ŋu	Wolam	Thaam24
five	bə ²¹ ŋəu ³³	Lainong	Wayesha10

Why is this helpful?

There are a lot of other reasons to do this, including better version control (git) when making changes, guaranteed future access^{*} and interoperability between users.

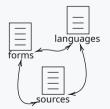
If you've ever struggled to open a data format from someone else, you will hopefully see the appeal of plain text.

concept three three four four four five	form ²³ sy ²³ mę? ha.me? Jiam ⁵³ ¹² by ² lę pa.le ba ²¹ li ³³ ¹² by ² ŋgu	language Thang Wolam Lainong Thang Wolam Lainong Thang	source Weidert87 Thaam24 Wayesha10 Weidert87 Thaam24 Wayesha10 Weidert87
four	ba ²¹ li ³³	Lainong	Wayesha10
TSVs five five	pə.ŋu bə ²¹ ŋəu ³³	Wolam Lainong	Thaam24 Wayesha10

Why else is this helpful?

If you set up your data in this way, you're also creating a database.

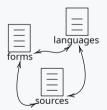
Most of the world runs on relational databases like this, from blogs and news sites to login credentials in social media, to your class registrations.



concept	form	language	source	
three	²³ sץ ²³ mę?	Thang	Weidert87	
three	ha.me?	Wolam	Thaam24	
	table for li	nguistic <mark>for</mark>	ms	
ID	glottocode	group	family	
Thang	than1260	Sal	Sino-Tibetan	
Wolam	wola1254	Sal	Sino-Tibetan	
	table fo	or languages		
ID	title		or	year
<mark>Weidert87</mark>	Tibeto-Bur		eidert	1987
Thaam24	Wolam Ng		m & van D	2024
	table	for sources		

Why else is this helpful?

While this can seem like a lot to deal with, you can ensure more consistency in the data by using consistent keys for repeated references, such as language names, sources, or anything else



concept	form	language	e source	
three	²³ s४ ²³ meូ?	Thang	Weidert87	
three	ha.me?	Wolam	Thaam24	
	table for l	inguistic <mark>fo</mark> r	ms	
ID	glottocode	group	family	
Thang	than1260	Sal	Sino-Tibetan	
Wolam	wola1254	Sal	Sino-Tibetan	
	table f	or language	s	
ID	Weidert87 Tibeto-Bur.		oor	year
Weidert87			eidert	1987
Thaam24			am & van D	2024
		-		

table for sources

One option: CLDF

To help ensure consistency of structure, many linguistic databases use a format called Cross-Linguistic Data Formats (CLDF), based on a few important principles:

- Data should be both editable "by hand" and amenable to writing and reading via software
- Data should be encoded as Unicode text files.
- Referencing existing data preferred over repeating data (e.g. language names)
- Compatibility with existing tools, standards and practices

https://cldf.clld.org/

Forkel, R. et al. Cross-Linguistic Data Formats, advancing data sharing and reuse in comparative linguistics. Sci. Data. 5:180205 doi: 10.1038/sdata.2018.205 (2018).

Forkel, R. et al. Cross-Linguistic Data Formats, advancing data sharing and reuse in comparative linguistics. Sci. Data. 5:180205 doi: 10.1038/sdata.2018.205 (2018)

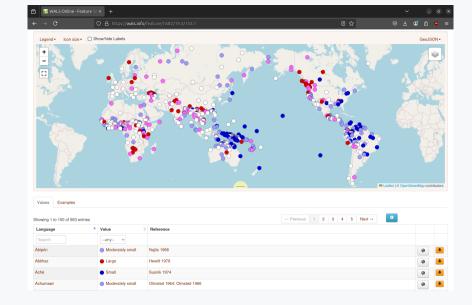
Introduction to CLDF

CLDF acts as a set of standards to ensure consistency. Used by:

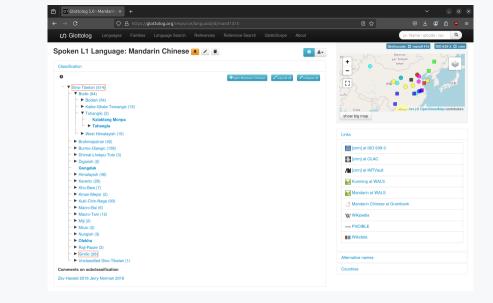
- World Atlas of Language Structures (WALS) http://wals.info
- Glottolog http://glottolog.org
- South American Indigenous Language Structures (SAILS)
- PHOIBLE
- Intercontinental Dictionary Series (IDS)
- World Loanword Database (WOLD)
- Lexibank
- etc etc

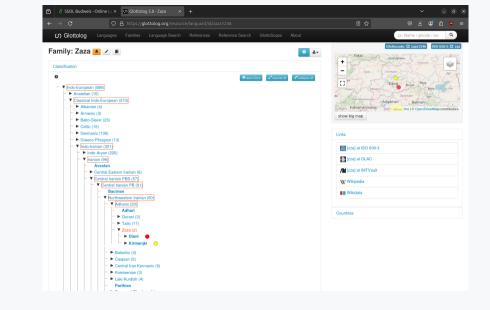
Basically by any website of linguistic data that looks kinda like this \rightarrow

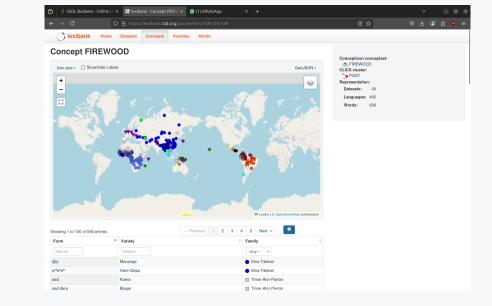
→ c	O A http	s://sails.clid.org/la	anguages/eme				80 081			
SAILS	Home Features Langu	ages Construct	ions Sources [lesigners						
Family: Tupla	n /						Giomosode: C errer1243 180 639-3: C erre			
howing 1 to 19	ge Emerillon				0					
Feature id *		Value 0	Description 0	Source	Comment		C Comment of Car			
Search	Search	Search	Search		Search					
VRGEX1-1	The dominant constituent order in an intransitive clause is	*	sv	Rose 2003:615, Rose 2003			Ccordinates © W3584 3*14%, 52*22W			
ARGEX1-2	The dominant constituent order in a transitive clause is	A	APV	Rose 2003:302, Rose 2003			3.24, -62.37			
VRGEX1-3	The dominant constituent order for P and V in transitive clause is	*	PV	Rose 2003:302, Rose 2003			Sources			
ARGEX1-4	The dominant constituent order for R in ditransitive clauses is	7	Not known				Rose 2003 Morphosyntaxe de l'Emerillon: Langue Tupl-Guarani de Guyane Française			
VROEX2-1	Person can be marked for S	٨	prefuiprocitic	Rose 2003:79, Rose 2003			C Into at Coogle Books Rose 2008			
ARGEX2-1-1	Verbal person markings for S when lexical argument is realized within clause are	*	obligatory	Rose 2003:77, 178, Rose 2003			A typological overview of Emerilion, a Tupi-Guarani language fro French Gulana			
VRGEX2-2	Number can be marked for S	c	fused with person	Rose 2003:79, Rose 2003						
A2246 -	D unknow of occursing VisioRoo morpho-syntactically?	5	110	Rose 2003						
AME4-7	Is assumed evidentiality marked morpho-syntactically?	N	no	Rose 2003, Rose 2003						
howing 1 to 19	4 of 194 entries									
			is licensed under a C	SAILS Online ed	(c) meson ted by Hammarstrom, Harald Attribution-NonCommercial-N	Derivs 2.0 Germ	Privacy Polic Disclaime arry. C Application source (v2014-70-gd8td5t5) o			



Part 1 - Data collection & structuring









The Region and its Languages

Hindu Kush, or the Greater Hindu Kush, in this context is really a shorthand for the remote region where the ranges of the Hindu Kush, the Karakoram, the Pamirs and the westernmost extension of the Himalavas meet (Liliegren 2014: 134-138: Bashir 2016: 264). These northwestern outskirts of the subcontinent are inhabited by at least 50 distinct ethnolinouistic communities (Hammarström, Forkel & Haspelmath 2017: Lewis, Simons & Fennig 2016). The Hindu Kush, in this sense, is part of the territories of several countries -- primarily Afdhanistan. Pakistan and India. The geographically most salient feature is its mountainous environment, especially vis-àvis the Inde-Gangetic plains situated south of it. While being a transit zone of sorts between the cultural spheres of South Asia. Central Asia. West Asia and the Himalavas, this is simultaneously the easternmost extension of Iranian languages, the porthernmost extension of Indo-Arvan languages as well as the westernmost extension of Sing-Tibetan. Apart from those three phylogenetic components, the region is also home to Nuristani, at least two Turkic language enclaves and the language isolate Burushaski. These six major phylogenies of the linguistic landscape of the Hindu Kush will be introduced briefly.



Indo-Arvan (which along with Iranian and Nuristani belongs to the larger Indo-Iranian branch of Indo-European) is the largest phylogenetic component, making up at least half of the languages in the Hindu Kush region, relatively eventy distributed in a southern belt stretching from east to west. Those can be grouped into at least nine relatedness clusters or groups (Pashai, Kunar, Chitral, Kohistani, Shina, Kashmiri, Western Puniabi, Bajasthani, and Central). although the exact placement of a few of them remains uncertain (Strand 1973; 207-208; 2001; 251; Bashir 2003). In the past, the label "Dardic" was collectively applied to languages belonging to the six first-mentioned groups, all of them Northwestern Indo-Arvan languages, with a longstanding presence in the region. That label is, however, no longer relevant as a classificatory entity (Morgenstierne 1961), The region's Western Puniabi varieties (such as Pahari-Pothwari and Hindko) are really part of a larger Punjabi continuum with an extension far south of the region, and as such probably have more in common with the closest main Indo-Arvan languages of the Indo-Pakistani plains than

Introduction to CLDF

In addition to the flat text files, CLDF uses a JSON file to help keep track of important metadata about the tables.

This includes which types of text are allowed in which field, as well as keeping track of more standard field types such as language names, IPA forms, etc.

As an example, here's part of the languages table's metadata from WALS.info

```
"dc:conformsTo": "http://cldf.clld.org/v1.0/terms.rd...",
"dc:description": "WALS' languages and language arou...".
"tableSchema": {
  "columns": [
      "datatype": {
        "base": "decimal".
        "minimum": "-90", "maximum": "90"
      },
      "name": "Latitude", "propertyUrl": "http://cldf..."
      "datatype": {
        "base": "string",
        "format": "[a-z0-9]{4}[1-9][0-9]{3}"
      "propertyUrl": "http://cldf.clld.org/v1.0/term...".
      "valueUrl": "http://glottolog.org/resource/lan...",
      "name": "Glottocode"
```

Conclusion

Conclusion For now, it's most important to understand what's behind these standards that make for good and usable data.

- flat structures
- plain text but Unicode compliant
- data that is machine readable and human readable
- data which can be machine- and human editable
- version-control ready

Tomorrow: We will put this into practice with the EDICTOR software to see some of the benefits of well-structured data.

We're going to work with some parallel data in the form of Swadesh lists. This will take you to a Google spreadsheet containing a number of lists. Go here and copy one of the tabs (just one) to a spreadsheet of your own.





https://tinyurl.com/ssol-swadesh



Part 2 - Practice SSOL 2024, České Budějovice

Jessica NIEDER & Kellen Parker van DAM Lehrstuhl für Multilinguale Computerlinguistik Universität Passau, Germany

22 August 2024

Morris Swadesh

- Doctoral student of Edward Sapir
- 1933 thesis on Nuučaańuł
- developed the list named after him of 207 concepts meant to be used in lexicostatistics - an old system of quantifying linguistic similarity as an effort to determine relatedness

Cross-linguistics concept lists have a long history, but none are as famous as those of Swadesh, namely the 100-concept version and the 207-concept version.

The Google Sheet from yesterday is based on the 207 word list.



Universality of concepts

Swadesh's list/s were intended toward basicness.

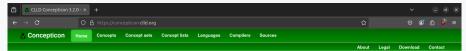
Basic concept lists exist in many forms, many attempting to adjust Swadesh lists for better cultural fitting.

Importantly, cross-linguistic concept lists make an effort toward universal concepts.

What might be a universal concept?

Universality of concepts

Why do we care about universals, anyway?



Welcome to the Concepticon

This resource presents an attempt to link the large amount of different concept lists which are used in the linguistic literature, ranging from [©] Swadesh lists in historical linguistics to [©] naming tests in clinical studies and psycholinguistics.

A Resource for the Linking of Concept Lists

This resource, our Conception, links concept labels for different conceptible to concept state. In the concept state is given a unique identifier, a unique table, and a humanreadable definition. Concept state a thirther structured by defining different relations between the concepts, as you can see in the graphic to the right, which disglays the relations between concept sets linked to the concept set SBILNO. The resource can be used for various purposes. Serving as a rich relerence for new and existing diatabases in dischronic and synchronic linguists, all alows researchers a quick access to studies on semantic sourcellons.

Note that the most important contribution by the Conception project are not the definitions given for individual concept sets, but the judgments which individual elicitation glosses to assign to the same concept set. As a result, the definitions may sometimes look less than optimal. We appreciate any help in improving the definitions, but we recommend users to check the list of assigned elicitation glosses first, since these assignments should inform the definition, and not vice versa.

If you want to learn more about the ideas behind our Concepticon, have a look at our about page or read List et al. 2016, presented at LREC, For details about the relation between Conception and NoFaRe, refer to Tjuka, Forkel, and List (2023) "Curating and extending data for language comparison in Conception and NoFaRe"





Cite

List, Johann Mattis & Tjuka, Annika & van Zantwijk, Mathilda & Blum, Froderic & Ugarte, Carlos Barrientos & Rzymski, Christoph & Greenhill, Simon & Forkel, Robert (eds.), 2024. CLLD Conception 3.2.0 (Data set). Zenodo. https://doi.org/10.5281/ zenodo.7290022

DOI 10.5281/zenodo.729802

cite

Version

concepticon.clld.org serves the latest ^C released version of data curated at ^C concepticon/concepticon-data. Oxder released version are accessible via DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.596412 on ZENODO as well.





Privacy Policy Disclaimer

CLLD Concepticon 3.2.0 edited by List, Johann Mattis & Tjuka, Annika & van Zantwijk, Mathilda & Blum, Frederic

CLLD Concepticon 3.		
	○ A https://concepticon.clid.org/values	
💍 Concepticon	Home Concepts Concept sets Concept lists Languages Compilers Sources	
Concepts		
• howing 1 to 100 of 131,335 er	tries ← Previous 1 2 3 4 5 Next → O	
Id 0	Description in source	Concept set
Search	Search	Search
eijingDaxue-1964-905-312	算盤 [chinese]	ABACUS
ist-2016-180-50	算盤 [chinese]; abacus [english]	ABACUS
licholas-1989-60-60	Abacus [english]	ABACUS
alero-2002-15-15	Abacus (english); Ábaco (spanish)	ABACUS
lale-1973-1798-762	abandon [english]	ABANDON
lpher-1999-151-48	to leave it [english]	ABANDON
lale-1961-100-40	to leave it [english]	ABANDON
OGrady-1969-100-48	leave it [english]	ABANDON
Nagano-2013-1256-637	give up (v) [english]	ABANDON
Snider-2004-1700-420	abandon (english); abandoner [french]	ABANDON
Anonby-2018-1500-323	abandon [english]: ترک کردن [persian]	ABANDON
apesa-2014-772-1	abandon [english]	ABANDON
Bravina-2014-717-1	abandon (english)	ABANDON
Pallas-1789-285-65	potentia [latin]; Мочь [russian]	ABILITY
Pallas-1786-442-126	Faculté (french]; Krafft [german]; Potentia [latin]; Movto [russian]	ABILITY
Pereira-2018-180-1	ability [english]	ABILITY
Gao-2012-213-34	才 [chinese]	ABILITY
Hill-2015-999-580	ability (english)	ABILITY
alizniak-2020-2590-2567	ability (english)	ABILITY
/ulic-2020-2244-490	2.5 (analoj: 能力 (cantonese): 能力 (chinese): ability [english]: volime (estonian): kyky (finnish]: aptitude (french): パンン (hebrew): umiejętność (polish): onoco6wocru. (russian): capacidad (spanish): gallu (weish)	ABILITY
alizniak-2024-4583-7	ability [english]	ABILITY
/ergallito-2020-1121-10	abortion (english); aborto (italian)	ABORTION
ai-2023-291-257	above [english]	ABOVE

≫ CLICS³ - Colexified concer × +

O A https://clics.clld.org/edges/1277-167

> CLICS³

Home Datasets Varieties Concepts

Colexifications for "HAND" and "ARM"

			Sea	irch:	
Language	Family	Form for 0	Gloss for HAND	Form for 0	Gloss for ARM
Old High German	Indo-European	hant	hand	hant	arm
Cha'palaachi	Barbacoan	faapa	hand	faapa	arm
Dímina	Chibchan	gúla	hand	gúla	arm
lka	Chibchan	gúnni	hand	gúnni	arm
Koreguaje	Tucanoan	hiti	hand	h#N-	arm
Orejón	Tucanoan	htti	hand	hiti	arm
Páoz	Páoz	kuse	hand	kuse	arm
Piratapuyo	Tucanoan	öbökä	hand	ōbōkā	arm
Siona	Tucanoan	Ri-sada	hand	Ri sada	arm
Tsafiqui Pila	Barbacoan	tede	hand	tede	arm
Tucano	Tucanoan	öbőkä	hand	öbőkä	arm
Avar	Nakh-Daghestanian	квер	hand	квер	arm
Erzya Mordvin	Uralic	ked⁄	hand	kedv	arm
Khanty	Uralic	yoš	hand	yoš	arm
Komi	Uralic	ki	hand	ki	arm
Northern Saami	Uralic	giehta	hand	giehta	arm
Mansi	Uralic	kat	hand	kat	arm
Mari	Uralic	'kið	hand	'kið	arm
Nenets	Uralic	ŋuda	hand	ŋuda	arm

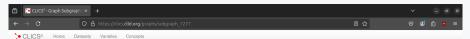
Graphs

This edge appears in cluster

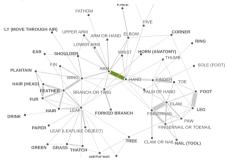
ARM

and subgraphs

- Subgraph WING
- Subgraph FINGER
- Subgraph BRANCH OR TWIG
- Subgraph LOWER ARM
- Subgraph CLAW
- Subgraph THATCH
 Subgraph FINGERNAIL
- Subgraph HAND
- Subgraph GREEN
- Subgraph TOE
- Subgraph FORKED BRANCH
- Subgraph TOBACCO
- Subgraph THUMB
- Subgraph PALM OF HAND
- Subgraph WRIST
 Subgraph GRASS
- Subgraph GRASS
 Subgraph LEAF (LEAFLIKE OBJECT)
- Subgraph UPPER ARM
- Subgraph ARM OR HAND
- Subgraph FATHOM
- Subgraph PAPER
- Subgraph CLAW OR NAIL
- Subgraph LEAF
- Subgraph SHOULDER
 Subgraph BING
- Subgraph HIN
 Subgraph FIN
- Subgraph FINGERNAIL OR TOENAIL
- Subgraph ARM
- Subgraph FIVE
- Subgraph HORN (ANATOMY)
- Subgraph ELBOW
- Subgraph FEATHER
- Subgraph CORNER
- Subgraph KNEE
- Subgraph NAIL (TOOL)



Subgraph HAND





300 colexifications for "HAND" and "ARM":

Language	Family	Form
Gawwada	Afro-Asiatic	hargo
Hausa	Afro-Asiatic	hannu
Hausa	Afro-Asiatic	hannuu
Iraqw	Afro-Asiatic	dawa1
Polci	Afro-Asiatic	aam
Tarifiyt Berber	Afro-Asiatic	fus
Hokkaido Ainu	Ainu	tek
Kimochi.unn	Atlantic-Congo	owoko
Kiseri.unn	Atlantic-Congo	kuoko
Lema.unn	Atlantic-Congo	kuwoko
Machame.unn	Atlantic-Congo	woko
Siha.unn	Atlantic-Congo	oko
Swahili	Atlantic-Congo	mkono
KNB (a Pearic variety)	Austroasiatic	daj
Kerne (Kernie variety)	Austroasiatic	thi53
Mang VN	Austroasiatic	eng6
Phong	Austroasiatic	si24
Samre	Austroasiatic	tia
Surin Khmer	Austroasiatic	daj
Vietnamese	Austroasiatic	tay
Alorese Alor-Resar	Austropesian	limano

Part 2 - Practice

Introduction to CLDF

One must still be cautious when it comes to published data, as we may not actually understand what's being meant by the glosses given.

Far		Â'jâl.		A DECEMBER	
Father		V⇠.			1
Fear *		Â'hî (very long	î).	C ()	
Feather		Mûl.	1	61071	
Female		Yâl'shik.		1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1	
Finger	Y	Yok'shî .		Yâ'shî.	
Fire	····	Varr.		·	
Fire-place	/	Varr kun.		Station and	
Fire-gun		3-612	í		1
Fish	1. V.	N.A (aboun)			1
Flame		Vân.			
Flea		Kar'khî.			
Flint striker		Varr pai.			
Fly, v.		Bâ.			
Fog	V.	Pharm.			
Fout		VALA		Yî'phî.	

Polysemy, colexification/dislexification

Features such as **polysemy** or **colexification** can only be discussed when talking about languages in comparison.

They can be useful windows into how cultures interpret and divide the lived experience.

Why might *kun mean 'twenty' in many other Tibeto-Burman languages, but 'all' in Burmese?

Let's look at the data

First things first

We're going to work with some parallel data in the form of Swadesh lists. This will take you to a Google spreadsheet containing a number of lists. Go here and copy one of the tabs (just one) to a spreadsheet of your own.

We'll use it later, but grab it now so we don't get too sidetracked later.





https://tinyurl.com/ssol-swadesh

Swadesh lists

If you've had a chance to look at the lists since yesterday, have you noticed anything interesting about them?

昔 Swadesh list - Google Sh	

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- 9. 급 등 · 100% · @ View only
- A1

	٨	в	J	К	L	м	N	0	Р	Q	R	s	т	U
1	Ne	English	Saraiki سرالیکی (srā'ikī) edit (204)	Sindhi منڌي edit (207)	Gujarati ગુજરાતી (gujrātī) edit (207)	Marathi मराठी (marățhi) edit (207)	Konkani কাঁকগী (końkni) edit (207)	Assamese অসমীয়া (oxomia) edit (207)	Bengali बारमा (banla) edit (207)		Kashmiri کأشر (kậśur) edit (193)	Sinhalese සිංහල (siṁhala) edit (207)		Romani rromani ćhib edit (206)
49	48	louse	jū	jūa, jū	jū	û	űv, üy	ükoni	ukun	ukuni		ukuņā	ukunu, ukuņu	3uv
50	49	snake	näńg	näńgu	sāp	sāp	sorop, jivāņe	хар	śap	sāpa	saruph	ukuņā	nannugati, haruf	sap
51	50	worm	kīţā	kito	kido	aļī	kido	pelu	krimi	krumi, poka, kiţa	kyom	krimiyāwa, paņu	fani, faņi	kirmo
52	51	tree	draxt, vaņ	vaou	jhād, v/ks	jhād	jhād, rūk	gos	gach	gacha, bruksha	kul	gasa	gas	rukh
53	52	forest	jańgal	jhańgal	jangal, van	jangal	rân	habi, zońghol, b	bon	jangala, bana	van	wana	valu	veś
54	53	stick	daņdā, sotā	lathi	läkdi	kāthī	dândo	bari, kathi	lathi	lathi, badi	lör	köţuwa	dardi	kopal
55	54	fruit		mevā	phal	phal	phal	phol	phol	phaja	phal	palaturu	mēvāeļun	frukto
56	55	seed	bij	biju	bīj	bī	bī	guti	bici, bij	maňji		blja	o\$	sumburo
57	56	leaf	patr	panu	pāddū	pān	pān	pat	pata	patra	ینہ وتمر ,pan	kojē	fai	patrin
58	57	root	pār, mūdh	pāŗa	mül	mül	mül	xipa	śikor	cera, muja		mula	mü	rikita
59	58	bark (of a tree)	chill, khal	chodo	châl	(jhāḍācī) sāl	(jhāḍāce) sāl	bakoli	chal	bakaja, cheli		potu	toși	korca
60	59	flower	phul	gulu	phül	phül	phül	phul	phul	phula		mal	mā	luludi
61	60	grass	ghāh	gāhu	ghās	gavat	tan	ghāh	ghaś	ghāsa		taņakoļa	vina	char
62	61	rope	rassā, rassī	raso	dordů	dorf, rassi	dorī	rosi	dori	rasi, daudi		ka‴baya	rönu, röņu	śelo
63	62	skin	khal, camri	khala.	câmdi	tvacă	kät	sal, samra	camra	camarā, chāla		ham	han	morthi
64	63	meat	gośt	gośt	mãs	mās	mās	monoh, marixo	mańśo, göśot	māriisa		mas	mas	mas
65	64	blood	ratt, xün, lahü	ratu	lohi	rakta	ragat	tez	rokto	rakta, lahu		lê	lê	rat
66	65	bone	haddi	hado	hādkū	hād	hād	har	har	hāda, asthi		kațu	kaşi	kõkalo
67	66	fat (noun)	mijh, carbi	carbi	carbi	carbi	vos	sorri, tel	corbi	moță, carbi		mēda	sarubi	thulo
68	67	egg	andā, ānā	āno	Tợũ	ande	tātī, aņdē	koni	dim	andā		bittaraya, andaya	bis	anro
69	68	hom	singh	sinu	sĭgdū	śińga	śińga	xiñ	sin	śińga		arga	daļu	śing
70	69	tail	puch, puchar	puchu	püchdī	šepūt, šeptī	śempdi	nez	lej	lāñja.		waligaya	nagü	pori
71	70	feather	khambh, par	khambhu	pĩchũ	pīs	pāk	pakhi	por	para		pihāţu	dünifat	por
72	71	hair	val	vāra	val	kes	kes	suli	cul	bāļa, keša, loma		kes, kondaya	istași	bal
73	72	head	sir	matho	mäthü	doke	taklí, mätte	mur, matha	matha	munda		oluwa, isa	bö	śero
74	73	ear	kann	kana	kān	kān	kān	kan	kan	kāna		kana	kańfał	kan
75	74	eye	akkh	akhi	ãkha.	doļā	dolo	soku	cökh	ākhi		æsa	lõ	jakh
76	75	nose	nakk	naku	näk	näk	näňka	nak	nak	nāka		nahaya	nēfat	nakh
77	76	mouth	müh	vātu	mõ, mukh	tonda	tonda	mukh	mukh	pāţi, mūha		kața	arga	muj
	77	tooth	dand	ɗanda	dāt	dāt	dânta	dāt	dāt	dânta		data	dat	dand

🕥 🕑 🕚 💿 Share 🗸 🚳

Swadesh lists

If you've had a chance to look at the lists since yesterday, have you noticed anything interesting about them?

- gaps in coverage (missing words)
- multiple words given per concept
 - what's the difference?
 - which is more basic?

With the Swadesh data from before, pick a few languages and concepts, and try to flatten them. Use tabs in a spreadsheet for the three tables for now.

Goals

- 1. have well structured data
- 2. bring it into EDICTOR
- 3. address cognate sets & alignment

We're going to go through this twice. Once with a sample German data set, and then again with data of your choosing.

EDICTOR

- 1. Open EDICTOR: https://edictor.org/
- 2. load German sample data

EDICTOR

- 1. Open EDICTOR: https://edictor.org/
- 2. load German sample data
- 3. add COGID, ALIGNMENT columns

ID	DOCULECT	CONCEPT	FORM
1	German	all	al
2	English	all	o:l
3	Danish	all	æ'l
4	Swedish	all	al:
5	Icelandic	all	atlir
6	Dutch	all	αlə
7	Norwegian	all	αlə
8	German	ashes	a∫ə
9	English	ashes	æ∫
10	Danish	ashes	asg

NeighbourNets

With EDICTOR we can also export neighbour-joining split networks (NeighbourNets, seen right). These can be useful to visualise the similarity of data across your word list.

Note, however, that this is simply showing a distance based visualisation of data similarity, and may not actually tell you anything about linguistic genealogy. Use with caution.

