

Interlinearization in ELAN

Han Slöetjes

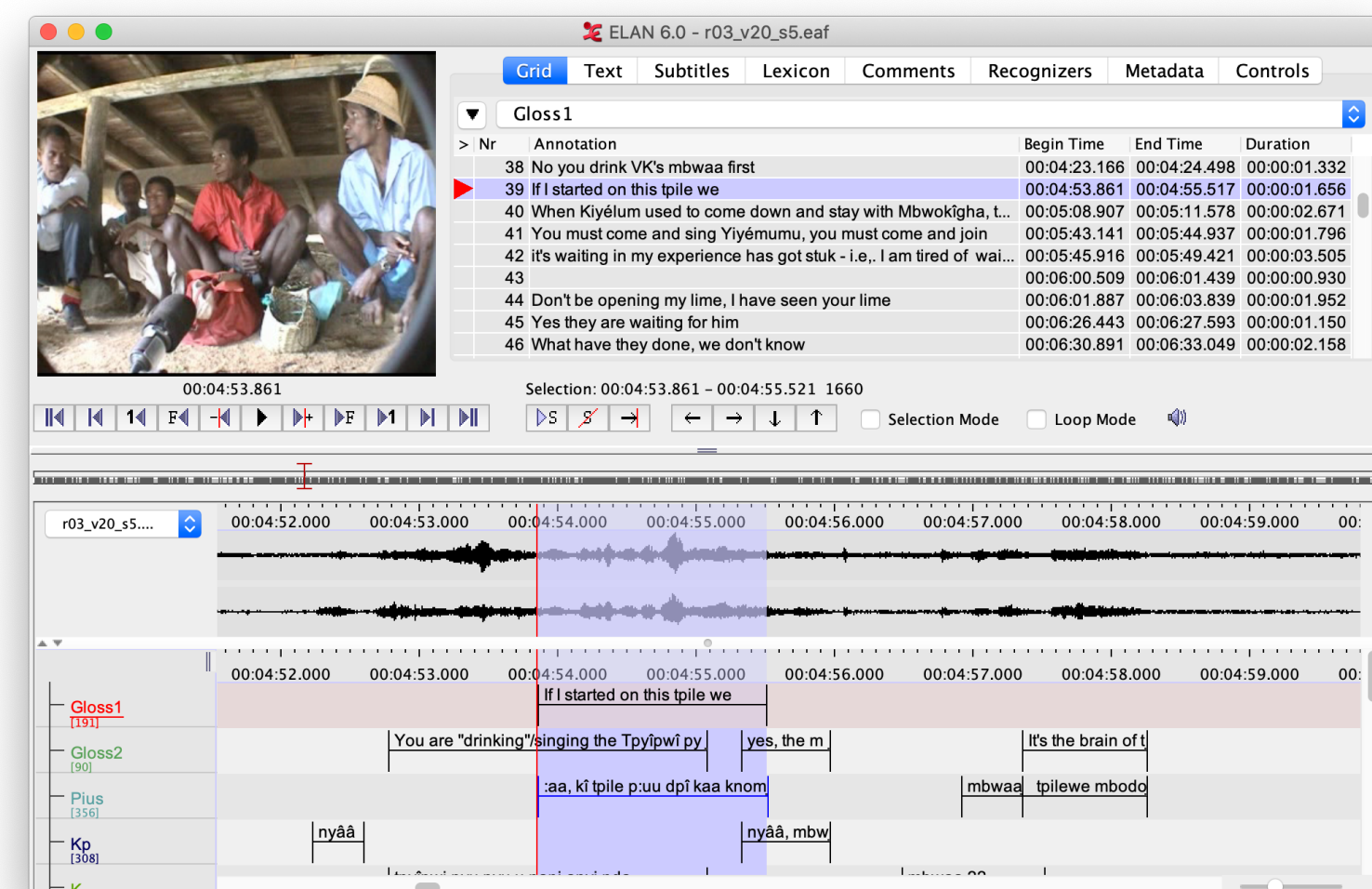
han.sloetjes@mpi.nl

<https://archive.mpi.nl/tla/elan>



Introduction

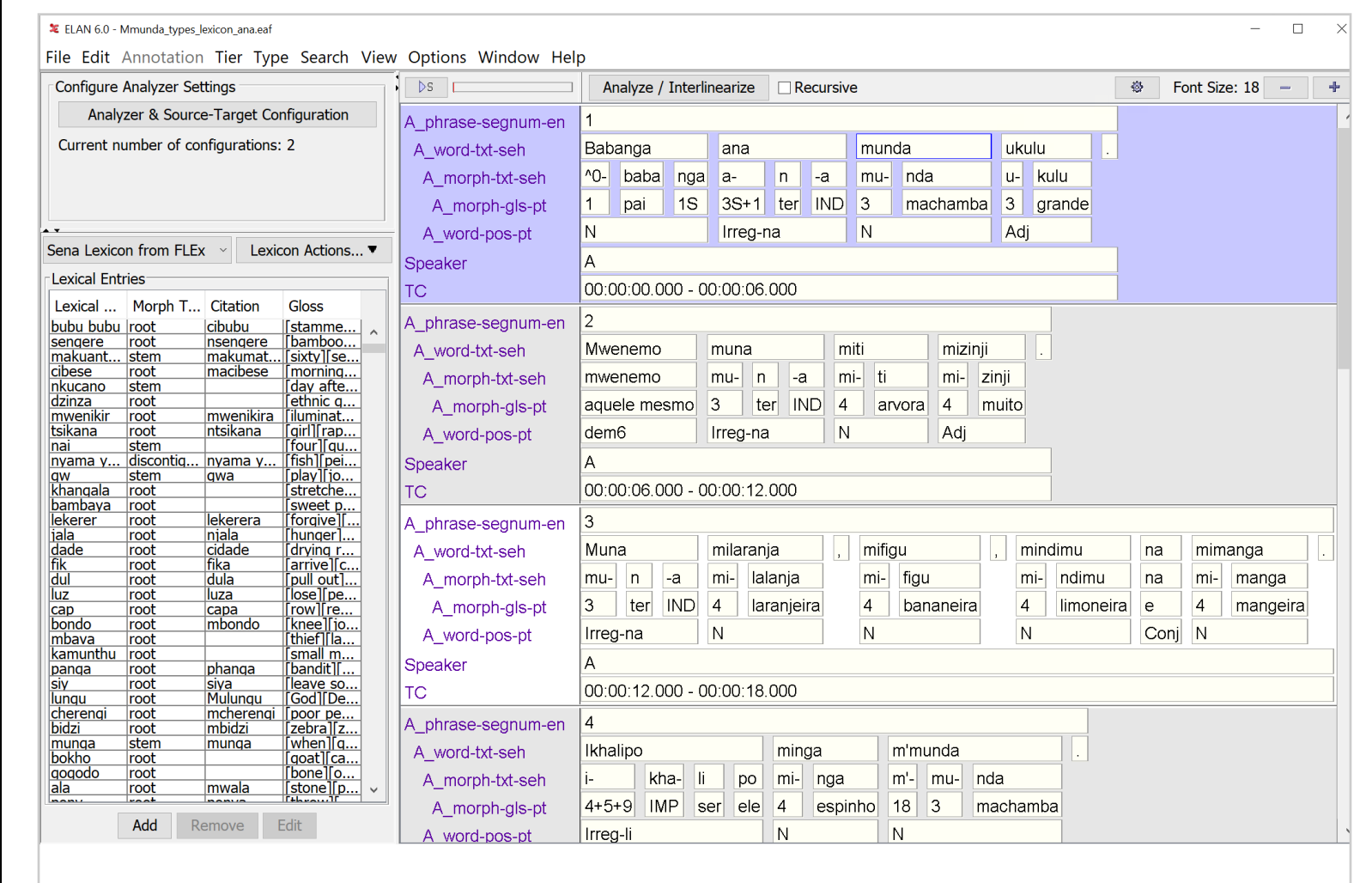
- **ELAN** is a manual annotation tool developed by **The Language Archive/MPI for Psycholinguistics**. It supports multi-tier, multi-speaker, time-linked annotation of audio and video and is applied in many fields of research, language documentation being one of them.



Background and history

- in language documentation the transcription and translation steps are often followed by morphological parsing and glossing
- it is possible to perform these steps manually in **ELAN**, but the preferred approach is to apply computer-aided methods as offered by **Toolbox³** and **FLEX⁴**
- **ELAN** provides import and export functions for the file formats of these tools, so that users can create a toolchain and move their data from one tool to another for the task at hand
- **TLA** once developed the lexicon tool **LEXUS¹** and prepared to combine it with **ELAN** by way of a new Natural Language Processing module, **LEXAN²**

Interlinearization mode



- new text oriented mode with an *Interlinear Glossed Text (IGT)* style of user interface
- the **LEXAN** modules became extensions of **ELAN** (after end of support for **LEXUS**)
- combined with a new lexicon component
- supports the process of (machine-assisted) parsing and glossing

Main characteristics

- text oriented (but still linked to the audio!)
- keyboard driven
- optimized for computer assisted morphological parsing and glossing
- text analyzer modules provide ‘*suggestions*’ to be disambiguated by the user
- contains a lexicon editor and viewer
- a flexible system, therefore some configuration is required

Interlinear editor with a play selection button to play the current active phrase.

The suggestions window displays the suggestions in the same layout as the editor. The most frequently selected parses are displayed at the top.

1. Ringersma, J. and Kemps-Snijders, M. (2007). Creating multimedia dictionaries of endangered languages using LEXUS. Interdpeech 2007
2. Stehouwer, H. and Drude, S. (2012). Lexan: A lexical annotation framework for ELAN. Talk presented at LREC 2012

Text analyzers

- are modules that receive text as input (an annotation) and produce output for a single or for multiple annotations
- can be added as extensions through an API
- can be connected to a lexicon

Analyzer	Source	Target
Parse Analyzer	word-txt-seh	morph-txt-seh
	Applies to tiers: A_word-txt-seh	Applies to tiers: A_morph-txt-seh
Gloss Analyzer	morph-txt-seh	morph-gls-pt
	Applies to tiers: A_morph-txt-seh	Applies to tiers: A_morph-gls-pt

Linking analyzers to tier types and configuration of an analyzer.

- built-in analyzers:
 - whitespace splitter
 - morphological parser
 - gloss analyzer
- the parser and glosser:
 - require access to a lexicon
 - keep record of choices made to improve suggestions
 - are language independent
 - the parser is implemented as a finite state machine

Configure Analyzer Settings

- Include variants in the parsing process
- Match longer prefixes/suffixes first
- Exclude aborted parses from results
- Case sensitive matching
- Match entry field language against tier content language
- Only suggest parses with same category constituents
- Use the citation form of the lexical entry in the output

Maximum number of parse steps: 512

Affix marker character: -

Clitic marker character: =

String for missing values: ***

Replace field in lexicon: replace

Apply Settings

3. Field Linguist's Toolbox, <https://software.sil.org/toolbox/>
4. FieldWorks Language Explorer, <https://software.sil.org/fieldworks/>
5. Lexicon Interchange Format, <https://github.com/sillsdev/lift-standard>
6. <http://corpafroas.tge-adonis.fr>

Lexicon editor

Lexicon Editor

Lexicon Name: Sena Lexicon from FLEx

Filter Entries: [Reset] Column: All columns

Lexical Unit	Morph Type	Citation	Gloss
=d	enclitic		[EVID][EVID]
=ine	enclitic		[vry][matu]
=mbo	enclitic		[ADD][ADD][INT...]
a	root		[ASSOC][ASSOC]
a-	prefix		[3P+2][3P+2][2]...
a-	prefix		[he+PS][ete+PS]...
a-	prefix		[6][6][6][6][6]...
a-	prefix		[3S+1][3S+1]
a-	prefix		[PAST][PASSADO]
a-	prefix		[assocp][assocp]
-a	suffix		[er][nominalizador]
-a	suffix		[IND][IND]
aa-	prefix		[aa-][n][aa-2]
adia	root	mwadia	[dugout canoe][ca...]
adidi	root		[good][bom][righ...]
adu	root	cadu	[lea][suiga]
-aji	suffix		[age][age]
aka	root	caka	[year][ano]
aka	stem		[this][este]
akudya	root	akudya	[food][comida]
akudza	root	wakudza	[foreign][estran...]
akugawika	root	akugawika	[dvd][dvd][dvd]
akutoma	root	akutoma	[first][premeiro]
ala	root	mwala	[stone][pedra]
ala	root	cala	[finger][dedo]
amacadu	root	masadu	[law][le]
ambo	root	mwambo	[law][le]
ambuk	root	ambuka	[cross][atravessar]
amvalli	root	mwali	[girl][rapariga]
-an	suffix		[REC][REC]
ana	root	mwana	[child][crianca]
ana-cinthu	root	mwana-cinthu	[owner][dono]
anakati	root	mwanakati	[messenger][men...]

Lexical Entry

Lexical Unit: hnd

ID: e_a1588ae6-207c-4999-b1e0-95a348d1bd

Date Created: 2005-06-23T16:30:30Z Date Modified: 2006-09-05T17:58:33Z

Morph Type: root

Citation: []

Variant: []

Phonetic: []

Language Prop: []

Note: []

Sense

Sense ID: s_892fa71e-e2cb-4e2f-9ca9-d3d77c5acda

Gram. Category: Adjective

Gloss: good

Language Prop: en

Gloss: bom

Language Prop: pt

Definition: []

Language Prop: []

Comment: []

Sense Note: Question: m'pyadid = ndi + pyadid Note that N made it become aspirated.; Question: There are a lot of ndi

Sense Order: 0

Sense

Sense ID: s_13e26eb7-5809-40d3-a08d-78c704ba830

Gram. Category: Noun

Gloss: right side

Language Prop: en

Gloss: direita

Language Prop: pt

Definition: []

Language Prop: []

Comment: []

Sense Note: []

Sense Order: 1

Apply Cancel

- multiple lexicons can be created and linked
- lexicon entries have a few predefined fields
- custom fields can be added
- sorting of entries according to a custom sort order
- the structure of a lexical entry is similar to the **LIFT⁵** format
- import lexicons from **Toolbox**, **FLEx (LIFT)** and **CorpAfroAs⁶** format
- export a lexicon to **LIFT** format

Acknowledgements

The design and implementation of the Interlinearization mode have for a large part been the work of Herman Stehouwer (LEXAN) and Olaf Seibert.