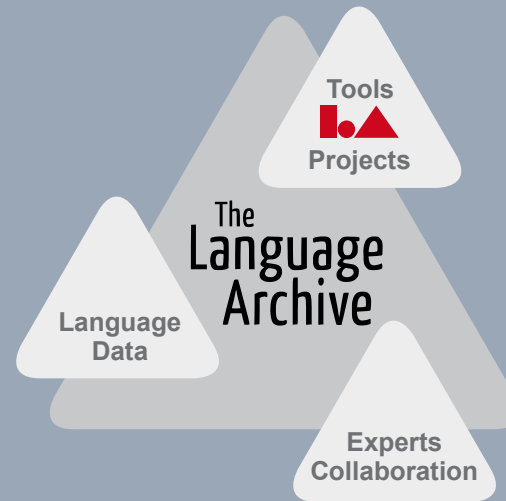


CLARIN

Common Language Resources and Technology Infrastructure



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ELAN

Creating annotations for multimedia data

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ELAN features – media



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- You can create annotations for existing video recordings
- You can link up to 4 video files to an annotation file
- ELAN will display the waveform for a linked .wav file



ELAN features - media



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The screenshot shows the ELAN software interface with a window titled "Elan - Undefined File Name". The interface includes a menu bar with "File", "Edit", "Search", "View", "Options", and "Help". Below the menu bar are two video player windows. The left window shows a woman at a desk with a red circle around her hands on a keyboard. Below it, the text reads "Player 1 Offset: 00:00:00.360" and "DIFF_PILOT_TEST_A.MPG". The right window shows a woman holding a book with a red circle around it. Below it, the text reads "Player 2 Offset: 00:00:00.440" and "DIFF_PILOT_TEST_B.MPG". At the bottom, there is a control panel with "Offset" and "Player" sections. The "Offset" section has "Use Absolute Offsets" selected. The "Player" section has "Player 2" selected. A red arrow points from the "Player 2" selection to a text box on the right.

Player 1 Offset: 00:00:00.360
DIFF_PILOT_TEST_A.MPG

Player 2 Offset: 00:00:00.440
DIFF_PILOT_TEST_B.MPG

Offset
 Use Absolute Offsets
 Use Relative Offsets
Apply Current Offsets

Player
 All
 Player 1
 Player 2

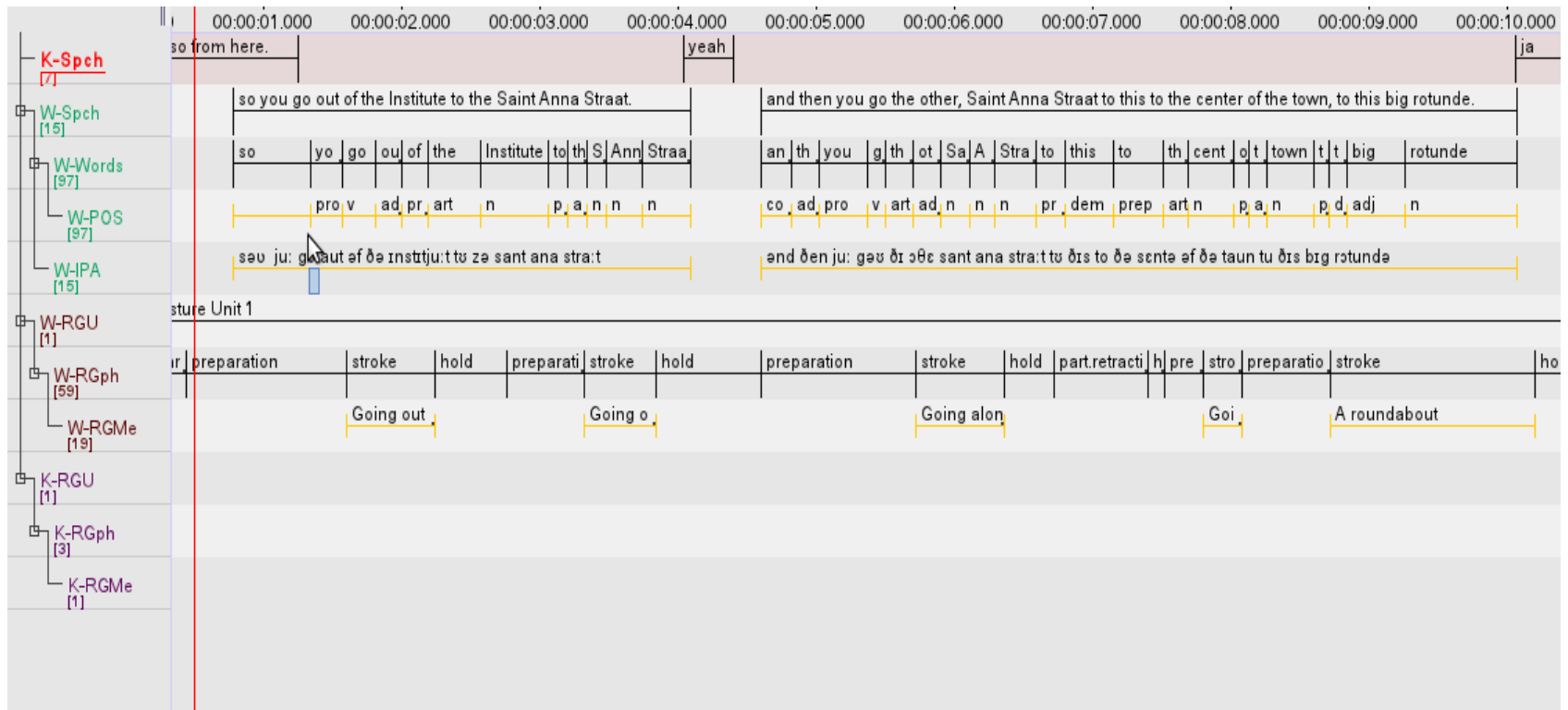
Player 2 has reached exactly the same point as Player 1.



- Annotations are organized in so-called **tiers** of different **types**
- Tiers can be arranged in a hierarchical structure (e.g. sentences>words>morph)
- You can easily create a new tier using the time-division of an existing tier
- You can use a controlled vocabulary to store often used values (e.g. PoS)



ELAN features - annotations





ELAN features – modes



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- ELAN offers different modes optimized for different parts of the workflow
 - Synchronization mode (for time-aligning multiple video sources)
 - Segmentation mode (for quickly segmenting the media into annotatable parts)
 - Transcription mode (for quickly filling in existing annotations)



ELAN features – import/export



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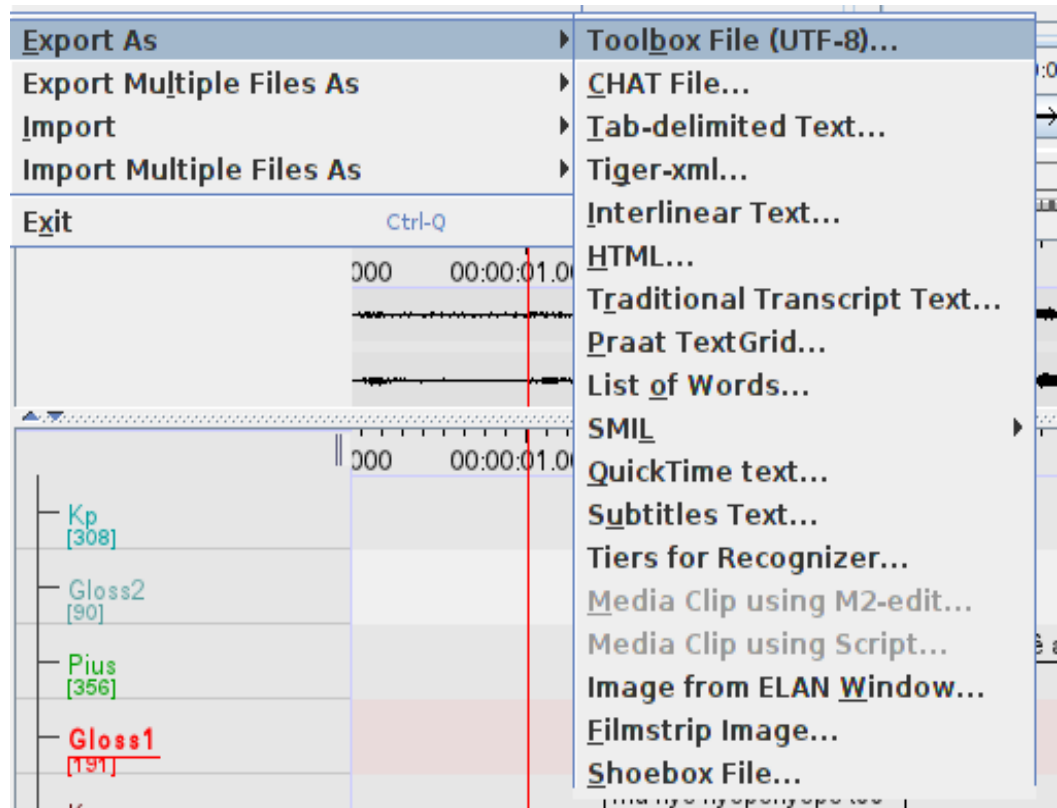
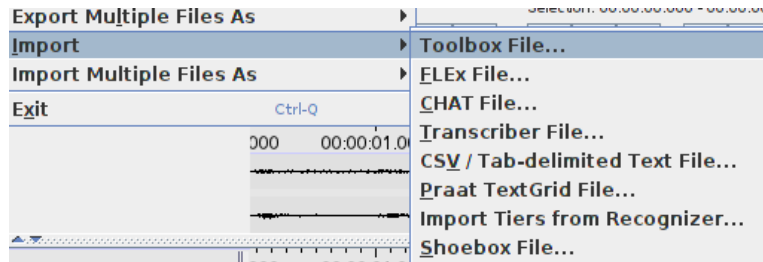
- ELAN can import from and export to most of the common annotation formats
- Import: Transcriber, CHAT, Shoebox/Toolbox, FLEx, CSV, Praat
- Export: CHAT, Shoebox/Toolbox, Praat, Tiger XML, SMIL, Subtitles, ...



ELAN features – import/export



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ELAN features - more



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- complex search (over multiple files)
- create a CV from a LEXUS lexicon
- A/V recognizer plugins



ELAN features - search



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Search eaf files

Substring Search | Single Layer Search | **Multiple Layer Search**

Domain: 3 eaf files Define Domain

Query History: < > Loaded 0 Queries

Mode: case insensitive | regular expression Clear

Minimal Duration	Maximal Duration	Begin After	End Before
.+	= 2 ann.	break	All Tiers
Overlap	Fully aligned	Must be in same file	Must be in same file
ADJ	No constraint	V	All Tiers
			Must be in same file
			All Tiers

Find Fewer Columns More Columns Fewer Layers More Layers

Found 0 hits in 0 annotations (of 0) Cancel



Comparable Tools to ELAN



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- EXMARaLDA
- ANVIL
- Transcriber
- Transana



Complementary Tools to ELAN



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- Praat (sound analysis)
- Toolbox
- Fieldworks Language Explorer (FLEx)
 - (both: annotation lexicon interaction)
- CLAN/CHAT (annotation analysis)



ELAN: Strengths and Weaknesses



MAX-PLANCK-GESELLSCHAFT

- + Can import and export a wide variety of formats
- + can handle up to four videos at the same time
- + different modes for optimized workflow
- + Java-based: runs on Windows, Linux, Mac
- + Open Source (GPL)



ELAN: Strengths and **Weaknesses**



MAX-PLANCK-GESELLSCHAFT

- Pretty complex / steep learning curve
- No bidirectional interaction with lexicon
- Focused mainly on time-aligned annotation
- Java-based: support on the client is waning
- atm: issues with media playback in Linux



ELAN in Action



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Questions?



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<http://tla.mpi.nl/tools/tla-tools/elan/>

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