

## RESEARCH OUTPUTS / RÉSULTATS DE RECHERCHE

### Corpus LSFB (French Belgian Sign Language). Current annotation conventions compared with the "Digging into Signs"'s suggestions

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## Comparison

Predictably, current annotation practice (based on Auslan's guidelines) is very similar to the ones of BSL and NGT

| Topic                                    | BSL  | NGT  | LSFB  |
|--|--|--|---|
| 1. Basic gloss                           | SIGN<br>SIGN02<br>SIGN03   | SIGN-A<br>SIGN-B<br>SIGN-C   | SIGN<br>SIGN.MEMORYAID<br>LOOK<br>LOOK(U)                       |
| 2. Two-handed signs                      | SIGN<br>SIGN   | SIGN<br>SIGN   | SIGN<br>SIGN  |
| 3. Buoy                                  | LBUOY<br>PBUOY<br>FBUOY<br>TBUOY   | COUNTING-HAND-1<br>COUNTING-HAND-2   | LBUOY<br>PBUOY<br>FBUOY<br>TBUOY                                |
| 4. Lexical variants                      | SIGN<br>SIGN02<br>SIGN03   | SIGN-A<br>SIGN-B<br>SIGN-C   | APRIL.NOSE<br>APRIL.WEBSITE                                     |
| 6. Repetition                            | BOY SHOUT WOLF WOLF WOLF   |  | WORK.(3times)<br>WORK+++<br>WORK WORK WORK                      |
| 7. Compounds                             | PARENTS<br>GRAPHIC*ART   | PARENTS<br>GRAPHIC-ART   | PARENTS<br>SLEEPLESS-NIGHT<br>WHY-NOT<br>THIS-IS IT (2 glosses) |
| 8. Manual negative incorporation         | KNOW-NOT   |  | LIKE<br>LIKE-NOT<br>DISLIKE                                     |
| 9. Directional verbs                     | ASK<br>TAKE-OVER   | ASK:1<br>1:TAKE-OVER   | CALL*<br>INVITE*  |
| 10. Plurality                            | CHILD  | CHILD.PL   | CHILD(pl)   |
| 11. Numbers                              | ONE<br>ONE2  | 1-A<br>1-B   | 6<br>6.2  |
| 12. Number sequences                     | NINETEEN*EIGHT*NINE  | 1989   | 1989  |
| 13. Number Incorporation                 | HOUR-FOUR02  | HOUR-4   | HOUR-5  |
| 14. Ordinal numbers                      | FIRST<br>RANKING<br>RANKING02<br>RANKING02-THREE   | 1-ORD  | 1E<br>2E<br>3E  |
| 15. Sign names                           | SN:FIRST<br>SN:PETER(FS:P-PETER)<br>SN:ALEXFERGUSON(FS:AALEX*<br>FS:FFERGUSON)<br>SN:OSAMA-BINLADEN(BEARD) | *FIRST-LAST  | NS: LAURENCE(HAIRCLIP)  |
| 17. Fingerspelling                       | FS:WORD<br>FS:WORD(WRD)  | #WORD<br>#WRD<br>*word'  | FS:WRD(WORD)  |
| 18. Pointing signs                       | PT:LOC<br>PT:DET<br>PT:PRO1SG<br>Multiple possible functions:<br>PT:LOC/PT:PRO3SG<br>PT:LBUOY              | PT<br>PT:B<br>PT:W<br>PT:1   | PT:PRO1<br>PT:PRO6<br>PT:POSS3(B)                               |
| 19. Classifier/depicting signs           | DSEW(2)-MOVE<br>DSEP(1)-PIVOT<br>DSEW(2)-AT  | MOVE+2 ('cat walks to and fro')<br>PIVOT+1 ('cat's legs move around')<br>AT+2 ('bird is here') | DS  |
| 20. Shape constructions                  | DSS(CYL)   | SHAPE+cylinder<br>'drain pipe'   | Not yet.  |
| 21. Type-like classifier/Depicting signs | DSEW(1-VERT)-<br>MOVE:HUMAN<br>DSEW(FLAT-LATERAL)-<br>AT:VEHICLE   | MOVE+1<br>MOVE+flat  | Not yet.  |
| 22. Gestures                             | G:HOW-STUPID-OF-ME   | %<br>HEY   | GSGN  |
| 23. Palm up                              | G:WELL   | PO   | PALM-UP   |
| 24. Manual constructed action            | G:CA:HOLD-HANDS-UPIN-FRIGHT  | %  | Not yet. See 22<br>GSGN   |
|  | INDECIPHERABLE   | ±  | INDECIPHERABLE  |
|  | GLOSS(FALSE-START)   | ~GLOSS   | SIGN(initiate)  |

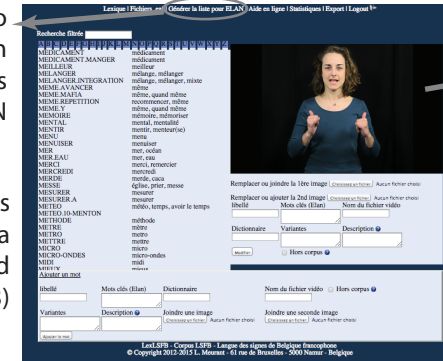
  Not the same principle  
  Same principle but with slight difference  
  Same  
  Not tackled yet

## Specificities of the Corpus LSFb's current annotation

**Lex-LSFB:** online sign bank (web app) linked as an External Controlled Vocabulary to ELAN

Online: always up to date for all the team  
Easy to export: always updated ECV in ELAN

Lexical variants e.g. SAME.Y identified by a memory aid (Johston 2013)



Animated GIF files

More comfortable for the annotators. Improves the annotation process

**Fragment Buoy:** only from 2 signs hold by the other hand (Gabarro-Lopez & Meurant 2014); behind that, no specific information is added to the glosses and the annotations follow the hands' movements

**Video files editing:** for each task, separated files for 'Question' (all interactions with moderator, including presentation of the task) and for 'Answer' (only interactions between the two informants). Colour code to relate the 'Answer' sub-parts to the 'Question' sub-parts when needed

## Question

**Repetition:** Is it always possible to annotate separately the repeated signs?

e.g. WORK (citation form including 2 movements)  
 WORK (3x): 3 movements in place of 2  
 WORK +++: ± 6 movements made at one go  
 WORK WORK WORK: 3x2 movements distinguishable

Gabarró López, S. & Meurant, L. (2014). The Use of Buoy across Genres in French Belgian Sign Language (LSFB). In Actes du IXe colloque de linguistique des doctorands et jeunes chercheurs du Laboratoire MoDyCo (COLDOC 2013): La question des genres à l'écrit et à l'oral, 43-54.

Johnston, T. (2013). Auslan Corpus annotation guidelines. Centre for Language Sciences, Department of Linguistics, Macquarie University, Sydney (Australia), 22th February.

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