

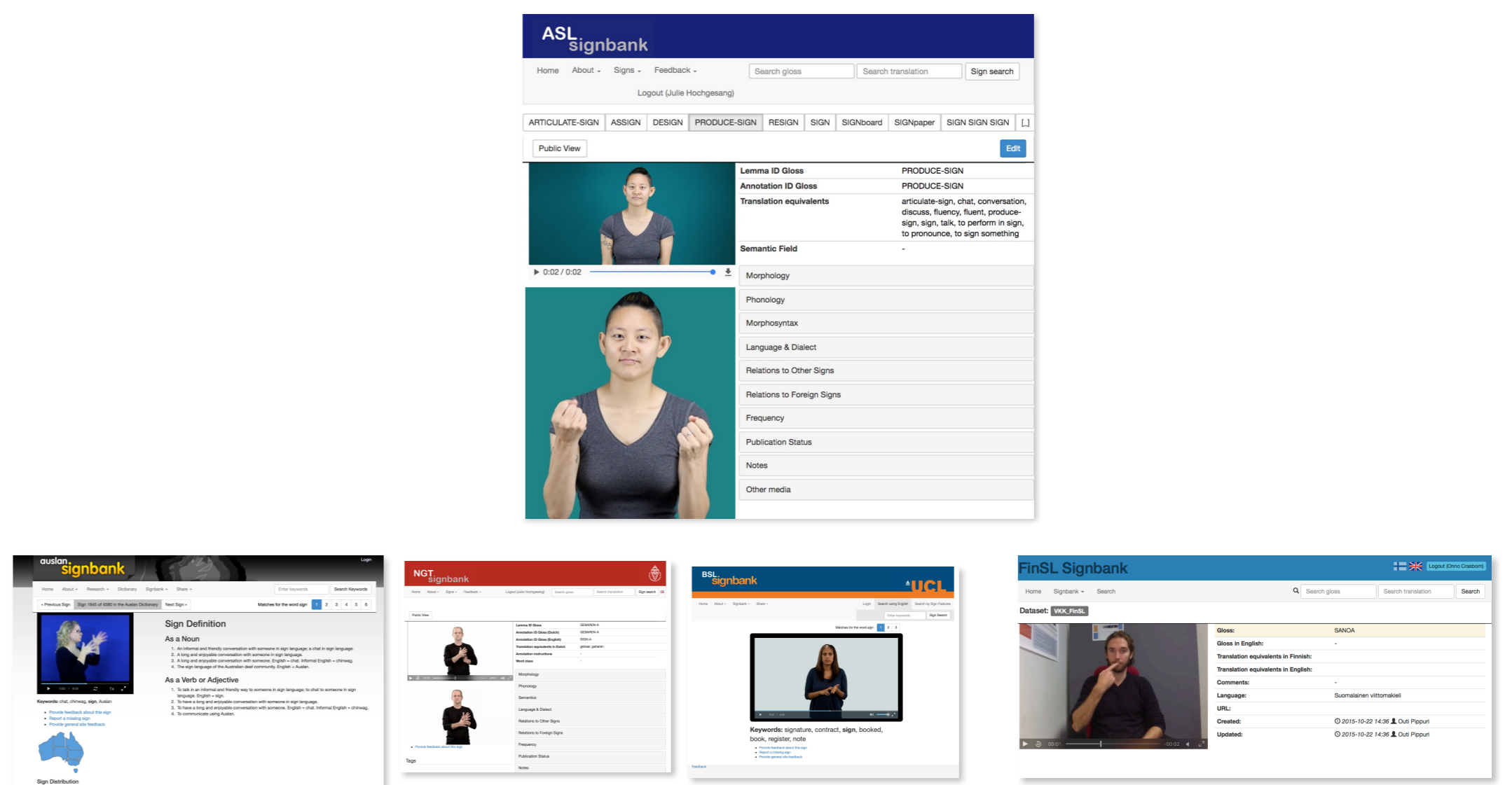
Building the ASL Signbank on the Shoulders of Giants

Julie A. Hochgesang (Gallaudet University), Onno Crasborn (Radboud University) & Diane Lillo-Martin (University of Connecticut)



Introduction

The concept of the ASL Signbank builds on the other Signbank databases, Auslan (Johnston 2001), British Sign Language (BSL) (Fenlon et al. 2014), Finnish Sign Language (FINSL) and Nederlandse Gebarentaal (NGT) (Crasborn et al. 2016). The source code for these sign banks is at <http://github.com/signbank/>



ASL signbank

Home About Signs Feedback Logout (Julie Hochgesang) Search gloss Search translation

Form your query

Add New Sign

Number of matches: 2313 out of 2313.

	Annotation ID gloss	Translation equivalents	Handedness	Dominant Handshape	Nondominant Handshape	Location - major	Tags
	AMBULANCEec	ambulance, siren	None	None	None	None	
	AMERICAN-INDIAN	American Indian, Native American	None	None	None	None	
	ANALYZE	analysis, analyze, assess, examine, study	None	None	None	None	
	ANDasym	and, also	OneHanded	None	None	None	
	ANDsym	and	None	None	None	None	

Current Status

- ✓ Linked to ELAN
- ✓ Over 2300 signs with complete descriptions in progress

Sign Language Acquisition: Annotation, Archiving, and Sharing (SLAAASH)

SLAAASH is an on-going effort to prepare corpora of sign language acquisition data to share with the research community, and eventually shared with other projects annotating ASL data (e.g., Philadelphia Signs Project).

Current aim: Serve as a consistent and constantly upgraded resource for ongoing annotation

Mid-term aim: Create shareable archive of child language resources

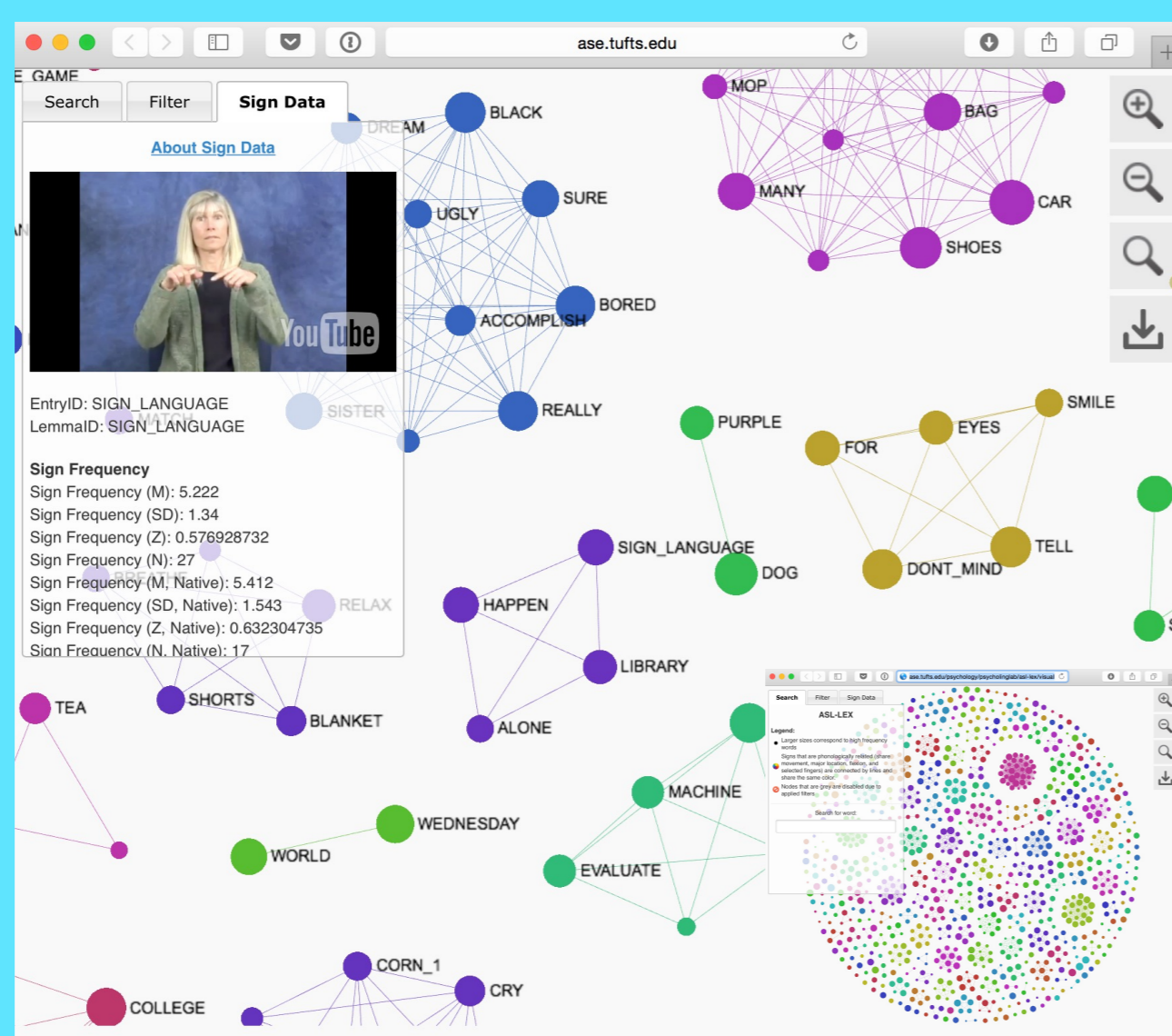
Long-term aim: Be an online usage-based sign language database to serve as a source for future ASL resources including dictionaries

Linked to ASL-LEX

ASL-LEX (Caselli et al. 2016) is a lexical database which includes subjective frequency and iconicity judgments on (to date) 1000 ASL signs. We are building up both projects simultaneously. The goals of the ASL SignBank and ASL-LEX are somewhat different: the SignBank is based on usage data (e.g., ID glosses for signs are created as they occur in our child acquisition data), while the ASL-LEX project was designed to include signs representing the full range from high to low frequency and high to low iconicity, for use in psycholinguistic experiments. Despite these different goals, the projects are mutually reinforcing. Eventually, the actual frequency data from our corpora (in child signing and child-directed signing) will help to tie the projects even closer together.

Linking actions

- * Alignment of glosses
- * Sharing phonological coding
- * Sharing iconicity ratings
- * Sharing lexical properties



Different data sets with which the ASL Signbank is already used



JIL_037 from SLAAASH dataset

Philadelphia Signs Project, Janie Carter with Interviewer Fisher

ASL Internet Corpus (See Hou, Lepic, Wilkinson this workshop); Gallaudet classes using ASL data

Plans

- * Move to permanent US server
- * "Informing the public about how to use/view ASL Signbank" - Informing users about the nature of ASL SignBank: e.g., entries are produced by actors (not necessarily the signs they use); how it is different from a dictionary (no definitions)
- * ASL SignBank will have different levels of access
 1. Public access (simple access to sign movie and picture, ID gloss and translation equivalents like <http://bsl.signbank.ucl.ac.uk/dictionary/>)
 2. User registration for more access to features like providing feedback on existing signs and contributing new signs
 3. Researcher access (current version)
- * Lots more signs

This poster here: <http://bit.ly/HCLM2017poster> (or scan →)

References here: <http://bit.ly/refsHCLM> (or scan →)

Find copy of annotation conventions and "what's new" guide here: bit.ly/SLAAASHGuides (or scan →)

