

The many resources for low-resource languages

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Investigating low-resource language has an advantage and a disadvantage:

1. It is straightforward to get a complete picture of the available material and to determine which aspects have been researched and which remain to be investigated.
2. There is so little material available that it will be challenging to comprehend the language's structure before going into the field.

This talk is intended as a workshop to discuss these two aspects of linguistic fieldwork. The focus lies on the presentation of available resources for selected languages which may be classified as low-resource languages, and we will evaluate which of these resources are reliable and useful to the fieldwork linguist. This talk explores various collections where material in these languages can be obtained from, including OLAC, WALS, PHOIBLE, WOLD, ELDP/ELAR, The Language Archive and DoBeS, Pangloss, PARADISEC, AIATSIS, TITUS, WOWA, Wikitongues, The Native American Languages Collection, and several others. Additional sources where written material in the languages can be gathered from include Language Science Press, Archive.org, Academia.edu, ResearchGate, and personal contact to researchers. We will discuss the advantages and the caution of using these services.

This workshop also shows how to quickly develop a dictionary app from collected data in the field, create a corpus using your own material in ELAN, FLEx, or SketchEngine.

With all this information and knowledge about where to find the material and how to preserve one's own material, the participants will acquire the necessary skills to prepare oneself before they go into the field, and they will gain an understanding of what to do with all the recorded material once they come back from the field.