Description of the materials in the RADIS corpus

The RADIS corpus (*Relaciones Actanciales en Discurso Signado* = Actancial Relations in Signed Discourse) is a set of 48 video recordings of different genres in Spanish Sign Language (LSE in its Spanish abbreviation). Some of them are fully or partially annotated in ELAN[1] by a team of researchers linked to the University of Vigo. The aim was to describe the argument structure, i.e., the grammatical LSE patterns that serve for the expression of events[2].

Some of the videos are available on the iSignos website (http://isignos.uvigo.es/) for consultation.

The 30 ELAN files published on Zenodo generally contain the following tiers:

- **Ref**: segments and numbers the 'clause-like units' (CLUs) (Ferrara & Johnston 2014) of the recording.
- **Trad**: provides a Spanish translation of the CLU.
- **MD_Glosa**: glosses the articulation at the right hand.
- **MI_Glosa**: glosses the articulation at the left hand.
- **Role:** indicates the role-shift or constructed action/constructed discourse segments and identifies the character in the role.
- **MD_Cat**: identifies the lexical category of what is signed with the right hand.
- **MI_Cat**: identifies the lexical category of what is signed with the left hand.
- **MD_Arg**: provides information about the arguments of the CLU, according to a numbering which is specific for each verb and identifying its articulation in the right hand.
- **MI_Arg**: provides information about the arguments of the clause, according to a numbering which is specific for each verb and identifying its articulation in the left hand.

- **Rol_Arg**: in case the character in the role matches a CLU argument, specifies which one it is.
- **MD_Locus**: provides localization information when grammatically relevant.
- **MD_Anim**: reports on the animation of the argument expressed in the right hand.
- **MI_Anim**: reports on the animation of the argument expressed in the left hand.
- **LH_Gloss**: translates the left-hand gloss into English
- **RH_Gloss**: translates the right-hand gloss into English.
- **Trans_EN**: provides an English translation of the CLU.

When there are two signers, the tiers are duplicated, so that the interviewer's tiers are Ref-ET, Trad-ET, Rol-ET, etc. So far, the lines with the –ET version in English have not been incorporated.

Below are the conventions used to annotate on some of the tiers. For tiers MD_Glosa, MI_Glosa, RH_Gloss and LG_Gloss see the <RADIS gloss-annotation_EN> file.

Rol

This tier identifies segments where a character's point of view is adopted. It can be constructed action (AC) or constructed discourse (DC) (see Cormier, Smith and Zwets 2013; Ferrara and Johnston 2014). After the colon, the character whose perspective is adopted is annotated. Example: AC:Kuma.

MD_Cat and MI_Cat

They identify the category associated with the right-hand (MD_Cat) and left-hand (MI_Cat) token. The category that seems most plausible according to the discursive context is selected. More specifically, functional criteria (distribution) are applied in combination with formal criteria specific to sign languages (e.g. variable location). For bimanual lexical signs, the category is annotated only in MD_Cat. For bimanual classifiers, it is annotated on both, whether they are symmetrical or whether both hands act separately.

The list of lexical categories is adapted from the Auslan annotation guide (Johnston 2016). Below is a summary table showing the equivalences with the Auslan corpus, if any.

CV tag LSE	Description	CV tag AusL	Expanded
Adj	Adjective	Adj	Adjective
Adv	Adverb	Adv	Adverb
Adj/Adv	Adjective or adverb		
Aux	Auxiliary	Aux	Auxiliary
B	Buoy	Buoy	Buoy
B.L	List buoy		
Conj	Conjunction	Conj	Conjunction
Conj / N	Conjuction or Noun.*		
Det	Determiner	Det	Determiner
Frag	Fragment	Fragment	Fragment
G	Gesture		
Inter	Interactive	Interact	Interactive
Loc	Locative	Loc	Locative
MD	Discourse marker	DM	Discourse marker
N	Noun		
N.D	Noun: Depicting	ND	Noun: Depicting
N.Loc	Noun: Locatable	NLoc	Noun: Locatable
N.P	Noun: Plain	NP	Noun: Plain
N/V	Noun or Verb	NorV	Noun or Verb
V/Adj	Verb or Adjective		
V/Adj/Adv	Verb, Adjective or Adverb		
Neg	Negator	Neg	Negator
Num	Number	Num	Number
Pred	Predicate	Pred	Predicate
Prep	Preposition	Prep	Preposition
Posp	Postposition		
Pro	Pronoun	Pro	Pronoun
Loc/Pro	Indeterminate point	Loc/Pro	Indeterminate point
Det/Loc/Pro	Indeterminate point	Det/Loc/Pro	Indeterminate point
Pos	Possessive point		
Salut	Salutation	Salutation	Salutation
Tit	Title	Title	Title
V	Verb		
V.D	Verb: Depicting	VD	Verb: Depicting
V.Dir	Verb: Indicating Directional	VIDir	Verb: Indicating Directional
V.Loc	Verb: Indicating Locatable	VILoc	Verb: Indicating Locatable
V.P	Verb: Plain	VP	Verb: Plain
Interr	Pronoun question sign	WH-ProQ	Wh- Pronoun Question sign
Rel	Relative pronoun	WH-Rel	Relative pronoun (question sign)
Xxx	Unsure	Unsure	Unsure

*(It is used for signs introducing a CLU and approaching a meaning of cause, finality, condition, etc.)

MD_Arg, MI_Arg and Rol_Arg

The lines MD_Arg, MI_Arg, and Rol_Arg are used to specify the argument structure of each CLU. In MD_Arg and MI_Arg, predicates and arguments are annotated. Rol_Arg specifies which argument matches the role-shift or constructed action, if any.

When the predicate is verbal, it is annotated as V (in MD_Arg and MI_Arg). If there is more than one verb, they are numbered in order of appearance, V1, V2, etc... If there is more than one verb in simultaneous constructions (descriptive predicates), it is V1 for the dominant hand and V2 for the dominated hand. Nonverbal predicates are annotated as Pred.

Arguments are labeled with A (uppercase A) followed by a number: A1, A2... The numbering is specific to the argument structure of each verb. For example, GIVE (A1=giver; A2=given thing; A3=receiver).

Other annotations in MD_Arg and MI_Arg:

- Non-argument constituents are labeled nA, and those that act as modifiers of a particular argument are noted as sAx, where x is the number of the modified argument.
- Verbs of motion and location (depicting verbs) are annotated with the number of the incorporated argument, for example, V_A1 is a depicting verb in which the participating entity is first argument (A1).
- Retrievable null arguments are annotated next to the verb with an underscore, marked with the symbol $^{\circ}$ and specifying the corresponding number. Example: V_$^{\circ}$A1 to specify a verb with a null A1.

MD_Locus

The arguments of directional verbs are annotated in this tier (MD_Locus: locus of the right hand). In the RADIS corpus there are no left-handed signers, so the right hand acts as the dominant hand.

The annotations are:

- d (right),
- i (left),

- f (forward),
- s (signer)

They can be combined with up (a) or down (b).

The argument is added in parentheses with its number, and if there are two arguments, the direction of the action/movement is also registered. Example: SCOLD, annotated d>f.b(=A1>A2).

The repetition of the letter represents a greater distance from the body of the signer. Example: *f>ff* indicates a forward and outward movement.

When the same directional verb moves in more than one orientation, it is annotated by separating the locations with semicolons, for example: *>i; >d (>A2)* (BL-FRE#149). This is the directional verb LOOK, articulated first to the left and then to the right, with the sense of "He looked in all directions".

A part of the body may be pertinent location. It is annotated as *pc*.

MD_Anim and MI_Anim

These tiers serve to indicate the animation of the arguments. The annotations are:

- In (inanimate)

- An (animated)

- Hu (human)

References

Cormier, K., Smith, S., & Zwets, M. (2013). Framing constructed action in British Sign Language narratives. *Journal of Pragmatics*, 55, 119-139. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pragma.2013.06.002.

Ferrara, L., & Johnston, T. (2014). Elaborating Who's What: A Study of Constructed Action and Clause Structure in Auslan (Australian Sign Language). *Australian Journal of Linguistics*, 34(2), 193-215. https://doi.org/10.1080/07268602.2014.887405.

Johnston, T. (2016). *Auslan Corpus Annotation Guidelines.* http://media.auslan.org.au/attachments/Johnston_AuslanCorpusAnnotationGuidelines_February2016.pdf