Corpus Based Sign Dictionaries of Technical Terms
Dictionary Projects at the IDGS in Hamburg

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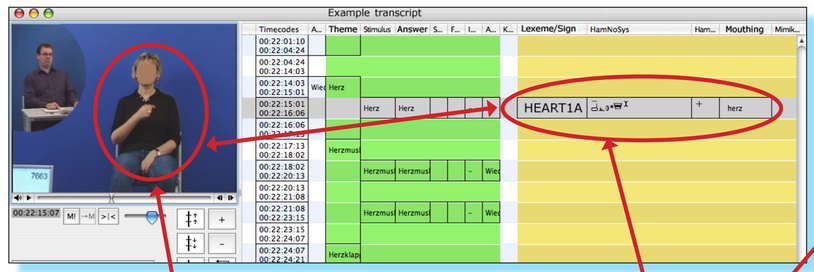
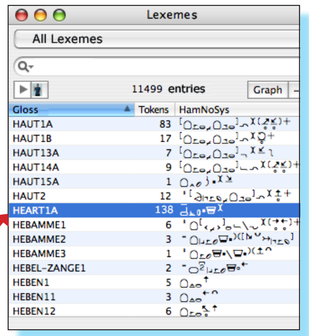
Projects: Sign Dictionaries of Technical Terms

	Psycho-logy	Joinery	Home Econo-mics	Social Work	Health & Nursing Care	Land-scaping & Horti-culture
Timeframe	1993-1995	1996-1998	1998-2000	2001-2003	2004-2007	2006-2009
Number of technical terms	900	800	700	450	1000	710
Number of signed trans-lations included in the dictionary	1270	2800	1560	940	2330	
Stimuli:						
• written terms	760	800	700	450	1000	710
• pictures	0	550	340	0	190	410
Informants (filmed)	5	16	17	15	18	11
Informants (transcribed)	5	10	11	10	10	
Hours of filmed material						
• interview	2	3,5	2	5	5	3,5
• conversation	12	19	15	9	8,5	5,5
• elicitation	7	32,5	37,5	40,5	93,5	37
Answers (total)	3600	13500	12500	9600	43200	22000
Answers (transcribed)		8900	9800	6800	15200	
Number of transcribed tokens (single signs)		18700	26350	15800	29500	
Number of						
• types		1370	1750	1766	1450	
• productive signs		2800	2850	50	2300	

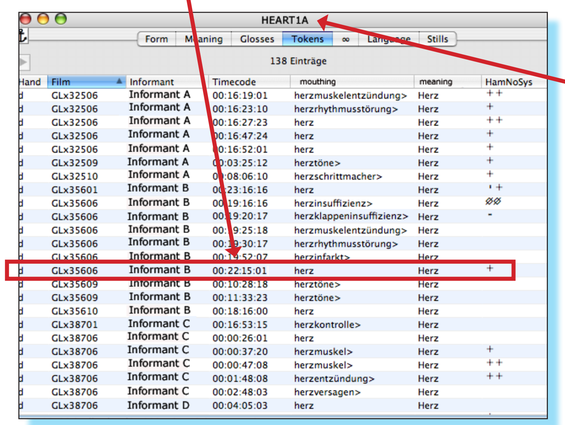
Transcription: token-type matching with iLex

transcript: one token

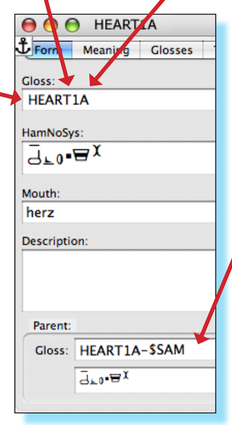




list of types



tokens of type HEART1A



type

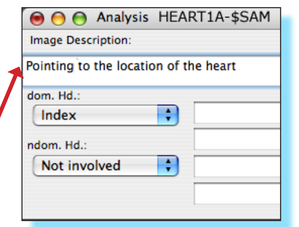
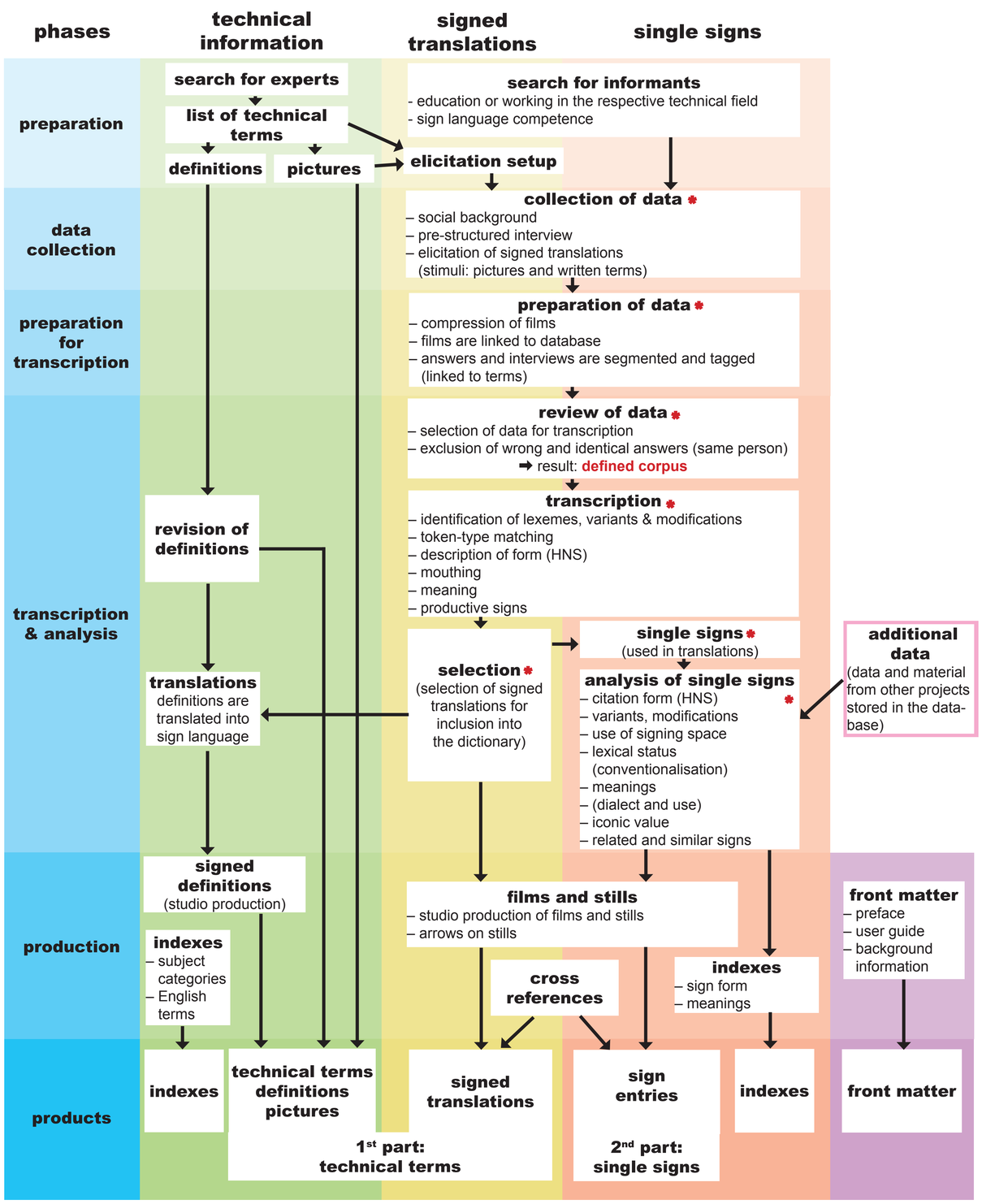


image description & visualisation technique

Work stages and procedures

* relating to or depending on corpus data

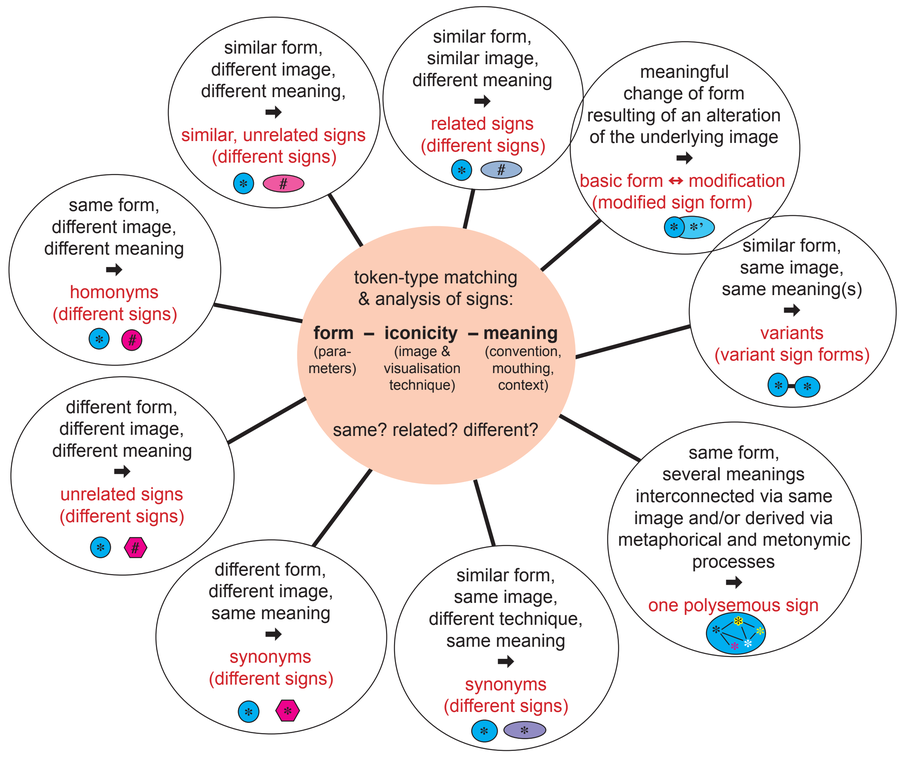


Analysis

Assumptions & Decisions
(used for token-type matching and sign analysis)

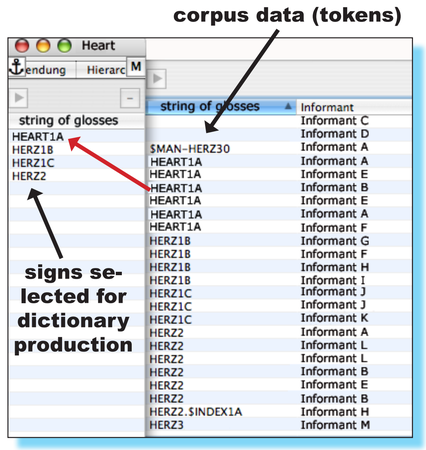
- mouthings are not part of the sign lexeme
- mouthings copy or specify the meaning of the sign and have to be taken into account to determine the sign's meanings
- many signs are iconic, iconicity and visualisation technique can help to determine and differentiate sign lexemes, their variants and modifications
- the meanings of a polysemous sign are related to each other via the underlying image of a sign or via metaphorical & metonymic processes

Key:
symbols = meanings
shapes = forms
colours = images



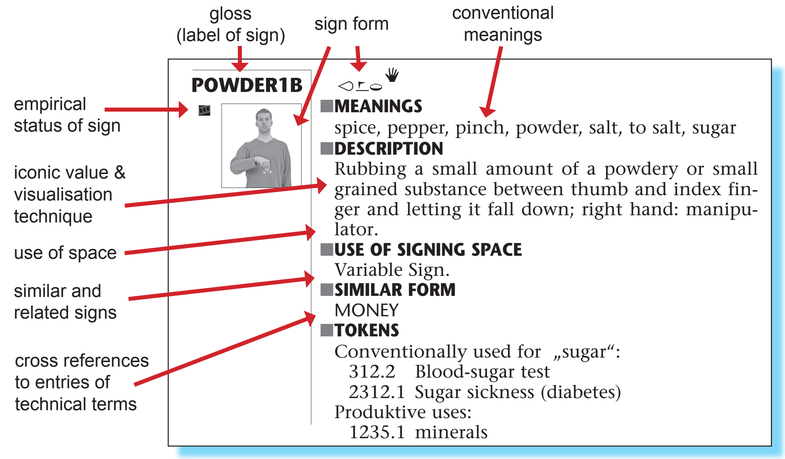
Selection

corpus data (tokens)



signs selected for dictionary production

Sign Entry (adapted)



Poster presented at the LREC 2008 Conference in Marrakech, Morocco, June 1st, 2008