



Pacific and Regional Archive for Digital Sources in **Endangered Cultures**



Cross-institutional research output the PARADISEC experience



Linda Barwick, University of Sydney, Presentation to the APSR Colloquium
National Perspectives on Sustainability, Canberra, 10 June 2005



Pacific and Regional Archive for Digital Sources in **Endangered Cultures**

PARADISEC's mission

To preserve and make accessible
Australian researcher's field
recordings of endangered languages
and cultures of the Asia-Pacific region



Background

- Over 2000 of the world's 6000 languages in the Asia-Pacific region
- Number likely to fall to a few hundred by 2100 (UNESCO)
- Australian researchers active in region since 1950s - making unique recordings of unrepeatable events
- Recordings now themselves endangered (format obsolescence, media deterioration, loss of metadata)





Pacific and Regional Archive for Digital Sources in **Endangered Cultures**

Cross-institutional

Cls: Cliff Goddard
Hugh de Ferranti



Cls: William Foley
Allan Marett
Jane Simpson



*Audio Archiving Unit
Director: Linda Barwick
Audio: Frank Davey
Project Liaison: Amanda Harris*

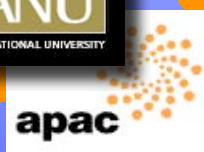
Cls: Andrew Pawley
John Bowden
Malcolm Ross
Alan Rumsey



Cls: Steve Bird
Nick Evans
Cathy Falk
Janet Fletcher
John Hajek



*Project Manager
(Metadata guru)
Nick Thieberger*



*Store account - web interface
Stuart Hungerford*



Cross-disciplinary

ETHNOGRAPHIC MEDIA
(audio, video, text, image)

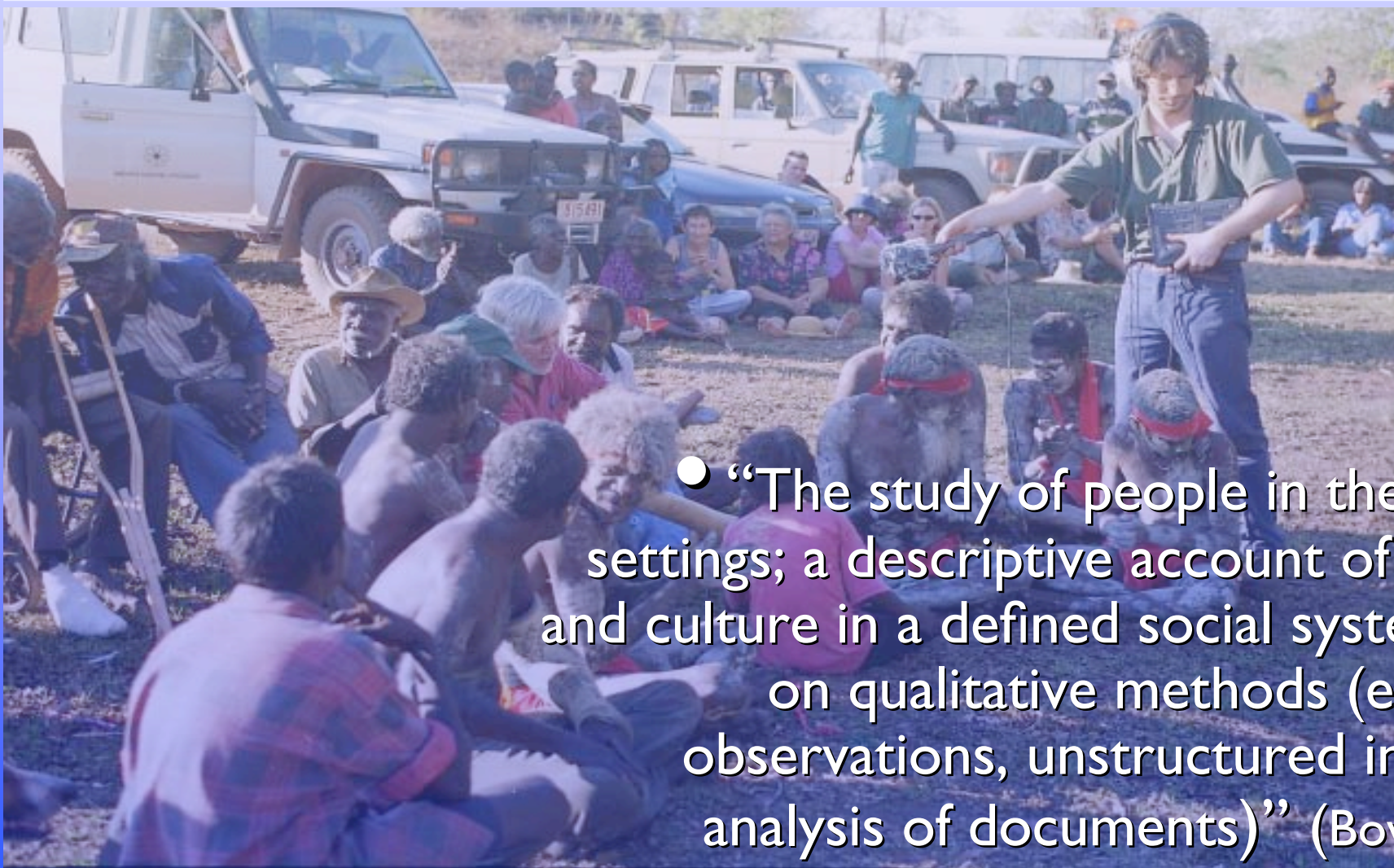
Qualitative analytical methodologies

Field linguistics

Ethnomusicology

Anthropology

Ethnography



- “The study of people in their natural settings; a descriptive account of social life and culture in a defined social system, based on qualitative methods (eg detailed observations, unstructured interviews, analysis of documents)” (Bowling 1997)

Qualitative research data



- “Qualitative research produces data that are rich and voluminous, shedding light on the lived experience of the ‘being-in-the- world’ and the interactions inherent in complex social phenomena. Analysis of such data, however, is complex and time consuming” (Roberts & Wilson, 2002)



Cross-media



- **Audio** (interviews, music sessions, language elicitations, conversations; variety of historical formats)
- **Video** (movement studies, social interaction, sign language ... variety of historical formats)
- **Images** (photos, diagrams, graphs, maps, paintings, sketches)
- **Databases** (lexical, genealogical, taxonomic, GIS etc)
- **Texts** (fieldnotes, transcripts, analyses, dictionaries, articles) sometimes using specialist fonts (phonetic, music notation)

Catalog metadata: SAW2/009/SAW2-009-A.mp3

https://store.apac.edu.au/paradise

LB Usyd home PDSC HOME Store OLAC Report PDSC searches ▾ DELAMAN LB Wiki >>

Catalog metadata: SAW2/0...

PARADISEC project repository

Located at the APAC National Facility, Canberra

Catalog metadata: SAW2/009/SAW2-009-A.mp3

Name	Value
Identifier	SAW2-009
Title	Nākenaa ā Nuū Nubulaa
Date	1979-07-19
Media	NSW Gov C-60 cassette
Country	SOLOMON ISLANDS
Type	lexicon
Description	Words and Explanations. Image files of accompanying documents
Contributor	Wurm, S.A. (researcher)
Contributor	Moia, Martin (recorder)

Metadata notes

The "Name" column in the table above shows the name of the metadata element in the catalog and the "Value" column the value of that element. Note that not all values are for all catalog metadata elements.



Data example

Wurm collection, Solomon Islands, 1979

Digitised cassette tape with page image of transcript, and Wurm's language map

Wurm, Stephen Adolphe (1922 - 2001) Guide to Records Image Viewer

https://www.austehc.unimelb.edu.au/~gavan/lana/image_viewer.htm?SAW2-009,17,1,L

en Adolphe (1922 - 2001) Guide to Records

SAW2-009

Read Enlarge Image 1 of 17 Back to Guide

you may need to select landscape paper orientation for better results.

ANOTHER CUSTOM STORY DONE BY FR. MARTIN FOR PR. STEPHEN A. WURM.

Ibe nyigi Nubulaa la imo mo sāpelivanona sāpelivano
olaman one of village lived with wife wife
la imebetao lumole lumole ~~sa~~ nwośā ila betoa itukā
got pregnant lived on and one belly was ready gave birth to
dyca figilāi nāngāna Gipoulo. La kumwaleiletoā imwaleileto
baby boy named Gipoulo. They nursed him until
eto ivāmoto kwopolautā. Dānyidabudā la kwopolautōa
a grown up he started to sail by canoe One day he was sailing



International content

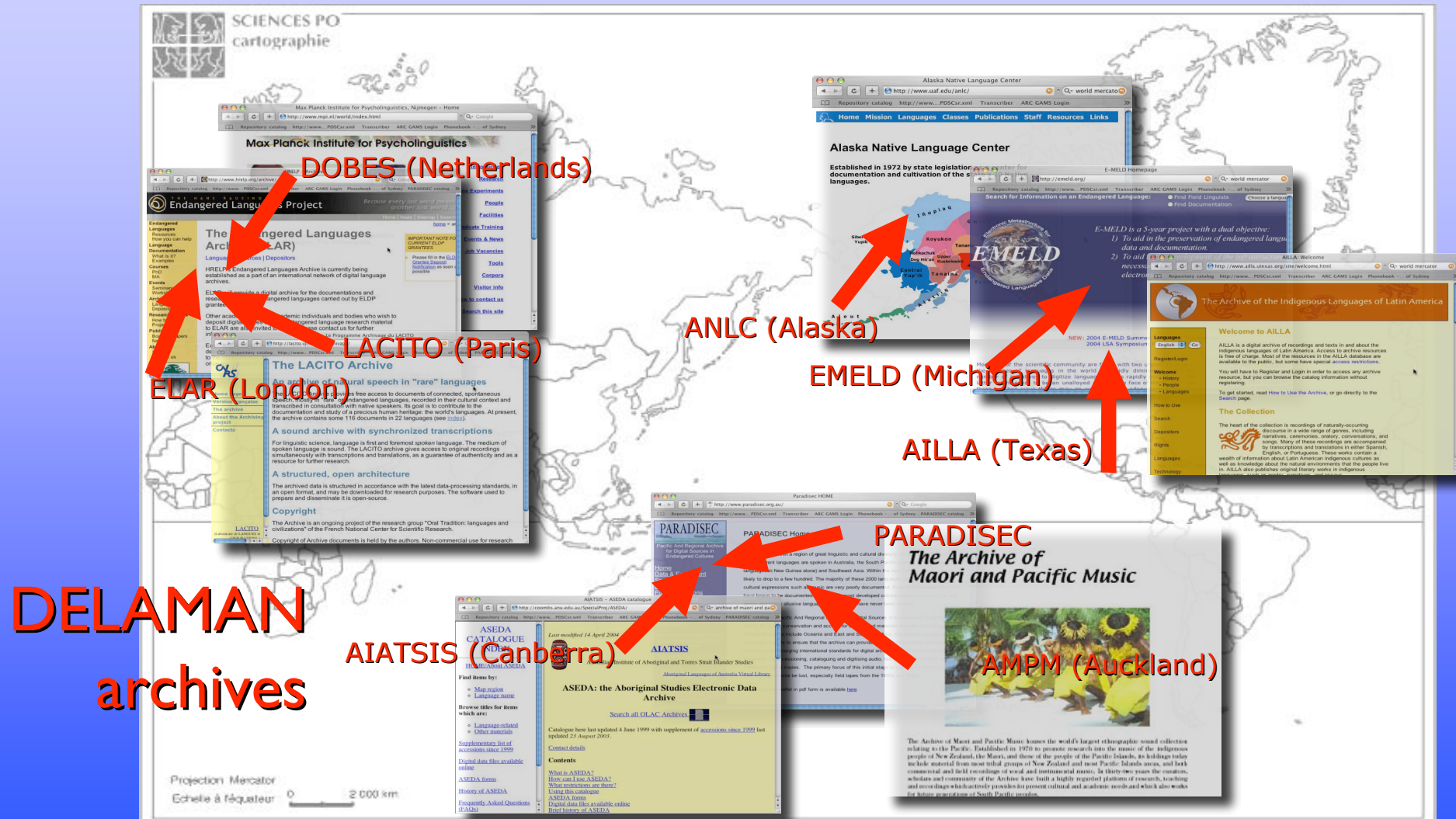
• 2100 records in PARADISEC catalogue with data on 390 languages from 50 countries including: American Samoa, Australia, Bangladesh, Botswana, Cambodia, Chile, China, Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Greenland, Hong Kong, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Republic Of Korea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia, Federated States Of, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Reunion, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Taiwan, Province of China, Thailand, Tonga, Uganda, United States of America, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Wallis And Futuna (data as of June 2005)





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Global research community





Global standards & formats

Search OLAC Archives

http://www.language-archives.org/tools/search.php?item=oai:paradisec.org.au:NT1-004

Repository catalog http://www...PDSCsr.xml Transcriber ARC GAMS Login Phonebook ... of Sydney PARADISEC catalog PARADISEC r...index page

OLAC Record: oai:paradisec.org.au:NT1-004

Metadata

Title: CD04

Contributor: [role = speaker] [role = recorder]

Coverage: VU

Date: 1996-02-21, 1996-03-07

Description: Sailas Alban telling his son's sound of a... making a... story (21-296) ... (up to 40) ... to 18 ... tree chopping with commentary on ... making ... to 46) ... with ... chief Sailas (see transcript) includes story 015. Language as given: South Efate, Bislama

Format: Digitised: yes ; Media: audiocassette

Identifier: NT1-004

Language: [language = x-sil-ERK]
[language = x-sil-BCY]

Relation: NT1-004-004A.mp3 [Has Part]
NT1-004-004A.wav [Has Part]
NT1-004-004B.mp3 [Has Part]
NT1-004-004B.wav [Has Part]

Subject: [language = x-sil-E...]
Type: [linguistic-type = primary_t...]

OLAC Info

Archive: Pacific And Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC)

Description: <http://www.language-archives.org/archive.php?id=634>

OAI Info

OaiIdentifier: oai:paradisec.org.au:NT1-004

DateStamp: 2004-07-21

OPEN LANGUAGE ARCHIVES COMMUNITY

- Sub-community of Open Archives Initiative
- Worldwide virtual library of language resources
- PARADISEC one of 32 participating archives
- OAI-PMH harvesting

AIMS

- develop consensus on best current practice for digital archiving of language resources
- develop network of interoperating repositories & services for housing & accessing such resources



Re-use of research data

- Historical studies (cultural, linguistic or musical change over time)
- Cross-cultural typologies (e.g. cultural, linguistic or musical “universals”)
- Research training (hons/postgraduate projects)
- Community use (family history, repatriation to local archives, etc)
- Educational materials
- Publishing (CDs, documentaries, etc)





Baseline sustainability

If ...

- Robust technical environment
- Viable backup and migration strategies for digital objects
- Longterm funding base for collection curation and maintenance
- Policy changes to recognise and encourage researcher data deposits as valued research output
- Viable governance structures for institutions and researchers to participate in voluntary federated systems

...then



Specific sustainability issues

- Managing standards compliance, version control and authentication in distributed system
- Maintaining relationships between different representations of the same event or cultural domain
- Finegrained annotation and analysis of objects - how to support and reference diversity of disciplinary approaches and annotation standards
- Rights management - ethical commitments; access for community users and international researchers; differences in international IP laws; difficulties of tracking and enforcement in networked environment





Pacific and Regional Archive for Digital Sources in **Endangered Cultures**

Contact us

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Pacific and Regional Archive for Digital Sources in **Endangered Cultures**

Generous support from:



- Partner Universities (Sydney, Melbourne, ANU, UNE)

- Australian Research Council LIEF scheme



- Grangenet



- Australian Partnership for Sustainable Repositories (SORRT testbed)



- Australian Partnership for Advanced Computing



- ANU Internet Futures

