Apologies again for the delay in getting back to you. And as you can see, my deadline last week took more time than I anticipated and I didn’t get around to replying to you at the beginning of the week, as I had hoped.

Thanks for sending the video of the instructions and the videos of the first two participants. To the question regarding the amount of detail: our participants varied quite a lot in this. And in fact, overall, DGS signers seemed more inclined to provide detail than TID signers. It’s better to accept this variation in detail rather than give participants too much information about the goals of the research or showing them what the addressee sees. That way you are quite sure of getting a full locative description for each picture (rather than just “4 cups” e.g.).

I think the instructions video is great, and also the data videos look very good :)

I have attached a screen shot of our annotation of the picture of two boats (the second picture).

I have hidden the tiers for loc, mov and ornt for both hands so that more tiers fit on the screen at once, and you are able to see more of the annotation. Also, we didn’t really end up coding this information. We integrated orientation into the hand configuration tier coding (Bd=B-handshape, palm down). And the location information was included in the coding for semantic specificity of location. (This tier and the semantic specificity for entity tiers are also not on the screen shot, as the screen wasn’t long enough to get them on.)

You will hopefully be able to see more clearly with the screen shot, but I will also go through the tiers as per your comments/questions:

Stimulus: number of picture + title (4 cows, 2 boats etc.) – for the whole sequence (utterance) - yes, exactly; the start coincides with the start of the preparation phase (when hands start to move from lap) and the end coincides with end of retraction (when hands return to lap)

- and then you anotate every single sign? - yes

Sign phaseLH: hold, stroke, prep, pause, retr, other sign – we are not sure when and how you notate this - we ended up annotating only the stroke - i.e. the meaningful part - of each sign

Gloss LH – for each sign of utterance? (including colours etc.) - yes

Gloss LH English - for each sign? - yes (maybe it’s not necessary for you; it was necessary in our team, because not everyone knew both German and Turkish)

**CL/SASS type** LH: EC – entity classifier, HC – handling classifier, BPC – body part? (can you give us example?), unclear, SASS - yes, these are the controlled vocabulary entries; are you just wondering here about the body part classifier - it didn’t really end up occurring in the date, but we put it in the list (like index fingers pointed downward for legs)

Referent LH – just the name of refferent (like cup, boats?) - yes

Sign phase RH: hold, stroke, prep, pause, retr, other sign – we are not sure when and how you notate this - see corresponding LH tier

Gloss RH - for each sign of utterance? (including colours etc.) - see corresponding LH tier

Gloss RH English - see corresponding LH tier

CL/SASS type RH: EC – entity classifier, HC – handling classifier, BPC – body part? (can you give us example?), unclear, SASS - see corresponding LH tier

Referent RH:  just the name of refferent (like cup, boats?)- see corresponding LH tier

# number – you put just  yes/no? At the beginnig of sequence annotation? Or under the particular sign? - the tiers that start with # are actually all dependent on the Stimulus tier, with Stereotype (i.e. dependency type) of Symbolic Association. This means that these tiers can only be annotated if there is an annotation on the Stimulus tier and will automatically be the same length as the Stimulus tier annotation. This is because the information on these tiers relates to information that characterises the whole utterance. Here, we put the referent for which a number was used and also the specific numeral that was used.

# quant yes/no - you put just  yes/no? At the beginnig of sequence annotation? Or under the particular sign? - same as for #number (e.g. pen: many). You could also decide to code just yes/no, as the other information is also recoverable from other tiers (we thought it would be good to have it in one place).

# classifier+plm – we are not sure about plm – it´s some placement in space or something oher? Plural? And it´s yes or no? - yes “plm” is placement and refers to locative use of a classifier, i.e. a classifier predicate, classifier used to locate a referent in space;  again, we start by saying which referent was represented and also state which type of classifier and how many were localised (EC2). (This is again following the principle of having information in one place as much as possible on the analytic tiers (the tiers that start with #) compared to the descriptive tiers (the sign by sign annotation)

#LexSIgn+plm - we are not sure about plm – it´s some placement in space or something oher? Plural? And it´s yes or no? - same as above, but when there is placement of a lexical sign in space (e.g. not B-handshape for boat, but lexical sign for boat produced not in neutral space, but directly localised in space)

#SASS+plm - we are not sure about plm – it´s some placement in space or something oher? Plural? And it´s yes or no? - same as above, but then there is direct placement of a SASS in space

# other ?? fx vhat? - this is in case of any other types of signs or constructions (maybe types of localisation) that may occur that are not covered in the tiers

Figure-Ground – what do you fill out here? - here we record both mention of Figure and Ground referents and the order of mention. So in the “2 boats” example in the screen shot, the Figure (boat) and Ground (water) are both mentioned (the sign “boat” occurs and the sign “sea”/“lake” occurs) and the other of mention is Figure-Ground, and we annotate it as “F(boat)-G(water)”. If the order had bee swapped, then annotation would have been “G(water)-F(boat)”, and if just the boats had been mentioned, we would have annotated just “F(boat)”. We only analysed descriptions that included mention of both Figure and Ground.

ReIlex – relational lexem? Preposition? Yes or no or something other - yes, this is “relational lexeme” or preposition (like on, left, right, next to), and on this tier we included the gloss for the relational lexeme(s), the referents to which they applied in terms of location specification and the number of times a form occurred if more than once (e.g. “plates: LEFT, RIGHT, MIDDLE” or “cup/cup: NEXT-TO (3x)”)

**#sim/con:**sim, con – simultaneous representation or concesutive - yes, e.g. in 2 boats example the two classifiers for the boats are localised at the same time, so the annotation is “boat/boat: sim”; if first one hand had been placed, then the other, the annotation would have been “boat/boat: con”. If there had been no simultaneous representation of referents, there would be no annotation here.

Comment – additional information - yes anything to note (this might be information that leads to addition of tiers, e.g. if you notice something in your data that is coming up and isn’t accounted for in the coding scheme)

Hand config LH – what symbols do you use? Some notation system (Stokoe, HamNoSys)? - we used handshape codes based mainly on ASL fingerspelling and numbers (B, S, O, bent B, open 8 etc.) - I think we used HamNoSys handshapes chart and gave codes for each handshape, plus orientation (e.g. d=down)

Loc LH - what symbols do you use? - we used a scheme which differentiated: in/center/out with respect to distance from signer’s body and left/forward-left/forward/forward-right/right (so that we had codes as: ol, cl, il, ifl, cfl, ofl, if, cf, of etc. But as I said above we didn’t really end up following through on this in such detail

**Mov** LH: straight, arc, circle, zigzag, spiral random, pivot – nothing other? - we didn’t end up following through with this coding; it was mainly for movements not quite recoverable from the lexical specification (which happened e.g. in the many objects pictures, but which we didn’t include in the analysis)

Hand config RH - see above for LH

Loc RH - see above for LH

Mov RH - see above for LH

Ornt LH - ended up including in hand config coding

Ornt RH - see above for LH

Configuration, orientation, location, movement – for each sign? - the original plan… (see above)

#sem.spec Ent – degree of ikonicity in the representation of figure/ground? What do you fill out here? Yes/no? - yes, we gave a description of the semantic specificity (degree of iconicity) of the entity representation (free description; like iconic representation of referent shape)

# sem. Spec. Loc – degree of ikonicity in the representation of location, What do you fill out here? - yes, same as above, free description, but referring to location specification (like placement of hands reflects location of referents, lateral at angle, hands parallel with one hand breadth between)

# sim.type – type of simultaneous referent representation - yes, as bimanual or unimanual

I hope everything is clear now!

Best wishes and good luck for the big session on 18th May!

Pamela

Stimulus: number of picture + title (4 cows, 2 boats etc.) – for the whole sequence (utterance)

- and then you anotate every single sign?

Sign phaseLH: hold, stroke, prep, pause, retr, other sign – we are not sure when and how you notate this

Gloss LH – for each sign of utterance? (including colours etc.)

Gloss LH English - for each sign?

**CL/SASS type** LH: EC – entity classifier, HC – handling classifier, BPC – body part? (can you give us example?), unclear, SASS

Referent LH – just the name of refferent (like cup, boats?)

Sign phase RH: hold, stroke, prep, pause, retr, other sign – we are not sure when and how you notate this

Gloss RH - for each sign of utterance? (including colours etc.)

Gloss RH English

CL/SASS type RH: EC – entity classifier, HC – handling classifier, BPC – body part? (can you give us example?), unclear, SASS

Referent RH: just the name of refferent (like cup, boats?)

# number – you put just yes/no? At the beginnig of sequence annotation? Or under the particular sign?

# quant yes/no - you put just yes/no? At the beginnig of sequence annotation? Or under the particular sign?

# classifier+plm – we are not sure about plm – it´s some placement in space or something oher? Plural? And it´s yes or no?

#LexSIgn+plm - we are not sure about plm – it´s some placement in space or something oher? Plural? And it´s yes or no?

#SASS+plm - we are not sure about plm – it´s some placement in space or something oher? Plural? And it´s yes or no?

# other ?? fx vhat?

Figure-Ground – what do you fill out here?

ReIlex – relational lexem? Preposition? Yes or no or something other

**#sim/con:** sim, con – simultaneous representation or concesutive

Comment – additional information

Hand config LH – what symbols do you use? Some notation system (Stokoe, HamNoSys)?

Loc LH - what symbols do you use?

**Mov** LH: straight, arc, circle, zigzag, spiral random, pivot – nothing other?

Hand config RH

Loc RH

Mov RH

Ornt LH

Ornt RH

Configuration, orientation, location, movement – for each sign?

#sem.spec Ent – degree of ikonicity in the representation of figure/ground? What do you fill out here? Yes/no?

# sem. Spec. Loc – degree of ikonicity in the representation of location, What do you fill out here?

# sim.type – type of simultaneous referent representation