Gene Gragg

Gene Gragg's work continues, with Gregg Reynolds of NORC (National Opinion Research Center), on both the structure (linked-data repository) and the interface (for paradigm query and manipulation) of the paradigm database project, AAMA (Afroasiatic Morphological Archive — but still with heavy emphasis on Cushitic-Omotic). Currently, the authoritative data is coded in XML files, from which Turtle RDF is generated (since Turtle is readable), from which RDF/XML is generated (since RDF/XML is not very readable), which is loaded to the triple store. However json-ld (Jason Linked-Data, http://www.w3.org/TR/2013/WD-json-ld-20130411/) is being considered, as in other projects, as a more linked-data friendly alternative to XML.

Work is proceeding, if slower than anticipated, on the front end, which is in the process of being constructed in Cappuccino (http://www.cappuccinoproject.org), a web application framework based on Apple's Cocoa framework. Its language, ObjectiveJ, is an implementation of ObjectiveC (the official Apple development language) in Javascript. Hopefully, we will be able to post a first version of the application in the course of the next academic year.

Reports on the present status of AAMA were made in two talks: "What is a Paradigm Database," at the forty-first North American Conference on Afroasatic Linguistics, Yale University, February 17, 2013; and "The Afroasiatic Morphological Archive: A Paradigm Database," Université Paris Diderot Laboratoire de Linguistique Formelle, May 23, 2013.

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