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The tool development phase of the AAMA project (Afroasiatic Morophological Archive — but still with almost exclusive emphasis on some forty Cushitic-Omotic languages) is approaching, asymptotically to all appearances, and initial release of its web interface.

In the past year we started migrating almost all of our programming and data representation to Clojure, a dialect of LISP implemented for the JVM (Java Virtual Machine), around which a very vigorous and creative user community has developed. As a LISP dialect, Clojure is very well suited for linguistic processing, and its seamless two-way Java integration provides easy access to the entire Java ecosystem. An offshoot of Clojure, Clojurescript, targets Javascript (and thus the browser) rather than the JVM; in the future, migrating from Objective-C to Clojurescript for our frontend would allow us to use one language for everything.

INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH

We have also adopted Clojure's EDN (Extensible Data Notation, https://github.com/edn-format) as our "official" data format, replacing XML. EDN, like the better-known JSON, format, is very simple and very well suited for morphological data; it will make it much easier for researchers to directly inspect and edit morphological data without specialized tools. At this point, all current morphological data can be consulted in the working repository (https://github.com/gbgg/aama-data/), a site which also houses preliminary command-line scripts and demos, documented in bin/README, which are prototypes of the graphic user interface which will be presented in some preliminary form in the coming year.

Finally, we have been exploring the use of cloud-based graph database service, Dydra (http://dydra.com/) as our database backend.

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