

Syntactic Segmentation in the SegCor project

Version 1.0

Swantje Westpfahl, Nadine Proske, Melanie Hobich, Anton Borlinghaus, Hanna Strub

Introduction	3
Segmentation and Annotation with EXMARaLDA Partitur-Editor	3
Annotation tagset	5
Annotation principles.....	6
Phenomena typical for spoken language.....	7
Breathing, hesitation markers and micro pauses	7
Discourse Particles	9
Disruptions, self-corrections and repetitions	11
Pauses	12
Elliptic clauses	13
Clitization	15
Alternative Transcription	15
The topological field model	15
Annotation and segmentation of topological fields	16
VVF Pre-pre-field (Vor-Vorfeld).....	16
VF Pre-field (Vorfeld).....	18
LK Left bracket (Linke Klammer).....	20
MF Middle field (Mittelfeld).....	21
RK Right bracket (Rechte Klammer).....	22
NF Post field (Nachfeld).....	23
RAF Right outer field (Rechtes Außenfeld)	24
KA Not specified (Keine Angabe).....	25
AMB Ambiguous	26
-1/2 Enumeration	26
Annotation and segmentation of the clause - position of the finite verb (POV).....	27
V1 Verb first clause.....	27
V2 Verb second clauses.....	28
V1/2 Colloquial verb first POV	28
VL Verb final POV (Verbletzt-Konstruktion)	28
KVS No finite Verb but sentence-like phrase	29
KVN No finite Verb and not sentence-like	30

APO Apo koinu structures	31
-1/2 Enumeration for disrupted clauses	31
Maximal syntactic unit	32
N Non-sentential Units	32
A Abandoned	34
S Simple sentential unit	35
C Complex sentential unit	35
Annotation and segmentation of typical spoken language phenomena	38
D Disruption (Abbruch)	38
COL1/2 Collaborative Turn Part 1 and 2	39
NV Nonverbal behaviour (Nonverbal Verhalten)	39
VOK Vocatives und forms of address	40
UI Unintelligible	41
P/ -P Parenthesis	42
RS Reported Speech	43

Introduction

It is the aim of this guideline to create a practical approach for the segmentation of transcripts of spoken language according to syntactic criteria. Moreover, we offer an annotation-schema of phenomena typical for spoken language. This allows researchers to easily find phenomena typical for spoken language and it offers information about syntactic phenomena in the corpus.

The annotation-schema proposed provides information on four levels:

- Topological fields
- Clause type - position of finite verb (POV)
- Maximal syntactic unit
- Phenomena typical for spoken language

The first three levels of annotation are hierarchical and meant for exhaustive segmentation of the data. The latter one makes it easier to retrieve phenomena typical for spoken language in the corpus. The annotation of topological fields is based on the textbook “Deutsche Syntax” of Karin Pittner and Judith Berman (2013, pp. 79-94). The annotation level POV describes the position of the finite verb on the clause level with respect to the verbal bracket annotated in the field tier. The maximal syntactic unit contains information about the relationship of the clauses annotated in the POV-tier.

Segmentation and Annotation with EXMARaLDA Partitur-Editor

This guideline proposes the use of the EXMARaLDA Partitur-Editor for the segmentation and annotation of the transcripts. Clicking on File → Import one can import various transcript files in the Partitur-Editor.

To add annotation tiers for each speaker one can apply the transformation stylesheet clicking on Transcription → Transformation adding the stylesheet “SegCor_SyntaxAnnotate.xls”. You’ll have to save the transformation and reopen the saved transformed copy of the transcript.

You’ll segment the transcript on each copied speaker tier, marked with “[v]”. The annotation of the topological fields will be in the tier “speaker[Feld]”, the annotation of the POVs in the tier “speaker[POV]”, the annotation of the maximal unit in the tier “speaker[Max]” and the annotation of phenomena typical for spoken language in the tier “speaker[GesprMerk]”. Moreover there’s a [comment] tier where you can freely add comments and thoughts concerning the annotation.

You can segment the “Speaker[v]” tiers by the splitting and merging of existing segments.

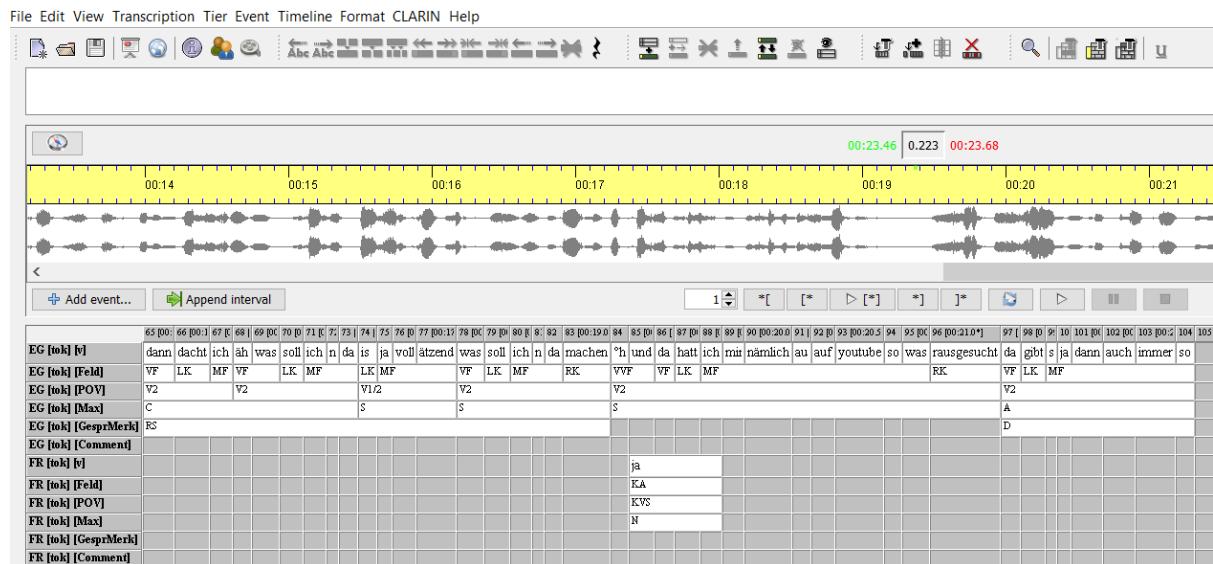
In order to split a segment which is too long you click in the text where you want to split the segment. Then you either choose the split button:  or the key sequence **ctrl+2**.

In order to merge several segments you mark the segments you want to merge with the left mouse button and either choose the merge button:  or the key sequence **ctrl+1**.

If you aim for an inter-annotator agreement, please be careful with the splitting and merging of segments concerning the time alignment. It is recommended to tokenize the transcript before annotating it so there won’t be any alignment errors with various ways of splitting segments (you can use the function “export segmented transcription” in the latest preview of the partitur-editor but you might want to check for tokenization errors in cases of overlapping speech contributions). If you don’t use a tokenized transcript please make sure you always split **after** a space.

The following screenshots give examples for the segmentation and annotation of the various levels:

Example: Annotations in EXMARaLDA Partitur-Editor



FR [tok] [v]	hast	du denn kein
FR [tok] [Feld]	LK	MF
FR [tok] [POV]	V1	
FR [tok] [Max]	A	
FR [tok] [GesprMerk]	D	

http://dgd.ids-mannheim.de/DGD2Web/ExternalAccessServlet?command=displayTranscript&id=FOLK_E_00084_SE_01_T_01_DF_01&cID=c16&wID=c16

Speaker FR says “have you ModalParticle not” which is a disrupted utterance. Thus on the level of the topological fields [Feld] *hast* (have) is marked and segmented as left bracket, and *du denn kein* (you ModalParticle not) as middle field (the definition of the annotation and segmentation of the topological fields will follow in the chapter “annotation and segmentation of topological fields”). On the clause-level, both fields together constitute a verb first clause (see chapter “annotation and segmentation of the position of the verb”). As the utterance is disrupted, it is marked as disrupted utterance (“D” for disruption) on the level of phenomena typical for spoken language and as abandoned unit (A) on the level of the maximal syntactic unit. Thus the first three levels are hierarchical in their segmentation and at the same time there’s an annotation of phenomena typical for spoken language. For the annotation the following tagset is used.

Annotation tagset

German annotation scheme		Translation
Tag	Topologische Felder	Topological fields
VVF	Vor-Vorfeld	Pre-pre-field
VF	Vorfeld	Pre-field
LK	Linke Klammer	Left bracket
MF	Mittelfeld	Middle field
RK	Rechte Klammer	Right bracket
NF	Nachfeld	Post-field
RAF	Rechtes Außenfeld	Right outer field
KA	Keine Angabe - kein Feld bestimmbar	Not available
AMB	Ambig	Ambiguous
-1/2	Nummerierung bei Unterbrechungen	Enumeration for disrupted fields
	Stellungstyp	Position of finite verb (POV)
V1	Verberststellung (Fragen, Imperative)	Verb first order
V2	Verbzweitstellung	Verb second order
V1/2	umgangssprachliche Verberststellung (V2-Ellipse)	Colloquial verb first order
VL	Verbletztstellung	Verb last order
KVS	kein finites Verb vorhanden, aber satzwertig	No finite verb, but sentence-like
KVN	kein finites Verb vorhanden und nicht satzwertig	No finite verb and not sentence-like
APO	Apokoinu-Konstruktion	Apo Koinou
-1/2	Nummerierung bei Unterbrechungen	Enumeration for disrupted clauses
AMB	Ambig	Ambiguous
	Gesprächstypische Merkmale	Phenomena typical for spoken language
D	Abbruch	Disruption
COL1/2	Collaborative Turn Teil 1 und 2	Collaborative turn part 1/ part 2

NV	Nonverbales Verhalten	Non-verbal behaviour
VK	Vokale Kommunikation	Vocal communication
VOK	Vokative und Anreden	Vocatives and forms of address
P	Parenthese	Parenthetical
RS	Direkte Rede	Reported speech
	Satzgefüge	Maximal syntactic unit
N	Interjektionen, Ellipsen, Non-verbales, vokale Kommunikation, Vokative, Häsitationspartikeln ohne Zusammenhang	Interjections, elliptic single words, non-verbal behaviour, vocal communication, vocatives, independent hesitation markers
A	Abgebrochen und nicht wieder aufgegriffen	Abandoned
S	Simple syntaktische Einheit	Simple sentential unit
C	Komplexe syntaktische Einheit	Complex sentential unit

Annotation principles

This categories presented in this guideline are based on the principles describing sentence construction in German syntax.

Word: e.g. verb, pronoun, interjection, hesitation marker etc.

Phrase: e.g. noun phrase, prepositional phrase, adverbial phrase etc. which also function as constituents in a more complex structure

Verbal phrase: several phrases/constituents in relation to a verb which may or may not be realized

Clause: e.g. main clause, subordinate clause, relative clause etc., consisting of a verb with its various constituents

Sentence: several clauses in a syntactic relation to each other

The annotation layers in this guideline are based on these theoretical constructs, i.e. the annotation of topological fields is based on the identification of phrases and constituents; the annotation of the position of the finite verb (POV) in a clause is based on the identification of clauses and the annotation of the maximal syntactical unit is based on the identification of sentence constructions. The categories are dependent on one another. Thus it is highly recommended to read the whole guideline before applying the concept.

Wherever those relations cannot be identified, e.g. because a verb is missing or because of disruptions and self-repairs, we added categories which can describe those constructions which deviate from schoolbook grammars. For example, completed communicative actions (e.g. interjections) are considered as “sentence-like” (following the GDS in their description of interactive units) on the clause level. This way we can differentiate between utterances without a verb which are still “complete” and utterances without a verb which are incomplete, e.g. because of disruptions, or which have no communicative force. We are aware that several levels of linguistic description are blended here. However, their status as non-sentential units is annotated on the level of the maximal syntactic unit.

For the ease of operation the fields are to be segmented as detailed as the structure allows, i. e. wherever a field can be identified, it will be segmented and annotated as a field.

This principle ensures that e. g. relative clauses in the pre- or post-field of a sentence will also receive a field annotation; as well as it helps the segmentation process with elliptic clauses. However, disruptions and utterances without a verb are an exception. Here the field annotation will be KA. Similarly, on the clause-level, those utterances have to be marked as utterances without a finite verb ([KVN](#) or [KVS](#)).

Please note that there's a general exception to this principle in the annotation of interjections and other discourse particles. When they appear cumulatively, they will be gathered in one segment.

Example: [Cumulative interjections and discourse particles](#)

EG [tok] [v]	hä	äh	ja
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA		
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS		
EG [tok] [Max]	N		

Translation: hum? uhm yes

Addendum:

It would be possible to mark embedded structures by using enumeration of the field annotations as displayed in the following example:

Example: [Embedded structures](#)

HT [tok] [v]	ich	gehe	davon	aus	°h (.)	dass	hier	alle	ah	musikstudenten	ah	die	(.)	dieses (.)	haus	absolviert	haben	°h (.)	auch	in	einem	n	nach	und	nach	feste	anstellung	kommen
HT [tok] [Feld]	VF1	LK1	MFI	RKI	LK2	MF2-1			LK3	MF3		RK3		MF2-2														RK2
HT [tok] [POV]	V2				VL-1				VL					VL-2														
HT [tok] [Max]	C																											

Translation: I assume that here all music students who graduated in this house will one by one get a permanent position

For the ease of operation we don't consider it necessary as it can be deduced from the further annotations that these clauses belong together.

Phenomena typical for spoken language

Before the annotation and segmentation according to the tagset is described, some preliminary thoughts are necessary for the handling of typical spoken language phenomena as they are relevant for the segmentation and annotation of all levels.

Breathing, hesitation markers and micro pauses

Frequent elements in transcripts of spoken language are transcriptions of breathing ($^{\circ}h(hh)$ or $h(hh)$ ° according to GAT), hesitation markers like äh, uhm etc. and micro pauses (.).

If those phenomena co-occur with other parts of utterances, they will always be segmented **within the following segment**. If the element is uttered at the end of a turn it will be segmented together with the preceding segment.

Once they are segmented together with another element, the tags on the field and clause layer will be the ones of the respective element, e. g. in the following examples the tag of the adverbial phrase *dann irgendwann* (VF) (then sometime) or of the discourse particle *ja* (yes), respectively. Thus, there is a hierarchy concerning the annotation. Breathing, hesitation markers and micro pauses are considered attachments to all other material in the transcription.

Example: [Hesitation and breathing with a discourse particle](#)

EG [tok] [v]	[°] h	ja	äh	
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA			
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS			
EG [tok] [Max]	N			

Translation: [°]h yes uhm

The first example shows that the breathing in and the hesitation marker äh are segmented together with the response particle ja (yes).

The following example shows a hesitation marker and a micro pause within a clause which are segmented within the following pre field (VF).

Example: [Hesitation marker within a turn](#)

EG [tok] [v]	und	ähm	(.)	dann	irgendwann	klang	es	aber	so	komisch
EG [tok] [Feld]	VVF	VF				LK	MF			
EG [tok] [POV]	V2									
EG [tok] [Max]	S									

Translation: and / uhm (.) then sometime / sounded | it ModalParticle very weird

This rule only applies for breathing, hesitation markers and micro pauses.

BUT: Discourse particles (such as response particles, reception signals and interjections), non-verbal and vocal communication are segmented separately in their own segments.

Example: [Discourse particle at the beginning of a turn](#)

EG [tok] [v]	ja	un	dann	ham	wir die feu	erwehr	angerufen	hh [°]
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA	VVF	VF	LK	MF		RK	
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS	V2						
EG [tok] [Max]	S							

Translation: yes / and / then / have / we the fire brigade / called

Hesitation markers which are neither followed nor preceded by an utterance get their own segment and are annotated on the field level as KA (not specified), on the POV level as KVN (no finite verb and not sentence like) and on the maximal syntactic unit level as N (non-sentential unit).

Example: [Hesitation marker without context](#)

SF [tok] [v]	äh	
SF [tok] [Feld]	KA	
SF [tok] [POV]	KVN	
SF [tok] [Max]	N	

Translation: uhm

Breathing which is neither followed nor preceded by an utterance also get their own segment and are annotated on the field level as KA (not specified), on the clause level as KVN (no finite verb and not sentence like), on the maximal syntactic unit level as N (non-sentential unit) and on the level of typical spoken language phenomena as VK (vocal communication).

Example: [Breathing without context](#)

EG [tok] [v]		h°	
EG [tok] [Feld]		KA	
EG [tok] [POV]		KVN	
EG [tok] [Max]		N	
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]		VK	

Discourse Particles

Particles play an important role in spoken language. For this annotation guideline we consider as discourse particles:

- primary interjections (e.g. *oh, ach, tja etc.*)
- secondary interjections (e.g. *gott, entschuldige, genau, gut etc.*)
- response signals (e.g. *ja, nee, jau etc.*)
- reception signals (e.g. *hmhm, hm etc.*)
- onomatopoeia (e.g. *miau, wuff, peng etc.*)
- action words (e.g. *lol, seufz etc.*)

They may precede or follow assertions, or disrupt them as parentheses. According to the [grammis 2.0](#), discourse particles are interactive units, because they function as independent units in the discourse interaction. Thus, responsives, reception signals and interjections etc. **are always segmented separately from other categories** on the **field tier**. For the ease of segmentation and annotation, however, we decided that, if they appear **cumulatively**, they shall be **segmented together** as one field on the field tier. Every individual discourse particle can be found with the help of the [POS-annotation](#).

Discourse particles are treated differently depending on whether they occur parenthetical within a clause, external to a clause or independently.

In the first case, i.e. the discourse particle is uttered parenthetically **within a clause**, it will be annotated as **not specified (KA) on the field tier** and as **parenthesis (P)** on the typical spoken language phenomena tier. For the other tiers, however, it will simply be ignored.

If they occur inside a field or a clause, the respective field and clause annotation has to be marked with -1/-2.

Example: [Particle within a clause, with no field specification](#)

EG [tok] [v]	aber	ähm	ja	dann	hab	ich	irgend	wie	gesacht	(.)	wir	rufen	gleich	noch	ma	an
EG [tok] [Feld]	VVF	KA	KA	VF	LK	MF			RK	VF	LK	MF			RK	
EG [tok] [POV]	V2-1		KVS	V2-2						V2						
EG [tok] [Max]	C															
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]			P	RS												

Translation: *but uhmm/ (0.21) / yes / then/ have/ I somehow / said / (.) we / call / soon again /*

If the discourse particles are situated at the **periphery of a clause or independently**, they are also annotated as not specified on the field tier, but specified as **sentence-like clauses (KVS)** but as **non-sentential maximal units (N)**.

Independent particles often occur in combination with other particles. In this case, they are gathered in one segment. Every individual particle can be found on the POS-layer.

Example: [Reception signal](#)

FR [tok] [v]	(.)	hm	hm
FR [tok] [Feld]	KA		
FR [tok] [POV]	KVS		
FR [tok] [Max]	N		

Translation: (.) hm hm

Example: [Cumulative discourse particles](#)

EG [tok] [v]	hm	ja
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA	
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS	
EG [tok] [Max]	N	

Translation: uhm yes

Example: [Responsive particle \(ja\) and cumulative particles \(hä äh ja\)](#)

EG [tok] [v]	ja	(.)	und	n	äh	erst	mal	pepper	irgendwie	rumgemauszt
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA	VVF		VF			MF		RK	
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS	V2								
EG [tok] [Max]	S									

Translation: yes / (.) and / n uh firstly / pepper somehow / mewled

Example: [Cumulative particles as reported thought](#)

EG [tok] [v]	wir	dachten	so	hä	äh	ja
EG [tok] [Feld]	VF	LK	MF	KA		
EG [tok] [POV]	V2			KVS		
EG [tok] [Max]	C					
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]				RS		

Translation: we / thought / huh uhm yes

BUT: Discourse particles are to be differentiated from hesitation particles (see section “breathing hesitation markers and micro pauses”). Context-free hesitation particles (free-standing, independent from any other utterance) are tagged as non-sentence-like structures (KVN).

Example: [Hesitation marker without context](#)

SF [tok] [v]	äh	
SF [tok] [Feld]	KA	
SF [tok] [POV]	KVN	
SF [tok] [Max]	N	

Translation: uhm

BUT: For this annotation, discourse markers are differentiated from other discourse particles and not classified as independent particles, but as elements of the pre-pre-field, for ease of handling and prevention of inter-annotator errors. Discourse markers cannot stand on their own. They open a

projection on which a syntagm necessarily has to follow. For a differentiation in more detail please see the [POS-tagging guidelines](#) or [Westpfahl \(2017\)](#).

Disruptions, self-corrections and repetitions

It is a prominent phenomenon of spoken language that speakers interrupt themselves in order to correct themselves or sometimes not correct but rather repeat themselves. Sometimes those self-corrections relate to the choice of words, sometimes to phrases and clauses. Concerning the annotation, self-corrections and disruptions are treated differently.

Disruptions are annotated on a separate level (see chapter [D Disruptions](#)). Generally, the complexity of the utterance is decisive for the segmentation and annotation on the field and clause level and the annotation of a disruption.

If a disruption appears on the **word level** and the syntactic category of the word is still known, the disruption will simply be ignored (e. g. in the following example the inflectional ending of the final verb is omitted because the speaker was interrupted by the other speaker).

Example: [Disruption on word level](#)

EG [tok] [v]	aber	wahrscheinlich	wird	er	noch	mal	zwei	wochen	krankgeschrieb
EG [tok] [Feld]	VVF	VF		LK	MF			RK	
EG [tok] [POV]	V2								
EG [tok] [Max]	S								

Translation: *but probably he will be given a sick note again for the next two weeks*

Is a self-correction or repetition produced **within a topological field**, i. e. on the word or phrase level, it will **not** be taken into account. Reparandum and correction will be segmented in one segment and annotated with the respective field description.

Example: [Repetition within a field](#)

EG [tok] [v]	ja	er	is	jetz	mit	dicken	schwanz	direkt	unter	s	(.)	unter	s	bett	gelaufen	un	kommt	da	glaub	ich	erst	mal	nich	mehr	raus
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA	VF	LK	MF											RK	VVF	LK	MF-1	LK	MF	MF-2			RK	
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS	V2													V1/2-1		V1/2		V1/2-2						
EG [tok] [Max]	C																								
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]																	P								

Translation: *yes he now ran directly under (.) under (.) the bed with a big tail and won't I think come out again for a while*

Is a self-correction or repetition more complex, i.e. several fields are repeated and/or slightly changed and the clause is disrupted or corrected, every field and clause will be annotated accordingly. However, the reparandum has to be marked as a [disruption \(D\)](#) on the level of typical spoken language phenomena.

Example: [Self-correction across field borders](#)

EG [tok] [v]	als	er	bei	uns	da	(.)	aus	m	ersten	stock	da	rausgefallen	is	°nh	das	war	ja	al	da	hat	er	ja	dann	auch	schon	was	gehabt
EG [tok] [Feld]	LK	MF											RK	VF	LK	MF	VF	LK	MF							RK	
EG [tok] [POV]	VL													V2			V2										
EG [tok] [Max]	C																									S	
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]															D												

Translation: *when he fell out of the first floor there at ours that was (modal particle) (disrupted word) there he has had something already*

BUT: If a clause is syntactically complete and the self-correction can only be deduced considering the semantic context, the self-correction will NOT be annotated separately.

Pauses

As was mentioned before, micro pauses, i. e. pauses which are smaller than 0.2 seconds and transcribed (.), are segmented together with the following segment. Generally, no speaker is assigned for pauses bigger than 0.2 seconds. For the segmentation, this rule can be abrogated:

- a) In cases, in which the pause occurs within a field and there is no speaker change. The pause will be assigned to the speaker and the field will be segmented and annotated regularly.

Example: [Pause within a field](#)

FR [tok] [v]	der	is	halt	so	n	bisschen	(0.51)	en	kleiner	tollpatsch
FR [tok] [Feld]	VF	LK	MF							
FR [tok] [POV]	V2									
FR [tok] [Max]	S									

Translation: he is (modal particle) a bit of a little clumsy fool

- b) In cases, in which the pause is between two fields but within a clause: the pause will have its own segment in the speaker tier and in the field tier. In the speaker tier the pause length will be marked, in the field tier it will be annotated as not specified (KA).

Example: [Pause within a clause](#)

FR [tok] [v]	(.)	weil	der	angst	hatte	(0.5)	oder	ne	
FR [tok] [Feld]	LK		MF		RK	KA	RAF		
FR [tok] [POV]	VL								
FR [tok] [Max]	S								

Translation: (.) because / he fear / had / | (right) didn't he

- c) In cases, in which the pause is between two clauses but within a sentential unit: the pause will have its own segment in the speaker tier, in the field tier and in the POV tier. In the speaker tier the pause length will be marked, in the field tier it will be annotated as not specified (KA) and on the POV tier it will be tagged as segment with no finite verb and not-sentence like (KVN) content.

Example: [Pause within a complex sentential unit](#)

EG [tok] [v]	dann	muss	ich	sie	aber	informieren	jetzt	schon	(0.26)	dass	dann	da	kosten	auf	sie	zukommen
EG [tok] [Feld]	VF	LK	MF		RK	NF			KA	LK	MF					RK
EG [tok] [POV]	V2								KVN	VL						
EG [tok] [Max]	C															
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]	RS															

Translation: uhm because he instantly said yes then I have to inform you already that there will be costs facing you

Example: [Reported speech with only non-sentential units](#)

EG [tok] [v]	ich	so		wie	viel	denn	[lacht kurz]
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA			KA			KA
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS			KVS			KVS
EG [tok] [Max]	N			N			
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]				RS		VK	

Translation: I thus (0.21) how much (modal particle) ((laughs shortly))

BUT: A pause is **not** included in the annotation between non-sentential units or a sentential and a non-sentential unit.

Speaker assignment for pauses is only done in between two identifiable fields. Can the field not be specified – as it is the case for discourse particles or breathing –, the pause will not be assigned to a speaker and there will be no annotation for the pause.

Example: [Pause in between non-sentential units](#)

EG [tok] [v]	hh°	((lacht))		h°		na
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA			KA		KA
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS			KVN		KVS
EG [tok] [Max]	N			N		N
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]	VK					

Translation: °hh ((laughs)) / / h / / yeah?

Example: [Pause after discourse particle](#)

EG [tok] [v]	nein		natürlich	nich
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA		KA	
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS		KVS	
EG [tok] [Max]	N		N	

Translation: no / (0.28) / of course not

Elliptic clauses

Ellipsis is a common phenomenon in spoken language and in many cases it makes the segmentation and annotation on the various tiers problematic. Hence, in the following we will give some rules for the handling of elliptic structures with the aim of finding a workable way for easy and swift annotation.

Concerning field annotation the rule will be held up that wherever a field is identifiable; it will be tagged and segmented as such.

Concerning the annotation of clauses the annotation depends on whether the finite verb is realized or not. If the finite verb is realized and only the subject is elided, the clause will be annotated accordingly, i.e. if the verb appears in first position the clause will be tagged as V1/2 (see example subject ellipsis).

Example: [Subject ellipsis](#)

EG [tok] [v]	un	dann	saß	(.)	larry	da	in	der	regenrinne	(0.77)	und	hat	halt	voll	geschrien
EG [tok] [Feld]	VVF	VF	LK	MF							KA	VVF	LK	MF	RK
EG [tok] [POV]	V2										KVN	VL/2			
EG [tok] [Max]	C														

Translation: *and then sat (.) larry there in the gutter (0.77) and has (modal particle) really screamed*

If the verb is also elided but it is clear from the structure, i.e. a realized right bracket, what kind of clause it is and the missing elements are clearly uttered in the preceding clause, the clause will be tagged as if the missing elements were realized.

Example: [V2 with VF and LK realized in the preceding clause](#)

WW [tok] [v]	die	w	damals	hat	man	die	gleise	immer	ausgeräumt	und	des	den	andern	weggeräumt
WW [tok] [Feld]	VF			LK	MF					RK	VVF	MF		RK
WW [tok] [POV]	V2										V2			
WW [tok] [Max]	C													

Translation: *back then / has / one always the tracks / cleared out / and / this for the others / cleared away*

Please note that there is not always necessarily an ellipsis if, for example, constituents are coordinated.

Example: [Coordination of finite verbs](#)

WW [tok] [v]	wenn	man	das	quellen	verhindert	oder	behindert
WW [tok] [Feld]	LK	MF			RK		
WW [tok] [POV]	VL						
WW [tok] [Max]	S						

Translation: *if / one the springing / prevents or obstructs*

Example: [Missing element realized in the next clause](#)

TB [tok] [v]	wie	man	(.)	und	wo	man	(0.87)	auch	unterschiedliche	schwerpunkte	für	die	schulmusik	ausbildet
TB [tok] [Feld]	VF				MF									RK
TB [tok] [POV]	VL													
TB [tok] [Max]														

Translation: *how one and where / one also different focuses for school music / forms*

BUT: If there is an ellipsis in which there is no realized antecedent in the preceding clause as in the following example, no verb can be deduced and thus the clause will be tagged as sentence-like but without a verb ([KVS](#)).

Example: [Parenthesis within reported speech](#)

EG [tok] [v]	ja	also	wenn	mir	dann	mit	der	drehleiter	kommen	ja	so	dreihundert	euro	oder	so
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA	VVF	LK	MF						RK	KA	KA			
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS	VL								KVS	KVS				
EG [tok] [Max]	C														
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]	RS									P	RS				

Translation: *yes well when we then come with the turntable ladder yes about three hundred euros or so*

Citicization

Typical occurrences of cliticization in spoken language are subject clitics on the verb (*hast_e*) or on conjunctions (*wenn_se*) or verbal clitics on the last element in the preceding field (often conjunctions). In line with our “principle of smallest segment”, we tag clitics within their structurally appointed topological field, even if this results in segment boundaries in between cliticized elements and their hosts. In the DGD, most clitics are marked with an underscore (*_e*), which will be segmented together with the clitic in its separate field.

Example: [Subject clitic on the finite verb](#)

TB [v]	wesentlich (.) ausgemacht	is	er aber eben von (.) dem bereich der klassik
TB [Feld]	VF	LK	MF
TB [Konstruktion]	V2		

Translation: essentially constituted / is / *_he* but even of the area of classic

If there is no clitic marker added to the transcription (no underscore), the host element, i. e. the verb *is* in the example above, is to be preserved as morphologically complete as possible; even if this results in segment boundaries in between one syllable:

haste (haveyou) = *hast / e* (have you)

Alternative Transcription

If a transcriber cannot interpret what is said but rather hears that there are two possible ways of understanding the utterance, the cGAT transcription guidelines give the possibility to mark the transcription as alternative choices. Alternative transcription is indicated by brackets around the alternatives which are separated by a slash: (yyy/zzz).

If both alternative transcriptions would fall in the same category of field annotation, they will be tagged with that category. If the alternative transcription would result in alternative field annotations, their field will be tagged as ambiguous (AMB).

Example: [Alternative transcriptions both result in the same annotation](#)

AG [tok] [v]	ei	we	gen	(den/dem)	[.]	wegen	dem	[.]	zeug	hier
AG [tok] [Feld]	KA	KA				KA				
AG [tok] [POV]	KVS	KVS				KVS				
AG [tok] [Max]	N									

Translation: ah / because of (this_acc/this_dat) | (.) because of this (.) stuff here

The topological field model

The topological field model was created by Drach (1937) and has later been modified in several publications. Its main function is the identification of word order and sentence constituents in German. The German language is known for its relatively “free word order”. Hence, most constituents may be positioned in various places within one clause, making a structural analysis particularly complex. One peculiarity in German syntax is the German sentence bracket (“Satzklammer”): in analytical verb tenses (i.e. German past perfect), the verbal complex is split in two discontinuous constituents as in (1).

- (1) Peter **hat** Anna gestern **versprochen**, dass er ihr hilft.
Peter has Anna yesterday promised that he her helps
 ‘Yesterday, Peter promised Anna to help her.’

In German, three types of verb order can be distinguished according to the position of the finite verb: verb first (V1), verb second (V2) and verb last (VL) (cf. Pittner/Bermann 2044:79f.).

- | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| (2) | a. Sie macht den Mund nicht auf. (V2) | finite verb in 2nd position |
| | b. Macht sie den Mund nicht auf? (V1) | finite verb in first position |
| | c. weil sie den Mund nicht aufmacht . (VL)
‘She does not open her mouth.’ | finite verb sentence final
verb: (auf)machen ‘to make (up)’ |

A clause is analyzed as V2, if there is (exactly) one constituent preceding the finite verb, as in (2a). If there is no such constituent, the clause will be classified as verb first, V1 (2b). The position that precedes the finite verb is called *Vorfeld* ‘pre-field’ (VF). In (2a) and (2b), the finite verb occupies the ‘left bracket’ position (*Linke Satzklammer*, LK). The two clauses differ only with respect to the pre-field (VF): in V2-clauses, this position is filled, in V1-clauses it remains empty. Non-finite verbal constituents (e.g. the lexical verb in perfect tense or verbal particles, such as *auf* in example (2)) constitute the ‘right bracket’ (*Rechte Satzklammer*, RK). In between the verbal complex (left and right bracket), the middle field (Mittelfeld, MF) is located. It may contain any number of constituents. The position following the right bracket is called the ‘post field’ (Nachfeld, NF) (cf. ebd.). In German subordinate clauses, conjunctions are typically located in the left bracket, forcing the finite verb in the only other position available for verbal elements, the right bracket (2c). This results in the last clause type: verb last (VL).

VF	LK	MF	RK	NF
Sie	hat	ihn schon einmal	gesehen	Irgendwo

she / has / him already once / seen / somewhere

Subordinate clauses constitute one position of their matrix clause, in most cases the pre-field or post-field.

Annotation and segmentation of topological fields

The annotation of topological fields is based on the topological field model presented in Pittner and Berman (2013) with some deviations in the definitions. Moreover, there are some elements and structures which are typical for spoken language but which the model did not take into consideration. For those elements and structures new categories were added to the tagset.

VVF Pre-pre-field (Vor-Vorfeld)

In some cases there are elements preceding the pre-field without modifying the clause type. In German, sentence types may be marked by word order. Polar questions can be identified by their lack of any pre-field elements. In such cases, the left bracket filled with the finite verb constitutes the first position of the clause (2b above). The example in (3a) illustrates how some elements (coordinating conjunctions) may attach to the pre-field or left bracket position without changing the clause type (V1, V2, VL). Their position, the pre-pre-field (*Vor-Vorfeld*, VVF), does not ‘count’ in identifying clause types. The pre-pre-field may also be occupied by left dislocated items whose referent is again realized in the prefield as a pronoun (3b), by discourse markers (3c) and various VVF elements (3d) (cf. 86f.).

Example: [V1](#)

GS [tok] [v]	aber	is	ser	dort	nun	ach	n	guter	mitarbeiter
GS [tok] [Feld]	VVF	LK	MF						
GS [tok] [POV]	V1								
GS [tok] [Max]	S								

Translation: but | is | he is he there now also a good worker

≈ Is he a good colleague over there, though?

Example: [Left dislocation](#)

AM [tok] [v]	°h	die laura	die	is	_schon den ganzen tag traurig
AM [tok] [Feld]	VVF		VF	LK	MF
AM [tok] [POV]	V2				
AM [tok] [Max]	S				

Translation: °h the Laura | she | is | already the whole day sad

≈ Laura, she's been sad all day.

Example: [Discourse marker and colloquial word order](#)

GS [tok] [v]	also	is	dann ja	bestimmt	schon () mehr
GS [tok] [Feld]	VVF	LK	MF		
GS [tok] [POV]	V1/2				
GS [tok] [Max]	S				

Translation: well | is | then yes certainly already more

≈ Well, it will probably be more then.

Example: [Coordinating conjunction and discourse marker](#)

AB [tok] [v]	°h	und	also	normalerweise	würde	er	n	tag	frei	kriegen
AB [tok] [Feld]	VVF		VF		LK	MF			RK	
AB [tok] [POV]	V2									
AB [tok] [Max]	S									

Translation: °h and well | normally | would he a day free get

≈ And well, he would normally get a day free.

Example: [Complex V2 clause with embedded relative clause in the left dislocated item](#)

HT [tok] [v]	und	ich	denke	auch	°h	[.]	einer	stadt	die	historisch	°h	[.]	eine	[.]	epochen	der	musikgeschichte	geprägt	hat	(0.49)	der	nimmt	man	nicht	einfach	die	musikhochschule	weg
HT [tok] [Feld]	VVF	VF	LK	MF	VVF		VF	MF								RK		KA	VF	LK	MF					RK		
HT [tok] [POV]	V2				V2-1		VL										KVN	V2-2										
HT [tok] [Max]	C																P											
HT [tok] [GesprMerk]																												

Translation: and I think also | a city | that | historically °h (.) one (.) era of music history | has shaped it | take | you not simply its conservatory | away

≈ 'A city that shaped the history of music, you don't simply take away its conservatory'

Example: [conjunction in the pre-pre-field:](#)

EG [tok] [v]	aber	(.)	diesmal	is	ja	jetz	fünfter	stock	ne
EG [tok] [Feld]	VVF	VF		LK	MF				RAF
EG [tok] [POV]	V2								
EG [tok] [Max]	S								

Translation: but / this time / is / yes now fifth floor / right

≈ 'But this time (it) is the fifth floor, right?'

In some cases it may not be clear if an element is attached in the post field of the preceding structure or the pre-pre-field of the following clause. In these ambiguous contexts, the element will always be segmented as the pre-pre-field of the following structure.

Differing from Pittner/Bermann (2004), coordinating conjunctions will also be classified as pre-pre-field. There will be no KOOR-field in this annotation.

BUT:

Some Phrases, regarded as discourse markers, are not classified as elements of the pre-pre-field, as long as they contain a finite verb:

Example: [discourse marker as separate POV](#)

EG [tok] [v]	ich	mein	des	war	auch	blöd
EG [tok] [Feld]	VF	LK	VF	LK	MF	
EG [tok] [POV]	V2		V2			
EG [tok] [Max]	C					

Translation: I / mean / that / was / stupid

Furthermore, discourse particles such as answer particles and reception signals or interjections will not be classified as pre-pre-field. These elements are assigned an independent segment, tagged as 'n/a' (German KA) on the topological field level.

Example: [Particle preceding an assertion](#)

EG [tok] [v]	ja	larry	is	grad	fast	aus	m	fenster	gefalln	voll	schlimm
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA	VF	LK	MF				RK	KA		
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS	V2							KVS		
EG [tok] [Max]	S										

Translation: yes / Larry / fell / just nearly out of the window / really horrible

≈ 'Yes Larry just nearly fell out of the window'

VF Pre-field (Vorfeld)

The pre-field is realized in declarative sentences, in exclamatory sentences, in interrogative clauses with wh-items that form independent declarative sentences and in subordinate clauses introduced via verba sentiendi et dicendi, in relative clauses and indirect interrogatives (cf. 82). In the latter ones, the relative pronouns as well as the wh-question pronouns are located in the pre-field. In the annotation, the pre-field is tagged with VF.

Example: [Pre-field in a declarative sentence](#)

FR [tok] [v]	(.)	ich	häng	halt	se	(0.2)	ner	minute	in	der	leitung
FR [tok] [Feld]	VF		LK	MF							
FR [tok] [POV]	V2										
FR [tok] [Max]	S										

Translation: I / hang / uhm since one minute in the line

≈ 'I have been waiting on the phone for a minute'

Example: [Complex relative pronoun](#)

HT [tok] [v]	äh	äh	äh	i	in	dem	sch	äh	schillers	räuber	uraufgeführt	wurden
HT [tok] [Feld]	VF						MF				RK	
HT [tok] [POV]	V2											
HT [tok] [Max]	S											

Translation: uhm uhm uhm in which / sch uhm schillers robbers / were first perfomed

The pre-field can generally only be occupied by **one** constituent. However, there are some (seeming) exceptions: some adverbs may be added to the pre-field and could be considered independent constituents by applying constituency tests like pronominalization, reordering or question formation. However, because both pre-field constituents can answer one question of a constituency test, they will be analyzed as complex adverbials. These adverbs often occur within adverbials denoting locality or time (cf. 85).

Example: [Complex pre-field](#)

HT [tok] [v]	allein	hier	in	frankenthal	°h	(.)	ham	in	den	letzten	zwei	jahrn
HT [tok] [Feld]	VF						LK		MF			
HT [tok] [POV]	V2											
HT [tok] [Max]	S											

Translation: alone here in frankenthal / °h have / in the last two years (.)

Elements that may attach to the pre-field are (among others): appositions (4a), deictic elements (4b) and focus particles or focused adverbs (4c, d). In literary contexts, more than one adverbial (4e) or more than one constituent (4f) may occupy the pre-field (cfl. 85f).

- (4) a. **Heute, am 3. Februar 2002, morgens um 8 Uhr**, wurde unser Sohn geboren.
 'Today, february 3, 2002, in the morning at 8 o'clock, our son was born.'
- b. **Oben der Briefkopf** war verkehrt geschrieben.
 'At the beginning the heading was wrongly written.'
- c. **Nur der Hans** kam gestern nicht rechtzeitig.
 'Only Hans came too late yesterday.'
- d. **Hans leider** kannst du dort nicht antreffen.
 'Hans unfortunately you cannot find there.'
- e. **Aus unbestimmter Ferne her mit müden Schwingen** kam Musik geflogen.
 'From indefinite remoteness with tired wings the music came.'
- f. **Zum zweiten Mal die Weltmeisterschaft** errang Clark 1965. [ws]
 'For the 2nd time the world cup Clark won in 1965.'

BUT:

Sometimes the pre-field is occupied by a complex constituent, such as subordinating clauses and relative clauses. These clause types will be segmented in their respective topological fields as in the example below.

Example: [subordinate clause in the pre-field](#)

MK [tok] [v]	und	die	andere	die	ich	kheute	gegessen	hab	war	s	ziemlich	bitter
MK [tok] [Feld]	VVF	VF		VF	MF		RK		LK	MF		
MK [tok] [POV]	V2-1			VL					V2-2			
MK [tok] [Max]	C											

Translation: and the other one / which I have eaten today / was very bitter

LK Left bracket (Linke Klammer)

The left bracket is the most restrictive field within in the topological model. It can only be occupied by one constituent; either the finite verb or a subordinating conjunction. In declarative clauses, it is the finite verb that occupies the left bracket, in subordinating clauses the subordinating conjunction. The left bracket is annotated as LK. Non-finite verbs and non-verbal components of the verbal complex (particles or nouns as in *Fahrrad fahren* ‘bicycle cycling’) are situated in the right bracket (RK) of the sentence. That is why, in an analysis of German sentences, it is best to first identify the left bracket and from there detect all other sentence constituents.

VF	LK	MF	RK	NF
	ob if	er wohl <i>he indeed</i>	kommt <i>comes</i>	
	Hat has	er aber Glück <i>he but luck</i>	gehabt <i>had</i>	

Example: [LK in V2 clauses](#)

FR [tok] [v]	(.)	ich	häng	halt	se	(0.2)	ner	minute	in	der	leitung
FR [tok] [Feld]	VF		LK	MF							
FR [tok] [POV]	V2										
FR [tok] [Max]	S										

Translation: (.) I | hang | uhm since one minute in the line

≈ ‘I have been waiting on the phone for a minute’

Example: [LK in V1/2 clauses](#)

FR [tok] [v]	g	is	ganz	witzig
FR [tok] [Feld]	LK	MF		
FR [tok] [POV]	V1/2			
FR [tok] [Max]	C			

Translation: is_ | quite funny

Example: [subordinating conjunction in the LK](#)

FR [tok] [v]	g	is	ganz	witzig	we	man	nichts	hört
FR [tok] [Feld]		LK	MF		LK	MF		RK
FR [tok] [POV]		V1/2			VL			
FR [tok] [Max]		C						

Translation: *is_ / quite funny / when / one nothing / hears °h*

Example: [focus particle modifying a subordinating conjunction](#)

HT [tok] [v]	auch	wenn	die	räuber	°h	(.)	nich	jedes	jahr	(0.21)	auf	dem	s	pielplan	stehn
HT [tok] [Feld]		LK		MF											RK
HT [tok] [POV]		VL													
HT [tok] [Max]															

Translation: *also when / the robbers °h (.) not every year (0.21) on the season schedule / stand*

MF Middle field (Mittelfeld)

The middle field follows the left bracket and is usually framed by the non-finite verb material in the right bracket. It is labeled as MF and may be occupied by several constituents.

If there is only one verbal element, the RK will not be occupied. In these cases, the middle field and the post field directly follow each other and are not easily distinguished. A re-positioning test may help differentiate the two sentence positions: Replace the finite verb with an analytical form, such as the past perfect tense and the extent of the middle field will become apparent. The non-finite verbal element then occupies the right bracket (RK); all constituents to its left (after the LK) form the middle field (MF), all constituents to its right form the post field (NF) or the right outer field (RAF).

When the MF is occupied by complex clauses (e.g. relative clauses or subordinating clauses), these clauses are segmented in their respective field positions, parallel to complex clauses in the pre-field (VF). When the MF is disrupted through insertions or parenthesis, it will be marked with consecutive numbers: the first part is tagged as MF-1, the part following the insertion is tagged as MF-2.

Example: [middle field in V2 and VL clauses](#)

HT [tok] [v]	°h	(.)	man	würde	ausch	sicher	nich	drüber	nachdenken	°h	ob	wa	hier	das	nationaltheater	schließt
HT [tok] [Feld]	VF		LK	MF					RK		LK	MF				RK
HT [tok] [POV]	V2								VL							
HT [tok] [Max]	C															

Translation: *°h (.) one / would / also surely not about / think / °h if / we here the national theatre / close*

Example: [complex middle field with relative clause](#)

AS [tok] [v]	un	d	dann	könnte	man	eventuell	die	dinge	die	jetz	abgelaufen	sind	ergänzen		
AS [tok] [Feld]	VVF	VF	LK	MF					VF	MF	RK				RK
AS [tok] [POV]	V2-1								VL						V2-2
AS [tok] [Max]	C														

Translation: *and / the n / could / one maybe those things / which / now / expired are / replenish*

≈ 'and then one could maybe replenish those things which are expired'

RK Right bracket (Rechte Klammer)

Whereas the LK constitutes a strongly restrictive field, the right bracket may be filled more freely. This position may be occupied by finite verbs in VL clauses and by non-finite verbs, non-verbal elements associated with the verbal complex and by verbal particles in V1, V2 and V1/2 clauses (cf. 90f).

- (6) a. Hans wird Anna **treffen**. (main verb)
Hans will Anna meet (*H. will meet A.*)
- b. Otto will Anna nicht **gesehen haben**. (main verb + auxiliary)
Otto wants Anna not seen have (*O. did not want to see A.*)
- c. Otto hat **Anna treffen wollen**. (main verb + modal verb)
Otto has Anna meet want (*O. wanted to meet A.*)
- d. Sie wird sich **zu helfen wissen**. (main verb + half modal)
She will herself to help know (*She will know how to help herself.*)
- e. Hans setzt Anna am Bahnhof **ab**. (verbal particle, non-verbal element)
Hans sits Anna at station down (*H. drops A. at the station*)

Which elements constitute the verbal complex may be determined through a re-positioning test: An element is not part of the verbal complex and hence cannot occupy the right bracket, if it may be split from the verbal complex by insertion of other material, e.g. an adverb.

- (7) a. Hans hat Anna am Bahnhof gestern abgesetzt/ *ab gestern gesetzt.
Hans has Anna at station yesterday up-dropped up yesterday dropped
- b. Sie ist gerne **Eis gelaufen**.
she did like ice skating
- c.*Sie ist Eis gerne gelaufen.
she did ice like skating
- d.*Sie läuft sehr **glattes Eis/Eis**, das sehr glatt ist.
she skates very smooth ice / ice that very smooth is
- e. A. hat uns ihr Auto gestern zur Verfügung gestellt/*zur Verfügung **gestern** gestellt.
A. has us her car yesterday at disposal provided/ at disposal yesterday provided

In line with Pittner/Bermann (2013), we do **not** include independent sentence constituents such as **predicatives or directional adverbials** in the verbal complex (and hence in the RK). We also do **not** analyze **negation** as part of the RK, even though all these elements occur regularly adjacent to verbal elements (cf. 89f).

Example: Main verb and auxiliary in the RK

HT [tok] [v]	°h	(.)	un	das	muss	einfach	mal	gesagt	werden
HT [tok] [Feld]	VVF		VF	LK	MF			RK	
HT [tok] [POV]	V2								
HT [tok] [Max]	S								

Translation: °h (.) and / that / must / simply once / said will

Example: [Verbal particle \(*aus* 'out'\) in the RK](#)

HT [tok] [v]	ich	gehe	davon	aus				
HT [tok] [Feld]	VF	LK	MF	RK				
HT [tok] [POV]	V2							
HT [tok] [Max]	C							

Translation: **h / | go | from | out*

NF Post field (Nachfeld)

The post field may be occupied by more than one constituent, similar to the middle field. Adverbials and prepositional objects often occur in this position (cf. 88f). These elements may specify material from the middle field (as in right dislocation contexts) or they constitute additional information (cf. 90). Opposing Pittner/Berman (2013), we will not classify subordinate clauses as post field constituents; parallel to complex clauses in pre-field and middle field positions, subordinate clauses will be segmented in their respective field annotation. This also applies to direct and indirect speech. Any clause should be segmented as detailed as possible. Thus the post field can only be occupied by constituents that have been extra-positioned, i.e. which could be inserted in the middle field. In case of doubt a re-positioning test can be used: the utterance could be changed e.g. in a perfect tense sentence and thus the right bracket becomes apparent. This way one can see whether a respective item is located in the middle field or in the post field.

When extra-positioned elements cannot be distinguished from potentially independent (elliptic) utterances, the position is marked with [KA](#). If an utterance can potentially belong to more than one clause or it is not clear whether it is still part of the clause or not, the tag AMB for ambiguous is assigned.

Example: [Post field](#)

EG [tok] [v]	dann	muss	ich	sie	aber	informieren	jetzt	schon
EG [tok] [Feld]	VF	LK	MF			RK		NF
EG [tok] [POV]	V2							
EG [tok] [Max]	C							

Translation: *then | must | I you but | inform | now already*

≈ 'then I need to inform you now'

- (8) b. Wir haben ihn gesehen **im Restaurant**.
we have him seen in.the restaurant

- c. Er hat dort lange gewartet **auf seine Freundin**.
he has there long waited for his girlfriend

Besides prepositional phrases, typical elements in the post field are parts of series of items (marked through coordination) and "zu"-infinitives:

Example: [Series of items](#)

WW [tok] [v]	wo	der	gips	(.)	ausgetragen	is	(.)	und	das	restgestein
WW [tok] [Feld]	VF	MF			RK					NF
WW [tok] [POV]	VL									
WW [tok] [Max]										

Translation: *where | the gypsum | is brought out | and the rest of the rocks*

Example: ["Zu"-infinitive](#)

FR [tok] [v]	ich	versuche	mich	daran	zu	halten	⁹hh	des zu machen
FR [tok] [Feld]	VF	LK	MF		RK		NF	
FR [tok] [POV]	V2							
FR [tok] [Max]								

Translation: I | try | me on that | to stick by | doing this

BUT:

The following cases are not tagged as NF, but further segmented in their basic field annotations.

Example: [Subordinate clause as embedded VL clause](#)

FR [tok] [v]	g	is	ganz	witzig	we	man	nichts	hört
FR [tok] [Feld]	LK	MF		LK	MF		RK	
FR [tok] [POV]	V1/2			VL				
FR [tok] [Max]	C							

Translation: is_ | quite funny | when | one nothing | hears

Example: [Direct speech](#)

FR [tok] [v]	und	wie	meinst	du des	fa	st	gefallen
FR [tok] [Feld]	VVF	VF	LK	MF	KA		
FR [tok] [POV]	V2			KVS			
FR [tok] [Max]	C						
FR [tok] [GesprMerk]	RS						

Translation: and | how | mean | you this | nearly fallen

≈ 'what do you mean, "nearly fallen"'

If an assertion cannot be identified clearly as extra-posed, but may also constitute an independent (elliptic sentence), it is tagged as 'KA' to avoid interpretation:

Example: [Potentially independent assertions](#)

EG [tok] [v]	ja	larry	is	grad	fast	aus	m	fenster	gefalln	voll	schlimm
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA	VF	LK	MF				RK	KA		
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS	V2						KVS			
EG [tok] [Max]	S										

Translation: yes | larry | is_ | just nearly out of the window | fallen | really bad

≈ 'Yes, Larry just nearly fell out of the window, (that is) really bad!'

RAF Right outer field (Rechtes Außenfeld)

Elements that follow the right bracket (RK) but are not part of the post field (NF) constitute the right outer field. They are tagged with RAF. These elements cannot be integrated syntactically in the sentence POVs. The RAF is occupied by question tags (e.g. *ne*, *nich*, *oder* etc.) and discourse markers (e.g. *also*, *oder*, *oder so*, *oder wie*, *oder was*, etc.).

Example: [Question tag in the right outer field \(RAF\)](#)

EG [tok] [v]	aber	(.)	diesmal	is	ja	jetz	fünfter	stock	ne
EG [tok] [Feld]	VVF	VF		LK	MF				RAF
EG [tok] [POV]	V2								
EG [tok] [Max]									

Translation: *but / this time / is / yes now fifth floor / right*

≈ 'But now it's the fifth floor, right?'

KA Not specified (Keine Angabe)

Some utterances lack verbal elements and other cues that help identify their field structure. In such cases, no information concerning the syntactic position within the topological model can be given. Hence the utterance is tagged as KA (not specified) on the field tier. No specification is possible for elliptic structures, interjections, discourse particles, vocal communication (VK), or nonverbal behaviour (NV). Because we cannot assign a field or the field length without a finite verb, the identification of the segment and its length will follow the identification of KVS and KVN (on the POV/clause level). Cumulative discourse particles are segmented together as one KA segment.

Example: [Vocal communication \(VK\)](#)

EG [tok] [v]	macht	er	ja	manchmal	ne	((kichert))
EG [tok] [Feld]	LK	MF			RAF	KA
EG [tok] [POV]	V1/2					KVS
EG [tok] [Max]						
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]						VK

Translation: *makes / he yes sometimes / right / ((giggles))*

Example: [Discourse particle \(P\)](#)

FR [tok] [v]	ja
FR [tok] [Feld]	KA
FR [tok] [POV]	KVS
FR [tok] [Max]	N

Translation: *yes*

Example: [Cumulative interjection, hesitation marker and response particle](#)

EG [tok] [v]	hä	äh	ja
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA		
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS		
EG [tok] [Max]	N		

Translation: *hum? uhm yes*

AMB Ambiguous

Utterances that have more than one possible reading and hence can be assigned more than one possible field structure are marked as ambiguous (AMB). Ambiguous field structures can often be part of different sentence POVs and therefore will not be assigned any label on the POV level. One exception constitute apo koinou POVs: the koinon (the part of the apo koinou POV that is ambiguous) is tagged as AMB on the field level, while the entire POV receives the tag APO on the POV tier.

Example: [Disruption](#)

EG [tok] [v]	weil	das	äh	weil	da	eben	das	dach	is
EG [tok] [Feld]	AMB	AMB	LK		MF				RK
EG [tok] [POV]	KVN		VL						
EG [tok] [Max]	A		S						
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]	D								

Translation: because / that | uhm because / there just the roof | is

Because the fields are recognizable despite the disruption but it is not sure if “weil” is used as a discourse marker or as a subjunctive, it has to be tagged as ambiguous.

BUT: Discourse markers in a linking function that occur in between two POVs without a pause are not classified as ambiguous. For ease of annotation, those discourse markers will always be assigned the pre-pre-field (VVF) position of the following assertion.

-1/2 Enumeration

In spoken language, speaker often disrupt themselves with long breaks, interjections or insertions, or are disrupted by another participant. In cases where the speaker continues his speech after the disruption, the split assertions can be identified through the tags “-1” for the elements preceding the disruption and “-2” for the part of the assertion that follows the disruption (illustrated in the example with a disrupted middle field, MF-1 and MF-2 respectively).

Example: [Embedded vocal communication](#)

EG [tok] [v]	ich	muss	dir	((Lachansatz))	auf	jeden	fall	absagen
EG [tok] [Feld]	VF	LK	MF-1	KA		MF-2		RK
EG [tok] [POV]	V2-1			KVS		V2-2		
EG [tok] [Max]								
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]				VK				

Translation: | | must | you | ((attempt of laughter)) | definitely | cancel

Example: [Embedded subordinate clause](#)

HT [tok] [v]	[⁰ h] [.] dass hier alle (0.28) äh musikstudenten (0.39) äh die [.] dieses [.] haus absolviert haben [⁰ h] [.] auch (0.22) in einem (0.48) n nach und nach feste anstellung kommen
HT [tok] [Feld]	LK MF-1 KA VF MF RK MF-2
HT [tok] [POV]	VL-1 KVN VL VL-2
HT [tok] [Max]	

Translation: that | here all uhm students of music | (0.39) | uhm that | this house | completed have | also in a m more and more permanent employment | come

Annotation and segmentation of the clause - position of the finite verb (POV)

The clauses are positioned hierarchically one level above the field layer. Sentences (i.e. clauses, consisting of a finite verb with its verbal constituents) that were segmented in fields are now assigned a clause type, i.e. the position of the finite verb (POV). Apart from the three categories V1, V2, and VL known from the literature, we assume four additional categories particularly relevant for spoken language - V1/2, KVS, KVN and APO. Clauses are classified by the position of the finite verb.

V1 Verb first clause

Clauses beginning with the finite verb, i.e. with the left bracket (LK), are classified as verb first clauses (POV = V1). This is the case for polar questions, imperatives or subordinate clauses in conjunctive mode. If all elements preceding the left bracket (LK) occupy the pre-pre-field (VVF), the sentence will also be labeled as V1. In these cases the first 'counting' element is still the finite verb, the VVF is not considered in the assignment of the POV, as elaborated above (see section VVF).

Example: [Polar questions](#)

FR [tok] [v]	lag	der	außen	auf	der	kante	oder
FR [tok] [Feld]	LK	MF					RAF
FR [tok] [POV]							V1
FR [tok] [Max]	S						

Translation: *lay he outside on the edge or*

Example: [Imperatives](#)

FR [tok] [v]	erzähl	weiter
FR [tok] [Feld]	LK	MF
FR [tok] [POV]	V1	
FR [tok] [Max]		

Translation: *tell more*

Example: [Subjunctive mode](#)

HT [tok] [v]	[əh]	[.]	wenn	[.]	änderungen	eintreten	würden	wie	sie	sie	[əh]	[.]	äh	hier	vorschlagen	[əh]	[.]	wäre	das	für	uns	[.]	eine	(0.24)	katastrophe
HT [tok] [Feld]	LK		MF		RK		VF	MF							RK			LK		MF					
HT [tok] [POV]	VL						VL																		V1/2
HT [tok] [Max]	C																								
HT [tok] [GesprMerk]							P																		

Translation: *if changes occur would / like you it uhm here suggest / would be that for us a disaster*

There are several structures that should not be confused with V1 clauses, such as colloquial V2 clauses (see also the next chapter) or sentences with an elided pre-field (see chapter [ellipsis](#)):

Example: [Subject ellipsis](#)

EG [tok] [v]	un	dann	saß	(.)	larry	da	in	der	regenrinne	(0.77)	und	hat	halt	voll	geschrien
EG [tok] [Feld]	VVF	VF	LK	MF							KA	VVF	LK	MF	RK
EG [tok] [POV]	V2										KVN	V1/2			
EG [tok] [Max]	C														

Translation: *and/ then/ sat/ (.) larry there in the gutter | (0.77) | and has (modal particle) really screamed*

V2 Verb second clauses

A sentence is classified as verb second clause, if the finite verb occupies the second position in the sentence, i.e. when the pre-field (VF) is filled. Declarative clauses, interrogatives with wh-items and exclamatives have the finite verb in the second position of the clause (POV = V2).

Example: [V2 clause](#)

FR [tok] [v]	(.)	ich	häng	halt	se	(0.2)	ner	minute	in	der	leitung
FR [tok] [Feld]	VF	LK	MF								
FR [tok] [POV]	V2										
FR [tok] [Max]	S										

Translation: / */hang /uhm since one minute in the line*

V1/2 Colloquial verb first POV

Declarative sentences with the finite verb in the first position (LK) will be classified as V1/2. They differ from polar questions and imperatives in their declarative illocution; the verbal complements may either constitute the middle field (this is often the case in witticisms or colloquial speech) or are elided and would occupy the pre-field.

Example: [Colloquial verb first POV](#)

FR [tok] [v]	g	is	ganz	witzig	we	man	nichts	hört			
FR [tok] [Feld]	LK	MF		LK	MF			RK			
FR [tok] [POV]	V1/2			VL							
FR [tok] [Max]	C										

Translation: *is_ quite funny / when one nothing hears*

VL Verb final POV (Verbletzt-Konstruktion)

Sentences are classified as verb final (VL), if the finite verb occupies the right bracket (RK), which is the last possible position for verbal placement in a sentence. Clauses are also assigned VL when the post field (NF) is occupied, as long as the finite verb is placed in the right bracket. Typical verb final clauses are subordinate clauses: i.e. when the left bracket (LK) is filled with a conjunction the finite verb has to shift into the right bracket, rendering the verb in the last position of the clause (POV = VL).

Example: [VL clause \(with subordinating conjunction\)](#)

JS [tok] [v]	die	macht	man	ab	damit	die	flanzen	sich	einfach	besser	verzweigen
JS [tok] [Feld]	VF	LK	MF	RK	LK	MF					RK
JS [tok] [POV]	V2			VL							
JS [tok] [Max]	C										

Translation: *one takes these off / so the plants can branch out more easily*

Example: [VL clause introduced with relative pronoun](#)

KE [tok] [v]	h	weiß	ich	nich	wie	das	hei	ßt
KE [tok] [Feld]	LK	MF		VF	MF	LK		
KE [tok] [POV]	V1/2			VL				
KE [tok] [Max]	C							

Translation: *I don't know / what it is called*

Example: [Nominal phrase with relative clause without context](#)

AJ [tok] [v]	dieses	leute	die	vorher	in	dieser	gruppe	the	meteors	warn
AJ [tok] [Feld]	KA		VF	MF					RK	
AJ [tok] [POV]	KVS		VL							
AJ [tok] [Max]	N									

Translation: *these people / who have been in the group the meteors before*

KVS No finite Verb but sentence-like phrase

Sentence-like structures that do not entail a **finite** verb will be classified as KVS.

There are two types of KVS:

1. Utterances which contain no verb at all: phrases are taken to be sentence-like if they can be classified as “interactive units” (according to the GDS), such as discourse particles, responsives and interjections. Furthermore, free nominal phrases (they can be complex, too, see example “nominal phrase with relative clause without context”), prepositional phrases, adverbial phrases and other structures without a verb that can be understood as complete assertions. In accordance with the principle of annotating the smallest possible unit, every sentence-like phrasal structure without a verb that could be understood as complete will get its own segment. An exception are cumulated discourse particles which are gathered in one segment. If there is no verb in the structure, what is segmented as KVS on the POV/clause layer, will always have the same segment boundaries on the field layer. Because there is no verb in those structures, the interpretation on the pragmatic level needs to be the guidance as to the identification of segment boundaries. Because we cannot identify topological fields without a verb (or an subordinating conjunction), the annotation of the KA category follows the identification of KVS. KVS may be directly attached to other structures.
2. Utterances which contain a verb but no finite verb. With those (elliptic) structures the verbal bracket is realized and topological fields can be identified. Yet, as there is no finite verb, they cannot be considered as V1, V2 or VL. Examples for this are clause-like expressions like prepositional constructions with infinitives, e.g. um/ohne/ausser/anstatt+zu+Infinitiv (in order to/without/except for/instead of+to+infinitive) or elliptical utterances with a realized right bracket (see example “elliptical utterance with realized right bracket”).

If these phenomena stand on their own they will be considered as non-sentential units (N) on the layer of the maximal syntactic unit. If they appear together with an S or C they will be annotated accordingly.

Example: [Free nominal phrases](#)

FR [tok] [v]	en	vernünftiger	g	(.)	der	große	schwarze	kater
FR [tok] [Feld]	KA			KA				
FR [tok] [POV]	KVS			KVS				
FR [tok] [Max]	N							

Translation: *a sensible one / the big black cat*

Example: [Vocal communication, responsives, and sentence-like structures](#)

EG [tok] [v]	((Lachansatz))	ja	irgendwie schon
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA	KA	KA
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS	KVS	KVS
EG [tok] [Max]	N		
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]	VK		

Translation: ((attempt of laughter)) / yes / somehow really

Example: [Cumulative interjection, hesitation marker and response particle](#)

EG [tok] [v]	hä	äh	ja
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA		
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS		
EG [tok] [Max]	N		

Translation: hum? uhm yes

Example: [Elliptic pronominal phrase](#)

MK [tok] [v]	ich	auch
MK [tok] [Feld]	KA	
MK [tok] [POV]	KVS	
MK [tok] [Max]	N	

Translation: me too

Example: [Nominal phrase with relative clause without context](#)

AJ [tok] [v]	dieses	leute	die	vorher	in	dieser	gruppe	the	meteors	warn	
AJ [tok] [Feld]	KA		VF	MF						RK	
AJ [tok] [POV]	KVS		VL								
AJ [tok] [Max]	N										

Translation: those people who before were in the group the meteors [finite verb]

Example: [Elliptical utterance with realized right bracket](#)

AJ [tok] [v]	auch	schon	kollegen	gehabt	die	mit	blutiger	nase	rausgekommen	sind	
AJ [tok] [Feld]	MF			RK	VF	MF				RK	
AJ [tok] [POV]	KVS			VL							
AJ [tok] [Max]	N										

Translation: also had colleagues / who /came out with a bloody nose

KVN No finite Verb and not sentence-like

Structures may be classified as KVN if they do not display a finite verb and cannot be understood as a full assertion. Disruptions (D), detached breathing as well as non-verbal behavior are classified as not sentence-like and hence tagged with KVN.

Example: [Disruption](#)

EG [tok] [v]	weil	das	äh	weil	da	eben	das	dach	is
EG [tok] [Feld]	AMB	AMB	LK		MF				RK
EG [tok] [POV]	KVN		VL						
EG [tok] [Max]	A		S						
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]	D								

Translation: because this / uhm because there simply the roof is

Example: [Detached breathing](#)

EG [tok] [v]		°h	
EG [tok] [Feld]		KA	
EG [tok] [POV]		KVN	
EG [tok] [Max]		N	
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]		VK	

Translation: °h

APO Apo koinou structures

Apo koinou structures are entail a koinon, a section that can be interpreted as part of a preceding and as part of a following assertion. These structures are labeled as AMB on the field layer. Due to the overlap on the clause level, the entire structure is annotated and segmented as one unit, APO.

Example: [Apo koinou POV](#)

EG [tok] [v]	un	da	is	_er	(.) also auf_m d	ach	war	der	halt	h°
EG [tok] [Feld]	VVF	VF	LK	MF	AMB		LK	MF		
EG [tok] [POV]		APO								
EG [tok] [Max]	C									

Translation: and there is he / so on the roof / was he simply

-1/2 Enumeration for disrupted clauses

An enumeration may be necessary in various contexts. Utterances are often disrupted by speaker changes or by parentheses. Moreover, embedded structures such as relative clauses frequently disrupt larger structures. If they are later continued, an enumeration may serve as identifier of the entire discontinuous structure. The enumeration is added to the tag with which the clause is labeled.

Example: [Complex V2 clause entailing a relative clause within left dislocated items](#)

HT [tok] [v]	und	ich	denke	auch	[°h]	[.]	einer	stadt	die	historisch	[°h]	[.]	eine	[.]	epoch	der	musikgeschichte	geprägt	hat	(0.49)	der	nimmt	man	nicht	einfach	die	musikhochschule	weg
HT [tok] [Feld]	VVF	VF	LK	MF	VVF		VF	MF												RK	KA	VF	LK	MF			RK	
HT [tok] [POV]	V2		V2-1		VL															KVN	V2-2							
HT [tok] [Max]	C																											
HT [tok] [GesprMerk]					P																							

Translation: a city / that historically °h (.) one (.) era of music history shaped has / it take you not simply its conservatory away

≈ 'A city that shaped the history of music, you don't simply take away its conservatory'

Example: [Parenthetical vocal communication](#)

EG [tok] [v]	ich	muss	dir	((Lachansatz))	auf	jeden	fall	absagen
EG [tok] [Feld]	VF	LK	MF-1	KA	MF-2			RK
EG [tok] [POV]	V2-1			KVS	V2-2			
EG [tok] [Max]	S							
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]				VK-P				

Translation: I must you /((attempt of laughter))/ definitely cancel

Maximal syntactic units

N Non-sentential Units

Non-sentential units are all units which can be considered ‘complete’ although they do not contain a verb. On the POV-Level they are either tagged as KVS or KVN. Where it is possible, the topological fields are annotated. If the annotator is in doubt, the annotation will be not specified (KA)

- 1) (Cumulative) interjections, response or reception signals without context
- 2) Words without context
- 3) Phrases without context
- 4) Vocal communication without context
- 5) Non-verbal behaviour without context
- 6) Unintelligible utterances without context
- 7) Vocatives without context

Similar to the handling of interjections on the clause/POV level, those elements are gathered in one segment if they occur without a pause separating them. The differentiation between words and interjections is based on the assumption that words can generally be integrated in syntactic structures whereas interjections, response signals and reception signals cannot. For the annotation and segmentation this makes no difference.

Example: [Cumulative interjection, hesitation marker and response particle](#)

EG [tok] [v]	hä	äh	ja
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA		
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS		
EG [tok] [Max]	N		

Translation: hum? uhm yes

Example: [Word without context](#)

FR [tok] [v]	was	
FR [tok] [Feld]	KA	
FR [tok] [POV]	KVS	
FR [tok] [Max]	N	

Translation: what

Example: [Cumulative interjections and phrase without context](#)

FR [tok] [v]	oh	nein	nich	schon wieder	
FR [tok] [Feld]	KA		KA		
FR [tok] [POV]	KVS		KVS		
FR [tok] [Max]	N				

Translation: oh no not (modal particle) again

Phrases considered as non-sentential units are, for example, **adverbial phrases** such as *morgen* (tomorrow) or *später* (later), **adjectival phrases** such as *schön* (beautiful) or *gut* (good), **prepositional phrases** such as *im Garten* (in the garden) or **prepositional constructions with infinitives** *um/ohne/ausser/anstatt+zu+Infinitiv* (in order to/without/except for/instead of+to+infinitive), or **nominal phrases** as in the example “phrases without context”.

Example: [Phrases without context](#)

FR [tok] [v]	en	vernünftiger	g	(.)	der	große	schwarze	kater	
FR [tok] [Feld]	KA			KA					
FR [tok] [POV]	KVS			KVS					
FR [tok] [Max]	N								

Translation: a sensible one / the big black cat

Please note that some of those phenomena are also marked on the tier for typical spoken language phenomena.

BUT: Only annotated as N when they occur independently (without context). Otherwise they will be segmented on this tier always with the **following** unit and annotated accordingly. In case the non-sentential unit occurs at the end of an utterance it will be segmented with the preceding utterance. We are aware that from a syntactic point of view this practice is debatable. However, for the readability of the output and for the operationalization of the maximal unit this practice seems favorable compared to the independent segmentation of every interjection etc.

Example: [Interjection before and verbless phrase after a simple sentential unit](#)

EG [tok] [v]	ja	larry	is	grad	fast	aus	m	fenster	gefalln	voll	schlimm
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA	VF	LK	MF				RK	KA		
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS	V2							KVS		
EG [tok] [Max]	S										

Translation: yes / larry / just nearly fell out of the window / really horrible

Example: [Vocal communication after simple sentential unit](#)

EG [tok] [v]	macht	er	ja	manchmal	ne	((kichert))
EG [tok] [Feld]	LK	MF			RAF	KA
EG [tok] [POV]	V1/2				KVS	
EG [tok] [Max]	S					
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]						VK

Translation: he does that sometimes / right / ((giggles))

Example: [Nominal phrase with relative clause without context](#)

AJ [tok] [v]	dieses	leute	die	vorher	in	dieser	gruppe	the	meteors	warn	
AJ [tok] [Feld]	KA	VF	MF							RK	
AJ [tok] [POV]	KVS	VL									
AJ [tok] [Max]	N										

Translation: *those people /who /before were in the group the meteors [/finite verb]*

A Abandoned

An utterance which is disrupted (see chapter [disruption](#)), i.e. opens a structural projection which is not fulfilled in the context and which is not continued at all or at least not continued in a way that there is no other possible interpretation, is segmented and tagged as abandoned unit (A). On the level of typical spoken language phenomena (GesprMerk) they are also marked as disruptions (D). The annotation of disruptions may differ on the clause level: structurally abandoned utterances containing a finite verb are assigned their respective POV type (V1, V2, V1/2, VL); all others are classified as KVN.

Example: [Abandoned V1-clause](#)

FR [tok] [v]	hast	du	denn	kein							
FR [tok] [Feld]	LK	MF									
FR [tok] [POV]	V1										
FR [tok] [Max]	A										
FR [tok] [GesprMerk]	D										

Translation: *have you really no*

Example: [Abandoned V2 with following utterance](#)

EG [tok] [v]	nee	der	is_	aus_m	(.)	ja	(.)	ja	aber	(.)	diesmal	is	ja	jetz	fünfter	stock	ne	((schnaubt))	
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA	VF	LK	MF		KA			VVF	VF		LK	MF				RAF	KA	
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS	V2				KVS			V2									KVS	
EG [tok] [Max]	A					S													
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]	D																	VK	

Translation: *no he is out the | (.) yes (.) yes but (.) this time it is (modal particle) fifth floor right ((snorts))*

BUT: If an utterance is only disrupted by a parenthesis or vocal communication etc. but otherwise completed or only completed in a self-repair (i.e. missing verb uttered), the whole sentential unit is to be segmented and tagged as such and not as an abandoned unit.

Example: [Complex sentential unit with disruption and self-repair](#)

EG [tok] [v]	un	dann	wolt	ich	ihn	halt	auch	nich	mehr	locken	weil	(0.37)	er	halt	so	gerutscht	also	(0.2)	so	unkontrolliert	dann	da	runtergerutscht	is	irgendwie	(.)	°h	
EG [tok] [Feld]	VVF	VF	LK	MF			RK	LK	KA	MF	RK	VVF	KA	MF			RK							NF				
EG [tok] [POV]	V2						VL									VL												
EG [tok] [Max]	C																											
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]	D																											

Translation: *and then I didn't want to lure him anymore because (0.37) he (modal particle) so slid(participle) well (0.2) so uncontrollably then slid down (finite verb) somehow °h*

Nominal phrases can be even more complex, i.e. also take a relative clause with them, modifying one of the constituents.

S Simple sentential unit

If the unit consists of only one single clause with a finite verb, it is tagged as simple sentential unit (S).

Please note that non-sentential material, if it is uttered before or after a simple sentential unit without a pause, is also included in the segment.

Example: [Simple sentential unit with coordinated middle field](#)

EG [tok] [v]	und	ähm	(.)	dann	irgendwann	klang	es	aber	so	komisch	und	auch	so	weit	weg
EG [tok] [Feld]	VVF	VF				LK		MF							
EG [tok] [POV]	V2														
EG [tok] [Max]	S														

Translation: and uhm then at one point it /sounded / odd and far away

C Complex sentential unit

The tag C is given to units which consist of more than one clause and in which one is structurally dependent from the other.

This includes:

- Main clauses with subordinate clauses or relative clauses
- Conditional sentences
- Reported speech and matrix-clause with sentient-verbs
- Complex pre-pre-fields with main clause
- Discontinuous utterances
- Coordinated sentences if and only if the second sentence shows subject or verb ellipsis

Main clauses which are elaborated with a subordinate clause are segmented together and tagged C. Also if a constituent of a main clause is elaborated by a relative clause, both clauses are segmented together and tagged with C. Please note that in both cases it is possible that some constituents are ellided as in example “main clause with ellipsis with preceding subordinate clause”.

Example: [Main clause with subordinate clause](#)

FR [tok] [v]	er	hat	n	paket	aus	versehen	fallen	lassen	weil	es	so	zu	schwer	war
FR [tok] [Feld]	VF	LK	MF				RK		LK	MF				RK
FR [tok] [POV]	V2								VL					
FR [tok] [Max]	C													

Translation: he let a parcel by mistake fall because it was too heavy

Example: [Main clause with ellipsis with preceding subordinate clause](#)

EG [tok] [v]	ja	also	wenn	mir	dann	mit	der	drehleiter	kommen	ja	so	dreihundert	euro	oder	so
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA	VVF	LK	MF				RK		KA	KA				
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS	VL							KVS	KVS					
EG [tok] [Max]	C														
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]										P					

Translation: yes well when we then come with the turntable ladder yes /about three hundred euros

Example: [Discontinuous utterance with relative clause](#)

HT [tok] [v]	un	insofern	°h	(.)	benötigen	wir	benötigen	wir	°h	(.)	äh	(.)	diese	(.)	musikstudentinnen	un	musikstudenten	°h	(.)	die	hier	ihrer	ausgezeichnete	(0,26)	ausbildung	(.)	durchlaufen
HT [tok] [Feld]	VVF	VF	LK		MF	LK	MF											VF		MF						RK	
HT [tok] [POV]	V2			V1/2														VL									
HT [tok] [Max]	C																										
HT [tok] [GesprMerk]	D																										

Translation: "h and insofar °h (.) we need we need °h (.) uhm (.) those (.) music students °h (.) who receive here their excellent education

Also, both parts of a conditional sentence are segmented together and tagged with C.

Example: [Conditional sentence](#)

[°h]	[.]	wenn	[.]	änderungen	eintreten	würden	wie	sie	sie	[°h]	[.]	äh	hier	vorschlagen	[°h]	[.]	wäre	das	für	uns	[.]	eine	(0,24)	katastrophe		
LK		MF		RK			VF	MF					RK		LK		MF									
VL							VL								V1/2											
C							P																			

Translation: If changes were to happen like you propose here, it would be a catastrophe for us

Moreover, instances of indirect speech and matrix-constructions with sentient-verbs are segmented and tagged as complex sentential units (C). As for reported speech, the initiating sentence as well as the reported utterance are segmented together and tagged as complex sentential unit (C).

The same applies for matrix-clauses with sentient-verbs and the respective following clause. In both cases, the following utterance is treated as a complement of the verb (He said 'something', I thought 'something'). So this rule only applies to cases in which a verb is uttered in the matrix clause.

However, if there is no verb uttered (see example "Reported speech without a verb - a single sentential unit") the elliptic utterance is treated as non-sentential material and thus added to the following sentential unit for segmentation.

Sometimes pragmatic knowledge and prosody interferes here with the annotation and with a closer look it is not clear where the reported speech ends or what has been 'thought' or 'believed', respectively. In all cases we choose the first possible syntactic closure point as segment boundary (see example "Reported speech"). We annotate the whole [reported speech](#) in the tier for "annotation and segmentation of typical spoken language phenomena". In the example "matrix-clause with sentient-verb" the following utterance is segmented together with the matrix-clause with sentient-verb and its complement because it is a non-sentential unit as it doesn't contain a verb.

Example: [Reported speech](#)

EG [tok] [v]	äh	weil	[.]	der	meinte	dann	gleich	so	ja
EG [tok] [Feld]	VVF	VF		LK	MF				KA
EG [tok] [POV]	V2						KVS		
EG [tok] [Max]	C								
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]							RS		

Translation: uhm because (.) he then instantly said yes (0.21) then I have to inform you now (0.26) that there will be costs facing you

Example: [Inverted reported speech](#)

CJ [tok] [v]	un	weißt	du	leo	(0.71)	was	das	tollste	ist	fragt	die	mama
CJ [tok] [Feld]	VVF	LK	MF	KA	KA	VF	MF		RK	LK	MF	
CJ [tok] [POV]	V1				KVS	KVN	VL			V2		
CJ [tok] [Max]	C											

Translation: and know you leo (0.71) what the best is asks the mother

≈ 'and do you know Leo what is the best about this, asks the mother'

Example: [Matrix-clause with sentient-verb](#)

EG [tok] [v]	dann	dacht	ich	äh	was	soll	ich	n	da	is	ja	voll	ätzend	was	soll	ich	n	da	machen
EG [tok] [Feld]	VF	LK	MF	VF		LK	MF		LK	MF				VF	LK	MF		RK	
EG [tok] [POV]	V2			V2						V1/2			V2						
EG [tok] [Max]	C					S				S			S						
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]	RS																		

Translation: *then I thought uhm what am I to do there / it's really annoying / what should I do there*

BUT:

Example: [Reported speech without a verb - a single sentential unit](#)

EG [tok] [v]	ich	da	so	ja	[.]	okay	s	kann	ja	alles	heißen	von	hundert	bis	(0.31)	fast	tausend	euro	irgend	wie	n	e		
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA			KA		VF	LK	MF		RK	NF										RAF			
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS			KVS		V2																		
EG [tok] [Max]	S																							
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]				RS																				

Translation: *I thus yes okay that can mean anything from a hundred up to a thousand euros somehow, right?*

Complex pre-pre-fields are also segmented and annotated together with their respective main clause as in the example below:

Example: [Complex pre-pre-field with relative clause before main clause](#)

HT [tok] [v]	und	ich	denke	auch	„h“	(.)	einer	stadt	die	historisch	„h“	(.)	eine	(.)	epoch	der	musikgeschichte	geprägt	hat	(0.49)	der	nimmt	man	nicht	einfach	die	musikhochschule	weg	
HT [tok] [Feld]	VWF	VF	LK	MF	VVF		VF	MF			RK		KA	VF	LK	MF				RK									
HT [tok] [POV]	V2			V2-1		VL											KVN	V2-2											
HT [tok] [Max]	C																												
HT [tok] [GesprMerk]					D																								

Translation: *and I also think a city, which historically shaped an era of music history, one does not simply take away its music conservatory*

Discontinuous utterances are segmented together if and only if it is certain that the utterance is continued after a parenthesis or disruption, i.e. a missing complement of the verb is uttered after the disruption (see example “discontinuous utterance with relative clause” in which the complement of the verb is realized after the disruption) or the finite verb is uttered only after a parenthesis or disruption (see example “Complex sentential unit with disruption and self-repair”).

Example: [Complex sentential unit with disruption and self-repair](#)

EG [tok] [v]	un	dann	wollt	ich	ihn	halt	auch	nich	mehr	locken	weil	(0.37)	er	halt	so	gerutscht	also	(0.2)	so	unkontrolliert	dann	da	runtergerutscht	is	irgendwie	(.)	„h“		
EG [tok] [Feld]	VVF	VF	LK	MF			RK	LK	KA	MF		RK	VVF	KA	MF			RK			RK						NF		
EG [tok] [POV]	V2			VL																									
EG [tok] [Max]	C																												
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]					D																								

Translation: *and then I didn't want to lure him anymore because (0.37) he (modal particle) so slid(participle) well (0.2) so uncontrollably then slid down (finite verb) somehow „h“*

BUT: wherever it is not certain that an utterance is continued but rather a different utterance is produced as in the case of many disruptions, the disrupted utterance is to be tagged as abandoned and the following utterance according to its structure.

Finally, coordinated sentences are segmented together if and only if the second sentence shows subject or verb ellipsis (see example “coordinated sentence with subject ellipsis”). For all other instances of coordination

Example: [Coordinated sentence with subject ellipsis](#)

EG [tok] [v]	dann	bin	ich	halt	in	die	küche	un	dann	saß	(.)	larry	da	in	der	regenrinne	(0.77)	und	hat	halt	voll	geschrien		
EG [tok] [Feld]	VF	LK	MF		VVF	VF	LK	MF									KA	VVF	LK	MF		RK		
EG [tok] [POV]	V2			V2													KVN	V2						
EG [tok] [Max]	S			C																				
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]																								

Translation: *then I (MP) went into the kitchen and then larry sat there in the gutter and really cried out loud*

Annotation and segmentation of typical spoken language phenomena

Typical spoken language phenomena serve as additional information about certain segments. They are no primary indicator for the segmentation, but assist in the interpretation of complex structures. The layer of typical spoken language phenomena is not segmented exhaustively.

D Disruption (Abbruch)

Disruptions can appear on various levels. In our annotation, disruptions are tagged on the level of typical spoken language phenomena. Only incomplete clauses, i.e. disrupted assertions in which a projection is clearly not fulfilled, are tagged with D. This is the case e.g. if the complements of a verb are not realized (as in the example “disruption finite verb without complement”) or a phrase is not completed (as in the example “disrupted prepositional phrase”). If the disruption is only on the word-level but the utterance is otherwise complete or continued, those “small” disruptions are not annotated. The annotation of disruptions may differ on the clause level: disruptions containing a finite verb are assigned their respective POV type (V1, V2, V1/2, VL); all others are classified as KVN. Word level disruptions and assertion of non-lexicalized sounds are tracked in the normalization and in the POS-tagging. Sometimes, the disruption of a word also constitutes the disruption of a clause. In these cases, it must be differentiated between ‘disruption’ and non-lexicalized sounds such as stuttering or stutter-like verbalization problems. These non-lexicalized sounds are treated in the same way as audible breathing (^h).

Example: [Disruption finite verb without complement](#)

FR [tok] [v]	hast	du	denn	kein	
FR [tok] [Feld]	LK	MF			
FR [tok] [POV]	V1				
FR [tok] [Max]	A				
FR [tok] [GesprMerk]	D				

Translation: have you really no

Example: [Non-lexicalized sounds](#)

FR [tok] [v]	oh	gott	h°	(.)	^h	u	nd	äh	w	wie	h	ast	und	wie	meinst du des
FR [tok] [Feld]	KA		VVF			VF		LK	VVF	LK	MF				
FR [tok] [POV]	KVS		V2					V2							
FR [tok] [Max]	A							S							
FR [tok] [GesprMerk]			D												

Translation: oh god / h°(.) ^h and uhm h how has / and how mean you this

Example: [Disrupted verb second phrase](#)

EG [tok] [v]	nee	der	war	halt	im	(.)	in	der	küche	ham	wir	ja	so	schrägen	ne
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA	VF	LK	MF		VF			LK	MF					RAF
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS	V2				V2									
EG [tok] [Max]	A					S									
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]			D												

Translation: no / he was MP in / (.) in the kitchen have we MP such slopes right

(MP= modal particle)

BUT: Elliptic utterances (and verbal phrases) that do not project continuations and constitute complete phrases are classified as sentence-like utterances without a finite verb (KVS), not as disruptions.

Example: [Elliptic utterances](#)

FR [tok] [v]	en	vernünftiger	g	(.)	der	große	schwarze	kater	
FR [tok] [Feld]	KA				KA				
FR [tok] [POV]	KVS				KVS				
FR [tok] [Max]	N								

Translation: *a sensible one / the big black cat*

COL1/2 Collaborative Turn Part 1 and 2

When a discontinuous utterance of one speaker is completed by another speaker, the POV is classified as a collaborative turn. Collaborative turns are only tagged if the completion of the assertion is **within** a POV. The utterance of the second speaker is tagged independently from the first speaker's utterance on the field and POV level. Collaborative turns are only marked on the annotation level for typical spoken language phenomena.

Example: [Collaborative turn](#)

EG [tok] [v]	t	un	dann	is	larry	da	runter	[^o h]				so	wie	er	halt	is
EG [tok] [Feld]	VVF	VF	LK	MF				KA				KA	VF	MF		RK
EG [tok] [POV]	V2							KVN				KVS	VL			
EG [tok] [Max]	S							N				S				
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]	COL-1							VK								
EG [tok] [Comment]																
FR [tok] [v]									auf	s		fenster				
FR [tok] [Feld]									KA							
FR [tok] [POV]									KVS							
FR [tok] [Max]									N							
FR [tok] [GesprMerk]									COL-2							

Translation: *and then is larry there down / / 'h / / on the window*

NV Nonverbal behaviour (Nonverbal Verhalten)

Audible nonverbal behavior is marked with double brackets in the transcription, when the following utterances relate to the occurrence ((knocks at the door)). This category is to be distinguished from the category of vocal communication that is also marked with double brackets. Nonverbal behavior is tagged as KA on the field layer and as KVN on the POV layer.

Example: [Nonverbal behaviour](#)

CM [tok] [v]	((putzt sich die Nase))
CM [tok] [Feld]	KA
CM [tok] [POV]	KVN
CM [tok] [Max]	N
CM [tok] [GesprMerk]	NV

Translation: *((blows his nose))*

VK Vocal communication (Vokale Kommunikation)

Instances of laughter, sighs or giggling are classified as vocal communication and marked with double brackets (or in case of syllabic laughter spelled in full) on the transcription layer. Vocal communication is tagged as KA on the field layer and as KVS on the POV layer.

Vocal communication can also be parenthetic. In those cases the structures around the parenthetic vocal communication have to be marked with -1/ -2.

Example: [Vocal communication preceding sentence-like structure](#)

EG [tok] [v]	((Lachansatz))	ja	irgendwie schon
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA	KA	KA
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS	KVS	KVS
EG [tok] [Max]	N		
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]	VK		

Translation: ((attempt of laughter)) / yes / somehow really

Example: [Parenthetical vocal communication](#)

EG [tok] [v]	ich	muss	dir	((Lachansatz))	auf	jeden	fall	absagen
EG [tok] [Feld]	VF	LK	MF-1	KA	MF-2			RK
EG [tok] [POV]	V2-1			KVS	V2-2			
EG [tok] [Max]	S							
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]				VK-P				

Translation: I must you / ((attempt of laughter))/ definitely cancel

Example: [Vocal communication, free-standing](#)

EG [tok] [v]		((stöhnt))	
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA		
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS		
EG [tok] [Max]	N		
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]	VK		

Translation: ((groans))

Also free standing breathing will be considered as vocal communication.

Example: [Breathing without context](#)

EG [tok] [v]		h°	
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA		
EG [tok] [POV]	KVN		
EG [tok] [Max]	N		
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]	VK		

VOK Vocatives und forms of address

Typical phenomena in spoken language are vocatives and appellatives. They are often situated outside of the sentence bracket or as parentheses and cannot be assigned a field in the topological

model. They are therefore not specified on the field layer (KA). Vocatives and forms of address are marked as sentence-like on the layer of POV (KVS).

Example: [External vocative POVs](#)

HT [tok] [v]	frau	(.)	ministerin	wir	haben	hier	in	der	metropolregion
HT [tok] [Feld]	KA			VF	LK	MF			
HT [tok] [POV]	KVS			V2					
HT [tok] [Max]	S								
HT [tok] [GesprMerk]	VOK								

Translation: Mrs. (.) minister / we have here in the metropolitan area

Example: [Parenthetical vocative](#)

HT [tok] [v]	denn	(.)	frau	ministerin	sie	kenn	nicht	nur	die	musikhochschule
HT [tok] [Feld]	VVF	KA			VF	LK	MF			
HT [tok] [POV]	V2-1	KVS			V2-2					
HT [tok] [Max]	S									
HT [tok] [GesprMerk]		VOK-P								

Translation: because / (.) Mrs. minister / you know not only the conservatory

UI Unintelligible

There are several reasons why some parts of conversation are marked as unintelligible in transcripts of spoken language. Sometimes speakers just speak quietly, there's too much noise or too many speakers speak at once. In those cases the transcriber identifies that something is said, however cannot determine what is said specifically. According to the cGAT conventions each syllable which is audible yet unintelligible is to be marked with “+++”. If there's a lot of unintelligible talk and it is not possible to determine the number of syllables the utterance is marked as unintelligible in double brackets.

Unintelligible utterances are tagged as not specified (KA) on the field level. If, on the POV level, they undoubtedly belong to a POV, they will be tagged as part of the POV. If there are any doubts whether they belong to the POV or not they will be tagged as KVN.

Example: [Independent unintelligible utterance](#)

XW [tok] [v]	((unverständlich, 1,8 Sek.))
XW [tok] [Feld]	KA
XW [tok] [POV]	KVN
XW [tok] [Max]	N
XW [tok] [GesprMerk]	UI

Translation: ((unintelligible, 1.8 sec))

Example: [Unintelligible within a non-sentential unit](#)

LP [tok] [v]	oh	+++	also	leo
LP [tok] [Feld]	KA	KA	KA	KA
LP [tok] [POV]	KVS	KVN	KVN	KVS
LP [tok] [Max]	N			
LP [tok] [GesprMerk]		UI		VOK

Translation: Oh / +++ / thus / leo

Utterances which end in unintelligible utterances are not tagged as disruptions (A) because it is impossible to say whether they are truly disrupted or not.

Example: [Unintelligible utterance within a simple sentential unit](#)

XW [tok] [v]	hier	kann	man	behauptungen	+++
XW [tok] [Feld]	VF	LK	MF		KA
XW [tok] [POV]	V2				KVN
XW [tok] [Max]	S				
XW [tok] [GesprMerk]					UI

Translation: here can one claims / +++

Example : [Unintelligible utterance within a complex sentential unit](#)

CM [tok] [v]	des	schreib	ich	wenn	da	+++
CM [tok] [Feld]	VF	LK	MF	LK	MF	KA
CM [tok] [POV]	V2			KVN		KVN
CM [tok] [Max]	C					
CM [tok] [GesprMerk]						UI

Translation: This / I write / when there / +++

P/-P Parenthesis

Discourse particles such as responsives, reception signals or interjections may precede or follow utterances, or disrupt them as parentheses. But also other [non-sentential units](#) or even sentential units can create parenthesis of a sentential unit. All instances of parenthesis are tagged as parenthetical (P) on the tier for the annotation and segmentation of typical spoken language phenomena when they are not tagged as another phenomenon typical for spoken language. If they already receive a tag listed in this chapter, they will receive the additional tag -P as for example with parenthetical vocatives or vocal communication.

Exceptions are disruptions and reported speech in which the parenthesis-segment would be included in the larger segment for the disruption or reported speech. In those cases the parenthesis is tagged and segmented on its own and the segments for reported speech and disruptions precede and follow the parenthesis as in the example “parenthesis within reported speech”, in which a discourse particle is uttered parenthetically within a complex sentential unit which is, at the same time, reported speech.

Example: [Parenthesis within reported speech](#)

EG [tok] [v]	ja	also	wenn	mir	dann	mit	der	drehleiter	kommen	ja	so	dreihundert	euro	oder	so
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA	VVF	LK	MF					RK	KA	KA				
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS	VL							KVS	KVS					
EG [tok] [Max]	C														
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]	RS								P	RS					

Translation: yes well when we then arrive with the turntable ladder yes about three hundred euros or so

Example: [Parenthetical vocative](#)

HT [tok] [v]	denn	(.)	frau	ministerin	sie	kenn	nicht	nur	die	musikhochschule
HT [tok] [Feld]	VVF	KA			VF	LK	MF			
HT [tok] [POV]	V2-1	KVS			V2-2					
HT [tok] [Max]	S									
HT [tok] [GesprMerk]		VOK-P								

Translation: then / (.) Ms. minister / you know not only the conservatory

RS Reported Speech

The annotation of reported speech is based solely on pragmatic knowledge. Wherever reported speech can be identified, it will be annotated as such, even if there is no verb indicating the act of speech (see example “reported speech without indicator of speech report”). Moreover, as we want to give information on “reported speech”-like structures, we also include constructions with verbs of cognition (see example “reported thought”) as well as general quotes (see example “reported quote”). As on this tier, we also include pragmatic and prosodic cues, the annotation of reported speech will occur in many places where it would not be considered in the segmentation and annotation of complex sentential units (see examples below).

Example: [Reported speech larger than the complex sentential unit](#)

EG [tok] [v]	äh	weil	[.]	der	meinte	dann	gleich	so	ja	dann	muss	ich	sie	aber	informieren	jetzt	schon	(0.26)	dass	dann	da	kosten	auf	sie	zukommen
EG [tok] [Feld]	VVF	VF		LK	MF				KA	VF	LK	MF		RK	NF		KA	LK	MF					RK	
EG [tok] [POV]	V2								KVS	V2									KVN	VL					
EG [tok] [Max]	C								C																
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]									RS										P	RS					

Translation: *uhm because he instantly said yes then I have to inform you already that there will be costs facing you*

Example: [Reported speech with only non-sentential units](#)

EG [tok] [v]	ich	so		wie	viel	denn
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA			KA		
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS			KVS		
EG [tok] [Max]	N			N		
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]				RS		

Translation: *I thus (0.21) how much (modal particle)*

Example: [Reported speech without indicator of speech report](#)

EG [tok] [v]	ja	also	wenn	mir	dann	mit	der	drehleiter	kommen	ja	so	dreihundert	euro	oder	so
EG [tok] [Feld]	KA	VVF	LK	MF					RK		KA	KA			
EG [tok] [POV]	KVS	VL								KVS	KVS				
EG [tok] [Max]	C														
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]	RS									P	RS				

Translation: *yes well when we then arrive with the turntable ladder yes about three hundred euros or so*

Example: [Reported thought](#)

EG [tok] [v]	n	da	hab	ich	ihn	jetzt	noch	zurückgepfiff	en	weil	ich	dachte	ja	dann	liegst	e	auch	gleich	da	unten	ey
EG [tok] [Feld]	VF	LK	MF					RK		LK	MF	RK	KA	VF	LK	MF					KA
EG [tok] [POV]	V2									VL			KVS	V2							KVS
EG [tok] [Max]	C																				
EG [tok] [GesprMerk]																					RS

Translation: *there I called him back because I thought then you will also lie down there in a minute ey*

Example: [Reported quote](#)

FR [tok] [v]	man	sagt	immer	katzen	sind	so	behän	de
FR [tok] [Feld]	VF	LK	MF	VF	LK	MF		
FR [tok] [POV]	V2			V2				
FR [tok] [Max]	C							
FR [tok] [GesprMerk]				RS				

Translation: *one always says cats are so deft*