#### Archiving Cherokee texts and developing Augmented Reality/Virtual Reality tools for language teaching.

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### Roadmap

- Background on Cherokee language
- Brief history of Cherokee people, removal
- Current state of affairs for language and needs for support
- Archiving work
- Digital projects, engagement in daily life
- Future work



### Background

- 3 Nations
- Iroquoian language
- Polysynthetic
  - "Wi-da-tsi-ne-gi-si"
- Classificatory system
  - Solid
  - Liquid
  - Long & rigid
  - Flexible
  - Animate



### Iroquoian Languages



#### Iroquoian & Cherokee traditional land bases





### Cherokee territory

#### **Pre-Revolution**

#### **Post-Revolution**



### JA&9P: Writing and Literacy



- Sequoyah ca. 1821
- Single-handed invention
- Illiterate, Monolingual
- Syllabary, ≠ "alphabet"

### From Hand to Print

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# First newspaper in an American Indian language



#### Trail of Tears



- 1838 forced removal of Cherokees in Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, parts of NC.
- Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in NC are descendants of those who remained and those who returned.

#### Eastern Cherokee Territory Today



### **Current State of Affairs**

- 2 extant dialects
- Some 2,000 speakers remain TOTAL, according to 2019 estimates
- Majority of speaker population elderly, little/no intergenerational transfer
- Speaker replenishment is priority

Published On: Thu, Jun 27th, 2019

Front Page / News I By Scott

Tri-Council declares State of Emergency for Cherokee language



The leaders of the three federally recognized Cherokee tribes – Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, Cherokee Nation (Okla.), and the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians (Okla.) – met in a Tri-Council meeting at Kituwah on the morning of Thursday, June 27. (SCOTT MCKIE B.P./One Feather photos)

#### Current state of affairs

#### Existing Technology

- Unicode keyboard
- Apple, Microsoft integration
- Google, Facebook
- Language learning Apps
  - EBCI: Shiyo
  - CN: Mango Languages
- Immersion schools
  - New Kituwah Academy (NC)
  - CMA 902020DY (OK)



#### Learn Cherokee.

Now available: online Cherokee language course from Mango Languages.

Beloit Public Library homepage "<u>beloitlibrary.org</u>" has free access to Mango language learning with your BPL card at "Discover, Investigate, Grow", "Mango", "<u>https://connect.mangolanguages.com/beloit/login?u=46668"</u>. There are language learning programs for 63 of the world's most popular languages.



### Needs for support

- Immersion schools need support from L2 learners, while L2 learners need their own support
  - (Faster) materials creation
  - Engaging the language in day-today life
- Two needs for support, two projects:
  - Archiving Cherokee texts
  - (Computer-mitigated) social integration



### Potentials of technological applications

- Faster materials creation
- Easier transcription
  - (we'd kill for an accurate speech-to-text system)
- More engaging learner materials
- Mobile apps to increase the language's presence in day-today life



### Archiving

- Digitize/scan/OCR texts & translations
- Align sentences, export to .txt
- Import to AntPConc, AntConc
- Query results

	AntPConc			
Search	Term 🖉 Words 🗆 Case Show Nth Entry 1 💿 Search Corpus 🔿 English 🔿 Cherokee			
with	Start Context Size 20 Start Size 20			
Sort 1:	CEN Sort 2: 1R Sort 3: 2R Sort Page Size All entries			
Target: English Hits: 1568 Font Size				
Line	KWIC			
1	Charlotte read the words: "With New Radiant Action."			
2	With a final heave they jammed him into the crate.			
3	And the chief captain answered, With a great sum obtained I this citizenship. And Pau			
4	es saith, I will provoke you to jealousy with that which is no nation, With a nation void of understanding will I anger you.			
5	And Agrippa said unto Paul, With but little persuasion thou wouldest fain make m			
6	And he said unto them, With desire I have desired to eat this passover with			
7	With her broad bill the goose pushed the unhatched			
-	1884			
Lir	ne Reference			
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#### Text Analysis

## Most frequently occurring words

#Word Types: 5727				
#Word Tokens: 18806				
#Se	earch Hits:	0		
1	710	Zo		
3	420	ഗരുവ		
4	275	Fod		
6	210	ያመድ		
10	126	ъЗУ		
13	106	D4Z		
14	99	ТюЛ		
18	89	hSL		
19	86	Т§		
22	81	TGoda		
23	81	ZJ		
25	72	ഗരഹ		
26	68	TG		
27	67	F4		
28	66	FR		
29	66	Jhod ThAV.J		
30	62	ФУӨӨ		
33	59	oÐ∿°		
34	57	ßP		
35	56	₩v°		
36	55	F4T		
37	53	F400.1		
38	52	RWJ		
39	51	УG		
40	50	RL&9.A		

# Most frequently occurring syllabary characters



### Lexicography

- Corpus-based approach is effective
- Ready-made reference sentences
- Fairly straightforward glossing

#### **Cherokee-English Dictionary Online Database**



#### Translation

OmegaT 3.6.0_7 :: EN-CHR_PF	ROJ_OMEGA_T
Editor – en_WolfWearsShoes_aligned.txt — 💌	Fuzzy Matches — 🖻 💌
WOLF WEARS SHOES Told by Sequoyah Guess In the forever that was, all the forest dwellers spoke Cherokee.   Cadrab InSWE(D:: bAYGB OZPRO: TRAGE INFR h&LTOH D.LB GWY GHOHADE.   [fuzzy]OrADB Oi InADS Daf UGF LOCZPADE.   [fuzzy]OrADB Oi InADS Daf UGF LOCZPADE.   There, in the direction of the river, Beaver was coming.   "Look!   Look!   Look! Beaver was saying "what is it, Beaver?" said Rabbit.   There, where rabbit and squirrel stood, Beaver arrived.   "I found something near the river," said Beaver.   "I have never seen the thing that I found before.   You might, by chance, know what it is."   "Aright," said rabbit, "let's go."   As they were walking near the river, suddenly Wolf appeared at their side.   They were not afraid of Wolf, but they thought that he was truly annoying.	1. In the forever that was, all the forest dwellers spoke Cherokee. T3.0G FrR hSt TOF D./L0 GWY GhOh@E. <50/61/62% /Users/benfrey/Desktop/Projects/Cherokee Projects/Corpus/OmegaT3.6.0.07.Mac_Signed/EN- CHR_PROJ_OMEGA_T/tm/English-Cherokee.tmx> 2. WOLF WEARS SHOES Told by Sequoyah Guess Ga&do InSWECO: bAY&0 OZPPO. <50/38/35% /Users/benfrey/Desktop/Projects/Cherokee Projects/Corpus/OmegaT_3.6.0_07_Mac_Signed/EN- CHR_PROJ_OMEGA_T/tm/English-Cherokee.tmx>
Wolf thought he knew everything.	Glossary — 🗹 🛛
"Hello," said Wolf.   "Where are you all going?"   "Beaver found something near the river," said Rabbit.   "He doesn't know what it is," said Squirrel.   "I will very likely know what it is," said Wolf.   "I will go too."   Dictionary Machine Translation   Multiple Translations Notes	wear shoes = SW8'C 1. he/she is wearing shoes Cherokee = GW3 Sequoyah = b-Y:Θ that = Θ, ΘiοD3 Wolf = CotivΘ hts
	5/87 (45/166, 170) 106/55

- Computer assisted translation...?
  - Problematic b/c of genre
  - Better for non-literary applications
- Neural network training (similar to Google Translate)

### Integration

- Archiving yields data how do you get people to use it?
  - Pedagogy
    - Immersion
    - Second language learners
  - Day-to-day applications
    - Conversational domains
    - Technology



#### Immersion school pedagogy

- L2 learners can help L1 speakers produce new texts more quickly.
- Translation exercises provide practice opportunities + feedback from speakers
- Speaker-approved texts can be archived and improve database



### L2 pedagogy

- Archives can generate sentences for practice activities
  - Cloze-gap
  - mad-libs
  - Multiple choice...
- Practice for L2 learners → more proficient speakers, more help for L1 speakers and immersion schools

One Time in Chapel J

CWY TJ©h@ŀ@J
Beginner Intermediate Advanced
hapel Hill Very Windy Day Gardening Charlotte's Web The Apple Tree Sequoyah Chunestudy Feels at Home A Walk in the Woods
2017 Cherokee Phoenix The Beast Horse Story New Testament Buddy the Bluebird Littlefish Wolf Wears Shoes
V <del>S</del> ЛGO~ 📃 ြ ଼ିକିଙ୍ଗ ቆንርምይ ቆኩልቦ፟፟፟ቆኞET, ፀኞን ቆንርምይፐ," DJኞET Cosby.

We play as close to what we have discovered, as we could find that's out there," Cosby said.

Next

### Pedagogy

#### Poll Everywhere

#### V@ ΟΊΘΛ ΑD D@\$@?

When poll is active, respond at **PollEv.com/benjaminfrey746** . Text **BENJAMINFREY746** to **22333** once to join





#### **Google Forms**

#### **Multiple Choice**

Ahyoka wants to ask for help in class. Which of the following would be the most appropriate for her to say? Choose the best answer.

 $\checkmark$  She's stuck on a particular problem and can't figure it out. \* 1/1



#### Software Localization

#### Word Munchers

GOS	<sub>о</sub> ду: 1		Adjectives an	nd Adverbs		
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	Df5f8	ОСРА				
<del>0</del> :е	35		,			

VOOL: SCL LODSTODA BYOVG: space bar

#### Heriswap



#### Social Integration

#### **Augmented Reality**



#### Mobile app for conversations

Time Stamp	Phrase
0:04-0:07	iHola! ¿Como estás?
0:07-0:11	¡Hola! Muy bien. Quería un cafe.
0:11-0:12	¿Qué café querías?
0:13-0:14	Un cortado.
0:14-0:16	Un cortado. Bueno.
0:20-0:21	¿Cuánto es?
0:22-0:23	Cinco con cincuenta.
0:23-0:24	Muchas gracias.
0:24-0:25	Muchisimas de nada.
0:25-0:26	iAdiós!
0:26-0:27	Ciao.

Here we see someone ordering a coffee. View the video again as necessary to gather the vocabulary needed to order.

When you're ready, take a look at the glossary for your own ordering needs, and rate your partner on their Spanish after ordering!

GLOSSARY HOMEPAGE

#### Potential future projects

- VR practice sessions for conversations
- VR-mitigated interaction online between speakers and learners
- Tours of Cherokee cultural sites
- More expansive illustration of traditional stories, beliefs

#### Mondly VR (English)





### юЭУ! Thanks! Questions?