

# The AGNT Project Report—Q4 2012

As a licensee or friend of AGNT or ANLEX, we would like to update you once a quarter about our continuing work to enhance and perfect these databases and about our plans for the future.



**The Project**. *The AGNT Project Report—Q3 2008* introduced the team, outlined ongoing tasks, and discussed potential tasks.



# PARATEXT – A POWERFUL TOOL FOR BIBLE TRANSLATORS

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Thousands of Bible translators worldwide are currently making use of a software tool called Paratext. It was developed by the United Bible Societies in the nineties of the previous century and soon became the tool of choice for translation personnel all over the world. In 2010 UBS and SIL decided to join forces in the area of software development to further develop this tool together. This tool has been developed specifically for Bible translators, but it is also quite useful for pastors and biblical scholars. Paratext is currently only available to people involved in Bible translation. However, we are currently looking into ways to make the software available to a larger public.

# GENERAL OVERVIEW

Paratext is a helpful instrument for different aspects of the Bible translation work, such as:

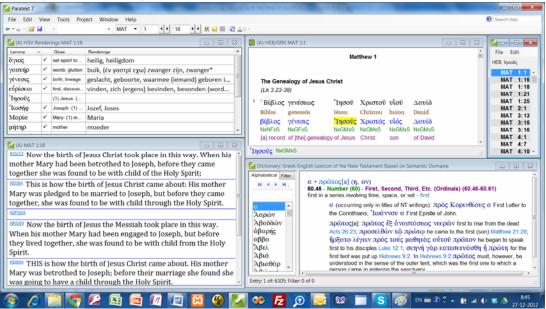
 Editing – Paratext provides a powerful text editor using either standard format markers or styles, including a powerful spelling checker that can be used with practically any language in the world. Paratext supports 98% of all scripts in world and efforts are underway to enable the tool to handle the remaining 2% as well.



• **Research** – Paratext gives access to numerous resources, such as source language texts with analytical data, source language dictionaries, translator notes (SIL) and

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handbooks (UBS), ancient texts, contemporary versions, and other useful background materials, such as checklists of biblical terms. It also supports links to other resource packages such as Logos 4. It has powerful search facilities as well.



• **Checking** – Paratext has tools that help the Bible translator check the translated text for both format (orthography, punctuation, quotation marks, brackets, layout, etc.) and content (consistency, biblical terms, parallel passages, cross-references, etc.).

Parallel Passages: RSV52 MAT 3:11			
🕴 🕨 🛛 🖨 🖻 🛍 💾 Hebrew/Gre	eek Text 🔹 By Verse	Comparative Texts	
MAT 3:11	<u>MRK 1:7-8</u>	LUK 3:16	JHN 1:26-27
[GRK] ἐγὼ μὲν ὑμᾶς	[GRK] καὶ ἐκήρυσσεν	[GRK] ἀπεκρίνατο λέγων	[GRK] ἀπεκρίθη αὐτοῖς
βαπτίζω ἐν ὕδατι εἰς	λέγων <mark>"Ερχεται</mark> ό	πᾶσιν ὁ Ἰωάννης Ἐγὼ	ό Ἰωάννης λέγων Ἐγὼ
μετάνοιαν <mark>ό</mark> δὲ ὀπίσω	ἰσχυρότερός μου	μὲν ὕδατι βαπτίζω	βαπτίζω ἐν ὕδατι
μου ἐρχόμενος		ύμας <mark>ἔρχεται</mark> δὲ ὁ	μέσος ὑμῶν ἕστηκεν
ἰσχυρότερός μού ἐστιν			ὃν ὑμεῖς οὐκ οἴδατε <mark>ὁ</mark> 🛓
οὗ οὐκ εἰμὶ ἱκανὸς <mark>τὰ</mark>	τὸν ἱμάντα τῶν	οὐκ εἰμὶ ἱκανὸς <mark>λῦσαι</mark>	όπίσω μου έρχόμενος 🗧
<mark>ύποδήματα</mark> βαστάσαι	<mark>ύποδημάτων</mark> αύτοῦ	τὸν ἱμάντα τῶν	οῦ οὐκ εἰμὶ <mark>[ἐγὼ]</mark>
αὐτὸς ὑμᾶς βαπτίσει	ἐγὼ <mark>ἐβάπτισα</mark> ὑμᾶς	<mark>ύποδημάτων</mark> αὐτοῦ	<mark>ἄξιος</mark> ἵνα λύσω αὐτοῦ
έν πνεύματι ἁγίω καὶ	ὕδατι αὐτὸς δὲ	αὐτὸς ὑμᾶς βαπτίσει	τ <mark>ον ίμάντα</mark> τοῦ
πυρί	βαπτίσει ὑμᾶς ἐν	έν πνεύματι ἁγίω καὶ	<mark>ύποδήματος</mark>
	πνεύματι ἁγίω	πυρί	
[RSV52] " I baptize you		[RSV52] John answered	[RSV52] John answered
with water for	saying, " <mark>After me</mark>	them all, " I baptize you	them, " I baptize with
repentance, <mark>but he who</mark>		with water; but he who	water; but among you
is coming after me is	mightier than I, the	is mightier than I is	stands one whom you
mightier than I, whose		coming, the thong of	do not know, even he
sandals I am not	I am not worthy to	whose sandals I am not	who comes after me,
	stoop down and untie. I	worthy to untie; he will	the thong of whose
baptize you with the	have baptized you with	baptize you with the	sandal I am not worthy
Holy Spirit and with	water; but he will	Holy Spirit and with	to untie."
fire.	baptize you with the Holy Spirit "	fire.	-
	ETHV STUPP	1	

 Publishing – Paratext can create beautiful PDFs of parts of Scripture that include illustrations and are ready to be published for translation testing purposes. For more permanent publications it relies on another tool developed by UBS, called Publishing Assistant. This latter tool converts a Scripture text into the format required by Adobe InDesign and significantly reduces the time required for typesetting.

#### **GLOSSING TECHNOLOGY**

A feature that is especially appreciated by translators is the statistical glossing technology, which compares two Scripture texts, analyzes them, and uses statistical methods to determine the equivalents of a word or phrase in text A on the basis of the data found in text B. This technology was developed by the British and Foreign Bible Society and has several applications, such as:

- The *Guess Translations* tool, which looks for equivalents of a given word in another Scripture text.
- The Paratext *Interlinearizer*, which creates an interlinear back translation of a translated text,

Guess Translations (RV60 -> ESV01)	
Translation from RV60 to ESV01 Change Target Text	
ciudad	Translate
[city]	1062 verses 🔺
city (701) cities (361) [town] town (39) towns (36)	75 verses
judah	2 verses
jerusalem	2 verses
the men of	1 verses
villages	1 verses
fortified	1 verses
gate	1 verses
No translation found	12 verses
Enter a word to be translated in the box and click "Translate". To translate word and not related words, start word with an equal sign '='.	only the exact
Results are the guesses for the translation of the word (and related words) which they appear.	in each verse in
More help	Show Guide

which can be corrected and enhanced manually by the user. The program learns from the corrections brought in by the user to create an even better back translation. A back translation generated with a computer is many times more objective than one generated by a human being and therefore gives a more reliable impression of the quality of a translation. This tool also provides the translation consultant with the opportunity to get more closely acquainted with the language he is checking and so do a much better job.

Approve and E	xport to KAGBT	Next Unapprov	ed Verse   E	xport To Text		
8 Wanhu	we	dikabila	dya	Yuda	hawaitowa	ikaya
/wanhu/	wa- /a/	di- /kabila/	di- /a/	/yuda/	ha- wa- i- /tow/ -a	i- /kaya/
people	3P/2P of	— tribe	— of	judah	PAST 3P/2P — hit FV	— house/city
People	of	tribe	of	Judah	hit	city
ya	Yelusal	emu	na	kuiloi	nda . Hawawa	koma
/ya/ ye-	lu- sa- l-	e- /mu/	/na/	ku- i- /1	ond/-a ha-wa-w	a- /kom/ -a
of —	— REL — eu	phrates in		LOC — ta	ake FV PAST 3P/2P 3P	/2P kill FV
of	Jerusal	lem	with	to take	e (it) · Kil	

 Paratext can generate lists of translation and transliteration equivalents to be used for consistency checking. This is especially helpful for terms that are usually rendered consistently, such as names of

Lemma 🔺		Category	Gloss	Renderings
אֲבַנְתָא		Name	Abagtha - eunuch; servant of ki	Abagtha
אֲבִי	✓	Name	Abi - daughter of Zechariah; wif	Abi
אַבִי הָעֶזְ	✓	Name	Abiezrite - member of clan of A	Abiëzriet
אַבִי־עַלְ	✓	Name	Abi-Albon - warrior; time of king	Abi-Albon
אֲבִיאֵל-1	✓	Name	Abiel - father of Kish and Ner,	Abiël
אֲבִיאֵל-2	~	Name	Abiel - warrior; time of king David	Abiël
אָבִיאָסָף	~	Name	Abiasaph - son of Korah; tribe	Abiasaf
אֲבִיגַיָל-1	~	Name	Abigail - wife of Nabal and David	Abigaïl
אֲבִינֵיָל-2	~	Name	Abigail - daughter of Nahash; s	Abigaïl
אֲבִידָן	~	Name	Abidan - son of Gideoni; chief;	Abidan

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people and places, trees, animals, realia, etc. This means that a translator who wants to make sure that all 3000 names in the Old Testament have been rendered in a consistent fashion does not have to check everything manually, but can let the computer do most of this work. The work of the computer will inevitably have to be verified but this is easy and takes only a small fraction of the time that the entire process would have taken if it had to be carried out manually.

## WORK FLOW AND DATA SECURITY

One continuous concern of a Bible translator working in an isolated part of the world is: How can I keep my precious data safe? Another serious challenge for translators working in a team is the following: How can we make sure that each one of us always has the latest version of the text in front of him?

This has been resolved by Paratext's *Send/Receive* technology. All changes made by any individual team member are sent to a central place (which can be a central Paratext repository on the internet or a local drive, depending on the options that are available in a given situation) and shared with the other team members. Different team members can work on one and the same book and chapter (even though this is not generally considered best practice!). Conflicts only arise when two members of a team attempt to edit the same verse but even then they can be easily resolved.

*Paratext Live* is a tool that allows a translation team to work together by doing a quick *Send/Receive* every few seconds so that all team members always have the same text in front of them. This makes it possible for them to work together even if they are not working in the same location.

#### PARATEXT AND AGNT

In this section we want to investigate how Paratext can help a translator, exegete, or consultant research the source texts of the Bible. The current version of Paratext is 7.3. As far as the text and morphology of the New Testament is concerned, this version relies on the Analytical Greek New Testament (2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 2003). Paratext 7.4, which will come out in May 2013, will make use of the most recent edition of AGNT, including the ERGs (English Reference Glosses).

The screenshot below shows what a typical Paratext source text window looks like. It shows the Greek UBS text in a format that closely resembles the printed edition. The analytical data for each word is displayed on the status bar. Whenever the user hovers over a particular word with the mouse that word is highlighted and the corresponding background data are shown below.

	Matthew 1	
	The Genealogy of Jesus Christ	
	(Lk 3.23-38)	
1	* <mark>Βίβλος</mark> γενέσεως 'Ιησοῦ Χριστοῦ υἰοῦ Δαυὶδ υἰοῦ Ἀβραάμ. ª	
2	* Ἀβραὰμ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἰσαάκ, Ἰσαὰκ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν	
	'Ιακώβ, 'Ιακὼβ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν 'Ιούδαν καὶ τοὺς ἀδελφοὺς αὐτοῦ,	
3	* Ἰούδας δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Φάρες καὶ τὸν Ζάρα ἐκ τῆς	
	Θαμάρ, Φάρες δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἐσρώμ, Ἐσρὼμ δὲ ἐγέννησεν τὸν Ἀράμ,	

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The user who prefers to view both text and analysis in an interlinear format can achieve this by changing the view settings, as can be seen in the screenshot below:

			Ma	tthew 1			[
	The Gen (Lk 3.23-	ealogy of Jesus Cł 38 <i>)</i>	nrist				
1	Biblos βίβλος NxNFxS	ς γενέσεως geneseōs γένεσις NxGFxS d of.[the].genealogy	Iēsou 'Ιησοῦς NxGMxS	Χριστοῦ Christou Χριστός ΝxGMxS Christ	huiou vióς	Δαυίδ Dauid Δαυίδ NxGMxS of.David	
	huiou	Άβραάμ. <sup>a</sup> Abraam. Άβραάμ NxGMxS of Abraham.					

A menu with a number of basic search options pops up at a mere right click. The item that has been highlighted can be looked up in a dictionary (either in Paratext or in Logos or, in the future, ANLEX). One can also generate a list of passages where this item is found for further research.

More interesting, however, is the Advanced Search window. It allows the user options such as:

- Look for specific morphological forms of a certain word.
- Look for direct and indirect sequences of two words, such as Ἰησοῦς Χριστός (see screenshot below).

	Text	Lemma(s)	Form(s)	Neg.	Sequence			
0	GRK 🝷	'Ιησοῦς	all			×	• •	1
۲	GRK 🝷	Χριστός	all		DIRECT -	×	• •	

- Look for direct and indirect sequences of words and morphological forms, such as ἐπί followed by a noun in the accusative.
- Look for direct and indirect sequences of forms, such as the well-known "accusativus cum infinitivo."
- Look for words across texts, such as all verses in the Old Testament where the BHS has the word πgg "loyalty" and where the LXX has ἔλεος "mercy" (see screenshot).

	Text		Lemma(s)	Form(s)	Neg.				
0	HEB	•	<u>ט</u> מֿב	all		×	*	v	
0	LXX	•	ἕλεος	all		×	*	×	
0	LXX	•	ἔλεος	all		×	*	1	e .

- All kinds of variations are possible. Paratext has the built-in capability to compare lists of Scripture references. This allows for queries such as:
  - ο Display all references where the Greek NT has  $\chi \dot{\alpha}$ ρις, but where the Revised Standard Version does not have "grace."
  - Display all references containing the names "Abraham" and "Sarah," but that do not contain the name "Isaac."

## CONCLUSION

Paratext has many more features, which cannot be all dealt with in this article. More information can be found on <u>www.paratext.org</u>.

We can safely say that tools such as Paratext make the work of a Bible translator significantly easier. Tools like this help accelerate Bible translation and enhance the quality of the translated Bible.

**Editor's Note**: The AGNT Project and the United Bible Societies have signed a new agreement for UBS to use AGNT in Paratext.



As always, we remain open to developing AGNT and ANLEX in ways that are most useful to the needs of students and readers of God's Word.

Thank you for your continued support of *The AGNT Project*, for faithfully marketing the AGNT and ANLEX databases, and for making these state-of-the-art tools for studying the Greek New Testament available to students, scholars, pastors, translators, and laymen worldwide.

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