

# Introducing Language Typology

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## Internet resources for language typology

### 1/ FINDING LANGUAGE-TYPOLOGICAL GENERALIZATIONS

The most important resource for finding language-typological generalizations is the Konstanz Universals Archive:

<http://typo.uni-konstanz.de/archive>

Initiated by Frans Plank, it contains a list of 2029 generalizations (in June 2012), each along with literature references and counterexamples if any. Associated with it is *Das grammatische Raritätenkabinett* – a listing of crosslinguistically infrequent structural features (e.g. a basic color term for turquoise in Tsakhur). There is a link to it on the Universals Archive homepage but it can also be accessed as follows:

<http://typo.uni-konstanz.de/rara>

### 2/ FINDING LANGUAGES

For identifying languages along with their genetic and areal provenance, a standard resource is Ethnologue:

<http://www.ethnologue.com>

### **3/ LANGUAGE STRUCTURES ON THE WORLD MAP**

The World Atlas Of Language Structures (WALS) provides brief descriptions of the typological and areal distribution of 142 structural features of languages, with maps following each article.

<http://www.wals.info>

### **4/ ASSOCIATION FOR LINGUISTIC TYPOLOGY**

This world-wide scholarly organization of language typologists is accessible at

<http://www.linguistic-typology.org>

In addition to the various activities of the association and the membership roster with addresses, the website has a list of a large number of typological databases (under Resources), among them those in 5/ - 14/ below.

### **5/ TYPOLOGICAL DATABASE SYSTEM**

This is a collection of several typological data bases with multiple search options such as topic and language.

<http://languageink.let.uu.nl/tds>

### **6/ SURREY MORPHOLOGY GROUP (TYPOLOGICAL DATABASES)**

The site provides several data-bases on morpho-syntactic topics, such as agreement, suppletion and syncretism.

<http://www.smg.surrey.ac.uk>

**7/ AUTOTYP**

Directed by Balthasar Bickel and Johanna Nichols, Autotyp is an international network of language-typological databases.

<http://www.spw.uzh.ch/autotyp>

**8/ PAVIA TYPOLOGICAL DATABASE**

Directed by Paolo Ramat, this is a database featuring diverse structures of Euro-Mediterranean languages.

<http://www-3.unipv.it/paviatyp>

**9/ SYNTACTIC STRUCTURES OF WORLD LANGUAGES (SSWL)**

This is a database providing information on syntactic, morphological and semantic properties of individual languages and their crosslinguistic similarities.

<http://sswl.railsplayground.net>

**10/ GRAZ DATABASE ON REDUPLICATION**

This site provides descriptions of reduplicative structures of a large number of languages.

<http://reduplication.uni-graz.at/redup>

**11/ MATTHEW DRYER'S TYPOLOGICAL DATABASE**

This large database encompasses many languages and many parameters; it also includes the list of language genera of the world and maps.

<http://linguistics.buffalo.edu/people/faculty/dryer/dryer/database>

**12/ NUMBERS FROM 1 TO 10 IN OVER 5000 LANGUAGES**

A world map allows the user to go directly to the languages of a particular geographic area.

<http://www.zompist.com/numbers.shtml>

**13/ THE WORLD COLOR SURVEY**

This website provides a list of the current activities of the World Color Survey with links. It also includes the WCS Data Archive.

<http://www.icsi.berkeley.edu/wcs>

**14/ UCLA PHONOLOGICAL SEGMENT INVENTORY DATABASE (UPSID)**

This is a compendium of web pages listing phonological properties of a large number of the languages of the world.

<http://www.langmaker.com/upsidlanguages.htm>

**15/ TYPOLOGICAL TOOLS FOR FIELD LINGUISTICS**

The URL below is that of the Linguistics Department of the Max Plank Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig. Under Resources, links to several databases are available, including *Numeral systems of the world's languages* and *World Loanword Database*. Another link offers typological tools for field linguists, including the Lingua Descriptive Studies Questionnaire – a comprehensive set of parameters for describing the grammatical structures of a language.

<http://www.eva.mpg.de/lingua>

**16/ ATLAS OF PIDGIN AND CREOLE LANGUAGE STRUCTURES**

To be published at Oxford University Press, this four-volume atlas will contain grammatical and lexical information about a large number of pidgin and creole languages around the world.

<http://lingweb.eva.mpg.de/apics>

**17/ AUDIO SAMPLES FROM THE LANGUAGES OF THE WORLD**

Recording of Bible stories and other texts may be listened to from almost 6000 languages of the world.

<http://globalrecordings.net/en/languages>

**18/ WILLIAM CROFT'S TYPOLOGICAL PROBLEM SETS**

Under the link *Problem sets*, there is a 109-pages-long collection of data sets from various languages of various degrees of complexity.

<http://www.unm.edu/~wcroft>