

The significance of Antoine d'Abbadie's notebooks as a source of linguistic data

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JOURNÉE D'ÉTUDES « DANS LES CARNETS D'UN SAVANT-VOYAGEUR EN ÉTHIOPIE :
TRANSCRIRE ET ÉDITER LES CARNETS D'ANTOINE D'ABBADIE (MI-XIXE S.) », PARIS,
22-23 NOVEMBRE 2023

Overview

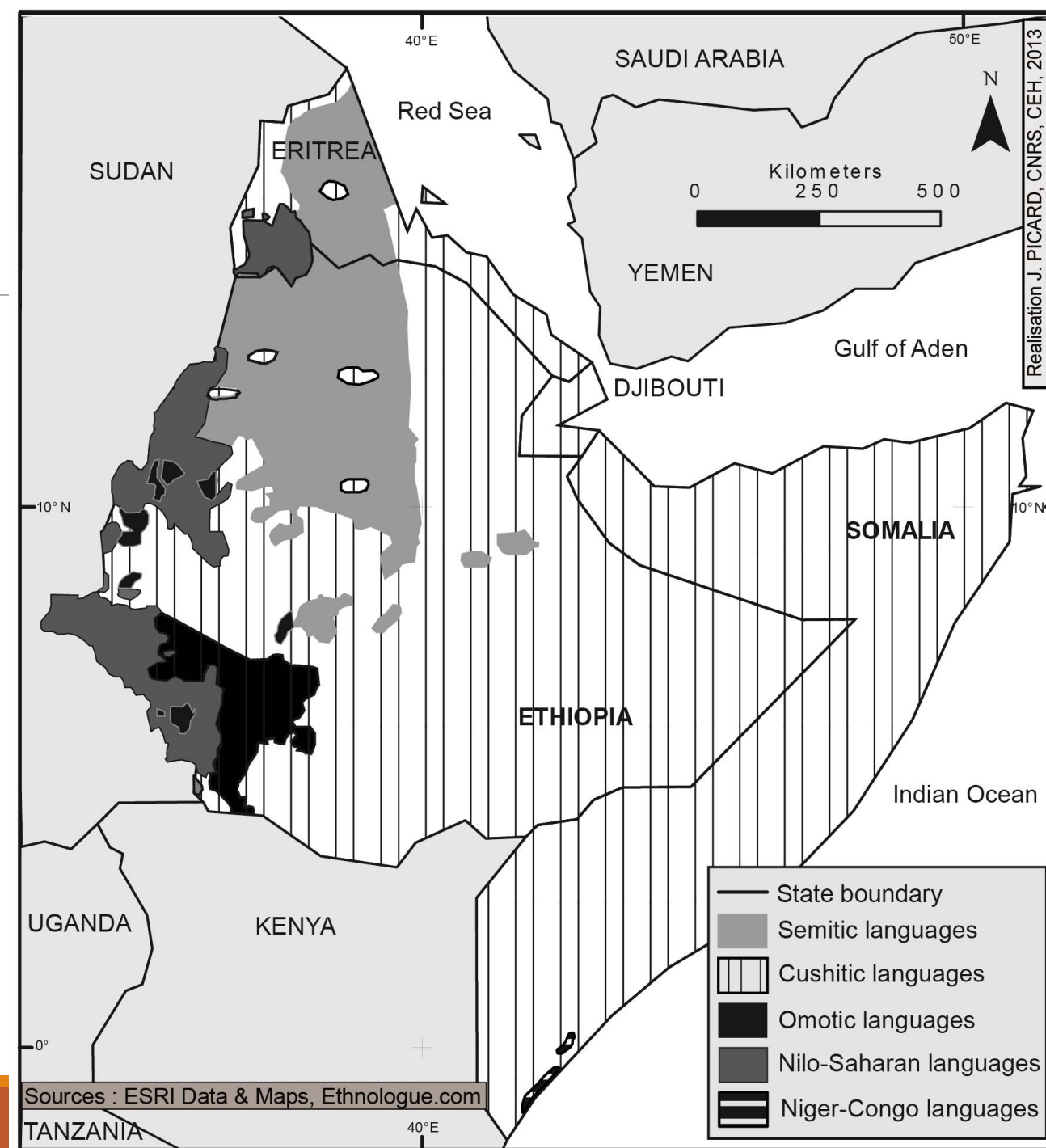
1. Introduction:
 1. Distribution/classification of the languages at the Horn of Africa
 2. Languages represented and not represented in AdA's notebooks
2. Wordlists in AdA's notebooks: Some general features
(Word of caution: The transcription of the wordlists is not yet very far advanced and one of the biggest challenges for the automatic text recognition)
3. Case study: Kambaata
4. Scientific value
5. Outlook

1. Languages at the Horn of Africa

DISTRIBUTION AND CLASSIFICATION

1. Language families

- Afroasiatic
 - Semitic > Ethio-Semitic
 - Cushitic > Central Cushitic
> East Cushitic
> Beja
 - Omotic (language family only spoken in Ethiopia)
 - “Nilo-Saharan”
(border to Sudan/South Sudan; disputed family)
 - Berta
 - Kunama
 - Koman group
 - Gumuz group
 - Eastern Sudanic
- } isolates or tiny families



Languages represented in AdA's notebooks

Language data found across many notebooks

Most advanced wrt to the transcription of wordlists: carnets 271 and 265

First overview: Inventories and their revisions

- “Tableau des langues” (carnet 266: 52r)
- Revision: “Tableau des langues” (carnet 267: 52v)
 - Revisions of word counts
 - Revision of classifications
 - Addition/Revision of language names: (c. 266) 82 → (c. 267) 87 language names

103
langues
Semitiques
a

langues
Agaw
b

langues
Amharina
c

Tableau des langues de l'Afrique orientale

chouba'te Kribulfi et mieux encore le Borké assyde au delà de Bogos.
Habab parla sur la côte depuis A'qig ou Badour jusqu'à Gombode.
Tégray

82

1. Gööç		Gilan
2. Khasy		Wag
3. Tégray		atata
4. Gabi	170	Gondar
5. Khamtonga	1500	kwara
6. atata		alafa
7. des K'omant		Agaw m.
8. hwaraja	1349	kafa
9. d'alafa		Sinito
10. Awinga	2023	djandjoro
11. Södama	1700	weratta
12. Gonga		gimira
13. yamma	300	
14. chakka	17	
15. Darroua	1524	
16. Gimira		
17. Gamro?		
18. Kocha?		
19. Gouba		
20. KiGo?		
21. ouba		
22. Amharina		
23. adari	61	
24. Gafat		
25. Tambaro	47	
26. argoubbafu		
27. Wardjide		
28. ourbaraga		
29. Damot		
30. Damot	71	
31. makwarwar		
32. aymallal		
33. innamour		
34. chachougo		
35. hadiya wambu	10	

parlé par les pasteurs de chakka et doit être compris dans les langues gourage.
deux vocabulaires = 1728 = 1805

machango yeux rouges près le bak'o et ouma.

est khamitique rapport au A'far. 2. 632 -

tient le plus au Warata et doit être comptée parmi les langues Agaw.

Classification

c. 266: 52r "Tableau des langues" (top 1/3)

103
langues
Semitiques
a

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Agaw
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langues
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c

- | |
|---------------------|
| 1. Gööç |
| 2. Khasy |
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| 5. Khamtônga |
| 6. Atala |
| 7. des Kômant |
| 8. hwaraja |
| 9. d'alafa |
| 10. Awngga |
| 11. Tôdama |
| 12. Gonga |
| 13. yâmma |
| 14. chakka |
| 15. Darroua |
| 16. Gimira |
| 17. Gamro? |
| 18. kochaz? |
| 19. Goua |
| 20. KiGo? |
| 21. ouba |
| 22. Amharina |
| 23. adari |
| 24. Gafat |
| 25. Tambaro |
| 26. argoubbafu |
| 27. Wardjida |
| 28. ourbaraga |
| 29. Damou |
| 30. Damot |
| 31. makwarwar |
| 32. aymallal |
| 33. innamour |
| 34. chachougo |
| 35. hadin wambu |

- | |
|---------------|
| 170. Gilan |
| 500 Wag |
| atala |
| Gondar |
| 349 kwara |
| alafa |
| 2023 Agawm. |
| 700 kafa |
| Sinito |
| 300 djandjoro |
| 17 |
| 524 weratta |
| gimira |
| 61 Amhara |
| Hârâr |
| Damot |
| 47 |
| 71 } gourage |
| 10 |

Tableau des langues de l'Asie frigate orientale
chouba'te Kribulfi et mieux encore le Bork la asside au delà de Bogos.
Habab parla sur la côte depuis A'qig ou Badour jusqu'à Gombode.
Tôgray

parle par le pasteur de chakka et doit être compris dans les langues gourage.
deux vocabulaires = 1728 = 1805

machango gens rouges près le bak'o et ouma.

est khamitique rampant au A'far. 2.632 -

tient le plus au Warata et doit être compté parmi les langues Agaw.

82

Classification

Individual languages, numbered

c. 266: 52r "Tableau des langues" (top 1/3)

103
langues
Semitiques
a

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Agaw
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langues
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Tableau

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6. Atala	
7. des Kômant	
8. hwaraja	1349
9. d'alafa	
10. Awngga	2023
11. Tôdama	1700
12. Gonga	
13. yâmma	300
14. chakka	17
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des langues de l'Afrique orientale
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Habab parla sur la côte depuis A'qig ou Badour jusqu'à Gombode.
Tôgray

Gilan
Wag
atala
Gondar
kwara
alafa
Agaw m.
kafa
Sinito
djandjoro
weratta
Gimira

parlé par les pasteurs de chakka et doit être compris dans les langues gourage.
deux vocabulaires = 1728 = 1805

machango yeux rouges près le bak'o et ouma.

Amhara
Harar
Damot

est khamitique rampant au A'far. 2.632 -

} gourage

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52

Classification

Individual languages, numbered

Number of words collected

c. 266: 52r "Tableau des langues" (top 1/3)

103
langues
Semitiques

langues
Agaw

langues
Amharina

Tableau

1. Gööç	
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11. Södama	1700
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15. Darroua	1524
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19. Göçä	
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Habab parla sur la côte depuis A'çiq ou Badour jusqu'à Gombodé?

Gilan
Wag
atala
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machango yeux rouges près le bak'o et ouma.

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est khamitique rampant au A'çar. 2. 632 -

gourage

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52

Classification

Individual languages, numbered

Number of words collected

Places/People

c. 266: 52r "Tableau des langues" (top 1/3)

103
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Tableau des langues de l'Afrique orientale

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5. Khamtônga	1500	Wag
6. Atala		atala
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8. hwaraja	1349	kwara
9. d'alafa		alafa
10. Awngä	2023	Agaw m.
11. Sôdama	1700	kafa
12. Gonga		Sinito
13. yâmma	300	djandjoro
14. chäkka	17	
15. Dawroua	1524	waratta
16. Gimira		gimira
17. Gamro?		
18. kochä?		
19. Göç		
20. Kiço?		machango
21. ouba		gouç
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de l'Afrique orientale
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Sinito
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17
1524 waratta
gimira

parlé sur la côte depuis A'çiq ou Badour jusqu'à Gombôde?

52

14. chäkka / 17 / / parlée par les pasteurs de chakka et doit être comprise dans les langues Gourage

15. Dawroua / 1524 / waratta / deux. vocabulaire = 1728 = 1805

parlé par les pasteurs de chakka et doit être compris dans les langues Gourage.
deux. vocabulaire = 1728 = 1805

- Classification
- Individual languages, numbered
- Number of words collected
- Places/People
- Other notes

c. 266: 52r "Tableau des langues" (top 1/3)

machango gens rouges près le bak'o et ouma.

et Khamitique rampant au N. par 2.632 -

est le plus au Waratta et doit être compté parmi les langues Agaw.

103
langues
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2. Khasy
3. Tôgray

langues
Agaw
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4. Gabi
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17. Gamro?
18. Kocha?
19. ~~Golda~~
20. Kitso?

Tableau des langues de l'Afrique orientale

chouba'te k...
Habab
Tôgray
parlé sur la côte depuis A'qig ou Badour jusqu'à Gombôde?

52

14. chäkka / 17 // parlée par les pasteurs de chakka et doit être comprise dans les langues Gourage

15. Dawroua / 1524 / waratta / deux. vocabulaire = 1728 = 1805

parlé par les pasteurs de chakka et doit être compris dans les langues Gourage.
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machango gens rouges près le bak'o et ouma.

tiqur pupant au A'qar. 2.632 -

tout le près au Waratta et doit être compté parmi les langues Agaw.

Classification

Individual languages, numbered

Number of words collected

Places/People

Other notes

Language names recorded, but no data (yet)
17. Gamro ?
18. Kocha ?
19. ~~Golda~~ // machango / gens rouges près de bak'o et ouma.
20. Kitso ?

c. 266: 52r "Tableau des langues" (top 1/3)

31. aymallat
33. innamour
34. chachougo
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~32 languages represented in AdA's notebooks

Ethio-Semitic: Ge'ez (*gööz*), Amharic (*amharña*), Tigrinya (*tigriña*), Tigre (*khasy, wayra*), Muher (*mohar*), Chaha (*caha*)

Cushitic:

- North: Beja (*bödja*)
- Central: Xamtanga (*ḵamṭiḡa*), Awngi (*awḡa*), Kemant (*kīmantnəy*), Bilen, Qwara (*hwarḗsa*)
- East: Oromo (*ilmorma, galla*), Somali (*szomal*), Saho, Afar, Kambaata (*kambata, tambaro*), Hadiyya (*tufte*)

Omotic: Dawro, Baskeet (*doqqo*), Yemsa (*yamma, djəndjöro*), Bench (*gimira*), Kafa (*södama, kafḗcco*), Haro (*gatzambà, harouro*), Shinasha (*Xīnaxxa*)

Eastern Sudanic: Nara (*nḗra, barya*), Anywa (*yambo*), Me'en (*mēkan, souro*)

Other “Nilo-Saharan”: Berta (*gamölla*), Gumuz (*gwönza*), Opo (*kamo*)

Others, e.g. Swahili (*sawahly*)

Languages hardly or not represented

- (Probably) not represented
 - Sidaama and Gedeo
 - unsurprisingly not represented: many little Omotic and “Nilo-Saharan” languages
- Hardly represented
 - Hadiyya (usually “Tufte”) (c. 266: 10 words)
 - Harari (c. 266+267: 61 words)
- Difficult to find
 - Wolaitta subsumed under Dawro?
(cf. 267, f. 52v: “Dawroa | 1805 | Kouullo | 2 dialectes : Omate & Walaytsa”)

2. Wordlists in Antoine d'Abbadie's notebooks: Some general features

DATA TYPES, A TYPICAL WORDLIST, MULTILINGUALISM

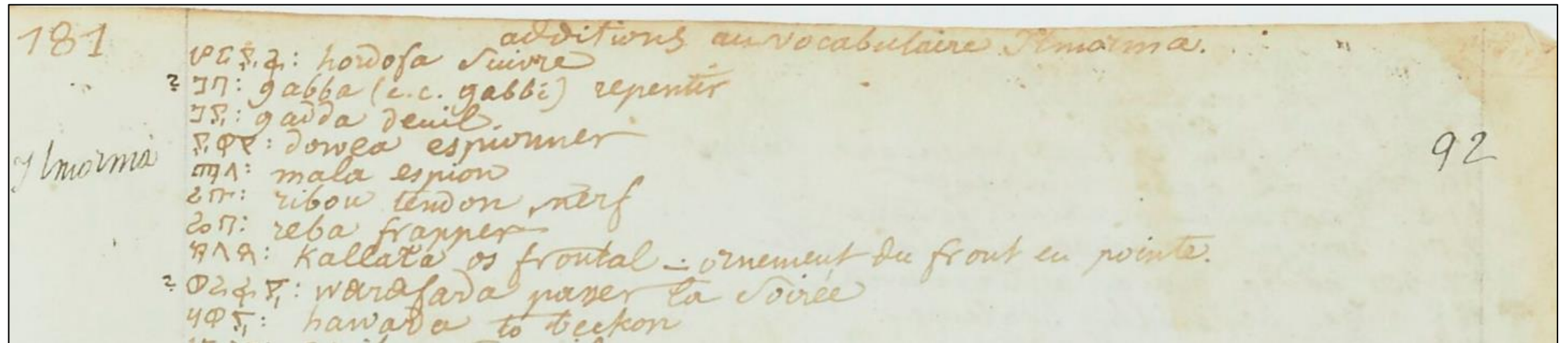


Linguistic data types

- Wordlists
- Paradigms
- Phrases and sentences
- [Texts of written languages: Amharic, Geez, ...]

Linguistic data types

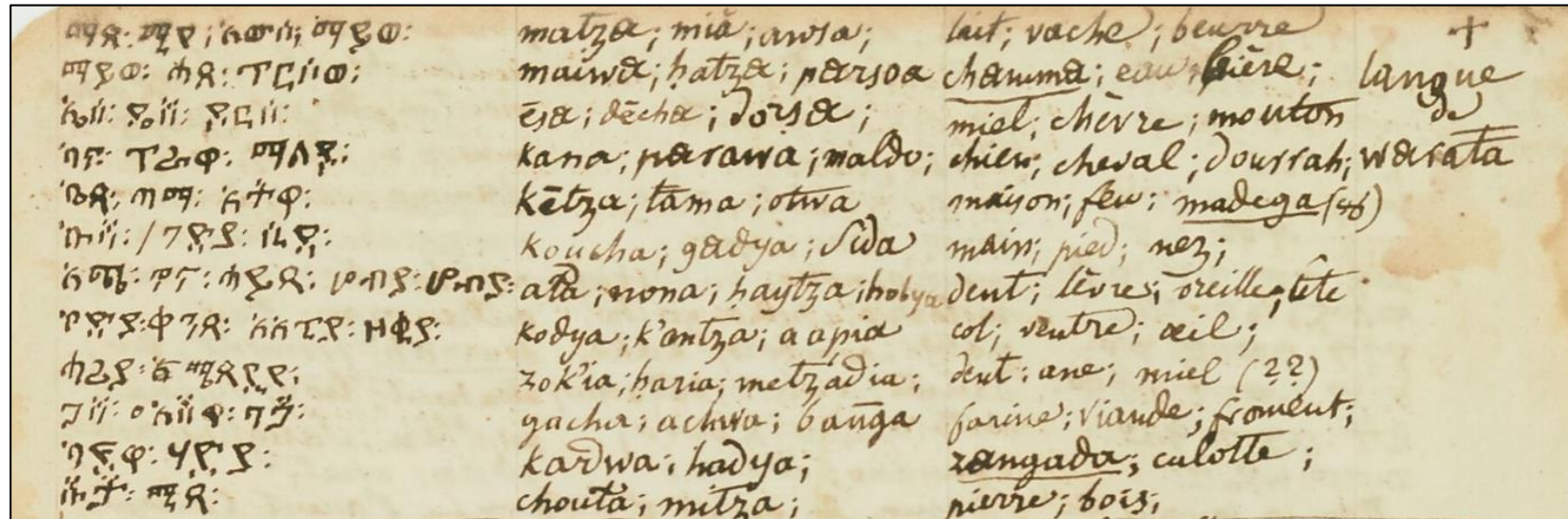
- Wordlists of individual languages (= biggest portion) in two or in four columns
- Usually transcription in Ethiopian script, then Latin script, then French translation



Oromo (“Ilmorma” wordlist, c. 271: folio 92r)

Linguistic data types

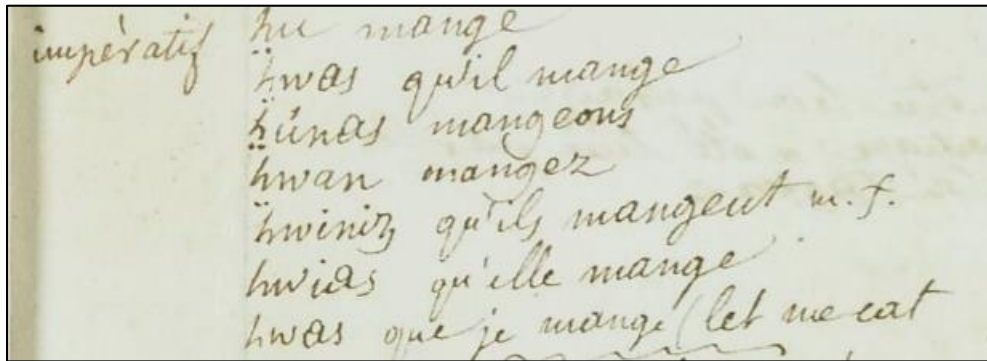
- Wordlists of individual languages (= biggest portion) in two or in four columns
- Usually transcription in Ethiopian script, then Latin script, then French translation



(Dawro/Wolaitta wordlist, very likely edited notes, c. 265: 180r)

Linguistic data types

- Paradigms



(Awngi imperative, c. 271: 66r)

ሙዳንታና: moudountana ce que tu m'as donné est bon
 ኔ: ኦሳ: ወርጋይስ: ne osa wǝrgays
 je cherche ton don
 ታ: ሄጌስ: አማና: ta heges ömmana
 je lui donnerai
 ኔ: ታዎ: አማ: ne tao ömma
 toi donne-moi
 ~ ~ ~
 ታ: ባይካ: ነ'ላይ: ታ: ta beyki je n'ai pas vu
 ባይሳ: ባይሳ: ባይሳ: beysa fais voir
 ወላ: ባይሳ: ባይሳ: wala beysana faire
 ባይሳ: ባይሳ: ባይሳ: voir réciproquement
 ታ: ኔፍ: አማናዎ: አጺይስ: ta neo
 ömmanawo afides je t'aurais donné
 ታ: አመና: ጽጉ: ta ömmana t'ön
 j'aurais donné
 ካርዳ: ኬሴና: karödda kessenna ne sors pas dehors
 ዛዋያ: ዛዋያ: ዛዋያ: zawayaya jusqu'à la maison
 ዛዋ: ተ: ማይፀ: zawa ta maytsa je mettrai le feu à la maison
 ዛዋና: ሃርጋዲስ: zawana hargadis j'ai été malade
 dans la maison
 ዛዋሳ: ዛዋሳ: ዛዋሳ: zawayassa qui est pour la maison
 ጸሎና: አጺ: ወዳይስ: palona öt'ou wǝdades
 j'ai tué en jetant une pierre
 ዋዲ: ሎሎ: watsi lo-o l'eau est bonne
 ዋዲ: ወላ: watse wöche bois l'eau

Linguistic data types

- Phrases and individual sentences (often called “glanes”)

Haruro or Gatsamba (Omoti) phrases ([c. 271: 2r](#))

Multilingualism

- AdA is himself multilingual:
 - (As one can deduce from the notebooks:) French, English, Basque, Arabic, Amharic, Oromo, possibly other European languages (Spanish, German)
 - Knowledge of classical languages Latin, Greek, Hebrew, Sanskrit
 - Unclear whether the study of Ethiopian languages was planned from the start or an „accidental by-product“
- Translations into different languages
 - Usually translations into French, but for a few languages in (S)W Ethiopia also translation into Oromo (see later Kambaata > Oromo > French)

Language comparison

- Again and again: Comparison of the documented language and other known languages (aim: detection between resemblances and, finally, of genetic relationships between languages), e.g.

c. 271: 29v: Individual comparisons in a Dawro word list

++ ᵂᵂ: hole (goba) fortification ou enceinte en palissades [réserve], Angl. hole

c. 266: 24r: Systematic comparison

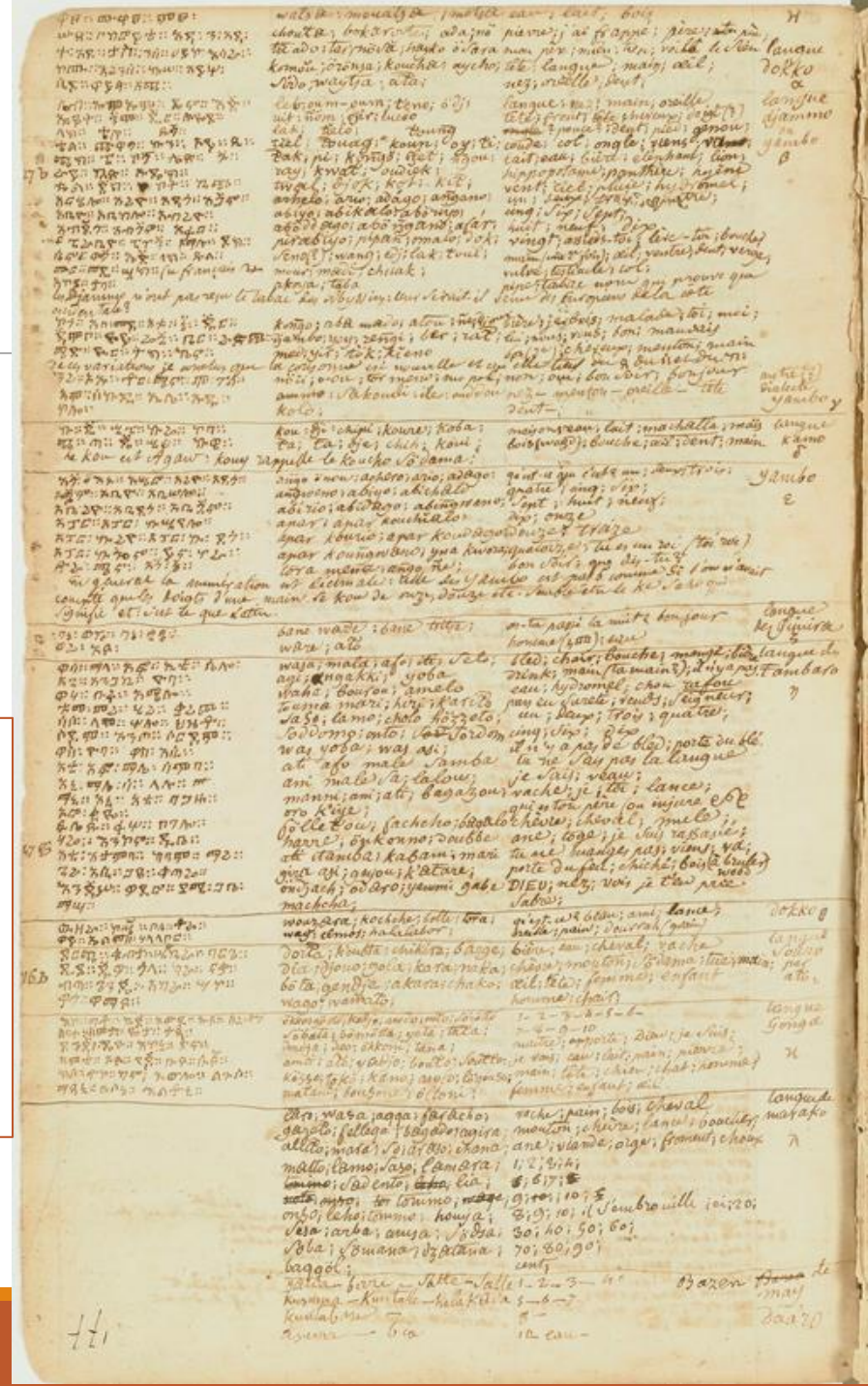
langues Européennes que lorsque j'examinais le Khamtönga mais en ayant égard aux permutations de sons similaires j'ai trouvé 236 resemblances en y comprenant quelques mots dérivés, ce qui fait un 8^e du total. Jusqu'ici je n'ai examiné à fond que trois langues (Anglais, Français et Latin) reste à comparer le Basque, l'espagnol, le Grec, l'Allemand et surtout le Sanskrit. Je dois ajouter que plusieurs de mes resemblances sont un peu forcées et ont été notées surtout pour y attirer l'attention dans un second examen aidé de lexiques en Europe. Pour compléter ce travail il faudrait étudier les resemblances avec l'Arabe et le Gööz laquelle si elle était établie jetterait de l'unité dans la science philologique.

Multilingual pages

- Data of different languages on the same page, e.g. c. 265: 177r

- langue Dokko α
- langue djammo ou yambo β
- autre (?) dialecte yambo γ
- langue kamo δ
- yambo ε
- langue des Girmira ζ
- langue des Fambaro η
- Dokko θ
- langue Souro par at'o ι
- langue Gongga κ
- langue de marako λ
- Bāzen Barea de May daa'ro

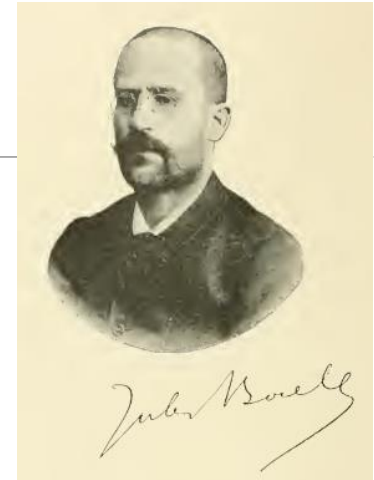
Why are these languages assembled here, as they are neither related nor geographically close? Collected from slaves in the same household? Edited wordlist assembled from notes taken at different times?



4. Case study Kambaata

So far the earliest source: Borelli 1890

- Jules Borelli (1853-1941)
 - French traveller and explorer
 - 1887/1888 exploration of the Omo River
 - 1890 book (*Éthiopie méridionale*) contains what was long believed to be the **first** data on the Kambaata language (Xambaaro variety), collected in **1888**
 - Collections of words and phrases transcribed in French orthography and translated to French



Borelli (1990)



Borelli (1990)

Early works: Borelli 1890

Borelli's Xambaaro data (1888)		Today's Kambaata	
Transcription	Translation	Orthography	Translation
<i>moumé</i>	'head'	<i>muummí</i>	'hair'
<i>chouma</i>	'urine'	<i>shumáta /ʃumáta/</i>	'urine'
<i>menticho</i>	'woman'	<i>meentichhúta /me:ntitʃ:úta/</i>	'woman'
<i>matcha</i>	'ear'	<i>maccáta /matʃ':áta/</i>	'ear'
<i>inkouta</i>	'teeth'	<i>inqúta /ink'úta/</i>	'teeth'
<i>goudjo</i>	'shoulders'	<i>gujjú /gudʒ:ú/</i>	'back'
<i>angha</i>	'hand'	<i>angáta</i>	'hand, arm'
<i>touloungata</i>	'nail'	<i>xulungáta /t'ulungáta/</i>	'nail'
<i>watzano</i>	'chat'	<i>wozaná</i>	'heart'
<i>illéta</i>	'intestines'	<i>hilléeta</i>	'intestines'

- French spelling conventions, e.g. <ou> stands for /u/, <ch> stands for /ʃ/, <tch> stands for /tʃ/
- Influence of Borelli's French mother tongue, e.g.
 - /h/ not heard
 - Ejectives not heard
 - Vowel and consonant length not recognized

Early works: Borelli 1890

Difficulties of communication

Borelli's Xambaaro data (1888)		Today's Kambaata	
Transcription	Translation	Orthography	Translation
<i>tenoubayo</i>	'rain'	<i>xéenu ubáyyoo 'u</i> <i>/t'é:nu ubáj:o/</i>	'it is raining, rain is falling'
<i>ghissaïo</i>	'tomb'	<i>gisáyyoo 'u</i>	'he is sleeping'
<i>asouassa</i>	'cow'	<i>ázoa sá'a</i>	'it is a milk cow'
<i>anotchivaltayo?</i>	'where did he go?'	<i>hannoochch waaltáyyoo?</i> <i>/han:ó:tʃ: wa:ltáj:o:/</i>	'where did they come from?'

Early works: Enrico Cerulli

- Enrico Cerulli (1898-1988)*
 - Scholar of Ethiopian Studies
 - Civil service of the Italian government in the Ministry of Colonies
 - 1926-1931: Diplomat in Addis Ababa; 1937-1939: Vice-Governor General of *Africa Orientale Italiana*, Governor of Harar (1939/1940)
 - Work on Cushitic languages, a.o. Kambaata
 - Cerulli (1925): Kambaata wordlist, list of 77 phrases and first attempt at a grammar sketch (standard of comparison: Hadiyya)



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enrico_Cerulli

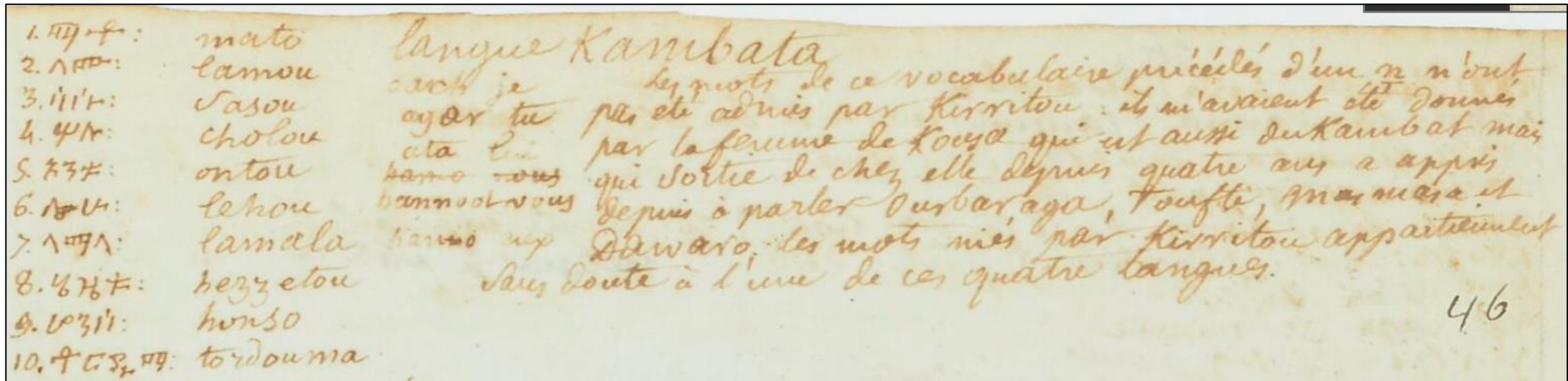
Early works: Enrico Cerulli

- Cerulli hears gemination (word-medially) but no vowel length (cf. his mother tongue)
- Long /e:/ transcribed as diphthong *ie*, e.g. *mientíččō* for /me:ntitʃ:o/ ‘woman’ and *siélō* for /se:lu/ ‘beer’
- /h/ is not transcribed (influence of Cerulli’s mother tongue)
- Most “Kambaata” data is actually Hadiyya
- Sentence data is a mix of Hadiyya and Kambaata
- From Borelli to Cerulli is one step backwards

	Kambaata (Cerulli 1925)	Kambaata (my data)	Hadiyya (Dereje 2022, Tadesse 2015)
‘8’	<i>sidintōā</i>	<i>hezzéetto</i>	/sadeento/
‘10’	<i>tómmō</i>	<i>tordúma</i>	/tommo/
‘20’	<i>lamiye</i>	<i>lamoodúma</i>	/lamijje/
‘king’	<i>adilā</i>	<i>womá</i>	/ʔadila/ (T)
‘mule’	<i>baḵúččō</i>	<i>buulá</i>	/bak’uttfo/ (T)
‘run’	<i>gier</i>	<i>dagud-</i>	/geer-/
‘old man’	<i>lommánčō</i>	<i>mubaachchú</i>	/lommantfo/ (T)
‘take’	<i>amad-</i>	<i>af-</i>	/ʔamad-/
‘elephant’	<i>danieččōā</i>	<i>zaneechchú</i>	/daanettfo/ (T)
‘milk’	<i>adō</i>	<i>azúta</i>	/ʔado/
‘spear’	<i>bagádō</i>	<i>bagazú</i>	/bagado/
‘meat’	<i>márā</i>	<i>maalá</i>	/maara/
‘pass the day’	<i>os-</i>	<i>hos-</i>	/hos-/

Antoine d'Abbadie's Kambaata data

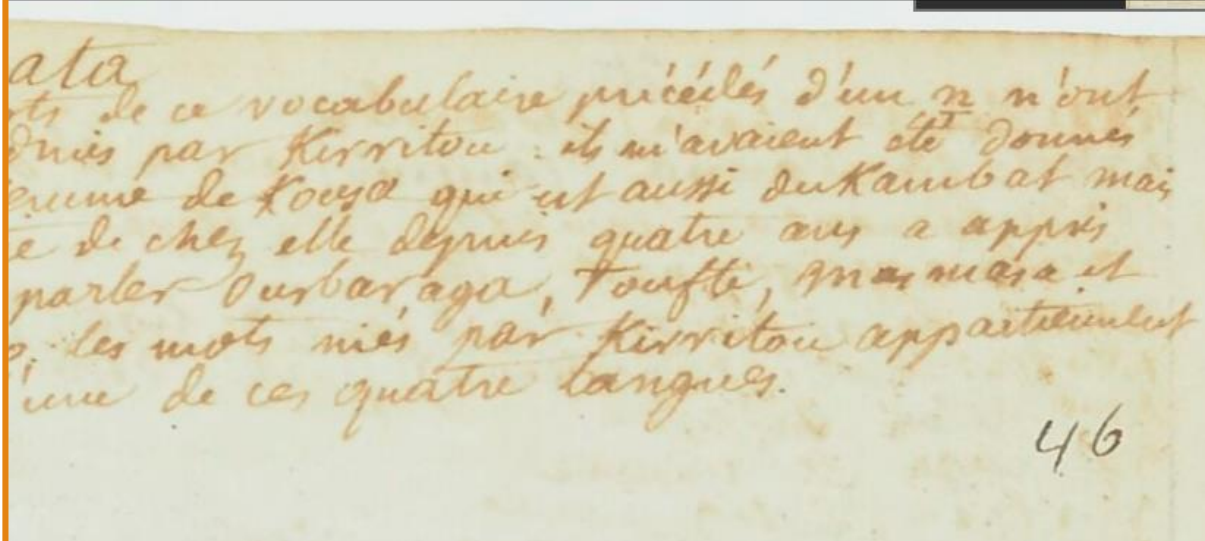
- Kambaata/Xambaaro data in notebook 271 from p. 45v-63r, 69v, 70v, 91v, notebook 265 on p. 177r



- To the left Kambaata written in fidel, in the middle in a modified Latin alphabet
- Note on his methodology: “The words in this vocabulary preceded by an *n* were not were not admitted by Kirritou, they were given to me by the by the wife of [Kousa?] who is also from Kambat but who left home four years ago and has since learned to speak Ourbaraga [i.e. Silt’e], Toufte [i.e. Hadiyya], Masmasa and Dawaro. The words denied by Kirritou probably belong to one of these four languages.”

Antoine d'Abbadie's Kambaata data

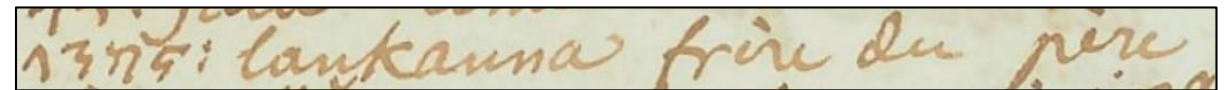
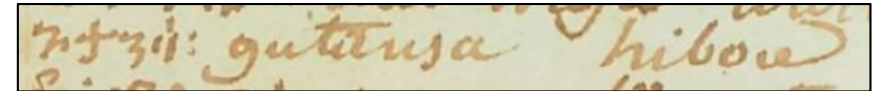
- Kambaata/Xambaaro data in notebook 271 from p. 45v-63r, 69v, 70v, 91v, notebook 265 on p. 177r

1. ማታ :	AdA: mato	YT: máto	 <p>ata ... de ce vocabulaire précédés d'un n n'ont ... par Kirritou : ils m'avaient été donnés ... de Kousa qui est aussi du Kambat mais ... de chez elle depuis quatre ans a appris ... parler Ourbaraga, Toufte, Masmasa et ... les mots niés par Kirritou appartenant ... une de ces quatre langues.</p> <p>46</p>
2. ለሙ :	lamou	lámo	
3. ሰሶ :	sasou	sáso	
4. ርሎ :	cholou	shólo	
5. ሰጥ :	ontou	ónto	
6. ለሎ :	lehou	lého	
7. ለማለ :	lamala	lamála	
8. ሄገገ :	hezzetou	hezzéetto	
9. ሰጥ :	honso	hónso	
10. ጥጥጥ :	tordouma	tordúma	

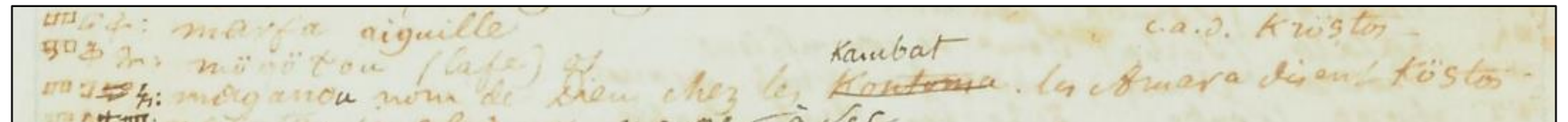
- To the left Kambaata written in fidel, in the middle in a modified Latin alphabet
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Antoine d'Abbadie's Kambaata data

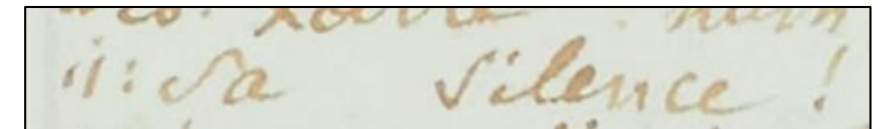
- Many correct transcriptions, e.g. “gutansa hibou [owl]”
- Ejectives and /h/ are recognized, vowel and consonant length is only sometimes heard
- Many correct insights, e.g. “lanka[a]nna frère du père [paternal uncle]”



- Revisions, e.g. “maganou nom de Dieu chez les ~~Kontoma~~ Kambat, les Amara disent Köstos c.a.d. Kröstos”

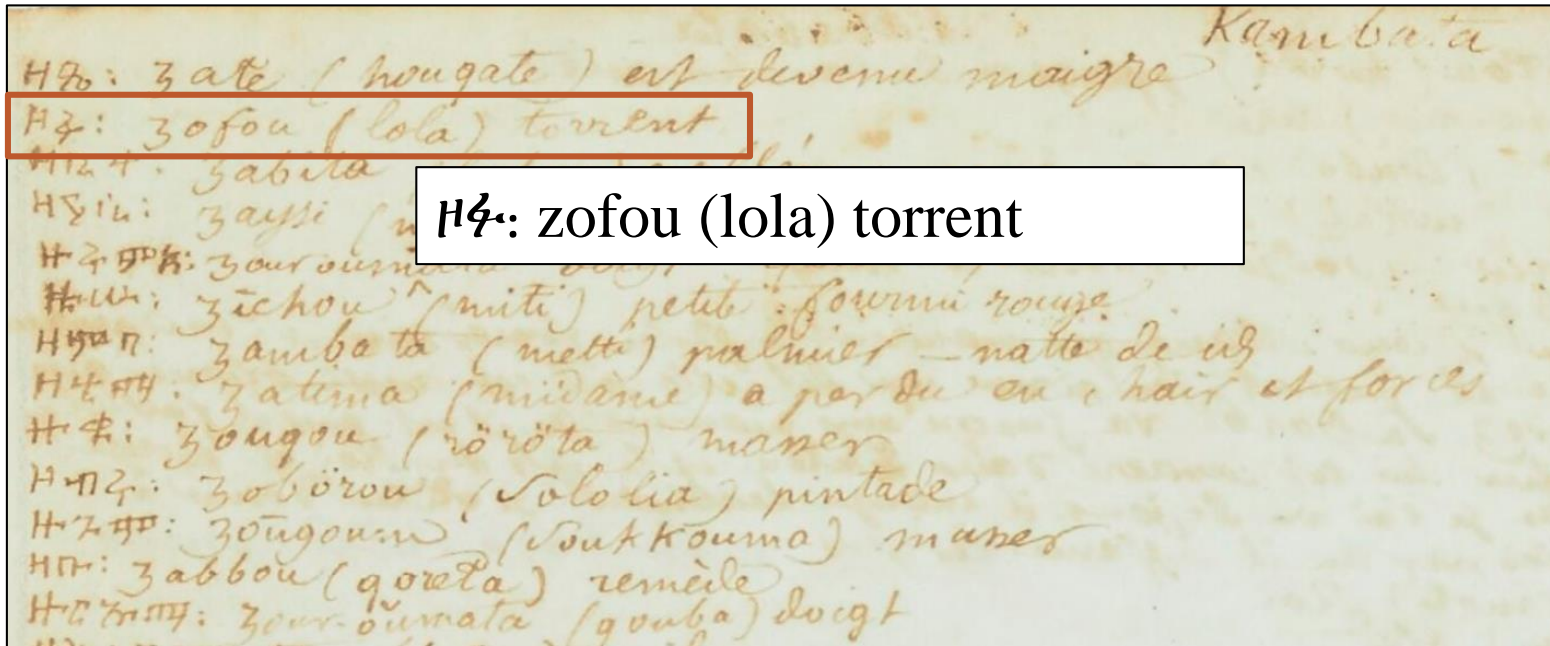


- Data possibly collected through questionnaires e.g. “sa silence” [interjection for ‘hush!’] (71 hits for ‘silence’ in the carnets, most in word lists)



Antoine d'Abbadie's Kambaata data

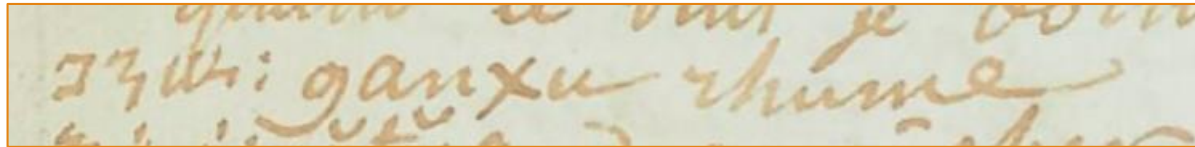
- Often: (Modified) fidel transcription, (modified) Latin transcription, Oromo translation, French translation ([c. 271: 52v](#))



Transcription
Kambata
፡፡
፡፡፩፡ zafé (houqate) est devenu maigre
፡፡፫፡ zofou (lola) torrent
፡፡፫፡ zabitā (labou) vallée
፡፡፬፡ zaysi (mārsi) tourne – tonds
፡፡፭፡ zouroum-ata doigt qaw – petit doigt
፡፡፮፡ zīchou (miti) petite fourmi rouge
፡፡፯፡ zambata (metti) palmier – natte de id
፡፡፰፡ zatima (midame) a perdu en chair et forces
፡፡፱፡ zouqou (röröta) masser
፡፡፳፡ zobörou (sololia) pintade
፡፡፳፩፡ zoūgoum (soukkouma) masser
፡፡፳፪፡ zabbou (qoreḥa) remède
፡፡፳፫፡ zour-oumata (qouba) doigt

Antoine d'Abbadie's Kambaata data

- Example of a (modified) fidel and Latin transcription:



ገንሠ: ganxu rhume

<ሠ> stands for /ʃu/

<x> stands for /ʃ/: *ganshú* /ganʃu/ ‘common cold’ (cf. Basque orthography)

Usually translation into French, often also Oromo, sometimes English or Basque

Antoine d'Abbadie's Kambaata data

To conclude: If compared with data in later publications

- AdA's Kambaata data predates of others by ~50 years
- It exceeds that of later publications in number
- His transcriptions are more reliable than that of Borelli and Cerulli
- In contrast to Cerulli's data, AdA's data is indeed Kambaata

4. Scientific value

Scientific value of Antoine d'Abbadie's linguistic data

- Immense value for the history of our discipline because AdA's wordlists are the **earliest** data points for quite a few languages in western and southwestern Ethiopia, for others he is the first to mention their name
- Some **second** linguistic data sources (acc. to Glottolog):
 - Kafa (Ritter 1843) – AdA published first Kafa data in 1842
 - Shinasha/Boro (Kan 1883)
 - Central West Gurage (incl. Muher, Chaha) (Chiarini 1887)
 - Me'en (Cecchi 1887)
 - Hadiyya (Borelli 1890), Kambaata (Borelli 1890), Dawro (Borelli 1890)
 - Anywa (Pearson 1912)
 - Bench (Montandon 1913)
 - Yemsa (Conti Rossini 1914/15)
 - Baskeet (Cerulli 1938)
 - Haro (Conti Rossini 1936)

Scientific value of Antoine d'Abbadie's linguistic data

- Possible insights into language change between mid-19th c. and now, e.g. semantic changes, pronunciation changes, grammatical changes
- Possible insights into changing language names – both autonyms and xenonyms
- No value any longer (or only in a history of our discipline): AdA's language classifications/linguistic genealogies and comparisons across languages

5. Outlook

Open questions

- Proof-reading of many wordlists is still to be done (attention: yellow!)

Éthiopien d'Abbadie 270
Projet : Carnets d'Antoine d'Abbadie

A horizontal progress bar for item 270. It consists of a dark teal segment on the left, a light blue segment, and a long yellow segment on the right, indicating that most of the proof-reading is still pending.

Éthiopien d'Abbadie 277
Projet : Carnets d'Antoine d'Abbadie

A horizontal progress bar for item 277. It consists of a dark teal segment on the left, a light blue segment, and a long yellow segment on the right, indicating that most of the proof-reading is still pending.

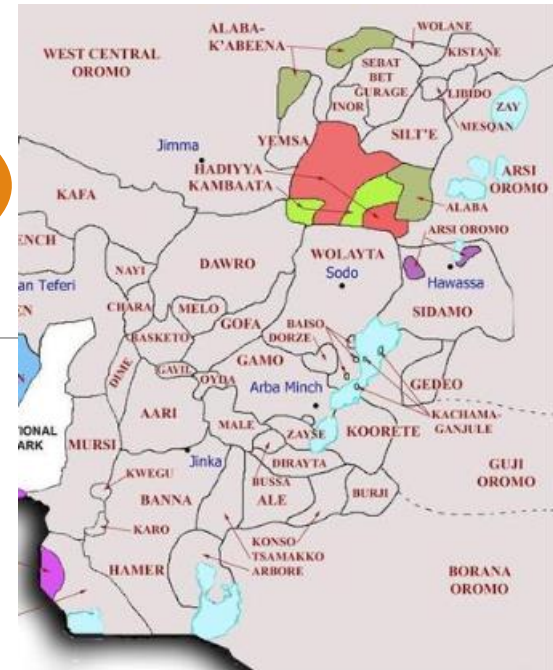
Open questions

Some (few) languages are not yet safely determined, e.g.

- “**Ara**” ([c. 267: 5r](#)): Name recorded for Aari (South Omotic), but, based on the numerals, seems to be rather from North Omotic (Aari’s neighbour Oyda?)
- “**Kamo**” ([cf. 267: 177r](#)) (elsewhere also “qamo”): Data is not Komo seems to be from another Koman language, maybe: a Opo variety

If true, second data attested in Girard (2002)

If true, second data attested in Corfield (1938)



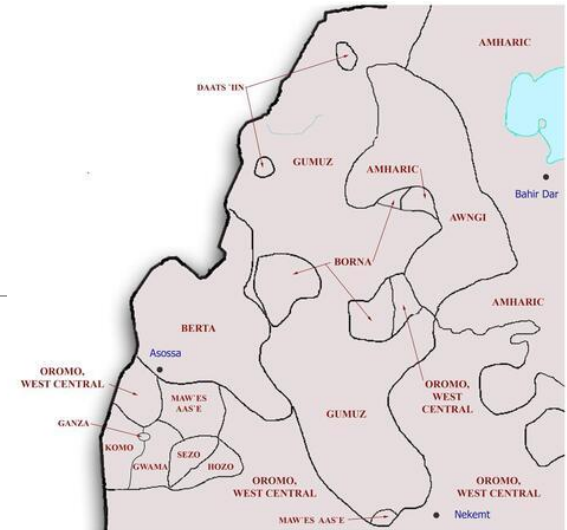
Open questions

Some (few) languages are not yet safely determined, e.g.

- “**Gwönza**” ([c. 273: 39v-40v](#))

“orphan language”!

- « langues non classées 44. Gwönza | 400 | | parlée par les nègres près le pays Awa ou Agawmöde » ([c. 267: 52v](#))
- Name not attested in the linguistic literature, but probably Gumuz, e.g.
 - c. 267, 40r: አየ: *ayá* ‘eau’ (Ahland 2012) *aja* ‘water’
 - c. 267, 39v: ደሞጃ: *damma* ‘pluie’ *damá* ‘rain’
 - c. 267, 39v: ደንሳ: *dounösa* ‘mauvais’ *dánas* ‘s/he is bad’
 - c. 267, 40r: አንዛ: *anza* ‘excréments’ *aanza* ‘feces’



Avenues for further research

- Analysis of the evolution of Antoine d'Abbadie's transcription choices
- Analysis of Antoine d'Abbadie's data collection methodology (for some languages, wordlists seem to have been used)
- Analysis of the history of language names
- Analysis of language change
- etc.

Amharic / “amarña” ([273: 65r](#))

mercî ን ግዜ ክብሉ ከድኻኝ

Merci
(de votre écoute !)

Xamtanga / “ḵamtīḡa” / “Kam” ([274: 135](#))

ክድ.ጊገ: adara ሢ. ክድ.ጊገ: adara vergueat ም
+ ክድ.ጊገ: özgier Dieu özgier maina merci.

Saho ([277: 21r](#))

ከላጊዕና፡: mercî! Saho
thank you!

Saho ([273: 24r](#))

mercî ለግድግ፡፡

mercî ጥቁ ጥ፡.ኪፋ ጥ፡ክ፡
(c.a.d. qm te uil te te donne)

Oromo / “ilmorma” ([273: 11r](#))