

## The AGNT Project Report—Q1 2010

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.



### AGNT and BART

From the beginning of AGNT's development, Timothy Friberg chose to work closely with SIL (Summer Institute of Linguistics) because of the obvious correlation between a precise grammatical analysis of the Greek New Testament and the needs of Bible translators. Over the years, SIL has used AGNT in many of their translation-related computer programs, including their comprehensive Translator's Workplace (TW) project and Biblical Analysis Research Tool (BART).

AGNT has been part of TW from its inception. TW gives users access to Louw and Nida's Semantic Domains lexicon and to BAGD, as well as to the grammatical information from AGNT. But translators felt the need for a more flexible research tool to make the various texts they were working with more accessible. As is normal in SIL, their programmers were given the task of developing a tool that would link various versions of the original texts, modern versions of the Bible, dictionaries, and other tools needed for Bible translation. The result was BART, and AGNT is an integral part of its database.

An SIL translator in Southeast Asia who wishes to remain anonymous has provided significant input about BART for this article.

BART has many useful features. As the "AGNT Plus," BART allows users to access TW's BAGD and L&N lexicons with two mouse-clicks, showing the grammar tags interlinearly.<sup>1</sup> Placing the mouse pointer over a word or particle displays the same information.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> BART is a companion program developed to work with TW. TW and BART share the same licensing agreement for end users. Both are available only from SIL, and only "to those directly involved in Bible translation as members of Bible translation organizations of the Forum of Bible Agencies International ([www.forum-intl.net](http://www.forum-intl.net)), or those working in Bible translation in approved projects who will use TW to train Bible translation personnel, consult, or prepare translation helps" (Translator's Workplace 5.0 application and order form). The licensing fee for Translator's Workplace 5.0, which includes a copy of BART 5.3, is \$50. SIL ships TW and BART on a single DVD.

<sup>2</sup> BART and TW are distinct programs with distinct user interfaces and resource formats. BART refers to TW for various Greek and English lexicons and some grammatical resources, including the following dictionaries: the Louw and Nida Semantic Domains Lexicon, the Concise Greek-English Dictionary by Barclay Newman, the UBS Greek-Trilingual Lexicon based on it, the UBS Hebrew-Trilingual Lexicon, the Online Brown-Driver-

In addition to including AGNT, BART has the following very useful features:

- Just as BART provides access to the UBS-GNT, it also allows users to access BHS, the LXX, and the Byzantine GNT (as well as a small selection of standard translations), with glosses, grammar tags, lemmas, transliteration, and dictionary links (for BHS and GNT).
- BART provides the unique options to sort the Greek and Hebrew texts into propositions and to indent them to show the discourse structure of the source text, e.g., chiasmic patterns, Hebrew parallelism, sub-clauses in Paul's long sentences versus the main verb clause, etc., thus easily allowing users to gain an overview of the texts. Any version can be displayed in paragraph view in order to see meaning units. BART also can display texts in sentence and verse views. Users can save different sortings of the same text in different files, load them any time they wish, or save all sortings in one file that can be displayed at any time.
- Additionally, users have the option of hiding or displaying the transliteration line, grammar tags, English gloss, and lemmas.
- BART can be configured so that it scrolls in parallel with UBS PARATEXT and/or TW, or so that PARATEXT and/or TW scroll in parallel with BART, or both.
- BART's powerful search tool allows users to search for grammar tags, lemmas, glosses, transliterations, or the actual text form of a word, sequence of words, combination of related roots, etc.

BART's search capability is particularly useful for running consistency checks on translations. For example, it allows users to answer questions such as, "How is a given word or related word or a given meaning translated in other passages?" By having PARATEXT scroll in parallel with BART, users can scroll through all of BART's matches to the search.

If a "base" (lemma) has several different glosses/meanings, users can choose a particular meaning that is relevant to the purpose at hand and limit the search to that.

- BART has many built-in user tags. For example, tenses/aspects are marked in different colors, making it easy to see at a glance which are the same and which are different.
- Various versions can be displayed alongside the NT (GNT, Byzantine GNT) or OT (BHS, LXX1+2), most of them English (NIV, ESV, TEV, GWN, NASB), but there are some other languages as well.
- Users with poor eyesight can zoom the font of *each* line. Greek and Hebrew can be zoomed independently of the gloss, etc.
- Users can save their desktops (configurations in use). For example, you could have one desktop configured for Hebrew and another configured for Greek.
- Users can create various scroll groups, e.g., one for the OT and another for the NT. This would allow one to compare OT quotes in the NT with their OT originals in BHS or with their Greek translations in the LXX in order to

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Briggs Hebrew-English Lexicon (abridged), and the Theological Wordbook of the OT (Harris, Archer, Waltke).

determine whether a quote is literal or an allusion, and whether it is quoted from BHS or the LXX.

- BART allows users to annotate a word by clicking on it twice. Annotations are saved with one's settings.
- BART also allows users to export text, e.g., to Word, and to print.

In short, BART is a powerful, multifaceted tool with many uses, e.g., writing an exegetical research paper on the original text.

Below is a screen shot of a typical BART configuration. The main text is the GNT interlinearized with AGNT tag, gloss, and lemma forms. Search results are shown in the lower window, here in Concordance List view (other available views are Reference List and Hit Verses List). Search results are fully synchronized with the main window, showing the full context of each hit. In this case, the transliteration of the Greek is also shown. The middle window is the NASB, and the bottom window the Greek Byzantine text. All windows scroll together to the same passage:



The same translator compares BART with a couple of other commonly used programs.

I compared the UBS-GNT links in Logos 3.0 with Louw and Nida and with BAGD. BAGD is a very useful addition to L&N, because it provides much more lexical and grammatical detail, and it is easier to use for finding derivatives. But there is a *big* difference between how Logos 3.0

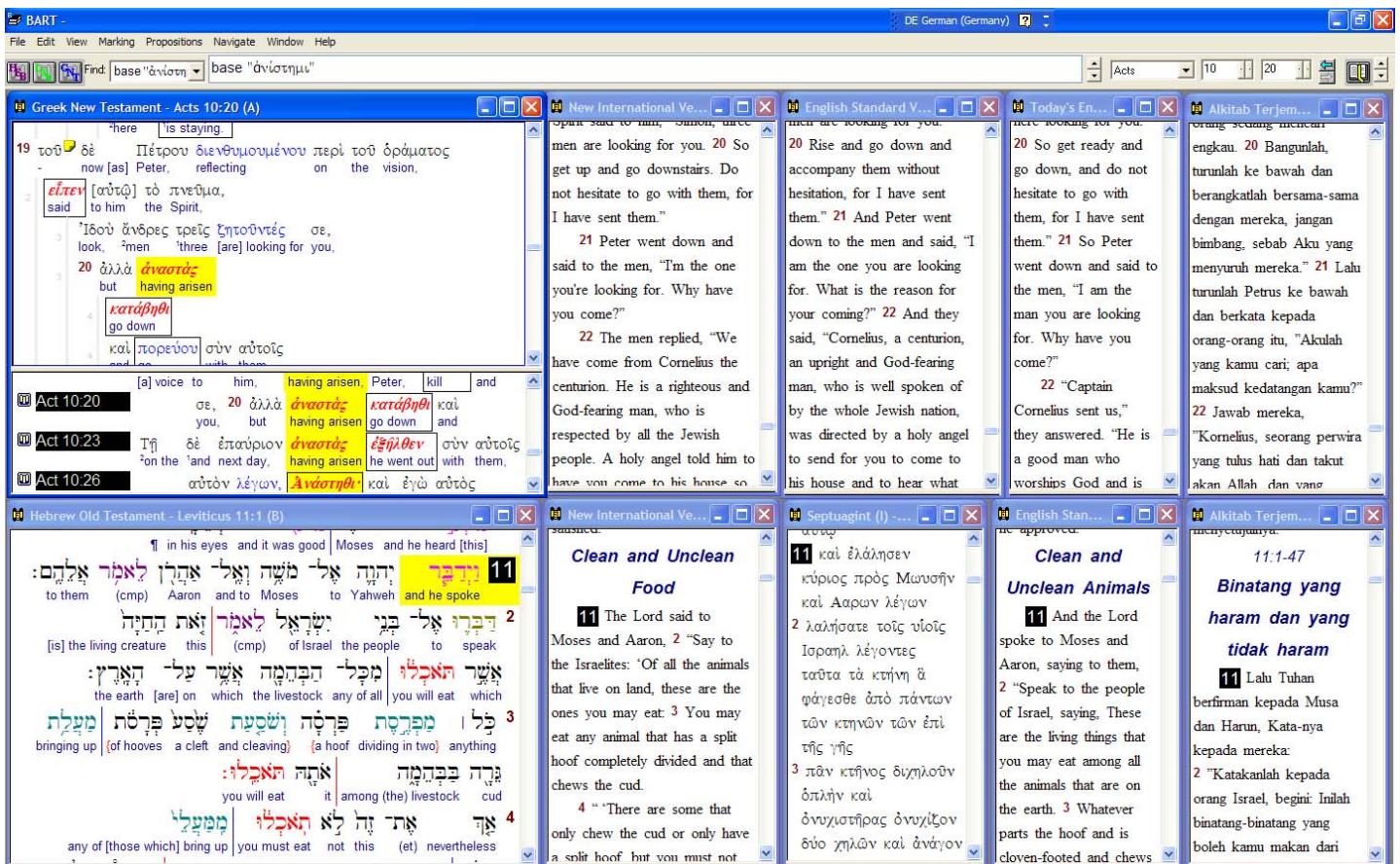
opens L&N references and how BART does this. BART opens the relevant article for the specific verse, whereas Logos 3.0 opens the first available article for a particular word, or merely the main entry. The upside of Logos 3.0 is that it is more stable on Windows XP platforms than the older Logos 2.0 (which BART accesses directly for BAGD), links show up as popups simply by hovering the mouse pointer, and I can use it integrated with PARATEXT, TW, and BART, because PARATEXT can be asked to send the verse reference to Logos 3.0.

When updating the AGNT databases, Timothy used BART extensively in conjunction with SIL's TOOLBOX, but now has switched to BibleWorks, since it is much more flexible. BART was designed for translators in a highly specific environment, and it has been quite useful for those who soldiered through its development phase. With enough effort, one could configure most of the popular Bible software to do the things that BART does, and, possibly, some programs might even do these things better. But no commercial Bible software can be configured to scroll in parallel with PARATEXT and TRANSLATORS WORKPLACE as BART can do. It is gratifying to realize that AGNT has played a significant role in giving translators the tools they need to make their work more accurate.

Barbara Friberg  
Sulawesi, Indonesia

Below are two additional screen shots, compliments of the contributing translator. The first shows BART with the NT at the top and the OT at the bottom in a separate scroll group. The second one shows a typical working screen with the upper half of the window running in PARATEXT and the lower half showing BART, partially overlapping.

BART and PARATEXT are creations of SIL and the United Bible Societies (especially the Canadian Bible Society), respectively. Now their availability is restricted to translators.





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, and laypeople worldwide.

John Hughes  
 Agent for *The AGNT Project*  
[johnhughes@centurytel.net](mailto:johnhughes@centurytel.net)  
 Phone: 406.862.7289  
 FAX: 406.862.0917

