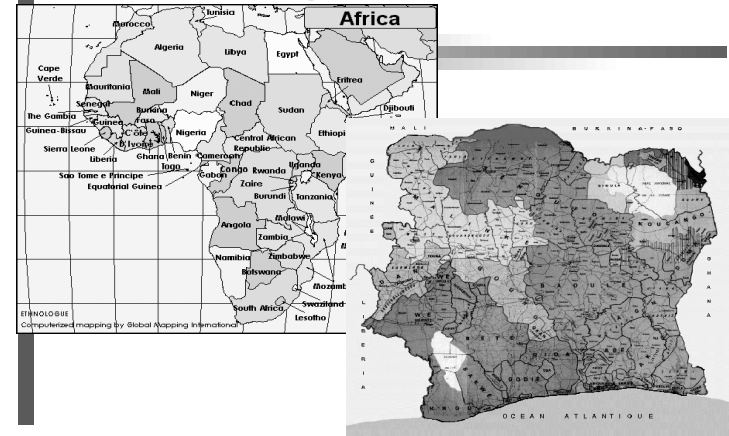


Archiving Ega data

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Melbourne LE group, 2003-10-21

Ega: location



Ega: situation of the language

- ◆ South central Ivory Coast, former rainforest area, now mainly plantations and bushland
- ◆ Three dialect areas
- ◆ About 1000 speakers in core area, another 500 in periphery
- ◆ Threatening factors:
 - ◆ enclaving Dida (Kru): market language; intermarriage
 - ◆ immigration with
 - ◆ strong vehicular language (Jula - also popular with kids)
 - ◆ plantation owner language (Baule)
 - ◆ many other languages
 - ◆ obligatory French in school

Ega: grammar - Kru? Kwa? Remnant?

- ◆ Phonology:
 - ◆ full range of 5 implosives
 - ◆ no nasal vowels except with discourse particles
 - ◆ ATR vowel harmony
 - ◆ 3 discrete level register tones, depressor consonants
- ◆ Morphology:
 - ◆ morphosyntactic tone: NP template; tense marking (on subject)
 - ◆ final lengthening as negation prosody
 - ◆ verbal ablaut, prefixation, suffixation
 - ◆ nominal class prefixes, also as plural markers
- ◆ Syntax: (F)SVO

