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7.3.4.4 Adding basic metadata

Inside the iTunes library, select the imported files, and add standard metadata such as the name of the session, the date and the recordist, the performers, and other relevant information that allows the music to be findable using locally relevant categories. (For example, I use the iTunes 'group' field for language name, and the 'genre' field for the repertory name.) I usually reserve the Comments field for identifying the specific song text, if known. Most Murriny Patha *Djanba* songs have known composers and fixed texts, so I may add composer and lyrics information if already known. I then create a playlist from the selected files, which are then available to be shared by listening, burning CDs, or adding to portable music players.

Playlists can also be useful for selecting and ordering particular song items for later use in elicitation sessions (e.g. working with the composer and others to transcribe and translate the song text). If playing back from the iTunes host computer, metadata can be added quickly to the iTunes database itself. In other situations, our research teams have transferred such playlists to an iTunes-compatible portable music player for use with low-power portable speakers in elicitation settings where computer use is difficult.

7.3.4.5 Wider publication of research recordings

Once your music collection has been documented, you and your community collaborators may be interested in producing a CD for local or commercial distribution (Barwick, Birch, et al. 2005; Garde and Djimarr 2007; Papulu Apparr-kari Aboriginal Language and Culture Centre and Barwick 2000). Not only does this provide a good means of local distribution and publicity for your project, it can also contribute to community development by developing a wider public profile for performance groups (Marett et al. 2006). If looking to publish music recordings, it will be necessary to liaise with publishing companies to ensure appropriate legal and financial arrangements to protect copyright and other intellectual property rights, as well as working with sound engineers and designers to produce a professional-quality multimedia package. One advantage of publishing recordings in this way is facilitation of reuse and reference to the relevant song items in research in a way that acknowledges and protects the rights of the creators.

7.3.4.6 Web delivery of music

Many commercial music publishers, such as the world music specialist Smithsonian folkways (http://www.folkways.si.edu/), now use internet services to advertise and distribute musical tracks, both for commercial use and through on-line educational services sold by subscription to libraries and universities.
p. 179 The standard availability of web browsers on new computers and the integration of audiovisual ↳ media streaming and off-line operation capabilities into emerging web standards and technologies such as HTML5 (Hickson 2011) means that web applications may be an attractive way of presenting multimedia research content such as music collections for community use as well as researcher use. Even when internet connections are intermittent or very slow, it may be possible to set up a web application to operate in off-line mode. In 2009–10, the Murriny Patha song project group in conjunction with the Wadeye Aboriginal Languages Centre built on the recordings and information collected by the project to develop a web database illustrated by song texts with interlinear glossing and contextual information presented alongside streaming audio files (Barwick et al. 2010). In this implementation, in which there were up to thirty performance tokens of the same song text, it proved too time-consuming to link the song texts to each individual sound file; but we have previously used ELAN to produce timecoding for presentation of glossed song texts in systems such as EOPAS, the Ethno-ER online presentation and annotation system (Schroeter and Thieberger 2006). Such initiatives are quite time-consuming, and depend on the availability of resources and much effort in collaboration from community members and researchers.