# makeReactionTextGrids.praat

Gareth Walker

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## 1 Introduction

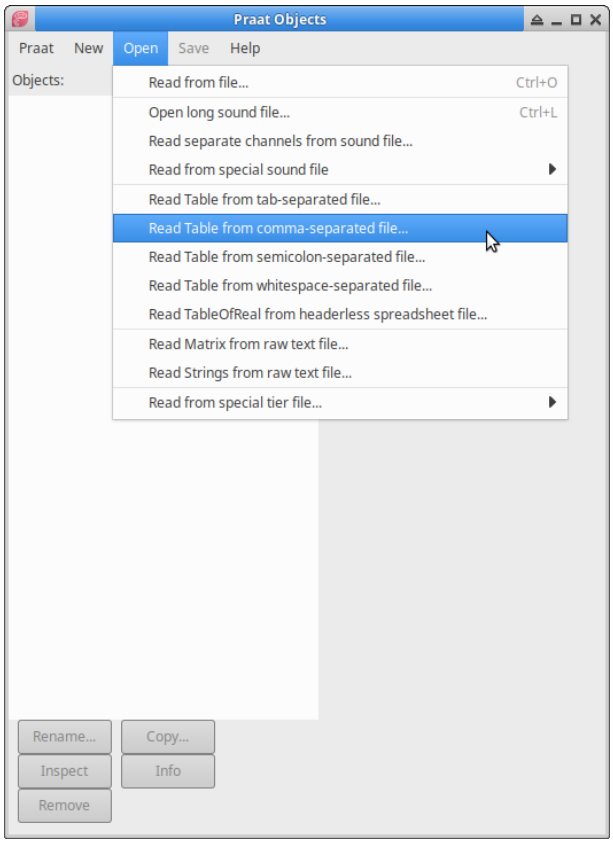
This document describes how to use the Praat script `makeReactionTextGrids.praat`. The script is available from https://github.com/walkergareth/praat/blob/main/makeReactionTextGrids.praat. The script was developed to present data collected using the SLIC (Salient Language In Context) tool (https://slic.sheffield.ac.uk/), allowing reaction time data and user comments collected by that tool to be combined and shown in a TextGrid.

## 2 Getting ready

The script runs on a Sound object (e.g. containing the sample that listeners reacted to) and a Table object in Praat. The Table must contain columns with: times of the reactions, numerical respondent (user) IDs, and comments. The Table may, but does not have to, contain other columns: the script allows you to specify which column contains the times of the reactions. Praat can create Table objects from various different file formats, including tab- and comma-separated files. Part of a comma-separated data file might look like this:

```
_time,_uid,_comment,_dk,_accident,_noClick,_region,_uidReg
10.599963,019,the word dark was pronounced strongly in their accent,,,,YH,019YH
34.49198,019,strong accent,,,,YH,019YH
17.269871,022,Pronunciation of fun,,,,SE,022SE
27.735627,022,safe-teh rather than safe-tee,,,,SE,022SE
30.698712,022,While pronounced with two syllables,,,,SE,022SE
40.121764,022,Aft-ah rather than aft-tur,,,,SE,022SE
9.494235,024,I think that was the pronunciation of 'poor',,,,SE,024SE
```

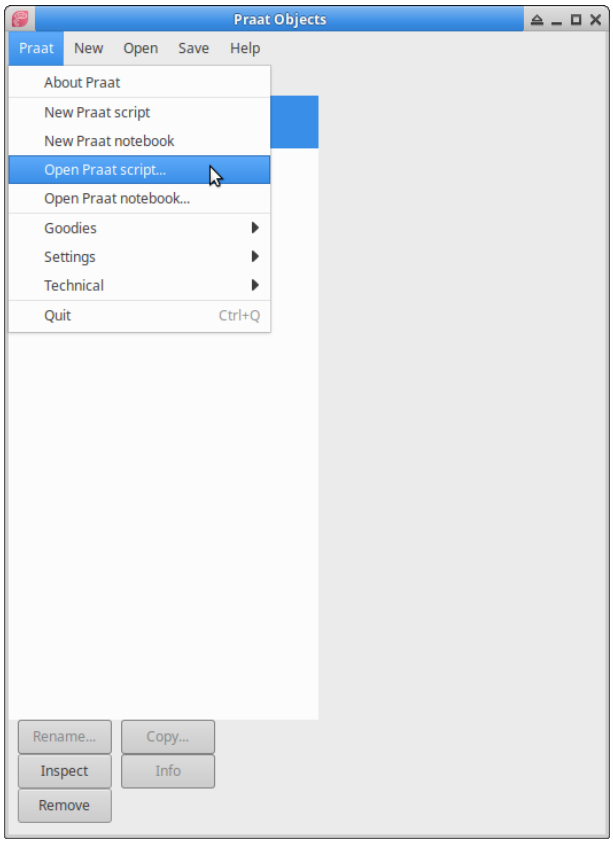
The data file can be read into Praat via the **Open** menu:



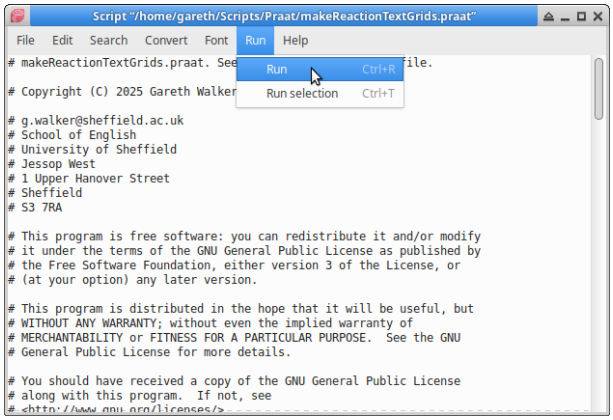

You must also read a Sound file into Praat (check the Praat manual if you are unsure how to do this).

## 3 Opening and running the script

Select the Sound and Table objects in the Objects list (you may need to press the Control key as you select the objects). Once downloaded, the script can be opened via the **Praat** menu and the **Open Praat script...** command:

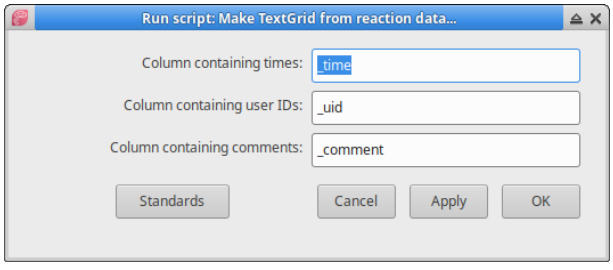



The script can be run from the ScriptEditor window, via the **Run** menu and the **Run** command:




(Alternatively you can create a button in a Praat menu to run the script: see the Praat manual.)

When you run the script a dialogue box appears.




This box lets you change the names of the columns containing the required data, though the defaults match

the output provided by SLIC.

With your Sound and Table objects selected in the List of Objects in the Objects window, click **Apply** or **OK** in the dialogue box (**OK** runs the script and closes the dialogue box; **Apply** runs the script and leaves the dialogue box open).

This creates a new TextGrid with a point tier for each respondent in the Table. Each tier contains a point located where the respondent clicked, accompanied by any comment provided by the respondent. The TextGrid can be viewed via the **View & Edit** command like normal.

## 4 Managing the output

Creating one TextGrid from the Table reduces the number of files which need to be stored locally: you may be able to store just one TextGrid for each audio sample. However, if there are lots of respondents, trying to look at a TextGrid which contains many tiers may be impractical. Here are two options: (1) filter the Table (e.g. using a spreadsheet tool, via a command line, or within Praat) so the Table contains only the data you want, then create a TextGrid from that Table using the `makeReactionTextGrids.praat` script; (2) use the `makeReactionTextGrids.praat` script to create one master TextGrid containing all the data across many tiers, then use Praat's **Extract** commands to select just the tiers you want. If you want to extract tiers from the TextGrid, it may be helpful to know which respondent is on which tier. The following code, which runs on a TextGrid produced by this script, outputs that information:

```
writeInfoLine: "tier", tab$, "uid"
tiers = Get number of tiers
for t to tiers
 uid$ = Get tier name: t
 appendInfoLine: t, tab$, uid$
endfor
```