

Standards for digital encoding Tomaž Erjavec

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Lecture 2: TEI and XSLT
10.11.2006

Lecturer

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- <http://nl.ijs.si/et/>
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- corpora and other language resources, standards, annotation, text-critical editions
- Web page for this course:
<http://nl.ijs.si/et/teach/graz06/standards/>
- students: send emails!

Overview

1. Introduction
2. TEI background
3. TEI structure
4. Introduction to XSLT

Lab session:

writing a teiLite document, transforming to
HTML with XSLT

What's in a text?

Upon Julia's Clothes

WHEN as in silks my *Julia* goes,
Then, then (me thinks) how sweetly flowes
That liquefaction of her clothes.

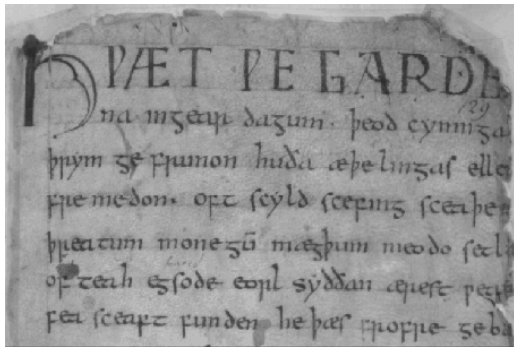
Next, when I cast mine eyes and see
That brave Vibration each way free;
O how that glittering taketh me!

Upon Julia's Clothes

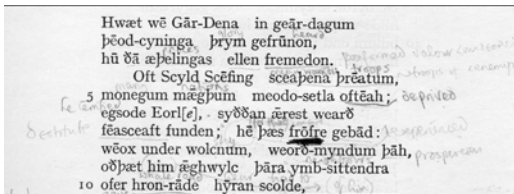
When as in silks my *Julia* goes,
Then, then (me thinks) how sweetly flowes
That liquefaction of her clothes.

Next, when I cast mine eyes, and see
That brave Vibration each way free;
O how that glittering taketh me!

What's in a text (2)?



What's in a text (3)?



The ontology of a text

- Where is the text?
 - ◆ in the shape of letters and their layout?
 - ◆ in the original from which this copy derives?
 - ◆ in the ideas it brings forth? in their format, or their intentions?
- Texts are abstractions conjured up by readers.
- Markup encodes those abstractions.

Encoding of texts

- Texts are more than sequences of encoded glyphs
 - ◆ They have structure and content
 - ◆ They also have multiple readings
- Encoding, or markup, is a way of making these things explicit
- Only that which is explicit can be reliably processed

Styles of markup

- In the beginning there was *procedural* markup

```
RED INK ON; print balance; RED INK OFF
```
- which being generalised became *descriptive* markup

```
<balance type='overdrawn'>some numbers</balance>
```
- also known as encoding or annotation
descriptive markup allows for re-use of data

Some more definitions

- Markup makes explicit the distinctions we want to make when processing a string of bytes
- Markup is a way of naming and characterizing the parts of a text in a formalized way
- It's (usually) more useful to markup what things *mean* than what they *look like*

What does markup capture?

- Compare

```
<head>Upon Julia's Clothes</head>
<lg><!--Whenas in silks my <hi>Julia</hi> goes.</-->
<!--Then, then (me thinks) how sweetly flowes</-->
<!--That liquefaction of her clothes.</-->
</lg>
```
- and

```
<s n="1" role="head">
<w type="pp">Upon</w>
<w type="np">Julia</w><w type="pos">'s </w>
<w type="nn2">Clothes</w>
</s>
<s n="2" role="line">
<w type="adv">Whenas</w>
<w type="pp">in</w>
<w type="nn2">silks</w>
...
</s>
```

Likewise..

- Compare

```
<hi rend="dropcap">H</hi>&WYN;/ET WE GARDE
<lb/>na in gear-dagum þeod-cyninga
<lb/>þrym gefrunon, hu ða æþelingas
<lb/>ellen fremedon, oft scyld scefing sceaþe<add>na</add>
<lb/>þreatum, moneg<expan>um</expan> mægþum
meodo-setl<add>a</add>
<lb/>of<damage desc="blot"/>teah egsode <sic>eorl</sic>
syððan ærest wear<add>þ</add>
<lb/>fea sceaft funden...
```
- and

```
<lg>
<!--Hwæt! we Gar-dena in gear-dagum</-->
<!--þeod-cyninga þrym gefrunon,</-->
<!--hu ða æþelingas ellen fremedon,</-->
</lg>
<lg>
<!--Oft Scyld Scefing sceaþena þreatum,</-->
<!--monegum mægþum meodo-setla ofteah;</-->
<!--egsode Eorle, syððan ærest wearþ</-->
```

What's the point of markup?

- To make explicit (to a machine) what is implicit (to a person)
- To add value by supplying multiple annotations
- To facilitate re-use of the same material
 - ◆ in different formats
 - ◆ in different contexts
 - ◆ for different users

A useful mental exercise

- Imagine you are going to markup several thousand pages of complex material....
 - ◆ Which features are you going to markup?
 - ◆ Why are you choosing to markup this feature?
 - ◆ How reliably and consistently can you do this?
- Now, imagine your budget has been halved. Repeat the exercise!

What can the TEI do for you?

The TEI provides a framework for the definition of multiple schemas

- it defines and names several hundred useful textual distinctions
- it provides a set of modules that can be used to define schemas making those distinctions
- it provides a customization mechanism for modifying and combining those definitions with new ones using the same conceptual model

Where did the TEI come from?

- Originally, a research project within the humanities
 - ◆ Sponsored by three professional associations
 - ◆ Funded 1990-1994 by US NEH, EU LE Programme et al.
- Major influences
 - ◆ digital libraries and text collections
 - ◆ language corpora
 - ◆ scholarly datasets
- International consortium established June 1999 (see <http://www.tei-c.org/>)

Goals of the TEI

- better interchange and integration of scholarly data
- support for all texts, in all languages, from all periods
- guidance for the perplexed: what to encode — hence, a user-driven codification of existing best practice
- assistance for the specialist: how to encode — hence, a loose framework into which unpredictable extensions can be fitted

These apparently incompatible goals result in a flexible and modular environment

TEI Guidelines

- A set of recommendations for text encoding, covering both generic text structures and some highly specific areas based on (but not limited by) existing practice
- A very large collection of element definitions with associated declarations for various schema languages
- a modular system for creating personalized schemas or DTDs from the foregoing

for the full picture see <http://www.tei-c.org/Guidelines2/>

Legacy of the TEI

- a way of looking at what 'text' *really* is
- a codification of current scholarly practice
- (crucially) a set of shared assumptions and priorities about the digital agenda:
 - ◆ focus on content and function (rather than presentation)
 - ◆ identify generic solutions (rather than application-specific ones)

Users of TEI

- Over 100 projects listed on the [TEI project page](#)
- Main areas:
 - ◆ digital libraries
 - ◆ text-critical editions
 - ◆ computer corpora
 - ◆ dictionaries

Versions of the Guidelines

- TEI P3 (1994) first public version:
 - ◆ SGML + book (1200pp) and soon also on the Web.
- [TEI P4](#) (2002):
 - ◆ provides equal *support for XML* and SGML applications using the TEI scheme;
 - ◆ error correction, while maintaining backward compatibility: documents conforming to TEI P3 will not become illegal when processed with TEI P4.
- [TEI P5](#) (2006...):
 - ◆ implements more fundamental changes to the schemas, in line with current practice and identified problems, e.g. uses namespaces
 - ◆ no longer backward compatible (but a migration P4 to P5 XSLT exists)
 - ◆ Relax NG becomes the main schema language
 - ◆ still somewhat fluid (details in schemas, Web presentation)

The general structure of TEI documents

- Burnard, Driscoll, Rahtz, TEI Training Course, Sofia 2005: Slides for TEI overview

TEI Lite

- TEI Lite is a particular parametrisation of TEI that “provides 90% of the elements needed for 90% of users”
- the TEI Lite P4 DTD can be found at <http://www.tei-c.org/Lite/DTD/teilight.dtd>

Lab session 1

- again, recipes
 - ◆ Bavarian-Style Pork Roast with Cabbage and Knödel and 2 others, e.g. from the Cabbage section
 - ◆ take teiLite DTD and mark-up the documents according to TEI
 - ◆ make use of documentation provided at TEI Lite page
