Annotating CLARIN.SI TEI corpora with WebAnno

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Overview

1. Introduction
2. TEI corpus encoding @ CLARIN.SI
3. The WebAnno annotation platform
4. TEI to WebAnno, WebAnno to TEI
5. Use cases
6. Conclusions
Introduction

• Manually annotated corpora are a basic language resource for empirical linguistics and human language technologies:
  – *Linguistics*: research into particular phenomena of language, esp. where automatic methods produce results of insufficient quality for subsequent analyses, or where automatic annotation methods do not even exist
  – *HLT*: testing data, training data for supervised ML methods

• How to best to annotate them?
• How to store them in a common format?
• The Guidelines for Text Encoding and Interchange mostly used in digital humanities (digital editions)
• Less used in HTL, but: PNC, esp. suited for CLARIN!
• De-facto standard for most Slovene corpora: Gigafida, Gos, IMP, Janes… (+ digital editions, lexica…)
• Typical annotation levels:
  – Tokens, sentences
  – Normalised words (“phrases“)
  – PoS tags, lemmas
  – Syntactic analysis
  – Named entities
  – etc.
Stand-off vs. in-line

• Stand-off:
  – Arbitrary relations
  – Simple to implement
  – Tool friendly

• In-line: none of the above! But:
  – The annotated text can still be corrected
  – Easier to validate
WebAnno
WebAnno

- CLARIN-D, GitHub
- Various types of annotations:
  - token, span, link
  - stacked, multivalued
- Supports many annotators + curation
- Is fairly well maintained (but for how long?)
- I/O: XML stand-off and tabular formats, e.g. TSV

- Decided to use and promote it @ CLARIN.SI
- Organised tutorials end of 2015:
  Janes Express: Ljubljana – Zagreb – Belgrade
Annotation workflow

1. Convert TEI to TSV:
   - what is a WA „sentence“?
   - do we show spaces?
   - what to export?
2. Upload TSV to WebAnno
3. Manual annotation
4. Download TSV
5. Merge TSV with source TEI
Project (meta)data

– Source TEI
– Annotation guidelines
– Project set-up in WebAnno:
  annotation layers (with tagsets), annotators, input TSV documents
– One XML configuration file for:
  • TEI2TSV (XSLT)
  • TSV2TEI (Perl + DOM)
Example configuration file

<WA-config>
  <verbose>true</verbose>
  <normalised_base>true</normalised_base>
  <null_char>$0</null_char>
  <glue_char/>
  <punct_tag>Z</punct_tag>
  <LayerDefinitions>
    <layer name="webanno.custom.Originals" type="token">
      <feature name="original"/>
      <feature name="original2"/>
      <feature name="original3"/>
      <feature name="original4"/>
    </layer>
    <layer name="webanno.custom.Lemma" type="token">
      <feature name="lemma"/>
    </layer>
    <layer name="webanno.custom.jos.MSD.en" type="token">
      <feature name="msd"/>
    </layer>
    <layer name="webanno.custom.jos.Dep.en" type="relation">
      <feature name="label"/>
      <feature name="AttachTo" value="webanno.custom.jos.MSD.en"/>
    </layer>
  </LayerDefinitions>
</WA-config>
Bells and whistles

Correction, tokenisation, normalisation, sentences

Po dveh tednih -3.8. Jeeel\! 3 čunga lunga1\]

nimam nič proti skromnosti in v \. si je veliko skromnih
Use cases

• Essential annotation of Slovene CMC:
  – 4,000 tweets + 4,000 user comments and forum posts
  – tokens, sentences and normalisations
  – MSD tags and lemmas

• Multi-level annotation of speech transcriptions
  – 30,000 tokens
  – lemmas, UD PoS tags, morphological features, dependency syntax
  – semantic annotation of multi-word discourse structuring devices

• Named entities
  – Standard Slovene + CMC + historical Slovene

• Comma placement, shortening strategies, …
Conclusions

• Presented WebAnno + TEI @ CLARIN.SI
• WebAnno problems:
  – lacking search + metadata / links
  – various small bugs and crashes
  – unclear future?
• Merge step
  – can be, in general, quite complex
    (tokenisation, whitespace)
• Workflow
  – too many manual steps
• GitLab (2 GitHub, to share?)
Hvala!

CLARIN.SI
Common Language Resources and Technology Infrastructure, Slovenia