



Common Language Resources and  
Technology Infrastructure, Slovenia



# 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?



# < Text Encoding Initiative >

- 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

```
<w lemma="operater" ana="#Somei">operater</w><c> </c>
<w lemma="vedeti" ana="#Ggnste">ve</w><c> </c>
<choice>
  <orig><w>dab</w></orig>
  <reg>
    <w lemma="da" ana="#Vd">da</w><c> </c>
    <w lemma="biti" ana="#Gp-g">bi</w>
  </reg>
</choice><c> </c>
```

# WebAnno

WebAnno - Web-based annotation tool

nl.ijs.si/webanno/annotation.html?2

## Annotation

WebAnno | Home Document Page Script Help Workflow

Open Prev. Next Export Settings First Prev. Go to Next Last LTR/RTL Guidelines Done

JANES-Kons1/tweet-sl-T3L3-373.tsv showing 1-5 of 10 sentences

Annotation

1 @senca72 lahk jim prodas bluetooth vmesnik za povezavo z iPhone pa mal koda + knof za objavo highscor na FBV ... #pravaideja

2 @spirulinka9 kar je pa najboljš dober biti ta ,\ da vse res :) do takrat je pa velikrat težkol , po moje zato ,\ da cenmo

3 Zc-set skupaj Ne vse skup ;)

4 Na Sommt erikalamityjan Sozmt pištola Gp-ppm-n rabili Ggnd-mm Murgle Ggnstm prisegati Nh Slzmi Tito Zop-ed-k Zk-mmi Vp Jaz ta Zp-----k Gavspm Vd Ne Slmetd

Technische Universität Darmstadt -- Computer Science Department -- WebAnno -- 2.3.1-SNAPSHOT (2015-11-10 11:53:22, build 897ff54f514aabd7d8aae8615b0f1f0866a8efc5)

21:56 06/10/2016

The screenshot shows the WebAnno annotation interface. At the top, there's a toolbar with buttons for Open, Prev., Next, Export, Settings, First, Prev., Go to, Next, Last, LTR/RTL, Guidelines, and Done. Below the toolbar, it says "showing 1-5 of 10 sentences". The main area is titled "Annotation" and contains a timeline of annotated text. Sentence 1 is from "@senca72" and sentence 2 is from "@spirulinka9". Sentence 3 is a short message. Sentence 4 is from "erikalamityjan". Each word or phrase is highlighted with a colored box and labeled with a code like Rsn, Slmetn, or Ggnspl. The interface has a red header bar and a yellow status bar at the bottom.

# 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

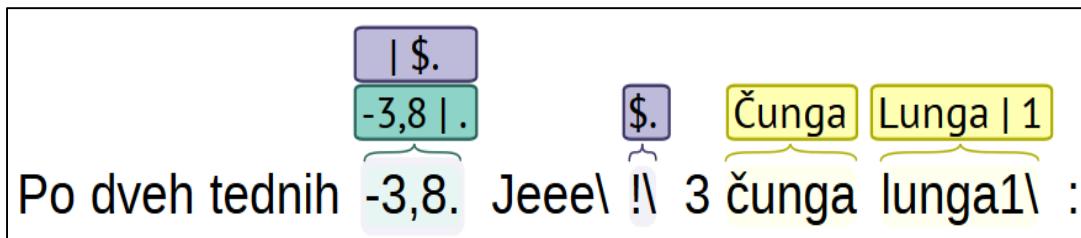
- Source TEI
- Annotation guidelines
- Project set-up in WebAnno:  
annotation layers (with tagsets), annotators, input  
TSV documents
- One XML configuration file for:
  - TEI2TSV (XSLT)
  - TSV2TEI (Perl + DOM)

# 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



# 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

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