TextGrid
Research Infrastructure for the e-Humanities

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• Introduction
• TextGrid – The Project
  – The Grid in TextGrid
  – Project Goals
• Tools and Services
  – Demo
• Prospects – A Look Ahead
TextGrid – The Project

- First community grid project in the Arts and Humanities, D-Grid
- Collaborative work of eight academic and commercial partners
- Collaboration of Information specialists, IT professionals and Art and Humanities scholars
- Funded by the German Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) with about 1.7 Mio Euro + 600,000 € for grid storage
The Grid in TextGrid

- So far: local systems, project-oriented applications, distributed heterogeneous resources
- Needed: connecction to and between resources, interoperable, networked tools, => resource sharing
- Sustainable research infrastructure => scientific support
- Handling of data volume, dispersal of community, resources, tools, services
TextGrid – Architecture
A Layered System
TextGrid - Goals

• virtual research environment for collaborative work with distributed data, for collaborative editing, annotation, analysis and publication of specialist texts

TextGridLab

• building up a Data Grid - a virtual archive for long-term data preservation of primary and secondary data

TextGridRep

• interconnection of Arts and Humanities scholars, IT professionals and information specialists
TextGrid Applications

- Beta-Version download available: http://www.textgrid.de/beta.html
TextGrid Applications

- **Data Grid** - Virtual archive(s) for research data curation
  TextGrid Rep (Repository)

- **Service Grid** - Toolbox for collaborative work
  TextGrid Lab (Laboratory)
    - Interactive tools (Eclipse-based)
      - XML-Editor
      - Research
      - Graphical Editor
      - Interfaces to dictionaries and reference material
    - Streaming tools (Web Service-based)
      - Collation
      - Lemmatise
      - Sort, tokenise, etc.
Idea

- enable easy access to resources and services unlimited by location or time
- enable scholars to markup, analyze, edit, annotate and publish resources, texts
XML-Editor

Technical view with tags and attributes:
WYSIWYM – What You See Is What You Mean

Structural view, oriented towards the WYSIWYG display in common text processing applications
Text-Image Link Editor

Manages the linking between text passages and image sections:
Search for „Abschied“
Search for „Abschied“ in Goethe-texts
Demo TextGrid Lab

- Beta version available for download
  http://www.textgrid.de/beta.html

- Video demo available for download:
  http://www.textgrid.de/information/berichte.html
Contributions to an e-Humanities Infrastructure

- **Europe**
  ESFRI – European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (http://cordis.europa.eu/esfri/)
  - **CLARIN**: offers scholars the tools to allow computer-aided language processing (http://www.clarin.eu/)
  - **Dariah**: Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities (http://www.dariah.eu/)

- **Germany**
  - **eAqua**: Extraction of structured knowledge from ancient sources (http://www.eaqua.net/)
  - **eSciDoc**: eResearch Environment (http://www.escidoc.org/)
  - **EDIROM**: Visualization of the critical comments and annotations of musicological editions (http://www.edirom.de/en/welcome-page.html)
  - ...
TextGrid – next Steps

• Develop solid and trustworthy tools
• Increase solidity and trustworthiness of research infrastructure
• Build up a Community
  – regular users ready to use TextGrid in their projects
  – Technical users who configure TextGrid for projects
  – Developers who want to extend TextGrid with new services and tools
  – Teaching TextGrid courses, preparing documents for all groups

• Develop new Interfaces
  – To catalogues
  – To longterm data curation projects
• Design business model and legal framework
• Attract new disciplines
• Continously improve the TextGridLab
• Possible cooperation with eSciDoc
• Integration with the upcoming DARIAH and CLARIN infrastructure
• Integration with other projects in thematically adjacent areas
• …
Thank you!

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