Digitizing historical print dictionaries I

General idea

- implicit structuring of data
- theory bound analysis/presentation
- inconsistencies
- scope ambiguities (e. g. unmarked glosses in discursive text)
- often discursive structure (beware of negations!)
- non-standard transliteration, normalization
- ▶ digitization is (re)modeling, e.g.:

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typographic — 2-dimensional page
editorial — character and control "stream"
lexical — database representation (sets, graphs, . . . )
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in TEI terms: "views"

modeling is abstraction and generalization

Digitizing historical print dictionaries II Challenges

- ▶ IPR issues
- availability of copies
- ▶ image to text transformation (OCR, n-keying)
- we typically cannot keep all views (too complex, too expensive, probably unnecessary)
- reuseable and sustainable encoding (XML, Unicode)
- interoperabel and standard-conforming encoding (TEI, BCP 47, data category registries, linked open data)

Hands-on examples I

Mueller (1878)

- Eduard Mueller: Etymologisches Wörterbuch der englischen Sprache. Erster Teil, A–K. 2nd edition. Cöthen 1878.
- ► English headwords, implicit part-of-speech
- German glosses (mainly)
- German notes and commentary
- often contrasting diverging etymologies
- relations often left implicit
- related entries for derivatives
- (sometimes unattributed) citations
- bibliographical links

Hands-on examples II Kluge/Lutz (1898)

- ► Friedrich Kluge, Frederick Lutz: Englisch Etymology: A Select Glossary. Boston 1898.
- ► English headwords, part-of-speech
- English glosses
- English notes and commentary
- occasionally provides reconstructions for PIE, Proto-Germanic
- rarely related entries, some derivatives as headwords
- very short entries (indeed more of a glossary)
- no citations
- no bibliographical links

Hands-on examples III Uhlenbeck (1900)

- ▶ C. C. Uhlenbeck: Kurzgefasstes etymologisches Wörterbuch der gothischen Sprache. 2nd edition. Amsterdam 1900.
- Gothic headwords
- German glosses
- German notes and commentary
- relations often left implicit
- derivatives are (short) main entries
- few (underspecified) reconstructions
- attested forms in earlier and later languages
- bibliographical links

Hands-on examples IV

Falk/Torp (1910)

- ► H. S. Falk, Alf Torp: Norwegisch-dänisches etymologisches Wörterbuch. Erster Teil, A–O. Heidelberg 1910.
- ► Danish/Norwegian headwords
- German glosses
- German notes and commentary
- relations sometimes unspecified ("is related to")
- derivatives, sometimes compounds and phrases as related entries
- no reconstructions
- no cititations
- no bibliographical links

Hands-on examples V Walde (1910)

- ▶ Alois Walde: Lateinisches etymologisches Wörterbuch. 2nd edition. Heidelberg 1910.
- Latin headwords
- German glosses (mostly)
- German notes and commentary
- many reconstructions and other hypothetical forms
- complex entries comprising certain and uncertain etymologies
- many related entries (many of which also appear as main entries)
- no citations
- extensive use of bibliographical links