The Standardization Survival Kit (SSK)

Bringing best practices to research communities in the Humanities







What are standards?

3 keywords

- They express a
 - consensus
- They are published and easily accessible
- They are maintained

Data formats

- XML:
 https://www.w3.org/TR/xml/
- TIFF: ISO 12639:1998

Protocols

 ISO 11554:2017: Test methods for laser beam power, energy and temporal characteristics

What are standards?

Present at each step of the research process (examples)

- Production: ALTO XML, standard for recording layout and logical structure of OCRed text;
- Processing: Linguistic annotation encoded in XML TEI (Text Encoding Initiative);
- Archiving: OAIS (Open Archival Information System, ISO 14721:2012)
 => conceptual model dedicated to the management, archiving and long-term preservation of digital documents.

Parthenos & the SSK

Initial goal of the *Standardization Survival Kit* in **PARTHENOS**:

Support and provide expertise to researchers in their use of standards

Which communities?

- Humanities
- Social Sciences
- Heritage Science

Parthenos & the SSK

Positive context of an European project:

- Diversity: many experts from different disciplines
- Synergy: willingness to cooperate

⇒ Opportunity to build use cases, inspired from real life.



Parthenos & the SSK

Development team

Inria ALMAnaCH

- Laurent Romary (DR, WP leader, supervisor)
- Marie Puren, Charles Riondet (project management, data model)
- Dorian Seillier (UI/UX Design)
- Lionel Tadjou, Damien Biabiany (development web)

<u>Iterations</u>, beta tests

PARTHENOS WP4 on Standardization:

- Klaus Illmayer (OEAW),
- Karolien Verbrugge (NIOD),
- Roberta Giacomi (SISMEL),
- Panos Siozos (FORTH),
- and many more

- Support and provide expertise to researchers in their use of standards;
- 2. Give context to standards;
- 3. Link them to a concrete research activity (<u>TaDirah Taxonomy of Digital Research Activities in the Humanities</u>);
- 4. Link activities between them -> Describe a research process built on the use of standards.

Not every research step is related to a standard:

- Ethics and legal issues;
- Evaluation and comparison of results;
- •

But the notion of **Best practices** is always relevant

When standards are protocols:

- Normative texts are very formal documents, difficult to read;
- A protocol = A suite of tasks using tools and techniques.

- 1. Support and provide expertise to researchers in their use of standards;
- 2. Give context to standards;
- 3. Link them to a concrete research activity (<u>TaDirah Taxonomy of Digital Research Activities in the Humanities</u>);
- 4. Link activities between them -> Describe a research process built on the use of standards.
- 5. A platform for:
 - Documenting research best practices in digital environment
 - b. "Human readable" expression of protocol standards

In PARTHENOS and beyond

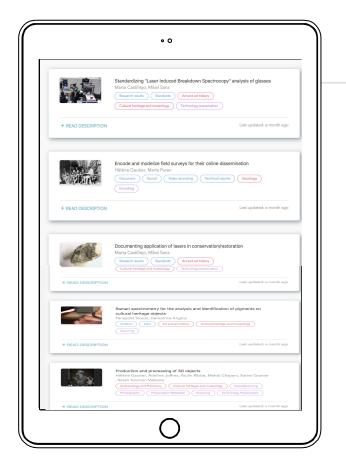
Propose a pleasant, sustainable and adaptable service

- UI/UX designer
- "agile" method: brainstorming, user/usability tests
- "soft" modeling of data
- Meet the potential user communities.



The scenarios

Providing contextual information and relevant examples on how standards can be applied in a given research project.



Three layers



Scenario

A complete and generic research use case composed of several steps to be followed.



Step

A unique task to be performed inside a scenario with the help and recommendation of one or several resources.



Resource

A standardized tool / service / document guiding the researcher in her/his tasks completion.

3-level Structure

Scenario description (techniques, disciplines, objets)

- 1. Step description (activities, standards)
 - a. resource
 - b. resource
- 2. Step description (activities, standards)
 - a. resource
 - b. resource
- 3. Step description (activities, standards)
 - a. etc.

Resources about standards

Standards documentation (ISO, TEI)

Official publications and reports (D4Science, HAL, Zenodo)

Documentation



Reference libraries organised by domains and standards

Maintenance with Zotero

Bibliography



Code snippets (GitHub)

Tools & services (D4Science)

Technical resources



Wikis

Blog posts (Hypotheses.org)

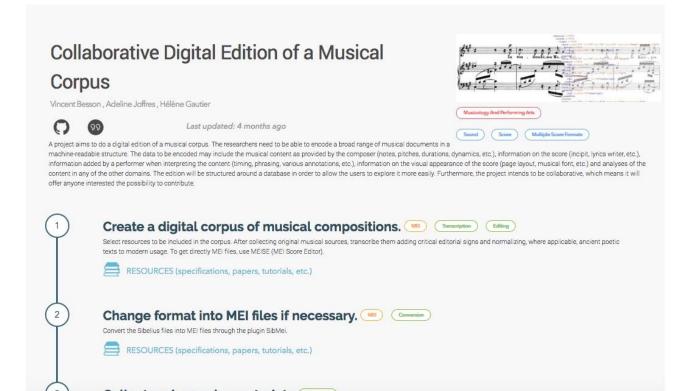
Discussion lists

User communities



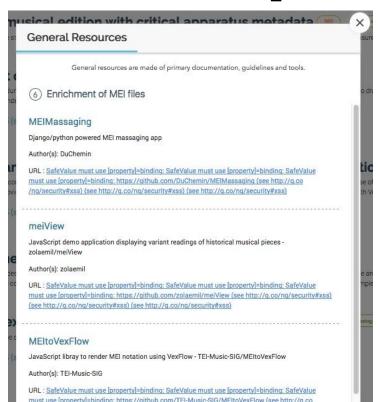


A high-level research guide





Resources and best practices





Easy-to-use & collaborative platform

- Consult and follow the guidelines expressed in the scenarios
- Propose new scenarios



Why contributing?

- Make your research project align with the best practices in your community
- Get peer review and visibility
- Share a project in another form than the usual blog/article (a new way to disseminate your work)

Coherence with our principles

The SSK, a 100% standards web app

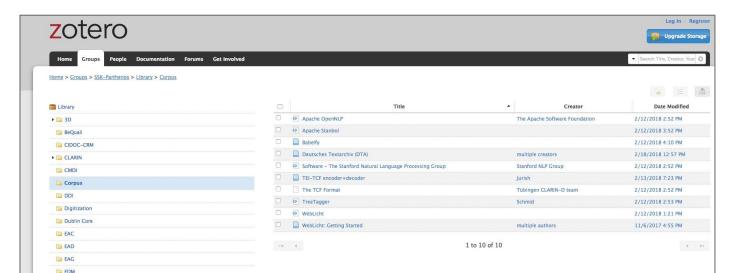
Scenarios in TEI

The scenarios are described using the TEI format (Text Encoding Initiative). All the information displayed within the SSK proceed from TEI files.

http://github.com/ParthenosWP4/SSK/tree/master

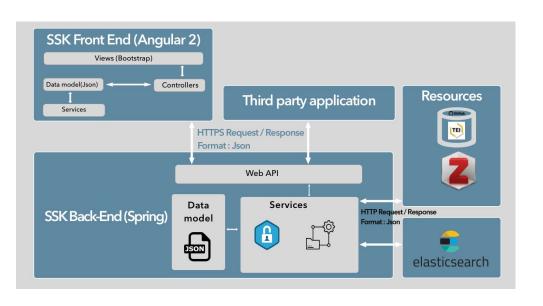
Managing resources with bibliographic standards

All the references are managed by the open source management software Zotero, and can be found in the a dedicated library. https://www.zotero.org/groups/427927/ssk-parthenos/



RESTful architecture

http://github.com/ParthenosWP4/SSK/tree/dev



- Flexible, easy to deploy and maintain architecture
- Independent entities communicating via REST services.

SSK data in details

Same model for describing scenarios and steps

| Information | | |
|-------------|--|--|
| Authors | | |
| Title | | |
| Description | | |
| Keywords | | |

SSK data in details

| Information | Tei element |
|-------------|------------------------|
| Authors | titleStmt/author/ |
| Title | head |
| Description | desc type="definition" |
| Keywords | desc type="terms" |



Same model for describing scenarios and steps But in different contexts

The scenarios description is "above" the steps description

Scenarios in TEI

The scenarios are described using the TEI format (Text Encoding Initiative). All the information displayed within the SSK proceed from TEI files.

A scenario is a list of events (<tei:listEvent>), each step in a scenario is an event (<tei:event>).

```
<event ref="step_OtICoP_171117" type="researchStep" xml:id="s1"
<event ref="step_CaC_171117" type="researchStep" xml:id="s2"/>
<event ref="step_SaD_171117" type="researchStep" xml:id="s3"/>
<event ref="step_A_171117" type="researchStep" xml:id="s4"/>
<event ref="step_CiSF_171117" type="researchStep" xml:id="s5"/>
<event ref="step_Ttl_171117" type="researchStep" xml:id="s5"/>
```

Scenarios in TEI

```
<text>
  <body>
   <div type="researchScenario">
      <head type="scenarioTitle" xml:lang="en">Creation of a TEI-based corpus</head>
      <desc type="definition" xml:lang="en">This scenario explains the steps to take, in order to
        create a corpus based on the TEI tagset. As of today, the TEI guidelines have become a de
        facto standard for text annotation, providing solutions for a great variety of text and
       phrase structures, information on content types, linguistic information on words or
        phrases, etc. In many digital text collections and digital edition projects annotation has
        been based on the TEI. Linguistic corpora based on TEI may thus be re-used in projects of
        other disciplines as well or may themselves benefit from the wide range of already
        existing resources.</desc>
      <desc type="terms" xml:lang="en">
        <term source="aurehal" type="discipline">Linguistics</term>
        <term key="text" source="Tadirah" type="object"/>
      </desc>
      <figure type="image">
        <head>Illustrative image of the scenario</head>
        <graphic</pre>
         url="https://raw.githubusercontent.com/ParthenosWP4/SSK/master/img/corpusAnalysis compact.png"/>
        <figDesc>Combination of screenshots of different steps in the scenario (image created by
         Susanne Haaf)</figDesc>
     </figure>
      tEvent>
        <event ref="step_corpusComposition" type="researchStep" xml:id="s1"/>
        <event ref="step verificationAndCleanup" type="researchStep" xml:id="s2"/>
        /ovent nof-"stan convensionToTET" type-"nessanchCten" yml:id-"s2"/>
```

Steps in TEI

```
<body>
   tEvent>
      <event type="researchStep">
         <head type="stepTitle" xml:lang="en">Conversion to TEI</head>
         <desc type="definition" xml:lang="en"> For the project at hand, a TEI format has
                  to be chosen or created (the latter by usage of the ODD language) which
                  suits the markup necessities defined in the corpus composition step. Thus,
                 if digitized data from other sources are to be re-used for corpus creation,
                 these may very likely be available only in formats that aren't similar to
                  the TEI format selected for the corpus creation project at hand. External
                 data may either come in completely different formats or at least in
                 different TEI dialects. In any case, it will be necessary to convert the
                  data from different formats into the TEI output format. Conversion may be
                  conducted semi-automatically.</desc>
         <desc xml:lang="en" type="terms">
           <term type="standard" source="standard_list" key="XML"/>
            <term type="standard" source="standard list" key="TEI"/>
            <term type="activity" source="http://tadirah.dariah.eu/" key="conversion">Conversion</term>
         </desc>
         kGrp type="generalResources">
           <ref type="spec" source="zotero" target="ZABRV5VD">
              <term type="standard" source="standard list" key="TEI"/>
            </ref>
           <ref type="spec" source="zotero" target="ZE34VR34">
              <term type="standard" source="standard_list" key="TEI"/>
            </ref>
            and tunn-"enes" course-"actors" tanget-"averture";
```



Keywords in TEI

<term> element. Doc: https://ssk.readthedocs.io/en/latest/2_ssktei.html#term-element

| @type | activity, technique, object | standard | discipline |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| @source | tadirah | ssk | aurehal |
| @key See <u>glossary</u> | ex: Annotating Encoding Manuscript | ALTO-XML CMDI EAD | Communication sciences Geography Literature |



Keywords in TEI

<term> element. Doc: https://ssk.readthedocs.io/en/latest/2_ssktei.html#term-element

New trick in **SSK Glossary**: A button copies directly the TEI code

- ► Archaeology And Prehistory 🕢 Click to copy TEI code
- Architecture, Space Management
- Art And Art History

<term type="activity" source="tadirah" key-"Encoding"/>



Resources in TEI

Inside linkGrp> elements. Doc:

https://ssk.readthedocs.io/en/latest/2_ssktei.html#linkGrp-element

| @type | generalResources | projectResources | projectResources |
|----------|------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| @source | | CODATA | DTA |
| @corresp | | http://www.codata.org | http://www.deutschestext archiv.de |

<linkGrp type="projectResources" source="DTA"
corresp="http://www.deutschestextarchiv.de"/>



Resources in TEI

<ref> element. Doc: https://ssk.readthedocs.io/en/latest/2_ssktei.html#ref-element

| @type | spec | service | paper |
|------------------------------|-----------------|----------|----------|
| @source | zotero | zotero | zotero |
| @target See <u>Zotero</u> | <u>T7672NJ8</u> | 8BD6FDKR | DVKJRRVU |

<ref type="spec" source="zotero" key="T7672NJ8"/>

What's next? (early 2019)

- Browsing bibliography
- Creating an account :
 - to manage bookmarks
 - to customize scenarios (by combining existing steps from SSK's research scenarios)
- Contributing directly on the interface:
 - creation
 - edition
 - customization
- Accessing a multilingual interface

Sustainability

- Open-source code and GPL licence.
- Underlying data described in TEI and hosted on GitHub under the licence CC-BY
- Bibliographical resources are part of a Zotero open library.
- DARIAH working groups: take over intellectual maintenance.



Test the SSK!



http://ssk.huma-num.fr



http://ssk.readthedocs.io



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