Digital Scholarly Editing
Advanced Methods

TEI customization

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Newcastle University

This session

- What is TEI customization?
- Why should we bother with customizing the TEI
- How do we customize the TEI

What is TEI customization?

Ask yourselves:

- Are you using all the elements in the TEI?
- Many elements can encode the same phenomena — how do you ensure consistency?
- Many people might be encoding texts for your project — how do you ensure consistency?
- What about that very particular textual phenomena that you have in your text that is not covered by the TEI — how do you record it?

What is TEI customization?

Sure, you can just write an extensive manual to go along with your project, but

- Why are you duplicating work?
- People make mistakes!
- What about people wanting to use your data?
- How do you make sure your files are valid according to your own rules?

Surely there must be a better way...

What is TEI customization?

- Tailoring the TEI to fit the needs of your project
- Making sure your rules are understood by both people and machines
- Making sure your rules are consistently applied
- Making sure your data can be reused by others

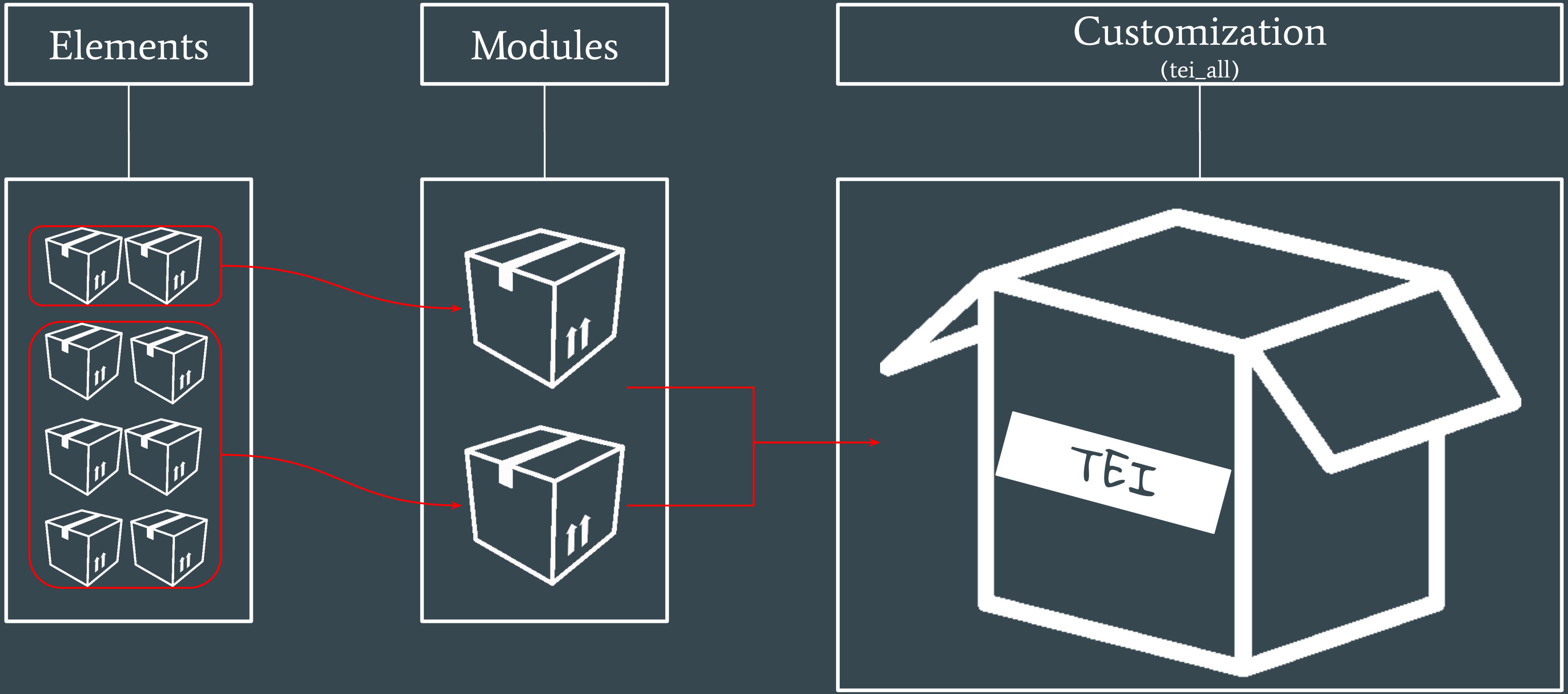
How can you make sure of this?

What is TEI customization?

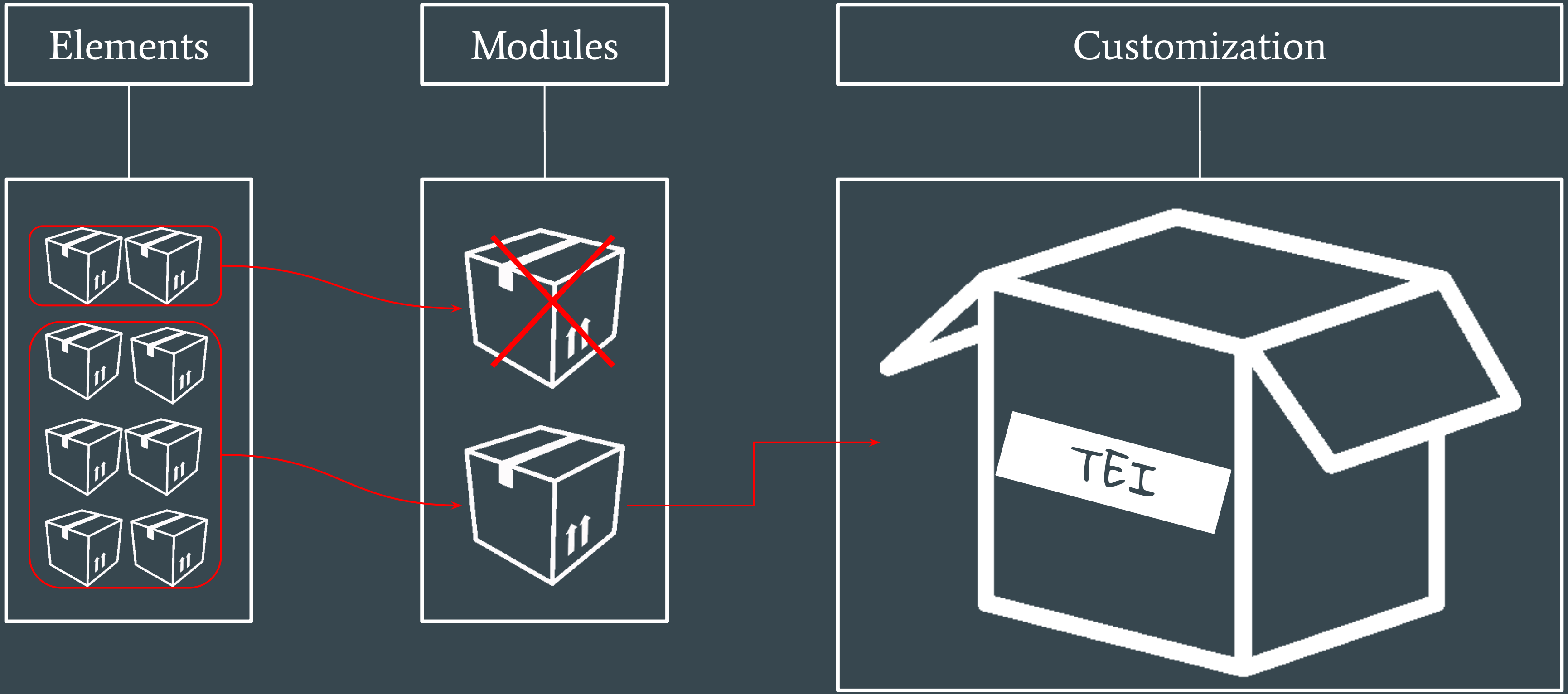
You have always been using a customization of the TEI:

- TEI_all —> contains all the elements with all corresponding attributes, the whole package
- TEI_lite —> a simplified general purpose customization, designed cater for '90% of the needs of 90% of the TEI user community'
- TEI_bare —> the bare minimum of elements to create a valid TEI document
- There are also a couple of prefab thematic customizations:
  - TEI_corpus —> for linguistic corpora
  - TEI_MS —> for manuscript description
  - TEI_drama —> for dramatic text
  - ...

What is TEI customization?



What is TEI customization?

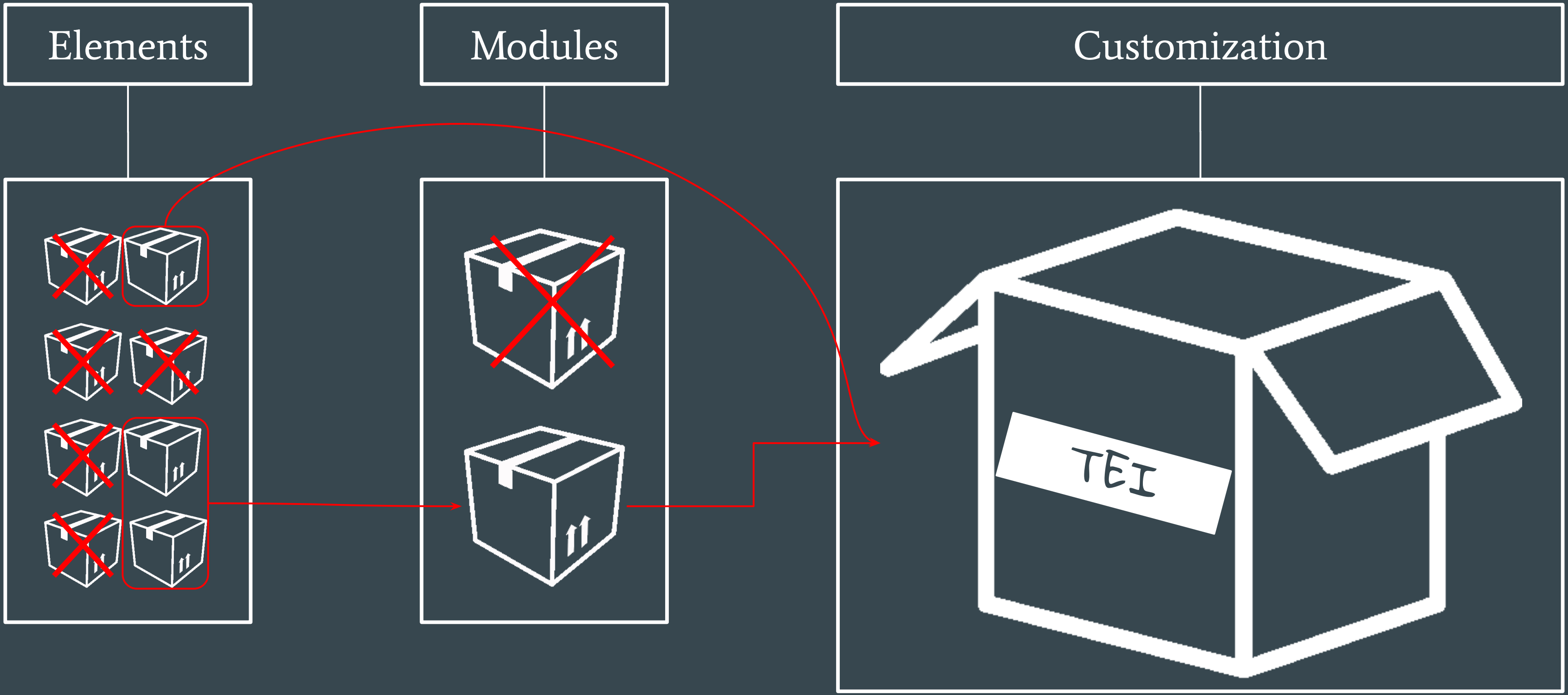


Elements

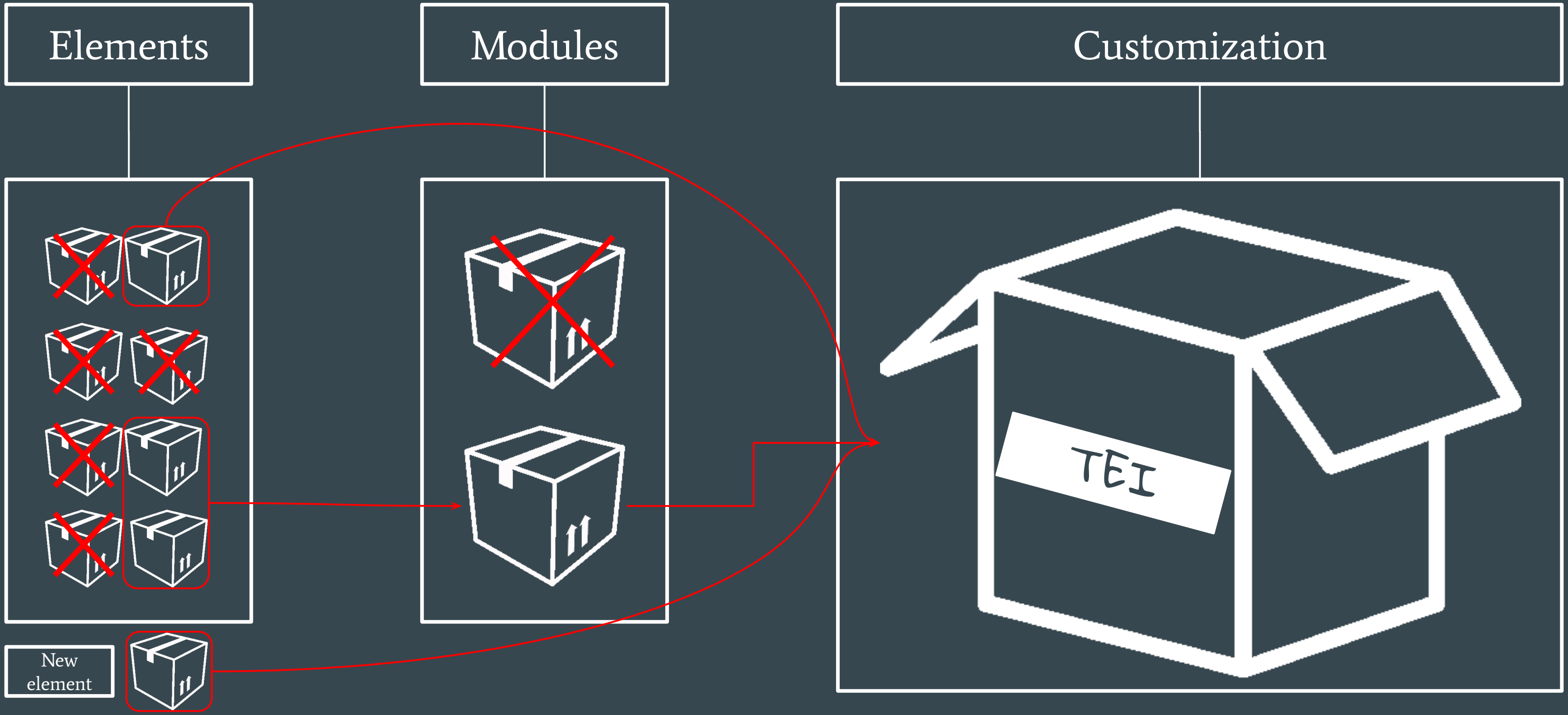
Modules

Customization

What is TEI customization?



What is TEI customization?



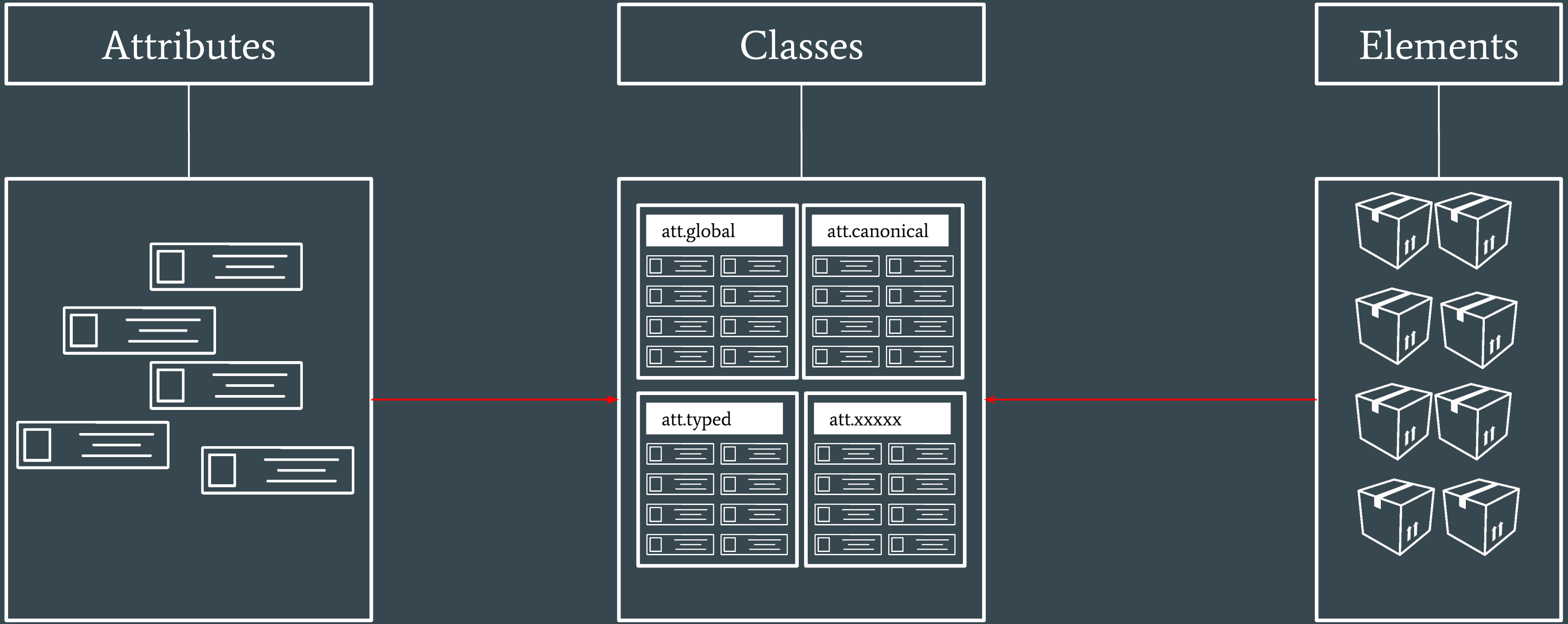
What is TEI customization?

In creating a new TEI customization, you can:

- Include modules as a whole
- Exclude modules as a whole
- Include individual elements
- Exclude individual elements

- You can, by:
  - Creating new elements
  - Changing existing elements
  - Creating new attributes
  - Changing existing attributes

What is TEI customization?



Attributes

Classes

Elements

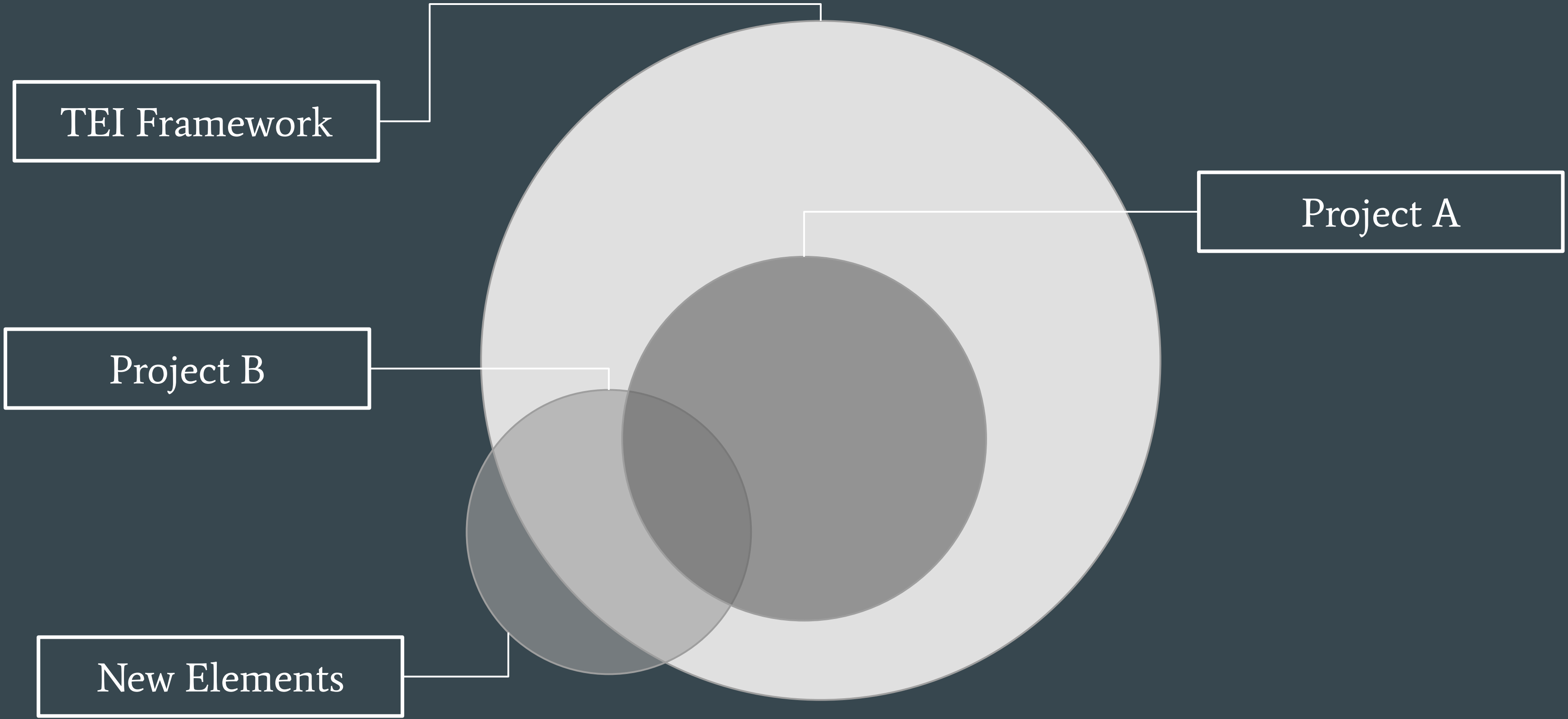
att.global

att.canonical

att.typed

att.xxxxx

What is TEI customization?



TEI Framework

Project A

Project B

New Elements

How do you define a customization

TEI customizations are defined by ODD documents

- ODD stands for 'One Document Does it all'
- An ODD is itself a TEI document
- An ODD contains:
    - Descriptive prose
    - Examples
    - Formal declarations for the components of the TEI abstract model
- The TEI Guidelines are ODD!

How do you define a customization

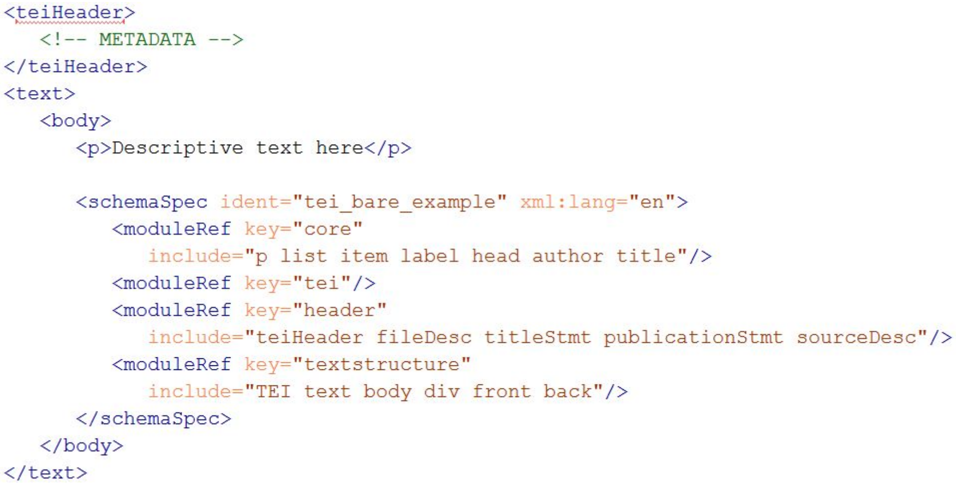
With an ODD document you can:

- Generate a schema
    - A schema is a set of instructions that software can use to validate an xml document
    - A schema can be expressed in several schema languages:
        - RELAX NG (compact syntax)
        - RELAX NG (xml syntax)
        - W3C Schema
        - ...
- Generate documentation
    - Documentation is human-readable and can, therefore, be expressed in a series of formats, including:
        - TEI itself
        - PDF
        - HTML
        - ...

ODD

What does an ODD document look like?

- Pretty much like any other TEI document, except it must include:
  - <schemaSpec> —> element that defines a TEI conformant schema
  - Children elements such as <moduleRef> specifying what must be included, excluded, added or changed



```
<teiHeader>
   <!-- METADATA -->
</teiHeader>
<text>
   <body>
      <p>Descriptive text here</p>

      <schemaSpec ident="tei_bare_example" xml:lang="en">
         <moduleRef key="core"
            include="p list item label head author title"/>
         <moduleRef key="tei"/>
         <moduleRef key="header"
            include="teiHeader fileDesc titleStmt publicationStmt sourceDesc"/>
         <moduleRef key="textstructure"
            include="TEI text body div front back"/>
      </schemaSpec>
   </body>
</text>
```

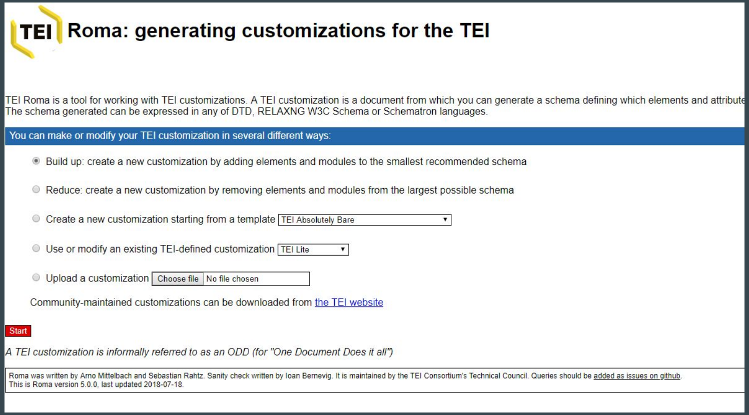
How do you define a customization

Do I need to learn how to write an ODD?

- No!
    - (unless you want granular control of your customization)
    - (although you should at least have a reading understanding of one)
- So... how?

How do you define a customization

There are currently two online tools to help you build an ODD:



TEI Roma: generating customizations for the TEI

TEI Roma is a tool for working with TEI customizations. A TEI customization is a document from which you can generate a schema defining which elements and attribute
The schema generated can be expressed in any of DTD, RELAXNG W3C Schema or Schematron languages.

You can make or modify your TEI customization in several different ways:

● Build up: create a new customization by adding elements and modules to the smallest recommended schema

○ Reduce: create a new customization by removing elements and modules from the largest possible schema

○ Create a new customization starting from a template: TEI Absolutely Bare

○ Use or modify an existing TEI-defined customization: TEI Lite

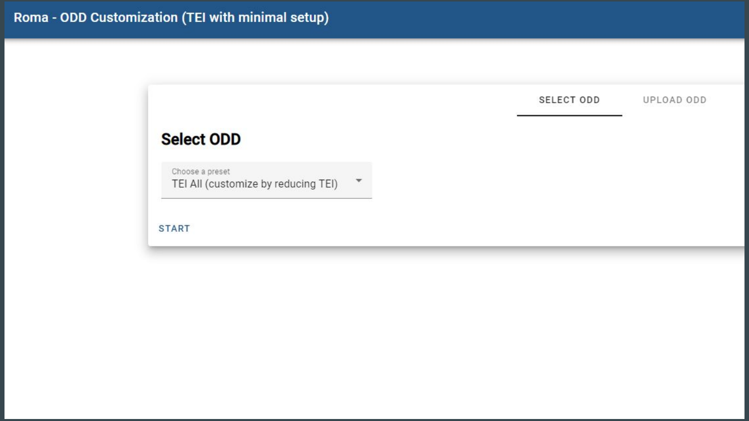
○ Upload a customization: Choose file | No file chosen

Community-maintained customizations can be downloaded from the TEI website

Start

A TEI customization is informally referred to as an ODD (for "One Document Does it all")

Roma was written by Arno Mittelbach and Sebastian Rahtz. Sanity check written by Ioan Bernevig. It is maintained by the TEI Consortium's Technical Council. Queries should be added as issues on github.
This is Roma version 5.0.0, last updated 2018-07-18.



Roma - ODD Customization (TEI with minimal setup)

Select ODD

Choose a preset: TEI All (customize by reducing TEI)

TEI Roma

- Currently in version 5.0
- Old interface
- Module-oriented

RomaJS

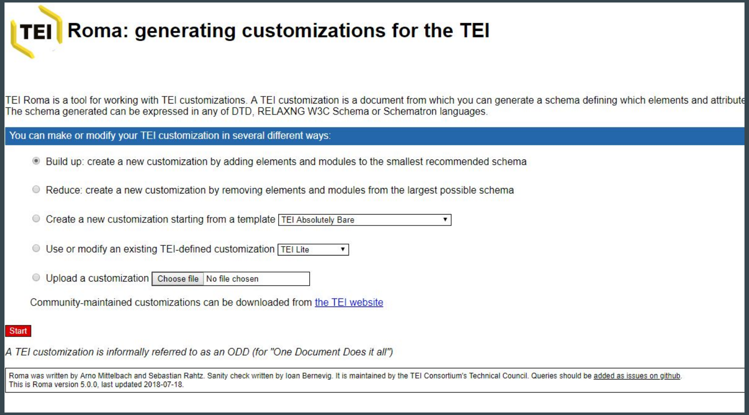
- Currently in beta
- New interface
- Element-oriented

Customizing — preparation

1. Open two tabs in your browser
    a. One with TEI Roma (https://roma2.tei-c.org/)
    b. The other with RomaJS (https://mith.us/romajs/)
2. Open Oxygen
    a. But don’t create any new TEI or XML document.

Customizing — starting

In both cases, you begin by choosing a starting ODD from a list (or uploading your own)



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- ○ Reduce: create a new customization by removing elements and modules from the largest possible schema
- ○ Create a new customization starting from a template: TEI Absolutely Bare
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- ○ Upload a customization: No file chosen

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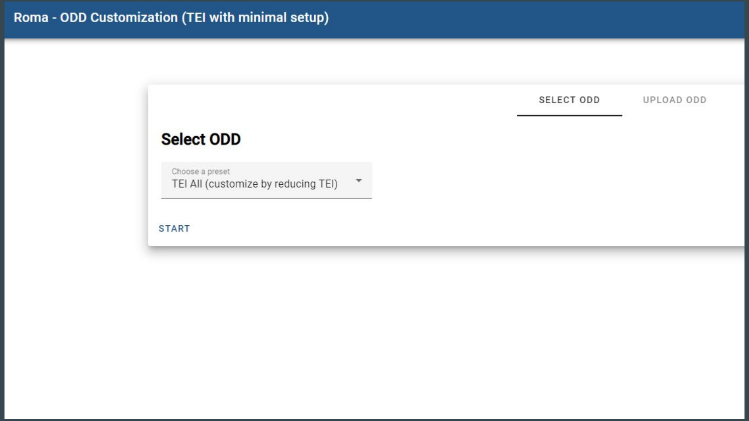


Roma - ODD Customization (TEI with minimal setup)

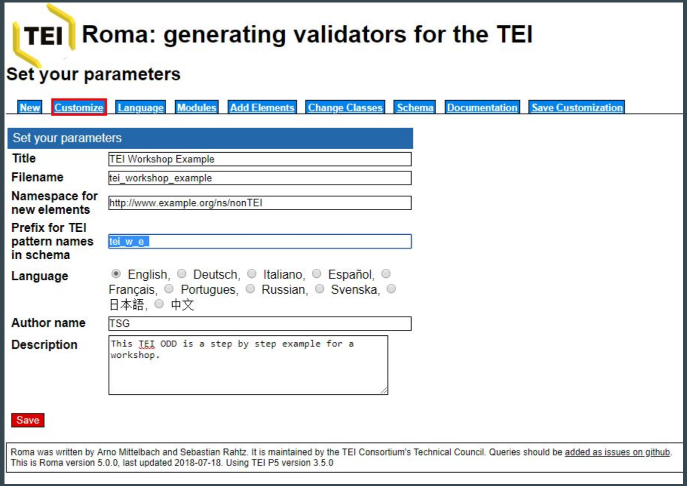
Select ODD

Choose a preset: TEI All (customize by reducing TEI)

For our example, we are ‘building up’, so we’ll select that option in both Roma and RomaJS

Customizing — metadata

The first step is to add some metadata to our ODD



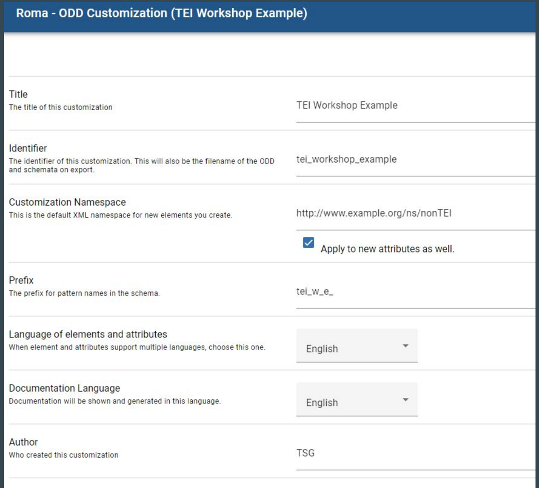
TEI Roma: generating validators for the TEI

Set your parameters

Set your parameters

Title	TEI Workshop Example
Filename	tei_workshop_example
Namespace for new elements	http://www.example.org/ns/nonTEI
Prefix for TEI pattern names in schema	tei_w_e_
Language	● English, ○ Deutsch, ○ Italiano, ○ Español, ○ Français, ○ Portugues, ○ Russian, ○ Svenska, ○ 日本語, ○ 中文
Author name	TSG
Description	This TEI ODD is a step by step example for a workshop.

Roma was written by Arno Mittelbach and Sebastian Rahtz. It is maintained by the TEI Consortium's Technical Council. Queries should be added as issues on github.
This is Roma version 5.0.0, last updated 2018-07-18. Using TEI P5 version 3.5.0



Roma - ODD Customization (TEI Workshop Example)

Title The title of this customization	TEI Workshop Example
Identifier The identifier of this customization. This will also be the filename of the ODD and schemata on export.	tei_workshop_example
Customization Namespace This is the default XML namespace for new elements you create.	http://www.example.org/ns/nonTEI ☑ Apply to new attributes as well.
Prefix The prefix for pattern names in the schema.	tei_w_e_
Language of elements and attributes When element and attributes support multiple languages, choose this one.	English
Documentation Language Documentation will be shown and generated in this language.	English
Author Who created this customization	TSG

These are pretty much similar in both apps, so we can do them simultaneously

Customizing — metadata

The fields are:

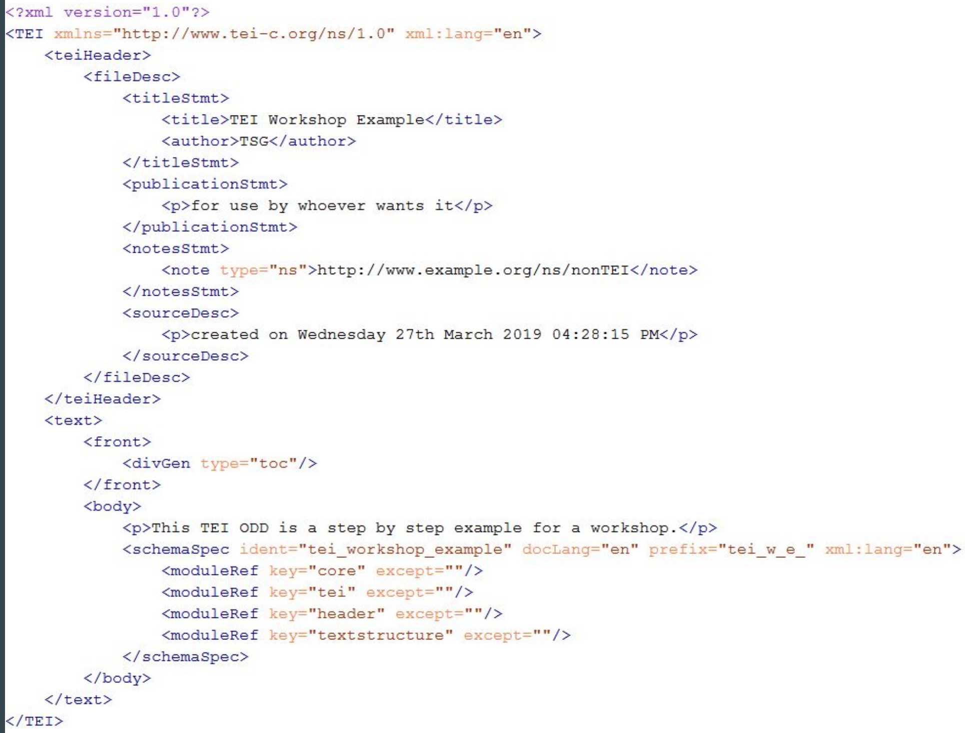
- Title —> a title for your customization
    - In our example our title will be ‘TEI Workshop Example [Roma| RomaJS]’
- Filename | Identifier —> a filename and identifier for our customization
    - tei_workshop_example
- Namespace —> namespace guarantees that no two elements can share the same name.
    - http://www.example.org/ns/nonTEI
- Prefix —> In case we use non-TEI XML schema, the prefix is appended to any of the elements with the same name
    - tei_w_e_
- Author —> self-explanatory
    - TSG
- Description —> in Roma, you can also add a brief discursive description to your ODD

Customizing — first ODD

1. Once we save the metadata, we can immediately download our ODD
2. In Roma:
   a. 'Save Customization'
3. In RomaJS:
   a. 'Download/Save Customization'
4. Open both files in Oxygen
   a. File/Open/File Location

State of the ODD

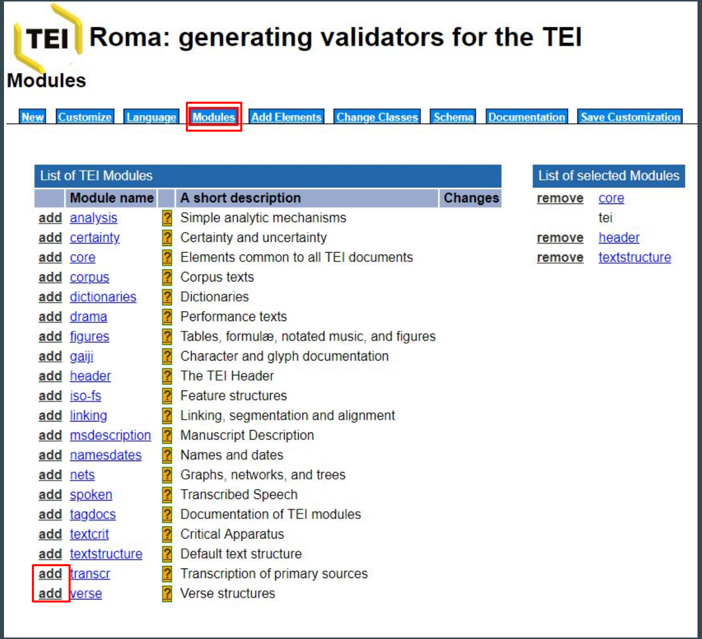
- At this point it contains:
  - The metadata we’ve entered
  - Four complete modules:
    - core
    - tei
    - header
    - textstructure
- The ODDs created are slightly different
  - RomaJS has license information
  - RomaJS removes the element <teiCorpus> from the module Core.



```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<TEI xmlns="http://www.tei-c.org/ns/1.0" xml:lang="en">
    <teiHeader>
        <fileDesc>
            <titleStmt>
                <title>TEI Workshop Example</title>
                <author>TSG</author>
            </titleStmt>
            <publicationStmt>
                <p>for use by whoever wants it</p>
            </publicationStmt>
            <notesStmt>
                <note type="ns">http://www.example.org/ns/nonTEI</note>
            </notesStmt>
            <sourceDesc>
                <p>created on Wednesday 27th March 2019 04:28:15 PM</p>
            </sourceDesc>
        </fileDesc>
    </teiHeader>
    <text>
        <front>
            <divGen type="toc"/>
        </front>
        <body>
            <p>This TEI ODD is a step by step example for a workshop.</p>
            <schemaSpec ident="tei_workshop_example" docLang="en" prefix="tei_w_e_" xml:lang="en">
                <moduleRef key="core" except=""/>
                <moduleRef key="tei" except=""/>
                <moduleRef key="header" except=""/>
                <moduleRef key="textstructure" except=""/>
            </schemaSpec>
        </body>
    </text>
</TEI>
```

Customizing — add whole modules — Roma

Let’s start by adding a couple of modules: verse and transcr



TEI Roma: generating validators for the TEI

Modules

List of TEI Modules

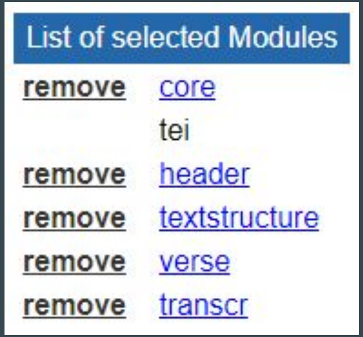
	Module name		A short description	Changes
add	analysis	?	Simple analytic mechanisms	
add	certainty	?	Certainty and uncertainty	
add	core	?	Elements common to all TEI documents	
add	corpus	?	Corpus texts	
add	dictionaries	?	Dictionaries	
add	drama	?	Performance texts	
add	figures	?	Tables, formulæ, notated music, and figures	
add	gaiji	?	Character and glyph documentation	
add	header	?	The TEI Header	
add	iso-fs	?	Feature structures	
add	linking	?	Linking, segmentation and alignment	
add	msdescription	?	Manuscript Description	
add	namesdates	?	Names and dates	
add	nets	?	Graphs, networks, and trees	
add	spoken	?	Transcribed Speech	
add	tagdocs	?	Documentation of TEI modules	
add	textcrit	?	Critical Apparatus	
add	textstructure	?	Default text structure	
add	transcr	?	Transcription of primary sources	
add	verse	?	Verse structures	

List of selected Modules

remove	core
	tei
remove	header
remove	textstructure

In Roma:

1. Go to ‘Modules’ tab
2. Click ‘add’ next to verse
3. Click ‘add’ next to transcr



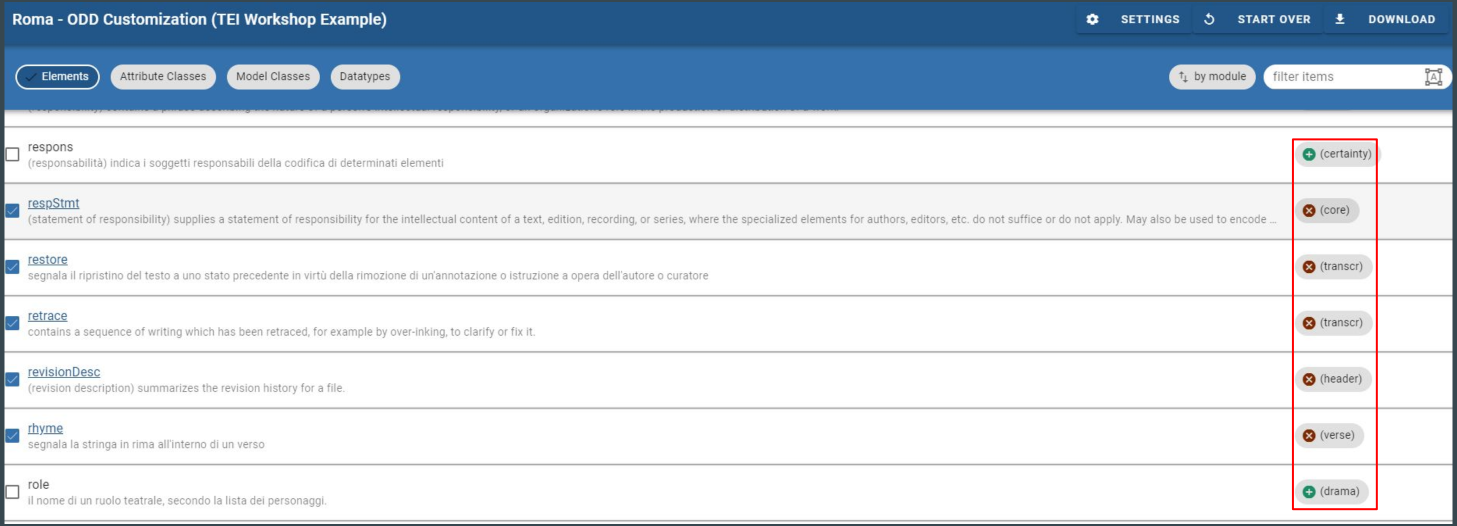
List of selected Modules

remove	core
	tei
remove	header
remove	textstructure
remove	verse
remove	transcr

Customizing — add whole modules — RomaJS

In RomaJS, because it is element oriented, the process is slightly more complicated:

1. Search for an element that belongs to the verse module, for example ‘rhyme’
2. Click the + button on the right hand-side
3. Do the same for ‘transcr’



Roma - ODD Customization (TEI Workshop Example)

□ respons
(responsabilità) indica i soggetti responsabili della codifica di determinati elementi
⊕ (certainty)

☑ respStmt
(statement of responsibility) supplies a statement of responsibility for the intellectual content of a text, edition, recording, or series, where the specialized elements for authors, editors, etc. do not suffice or do not apply. May also be used to encode ...
⊗ (core)

☑ restore
segnala il ripristino del testo a uno stato precedente in virtù della rimozione di un'annotazione o istruzione a opera dell'autore o curatore
⊗ (transcr)

☑ retrace
contains a sequence of writing which has been retraced, for example by over-inking, to clarify or fix it.
⊗ (transcr)

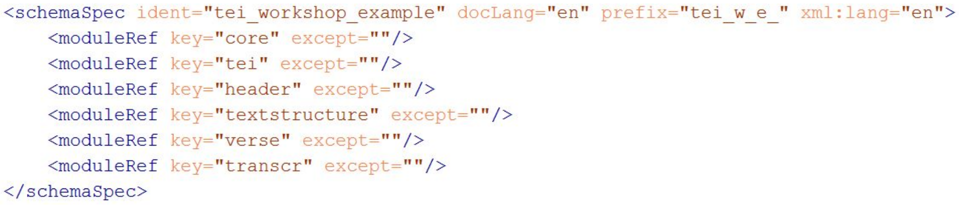
☑ revisionDesc
(revision description) summarizes the revision history for a file.
⊗ (header)

☑ rhyme
segnala la stringa in rima all'interno di un verso
⊗ (verse)

□ role
il nome di un ruolo teatrale, secondo la lista dei personaggi.
⊕ (drama)

State of the ODD

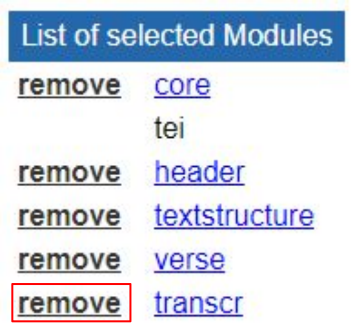
- Save and download both ODDs again!
- Open them again in Oxygen
- Let’s focus on the <schemaSpec>
- Notice there are two new <moduleRef> elements:
  - verse
  - transcr



```
<schemaSpec ident="tei_workshop_example" docLang="en" prefix="tei_w_e_" xml:lang="en">
    <moduleRef key="core" except=""/>
    <moduleRef key="tei" except=""/>
    <moduleRef key="header" except=""/>
    <moduleRef key="textstructure" except=""/>
    <moduleRef key="verse" except=""/>
    <moduleRef key="transcr" except=""/>
</schemaSpec>
```

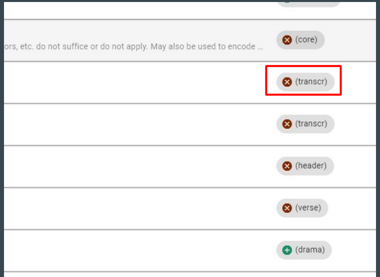
Customizing — removing whole modules

To remove a whole module, we simply reverse the process



List of selected Modules

remove	core
	tei
remove	header
remove	textstructure
remove	verse
remove	transcr



ors, etc. do not suffice or do not apply. May also be used to encode ...

In Roma:

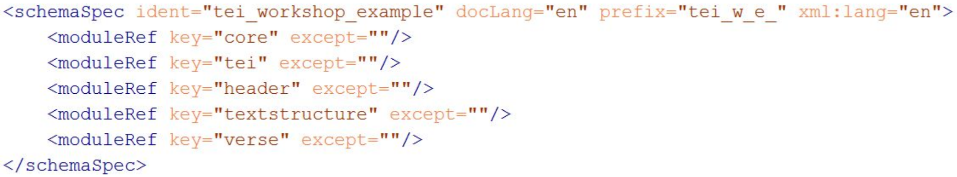
1. Go to ‘Modules’ tab
2. Click ‘remove’ next to transcr, on the right hand side

In RomaJS:

1. Find an element that belongs to transcr
2. Click the button on the right hand side

State of the ODD

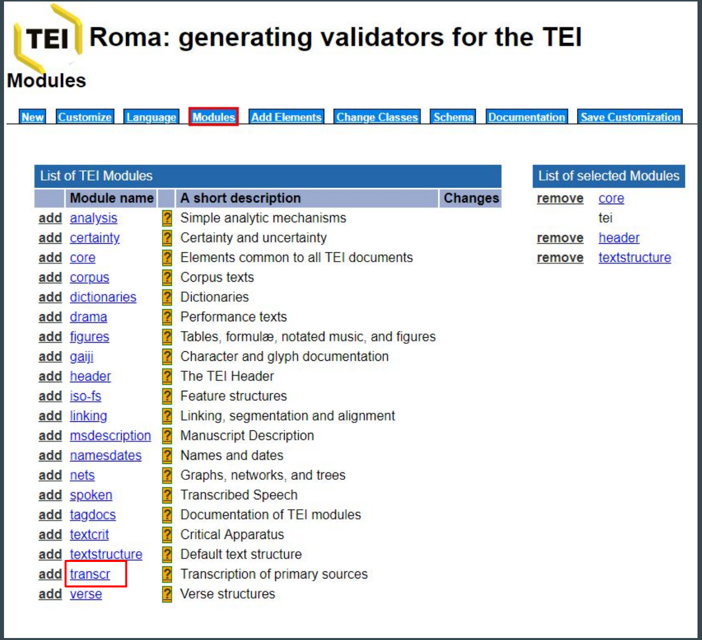
- Now the ODD simply has one less <moduleRef>



```
<schemaSpec ident="tei_workshop_example" docLang="en" prefix="tei_w_e_" xml:lang="en">
    <moduleRef key="core" except=""/>
    <moduleRef key="tei" except=""/>
    <moduleRef key="header" except=""/>
    <moduleRef key="textstructure" except=""/>
    <moduleRef key="verse" except=""/>
</schemaSpec>
```

Customizing — adding elements — Roma

We may have been a little rash in removing transcr — there is at least one element that we need, <subst>



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add	gaiji	?	Character and glyph documentation	
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add	transcr	?	Transcription of primary sources	
add	verse	?	Verse structures	

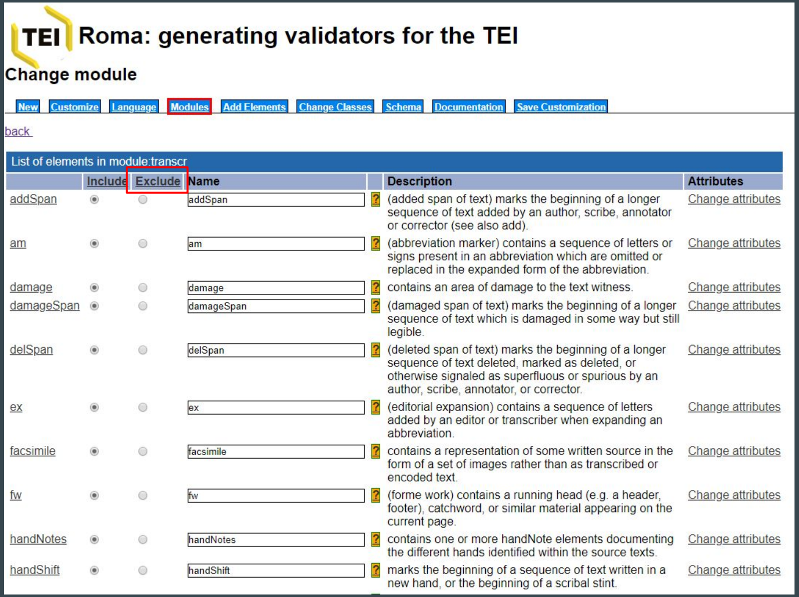
List of selected Modules

remove	core
	tei
remove	header
remove	textstructure

In Roma:

1. Go to ‘Modules’ tab
2. Click on the module name, transcr
3. You’ll see a list of all elements in transcr

Customizing — adding elements — Roma



Roma: generating validators for the TEI

Change module

List of elements in module:transcr

	Include	Exclude	Name		Description	Attributes
addSpan	●	○	addSpan	?	(added span of text) marks the beginning of a longer sequence of text added by an author, scribe, annotator or corrector (see also add).	Change attributes
am	●	○	am	?	(abbreviation marker) contains a sequence of letters or signs present in an abbreviation which are omitted or replaced in the expanded form of the abbreviation.	Change attributes
damage	●	○	damage	?	contains an area of damage to the text witness.	Change attributes
damageSpan	●	○	damageSpan	?	(damaged span of text) marks the beginning of a longer sequence of text which is damaged in some way but still legible.	Change attributes
delSpan	●	○	delSpan	?	(deleted span of text) marks the beginning of a longer sequence of text deleted, marked as deleted, or otherwise signaled as superfluous or spurious by an author, scribe, annotator, or corrector.	Change attributes
ex	●	○	ex	?	(editorial expansion) contains a sequence of letters added by an editor or transcriber when expanding an abbreviation.	Change attributes
facsimile	●	○	facsimile	?	contains a representation of some written source in the form of a set of images rather than as transcribed or encoded text.	Change attributes
fw	●	○	fw	?	(forme work) contains a running head (e.g. a header, footer), catchword, or similar material appearing on the current page.	Change attributes
handNotes	●	○	handNotes	?	contains one or more handNote elements documenting the different hands identified within the source texts.	Change attributes
handShift	●	○	handShift	?	marks the beginning of a sequence of text written in a new hand, or the beginning of a scribal stint.	Change attributes

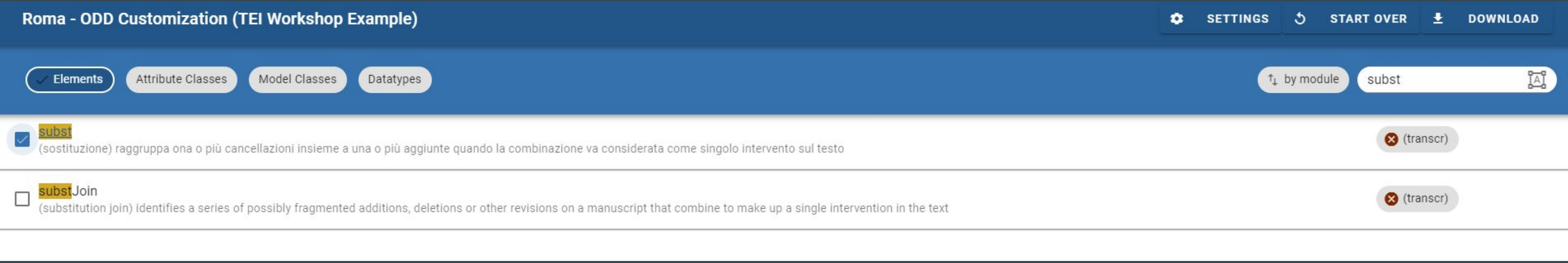
1. Click in ‘exclude’ in the header of the table
2. Manually find the ‘subst’ element
3. Change the radio button from ‘exclude’ to ‘include’
4. Click ‘Save’ at the bottom of the page

Customizing — adding elements — RomaJS

In RomaJS is much simpler to add individual elements:

In RomaJS:

1. Search for ‘subst’
2. Click on the checkbox next to the element name



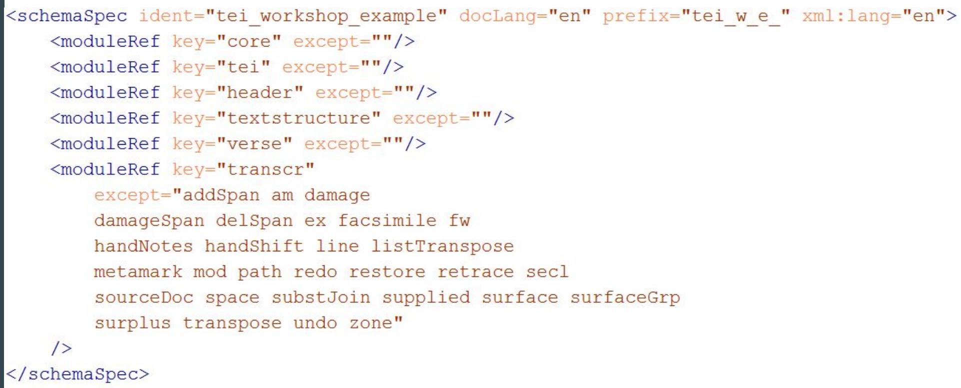
subst

☑ subst
(sostituzione) raggruppa ona o più cancellazioni insieme a una o più aggiunte quando la combinazione va considerata come singolo intervento sul testo
(transcr)

□ substJoin
(substitution join) identifies a series of possibly fragmented additions, deletions or other revisions on a manuscript that combine to make up a single intervention in the text
(transcr)

State of the ODD

- transcr has returned to our module!
- Except that in the Roma version, it has a whole series of element names excepted from it
  - Essentially, we are adding a whole module, except all the elements we don't want
  - In this case, the only element left in transcr is <subst>!
- What happens in the RomaJS version?



```
<schemaSpec ident="tei_workshop_example" docLang="en" prefix="tei_w_e_" xml:lang="en">
    <moduleRef key="core" except=""/>
    <moduleRef key="tei" except=""/>
    <moduleRef key="header" except=""/>
    <moduleRef key="textstructure" except=""/>
    <moduleRef key="verse" except=""/>
    <moduleRef key="transcr"
        except="addSpan am damage
        damageSpan delSpan ex facsimile fw
        handNotes handShift line listTranspose
        metamark mod path redo restore retrace secl
        sourceDoc space substJoin supplied surface surfaceGrp
        surplus transpose undo zone"
    />
</schemaSpec>
```

Customizing — removing elements

To remove an element, we simply reverse the process:

In Roma:

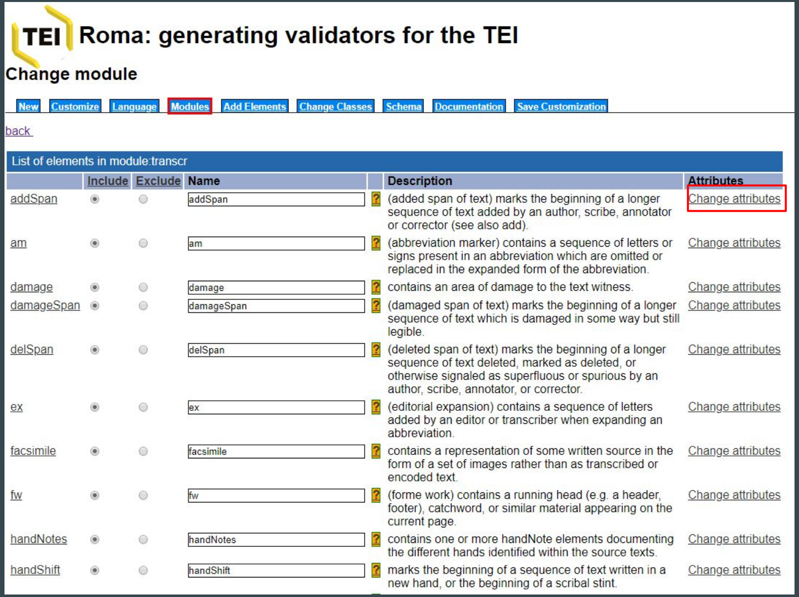
1. modules
2. select relevant module
3. find relevant element
4. change radio button to ‘exclude’
5. (or, if you only have one element from that module, simply remove the module as a whole)

In RomaJS

1. Search for the element
2. Untick the box

Customizing — changing attributes — Roma

We can also constrain elements to only accept certain values. Let’s say we want our <lg> to all have @types, and those types need to obey a certain typology



TEI Roma: generating validators for the TEI

Change module

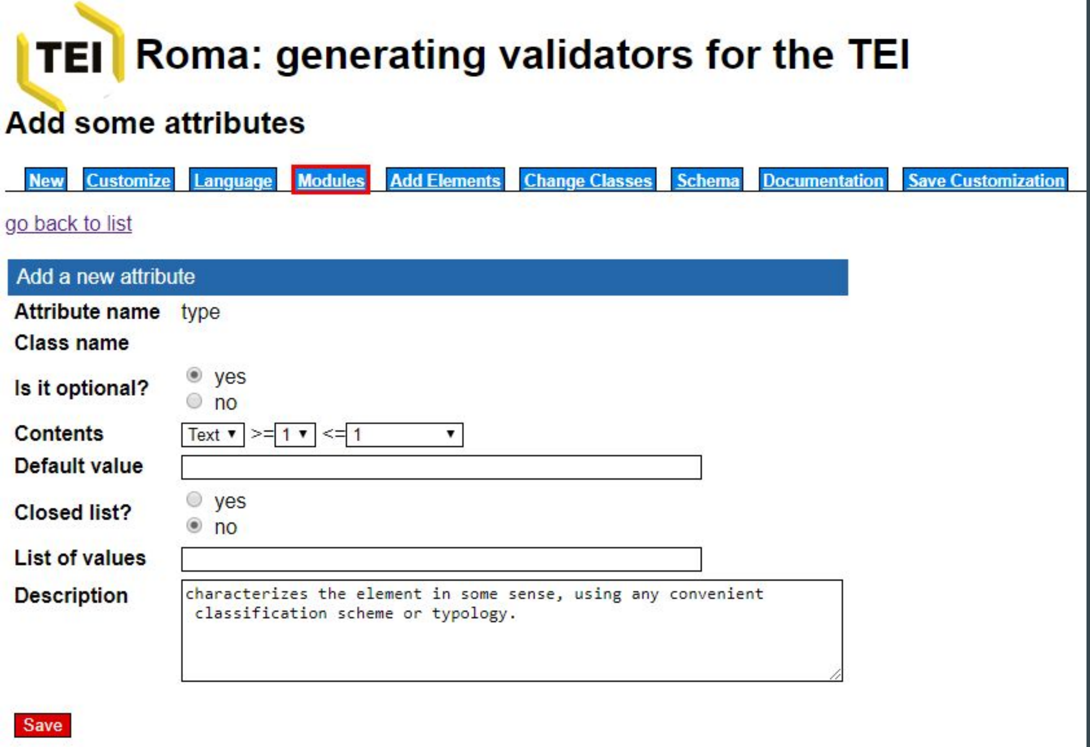
List of elements in module:transcr

	Include	Exclude	Name		Description	Attributes
addSpan	●	○	addSpan	?	(added span of text) marks the beginning of a longer sequence of text added by an author, scribe, annotator or corrector (see also add).	Change attributes
am	●	○	am	?	(abbreviation marker) contains a sequence of letters or signs present in an abbreviation which are omitted or replaced in the expanded form of the abbreviation.	Change attributes
damage	●	○	damage	?	contains an area of damage to the text witness.	Change attributes
damageSpan	●	○	damageSpan	?	(damaged span of text) marks the beginning of a longer sequence of text which is damaged in some way but still legible.	Change attributes
delSpan	●	○	delSpan	?	(deleted span of text) marks the beginning of a longer sequence of text deleted, marked as deleted, or otherwise signaled as superfluous or spurious by an author, scribe, annotator, or corrector.	Change attributes
ex	●	○	ex	?	(editorial expansion) contains a sequence of letters added by an editor or transcriber when expanding an abbreviation.	Change attributes
facsimile	●	○	facsimile	?	contains a representation of some written source in the form of a set of images rather than as transcribed or encoded text.	Change attributes
fw	●	○	fw	?	(forme work) contains a running head (e.g. a header, footer), catchword, or similar material appearing on the current page.	Change attributes
handNotes	●	○	handNotes	?	contains one or more handNote elements documenting the different hands identified within the source texts.	Change attributes
handShift	●	○	handShift	?	marks the beginning of a sequence of text written in a new hand, or the beginning of a scribal stint.	Change attributes

In Roma:

1. Repeat the steps to reach the desired element
2. (modules —> core —> lg)
3. On the right hand side, click on ‘change attributes’
4. Find the @type attribute
5. Click on the @type attribute

Customizing — changing attributes — Roma



Roma: generating validators for the TEI

Add some attributes

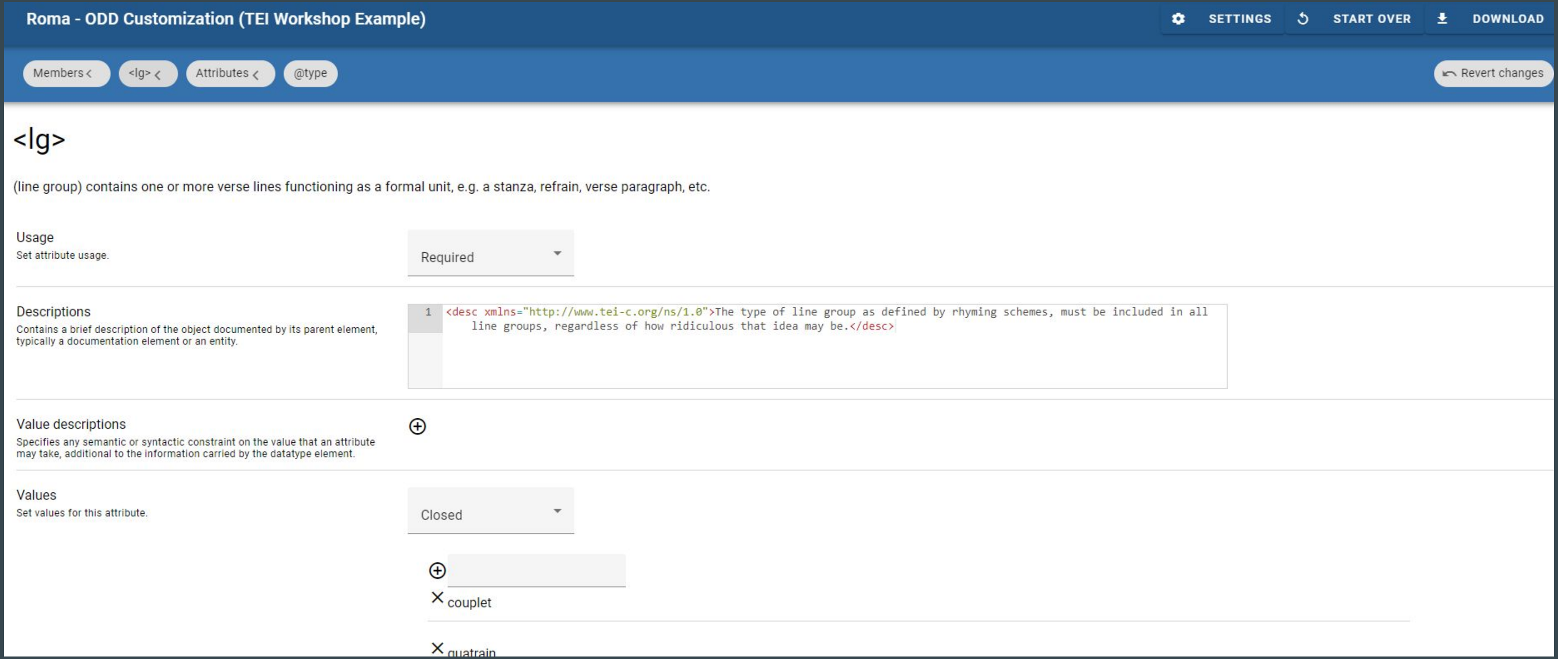
Add a new attribute

Attribute name	type
Class name	
Is it optional?	● yes ○ no
Contents	Text >= 1 <= 1
Default value	
Closed list?	○ yes ● no
List of values	
Description	characterizes the element in some sense, using any convenient classification scheme or typology.

- Is it optional?
  - ‘No’
- Contents
  - text, and can only be of one type, so we’ll leave it as it is
- Default value
  - quatrain, for some reason
- Closed list?
  - Yes, meaning we’ll have to choose from a list of accepted values
- List of values
  - The values accepted by the attribute: couplet,quatrain,tercet,sestet
- Description
  - A descriptive text that describes the type of phenomena recorded by the attribute
- Save

Customizing — adding elements — RomaJS

In RomaJS the process is similar:



<lg>

(line group) contains one or more verse lines functioning as a formal unit, e.g. a stanza, refrain, verse paragraph, etc.

Usage
Set attribute usage.

Required

Descriptions
Contains a brief description of the object documented by its parent element, typically a documentation element or an entity.

```
<desc xmlns="http://www.tei-c.org/ns/1.0">The type of line group as defined by rhyming schemes, must be included in all
    line groups, regardless of how ridiculous that idea may be.</desc>
```

Value descriptions
Specifies any semantic or syntactic constraint on the value that an attribute may take, additional to the information carried by the datatype element.

Values
Set values for this attribute.

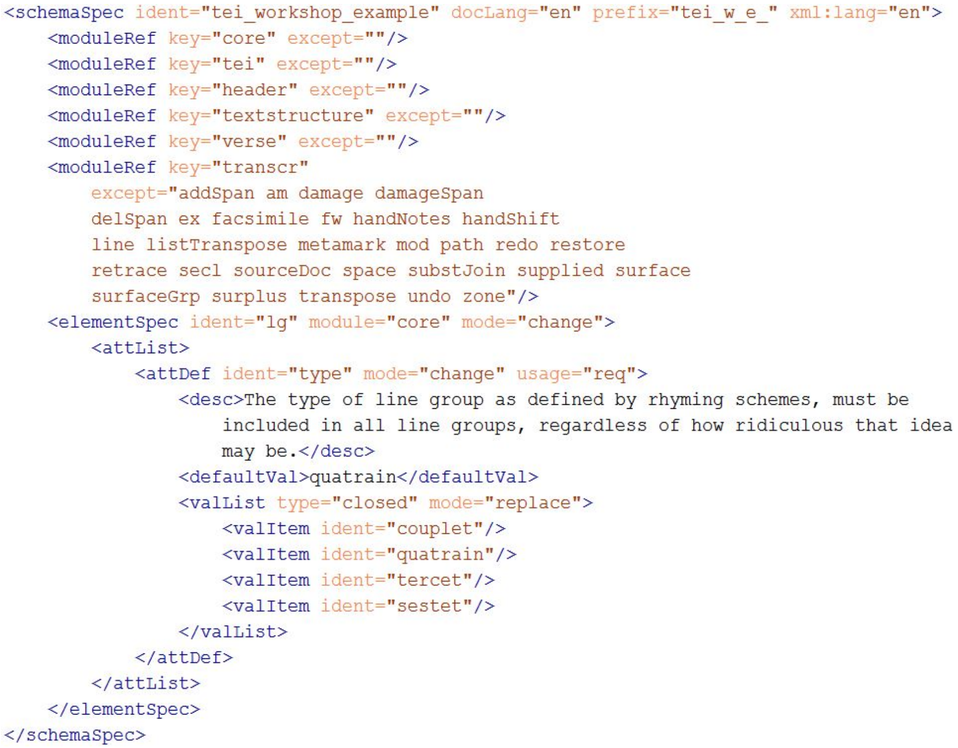
Closed

couplet

quatrain

State of the ODD

- We now have a few more elements:
  - <elementSpec> —> defines new or changed elements
  - <attList> —> groups new and changed attributes
  - <attDef> —> defines new and changed attributes
  - <desc> —> description
  - <defaultVal> —> sets the default value for the attribute
  - <valList> and <valItem> —> define a list of mandatory (or suggested) values



```
<schemaSpec ident="tei_workshop_example" docLang="en" prefix="tei_w_e_" xml:lang="en">
    <moduleRef key="core" except=""/>
    <moduleRef key="tei" except=""/>
    <moduleRef key="header" except=""/>
    <moduleRef key="textstructure" except=""/>
    <moduleRef key="verse" except=""/>
    <moduleRef key="transcr"
        except="addSpan am damage damageSpan
        delSpan ex facsimile fw handNotes handShift
        line listTranspose metamark mod path redo restore
        retrace secl sourceDoc space substJoin supplied surface
        surfaceGrp surplus transpose undo zone"/>
    <elementSpec ident="lg" module="core" mode="change">
        <attList>
            <attDef ident="type" mode="change" usage="req">
                <desc>The type of line group as defined by rhyming schemes, must be
                    included in all line groups, regardless of how ridiculous that idea
                    may be.</desc>
                <defaultVal>quatrain</defaultVal>
                <valList type="closed" mode="replace">
                    <valItem ident="couplet"/>
                    <valItem ident="quatrain"/>
                    <valItem ident="tercet"/>
                    <valItem ident="sestet"/>
                </valList>
            </attDef>
        </attList>
    </elementSpec>
</schemaSpec>
```

Customizing — what now?

So now that we’ve done customizing, what do we do?

- Download the schema in a language that can be understood by your editor (usually Relax NG)
  - Roma:
    - Schema/RelaxNG/Generate
  - RomaJS:
    - Download/RelaxNG Schema

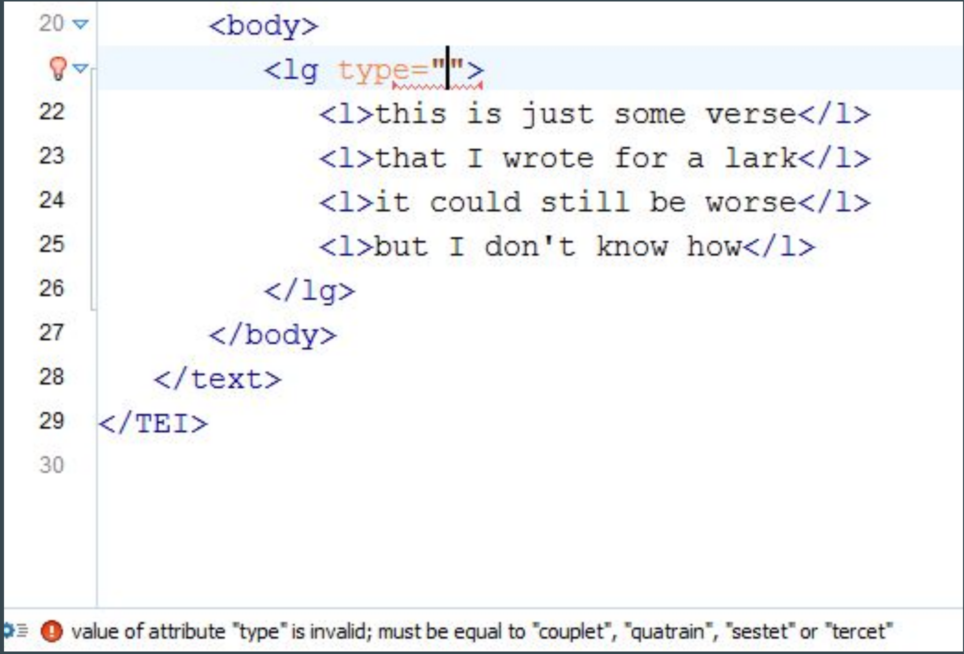
Customizing — what now?

Associate the schema with your TEI document:

1. Create two new TEI files
2. Go to 'Document/Schema/Associate Schema...'
3. Select one of the files (.rnc) you just downloaded
    a. You can try the other .rnc file with the other TEI file
    b. Make sure to uncheck the box 'Keep existing schema associations'
4. Click 'Ok'.
    a. Notice that the declaration at the top of the document changed
5. Create a few <l> elements and group them in <lg> — what happens?
6. Add a @type to <lg> — what happens?
7. Try using other elements like <sp> or <rhyme> — what happens?

Customizing — what now?

- Enjoy your new schema!
- You can also download documentation
  in a variety of formats
- And you should definitely save the ODD so that you can revisit your customization in the future!



```
      <body>
         <lg type="">
            <l>this is just some verse</l>
            <l>that I wrote for a lark</l>
            <l>it could still be worse</l>
            <l>but I don't know how</l>
         </lg>
      </body>
   </text>
</TEI>
```

value of attribute "type" is invalid; must be equal to "couplet", "quatrain", "sestet" or "tercet"

Why customize the TEI?

- Enforce consistency between one or more encoders
- Increase speed by providing a set value lists and project specific descriptions
- Generate project specific documentation
- Record relationship with the TEI in a machine-processable form
- Create a local encoding manual with embedded schema specifications (ODD)
- Provide long-term archival documentation for the project

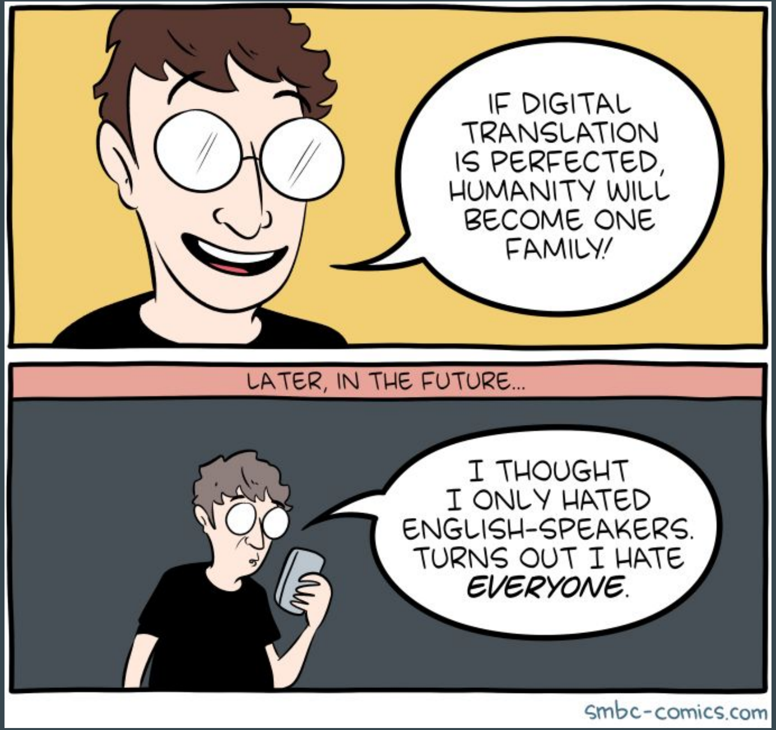
Why customize the TEI? Do you have to?

- Not strictly a requirement, but encouraged
- Customizations help remove human error
- Existing customizations are not tailor made to your project
- Customising TEI projects ensures long-term documentation for the project

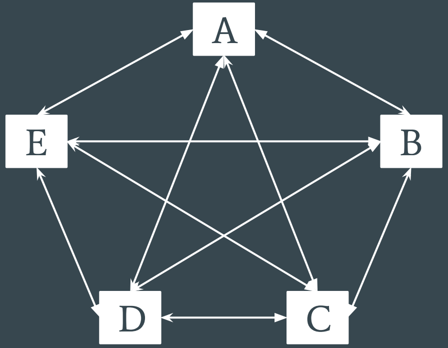
The TEI approach is not to tell you what to do — instead, do what you need, but tell us what you did

Why customize the TEI? Interoperability

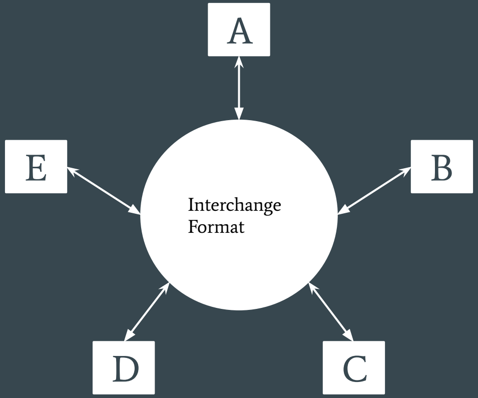
- If you simply constrain the TEI to be:
  - smaller
  - more precise
  - have specific attributes
  - have specific examples
  - localised documentation
- Then interoperability is less of a problem
- But there are still issues:
  - different practices in various communities
  - different element choices
  - variation in attribute values


IF DIGITAL TRANSLATION IS PERFECTED, HUMANITY WILL BECOME ONE FAMILY!
LATER, IN THE FUTURE...
I THOUGHT I ONLY HATED ENGLISH-SPEAKERS. TURNS OUT I HATE EVERYONE.
smbc-comics.com

Why customize the TEI? Interoperability



20 translations (n^2-n)



10 translations (2n)

- The ability to interchange documents improves dramatically with a common interchange format
- Customisation can implement the changes in a machine-processable format so that comparison can be automated

Why customize the TEI? Interoperability

- Interoperability necessitates mediators between resources
- Seamless interoperability can only happen when:
    - The initial data structures are so simple that become trivial
    - The method of interoperability is so superficial that it is ineffectual
    - There has been a significant loss of intellectual content

I want to know more!

- Chapter 23 of the TEI guidelines
- TEI by Example — Customising TEI
- Have a look at other TEI customizations — dig into the ODDs!

Let’s practice!