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► To cite this version:

Michael Beisswenger, Harald Lungen, Laura Herzberg, Ciara R. Wigham. CMC-core: A basic schema for encoding corpora of computer-mediated communication in TEI. 7th Conference of Computer-Mediated Communication and Social Media Corpora, Sep 2019, Cergy, France. halshs-02305756

HAL Id: halshs-02305756

<https://shs.hal.science/halshs-02305756v1>

Submitted on 4 Oct 2019

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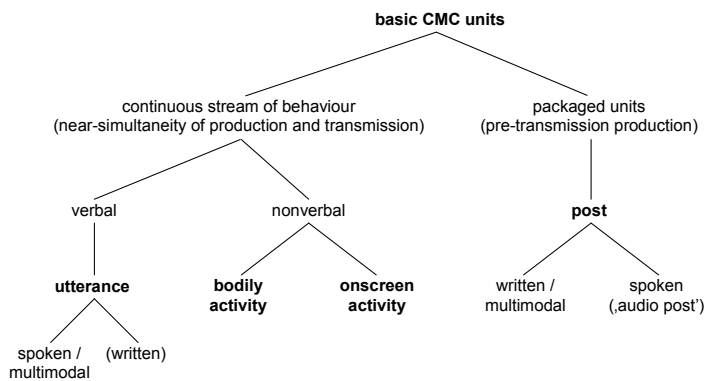
CMC-core: A basic schema for encoding corpora of computer-mediated communication in TEI

Motivation

A standard for the TEI representation of CMC corpora is needed for three purposes:

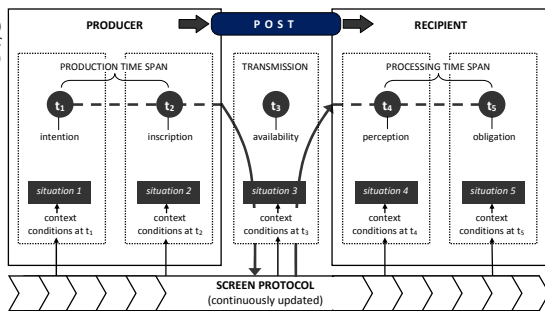
- o as a prerequisite for the exchange, interconnection, and combined analysis of CMC corpora of different origins, different languages, and different genres – i.e. for the interoperability and sustainability of CMC corpora,
- o to facilitate the merging and combined analysis of CMC corpora with corpora of other types, namely text corpora and spoken language corpora,
- o for the integration and exploitation of CMC corpora in existing language resource infrastructures and with established tools.

Basic units of CMC discourse



CMC unit	type of data	TEI-P5 model
utterance (spoken / multimodal)	transcription of speech	<u> (utterance)
bodily activity	textual description	<kinesic>
onscreen activity	transcription or textual description	<incident>
post	a stretch of text submitted to the server at once (function: perform next move in a sequential interaction)	?

Temporal (and resulting pragmatic) peculiarities of post-based CMC (instantiation: chat)



The TEI special interest group Computer-Mediated Communication

Goal (2013)

- o provide encoding schemas for representing CMC corpora, compatible with the TEI framework (as 'TEI customizations')



Goal (2017)

- o develop the schemas further and transform them into a *TEI Feature Request*, making an official proposal for an extension of the TEI standard with specific models for CMC

Results (until 2019)

- o Three schemas (TEI customizations), used for encoding CMC corpora for a range of projects and genres
 - *DeRik schema*: Beißwenger et al. 2012
 - *CoMeRe schema*: Chanier et al. 2014
 - *CLARIN-D schema*: Lungen et al. 2016
- o Assessment of encoding experiences at TEI, DARIAH and CLARIN events, as part of the German DFG network Empirikom and the French CoMeRe network, at the CMC-CORPORA conferences and at a workshop on standards for CMC corpora.
- o The *CMC-core schema* unifying models of all three previous schemas applying a "reduce to the max" maxim (2018/19) ⇒ Basis for a Feature Request to the TEI Council to implement these models as part of the official standard in late 2019.

CMC-core in a nutshell

CMC-core is encoded as an ODD that extends the official TEI by introducing four types of specifications

- (1) The new module *cmc*: groups the new CMC-specific features so that they can be selected or deselected for a schema at once.
- (2) The new model class *model.divPart.cmc*: contains <post> and makes it available on the divPart level, i.e. allows for combining <post>, <u>, <kinesic>, <incident> on the same level (Listing 4).
- (3) The new element <post> along with the three new, <post>-specific attributes @mode, @replyTo, and @indentLevel (Listings 1,2).
- (4) The new attribute class *att.global.cmc* containing the new, global attribute @creation for encoding how the text content was created in the CMC environment. Possible values: "human", "template", "system", "bot", "unspecified".

References

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- Chanier, Thierry, Céline Poudat, Benoit Sagot, Georges Antoniadis, Ciara Wigham, Linda Hriba, Julien Longhi & Djamel Seddah (2014): The CoMeRe corpus for French: structuring and annotating heterogeneous CMC genres. Journal of Language Technology and Computational Linguistics 29 (2), 1–30. http://www.jlcl.org/2014_Heft2/1Chanier-et-al.pdf (30.08.2019).
- Lungen, Harald, Michael Beißwenger, Axel Herold & Angelika Storrer (2016): Integrating corpora of computer-mediated communication in CLARIN-D: Results from the curation project ChatCorpus2CLARIN. In Stefanie Dipper, Friedrich Neubarth & Heike Zinsmeister (Eds.), Proceedings of the 13th Conference on Natural Language Processing (KONVENS 2016), 1561–64.

Encoding examples

```
<div type="thread">
<head>Naturally occurring?</head>
<post mode="written" xml:id="p4" indentLevel="0" who="#u005"
synch="#u005">
<p>I'm not sure that this is a proper criterion, or even what this means.
What if we set an explosion that breaks a comet into two pieces? What if
we build a moon? Cheers, <signed creation="template"><ref
target="/wiki/User:Greenodd">Greenodd</ref> <ref
target="/wiki/User:talk.Greenodd">talk</ref> <time>01.00, 21
July 2011 (UTC)</time></signed>
</p>
</post>
<post mode="written" xml:id="p5" indentLevel="1" replyTo="#p4"
who="#u006" synch="#u006">
<p>Those haven't happened. If they do, we can revisit the concern. <signed
creation="template"><ref target="/wiki/User:Praemonitus">
Praemonitus</ref> <ref target="/wiki/User:talk.Praemonitus">
talk</ref> <time>01.15, 1 April 2015 (UTC)</time></signed>
</p>
</div>
```

Listing 1: Discussion thread on a Wikipedia talk page

```
<post mode="spoken" creation="human" synch="#u003" who="#A05"
xml:id="m7"> Sagt Anne auch gerade. JA! Kann ich zustimmen. </post>
<post mode="written" creation="human" synch="#u003" who="#A02"
xml:id="m8"> Da kostet ein Haarschnitt 50 € <figure type="emoji"
creation="template">
<desc type="meaning">face screaming in fear</desc>
<desc type="unicode">U+1F631</desc>
</figure>
</post>
```

Listing 2: Written and spoken post in WhatsApp chat interaction, from MoCoDa2 (2018)

```
<post xml:id="p5" type="comment" who="#u4" synch="#u005" replyTo="#p4">
<p>Wenn Sie diesen Gruppen also "mangelnde Bildung" attestieren wollen,
so verwenden Sie bereits einen bestimmten, kulturgebundenen Bildungshe
griff.</p>
<p>Ich hoffe doch, wir können beim Bildungsbegriff der Aufklärung
bleiben. Wer das nicht möchte, hat die Wissenschaft
verlassen.</p>
</post>
```

Listing 3: Blog comment replying to a previous comment, from the Scilogs corpus (Grunt Suárez et al. 2016).

```
<text>
<body>
<u xml:id="cmr-archi21-siref-es-j3-1-a191" who="#tingrabu"
start="cmr-archi21-siref-es-j3-1-ts373"
end="cmr-archi21-siref-es-j3-1-ts430">ok hm for me this
presentation was hm <pause dur="PT1S"/> become too fast because
it's always the same in our architecture school eh we have not
time and hm <pause dur="PT1S"/> too quickly sorry [...]
</u>
<kinesic xml:id="cmr-archi21-siref-es-j3-1-a192" who="#fromeoz"
start="cmr-archi21-siref-es-j3-1-ts376"
end="cmr-archi21-siref-es-j3-1-ts377" type="body"
subtype="kinesics">
<desc>
<code>eat<popcorn></code>
</desc>
</kinesic> [...]
</post mode="written" creation="human"
xml:id="cmr-archi21-siref-es-j3-1-a195" who="#tfrez2"
start="cmr-archi21-siref-es-j3-1-ts380"
end="cmr-archi21-siref-es-j3-1-ts381" type="chat-message">
<p>it went too quickly?</p>
</post> [...]
```

Listing 4: Second Life multimodal chat example, adapted to CMC-core, from Chanier & Wigham (2015).