Modeling Transcription

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• The Traditional Approach ( ... And its Problems...)  
• Transcription Model Based on a Generic Model of Text  
• Transcription as Reading and Reproduction of Text  
• Transcription as a Protocol of Reading Steps  
• Objectivity and subjectivity  
• What is it Good for?  
• Further Challenges
The Traditional Approach

- „textual inscription“, „total linear order“, „tokens“, „an A is an A is an A“
- textual identity is mainly based on the linguistic code

The Traditional Approach and its Problems

- theory:
  - sometimes a U is a V (for some), an ß might be an ß or an s ...
  - what is a token and what not?
  - No way to draw a „clear“ border between essential and arbitrary features / elements of text (all feature sets are relative to history and technology)

- practice: a linguistic code or a narrowly restricted set of textual features doesn’t match the expectations and needs of many users
Text as Reproduction of Textual Objects

- text as idea, intention, meaning, semantics, sense, content
- text as a visual object, as a complex sign
- text as document: physical, material, individual
- text as a version of ..., as a set of graphs, graphemes, glyphs, characters, etc. (... having modes ...)
- text as a work, as rhetoric structure
- text as linguistic code, as series of words, as speech
Transcription as Result of Reading
Transcription as Reproduction
Transcription as Production
Transcription as Transmedialization
This text is about transcription. It might be read and wrote down as a transcription.
Transcription as Result of Reading
Transcription as Reproduction

- facsimile
- mise en page
- graphemes
- text structure
- letters
Transcription as Production

- Image processing
- Description
- Annotation
- Text structure according to a genre model
- Emendation
- Modern punctuation
Transcription as Production

reproductive

productive
Transcription as Production

reproductive

productive
Transcription as a Protocol of Mapping and Interpretation Processes
Transcription as a Protocol of Mapping and Interpretation Processes
Transcription as Transmedialization
Objectivity and Subjectivity in Transcription

Every act of transcription is interpretative and thus subjective as it is determined by the choice of a target system / model.

Processes within a mapping system are subjective in different ways. Some of them may even be called „objective“.
What is it Good for?

- media history
- teaching (textuality, transcription, scholarly editing)
- cartography / visualization / understanding
- notions of transcription / literature
- relation to other models
- description of standards
- software development
What is it Good for?

FRBR

work

item

expression

manifestation

TEXTv

TEXTw

TEXTd

TEXTl
What is it Good for?
Further challenges

testing (transcriptions, editions)
more detailed modeling and description
text ontologies
which steps to represent explicitly
concurrent interpretations
borderline of representation vs. „talking about ...“
relationships between documents and texts
text and their contexts
Modeling Transcription