



# Lessons from Monasterium.net

More Efficient Cooperation between  
Science and Cultural Heritage  
Institutions through Online  
Collaboration



# Monasterium.net

- since 2001
- 210.000 charters by aggregation / syndication from
  - 99 Archive in 12 countries
- largest online charter archives
  - less philologic than ChBMA, ARTEM, DEEDS
  - less systematic than CDLM, ARTEM
  - less deep description than ASChart, DiplNorv







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## Results, Page 1

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[Wien, Deutschordenszentralarchiv \(DOZA\) - Urkunden \(1122-1948\) \(fond\)](#)

**Signature:** [3](#)

**Date:** 1174 Juli 15

... , Sohnes weiland Alberts 1174 Juli 15 Deutschordenszentralarchiv, Wien Altbestand Pettenegg  
2 Or. Perg., **Notariatsinstrument**. Zeugen: Johann, Priester, Sohn Alberts, Altmann, Vater und  
Sohn, Lazarus und Riprand Söhne Zanno ...

Images: 2

Full text: no

[View Charter](#)

[Add bookmark](#)

[Edit charter](#)

[P >>](#)

[Haus-, Hof- und Staatsarchiv - Salzburg, Erzstift \(798-1806\) \(fond\)](#)

**Signature:** [AUR 1221 IX 12](#)

**Date:** 12. September 1221

... doch nicht kalzinierte Pergament beibrachte, angehören. Über die Form dieses Stückes, das  
zwar kein **Notariatsinstrument**, doch ganz in italienischer Weise ab-gefaßt ist, vgl. 0. Redlich in  
Carinthia I 103. Jahrgg. S. ...

Images: 2

Full text: yes

[View Charter](#)

[Add bookmark](#)

[Edit charter](#)

[.de](#)

[Lilienfeld, Stiftsarchiv - Lilienfeld, Zisterzienser \(1111-1892\) \(fond\)](#)

**Signature:** [1227 VIII](#)

- Schlierbach, St. [Culture Programme](#)

Images: 3

Full text: no

n

H

I

F

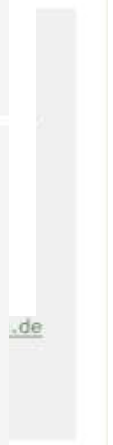
I

r

C

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I



[ontatto](#)

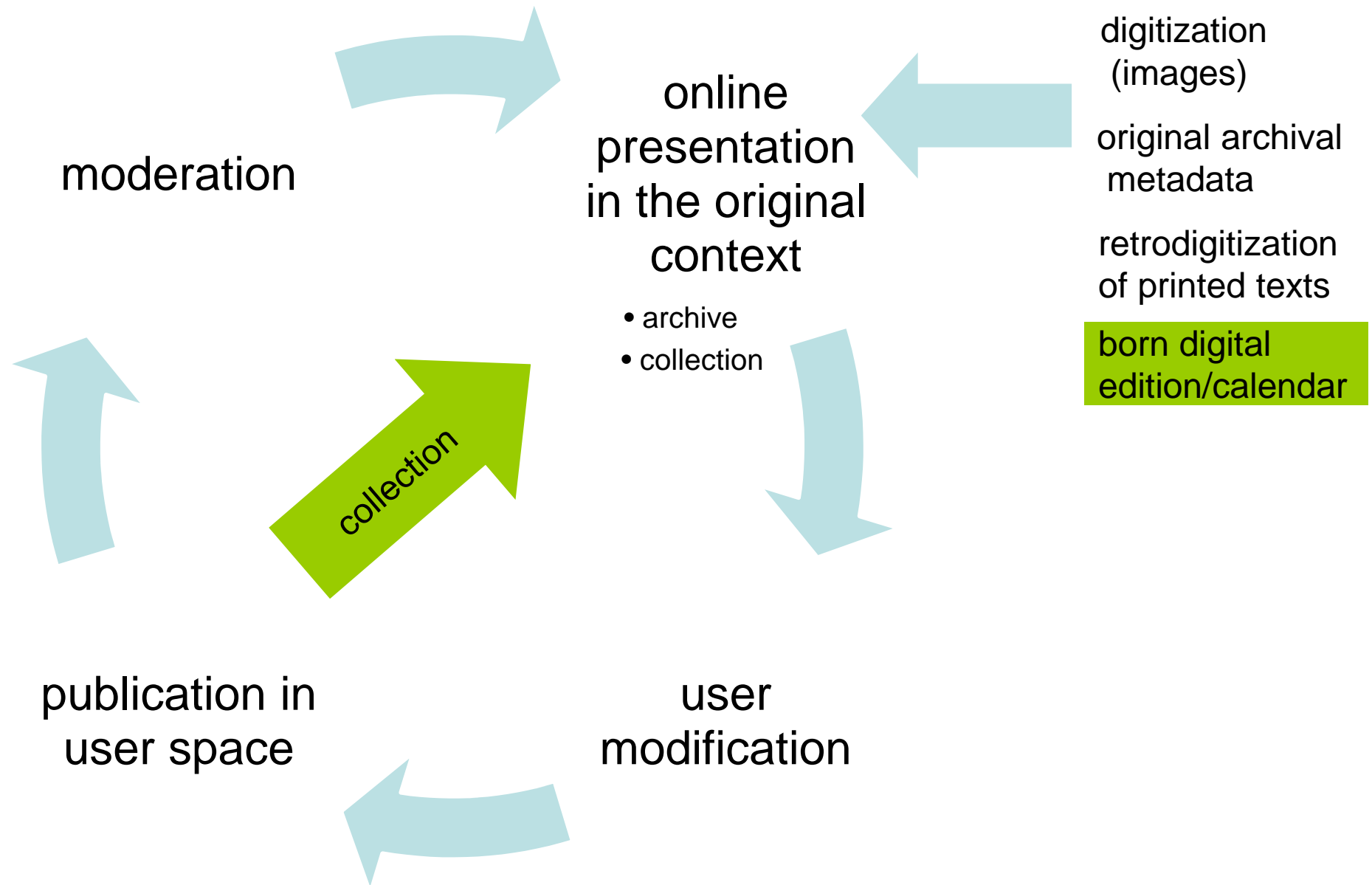
# Worth the effort?

- cross archival research
- small projects integrated in larger scale
- reconstruction of archives

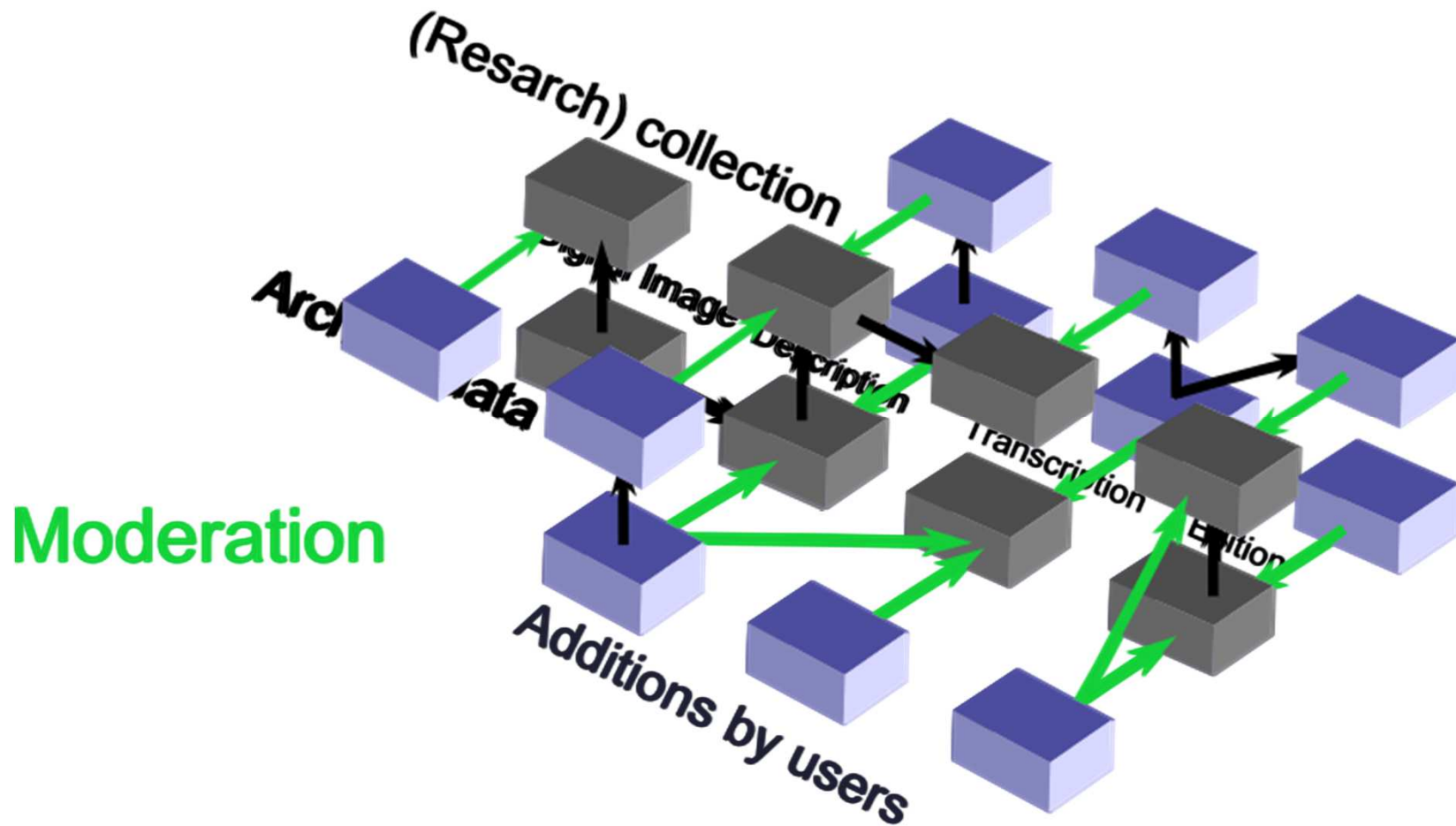
# Collaborative Credo

- Data from the archives can be improved by users and existing scholarly work.
- Existing scholarly work can be reconnected to the data from archives, in particular the images.

# Monasterium Collaborative Archives (MOM-CA)



# Multidimensional Knowledge Space (tribute to Gunter Vasold)





# Virtuelle Deutsches Urkundennetzwerk (VdU)

- HKI Cologne (development)
- several German archives (data)
- University of Munich, Mainz and Dresden (historical research projects)



# From Repository to VRE

Adding research tools to the data representation:

## 1. online editor

- established domainspecific description
- With hidden XML

## 2. image manipulation

- annotation
- local repository

# Online Editor (Daniel Ebner)



Zoom image:

Regest Volltext sources copies commentary Anhang

Signatur:

1112 VIII 18

Regest:

recipient

issuer persname Bischof Ulrich von Passau persname issuer überträgt sein Kloster St. Georgen mit allem Zubehör und allen Rechten der Kirche zu placename Passau placename, gibt dazu den genannten Eigenbesitz sowie durch seinen Vogt Udalrich bischöfliche, aber nicht zur foreign mensa episcopalis foreign zählende, sondern aus anderem Besitz erworbene Güter, ferner die Pfarren He Traisenburg sowie Zehente zur gemeinsamen Nutzung durch den Konvent und verbietet jeglich

delete

lang

lat

# Image manipulation (André Streicher): annotation

Signatur: 1329 XII 12

Archivbestände > AT-DASP > Urkunden > 1329 XII 12

[Abbildungen in Viewer öffnen >](#)

The image shows a digital viewer interface for a document. The main view displays a page with a red background and a large, ornate signature in the center. The signature is labeled "Notarssignet". The interface includes a top bar with "Bilder:" and "Editmode" buttons. A smaller, zoomed-in view of the signature is shown in the foreground, with a red circle highlighting a small icon (a green square, a white square, and a red 'X') in the top right corner. Below this zoomed view is a white button labeled "Abbrechen". At the bottom of the interface, there are several buttons: "Close Annotation Tools" (with a magnifying glass icon), "Viewmode", "Create Annotation", and "Extra MeinArchiv".

# Image manipulation: local repository

Signatur: 1329 XII 12

[Archivbestände](#) > [AT-DASP](#) > [Urkunden](#) > [1329 XII 12](#)

[Abbildungen in Viewer öffnen](#) >

Bilder: Editmode 1 2

Close Annotation Tools Viewmode Create Annotation Extract Image Section

Image	Annotation	Author	
	Notarszeichen	Fridericus Wolvelini	Speichern

Create new data record  Use old data record

# Image manipulation: local repository

Über mich  
[MeinKonto](#)

Dokumentation  
[EditMOM](#)

Urkunden  
[In Arbeit](#)  
[Freigegebene](#)  
[Annotationen](#)  
[Annotation Requests](#)  
[Ihre Lesezeichen](#)  
[Meine Sammlungen](#)

Applikationen

Annotationen

List Annotations Writing analysis

Annotationen: g

1074-07-27  
Delete

1071-06-25  
Delete

1070-00-00  
Delete

1082-00-00  
Delete

Annotationen

List Annotations Writing analysis

1070-00-00 g

1074-07-27 g

Comparison view showing two annotations side-by-side. The left annotation is dated 1070-00-00 and shows the letters 'ge'. The right annotation is dated 1074-07-27 and shows the letter 'g'. Navigation arrows and zoom controls are visible.



## Annotation Requests

Open requests

Publish annotations

Open requests:

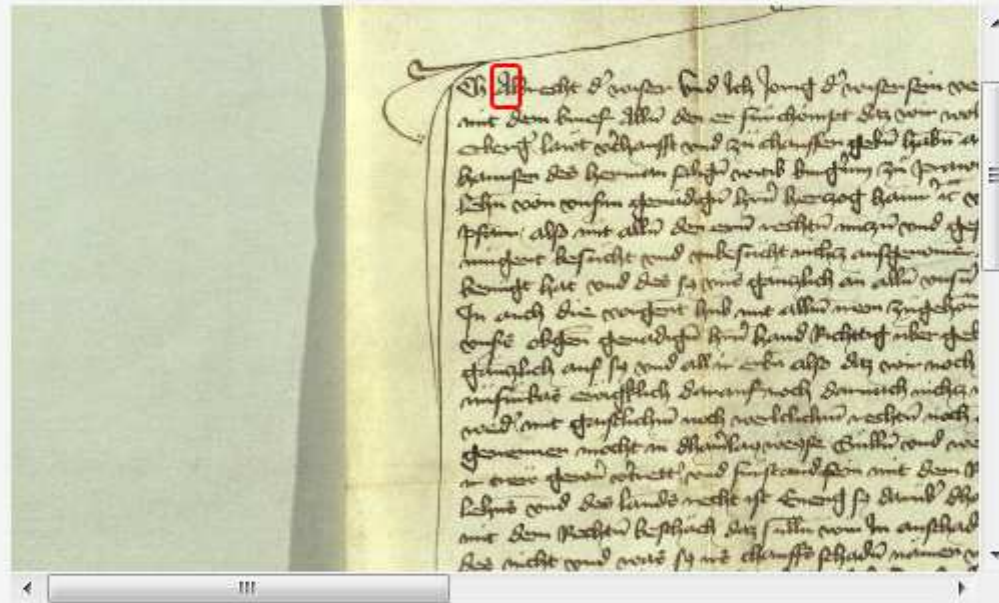
User:user Waiting since: 4 days

User:user Waiting since: 4 days

Archive: [DE-ABP](#)

Fond: [Urkunden](#)

Charter: [1421\\_IV\\_28](#)



Response comment:

Accept

Decline

**Aktuelle Version:** Papst Sixtus IV. eximiert c

Pater Logged in as: [The Moderator](#)

Meine

Pater

[Actions](#) [Search](#) [Help](#) [MyArchive](#)

### Charters to publish

1

Lilienfeld, Stiftsarchiv, Lilienfeld, 7

**Charter:** 1473 IX 16

**Date:** 1473 September 16

**Abstract:** Papst Sixtus IV. eximiert

Klosters Heiligenkreuz und unterst

Edited by: The User

# further tools

as future developments or interfaces to external services:

3.database of persons and places

4.connection to LOD-ressources

5.research-result analysis tools (map plotting, temporal distributions)

Via XML-export:

6.text analysis tools

# Realized in an XRX-Environment (Jochen Graf)

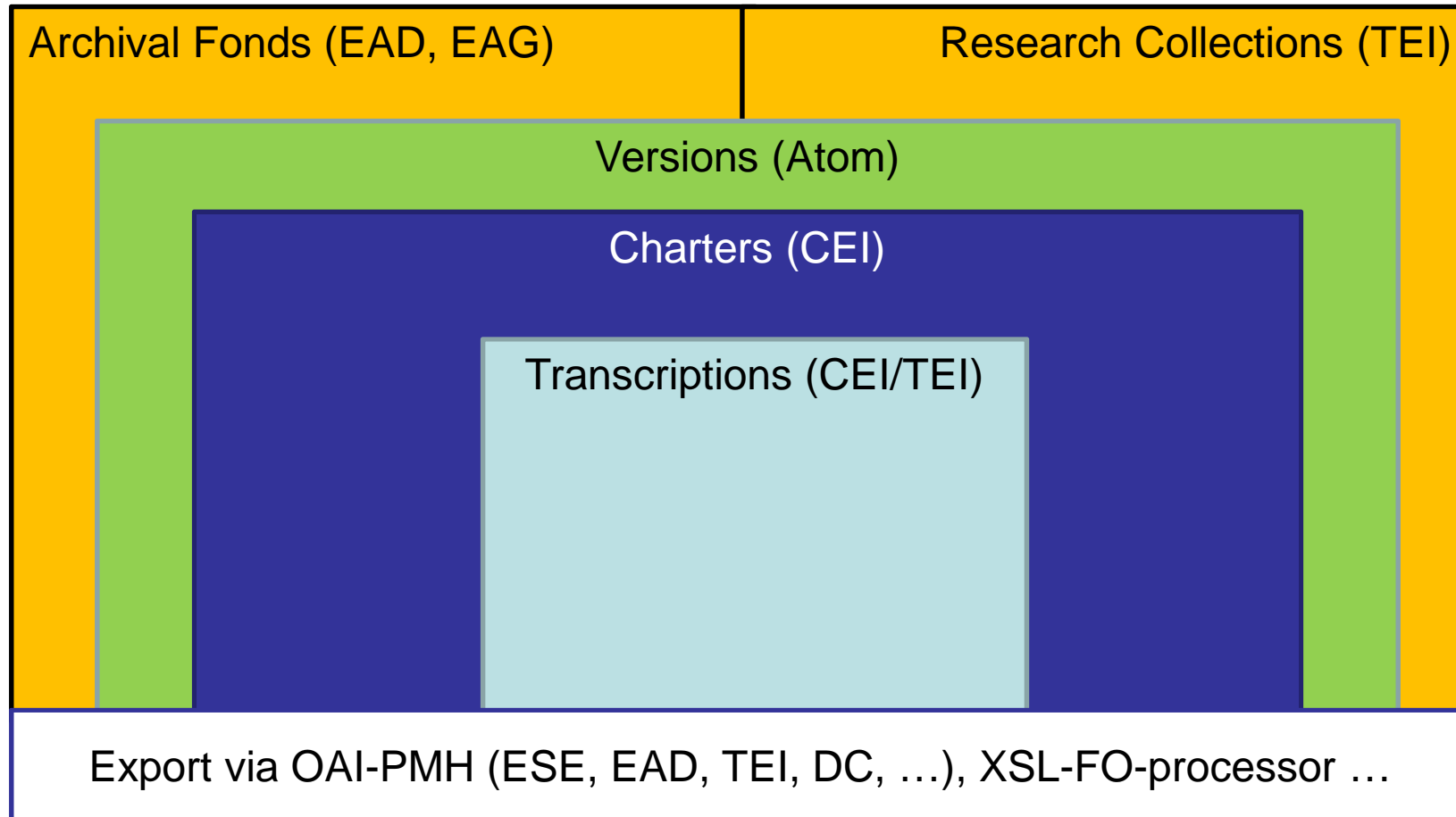
based on

- eXist, BetterForm
- AJAX-controls:
  - XML-editor
  - image manipulation
- Open source

<<https://subversion.rrz.uni-koeln.de/trac/eXist-A/browser/trunk>>

<<http://mom-wiki.uni-koeln.de>>

# Data model



# Experiences in Collaboration

1. Usage
2. Environments
3. Heterogeneity of data
4. Versioning

# Usage

- Google-Analytics for 18.1.-17.2.:
  - 786 pages 5+x min. average time on page
  - Containing 458 single charters
- More than 600 users since the relaunch of the website in June 2011
- Snapshot 18.2.2012:
  - 220 charters „in edition“
  - 2011 bookmarks set (mostly by 9 users)
- Teaching
  - University of Vienna
  - University of Napels
  - University of Munich
  - University of Prague
  - University of Berlin



# Environments

- Java-Editor (Benjamin Burkard) 2005ff.

Replaced by AJAX-Editor (Daniel Ebner)

– annotation control based on the dojo editor

– integrated in betterFORM as XForms-control

(@xf:mediatype="text/xml")

– xQuery based XML Schema processing (xs:appinfo with GUI related rules)

The screenshot displays the AJAX-Editor interface. At the top, there's a menu bar with 'Document' and 'Edit'. Below it, a toolbar contains icons for file operations. The main content area shows a document with various tabs: 'Abstract', 'full text', 'sources', 'Copies', 'commentary', and 'appendix'. The 'Abstract' tab is active, displaying a document snippet with XML annotations. The snippet includes a 'recipient' element with a 'recipient' attribute, and an 'issuer' element with a 'person name' attribute. The text of the document is: 'Papst Gregor IX. befiehlt dem Bischof Ulrich von Passau, die Mönche und Minoriten gegen ihre Verfolger zu schützen'. Below the document, there's a 'Regest:' section with a dropdown menu set to 'recipient'. The text in this section is: 'Bischof Ulrich von Passau überträgt sein Kloster St. Georgen mit allem Zubehör und allen Rechten der Kirche zu Passau, gibt dazu den genannten Eigenbesitz sowie durch seinen Vogt Udalrich bischöfliche, aber nicht zur mensa episcopalis zählende, sondern aus anderem Besitz erworbene Güter, ferner die Pfarren He Traisenburg sowie Zehente zur gemeinsamen Nutzung durch den Konvent und verbietet jeglich'. The text is annotated with XML schema elements: 'issuer' points to 'Bischof Ulrich von Passau', 'persname' points to 'Bischof Ulrich von Passau', 'placename' points to 'Passau', 'foreign' points to 'mensa episcopalis', and 'foreign' points to 'zählende, sondern aus anderem Besitz erworbene Güter, ferner die Pfarren He Traisenburg sowie Zehente zur gemeinsamen Nutzung durch den Konvent und verbietet jeglich'. A 'delete' button is visible next to the 'foreign' annotation. On the right side, there's a 'Kontext' section with a 'recipient' attribute and a 'Mögliche Attribute' section with a list of attributes: 'delete', 'lang', and 'lat'.

# Heterogeneity of data

- From complete diversity of data structure
  - MrDoc, FAUST, MS-Word, ScopeArchive, Augias
- to promoting standards (or not?)
  - <<http://www.mom-wiki.uni-koeln.de/Import/>>
  - Excel-sheet
  - CEI
  - Support to create CEI from local database structures
  - EAD.charter

# Versioning 1 (Andreas Kränzle)

## Workflows:

1. one action with a full collection
2. one document with a full description
3. several documents with several descriptions

⇒ No fixed workflow

⇒ Status flags?

⇒ Modification comment?

# Versioning 2

How to display differences?

- line, word, character or element based?
- Experiments with mixed GUI (element) and word based

# Versioning 2

The screenshot displays the 'Collaborative Archive' application window. A dialog box titled 'Anderungen' (Changes) is open, showing a list of changes with 'archival identification' selected. Below the list, two XML snippets are compared:

```
<archIdentifier> <arch> Geras, OPraem </arch> </archIdentifier>
```

```
<archIdentifier> <arch expand="Geras, OPraem" lang="deutsch"> Geras, OPraem </arch> </archIdentifier>
```

The main application window features a menu bar with 'Document', 'Edit', and 'Anderungen'. Below the menu is a toolbar with icons for save, home, delete, and other actions, along with 'Edit-Ansicht' (regular/klein) options. The main workspace shows a text field with 'archive Geras, OPraem archive' and other fields for 'Authenticati...', 'seal descripti...', and 'writing supp...'. On the right, a 'Kontext' (Context) panel shows 'archive <arch>' and a 'Mögliche Attribute' (Possible Attributes) table:

attributes	values
expanded	Geras, OPraem
language	deutsch

# Versioning 3

- From full control
  - no user without a moderator
  - no publication without moderation
  - => full control of any change
- To full versioning
  - context specific moderation
  - multiple publication with references among each other



# The Archival Dilemma

- attract users

vs

- conservation of material

# Human solutions

- Convincing people  
(Thomas Aigner, Karl Heinz)
- Agile development
  - follow your great design in continuous exchange with the users.
- Maintain individuality
  - By clear identification of responsibility



# We have built something, ... ... did they come?

- yes: because of
  - data amount
  - curiosity
  - enthusiasm
  - „non technical“-environment
- no: because of
  - change in expectations of human-machine interaction
  - still missing scholarly and archival culture of collaboration outside of well defined projects

~  
inon

## Lessons learned?

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<ZIM<sup>ig</sup>/>

ICARUS

