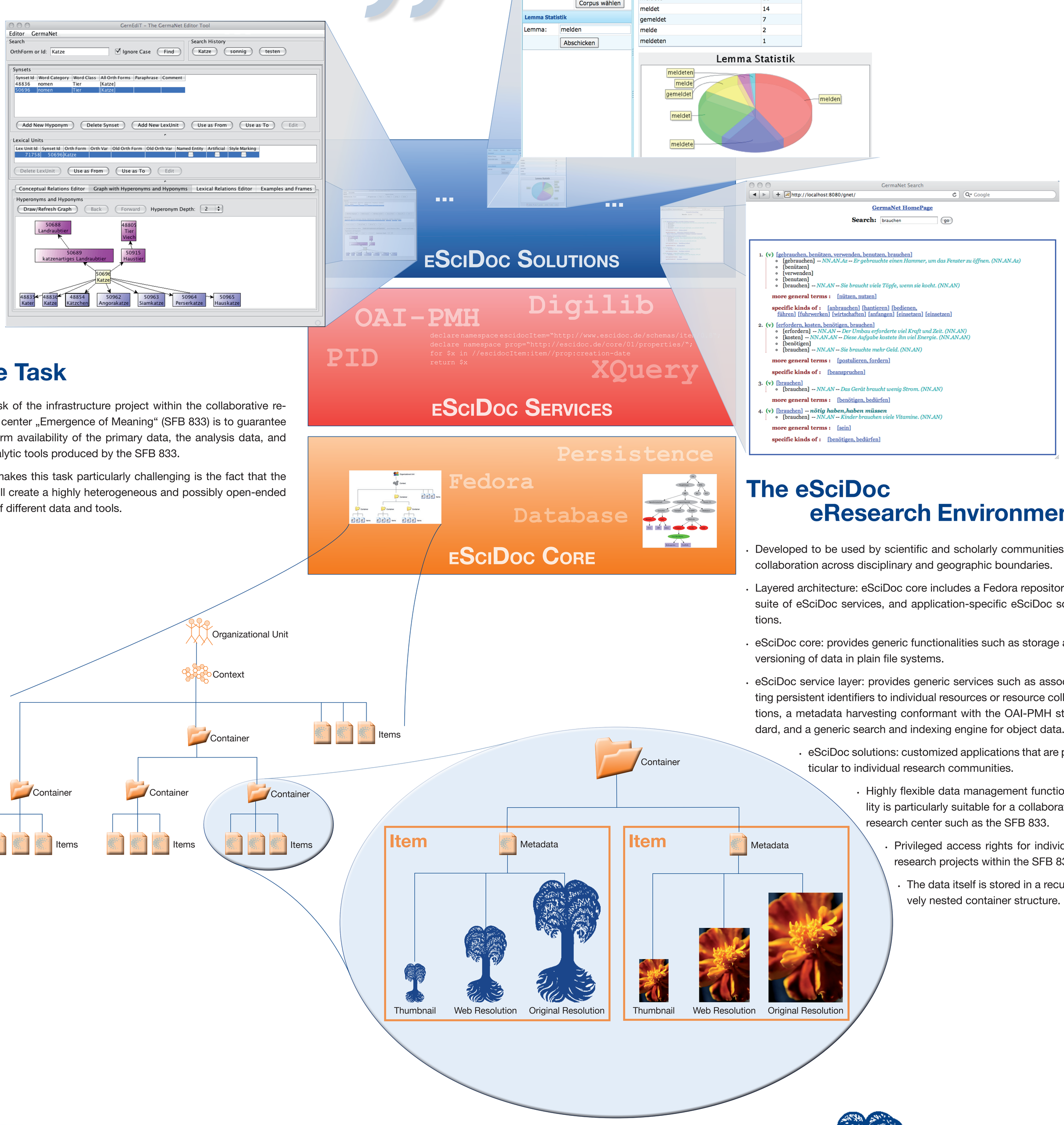
Sustainability of Linguistic Data and Analysis in the Context of a Collaborative eResearch Environment

Erhard Hinrichs, Verena Henrich, Thomas Zastrow
University of Tübingen, Department of Linguistics

«Research cannot flourish if data are not preserved and made accessible. More and more often these days, a research project's success is measured not just by the publications it produces, but also by the data it makes available to the wider community.»

(Nature 461, 14; September 10, 2009)



The Task

The task of the infrastructure project within the collaborative research center „Emergence of Meaning" (SFB 833) is to guarantee long-term availability of the primary data, the analysis data, and the analytic tools produced by the SFB 833.

What makes this task particularly challenging is the fact that the SFB will create a highly heterogeneous and possibly open-ended class of different data and tools.

The eSciDoc eResearch Environment

- Developed to be used by scientific and scholarly communities for collaboration across disciplinary and geographic boundaries.
- Layered architecture: eSciDoc core includes a Fedora repository, a suite of eSciDoc services, and application-specific eSciDoc solutions.
- eSciDoc core: provides generic functionalities such as storage and versioning of data in plain file systems.
- eSciDoc service layer: provides generic services such as associating persistent identifiers to individual resources or resource collections, a metadata harvesting conformant with the OAI-PMH standard, and a generic search and indexing engine for object data.
  - eSciDoc solutions: customized applications that are particular to individual research communities.
    - Highly flexible data management functionality is particularly suitable for a collaborative research center such as the SFB 833.
    - Privileged access rights for individual research projects within the SFB 833.
    - The data itself is stored in a recursively nested container structure.

References

- The eSciDoc project: www.escidoc.org
- Nature 461, 145; September 10, 2009; doi:10.1038/461145a
- Science, Technology and Innovation for the 21st Century. Meeting of the OECD Committee for Scientific and Technological Policy at Ministerial Level, 29-30 January 2004 - Final Communique

Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen

Contact

Universität Tübingen
Seminar für Sprachwissenschaft
Wilhelmstr. 19
72074 Tübingen, Germany