# Complementing Static Scholarly Editions with Dynamic Research Platforms: Interactive Dynamic Presentation (IDP) and Semantic Faceted Search and Browsing (SFB) for the Wittgenstein Nachlass

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#### **Abstract**

In 2000 the Wittgenstein Archives at the University of Bergen (WAB) published the CD-ROM edition of *Wittgenstein's* Nachlass: *The Bergen Electronic Edition* (BEE). However, since the publication, it has become increasingly obvious that this edition does not meet all demands of the community that uses Wittgenstein's manuscripts (his "Nachlass") for research and learning. WAB has, therefore, for more than a decade now worked towards complementing the static CD-ROM edition with an interactive web platform that allows a more comprehensive, yet also a more tailored and user-specific utilization, of WAB's Nachlass resources. The paper describes and discusses two specific web service tools of this platform: Interactive Dynamic Presentation (IDP) of the Wittgenstein Nachlass, and Semantic Faceted Search and Browsing (SFB) of Wittgenstein metadata. The paper argues that it is only when these two tools are fully implemented and functional that WAB can adequately serve the scholarly needs of the Wittgenstein Nachlass user community. The paper describes some selected features and functionalities of these two tools in detail. While pilot versions of both tools are already in use on the platform, they need substantial extension and optimization. This upgrade is being implemented within the Norwegian CLARINO+ project.

## 1 Data and Metadata for Use of Wittgenstein in Research and Education

During his lifetime, the Austrian-British philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein (1889–1951) published only one philosophical book, the *Logisch-philosophische Abhandlung / Tractatus logico-philosophicus* (1<sup>st</sup> ed. 1921/22), and a *Dictionary for Elementary Schools* (1<sup>st</sup> ed. 1926). However, on his death in 1951, he left behind a significant 20,000 page corpus of unpublished philosophical notebooks, manuscripts, typescripts and dictations. This oeuvre, called "the Wittgenstein papers" or "Wittgenstein's Nachlass" (von Wright, 1969), was early recognized to be one of the most important philosophy archives of all times. It was subsequently brought to the wider public through posthumous book publications such as *Philosophical Investigations* (1<sup>st</sup> ed. 1953) and *Culture and Value* (1<sup>st</sup> ed. 1977).

The practice of bringing the Nachlass to *digital* users reached its first milestone in 1998 with Vol. 1 of the Bergen CD-ROM edition *Wittgenstein's* Nachlass: *The Bergen Electronic Edition* (BEE; Wittgenstein, 2000), edited by the Wittgenstein Archives at the University of Bergen (WAB, http://wab.uib.no/). The edition became notable for creating unprecedented new access and research possibilities (Meschini, 2020, ch. 4). Since its establishment in 1990, WAB has worked towards providing digital data and metadata for using the Wittgenstein Nachlass in research and education (Huitfeldt, 2006). This includes the creation of machine-readable transcriptions with specialized markup. The transcriptions were originally produced in MECS-WIT (Huitfeldt, 1994). But at present they are maintained in XML TEI format (Pichler, 2010). XML TEI transcription samples of 5000 Nachlass pages were made available CC BY-NC 4.0 on WAB's website within the

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> WAB continues cooperation with Oxford University Press towards producing a new edition of the BEE.

frameworks of COST Action A32 (2006–10) and the Discovery project (2006-09). Most importantly, since 2015 transcriptions of the *entire* Nachlass, along with high quality Nachlass facsimiles, are made available open access in HTML format (Wittgenstein, 2015– and Wittgenstein, 2016–). In addition, WAB is working on the implementation of semantic web methods and technology. WAB offers free download of a continuously growing Wittgenstein ontology in OWL (RDF) format from its website (http://wab.uib.no/wab\_philospace.page).

In order to provide for a common and persistent system of reference for its Nachlass resources. WAB has, within the framework of the Discovery project, assigned a unique identifier to the following: (i) each single one of the (about 150) Nachlass manuscript and typescript items, (ii) each single one of the (about 20,000) Nachlass pages, and (iii) each single one of the (about 55,000) Nachlass "Bemerkungen" (remarks).<sup>2</sup> A Wittgensteinian Bemerkung is typically no longer than half a page and separated from other Bemerkungen by one or more blank lines. Moreover, WAB's Nachlass transcriptions and facsimiles are not only published in the BEE but are also available in a open access edition online (Wittgenstein, 2015–). Thus, with the aforementioned reference system in place and the open access availability of content, metadata and ontology, it may seem that WAB has achieved its goal of sufficiently equipping the user community. But, unfortunately, this is not the case. A static scholarly edition of Wittgenstein' Nachlass, even if it is regularly updated for content, style and technical formats, will, by its very nature, always be inadequate in meeting the ever-evolving, dynamic user needs. A static scholarly edition of Wittgenstein's Nachlass certainly remains indispensable as a source of stable, authoritative and easily citable text. But for the community to make the most of the resources in research and learning, much more than such an edition is required.

Any static edition is necessarily the result of selection and decision processes. The user needs for such an edition can in the end only be satisfied by complementing the edition with a platform that offers (i) access to datasets and aspects of the source not available through the edition and (ii) specific user need driven and tailored access and use. In the following, I want to argue for the implementation of two web service tools for responding to the increasing and potentially unlimited number and kinds of the needs of the Wittgenstein Nachlass community. I shall describe some of their functionalities along selected features. The two tools are Interactive Dynamic Presentation (IDP) and Semantic Faceted Search and Browsing (SFB) of the Wittgenstein Nachlass and Wittgenstein metadata. I contend that the user community of the Wittgenstein Nachlass continues to have needs and expectations that are not met even after all requirements of a static scholarly edition are fulfilled. I further claim that it is only when the two tools, IDP and SFB, are implemented and fully functional that we begin to adequately address the needs and expectations of the users of the Wittgenstein Nachlass. The paper goes on to describe some selected features of some of the functionalities of these two tools in detail. In my description I shall give most room to IDP, since this service, although apparently less standard and generally known, is of primary importance to WAB and its users.

WAB has for more than a decade now worked towards complementing the static scholarly edition with an online (distributed) research infrastructure that includes pilot versions of the IDP and SFB tools. Both the infrastructure platform and the tools themselves need substantial extension and optimization towards the strengthening of interactive functionalities and matching of user needs. These tasks of extending and better adapting the two tools are being implemented within the Norwegian CLARINO+ project (2020–26).

# 2 Open-ended User Needs

The BEE brings together three sub-editions – a facsimile, a normalized transcription and a diplomatic transcription – and can be called a "combined edition" (Pichler & Haugen, 2005). The diplomatic and the normalized transcription represent different levels of intervention on WAB's source transcriptions of the originals. While the diplomatic, for example, retains deleted words,

 $<sup>^2</sup>$  For details on the reference system see Pichler, 2010; for *Bemerkung* identifier examples see Figures 2 and 3 below.

deleted characters, marks insertions as insertions and does not intervene in spelling and grammar, the normalized is directed towards providing a standardized, easy to read, and finally also easy to cite, stable authoritative text. To put it more theoretically, one could say that the normalized version is strongly *text*-focused while the diplomatic version primarily attends to the *document* or even to the *document-carrier*. Thus, one could call the two formats two limiting cases of scholarly editing. The diplomatic version is an extremely helpful aid if one wants to start one's Nachlass research by reading the facsimile, but from time to time it needs deciphering help that is then supplied by the diplomatic version. For diplomatic and linear transcription samples see Figures 1–4.<sup>3</sup>

The triple structure of facsimile, diplomatic and normalized version enabled the BEE to respond in one and the same publication to a spectrum of research needs, rather than simply fulfilling, for example, the request for only an easy to read final version of a text. The BEE demonstrated the significant advantages that digital editions have over print editions in that the former, for example, allow more user-flexible access to the edited material. But at the same time, the edition was still not dynamic enough for adequately responding to the full spectrum of research needs and interests that Nachlass users have and, furthermore, can legitimately expect *digital* editing to provide. It was not dynamic enough by its very nature of being a *static scholarly edition* the purpose of which is to provide a *stable* and citable authoritative text. No static edition alone will ever be dynamic enough to meet the challenge of accommodating the diverse and evolving needs of the research community. Therefore, while a static scholarly edition will always be required, it must at the same time be complemented by a *dynamic research platform* that not only offers additional resources, but also additional and interactively available and toggleable analysis tools, additional presentation and filtering options.<sup>4</sup> Let me illustrate the claim with a few examples.

Need for the possibility of chronological sorting: During his military service in WW1, Wittgenstein kept diaries – MSS 101–103 (1914–17) – where he not only wrote his philosophical reflections that eventually resulted in his first philosophical book, the Tractatus logicophilosophicus (1921/22), but also noted down deeply personal and private remarks. As a rule, he used for the personal and private entries the verso pages and a code, while for the logical and philosophical remarks the recto pages (and no code; see Figure 1).<sup>5</sup> When editing the material for readers primarily interested in Wittgenstein's philosophy, the two Wittgenstein trustees G.E.M. Anscombe and G.H. von Wright selected from the notebooks what they considered the philosophically relevant portions only and turned these into a normalized book edition called Tagebücher / Notebooks in 1960. Many years later, in an unauthorized and sensational edition called Geheime Tagebücher (1985), Wilhelm Baum published the coded personal and private remarks. To date there is no German or English book edition that contains both kinds of remarks in one and the same book. While the BEE contains both, it contains them as separate blocks. For each of the three notebooks, the BEE first presents the sequence of the personal and private remarks and then presents the sequence of the philosophical remarks. It makes sense to separate the two types of remarks since they each belong to their own specific discourse. However, as a consequence of such editing practices, the Wittgenstein community has learned to receive the remarks as two separate strings. The division of the content of Wittgenstein's writings into the philosophical and the personal may seem appropriate and satisfactory from a certain rigid scholarly perspective, but upon reflection the practice clearly reveals its disadvantages. One disadvantage is that it not only splits the text sequence, but also splits the chronological sequence of the remarks into two and thus, for example, makes it cumbersome to put in context all remarks that Wittgenstein wrote on a specific day. Researchers are increasingly voicing precisely this need of connecting Wittgenstein's personal and private remarks with his simultaneous reflections on philosophy and logic (and vice versa) for a better understanding of Wittgenstein's works (see Figure 2).

Need for the possibility of including / suppressing revision layers: After Wittgenstein's return to Cambridge in 1929, an event that is often regarded as simultaneous with his return to philosophy, Wittgenstein wanted to publish a second philosophical book. He had different ideas of

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> For a short introduction to "diplomatic", "linear", "normalized" and other scholarly edition and transcription types see, for example, Pierazzo, 2009. For the distinction between document carrier, document and text see Pichler, 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See also Gabler, 2013. For an early discussion and promotion of "dynamic edition" see Rehbein, 1998.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Wittgenstein's cypher consisted in, roughly speaking, reversing the alphabet such that, e.g., "ich" becomes "rxs"; for details see Wittgenstein, 1998, xve.

the book's contents and form at different times. But the so-called Big Typescript, TS 213 (1933), is widely regarded as a definite and substantial steppingstone in this project, if not as an actual candidate for the envisaged book. In this typescript, Wittgenstein collected between two and three thousand remarks selected from the manuscript volumes he had written since 1929 and organized them into chapters and subchapters. He introduced each chapter with a philosophical topic heading (e.g., "Meaning") and each subchapter with a philosophical statement (e.g., "The concept of meaning originates in a primitive conception of language"). However, Wittgenstein soon felt uncomfortable with the arrangement in the Big Typescript and started to not only reorganize the ordering but also to revise the text itself. Moreover, this reworking took place not only in the typescript itself but also in a number of new notebooks and manuscript volumes such that the resulting new text(s) were spread over several items. When producing a book edition from this project, Philosophical Grammar (Wittgenstein, 1969), the third Wittgenstein trustee Rush Rhees tried to come as close as possible to Wittgenstein's final intended revision of the text for the Big Typescript. However, his edition was criticized by some for blurring the distinction between the actual and the virtual text of the corpus, and it was remarked that Rhees should have edited the Big Typescript "as it stood", i.e. without Wittgenstein's later handwritten revisions (Kenny, 1984, 37; as a response see Rhees, 1996). The BEE wisely returned – as a documentary edition – to the actual documents and offered diplomatic and normalized transcriptions thereof. It included hyperlinks where Rhees actually carried out Wittgenstein's instructions for arranging the text in a different order or replacing part of it altogether. Although this was a required step, at the same time it deprived readers of an easy way to follow and cite the text in the sequence that resulted from Wittgenstein's revision. This text was often only virtually given in the Nachlass, but had been offered by Rhees' edition. It is clear that one should be able to have it both ways, and that it should precisely be the digital edition that gives it to you both ways: the text before and after the revision – actually, any text before, with, and after all revisions. This is especially relevant for work with heavily revised typescripts, such as TS 213 or TS 226 (see Figure 3). However, this is not something that the BEE could achieve and currently it is still not fully achieved by WAB's Nachlass editions on the web.

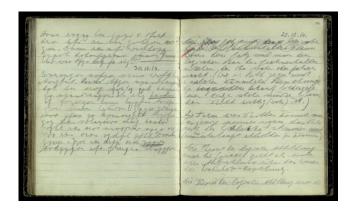
Need for the possibility of filtering according to different parameters: From his earliest to his latest writings, whenever Wittgenstein revisited his remarks with an eye for further editing and processing he marked them with symbols in the margins of the page. At WAB these symbols are called "section marks". A section mark could for example be a slash, an asterisk, a circle, a letter like a capital S, or a letter like lower case x. Similarly, when considering changing the arrangement of his remarks, Wittgenstein would add numbers or combinations of numbers and letters in the margins such that through these symbols the remarks were collected into groups. 6 The meaning of the single symbols, especially when it comes to the section marks, is to date only partially known. Whenever they have been included in print or digital editions, the editors simply tried to reproduce them in their graphical appearance. This was also the case with (the diplomatic transcription of) the BEE. Against this practice one could object that the entire point of these symbols is to signalize that Wittgenstein wanted to do things with the remarks thus marked: dictate them, omit them, discard them, revise them, rearrange them, group them etc. Accordingly, it is to these action intentions that the reader should be directed to rather than simply receiving a visual representation of the symbol only. For example, about the remarks marked with a slash in MSS 105–108 (1929–30) we know that most of them were dictated to a typist (Pichler, 1994), resulting in what in Nachlass research is called TS 208. About the number and letter combinations with which Wittgenstein marked several thousand remarks cut out from his typescripts of 1930-31, we know that they constituted the reference system according to which the "Zettel" collection of TS 212 (1932-33), which subsequently became TS 213, was to be organized (Rothhaupt, 2016). However, there is a great deal of such editorial symbols left in the Nachlass and we do not have sufficient knowledge about their functions. Some of them will contain an instruction for how to proceed with, or from them; others will serve to express an evaluation of the remark tagged with the specific symbol. Now, users who

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> These editorial numbers should not be confused with the sequential paragraph numbers used by Wittgenstein in his more finished works, and with which the reader will already be familiar from books such as *Philosophical Investigations* (Wittgenstein, 2009) containing remarks ("paragraphs") §§ 1–693.

want to study the meaning of these symbols further or even to convert their meanings to resulting text selections, groupings and arrangements, have a non-negotiable requirement. The requirement is that one has an edition that not only renders the remarks in their original sequence with these symbols included, but also permits filtering and arranging the texts according to these symbols while retaining the possibility of including or omitting the symbols themselves in the resulting output. It should thus, for example, be possible to extract all remarks and only the remarks which in the Nachlass are marked by Wittgenstein with a slash, or an asterisk, or a backslash, etc., or a specific combination of them. It is only then that these users' needs will be adequately addressed and the scope of the scholarly utilization of WAB's Nachlass resources can be greatly widened. So, for example, users may become equipped to study specific genetic processes in the Nachlass or recognize thematic groups of which the symbols are often the "indices". Or they may become enabled to perform more basic tasks such as learning about the function and meaning of the symbol itself. Recently, Rothhaupt (2013) has argued that the remarks which Wittgenstein marked with a circle / circle-like symbol (a "Kringel") contain Wittgenstein's attempts at a philosophy of culture. Again, it is only if the user has access to a filtering tool such as the one described here, permitting easy extraction of all Bemerkungen and only the Bemerkungen which are marked by Wittgenstein with a "Kringel"-symbol, that she is in the position to efficiently and reliably investigate that this hypothesis is sound, or to discover other elements in these remarks that led Wittgenstein to mark them all with the "Kringel"-symbol. While WAB's website (Wittgenstein, 2016-) today already offers filtering of Nachlass documents according to section mark parameters, this feature still stands in need of improvement and does not yet fully meet all user requirements.

Need for the possibility of conducting metadata search / combined text and metadata search: The BEE already offered some semantic search functionalities – e.g. search for references to persons, taxonomies for mathematical and logical notation as well as for graphics, possibility to focus on the coded passages or other groupings only. At the same time, many more valuable metadata had been recorded in the transcriptions or via stand-off markup that users could greatly benefit from if only they had processing access to them. Some users would, for example, not only want to search and browse the Nachlass by references to persons or works (for a sample see Figure 4), but specifically all references to persons or works that have come about or, alternatively, got discarded by later revision (e.g., the revision of the Big Typescript). Or a reader, who has an interest in influences on Wittgenstein but is most acquainted with the book publications from the Nachlass only, may want to search for Wittgenstein's references to persons and works in all and only the remarks which hitherto were *not* included in any of the book publications from the Nachlass. Or a reader most interested in Wittgenstein's writing in code may want to search for any passage in code that hitherto was not published in print. Or one may want to check whether there is a correlation between the remarks marked with a slash "/" and eventual publication of the remarks by the trustees in one of the book publications. One may want to do so either in order to better understand Wittgenstein's use of the section marks or to find out to what extent the Nachlass editors let themselves be guided by the section marks for their selection of materials to be published. Moreover, one may want to find out whether there is a correlation between the sequence of the remarks in a specific work by Wittgenstein, e.g., the *Philosophical Investigations* (Wittgenstein, 2009), and their chronological origin. Other user needs relate to a remark's genetic path(s), its place of origin in the Nachlass corpus, references to places, events and other named entities, similarity to other remarks (Ullrich, 2019, and Huitfeldt, 2020), adherence to text type and genre (philosophical remark, preface, motto, dedication, instruction, aphorism, diary entry, autobiographical remark, personal and private remark, coded remark, mathematical-logical notation, graphic etc.), adherence to Nachlass group (notebook, loose sheet, "Zettel", ledger, typescript, dictation etc.), work status (first draft, elaborated version, final work etc.), script type (shorthand, code etc.), the language the remark is written in (German, English etc.), writing and revision instrument (different kinds of pencil, black ink, red ink, blue ink etc.), research literature referring to it, and so on. Finally, one may frequently also need to conduct searches with both the text and the metadata as one's research base. To be able to combine text and metadata search becomes, for example, pertinent where one needs to find all

and only those documents that contain both a specific word used by Wittgenstein *and* a specific reference to a person or work. Or one may remember only one or two words from a passage in the *Philosophical Investigations* and try to find the passage with the help of these words, restricting one's search to precisely the *Philosophical Investigations* corpus only. These are all relevant and legitimate needs that can turn out to be pressing in either research or learning. The list in fact seems endless. To meet these and similar needs, efficient and selective access to metadata, and iteratively faceted processing of metadata becomes essential. Unfortunately, neither the BEE nor WAB's Wittgenstein web services currently fully meet this challenge.



Sehe jetzt so klar & ruhig wie nur in den besten zeiten. Wenn ich nur diesmal alles wesentliche lösen könnte ehe die gute zeit um ist!!! —.

#### 30.10.14.

Erhielten heute eine deutsche Zeitung. Keine guten nachrichten was so viel heist als schlechte nachrichten! Es ist <u>schwer</u> zu arbeiten wenn solche gedanken einen stören!! Habe trotzdem auch am nachmittag gearbeitet. Ich empfinde oft schwer dass ich hier niemand habe mit dem ich mich etwas aussprechen kann. Aber ich will mich <u>allen</u> gewalten zum trotze erhalten.

Figure 1: Facsimile of MS 101, facing pages 51v (dated 29.—30.10.1914) and 52r (dated 20.10.1914), with diplomatic transcription of p. 51v (see http://www.wittgensteinsource.org/Ms-101,51v\_f). Italics indicates code writing.

30.10.14.

Erhielten heute eine deutsche Zeitung. Keine guten Nachrichten was so viel heißt als schlechte Nachrichten! Es ist schwer zu arbeiten wenn solche Gedanken einen stören!! Habe trotzdem auch am Nachmittag gearbeitet. Ich empfinde oft schwer daß ich hier niemand habe mit dem ich mich etwas aussprechen kann. Aber ich will mich allen Gewalten zum Trotze erhalten.

30.10.14.

Könnte man sagen: "in " $\sim \varphi(x)$ " stellt " $\varphi$ .(x)" vor wie es sich nicht verhält"?

Man könnte auch auf einem Bild eine negative Tatsache darstellen indem man darstellt was nicht der Fall ist.

Figure 2: Linear transcription of remark (*Bemerkung*) Ms-101,51v[2] "Erhielten heute ..." from MS 101, p. 51v, chronologically co-arranged with remarks Ms-101,69r[4] and Ms-101,69r[5], equally dated 30.10.1914, but from p. 69r (see http://www.wittgensteinsource.org/Ms-101,69r\_f). Italics indicates code writing.

Diplomatic transcription of "typescript only":

Augustine describes, we might say,  $\underline{a}$  system of communication; only not everything that we call language is this system.



Diplomatic transcription, including revisions in Wittgenstein's hand:

5 Augustine describes, we might say, <u>a</u> system of communication; <del>only</del> not everything, "however, that we call language is this system.

Figure 3: Part of TS 226, p. 2 (see http://www.wittgensteinsource.org/Ts-226,2\_f) with diplomatic transcription of remark Ts-226,2[2] "Augustine describes ..."; for a diplomatic transcription of the entire remark see http://www.wittgensteinsource.org/Ts-226,2[2]\_d.

## 3 Interactive Dynamic Presentation (IDP)

In the preceding section I have given some examples of the great variety of needs encountered in the user community. If we try to respond to these needs by providing the requested functionalities and services in one and the same static edition, it is likely to fail either technically or in terms of usability (or both). Rather, what one needs is toggleable services that in dynamic and interactive ways produce highly adjustable outputs serving the wide spectrum of resources needed: from heavy apparatus to readers' editions, from original to standardized orthography and grammar text, from physical to chronologically arranged document sequences, etc. etc. Even users who in the beginning are satisfied with having at their disposal the standard presentation formats of the diplomatic (recording all deletions, insertions, overwritings etc.) and the normalized (giving the resulting text) transcription, are likely to discover that these represent editorial intervention, or a lack thereof, which does not satisfy all research needs one can rightly expect scholarly digital resources to fulfill. Some may find out, for example, that a minor thing such as representation of the original's line breaks can make a big difference for purposes of their research. Edited text outputs that follow the original line order have indeed many advantages, one of them being that they easily permit comparison of edited text version and facsimile. In other contexts, however, indication of the original's line-breaks is completely inessential to one's research interests, or even distracting. IDP relieves the editors from having to statically freeze a representation that comes with or without the line breaks; this decision can simply be left to the user who can have it both ways depending on what they judge to be best in a particular context.

One might want to entertain the belief that user needs that fall outside of what is already covered by the diplomatic and the normalized formats can be dealt with by simply increasing the number of formats pre-produced and offered. In this spirit one could suggest adding to the diplomatic and normalized versions, if they come without representation of original line breaks, diplomatic and normalized versions with representation of original line breaks. Moreover, one might suggest adding a linear version that occupies a middle ground between the diplomatic and normalized version, and a "typescript only" version that omits handwritten revisions in the typescript (for an example of the latter see Figure 3). But such amendments would not yet help with gaining access to, for example, chronologically sorted outputs of either a single Nachlass item or an entire Nachlass group. Such sorting is relevant for the whole of the Nachlass, for example, on the first Bände series MSS 105-122 where there are many chronological jumps from the midst of one manuscript to the other. Furthermore, the above-mentioned amendments would not suffice if one requires versions that are still between, on the one hand, the diplomatic and the linear, and on the other hand, between the linear and the normalized. A version that is between the diplomatic and the linear would be, for example, one that includes deleted portions of entire words or even entire sentences – in distinction to the diplomatic version where all deleted parts are included, and in distinction to the current linear version where no deleted parts are included. A version that is between the linear and the normalized would be, for example, a version that marks every editorial intervention into orthography and grammar - in distinction to the current linear version where only interventions on word and punctuation level are marked, and in distinction to a normalized version where no such intervention may be marked as such. Moreover, even for the "typescript only" version one would again have to distinguish between at least its diplomatic and normalized variants: the former rendering the typescript "as it stood"; the latter permitting text search across unified orthography and grammar and including replacement symbols for logical and mathematical notation as well as other characters not available on the typewriter: "ss" for "\(\beta\)", "ae" for "\(\beta\)" etc. etc. If we continue along this line, we will sooner or later encounter the question: In the end, even if we were to meet only the most important user requests, how many additional versions must be added? Attempting to answer the question will make one realize that the number one is likely to end up with is already too big to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Saying this, one is not even touching upon the challenges created by the fact that different users and publication channels have different preferences regarding formatting styles, e.g. how emphasis is to be conveyed (italics rather than underlining, etc.), or platform (mobile rather than stationary platform, etc.). Neither are issues addressed that relate to individual handicap (sight, colour blindness, etc.) or other conditions that can make use of the services difficult.

feasibly continue along this line of offering pre-made static editions. Rather, one needs to provide something like an interactive and dynamic "laboratory" setting that lets the user create the variety of outputs needed on the fly. Thus, all add-ons will eventually lead us exactly to the point where IDP already *is*. Thus, instead of trying to add any extra editions as *static* add-ons that are pre-made by the editors in advance, it is a much better strategy to provide for the possibility that the user generates the edition(s) from the underlying text archive on the fly and as required in the hic et nunc-situation. All that is needed for this strategy to work is, in addition to software, something like a text archive in the form of encoded transcriptions, stylesheets for their conversion to the specific output needed, and an interface for running on the transcriptions precisely those parameters of the stylesheets that are required for achieving the needed output.

IDP can fulfil its task thanks to its compliance with three principles (Pichler and Bruvik, 2014): (1) Separation of matters of transcription (encoding, markup) from matters of presentation; (2) Empowerment of users to let them interactively co-produce editions rather than being passive receivers of expert-editor produced editions only; (3) A dynamic and multi-relational view of the relation between the source document and potential presentations of it. These three principles are central ingredients of all text encoding based digital editing at WAB. WAB's IDP site http://www.wittgensteinonline.no (Wittgenstein, 2016-) allows the user to interactively produce from the ever latest version of the XML TEI (P5) source transcriptions text archive, more tailored and a greater variety of outputs than those already available from the pre-made static editions offered by WAB on e.g. http://www.wittgensteinsource.org (Wittgenstein, 2015-). These outputs are created in HTML through XSLT transformation from the one XML TEI (P5) guided transcription source in the text archive which contains for each Nachlass item, page, Bemerkung, sentence, formula, drawing, word, letter and character detailed philological / structural / semantic information. 8 This makes the output resource for the users a dynamic, adjustable, revisable and continuously updatable entity. The users have access to the ever newest and improved version of the source transcription and are given the possibility to *interactively* process the source transcription to the *presentation* that is best tailored to their specific research needs.

Naturally, the more detailed and explicit an encoding the source transcription contains, the more powerful and adjustable the IDP can become. With regard to WAB, chronological sorting of the Wittgenstein Nachlass, for example, can be implemented thanks to two features of WAB's transcriptions. First, for each single Nachlass remark there exists a self-contained complete XML transcription such that the entire Nachlass can be constructed out of the transcriptions of its single remark. Second, for each of the single Nachlass remarks there also exists WAB metadata providing a, albeit often alleged only, dating for the remark. The two taken together provide for the possibility of a complete sorting of the entire Nachlass according to chronological parameters. Omission of handwritten revision in typescripts can be achieved thanks to explicit encoding of handwriting in typescripts. Filtering and sorting of the Nachlass texts according to Wittgenstein's editorial marks or numbers can be put to practice thanks to the specific encoding WAB uses for them. It cannot be stressed often enough that it is a principle of the IDP model precisely to not provide a different source transcription for each of the different desired outputs, or at least for the most important of them. Rather, IDP works on the basis that one explicitly marks everything that is to be subsequently processed in the one and only master source transcription, possibly combined with additional standoff markup. Also, that one then leaves questions of presentation, filtering, sorting etc. to the stylesheet and user interface. E.g., with regard to subsequent IDP manipulation of handwritten revisions in typescript, every hand-produced writing act is encoded in such a way that it can be filtered and processed independently of everything that is typewritten (and vice versa).9 While

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> The same principle of *One base source – Many outputs / apps on top of it* applies to WAB work generally. Wittgenstein, 2015– (BNE), Wittgenstein, 2016– (IDP), WiTTFind, SFB as also the upcoming new BEE edition at Oxford, while each offering different entrance points and each coming with their specific strengths and foci, are all produced from one and the same set of XML source transcriptions and metadata sources.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> This functionality has been crucial for researching Wittgenstein's handwritten revisions to Rhees' translation of the early version of Wittgenstein's *Philosophical Investigations* in TS 226 (Pichler, 2020a).

WAB's encoding is still far from complete enough to be sufficiently prepared for all legitimate IDP requests, these examples should suffice to show that the possibilities and capacities that IDP offers for responding to user needs are simply enormous. Sorting functionalities (sorting according to chronology; sorting according to physical sequence; sorting according to discourse sequence; sorting in order to more easily relate personal diary entries and philosophical remarks; sorting to better see the chronological sequence of Wittgenstein's philosophical work, etc.), multiple presentation functionalities (inclusion and omission of handwritten revisions in a typescript such as insertions, deletions, overwritings, underlinings etc.; presentation of typed text only, in order to study the vocabulary before the typescript was revised and investigate genetic processes, etc.), filtering functionalities (filtering of the Nachlass according to the marks and numbers that Wittgenstein assigns to his remarks; filtering in order to identify thematic groups; filtering in order to separate (according to Wittgenstein's own judgment) 'good' from 'not so good' remarks; filtering in order to identify genetic processes, etc.) as well as their combinations (sorting, filtering and inclusion/omission according to text revision stage etc.) offer benefits that Nachlass scholars, prior to the introduction of IDP, could only ask for but could not expect the requests to be fulfilled.

One of the most important effects of IDP is that it creates in the user an awareness that what she is dealing with is not something that simply falls from the sky: that even *premade* editions do not fall from the sky, but result from selection and decision processes. Where the user previously, maybe with a sort of innocent and uncritical attitude, simply received and accepted what the editors – be it Wittgenstein's heirs (Erbacher, 2020) or others – gave her (Pichler a.o., 2011), with IDP she suddenly recognizes that any edition is a product of human action deserving scrutiny and verification. The user may just as well take an active role herself in the making of the edition, and through IDP she can indeed become a co-agent, taking on some of the editorial responsibilities herself. But equipping the user with the tools required to do this and thus to make the best out of WAB's resources, will involve much more than cutting edge digital editorial philology methods and tools. It also requires giving the user access to at least the most basic contemporary semantic web technology and methods.

# 4 Semantic Faceted Search and Browsing (SFB)

WAB's Nachlass reference system provides a URL for each single Nachlass component. It goes without saying that this is crucially important for working with IDP user-generated content: with the reference system, the component researched or cited not only becomes easy to refer to, but also exactly describable, traceable and tractable throughout all filterings, sortings and rearrangements, as well as throughout all research articles and annotation or semantic web environments where it enters into. The same system of reference is also applied to the facsimiles which contributes significantly to user-friendliness and the quality of research in terms of its coherence and consistency. Last but not least, the reference system also makes up the backbone of the Wittgenstein ontology and is thus also essential for working with "semantic Wittgenstein".

In section 2 we identified a need for conducting metadata search and search *combining* text and metadata. This is precisely what semantic faceted search and browsing (SFB) is about. SFB can be briefly explained as follows: First, the source is the data and metadata in their semantic, classificatory and, ideally, also taxonomic aspects. Second, SFB applies digital semantic technologies; it is thus about organizing and investigating a domain's semantics, rather than a field of editorial philology. Finally, the search and browsing works with *facets* as vehicle. Facets are properties / dimensions / relations of the domain's objects according to which these objects can be classified, and thus include metadata. The term "faceted" stands for the metadata and data filtering through incremental *faceting*, and thereby the filtering of data and metadata down to the desired result (the "hit"). Naturally, the domain's data and metadata can also be accessed via a direct string search. There can be a great many and a great variety of relations between the objects of a domain, and at different points there will be a need to focus on different objects and relations. SFB permits to do precisely that and to identify the object(s) which match the focus one has at a particular place and time. Furthermore, each object can have a great number of relations to other objects which one may be aware of but for which one lacks an overview, as well as many additional relations which

one might not yet be aware of. SFB helps to see and make explicit the relations which, though straight on the surface, previously remained unseen, and thus helps the user achieve a synoptic view of the objects and their relations. SFB is also the tool for simply exploring and working with the relations that one already *is* aware of, but maybe still needs highway type of routes for in order to easily move from one known to another known node in the semantic landscape.

The data model behind WAB's SFB pilot on http://wab.uib.no/sfb/ is an ontology in RDF OWL format that aspires to organize not only the Nachlass, but also the entire Wittgenstein domain under three top classes: Source, Person and Subject (Pichler and Zöllner-Weber, 2012). The Source class houses primary and secondary sources relevant for Wittgenstein research; the subclass Primary Source further divides into Wittgenstein sources, such as the Tractatus, and external sources, such as Augustine's Confessions. The lowest subclass of Wittgenstein primary sources is the remark, the Bemerkung. The Person class contains historical persons such as authors Wittgenstein refers to (Biesenbach, 2014). The Subject class contains subclasses such as Concept (topic) and Point (claim); Concept refers to subjects dealt with by Wittgenstein himself or in Wittgenstein research, such as 'elementary proposition', 'picture', 'state of affairs', 'essence', 'logical analysis' 'logical independence', 'philosophy', 'proof'. Instances of Bemerkung can be interlinked with instances of Concept via the property discusses. Point refers to the point made or discussed by an individual Wittgenstein remark and may contain an entire statement such as 'The elementary proposition is a picture of a state of affairs'. Instances of Bemerkung can again be interlinked with instances of Point via the property discusses.

In the preceding discussions, I have presented only a brief glimpse of how the instances of the rich and comprehensive semantic Wittgenstein domain can be intertwined and their complex relations modeled, so that both the instances and the relations between them can subsequently be made available for SFB. As of December 2020, the SFB site offers search and browsing of more than 56,000 instances of *Source* and more than 1000 instances of *Person* from the Wittgenstein domain. This goes far beyond only Nachlass-related sources and persons.

# 5 IDP, SFB and the Wittgenstein Archives in CLARINO+

At present, WAB already runs IDP and SFB pilots on its website (Wittgenstein, 2016- and http://wab.uib.no/sfb; for an independent assessment of the two tools, see Meschini, 2020, ch. 4.2 and 4.3). But while it has come far in producing and maintaining excellent transcriptions of the Wittgenstein Nachlass and excellent metadata and metadata organization for the Wittgenstein domain more generally, this is only one half of what the community needs. The stylesheets, interface and entire infrastructure and setup upon which IDP is built (XML technologies such as Xalan, Saxon, XSLT, HTML and PHP programming etc.) also need to be in top shape. Even to put all already existent encodings to work and offer them for IDP toggling demands a substantial programming investment. While some of the technical features and functionalities required and mentioned above already work, many do not yet work flawlessly or on all required levels. Chronological sorting, for example, while it has worked in the pilot for single items already for a long time, is needed the most at higher levels such as the chronological arrangement of Nachlass item groups or even the entire Nachlass corpus. With regard to the above-mentioned WW1 diary group MSS 101-103 (1914-17) where the chronological sequence is dispersed across different page sequences, this functionality will finally enable users to much more easily connect Wittgenstein's personal and private remarks with his simultaneous reflections in philosophy and logic. Moreover, the feature of toggling on and toggling off handwritten revisions so that one can view one and the same typescript page, e.g. from the Big Typescript, with and without handwritten corrections and additions, does not yet work as it should. One example where this becomes highly relevant is, as discussed above, the study of the sources for Philosophical Grammar (Wittgenstein, 1969). Another important case is Wittgenstein's handwritten revisions to Rush Rhees' translation of the early version of the *Investigations*, contained in TS 226 (Pichler, 2020a). Generally, the current insufficiencies can be briefly summarized as follows: The IDP tool currently manages to offer access to (1) only a fraction of the encoding, (2) only a fraction of combinatorial possibilities of the encoding, (3) only a fraction of the presentation, sorting and filtering possibilities and needs, and (4)

in all these three fields it is susceptible to errors due to undesired interference. It is in fact a major challenge to provide for combined filtering, sorting and presentation modes that work in tandem and do not negatively interfere with each other. This challenge results in the following limitations: with regard to (1), users cannot, for example, yet filter the transcriptions for insertions of a specific subtype; with regard to (2), users are not yet able to, for example, combine filtering of insertions with filtering of the encoding of text alternatives; and with regard to (3), it is not yet possible to render, for example, the type of insertions selected in ways other than what is set by WAB as the default for the IDP site. Moreover, with regard to (2), currently it is, for example, not possible for the user to combine a marking of Wittgenstein's text alternatives with a diplomatic rendering, or with the inclusion / exclusion of his own markers for text alternative, or with a toggling of including / excluding the alternatives discarded by him.<sup>10</sup>

WAB's SFB pilot "Wittgenstein Ontology Explorer", however, at present already permits powerful search and browsing of the Nachlass along a number of facets, incl. reference to a person, reference to a work, a remark, its dating and its relation to "published works". It displays any resulting remark hit along with a link to the corresponding facsimile in the *Bergen Nachlass Edition* on Wittgenstein Source (Wittgenstein, 2015–). The tool is built on the University of Bergen Library's search infrastructure (http://marcus.uib.no), which involves technologies such as Elasticsearch (https://www.elastic.co), Apache Jena (https://jena.apache.org/) and Angular framework (https://angular.io/) and is fed with metadata found either in the XML transcriptions or in standoff markup. But before the metadata can become available on the SFB front end, they must be ingested into the tool; and before being ingested, their relations to each other must be modeled precisely in the above described ontology. Luckily, at present WAB's reference system for the Nachlass is already implemented in the ontology and the SFB site such that the semantic faceted search and browsing metadata branch can fully communicate with WAB's editorial philology branch.

### Linear transcription:

Augustine describes, we might say, <u>a</u> system of communication; not everything, however, that we call language is this system.

(And this one must say in so many cases when the question arises: "is this an appropriate description or not?". The answer is, "Yes, it is appropriate; but only for this narrowly restricted field, not for everything that you professed to describe by it." Think of the theories of economists.)

Screenshot of SFB-representation with metadata Document type, Refers to work, Refers to person and Date:

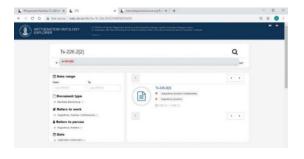


Figure 4: Linear transcription (see <a href="http://www.wittgensteinsource.org/Ts-226,2[2]\_n">http://www.wittgensteinsource.org/Ts-226,2[2]\_n</a>) and SFB-representation (<a href="http://wab.uib.no/sfb/?q=ts-226,2%5B2%5C%5D2%5C%5B2%5C%5D2%5C%5D2%5C%5D2%5C%5D2%5C%5B2%5C%5D2%5C%5C%5D2%5C%5D2%5C%5D2%5C%5D2%5C%5D2%5C%5D2%5C%5D2%5C%5D2%5C%5D2%5C%5D2%5C%5D

One substantial and important addendum to the current SFB pilot will be the WiTTFind lemmatized Wittgenstein Nachlass *lexicon* that is modeled as a subclass of the *Primary Source* class. The WiTTFind Wittgenstein lexicon (Röhrer, 2019) contains a lemmatized index for all occurrences of words in the Nachlass. The lexicon is the outcome of a long-standing cooperation between WAB

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> For a detailed study of Wittgenstein's writing and marking of text alternatives see Pichler, 2020b.

and the Centrum für Informations- und Sprachverarbeitung (CIS) at the Ludwig Maximilians Universität München on the search tool WiTTFind (http://wittfind.cis.lmu.de/). In this joint project, WAB contributed its facsimiles and encoded XML transcriptions of the Wittgenstein Nachlass as well as XSLT stylesheets for their processing, while CIS provided programming and computational linguistics personnel resources as well as a grammatically encoded digital lexicon of the German language (Hadersbeck, Pichler et al., 2016). WiTTFind offers lemmatized online text search access to the entire Nachlass, displays each sentence containing any grammatical form of the word searched for within the context of the larger remark, and additionally highlights the segment of the facsimile corresponding to the remark hit. WiTTFind continues WAB's reference system all the way down to sentence level. WiTTFind is a fine example of the added value created by making one's data available for research and reuse by others. Implementing the WiTTFind Wittgenstein lexicon in the SFB tool will permit it to adequately respond to one of the needs identified above: simultaneous and combined SFB of both metadata and text data. Researchers interested in the genesis of Wittgenstein's philosophy, for example, may want to know when Wittgenstein started to use the expression "game" in places where earlier he had written "calculus", and whether this development can be linked to any other development, e.g. reference to particular works of others, other changes in vocabulary, developments in letter correspondence, meetings and discussions with friends and colleagues, etc. Doing this kind of research becomes possible through an integration of the WiTTFind lexicon into SFB.

In addition to integration of the WiTTFind lexicon, tasks of improving the SFB tool include correcting errors and deficiencies in the overall browsing and combinatorial setup, as well as adding and organizing missing facets. This includes facets for the above-mentioned personal and private coded remarks, mathematical and logical notation and graphics, or for Wittgenstein's writing tools. Another functionality to be added is chronological sorting of a remark's variants, which currently are only displayable in alphanumeric order. Finally, yet another need is the possibility to view the remark hit resulting from one's searching and browsing along with a linear or diplomatic transcription presentation of the remark. Currently only the remark's identifier along with a link to the corresponding *facsimile* is displayed. The extension and optimization of the IDP and SFB pilots, incl. the integration of the WiTTaFind lexicon, towards the web services that users need, are all being implemented within the Norwegian CLARINO+ (2020-26) project. Already within the Norwegian CLARINO project (2012–16) the current IDP pilot on Wittgenstein, 2016– was developed. Also within CLARINO+, WAB's XML TEI transcription corpus is additionally deposited in the CLARINO Bergen Repository so that users with XML programming competence can by themselves respond to their research needs by directly processing and querying the XML transcription files. This task includes generation of CLARIN CMDI-conformant metadata as well as designing licenses for the use of both the transcriptions and the metadata made available. But it is only a fraction of Wittgenstein Nachlass users who master XML technology and most will need an interface that offers the resources in a digital language and style that they understand. For this, IDP and SFB will be central tools. While at present WAB's web services incl. the IDP and SFB pilots already enjoy a large number of international users<sup>11</sup>, it is only when these and other additional services are upgraded and optimized, that researchers will be able to take full advantage of WAB's resources. Only then will users be equipped to fully exploit the multifaceted interrelations between and within Wittgenstein data and metadata provided by WAB for research and learning about Wittgenstein. At the same time, it is also only then that the deep issues about the relation between on the one hand the contents and forms of Wittgenstein's philosophy and work, and on the other hand their interpretation and application, can properly begin to play out in sufficiently complex formats via interactive digital media.

Google Analytics lists for http://wittgensteinonline.no/ more than 5300 and for http://wab.uib.no/sfb/ more than 1500 users for the period 2017-20. — In writing this paper I have benefitted from comments by K. De Smedt, N. Gangopadhyay, Ø. Gjesdal, J. Hendrickson, C. Huitfeldt, H. Al Ruwehy and two anonymous reviewers, as well as financial support by the Norwegian Research Council funded Clarino+ project.

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