

TEI msPart for composite manuscripts and Membra Disiecta ([as asked by Council](#) at F2F meeting 07/2014 ; related to [bug661](#))

We discussed the tickets 505 and 661 and identified the following issues

semantics of msPart

The original proposal is to allow msParts in two ways:

A : *msPart (manuscript part) contains information about an originally distinct manuscript or part of a manuscript, now forming part of a single composite manuscript. In this case, the existing composite manuscript is being encoded.*

B : *msFrag (manuscript part) contains information about one part of a larger original manuscript whose distinct parts may reside in different repositories or contain different call numbers. In this case, the larger original manuscript is being encoded with <msDesc>, and its component parts with a series of <msPart> elements in order to provide information about the dispersed parts, or one distinct part is being encoded.*

Décision of TEI Technical Council 05/2015 :

“We basically like the originally-proposed msFrag solution best; it’s clean and straightforward. We see no strong objections raised to it so far.

*Whole Council agrees. **Action on SG (with MH):** generate elementSpec for <msFrag>, and insert a subsection into the prose.”*

Our proposal: accept (as/if there are no contradictions)

Actions:

1. Change prose description of chapter [10.10](#) about <msPart> and prose description of chapter [10.4](#) about <msIdentifier> : *“Cases of such changed or alternative identifiers **should be clearly distinguished from cases of ‘scattered’ manuscripts**, that is to say manuscripts which although physically disjoint are nevertheless generally treated as single units. (...)”*
2. Remove last [example for <altIdentifier>](#).

msIdentifier schematron rule

The original proposal was to remove the test for empty textual content since some child elements can be pointers only

Our proposal: Needs discussion. Possibly include @ref etc. in schematron rule

Proposal for the Guidelines :

About A - Composite Manuscript :

TEI Guidelines c. 10 Manuscript Description p. 10 [Manuscript Part](#)

Current example provided in the Guidelines is about a carolingian **multi-volume manuscript** (attention => Amiens, BM, MS 3 is **not** related to MS 6 and MS 7) the so called "[Maurdramnus Bible](#)" (six volumes or fragments survive (Amiens, BM, [MS 6](#); [MS 7](#); [MS 9](#); [MS 11](#); [MS 12](#); BnF, Département des manuscrits, Latin 13174 (fol. [136](#), [138](#)) corresponding to Pentateuch, Judges, Kings, Wisdom Book, Minor Prophets, Maccabees).

Action : Stefanie is going to create a ticket in order to ask for replacement or deletion of the guideline example (done 5/12/2014)

About B - Dispersed Manuscript

TEI Community

[The project Coptic Scriptorium](#) already uses msPart to describe one part of what used to be a larger original manuscript in Coptic. I've been looking for a TEI-file containing several <msPart> : All (?) examples seem to contain just one <msPart> so it seems to be a fragment, that is the only remaining one of an original manuscript (?) Probably not. If so or not : try to clarify what is of interest : => add this case to the text proposal as well (?)

Interesting point : the former location on the original manuscript is encoded in msPart/msContents/msItem/locus @scheme"YA" .

[Example 1 Coptic Scriptorium](#)

[Example 2 Coptic Scriptorium](#)

Proposal new examples :

A. composite manuscript (Brussels, KBR, ms. 10066-77)

Proposal for a new example in the guidelines (using msDesc @type="composite" and objectDesc @form="composite_manuscript") :

[Example A](#)

B. dispersed manuscript ("Florus Dispersus")

Proposal for a new example for the guidelines, using (msDesc @type="dispersed" and objectDesc @form="dispersed_manuscript") :

[Example B](#)

<!-- ToDo : add a letter as example as well (deriving from Peter's work) and an example for an inscription ? -->

<msDesc>

<msIdentifier>

<msName>Letter of Carl Maria von Weber to Caroline Brandt. Dresden, 21st to 23rd May 1817 </msName>

</msIdentifier>

<history>

<p>The second part of the letter (Weberiana Cl.II A a 2, 9) was given to Friedrich Jähns by Caroline von Weber,

the widow of Carl Maria von Weber. Jähns then handed this fragment over to the Berlin state library in 1881,

whereas the first part (Mus.ep. Weber, C. M. v. 96) remained with the family estate and found its way into the library not until 1956.

Yet, the identification was already obvious to Jähns who noted <quote>Zu No. 50. 21. Mai 1817 gehörig</quote>

at the top of his fragment.</p>

</history>

<msPart>

<msIdentifier>

<country>D</country>

<settlement>Berlin</settlement>

<repository>Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin Preußischer Kulturbesitz</repository>

<idno>Mus.ep. Weber, C. M. v. 96</idno>

</msIdentifier>

```
<physDesc>
  <objectDesc>
    <supportDesc>
      <p>One double leaf, four written pages without address.</p>
    </supportDesc>
  </objectDesc>
</physDesc>
</msPart>
<msPart>
  <msIdentifier>
    <country>D</country>
    <settlement>Berlin</settlement>
    <repository>Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin Preußischer Kulturbesitz</repository>
    <idno>Weberiana Cl.II A a 2, 9</idno>
  </msIdentifier>
  <physDesc>
    <objectDesc>
      <supportDesc>
        <p>One leaf, two written pages including address.</p>
      </supportDesc>
    </objectDesc>
  </physDesc>
</msPart>
</msDesc>
source: http://www.weber-gesamtausgabe.de/A041180
```

Proposal new prose for the Guidelines

[XML](#)

Related Topics :

Use of the elements <identifier> and <altIdentifier> for a dispersed manuscript and [bug 661](#)

Is Peter's proposal to allow <altIdentifier> or <idno> as first child in <msIdentifier> then still applicable ? And : @Peter, could you provide a sample TEI encoding on a dispersed manuscript, that is a letter, for the guidelines please ?

Bug 661

"To me the schematron constraint 'msId_minimal' at <msIdentifier> seems outdated in at least two ways:

- *I believe it's perfectly valid to only have <altIdentifier>s as children of <msIdentifier> (use case: one logical object, scattered across several institutions. Cf. <http://tei-i.970651.n3.nabble.com/multiple-msIdentifiers-tp2416599p2416117.html> - published 2011)*
- *since several child elements of <msIdentifier> could simply be pointers (e.g. <repository ref="my:repo"/>) the check for empty text will falsely fail*

I'm not sure whether this rule is needed anyway but if so it should be updated.

The current constraint for convenience:

<constraint>

<report xmlns="http://purl.oclc.org/dsdl/schematron" test="not(parent::tei:msPart) and (local-name([1])='idno' or local-name(*[1])='altIdentifier' or normalize-space(.)='')">An msIdentifier must contain either a repository or location of some type, or a manuscript name</report>*

</constraint>

Wouldn't it, in the case of a dispersed manuscript, be very useful to know "why" you think the msParts listed should be seen as one manuscript, that means to me: please give the manuscript you are re-constructing a "name".

Discussion on <idno>, <altIdentifier> and <msIdentifier> on **tei-I** in **2011**:

*"You are no longer required to have an <idno> so you could just have a series of <altIdentifier> or indeed <msName> elements. It might be considered *good practice**

to designate its currently used identifier as <idno> but it isn't a requirement in the current TEI I don't think." *"This was the whole point, in fact: you could have multiple <altIdentifier> elements where there was no primary identifier, as in the case of "scattered" or dispersed MSS, parts of which are found in different repositories."*

It does not contain information about parts of a larger original manuscript whose distinct parts