

Building an Audio Description Multilingual Multimodal Corpus: the VIW project

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MMC2016-LREC 2016. Portoroz (Slovenia), 24 May 2016

FFI2015-62522-ERC, 2014SGR0027, FFI2015-64038-P (MINECO/FEDER, UE)



Overview

- What do we want to research?
- Previous work on audio description (AD) and corpora
- Project rationale
- Creating the materials
- Processing the materials
- Next steps

What do we research?

- Audio description within Audiovisual Translation Studies and Media Accessibility

- Translating images into words
 - What to select from a complex image?
 - How to transfer the visuals into words?
 - Inter- and intralinguistic variation?

Previous work on AD and corpora

- Small corpus (Piety 2004)
- TIWO (Salway 2007)
- TRACCE (Jiménez Hurtado et al. 2010)
- Pear Tree Project (Mazur and Kruger 2012), inspired by Chafe (1980)

Project rationale

- One small stimulus, allowing for increasing research
 - Open access (copyright issues)
 - Multilingual (Catalan, Spanish, English)
 - Multimodal (audio, video and text)
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- Funded by Spanish Government under Europa Excelencia funding scheme (October 2015-September 2016)

Creating the materials

- Short film commissioned to a film director (guidelines based on literature review)
- “What happens while---”, by Núria Nia, in English.
- Dubbed into Catalan and Spanish in professional studio

<http://pagines.uab.cat/viw/>

Creating the materials

- Audio descriptions by professionals (10 in English, 10 in Catalan, 10 in Spanish): recorded video plus text
- Additionally: audio descriptions by students (volunteers in Spanish and Catalan), only text

<http://pagines.uab.cat/viw/>

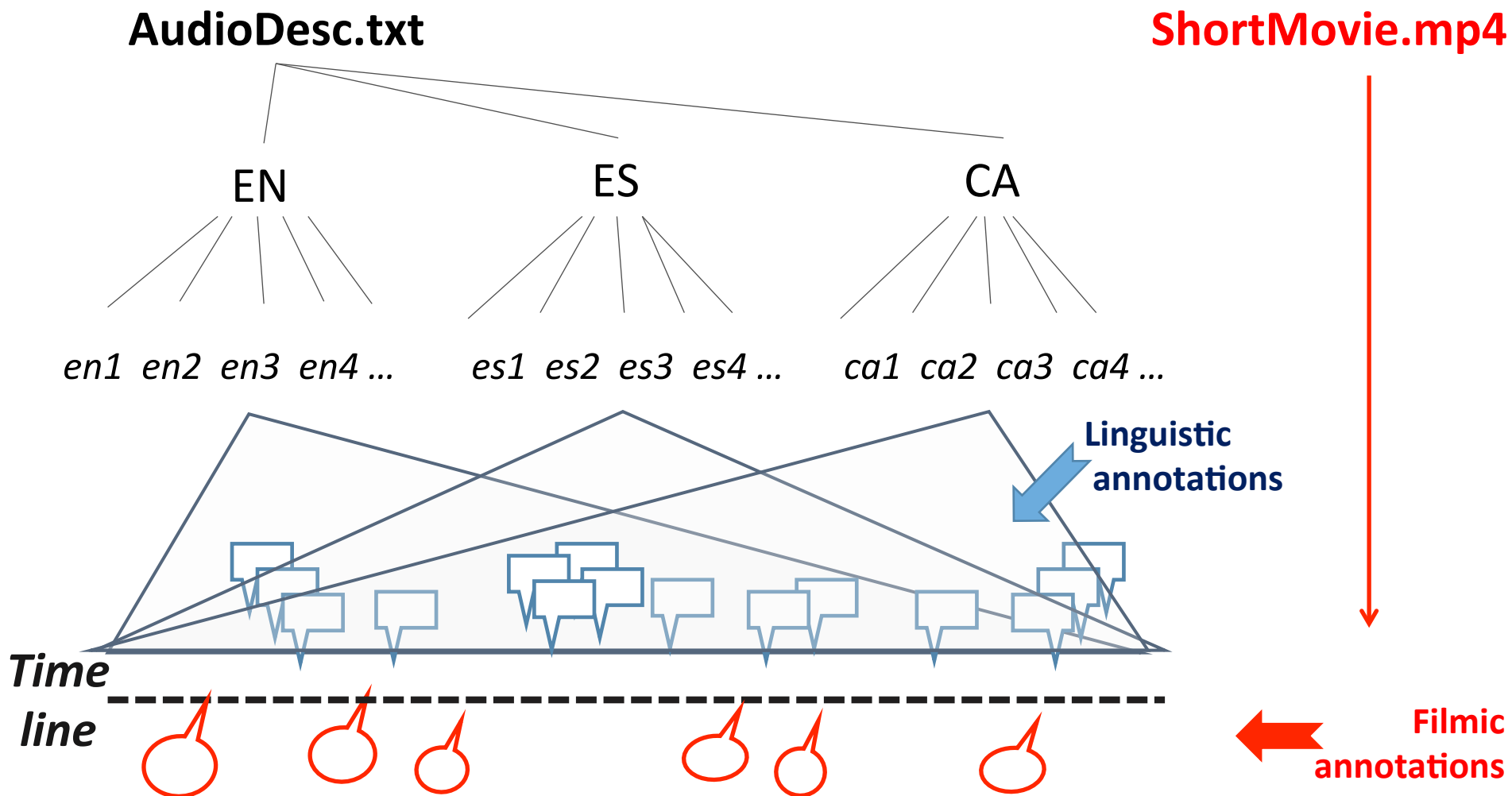
The corpus

AUDIO DESCRIPTION	VERSIONS	WORDS
ENGLISH	10	6777
CATALAN	10	6888
SPANISH	10	6095
GLOBAL	30	19760
STUDENTS- CATALAN	7	5185
STUDENTS- SPANISH	10	6777
GLOBAL	17	12539

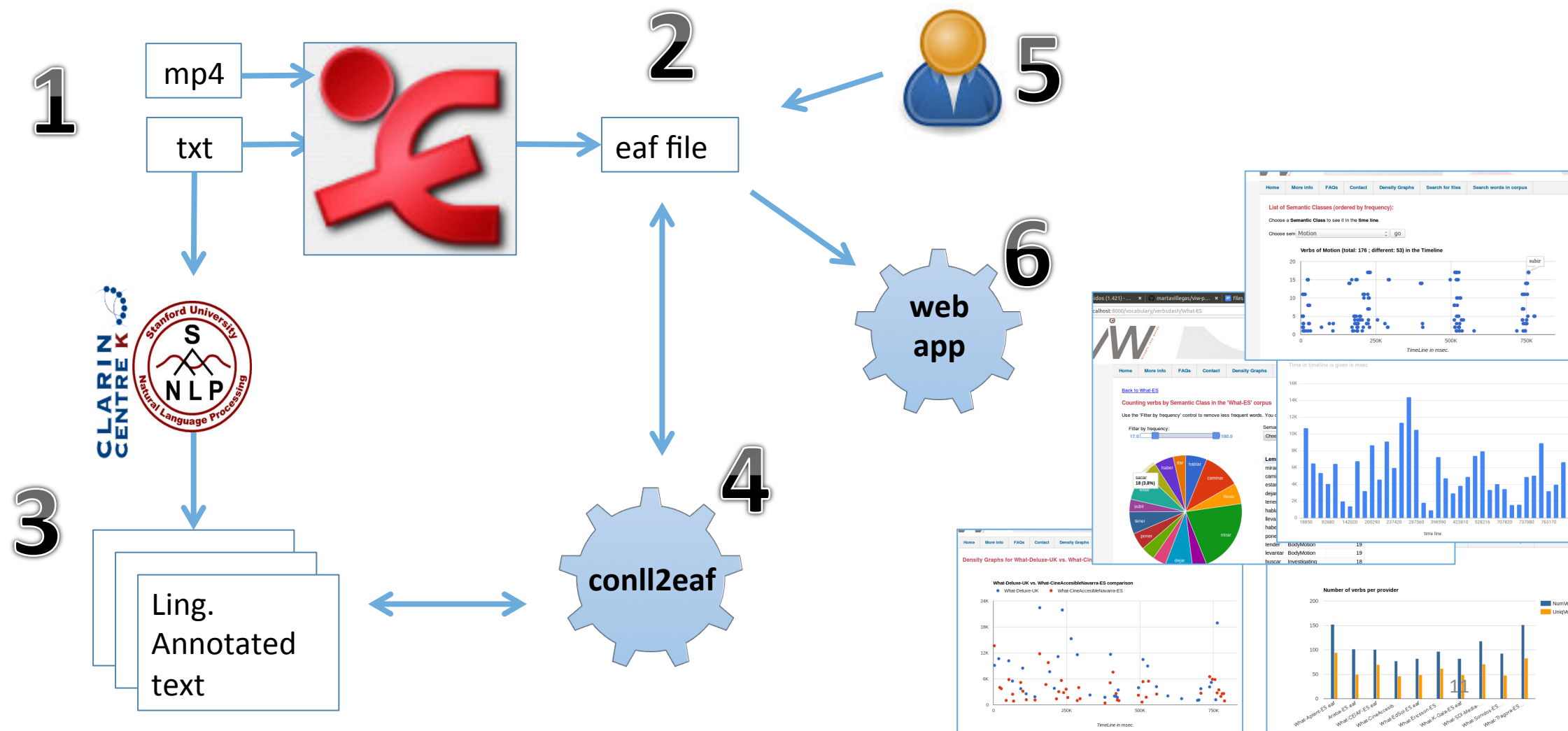
Processing the materials

- ELAN (Sloetjes and Wittenburg 2008).
- Linguistic annotations: sentences, chunks, tokens, part of speech, lemma, and semantic annotations.
- Cinematic annotations: text, sound, and camera (ongoing). In a way, ADs are extended visual annotations.

The whole picture



Workflow



Next steps

- Clean data and finalise web application
- Cinematic annotation
- Analyse the data: intralinguistic and interlinguistic analysis on AD (useful graphics) plus professionals versus students
- Involve other researchers and languages

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