Digital preservation and valorisation of cultural heritage

Prof. DDr. PETER STOCKINGER

Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales (INALCO)
Maison des Sciences de l’Homme (FMSH)

Leonardo da Vinci JASON Seminar in Funchal, Madeira

17th of October 2006
The repurposing (re-authoring) of digital audiovisual resources in cultural heritage.

A concrete example: The Huarpe Civilization and Culture
The main topics of this conference are the following three ones:

1. Short presentation of the French program « Audiovisual archives of research » (Archives audiovisuelles de la Recherche) and of its missions and challenges.

2. Presentation of an ongoing re-authoring project of an audiovisual source corpus: « Guanacache. The Water of thirst » - videos about the world and the life of the huarpe farmers living in the region of Mendoza in Argentina.

3. The anatomy of re-authoring of a given source corpus of texts: the principal activities, objectives and tasks.
1st topic

- The Program « Audiovisual Archives of Research in Social Sciences and Humanities » -
The Program “Archives Audiovisuelles de la Recherche” (AAR) is a R&D project we have launched in Paris in the year 2001 aiming at:

- the constitution of an audiovisual, multimedia portal of scientific heritage in social and human sciences
- the exploitation of the audiovisual content in research (scientific communication), education (pedagogical communication), science popularization, ...

Concretely speaking:

- actually more than 3000 hours of videos
- composed of interviews, research seminars, reportages, documentaries, ...) in almost all domains of social and human sciences.

Online demonstration of the AAR: [http://www.archivesaudiovisuelles.fr/fr/](http://www.archivesaudiovisuelles.fr/fr/)

More information in: P. Stockinger Digital audiovisual archives in humanities. Problems and challenges. Workshop on Multimedia in Digital Libraries., Jun 2003, Chania, Greece. <hal-00130295>
Figure 1 shows the home page of the web site hosting the AAR audiovisual web portal.
List of principal challenges:

- transform this material in a useful tool for formal (secondary, higher) education;
- transform this material in a useful tool for informal learning (life long learning, u-learning, ...);
- open this material to a multilingual and multicultural knowledge market;
- use this material for other objective bounded purposes: political communication, social communication, ...;
- re-use this material in order to contribute to the dialogue “culture, science and citizen”;
- prepare this material as a knowledge heritage of the actual generation left for future generations;
- prepare this material for its critical use in the construction of new knowledge.
2\textsuperscript{nd} topic

- « Guanacache. Water of thirst » -
“Guanacache. Water of thirst” is a web site, actually under construction within the European R&D project LOGOS, financed by the 6th framework IST-Program.

It is a web site dedicated, generally speaking, to the life world, culture and traditions of the descendants of an indigenous population living in the region of Mendoza in Argentina, nearby the Chilean frontiers on the foot of the Andes.

The indigenous population, the Huarpe, who are extremely poor and disadvantaged peasants or croppers elevating in the desert small troops of sheep.

Two centuries before, the Huarpe have still lived in a fertile region of lakes but because of the Spanish “encomienda” and the massive European immigration in the 19th century their social structure and their natural environment has been completely destroyed.

For more information:

- Pueblo Huarpe
Within the framework of the **AAR Program**, a series of interviews have been realized with the Argentinean writer and journalist **Gregorio Manzur**.

Gregorio Manzur is in contact with the Huarpes since his youth, has visited them for many times and is an active defendant of their rights.

The interviews have taken place in the apartment of Gregorio Manzur, in Paris, and have been organized by Elisabeth de Pablo, responsible of the audiovisual program of cultural heritage of minorities and indigenous people at ESCoM in Paris, as well as Alice Maestre and Richard Fillon from ESCoM, responsible for the filming and post-production.

The interviews themselves have been prepared with Gregorio Manzur following a **standard scenario** used for the filming of interviews within the AAR program. (more information; cf. P. Stockinger: Peter Stockinger. Le Programme « Archives Audiovisuelles de la Recherche » : La génération d'archives audiovisuelles en ligne de la recherche.. [Rapport de recherche] ESCoM-AAR (Equipe Sémiotique Cognitive et Nouveaux Médias - Archives Audiovisuelles de la Recherche); INALCO. 2004, pp.63. <hal-01303666>

A first interview consisted in the (dialogical) realisation of a sort of **general narrative**

- of the huarpe life world (their living conditions, the natural environment, their beliefs and traditions, …)
- as well as of the very old relationship between Gregorio Manzur and this population.
The following interviews have been undertaken on the basis of the first interview in “targeting” on more specific “subjects”:

- which either have been proven to be more or less central ones in the first interview;

- or which, contrarily have been obliterated, “forgotten” or simply considered as not sufficiently relevant in the first one.

Note: this sort of approach is inspired from the ethnographic experience of field study:

⇒ the interviewee (journalist, researcher, teacher, …) :

- is considered to be a – more or less productive, cooperative, … – “informer” of the interviewer (occupying the role of the ethnographer or, more generally speaking, investigator in an unknown “terrain”),

- with whom a relation of confidence has to be built progressively as well as strategies or procedures for eliciting knowledge and values (i.e. the “culture”).

One of the most basic strategies is to plan a series of interviews following a scenario adapting with respect to the experiences of the first interview.
The “intellectual results” of this series of interviews: A rather systematic overview of the central aspects of the life world, culture and social structure of the huarpe croppers narrated in a very concrete and attractive style by Gregorio Manzur:

- the specific and difficult living conditions in a natural environment which is essentially a dessert;
- the living and survival strategies in such an environment;
- the ingenious traditional and practical knowledge for habiting such a specific world and for establishing a working social organisation without almost any economic resources;
- the very rich religious tradition which, essentially, is a syncretism of Christian (especially, catholic) references and indigenous ones;
- the relationships between this population with the “outer world”: the modern one which constitutes a big menace for the small and traditional one of the huarpes;
- the specific “philosophy of communication” of the huarpe that emphasises the value of silence
- the extremely brutal and sad history of colonisation and immigration having destroyed the huarpe and their world.
The series of interviews have been filmed with two digital cameras and appropriate material for sound tacking.

The output of this filming in form of a physical documentation is:

- DV cassettes containing the whole interviews without any modifications, ameliorations, etc. (“rushes”)
- These DV cassettes are transformed in avi and mpeg files for being processed further

Other materials documenting on the one hand the series of interviews and on the other hand the “subject” of these interviews (i.e. the Huarpe life world and culture):

- photos illustrating different aspects of the Huarpe life world which have been digitized in jpeg
- texts which are parts of a monumental book of some 600 pages written by Manzur about the Huarpe civilisation, transformed in protected pdf files
- a lexicon (vocabulary) explaining central notions and terms belonging to the Huarpe life world
- bibliographical resources
- other online documents (especially reports, …)
- specialised web sites
This whole material constitutes what we call a “source corpus” or again the archive stricto senso of the series of interviews dedicated to the life world and culture of the huarpe.

The source corpus or again the archive stricto sensu can be a closed one or an open one

- a closed source corpus: remains unchanged – especially: no new data are introduced
- an open source corpus: it can evolve and this in at least two directions –
  - new, original data;
  - “derived” data from the original ones (i.e. reprocessed or again re-authored ones)

The source corpus: the starting point for reprocessing activities
In this sense “reprocessing” = “re-authoring” in taking into account:

1. The specificity of the source corpus
2. The specificity of the intended “product”
3. The specificity of the re-authoring activity itself (the tasks, the methods, the resources, the knowledge, the technologies, etc.)

“Re-authoring” as an intercultural processing or again as a – very broadly speaking – intercultural translation process:

- the specific profile, the specific “nature” of a given source corpus
- has to be transformed, adapted, modified, … with respect to the target destine, his/her knowledge/values, interests/desires, preferences, etc. i.e. with respect to his/her “cultural filter”.

Re-authoring as a (digital) technology mediated and/or enabled process:

- It is based on production (authoring) and delivery technologies
- It’s “products” can be “consumed” only by the means, with the help of (digital) communication, visualisation, archiving, … technologies.
What are the specificities of our source corpus documenting the huarpe life world and culture?

- French colloquial style of the interviews
- Narratives are dominating: personal experiences, examples,
- Sometimes already rather specialised historical and geographic knowledge is presupposed,
- Ethnographic information in academic sense is provided rather scarcely,
- Interviews are punctuated with not explained terminological expressions concerning especially the fauna and the flora of the world of the huarpe,
- Very valuable iconographic material: “genre”, people, activities,…,
- Recorded voices as possible linguistic material,
- Most of background information about the huarpe is in Spanish, almost nothing in German, or French,
- A lot of background information in English has to be seriously worked through (tourist information, problem of “evangelisation”…).
What are potential target destinies?

- French speaking people interested in the huarpe civilisation: for personal reasons or professional ones but with few or no ethnographic, sociological ambitions or knowledge;

- Specialists (ethnographers, sociologists, botanists, ecologists, …) looking for thematically very circumscribed and already well structured information

- Professionals (physicians, journalists, agronomists, …) who need practical information in order to be able to survive there

- NGO and other associations engaged in the defence of the rights of the huarpe, the valorisation of their traditions and their life world

- Students in Latin America Studies (level B or M) for whom a series of 10 lessons have to be prepared on indigenous peoples living in South America (three lessons should be dedicated to the huarpe puesteros)

- People having some very local, ephemeral interest to understand a notion, a term, a lexical expression related to the huarpe civilisation (in reading, for instance, a book, consulting a web site, seeing a film, …)
What are the specific products we want to deliver?

- For a French speaking destine (or a destine able to understand more or less well colloquially French spoken interviews)
  - interactive video-book of a general grade, supposed to be more or less accessible by anybody and covering a maximum of subjects ordered in “video chapters”
  - thematic hypermedia encyclopaedia for people looking for special topics richly commented and documented
  - video-lexicon for understanding terms, expressions used either in the interviews or in any other production related to the topics of the interviews
  - pedagogical folders prepared following an international standard of learning objects (LOM) as a material for a Bachelor or Master degree study
  - virtual film corner composed of sequences extracted from the interviews and/or other original sources

- For non-French speaking destines (German speakers, …)
  - a condensed version of the above quoted services.

2nd topic
Guanacache

Peter Stockinger: Cultural heritage (Madeira, 2006)
3rd topic

- Guanacache – (re-)authored versions -
Figure 2 shows the home page of the Guanacache. Water of Thirst web site (actually again under construction ...)

Guanacache (re-)authoring

Peter Stockinger: Cultural heritage (Madeira, 2006)

© Equipe Sémiotique Cognitive et Nouveaux Médias (Escom) – Paris
Figure 3 shows the re-authored versions of the source corpus composed by DV cassettes containing several hours of interviews, reportages, other footages), images, sound tracks, bibliographical notices, web links, terminological tables, etc.:
Figure 4 shows the home page (cover page) of the re-authored interactive video-book.

3rd topic
Guanacache (re-)authoring

Peter Stockinger: Cultural heritage (Madeira, 2006)
3rd topic

Guanacache (re-)authoring

Figure 5 shows the home page (cover page) of the re-authored interactive thematic encyclopaedia (actually: a working version!)

(figure 5)
Figure 6 shows a richly commented and documented video segment of the hypermedia encyclopaedia (actually: a working version)
Figure 7 shows the thematically organised “big subjects” proposed by the encyclopaedia (actually: a working version)

(figure 7)
Figure 8 shows a **LOM compliant pedagogical folder** for L2 students in Latin America Studies (actually: a working version)

### Guanacache

#### 3rd topic

**Guanacache (re-)authoring**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accueil</th>
<th>Dossiers à usage extra-scolaire</th>
<th>Dossiers pour enseignants</th>
<th>Copyrights</th>
<th>Crédits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dossier 1</strong>: Vivre et survivre dans le désert. Le monde des paysans huarpe. <strong>Informations générales</strong></td>
<td><strong>Profils pédagogiques</strong></td>
<td><strong>Positionnement par rapport à d'autres ressources pédagogiques</strong></td>
<td><strong>Aspects techniques d'utilisation</strong></td>
<td><strong>Cycle de vie de la ressource pédagogique</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Access au contenu du dossier

Une collection des ressources multimédia organisée en plusieurs phases typiques d'un enseignement.

### Guanacache. Les eaux de la sel.

Des dossiers pédagogiques pour mieux connaître le monde et la culture des indiens huarpe.

### Profil pédagogique de la ressource

- Collection de séquences vidéo d'interviews annotées, enrichies et mises en relation les unes par rapport aux autres selon la thématique abordée et les explications des participants aux interviews.

### Contexte pédagogique

- Ce dossier est un travail de recherche et d'expérimentation, il est destiné à des enseignants et des étudiants en formation pédagogique.

### Difficulté

- Le contenu proposé dans les clips vidéo sélectionnés et les autres ressources proposées par le dossier est assez abrégé. Il est exposé et développé dans un style narratif, très clair et vivant. Les exemples illustrant les différents aspects des paysans huarpe donnent l'immersion.

### Durée de l'apprentissage

- Elle est variable mais le cycle complet d'approvisionnement par l'apprenant (observation du contenu et de l'évaluation des connaissances acquises est d'environ 10 heures).
Figure 9 shows the structural organisation of the pedagogical folder for L2 students in Latin America Studies (actually: a working version).

3rd topic

Guanacache (re-)authoring

Publication originale: L’univers des indiens huarpes de Guanacache
- Accueil
- Videos

Dossiers hybrides:
- The Universe of the Huarpes
- El universo de los indigenas huarpes de Guanacache
- L’univers des Indiens huarpes de Guanacache

Dossiers pédagogiques:
- Les Indiens huarpes et la nature
- Quelques éléments mythologiques chez les Huarpes...

La volet de recherche:
- Domaines et disciplines
- Les collections
- Videos en version originale
- Les auteurs
- Tout le fonds audiovisuel

L’encyclopédie

Quelques éléments mythologiques chez les Huarpes...

Table: Accueil, Passages, Thematiques, Lexique

L’univers des Indiens huarpes de Guanacache

Durée: 1h 39mn 02s 76
Langue: Français
Tourné le mardi 9 mai 2006 à Paris

Intervenant(s):
- Gregorio Manzur, Interviewé

Journaliste

Gregorio Manzur, écrivain et journaliste argentin installé depuis 1955 à Paris, s’est engagé depuis quelques années dans la lutte pour la survie des indiens huarpes des lagunes de Guanacache, région située entre les provinces de Mendoza et de San Juan (au nord-ouest de l’Argentine) et que l’on surnomme aujourd’hui « Cathédrale du désert ».

- Elisabeth De Pablo, Interviewee

Ingénieur d’études
ESCoM-FMSH
Courriel: depablo@msh-paris.fr

(figure 9)
Figure 10 shows an excerpt of the *huarpe video-lexicon* (actually: a working version)

---

3rd topic

Guanacache (re-)authoring

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Keywords</th>
<th>Clips</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1833: “Conquest of the desert”</td>
<td>Immigration and viticulture in the 19th century: two main causes of the desertification of the Mendoza region [Explanation]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1850: planned European immigration into Argentina</td>
<td>Immigration and viticulture in the 19th century: two main causes of the desertification of the Mendoza region [Explanation]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adelantado</td>
<td>The Spanish encomienda system and forced ethnic mixing, two causes of the progressive desertification of the Huarpe current territory [Explanation]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agni</td>
<td>A Huarpe woman introduces the young Gregorio Manzur to the traditions of his people [Testimonial]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andes Mountains</td>
<td>“Guanacache. The Waters of Thirst”: an ethnological narrative about the Huarpe people [Description]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armadillo</td>
<td>Methods of subsistence: diet of the Huarpe [Description]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armadillo hunting</td>
<td>Methods of subsistence: diet of the Huarpe [Description]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artificial irrigation</td>
<td>El Algarrobal - Gregorio Manzur’s native village in indigenous territory [Testimonial]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auditory perception over great distances</td>
<td>Communication between inhabitants isolated in a desert world [Testimonial]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basket making</td>
<td>The Puesteros in Mendoza and San Juan in Argentina: precarious living conditions [Description]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black mule</td>
<td>A updated version of the Faustian myth of the Devil [Narration]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brackish water</td>
<td>Drilling for water at great depths: disappointing results [Description]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civilization</td>
<td>The first excursions into the Huarpe world with writer Dragli Lucero de Mendoza [Testimonial]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civility</td>
<td>The extreme beauty of the desert inhabited by the Huarpe Indians [Clips]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 11 finally shows the home page of the **German version** of the Guanacache portal (actually: a working version)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Guanacache</th>
<th>Alle Videossequenzen</th>
<th>Thematische Schwerpunkte</th>
<th>Copyright</th>
<th>Impressum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>auf Deutsch</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Willkommen**

Guanacache ist ein multimediales Portal über die Welt und das Leben der Huarpe Indios, die in den Wüstenzonen von Mendoza am Fusse der Anden im Nordwesten von Argentinien leben.

Ausgangspunkt dieses Portals sind die Arbeiten und Zeugnisse des argentinischen Schriftstellers und Journalisten Gregorio Manzur, der die meisten Jahre seines Lebens diesem Volk und seinen Traditionen gewidmet hat.

Das Portal selbst baut sich um eine Reihe von kurzen online Videos auf, die Gespräche zwischen Gregorio Manzur und Elisabeth de Pablo auszeichnen.

Die originale Fassung der Videos und des gesamten Portals sind in spanischer Sprache.

Die deutschsprachige Version bietet eine inhaltsliche Auswahl der originalen Fassung an.

---

**Die Gesprächspartner**

- **Gregorio Manzur**, Gesprächspartner
  - Autor, Journalist und auch Schauspieler aus Argentinien, der seit seiner Kindheit im Kontakt mit den Huarpe Indios lebt.
  - **Elisabeth de Pablo**, Gesprächsführerin

---

**Mehr Informationen über die Huarpe Indianer**

(nur in spanischer und französischer Sprache...)

- **Huarpe Huarpe - Portal Cultural Virtual**
  - Erste Hand Information über die Huarpe Indianer auf ihrem eigenen Webportal.

- **Los Huarpe**
  - Ein Artikel in französischer Sprache über die Huarpe Indianer bei Wikipedia.

---

Peter Stockinger: Cultural heritage (Madeira, 2006)
4th topic

- The anatomy of intercultural (re-)authoring and reading -
Figure 12 shows in a nutshell the general context of the (re-)authoring process of a source corpus.

(figure 12)
Figure 13 identifies the principal components to be taken into account in the re-authoring of a source corpus.

(Re-)authoring process

- Types and genres of digital objects
- Types and genres of (re-)authoring
- Goals of (re-)authoring
- Resources, means, tools … for (re-)authoring
- Phases and tasks of (re-)authoring

(figure 12)
In considering more precisely the (re-)authoring process (figure 11 and 12) itself, it has to be explained with respect to:

1/ The type and genre of (re-)authoring:

- content selection in a given corpus of existing digital objects,
- explanation & completion of selected content;
- existing digital object versioning;
- content translation; existing digital object interlinking;
- creation of new content parts;
- (visual, sound, …) content expression modification; etc.;
- the specific type and genre of digital objects: technical and scientific texts; audiovisual ethnographic documentaries; cultural heritage images; etc.;
2/ The goals of a (re-)authoring process:

- contexts of use (learning, teaching, science popularisation, ...);
- destines (pupils, students, any person, specific social group, ...);
- publishing genre (courses, thematic folders, glossaries, info flashes, games, ...);
- forms of distribution; etc.;
3/ The *resources, means and tools of the (re-)authoring process*:

- **human resources** (authors, domain specialists, translators; publishers; …);
- **intellectual resources** (ontologies; thesauri; publishing models; aids, hints and more developed explanations and methodologies; …);
- **technical resources** (indexing tools; annotation tools; translation tools; publishing tools; …);
- **economic resources** (budget, …).
4/ The **process of (re-)authoring itself**: the phases and tasks composing a (re-)authoring chain:

- “corpus constitution”;
- “segmentation”;
- “description and indexing”;
- “translation”;
- “versioning”
- “documenting and commenting”
- “publishing”
- “testing”
- ...

Peter Stockinger: Cultural heritage (Madeira, 2006)