

# Web-based Distributed Localization of OpenOffice.org

by

János Noll

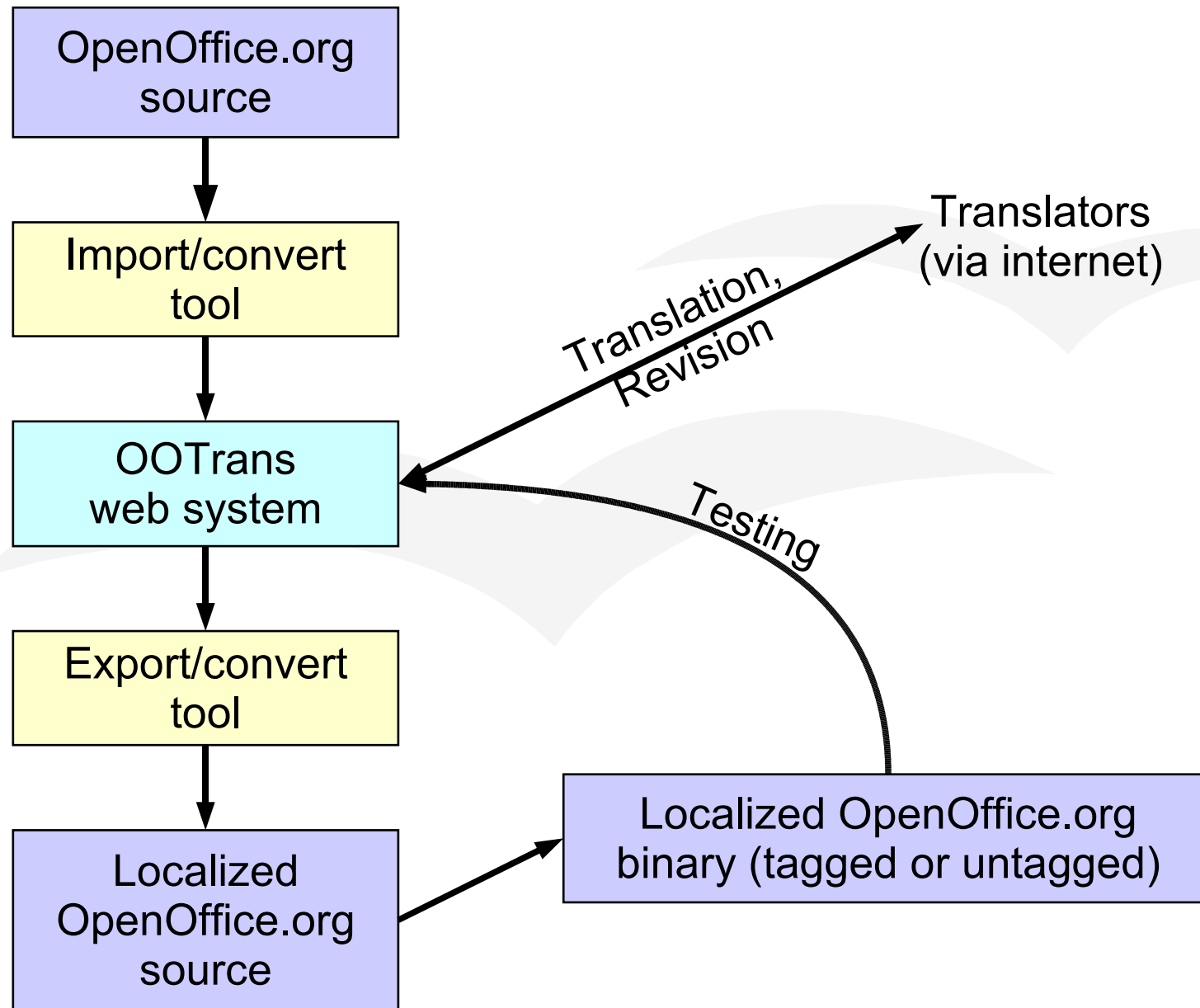
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- About the speaker
- Distributed message translation system
- Distributed help translation system
- Mouse-translator
- Conclusion/questions

- János Noll
- M.Sc. Degree in Technical Informatics (2003)
- Founder of AHLU (1998) and the Hungarian Foundation for Free Software (2002)
- Hungarian localization of OpenOffice.org :)
- Working with PHP, Perl and C
  - Implemented one of Hungary's largest free webmail service (using OpenSource tools)

- Strings
  - User interface
  - Dialogs
  - Buttons
- Help
  - Hypertext help system
  - Extended tooltips
- Other stuff
  - Fax, letter and other templates

- Requirements
  - Easy interface (anyone)
  - Distributed (many people)
  - Quality control
  - Context identification
- Implementation
  - Web-based, database backed
  - Different “user” roles
    - Translator
    - Reviewer
  - “Tagging”

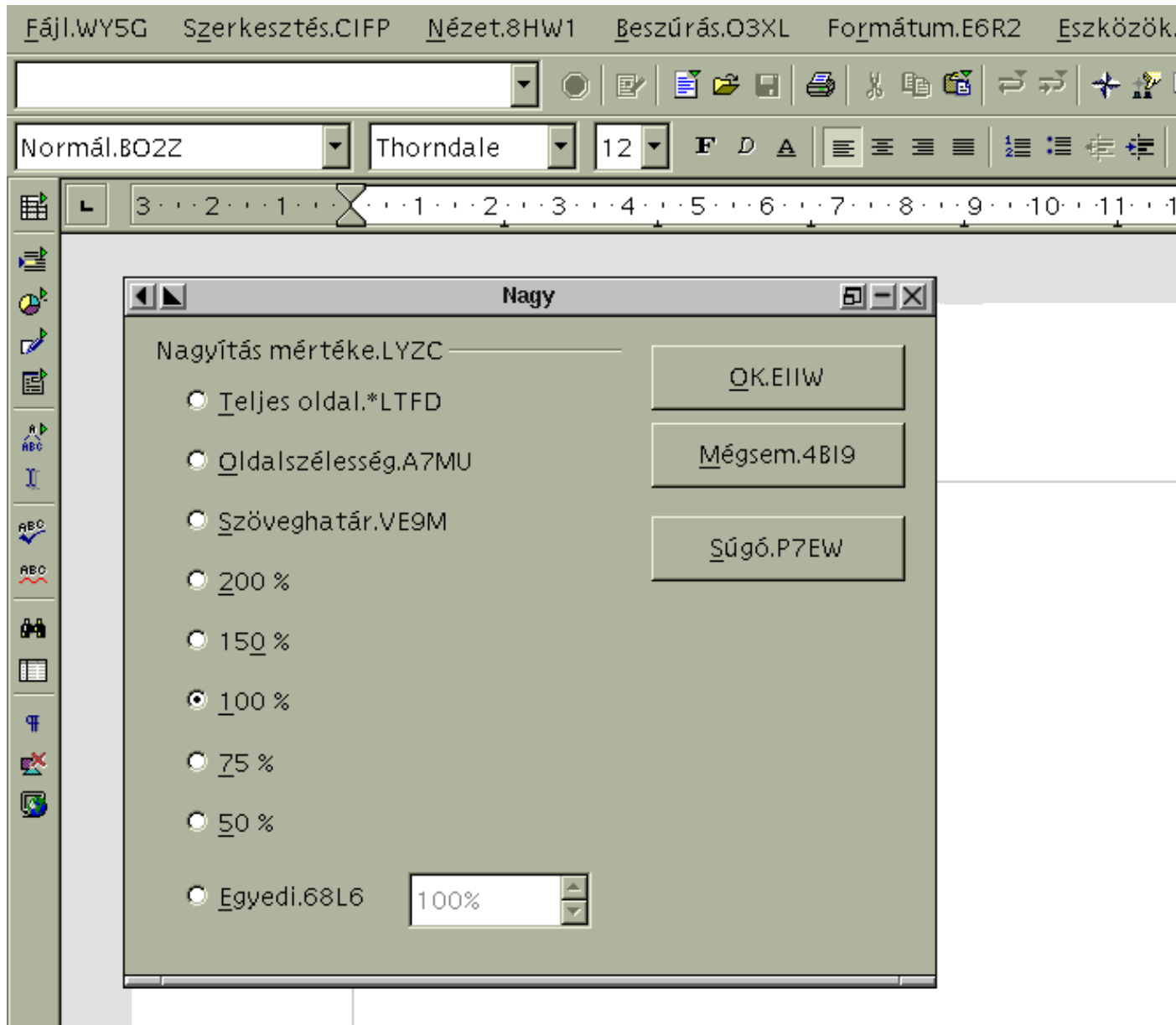


- **Translators**
  - Any participant may freely translate any string
  - Alternative translations may be submitted
- **Reviewers**
  - Choose the correct translation for each string
- **Releases**
  - Revised translation if exists for a string
  - The last submitted alternative otherwise

- PHP scripts
- Apache webserver
- PostgreSQL database
- Perl, shell scripts for conversion
- Bugzilla – mistranslations



## Append “tags” to strings for context



## Filter form

Group:	<input type="text" value="-anything-"/>	Tag:	<input type="text"/>
English string:	<input type="text"/>	No/page:	<input type="text" value="20"/>
Local string:	<input type="text"/>	Translated?	<input type="text" value="-any-"/>
Modified since review?	<input type="text" value="-any-"/>	Reviewed?	<input type="text" value="-any-"/>
<input type="button" value="Reset values"/>	<input type="button" value="Random20"/>	<input type="button" value="Random50"/>	<input type="button" value="Filter"/>

## Translation form (translator)

Commit changes

 sw (StarWriter) (text) tag: Z5C4

Background

Háttér

Háttérkép

Háttér kép

Háttérjav

 sw (StarWriter) (text) tag: WBIF

Borders

Keretek

\* **Barack**

Túrórudi


 sw (StarWriter) (text) tag: SP79

Drop Caps

Ékezet nélkülivé tesz

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Ékezet nélkülivé tesz

Dobd el az ékezeteket

- Facts

- 1.5 days, approx. 22000 messages (100%) translated by 150 people
- 3 days, approx. 39% reviewed
- Currently (1 year later): 53% reviewed

- Conclusions

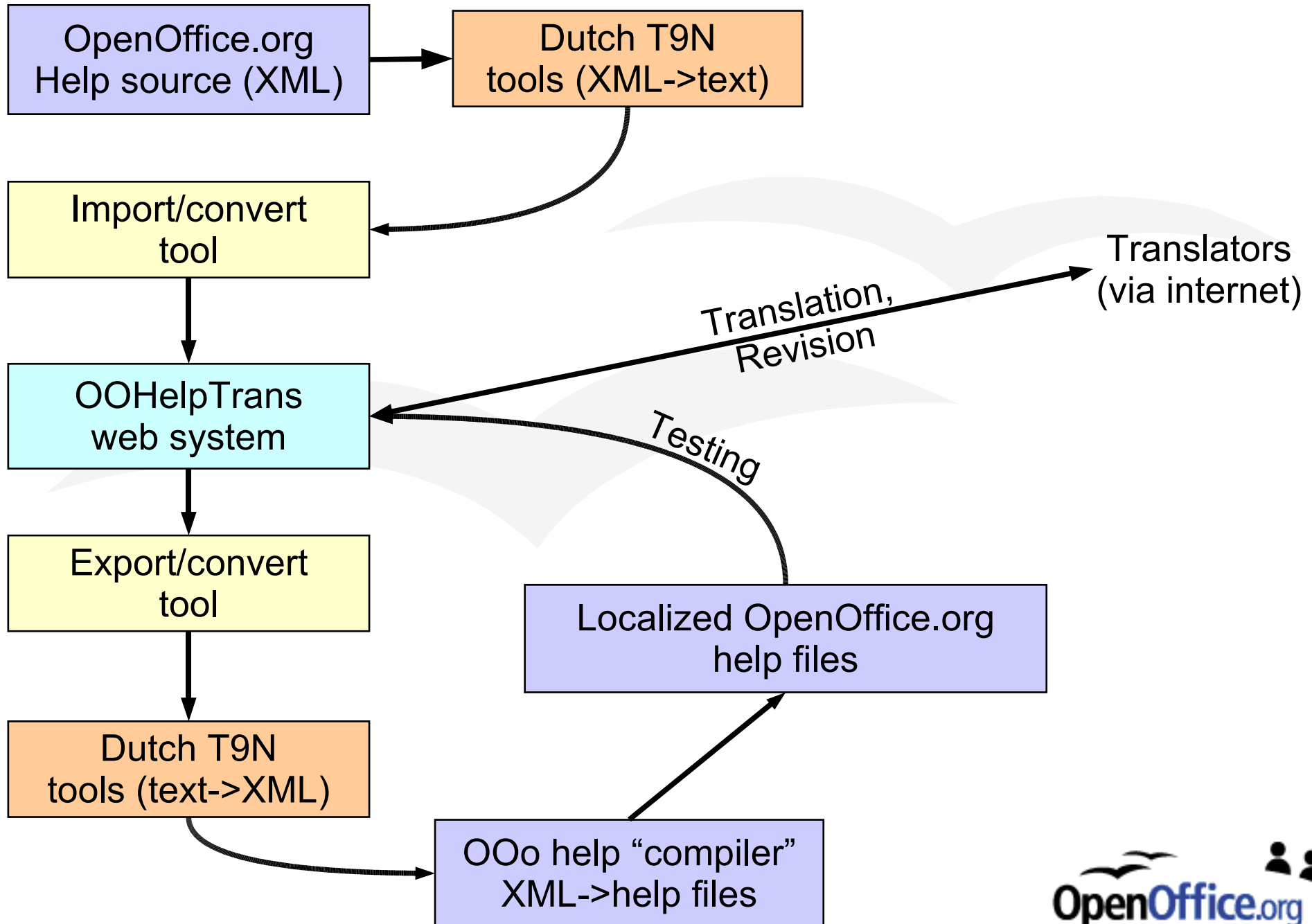
- Simple, yet powerful
- Fast translation, slow revision
  - Productive translation party
  - Almost total lack of after-party participation



## Help Translation

- Same concept as message translation
  - Web, database, PHP, forms, etc.
- Differences
  - XML format, different source (not in OOo source)
  - Help XML files – pages
  - More complex (hypertext, links, keys)
  - More conversion steps, indexing, building

# Help translation workflow





## Mouse-translator

- Original idea: MoBiMouse – dictionary
- Idea, features
  - Client-side GUI program with a server (database)
  - Mouse rollover program message, hotkey activates, tag identifies text, database lookup
- GUI provides
  - Translation
  - Revision, fixing
- Build process still manual, incremental revision

# Mouse-translator sketch

The screenshot shows the OpenOffice Writer interface. The menu bar includes 'Fájl.WY5G', 'Szerkesztés.CIFP', 'Nézet.8HW1', 'Beszűrés.O3XL', 'Formátum.E6R2', and 'Eszközök.'. The toolbar contains various icons for file operations and editing. The text area shows 'Normál.B02Z' style, 'Thorndale' font, and size '12'. A ruler is visible at the top. A 'Nagy' (Zoom) dialog box is open, with 'Teljes oldal.\*LFTD' selected. A 'MouseTrans' window is overlaid on top, displaying the following information:

**MouseTrans**

Tag: **LFTD**

Original text:  
**Full Page**

Translation:  
**Teljes oldal**

Revised      **Save**      **Cancel**

## Conclusions

# Conclusions, difficulties

- Character coding problems
  - Strings and help
  - UTF-8 vs. Latin2 conversion (GNU recode)
- Quick&Dirty but powerful tools
- Glossary and guidelines were needed
- Experience, new ideas for a new system
- Got many people involved – success!

- Hungarian OpenOffice.org  
<http://office.fsf.hu>
- FSF.hu  
<http://www.fsf.hu>
- AHLU  
<http://www.lme.hu>

## Questions?