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## Projects involved

- Archive of General Reference Corpora of Contemporary Written German
- Methods of Corpus Analysis and Corpus Mining

## Researchers involved

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Mitglied der  
  
Leibniz-Gemeinschaft

*The Institute for the German Language (IDS) is the central institution for the study and documentation of the contemporary usage and recent history of the German language. Together with 85 other non-university research institutes and service facilities, it belongs to the Leibniz Association, one of the four major research organisations.*

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Corpus Linguistics Programme Area

**DEREKO**  
*The German  
Reference Corpus*

One of the main objectives of the IDS is to maintain an empirical basis for linguistic research with respect to contemporary written German. To this end, the institute has established in 1964 what has over time grown to become a large-scale electronic sample of contemporary German texts: the Mannheim German Reference Corpus (DEREKO). It is a declared IDS policy to provide for the long-term sustainability of this corpus archive.

## DEREKO

- currently comprises 5.4 billion words and constitutes the largest linguistically motivated collection of contemporary German texts
- contains fictional, scientific and newspaper texts, as well as several other text types
- contains only licenced texts
- is encoded with rich meta-textual information
- is fully annotated morphosyntactically (three concurrent annotations)
- is continually expanded, with a focus on size and stratification of data
- may be analyzed free of charge via the query system COSMAS II
- serves as a “primordial sample” from which users may draw specialized sub-samples (so-called “virtual corpora”) to represent the language domain they wish to investigate

printed: r1946 / r858 - 2012-04

