Digital Day of Ideas 2015

The fourth Digital Day of Ideas, a day symposium at the University of Edinburgh showcasing recent work in digital scholarship. #edDDI

Digital Day of Ideas 2015 | Digital Scholarship
University of Edinburgh on 26 May 2015 for the fourth Digital Day of Ideas, a day symposium showcasing recent work in digital scholarship.

And we're off... #EdDDI pic.twitter.com/jxEMpnwZQm

A TAGS twitter archive of the event is available here...

Twitter archive from #edDDI courtesy of @mhawksey's fabulous TAGS docs.google.com/spreadsheets/...
Benjamin M. Schmidt

I am an assistant professor of history at Northeastern University and core faculty in the NuLab for Texts, Maps and Networks. My intellectual interest, broadly speaking, is the relation between history and data.

Humanities Data Analysis

Benjamin MacDonald Schmidt Assistant Professor of History, Northeastern University May 2015 Humanists approach data from the evidence first Reading biased sources takes expertise, not algorithms. Data tells stories about structures.
@benmschmidt warns there's a danger of seeing humanities data analysis as "poetry for physicists" or "rocks for jocks" #edDDI

3 YEARS AGO

KathrynSimpson
@kilmunbooks

Is data analysis fundamental to the humanities? Schmidt #EdDDI

3 YEARS AGO

@benmschmidt humanities data analysis can raise deep objections from some scholars, it seems inimical to the meaning of research #edDDI

3 YEARS AGO

@benmschmidt there are many humanistic ways of thinking about data that are intrinsic to the tradition of humanities #edDDI

3 YEARS AGO

@benmschmidt serendipity is important to humanities research and there is a fear that digital research negates this #edDDI

3 YEARS AGO

@benmschmidt gives a shout-out to Serendip-o-matic serendipomatic.org #EdDDI

3 YEARS AGO

Serendip-o-matic: Let Your Sources Surprise You

Serendip-o-matic is a project of One Week | One Tool from the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media, George Mason University. Funding provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities. © 2013, Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media. For more information, contactserendipomatic@gmail.com.
@benmschmidt reassures humanities scholars that working with the digital doesn't remove opportunities for serendipity #digitalhss #EdDDI

3 YEARS AGO

@benschmidt at #EdDDI - we can still have serendipity in data analysis.

3 YEARS AGO

DH losing serendipity in research? Ridiculous claim, said #benmschmidt #EdDDI. Look at vep.cs.wisc.edu

3 YEARS AGO

The Visualizing English Print (VEP) Project is a collaboration between computer scientists and literary scholars. By drawing on the affordances of cross-disciplinary research, we hope to scale textual analysis and visualization to increasingly large corpora, beginning with the early modern period. As a corollary, we aim to make early modern texts more accessible for computational analysis.

@benmschmidt it's easy to engineers serendipity into analysis of humanities and cultural data #edDDI

3 YEARS AGO

@benschmidt asks - what if borrowing techniques from other disciplines isn't enough? digital humanities needs its own approaches. #EdDDI

3 YEARS AGO
The mark of a good digital humanist: plan for tech fail and always have a backup! @benmschmidt keeps his cool as equipment fails #EdDDI

Schmidt- Using data natively and humanistically, a source criticism rather than "prove" things #EdDDI

#humanities starts with the evidence, not with a hypothesis says @benmschmidt #digitalhss #EdDDI pic.twitter.com/pKuYCfWE3r

@benmschmidt humanists do regularly go into archives on fishing expeditions #edDDI
Humanists could stop panicking about being 'scientific' (imprecise, biased sources...) - we know how to work with that, says @benmschmidt.

We need to look to data to have it tell stories about structures rather than individual people #edDDI.

Expressing meaning rather than discoveries requires new forms, we need to do exploratory data analysis #edDDI.

Scientists try to avoid that they are working in humanistic frames, as they prize a detached relationship to sources #edDDI.

Humanists can't help but engage with their sources, unlike the more distant scientific approach #EdDDI.

In humanities we need to think of what it means to undertake large scale analysis that is worthwhile in and of itself. #edDDI.
Johanna Drucker on data vs. capta

Johanna Drucker in Humanities Approaches to Graphical Display: Capta is “taken” actively while data is assumed to be a “given” able to be recorded and observed. From this distinction, a world of differences arises. Humanistic inquiry acknowledges the situated, partial, and constitutive character of knowledge production, the recognition that knowledge is constructed, taken, not simply given as a natural representation of pre-existing fact.

Drucker’s idea of 'capta' resonates with my experiences working with historical material. Created, not found. #EdDDI

data is every bit as real, every bit as worthwhile as the more traditional sources Schmidt #EdDDI
@benschmidt Harvard Cultural Observatory #EdDDI pic.twitter.com/YISs0bqOMi

@LORNA陈Campbell LORNA陈CAMPBELL · 3 YEARS AGO

Traumagical Idealist
justonechapter

Ben Schmidt: data visualisation has its origins in the humanities (early history charts) #EdDDI

3 YEARS AGO
@benmschmidt Just unsettling data categories isn’t enough. Need to engage in exploratory data analysis #EdDDI pic.twitter.com/tNNCxSP0Ej

DOROTHY MIELL @DOROTHYMIELL · 3 YEARS AGO

@jar Jen Ross
@jar

exploratory data analysis needs a rich 'source criticism' practice. @benmschmidt #edddi

3 YEARS AGO

.@benschmidt talking about Google Books ngram viewer books.google.com/ngrams #edDDI

Lorna M. Campbell @LornaMCampbell · 3 YEARS AGO

.@benschmidt Google books ngram viewer lets us consider the notion of what a book is #edDDI

3 YEARS AGO

Anouk Lang @a_e_lang

I’ve heard so many rubbish accounts of Ngrams, and now @benmschmidt is giving a good one. Worth coming along to #EdDDI just for this

3 YEARS AGO
@benschmidt we don't know the composition of the libraries in Google books, ngram viewer can start to surface these libraries #EdDDI

Anouk Lang
@a_e_lang

Data sleuthing: by searching Ngrams for codes on library barcodes, we get a sense of which libraries Google is scanning books from #EdDDI

@benschmidt The largest single UK contributor to google books is @bodleianlibs #edDDI

UoE LAS Team
@EdinLibAcademic

Fascinating Benjamin Schmidt at #EdDDI on identifying library locations of Google books by barcodes - but not circular stamps! "Messy facts"

@benschmidt encountering data that is shaped by collection constraints is an unavoidable problem #edDDI

@benschmidt our research is shaped by collections constrains and compositions, these shape the data we work with #EdDDI
@benschmidt people who create data are embedded into large institutions with their own constraints and cultures #edDDI

@benschmidt Is our focus on archived data a focus on risk avoidance? Live data -v- dead data? ;-) #edDDI

@benschmidt Matthew Maurey transcribed logbooks into "abstract logbooks" or formulaic data en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matthew_F... #edDDI

@benschmidt logbook digitisation was shaped by the needs of climatographers in the 19th century #edDDI
Reduction & abstraction didn't start w/ digital tech - eg tabulation of shipping logs for maritime charts, @benmschmidt's example #EdDDI

@benschmidt "logbooks digitisation requires a huge amount of labour, usually female labour" #edDDI

@benmschmidt presenting his famous 19th global shipping visualisation #EdDDI #digitalhss pic.twitter.com/r6P7hqxUqT

@benschmidt Decks illustrate how different states, eg. Germany and Russia, collect data eg. ICOADS Deck 735 Soviet Research Vessels #edDDI
@benschmidt modern oceanographic data gathering techniques produce very different patterns from ship log books #edDDI

@benschmidt Now states collect data by dropping data gathering devices into the ocean and letting them swirl around #edDDI

@benschmidt Hathi Trust bookworm bookworm.htrc.illinois.edu #edDDI

@benschmidt Fascinating talk on data for history @benmschmidt maps from maritime logbooks, politics of data collection flickr.com/photos/1005218... #EdDDI

@benschmidt Hathi Trust bookworm bookworm.htrc.illinois.edu #edDDI

@benschmidt Fascinating talk on data for history @benmschmidt maps from maritime logbooks, politics of data collection flickr.com/photos/1005218... #EdDDI

@benschmidt Hathi Trust bookworm bookworm.htrc.illinois.edu #edDDI

@benschmidt Fascinating talk on data for history @benmschmidt maps from maritime logbooks, politics of data collection flickr.com/photos/1005218... #EdDDI

@benschmidt Hathi Trust bookworm bookworm.htrc.illinois.edu #edDDI
Data on reporting of flu in 1918 reflects changing restrictions on reporting as much as flu outbreaks. @benmschmidt #EdDDI @digistis

@benmschmidt talking now about Borges' The Garden of Forking Paths. en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Garden... #edDDI

@benmschmidt humanities scholars should create data gardens and labyrinths for exploration and contemplation #edDDI

Gorgeous dynamic map/timeline visualisations showing shifts in the geographic distribution of words in newspapers by @benmschmidt #EdDDI
mtvU’s #ASK series is looking for passionate film students attending college in the NYC tri-state area for an exclusive one-on-one interv...

**Gendered Language in Teaching Evaluations**

You can enter any other word (or two-word phrase) into the box below to see how it is split across gender and discipline: the x-axis gives how many times your term is used per million words of text (normalized against gender and field).

**Lorna M. Campbell**

@LornaMCampbell

@benmschmidt everyone knows that teaching evaluations are biased, but querying the data lets us explore this bias #edDDI

**Anouk Lang**

@a_e_lang

Top terms from @benmschmidt's RMP tool: for women, mean nice helpful unfair annoying rude; for men, funny smart sexy brilliant boring #EdDDI

**James Stewart**

@jamesks

Using Ratemyprofessor big data? @benmschmidt made tool for exploration, rather than hypothesis testing, a humanities approach #EdDDI

**Lorna M. Campbell**

@benmschmidt humanities data analysis should provide tools that help us to interpret the world rather than to change it #edDDI

**Kathryn Simpson**

DH is interpreting the world not changing it! Excellent summation by Schmidt #EdDDI
Statistical tests on #BigData are always going to blind us to the value of administrative big data. They are not 'designed' #EdDDI

Fascinating keynote from Ben Schmidt at #EdDDI to begin a good day of discussion about the #digitalhumanities

Anouk Lang, University of Edinburgh - Gaps, Cracks, Keys: Digital Methods for Modernist Studies

Scholars of twentieth-century literature and culture face particular difficulties when seeking to work with digital artefacts and methods, due in part to copyright restrictions. However, they also enjoy some significant benefits, such as the growing number of datasets whose rich metadata offer intriguing vistas for investigation, and the increasing availability of tools with approachable user interfaces. In this paper, I’ll explore some of the difficulties, opportunities, and methodological approaches – the gaps, cracks and keys – that are being brought to light in emerging work by digital humanities scholars working in this area. I’ll consider some of the implications of working with digitized texts, and provide some examples of work with data visualizations of biographies which offer the chance to observe patterns in the ways authors are positioned in particular ways within the field of modernist cultural production.
@a_e_lang talking about the significant gap in digitised literature resulting from copyright legislation #edDDI

Lang- Due to copyright Modernist texts are not as well served as earlier eras #EdDDI

#EdDDI Anouk Lang on how copyright puts much modern literature out of the digital reach

Anouk Lang: because of copyright, most modern/contemporary texts are not accessible to use digital tools on, except DIY scanning #EdDDI

When will copyright be reformed so that it makes sense in the digital age? #EdDDI #dh

Eek! @a_e_lang showing gruesome pics of dissected books sliced up for digitisation :} #edDDI

digital textual analysis does not adequately situate itself in traditions of literary criticism #edDDI
EarlyCinemaScotland
jeely_jar
@a_e_lang using litlong.edina.ac.uk to demonstrate gaps in modernist sources caused by copyright law #EdDDI

3 YEARS AGO

Search " Lit Long
http://litlong.edina.ac.uk/search/
EDINA

in many Humanities Computing projects “the social, political and economic underpinnings, effects and consequences of methodology are rarely examined. Too many in this field prize method without excavating the theoretical underpinnings and social consequences … Humanities Computing has focused on using computational tools to further humanities research, and not to study the effects of computation as a humanities question.”


Lang #EdDI pic.twitter.com/PMZVKjmWAw
KATHRYNSIMPSON @KILMUNBOOKS · 3 YEARS AGO

Lorna M. Campbell
LornaMCampbell
@a_e_lang now discussing sexist encoding of gender via @melissaterras and @sramsay #edDDI
3 YEARS AGO

Lorna M. Campbell
LornaMCampbell
@a_e_lang cracks offer spaces in the record where DH can open up chinks in the data to let in light #edDDI
3 YEARS AGO
Manifesto of Modernist Digital Humanities

Whereas mainstream digital techniques reflect a naïve quantitative positivism; Whereas that positivism appears as a realism-as claim of representational fidelity-in the midst of modernist analysis; Whereas critical self-reflexivity calls for a qualitative characterization or evaluation of methodologies as well as technical disclosures of sample sizes, data gaps, and human intervention in algorithmically generated data; Whereas it seems modernist digital humanities has just stepped past that threshold into thingness; It Seems that the digital humanities use a methodological realism to investigate artistic modernism.

Good to see @ShawnaRoss's Manifesto getting a mention in @a_e_lang's #EdDDI lecture pic.twitter.com/jE9uUHzi1H

Engaging discussion by @a_e_lang abt critique of 19th-et-like 'realism' of digital humanities from shawnaross.com/manifesto/ #EdDDI
The Modernist Digital Humanities manifesto echoes the Blast Manifesto writing.upenn.edu/library/Blast/... #edDDI

Lorna M. Campbell
LornaMCampbell

@a_e_lang a key question is: what would a methodological modernism look like? #edDDI

Kathryn Simpson
kilmunbook

Lang, Inadequacy of convention in digital modernist studies, eg representing The Blast Manifesto #EdDDI

Lorna M. Campbell
LornaMCampbell

@a_e_lang some colleagues see digital humanities as an erosion of all they hold dearest #edDDI

Lorna M. Campbell
LornaMCampbell

@a_e_lang citing Nathan Hensley's "Big Data is Coming for Your Books" blogs.commons.georgetown.edu/engl-090-fall2... #edDDI

"Big data is coming for your books!"
Hi all, Great posts so far! In reference to Thursday's upcoming debate on the questions of "distant reading," technological reading, and whether literature is data, I offer this hot-off-the-press controversy from the L.A. Review of Books. "BIG DATA IS COMING for your books. It's already come for everything else.

Lorna M. Campbell
LornaMCampbell

@a_e_lang now on to the Syuzhet affair - "Problems with the Syuzhet Package" by @annieswafford #edDDI
Lorna M. Campbell

.@@a_e_lang citing "Cents and Sensibility" in Slate by Ted Underwood, Hoyt Long, and Richard Jean So slate.com/articles/... #edDDI

3 YEARS AGO

Thomas Piketty Says Novels Stopped Caring About Money. We Looked at 8,000 of Them and He's Wrong.

Six-hundred-page books about economics translated from French don't usually become best-sellers. Part of the reason Thomas Piketty's Capital in the Twenty-First Century has been so widely read is that it refuses to be just a book about economics. It traces the history of economic inequality with graphs of wealth and...

TED UNDERWOOD

Lorna M. Campbell

.@@a_e_lang keys - using data to open up interesting analytic possibilities #edDDI

3 YEARS AGO

Traumagical Idealist

Justonechapter

Anouk Lang: Twitter allows for instant peer-review by Humanists of algorithms/data evidence #EdDDI

3 YEARS AGO

Lorna M. Campbell

.@@a_e_lang biographies are curated accounts of people’s lives constructed by human and social forces and aesthetic categories #edDDI

3 YEARS AGO

Lorna M. Campbell

.@@a_e_lang citing Anand on the racism inherent in many biographies in Conversations in Bloomsbury #edDDI

3 YEARS AGO

Lorna M. Campbell

.@@a_e_lang now talking about gephi algorithms, nodes and networks. Redrawing maps multiple times highlights what’s durable #edDDI

3 YEARS AGO
And here's a network diagram of #EdDDI tweets pic.twitter.com/cw71gyeRmI

TanyaLubicz-Nawrocka @TanyaLubiczNaw

'There is no raw data; all data must be curated in digital humanities' - fascinating talk on data gaps, cracks, keys by @a_e_lang #EdDDI

James Stewart @jamesks

There is no such thing as raw data in digital text analysis: all the choices about data are subjective @a_e_lang #EdDDI

Traumagical Idealist justonechapter

Anouk Lang: methods that appear objective have socio-pol biases, hence need for data curating before use and interpretation #EdDDI

Lorna M. Campbell @LornaMCampbell

.@a_e_lang demonstrating how network diagrams can be read comparatively with examples of Hemmingway and Fitzgerald #EdDDI
@a_e_lang showing how network analysis can reveal gendered marginality of writers wives #edDDI

@a_e_lang "Fitzgerald is a central figure in Zelda's biography, but Zelda is a marginal figure in his" #edDDI

@a_e_lang arguing that it's worth trying to weigh the value of network analysis to explore biographical texts #edDDI

Intrigued by @a_e_lang 's mention of 'geomodernism', which looks at effects of marginality. Any suggestions for my reading list? #EdDDI

Digital deconstruction is a form of close reading. How do we read graphical forms such as maps and network illustrations? #edDDI

How do network maps challenge established forms of knowledge? We are forced to stand back & question what our data is #edDDI
@a_e_lang concludes by asking what methodological modernism looks like when the text becomes the network diagram? #edDDI

Modernist map of Paris with areas of emphasis in novels highlighted- Lang #EdDDI pic.twitter.com/cRlAM12hQI

@a_e_lang says she loves network maps as they allow her to avoid the linearity of narrative #edDDI

@a_e_lang mentions The Language of the State of the Union Address theatlantic.com/features/archi... #edDDI
**The Language of the State of the Union**

Mapping the State of the Union. An interactive graphic shows the 1,410 different spots on the globe presidents have referenced in 224 speeches. We invite you to explore these speeches. Click on any individual word and observe how frequently each president employed it.

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**MariaFilippakopoulou**

@filipomaria

DH tools have the power to implement alternative histories in modernist lit #EdDDI

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**Jo Spiller**

@spillerjzy

Sorry to be missing both #cueEd15 and #EdDDI today - a day of creative ideas in Edinburgh and I'm stuck on a train in Carlisle!

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**Workshops**

Chris Fleet, Map Curator, National Library of Scotland - *Building Historical Map Applications with OpenLayers for Beginners*

This introductory workshop will provide you with basic information on building a map application using OpenLayers 3. It will use examples, historical georeferenced maps and tools drawn from the National Library of Scotland Map Images website. You should leave with working dynamic map applications and the confidence to build on these and create new ones in future.

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**Lorna M. Campbell**

@LornaMCampbell

Back at #edDDI after lunch & learning about building historical map applications with OpenLayers with Chris Fleet of @nls
Open Layers: "A high-performance, feature-packed library for all your mapping needs." openlayers.org #edDDI

Fleet: Main down side of Open Layers 3 is that they broke links with Google map layers #edDDI

Fleet: Google maps satellite imagery and coverage for Scotland is still better than any other mapping #edDDI

Open Layers API openlayers.org/en/v3.5.0/apid... #edDDI

Open Layers 3.5 can be downloaded here openlayers.org/download/ #edDDI

The book of OpenLayers 3 by Antonio Santiago acuriousanimal.com/blog/2014/12/1... #edDDI
The Book of OpenLayers 3, completed !!!

It was a long road but finally it comes true: The Book of OpenLayers 3 is finished. The chapter Controls and Interactions concludes the exploration of the main concepts related with OpenLayers version 3. This chapter is focused on showing how to work with the two main tools necessary to interact with the maps and its contents.

Anouk Lang
@a_e_lang

Next best thing to being in @natlibscotmaps’s #EdDDI OpenLayers workshop is having @LornaMCampbell live-tweeting it. Thanks Lorna!

Lorna M. Campbell
@LornaMCampbell

Open Layers is distributed in 2 versions: ol.js (files are concatenated) and ol-debug.js #edDDI

Lorna M. Campbell
@LornaMCampbell

Fleet recommends epsg.io to find coordinates and get positions on maps #edDDI

WGS84 and WGS 84 / Pseudo-Mercator - transform coordinates for position on a map - converting latitude / longitude degrees

Transform coordinates for position on a map - converting latitude / longitude degrees

Lorna M. Campbell
@LornaMCampbell

Two renderers: Canvas docs.unity3d.com/ru/current/Scr... and WebGL
khronos.org/webgl/wiki/Mai... #edDDI

Unity - Scripting API: CanvasRenderer

Develop once, publish everywhere! Unity is the ultimate tool for video game development, architectural visualizations, and interactive media installations - publish to the web, Windows, OS X, Wii, Xbox 360, and iPhone with many more platforms to come.
WebGL Public Wiki
Welcome to the WebGL public wiki! Here you'll find resources that will help you learn about WebGL, including the current specification, documentation, implementation status, as well as a repository of known demos and web apps that take advantage of WebGL.

Lorna M. Campbell
LornaMCampbell
Geojson.io geojson.io #edDDI

Fleet demonstrating how to use map overlays and base layers and how to toggle between them. #edDDI

Lorna M. Campbell
LornaMCampbell
maptiler.org maptiler.org/google-maps-co... #edDDI

Tiles à la Google Maps: Coordinates, Tile Bounds and Projection
Click on a tile to display the numerical boundaries... Want to create custom map tiles from an image or geodata? MapTiler application can generate map tiles from JPEG, TIFF and PNG images, from scanned maps, maps created in Photoshop or programatically. It is easy to assign location to the map (see video).

Lorna M. Campbell
LornaMCampbell
All @nls map layers available here maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/#z... #edDDI
Explore georeferenced maps - Map images - National Library of Scotland
http://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore/#zoom=5&lat=56.0000&lon=-4.0000&layers=1

Fleet: if you use @nls layers please attribute :} #edDDI

NLS Historic Maps API: Historical maps of Great Britain for use in mashups
maps.nls.uk/projects/api/i... #edDDI

Map images
This seamless historic map can be: embedded in your own website used for research purposes used as a backdrop for your own markers or geographic data used to create derivative work (such as OpenStreetMap) from it. The mapping is based on out-of-copyright Ordnance Survey maps, dating from the 1920s to the 1940s.

MESH Mapping Edinburgh's Social History: will develop free open source tools for anyone to map historical data mesh.ed.ac.uk #edDDI

OpenLayers can be augmented with scale lines, zoom sliders and bootstrap transparency sliders #edDDI

geojson.io allows you to create features such as markers, polygons, polylines, rectangles etc geojson.io #edDDI
Lorna M. Campbell

QGIS - A Free and Open Source Geographic Information System qgis.org #EdDDI

Welcome to the QGIS project!
Find out what is going on with the QGIS project and its Community. Blog Posts, Case Studies, Tutorials, User Meetings and more...

Leaflet is a cut down version of OpenLayers. @nls used it to create this Burns project with @GlasgowUni burns.c21.glasgow.ac.uk/maps-of-robert... #EdDDI

Maps of Robert Burns's Tours of the Highlands and Borders of Scotland
To mark the publication of the first volume of the new Oxford University Press Edition of The Works of Robert Burns - Commonplace Books, Tour Journals and Miscellaneous Prose, edited by Professor Nigel Leask - we are delighted to make available three maps of Robert Burns's tours in the Highlands and Borders of Scotland.


Documentation - Leaflet - a JavaScript library for mobile-friendly maps
Fired when the user pushes the right mouse button on the map, prevents default browser context menu from showing if there are listeners on this event. Also fired on mobile when the user holds a single touch for a second (also called long press).

Daisy Smith

Really informative talk on historical map applications with OpenLayers and @natlibscotmaps #EdDDI
3 years ago I saw talk by Chris @natlibscotmaps & made this for my PhD earlycinema.gla.ac.uk/maria/scotland... Today I got new ideas from him at #EdDDI

Other workshops...

Anouk Lang
@a_e_lang
How did I not know about the Programming Historian tutorial on using regex to clean up OCR?! programminghistorian.org/lessons/cleani... #EdDDI

Cleaning OCR’d text with Regular Expressions
May 22, 2013 Optical Character Recognition (OCR)-the conversion of scanned images to machine-encoded text-has proven a godsend for historical research. This process allows texts to be searchable on one hand and more easily parsed and mined on the other. But we've all noticed that the OCR for historic texts is far from perfect.

James Stewart
@jamesks
digital humanities scholars @EdinburghUni join the new Crowdsourcing and Citizen science network #edDDI #digitalhss twitter.com/EdUniCSCS/stat...

James Loxley
@olrdnorthroad
I have managed to Do a Thing with Python! Yay! #EdDDI

heather froehlich
@heatherfro
Thanks very much to my lovely participants at #edDDI. Here's my getting started w/ Antconc guide hfroehli.ch/workshops/gett...
Getting Started with AntConc

This is a step-by-step guide given to participants in Strathclyde’s Digital Humanities Workshop #3: AntConc, 20 May 2014, organized by Anouk Lang. Here is a printable, scaled down handout to accompany this page. This page is maintained semiregularly for link rot; please see the end of this post for when it was last updated.

Ruth Ahnert

, Queen Mary University of London - Closing the Net: Letter Collections & Quantitative Network Analysis

It seems as if everyone these days is talking about networks. The word ‘network’ has its origins, as one might expect, in net making, describing the weaving of materials such as threads or wires. Now, more often, it is used metaphorically to denote various kinds of complex systems of interrelated things, from telecommunications routes and computer networks, to neural pathways and biological regulatory networks, ecological systems and social networks. More specifically, ‘complex networks’ describes a burgeoning field of study: despite the hugely divergent nature of different networks listed above – and, indeed the differing scholarly fields within which they are normally studied – a series of key publications in the 1990s and early 2000s showed that complex systems like these share an underlying order and follow simple laws, and therefore can be analyzed using the same mathematical tools and models. This paper seeks to explore what these methods offer to the humanities. It will provide an introduction to the methods and measures employed in network analysis, highlighting algorithms particularly useful for social network analysis, using two separate bodies of early modern letters as a means of illustration. As such, then, this is a paper about methods rather than findings, and its ultimate aim is to show that network analysis provides a realistic way of reconstructing and analyzing the movement of people, objects, and ideas.
Jim B (Scottish Lit)
ScottishLit

Having flashbacks to my Maths degree and Euler’s Königsberg bridge problem #EdDDI
twitter.com/a_e_lang/statu...

Lorna M. Campbell
LornaMCampbell

@RuthAhnert’s data sets are a set of protestant letters (1553 - 58) and Tudor correspondence in State Papers Online #edDDI

Lorna M. Campbell
LornaMCampbell

@RuthAhnert To analyse letter sets we need to extract relevant metadata: sender, recipient, time, place, social links #edDDI

Anouk Lang
@a_e_lang

Metadata @RuthAhnert uses: sender, recipient, time, place, commendations, mentioned links, familial relationships, couriers #EdDDI

Lorna M. Campbell
LornaMCampbell

@RuthAhnert network analysis is a highly interdisciplinary research field in its own right #edDDI

Lorna M. Campbell
LornaMCampbell

@RuthAhnert Protestant Letter Networks in the Reign of Mary I muse.jhu.edu/journals/elh/v... #edDDI
Project MUSE - Protestant Letter Networks in the Reign of Mary I: A Quantitative Approach

Find using OpenURL Buy This Issue Protestant Letter Networks in the Reign of Mary I: A Quantitative Approach

Literary historians are increasingly recognizing the ways in which quantitative approaches can transform the way we interact with the archives.

Robyn Pritzker

#EdDDI talk by @RuthAhnert justifying my belief that network analysis will solve any/all of my research questions

3 YEARS AGO

Robyn Pritzker

@robzker

KATHRYNSIMPSON

@KILMUNBOOKS · 3 YEARS AGO

Ahernet discusses the network of 16C letters. New word of the day 'betweenness' #EdDDI

pic.twitter.com/XB0HlsIH3M

3 YEARS AGO

jeely_jar

@RuthAhnert describing 'betweenness' in networks - connectors and sustainers not written about in history books, but crucial. #EdDDI

3 YEARS AGO
Lorna M. Campbell

Explaining betweenness centrality by @sheilmcn, @wilm, @mhawksey and @psychmedia - with added zombies! storify.com/sheilmcn/betwe... #edDDI

3 YEARS AGO

@RuthAhnert comparing Tudor prison franchises to Thatcher's privatisation of the railways #edDDI

3 YEARS AGO

@RuthAhnert busy revisualising the Marian persecution. Lawks! #EdDDI

3 YEARS AGO

@RuthAhnert networks are temporal, they change and evolve overtime and are put under pressure #edDDI

3 YEARS AGO

KathrynSimpson

During the reign of Mary 1st 300 protestants executed, evidenced by letter network - Ahnert #EdDDI

3 YEARS AGO

@RuthAhnert Mary I was taking out hubs in the network by executing Protestant leaders #edDDI

3 YEARS AGO

@RuthAhnert despite removing hubs, the networks survive if the sustainers survive, these are the people with high betweenness #edDDI

3 YEARS AGO
Anouk Lang
@a_e_lang

@RuthAhnert: One of the best ways to fragment a network is not to remove hubs or edges but nodes with high betweenness #EdDDI

3 YEARS AGO

Traumagical Idealist
justonechapter

Ruth Ahnert: 80% of data science is data cleaning to get data you can trust #EdDDI

3 YEARS AGO

James Loxley
oldnorthroad

A salutary reminder from @RuthAhnert - "80% of data science is data cleaning"! #EdDDI

3 YEARS AGO

Ahnert- methods change depending on size of data set #EdDI pic.twitter.com/KqL6vWvHFI

3 YEARS AGO

Lorna M. Campbell
LornaMCampbell

@RuthAhnert talking about betweenness and recursive measures of influence #edDDI

3 YEARS AGO
Eigenvector centrality as a measure of people's quality of connections-Ahnert #EdDDI

Eigenvector centrality: Elizabeth I, state papers online, @RuthAhnert #edddi pic.twitter.com/lSuTpUqlXY

@RuthAhnert talking about the curious betweenness centrality of Edward Courteney en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward_Co... #edDDI

Edward Courtenay, 1st Earl of Devon

Edward Courtenay, 1st Earl of Devon (c. 1527 - 18 September 1556) was an English nobleman during the rule of the Tudor dynasty. Born into a family with close royal connections, he was at various times considered a possible match for the two daughters of his first cousin once removed, Henry VIII, both of whom became queens regnant of England.
Using Courtenay as an example of why Eigenvector centrality can identify areas/ppl of interest—Lang
#EdDDI pic.twitter.com/tsamIbAOjh

@KILMUNBOOKS · 3 YEARS AGO

@RuthAhnert comparing monitoring of Tudor conspiracies and intercepting letters with that the NSA did #edDDI

3 YEARS AGO

I love the way that @RuthAhnert is using NSA surveillance as an analogy for understanding C16th letter networks #EdDDI

3 YEARS AGO

@RuthAhnert Courteney's social capital is quantifiable, he is a person with high betweenness, he cuts across social groups #edDDI

3 YEARS AGO
Typical of a character with high Eigenvector centrality, Courteney also aligned himself with powerful nodes #edDDI

Network analysis doesn't presume what you're looking for rather it shows patterns previously unseen, it opens the archives-Ahnert #EdDDI

Interesting to see betweenness centrality applied to historical data. I'm more used to seeing it applied to social network analysis #edDDI

A. Lang’s question to R. Ahnert: how do we find peer-reviewers/readership in traditional humanities for DH articles? #EdDDI

@RuthAhnert the distinction between quantitative network analysis and social network analysis are starting to break down #edDDI

Ahnert's network analysis suggests DH methods can inspire close reading by offering unseen patterns in traditional humanity research #EdDDI
Robyn Pritzker
robzker@robzker

Good questions for @RuthAhnert at #EdDDI but none on how her methods could alter ideas as central to DH/book hist as communications circuit

3 YEARS AGO

Lorna M. Campbell
LornaMCampbell

@RuthAhnert mentioning the Reassembling the Republic of Letters initiative republicofletters.net #edDDI

3 YEARS AGO

Reassembling the Republic of Letters | COST ACTION IS1310

Between 1500 and 1800, a revolution in postal communication allowed ordinary men and women to scatter letters across and beyond Europe. This exchange helped knit together what contemporaries called the respublica litteraria, a knowledge-based civil society, crucial to that era’s intellectual breakthroughs, and formative of many modern European values and institutions.

3 YEARS AGO

Adam_Crymble
@Adam_Crymble

Digital humanities method tell us about the biases of the archives we use, is a common theme of #EdDDI in Edinburgh

3 YEARS AGO

Closing Thanks!

Lorna M. Campbell
LornaMCampbell

#edDDI drawing to a close now. Thanks to all involved for organising such a great event. Really thought provoking and engaging.

3 YEARS AGO

Anouk Lang
@a_e_lang

& thanks to excellent #EdDDI workshop leaders @uta_ente @Adam_Crymble @dianmross @heatherfro @ScottishLit @natlibscotmaps. You were all fab!

3 YEARS AGO
Only one thing wrong with #EdDDI today, I've had to leave before the wine! Excellent keynotes, great workshops and wonderful hospitality :-)  

#EdDDI was great! Thanks @a_e_lang and all involved.  

@a_e_lang thanks for the shout-outs! Sounds like an excellent gathering #EdDDI  

absolutely fantastic day out at #EdDDI. Thanks all, esp excellent plenaries @benmschmidt, @a_e_lang @RuthAhnert!  

Happily exhausted at the end of a wonderful #EdDDI. Thanks to our brilliant keynotes @benmschmidt & @RuthAhnert, also to @DorothyMiell [+]

@a_e_lang @benmschmidt @RuthAhnert Congratulations! Do hope lots of new ideas sparked and connections have been made #EdDDI  

@a_e_lang @Adam_Crymble @dianmross @heatherfro @ScottishLit @natlibscotmaps Thanks for having me! I enjoyed the day - inspiring talks #EdDDI
Thanks to all participants of the D3 workshop today - you were amazing! Workshop material can be found here [bit.ly/1cgYCTn](bit.ly/1cgYCTn) #EdDDI