HUMANITIES, ARTS & CULTURE DATA SUMMIT

Jan Müller
National Film and Sound Archive

aarnet
Australia's Academic and Research Network

NFSA

14-15 March 2018, Canberra

humanities.org.au | #HACDS2018

Platforms for HASS
CLARIAH - a case study

Humanities, Arts & Culture Data Summit
15 March 2018

Jan Müller
CEO National Film and Sound Archive

CLARIAH – Big Data, Grand Challenges

- An infrastructure for digital humanities
- A Dutch/European initiative

- Investigate human culture
- Analyse and interpret content
- Individual data: images, text, sound, contextual data

The Grand Challenge:

Numerous and Fragmented

Visuals https://vimeo.com/51425363 - Sebastiaan ter Burg CC-BY

CLARIAH

Common Lab Research Infrastructure
for the Arts and Humanities

Advancing our Understanding of Human Culture

Why do we need a research infrastructure?

Investigating culture, art, literature and history for present-day society

Example: History of Slavery

Fierce public debates:

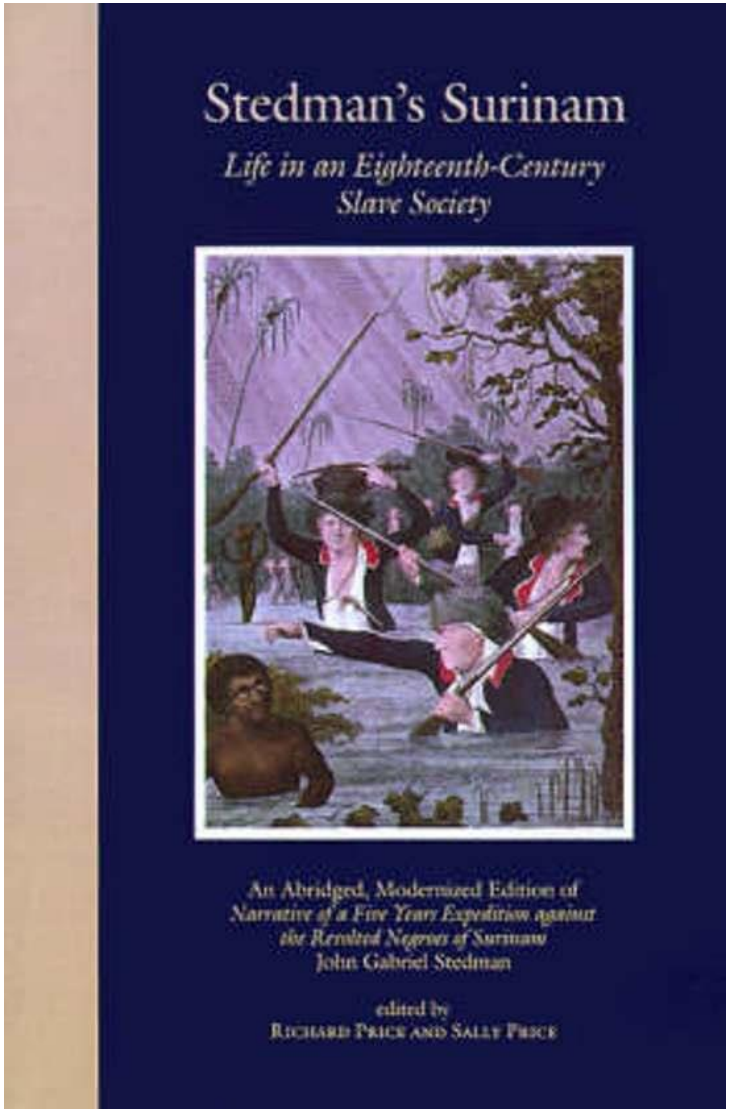
- Racist stereotypes or cultural traditions?
- Commemorate or move on?
- Social and economic deprivation:

  ‘nature’ or ‘nurture’?

Empirical knowledge for just and inclusive policy making

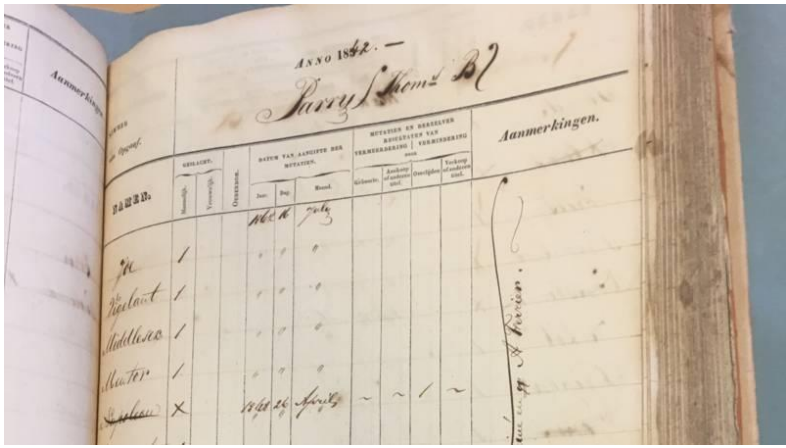
Before CLARIAH: anecdotal evidence

- Select number of sources (sample)
- Manual extraction of data
- Weigh contradictory accounts
- Mentally reconstruct what happened
- Information hidden in unstructured data



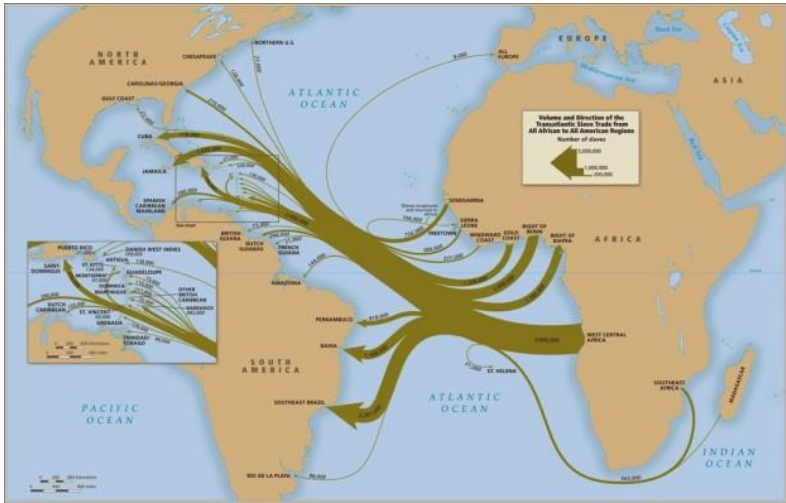
CLARIAH CORE: identify long-term patterns

- Digital databases (voyages, slave registries, written accounts)
  CoDeSis project: digitizing 80.000 names from Surinam slave registries
- Combine different datasets
- Tools to query at large scale



CLARIAH PLUS: tracing family histories at scale

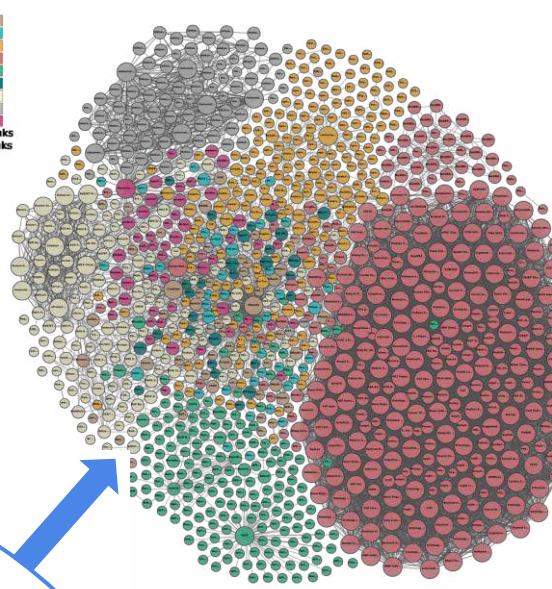
- Increase data with factor 10 (3PB in total)
- Enhancing scope (geology, weather, disease)
- Semi-automatic extraction
- Tools to query across different datasets



Towards a more stable and inclusive world

Contribute empirical evidence for the systematic and long-term nature and impact of slavery

A Virtual Research Infrastructure for Scalable Humanities



CLARIN

DARIAH-EU

Utrecht University

huygens ing

international institute of social history

Data Archiving and Networked Services DANS

Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam

/instituut voor de Nederlandse taal/

CLARIAH

Universiteit van Amsterdam

KB Koninklijke Bibliotheek National Library of the Netherlands

TU Delft Technische Universiteit Delft

instituut Meertens

Universiteit Leiden

BEELD EN GELUID

university of groningen

Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics

Tilburg University

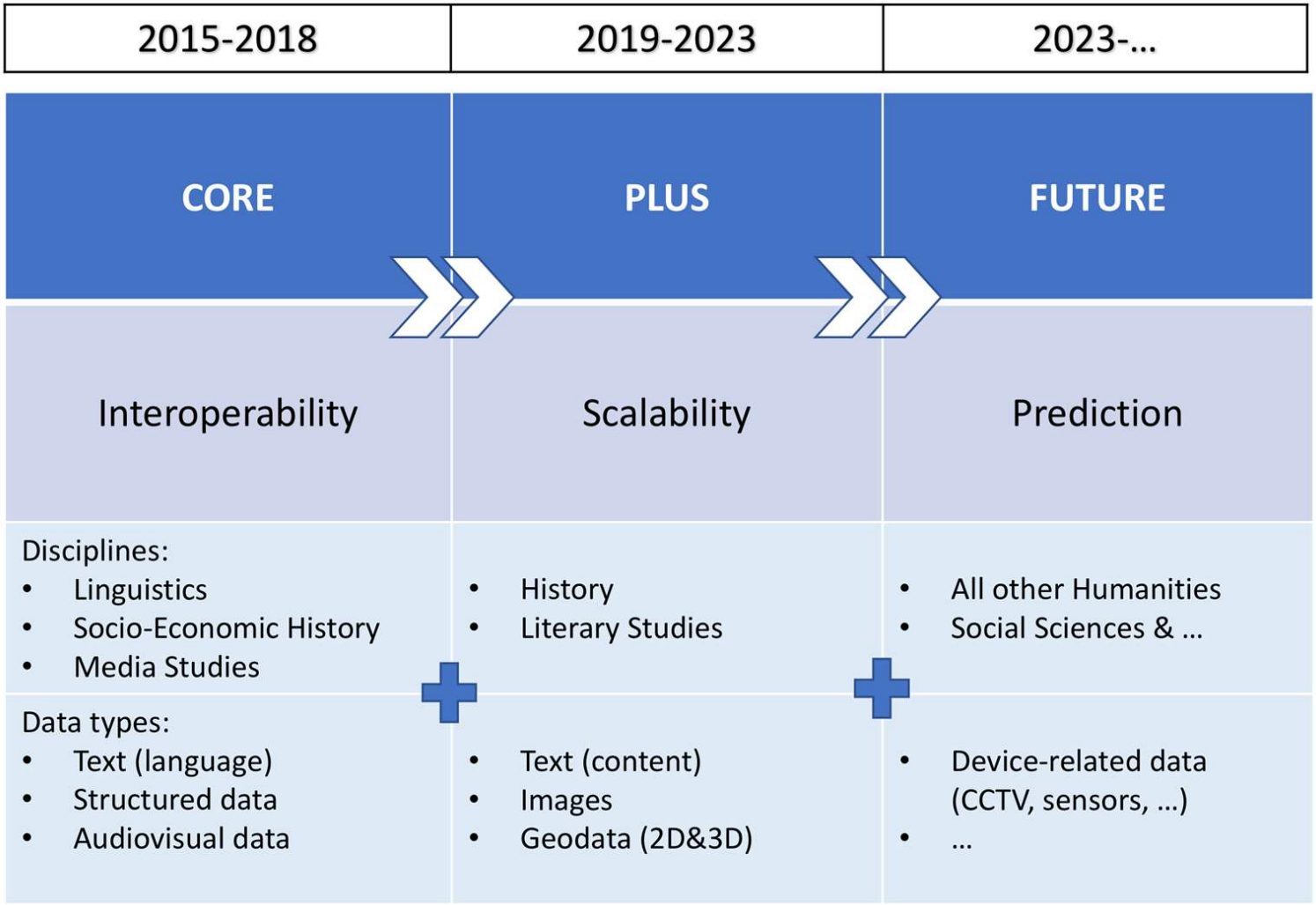
Understanding Society

VU Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Radboud Universiteit

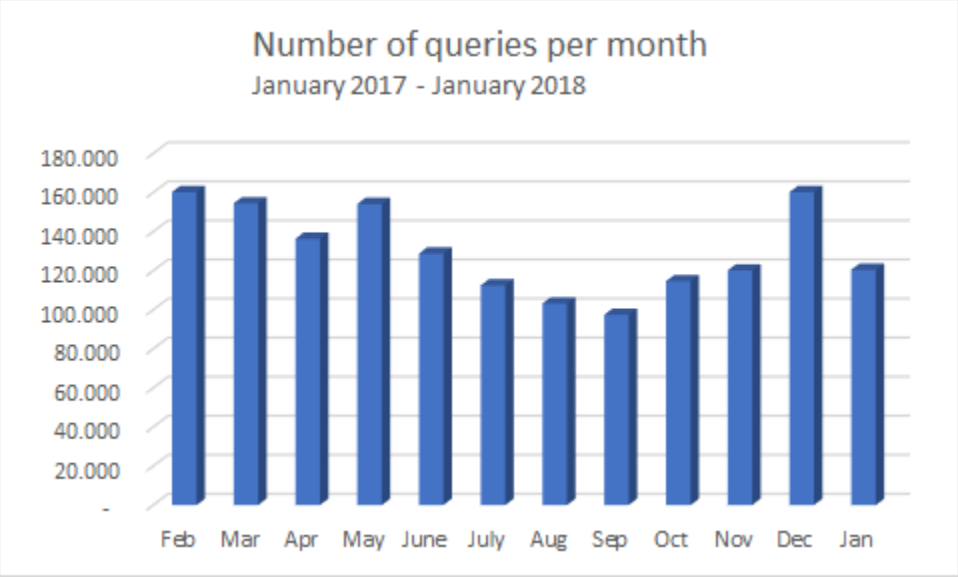
CLARIAH Roadmap

CLARIAH
Common Lab Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities



Data and Usage CLARIAH CORE

- 130 M Triples
- 17 TB textual data
- 176 TB image data
- 130 TB AV data (audio + RTV)
- Users Corpus Historical Dutch:
  - 80.000 unique page views
  - 4500 sessions (15 mins)
  - 1500 users (10 countries)
  - 67% returning; 33% new

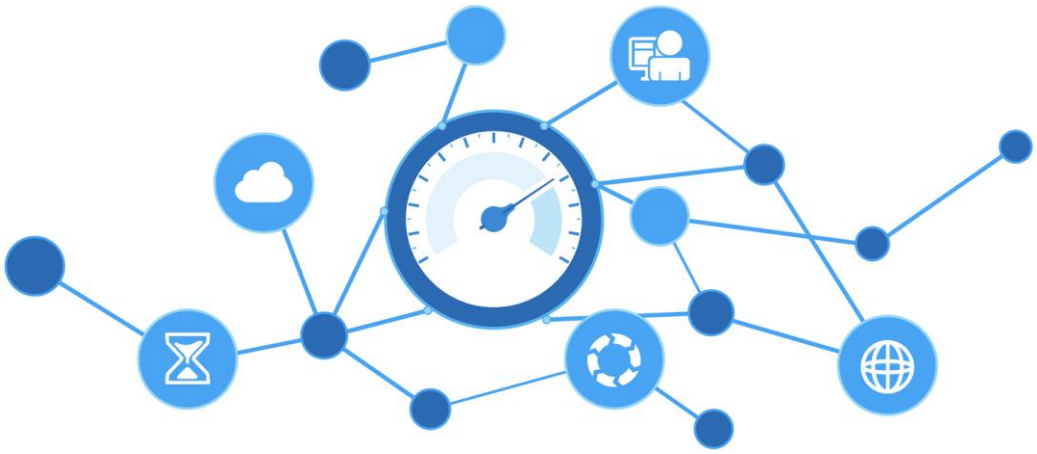


User statistics for Historical Dictionaries Online

Evaluating CLARIAH's success

- By 2023 available data in CLARIAH has increased with a factor of 10
- In 2023 CLARIAH is used by 40% of humanities scholars
- CLARIAH implements strategies for measuring uptake
- CLARIAH benefits society

(policy-making, journalism, education)



Why CLARIAH-PLUS?

- Relevant
  - Big Data of the past
  - Address new questions, in new ways
- Timely
  - Digital Humanities are on the rise
  - Critical mass
- Expert team
  - Forerunners (NL, EU and world)
  - Previous experience

CLARIN NL

CL@RIAH

CLARIAH
Common Lab Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities

Audio Visual Archives:

We help remember.
We keep memories alive.

(by telling stories with our collections and archives)

Our collections

It's not about preservation and/or digitisation anymore.

It's about what you *do* with your collections!

(and: we're always 'on' and always 'in beta')

Thank You!
NFSA
@JanMullerNFSA