



THE BATTLEGROUND OF HUMANITIES DATA: HANDLING MULTIDISCIPLINARITY AND DIVERSITY

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Archiving and enriching data

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PRESENTATION OUTLINE

The Nature of Humanities data

The Multidisciplinarity and Diversity Factors in Digital Humanities

Data from DARIAH-GR Infrastructure Tools and Services

- DYAS Registries: multidisciplinary Registries of Collections and Organisations for the Humanities
- HUMANITIES Thesaurus: an ontology for the Humanities
- The 1940s: a Monothematic 'War of Data'

Discussion and Suggestions

INTRODUCTION

(Arts and)
Humanities
data show
varying
degrees of
formalisation

Formal vocabularies and strict typologies (linguistics, archaeology)

Varying accuracy of historical spatio-temporal data

Destruction of physical records of the past

Imminent danger of digital "death"

Restricted and focused perspective of Digital Humanities projects

THE MULTIDISCIPLINARITY AND DIVERSITY FACTORS IN DIGITAL HUMANITIES



Availability of diverse, multidisciplinary, and rare materials through digitisation of cultural heritage collections and Humanities data



Overproduction of digital and digitised data

80% of the data are accompanied by zero or false metadata



Necessity for dominant and widely accepted metadata schemas

THE MULTIDISCIPLINARITY AND DIVERSITY FACTORS IN DIGITAL HUMANITIES

- Diversity of Arts and Humanities disciplines allows the study of the human condition as a whole
- Emerging trends of DH to capture, analyse and process data through the prism of multidisciplinarity

The visualisation of citation links in the Arts and Humanities publications shows a cluster of interrelated topics:

 different facets of investigation that build a complex but straightforward network of multidisciplinarity (Richardson 2013)

DATA FROM DARIAH-GR INFRASTRUCTURE: TOOLS AND SERVICES

 Multidisciplinarity challenge of a registry of all Greek collections (Anthropology and Ethnology, Archaeology, Classics, History, Literature, Linguistics, and more)

DYAS Registries (http://registries.dyas-net.gr/en)

Building the Humanities Thesaurus

DYAS HUMANITIES Thesaurus (https://humanitiesthesaurus.academyofathens.gr/)

DATA FROM DARIAH-GR INFRASTRUCTURE: DYAS REGISTRIES I

- Collections, both physical and digital, of interest to more than 15 disciplines
- Data recorded in cooperation with the collection holders
- Information on Greek institutions and collections accessible to Arts and Humanities researchers or other scholars
- The tool facilitates access to available digital resources to improve the quality of research or for educational purposes



DATA FROM DARIAH-GR INFRASTRUCTURE: DYAS REGISTRIES II



Social use of digital resources in the Humanities and Cultural Heritage



Continuous enrichment of registries data to enhance the visibility of Greek physical and digital content



Contribution of collection holders is essential



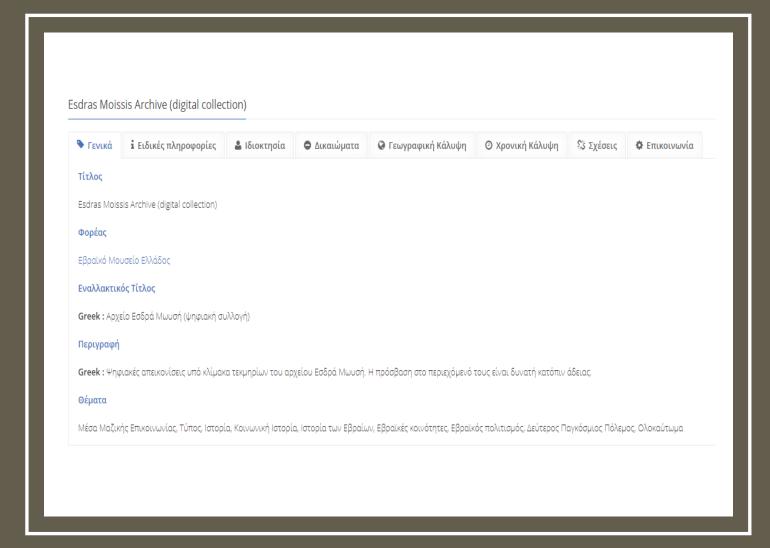
Amount of data, variety of disciplines and types of collections required a highly elaborated metadata schema to accommodate description



The schema allows for the metadata to be harvested and aggregated to another schema(ta)

DATA FROM DARIAH-GR INFRASTRUCTURE: DYAS REGISTRIES III

- Hunting metadata has often led the organisations and collectors to reassess their method of documentation in the light of interaction with the DH infrastructure
- Researchers access information about their research in numerous types of collections, varying from collections of objects regarding different branches of Humanities (museum collections, costume collections, postal cards, maps, etc.) to collections of digitised texts (collections of books, manuscripts, textbooks, correspondence, written and spoken data, etc.)



Physical collections with no metadata or descriptive information

Physical collections with inconsistent metadata

Digital collections with no metadata

Digital collections with nonstandard/custom-made metadata

Digital collections with a widely-accepted metadata schema

Integrating information into a coherent knowledge base to cover the needs of different organisations and to describe different collections.

DATA FROM DARIAH-GR INFRASTRUCTURE: CHALLENGES OF DYAS REGISTRIES

DATA FROM DARIAH-GR INFRASTRUCTURE: DYAS HUMANITIES THESAURUS

HUMANITIES THESAURUS Dariah



- <u>Challenge</u>: to agree on a common, top-level coherent and consistent "backbone" Thesaurus containing a limited number of concepts from which all the thematic vocabularies and terminologies would inherit their attributes
- The methodology of this discipline-agnostic Backbone Thesaurus was a bottom-up process
- Top-level concepts were developed by adequate abstraction from existing terminologies, meeting the demands for intersubjective and interdisciplinary validity

DATA FROM DARIAH-GR INFRASTRUCTURE: HUMANITIES THESAURUS II

- The terms used in the DYAS Collections Registry are being modelled in a structured way under the top-level concepts of the Backbone Thesaurus.
- Related terms between different disciplines: the challenge to build a thesaurus across disciplines.
 - From Classical studies to Language studies, from Archaeology to History studies, from Theater and Performance Studies to Folklore studies and Culture Heritage.

Dramatic genres > Drama		
PREFERRED TERM	1090 Drama	
BROADER CONCEPT	717 Dramatic genres	
NARROWER CONCEPTS	1212 Historical drama	
SCOPE NOTE	Dramatic genre developed in the mid-18th century in western theatre under the influence of Enlightenment ideas, as a reaction to the classicist tragedy. The new form of drama deals with serious situations, intense confrontations and conflicts of common people, moving between tragedy and comedy.	
CONTRIBUTOR	hkatsiad	
CREATOR	HelenG	
IN OTHER LANGUAGES	Drame	French
	Schauspiel	German
	Δράμα	Greek
URI	https://humanitiesthesaurus.academyofathens.gr/dyas-resource/Concept/1090	
Download this concept:	RDF/XML TURTLE JSON-LD	last modified 2019-02-12 Created 2015-09-162015-09-16
	PREFERRED TERM BROADER CONCEPT NARROWER CONCEPTS SCOPE NOTE CONTRIBUTOR CREATOR IN OTHER LANGUAGES URI	PREFERRED TERM 1090 Drama BROADER CONCEPT NARROWER CONCEPTS SCOPE NOTE Dramatic genre developed in under the influence of Enlight tragedy. The new form of draconfrontations and conflicts and comedy. CONTRIBUTOR CREATOR IN OTHER LANGUAGES Drame Schauspiel Δράμα https://humanitiesthesauru resource/Concept/1090

THE 1940S: A MONOTHEMATIC 'WAR OF DATA'



Developing a digital platform for the integration of metadata related to digitized documents, photographs, artefacts, and moving images from the 1940s in Greece.



This interoperable platform will enable the public, the education community and the researchers to find, access, and reuse effectively the relevant data, as well as to discover underlying connections between them.

THE 1940S: A MONOTHEMATIC 'WAR OF DATA'



Cooperating Institutions

Contemporary Social History Archives (ASKI)

Hellenic Parliament Library

Audiovisual Archive of Hellenic Broadcasting Corporation (ERT)

Army History Directorate

Historical Archive of the University of Athens

Athens School of Fine Arts

Jewish Museum of Greece

Academy of Athens













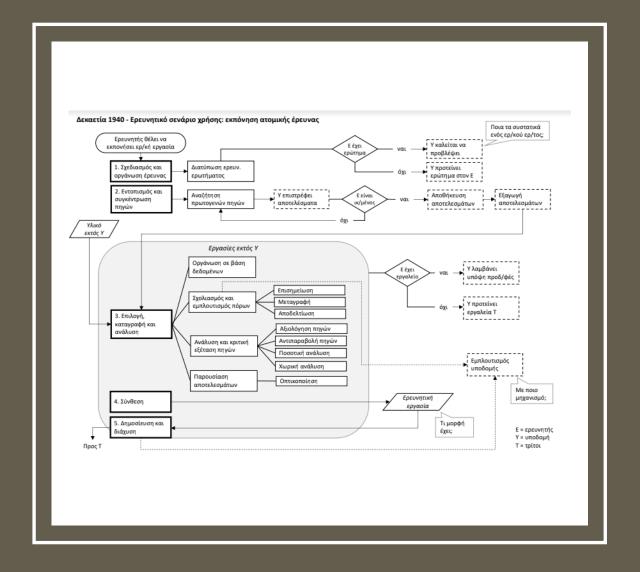




THE 1940S: A MONOTHEMATIC 'WAR OF DATA'

- Handling humanities data is not a simple task, even within the framework of one discipline
- Important issues arise concerning the diversity of the relevant sources, the institutions that curate and preserve them, and the users' requirements
- Data integration in major pools creates a demand for interoperability

Aims: devising an umbrella of "meta-metadata" that can bridge the varied specific metadata created by the holding institutions.





- The three aforementioned services are inscribed within an Open Science strategy, which aims at enabling new lines of inquiry by combining available sources on data
- Following the necessary steps of processing for easy use (documented, machine-readable, understandable and readable in convenient format), the connection between open data and proper standardized metadata is required since this is the European Community goal to optimize the future impact of research in Europe (and worldwide)
- We try to reconcile the necessary standardization requirements with the complexity and diversity of Humanities data

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