

What makes Humanities digital?

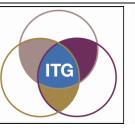
And what does digitization do with humanities scholars?

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UGA Athens - 16. April 2019



IT-Gruppe Geisteswissenschaften Digital Humanities Center





Digitization in the humanities

- means a process of mapping / modeling
 - the object of research must be modeled
 - modeling must be logical-structural, not primarily graphical
- modeling is the core of digital working methods
 - primarily discipline-specific discussion regarding subject and methode / theory
 - a gain in knowledge in itself
 - enables calculation, evaluation, visualization, transformation and presentation
 - Overall process: A-D-A Transformation



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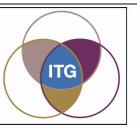


Digital data – logically structured data

- modifiable and expandable
 - according to quantity and quality (e.g. annotations)
- computable
 - rule-based procedures (various theories / methods)
 - statistical procedures
 - automated application to large amounts of data
- findable, available, interoperable, reusable (FAIR)
- exact, transparent, subjective
 - transcriptions reflect the understanding of the view of reality
 - diverse and multidimensional views on the research object



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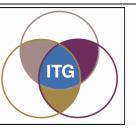


A Digital Humanities scholar

- works interdisciplinarily
- has reusability in mind
- uses digital techniques
 - database and web technology
 - overlay of data of various disciplines
 - analogous to a telescope or microscope
 - "Synchronogeoscope" (spatial/temporal synopsis)
 - "Diachronogeoscope" (data over time)
 - "Panchronogeoscope" (global interrelations)



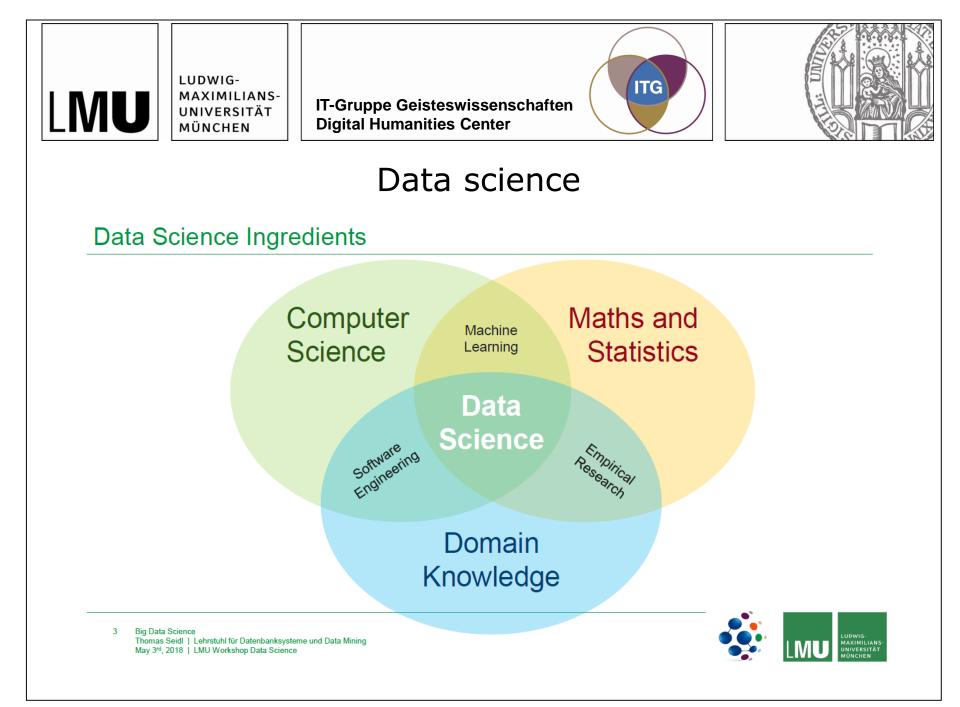
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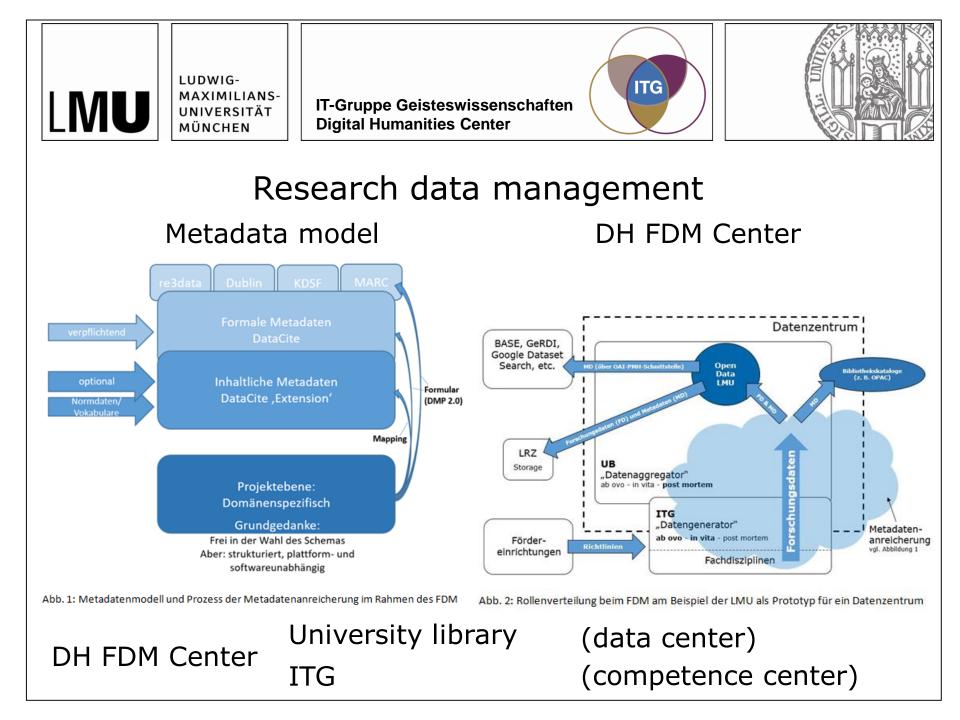




Digital Humanities projects

- are not "human-free"
 - one of many possible views of reality
 - techniques and methods are theory dependent
- are a learning process
 - permanent dialogue between humanities and information technology
 - education and training
 - individual support
- enable
 - teamwork and interdisciplinarity
 - cooperation and interchange (open access)
 - work and discussion directly on the research object







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Digital Humanities projects

- are embedded in larger contexts
 - data science (analysis, evaluation and visualization)
 - research data management (FAIR data principles; open licenses; national and international research data infrastructures)

"Digital projects never end."



Thank you very much for your attention!

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