

# Creating and using CIDOC CRM data

Workshop

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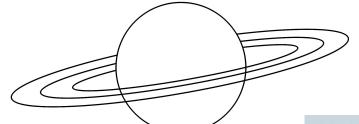
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1 yEPRMX3pybcPsAnymUcuPierur1Za2je ioqw1PZCgdU/edit?usp=sharing 58 CIDOC CRM SIG MEETING 19-22 MARCH 2024 (BNF)

Monday 18th March

Dominic Oldman - Kartography CIC (<a href="http://www.kartography.org">http://www.kartography.org</a>)

## Kartography CIC and Me

- Non-profit Social Enterprise
- Public Charter Diversity and Equality in Data
- Transferred to Kartography From British Museum -10 year research project funded by Andrew Mellon Foundation. Over £4 million
- Designed according to a Processual framework. It doesn't just use the CIDOC CRM it adhears to the structure and logic - a Semantic Knowledge Graph.
- Knowledge Graphs Google, Neural Networks, Al, Knowledge Representation
- 28 years Deputy Head of Information Systems / Head of Development
- History PhD student at University of Oxford



Kartography CIC





## Content

- Mindset and Architectures
- Legacy Data and External Sources
- Examples

#### amulet

#### Object Type

amulet

#### Museum number

Af1904,1015.27

#### Description

Greegree (with suspension loop), amulet made of leather.

#### Cultures/periods

Islamic

#### Production date

1901-1904 (or soon before) (or soon before)

#### Production place

Made in: Nigeria (north)
Africa: sub-Saharan Africa: Nigeria

#### Findspot

Found/Acquired: Nigeria (north)
Africa: sub-Saharan Africa: Nigeria

#### Materials

leather

#### Dimensions

Height: Height: 4 centimetres Width: Width: 3.80 centimetres Depth: Depth: 1.90 centimetres

#### Dopan Dopan 1100 continuous

Curator's comments

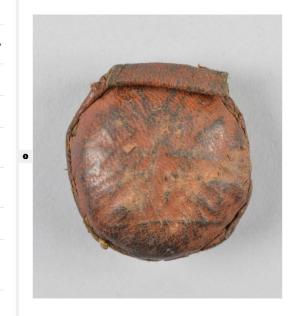
Register addition "Muslim".

#### Location

Not on display

#### Acquisition name

Donated by: Charles Lindsay Temple











## Quick Summary - CIDOC CRM

#### **Entities and Properties**

Two main strands - Temporal (e.g. EVENTS) / Persistent Items (THINGS)

These provide a reference.

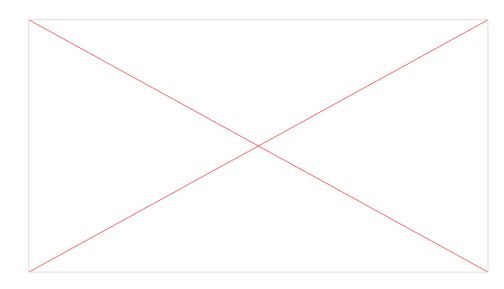
We all use different language the same things - Computers can't make sense of semantics, therefore the only way of having an understanding is to use empirical references that we all understand. Of course these are also approximations. Even empirical science is not static.

The actual mindset when creating a system should be PROCESS.

Thigs are actually PROCESSES, and relations are also PROCESSES.

Computing is always reductive - we abstract.

CIDOC CRM reference



## **Problem**

- Humanities Study of Human Society
- Key to this is understanding Change and Transformation - The CIDOC CRM allows this to a certain extent in a richer form of data.
- However, all disciplines are fundamentally interconnected to history - change and transformation.
- We are still trying to process this science is constantly changing, has uncertainties and has competing methods and perspectives.



# Some Philosophy

## Philosophy of External Relations

 The dominant system of knowledge in the Western world have been governed by the Philosophy of External Relations,

"which reigns in both the common sense and learned discourse of our time, holds that there are both 'things'... and relations, but that they are logically independent of each other."

- Kant The thing in itself
- Descartes The Mechanical World
- Adam Smith The division of Labour



## History, Data Processing and Classical Categorization

#### DECEMBER 3 1971 TLS: 1527 tutes and employing a hierarchy of

#### **THINKING BY NUMBERS-12**

## Historians in white coats

#### BY RICHARD COBB

Louis III Louis IV Louis VI Louis VI Louis VIII Louis XI Louis XII

That VERY entertaining and do we not have, both in old and due allowance for quantification in conduct of individuals ever to make modern French currency: un demilouis, which suggests that they could addies, morbidily rates, fertility, attack, returning to the conduct of individuals ever to make one of t at least divide, a negative process so on. But he was far too wise a

that of multiplication? vealed truth—of my old Master, tive conduct, ever to think of quanti-Georges Lefebvre, was: "Pour faire fying the human act. When he re-

Louis XXIII
Questice que c'est donc que ces gens qui the subject of class structures and of a Monday that they had decided on now be considered, especially by There can only be one of two group conflicts within a given pre- on the previous day. This is not a some of the vounger members of the answers. A friend of mine who, when

perhaps, and one more difficult than man, far too experienced, too much aware of the unaccountability of One of the favourite sayings-and human behaviour and of the accident indeed he meant it almost as a re- factor, both in individual and collecto his immense thesis on Les Paysans of General Law on popular tumult. du Nord, all of them drawn up with- He was merely aware, on the basis of and over a period of several decades,

positivism. He would no doubt have liked men to respond predictably to predictable pressures; but he also knew that, in most cases, they simply would not oblige. And, in 1945, he severely took to task a group of fying the human act. When he re- Soviet historians who sought to idende l'Histoire, il faut savoir compter". ferred to "ces lundis révolution- tify eighteenth-century French agra-And it must be admitted that he prac-naires". Dangerous Mondays, espe-rian structures with those of ninetised what he preached. There are cially in respect of rural riot, he was teenth-century Russia, accusing them some 300 pages of tables, as an annex not attempting to set down any sort of confusing history with propaganda. In short, Lefebvre was an honest historian, as well as a wise questionnaire that is sometimes subout any mechanical assistance what- evidence taken from a very wide area one; he also wrote with great clarity. if with a certain dryness. He was, visas to the United States: "Would Georges Lefebvre, although often that, Monday following Sunday, vilhowever, a very old man when he you, or would you not, assassinate given to rather schematic analyses on lagers often took collective action on died, eleven years ago, and he would the President of the United States?"

subordinates even more extensive and much more deferential than the teeming below-stairs population of an affluent mid-Victorian home; their machinery is expensive, the expense has to be justified, and one way of doing this is by the sheer size of the armies of white-coated assistants employed in their clinical Historical Laboratories-more recently, a group of American historians have been subjecting 500 Cahiers de Doléances to a programme of computerization on the basis of fifteen selected questions. I cannot guess what wonder will emerge from this vast and expensive enquête, but those that have been revealed so 'ar appear to me to have been rather self-evident. Of course, what is wrong is not

much the mechanistic process but the arbitrary selection of the questions. History will always give you the answers which you wish to obtain, if you manhandle the subject suffici-ently severely. If you put to the Three Estates. " Are you in favour of the retention of Privilege?" it is not entirely surprising that the hopedfor answer from the Second Estate comes out as 98 per cent in favour.

And the other fourteen questions selected are equally crude and equally inviting of simple, predictable answers. Yet our quantifying school will not be put off by such objections, for is not this Total History, the equation of History with the Social

I am reminded of the sort of mitted to those seeking residents' Annales school as old-fashioned For the question was put to him by an "a-historical, engineering, problem-solving approach by means of mechanical models and devices"

Eric Hobsbawm

## Philosophy of Internal Relations

"that what others take to be a 'thing' that may or may not undergo change and may or may not have relations with other things is itself both a 'process' and a 'relation' (though some of these may take time and special efforts or instruments to uncover). What was a thing for the philosophy of external relations becomes a relation evolving over time (or a process in constant interaction with other processes)."

Ollman



- Alfred WhiteHead The Philosophy of Processes
- Cybernetics,
- General Systems Theory
- Complexity Theory
- Chaos Theory etc

## The World in Motion

**Process** 

Reality

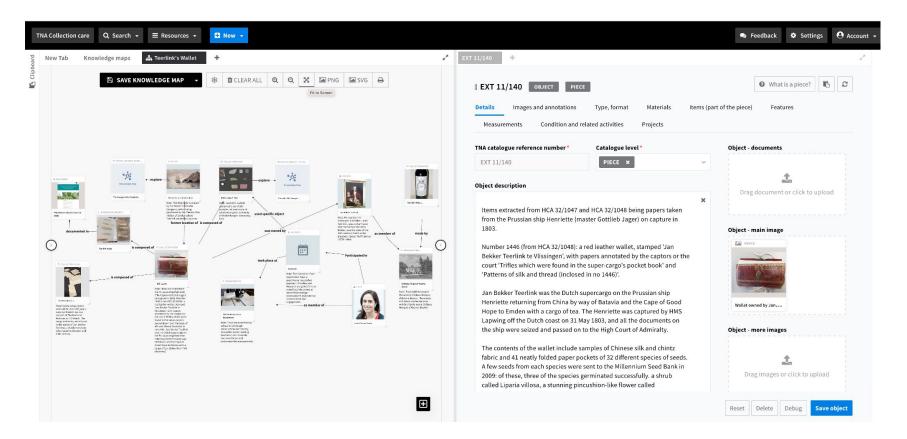
Reality

Interdependency

Systems

Patterns

## Research / Practice (Knowledge from Doing)



## Some History



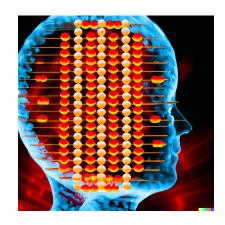
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## The Legacy of the Database

#### Databases Mindset

- No formal semantics (limits reuse and complexity)
- No complex interconnections
- Designed for predetermined models.
- Based on classic categorization. No fuzziness.
- The more variables (fields) the more issues with the quality of the data
- Doesn't account for change and transformation



## Digital Humanities (2011)

#### Surfdom

The internet has revolutionised humanities research. But has the development of ever-more sophisticated online resources freed up scholars to explore new ideas, or made them slaves to the digital machine? Matthew Reisz reports

December 8 2011

Matthew Reisz

Twitter: @MatthewReiszTHE

Credit: Getty/Alamy/Art Archive



Neoliberal Tools (and Archives): A Political History of Digital Humanities

By Daniel Allington, Sarah Brouillette, David Golumbia . May 1, 2016



Advocates position Digital Humanities as a corrective to the "traditional" and outmoded approaches to literary study that supposedly plague English departments. Like much of the

"we are "still in an era of confusion in the digital environment around the sort of business models we apply to questions of impact, depth of data and so on. We may not yet have the tools to understand how we make those decisions about the depth of data."" Riesz quoting Andrew Prescott

"The problem to which Liu draws attention is a theme that has recurred throughout this article: purported technical expertise trumps all other forms of knowledge, including critique of the uses to which such expertise is put....Liu's repeatedly published complaints of the absence of "cultural criticism" from Digital Humanities might have had some effect if that absence was coincidental, but it is not." Allington, Brouillette, Golumbia quoting Alan Lui

- Computers help with more complex questions?
- What links computing to the Humanities is modelling.
- Bit if the modelling isn't being done by the subject experts?

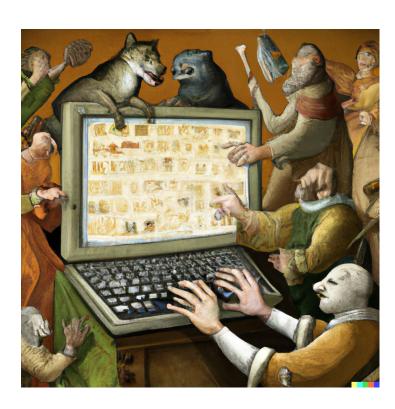
## **Architectural Questions**

I create a system which has a model of data.

- A user has more structured information that isn't covered by the model?
  - Use a text field
  - Use a field not really designed for that data.
  - Use another application, separating the data
- A user wants to arrange the data into a more useful pattern than that provided by the system to record a conclusion?
  - Use another system like a notebook

IT Principles - the model must be stable otherwise it creates support costs - Total Cost of Ownership

**Humanities Issues** - Cost of knowledge loss and fragmentation



## New CIDOC CRM Definition of 'Documentation'

There is a proposed change being discussed at the moment.

**Dynamic** - Evolution of Knowledge

**Diversity** - Moving away from Western Intrinsic universalism

**Context** - Providing wider context to aid interpretation

**Participation** - encouraging contributions from wider communities.



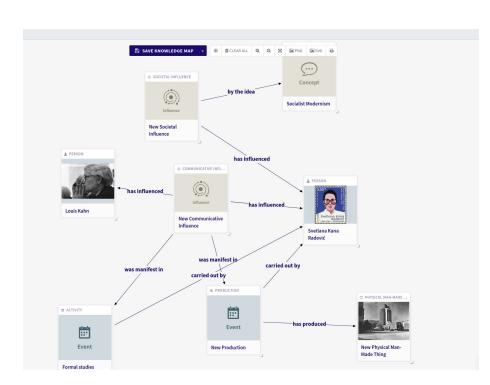
## **Enabling The New Definition**

Predetermined Modeling

Versus Dynamic Modeling

Homogenous

Versus heterogeneous



## Method 1 - Other Resources

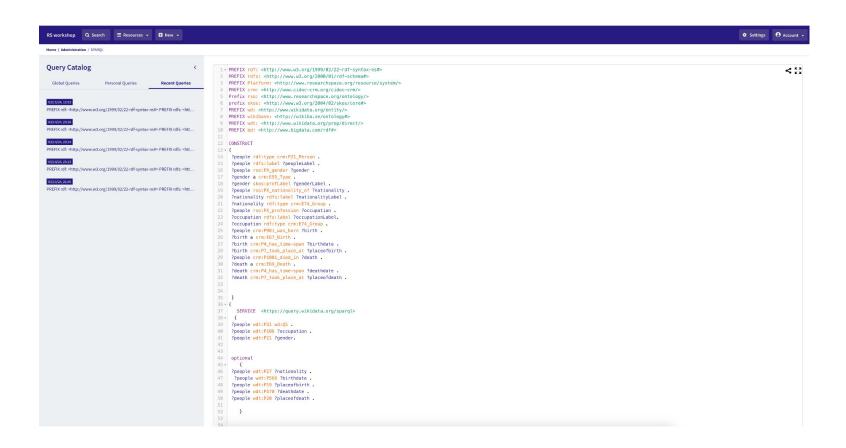
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### Interconnection

```
?people wdt:P31 wd:Q5 .
?people wdt:P106 ?occupation .
?people wdt:P21 ?gender.
optional
?people wdt:P27 ?nationality .
 ?people wdt:P569 ?birthdate .
?people wdt:P19 ?placeofbirth .
?people wdt:P570 ?deathdate .
?people wdt:P20 ?placeofdeath .
```

```
CONSTRUCT
 ?people rdf:type crm:P21_Person .
 ?people rdfs:label ?peopleLabel .
 ?people rso:PX_gender ?gender .
 ?gender a crm:E55 Type .
 ?gender skos:prefLabel ?genderLabel .
 ?people rso:PX nationality of ?nationality .
 ?nationality rdfs:label ?nationalityLabel .
 ?nationality rdf:type crm:E74 Group .
 ?people rso:PX profession ?occupation .
 ?occupation rdfs:label ?occupationLabel.
 ?occupation rdf:type crm:E74 Group .
 ?people crm:P98i was born ?birth .
 ?birth a crm:E67_Birth .
 ?birth crm:P4_has_time-span ?birthdate .
 ?birth crm:P7 took place at ?placeofbirth .
 ?people crm:P100i_died_in ?death .
 ?death a crm: E69 Death .
 ?death crm:P4 has time-span ?deathdate .
 ?death crm:P7 took place at ?placeofdeath .
```

## Peer to Peer - Decentralised Connection



## **Logical Extension**

