

# AI for archives and collections: From processing metadata to analysing content



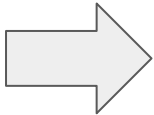
Mathieu d'Aquin  
*@mdaquin - mdaquin.me*

# Background: Good Old Fashioned AI

Based on explicit representations and explicit inference.

Using knowledge representations, ontologies, knowledge graphs.

Enabling the use, management and interpretation of results from data mining, machine learning and natural language processing.

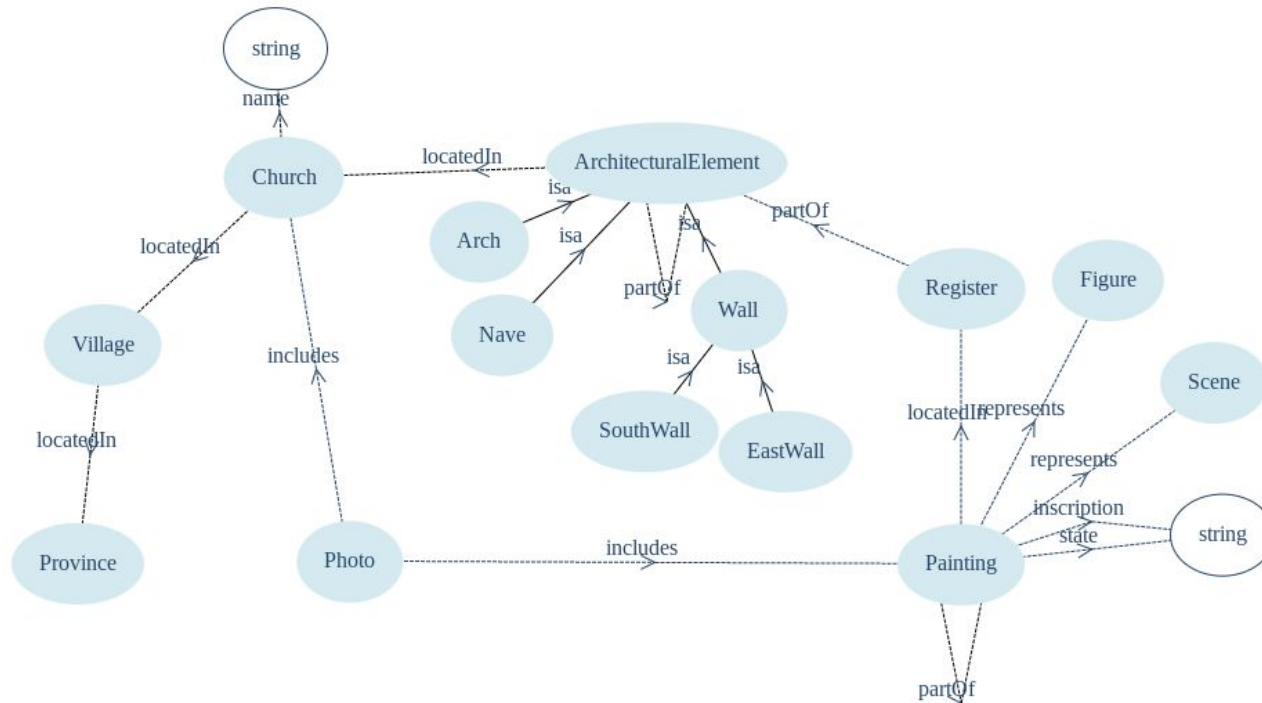


The ability to scale up those “symbolic AI” approaches as enabled moving from reasoning upon the metadata of resources in collections to reasoning upon their content.



# Example: The LEDA Project

An online database (knowledge graph) of (photos of) paintings representing hell, sinners and punishments from 92 churches in Crete.



# Damned In Hell

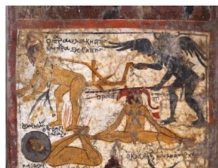
in Frescoes in Venetian-Dominated Crete

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## Home

This three-year project is researching representations of the Damned in Hell in the frescoes in churches on Crete. The churches were built during the Venetian domination of the island in the 13th to 17th century and the imagery provides insights into the religious, social and political concerns on the island in the Late Medieval to Early Modern period. The project is gathering photographic and documentary research material to analyse the sinners and punishments represented and explore their relationship to the broader contexts of the island, and the Byzantine and Mediterranean spheres.

The project is being led by Angeliki Lymberopoulou at The Open University, UK, and Vasiliki Tsamakda at the University of Mainz, Germany, and involves a team of academics from seven institutions in the UK, USA, Germany and Greece.



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Search:

PREFECTURE	LOCATION	VILLAGE LOCATION	DEDICATION	PAINTINGS
Chania	Achladakies		Saint Zosimas	40
Chania	Anisarakki		Virgin (and Saint Paraskevi)	33
Chania	Asterolies		Saint John the Evangelist	19
Chania	Chora Sfakion	Kasteli	All Saints	30
Chania	Deliana		Saint John the Baptist	62
Chania	Fres	Tzitzifies	Saint George Melchists	34
Chania	Garipas		Archangel Michael and Saint George	20
Chania	Hagia Eirini		Christ the Saviour	24
Chania	Hagia Eirini		Virgin	45
Chania	Kadros		Saint John Chrysostom	20
Chania	Kadros		Virgin	26

# Damned In Hell

in Frescoes in Venetian-Dominated Crete

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## Virgin (Church)

Chania, Kadros

Church views:



Exterior view from west



Interior church view towards east end and apse



Interior church view towards north wall

Paintings in the Nave

2nd register



Punishments of the Damned in Hell



Female sinner



Female sinner



Sinner



Sinner with scales around neck (who cheats while weighing (o parakampanists) ?)

3rd register



Punishments of the Damned in Hell



Female sinner



Thief? (with goat)



Male sinner



Male sinner (with plough, paravlokists?)



## Female sinner (Painting)



Painting of Female sinner (part of Punishments of the Damned in Hell (Painting))  
On the 2nd register of the North wall in the Nave of Virgin Church  
Inscription: H MAXI...PEA ?

Other Photos



## Angel pushing a group of Sinners into Hell

### Paintings

In Chania, Garipas, Archangel Michael and Saint George



## HELL IN THE BYZANTINE WORLD

A History of Art and Religion  
in Venetian Crete  
and the Eastern Mediterranean



EDITED BY  
ANGELIKI LYMBERPOULOU

## HELL IN THE BYZANTINE WORLD

A History of Art and Religion  
in Venetian Crete  
and the Eastern Mediterranean

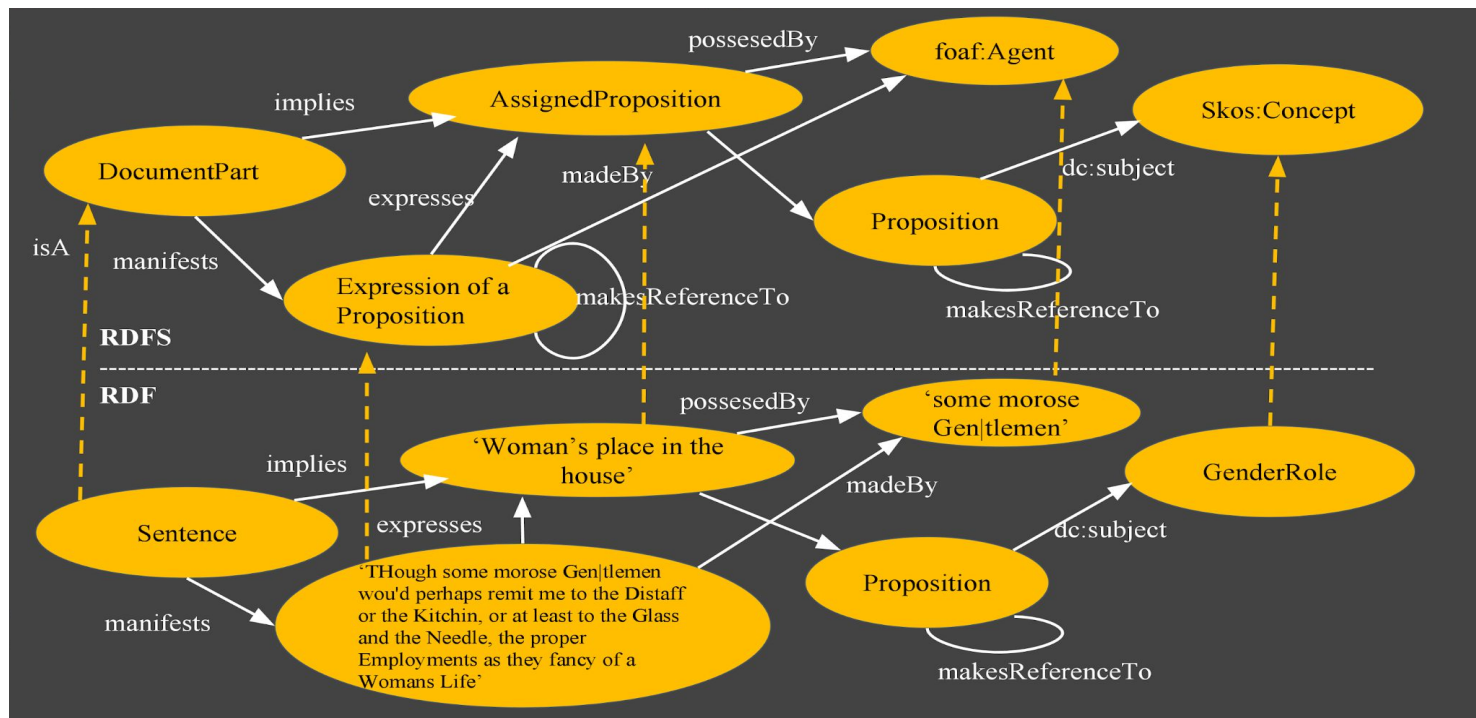
Volume 2: A Catalogue of the Cretan Material



ANGELIKI LYMBERPOULOU  
and REMBRANDT DUTS

# Using knowledge graph to explore content: ArguNest

A tool to annotate and explore the arguments and propositions in philosophical texts, using an ontology connecting those and highlighting philosophical concepts.





1- Norris, John. *Practical discourses upon the beatitudes of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ* (1693). Vol. 3. 15th edn. (London, 1728), pp. 9, 40-41, 46-47. In *Eighteenth Century Collections Online*, Gale

[...] That our whole affection be placed upon God, and that we love him so entirely as to love none but him. I come now to justify this sense, which I shall endeavour to establish upon this double basis in general.  
I. THAT God is the only author or cause of our love.  
II. THAT he is also the only proper object of it

[...] Well then, we have now at length found out the true cause of all our pleasure, and in that **the only proper object of our love. And certainly, if ever philosophy** were a handmaid to divinity, it is now, as furnishing us with a certain ground for the most sublime and noble conclusion in the world, the full, perfect and entire love of God, which now appears to be founded upon principles, and to be demonstrable in a clear and distinct order of reasoning. For if God **be the only true cause that acts upon our spirits, and produces our pleasure, then he only does us good, he only perfects our being and makes us happy; and if he only does us good, then he only is our good; and if he only is our good, then he only is lovely, or the proper object of our love; and if he only is lovely, then 'tis plain that we ought to love none but him, and him entirely.** Or to argue backwards, we are to love nothing but what is lovely; nothing is lovely but what is our Good; nothing is our Good, but what does us good; **nothing does us good but what causes Pleasure in us; nothing causes Pleasure in us but God; therefore we are to love nothing but God.** I say nothing but God, for he is the only lovely Object, and he is infinitely so. Nothing but God, for he only is our Good. Nothing but God, **for he only does us good and makes us happy.** Nothing but God, for he only is the author of all our pleasure; and in him we not only live, move and have our being, but have also all the joy and comfort of our being. Whatever degree of good we have received, we have received it of him; whatever we enjoy, we enjoy it in him; and whatever we expect, we expect it from him, with whom is the Well of Life, [Book of Psalms 36. 9.] And in whose light we hope to see light; and therefore we are to love none but him, and him with the whole heart, soul, and mind, with the full weight of our desire, with all the activity of our love.

[...] If it should now be objected (as 'tis very probable it may) that the enlarging this first commandment to such a magnitude, will make it devour and swallow up the second. For if the love of God must be thus perfect and entire, so as to be exclusive of all creatures [i.e. human beings], what room can **then be left for the love of our neighbour? To this the answer is very easy and very clear. If our love to God and our neighbour were of the same kind, the entire love of the former would indeed wholly exclude that of the latter. But this is not the case.** [...] That is in short, we love God with love of desire, and we love our neighbour with love of benevolence or charity. But now the entire desire of God is very consistent with all manner of benevolence to our neighbour. It does indeed wholly exclude all love of desire towards him. But this is what I contend for, I would have the love of God so vehement and so ardent, as to burn up, devour, yea, utterly annihilate all desire of the creature.

2- Astell, Mary, and John Norris. *Letters Concerning the Love of God between the Author of the Proposal to the Ladies and Mr. John Norris, Wherein His Late Discourse, Shewing That It Ought to Be Intire and Exclusive of All Other Loves, Is Further Cleared and Justified* (London, 1695), pp. 1-7. In *EEBO database*.

LETTER 1. To Mr. Norris.

SIR,

[...] Reading the other day the third volume of your excellent Discourses, as I do everything you write with great pleasure and no less advantage; yet taking the liberty that I use with other books, (and yours or nobody's will bear it) to raise all the objections that ever I can, and to make them undergo the severest test my thoughts can put them to before they pass for current, a difficulty arose which without your assistance I know not how to solve.

Methinks there is all the reason in the world to conclude, That GOD is the only efficient cause of all our sensations; and you have made it as clear as the day; and it is equally clear from the letter of the commandment, That GOD is not only the principal, but the sole object of our love: But the reason you assign for it, namely, because he is the only efficient cause of our pleasure, seems not equally clear. For if we must love nothing but what is lovely, and nothing is lovely but what is our good, and nothing is our good but what does us good, and nothing does us good but what causes pleasure in us; may we not by the same way of arguing say, That that which causes pain in us does not do us good, (for nothing you say does us good but what causes pleasure) and therefore can't be our good, and if not our good then not lovely, and consequently not the proper, much less the only object of our love? Again, if

Select a concept to see related terms in the text:

Pain

Definition of concept (from Wikipedia):

Select a concept above to see its definition.

Select parts of the text to annotate:

☒ Proposition ☐ Argument

[delete annotation](#)

whatever

This proposition or argument is:

☐ Stated by the authors

☒ Reference to someone else's statement

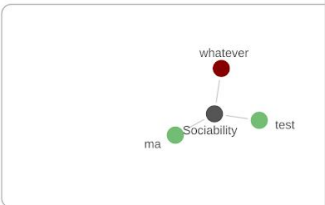
lala

The subject(s) of this proposition or argument is:

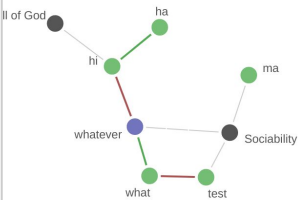
Sociability

-- concept --

Visualisation



☒ selected annotation ☒ argument ☐ proposition  
subject  
— subject — supports — contradicts



Create relation between proposition(s) and/or argument(s)

proposition:whatever

supports

argument:what

OK

proposition: whatever

existing "supports" relation

argument: what ([delete](#))

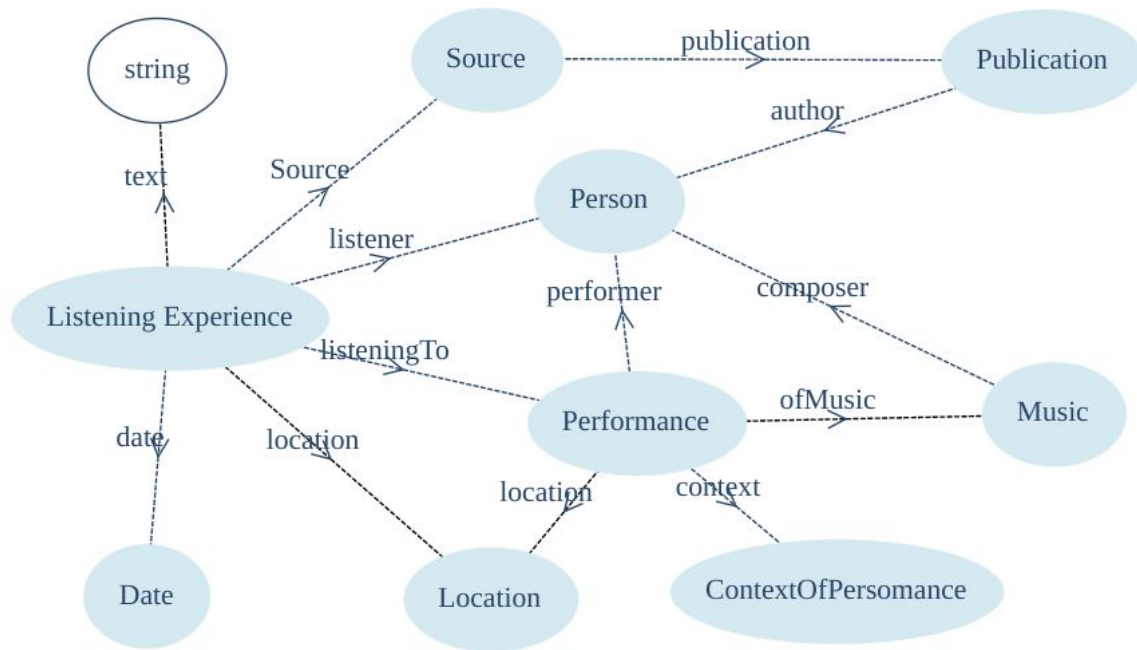
existing "contradicts" relation


argument: hi ([delete](#))

☒ selected annotation ☒ argument ☐ proposition  
proposition ☒ subject  
— subject — supports — contradicts

# Linking to the rest of the word: The Listening Experience Database

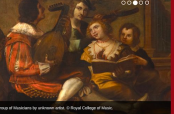
Representing accounts of people listening to music, the music they were listening to and the sources of the accounts.





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### Welcome to The Listening Experience Database

This is an open and freely searchable database that brings together a mass of data about people's experience of listening to music of all kinds, in any historical period and any culture. There are currently **8018** listening experiences from **1523** locations in the database, with **907** more experiences awaiting approval. [Help us to add more](#)




Try for example: Benjamin Britten, Festival, Rock & Roll

### HOW TO GET INVOLVED

1 Sign up

2 Browse Experiences

3 Add more to the database

### LATEST EXPERIENCE

**Queen Victoria et al. in Windsor Castle, Windsor - 1877**

"Queen Victoria and her husband the Queen's command to go to Windsor Castle one afternoon and play and sing to her, after receiving a note previously. Her Majesty seated herself near the behind of the piano, evidently in order to be able to see Alexander Mackenzie."

[Read more](#)

### RANDOM EXPERIENCE

**Queen Victoria et al. in Windsor Castle, Windsor - 1877**

"Queen Victoria and her husband the Queen's command to go to Windsor Castle one afternoon and play and sing to her, after receiving a note previously. Her Majesty seated herself near the behind of the piano, evidently in order to be able to see Alexander Mackenzie."

[Read more](#)

### LATEST BLOG ENTRIES

**The Listening Experience Database Project Conference 2018**

Published by Helen Brown on Fri, 20/10/2017 - 13:03

"The experience of listening to music: methodological, theoretical, historical"

8-7 March 2018, The Queen's University, Belfast, Northern Ireland

Following from our inaugural conference in 2015, the Listening Experience Database project team has planned to organise the second project conference.

[Read more](#)

**Contributor Newsletter July 2017**

Published by Helen Brown on Fri, 14/07/2017 - 09:41

Dear all,

As you have seen from the Listening Experience Database project.




[Read more](#)


**LED conference proceedings**

The proceedings of last year's conference 'Listening to music: methodological, theoretical, historical' are due out this month in a freely accessible online format. They include papers on a wide range of perspectives on listening, from a number of the first LED project team as well as scholars from outside the project. We'll let you know when they become available.

[Read more](#)

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### Refine search

location

listener

reported in

music

### Search results

**Benjamin Britten in Gresham's School - October, 1928, 07:00 PM (reported in "Journeying boy: the diaries of the young Benjamin Britten 1928-1938")**

Recital in the evening. Bach's Air on G string, Gavotte in E and Handel sonata in E (Miss Chapman) very good. Mr. Taylor (piano) and Miss Chapman. Mr. Taylor was given a great Reception, but he don't deserve it. It looked as if he was a bad sight [...]

**Thomas Twining in Ipswich - 1799 (reported in "A selection of Thomas Twining's letters 1734-1804: the record of a tranquil life")**

I had some pleasure in falling with Miss Marshall on the Wednesday evening, but the pleasure was greatly diminished by this vitaneous deafness of mine, which continues just as it was in Norfolk. Accompaniment. Mr. Twining, requires a great delicacy of piano, & great [...]

**John Marsh in London - 10 February, 1774 (reported in "The John Marsh Journals: The Life and Times of a Gentleman Composer (1752-1828)")**

On the 10th, I went with my friend Mr Blake to the annual concert for the Musicians Fund led by Cramer, at the Opera House (the 1st. I had ever been at) where I heard solo concertos on the violin violoncello clarinet hautboy & bassoon & heard Signore Dadi & Millico [...]

**John Marsh - 8 September, 1774 (reported in "The John Marsh Journals: The Life and Times of a Gentleman Composer (1752-1828)")**

The annual Music Meeting at Windsor beginning on the 7th. I went there on Thursday the 8th & attended the oratorio of L'Allegro Penitens at St John's Room, at which I was much pleased by the manner of Miss Linley's singing "The prince unable to complain" (in which she [...]

**Benjamin Britten in Holt - 23 January, 1930 (reported in "Journeying boy: the diaries of the young Benjamin Britten 1928-1938")**

I really am getting annoyed at the lack of a letter from Mumsey. Especially, as I dreamed about death 2oe [sic] last night, & both times I met she, it was connected with her. I don't like to write in case our letters cross, but I shall certainly write soon, in a long [...]

**Benjamin Britten in Holt - 26 January, 1930 (reported in "Journeying boy: the diaries of the young Benjamin Britten 1928-1938")**

Chapel at 5.15.30.30 & 6.30. Quite nice services, with a typ. J.R.E. sermon at 6.30. Quite harmless but striking no new path & lacking any arg. or helpful thought. Write letters in morning, & then listen to gm. in aft. of time Britans (19) comes on new [...]

**Benjamin Britten in London - 21 January, 1931 (reported in "Journeying boy: the diaries of the young Benjamin Britten 1928-1938")**

I have an appointment with the Director at College at 11.0 I go there & find he's out. Before that, I copy out "Sport". Return and have an hour's practice. Lesson with Benjamin at 2.40 I go through 2nd & 3rd mvs. of his new Vn. Concerto, which I like very much. R [...]

**Benjamin Britten in Royal College of Music - 26 February, 1931 (reported in "Journeying boy: the diaries of the young Benjamin Britten 1928-1938")**


Composition lesson at 10.0. Ireland is quite pleased with my latest card. Go to Augens & Chesters for Brahms op 21, variations & Prokofiev op. 12 prelude for p.p. study. Practice in afternoon. No madrigals. Walk with Hendersons after tea. Go to Chamber Concert at [...]

**Benjamin Britten in Queen's Hall - 13 March, 1931 (reported in "Journeying boy: the diaries of the young Benjamin Britten 1928-1938")**

Begin completely re-writing "Christ's Nativity". Practise 11.45-12.45. Go to College in a fruitless effort to find out about R.C.M. Union. I practise 3.30-4.30. As to quite a good concert (British Women's Symphony Orchest) at Queen's Hall with Barbara [...]

**Benjamin Britten in Wigmore Hall - 19 March, 1931 (reported in "Journeying boy: the diaries of the young Benjamin Britten 1928-1938")**


Quite good lesson with Ireland in Chelsea at 10.0. Practise afternoon, tea with Barbara & Mumsey at Selfridges at 4.45. Go with Mumsey (both tickets from Mrs. Brown via Mrs Bridge) to tapping recital by Antonio Brosa. He is simply superb. Incredible technique, with [...]



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### places



Show: 25

Place

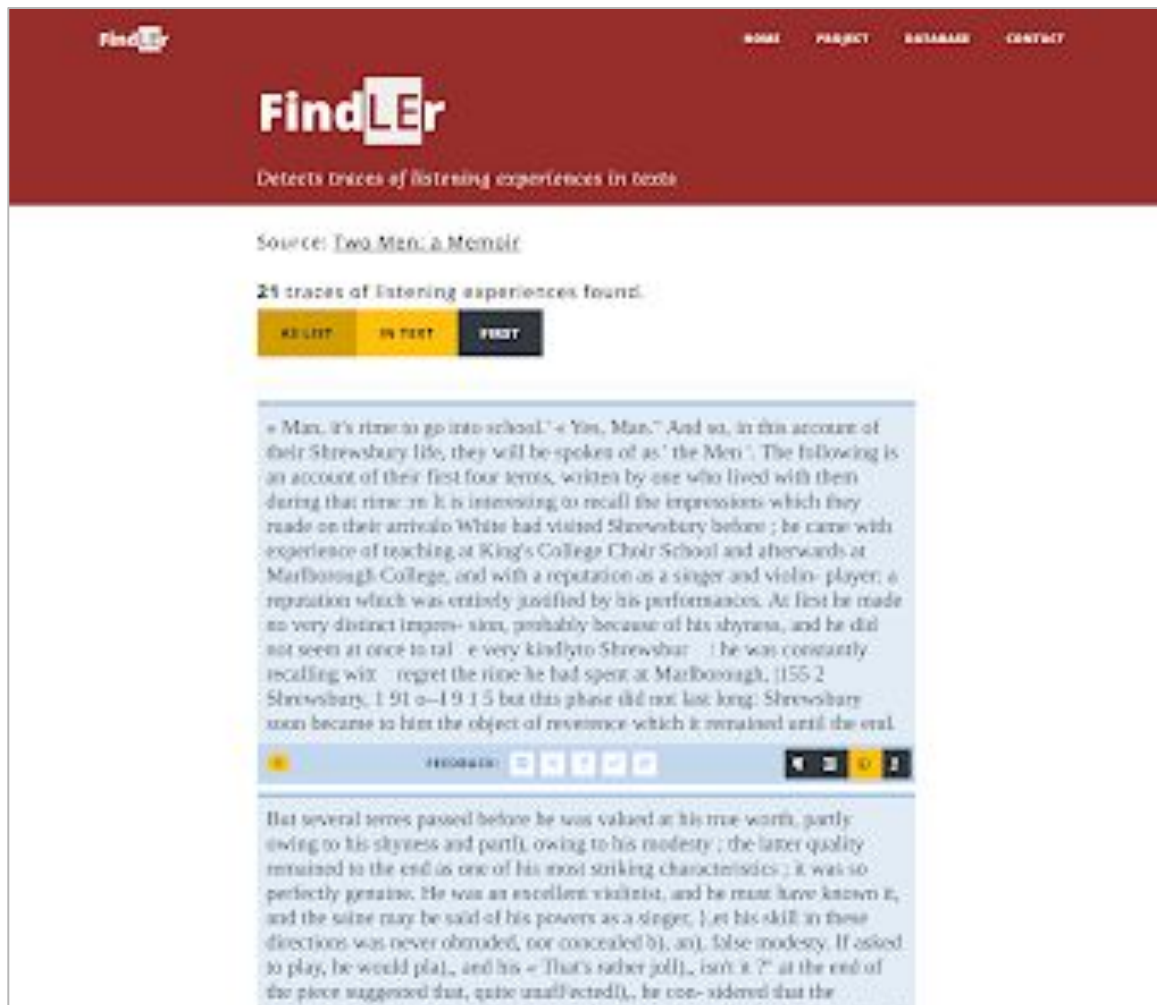
Evidence



# Follow Up: Finding traces of listening experiences in texts (FindLEr)

Mining the data from existing listening experiences to find ways to identify new ones.

Project led by: Enrico Daga, The Open University, UK



The screenshot displays the FindLEr web application interface. At the top, a dark red header contains the FindLEr logo and navigation links: HOME, PROJECT, DATABASE, and CONTACT. Below the header, the main content area has a white background. The source text is identified as "Two Men: a Memoir". A notification states "24 traces of listening experiences found." Below this, three tabs are visible: "ALL LIST", "IN TEXT" (which is highlighted in yellow), and "FIRST". The main text area shows a snippet from the source, discussing a man's arrival in Shrewsbury and his musical abilities. At the bottom of the text area, there is a "FEEDBACK" section with a row of five small, square icons, each containing a different symbol. The interface is clean and modern, with a focus on the text analysis results.

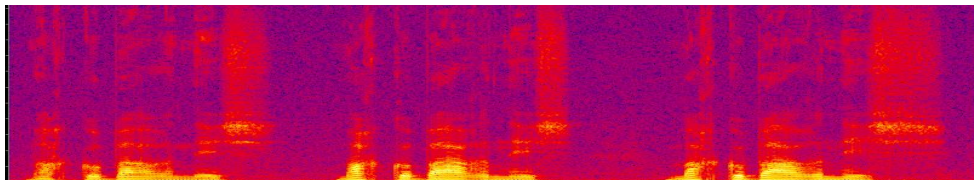
# Mining content in and across collections: Polifonia

Explicit representation of musical data from multiple repositories (including Irish Traditional Music) to extract patterns (in melody, rhythm, harmony, structure) in individual pieces of music, in whole repositories and across repositories.

Notes



Signal



Context

# Mining content in and across collections: Polifonia

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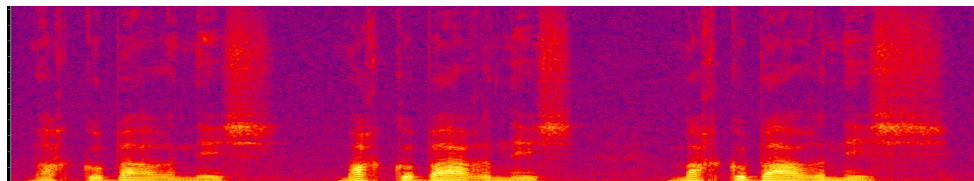
Patterns  
(Structure)



Notes



Signal

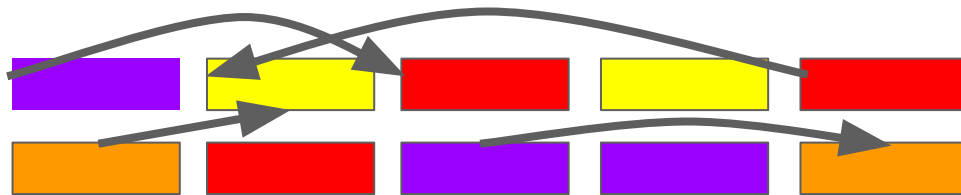


Context

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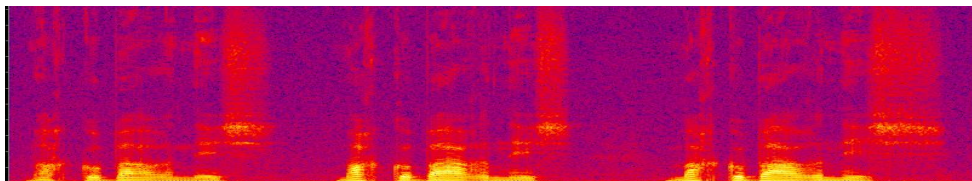
Patterns  
(Structure)



Notes



Signal

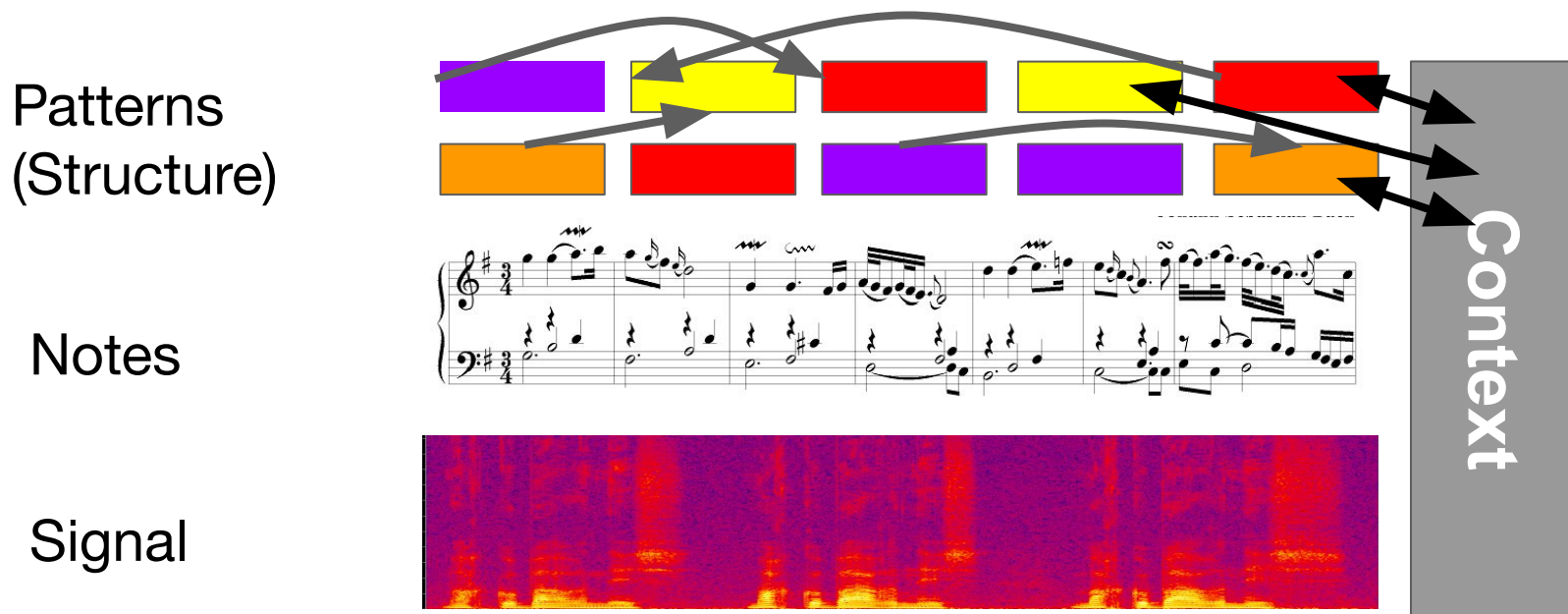


Context

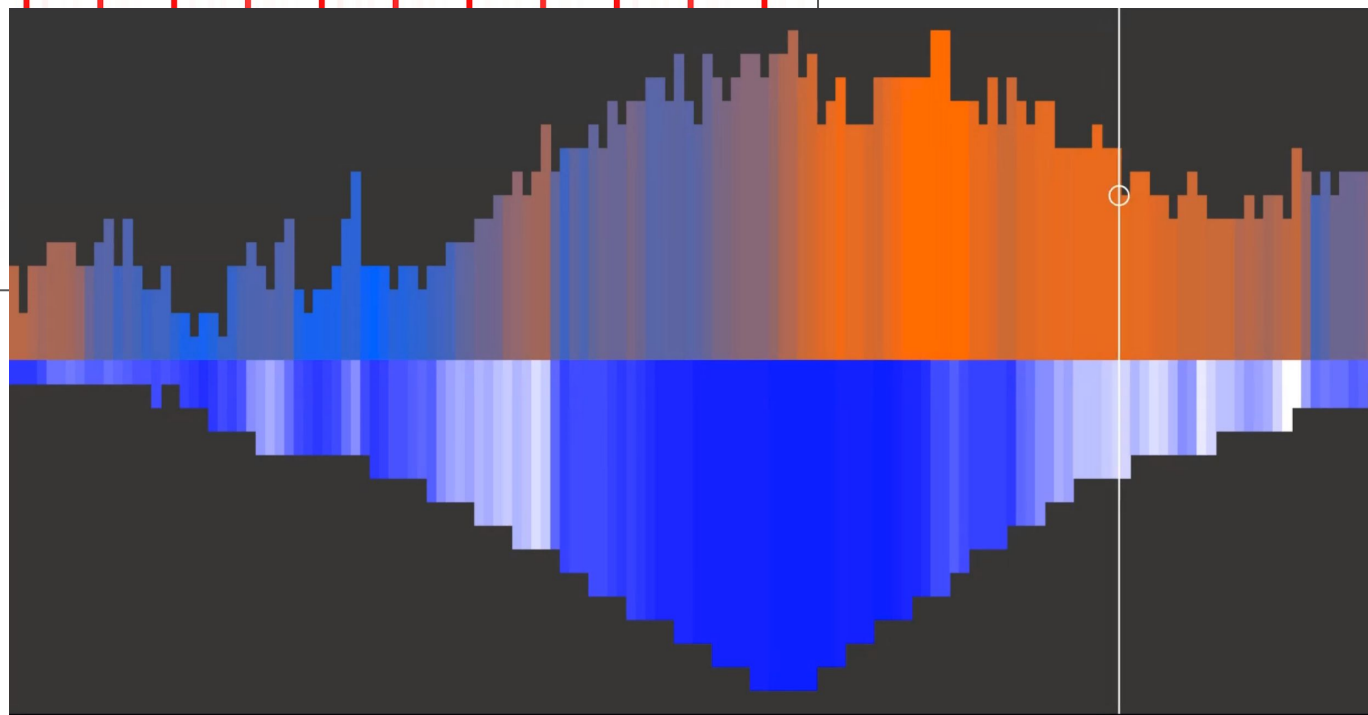
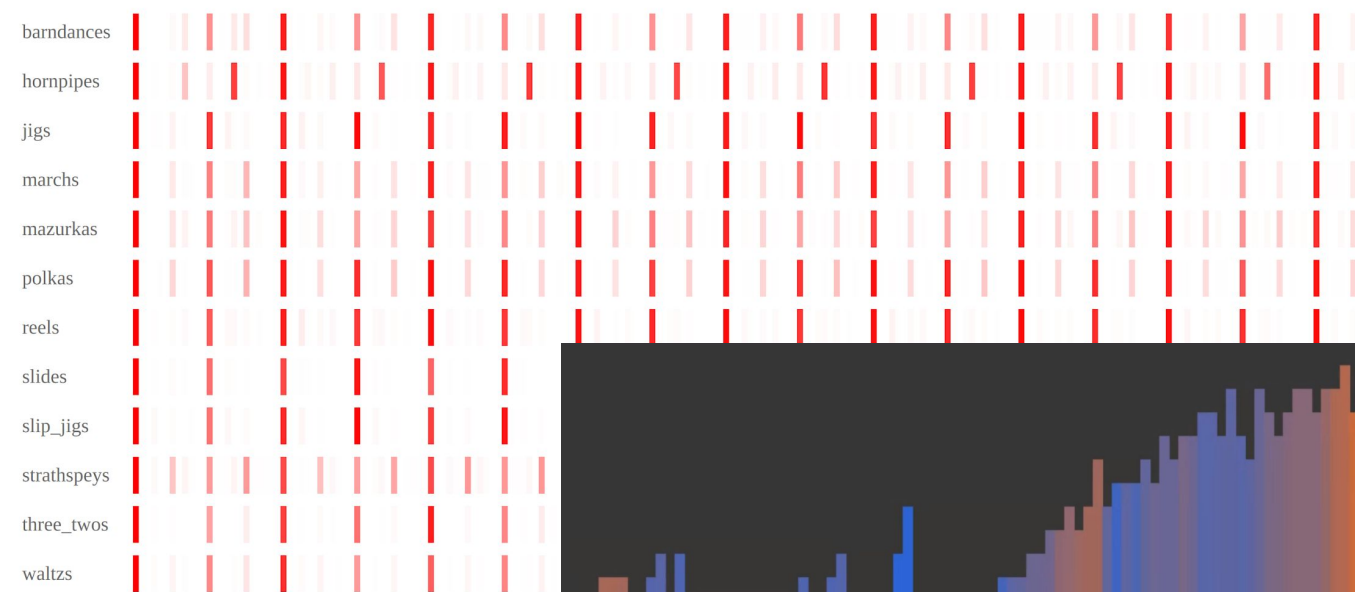


# Mining content in and across collections: Polifonia

Explicit representation of musical data from multiple repositories (including Irish Traditional Music) to extract patterns (in melody, rhythm, harmony, structure) in individual pieces of music, in whole repositories and across repositories.



## Rhythmic patterns in Irish traditional music



Sonification of weather data  
using melodic building blocks  
from collection of Irish tunes -  
see

<https://youtu.be/gc44P9sszFA>

# Conclusion

Knowledge graphs, ontologies and explicit inference allow us not only to structure, represent and reason upon collections as registries of metadata, they enable relating those metadata to content, whether it is text, images or music.

By combining knowledge-based, symbolic approaches with data mining and machine learning methods, it becomes possible to explore very large repositories and understand how what they contain relate to other things, concepts, and repositories.

Such methods enable new forms of research methodologies combining the quantitative and qualitative analysis of repositories, together with a deep understanding of their content.





Thank you