

FORS-DaSCH Webinar series

Data Management for the Social Sciences and Humanities

FORS-DaSCH Webinar series on Data Management for the Social Sciences and Humanities –
Authority data, standards and metadata © 2025 by Gautschy, R. (DaSCH) and Marmier, A. (FORS)
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FORS and DaSCH

FORS – Swiss Centre of Expertise in the Social Sciences

- national infrastructure for Social Sciences' research data mainly funded by SNSF
- services: consulting / training / workshops /events for data management and archiving, SWISSUbase repository for the social sciences, mandates around the data collection and analysis, FORS Guides

DaSCH – Swiss National Data and Service Center for the Humanities

- national infrastructure for Humanities' research data mainly funded by SNSF
- services: consulting / training / workshops /events, virtual research environment, FAIR open data repository (DSP) including data publication and persistent identifiers at object level, metadata browser



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Programme

- 01 Introduction
- 02 Authority data
- 03 Standards
- 04 Metadata
- 05 Summary

01 Introduction

Introduction

- in humanities we often work with complex information about people, places, works of art, historical events, languages
- organisation and retrieval of information depends on clarity and consistency in naming and describing entities
- authority data - powerful tools that ensure consistency
 - standardise names, concepts across different systems and collections
 - enable interoperability, accuracy and meaningful research

02 Authority data

What is authority data?

- standardised information that uniquely identifies entities in a consistent and structured way
 - people (e.g. authors, artists)
 - corporate bodies (e.g. institutions, companies)
 - places (e.g. cities, countries)
 - subjects (e.g. historical events, art styles)
 - works (e.g. books, artworks)
- provides preferred form along with variants and contextual information

Why authority data matters!

- disambiguation and clarity
 - names and terms are often ambiguous
 - authority data help to disambiguate by assigning unique identifiers and preferred names
 - Example: *We send Mars to Mars with a pack of Mars as a supply.*
 - planet Mars: <http://vocab.getty.edu/page/tgn/7030644>
 - god Mars: <http://d-nb.info/gnd/118731181>
- consistency in description
 - varying forms or languages for names and subjects used in different institutions
 - authority data facilitate coherent and reliable search and retrieval
 - Example: Medea, Medeia, Médée, Μήδεια, Mēdeia

Why authority data matters!

- enhancing discovery and research
 - linking all variant names of a person or figure, helps to find everything related to that person or figure, regardless of how the name was recorded in individual records
- enabling interoperability
 - authority data allow for integrating and querying together datasets from different institutions
- supporting linked data and the semantic web
 - Authority data is crucial for creating machine-readable, semantically rich metadata

Examples of authority files

- Integrated Authority File ([GND](#))
- Identifiers and Repositories for Higher Education and Research ([IdRef](#))
- Library of Congress Name Authority File ([LCNAF](#))
- ORCID for researchers and scholars ([ORCID](#))
- Virtual International Authority File ([VIAF](#); aggregator)
- Wikidata ([Websearch](#), [SPARQL Query Service](#)) – collaborative knowledge base that increasingly serves authority functions

Types of authority data

- Name authority files
 - personal names, family names, corporate names
 - record preferred form and variants
 - Examples: VIAF, LCNAF, Getty Union List of Artist Names ([ULAN](#))

- Subject authority files
 - concepts, topics, and events
 - Example: Getty Art and Architecture Thesaurus ([AAT](#), [LOD form](#) of AAT)
 - 8 facettes: Objects, Associated Concepts, Physical Attributes, Styles and Periods, Agents, Activities, Materials, Brand Names (new)

AAT: Example *Pelike*

Research

Research Home • Tools • Art & Architecture Thesaurus • Full Record Display

Art & Architecture Thesaurus® Online
Full Record Display

[Home](#) [Search](#) [Previous Page](#) [Help](#)

Click the  icon to view the hierarchy.

[Semantic View \(JSON, RDF, N3/Turtle, N-Triples\)](#) [Representative Images: 1](#)

ID: 300198883 **Record Type: concept**

Page Link: <http://vocab.getty.edu/page/aat/300198883>

 **pelikai** (storage vessels, storage containers, ... Furnishings and Equipment (hierarchy name))

Note: Ancient Greek pear-shaped storage vessels with a broad mouth forming a continuous curve with the body; introduced into Attic black-figure pottery at the end of the 6th century BCE, though painted primarily in the red-figure technique. They were principally used for storage of liquids although they were suitable for other commodities. From ca. 450 BCE, pelikai were also used as a container for the ashes of the dead. The shape is related to that of amphora type C.

Terms:

- pelikai** ([preferred](#), C.U, English-P, D.U, PN)
(Dutch-P, D.U, U)
- pelike** (C.U, English-AD, U, SN)
(Spanish-AD, U, SN)
- pelice** (C.U, English-UE, U, N)
- pelikes** (C.U, English-UE, U, N)
- 佩里齊罐 (C.U, Chinese (traditional)-P, D.U, U)
- pèi lì qí guǎn (C.U, Chinese (transliterated Pinyin)-P, UE, U, U)
- pèi lì qí guǎn (C.U, Chinese (transliterated Pinyin without tones)-P, UE, U, U)
- p'ei li ch'i kuan (C.U, Chinese (transliterated Wade-Giles)-P, UE, U, U)
- pelikés (C.U, Spanish-P, D.U, PN)
- peliké (C.U, Spanish-AD, U, SN)

Facet/Hierarchy Code: [V.TQ](#)

Hierarchical Position:

Getty

Museum Collection

Home Search Feedback

B3.AE.10

Attic Red-Figure Pelike, Kerch Style

about 360 B.C.

Attributed to the Painter of the [Wedding Procession](#) (Greek (Attic), active about 362 B.C.)

On view at [Getty Villa, Gallery 104, Archaic and Classical Greece](#)

[View full record details](#)



One side of this vase shows the Judgment of Paris, a myth with a long history in Greek art. The young Trojan prince Paris sits amid three goddesses and their guide Hermes, god of travelers. On the left, Hera plucks at

[Download image \(2194 x 3000 px\)](#)

Types of authority data

- Geographic authority files
 - Standardised names and identifiers for places
 - Examples: [GeoNames](#), [Pleiades](#), Getty Thesaurus of Geographic Names ([TGN](#))
- Work and expression authority files
 - describe creative works and their versions or manifestations
 - Example: Getty Cultural Objects Name Authority ([CONA](#))

Further authority data

- Egyptology: Thot-Thesauri and Ontologies
 - <https://thot.philo.ulg.ac.be/>
 - Example: marble
- UNESCO Thesaurus
 - <https://vocabularies.unesco.org/browser/thesaurus/en/>
 - Example: Archaeological sites

Summary: Importance of authority data

- role of authority data becomes more critical in collaborative world
- basis for creation of rich, interconnected knowledge graphs
- authority data ensures that information remains accessible, understandable, and usable

03 Standards

Introduction

- digital collections grow in size and complexity – use of standards ensures that cultural and scholarly data can be shared, accessed, and interpreted consistently across institutions
- among the most important standards in the humanities are the International Image Interoperability Framework ([IIIF](#)) and the Text Encoding Initiative ([TEI](#))
- IIIF and TEI facilitate interoperability, sustainability, and enriched scholarly interaction with digital resources

International Image Interoperability Framework (IIIF)

- <https://iiif.io/>
- international open standards for serving high-resolution images on the web
- frequently used in the field of cultural heritage, especially by museums, libraries, archives and research institutions
- several APIs that enable advanced image processing, presentation and data exchange

International Image Interoperability Framework (IIIF)

Image API

- provides standardised access to images hosted on web servers
- users can request images in different sizes, formats, rotation angles and regions without creating multiple versions

Examples:

Original image: <https://iiif.dasch.swiss/0803/H2Kye390dOP-FJpCoZWaF9C.jp2/full/5451,7062/0/default.jpg>

Square image section of 2000x2000px and rotated by 90°:
<https://iiif.dasch.swiss/0803/H2Kye390dOP-FJpCoZWaF9C.jp2/square/2000,2000/90/default.jpg>



International Image Interoperability Framework (IIIF)

Presentation API

- describes the structure and metadata of digital objects such as images, books or manuscripts using JSON
- construction of complex, multi-sided objects possible

Images: deep zooming, comparisons, structure and annotations possible

<https://ark.dasch.swiss/ark:/72163/1/0838/rS2oEITHTbi8HTWwJz3QFA1>

<https://ark.dasch.swiss/ark:/72163/1/0844/=Ws=IKGvT5ShPfiWTjK71wV>

Audios and Videos: several film reels, together with subtitles, transcriptions, translations, and annotations provided

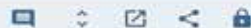
Cook book: <https://iiif.io/api/cookbook/> (IIIF Manifest)



Properties

Annotations ¹

ZH_2019.232_Microscopic-Image_25



Created on Jul 8, 2024

Comment

<https://app.0838-test->



Next page

4 Facsimile

International Image Interoperability Framework (IIIF)

[Content Search API](#) – to search annotations

[Authorization Flow API](#) – to control access

[Change Discovery API](#) – for aggregators to query IIIF data

[Content State API](#) – improving the method of transferring content from one viewer to another

[Maps Extension](#) – to link a geographical location with an IIIF object (georeferencing)

Application example: IIIF

Getty Museum Collection

<https://www.getty.edu/art/collection/object/103VQF#full-artwork-details>

<https://media.getty.edu/iiif/manifest/ee9d8817-4a38-4d9a-94bd-08c028d32361>

File does not need to be available locally for IIIF-capable viewer (e.g. Mirador, Universal Viewer) – Address of the IIIF Manifesto is sufficient!

<https://universalviewer.io/uv.html?manifest=>

e.g. <https://universalviewer.io/uv.html?manifest=https://media.getty.edu/iiif/manifest/ee9d8817-4a38-4d9a-94bd-08c028d32361>

85.AM.271

Finger Ring with the Ambush of Achilles

550–500 B.C.

Unknown artist/maker

On view at [Getty Villa, Gallery 110, The Etruscans](#)[View full record details](#)

An intricate scene decorates the bezel of this Etruscan ring. Two men approach a fountain where water gushes into a vessel from a lion's head spout. Behind the fountain, a man squats as if hiding, holding a sword. These details identify the scene as a standard depiction of the ambush of Troilos, prince of Troy, by the Greek hero Achilles during the Trojan War. On this ring, however, a strange dog-headed creature, who is not part of the Troilos myth, sits atop the fountain. The creature may actually be jackal-headed and thus meant to recall the Egyptian god Anubis.

All Greek and Etruscan metal rings with engraved bezels ultimately derive from Egyptian and Phoenician cartouche-shaped rings. The cartouche-shaped ring was especially popular in Etruria in the later 500s B.C., where immigrant Greek goldsmiths from Ionia introduced it. The style of the figures is very similar to those on objects in other media produced by these Ionian immigrant artists.

[Download image \(3000 x 1765 px\)](#) ▾

© Public Domain

UV

Image 1 of 3 Go


CONTENTS

Front

Impression

Profile

Finger Ring with the Ambush of Achilles



ATTRIBUTION

Images provided here are believed to be in the public domain and are available under

MORE INFORMATION

About the item

Artist/Maker

Unknown

Title

Finger Ring with the Ambush of Achilles

Material

Hoop: gold-plated silver; bezel: gold

Dimensions

Object (Hoop, Greatest Extent): 2.5 cm (15/16 in.)

Object (Bezel): 2.1 x 1 cm (13/16 x 3/8 in.)

Accession Number

85 AM 271

Collection

The J. Paul Getty Museum

Rights Statement

Application example: IIIF 3D

- IIIF standard for 3D under development
- Image and Presentation API 4.0 (expected summer 2025) will contain initial implementations

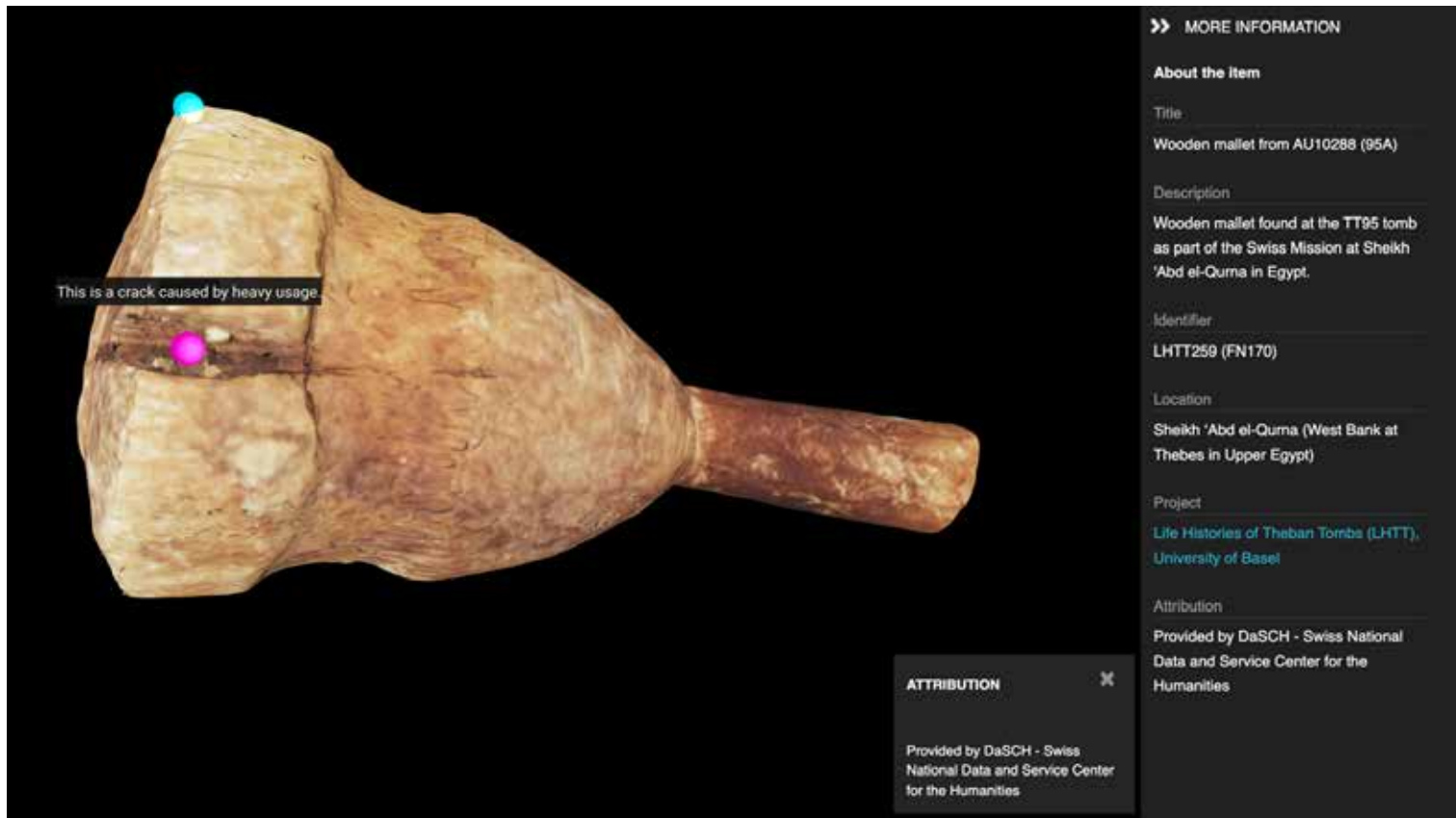
IIIF Manifesto:

<https://iiif-stuff-7vfythcpv-julsraemy.vercel.app/mallet/index.json>

Display with Universal Viewer:

<https://uv-v4.netlify.app/#?manifest=>

<https://uv-v4.netlify.app/#?manifest=https://iiif-stuff-7vfythcpv-julsraemy.vercel.app/mallet/index.json>



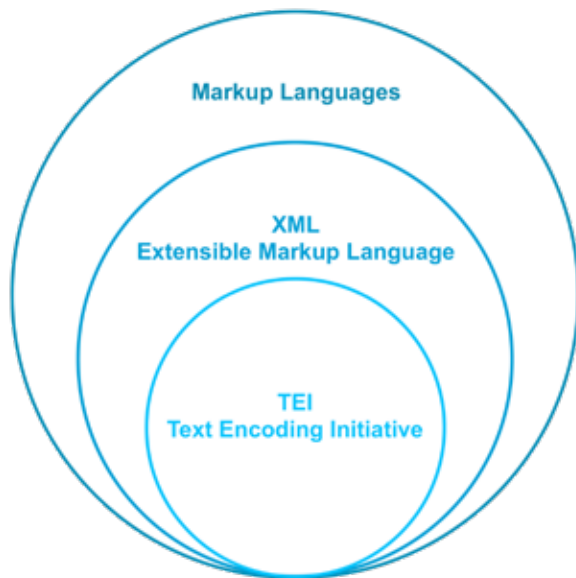
Text Encoding Initiative (TEI)



Image source: <https://tei-c.org>

- The Text Encoding Initiative (TEI) is an international consortium.
- It develops and maintains a standard for the representation of texts in digital form: this includes Guidelines, Schemas, and Tools.
- Standard “used by libraries, museums, publishers, and individual scholars to present texts for online research, teaching, and preservation” (from introduction page <https://tei-c.org>).
- The consortium includes institutional and individual members.

TEI is Markup



- TEI utilizes markup to explicitly identify and describe features within a text.
- It is based on XML (eXtensible Markup Language).
- Markup describes structure, appearance, and interpretive features of the text.

Adapted from source: <https://de.dariah.eu/tei-tutorial>

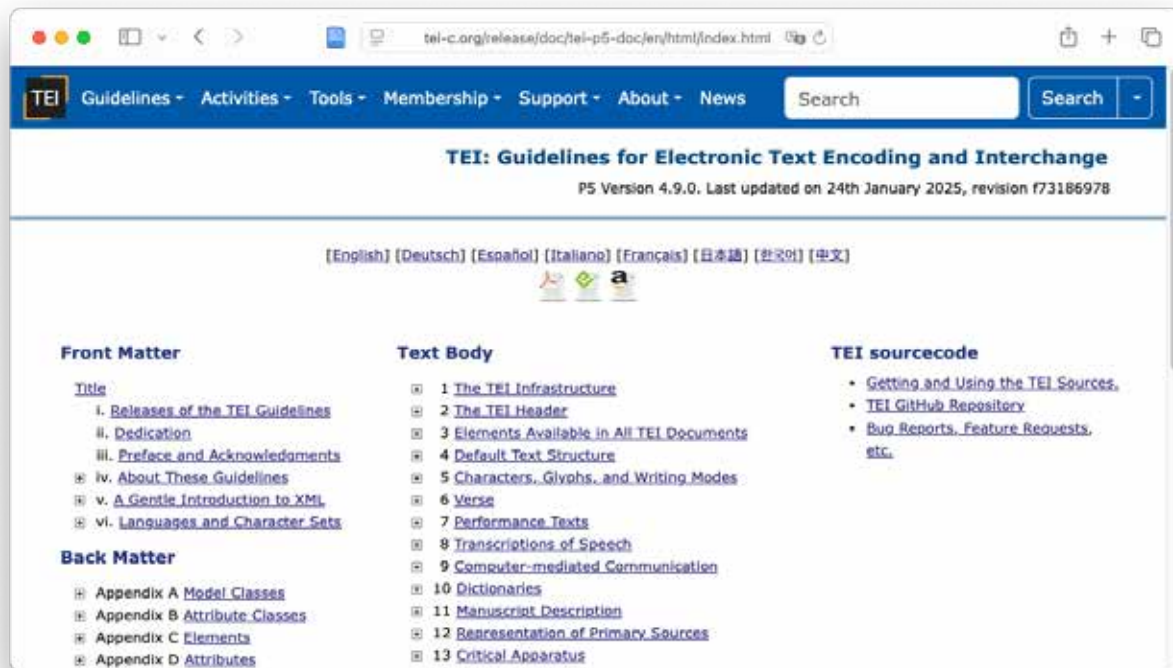
The Basics of TEI

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<?xml-model href="myTEIschema.rng" type="application/xml"
  schematypens="http://relaxng.org/ns/structure/1.0"?>
<!-- 🙌 These are processing instructions -->

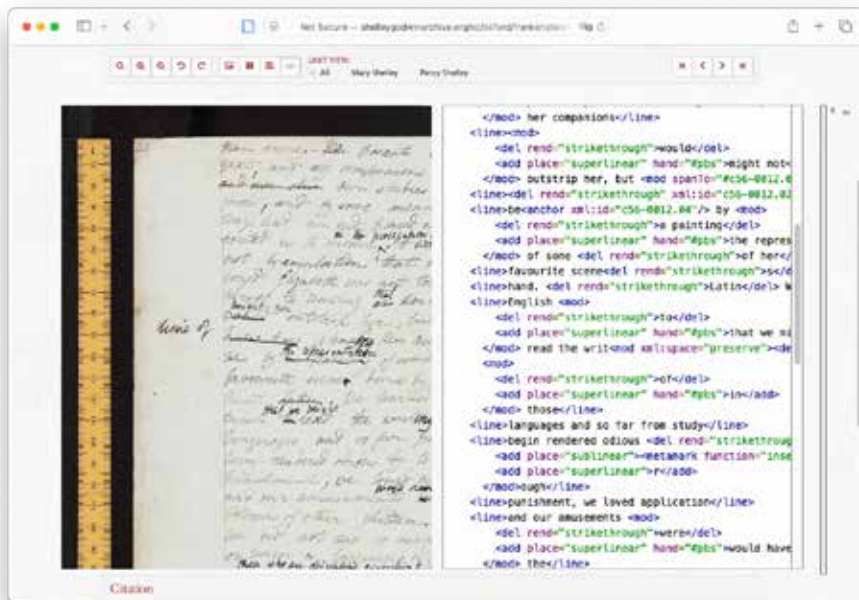
<!-- 🙌 Here starts the TEI structure -->
<TEI xmlns="http://www.tei-c.org/ns/1.0">
  <teiHeader> <!-- 🙌 where the metadata goes -->
    <fileDesc>
      <titleStmt>
        <title>Empty XML File</title>
      </titleStmt>
      <publicationStmt>
        <p>Information about the publication</p>
      </publicationStmt>
      <sourceDesc>
        <p>Information about the source</p>
      </sourceDesc>
    </fileDesc>
  </teiHeader>
  <text> <!-- 🙌 where the actual text goes -->
    <body>
      <p>Some text here.</p>
    </body>
  </text>
</TEI>
```

- A standard TEI document has a defined structure.
- Information is encoded using nested elements and their attributes.
- Within a root element <TEI>[. . .]</TEI>.

TEI Guidelines as Reference



Use for Scholarly Editions



- TEI is the recognized standard for creating digital scholarly editions.
- It allows for the detailed encoding of textual variation, editorial interventions, and source descriptions.

Shelley, M. W. "Frankenstein, Volume I", in *The Shelley-Godwin Archive*, MS. Abinger c. 56, 4v. Retrieved from <http://shelleygodwinarchive.org/sc/oxford/frankenstein/volume/i/#p2/mode/xml>

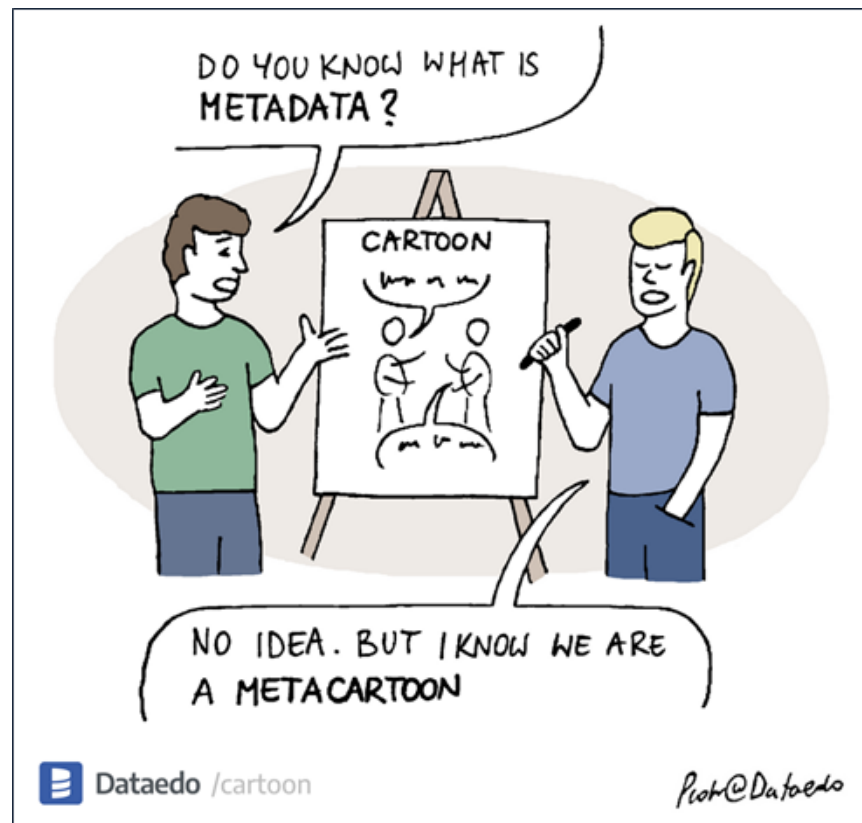
Importance of TEI

- TEI-encoded texts are interoperable and reusable
- TEI markup allows for search and analysis
- XML-based TEI is sustainable

Complementarity of IIF and TEI

- increasingly used together in digital humanities projects
 - digitised manuscripts and editions
 - integrated research environments
 - cross-institutional projects

04 Metadata



What is Metadata in social sciences?

Information about an object



Source: <https://bit.ly/35IPIIK>

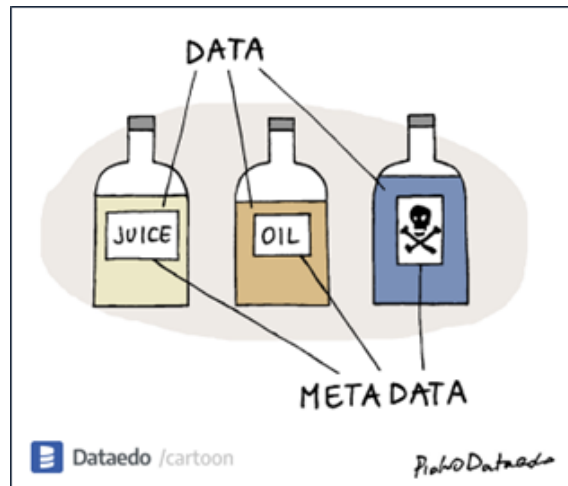


Source: Jonn Leffmann

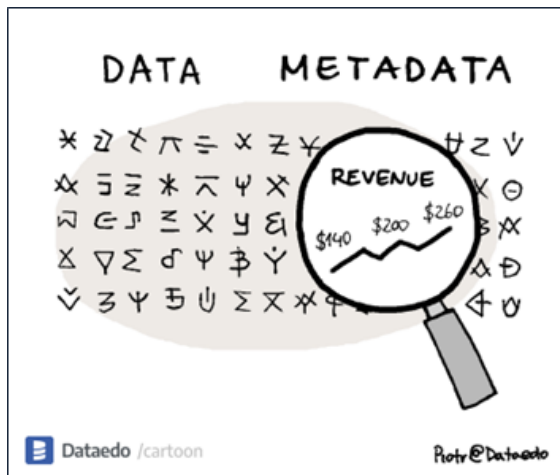
[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Campbell%27s_\(Andy_Warhol_Special_edition\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Campbell%27s_(Andy_Warhol_Special_edition).jpg)

Type of Information

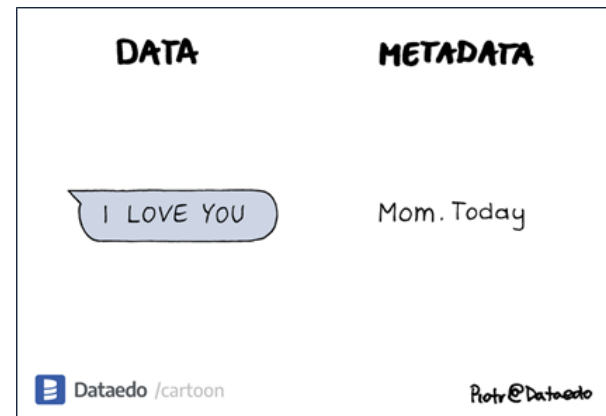
Additional Information



Decoding Information



Context & Source Information



Different objects



Project Level

File Level

Data Level

Platform Level

Project description

Authors, project objectives, methodology, etc.

File organization

Folder structure, Naming convention, versioning strategy

Individual object information

Embedded vs. Non-embedded

Metadata standards

Standards used by the chosen data repo

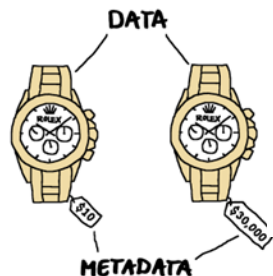
DATA



METADATA



Protr@Dataedo



Why metadata is important?

In the context of social science, metadata is the **descriptive record of the trail of information** produced throughout the research lifecycle

- Data without metadata is incomplete.
- Rich metadata improves comprehension, reusability, shareability and findability

Worksheet – Data without Context

Read this after reading the interview excerpt with Grandmother 19. Are you surprised at any of the information? What did you expect, and how does this information change the way you would analyse the interview? Does the methodology and research questions match your own ideas for how the data could be used?

Interview Notes for Interview with Grandmother 19

Date interview: 1978

Age of G19: 43

[text has been edited slightly to remove identifiers.]

Upstairs flat in drab block of 4. Untidy. Back garden overgrown grass. A daughter with baby living with parents. Doesn't appear to be married. Another daughter who is pregnant was also present. Not sure whether she is living there also. A teen aged daughter also lives at home. The 2 daughters present looked gaunt and ill. Son-in-law came in later and left granddaughter - seemed to be about 4 or 5. G19 seemed quite forthcoming despite the presence of all these people. But when I was leaving she showed me to the door and confided that she and [someone of her daughter's generation] were very different: "Although she's a nice person, she was brought up on the good things of life. She likes to get out and enjoy herself, while I only thought of my family."

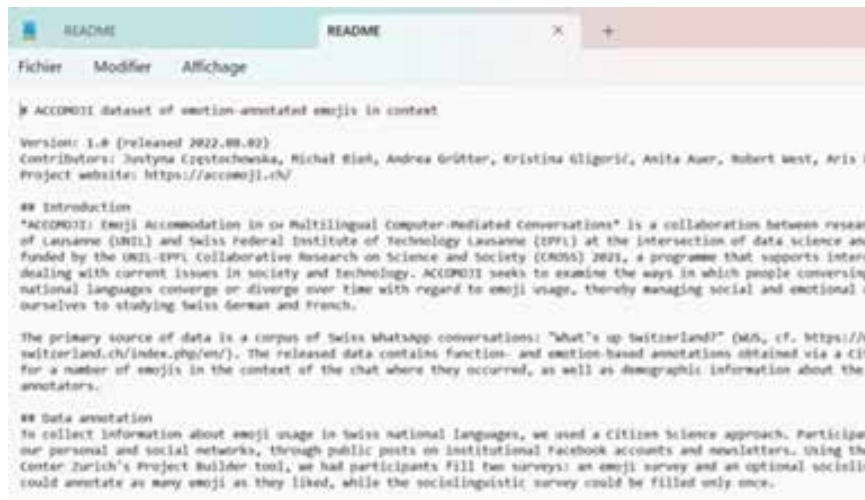
Social Sciences Documentation

If the information aims to

- provide **context**, **transparency**, and a **narrative** that helps **humans** understand **how** and **why** the data were produced, and
- Are **human readable**

⇒ Documentation

1	Political wall writings and stickers in Tampere and Helsinki 2018-2019				
2					
3	File name	Date	Photographer	Location	Description of photo
4	Photo_01.jpg	13/05/2018	Matt Miller	Tampere city centre	Writing on underpass wall
5	Photo_02.jpg	13/05/2018	Matt Miller	Tampere University (main building)	Sticker on a lamp post
6	Photo_03.jpg	15/05/2018	Matt Miller	Pasila railway station	Sticker on a litter bin
7	Photo_04.jpg	16/05/2018	Matt Miller	Pasila railway station	Writing on station platform wall
8	Photo_05.jpg	15/02/2019	Matt Miller	University of Helsinki (Topelia)	Sticker on a park bench
9	Photo_06.jpg	22/02/2019	Matt Miller	Tampere railway station	Writing on a men's toilet wall
10	Photo_07.jpg	22/02/2019	Matt Miller	Tampere railway station	Writing on station platform wall



**Documentation tells the story of
research!**

Social Sciences Metadata

If the information aims to

- allow **interoperability**, re-use and,
- **readability by machines** (and potentially humans)

⇒ **Metadata**

```
<rdf:RDF
  xmlns:rdf="http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#"
  xmlns:foaf="http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/"
  xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/"
  <rdf:Description rdf:about="http://en.wikipedia
    <dc:title>Tony Benn</dc:title>
    <dc:publisher>Wikipedia</dc:publisher>
      <foaf:primaryTopic>
        <foaf:Person>
          <foaf:name>Tony Benn</fo
        </foaf:Person>
      </foaf:primaryTopic>
    </rdf:Description>
  </rdf:RDF>
```

https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Resource_Description_Framework#Article_de_Wikip%C3%A9dia_sur_Tony_Benn

Analysis Unit *

Individual

Universe *

Members of the Pink Cross Association as well as oth

Mode of data collection *

Self-administered questionnaire: Web-based

Data collection instruments *

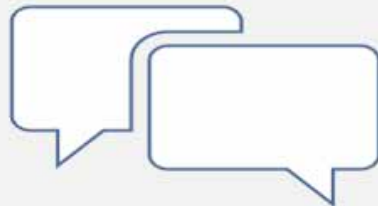
Questionnaire

Data source

Source: [SWISSUbase](#)

Metadata makes research retrievable, shareable and exploitable.

Different type of metadata



Descriptive metadata

—
The content

- Describe an information resource –used for its identification and discovery
- Examples: author, title, abstract, keywords, DOI



Structural metadata

—
The structure

- Describes the structure of a resource, e.g., how a digital asset is organised
- Examples: table of contents, page numbers, index



Administrative metadata

—
The context

- Help manage the resource:
 - technical metadata
 - Preservation metadata
 - Rights metadata
- Examples: file type, license terms, checksum, creation date & owner

Descriptive metadata in data repositories

- About Persons and Institutions, e.g., Name, E-mail, Address, Role, Language
- About Projects, datasets and data files, e.g., Titles, Abstract, Author(s), Discipline(s)

Institution

Institution details

Full Name

University of Neuchâtel, Institut des sciences du langage - ISLa, Historical linguistics

Name

EN

Historical linguistics

Language

English

Other Language

-

Dataset

Dataset title

EN

Swiss Preferences for Candidates with Different Class Profiles

DOI

<https://doi.org/10.48573/h8nk-7d20>

Dataset description language

English

Dataset Description

The dataset is based on a survey experiment implemented in 2017.

Structural metadata in data repositories

- Study, Dataset & File levels, e.g. different menu types

SWISSUbase main menu

Breadcrumb navigation

Project and Dataset menu

The screenshot displays the SWISSUbase web interface. At the top, the 'SWISSUbase' logo is on the left, and navigation links for 'Catalogue', 'My workspace', 'My studies', and 'My downloads' are in the center. On the right, there are language selection buttons for 'EN', 'DE', and 'FR', along with a user profile icon. Below the top navigation bar, a breadcrumb trail reads 'Catalogue // Search // Study 8991'. The main header area features the study title 'The Swiss decision-making system in the 21st century: power, institutions, conflicts' and the reference number 'Ref. 8991'. On the left side, a 'Project and Dataset menu' is visible, containing a 'Study' section with sub-items: 'Overview' (highlighted), 'General description', 'Funding', 'Bibliographical References', and 'Methods'. Below the 'Study' section are 'Datasets' and 'Files' sections. The main content area on the right is titled 'Study overview' and includes sections for 'Study title' (with language buttons for 'EN' and 'FR'), 'Study description language' (set to 'English'), and 'Institution(s)' (listing the 'University of Geneva, Department of Political Science and International Relations' with its address).

Administrative metadata in data repositories









- Usage license
 - Creative commons
 - Public domain
 - Restricted access

- File information
 - Version number, file size, Virus scan, MD5 hash

File information

Usage Licenses

Licenses selection *

- >  License Creative Commons BY
- >  License Creative Commons BY-SA
- >  License Creative Commons BY-NC
- >  License Creative Commons BY-NC-SA
- >  License Creative Commons BY-ND
- >  License Creative Commons BY-NC-ND
- >  Public Domain License CC0
- >  Restricted access ✓ Select

Physical file

Download link

[2308_Swiss-Candidates-Preferences_Data_v1.0.xlsx](#)

File size

2.21 MB

Last update

📅 01.05.2023

Virus Scan

✓ File check successful

MD5 hash

e290bb6adc4abea4e2cc6ddbdc0afe5



Metadata Standard

- A structured framework that defines how metadata should be organized and formatted to describe an object (dataset, project)
- Standards define elements organized in a structured way such as title, author, subject, methodology, and often rely on controlled vocabularies to maintain consistency
- Improve interoperability, enhance discovery of and access to data

A common way of structuring and understanding data



In social science, repositories
used standards.

So it's your choice of repository
that may determine your
standard

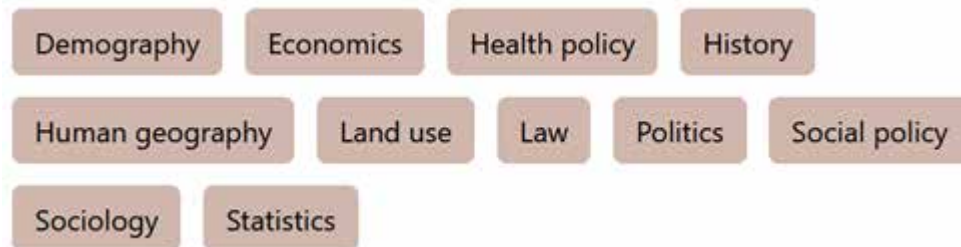


The Data Documentation Initiative Alliance

What is it?

- Is a international membership organization
- That creates and maintains **metadata standards, software** and **Controlled vocabulary**
- **describing research data** in the social, demographic, economic, and health sciences.

- Two versions of the standard are currently maintained in parallel:
 - DDI Codebook
 - DDI Lifecycle
 - Colectica for Excel
 - DDI CV



The Data Documentation Initiative Alliance



Image pixabay (CC-0)
Copyright © GESIS Leibniz Institute for
the Social Sciences, 2016

Interconnected Levels of data documentation:

- Some metadata standards deal with metadata on the study level only. DDI **covers metadata** at **all levels** necessary for machine actionable data and metadata management.
 - **Data level**
 - Detailed level
 - More specific
 - e.g. Variable name, label, frequencies, code lists etc.
 - **Study level**
 - General level
 - Whole project
 - e.g. PI, funders, population etc.

Controlled vocabulary

Definition and Purpose

A controlled vocabulary is a consistent way to describe data

- Is standardized and organized arrangement of words and phrases
- Improve data's findability and make data more shareable with researchers in the same discipline
- Common types: alphabetical lists of terms, thesauri and taxonomies

CV definition

A classification of contributor roles.

Details

CV short name: ContributorRole
CV name: Contributor Role
CV notes:
Language: English (en)
Version: 1.0.2

Version notes:

To align with a new versioning system, this version has been automatically created by copying the previous version PUBLISHED-1.0.0.

Canonical URI: <urn:ddi:int.ddi.cv:ContributorRole:1.0.2>

Agency: [DDI Alliance](#)

Code list

Code value	Code descriptive term	Code definition
ProjectOrStudyDesign	Project/Study design	Describing the rationale, and putting together a specific plan for conducting a study or research project.
ProjectOrStudyDesign.Conceptualization	Project/Study design: Conceptualization	Developing high-level research concepts as well as specific concepts to be measured. Conceptualization involves clarifying the concepts with verbal definitions and examples as well as expressing relationships among the concepts.
ProjectOrStudyDesign.InstrumentDesign	Project/Study design: Instrument design	Conceiving and planning for the data collection instrument(s). May include the operationalization of concepts into questions and indicators, instrument testing, forward translation and subsequent changes in the master instrument(s), as well as designing and testing other types of data collection instruments than survey questionnaires.

Controlled vocabularies used in Social Science

ELSST – A Discipline Thesaurus

The European Language Social Science Thesaurus (ELSST) is a broad-based, multilingual thesaurus for the social sciences.

- To describe actual subjects & concepts covered by data
- The thesaurus consists of over 3,400 concepts and covers the core social science disciplines:
 - politics, sociology, economics, education, law, crime, demography, health, employment, information and communication technology, and environmental science.
- Available in 14 languages (en - source language, cs, da, nl, fi, fr, de, el, lt, no, ro, sl, es & sv)

<https://thesauri.cessda.eu/elsst-5/en/>



ELSST Thesaurus (Version 5 - 2024)

Alphabetical Hierarchy New and Deprecated

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O
P Q R S T U V W Y Z

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM
ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURES
ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNALS
ADMINISTRATORS
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS → EDUCATIONAL
ADMISSION CRITERIA
ADOLESCENCE
ADOLESCENT PSYCHOLOGY
ADOLESCENTS
ADOPTED CHILDREN
ADOPTION

Vocabulary inform

TITLE
DESCRIPTION

PUBLISHER

EL SST Thesaurus (Version 5 - 2024)

Content language **English**

Alphabetical

Hierarchy

New and
Deprecated

PREFERRED TERM

DATA 

NARROWER CONCEPTS

BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATA

DATA BREACHES

- CULTURE
- CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS
- DAMAGE
- DATA
- BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATA
- DATA BREACHES
- DATA PROTECTION
- ELECTION DATA
- STATISTICAL DATA
- DATA ANALYSIS
- DATA COLLECTION METHODOLOGY
- DEFENCE
- DEMOGRAPHY
- DEVELOPMENT
- DISABILITIES
- DISARMAMENT
- DISCRIMINATION

Alphabetical

Hierarchy

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- CULTURE
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- DEMOGRAPHY
- DEVELOPMENT
- DISABILITIES
- DISARMAMENT
- DISCRIMINATION
- DISEASES
- DOMESTIC RESPONSIBILITIES
- DRIVING LESSONS
- EARTH SCIENCES
- ECONOMICS
- EDUCATION

DATA > BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATA

PREFERRED TERM

BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATA 

DEFINITION

DATA NECESSARY FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF AN AUTHOR, TITLE, SOURCE, DATE OF PUBLICATION, ETC.

BROADER CONCEPT

[DATA](#)

HISTORY NOTE

DEFINITION ADDED NOVEMBER 2005

IDENTIFIER

urn:ddi:int.cessda.elsst:5de1db2a-b60d-4357-8d0d-2405577e6a78:5

IS A VERSION OF

<https://elsst.cessda.eu/id/5de1db2a-b60d-4357-8d0d-2405577e6a78>

DATE ISSUED

2024-09-23

KEYWORD SEARCH

[Search for 'BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATA' in CESSDA Data Catalogue](#)

HAS PREVIOUS VERSION

[BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATA \(EL SST Version 4\)](#)

IN OTHER LANGUAGES

[BIBLIOGRAFICKÉ ÚDAJE](#)

Czech

<https://thesauri.cessda.eu/elsst-5/en/>

ISCED – Classification of Education and Training

03 Social Sciences, Journalism and Information

031 Social and behavioural sciences

0311 Economics

Economics is the study of economic policy, economic theory and economic decisionmaking.

Programmes and qualifications with the following main content are classified here:

- Econometrics
- Economic history
- Economics
- Political economics

Exclusions

Study of economics where emphasis is given to business studies is excluded from this detailed field and classified under 041 'Business and administration'. Study of home economics is excluded from this detailed field and included in the detailed field 1011 'Domestic services'.

0312 Political sciences and civics

Political sciences and civics is the study of government and political principles or practice. The study of the rights and duties of the citizens are included here.

Programmes and qualifications with the following main content are classified here:

- Civics
- Human rights
- International relations

International Standard Classification of Occupations - ISCO

ISCO-08 title	ISCO-08 code	ISCO-88 correspon...
+ Professional Services Managers Not Elsewhere Classified	1349	1229
+ Legal, Social and Cultural Professionals	26	
– Librarians, Archivists and Curators	262	
Major group	2 Professionals	
Sub-major group	26 Legal, Social and Cultural Professionals	
Minor group	262 Librarians, Archivists and Curators	
Definition	Librarians, archivists and curators develop and maintain the collections of archives, libraries, museums, art galleries, and similar establishments.	
Tasks include	Tasks performed usually include: appraising or developing and organizing the contents of archives and artefacts of historical, cultural and artistic interest, and ensuring their safe-keeping and preservation; organizing the collections of and exhibitions at museums, art galleries and similar establishments; developing and maintaining the systematic collection of recorded and published material and making it available to users in libraries and related institutions; preparing scholarly papers and reports; conducting research.	
Included occupations	Occupations in this minor group are classified into the following unit groups: 2621 Archivists and Curators 2622 Librarians and Related Information Professionals	
+ Archivists and Curators	2621	2431

To find controlled vocabulary

- The Basic Register of Thesauri, Ontologies & Classifications (BARTOC) is a database of Knowledge Organization Systems (KOS) and KOS related registries.
- The main goal of BARTOC is to list as many Knowledge Organization Systems as possible at one place in order to achieve greater visibility, highlight their features, make them searchable and comparable, and foster knowledge sharing.



<https://bartoc.org/>

05 Summary

Similarities and difference between Humanities and Social Sciences

- Authority data = controlled vocabulary
 - Different names
 - But same objectives: disambiguation and clarity, consistency in description, enhancing discovery and research, enabling interoperability, supporting linked data and the semantic web
- Standards
 - Same objectives: facilitate interoperability, sustainability, and enriched scholarly interaction with digital resources
 - But different users/ audience
 - Humanities: mostly used by researchers and libraries
 - Social Sciences: mostly used by data repository, rarely used by researchers
- Metadata
 - Same objectif: giving information about an object
 - Different objects: Text, image, video, questionnaire, interview, focus group
 - Different type of information

Save the Date!

Save the date already for the fourth webinar:

- Topic: Documentation
- When: September 2025
- Where: online



Source: [Pixabay](#), from myrfa



DATA LIVE

**Your monthly Q&A
on data management
and data sharing**

When? Every second Thursday of the
month, 13:00-14:00 CEST (12 June
2025)

Where? Online on zoom
<https://unil.zoom.us/my/datalive>

For more information:
<https://forscenter.ch/data-live/>

FORS 

Questions?

