Helsinki Centre for Digital Humanities (Heldig)
Roadmap 2016-2020
Heldig Kick-off Symposium
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Outline

- What is Digital Humanities?
- What Heldig – Helsinki Centre for Digital Humanities?

The Idea

http://whatisdigitalhumanities.com/

(817 definitions randomly selected at refresh)
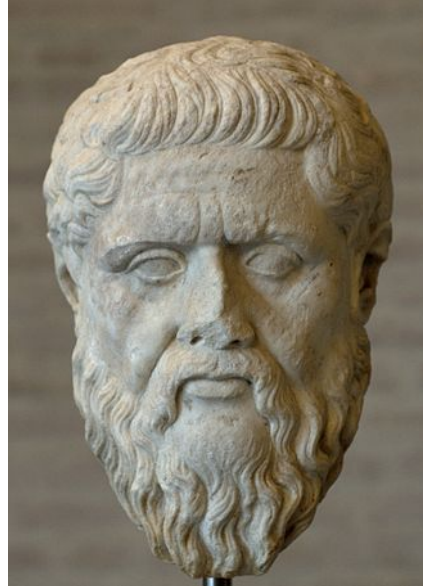
What Is Digital Humanities?

As I siad on my blog: Digital Humanities is the discipline born fr[...] intersection between humanities scho[...] technologies. It aims at investigating h[...] used to enhance research in discipline[...] Languages, Art History, Music, Cultur[...] Digital Humanities holds a very strong[...] includes the concrete creation of digit[...] specific disciplines.

What Is Digital Humanities?

Digital humanities is a field of study characterized by critical analysis of the relationship between the produced surfaces of digital media and the information structures and cultural structures that produce them; alternatively (or additionally) it is characterized by a critical interest in how humanities scholarship is produced, consumed, and transformed in and through digital media.

JULIA FLANDERS

What Is Digita[...]

For this project we are g[...] Humanities- the interdisc[...] impact and relationship [...] projects we are seeking [...] digitilization projects, CDs and so forth that have been created to aid [...] some DH projects [...] digital learning

ISABEL GALINA

What Is Digital Humanities?

DH is the inevitable future at which we thought to have arrived decades ago. Never quite living up to its own hype and underestimated nonetheless.

What Is Digital Humanities?

What Is Digital Humanities?

I think I said last year that I dislike that question, an[...] case. Its boundaries are continually shifting and elu[...] definition. Even something as simple as 'Using com[...] and research in the Humanities' can have caveats. I recognise wh[...] definition of DH might be desirable, but still: I dislike the question.

DH, standing [...] that couples [...] humanities. T[...] programs to [...]

JUSTIN TONRA

What Is Digital Humanities?

An obscure association famously made up of isolated people jointly concerned about the materiality of digital surrogates, the virtual qualities of physical relationships between avatars, and the creation of their own simulated utopia.

ALEJANDRO GIACOMETTI

Computer Science

Humanities

Social Sciences

Digital Humanities
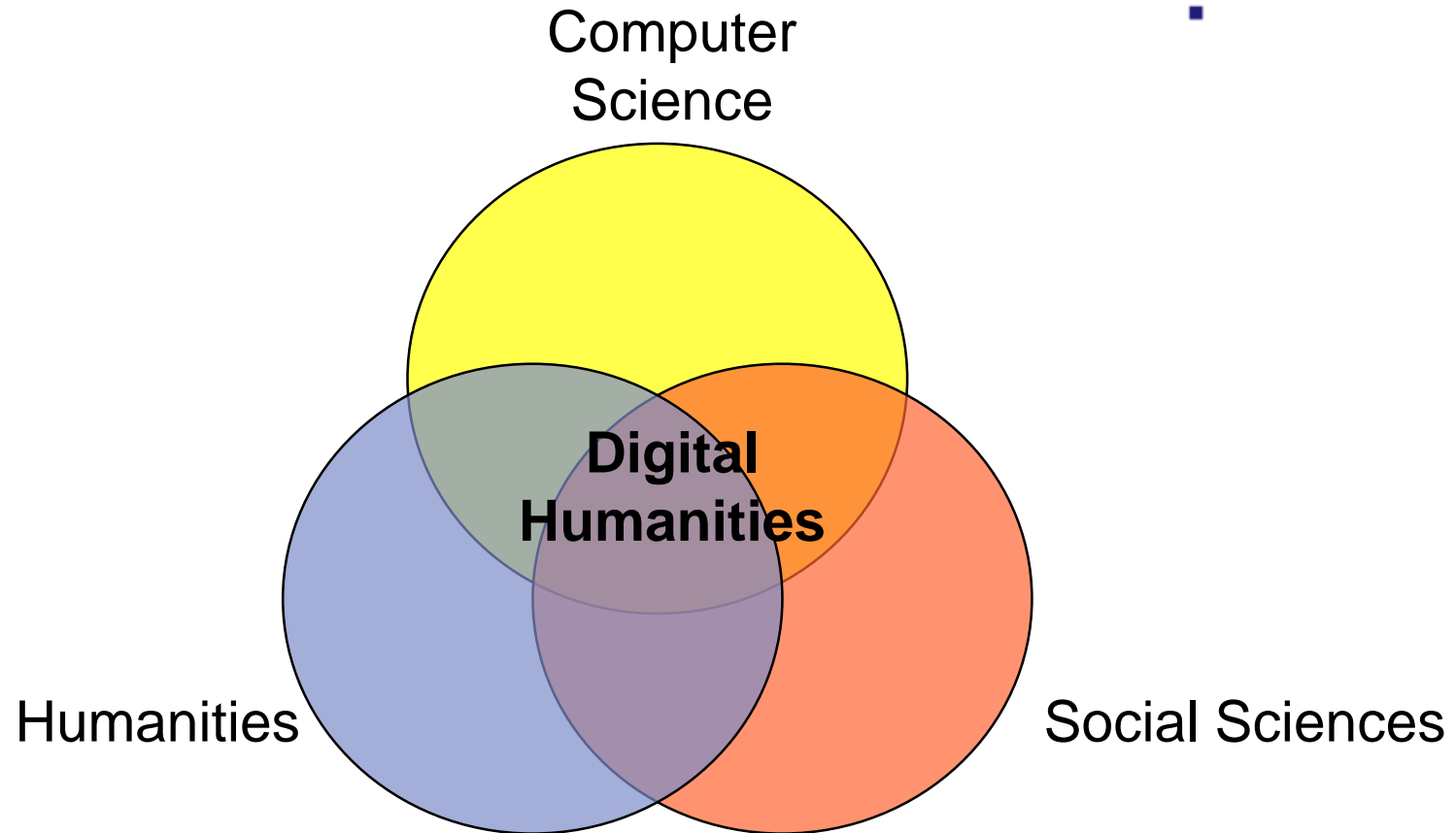
1. Using computational methods in H & SS
2. Studying digitalization as a phenomenon

What is Heldig – Helsinki Centre for DH?

- Major strategic profiling initiative of the University of Helsinki
  - Goal: Foster Digital Humanities in 7 faculties
  - Budget ca 10 MEUR: Academy of Finland and UH
- Create new resources in UH
  - 8 new tenure track professors + personnel 2017-2020
- Coordinate existing resources in UH
- Network organization beyond UH
  - Core at University of Helsinki (Faculty of Arts leading)
  - Aalto University and other research organizations
  - National Library, National Archives, National Board of Antiquities, YLE, companies, …
  - International research networks
- **Door is open: Welcome to Heldig network!**

Heldig Faculties

1. Faculty of Arts (coordinator)
2. Faculty of Behavioural Sciences
3. Faculty of Biological and Environmental Sciences
4. Faculty of Law
5. Faculty of Science
6. Faculty of Social Sciences
7. Faculty of Theology

Heldig Vision

Helsinki area will be a leading international hub of Digital Humanities research, education, and development in 2020
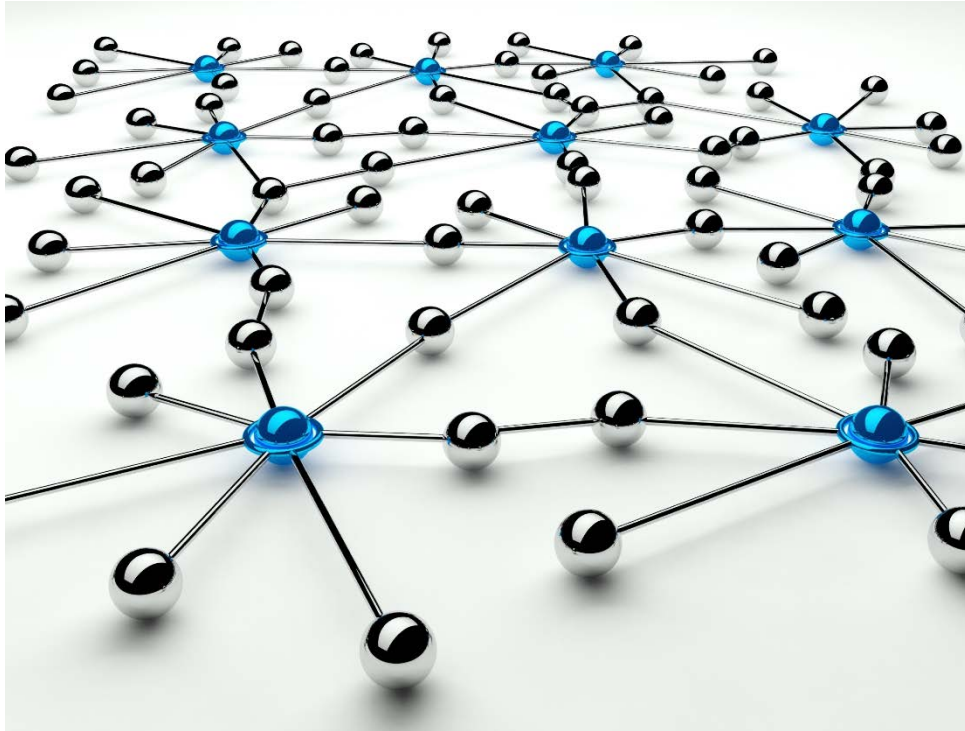
Heldig: Organizational Prespective

- Executive Officers
  - Director, coordinator, Heldig activists,…
- Management Board
  - Representatives from participating faculties at UH
- Advisory Board
  - Representatives from collaborating organizations

Heldig: Linguistic Perspective

heldig

1. lucky, fortunate
2. successful
3. favorable
4. beneficial, good
5. advisable
6. suitable
7. happy, felicitous

Wiktionary
The free dictionary

Nomen est omen!

Aalto University

SeCo
semantic computing

Mission: Heldig Strategic Areas
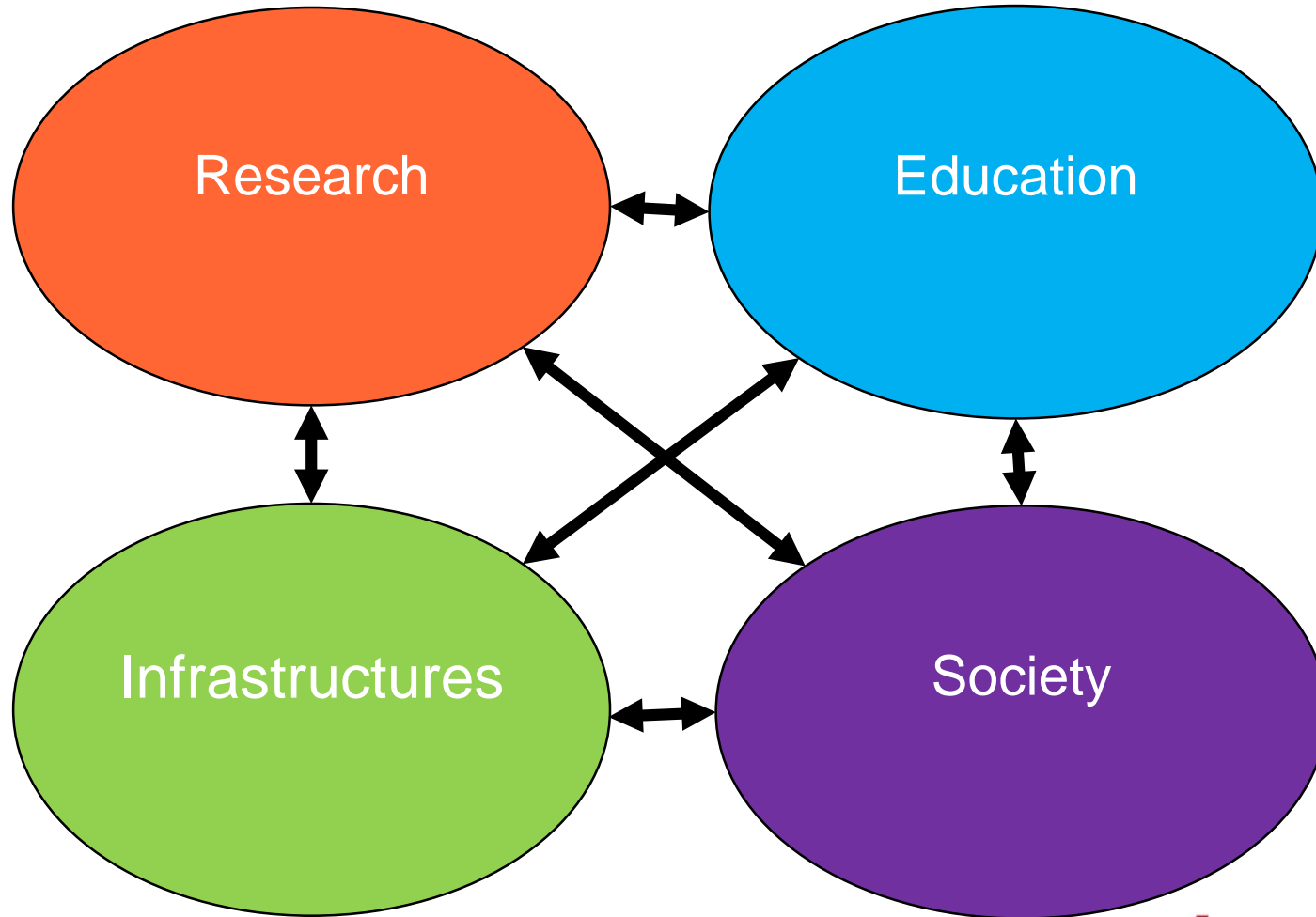
Research: New Positions

- 8 new tenure track professors in 7 faculties 2017-2020
- **Computational methodologies and tools for DH**
  - Algorithmic data analysis in humanities and social sciences (2018)
  - Digital social science (2019)
  - Consumer behavior and digital innovations (2019)
  - Big data learning analytics (2019 with LEAD)
- **Digital humanities and globalization**
  - Russian big data methodology (2016 with INTERUS)
  - DH and global interactions (2018)
  - Religion and digital world (2018)
  - Legal research on digitalization (2019 with GL)
- Heldig director + research coordinator (2016-)

Fostering Existing DH-related Research

University of Helsinki

- Digital Materials (two professors)
- Digital Humanities (new tenure track in 2016)
- Over 50 UH professors mentioned in the Heldig application
  - E.g., several professors related to language technology

Collaboration network

- Aalto University & HIIT
- University of the Arts
- Collaborating research organizations
- Collaborating memory organizations
- Collaborating media organizations
- Other organizations

Infrastructures

What?

- Data production & publication
- Tooling for DH research
- Foster Open Data and Open Source

How?

- International collaborations
- Own development
  - – Continue work at Aalto and UH on Linked Open Data infras
    - » FinnONTO 2003-2012, Linked Data Finland 2012-, Linked Open Science 2015-
  - – Language technology (e.g., FIN-CLARIN, VARIENG), historical data, data mining, visualization, knowledge discovery etc.

Education

- Develop the DH minor further at UH
- Extended focus: students + researchers + developers
- Technology support: Online interactive teaching materials

Society

- Digitalization and globalization is changing the world
  - Research on effects of digitalization is needed!
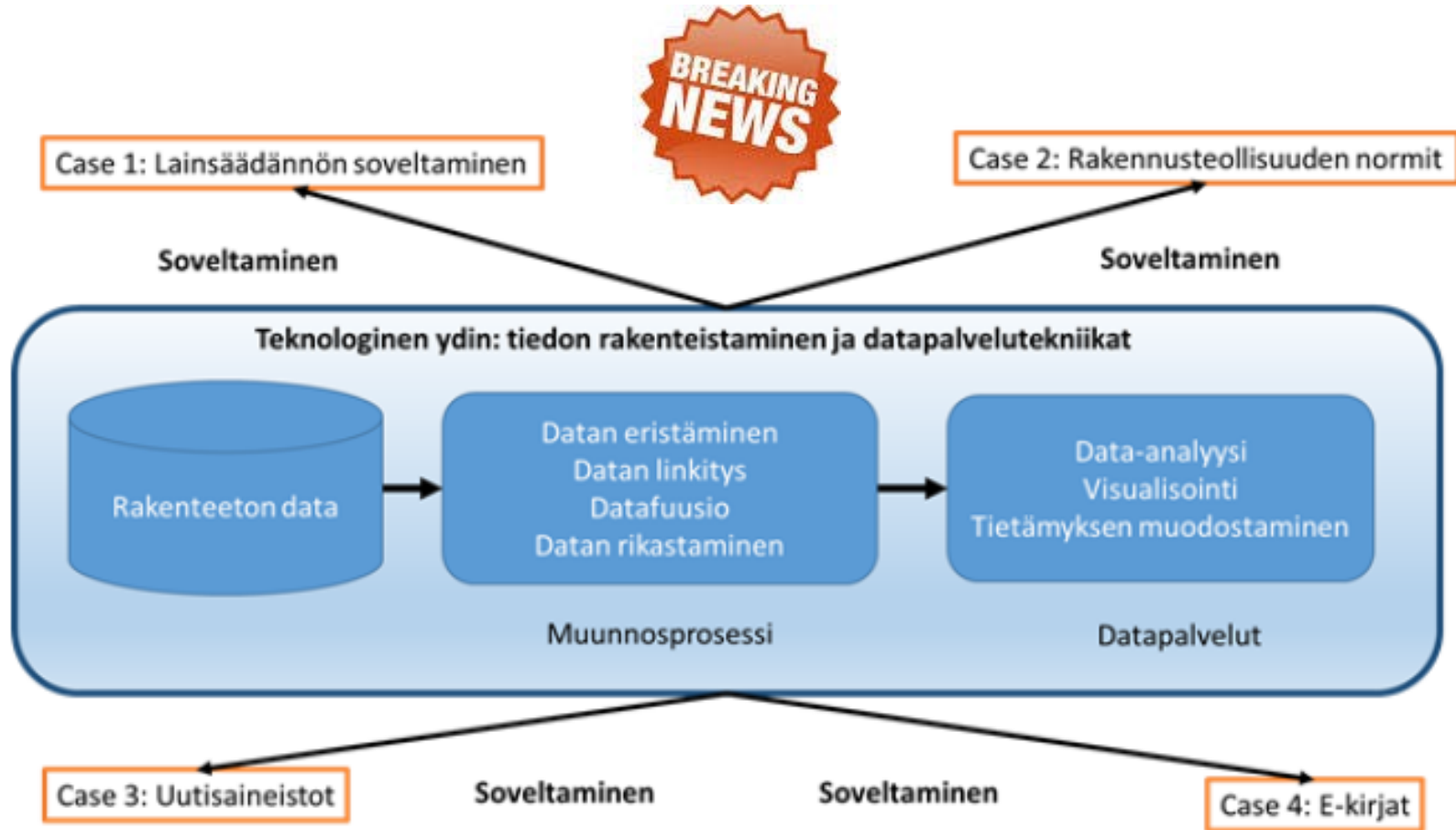- Foster Open Research and Science

OPEN SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

SeCo
semantic computing

Example project: Severi (1.9.2016-31.5.2018)
"Texts as semantic dataservices on the Web"

Kuva1.1. Severi-hankkeen idea ja rakenne.

Severi Project Consortium

- CSC Oy
- Edita Publishing Oy
- Lingsoft Oy
- Oikeusministeriö
- Rakennustieto Oy
- Suomalaisen Kirjallisuuden Seura
- Svenska Litteratur Sällskapet i Finland
- Tekes
- Tekniikan akateemiset TEK
- YLE Oy

- Aalto-yliopisto
- Heldig – Helsinki Centre for Digital Humanities
- Collaborations: Oxford, Stanford, Colorado

Summary:
What makes Heldig special?

Heldig provides a new kind of platform for addressing the challenges of digitalization, based on multi- and interdisciplinary research and collaboration in humanities, social sciences, and computer science. By fostering collaboration and by sharing research infrastructures not only within the University of Helsinki but with other organizations in the Helsinki area and beyond, relevant research problems and data can be found, unnecessary duplicate work can be eliminated, and more resources be targeted to Digital Humanities research and education.

Alea iacta est!

More Info about Heldig:

http://heldig.fi