

DH – Methods Lab/ Embedded Research Project: Premodern Slavic as a Testing Ground for Digital Narrative Methodology

Summary

- Connects digital potential with scholarly practice.
- Tackles challenges of historical textual data in non-western languages.
- Provides comprehensive support for the entire research cycle (digitise, transcribe, annotate, analyse, visualise, archive).
- Expertise in classical NLP and cutting-edge AI methods.
- Develops flexible, adaptable software pipelines.
- A user-friendly collaborative platform.
- An integrated and sustainable research data management strategy.
- Embedded Research Project: Slavic narrative texts, sweet spot in linguistic complexity → ideal testing ground for DH and AI methods.

Prof. Dr. Achim Rabus

Slavic Studies/DH

Dr. Matthias Lang

DH

Embedded Research Project
Close Collaborations:
A01 Conermann
A02 Friede



Classical Japanese
Text Analysis App
A05 Setzer-Mori

A06 Tilg
C04 Kollatz
C05 Reinöhl



Mamluk
Biographical Corpus
C04 Kollatz



Polyscriptor OCR App

Methods and Services

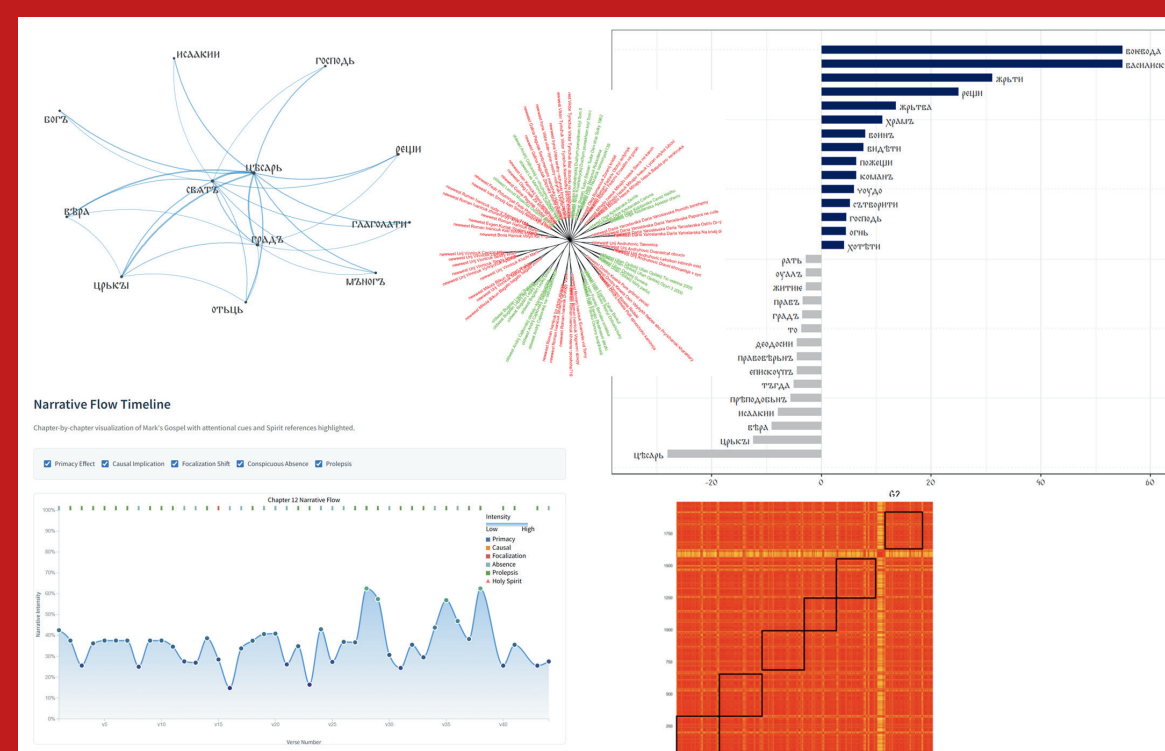
- Multilingual Handwritten Text Recognition (kraken, Transkribus, TrOCR, Qwen, etc.).
- Pipelines involving Jupyter Notebooks, Galaxy, OpenWebUI (local AI models via API).
- DH and NLP tools (network analysis, stylometry, tagging, parsing, NER, topic modeling, etc.), Gen AI with RAG.
- Curated Agentic AI for developing prototypes of research apps for individual subprojects.

Embedded Research Project (Slavic narrative texts)

- Use DH and state-of-the-art AI methods to uncover the typical features of premodern Slavic narrative composition.
- Identify suitable digital methods to answer specific narratological questions.
- Test the applicability of these methods to other subprojects.
- Pilot study on AI and Slavic Lives of Saints (accepted for a special issue on Computational Narratology in *Computational Humanities Research*).



NarrativaCS:
Computational
Narratology for
Church Slavonic
Texts



Examples of visualisations of textual data