

Graph Technologies in the Humanities

Proceedings 2020

Edited by

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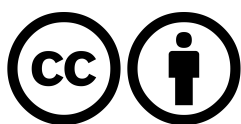
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Graph Technologies in the Humanities Proceedings 2020

– Preface –

The conference series “Graph Technologies in the Humanities”¹ was launched in 2017 in Mainz, Germany, where it was held annually until 2019 at the Academy of Sciences and Literature. At the kind invitation of the University of Vienna, the conference changed venues for the first time in February 2020.

Since its beginning, the conference series has been providing a forum for the ever-growing community of users of graph and network technologies, promoting exchanges about, and also critical consideration of, the technologies and methodologies discussed here.

The proceedings of the 2020 conference give an eclectic and inspiring overview of what is happening at the forefront of the field. The 15 selected papers, which underwent open peer review by the program committee, illustrate the performativity and versatility of graph technologies and their application in the humanities. With a focus on technology and methods, the volume presents investigations into an extraordinary variety of research objects such as archaeological findings and burials, archival materials, book illustrations, historical texts and writing systems, parliamentary debates, ink drawings, and economic crimes. Another key concern is the way in which graph technologies can be used to support the research process on various levels.

The papers assembled here provide insight into the practical application of graph databases for the analysis of small and large data sets, graph-based modeling and semantic data enrichment, and the analysis of networked data. With their diverse topics and approaches, they highlight the great potential and immediate usability of graph-based technologies and methods for the humanities, and contribute to the dissemination of, and also critical engagement with, these technologies and methods.

We wish our readers an enjoyable experience acquainting themselves with the field and its exciting, new developments. Your interest underlines the topicality and relevance of the technologies and methods discussed in this volume, as well as their fields of application in the (digital) humanities.

¹<https://graphentechnologien.hypotheses.org/tagungen>

Acknowledgements

For the steadily growing community of users of graph and network technologies, the conference series has provided a space for the discussion and exchange of experiences, and fostered new and exciting ideas for various research fields in the (digital) humanities. This would not have been possible without the efforts and generous support of the organizers. We would therefore like to extend a special thank you to the **University of Vienna** (2020) for preparing and hosting the conference in 2020 and the **Academy of Sciences and Literature | Mainz** (2019) for hosting all the previous conferences of the series.

We greatly thank the association **DHd – Digital Humanities im deutschsprachigen Raum e.V.** for their financial support in the publication of this project, without whose funding the volume could not have been realized, the **Academy of Sciences and Literature | Mainz** for their additional sponsorship, and the **CEUR-WS.org** team for providing a home for these proceedings through their free and open access publication service.

We would like to thank all authors for their contributions and for their patience with the publication process. We are also very grateful to Martin Bleisteiner and Gabriella Szalay for their incredible work on copyediting, and to Viktor Illmer and Marina Lehmann for their editorial assistance.

— *Tara Andrews, Franziska Diehr, Thomas Efer, Andreas Kuczera,
and Joris van Zundert*

A special word of thanks is in order for our invaluable **editor in chief, Franziska Diehr**. Without Franziska's enduring, and might we add undaunted, effort nothing of these proceedings would have made it to publication stage. Franziska was part of the Program Committee for the conference until 2021 and in that role was also pivotal for the success of the conferences. We are greatly indebted to her zeal, stamina, and inspiration. (*TA, TE, AK, and JvZ*)

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