



UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM

Data Science Centre

Data Science Day 2022 | 13 October 2022

CANAL

Amsterdam Cultural Analytics Lab

Melvin Wevers, Assistant Professor Digital Methods, History/Humanities





Aim

Cultural factors impact how we interpret **data**. These factors can vary over **time** and **place**. Existing methods for cultural analytics, including AI, generally overlook these aspects of **contextuality, temporality, and subjectivity**.

The mission of CANAL AI Lab is to **co-develop** and **co-research** culturally-aware **Data Science/AI methods** from a **critical/ethical perspective**.





The Lab

- Cross-faculty & interdisciplinary (FGW & FNWI)
- Two-year funding to build lab and define UvA's role in the ELSA application written together with the Cultural AI Lab

- Who is Who?
 - Melvin Wevers (FGW, History) – Director
 - Nanne van Noord (FNWI, Informatics) – Director
 - Alexandra Barancová – Junior Researcher
 - Visiting Researchers & Affiliated Researchers

Core Analytical Challenges

- **CONTEXTUALITY:** the analysis of multimodal individual cultural records that require context analysis to assess their meaning;
- **TEMPORALITY:** the analysis of dynamic developments in the content over time and across space;
- **SUBJECTIVITY:** a more inclusive and global approach to data.

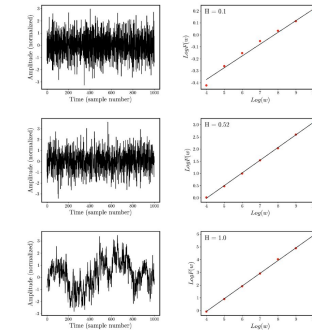
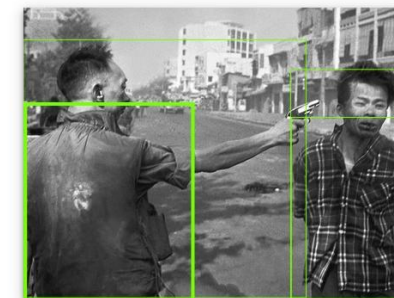
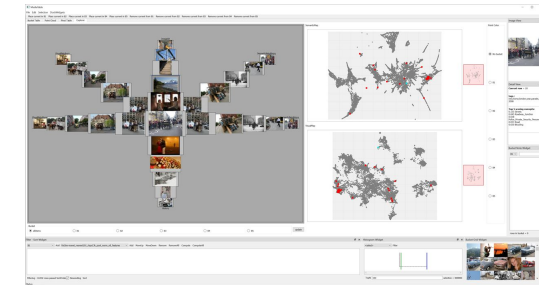


Figure 1: Left: Time series that exhibit anti-persistent (top), short-range (middle), and long-range (bottom) dependencies. Right: Estimation of the Hurst exponent for the matching time series in the left column.



Execution_of_Nguyen_Van_Lem.jpg

Person	89%
Person	88%
Clothing	81%
Shirt	64%



Reach out to us!

Mail: canal-lab@uva.nl

Website: canal-lab.uva.nl (under construction)

