

# Preface

The Second International Workshop on Computational History and Data-Driven Humanities held on May 25, 2016, in Dublin, Ireland, was the second in a series of workshops focusing on the challenges and opportunities of data-driven humanities, bringing together world-leading scientists and scholars at the forefront of this emerging field, at the interface between computer science, social science, humanities, and mathematics.

The first edition, held on June 27, 2014, in Dublin, Ireland, consisted of a series of invited talks that were divided into two main sessions. The first session focused on “teaching computers history” where computer scientists and digital humanities experts introduced technologies and tools they have applied in order to extract knowledge from historical records in a form that can be processed by computers without losing its meaningfulness. The theme of the second session was “calculating the unknown.” A collection of leading international scientists, working at the forefront of mathematical and theoretical analysis of historical data, described what is possible with current tools.

For the second edition of this workshop, we decided to solicit papers for a single blind review to be presented at the event. We received 14 submissions, of which seven (50 %) were accepted for presentation and inclusion as a paper in the proceedings. The authors of some of the rejected papers were invited to submit an extended abstract of at most four pages and present their work in a lightning talk at the event.<sup>1</sup>

We are proud to announce that, this year, we had keynotes and invited talks by:

- Prof. Harvey Whitehouse, University of Oxford, UK
- Dr. Kevin Feeney, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland
- Prof. Peter Turchin, University of Connecticut, USA

The keynote of Prof. Whitehouse and Dr. Feeney’s invited talk are both included in the proceedings. The event, which was free thanks to the support of the Irish Resource Council, attracted 60 participants of whom 35 travelled to Ireland, clearly demonstrating the international character of the workshop. The keynote was followed by the first peer-reviewed paper sessions before lunch. The program of the afternoon consisted of the invited talks, the second peer-reviewed paper session, and a lightning talk session. Ample time between sessions was foreseen to cater for networking. Many of the participants engaged in dialogue after each presentation and in between sessions,

---

The original version of the book frontmatter was revised: For detailed information please see the Erratum available at DOI: [10.1007/978-3-319-46224-0\\_12](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-46224-0_12)

<sup>1</sup> Unfortunately by mistake, the lightning talk “The levelled approach - Using and evaluating text mining tools AVResearcherXL and Texcavator for historical research on public perceptions of drugs” by Berrie van der Molen, Lars Buitinck, and Toine Pieters was not included in the volume. It can be accessed at [http://arxiv.org/abs/1701.00487](https://arxiv.org/abs/1701.00487). The conference chairs and team acknowledge that this error was not a result of any actions by the authors.

with insightful comments from scholars with different backgrounds such as digital humanities, library and archives, computer science, history, and, of course, cliodynamics.

We would like to congratulate Siobhán Grayson, Karen Wade, Gerardine Meaney, and Derek Greene for winning the best paper award for their contribution entitled “The Sense and Sensibility of Different Sliding Windows in Constructing Co-occurrence Networks from Literature,” which received the highest scores in the peer-reviewing process.

We thank all the authors who submitted valuable papers to the workshop. We would like to express our gratitude to the members of the Program Committee for their constructive and insightful comments. We are also indebted to the many individuals who contributed to this event, and we would like to thank Springer and Prof. Ulrich Furbach, current chair of IFIP TC12 “Artificial Intelligence,” for allowing this event to be organized under the umbrella of IFIP and to be published in Springer’s *IFIP Advances in Information and Communication Technology* series.

Finally, this event would not have been possible without the financial support of the Irish Research Council via the New Foundations Scheme, the Science Foundation Ireland-funded ADAPT Centre for Digital Content Technology (Grant 13/RC/2106). This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement number 644055 (ALIGNED, <http://www.aligned-project.eu>)<sup>2</sup>. We furthermore express our gratitude to Trinity College Dublin for providing us with a venue and infrastructure.



July 2016

Declan O’Sullivan  
Bojan Bozic  
Gavin Mendel-Gleason  
Christophe Debruyne

<sup>2</sup> This communication reflects only the author’s view and the commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains.

Computational History and Data-Driven Humanities  
Second IFIP WG 12.7 International Workshop, CHDDH  
2016, Dublin, Ireland, May 25, 2016, Revised Selected  
Papers

Bozic, B.; Mendel-Gleason, G.; Debruyne, C.; O'Sullivan,  
D. (Eds.)

2016, X, 127 p. 29 illus., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-3-319-46223-3