



# Voyant Tools - A Gentle Introduction

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# Roadmap

- \* Preface
- 1. Getting Started
- 2. Voyant-Tools
  - a. Upload file
  - b. Tour
- 3. The Tools:
  - a. Cirrus
  - b. Links
  - c. Contexts
- 4. Additional Resources

# Preface

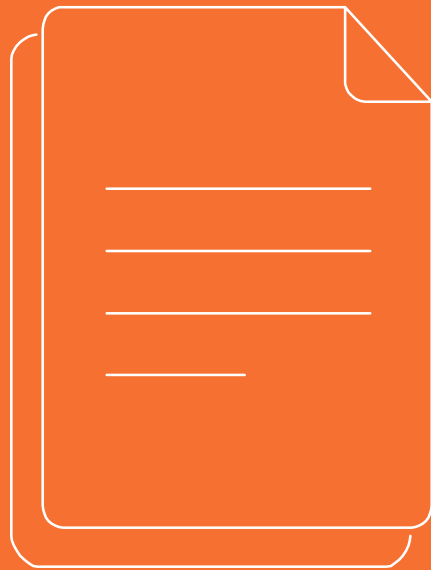
## Preface

*The historian sits down at her desk, flicking on the lamp. She begins to pore over a stack of badly photocopied court proceedings from late 18th century London, transcribing the text. As she works, she begins to notice interesting patterns in the language used to describe young female prisoners. "I wonder..." She turns to the Old Bailey Online and begins to search. Soon, she has a corpus of a thousand court proceedings featuring women prisoners. She downloads the complete transcriptions and loads them into Voyant Tools. Moments later, she has a graph of key words, their collocations, and their frequencies over time. A suspicion grows. She turns to MALLET and begins to look for the underlying semantic structure in the records. The algorithm, after much exploration, seems to suggest that 23 topics account for the majority of the words in each text.*

*But what do these topics, these lists of words, mean? She begins to explore the relationship between the topics and the texts, uncovering a web of discourse, seemingly surrounding the moral duty of the state towards women prisoners. She takes this web and begins to explore its formal characteristics as a network — what words, what ideas, are doing the heavy semantic lifting? — while at the same time, she runs the RezoViz tool on the corpus (part of Voyant Tools) to extract the named individuals and organizations in the document. She begins to query the social network that she has extracted and is able to identify sub-communities of women and warders, children and men, zeroing in on a smaller set of key individuals who tied the prison community together. Soon, she has a powerful, macroscopic sense of not just the discourses surrounding a century of women's trials, but also of the key individuals, organizations, their connections. She looks at the clock; two hours have passed. Satisfied, she turns off her historical microscope, her computer, and turns once again to the transcription at hand.*

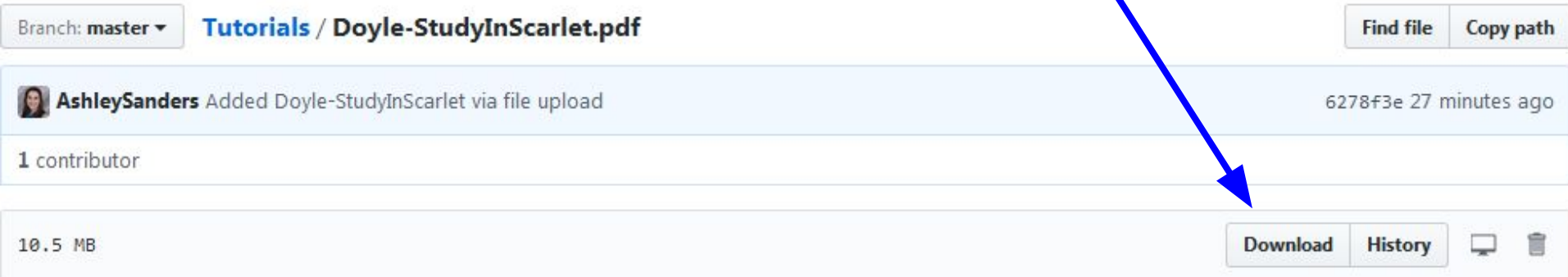
# 1.

## Getting Started



# Getting Started

1. Go to:  
[github.com/AshleySanders/Tutorials](https://github.com/AshleySanders/Tutorials)
2. Click on: “Doyle-StudyInScarlet”
3. Click on the Download button:





Add Texts

Type in one or more URLs on separate lines or paste in a full text.



Open

Upload



*Voyant Tools is a web-based reading and analysis environment for digital texts.*

[Voyant-Tools.org](https://Voyant-Tools.org)

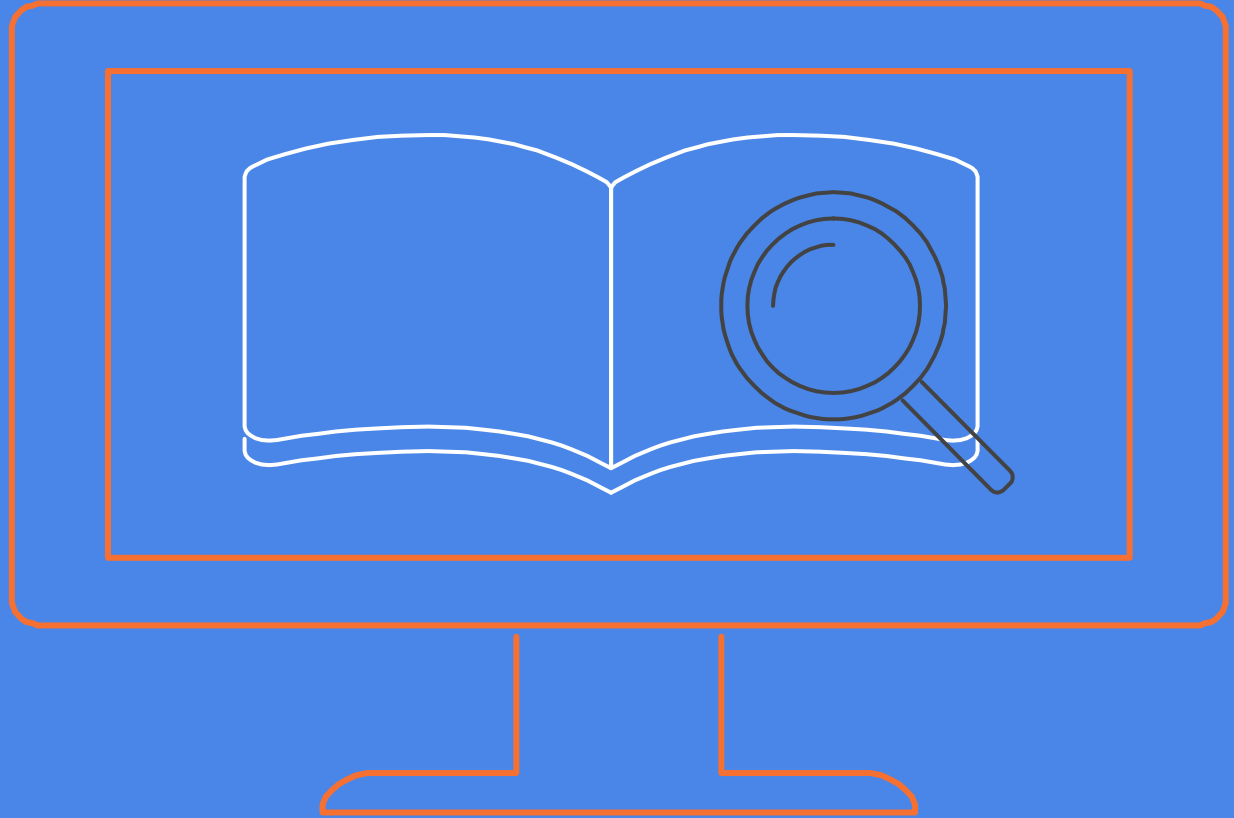
21 Tools in  
One Package

**No coding required!**

# 2.

Upload  
your file

***Click “Reveal”***

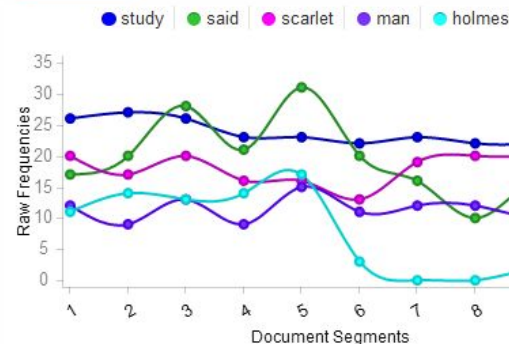




**A study in scarlet : the first book about Sherlock Holmes / by A. Conan Doyle ; [introductory essay by Joseph Bell]. (Doyle, Arthur Conan, 1859-1930.)**

A study in scarlet : the first book about Sherlock Holmes / by A. Conan Doyle ; [introductory essay by Joseph Bell]. Doyle, Arthur Conan, 1859-1930. London : Ward, Lock, & Co., Ltd., [191-?]

<http://hdl.handle.net/2027/mdp.39015086852665>



Terms:

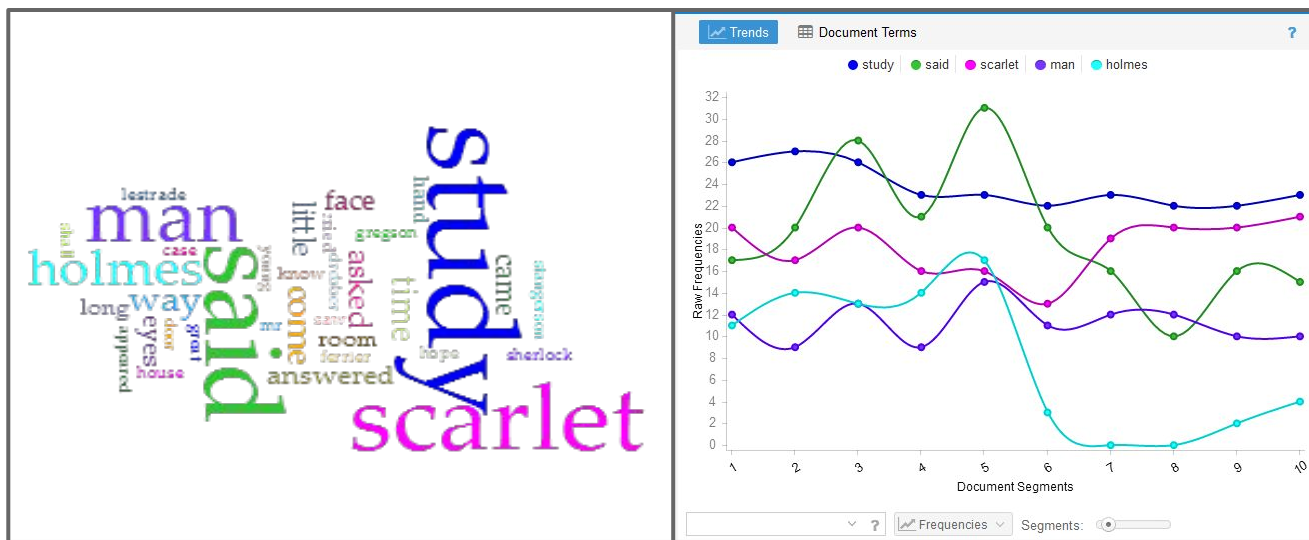
This corpus has 1 document with 42,042 total words and 8,505 unique word forms. Created 3 seconds ago.

Most frequent words in the corpus: **study** (237); **said** (194); **scarlet** (182); **man** (113); **holmes** (78)

Items:

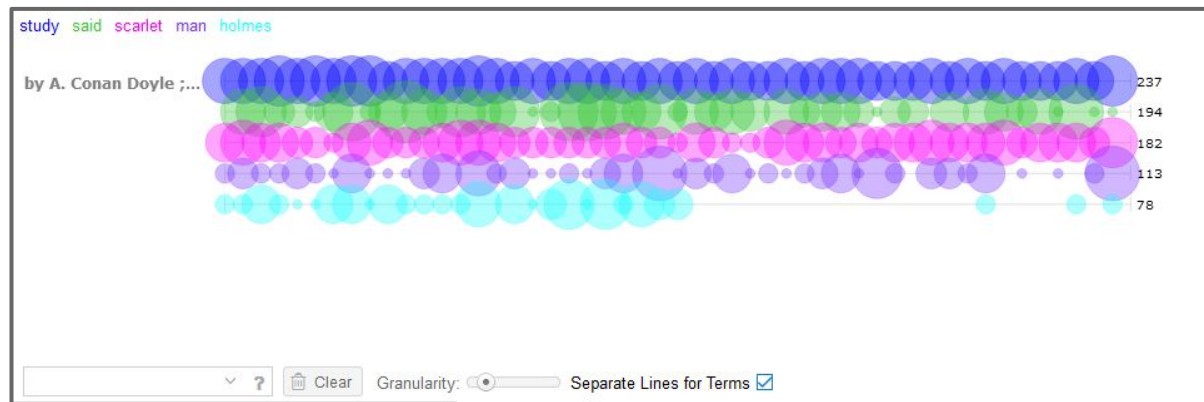
Document	Left	Term	Right
1) by A....	A	st...	in scarlet : the first book
1) by A....	scholarly,non-commercial purposes. A	st...	IN SCARLETPART I (Being a
1) by A....	fgflowed, however, with 18 A	st...	IN SCARLET many other officers
1) by A....	struck down by enteric A	st...	IN SCARLET 19fever, that curse
1) by A....	and rusticate some 20 A	st...	IN SCARLET where in the





# 3.

## The Tools



# Cirrus - Word Cloud

1. What words are most prominent? What do they tell us about the characters and plot?
2. Add more terms using the slider below. How does this change your interpretation?
3. Hover over the question mark and click the toggle switch to pull up options:

Options

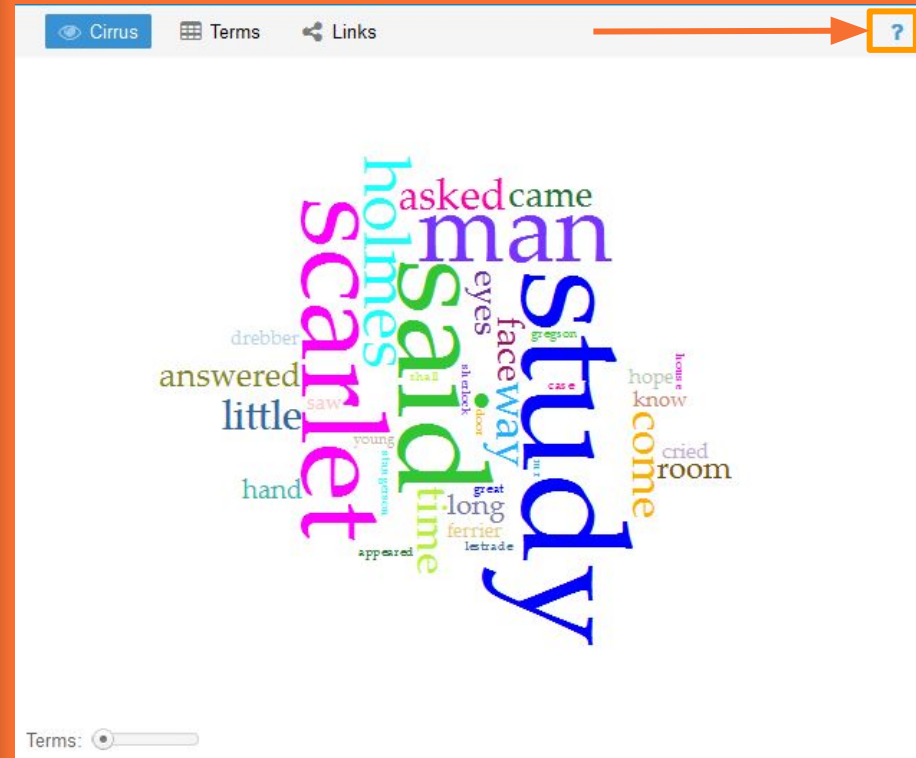
Stopwords: Auto-detect  ☒ apply globally

White List:

Max terms: 500

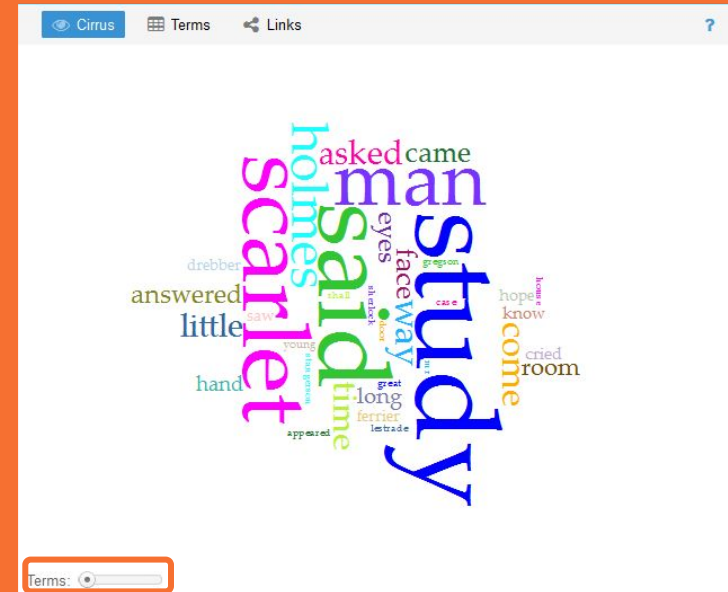
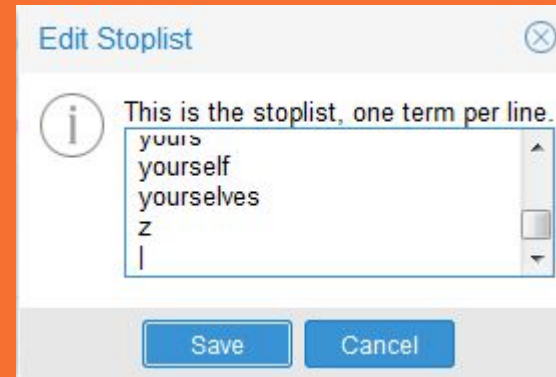
Font family: Palatino

Palette: default

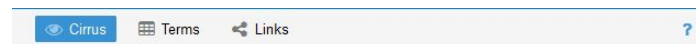


# Options

1. Stopwords: words in common usage (articles, pronouns, etc.)
  - a. You can edit this list to add or remove words from the Stoplist.
  - b. Shakespearean and Early Modern scholars, use Stephen Wittek's stopword list, available at: <http://walshbr.com/textanalysiscoursebook/assets/early-modern-stopwords.txt>
2. Number of Terms: use the slider to increase or decrease the number of terms shown, up to 500.
  - a. You can edit how many words are indexed in options

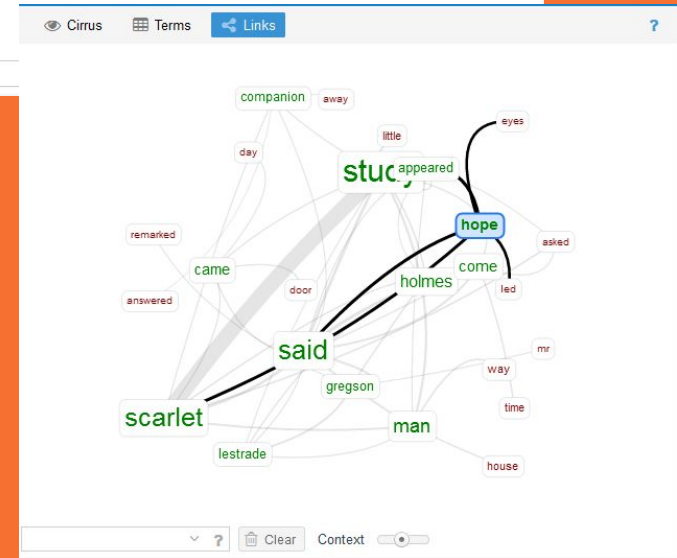
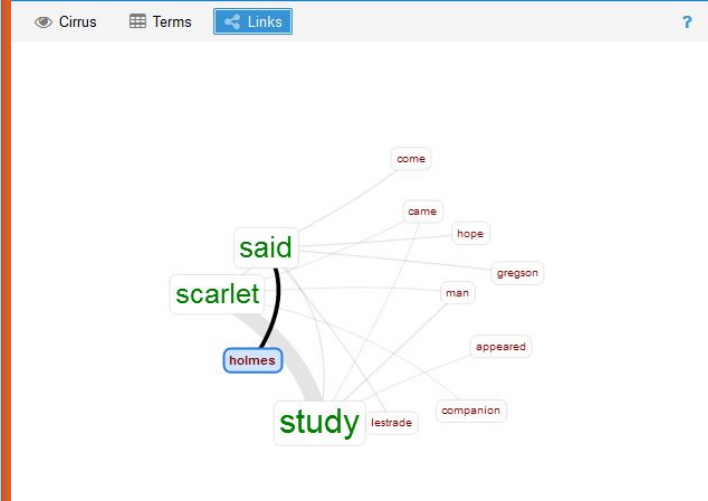


# Word Cloud Comparison



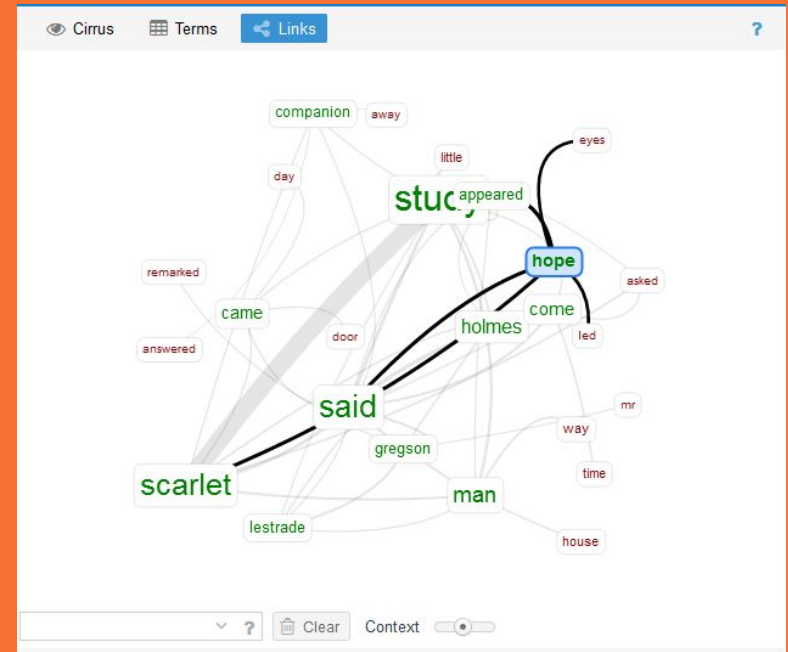
# Links

1. Which of the most frequent words are connected? What does this suggest?
2. Notice that different options appear for this tool: Search bar & Context (rather than terms)
3. What happens when you click on a word and drag it around? What changes on the rest of the screen?



# Using tools together

1. In Links, increase the Context
  - a. Click on “hope”
  - b. What words are connected with “hope”? What does this suggest?
2. Next type “hope” into the search box in the Contexts tool to view this word within the context of the novel
3. What conclusions can you draw from these two tools used together?



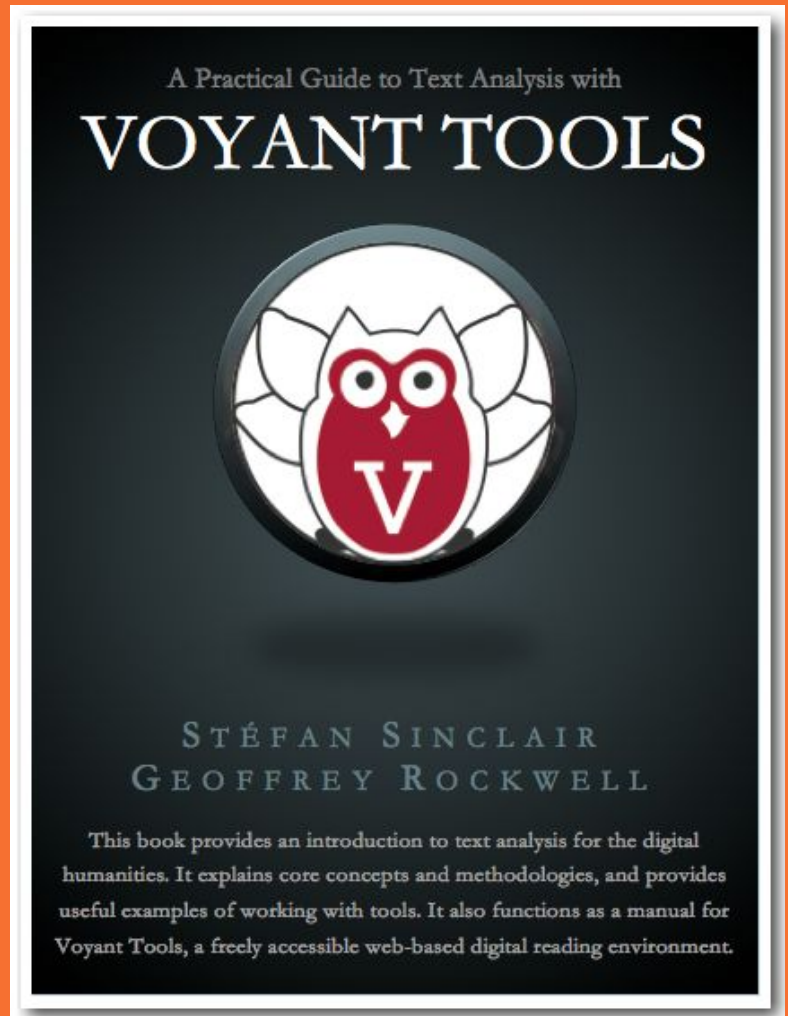
Contexts		Bubbleslides			
Document		Left ↓	Term	Right	
1) by A....	fear them, or their warrant,"	hope	said,earnestly. " You must know		
1) by A....	little elevation, in the vain	hope	of see ing some signs		
1) by A....	strained their eyesin the vain	hope	of catching some glimpse of		
1) by A....	nothing left for me to	hope	for, or to desire." They		
1) by A....	A STUDY IN SCARLETin the	hope	of capturing or killing their		
1) by A....	the evening papers in the	hope	ofseeing it among the articles		
1) by A....	to Salt Lake Cityin the	hope	of raising capital enough to		
1) by A....	at once," said Jeffer son	hope	, speaking in a low but		
1) by A....	JeffersonHope, and that this same	hope	was at present in Europe		





## Additional Resources:

[docs.voyant-tools.org](https://docs.voyant-tools.org)







Thank you very much  
for your time

If you have any questions about this document  
please don't hesitate to contact me at:

- [ashley\\_sanders@cuc.claremont.edu](mailto:ashley_sanders@cuc.claremont.edu)
- @ThroughThe\_Veil

