



# AI APPLICATIONS IN ARCHAEOLOGY

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Juillet 2024

# Agenda

- Introduction
- Applications
- Herculaneum Scrolls
- Challenges and considerations
- Conclusion
- Q&A
- Sources





# Introduction

- What is archeology ?  
“The study of human history and prehistory through the excavation of sites and the analysis of artefacts and other physical remains.”  
- *Oxford Languages*







# Applications

- Automated Data Analysis
- Site discovering
- Artifact Analysis and Classification
- Natural Language Processing





# Automated data analysis

## Old way

- Data deluges
  - Decades of research deposited in archives
- Consume vast amount of times

## New way

- AI navigate through extensive data efficiently
  - Streamlines archaeological research
  - AGNES project







# Site discovering

## Old way

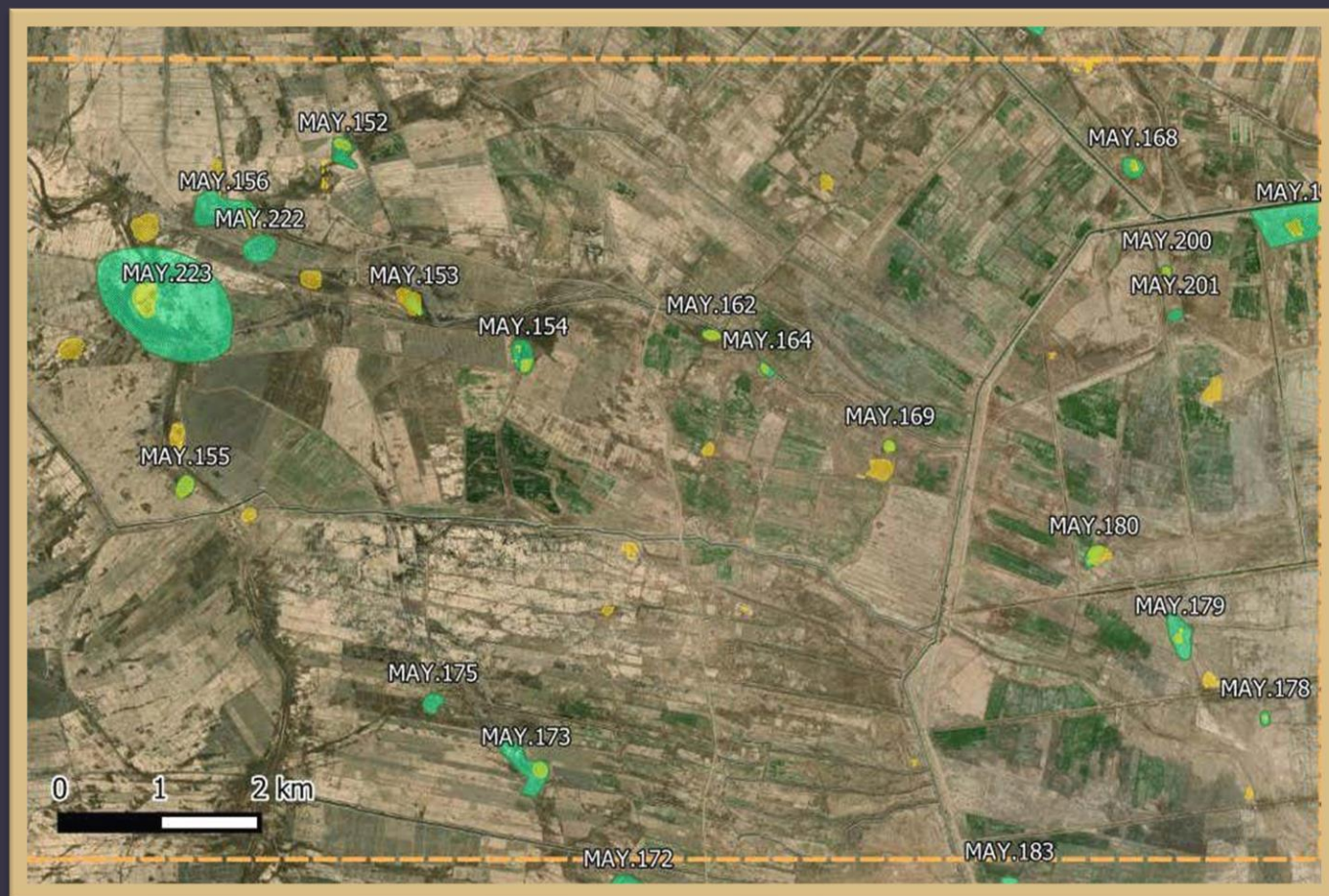
- Dig and hope to find bones or walls (kinda)
  - The city of Troy and Homer's Illiad

## New way

Feeding data to a neural network :

- Satellite Imagery and Remote Sensing
  - Changes in vegetation patterns or soils
- Geographical Information Systems (GIS)
  - Layering of multiples data types
- LIDAR Technology
  - Mayan Ruins in Guatemalan Jungle

Maysan province, Iraq (Mesopotamian)



AI predicted

Potential site identified by archeologists



# Artifact Analysis and Classification

## Old way

- “Maybe ritualistic ?”

## New way

- Image Recognition and Classification
  - Shapes, patterns, materials
- 3D Modeling and Reconstruction
- Material Analysis
  - Spectroscopy and X-ray fluorescence





# Natural Language Processing

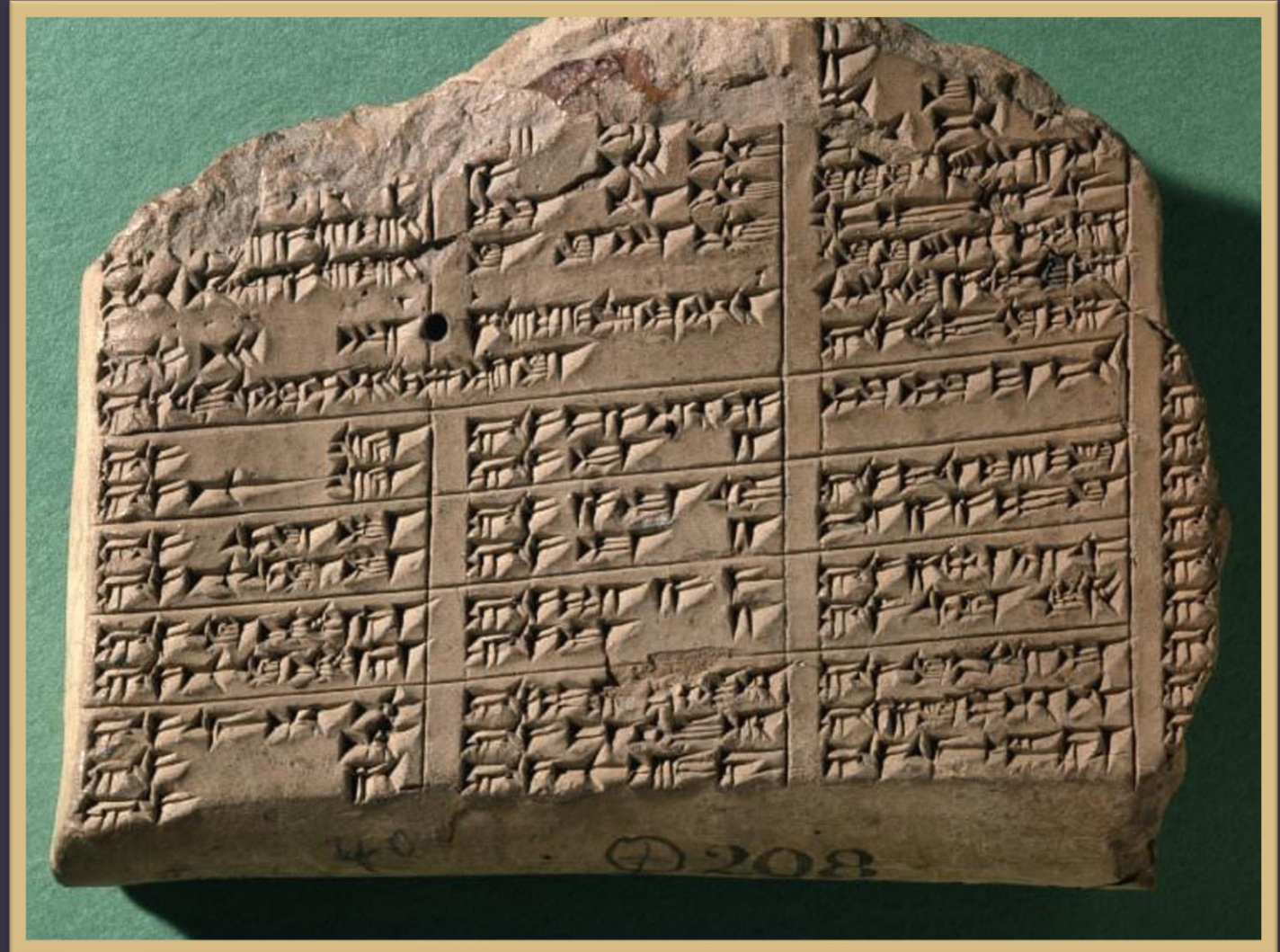


## Old way

- Learn the language

## New way

- NLP and LLM





# Herculaneum papyri

- More than 1,800 scrolls in the Villa of the Papyri.
- Only surviving library from antiquity existing in its entirety
- Carbonized, unreadable



"As too in the case of food, we do not  
right away believe things that are  
scarce to be absolutely more pleasant  
than those which are abundant"



[More info here](#)



# Challenges and considerations

- Data quality, bias
- Data security and privacy concerns
- Ethical concerns
- Interdisciplinary Consideration



# Conclusion

- Paradigm shift
- AI empowers archaeologists with unprecedented tools for discovery, analysis, and interpretation
- Unprecedented speed and accuracy

The potential for AI in archaeology is limitless







Thank you for  
listening !

# Q&A

A photograph of ancient stone ruins at night, illuminated by warm lights, with a city skyline visible in the background under a dark sky. The ruins are made of large, rectangular stone blocks, some of which are standing upright while others are collapsed. The scene is set on a hillside, and the city lights in the distance create a bokeh effect against the dark sky. The overall mood is mysterious and historical.





## Sources

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