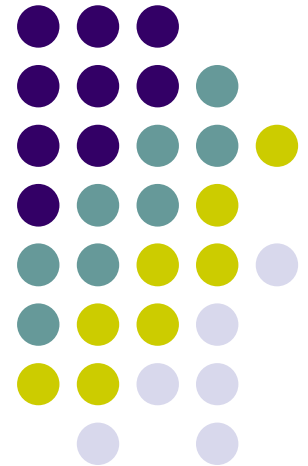


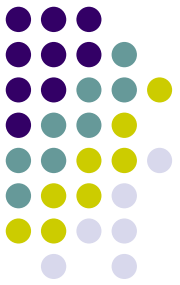
# Collex: NINES in the Semantic Web

---

Interpretative re-use  
of digital objects

[www.patacriticism.org/collex](http://www.patacriticism.org/collex)

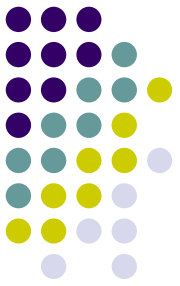




# What is Collex?

- **Collect** and **exhibit**
- “...making the manipulation and annotation of [objects] open to all users.”
- Findability: Faceted, full-text search, browse
- Folksonomy: tagging and annotations

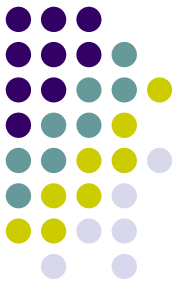
# Who's behind Collex?



- Applied Research in Patacriticism  
University of Virginia
- Dr. Jerome McGann, Dr. Bethany Nowviskie
- ARP is generously funded and supported by  
the *Andrew Mellon Foundation*

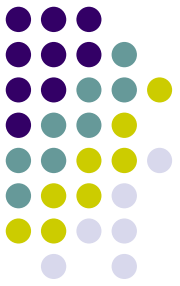


# Collex operations



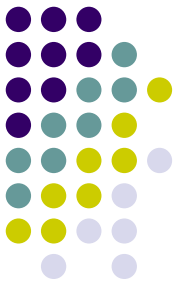
- Aggregate
- Find (search/browse)
- Collect (tag/annotate)
- Exhibit

# Features



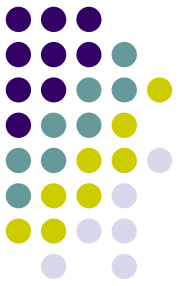
- Collecting
  - From original archive, via bookmarklet
  - Directly in search results
  - Sidebar details
- Syndicated collections – per facet, tag, or peer, globally or per user.

# Facets



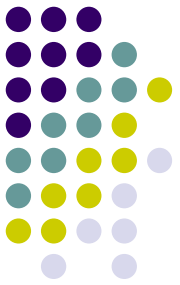
- NINES
  - Object facets: archive, year, agent, genre (and even full-text)
  - User supplied facets: tag, peer
- Collex goal
  - Generic on data domain
  - Developer flexibility in specifying facets

# Current Deployment Status



- NINES
  - <http://www.nines.org/collex>
  - Over 50k objects
  - 12 archives
  - AJAX: term and name suggest features

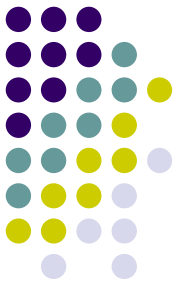
# Collex future



- Saved searches
  - Feeds for all saved searches, and themselves first-class facet citizens
- Set visualizations
- Embedded time-line
- Atom publishing protocol
- Generalizability for other subject domains

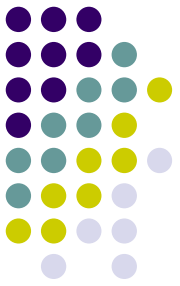


# Technical architecture



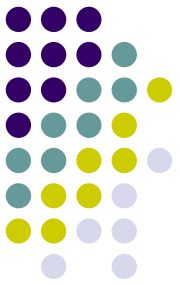
- Solr
  - Faceted browsing/search
  - AJAX suggest data
  - More Like This, Highlighting
- Relational database (currently MySQL)
  - User management
  - Administrative data
  - “Interpretation” storage, backed by Solr
- Ruby on Rails
  - User interface

# Solr



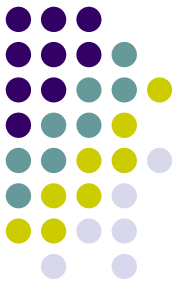
- Open source enterprise search server
- Lucene-based
- Lightweight XML/HTTP protocol
  - Can return JSON, Ruby, ... data structures instead of XML
- Facets
- Highlighting
- More Like This
- Scalability features
  - Caching
  - Replication
- Web administration interface for stats and analysis tools
- Extensible

# Ruby on Rails



- Rapid development
  - Save and refresh
- Pleasant database modeling with ActiveRecord and Migrations
- Web coding is fun again!
  - The language is a joy
  - Rails elegantly layered on top of Ruby

# Other ARP projects



- IVANHOE
  - Online playspace that facilitates collaborative interpretation.
- Juxta
  - Tool for comparing and collating
- Rossetti Archive
- NINES

“Poets are the unacknowledged engineers of the world”