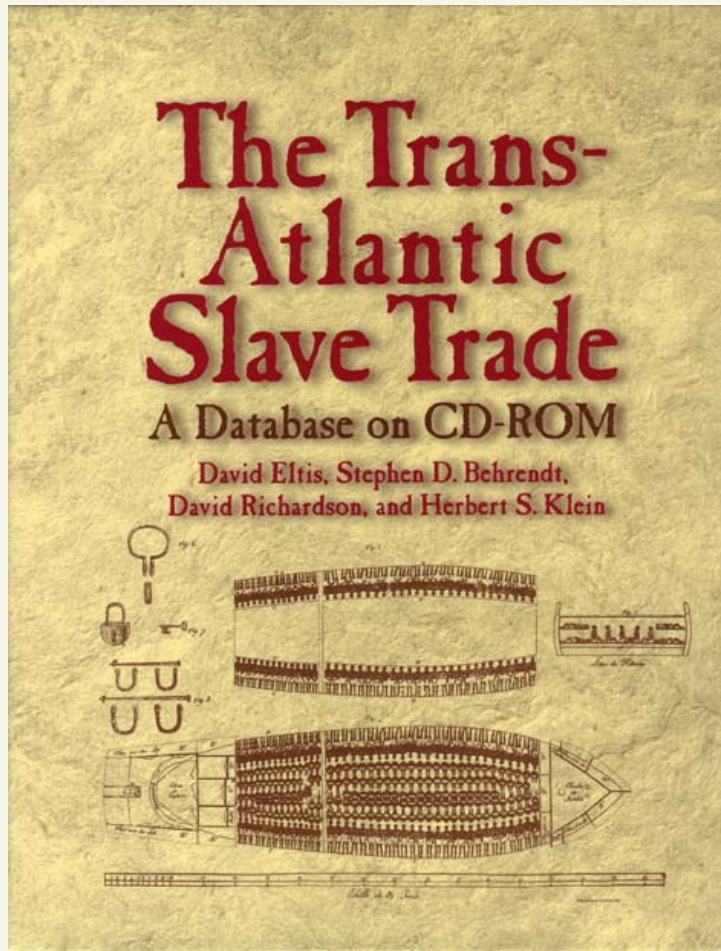


THE VOYAGES PROJECT

A Sustainable Model for Partnership between Scholars & Digital Librarians

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Emory University

Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Database



- Qualitative & quantitative historical data
- 27,000+ records
- 500+ variables
- Drawn from multiple sources

- Expensive
- Limited audience
- Not easily updated

Voyages Project - Goals



1. Expand dataset
2. Create open access website for redesigned database and interface
3. Develop contextual materials for K-12
4. Establish system for regularly adding data
5. Archive and preserve the database with institutional partners

Sustainability



- How will we keep this resource going, once the project is over?
- How will we ensure that this resource continues to be used and valued by researchers?

Can collaboration help?

Sustainability




- How will we keep this resource going, once the project is over?
 - Endowment to cover maintenance costs
 - Online data entry form for submitting data
 - Editorial distribution system for receiving, reviewing, & incorporating new data
 - Digital preservation network for securing & preserving database

Sustainability



- How will we ensure that this resource continues to be used and valued by researchers?
 - Scholars' active participation at all levels & phases of project development
 - Regular consultations with scholars to discuss design & development issues

Collaboration


The word 'Collaboration' is positioned on the left. To its right and further right are two sets of three circles. Each set consists of a solid light green circle, a white circle with a light green outline, and another solid light green circle.A blue arrow pointing upwards, with its base forming a rectangular box that contains the text. The arrow's shaft is a triangle pointing towards the top of the slide.

Higher levels of scholar involvement
in database development

Collaboration

Three circles are arranged horizontally at the top of the slide. The first circle on the left is solid light green. The middle circle is a light green outline. The third circle on the right is solid light green.A large blue circle with a thin black outline, containing the text "Continued investment".

Continued
investment

A blue arrow pointing upwards, with its tail at the bottom and its head at the top. The tail is a wide rectangle, and the head is a triangle. The arrow is filled with a solid blue color and has a thin black outline.

Higher levels of scholar involvement
in database development

Collaboration

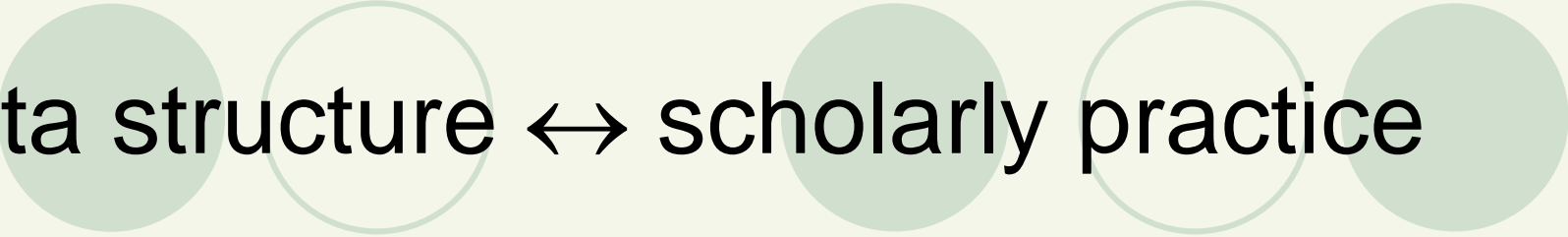
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Continued
investment

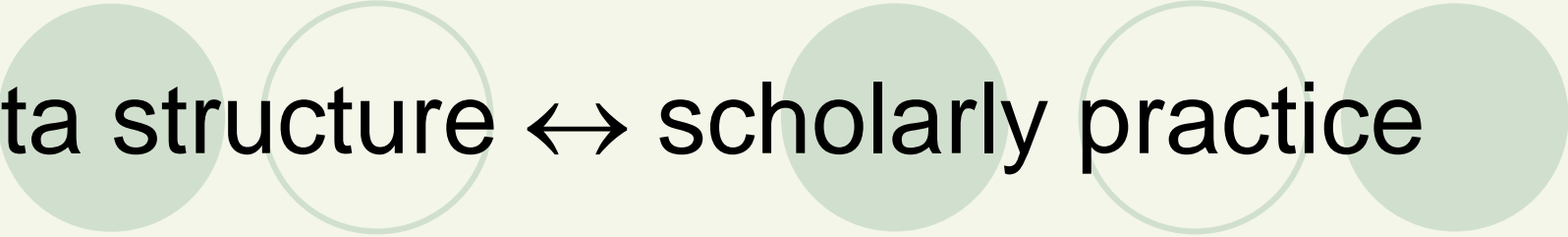
The diagram consists of two blue circles at the top, each containing text. Below them is a blue trapezoidal shape pointing upwards, which sits on top of a wide blue rectangular box at the bottom. The rectangular box also contains text. The entire diagram is centered on the slide.

Awareness
of
implications

Higher levels of scholar involvement
in database development



data structure ↔ scholarly practice



data structure ↔ scholarly practice

Prefer downloading data
to own stats program

data structure ↔ scholarly practice

Limited stats functionality
in original database

Prefer downloading data
to own stats program

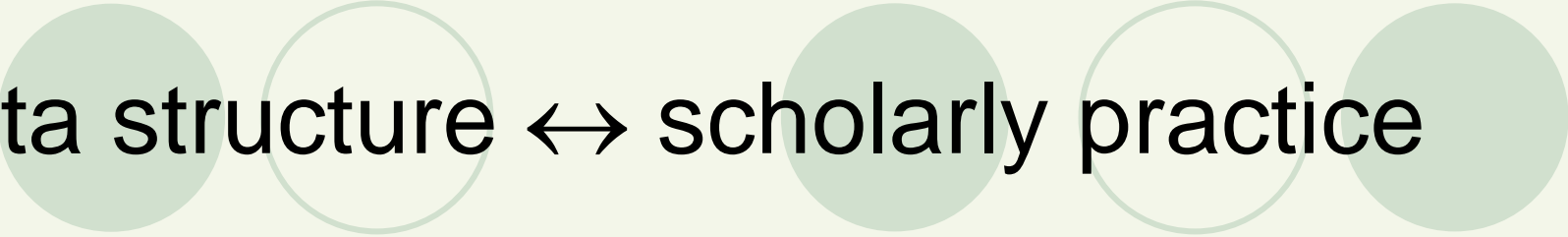


data structure ↔ scholarly practice

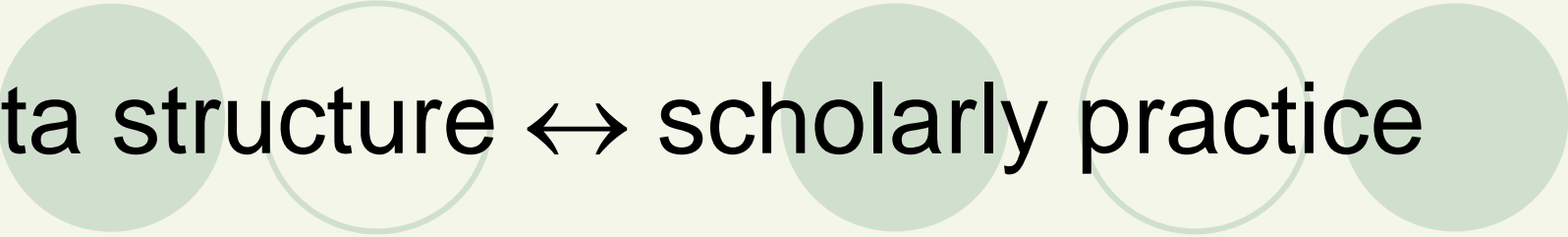
Desire download option in enhanced database

Limited stats functionality in original database

Prefer downloading data to own stats program



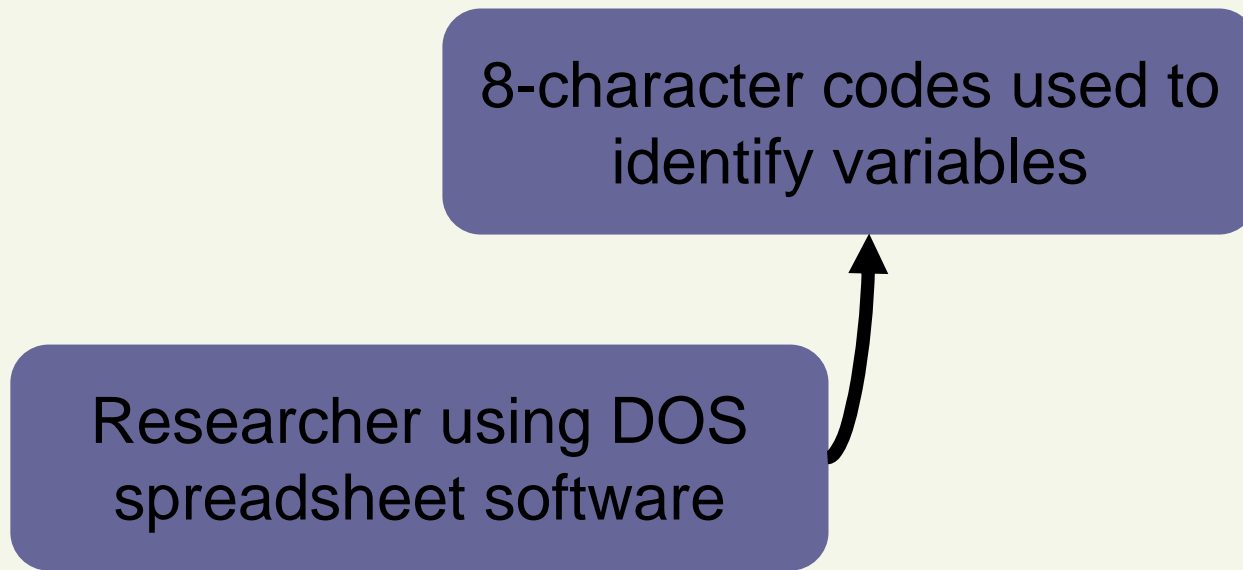
data structure ↔ scholarly practice



data structure ↔ scholarly practice

Researcher using DOS
spreadsheet software

data structure ↔ scholarly practice



data structure ↔ scholarly practice

Short codes still used to quickly scan data

8-character codes used to identify variables

Researcher using DOS spreadsheet software

Collaboration

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Continued
investment

The diagram consists of two blue circles at the top, each containing text. Below them is a blue rectangular box with a pointed top, also containing text. The circles and box are connected by a thin blue line.

Awareness
of
implications

Higher levels of scholar involvement
in database development

Collaboration




Continued
investment

Awareness
of
implications

Aligned
expectation

Higher levels of scholar involvement
in database development

Collaboration - Challenges



1. How do we acknowledge distinct individual and institutional roles without undermining the collaborative nature of the project?
2. How do we nurture a sense of shared purpose among project partners without getting stuck in a search for consensus?
3. How do we encourage participation from potential partners if there is little monetary incentive to do so?

Collaborative practices



1. How do we acknowledge distinct individual and institutional roles without undermining the collaborative nature of the project?
 - Be clear about partners' roles and contributions
 - Use wordmarks for branding resource & crediting institution
 - Note contributors & editors in the resource itself (variables & acknowledgements)

Collaborative practices



2. How do we nurture a sense of shared purpose among project partners without getting stuck in a search for consensus?
- Include all partners in design & development discussions
 - Establish clear roles and responsibilities, and deadlines for making decisions
 - Build in cycles of discussion & assessment

Collaborative practices



3. How do we encourage participation from existing and potential partners if there is little monetary incentive to do so?
 - Identify critical needs that participation fills
 - Find commonalities in mission, work
 - Publicly acknowledge contribution

Comments & Questions

THE TRANS-ATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE DATABASE
Voyages

www.slavevoyages.org