

#### Sussex Humanities Lab

## **CHASE Digital Texts Workshop**

James Baker Lecturer in Digital History

# The Software Sustainability Institute





#### Where to go for help

Your neighbour! And if that fails...
Sticky note up!





#### Schedule

1100-1110 Welcome

1110-1145 Digital Texts as Data

1145-1230 Shell (an approach to working with data)

1230-1315 Lunch

1315-1400 Counting and Mining Texts

1400-1445 Ripping a Text Apart

1445-1530 Finding People and Places

1530-1600 Next Steps





# Digital Texts as Data

The why (Adam Crymble: Big Data + Old History)



#### Digital Texts as Data

#### The what

- Digitisation of texts (or increasingly born-digital texts)
- Metadata about texts
- Data that represents texts



#### Digital Texts as Data

#### The how

- Trends in the metadata about the texts
- Trends in representations of the texts
- Trends in the scans of the texts
  - ... all of which *complements* our close reading rather than replaces it: https://twitter.com/matthewdlincoln/status/681884035510046720





#### Basics (navigation)

pwd Is -Ih cd





#### Basics (file interaction)

mv cp cat rm \*





### **Counting and Mining**

WC -w -l

>

grep -c

grep -i

grep -v

grep -w





## Ripping a text apart

Free text exercise



# Ripping a text apart tr ' '\n' < gulliver-clean.txt | sort | uniq -c > gulliver-final.txt



## **NER (Named Entity Recognition)**

**Step 1...** stanford-ner/ner.sh gulliver-noheadfootpunct.txt > gulliver\_ner.txt

**Step 2...** sed 's/\/O / /g' < gulliver\_ner.txt > gulliver\_ner-clean.txt

Step 3... egrep -o -f personpattr gulliver\_ner-clean.txt | sed 's/VPERSON//g' | sort | uniq -c | sort -nr > gulliver\_ner-persfreq.txt



### Where to go next...

Ray & Ray, *Unix and Linux: visual quickstart guide*, 4th edition (2009)

Invaluable reference guide

The Command Line Crash Course

http://cli.learncodethehardway.org/book/ 'Learn Code the Hard Way'

Al Sweigart, Automate the Boring Stuff with Python (2015)

http://automatetheboringstuff.com/

'Practical Programming for Total Beginners'





## Where to go next...

#### Coursera Computer Science 101

https://www.coursera.org/course/cs101

'essential ideas of CS for a zero-prior-experience audience'

#### Programming for Everybody (Python)

https://www.coursera.org/course/pythonlearn

'The basics of programming computers using Python'

#### The Programming Historian

http://programminghistorian.org/

'a bridge between broad 'getting started' portals and generic 'programming' resources'







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