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Modelling in Digital Humanities: interdisciplinarity, cross-modality and iconicity

Digital Humanities (hereafter DH) is a research field engaged in exploring how humanities scholarship is transformed and extended by the digital and *vice versa*. This mutual transformation and extension implies a close interaction with different disciplines and epistemologies. The core practice of research in DH is modelling intended as the translation of implicit knowledge into explicit/computational models and representations to manipulate and reason upon.

This panel would aim to bring to the fore an encompassing perspective on modelling by making use of semiotic concepts and analysis. Therefore, the aim of the panel is two folded. Its scope is to retrieve the polysemic dimension of the concept of model and modelling, on one hand, and, on the other, to grasp the dynamics of interaction between model as expression (i.e. shared forms of representations of knowledge) and model as content (i.e. shared data models conceptualising and formalising a domain of knowledge) in specific semiotic contexts.

Contributions to the panel will focus in particular on:

- Brief excursus on the etymology and semantics of model and modelling;
- The role of pragmatic and of metaphoric modelling in conceptualising DH;
- The opening of DH beyond textual disciplines and the implications on scholarly arguments;
- Iconic modelling and the role of iconicity in creating and in making sense of DH models;
- DH experiments of cross-modality and transmediality across different modes of model expressions (e.g. from text to map and from textual to visual models).

Hopefully enhanced by discussions with the audience, this framework of reflections around modelling will make emerge the relational nature of DH as an inter-discipline well positioned to cross modes of knowledge representation and ultimately bridge siloed knowledge domains.

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