

Workshop:

Experimenting with Digital Methods in Qualitative Research

What?

This workshop addresses a question that has grown particularly thorny in the last few years: how can social research profit from new digital data and new computational techniques?

The various sections of the workshop tackle this question from different angles.

- The workshop starts by deconstructing the commonplace ideas that the strength of digital methods derives from the greater quantity of the available data or the muscles of digital computation. Instead, the workshop focuses on the potential of digital methods that comes from their diversity and their incentive to open sociological imagination beyond the reassuring constraints of traditional qualitative and quantitative methods.
- In the hands-on seminar, we will play with two original digital methods:
 - A technique for the visual investigation of a landscape of scientific publications. The method is based on a relatively standard technique in scientometrics (bibliographic coupling) but gives it an unusual twist through visual network analysis.
 - A technique for turning data tables into network diagrams.

Participants will be introduced to three tools (medialab.github.io/table2net, tommv.github.io/bibliograph and gephi.org) and will have a chance to experiment with these methods on their own research subjects.

- The workshop will be concluded by an open discussion, where participants will present their research questions and fieldwork opportunities and collectively discuss unconventional ways to tackle them.

Who?

Lecturers: Associate Prof. Tommaso Venturini (Medialab, University of Geneva)

Dr. Kari De Pryck (GEDT, University of Geneva)

Organisers: Pouya Sepehr; Virdzhiniia Vargolskaia

Faculty support: Prof. Sarah Davis

For whom?

Student members of the Vienna Doctoral School of Social Sciences (ViDSS) who previously worked with network analysis or scientometric methods. Also students who are curious about experimenting with methods will find the space for collective reflection. Doctoral candidates receive 2 ECTS upon participation. Postdoctoral researchers may apply but doctoral candidates will be prioritised.

When and where?

10–11 November 2022, SR 1, Oskar-Morgenstern Platz 1, EG

Admission

Please send your applications to virdzhiniia.vargolskaia@univie.ac.at until **10th October 2022**

Capacity: 15 attendees

*Due to limited capacities, please apply if you can attend **both** days. If the number of applications exceeds the number of spots, you will be put on the waiting list. You will be informed about the results of the application by 20th October. In case you were selected but cannot attend please inform the organisers as soon as possible.*

COVID-19 Regulations

We adhere to the regulations set by the University of Vienna at the time when the workshop is held. Prior testing is recommended. If the workshop cannot be held on-site, we will switch to an online format.

Preliminary programme

Date	Time	Activity
10 November 2022	09:00–10:00	Introduction
	10:15–12:15	Presentation of the scientometrics landscape (SL) method
	12:30–13:30	Lunch Break
	13:30–15:00	Breakout rooms where participants work on their own to apply the SL method to their research object
	15:30–17:30	Troubleshooting of the SL experiments
11 November 2022	09:30–11:00	Presentation of the table to network methods (T2N)
	11:15–12:30	Breakout rooms where participants work on their own to apply the T2N method to their research object
	12:30–13:30	Lunch Break
	13:30–15:00	Troubleshooting of the T2N experiments
	15:15–17:00	Collective brainstorm about unconventional methods
	17:00–17:30	Wrap up and socialising