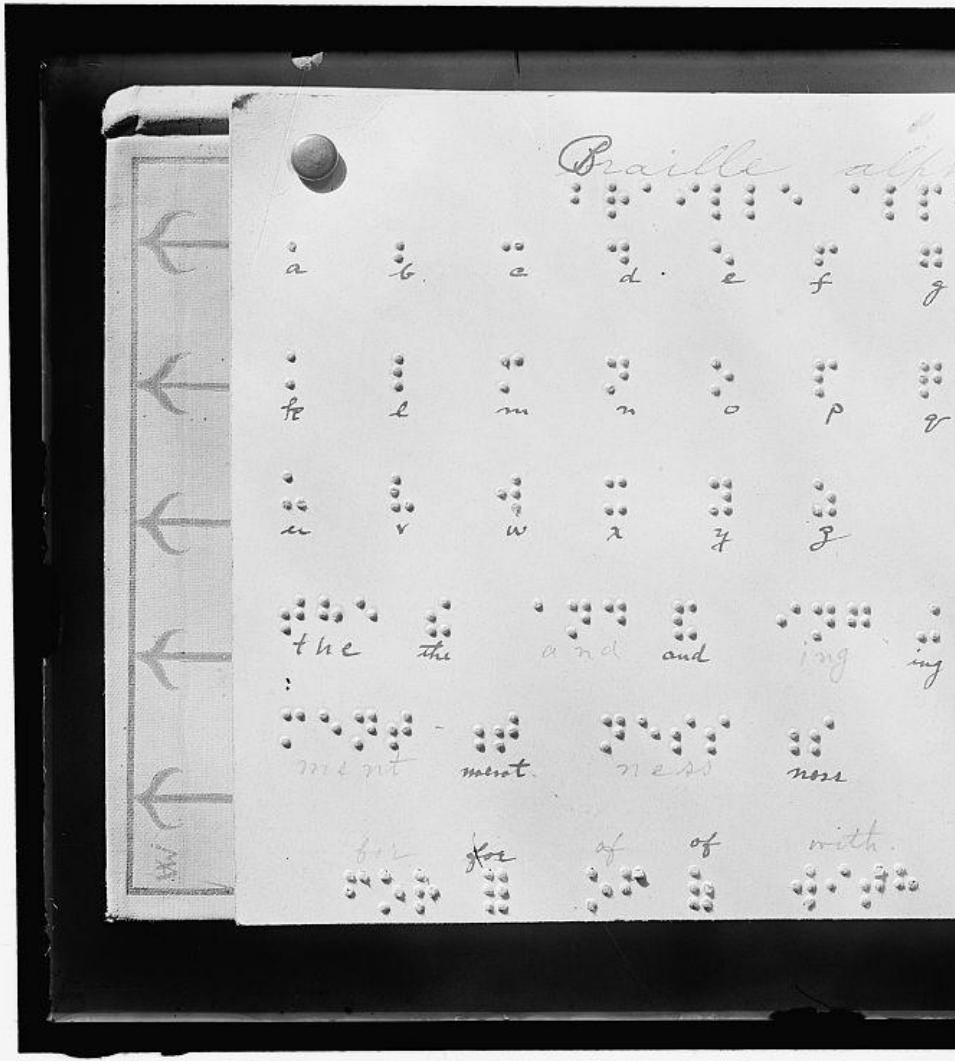
# DIGITAL HISTORY

Professor
Cynthia Helder

Temple University | HIST 5152 | Fall 2020



04

# Ways of Reading

Week of September 13

# Textual Analysis

What is it?

What can you do with it?

What tools are commonly used for this method of analysis?

What do you need in order to do it?

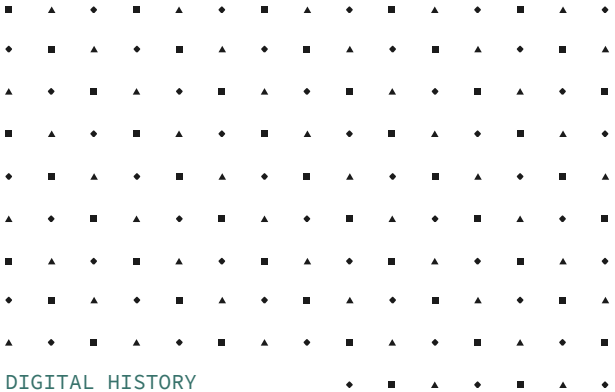
Jargon overview

# What is it?

- Text mining
- Stylometry
- Sentiment analysis
- Topic modeling
- Natural language processing
- Entity recognition
- Distant reading

**Ways of looking for relationships and patterns within a corpus, computationally**

# What can you do with it?



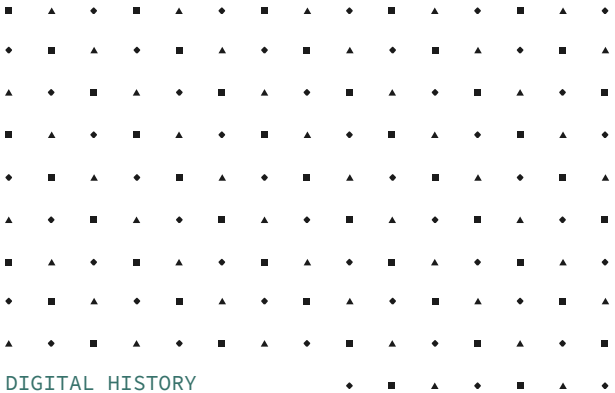


## Parsing a single text

By taking a cultural work and analyzing a concordance, you can show comparative frequency and distribution of its words.

**Analyzing “Acres of Diamonds” with WordCounter:**
https://databasic.io/en/wordcounter/results/613f683c1af5b300c403a598

# What can you do with it?





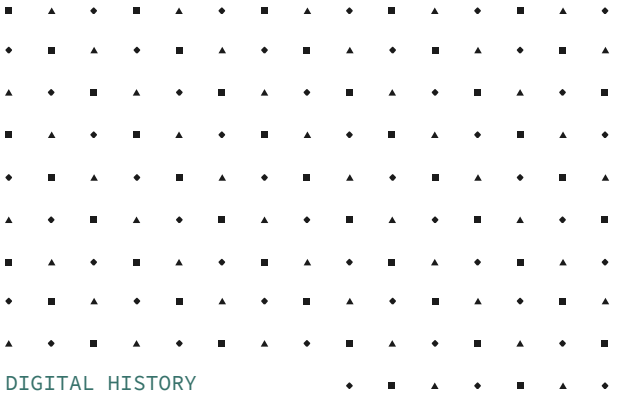
## Analyzing multiple texts

- stylometry
- entity recognition
- topic modelling
  collocations
  proximity
  clustering

# What tools are commonly used for this method of analysis?

- Distant Reader
- Constellate (by JSTOR) and HathiTrust Research Center (HTRC)
- Voyant Tools
- AntConc
- MALLET (and the Topic Modeling Tool)
- NLTK

# What do you need in order to do it?





**First and foremost, you'll need a corpus!**

**Make sure you can access the text within it somehow - the easiest way is to copy and paste the text into a .txt or .rtf file.**

**Grab a tool.**

**(Maybe) grab an expert!**

DIGITAL HISTORY

# Featured Projects

- Text Mining Martha Ballard's Diary
- Mining the Dispatch
- The Colored Conventions Project
- The Distant Viewing Lab