

On the Road towards Arts and Humanities e-Infrastructure in Germany

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Around the world, infrastructure components in the arts and humanities are beginning to form. Germany currently concentrates its respective activities building on the emerging national grid infrastructure, D-Grid.

TextGrid is the humanities project in D-Grid and it focuses on two core innovations: TextGridRep provides a repository for long-term storage of scientific textual data; TextGridLab offers a workbench built upon an open and extensible network of dedicated services. An interdisciplinary team of humanities scholars and technicians employ service oriented architecture and grid technologies to achieve this. -TextGrid embeds digital curation directly into the scholarly work environment.

This initial e-Infrastructure component is successively extended for other communities in the arts and humanities - from archaeology to performing arts, with their specific requirements regarding media types, scientific workflows, etc. Collaborating with multi-national infrastructure projects - including DARIAH (Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities), CLARIN (Common Language Resources and Technology Infrastructure), and DRIVER (Digital Repository Infrastructure Vision for European Research) - TextGrid is a player in an international movement towards an arts and humanities e-Infrastructure.