

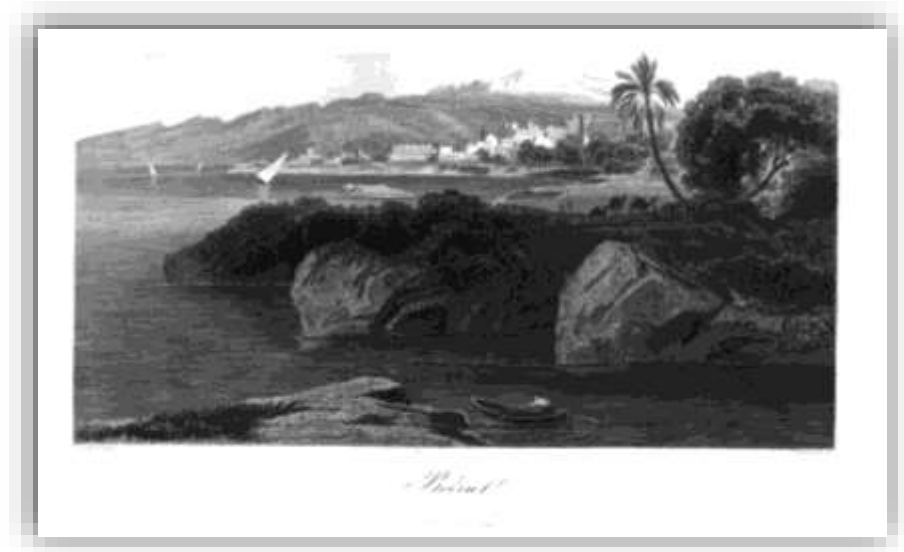
# TRAVELING THROUGH SPACE AND TIME

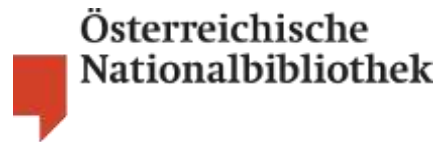


Jan Rörden (AIT Austrian Institute of Technology)  
NKOS Workshop 2018  
Porto, Portugal

## OVERVIEW

- ① The Travelogues project
- ① Technical research tasks
- ① Preliminary results
- ① Next steps

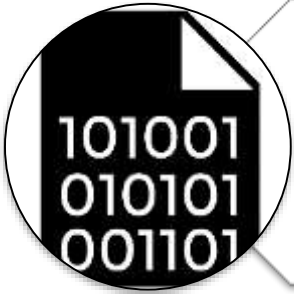




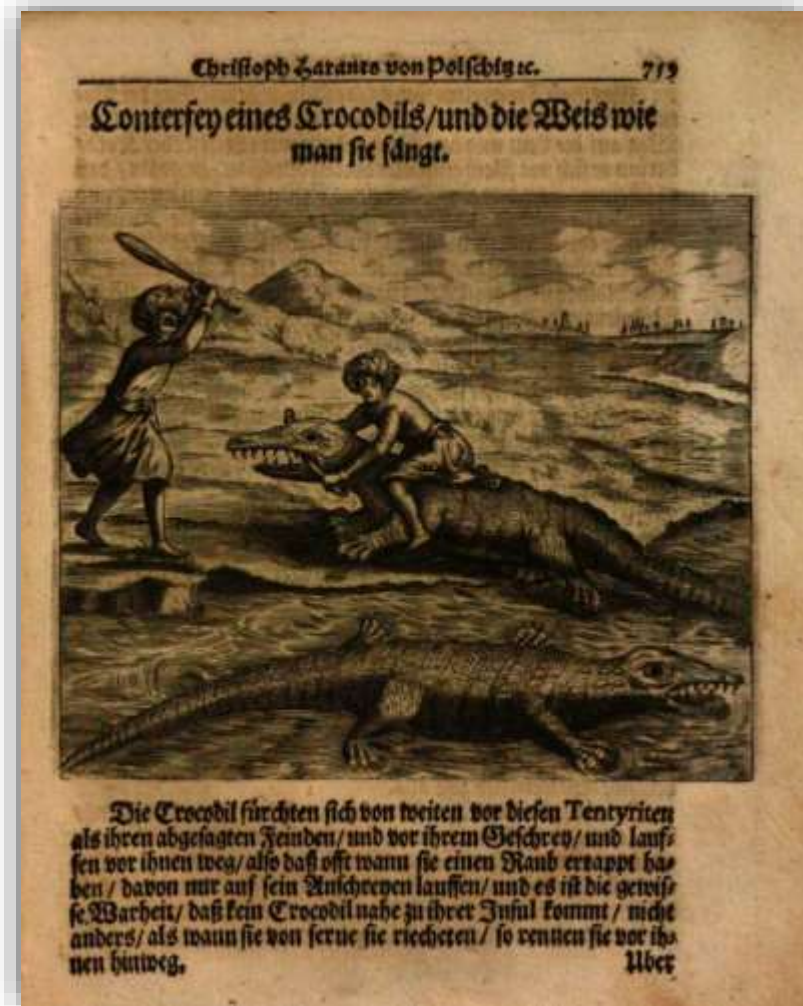
# TRAVELOGUES | MOTIVATION



A relevant  
historical  
source



Large-scale  
digitization  
offers new  
possibilities



## TRAVELOGUES | DATA SET

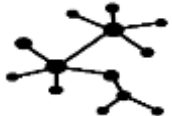
- ① 600,000 digitized books from 1500-1875
  - Estimated 1,000 travelogues
- ① OCR readily available
- ① Meta data
  - Author, publisher, title, keywords, year...



## TRAVELOGUES | RESEARCH GOALS



Semi-supervised creation of a corpus



Enrichment of meta data



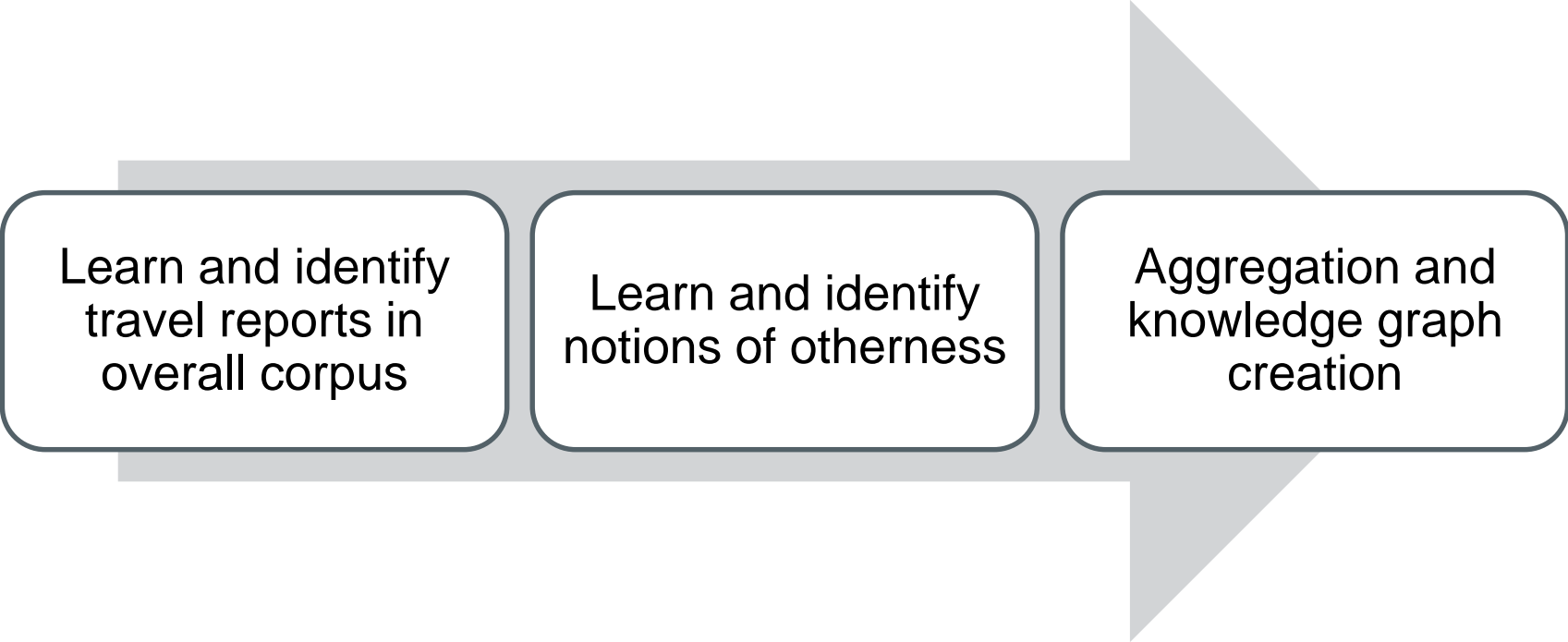
Perceptions of the other & discourses of the Orient

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## TECHNICAL ASPECT | TASKS



Learn and identify  
travel reports in  
overall corpus

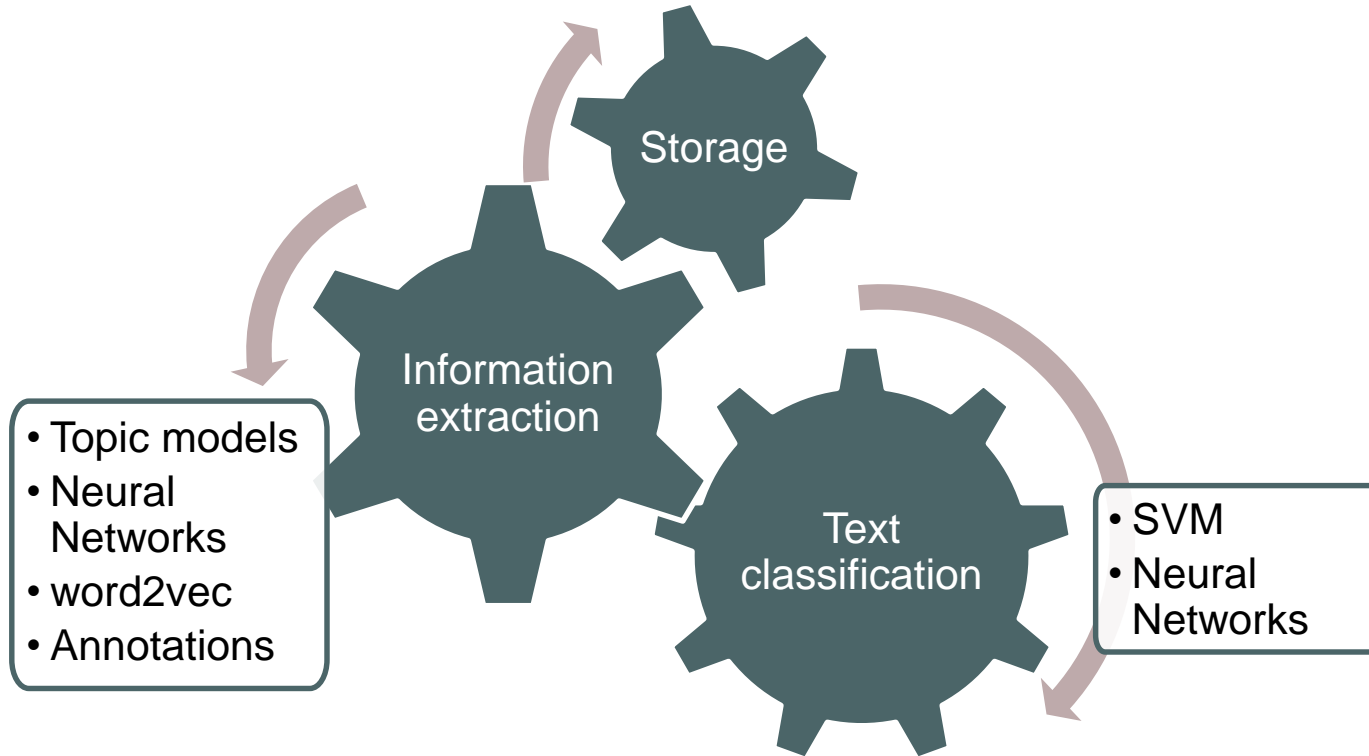
Learn and identify  
notions of otherness

Aggregation and  
knowledge graph  
creation



Hernach giengen wir durch etliche Gäßlein / in deren etliche  
nur die Schuster allein / in andern die Schneider allein feil ha-  
ben / lauter auf den Rauff allbereit fertige Wahren / und so  
fortan / von andern vielen Handwercken / ja es haben auch die  
Köch ihre Gasse / allda sie Schöpfs / Cameel / Büffelsteych /  
und von andern Vieh in grosser Menge / gesotten und gebraten /  
mit andern Zugemüß / als Reis / Erbsen / Bohnen / Hirsch / &c.  
zugericht / item Hüner / Fisch und andere Sachen feil haben /  
insonderheit hab ich mit meinen Augen gesehen / daß man da  
Hämmel hatte mit so großen Schwänzen / daß daran allein so  
viel Fleisch war / als bey uns an dem größten Hamelschlägel /  
wie man uns dann für gewiß berichtet / daß mancher Schwanz

## TECHNICAL ASPECT | TOOLS



## OVERVIEW

- ① The Travelogues project
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## PRELIMINARY RESULTS | EXPLORATION

- ① Word2vec without pre-processing
- ① Classification without pre-processing
- ① Manual evaluation through domain experts
- ① Feedback/insights from domain experts

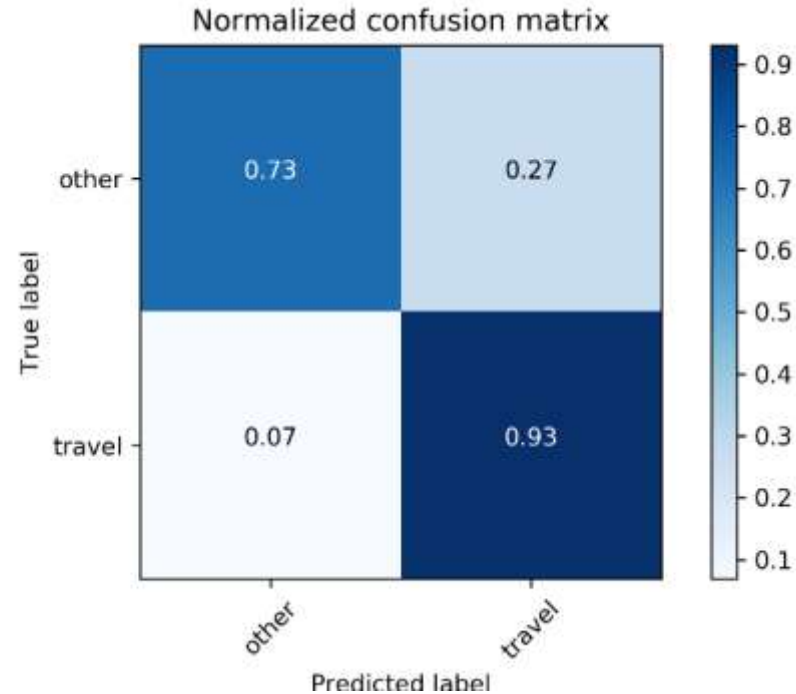


## PRELIMINARY RESULTS | CLASSIFICATION

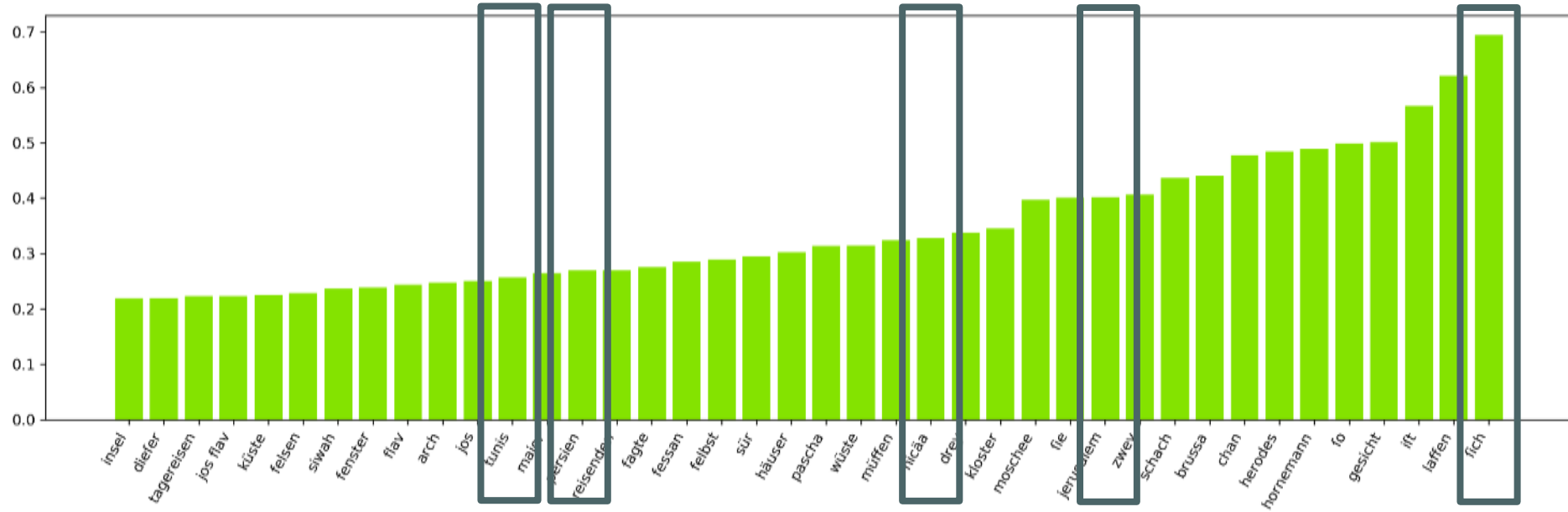
- ① Manually curated corpus of 30 travelogues
  - Extended to >200 books
- ① Support Vector Machine
  - Classifier performance evaluation through domain experts

Classifier	Precision	Recall	Accuracy	F1-score
SVM	0.82	0.93	0.84	0.87

## PRELIMINARY RESULTS | CONFUSION MATRIX



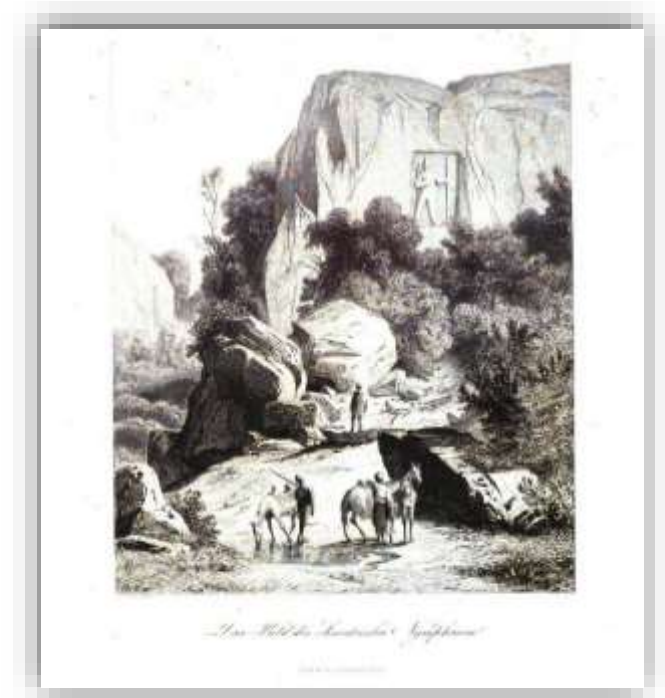
## PRELIMINARY RESULTS | FEATURES





## OVERVIEW

- ① The Travelogues project
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## NEXT STEPS

- ① Evaluate the effect of time and OCR quality on classification performance
- ① Apply trained classifiers on the whole corpus
- ① Let experts annotate semantic structures denoting otherness
- ① Investigate and evaluate the use of neural networks (for classification and information extraction)
- ① Construct a knowledge graph on travelogues and the notion of otherness
  - Available at the ONB, to facilitate further research

# Travelogues

Perceptions of the Other – A Computerized Analysis

[www.travelogues-project.info](http://www.travelogues-project.info)

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