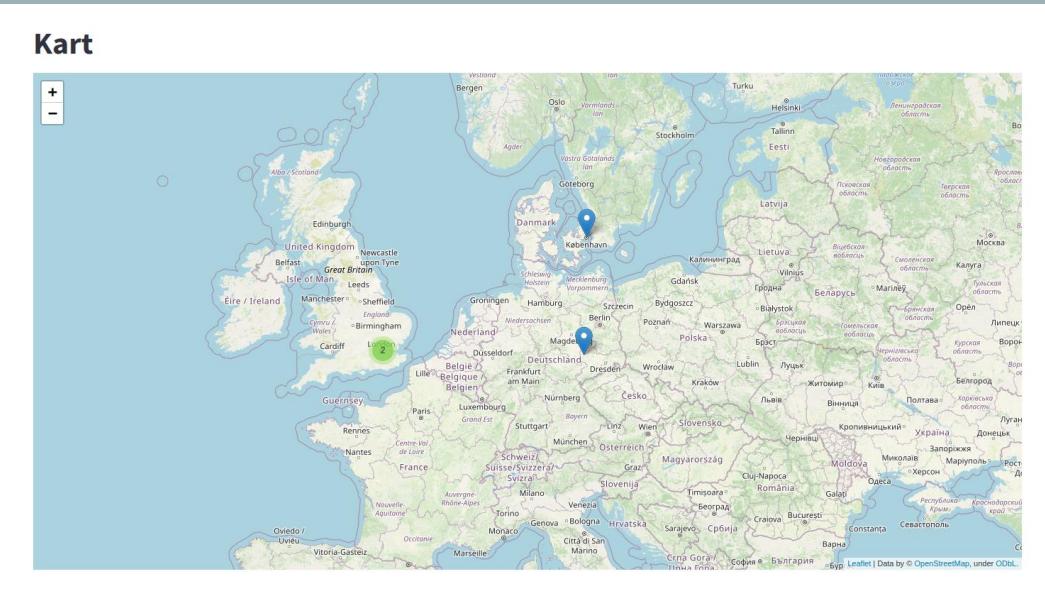


THE WORLD IN NORWEGIAN

GLIMPSES FROM A DIGITAL EXPLORATION OF BIBLIOMIGRATION PATTERNS

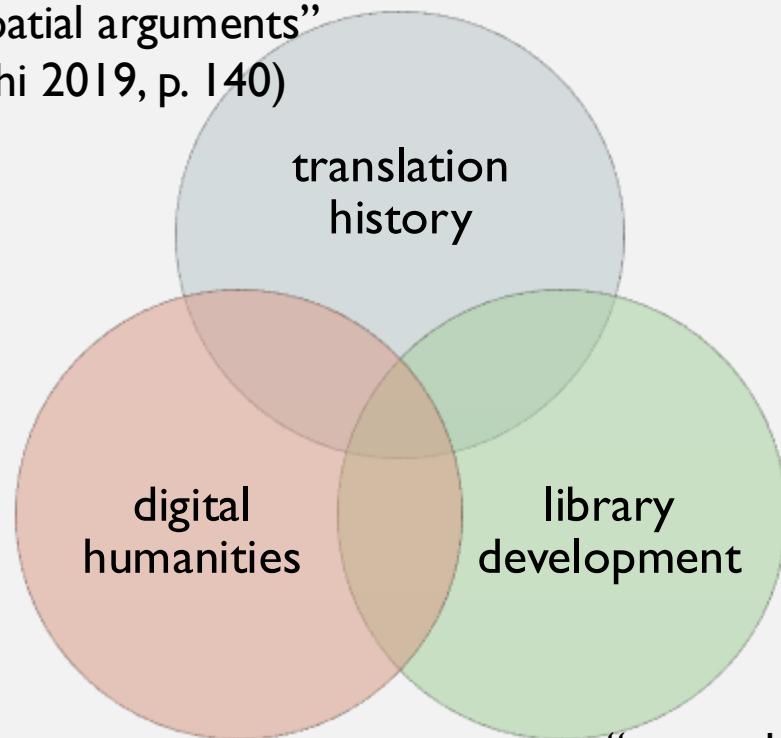


DHNB Reykjavik May 2024

Marcus Axelsson, Siri Fürst Skogmo & Inger H. Schmidt-Melbye



“... translation historians have been slow to explore digital tools that help to reveal... connections and construct spatial arguments”
(Wakabayashi 2019, p. 140)



“... publications employing DH tools remain scarce in translation-studies publications”
(Fólica 2021, p. 108)

OUR PROJECT AND AIM(S)

- Collaborative project
- Funding from the Norwegian National Library from August 2023 to August 2025.
- Visual representation of translation flows: the Norwegian literary import over the last 200 years

“... academic librarians could be involved in DH scholarship in depth, through taking more advanced roles” (Zhang et al. 2021, p. 6)

THEORETICAL CONCEPTS

Bibliomigrancy/ bibliomigration

(Mani, 2014; Lindqvist, 2015)

“... the migration of literary works in the form of books from one part of the world to the other” (Mani 2014, p. 289)



Distant reading of (para)texts

(Moretti, 2013, cf.
Underwood, 2017)

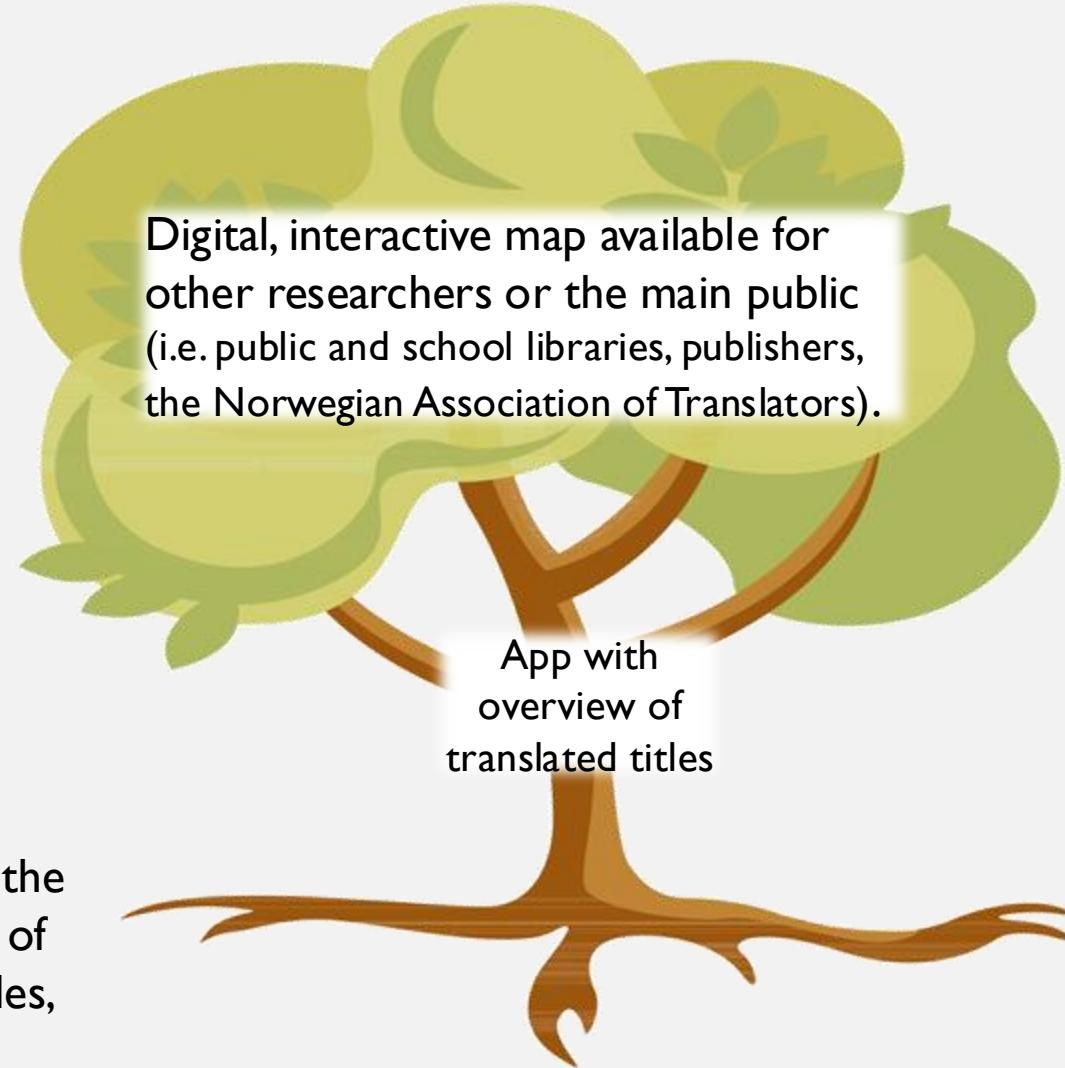
Big Translation History (BTH)

“... a translation history that can be analyzed computationally, using digital tools to study massive data, from a translational, relational, and large-scale perspective” (Fólica 2021, p. 104).

SOURCES AND OUTCOME

Library catalogues, mainly the National library catalogue of Norway: the translated titles, translators

Metadata from international library catalogues: the original titles, publication place



Enter mmsid	Enter contributors	Enter publication_year
Enter title	Enter translators	Enter language
Enter original_title	Enter publisher	Enter original_language
Enter main_author		
Verne, Jules		
<input type="button" value="Søk"/>		

Number of results: 142

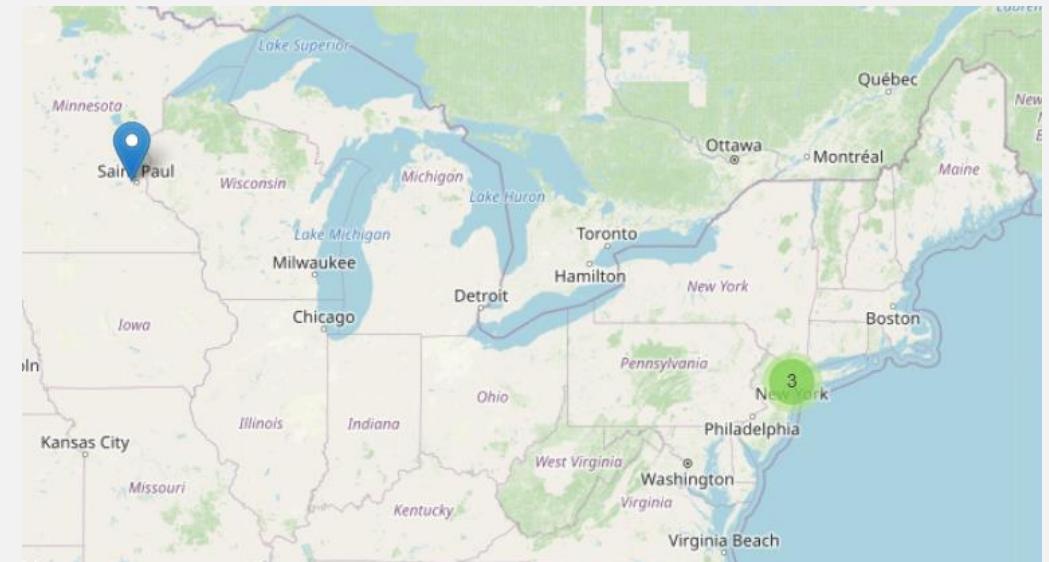
	title	original_title	main_author	contributors	translators	publisher	publication_year	language	original_language
0	2201 Reisen rundt månen	Autour de la lune	Verne, Jules	Havrevold, Finn,bjd Strømme, Sigmund.,trl	Strømme, Sigmund.	Tiden	1950	nob	fre
1	2201 Jorden rundt på 80 dager	Le tour du monde en quatre-vingts jours	Verne, Jules	Qvale, Annine,ill Risvik, Kari,trl Risvik, Kjell,trl	Risvik, Kari Risvik, Kjell	Stenersens forl.	cop. 2008	nob	fre
2	2201 Kaptein på 15 år		Verne, Jules	Granrud, Lill,trl Caprioli, Franco,unknown	Granrud, Lill	Hjemmet	c1985	nob	fre
3	2201 To års ferie	Deux ans de vacances	Verne, Jules	Krog, Cecilie,trl Havrevold, Finn,bjd	Krog, Cecilie	Tiden	1950	nob	fre
4	2201 Kaptein Grants barn	Les enfants du capitaine Grant	Verne, Jules	Stabel, Fredrik,trl Solem, Svein,bjd	Stabel, Fredrik	Gyldendal	1981	nob	fre
5	2201 Tsarens kurér	Michel Strogoff	Verne, Jules	Ulfsby, Erik,unknown Monrad, Knut,trl	Monrad, Knut	Lydbokforl.	2004	nob	fre
6	2201 Kaptein Grants barn	Les enfants du capitaine Grant	Verne, Jules	Stabel, Fredrik,trl Bratlie, Gunnar,ill	Stabel, Fredrik	Gyldendal	1952	nob	fre
7	2201 Tsarens kurér : Michel Strogoff	Michel Strogoff	Verne, Jules	Lotherington, Tom,trl Férat, J.,ill Barbant, CH,ill	Lotherington, Tom	Vidarforlaget	2016	nob	fre
8	2201 Kaptein Grants barn	Les enfants du capitaine Grant	Verne, Jules	Stabel, Fredrik,trl Bratlie, Gunnar,ill	Stabel, Fredrik	Gyldendal	1964	nob	fre
9	2201 Jorden rundt på 80 dager	Le tour monde en 80 jours	Verne, Jules	Farland, Erik,trl Havrevold, Finn,bjd	Farland, Erik	Tiden	1950	nob	fre

CHALLENGES

The creation of the map poses challenges on at least two levels:

- 1) how to collect the data which provides us with information about the publication place of the first edition of the original work

- 2) **how to visually represent diachronic data in a geopolitically shifting reality.**



HOW TO VISUALIZE OUR DATA ON A MAP?

- Cities: publishers
- Time periods/intervals
- Changing borders (political implications of our choices)
- User friendly interface, intuitive and aesthetically pleasing

REFERENCES

- De Swaan, Abram (2001). *Words of the World: The Global Language System*. Cambridge.
- Fólica, L. (2021). Digital humanities and big translation history in the Global South: A Latin American perspective. *World literature studies* 3(13), 104-116.
- Heilbron, Johan (1999). Towards a Sociology of Translation: Book Translations as a Cultural World-System. *European Journal of Social Theory*, 2(4), 429-444.
- Horvath, Aliz. (2021). Enhancing Language Inclusivity in Digital Humanities: Towards Sensitivity and Multilingualism. *Modern Languages Open*, 1, 1-21.
- Lindqvist, Yvonne (2010). Ett globalt perspektiv på nutida svensk översättningskultur. System- och fältteori i praktiken. In Kullberg, Christina & Elisabeth Bladh (Eds.), *Litteratur i gränszonen. Transnationella litteraturer i översättning ur ett nordiskt perspektiv* (pp. 81–93). Falun.
- Lindqvist, Yvonne (2015). Det skandinaviska översättningsfältet - finns det? *Språk och stil*, 25, 69–87.
- Mani, Venkat (2014). Bibliomigrancy: Book Series and the Making of World Literature. In D'haen, Theo, Damrosch, David & Kadir, Djelal (Eds.), *The Routledge Companion to World Literature* (pp. 283–296). Routledge.
- Moretti, F. (2013). *Distant Reading*. Verso.
- Rindal, Magnus, Egeberg, Erik & Formo, Tone (1998). *Brobyggere- oversettelser til norsk fra middelalderen til i dag*. Aschehoug.
- Sapiro, Gisèle (2010). Globalization and cultural diversity in the book market: The case of literary translations in the US and in France. *Poetics*, 38, 419-439.
- Spence, Paul Joseph & Brandao, Renata (2021). Towards language sensitivity and diversity in the digital humanities. *Digital Studies/Le champ numérique*, 11(1), 1-29.
- Tanasescu, Raluca (2021). Complexity and the place of translation in digital humanities: Post-disciplinary communities of practice in the translation studies network. In Marais, Kobus & Meylaerts, Reine (Eds.), *Exploring the implications of complexity thinking for translation studies* (pp. 30-72). Routledge.
- Underwood, Ted (2017). A Genealogy of Distant Reading. *DHQ: Digital Humanities Quarterly*, 11(2), n.p.
- Wakabayashi, Judy (2019). Digital approaches to translation history. *Translation & Interpreting*, 11(2), 132-145.
- Zhang, Ying, Liu, Shu & Mathews, Emilee (2015). Convergence of digital humanities and digital libraries. *Library management*, 36(4/5), 362-377.
- Zhang, Ying, Xue Susan & Xue Zhaohui (2021). From collection curation to knowledge creation: Exploring new roles of academic librarians in digital humanities research. *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 47(2), 1-7.