

Big Historical Data Conference
November 22-25, 2023
Max Planck Institute for Geoanthropology
Jena, Germany

Wednesday, November 22

8:45-9:00

Welcome address

9:00-10:30

Session 1: Big Databases: How large-scale archives can boost archaeological research I

Session organisers: Martina Farese, Giulia Formichella, and Noemi Mantile

1-1

[Ricardo Fernandes](#)

The Pandora Initiative: promoting fairer data collaboration

1-2

[Martina Farese](#)

From the Neolithic to the Middle Ages: a big data view of foodways in ancient Italy

1-3

[Antonio Caruso](#)

STARC OSTEOARCH: An open access resource for recording and sharing human osteoarchaeological data

1-4

[Claire Ebert](#)

Tracking human diet and migration using the Caribbean and Mesoamerica Biogeochemical Isotope Overview (CAMBIO)

1-5

[Natalia Riabogina](#)

Building archaeobotanical and archaeozoological database in the BIAD: structure, creation experience and comparative analysis perspectives

1-6

[Victor Yan Kin Lee](#)

Bridging human paleogenetics and archaeology: problems with existing practices and prospects for overcoming them

10:30-11:00

Coffee break

11:00-12:30

Session 1. Big Databases: How large-scale archives can boost archaeological research II

Session organisers: Martina Farese, Giulia Formichella, and Noemi Mantile

1-7

[Andrew Kandel](#)

The ROAD Database as a Research Tool for Exploring Human Evolution

1-8

[Felix Riede](#)

Cultural evolutionary trends as revealed by a novel, expert-sourced dataset on lithic technology, toolkits, and artefact shapes for the Final Palaeolithic/earliest Mesolithic of Europe (15-11ka BP)

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- 1-9 [David Laguna-Palma](#) An open and interdisciplinary approach to modelling movement along the ancient Lybian Sea
- 1-10 [Efthymia Nikita](#) MetaMobility Databases: Promoting Greco-Roman bioarchaeology
- 1-11 [Antonio Campus](#) Big Archaeological (Legacy) Data. Collection, dissemination and reuse for large scale analysis
- 1-12 [Maite I. Garcia-Collado](#) Exploring large-scale historical processes using IsoIberMed: a new isotope database for bioarchaeological samples from Medieval Iberia

12:30-13:30

Lunch

13:30-14:00

Session 1: Big Databases: How large-scale archives can boost archaeological research III

Session organisers: Martina Farese, Giulia Formichella, and Noemi Mantile

- 1-13 [Sean Hixon](#) Presenting a compilation of isotopic data from Madagascar
- 1-14 [Carlo Cocozza](#) The IsoMemo Initiative: Enhancing archaeological and historical research through isotope databases

14:00-15:00

Session 2. Big Zooarchaeological Data: Challenges and potentials for multi-scalar analysis across millenia I

Session organisers: Angela Trentacoste, Jesse Wolfhagen, and Sarah Witcher Kansa

- 2-1 [Sarah Witcher Kansa](#) From small to big data in zooarchaeology
- 2-2 [Kitty Emery](#) Crosswalking, linking, and verbatim interpretations: adventures in legacy zooarchaeological biodiversity open data publishing
- 2-3 [Canan Kakirlar](#) Cross-disciplinary reuse potential of big zooarchaeology data: What do we need?
- 2-4 [David Orton](#) Assessing approaches to chronological uncertainty in large-scale zooarchaeological data synthesis

15:00-15:30

Coffee break

15:30-16:30

Session 2. Big Zooarchaeological Data: Challenges and potentials for multi-scalar analysis across millenia II

Session organisers: Angela Trentacoste, Jesse Wolfhagen, and Sarah Witcher Kansa

- 2-5 [Matthew Hill Jr.](#) Tracking long-term subsistence among the Native North American Great Plains hunters

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2-6	Max Price	Wool they won't they: Combing the zooarchaeological evidence for wool production in Northern Mesopotamia c. 4500-1500 cal. BC
2-7	Anthony King	The RomAniDat network: a zooarchaeological Big Data initiative for the ancient Roman world
2-8	Roberto Ragno	Understanding variation in zooarchaeological NISP data: Bayesian betabinomial models for Italian contexts in the 1st millennium CE

Thursday, November 23

9:00-10:30

Session 3: Environments of big cultural heritage data integration I

Session organisers: Michael Fisher and Dovydas Jurkenas

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| 3-1 | Michael Fisher | Heritage-environment interaction: Theorising Big (Palaeo)Data ntegration across the nature-culture divide |
| 3-2 | Julian Richards | ARIADNE: aggregating archaeological datasets at an international scale |
| 3-3 | Pablo Barruezo-Vaquero | Transdisciplinary data integration into a computational ontology: some reflections from the DataARC Project on modelling human–non-human entanglements |
| 3-4 | Thomas Huet | "Shared heritage": management and integration of cultural heritage data across Arches-based platforms in the Global South |
| 3-5 | Jonas Gregorio de Souza | Mapping the archaeological Pre-Columbian heritage in South America |
| 3-6 | MAHSA and MAEASaM Teams | Modelling heritage information in two diverse regions: reflections on the integration of heterogeneous big data from the MAHSA and MAEASaM projects |

10:30-11:00

Coffee break

11:00-11:30

Session 3. Environments of big cultural heritage data integration II

Session organisers: Michael Fisher and Dovydas Jurkenas

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| 3-7 | Dovydas Jurkenas | Hordes of Data: Multilayered documentation and collection of archaeological heritage and environmental data across the Mongolian landscape |
| 3-8 | Ankhsanaa Ganbold | Creating the Mongolia cultural heritage database (immovable historical and cultural heritage) |

11:30-12:30

Session 4. Archaeological time-series: The quest for robust ¹⁴C-dated proxies for the intensity of prehistoric activity

Session organisers: John Meadows and Peer Kröger

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| 4-1 | Jan Kolar | Large radiocarbon datasets in relation to archaeological context and metadata |
| 4-2 | Fiona Laviano | Building a database of dated Neanderthal fossil remains to estimate the spatiotemporal pattern of Neanderthal extirpation |

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4-3 **Jiyoung Park** Investigating long-term population dynamics in the Han River Basin using radiocarbon dating

4-4 **Thomas Huet** NeoNet, an app for radiocarbon modelling of the Late Mesolithic / Early Neolithic transition in South-Central and South-Western Europe

12:30-13:30 **Lunch**

13:30-14:30 **Session 5: Data and people in interaction: Network analysis for everyone**

Session organisers: Vera Klontza and Barbora Ruffini

5-1 **Tamás Czuppon** Hidden information or misuse? Data and network analysis on burial customs (6-9 c. AD)

5-2 **Freg J. Stokes** Mapping networks of capital and resistance in tropical South America

5-3 **Britt Davis** Neutron activation analysis and networks: Possibilities and constraints

5-4 **Christopher Carleton** ‘Symbolic scaling’ in ancient and contemporary cities

14:30-15:00 **Session 6. Leveraging Big Data, GIS, and machine learning in remote sensing I**

Session organisers: Manuel Peters and Amina Jambajantsan

6-1 **Stefania Merlo** An experiment with automated detection of diverse archaeological features in an African context using deep-learning and free satellite multispectral imagery

6-2 **Ahmed Mahmoud** Automated change detection monitoring of archaeological sites using machine learning and Google Earth Engine

15:00-15:30 **Coffee break**

15:30-16:00 **Session 6. Leveraging Big Data, GIS, and machine learning in remote sensing II**

Session organisers: Manuel Peters and Amina Jambajantsan

6-3 **Manuel J. Peters** Multi-scale automated feature detection in the Argentinean Andes: A comparative analysis of satellite and UAV

6-4 **David Stott** Positive false positives: Searching for annular landforms in Northern Europe

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16:00-17:45 **Session 7. AI for historical and archaeological Big Data analysis II**

Session organiser: Jochen Büttner

7-1	Jakob Hauser	Enhancing the Seshat databank: A computationally readable mapping of historical facts to scholarly references
7-2	Hassan El-Hajj	Prompt me a dataset: Large-scale ML dataset creation in the humanities
7-3	Mathieu Aubry	Discovering and analyzing patterns in large historical image databases
7-4	Jambajantsan Amina	Leveraging satellite imagery and Deep Learning in Mongolian archaeology
7-5	Jianyin Roachell	Deep Learning and Bayesian analysis of historical time series data
7-6	Adam Izdebski	Applying Bayesian machine learning to causality modelling in historical social-ecological systems: case studies from early modern Greece and Poland
7-7	Raphael Schlattmann	Trajectories of change: Using text embeddings to track knowledge evolution

18:00-19:00 **Dinner & Group photo**

19:00-19:30 **Plenary**

Friday, November 24

9:00-10:30

Session 8: Insights from reusing large prehistoric and interdisciplinary databases

Session organisers: Christian Sommer, Angela Bruch, Nicholas Conrad, Christine Hertler, Miriam N. Haidle, Volker Hochschild, Zara Kanaeva, Andrew Kandel, and the ROCEEH Team

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| 8-1 | Samantha Scott Reiter | Columns and rows: publishing, preparing, harmonizing and preserving protocols, guidelines and resources from the Big Interdisciplinary Archaeological Database |
| 8-2 | Anaïs Vignoles | Shortcomings related to archaeological bibliographic databases used for macro-scale modeling: the SIGMENT database for estimating Middle and Recent Gravettian lithic technical tradition distributions in Western Europe |
| 8-3 | Giulia Marciani | Beyond labels. Exploring patterns of formal description of lithic variability in Late Pleistocene technologies |
| 8-4 | Rimtautas Dapschauskas | Using big data to gain new insights about large-scale developments of human behavioral evolution: ROAD and Middle Stone Age ochre use |
| 8-5 | Christian Sommer | Mapping archaeological cultures and periods with network cartography |
| 8-6 | Jesús Rodríguez | Modelling the adaptations of hominins to climate in Europe from MIS14 to MIS11 |

10:30-11:00

Coffee break

11:00-12:30

Session 9. Palaeoclimatic and palaeoenvironmental databases: Exploring the dynamics of human-environmental systems

Session organiser: Achim Brauer

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| 9-1 | Pedro Andrade | Long-term arsenic exposure evidence in northern Chile revealed through analysis of compiled osteological and elemental data |
| 9-2 | Michele Abballe | Modelling the evolution of the hinterland of Ravenna: human-environment relationships in an extremely dynamic alluvial landscape |
| 9-3 | Michela Leonardi | Palaeoecology made easy: pastclim and tidysdm, two new R packages to make the best use of palaeo big data |
| 9-4 | Margherita Colucci | A case study: modelling human-malaria coevolution through time using palaeoclimatic and palaeoenvironmental databases |

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- 9-5 Ümit Cevher Elmas Paleoenvironmental databases: A case study from Lake Burdur
- 9-6 Thomas Giesecke The Neotoma Palaeoecology Database as a research tool to assess human landscape interactions during the Quaternary

12:30-13:30 **Lunch**

13:30-15:00

Session 10: History unleashed: Harnessing the knowledge stored in historical documents

Session organisers: Adam Izdebski and Carlo Coccozza

- 10-1 Luke Anderson-Trocmé Unraveling French Canadian ancestry: An interplay of genetics, genealogies, and geography
- 10-2 David Max Findley Harmonizing big datasets: PANTROPOCENE, Land use modelling, and the historical tropics
- 10-3 Daniel Baránek From historical sources to Wikibase
- 10-4 Etienne Wasmer A cross-verified database of locations visited by notable individuals
- 10-5 Clément Gorin A convolutional network approach to mining historical map data
- 10-6 Sonia Medina Gordo [POSTER] Script-based automation practices: some experiences for managing early medieval society through written evidence

15:00-15:30 **Coffee break**

15:30-16:45

Session 11. Modelling expansions in South America: Integrating archaeology and linguistics

Session organisers: Fabrício Ferraz Gerardi and Bruno de Souza Barreto

- 11-1 Paul Heggarty Combining archaeology, language and genetics into a single human (pre)history through time, space, and ecology
- 11-2 Rafael de Almeida Lopes Using spatial and chronological modelling to understand the Polychrome Tradition Expansion in Central Amazon
- 11-3 Bruno de Souza Barreto Demic diffusion, cultural transmission and change: assessing the spread of the Koriabo pottery style as an archaeological correlate of the Cariban-languages expansions in northern Amazonia

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11-4 [Fabrício Ferraz Gerardi](#) A phylogenetic study of the Cariban language family

11-5 [Kathrin Nägele](#) Beyond broad strokes – the future of ancient DNA in the Americas

16:45-17:00 **Closing remarks**

Saturday, November 25

10:00-12:00 Guided tour of Jena
