Data Pen
Repositories of data are out there

- 21 million people in VIAF
- 11 million places in GeoNames
- 40 million items in Wikidata
- 50 million cultural heritage artifacts in Europeana, 18 million in DPLA
- 12 million books, 1.7 million authors, 381 244 publishers and their relationships at the Bibliothèque nationale de France
- 123 782 letters between 24 639 people in Early Modern Letters Online
- Social relationships of 15 686 people in Six Degrees of Francis Bacon
- ~130 000 transactions between ~65 000 actors and 475 276 possession statements concerning 178 039 manuscripts at the Schoenberg Database of Manuscripts
Repositories of data are out there – also as data

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- 12 million books, 1.7 million authors, 381,244 publishers and their relationships at the Bibliothèque nationale de France
- 123,782 letters between 24,639 people in Early Modern Letters Online
- Social relationships of 15,686 people in Six Degrees of Francis Bacon
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Humanities scholarship is interpretive, holistic

Dan Edelstein’s research on the emergence of the concept of natural rights:

- **Search** for publications mentioning “droits naturels” or similar on ARTFL
- **Project** to authors
- **Source** correspondence networks from Electronic Enlightenment (**structured database**), Condorcet inventory (**unstructured webpage**) D’Holbach’s Coterie (**a physical book**)
- **Interpret data, add categorizations** (Physiocrat sympathiser, member of D’Holbach’s coterie, degree of association to Voltaire, …)
- **Draw** conclusions
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no support for iterative expansion of data
Data Pen

A human scale tool for critical inquiry based on linked data
A human scale tool for critical inquiry based on linked data

1. Selectively source information from linked datasets
2. Organize, explore and add to data in order to build an argument
3. Capture both the interpreted data and the reasoning behind it so it will have context within the scholarly community
4. Publish the new knowledge to the community where it can be cited, re-used and built upon by others.
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