

THREE MODELS TO SHAPE THE RELATIONSHIPS  
BETWEEN  
COMPUTER SCIENTISTS AND DOMAIN SPECIALISTS  
A CASE STUDY FROM ARCHAEOLOGY IN FRANCE, 1950S–2000S

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27 May 2021

HEPIC seminar, online

ORGANISING THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN SCIENCE

SOME GENERAL AND LONG-TERM PROBLEMS

CASE: ARCHAEOLOGY IN FRANCE FROM THE 1950S

## ORGANISING THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN SCIENCE

- An old problem: creating engineers schools at the beginning of the 19th century was an answer (to train skilled applied mathematicians);
- more recently, creating complex systems institutes,
- even more recently, building a (non)discipline, “digital humanities”.

## SOME GENERAL AND LONG-TERM PROBLEMS

## CASE: ARCHAEOLOGY IN FRANCE FROM THE 1950S

## ORGANISING THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN SCIENCE

## SOME GENERAL AND LONG-TERM PROBLEMS

- **training:** should the domain specialists be trained in methods? to which extent?
- **which division of labour** (if any) between domain specialists and specialist in methods? to which degree?
- **disciplinary aims:** how to make methodological developments and applications interesting both for the domain specialists and for the computer scientists? (in terms of scientific problems addressed, publication opportunities, etc.)
- **funding:** who should fund the costly automatic devices?
- **domination:** how to ensure that neither the domain specialists nor the method specialists will be in (symbolic or material) subaltern positions with each other?

## ORGANISING THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN SCIENCE

### SOME GENERAL AND LONG-TERM PROBLEMS

#### CASE: ARCHAEOLOGY IN FRANCE FROM THE 1950S

- organised as a discipline recently, from the 1940s (parallel to computer science);
- between the humanities and natural sciences (geology, physics, botany, etc.);
- particular ontological properties of archaeological entities, which are purely spatial or material, always determined in some extent by humans action, *but* cannot be studied in relation with human discourses and action;
- early and intense use of mathematics (from the 19th c.) and automation (from the 1950s, with pioneers), with strong interest in data representation (language).

AIMS OF THIS RESEARCH

CASE, APPROACH, AND DATA

## AIMS OF THIS RESEARCH

- Presenting relatively unknown early experiences related to computer applications in the humanities, from the case of archaeology in France from the 1950s;
- Arguing that studying these not so old experiences can help to think the current policies of science (at least, by demonstrating what has been already done and forgotten) and balance the current discourses of radical novelty.

## CASE, APPROACH, AND DATA

## AIMS OF THIS RESEARCH

## CASE, APPROACH, AND DATA

- approach: historical sociology (mixing narrative and formalised methods, including network analysis, sequence analysis);
- data: publications, archives (extraction of narrative and quantitative data), bibliometric data, interviews;
- chapter extracted from a PhD (2017)



1 THE SOCIAL SPACE OF COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN ARCHAEOLOGY (1959–2002)

- Data for the co-presence analysis of actors to conferences
- Events relations reveal three major experiences
- Actors relations demonstrate more complexity

2 CASE 1. LAPLACE'S INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF TYPOLOGY

3 CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

4 CASE 3. J. LESAGE: TEACHING ARCHAEOLOGISTS

5 THREE POLICY MODELS FOR COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN SCIENCE

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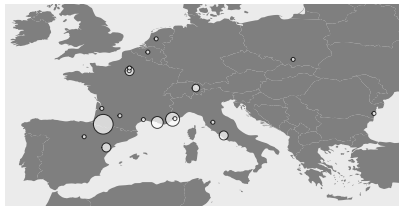
## └ THE SOCIAL SPACE OF COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN ARCHAEOLOGY (1959–2002)

## └ DATA FOR THE CO-PRESENCE ANALYSIS OF ACTORS TO CONFERENCES

Approximating the social space of computer applications in archaeology through an analysis of the co-presence of actors to conferences.

- 59 conferences, held between 1959 and 2002,
- 1057 different participants

Localisations des réunions européennes du corpus



nombre d'événements : ○ 1 ○ 5 ○ 10 ○ 20

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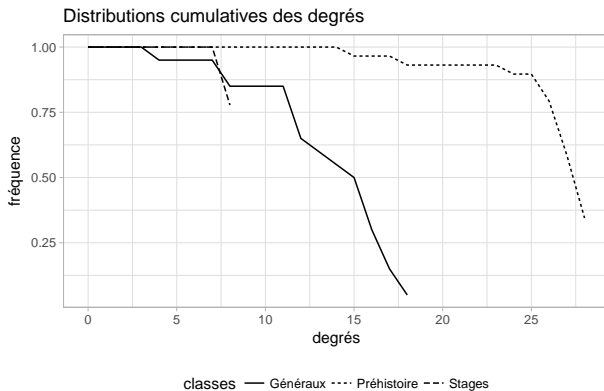


## └ THE SOCIAL SPACE OF COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN ARCHAEOLOGY (1959–2002)

## └ EVENTS RELATIONS REVEAL THREE MAJOR EXPERIENCES

## RESULTS

- 3 clusters are distinguished, but with a low partition quality (modularity: 0.32):
- the 3 clusters correspond to the events related to three major experiences about formal approaches in archaeology in France, namely:
  - 1 Jean-Claude Gardin's research projects and organisations;
  - 2 Georges Laplace's research group in prehistoric archaeology;
  - 3 activities organised within the *Centre de recherches archéologiques* (CRA).
- However, the low partition quality also reflects that these 3 experience had relationships.



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└ ACTORS RELATIONS DEMONSTRATE MORE COMPLEXITY

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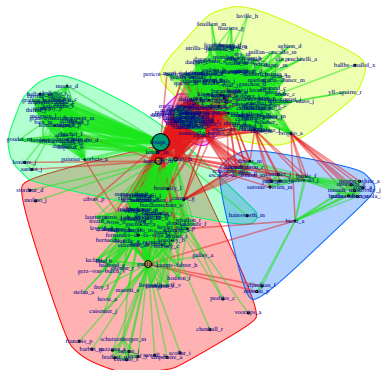
#### IN BRIEF

- Threshold: two actors are linked if they participated in at least two conferences together (to ensure they share a common interest and did not meet by chance);
- Result: clustering in 5 clusters, with a fair partition quality.

## THE SOCIAL SPACE OF COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN ARCHAEOLOGY (1959–2002)

### ACTORS RELATIONS DEMONSTRATE MORE COMPLEXITY

Relations de coprésence des acteurs.  
(lien  $\geq 2$ )



taille des sommets :  $\text{intermédialité} / \max(\text{intermédialité}) * 10$

couleurs des sommets : classes (algorithme: fast greedy, modularité : 0.52)

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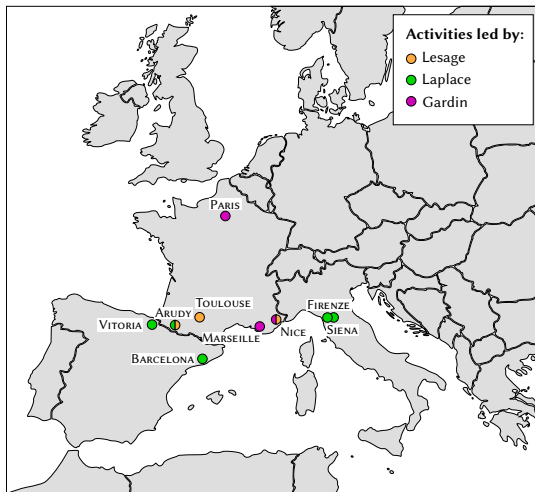
#### RESULTS: 5 CLASSES

- 1 archaeologists and mathematicians related to Gardin's activity, mostly French;
- 2 archaeologists related to Laplace's research group, French, Italian, and Spanish;
- 3 archaeologists related to the CRA, all French;
- 4 French and Italian archaeologists, most of them specialised in prehistory;
- 5 a general class of prehistoric archaeologists:
  - most of them being from Spain and related to Laplace's work ;
  - Henri Lefebvre, a French philosopher in contact with Laplace's group;
  - some French archaeologists, who had significant intellectual or administrative places.

└ THE SOCIAL SPACE OF COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN ARCHAEOLOGY (1959–2002)

└ ACTORS RELATIONS DEMONSTRATE MORE COMPLEXITY

## Main locations of the researches discussed



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1 THE SOCIAL SPACE OF COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN  
ARCHAEOLOGY (1959–2002)

2 CASE 1. LAPLACE'S INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF TYPOLOGY

- Georges Laplace's "analytical typology"
- The International research group in typology
- Data production (excavations)
- Concepts and methods production (Arudy seminar series)
- Knowledge sharing (publications)
- Study of the composition and evolution of the group

3 CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

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└ CASE 1. LAPLACE'S INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF TYPOLOGY

└ GEORGES LAPLACE'S "ANALYTICAL TYPOLOGY"



Georges LAPLACE  
(1918–2004)  
here in Gatzarria cave  
in 1952.

- 1938 school teacher;
- 1938–1947 mobilisation; commitment in the Resistance;
- 1948–1953 fieldwork in the Pyrenees;
- 1953–1955 1<sup>st</sup> fieldwork in north Africa (French colonies);
- 1955–1957 research stay in Italy;
- 1967 recruitment by the CNRS;
- 1969–1989 animation of the “International group of typology”, yearly seminars in Arudy;
- 1983 retirement;
- 1983–2004 late work on Pyrenean archaeology.



## └ CASE 1. LAPLACE'S INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF TYPOLOGY

### └ GEORGES LAPLACE'S "ANALYTICAL TYPOLOGY"

#### KEY IDEA

- Archaeological objects were usually represented using **natural language words and drawing**.
- Laplace's idea was to develop a third method: an artificial and specific "language".

## └ CASE 1. LAPLACE'S INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF TYPOLOGY

### └ GEORGES LAPLACE'S "ANALYTICAL TYPOLOGY"

THE *TYPLOGIE ANALYTIQUE* METHOD INCLUDES AND COMBINES:

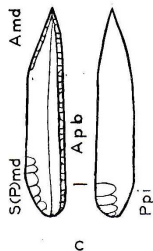
- 1 a **taxonomy**;
- 2 a set of **metric coefficients** and their graphic representations;
- 3 an articulated set of **statistical procedures**;
- 4 a coded **notation** for the description of the stones.

## CASE 1. LAPLACE'S INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF TYPOLOGY

## GEORGES LAPLACE'S "ANALYTICAL TYPOLOGY"

3 methods to represent lithic objects: natural language, drawing, code.

Pièce lamellaire, pointe à dos profond total, dextre, rectiligne, façonnée par une retouche abrupte profonde biface. Elle porte des retouches complémentaires : plate profonde inverse de la base, surimposée au dos ; abrupte marginale directe de la partie distale du bord réservé ; simple marginale directe, tendant vers plate, de la partie proximale du bord réservé.



$\overline{\text{pD}_4}$  dext rect [Apb] / = Ppi base . Amd dist — — S(P)md prox

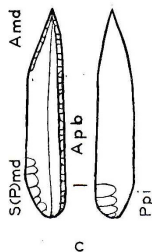
Laplace 1968. "Recherches de typologie analytique 1968".

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Laplace 1968. "Recherches de typologie analytique 1968".

## └ CASE 1. LAPLACE'S INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF TYPOLOGY

## └ GEORGES LAPLACE'S "ANALYTICAL TYPOLOGY"

A formula in *typologie analytique* must have this syntax:

*Primary type, position (tendency) [morphotechnic features] / additional retouches*

Laplace 1974. "La typologie analytique et structurale : base rationnelle d'étude des industries lithiques et osseuses", p. 134.

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## Graphic symbols

Sign	Utterance	Signified
—	overline	blade feature
—	simple dash	continue adjacency on the same edge
— —	double dash	discontinue adjacency on the same edge
=	duplicated dash	overlapping adjacency on the same edge
·	point	opposition
+ or $\cup$	plus or union	composition
( )	parentheses	tendency
[ ]	brackets	technical characteristics
/	stroke	complementarity

Summary of the “*signes analytiques*” from

Laplace 1968. “Recherches de typologie analytique 1968”, p. 57 (my translation).







└ CASE 1. LAPLACE'S INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF TYPOLOGY

└ THE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH GROUP IN TYPOLOGY

WHAT IS BEING PART OF A SCIENTIFIC GROUP?

DATA

## └ CASE 1. LAPLACE'S INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF TYPOLOGY

## └ THE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH GROUP IN TYPOLOGY

## WHAT IS BEING PART OF A SCIENTIFIC GROUP?

Considering 4 types of activities:

- **Data production:** being involved in excavations;
- **Conceptual production:** participating in typology seminars in Arudy;
- **Sharing information:** publication, in:
  - *Dialektikê. Cahiers de typologie analytique* (1972–1987),
  - *Archivio di tipologia analitica* (1973–1998).
- (Being recognized: being cited (in *Dialektikê*, *Archivio*). Not considered here.)

## DATA

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### └ THE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH GROUP IN TYPOLOGY

#### WHAT IS BEING PART OF A SCIENTIFIC GROUP?

##### DATA

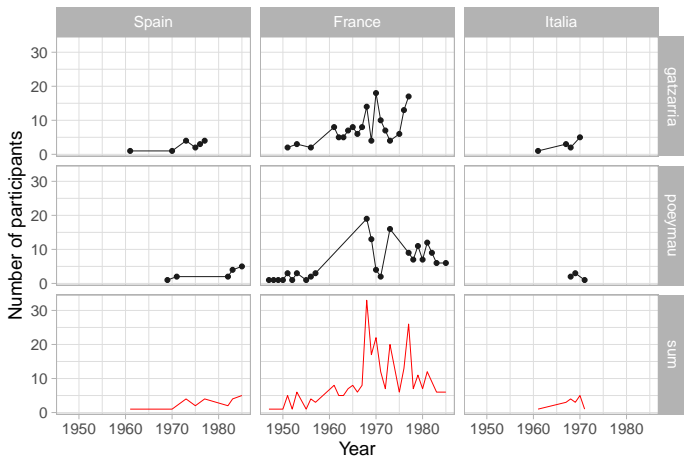
- time range: 1947 to 1989;
- 318 actors;
- 17 seminars;
- 2 excavations.





## CASE 1. LAPLACE'S INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF TYPOLOGY

## DATA PRODUCTION (EXCAVATIONS)



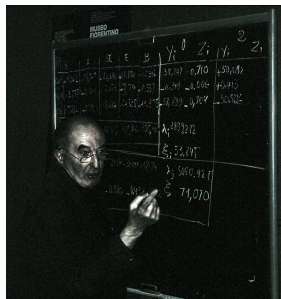
Nr of participants by nationality at the Gatzarria and Poeymaü excavations.



└ CASE 1. LAPLACE'S INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF TYPOLOGY

└ CONCEPTS AND METHODS PRODUCTION (ARUDY SEMINAR SERIES)

The international group of typology and the Arudy seminars (1969–1989)



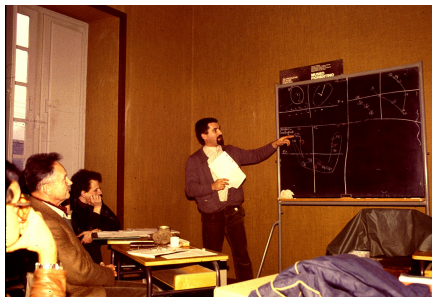
Collective self-teaching in applied mathematics



## CASE 1. LAPLACE'S INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF TYPOLOGY

## CONCEPTS AND METHODS PRODUCTION (ARUDY SEMINAR SERIES)

## The international group of typology and the Arudy seminars (1969–1989)



M. Livache presenting a correspondence analysis during the 1984 seminar.

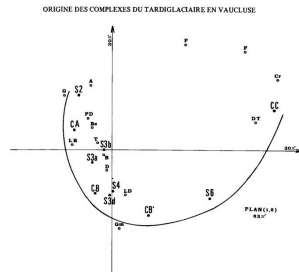


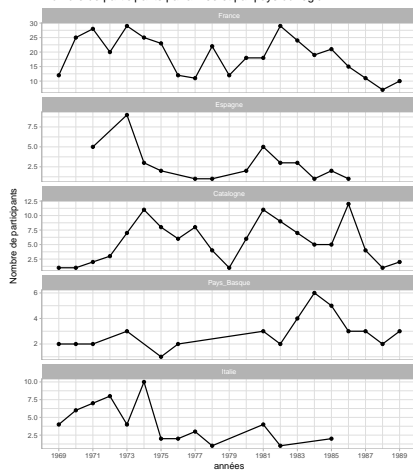
Fig. 6. – Analyse des correspondances des niveaux de Chinchon n° 1 et de Soubeyras.

Brochier and Livache 1978. “Le niveau C de l’abri no 1 de Chinchon à Saumanes de Vaucluse : analyse des correspondances et ses conséquences quant à l’origine des complexes du Tardiglaciaire en Vaucluse”, p. 367.

## └ CASE 1. LAPLACE'S INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF TYPOLOGY

### └ CONCEPTS AND METHODS PRODUCTION (ARUDY SEMINAR SERIES)

Groupe de la T.A., séminaire d'Arudy :  
 nombre de participants par année et par pays ou région



- Italians: very involved until 1974 (then, some got academic positions).
- Catalan: participation stable through time.
- Basque: increase in the 1980s.

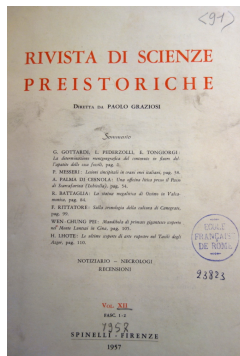
Number of participants by nationality.



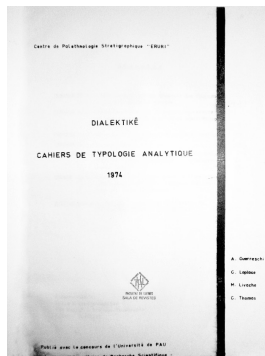
## └ CASE 1. LAPLACE'S INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF TYPOLOGY

### └ KNOWLEDGE SHARING (PUBLICATIONS)

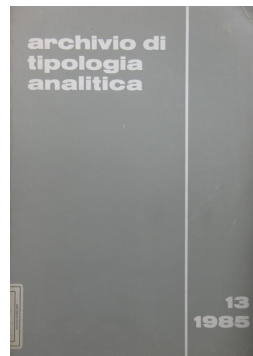
#### Main publishing vectors of the group



*Rivista di scienze  
preistoriche*  
1946–



*Dialektiké*  
13 volumes  
1972–1987 + 2006



*Archivio di tipologia  
analitica*  
21 volumes  
1973–1998

## CASE 1. LAPLACE'S INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF TYPOLOGY

## KNOWLEDGE SHARING (PUBLICATIONS)

The *Archivio di tipologia analitica* journal.

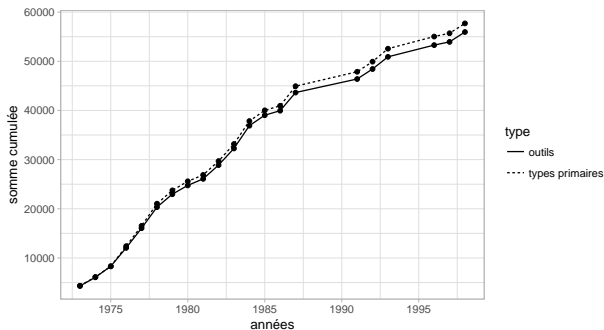
		CE 6'25-6'5		
37	G11	[Spd]	3	40 20 8 td
38	G11	[Spd]	8	33 26 11 tl
39	G11	[Spd]	5	fd (27)21 7
40	G312	[SEmd méd sen + Spd + Smd dist dex]	5	fd (19)13 7
41	G12	[Spd + Smd dex]	5	31 16 6 tp
42	G12	[Smi méd sen -- Smd dist sen + Spd]	4	fd (24)18 5
43	G12	[Smd méd sen + Amd dist sen + Spd]	6	37 16 7
44	G12	[Amd sen + Spd + Smd dex]	5	25 16 6 td
45	G12	[Smd sen + Spd + Spd dex]	4	br (41)19 5
46	G12	[Smd sen div + Spd + S(P)pd dist dex]	3	16 16 5 tf
47	G12	[S(A)pd sen + Spd + S(A)md dex] D21 ang prox dex [S(A)pd]	3	24 18 4
48	G11	dist [Spd], D25 prox [Spd]/ Smi méd sen	6-4	36 20 6
49	G311	[Spd]/SEpd sen	8	28 20 12
50	G312	[Smd sen + S(SE)pd + S(SE)pd dex]	18	27 25 18 tl
51	P321	[S(SE)pd sen conv + Spd dex conv]		fd (22)17 12
52	R11	méd dex [Smd]		39 24 5 td

Fullola Pericot 1976. "Cova del Parpalló (Gandía, Valencia, Spagna)".

## CASE 1. LAPLACE'S INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF TYPOLOGY

## KNOWLEDGE SHARING (PUBLICATIONS)

The *Archivio di tipologia analitica* journal.



Cumulative number of tools (solid line) and of “primary types” published in the journal between 1973 and 1998.

└ CASE 1. LAPLACE'S INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF TYPOLOGY

└ STUDY OF THE COMPOSITION AND EVOLUTION OF THE GROUP

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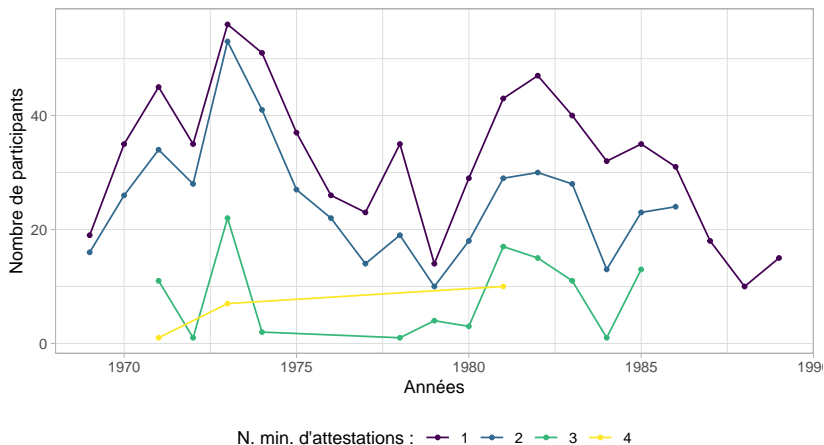
#### SIMPLE QUESTIONS

- 1 Who participated in the Typology seminars and when?
- 2 Who did what?



## CASE 1. LAPLACE'S INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF TYPOLOGY

## STUDY OF THE COMPOSITION AND EVOLUTION OF THE GROUP



Number of participants by year (as a function of the number of sources cross-validating each participation).

└ CASE 1. LAPLACE'S INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF TYPOLOGY

└ STUDY OF THE COMPOSITION AND EVOLUTION OF THE GROUP

THE DIVISION OF LABOUR

DATA AND STATES

## └ CASE 1. LAPLACE'S INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF TYPOLOGY

### └ STUDY OF THE COMPOSITION AND EVOLUTION OF THE GROUP

#### THE DIVISION OF LABOUR

Four actions:

- 1 generating data
- 2 producing concepts and methods
- 3 applying methods
- 4 transmission of knowledge

#### DATA AND STATES

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### └ STUDY OF THE COMPOSITION AND EVOLUTION OF THE GROUP

#### THE DIVISION OF LABOUR

#### DATA AND STATES

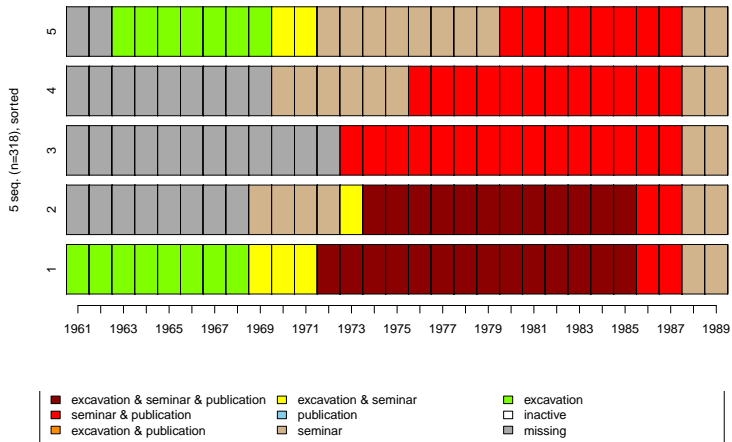
Individual sequences for 318 actors and 8 states:

- 1 inactive,
- 2 excavations (at the Gatzarria & Poeymaü sites),
- 3 participation in the Arudy seminars,
- 4 publication in *Dialektikê* or *Archivio*,
- 5 excavation & seminar,
- 6 excavation & publication,
- 7 seminar & publication,
- 8 excavation & seminar & publication.

## CASE 1. LAPLACE'S INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF TYPOLOGY

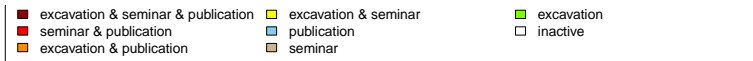
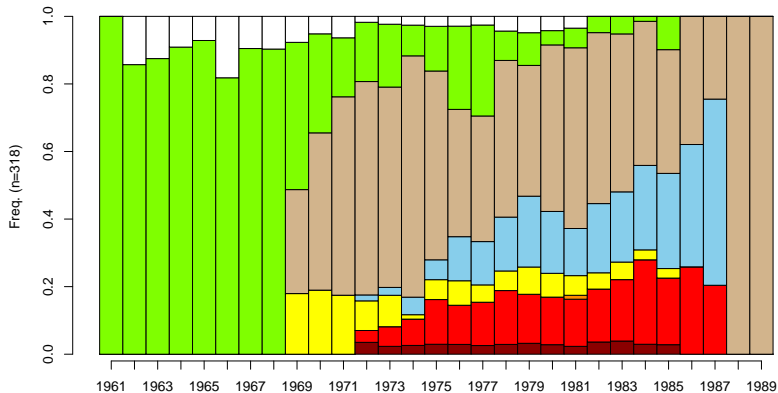
## STUDY OF THE COMPOSITION AND EVOLUTION OF THE GROUP

Example of four individuals sequences:



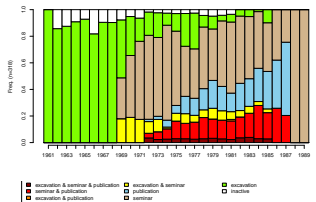
## └ CASE 1. LAPLACE'S INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF TYPOLOGY

### └ STUDY OF THE COMPOSITION AND EVOLUTION OF THE GROUP



## └ CASE 1. LAPLACE'S INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF TYPOLOGY

### └ STUDY OF THE COMPOSITION AND EVOLUTION OF THE GROUP



- a division of labour is detected: excavation / publication / participation in the seminar.
- the rate of excavation & seminar & publication (=core of the research group) is stable;
- the rate of people participating the seminar & publishing increases over the study period;
- the rate of people participating only in the excavation decreases over the study period;

└ CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

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  - Jean-Claude Gardin
  - The beginnings of information retrieval
  - Documentation languages and archaeology
  - A lineage of organisations
  - Publication and sharing of scientific data
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└ CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

└ JEAN-CLAUDE GARDIN

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- 5 THREE POLICY MODELS FOR COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN SCIENCE



└ CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

└ THE BEGINNINGS OF INFORMATION RETRIEVAL

- 1 THE SOCIAL SPACE OF COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN ARCHAEOLOGY (1959–2002)
- 2 CASE 1. LAPLACE'S INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF TYPOLOGY
- 3 CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE
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## └ CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

### └ THE BEGINNINGS OF INFORMATION RETRIEVAL

#### GARDIN PARTICIPATED IN THE EARLY KEY CONFERENCES

- *International Conference on Scientific Information*
- organised by the National Academy of Sciences, National Research Council
- 16–21 November 1958, Washington
- Gardin 1959. “On the Coding of Geometrical Shapes and Other Representations, with Reference to Archaeological Documents”.

## └ CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

### └ THE BEGINNINGS OF INFORMATION RETRIEVAL

#### GARDIN PARTICIPATED IN THE EARLY KEY CONFERENCES

- *International Conference on Information Processing*
- organised by the UNESCO
- 15–20 June 1959, Paris
- *Symposium on the Use of Automatic Computation Techniques in the Social Sciences*: Gardin and Braffort 1960. “Mise en évidence et exploitation mathématique des structures dans les phénomènes humains. Étude topologique des formes de vases”.

## └ CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

### └ THE BEGINNINGS OF INFORMATION RETRIEVAL

#### GARDIN PARTICIPATED IN THE EARLY KEY CONFERENCES

- *Preparatory training in automatic documentation techniques*
- organised by André Leroy (ex-CEA) from the CETIS
- 15–22 February 1960, Bruxelles
- Leroy 1960. *Enseignement préparatoire aux techniques de la documentation automatique.*

## CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

## THE BEGINNINGS OF INFORMATION RETRIEVAL

## PREPARATORY TRAINING... (1960) PROGRAM (1)

- Introduction:
  - A. LEROY, Présentation des cours
  - E. PIETSCH, Les problèmes de la documentation
  - E. de GROLIER, Historique des Systèmes documentaires
  - P. BRAFFORT, Historique des machines à calculer
- Mathematics day:
  - P. BRAFFORT, Introduction à la journée de mathématiques
  - M. SCHÜTZENBERGER, Théorie de l'information
  - A. GAZZANO, Éléments de recherche opérationnelle
  - J. LARISSE, Travaux pratiques de linguistique statistique
- Linguistics day:
  - A. LEROY, introduction à la journée de linguistique
  - S. CECCATO, I problemi filosofici del linguaggio
  - P. BRAFFORT, Éléments de linguistique mathématique
  - V. BELEVITCH, On the statistical laws of linguistic distributions
  - Y. LECERF, Travaux pratiques linguistique

## PREPARATORY TRAINING... (1960) PROGRAM (2)

- Documentation systems day:
  - A. LEROY, Élaboration d'un système documentaire
  - J.C. GARDIN, Analyse et sélection documentaire dans les sciences humaines
  - Discussion sur les systèmes documentaires
- Analyse day:
  - M. DETANT, Y. LECERF, A. LEROY, Travaux pratiques sur l'établissement des diagrammes
  - Y. LECERF, Analyse automatique (Programme d'une expérience par E. Morlet)
- Automatisation day:
  - Th. W. TE NUYL, The "L'Unité" documentation system
  - J. POYEN, Quelques problèmes posés par le traitement de l'information non numérique
  - J. IUNG, Points communs entre les problèmes posés par la traduction automatique et la documentation automatique
  - A. LEROY, la documentation complètement automatique
  - P. BRAFFORT, Conclusion générale



## └ CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

## └ THE BEGINNINGS OF INFORMATION RETRIEVAL

## THE "LEIBNIZ" SEMINARS (CETIS/IBM)

- *Non Numerical data-processing Symposium*
- 24-27 April 1961, Blaricum (Netherlands), *IBM World Trade European Education Center*
- participants: Luitzen Egbertus Jan Brouwer, David Hirschberg, Silvio Ceccato, Paul Braffort, Claude Berge, Yves Lecerf, Jean-Claude Gardin...

- *On the Relationship between Non-numerical Programming and the Theory of Formal System*
- October 1961, Blaricum, *IBM World Trade European Education Center*
- Braffort and Hirschberg 1963. *Computer Programming and Formal Systems.*

└ CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

└ THE BEGINNINGS OF INFORMATION RETRIEVAL

THE "LEIBNIZ" SEMINARS (CETIS/IBM)



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## THE "LEIBNIZ" SEMINARS (CETIS/IBM)

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- October 1961, Blaricum, *IBM World Trade European Education Center*
- Braffort and Hirschberg 1963. *Computer Programming and Formal Systems.*

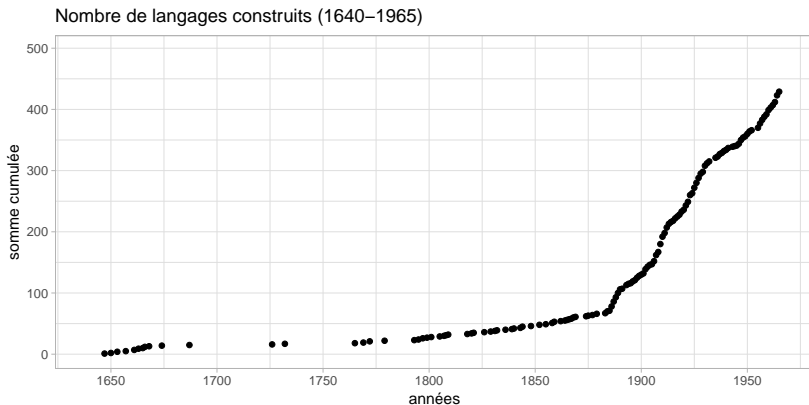
└ CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

└ DOCUMENTATION LANGUAGES AND ARCHAEOLOGY

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After WWII, growth of civil applications of technologies developed during the war, including (automated) computing.

TECHNOLOGY	APPLICATIONS	
	MILITARY	CIVIL
Nuclear	bombs	energy production dating <sup>14</sup> C
Automated computing	ballistics, etc.	numerical computing automatic translation information retrieval



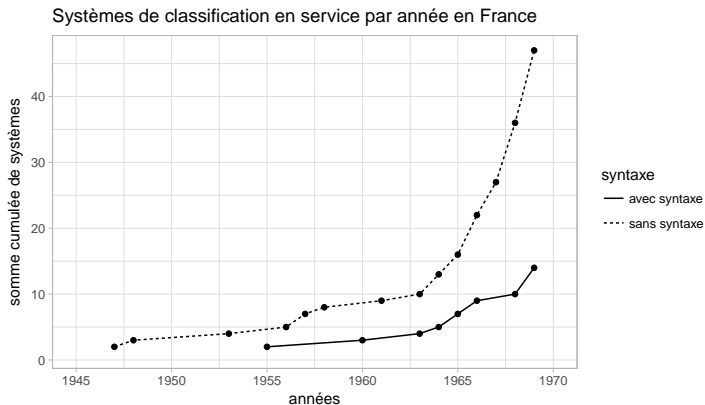
Cumulative annual sum of published constructed languages.

Data source: list of 500 languages from [Okrent 2009](#). *In the Land of Invented Languages. Esperanto Rock Stars, Klingon Poets, Loglan Lovers, and the Mad Dreamers who Tried to Build a Perfect Language.*

## A DEFINITION OF “DOCUMENTATION LANGUAGE”

*A documentary language is a tool for mediated communication, used for communication between humans and the authors of documents. In other words, a documentary language is a language that humans use when they want to access documents stored with other documents, in a given place, which can be variously defined. A documentary language is usually written and can be expressed as a diagram. It is not necessarily a [natural] language.*

Coyaud 1966. *Introduction à l'étude des langages documentaires.*, p. 17. My translation.



Cumulative annual sum of classification systems used in France (1945–70).

Hoppé and Lévy 1970. “Liste de quelques instruments de classification en France”.



#### KEY IDEA

- Early relations between archaeology and documentation systems.
- Jean-Claude Gardin and the SYNTOL (Syntagmatic Organization Language).

## Gardin's activities in the field of (automated) documentation.

- Gardin 1955. "Problems of Documentation".
- Gardin 1956. *Le fichier mécanographique de l'outillage. Outils en métal de l'âge du bronze, des Balkans à l'Indus.*
- Gardin 1958. "Four Codes for the Description of Artifacts: An Essay in Archeological Technique and Theory".
- Gardin 1959. "On the Coding of Geometrical Shapes and Other Representations, with Reference to Archaeological Documents", International Conference on Scientific Information, Washington (D.C.), nov. 1958.

└ CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

└ A LINEAGE OF ORGANISATIONS

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## └ CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

### └ A LINEAGE OF ORGANISATIONS

Gardin created and/or led many scientific organisations, related to:

AUTOMATIC APPLICATIONS IN THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

COMPUTER SCIENCE

AUTOMATIC APPLICATIONS IN ARCHAEOLOGY

ARCHAEOLOGY IN CENTRAL ASIA

## └ CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

### └ A LINEAGE OF ORGANISATIONS

Gardin created and/or led many scientific organisations, related to:

#### AUTOMATIC APPLICATIONS IN THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

- CADA: *Centre d'analyse documentaire pour l'archéologie*
- CCMSH: *Centre de calcul de la maison des sciences de l'homme*
- GEDSH: *Groupe d'études documentaires pour les sciences humaines*

#### COMPUTER SCIENCE

#### AUTOMATIC APPLICATIONS IN ARCHAEOLOGY

#### ARCHAEOLOGY IN CENTRAL ASIA

## └ CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

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#### AUTOMATIC APPLICATIONS IN THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

#### COMPUTER SCIENCE

- SAD: *Service d'automatique documentaire*  
(within the *Institut Blaise Pascal*, then the leading centre for computer science in France)

#### AUTOMATIC APPLICATIONS IN ARCHAEOLOGY

#### ARCHAEOLOGY IN CENTRAL ASIA

## └ CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

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AUTOMATIC APPLICATIONS IN THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

COMPUTER SCIENCE

AUTOMATIC APPLICATIONS IN ARCHAEOLOGY

- CMDA: Centre mécanographique de documentation archéologique
- RIDA: Réseau d'information et de documentation archéologiques

ARCHAEOLOGY IN CENTRAL ASIA

## └ CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

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COMPUTER SCIENCE

AUTOMATIC APPLICATIONS IN ARCHAEOLOGY

ARCHAEOLOGY IN CENTRAL ASIA

- CRA: *Centre de recherches archéologiques*
- Research group “Irrigation and settlement in Central Asia”
- Research group “Settlement of the Ancient Bactria”



└ CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

└ PUBLICATION AND SHARING OF SCIENTIFIC DATA

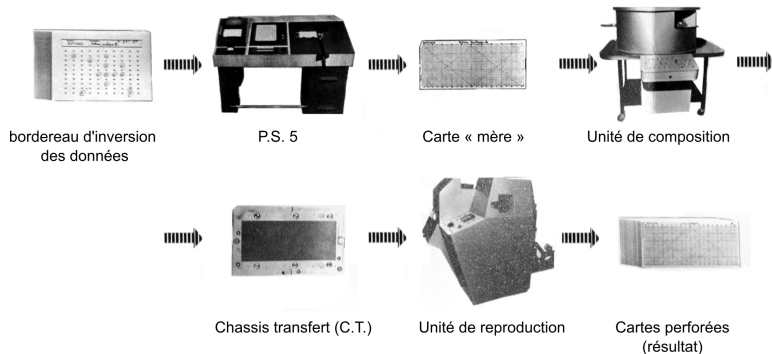
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└ CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

└ PUBLICATION AND SHARING OF SCIENTIFIC DATA

Production chain of a punched-cards data bank at the CADA:



(It includes a cards reproducer prototype.)

Formal codes to represent various types of material were created at the CADA:

MATERIAL OBJECTS

ICONOGRAPHY

TEXTS

## └ CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

## └ PUBLICATION AND SHARING OF SCIENTIFIC DATA

Formal codes to represent various types of material were created at the CADA:

## MATERIAL OBJECTS

- 1956 *Code pour l'analyse morphologique des Armes et Outils en métal* (1962).
- 1956 *Code pour l'analyse des formes de Poteries* (1976, 1985).
- 1969 *Code pour l'analyse des Monuments religieux* (1975, 1981).

## ICONOGRAPHY

## TEXTS

## └ CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

## └ PUBLICATION AND SHARING OF SCIENTIFIC DATA

Formal codes to represent various types of material were created at the CADA:

## MATERIAL OBJECTS

## ICONOGRAPHY

- 1956 *Code pour l'analyse des Cylindres orientaux* (1975).
- 1960 *Code pour l'analyse des Documents graphiques*.
- 1961 *Code pour l'analyse des Films ethnographiques* (1975).
- 1956 *Code pour l'analyse des Ornaments* (1978).
- 1965 *Code pour l'analyse des représentations figurées sur les vases grecs* (1980).
- 1967 *Code pour l'analyse des Mosaïques romaines*.

## TEXTS

## └ CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

### └ PUBLICATION AND SHARING OF SCIENTIFIC DATA

Formal codes to represent various types of material were created at the CADA:

#### MATERIAL OBJECTS

#### ICONOGRAPHY

#### TEXTS

- 1958 *Code pour l'analyse des Textes orientaux* (1978).
- 1959 *Code pour l'analyse de la bibliographie de la Préhistoire.*
- 1963 *Analyse conceptuelle du Coran sur cartes perforées.*
- 1969 *Code pour l'analyse de la bibliographie en Archéologie et Histoire romaines.*

└ CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

└ PUBLICATION AND SHARING OF SCIENTIFIC DATA

Example 2: the CRA's documentation network  
(*Centre de Recherches Archéologiques*, Valbonne, South of France)



Advertisement about the  
“Sophia-Antipolis” technopole  
in the South of France

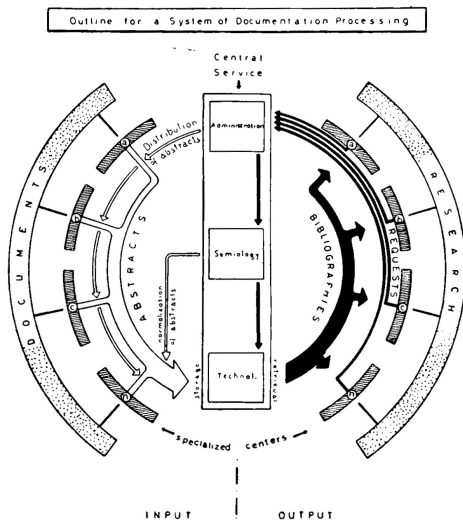


The CRA facilities, inaugurated  
in 1976 (here in 1984).



## CASE 2. J.-C. GARDIN'S ORGANISATIONS LINEAGE

## PUBLICATION AND SHARING OF SCIENTIFIC DATA

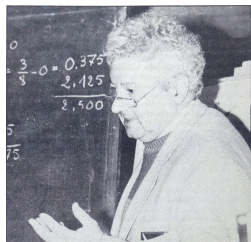


“Outline for a System Documentation Processing” : federative and non-centralised management of the scientific documentation. The central element includes an administrative service, a semiology service in charge to develop methods, and a technical service with programmers. Gardin 1962. “Proposals for the Coordination of Documentary Work in the Social Sciences”, p. 29.

└ CASE 3. J. LESAGE: TEACHING ARCHAEOLOGISTS

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## CASE 3. J. LESAGE: TEACHING ARCHAEOLOGISTS



Jean LESAGE  
(1923–2004)

- 1923 Birth in Italy;
- 1935–1945 Resistance during WWII;
- 1957–1960 archaeological fieldwork in North Africa;
- 1964–1978 fieldwork South America
- 1973–1989 participation in Laplace's seminars;
  - 1977 head of the computing service of the CRA, under Gardin's direction;
  - 1978 head of the continuing education service of the CRA; organisation of many workshops on computer and mathematical applications in archaeology;
- 2004 death in France.

## └ CASE 3. J. LESAGE: TEACHING ARCHAEOLOGISTS

## LESAGE'S ACTION IN BRIEF

- Opposition to Gardin's large organisation and research program.
- Promote the education of archaeologists in mathematics and computer science rather than relying on proper computer scientists.
- Focus on teaching: organisation of numerous workshops and trainings, develop a personal reflection on pedagogy.
- Promote the use of personal computers rather than of mainframe computers available in large computing services.
- Create a library of programs and promote the sharing of codes.

└ THREE POLICY MODELS FOR COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN SCIENCE

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- 5 **THREE POLICY MODELS FOR COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN SCIENCE**
  - Properties of the three models
  - Is there a better model? Three reasons to fail

## └ THREE POLICY MODELS FOR COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN SCIENCE

### └ PROPERTIES OF THE THREE MODELS

- 1 THE SOCIAL SPACE OF COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN ARCHAEOLOGY (1959–2002)
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## └ THREE POLICY MODELS FOR COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN SCIENCE

### └ PROPERTIES OF THE THREE MODELS

#### WHO DO THE COMPUTATION?

- **distribution:** domain specialists ask external actor (formal approaches specialists) to perform the computations.
- **association:** computations are performed by domain specialists and formal approaches specialists, the last being integrated within the disciplinary structures.
- **specialisation:** (part of the) the domain specialists are trained enough in formal approaches to perform the computation by themselves.

## └ THREE POLICY MODELS FOR COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN SCIENCE

### └ PROPERTIES OF THE THREE MODELS

DISCIPLINARY DIMENSION

KNOWLEDGE DIMENSION

SOCIAL DIMENSION

MATERIAL DIMENSION



## └ THREE POLICY MODELS FOR COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN SCIENCE

### └ PROPERTIES OF THE THREE MODELS

#### DISCIPLINARY DIMENSION

- Disciplinary framing:
  - Gardin: weak
  - CRA: strong
  - TA: medium
- Disciplinary level of action:
  - Gardin: transdisciplinary (humanities)
  - CRA: disciplinary (archaeology)
  - TA: subdisciplinary (prehistory)

#### KNOWLEDGE DIMENSION

#### SOCIAL DIMENSION

#### MATERIAL DIMENSION

## └ THREE POLICY MODELS FOR COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN SCIENCE

### └ PROPERTIES OF THE THREE MODELS

#### DISCIPLINARY DIMENSION

#### KNOWLEDGE DIMENSION

- Relation between specialists:
  - Gardin: distribution
  - CRA: association
  - TA: specialisation
- Learning of formal skills by archaeologists:
  - Gardin: (by teaching)
  - CRA: teaching
  - TA: self-teaching

#### SOCIAL DIMENSION

#### MATERIAL DIMENSION

## └ THREE POLICY MODELS FOR COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN SCIENCE

### └ PROPERTIES OF THE THREE MODELS

#### DISCIPLINARY DIMENSION

#### KNOWLEDGE DIMENSION

- Formal skills:
  - Gardin: data bases, statistics
  - CRA: statistics
  - TA: statistics
- Teaching activity:
  - Gardin: few (occasional courses)
  - CRA: strong (trainings)
  - TA: medium (seminars)

#### SOCIAL DIMENSION

#### MATERIAL DIMENSION

## └ THREE POLICY MODELS FOR COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN SCIENCE

### └ PROPERTIES OF THE THREE MODELS

#### DISCIPLINARY DIMENSION

#### KNOWLEDGE DIMENSION

#### SOCIAL DIMENSION

- Dependency to older scientific organisations:
  - Gardin: strong (positive)
  - CRA: strong (negative)
  - TA: weak
- Institution form:
  - Gardin: national research centres
  - CRA: research supporting services
  - TA: none (informal)

#### MATERIAL DIMENSION

## └ THREE POLICY MODELS FOR COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN SCIENCE

### └ PROPERTIES OF THE THREE MODELS

#### DISCIPLINARY DIMENSION

#### KNOWLEDGE DIMENSION

#### SOCIAL DIMENSION

- Social relations:
  - Gardin: professional, long-term
  - CRA: professional, short-term
  - TA: affinity, long-term
- Spatial organisation:
  - Gardin: multi-sites, network
  - CRA: decentralised, high mobility
  - TA: centralised (Arudy, Vitoria, Siena, Firenze)

#### MATERIAL DIMENSION

## └ THREE POLICY MODELS FOR COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN SCIENCE

### └ PROPERTIES OF THE THREE MODELS

#### DISCIPLINARY DIMENSION

#### KNOWLEDGE DIMENSION

#### SOCIAL DIMENSION

#### MATERIAL DIMENSION

- Computing resources (external):
  - Gardin: computing centres (CIRCE, EURATOM, etc.)
  - CRA: no
  - TA: no
- Computing resources (internal):
  - Gardin: punched-card systems (prototypes)
  - CRA: hand-calculators, PC
  - TA: hand-calculators

## └ THREE POLICY MODELS FOR COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN SCIENCE

### └ PROPERTIES OF THE THREE MODELS

#### DISCIPLINARY DIMENSION

#### KNOWLEDGE DIMENSION

#### SOCIAL DIMENSION

#### MATERIAL DIMENSION

- Publishing formats:
  - Gardin: books, articles, datasets
  - CRA: software library, course material, journal
  - TA: articles, journal, datasets

└ THREE POLICY MODELS FOR COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN SCIENCE

└ IS THERE A BETTER MODEL? THREE REASONS TO FAIL

- 1 THE SOCIAL SPACE OF COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN ARCHAEOLOGY (1959–2002)
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└ THREE POLICY MODELS FOR COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN SCIENCE

└ IS THERE A BETTER MODEL? THREE REASONS TO FAIL

FAILURE OF THE THREE MODELS

WHAT HAPPENED THEN?

## └ THREE POLICY MODELS FOR COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN SCIENCE

### └ IS THERE A BETTER MODEL? THREE REASONS TO FAIL

#### FAILURE OF THE THREE MODELS

- **Specialisation** (Laplace): the risk was that the specialised group was so specialised that he became apart of the rest of the disciplinary community;
- **Association** (Lesage, CRA): the risk was to dissolve the discipline's core practices (developing methods and programs for archaeologists still practising archaeology or computer science?)
- **Distribution** (Gardin): distribution secure the discipline's core practice; however the risk was that the disciplinary norms to be redefined by computer scientists and mathematicians.

#### WHAT HAPPENED THEN?

## └ THREE POLICY MODELS FOR COMPUTER APPLICATIONS IN SCIENCE

### └ IS THERE A BETTER MODEL? THREE REASONS TO FAIL

#### FAILURE OF THE THREE MODELS

#### WHAT HAPPENED THEN?

- no development of a computer based-speciality in archaeology (in general, and in France in particular);
- growth of archaeometry (rather than “archaeo-computing”)
- at the international scale: ongoing development of a “computational archaeology”, whose epistemological status has still to be analysed, and archaeologists play their role in the growth of digital humanities.
- however, processes and issues similar to those studied here can be observed,
- in archaeology, and more generally, also in other disciplines (e.g. those impacted by the growth of “complexity science”, “network science”, “AI”).

Thank you for your attention

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