Creating a Hive of Activity: Why we need to adopt APIs for Digitised Content
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• [http://www.slideshare.net/xcia0069](http://www.slideshare.net/xcia0069)
commercial content services such as Flickr, Google Books or Twitter use APIs to allow multiple services to access, manipulate and display their content
The standard Flickr interface – http://www.flickr.com
Commercial exploitation of Flickr images - http://www.imagekind.com/
Backing up your Flickr images - http://clipyourphotos.com/bulkr
On different devices - Flick Stackr  
http://ipont.ca/ip/stackr/
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Editing your Flickr images - http://www.picnik.com/
Different forms of resource discovery - http://www.oskope.com/
New visualisation - http://taggalaxy.de/
but cultural and educational resources tend to lock data and interface together
the trouble with current resources is that they demand certain ways of analysing and representing the resource – and they constitute the creators’ way of seeing the world, not the users’
an API driven world would allow much greater flexibility over analysing a digitised dataset, i.e. different intellectual questions to be asked
and also different ways of visualising that digital content

Thanks David McCandless! [http://www.informationisbeautiful.net/visualizations/]
and also of different ways of tailoring content for different audiences – different interfaces for schools, undergraduates, publics, researchers – all over the same content
more importantly, it can help break down the notion of a collection, and the related silos
transcribing

newton

at

university of sussex
separate project - imaging newton at university of cambridge
using APIs to bring dispersed content on isaac newton together
The first matter attunes, mixt w' th v.

Of Motion.

...joyning as meeting of ye two parts & so being likeable still to divisibility w'th contradicts ye notion of an indivisible part. But to explain how these leasts have no parts.

An Artist will play a lesson not mending a stroke & sing neither minding nor missing a note a man may walk w/out thinking of it. &c.

In a welle divided into 24 parts by ye 24 letters. A cannot move before b nor b before c &c to z. y z will not move untill a hath nor a till z ye reason is because a can have no place but b's nor y's till b (which) hath left it. If they move all together y in y's instant y b (which) leaves its place it is not or not. If it y z a can't move into t in ye same instant it leaves it if not in't ye had left it before. A less & greater y in a welle move equally swift (lig) y y y and is a right line drawne from ye coenter to ye circumference would be in fluxed c. i. c. if some parts move faster ye others) ye greater circle passeth over more space.

A little welle on ye same axis w'th 2 large ones will pass over equall space w'th equall revolutions. Grantill When a snale creepes a gale of spirits circuit from her head downe her back to her talle & up her belly to her head again. Chartes defines motion 2:5 pte Pr. Ph. to be The Translatioction of one part of matter or one body from ye vicinity of those bodys w'th medially touch it (lig) & seem to rest, to ye vicinity of others.

The motion of ye stomach in vomiting (though wholly against our will & therefore not rly mechanical) by ye touch of a whale bone onely doth much more illustrate ye actions of brutes to bee mechanical & independant of (lig) soules, then Chartes his instance of winking at ye shaking of a friends hand by ye eye.

How much longer will a pendulum move in ye Receiver then in ye free aire. Hence may bee conjectured w'th bodys there bee in the receiver to hinder ye motion of the pendulum.
facilitating resource discovery and linkage
facilitating resource discovery and linkage
The Proceedings of the Old Bailey, 1674-1913

A fully searchable edition of the largest body of texts detailing the lives of non-elite people ever published, containing 197,745 criminal trials held at London’s central criminal court. If you are new to this site, you may find the Getting Started and Guide to Searching videos and tutorials helpful.

To search the Proceedings use the boxes on the right or go to the Search Pages.

New Features: Research and Study Guides and Personal Workspaces

The improvements implemented in our HSC-funded latest update include:
exploiting the 197,745 trials transcribed in the Old Bailey resource is not just restricted to keyword searching
Allows download of the relevant texts, for use in other tools

Allows further analysis via the online tool, Voyeur
Mr. Shaw. I have known the Prisoner about twenty Years, I took him for an honest Man: he was the Son of as worthy a Man, as any in the Kingdom of Ireland. He had 200l. with his Wife, out of a Quaker's Family, and he himself rented an Estate of 150 l. a Year. I was concerned with him, to carry a Ship laden with Laths and Pannels from Rotterdam to Dublin, and he gave up his Commission, because he saw there would be Loss upon the Voyage. He came here on Account of Losses in Ireland. These brought him to England, and while he was here, I imagined he subsisted on his paternal Estate, as to his Warehouse, I did not know he had one 'till now. That was a Secret to me.

William Trotter. I don't know much of Mr. Thomas. I never saw him 'till about 4 or 5 Years ago I have heard he dealt in Brandy and Rum, and he serv'd a Publick House which I used with those Liquors, about 3 or 4 Years ago. I heard he had a Warehouse, but I did not know where it was, nor how he has subsisted this last twelve Months.

Nicholas Hague. I have known him between 4 or 5 Years. He bore (I thought) the Character of a very honest Man. I never had any Dealings with him, nor do I know how he lived these 2 or 3 Years. I thought he had used the Change; and had traded and bought Bargains. I heard he had a Warehouse somewhere, but I never saw him buy or sell any thing in my Life.

Chase Wormlayton. spoke to the same Effect.

Hannah Burges. I have known him 2 Years, and bought Liquors and Jars of Snuff of him. I have help'd him to Customers, some of them (indeed) have been but very indifferent ones. In his Warehouse (he's a dark Place) there formerly stood a dark dirty Board a Yard long, prop'd up with a Stick where Drawers and Funnels used to stand. I live over-against him. He has taken Pounds of me.
what does this mean?
researchers can question and analyse the resource and open up new historical narratives
eh?
(briefly!) using the API researchers could test and revise the historical narrative of the evolution of court room practice at the Old Bailey, from an early modern form of trial in which juries and negotiation dominated, to a more familiar modern system characterised by professional control by lawyers and the police; the declining role of juries, the rise of plea bargaining, and growing rates of conviction.
Locating London’s Past will allow searching over disparate, multiple archives and then visualise it on map of London.

- **Details of inhabitants, and related church records**
- **Reports of trials, criminals, crimes**
- **Deaths and Illness**
- **Tax records**
- **Archaeological Records**
to conclude – some short-term wins of adopting APIs

- bring dispersed content together
- facilitate resource discovery and linkage
- researchers can question and analyse the resources in new ways
- allows searching and mash-ups over disparate, multiple archives
to conclude – some short-term wins of adopting APIs

- Content and enthusiasm is out there, although disparate – see The New History Lab article
- Visualisation can produce eye-catching success
- Short bursts of funding can make things happen
- Scholarly labs around Europe
- Enthusiasm of cultural heritage sector
- Opportunities for enriching metadata via crowdsourcing
- Exploiting and mashing up digital content for a variety expands the use cases
- Can create a hive of activity
long-term challenges

- getting people to build and document and sustain APIs; explaining to collection curators how and why to do it
- (some) publishers suspicious
- getting people to build interfaces on top of APIs; technical knowledge required to do so
- quality of metadata; who owns enriched metadata?
- business models unclear; related licensing
- interoperability between APIs?
- citation
- scepticism + misunderstanding

{the web changes}
Sources:

Bee Hive - http://www.flickr.com/photos/csuspect/5147019249
David McCandless! http://www.informationisbeautiful.net/visualizations/