

# **The Integration of Technology, Content and Use in Digital Humanities:**

## *A New Digital Model for Exploring Our Amazing World, History, and Culture\**

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With the exciting convergence of content, technology, and global collaboration in this digital era, there are unprecedented potentials as well as challenges for developing digital applications of all kinds. In more than two decades, having privileged to work mostly in the digital humanities area using various available technologies – from analog to digital to web-based and more..., I shall present a new model for broad-based global outreach, utilizing an integrated multimedia and multilingual system to create an ever expanding knowledge base that will take use and dissemination efforts to new heights of communication, enabling a wide international audience of all type – scholars and general public -- simultaneous exposure to interactive presentations globally.

In this paper, the author will make general remarks on digital humanities and some new exciting developments in this area, and then share her cutting-edge technology application in presenting the 911 World Heritage Sites of 151 countries inscribed by the UNESCO World Heritage Center (WHC). With the simple click of the mouse, one is able to visualize the global situation related to world heritage site, to explore and experience this fascinating world by a quick viewing of the introductory videos, to find the site(s) from associated geographical information (map) or timeline, to instantly access multimedia and multilingual information on any selected site from a chosen country or region, or to choose desirable image(s) from all available photographic resources of the whole world for comparative and evaluative studies, thus gaining instant knowledge. Printed and web-based resources, such as all the published books, journals of general and scholarly nature, documents, etc., are also instantly obtainable.

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\* The *World Heritage Memory Net* is a mega-project in partnership with the UNESCO's World Heritage Center since 2007. It has been the topic of numerous keynote and invited speeches given by the Author in various parts of the world, in a world-wide lecture series called, "*World Cultural Heritage is One Click Away*." Each upcoming talk or publication, while updating the development in progress of the project, also covers much of the basic background information from these talks given by the author in the last year alone. There is no exception to this article. However, one will find that there are substantial new contents in this article, which adds to those of a few most recent ones as listed in References [1]-[5].

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Traditional methods in retrieving desired information using database fields like title, location, keyword, etc. are mostly not used immediately since users generally do not know this information when beginning. Thus numerous featured retrieval methods including geographical, country, temporal, as well as content-based image retrieval (CBIR) are introduced for easy access. Visualization development is in progress, which will bring World Heritage treasures hidden in the web-like structures to the surface for the users [1].

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# 數位人文中科技、資訊與使用之整合：一種用來探索這個令人讚嘆的世界、歷史與文化之數位新模式\*

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在數位時代中，隨著資訊、科技與跨國合作的匯流，各種數位型式的應用亦產生了前所未有的潛力與挑戰。筆者有幸在數位人文領域裡工作超過 20 年，使用過從類比到數位化、及網路等多項科技，在此提出一個涵蓋更廣的全球發展新模式，藉由整合多媒體與多語化系統打造一個不斷擴充的知識庫，將知識運用與推廣帶向傳播新境界，拓展國際上各種類型的使用族群，不論是學者或是一般大眾，不管在世界的哪個角落，都能同時使用這項互動式的呈現。

在本文中，筆者將針對數位人文與此領域中一些新穎和令人振奮的發展，做摘要性的概述，接著分享一些尖端科技如何應用在展示 151 個國家中被聯合國教科文組織世界遺產中心（WHC）列為世界遺產的 911 個位址。只要簡單地點一下滑鼠，任何人都能夠觀看與這些世界遺產位址相關的全球情境。使用者可以透過觀賞介紹性影片，去探索並體驗這個令人驚豔的世界；也可以由相關的地理資訊（地圖）或時間軸，去找尋位址；也可以任選國家或區域，選定一個遺產位址，快速地獲得多媒體和多語言資訊；或者從各個可得的整個世界的照片資源，選擇想看的圖片，進行比較和評估研究，快速地獲得知識。各種出版品和網路資源，像是出版的書籍、一般和學術性質的期刊、以及文件等等，也都能夠快速地被取得。傳統使用資料庫進行資訊檢索所需的欄位，像是標題、位置、關鍵字等，因為使用者在開始時通常不知道這些資訊，所以大多無法立即而熟悉地運用。本文作者提供許多檢索的方法，可以從地理、國家、時間、以及以內容為主的圖像檢索（CBIR）等面向去獲取資訊。隨著視覺化工具不斷地開發，隱藏在錯綜複雜網狀結構下的世界遺產瑰寶，也逐漸浮現在使用者面前[1]。

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