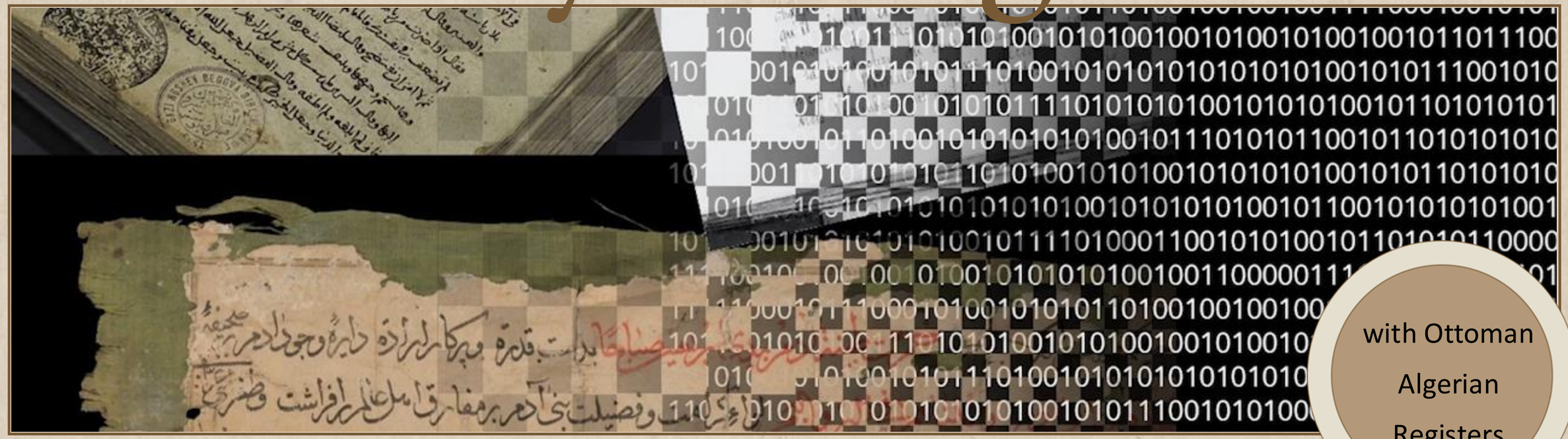
Visualizing

History's Fragments



with Ottoman Algerian Registers

Ashley Sanders

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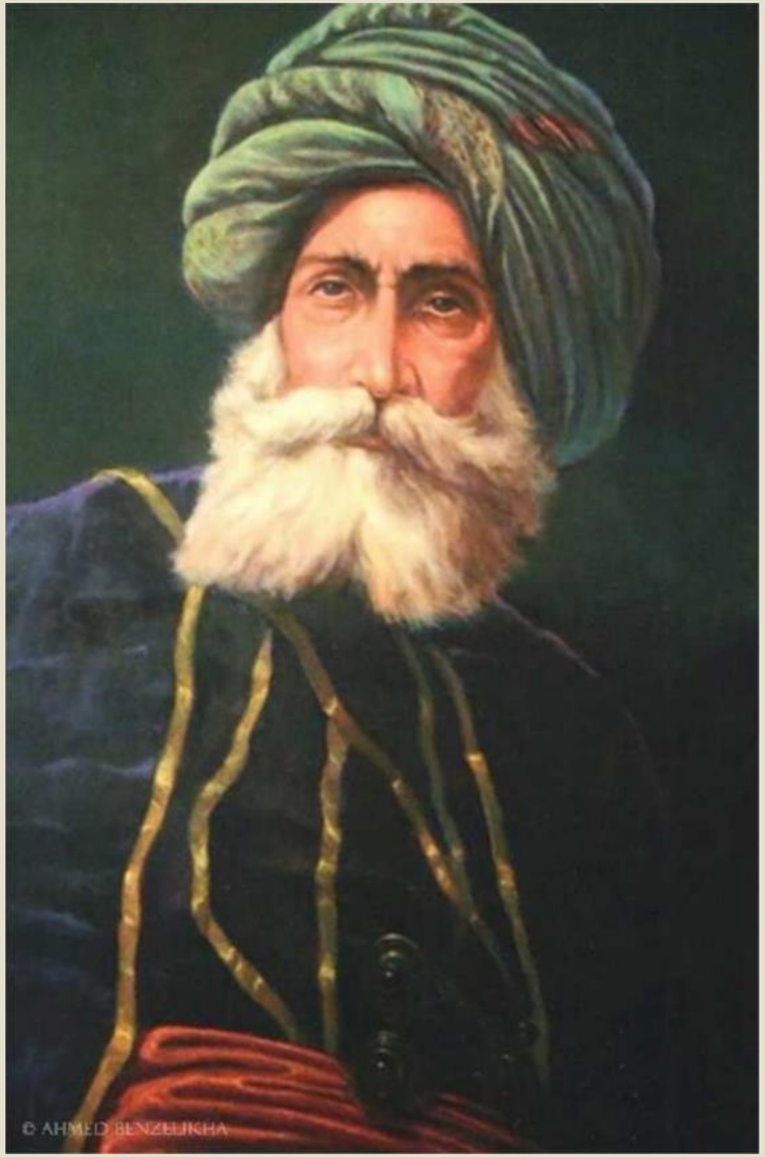
Overview

01

Hadj Ahmed Bey

- Kuluğhlu
- Governor of Constantine, 1826-1837
- Son of Mohammed Chérif, an Ottoman administrator & Rokëia, an Algerian woman
- Grandson of Ahmed Bey El Kolli (r. 1756-1771)



Transliterated Name	Name	Start Date	End Date	Tenure (Years)	Ethnicity	Fate
Ramdān-Tshūlaq Bāy	رمضان تشولاق باي	1567	1574	7	Ottoman	Reassigned
Jʿfar Bāy	جعفر باي	1574	1588	14	Ottoman	Reassigned
Muhammad Ben Ferḥāt Bāy	محمد بن فرحات باي	1588	1608	20	Algerian	Killed in battle
Ḥasan Bāy	حسن باي	1608	1622	14	Ottoman	Died of illness
Murād Bāy	مراد باي	1622	1647	25	Ottoman	Killed in battle
Ferḥāt Bāy	فرحات باي	1647	1653	6	Ottoman	Died of illness
Muhammad Bāy Ben Ferḥāt	محمد باي بن فرحات	1653	1666	13	Ottoman	Assassinated
Rejeb Ben Ferḥāt Bāy	رجب بن فرحات باي	1666	1672	6	Ottoman	Dismissed

Data Snippet

Full Dataset available on OSF: https://osf.io/ft4nr/

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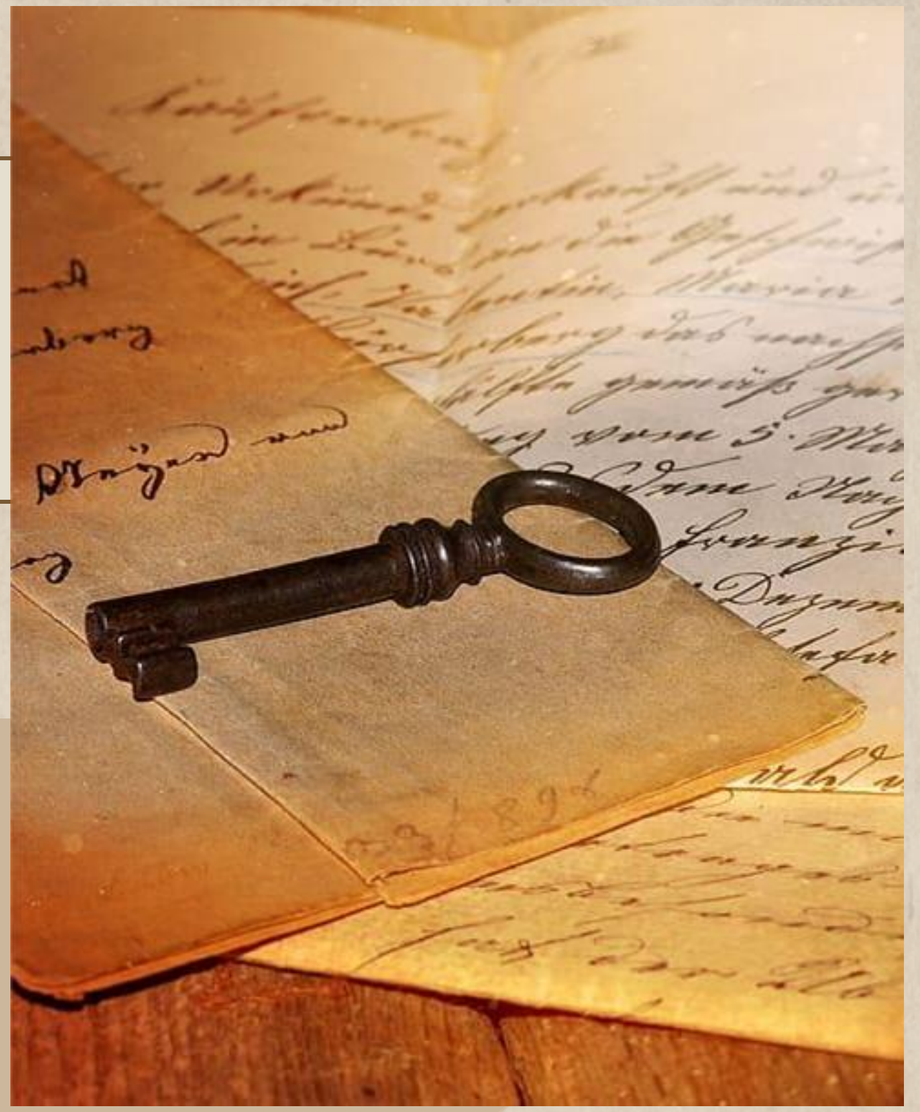
Testing Relationships between Categorical Variables

Social Network Analysis—Identifying Women's Socio-Political Roles

Where do We Go from Here?

Sources

02



Algerian Sources

Ṣāliḥ Ibn Muḥammad Al-ʿAntarī. *Farīdah manīsah [sic] fī ḥāl dukhūl al-Turk balad Qusanṭīnah wa-istīlāʾihim ʻalā awṭānihimā, aw, Tāʾrīkh Qusanṭīnah*. (Unknown original publication date; 1991)

Gaïd, Mouloud. *Chronique des beys de Constantine*. (1978).

In attempting to give an account of the harem institution in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, we thus find ourselves on the horns of a dilemma: do we reject everything that European accounts tell us and thus retain only the fragments that can be acquired from Ottoman sources, or do we risk compounding the errors of European writers by admitting their evidence?

European Sources

Arvieux, Laurent d'. *Mémoires Du Chevalier d'Arvieux*. (1735)

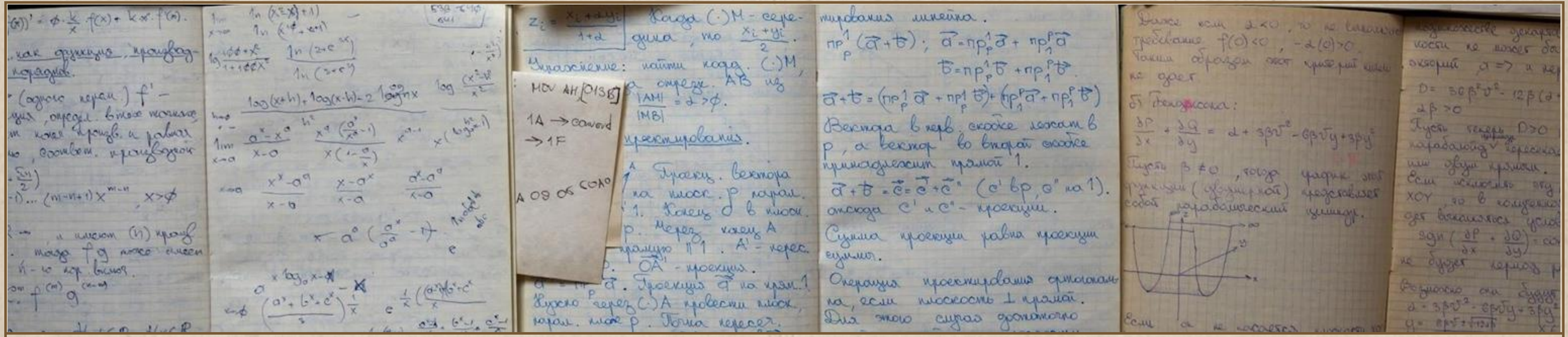
Haëdo, Diego de. *Topographie et histoire générale d'Alger*. Ed. Jocelyne Dakhlia. (1612; 1870)

Mercier, Ernest. *Histoire de Constantine*. (1903)

Peyssonnel, Jean-André. *Voyages dans les Régences de Tunis et d'Alger, fait de 1783 à 1786* (1838)

Tassy, Laugier de. *Histoire du royaume d'Alger*. (1725)

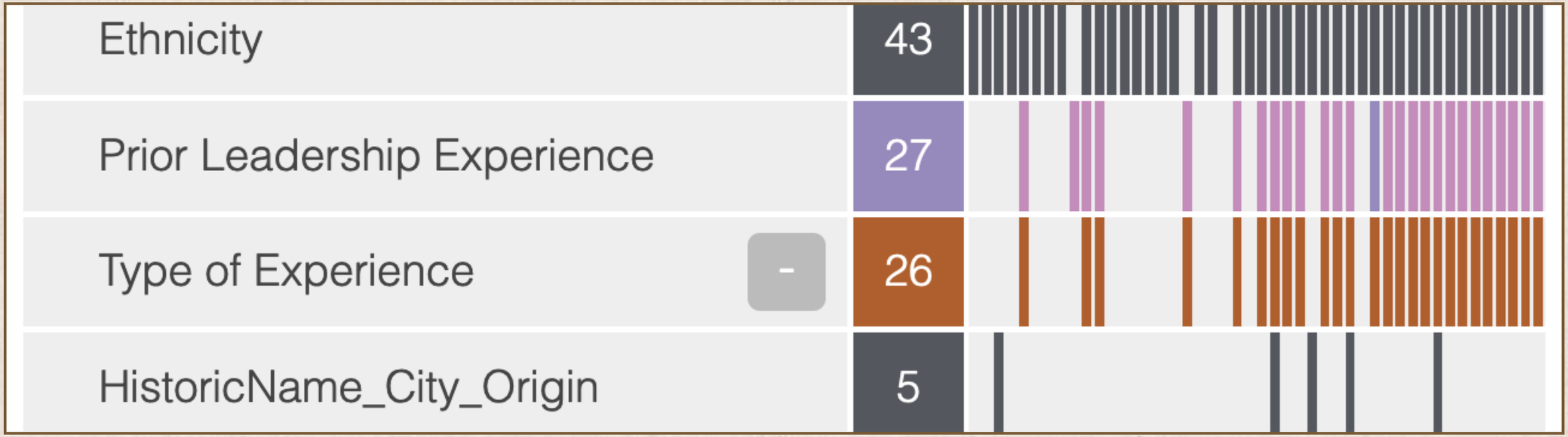
Vayssettes, Eugène. *Histoire de Constantine Sous La Domination Turque de 1517 à 1837*. (1867)



In resisting the naturalization of data, historian[s] create a situation where they can be much more careful about the claims and conclusions that rest on that data. Their hands and interpretations are only one of many that have touched these sources from the point of their creation to the present.

Investigate

Missing Information



Question the silences in the data

Sources to Data

03

Identifying Variables of Interest

Basic Variables

Name

Tenure Dates

Tenure Length

Demographic Details

Ethnicity

Place of Origin

Personal Details

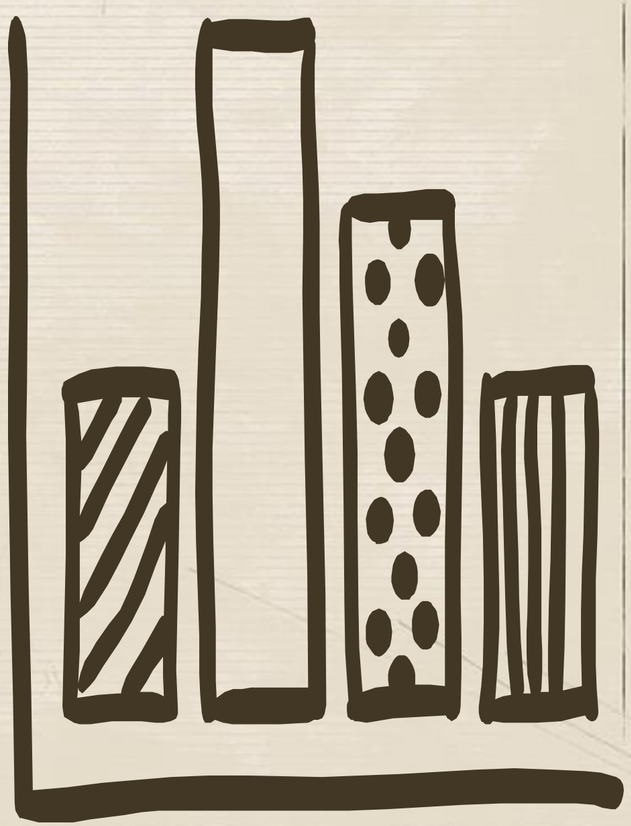
Fate

Leadership Experience

Local Marriage(s)

Structuring Data for Analysis & Reuse

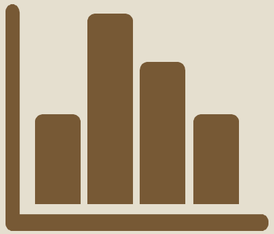
- Each instance/case has a unique numeric or alpha-numeric identifier
- Each column contains only one variable
- Each column contains the same kind of information
- Every column contains the same number of entries, which creates the rectangular shape of the data set
- Every cell (the intersection of one row and one column) is filled with a value, even if that value simply denotes missing information or that the variable is not applicable for that case
- Every cell contains only one piece of information



Creating a Classification System

Rule # 1

The set of classes must be inclusive, meaning that they must cover all descriptions of that attribute



Rule # 2

The classes must not overlap, meaning that one description from the initial data input cannot fall into two different classes

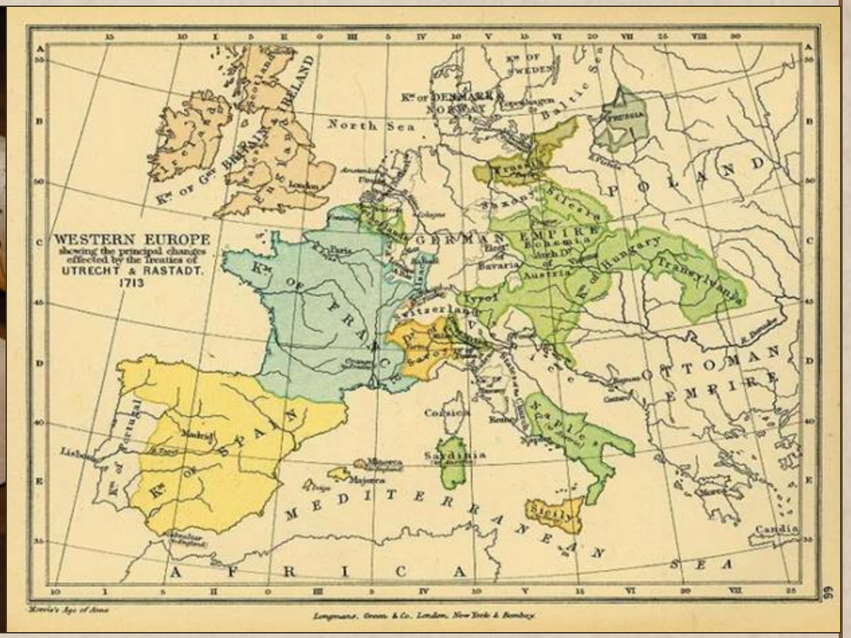
Abstraction

Constructing classes from the source descriptions reduces the descriptive details available in our dataset, but it makes comparisons and statistical inquiry possible

Name in Sources	Transliterated Name	Name-Arabic Script	Start Date	End Date
Ramdane-Tchoulak Bey	Ramdane-Tchoulak Bey	رمضان تشولاق باي	1567	1574
Djaafar Bey	Djaafar Bey	جعفر باي	1574	1588
Mohammed Ben Ferhat Bey	Mohammed Ben Ferhat Bey	محمد بن فرحات باي	1588	1608
Hassan Bey	Hassan Bey	حسن باي	1608	1622
Mourad bey	Mourad bey	مراد باي	1622	1647
Ferhat Bey	Ferhat Bey	فرحات باي	1647	1653
Mohammed bey ben Ferhat	Mohammed bey ben Ferhat	محمد باي بن فرحات	1653	1666
Redjeb bey ben Ferhat	Redjeb bey ben Ferhat	رجب بن فرحات باي	1666	1672
Kheir ed-din bey	Kheir ed-din bey	خير الدين باي	1673	1676
Abd-el-Rahman Dali Bey	Abd-el-Rahman Dali Bey	عبد الرحمان دالي باي	1676	1679
Omar ben Abd-el Rahman (known as Bash-Agha)	Omar ben Abd-el Rahman	عمر باي بن عبد الرحمان	1679	1688
Sid-Chaban bey	Sid-Chaban bey	شعبان باي	1688	1692
Ali Khudja bey (known as El-Anteri)	Ali Khudja bey	علي خوجة باي	1692	1700
Ahmed bey ben Ferhat	Ahmed bey ben Ferhat	أحمد بن فرحات باي	1700	1703
Ibrahim bey El Euldj	Ibrahim bey El Euldj	إبراهيم العلج باي	1703	1707

Transliterated Name	Start Date	End Date	Simplest-Fate	Simplified-Fate	Fate-original
Ramdane-Tchoulak Bey	1567	1574	Non-Violent Fate	Non-violent Removal	Reassigned
Djaafar Bey	1574	1588	Non-Violent Fate	Non-violent Removal	Reassigned
Mohammed Ben Ferhat Bey	1588	1608	Killed in battle	Died in Office	Killed in battle
Hassan Bey	1608	1622	Non-Violent Fate	Died in Office	Died of illness
Mourad bey	1622	1647	Non-Violent Fate	Died in Office	Died of illness
Ferhat Bey	1647	1653	Non-Violent Fate	Died in Office	Died of illness
Mohammed bey ben Ferhat	1653	1666	Willful Violent Removal	Assassinated	Assassinated
Redjeb bey ben Ferhat	1666	1672	Non-Violent Fate	Non-violent Removal	Dismissed
Kheir ed-din bey	1673	1676	Non-Violent Fate	Non-violent Removal	Dismissed
Abd-el-Rahman Dali Bey	1676	1679	Willful Violent Removal	Assassinated	Assassinated
Omar ben Abd-el Rahman	1679	1688	Non-Violent Fate	Died in Office	Died in office
Sid-Chaban bey	1688	1692	Non-Violent Fate	Non-violent Removal	Dismissed
Ali Khudja bey	1692	1700	Killed in battle	Died in Office	Killed in battle
Ahmed bey ben Ferhat	1700	1703	Willful Violent Removal	Assassinated	Exiled and Assassinated
Ibrahim bey El Euldj	1703	1707	Willful Violent Removal	Assassinated	Assassinated

Ethnicity



Ottoman

The local populace regarded Ottoman officials, regardless of true ethnicity, as an imperial other. That fact mattered.

Algerian & Kulughlu

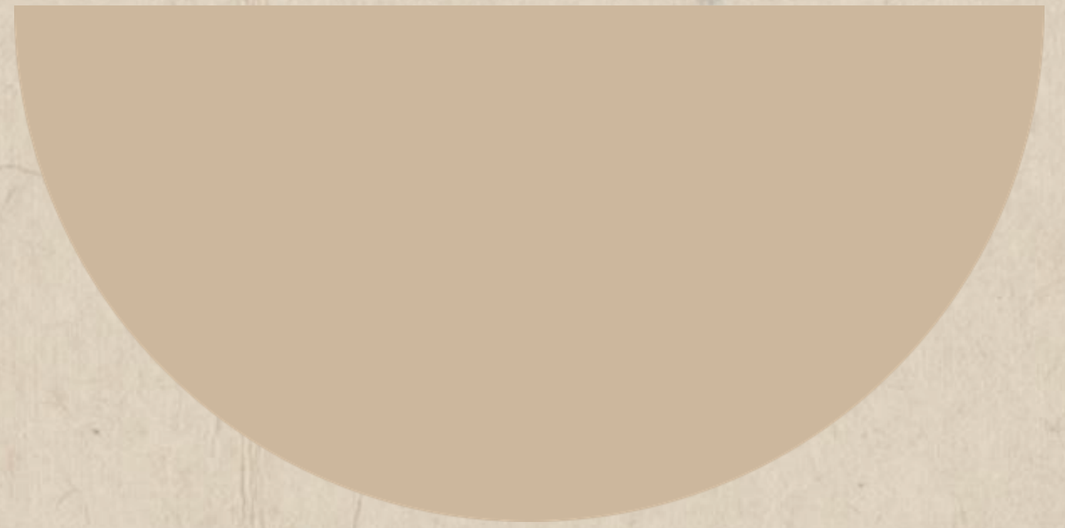
Algerian = ”from Algiers”
Kulughlu = mixed ethnicity Ottoman & Algerian

European

European by birth, then captured and enslaved in the Ottoman Empire, these men could still rise to the highest imperial offices

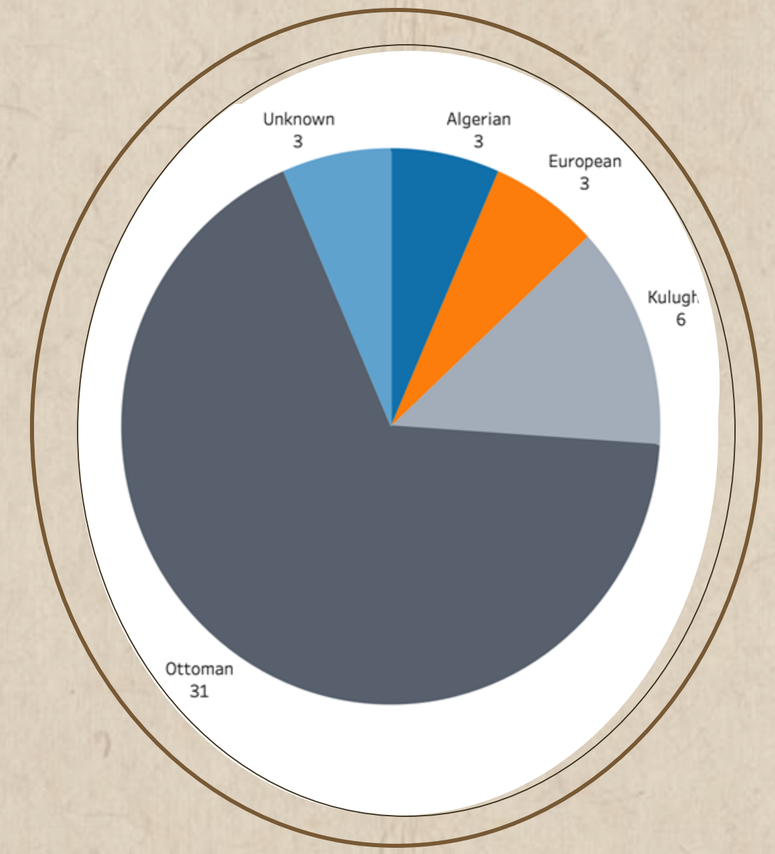
Data Silences

04

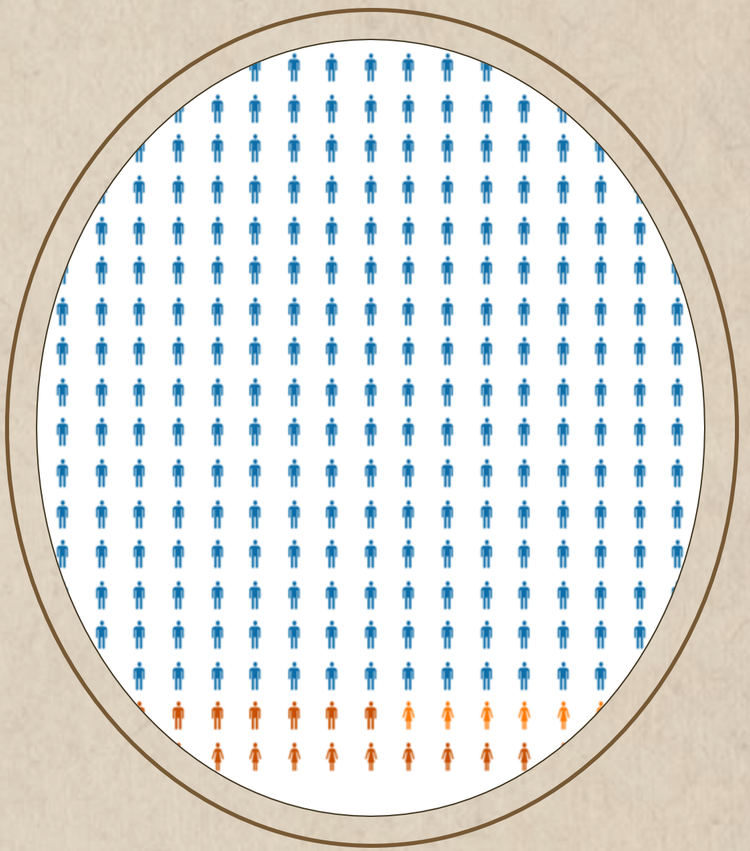


Can Data Silences “Speak”?

Overview of Data

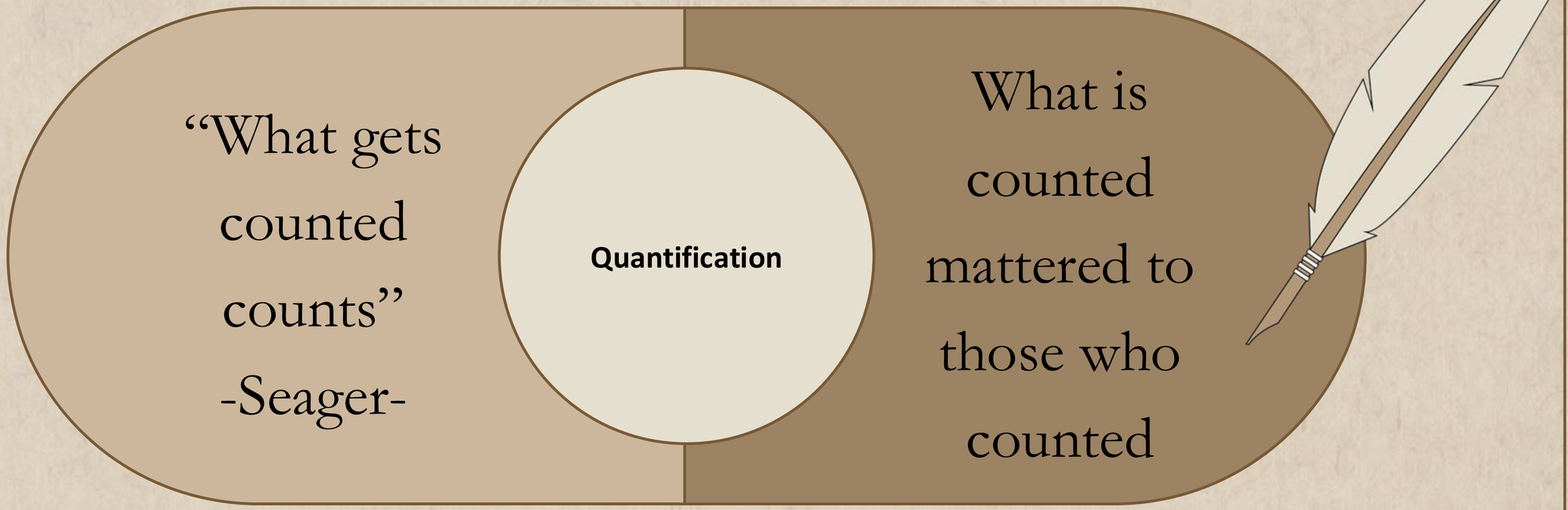


Ethnicity



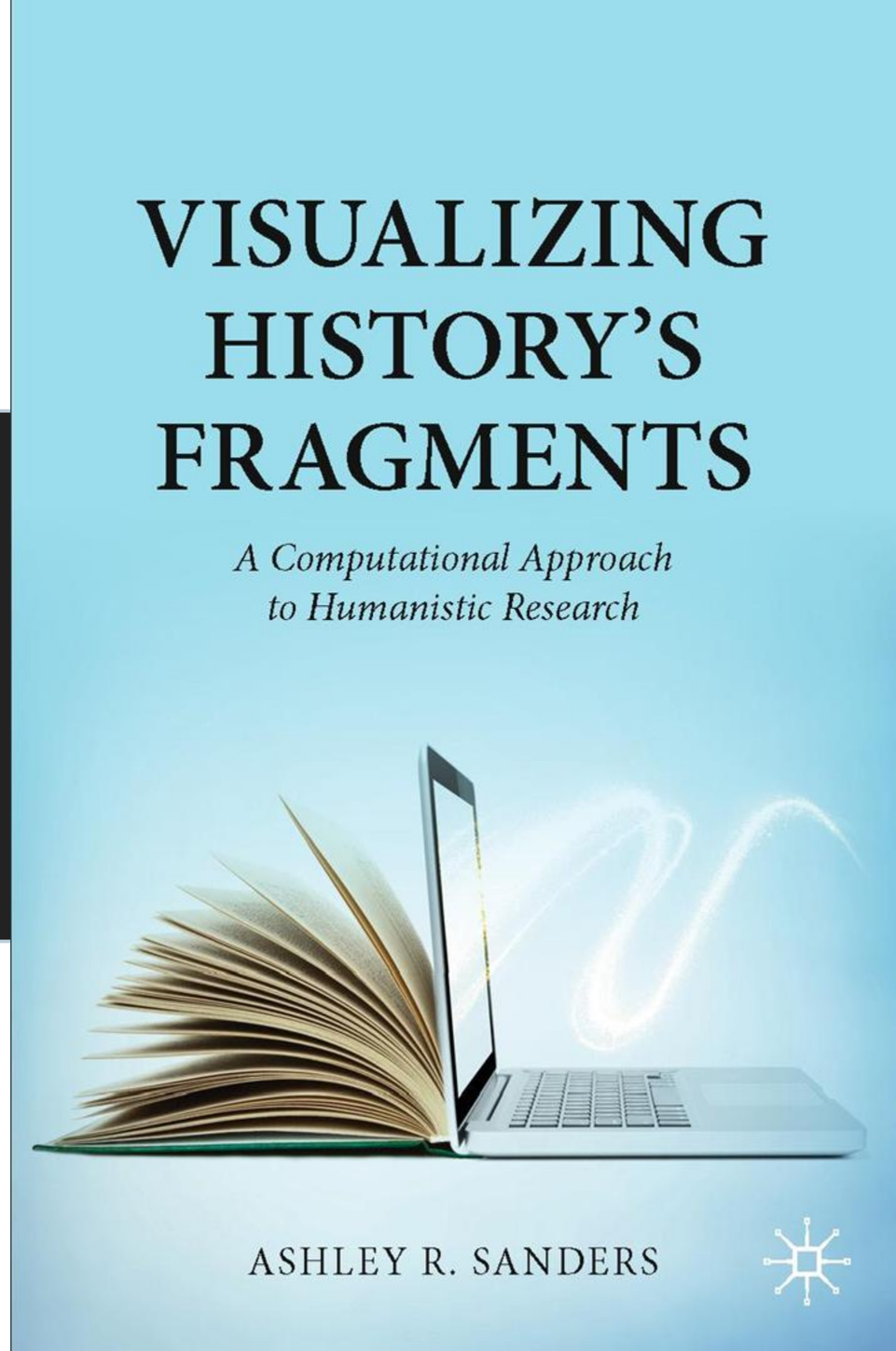
Gender

Presence and Absence



What does it mean that the references I have found thus far are some of the only, and may, indeed, be the only mentions of these men and women that still remain in the historical record and that they are written primarily in French?

Now available!



Questions?

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