



Folk Narrative Research

Manuscripts – Oral Tradition – Databases –
Computational Humanities

Theo Meder

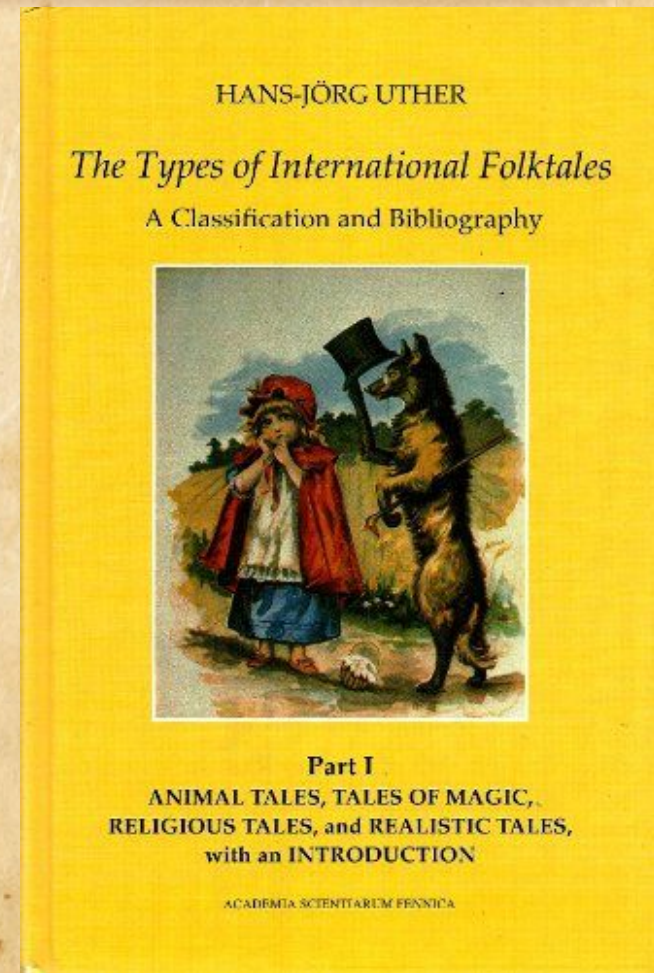
Folktales

- Fairy tales
- Traditional Legends
- Riddles
- Jokes
- Contemporary Legends
- Personal narratives (memorats, testimonies)

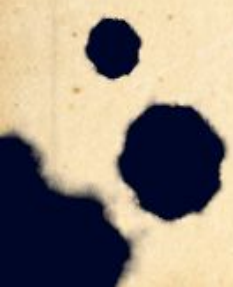
- From the Middle Ages until Today

Folktales

- Comparative research
- Meaning of stories
- Changes over time (or place)
- Cultural heritage / traditions
- International tale types and motifs
- Geographical distribution of stories

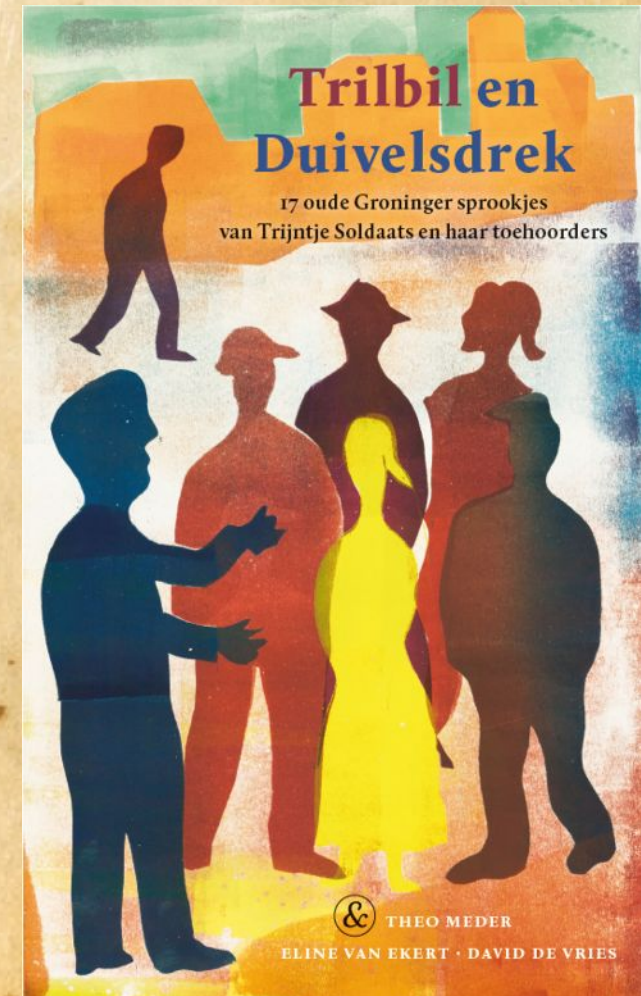


Manuscripts

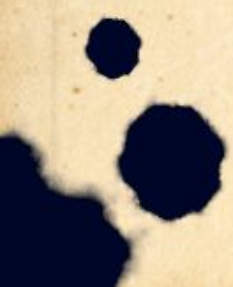


Manuscripts

- ‘Trilbil en Duivelsdrek’
- Narrator: Trijntje Soldaats
- Collector: Gerrit Arends (11 yrs)



Oral Tradition

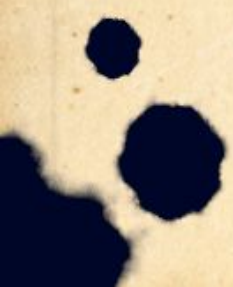


Oral Tradition

- #MeToo (Sleeping Beauty, Snow White)
- Conspiracy theories
- ‘Needle spiking’

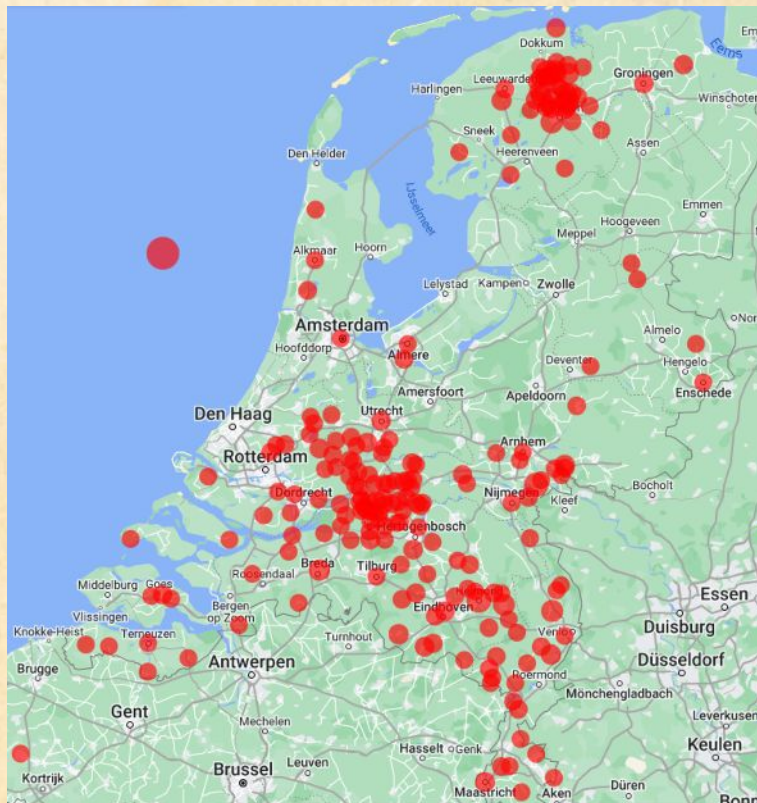


Databases



Databases

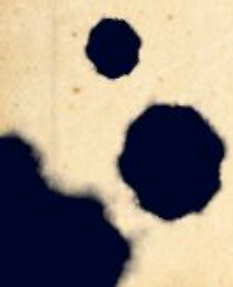
- Dutch Folktale Database: www.verhalenbank.nl
- ISEBEL: www.isebel.eu



Weerwolf / Werewolf

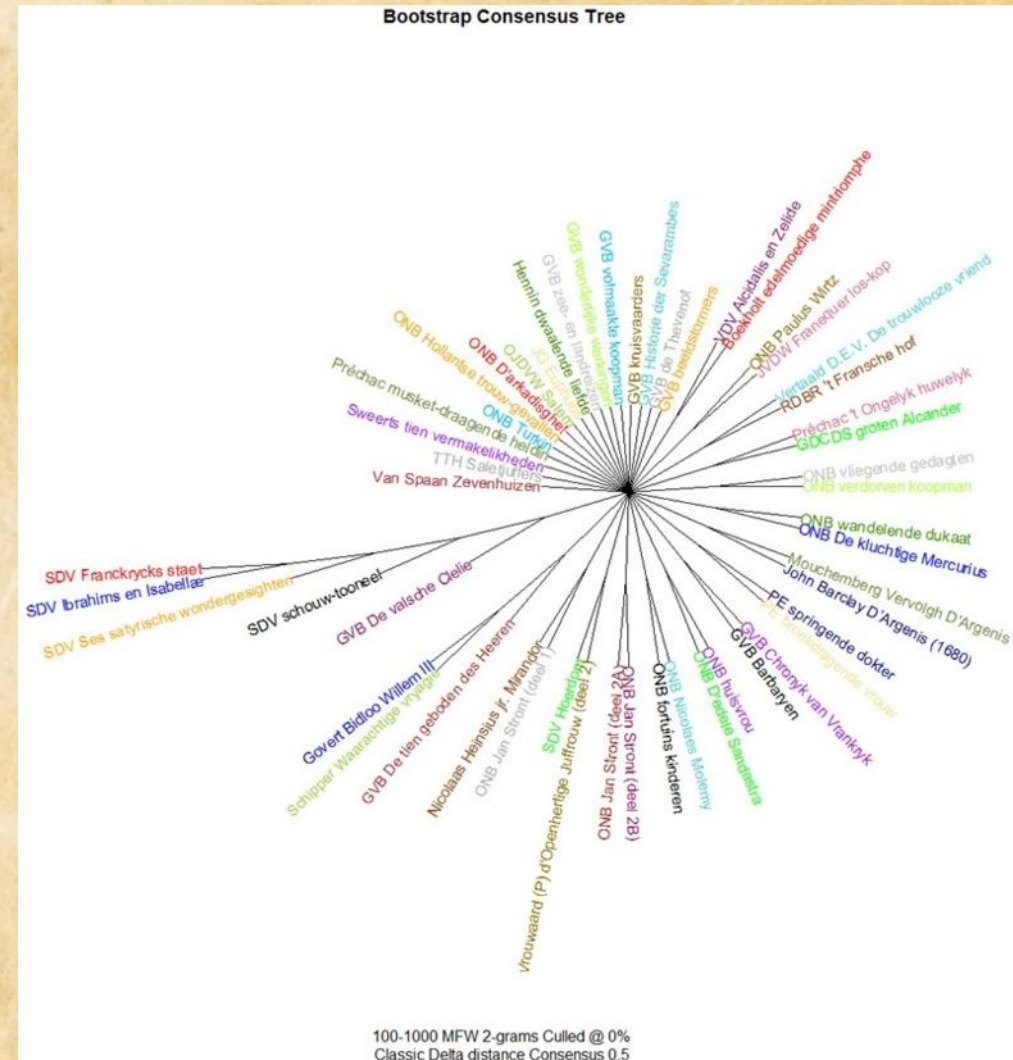


Computational Humanities



Computational Humanities


- Using the Macroscope on Big Data
- Concordances (distribution of content words in texts); ANTCONC
- Sentiment Analysis; LIWC2015
- Stylometrics (identifying authors of anonymous works); STYLO



Computational Humanities



Folger Karsdorp

- Genetic interconnections (Red Riding Hood)
 - *Science*: Forgotten manuscripts (biological model of ‘unseen species’)
 - <https://forgotten-books.netlify.app/>
 - <https://vimeo.com/677201737>
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Further reading

T. Meder: '[In Search of the Dutch Lore of the Land](#). Old and New Legends throughout the Netherlands', in: *Folklore* 122 (2011) 2, pp. 117-134.

Theo Meder, Folgert Karsdorp, Dong Nguyen, Mariët Theune, Dolf Trieschnigg, and Iwe Everhardus Christiaan Muiser: '[Automatic Enrichment](#) and Classification of Folktales in the Dutch Folktale Database', in: *Journal of American Folklore* 129 (2016), 511, pp. 78-96.



Thank you!

Questions or remarks?