

Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences

The Virtual Knowledge Studio for the Humanities and Social Sciences

Paul Wouters



Go to

[Home](#)

[Research](#)

Prices and Wages

[What's new](#)

[List of Datafiles](#)

[Value of the](#)

[Guilder](#)

[Index to websites](#)

[Conference](#)

[Sitemap](#)

Search

Go

[More Options](#) [Help](#)

Also on this server

[Indonesian](#)

[Economic](#)

[Development](#)

[Netherlands](#)

[Economic History](#)

[Archive](#)

Email

The IISH List of Datafiles of Historical Prices and Wages

Data on prices and wages are among the most important sources of information in social- and economic-historical research, especially for the pre-statistical period. The International Institute of Social History (IISH) has taken the initiative to set up a network of scholars working with this kind of data and establish a moderated list of datafiles of historical prices and wages. Scholars working in this field are invited to register their work, and to make their data bases available through the internet - either on their own webpages (which may be made accessible via the IISH-list) or on the webpages of the IISH.

The long term goal is to enhance the exchange and (re-)use of these data in order to write truly international-comparative histories of the development of markets and their institutional settings. The focus will be on data bases related to Europe and on non-European (in particular Asian) countries in the period before 1914.

All data bases will not only include the data themselves, but also





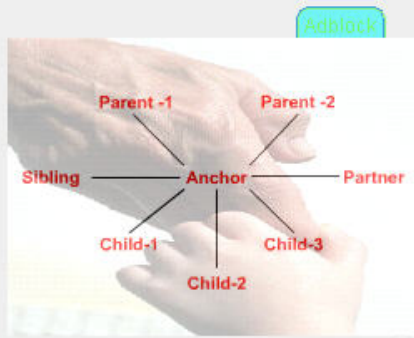
Netherlands Kinship Panel Study

Familiebanden in Nederland

[NKPS sitemap](#)

- [▶ The NKPS](#)
- [▶ Mini panels](#)
- [▶ PhD projects](#)
- [▶ NKPS database](#)
- [▶ The NKPS Team](#)
- [▶ Links](#)
- [▶ Contact](#)
- [▶ Literature](#)
- [▶ Home](#)

A Multi-Actor, Multi-Method Panel Study on Solidarity in Family Relationships



The Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI), Utrecht University (UU), the University of Tilburg, and the University of Amsterdam are participating in the development of a large-scale database on Dutch families: the Netherlands Kinship Panel Study (NKPS). The NKPS received an investment grant from the Dutch national research foundation (NWO). The research questions revolve around the theme of solidarity, which is defined as 'feelings of mutual affinity in family relationships and how these are expressed in behavioural terms'. An extensive face-to-face interview survey among a large random sample of the Dutch population is currently being conducted. The NKPS has four special features that make it highly innovative:

- it is large (N = 10,000)
- it is a panel (respondents and family members will be interviewed at more than one point in time, yielding a prospective longitudinal design)
- it is multi-method (both structured interviews and in-depth open interviews will be conducted), and
- it is multi-actor (data from individual respondents will be collected as well as from family members).

Existing surveys (with the exception of those carried out for statistical purposes by Statistics Netherlands) are smaller, they seldom have a prospective design, they only occasionally gather data from residential kin (and hardly ever from non-residential kin) and rarely combine qualitative and quantitative methods. The programme is motivated by both scientific and societal considerations. Dutch family sociology has been losing ground during a time in which family relationships have been changing rapidly. The increasingly complex nature of contemporary family relationships has posed society and policymakers with a series of new and challenging questions. With the NWO investment funding, family sociology has been given a serious impulse to...

What are their concerns?

- new research questions
- reformulating old questions
- new ways of combining data
- new types of data
- new ways of communicating
- new forms of collaboration

Central idea VKS

- Changes in information and communication create new possibilities
- But how can these be used by researchers in hum/soc sc?
- Engage with and reflect on *e*-research

Key elements of *e*-research

- sharing computer resources
- access to distributed, hybrid, and massive databases
- digital platforms for communication and collaboration



Promise versus risk

Promises of e-science:

- More detailed knowledge of natural and social processes
- Acceleration of knowledge creation
- More inter-disciplinarity
- Higher productivity
- Improved access to and use of knowledge

Risks of e-science:

- Imposing one-sided model of research to all fields (explicitly or implicitly)
- Less inter-disciplinarity
- Unrealistic promises (see history AI/ICT) may backfire
- Increasing capital intensity, higher research costs
- Decreased variation of epistemological cultures

Mission VKS

- design and conceptualisation
new questions & practices
- experiment/play
- travel across disciplines
- grasp dynamics
knowledge creation

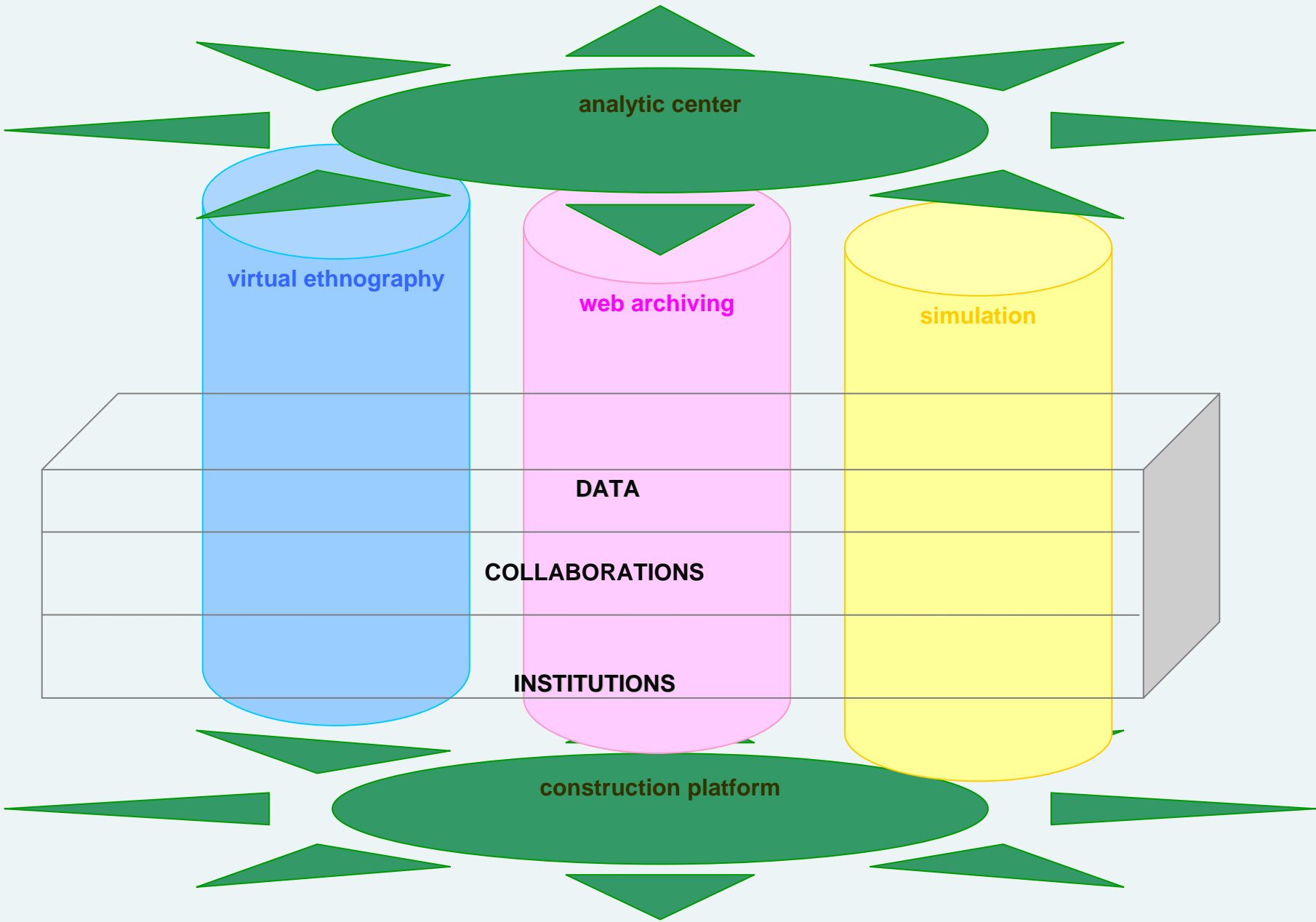
Method VKS

- demonstration and exploration
- bring researchers together
- pool resources, methodologies and techniques
- interrogate both old and new

What the VKS is not

- changing the humanities and social sciences to fit a particular e-model
- creating ICTs for researchers
- responding to scholarly needs

- knowledge is central, not technology nor the user
- production & consumption



analytic center

virtual ethnography

web archiving

simulation

DATA

COLLABORATIONS

INSTITUTIONS

construction platform

Data

- internet as direct data source
 - Webometrics
 - Web page analysis
 - email/chat/link analysis
- internet as indirect source
 - Web page analysis
 - hyperlink analysis
 - text analysis
- internet as interface
 - surveys
 - interviews
- internet as visualisation

Web Indicators Portal

A WISER Project 

A portal to web indicators research

Home

News

Table of Contents  

» Home

+ Conferences

+ Maps

+ Internet Organizations and Societies

+ Publications

+ Research

+ Search Engines

+ Statistics and Measures

+ Tools

■ WISER Project

The Web Indicators Portal

The objective of this WISER portal is to provide links to information sources relevant to the construction and use of Web based science, technology and innovation indicators. Web indicators should produce information about crucial aspects of the role of networked, digital information tools and communication media in research and of e-science: international collaboration through the Web; visibility and connectivity of research centres; innovation networks; gender relationships; and the emergence of the European Research Area

The portal aims to bring together different groups working on web indicators, provide an network of information resources including leading edges of informetrics and web research in general, offer a platform for discussion and point to science policy implication of web indicator research.

Application of new information and communication technologies, both in research and in other areas, has often been accompanied by overoptimistic expectations. As a result, policy decision processes with regard to the application of and investment in new information tools and technologies run the risk of being guided more by wishful thinking than sound judgment. This portal aims to contribute to understanding the use of ICT in scientific and scholarly research and the changes this brings to the nature of the research process by laying the foundation for appropriate Web indicators.

Collaboration

- data sharing
 - from principle to practice
 - infrastructures
 - resistance
 - disciplinary differences
- collaboratories





POLICY FORUM

SCIENCE AND GOVERNMENT

An International Framework to Promote Access to Data

Peter Arzberger,^{1*} Peter Schroeder,² Anne Beaulieu,³ Geof Bowker,¹ Kathleen Casey,¹ Leif Laaksonen,⁴ David Moorman,⁵ Paul Uhler,⁶ Paul Wouters³

Recent national and multinational investments (1) in networking and continued gains in information technological capability (2) have given rise to a complex cyberinfrastructure that is rapidly increasing our ability to produce, manage, and use data (3). As research becomes increasingly global (4), data-intensive, and multifaceted (5, 6), it is imperative to address national and international data access and sharing issues systematically in a policy arena that transcends national jurisdictions. Open access to publicly funded data provides greater returns from the public invest-

OPERATING PRINCIPLES FOR DATA ACCESS REGIMES

- Openness
- Transparency and active data dissemination
- Assignment and assumption of formal responsibilities
- Technical and semantic interoperability of databases
- Quality control, data validation, authentication, and authorization
- Operational efficiency and flexibility
- Respect for intellectual property and other ethical and legal requirements
- Management accountability, including funding approaches

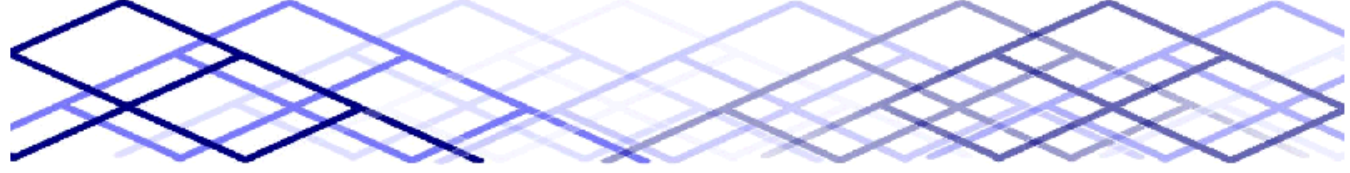
menting global climate change (10) requires access to data drawn from many disciplines and sources. This issue has been a topic of recent debate and its resolution is a

Appropriate professional and career reward structures are necessary (20–22). The way scientists are being evaluated and how their careers are shaped are at stake. For example, researchers who have spent years on building new databases, such as the Sloan Digital Sky Survey in astronomy, have effectively put their scientific careers on hold even though these databases are critical for the future development of the field. These considerations apply equally to those who produce, manage, and reuse research data.

At this point there is considerable heterogeneity in policies. In the United States, federal government databases are not copyright protected, whereas in the European Union government databases are eligible for protection under several database protection laws. Even within countries, different funding agencies have different stated policies; for example, in Canada, with three major science funding agencies, one follows the principles in the OECD declaration, one

Virtual institutions

- construction and role of databases
 - metaphors as indicator
- Grid production
 - non-computational e-research?
- virtual research institutes
 - role of textuality & intertextuality
 - interactive agenda setting
- research evaluation



Interactive Agenda Setting in the Social Sciences

 workshop 1:
Individual Agendas & Disciplines

 workshop 2:
Research groups & centres

 workshop 3:
Interdisciplinary Fields and Fashions

 workshop 4:
Research Priorities in the Public Sector

 workshop 5:
Research Priorities in the Private Sector

 workshop 6:

The Project

In the ten years since publication of the 1993 White paper, 'Realising our Potential', considerable attention has been paid to the users and uses of social science. The debates generated from this include the development and revitalisation of the concept of an 'interactive social science' which integrates knowledge production with the wider issues of its significance and use. Positive interpretations of the benefits of interaction, often cast in terms of influence and social responsibility, are countered by more negative anxieties about academic freedom on the one hand and 'scientific capture' on the other. In all of this, the qualities and characteristics of interactive, yet critical and engaged social science remain contested.

There is no doubt that research councils have made considerable effort to involve and engage users, and applicants for ESRC funding are asked to say how 'users' have been involved in the development of projects and proposals.

Yet there is one rather significant area of academic-non-academic interaction that falls outside contemporary debate and analysis. This has to do with the formulation of research questions and agendas.

Where do social science research questions come from and how are 'users' involved in defining timely, worthwhile, innovative and relevant lines of enquiry?

This ESRC funded project addresses these questions, through a series of workshops involving participants representing a wide range of knowledge and research producers

Reflexive instrumentality

- interrogate *e*-research by study/play
- interrogate that play itself
- interrogate this interrogation

- shape *e*-research by deconstruction and reconstruction

- examine *e*-research practices
- examine traditional practices