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PRESENTATION
FROM THE

ICA JOINT WORKSHOP



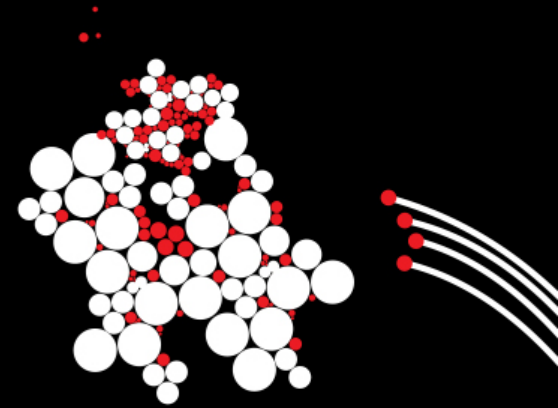
Olomouc
Czech Republic
April 27–30, 2018



Atlases & Cognition & Usability

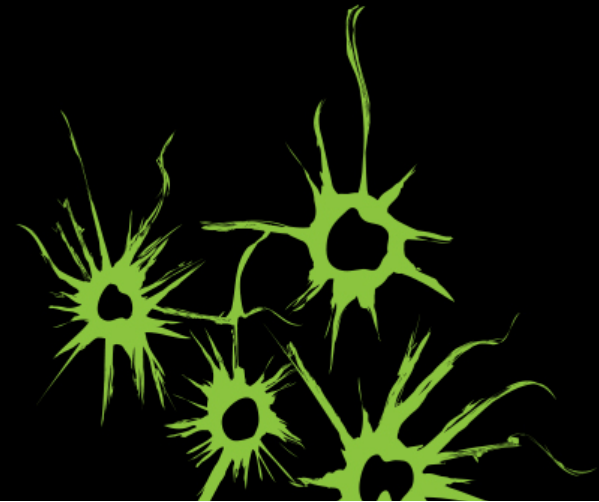
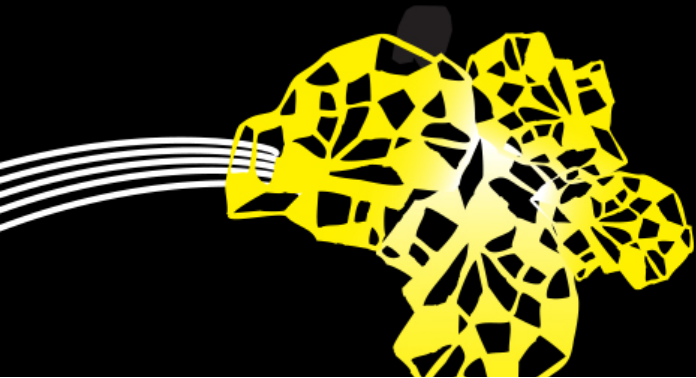
UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE.

Faculty of Geoinformation Science and Earth Observation



Atlas, what atlas?

Menno-Jan Kraak





Atlas, what atlas?

- Is there a need to reconsider the concept of the atlas?
- What is an atlas?
- Revisiting the concept
- Challenging the concept

Is there a need to reconsider the concept of the atlas?

What is an atlas?

An **atlas** is a collection of various maps of the earth or a specific region of the earth,

An **atlas** is a collection of maps

An **atlas** is a book of maps

Atlas, a collection of maps or charts, usually bound together

Atlas is the term used to refer to a collection of maps, printed in a set order

Atlas definition, a bound collection of maps

An **atlas** is a collection of consistent coordinate charts on a manifold, where "consistent" most commonly means that the transition functions of the charts are smooth

Atlas definition: a book containing maps

An **atlas** is a book of maps that go together

An **atlas** is a type of reference book that contains maps and other geographical information



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Our definition (Kraak & Ormeling, 2010, pp159)

Atlases are intentional combinations of maps or data sets, structured in such away, specific objectives are reached



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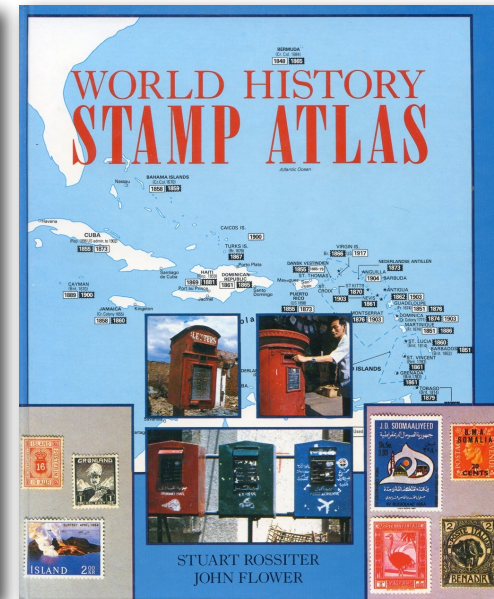
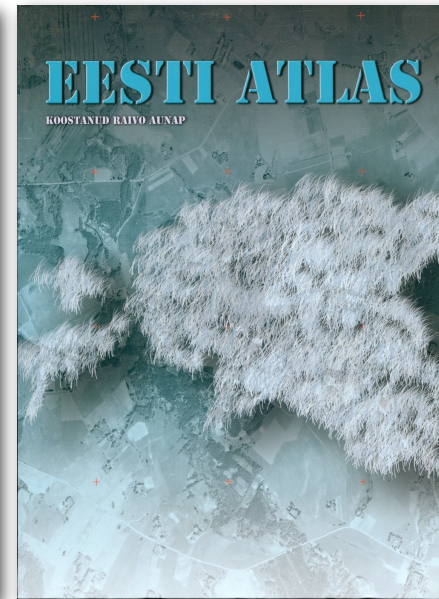
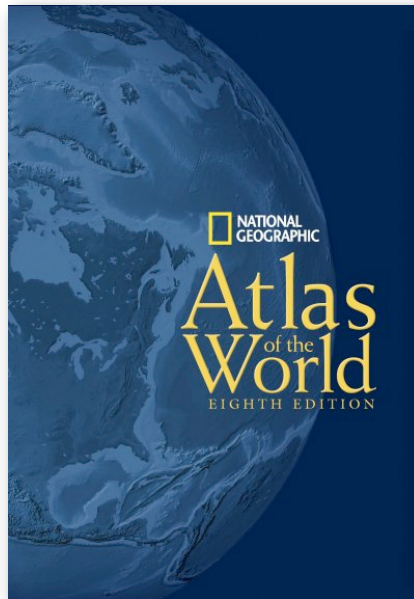
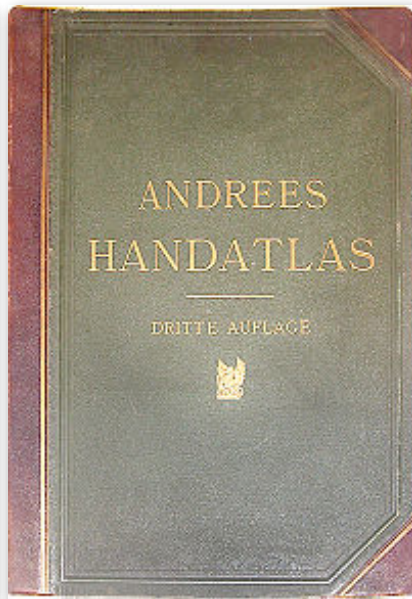
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- **Structure**
Netherlands, Europe, World
- **Objective**
Inform children about their local and global environment
- Structure & objective are the atlas' **narrative**

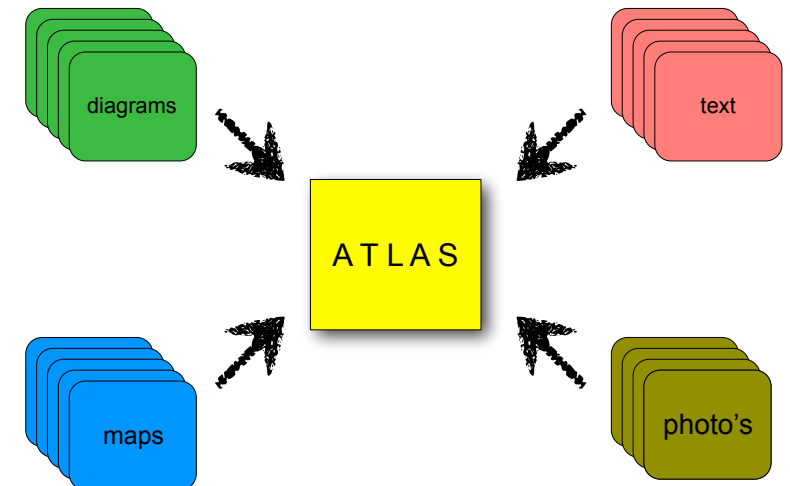


Type of atlases

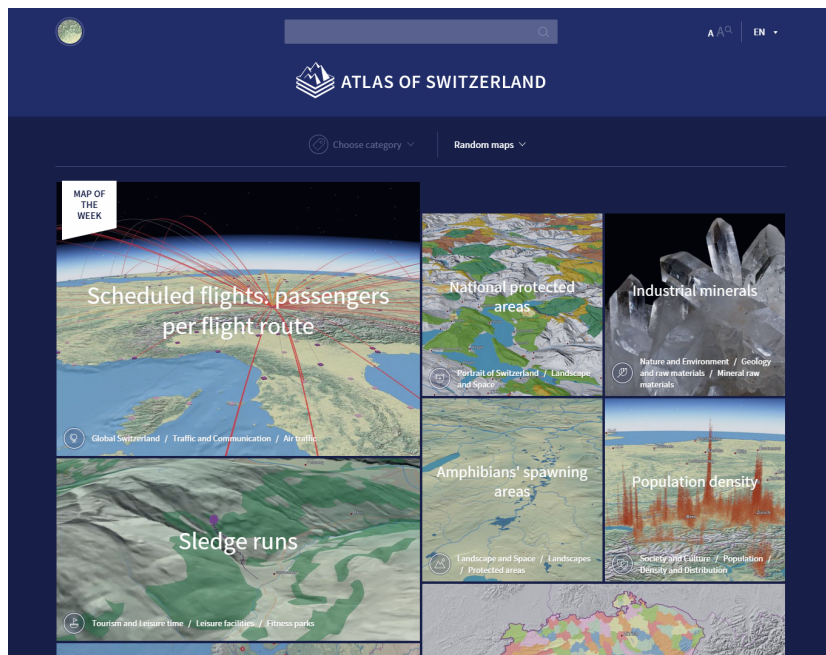


Atlas functions

- Explain patterns
- Compare and analysis (location, attribute & time)
- Analysis and decision making
- Interface to databases



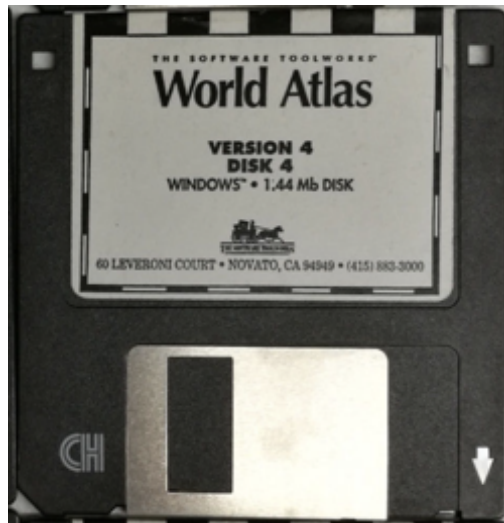
Digital atlases



But....

- Can we....due to recent technological developments and fading boundaries between all kind of options to display maps accept:
- Story maps (multimedia atlas)
- Google Maps/Earth (reference atlas)
- Tom Tom (road atlas)
- Dashboards (certain thematic atlases)
- ...

On a personal note...





Atlas, what atlas?

Discuss:

Is there a need to reconsider the concept of the atlas?