Towards a Research Platform for the 1641 Depositions
New Technologies and the Humanities

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Objectives
This project will investigate innovative technology to structure and lend meaning to a large corpus of unstructured information. The objectives of this project are:

- To investigate how text analytics and semantic mark-up tools can be used to enable researchers to discover new insights contained within the digital humanities.
- To capture some aspects of the subtle processes by which researchers model the meaning of documents and to make key aspects of their knowledge available to other researchers.
- To prototype and evaluate selected tools which achieve these objectives, using the transcribed 1641 Depositions as a corpus of unstructured humanities content.

Outcomes
- The creation of a web-based interface to facilitate the comprehensive mark-up of the 1641 Depositions by the transcription team. This mark-up should be compatible with the Text Encoding Initiative’s P5 guidelines.
- The experimentation and extension of cutting-edge lexical analysis software, such as IBM LanguageWare.
- The prototyping of a unique digital humanities research portal, which will allow users to mine the information contained within, and to fully exploit, the 1641 Depositions.
- The investigation of methods of interoperability between existing structured datasets (e.g. the TCD Military Migration datasets or the Irish Statute Staple datasets) and the unstructured 1641 transcriptions.
- The production of a roadmap for future research and development in the digital humanities.

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