



# UX LINKED DATA CHALLENGE DATA JOURNALISM PITCH - DRONE STRIKES

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# **Data Journalism Pitch**

- The Challenge
- Team
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- Results
  - YASGUI front end examples
  - Space-Time-Cube (STC) example

Wouter (2 min.)

Rein & Sam (4 min.) Rob (4 min.)



# **The Data Journalism Challenge**

Create an attractive and informative news item on drone strikes in Pakistan and Yemen that:

- can be published on the website of a newspaper or magazine (with graphics or visuals)
- 2. uses the drones RDF data and other data sources
- 3. shows the added value of linked data for data journalism



## Team

### **Data Journalism Team:**

- Pieter van Everdingen (Geonovum/OpenInc)
- Rob Lemmens (University of Twente ITC)
- Wouter Beek (VU Amsterdam/Triply)
- Rein van 't Veer (VU Amsterdam/Geodan)
- Sam Ubels (Kadaster)
- Stanislav Ronzhin (University of Twente ITC)
- Jack Serle & Jessica Purkiss (Bureau of Investigative Journalism)



# **Used technology & Datasets**

### **Used Technology:**

## 1) Drone strikes website

#### Software:

- YASGUI SPARQL query editor
- rdfstore-js for graph analysis
- Bootstrap layout template

# 2) Space-Time-Cube (STC)

### Software:

ILWIS

### **Used Datasets:**

# **Bureau of Investigative Journalism**

- Pakistan RDF dataset
- Yemen RDF dataset
- Datasets with locations of drone strikes

### Other data sources

- News articles
- Naming the Dead (list of victims)



# The result

### Two demos:

### 1. Drone strike website

- Collateral damage
- Drone attacks effective?

# 2. Space-Time-Cube (STC)

- 3D visualization:
  - map-based
  - with timeline

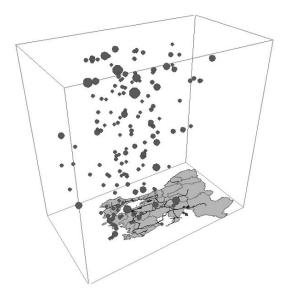
### https://linkeddatajournalism.github.io



#### **About**

This data journalism piece was made in response to a Linked Data challenge

The challenge was posed under the wings of the Pfatform Linked Data Netherlands (PLDN). To be specific, the challenge was put to make a linked data based application that allows some form of data journalism to be executed on data about drone attacks. The challenge was posed by Pfeter van Everdingen. It was converted and provided by Youture Seek. The particulars of this data set are below. The team that picked up the challenge consists of Rob Lemmens, Paul Roodenburg, Stanislav Ronzhin, Sam Ubels, and Rein and Yeer.





# **Space-Time-Cube**

### Drone strike B6

#### B6 - October 30 2006

- 81-83 total killed
- ♦ 80-82 civilians, including 68-70 children, reported killed
- 3 injured

The school, run by Maulvi Liaqat (killed, possibly along with his three sons), was destroyed, resulting in more than 80 deaths.

The dead students were later named by The News as follows (ages in brackets):

Mohammad Yaas Khan (16) Jannatullah (13) Mohammad Tahir (16) Hizbullah (10) Qari Alamzeb (14) Ismail (12) Maulvi Khaleefa Kitab Gul (12) Ghulam Nabi (21) Taseel Khan (18) Azizul Wahab (15) Wilayat Khan (11) Ziaur Rahman (17) Zaheeruddin (16) Fazal Wahab (16) Zabihullah (16) Abdullah (18) Qari Ishaq (19) Ziauddin (16) Shehzad Gul (11) Ikramullah (17) Jamshed Khan (14) Shabir (15) Mohammad Yunus Inayatur Rahman (16) Alam Nabi (11), and Shahbuddin (15) Fazal Hakim (19) Shafiullah (16) Qari Abdul Karim (19) Ilyas (13) Nimatullah (14) Yahya Khan (16) Rahmatullah (14). Shakirullah (16) Sohail (07) Abdus Samad (17) Rahatullah, (17) Talha (08) Asadullah (09) Khan (21) Sirai (16) Shoaib (08) Jamroz Khan Mohammad Salim (11) Saeedullah (17) Khalilullah (09) Fazal Wahab (18) Shahjehan (15) Abdul Waris (16) Noor Mohammad (08) Rahman (13) Gul Sher Khan (15) Darvesh (13) Khalid (12) Wali-ur-Rahman Bakht Muneer (14) Ameer Said (15) Saifullah (09) Shaukat (14) Razi Mohammad (16) Mashoog Khan (16) Inavatur Rahman (17) Mashoog Jan (15) Ihsanullah (16) Ziaur Rahman (13) Nawab (17) Adnan (16) Noor Mohammad (15) Najibullah (13) Sultanat Khan (16) Salman (16) Naeemullah (17) For more on those killed in the drone strike see the Naming the Dead Project.

Qari Sharifullah (17)

drones: Drones - ILWIS File Layers Options Help + Properties dr - PointMapFromTable(dr,Lon,Lat,LatlonWGS84) Display Tools Display Attribute 128 Minimum total people killed 128 Maximum total people killed 128 Minimum civilians reported killed 128 Maximum civilians reported killed 128 Minimum children reported killed 128 Maximum children reported killed 128 Minimum reported injured 128 Maximum reported injured ... 128 date\_of\_attack Portrayal Representation Map Information Stretching Selectable Features Coordinate 34°45'15.93"N, 71°36'28.15"E Strike ID Ob42 ocation Damadola Minimum tot 20 Maximum tot 30 **B6** finimum civ 0 Maximum civ (inimum chi 0 Maximum chi 0 Minimum rep 8 Maximum rep 71.468 Customize the Pixel Information Window



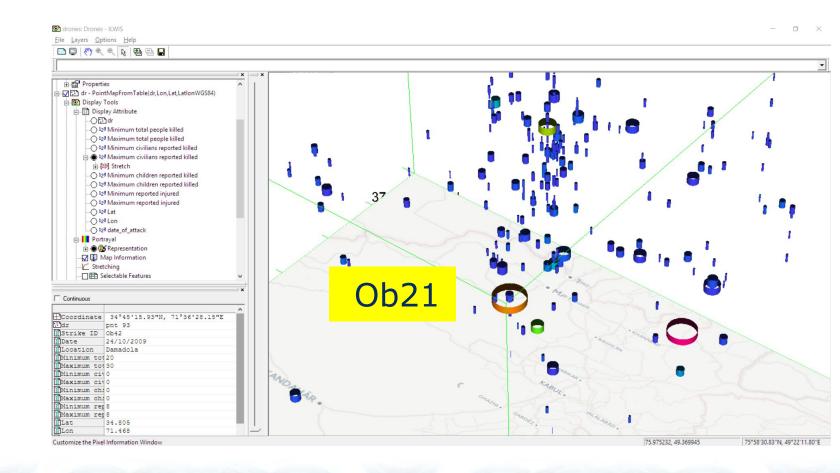
# **Space-Time-Cube**

### Drone strike Ob21

#### Ob21 - June 23 2009

- ♦ 60-83 total killed
- ♦ 18-50 civilians reported killed, including 10 children
- ◆ 27 injured

Drones returned during the funeral of Niaz Wali Mehsud, at which as many as 5,000 people were present.





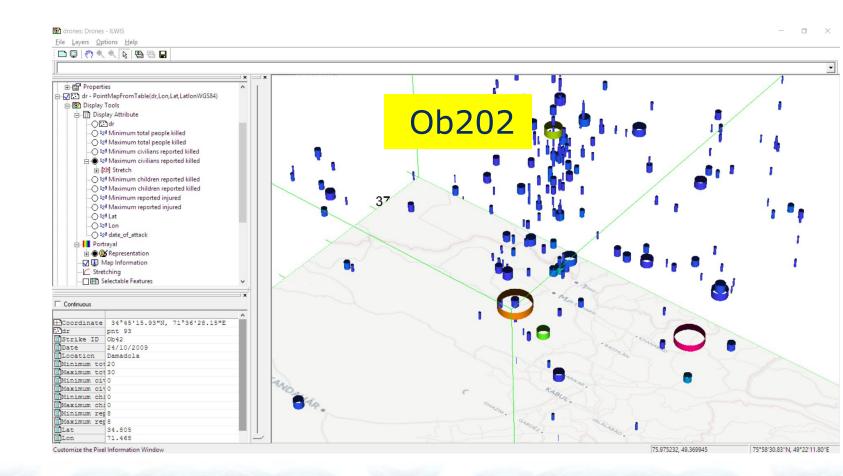
# **Space-Time-Cube**

### Drone strike Ob202

#### Ob202 - March 17 2011

- ◆ 26-42 total killed
- ◆ 19-41 civilians reported killed (including 1 child according to one source)
- 9-14 injured

However it soon became clear that the CIA had targeted a tribal jirga, a formal gathering to resolve a local dispute.





# **Conclusions**

#### We have shown that:

- it is possible to work with a serverless solution architecture to show the possibilities of linked data for data journalism (but this solution can also work very well in other domains)
- expert users can investigate available linked data sets by creating transparent queries and using generic visualization components to find patterns, dependencies and more fact-based evidence that you cannot easily find with more traditional approaches (you can see it 'on-the-fly')
- you can easily link to other data sources using linked data concepts in order to enrich and improve the user experience (e.g. other news articles from different news providers, and also to non-linked data sources)

### **Future work:**

Publish this way of working as a simple re-usable workflow (domain independent)