UX LINKED DATA CHALLENGE
DATA JOURNALISM PITCH – DRONE STRIKES

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Data Journalism Pitch

- The Challenge
- Team
- Used Technology & Datasets

Wouter (2 min.)

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

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:

1. 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)

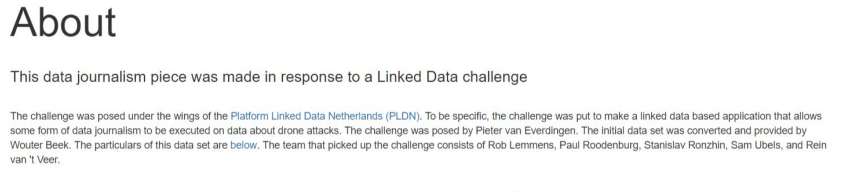
The result

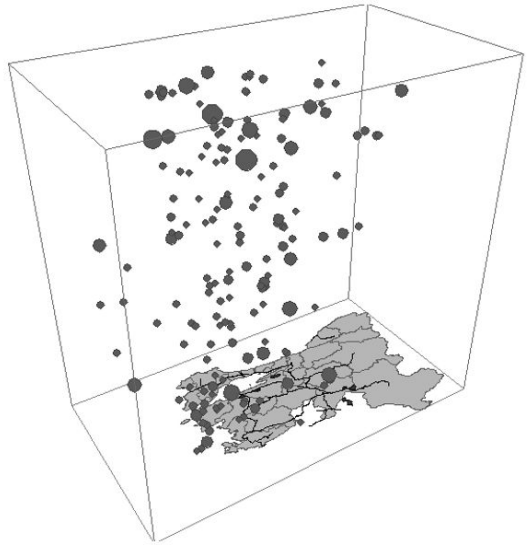
https://linkeddatajournalism.github.io

Two demos:

1. Drone strike website
   - Collateral damage
   - Drone attacks effective?

2. Space-Time-Cube (STC)
   - 3D visualization:
     - map-based
     - with timeline





Space-Time-Cube

Drone strike B6

B6 – October 30 2006

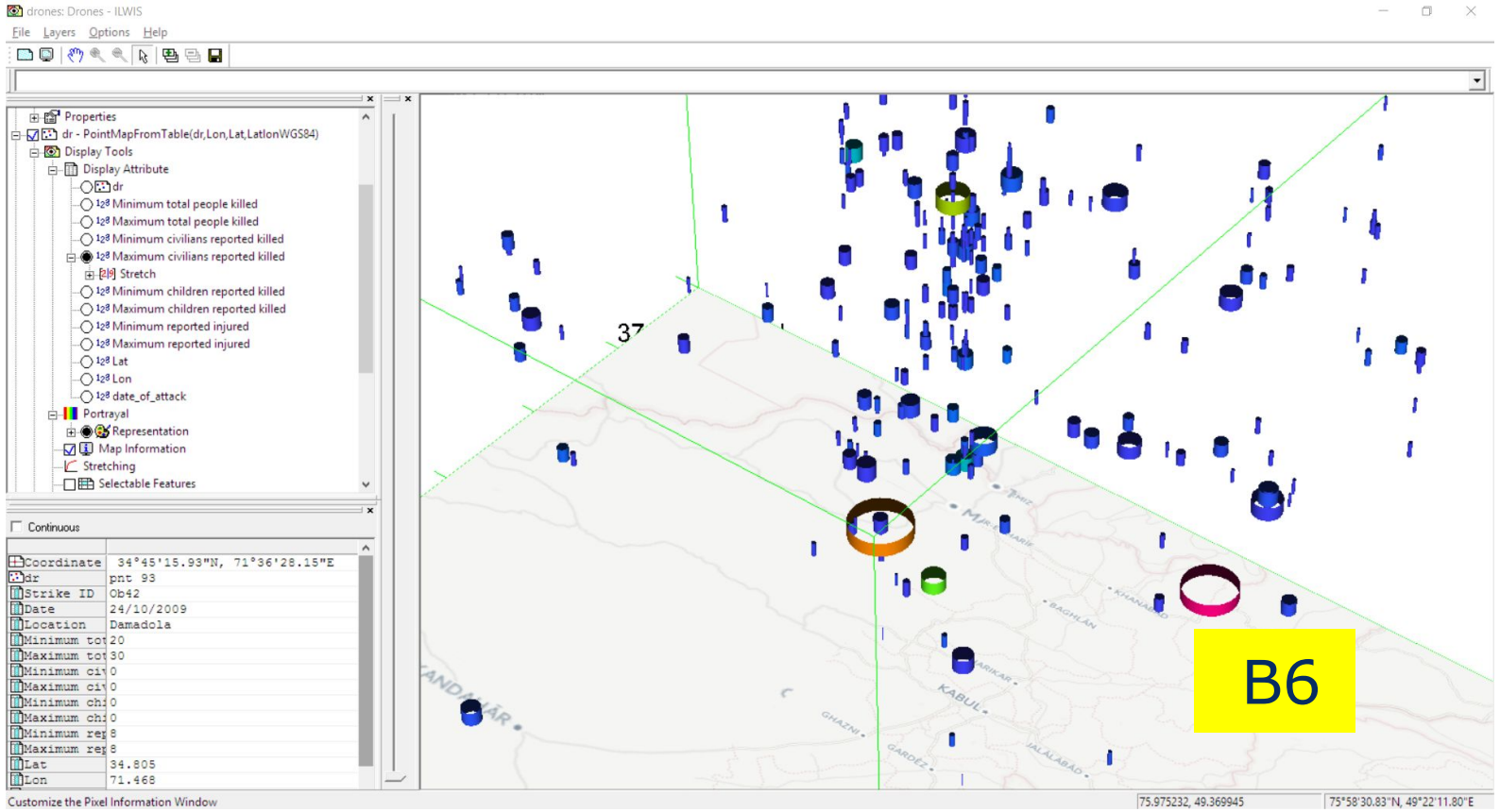
- 81-83 total killed
- 80-82 civilians, including 68-70 children, reported killed
- 3 injured

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 Tahir (16)
Maulvi Khaleefa
Azizul Wahab (15)
Fazal Wahab (16)
Ziauddin (16)
Mohammad Yunus (16)
Fazal Hakim (19)
Ilyas (13)
Sohail (07)
Asadullah (09)
Shoaib (08)
Khalilullah (09)
Noor Mohammad (08)
Khalid (12)
Saifullah (09)
Razi Mohammad (16)
Mashooq Jan (15)
Nawab (17)
Sultanat Khan (16)
Mohammad Yaas Khan (16)
Qari Alamzeb (14)
Ghulam Nabi (21)
Ziaur Rahman (17)
Abdullah (18)
Ikramullah (17)
Inayatur Rahman (16) and Shahbuddin (15) brothers
Yahya Khan (16)
Rahatullah, (17)
Khan (21)
Mohammad Salim (11)
Shahjehan (15)
Gul Sher Khan (15)
Bakht Muneer (14)
Numair (14)
Mashooq Khan (16)
Ihsanullah (16)
Luqman (12)
Salman (16)
Jannatullah (13)
Ismail (12)
Taseel Khan (18)
Zaheeruddin (16)
Qari Ishaq (19)
Jamshed Khan (14)
Alam Nabi (11), brothers
Qari Abdul Karim (19)
Rahmatullah (14),
Abdus Samad (17)
Siraj (16)
Saeedullah (17)
Abdul Waris (16)
Darvesh (13)
Ameer Said (15)
Shaukat (14)
Inayatur Rahman (17)
Ziaur Rahman (13)
Noor Mohammad (15)
Naeemullah (17)
Hizbullah (10)
Kitab Gul (12)
Wilayat Khan (11)
Zabihullah (16)
Shehzad Gul (11)
Shabir (15)
Qari Sharifullah (17)
Shafiullah (16)
Nimatullah (14)
Shakirullah (16)
Talha (08)
Jamroz Khan
Fazal Wahab (18)
Rahman (13)
Wali-ur-Rahman (17)
Iftikhar (17)
Inayatullah (15)
Adnan (16)
Najibullah (13)

For more on those killed in the drone strike see the Naming the Dead Project.

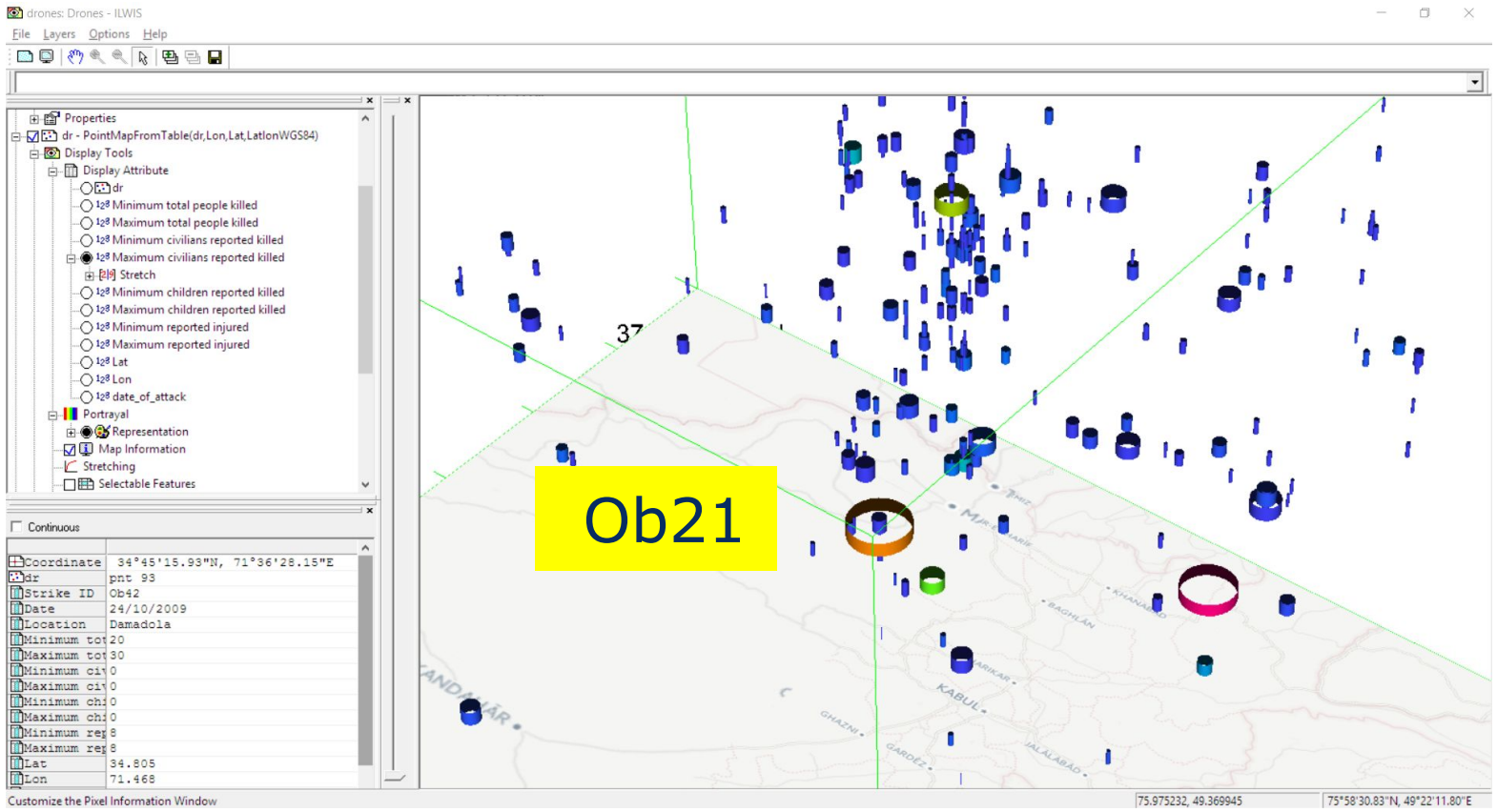


Space-Time-Cube

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.



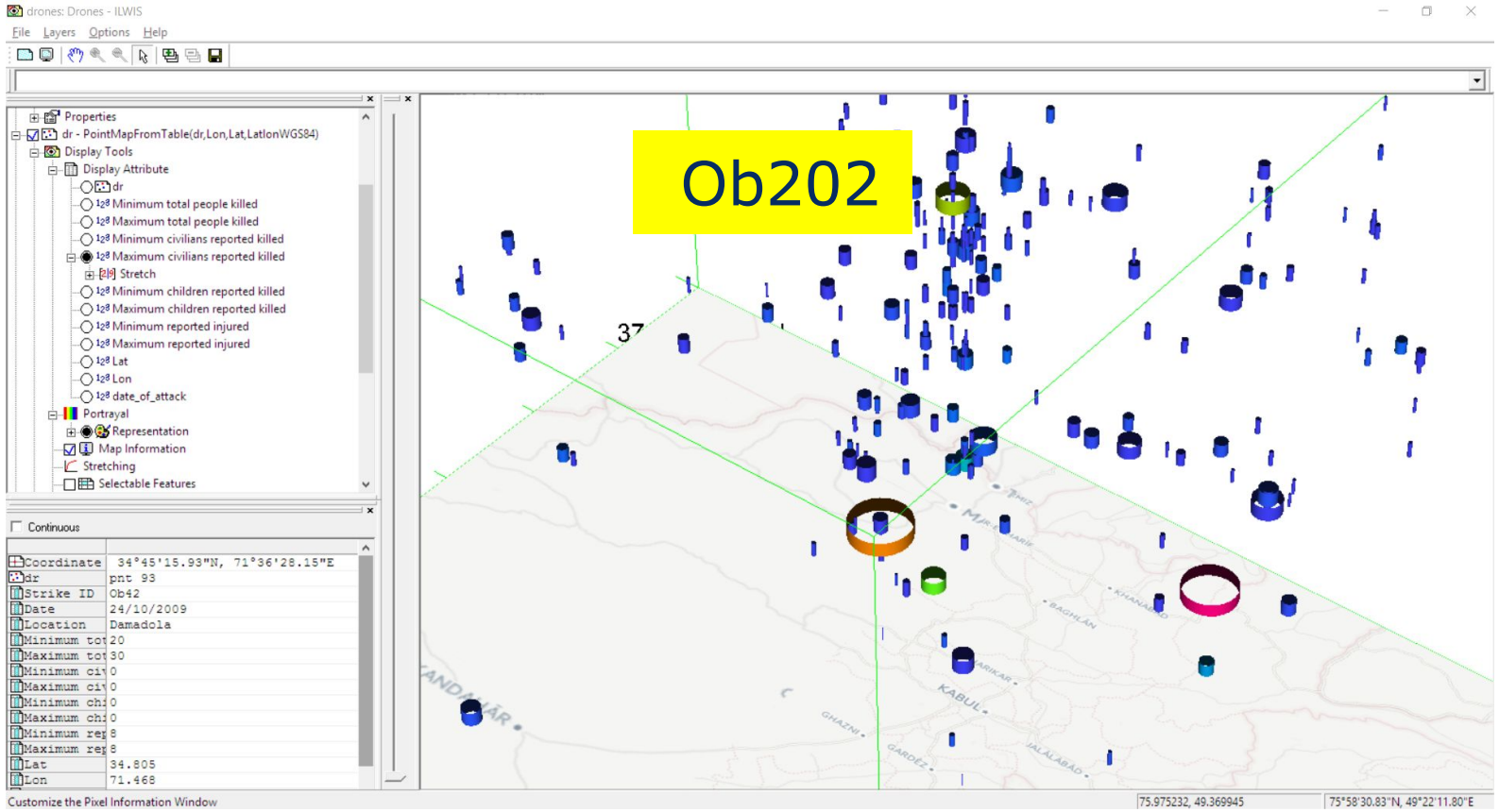
Space-Time-Cube

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)