Research Goal & Questions
The purpose of this study is to find the value of tags in a digital collection for research and educational activities by investigating the way users describe digital resources in tags. Specific research questions are:
• What kinds of terms do users assign to primary historical and classical resources as tags?
• Do tags in digital scholarly collections go beyond content description?
• How do social tags differ from textual annotation of the object?
• In what ways can tags be used to supplement for retrieval purpose and resource representation?

Method & Analysis
• Users’ tags on NINES (1,542 tags for 8,297 items)
• Categorizing tags to identify what attributes tags describe the content of the resource and resource itself.
• Mapping tags to annotation.

Results
• Tags tend to describe subjects and topics of resources (60.38%). It is also interesting to note that Type-related tags are used very frequently (21.23%).
• The most frequent attributes in subject category tags are Person (20.06%), Concept/theme (16.67%), and Geographical Place (8.03%).

Discussion
• Most of the tags were considered as topic-related.
• Many user tags of NINES were related to the nature or physical characteristics of resources.
• The frequent use of type- and topic-related tags may represent users’ ways of describing resources in research and critical analysis of archival and cultural materials in NINES.
• Text and non-text resources were used for research and education in digital humanities.
• In doing research and educational activities in digital humanities domains, both subject content aspects of resources and the nature of the work itself were important for users.
• Users tended to tag resources from a term available in annotation. Such terms appeared mostly in a title of the item. About 20% of tags were distinctive from annotation.