

**Archives of the Arctic. Ice, Entropy and Memory**  
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***Archival Metahistory and inhuman Memory***

Behind the attractive figurative surface of the conference topic /Archives of the Arctic. Ice, Entropy and Memory/ which immediately triggers academic, cultural and artistic imagination lurks a challenge on the pistemic ground level: Is it possible to keep a reasonable balance between the discursive effects induced by the Arctic ice as metaphor for cold memory on the one hand and a technomathematically precise media-scientific discussion of the term like archive, memory, (neg-)entropy and storage on the other? Is it productive to skilfully integrate "figure" and "ground" or rather advisable to keep both ways of analysis distinct?

The underlying assumption of this talk is that it is the technomathematical condition of our media culture which triggers our epistemological interest immediately once the Arctic subject is named - "cold" not only in terms of hardware and of mathematics, but of the media-archaeological research method itself as anticipated by Friedrich Nietzsche's distinctive passion ("Pathos der Distanz").