# Analyzing and Visualizing Double-Entry Bookkeeping: A Digital History Methodology

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Jesse Sadler Virginia Tech @vivalosburros jessesadler.com <u>github.com/jessesadler</u> <u>jessesadler.github.io/debkeepr</u>

Slides: jessesadler.com/slides/rsa2021.pdf

14. Beecoyen verns - - # 164.5. Los



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# The R Project for Statistical Computing

### **Getting Started**

R is a free software environment for statistical computing and graphics. It compiles and runs on a wide variety of UNIX platforms, Windows and MacOS. To **download R**, please choose your preferred CRAN mirror.

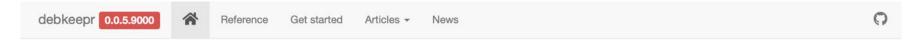
If you have questions about R like how to download and install the software, or what the license terms are, please read our answers to frequently asked questions before you send an email.

### **News**

- R version 4.0.4 (Lost Library Book) has been released on 2021-02-15.
- Thanks to the organisers of useR! 2020 for a successful online conference. Recorded tutorials and talks from the conference are available on the R Consortium YouTube channel.
- R version 3.6.3 (Holding the Windsock) was released on 2020-02-29.
- You can support the R Foundation with a renewable subscription as a supporting member

# debkeepr: Analysis of Non-Decimal Currencies in R

jessesadler.github.io/debkeepr/



### debkeepr: Analysis of Non-Decimal Currencies

debkeepr integrates non-decimal currencies that use the tripartite system of pounds, shillings, and pence into the methodologies of Digital Humanities and the practices of reproducible research. The package makes it possible for historical non-decimal currencies to behave like decimalized numeric values through the implementation of the deb\_lsd and deb\_decimal vector classes or types. These types are based on the infrastructure provided by the vctrs package. debkkeepr simplifies the process of performing arithmetic calculations with non-decimal currencies — such as adding £3 13s. 4d. sterling to £8 15s. 9d. sterling — and also provides a basis for analyzing account books with thousands of transactions recorded in non-decimal currencies. The name of the debkeepr package derives from this latter capability of analyzing historical account books that often used double-entry bookkeeping.

### Installation

You can install debkeepr from GitHub with remotes:

```
# install.packages("remotes")
remotes::install_github("jessesadler/debkeepr")
```

Please open an issue if you have any questions, comments, or requests.

### **Historical Background**

The debkeepr package uses the nomenclature of I, s, and d to represent pounds, shillings, and pence units in non-decimal currencies. The abbreviations derive from the Latin terms libra, solidus, and denarius. The libra was a Roman measurement of weight, while the solidus and denarius were both Roman coins. The denarius was a silver coin from the era of the Republic, in contrast to the golden solidus that was issued in the Late Empire. As the production of silver coins overtook that of gold by the 8th century, a solidus came to represent 12 silver denarii coins, and 240 denarii were — for a time — made from one libra or pound of silver. The custom of

### Links

Browse source code at

https://github.com/jessesadler/debkeepr/

Report a bug at

https://github.com/jessesadler/debkeepr/issues

### License

Full license

MIT + file LICENSE

### Developers

Jesse Sadler

Author, maintainer (1)

### Dev status

build passing

codecov 99%

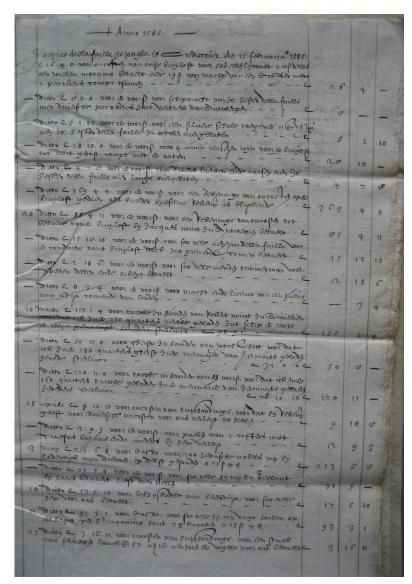
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# Accounting

# Accounting and digital history

- Quantitative analysis
- Visualization
- Reproducibility



# Non-decimal currency nomenclature Isd

Latin units	libra	solidus	denarius
Abbreviation	£	S.	d.
English	Pound	shilling	penny (pence)
Bases	$\infty$	20	12

# Names for non-decimal currencies

- Pound sterling: pound<sub>∞</sub>, shilling<sub>20</sub>, penny<sub>12</sub>
- Pound Flemish: pond<sub>∞</sub>, schelling<sub>20</sub>, groot<sub>12</sub>
- Holland guilders: guilder∞, stuiver<sub>20</sub>, penning<sub>16</sub>
- French crowns: crown∞, sous<sub>60</sub>, denier<sub>12</sub>
- Polish florins: florin∞, gros<sub>30</sub>, denar<sub>18</sub>

# Difficulties with non-decimal currencies

- One value is represented by three separate units
- The solidus and denarius units have non-decimal bases
- The bases could differ by currency

# 學 1/34.8.1

## Arithmetic

£	S.	d.
28	15	8
32	8	11
54	18	7
18	12	9

# Compound unit arithmetic

	£	S.	d.
	28	15	8
	32	8	11
	54	18	7
	18	12	9
Unit total	132	53	35

# Compound unit arithmetic

	Answer	£134	15s.	11d.
	Remainder	_	15	11
	Divide by base	-	55 / 20	35 / 12
Normalization	Carried forward	2	2	-
	Unit total	132	53	35
		18	12	9
		54	18	7
		32	8	11
		28	15	8
		£	S.	d.

# Decimalization

£	S.	d.	Decimal
28	15	8	28.78333
32	8	11	32.44583
54	18	7	54.92917
18	12	9	18.63750

# Decimalization

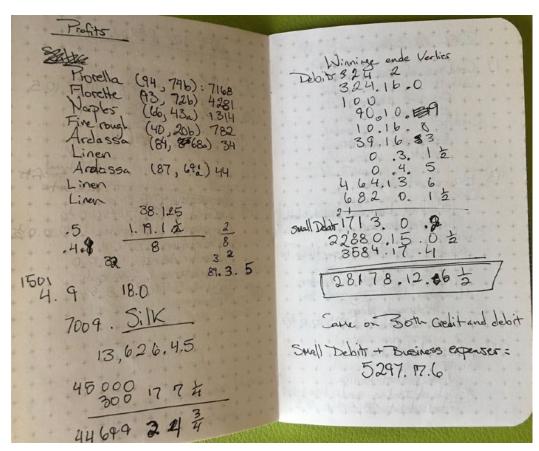
£	S.	d.	Decimal
28	15	8	28.78333
32	8	11	32.44583
54	18	7	54.92917
18	12	9	18.63750
			124 7050

# Decimalization

	£	S.	d.	Decimal
	28	15	8	28.78333
	32	8	11	32.44583
	54	18	7	54.92917
	18	12	9	18.63750
Total				134.7958
Non-decimal	?	?	?	

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# Arithmetic by hand

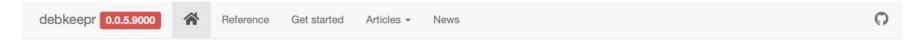


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How to enter the values into a spreadsheet?

# debkeepr: Analysis of Non-Decimal Currencies in R

jessesadler.github.io/debkeepr/



### debkeepr: Analysis of Non-Decimal Currencies

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https://github.com/jessesadler/debkeepr/

Report a bug at

https://github.com/jessesadler/debkeepr/issues

### License

Full license

MIT + file LICENSE

### Developers

Jesse Sadler

Author, maintainer (1)

### Dev status

build passing

codecov 99%

lifecycle experimental

# Normalization

R version 4.0.3 (2020-10-10) "Bunny-Wunnies Freak Out" Copyright (C) 2020 The R Foundation for Statistical Computing	;	Com	Compound unit		
Platform: x86_64-apple-darwin17.0 (64-bit)		£	S.	d.	
R is free software and comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY.		28	15	8	
You are welcome to redistribute it under certain conditions.	32	8	11		
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Type 'contributors()' for more information and	Carried	2	2	-	
'citation()' on how to cite R or R packages in publications.	Divide by	-	55 / 20	35 / 12	
Type 'demo()' for some demos, 'help()' for on-line help, or	Remainder		15	11	
'help.start()' for an HTML browser interface to help.  Type 'q()' to quit R.	Answer	£134	15s.	11d.	

> library(debkeepr)

### Structure of the classes

# Tripartite structure

deb\_lsd

# Decimalized

deb\_decimal

```
#> <deb_lsd[3]>
#> [1] 17:16s:6d 32:7s:9d
#> [3] 18:12s:3d
#> # Bases: 20s 12d
```

```
#> <deb_decimal[3]>
#> [1] 17.8250 32.3875
#> [3] 18.6125
#> # Unit: pounds
#> # Bases: 20s 12d
```

### Structure of the classes

# Tripartite structure

deb\_lsd

# Decimalized

deb\_decimal

```
deb_lsd(l = c(17, 32, 18),
                               deb_decimal(x = c(17.8250,
        s = c(16, 7, 12),
                                                  32.3875,
        d = c(6, 9, 3)
                                                  18.6125))
                    Class and
   <deb_lsd[3]>
                               #> <deb_decimal[3]>
   [1] 17:16s:6d 32:7s:9d
                                  [1] 17.8250 32.3875
      18:12s:3d
                                   [3] 18.6125
  # Bases: 20s 12d
                               #>
                                  # Unit: pounds
                               #> # Bases: 20s 12d
               Bases attribute
```

# Multiplication

```
Rule II. "If the multiplier be a composite num-
"ber, whose component parts do not exceed 12, mul-
"tiply first by one of these parts, then multiply the-
"product by the other. Proceed in the same man-
"ner if there be more than two."

Ex. 1st.] L. 15 3 8 by 32 = 8×4

L. 121 9 4 = 8 times.

4

L. 485 17 4 = 32 times.
```

```
# Multiply £15 3s. 8d.
    sterling by 32

deb_lsd(15, 3, 8) * 32

#> <deb_lsd[1]>
#> [1] 485:17s:4d
#> # Bases: 20s 12d
```

# Division

```
RULE I. "When the dividend only confifts of
" different denominations, divide the higher deno-
" mination, and reduce the remainder to the next
" lower, taking in (p. 296. Rule V.) the given num-
" ber of that denomination, and continue the divi-
" fion,"
                    Examples.
Divide L. 465: 12:8
                        Divide 345 cwt. 1 q. 8 lb.
                          by 22.
    L. s. d. L. s. d.
                            Cwt. q. lb. Cwt. q. lb.
72) 465 12 8 (6 9 4
                        22) 345 1 8
                                       (15 2 21
                             IIO
72) 672
                           22)61
72)296
     8 Rem.
                             144
                             34
  Or we might divide by
                         22)484
the component parts of
72, (as explained under
Thirdly, p. 298).
```

```
# Divide 345cwt. 1q. 8lbs.
  by 22
x \leftarrow deb_lsd(345, 1, 8,
              bases = c(4, 28))
x / 22
   <deb_lsd[1]>
   [1] 15:2s:22d
#> # Bases: 4s 28d
```

```
# See the debkeepr website for more examples
x \leftarrow deb_lsd(l = c(28, 32, 54, 18),
             s = c(15, 8, 18, 12),
             d = c(8, 11, 7, 9))
sum(x)
#> <deb_lsd[1]>
#> [1] 134:15s:11d
#> # Bases: 20s 12d
deb_lsd(15, 13, 4) + deb_lsd(6, 15, 9)
#> <deb lsd[1]>
#> [1] 22:9s:1d
#> # Bases: 20s 12d
deb_lsd(15, 15, 9) - deb_lsd(6, 13, 4)
#> <deb_lsd[1]>
#> [1] 9:2s:5d
#> # Bases: 20s 12d
```

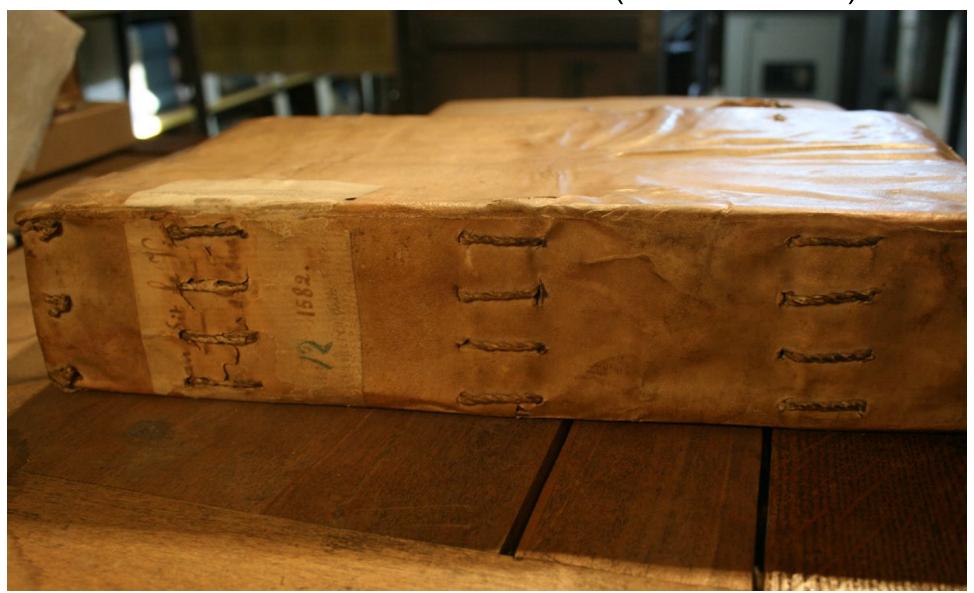
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2	2	3	16330101	477	10	0	1	1/1
3	2	4	16330101	55	0	6	1	2/1
4	2	5	16330101	240	0	0	1	2/1
5	2	6	16330101	229	0	0	1	2/1
6	2	8	16330101	3	17	8	1	3/1
7	7	2	16330101	150	0	0	1	1/2
8	9	11	16330104	360	0	0	1	4/3
9	1	9	16330104	144	0	0	2	3/1
10	5	10	16330104	120	0	0	2	3/2
11	13	12	16330109	180	0	0	2	4/4
12	1	13	16330109	120	0	0	2	4/1
13	14	7	16330109	40	0	0	2	2/5
14	5	15	16330103	120	0	0	2	5/2
15	16	15	16330103	3	4	0	2	5/5
16	3	12	16330103	270	0	0	2	4/1
17	14	7	16330103	90	0	0	2	2/5
18	18	17	16330117	566	13	4	3	5/6
19	19	18	16330117	340	0	0	3	6/6
20	13	20	16330123	564	1	5	3	6/4
21	23	21	16330123	2	11	11	3	7/7
22	19	18	16330123	225	12	7	3	6/6

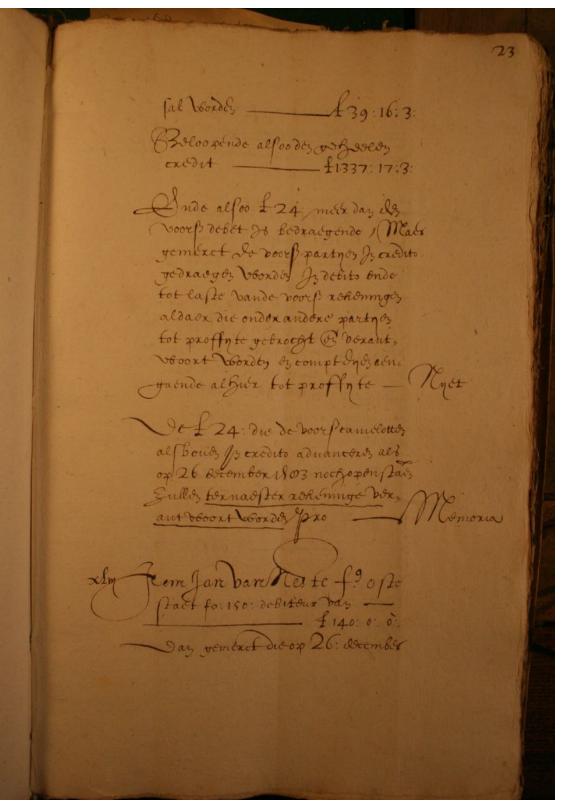
# Entering data into a spreadsheet

# # Create a data frame with a deb\_lsd column deb\_gather\_lsd()

```
A tibble: 177 x 5
      id credit debit date
                                                lsd
          <dbl> <dbl> <date>
                                    <lsd[20s:12d]>
   <dbl>
                      1 1633-01-01
                                       1000:15s:7d
 1
               2
       1
                     3 1633-01-01
                                        477:10s:0d
       3
                                          55:0s:6d
3
                     4 1633-01-01
               2
       4
                     5 1633-01-01
                                         240:0s:0d
 5
       5
                                         229:0s:0d
                     6 1633-01-01
 6
       6
                     8 1633-01-01
                                          3:17s:8d
                     2 1633-01-01
                                         150:0s:0d
 8
       8
                    11 1633-01-04
                                         360:0s:0d
 9
       9
                     9 1633-01-04
                                         144:0s:0d
               5
                                         120:0s:0d
10
      10
                    10 1633-01-04
 ... with 167 more rows
```

# Example: The estate of Jan della Faille de Oude (1515–1582)



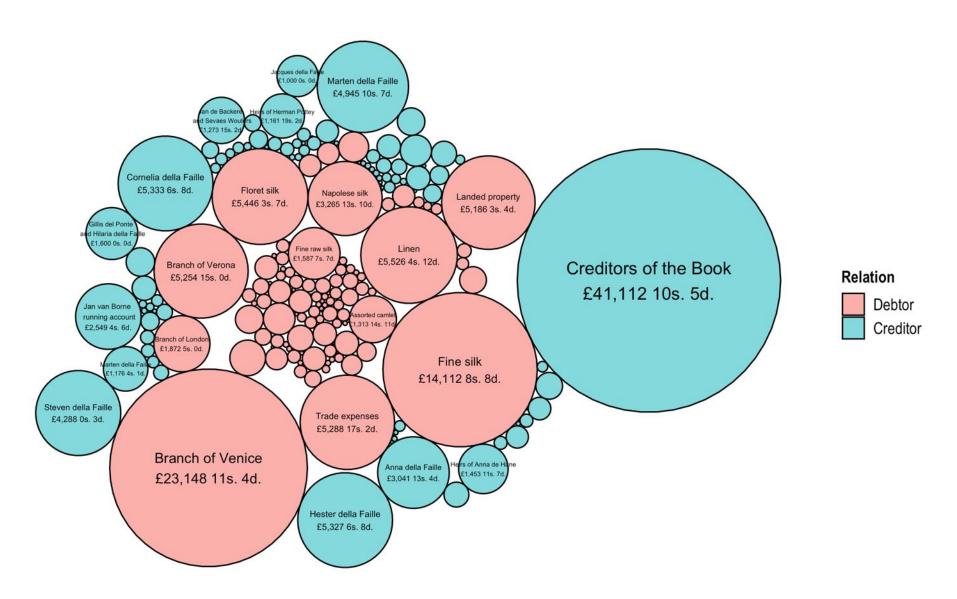


Accounts of the estate of Jan della Faille de Oude

- 8 November 1582 to 31 December 1594
- 2,155 transactions
- 480 accounts

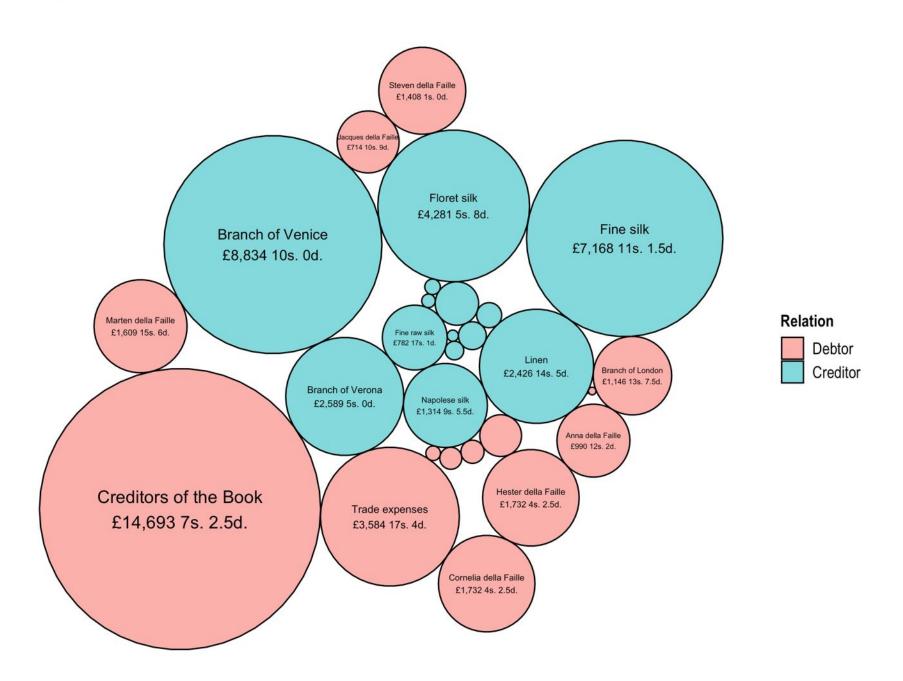
### Value of accounts in the estate of Jan della Faille de Oude, 8 December 1582

Opening value of the estate: £82,813 5s. 8d.



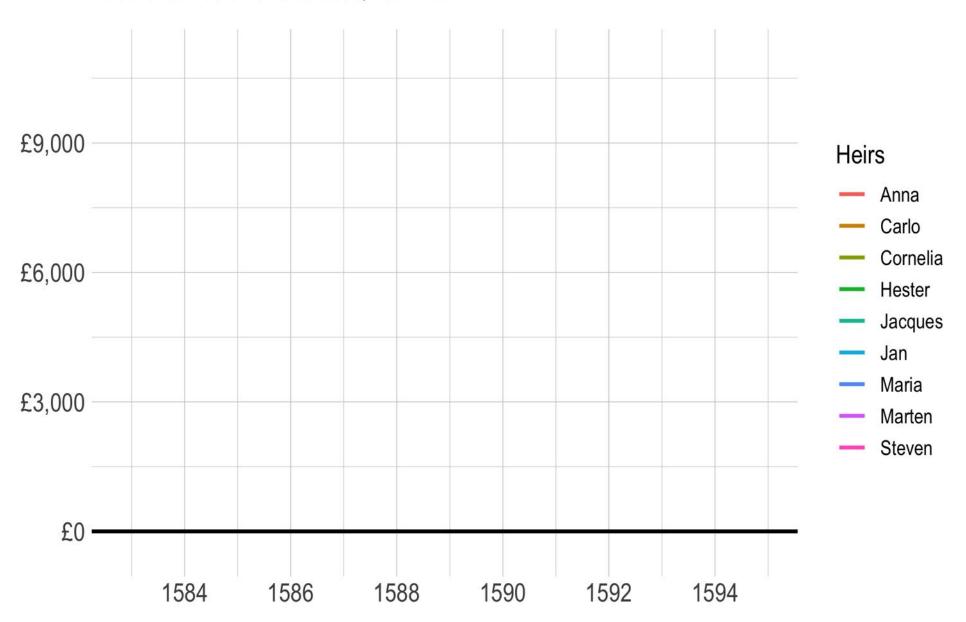
### Profits and losses in the trade of Jan de Oude

1 January 1579 to 26 December 1583



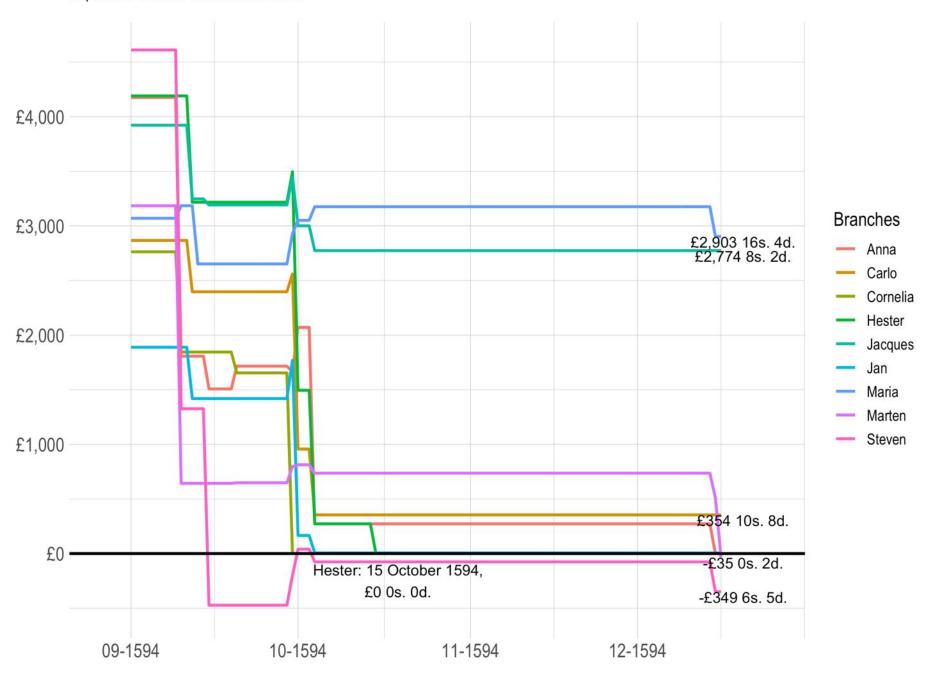
### Inheritance due to the heirs of Jan de Oude

Estate of Jan della Faille de Oude, 1582–1594



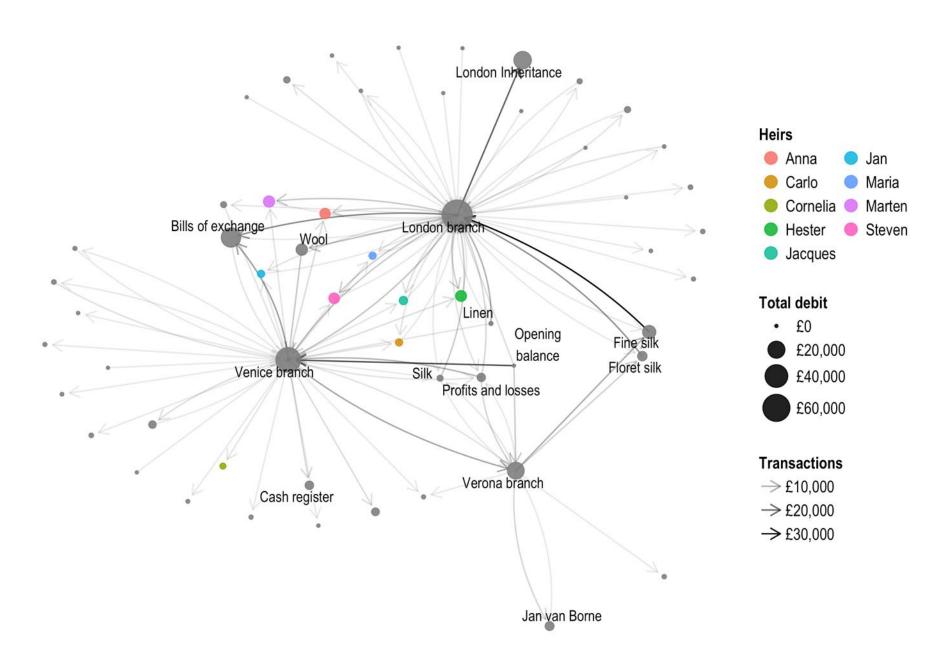
### Inheritance due to the heirs of Jan de Oude

September 1594 to 16 December 1594



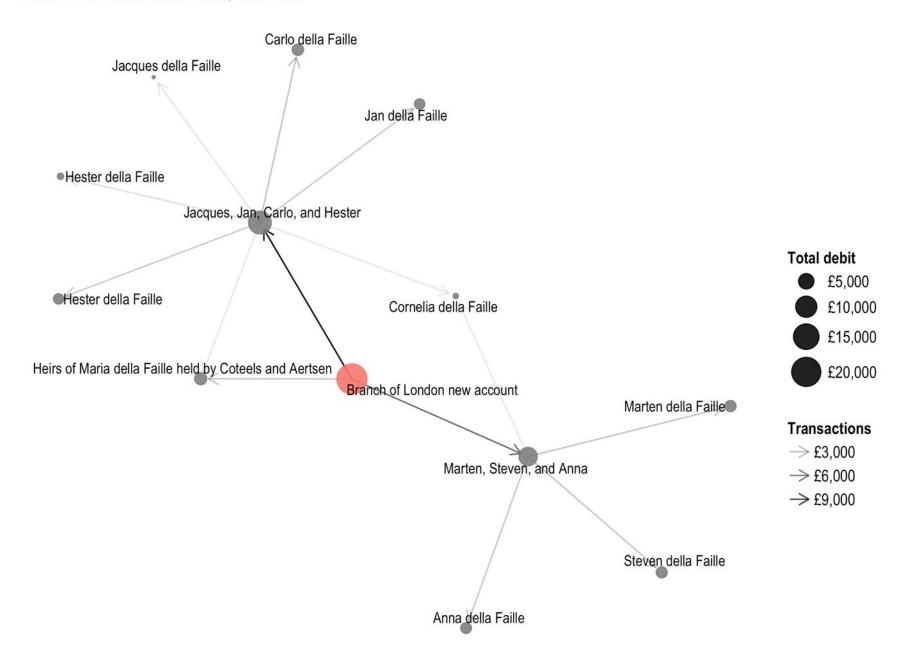
### Subgraph of the branches in the trade of Jan de Oude

Estate of Jan della Faille de Oude, 1582-1594

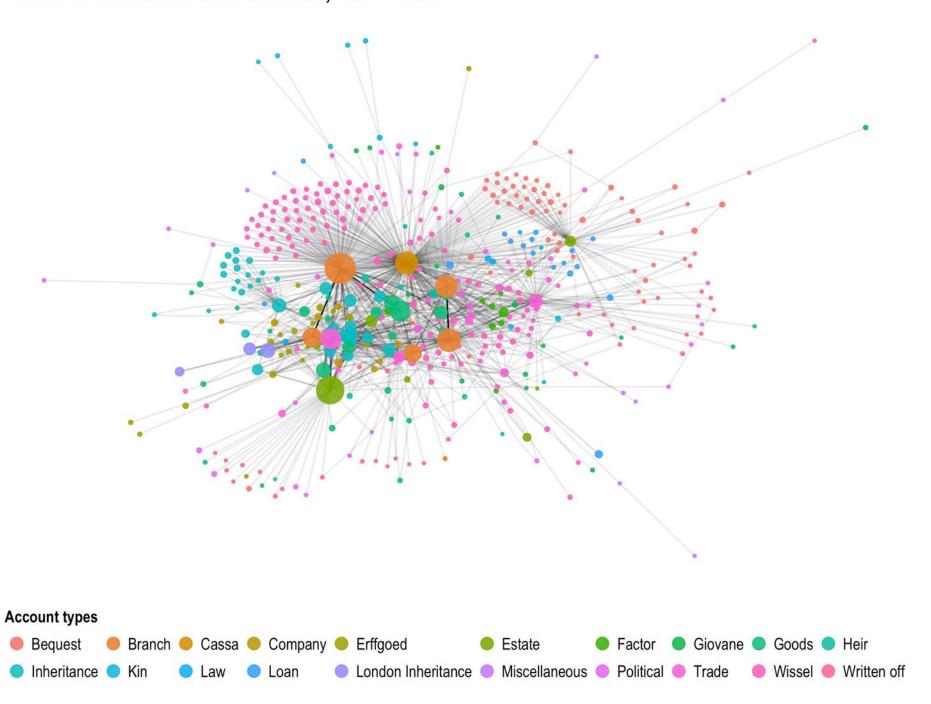


### Subgraph of the inheritance from London

Estate of Jan della Faille de Oude, 1582-1594



### Estate of Jan della Faille de Oude, 1582-1594



# debkeepr: A digital history methodology for non-decimal currencies

- Simplify individual calculations
- Makes data entry of account books worth the effort
- Data analysis
- Visualization
- Reproducible research

# debkeepr: Analysis of Non-Decimal Currencies in R

jessesadler.github.io/debkeepr/



### debkeepr: Analysis of Non-Decimal Currencies

debkeepr integrates non-decimal currencies that use the tripartite system of pounds, shillings, and pence into the methodologies of Digital Humanities and the practices of reproducible research. The package makes it possible for historical non-decimal currencies to behave like decimalized numeric values through the implementation of the deb\_lsd and deb\_decimal vector classes or types. These types are based on the infrastructure provided by the vctrs package. debkkeepr simplifies the process of performing arithmetic calculations with non-decimal currencies — such as adding £3 13s. 4d. sterling to £8 15s. 9d. sterling — and also provides a basis for analyzing account books with thousands of transactions recorded in non-decimal currencies. The name of the debkeepr package derives from this latter capability of analyzing historical account books that often used double-entry bookkeeping.

### Installation

You can install debkeepr from GitHub with remotes:

```
# install.packages("remotes")
remotes::install_github("jessesadler/debkeepr")
```

Please open an issue if you have any questions, comments, or requests.

### Historical Background

The debkeepr package uses the nomenclature of I, s, and d to represent pounds, shillings, and pence units in non-decimal currencies. The abbreviations derive from the Latin terms libra, solidus, and denarius. The libra was a Roman measurement of weight, while the solidus and denarius were both Roman coins. The denarius was a silver coin from the era of the Republic, in contrast to the golden solidus that was issued in the Late Empire. As the production of silver coins overtook that of gold by the 8th century, a solidus came to represent 12 silver denarii coins, and 240 denarii were — for a time — made from one libra or pound of silver. The custom of

### Links

Browse source code at

https://github.com/jessesadler/debkeepr/

Report a bug at

https://github.com/jessesadler/debkeepr/issues

### License

Full license

MIT + file LICENSE

### Developers

Jesse Sadler

Author, maintainer (i)

### Dev status

build passing

codecov 99%

lifecycle experimental

# om van der voorder ovier noremberg oh Halien in Sander van frank Ihank you

factuere van 6. Baelkens witte lijwaeten Xogr. 90.99. 100. 101. 102

in maraine door Joes de rogele vint Sacriem outer Amsterdam op Sambord

Jesse Sadler

Twitter: @vivalosburros

Website: jessesadler.com

GitHub: github.com/jessesadler

debkeepr: jessesadler.github.io/debkeepr

Slides: jessesadler.com/slides/rsa2021.pdf

- @ g 14 · Beecoyen beend - - # 164 · 5 · 103