Sharing Ancient Wisdoms

Exploring the tradition of Greek and Arabic wisdom literatures

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Newman Institute, Uppsala
The **SAWS** team

- Charlotte Roueché, Charlotte Tupman, Stuart Dunn, Mark Hedges, Miguel Vieira
- *King’s College London*
- Denis Searby and team
  *Newman Institute, Uppsala*
- Stephan Procházka and Elvira Wakelnig and team
  *University of Vienna*
Aims of the **SAWS** project

• To exploit digital technologies in order to understand and publish collections of citations

• We are investigating ‘gnomic’ sayings, moral and philosophical, in Greek and Arabic

• Our primary focus is on Greek collections of ‘sayings’, *gnomologia*, from the ninth - twelfth centuries, and on Arabic collections of sayings from the same period
B. Wassiliewsky, V. Jernstedt edd., *Cecaumeni Strategicon : et incerti scriptoris De officiis regiis libellus* (St Petersburg, 1896)  
I want you to love all men; only don’t tell your secrets to anyone - for this is very dangerous. From the moment that you have spoken your secrets to anyone, from then on you are his slave, and he will hurt and insult you extremely, and you won’t dare to answer him back. And why should you voluntarily give up your freedom? Certainly you will say: ‘He is virtuous, and will not make my secrets public’; and you don’t realise that you yourself have made them common knowledge by speaking them into someone’s ears. For what comes in by the ears is made public by the lips. So you should not tell secrets of yours to anyone; as the prophet says: ‘Keep this from your bedfellow’.
Menandri Sententiae Comp. I.45-6, II.89, μυστηριών σου μήποτ’ εἶπης τῷ φίλῳ / κοῦ μὴ φοβηθῆς αὐτὸν ἕχθρὸν γενόμενον.
Wachsmuth Flor. 137.vii. Cf. also Spaneas (ed. Lambros) 370

Micah 7.5 ἐπὶ τοῦ συγκοίτου σοῦ φύλαττε τοῦτο
Micah 7.5, in Sacra Parallela 1321B , Flor. Patmos 53.1, Melissa 1088D (all under women)
ἀλέξάνδρου τοῦ μακεδόνος

Ο αὐτὸς ἔρωτηθεὶς τὴν μᾶλλον ἁγαπᾷ φίλιππον, ἢ ἀριστοτέλην, εἶπεν ὁμοίως ἄφοτέρους· ὅ ἐν γὰρ μοι τὸ ζῆν ἐχαρίσατο· ὅ δὲ τὸ καλὸς ζῆν ἐπαιδεύσει· λόγῳ εἰς ὅλον συγκυρίου· καὶ φιάλην χρύσην

* Underlining represents the small lines, perhaps coloured, that appears above names.
Alexander, asked whom he loved more, Philip or Aristotle, said: "Both equally, for one gave me the gift of life, the other taught me to live the virtuous life.

Plutarch, *Life of Alexander* 8.4.1

Alexander admired Aristotle at the start and loved him no less, as he himself said, than his own father, since he had life through his father but the virtuous life through Aristotle …

Diogenes Laertius 5.19, *Life of Aristotle*

Aristotle said that educators are more to be honored than mere begetters, for the latter offer life but the former offer the good life.

He said: Fathers are the cause of life, but philosophers are the cause of the good life. *Selections from the Sayings of the Four Philosophers*: (B) Pythagoras saying 18 (ed. Gutas)
بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

إذن عصرنا كليم فالفاف للاطلال شريعة العمل والطلبة خيرون فان الناس ليس
يسلون في الكوع من هذا العمل ما يستمان فماوجود وافف لا يخفص صعحة
جحل الزادة وافف لولكن ما يرفف أختاما للعاقات أن ينها لكان كيف ها
وفاف زادة كفيلة فما يطم بجيله البيه من يدك حبل أي أعطاه فوفاف
عطية العلم صبيحة، موحاة وسلام
لأنه لا ينفع عند الجواب ما آتاهما لكون
I am looking for a comfortable way to publish medieval texts 

Kekaumenos, *Consilia et Narrationes*, 54, 6-11

Child, don't be proud, even if you should be very successful, but remember him who said: “Every arrogant man is an abomination to the Lord”, and, “The Lord is opposed to the proud, but He gives grace to the humble”. As the thief has to deal with the owner of the property, and the seducer is opposed to the husband of the seduced woman, so the proud man has God opposed to him.

(1) Prov. 16.5 - *Flor. Patmos* 22.24, *Melissa* 1180D
(2) Prov. 3.34 - *Melissa* 1180D

THIS ISN’T GOOD ENOUGH!!
We have decided that the basic unit of analysis is:

*one citation by a scribe in one particular manuscript*

• All further relationships will be based around this unit

• We are recording all identified relationships and will then decide which ones we want to express
1. Production of searchable digital texts (gnomologia, source texts, recipient texts)

   TEI XML

2. Linking of ‘snippets’ of these texts to related snippets within, and between, the gnomologia and their source and recipient texts, by means of defined relationships

   RDF/OWL
TEI: Text Encoding Initiative

The Text Encoding Initiative (TEI) is a consortium which collectively develops and maintains a standard for the representation of texts in digital form. Its chief deliverable is a set of Guidelines which specify encoding methods for machine-readable texts, chiefly in the humanities, social sciences and linguistics. Since 1994, the TEI Guidelines have been widely used by libraries, museums, publishers, and individual scholars to present texts for online research, teaching, and preservation. In addition to the Guidelines themselves, the Consortium provides a variety of supporting resources, including resources for learning TEI, information on projects using the TEI, TEI-related publications, and software developed for or adapted to the TEI.

The TEI Consortium is a non-profit membership organization composed of academic institutions, research projects, and individual scholars from around the world. Members contribute financially to the Consortium and elect representatives to its Council and Board of Directors.

Want to become active in the TEI community? Become a TEI Member, join a Special Interest Group, sign up for the TEI-L mailing list, and come to our annual meetings.
Πάνω ήπια, τα πατάρια και δώρα μονάχα είναι και δώρα πάνω.

Ο αίτης θεσμού και σε μηδέν έρχοντα είναι και δώρα πάνω.

Το διάλειμμα του διώροφου φούσκα του και περηφάνεια του.

Τοπίο τον υπόλοιπο στο χώρο όλο και περισσότερο.

Τηλεφωνία έχει τον επικοινωνιακό χώρο.

Ο πρώτος τον υπόλοιπο στο χώρο όλο και περισσότερο.

Προσελκύοντας καθένα τον και λίγους, η χρήση της και περισσότερο.

Αυτός ο πρώτος τον υπόλοιπο στο χώρο όλο και περισσότερο.

Ο πρώτος τον υπόλοιπο στο χώρο όλο και περισσότερο.

Το χωρίο του και περισσότερο.

Το χωρίο του και περισσότερο.

Το χωρίο του και περισσότερο.

Το χωρίο του και περισσότερο.

Αυτός ο πρώτος τον υπόλοιπο στο χώρο όλο και περισσότερο.

Το χωρίο του και περισσότερο.

Το χωρίο του και περισσότερο.

Διαμέρισμα της και περισσότερο.

Το χωρίο του και περισσότερο.

Το χωρίο του και περισσότερο.

Το χωρίο του και περισσότερο.

Το χωρίο του και περισσότερο.

Το χωρίο του και περισσότερο.
لا أنى أن يكون هناك العربي في الكلمة الأولى أو الأربعة إذا لم يكن هناك نموذج.

إذا كنت تريد أن تكون العربية في الكلمة الأولى أو الأربعة إذا لم يكن هناك نموذج.

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إذا كنت تريد أن تكون العربية في الكلمة الأولى أو الأربعة إذا لم يكن هناك نموذج.
We are exploring relationships:

1. Within a particular collection
2. Between collections
3. Between languages
4. Between collections and ‘source texts’
5. Between collections and ‘recipient’ texts which made use of them
Alexander, asked whom he loved more, Philip or Aristotle, said: "Both equally, for one gave me the gift of life, the other taught me to live the virtuous life.

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Some of the relationships we have identified:

- Is related to
- Is identical to
- Is correction of
- Is variant word choice of
- Is variant word order of
- Is shorter variant of
- Is longer variant of
- Is translation of
Ὁ αὐτὸς θεασάμενος μειράκιον ἄσωτον δεδαπανηκὸς τὰ πατρώα· καὶ ἁρτον μόνον ἐσθίον καὶ ὕδωρ πίνον· ἔφη.

xml:id generates URI:
http://www.saws.ac.uk/seg/narrative/AppGnomVat025n1
Observations

• Number of analogous mss is very large!

• Not just creating digital editions of some mss, but rather the kernel of a larger interconnected corpus

• Research value of relationships will increase dramatically with the size of the corpus

• We are creating a framework for others to use and extend

• A growing network of interconnected information
Annotation tools
User adds relationships

ms (TEI)

snip

ms (TEI)

snip

ms (TEI)

snip

snip

snip

snip

snip

snip

snip

Triplestore
User query/browse
About TextGrid

The TextGrid project

TextGrid is a joint project between ten partners. It is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) for the period starting June 1st 2000 to May 31st 2012 (reference number: 01UG0901A).

During the initial phase of the project, TextGrid accomplishes fundamental development work and established the infrastructure for a virtual research environment in the humanities disciplines. The second phase of the project has as its goal the conversion of the virtual research ambit into a sustainable operation, as well as achieving a wide base usability.

The TextGrid Virtual Research Environment consists primarily of two components:

1. The TextGrid Repository, a long-term archive for research data in the humanities, embedded in a grid infrastructure, will ensure long-term availability and access to its research data as well as interoperability. The TextGridRep will be further developed during the duration of the project.

2. The TextGrid Laboratory, a single point of entry to the virtual research environment, will provide integrated access to both new and existing tools and services via a User friendly software. The TextGridLab will be improved according to the suggestions of the TextGrid user communities and supplemented by integrating new tools such as optical character recognition for Gothic print during the term of the project. The TextGrid Lab will be advanced continuously, enhanced with new features and regularly applied to public beta tests. Download TextGridLab Beta

TextGrid as an infrastructure project has several target groups:

a) faculty, who use TextGrid for their research projects,
b) developers, who integrate services and tools in TextGrid,
c) and content providers, who allocate data into TextGrid.

This vision of a digital ecosystem is based on the open source idea, which enables free exchange of tools and data, whereby services adaptation is made possible according to requirements of the discipline-specific needs.

New academic communities from art history, classical philology and musicology have joined the TextGrid consortium in the second phase of the project and another discipline will be involved during the project term. In addition, TextGrid will implement a community specific legal form for integration in the D-Grid business model.

The Grid context

The need for a research environment with grid-capable architecture in the humanities is clear: grids can more easily deal with the enormous, constantly increasing amounts of data - several hundred terabytes by now - that have come into existence through digitalization initiatives in recent years. In addition, the installation of grid structures makes possible collaborations between researchers who are currently working on similar projects but are separated by physical distance, enabling their integration into virtual research communities. Furthermore, tools will be available globally that previously were only available on a local level. In this way a platform can be constructed in which experts in different subject areas can devote themselves, independent of time and location, to the problems of a constantly evolving research landscape with the help of up-to-date methods and procedures.

Textgrid is one of five academic community projects that have been developing a grid infrastructure and an integration platform for...
Outcomes

• New editions published online (Open Access)
• Identified relationships between texts
• Methodology and tools to be used by others analyzing and publishing similar material

And ultimately, a better understanding of the cultural dynamics of these texts and collections
What we need from you!

• What types of editing tools are you interested in us building?

• Input into defining relationships across different types of texts
Thank you!

**Sharing Ancient Wisdom**

charlotte.roueche@kcl.ac.uk
charlotte.tupman@kcl.ac.uk

Aristotle tutoring Alexander
(13th century manuscript)