Networking Ancient People

The SNAP:DRGN project

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King’s College London

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University of Oxford
Standards for Networking Ancient Prosopographies: Data and Relations in Greco-Roman Names

- Origins of the project
- Aims of the SNAP:DRGN project
- State of play
Sharing Ancient Wisdoms

Welcome to the website of the Sharing Ancient Wisdoms project, and the SAWS Dynamic Library of Wisdom Literatures.

This project was funded by Humanities in the European Research Area, as part of their first Joint Research Programme. We are very grateful to them, and to our home institutions: King’s College London, The Newman Institute Uppsala, and the University of Vienna.
The beginnings of a collation of prosopographies of greco-roman persons/names, both digital and in print.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Online?</th>
<th>URLs?</th>
<th>RDF?</th>
<th>Alignments</th>
<th>References</th>
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<td>Analytical Onomasticon to the Metamorphoses of Ovid (DC wiki)</td>
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<td>Y</td>
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<td>Laterculi Praesidium (DC wiki)</td>
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<td>(Sundwall 1910)</td>
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<td>Y</td>
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<td>Prosopographie der Lakedämonier</td>
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</table>
LAWDI 2013 Breakout Ideas

People/Names/Prosopographies
- including SNAP group (GB, HC, MD, LI, FL, [++]):
  - get the large e-prosopographies to mint URIs
  - taxonomy of types of person/name entity
  - think about use-cases for the kinds of statements people might want to make about our datasets
  - hierarchical ontology of types of relationships
  - agree standards to link, record, and express relations between and with entities and datasets
  - produce “cookery book” and hold workshops to encourage smaller prosopographies and stakeholders to contribute (a) uris and (b) relationships

• Existing work in this area
• People-related things (e.g., offices/magistracies, name references)
• Encoded Archival Context for Corporate bodies, Persons and Families (EAC-CPF) RDF for LAD (Linked Archival Data), http://archivi.ibc.regione.emilia-romagna.it/ontology/reference_document/referencedocument.html
Bringing people together

- King’s College London
  - Gabriel Bodard
  - Faith Lawrence
- Oxford: Sebastian Rahtz (LGPN)
- Southampton: Leif Isaksen (Pelagios)
- Leuven: Mark Depauw (Trismegistos)
- Duke: Hugh Cayless (Papyri.info)
AIMS OF THE PROJECT
On the model of Ancient Geography
On the model of Ancient Geography
SNAP:DRGN fundamentals

- An *index* to ancient world people, not a new prosopography: an ancient world VIAF or ORCID
- Modelling just those aspects of people which are relevant to relationships and disambiguation
- *Annotation* not *cataloguing*
- A place to store the conclusions of disambiguation
- **Linked Open Data** - a mindset and a technicality
Linked data: a reminder

_available on the web (whatever format), but with an open licence

Available as machine-readable structured data (e.g. Excel instead of image scan of a table)

As (2) plus non-proprietary format (e.g. CSV instead of Excel)

All the above, plus: Use open standards from W3C (RDF and SPARQL) to identify things, so that people can point at your stuff

All the above, plus: Link your data to other people’s data to provide context
Joining the SNAP:DRGN collective

I. Put your prosopography online (with URIs)
II. Contribute minimal RDF of persons to SNAP:DRGN
III. Identify co-references between prosopographies
IV. Make assertions/relationships between persons
V. Annotate texts with person identifiers
SNAP:DRGN recommendations

I. Put your prosopography online (with URIs)
   o Lexicon of Greek Personal Names
   o Trismegistos (Ptolemaic Prosopography + Papyri)
   o Prosopographia Imperii Romani (index)

II. Contribute minimal RDF of persons to SNAP:DRGN

III. Identify co-references between prosopographies

IV. Make assertions/relationships between persons

V. Annotate texts with person identifiers
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lexicon of Greek Personal Names</th>
<th>Greek names from 700 BC to 700 AD, modelling persons as a side effect</th>
<th>303102 people</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trismegistos</td>
<td>Papyrological and epigraphical resources dealing with Egypt and the Nile valley between 800 BC and AD 800</td>
<td>367048 people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosopographia Imperii Romani</td>
<td>Leadership of the Roman Empire from the reign of Augustus (32 BC) to the 3rd century AD, including the imperial families, senators, equites, etc.</td>
<td>10924 people</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Data quality: LGPN

• Stable URIs for people: http://www.lgpn.ox.ac.uk/id/V2-25595

• Modelling names separately from people

• Regularized dates: \(?500-475BC\)

But

• Relationships are textual: “f. Χάρτος”

• Textual references only: “LSAG\(^2\) p. 132 no. 33”

• Name variants are not formally linked: \(IG \ IΧ \ (1) \ 291; \ LSAG2\) p. 108 no. 12 (date) (–το (gen.))

• Not fully dereferenceable
Data quality: PIR

- Established identifiers
- Agreed disambiguation

**BUT**

- No sources for attestation
- Not dereferenceable
- No relationship information
- No modelling of names
Data quality: Trismegistos

- Established IDs
- Linking to source: Πεκύσιος. Bodl. 2 1115, 2 (full text via Papyri.info)
- Linked relationships
- Modelling of name variants
- Clear distinction between name, person, and attestation

**BUT**
- Not fully dereferenceable
Dereferencing: example

- Start with http://collection.britishmuseum.org/id/person-institution/170284 (a person)
- Follow link to http://collection.britishmuseum.org/id/person-institution/52701/appellation/3 to get name
- Follow link to http://collection.britishmuseum.org/id/thesauri/profession/ruler to get status

In each case reading RDF data
SNAP:DRGN recommendations

I. Put your prosopography online (with URIs)
II. Contribute minimal RDF of persons to SNAP:DRGN
III. Identify co-references between prosopographies
IV. Make assertions/relationships between persons
V. Annotate texts with person identifiers
A partner workflow

1. Decide whether you have a set of names, a set of attestations, or a prosopography

2. Identify your records

3. Establish the identities online

4. Data wrangling/clean-up

5. Transform the data

6. Make the RDF available
Data partners

- Sharing Ancient Wisdoms (SAWS)
- Roman Inscriptions of Britain (RIB) name index
- Prosopography of the Byzantine World (PBW)
- Smith Dictionary
- Syriac Saints
- Syriac Prosopography
- Hellenistic Babylon
- Roman Emperors
- Numismatic issuers and authorities
- Ceramic painters and potters
- British Museum people
- Prosopography of the Byzantine Empire (PBE)
- Republican individuals
- VIAF
- Perseus Catalog
- Attic Inscriptions Online
- Prosopography of Roman Egypt
- Tebtynis Prosopography (Berkeley)
- Catalogue of Ships
- Sicilian officers
- Prosopography of Cyrenaica (in progress)
- Digitizing the Prosopography of the Roman Republic (DPRR)
- Epigraphic Database Heidelberg (EDH)
Typical data issues

- Not yet identifying records (e.g., just rows in a spreadsheet)
- Not online yet (long-term hosting issues)
- No primary sources
- Not distinguishing names from persons
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Nomen</th>
<th>Exact nomen</th>
<th>Prenomen</th>
<th>Cognomen</th>
<th>Father’s/patron’s name</th>
<th>Number of people</th>
<th>Century</th>
<th>Exact date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Origin</th>
<th>Information</th>
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<td>Lucius</td>
<td>Pilemo</td>
<td>Lucius (patron)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>Terracina</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>master of Memophilus, tessera nummularia</td>
<td>ILLRP 1003 = CIL 1.2.890 = 10.8070.1 = ILS 5161d</td>
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<td>Lucius</td>
<td>Starius (2x), Galus (2 Oppianicus)</td>
<td>Rep</td>
<td>93</td>
<td></td>
<td>Terracina</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>contribution to aedicularia and eelix de collegiis</td>
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<td>Cicerianus</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Larinum</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>quidam colonius, one Statius is eques and father-in-law</td>
<td>Cic. Chs. 109, 179</td>
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<td>Lucius</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>3rd?</td>
<td>Ferentini</td>
<td>Novii</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Lucius</td>
<td>Tiernus</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2nd half</td>
<td>Plestia</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>maker of vases; may also be T. Labienus</td>
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<td>Lucius</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>200-100</td>
<td>Baragiano</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>maker’s mark?</td>
<td>Imre Numistro 2</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Pompeii</td>
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<td>Abowrius</td>
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<td>Kallios</td>
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<td>Oropos</td>
<td>Cumae</td>
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<td>Hatsfeld 1913, 383</td>
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<td>Kumaia</td>
<td>Kailou</td>
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<td>Rome</td>
<td>Caere</td>
<td></td>
<td>Hatsfeld 1913, 383</td>
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<td>Marcus</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>pr 176</td>
<td>Rome</td>
<td>Caere?</td>
<td></td>
<td>Liv. 41.15.5</td>
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<td>Aburius</td>
<td>Galus</td>
<td>Germinus</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>c. 133 or</td>
<td>Rome</td>
<td>3vir monetales</td>
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<td>Marcus</td>
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<td>Rome</td>
<td>3vir monetales</td>
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<td>aedile; coopted into local Senate; toplarius; friend of J, Cil. Phil. 2.106, 112, ILLRP 533 = CIL 1.2.1521 = 10.5954 = ILS 672</td>
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<td>Acacellus</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1st half</td>
<td>Minturnae</td>
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<td></td>
<td>master of [p], tria and (p)burgus, magistrates = ILLRP 713 = CIL 1.2 1684</td>
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<td>Acacellus</td>
<td>Acacellus</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1st half</td>
<td>Minturnae</td>
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<td></td>
<td>master of Salvius, magister who makes dedication</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Capua</td>
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<td>2vir or quadra dedication of land</td>
<td>CIL 10.3822</td>
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<td>Nava &amp; Poccati 2001, Fracchia &amp; Guaitieri 1999, 335</td>
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<td>Acacellus</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Minturnae</td>
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<td>Corfinium</td>
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<td>Rix Pg 32 = Ve 215f</td>
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<td>Acca</td>
<td>Lucius</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Corfinium</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>black slip bowl</td>
<td>Imre Capena 4</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Accaeus</td>
<td>C</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100-50</td>
<td>Corfinium</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>name of priestess?</td>
<td>Imre Corfinium 8 = CIL 1.2 3229</td>
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<td>Accaeus</td>
<td>Saluta</td>
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<td>100-50</td>
<td>Corfinium</td>
<td></td>
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<td>grave inscription?</td>
<td>Imre Corfinium 13 = Rix Pg 32 = Ve 215f</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Acaes</td>
<td>Lucius</td>
<td>(patron)</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100-50</td>
<td>Corfinium</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>grave inscription?</td>
<td>Imre Corfinium 12 = Rix Pg 50 = Pocc. 209 = CIL 1.2 3228</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SNAP:DRGN recommendations

I. Put your prosopography online (with URIs)

II. Contribute minimal RDF of persons to SNAP:DRGN
   - [http://snapdrgn.net/cookbook](http://snapdrgn.net/cookbook)

III. Identify co-references between prosopographies

IV. Make assertions/relationships between persons

V. Annotate texts with person identifiers
SNAP Ontology

An ad hoc set of classes. Could be re-expressed using eg CIDOC CRM

<http://lawd.info/ontology/Person>
<http://schema.org/Person>
<http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/Person>
<http://lawd.info/ontology/PersonalName>
<http://lawd.info/ontology/Citation>
<http://lawd.info/ontology/NameAttestation>
<http://lawd.info/ontology/PersonAttestation>
<http://onto.snapdrgn.net/snap#SpouseOf>
<http://onto.snapdrgn.net/snap#FatherOf>
<http://onto.snapdrgn.net/snap#MotherOf>
<http://lawd.info/ontology/Attestation>
<http://onto.snapdrgn.net/snap#SonOf>
<http://onto.snapdrgn.net/snap#DaughterOf>
## Properties in the ontology

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<td><a href="http://purl.org/dc/terms/isPartOf">http://purl.org/dc/terms/isPartOf</a></td>
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<td><a href="http://onto.snapdrgn.net/snap#associatedPlace">http://onto.snapdrgn.net/snap#associatedPlace</a></td>
<td>(314320)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://onto.snapdrgn.net/snap#has-bond">http://onto.snapdrgn.net/snap#has-bond</a></td>
<td>(348711)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://lawd.info/ontology/hasCitation">http://lawd.info/ontology/hasCitation</a></td>
<td>(465846)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/publisher">http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/publisher</a></td>
<td>(479266)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://lawd.info/ontology/hasName">http://lawd.info/ontology/hasName</a></td>
<td>(667257)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/name">http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/name</a></td>
<td>(684490)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://onto.snapdrgn.net/snap#associatedDate">http://onto.snapdrgn.net/snap#associatedDate</a></td>
<td>(688578)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://purl.org/dc/terms/publisher">http://purl.org/dc/terms/publisher</a></td>
<td>(848403)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://purl.org/spar/cito/citesAsEvidence">http://purl.org/spar/cito/citesAsEvidence</a></td>
<td>(902192)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://lawd.info/ontology/hasAttestation">http://lawd.info/ontology/hasAttestation</a></td>
<td>(1362205)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SNAP:DRGN recommendations

I. Put your prosopography online (with URIs)

II. Contribute minimal RDF of persons to SNAP:DRGN

– a URI (i.e. the URL on your own website in 1. above)
– a type, drawn from this list:

  • lawd:Person
  • lawd:Deity

<http://www.lgpn.ox.ac.uk/id/V5a-35652#this> rdf:type lawd:Person
<http://www.trismegistos.org/person/181#this> rdf:type lawd:Person
<http://www.paregorios.org/resources/roman-elites/persons/pir2-a-0653> rdf:type lawd:Person
The name

• lawd:PersonalName

<http://www.lgpn.ox.ac.uk/nym/nSuntu1ch>
  rdf:type lawd:PersonalName ;
  lawd:primaryForm "Συντύχη"@grc ,
  "Suntuch"@grc-Latn .

<http://www.paregorios.org/resources/roman-elites/names/pir2/a-0653>
  rdf:type lawd:PersonalName ;
  lawd:primaryForm "APPIVS ANNIVS GALLVS"@lat .

<http://www.trismegistos.org/name/860#this>
  rdf:type lawd:PersonalName ;
  lawd:primaryForm "Πετεχαρσεμθευς"@grc ,
  "Peteharsomtous"@en .
Attestation and citation

<http://www.trismegistos.org/name/509#this>
a lawd:PersonalName ;
dc:publisher <http://www.trismegistos.org> ;
lawd:primaryForm "Νεχθανούπιος"@grc;
lawd:hasAttestation <http://www.trismegistos.org/ref/852#this> .
• lawd:Attestation
  <http://www.lgpn.ox.ac.uk/id/V5a-35652#personref-1>
    rdf:type lawd:Attestation , cnt:ContentAsText ;
cito:citesAsEvidence <http://www.lgpn.ox.ac.uk/id/V5a-35652#ref-1> ;
cnt:chars "Ἀπολλώνιος" .

<http://www.trismegistos.org/ref/965#this>
  rdf:type lawd:NameAttestation, lawd:PersonAttestation, cnt:ContentAsText ;
cito:citesAsEvidence <http://www.trismegistos.org/text/56#this> ;
lawd:hasCitation <http://www.trismegistos.org/ref/965#citation> ;
cnt:chars "Πετερσεμθεὺς" .
• lawd:Citation
  <http://www.trismegistos.org/ref/965#citation>
    rdf:type lawd:Citation, cnt:ContentAsText ;
cnt:chars "BGU 3 994, col. 1, 4" .

<http://www.lgpn.ox.ac.uk/id/V5a-36352#ref-1>
  rdf:type lawd:Citation , cnt:ContentAsText ;
cnt:chars "ISmyrna 690 III, 3" .
Name for humans to read

<http://www.lgpn.ox.ac.uk/id/V5a-35652#this>
foaf:name "Ἀπολλώνιος"@grc, "Apollwnios"@grc-Latn, "Apollonios"@en, "ابولونيوس"@ar
lawd:hasName
<http://www.lgpn.ox.ac.uk/nym/nApollw1nios>.

<http://www.trismegistos.org/person/181#this>
lawd:hasName <http://www.trismegistos.org/name/860#this> ;
foaf:name "Πετερσεμθευς"@grc.
Place and date

Date:
<http://www.trismegistos.org/person/181#this>
   snap:associatedDate "-0199/-0062" .

<http://www.lgpn.ox.ac.uk/id/V5a-47783>
   snap:associatedDate "0183/0183" .

Place
<http://www.lgpn.ox.ac.uk/id/V5a-41349>
   snap:associatedPlace <http://pleiades.stoa.org/places/550496> ;
   foaf:name "Aristoboulos"@grc-Latn .
<http://pleiades.stoa.org/places/550496>
   rdf:type lawd:Place, cnt:ContentAsText ;
   cnt:chars "Chios"@en .

<http://www.trismegistos.org/person/181#this>
   snap:associatedPlace <http://www.trismegistos.org/place/1628#this> .
<http://www.trismegistos.org/place/1628#this>
   rdf:type lawd:Place, cnt:ContentAsText ;
   cnt:chars "Egypt, U04a - Pathyris (Gebelein)" .
Relationships

<http://www.trismegistos.org/person/181#this>
snap:has-bond <urn:sha1:0cf527813da2ef0d3bfc776a7aa1f87ec74d27d8> ;
snap:has-bond <urn:sha1:d5bc2e4141aa4668f152f4ee9ff6c8f99c71652b> ;
snap:has-bond <urn:sha1:92f0f3f42c02a260ae9c0474d0380426496b369d> .

<urn:sha1:0cf527813da2ef0d3bfc776a7aa1f87ec74d27d8>
a snap:SonOf, cnt:ContentAsText ;
snap:bond-with <http://www.trismegistos.org/person/180#this> ;
cnt:chars “Father: Panebchounis” .

<urn:sha1:d5bc2e4141aa4668f152f4ee9ff6c8f99c71652b>
a snap:SonOf ;

<urn:sha1:92f0f3f42c02a260ae9c0474d0380426496b369d>
a snap:SpouseOf ;
SNAP:DRGN recommendations

I. Put your prosopography online (with URIs)
II. Contribute minimal RDF of persons to SNAP:DRGN
III. Identify co-references between prosopographies
IV. Make assertions/relationships between persons
V. Annotate texts with person identifiers
SNAP:DRGN recommendations

I. Put your prosopography online (with URIs)

II. Contribute minimal RDF of persons to SNAP:DRGN

III. Identify co-references between prosopographies

```
<http://data.snapdrgn.net/person/1234>
a lawd:Person, snap:MergedResource ;
dc:replaces
  <http://data.snapdrgn.net/person/1231> ;
  dc:replaces
    <http://data.snapdrgn.net/person/1232> ;
  dc:publisher http://snapdrgn.net ;
snap:reason <urn:foo:bar> .
<urn:foo:bar>
a cnt:ContentAsText ;
cnt:chars "Both sources cite the same inscription, IG II² 4321." .
```
Asserting co-reference

**Duplicate work:** Source A and source B unambiguously cite the same source for a person (ie publication of an inscription) (example: LGPN and Trismegistos both cite *Prosopographia Ptolemaica*)

**Overlapping work:** Source A defines a person, so does Source B; source C makes it clear they are the same person

**Inferred identity:** in the circumstances (name, date, place, status), person A and person B really must be identical

**Hypothesized identity:** the similarity of names and background suggest strongly that these two people are the same

**Idealized identity:** It wouldn’t half suit my thesis if person A and person B were the same individual….
SNAP:DRGN recommendations

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IV. Make assertions/relationships between persons
   o to be specified
V. Annotate texts with person identifiers
SNAP:DRGN recommendations

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IV. Make assertions/relationships between persons

V. Annotate texts with person identifiers
   o cf. Pelagios
SNAP:DRGN recommendations

V. Annotate texts with person identifiers
   0 cf. Pelagios

   rdf:type oac:Annotation ;
   dcterms:created "2012-07-20" ;
   dcterms:creator "Perseus Digital Library" ;
   dcterms:title "Thucydides, The Peloponnesian War 1.17"@en ;
   oac:hasBody
      <http://pleiades.stoa.org/places/981549#this> ;
   oac:hasTarget
SNAP:DRGN recommendations

V. Annotate texts with person identifiers

  cf. Pelagios

<http://insaph.kcl.ac.uk/annotation/987654>
  rdf:type oac:Annotation ;
  dcterms:created "2014-06-03" ;
  dcterms:creator "Inscriptions of Aphrodisias" ;
  dcterms:title "Ἀδράσιον"@grc ;
  oac:hasBody
    <http://data.snapdrgm.net/person/1234#this> ;
  oac:hasTarget
RESEARCH QUESTIONS
Research questions

• Data creation and discovery
  – NER across Greek and Latin inscriptions
  – (Depauw found 450k in Papyri)

• Co-reference analysis
  – Authority needs to minimize doubles (cf. VIAF)
  – (Hestia geoparser)

• Social Network Analysis
  – Has been used to spot likely co-references
  – But requires more data than we take
SNAP:DRGN 1.0 state of play

- Build ontology
- Cookbook version 1.0
- LGPN, TM, PIR -> SNAP
- Partner projects data
- Co-references within data
- APIs and services
- NER on inscriptions
- Reasoning on RDF
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- Co-references within data ✔
- APIs and services ✔
- NER on inscriptions ✔
- Reasoning on RDF
SNAP:DRGN 2.0

- Person-search as a research tool
- Graph-search as a crosswalk channel
- Pelagios-style harvester for oac annotations pointing in to snap
- Speccing full annotation, certainty & disagreement
- Infrastructure and optimization
- Co-reference identification
  - SNA
  - Crowdsourcing
  - Reasoning
http://snapdrgn.net