The Geographic Annotation Platform

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1 A Recap of GAP

2 The Geographic Annotation Platform
   - moving onwards
   - GAP in the box
A Recap of GAP

- **Google Ancient Places** – Google Digital Humanities award, 2010-11
- Cross-disciplinary and multi-national team
  - humanities, classics, archaeology, natural language processing, graphical interface
  - England, Scotland, California
- Produced the *GapVis* utility
How GapVis Works

classical texts from Google Books
How GapVis Works

classical texts from Google Books

Edinburgh Geoparser
How GapVis Works

classical texts from Google Books

Pleiades gazetteer of ancient places

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How GapVis Works

classical texts from Google Books
Pleiades gazetteer of ancient places
database of toponym URIs – tied back to text snippets

Edinburgh Geoparser

Georesolution

Geo tagging

database of toponym URIs – tied back to text snippets
How GapVis Works

classical texts from Google Books

Pleiades gazetteer of ancient places

tied back to text snippets

Edinburgh Geoparser

finding relationships between places

database of toponym URIs –
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database of toponym URIs – tied back to text snippets

finding relationships between places

putting it all together – GapVis
Pleiades: http://pleiades.stoa.org/

Graph database of ancient places, from Barrington Atlas

Pleiades+: GAP version linked to Geonames
GapVis

The Genuine Works of Flavius Josephus, the Jewish historian
By Flavius Josephus

Published 1821 - View on Google Books

war of that consequence, as to occasion the removal or destruction of six or seven nations of the posterity of Memram, with their cities, which Josephus would not have said, if he had not had ancient records to justify his assertions, though those records be now lost. * Gen. ii. 21 t Gen. x. 21. * That the Jews were called Hebrews from their pro- genitor Heber, our author Josephus here rightly affirms; and not from Abram the Hebrew, or passenger over Eu- phrates, as many of the moderns suppose. Shem is also called the Father of all the Children of Heber, or of the city Naue, and named his subjects Assyrians, who became the most fortunate nation beyond others. Arphaxad named the Arphaxaders, who are now called Chaldeans. Aram had the Aramites, whom the Greeks call Syrians; as Luc found the Ludites, who are now called Lydians. Of the four sons of Aram, Us founded Trachonitis and Damascus; this country lies between Palestine and Cæsarea. Ul founded Armenia; and gathered the Bac- trians; and Mesopotamia. It is now called Charax Sparsa. Salath was the son of Arphaxad; and his son was Heber, from whom they originally called the Jews Hebrews. * Heber begot Jocam and Phaleg. He was called Phaleg because he was born amongst the dispersion of the nations to their several countries; for Phaleg among the Hebrews signifies division. Now Jocam, one of the sons of Heber had these sons, Elmo- dad, Seloph, Asernoth, Jera, Adoram, Azell, Decla, Ebal, Abimeal, Sabaes, Ophir.
Evolution from GAP to... GAP

- 2011-12: renewed funding from Google
- Expanding *Google Ancient Places* to...
- ...*Geographic Annotation Platform*
Evolution from GAP to... GAP

- 2011-12: renewed funding from Google
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- ...*Geographic Annotation Platform*

- Generalising functionality
- Crowd-sourcing error-correction
- Working with any text, eg fiction
- Collaboration with Edina *Unlock Text* and with *Project Bamboo*
- Bundling the tool for easy deployment
Found errors in GapVis placename identification? A new interface allows user to make corrections online.
Any kind of text

Fiction and Geonames gazetteer

For example, Open Library texts – *Around the World in Eighty Days* and *A Tale of Two Cities,*...
Edina collaboration and Project Bamboo

Working with Edina to extend their Unlock Text interface to the Edinburgh Geoparser, [http://unlock.edina.ac.uk/texts/](http://unlock.edina.ac.uk/texts/)

- Pleiades+ as one of the gazetteers
- enriched API output
Edina collaboration and Project Bamboo

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- Pleiades+ as one of the gazetteers
- enriched API output
- embed geoparser and GAP in Project Bamboo service to scholars, http://www.projectbamboo.org/
GAP in the Box

**Geographic Annotation Platform** deployed as a Virtual Machine –

- Plugin Edina **Unlock** service (Edinburgh Geoparser)
- Translate placenames to URIs
- Populate template database
- Connect up template browser interface
- Package as virtual machine
- Voila!
For more information...

The GAP blog: http://googleancientplaces.wordpress.com/