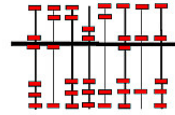




Universität Hamburg

DER FORSCHUNG | DER LEHRE | DER BILDUNG



DEPARTMENT INFORMATIK

NATÜRLICHSPRACHLICHE SYSTEME (NATS) AB.

„Computerphilologie“-Arbeitsstelle

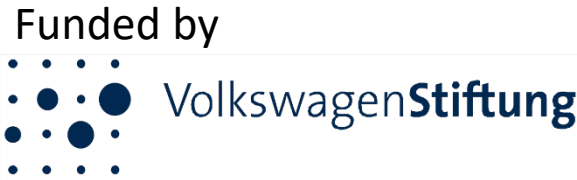
Erfassung und Vernetzung der historischen Orten und Personen in den historischen Texten - Eine exemplarische Studie zum Werk Dimitrie Cantemirs -

Alptuğ Güney, Cristina Vertan

{alptug.gueney,cristina.Vertan}@uni-hamburg.de

HerCoRe – Hermeneutic and Computer based Analysis of Reliability, Consistency and Vagueness in historical texts

- Illustrated through two main works of Dimitrie Cantemir-



April 2017 – March 2020

„Mixed Methods in Humanities“

Combine hermeneutic approaches and methods from computer science for investigating reliability and consistency of original text from 18th century as well as their translations

H

Compare for the first time “original” with translations done in the 18th- 19th century

(In)Validate assumptions about source quotations in original text

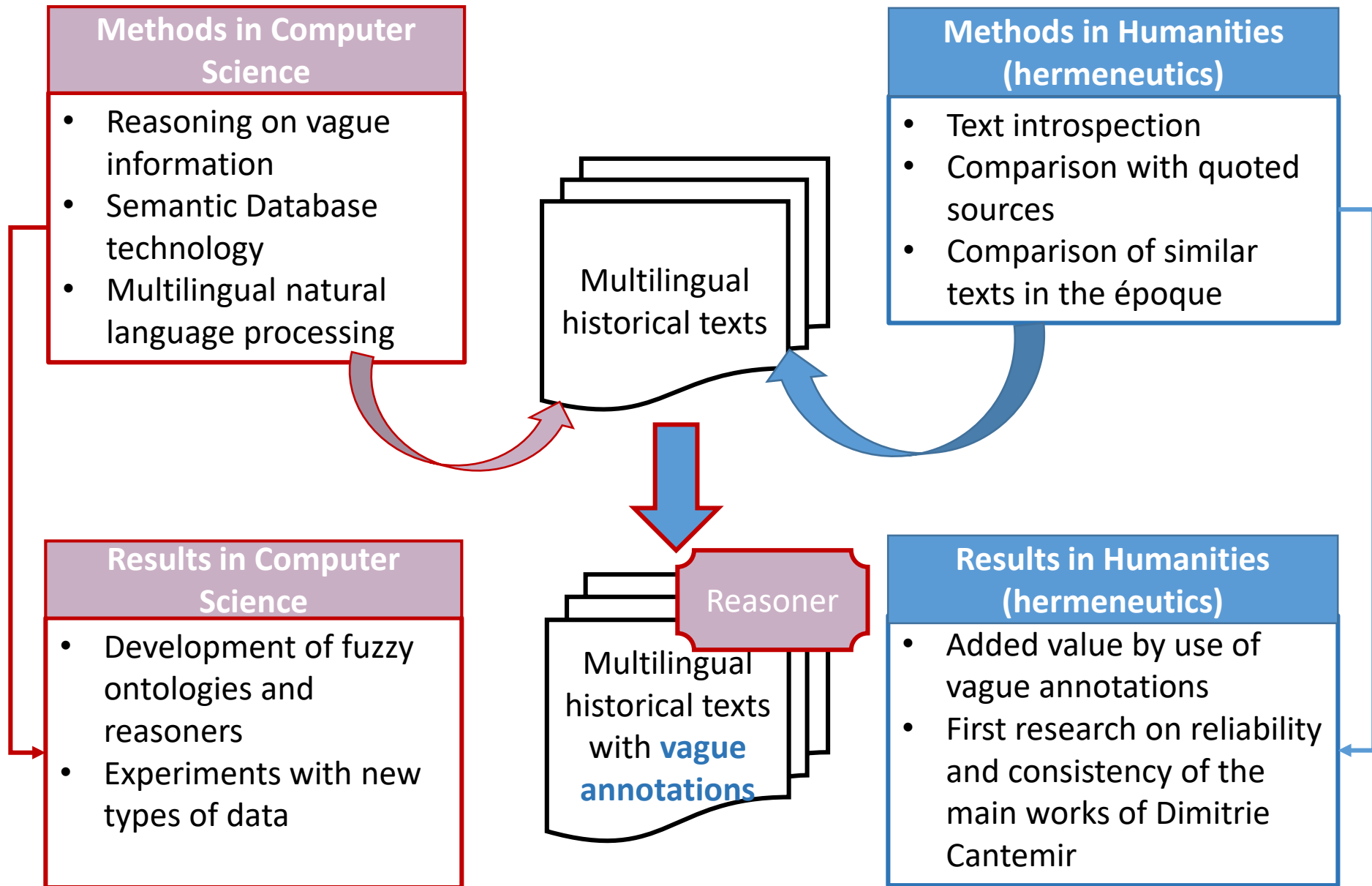
28.09.2018

CS

Demonstrate how to include vagueness and imprecision in annotations and interpretations engines

Progress work in automatic recognition of vague expressions

Digitales Kulturerbe - Güney/Vertan



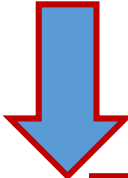
Methods in Computer Science

- Reasoning on vague information
- Semantic Database technology
- Multilingual natural language processing

Methods in Humanities (hermeneutics)

- Text introspection
- Comparison with quoted sources
- Comparison of similar texts in the époque

Multilingual historical texts



Reasoner

Multilingual historical texts with **vague annotations**

Results in Computer Science

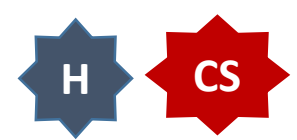
- Development of fuzzy ontologies and reasoners
- Experiments with new types of data

Results in Humanities (hermeneutics)

- Added value by use of vague annotations
- First research on reliability and consistency of the main works of Dimitrie Cantemir



Dr. Cristina Vertan, UHH
Project coordination,
DH, CL, CS



Dr. Anca Dinu, UB
Team Leader UB,
Linguistics, CL



Prof. Dr. Walther v. Hahn,
UHH
Vagueness, CL, DH
German Linguistics,



Prof. Dr. Ioana Costa, UB
Cantemir Translations,
Classical philology



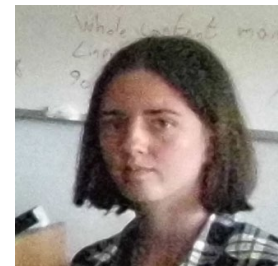
Prof. Dr. Yavuz Köse, UHH
Turcology



Prof. Dr. Liviu Dinu, UB
Fuzzy Logic, CL, CS



Alptug Güney, UHH
Turcology



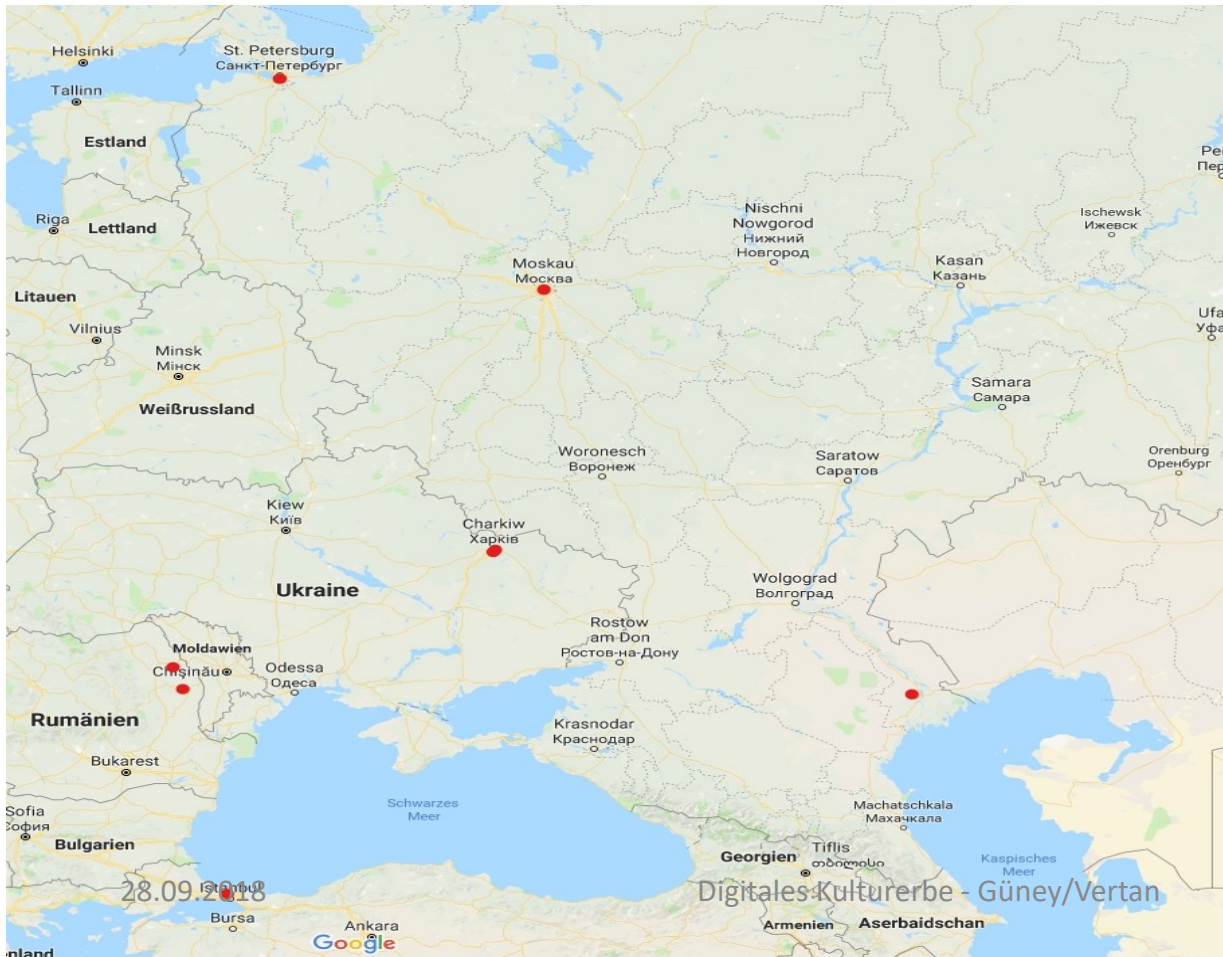
Alina Ciobanu, UB
CL, CS

Outline

- Research questions from the humanities
- Challenges in a digital environment
- Digital Framework
- Technological approach for person names, places etc.

Dimitrie Cantemir 1673-1723

- An universal humanist in Early Enlightenment
- Analysis of his Opus Magnum „History of the Ottoman Empire“ following the ottoman sources.



D. Cantemir's Biography -1-

- Born in 1673 in Silișteni/ Vaslui, Son of Constantin Cantemir, Prince of Moldavia (1684-1693)
- 1687 sent to Istanbul as political hostage, Education in Enderun und Academy of Patriarchate
- 1693 Prince of Moldavia for 3 Weeks
- 1693-1710 a productive scholar-life in Istanbul (Works on music, history, philosophy, philologie); Representative of Moldavia in Istanbul
- 1710-1711 Prince of Moldavia
- 1711 Depiction to the Russian Tsardom in the War of Pruth



D. Cantemir's Biography -2-

- 1711-1723 Privy Council of Tsar Peter I.
- 1714 Member of Preußische Societät (Berliner Akademie der Wissenschaften), - *Historia incrementorum atque decrementorum Aulae Othomanicae* (Geschichte des osmanischen Reichs nach seinem Anwachse und Abnehmen) -
- *Descriptio Moldavia* (Beschreibung Moldaus)
- 1716 Prince of Holy Roman Empire of German Nation
- 1718-1722 Military operations with Peter I. in Caucasia

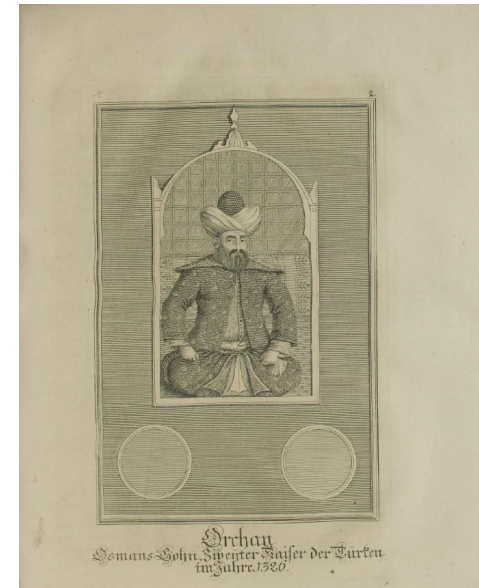


Historia incrementorum atque decrementorum Aulae Othomanicae (HO)

- 1714-1716 Chronological history of the Ottoman dynasty, (1250?-1711) bis zum Jahr 1711, detailed informations on the political, cultural and economic life in the Ottoman Empire
- 1734 “The History of the Growth and Decay of the Ottoman Empire”
- 1743 “Histoire de l’Empire Othoman, où se voyent les causes de son Agrandissement et de sa Décadence avec de Notes très instructives”
- 1745 „Geschichte des osmanischen Reichs nach seinem Anwachse und Abnehmen“ (GOR), Hamburg: Christian HeroldVerlag.

Cantemir's HO

- Structure of the Ottoman historiography „Tevarih-i Al-i Osman“
- Consists of 2 main parts (I. Part: Osman I.-Ibrahim, II. Part: Mehmed IV.-Ahmed III.) and 4 Books:
- I-II-III. Books: Growth of the Ottoman Empire until 1673
- IV. Book: Decade of the Ottoman Empire 1673-1711
- New approaches: Usage of geography and philology in analysing of historical events



Research goals related to Geschichte des osmanischen Reichs nach seinem Anwachse und Abnehmen

- Comparison between the copy of the original (Latin) and the English and German translations
- Identification of translations mistakes or gaps (done by purpose or not).
- Search after the quoted works and identification of related ottoman sources.
- Analysis of Cantemir's writing and discourse style
- Importance of the work in the ottoman studies; Comparisons with other works contemporary with Cantemir or follow-up research about the ottomans
- Usage of HO as source in the follow-up works about the ottoman empire

Sources of HO on the history of the Ottoman dynasty

Ottoman Turkish/Persian:

- **Âşıkpaşazâde Derviş Ahmet Âşıkî** (1400-1484); *Tevârîh-i Âl-i Osman*, **Idris-i Bitlisî** (1450?-1520), *Heşt Behişt*; **Neşrî** (?-1520?), *Kitab-ı Cihan-Nüma*; **Hoca Sadettin** (1536/7-1599), *Tâcü't-Tevârih*; **Peçevî** (1574-1649?), *Tarih-i Peçevi* (1640?); **Hezarfen Hüseyin** (?-1691), *Tenkih üt-Tevarih*

Greek:

- **Nikephoros Gregoras** (1295?-1359/61), **Laonikus Chalkondylas** (1423?-1490), **Georgius Phranza** (1400?-1477?)

Latin:

- **Philipp Lonicerus** (1532-1599), *Chronikorum Turcicorum* (1584), **Johannes Gaudier** (Hans Caudir von Spiegel) (XVI. Jh.-1579)/**Johannes Leunclavius**, *Annales Svltanorvm Othmanidarvm, A Tyrcis Sva Lingva Scripti*, **Johannes Leunclavius** (1541?-1594), *Neue Chronika türkischer Nation* (1590), **Michalo Lithuanus**, *De moribus tartarorum, lituanorum et moscorum*

Dictionaries:

- Franciscus a Mesgnien **Meninski** (1623-1698), **Nimetullah** b. Ahmed b. Mübârek er-Rumî (?-1571)[?], Seyyid **Nimetullah** Efendi (Nakibzâde) [?], *Tuhfe-i Ni'meti* (1637)

Not/ Wrong translated ottoman parts

tem, et elegantiam morum denotat, uin e contra, ^{ترکیجه}
Turkicis, rusticitatem, morumq; barbariem inue-
at. Hinc et proverbia oritur sicut ^{ترک مدات عمر بنده}
Turk muddeti um rinde: Turca per totum uicti suc-
cursum. sive: ^{ترک جمع زمانده آدم اولمز} Turca per
totum tempus, vel nunquam homo fiet, id est politi-
ores mores Ottomanorum non addisiet, incultusq;
manebit, et indocilis. Quod uivis uocibus arguit Turci-

Hence the common saying, *Turk Muddeti um rinde*: A Turk thro' the whole course of his life: that is, he will always be a clown, and never learn the politeness of the Ottomans.

Quotations without references (EHO, pp. 5-6)

*Seu mezidi chu * nebri saili ol,
Nebri Sailde buldi meft ana yol.*

That is,

Since he the river *Sail* did not love
He in that very river met his death.

/سومزیدی چونهر سایی اول (بیت)
نهر ساییلده بولدی موت آکھیول

(Beyt) Sevmezidi çü nehr-i saili ol/
Nehr-i sailde buldu mevt ana yol

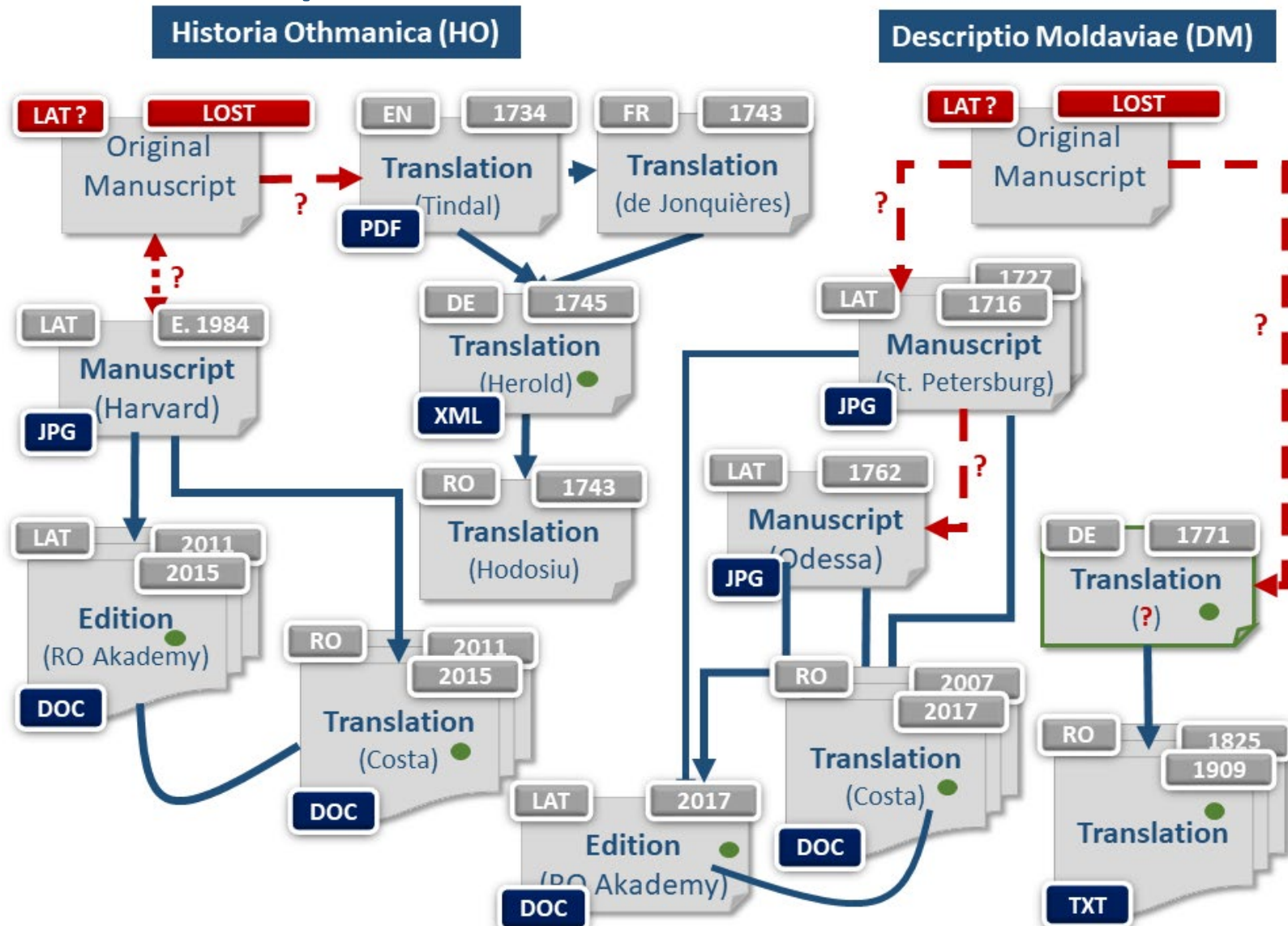
Hoca Saadettin, Tac-üt Tevarih, pp. 14

into disorder. *Ertogrul* hearing of the battle, comes opportunely in the heat of the Fight, with five thousand select Men. His Soldiers seeing *Aladin's* Forces dispers'd, and flying before their victorious Enemies, perswade their General to join with the Conquerors. But *Ertogrul* answers, "It is not the part of a steddly man to violate his faith, or of a brave warrior to draw his Sword upon the prostrate, but rather to assist and relieve the desperate and weak."

Ertuğrul eytdi: "Bu söz merdâneler kelâmı değildir. Erlik oldır-kim mağluba yardım idevüz. Hızır gibi buñ deminde bîcârelere medet yitişe. Dest-gîr olavuz" dedi. (Ertugrul sagte: „Diese sind nicht Wörter der tapferen Männer. Mannhaftigkeit ist es, den Unterliegenden zu helfen. Wie der rettende Engel soll den Hilflosen Hilfe geleistet werden. Wir werden beistehen.) Neshri, pp. 63

The Corpus

Manuscripts, editions, translations- unclear tradition



Directions of investigation

- **Reliability:**

- Of the original: are the quotations made by Cantemir grounded? Is there a concordance between his degree of trust in these sources and the current knowledge about them (e.g. is there any evidence that a person which Cantemir claims to have spoken to, really lived in that time?)
- Of the translation against the original; Here an important role have the inserted editorial annotations.

- **Consistency:**

- Within the original: keeps Cantemir a constant opinion about persons, events, facts across the text? (see his own annex with annotations vs. the text)
- Across the 2 “originals”: Are common persons and events described similarly?
- Between original and translation: does the translation preserve the degree of vagueness /certainty stated by Cantemir?

- **Vagueness**

- Political or tactical reasons for imprecise expressions

Corpus creation – challenges

- Surface form – level
 - German texts are in black-letter typeface

Higher error rate in OCR (even on relatively homogenous pages up to 25%)

- Mixed typefaces
- Mixed scripts

Der zweyte Medelnitschiar.
 Der zweyte Klutschiar.
 Der zweyte Suldchiar.
 Der zweyte Zitnitschiar.
 Der zweyte Pitar.

Beschreibung der Moldau. 333

serpens, *Kynle*, canis &c. Im plurali setzen sie hinten an die Wörter, die eine lebendige Sache bedeuten, den Artikel *ij*; als: *Łaij*, *Oamenij*, equi, homines: leblose Kreaturen aber endigen sich im Plurali auf *ele*, als *Scaunele*, *Vassele*, u. s. w. Auch haben die Moldauer zween Articulos foeminini generis, *e* und *a*, als: *mujere*, *gaina*, mulier, gallina. Wörter, die sich auf *e* endigen, haben im Plurali *ile*, als: *mujerile*, *mujerile*, die sich aber auf *a*

dauer mit den Genuesern während ihres Besitzes der Küsten des schwarzen Meers hatten, sich in unsere Sprache mit eingeschlichen haben.

Denn auf gleiche Weise haben die Moldauer, nachdem sie mit den Griechen, Türken und Pohlen zu handeln anfiengen, auch Wörter aus der Sprache dieser Völker in die ihrige aufgenommen; zum Exempel, von den Griechen *Pedepsja*, *παιδευσις*, *Kivernisjre*, *κιβέρνισις*, *Procopie*, *προκοπία*, *Blastern*, *βλασφαιώ*, *azyma*, *ἄζυμον*, *Drum*, *δρόμος*, *Pizma*, *πίσμα*. Da wir nun also bender Partheyen Meinungen vorgetragen haben, so getrauen wir uns nicht zu bestimmen, welche von beyden der Wahrheit am nächsten sey? aus

Furcht,



„Nu îndrăznim să spunem ce e adevărat și ce e fals într-o asemenea întunecime a istoriei.“

(Dimitrie Cantemir, Descrierea stării Moldaviei în vechime și azi, traducere Ioan Costa 2017)

„I do not dare to decide what is the truth about this matter, given the high darkness of this story“

A Complicated Explicit Example: Ambiguity

(Cantemir, Descriptio Moldaviæ, p.73 transl.)

capital is *Kilia**, 1 *Lycostomon*, 2



Although our books do not record his descendants, it is a wellknown legend for us that he is coming from the moldavian kings

Enriched Classical Markup

1. Dragosch. **Obgleich unsre Jahrbücher sein Geschlechtsregister nicht angeben, so ist es doch eine beständige Sage bey uns, daß er aus dem alten königlichen moldauischen Stamme gewesen sey, und den Bogdan zum Vater gehabt habe, welcher ein Sohn des Johannis war, von welchem alle Fürsten den Namen Johannis in ihrem Titel zu führen pflegen; dieser Meinung ist desto mehr Glauben beyzumessen, weil man schwerlich glauben kan, daß er von gemeiner Herkunft mit einem so großen Gefolge auf die Jagd (welche die Moldau zu dieser Gelegenheit gegeben,).**

One should trust even more this opinion, as one can hard think that....

schon vermuthet hatten, daß Dragosch erst nach des Tatars Bathy oder Batu Einfall, d.i. **ungefähr** nach 1250. aus Siebenbürgen ausgewandert ist; vielleicht aber lassen sich beide Meynungen vereinigen wenn man zwey Auswanderungen annimmt, die eine in **der letzten Hälfte des Zwölften**, die andere in der **ersten Hälfte des dreyzehnten Jahrhundert** (V.)

Dragosch	≈ belongs	moldavian kings
Dragosch	≈ son_of	Bogdan
Bogdan	≈ son_of	Johannis
Dragosch	≈ has_additional_name	Johannis
Bogdan	≈ has_additional_name	Johannis
Drgaosch	discovered	Moldau
Dragosch	has_acitivity	hunting
Dragosch	has_activity	development
Development	takes_place	after Batia invasion

Dragosch	has_activity	moved
Movement	takes_place	>=1150; <=1200
Movement	takes_place	>=1200; <=1250
Bathy invasion	takes_place	≈ 1250
Bathy	has_alternative_name	Batu
Bathy	is_a	Tatar

Sources /levels of vagueness/uncertainty to be annotated

1. Linguistic markers for vagueness

2. Factual uncertainty

2.1 References to external written materials (publications)

2.2 References to external persons, places, names

2.3 References to events

2.4. References to other external knowledge (e.g. legends, folk beliefs)

3. Editors

3.1. Editorial marks

() pretty sure extensions

< > correction

[] deletion

{ } marginals /between line

3.2 „Footnotes“

4. Metadata

4.1 genre

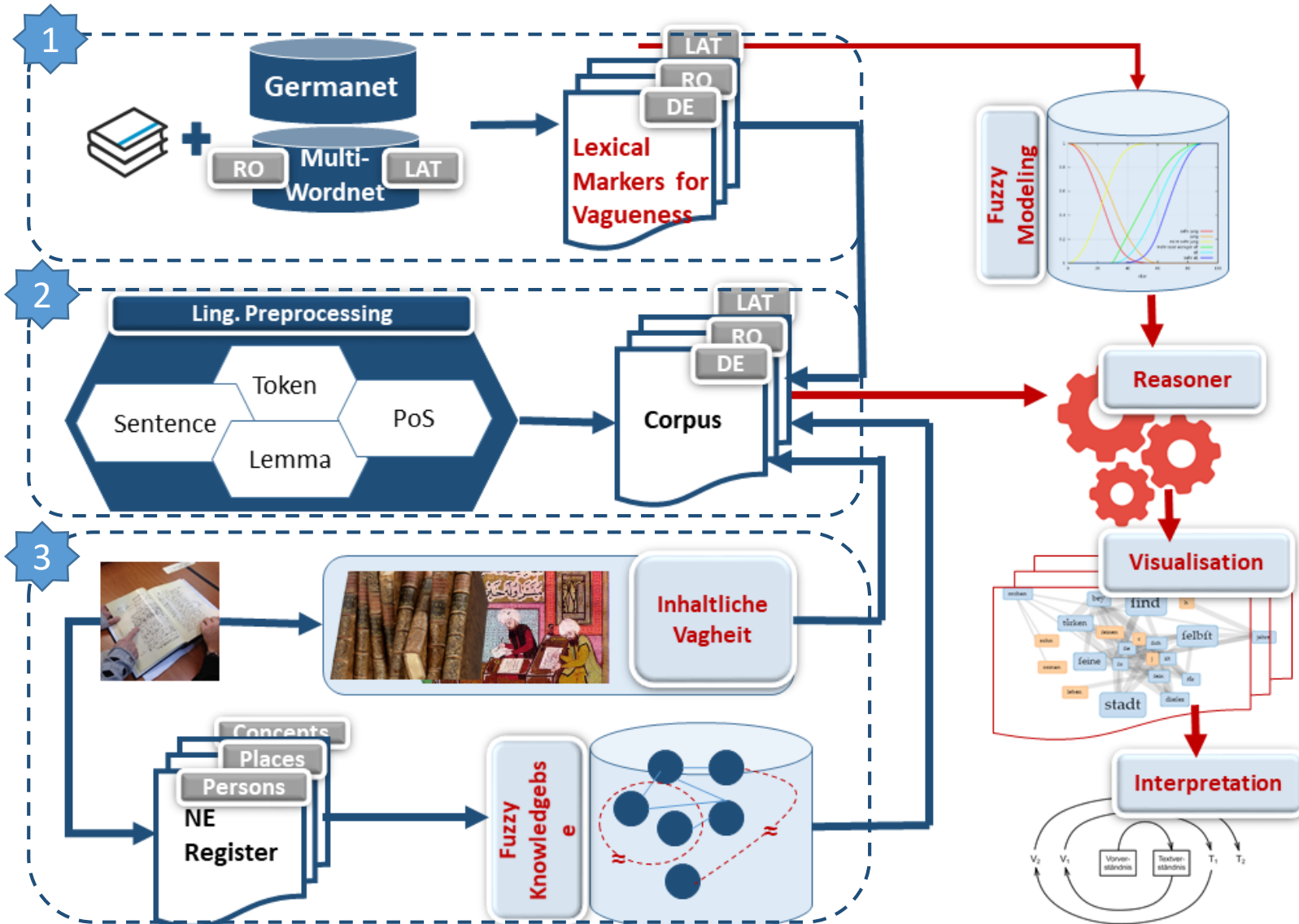
4.2. author

4.3 translation

4.4. tradition path

Vagueness annotation is useful only if it is accompanied by inference rules and adequate ontological knowledge-base

System Architecture



Selected markers for linguistic vagueness



1. comparatives, inexact adjectives e.g. *“mehr/more”*
“größer/bigger”, “älter/older”
2. non-intersectives e.g. *„vermeintlich/supposed“, „so-genannt/so-called“*
3. Hedges e.g. *„ziemlich/quite“, „einigermaßen/approximately „etwa/about“*
4. inexact measures *„4 Tagereisen/4 days trip“, 10 Fuß /10 feet“*
5. modals (attitudes) e.g. *„vielleicht/maybe“, „hoffentlich/hopefully“*;
subjunctives verbs
6. lexical quotation markers :*“es wurde gesagt /it is said“*
7. vague quantifiers e.g. *„viele“, „meistens /mostly“*
8. complex quantifiers e.g. *“etwa die Hälfte von den 20-30 tausend Soldaten /
about a half from the 20-30 thousand soldiers“*
9. numbers
10. range expressions e.g. *“Anfang des 18. Jhds./begin of 18th century“*
11. unclear place *„Syrfia“, „Moramor“*
12. unclear person e.g. *„der ehemaligen Herzog / the former duke“*
13. unclear time e.g. *„in alten Zeiten /in old times“*
14. Domain specific e.g. *„Wesir/vizier“ vs. „Wesire/viziers“*

Processing the lists of historical persons, terms and geographical indications

DHO

LHO

Turkish Sources

Places Database
(initial ≈500)

Eskjischehri Altstadt	Eskiszehr	اسكى شهر Eskişehir	Stadt in Zentralanatolien
Gjermijan Phrygien	Giermian	گرمیان Germiyan	Landschaft in West- Anatolien/ Kütahya und ihre Umgebung

Begjlerbegj (Bsp. Begjlerbegj von Rumilien)	Beglèrbèg/ Beglèrbègi Beglerbeg بکلبکی / بکلبک (Rumeli Beglerbeg)	بکلبکی Beylerbeyi بکلبک Beğlerbeğ روم ایلی بکلبکی (Rumeli Beylerbeyi)	Politik/ Staatsmann/ Oberster Staathalter in Rumelien und Anatolien/ Rang des Staathalters in wichtigen Ländern im Reich (Bsp. Beglerbeg von Budin), Nur die beiden höchsten Beglerbegs (von Anatolien und Rumelien) waren Mitglieder des kaiserlichen Diwans (Rat)
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Processing the lists of historical persons, terms and geographical indications

3

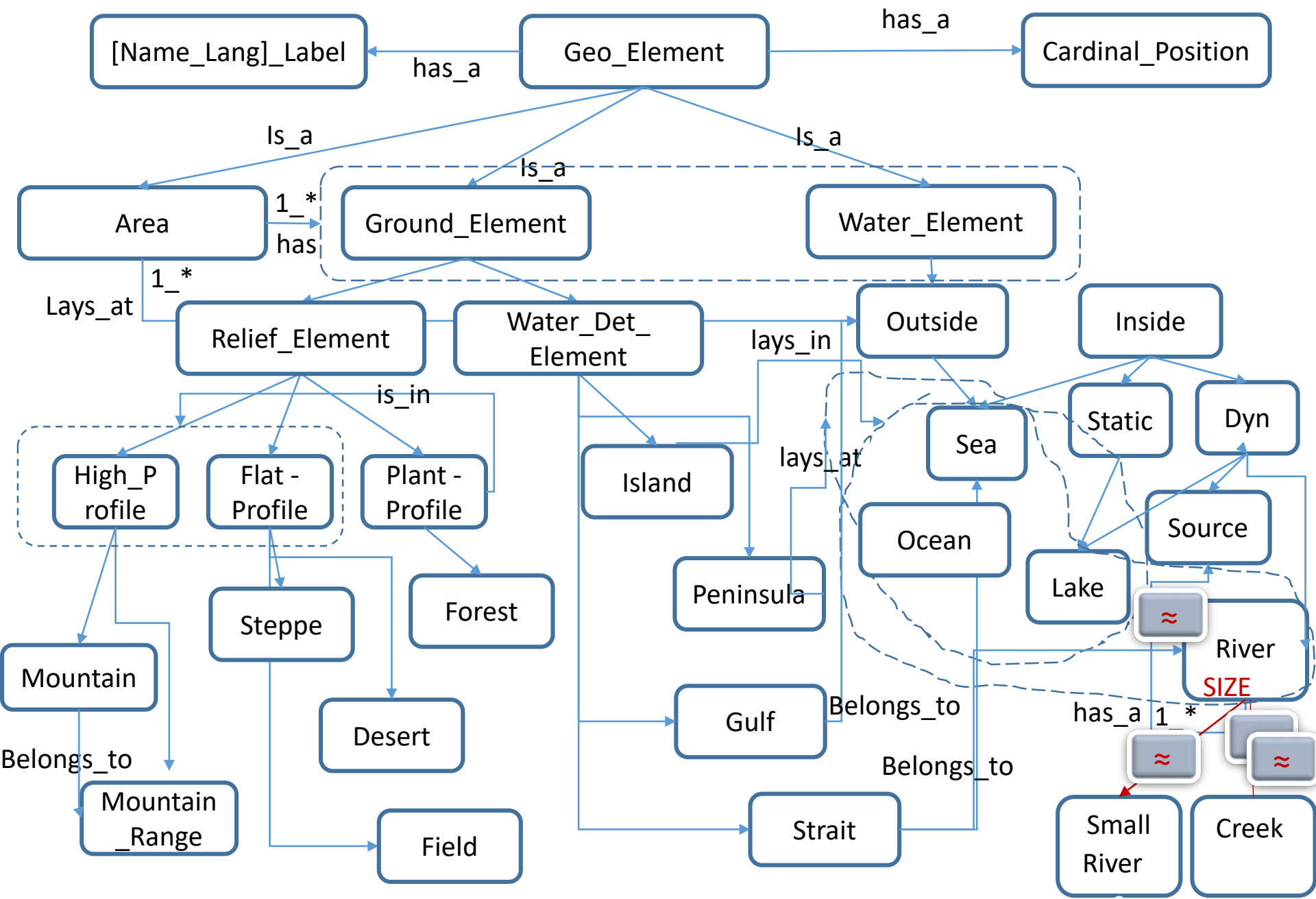
DHO

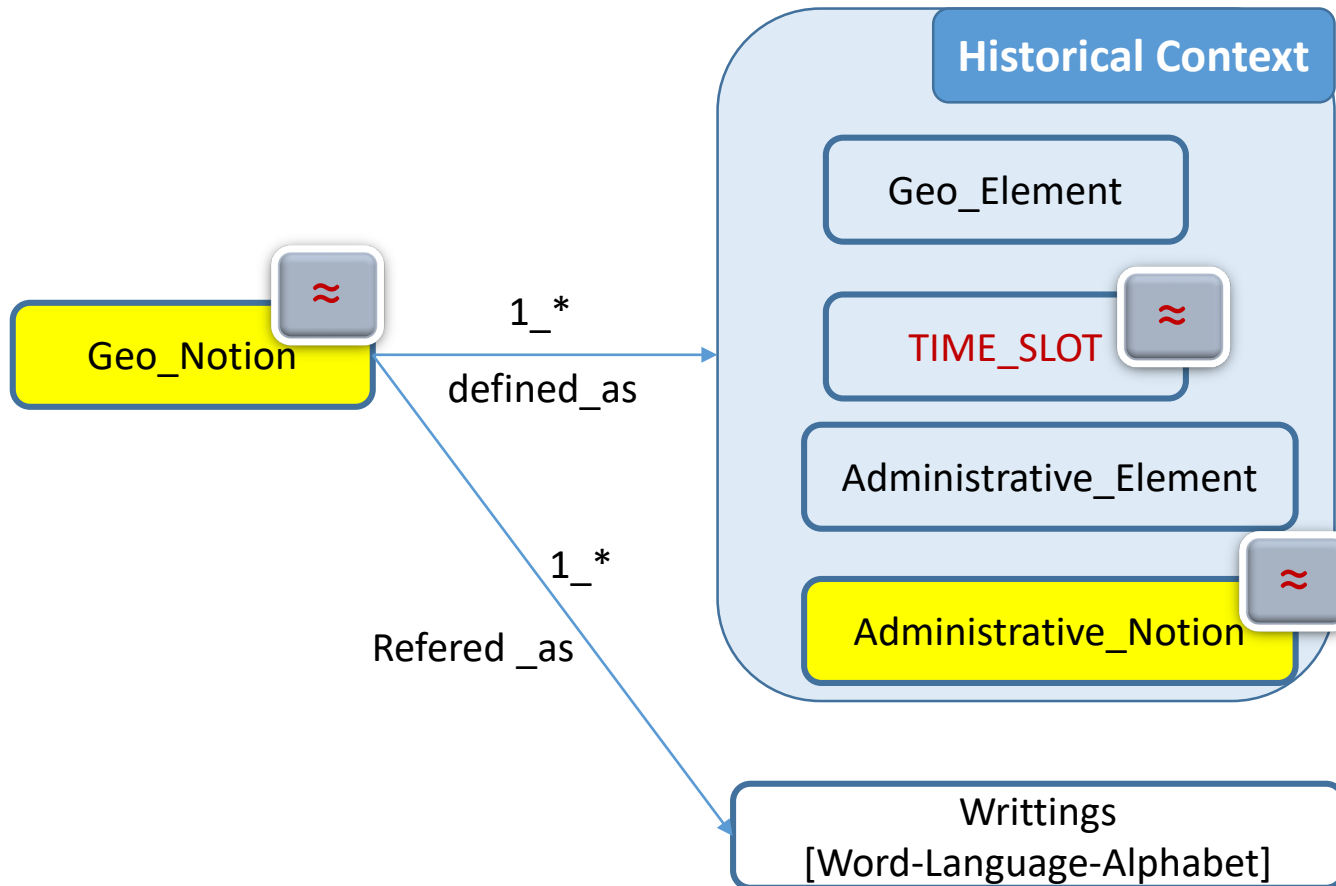
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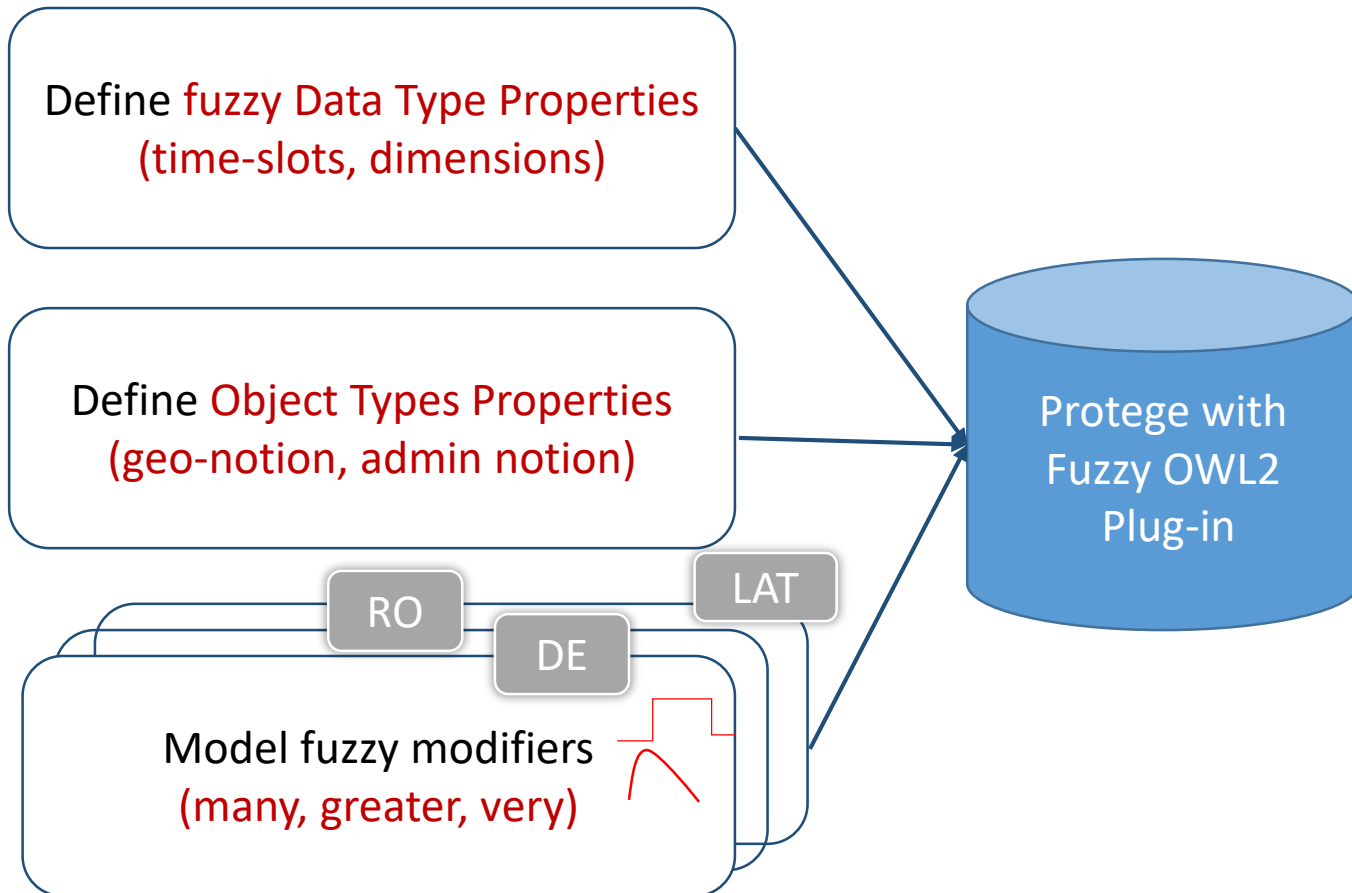
Turkish
Sources

Persons Database
(initial≈300)

<p>Aeladdin, Sultan von Ikonien</p> <p>Sultan Saʿladdin</p>	<p>الالدين Alaiddin/ Alaiddin</p> <p>Alaiddinum Iconiae Sultanum</p> <p>Alaiddin Sultano</p>	<p>الالدين سلطان Sultan Alaaddin</p> <p>Konya Sultanı Alaaddin</p>	<p>Herrscher/ Seldschukischer Sultan, Alaeddin Keykubad II. (?-1254), reg. 1249-1254, Sohn von Gıyaseddin Keyhusrev II.</p> <p>Alaeddin Keykubad I. (?-1237), reg. 1220-1237, Sohn von Gıyâseddin Keyhusrev I.</p> <p>Keykubad I. oder II.? Borrowed vagueness?</p>
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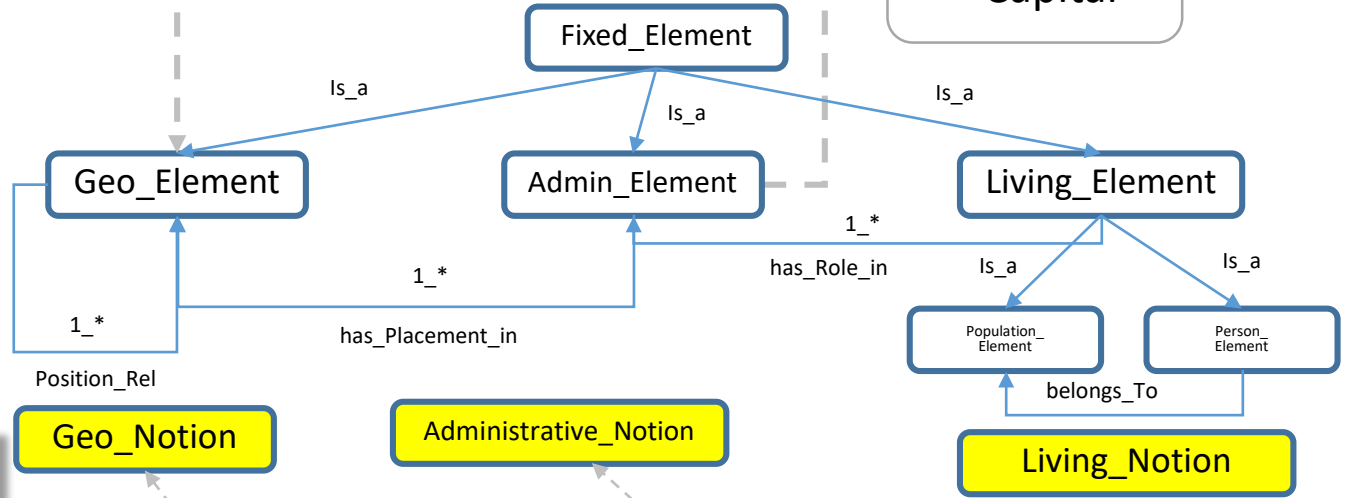
Example: Annotation of ambiguous places



Ortelius
Map 1570

- Northern Dobrudja
- Western Macedonia
- Eastern Europe

- Country
- Capital



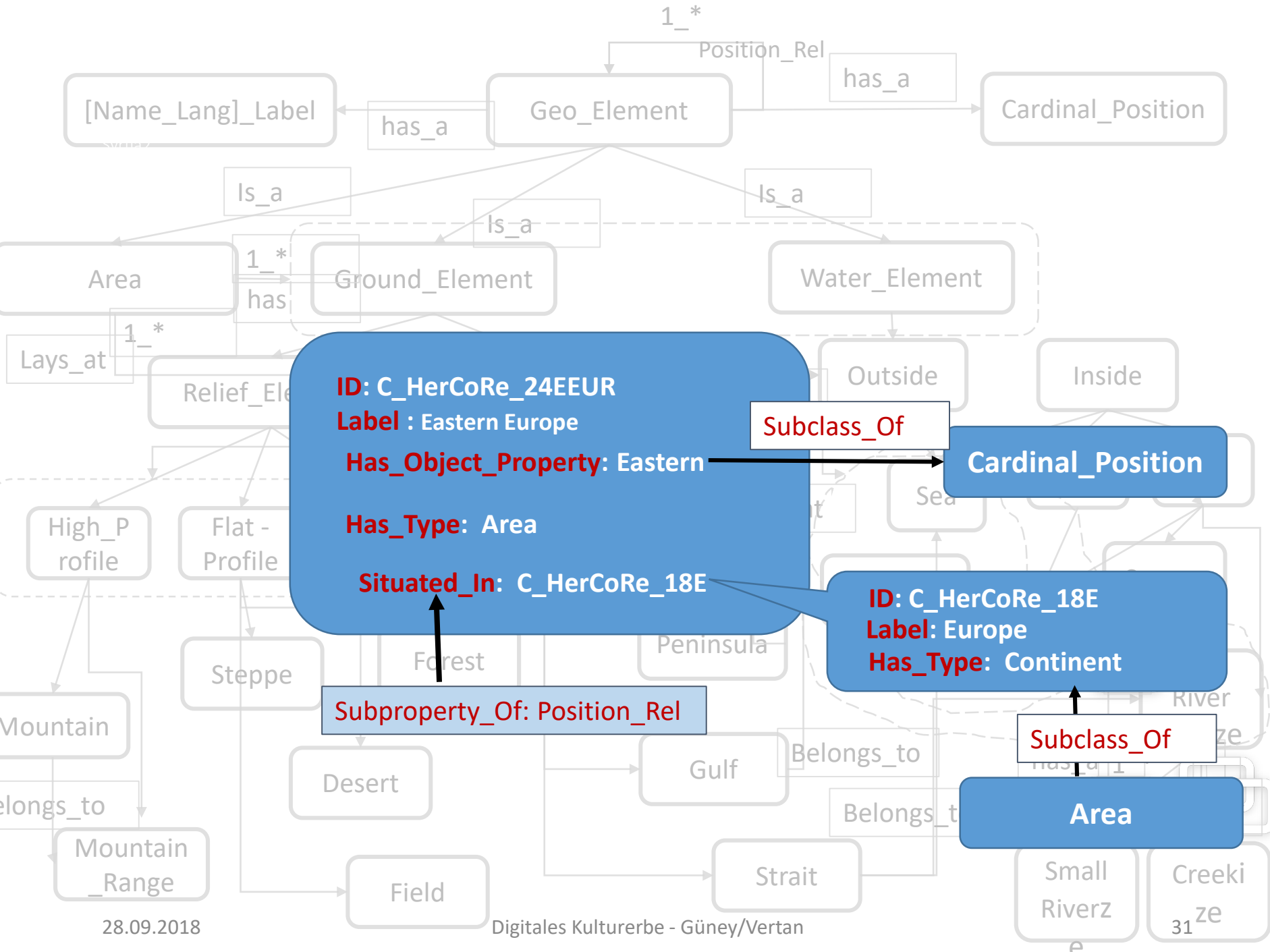
Syrfia is the abandoned name of a region in Eastern Europe, used on historical maps until 17th century, designating

- a part of Northern Dobrudja, coming from the Greek term *Σύρφοι - Syrphoi*, or
- The Cojani region from western Macedonia, today in Greece but in Turkish times in the "Serfia sangiac" having the capital *Σέρβια, Servia* ;
- Sârbia, due to phonetic association.

- Cojani Region
 - Sârbia
- Fuzzy Concept

- Greece
 - Serfia sangiac
 - Servia
- Fuzzy Concept

- Türkisch Times
 - Greek times
 - 17th century
- Fuzzy Properties



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Has_Type: Area
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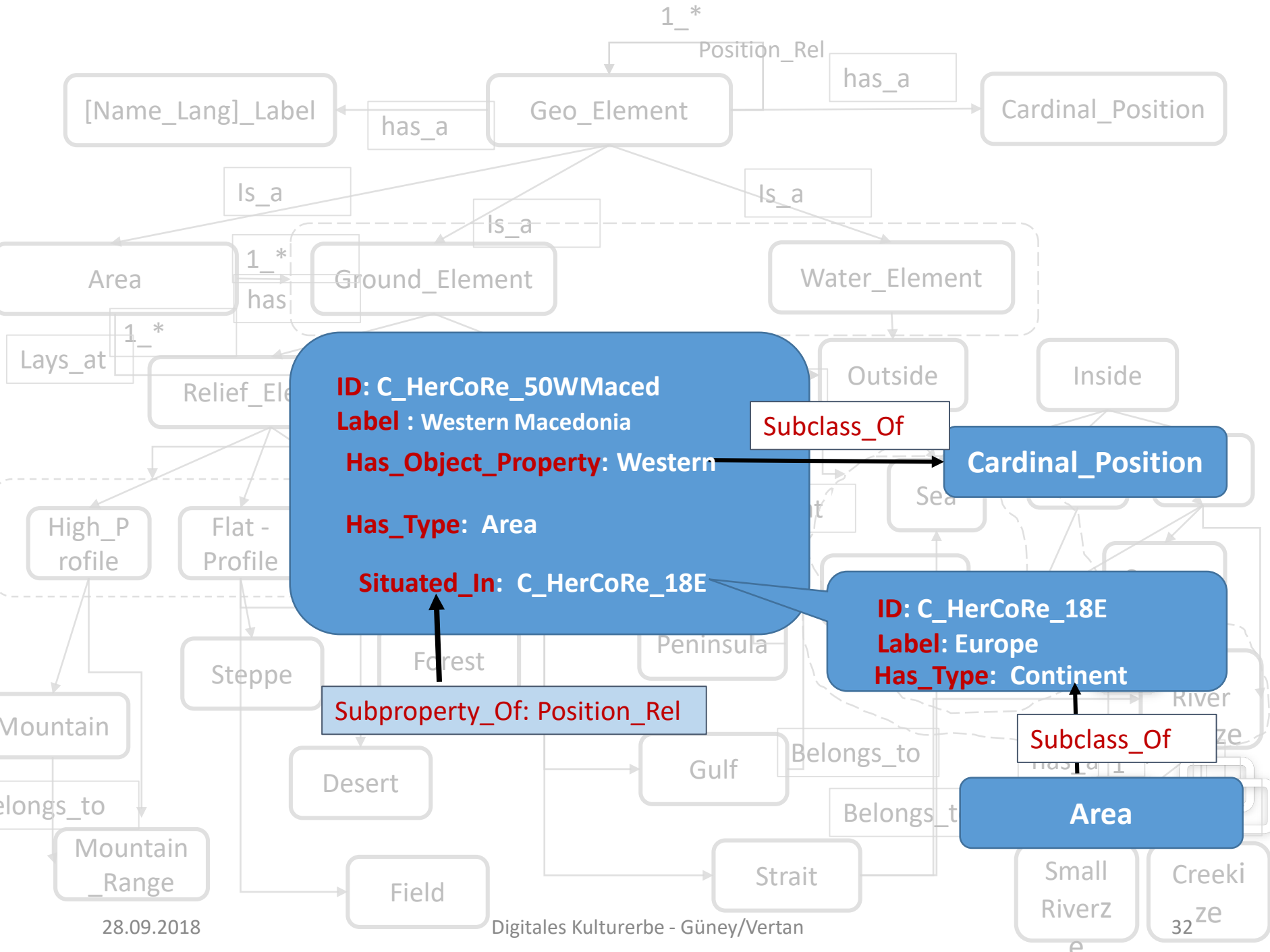
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Has_Type: Continent

Subproperty_Of: Position_Rel

Subclass_Of

Area



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Subclass_Of

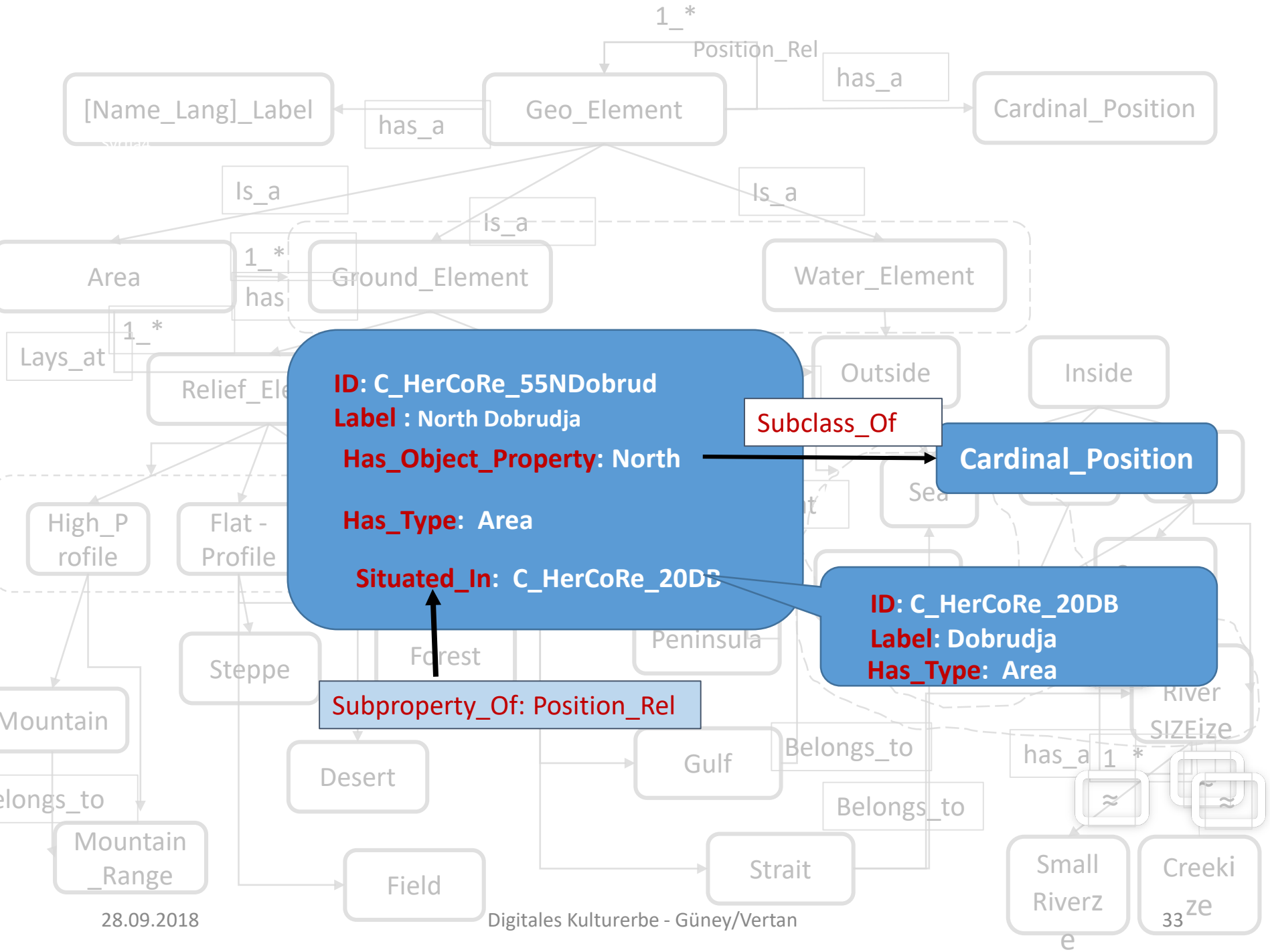
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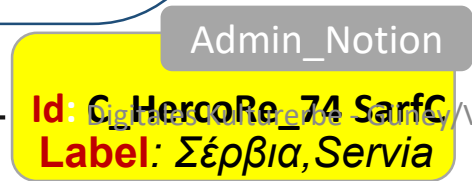
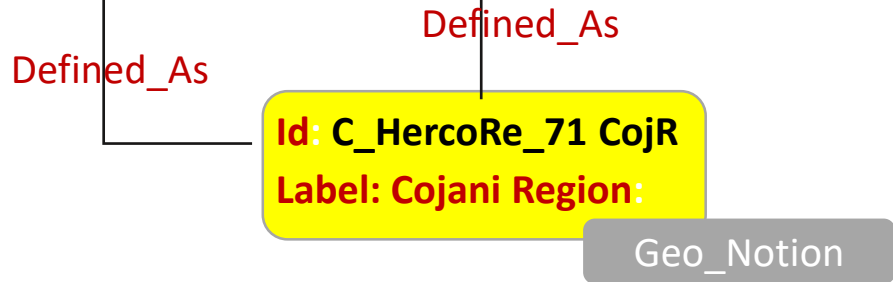
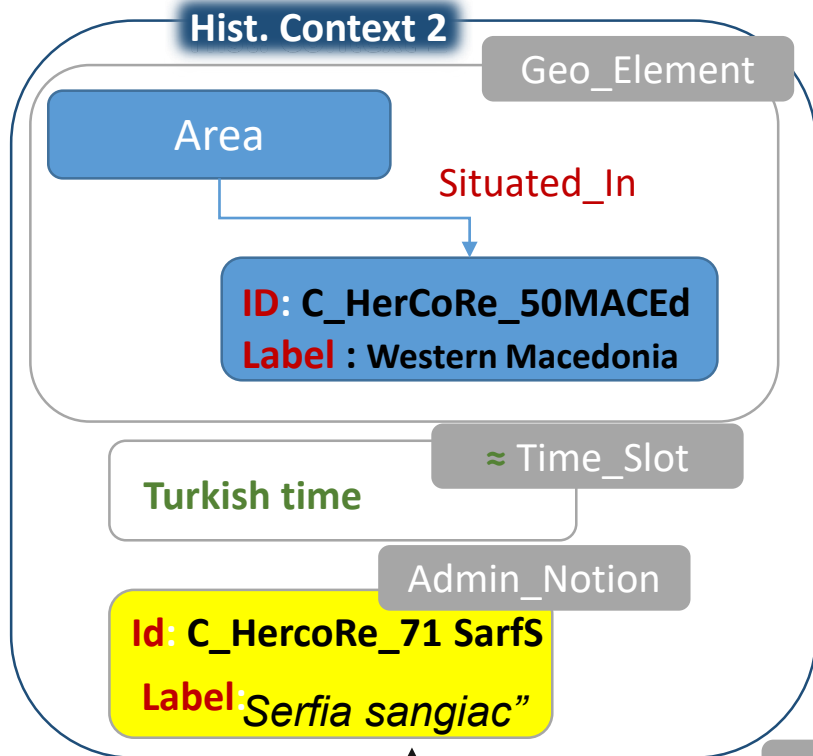
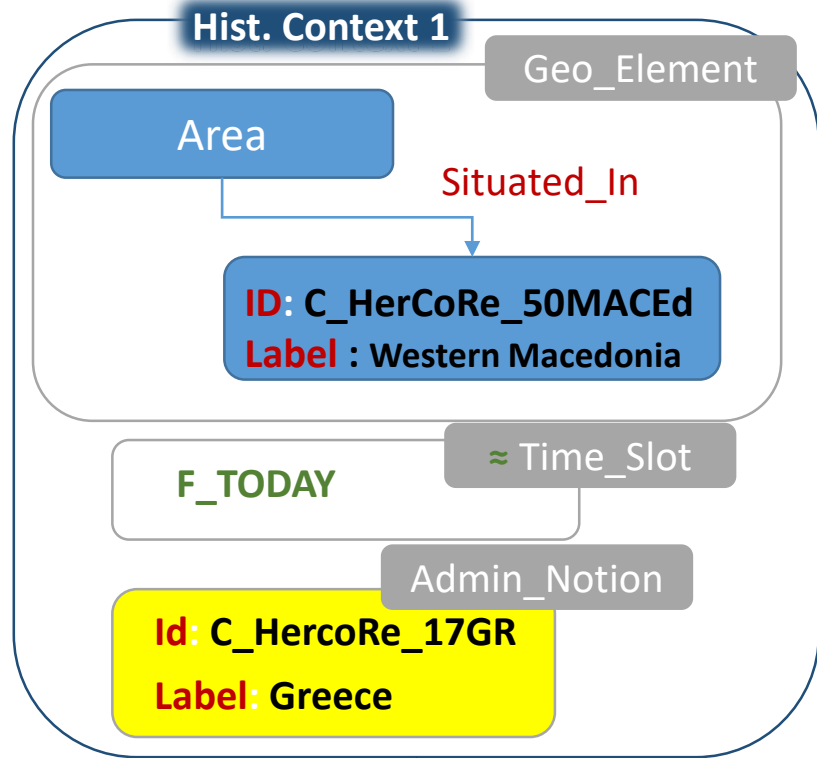
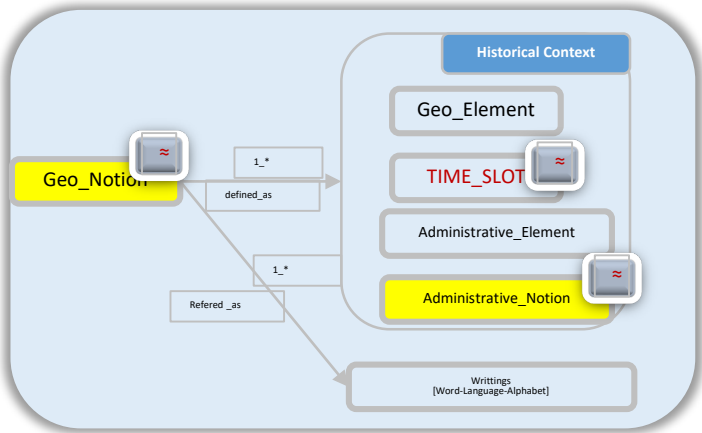
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Subproperty_Of: Position_Rel

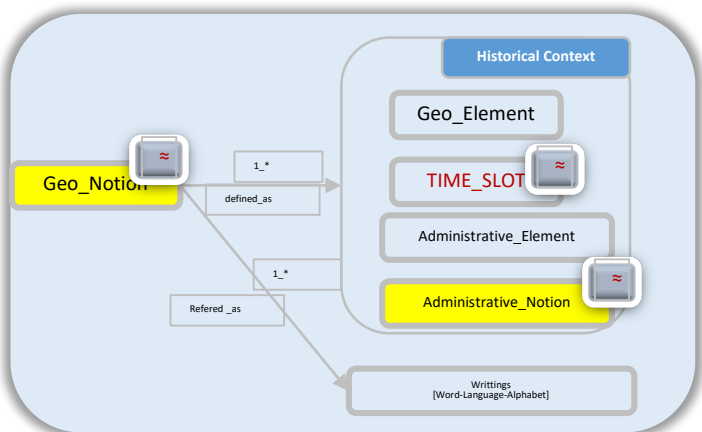
Subclass_Of

Area





The Cojani region from western Macedonia, today in Greece but in Turkish times in the “Serfia sangiac” having the capital Σέρβια, Servia ;



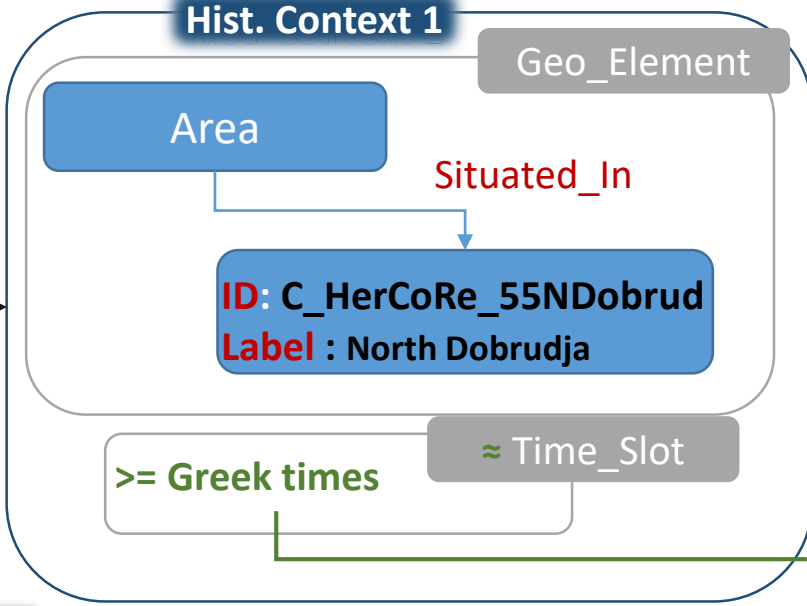
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Geo_Notion

Id: C_HerCoRe_10 DSyrf
Label: Σύρφοι, Syrphoi

Defined_As



Part of Northern Dobrudja, coming from the Greek term Σύρφοι --Syrphoi;

Class (Syrflia Annotation

(fuzzyLabel

```
< fuzzyOwl2 fuzzyType =" concept " >
```

```
< Concept type =" weightedSum " >
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```

```
< Concept type =" weighted " value ="0.33" base =" C_HercoRe_10DSyrf " />
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< Concept type =" weighted " value ="0.33" base =" C_HercoRe_11Srb " />
```

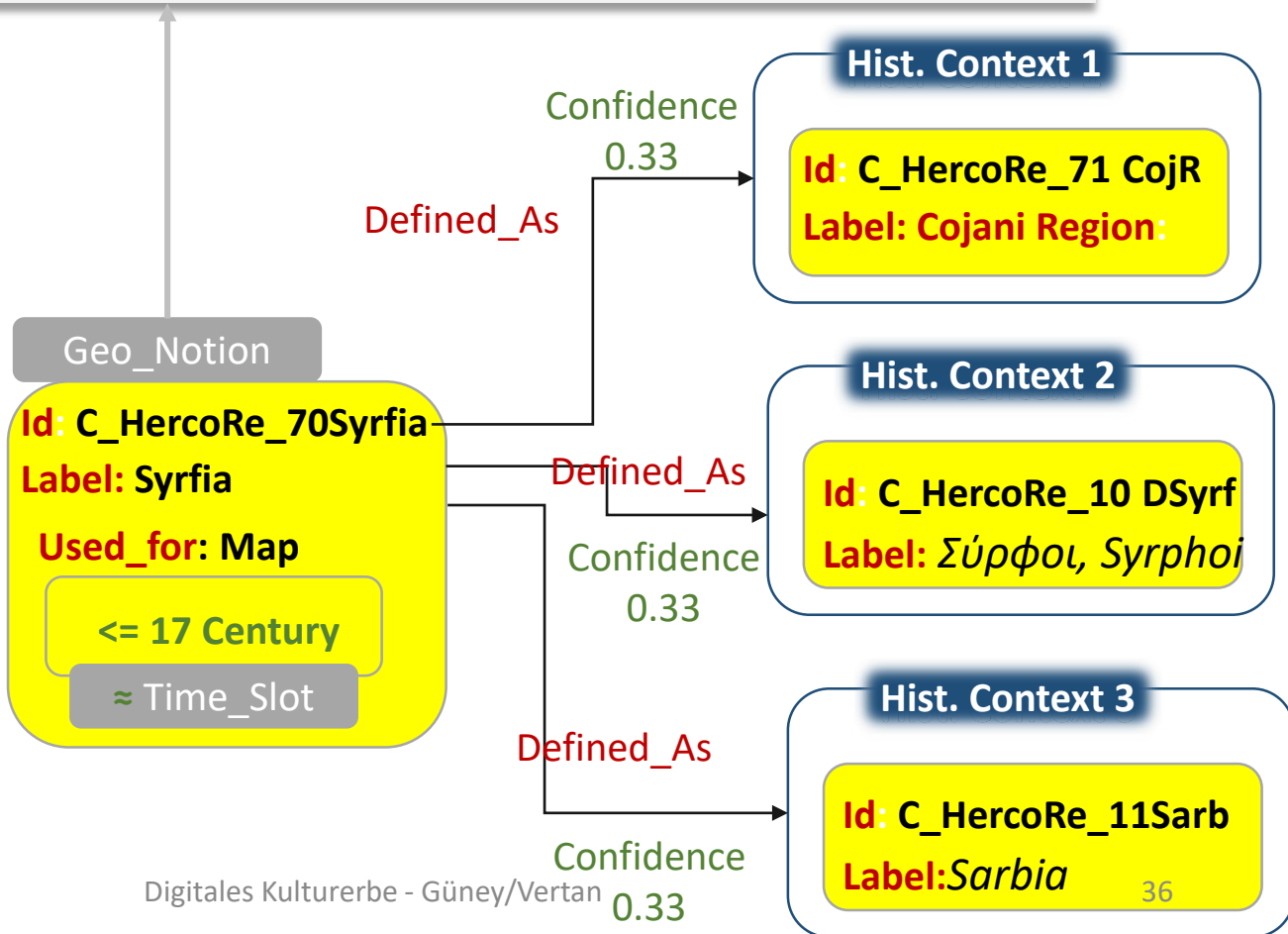
))

Syrfia is

the abandoned name of a region in Eastern Europe, used on historical maps until 17th century, designating

- a part of Northern Dobrudja, coming from the Greek term *Σύρφοι - Syrphoi*, or
- The Cojani region from western Macedonia, today in Greece but in Turkish times in the "Serfia sangiac" having the capital *Σέρβια, Servia* ;
- Sârbia, due to phonetic association.

28.09.2018 Source: Wikipedia





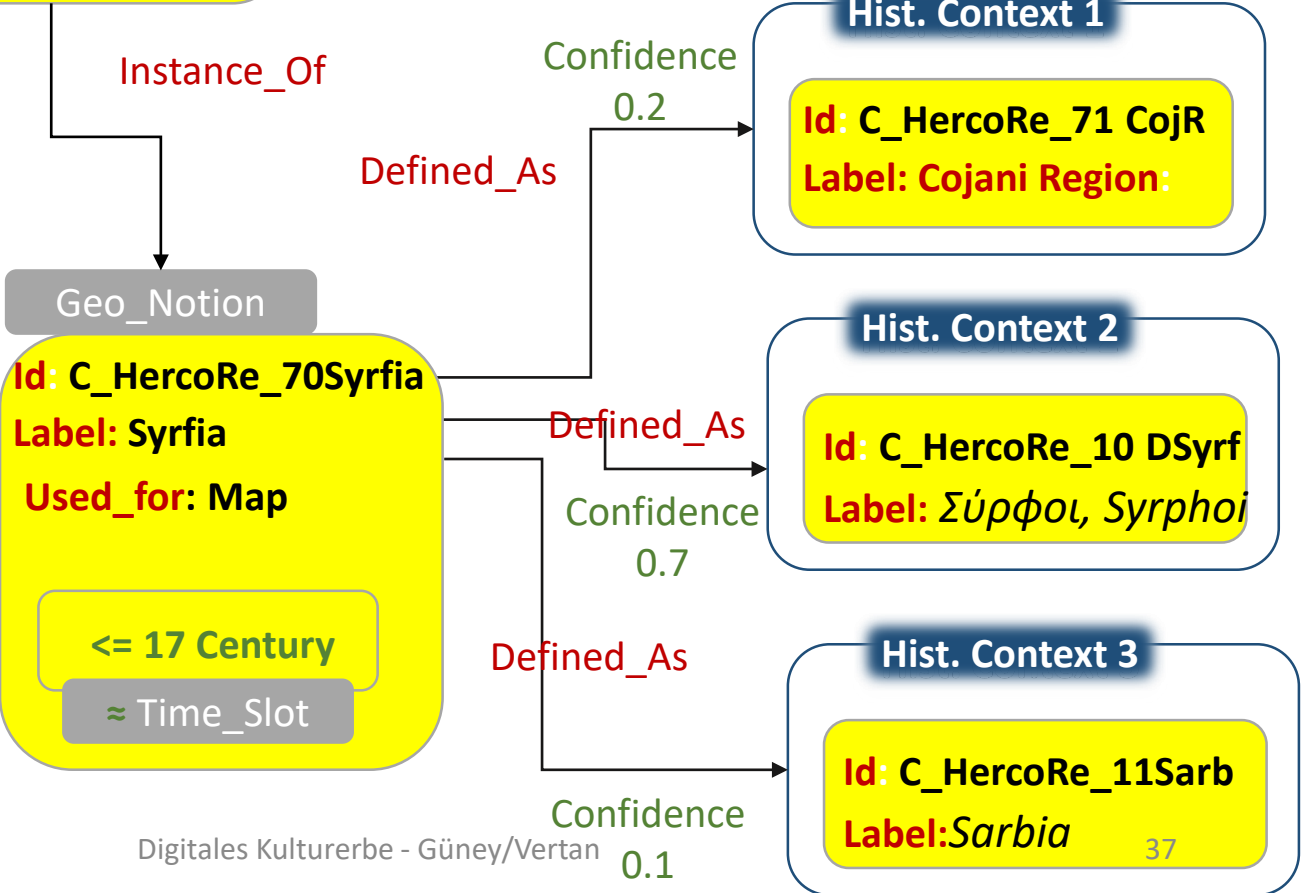
Orteliusmap 1570

Id: I_C_HerCoRe_Sy
Label: Syrfia_Ortelius
Used_for: Map_Ortelius
Time_slot: 1570

Syrfia is the abandoned name of a region in Eastern Europe, used on historical maps until 17th century, designating

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Orchan having in his Father's Life-time (as it is said) taken Prusa (2), and subdued the Territory of that City to his dominion, spends the first year of his Reign in settling the affairs of Afia, and establishing his new Empire

green = linguistic annotation (N., V, Prep, ...)
yellow = from the ontology
orange = vagueness marker.

(2) [Having taken Prusa] The Christian Prusa to the time of Othman, who they tell us, died the following year. This mistake seems to arise from the loss of Prusa (which was a very great calamity) being known to Greece before the news of Othman's death could arrive there .

Annotation-Environment Functionality

- Several Layers of Annotation (e.g. linguistic, editorial, text structure, domain specific).
- Annotation layers are interconnected
- Synchronisation between different text variants (original, translation editorial remarks)
- Discontinuous annotation segments
- Controlled automatisisation of manual annotation
- Need of user-friendly annotation interfaces
- Modular Architecture flexible at changes (new layers, new annotation categories)
- Import of automatic annotation (basic linguistic, basic vagueness)

Work ahead

- Semantic Linking between the map and „Geo_notions“
- Formal representation of vagueness markers
- Adaptation of existent fuzzy reasoners
- Specification of user scenarios
- Visualisation of results
- Reuse and enhance the ontology
- Model the Cantemir's Network in Istanbul and link it with the documents

