

Greek Metrical Inscriptions from the Imperial Age: A Website Proposal

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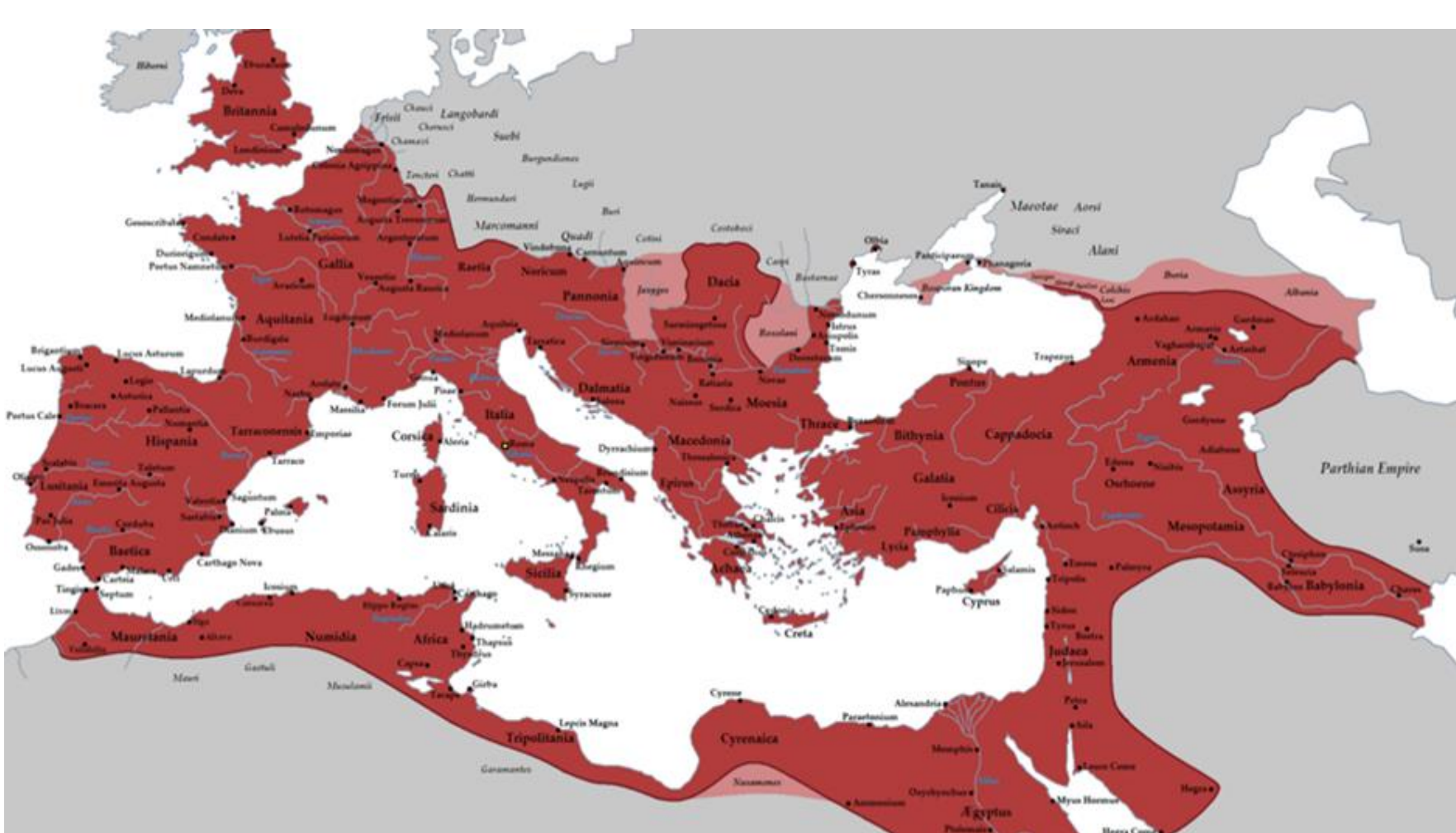
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Greek Epigraphic Poetry from the Imperial Age

A rich production of epigraphic poetry written in Greek flourished in the territories of the empire during the Imperial age (1st-3rd century AD). A *corpus* of about seventeen hundred Greek metrical inscriptions exhibits significant diversity in the geographical, socio-historical, archaeological contexts, and the literary aspects. Indeed, a wide range of poetic forms is written and enjoyed by authors, clients, and recipients from various socio-cultural backgrounds.



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Roman_Empire_Trajan_117AD.png

The Definition of the *Corpus*

The *corpus* is defined by collecting the Greek metrical inscriptions dated to the Imperial age (1st-3rd century AD) in a database organized according to geographical areas. The regional corpora are redefined, by adding inscriptions not included in the epigraphical editions, through bibliographic tools (*BE*, *SEG*). The data relating to the geographical, socio-historical, archaeological contexts and the literary aspects are collected for each inscription.

Anatolian Peninsula	ca. 1000 ins.
<i>Steinepigramme</i>	
Near East (Bactria, Media, Armenia, Syria, Palestine, Arabia)	ca. 100 ins.
<i>Steinepigramme</i>	
Egypt	ca. 150 ins.
<i>I.Egypte métriques, I.Philae, I.Colosse Memnon</i>	
Cyrenaica	ca. 50 ins.
IG Cyrenaica Verse	
Greece, Macedonia, Epirus, Aegean/Ionian Islands	ca. 250 ins.
IG	
Italy and Rome	ca. 200 ins.
IGUR	
Kaibel, <i>Epigrammata</i> Peek, GVI (<i>BE</i> <i>SEG</i>)	

The Website: Main Goal

The project involves the creation of a website dedicated to the *corpus* of the Greek metrical inscriptions from the Imperial age (1st-3rd century AD). Thanks to this website, the main information related to the inscriptions of the *corpus* will be fully accessible in a single collection. Hence, it will become easier to collect the data while conducting research on the *corpus*, such as editions, commentaries, or archaeological, socio-historical, and literary studies.

Tools

Our intention is to build a user-friendly and dynamic website using Python and the Django web framework. The website will use HTML as the basic language and employ the XML-based markup language.



<https://www.python.org/community/logos/>
<https://www.djangoproject.com/community/logos/>

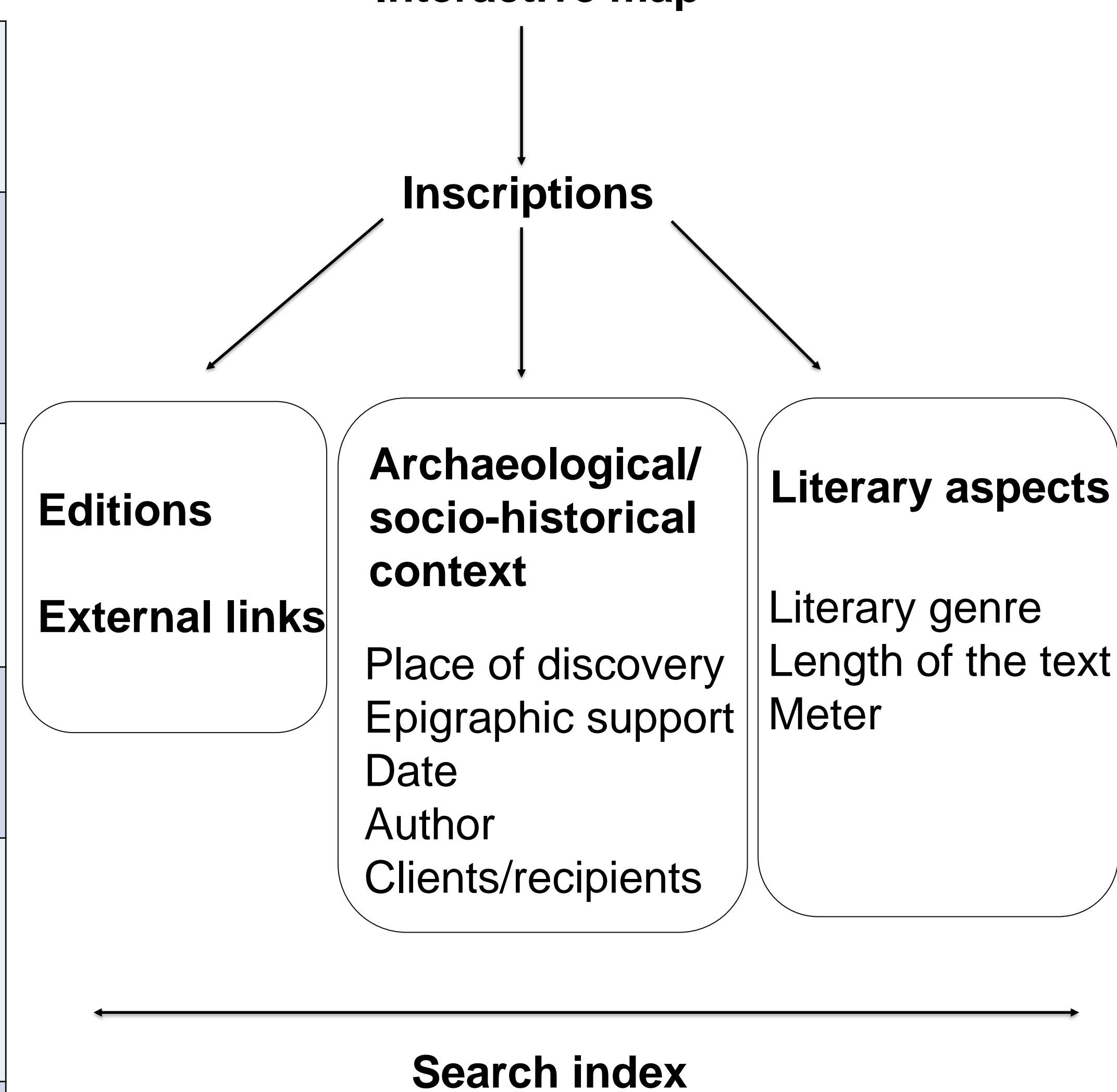
Content and Structure

The website will consist in an online database organized according to geographical areas. The inscriptions will be placed on an interactive map. Each inscription will be indicated according to the most recent edition. References to the other editions will be provided. Starting from the map, by clicking on each inscription, the data relating to the archaeological, socio-historical contexts and the literary aspects will be displayed. The data are the following: the place of discovery, the epigraphic support, the date, the author (if known), the clients and recipients, the literary genre, the length of the text, the type of meter. External links to the other epigraphy related websites will be included (e.g., EAGLE, MAPPOLA, PHI Greek Inscriptions, *SEG*, Trismegistos). It will be also possible to carry out cross-searches thanks to a search index.

Expected Results and Future Perspectives

The website will enable the collection of the entire *corpus* of the Greek metrical inscriptions from the Imperial age, currently dispersed in multiple editions. It will be possible to expand the *corpus* at any time, whether new inscriptions are discovered or new editions of already known inscriptions are published. By including external links, a network of digital resources related to these texts will be created. In this way, it will be easier to have access to the production of Greek epigraphic poetry from the Imperial age, in its various literary forms, and diverse geographical, archaeological, and socio-historical contexts. As a future perspective, it would be desirable to expand the database to include the Greek metrical inscriptions from the Archaic/Hellenistic Age and Late Antiquity.

Interactive map



Work Plan

The project is still in the initial phase of development. At the present time, the data relating to the geographical, socio-historical, archaeological contexts, and the literary aspects are being collected, as a part of my PhD project. In the next two years it is expected that the data collection will be completed, and the basic structure of the website will be planned. Subsequently, the website will be built, in the shortest possible time, according to the available financial support.

Anyone interested is warmly welcome to collaborate on the project. If you have any suggestions or proposals, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Contact

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References

Epigraphic abbreviations: <https://scholarlyeditions.brill.com/sego/abbreviations/>
EAGLE <https://www.eagle-network.eu/>
MAPPOLA <https://mappola.eu/index.php/about/>
PHI Greek Inscriptions <https://inscriptions.packhum.org/>
SEG <https://scholarlyeditions.brill.com/sego/>
Trismegistos <https://www.trismegistos.org/>
Python <https://www.python.org/>
Django <https://www.djangoproject.com/>