

Graph of Dated Objects and Texts

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GODOT (Graph of Dated Objects and Texts) is a project in statu nascendi: It will be a chronological gazetteer of major calendar systems from antiquity, which will result in providing stable and citable URIs for all instances of calendar dates in ancient sources. These GODOT-IDs can be referenced from all digital publications of ancient texts, be it on stones, coins, papyri, ostraca or clay tablets in any ancient language. Each GODOT-ID holds information about:

- the calendar type
- the exact date
- conversion into e.g. the Julian calendar system (if conversion is possible)
- provides links to other resources which share the same calendar system or date

Via the public GODOT API all information can be queried and embedded into any website.

Querying for ancient dates and linking these to online publications or databases - by using a graph data model - is one of the key features of this gazetteer, but it will also contribute to scientific chronological research as it has a clear focus on dates given in multiple calendars (double dates) and synchronisms between different ancient calendar systems, including conversion of dates between different calendar systems.

GODOT will visualize these dates and their relations, so that it will be possible for users to evaluate and potentially improve existing conversions from one calendar system to another (ancient or modern like the Julian calendar) and achieve a deeper understanding of the multitude of calendar systems from antiquity, their history and relation to each other, e. g. by multiple timelines with interactive scales and other tools. While creating new mathematical algorithms for conversions, providing a comprehensive list of ancient double dates and making available URIs for eponymic personnel like e. g. Roman consuls etc., and creating an online platform for scholarly discussions about ancient chronology by annotating digital editions as an additional benefit, GODOT will evolve into a central data and research hub for chronological research in the field of ancient history.