Towards an archaeological Information System: Improving the core data model

The third and fourth dimensions in archaeological data modelling

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Outlines

- Research Context
  - „Virtual Leodium“
  - Information System

- Archaeological Information System
  - Archaeological data
  - Archaeological data model

- Latest improvements
  - New archaeological core data model

- Case study « The catchement basin of the Weser »
  - An illustrative case

- Conclusion and future developments
Research Context

Virtual Leodium
Virtual Leodium

- The scale model
  - Building date: 1900 - 1910
  - Gustave Ruhl-Hauzeur
  - Art Collection of the University of Liege
  - Represents the City of Liege around 1730
Information System prototype
Peculiarities of archaeological Data

Source: Rodier

Source: De Runz
Event management

Time line

Field
   ↓
   Source

Church
   ↓
   Event: construction
   ↓
   Source

Pile of stones
   ↓
   Event: destruction
   ↓
   Source

Auditorium
   ↓
   Event: construction
Archaeological data model
Virtual Leodium: the remaining modelling challenges

- Object identity
- Event management
- Handling of ambiguity
Latest improvements

New archaeological core data model

• Class diagram
• History oriented
• New classes
Case study « The catchment basin of the Weser »

An illustrative case

- New case study
- New requirements
- An opportunity to improve the model
Author 1: 1 Interpretative Sequence
Author 2: 4 Interpretative Sequences
Author 3: 4 Interpretative Sequences
1 Historical Object = 1 Life Map
Conclusions and future developments
Conclusions and future developments

- **Improvements:**
  - Version: concept widened
  - Creation of new classes: EPISODE, LIFE MAP, AGENT, FIGURE
  - History oriented model

- **Next steps:**
  - implementation
  - Leave proprietary softwares
  - Focus on international standards
Thank you for your attention!