Collecting Fragmentary Authors in a Digital Library

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What is a Fragment?

the surviving piece of something irretrievably lost or never finished

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Material Fragments of Ancient Artifacts
Collecting Fragmentary Authors in a Digital Library

Material Fragments of Ancient Texts
Collecting Fragmentary Authors in a Digital Library

What is a Textual Fragment?

- a quotation of a text embedded into another text

↓

• verbatim citations
• paraphrase
• summary
• allusion

Ath. Deipn. X 447c

Hecataeus, in the second book of his Description, after saying of the Egyptians that they were bread-eaters, continues: “They grind up the barley to make the drink”.

(trans. Gulick)

= 

Hecat. FHG I 20

Hecat. FGrHist 1 F 323a
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Print Collections of Fragmentary Texts

collections of excerpts from many different sources

= print representations of hypertexts

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Print Collections of Fragmentary Texts

critical apparatus
variants of manuscripts
conjectures by scholars
secondary sources

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Print Collections of Fragmentary Texts

translation of every fragment

G. Schepens, Die Fragmente der Griechischen Historiker
Continued, IV A-, Leuven - Boston - Köln 1998-
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Print Collections of Fragmentary Texts

commentary to every fragment

G. Schepens, *Die Fragmente der Griechischen Historiker Continued*, IV A-, Leuven - Boston - Köln 1998-
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Digital Representation of Fragmentary Texts

quotation as machine actionable link = link to the full text of the source text preserving the fragment

Ath. Deipn. X 447b-d

... μόνι χτ τω πίνω μεθυσθέντες εἰς τούπίσω καὶ ύπποι κλίνονται. τὸν δὲ κρίθινον οἶνον καὶ βρῦτον τινὲς καλοῦσιν, ώς Σοφοκλῆς ἐν Τριπτολέμω· βρῦτον δὲ τὸν χερσαῖον οὐ δυεῖν.

καὶ Αρχίλοχος:

ὡσπερ <παρ’> αὐλῷ βρῦτον ὅ Θρηξ ἀνήρ ὁ Φρῦξ ἔβρυζε, κύβδα δ’ ἦν πονευμενῆ.

μνημονεύει τοῦ πώματος Αἰσχύλος ἐν Λυκούργῳ· κάκ τώνδ’ ἐπινε βρῦτον ἱσχναίνων χρόνῳ κάσεμνοκόμπει τοῦτ’ ἐν ἀνδρείᾳ στέγη.

Ἐλλάνικος δ’ ἐν Κτίσει καὶ ἐκ ριζῶν, φησι κατασκευάζεται τὸ βρῦτον γράφων ὄρλε: ‘πίνουσι δὲ βρῦτον ἐκ τινων ριζῶν, καθάπερ οἱ Ἐθικὲς ἐκ τῶν κριθῶν. ’Εκαταῖος δ’ ἐν δεύτερῳ περιηγήσεως εἴπων περὶ Αἴγυπτών ώς ἀρτοφάγοι εἰσίν ἐπιφέρει: ‘τὰς κριθὰς ἐς τὸ πῶμα καταλέουσιν. ’ ἐν δὲ τῇ τῆς Εὐρώπης περίδῳ Παῖονάς φησι πίνειν βρῦτον ἀπὸ τῶν κριθῶν καὶ παραβιήν ἀπὸ κέχρου καὶ κόνυζαν. ‘ἀλείφονται δὲ, φησιν, ἔλαίω ἀπὸ γάλακτος.’ καὶ ταύτα μὲν ταύτη...
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Digital Representation of Fragmentary Texts

alignment of citation schemes = identifying the passage in every digital edition of the source text

Ath. Deipn. X 447 b-d (ed. Casaubon)
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Digital Representation of Fragmentary Texts

fragment as search query = the fragment should be searchable in all online editions

(ed. Casaubon)  (ed. Kaibel)

(ed. Meineke)  (ed. Loeb)
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Digital Representation of Fragmentary Texts

dynamic collation

= collating all critical editions of the source text of the fragment

(ed. Casaubon)

(fragment)

(ed. Kaibel)

(ed. Meineke)

(ed. Loeb)
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Digital Representation of Fragmentary Texts

link to secondary and tertiary sources
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Developing an Ontology for Representing Fragmentary Texts

- Numbering and Ordering Fragments
  → table of concordances → Reference Indexing Services (CHS)

- Classification of Fragments
  → testimonia, fragmenta, literary genres, etc.

- Beginning and End of a Fragment in the Source Text
  → Canonical Text Services (CHS)

- Catalog of Unique Identifiers for Fragmentary Authors and Works
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Thank you!

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