

Linking theory with practice: CIDOC CRM-based gazetteers and time-period thesauri

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The theoretical difficulty underlying gazetteers and time-period thesauri is generally overlooked. Practice demands that they are detailed, exhaustive and universal, but a dumb use may lead to paradoxes of traveling backwards in time, and shamanic-style bi-location. As Zeno's paradox of Achilles and the tortoise, these however suggest a solution that resolves the issues by addressing them from a different perspective. After surveying the most popular among such lists, this presentation will try to provide a theoretical basis by embedding them in 4-dimensional space-time and discretizing their granularity. This will allow relating them to CIDOC CRM, and some examples of mapping will be discussed.