

Editions and editors of Greek papyrological texts

Mark Depauw

KU Leuven

mark.depauw@kuleuven.be

Yanne Broux

Research Foundation Flanders (FWO) / KU Leuven

Yanne.broux@kuleuven.be

Small questions can have large consequences. At the beginning of 2015, someone addressed the PAPPY-list, the mailing list for all things papyrology, asking whether it was possible to look for editions of papyri after 1980. In Trismegistos (www.trismegistos.org), the year of edition was added in a systematic way for the about 60,000 (Greek) papyrological publications, but we realized this information was not easily accessible for the users of the online search engine. Moreover, the names of the editors of individual texts were still missing for thousands of papyrological publications.

After an appeal to the papyrological community, this situation was quickly mended through a collaborative effort on a Google Drive document. But work was not finished after this. If a text is published in an article in a journal, it is included in the volumes of the *Sammelbuch Griechischer Urkunden aus Ägypten* (SB). It is assigned a volume and a serial number, e.g. 'SB 14 11639' and is commonly referred to in this way. Here too, the information regarding the editors of texts was mostly missing in TM. Since the original publications can only be found through the entries in SB, it would have been a lot of work to enter them systematically. A new appeal was launched to the community, but probably because of the considerable effort involved, there was less response. Luckily, the editors of SB sent us a reverse index of publications and SB-numbers, and now our database of editors is more or less complete for Greek papyrological texts.

The idea then grew to use the data to study papyrological editing practices in a quantitative way, in the wake of Peter van Minnen's more impressionistic articles dealing with this subject (1993, 1994, 2007 and 2009). We supplemented the data of text editions with the material collected by the *Bibliographie Papyrologique*, by restructuring their author information (some 65,000 entries). This paper will present the results of this study of the 'century of papyrology'. We look into the chronological evolutions of text editions (both original and re-editions) and the rise (and decline?) of the papyrological community. For the practice of co-editing and co-publishing we also set up a network of individuals who collaborated and took centrality measures, edge weight and paths into account to get a feel of the dynamics of the papyrological community (e.g. fig. 1).

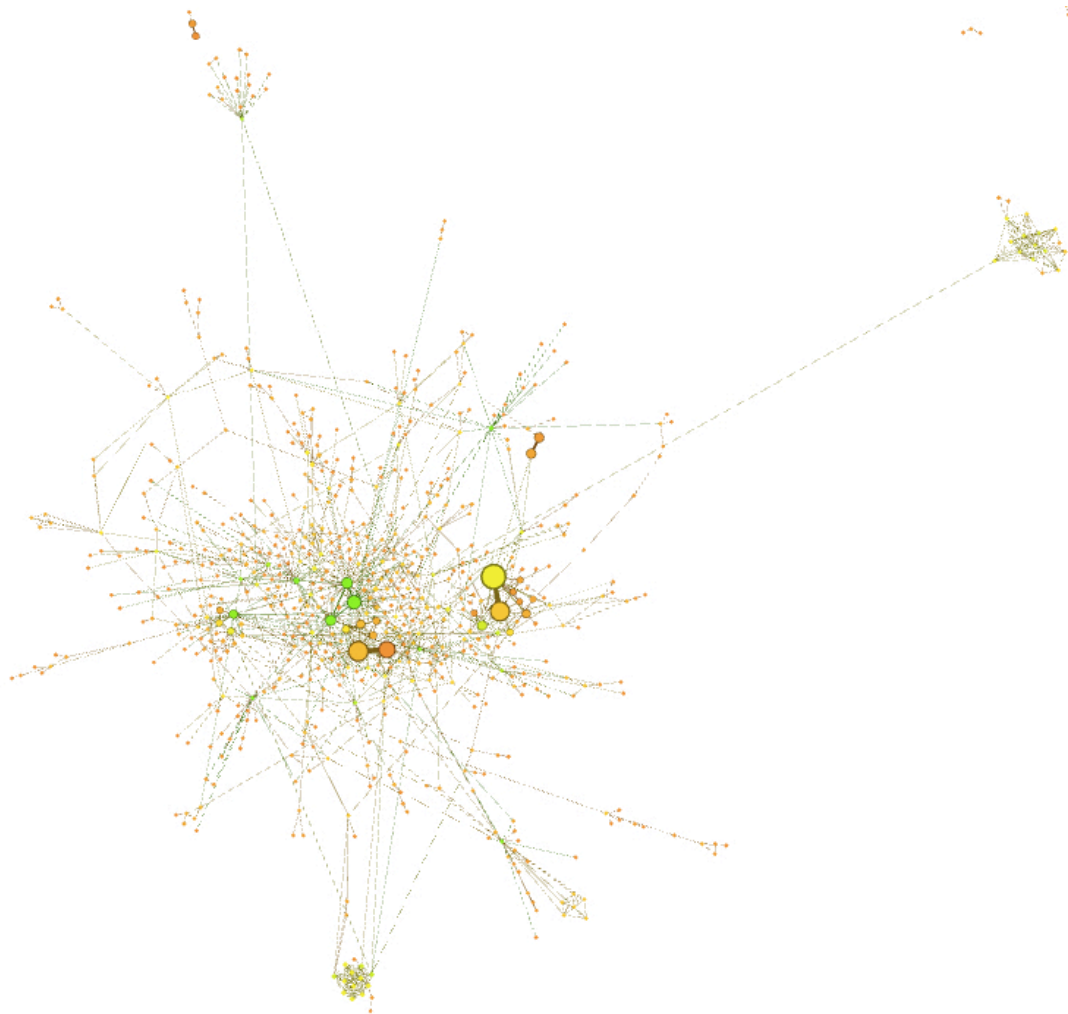


Figure 1: Giant component of the network of co-editors of Greek papyrological texts

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