



Abstract

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Visualizing the Provenance of Sumerian Literary Text

Virtual globes are employed in archaeology and other disciplines in order to visualize different kinds of information in a geographical context and to make this data easily accessible for a scientific and/or non-scientific audience. This method of transmitting information is still virtually absent in ancient Near Eastern philology.

The talk introduces a KML application for Google Earth that contextualizes Sumerian literary texts with the provenance of their cuneiform sources. A short presentation of a preliminary beta version shall demonstrate the possible applications of virtual globes for ancient Near Eastern philology.

Furthermore, insight will be given on the difficulties faced during the development of the beta version and the solutions and compromises that have been undertaken since. The talk will conclude with the future perspectives of a follow-up version.