Timo Kracke

Timo is 39 years old and has about 17 year experience in genealogy. He is host of a genealogy podcast, genealogy addicted, author for a couple of print articles, host of some school and kindergarten projects about genealogy, and member of the executive committee from Verein für Computergenealogie e.V. He is responsible for public relations.

Verein für Computergenealogie e.V.
Computer Genealogy Society (Germany)

- the largest genealogical society in Germany
- more than 3,000 Members
- own magazine (quarterly)
- large online database

www.compgen.de - www.genealogy.net
GOV - Genealogisches Ortsverzeichnis

The Genealogical Gazetteer

a CompGen Project

http://gov.genealogy.net
GOV is a resource for genealogists, historians and sociologists which provides them a worldwide unique place ID to access high quality place informations like:

- Geographical location of the place (coordinates or a position on a map)
- Several properties of a place (postal code, town-code, etc.)
- Foreign or former names
- Past affiliation (administrative, law, church, etc.)

GOV contains churches, church districts, places, districts, regions, etc.
Why is it important to have a unique place identification?

- different diction
- we use different online platforms
- we want to match and merge data
- data exchange
- we get data with insufficient source citation
- genealogy heir
- and many more ...
Place structure in USA (GEDCOM)

City, County, State, Country

Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah, United States
How user enter place information in genealogical software

Taaken
Taaken (Magenkrämpfe)
Taaken / Niedersachsen
Taaken ?
Taaken, Kingdom Hannover,
Taaken, Preussen, Germany
Taaken, Reeszum, Sottrum, Preussen, Germany
Taaken, Rotenburg/Wuemme, Niedersachsen, DEU?
Taaken, Verden, Nds., D

Example taken from GEDBAS - a CompGen project (http://gebas.genealogy.net)
Place identification // Settlement vs. administrative object

Settlement object
- where is the village/city located

Administrative object
- commune borders
- parish borders
The village Schönberg, near Kiel in Germany.
The village Schönberg, near Kiel in Germany.

The village Schönberg

A village is the place itself.
The village Schönberg, near Kiel in Germany.

The commune Schönberg

A commune is the judicial type of a village and could extend to several surrounding villages.
The village Schönberg, near Kiel in Germany.

The parish Schönberg

A parish is an ecclesiastic administrative unit. It includes several surrounding villages. It is different from the civil administrative unit.
How complex could it be?

- name variation
- time data
- changing affiliation
- population
- church
- sources
Examples // name variation

Hoyerswerda
- Wórjejce (dsb)
- Hoyerswerda (deu)
- Wojerecy (hsb)

Königsberg in Preußen
- Regiomonti Borussorum (lat)
- Königsberg in Preußen Quelle Ort 16.1 (deu)
- Królewiec Quelle (pol)
- Кёнигсберг (- 1946) Quelle (rus)
- Karaliaučius (- 1946) Quelle lt.wikipedia.org (lit)
- Kaliningradas (1946 -) Quelle lt.wikipedia.org (lit)
- Kaliningrad (1946 -) (rus)
- Калининград (1946-) Quelle (rus)

http://gov.genealogy.net/item/show/HOYRDAJO71CK

http://gov.genealogy.net/item/show/BREEDTJO44LO
Different affiliation per time period

As a genealogist you have to know about such complex historic topics, to be able to find the relevant archive, holding the archival sources of your research place.

the same place in different time periods could belong to different state, country, church and other objects.

Especially in Europa are many affiliation changes.
Population informations per time period

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Delitzsch</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GOV-Kennung</td>
<td>DELSCHJO61EM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Delitzsch (deu)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Typ</td>
<td>Stadt Quelle Quelle S. 8/9 Quelle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Einwohner</td>
<td>8949 (1890) Quelle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10940 (1905-12-01) Quelle S. 8/9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14892 (1925) Quelle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16476 (1933) Quelle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18016 (1939) Quelle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>26075 (1946-10-29) Quelle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24195 (1950) Quelle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22892 (1960) Quelle</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24435 (1971) Quelle</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>26554 (1981) Quelle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>28384 (1988) Quelle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
City „Harpstedt“

Commune

Parish

Examples // Church
Every information can have a detailed source.
landing page

search template
landing page

search template

Extended search
Search by name
Place name:

type: alle Objekttypen

Search

Search by GOV id
GOV id: show

Search for two related objects
Superordinate object:
Subordinate object:

Search
## Das Genealogische Orts-Verzeichnis

19 Einträge in 0.03 Sekunden gefunden.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Typ</th>
<th>Übergeordnete Objekte</th>
<th>Postleitzahl</th>
<th>GOV-Kennung</th>
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<tr>
<td>Althof, Riegersdorf-Althof</td>
<td>Ort</td>
<td>Wojewodschaft Bielsko-Biała, Republik Polen</td>
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<td>ALTHOFJN99KU</td>
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<td>Riegersdorf</td>
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<td>Riegersdorf</td>
<td>Kirche</td>
<td>Joglowa, Strehlin, Breslau, Niederschlesien, Preußen, Norddeutscher Bund</td>
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<td>Neustadt, Oppeln, Preußisch-Schlesien (inoffiziell), Preußen, Norddeutscher Bund</td>
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<td>Pless, Ost-Oberschlesien, Autonome Wojewodschaft Schlesien, Republik Polen</td>
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<td>Riegersdorf, Jeglowa</td>
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<td>Streihlin, Schlesien, Evangelische Kirche der altdeutschen Union</td>
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<td>Tschechien</td>
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<td>LEWORFJN89DQ</td>
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<td>Riegersdorf, Modřec</td>
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<td>Pardubitz, Tschechien</td>
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<td>Riegersdorf, Potworow</td>
<td>Gemeinde</td>
<td>Frankenstein, Breslau, Niederschlesien, Preußen, Norddeutscher Bund</td>
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<td>Riegersdorf, Rudzance, Rudziczka</td>
<td>Landgemeinde</td>
<td>Gemeinde, Züllichau, Guben, Berlin, Berlin, Bundesrepublik Deutschland</td>
<td>51142</td>
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<td>Gemeinde</td>
<td>Schwarzwasser, Blietz Land, Österreichisch Schlesien, ČSSR</td>
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<td>Riegersdorf, Waidgut</td>
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<td>Neustadt, Oppeln, Preußisch-Schlesien (inoffiziell), Preußen, Norddeutscher Bund</td>
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<td>Riegersdorf, Waigut</td>
<td>Gutsbezirk</td>
<td>Neustadt, Oppeln, Preußisch-Schlesien (inoffiziell), Preußen, Norddeutscher Bund</td>
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</table>
basic information

Riegersdorf, Rudziczka

<table>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Riegersdorf (deu)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rudziczka (1945 -) (pol)</td>
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<tr>
<td>type</td>
<td>Ort</td>
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<tr>
<td>population</td>
<td>1462 (1939)</td>
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</table>

Article about this place in the genealogy.net wiki

- [http://wiki-de.genealogy.net/GOV:object_188576](http://wiki-de.genealogy.net/GOV:object_188576)

Geographic Position

- 50.3823°N 17.5242°E
- TK25: 5671
graphical affiliation information

Superordinate objects
- different map links
- written affiliation information
- GOV source code
GOV // GOV contend included in GenWiki
Worldwide unique ID - object_263409

has 1997 population 848 says source_263605,
has 2005 population 776 says source_263605,
has URL http://www.zechin.de,
has external reference opengeodb:26539,
has from 1997 postal code 15328,
has name (in deu) Zechin,
is from 1997-12-31 (in eng) municipality,
is from 1997-12-31 part of adm_142064,
is from 1997-12-31 part of object_152436;
Worldwide unique ID - object_263409
has 1997 population 848 says source_263605,
has 2005 population 776 says source_263605,
has URL http://www.zechin.de,
has external reference opengeodb:26539,
has from 1997 postal code 15328,
has name (in deu) Zechin,
is from 1997-12-31 municipality,
is from 1997-12-31 part of adm_142064,
is from 1997-12-31 part of object_152436;

references to other projects
Worldwide unique ID: object_263409
has 1997 population 848 says source_263605,
has 2005 population 776 says source_263605,
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has name (in deu) Zechin,
is from 1997-12-31 (in eng) municipality,
is from 1997-12-31 part of adm_142064,
is from 1997-12-31 part of object_152436;

references to higher level objects
GOV history

- GOV was invented in between 1992 and 1994 by Heinz Augustin (GOV1)
- In 1995 the Verein für Computergenealogie took over the further development (GOV2)
- since 2000 GOV is a web based database
- June 2013 - 858.000 objects
GOV is one project on the portal http://genealogy.net
Join the GOV team!

- Everyone could join (no membership required)
- Great volunteer work
- Building a large gazetteer for everyone

Project - http://gov.genealogy.net
Mailinglist - http://list.genealogy.net/mm/listinfo/gov-develop
How can Mini GOV & web service help you!

you want a unique gazetteer for

- your software
- your website
- special project
- anything else

feel free to use our Mini GOV or web service under the creative common license.

http://wiki-de.genealogy.net/GOV/Mini-GOV - http://wiki-de.genealogy.net/GOV/Webservice
What is it?
- Text file containing an extract from the live data
- Separate files per country
- ZIP files to save bandwidth

What is it good for?
- Quick search
- No internet connection required to make use of the unique GOV-ID in genealogical software, even without an internet connection
How it looks like!

Column of the Mini-GOV files (e.g., gov-data_current.txt)

- GOV id
- object type as (German) text
- object typ as unique number
- current name
- last German name (if existent)
- country
- administrative affiliations levels 1 – 4 (four columns)
- postal code
How it looks like!

Column of the Mini-GOV files (e.g., gov-data_current.txt)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GOV id</th>
<th>SKEBELJO44UU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>object type as German text</td>
<td>Ortsteil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>object type as unique number</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>current name</td>
<td>Skelde</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>last German name</td>
<td>Kobbel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>country</td>
<td>DK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>administrative affiliation 1</td>
<td>object_291477</td>
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<td>administrative affiliation 2</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>administrative affiliation 3</td>
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<td>administrative affiliation 4</td>
<td>SNDUNEJO44VW</td>
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<tr>
<td>postal code</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>latitude</td>
<td>54.8583333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>longitude</td>
<td>9.7422222</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How it looks like!

gov-data-names_current.txt contains the same entries with names instead of ids

Why?

- Easier to search
- Names of higher level administrative objects are not unique anymore
- Example: many Neustadt at municipality level (adm4)
Which services are available?

- **SimpleService**
  this service contains a list of GOV identifiers

- **ComplexService**
  this service contains the list of the native GOV object

- **ChangeService**
  within this service could GOV data be edited

learn more about the web service
http://wiki-en.genealogy.net/GOV/Webservice
Which framework is supported by GOV web service?

- Axis 1.1 (with Java 1.4)
- Axis 1.4
- Axis 2.0
- PHP 5
- Python ZSI 1.7.0

learn more about the web service
http://wiki-en.genealogy.net/GOV/Webservice
GOV Mod for TNG (The Next Generation of Genealogy Sitebuilding©)

http://lythgoes.net/genealogy/software.php
GOV as part of the BGG Website

The BGG uses the Mini GOV text file and in addition the web service to load more information. They add a couple more information from their own databases about cemeteries, http://www.bggroteradler.de/?page_id=1676&id=2509
The german GEDCOM-L (mailinglist) has a central position in Germany to enlarge the GEDCOM standard and is a good exchange platform for software developers to ensure a smooth data exchange between their and other software.

Albert Emmerich is working on an enlarged GEDCOM method to include all information from GOV.
Linked Open Data
Every item in GOV (settlement and administrative object) is uniquely identified by a URI
http://gov.genealogy.net/object_263409

RDF data

```xml
<gov:GovObject rdf:about="http://gov.genealogy.net/object_263409">
  <gov:hasPopulation>
    <gov:PropertyForObject> <gov:value>848</gov:value>
    </gov:source>
  </gov:PropertyForObject>
  <gov:isPartOf> <gov:Relation>
  </gov:isPartOf>
</gov:GovObject>
```
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NC = NonCommercial — You may not use the material for commercial purposes.

ND = NoDerivatives — If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you may not distribute the modified material.
Why did we have to choose NC?

NC = NonCommercial — You may not use the material for commercial purposes.

The „Verein für Computergenealogie e.V.“ is an official non-profit corporation. In German law its described that it is not allowed for non-profit corporation to make any profit with their operations or share their work with others to make any profit through them.

How could we share the GOV with the whole genealogy-society?
The CompGen GOV-License for profit-organizations

The „Verein für Computergenealogie e.V.“ amended its statutes in 2013 to have the possibility to release content from the GOV-project for commercial use.

Thus we have now the opportunity to release content from the GOV project through a special contract also to commercial institutions.

If you want to collaborate with us or want to get a license to use GOV in your product - please, talk to us!
Contact

Verein für Computergenealogie e.V.
Computer Genealogy Society (Germany)

General contacts
vorstand@compgen.de
gov-support@genealogy.net

Websites
Society www.compgen.de
Projects www.genealogy.net
GOV http://gov.genealogy.net

Timo Kracke - tkracke@compgen.de - cell phone (US) during Rootstech +1 516 236 9524
Thank you!

#RootsTech #CompGen