



## **Georeferenced gazetteers based on historical Central European topographic maps**

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Georeferenced database of settlement names of historical maps showing parts of Central Europe is introduced in this contribution. The maps are from Lazarus (1528) to the WWII German Army sheets, covering the First, Second and Third Military Surveys of the Habsburg Empire (around 1780, 1850 and 1840, respectively), the map of Lipszky covering the Pannonian Basin and the adjacent area (1804) and the 1914 administration map of the historical Hungary. More than 30,000 names are incorporated, considerable part of this database is multi-lingual with respect to the mixed ethnographic character of the historical Central Europe, mainly the former Habsburg Empire.

All records in this database has centroid coordinates of the given settlement. In the first approach, they were in simple image coordinate format. This approach caused some problems about the inter-operability of the records throughout a whole set of map series so they were re-calculated on the georeferenced basis of the WGS84 coordinates. Accuracy of the centroids in WGS84 are burdened by the geodetic and cartographic methods applied to the original maps (the precisity of the 1528 map of Lazarus is around 20 kilometers while the one of the WWII maps is better than 20 meters). Thus the record number could have been limited to the real number of settlements instead of the independent list for different cartographic products. Moreover, the settlements can be portrayed simultaneously on synchronized map segments from different ages.