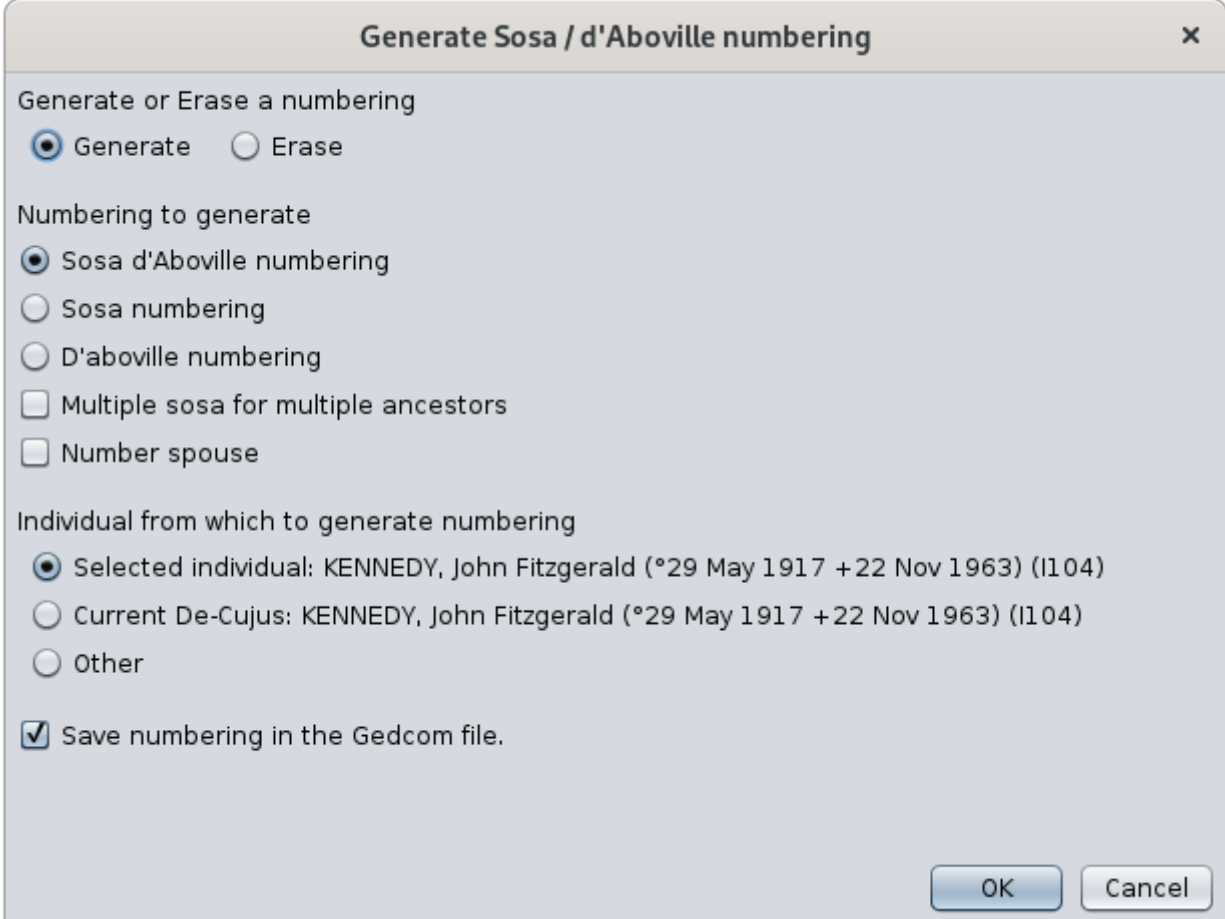# Generate Sosa numbers

This function generates or erases genealogical numberings of individuals in a genealogy.

The possible numberings are the Sosa-Stradonitz, d'Aboville, and Sosa-d'Aboville numberings.

In genealogy, these numberings make it possible to easily identify, for a given individual (the "*De Cujus*"), his ancestors (Sosa numbering), his descendants (d'Aboville numbering) or both (Sosa-d'Aboville numbering).

> The term **De Cujus** comes from the Latin expression whose entire formula is "Is de cujus successione agitur" and designates that of the succession of which we are debating.

> The term **Sosa-Stradonitz** refers to two famous genealogists: on the one hand Jérôme de Sosa, a Spanish Franciscan monk, who in 1676 used this system (invented, it seems, by Michel Eyzinger at the end of the 16th century), on the other hand Stephan Kekulé von Stradonitz, who, from the end of the 19th century, took up and popularized the system advocated by Sosa.

The **d'Aboville numbering** owes its name to the genealogist Jacques d'Aboville (1919-1979) who invented it.

The **Sosa-d'Aboville numbering** is an Ancestris invention and combines the two previous numberings.

Several numberings can coexist at the same time in the same genealogy. Ancestris allows you to add and remove them as you wish.

It is also possible to maintain dynamic numbering each time an individual is created or deleted. We do not recommend this possibility on large genealogies because it is both unhelpful and resource intensive.

Description

From a reference individual - the De Cujus -, the Sosa numbering goes back in the past. It is generally associated with a numbering of the generations.

De Cujus

The *De Cujus* is the individual taken as a reference in the Sosa numbering, the one who receives the number 1, and which is also called *root*.

1. In Ancestris, do not confuse the root Sosa (i.e. the *De Cujus*) with the root of the dynamic tree. Indeed, the fact of changing root in the dynamic tree does not modify either the choice of *De Cujus* nor the Sosa numbering which results from it.
2. The "Sosa" *De Cujus* should not be confused with the *De Cujus* of the Aboville numbering, they can be distinct.

The choice of the "Sosa" *De Cujus* is arbitrary. It can be yourself, your spouse, your elder child, your grandson, etc. The younger the person chosen as the *De Cujus*, the more individuals will carry a Sosa number.

In Ancestris, this choice is not definitive: as we will see, this tool makes it possible to change of *De Cujus* easily and instantly.

Numbering principle

The numbering principle is simple: regardless of the individual with a Sosa number, his father carries twice that number, and his mother carries twice that number plus one. In other words, the mother's Sosa number is equal to the father's Sosa number plus one.

- Example. An man has the Sosa number 14. Therefore, his father carries number 28 (i.e. 14 x 2) and his mother carries number 29, i.e. (14 x 2) + 1.

With the exception of the *De Cujus,* whose sex can be either male or female, all even numbers designate men, therefore, fathers, while the odd numbers designate women, therefore, mothers.

- Example. Number 15891 designates a woman, while number 59948 designates a man.

The two members of the same parent couple, respectively bear two consecutive numbers, the even number for the husband (the father), the odd number who immediately succeeds. , for the wife (mother).

- Example. The numbers 6 and 7 represent the maternal grandparents of the *De Cujus*, namely: the father (6) and mother (7) of the mother (3) of the *De Cujus* (1).

Generation indication

Each generation, i.e. each degree of ancestry, can be calculated and numbered from the Sosa number.

For each generation, the smallest number is the same as the theoretical number of this generation.

- The smallest Sosa number of the first generation is 1. This generation therefore includes only one individual, the 1 (the *De Cujus*)
- The smallest Sosa number of the second generation is 2. This generation therefore includes two individuals, the 2 and the 3 (i.e. the two parents of the *De Cujus*)
- The smallest Sosa number of the third generation is 4. This generation therefore includes four individuals, the 4, the 5, the 6 and the 7 (i.e. the four grandparents of the *De Cujus*)
- The smallest Sosa number of the fourth generation is 8. This generation therefore includes eight individuals, the 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 (i.e. the eight great-great parents of the *De Cujus*)
- Etc.

The Sosa numbering and this method of calculating generations therefore produce an ascending tree always having the same structure: an individual in the first generation (the *De Cujus*), two in the second (both parents of the *De Cujus*), four in the third (the four grandparents of the *De Cujus*), eight to the fourth (the eight great-grandparents of the *De Cujus*), and so on.

When Ancestris displays the Sosa number, it also displays the generation number calculated in this way.

- Example. Paternal grandfather of paternal grandfather is Sosa 16. This would be generation number 5. Therefore, the complete Sosa number displayed in Ancestris would be "16 G5".

Sosa and Ancestris

Computers have made the Sosa system much less critical. Genealogy software are obviously capable of managing, in an automated and secure manner, the various links between individuals of 'a single file, without any recourse to this numbering method.

This is why the Gedcom standard has not provided any particular tag to store the Sosa number.

However, as this numbering system is still very popular among genealogists, and very useful to identify relatives, Ancestris decided to use it. Certain views will display the Sosa number of the individual if it exists for that individual, and if it has been generated in the genealogy for at least one *De Cujus* individual.

To store the Sosa number, Ancestris uses a special user-defined tag starting with the character "_" (underlined): the _SOSA tag, which indicates the Sosa number, followed by the generation number of the individual.

Generate Sosa numbering

In order to generate the Sosa numbering, select the to-be *De Cujus* individual and open the **Context Menu** with a right click on it.

Another alternative: go to the **Edit menu** and select **Generate Sosa numbers**.

Alternatively, press the 123 button in the main **toolbar**.

The **Generate Sosa / d'Aboville numbering** panel opens up and displays the various numbering possibilities. Make your choices and press OK to start numbering.

> When a direct ancestor of number 1 *De Cujus* is added to the genealogy, the Sosa number is not automatically attached to this new individual. You would have to generate again the numbering.

> Likewise, if you decide to modify the choice of the *De Cujus*, you must erase and regenerate the numbering again from the newly chosen *De Cujus*.

D'Aboville numbering

The Aboville numbering designates a method of numbering all the direct descendants of an individual taken as a reference.

Overview

From a reference individual, the d'Aboville numbering is carried out in descending generations, that is to say from the past to the present.

De Cujus

In the d'Aboville numbering, the *De Cujus* is the individual taken as a reference, in other words, the common ancestor from which this numbering starts. It is assigned number 1.

Numbering principle

A d'Aboville number is made up of several numerical elements separated by dots, the first element (or prefix) relating to the *De Cujus*, the last (the one on the right), to the individual himself.

It is for this reason that the *De Cujus* number contains only one element: the number 1, the latter possibly being accompanied by a letter (1a, 1b, 1c, etc.)

Apart from the *De Cujus*, each individual receiving a d'Aboville number is necessarily a direct descendant of this *De Cujus*. The number of each of these descendants always includes:

- first of all the d'Aboville number of its immediate parent (the father or mother of this individual)
- then the birth order number of this individual, within the siblings to which it belongs

Examples.

- **1.1** means the first child of the *De Cujus*
- **1.2** means the second child of the *De Cujus*
- **1.3** means the third child of the *De Cujus*, etc.
- **1.1.1** means the first child of the eldest of the *De Cujus*
- **1.1.2** means the second child of the eldest of the *De Cujus*
- **1.1.3** means the third child of the eldest of the *De Cujus*, etc.
- **1.2.1** means the eldest child of the *De Cujus*' second child, etc.
- **1.4.2.1** means the eldest child of the second child of the *De Cujus*' fourth child, etc.

When a "d'Aboville" person (a descendant or the *De Cujus*) is part of several families (in the event of remarriage, for example), the numerical element which represents him is accompanied by a lowercase letter. following the chronological order of these different families: **a** for the first family, **b** for the second, **c** for the third, etc.

Examples.

- **1b.3** means the third child from a second marriage of *De Cujus*
- **1.3a.2** means the second child from a first marriage of the third child *De Cujus*, etc.

Generation count

If the d'Aboville numbering is unable to indicate the sex of the individuals - unlike the Sosa numbering, it does, however, make it possible to know the generation to which the individual belongs. It is in fact the number of elements contained in the number of an individual which indicates the number of generations separating this individual from the *De Cujus* (including the extreme generations, that of the *De Cujus* and that of the individual).

Examples.

- **1.3** means 2 generations
- **1.2.1** means 3 generations
- **1.5a.2.3** means 4 generations
- **1.3.2.4b.2** means 5 generations

D'Aboville and Ancestris

Just like the Sosa numbering, computers have made the d'Aboville system much less critical. This is why the Gedcom standard has not provided any particular tag to store the d'Aboville number.

However Ancestris decided to use it. Certain views will display the D'Aboville number of the individual if it exists for that individual, and if it has been generated in the genealogy for at least one *De Cujus* individual.

To store the d'Aboville number, Ancestris uses a special user-defined tag starting with the character "_" (underlined): the _DABOVILLE tag, which indicates the d'Aboville number.

Generating the d'Aboville numbering

Choose the d'Aboville numbering in the **Generate Sosa / d'Aboville numbering** panel. The same considerations as for the Sosa numbering apply. Check **the corresponding section**.

Sosa-d'Aboville numbering

As the name suggests, the alternative numbering Sosa-d'Aboville is a hybrid of the two systems Sosa and d'Aboville.

In a genealogy, it identifies all the individuals having common genes with the *De Cujus*, while maintaining a distinction between, on the one hand, the direct ancestors (the "Sosa" individuals), and on the other hand, the collaterals (brothers, cousins, small-cousins, etc.)

From a "Sosa" *De Cujus*, the Sosa-d'Aboville method generates a double numbering.

1. Each direct ancestor of the *De Cujus* (each "Sosa" individual), receives a regular Sosa number.

2. Each "non-Sosa" individual descending from a "Sosa" ancestor receives a "d'Aboville" number, generated from the closest Sosa ascendant. The prefix (the first numeric element) of this particular number is not 1 - as in the "strict" d'Aboville numbering, but the number of the nearest Sosa person. This is how among the children of Sosa 6, we will find, the Sosa 3 (the mother of the *De Cujus*), but also the numbers 6-1, 6-2, 6-3, etc. (the brothers and sisters of the *De Cujus*).

Example: the individual carrying number 4-1.2 is a cousin of the *De Cujus* on the paternal side, in other words the second child of his uncle and aunt.

In Ancestris, the property tag associated with this numbering is _SOSADABOVILLE.

> When you use Ancestris, we recommend you use the hybrid Sosa d'Aboville numbering - _SOSADABOVILLE - as it includes the benefits of both Sosa and d'Aboville numberings. This is also a visual way to identify "blood-related" individuals at first sight.

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