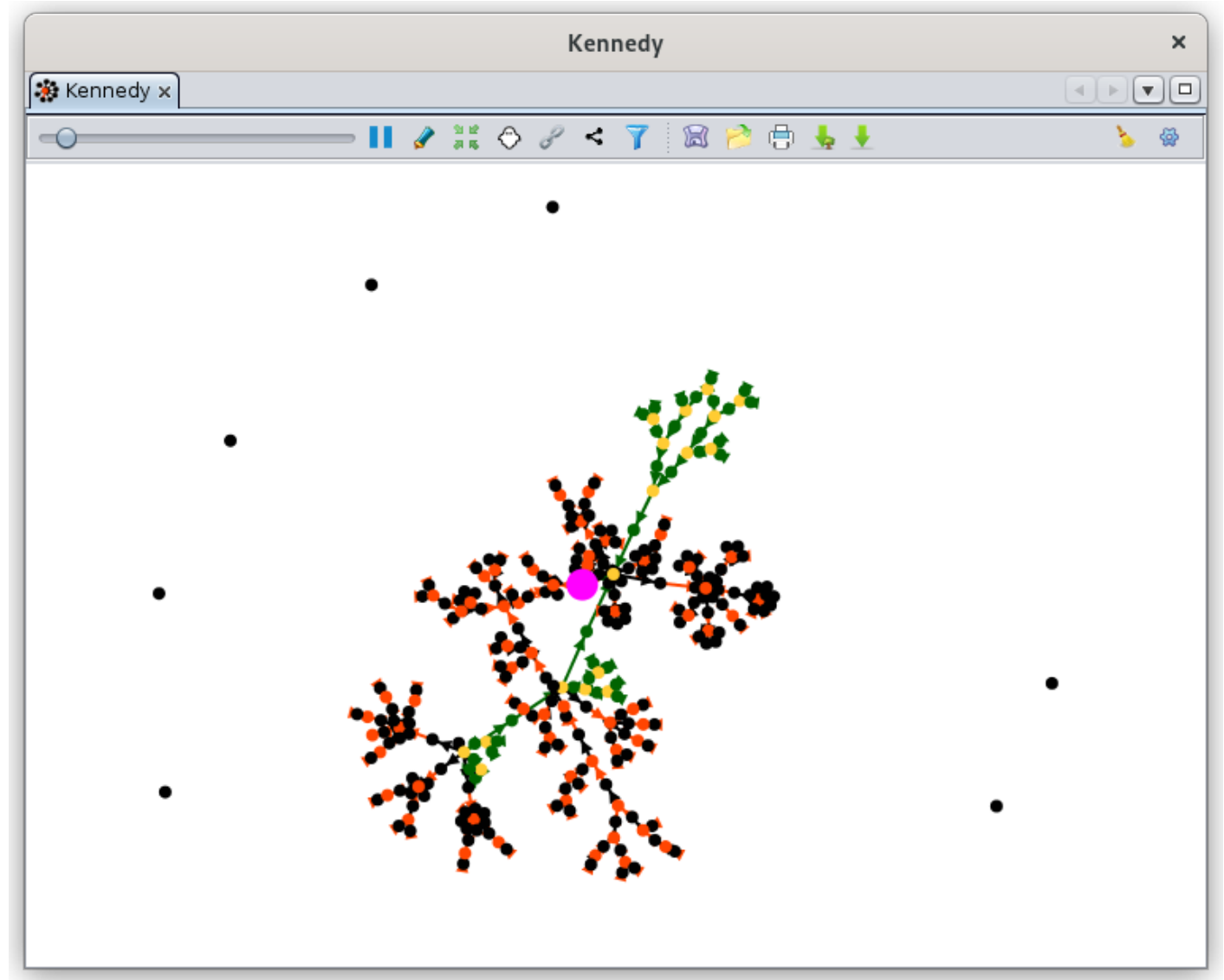


Graph

The **Graph** shows a view of your genealogy in the form of a graph, where all individuals are displayed only once, and are related to each other according to their genealogical relationships.

You can create your genealogy graphs as you wish. The shape of the graph can vary from one time to the next for the same genealogy, and also with each addition or deletion of individuals.



Description

This view displays the graph of your genealogy and a toolbar allows you to make the settings you need.

The graph

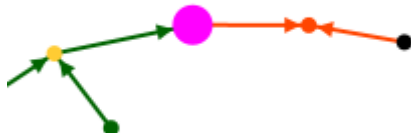
The graph materializes all the individual and family entities of your genealogy as points. Other entities are not represented. These points are connected by arrows.

The points of individual and union

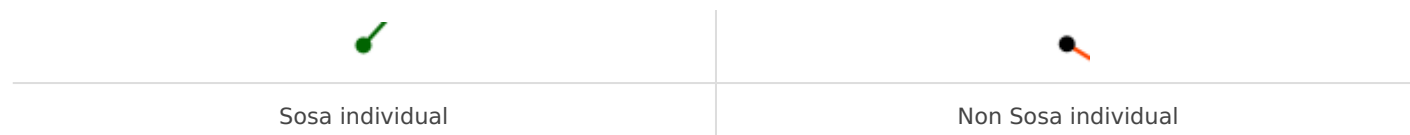
Individuals

The De Cujus individual, if it exists, is a point of larger size and **pink** color.

If **Sosa numbers have been generated** in the genealogy, one or more De Cujus individuals may exist and you will see several pink points. If no pink point is visible, it means that you have not yet generated any Sosa, or Sosa-d'Aboville numbers.



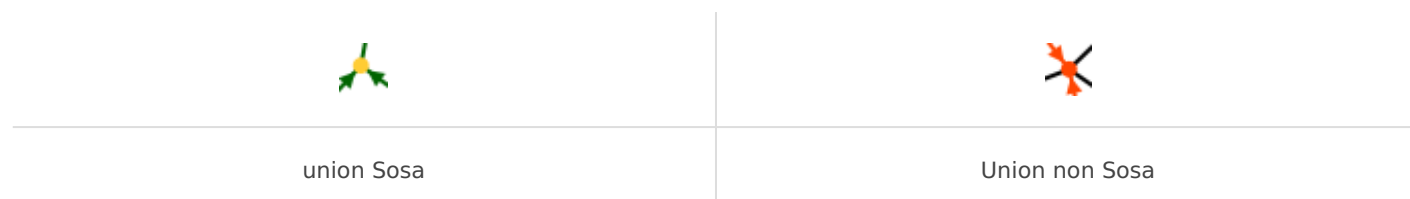
All other individuals are materialized by **green** points if they are in a Sosa lineage of a De Cujus, or by **black** points otherwise.



Each individual is displayed only once, even if he or she is **implexed**, i.e. if he or she is the common ancestor of a married couple.

Unions

All unions of Sosa individuals are materialized by **yellow** points, the other unions are **orange** points.



Each union is displayed only once.

The term union rather than family is used in the graph because it better explains the simple bond between two individuals than the term family which generally means a group of several people. Nevertheless, a union point does materialize a family entity.

In addition, the selected individual or selected union is shown as a **blue** point.

Arrows

Individuals and unions are connected by arrows of 3 possible colors according to three different meanings.

As the points represents individuals and unions, and because the arrows go down the timeline, the arrows can only represent the two different manners that links a individual and a union. Either the link is the "parent to union" or the link is "union to child". And there can be two variations : either in the Sosa lineage or not.

- **The green arrows show the Sosa paths.** They start from the ancestors at the top of your genealogy and go down to De Cujus, alternating between individuals and unions.
 - Links alternate "parent to union" and "union to child", and they are Sosa. So the union is yellow. Example here :



- **The orange and black arrows show the non Sosa paths:**

- The **orange** arrows are "parent to union" links, non sosa. So this is a couple and their union with no children:



- The **black** arrows are "union to non Sosa child" links.



Non Sosa child from a Sosa union



Non Sosa child from a non Sosa union

In addition, the arrows connecting the selected individual or family are **blue** lines.

Interpretations

Isolated Individuals, Isolated Unions, Isolated Trees

Isolated individuals are isolated black points. These are usually people in your genealogy who have witnessed events, or people you have captured and have not yet identified relationships for.

[graphe_indi_isolé.png](#) Using the settings, you can view the relationship in the case of witnesses or associated persons. In such a case, a **grey** link appears with another individual or a union of the graph. You can then see the relationship of this witness to the person or events it relates to.

graphe_témoin_isolé.png	graphe_témoin_relié.png
Single individual at the top left	In fact, it is a witness of a non Sosa wedding.

If you find isolated unions, they are probably errors or family entities being entered. Here, two isolated unions next to an isolated individual :

[graphe_familles_isolées.png](#)

You can finally find isolated trees of all sizes. Here, a small tree consisting of 3 unions and 4 individuals :

[graphe_arbre_isolé.png](#)

By the way, you can see here that even if the 3 unions are Family entities, we can hardly speak of "family" in the sense of a group of people made of parents and children. One can moreover detect an error there because the individual in black on the right is resulting child from 2 different unions in orange, which is not possible.

Large families





Large families are clusters with many black points around them. Here are two examples:

	
Large Sosa family	Large non Sosa family

Treetop Ancestors

The individuals at the top of your genealogy are the green points from which only an arrow starts. They are thus 1 or 2 green points (the parents of ancestors) that go to a yellow point (their union).

Here are a few examples:

			
Couple of treetop ancestors with a child	Treetop ancestor alone with 3 children	Treetop ancestor as a single parent of a family of 7 children (6 of which can be seen here)	Treetop ancestors only and a non Sosa child.

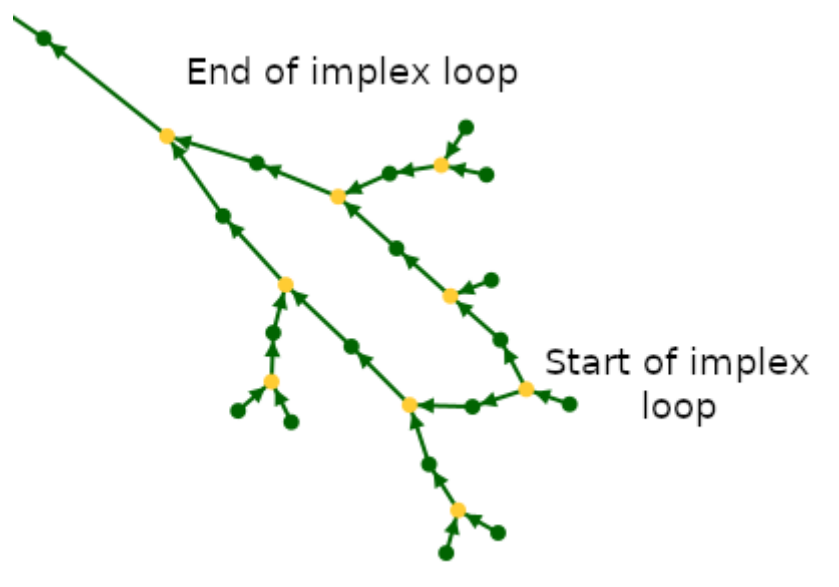
Implexes

Because of the construction of the green arrows, all the green loops you see are actually the result of the implexed ancestors at the top of these loops.

The implexes are in fact ancestors that appear several times in a classic family tree. In the graph, they appear only once.

We therefore propose another definition of the implex: it is the union from which a consanguineous marriage will be born a few generations later. For each implex, we thus find ourselves with a loop in the graph, with the union of the implex ancestors at the top of the loop, and the consanguineous union at the base.

Here is an example from the Kennedy genealogy (the top of the loop reads in the direction of the arrows, it is at the bottom here) :



Case Study

Here is an example summarizing several of the interpretations above.

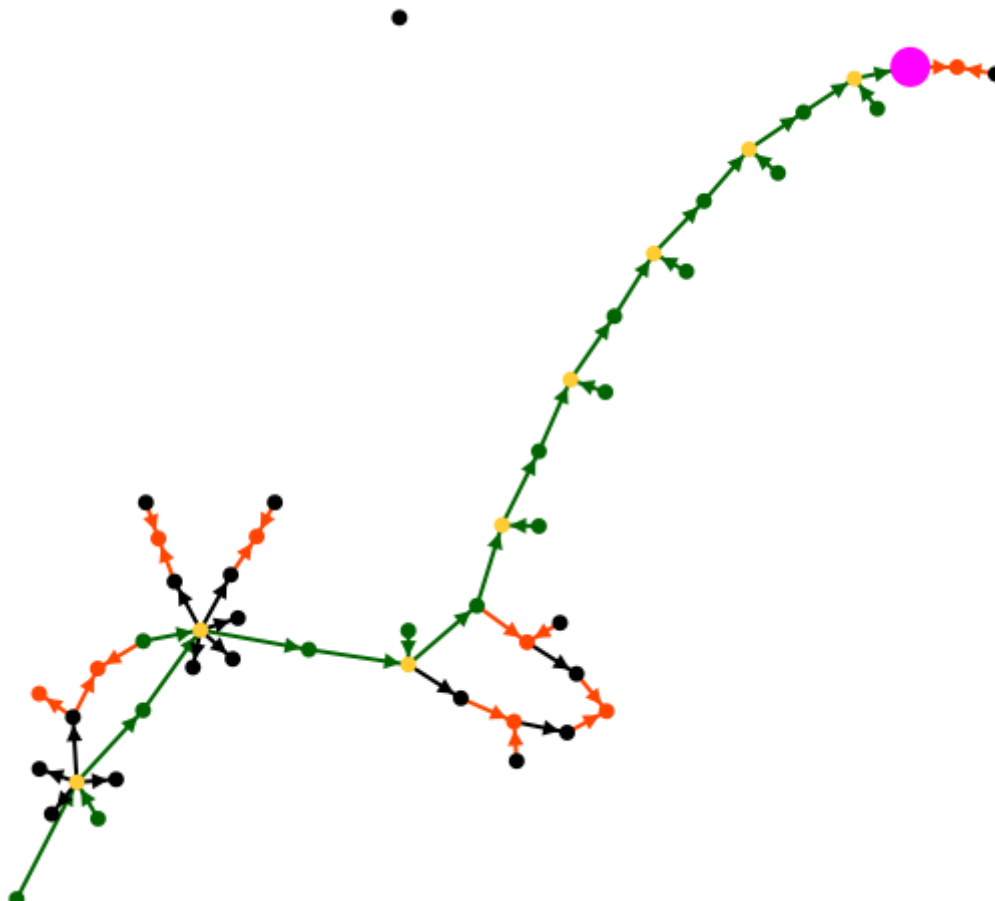
In the following example from the Bourbon genealogy, we see our De Cujus in pink who happens to be Louis XVI. To his right is his marriage with Marie-Antoinette whose ancestors are not shown.

If we go up the green arrows, the long branch is his ancestor line, where in each generation there is only one spouse. The other children are not shown if there were any.

We notice that this branch reaches a green individual, who is Louis XIV, from whom a first loop of implexe starts. It is Louis XIII who had as children Louis XIV and Philip I whose two descendants married each other.

We find a second loop of implexe upper in the ancestor line. It is surrounded by two large families: at the base of the implexe, that of Henri IV. At the top, that of Henri II.

We also locate an isolated individual who is not a witness, and probably shows that we have not finished grasping his relationship with the Bourbon.



The graph is an Ancestris invention and like you, we had never seen our genealogy in this form before. We are still discovering possible interpretations to this form of visualization. Let us know what you discover !

All colors are customizable. See the paragraph on **customization** below.

Toolbar

The graph toolbar allows you to customize the appearance of the graph. Hover over each icon to display the tooltip explaining its function.



The toolbar presents the following controls:

Zoom slider

This slider is used to adjust the zoom level of the graph display.

Pause automatic arrangement Button

At each opening of the graph view, the graph is built progressively until all the points are spread and visible. This button is used to stop/restart the construction of the graph.

Show / Hide names Button

Click here to show or hide the name of individuals and unions at each point.

For names display, several choices are possible. Refer to the **Configure View parameters**.

Center graph on click Button

This button allows you to center the graph where you click.

It switches the mouse to "centering mode" when it is pressed. It works in three steps:

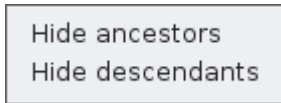
1. First you click on the button to activate the "centering mode".
2. Then you click on the point of the graph that you want to put in the center of the display area.
3. You press the button again to quit the "centering mode".

Hide branches Button

This button is used to hide branches of the graph.

It switches the mouse to "Hide mode" when it is pressed. It works in three steps:

1. First you click on the button to activate the "Hide mode".
2. Then you click on an Individual point or a Union point. A menu appears to select if you want to hide the ancestors or the descendants branch.



3. You press the button again to quit the "Hide mode"

After your choice, the graph adjusts accordingly.

The impact on the display is quite logical: a branch disappears.

Sometimes the result can be quite curious: your tree can be separated into several pieces and individuals can be isolated.

You can re-display the hidden branches by clicking on the "**Reset**" button.

Show / Hide association links Button

This button shows or hide with a grey line, the relationships between isolated individuals and the rest of the graph.

Shortest path Button

This button shows the shortest path between two points on the graph.

It switches the mouse to "Shortest Path mode" when it is pressed. It works in four steps.

1. First you activate the "Shortest Path mode"
2. Then you click on the first point
3. Then you click on the second point
4. You press the button again to quit the "Shortest Path mode"

After your choice, the shortest path between the two points appears in blue and a window lists all the individuals between the two selected points.

Clicking on an individual displays it in the other views of Ancestris.

Filter Button

This button allows you to limit the display to the selected entities in the **advanced search**.

Save Button

This button saves your graph at any time in the current form.

The file will be saved with the name of the current tree and can only be opened with this Graph function.

Open Button

This button loads a previously saved graph. This will save you time when you reopen the graph by preventing it from rebuilding itself or to make sure you get back to a look you liked.

Print Button

This button prints your graph. Ancestris will open it automatically with your svg file viewer (SVG is a vector image format.). You will be able to print it from there.

Export Button

This button exports your graph to GEXF, Graph Exchange XML Format, which is a language to describe networks of complex structures, and developed by Gephi since 2007.

Gephi is a free software for network analysis and visualization.

Export visible individuals into a new Gedcom file button

This button exports the visible entities to a new separate Gedcom file.

It is therefore possible to **export visible individuals** to a file that can then be sent to another person.

This can also be achieved using the "**File/Save as**" menu.

Reset button

This button resets the zoom, name display and hidden branches.

Configure view Button

This button allows you to change the display preferences of the graph. See the **Customization** section below for more details.

Usage

The purpose of this view is twofold:

1. To present your complete genealogy visually in an esthetic form that you like

2. Understand your genealogy and identify the parts that are sufficiently complete or conversely the parts that deserve further research.

Present your genealogy

As soon as the Graph is launched, the graph organized itself progressively.

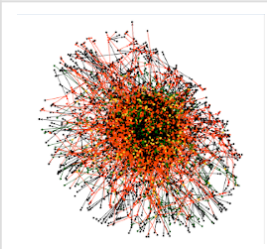
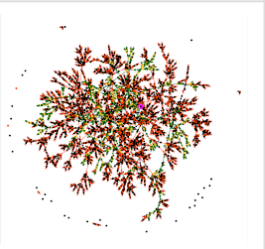
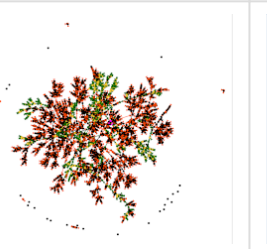
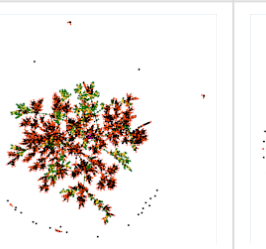
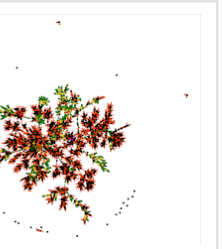
Generation of the graph

With many individuals, this can take a little time.

If you have already built and saved a graph previously, simply click on the Pause button to stop the construction, then click on the Open button to fetch a previously generated graph.

While building the graph, Ancestris tries to find a way to arrange all branches so that each one is clearly visible.

For example, here is the construction of a graph with 4200 individuals and 1300 families:

				
Start	1 minute	2 minutes	3 minutes	3.5 minutes
To the first seconds, the graph looks like a "big ball of dots".	Your graph looks better. Branches are forming.	The branches are now better detached.	The changes are much less frequent. The graph is almost finished.	The graph "stops moving". It is finished.

Modification

During construction, you can manipulate the graph or customize it if you wish.

Once the construction is complete, it is still possible to move points to better arrange the graph.

When you do this, it stretches the point corresponding to where you are moving it, and by inertia to maintain a sufficient distance between each point, it has the effect of a rubber band.

In the pause position, the points move one by one without the elastic effect.

If your graph suits you, remember to save it. It is difficult to find the exact same position from one time to the next.

Selection

Clicking on a point on the graph selects the individual or family in other windows.

Conversely, a click on an individual or family in another window will refocus the graph on this entity, provided it is not in a hidden branch.

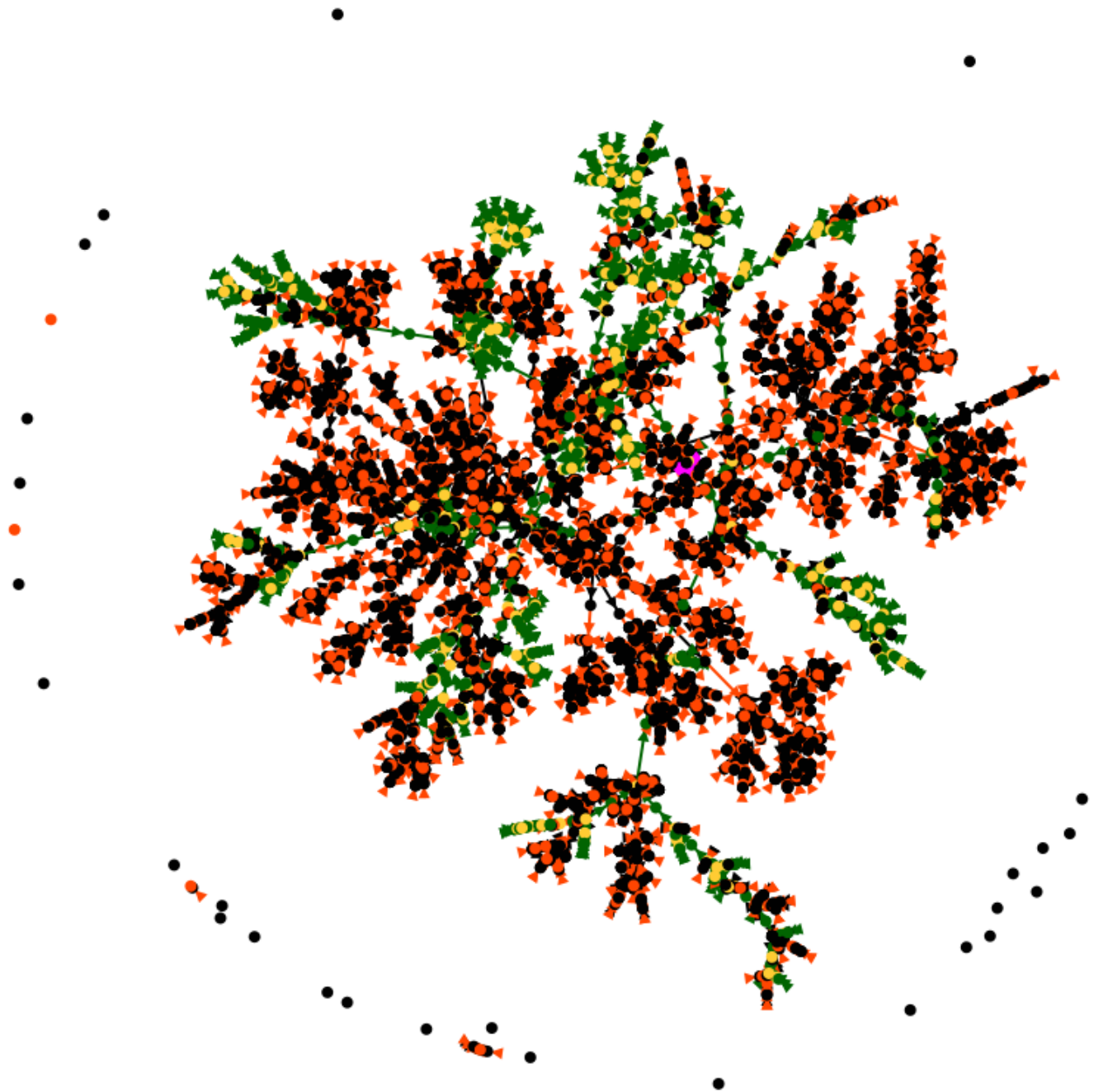
Analysis of your graph

This is the most interesting moment! You had never seen your tree like this, neither had we.

To analyze and understand your graph, you can proceed in different ways.

First there is a global macroscopic view, where you can see whether your tree is made up of a single family group or several. Each family group is in fact disjoint from the others.

In the example above, there is a single family group, with isolated individuals who are probably associations (witnesses, etc.). Here is a larger view to see better:



From the De Cujus in pink, we see a few ascending lines in green/yellow, and many descendants or "cousins" in black/orange.

The longer the green lines, the more generations of ancestors.

We can also guess that there are a few implex loops, but we will have to get closer to be sure.

You can draw many more conclusions from this macro analysis, but let's move now to a closer view. You have to realize that we have here about 5500 points in front of our eyes, the 4200 individuals and 1300 unions, and if you manage to see more, let us know!

By using the cursor button and the mouse to move the graph, we can get closer to De Cujus. When we are close enough, we can then display the names to know who we are talking about, using the toolbar button.

You can then hide the branches that might interfere with the view with the Hide Branches button or show them again with the Reset button.

Your analysis can then be done from branch to branch, successively from De Cujus to the most branches and to cousins or to ancestors.

To have the details of each point, just click on it and the other views will tell you which individual or family it is.

Shortest path

As you navigate through your graph, you may want to identify the link between two individuals. You can do this by using the "Shortest Path" feature, available through or the corresponding button on the toolbar.

In the window that lists the individuals on the path, you can click on each of the names to make them appear in the other views of Ancestris and thus analyze this path in detail.

Update

The update is done in real time. Any change in your genealogy that leads to the creation or deletion of a family or individual, or the creation of a relationship between them, will update the graph instantly.

Customization

The customization of the graph is done with the Configure View Settings Button.

Graph Settings

Colors

Default

Sosa

Default Marriage

Sosa Marriage

Association

De Cujus

Selected

Background

Nodes

Default size 8 px

Sosa size 8 px

De Cujus size 20 px

Indi node Weight 10.0

Fam node Weight 5.0

Edges

Default size 2 px

Sosa size 2 px

Edge Weight 1.0

☐ Use generation scheme color

Indi nodes labels

Fam nodes labels

Apply

Reset

OK

Colors

The left-hand column represents the current colors of the graph elements. By simply clicking on these buttons, you can change the color of the corresponding points and arrows, and the background color of the display.

Clicking on a color will open the color selection window. See the instructions for choosing a color in the **Timeline view** which has the same color.

A change of color in the settings window immediately happens in the graph but does not generate any modification of the graph structure.

Modification of the graph structure

It is possible to modify the apparent structure of the graph. These changes lead to the reconstruction of the graph, they do not immediately affect the graph. It is necessary to click on the Modify button.

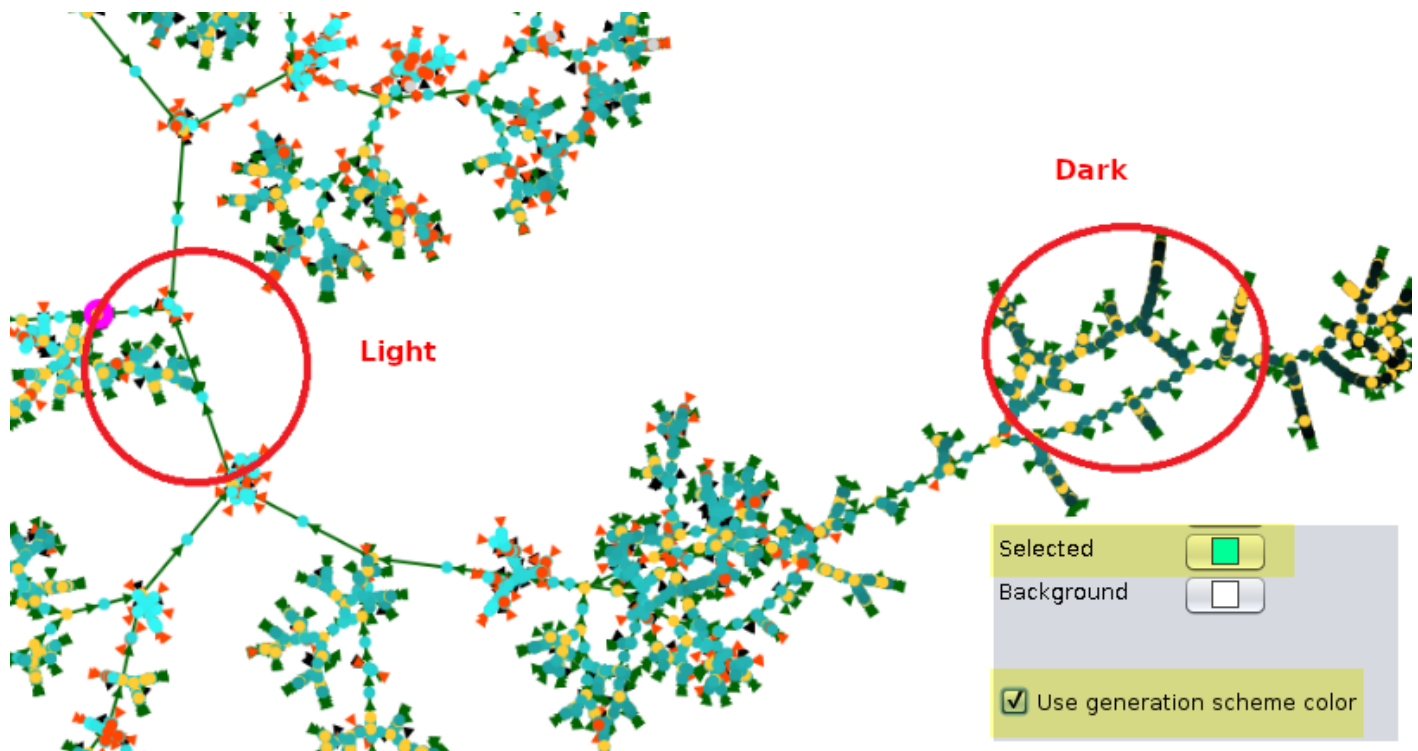
The middle column sets the size of the points.

The right column sets the size of the arrows.

The weights adjust the size of the points relative to the arrows.

The checkbox Color gradient by generation helps distinguish the generations by color.

This function colors each generation with the same color gradient from the selection color to black. For the gradient to be clearly visible, it is necessary to approach light pastel colors, as in this example :



The two drop-down menus allow you to indicate the labels of the points and arrows to be applied.

Modify Button

This button validates the above structure choices and refreshes the graph display without closing the parameters window.

It modifies the display of the names according to the choices in the drop-down menus if the labels were already visible.

Default values Button

This button updates the structure of the graph to its default values.

OK Button

This Button closes the settings window. leaving the graph as it appears.

Tutorial

There is a tutorial on graphs. It is in French and in PDF format. You can download it [**here**](#).

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