

Archaeological Research Information System (ARIS): Information and Stratigraphic Register Management



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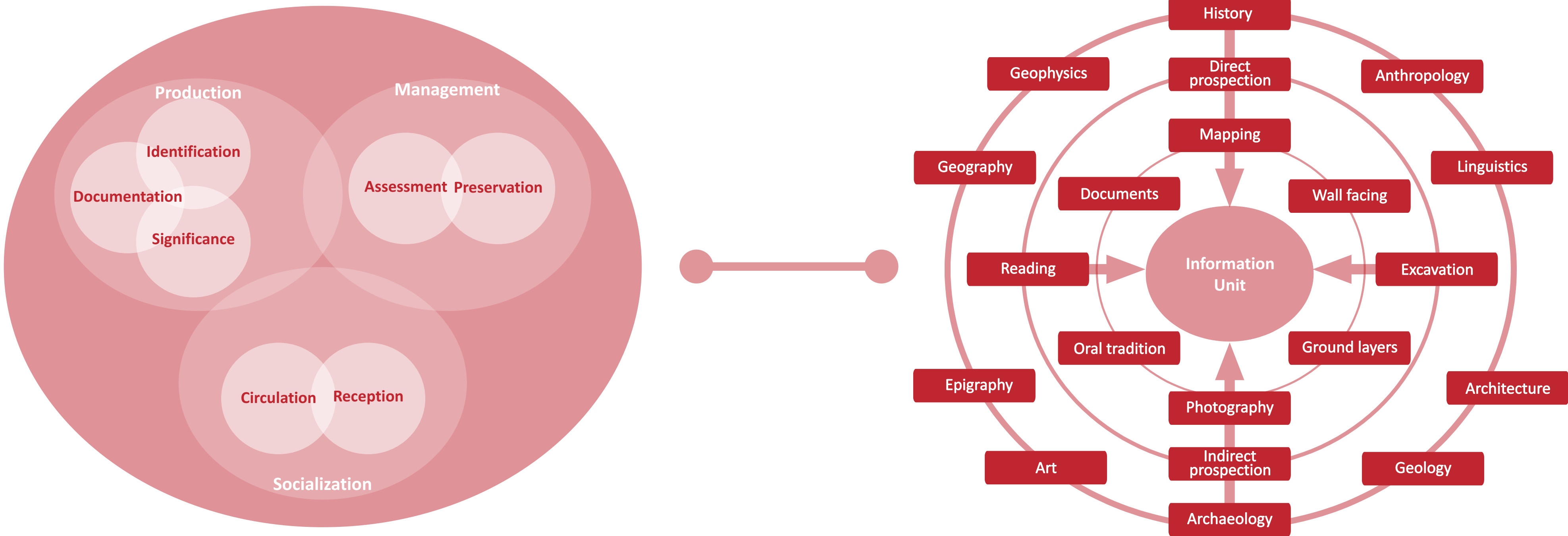
June 21st
Universitat de Barcelona, Aula Magna

Pablo del Fresno Bernal (*Sistemes de Gestió de Patrimoni SCCL*)
Esther Trave Allepuz (*Universitat de Barcelona*)
Alfred Mauri i Martí (*Escola Superior d'Arxivística i Gestió de Documents UAB ; Centre d'Estudis Martorellencs*)



Cultural Heritage management is a complex and transversal activity. Within this topic, Archaeological Heritage (AH) can be managed and represented throughout the Cultural Heritage Value Chain (CHVC). This is a sequence of normalized processes in which a discreet entity is given a series of values that transform it into a cultural good.

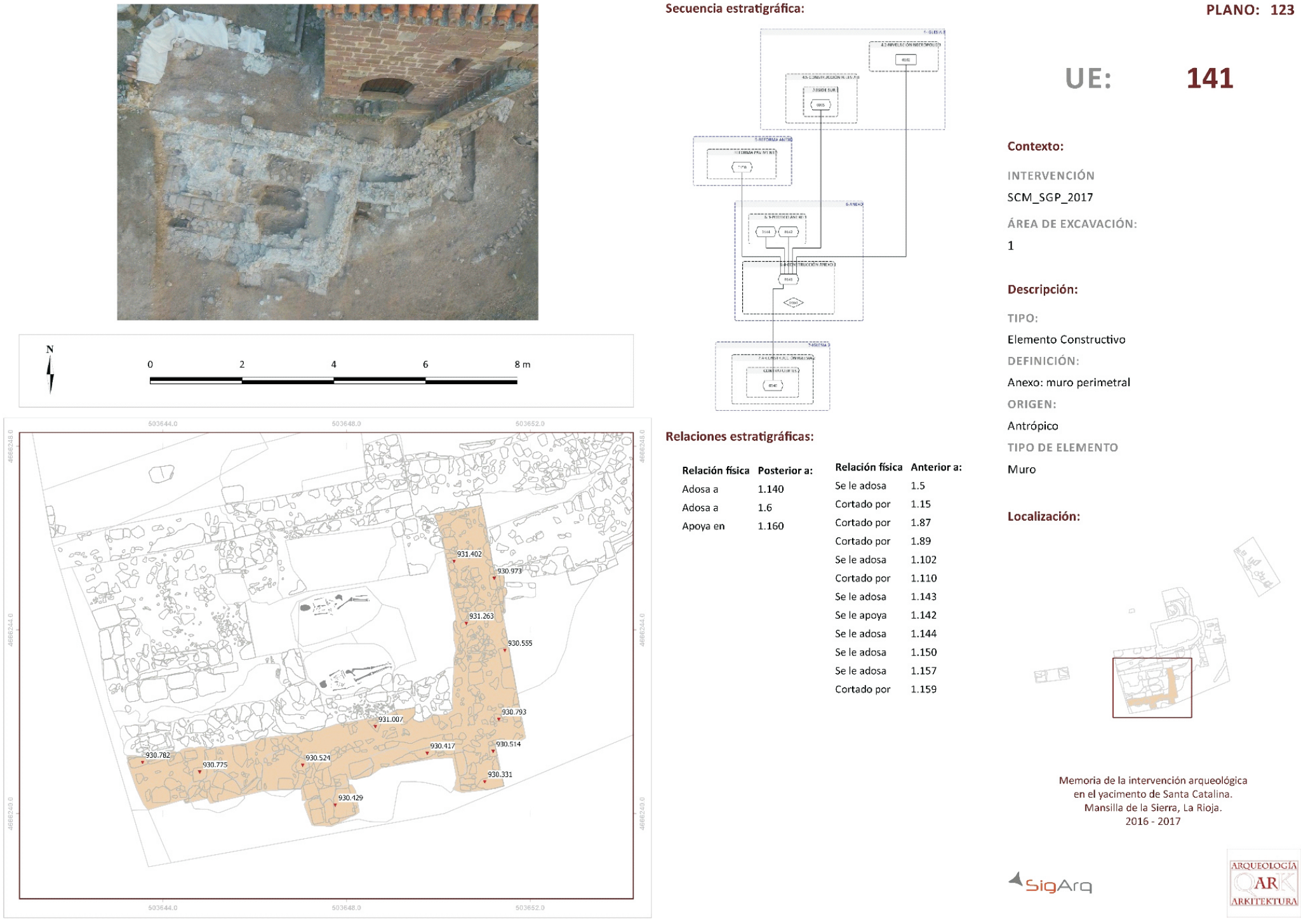
Cognitive or documental value is one of these, not necessarily the only or most important one. Archaeology will be the discipline in charge of enlightening this value throughout the specialized work, altogether with other Heritage Sciences. In order to build scientific knowledge in a collaborative and integral way regardless the discipline, technique or source, common concepts for a normalized management of information must be designed and applied. Our proposal summarizes the normalized management of this value as a file.



If archaeological register (AR) is understood as AH cognitive value, it must really be AR and accordingly it must inform about four different dimensions: cartographical, graphic, descriptive and temporal. This implies the normalization of information units, archaeological documentation and normative development of multidimensional management tools.

Therefore, we must recognize ourselves as generators of archaeological registering files, and consequently provide tools for the information management in our private research contexts but also in the public sphere, accessible to other researchers and the society in general.

- Analogical Files
- Electronic Files
- Descriptive Files
- Graphic Files
- Icon Files
- Audiovisual Files
- Mapping Files
- Technosymbolic Files
- Technographic Files



- Stratigraphic Units
- Building Element Detail
- Interface Detail
- Burial
- Highlighted Object
- Sample
- Activity
- Activity Group
- Phase
- Period

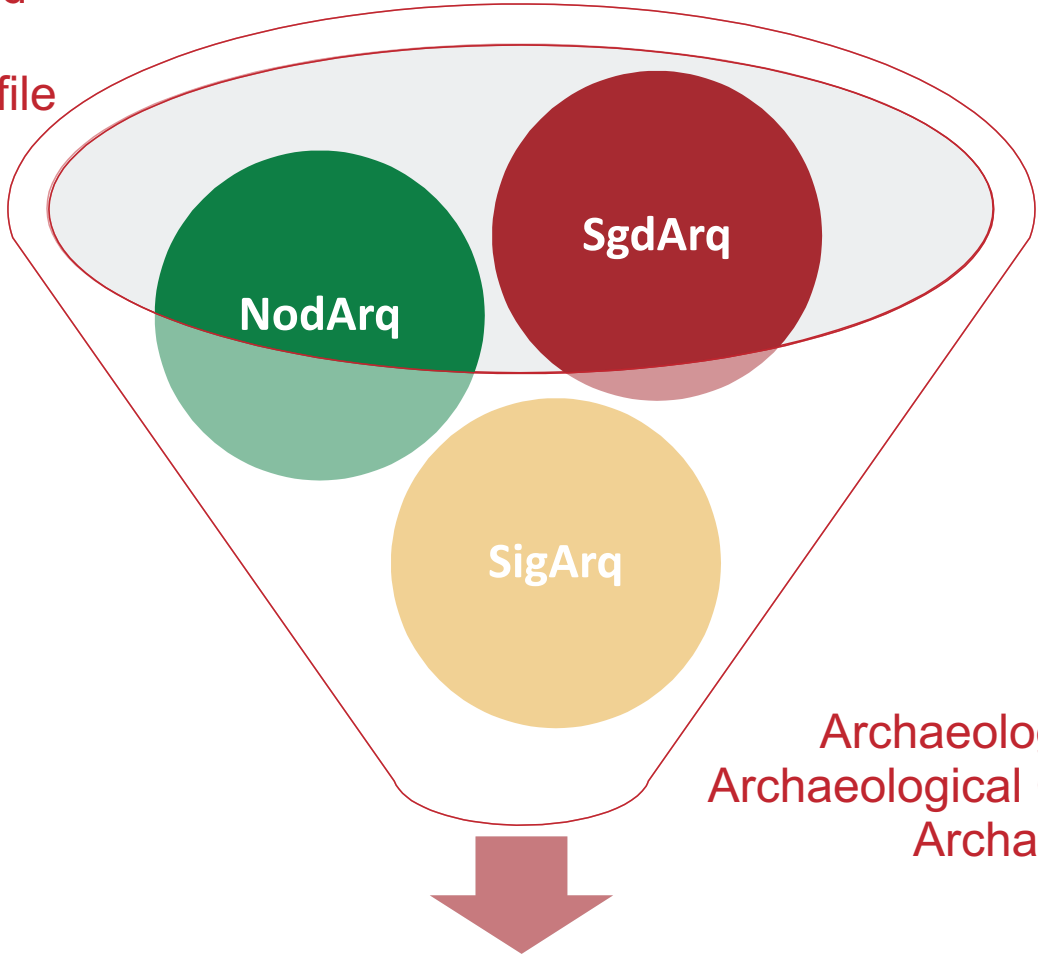
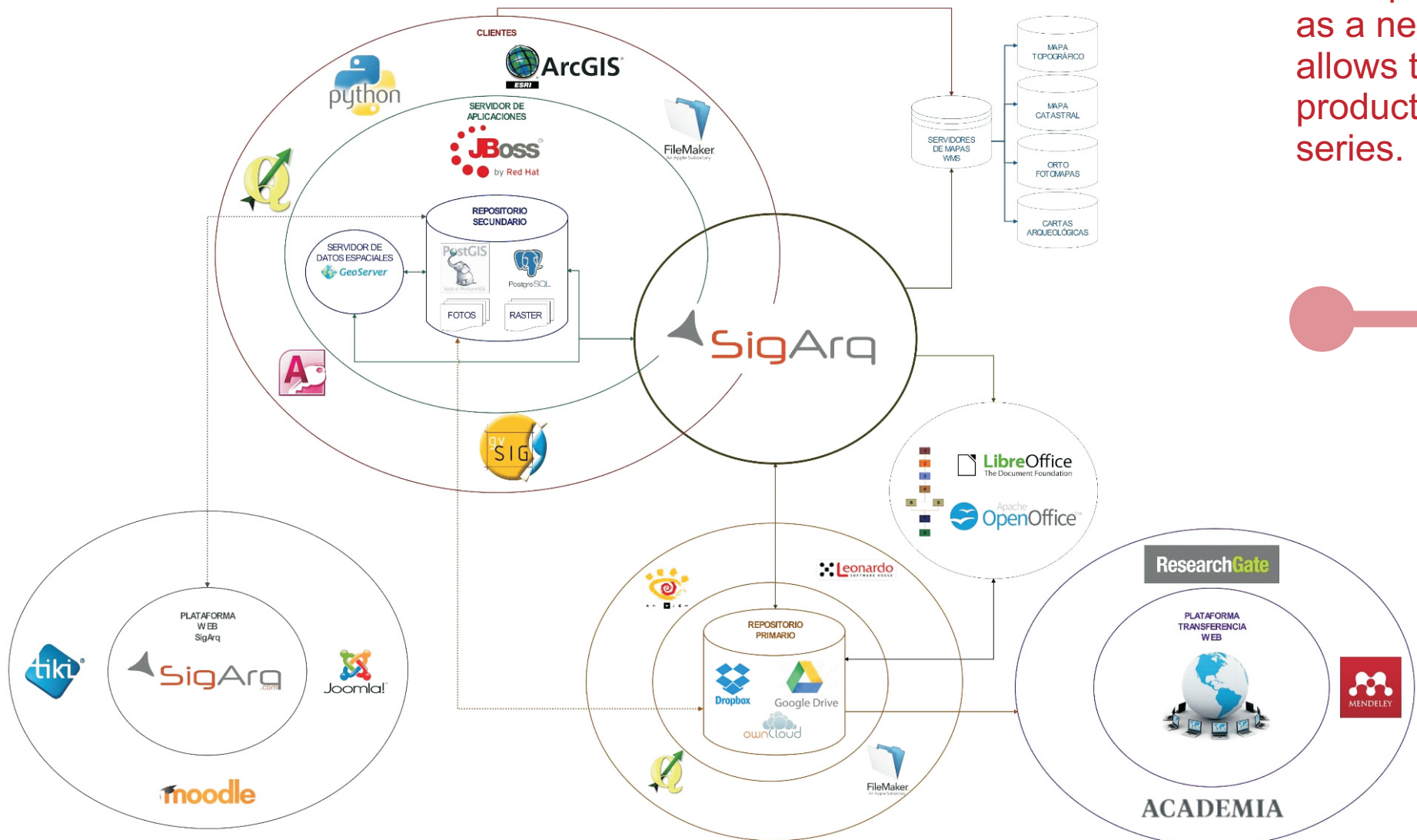
The need of informing about the informative dimensions of AH implies the production of a massive amount of files of many different formats and purposes. The language used in the file production is the criterion allowing the classification of these files.

This classification, altogether with the identification of information management processes, permits the construction of the managing tool by excellence: The File Classification Chart.

The conceptual normalization of information units susceptible of being identified within an archaeological action is the first step to allow an integral management of information, regardless the context of intervention and production. In other words, a normalized system puts into the same language the archaeological information obtained from fieldwork regardless where, whom by, when and how the excavation took place. Information units, generated files and management context form the Heritage Documentary Bases (HDB) of each research project.

Normalized management interoperates within an ARIS built as a networks network and allows the automatized production of normalized file series.

HDB management needs imply the use of specific technical and non-technical resources that provide an answer to the requirements of information management defined above.



This is represented by three strategic development lines of the ARIS:

Archaeological File Management System (SgdArq)
Archaeological Geo-spatial Information System (SigArq)
Archaeological Description Standard (NodArq)

Archaeological Research Information System (ARIS)