

The Watchi dataset

Permanent link: <https://www.kinsources.net/kidarep/dataset-275-watchi-2017.xhtml>

Author and Coder: Klaus Hamberger

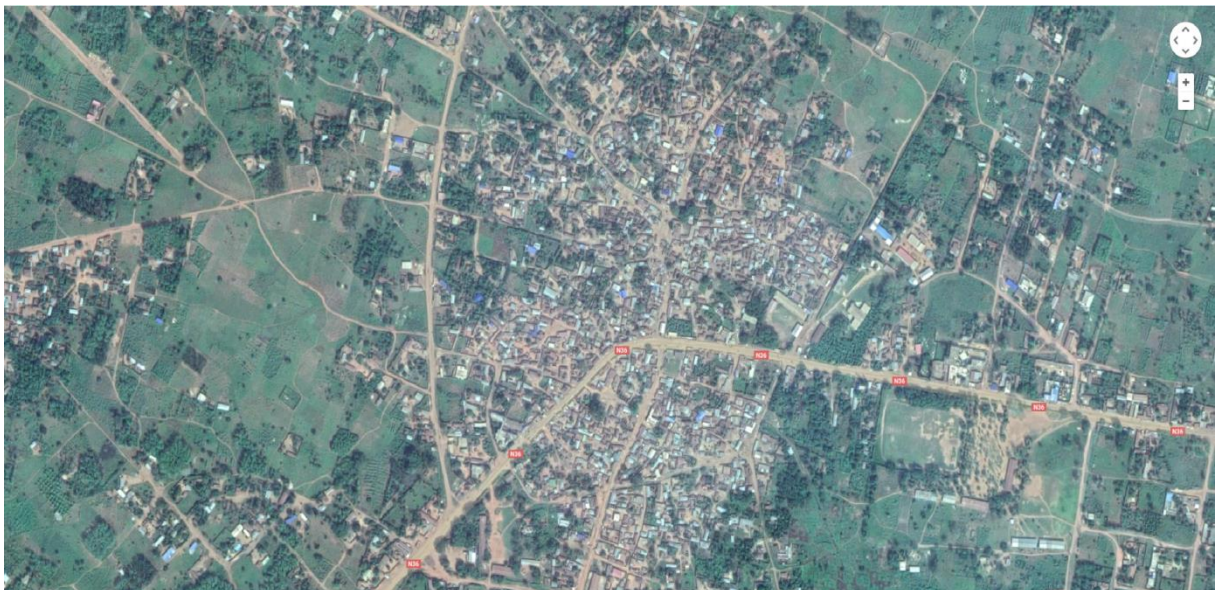
Version: August 2017

I. General overview

Ethnographic Context

Location

The Watchi dataset is a corpus of genealogical, residential and related data stemming from an ongoing fieldwork research conducted since 2004 in the Watchi- speaking area of South-East Togo (Maritime Region, prefectures of Bas-Mono, Yoto and Vo, and partly Lacs and Golfe), with a special focus on the village of Afagnan-Gbléta in the Bas-Mono prefecture (6.5000 N, 1.6167 E).



Afagnan-Gbléta (satellite photo of 2018) is a rural town with a population of around 4800 inhabitants in the core area (own census conducted in 2014). Together with its hamlets (*“fermes”*), it counts 12 411 inhabitants (5916 males and 6495 females), according to 2010 official census data. The Maritime Region is a very densely populated area (while it covers 10% of the national territory, 42% of the Togolese population live there). Afagnan-Gbléta is situated close to the border of Benin and at 81 km distance to the capital Lomé, in reach of two hours travel by “bush taxi”. The village is located close to a major West African traffic route connecting the cities of Abidjan, Accra, Lomé, Cotonou, and Lagos.

All locations mentioned in the dataset (except the location “Occident” which corresponds to the local term *yovoḍe*, “the land of the whites”) are contained in the GEOGRAPHY tab of the dataset file. The geography contains 2220 places, 22% of which are referenced with their geographical coordinates. Administrative levels (canton and prefecture, labeled TOWNSHIP and DEPARTMENT in the dataset) have been indicated for the Togolese places, in particular for the Maritime Region. For the canton of Afagnan-Gbléta, also quarters and occasionally subquarters have frequently been coded.

Language and ethnicity

While the official classification of the Togolese state distinguishes Ewe, Watchi and Mina as separate ethnic groups, Watchi and Mina are actually dialectical variants of the Ewe language (of the Kwa linguistic family), and their respective speakers are no more distinct from each other than they are diverse internally (in particular, most “Watchi” grown up in the capital Lomé actually speak Mina). The emic distinction is based on different migration origins (Watchi are said the last group of emigrants from the ancient city-state of Notse (Togo), whereas Mina (or Ge) are said to have migrated from the Fanti- and Ge-speaking areas of El Mina and Accra in Ghana. The distinction may also manifest itself by the choice of first names. However, Watchi or Mina affiliation is a social and political issue that may vary from one family to the other within the same village. The dataset does not contain ethnic affiliation as an attribute. For any given individual or family, it can approximately be retrieved from first names and/or from the geographical origin of agnatic ancestors.

Ethnic affiliation of other groups (such as “Hausa”, “Nago”, “Igbo”, etc.) has not been coded as a separate field but is occasionally noted in the unstructured NOTE field (not accessible to the public user).

Economy

The socio-economic landscape of rural South-East Togo is characterized by poor standard of living and economic development (HDI 0.487, rank 166 for 2016)¹, low agricultural productivity, and few wage earning and educational opportunities, leading to massive out-migration of the young and middle-age, in particular male population.

Most of the inhabitants of the rural areas practice subsistence agriculture (mainly corn, manioc and oil palms, as well as sweet potatoes, taros, tomatoes, onions, peanuts and various vegetables), and practically all women are engaged in petty trade. Except the mining industry (cement in Tabligbo, Yoto prefecture, and phosphate in Hahotoe, Vo prefecture), there is no local industry in the Watchi-speaking region; the workers are generally employed in the capital Lomé (in particular the port). Many unemployed youths work as moto taxi drivers, less frequently as millers.

In the canton Afagnan, the prefectural administration and the private hospital Saint Jean de Dieu are among the rare local employers. Local enterprises are for the large part single-person

¹ <http://hdr.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/TGO>

handicraft enterprises whose dependent staff consists only of apprentices. Teachers, nurses and doctors are generally employed outside their natal villages or districts, policemen even outside their natal regions (in the South they are mainly native of North Togo).

The OCCUPATION tab of the dataset contains systematic information on the occupations of the inhabitants of Afagnan-Gbléta for the three village censuses of 2004, 2009 and 2014. In addition, information on master-apprentice relationships has been systematically collected for all trained handicrafts in the village of Afagnan-Gbléta. For the other individuals, occupations are noted less systematically, for the date of observation or (for the deceased people) without date. The dataset also contains information of the occupational status (such as apprenticeship, independent entrepreneurship, salaried employment or retirement).

From this tab, more specific information on the relationships between apprentices and masters and between employees and employers have been extracted in the APPRENTICESHIP and EMPLOYMENT tabs.

Spatial organization and mobility

Watchi houses, following a widespread West African model, are assemblies of several adjacent or stand-alone huts grouped around one or several courtyards. In Afagnan-Gbléta, most of the old houses are not enclosed, so that they can be accessed by all empty spaces between huts, and the belonging of huts to houses can only be inferred from their orientation and relative distance. In densely built areas, the limits of houses are only identifiable by convention, and the distinction between courtyards, houses and sub-quarters is only conceptual. Since conventions vary between quarters, houses in some quarters (such as Atitedome) are much smaller than in others (such as Mawusi) for the only reason that the one count as several houses what the others would count as several parts of a single house.

This fluidity is related to a process of fission in the course of the developmental cycle of houses, which roughly corresponds to the segmentation of agnatic kin groups. This correspondence is, however, far from rigid, since residential mobility within agnatic groups is high, remote group members are easily accorded residential rights, and genealogical distance thus does not necessarily correspond to residential distance (contrary to the case of agricultural land, where land rights are much less easily granted and the segmentary structure is more rigid).

Residential mobility is also important on higher levels and at larger distances. The Watchi area forms part of the region of West Africa with the highest intra-regional migrations (Ndiaye and Robin 2010). Facilitated by freedom of circulation within the ECOWAS region, this high mobility has its roots in colonial and postcolonial labor migration systems within and between West African countries (Cordell, Piché, & Gregory, 1996). Historically, South-Eastern Togo has been one of the main regions of emigration to the zones of coffee or cocoa plantations in Western Togo, Ghana and Ivory Coast and to the urban metropolises Lomé, Accra, Abidjan, Cotonou and Lagos (Kumekpor and Looky 1974; Lawson 1986; Le Bris 1986; Locoh 1986).

The dataset contains information on both residential structures of households and residential itineraries of individuals, stemming respectively from three quinquennial complete censuses of the core village of Afagnan-Gbléta (2004, 2009, 2014) and a snowball sample of 509 migration biographies (based on an initial random sample of 30 male and 30 female biographies drawn at random from the village population of the 2004 census).

The population of households at given dates is stored in the RESIDENCE tab of the dataset. Houses can be identified across censuses by the HOUSE attribute field of households, which corresponds to the identity number of the house whose time-invariant attributes and actors (such as founders) are stored in the HOUSE tab. Houses have been identified according to the indications of the inhabitants during the first visit. With a few exceptions (where distinct houses have been erroneously merged) this structure has been kept invariant, despite subsequent house fissions, so that some of the houses identified in 2004 are actually no longer considered as units in 2014. This ahistorical rigidity is the price paid for the possibility of intertemporal comparison of household structures. Apart from information on household affiliation at a given date (as well as the beginning and end date of household membership), RESIDENCE tab contains also information on the individual's direct residential sponsor (whose ID is stored as value of the actor attribute REF)².

Migration events are stored in the MIGEVENT tab of the dataset. Apart from information on the date, context, departure and destination of the event, it contains in particular information on the persons involved in the event as migrants (role MIG), hosts (HOST), initiators (INI), financers (FIN), or otherwise (OTHER). From this collection of relational events, migration biographies can be constructed by means of the *Sequences* module of Puck.

Though both the RESIDENCE and the MIGEVENT data are intended to study residence in its dynamic and relational aspects, they are constructed from different and in several respects complementary perspectives. Both residence groups (at a given time) and migration events are coded as relational complexes (that is, objects to which individuals are associated in certain roles – in Puck, each relational complex is displayed as a separate entry). The relational complex of the MIGEVENT type is “flat”, in the sense that all participants are treated on the same level and all relations between the participants are sociocentric (independent of perspective). A “host” is a “host” for all “migrants”. By contrast, the relational complex of the RESIDENCE type is internally hierarchized, since the relation to the direct residential sponsor is egocentric (perspective-dependent). Different “residents” of the same household may have a different “referent” (direct sponsor) in this household.

The difference between the two perspectives can be shown at the example of children migrating with their parents. Assume, for example, that a woman chooses to reside with her parents, taking her child with her. From a sociocentric perspective, the child now resides with his/her grandparents. From an egocentric perspective, it still resides with his/her mother.

² Contrary to the household head who is the same for all members, the sponsor is the person who hosts a given member and may be hosted in turn by another member. For example, a child may live with his mother who lives with her husband who lives with his elder brother who lives in the house of his landlord.

This difference of perspective also has an impact on the definition of the “host” role as such. A “host” in a MIGEVENT complex is any *direct or indirect* sponsor previously *present* at the place of destination (the only exception is the out-reception in the case of acquired or constructed houses). By contrast, a “host” in a RESIDENCE complex is only the *direct* sponsor, who may, however, be previously *present or co-arriving*. In the case of marketed relationships, the landlord or owner of the apartment always figures as the host in the MIGEVENT complex, while in the RESIDENCE complex s/he is only “host” for the person who pays the rent, who in turn is “host” for his/her immediate dependents. In the MIGEVENT complex, the person who pays the rent is only “host” (for all the migrants) if s/he already resides at the place of destination.

Take for example a relational complex involving a migrant A, his or her spouse B, and the landlord of both C. Four combinations are possible (the last line indicates the relation which the Sequence module of Puck will indicate for the HOST role of the MIGEVENT type if RENT is chosen as a relation to be considered – the LANDLORD role of the RENT type is derived from the REF role of the RESIDENCE type):

	B has rent the apartment of C	A and B have rent the apt of C
A moves to B	Mig: B and C host A Res: B hosts A, C hosts B HOST = SPOUSE, SPOUSE_S LANDLORD	Mig: B and C hosts A Res: C hosts A and B HOST = SPOUSE, LANDLORD
A and B move to C	Mig: C hosts A and B Res: B hosts A, C hosts B HOST = SPOUSE_S LANDLORD	Mig: C host A and B Res: C hosts A and B HOST = LANDLORD

Corresponding to the agnatic pattern of land inheritance, Watchi residence roughly follows a patri-virilocal dynamics, which is, however, complicated by a high matrimonial mobility of women (enduring residential separations, divorces and remarriages are frequent) and a longstanding practice of fosterage (“*confiage*”) of children, including elevation by maternal kin. As a consequence, the classical West-African kinship structure of groups – several uterine cores encompassed by several layers of agnatic groups of increasing size – here takes a particular dynamic form, since the uterine cores are both greater, more fluid, and only partially encompassed genealogically by the agnatic group within which they are located.

Kinship, marriage and descent

Watchi recognize both agnatic and uterine kin groups, often identified, respectively, with the labels *kɔta* (“clan”) and *ʃome* (“family”), though both terms may, with the appropriate prefix *tɔ-* (“father”) or *nɔ-* (“mother”) equally be applied to the complementary kin group (see Hamberger 2009 and the first chapter of Hamberger 2011 for a discussion). Ideally, kin groups are also ritual groups associated, respectively, with a *vodu* of the *Tɔgbezikpe* (agnatic) or *Tchamba* (uterine) type. In the dataset, kin group affiliation of individuals is stored by the attribute *PATRIL/MATRIL* and *PATRIL_ID/MATRIL_ID* in the INDIVIDUAL tab, where the

latter coincides with the identity number of the kin groups stored as relational complexes in the PATRIL and MATRIL tabs. Kin group affiliation has been assigned following both direct information and genealogical reckoning. This is relatively unproblematic in the agnatic case, where kin group affiliation can now be easily acknowledged via the patronym (though several ancestor names within the same group can be chosen as patronyms). It may, however, lead to contradictions in the uterine case, where strict genealogical reckoning is much less respected and the indications of different persons on the members of their kin groups may prove inconsistent with each other. While agnatic kin groups have been rather extensively assigned (according to patronyms and origin place), uterine kin groups are only considered if their existence is acknowledged by association to a Tchamba vodu.

Apart from genealogical kinship, classificatory kinship relations (coinciding or not with genealogical ties) have been stored in the RELATIVE tab. These include in particular

- relations between distant agnates (TOVI, “father’s children”) which may be simply residential neighbors,
- relations between slaves and their masters (BUYER) who are considered as uterine links and often form the germ of uterine kin groups
- relations between putative full siblings (TDND, “tɔ ɖɛka nɔ ɖɛka”, “same father same mother”)

Twin ties, very frequent in this region of West Africa where twins are venerated as vodus, have been stored in the TWIN tab.

Watchi kinship terminology is bifurcate-merging at G+1 and generational at G+0.

Watchi marriages are regulated by opportunities (often tied to residential and ritual organization) rather than by a system of explicit preferences or extended prohibitions. The only strictly prohibited sexual partners are linear relatives and direct siblings as well as the wives of agnates (during their lifetime). Marriages between different generations and between first-degree parallel cousins are not appreciated, while cross-cousin marriages are perfectly tolerated and even valued. The only explicit preferential rule is the levirate (both with the deceased husband’s younger agnatic brothers or cousins and with his uterine nephews). “Return” marriages of women into their mother’s agnatic group are often designed as ideal.

Matrimonial payments are modest, and the rate of polygyny is high, which is compensated by an equally high rate of female divorce and remarriage.

Other features of social organization

Village chiefs have been introduced by the colonial administrators. Endowed with considerable power during the colonial rule, their office is today largely honorific, and often held by rich members of chiefly families residing in the capital Lomé. In the dataset chiefs are only occasionally noted in the VILLAGE tab, no systematical study on chief lists having been conducted.

Watchi villages are characterized by a large variety of associations. Drum associations, who perform at funerals of the parents or in-laws of their members, play a social, artistic and economic role. Tontines, redistributing money on a periodic basis, allow their members to save without holding stocks. For several associations of this sort, membership lists have been established during an exploratory study in 2004. These data, stored in the ASSOCIATION dataset, are, however, too scarce to serve for analysis.

Religion

The Watchi region is one of the centers of vodu religion, still widespread and vivid, despite the continuous progression of evangelical churches. Vodu religious practice implies the interaction with nonhuman beings materially incarnated either in landscape features (such as trees or termite hills) or in man-made constructions such as clay mounds or wooden sculptures (for a detailed presentation see chapters 6 and 7 of Hamberger 2011). These material shrines are not just sacrificial supports or temporary homes of spirits but serve to individualize them in the same manner as a personal body.

Some vodus are also endowed with a “convent” (vodukpame, “vodu enclosure”), that is, a site for the initiation of adepts (called *vodusi*, “vodu wives”) who remain linked to the particular vodu and perform in its rituals. In addition, a person may be consecrated in childhood to a vodu who has permitted his or her birth or survival (these persons are called *voduvi*, “vodu child”).

The vodus present in Afagnan-Gbléta have been systematically inventoried during the village censuses of 2004, 2009 and 2010, together with their priests and, if available, the person who has installed them, as well as the vodusis and voduvis affiliated to them. These data are stored in the Vodu tab.

Ritual events have been only sporadically entered in the database. These mainly concern engagement visits (asitɔvɔ, “knocking at the door”) and funeral libations (tsikɔɖe, “pouring water”), for which comparative studies have been conducted in the framework of the doctoral thesis. They are stored in the RITEVENT tab.

Data Collection

Field stays

The dataset has been established during 10 field stays (totaling 32 months):

1. February – April 2004
2. November 2004 – October 2005
3. July – September 2006
4. July – September 2007
5. November 2009 – February 2010
6. August – October 2010
7. July – September 2012
8. July – September 2013
9. November 2014 – February 2015

10. July – September 2016

Institutional framework and financial support

Stays 1-4 were conducted within the framework of a doctoral thesis at the EHESS (2009) supervised by Michael Houseman (published as Hamberger 2011). They were financed by a grant of the *Wenner Gren Foundation* as well as financial aid by the *Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Sociale* and the *Centre d'Etudes des Mondes Africains*. Later stays were financed by the *Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Sociale* (to which the author is affiliated as senior researcher since 2010), as well as the *Fonds de la Recherche de l'EHESS* (field stay 7) and the *Coopération Française* (who financed the work of the Togolese partners from the URD during field stay 6).

Field cooperators

Data have been collected by myself in cooperation with three main field collaborators:

- **Toussaint Yakobi** (deceased in 2014) for the first two village censuses (stays 1 and 5), almost all work done during field stays 1-4, and part of the mobility study during stays 5-8.
- **Komi Malou Kakanou** for the main part of the mobility study (stays 5-8) as well as an ongoing study on folktales not included in this dataset.
- **Ayassou Akagankou** who took the place of his elder brother Toussaint Yakobi as partner for the third village census (stay 9).

About 40 interviews of the Mobility study have been conducted by **Ibitola Tchitchou** from the Unité de Recherche Demographique (Lomé University) in cooperation with Toussaint Yakobi and Komi Malou Kakanou.

In addition, part of the data contained in the dataset have been collected during work with **Basil Komla Lotri** (stay 1), **Luc Mondji** (stay 1, on apprenticeship), **Samuel Komla Amedjotsi** (deceased in 2011, stays 1-4, in particular on vodu religion), and **Missoude Kpassegna** (from stay 3, on vodu religion).

Apart from Samuel Amedjotsi (born and residing in Afangangan), all field cooperators are native of the canton of Afagnan-Gbléta.

Data storage

Primary data have been stored in paper form, in particular in various hand-written notebooks. The core of this paper corpus consists in 19 genealogy notebooks containing the basic information on individuals and their genealogical links (information on individuals is noted as text on the right-hand page, genealogical information is noted as drawings on the left-hand page, following the method first applied by Laurent Barry).

Individuals have been assigned continuous identity numbers (field ID in the Individuals tab), which thus inform about the genealogy notebook where their first indication can be found

(subsequent occurrences are only retrievable through the IDs of doubles in the Double field, in case the individual has been noted several times):

Notebook	ID up to	Date of entry
1	2220	2004
2	3902	2004
2	5500	2005
3	8868	2005
4	12076	2005
5	15397	2005
6	16710	2005
6	18641	2006
7	21640	2006
8	24348	2006
9	27919	2006
10	31424	2006
11	32262	2006
11	34865	2007
12	35846	2007
13	38620	2009
14	40090	2009
14	41460	2010
15	44041	2010
16	46425	2010
-	46554	2010
-	48455	2012
-	49858	2013
17	51980	2014
18	54337	2014
19	56339	2014
19	57515	2015
-	57780	2016
-	57898	2017

The discrepancy between the maximal ID (57898) and the number of individuals (50519) stems from the presence of 7327 double entries in the notebooks and 52 empty entries in the Access database, which have been eliminated before exportation to the Kinsources dataset. By contrast, 340 doubles of mobility events (Migevent entries) remain in the dataset (due to the ego-centric structure of the table in the underlying Access database) and have to be eliminated after importation in Puck (by the Transform > Reduce > Marked doubles function).

The village census data of 2009 and 2014 have been noted on a printed support containing the data of previous censuses. All these documents, as well as digital photographs, are in possession of the author and not accessible to the public.

In a second step, data have been entered in a Microsoft Access Database, which contains also various series of data not included in the Kinsources dataset (for example on ethnobotanics or

folktales). Practically all data have been entered by the author, in recent years already in the field. The data from the migration studies have been entered by **Karin Sohler**.

Some of the data, in particular stemming from the mobility study, have been entered without having been previously noted in the genealogy notebooks (hence the missing Notebook number for some line in the above table).

The Kinsources dataset has been exported from the Access Database in form of a series of Excel tables subsequently integrated into a single file readable by Puck (in BAR format).

Research projects

Data included in the Kinsources dataset have been collected in the context of different research projects, whose methodologies have different impacts on the structure of the overall network:

- Three *village censuses* (2004/5, 2009/10 and 2014/15) provide the bulk of the genealogical, residential and occupational data, as well as the data on vodu shrines (tabs FAMILY, RESIDENCE, OCCUPATION and VODU). For all residents, all children, spouses, parents and grandparents have been systematically asked. Data of the 2004 census were completed in 2006 and 2007 by a systematic inquiry of great-grandparents, which has not been repeated for subsequent census. The network thus is largely constructed by a bottom-up methodology.
- A study on *uterine kin groups* conducted in 2005 and 2006 attempted to determine the membership of uterine groups first by interviews with group members, then by systematic reconstruction of uterine ties (both bottom-up and top-down). In the case of kin group 1, this study was conducted on a regional level with the aim of completeness. In addition to genealogical information, this study provided data on family history and ritual, in particular on Tchamba vodus (tabs FAMILY, MATRIL and VODU).
- A study on *agnatic kin groups* aimed not so much at inventorying membership but data on family history and ritual, including ancestors and family chiefs (tabs FAMILY and PATRIL).
- A study on the *cognatic progeny* of the 8 great-grandparents of individual 1 conducted in 2006 was aimed to counter the agnatic bias implicit in the residential census basis. This study was largely bottom-down and revealed the important part of village family members living in the capital Lomé (tab FAMILY).
- A series of biographical interviews on *migration itineraries*, conducted from 2010, 2012 and 2013 and 2014/15, provided the basis for the mobility data (tab MIGEVEN). It started with a random sample of 30 women and 30 men drawn from the 2004 village census and continued by snowball sampling with the persons mentioned in the initial interviews, amounting to a total of 527 interviews (509 of which were finally used for analysis).
- A systematic study on the *voduisis* of Afagnan-Gbléta conducted in 2004/5 further alimented the data on vodu affiliation (tab VODU).

- Minor studies on *drum associations* (2004) and *marriage rituals* (2005), as well as systematic attendance of *funeral libations* between 2004 and 2006 provided data stored in the tabs ASSOCIATION and RITEVENT.
- A study on *handicraft enterprises* in 2005 provided a first series of data on master-apprentice relationships (tab APPRENTICESHIP, derived from OCCUPATION). Though this study was not continued in subsequent years, data on apprenticeships were further continuously alimented as a side-product of a humanitarian project supporting apprentices in Afagnan-Gbléta.

Dataset Construction

Construction of the dataset

The complete dataset contains all individual and relational data collected during the fieldwork and is not suitable for analysis. Analyses used in various publications have been based on partial datasets extracted from it. The following table explains the procedure of their construction. In order to simplify the procedure for the reader, they can be easily been extracted by means of a binarized partition using one of the auxiliary attributes with the prefix “EXTR”.

Dataset	Watchi_MOBILITY	Watchi_RESIDENCE	Watchi_PUCK
Publication	Hamberger forthc. (2018)	Hamberger in preparation	Hamberger et al. forthc.
Description	A dataset based on migration biographies collected from a snowball sample in 2010-2014	A dataset based on three residential censuses of the village of Afagnan-Gbléta in 2004/5, 2009/10 and 2014/15	A dataset containing the residents of Afagnan-Gbléta (between 2004 and 2015) and their ascendants
Extraction procedure	1. Segment by INDIVIDUAL*MIG_STE P [Binarized] = Nonnull (>509 Ind.) 2. Transform > Expand Current Segment > Universal	1. Segment by RESIDENCE*HOUSE = Nonnull (> 8374 Ind.) 2. Transform > Expand Current Segment > Universal	1. Segment by RESIDENCE *HOUSE = Nonnull (> 8374 Ind.) 2. Transform > Expand Current Segment > Ascending
Extraction attribute (> Extract Current Segment)	EXTR_MOBILITY	EXTR_RESIDENCE	EXTR_PUCK
Supplementary Relations			
MIGEVENT	X		
RESIDENCE		X	X
AMEDJODJO			X
RELATIVE	X	X	
ACQUAINTANCE	X	X	
SUPPORT	X	X	
EMPLOYMENT	X	X	
APPRENTICESHIP	X	X	
INITIATION	X	X	
UNRELATED	X	X	
RENT	X		

GEOGRAPHY	X	X	
-----------	---	---	--

Basic Indicators

Dataset	Watchi 2017 (tot.)	Watchi_ MOBILITY	Watchi_ RESIDENCE	Watchi_PUCK
individuals	50519	47314	48586	21082
men	26188	24269	24955	10482
women	24006	22735	23314	10593
unknown	325	310	317	7
marriages	16189	15553	15968	8571
unions	16227	15589	16005	8593
non-single men	14154	13317	13756	7624
non-single women	15182	14515	14938	8228
parent-child ties	67149	65220	66490	28497
fertile unions	13759 (84.99%)	13194 (84.83%)	13586 (85.08%)	8121 (94.75%)
co-wife relations	7424	7390	7421	3188
co-husband relations	2035	2017	2032	796
components	3328 (max. 44421)	1893 (max. 44421)	2077 (max. 44421)	305 (max. 19357)
mean component share (agnatic)	0.01% (without singletons: 0.020%)	0.01% (without singletons: 0.020%)	0.01% (without singletons: 0.020%)	0.02% (without singletons: 0.040%)
mean component share (uterine)	0.01% (without singletons: 0.020%)	0.01% (without singletons: 0.020%)	0.01% (without singletons: 0.020%)	0.01% (without singletons: 0.030%)
max component share (agnatic)	6.48%	6.92%	6.74%	6.65%
max component share (uterine)	0.90%	0.96%	0.93%	0.48%
elementary cycles	36147	35352	35949	16291
density (marriages)	0.06%	0.07%	0.07%	0.19%
density (filiation)	0.26%	0.29%	0.28%	0.64%
depth	17	17	17	17
mean spouse number of men	1.32	1.33	1.32	1.29
mean spouse number of women	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.09
mean sibset size agnatic	2.78	2.87	2.83	1.98
mean sibset size uterine	2.41	2.46	2.43	1.7
mean nr of children per fertile couple	1.95	1.99	1.97	1.51

II. Detailed documentation of dataset fields

Not all fields, and not all relational tabs are accessible to the public user, and some of them are not even included in the dataset file on the Kinsources server. This is the case for fields in “private” access (the field “NOTE” containing all sort of uncoded information) and for relational tabs where the totality of fields are “hidden” (ASSOCIATION, OCCUPATION, RITEVENT, VODU). The NOTE field and the OCCUPATION tab have been withdrawn for privacy concerns, the three other relational tabs for scientific reasons (they are not yet sufficiently complete and/or corrected to be used pertinently).

INDIVIDUALS

Field xls / puc	Type	Explication	Access
ID	Number	Continous identity number assigned during fieldwork (see above)	Public
GENDER	Char	Gender	Public
NAME	Text	Consolidated name	Anonymized
FIRSTN	Text	First name (if not falling under the categories below)	Hidden
FIRSTN_BAP	Text	Christian name (usually linked to the calendar birth day)	Hidden
FIRSTN_DAY	Text	Day name (depending on the birth day of the week)	Hidden
FIRSTN_VODU	Text	Vodu name (of initiated adepts or consecrated children)	Hidden
FIRSTN_ORD	Text	Birth order name	Hidden
SURN	Text	Surname or nickname(s)	Hidden
LASTN	Text	Family name (generally name of a paternal ancestor)	Hidden
ORD	Number	Birth order position	Public
BIRT_PLACE	Text	Birth place	Public
BIRT_DATE	Number	Birth year	Public
BIRT_DATE_EXACT	Date	Exact birth date	Hidden
BIRT_DATE_NOTE	Text	Comment on the birth date or verbal description	Hidden
BIRT_YEAR_MYEST	Boolean	Indicates that the birth date is based on author’s own estimation	Public
DEAT_PLACE	Text	Place of death. Not systematically entered.	Hidden
DEAT_DATE	Number	Death year. A value 0 means “Died” (year unknown)	Public
DEAT_DATE_EXACT	Date	Exact death date	Hidden
DATE_DATE_NOTE	Text	Comment on the birth date or verbal description (e.g. date of funeral)	Hidden
DIEDYOUNG	Boolean	Indicates cases of stillbirth or children died young	Public
PATRIL_ID	Number	Id of patrilineage	Public
SUBPATRIL_ID	Number	Id of sub-patrilineage	Hidden
MATRIL_ID	Number	Id of matriclan	Public
CONTACT	Text		Hidden
NOTE_COLL	Text		Hidden
ALLSPOUSES	Number	Latest complete update of spouses	Public
ALLCHILDREN	Number	Latest complete update of children	Public
ALLPARENTS	Boolean	Indicates that parents have been asked	Public
NOTE_CHILDREN	Text	Information on children (mainly on children died young, “mba”)	Public
DOUBLES	Text	Numbers of double entries	Hidden
COG_GEN		Generation for Cognatic Network (Binary Partition > Subdataset “PROJCOG”)	Public
FIELD_ID	Number	Link to Relation *FIELD	Hidden
FIELD_PLACE	Text	Place of the filed	Hidden
FIELD_TITLE	Text	Property right on the field	Hidden
FIELD_COSTS	Text	Purchase price of the field	Hidden
FIELD_NOTE	Text	Comment on the field	Hidden

MIG_STEP	Number	Position in the migration study panel	Public
MIG_INTERVIEWER	Text	Initials of the persons who have conducted the first interview	Public
MIG_INFORMANT	Number	ID of the informant on third person's biography (usually a parent)	Public
MIG_INTERV	Date	Date of the first interview	Public
MIG_INTERV2	Date	Date of a the first update interview	Public
MIG_LASTUPDATE	Number	Year of last update	Public
MIG_NOTE	Text	Comment concerning migration study	Hidden
MIG_NOTE_FOST	Text	Comment concerning the persons fostered by the interviewee	Hidden
FOST_NOTE	Text	Comment on fosterage in individual's history	Hidden
FOST_CODE	Text	Experimental code for fosterage type	Hidden

FAMILIES

Families are exported in .bar format in two parts: the first containing only actor ids (father, mother, spouses), the last one (FAMILY) containing the family attributes (indicated by #). In .iur format this distinction does not occur.

Field xls / puc	Type	Explication	Access
FATHER	Number	Father Id	Public
MOTHER	Number	Mother Id	Public
SPOUSE	Number	Wife Id	Public
HUSB	Number	Husband Id	Public
WIFE	Number	Wife Id	Public
#UNIONSTATUS	Text	Union status (here only "MARRIED" or "DIVORCED")	Public
#MARR_DATE	Number	Year of marriage	Public
#DIV_DATE	Number	Year of divorce	Public
#HUSB_ORD	Number	Ordinal number of husband for wife	Public
#WIFE_ORD	Number	Ordinal number of wife for husband	Public
#HUSB_ORD_REL	Boolean	Ordinal number not to be taken absolutely	Public
#WIFE_ORD_REL	Boolean	Ordinal number not to be taken absolutely	Public
#MARR_YEAR_MYEST	Boolean	Marriage date estimated by author	Public
#NOTE	Text	Comment on the union (generally on date, on time of remarriage before or after spouse death, sometimes on recognized character)	Public

AMEDZODZO

Field xls / puc	Type	Explication	Access
ID	Number	Continuous id from overarching table	Public
NAME	Text	Ids of the two persons involved	Public
AMEDZODZO	Number	Id of the amedzodzɔ (child)	Public
DZOTO	Number	Id of the dzɔtɔ (tutelary ancestor)	Public
#NOTE	Text	Comment (the kinship link, occasionally)	Hidden

ACQUAINTANCE

Field xls / puc	Type	Explication	Access
ID	Number	Continuous id	Public

Field xls / puc	Type	Explication	Access
NAME	Text	Ids of relative1 and relative2	Public
FRIEND	Number	Id of the resident	Public
#TYPE	Text	Type of relationship (cf. ID)	Public
#START_DATE	Number	First year of relationship	Hidden
#END_DATE	Number	Last year of relationship	Hidden
#PLACE	Text	Place where the relationship started or was active	Hidden
#NOTE	Text	Note further specifying relationship	Hidden

SUPPORT

Field xls / puc	Type	Explication	Access
ID	Number	Continuous id	Public
NAME	Text	Ids of relative1 and relative2	Public
SUPPORTED	Number	Id of the supported	Public
SUPPORTER	Number	Id of the supporter	Public
#TYPE	Text	Type of relationship (cf. ID)	Public
#START_DATE	Number	First year of relationship	Hidden
#END_DATE	Number	Last year of relationship	Hidden
#PLACE	Text	Place where the relationship started or was active	Hidden
#NOTE	Text	Note further specifying relationship	Hidden

MIGEVENT

Attention: Transform > Reduce > Marked Doubles has to be run after importation!

Field xls / puc	Type	Explication	Access
ID	Number	Continuous id	Public
Name	Text	Start place > End place Or id of corresponding event for other ego	Public
#DATE	Number	Year of move (estimated or calculated from age)	Public
#START_PLACE	Text	Start place of move	Public
#END_PLACE	Text	Destination of move	Public
MIG	Number	Ids of Migrants	Public
HOST	Number	Id of Host	Public
FIN	Number	Ids of financiers	Public
INI	Number	Ids of initiators	Public
OTHER	Number	Ids of other persons mentioned	Public
\$ORDER	Number	Number of move for given ego	Public
\$NOTE	Text	Context of move as described by interviewee	Hidden
\$NOHOST	Text	Impersonal Host (ex. "EMPLOYER")	Public
#REPEATED	Boolean	Repeated move (ex. annually)	Public

RELATIVE

Field xls / puc	Type	Explication	Access
ID	Number	Continuous id	Public
NAME	Text	Ids of relative1 and relative2	Public
RELATIVE	Number	Ids of the relatives concerned	Public
#TYPE	Text	Type of relationship	Public
#NOTE	Text	Further specification of relationship	Hidden

RESIDENCE

Field xls / puc	Type	Explication	Access
ID	Number	Continuous id	Public
NAME	Text	Place and date	Public
RESIDENT	Number	Id of the resident	Public
#PLACE	Text	Place (village) of residence	Public
#HOUSE	Number	House id	Public

#QUARTER	Text	Village quarter (only for numbered houses)	Public
#PATRIL	Number	Owning patrilineage id (only for numbered houses)	Public
#DATE	Number	Year of observation	Public
\$MODE	Char	Various specifications: \$ Census with time lag + Retrospective census t Transitory (present at census time, main residence elsewhere) p Periodical (not present at census time, main residence elsewhere) l Location (as residential status, independent of which resident pays the rent) < Before date a,b,c,e Subdivisions of house h hosted (by state or other institution)	Public
\$REF	Number	Residential referent id If (REFREL=L: id of Landlord)	Public
\$REFREL	Char	Relation to residence place E hosted by employer L Location (only for resident who pays the rent) P Acquired property SDF No stable home T Temporary residence (hospital, prison, school, etc.) Other letters: kinship relation to owning patrilineage (F = own patrilineage)	Public
\$START_DATE	Number	First year of residence	Public
\$END_DATE	Number	Last year of residence	Public
\$NOTE	Text	Comment	Hidden

TWINS

Field xls / puc	Type	Explication	Access
ID	Number	Continuous id from overarching table	Public
NAME	Text	Ids of the two persons involved	Public
TWIN	Number	Ids of the twins	Public

UNRELATED

Field xls / puc	Type	Explication	Access
ID	Number	Continuous id	Public
NAME	Text	Name formed by the ids of ego + id of alter	Public
PERSON	Number	Ids of ego and alter	Public
#TYPE	Text	Type of relationship	Public
#NOTE	Text	Details on relationship	Hidden

Derived relations

Attention: Continuous IDs have to be added manually!

RENT

Extracted from **RESIDENCE** for Residence.Host is not null and Residence.HostRel = "L" (for Location)

Field xls / puc	Type	Explication	Access
ID	Number	Continuous Id	Public
NAME	Text	Name formed by the ids of resident + id of landlord	Public
RESIDENT	Number	Id of resident	Public
LANDLORD	Number	Id of landlord	Public

#NOTE	Text	Place of residence	Hidden
-------	------	--------------------	--------

EMPLOYMENT

Extracted from **EMPLOYMENT** for Employer is not null and Occupation.Mode is null

Field xls / puc	Type	Explication	Access
Id	Number	Continuous Id	Public
NAME	Text	Name formed by the ids of employed + id of employer	Public
EGO	Number	Id of employed	Public
EMPLOYER	Number	Id of employer	Public
#NOTE	Text	Type of work	Hidden

APPRENTICESHIP

Extracted from **EMPLOYMENT** for Employer is not null and Occupation.Mode = "A"

Field xls / puc	Type	Explication	Access
Id	Number	Continuous Id	Public
NAME	Text	Name formed by the ids of apprentice + id of master	Public
EGO	Number	Id of apprentice	Public
MASTER	Number	Id of master	Public
#NOTE	Text	Type of work	Hidden

INITIATION

Extracted from **VODU** for Vodusi is not null and Huno is not null

Field xls / puc	Type	Explication	Access
Id	Number	Continuous Id	Public
NAME	Text	Name formed by the ids of vodusi + id of huno	Public
ADEPT	Number	Id of vodusi	Public
PRIEST	Number	Id of huno	Public
#NOTE	Text	Type of vodu	Hidden

III. Publications using or contextualizing the dataset

Publications using the dataset (see below)

- Hamberger, Klaus, 2018: "Relational sequence networks as a tool for studying gendered mobility patterns", in Studer, Mathias and Gilbert Ritchard, *Sequence Analysis and Related Approaches. Innovative Methods and Applications*, Amsterdam: Springer, 121-146, https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-319-95420-2_8

Publications contextualizing the dataset

- Hamberger, Klaus, 2011 : *La Parenté Vodou. Organisation sociale et logique symbolique en pays ouatchi (Togo)*, Paris : CNRS Editions / Editions de la Maison des Sciences de l'Homme
- Hamberger, Klaus, 2009 : « Matrilinéarité et culte des aïeules chez les Ewé », *Journal des Africanistes* 79 (1), 241-279.

Acknowledgments

I am much indebted to Komi Malou Kakanou and Ayassou Akagankou for their help in the consolidation and correction of this version of the dataset, as well as to Karin Sohler for providing supplementary contextual information used in this documentation.

IV. Appendix: Procedures for reproducing the published analyses with Puck

All parameters not specified are chosen at their default levels.

Visualization has been done with Pajek64 5.01 (February 2017)

Hamberger forthc. (2018): “Relational sequence networks as a tool for studying gendered mobility patterns”

In Studer, Mathias and Gilbert Ritchard, *Advances in Sequence Analysis and Related Methods for Life Course Studies*, Amsterdam: Springer.

Subdataset: Watchi_MOBILITY

Page	Analysis	Procedures (Puck)
6	[In Text:] Snowball Sample Structure	Reports > Snowball Structure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RelationModelName = MIGEVENT • Ego Role Name = MIG (<i>if left empty, all ego roles will be considered</i>) • Alternative Ego Role Name = HOST (<i>if left empty, no other ego roles will be considered</i>) • Seed Label = MIG_STEP • Seed Value = 0 • Reach Label = MIG_INTERV • Indirect Label = MIG_INFORMANT • Expansion Mode = ALL • Max Step Count = 1 • Seed Reference Year = 2009
8	Table 1: Betty’s (10683) itinerary	Go to ID = 10683 Choose a suitable segmentation (e.g. by ID) Sequences > Analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relation Model = MIGEVENT • Ego Role = MIG • Alter Roles = HOST, MIG • Alter Relation Models = All except MIGEVENT • Report Options = “Itineraries”
10	Table 2: Relations to hosts and migrants occurring in male and female itineraries	Segment by binarize MIG_STEP = nonnull (extended snowball sample) Sequences > Analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relation Model = MIGEVENT • Ego Role = MIG • Alter Roles = HOST, MIG • Alter Relation Models = All except MIGEVENT • Sequence Census Operations: RELATIONS In tab Diagrams select the tables RELATIONS_HOST and RELATIONS_MIG
13	Figure 3: Four ego networks	Segment by MIG_STEP = 0 (random sample) Sequences > Analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relation Model = MIGEVENT • Ego Role = MIG • Alter Roles = HOST, MIG, INI, FIN • Alter Relation Models = All except MIGEVENT • Ego Network Census Operations: Export Ego Networks

		<p>Export Nonmediated Ego Networks to Pajek In Pajek: Select Networks for Ego = 10683, 14443, 4441, 7367</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partition = EGO-RELATION • Vector = DEGREE <p>Draw > Network + First Partition + First Vector Spatialize by Layout > Energy > Fruchterman-Reingold Export in Svg format (for secondary treatment in Inkscape)</p>
	Tables 3-4, Text, Figure 4	<p>Segment by MIG_STEP = 0 (random sample) Sequences > Analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relation Model = MIGEVENT • Ego Role = MIG • Alter Roles = HOST, MIG, INI, FIN • Alter Relation Models = All except MIGEVENT • Ego Network Census Operations: GENERAL, COHESION, CENTRALITY, RELATION
14	Table 3: Central relations and component-dominant relations	<p>In tab “Diagrams” select CENTRAL RELATIONS, COMPONENTS Nonmediated Ego Network and COMPONENT SIZE Nonmediated Ego Network</p>
16	[In Text] average network indicators	<p>In tab “Survey” select lines for ISOLATES, NRCOMPONENTS, EGO-BETWEENNESS, CONCENTRATION</p>
17	Figure 4: Differential centrality and concentration of personal networks;	<p>In tab “Details” select columns ECCENTRICITY, NRCOMPONENTS > Scatterplot in Excel</p>
17	Table 4: Four case examples	<p>In tab “Details” select</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • columns SIZE, ECCENTRICITY, NRCOMPONENTS, NRISOLATES, CENTRAL_RELATION • lines for Ego = 10683, 14443, 4441, 7367
	Figures 5-7, Table 4	<p>Segment by MIG_STEP = 0 (random sample) Sequences > Analysis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relation Model = MIGEVENT • Ego Role = MIG • Alter Relation Models = All except MIGEVENT • Main Relation Classification Types: HOST
19	Figure 5: Relational sequence networks of the four case examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sequence Network Census Operations: Export Sequence Networks <p>Export Sequence Networks to Pajek In Pajek: Select Networks for Ego = 10683, 14443, 4441, 7367 Draw > Network Export in Svg format (for secondary treatment in Inkscape)</p>
21	Figure 6: Aggregate sequence networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sequence Network Census Operations: Export Aggregate Sequence Networks <p>Export Aggregate Sequence Networks to Pajek In Pajek:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select Male and Female Networks • Vector = SIZE <p>Draw > Network Vector Export in Svg format (for secondary treatment in Inkscape)</p>
22	Table 5: Basic indicators of the position of social relation types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sequence Network Census Operations: Export Aggregate Sequence Networks <p>In Tab Survey: Sequence Network Statistics</p>
24	Figure 7: Phylogenetic tree of the 60 sequence networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sequence Network Census Operations: Export Sequence Networks Similarity Tree <p>Export Sequence Networks Similarity Tree to Pajek In Pajek: Draw > Network Partition Vector Spatialize Using Kamada Kawai algorithm Export in Svg format (for secondary treatment in Inkscape)</p>

