

**Network Workshop:  
Building a Character Network from the Song of Roland**

**1. GoogleDocs & verse assignments**

We will build our character network of the *SOR* as a group. You can access our common GoogleDocs spreadsheet at the following URL:

I have coded the first 26 verses; each one of you will be responsible for coding between 40-50 verses in a separate sheet. I have tried to distribute verse assignments in such a way as to maintain the integrity of scenes. Click on your appropriate tab at the bottom of the spreadsheet and work on your assigned verses.

**2. Coding your verses**

We will be doing what Gramsch et al. (pp. 60-64) call the ‘unweighted approach.’ Re-read those lines before you start. Then, start reading from your assigned verse and observe the following guidelines while coding:

- Our nodes will be all *named* characters, or unnamed characters who speak.
  - We can leave out the twelve unnamed/speechless servants from Verse 11.
- Our edges will be live interactions between character nodes.
  - Imagine you are viewing the scene on a stage. If named characters share the stage, they need an edge, even if they do not speak to one another.
  - Edge order is not important.
  - Do not double-record interactions between the same characters within the same scene. A scene can go on for many verses.
  - DO double-record interactions between the same characters that occur in DIFFERENT scenes. This will give us an idea of frequency of interaction, and hence a weight to the edges.
- In the cases that, say, 11 named characters share the stage, each character shares an edge with every other character, for a total (in this case) of 55 edges.
  - Fear not! You do not need to manually enter each of these 55 edges
  - Just open the ‘createGroup’ notebook and follow the instructions there
- NB: it is imperative that we all be consistent with our names. So far, I have used the following names; please maintain them:
  - ‘Marsile’
  - ‘Roland’
  - ‘Charles’
  - ‘Archbishop Turpin’
- This is a collaborative exercise, and we are all in this together! Email each other.