

# Identification System

As explained in the introduction this is an *ascending* genealogy. In order to precisely identify each person and to clearly indicate their relationships with descendants and ancestors, the following method is used:

Each person is assigned a unique identification number consisting of 1s and 2s, where the digit 1 indicates a female and the digit 2 a male. The number of digits in the identification number depends on how many generations back they are from Eliane Herz, who is identified by the number 1. Her mother, Coralie Weill is 11, and Coralie Weill's father is 112.

In addition to giving an identification number to individuals we want to arrange them in a definite order. The idea is analogous to the system used in dictionaries as illustrated in the following example with “before” being indicated by the symbol  $<$ .

*aardvark*  $<$  *abaca*  $<$  *aback*  $<$  *abacus*

We use the same general idea for identification numbers. Consider the following couple:

**1 1 1 • 2 1 Sophie Lang**

**1 1 1 • 2 2 David Weiller**

Being a couple, their identification numbers are identical except for the last place and because the wife has a 1 in the last place she is listed before her husband who has a 2 in the last place.

Given the identification number (1 1 2 • 2 1) of Sophie Lang we immediately know that:

The male child (Gottschau Weiller) of Sophie Lang has identification number 1 1 2 • 2,

The parents of Sophie Lang have identification numbers 1 1 2 • 2 1 1 and 1 1 2 • 2 1 2 (Dina Naphtaly and Baruch Lang respectively).

Similarly consider the following three men:

**1 1 1 • 2 2 David Weiller**

**1 1 2 • 2 2 Jacques Weil**

**1 1 1 • 2 1 2 Baruch Lang**

David Weiller precedes Jacques Weil because he has a 1 in the third place and Jacques Weil has a 2.

Baruch Lang is after Jacques Weil even though he has a 1 in the first three places, because his identification number has one more digit and this in turn means that he is one generation earlier than Jacques Weil.

In each of the seven groups of ancestors of Coralie Weill the group is divided into generations and within a generation the lists of people follow the order just described. To illustrate this consider the ancestors of Gottschau Weiller.

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His parents are listed as follows:

1 1 1 • 2 1 **Sophie Lang**

1 1 1 • 2 2 **David Weiller**

Next we have the grandparents of Gottschau Weiller as follows:

### The Parents of Sophie Lang

1 1 1 • 2 1 1 **Dina Naphtaly**

1 1 1 • 2 1 2 **Baruch Lang**

### The Parents of David Weiller

1 1 1 • 2 2 1 **Fromet David**

1 1 1 • 2 2 2 **Schmulen Solomon**

In the examples given so far there was only one identification number, but because the two grandmothers of Coralie Weill were sisters, their parents and all preceding generations will have *two* numbers. Thus, since Marie Kling was the mother of both Caroline Mandel (1 1 1 • 1) and Pauline Mandel (1 1 2 • 1) she will have the two numbers obtained by adding a 1 to the numbers of her daughters and we find the same situation with Salomon Mandel, the husband of Marie Kling.

1 1 1 • 1 1 / 1 1 2 • 1 1 **Marie Kling**

1 1 1 • 1 2 / 1 1 2 • 1 2 **Salomon Mandel**

Further, since the Mandel and Weiller lines have common ancestors, these common ancestors will have *three* numbers.

Another consequence of both grandmothers being sisters is that, instead of *eight* great-grandparents, Coralie Weill had only *six* great-grandparents, twelve great-great-grandparents.... The number of possible ancestors is reduced even further when we arrive at the ancestors with three numbers.

The length of the identification number also shows the degree of ancestry with respect to Coralie Weill. Thus her parents are identified by three digits and her grandparents by four. Next come the great-grandparents with five digits and great-great-grandparents with six. From this we see that the number of "greats" is given by the number of digits minus four and conversely to find the number of digits in a designation we simply add four to the number of greats. The longest designation numbers belong to the three, six times great-grandparents of Coralie Weill who have ten digits. The oldest of these three would have been born ca. 1650.

## Summary

1. A female ancestor is indicated by a 1, a male ancestor is indicated by a 2.
2. Couples are listed in pairs and their identification numbers only differ in the last number, namely a 1 or a 2.

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3. The identification number of a child is obtained by *taking off* the last digit.
4. The identification numbers of the parents of a person are obtained by *adding on* a 1 and a 2.
5. The ancestors of any person are discussed one generation at a time. Within any generation people are listed according to the order described above.
6. Marie Kling and Salomon Mandel each have two identification numbers. Their ancestors will also have two identification numbers with some of the very early ancestors of Salomon Mandel having three numbers. People with multiple numbers are listed according to their *first* identification number.
7. Coralie Weill had only six *distinct* great-grandparents, twelve *distinct* great-great-grandparents.... When we arrive at the ancestors with three identification numbers there will be a further reduction in the number of actual ancestors.
8. The length of the identification number indicates the degree of ancestry with respect to Coralie Weill:

Coralie Weill (1 1) has an identification number of length 2.

Her parents (1 1 1 and 1 1 2) have an identification number of length 3

Her grandparents have an identification number of length 4.

Her great-grandparents have an identification number of length 5.

Her two times great-grandparents have an identification number of length 6.

Her three times great-grandparents have an identification number of length 7.

Her four times great-grandparents have an identification number of length 8.

Her five times great-grandparents have an identification number of length 9.

Her six times great-grandparents have an identification number of length 10.