

Babeş–Bolyai University, Cluj–Napoca  
Master in Ancient and Medieval Philosophy

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# Palaeography





DIGITAL HUMANITIES FOR MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHICAL SOURCES

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HME2415

<https://www.dhcluj.ro/dhm/>

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# 0. Presentation

## 0.1. Course 1: Introduction to Palaeography

- What is the palaeography?
- History of palaeography
- Instruments

1

## 0.2. Course 2: Manuscripts and writing

- Writing tools and supports
  - Technical limitations of writing
  - *Ductus*
- ☞ Example

2

## 0.3. Course 3: Abbreviation system

- Abbreviation types:
    - conventional signs
    - shortening of words
  - Instruments for deciphering
- ☞ Example

3

oñl doctna ē d reb⁹ l d lig<sup>is</sup> ꝛc

Omnis doctrina est de rebus vel de signis etc.

## 0.4. Course 4: Uncial, semiuncial, carolingian minuscule

- Evolution
  - Characteristics
  - Abbreviations
- ☞ Example

4

a b c d e f g h i l m n o p q r s t u x y z  
a b c d e f g h i l m n o p q r s t u x y z  
a b c d e f g h i l m n o p q r s t u x y z

5

## 0.5. Course 5: Textual gothic minuscule

- Evolution
- Characteristics
- Punctuation
- ☞ Example

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V X Y Z  
a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v x y z

## 0.6. Course 6: University gothic minuscule from 13<sup>th</sup> century

- Characteristics
- Corrections and annotations
- ☞ Example

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V X Y Z  
a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v x y z

## 0.7. Course 7: Bastard gothic minuscule from 14<sup>th</sup> century

- Evolution
- Characteristics
- Abbreviations
- ☞ Example

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V X Y Z  
a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v x y z

## 0.8. Course 8: Notation of manuscript variants

- Parts of notation: lemma, reading, explanation, sigil
- Common editorial abbreviations
- ☞ Example

omnis] sacra *add.* C || rebus] *om.* C || signis] singulis B, sygnis C

## 0.9. Course 9: Collation from multiple manuscript copies

- The reading
- Differences between manuscripts:
  - different orthographies
  - additions and omissions
  - copyist mistakes

- editorial variants
- Collation procedures:
  - serial
  - parallel
  - mixed

↪ Example

A: Omnis doctrina est de rebus vel de signis.

B: Omnis doctrina vel rebus est vel *singulis*.

C: Omnis sacra doctrina est de sygnis.

## 0.10. Course 10: Critical apparatus

- General critical elements (in the introduction)
- Textual critical elements
  - Philological/palaographical apparatus
  - Source apparatus
  - Other types of apparatus (*treditio textus*, comparative, explanatory)

# 1. Introduction to Palaeography

## 1.1. What is the palaeography?

**Palaeography** = the study of ancient and historical handwriting

←<sup>GR.</sup> παλαιός (old) + γράφειν (to write)

The palaeography is different from:

- codicology (the material study of handwritten ancient books)
- study of textual content (history of ideas, philosophy, literature, history of science etc.)

Codicology	Palaeography	History of thought
the book as a material object	the book as writing	the book as a support for ideas
describes the object physically: dimensions, material, binding, material dating, owners etc.	interprets the handwriting: letter shapes, abbreviations, annotations, punctuation, writing hands etc.	interprets the sense of the text: meaning of words, fundamental ideas, authors, traditions of thought etc.
recovers the history of the object	recovers the text	recovers the meaning

### 1.1.1. Usefulness of palaeography

- nowadays we cannot read directly from medieval manuscripts
  - the historical transformations of the modernity caused the breaking away from the medieval way of thinking and writing
- we need a science in order to recover the medieval texts
  - the purpose of restoring the texts is a historically subjective one: translation, analysis, interpretation, restitution in detail of some historical evolutions
  - this science must correspond to the current scientific demands
- palaeography is a study by itself
  - the learning and practice of palaeography demand an effort and a time which is distinct from other forms of textual study
  - the reconstitution of texts is sometimes an authorial interpretative act, therefore the notions of palaeography are useful for the other specialists who need to verify the interpretations and the sources
- palaeography is not an autonomous science
  - the palaeographer needs knowledge in history, ancient languages (Latin), philology, philosophy and in the particular field to which the text belongs

### 1.1.2. Goals of the palaeography

- dating the manuscripts by identifying the handwriting style
- determination of the authenticity of writing

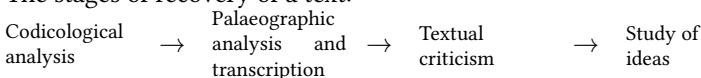
- attribution of the manuscripts based on writing hands
  - investigation of writing as an intellectual tradition
  - restoration of the texts in currently acceptable forms
  - examination of subsequent modifications and additions
- ➔ an archaeology of handwriting

### 1.1.3. Textual criticism

**Textual criticism** = the study of textual variants in ancient writings and the scholarly reconstitution of the texts in the form of critical editions

- seen sometimes as a part of palaeography, other times as an autonomous discipline

The stages of recovery of a text:



## 1.2. History of palaeography

- in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance
  - early attempts of older manuscripts study for determining the authenticity or for collating the text

☞ Example: *The Bible, Donatio Constantini* etc.

- Jean MABILLON (1632–1707) *De re diplomatica* (1681)
  - founder of palaeography and diplomatics
- Bernard DE MONTFAUCON (1655–1741) *Palaeographia graeca* (1708)
  - inventor of the term *palaeography*
- 19<sup>th</sup> c.
  - major contributions to the palaeography (Wilhelm WATTENBACH, Léopold DELISLE, Ludwig TRAUBE)
  - evolutions in textual criticism (Karl LACHMANN)
- 20<sup>th</sup>–21<sup>st</sup> c.
  - usage of computing technology in preservation and recovery of the texts

## 1.3. Instruments

1. Access to the manuscripts
  - libraries and repositories
  - online collections and reproductions
2. Examination of the manuscripts
  - physical instruments
  - electronic instruments
3. Interpretation of the handwriting



- abbreviation dictionaries<sup>1</sup> and books on the medieval writing
  - existing editions
4. Transcription of the manuscripts
- classical procedures
  - digital instruments

## Homework

Reading suggestions:

- [1] Bernhard BISCHOFF, *Latin Palaeography: Antiquity and the Middle Ages*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1989
- [2] *A Palaeographer's View: The Selected Writings of Julian Brown*, ed. J. BATELY, M.P. BROWN, J. ROBERTS, London: Harvey Miller, 1993
- [3] M. B. PARKES, *Pause and effect: An Introduction to the History of Punctuation in the West*, Aldershot: Scolar, 1992
- [4] Marcel COHEN, *La grande invention de l'écriture et son évolution*, Paris: Imprimerie nationale et Librairie Klincksieck, 1958
- [5] James G. FÉVRIER, *Histoire de l'écriture*, Paris: Payot, 1959
- [6] M. L. WEST, *Textual Criticism & Editorial Technique*, Stuttgart: B. G. Teubner, 1973
- [7] Ioana COSTA, *Papirus, pergament, hartie. Începuturile cărții*, București: Humanitas, 2011

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<sup>1</sup>Adriano CAPPELLI, *Dizionario di Abbreviature latine ed italiane* or Breviter (<https://dhcluj.ro/breviter/>)

## 2. Manuscripts and writing

### 2.1. Writing tools and supports

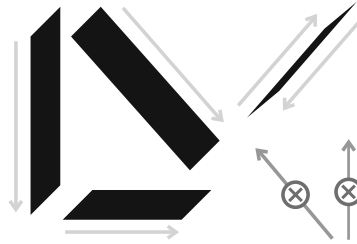
In the Middle Ages the books were handwritten.

- Writing tools:
  - quill or reed pen
  - ink
  - small knife (for recutting the quill and erasing)
  - lead stylus (for lining)
- Writing supports:
  - parchment (types, hair/flesh side)
  - papyrus (fiber direction)
  - paper (watermark)



### 2.2. Technical limitations of writing

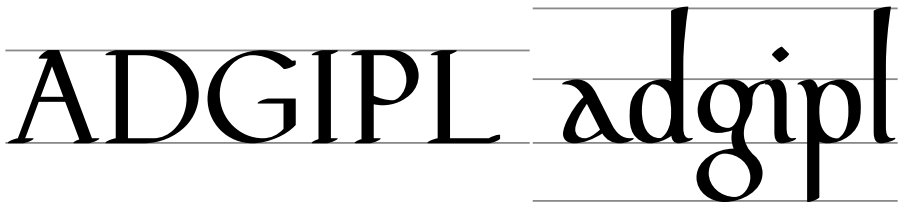
- writing support is expensive, the space is limited
- the quill cannot write upward
- to avoid ink blotches and to write cursive, letters have terminations
- the erasure may destroy the support
- sometimes the poor quality parchment has defects
- some inks affect the support (e.g.  $Cu_2O$ )
- sometimes the writing is obstructed by later writings (glosses, palimpsests)



### 2.3. Letter shape

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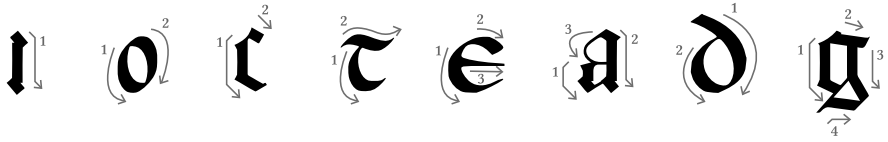
Majuscules and minuscules



### 2.4. Ductus

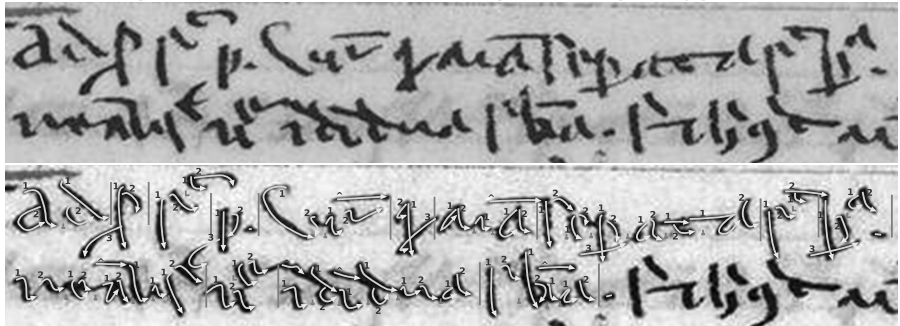
4

In deciphering the handwriting, the most important is the determination of the dynamics of the traces which make up the letter = **ductus**



### Example

Vatican, Bibliotheca Apostolica Vaticana, Vat.Lat.9851, f. 15v (THOMAS DE AQUINO, *Super Sententiis*, III, d.5, q.3, a.2) autograph

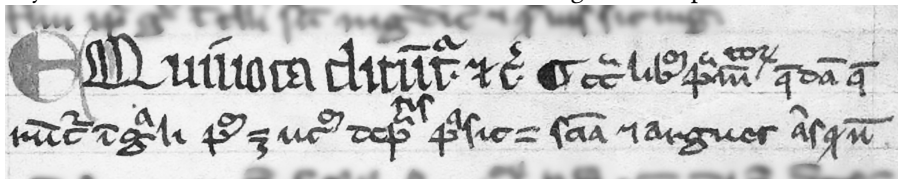


ad s̄ l̄ p. v̄r̄ ḡ aīa lepata l̄ p̄.  
 roālil n̄ idīdua lbīa.

Ad secundum sic proceditur. Videtur quod anima separata sit persona.  
 [...] rationalis naturae individua substantia.

### ✍ Homework

Try to trace the ductus of 5 words from the following manuscript:



Basel, Universitätsbibliothek, F III 20, f. 113vb (14<sup>th</sup> c.)

**PETRUS DE ALVERNIA, *Quaestiones super librum praedicamentorum Aristotelis***

**E**quivoca dicuntur etc. ¶ Circa librum predicamentorum quedam queruntur in generali, primum est utrum de predicamentis possit esse sciencia, et arguet aliquis quod non [...]

# 3. Abbreviation system

## 3.1. Abbreviation types

- Because of the limits of writing space, the copyists invented techniques of word abbreviation.
- The abbreviations differ from a historical period to another, from a territory to another, from an intellectual context to another, both for abbreviation signs and for words which are abbreviated.

☞ **m̃** = mater (jur., comm.), magister (univ. XIII), martyr (theol.), multipliciter (comm. XIII)

- To decipher the abbreviations, we must take into account the abbreviation procedure:
  - very frequent words are the most abbreviated, often with letter-like conventional signs
  - the other words are often abbreviated to shorten them, using conventional signs and shortening procedures

### 3.1.1. Conventional signs

The conventional signs replace a succession of sounds

- ☞ sometimes the same abbreviation can stand for several homophone successions of sounds
- ☞ some signs correspond to whole words, but they can be used also inside another word

The most common abbreviation signs: ~ (tilde) nasalization m/n

<b>q</b>	que/qua	<b>p</b>	per/par-	<b>&amp; / 7</b>	et	<b>ē/ẽ</b>	est
<b>q̃</b>	que/qua	<b>p̃</b>	pre/pra-	<b>ĩ</b>	in/im-	<b>ñ</b>	non
<b>q̄</b>	quod	<b>p̄</b>	pro	<b>ſ</b>	sed/secundum	<b>=</b>	esse
<b>q̅</b>	qui	<b>p̅</b>	pri	<b>ð</b>	de	<b>ʋ</b>	vel
<b>q̆</b>	quo	<b>ğ</b>	ergo	<b>ğ</b>	igitur	<b>m̆</b>	modo
<b>q̇</b>	-que/quem	<b>ḣ</b>	-bus	<b>2</b>	-rum	<b>'</b>	-ir/-er
<b>q̈</b>	cum/con-	<b>3</b>	-et/-m	<b>9</b>	-us	<b>∞</b>	-ur
<b>h̄</b>	hic	<b>h̄</b>	haec	<b>h̄</b>	hoc		

### 3.1.2. Shortening of words

Longer or more frequent words are abbreviated by suppression of letters, which can be one of two types:

- suspension (only the first letters are written, the last are replaced by a mark)
- contraction (only the beginning and the end are written, letters from the middle are omitted)

The suppression can be marked by:

- tilde (warning! the tilde may also mean nasalization)

āia (anima) rō (ratio) cā (causa) hñt (habent)

- superscript at end

po<sup>a</sup> (potentia) a<sup>a</sup> (alia) p<sup>ci</sup> (physici) cor<sup>is</sup> (corporis)

- above the word

n̄ (natura) p̄ (posterius) ex<sup>e</sup>ma (extrema)

- omission (some letters may be omitted when the word is easy to guess)

lba (substantia) qo (quaestio) Jo. (Iohannes)

To restore the word, one must find an existing word in latin which corresponds to the written or abbreviated sounds and which is obtainer by minimum expansions from a known form. (⇒ rōle (rationabile) (rationale))

### 3.2. Instruments for deciphering

There are abbreviation dictionaries which contain the transcription of abbreviation signs and of the common words.

- ❶ not all the possible words are contained in dictionaries
- ❷ the dictionaries cover several domains and languages, attention to the specific usage in the transcribed text

ADRIANO CAPPELLI, *Dizionario di Abbreviature latine ed italiane*

NCC <sup>m</sup> – NCCITA	233	NCCITI – NE <sup>ar</sup>
ncc̄, ncc <sup>m</sup> (nec, nec <sup>m</sup> ) necessarium XIV f.	ncc̄it̄	(ncciti) necessitati XIV m.
ncc <sup>a</sup> (ncc <sup>na</sup> ) necessaria XIV	ncc <sup>m</sup>	(ncc <sup>m</sup> ) necessarium XV f.
ncc̄ (ncc <sup>a</sup> ) necessaria	ncc̄s	(ncc <sup>s</sup> ) necessitas XIII

- ❸ **Breviter** Interactive Dataset of Medieval Abbreviations <https://dhcluj.ro/breviter/>  
students are encouraged to form their own dictionaries of abbreviations

## Homework

Identify 10 abbreviations in the following manuscript and transcribe them unabbreviated:

Omnis causa primaria plus est influens super eam  
 cum quam sed a eam universalis  
 Cuius generis remouet eam sed a universalis uicem. are.  
 ca. i. pma no autē uicē ab ea. qd est ca. uniu  
 ue. pma est in sedm eam. de sede. Ang. in ipam. ca  
 uniuersalis sed a quo no seque ipam. Cum g. Ag. ca. sed a. i  
 eam. qd ipam seque no excusat ipi actō a ca p q est sup  
 ipam qm e ca et. z nor qd excusat. ut ptem z un

Paris, Bibliothèque nationale de France, Latin 3237, f. 53r (first quart of 13<sup>th</sup> c.)

PSEUDO-ARISTOTELES, *Liber de causis*

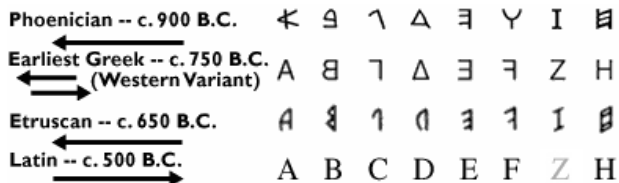
- |         |          |
|---------|----------|
| 1. .... | 6. ....  |
| 2. .... | 7. ....  |
| 3. .... | 8. ....  |
| 4. .... | 9. ....  |
| 5. .... | 10. .... |



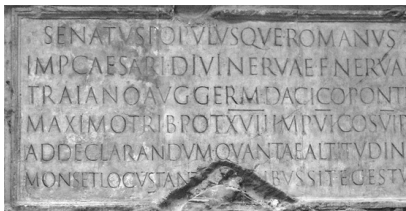
# 4. Uncial, semiuncial, carolingian minuscule

## 4.1. Evolution

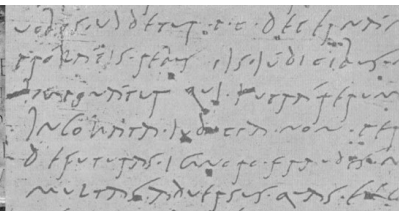
The Latin alphabet originates in the Etruscan alphabet, which in turn originates in the western variant of the Greek alphabet.



Initially there was a single set of characters (capitals), which began to differentiate by support and author of writing (writing hands).



Trajan's Column (2<sup>nd</sup> c.)

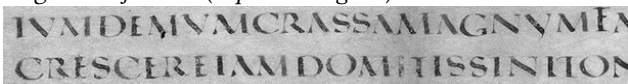


Papyrus with Senate discourses (1<sup>st</sup> c.)

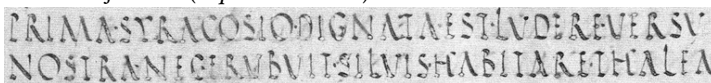
### Evolution (2)

Gradually, the letter shapes transformed to accommodate the writing needs.

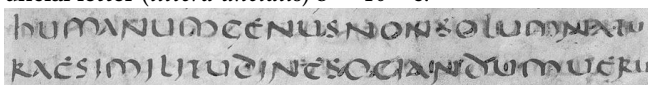
- elegant majuscule (*capitalis elegans*) 1<sup>st</sup>–4<sup>th</sup> c.



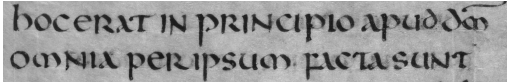
- rustic majuscule (*capitalis rustica*) 1<sup>st</sup>–9<sup>th</sup> c.



- uncial letter (*littera uncialis*) 3<sup>rd</sup>–10<sup>th</sup> c.



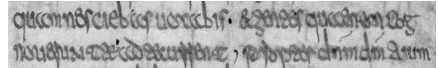
- semi-uncial letter 5<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup> (–10<sup>th</sup>) c.



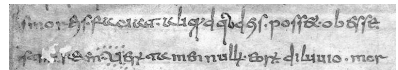
### Evolution (3)

Starting from the 7<sup>th</sup> c. forms of cursive writing appear in different areas of Western Europe (national hands).

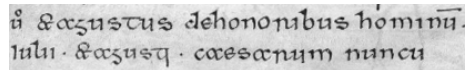
- merovingian cursive (Luxeuil)



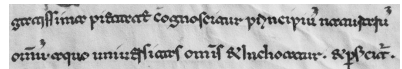
- visigothic cursive



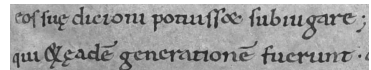
- insular (irish) cursive



- italian pre-caroline (beneventan and franco-lombardic) cursive



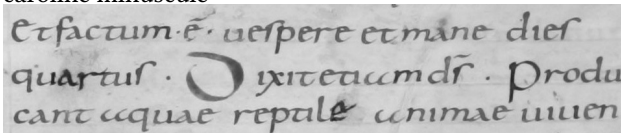
- german pre-caroline cursive



### Evolution (4)

Starting from the 8<sup>th</sup> c., following the reform initiated by Charlemagne, a new writing is developed, intended to be easier to read and uniform in the Holy Roman Empire.

- caroline minuscule



Some national hands continue to be used in some territories even after the caroline reform. Simultaneously, the uncial or the roman capitals start to be reused to differentiate the initials.

## 4.2. Characteristics

- rounded lines
- discrete hooks
- uniform letter widths

### Ductus



Α Δ Μ Ο Τ  
Ι Λ Ρ Π Α  
Α Ι Μ Ν Ο

Some letters have a new shape in minuscule cursive writing:

f/s s r r a/α a g/z g d/d d l l τ t e/e e

## 4.3. Abbreviations

Abbreviations are less frequent and have multiple forms:

- sigla inherited from the Romans  
& (et) ɔ (cum/con-)
- usage of the tilde for nasalization and contraction

**hominū** (hominu<sub>m</sub>)    **oñs** (omni<sub>s</sub>)

- *nomina sacra*

**īhc** (Ihesus)    **xpc̄** (Christus)    **ds̄** (Deus)    **sp̄s** (Spiritus)

Gradually abbreviations appear from the common ones (see *Course 3*)

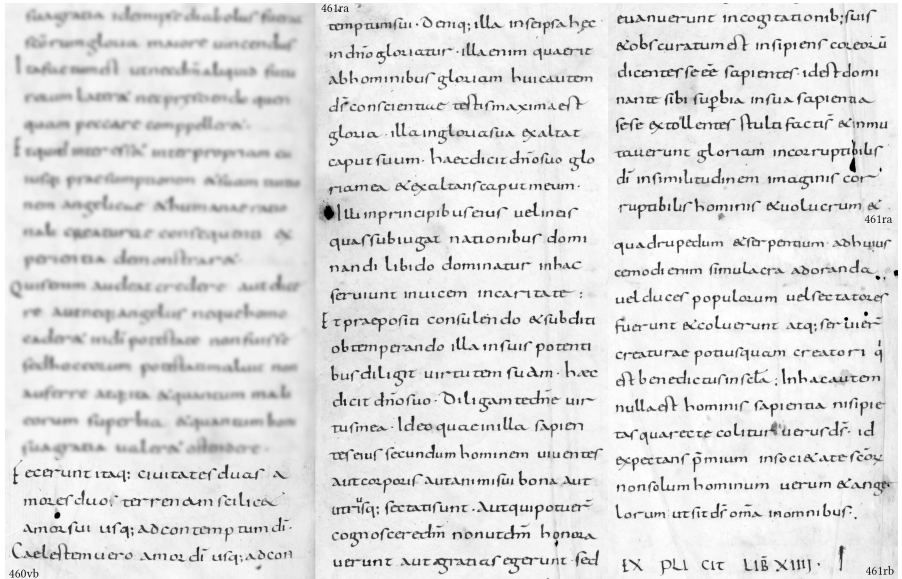
- common abbreviation signs

**p** (per)    **q** (quod)    **ē** (est)    **q̄** (-que)    **ę** -ae-    **g** -us

- irish abbreviations

**.n.** (enim)    **.i.** (id est)    **.f./s.** (scilicet)

## 4.4. Example



St. Gallen, Stiftsbibliothek, Cod. Sang. 177, ff. 460vb–461rb (middle of 9<sup>th</sup> c.) AUGUSTINUS, *De civitate Dei*, lib. XIV, cap. 29.

## Homework

Transcribe the following manuscript fragment:

**M**AGNA QUIDEM  
 libri huius. apud per  
 patheticam sectam pro  
 batur auctoritas. Hic  
 namq. aristoteles. simplicium propo  
 sitionum naturam diligenter exa  
 minat, sed eius series scrupulosa im  
 peditur semita. & subtilibus pressa  
 sententis. aditum intelligentiae

St. Gallen, Stiftsbibliothek, Cod. Sang. 820, p. 62 (second half of 9<sup>th</sup> c.) BOETHIUS, *In Perihermeneias Aristotelis*

## 5. Textual gothic minuscule

### 5.1. Evolution

From the 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> c. several changes took place in the intellectual milieu (increasing literacy, emergence of universities, higher books demand) which led to the transformation of writing.

- proto-gothic minuscule

qui instituit in scripta ppi sui sententia diuine legis aperuit.  
q̄ dictū ē. Is sup̄bis resistit. humilib̄ aū dat grām. Hoc s̄ qd̄

- textual gothic minuscule (*littera textualis prescissa/quadrata/rotunda*)

aq̄ reptile anime uiuentis i uolabile s̄ terum.  
sub firmamento celi. Creauitq̄ d̄s cca grandia et

- cursive gothic minuscule (*littera cursiva*)

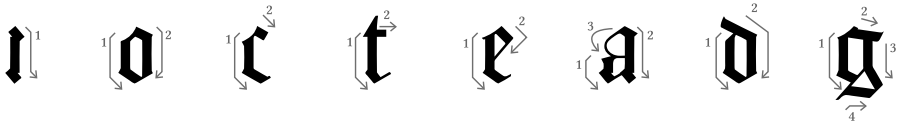
Doct̄ d̄ cap̄ v̄s ad uiam̄ c̄ q̄ p̄ p̄ q̄ d̄ z̄ e f f̄ t̄ m̄ s̄ c̄  
m̄ d̄ n̄. a a d̄ s̄ a d̄ n̄ a m̄ e f f̄ t̄ p̄ r̄ e s̄ p̄ o n̄ t̄ m̄ p̄ a r̄ d̄ e a d̄ p̄

### 5.2. Characteristics

- broken lines
- pronounced hooks
- uniform distances between legs

admot  
ilmpu  
ainno

Ductus



Because of the similitudes of traces which make up the letter, some letters can be confused:

legs: **imnub** (i m n u v)

shoulders: **ceort** (c e o r t)

**mmmmmm unum** (minimum vinum)

**correcto certo recto** (correcto certo recto)

The orthography changes according to Medieval Latin rules:

ae/oe ⇒ **e** (celus) ti ⇒ **ci** (tercio) c ⇒ **ch** (archa) mn ⇒ **mpn** (sompnus)

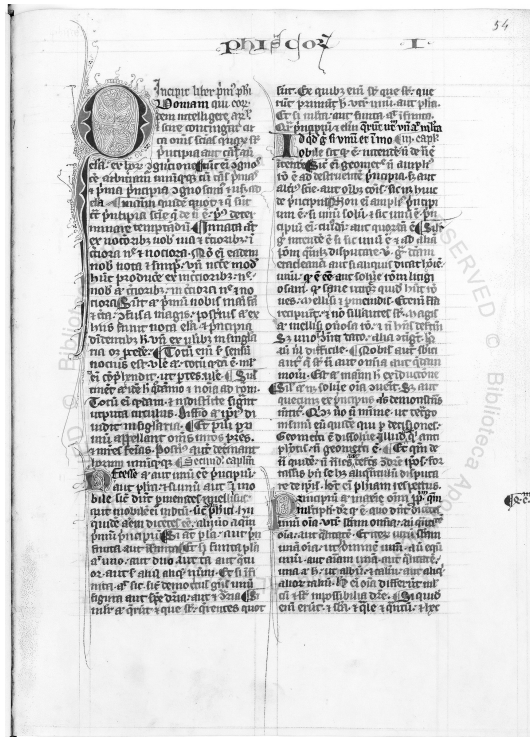
### 5.3. Punctuation

Medieval punctuation differs in some degree from the modern one. Specific signs are used to delimit the text on multiple levels:

- **punctus** • delimits the smallest phrase units, equivalent to modern comma
- **punctus elevatus** ∴ delimits units larger than *punctus*, e.g. sentences
- **virgula** › delimits syntactic units
- **virgula suspensiva** / delimits meaning units
- **punctus interrogativus** .<sup>?</sup> delimits an interrogation or an exclamation
- **capitulum, paragraphus** ¶ delimits paragraphs (¶)
- **litterae notabiliores** A B C delimit large text units, e.g. chapters; sometimes these too have multiple levels, e.g. simple enclosed initial for inferior level, foliated enclosed initial for superior level

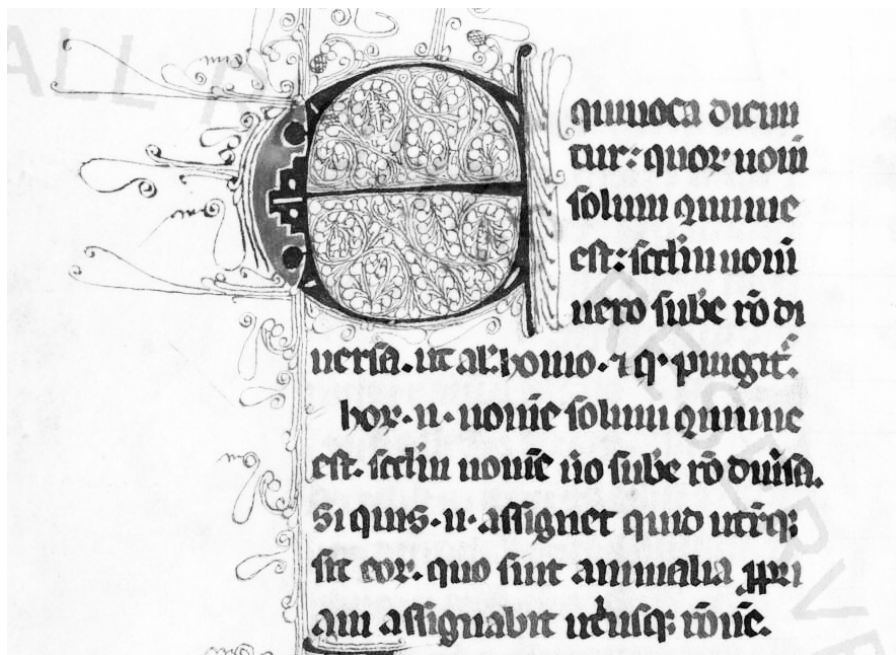
- ↪ The set of signs and their usage differs depending on period and context.
- ↪ Sometimes the punctuation has syntactic role, other times it has an analytic function, while sometimes marks the breathing.

### 5.4. Example



Vatican, Bibliotheca Apostolica Vaticana, Borgh. 37  
 (14<sup>th</sup> c.), f. 54r  
 ARISTOTELIS, *Physica*, I

## Homework



Vatican, Bibliotheca Apostolica Vaticana, Borgh. 9, f. 1r (beginning of 14<sup>th</sup> c.), *PROPHETIA Isagoge*



## 6. University gothic minuscule from 13<sup>th</sup> century

### 6.1. Characteristics

- Development of universities ⇒ development of writing
- Multiple text types ⇒ multiple types of writing (*textualis, glossularis...*)
- Text structuring ⇒ new graphic forms
- Growth of manuscript quantity ⇒ optimization of writing (quicker, clearer, more compact)
- Specialization of writing ⇒ specific abbreviations

1

### 6.2. Corrections and annotations

2

The manuscript text can be composed in multiple phases:

1. **initial text** (principal hand)
2. one or several hands of **interventions**

By type, the interventions can be:

- **corrections**: suppressions, modifications or additions intended to restore the source text or to recover the meaning
- **annotations**: additions which explain, comment, complete the text or indicate textual connections (e.g. glosses)

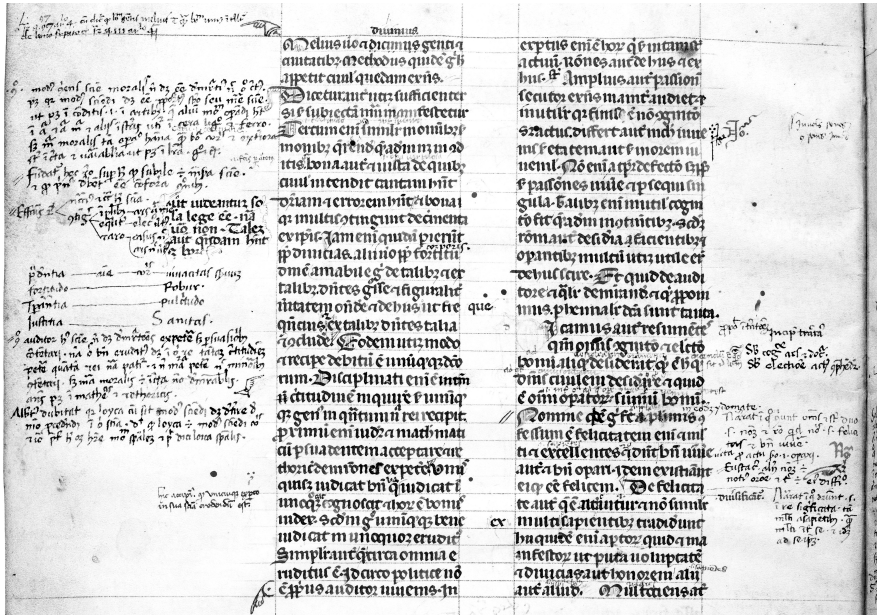
După **locul** intervențiilor, acestea pot fi:

- **in line**: minor interventions, e.g. characters modified or deleted (*exp. / del. / eras.*)
- **in rasura**: the initial text is erased, the intervention is written on the erasure
- **supra lineam**: above the written line, sometimes with correction signs; special case: interlinear glosses
- **in margine**: the addition or correction is written on the empty page side, sometimes with referral signs; special case: marginal glosses
- **in other parts of the manuscript**: sometimes the large additions are written or continue on other pages' sides (or even on opercula), with referral signs
- **on additional pages**: sometimes the large additions are written on additional supports and binded together with the text in the codex

☞ Often the annotations are also copied in subsequent copies of the ms.; sometimes they are integrated in the text

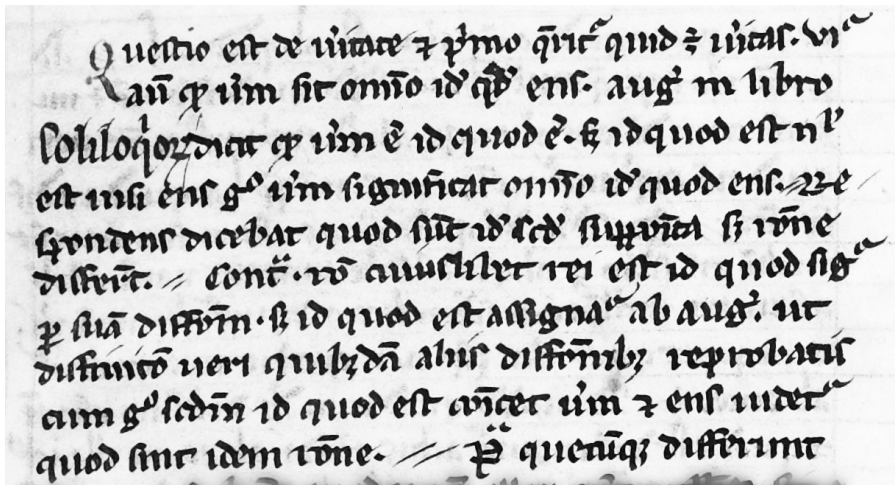
3

### 6.3. Example



Paris, Bibliothèque nationale de France, Latin 6306 (13<sup>th</sup> c), f. 1v. ARISTOTELES, *Liber ethicorum*

### ✍ Homework



Paris, Bibliothèque nationale de France, Latin 15810 (13<sup>th</sup> c), f. 2r. THOMAS DE AQUINO, *Quaestiones de ueritate*

## 7. Bastard gothic minuscule from 14<sup>th</sup> century

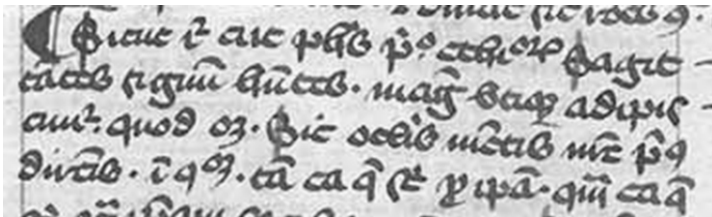
### 7.1. Evolution

In the 14<sup>th</sup>–15<sup>th</sup> centuries the shape of the letter continues to evolve.

- *textualis* takes a shape that is easier to write
- the new shape combines elements from *rotunda*, *quadrata* and *semiuncial*
- for this, it is called ***bastarda*** or ***hybrida***
- the most affected is the *glossularis* shape (cursive)

### 7.2. Characteristics

- the writing is more cursive
- the letters are connected
- the ascendants and descendants are more pronounced
- the letters are slightly inclined towards the right
- the ascendants of some letters are drawn as loops (b, d, h, l)
- the minims are drawn as connected hooks (i, m, n, u)
- preference for certain letter shapes (short s, pointed t)
- usage of new letters or combinations, sometimes to render sounds from vernaculars (w = u+u, ß = f+s/f+z)



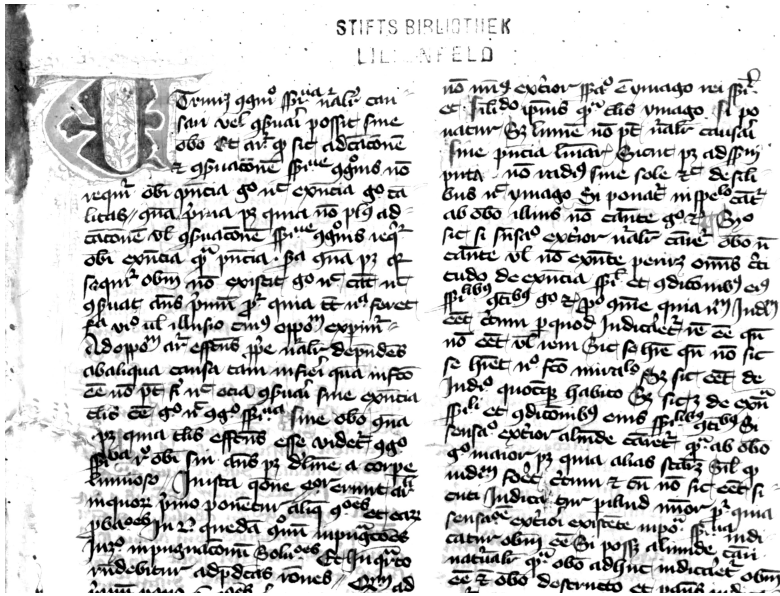
### 7.3. Digits

- roman digits (i, ii, iii, v, x, l, c, d, m)

12th c.	13th c.	14th c.	15th c.	16th c.
1	1	1	1	1
2	7	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3
4	8	4	8	4
5	3	4	7	5
6	6	6	6	6
7	1	1	1	7
8	8	8	8	8
9	9	9	9	9
0	0	0	0	0

- arabic digits in medieval form
- numbering with letters (a, b, c...)
- ciphers (less often)

### 7.4. Example



Lilienfeld, Zisterzienserstift, ms. 148, f. 1r (1389), IOHANNES DE MIRECURIA, *Super Sententiarum*

 Homework

Incipiunt theoremata fratris Egidii de esse et essentia. und<sup>romani</sup>

**Q**uod esse vel est purum p[ro]p[ri]e ex[ist]ens et infini[tu]m vel est participatum in alio receptum et limitatum.

Volentes scire de esse componere ne laborem in equivo distinxerit dixit esse. ad intelligenda quod istius p[ro]p[ri]e p[ro]p[ri]e in qua dicitur dixit esse et dicitur non dicitur quod in ipso esse sit hoc ita videtur esse in alio receptum esse participatum et limitatum in se. p[ro]p[ri]e quod est in alio receptum. et quod sit participatum et limitatum. Et eadem et reliqua ita videtur esse purum p[ro]p[ri]e ex[ist]ens et infini[tu]m in se p[ro]p[ri]e quod est in alio receptum. Nam omne esse quod non est receptum in alio sit esse p[ro]p[ri]e ex[ist]ens. et quod sit purum et infini[tu]m. Cum ergo omne actio et omne p[ro]p[ri]e deitate et quod non sit receptum in alio vel sit esse p[ro]p[ri]e ex[ist]ens esse quod ut p[ro]p[ri]e videtur actio et p[ro]p[ri]e vel est receptum in alio vel est esse p[ro]p[ri]e ex[ist]ens.

Kraków, Biblioteka Jagiellońska, Rkp. 1855, f. 1r (15<sup>th</sup> c.), AEGIDIUS ROMANUS, *Theoremata de esse et essentia*

## 8. Notation of manuscript variants

### 8.1. Parts of notation

lemma]	⟨variant⟩	⟨ed. abbr.⟩	Sigil
reference	reading*	explication*	manuscript

### 8.2. Common editorial abbreviations

		<del>unus</del> <del>iii</del> <del>tres</del> <del>quattuor</del> ⇒ duos] vi M
<i>add.</i>	addidit	<del>unus</del> <del>iii</del> <del>duos</del> <del>tres</del> ⇒ unus] vi <i>add.</i> M
<i>om.</i>	omisit	<del>unus</del> <del>tres</del> <del>quattuor</del> ⇒ duos] <i>om.</i> M
<i>tr.</i>	transposuit	<del>duos</del> <del>unus</del> ⇒ unus duos] <i>tr.</i> M ( <i>inv.</i> )
<i>del.</i>	delevit	<del>littera</del> / <del>c</del> ⇒ littera <i>del.</i> M, c <i>del.</i> M
<i>exp.</i>	expunxit	<del>littera</del> ⇒ littera <i>exp.</i> M
<i>eras.</i>	erisit	<del>littera</del> (erased) ⇒ littera <i>eras.</i> M
<i>in ras.</i>	in rasura	<del>verbum</del> ⇒ verbum] <i>in ras.</i> M
<i>corr.</i>	correxit	<del>decimus</del> ⇒ decimus] <i>corr. ex</i> decimus M
<i>a.c. (ante corr.)</i>	ante correctionem	<del>unus</del> <sup>duos</sup> ⇒ duos] unus <i>a.c.</i> M
<i>p.c. (post corr.)</i>	post correctionem	<del>unus</del> <sup>duos</sup> ⇒ unus] duos <i>p.c.</i> M
<i>a.m.</i>	alia manu	<del>unus</del> <del>duos</del> <del>tres</del> ⇒ duos] <i>a.m.</i> M or <i>M<sup>a.m.</sup></i>
<i>scr.</i>	scripsit	= he wrote...
<i>secl.</i>	seclisit	= interpolated, but certain text
<i>praem.</i>	praemisit	= he put before, he put somewhere else
<i>in marg. (mg.)</i>	in margine	<del>tertius</del> <sup>in marg.</sup>
<i>sup. lin. (s.l.)</i>	supra lineam	<del>unus</del> <sup>duos</sup> <del>tres</del> ⇒ duos] <i>sup. l.</i> M
<i>sub lin. (sub l.)</i>	sub linea	<del>unus</del> <sub>duos</sub> <del>tres</del> ⇒ duos] <i>sub l.</i> M
<i>coni.</i>	conieci (conieci)	= our correction: <del>a eo</del> → ab eo
<i>em. (emend.)</i>	emendavi (emendavi)	= our change: <del>ubi</del> → verbi
<i>dub.</i>	dubitanter, lectio dubia	= we are not sure
<i>sc. (scil.)</i>	scilicet	= certainly, without doubt
<i>ut uid.</i>	ut videtur	= apparently, so it seems
<i>inc.</i>	incipit	= beginning
<i>des.</i>	desinit	= ending, finish
<i>cod. (codd.)</i>	codex (codices)	<i>cod.</i> A; <i>codd.</i> B, C, D
<i>ed. (edd.)</i>	editio(nes)/ editor(es)	<i>ed.</i> Köln; <i>edd.</i> Köln, Paris
<i>cett.</i>	ceteri	= the other manuscripts: ... A, ... <i>cett.</i>
<i>rell.</i>	reliqui	= the rest of the manuscripts: ... A, ... B, ... <i>rell.</i>
<i>al.</i>	alius	= other (E.G. other manuscript)
<i>p. (pp.), f. (ff.)</i>	pagina(-is), folio(-is)	p. 23; pp. 55–58; f. 29rb; ff. 98ra–99vb

The editorial abbreviations are used to briefly describe a variation and can be combined together with other Latin words.

EX: *scr. sed exp.* ; *add. in marg. sed del.* ; *add. s. l. sed del. et corr. in marg.*

### 8.3. Example

P = Praha, Národní knihovna České republiky, V.A.20, ff. 87r–209v (Arist. *Metaph.* I, 1)

Omnes homines natura scire desiderant. Signum autem est sensuum  
 aut est sensum diligitur. et maxime aliorum  
 qui est potest non enim solum ut agamus sed et  
 nichil agere debentes ipsum solum ut dicam aliis eligimus. Causa autem  
 est quia hic maxime sensuum cognoscere nos facit et multas differentias  
 demonstrat. Animalia quidem igitur natura sensum habentia fiunt, ex sensu  
 autem quibusdam quidem ipsorum memoria non infit, quibusdam vero fit.

[[ Omnes homines natura scire desiderant. Signum autem est sensuum  
 aliorum qui est per oculos. Non enim solum ut agamus sed et nichil agere  
 debentes ipsum videre pre omnibus ut dicam aliis eligimus. Causa autem  
 est quia hic maxime sensuum cognoscere nos facit et multas differentias  
 demonstrat. Animalia quidem igitur natura sensum habentia fiunt, ex sensu  
 autem quibusdam quidem ipsorum memoria non infit, quibusdam vero fit.

1 omnes] prima conclusio *add. in marg. P* || natura] id est naturaliter *add. s. l. P* ||  
 desiderant] id est appetunt, unde appetitus in proposito est quedam tendencia ad rem non  
 habitam, possibilem tamen haberi *add. s. l. et in marg. P* || 2 diliguntur] scilicet ipsi sensus  
*add. s. l. P* || 3 sed] set *P* || 4 videre] id est sensum visus *add. s. l. P* || 5 hic] scilicet  
 visus *add. s. l. P* || et] s. l. *P* || differentias] rerum *add. in marg. P* || 6 natura] s. l. p. c.;  
 non a. c. *P* || sensu] sensibus; *corr. s. l. sed eras. P* || 7 infit] fit; iuste *add. P* || vero]  
 non *add. sed del. P*

### Homework

Collate the variants from the following manuscript:

Basel, Universitätsbibliothek, F II 18, f. 2r

omnes homines natura scire desiderant. Signum autem est sensuum  
 autem est sensum diligitur. et maxime aliorum qui est per oculos. Non enim  
 solum ut agamus sed et nichil agere debentes ipsum solum ut dicam aliis  
 eligimus. Causa autem est quia hic maxime sensuum cognoscere nos facit  
 et multas differentias demonstrat. Animalia quidem igitur natura sensum  
 habentia fiunt, ex sensu autem quibusdam quidem ipsorum memoria non  
 infit, quibusdam vero fit.

ARISTOTELES, *Metaphysica*, I, 1 (980a21–b21)

Omnes homines natura scire desiderant. Signum autem est sensuum dilectio; preter enim et utilitatem propter se ipsos diliguntur, et maxime aliorum qui est per oculos. Non enim solum ut agamus sed et nichil agere debentes ipsum videre pre omnibus ut dicam aliis eligimus. Causa autem est quia hic maxime sensuum cognoscere nos facit et multas differentias demonstrat. Animalia quidem igitur natura sensum habentia fiunt, ex sensu autem quibusdam quidem ipsorum memoria non infit, quibusdam vero fit.



# 9. Collation from multiple manuscript copies

## 9.1. The reading

**Reading** = particular variant of a text attested by one or more witnesses

- Depending on the type of approach of the critical edition, it may be considered a reading:
  - any textual difference opposed to the base text
  - all textual variations of the witnesses

**Collation** = the recording of all the significant textual differences from more manuscripts which contain the same text

## 9.2. Differences between manuscripts

Each manuscript represents a distinct instance of the text.

- Between manuscripts, accidental or intended differences occur:
  - accidental differences
    - different orthographies and abbreviations
    - copying mistakes
  - intended differences
    - substantial additions or omissions
    - different editorial variants
- Not all the differences are considered significant:
  - insignificant differences
    - the writing style, page dimensions and layout
    - minor differences between written words (e.g. different abbreviations)
  - significant differences
    - the different, added or omitted words
    - major structural differences

### 9.2.1. Different orthographies

- Because Medieval Latin is not a standardized language and it suffers influences both from Classical Latin and from the vernacular languages, the orthography may vary from one text to another, or even inside the same text.
- Usually, the orthographic differences are considered insignificant.
- Strategies of treating the orthographic differences in the critical edition:
  - keeping the original orthographyadvantages: arbitrary editorial decisions are avoided  
disadvantages: the text is difficult to read
  - classicization (correction after the Classical Latin orthography)

advantages: the classical rules are stable and comprehensive

disadvantages: the text is anachronically altered

- applying the rules of Medieval Latin

advantages: the text is uniformized close to the original form

disadvantages: Medieval Latin is not well standardized

### 9.2.2. Additions and omissions

The additions and omissions can have different lengths, from a single word to big parts of the text (paragraphs, pages, chapters, books)

#### ■ Additions

- words or text fragments added subsequently after the text was composed (abbreviation in critical app.: *add.*)

substantial complementation of the text by another person or even by the author (special case: marginal glosses)

accidental addition by mistake of some words or fragments

#### ■ Omissions

- words or text fragments removed subsequently after the text was composed (abbreviation in critical app.: *om.*)

substantial removal of text parts by another person or even by the author

accidental omission by mistake of some words or fragments (special case: *homoeoteleuton*)

### 9.2.3. Copyist mistakes

- While they copy, the copyists make mistakes.
- The mistakes accumulate serially, when a manuscript with mistakes is used as model for a new copy.
- Sometimes the copyists or the readers notice the mistakes and try to correct them.
- The mistakes are very important for the critical edition, because their presence in more manuscripts proves that they had a common model.
  - it is important that all common mistakes are recorded in the critical apparatus, because they expose the tradition and argue for the *stemma codicum*
- Typically, when they don't understand a word, the copyists tend to replace it with a more common one.
- Sometimes, when a word is mistaken or has no sense in the text, the copyists or the readers try to restore the coherence of the text.
  - some corrections are arbitrary and different from the original text
  - some corrections are based on an alternative source (contamination)

### 9.2.4. Editorial variants

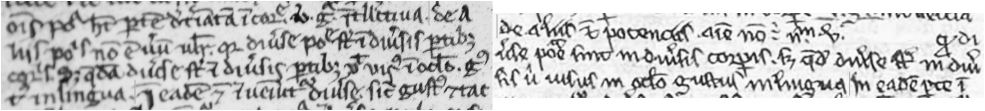
- Some texts survive in more than one variant of composition.

- The author can subsequently bring minor changes or can even rewrite parts of the text.
- Sometimes the text is not written directly by the author, but by another person.
  - reportatio* the text of a discourse is recorded by another person (e.g. a university course transcribed by a student)
  - abbreviatio* a text is shortened, abbreviated by another person, retaining only the elements considered significant.
- Strategies for the critical edition:
  - when the identical parts are much larger than those where the text differs: a single text is edited and the differences are rendered in the critical apparatus
  - when the differences are manifold, but the text structure and length remain approximately the same: the two versions can be rendered in parallel (e.g. on 2 synchronized columns)
  - when the differences are very big and the versions cannot be synchronized: the two variants are separately edited, as two different texts, eventually connected through references

### 9.3. Collation procedures

- Serial
  - the manuscripts are transcribed one after another; after the accomplishment of the complete transcriptions, these are analyzed and unified in the critical edition
- Parallel
  - the text is progressively collated from all the manuscripts; the manuscripts are simultaneously compared, accomplishing a preliminary edition
- Mixed
  - an alternation between the serial and parallel procedure
    - with a main manuscript: a reference manuscript is chosen, it is serially transcribed, then the others are collated in parallel based on the transcription
    - with sample: a relevant text part is transcribed serially from all the manuscripts, it is analyzed, a decision on the best manuscript is made, then that manuscript is integrally transcribed, and the others are collated in parallel

### 9.4. Example



A = Alba Iulia, Biblioteca Bathyanicum, Ms. I.143, f. 30rb	P = Praha, Národní knihovna České republiky, IV.D.13, f. 23rb
de aliis potentiis non est verum universaliter, quia diverse potentie sunt in diversis partibus corporis. Sed quedam diverse sunt in diversis partibus, ut visus in oculo, gustus in lingua;	de aliis etiam potentiis anime non est nullum v. [ lac. ], quod diverse potentie sunt in diversis corporis. Sed quedam diverse sunt in diversis , ubi visus in oculo, gustus in lingua;

- 1 de aliis etiam potentiis anime non est verum universaliter, quia diversae potentiae sunt in diversis partibus corporis. Sed quedam
- 5 diversae sunt in diversis partibus, ut visus in oculo, gustus in lingua;

1 etiam] om. A || animae] om. A || 2 verum universaliter] nullum v. P; lac. add. P || quia] quod P || 4 partibus] om. P || 5 partibus] om. P || 6 ut] ubi P

### ✍ Homework

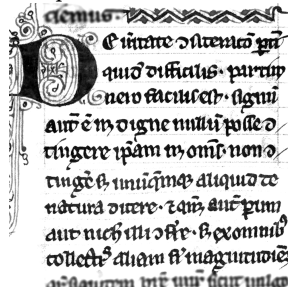
Collate the text from the following manuscripts:

ARISTOTELES, *Metaphysica*, II, 1 (993a30–b3)

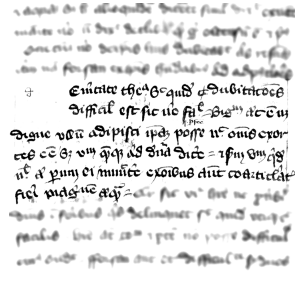
De veritate theoria sic quidem difficilis est, sic vero facilis. Signum autem est neque digne nullum adipisci ipsam posse nec omnes exsortes esse, sed unumquemque aliquid de natura dicere, et secundum unum quidem nichil aut parum ei immittere, ex omnibus autem coarticulatis fieri magnitudinem aliquam.



Vatican, Bibliotheca Apostolica Vaticana, Borgh. 8, f. 9rb (14<sup>th</sup> c.)



Genève, Bibliothèque de Genève, Ms. lat. 76, f. 78ra–b (end of 13<sup>th</sup> c.)



Praha, Národní knihovna České republiky, V.A.20, f. 104v (1380-1445)

# 10. Critical apparatus

## 10.1. Critical apparatus components

- general elements
  - the critical remarks which concern the whole edited text are discussed in the introduction
- textual elements
  - the critical observations which concern precise parts of text are presented in the critical apparatus of the text (e.g. footnotes)
    - the philological or palaeographical apparatus
    - the textual sources apparatus
    - other types of apparatus

1

## 10.2. General critical observations

- The editor must specify the information about the text, sources and context in the introduction:
  - datation
  - attribution (author)
  - manuscripts (datation, attribution, physical description, history, *stemma codicum*)
  - text sources and tradition
  - editorial principles
- It is preferable that any repetitive observation in text to be exposed in the introduction, not in the textual apparatus (e.g. an orthography particularity, or a frequent mistakes)
- All the editorial decisions must be specified in the introduction (the orthography of the edition, notation conventions, the system of the textual critical apparatus, etc.)

2

## 10.3. Critical apparatus attached to the text

- Must clearly indicate to which part of the text it refers
  - the lines are usually numbered
  - the footnotes indicate the lemma
  - the column breaks are marked in the text and in margin
- Must clearly and briefly expose the observation
  - the manuscripts are abbreviated by sigils
  - the editor's observations contain conventional abbreviations
  - the position in the apparatus implicitly indicates the type of observation

3

- The editor's critical decisions must be clearly highlighted
  - the corrected words are marked in footnotes: *coni.*, *emend.*
  - the words added by the editor are marked with specific signs: <...>

4

### 10.3.1. Philological/palaeographical apparatus

- Contains the description of the textual variations and of the particularities of each witness of the text
- Often, when there are many source manuscripts, certain types of observations are discarded (e.g. mistakes corrected in the ms., redundant marginals) and the groups of manuscripts which frequently have the same reading are represented by a single sigil (in extreme cases, only group readings are rendered)
- The details of the palaeographical apparatus have been discussed in *Course 9*.

5

### 10.3.2. Sources apparatus

- The medieval texts contain quotes, references and implicit assumptions from previous texts
- The critical editions indicate in the apparatus the textual sources using modern editions (if available) and current standards for citation
  - Often, the references are abbreviated in the apparatus and a bibliography with full details of the source texts is added to the edition
- Sometimes the sources apparatus is divided in multiple sets of notes: explicit sources, implicit sources, biblical sources etc.
  - the explicit sources are those announced by the author in the text
- the implicit sources are identifiable takeovers from other texts, but without any indication (it is the role of the editor to find them)
- The indication of the referred words for citation is done through lemmas, like in the philological apparatus

☞ *dicit Philosophus ; Augustinus 1º De Trinitate capitulo 3º ; Libro 6, De pe., 'Si episcopus'*

☞ EX: omnes – desiderant] ARIST. *Metaph.* I, 1, 980a21 (A.L. 25.3.2, p. 11, l. 3)

6

### 10.3.3. Other types of apparatus

- The witness apparatus (*Traditio textus*)
  - When there are many witnesses which fragmentary transmit the text, the presence or the absence of the edited text in them may be indicated in a separate apparatus
- The comparative apparatus
  - When the text survives in several versions (e.g. several recensions), one of them is edited as main text, and the differences of the others are indicated in a distinct apparatus

- The explanatory apparatus
  - Sometimes the editors add commentaries, explanations and remarks to the text in a distinct set of footnotes or endnotes

## 10.4. Example

7

(CXLII)

Isti sunt dies quos obseruare debetis, quia uestri ad reddendam rationem de eis, quia sicut dicit auctoritas: sicut capillus de capite, ita momentum de tempore non peribit. Item, quia mali, ut caueamus ab eis. Item obseruanda sunt quia apti ad seminandum.

5 Item quia solutionis debitorum faciende et reformande pacis et impetrande gratie iudicis et assessorum, id est sanctorum et huiusmodi. Dies uero presentes dominice passionis obseruandi sunt, id est caendum est in eis a fermento, quia sunt dies azimorum. Fermentum tria habet: acedinem scilicet, uacuitatem et tumiditatem. Que tria tres partes mundi quem Iohannes describit significant: *omne quod est in mundo aut est concupiscentia carnis*, etc.

10 Aceditas que facit omnia desipere post se ad luxuriam pertinet, que facit castitatem et huiusmodi desipere, secundum illud: gustata carne desipit spiritus, sicut econtrario. Vacuitas uero ad auariciam pertinet, que numquam impleri potest quia *sanguissuge due sunt file* que semper clamant *affer, affer*. Et dic causas quare non implentur, iuxta (illud): *auarus non implebitur pecunia*, et huiusmodi. Item foraminosi sunt auari sicut fermentum et oriuntur in eis foramina, quia quando habent quod optabant, iterum

20 optant aliud. Tales sunt sicut morbus qui uocatur fistula foraminosi. Et aptari potest hoc clericis prebendis et usurariis et huiusmodi. Tumiditas autem ad superbiam et eius species pertinet.

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CXLII, 11 | Ioh. 2, 16 || 16 Prou. 30, 15 || 17 Eccle. 5, 9

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CXLII, 1 Isti – debetis] *Respons. in dom. in Pass.* (HESBERT IV, n° 7013) || 2/3 sicut – peribit] BERNARD., *Serm. de diu. t.* 8 (p. 79) || 14 gustata – spiritus] cfr BERNARD., *Epist.* 111, 3 (p. 285)

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**Trad. text. :** P<sub>o</sub>, f. 58va

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CXLII, 1 Dominica ante Ramos Palmarum. G. episcopus parisiensis *rubr.* || 12 desipere] decipere *a.c.* || 16 affer, affer] *scripsi*, aufer, aufer || 17 illud] *suppl. om.* || 20/21 foraminosi] *forminosi a.c.*

End of the course

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