

# Three Is The Charm

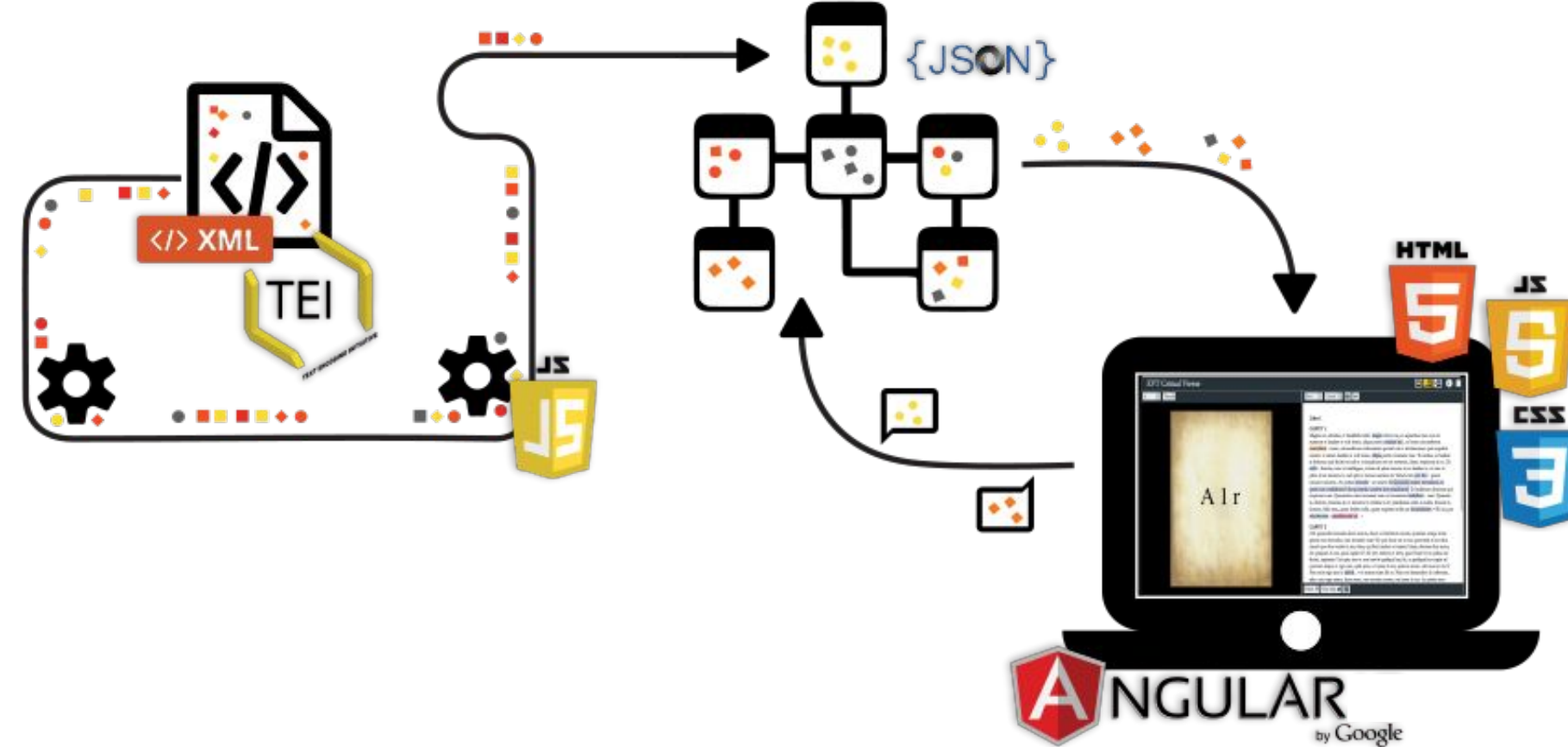
## A New Architecture, New Features and New Projects in EVT 3

### Introduction

Edition Visualization Technology (EVT) [1] is an open-source software to create digital scholarly editions on the basis of TEI XML-encoded documents. Born to serve the goals of the Digital Vercelli Book project [2], it has evolved into a general purpose tool used by several projects to publish digital editions [3]. As a matter of fact, many researchers have found in EVT the perfect tool for their specific needs: it is easy to configure and deploy, highly customizable, and includes several useful research tools out of the box. Additionally, EVT is based on the Web standards (HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript) thus ensuring that EVT-based editions remain accessible on the Internet for a very long time.

### How It Works

EVT automatically creates a DSE: after the TEI-XML documents and manuscript images (if available) are copied in the data folder, and a configuration file has been created, all the final user has to do is launch the index.html file in the base directory to start browsing the edition. At that point, a JavaScript parser retrieves the edition data and saves it in a temporary JSON structure, which persists as long as the Web application remains open and is organized in such a way that it can be easily and rapidly accessed when needed.



The data processing workflow in EVT 3

### Current Development Status

The current development version of the software is EVT 3. After the deprecation of AngularJS (EVT 2), we chose to migrate to its successor, Angular, in order to further refine the development workflow and increase the flexibility of the overall architecture. The basic philosophy has remained unchanged, though: we aim at producing an easy-to-use tool, highly customisable, and rich in functionality. The initial goal is to recover feature parity with the previous versions, while also introducing several new features.

### New EVT 3-based projects

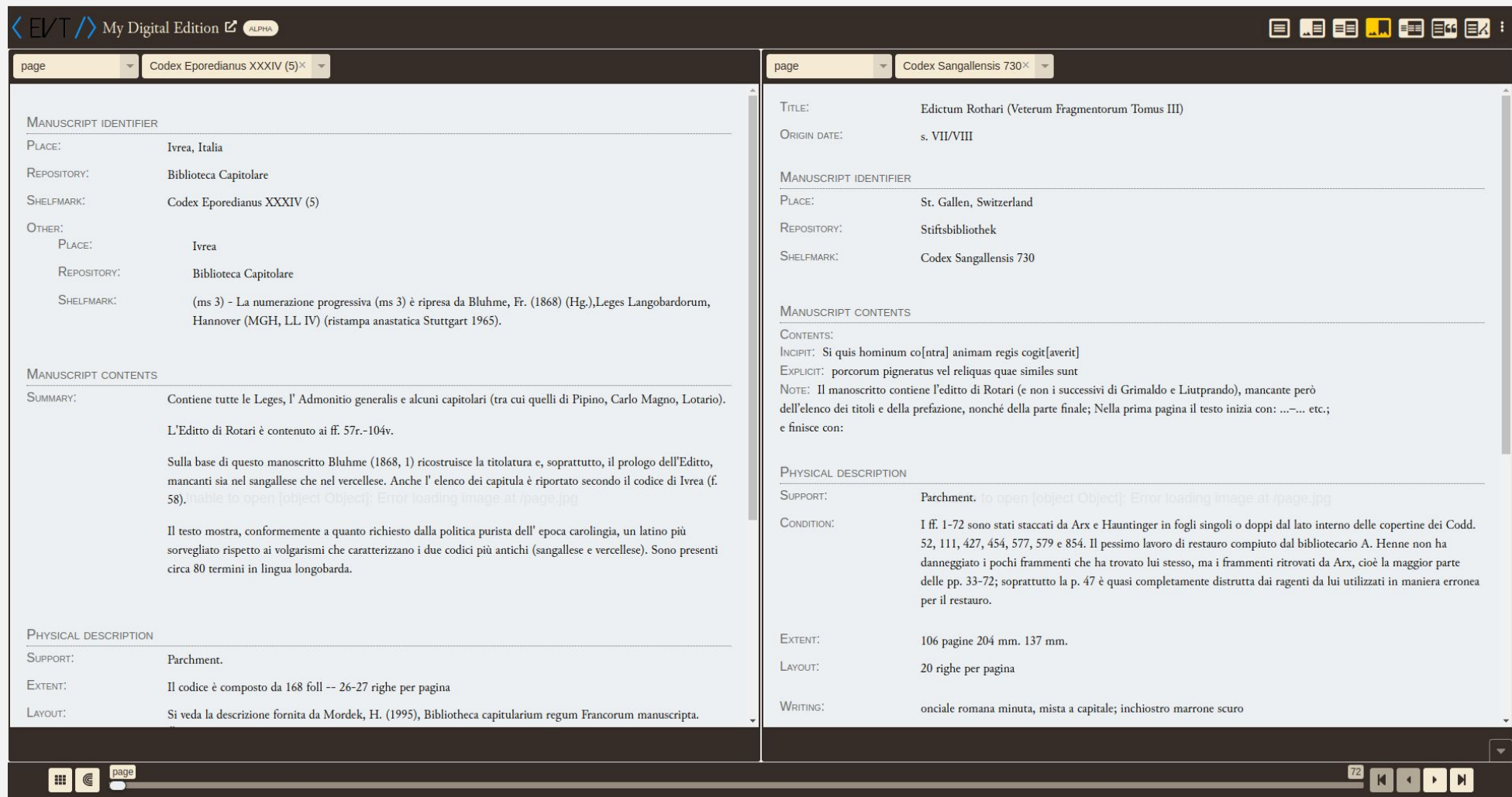
These are the new DSE projects which are going to be published using EVT 3, for which innovative features are being developed:

- Digital Alexanderlied**: a synoptic edition of the three versions of the *Alexanderlied* aiming at proposing a reusable and extensible paradigm for digital synoptic editions.
- Digital Anglo-Saxon Chronicle**: a synoptic edition of all the surviving manuscripts of the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*, enhancing computational methods for textual criticism, knowledge extraction and data modeling for primary sources.
- Leges Langobardorum**: a diplomatic transcription and digital facsimile of selected witnesses of the Langobardic laws which will lead to a new critical edition starting with the *Edictus Rothari*.
- Saba 2021**: an authorial philology edition of Saba's *Canzoniere* published in 1921 which will introduce a dedicated EVT view.

### Digital Facsimile: Handling Multiple Manuscripts, IIIF support



IIIF image coupled with local transcription

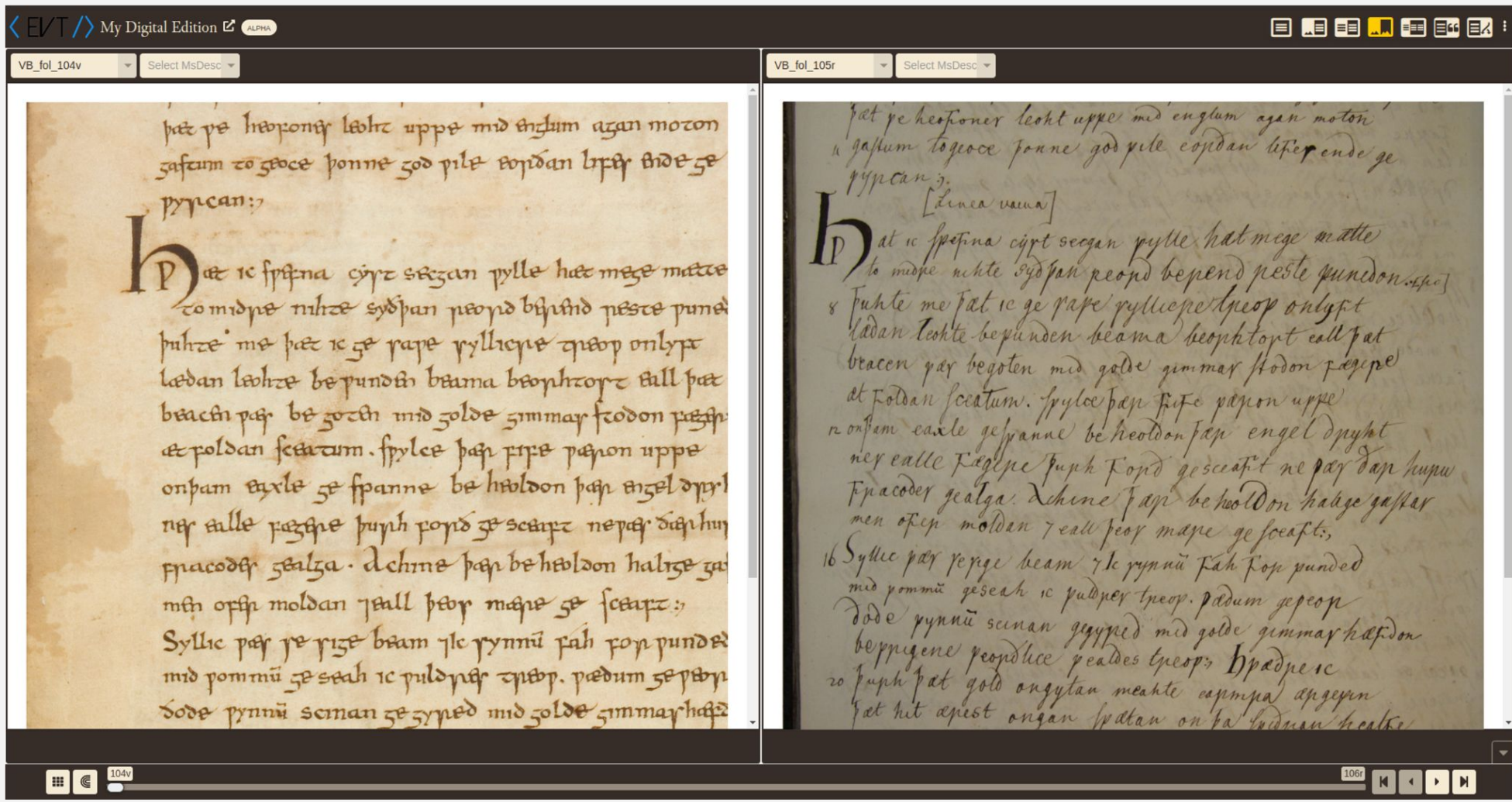


Support for multiple <msDesc> elements

The digital facsimile with diplomatic transcription will be significantly improved through the implementation of:

- full support for the IIIF framework, including an IIIF-based digital facsimile browsing view;
- image-image view to compare images of different witnesses, or different versions of the same image;
- multiple manuscript descriptions (TEI <msDesc>).

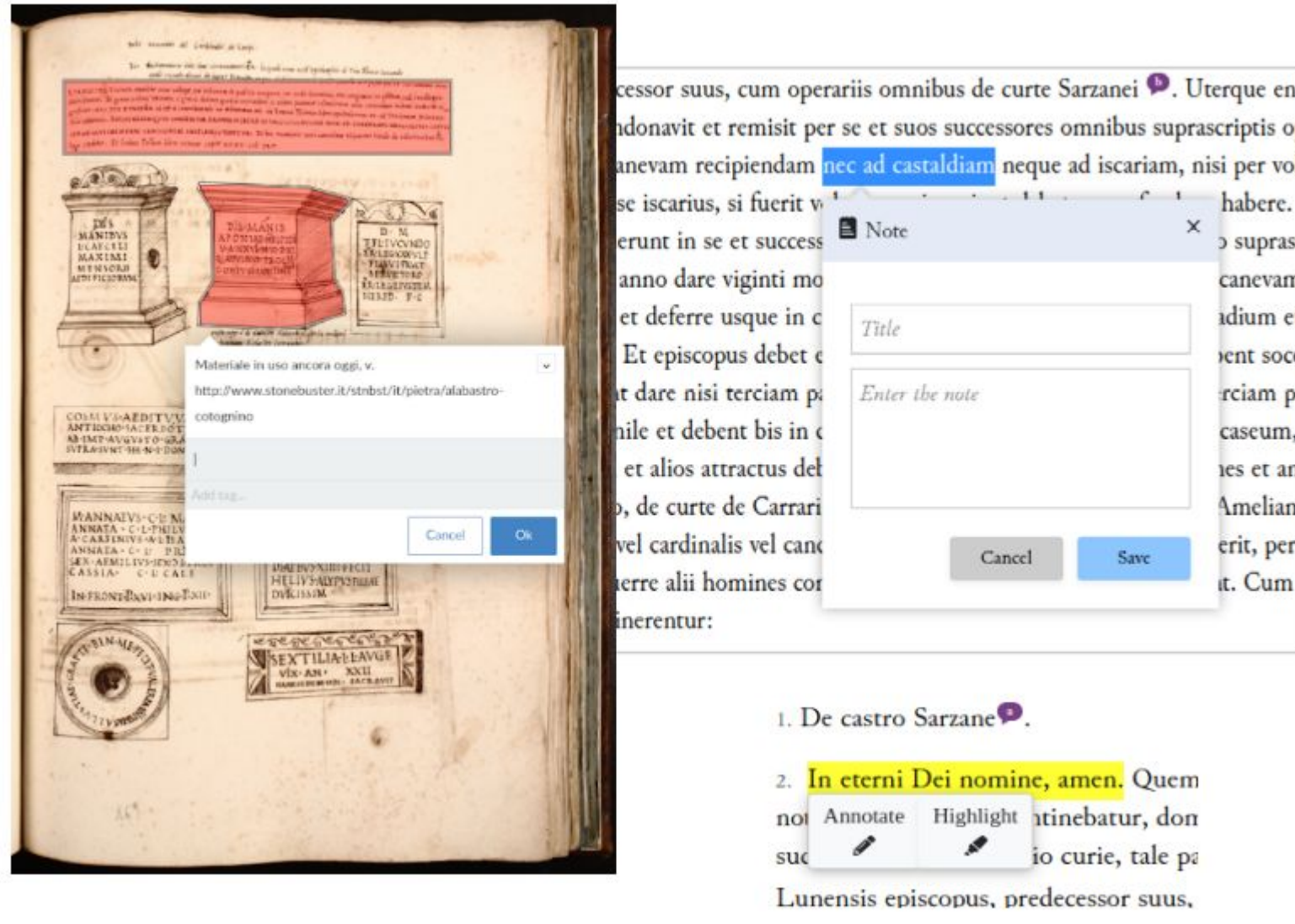
These features will prove useful both for existing projects (*Digital Vercelli Book*) and for new ones (*Digital Alexanderlied* and *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle digital edition*, both synoptic editions)



New image-image view: the Vercelli Book manuscript (f. 104v) compared to Maier's transcription of the text

### User Annotations on Text and Image

One of the key features developed in EVT 3 is the creation of an annotation system for text and images. Its main focus is to recreate the same actions performed when writing personal notes related to the displayed text, thus adding an additional layer of information to the edition itself. User annotations will be based on the W3C standard (the Web Annotation Data Model) and will employ a data structure based on the JSON-LD format.

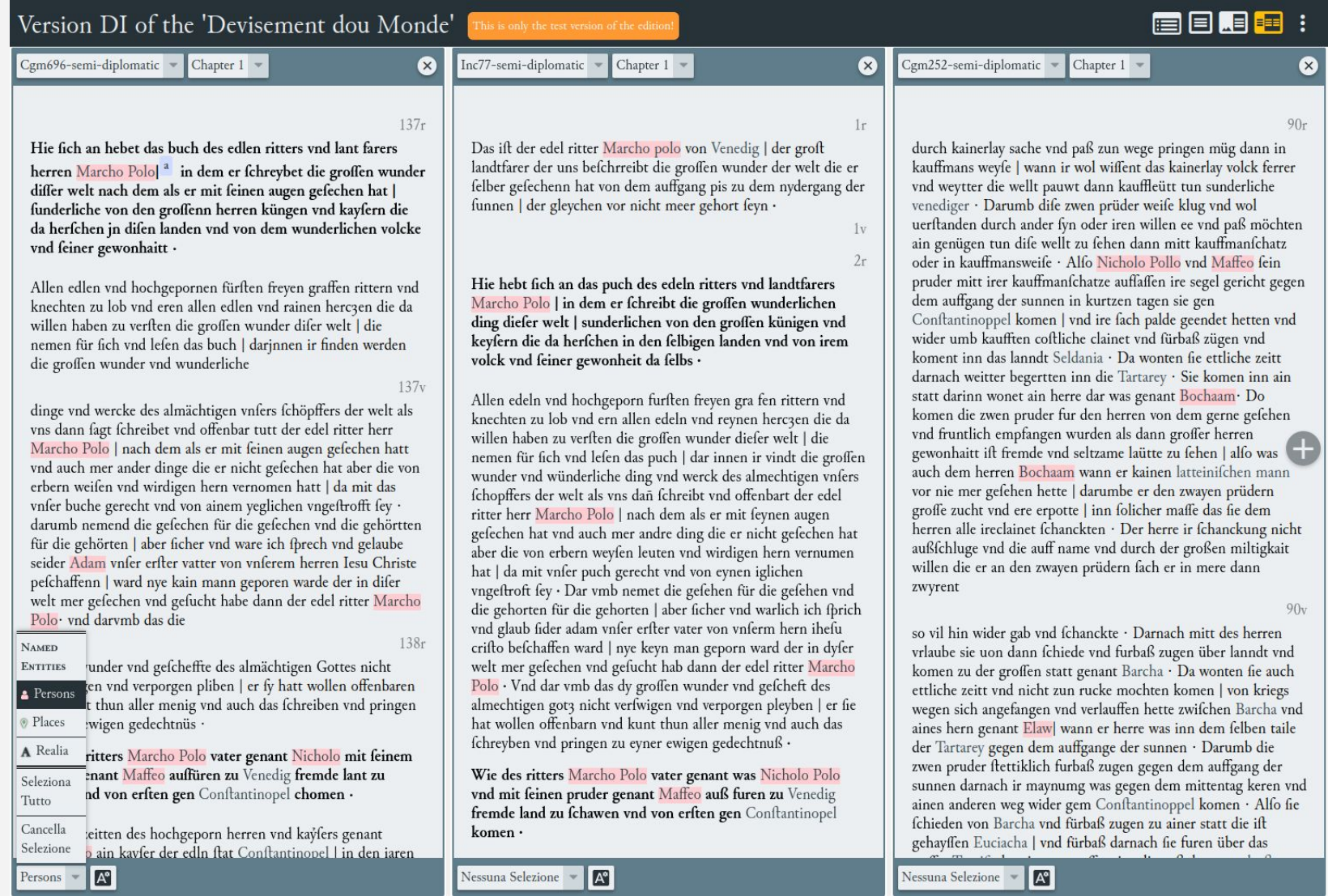


Selecting an image area or text for the purpose of annotation

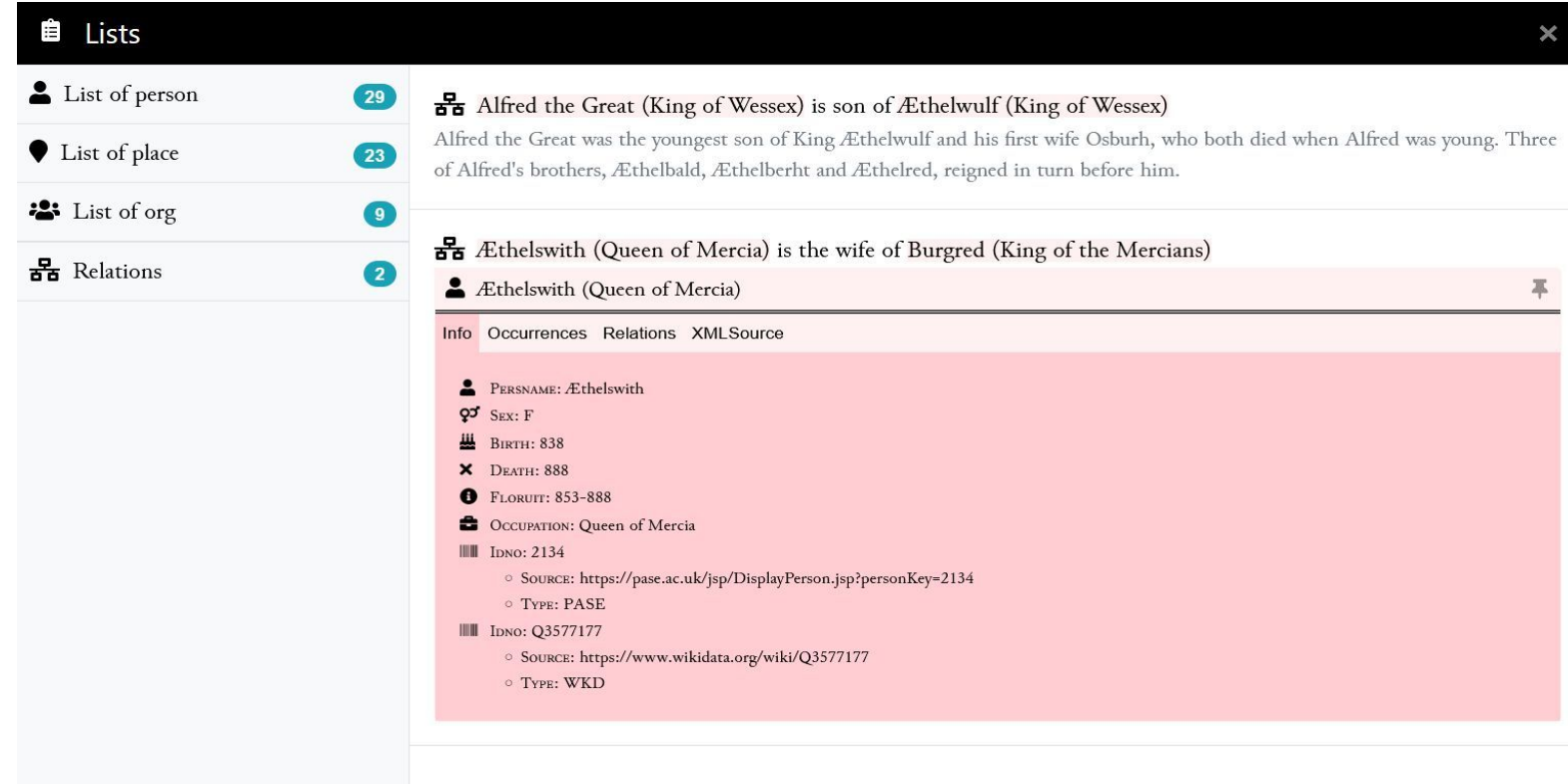
### Synoptic Editions: Showing Different Versions of a Text

Medieval handwritten traditions, such as the *Alexanderlied* and the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*, are challenging case studies for the creation of synoptic digital editions. These two projects will serve to test and develop new encoding criteria for connecting and aligning texts surviving in multiple recensions. In EVT 3, the combination of textual criticism and interface design will result in the implementation of a comprehensive support for the visualization of synoptic editions.

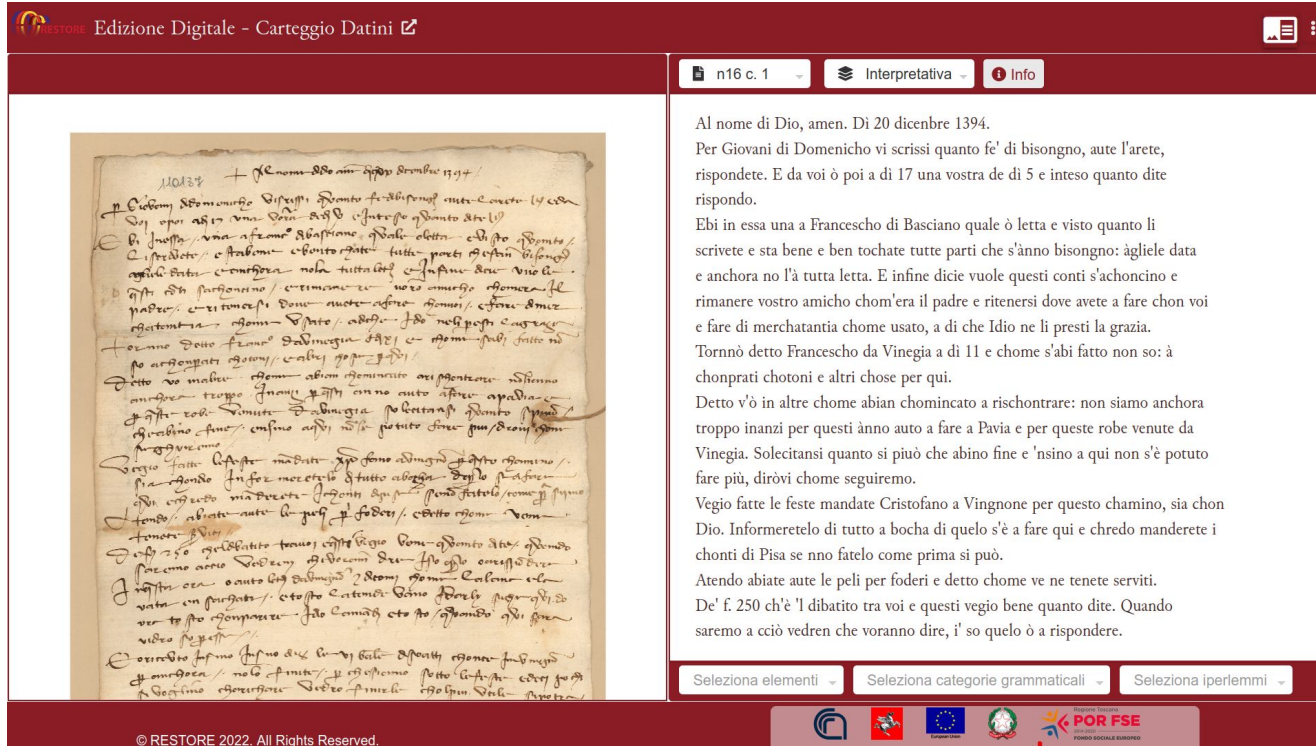
On the right: testing a synoptic edition of the DI version of the *Devisement dou Monde* (by E. Cugliana) with EVT 2



### TEI Data Processing and “EVT as a service”



New functionalities to retrieve data and perform complex cross-queries on encoded texts will be implemented in EVT 3 through the development of a dedicated JavaScript library. In the image above, the new ReRelations tab for named entities in the digital edition of the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*.



A single EVT 3 instance can be used to browse existing text collections by applying a common set of configuration options. In this screenshot you can see such an instance loading a letter from the *Archivio Datini* (Restore Project, OVI) with corresponding images, from a preformed URL.

### REFERENCES AND CONTACTS

[1] EVT Home Page: <https://evt-project.github.io/>

EVT Repository: <https://github.com/evt-project/evt-viewer-angular>

EVT Development Team: [evt.developers@gmail.com](mailto:evt.developers@gmail.com)

[2] Digital Vercelli Book: <http://vbd.humnet.unipi.it/beta2/>

[3] EVT-based editions: <https://evt-project.github.io/editions/>

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