

Font Bureau/Type Network-
Vaiaable Fonts background
material

An introduction to Roboto Extremo project plan finds Roboto Extremo described as a continuation of work done to begin the development of variable versions of Roboto, and research by Font Bureau on other fonts.

Brochures; typenetwork.com/brochure/opentype-font-variations/

On Decovar; www.typenetwork.com/brochure/decovar-a-decorative-variable-font-by-david-berlow#?

On Axes proposals;
variationsguide.typenetwork.com

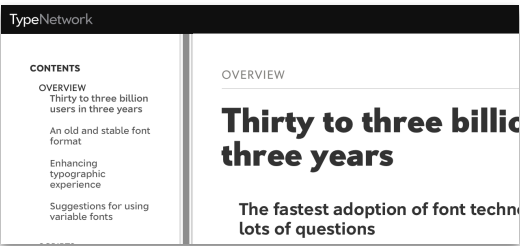
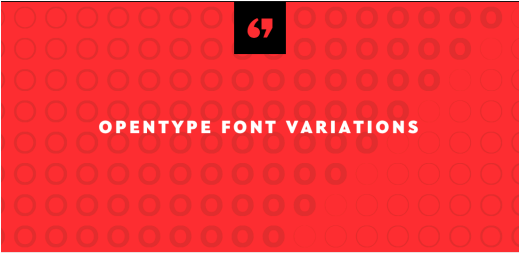
On Amstelvar and Decovar Alpha;
typenetwork.com/brochure/opentype-variable-fonts-moving-right-along/

On AmstelvarAlpha and RobotoDelta;
variablefonts.typenetwork.com

Repositories;
github.com/TypeNetwork/Opentype-1.8-Axis-Proposal
github.com/TypeNetwork/Amstelvar
github.com/TypeNetwork/Decovar
github.com/TypeNetwork/AmstelvarAlpha

Proofing tools;
typetools.typenetwork.com
videoproof.typenetwork.com

Variable font background sites



Amstelvar Ancestors

Background on Amstelvar
The design of this family is based on the 16th Century European faces as if redesigned by a 20th Century American Type Founder, and the revived this century with the goal of producing a typeface family to show a new kind of technology, not a new kind of design.

In mind-2016, the alliance of variable font developers released the first variable font spcification, the first major advancement in OS font technology on 20 years, and Font Bureau started the Amstelvar design from scratch, ending with the early 2017 publication of an Alpla.

github.com/TypeNetwork/AmstelvarAlpha

AmstelvarAlpha began the experimentation on a serif type with

github.com/TypeNetwork/Roboto-Delta/blob/master/fonts/RobotoDelta-VF.ttf

typetools.typenetwork.com/family/Roboto-Delta

Roboto Extremo became the current code name for a variable based on Roboto Regular, with an optical size axes, parametric axes, and weight and width axes that go as far as the Amstelvar design space, as applicable to a san serif design.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
0123456789 \$%&?!/|\'"~`*^
<([{@#:;.,)}]>

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
0123456789 \$%&?!/|\'"~`^*
<([{@#:;.,)}]>

Font Bureau/Type Network-
Varaible Fonts Project Sheet

Command Sheet –

Bringing together the deliverables (by number in column A), from the service agreement, to a schedule, and acting as the central tracking sheet for links to deliverables in the service agreement in (the circled column G).

docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1nECpQuJanbpzR8wT4h0oypOHdoiq0Bl6xFt5OlPDY/edit#gid=1246227689

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
	Deliverable Type	Project	Description	Start Date	End Date	Link to deliverable
6.1.1	Project Plan	Roboto	Develop a detailed project plan.	2019-10-15	2019-11-01	tremo/issues/69
6.1.2	Concept	Roboto	Design a concept that extends the Latin design	2019-11-02	2019-11-14	
6.1.3	Presentation	Roboto	Presentation of the project	2019-11-15	2019-11-15	
6.2.1	Prototype	Roboto	Develop a prototype with all letters (28 upper, 28 lower) and numerals (10). Draw the design and build both variable and static binaries with fontmake	2019-11-16	2019-12-05	
6.1.3	Presentation	Roboto	Presentation of the project	2019-12-06	2019-12-07	
6.2.2	Basic	Roboto	Develop fonts with support for the Google Latin Core glyph set. Draw the design and build both variable and static binaries with fontmake. Export and mastering of source and binary files, with OpenType layout features (including kerning, anchor placement, and conjuncts), and quality assurance (QA) testing, for all Languages.	2019-12-08	2020-02-15	
6.1.3	Presentation	Roboto	Presentation of the project	2020-02-16	2020-02-18	
6.3.1	Full	Roboto	Develop fonts with support for the Google Latin Expert glyph set. Draw the design and build both variable and static binaries with fontmake. Export and mastering of source and binary files, with OpenType layout features (including kerning, anchor placement, and conjuncts), and quality assurance (QA) testing, for all Languages.	2020-02-19	2020-03-18	
6.1.3	Presentation	Roboto	Presentation of the project		2020-03-25	
6.4.1	Final	Roboto	Finalize the font family, including with hinting to improve text-rendering on screens	2020-03-26	2020-04-20	
6.5.0	Presentation	Roboto	Presentation of the final project	2020-04-21	2020-05-01	
6.1.1	Project Plan	Amstelvar	Develop a detailed project plan	2019-10-01	2019-10-28	
6.1.2	Concept	Amstelvar	Design a concept that extends the Latin design	Oct 29 2019	Nov 4 2019	
6.1.3	Presentation	Amstelvar	Presentation of the project	2019-11-05	2019-11-11	

Font Bureau/Type Network- Variable Fonts Glyph Lists

The advancing glyph repertoire is one key element in plan (from ascii, to full Latin, to basic and then full Greek and Cyrillic).

The design concepts that are part of the Latin expansion include:

- the development of case-specific diacritics
- complete proportional and tabular figures and monetary symbols
- local consultation on correct diacritic design and positioning

This is being done on the Latin with one eye on the upcoming Greek and Cyrillic expansion to be sure to include any consideration of those scripts in the Latin expansion decisions.

Master List: docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1HQEKIFPT64_IYGfwYLRurSpxi0uM8JBQnVNsSp359dg/edit?ts=5c13ffd1#gid=192368910

Latin

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZa
bcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz0123456789<
([{@#\$%&?!/\"~*^':;,.)}]>

Latin Extended

[illegible]

Greek and extended Greek

ΑΒΓΔΕΖΗΘΙΚΛΜΝΞΟΠΡΣ
ΤΥΦΧΨΩαβγδεζηθικλνξο
πρςστυφχψωμ

ΗΟΑΒΓΔΕΖΗΘΙΪΙΚΛ
 ΜΝΞΟΌΠΡΣΤΥΨΦΧΨΩΩ
 οαάβγδεζήθιϊϊκλνξοό
 πρςστυϋϋϋφχψωώ

Cyrillic and extended Cyrillic

АБВГГДЪЕЕЖЗСИІЈКЛЉМН
ЊОПРСТЋУФХЦЧЏШЩЪЫЬ
ЭЮЯ

[illegible]

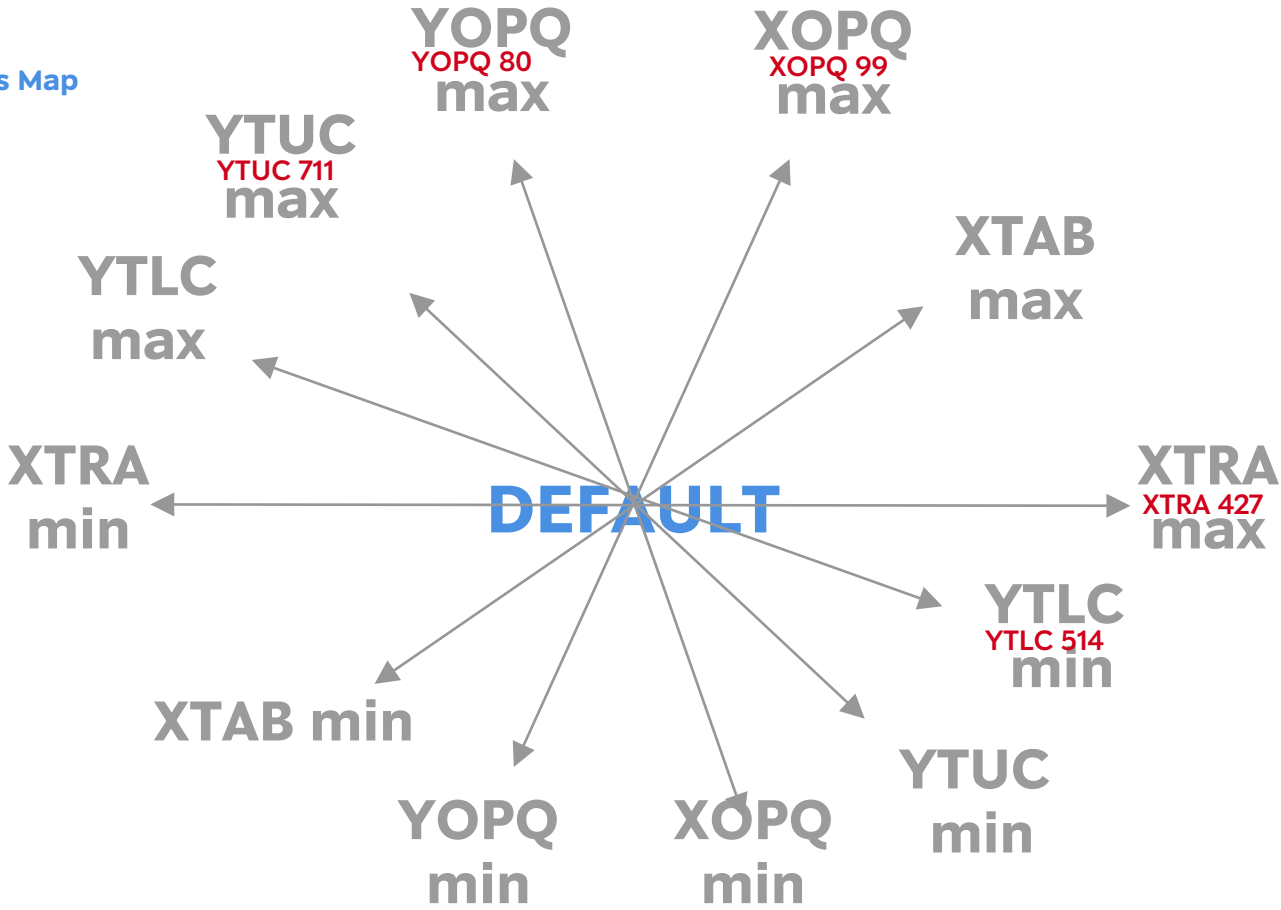
(Roboto Glyphs are being shown as place-holders for the actual glyphs to be made)

AXES IN Beta VF
Amstelvar Axes map

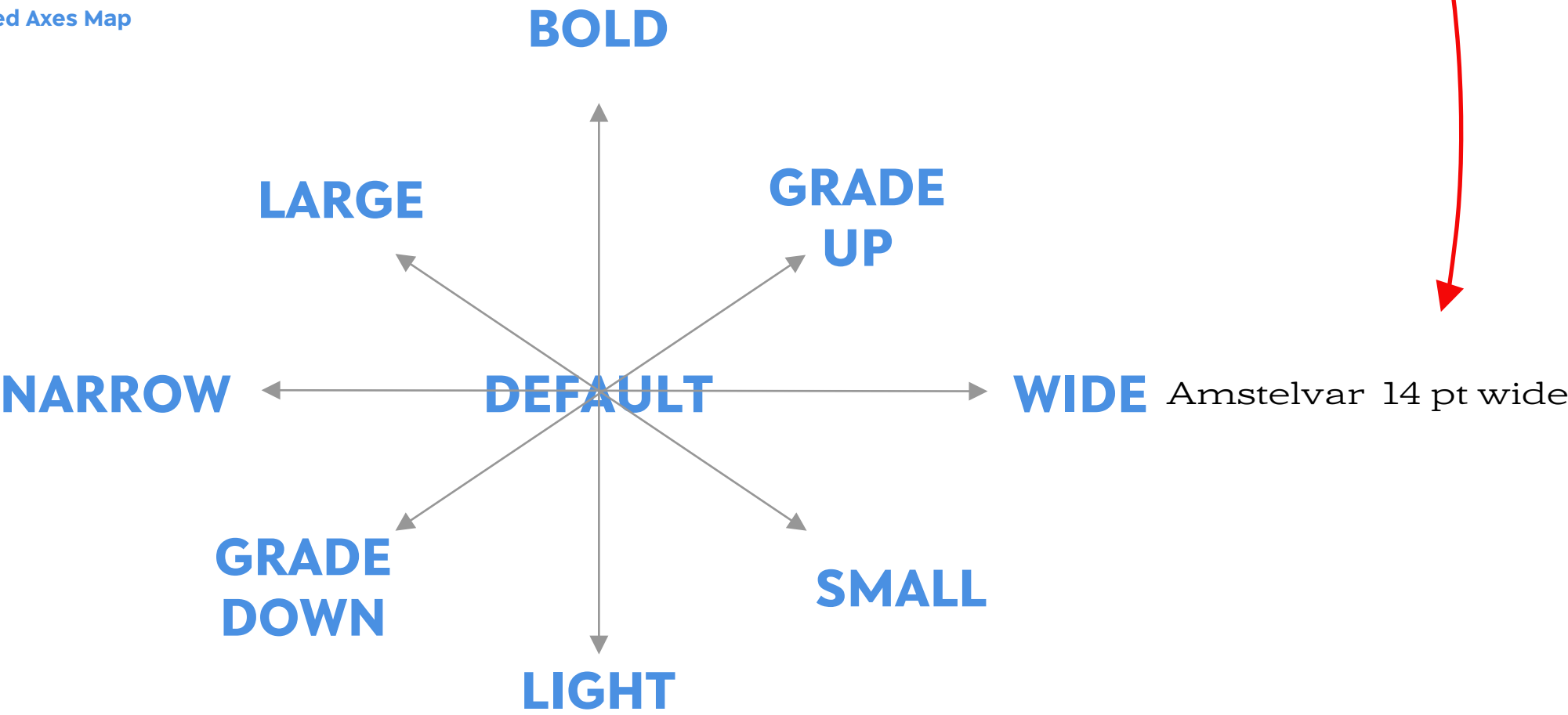
The evolving twin design spaces of the Roman and Italic is the other key element in progress, from a single master to parametric axes that are blended, (red values in top diagram), to form the extremes of the registered axes, (like the widest, as shown in the example formed in the bottom diagram).

Parametric axes will also be used to adjust the registered axes and their combinations as required. After these design uses, if the parametric axes are desired for use, a user or program can adjust them for purposes ranging from justification (XTRA), to linespacing adjustments (YTDE), and multiple parametric axes sued for adjusting Latin to other scripts.

Amstelvar Parametric Axes Map



Amstelvar Exposed Axes Map



AXES IN Beta VF
Amstelvar Axes map

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144 point

Ag Ag Ag

Ag Ag Ag

Ag Ag Ag

AVAR opsz
intermediates

84 point = 127/130th
36 point = 97/130th
24 point = 72/ 130th

130 point range

14 point

Ag Ag Ag

Ag Ag Ag

Ag Ag Ag

6 point range

8 point

Ag Ag Ag

Ag Ag Ag

Ag Ag Ag

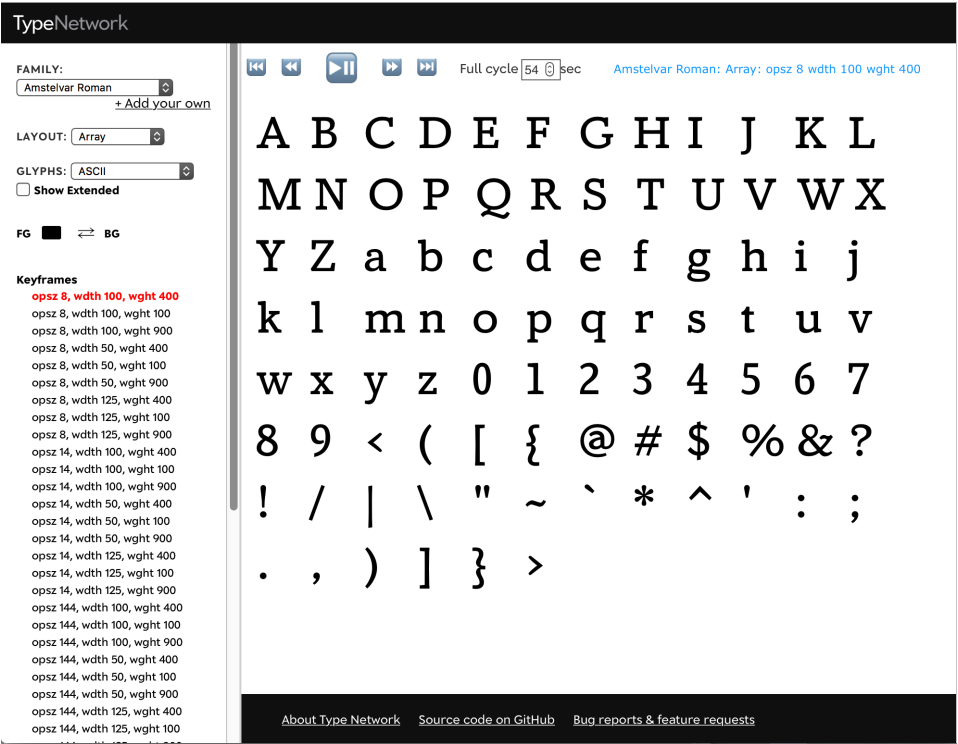
Testing tools

During initial variable developments no applications were available to do font testing for QA that then relied on the font tools for all quality. With Safari, Chrome and other browsers quickly adopting variables, FB developed Typetools (@typenetwork.com), to be able to compose text, navigate the design space and have interactive control over lines and blocks of text.

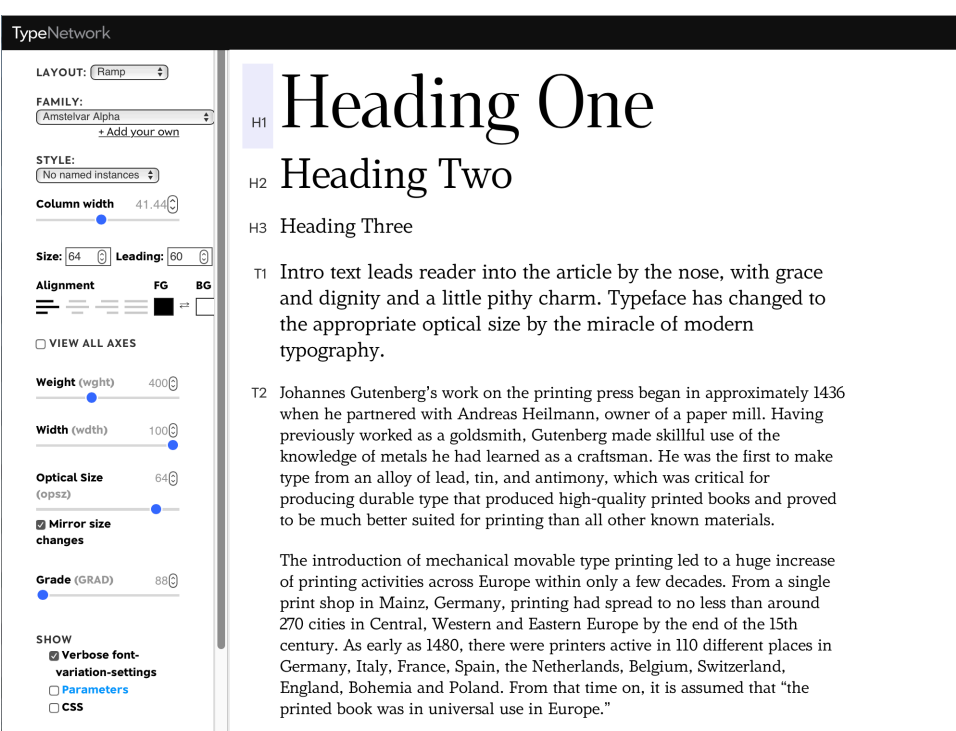
While still useful, the demand typetools placed on text coming from input, and the user experience and patience needed to manually navigate slides or supply numerical input to and between instances of interest within the variable design space, called for a new set of tools. So Videoproof was developed to include the use of more predefined text, the ability to display common subset of glyphs, and the use of video to allow the quick but thorough survey of predefined swaths of variable design space.

In software for Non-interactive use, we’ve developed a python script that uses a design space file and the index numbers of glyph contour points to generate a sheet containing the parametric values of a design space automatically. And we are working to scale glyph positioning data, (kerning), via python script.

ASCII Glyphs of Amstelvar shown in Videoproof application



Amstelvar style ramp shown in Typetools application



H1 Heading One

H2 Heading Two

H3 Heading Three

T1 Intro text leads reader into the article by the nose, with grace and dignity and a little pithy charm. Typeface has changed to the appropriate optical size by the miracle of modern typography.

T2 Johannes Gutenberg’s work on the printing press began in approximately 1436 when he partnered with Andreas Heilmann, owner of a paper mill. Having previously worked as a goldsmith, Gutenberg made skillful use of the knowledge of metals he had learned as a craftsman. He was the first to make type from an alloy of lead, tin, and antimony, which was critical for producing durable type that produced high-quality printed books and proved to be much better suited for printing than all other known materials.

The introduction of mechanical movable type printing led to a huge increase of printing activities across Europe within only a few decades. From a single print shop in Mainz, Germany, printing had spread to no less than around 270 cities in Central, Western and Eastern Europe by the end of the 15th century. As early as 1480, there were printers active in 110 different places in Germany, Italy, France, Spain, the Netherlands, Belgium, Switzerland, England, Bohemia and Poland. From that time on, it is assumed that “the printed book was in universal use in Europe.”

Roboto parametric values shown in Google Sheets

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
1	Source	LPM	XOPQ	XOPQ %	XOUC	XOUC %	XOLC	XOLC %	XOFI	XOFI %	XTXA	XTXA %	XTUC	XTUC %	XTLC	XTLC %
2	RobotoExtremo-Regular.ifo	2048	192	94	192	94	0	0			734	399	734	399	734	666
3	RobotoExtremo-XTRAmin.ifo	2048	192	94	192	94	0	0			454	222	454	222	444	
4	RobotoExtremo-XTRAmix.ifo	2048	192	94	192	94	0	0			1014	496	1014	496	973	
5	RobotoExtremo-XOPQmin.ifo	2048	54	27	54	27	0	0			734	399	734	399	534	
6	RobotoExtremo-XOPQmix.ifo	2048	350	171	350	171	0	0			734	399	734	399	620	
7	RobotoExtremo-YOPQmin.ifo	2048	192	94	192	94	0	0			734	399	734	399	666	
8	RobotoExtremo-YOPQmix.ifo	2048	192	94	192	94	0	0			734	399	734	399	666	
9	RobotoExtremo-YTLCmin.ifo	2048	192	94	192	94	0	0			734	399	734	399	666	
10	RobotoExtremo-YTLCmix.ifo	2048	192	94	192	94	0	0			734	399	734	399	666	
11	RobotoExtremo-YTLCmin.ifo	2048	192	94	192	94	0	0			734	399	734	399	666	
12	RobotoExtremo-YTLCmix.ifo	2048	192	94	192	94	0	0			734	399	734	399	666	
13	RobotoExtremo-YTASmin.ifo	2048	192	94	192	94	0	0			734	399	734	399	666	
14	RobotoExtremo-YTASmix.ifo	2048	192	94	192	94	0	0			734	399	734	399	666	
15	RobotoExtremo-YTDEmin.ifo	2048	192	94	192	94	0	0			734	399	734	399	666	
16	RobotoExtremo-YTDEmix.ifo	2048	192	94	192	94	0	0			734	399	734	399	666	
17	RobotoExtremo-GRADmin.ifo	2048	131	64	131	64	0	0			816	399	816	399	705	
18	RobotoExtremo-GRADmix.ifo	2048	254	124	254	124	0	0			641	313	641	313	646	
19	RobotoExtremo-wghtmin.ifo	2048	90	44	90	44	0	0			779	381	779	381	618	
20	RobotoExtremo-wghtmix.ifo	2048	421	206	421	206	0	0			439	215	439	215	662	
21	RobotoExtremo-opszmin.ifo	2048	205	100	205	100	0	0			779	381	779	381	728	
22	RobotoExtremo-opszmax.ifo	2048	110	54	110	54	0	0			690	337	690	337	575	
23	RobotoExtremo-wdthmin.ifo	2048	184	90	184	90	0	0			994	290	994	290	547	
24	RobotoExtremo-wdthmix.ifo	2048	202	99	202	99	0	0			874	427	874	427	828	
25	RobotoExtremo-opszmax-wdthmax.ifo	2048	110	54	110	54	0	0			1100	538	1100	538	819	
26	RobotoExtremo-opszmax-wdthmin.ifo	2048	98	48	98	48	0	0			104	51	104	51	191	
27	RobotoExtremo-opszmax-wghtmax.ifo	2048	600	293	600	293	0	0			90	44	90	44	662	
28	RobotoExtremo-opszmax-wghtmin.ifo	2048	10	5	10	5	0	0			850	415	850	415	661	
29	RobotoExtremo-opszmax-wghtmin-wdthmax.ifo	2048	10	5	10	5	0	0			1260	616	1260	616	908	
30	RobotoExtremo-opszmax-wghtmin-wdthmin.ifo	2048	6	3	6	3	0	0			138	68	138	68	112	
31	RobotoExtremo-opszmax-wghtmax-wdthmax.ifo	2048	600	293	600	293	0	0			500	245	500	245	906	
32	RobotoExtremo-opszmax-wghtmax-wdthmin.ifo	2048	490	240	490	240	0	0			30	15	30	15	508	
33	RobotoExtremo-opszmin-wdthmax.ifo	2048	215	105	215	105	0	0			919	449	919	449	899	
34	RobotoExtremo-opszmin-wdthmin.ifo	2048	197	96	197	96	0	0			639	312	639	312	609	
35	RobotoExtremo-opszmin-wghtmax.ifo	2048	222	157	222	157	0	0			639	312	639	312	731	
36	RobotoExtremo-opszmin-wghtmin.ifo	2048	103	51	103	51	0	0			824	403	824	403	679	
37	RobotoExtremo-opszmin-wghtmax-wdthmin.ifo	2048	314	154	314	154	0	0			499	244	499	244	631	
38	RobotoExtremo-wghtmax-wdthmin.ifo	2048	413	202	413	202	0	0			299	146	299	146	587	
39	RobotoExtremo-opsz18wghtminwdthmin.ifo	2048	72	35	72	35	0	0			635	310	635	310	492	
40	RobotoExtremo-opsz24wghtminwdthmin.ifo	2048	56	27	56	27	0	0			629	307	629	307	482	
41	RobotoExtremo-opsz26wght10wdthmin.ifo	2048	38	19	38	19	0	0			597	292	597	292	454	
42	RobotoExtremo-opsz26wght60wdthmin.ifo	2048	317	155	317	155	0	0			319	156	319	156	508	
43	RobotoExtremo-opsz18wght700wdthmin.ifo	2048	360	176	360	176	0	0			317	155	317	155	542	
44	RobotoExtremo-opsz24wght700wdthmin.ifo	2048	375	183	375	183	0	0			278	136	278	136	534	
45	RobotoExtremo-opsz24wght1100.ifo	2048	63	31	63	31	0	0			812	397	812	397	635	
46	RobotoExtremo-opsz26wght1100.ifo	2048	45	22	45	22	0	0			833	407	833	407	646	
47	RobotoExtremo-opsz18wght700.ifo	2048	370	181	370	181	0	0			461	226	461	226	665	
48	RobotoExtremo-opsz24wght700.ifo	2048	388	190	388	190	0	0			428	209	428	209	662	
49	RobotoExtremo-opsz26wght700.ifo	2048	409	200	409	200	0	0			385	188	385	188	658	
50	RobotoExtremo-opsz18wght900.ifo	2048	491	240	491	240	0	0			280	137	280	137	645	
51	RobotoExtremo-opsz24wght900.ifo	2048	522	255	522	255	0	0			226	111	226	111	664	

Amstelvar Prototype Material

This project plan along with other documents associated with deliveries, are on the Amstelvar repository. At right is shown thumbnails of the Presentation of the Prototype Specimen book currently in progress.

TANGENT
POINTER
MASTERLOCKER
PASCAL'S ORIGINAL ELEMENTS OF STYLE

Bird-watchers make new haven for striker hawks

Maverick loan program funds
desert reclamation projects
in Syria and Mongolia

400 100 @8pt/12

The introduction of mechanical movable type printing led to a huge increase of printing activities across Europe within only a few decades. From a single print shop in Mainz, Germany, printing had spread to no less than around 270 cities in Central, Western and Eastern Europe by the end of the 15th century. As early as 1480, there were printers active in 110 different places in Germany, Italy, France, Spain, the Netherlands, Belgium, Switzerland, England, Bohemia and Poland. From that time on, it is assumed that “the printed book was in universal use in Europe.”

400 100 @9pt/13

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Maverick loan program funds
desert reclamation projects in
Syria and Mongolia

400 100 @10pt/14

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400 100 @11pt/15

The introduction of mechanical movable type printing led to a huge increase of printing activities across Europe within only a few decades. From a single print shop in Mainz, Germany, printing had spread to no less than around 270 cities in Central, Western and Eastern Europe by the end of the 15th century. As early as 1480, there were printers active in 110 different places in Germany, Italy, France, Spain, the