

On “*Ra-men, Ra-men ramen ramen.*”  
LAPP Lab, Carnegie Mellon University

**Background:** Recent archeological digs have uncovered invaluable artifacts from the Fifth Dynasty of ancient Egypt (25<sup>th</sup> century BC). Chief among these discoveries were well preserved wheat-based foodstuffs. Scholars have identified this hardened bread-like food as part of the diet of men who worshipped Ra, the deity of the sun [1]. This food of Ra-men has more recently been subject to spectroscopic and genetic analyses. Deep and deeper learning nourishment simulations have identified that this food of Ra-men shares 98.9% of its genetic makeup with that of modern pastas, such as spaghetti and Japanese-style ramen [2]. Linguists have noted this serendipitous homophony with some historical linguists arguing that Japanese *ramen* (拉麵, ラーメン) may have been a borrowing with a common ancestor in Proto-Egyptian-Japanese or Proto-Egyptian [3].

**Purpose:** To improve our computational model of *Cross-linguistic Historical Transfusion*<sup>TM</sup>.

**Methods:** 2.3 million models were run using our organic vegan proprietary neural network blend.

**Results:** We observed a significant improvement on our 2021 model ( $\chi^2(1) = 17.36$ ,  $p < .001$ ). The 2022's model was voted Best in Class by *Computational Modeling Hobbyist* [4].

**Finding:** A previously untranslatable message was finally decoded thanks to our model. We translate this message as an utterance spoken to the men who followed Ra to indicate that the type of ramen requested was specifically the Ra-men's ramen and not the ramen meant for non-Ra-men, i.e., non-believers of Ra. We reconstruct this utterance as:

*Ra-men, Ra-men ramen ramen.*

**Implications:** This serves as novel evidence of lexical ambiguity existing throughout time and space (see also "Buffalo buffalo Buffalo buffalo buffalo buffalo Buffalo buffalo"). Our model is now the first to predict that language from 25<sup>th</sup> century BC Egypt affects 21<sup>st</sup> century Pittsburgh ramen menus [5].

**References:**

- [1] Obeng, K. (2017). 25<sup>th</sup> Century Egyptian snacks: ERP evidence for wheat-based foodstuffs of Ra worshippers. In *Proceedings of 97<sup>th</sup> Annual International Snack Culture and Cognition Academy*, 1124-1183.
- [2] Boyardee, C. (2022). *Beefaroni*. Conarga Brands, Inc.
- [3] Saito-Muhammad, Q. (2018). *Proto-Egyptian*. Self-published pamphlet.
- [4] Best in Class: Midsize Models. *Computational Modeling Hobbyist*, 114(2), 39-51.
- [5] Ramen Bar: <http://ramenbarpittsburgh.com/menu/>