

Paolo Monella

paolo.monella@unipa.it

Fuori dalla torre di Babele: interoperabilità e sistemi grafici pre-moderni



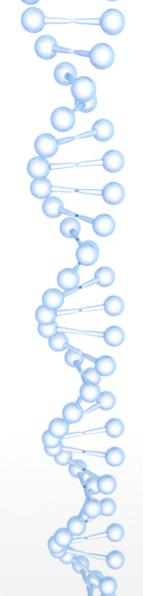
Out of the Tower of Babel: interoperability and pre-modern writing systems

December 4, 2019



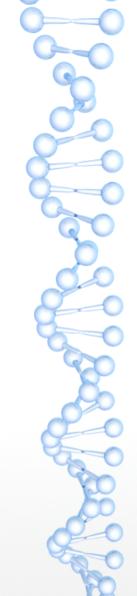


In a nutshell



In a nutshell

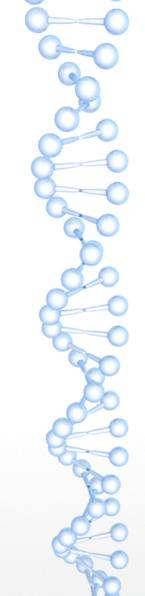
- Digital scholarly editions: diplomatic/normalized
- Hjelmslev's "analysis" as digital modelling for pre-modern writing systems
- Open issues
- Interoperability through modelling

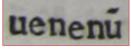


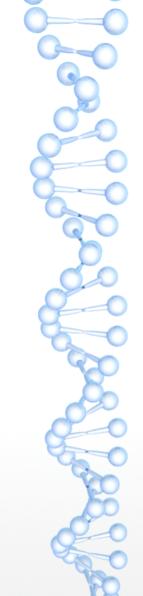
My focus

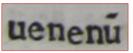
European Medieval handwriting

- Pre-Gutenberg
 - Handwriting
 - Early print → imitating handwriting
- Alphabetic writing systems
 - Latin script (Italian, English...), Greek, Cyrillic...
 - No Cuneiform, Arabic, Chinese etc.

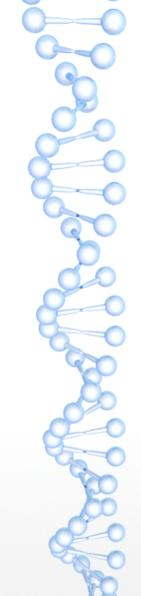


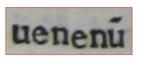






uenenū

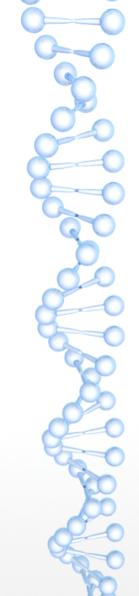




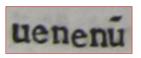
uenenū

Diplomatic

- Historical documentation
- Visualization



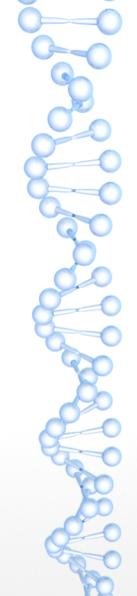
venenum



uenenū

Diplomatic

- Historical documentation
- Visualization



venenum

Normalized

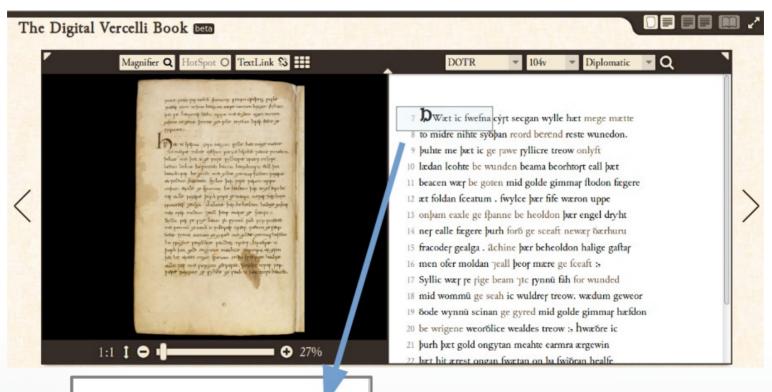
- Processing
 - Search
 - Collation
 - NLP (lemma, PoS etc.)
 - Statistics (distant reading)...

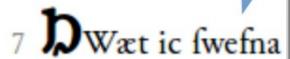
uenenű

uenenū

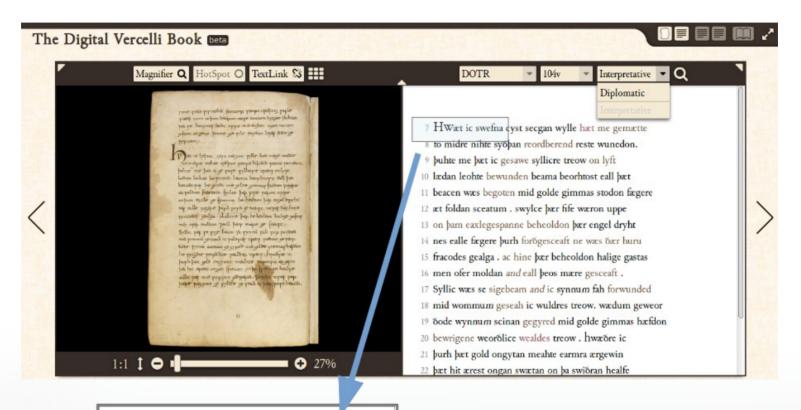
Diplomatic

- Historical documentation
- Visualization



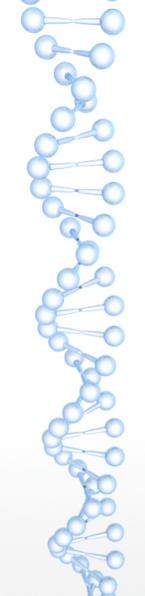


http://vbd.humnet.unipi.it/beta/#104v

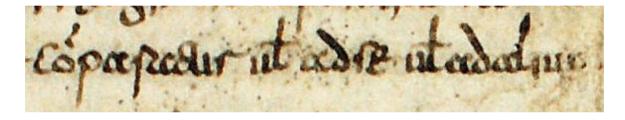


7 HWæt ic swefna

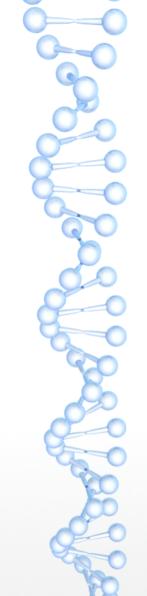
http://vbd.humnet.unipi.it/beta/#104v



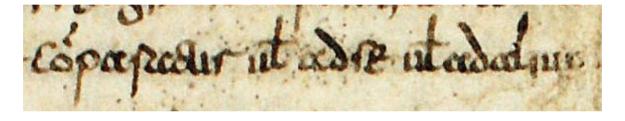
Comparatur vel ad se vel ad alium



coparaEur uł adfe uładalium



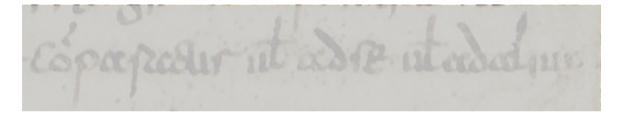
Comparatur vel ad se vel ad alium



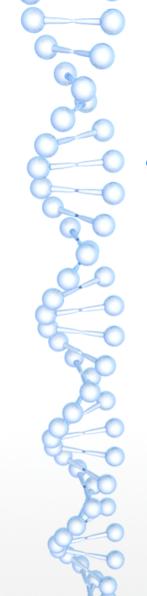
coparaeur uł adfe uładalium



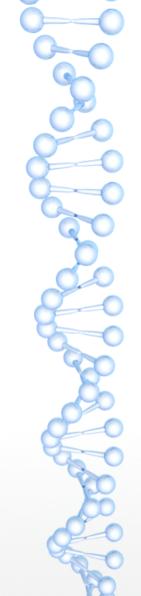
Comparatur vel ad se vel ad alium



coparaEur uł adfe uładalium

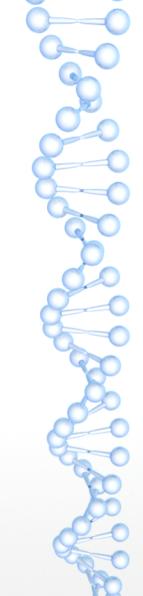


Comparatur vel ad se vel ad alium



Vel comparatur ad se vel iam ad Valerium





Vel comparatur ad se vel iam ad Valerium



Vel comparatur ad se vel jam ad Valerium



- Uel comparatur ad se uel iam ad Ualerium
- Vel comparatur ad se uel iam ad Valerium





What's "normal"? te. Ego / te. ego u/v/U/V • Ae / æ • Oe / œ bonum est / bonum'st / bonumst [punctuation] [macron / breve]

- te. Ego / te. ego
- u/v/U/V
- i / i
- Ae / æ
- Oe / œ
- bonum est / bonum'st / bonumst
- [punctuation]
- [macron / breve]

- Processing
 - Search
 - Collation
 - NLP (lemma, PoS etc.)
 - Statistics (distant reading)...

- te. Ego / te. ego
 - u/v/U/V
- i/j
- Ae / æ
- Oe / œ
- bonum est / bonum'st / bonumst
- [punctuation]
- [macron / breve]

- Processing
 - Search
 - Collation
 - NLP (lemma, PoS etc.)
 - Statistics (distant reading)...

"pertinet": [pertineo] Verbal, II conjug, Active indicative, Present, III singular pertinet

pertinet

pertineo] Verbal, II conjug, III singular

pertinet

pertinet

pertineo] Verbal, II conjug, III singular

pertinet

pertineo] Verbal, II conjug, III singular

pertinet

pertineo] Verbal, II conjug, III singular

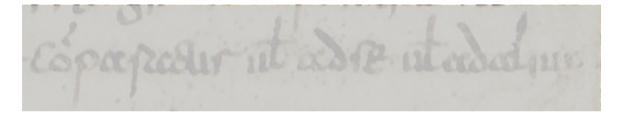
pertinet": [pertineo] Verbal, II conjug, II conjug, II conjug, II conjug, II conjug, III singular

pertinet": [pertineo] Verbal, III conjug, II con

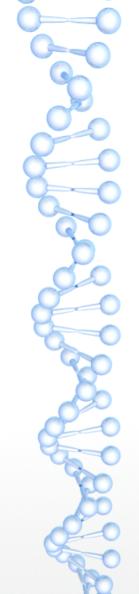
 My Ursus edition (IX Century) www.unipa.it/paolo.monella/ursus



Comparatur vel ad se vel ad alium

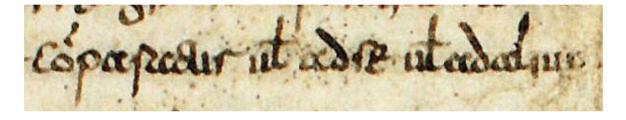


coparaEur uł adfe uładalium

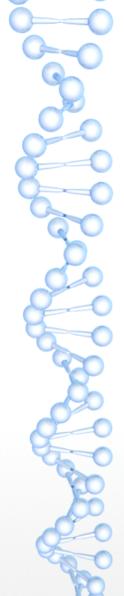


"Diplomatic"...

Comparatur vel ad se vel ad alium



coparaEur uł adfe uładalium



JULIO VERNE pero me parece que ahora los otros animales acuden a tomes parece. la ballena, el lagarto, la tortuga; los empero me parece que acesta, el lagarto, la tortuga; los entres la la lucha: la marsopa, la ballena, el lagarto, la tortuga; los entres la la lucha: la marsopa, la ballena, el lagarto, la tortuga; los entres la cale. la lucha: la marsopa, la california de la cabeza en su l'instante. Se los muestro al islandés, y éste mueve la cabeza en su

-Two -dice con calma.

- Cómo! ¡dos! Pretende que sólo dos animales.

- Cémol idos! Pretente que lo que no aparta el artes. del grupo.

-¿Es posible?

-¿Es postore:

-¡Ya lo creo! El primero de estos monstruos tiene hotios à —¡Ya lo creo: El principale de cocodeilo, y por esto aca marsopa, cabeza de lagarto, dientes de cocodeilo, y por esto aca marsopa, cabeza de lagarto, dientes de cocodeilo, y por esto aca marsopa. marsopa, cabeza de ingueso, el más temible de los animales antellos engañado. Es el ictiosauro, el más temible de los animales antellos

-: Y el otro?

—El otro es una serpiente escondida bajo el caparazón de una tenael plesiosauro, implacable enemigo del primero

Hans tiene mucha razón. Sólo dos monstruos turban de esta merela superficie del mar, y tengo ante mis ojos dos reptiles de los priscipos océanos. Veo el ojo ensangrentado del ictiosauro, que tiene el basis de la cabeza de un hombre. La Naturaleza le ha dotado de un mesóptico de extraordinario poder, capaz de resistir la presión de las mas de agua en que habita. Se le ha llamado la ballena de los saurios, perque posee su misma velocidad y tamaño. Su longitud no es inferiora en pies, y, cuando saca del agua las aletas verticales de su cola, me las cargo mejor de su enorme magnitud. Sus mandíbulas son enems, s según los naturalistas, no posee menos de 182 dientes.

El plesiosauro, serpiente de tronco cilindrico, tiene la cola cora y la natas dispuestas en forma de remos. Su cuerpo se halla todo el revoste e un enorme carapacho, y su cuello, flexible como el del cina érguese treinta pies sobre las olas.

Los dos animales se atacan con indescriptible furia. Levatian ass rias de agua que llegan hasta la balsa, y nos ponen veinte veces a para zozobrar. Se oyen silbidos de una intensidad prodigiosa. Las de stias se encuentran enlazadas, no siéndome posible distinguir la grande de la companya de la com

la otra. ¡Hay que temerlo todo de la furia del vencedor Transcurre una hora, dos y continúa la lucha con el mismo escriproviman a la balsa unas vege) VIAIE AL CENTRO DE LA TIERRA

pero de improviso, una enorme cabeza lanzane fuera del agua: la pero, de muero. El monstruo está herido de muero. No descripto del plesiossuro. Sólo su largo cuello se versas en No descripto. chera del presentación. Sólo su largo cuello se yergae, se abate, se vaciva programation, se encorva, azota la superficie del mar como un látigo levatiate, se retuerce como una lombriz dividida en dos pedaros. riganicaco y so considerable distancia y nos ciega materialmente; pero Sala el agua a su fin la agonia del reptil, disminuyen sus movimientes pero contorniones y su largo tropco. nunto toca a contorsiones y su largo tronco de serpicate se extende servicios sus contorsiones y su largo tronco de serpicate se extende decreces sus massa inerte sobre la serena superficie del mar.

Es cuanto al ieticeaurio, ¿ha regresado de mevo a su cavema sub veries o va a resparecer otra vez?

XXXIV

stiércoles 19 de agosto.-El viento, por fortuna, que sopia con becante fuerza, nos ha permitido huir rápidamente del teatro del combar. Hars sigue siempre empuñando la cara del timón. Mi tio, a quien los incidentes del combate han hecho olvidar de momento sus absorbentes ideas, vuelve a examinar el mar con la misma impaciencia que antes.

El viaje recobra de nuevo su uniformidad monótora, que no deseo ver internampida por peli gros tan inminentes como el que commos ayer.

Jueves 20 de agosto .- Brisa NNE. Bastante desigual. Temperatura devada. Marchamos a razón de tres leguas y media por hora.

A eso de mediodía, óyese un ruido lejano.

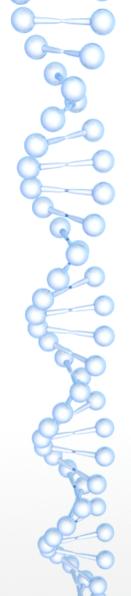
Consigno el hecho sin saber cual pueda ser su explicación. Es un negido continuo.

-Hay -dice el profesor -, a alguna distancia de aqui, alguna roca o islote contra el cual se estrellan las olas.

Hans sube al extremo del palo, pero no descutre ningún escollo. La superficie del mar aparece toda lisa hasta el mismo horizonte.

Asi transcurren tres horas Los mugidos parecen provenir de una catarata lejana.

Manifesto mi opinión a mi tío, que sacude la cabeza. Esto to obstante, tengo la convicción de que no me equivoco. ¿Corremos tal vez lacia una catarata que nos precipitará en el abismo? Es posible que este ethero de descenso sea del agrado del profesor, porque se acerca a la

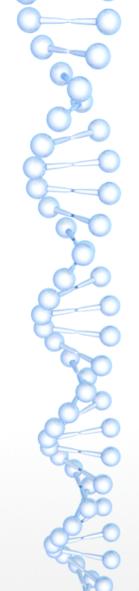


VIAJE AL CENTRO DE LA TIERRA

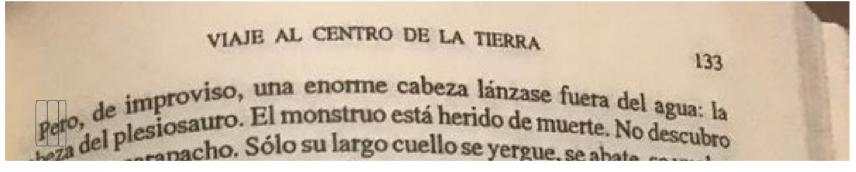
133

pero, de improviso, una enorme cabeza lánzase fuera del agua: la pero, del plesiosauro. El monstruo está herido de muerte. No descubro pera del plesiosauro. Sólo su largo cuello se yergue, se abate con la pera del proporto de muerte.

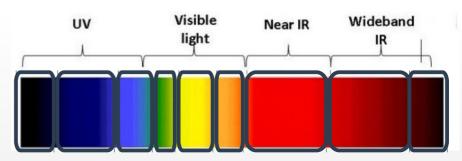
Digital modelling



• Pero, de improviso, una enorme cabeza...



Digital modelling



"Gutenberghian" principles

• Pero, de improviso, una enorme cabeza...

1 \leftrightarrow 1

1 = 1

1, 2, 3...



Pero, de improviso, una enorme cabeza...

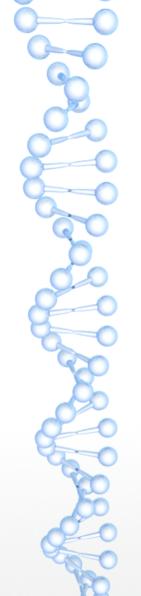
 $1 \leftrightarrow 1$

1 = 1

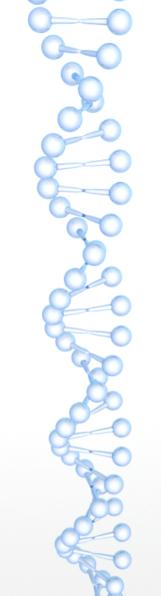
1, 2, 3...

1 mark, 1 letter All marks are (born) equal

Sequence (one dimension)



compared with the property of the second of the property of the second of the property of the second and the second second second second Long in more made and a proper of the complete of the many and design of blocks, for quark relanguage him the property of the same of th before and was when we look and you Carried agreement any famous grands make the make and the property of the same and the party and all or or surper hampfromer halana property policy polymera later and other mount of Branch de langue in lighter win water beginning with progression expended a sopre lapsaid moderates and the spirited beautiful application or the second party the payers strongers and Charleson I democrate months and respect recovers out an income and the second printers and the second or with charge on a share order anything one where him do Dim Sympose Borne Samuel or with in the house of the make Transfel Date to have more close me deschare the set show the property with the an earlier down down of the papers down between draggeren overlagt men betreet about contraporation in which and when addition Solve September of comparison of 3 figures of comparison of the september and a series to the standard of the series of Mary Superior and Income up to promise it species and interest bearing bearings and and and appropriate sometical description proper stands bearing - come commendary production of the commen some boale is Some uphallower al and burnely monthly age obe warm to home property before the amanageria receptor de des deben material want de trip openent Suplanning Der and when defend maginate the framework or many many between and gage trees more and or governoon theretain, Valley Spring police and proposed by subject these is Character response Compagnet developed and specif the first stand makes adapted to the former franchises promise house manufacture Annie Virgin und Sale Observation and Character Servation (Co. hope to mayor organic own factor by within wow decision means Municipal Washing when the property was proposed Deckmore produced that compares to being party of while Wanted to the Sand Sand Street Street Street the regard the correspond winds you and sent. Distriction of the case of the proper planes within Lower water will get live some he stopped Come replacementary of the Company response problems about the of surlane accountings. - more and proper splanting The sine also may record man beautiful they well you be and dealer they we wish a market water and the said of the said who demonstr portion place bell remain per augustate reprinciples of the production a particular of the principal of any marine Man mategoral monder could and one look harble place a par sides sweet should had standard maple to great may be proved in the hardings what will be the street of the street of the street Andrews, Towns inpopely pade on who were the contrast and the party of the contrast to the property or good or product and product on a death printer the sales of the sales of the sales Whom Interpret His hope Determine



3 Gutenberghian principles

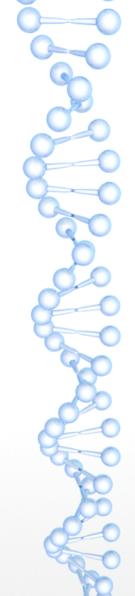
$$1 \leftrightarrow 1$$

1, 2, 3...

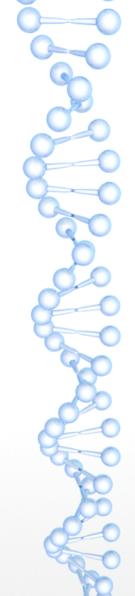
1 mark, 1 letter All marks are (born) equal

Sequence (one dimension)

Modelling pre-modern writing systems 1, 2, 3... $1 \leftrightarrow 1$ ordin<u>em</u> plerosque <u>per</u>tinet ordine plerosq; ptinet

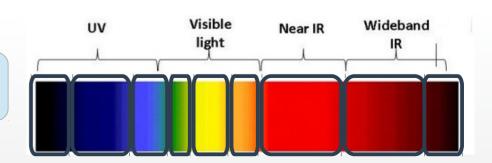


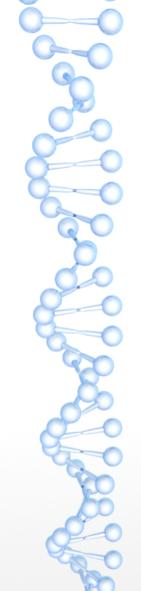
copapair ut adre utadadus



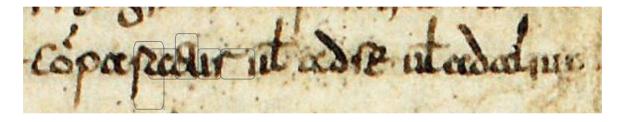
copapair it adre itadaline

Digital modelling



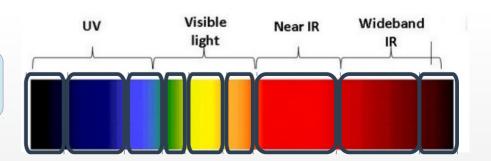


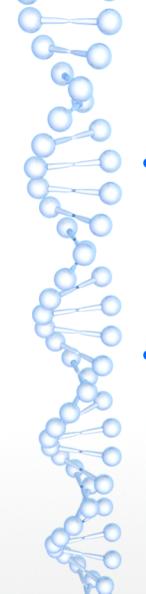
Comparatur vel ad se vel ad alium



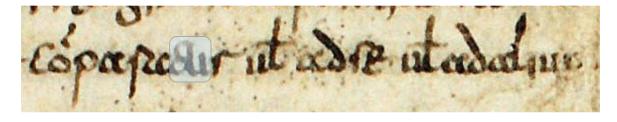
coparaEur uł adfe uładalium

Digital modelling



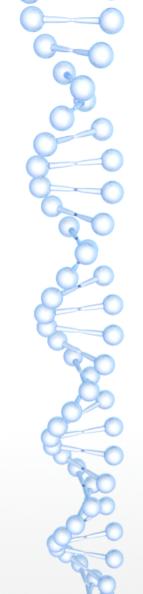


Comparatur vel ad se vel ad alium



copara Eur uł adfe uładalium

Ligatures

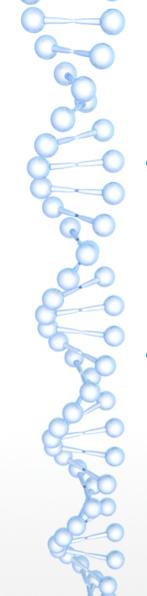


et quam

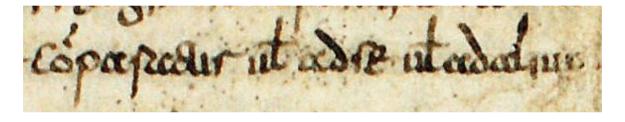


• &quam

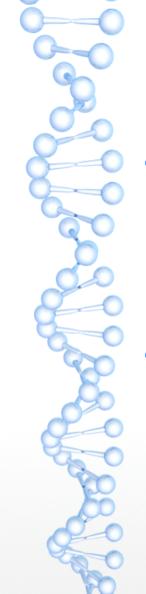
Ligatures



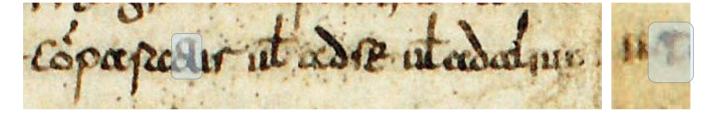
Comparatur vel ad se vel ad alium



coparaeur uł adfe uładalium

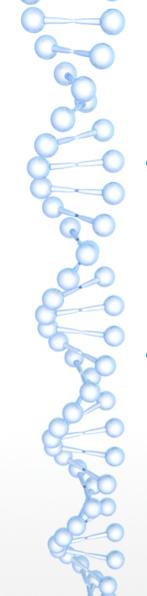


Comparatur vel ad se vel ad alium ut

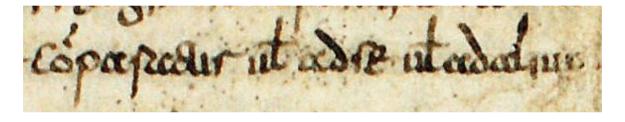


• coparaEur ut adfe utadalium ud

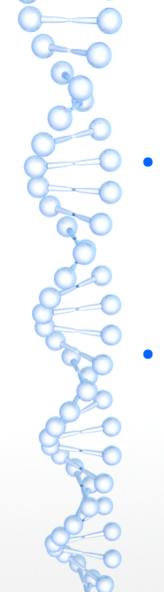
Allographs



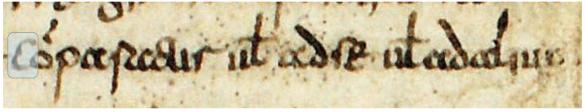
Comparatur vel ad se vel ad alium



coparaeur uł adfe uładalium

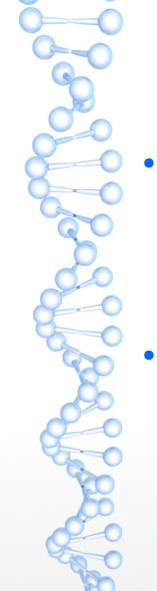


Comparatur vel ad se vel ad alium

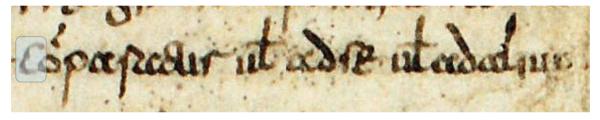


coparaEur uł adfe uładalium Capitalization?

Allographs



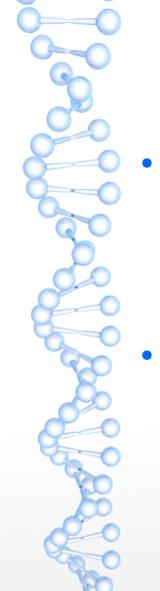
Comparatur vel ad se vel ad alium



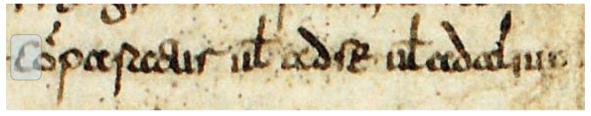
coparaEur uł adſe uładalium
 Capitalization?

Allographs

permitido huir rápe empuñando la conte han hecho olvido el mar con la mis



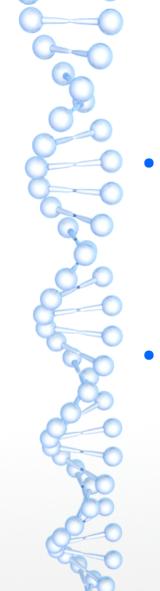
Comparatur vel ad se vel ad alium



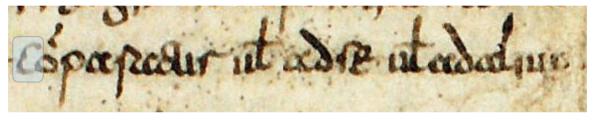
• coparaEur uł adfe uładalium Capitalization?

Allographs

Bari bari



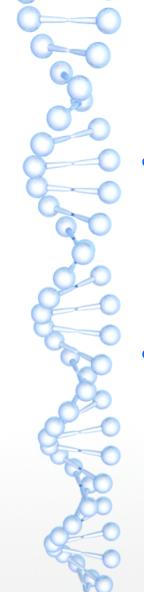
Comparatur vel ad se vel ad alium



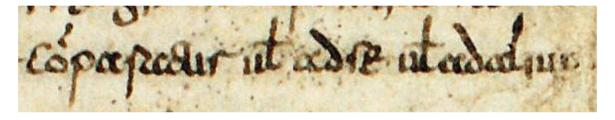
coparaEur uł adfe uładaliumCapitalization?

Allographs





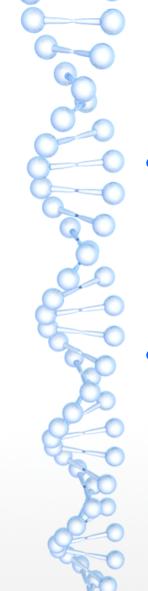
Comparatur vel ad se vel ad alium



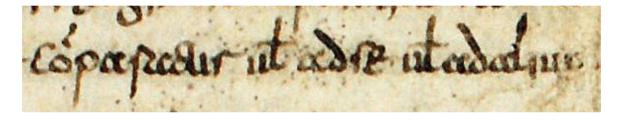
coparaEur uł adfe uładalium

"Alphabet"

Grapheme set



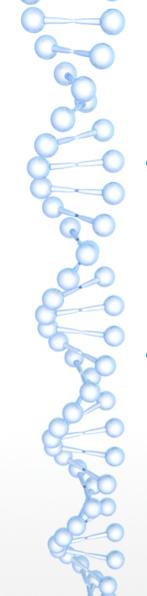
Comparatur vel ad se vel ad alium.



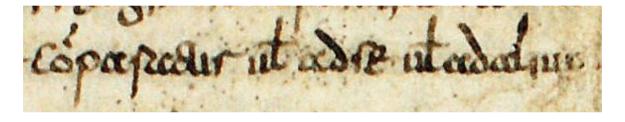
coparaEur uł adfe uładalium;

Punctuation

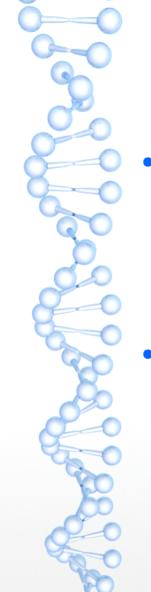
Grapheme set



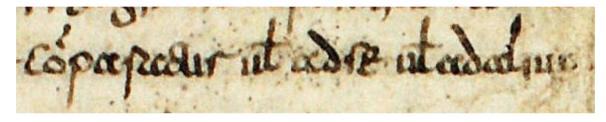
Comparatur vel ad se vel ad alium



coparaeur uł adfe uładalium



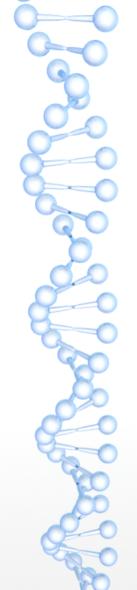
Comparatur vel ad se vel ad alium



coparaEur uł adfe uładalium

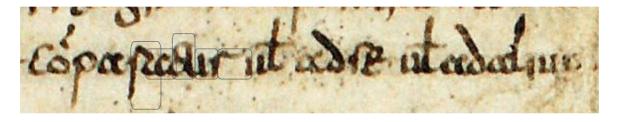
Abbreviations

Hjelmslev's "analysis" as digital modelling for pre-modern writing systems



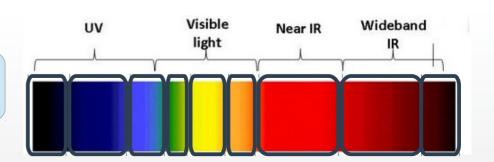
Modelling

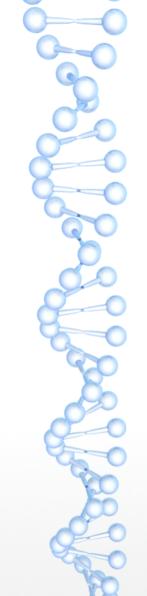
Comparatur vel ad se vel ad alium



• coparaEur ut adfe utadalium

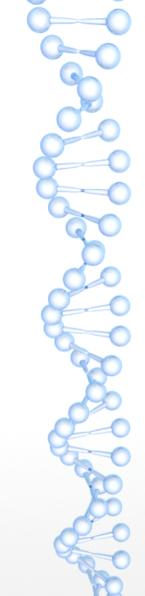
Digital modelling





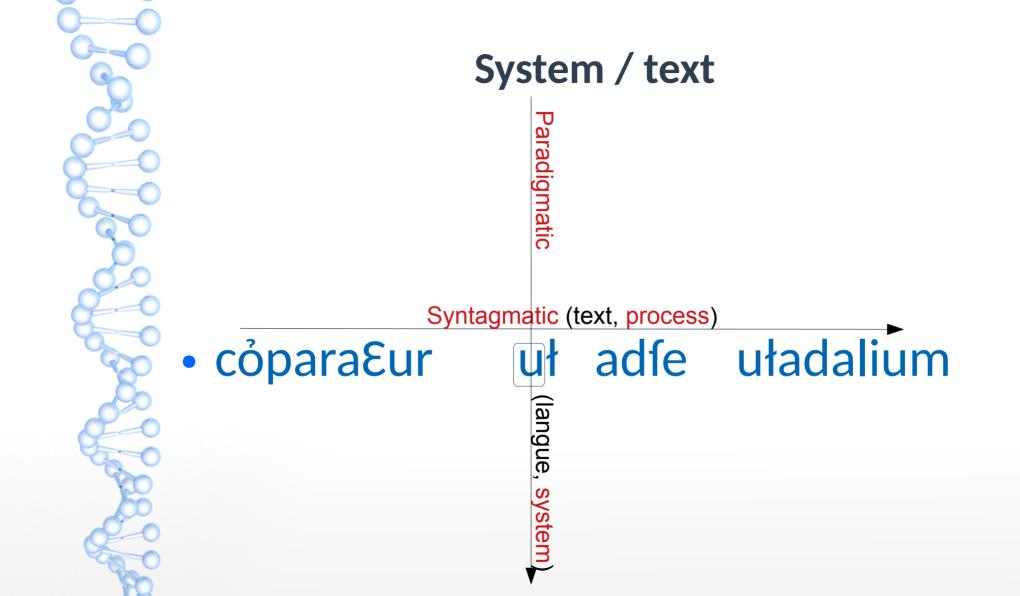
Modelling

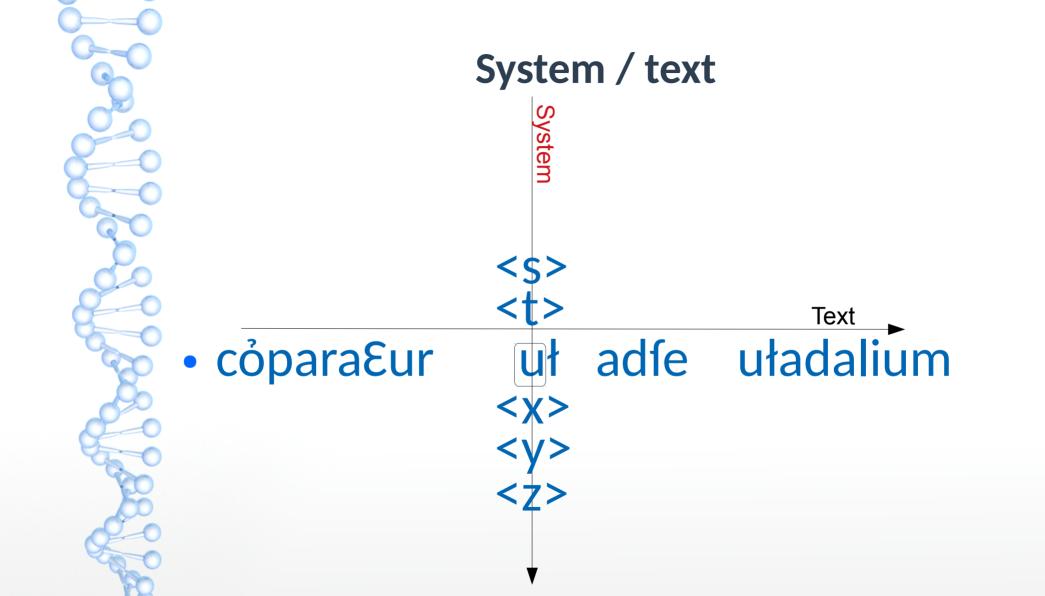
coparaEur uł adfe uładalium

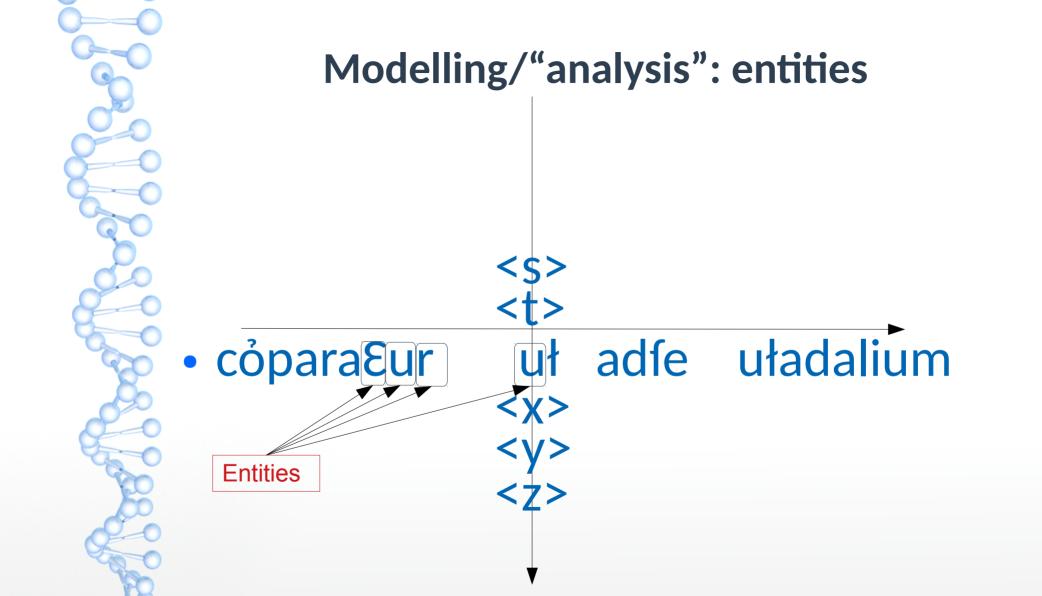


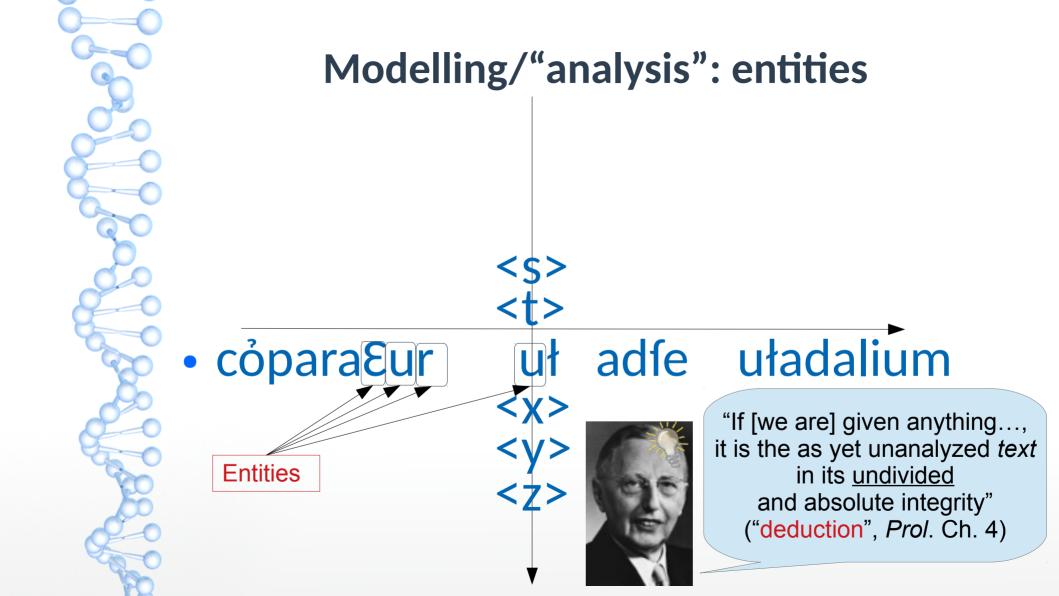
Modelling

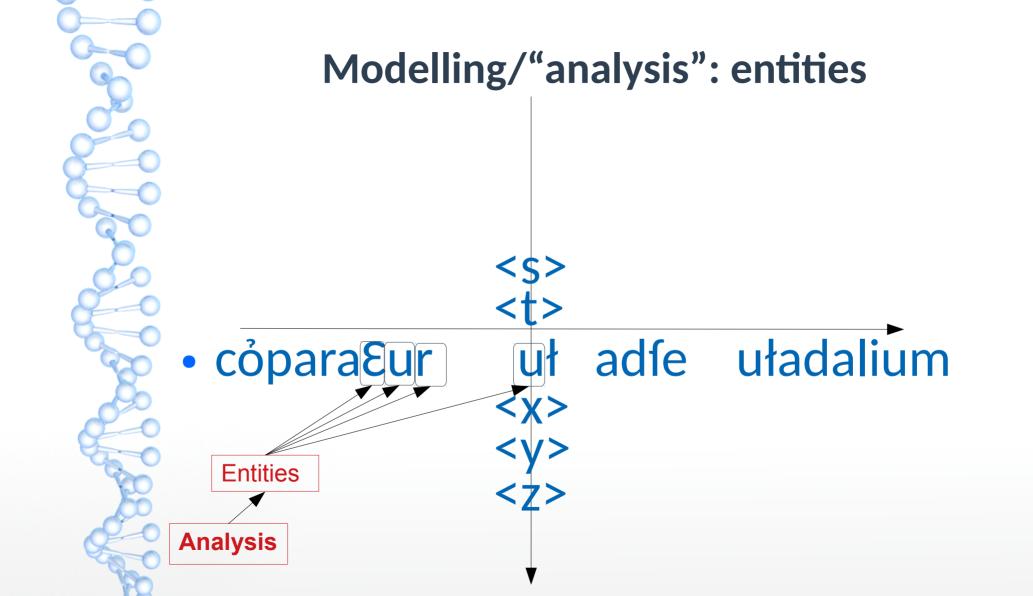
• coparaEur uł adse uładalium

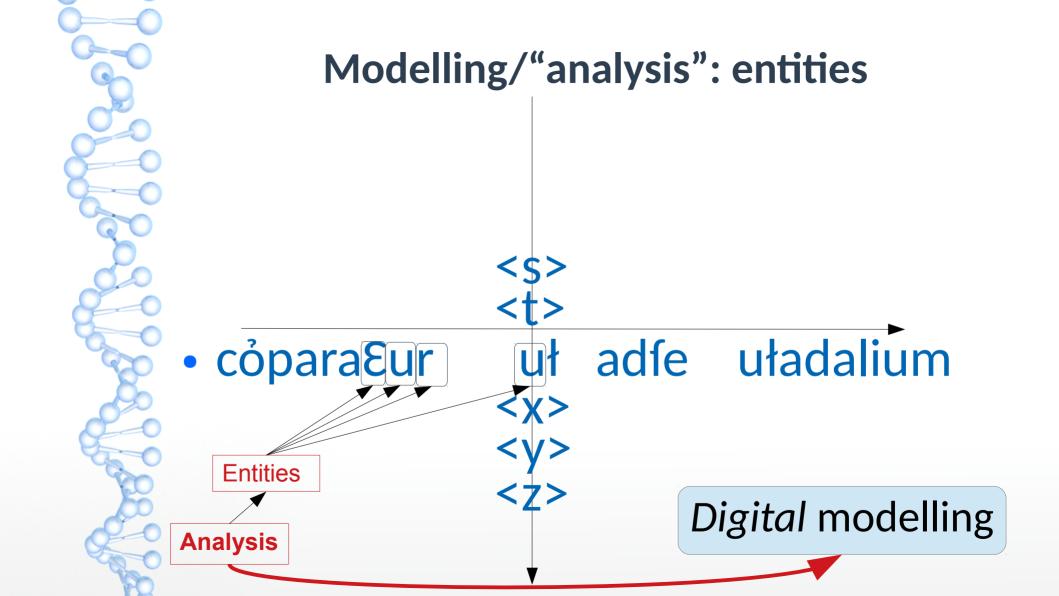


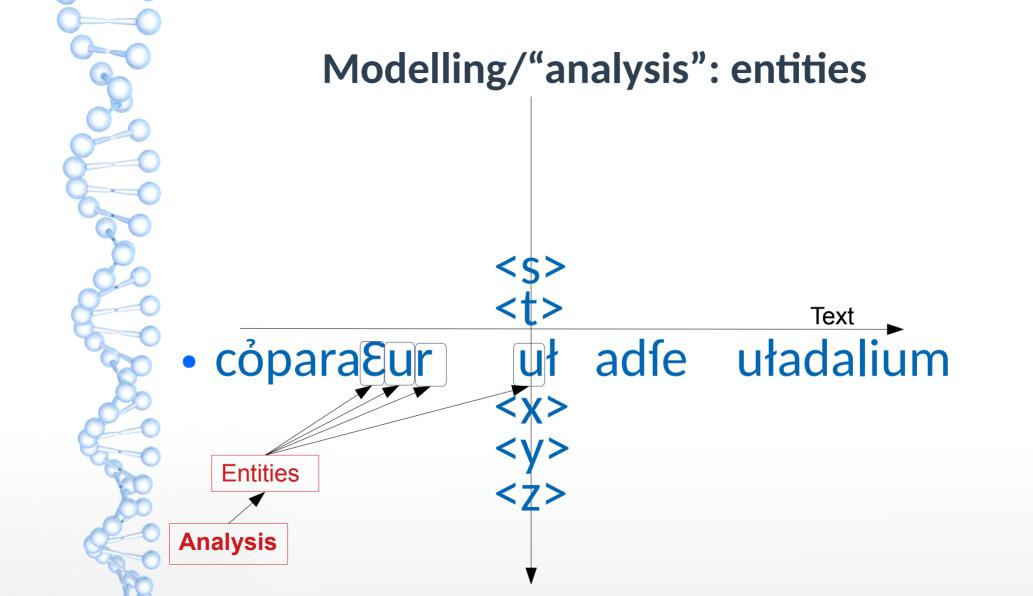


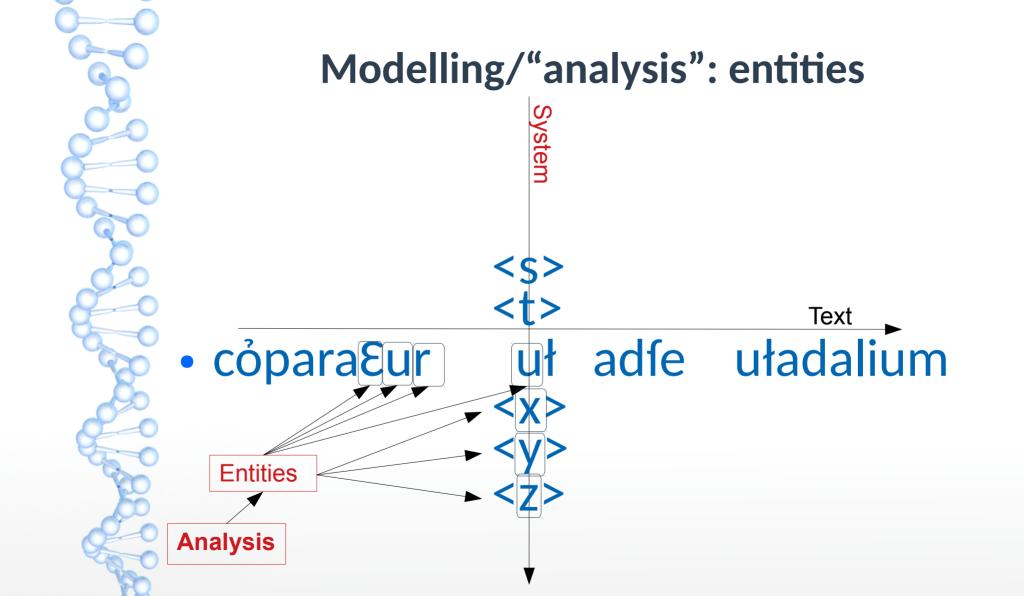


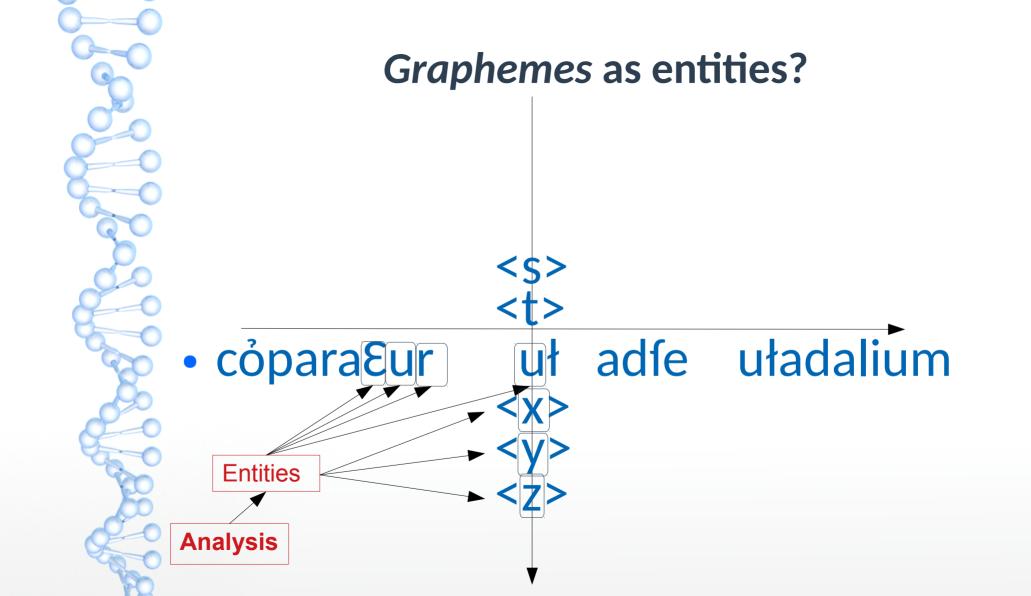


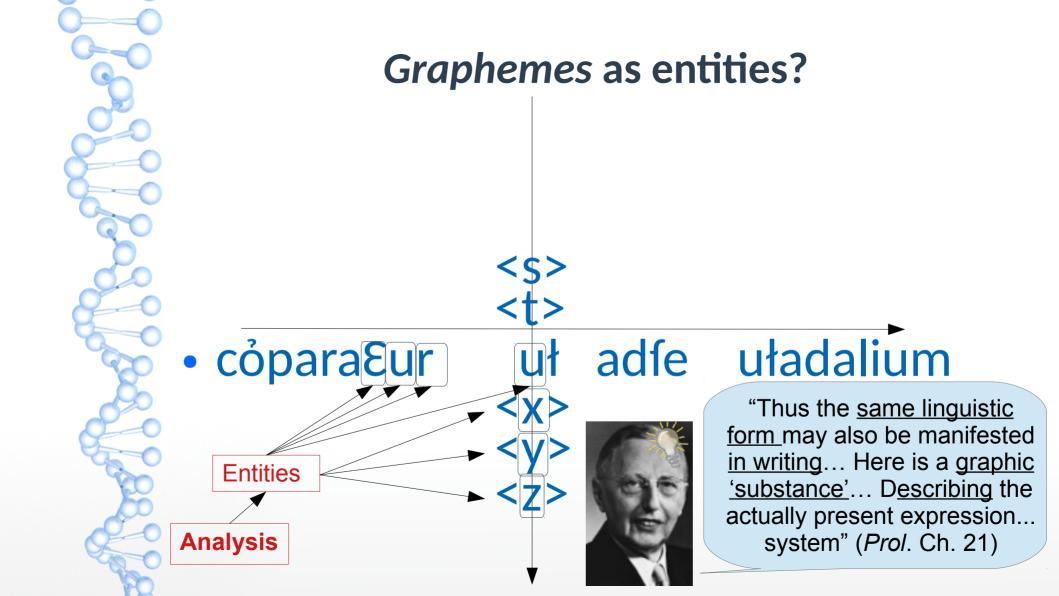


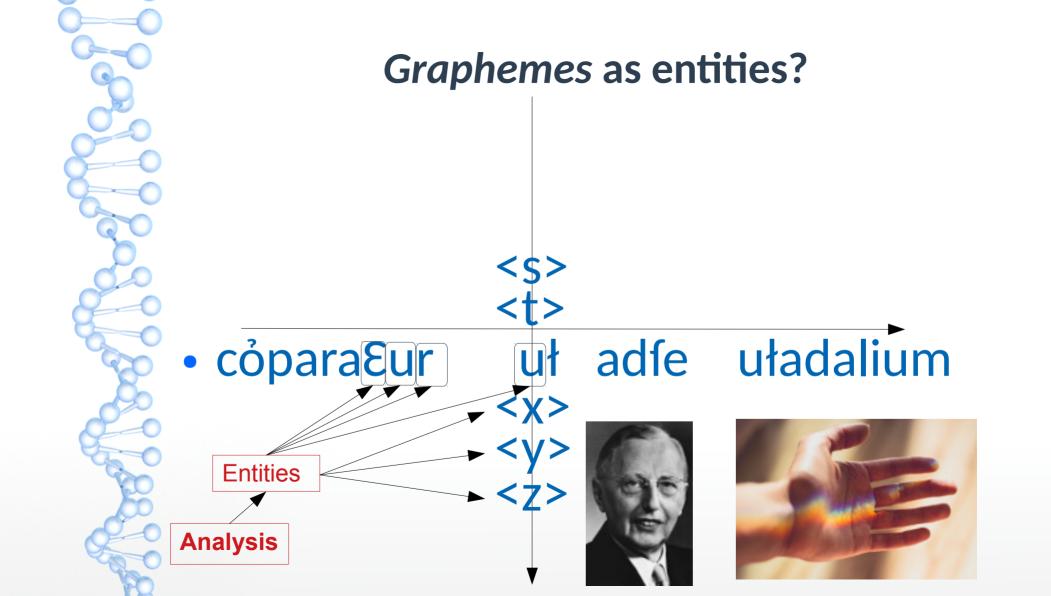


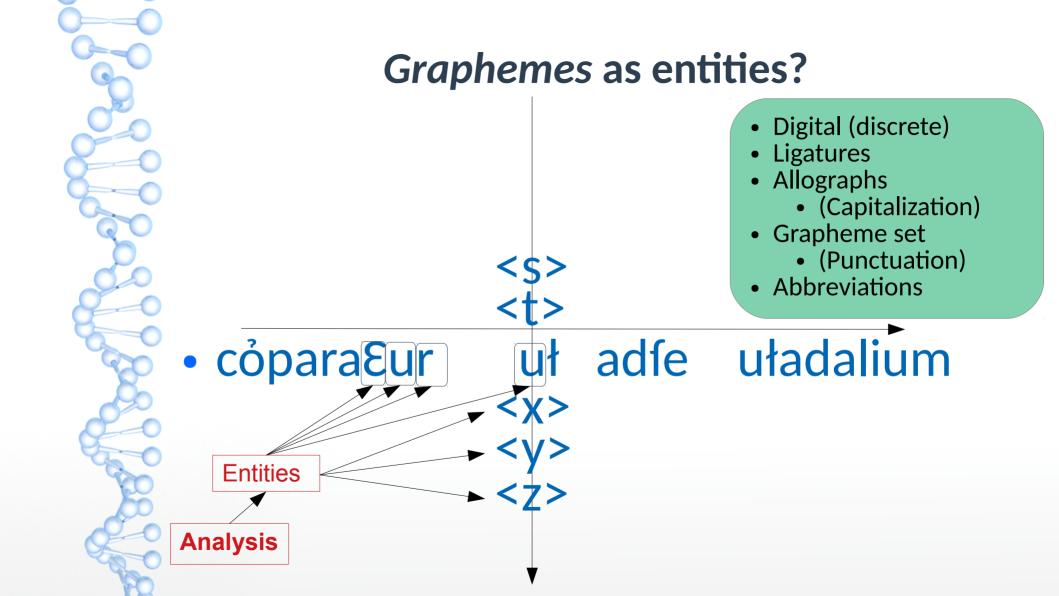


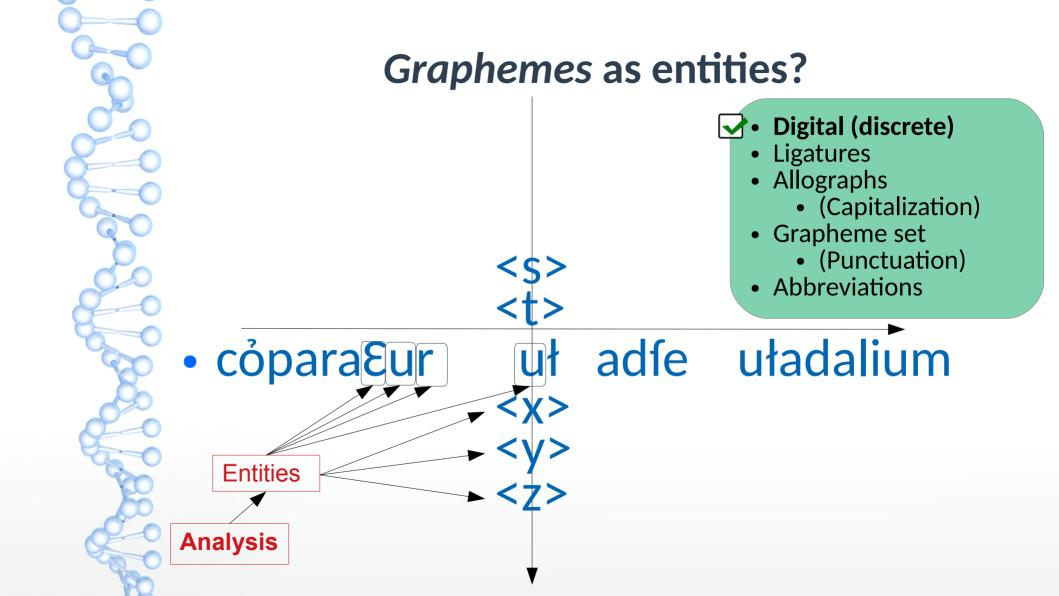


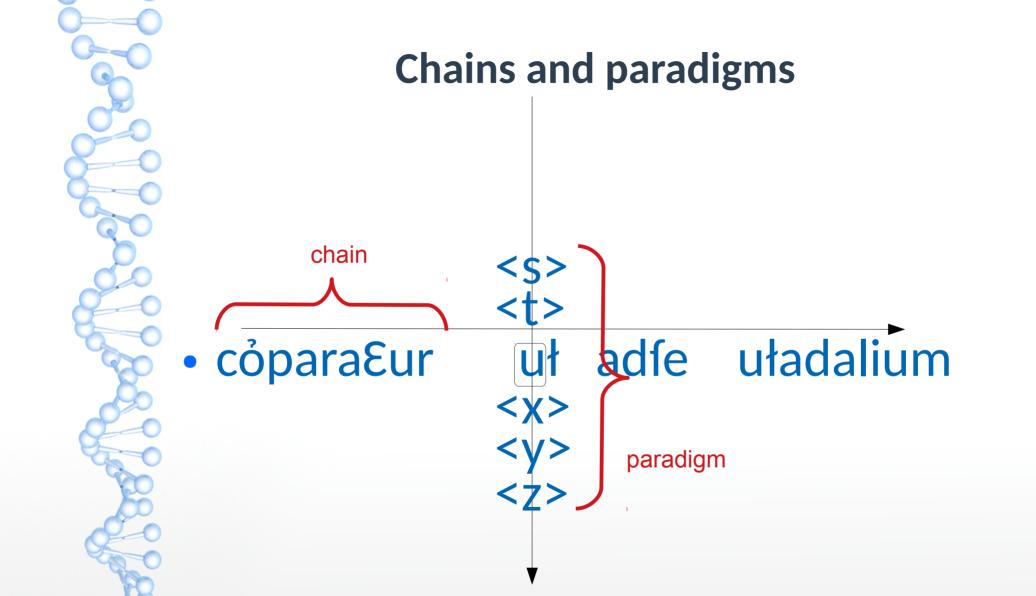


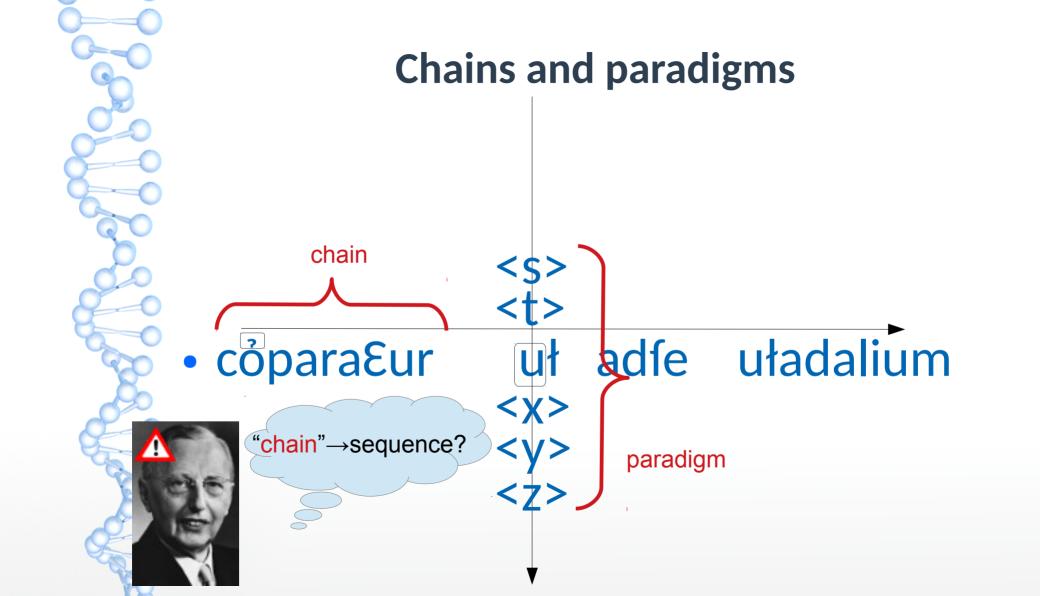






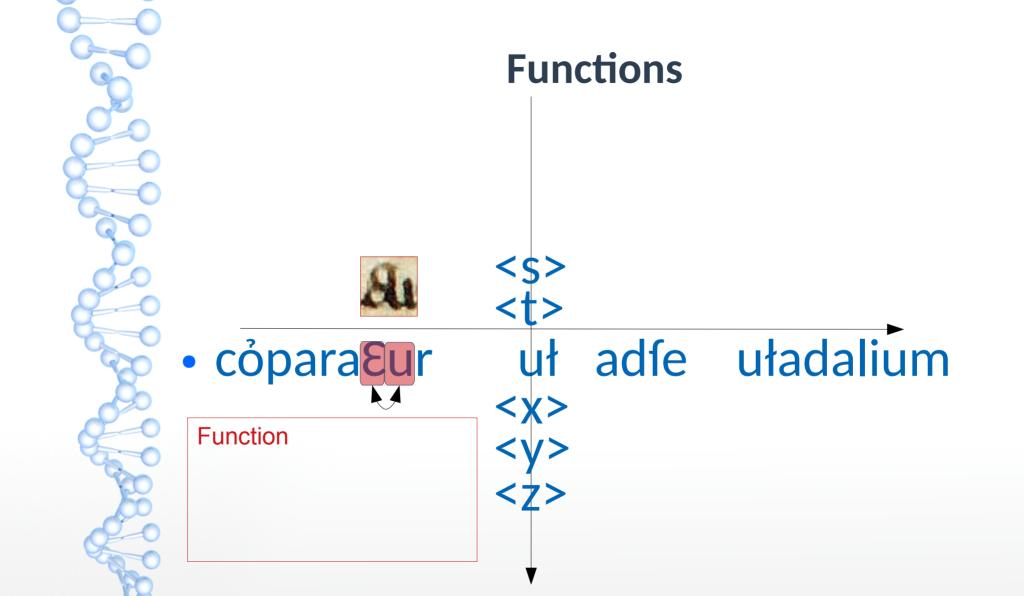




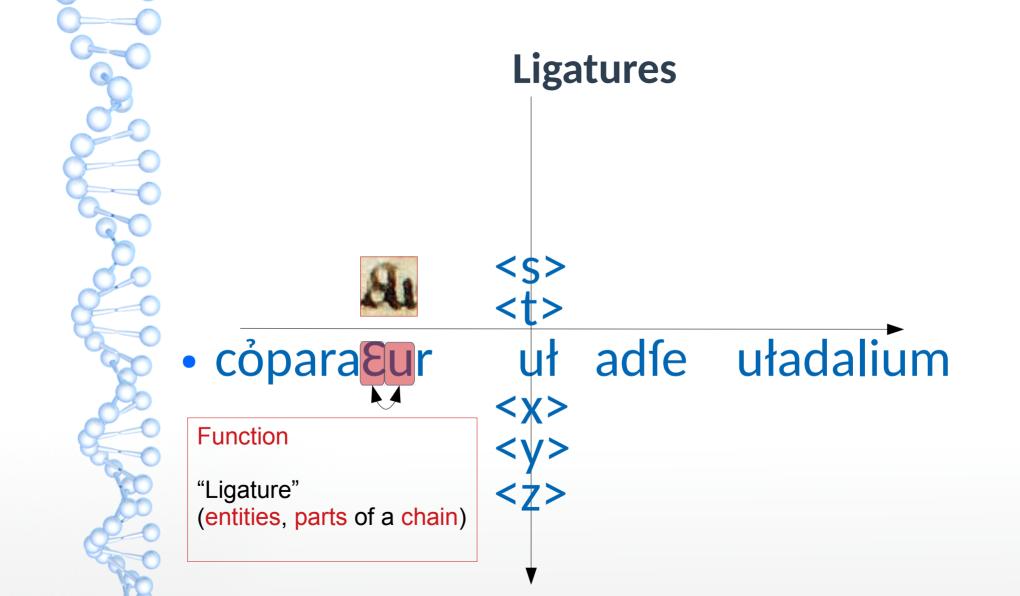


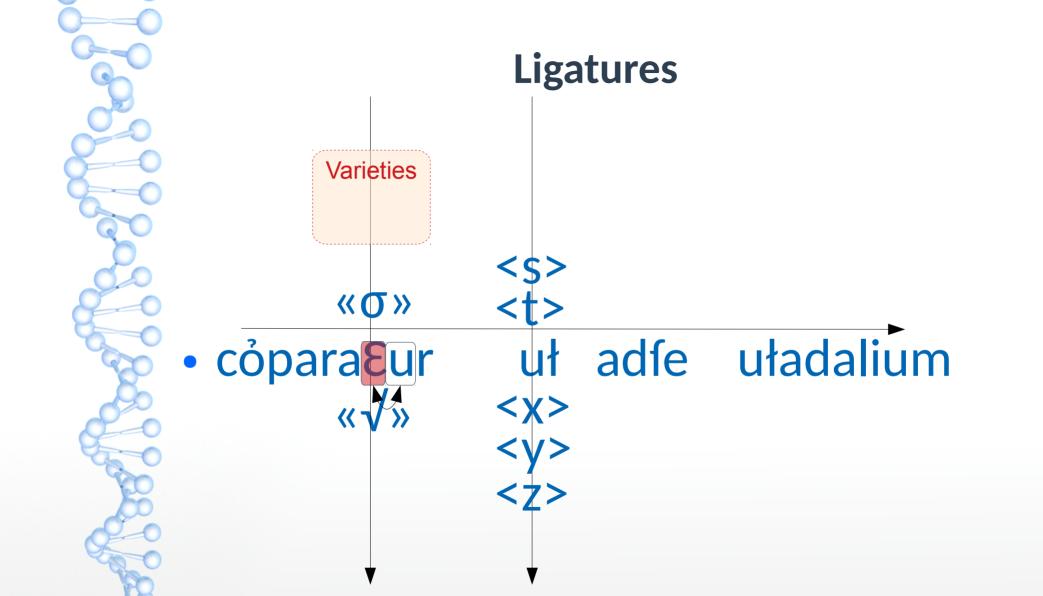
Classes: chains and paradigms

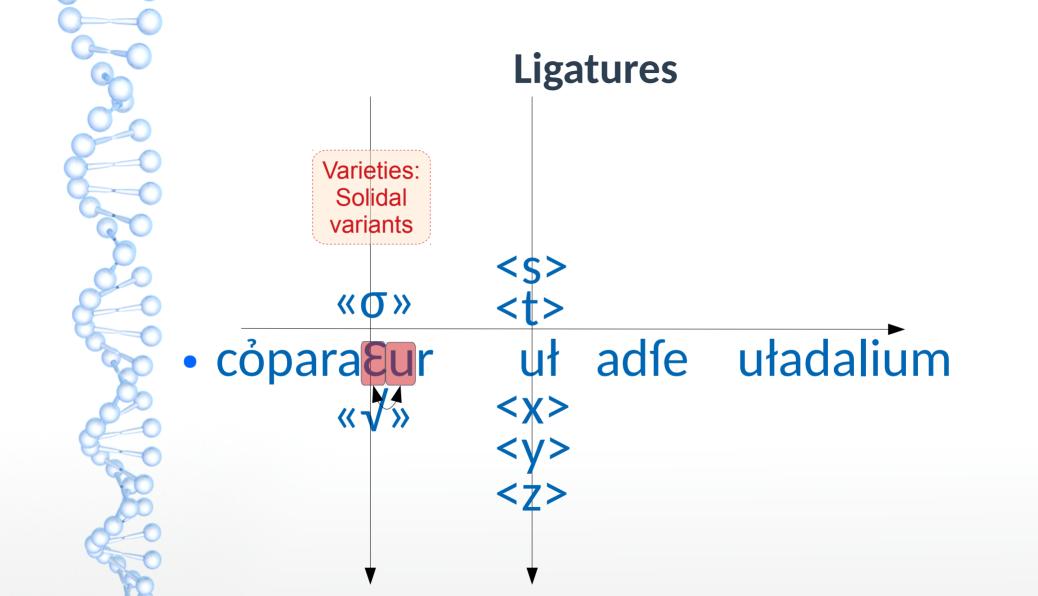
class	components
chain	parts
paradigm	members
cópa	ara E ur
•	
	chain
r	made of parts

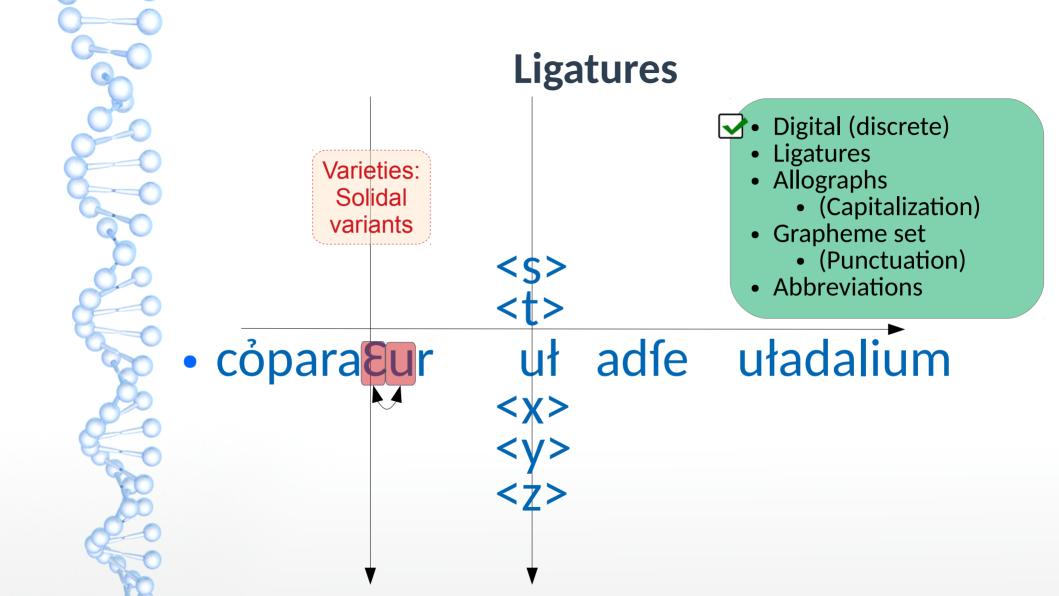


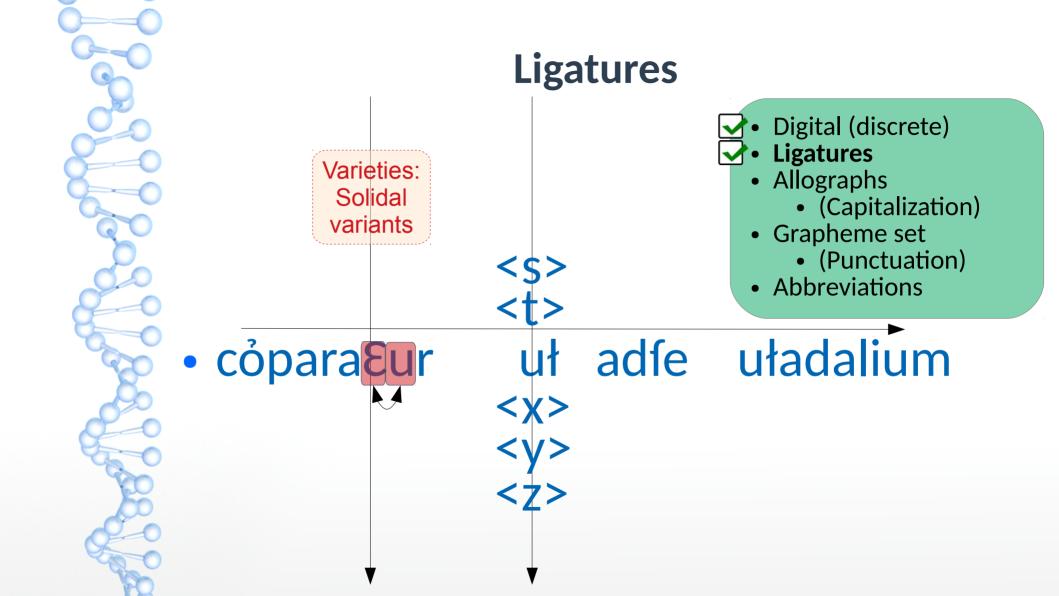
Ligatures



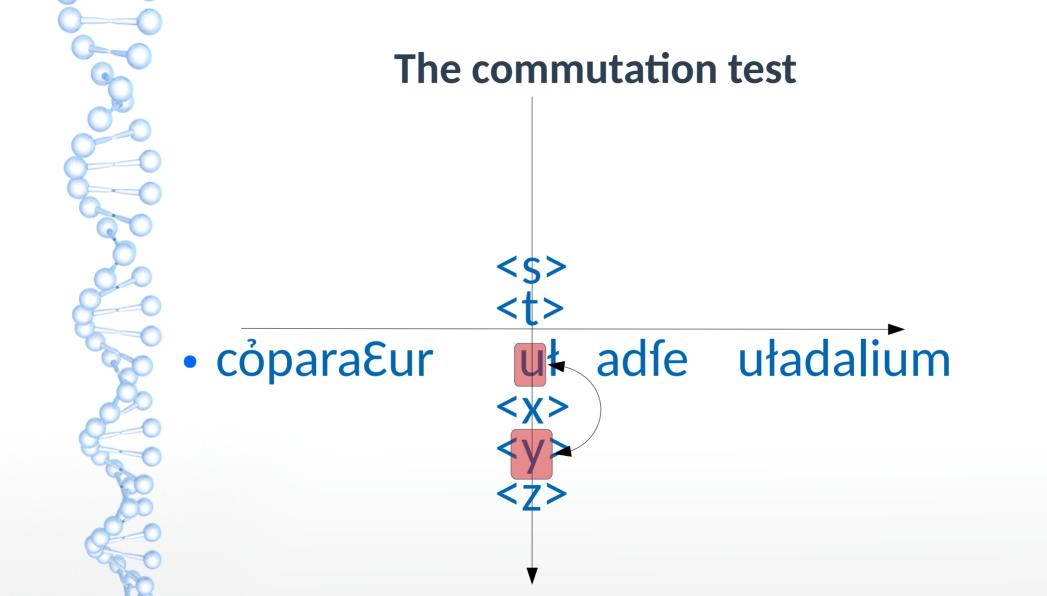


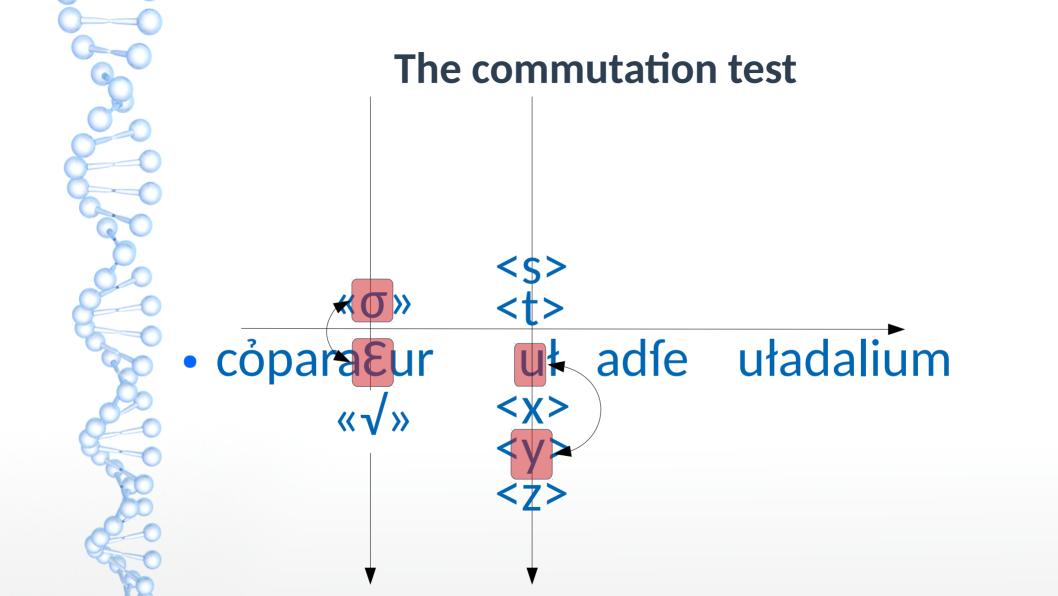


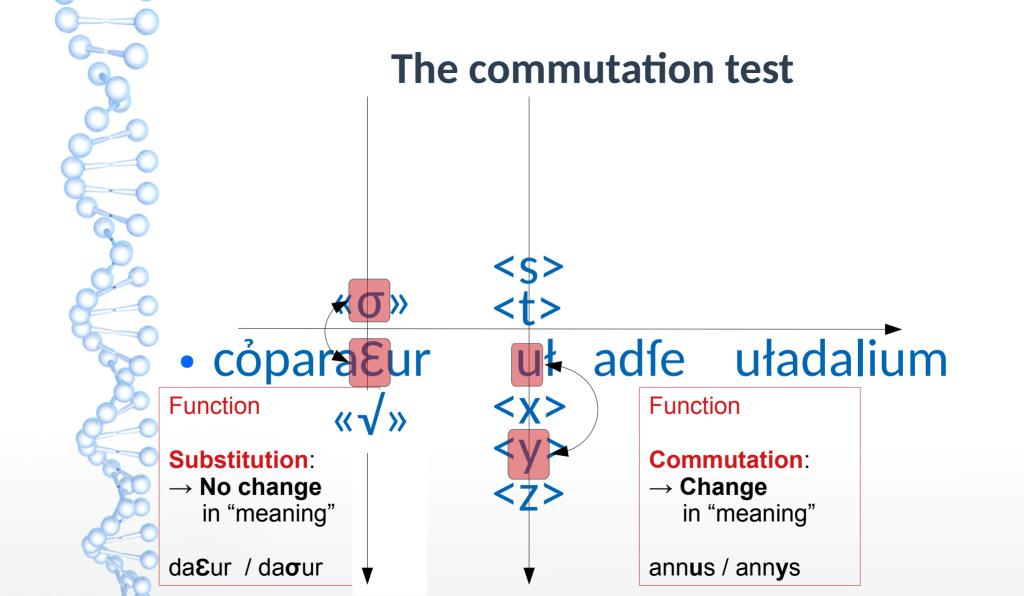


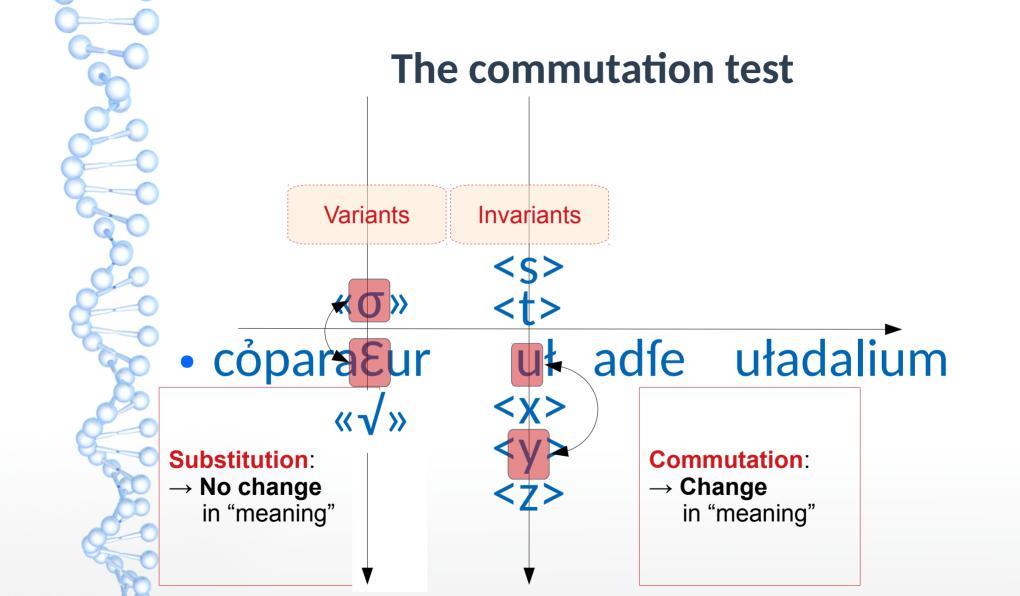


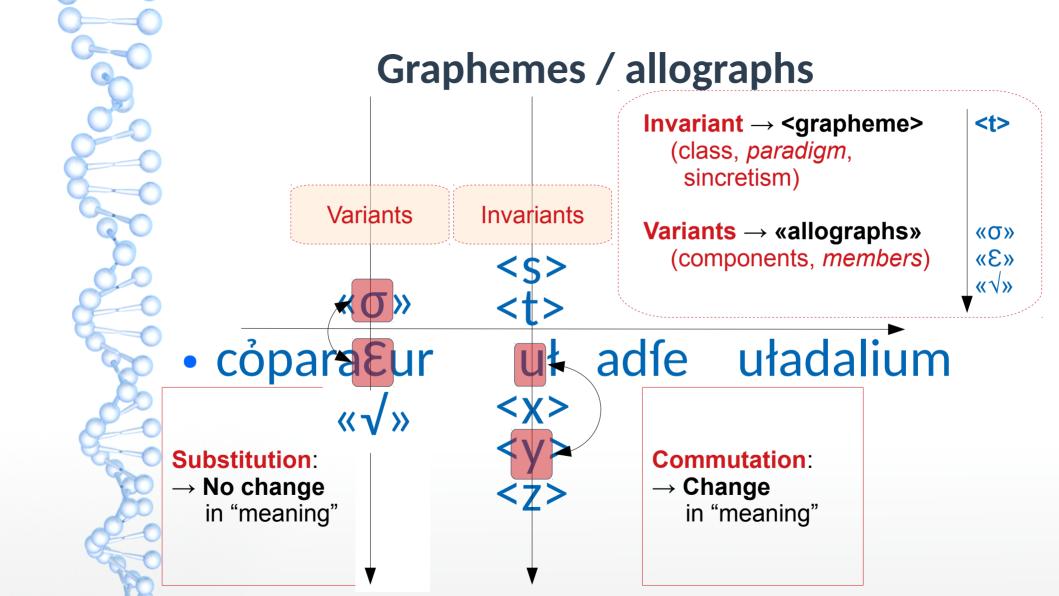
Graphemes/allographs

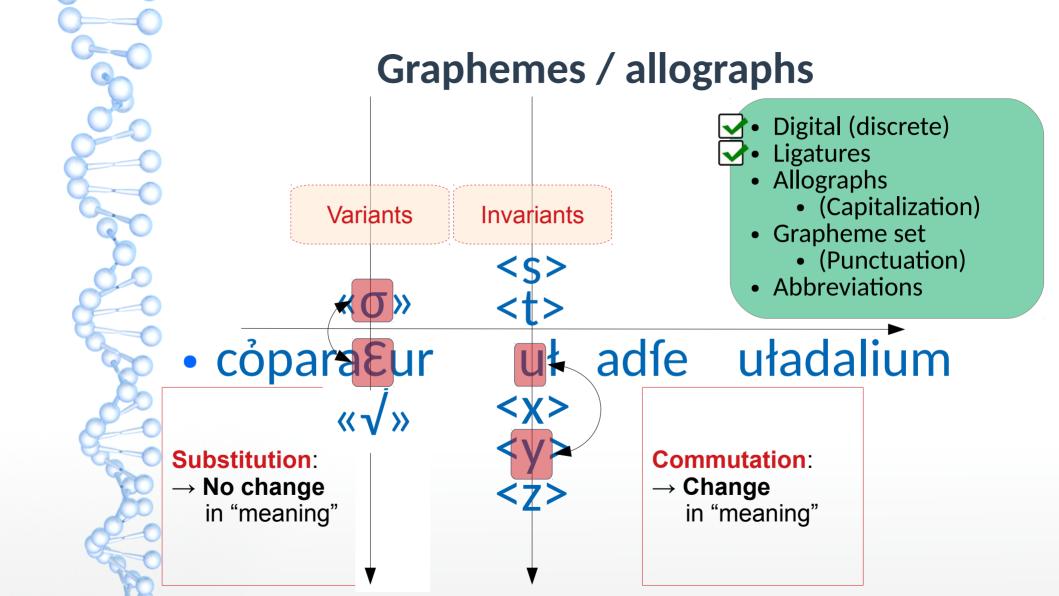


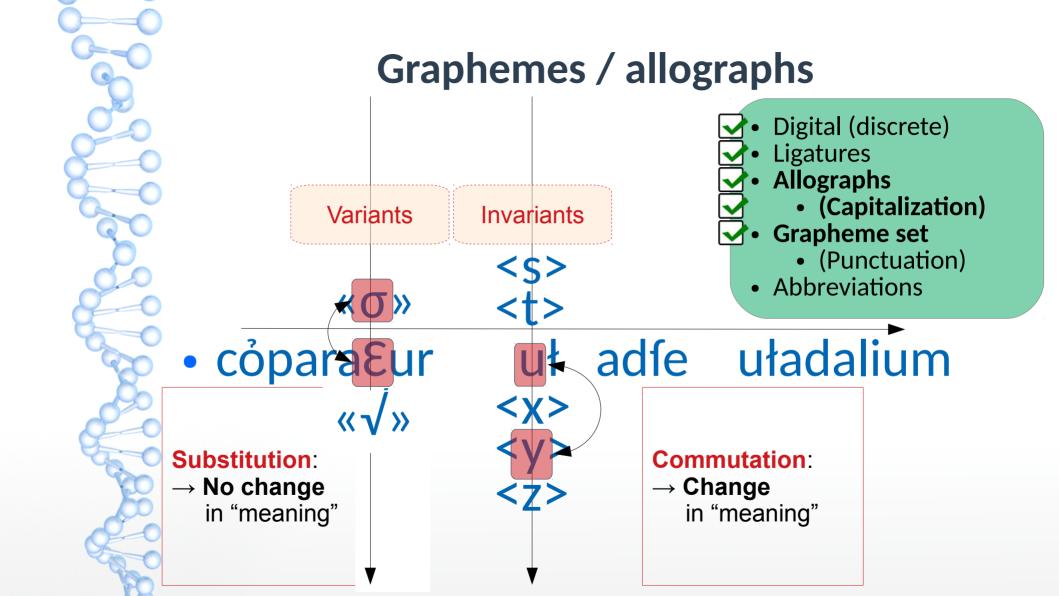


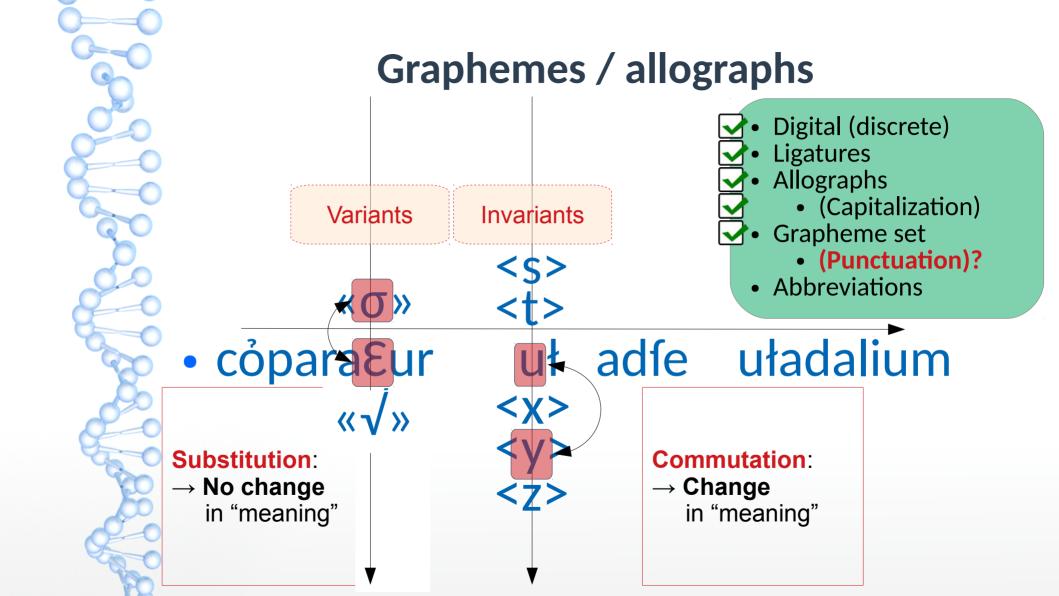




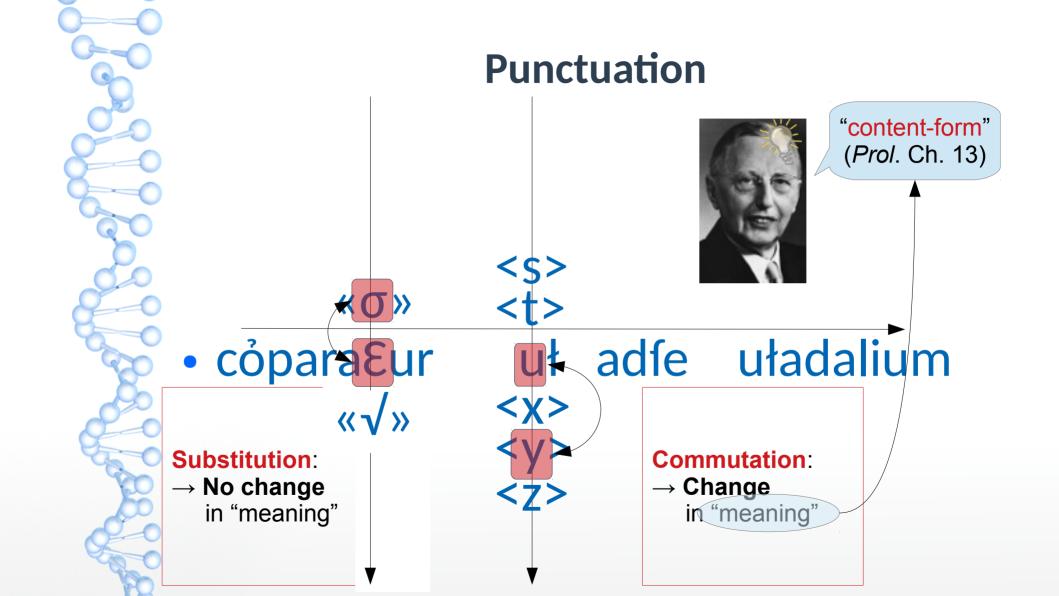


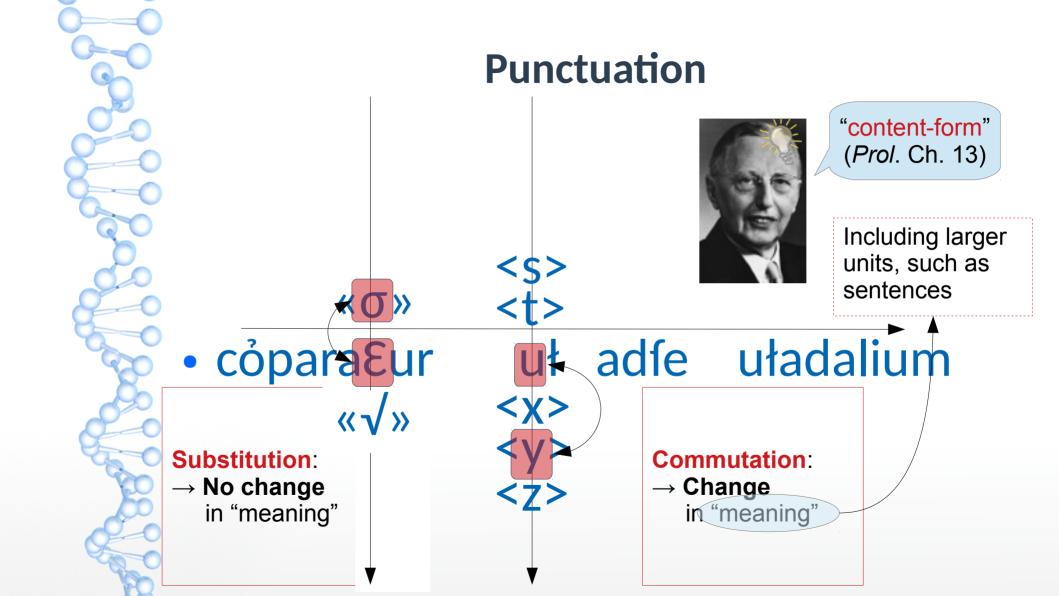






Punctuation







Punctuation



"content-form" (Prol. Ch. 13)

Including larger units, such as sentences

Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise

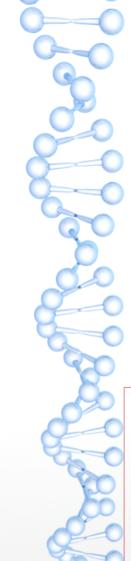
Truly I tell you today, you will be with me in paradise

Substitution

→ No change in "meaning"

Commutation:

→ Change in "meaning"



Punctuation



"content-form" (Prol. Ch. 13)

Including larger units, such as sentences

Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise

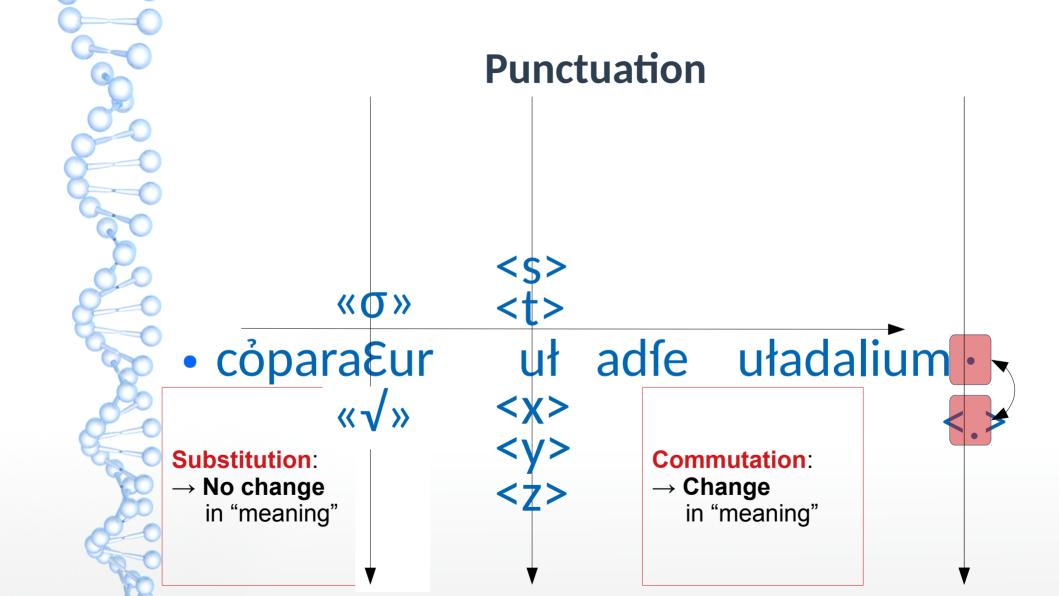
Truly I tell you today, you will be with me in paradise

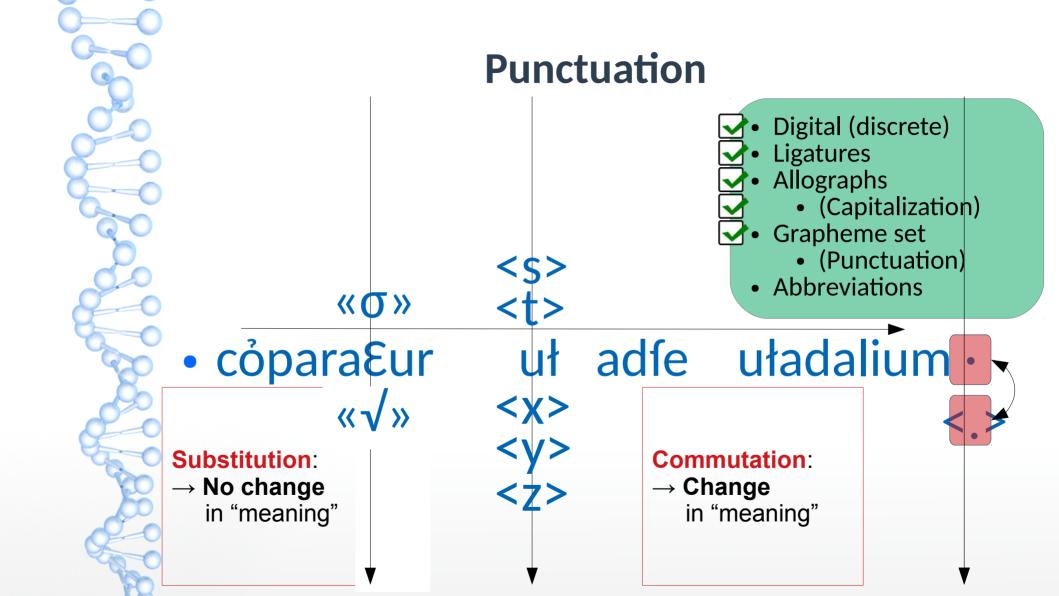
Substitution

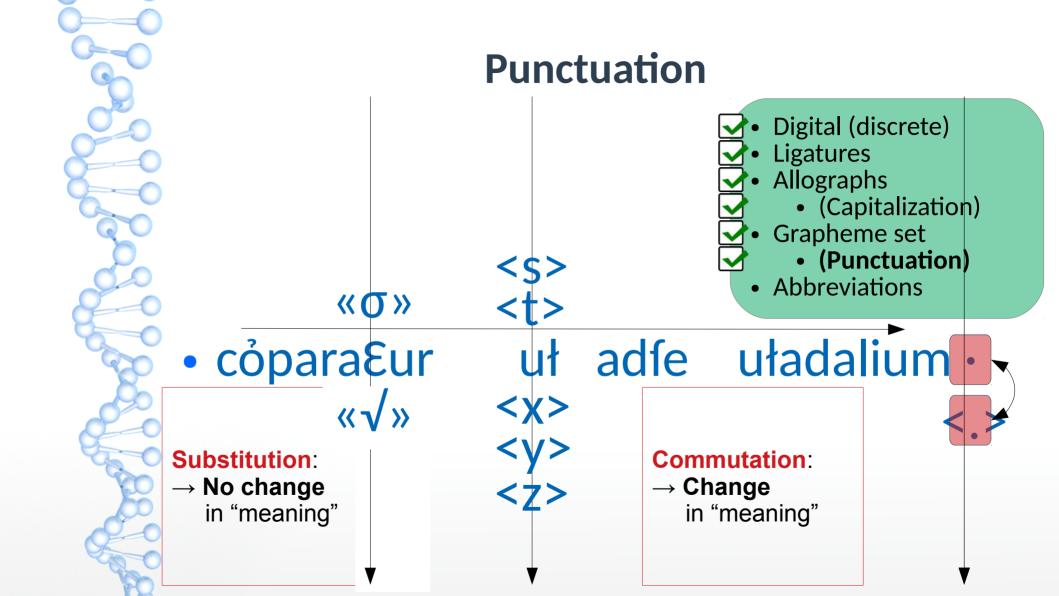
→ No change in "meaning"

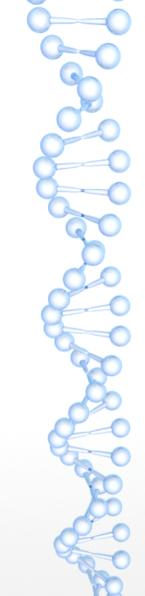
Commutation:

→ Change in "meaning"

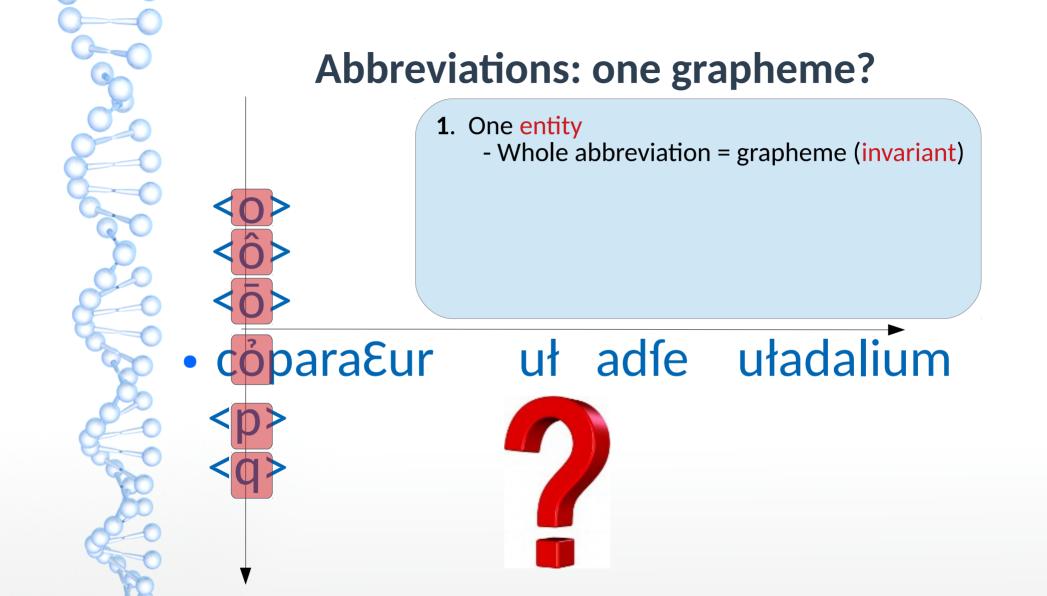


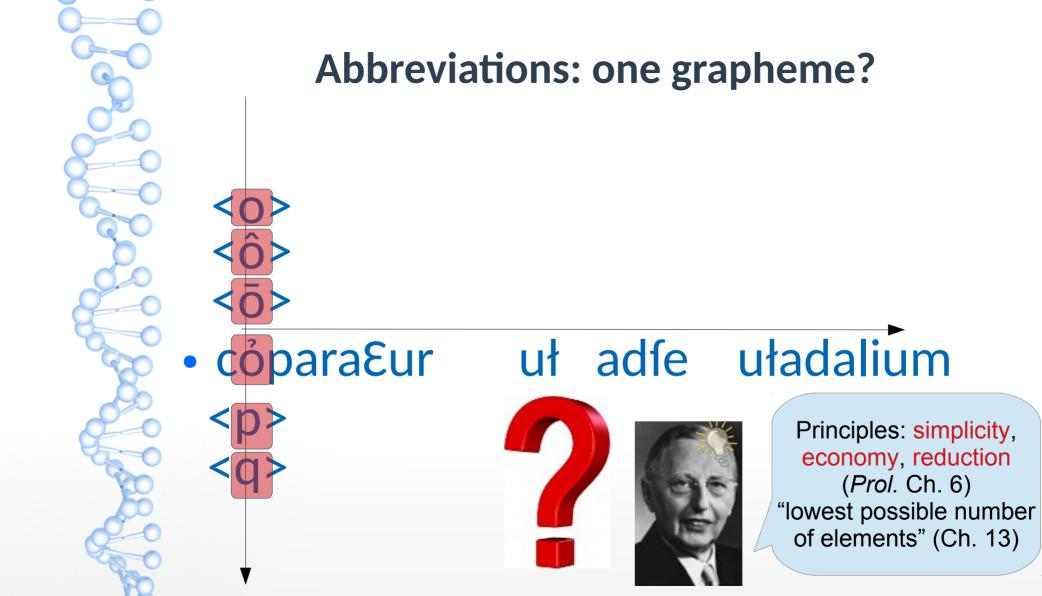






• coparaEur ut adse utadalium





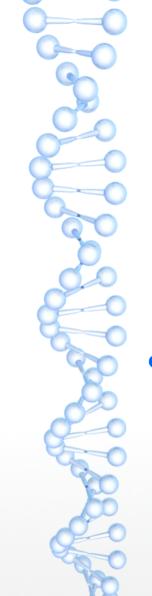
Abbreviations: function

- 1. One entity
 - Whole abbreviation = grapheme (invariant)
- 2. Two entities (function)

• ToparaEur uł adfe uładalium

Function

(entities)



Abbreviations: function → **ligature?**

- 1. One entity
 - Whole abbreviation = grapheme (invariant)
- 2. Two entities (function)2A. Ligature (solidal variants in a chain)

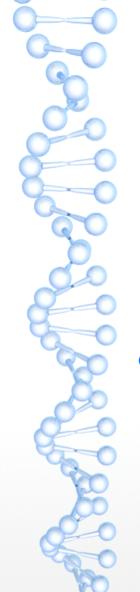
• ToparaEur

uł adfe uładalium

Function

"Ligature" (Solidal variants)





Abbreviations: function → **ligature?**

- 1. One entity
 - Whole abbreviation = grapheme (invariant)
- 2. Two entities (function)2A. Ligature (solidal variants in a chain)

• ToparaEur

uł adfe uładalium

Function

"Ligature" (Solidal variants)





Solidal: both mandatory



Abbreviations: function → selection?

- 1. One entity
 - Whole abbreviation = grapheme (invariant)
- 2. Two entities (function)
 - 2A. Ligature (solidal variants in a chain)
 - **2B.** Selection (one governs the other)

CoparaEur

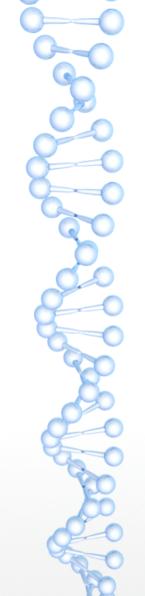
uł adfe uładalium

Function

Selection:

- one is optional
- one governs the other





Abbreviations: function \rightarrow selection?

• ToparaEur ut adse utadalium

Function

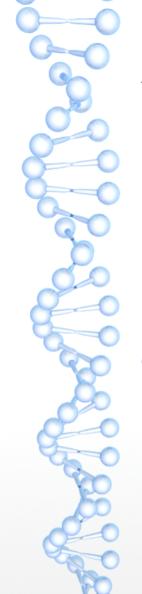
Selection.

- one is optional
- one governs the other





"chain"→sequence?



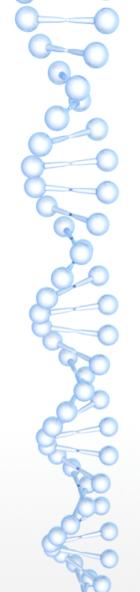
Abbreviations: function \rightarrow complementarity?

- 1. One entity
 - Whole abbreviation = grapheme (invariant)
- 2. Two entities (function)
 - **2A.** Ligature (solidal variants in a chain)
 - **2B.** Selection (one governs the other)
 - **2C.** Complementarity (interdependence)

• ToparaEur uł adfe uładalium

Function

Complementarity (interdependence in a system)



Abbreviations: function → complementarity?

• ToparaEur uł adfe uładalium

Function

Complementarity (interdependence in a system)

Example of complementarity

[case + gender + number]

Alt Alt us

nom+masc+sing

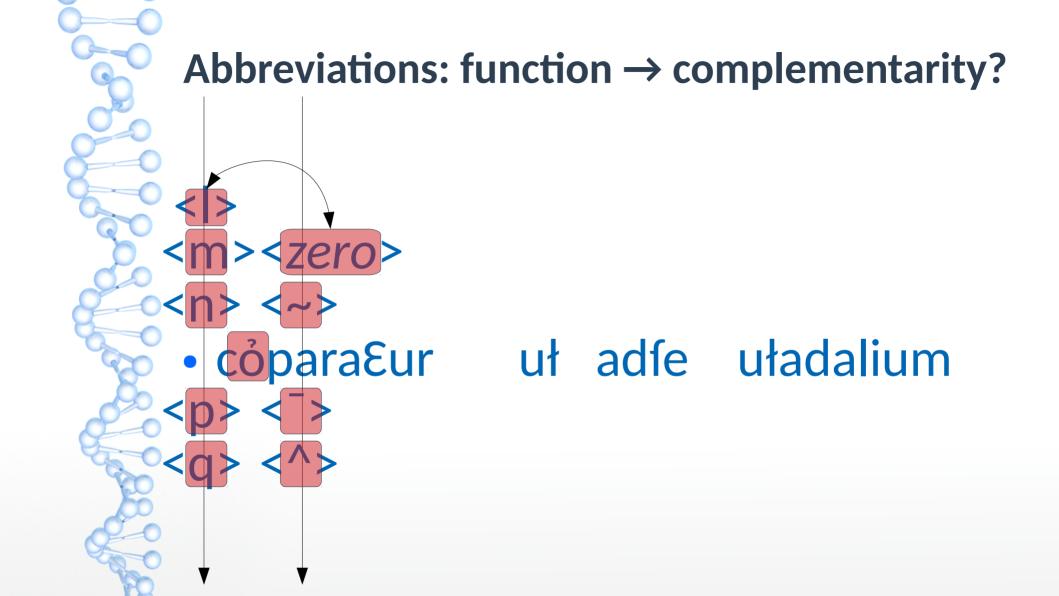
orum

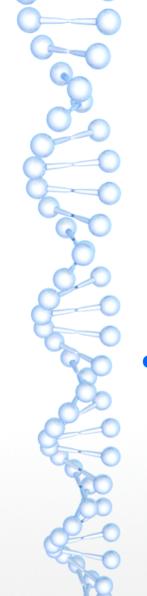
gen+m/neu+plur

Alt

arum

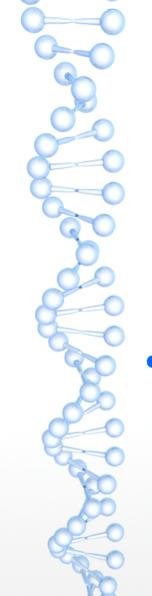
gen+ fem + plur





- 1. One entity
 - Whole abbreviation = grapheme (invariant)
- 2. Two entities (function)
 - **2A.** Ligature (solidal variants in a chain)
 - **2B.** Selection (one governs the other)
 - **2C.** Complementarity (interdependence)

coparaEur uł adfe uładalium



- Digital (discrete)
- Ligatures
- Allographs
 - (Capitalization)
- Grapheme set
 - (Punctuation)
 - Abbreviations

• coparaEur uł adfe uładalium

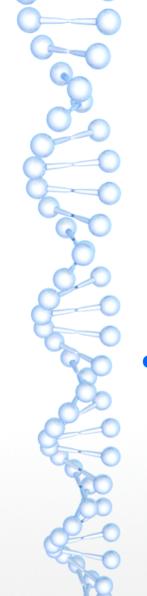


Abbreviations

- Digital (discrete)
- Ligatures
- Allographs
 - (Capitalization)
- Grapheme set
 - (Punctuation)
- ? Abbreviations

• coparaEur uł adfe uładalium

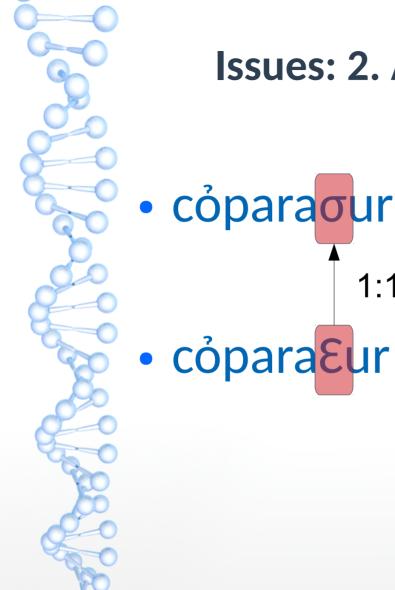
Open issues



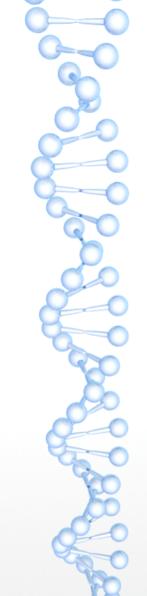
Issues: 1. Abbreviations → functions

- 1. One entity
 - Whole abbreviation = grapheme (invariant)
- 2. Two entities (function)
 - **2A.** Ligature (solidal variants in a chain)
 - **2B.** Selection (one governs the other)
 - **2C.** Complementarity (interdependence)

• coparaEur uł adfe uładalium



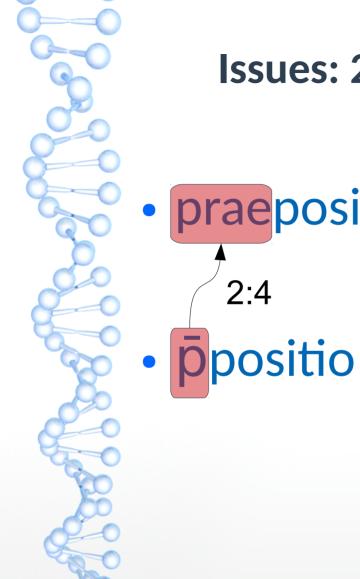
coparaσur



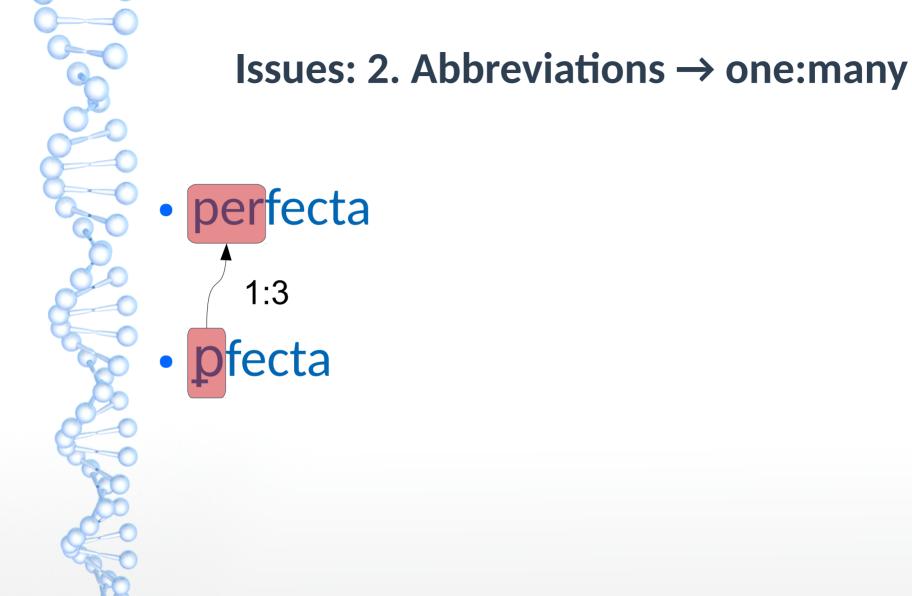
comparaσur

 $\sqrt{2:2} (2 \neq 2)$

coparaEur



praepositio





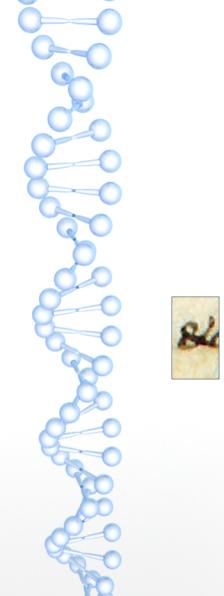
perfecta

1:3

pfecta

Alphabemes (alphabetical letters)

Graphemes



Issues: 3. Ligatures

(syntagmatic)

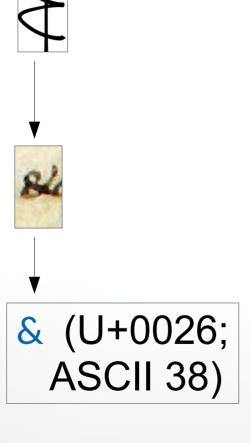
Issues: 3. Ligatures & (U+0026; ASCII 38)

& (U+0026; ASCII 38)

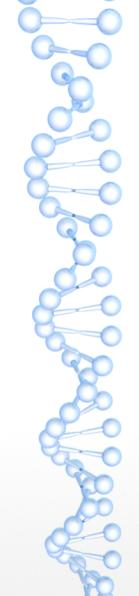
Issues: 3. Ligatures

Historical/"etymological" considerations

Issues: 3. Ligatures

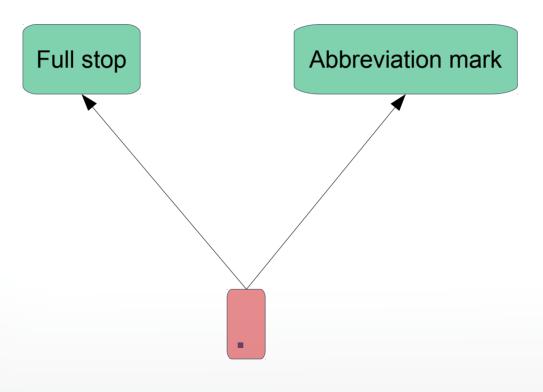


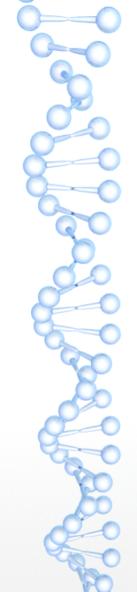
Historical/"etymological" considerations



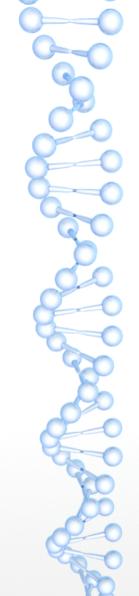
Issues: 4. Grapheme definition

(paradigmatic)

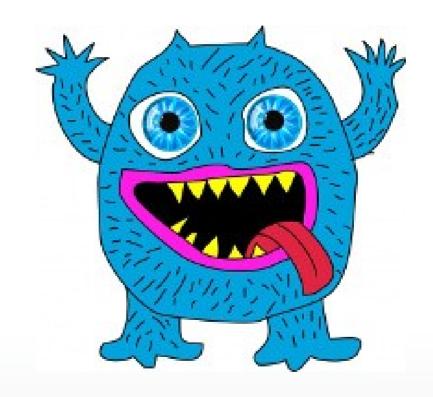


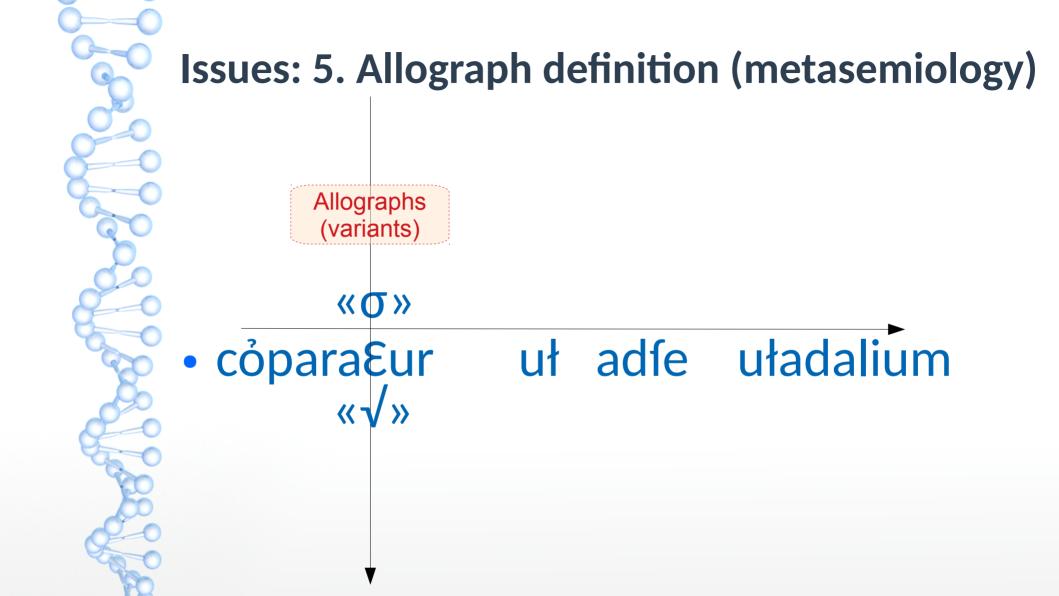


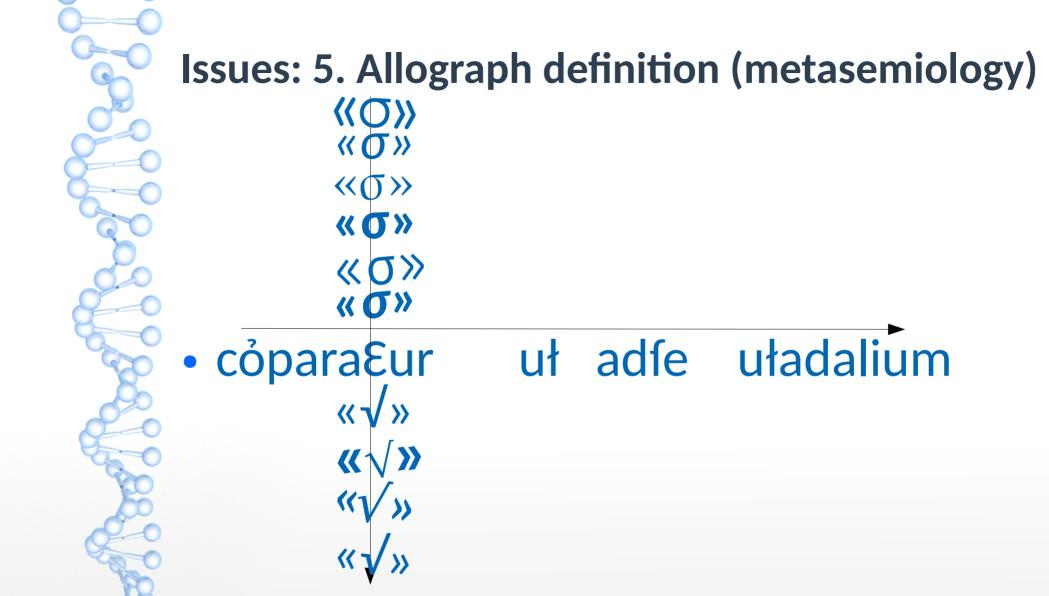
Issues: 5. Allograph definition (metasemiology)



Issues: 5. Allograph definition (metasemiology)





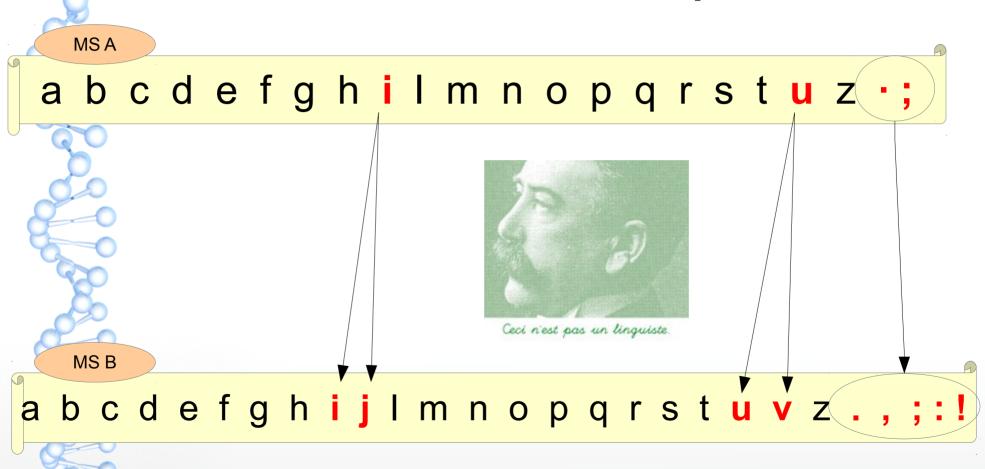


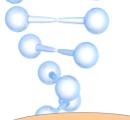
Open issues

- **1.** Abbreviations \rightarrow functions
- 2. Abbreviations → one:many
- 3. Ligatures
- 4. Grapheme definition
- 5. Allograph definition (metasemiology)

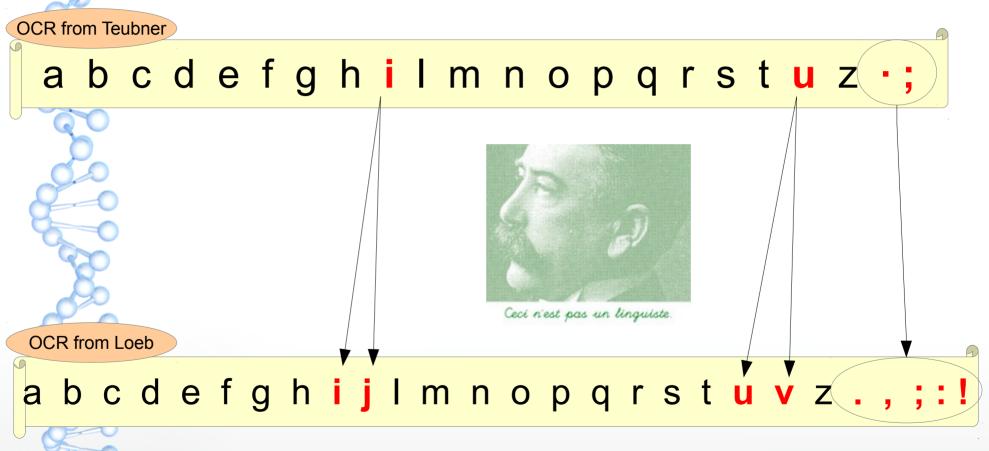
In the Tower of Babel

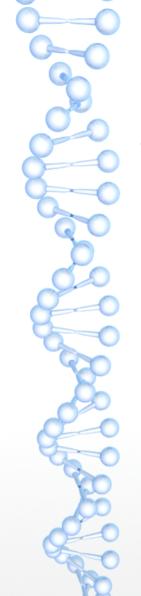
In the Tower of Babel: "diplomatic"





In the Tower of Babel: "normalized"





In the Tower of Babel

Disposable home-made solutions (project-specific)

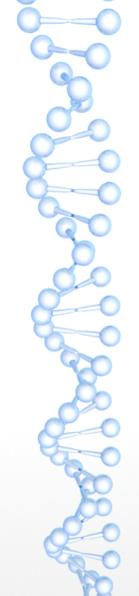
- TEI: theory-agnostic

- **Diplomatic**: Modelling pre-modern writing systems

Normalized: Normalization models / software



Out of the Tower



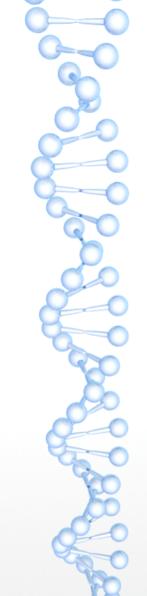
The (long) way out of the Tower



WANTED

REWARD \$4,000

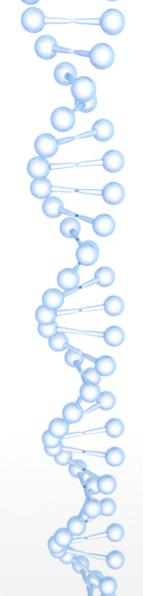
- Scholarly discussion on modelling
- Documentation on project-specific modelling
 - formal (data models, software code, tables)
 - prose
- Shared models
- Reusable software libraries



Is Unicode the short way out (as TEI says)?

- Solution for new digital texts
- Not enough for pre-modern writing systems
 - Ligatures
 - & (U+0026; ASCII 38)
 - Have I encoded that it is equivalent to "e + t" in that MS?
 - Allographs
 - (U+017F) / s (U+0073; ASCII 115)
 - Have I encoded that they are variants of grapheme <s>?
 - Grapheme set
 - **u** (U+0075; ASCII 117)
 - Have I encoded whether it "covers" (or not) <u> and <v>?

In a nutshell



In a nutshell

- Digital scholarly editions: diplomatic/normalized
- Hjelmslev's "analysis" as digital modelling for pre-modern writing systems
- Open issues
- Interoperability through modelling