

New digital editions of manuscripts

- *Codex suprasliensis*
 - <http://suprasliensis.obdurodon.org>
- *Bdinski sbornik*
 - Ghent Slavonic Ms 408, A.D. 1360
 - <http://bdinski.obdurodon.org>

Manuscripts and texts: background

- Manuscripts
 - Unique physical objects
 - Diplomatic edition
 - Codicological study
- Texts
 - Abstract, reified in manuscripts
 - Collation of witnesses, analysis of variation
 - History of textual transmission (stematology)
- Language?

Manuscripts and texts: digitization

- Background
 - The only material reality is the manuscript
 - Textual information is encoded in the manuscript
 - The human reads selectively at different levels (manuscript, text, language)
- Tasks
 - Can we use the same digital files for both types of editions?
 - Can we combine the two in a single workstation framework?

The *Rus'* primary chronicle

- Five principal witnesses
 - Text dates to early twelfth century
 - Oldest ms is *Lav* (1377)
- Full interlinear collation
 - Harvard UP, 2004; 3 v., 2368 p.
 - Aligned by “Karskij line”
 - Aligned by word

“The story of Mary, Abraham’s niece”

- Part of the “Life of Abraham of Qidun”
 - Included in the *Paraenesis* of Efrem the Syrian
 - Syriac original, translated from Greek into Slavonic
- More than 40 known witnesses, most of the *Paraenesis*
- Slavic textology presupposes Greek textology
 - Cf. Mario Capaldo’s Greek parallels to the *Codex Suprasliensis*

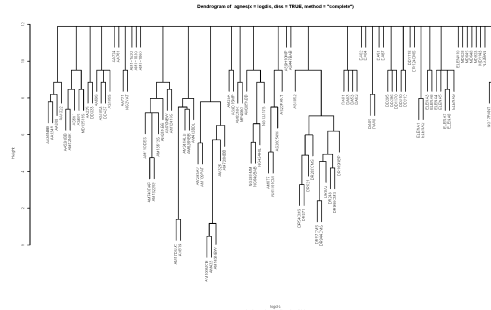
The Repertorium

- *Repertorium of Old Bulgarian literature and letters*
- *Mixed-content miscellany* manuscripts are similar in the selection *and arrangement* of their contents
- Which manuscripts are similar to which other manuscripts in the corpus in their contents?
- How can we best visualize the relationships?
 - The old way: lists, tables
 - The new way: dendrograms, plectograms

Tables

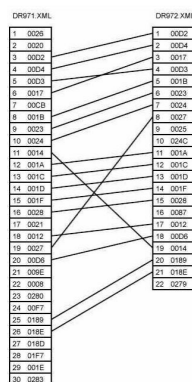
	MS1	MS2	MS3	MS4	MS5	MS6	MS7	MS7	Etc.
Curly	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Larry	2	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Moe	3	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Laurel	4	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hardy	5	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abbot	6	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Costello	7	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Groucho	8	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Harpo	9	26	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chico	10	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Dendrogram



Plectogram

- Trebniki (prayer books)
- Strong thematic unity
 - Individual articles
 - Sequences
- Microsequences

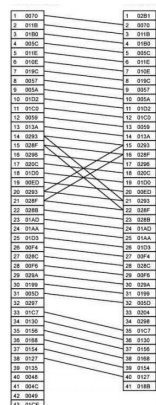


Plectograms

- “[P]lectograms [...] are presented as working aids showing the degree of existing relationship, not as proposed genealogical models.” (125)
- “[T]he device lets us see at a glance the contours of the relationship. It allows us to give focus and priority to information that otherwise would be unwieldy; it allows us to set manageably small tasks for further work in strategic sampling of textual and other relationships.” (131)

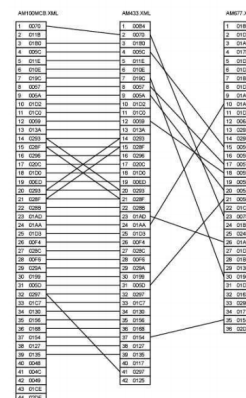
Mixed content miscellanies

- Very strong sequences
- Two pairs of texts appear twice each, in the same order and position
- Why twice?
 - Compilation from multiple sources
- Why twice in two manuscripts?
 - Direct copying?
- Mind the gap
 - 0297 “Questions of St. John the Theologian to Abraham”
 - 0298 “Questions of St. John the Theologian to Abraham, fragment”

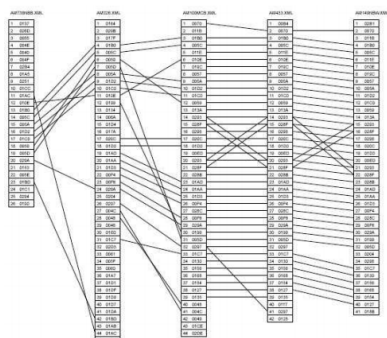


Mixed content miscellanies

- Two closely related mixed content miscellanies and an outlier
- Similar content vs similar content and structure

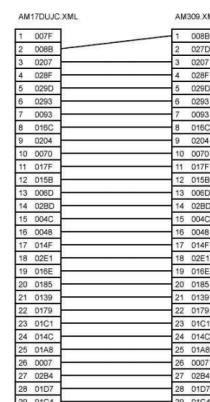


Mixed content miscellanies



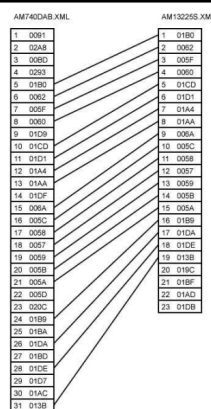
Mixed content miscellanies

- "Twins"
- AM17DUJC is copied from AM309 (Miltanova)



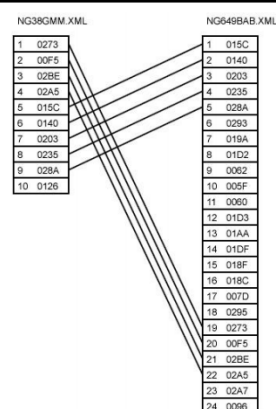
Mixed content miscellanies

- "Focusing" (Olmsted)
- Selection vs expansion



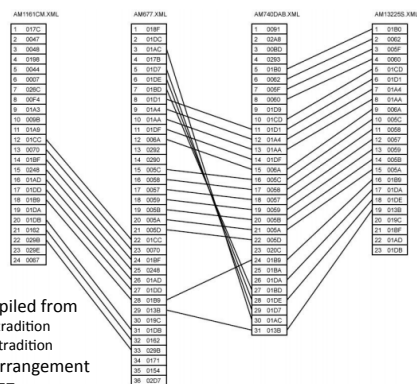
Mixed content miscellanies

- Chiasmic correspondences
- Rearrangement and rebinding of NG649BAB

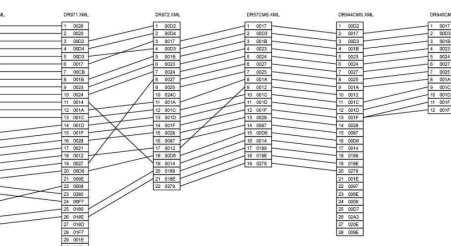


Mixed content miscellanies

- AM677 is compiled from
 - AM740DAB tradition
 - AM1161CM tradition
- Deliberate rearrangement at top of AM677



Fixed content miscellanies



- First two vs last four
- Strong thematic correspondence throughout
- Thematic correspondence vs shared textual transmission

Visualization

- Daniil Zatočnik (*Slovo* and *Molenie*)
- Medieval saints as Facebook friends
- Karolina Pavlova, *A double life*

Daniil Zatočnik

- Florilegium (gnomic wisdom)
- The *Slovo* and *Molenie* are different *works* (not just texts) with shared textual material
- How can we represent and explore the relationships between the works?
- The old way: lists, tables
- The new ways: plectogram, dynamic synchronization

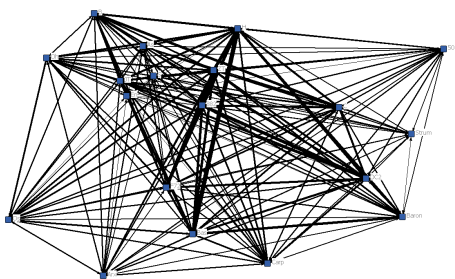
Medieval saints as Facebook friends

- Gospel and Apostol manuscripts may include a calendar of saints
- Shared entries suggest shared textual transmission
- What is the “social network” described by shared entries?

Facebook?!

- Manuscripts and saints are Facebook users
- Manuscripts “friend” saints by including them
- Manuscripts cannot friend manuscripts directly ...
 - ... but there’s an indirect network relationship based on the saintly friends they share
- Infer a weighted relationship between manuscripts

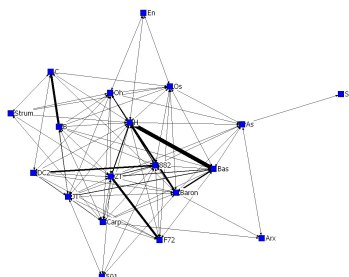
The social network “hairball”



“Loser” saints

- The social network “hairball”
 - Most saints occur in lots of manuscripts
 - Most manuscripts have roughly comparable connectivity
 - Too many lines, too poorly differentiated
- Loser saints have only two manuscript friends
 - Common shared values don’t differentiate within the corpus
 - Throw away data when it distracts from information

The loser network



Karolina Pavlova, *A double life*

- Cecilia, the protagonist, is the most present character in the novel.
- What is the relationship between presence and agency?
- Does she speak and act? Or is she present because others talk about her?
- How does her role change over the course of the novel?
- What, more generally, are the roles of men and women with respect to presence, speech, and agency? Old and young?
- <http://pavlova.obdurodon.org>

Rusian genealogy

- Riurik genealogy
- Dynastic marriage
- Personal data
- Search by name, place, regnal year
- Under development: dynamic family trees

Summary: Projects

- Editions of manuscripts
 - “The life of Paul the Simple”
 - *Codex Suprasliensis*
 - *Bdinski sbornik*
- Editions of texts
 - *Rus’ primary chronicle*
 - “The story of Mary, Abraham’s niece”
- Digital codicology
 - *Repertorium*
- Visualization
 - Daniil Zatočnik (*Slovo and Molenie*)
 - Medieval saints as Facebook friends
 - Karolina Pavlova, *A double life*
- Digital history
 - *Rusian genealogy*

David J. Birnbaum

- University of Pittsburgh
- djbipitt@gmail.com
- <http://www.obdurodon.org>