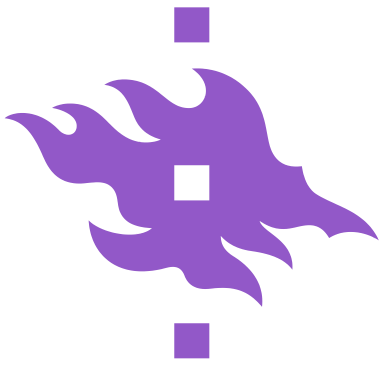# Current state of New Testament textual criticism – and how computer-assisted stemmatology is changing the field
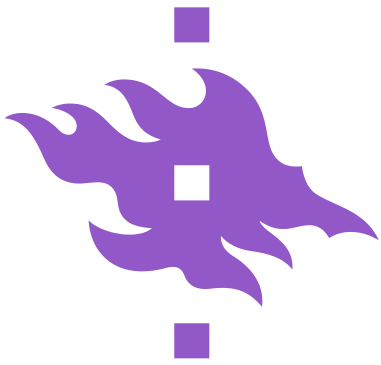
Pasi Hyytiäinen

Doctoral student

Paradigm shift

- The text-type theory is crumpling in front of our eyes:
  - Alexandrian : old, reliable text
  - Western: the result of the undisciplined and "wild" growth of manuscript tradition
  - Caesarean : ?
  - Byzantine: sought to smooth away any harshness of language
- Problem: NT texts do not arrange into types or groups

Revolutionary computer-assisted toolbox...?

Coherence-Based Genealogical Method (CBGM)

Westfälische
Wilhelms-Universität
Münster

Institut für
Neutestamentliche
Textforschung

Kirjaudu sisään

Welcome

Manuscript Workspace

NT Transcripts

NT Conjectures

Forum

Liste

Transcribing

Indexing

Status

Help

NA28

About

Reset

Welcome to the...

New Testament Virtual Manuscript Room

This site is devoted to the study of Greek New Testament manuscripts. The New Testament Virtual Manuscript Room is a place where scholars can come to find the most exhaustive list of New Testament manuscript resources, can contribute to marking attributes about these manuscripts, and can find state of the art tools for researching this rich dataset.

While our tools are reasonably functional for anonymous users, they provide additional features and save options once a user has created an account and is logged in on the site. For example, registered users can save transcribed pages to their personal account and create personalized annotations to images.

License Agreement

DFG Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft

museum of the Bible

Hermann Kunst-Stiftung

Evangelische Kirche von Westfalen

ECCLESIA Versicherungsdienst GmbH

Evonik Stiftung

RSS

Recent Additions

Latest additions to the New Testament Virtual Manuscript Room. Last modification date given for each document. Numbers reflect activity for the past 10 days.

- **1982 (31982)**
  - 13.5.2017 17:19
  - 2 verses indexed by dora

- **2768 (32768)**
  - 13.5.2017 9:56
  - 149 verses indexed by bruce
  - 55 features annotated by bruce

- **1219 (31219)**

NTVMR Bloggers

TuT of Revelation

Kirjoittanut **Darius Mueller**, Päivällä 26.4.2017 10:37

"This is just a little announcement of an extensive volume which wil be published soon. ... " Lue lisää »

New entries to the "Liste"

Kirjoittanut **marie-luise lakmann**, Päivällä 5.4.2017 14:30

" GA I 2466 (ID 42466) 14th century, lectionary (I P), greek minuscu lisää »

Update: Available Transcriptions of Revelation

Kirjoittanut **Darius Mueller**, Päivällä 27.3.2017 8:58

"The ECM Project of Revelation goes on well and has recently publ transcriptions: In... " Lue lisää »

New entries to the "Liste"

Kirjoittanut **marie-luise lakmann**, Päivällä 8.12.2016 15:52

"GA 2933 (ID 32933) 4 folios later added to GA 785 (fol. 1. 69. 109 century... " Lue lisää »

Final Transcription of Apoc 104

Kirjoittanut **Darius Mueller**, Päivällä 13.9.2016 15:14   transcript

ga 104   ny ephelkystikon   interpunction

"One small step for textual criticism, but one giant leap for the ISBT Wuppertal research... " Lue lisää »

Genealogical Queries

Version 2.0 (July 2013)

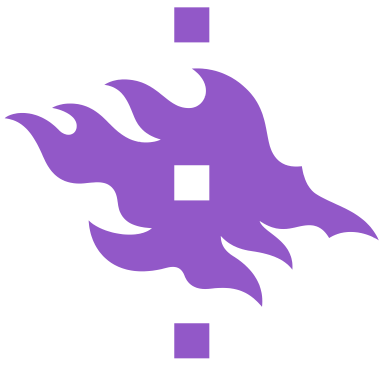Potential Ancestors and Descendants
Comparison of Witnesses
Coherence in Attestations
Coherence at Variant Passages
Local Stemmata

Home   Guide   Anleitung
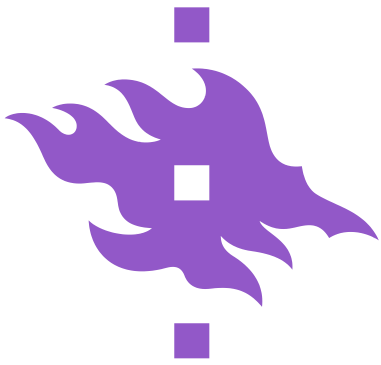
University of
Münster
Institute
for New Testament
Textual Research

Coherence-Based Genealogical Method (CBGM)?

- **The general objective of CBGM...?**
  - To improve our understanding of textual history
  - Reconstruct its starting point, i.e. the initial text (Ausgangstext):
    - Authorial text
    - An edition
    - Archetype

Coherence-Based Genealogical Method (CBGM)?

- **Basic assumptions:**

- Contamination as a process

  - Every single manuscript have close relatives

- Coincidental rise of variants

- Every single manuscript text contains readings of different age
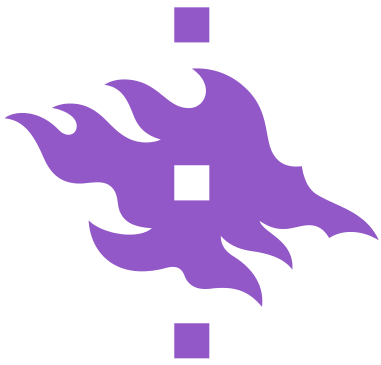
Coherence-Based Genealogical Method (CBGM)?

- CBGM is a hybrid between computer analysis and traditional textual critical methods

- Examples:

  - Computer analysis:

    – Pre-genealogical coherence

      – The degree of textual agreement among witnesses

      – Starting point of CBGM

Comparison of Witnesses

Version 2.0 (July 2013)

Enter Gregory-Aland numbers of the witnesses you want to compare. Enter 'A' for the initial text.

| Witness 1 | 01 | Witness 2 | 02 |

GO! Reset

Guide   Anleitung

Main Menu

Comparison of 01 and 02

W1	DIR	W2	WRIT	NR	PERC1	EQ	PASS	W1<W2	W1>W2	UNCL	NOREL
01	-->	02	Jas	8	86.980	648	745	31	54	6	7
01	<--	02	1P	4	84.406	590	699	65	28	11	5
01	<--	02	2P	3	85.539	349	408	28	23	6	3
01	<--	02	1J	68	84.564	630	745	51	49	10	5
01	-->	02	2J	23	81.553	84	103	6	7	3	3
01	-->	02	3J	3	88.298	83	94	4	7	0	0
01	<--	02	Jd	17	84.080	169	201	17	9	3	3
01	<--	02	CL	4	85.242	2553	2995	202	177	39	26

Version 2.0
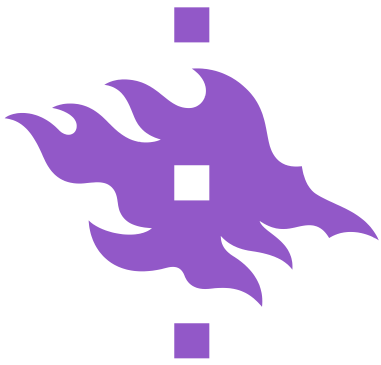
View Differences   Return to Input Form
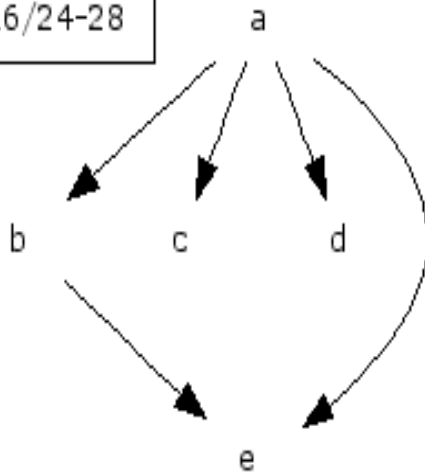
Coherence-Based Genealogical Method (CBGM)?

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- Examples:

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      – The degree of textual agreement among witnesses

      – Starting point of CBGM

  - Textual critical methods:

    – Local stemmata

1P 4:16/24-28

a) τω μερει τουτω
b) τω ονοματι τουτω
c) τω μερει τουτου
d) τουτω τω μερει
e) τω μερει τουτω η τω
ονοματι τουτω

Comparison of 01 and 02

W1	DIR	W2	WRIT	NR	PERC1	EQ	PASS	W1<W2	W1>W2	UNCL	NOREL
01	-->	02	Jas	8	86.980	648	745	31	54	6	7
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01	<--	02	CL	4	85.242	2553	2995	202	177	39	26

Version 2.0

View Differences   Return to Input Form

Coherence in Attestations

Version 2.0 (July 2013)

Variant Address

	First Word or Space			Last Word or Space			Variant
1Pt ⇕	4	16	24	4	16	28	a

Data Source

○ This Writing

◉ Catholic Letters incl. fragments

○ Catholic Letters excl. fragments

Connectivity

○ Low (1-5 ancestors)

◉ Average (1-10 ancestors)

○ Absolute

○ User Defined   up to ▢

Initial Reading   a

[GO!] [Reset]

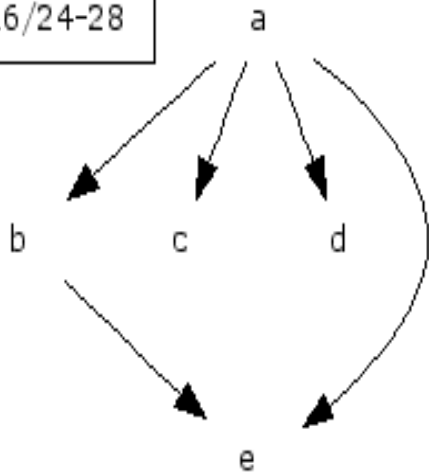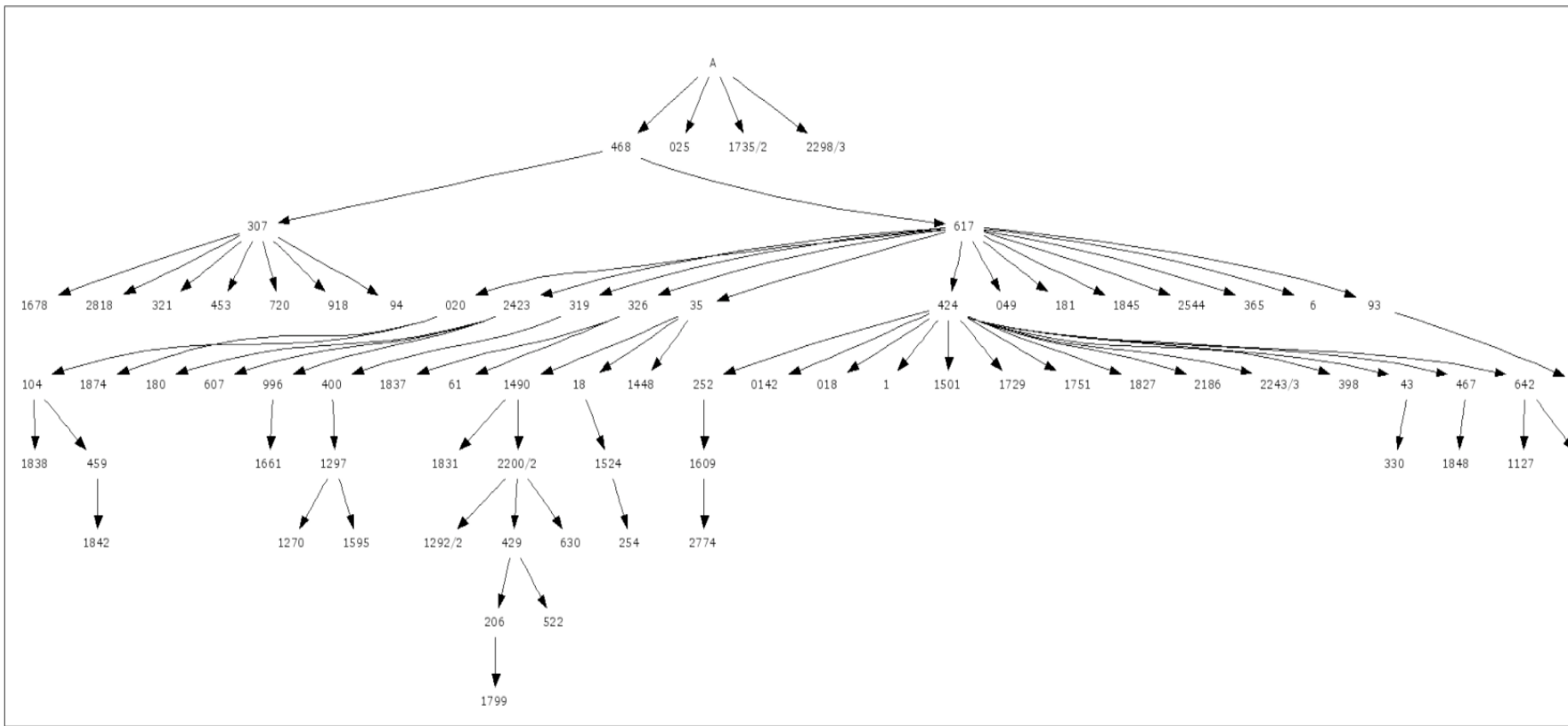*Calculation may take up to 60 seconds...*

Guide   Anleitung

Main Menu
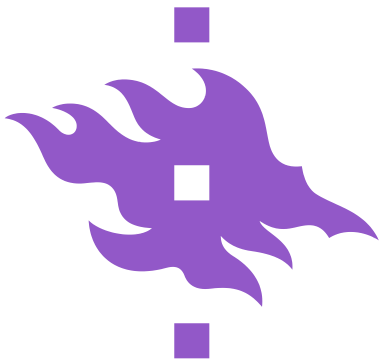
1P 4:16/24-28

a) τω μερει τουτω
b) τω ονοματι τουτω
c) τω μερει τουτου
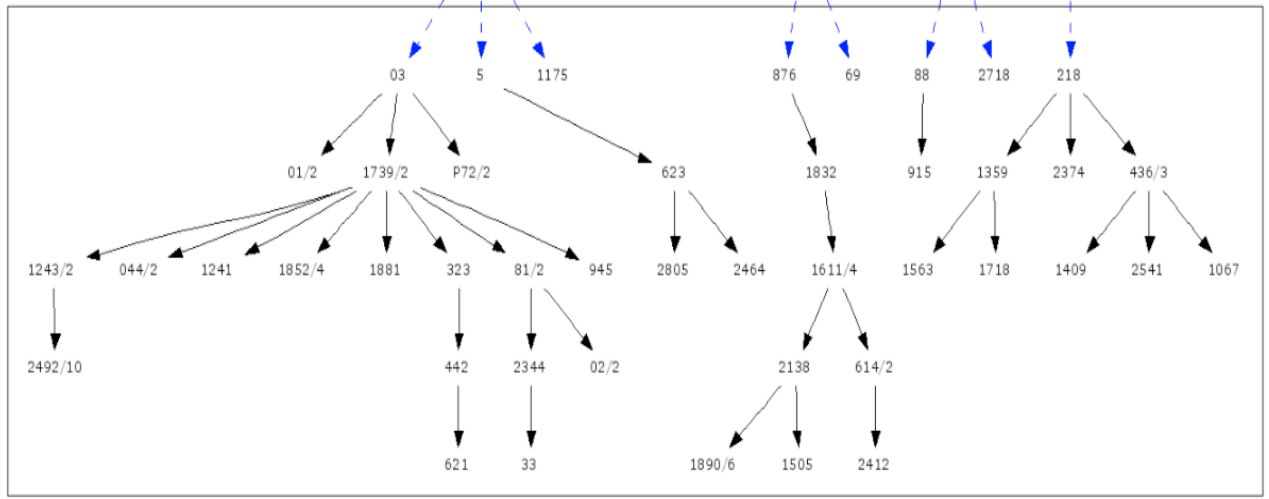d) τουτω τω μερει
e) τω μερει τουτω η τω
ονοματι τουτω

2.0 (July 2013)

16/24-28a
on= 10

Version 2.0 (July 2013)

Show Table   Show Local Stemma   Return to Input Form
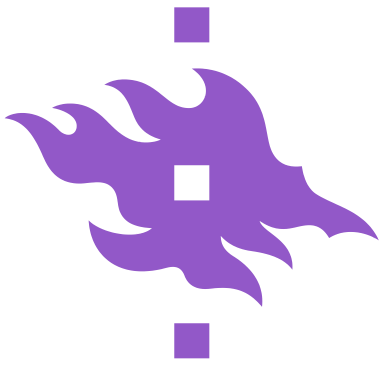
CBGM- A Phylogenetic method?

- Mink: Some procedures, for instance, cladistic analysis, provide diagrams similiar to tree, but the branches have no direction...

- Wachtel: We are looking at kind of, yes, one might call it a degeneration and not an evolution...

- Differences:

  - CBGM creates stemmata of texts, not manuscripts, unlike with current usage of cladistics

  - CBGM dispenses with hypothetical ancestors, that stand in as lost ancestors, whereas cladistics does not