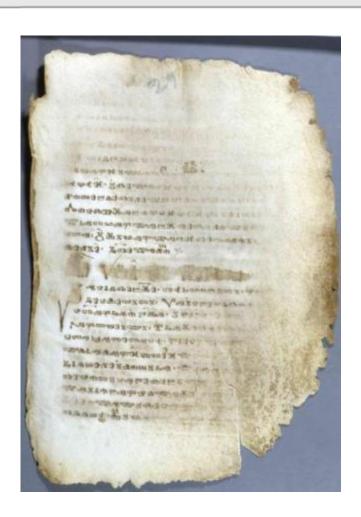


Technical Approaches to Manuscript Analysis and Reconstruction

Florian Kleber, Markus Diem, Fabian Hollaus, Martin Lettner, Robert Sablatnig
Vienna University of Technology, Computer Vision Lab

Content: Philological Part

- Projects Sinai I and II
 - Project aims
 - The manuscripts
- The challenges
- Philological results





The Sinai Projects I & II

Main aims of the Austrian Science Fund projects

(lead by H. Miklas)

- Documentation,
- Analysis and
- Edition

of Slavic Glagolitic manuscripts





I: The Manuscripts: Missale Sinaiticum

Focused mainly on two, later three Old Church Slavonic mss. discovered in 1975 at St. Catherine's Monastery on Mt. Sinai:

 Missale Sinaiticum (Cod. Sin. slav. 5/N)





I: The Manuscripts: Euchologium Sinaiticum

Euchologium Sinaiticum
 (Cod. Sin. slav. 1/N)





I: The Manuscripts: Psalterium Demetrii Sinaitici

and later also the only codex preserved in its entirety:

Psalterium Demetrii (Cod. Sin. slav. 3/N)





II - Extended Scope: The Sinaitic Tradition

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以在我们中的中国



1. Euch. Sin. pars vetus

2. Cod. Clozianus

3. Cod. Assemanianus

4. Kiev Folia



Challenges

- Deplorable state, most challenging:
 - non-uniform
 appearance
 of the writing and the background
 - fading out of ink
 - mold, water stains, humidity
 - partially palimpsests
 - chemical conversion of black into white ink





Script Description & Restoration

- New perspectives for palaeographical and graphemic analyses of alphabetic (phonographic) writing systems
- Dating and localizing connections of scribe schools and text traditions
 - Discovering the (hi-)story of the "Sinaitic tradition", i.e. the migration and role of Jerusalem and Mt. Sinai for the preservation of Glagolitic manuscripts

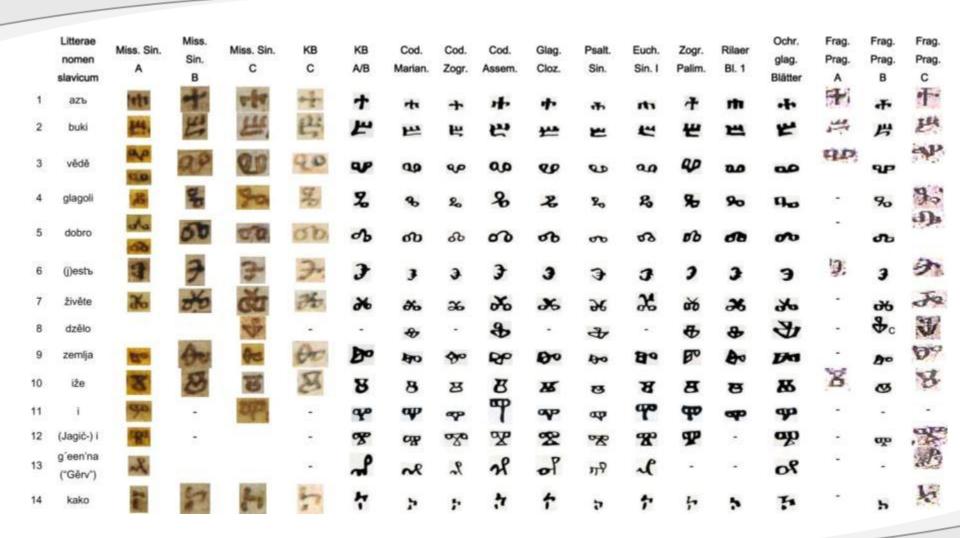


New Transcripts

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Glagolitic Original
                                                                                                                                                                              Cyrillic Transliteration
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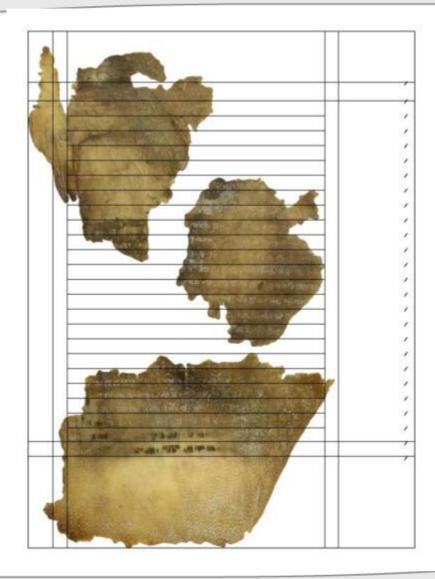


Character Tables





Fragment Reconstruction





Digital Edition in the Manuscript Database System



http://mns.udsu.ru/index_en.html





Content: Technical Part

- Motivation
- Digital Manuscript Analysis
 - Multispectral Imaging
 - Image Enhancement
 - Character Analysis and Recognition
 - Document Analysis
- Toolbox
- Conclusion





Motivation

- Digital imaging opens new possibilities in preserving, analysis and reconstruction of manuscripts.
- Less time-consuming analysis of manuscripts due to automatic image analysis methods.
- Exploit information which can not be gained by analogue techniques/devices.

Provide specialised "Tools" to support Philologists in analysing and editing manuscripts.





Digital Manuscript Analysis: Overview

 Multispectral Image Acquisition and Registration

 Foreground Background Separation

 Page Layout and Ruling estimation

 Script description and Stroke Analysis

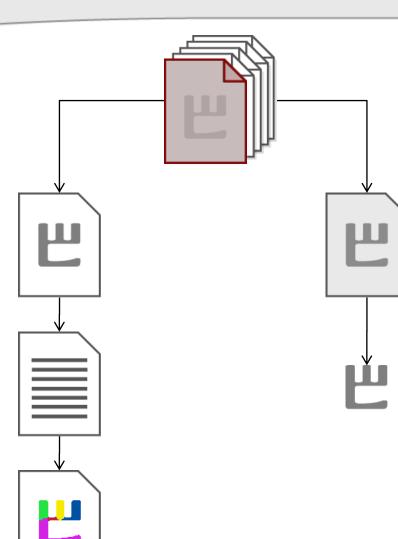


Image Enhancement

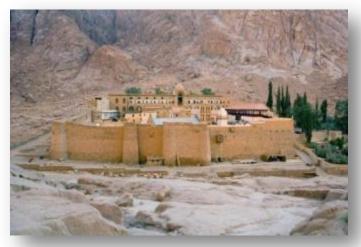
OCR





Image Acquisition

- Journey to St. Catherine's Monastery (Mount Sinai, Egypt) in September 2007
- Missale Sinaiticum:
 - Consists of 162 pages
 - Each page was captured 11 times
 - ~ 16 GBytes









Acquisition System

Hamamatsu Camera

- Spectral Response: 330 1000 nm
- 7 filters select specific spectral ranges
- Filter wheel selects filters automatically
- IR reflectography
- UV fluorescence
- UV reflectography
- Nikon D2Xs Camera
 - RGB color image
 - UV fluorescence image





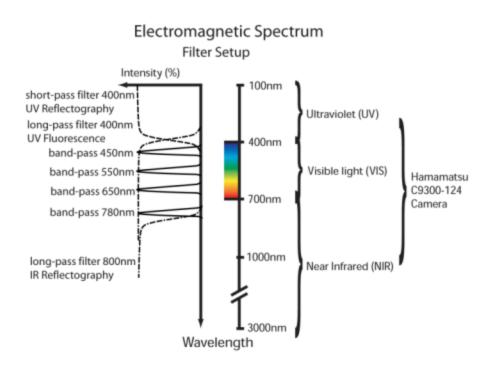




18

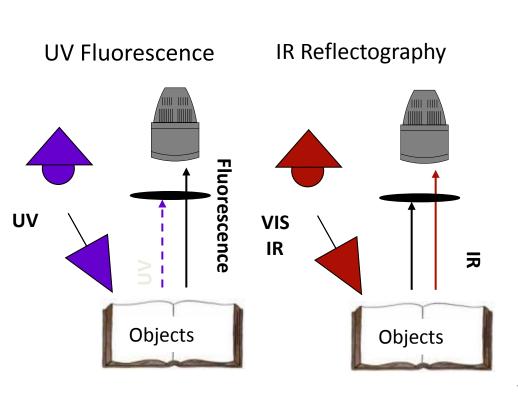
Multispectral Imaging

- Human Eye is sensitive to radiation within approx. 380 nm to 700 nm.
- Light beyond the visible spectrum (UltraViolett and InfraRed) reveal features that cannot be seen by the human eye.
- Multispectral images are the same images of one object in multiple spectral ranges.
- IR Reflectography and UV fluorescence/Reflectography imaging is used.





Multispectral Imaging



IR Reflectography

- IR rays have the property of being less scattered than rays in the visible range (VIS)
- IR rays can penetrate materials which seem to be opaque in VIS

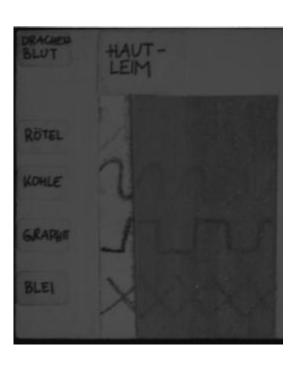
UV Fluorescence

- Fluorescence is luminescence, i.e. emission of one or more photons by an atom (molecule) that is caused by absorbing electromagnetic radiation
- "old paint or varnish layers emits more fluorescence light compared to newly applied materials (repainting or retouching area)" (Hain et al. 2003)

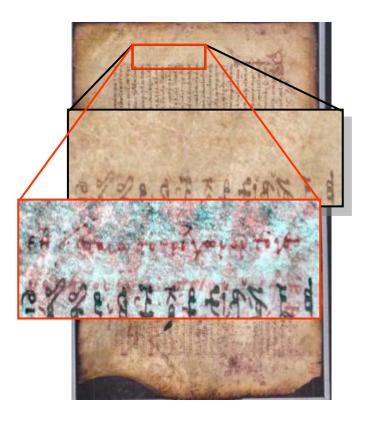




Multispectral Images: Examples I

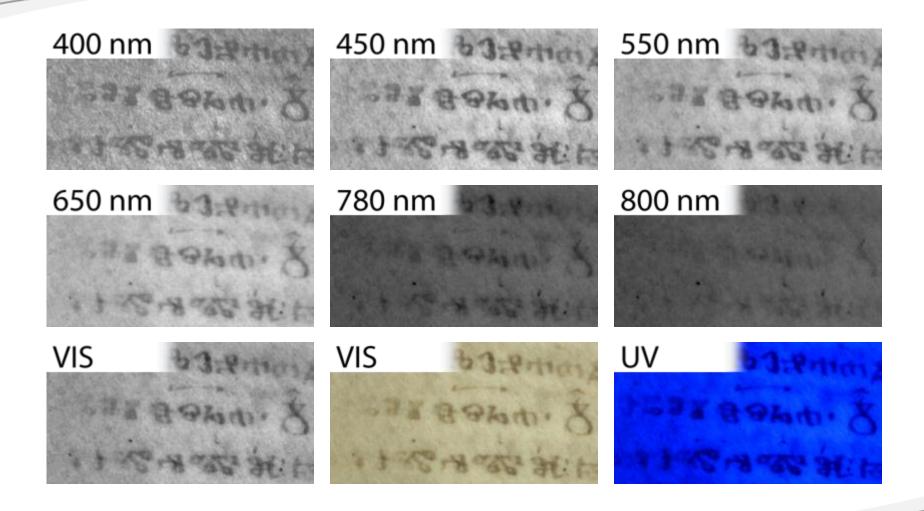








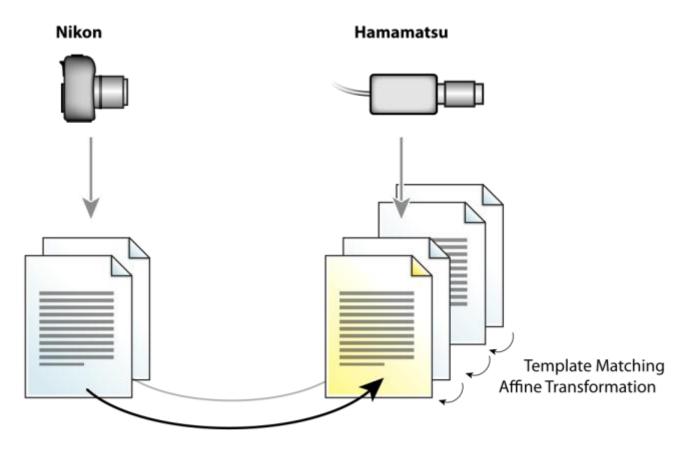
Multispectral Images: Examples II





Multispectral Images

Registration



Feature Matching - Affine Transformation Template Matching - Local Weighted Mean Transformation

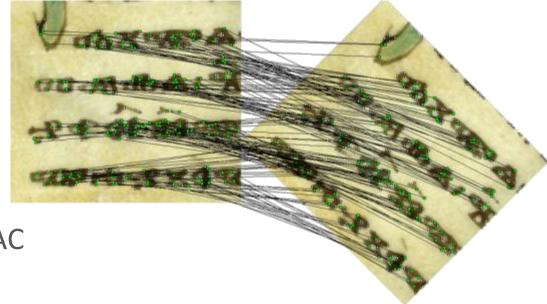




Multispectral Images

Coarse Registration

- Image registration using an adapted SIFT approach
 - No scale-space computation
 - Feature localization
 Harris Corner Detector
 - Feature matching Nearest neighbor
 - Eliminating falseCorrespondences RANSAC
 - Affine transformation





Multispectral Images

Fine Registration

- Normalized cross correlation is calculated at locations of the previously found control points
- Templates outside the new image domain are discarded
- Local transformation compensates the changing page curvature
- To reduce interpolation errors, the original image is transformed using the affine and local transformation

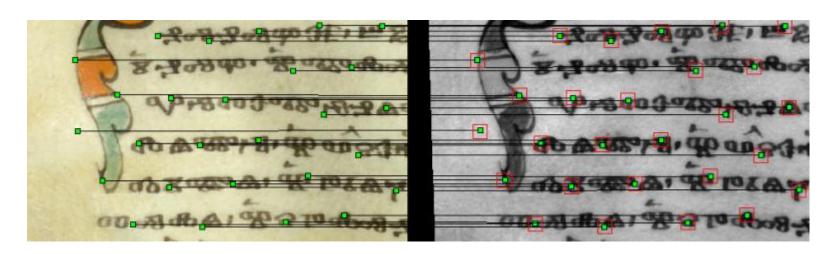
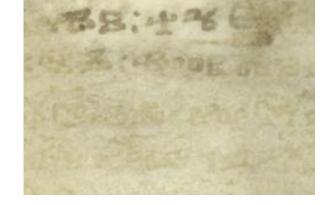




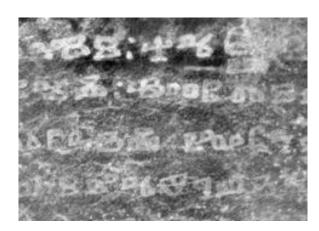
Image Enhancement

- Input: registered multispectral images
- Multispectral image data is often highly correlated



Methods:

- Conventional image enhancement
- Principal Component Analysis (PCA)
- Decorrelation stretch (based on PCA)
- Multivariate Spatial Correlation (MSC)

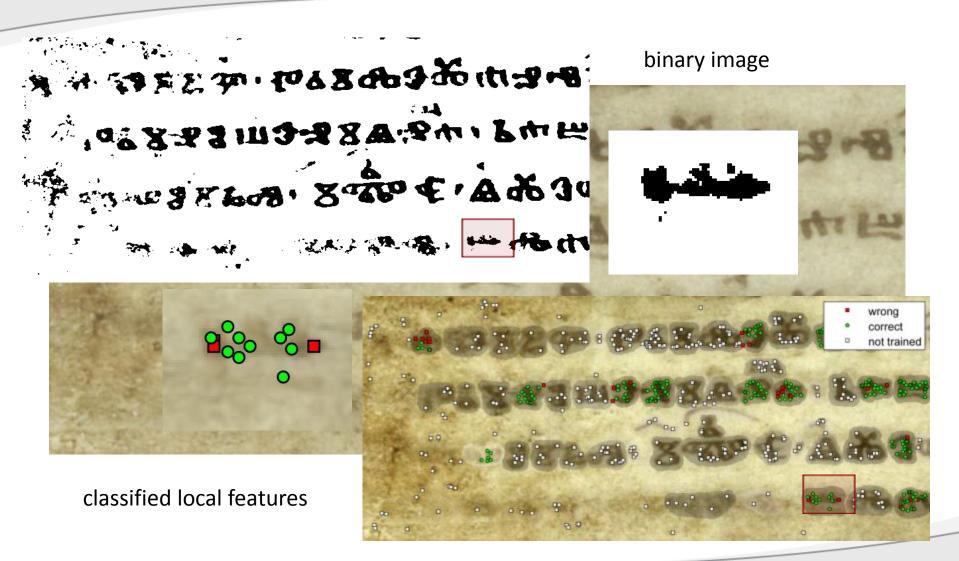


Detail from Folio 29 recto, RGB Image, MSC

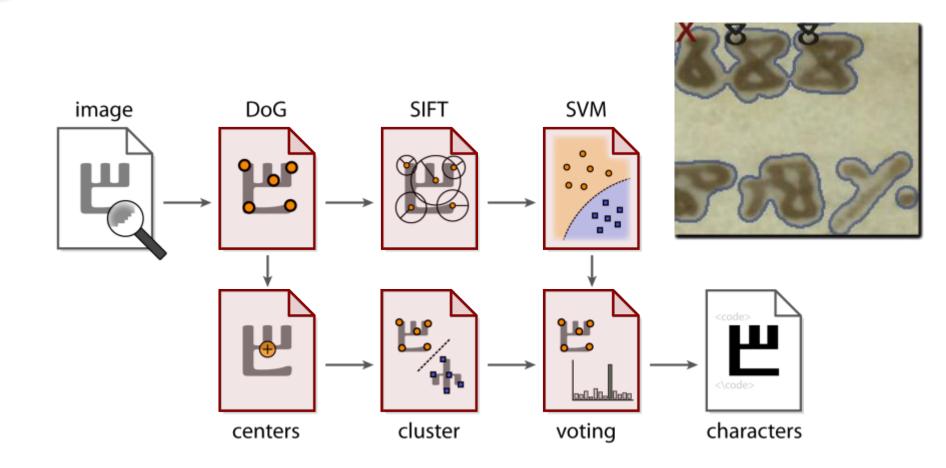




Character Recognition



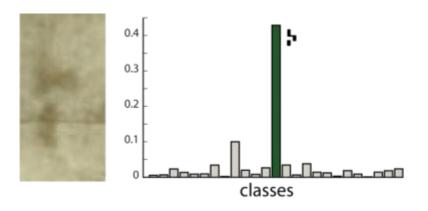
Character Recognition

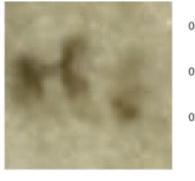


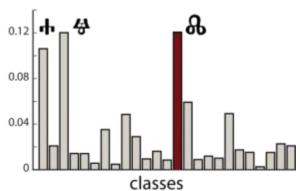


Character Recognition - Results

- Evaluation of degraded characters
 - Test set with 198 degraded characters
 - 25 Classes (characters)
 - Mean class performance: 67.67%

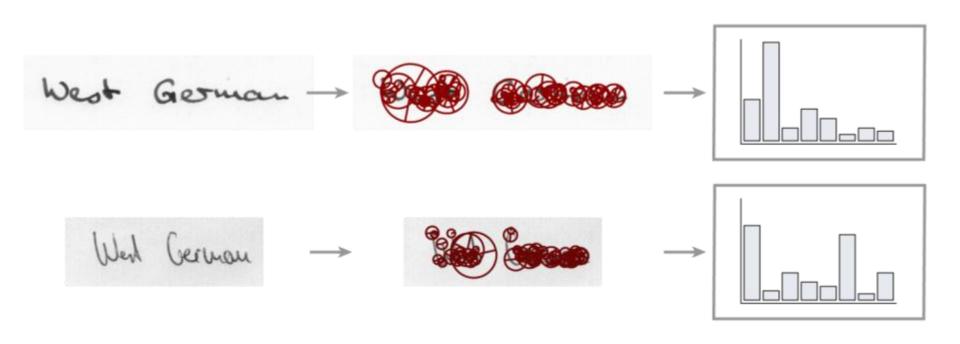




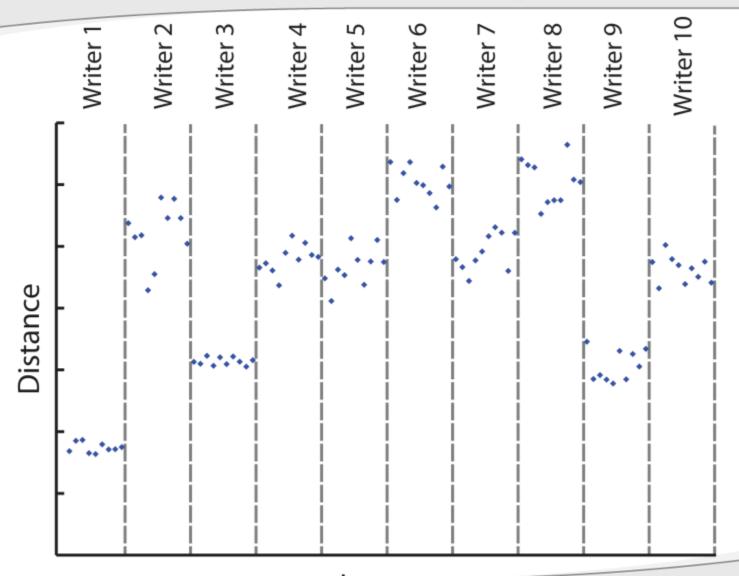




Scribe Identification (modern manuscripts)



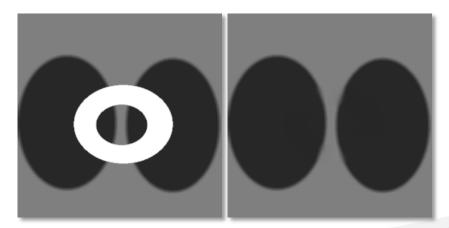
Character Analysis and Recognition: Scribe Identification (modern manuscripts)





Palimpsest Restoration

- Inpainting Definition
 - Occluded regions are restored with the help of digital inpainting techniques
- Established in 2000
 - Inpainting: Automated filling of damaged or unknown image regions
 - Unknown regions are provided in the form of a binary mask





Palimpsest Restoration

Inpainting mask generation

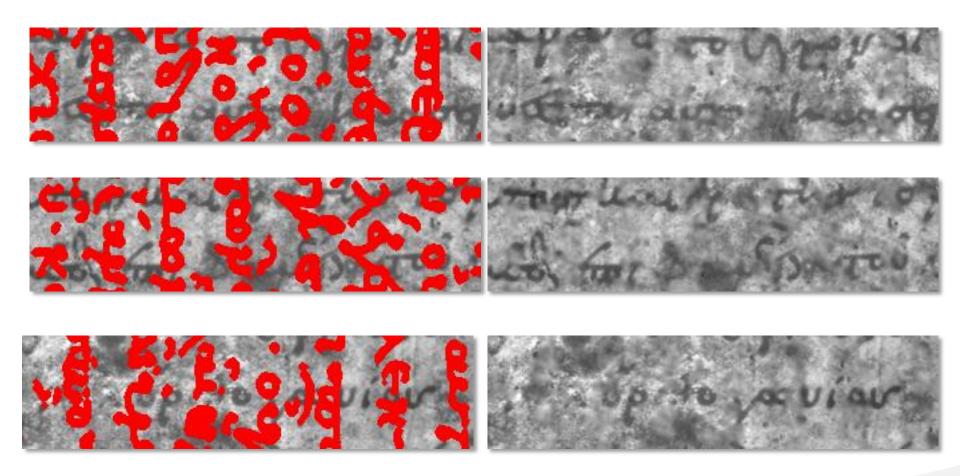
- The erased text disappears under red illumination, while the younger one is visible
- Photographs of parchments, which were illuminated with tungsten light, are binarized

Fields of Expert

- Statistical inpainting approach
- Image statistics are learnt from a database consisting of image patches -> statistical model of the palimpsest text
- Model is used in the restoration task
- Iterative Procedure, Information is propagated from outside to the inside of the mask
- In each iteration the filling becomes more 'likely'
 Model is maximizing the probability of the filling



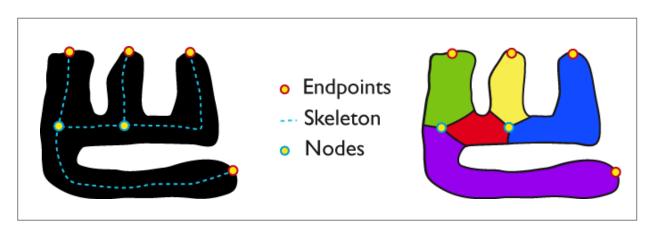
Palimpsest Restoration - Results





Character Analysis

- Combination of linguistic and computational methods
- Graphetic attributes model human perception
- Catalog of graphetic attributes valid for any kind of script
- Static stroke decomposition (delimited by endpoints or nodes)



- Open, half-open or closed
- Node: meeting of at least three static strokes
- Skeleton branches determine partitioning

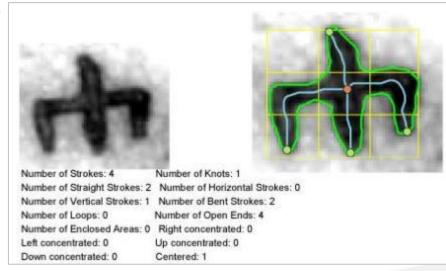




Character Analysis

Graphetic Attributes

- Number of nodes per character
- Number of static strokes per character
- Number of straight static strokes per character
- Number of vertical static strokes per character
- Number of horizontal static strokes per character
- Number of bent static strokes per character
- Number of open ends per character
- Number of loops per character
- Number of closed elements (holes) per character
- Centered
- Vertical concentration
- Horizontal concentration





Character Analysis - Results

- 60 characters from Missale Sinaiticum
 60 characters from a test set made by a calligrapher
- Attributes based on static stroke decomposition

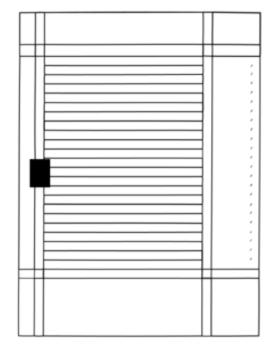
	Calligrapher	Missale
	% correct	
No. nodes	0.92	0.97
No. strokes	0.93	0.95
No. straight strokes	0.76	0.79
No. vertical strokes	0.81	0.74
No. horizontal strokes	0.87	0.71
No. bent strokes	0.86	0.89
No. open ends	0.95	0.90
No. loops	0.98	0.94
Average	0.88	0.85



Document Analysis:

Ruling Detection

- Indications about the manuscript's spatiotemporal origin can be gained (cf., e.g., Leroy 1976 for the Greek tradition)
- Informations about scribes (hands) of a manuscript can be gained
- Proposed algorithm:
 - page segmentation
 - baseline detection step
 - ruling estimation based on previously acquired information
- On folios with vanished text, the a priori knowledge (line distance, line position) of the ruling scheme can be used to estimate the position.







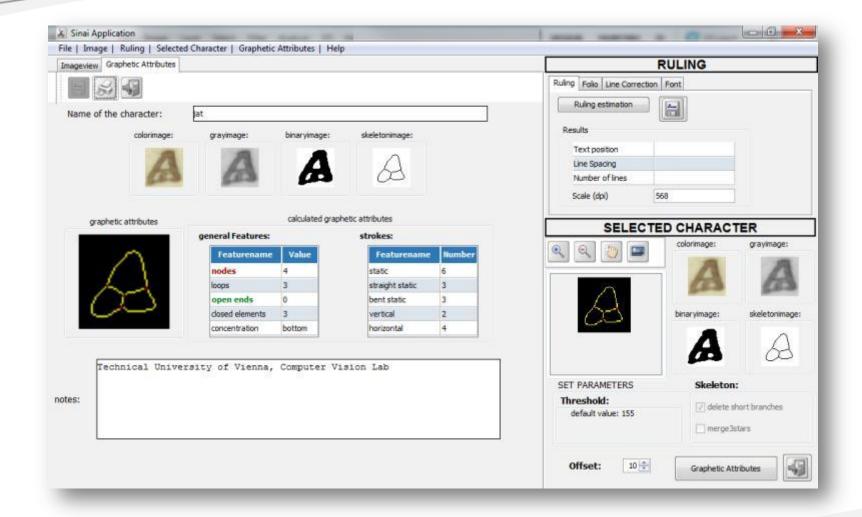
Document Analysis: Ruling Detection - Results

- Average of 1.03 wrong baselines/page
- Results in an accuracy of 95% (average of 23 lines per page)





Toolbox





Conclusion and Outlook

Acquisition and analysis of manuscripts

- Multispectral acquisition system
- Image enhancement of degraded manuscripts
- OCR, Palimpsest Restoration
- Computer Aided Script Description
- New perspectives for palaeographical and graphemic analysis of alphabetic writing systems

Outlook

- Involve more experts into testing
- Implement more graphetic attributes
- Provide a universal Toolbox for manuscript analysis









Thank you