

Digital Humanities

DIGITAL HUMANITIES FOR MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHICAL SOURCES

3. Critical editing

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<https://www.mihaimaga.ro/dh/>

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1. Methods of approach for critical editions

- Best manuscript method
- Eclectic method
 - *Lectio difficilior*
- Stemmatic (Iachmannian) method
 - *Stemma codicum*
- Unoriented (material) method

1.1. Best manuscript method

- the oldest and the simplest method
 - a manuscript, considered to be the best, is chosen and transcribed
 - how is it chosen?
 - the oldest
 - the most complete
 - the easiest to read, etc.
- 👉 sometimes the reference manuscript is changed from a section to another
- useful method when among copies one of particular relevance is identified, e.g. an autograph

1.2. Eclectic method

- the editor's goal is to obtain a final text that is as close as possible to the author's intention and as intelligible as possible
- the editor can set a scientific or semi-scientific methodology, but some options will be subjective, authorial
 - the editor assumes the task of interpreting the material evidence for the reader
- Eclectic procedures:
 - recensio sorting and collating the manuscripts
 - examinatio attempt to establish the earliest version of the text
 - emendatio correcting the text (sometimes called divinatio)
 - the editor's interventions can lack transparency and can corrupt the text; the intelligibility norms can be subjective
- due to the complex procedures of text restoration, the editorial decisions remain obscure

Lectio difficilior potior

- = the more difficult reading is the stronger
 - it may be considered an eclectic method
- used in the 15th–18th c. for editing the *Bible* and other sources, as an objective criterion for selecting textual variants
- **Rule:** there where the manuscripts differ, the most difficult reading is chosen
 - **Assertion:** when copyists don't understand a difficult word or fragment, they replace it with a simpler one, committing a mistake

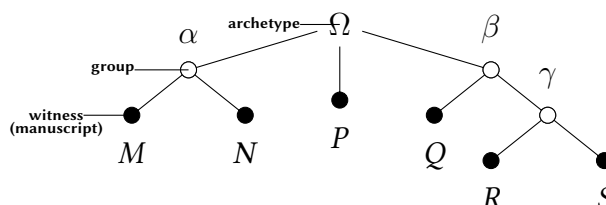
👉 Ex: Toletanus | Tolemeus | toleramus ; supervincentis | supervenientis | super intendentis

Mt 6,9: *πάτερ ἡμῶν, ὁ ἐν τοῖς οὐρανοῖς, ἁγιασθήτω τὸ ὄνομα σου ...*

Lc 11,2: *πάτερ, ἁγιασθήτω τὸ ὄνομα σου ...*

1.3. Stemmatic (lachmannian) method

- the reconstruction by philological methods of the derivation relationships of the manuscripts from an archetype
archetype = virtual model of all the manuscript copies, possibly but not necessary the original text
- by evaluating the common textual differences of the manuscripts (opposed readings, then common errors), a **stemma codicum** is obtained



reading textual variant attested only by some manuscripts

Ex: autem | enim ; ergo | igitur ; sive | seu ; inv. ...

error textual variant obviously mistaken, but attested by some manuscripts

Ex: erat | errat ; anima | alia ; sum | suum ; om. ...

- the editorial decisions regarding the textual variants are made then based on the relation of the manuscripts with the model

Stemma codicum

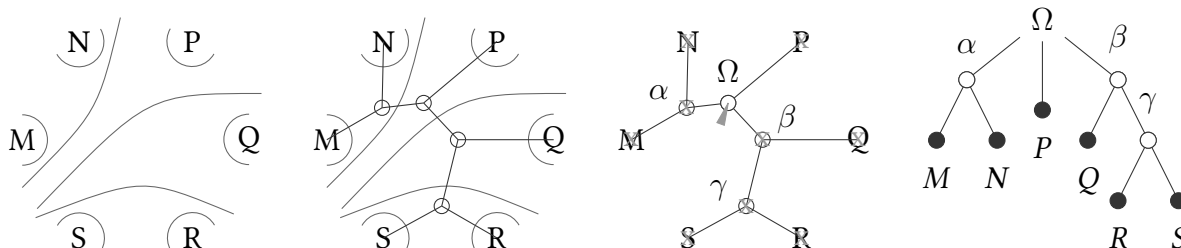
- all the different **readings** from each manuscript and group of manuscripts is counted

Ex: M=15 ; N=11 ; P=21 ; Q=14 ; R=11 ; S=12 ; MN=17 ; RS=11 ; QRS=19

- the sigils are disposed on a circle and the groups are isolated
- groups are connected in a common point, obtaining the **non-oriented stemma**
- common **errors** of the manuscripts and groups are counted in order to decide how to orient the stemma

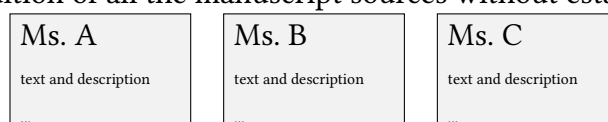
Ex: M=4 ; N=3 ; P=9 ; Q=5 ; R=2 ; S=3 ; MN=5 ; RS=4 ; QRS=3

- the stemma is risen in the point where there are no common errors, obtaining the **oriented stemma**



1.4. Unoriented (material) method

- is focused on the material object (e.g. the manuscript)
 - renders exhaustively the properties of the source
 - avoids the arbitrary interpretations, conjectures, emendations
 - ensures maximum scientificity and factuality
 - offers instruments for the interpretation of the source text
 - can produce so-called **headless edition**
- headless edition = critical edition of all the manuscript sources without establishing a unified text

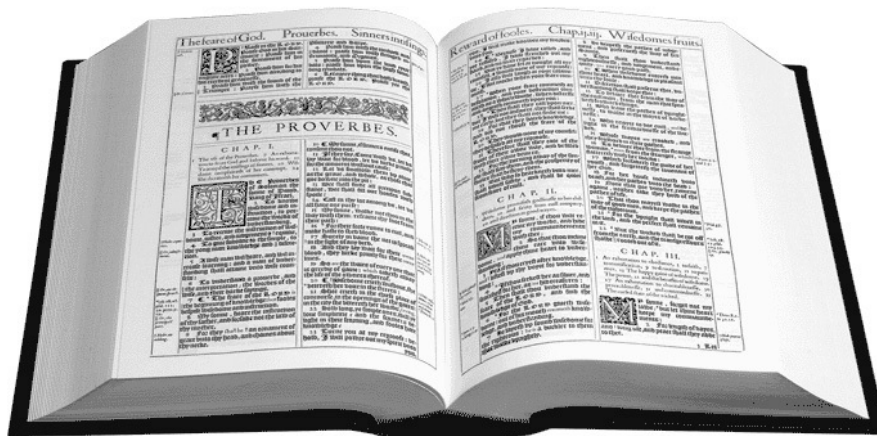


2. Types of critical editions

- Facsimile type edition
- Eclectic edition
- Literary (critical) edition
- Diplomatic edition
- Material edition

2.1. Facsimile type edition

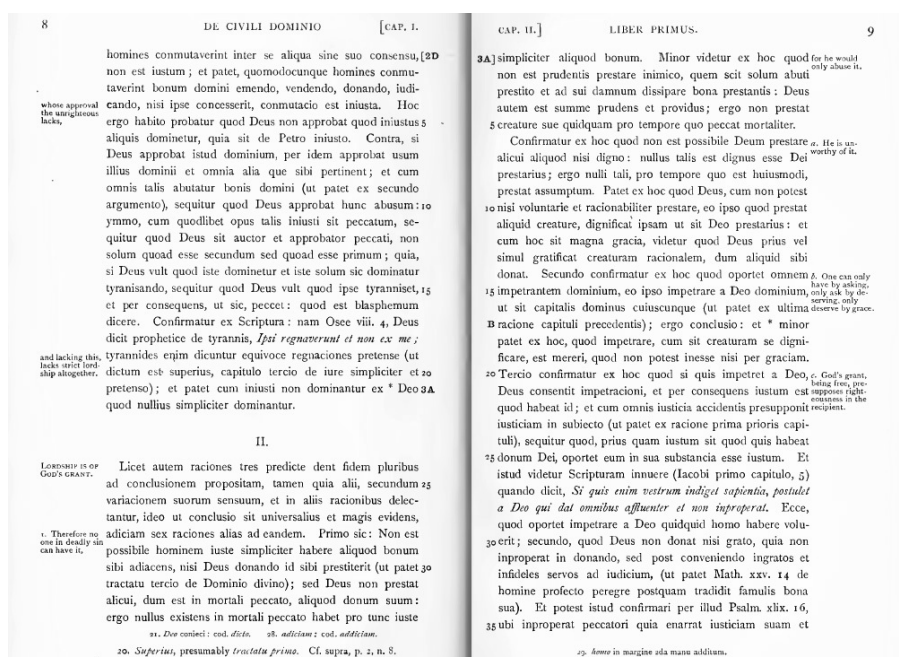
- photographic reproduction of the textual source
- contains eventually an introduction, a minimal apparatus and/or annexes (index, bibliography etc.)



1611 King James First Edition, 400th Anniversary Edition, The Bible Museum (2011)

2.2. Eclectic edition

- centered on the text established by the editor, usually through an eclectic method or the best manuscript method
- the critical apparatus is minimal, incomplete or inexistent
- the text fragments reconstituted by the editor are sometimes marked with conventional signs



J. WYCLIFFE, *De civili dominio*, lib. I, ed. Reginald Lane Poole, London, Wyclif Society, 1885

2.3. Literary (critical) edition

- centered on the text and its tradition
- contains an extended critical apparatus, mentions the textual variants and editorial decisions
- uses a scientific method to establish the text (e.g. stemmatic m.)

⟨APPENDIX⟩ TRACTATUS PRIMUS

Cap. 7. De intentione ad intellectum eorum quae dicta sunt

5 Ad intellectum autem omnium eorum quae dicta sunt
sciendum est quod formae nomen | et rationem primi
invenirent Stotici; et ante eos qui philosophi fuerunt Epi-
curei omnem causam ad materiam reverterunt. | Videntes |
enim quod nihil in materia per quod id quod formabile est
10 formetur et quod materia formabilis formantis se formae
causa esse non potest, dixerunt | formas esse a materia
separatas, eo quod quaecumque sunt in materia formae in
materiam inductae sunt; et ideo non possunt esse causae
formationis | materiae. Id enim quod per se et substantia-
15 liter et secundum seipsum causa est formationis non est
formatum sed formans secundum ipsum, et ideo tales for-
mas indeficientes formantes | extra materiam esse posue-
runt et separatas in lumine primum agentium intellectu-
um existentes ex quibus sicut ex quodam sigillo omnium
20 formae quae formantur produci habent. |

Has autem formas – sic foris manentes et omnia for-
mant – cum ipso lumine agentium intellectuum ex-
pandi dixerunt super formanda, et ideo tales formas
dixerunt esse principia formalia incorruptibilia per
quae vera habetur scientia et notitia | rerum, sicut lu-
mine solis color expanditur vel effunditur super colorata
visibilia | secundum eos qui dicunt, sicut et verum est,
quod colores non sunt in tenebris | sed in adventu lu-
minis | expanduntur super corpora terminata. Propter
quod etiam PYTHAGORICI colorem 'epiphanium' – hoc
est 'desuper eminentem' – nominaverunt; hoc igitur
modo dixerunt | a separatis formis per intelligentiae
agentis lumen formas effundi materiales, et ideo mate-
riales formas non vere dici formas sed verarum | for-
marum imagines, sed tam separatas quam imagines |
earum de rebus praedicari; separatas quidem eo quod
immaterialia lumine intelligentiae quod penetrativum
est | rerum | infunduntur omnibus et faciunt esse et |
sunt principia cognitionis ipsorum; imagines autem

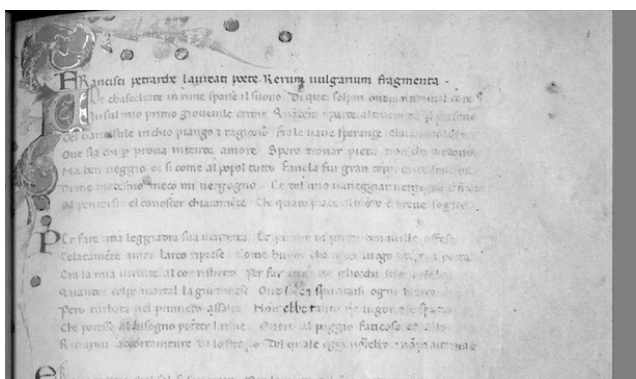
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runt et separatas in lumine primum agentium intellectu-
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20 formae quae formantur produci habent. |

ALBERTUS MAGNUS, *Liber sex principiorum*, p. xli,
Institutum Alberti Magni Coloniense

3-4 Cap. – sunt om. P2 V2 R6 n pa v | De – sunt | De qua forma agendum est in hoc opere et quamvis (cuius R4) formae (forma R4) hic (hanc R4) definitio data superius et de oppositionibus circa dubitationem hanc contingitibus BIR4 De complexio intellectum eorum quae dicta sunt de forma B2 De inventionem formae ad intellectum dictorum B2 3 intentione | formae add. P2 St R3 4 quae | omnium add. M2 5 autem om. R2 R6 6 et om. B2 7 corum om. B2 Pn n pa v | 6 et om. St P2 B3 R6 | formae | qui prae. R2 quae dicta sunt add. St om. S2 | nomen | natura prae. M2 | et rationem om. B3 R2 V2 6-7 primi invenirent | prae. invenerunt P1 B1 P2 B2 O1 M2 P3 V2 primo invenirent B3 B2 invenerunt BIR4 primi invenit R3 7 qui erant add. O1 | fuerunt | erunt V2 7-8 Epicurei | epicuri Cap. 1 P2 B2 St O1 M2 P3 B3 R1 V1 BIR4 epicuri v epicuri P2 Si V2 R2 R6 epicuri B2 8 omnem | omnes BIR4 | reverterunt BIR4 R6 | Videntes | adiacentes R2 9 enim | stotici add. in marg. B2 10 formetur | formatur B2 11 in materia | in materia B2 12 quod quaecumque | quod quaecumque B2 13 materiam | materia P3 BIR4 R2 | inductae | ductae R2 R6 | esse | omne B2 positioni B2 et in materia add. sup. lin. B2 | causae | causa B1 P2 B2 B3 V1 Si R3 14 Id | illud B3 B2 ideo n pa 14-16 quod – ipsum | non est formatum sed formans secundum ipsum quod per se et substantialiter et secundum seipsum est causa formationis materiae B2 | quod – ipsum om. V2 R2 14-15 quod – formationis om. B3 15 causa est in. B2 | est | sup. lin. P3 | est | esse n pa 16 secundum ipsum | esse | ipsum B2 | ipsum | seipsum St O1 R1 V1 Si R3 R6 n pa v | ideo | ideo cor. in marg. ex iam P1 17 indeficientes | indeficientes n pa v | materiam | naturam B3 17-18 esse posuerunt in. P3 B2 18 primorum | primorum B3 B2 n pa v | primorum agentium in. V2 18-19 intellectum | intelligentiam P2 19 ex | de P3 | sigillo | sigillo R6 a. l. sigillo in marg. R6 | omnium | eorum B3 omnis R2 20 formae cor. ex formatur B3 formatur n pa v | formae quae om. M2 21 Has | nos BIR4 | autem | enim P3 | sic | sicut R6 om. R2 21-22 et – agentium in marg. R6 sicut R2 21 omnia | quasi B3 22 agentium cor. ex agent non B3 23 dixerunt – formas dit. Si 23-24 formas dixerunt | dixerunt esse formas R2 24 formalia | materialia B2 | incorruptibilia | incorrupta B2 et corruptibilia R1 V1 et incorrupta R2 | per | et prae. P2 25 vera | natura R2 | vera habetur in. R3 | rerum | vera BIR4 25-26 lumen | in prae. B2 lumen R2 26 color | ex ipso add. B3 | expanditur cor. ex dicitur B3 27 vel effunditur om. B2 V2 27 visibilia cor. ex insensibilia B3 28 | qui | quae St | dicunt | dixerunt supra B2 | sicut om. B1 | et sub lin. St 28 colores cor. sup. lin. ex coloris P1 | sed | quae Si | adventu cor. ex adventis P1 29 super | sicut M2 supra B2 | corpora cor. ex causa P1 | terminata | determinata B3 clara R2 R6 29-30 Propter quod | quare V2 30 etiam | et P3 BIR4 om. R2 R6 | Pythagorici | Pythagorici St Peripatetici P3 Pythagorici B1 R3 R6 Platonicis R4 | colorum | color P2 om. B3 | epiphanium | epiphanium Cap. 1 B1 P2 epiphanium P2 epiphanium B2 B2 epiphanium St epiphanium P3 B3 v. l. epiphanium P2 31 desuper eminentem B2 de super eminentem St B3 v. l. super eminentem | igitur | igitur ergo B2 R2 32 dixerunt om. BIR4 | separata | separationis St | intelligentiae | intellectum B2 intelligentis R4 quod add. R6 et can. R6 33 agentis | agentem B2 | agentis – effundi | lumina agentia effundi formas P3 | lumen cor. ex luminis B2 34 formas | formas P2 35 sed | et V2 36 earum | eorum B2 | praedicari | dixerunt add. B3 B2 | separatas | praedicati sunt per creatas R4 | eo | eodem O1 37 immaterialia | immaterialia B2 in materia B2 V2 R3 p. l. materialia R2 om. B3 | lumine | lumen P2 | quod | ex B2 om. St | penetrativum | lumen B1 ponitur culibet R4 38 est | intelligentiae add. P2 et exp. P2 39 verum | vera BIR4 rebus P3 B2 | infunduntur | infundunt B1 P2 St P3 infunduntur O1 B1 infunduntur in V2 | faciunt | ipsas add. in marg. B2 | esse | quare R2 om. St | et 39 quia V2 39 sunt | super P2 et prae. B2 | cognitionis | autem add. B2 | ipsorum | eorum O1 R2 Si V2 ipsarum B2 | autem | aut P1 vero B3 om. B2 39-p. 42 v. 42 autem – imagines hum. R1 V1

2.4. Diplomatic edition

- conserves as much as possible the specific form of the text: orthography, layout
- it does not normalize the words, sometimes it does not expand the abbreviations
- contains an exhaustive philological apparatus
- relevant for legal and diplomatic documents



PETRARCHA, *Rerum vulgarium fragmenta*, 1r, <http://dcl.slis.indiana.edu/petrarch/content/c001r.xml#rvf001>

Petrarch's *Rerum vulgarium fragmenta*: Charta 1 recto

text view

Francisci petrarche laureati poete. Rerum vulgarium fragmenta.

1 Uoi chascoltate in rime sparse il suono Di quei sospiri ond'io nudrirla core In sul mio primo giovenile errore Quàdera i parte altroum da q' chio sono Del uario stile in chio piango & ragiono Fra le uane speranze el uan dolore Que sia chi p' proua intenda amore Spero trouar pietà non che perdono. Ma ben ueggio or si come al popol tutto Fauola fui gran tēpo, onde souente di me medesimo meco mi uergogno. Et del mio uaneggiar uergogna el frutto el penteris. el conoscer chiamamēte Che quito piace al mōdo e breue sogno

2 Per fare una leggiadra sua uendetta Et punire in un di ben mille offese Celatamēte amor larco riprese Come huom cha nocer luogo & tēpo aspetta Era la mia uirtute al cor ristretta Per far [fui &] ne gliochi sue difese

2.5. Material edition

- centered on the conserved material form of the text
- exhaustively describes and renders all the details of the source
- sometimes it does not contain the unified, edited text, but only variants (= headless edition)
- preferable in digital format, due to the large quantity of information

Feuillet(s)	Genre	Incipit	Remarques
6	Séquence	Alle celeste nec non et perhenne luia	I.4 ajout du mot <i>-Christi</i>
12	Offertoire	Ad te Domine	V. Respice, I.8 ajout du mot <i>-mei</i>
15	Introit	Gaudete in Domino	grattage du texte du psaume
18	Offertoire	Confortamini	I.11 grattage [<i>—enim deus</i>]
23	Hymne	Benedictus es	I.5 grattage et ajustement du texte sous la mélodie
23	Hymne	Benedictus es	I.3,6 & 7 ajout <i>-es</i> , main 1 musique (cf. encre)
25	Offertoire	Exsulta satis	V. Loquetur, I.4 grattage et ajustement du texte sous la mélodie
48	Offertoire	Reges Tharsis	V. Suscipiant, I.6 rajout postérieur de la reprise <i>—et adorabunt</i>
51	Introit	Omnis terra	I.5 ajout postérieur <i>-terra</i>
53	Offertoire	Jubilate Deo universa terra	V. Locutum est I.3 grattage <i>—mea</i> (mauvaise place de la syllabe)
53	Offertoire	Jubilate Deo universa terra	V. Locutum est ajout postérieur de <i><est></i> (oubli)
73	Introit	Invocabit	I.8 ajout de <i>-me</i>
74	Graduel	Angelis suis	I. 5 ajout postérieur de <i>-ne unquam</i>
76	Trait	Qui habitat	V. Quoniam ang., I.2 grattage du texte
94	Trait	De necessitatibus	I.4 grattage et réécriture du texte, main postérieure
98	Offertoire	Miserere mihi	V. Tibi soli, I.6 ajout du mot <i>—soli</i> , main 3
104	Offertoire	Domine in auxilium	rubrique Co grattée (erreur de rubrique)
107	Offertoire	Illumina oculos	V. Respice, I.2 grattage de la syllabe <i>—di</i> de <i>—exaudi</i> (placement)
108	Trait	Ad te levavi	I.8 grattage du mot <i>—oculos</i>
117	Graduel	Oculi omnium	I.3 grattage du m de <i>—manum</i>

Le graduel de Bellelay, Liste des interventions, <http://el.enc.sorbonne.fr/bellelay/correctiontexte.php>

3. Elements of a critical edition

- Introduction
- Text
- Critical apparatus

➞ other auxiliary elements may be added: index, bibliography, diagrams, illustrations etc.

3.1. Introduction

- A critical edition contains in introduction:
 1. sources description
 - description of each manuscript
 - relation between manuscripts (stemma codicum)
 2. datation
 3. attribution
 4. doctrinal presentation
 - the contents and the position of the text in historical context
 - explicit and implicit sources
 5. description of the editing procedure
 - the used method of editing
 - abbreviations and critical apparatus
 6. secondary bibliography
- ➞ the order and the length of introduction parts may vary; sometimes when some descriptive elements have been already published, a part may be replaced with a bibliographic reference

3.2. Text

- The edited text follows certain linguistic and graphical standards to which the author adheres:
 - orthography Classical Latin, Medieval Latin or uncorrected orthography
 - punctuation modern punctuation, classical punctuation or original source punctuation

sectioning the text is divided through titles in sections; the original sections may be kept, or a new logical sectioning can be made

formatting different character shapes (italics, small caps etc.) or tags in digital format may be used to indicate specific elements: titles, names, quotes etc.

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3.3. Critical apparatus

- contains all the palaeographic, historical, philological details attached to the text by the editor
- visually represented by: signs in text, footnotes, marginal notes, endnotes
- text lines are numbered, these numbers are used as references
- Types of apparatus:

palaeographic (philological) describes the textual differences between manuscripts

sources indicates the primary sources for quotes and allusions

biblical sources sometimes a distinct apparatus for the biblical sources

tradition indicates the manuscripts based on which the text is edited

comparative when there are more recensions of the text, a secondary recension may have its own apparatus

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The utility of semantic digital encoding

- any type of edition can be encoded in TEI
- the same edition can be encoded in multiple modes
- an edition can be easily passed from a standard to another
- the same edition can be visualized through various interfaces
- the display of the critical apparatus is flexible and editable
- the digital critical edition is convertible to the classical printed format

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Homework

Choose from the library or online an edition of a medieval text. Investigate the text and the introduction trying to answer the following questions:

1. What type of edition is it?

☐ facsimile ☐ eclectic ☐ critical ☐ diplomatic ☐ material

Remarks: _____

2. Which edition method was used?

☐ best manuscript ☐ eclectic ☐ stemmatic ☐ material

Remarks: _____

3. Which elements of critical edition are present:

■ in the introduction: _____

■ in the text: _____

■ in the critical apparatus: _____