A SHARED REPOSITORY OF HIEROGLYPHIC SIGNS: THE *THOT* SIGN-LIST

ST. POLIS (F.R.S.-FNRS) & S. ROSMORDUC (CNAM)

OUTLINE

- Introduction
- The encoding of hieroglyphs
 - Principles of the Manuel de Codage
 - The existing sign-lists
- Hieroglyphic encoding in digital corpora
 - The Ramses corpus
 - The practices of annotation
 - Types of graphemic variations
 - Principles of normalization
- Towards the Thot Sign-list





- Writing systems in Ancient Egypt
- The Thot sign-list envisions solely:
 - Hieroglyphic signs
 - Hieratic signs



- Writing systems in Ancient Egypt
- The Thot sign-list envisions solely the hieroglyphic and hieratic signs
- Various degrees of normalization of the iconic complexity:
 - Fac-simile



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 - Paleography
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a Vantour fauve ou vantour oricou
b. Ce type diffère de l'ancien par une courbure plus prononcée du dos avec une bosse au sommet et une tête dressée au-dessus du reste du corps et non pas rentrée comme dans Gardiner G 14 (2)¹.
c. Radicogramme de *mw.t*, « mère » (pl. XI/2;

XXII/2h); valeurs phonétiques m (pl. XVII/1) et nh par assimilation au signe § 228; déterminatif de nr.t, «vautour» (pl. XXII/3b, deux fois). 1. Quelques exemples: *Edfou* XII, pl. CCCCXX (en ht, bandeau); *Dendara* II, pl. CIII (en ht, bandeau); V, pl. CCCCXLVIII (en ht, bandeau); CCCCXLIX (en ht, bandeau); VI, pl. CCCCLXXXI (en ht, bandeau); *Porte d'Évergète*, pl. 5 (à g., col. derrière Hathor); 38 (en ht, bandeau l. 1); *Porte de Mout*, pl. VIII, n° 5, 2; *Philä* I, fig. 8 (à dr., col. derrière Ha); fig. 19 (en bas, milieu, devant le roi, col. 3); II, p. 362 (2^e l.).

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G,

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- The « Manuel de Codage »
 - 1988, working group « informatique et égyptologie » of the IAE
 - Based on Glyph, a software solution developed by Jan Buurman (beginning of the 1970's)
- Principles
 - Codes for hieroglyphic signs
 - Positioning operators

 $r:a-ra-G7 = 10^{\circ}$

• The original Sign-list (Appendix D)

JAN BUURMAN – NICOLAS GRIMAL – MICHAEL HAINSWORTH JOCHEN HALLOF – DIRK VAN DER PLAS

> INVENTAIRE DES SIGNES HIEROGLYPHIQUES EN VUE DE LEUR SAISIE INFORMATIQUE

> > «INFORMATIQUE ET ÉGYPTOLOGIE» 2



INSTITUT DE FRANCE MÉMOIRES DE L'ACADÉMIE DES INSCRIPTIONS ET BELLES-LETTRES NOUVELLE SÉRIE. TOME VIII

IMPRIMERIE LIENHART & C^{IE} BP 88 07202 AUBENAS Cedex DIFFUSION DE BOCCARD 11, RUE DE MÉDICIS, 75006 PARIS

MCMLXXXVIII

- The original Sign-list (Appendix D)
 - Based on the slips of Berlin + lead fonts (e.g. metal typesetting font of the IFAO)



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 - Based on the slips of Berlin + lead fonts (e.g. metal typesetting font of the IFAO)
 - Distinction similar to the unicode distinction between character and glyph





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- No comments and no references in the orignal Sign-list
 - Font designers: what matters in a sign?
 - Users: which sign should be used?

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 - No comments and no references in the orignal Sign-list
 - Font designers: what matters in a sign?
 - Users: which sign should be used?
- Extensions of the MdC in the various hieroglyphic text editors (Gozzoli 2013)
- Evolution of the Sign-list depending on specific needs (e.g., the edition of the temple of Denderah)

- The Ramses Project
 - Goal: building a richly annotated corpus of Late Egyptian texts, with the hieroglyphic spellings



- Encoding of the hieroglyphs in Ramses
 - 1st step (2007-2015): "systematic" (speed and efficiency)
 Principle: "follow as closely as possible the hieroglyphic transcription of the edition encoded"

P. BM EA 10412, v° 4 (= Janssen 1991: pl. 42)





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 - ⇒Data-mining (e.g., extracting all the hieroglyphic signs attested in Ramses, building frequency lists, as well as lists of words in which each sign occurs, etc.)

5 1 Stèle Boston MFA 25.632 (= Stèle Boston MFA 25.632); id: 1128 6 1 P. Sallier 1 (= LEM 086,10-087,3 - P. Sallier 1 - Eulogy of Meneptah (P.Sallier 1:8,7-9,1)); id: 320 7 1 P. Stèle CG 34010, JE 3425 (= Stèle Poétique de Thoutmosis 3); id: 910 8 1 P. Stèle-pilier, temple sud de Bouhen (= Stèle-pilier, temple sud de Bouhen); id: 921 9 P. Karnak, temple d'Amon, mur extérieur sud de la construction de Thoutmosis 3 et Hatchepsout, commémoration de l 10 P. Brooklyn 47.218.135 (= P. Brooklyn 47.218.135); id: 712 11 P. Stèle Caire CG 34001, JE 38246 (= Stèle du roi Ahmosis, Karnak, 8ème pylône); id: 1157

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 - **3rd step (2017/2018-...)**: shared repository of hieroglyphic signs (*Thot Sign-list*) for the encoding of hieroglyphs in digital corpora

(AS ATTESTED IN RAMSES)

- Sources of graphemic variation
 - The document
 - Variation of shape



• Sign S39 (scepter) : 7 occurrences in Ramses

• 6 in *c.w.s* "L.P.H." (1 *cw.t* "small cattle")





S39]] }





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Verb $s^{c}h^{c}$ "to set up, to erect" \Rightarrow Usual spelling:

- ⇒ Stele of Ahmôsis (Karnak), l. 33 : (= St. Caire CG 34001)
- \Rightarrow Combination between
 - \Rightarrow The radicogram 'h'
 - \Rightarrow The classifier
- \Rightarrow 1st hieroglyphic transcription (= ASAE 4, p. 29) & (Lacau 1909 : 4)
- \Rightarrow But Sethe's manuscript transcription (Urk. IV, 23,14)





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A170

• Sources of graphemic variation

- The document
- The edition
 - Technical constraints (s^ch^c in ASAE 4)
 - Choices made by the editors (*mtw* supra)
• O. DeM 1703 & 1704, I. 2



90II16

• O. DeM 1703 & 1704, I. 2



\$77\73**A53{{66,713,194}}















• Sources of graphemic variation

- The document
- The edition
- The encoding
 - "the most similar sign" syndrome

• E95 in *i3w* "oxen"



• E95 is a type of cow with the sun between its horns in the MdC



E95



\$102 KIAS WELLING WIND EN KI 1/2 DE REPRESENT ">1=1=1=2:18#201=111=5M12 S = W2R R FRAMAN ZOSE 201 S



⁽¹⁾ : le maçon n'escalade pas le mur, il a les deux pieds à terre.

(2) et non 1.

⁽³⁾ Le signe — est bien incliné, mais son extrémité pointue est à gauche.

(4) S est petit comme à la colonne 21.

(5) On pourrait croire qu'il y a quatre paires de cornes et qu'on a affaire à un signe complexe comme , , ou , mais d'une part les pattes n'ont pas été multipliées et d'autre part il y a le signe du pluriel Les traits entre les deux cornes sont en réalité un ornement composé, semble-t-il, de plumes d'autruche et qui est fréquent sous les XIX° et XX° dynasties (ex. : 1^{re} cour du temple de Ramsès II à Abydos : MARIETTE, *Abydos*, II, pl. 10, en bas) pour les bœufs gras dans les cérémonies.

⁽⁶⁾ Le déterminatif de *mnš* ressemble beaucoup à celui d'Abydos, col. 37 (cf. pl. VI, n° 7). Il est identique à celui de K 1, col. 25.

⁽⁷⁾ Le cercle central (pupille et iris) est, comme partout dans ces textes, visible en entier.



Fig. 1. Tombe thébaine n° 101 (Tjenro). Dessin d'après DAVIES-GARDINER, Ancient Egyptian Paintings, pl. 34.



Fig. 2. Tombe d'Amarna nº4.Dessin d'après DAVIES, *Amarna*, I, pl. XIV.



Fig. 3. Tombe d'Amarna nº 4. Dessin d'après Davres, *Amarna*, I, pl. XIV.



Fig. 1. Tombe thébaine n° 101 (Tjenro). Dessin d'après DAVIES-GARDINER, Ancient Egyptian Paintings, pl. 34. Fig. 2. nº4.De *Am*





Fig. 4. Tombe d'Amarna n°4. Dessin d'après DAVIES, *Amarna*, I, pl. XIV. Fig. 5. Tombe d'Amarna, n°4. Dessin d'après DAVIES, *Amarna*, I, pl. XIV.







- \Rightarrow Not in the MdC \Rightarrow No reference or documentation
- available



• Sources of graphemic variation

- The document
- The edition
- The encoding
- The Manuel de Codage

• Lack of explanations in the MdC: the sign for sn

• Gardiner (³1957 : 512) distinguishes T22 from a variant T23

22	∬ two-barbed arrow-head¹	 Ideo. in \$\[\begin{bmatrix} 0 & snw, O.K. var. \$\ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 &
23	I alternative form of last (Dyn. XVIII)	Use as last. ¹ Ex. Th. T. S. iii. 21.



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HOW TO STANDARDIZE THE ENCODING OF HIEROGLYPHS

IN ANNOTATED CORPORA?

Ideally, the encoding of hieroglyphs should be:

- reproducible
- economic
- no loss of (linguistic) information

The big question is:

• What is meaningfull and what is not?

Proposal:

• Take into account the function of hieroglyphic signs

The hieroglyphic sign functions

• See Polis & Rosmorduc (2015)

	+ SEMOGRAM		– SEMOGRAM
AUTONOMOUS	Pictogram	Logogram	Phonogram
NON-AUTONOMOUS	Classifier	Radicogram	Interpretant
	– PHONEMOGRAM + PHONE		MOGRAM

Fig. 10 A taxonomy of the hieroglyphic sign functions

The hieroglyphic sign functions

- See Polis & Rosmorduc (2015)
- The square of hieroglyphic sign functions (Schenkel 1997; Kammerzell 2004: 151; Lincke 2011: 3; Lincke & Kammerzell 2012)

	+ signified	- signified
+ autonome	Logogram	Phonogram
- autonome	Classifier	Interpretant (« complément phonétique »)
	Semogram	Phonogram

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 Observation 1. Whatever its shape, form, etc. a hieroglyphic sign used as a *phonogram* is unable to modify the meaning or reference of a word in context.

The sign *šsp* (O 42)

Very many variants in the MdC



- Do they cover all the variants attested in our documents?
- Are they relevant and meaningful for annotated corpora?

The sign *šsp* (O 42)

• Medinet Habou, pl. 45, col 8





O42K = a quite good approximation

The sign *šsp* (O 42)

• P. Chester Beatty 1, pl. XXII, I. 2



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- Observation 1. Whatever its shape, form, etc. a hieroglyphic sign used as a *phonogram* is unable to modify the meaning or reference of a word in context.
- Proposal 1. A single standard code should be used for all these uses.

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 Observation 2. A hieroglyphic sign used as a semogram, because of its potential iconic link with the meaning/referent of the word, can modify the meaning or reference of a word in context.

Complex semogram

Logogram in the Kanaïs inscription







Water carrier A344



Normalized encoding

Variants of the herdsman: A33, A33A... et A383

A A A A A

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+ autonome	Logogram	Phonogram
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- Observation 2. A hieroglyphic sign used as a semogram, because of its potential iconic link with the meaning/referent of the word, can modify the meaning or reference of a word in context.
- Proposal 2. Meaningful variants of semograms should be coded in annotated corpora

TOWARDS A SHARED REPOSITORY

THE THOT SIGN-LIST

Requisite 1. Each sign has to be

- Described
 - Functions
 - Distinctive iconic features (so as to limit the number of variants) with a controlled vocabularies :
 - Units principle of the Unicos (R. Vergnieux)

MANNEN MANNEN

Predicates (« holding », « wearing », etc.)

000	Sign info Editor
File Edit NextSign Tool	s Expert Menu
Code A12A	Transliteration
- බර	Transliteration type use
🗌 basic sign	
0-1	
Reit	attonships Description tags
Parts	Variant of
Part	base is similar degree
[©] тз6	A12 Unspecified
Гтз	
Ľ	

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MANNANNAN AND

- Predicates (« holding », « wearing », etc.)
- ... and referenced: link to publication (pictures and/or facsimiles)

Hornung & Schenkel's sign-list



	L: Inse	exten, etc.
0100	Skarabäus	L 1
0101	(onne Mitterbeine)	Med.naou I 24:3
0150	Geflügelter Skarabäus	Wb I 179; Drioton, ASAE 44,1944,112
0200	Agrypnus-Käfer	Wb I 204; Keimer, ASAE 31,1931,174ff.
0300	mht-Käfer	CT VI 302f
0350	jkw-t°-Käfer	CT VII 37m
0400	Käferkopf	Piankoff, ChapellesTout-Ankh-Amon
		pl.IV Mitte
0500	Biene	L 2
0501	("Kralle vorne")	<u>Med.Habu</u> I 16:17. 22:29. 26:21
		Biene im Haus siehe O
0600	Fliege	L 3
0601	(ohne Flügel)	CT VII 53c
0700	Heuschrecke	L 4
0800	Gottesanbeterin	Otto, Mundöffnung I 28f.; II 56 Nr.7
0900	Schmetterling?	Wb III 422,7; Keimer, ASAE 34,204f.
1000	∆ <u>spr</u> -Insekt	CT VI 302e
1100	Tausendfuß	L 5
1101	(schematisch)	Wb III 441
1200	Laus	CT II 94a; V 281c
1300	Floh	CT I 215f
1500	Muschel	L 6
1501	(mit Innenzeichnung)	Wb III 218,17; Junker, Giza IX 44
1600	Wasserskorpion (Nepa)	L 7; von Känel, La nêpe et le scorpion
	-	Wasserskorpion im Haus siehe O
1700	Skorpion	Wb I 351; CT VI 124g
1710	(mit Rollsiegel)	Saqqara Tombs I (1984) pl. 28 f.
1800	Skorpion auf Standarte	Petrie, Gizeh and Rifeh pl.XIII,G
1900	Skorpionpaar	Beni Hasan I pl.7, links
2000	Wurm	Wb I 498,5
2001	(gerade)	CT IV 1b

Hornung & Schenkel's sign-list



L: Insekten, etc.

L 1 0100 Skarabäus 0101 (ohne Mittelbeine) Med.Habu I 24:3 0150 Geflügelter Skarabäus Wb I 179; Drioton, ASAE 44,1944,112 0200 Agrypnus-Käfer CT VI 302f 0300 mht-Käfer 0350 jkw-t°-Käfer CT VII 37m 0400 Käferkopf pl.IV Mitte 0500 Biene L 2 0501 ("Kralle vorne") 0600 Fliege L 3 0601 (ohne Flügel) CT VII 53c 0700 Heuschrecke L 4 0800 Gottesanbeterin 0900 Schmetterling? CT VI 302e 1000 Aspr-Insekt 1100 Tausendfuß L 5 1101 (schematisch) Wb III 441 1200 Laus CT II 94a; V 281c CT I 215f 1300 Floh 1500 Muschel L 6 1501 (mit Innenzeichnung) 1600 Wasserskorpion (Nepa) 1700 Skorpion 1710 (mit Rollsiegel) 1800 Skorpion auf Standarte 1900 Skorpionpaar 2000 Wurm Wb I 498,5 CT IV 1b 2001 (gerade)

Wb I 204; Keimer, ASAE 31,1931,174ff. Piankoff, Chapelles...Tout-Ankh-Amon Med.Habu I 16:17. 22:29. 26:21 Biene im Haus siehe O Otto, Mundöffnung I 28f.; II 56 Nr.7

Wb III 422,7; Keimer, ASAE 34,204f.

Wb III 218,17; Junker, Giza IX 44 L 7; von Känel, La nêpe et le scorpion Wasserskorpion im Haus siehe O Wb I 351; CT VI 124g Saqqara Tombs I (1984) pl. 28 f. Petrie, Gizeh and Rifeh pl.XIII,G Beni Hasan I pl.7, links
Hornung & Schenkel's sign-list



0100 Skarabäus L 1 0101 ohne Mittelbeine) 0150 Geflügelter Skarabäus 0200 Agrypnus-Käfer 0300 mht-Käfer ikw-t°-Käfer 0350 0400 Käferkopf 0500 Biene L 2 0501 ("Kralle vorne") 0600 Fliege L 3 0601 (ohne Flügel) 0700 Heuschrecke L 4 0800 Gottesanbeterin 0900 Schmetterling? 1000 Aspr-Insekt 1100 Tausendfuß L 5 1101 (schematisch) 1200 Laus

1300 Floh

1500 Muschel

1700 Skorpion

2000 Wurm

2001 (gerade)

1710 (mit Rollsiegel)

1900 Skorpionpaar

1501 (mit Innenzeichnung)

1600 Wasserskorpion (Nepa)

1800 Skorpion auf Standarte

L: Insekten, etc.

Med.Habu I 24:3 Wb I 179; Drioton, ASAE 44,1944,112 Wb I 204; Keimer, ASAE 31,1931,174ff. CT VI 302f CT VII 37m Piankoff, Chapelles...Tout-Ankh-Amon pl.IV Mitte Med.Habu I 16:17. 22:29. 26:21 Biene im Haus siehe O CT VII 53c Otto, Mundöffnung I 28f.; II 56 Nr.7 Wb III 422,7; Keimer, ASAE 34,204f. CT VI 302e Wb III 441 CT II 94a; V 281c CT I 215f L 6 Wb III 218,17; Junker, Giza IX 44 L 7; von Känel, La nêpe et le scorpion Wasserskorpion im Haus siehe O Wb I 351; CT VI 124g Saqqara Tombs I (1984) pl. 28 f. Petrie, Gizeh and Rifeh pl.XIII,G Beni Hasan I pl.7, links Wb I 498,5 CT IV 1b

Advantages

- Methodologically
 - Hieroglyphic signs can receive arbitrary IDs
 - A way out of hierarchical taxonomies => reticular (i.e. network-like) organization of the sign-list
- Practically
 - Easy to find a sign based on its functions and components.

Requisite 2. Attribute for the degree of abstraction between token et type



	Glyph	Class	Character
Distinctive criterion	Morphological	Iconic	Functional
Description	Stylistic (« Courbure prononcée du dos »)	Controlled vocabulary	Phonogram with the value <i>šsp</i>
Glyph		Charc	acter

Advantages

- The degree of normalization is explicit (very useful for encoding and queries)
- The hierarchical links between signs are explicit
- The encoding is not polluted by the multiplication of variants

Requisite 3. The sign-list should be shared and enriched by the various projects of annotated hieroglyphic texts

Dung-beetle			Codes [edit]	
ID Typ 98765901 Chara	Standardized Drawing	<	 Gardiner : L1 MdC : L1 Hornung-Schenkel : L_0100 Unicode : F3EC0 	
Contents [hide] 1 Description 2 Function(s) 3 Codes 4 Hieratic 5 Variants 6 References		~		
Description Scarabeus sacer, Function(s)	[edit] , a dung-beetle with six legs [edit]			
• Logogram	ref. \$\$\$		Semantic MediaWiki	

