Rediscovering Renaissance Recipes II: From Text to Code

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Agenda

1. Introduce XML - TEI - Oxygen
2. The Coding Process
3. Challenges
   a. Editorial Decisions
   b. Coding in XML

XML – TEI – Oxygen

What is it?

- eXtensible Markup Language

Why did we choose this language?

- XML vs. HTML
  - XML is more focused on the text and its meaning, while HTML is more concerned about presentation

TEI - Text Encoding Initiative

- Sets a standard for the representation of texts in digital form

Why did we choose this platform?

- Oxygen

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Coding Process

1. Divide the source text into sections
   a. Each student focused on their own section of pages
2. Transcribe the text into XML
   a. Type the text as is directly into XML
3. Insert structural and editorial tags when appropriate
   a. After transcribing, go back through the text and add tags that indicate the significance of certain words
   b. This will be explained further in the "challenges" section

A Side by Side Comparison of an Excerpt From the Text in Original Gothic Script and in Coded Form:

```
<lb rend="hyphen"/>lente &amp; plaisir dy en mettre ou non. Se peut
<lb/>aussi ledit rys. apprester en lait ou en <choice>
    <orig>amẽdes</orig>
    <reg>amendes</reg>
</choice>
```

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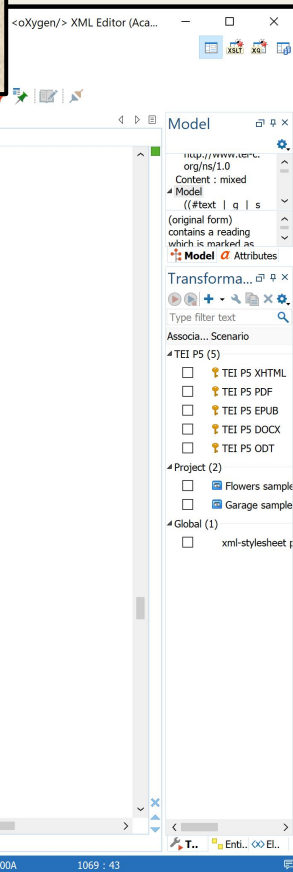
Challenges

Editorial Decisions

- Since we were coding a text written in Middle French, we had to decide the extent to which we were going to regularize it to be understandable in modern day
- There are many abbreviations and spellings that no longer exist in French that are found in the text

Coding XML

- As French majors, coding is not something we are used to doing in class, and it took a while to learn

Challenges – Editorial Decisions

Expanding abbreviations (ẽ õ ã oᵍ p̃ p̃ ũ q̃ ĩ)

- "Poᵍ" to "pour" (*for*)
- "Bõne" or "bõe" to "bonne" (*good*)

Unicode
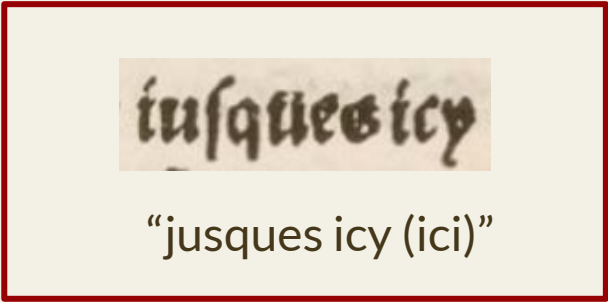
- ꝓ

Changing letters

- Regularize "i" to "j"
- Regularize "u" to "v"

Other changes

- Adding apostrophes, appropriate spacing, capitalizing personal names

"jusques icy (ici)"

Challenges – Coding in XML

Learning a new language

- XML is not standard in any of our other course work

Complex and Layered Tagging
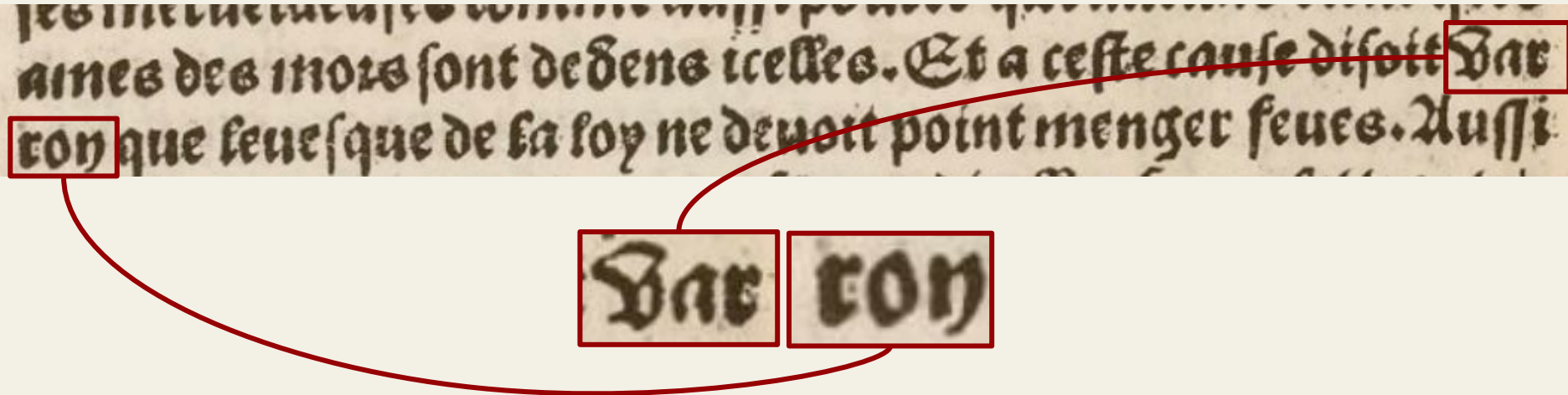
Challenges – Coding in XML

Complex and Layered Tagging
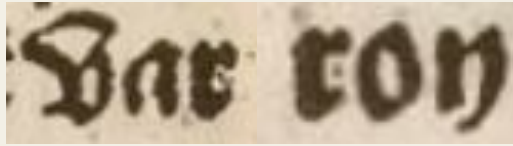
Recognizes continuation of a word over a line break

```
<persName>
    <choice>
        <sic>
            <choice>
                <orig>uar</orig>
                <reg>var</reg>
            </choice>
        </sic>
        <corr>
            <choice>
                <orig>Uar</orig>
                <reg>Var</reg>
            </choice>
        </corr>
    </choice>
<lb rend="hyphen"/>ron
</persName>
```

Challenges – Coding in XML

Complex and Layered Tagging

```
<persName>
    <choice>
        <sic>
            <choice>
                <orig>uar</orig>
                <reg>var</reg>
            </choice>
        </sic>
        <corr>
            <choice>
                <orig>Uar</orig>
                <reg>Var</reg>
            </choice>
        </corr>
    </choice>
<lb rend="hyphen"/>ron
</persName>
```

Regularize
U's to V's

Challenges – Coding in XML

Complex and Layered Tagging

```xml
<persName>
    <choice>
        <sic>
            <choice>
                <orig>uar</orig>
                <reg>var</reg>
            </choice>
        </sic>
        <corr>
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                <orig>Uar</orig>
                <reg>Var</reg>
            </choice>
        </corr>
    </choice>
<lb rend="hyphen"/>ron
</persName>
```

Correct Capitalization

Challenges – Coding in XML

Complex and Layered Tagging

*Tagging personal names is an example of editorial tagging. We also tagged places; we distinguished between whether a chapter was on dietetics or a recipe, and we started tagging ingredients in recipes.

```
<persName>
    <choice>
        <sic>
            <choice>
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                <reg>var</reg>
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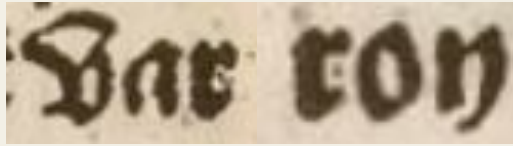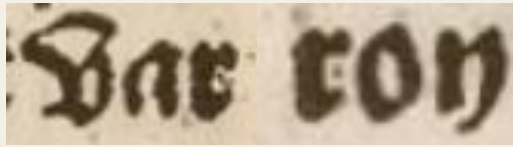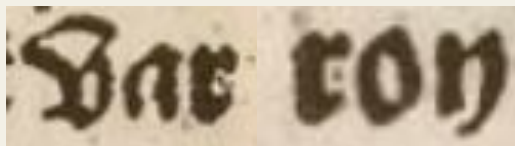
Tag Full Name (over line break)

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Challenges – Coding in XML

Structural Coding

- Multiple layers of division
- Titles of Chapters
- Forme Work at top and bottom of pages
- Page Breaks
- Line Breaks
- Comments

```xml
<text>
    <front></front>
    <body>
        <!-- This is the model for books/chapters on dietetics  -->
        <div type="book" n="XX">
            <div type="chapter" subtype="dieteticText">
            <head type="title" subtype="chapterTitle">
                <lb/> ¶ Title of Chapter
            </head>
            <p>
                <lb/> Text
                <fw place="XX" type="XX">
                    <lb/> Text
                </fw>
                <pb n="XX"/>
                <fw place="XX" type="XX">
                    <lb/> Text
                </fw>
                <lb/> More Text
            </p>
            </div>
        </div> <!-- This div closes the "book" div above  -->
    </body>
</text>
```

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Challenges – Coding in XML

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                    <lb/> Text
                    <fw place="XX" type="XX">
                        <lb/> Text
                    </fw>
                    <pb n="XX"/>
                    <fw place="XX" type="XX">
                        <lb/> Text
                    </fw>
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Challenges – Coding in XML

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                        <lb/> Text
                    </fw>
                <pb n="XX"/>
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                    </fw>
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                </p>
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Conclusion

Through this process, we were able to code the majority of the text by the end of the semester

Once we were done with our coding, we sent it to our colleagues in the Computing and Information Sciences Department to create a web interface using our XML document

To see the final step of our project please refer to:

"Rediscovering Renaissance Recipes: Digital Representation for a 16th Century Text"

Thank you!