منى صاوي (جامعة أسيوط) و سو مياجاوا (المعهد القومي للغة اليابانية واللغويات)

# コプト語から 古代エジプト語の姿を考える

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#### Introduction

#### Main provenances of Coptic medical texts Corpus



Provenance	Number of texts
Thebes	8
Sohag	5
Asyut	2
Red Sea	1
Al-Faiyūm	4
Saqqara	2

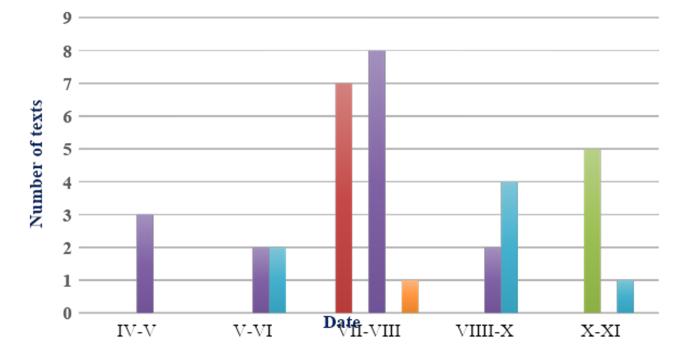
Map of Egypt, based on ©Google maps



#### **Coptic Medical Sources**

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#### **Medical Texts by Material and Century**

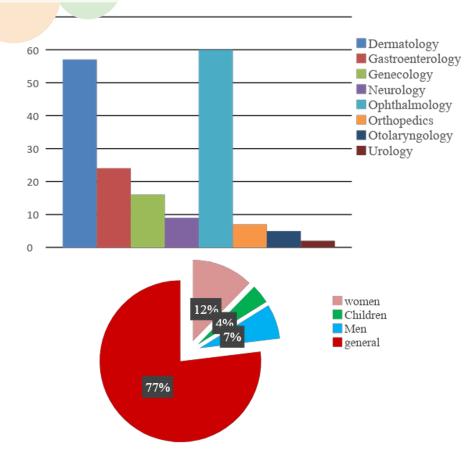


Column1 Ostraca Paper Papyrus Parchment Dipinto

### **Monasteries Medical Texts**

18642			Provenance	Monastery provenance	Number of Texts
	Ostraca Paper	Papyri Parchment Dipinti	Thebes	Monastery of Phoibammon Monastery of Epiphanius Deir el-Bachit Monastery Monastery of saint Elias	6
	Provenance Red Sea	Materials Parchment	Sohag	The White Monastery	3
	Saqqara Sohag	Dipinti, Parchment Parchment, Papyri	Wadi Sarga	The Monastery of Apa Thomas	1
	Thebes	Papyri, Ostraca	Saqqara	The monastery of Apa Jeremias	2
	Assiut Al-Faiyūm	Dipinti, Papyri Paper, Papyri	Red Sea	The Monastery of St. Antony	1 5

## **Medical Specialties and Nosology**



Specialties	Number of recipes
Neurology	9
Dermatology	57
Ophthalmology	60+
Gynaecology	16
Gastroenterology	24
Otolaryngology	5
Urology	2
Orthopedics	7

#### **Medical Recipes Structure**

#### Introductory formula

- $\varepsilon TB\varepsilon + organ + \varepsilon q/T/\gamma + \kappa kac$
- етве бинаа де сутіткас
- єтвє + Disease

#### • Corpus

Ingredients: Animal-plant-mineral sources

Instructions for preparation: Grind, boil, cook

#### Conclusion

- xpw
- q-na-ло
- q-на-оүдаі

# List of Coptic medical texts in this study (Sawy 2022)

BKU III 396: Papyrus, Berlin, Pap.-coll. inv.22164, 5.5 x 13 cm, 4th-5th cent.

**P.TT157-470**: Papyrus fragment, TT157, Fi. 470, 10.8 x 8.2 cm, 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> cent, CE.

P.Mich. MS 136 p. 2-14: Parchment codex, Ann Arbor, Michigan MS 136, 4.125 x 4.875 cm, 5th-6th cent. CE.

P.Mich. 593b: Codex remains, University of Michigan, inv. 593b, 7 x 11 cm, 5th-6th cent. CE, unknown provenance.

P.Mich. 593a: Papyrus, Ann Arbor, University of Michigan, inv. 593a, 7.25 x 9 cm, 5th-6th cent. P.Carlsberg 500: Parchment leaves, Copenhagen Egyptological Institute inv. 500, each page measures approximately 9-9.50 x 8-8.50 cm.

**P.Sarga 20**: Papyrus, London, BL?, 6.5 x 8.5 cm, 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> cent. CE. **P.Ryl.Copt. 109**: Papyrus fragment, Manchester, John Rylands Library Copt. 109, 5 x 10 cm, 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> cent. CE

SBKopt. I 006: Papyrus, Vienna, ÖNB, Pap.-coll. inv. K 5595, 28 x 8.5 cm, 7th cent. CE, provenance is unknown.

P.KölnÄgypt. 12: Papyrus, Köln, Pap.-Coll. inv. 5948, 9 x 8.8 cm, 7th cent. CE. From Al-Faiyūm. P.YCtBR inv. 3353: Papyrus fragment, New Haven, Beinecke Library P.YCtBR 3553, measures 6.7 x 13.8 cm, is dated to the 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> cent.

SBKopt. I 003: Papyrus, Vienna, ÖNB, Pap.-Smlg. inv. K 5504, 17 x 7.5 cm, is dated to the 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> cent. CE. The provenance is unknown.

BKU I 27: Ostracon, Berlin Pap.-coll., inv. P4984, 5.5 x 10.5 cm, 7th-8th cent. CE. The provenance is Thebes.

**BKU I 28**: Ostracon, Berlin, coll., inv. P 880, 6,5 x 5 cm, 7th-8th cent. CE. Bought in Thebes in 1859 O.Crum 487: (figure 1), Ostracon, London, EEF 151, 7.3 x 8.4 cm, 7th-8th cent. CE. Originating in Deir al-Bahari

O.Mon. Epiph. 574: Ostracon, inv. no. 12,180.79, measurements unknown, 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> cent. CE. O.Mon. Epiph. 575: Ostracon, Cairo formerly Eg. Mus., inv. no. 44674.130, measurements unknown,

7th-8th cent. CE., it was found at the Monastery of Epiphanius in West Thebes

**O.Brit.Mus. Copt. I 49**: Ostracon, London, BM inv. 27422, 7th-8th cent. CE, 21.90 x 14.80 cm. It was *IFAO* 13315: Ostracon, Cairo, inv. no. 13315, dated to 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> cent. CE. From the Monastery of Elias,

West Thebes.

**O.Brit. Mus. Copt. II 37**: Ostracon, London, BM inv. 50216, 10,50 x 13,50 cm, 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> cent. CE. IFAO 13315: Ostracon, Cairo, inv. no. 13315, dated to 7th-8th cent. CE. From the Monastery of Elias, West Thebes.

O.Brit, Mus, Copt. II 37: Ostracon, London, BM inv. 50216, 10.50 x 13.50 cm, 7th-8th cent. CE. Originating in Deir al-Bahari

SBKopt. II 1043: Papyrus, Berlin, Pap.-coll. inv. 3262, 9.5 x 8 cm. 7th-8th cent. CE. Originating in Al-Faivūm.

BKU III 329A: Papyrus, Berlin Pap.-coll. inv. 22061, 19 x 16 cm, 7th-8th cent. CE. Its provenance is unknown,

BKU 393: Papyrus, Berlin Pap.-coll. inv. 22190, measures 14.5 x 16.5 cm, 7th-8th cent. CE. Its provenance is unknown

SBKopt. I 004: Paper, inv. nos. K5506, 16 x 12 cm, dated to 8th cent. CE., the provenance is unknown. O Bachit 1170+1172: Ostraca, 11.8 x 9.3 cm, unknown date, discovered at Deir el-Bachit (Dra' Abu el-Naga).

Cod.Med.Copt., p. 214-215: Parchment leaf, Paris BN 132,5, fol. 1, 15 x 12 cm, 9th-10th cent. CE. It was discovered at the White Monastery (Deir el-Abiad),

CAT. NO. 137 (98:Ms4): Parchment leaf, 12.4 x 11.5 cm, 9th-10th cent. CE. Originating at the Monastery of St. Antony at the Red sea

P.Louvre AF 12530: Papyrus strips; Paris, Louvre AF 12530, 90 x 9 cm; 9th–10th cent. CE. Supposedly originating in Sohag.

Cod.Med.Copt., p. 241-244: Two parchment leaves, Napoli BN IB.14.06-07, 30.5 x 23 cm, 9th-10th cent. CE, from Akhmim.

Ch: Papyrus, Cairo, IFAO, a single roll of 248 x 27 cm, 9th-10th cent. CE. Discovered in Naga al-Meshaikh (45 km south of Sohag),

SBKopt. I 001: Thick double parchment leaves folded vertically. The single sheet measures 11.51-12 x 12 cm. Its provenance is unknown, and it was brought to Walter Till by Professor L. Th. Lefort. It dates backs to the 10<sup>th</sup> cent. CE and is well preserved.

SBKopt. I 005: Paper, unknown measurements, 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> cent. CE, unknown provenance.

SBKopt. I 002: Paper section, unknown measurements, 10th-11th cent. CE, unknown provenance.

P.Ryl. Copt. 108 Ro: Parchment fragment, Manchester, John Rylands Library; 6.5 x 8.5 cm, 10th-11th cent. CE. Its provenance is the White Monastery (Deir el-Abiad),

P.Rvl.Copt. 107: Parchment fragment, Manchester John Rylands Library, 9 x 4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cm. Its provenance is the White Monastery

**BKU I 26**: Paper, remains of a manuscript in a book, inv. no. P 8116/7, 28 x 29 cm; 14 x 18 cm. Its provenance is Al-Faiyum and dates back to 11th cent. CE.

P.Ryl. Copt. 104: Paper, Manchester John Rylands Library, 19 x 14 cm, 11<sup>th</sup> cent. CE. Unknown provenance. **P.Ryl. Copt.** 106: Paper, Manchester John Rylands, 25 x 17 cm, 11<sup>th</sup> cent. CE, unknown provenance.

BKU1 25: Parchment leaf, Berlin, Pap.-coll. inv. 8109, 18 x 11 cm, unknown date.

**P.Sarga 21:** A dipinto on the plastered wall of the Monastery of Apa Thomas where the infirmary of the monastery was located. Taking from Deir el-Gandala near Asyut, it dates back to between the 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> cent. CE.

I.Saggara 103: A dipinto in black ink on the plastered wall of room 700 D of Monastery of Apa Jeremias Saggara, which dates back to the 7th cent. CE.

# Coptic dialects

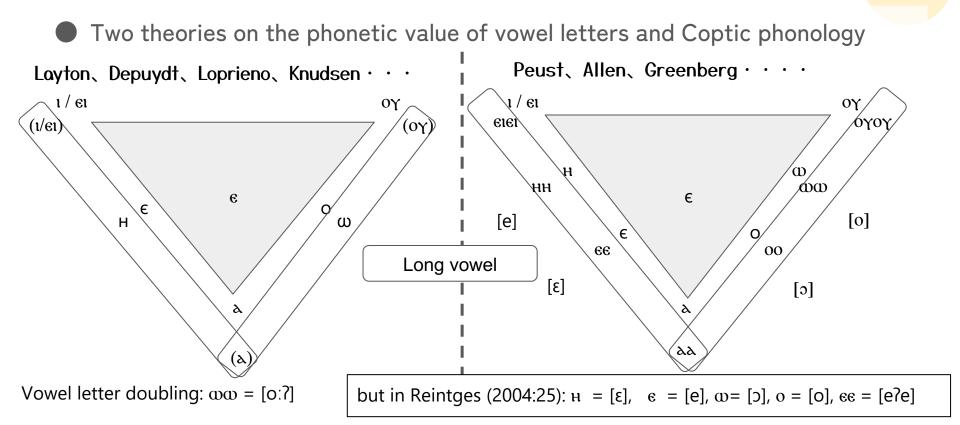


- Lower Egyptian (almost no vowel letter doubling)
  - Bohairic
- Upper Egyptian (frequent vowel letter doubling)
  - ⊖ Fayumic
  - Oxyrhynchite
  - $\bigcirc$  Sahidic  $\Rightarrow$  The most documented dialect, and the koine of Coptic until about the 11th century
  - 🔿 Lykopolitan
  - O Akhmimic
- Other minor dialects: V Dialect, H Dialect, Proto-Theban (P) Dialect, etc.
- Old Coptic (from ca. Ptolemaic period), its grammar is Demotic, but written in a Greek script supplemented with some characters of Demotic

#### Coptic alphabet and vowel phonology

- The Coptic alphabet is a writing system consisting of Greek letters plus 6-8 other letters derived from the Demotic script
- Uncial script
- All the vowel letters are from Greek
  - $\bigcirc$  In Greek, there's no systematic vowel letter doubling
- **•** Vowel letters  $\iota / \varepsilon_{\iota}$ ,  $\iota$ ,  $\varepsilon$ ,  $\lambda$ , o,  $\omega$ , and  $o\gamma$  can appear in a stressed syllable
- $\bullet$  Vowel letters H, ω, and o can appear only in a stressed syllable
- In an unstressed syllable, only  $1/\varepsilon_1$ ,  $\varepsilon$ ,  $\lambda$ , and  $o\gamma$  can appear
- In a stressed syllable vowel letter doubling as,  $\epsilon\epsilon$ , oo,  $\omega\omega$ , oyoy, and  $\epsilon\epsilon$  ici can appear

#### **Research** question



Layton (2011), Depuydt (1993), Loprieno (1994), Knudsen (1961)... "ɛ/н quantity theory" or "ձձ glottal stop theory"

μ is a long vowel against its short equivalent ε
ω is a long vowel against its short equivalent ο
μ/e:/vs. ε/e/, ω/o:/vs. ο/o/
Vowel letter doubling: the vowel + glottal stop

● мааү /ma?w/ "mother"

Peust (1991), Allen (2020), Greenberg (1962)... " $\epsilon/\mu$  quality theory" / "aa long vowel theory"

- $\bullet$  H is a short vowel closer than  $\epsilon$
- lacksquare  $\ensuremath{\varpi}$  is a short vowel closer than o
- μ/e/ vs. ε/ε/, ω/o/ vs. ο/э/
- Vowel letter doubling: lengthening the vowel
- 🕒 мааү /maːw/ "mother"

For the history of "quality" vs. "quantity" theories, see Peust (1991: 202–211)

## Historical perspectives

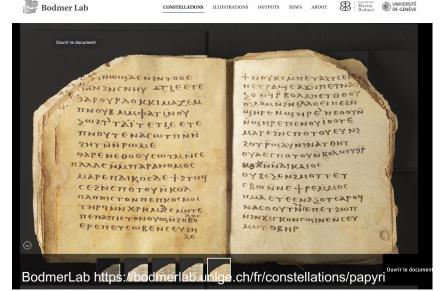
Vowel letter doubling corresponds to *ayin* (<sup>c</sup>)or *aleph* (3) many times in Pre-Coptic Egyptian

- Pre-Coptic Egyptian  $m^c b^3 \Rightarrow$  Sahidic Coptic MAAB <maab> "30"
- Pre-Coptic Egyptian  $\lim w b \Rightarrow$  Sahidic Coptic оүннв <ouêêb> "priest"
- Pre-Demotic Egyptian  $\exists e \sim \check{s}^c d \Rightarrow$  Demotic  $\check{s}^c t \Rightarrow$  Sahidic Coptic  $\mathfrak{g}_{000T}$ < $\check{s}\hat{o}\hat{o}t$ > "cut" (Černý 1976:254)
- Hebrew שֵׁעֵר šê'êr> / Aramaic שֵׁעֲרָא <šê'ărā'> ⇒ Demotic š<sup>c</sup>r ⇒ Coptic Sahidic maap <šaar> "price" (Černy 1976: 250)

#### Proto-Theban (P) dialect

- Traces of 'ayin and 'aleph are visible in Proto-Theban (P) dialect
- for a glottal stop and « for voiced pharyngeal fricative
- These signs correspond to vowel letter doubling in Upper Egyptian dialects (Allen 2013:12)

   Image: Bodmer Lab
   Image: State of the state
  - O Paleo-Theban 90<sup>4</sup>π 'existent'
  - 🔘 Akhmimic ૨૦<mark>૦</mark>π
  - 🔘 Fayumic այձ<mark>ձ</mark>π
  - 🔘 Lykopolitan ϣο<mark>ο</mark>π
  - O Sahidic ϣοοσπ
  - O Bohairic ϣοπ
  - O Oxyrhynchite က္ဘာဂၢ



#### Counterexamples against "glottal stop theory"

- Proto-Theban 90+⊓ corresponds to Pre-Coptic 🛱 bpr which has neither glottal stop nor voiced pharyngeal fricative
- There are words that have pairs in masculine/feminine or singular/plural with an unaccountable glottal stop
  - $\bigcirc$  Without vowel letter doubling : con "brother" vs. cone "sister"
  - $\bigcirc$  With vowel letter doubline : The "son/boy" vs. The daughter/girl"
- ⇒ If the "glottal stop theory" is correct, the glottal stop insertion occurs in "son"-"daughter" pair but not in "brother"-"sister" pair
- In Pre-Coptic Egyptian no glottal stop equivalent sound in <sup>↓</sup> <sup>A</sup> sn "brother", <sup>↓</sup> <sup>△</sup> <sup>A</sup> sn.t "sister", <sub>→</sub> <sup>↓</sup> <sup>A</sup> šr(j)
   "boy", <sub>→</sub> <sup>↓</sup> <sup>A</sup> sr(j).t "girl"
- When a word ending in a strong vowel comes before a copula, the vowel is sometimes duplicated, but the glottal stop theory cannot explain why the glottal stop sound is here

## **Complementary lengthening**

- Probably "complementary lengthening" (CL) happened somewhere before Coptic in Egyptian history, glottal stop / voiced pharyngeal fricative disappeared and instead the vowel before it was lengthened
- Compensatory lengthening is attested in various languages
- CL in Ancient Greek after disappearance of nasal
  - $\circ$  ἄγ-ο-ντι /agonti/  $\rightarrow$  ἄγοντσι /agontsi/ $\rightarrow$  Attic ἄγουσι /agu:si/ "they lead"
- CL in Indo-Iranian after disappearance of stop
  - Sanskrit : सप्त /sapta/ → Hindi सात /sāt/ 「7」
- CL in Maltese after disappearance of voiced pharyngeal fricative
  - jagħmel ['jaf.mɛl] → ['jai.mɛl] "he does"

#### Evidence from Old Nubian, which uses Coptic alphabet

- Old Nubian: language written in Medieval Nubian Kingdoms during 8th to 15th centuries
  - Nilo-Saharan > East Sudanic >>> Nubian > Nile Nubian
  - Written in the Coptic alphabet plus three Meroitic letters
  - O Nobiin, the modern descendant of Old Nubian has distinction between long and short vowels
- It is plausible that vowel letter doubling signifies long vowels in Old Nubian
- Old Nubian  $\tau \in \lambda \rightarrow$  Nobiin equivalent têl "tomb"
- Old Nubian  $roor \rightarrow Nobiin equivalent nôg "house"$





# Findings in Medical Corpus

#### Evidence for ω vs. o supports quality hypothesis

- P. Ryl. Copt. 106. ахетие الحمّى /alḥumma/ "fever"
- Ch 41 אמצפא ← کحل /kuḥil/ [koḥel] "kohel"
- $\omega$  corresponds to Arabic short close vowel /u/  $\Rightarrow \omega$  is not long

# Evidence for н vs. є supports quality hypothesis

- /anniqris/ النِقْرِس ← Р.Mich. MS 136, II. 10–20 амыкрыс
- H corresponds to Arabic short close vowel /i/  $\Rightarrow$  H is not long

4 more attenstations of this kind of examples in our corpus

#### Vowel letter doubling in medical corpus

- مccomA, "a remedy to be introduced into the nose" ← Arabic السعوط /assaSu:t/
   (also see Chassinat 1921: 229, already mentioned by Greenburg 1963)
- We could not problem more strong evidence about vowel letter doubling
- Ch 219 φληρφλη Δε οι πλωτε : λωτε is probably a variant spelling of λωωτε "hard, callus of skin, be wounded" (Crum 1939: 145b)
- Plural of σλωτ "kidney" : Cod.Med.Copt., p. 243, recipe no. 28 Νεσλοοτε "the kidneys"

#### Conclusions

- Greek and Arabic loan words in 43 Coptic medical texts were examined to investigate the problems of Coptic phonology: the distinction between H vs. ε and ω vs. ο, and vowel letter doubling
- Old Nubian, Ancient Egyptian historical linguistics, and internal structuralist linguistic studies of Coptic indicate that the H vs. ε and ω vs. ο oppositions are not in length but in degree of mouth aperture and that the vowel letter doubling is more likely to be a long vowel
- In this survey of the new medical literature, we were able to show evidence that the distinction between H vs. ε and ω vs. o is not length but aperture, but not enough evidence to show that vowel letter duplication is a long vowel, at least around 8th century

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# شكرا! Thank you! வுளாசுலு

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