'The Legal Transactions in the Acts of the Leuven Alderman's Rolls, 1421: Towards a Formal Semantic Model of the Act.'

Report Internship *Monk*

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[1] During the execution of the present project the limited amount time available has pressed me to focus on the aspects of the project that received the highest priority, namely the formulating a semantic model for analyzing the logical content of acts. In fact, only a few proofs of concept were needed for this. Of course,

Acknowledgements

If it had not been for the help of a number of persons, the execution of the project in its present form would not have been possible. Firstly, I would like to thank the staff of the Leuven city archives.[2] Their support took many shapes, including bibliographical references, feedback on work I had done, and sharing their expert knowledge in general. Especially the typology of acts, given below, could not have been realized in this form without their kind help; it would have been much less complete and descriptive. Secondly, I would like to thank Dr. Bea Blokhuis for her assistance with finding a good method for interpreting the Latin acts. Finally, my supervisor Prof. Lambert Schomaker also deserves much thanks, for support and advise given throughout.

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an exhaustive typology and correct transcriptions of the Latin acts were aimed for. However, this goal could not completely realized yet, due to lack of time. At a later time, perhaps, this fault can be remedied.
[2] I was in contact with Bart Thoelen mostly, the information and suggestions he provided is also based on work done by his colleges.

1 Introduction

1.1 Monk

The present internship was conducted within the confines of the Monk project. The goal of this project is to construct an interactive search machine for browsing historical handwritten documents with the help of optical character recognition. Eventually, it should become possible to 'google' within handwritten historical documents. This would make historical information much more readily accessible: instead of leafing through hundreds of pages of handwritten text, one could effectively search for the relevant terms. This search engine, also commonly referred too as 'Monk', is being developed by a research group under the supervision or Prof. Lambert Schomaker in cooperation with the Dutch National Archives, the 'Groninger Archieven', the 'Gelders Archief' and 'Stadsarchief Leuven' and with financial support by NWO, and the 'Target' project at the University of Groningen. The afore-mentioned archives have made available a considerable portion of manuscript material to be digitized in the shape of digital scans.

The production of these digital images – digitization - is only the first step in a multi-stage process. The ultimate goal is to learn Monk to read the text within the scan, facilitating searches for specific words in the document. Easy as it may seem to a human being, reading a handwritten text is extremely difficult for a computer program. Optical character recognition functions well for contemporary printed text; however, these computer programs are not able to read historical printed sources and handwritten text. Automatic Handwriting Recognition programs do exist but are restricted to specific content or a single hand/writer. Furthermore, no less than 5000 instances are needed per letter, and even more per word, to achieve omni-writer recognition for contemporary handwriting (Zant, van der, 2009). This is problematic as users of archive material are in search of very low frequency words such as personal names and geographical locations.

To solve this problem Monk employs user-input to aid machine learning. First a digital image of the pages of the document is obtained. Secondly, this image is pre-processed using several algorithms to produce a black and white image of the text. Thirdly, the written text is cut up in fraglets: little pieces of letters.[3] Finally, this set of data needs to classified to arrive at the point where the Monk can recognize the text. Normally, thousands of examples of a particular word would be needed, which is impossible in the case of a rare personal name.

This is where the user-input unique to Monk comes into play. The digitized manuscript pages are cut up into line strips and then annotated by human users. Monk uses this information in a process of continuous, 24/7, machine learning. An example of a handwritten word, that has been transcribed, is used to retrieve words that look like it, producing a hit list with correct identifications and mistakes. A human user then selects the correct identifications, consequently supplying Monk with a larger training set of

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[3] For additional information on fraglets, and a visual impression of how they are employed for handwriting recognition see "Allographic Fraglet Codebooks for Writer Identification" Homepage Lambert Schomaker. Accessed on July 29 2011 <http://www.ai.rug.nl/~lambert/allographic-fraglet-codebooks/allographic-fraglet-codebooks.html>

examples to make a new hit list, and so on. Thus, Monk can learn to read via a bootstrapping method.[4]

1.2 The Alderman's Rolls of Leuven, 1421

Within the confines of the same project, the city archives of Leuven, 'Stadsarchief Leuven', have contributed a text for Monk to learn to read. This text is to be found under the name 'SAL Leuven Schepenbank' (SAL 7316) on the internal project site of Monk.[5] It contains brief entries with acts presided over by the *schepenen*[6], written in current Gothic minuscule. Human annotators provide transcriptions, which in turn should help Monk to learn to read the text.

For the uninitiated it is nearly impossible to read, transcribe or understand the text correctly. This goes for the fully uninitiated but also for different sorts of scholars: the paleographer may know how to transcribe it, but may lack knowledge of legal history to fully understand it; the historian of law may have a better idea of the legal content of the text, but may be unable to read the letters. Moreover, understanding what the text is about and forming an image of the real life situations it refers to, is even more difficult without the appropriate background information. This may be due to the fact that the text is heavily abbreviated, full of (Latin)legal terms, but also possibly to its character as a brief memory aid for the already initiated. As a result, the text is being transcribed by professional annotators only, at the moment, unlike other texts in the Monk data base, which are being transcribed by volunteers on a large scale. Although a considerable amount of knowledge already exists about the text in SAL 7316 and its likes, this information is scattered and not easily and quickly accessible for those who do not have time to study the subject extensively.

During this internship it has been my goal to construct a framework designed to aid the understanding of the entries found in this text, and facilitate transcription and interpretation on a larger scale. It is to be hoped that the proposed framework may also be used to adapt Monk to learn to read better and perhaps even interpret the text up to a certain level. On the one hand, the undertaking will consist of sketching the historical situations which the text refers to: the indispensible backdrop for understanding it; and one the other, questions such as 'what that type of legal transactions between actors are mentioned?', 'which linguistic codifications, such as words and phrases are used to refer to them?', and 'how is the information ordered?' will be answered.

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[4] For a more thorough discussion of the process described above see Tijn van der Zant et al., "Where are the Search Engines for Handwritten Documents?" *Interdisciplinary Science Reviews* 34 no. 2, June (2009): 288-239.

[5] < http://application01.target.rug.nl/> The text in question is MS SAL 7316.

[6] The *schepenen* were the city magistrates, more information on the administrative machinery of Leuven in the later middle ages will be provided below. The English term that would come closest is 'alderman', but to prevent any confusion *schepen* will be used throughout.

1.3 Theoretical Framework and Methods

1.3.1 The Hermeneutical Tradition

The approach that will be adopted in order to answer these questions is primarily a historical method with a hermeneutical character. 'Hermeneutical' should here be taken as referring to the hermeneutical tradition that developed during the 19th century. This tradition concerns itself with theory and method of *verstehen*, the interpretation of (historical) written sources, as well as objects of art in general. Friedrich Schleiermacher (1768-1834) was the first to propose the idea that historical texts can only be interpreted correctly with due reference to the historicity of human consciousness, or *Zeitgeist*. The gap that exists between historical and contemporary worldviews needs to be closed with the aid of hermeneutics, to be able to arrive at valid interpretations.[7]

Schleiermacher's methodology was further elaborated by Wilhelm Dilthey (1833-1911), the first great methodologist for the humanities. To Dilthey, *verstehen* is all about retrieving the inner motives that are at the basis of the outer expressions of language, art etc., while being completely conscious of our own historicity as interpreters.[8] Despite fundamental importance of the work of Schleiermacher and Dilthey, most hermeneutical approaches nowadays primarily refer to Hans-Georg Gadamer (1900-2002).

Gadamer's point of departure is the premise that language is not only a means of communication, but it also shapes our perception of the world. In Gadamer's view interpretation is a primarily linguistic process: a dialogue between the object and the interpreting subject. Any type of understanding/comprehension of an expression of language depends on an implicit and sub-conscious set of assumptions with are perceived as natural by the interpreting subject. Each act of conscious understanding depends on a subconscious set of *Vorverständisse* or premises. This hidden background of knowledge and beliefs, which unavoidably influences the process of interpretation, is called *horizon* by Gadamer.[9] We can never escape our own historicity, our proper horizon; however, during interpretation we can aim to make the horizons of subject and object meet. The merge will produce an improved understanding, although it cannot be entirely free from historical colouring.[10]

In terms of practical method this comes down to reconstructing the horizon, or historical context, of the Leuven alderman's rolls, in the first place. As many primary as well as secondary sources as possible were consulted on subjects such as, for example, the administrative machinery of the Leuven city council in the early 15th century, the procedure according to which justice was administered by the *schepenen*, and the role and place of the city clerks who wrote down the alderman's rolls.

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[7] See Friedrich Scheiermacher, *Über die Religion: Reden an die Gebildeten unter ihren Verächtern*. (originally written in 1799) (Hamburg: Meiner, 1970).

[8] See Wilhelm Dilthey, *Texte zur Kritik der historischenVernunft*. Edited by Hans-Ulrich Lessing. (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 1983).

[9] See Hans-Georg Gadamer, *Wahrheit und Methode*. (reprint, first published in 1960) (Darmstadt: WBG, 2009).

[10] For more information on, and a good overview of the hermeneutical tradition, see Michiel Lezenberg and Gerard de Vries, *Wetenschapsfilosofie voor de Geesteswetenschappen*. (Amsterdam: Amsterdam UP, 2005), 133-156.

Furthermore, the role of language should not be underestimated here. Not only are there differing horizons that impede perfect understanding, the languages of alderman's rolls also pose difficulties. Apart form the fact that the acts in it are in either Middle Dutch or Latin, they also employ the particular register of legal language, which may already have been alien to contemporaneous observers. All relevant sources, such as dictionaries and glossaries, were consulted to aid an interpretation still firmly grounded in historical context.

1.3.2 Conceptual Dependency Theory

Apart form the hermeneutical approach described above, another theoretical framework also provides a basis for tackling the problems faced when interpreting the Leuven alderman's rolls. This theory, called Conceptual Dependency Theory was first formulated by Schank,[11] and originated in the field of Artificial Intelligence and computational linguistics. Schank works from the premise that meaning is not produced by the grammar or the specific vocabulary of a linguistic utterance itself, but by our understanding of the concepts and a wealth of implicit knowledge and assumptions: our 'world model'.[12] The difficulty of building a computer program that can understand and produce language does not arise from problems with grammar or vocabulary, but is caused by the fact that the program lacks the world model needed for understanding language.

In order to make it possible for computer programs to understand and participate in linguistic transactions, Schank developed a system of language-free representation of meaning, using concepts and relations between concepts. Today, this type of formalisation of information is, among others, represented by Web Ontology Language (OWL). It would be very interesting if, in the future, such formalisations should be constructed for the transactions and concepts in the acts of the Leuven alderman's rolls of 1421. In that case, Monk might eventually be able to make the step from reading the words of the alderman's rolls, to its semantics: making predictions about the content and meaning of the acts.

However, due to the scope of the present project it will not be undertaken to produce such formalisations in OWL just jet. What will be performed, is an analysis of the structure of the different types of acts: identifying the principle agents, kinds of transactions, and so on. Which linguistic constructions codify for certain real-life situations? What is the 'grammar' of the main types of acts, and how can this assist in making predictions about the meaning of individual acts? In a way, this is preparing the field for any OWL formalisations to be constructed in the future.

1.3.3 Some Final Reflections on the Theoretical Approach

All in all, the present project builds on a theoretical foundation that can be summed as follows: for any act of understanding or interpretation we are dependent on an implicit set of concepts and assumptions. To be able to make the step from linguistic data (text) to

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[11] See Roger C. Schank, *Conceptual Information Processing*. (Amsterdam: North-Holland Publishing Company , 1975),
[12] See Schank, *Conceptual Information Processing*, 13.

understanding (semantics) we need thorough knowledge of the 'world model' or 'horizon' that informs the semantics of a linguistic utterance: text, in this case.

The view that semantics are not produced by the actual expression of language itself, but by an underlying subconscious base of knowledge, is definitely shared by both the hermeneutical tradition, represented by for example Gadamer, and Conceptual Dependency Theory, represented by Schank. The only difference is that Gadamer writes of the difficulties of understanding through time, and Schank of the dialogue between man and machine.

Both problems, however, apply to the interpretation of the Leuven alderman's rolls. In order to understand the acts in that text, we need to be conscious of its proper horizon: in the terms of our own time the text is unintelligible. Apart from this translation through time, there is also the transaction between human language and machine, if Monk is ever to gain some sort of understanding of the text, or even be a more efficient search engine.

1.4 Research Question

As was mentioned before, it is my goal to construct a framework for understanding and interpreting of the entries in the Leuven alderman's rolls of 1421[13] by reconstructing the historical situations to which they refer. In terms of a bi-partite research question this can be formulated as follows:

> *What are the historical backgrounds (world model/ horizon) that stood at the basis of the entries in the Leuven alderman's rolls of 1421? Furthermore, in what manner do certain words and other linguistic features in the entries codify for transactions between actors, occurrences, and facts etc.?*

In order to answer these questions, it will first be necessary to sketch the historical context of the text. Then I will discuss what type of text the alderman's rolls are, and how they functioned in context.

Following that, the acts in the rolls need to be identified according to type and content, to arrive at a typology of acts. Working with this typology, it will become possible to proceed to analysis of the individual types of acts. This will be done by using 'typical' examples of acts, and by completing four subsequent stages of interpretation: first, an image of the manuscript page containing the act in question; then secondly, a transcription of the act; thirdly, a translation of the act into Modern English; fourthly, an analysis of the structure of the act, identifying the principal agents and transactions.

A further sub-question that I will attempt to answer, as a part of explicitly reconstructing the original world model/horizon, is: *which knowledge and skills are pre-requisite for correctly transcribing and interpreting this source?* The execution of this project, will undoubtedly provide more articulated insights into which skills and

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[13] The record the present project based on is that of the first *Schepenkamer*. At the time there were three *Schepenkamers* or Alderman's Chambers active in Leuven; in 1362 the single chamber of that time was split in two, in 1399 a third chamber was added to increase capacity to deal with the ever growing demand for the jurisdiction of the *Schepenen*. See Marika Ceunen, "Uit goede bron: De Leuvense schepenbankregisters, een schatkamer voor e Brabantse geschiedenis."*Salsa!.Doc* 5 (2005), 4.

knowledge are required. This knowledge may then hopefully aid any future human, as well as computer annotators (Monk), to correctly interpret the Leuven alderman's rolls, or similar sources.

2 The Alderman's Rolls in Context

2.1 The City of Leuven in the 15th Century

Officially, Leuven was the first city of the ducal territory of Brabant. However, since 1268, Duke Jan I moved the ducal court to Brussels,[14] the bigger of the two cities since 1374. In 1420, the tide seems to have turned: duke John IV decided to reside in Leuven again, due to tensions between him and the Brussels city council. In 1422 the city donated a monumental house at the Cranendonckstraat to the Duke; in 1423 the house was extended with a new kitchen and throne hall. Nevertheless, at the end of the year 1423 the ducal court moved back to Brussels, never to return.

Apart from fall from political importance for the city, it also suffered other heavy blows during the 14th century. The cloth industry, which had employed about half of the city's labour force, was in decline since the 1340's. This economic decline as well as attacks of the bubonic plague lead to a decline in population from 20.000 souls in 1300, to 15 to 18.000 souls in 1350.[15] This, together with other causes, lead to enduring social and political unrest (1360-1383). Only after 1383 the prosperity of the city could start to recuperate.

The cloth industry never really recovered, but other trades like crafts like tapestry weaving, embroidery, painting, stained glass artistry, gold- and silver smithies, brass foundry eventually filled the gap. The establishment of the university of Leuven in 1425 also meant a great boost for the economy: soon many foreign students were attracted, whose expenditure meant an injection for the local trades. All in all, the economy recovered quite well, and also became more balanced and less dependent on one single trade. This lead to a period of social peace and stability which lasted until 1477. Despite attacks of the bubonic plague in 1400, 1413-14, 1425, 1439, 1446, and 1458-68, the population of Leuven grew from 17.000 in 1374 to 22.000 in 1480.[16]

As can be seen above, the records in the alderman's rolls of 1421 were written at a time when matters were taking a turn for the better: the city had just regained its original importance of ducal seat, and in the mean time its economy was also improving. Whether the climate in which they were written down had any effect on the text itself, is hard to say, especially without comparison of the records of other years. However, we can safely conclude that Leuven was certainly not the least of the cities in Brabant, although it had seen better times. The court of justice presided over by the Leuven *schepenen* still retained a huge territory of jurisdiction and functioned as court of appeal for many smaller courts in Brabant, a fact not to be ignored with respects to the alderman's rolls.

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[14] The city of Leuven had objected to his rule, in favour of Jan's brother. As a result, Jan decided to reside elsewere. Raymond van Uytven, "Leuven, de beste stad van Brabant" *Deel I:*

[15] Alphonsine Maesschalck and Jos Viane, "De Urbanisatie van de Leuvense Plaetse in de 14de en 15de Eeuw." In *Het Leuvense Stadhuis: Pronkjuweel van de Gotiek, Tentoonstellingscatalogus*. Edited by Maurice Smeyers and Rita van Doren, 10-40 (Leuven: Peters, 1998), 16.

[16] Raymond van Uytven, "Leuven: De Stad en haar Inwoners in het Midden van de 15de Eeuw." in *Leven te Leuven in de Late Middeleeuwen: Tentoonstellingscatalogus.* Edited by Lutgarde Bessemans, 11-21(Leuven: Peeters, 1998), 11-15.

2.2 The Administrative Structure of the City

Nominally, the *meyer* (bailiff) headed the city Leuven. He was appointed by the Duke, serving as His Grace's representative in Leuven and the surrounding counties. Apart from representing ducal power in legal, administrative, and military matters, the *meyer*'s main responsibility was acting the head of police in the city of Leuven. Prosecuting offenders, and executing the verdict of the *schepenbank* belonged to his principle duties. His staff included a clerk, five police officers, and a executioner.[17]

Administering justice was performed by the seven *schepenen* (Aldermen) of the city. These were elected from the ancient race of *Sint-Pietermannen*[18] (four), the *gilde broeders*[19] (one), and the *ambachtsnaties*[20] (two). The *schepenen* concerned themselves with criminal justice; only the most serious offences against persons or property, and disturbances of public peace were tried before them. The penalties to these offences could vary from fines and corporal punishments, to penal pilgrimages. More commonly the *schepenen* would settle disputes between citizens of Leuven over inheritances and debts etc. Furthermore, voluntary jurisdiction made up a great part of their job; recording contracts of al sorts, and providing sealed charters as a validation.[21] Citizens of Leuven could only be tried before the Leuven *schepenbank*, when they were prosecuted in another area they could demand to be judged at home. It was also possible to purchase citizenship of Leuven, if one lived elsewhere. In 1430 more than 500 'buitenpoorters', citizens living outside of the city, escaped the jurisdiction of their home town or village this way.[22]

The city council, entrusted with governing the city and financial and political policy, consisted of the seven *schepenen* and twenty-one *gezworenen*[23] (jurors). Two mayors, chosen from among the *gezworenen*, presided over the council and conducted daily government. All of the functions in the city council were unpaid, honorary posts, which made them attainable for he city elite only.[24] For exceptionally weighty matters, such as levying new taxes, the *Brede Raad* (literally 'broad council') would be assembled. The mayors and city council, all of the *Sint-Pietermannen*, the masters of the cloth-weavers guild, and the members of the other guilds would all be invited. Potentially this would make for a huge assembly, but generally only a few interested parties would make their appearance.[25]

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[17] Van Uytven, "Leuven: De Stad en haar Inwoners," 15.

[18] Descendants of the ducal servants, vassals, tributaries (cijnslieden), as well as member and tributaries of the Chapter of St Peter. Van Uytven, "Leuven, de Beste Stad van Brabant," 217.

[19] Members of the guild of Cloth-weavers.

[20] Members of the other guilds.

[21] Van Uytven, "Leuven: De Stad en haar Inwoners," 16-17.

[22] Van Uytven, "Leuven, de Beste Stad van Brabant," 235.

[23] Eleven of the *gezworenen* were chosen from among the *Sint-Pietermannen*, the remaining ten were members of the guilds. "Leuven, de Beste Stad van Brabant," 221.

[24] Moveover, the complicated election procedures only allowed members of the guilds and *Sint-Pietermannen* to either stand candidate or vote.

[25] Van Uytven, "Leuven: De Stad en haar Inwoners," 18-20.

2.3 The Alderman's Rolls

Having roughly sketched the administrative organization of Leuven in the 15th century above, we can now proceed to place the alderman's rolls in this context. This text fulfilled a very specific role in the jurisdiction of the *schepenen*. Broadly speaking, it is the record of voluntary jurisdiction and disputes settled by these city magistrates. There have been, as of yet, no publications on the Leuven alderman's rolls specifically, but fortunately the dissertations by Van Synghel[26] and Spierings[27] on the alderman's rolls of Den Bosch, another city in Brabant, are very informative. Although not all features of the Leuven rolls are identical to those of Den Bosch, there is a high level of correspondence.[28] One of the main differences is that the rolls of Den Bosch are all in Latin, while the Leuven rolls also include acts in Middle Dutch as well as Latin.

To understand the alderman's rolls as a text, it is necessary to know more about how voluntary jurisdiction and the settling of disputes were practiced, and how the text reflects that. A good general definition of what alderman's rolls are is given by Van Synghel: "the urban records of voluntary jurisdiction… the transfer and entailing of real property before the aldermen, … as well as family and succession law (emancipation, naming of guardians and so on), obligatory agreements (purchase, rents, lease [*pacht*], reconciliations), promises that oblige to certain duties, reminders of payment and mandates."[29] The above definition applies to the Den Bosch situation; it should be added here that the Leuven rolls also include verdicts by the *schepenen* meant to settle disputes; these could be over property or inheritances, for example.

The procedure according to which acts were added to the record of the rolls knows several stages. First a concept of the act could be make, written on a loose piece of paper or parchment. The making of such a concept was optional, not obligatory. This concept could potentially be made elsewhere, to be brought to the *schepenen*. The concept would then be read aloud in the presence of the witnesses and subsequently written down in the book of the alderman's rolls: *protocoleren* in Dutch terminology. However, the status of the act in the rolls would remain that of a concept until it was passed before (*gepasseerd*) the *schepenen*; only after the names of the acting *schepenen*, only two needed to be present for the proceeding, and the date were added, the act would become a *minuut*, a piece of writing with legal force. Based on this *minuut*, in the rolls, the clerks would also produce a "grosse" or charter (*oorkonde)*, in which the transaction would be more elaborated formulated and validated with a seal. This charter would then be handed out to the participants of the transaction,[30] in most cases.

Often, we see a strike through the *minuten* in the rolls, this a sign that a charter has been produced based on this *minuut*. The scribe would mark of the *minuut* as soon as a charter had been produced. Different scribes could employ different personal styles of striking through the acts they had produced a charter of.[31] Not all *minuten* were worked

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[26] Geertrui van Synghel, *Actum in Camera Scriptorum Oppidi de Buscoducis: De Stedelijke Secretarie van 's-Hertogenbosch to ca. 1450*. (Hilversum: Verloren, 2007).

[27] M.H.M Spierings, *Het Schepenprotocol van 's-Hertogenbosch (1367-1400)*. (Tilburg: Stichting Zuidelijk Historisch Contact, 1984).

[28] Spierings, *Het Schepenprotocol*, 153.

[29] (my translation of the Dutch text) see Van Synghel, *Actum*, 33.

[30] Ferdinand W. Smulders, "Over het Schepenprotokol." *Brabants Heem* 19 (1967), 159-161.

[31] For example: a cross, a single strike, two parallel strikes etc.

out in charters: sometimes it was simply not deemed necessary.[32] Various types of remarks and marks in the margin or between the lines of the *minuten* are also common. Additional remarks could be instructions meant to aid the clerk who was to produce a charter. A common mark, often found in the margin before act is an abbreviation that looks like "sz", this is short for "solvit"(fig. 2.1).

Fig. 2.1: The sign indicates the "seal-money", for the production of the charter, has been paid to the *schepenen* by the parties.[33]

2.4 The Clerks of the Rolls

The actual writing down of acts in the alderman's rolls was performed by officials who did not take part in the legal transaction before the *schepenen*. This third party was represented by the city clerks, or 'clerks of the rolls' as they are sometimes called.[34] In the early days, the Leuven rolls start in 1367[35], the performing scribes could be regular or secular clergy attracted from local religious institutions, who acted incidentally on demand. However, due to the increasing workload of writing down acts and producing charters, the city soon started appointing her own clerks, hired especially for the clerical duties connected to the jurisdiction of the *schepenen*.[36]

When the rolls of 1421 were written, the office of clerk of the rolls was the only paid position connected to the clerical department of the city.[37] The chamber of clerks was headed by a higher ranking official: the secretary of voluntary jurisdiction (*secretaris*), at least in later times.[38] During the year 1440, and permanently after 1503, the head of clerical duties was the city pensionary (*pensionaris*) a legally trained official,

[32] Spierings, *Het Schepenprotocol*, 135-139.
[33] For this and more information of marginal writing, see Spierings, *Het Schepenprotocol*, 140-7.
[34] The terminology and demarcation of the clerical functions connected to urban administration is both fluid and knotty. This is true for the Middle Ages, and as a consequence also the present. Hilde de Ridder-Symoens, *De Universitaire Vorming van de Brabantse Stadsmagistraat en Stadsfunktionarissen, 1430-1580*. (Gent: Rijksuniversiteit, 1977), 44.
[35] Spierings, *Het Schepenprotocol*, 109.
[36] Van Synghel, *Actum in Camera Scriptorum*, 264-273.
[37] This is true for the whole duration of the first half of the 15th century. Lode Wils, "Het Stadspensionarisschap te Leuven." *Standen en Landen* 9 (1955): 40.
[38] It must be noted that before the 16th century, the terms *secretaris* and *klerk* were sometimes used interchangeably, so it is hard be certain about the hierarchical articulation of the clerical chambers.

who advised the *schepenen* on legal matters and who represented the city elsewhere if necessary.[39]

To be a clerk of the rolls one had to have certain degree of education and specialized knowledge. It should be kept in mind that at that time the ability to read and write alone, was a more or less exceptional accomplishment. Furthermore, a clerk needed a lot more than just knowing how to write. Many of the acts in the rolls are in Latin so the ability to not only read but also *write* Latin, although basic and formulaic, was a pre-requisite. To produce legally valid *minuten* and charters, a clerk would have to know what information to include, how to structure it and also to employ the appropriate terminology.

As we can see, it took a great deal of expertise to successfully fulfill the requirements of the office of clerk of the rolls. Even back then, it was a highly specialized type of knowledge that was needed to write, but also to correctly interpret, these texts. Therefore, it must not seem surprising that today the unsuspecting reader of these documents needs to be supplied with much background information, 'world model' or 'horizon' if you will, to understand the rolls correctly.

Indeed, these clerks were not the least of people. Van Synghel's research on the social backgrounds from which these officials were recruited in Den Bosch, points out that they came from the same city elite as the *Schepenen* themselves. Many had received an academic education. In Antwerp, the situation seems to have been somewhat different; there the clerks were recruited form humbler milieus.[40] The social background of the Leuven clerks has not been the subject of research yet. Nevertheless, the number of Leuven clerks that had enjoyed a higher education rose from a few around 1400 to 80% percent in 1480.[41] The same trend can be witnessed in Den Bosch and Antwerp for the same period. For many, the office of city clerk is a starting point for a career in the higher echelons.[42]

2.4.1 Several Hands in SAL 7316

An important fact to note about the alderman's rolls of 1421, is that several clerks were responsible for writing down the acts.[43] In the pages of the rolls the hands alternate quite often. Sometimes several acts in succession are written in the same hand, or even subsequent folia. However, there are also folia on which a few different hands can be recognized. An example of this can be found on fol. 16 R (scan 31 on Monk). The first two acts on this folium are a clearly in a different hand than the following. The last act may also belong to yet another scribe.[44]

To identify the number of individual hands in SAL 7316, a competent paleographer would have to perform an extensive survey of the whole of the text. In all events, it is a task that does not fit with the scope of my present project. Recent developments in the field of what may be called 'digital paleography' may offer some

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[39] Wils, "Het Stadspensionarisschap," 39-45.

[40] Van Synghel, *Actum in Camera Scriptorum*, 318-322.

[41] De Ridder-Symoens, *De Universitaire Vorming*, 44-55.

[42] Van Synghel, *Actum in Camera Scriptorum*, 337-8.

[43] When I shared this observation with the staff of the Leuven city archive, they corroborated this view with much conviction.

[44] Another example of a page on which one can recognize several hands is that of fol. 62 verso (scan 124).

perspective. This cross-fertilisation of the fields of classical paleography and artificial intelligence aims to make writer-identification in historical texts less laboursome. For example, the width and direction of ink-traces in historical writing are a powerful tool for achieving writer identification. Specialised software can use this information - called the *Quill* feature - to make reasonably good writer-identifications.[45] Features such as slant, curvature, roundness can be used in combination with allographs (fraglets) to achieve writer-identification as well. This method presents a hit-list of candidate samples that correspond to the target sample, to be selected by the classical human paleographer.[46]

If the hands were to be identified, putting a name to some of the hands could then perhaps be the next step. For example, some names are mentioned in the rolls themselves: "dierc vanden elzen clerc der stat"[47](fol. V 114.1, scan 228), "item henric(us) hubrechts clerc der stat"[48](fol. V62.4, scan 124), "Gerardo der stat clerck"[49] (fol. V 137. 6, scan 274). For the first two persons named, it is not possible to say with absolute certainty they worked as clerks for the rolls. Other the departments of the city council could also employ clerks. Furthermore, Dierc Vanden Elzen and Henricus Hubrechts are mentioned as acting parties in *minuten*, their profession is mentioned but they are not referred to in the capacity of clerk of the rolls. In the case of Gerard, we can be reasonably certain that he was employed as clerk of the rolls in 1421. The act on fol. 137 verso is an arrangement about the safe keeping of documents: in his capacity of city clerk Gerard will store a charter and a receipt of payment for the parties concerned.

The presence of several hands in the rolls of 1421 is an important fact for Monk. Each individual scribe has a personal way of shaping letters and words. This does have consequences for Monk's ability to identity words. The same word written by different scribes poses extra difficulties for Monk, because of their individual way of writing. Therefore, it might be advisable that, in the future, the writing of the different scribes should be classed in individual data sets, so that Monk can analyze this material separately. Alternatively, it might also be argued that Monk may be become quite strong in recognizing the late medieval gothic current of that time and place that the rolls are written in, regardless of individual hands.

2.5 The Location of Writing

To improve our understanding of what kind of text the alderman's rolls are, we have been looking into the function of the text, its place in the administrative machinery, and what people were responsible for it. To improve our understanding of the text even a bit further, it seems a good idea to also look into the *where* of the text, apart from the *what* and *how*.

[45] A.A. Brink, J. Smit, M.L. Bulacu, and L.R.B. Schomaker. "Writer identification using directional ink-trace width measurements" *Pattern Recognition* July 2011, doi: 10.1016/j.patcog.2011.07.005. Also see Mark Aussems and Axel Brink, "Digital palaeography", in *Kodikologie und Paläographie im Digitalen Zeitalter / Codicology and Palaeography in the Digital Age* (Vol II). Edited by M. Rehbein, P. Sahle, and T. Schassan: 293-308. Norderstedt: Books on Demand, 2009.

[46] Marius Bulacu and Lambert Schomaker. "Automatic handwriting identification on medieval documents", *Proc. of 14th Int. Conf. on Image Analysis and Processing* (ICIAP 2007), IEEE Computer Society, 11 - 13 September, Modena, Italy. (2007): 279-284.

[47] 'Dierc van Elzen clerk of the city.'

[48] 'Henricus Hubrechts clerk of the city.'

[49] 'Gerard clerk of the city.'

The picture one can form, on the basis of what went before, must still be rather abstract. By paying some attention to the exact location of the fabrication of the rolls the image we have may be brought to life a little more.

        In Den Bosch, the city's alderman's rolls were written down and passed before the *schepenen* in the chamber of the city's *secretarissen,* the clerk's chambers. The clerks would sit behind their desks, and on one side of the room a high canopied seat for the *schepenen*. Two of these magistrates would be present to have the concepts of acts passed before them, to turn them into legally binding *minuten*. In the middle ages it would have been a busy place on market days, several acts could be written down in the rolls on one day. Often parties would have to come back some time later to collect their sealed charters.[50]

        The question remains whether the situation was the same in 1421 in Leuven. For sure, the rolls were written down somewhere in the city hall. In 1421, the present Gothic city hall, as it still exists today, had not been built yet. From 1381 onwards, the city owned four patrician town houses situated between the, today no longer existent, cemetery, the *Proesstrate*, the *Rijn*, and a bower later to be called the *Hoedermerct*. These houses were all connected and together presented the city hall. The core of the city's administration was centered in the buildings then referred to as the *Moor* and the *Rosenhoet*; in the *Moor* the city council and *Brede Raad* would meet, in the *Rosenhoet* the *schepenen* had their smaller *clein raedcameren* or *dingbanc*. These were both situated in the *Voirste Huys*, the front or foremost house. In the *Achterste Huys*, the back house, the city clerks had their chamber, close to both the magistrates and the public.[51] When the present city hall was built, between 1439 and 1469, the functional concept and internal lay-out of the building remained the same; this was motivated by the wishes of the magistrates rather than those of architects.[52]

        It is most likely that the location in the city hall where the alderman's rolls were written down was the *clercken cameren* (fig. 2.2). In that case, the situation is the same as in Den Bosch, where two of the *schepenen* would come down to the chamber of the clerks to have acts passed before them. The *clerkencameren* was sub-divided into three partitions, one for each of the three *schepenkamers*. In the present city hall this is reflected in the three doors that open to main entrance hall, opposite to the main entrance of the building.[53]

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[50] Spierings, *Het Schepenprotocol*, 61-63.
[51] Maesschalck and Viaene, "De Urbanisatie," 19-23.
[52] Maesschalck and Viaena, "De Urbanistatie," 18.
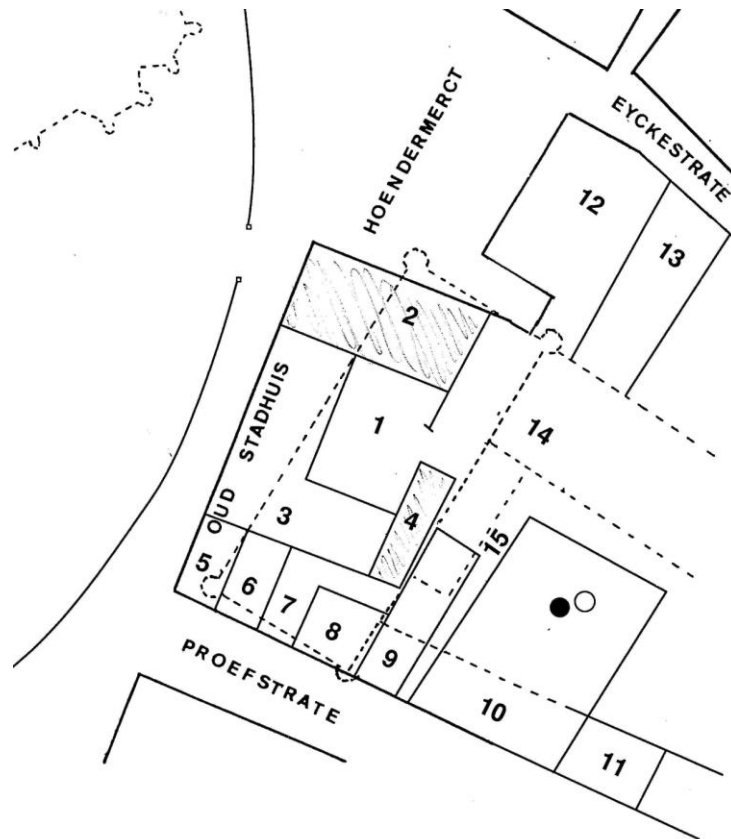[53] See (also for picture) Michiel Heirman and Jan Staes, *Het Stadhuis van Leuven*. (Tielt: Lannoo, 1997), 22.

Fig. 2.2 Part of the city map of Leuven[54]: number 2 is the *clein raetcameren* or *dingbanc* where the *schepenen* held council, number 4 is the *clercken cameren* where the city clerks worked.

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[54] The picture was taken from the (more extensive) reconstruction drawn by Maeschalk and Viaene, "De Urbanisatie," 10. The thick lines represent the old city hall, the dotted lines give the outline of the present city hall.

3 Analysis of the Source Material

3.1 A Typology of the Acts

As was indicated in section 1.4: *research question*, it has been undertaken to construct a typology of the acts in the alderman's rolls of 1421. The construction of such a typology is absolutely necessary for correctly understanding and interpreting the acts in it. Not all acts are identical pieces of writings; most fit into a set of well defined categories. These differ in terms of structuring and diction, and refer to different legal transactions. However, although there is a clear categorization of acts, this does not become directly apparent from the text. The cause of this is that all the different types of acts, in both Middle Dutch and Latin, were written down in order of passing before the *schepenen*, not according to category. Therefore, in order to gain a good impression of the types, and construct a good typology, extensive study of the rolls is needed.

Spierings formulated such a typology for the alderman's rolls of Den Bosch, in chapter 4 of her dissertation. She examined 1800 acts with the intention of analyzing them on terms of their own period, instead of superimposing the categories legal transactions used nowadays. Therefore, the Latin terms that are associated with certain transactions were identified, and then looked for in the text. *Vendere* and *supportare* in acts of sale, while *supportare* also featured in transfers of property without title. The phrases "dare ad hereditariam pactionem" and "dare ad hereditarium censum" were used to give property in lease or for levy. *Vendere* was also used to place hereditary lease or levy on own property. For the buying of annuities (lijfrenten) *vendere* was also used. In the case of family law and law of inheritance the following terms are used: *supportare usufructum* (usufruct, *vruchtgebruik*), *renuntiare* (renouncing a right), *divisio hereditaria* (division of the estate, *boedelscheiding*), *redimere e iure proximitatis* (exercising the right of acquisition, *naastingsrecht*), *emancipation* (emancipation of a child, *handlichting*). In the case of promises *promittere* is used, *locare* for renting out property, *dare ad annuum pactum* for giving in lease, and *reconciliation* for the receipt of a reconciliation.[55]

The resulting typology gives an impression of the kinds of acts in the alderman's rolls of Den Bosch, although is does remain fluid and sketchy. Van Synghel, building on the foundation laid by Spierings, has come up with a more well structured and exhaustive typology, in a publication dedicated specifically to this subject.[56] This typology is structure as follows:

1. Sale of goods or rights: *vendere*
2. Transfer of goods or rights: *supportare*
3. To give in lease or levy: *dare ad censum; dare ad pactum*
4. exercising the right of acquisition, usufruct and the renouncing of rights: *prebuit, alter cessit et reportavit; usufructum supportare; renuntiare super*.

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[55] See Spierings, *Het Schepenprotocol*, 159-161. On these pages an overview is given, for the more thorough analysis see the look at the rest of this chapter in Spiering's book.
[56] Geertrui van Synghel, *Het Bosch Protocol: Een Praktische Handleiding*. (Stichting Brabantse Regionale Geschiedenis: 's-Hertogenbosch, 1993).

5. Emancipation: *petiit licentiam eundi et permanendi extra domum et quietum/expenses; dedit licentiam emancipandi*.

6. Promise of payment: *promisit x persolvendos; promisit quod dabit et persolvet*.

7. Summons: *monere; dare postestatem monendi*

8. Eviction: *omnes venditiones, alienations et obligations… cora, scabinis calumpniavit*.

9. A bet: *promisit x, si (description of the bet), et non alias persolvendos.*[57]

Although, the typology above is very instructive about what one might find in alderman's rolls in general, it is not directly applicable to the Leuven rolls. This is due to the difference between what types of transactions were included in the jurisdiction of the *schepenen* in Den Bosch and Leuven. The Leuven rolls contain more types of acts, because they handled a different array of cases. Furthermore, the Leuven rolls employ different terms and wording for the same type of transactions. Naturally, the acts that are incidentally written in Middle Dutch employ different words than the Latin ones.

To create a typology of the acts in the Leuven rolls the same method as proposed by Spierings was used. The recurrent relevant words and phrases that refer to certain types of transactions were identified, and the acts were classed in the significant categories. Because the acts in Latin and those in Middle Dutch differ fundamentally on this point, two separate typologies were created. An interesting side-effect of this division is that it has become apparent that Latin was employed for certain types of transactions, and Middle Dutch for others, although there is overlap on some points.

3.2 A Typology of the Acts in the Leuven Alderman's Rolls of 1421

3.2.1 Middle Dutch

1. Promise: *geloeft*
    a) promise of payment
    b) promise to guard vineyard against damage by third parties
    c) promise not to sell a house
2. Lease, rent and levy contracts: *heft genomen ende bekendt dat hi genomen heft … te houden en te hebben te wynnen in termijn van x jaren.*
    a) lease
    b) rent
    c) levy
3. Demanding justice based on a Leuven charter: *overmids vonnisse van scepenen brieven … de meyere maande de scepenen van recht souden wisen voir een vonisse dat …;*

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[57]For more information on the nature of these types and more complicated Latin terminology involved in some, see Van Synghel, *Het Bosch Protocol*, 15-20. Examples of these types of actes can found in the editions of text following the main typology.

4. Receipt of payment: *heeft bekendt en verleidt dat … hem volcomelic betaelt ende genoech gedaan heeft/hi ontfangen ende gehaven heft in gereden penningen; al der aenspraken voirscreven volcomelic ende al quijtgesconden ende geloeft;*

    a) Annulment of confiscation (quittance): *Ontsetten op enen borghe*

5. Postponement of trial

6. Authorization: *mechtich maecken*

7. Confiscation of sureties: *dit sijn de pande die x gepandt heeft van;*

8. bringing charges: *beclaight*

9. regulation concerning (a)charter(s)

10. Right of way?: *heeft geconsenteerd dat voir hem sijn erfgenamen en de nacomelingen dat;*

3.2.2 Latin

1. Promise: *promisit, promiserunt*

    a) promise of payment

    b) promise of recompensation (*schadeloosstelling*)

    c) promise of going on a pilgrimage

2. Sale: *vendidit, vendiderunt*

3. Recognizing a debt: *recognovit se debere*

    a) acknowledging a debt

    b) acknowledging the obligation to pay an annuity, with option of refund: *recognovit se debere … pensionis ad vitam… et poterunt redimere*

    c) acknowledging to have received sth: *recognovit se recepisse et levasse*

4. Confiscation of goods by the *schepenen*: *villicus lovaniensis medianus scabinis lovanienses adduxit.*

5. Confiscation of goods by someone else: *Testabant expresse se interfuisse.*

6. Transfer of goods or rights: *supportavit*

7. Emancipation of minors: *emancipavit*

8. Receipt of payment (quittance): *quiticclamavit/quitavit expresse adduxit*

9. Exercising the right of re-acquisition: *exegit proximitatem suam*

10. Demand for payment: *effecit potentem quo ad revocationem*

11. Giving in heredity lease: *contulit/contulerunt de se et eorum succesoribus*

12. Levying taxes on immovable property: *obligavit de licentiam*

(13. renewal of rental contract: *reconduxit se reconduxisse recognovit*)

Please see the appendices B.1 and B.2 for transcribed examples of these types of acts.

4 Analysis of Acts

As was indicated before, examples of the types presented in the typology above will be looked at on four levels:
- Manuscript (MS) level: the digital image
- Text level: transcription
- Translation of the text into Modern English
- Analysis of structuring of the act

This approach, of performing analysis in stages, was chosen because it makes explicit some of the most important steps taken subconsciously by the human reader of a text. First, there is visual information, an image: MS level. Then image is interpreted: it is found to contain text, and then letters and words.

The next step would be to go from the plain linguistic data, the text in this case, to the semantics of this: what does it mean? This is, of course an extremely complicated linguistic process, which moreover draws on large reservoir of subconscious knowledge to inform understanding: world model, or horizon. Here, it has been decided to represent this process on two levels: translation to Modern English and analysis of internal structure of the act.

Translation of the act in to Modern English is a measure taken, in this case, to mount the language barrier that modern readers may experience. The following structural analysis is meant to lay bare the internal grammar of a particular type of act: which information is given where, what are the key-phrases for identifying particular type of act and so on. Identifying the internal structure of the acts aids much to understanding them. When one knows what to look for where in an act, interpretation becomes much easier: what type of transaction take place between whom, any additional information of particularities etc.

Thus the uninitiated modern reader may, by degrees learn to interpret the text in SAL 7316. This interpretation is assumed to already be supported by the all background information on the aldermans's rolls provided above: our world model/horizon. The four levels of interpretation proposed are of course not representative of all those innumerable steps of interpretation that take place, in the blink of an eye, in the brain of a well-versed reader.

However, apart from complying with some the needs of the modern un-versed reader, this method also illustrates the steps taken by Monk, and some of the difficulties of this process. From a digital image, Monk must find out which pixels are text and which are background, then attempt to indentify words using that information. This proves an arduous task so far. Although full-blown transcriptions and semantic analysis must still belong to the distant future, Monk might certainly be able to learn to identity different types of acts and form hypotheses about where particular structural elements are to be found: the agents in a transaction, for example.

4.1 A Promise of Payment in Four Steps

Below, the four stages of analysis proposed above, are seen applied to a Middle Dutch promise of pay in SAL 7316. It starts with the most basic level of information: the MS page, a digital image in this case. Secondly, transcription follows; thirdly translation, and

finally an identification of the structural elements of the acts, as they can be found on the MS page.
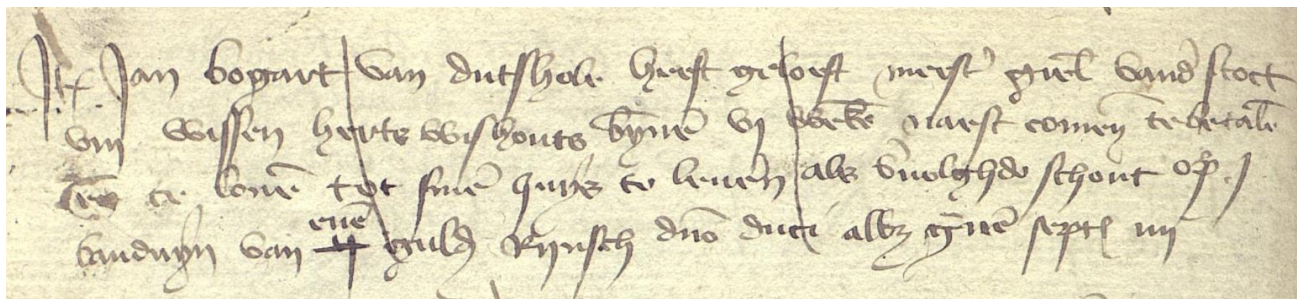

Fig. 4.1 (MS page V64.1 / scan 128) The - digital image of - manuscript page presents the starting point of any interpretation of information contained in it.

Transcription
It(em) Jan bogart van dutshele heeft geloeft meest(er) giel(ijs) vand(er) stoct
viii wissen herts wishouts by(n)ne(n) vi weke(n) naest comen(de) te betale(n)
En(de) te love(n) tot sine(n) huys te leve(re)n als v(er)volghde schout op i
banduyn van ii [ene(n)] guld(en) rijnsch d(omi)no duci alb(us) g(ra)ve(n) sept(embris) iiii

Translation
Item Jan Bogart van dutshele has promised master Gielijs vander Stoct
Eigth bundles of 'heart'[58] splitted fire-wood to be paid within the coming four weeks
And to be delivered at his house; the sheriff will confiscate 'a
Banduyn'[59] of one Rhinish gilden of the duke;[60] Albus,[61] Graven[62] 4th of September

Structural Elements
- Item;
- agent A;
- "heeft geloeft … te betalen" (has promised to pay);
- agent B(recipient);
- description of payment;
- term;
- location of delivery;
- "als vervolghde de schout op enen banduyn": description of the fine in case of default;
- the presiding two *schepenen*;
- date.

(see fig. 4.2)

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[58] This word refers to the type of wood, in English it is called heart-wood: the central part of the timber (the heart) of a tree. Also see "harthout" *Woordenboek der Nederlandse Taal*, and "heart-wood" *Oxford English Dictionary*.

[59] I have not been able to find this word in any of the relevant dictionaries.

[60] If Jan Bogart fails to deliver, he will pay this fine as compensation.
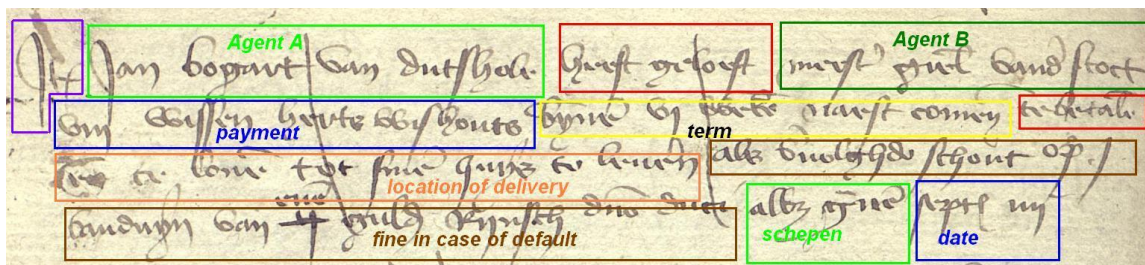
[61] Jan de Witte.

[62] Raes van Graven

Fig. 4.2 The relevant regions of interest, that correspond to the structural elements the act is composed of, are indicated on the MS page with bright colours.

Starting with the MS page as a point of departure, transcription, translation and structural breakdown of the act were achieved. Ideally, the next step would be to make this information accessible to Monk, so that the program would not only be able to spot individual words in the text, but also make predictions about where on the page, or within an act certain types of information are to be found. To achieve this, it is necessary to produce a formal semantic model of the structure act, which can be matched to the relevant regions on the MS page.

4.2 Towards a Formal Semantic Modeling of the Act

As was explained, any analysis or interpretation of our historical handwritten document, SAL 7316, must start with the basic level of the digital image of the MS page. From there, it is possible to proceed, after completing many steps, to the semantic level of the act. In order to make the semantic models of acts intelligible for Monk, the semantic content of acts needs to be linked to specified areas on the MS page.

      Other work on the analysis and layout structure of document images – contemporary type-written text – commonly ditinguishes between geometrical layout and logical structure. The geometrical layout of a document image refers to specific regions in the image such as text blocks, background, lines, and words. The image is decomposed into a hierarchy of regions, consisting of sub-regions, down to the pixel. Logical structure refers to information about the contents of the document. This can be information about the type of document. Furthermore, logical structure consists of functional labels; for example: heading, caption, figure etc., and reading order. Subsequently, the logical structure can be mapped to the relevant geometrical regions of the image, to achieve optimal analysis of the document image.[63]

      In the case of the acts in SAL 7616 a similar breakdown of information contained on the MS page can be realized (fig. 4.3). In terms of a formal semantic model, the distinction between geometric representation and logical representation, semantic content, needs to be made first.

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[63] See Robert M. Haralick, "Document Image Understanding: Geometric and Logical Layout." *Proceedings Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition 1994*. Seattle, 385-90. and Anoop Namboodiri and Anil Jain, "Document Structure and Layout Analysis." *Digital Document Processing* (2007): 29-48. doi:10.1007/978-1-84628-726-8_2
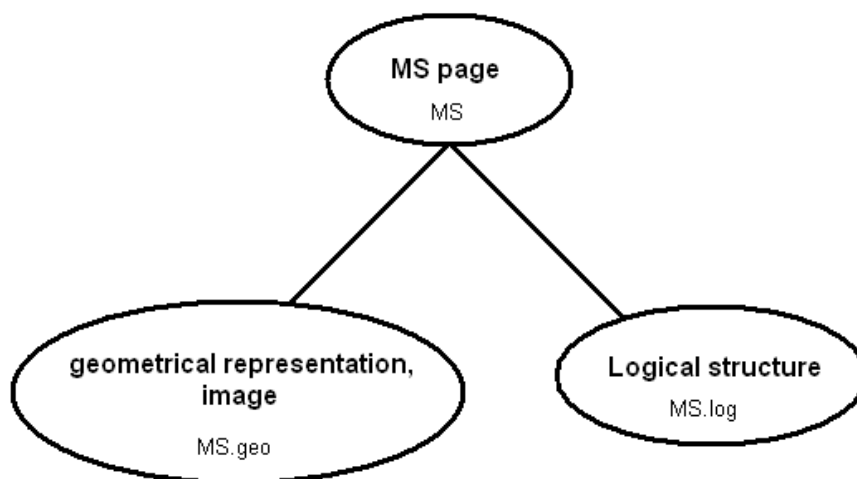
Fig. 4.3 Conceptual modeling of a manuscript page: it is composed of a geometrical representation – a visual image – and of a logical structure which refers to the semantic content of the text.

Both the nodes MS.geo (image, geometrical representation) and MS.log (content, logical representation branch of into many hierarchical sub-divisions. The geometrical branch MS.geo holds many *regions of interest*, or ROIs. So MS.geo would hold MS.geo.1, a closed-polygonal ROI with a boundary of certain coordinates and an unique identifier, an IDroi. It is important to note the fact the ROI is polygonal; for contemporary and some historical document images only four coordinate for a rectangle would suffice, but in case of our historical handwritten source the lines are not straight and text blocks are not rectangular. MS.geo.1 then breaks down into MS.geo.1.1: ink pixels, and MS.geo.1.2.1: backgrounds pixels. Both these nodes could also be broken down again into different shades of colour for example.

Branch MS.log, the branch with the logical structure, contains semantic elements in an organized order. Each element in this structure would have a unique identifier, an IDlog. A logical element may contain a list of IDrois referring to the portions in the image that correspond to the logical text unit (fig. 4.4).
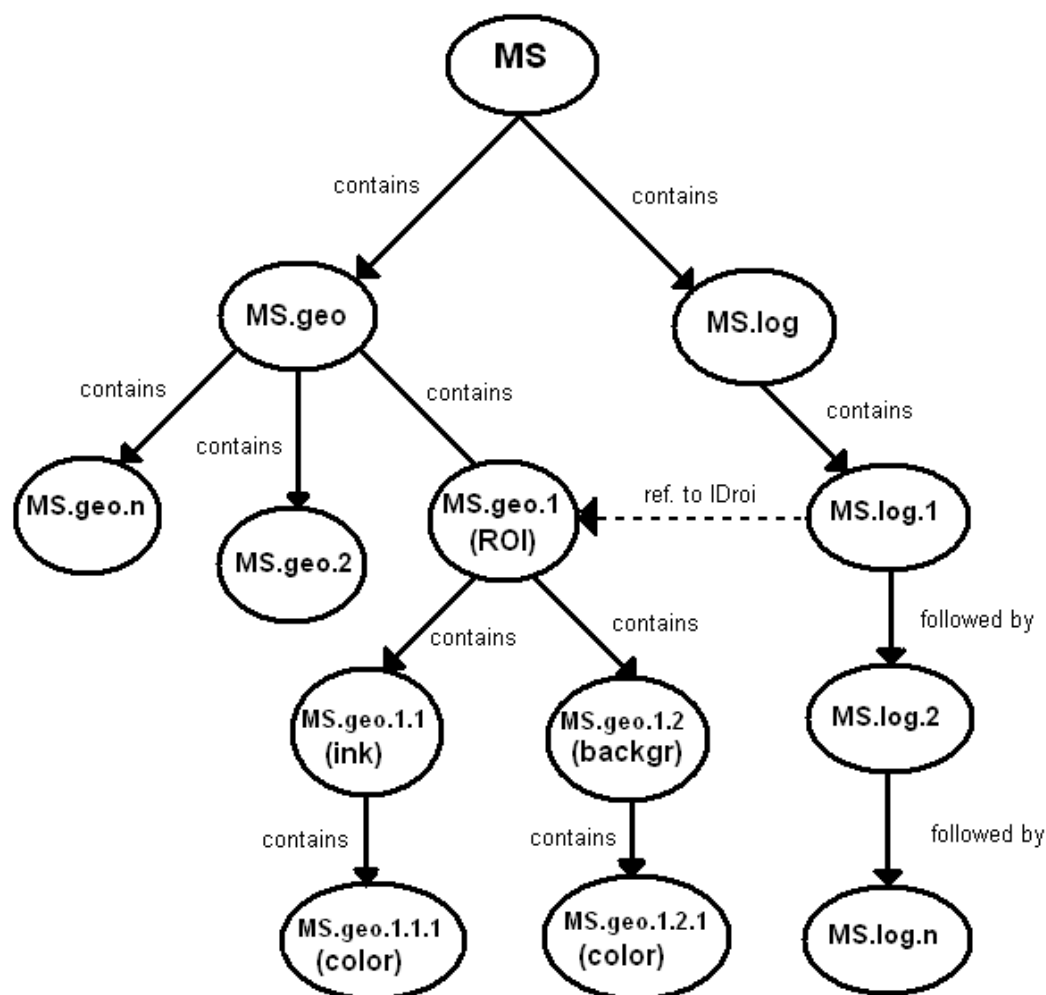
Fig. 4.4 Conceptual modeling of a manuscript page, branching of into a geometrical tree – visual information – and a tree containing the corresponding logical content. A node in the logical branch is seen to refer to the corresponding visual *region of interest* (ROI) via an IDroi.

As can be seen in this graph, the structure of the appendages of the two main branches, MS.geo and MS.log, is quite different. MS.log has a more linear character due to the reading order of the text. However, the difference in hierarchical structure between MS.geo and MS.log should not present a problem for cross-referencing between them, as long as the elements in MS.log refer to the right IDrois in MS.geo, and vice versa. Thus, software could refer from one branch to another. This could lead to practical applications; for example, when a human user mouse-clicks on a semantic node in the MS.log branch, the relevant portion of the image would be highlighted. On the other hand, the same information could be applied to train Monk.

The present paper is concerned with branch MS.log, the contents or logical structure contained in an images of the MS. For a number of types of acts in SAL 7316 the internal semantic structure was worked out in a semantic graph. To add the concept of

a 'type of act' an additional layer of nodes needs to be embedded in the tree shown before (fig. 4.5). The nodes for 'type of act' maintain an either/or relationship to each other: only one type of act can be selected at a time, for a particular portion of MS material.
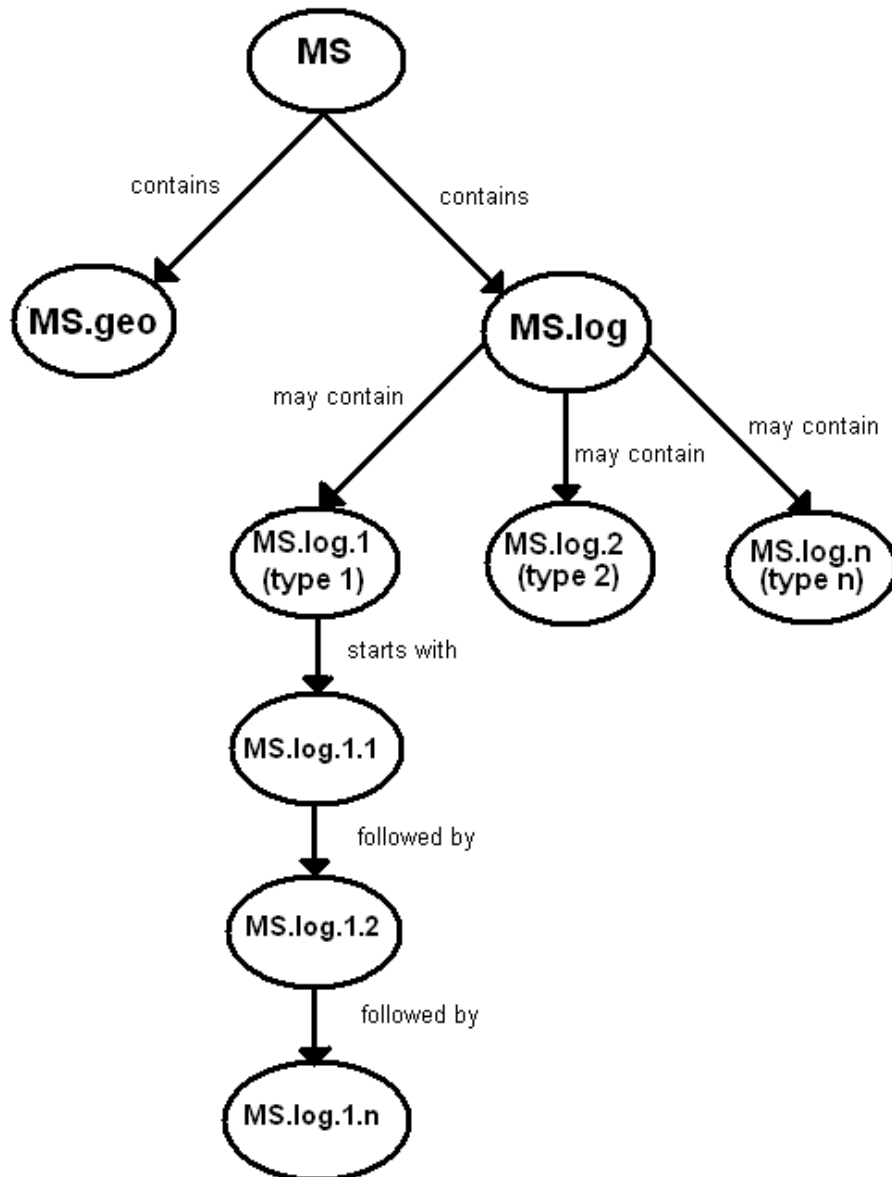

Fig. 4.5 The logical branch of the model (MS.log) branches off into different types of semantic content, according to the type to which an act belongs. The structure of the individual types of acts is rather linear in character: see nodes MS.log.1- n.

For the Middle Dutch Act the numbering of the typology given in paragraph 3.2 (A Typology of Acts) may be maintained:

1. Promise
2. Lease, rent and levy contracts
3. Demanding justice based on a Leuven charter
4. Receipt of payment

5. Postponement of trial
6. Authorization
7. Confiscation of sureties
8. Bringing charges
9. Regulation concerning (a)charter(s)
10. Right of way

Type 1 would then always refer to a promise, and type 4 to a receipt of payment. As the variety of acts recorded in Middle Dutch and Latin is different, it would also be advisable to add an extra layer of nodes for this distinction (fig. 4.6). MS.log then divides into the nodes MS.log.L and MS.log.D and those two branch of into their own specific typology of acts.
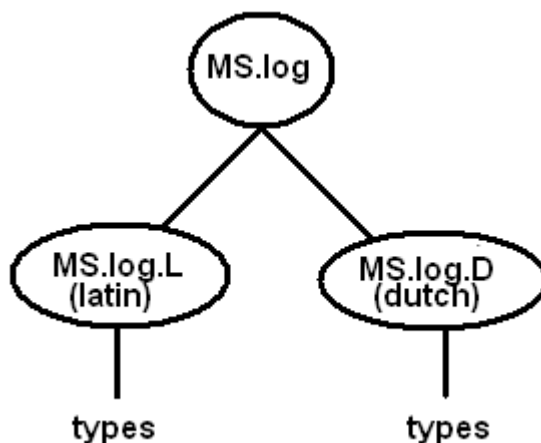

Fig. 4.6 The logical content of an act is dependent on the language in which the act is written: for Latin and Dutch there is a different typology of acts. Therefore, the language of an act needs to identified before its type can be determined.

In the present paper, the types of acts that were formalized into semantic models as proofs-of-concept, were all in Middle Dutch. However, the very same feat could be accomplished for all the types of acts in Latin.[64] Below Middle Dutch Types 1, 2, 3, and 4 will be worked out in a formal semantic graph. In all cases, this is the final step in the process of transcription, translation, and identifying the structural ROIs on the MS page. These previous steps, as illustrated above for a promise of payment, can be found in appendix A, worked out in detail.

Before moving on to the modeling of the individual types of acts, three more issues need to be tackled concerning the general modeling of acts in the alderman's rolls. These three are the page numbering connected to individual acts, the nature of 'item', and whether an act is striked through or not (fig. 4.7).

Firstly, each act can be found on a specific page of the manuscript, classically identified by a folio number and side. 'R 199' indicates folio 199; *recto* refers to front side of the folium, 'V 119' would refer to the *verso* or backside of the folium. This page numbering is found written in pencil by a later hand at the top end of the MS page: it is

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[64] The appendix with images of Latin act and their transcriptions could present a good starting point for such an undertaking.

contained in both MS.geo and MS.log. Additionally, one can also make clear where an act can be found on a MS page: R 199.3 refers to the third act that can be found on this particular page. Furthermore, the scans of individual pages are numbered in Monk, another method of page identification.

Secondly, the nature of 'item' deserves further specification. This element is very often, but not always, found at the beginning of a new act; and it has a double nature. Besides being a semantic element in the structure of an act (MS.log) it also has a constant visual representation in MS.geo. The word 'item' seems to have been used for acts of voluntary justice in the strictest sense of the word: please see paragraph 4.2.3 for additional information.

Thirdly, a very important feature of each act which is not contained in the text of the act itself, is whether the act is striked through or not. As said before, an act would be striked through in the rolls, after a corresponding charter had been produced on the basis of the act. Consequently, the feature as a legal status.
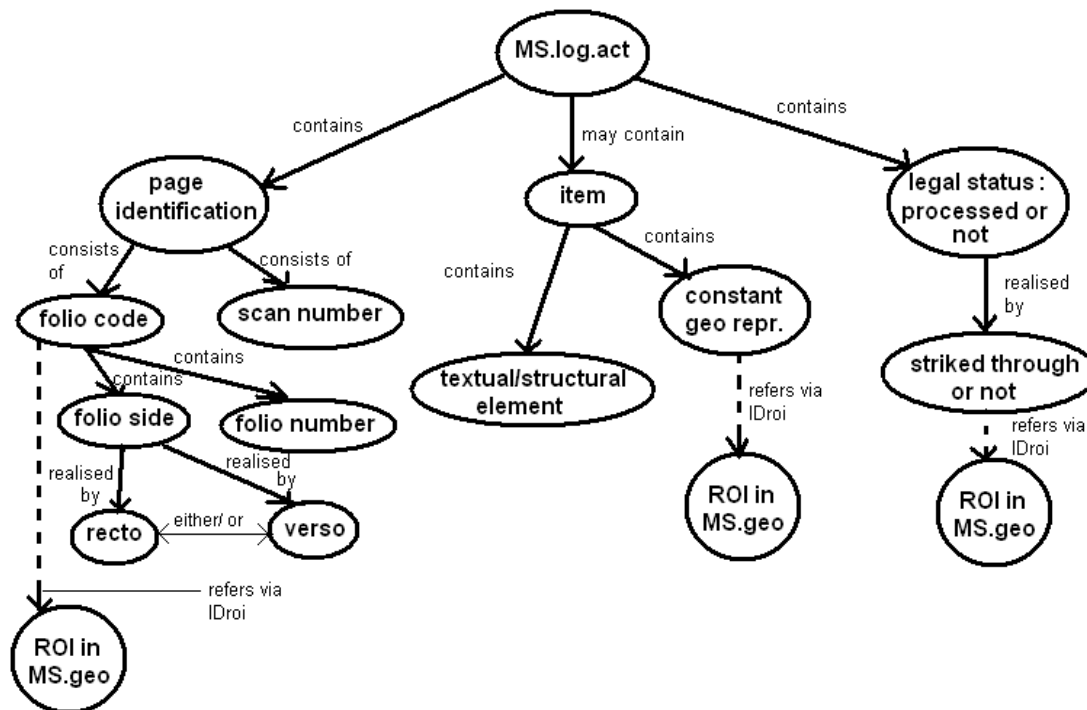
Fig. 4.7 To each semantic model to be made of an act, the properties 'page identification', 'legal status', and possibly 'item' present a part. In the modeling of individual types of acts, these properties, made explicit here, will be considered understood and therefore omitted.

Finally, it is also appropriate to mention that where instances are indicated in semantic model, they are of course only relevant for the individual act that was used as an example (captured in a retangular box). However, the balloon-shaped element nodes that stand for concepts and classes do present the more general template of an act.

4.2.1 A Promise of Payment (type 1)

The semantic graph (fig. 4.8) shows that act for a promise of payment has a rather linear character, as indeed most acts do. Of course, this linear order is owing to the reading order of the act. However, the fixed order of subsequent semantic elements in this act is indeed key to understanding the act. It is quite reasonable that 'followed by' is the most common link between the elemental nodes in the graph: fixed order of succession is the main organizing principle.
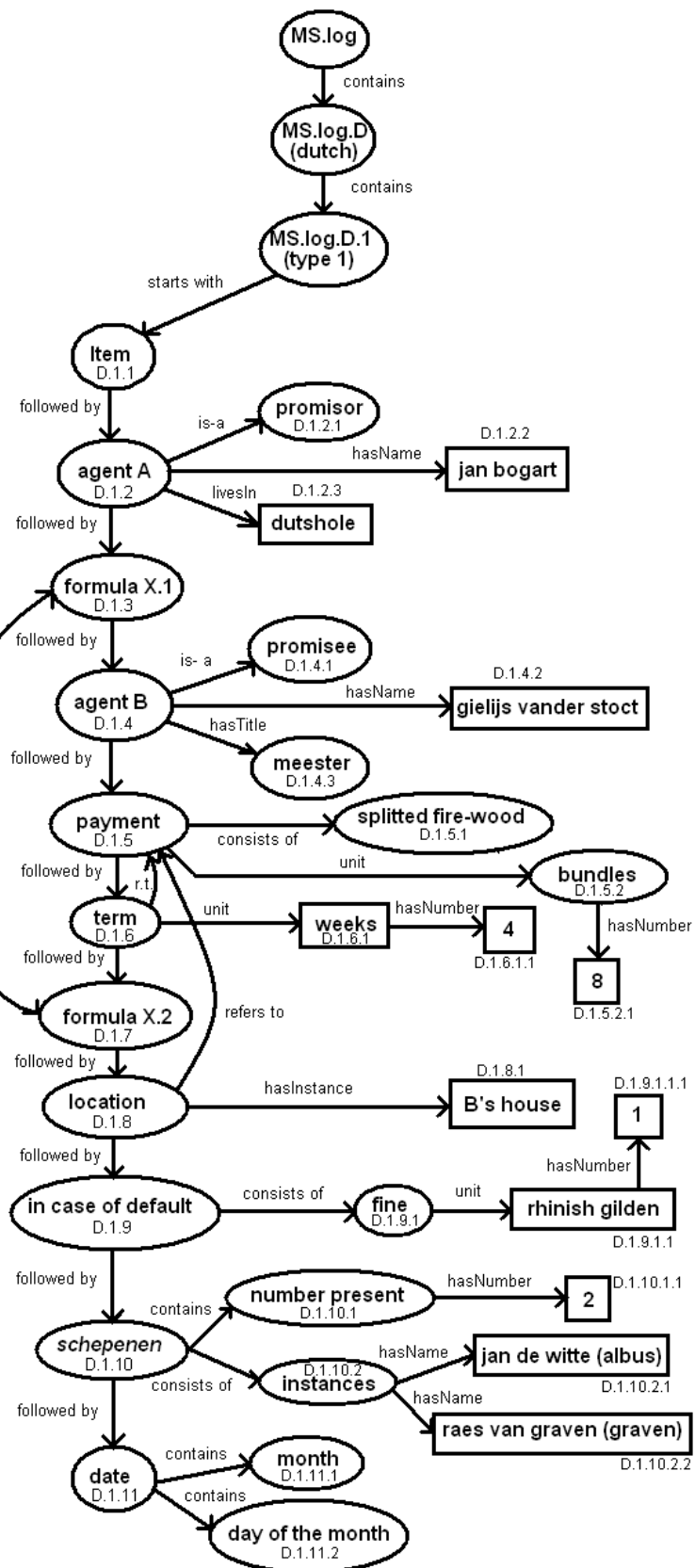
Fig. 4.8 A formal model of the logical content of a promise of payment.

The corresponding ROIs can be indicated on the manuscript page with colored boxes (fig. 4.9). The elemental nodes in the tree of MS.log for Middle Dutch type 1 acts should refer to the IDrois corresponding to these areas in the tree of MS.geo. Nodes coordinated under the main elemental nodes of MS.log.D.1 could then refer to smaller regions in the bigger ROIs indicated below. For example D.1.11 (date) branches of in D.1.11.1 (month) and D.1.11.2 (day of the month), the latter two nodes should refer to smaller ROIs coordinated with the ROI of 'date'.
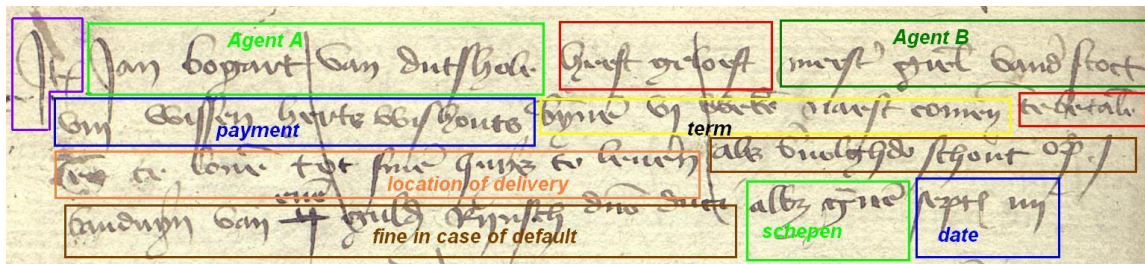
Fig. 4.9 (MS page V64.1 / scan 128) The relevant regions of interest, that correspond to the structural elements the act is composed of, are indicated on the MS page with bright colours.

As can be recognized both on the manuscript page (figure 4.9) and the semantic graph (fig. 4.8) the key-phrase for identifying a promise of payment is interrupted in the act. Formula X.1 (*heeft geloeft*) and Formula X.2 (*te betalen*) are apart, but constitute one grammatical and semantic unit. Therefore, they have been interlinked in the graph (fig. 4.8), and also both marked in red (fig 4.9). The linearity of the act is somewhat interrupted by this, but as the phrase is always split in this waybetween the other elements in this way, the organizing principle of 'followed by' may be maintained.

The overall structure of the acts for a promise of payment, as outlined (fig. 4.8), seems to be rather stable; other examples of this type follow the same pattern (see appendix B.1: 1.2 and 1.3).

4.2.2 A Lease contract (type 2)

Again we can observe the linear character of the structure of the act in the semantic graph of a contract of lease (figure 4.10). for a lease contract in SAL 7316. Formula X (D.2.3) and Y (D.2.6) are the key phrases for identifying an act of lease.[65] Formula X consists of : "es comen In Jeg(enwordicheit) der scepen(en) van loven(en) en(de) heeft genome(n) en(de) bekent dat hi genome(n) heeft" and Formula Y of: "te houden en te hebben en(de) te wyn(n)e(n)"; in combination with the mention of the word 'pacht'.

For more perfect understanding of this type of act, a little more information on what a lease agreement entails is in place. Very generally speaking, a contract of lease is a contract in which the owner of a good transfers the right of economical exploitation of a good to someone else, in exchange for an annual payment. In the case of the act treated here we are dealing with a lease that lasted for a terminable period of time, while in other cases it could also last for the duration of the life of the tenant, or be a hereditary contract. In the last case, the contract would be binding for the heirs of both parties.[66]

Due to the temporal limits by which the present project is bound, extensive comparison with other acts of the type shown above was not feasible. However, Verbeek assures us that in contracts of lease the names of the parties, the description of the goods, the duration of the contract, and the amount of annual payment are always found at the top of the act. On the other hand, persons who stand surety for the tenant are always identified at the bottom of the act. Other provisions and stipulations in the body of the act do not seems to have been regulated by a fixed pattern, perhaps they were noted down in the order in which they came to mind.[67]

However, notwithstanding the relative liberty of form, the most important elements in the contract can still be said to have occurred in a strongly ordered, formulaic manner. If one looks, for example, at the lease contract given in appendix B.1: 2.2 the basic structure is identical to that of the act analyzed above: Agent A (tenant) takes from agent B(owner): (description of the (immovable) goods), to have and to hold for x years, plus a description of the annual payment, the names of the *schepenen* and the date.

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[65] Similar phrasing may be found in contracts for levy and the renting of property, in all events it is recommended to carefully evaluate the entire act before making a positive identification. A rental contract is likely to contain the verb *verhueren* and the phrase "*heeft verhuert bi orlove*", and a levy contract is likely to mention the word *chijns*. (see Appendix B.1 for examples)

[66] See Spierings, *Het Schepenprotocol*, 196-224. and Carry Verbeek, *De Leuvense schepenregisters, bronnen voor de sociale structuren en voor de privé-financiele geschiedenis. Het voorbeeld van de leden der Familie Pynnock (1400-1450)*. (Dissertation; Leuven, 1975) 8-43.

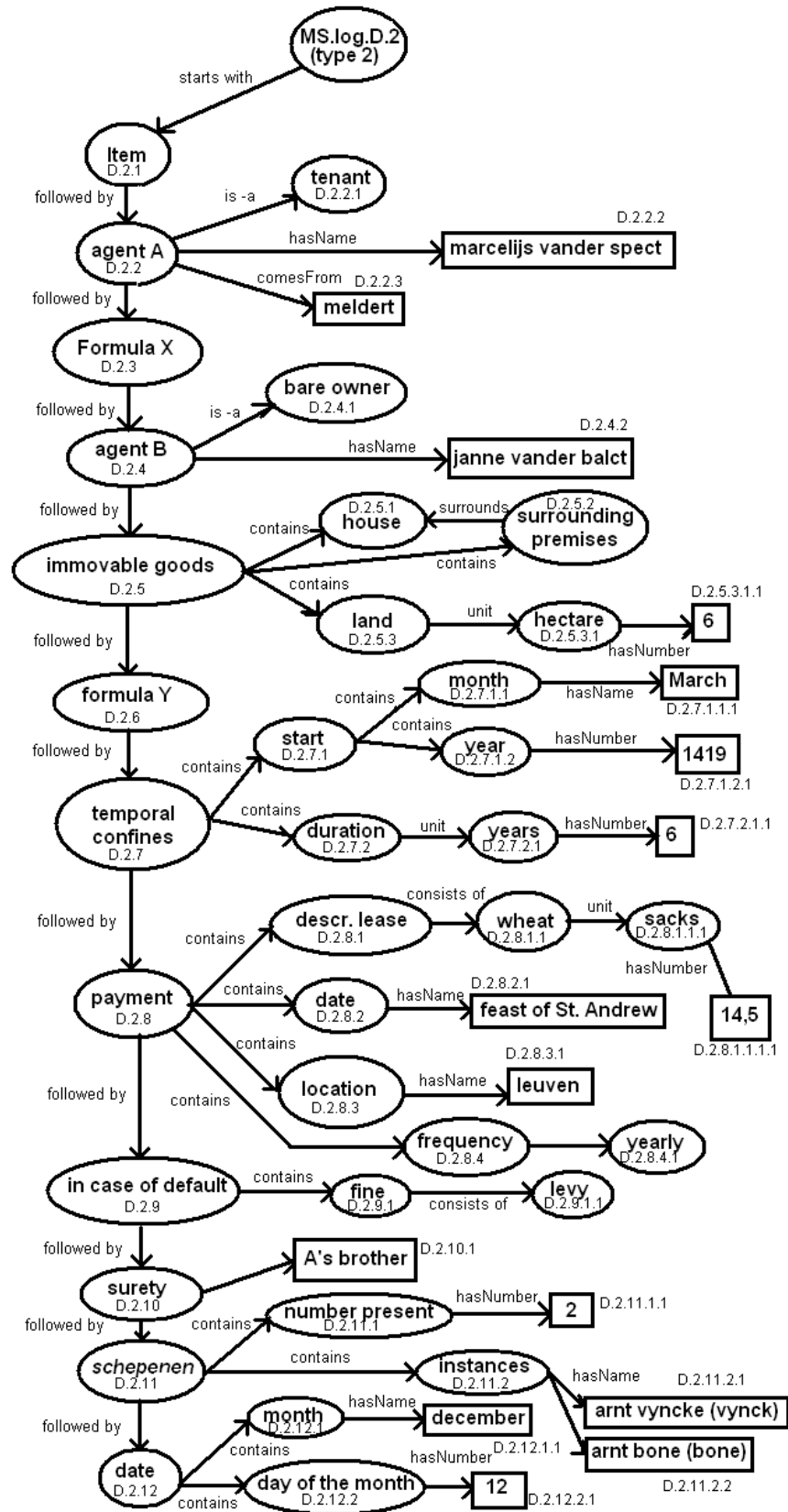[67] Verbeek, *De Leuvense schepenregisters*, 20-21.

Fig. 4.10 A formal model of the logical content of a lease contract.

Of course, the main elemental nodes in the semantic graph (fig. 4.10) correspond to ROIs on the MS page, via IDrois (figure 4.11)
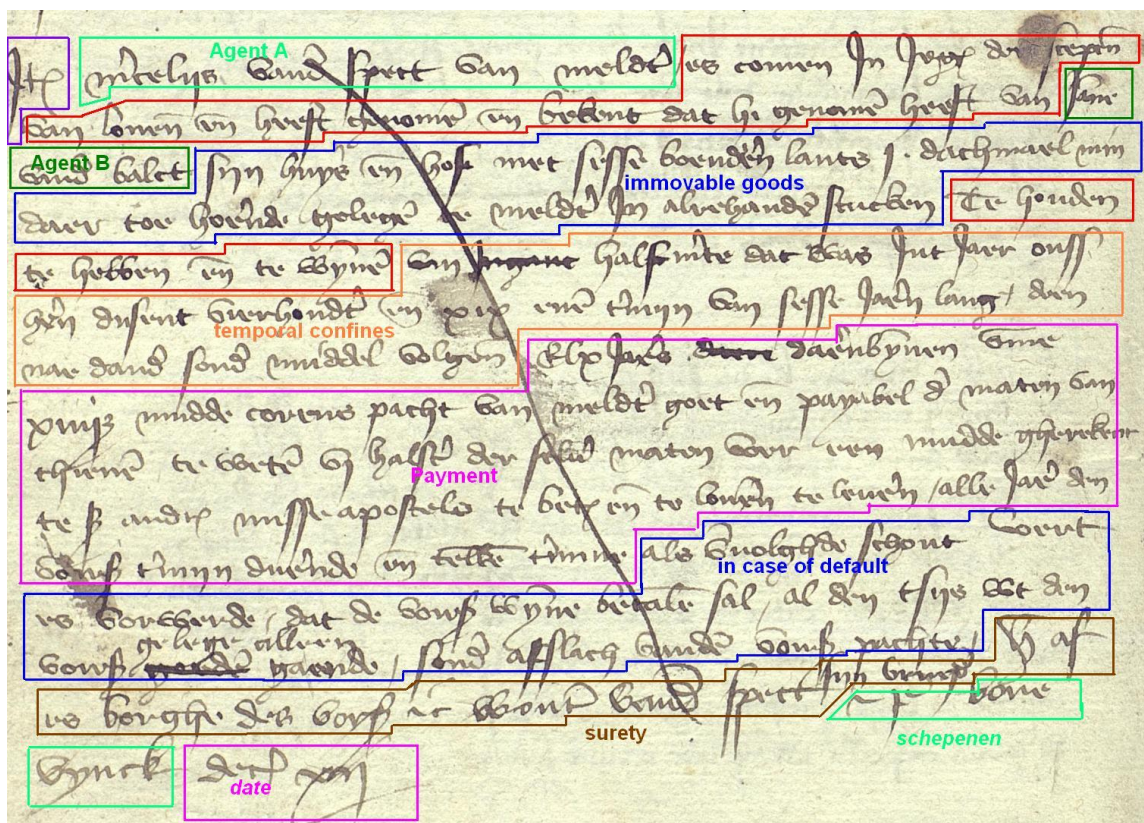

Fig. 4.11 (MS page V148.3 / scan 296) The relevant regions of interest, that correspond to the structural elements the act is composed of, are indicated on the MS page with bright colours.

4.2.3 Demanding Justice Based on a Leuven Charter (type 3)

There are a few things that set acts of type 3 apart from other acts in SAL 7316. Firstly, this type of act does not start with "item" as the main introductory element, as most acts do. Of course "item" is not a very semantically rich element in itself, it simply announces that something new, an act, starts there. However, the absence of 'item' may still be interpreted as informative in itself. Only type 3 acts and acts about the confiscation of sureties, do not start with 'item'. This consequent difference in layout, if we may call it that, does point to a semantic difference as well.

The nature of the difference is mostly legal, at least in the case of a demand of justice based on a Leuven charter. As we can see under node D3.7.10 (*schepenen*) all seven *schepenen* are present to pass this type of act, while normally there would only be two. One would only expect the full number of *schepenen* for cases of criminal jurisdiction, not voluntary jurisdiction. Indeed, the type 3 act does contain elements of a trial: there is plaintiff (agent A), a defendant (agent B), charges are brought, defense is mounted,[68], and the whole proceeding is concluded with a verdict by the *schepenen*. This is quite a different affair from the contracts, promises, etc. that are recorded in other acts.

Normally, the object is to produce a *schepen* charter, a legally binding document to regulate all kinds of transactions between people. The reason why the 'trial-like' act of type 3 is included in this record of voluntary jurisdiction, must be that it consist of exercising the legal power of a *schepen* charter. These are not plain disputes between neighbors that are settled here; a charter produced by the *schepenen* has been violated. The absence of 'item' at the top of this type of act is motivated by the fact that we are not dealing with an act of voluntary justice proper, but with a related trial; only acts of voluntary justice proper receive the heading 'item' perhaps.[69]

The formulaic key-phrases that distinguish this particular type of act are represented by nodes D.3.2 (formula X), D.3.4 (formula Y), and D.3.8 (formula Z). Formula X consists of: "Het sijn comen in rechte voe(r) meye(re) en(de) scepen(en) van loven(en) opten dach van heden"; Y of: "ov(er)mids vo(n)nisse van scepen(en) brieve(n) van loven(en)"; and Z of: " de meyer van lovenen maende de *schepenen* van lovenen die wijsden voor een vonisse na aensprake ende nae antwerde". Together these three make up the back-bone of the act.

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[68] Above I have grouped 'charge, defense, and retort' under the node 'spraak en wederspraak' a Dutch phrase, that is difficult to translate into English. In the charter itself the term 'aensprake ende antwerde' (claim and answer) is used to describe the same part in the trial.
[69] The confiscation of sureties (the other type of act that does not start with 'item') may also be viewed as the execution of a deed based on a Leuven charter, rather the the *making* of a Leuven charter, just like type 3 acts.
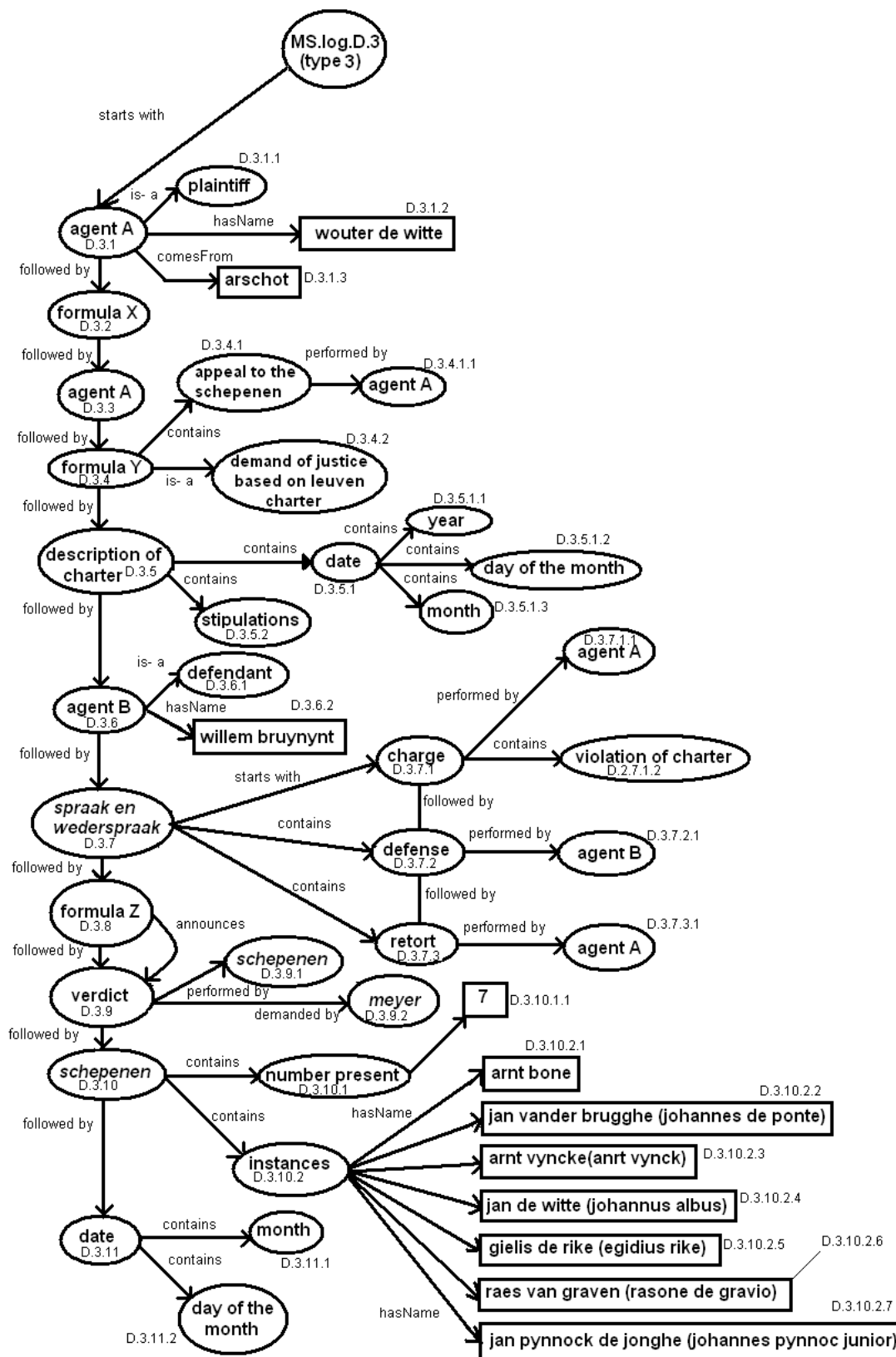
Fig. 4.12 A formal model of the logical content of a demand of justice based on a Leuven

charter.

In terms of layout, it can be noted that this type of act does not only employ the linear character inherent to reading order of the act a an organizing principle. The act is headed by a caption with the name of the plaintiff and his home town (fig. 4.13). This fact should help Monk to recognize this type of act also using layout information: a direct step from geometrical to logical information.
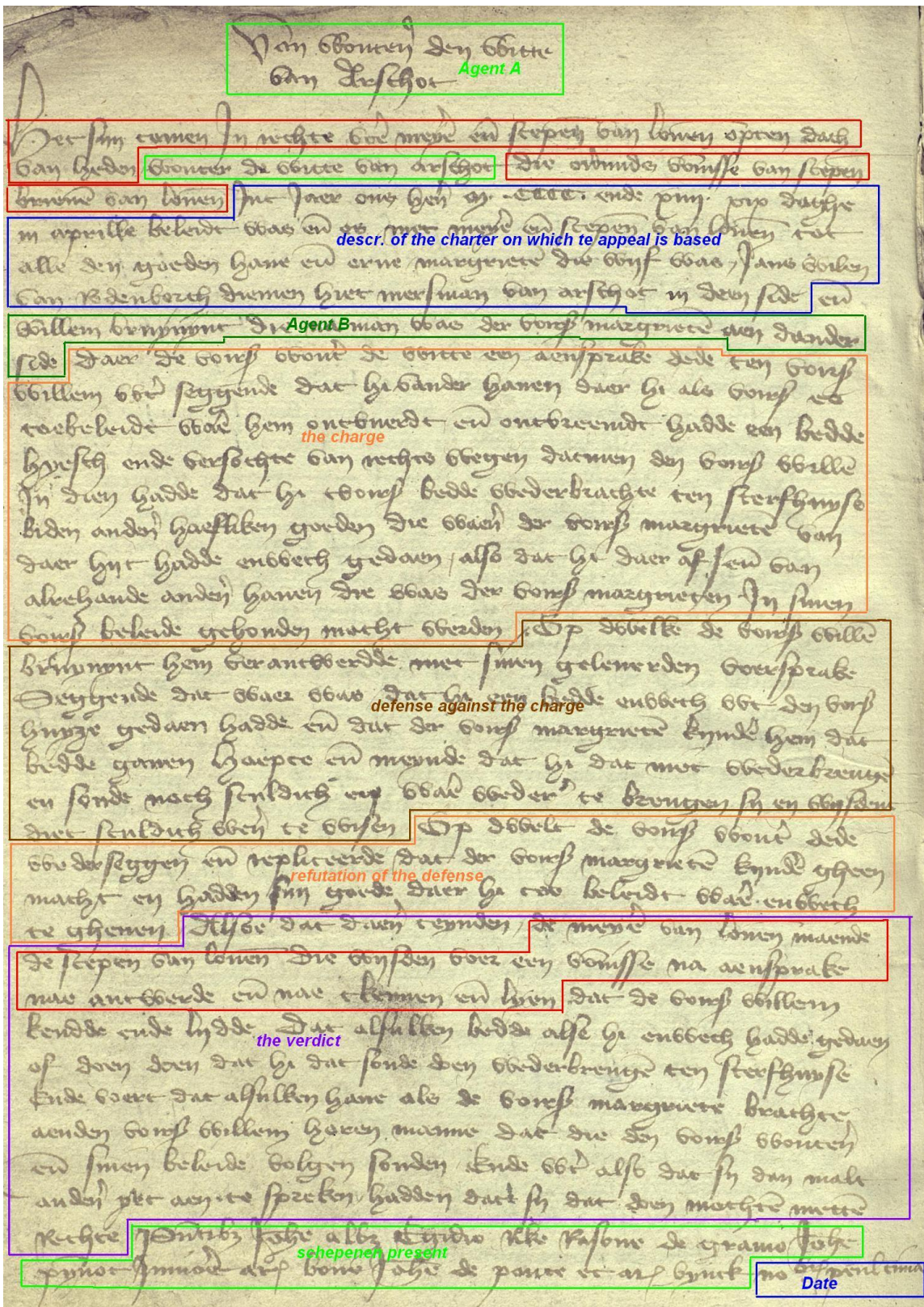
Fig. 4.13 (MS page V388.1 / scan 776) This act has a special form of layout: a caption, no 'item'. The relevant regions of interest, that correspond to the structural elements the act is composed of, are indicated on the MS page with bright colours.
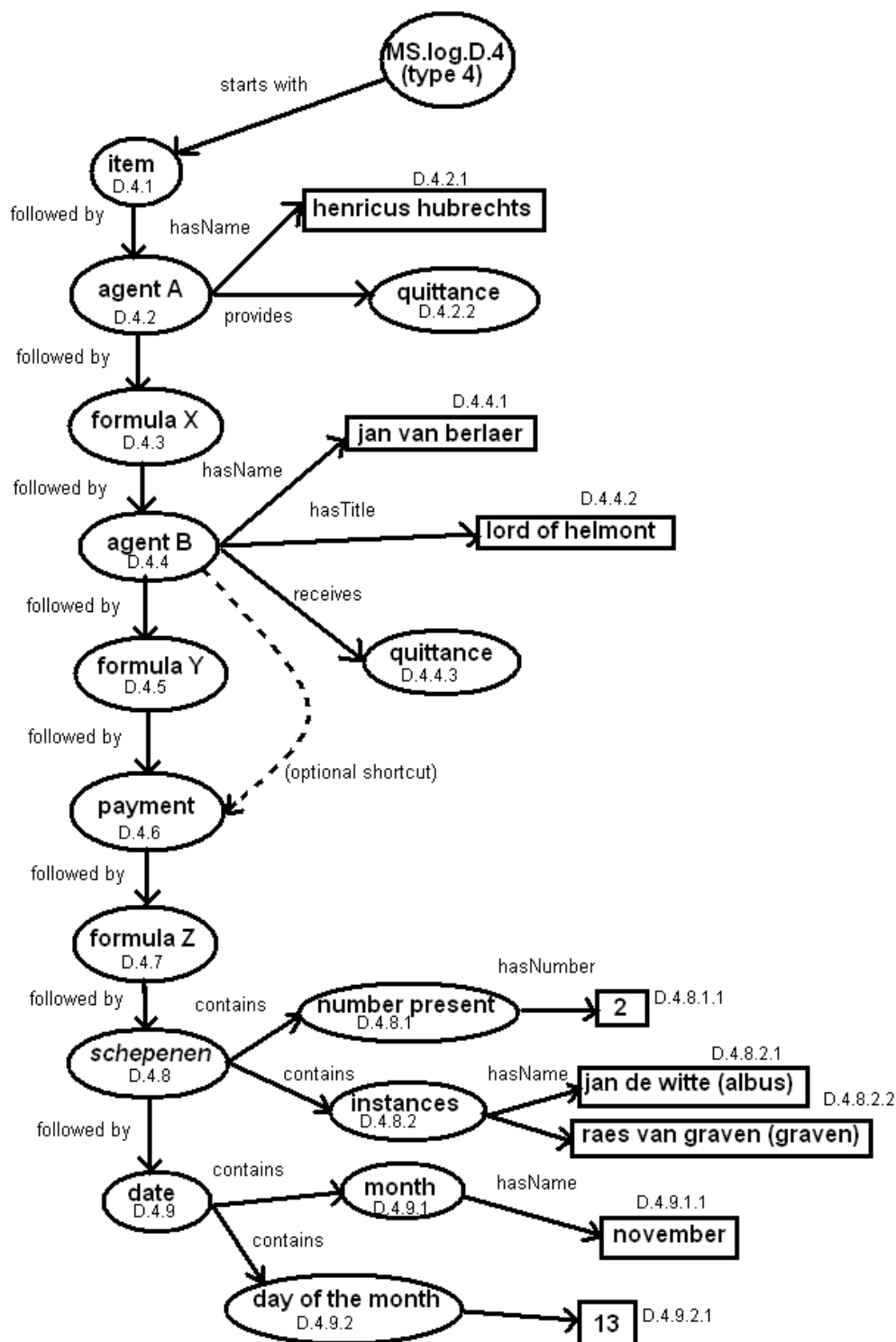
4.2.4 A Receipt of Payment (type 4)

Fig. 4.14 A formal model of the logical content of a receipt of payment.

The first thing that comes to notice in the semantic graph (fig 4.14), is that node D.4.6 (payment) does not posses any coordinating nodes. This is because in the case of R 119.3,

the act that was taken as an example, the payment is not specified clearly. It is only indicated that agent A received what he was entitled to. In other acts, there may be an amount of money indicated (for example see appendix B.1: 4.2).

Although the Middle Dutch type 4, receipt of payment, does follow a certain degree of recognizable fixed structuring, some of its parts are fluid. The most basic order of this type of act [Item; agent A, formula X, agent B, payment, formula Z, *schepenen*, date] is solid. However, as indicated in the graph above, formula Y is optional. Furthermore, the even formulas X and Z are subject to variation. Indeed, by comparison with other receipts of payment we can learn that the most basic elements are ordered in the same way. For example: R 149.2 (appendix B.1: 4.2; scan 297) and R 242.3 (appendix B.1: 4.3; scan 483) follow roughly the same pattern. R 149.2 (appendix B.1: 4.2) has:

> "heeft bekendt en(de) verlijdt dat hi ontfange(n) en(de) gehave(n) heeft in gerede(n) pe(n)ni(n)gen"

And R 242.3 (appendix B.1: 4.3) gives:

> **"**in tsegew(or)dicheden der scepen(en) van loven(en) en(de) heeft gekent en(de) gelijdt dat ~~is~~ (Agent B) hem volcomelic betaelt en(de) genouch gedaen heeft

The R 119.3 (appendix B.1: 4.1) (formula X model above) has:

> "in jeg(enwordicheit) der scepen(en) van loven(en) gestaen heeft ghekent en(de) ghelijdt dat [agent B] hem volcomelic betaelt en(de) genoech gedaen heeft van alsulker aenspraken als"

 If one compares all three acts on this point the most basic element that all have in common must be "heeft g/bekent ende ge/verlijdt dat". This in itself is a rather meaningless fragment, which does not contain any reference to quittance, but it may aid with identifying this type of act.

The formula Z in receipts of payment, which is found at the end of the act, is also of a fluid nature. On this point the only words all three acts have in common are "volcomelic quijtgescholden". R 149.2 (appendix B.1: 4.2) and R 119.3 (appendix B.1: 4.1) the share the stipulation about the promise not to bother heirs of the payee, and refraining from bringing this matter before a court again, either canonical or worldly.

To sum up, the formulas use in type 4 acts consist of two short phrases, when stripped to their bare essentials: formula X, "heeft g/bekent ende ge/verlijdt dat" and formula Z, "volcomelic quijtgescholden".
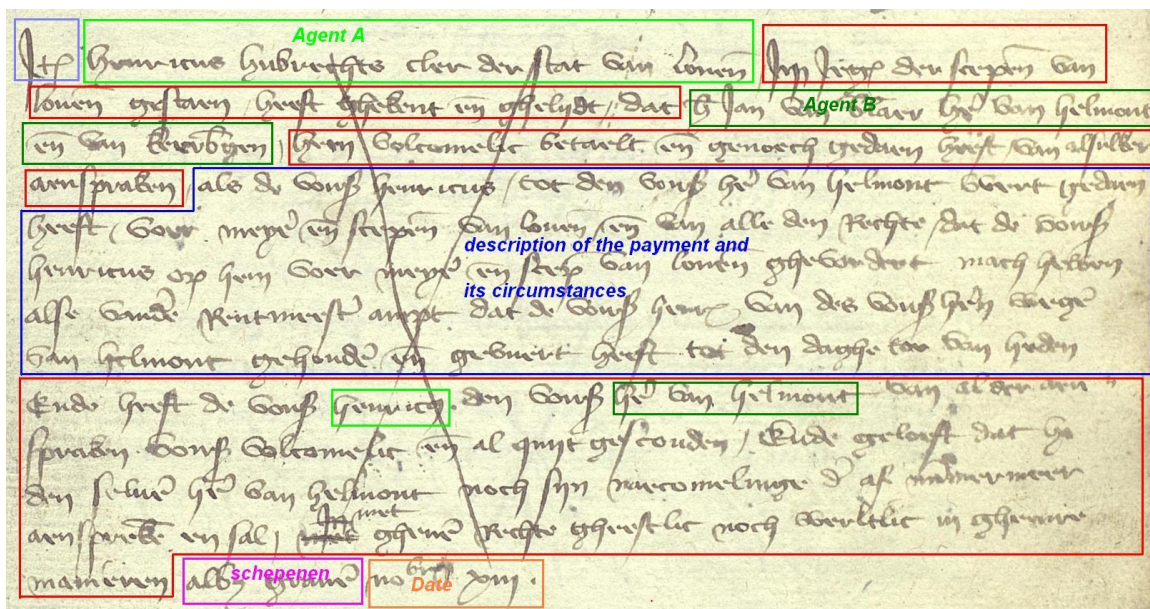
Fig 4.15 (R 119.3 /scan 237) The relevant regions of interest, that correspond to the structural elements the act is composed of, are indicated on the MS page with bright colours.

5 Discussion

In all that went before, I have attempted to construct a framework for understanding and interpreting the entries in the Leuven alderman's rolls of 1421. First, much attention was paid to the historical backgrounds of the text, in order to produce the world model, or horizon, needed to interpret the text correctly.

5.1 World model

We saw that in the beginning of the 15th century Leuven was recovering quite well from a less prosperous period. When the rolls of 1421 were written, the Duke John IV was residing in Leuven again after a long absence of the ducal court. The city's economy was recovering and developing after the decline of the cloth industry during the second half of the 14th century.

The medieval administrative organization of the city of Leuven was looked into. This machinery was headed by the *meyer*, who was also head of police. The *schepenen* were responsible for administering justice; they busied themselves with both criminal and voluntary jurisdiction. Two mayors presided over the city council, which consisted of twenty-one *gezworenen* and the *schepenen*. This council as entrusted with daily government, as well as financial and political policy.

These general backgrounds can serve as a décor for appreciating environment in which the text of SAL 7316 was produced. To understand more fully the text itself more specific knowledge about its circumstances and purpose is needed. As was explained above, we are dealing with the record of voluntary jurisdiction administered by the 1st chamber of *schepenen* in 1421. Transactions and transfers such as the sale and entailing of property, family law, agreements, and promises were recorded in the manuscript, to be passed before two presiding *schepenen*. Afterwards, a Leuven *schepen* charter could be produced to seal the transaction with this legally binding document. With this the first part of the bi-partite research question has been answered.[70]

5.2 The Interpretative Apparatus, Part 1: A Typology

Having sketched the historical background so far, and having placed the rolls in SAL 7316 in context so far, it became possible to start working with the text itself. To achieve any kind of understanding it was necessary to formulate a typology of acts. This is the first vital step in produce the desired framework for understanding the text. To analyze an individual act in alderman's rolls correctly, one first has to be able to determine what type of act it is, and to what type of transaction it refers, to arrive at a valid interpretation. For both the languages, Middle Dutch and Latin, in SAL 7316a typology was formulated.

Using this typology a four of typical examples different types of Middle Dutch acts were selected to proceed to further steps of interpretation. First, these acts were transcribed, then translated into Modern English, and finally the logical structure of their semantic content was analyzed. The same feat could be performed with regards to any of the other Middle Dutch acts and of course the Latin acts. All these subsequent steps taken explicitly here, are meant to illustrate the steps that a well-versed reader would take

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[70] The first part of the research question is as follows: *What are the historical backgrounds (world model/ horizon) that stood at the basis of the entries in the Leuven Alderman's rolls of 1421?*

subconsciously, in analyzing the text; it also illustrates the subsequent complicated tasks a computer program like Monk has to perform to arrive at some kind of interpretation.

5.3 The Interpretative Apparatus, Part 2: Towards a Formal Semantic Model
Based on the analysis of the logical structure of the acts under scrutiny, four formal semantic models were constructed to represent the logical content of these pieces of MS page. These models belong to MS.log the branch of MS (page) that contains the logical representation (content) of the tree. In the future, the nodes in MS.log can be connected to the relevant ROIs in MS.geo (geometrical representation) using unique identifier codes (IDrois). Thus, Monk my eventually learn to make the connection between the physical properties of the MS page and its semantic contents.

A few matters of interest came forward during the construction of the four semantic graphs. Firstly, the structure of most acts seems to have a rather linear character, according to reading order. The fixed order of particular elements following each other is indeed the main organizing principle of these acts. Each type of act may have a varying number and kinds of elemental nodes to represent the transaction at hand.

Secondly, only some acts have distinctive page layout that may aid to identifying the type of act and thus the nature of the transactions.[71] Most rely on the use of formulaic key phrases to indicate the transaction they refer too. These key phrases, which are unique for each type of act, are represented in the semantic graph by nodes called 'formula X, Y, and Z'.[72]

Using the knowledge gained in the analytical process sketched above it became possible to construct a logical meta-structure of acts (fig. 4.16)

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[71] Demand of justice base on a Leuven *schepen* Charter and acts about the confiscation of sureties are examples of this.

[72] The accomplishments summarized under 5.3 so far present an answer to the second part of my research question: *Furthermore, in what manner do certain words and other linguistic features in the entries codify for transactions between actors, occurrences, and facts etc.?*
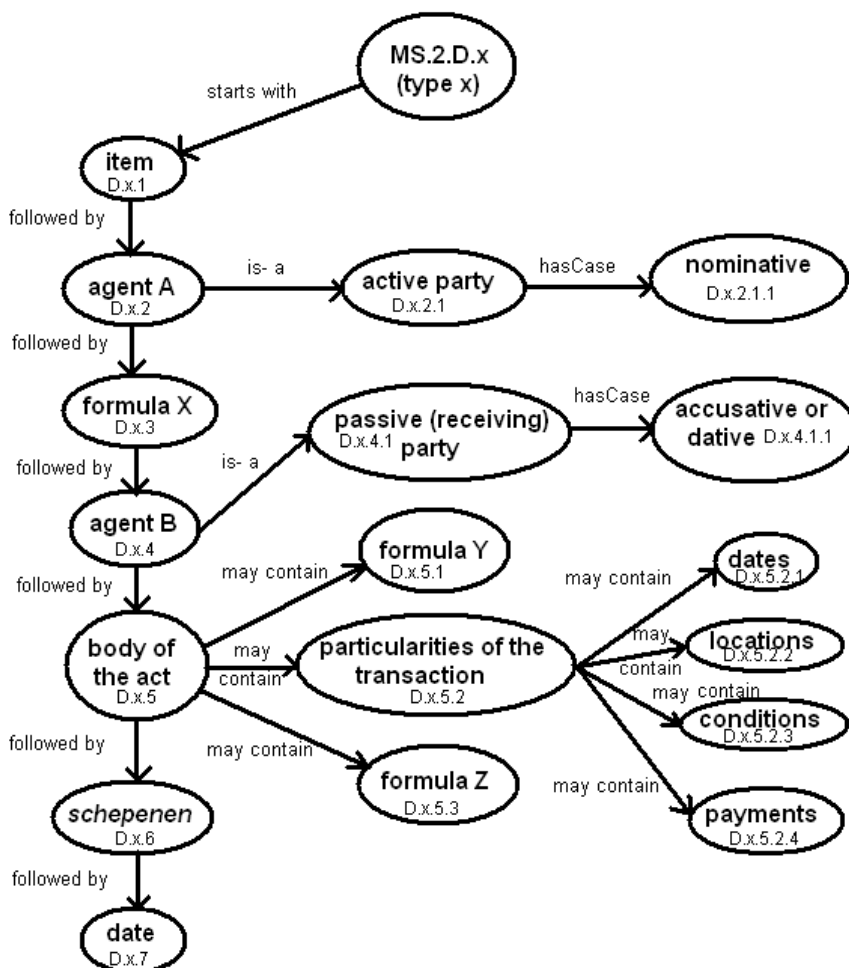
Fig. 4.16 A formal semantic modeling of a META-structure applicable to acts of voluntary justice in SAL 7316. Most acts adhere to a fixed linear order: [item], [agent A], [formula X], [agent B], [body of the act], [*schepenen*], [date].

In the meta-structure that governs most acts, agent A is most often the active party in the transaction, that performs or provides something. Therefore, the grammatical case of this agent is mostly the nominative case; this is of course most apparent in Latin acts, but also true for the Middle Dutch ones. Agent B, on the other hand, generally takes a passive of receiving role; this actor is therefore most often in the dative or accusative case. The matter of the grammatical case of agent may not seem extremely relevant at first sight, but is a good way of illustrating the relationship that agent A and agent B generally maintain towards each other. Perhaps, computer programs that concern themselves with the geometrical side of the MS page may also benefit from the logical meta-structure formulated above; it presents a rough framework of what to look for in an act, a first step in analysis.

5.4 Requirements of Expertise

An additional sub-question that was posed at the start of the project, will now receive an answer: *which knowledge and skills are pre-requisite for correctly transcribing and interpreting this source?* In part this question has been answered in the section of my paper in which the original world model/horizon of SAL 7316 was reconstructed. That is to say, knowledge of this historical background information is absolutely indispensible for understanding the alderman's rolls. For a more fully articulated answer to the sub-question posed above, the execution of the proposed project was trusted to for providing improved insights into what skills and knowledge are required to correctly transcribe and interpret the Leuven alderman's rolls. Hopefully, this information may be put to use to aid human, as well as computer annotators (Monk), to deal with the Leuven alderman's rolls, or similar sources, in a good way.

Indeed, many types of expertise are needed to interpret the acts of SAL 7316 correctly. First of all, any annotator needs to be able to read the script in which the text is written. Both for contemporary readers and computer software, this requires quite some training and practice. This first step already requires a specialized skill, that of being able to transcribe current gothic minuscule correctly. This initial interpretative hurdle was illustrated in the 4 stage process of analysis proposed for each act: 'transcription'.

Secondly, something is also required of the interpreting subject in terms of language skills. By far the majority of the acts in medieval Latin. In order to arrive at any type of understanding of the text it is required that the annotator has at least the ability to read and translate this language: passive knowledge of Latin. To be able to supplement the correct endings for abbreviated words, some active Latin language skills are even required. Furthermore, the particular register of terminology and abbreviations used in the Leuven alderman's rolls is unique for this text; any annotator needs specialized knowledge of this register. In the case of the Middle Dutch acts, the language barrier may be perceived to be less big;[73] however, to fully understand and correctly translate an act in this language is not always an easy feat. This was illustrated in the four step interpretation process as well: translation.

Thirdly, to understand what the acts are really about, much knowledge of complex social and legal constructions is needed. These high level semantics of the text are required for understanding to what type of real-life situations the acts refer. As was said before, the right background information (world model/ horizon) is needed to interpret any linguistic utterance correctly; the most basic of this type of prerequisite knowledge was provided above. [74]

To illustrate: one needs to know what kind of text SAL 7316 is: the record of voluntary jurisdiction administered by the first chamber of the Leuven *schepenen* in 1421.[75] Then one needs to know what types of transactions one may expect to find recorded;[76] many of the transactions may require additional background knowledge, because the social constructs they refer to are no longer current. Moreover, the interpreting subject needs to be able to identify the individual semantic elements in an act,

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[73] For Dutch language speakers that is, of course.
[74] See sections 5.1 & 5.2 or the corresponding chapters (ch. 2 & 3).
[75] This definition already demands much of the subject, questions like 'what is voluntary jurisdiction?', and 'what is a *schepen*?' etc. need to answered first, before the definition may *mean* anything.
[76] This requirement was at least partly met by the typology of act given above.

and relate them to each other correctly, to reconstruct what the act is about. This may be called structural analysis and interpretation; the semantic graphs in chapter 4 may be taken as an illustration of this interpretative step.

5.5 Future Research/Applications

Hopefully, the present report may prove of some use for future research, or at least prove useful for more applied purposes: those that support research. For example, it may perhaps be used as an introductory guide that may be of help to volunteering annotators, who do not posses all types the specialized skills and knowlegde required. Thus, perhaps the reservoir of potential annotators may possibly be enlarged.

Furthermore, using the knowledge gained in the present report, it may be decided on to train Monk for more specific purposes. For example, in case it would deemed desirable to 'google' a particular type of acts in the whole manuscript, more attention could be paid to training Monk to identify the particular words that occur in the key phrases or 'formula X's' of specific acts. Alternatively, if the recognition of personal names or locations would be more desirable, then annotation of these could receive priority. Of course, all this depends on the use the application could be designed to have.

Another potential use of the analysis performed above may be found in the formal semantic models that were constructed in chapter 4. These representations of the logical content of the MS page, could be linked to the geometrical branch of the tree: the relevant region of interest in the digital image. Thus the link between content and digital information would be established; this link could serve two purposes: firstly, it could be applied to create a tool to help humans to identify semantic elements on the MS page: when one clicks on 'Formula X' the relevant portion (polygonal ROI) of the picture is highlighted; secondly, the link between the MS.geo and MS.log branch could also be put to use for training Monk to recognize the structural elements of acts in the digital image of the MS page.

Finally, now the fact that several hands are active in SAL 7316 has established and ascertained, this knowledge may be put to use by performing (digital) writer identification on the text.[77] Once the individual hands are identified, the MS material may be sorted into separate data sets, one for each hand. Working with these internally more uniform samples of handwriting, Monk will be much faster in learning to read the script in SAL 7316.

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[77] See section 2.4..1 'Several Hands in SAL 7316' for information on digital writer identification in historical handwritten sources.

6 Conclusion

In the course of the present project, a formal semantic modeling was attempted for the logical content of the acts of voluntary justice in the Leuven alderman's rolls of 1421. The resulting formalisations lay bare the internal textual structure of these acts, and help to identify the real-life agents and legal transactions to which the acts refer. This is very useful for human understanding, as well as for purposes of machine learning. In the future, these templates may perhaps be used to help Monk in making the step from the visual image of the manuscript page to its content and semantics.

The premise that meaning may only be assigned with extensive knowledge of context, has been the main theoretical foundation of this project. Any act of interpretation or understanding builds on a vast set of pre-supposed, sub-conscious assumptions. The semantic knife cuts both ways; it unifies this highly multi-disciplinary undertaking. The methods of the hermeneutical tradition and conceptual dependency theory combine forces: the formal semantic models proposed build on the 'world model' or 'horizon' provided by sound historical reconstruction.

In all events, it must be emphasized that the formal semantic modeling proposed for the acts in the alderman's rolls of 1421 is a tentative first step. Much more than anything else, the goal has been to provide a few proofs-of-concepts. An exhaustive formalisation including much more information and all types of acts could not be realized within the scope of the present project. However, the constructive potential of the approach taken has hopefully been amply proven!

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Appendix A: '4 stage analysis of selected types of acts'

Type 2: a contract of lease

MS page V148.3 / scan 296
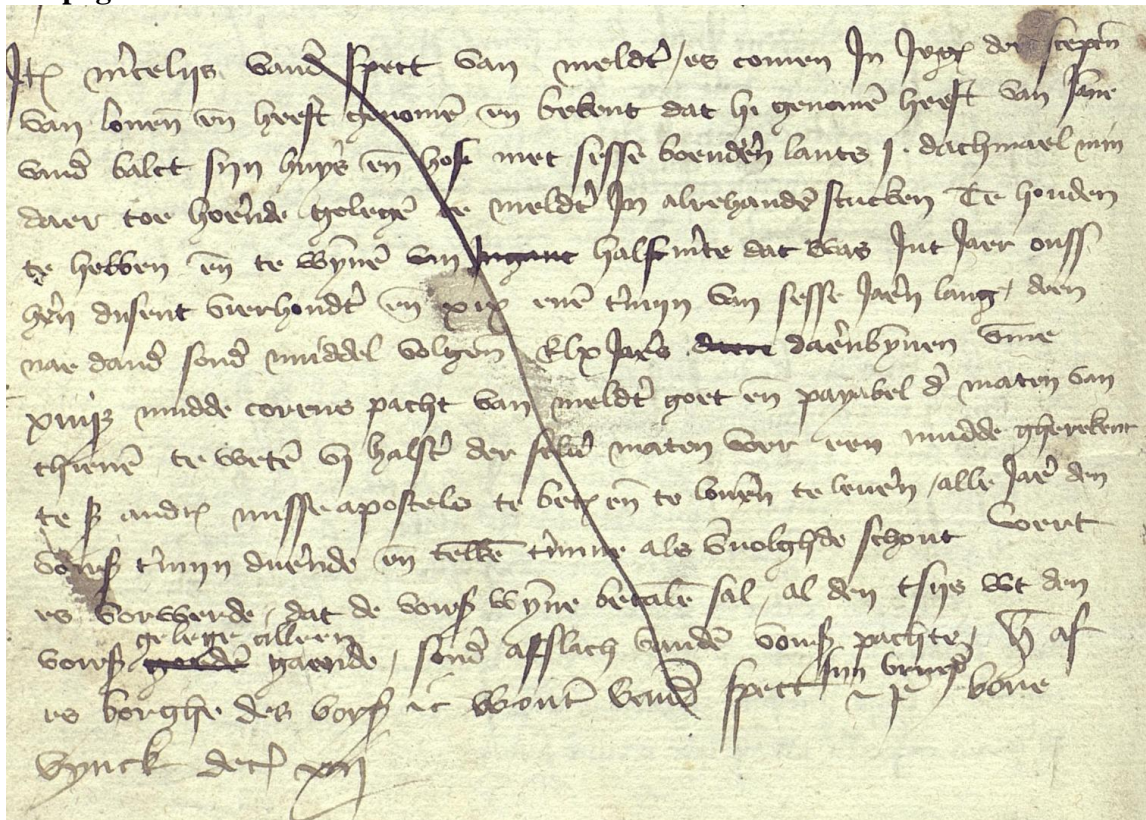
Transcription
It(em) m(ar)celijs vand(er) spect van meld(er)t es comen in jeg(enwordicheit) der
     scepen(en)
van loven(en) en(de) heeft genome(n) en(de) bekent dat hi genome(n) heeft van ja(n)ne
vand(er) balt sijn huys en(de) hofe met sesse boende(re)n lants i dachmael min
daer toe hoe(re)nde gelege(n) te meld(er)t in alrehande(n) stucken te houden
te hebben en(de) te wy(n)ne(n) van ~~ingane~~ halfm(er)te dat was int jaer onss
he(re)n dusent vierhond(er)t en(de) xix ene(n) t(er)mijn van sesse jae(re)n lang deen
nae dand(er) sond(er) middel volgen(de) elx jae(r)s ~~daere~~ dae(re)nby(n)nen o(m)me
xiiii(½) mudde corens pacht van meld(er)t goet en(de) payabel d(er) maten van
thiene(n) te wete(n) vi halst(er) der selv(er) maten voir een mudde gherekent
te s(int) andr(ies) misse apostels te bet(alen) en(de) te loven(en) te leve(re)n alle jae(re)
     den
voirs(creven) t(er)mijn due(re)nde en(de) telke(n) t(er)mine als v(er)volghde schout voert
es vorwerde dat de voirs(creven) wy(n)ne betale(n) sal al den tsijs uut den
voirs(creven) [gelege alleen] ~~goede(n)~~ gaende sond(er) afslach vande(n) voirs(creven)
     pachte h(ier)af

es borghe des vors(creven) etc(etera) wout(er) vand(er) spect [sijn brued(er)] et p(rimus)
    bone
vynck dec(embris) xii

Translation
Item Marcelijs vander Spect van Meldert is come in presence of the *Schepenen*
of Leuven and has taken and confesses that he has taken of Janne
vander Balct his house and premises with six hectare of land one quarter of an hectare
    minus
various pieces that belong with it at Meldert; to hold
and to have and to cultivate; from half March in the year of Our Lord
thousand four-hundred and 19; a term of six years long; one
after the other without interruption; after each year in that term to pay
14,5 hectolitre/sacks of wheat of lease (*pacht)* of Meldert; good and payable of the
    measure of
ten[78] viz. six 'halster'[79]of the same measure per hectoliter/sack
to be paid on the feast of Saint Andrew the Apostle and to be delivered in Leuven every
    year
year during afore-mentioned term, and each term; in case of default the sheriff holds it a
condition that the afore-mentioned produce will be used to pay all levy out the
afore-mentioned […][80]; Without reduction of the afore-mentioned
    lease; Wouter vander spect's brother is answerable for this; et primus
bone,[81] vynck;[82] the 12th of December.

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[78] See "Tien[1]" *MiddelNederlands Woordenboek*
[79] One halster is half of a Roman modius.
[80] Perhaps the land given in lease are referred to here, but he situation is quite inconclusive.
[81] Arnt Bone.
[82] Anrt Vyncke

Structural Analysis
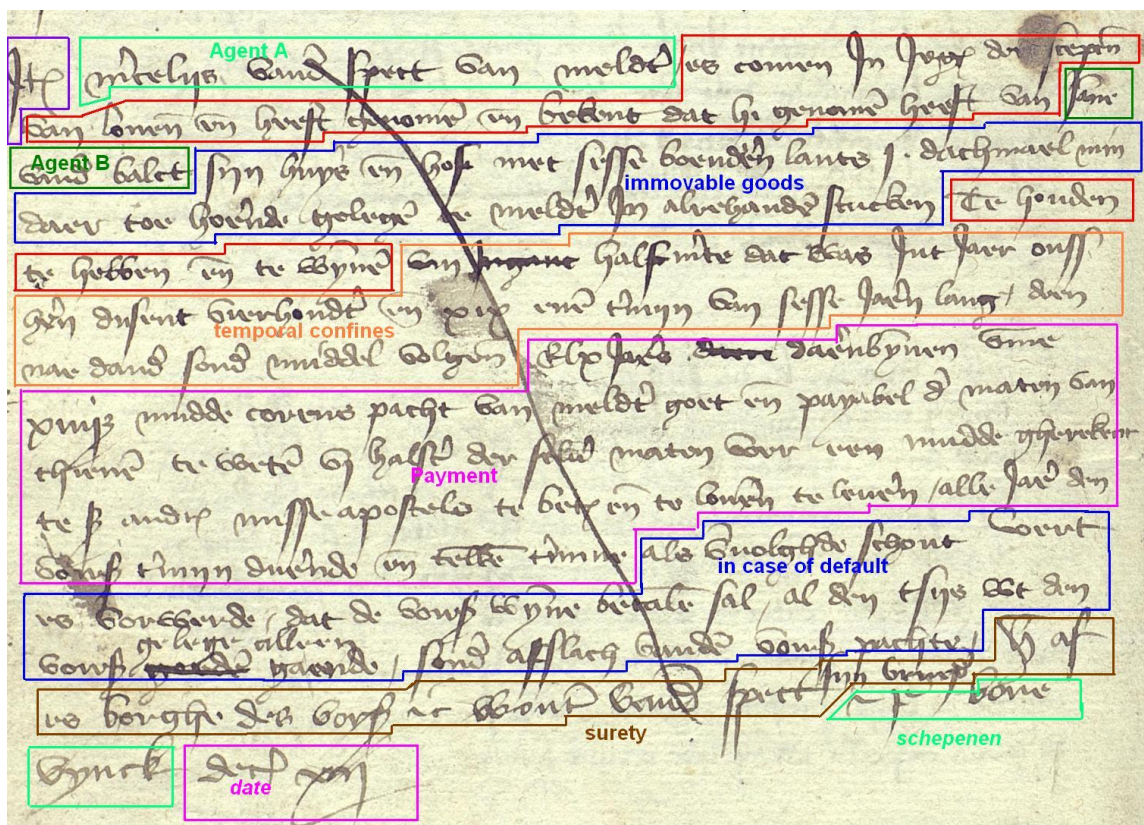
- Item;
- Agent A (tenant);
- "es comen In Jeg(enwordicheit) der scepen(en) van loven(en) en(de) heeft genome(n) en(de) bekent dat hi genome(n) heeft";
- Agent B (owner of the property);
- description of the goods;
- "te houden en te hebben en(de) te wyn(n)e(n)";
- start and duration of the term;
- description of the lease to be paid;
- date and location of the annual payment;
- fine in case of default;
- the person who will provide surety for payment;
- the presiding *schepen*;
- date.)

Appendix A: '4 stage analysis of selected types of acts'
Type 3: Demanding justice based on a Leuven charter

MS page V388.1 / scan 776

Van vrouwen den witte
van Aerschot

Hertzen camen In rechte voe meye en scepen van lowen opten dach
van heden vrouwe de witte van archot die ordinde comisse van scepen
brenende van lowen Int jaer ons hen M· CCCC· ende xlviij· xix daghe
in aprille belede was en es mer meye en scepen van lowen tot
alle den goeden hane en erue margriete die wyf was Jans volker
van blenberch diemen hiet mertman van arschot in desen side en
willem brunynont die na man was der vorß margriete mer dander
side Daer de vorß vrouwe de witte een aensprake dede ten vorß
willem toe seggende dat hi van der hane daer hi als vorß is
toebehede was hem ontvrede en ontvremdt hadde een bedde
bynxst ende versochte van rechtes wegen daemen den vorß wille
In dien hadde dat hi vorß bedde wederbrachte ten sterfhuyse
biden anderen haeflike goede die was der vorß margriete van
daer hyt hadde ennecht gedaen, also dat hi daer af sou van
alsulcande anderen hanen die was der vorß margrieten In sinen
vorß behede gehonden macht werden Op dwelke de vorß wille
brunynont hem verantwerde mer sinen geleverden voerspraken
seyende die wair was dat hi een bedde ennecht ver den vorß
huyse gedaen hadde en dat der vorß margriete kynds hem dat
bedde gonnen scarper en meynde dat hi dat mer wederbrengen
en sonde noch schuldich ver wat weder te brengen sy en wysden
diet schuldich were te wysen Op dwelke de vorß vrouwe dede
toe dassyen en replicerde dat der vorß margriete kynds gheen
macht en hadden sin goede daer hi toe belede was ennecht
te ghemen Alsoe dat daer wennder de meye van lowen maende
de scepen van lowen die wysden voe een comisse na aensprake
mer antworde en nae clennen en bien dat de vorß willen
kennde ende lydde Dat alsulken bedde alse hi ennecht hadde gedaen
of doen doen dat hi dat sonde doen wederbrengen ten sterfhuyse
ende were dat alsulken hane als de vorß margriete brachgen
aenden vorß willen haren manne dat die den vorß vrouwen
en sinen behede volgen sonden Ende wes also dus sy dan mael
ander [...] aexte spreken hadden dat sy dat den [...] mertine [...]
rechte [...]
[...]
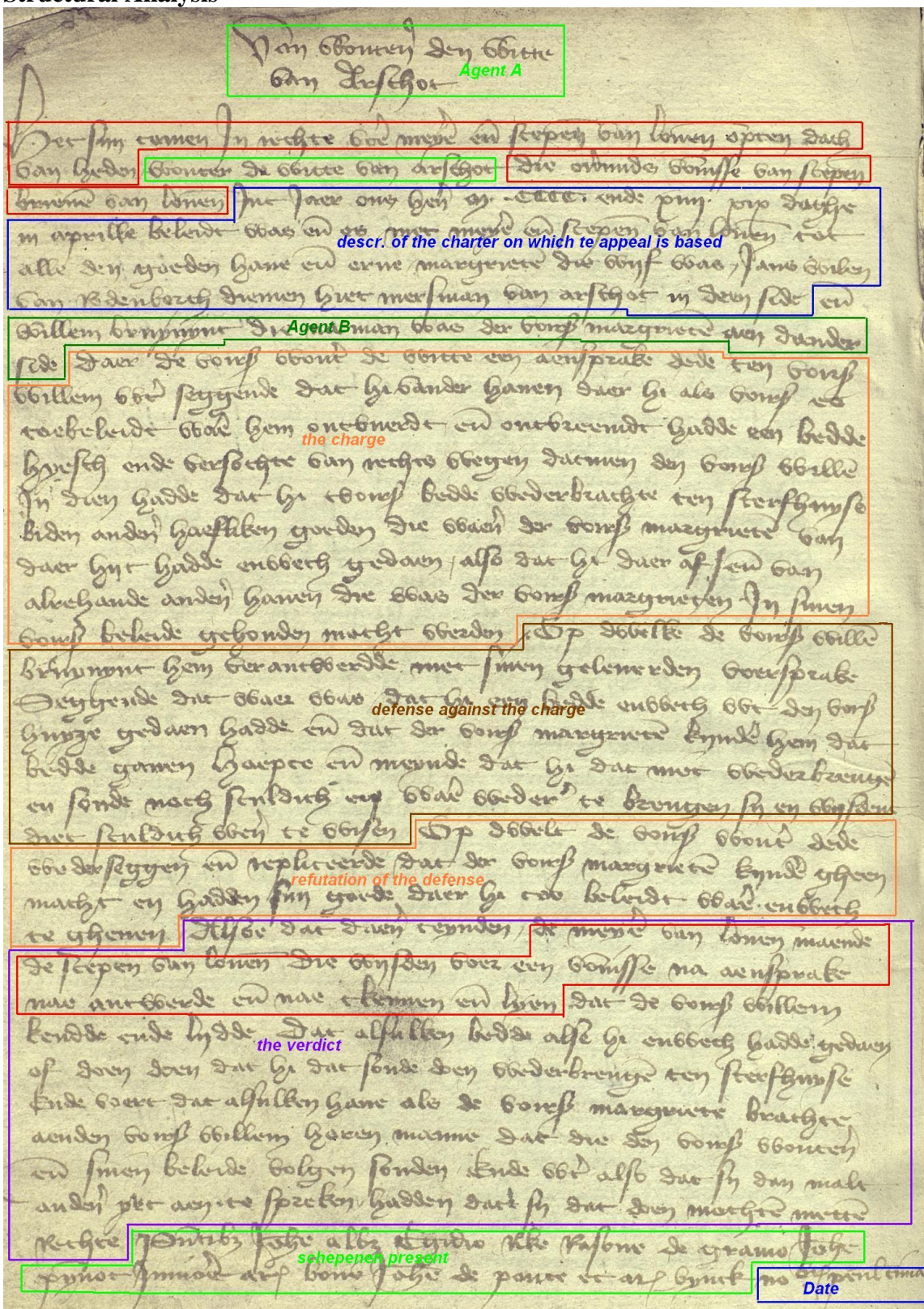
Transcription

Van woute(re)n den witte
van arschot

Het sijn comen in rechte voe(r) meye(re) en(de) scepen(en) van loven(en) opten dach
van heden wouter de witte van arschot die ov(er)mids vo(n)nisse van scepen(en)
brieve(n) van loven(en) int jaer ons he(re)n m cccc ende xiiii xix daghe
in aprille beleidt was en(de) es met meye(re) en(de) scepen(en) van loven(en) tot
alle den goeden have en(de) erve margriete(n) die wijf was jans wilen
van redenberch diemen hiet mersman van arschot in deen side en(de)
willem bruynync die na man was der voirs(creven) margriete(n) aen dander
side daer de voirs(creven) wout(er) de witte een aensprake dede ten voirs(creven)
willem w(er)t seggende dat hi vander haven daer hi als voirs(creven) es
toebeleidt wae(re) hem onvuerdt en(de) ontvreemdt hadde een bedde
hyesch ende versochte van rechts wegen datmen den voirs(creven) wille(m)
in dien hadde dat hi tvoirs(creven) bedde wederbrachte ten sterfhuyse
biden ande(re)n haefliken goeden die wae(re)n der voirs(creven) margriete(n) van
daer hijt hadde euwech gedaen also dat hi daer af i en(de) van
alrehande ande(re)n haven die was der voirs(creven) margrieten in sinen
voirs(creven) beleide gehouden mocht werden op dwelke de voirs(creven) wille(m)
bruynync hem verantwerdde met sinen geleverden voersprake
seggende dat waer was dat hi een bedde euwech uut den voirs(creven)
huyze gedaen hadde en(de) dat der voirs(creven) margriete(n) kynde(re) hem dat
bedde gaven hoepte en(de) meynde dat hi dat niet wederbrenge(n)
en soude noch sculdich en wae(re) weder te brengen sij en wijsdent
diet sculdich we(re)n te wisen op dwelc de voirs(creven) wout(er) dede
wederseggen en(de) repliceerde dat der voirs(creven) margriete(n) kynde(re) gheen
macht en hadden sijn goede daer hi ter beleidt wae(re) enwech
te gheven alsoe dat dae(re)n teynden de meye(re) van loven(en) maende
de scepene(en) van loven(en) die wijsden voer een vo(n)nisse na aensprake
nae antwerde en(de) na tkennen en(de) lyen dat de voirs(creven) willem
kendde ende lijdde dat alsulken bedde alse hi enwech hadde gedaen
of doen doen dat hi dat soude doen wederbrenge(n) ten sterfhuyse
ende voert dat alsulken have als de voirs(creven) margriete brachte
aenden voirs(creven) willem horen manne dat die den voirs(crevne) woute(re)n
en(de) sinen beleide volgen souden ende w(er)t also dat sij dan malc
ande(re)n yet aen te spreken hadden dat sij da doen mochte(n) mette(n)
rechte p(rese)ntib(us) joh(anne) alb(us) egidio rike rasone de gravio joh(anne)
py(n)noc iunior ar(nt) bone joh(ann)e de ponte et ar(nt) vynck no(vembriis) p(en)ultima

Translation

Of Wouteren den Witte
of Arschot

It is come in justice before the sheriff and schepenen of Leuven on the present day
that Wouter de Witte of Arschot who demands a judgment based on a *schepen*-charter
of Leuven of the year of our Lord 1414, the 19th
of April which was handled by the sheriff and *schepenen* of Leuven with regards to
all movable goods of and inheritance of Margrieten the wife of late Jan
of Redenberch who is calles Mersman van Arschot in the one side and
Willem Brynync who afterwards married the afore-mentioned Margrieten in the other
side; because the afore-mentioned Wouter de Witte demanded of the afore-mentioned
Willem, saying that he had of the afore-mentioned movable goods purloined a bed
Demanded and asked that by right that the afore-mentioned Willem
Would return the afore-mentioned bed to the house of the deceased
to re-unite it with the other movable goods of the afore-mentioned Margrieten
because he had done it away, and with that he had done away
one of the many movable goods that the afore-mentioned Margrieten had
left him in the afore-mentioned will; to this the afore-mentioned Willem
Bruynyc answered him with the following defense
Saying that is was true that he had done away a bed out of the afore-mentioned
House and that the children of the afore-mentioned Margriet had given it to him
And he that he expected and thought that he did not have to return the bed
Nor was obligated to return it, and referred to
Those who were guilty to be judged; to which the afore-mentioned Wouter
Replicated that the children of the afore-mentioned Margriet
had no right to dispose of his goods, because they were left to him
To this end the sheriff of Leuven urged
the *schepenen* of Leuven who ruled a verdict after laying claim
and defence and after knowing and testifying that the afore-mentioned Willem
knew and testified that all such beds as he had taken away
he would return in the house of the deceased
and also that all such movable goods as the afore-mentioned Margrieten brought
to the afore-mentioned Willem her husband, that he give way to the afore-mentioned
Wouter
and his claim, and should they lay claims at one another's door, to do it by right.
Present: Johannes albus, Egidius Rike, Rasone de Gravio, Johannes Pynnoc Junior, Arnt
Bone, Johannes de Ponte, et Arnt Vycnkt. November the last but one.

Structural Analysis

- Agent A (the plaintiff);

- "Het sijn comen in rechte voe(r) meye(re) en(de) scepen(en) van loven(en) opten dach van heden";
- Agent A;
- "ov(er)mids vo(n)nisse van scepen(en) brieve(n) van loven(en)";
- description of the charter on which the appeal is based;
- identification of Agent B (the defendant);
- description of the charge brought by A;
- the defense by B;
- answer/refutation of the defense by A;
- the verdict issued by the *schepenen*;[83]
- all seven *schepenen* present;
- date

Appendix A: '4 stage analysis of selected types of acts'
Type 4: Receipt of payment

MS page R 119.3 /scan 237
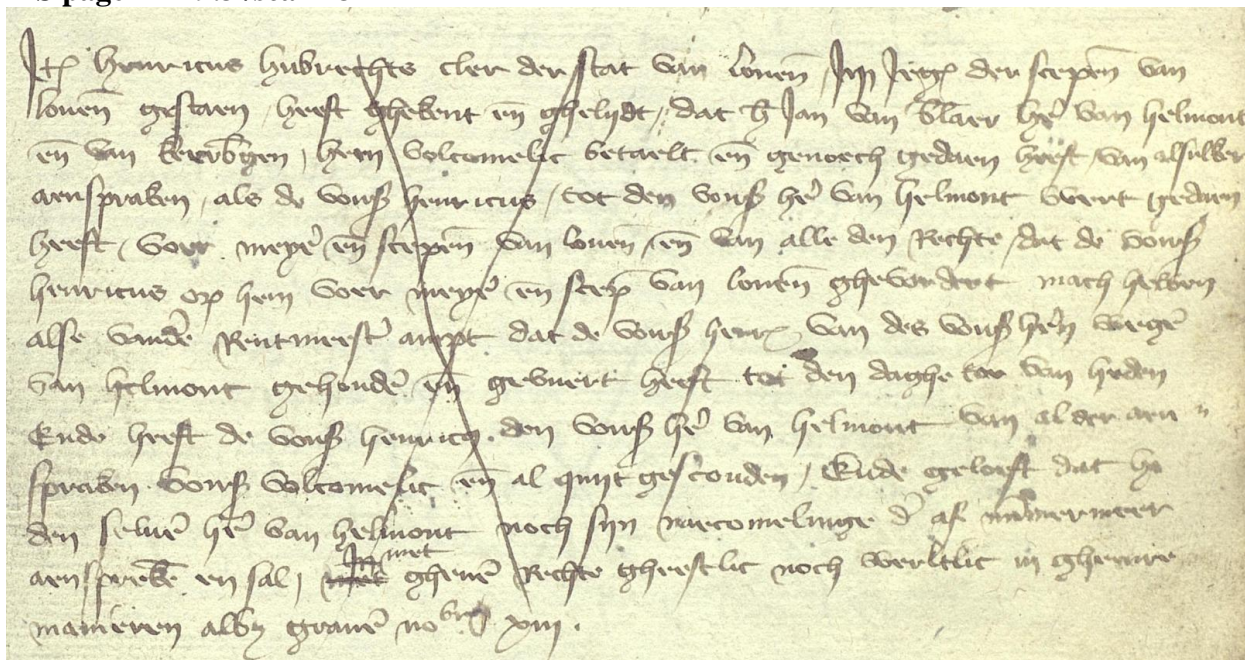
Transcription

It(em) henricus hubrechts cler(c) der stat van loven(en) in jeg(enwordicheit) der
  scepen(en) van
loven(en) gestaen heeft ghekent en(de) ghelijdt dat h(er) jan van b(er)laer he(re) van
  helmont
en(de) van keerb(er)gen hem volcomelic betaelt en(de) genoech gedaen heeft van
  alsulker

---

[83] The key phrase needed to identify the verdict within the act is " de meyer van lovenen maende de schepenen van lovenen die wijsden voor een vonisse na aensprake ende nae antwerde".

aenspraken als de voirs(creven) henricus tot den voirs(creven) he(re) van helmont wert
     gedaen
heeft voir meye(re) en(de) scepen(en) van loven(en) en(de) van alle den rechte dat de
     voirs(creven)
henricus op hem voer meye(re) en(de) scep(enen) van loven(en) ghevordert mach hebben
alse vande(n) rentmeest(er) ampt dat de voirs(creven) henr(ic) van des voirs(creven)
     he(re)n wege(n)
van helmont gehoude(n) en(de) gevuert heeft tot den daghe toe van heden
ende heeft de voirs(creven) henric(us) den voirs(creven) he(re) van helmont van al der
     aen
spraken voirs(creven) volcomelic en(de) al quijtgesconden ende geloeft dat hi
den selve(n) he(re) van helmont noch sijn naecomelinge d(aer) af ni(m)mermeer
aenspreke(n) en sal ~~met~~ [in met] ghene(n) rechte gheestlic noch werltlic in gheenre
manieren alb(us) grave(n) no(vem)[br(is)] xiii

Translation
Item Henricus Hubrechts, clerk of the city of Leuven, in presence of the *schepenen*
of Leuven, has acknowledged and declared that Sir Jan van Berlaer Lord of Helmont
and of Keerbergen has paid and satisfied him completely for all such
claims the afore-mentioned Henricus laid at the door of the said Lord of Helmont,
before sheriff and *schepenen* of Leuven, of all the rights the afore-mentioned
Henricus exercised on him before sheriff and *schepenen* van Leuven
In his capacity of account manager of the afore-mentioned public road of Helmont, a post
which the afore-mentioned Henricus has held and practiced up to the present day
And the afore-mentioned Hencricus has completely acquitted the afore-mentioned Lord
of Helmont of all the claims;
And has promised that he will not claim anything anymore from the same Lord of
Helmont nor his heirs, in any way, by right either canonical or worldly; Albus, Graven,
November the 13th.

Structural Analysis.
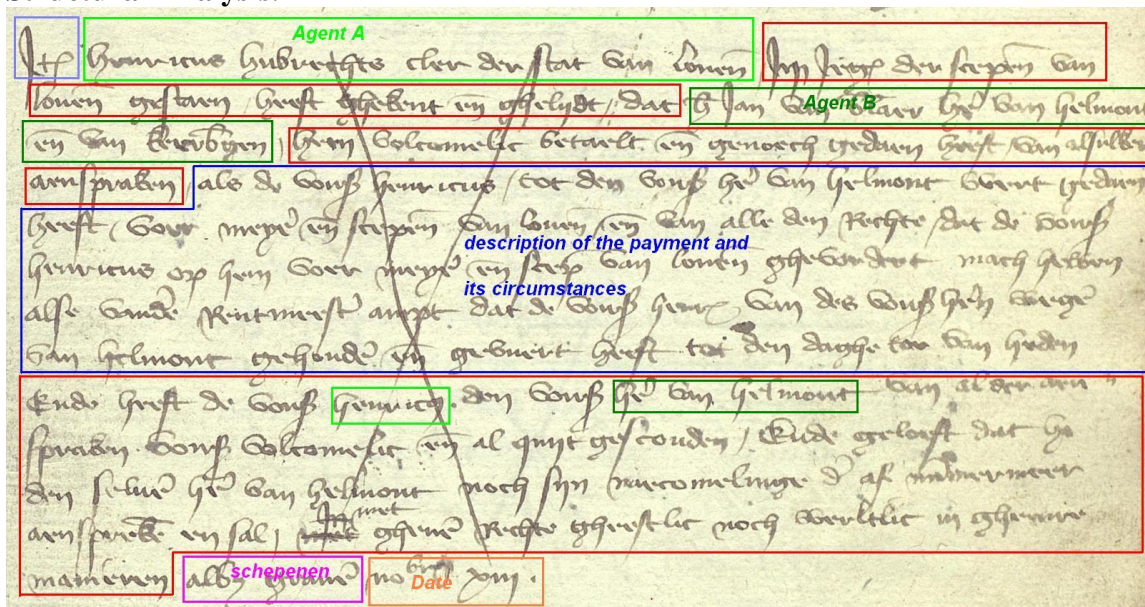
- Item;
- Agent A (provider of the quittance);
- "in jeg(enwordicheit) der scepen(en) vanloven(en) gestaen heeft ghekent en(de) ghelijdt dat";
- Agent B (paying party);
- "hem volcomelic betaelt en(de) genoech gedaen heeft van alsulker aenspraken als";
- (description of the payment and its circumstances);
- "al der aenspraken voirs(creven) volcomelic en(de) al quijtgesconden ende geloeft dat hi den selve(n) B noch sijn naecomelinge d(aer) af ni(m)mermeer aenspreke(n) en sal ~~met~~ [in met] ghene(n) rechte gheestlic noch werltlic in gheenre manieren.";
- presiding *schepenen*;
- date.

Appendix A: '4 stage analysis of selected types of acts'
Type 4.a: annulment of confiscation (quittance):

MS page R 87.3 / scan 173
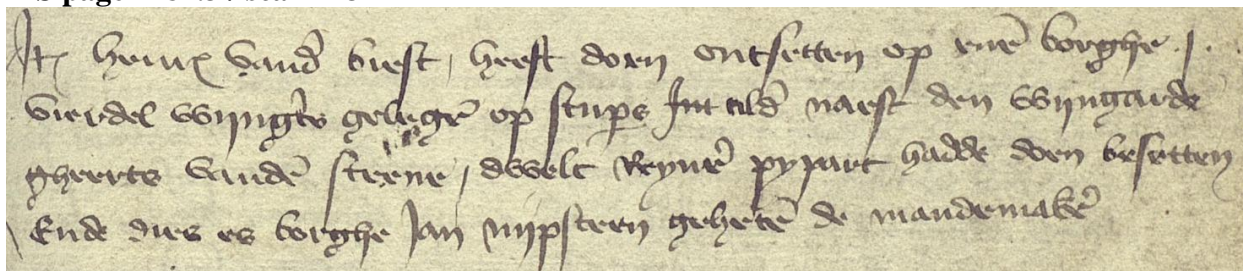
Transcription

It(em) henr(ic) vand(er) biest heeft doen ontsetten op ene(n) borghe i
vierdel wyng(ar)ts gelege(n) op scup(er)s ~~int~~ ald(aer) naest den wyngarde
gheerts vande(n) steene dwelc reyne(re) pypart hadde doen besetten
ende dies es borghe jan nijpsteen gehete(n) de mandemake(re)

Translation
Item Henric vander Biest has annulled the confiscation of the security[84] of one
Quarter of a vineyard situated in Stuper, next to the vineyard of
Geert vander Steene, which Reynere Pypart had confiscated
And of this is guarantor: Jan Nijpsteen called the vannier

Structural Analysis
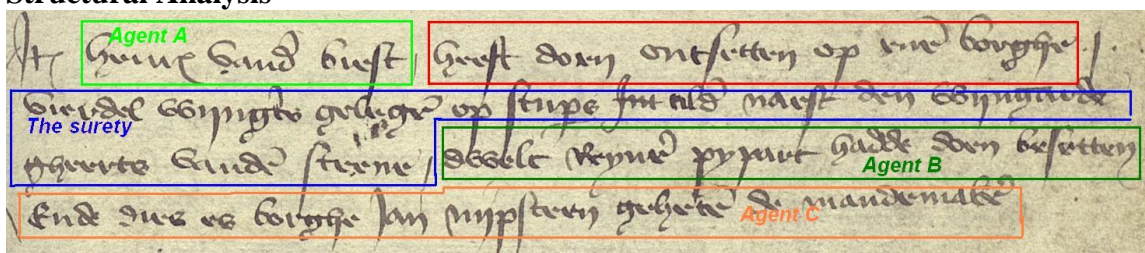
- Item;
- Agent A(person who gave surety);
- "heeft doen onsetten op enen borghe";
- (description of the surety);
- Agent B(the creditor);
- Agent C (guarantor who paid the due).

This type of act for the reclaiming of a surety by (delayed) payment names three parties, unlike many other types which only mentioned two. The same structure of ordering the information is found in other acts for the annulment of confiscations of sureties (see V 171.1 in appendix B.1: 4.5). Note that the act does not seems to have passed before the *schepenen* no names are subscribed nor a date added.

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[84] By paying the required due.

Appendix A: '4 stage analysis of selected types of acts'
Type 5: Postponement of trial

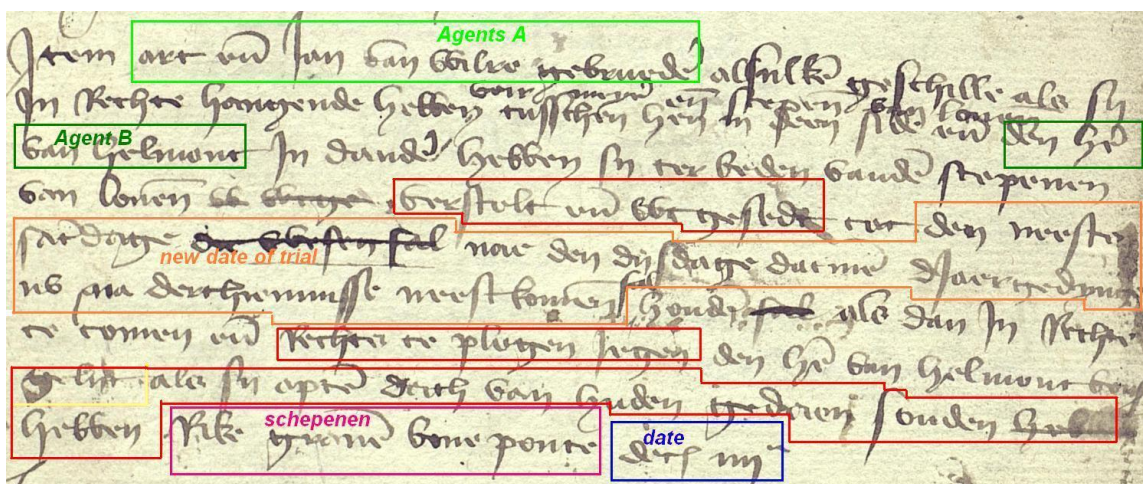**MS page V 139.4/ scan 278**
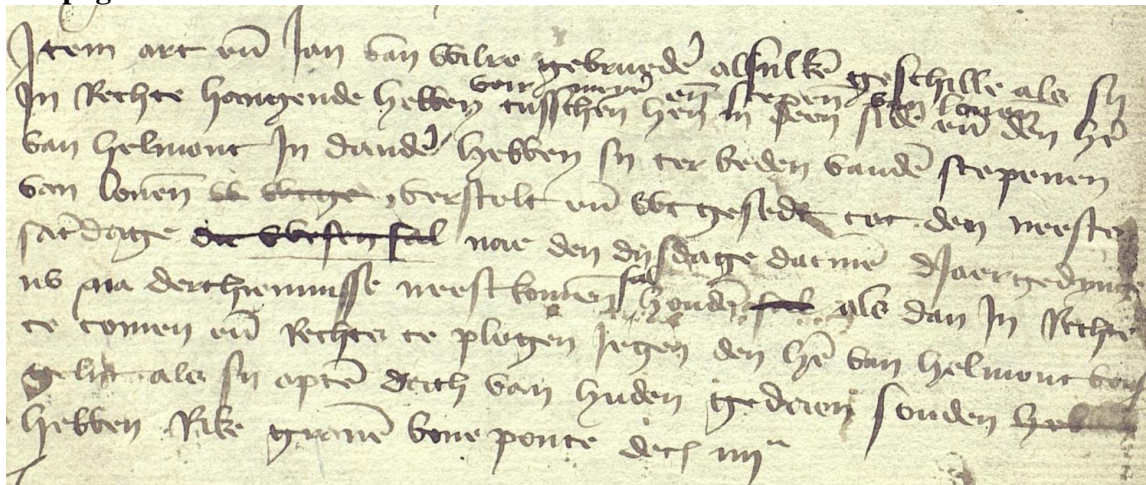
Transcription
Item art en(de) jan van wilre gebruede(re) alsulke(n) geschille als sij
in rechte hangende hebben [voir meye(re) en(de) scepen(en) van loven(en)] tusschen hen
in deen side en(de) den he(re)
van helmont in dande(r) hebben sij ter beden vande(n) scepenen
van loven(en) w̶ ̶w̶e̶g̶e̶ verstelt en(de) uut gesedt tot den neeste
sat(er)dage d̶i̶e̶ ̶w̶e̶s̶e̶n̶ ̶s̶a̶l̶ nae den dijsdage datme(n) djaergedynge
nu xna? derthienmisse neestkomen(de) [sal] houde(n) s̶a̶l̶ als dan in rechte
te comen en(de) rechts te plegen jegen den he(re) van helmont voirs(creven)
gelijc als sij opte(n) dach van huden gedaen souden h̶e̶b̶b̶e̶n̶
hebben rike grave(n) bone ponte dec(embris) iiii[a]

Translation
Item Art ende Jan Wilre, brothers, all such disputes as they
Waiting before the sheriff and *schepenen* Leuven between them on the one side and the Lord
Of Helmont on the other side; they have, on request of the *schepenen*
Of Leuven postponed the day of trial to the next
Saturday after the Tuesday on which the *jaergedynge*[85] is held
After next Epiphany will be held in justice
To come and exercise justice against the Lord of Helmont afore-mentioned
As they were to have done on the present day
Rike, Graven, Bone, Ponte, December the 4th

Structural Analysis

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[85] A special court day on which the *schepenen* handled complaints about rights of possession which had been violated. Spierings, *Het Schepenprotocol*, 74-5, 219-221.
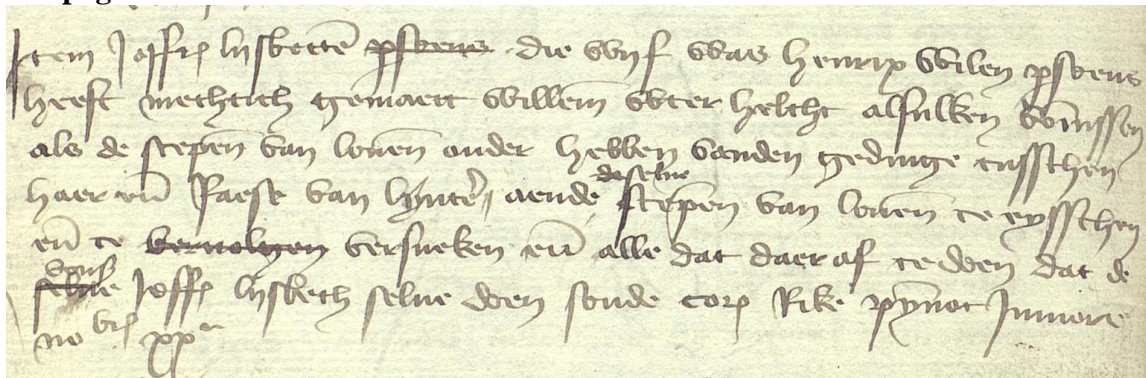
- Item;
- Agent(s) A(the plaintiff);
- "alsulke(n) geschille als sij in rechte hangende hebben [voir meye(re) en(de) scepen(en) van loven(en)] tusschen hen in deen side en(de)";
- Agent B(defendant);
- "verstelt en(de) uut gesedt tot";
- (new date of trial);
- "rechts te plegen jegen B gelijc als sij opte(n) dach van huden gedaen souden ~~hebben~~ hebben";
- *schepenen*,
- date

The structural pattern of the act above is not extremely fixed, a certain amount of freedom seems to have been employed in the drawing up of it. This impression is confirmed when one compare the act above with another postponement of trial in SAL 7316 (R 201.3 see appendix B.1: 5.2). The most important elements seem to be (in this order): the identification of the parties and the dispute; the word "uutgesedt"; the new date of trial; and the assurance justice will practiced as it would have been on the old date. Except for *uutgesedt* and *rechts pleghen gelijc sij (*day x*) gedaen souden hebben* the wording seems to rather fluid; indeed, these phrases should be seen as the key-phrases for identifying this type of act.

Appendix A: '4 stage analysis of selected types of acts'
Type 6: Authorization

MS page V 126.3 / scan 525

Transcription
Item joffr(ou) lijsbette(n) ~~p(er)soens~~ die wijf was henrix wilen p(er)soens
heeft mechtich gemaect willem(en) uuter helcht alsulken vo(n)nissen
als de scepen(en) van loven(en) onder hebben vanden gedinge tusschen
haer en(de) raese van lynte(re) aende [~~de~~ selve] scepen(en) van loven(en) te eysschen
en(de) te ~~vervolgen~~ versueken en(de) alle dat daer af te doen dat de
~~selve~~ [voirs(creven] joff(rou) lijsbeth selve doen soude cor(am) rike py(n)noc iuniore
no(vem)[br(is)] xx[o]

Translation
Item Mrs. Lijsbetten ~~Persoens~~ who was the wife of late Hendrix Persoens
has authorized Willem form Helcht to demand justice from
the *schepenen* of Leuven, and do
everything Mrs. Lijsbeth herself would do
in all such orders of the court between herself and Raese van Lytere before the *schepenen*
of Leuven.
Rike, Pynnoc Junior, November the 10th.

Structural Analysis
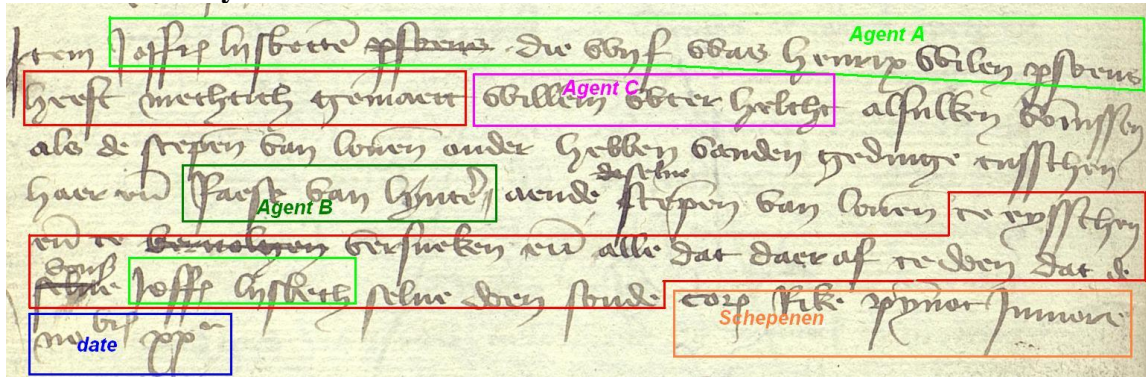
- Item

- Agent A (authorizing party)
- "heeft mechtich gemaect"
- Agent C (authorized party)
- Agent B (opposite party)
- "te te eysschen en(de) te ~~vervolgen~~ versueken en(de) alle dat daer af te doen dat **A** selve doen soude"
- *Schepenen*
- Date

The structure of the act above can found in exactly the same order in R 127.5 (app. 6.2), which points to a highly fixed formulaic composition for type of act. A shortened version found in R 286.3 (app. 6.3) confirms that *mechtich maecen* and *te eysschen ende te versueken* are the most basic key-phrases for identifying this type of act.

What type of transaction takes place here exactly is not clear. Assuming that *mechtich maken* means "to authorize" [86] here, and *eysschen ende versueken* "to demand justice in a court case"[87]; then we may assume that Agent B is being given a certain power to act in a legal case in which B is not a party himself. It may be that Agent A relinquishes all right to act in the case, so that B acts as a guardian would for a minor. Another possibility may also be that B is being installed as a representative for A in court, in a way that is similar to the role of a modern solicitor. To reach a higher degree of certainty about what this type of act refers to, more research is required.

Appendix A: '4 stage analysis of selected types of acts'
Type 7. Confiscation of sureties

MS page V 154.4 / scan 308

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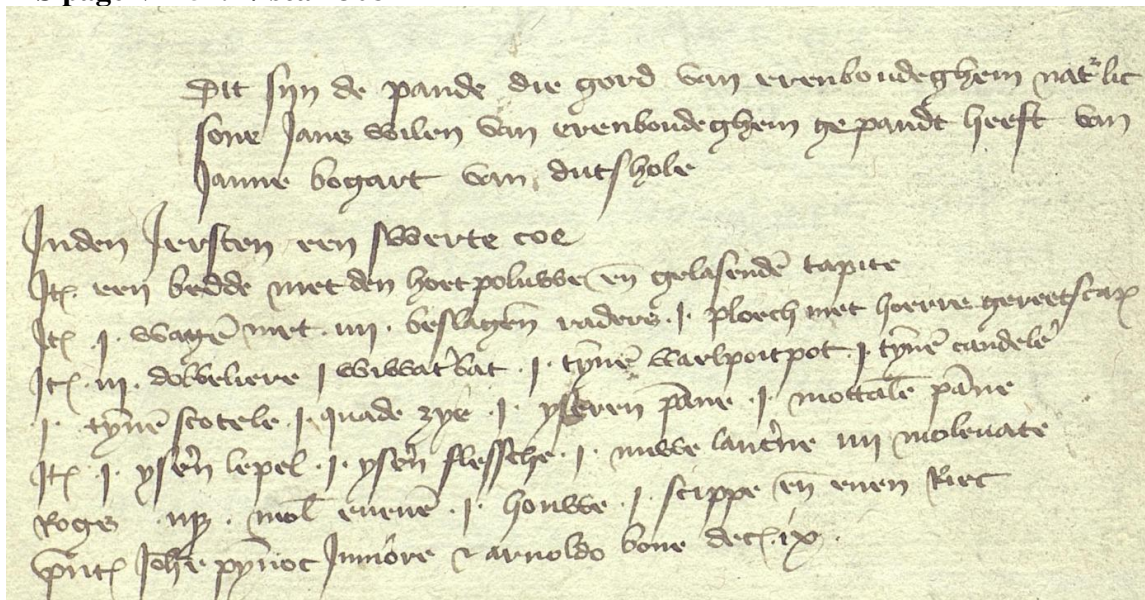
[86] "machten" may mean "machtigen, volmacht geven"(to authorize) according to the *Middelnederlands Woordenboek*.
[87] See "versoeken" 1.1.4 *Vroeg Middelnederlands Woordenboek* and "eiscen" I *Middelnederlands Woordenboek*.

Transcription

       Dit sijn de pande die gord van erenboudeghem nat(ur)lic

       sone jans wilen van erenboudeghem gepandt heeft van

       janne bogart van dutshole

inden jersten een swerte coe

It(em) een bedde met den hoetpoluwe en(de) gelasende(n) tapite

It(em) i wage(n) met iiii beslagen(en) raders i ploech met hoerre gereetscap

It(em) iii dobbeliere i wiwat(er)vat i ty(n)ne(n) waelpoitpot i ty(n)ne(n) candele(re)

i ty(n)ne(n) scotele i quade zye i yseren pa(n)ne i mottale(n) pa(n)ne

It(em) i yse(re)n lepel i yse(re)n flessche i nuwe lant(er)ne iiii molevate

rogs iiii(½) mol(evate) evene(n) i houwe i scippe en(de) enen riec

p(rese)nt(ibus) joh(ann)e py(n)noc iuniore et arnoldo bone dec(embris) ix

Translation

       These are the sureties that Gord van Erenboudeghem the natural

       Son of the late Jan van Erenboudeghem has given confiscated[88] from

       Janne Bogart van Dutshole

Firstly, a black cow

Item a bed including the pillow and hangings

Item one wagon with four fitted wheels, one plough with apparatus

Item three stone bowls, one vessel for holy water, one pewter p pint,[89] one pewter candlestick

One pewter dish, one bad sif, one iron pas, one metal pan

Item one iron spoon, one iron bottle, one new lantern, four measures of rye

Three and a half measures of oats, one [measure] of hay[90], one ship(?), and one pitchfork

Present: Johannus Pynnoc Junior and Arnoldus Bone, December the 9th

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[88] "panden" means "beslagleggen, het pandrecht uitoefenen" (to confiscate sureties) see "panden" I&II *Vroeg Middelnederlands Woordenboek*.

[89] *Waelpoit* is a measure, see "waelpoyt" *Middelnederlands Woordenboek*.

[90] It may also be the case that an instrument meant for hacking is being referred to.

Structural Analysis
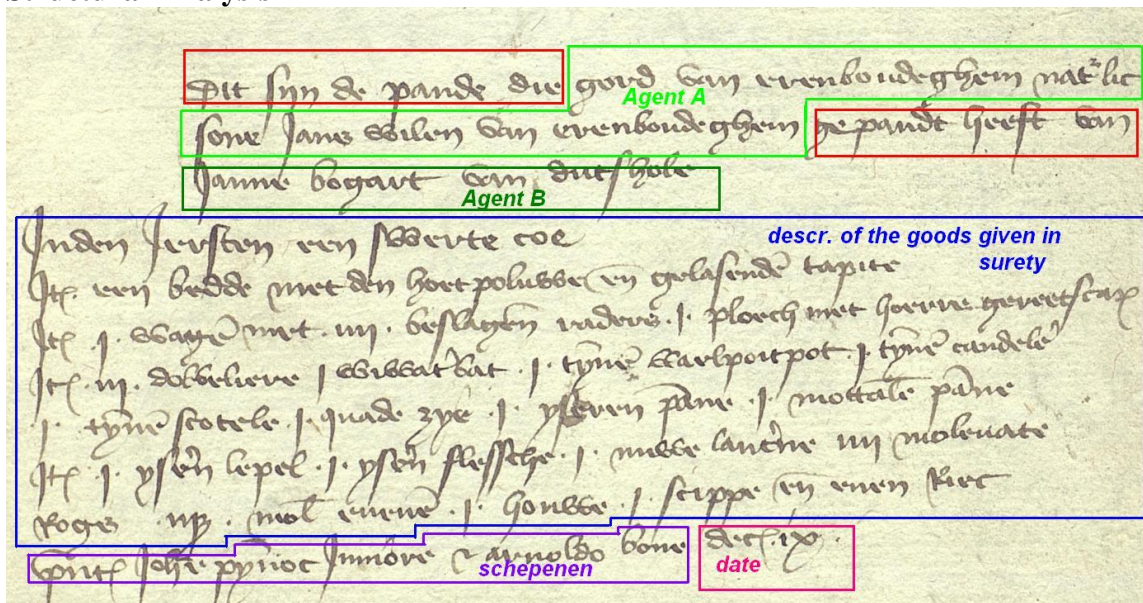
- **"**dit sijn de pande die"
- Agent A (confiscator)
- "gepandt heeft van"
- Agent B (previous owner of these goods)
- description of the goods
- *schepenen*
- date

The structure of this type of act is very straightforward: mention of both parties involved in the transaction and a description of the goods confiscated. The relevant key-phrases are *dit sijn de pande die* and *gepandt heeft van*. It only remains for me to remark on the exceptional lay-out of this type of act, a feature which must also be considered central to identifying this type of act: the heading of the act in which both parties are named is indented. See for example R 351.3 (app. 7.2 / scan 701):
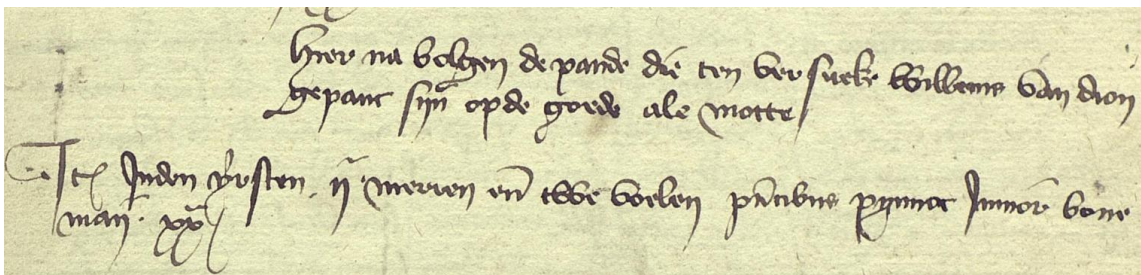
Appendix B: 'a Typology supplemented with examples of acts'
      Appendix B.1: Middle Dutch
      Appendix B.2 Latin (under construction[91])

The acts are numbered and organized in accordance with the numbering in the typology presented in section 3.2.1 and 3.2.2.

Appendix B.1: Middle Dutch

      1. Promise: *geloeft*
         a) promise of payment
         b) promise to guard vineyard against damage by third parties
         c) promise not to sell a house
      2. Lease, rent and levy contracts: *heft genomen ende bekendt dat hi genomen heft ... te houden en te hebben te wynnen in termijn van x jaren.*
         a) lease
         b) rent
         c) levy
      3. Demanding justice based on a Leuven charter: *overmids vonnisse van scepenen brieven ... de meyere maande de scepenen van recht souden wisen voir een vonisse dat ...;*
      4. Receipt of payment: *heeft bekendt en verleidt dat ... hem volcomelic betaelt ende genoech gedaan heeft/hi ontfangen ende gehaven heft in gereden penningen; al der aenspraken voirscreven volcomelic ende al quijtgesconden ende geloeft;*
         a) Annulment of confiscation (quittance): *Ontsetten op enen borghe*
      5. Postponement of trial
      6. Authorization: *mechtich maecken*
      7. Confiscation of sureties: *dit sijn de pande die x gepandt heeft van;*
      8. bringing charges: *beclaight*
      9. regulation concerning (a)charter(s)
      10. Right of way?: *heeft geconsenteerd dat voir hem sijn erfgenamen en de nacomelingen dat;*

      1. Promise: "geloeft"

a) promise of payment

1.1) V 64.1/ Monk scan 128

It(em) Jan bogart van dutshele heeft geloeft meest(er) giel(ijs) vand(er) stoct
viii wissen herts wishouts by(n)ne(n) vi weke(n) naest comen(de) te betale(n)
En(de) te love(n) tot sine(n) huys te leve(re)n als v(er)volghde schout op i

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[91] During the execution of the present project the limited amount time available has pressed me to focus on the aspects of the project that received the highest priority, namely the formulating a semantic model for analyzing the logical content of acts. In fact, only a few proofs of concept were needed for this. Of course, an exhaustive typology and correct transcriptions of the Latin acts were aimed for. However, this goal could not completely realized yet, due to lack of time. At a later time, perhaps, this fault can be remedied.

banduyn van ~~ii~~ [ene(n)] guld(en) rijnsch d(omi)no duci alb(us) g(ra)ve(n) sept(embris) iiii

1.2) V 103.2 / scan 206

It(em) gheert gehete(n) van vlaende(re)n van sent aighte(n) rode heeft geloeft
henricke(n) vanden wijchuse vi wissen hertshouts te sent andries
naestkomende en(de) vii wissen hertshouts te viii misse~n~ d(aer)na volge(n)de
te betalen en(de) te loven(en) [te leve(re)n] quol(ibet) ass(ecutu)[m]

1.3) V 138.5 / scan 276

Item henricus d(i)c(t)us van achter heeft geloeft lodewike(n) van
lec? vi[m] rijs van holsbeker bossche ~~te~~ tusschen dit en(de) wastel
avons neestkomen(de) te betale(n) en(de) te loven(en) ten huyse des
voirs(creven) lodewijx te leve(re)n als v(er)volghde schout op ene(n)
banduyn van eenre crone(n) tot behoef m(ijn) gened(ichs) he(re)n van
brab(ant) alb(us) graven dec(embris) iii[a]

1.b) promise to guard a vineyard form damage by third parties

1.4) V 61.2 / Monk scan 122

Item machiel sausse? en(de) heinken de h(er)toge hebben geloeft dat sij den wyng(ar)t
op roesselbergh inde biest lage wel en(de) getruweliken hoeden en(de) verware(n)
selen nacht en(de) dach also dat de goede liede aen hore(n) wyng(ar)de gheen schade
gedaen en sal werden en(de) oft yma(n)de [al] daer af ~~af~~ e(n)nige schade geschiede die
hebben sij geloeft op te richten rike grave(n) septembr(is) p(ri)ma

1.c) promise not to sell a house

1.5) V 174.4 / scan 348

It(em) de voirs(creven) p(er)sone hebben geloeft den voirs(creven) p(er)sone(n) dat sij de have die sij hebben
int hof ter sart niet vercopen noch vervreemden en selen maer die daer in
laten ter voirs(creven) drie p(er)sone(n) orbe(re) en(de) p(ro)fite en(de) al v(er)cochten sij yet daer af
dat dat den selven p(er)sonen te p(ro)fite soude comen in afslage van hoerre voirs(creven)
schout cor(am) eisd(em)

2. Lease, rent and levy contracts: *heft genomen ende bekendt dat hi genomen
heft … te houden en te hebben te wynnen in termijn van x jaren.*

2.a) lease (*pacht*)

2.1) V 148.3 / scan 296

 It(em) m(ar)celijs vand(er) spect van meld(er)t es comen in jeg(enwordicheit) der
      scepen(en)
van loven(en) en(de) heeft genome(n) en(de) bekent dat hi genome(n) heeft van ja(n)ne
vand(er) balct sijn huys en(de) hofe met sesse boende(re)n lants i dachmael min
daer toe hoe(re)nde gelege(n) te meld(er)t in alrehande(n) stucken te houden
te hebben en(de) te wy(n)ne(n) van ~~ingane~~ halfm(er)te dat was int jaer onss
he(re)n dusent vierhond(er)t en(de) xix ene(n) t(er)mijn van sesse jae(re)n lang deen
nae dand(er) sond(er) middel volgen(de) elx jae(r)s ~~daere~~ dae(re)nby(n)nen o(m)me
xiiii(½) mudde corens pacht van meld(er)t goet en(de) payabel d(er) maten van
thiene(n) te wete(n) vi halst(er) der selv(er) maten voir een mudde gherekent
te s(int) andr(ies) misse apostels te bet(alen) en(de) te love~~(n)~~n te leve(re)n alle jae(re)
      den
voirs(creven) t(er)mijn due(re)nde en(de) telke(n) t(er)mine als v(er)volghde schout voert
es vorwerde dat de voirs(creven) wy(n)ne betale(n) sal al den tsijs uut den
voirs(creven) [gelege alleen] ~~goede(n)~~ gaende sond(er) afslach vande(n) voirs(creven)
      pachte h(ier)af
es borghe des vors(creven) etc(etera) wout(er) vand(er) spect [sijn brued(er)] et p(rimus)
      bone
vynck dec(embris) xii

2.2) R 181.3 / scan 361

It(em) henric weyns van comptich heeft genomen jegen janne vande(n) peyne
van molenbeke xi dachmael lants ~~en(de)~~ [of] daer omtrent gelege(n) te willenb(ri)nge
gelijc ~~ge~~ de voirs(creven) jan die genome(n) hadde te wy(n)ne(n) jege(n) ja(n)ne peerman
      van
tesseld(er)loe te houde(n) en(de) te ~~he~~ wy(n)ne(n) van halfm(er)te lestlede(n) ene(n)
      t(er)mijn van
drien jae(re)n lang deen nae dand(er) sond(er) middel volgen(de) elx jaers
      daer(en)by(n)ne(n)
o(m)me vii mudde corens pacht van willenb(ri)ng(en) pag(abel) mate van thiene(n) te
wete(n) vi halst(er) d(er) selv(er) mate(n) voer een mudde gherekent ende es vorwerde
dat de voirs(creven) ~~ja~~ henric de voirs(creven) lande ten eynde vande(n) voirs(creven)
      t(er)mine laten sal
ind(er) manie(re)n hier nae volgen(de) te wete(n) i(½) dach(mael) gelege(n) acht(er)
      marien heylen hof
besaeyt met wynt(er)corne en(de) dand(er) lande al geheel cor(am) eisd(em)

2.b) rent

2.3) R 79.2 / scan 157

Ite(m) walt(er) de munte(re) en(de) abraen stroets hebben verhuert bi
orlove she(re)n vande(n) gronde gorde peters huys en(de) hof met sine(n)

toebehoerte(n) geleg(en) inde hoelst(ra)te tusschen de goede lodewijx van
let en(de) mychiels van breetzijp te houde(n) en(de) te hebben van
kersavonde naest comen(de) ~~over~~ ene(n) t(er)mijn van twelf jae(re)n lang
deen nae dand(er) eenp(er)lic volgend(en) alle jae(re) hie(re)n by(n)ne(n) o(m)me viii
mottoene te wete(n) xxxiiii l(i)b(ra) payments voer ii mott(oene) gherekent
te kersmisse te bet(alen) alle jae(re) den voirs(creven) t(er)mijn due(re)nde en(de) telken
t(er)mine als vervolghde schout op alsoe dat de voirs(creven) gord op dierste
jaer betale(n) sal vii½ mottoen en(de) niet meer des sal de selve gord
betalen den tsijs te kersmisse naest comen(de) uut den voirs(creven) goede(n) gaende
[maer de voirs(creven) twe p(er)sone selen den selve(n) cheyns voertane den voirs(creven)
          t(er)mijne due(re)nde va(n) hoerre
          hue(re)n betalen]
voert es vorwerde dat de voirs(creven) gord int voirs(creven) huys [sal] moge(n) doen
maken ene(n) oven [dbroet van] drien molevate(n) corens [~~dbroet van~~]in te backen en(de)
          dat afslaen
aen de hue(re) [voirs(creven)] oec sal de selve gord tvoirs(creven) huys wel en(de) loflic
          moge(n)
doen make(n) en(de) houde(n) van wande en(de) van dake en(de) slotvaste [den
voirs(creven) t(er)min dure(nde)] in afslaghe
vander selv(er) hue(re)n promitten(tes) war(andizantes) pynnoc iunior ponte sept(embris)
xxii

2.c) Levy

2.4) V 212.1 / scan 424
Item ~~es~~ cont sij allen liede(n) dat arnt en(de) jan va(n) wijchmael
gebruede(re) soene jans ~~will~~ wile(n) van wijchmale sijn come(n) in jeg(enwordicheit)
en(de) hebbe(n) gegeve(n) en(de) bekent dat sij gegeve(n) hebbe(n) vrancke(n) van
wijchmale hoe(re)n oem de molen van wijchmale met ~~hoe(re) toebehoerten~~
der sluysen pant chijnse [vand(er) ca(m)men aldaer] en(de) visscheryen te houde(n) en(de)
          te hebbe(n)
van ons(en) vrouwe(n) lichtmisse neestkomen(de) ene(n) t(er)mijn van vi jae(re)n
lang deen na dand(er) staphans volgen(de) elx jaers dae(re)n bynne(n) voer
die lx rijnschen gul(den) die de voirs(creven) vrancke en(de) de joff(rou) ts(int)claes
jairlix hebben op de voirs(creven) molen en(de) goede en(de) oec [aen] meer ande(re)n
goeden die de voirs(creven) gebruede(re) noch houden(de) sijn met alsulker vor
werde(n) daer toe gedaen dat de voirs(creven) vrancke bove(n) de voirs(creven) lx
          rijnsche
gul(den) jaerlix betalen sal den voirs(creven) t(er)mijn due(re)nde m(ijn) vrouwe(n) der
abdissen van vrouwenp(er)ke vi mudde corens ~~dier~~ die sij heeft
op de voirs(creven) molen [en(de)] die [betalinge] ~~hi~~ also in tijts ~~betalen sal~~ [doen] dat
          daer af
gheen schade en come Item sal de voirs(creven) vrancke den t(er)mijn lang
voirs(creven) due(re)nde ~~van allen~~ de voirs(creven) molen en(de) sluyse van alle(n)
          werke(n)

en(de) also wel van gront werke als ande(re)n werke [houde(n) in goede(n) state] op also dat me(n)
        dat me(n)
ten beghynsel vande(n) voirs(creven) t(er)mijn de voirs(creven) molen en(de) sluyse
        scatte(n)
sal wes sij wert is vyntme(n) dan ten eynde vande(n) selven t(er)mijn
dat sij bet(er) es dat sele(n) de voirs(creven) gebruede(re) vrancke(n) oprichten
worde(n) sij oec arg(er) vonde(n) dat soude vrancke den voirs(creven) gebruede(re)n
oprichten na taxacie vande(n) ghene(n) die hen des verstaen oic hebbe(n)
geloeft de voirs(creven) gebruede(re) dat sij tons(en) vrouwe(n) lichtmisse neest
comen(de) den voirs(creven) vrancke(n) de voirs(creven) molen en(de) sluyse [en(de)
        pant? chijns] los leve(re)n
selen van allen co(m)mer die voe(r) dien dach daer op verschene(n) ende
vervalle(n) sal sijn en(de) dien also betale(n) dat den selve(n) vranken
gheene(n) last daer af en come p(ro)mitt(entes) alt(er)i ... sat(isfacere) alb(us) rike
januar(ii) xxviii

3. Demanding justice based on a Leuven charter: *overmids vonnisse van scepenen brieven ... de meyere maande de scepenen van recht souden wisen voir een vonisse dat ...;*

3.1) V 49.1 / scan 98

Van hubrechte van putchey
Het sijn comen in rechte voe(r) meye(re) en(de) scepen(en) van loven(en) lambrecht
        vand(er)
meren die ov(er)mids vo(n)nisse van scepen(en) brieve(n) van loven(en) ons genedichs
he(re)n heerlicheit van brabant en(de) na sijnre stat recht van loven(en) gegoedt
en(de) gheerft es voer meye(re) ende scepen(en) van loven(en) in alden goeden hubrechts
van putchey gelegen inden ban van ha(n)nut in deen side en(de) raddelet die
diener es des abds van floen? in dander daer de voirs(creven) lambrecht inden
rechte lesen dede sijn scepen(en) brieve van loven(en) die hi hadde vander voirs(creven)
goedingen kroenende ende clagende dat de voirs(creven) raddelet hem ongebruyc
dade aen iii mudde rox der maten van ha(n)nut erfspachts de welke de
voirs(creven) hubeert voertijts vercregen hadde jegen bouden van racourt op
xxxvi groet roeden lants gelegen te putchey toebehoe(re)nde den voirs(creven)
bouden gelegen neve(n) de goede jans van putchey en(de) op xxviii groet
roeden lants des selfs boudens gelegen tusschen putchey ende tromgniez?
neve(n) de goede der he(re)n van sente denijs van ludick daer af dat de voirs(creven)
hubeert goedinge hadde voer hof ende h(er)re? bege(re)nde dat me(n)ne daer af
in sijnre goedingen houden soude daer de voirs(creven) raddelet een aensprake
te hem w(er)t dede seggende dat hi nu te wive hadde een vrouwen p(er)soen
geheten yde de welke voertijts wijf geweest hadde des voirs(creven) boudens
van raetshove(n) ende dat de selve yde voe(r) gehadt hadde ene(n) man vanden
welken sij hadde ii kinde(re) en(de) dat hoe(r) en(de) hoe(re)n voirs(creven) kinden de
        voirs(creven) goede
wae(re)n gemaect in testamente vander vrouwen van serain die nichte was
der voirs(creven) yden Op alsulken voeghe soe wa(n)neer deen van hen aflivich

worde dat dan de voirs(creven) goede blive(n) soude(n) op den lanxsten levende ende
hoewael dat de voirs(creven) lambrecht hadde doen seggen dat de voirs(creven) hubrecht
de voirs(creven) iii mudde corens vercrege(n) hadde jegen den voirs(creven) bouden van
            racourt
soe en hadde daer bij noch aen gheweest de voirs(creven) yde sijn wijf daer de
goede af come(n) wae(re)n meynende mids dier redene(n) dat de voirs(creven) hubrecht
met sijnre goedingen aen den voirscr(even) erfpacht verdoelt wesen soude//
ende dat hi noch sijn wijf dien niet gelden en souden op dwelke de
voirs(creven) lambrecht hem verantwerdde met sinen gelev(er)den voersprake
seggende hoewael dat de voirs(creven) raddelet in sijnre voirs(creven) aenspraken
ruerde testamente ende dat de goede van sijns wijfs wegen comen
wae(re)n so en p(re)senteerde hi dat niet te thoene(n) noch en brachte sijn
voirs(creven) testament niet voer oeghen en(de) tghene dat hi seide dat
en wae(re)n mer worde hoepte en(de) meynde de voirs(creven) lambrecht dat
hi also met veltwerde(n)? sijn voirs(creven) goedinge van sine(n) scepen(en) brieve(n)
niet te nyente doen en soude mar dat hi daer in blive(n) soude(n) ende
gehoude(n) werden na ons voirs(creven) gened(ichs) he(re)n heerlicheit van braba(n)t
en(de) nae sijnre stat recht van loven(en) en(de) des ghenueghde hem wel
tvo(n)nisse alsoe dat nae aensprake en(de) antwerde de meye(re) van loven(en)
maende de scepen(en) van loven(en) wes recht sijn soude die wijsden voer
een vo(n)nisse dat alsulken aensprake als de voirs(creven) raddelet gedaen
hadde dat die den voirs(creven) lambrechte aen sijn goedinge gheen onscade
doen en soude also v(er)re alst noch voe(r) de scepen(en) come(n) was p(rese)ntib(us)
alb(us) rike pynnoc iunior bone ponte vynck Aug(usti) xiiii anno xxi [o]

3.2) V 388.1 / scan 776

Van woute(re)n den witte van arschot
Het sijn comen in rechte voe(r) meye(re) en(de) scepen(en) van loven(en) opten dach
van heden wouter de witte van arschot die ov(er)mids vo(n)nisse van scepen(en)
brieve(n) van loven(en) int jaer ons he(re)n m cccc ende xiiii xix daghe
in aprille beleidt was en(de) es met meye(re) en(de) scepen(en) van loven(en) tot
alle den goeden have en(de) erve margriete(n) die wijf was jans wilen
van redenberch diemen hiet mersman van arschot in deen side en(de)
willem bruynync die na man was der voirs(creven) margriete(n) aen dander
side daer de voirs(creven) wout(er) de witte een aensprake dede ten voirs(creven)
willem w(er)t seggende dat hi vander haven daer hi als voirs(creven) es
toebeleidt wae(re) hem onvuerdt en(de) ontvreemdt hadde een bedde
hyesch ende versochte van rechts wegen datmen den voirs(creven) wille(m)
in dien hadde dat hi tvoirs(creven) bedde wederbrachte ten sterfhuyse
biden ande(re)n haefliken goeden die wae(re)n der voirs(creven) margriete(n) van
daer hijt hadde euwech gedaen also dat hi daer af i en(de) van
alrehande ande(re)n haven die was der voirs(creven) margrieten in sinen
voirs(creven) beleide gehouden mocht werden op dwelke de voirs(creven) wille(m)
bruynync hem verantwerdde met sinen geleverden voersprake

seggende dat waer was dat hi een bedde euwech uut den voirs(creven)
huyze gedaen hadde en(de) dat der voirs(creven) margriete(n) kynde(re) hem dat
bedde gaven hoepte en(de) meynde dat hi dat niet wederbrenge(n)
en soude noch sculdich en wae(re) weder te brengen sij en wijsdent
diet sculdich we(re)n te wisen op dwelc de voirs(creven) wout(er) dede
wederseggen en(de) repliceerde dat der voirs(creven) margriete(n) kynde(re) gheen
macht en hadden sijn goede daer hi ter beleidt wae(re) enwech
te gheven alsoe dat dae(re)n teynden de meye(re) van loven(en) maende
de scepene(en) van loven(en) die wijsden voer een vo(n)nisse na aensprake
nae antwerde en(de) na tkennen en(de) lyen dat de voirs(creven) willem
kendde ende lijdde dat alsulken bedde alse hi enwech hadde gedaen
of doen doen dat hi dat soude doen wederbrenge(n) ten sterfhuyse
ende voert dat alsulken have als de voirs(creven) margriete brachte
aenden voirs(creven) willem horen manne dat die den voirs(crevne) woute(re)n
en(de) sinen beleide volgen souden ende w(er)t also dat sij dan malc
ande(re)n yet aen te spreken hadden dat sij da doen mochte(n) mette(n)
rechte p(rese)ntib(us) joh(anne) alb(us) egidio rike rasone de gravio joh(anne)
py(n)noc iunior ar(nt) bone joh(ann)e de ponte et ar(nt) vynck no(vembriis) p(en)ultima

4. Receipt of payment: *heft bekendt en verleidt dat … hem volcomelic betaelt ende genoech gedaan heeft/hi ontfangen ende gehaven heft in gereden penningen; al der aenspraken voirscreven volcomelic ende al quijtgesconden ende geloeft.*

4.1) R 119.3 / scan 237

It(em) henricus hubrechts cler(c) der stat van loven(en) in jeg(enwordicheit) der
        scepen(en) van
loven(en) gestaen heeft ghekent en(de) ghelijdt dat h(er) jan van b(er)laer he(re) van
        helmont
en(de) van keerb(er)gen hem volcomelic betaelt en(de) genoech gedaen heeft van
        alsulker
aenspraken als de voirs(creven) henricus tot den voirs(creven) he(re) van helmont wert
        gedaen
heeft voir meye(re) en(de) scepen(en) van loven(en) en(de) van alle den rechte dat de
        voirs(creven)
henricus op hem voer meye(re) en(de) scep(enen) van loven(en) ghevordert mach hebben
alse vande(n) rentmeest(er) ampt dat de voirs(creven) henr(ic) van des voirs(creven)
        he(re)n wege(n)
van helmont gehoude(n) en(de) gevuert heeft tot den daghe toe van heden
ende heeft de voirs(creven) henric(us) den voirs(creven) he(re) van helmont van al der
        aen
spraken voirs(creven) volcomelic en(de) al quijtgesconden ende geloeft dat hi
den selve(n) he(re) van helmont noch sijn naecomelinge d(aer) af ni(m)mermeer
aenspreke(n) en sal ~~met~~ [in met] ghene(n) rechte gheestlic noch werltlic in gheenre
manieren alb(us) grave(n) no(vem)[br(is)] xiii

4.2) R 149.2 / scan 297

It(em) h(er) wout(er) van kersbeke he(re) va(n) stalle en(de) va(n) goetsenhove(n)
        ridde(re) is come(n) etc(etera) en(de)
heeft bekendt en(de) verlijdt dat hi ontfange(n) en(de) gehave(n) heeft in gerede(n)
        pe(n)ni(n)gen
van jonch(er) jacop he(re) te sombreffe de so(m)me van xxi[c] lx vrancr(ijx) cronen
alsulke als nu gaen vande(n) lichte(n) gewichte of de werde daer af de welke
de voirs(creven) jonch(er) jacop he(re) te sombr(effe) den voirs(creven) h(ere)n
        woute(re)n sculdich was
alse vander afcopingen va(n) vi l(i)b(ra) oud(er) gr(oten)tornoise(n) erfliker rente(n) de
        welke
de voirs(creven) jonch(er) jacop tseghe(n) den voirs(cerven) h(ere)n woute(re)n van
        kersbeke afgecocht heeft
en(de) gecregen op de goede va(n) rixensaert des selfs jonch(er) jacops met hoe(re)n
toebehoirte(n) gelijceme(n) die in leen houdende is va(n) onse(n) genedige(n) he(re) va(n)
brabant en(de) heeft den voirs(creven) jonch(er) jacop he(re) te sombreffe sijn goede va(n)
rixensart voirs(creven) en(de) alle de ghene die des q(ui)tancie behoven vande(n)
        voirs(creven) xxi[c]
lx vrancr(ijx) crone(n) vande(n) lichte(n) gewichte volkomelic quijtgesconden en(de)
        geloeft
den voirs(creven) jonch(er) jacop he(re) te sombreffe vander voirs(creven) quitantie(n)
        tseghe(n) ene(n)
ygeliken recht warant te sijn en(de) dat hi vander voirs(creven) so(m)men den
        voirs(creven) jonch(er)
jacop noch sijn goede voirs(creven) nu(m)merme(re) aenspreken en sal met ghene(n)
        rechte
geestlich noch we(re)ntlich rike graven dec(embris) xii

4.3) R 242.3 / scan 483

It(em) reyner van goycke is comen in tsegew(or)dicheden der scepen(en) van loven(en)
        en(de)
heeft gekent en(de) gelijdt dat ~~is~~ godert van kessele molde(re) hem volcomelic
betaelt en(de) genouch gedaen heeft van al alsulken pachte en(de) rente(n) als hem
aen den voirs(creven) goderde vander voermole(n) wege(n) die de selve god(er)t van hem
houdende is gevallen mach sijn tot den dage toe van heden en(de) heeft den
selven goderde van allen den voirs(creven) pachte volcomelic quijtgesconden bone vynck
fe(bruarii) xvii

a) annulment of confiscation (quittance): *Ontsetten op enen borghe*

4.4) R 87.3 / scan 173

It(em) henr(ic) vand(er) biest heeft doen ontsetten op ene(n) borghe i
vierdel wyng(ar)ts gelege(n) op scup(er)s ~~int~~ ald(aer) naest den wyngarde

gheerts vande(n) steene dwelc reyne(re) pypart hadde doen besetten
ende dies es borghe jan nijpsteen gehete(n) de mandemake(re)

4.5) V 171.1 / scan 342

It(em) henr(ic) vande(n) du(n)nemelke heeft ontsedt op ene(n) borghe alrehanden
huysraet dien giel(ijs) tielman hadde doen besetten en(de) dies es sijn borghe
henric ve(re)nzanne(n) et p(ri)m[(us)] rike bone dec(embris) xxix

5. Postponement of trial

5.1) V 139.4/ scan 278
Item art en(de) jan van wilre gebruede(re) alsulke(n) geschille als sij
in rechte hangende hebben [voir meye(re) en(de) scepen(en) van loven(en)] tusschen hen
       in deen side en(de) den he(re)
van helmont in dande(r) hebben sij ter beden vande(n) scepenen
van loven(en) ~~w wege~~ verstelt en(de) uut gesedt tot den neeste
sat(er)dage ~~die wesen sal~~ nae den dijsdage datme(n) djaergedynge
nu xna? derthienmisse neestkomen(de) [sal] houde(n) ~~sal~~ als dan in rechte
te comen en(de) rechts te plegen jegen den he(re) van helmont voirs(creven)
gelijc als sij opte(n) dach van huden gedaen souden ~~hebben~~
hebben rike grave(n) bone ponte dec(embris) iiii[a]

5.2) R 201.3 / scan 401

It(em) tghedinge tusschen den he(re) van helmont en(de) meest(er) janne van
gro(n)sselt es uutgesedt van morghen in xiiii nachte(n) te mistide te
staen tot dan in alle der vueghen dat nu steet te dien eynde dat sij
alsdan deen jege(n) den ande(re)n inde banc voer meye(re) en(de) scepen(en) van lov(en)
rechts pleghen selen gelijc sij op morghen gedaen soude(n) hebben
op dat sijs hie(re)nby(n)ne(n) niet eens en worden cor(am) rike py(n)noc iunior
ja(nuarii) xxi

6. Authorization: *mechtich maecen*

6.1) V 126.3 / scan 252

Item joffr(ou) lijsbette(n) ~~p(er)soens~~ die wijf was henrix wilen p(er)soens
heeft mechtich gemaect willem(en) uuter helcht alsulken vo(n)nissen
als de scepen(en) van loven(en) onder hebben vanden gedinge tusschen
haer en(de) raese van lynte(re) aende [~~de~~ selve] scepen(en) van loven(en) te eysschen
en(de) te ~~vervolgen~~ versueken en(de) alle dat daer af te doen dat de
~~selve~~ [voirs(creven] joff(rou) lijsbeth selve doen soude cor(am) rike py(n)noc iuniore
no(vem)[br(is)] xx[o]

6.2) R 127.5 / scan 253

Item wouter welkarts van oplynte(re) heeft mechtichgemaect henricke(n)
gords en(de) woute(re)n van berle ~~of den ene(n)~~ [en(de) elken v̶] van hen [besundert]
       alsulken vo(n)nissen als
de scepen(en) van loven(en) onder hebben vanden gedinge tusschen den selve(n)
woute(re)n welkarts en(de) gorde roeloefs aende selve scepen(en) van lovene
te eysschen en(de) te versueken en(de) alle dat daer af te doen dat de voirs(creven)
wouter welkarts selve doen soude cor(am) bone ponte novembr(is) xx

6.3) R 286.3 / scan 571

Item lijsbeth p(er)soens [weduwe] henr(ix) wile(n) p(er)soens heeft mechtich
gemaect janne koerman te eysschen en(de) te v(er)suecken inden rechte alsulke(re)
       vo(n)nisse
als de he(re)n de scepen(en) van loven(en) onder hebbe(n) tussche(n) hoe(re) in deen side
       en(de) joffr(ou)
katline(n) va(n) ov(er)beke in dande(re) alb(us) pynnoc iunior mert(e)n xxvi

7. Confiscation of sureties: *dit sijn de pande die x gepandt heeft van;*

7.1) V 154.4 / scan 308

       Dit sijn de pande die gord van erenboudeghem nat(ur)lic
       sone jans wilen van erenboudeghem gepandt heeft van
       janne bogart van dutshole
inden jersten een swerte coe
It(em) een bedde met den hoetpoluwe en(de) gelasende(n) tapite
It(em) i wage(n) met iiii beslagen(en) raders i ploech met hoerre gereetscap
It(em) iii dobbeliere i wiwat(er)vat i ty(n)ne(n) waelpoitpot i ty(n)ne(n) candele(re)
i ty(n)ne(n) scotele i quade zye i yseren pa(n)ne i mottale(n) pa(n)ne
It(em) i yse(re)n lepel i yse(re)n flessche i nuwe lant(er)ne iiii molevate
rogs iii(½) mol(evate) evene(n) i houwe i scippe en(de) enen riec
p(rese)nt(ibus) joh(ann)e py(n)noc iuniore et arnoldo bone dec(embris) ix

7.2) R 351.3 / scan 701

       hier na volgen de pande die ten versueke willems van dion
       gepant sijn op de goede ale motte
It(em) inden yrsten ii merien en(de) twe voelen p(rese)n(ti)bus pynnoc iunior bone
maii xx

       8. bringing charges: *beclaight*

8.1) V 346.2 / scan 692
It(em) wouter vanden bossche als man van buten die beclaight was va(n) janne

vand(en) molen van bierbeke voir xxxii mudde corns min iiii molevate [elc mudde voir ii
        gr(aen)] en(de) dach
hadde opte(n) dach van heden tseghen den selven janne die tot sine(n) dage niet
comen en is ~~es~~ hoewale de voirs(creven) woute(re) sijne(n) dach verwaert heeft
es t(er) manissen smeyers bide(n) scepen(en) van loven(en) verweert gewijst
        p(rese)ntib(us)
alb(us) rike graven pynnoc bone maii xvi

8.2) R 348.4 / scan 695
Hier heb je een voorbeeld van een akte waar wel tegemoet wordt gekomen aan de
aanklacht. De schuld wordt in dit geval dus niet *verweert* maar ingelost.

It(em) jan jakemijn vander loenbeke inde p(ro)chie va(n) nederyssche heeft onder
        scepen(en) geset
[ene(n) sac met] iii molevate(n) corns iiii cromsterte en(de) i leeuken va(n) ii lawayen tot
        behoef jacops
va(n) namen voir dat hi hem beclaight heeft meyne(n)de en(de) hopende de voirs(creven)
        jan jakemijn
dat hi den voirs(creven) jacop niet meer sculdich en is dan die iii molevate rogs en(de) iiii
kromsterte [en(de) leeuken] voir dat hi eysschende sijn mach en(de) ~~tvoirs(creven)
        leeuken~~ voir trecht va(n)der
clagen hopende doen mede te gestaen rike bone maii xviii

8.3) R21. 1 /scan 41

It(em) lodewijc van loefven(n)e die beclaeght was van philipse
 henrix lipkens sone voer l arne(n)sche gulden(en) en(de) op hede(n) inde banc voer
meye(re) en(de) scepen(en) van loven(en) dach hadde es bide(n) van loven(en) jegen
den selve(n) philippe vand(en) voirs(creven) schout verweert ghewijst alb(us) rike
        pyn(þ)oc_pynoc
junior bone ponte vynck jul(ii) xvii

8.4) R 21.2 / scan 41
It(em) reyner van liesse die beclaight was van everart de mafize voir xx
crone(n) vrancr(ijksche) en(de) op hede(n) inde banck voer meyer en(de) scepen(en) van
        loven(en) dach
hadde es biden scepen(en) van loven(en) jege(n) den selve(n) everart vander voirs(creven)
schout verweert gewijst cor(am) eisd(em)

8.5) R 232.2 / scan 463
It(em) wout(er) de rademeke(re) va(n) v(er)trike [als man[va(n)] buten] die beclaight was
        va(n) henr(ic) va(n) vucht
voir xl crone(n) vrancr(ijx) en(de) dach hadde opte(n) dach va(n) heden tseghen den
selven henricken mids dien dat hi tot sine(n) dage niet en quam en(de)
~~de [voirs(creven)] vout(er) sijn de wo~~ de voirs(creven) wout(er) sijns daighs verwachte so
        i~~l~~s hi

vande(n) scepen(en) va(n) loven(en) t(er)manissen smeyers verweert gewijst tseghen
de voirs(creven) henr(ic) vande(n) voirs(creven) beclage(n) pr(esen)tib(us) o(mn)ibus
        dempto pynnoc iun(i)o(r)e
febr(uarii) xiiii

8.6) R 268.1 / scan

It(em) gielijs van ov(er)wynge die beclaight was van gielise lachmans voir l crone(n)
en(de) dach hadde opte(n) dach van heden tseghen den selven gielise lachmans die
niet voir oghen en quam es opte(n) dach van heden t(er) manissen smeyers biden
scepen(en) van loven(en) verweert gewijst p(rese)ntibu(s) alb(us) rike g(ra)ven pynnoc
        bone ponte
vynck m(a)rtii x

        9. regulation concerning (a)charter(s)

9.1) V 137.6 / scan 274

It(em) de voirs(creven) arnt van haeltert heeft geconsenteert dat den p(ri)ncipalen
scepen(en) brief vanden voirs(creven)[vier] bedevarden bliven sal onder gerardo der stat
        clerc
van loven(en) op also dat de voirs(creven) q(ui)tantie oic onder den voirs(creven) gerardo
        bliven
sal en(de) in alsulker vuegen dat de voirs(creven) gebruede(re) van nuysb(er)ge en(de)
        hubrecht
hoe(re) broede(re) bynne(n) den iiii kirstdage(n) neest come(n)de den voirs(creven) arnt
        van haeltert
en(de) henric vander calste(re)n van kessele vast setten selen tot behoef hennekens
va(n) haeltert va(n) xx crone(n) vrancr(ijx) iusti ponder(is) te bet en(de) des te betalen
tusschen dit en(de) sent andries misse neest come(n)de en(de) of [en(de) dat hebben] de
        voirs(creven) gebruede(re) //
van nuysberge [geloeft te doen als v(er)volghde scout] des bynnen den voirs(creven) iiii
        kirstdage(n) [voirs(creven)] niet en dade(n) datme(n) dan
den voirs(creven) arnt de voirs(creven) p(ri)ncipaelbrief vande(n) beverden en(de) oec de
        quitantie ov(er)
geven sal cor(am) eisd(em)

9.2) V 114.2 / scan 228

Item heeft geloeft de voirs(creven) jan boelhe dat soe wanneer
alle saken voirscr(even) voldaen en(de) volschiet selen sijn dat si hi
alle scepen(en) brieve van loven(en) beyde schoutbrieve ende
beleitbrieve daer mede dat h(er)jan van lande(n) priest(er) h(er)
bouden van opgeldenake(n) priest(er) jan van raetshove(n) wonen(de)
inden gulden(en) cop te loven(en) en(de) gheert streyder tot den
goede(n) des voirs(creven) jans van raetshove(n) beleydt sijn b(ri)ngen
sal in jegewordich(eit) des voirs(creven) jans van raetshove(n) en(de)

die aldaer a(n)nichille(re)n en(de) te niente doen cor(am) eisd(em)

9.3) V 114.3/ scan 228

Voert heeft geloeft de selve jan boelhe den voirs(creven) janne
van raetshove(n) den voirs(creven) saken geschiet sijnde over te
gheve(n) sond(er) vertrec alle alsulken brieve als de voirs(creven)
jan boelhe of joffr(ouwe) mabilie sijn sust(er) hebben moghen
den voirs(creven) janne van raetshove(n) of sine(n) goede(n) aentange(re)nde
cor(am) eisd(em)

9.4) V 92.1
It(em) gielijs van kessele die onder scepen(en) staende hadde ene(n) beleidbrief
daer mede dat symoen van kessele sijn soen tot sine(n) goede(n) beleidt is es
kome(n) voer scepen(en) van loven(en) en(de) heeft geconsenteert datme(n) den
voirs(creven) symoen
sine(n) soen den voirs(creven) beleidbrief ov(er)gheve so wannie(r) hijs begheert cor(am)
alb(us)
rike oct(obris) viii

10. Right of way?: *heeft geconsenteerd dat voir hem sijn erfgenamen en de nacomelingen dat;*

10.1) R 202.4
It(em) de voirs(creven) walraven heeft geconsenteert voir hem sijn erfgename(n) en(de)
nacomeli(n)ge
dat so wa(n)neer de voirs(creven) he(re) van helmont hem bewijst sal hebben ~~inder~~
by(n)nen
der meyerie(n) vanden bosch hondert crone(n) [jaerliker] erfliker renten hem te heffen
also
lange als de he(re) van helmont voirs(creven) leven sal dat afdan en(de) niet eer de
voirs(creven) he(re) va(n)
helmont die goede en(de) heerlicheiden van keerb(er)gen met al hore(n) toebehoirte(n)
hebben behouden besaten en(de) gebruken sal tot sijnre tocht also lange als hi leeft
en(de) dat de selve walraven dleven lang des he(re)n van helmont voirs(ceven) gheen
bewijnt
noch hanteringe daer in hebben en sal in gheenre wijs cor(am) eisd(em)

10.2) R 277.1
Item arnt de moer es comen in jegewordich(eit) der scepen(en) van loven(en)
en(de) heeft geconsenteert voe(r) hem sijn erfgename(n) en(de) nacomelinge janne
aliten mesmake(re) sine(n) erfgename(n) en(de) nacomelinge(n) dat de selve jan alite(n)
den wat(er)steene van sine(n) huyse en(de) hove gelege(n) inde biestrate neve(n)
de goede arnts voirs(creven) legge(n) en(de) stelle(n) mach ten goede(n) w(er)t des
~~des~~ selfs arnts de moer ende dat de ~~selve~~ [voirscr(even)] arnt de moer over
sijn erve alle ~~dw~~ dwater comende vanden wat(er)steene des voirs(creven)

jans leyden sal over sijn erve ter mynster schade(n) ter strate(n) w(er)t
uut en(de) also dat den voirs(creven) janne aen sijn erve daer af gheen scade
en come sond(er) argenlist ende heeft geloeft de voirs(creven) arnt de
moer den voirs(creven) janne alite(n) h(ier) af altoes genoech te doen also dat
hem vast en(de) seker sijn moge rike bone m(ar)tii xx

Appendix B.2 Latin (under construction[92])

     1. Promise: *promisit, promiserunt*
        a) promise of payment
        b) promise of recompensation (*schadeloosstelling*)
        c) promise of going on a pilgrimage
     2. Sale: *vendidit, vendiderunt*
     3. Recognizing a debt: *recognovit se debere*
        a) acknowledging a debt
        b) acknowledging the obligation to pay an annuity, with option of refund:
recognovit se debere … pensionis ad vitam… et poterunt redimere
        c) acknowledging to have received sth: *recognovit se recepisse et levasse*
     4. Confiscation of goods by the *schepenen*: *villicus lovaniensis medianus scabinis lovanienses adduxit.*
     5. Confiscation of goods by someone else: *Testabant expresse se interfuisse.*
     6. Transfer of goods or rights: *supportavit*
     7. Emancipation of minors: *emancipavit*
     8. Receipt of payment (quittance): *quiticclamavit/quitavit expresse adduxit*
     9. Exercising the right of re-acquisition: *exegit proximitatem suam*
     10. Demand for payment: *effecit potentem quo ad revocationem*
     11. Giving in heredity lease: *contulit/contulerunt de se et eorum succesoribus*
     12. Levying taxes on immovable property: *obligavit de licentiam*
     (13. renewal of rental contract: *reconduxit se reconduxisse recognovit*)

     1. Promise: *promisit, promiserunt*

a) promise of payment
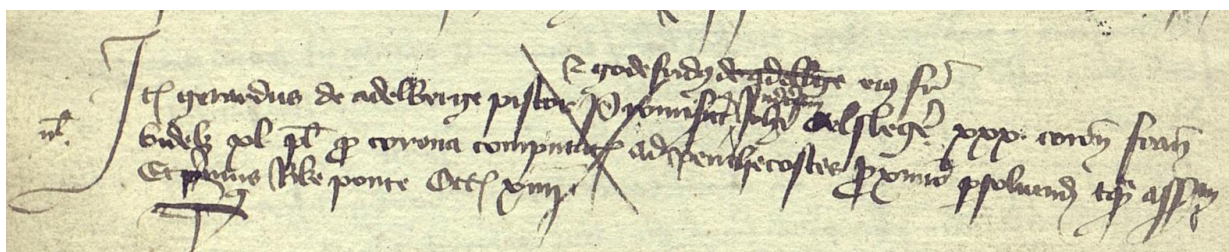
1.1) V 96.3 / scan192 (franse kronen)
It(em) gerardus de adelberge pistor [et godefrid(us) ~~de adelb(er)ge~~ ei(us) fi(lius)]Promisit
    Joh(a)n(i) del slege(n) xxx coron(as) fran(cas)

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[92] During the execution of the present project the limited amount time available has pressed me to focus on the aspects of the project that received the highest priority, namely the formulating a semantic model for analyzing the logical content of acts. In fact, only a few proofs of concept were needed for this. Of course, an exhaustive typology and correct transcriptions of the Latin acts were aimed for. However, this goal could not completely realized yet, due to lack of time. At a later time, perhaps, this fault can be remedied.

videl(icet) xl pl(accen) p(er) coronam computa(tam) ad penthecostes p(ro)x(i)mam
　　　p(er)solvend(as) t(em)p(us)? ass(ecutu)m
Et p(rese)nt(ib)us R(i)k(e) ponte oct(obris) xiiii

Translation:
Item Gerardus of Adelberge, baker, [and Godefridus of Adelberge his son] has promised
　　　to Johannus del Slegen 30 French crowns
that is … placcen per counted crown, To be paid next Whitsuntide, ??
and being present Rike, Ponte, the 14th of October
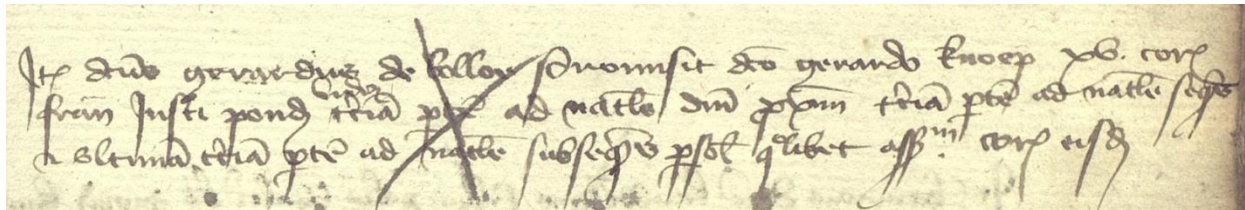
1.2) R 18.2 / scan 35 (franse kronen)

It(em) d(i)c(t)us gerardus de bolloe Promisit d(i)c(t)o gerardo knoep xv cor(onas)
fran(cas) Justi pond(eris) [vid(elicet] t(er)cia p(ar)te ad n(a)t(a)l(e)s d(o)m(ini) t(er)cia
　　　p(ar)te ad nat(a)le seq(uen)s
et ultima t(er)cia p(ar)te ad nat(a)le subseq(ens)s p(er)sol(vendas) q(uo)libet ass(ecutu)m
　　　(assessor?) cor(am) eisd(em)

Translation:
Item the said Gerardus of Bolloe has promised the said Gerardus Knoep 15 French crowns
of the right weight, namely, a third part to be paid at Christmas, a third part at the
following Christmas, and the last third part at the Christmas following that, ??, in the
presence/before of the same (plural)

b) promise of recompensation (*schadeloosstelling*)
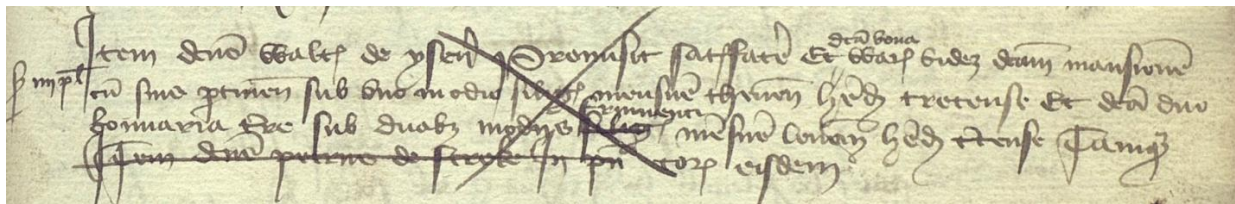
1.3) R 100.3 / scan 199

Item d(omi)n(u)s walt(erus) de ysen(en) Promisit sat(is)face(re) et war(antisare) [d(ic)ta
　　　bona] videl(icet) d(i)c(ta)m mansionem
cu(m) suis p(er)tinen(tibus) sub uno modio silig(inis) mensure thenen(sis)
　　　he(re)d(itarium) trecense Et d(ic)ta duo

bonuaria t(er)re sub duob(us) modiis ~~silig~~(inis) [frumenti] me(n)su(r)e lovan(iensis)
    he(re)d(itarium) t(re)cense Tamq(uam)
~~Item do(min)o petro de Stryke In p(rese)n(tibus)~~ cor(am) eisdem

Translation:
Item lord Waltherus of Ysenen has promised to satisfy and guarantee [the said goods],
    namely the said manorial holding
with its appurtenances for one "modius" of rye, of the thenen measure, (heredity lease), et
the said two measures of land for two "modius's" of ~~rye~~ [wheat], of the Leuven measure,
(heredity lease), as it was ~~in the case of Lord Petrus of Stryke. In the presence of~~ before
the same (persons).
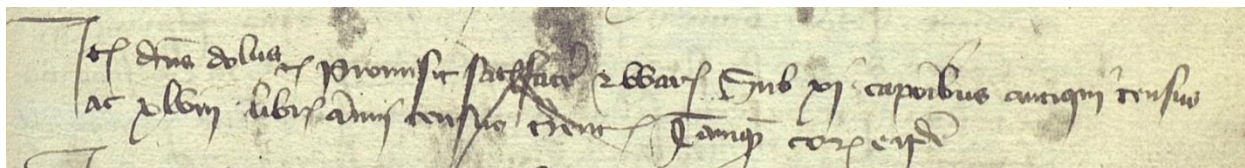
1.4) R 106.5 / scan 211
It(em) d(ic)t(u) dolus (e)t(cetera) Promisit sat(is)face(re) et war(antisare) Sub xi
    capab(ili)s antiqui census
ac xlviii libr(as) a(n)tiq(uas) census trenc(ense) l(?) amp(lius) cor(am) eisd(em)

c) promise of going on a pilgrimage

1.5) V 184.1 / scan 368
Item lambr(e)g(ht) vand(er) eyke(n) de thenis Promisit walt(er)o d(ic)to
wellems pe(re)g(rina)t(i)o(n)em una(m) fac(ere) ad s(an)c(tu)m petru(m) in mediolan(um)
(et) via(m) inde arripe(re) infra hinc quasi mo(do) p(ro)x(imo) x beuter(os)
    p(er)s(olvendos) In
Emenda(ndam) lesione(m) eidem walte(r)o p(er) an(num) d(ic)t(u)m lamb(regh)tu(s)
    sca(binis) alb(us)
R(i)ke Janua(r)i xii

Translation:
Item Lambreght vander Eyken of Thenen has promised to Waltherus called Wellem
To go on a pilgrimage to Saint Peter in Milan
And to take the road from there, or instead, as it were, to pay around 10 beuters.
To make up for the wound/damage lambreght caused the same Walterus, during the said
year. *Schepenen*: Albus, Rike. The 12th of January.

2. Sale: *vendidit, vendiderunt*
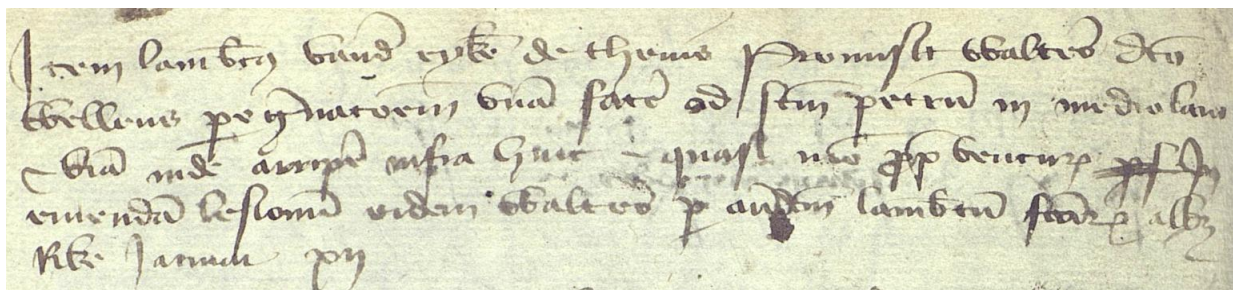
2.1) V 3.1 / scan 6

It(em) d(i)c(t)us Joh(ann)es_Johes vendidit d(i)c(t)a bona Impo(s)itus arnoldus d(i)c(t)us
        mantel de

thenis luxator p(er) alb(u)s R(i)k(e) bone vynck Junij xxvi

Translation:

Item the said Johannes sells the said goods ?? Arnoldus called Mantel of Thenen ?? by
        Albus, Rike, Bone, Vynck, June the 26th.
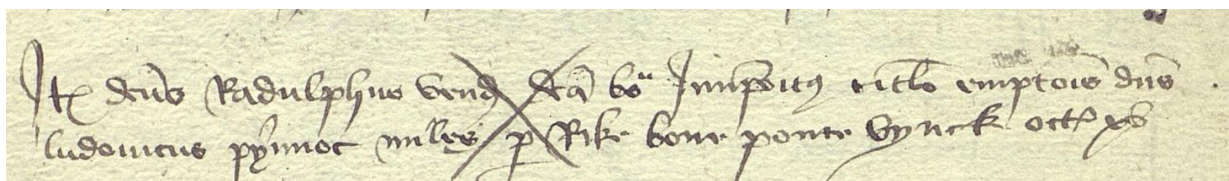
2.2) V 97.2 / scan 194

It(em) d(i)c(t)us Radulphus vend(idit) d(i)c(t)a bo(na) Imp(os)it(o) tit(u)lo emptoris
        d(omi)n(u)s

ludovicus pynnoc miles p(er) Rike bone ponte vynck oct(obris) xv

Translation:

Item the said Radulphus has sold the said goods. these were put under the name of the
buyer: Lord

Ludovicus Pynnoc, knight, by Rike, Bone, Ponte, Vynck. October the 15th.

3. Recognizing a debt: *recognovit se debere*

a) acknowledging a debt

3.1) R 4.2 / Scan 7

It(em) Joh(ann)es d(i)c(t)us vos f(ilius) nycolai d(i)c(t)i vos de steenhuffle **recog(novit)
        se debe(re)** d(omi)no Joh(ann)i

d(i)c(t)o Jacops de steenhuffle p(re)sb(yte)ro Renero Henrico et Joh(ann)i d(i)c(it)is
        lem(m)ens de steenhuffle

f(rat)ribus f(iliis) petri quond(am) lem(m)ens et Henrico de hore(n)beke de steenhuffle
        centu(m)

        libr(as) gro(ssorum) turon(ensium) veter(um) bo(nas) et le(gales) ad mo(nicionem)
        Et p(re)t(er)ea fa(mu)lu(m) (con)ductu(m) cor(am) eisd(em)

b) acknowledging the obligation to pay an annuity, with option of refund:
recognovit se debere … pensionis ad vitam… et poterunt redimere
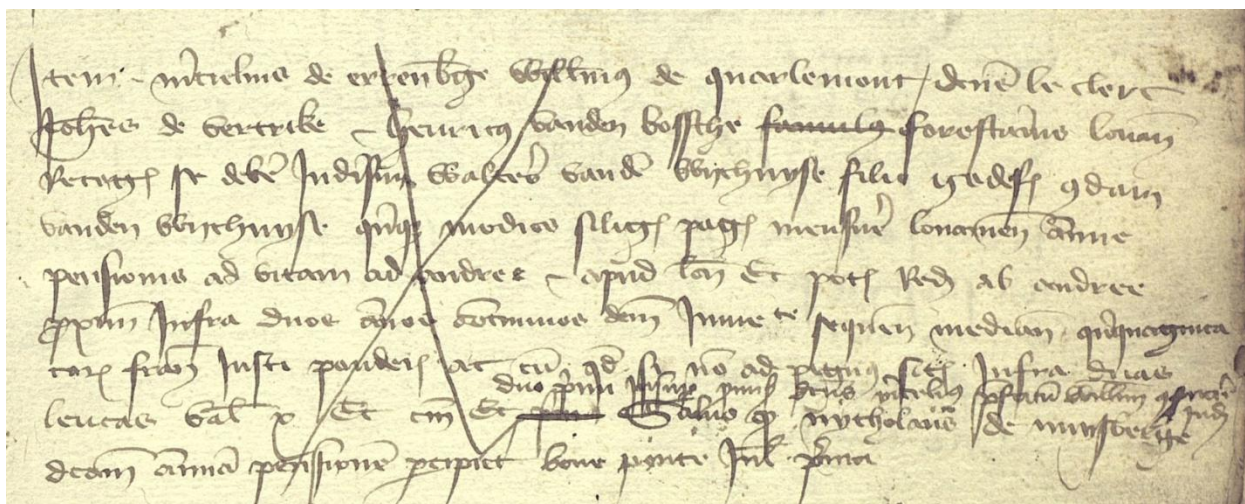
3.2) R 7.3 / scan 13

Item m(e)cielius de errenb(er)g(h)e wil(he)lm(us) de quarlemont d(omi)n(u)s le clerc

Joh(ann)es vertrike (et) henric(us) vanden bossche ~~framul(us)~~ forestar(i)us lovan(iensis)

Recog(noverunt) se debe(re) Indi(vi)sum/indictione? walte(r)o vand(er) wijchnyse filio
godefr(oid) q(uon)dam

vanden wijchnyse qu(o)q(ue) modios silig(inis) pag(abilis) mensu(r)e lovanien(sis)
ann(uatim)

pensionis ad vitam ad andres et apud lov(anien) Et pot(erunt) Red(imere) ab andree

p(ro)x(i)m(o?) Infra duos a(n)nos oocminos d(ec)em/de(be)m(us) Imme(dia)te seq(u)en(s)
median(te) qu(in)quaginta

cor(onas) fran(cas) Justi ponder(is) ac cu(m) q()d() si(ne) no(n) ad pagu(m) sit(um) Infra
duas

leucas val(ore) x Et c(u)m Et ~~pen~~ [duo p(re)p(osit)um pensionem p(ro)mis(sit) d(ic)tus
mecieli(us) p(re)fatu(m) willim(um) (con)frat(teribus) ind()] Salus p(ro)
nycholaus de minsberge

d(ic)tam ann(u)a(tim) pensione(m) p(er)cipiet bone ponte Jul(ii) p(ri)ma

Translation

Item Mecielius of Errenberghe, Wilhelmus of Quarlemont, Lord Le Clerc,

Johannes Vertrike, and Henricus Vanden Bossche forester of Leuven,

Acknowledge their debt (??) to Waltherus Vander Wijchnyse son of the late Godefroid

Vanden Wijchnyse for modios of rye measure, of Leuven measure,

A yearly annuity to Andres et near Leuven. And they can buy it back of Andree

?? Witin two years ?? immidiately following, by means of 50

French crowns of the right weight and togehter with ?? to the territory in between two

measures of land worth 10, and with, and ?? for Nycholaus de Minsberge

The said ?? annuity (will receive) ; Bone, Ponte, July

c) acknowledging to have received sth: *recognovit se recepisse et levasse*
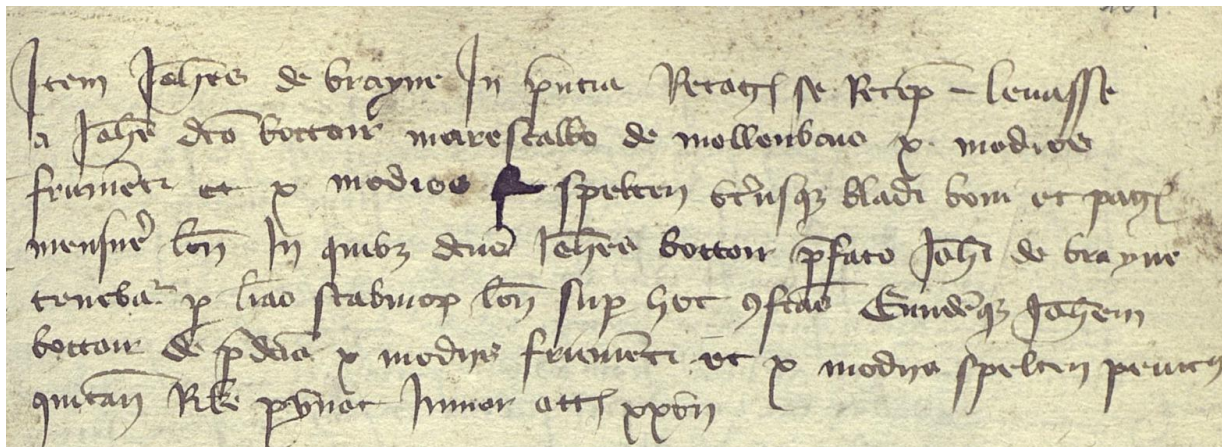
3.3) R 104.1 / scan 207
Item Joh(ann)es de brayne In p(rese)ntia Recog(novit) se recep(isse) et levasse
A Joh(ann)e dicto bottoir marestalbo de mollenvans x modios
Frume(n)ti et x modios spelten ut(ri)usq(ue) bladi boni et pag(abilis)
Mensu(r)e lov(aniensis) In quib(us) dictus Joh(ann)es bottoir p(re)fato Joh(ann)i de
    brayne
Conc(am)b(i)a(vit) p(er) li(centi)a(m) scabin(i) op(pidi) lov(aniensis) sup(er) hoc
(con)f(ec)ta(s)? Eunde(m) quod Joh(ann)em
bottoir de p(re)d(ic)ta x modiis frume(n)ti ut x modiis spelten peucg/prun/penu ??
quitan() R(i)ke pyn(n)oc Junior oct(obris) xxvii

Translation:
Item Johannes of Brayne in presence (of all) has acknowledged to have received and to have relieved
With regards to the said Johannes Bottoir Marestalbo of Mollenvans 10 modios
Of wheat and 10 modios of spelt both of corn and good and payable
Of the Leuven measure. In which the said Johannes Bottoir with the afore-mentioned Johannes of Brayne has exchanged by license/freedom of the *schepenen* of the city of Leuven over these documents. The same Johannes Bottoir of the afore-mentioned 10 modios of wheat and 10 modios of spelt ?? Rike, Pynnoc Junior, October the 27th.

!!!!"boni et pagabilis mensure lovanienis " parallel to "goet and payabel der maten van thienen" **V 148.3 / scan 296**

4. Confiscation of goods by the Schepenen: *villicus lovaniensis medianus scabinis lovanienses adduxit.*

4.1) V 87.1 / scan 174

Item villicus Lovanien(sis) median(us) Scabinis Lov(anienses) adduxit daniele(m)
       d(ominu)m coste(r) de

grymb(erg)hen et R(egu)l(ar)ium ex lyemyngen ad bona walt(e)ri de oppendorp

filii Luconai quonda(m) de oppendorp sit(um)/sicut Infra lovanen() et extra In
       mans(ionem)

domib(us) t(e)nent(ur) t(er)re o(ste)n(ditur) prat(a) pastin(o)s [censu trecensa Redd(uxit)]
       suo p(er)tinen(tibus) vunis() attmonnik()

Pro debito Illo vide(licet) iii.c libra(rum) grossar(um) turonen(arum) veter(arum)
       bonar(um)

Et legal(iu)m In quo et habueru(n)t Pre(sentibus) bone ponte oct(obris) p(rim)o

Item eodem mo(do) ad mobilia pro d(ic)to de(bi)to cor(am) eisd(em)

Pastinum= ground trenched for growing vine, vineyard.

4.2) V 87. 5 / scan 174

It(em) villicus lovanien(sis) median(us) scab(inis) lovan(ienses) **adduxit** ratoc(us) domini
Joh(ann)em d(ominu)m

de brehayn de herbays Imm(obilia) ad bona Joh(ann)is d(ic)ti eymelyn herbays
Immo(bilia)

sit() apud herbays In domibus tenentib(us) t(er)r(e) avabilib(us) prat(i) pasons et finis
p(er)tinen(ibus)

vunis() attmen() Pro debito Illo vide(licet) Centu(m) auveoumm denario(s) d(ic)tos?
C(orona(s)

monite R(e)gis france boni auvi et Justi ponder(is) In quo et hui()c querel() bone
ponte octobr(is) tha

Item eod(em)modo adductus est ad mobilia p(ro) d(ic)to debito cor(am) eisd(em)

5. Confiscation of goods by someone else: *Testabant expresse se interfuisse.*
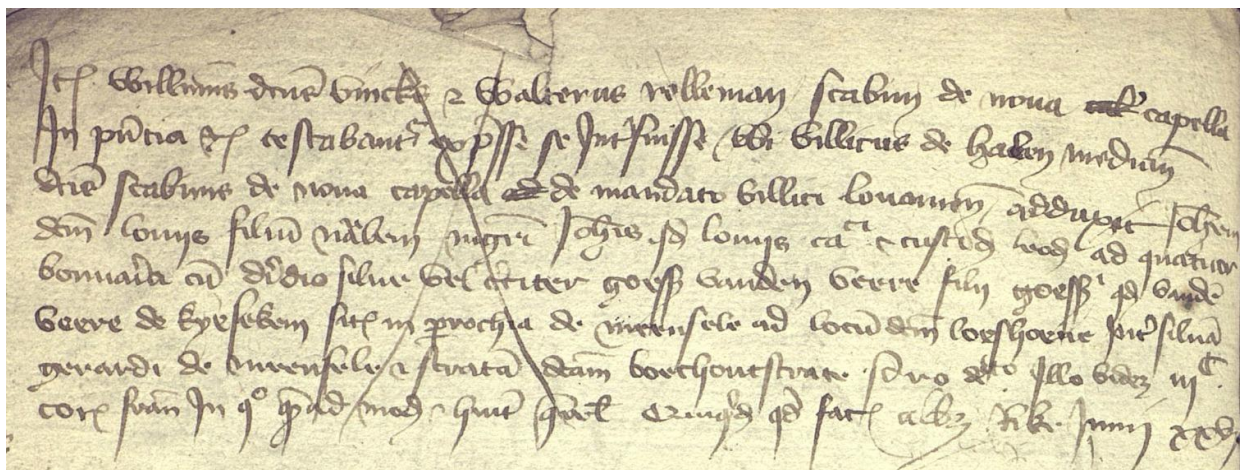
5.1) V 3.1 / scan 6

Item will(e)mus d(ic)tus vincke (et) walterus rolleman scabini de nova capella
In p(rese)ntia (?) testabant exp(re)sse se int(er)fuisse ubi villicus de halen mediam()
d(ic)t() scabinis de nova capella de mandato villici lovanien() adduxit Joh(ann)em
d(ic)tum lonijs filiu(m) na(tura)lem m(a)g(is)tri Joh(ann)is q(uon)d(am) lonijs ca()ci)
custod() leod() ad quatuor
bonuai(a)a cu(m) di()dio silve vel ct()iter goesb(eke) vanden veere filii goesb(eke)
q(uon)d(am) vande(n)
veere de kyesekem sit() in p(a)rochia de meensele ad locu(m) d(ic)t(u)m loeshoeve pu ()
silva(m)
gerardi de meensele et strata d(ic)tam boechoutstrate Pro d(ic)to Illo vide(licet) iii c
cor(oris) franc(is) In q()o qp(ro) ad mod() (et) hui(c?) quol(ibet) Quiq(u?)d(am) q(?)s sat()
alb(us) R(i)ke Junii xxvi

6. Transfer of goods or rights: *supportavit*
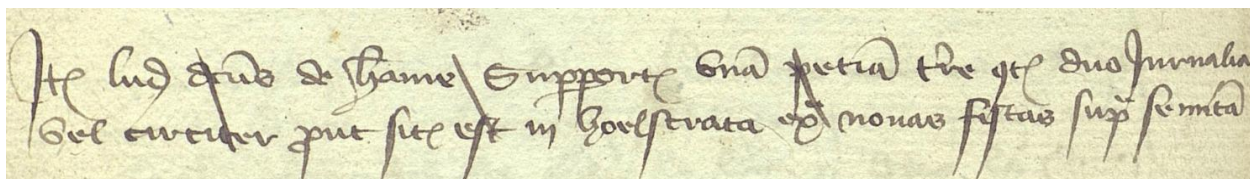
6.1) V 83.3 / scan 166

It(em) lud(ovicus) d(ic)tus de ==h==ame support(avit) una(m) pecia(m) t(er)re ==q==(uar)t(ari)
d(omi)no Jurnalia
uel ==cuciter== p(ro)ut sit(us) est in hoelstrata ex(tra) nonas ==fistas supra/er semita==
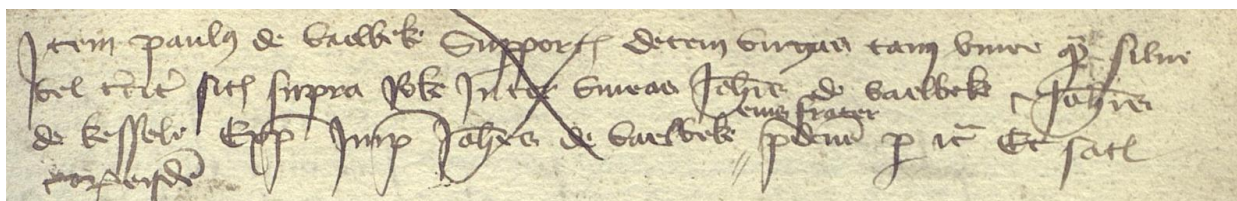
6.1) R 97.1 / scan 193

Item paul(us) de vaelbeke Support(avit) decem virgas ==tam buns qp== silue
uel t()cit() sit(us) supra R(i)k(e) Inter ==umeas== Joh(ann)is de vaelbeke et Joh(ann)is
de kessele Exp() Imp() Joh(ann)es de vaelbeke p(er) d(i)c(t)us p(ro)ut Et sat==(is)==
cor(am) eisde(m)

7. Emancipation of minors: *emancipavit*
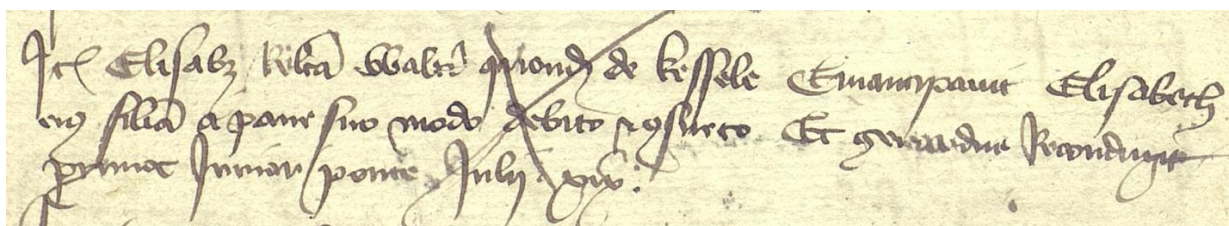
7.1) V 21. 5 / scan 42

It(em) Elisab(eth) Rel(ic)ta Walt(erus) quond(am) de kessele Emancipavit Elisabeth
eius filia(m) a pane suo modo debito et (con)sueto Et gerardus Reconduxit
pynnoc Junior ponte July xix

7.2) R 171. 8 / scan 341

It(em) beatrix Rel(ic)taa ger(ardus) q(uon)d(am) vand(er) berken de gheelrode
        Emancip(avit)
Joha(nn)is eius filiu(m) a pane Et ger(ardus) Recond(uxit) alb(us) rike dec(embris) xxix

7.3) V 93.4 / Scan 192

It(em) will(e)m(u)s d(i)c(t)us vander Beke de glabbeken Roede Emancipavit arnoldu(m)
        ei(us)
Filiu(m) a pane suo modo debito consueto et gerardus Recoduxit R(i)ke vynck

Octobr(is) xv

8. Receipt of payment (quittance): *quiticclamavit/quitavit expresse adduxit*
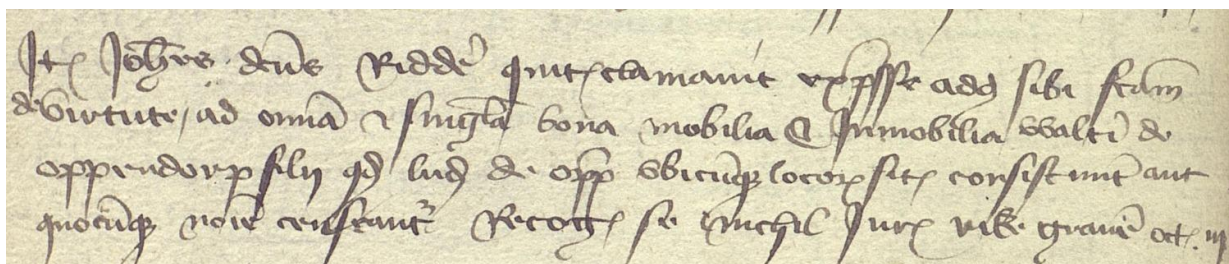
8.1) V 87. 4 / scan 174
It(em) Joh(ann)es d(i)c(t)us Ridde(re) quit(ic) clamavit exp(re)sse add(uxit) sibi
       sca(bi)ni(s) ?
virtute ad omnia et sing(u)la bona mobilia et inmobila walt(her)i de
oppendorp filii q(uon)d(am) lud(ovicus) de opp(endorp) ubicu(m)q(ue) locor(um)
       sit(orum) consist(er)unt aut
quocumq(ue) nove( ) cerfrant Recog(novit) se nichil Jur(is) Rike granie oct(obris) iii
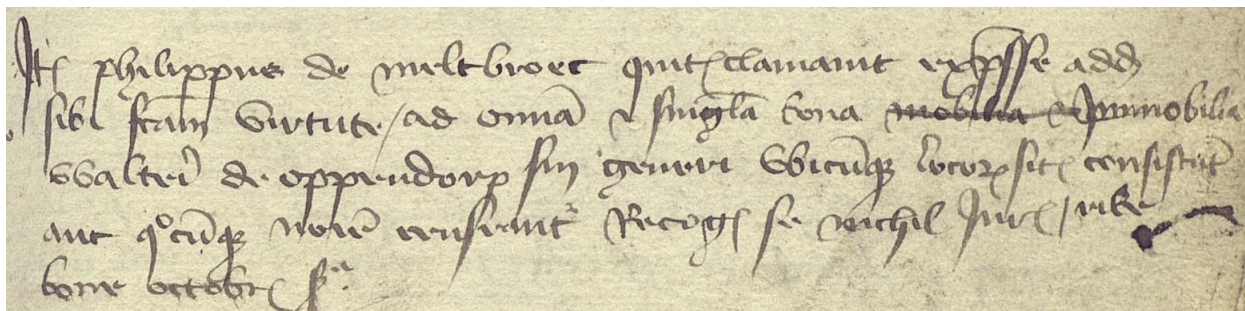

8.2) R 87.2 / scan 173
It(em) philippus de meltbroec quit(ic) clamavit exp(re)sse add(uxit)
sibi sca(bi)ni(s) virtute ad om(n)ia et sing(u)la bona mobilia et immobilia
walte(r)i de oppendorp sui generi ubicu(m)q(ue) locor(um) sit(orum) consistut(orum)
aut q(uo)cu(m)q(ue) nove( ) erusrant Recog(novit) se nichil Jur(is) rike
bone octobr(is) (?)

9. Exercising the right of re-acquisition: *exegit proximitatem suam*

9.1) V 94.4 /scan 188

Item wil(he)m(us) d(omi)no galentijn Exegit p(ro)ximitate(m) sua(m) sup(ra) una
pecia curtis sit(um) iux(ta) blaenwenputte Int(er) bona henrici de lare
et godefridi zigers qua(m) Joh(ann)es vand(er) vaernt d(ic)tus Rielens
erga Jo(hann)em zyghers acquisinit Offe(re)ns dena(r)ios vide(licet) unam
cor(onam) et unam pl(ac) nr R(i)k(e) grame oct(obris) xii

10. Demand for payment: *effecit potentem quo ad revocationem*
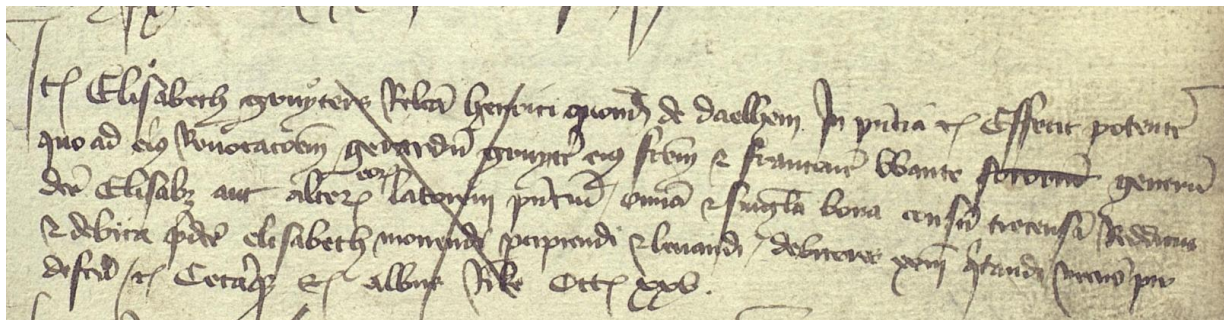
10.1) R 102.5 / scan 203
Item Elisabeth gruyters R(e)l(ic)ta henrici quond(am) de daelhem In p(rese)ntia
(et)c(etera)   Effecit potentem
quo ad ei(us) Revocat(i)o(n)em gerardu(m) ei(us) fr(atre)m et framene() waute ~~sororu(m)~~
       generu(um)
d(ic)te Elisab(eth) aut alter() latonem p(rese)ntiu(m) omnia(m) et sing(u)la(m) bona
consu   trecensa(m) r(e)dduc(t)us
et debita p(re)d(ic)te Elisabeth monendi perprendi et levandi debuers xxiii q(ui)tandi
memo pro
defuc (et)c(etera) Ceta () et albus R(i)ke Oct(tobris) xxv.

11. Giving in heredity lease: *contulit/contulerunt de se et eorum succesoribus*
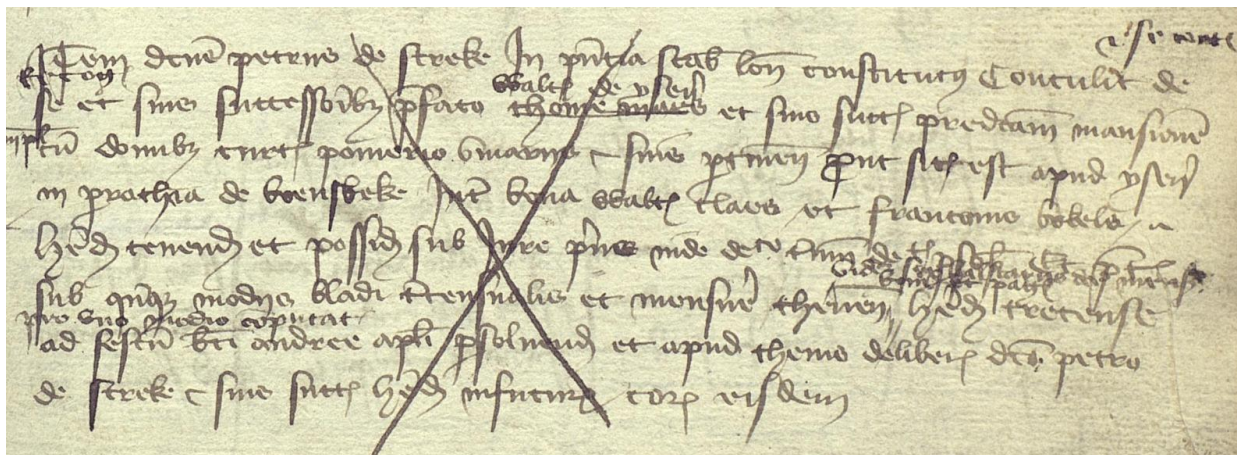
11.1) R 100.4 / scan 199
Item d(ic)tus petrus de streke In p(rese)ntiq scab(inis) lo(va)n(ien) constitu(s) Contulit de
Se et suis succesor(i)b(us) p(re)fato ~~thome maes~~ [93] et suo succ(esoribus) pred(ic)tam
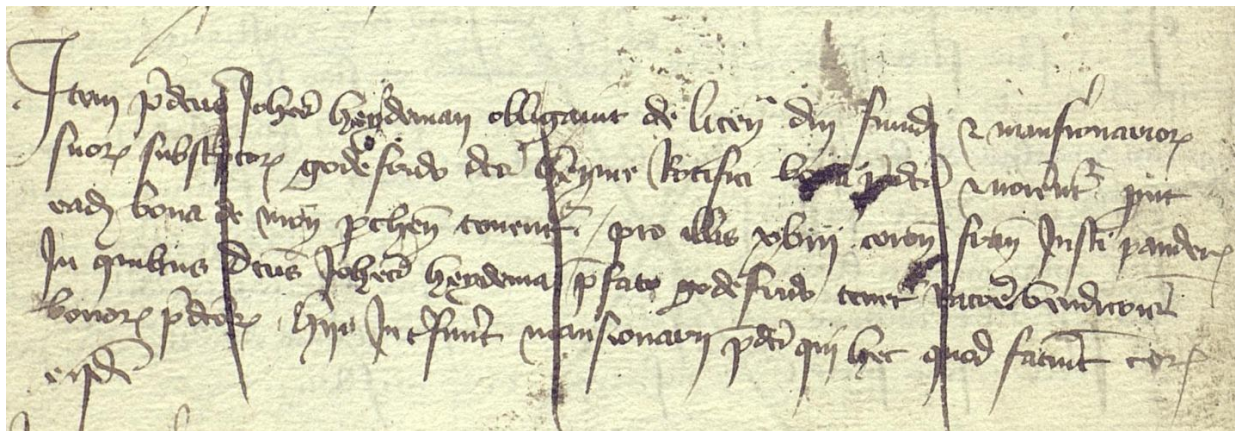   mansione(m)
cu(m) domi(bus) t(e)n(en)t(ur) pomerio umarns et suis p(er)tinen(tibus) p(ro)ut sit(um)
est apud ysen(en)
in p(a)rochia de boensbeke int(er) bona walt(eri) claus et franconis bokels

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[93] Above this name, that has been crossed out, it says: "walt(ero) de ysen(en)".

he(re)d(itarium) tened(um) et possid() sub Inre pns inde de(bi)to Pmn det p(er)sol(vendere)   Et pt

sub qu(o)q(ue) modiis bladi t()censuqlis et mensu(r)e thenen he(re)d(itarium) trecense
ad festu(m) s(anc)ti Andree ap(osto)li p(er)solvend(is) et apud thenis deliber() d(ic)to petro

de streke et sine succ(esoribus) he(re)d(itaribus) infutur(um) cor(am) eisdem

12. Levying taxes on immovable property: *obligavit de licentiam*

12.1) V 100.2/ scan 200

Item p(re)d(ic)tus Joh(ann)es heydman obligavit de licen(tiam) dominiam fundi et
        mansionar(um)
suor(um) substitor(um) godefrido d(ic)to heyne Rcisia et none()ut() p(ro)ut
eadem bona de mon() p(aro)ch(i)en conent pro illis xviii coron(as) fran(cas) Justi
        ponder(is)
In quibus d(ic)tus Joh(ann)es heydema(n) p(re)fato godefrido tenet Rat(i)o(n)e(m)
        venditor(um)
bonor(um) p(re)d(ic)tor(um) hnr int(er)fui()t mansionar(um) p(re)d(ic)ti qui hec
        quo(n)d(am) facm()t cor(am)
eisde(m)

(13. renewal of rental contract: *reconduxit se reconduxisse recognovit*)[94]

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[94] I have not been able to find examples of this type of act yet.