

Universal Multiple-Octet Coded Character Set
International Organization for Standardization
Internationale Standardisierungs-Organisation
Organisation Internationale de Normalisation
Διεθνής Οργανισμός Τυποποίησης
Международная организация по стандартизации

Doc Type: Working Group Document

Title: Proposal to encode historical mathematical relations

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Version: 3rd revision

Status: forward to UTC / WG2

Action: for UTC review, for Unicode 18.0 pipeline

Date: January 19, 2026

Requester's reference: LUCP L-2603

1. Mathematical relation symbols in historic sources

The topic of this proposal is a group of symbols for relations, like *equal*, *congruence*, *greater-than* or *commensurability*. They are testified in works of G. W. Leibniz and many other authors, mainly of the 17th century. Some of the proposed characters basically represent the same meaning as e.g. 003D = EQUAL SIGN or 003E > GREATER-THAN SIGN. However, for the purpose of historically exact transcriptions and editions it is necessary to encode the difference between such modern symbols and historic ones, since either of them may occur in the very same edition.

2. Revision of Proposal

The 2nd revision of the *Relations* proposal is a significant update and an extended version. After expert discussion a couple of changes have been implemented. RECTANGULAR GREATER OPEN RIGHT \sqsupset and RECTANGULAR GREATER OPEN RIGHT \sqsupsetneq have been unified with 2ACD and 2ACE. The remaining characters \sqsupseteq and \sqsubset have been given new names in accordance to 2ACD and 2ACE. HORIZONTAL EQUAL TO OR LESS-THAN \asymp and HORIZONTAL EQUAL TO OR GREATER-THAN \gtrsim are now proposed as variation sequences based on 22DC and 22DD.

The subset of the *congruence* characters has been re-ordered and in the course of recent research work a number of additional characters has been identified. Some of these characters can be defined as historic precedences of modern symbols like \simeq , \vartriangleapprox , \approx or \gtrapprox ; in these cases they are proposed as “lazy-S” variation sequences. The two characters \boxtimes and \boxminus do not have “tilde” equivalents because their usage did not make it into modern math notation, they are therefore proposed as new (historical) characters.

The Unicode Character Properties entries have been updated accordingly. This version also contains more demonstration samples from MS sources as well as from printed editions.

This 3rd revision was edited after the January 15 discussion. Many representative glyphs have been improved with regard to the math axis; see p. 8.

3.a New Characters

If this proposal gets accepted, the following 29 new characters will exist:

| | |
|------------------|--|
| \sqcap | LEIBNIZIAN EQUAL |
| $\sqcap\sqcap$ | LEIBNIZIAN EQUAL WITH DOUBLE VERTICALS |
| $\sqcap\text{S}$ | LEIBNIZIAN EQUAL WITH SMALL S |
| $\sqcap\text{P}$ | LEIBNIZIAN GREATER |
| $\sqcap\text{P}$ | LEIBNIZIAN LESS |
| $\sqcap\text{P}$ | LEIBNIZIAN GREATER WITH SMALL P |
| $\sqcap\text{P}$ | LEIBNIZIAN LESS WITH SMALL P |
| $\sqcap\text{P}$ | LEIBNIZIAN GREATER-LESS |
| $\sqcap\text{P}$ | INVERTED SQUARE LEFT OPEN BOX OPERATOR |
| $\sqcap\text{P}$ | INVERTED SQUARE RIGHT OPEN BOX OPERATOR |
| $\sqcap\text{P}$ | TWO-LINE GREATER |
| $\sqcap\text{P}$ | TWO-LINE LESS |
| $\sqcap\text{P}$ | COMMENSURABILITY |
| $\sqcap\text{P}$ | INCOMMENSURABILITY |
| $\sqcap\text{P}$ | COMMENSURABILITY IN SQUARE |
| $\sqcap\text{P}$ | INCOMMENSURABILITY IN SQUARE |
| ∞ | CARTESIAN EQUAL |
| ∞ | LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE |
| ∞ | LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE WITH VERTICAL BAR |
| ∞ | LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2 |
| ∞ | LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2 INVERTED |
| ∞ | LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2 WITH HORIZONTAL BAR |
| ∞ | LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2 WITH HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL BAR |
| ∞ | LEIBNIZIAN COINCIDENCE |
| ∞ | INVERTED LAZY S OVER LAZY S |
| ∞ | LEIBNIZIAN SIMILARITY |
| ∞ | LEIBNIZIAN SIMILARITY-2 |
| ∞ | LEIBNIZIAN DISSIMILARITY |
| ∞ | FACIT SYMBOL |

3.b New Variation sequences

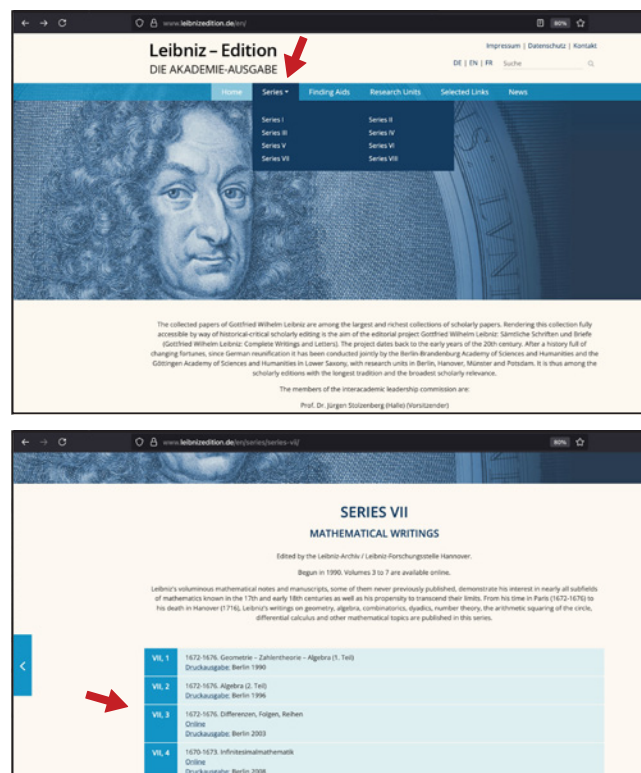
For these characters we propose new standardized variation sequences (with variation selector 1):

| | |
|---|---|
| ∞ | xxxx – VS1 – CARTESIAN EQUAL ∞ |
| ↵ | 223D – VS1 – REVERSED TILDE ↵ |
| ≈ | 2243 – VS1 – ASYMPTOTICALLY EQUAL TO ≈ |
| ≈ | 22CD – VS1 – REVERSED TILDE EQUALS ≈ |
| ≈ | 2242 – VS1 – MINUS TILDE ≈ |
| ≈ | 2248 – VS1 – ALMOST EQUAL TO ≈ |
| ≈ | 2A6C – VS1 – SIMILAR MINUS SIMILAR ≈ |
| ≈ | 22DC – VS1 – EQUAL TO OR LESS-THAN ≈ |
| ≈ | 22DD – VS1 – EQUAL TO OR GREATER-THAN ≈ |

The character ∞ is a historically significant variant of the widely used CARTESIAN EQUAL sign ∞, see further explanations on p. 37 f.

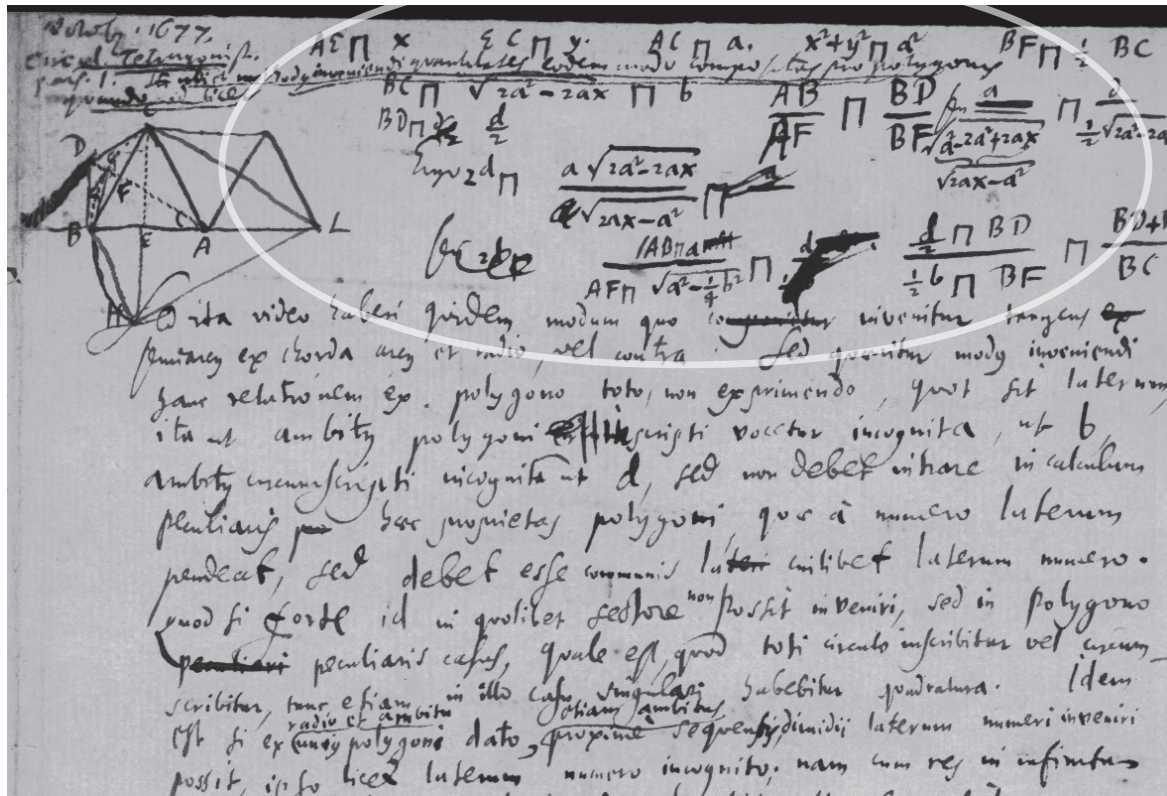
The other 8 variations relate to existing characters.

When a source is referenced by e.g. **LAA VII-3**, that means: Leibniz-Edition, Akademie-Ausgabe, series VII, volume 3. For mathematical topics series III and VII are relevant in the first place. Currently, of series III volumes 5 to 10 and of series VII volumes 3 to 8 are accessible online (PDF). Go to **leibnizedition.de** to select a series and a volume:



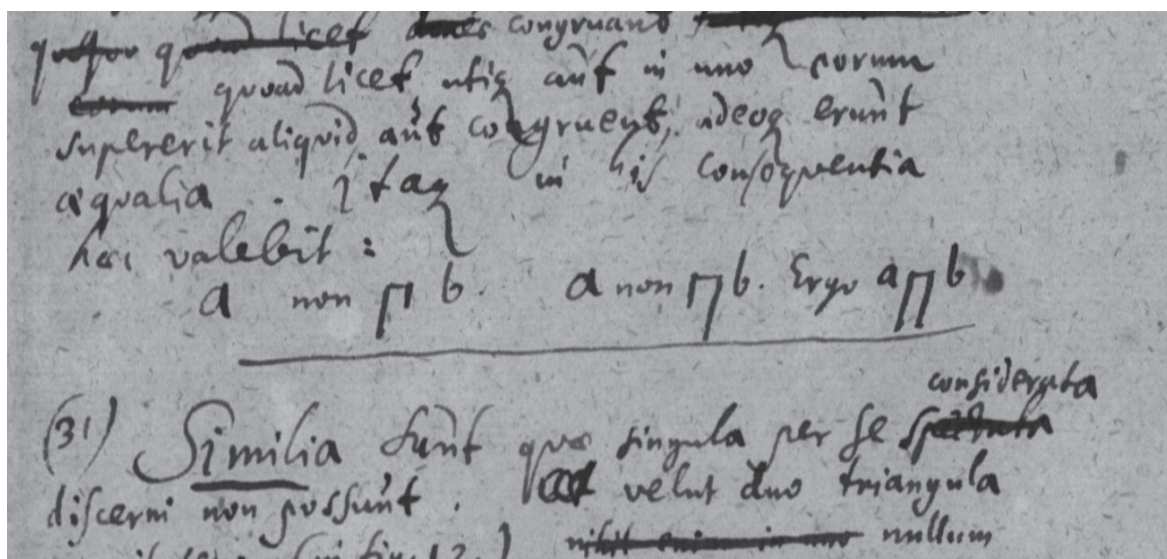
4. Figures and explanations

Leibniz made use of a fine differentiation of notions of equality and inequality in his mathematical writings. The character \sqsubset LEIBNIZIAN EQUAL signifies in many of his mathematical works *equality* in the common meaning as it denotes the equality of two things with regard to some property.



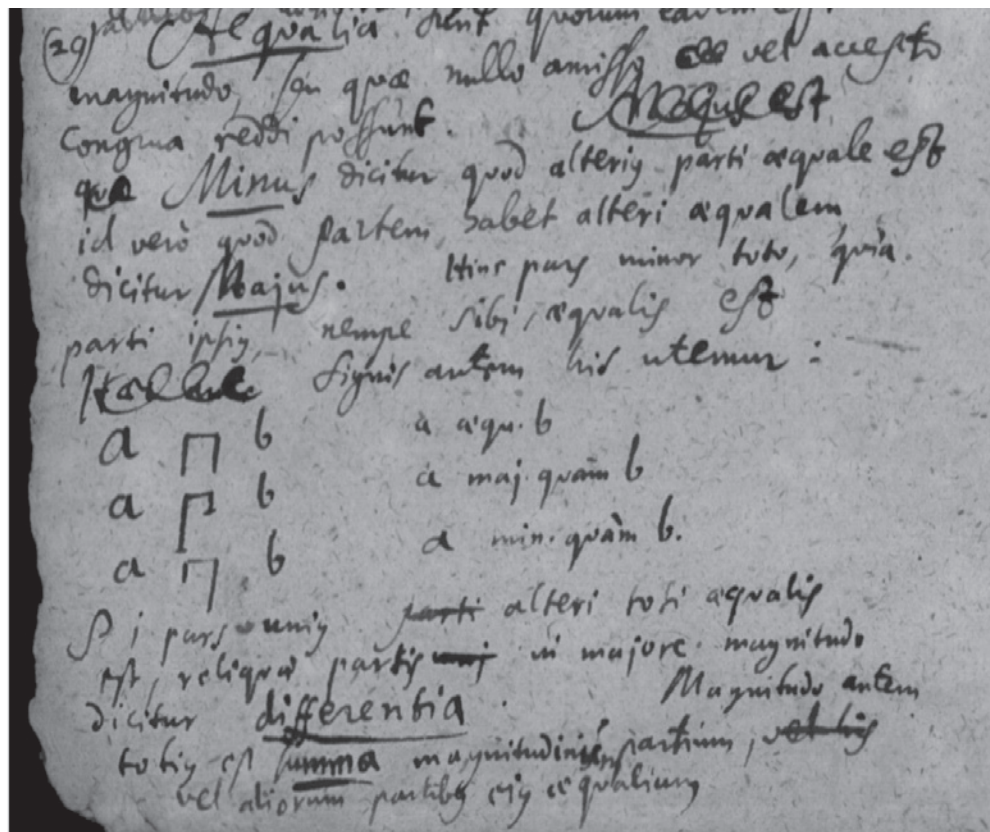
□ LEIBNIZIAN EQUAL

LH 35 XIII 3, fol. 72r

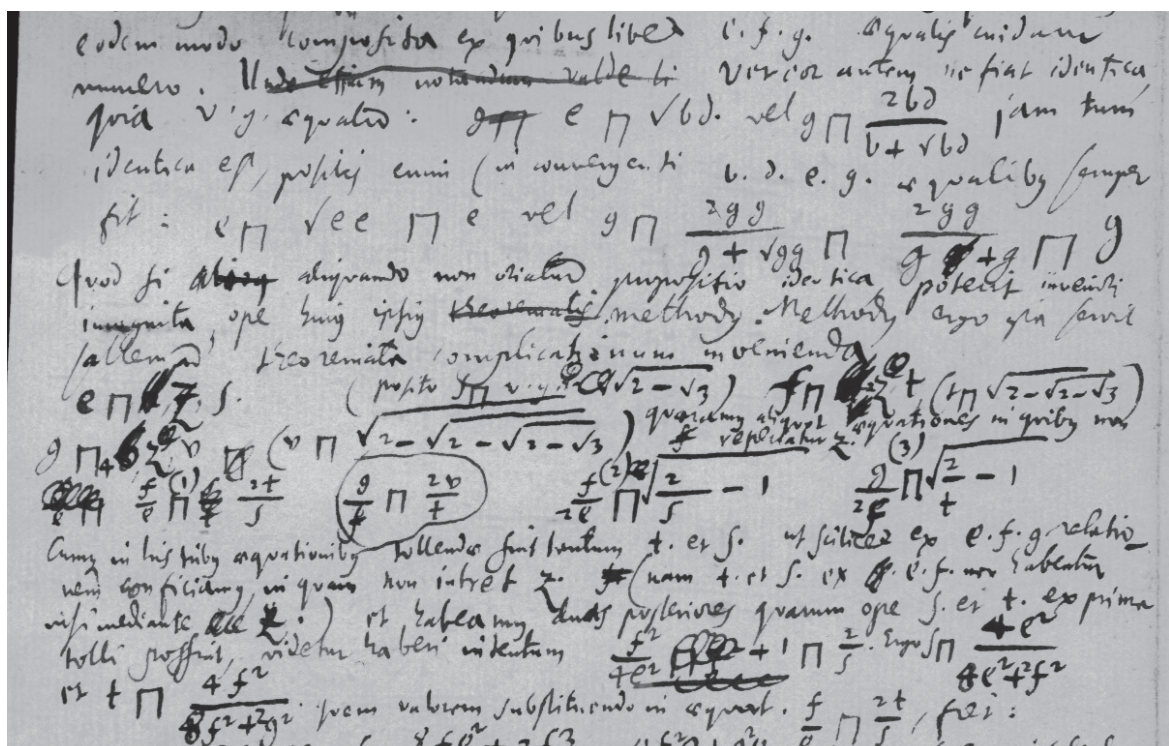


□ LEIBNIZIAN EQUAL, □ LEIBNIZIAN GREATER, □ LEIBNIZIAN LESS

LH 35 I 11, fol. 8r

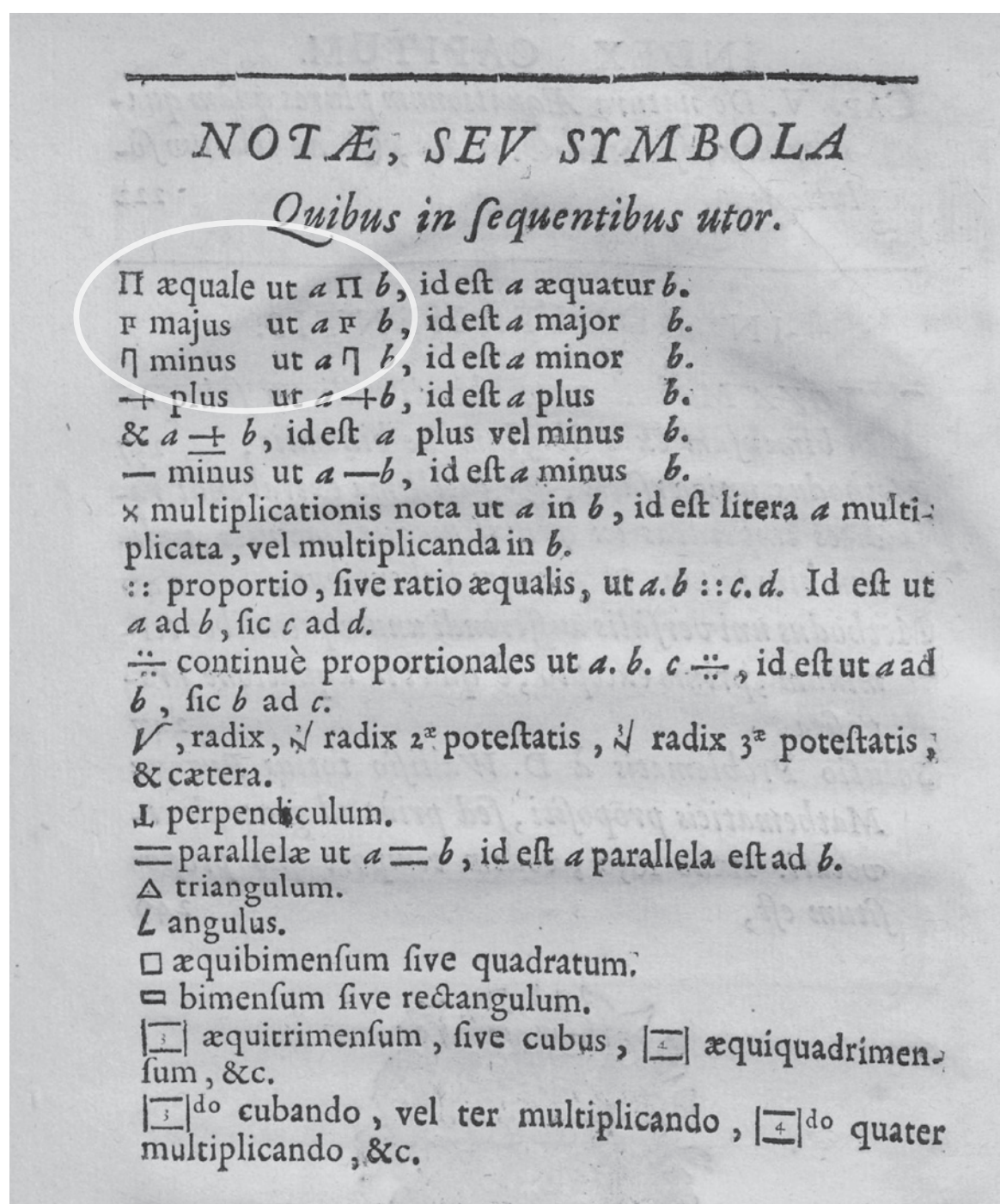


□ LEIBNIZIAN EQUAL, □ LEIBNIZIAN GREATER, □ LEIBNIZIAN LESS
 LH 35 I 11, fol. 7v



□ LEIBNIZIAN EQUAL
 LH 35 XIII 3, fol. 73v

Leibniz adopted the symbol (as well as the related symbols for “greater than” and “less than”) probably in 1674, after reading François Dulaurens: *Specimina Mathematica Duobus Libris Comprehensa*, Paris, 1667.



□ LEIBNIZIAN EQUAL, □ LEIBNIZIAN GREATER, □ LEIBNIZIAN LESS
Dulaurens, *Specimina Mathematica*, 1667. Note the typesetter’s makeshift solution, he borrowed two different greek Π-characters for *æquale* and *majus*.

e \cap c $\frac{+d+z^2}{v^2}$. ergo $\frac{+d+z^2}{v^2}$ integer \cap e – c. Videndum iam quomodo quadratum numero auctum minutumve vel eius negatio possit exacte dividi per quadratum. An sic: $\frac{y^2+z^2}{v^2}$ \cap e si summa duorum quadratorum divisibilis per quadratum est ergo necessario formula habens duas radices falsas aequales.

5 Est $v^2 \cap y^2 + z^2$. seu $v \cap \sqrt{y^2 + z^2}$ et $v \cap \frac{y}{\sqrt{e}}$. $v \cap \frac{z}{\sqrt{e}}$. $y^2 + z^2 \cap$ e. sive $y \cap \sqrt{e - z^2}$ et $z \cap \sqrt{e - y^2}$. $y \cap ev^2 - z^2$ (quia $y \cap \frac{ev^2 - z^2}{y}$). et $z \cap ev^2 - y^2$. $y^2 \cap ev^2 - z^2$. ergo $y^2 \cap v \sqrt{e} - z$. et $y^2 \cap v \sqrt{e} + z$. et $z^2 \cap v \sqrt{e} - y$. et $z^2 \cap v \sqrt{e} + y$.

Sed quaedam ex his determinationibus non nisi consequentiae priorum. Ante omnia $v^2 \cap y^2 + z^2$. $v^2 \cap \frac{y^2}{e}$ et $v^2 \cap \frac{z^2}{e}$. Sed sufficiunt duae posteriores. Rursus $v^2 \cap \frac{z^2 + y}{e}$.
10 et $v^2 \cap \frac{y^2 + z}{e}$. Ergo $y^2 + z^2 \cap \frac{z^2 + y}{e}$. vel $\cap \frac{y^2 + z}{e}$. Sed hoc ob integra rursus per se patet. $y^2 + z^2 \cap$ e. Sed nihil ex his.

\cap LEIBNIZIAN GREATER, \cap LEIBNIZIAN LESS
LAA VII-1 p. 552

Porro differentia quadratorum, $\frac{r^2}{4} - \frac{r^2}{4} + \frac{q^3}{27}$ sive $\frac{q^3}{27}$. semper habet radicem cubicam $\frac{q}{3}$. Et ex demonstratis alibi, $\frac{q}{3} \cap b^2 + ca$. Ergo $b^2 \cap \frac{q}{3}$.

Habemus ergo semper determinationes duas, $b^3 \cap \frac{r}{2}$, et $b^2 \cap \frac{q}{3}$. Praeterea 2b debet metiri ipsam r. Quibus tribus conditionibus consideratis sive in numeris sive in literis radix integra rationalis semper haberi poterit.

Si b affirmativa quantitas

$b^3 \cap \frac{r}{2}$. $b^2 \cap \frac{q}{3}$. $c^3 a^3 \cap \frac{q^3}{27} - \frac{r^2}{4}$. seu $ca \cap \frac{q}{3}$. $b^2 + ca \cap \frac{q}{3}$. $ca \cap \frac{q}{3} - b^2$. Ergo $b^3 - qb + 3b^3 \cap r$. Ergo $4b^3 \cap r + qb$. Ergo $4b^3 \cap qb$, sive

Iam $\left. \begin{array}{l} 4b^2 \cap q. \\ 3b^2 \cap q. \\ 2b^3 \cap r. \end{array} \right\}$

Si b sit quantitas negativa tunc quia $-8b^3 + 2qb - r \cap 0$. sive $8b^3 - 2qb + r \cap 0$. erit $8b^3 \cap -r + 2qb$. et $q \cap 4b^2$. Iam ante autem habueramus $q \cap 3b^2$. sed prior determinatio melior. Porro ob $-b^3 + 3bca \cap \frac{r}{2}$. erit $3ca \cap b^2$. Iam $3b^2 + 3ca \cap q$. Ergo

\cap LEIBNIZIAN EQUAL, \cap LEIBNIZIAN GREATER, \cap LEIBNIZIAN LESS
LAA VII-2 p. 475

Ideally these character's glyphs are adjusted with their horizontal parts to the *math axis*, like e.g. + and – (see also next page):

H8 — + — \cap \cap \cap — \cap — Math Axis

Arial Unicode MS +Hh - 2+3 □ +=< Math axis
 Cambria Math +Hh - 2+3 □ +=<
 Stix Two Math +Hh - 2+3 □ +=<
 +Hh - 2+3 □ +=< 1- Leibnizian characters
 2293 □ □ □

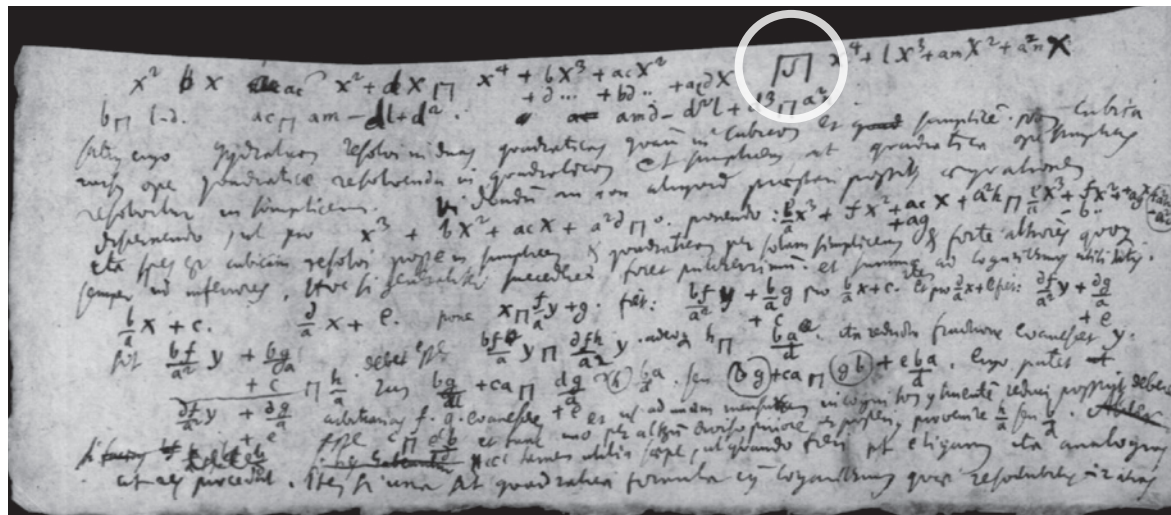
During the recent experts discussion (Zoom, January 15, 2026) a consensus was reached about that the *math axis* is relevant for the correct design and systemic coherence of most of the proposed characters. The following figure demonstrates how the representative glyphs shall be integrated into a Roman-style typeface:



Leibniz derived the configurations of several other symbols from \sqcap LEIBNIZIAN EQUAL:

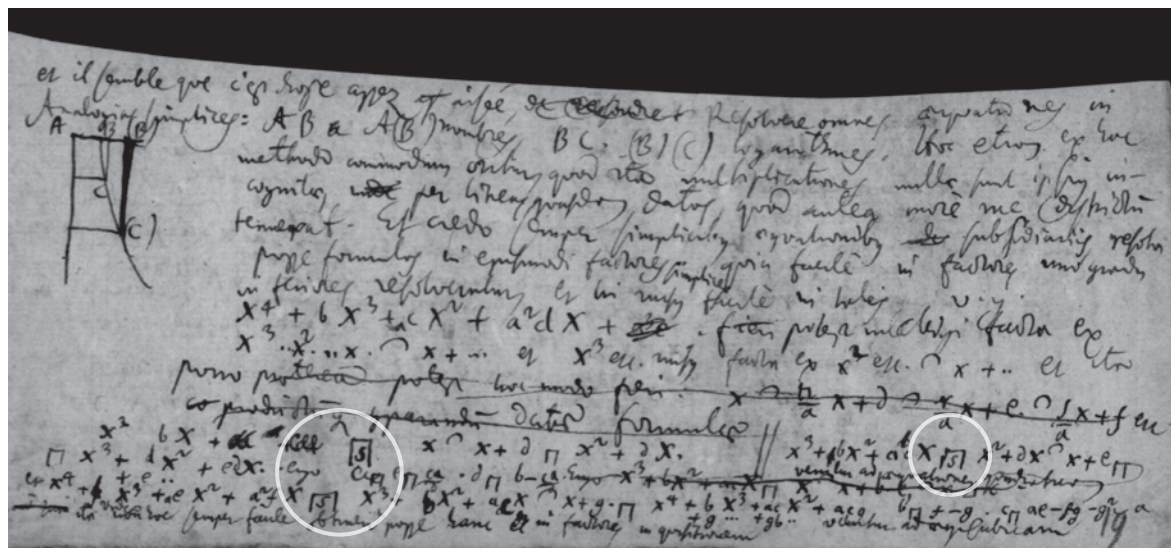
\sqsubseteq LEIBNIZIAN EQUALITY WITH S denotes a kind of equality by definition that originates from equating two expressions with each other as in the phrase “let a be equal to b ”. Unlike the definition sign in modern mathematics, there is no specific direction in Leibniz’s sign. The “s” in the sign is an abbreviation of the Latin word “sit”.

Combining both \sqcap and \sqsubseteq into $\sqcap\sqsubseteq$ LEIBNIZIAN GREATER-LESS leads to an ambiguous inequality sign that denotes “greater than in the first case and less than in the second case”.



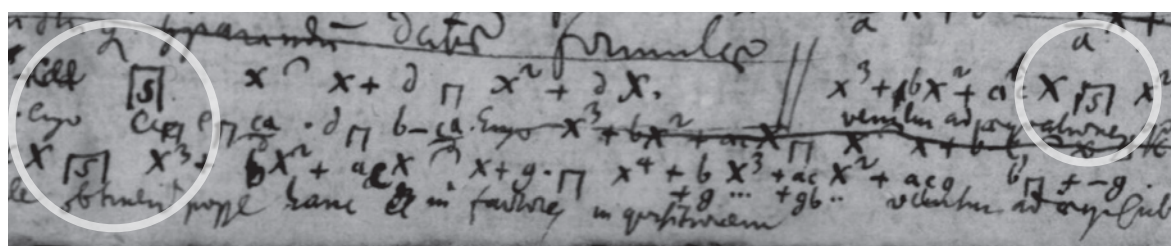
\sqsubseteq LEIBNIZIAN EQUALITY WITH S

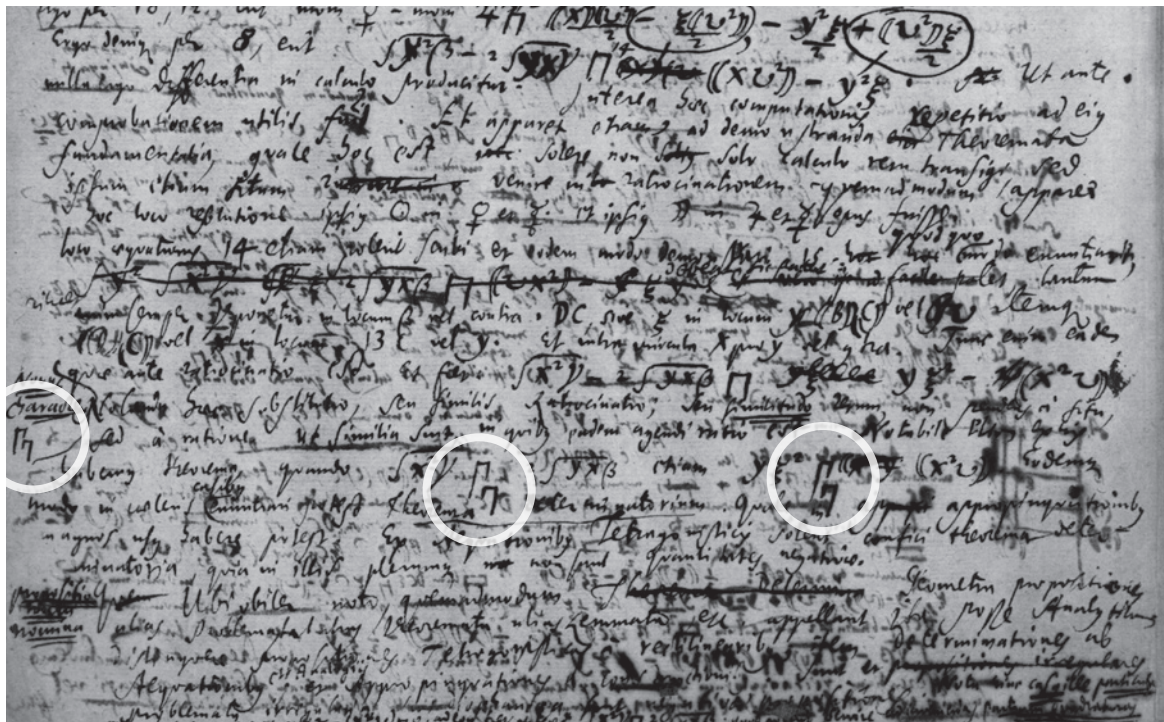
LH 35 V 14, fol. 18r. The edition of this manuscript is currently in progress.



\sqsubseteq LEIBNIZIAN EQUALITY WITH S

LH 35 V 14, fol. 19r. The edition of this manuscript is currently in progress.





□ LEIBNIZIAN GREATER-LESS

LH 35 XIII 3, fol. 150v. The edition of this manuscript is currently in progress.

N. 387
DIFFERENZEN, FOLGEN, REIHEN 1672-1676
443

$\frac{x^2}{2} \sqsupset yw^2 - \frac{yw^2}{2} + \frac{e^2b}{2}$, ponendo y abscissam, x ordinatam, w differentiam [ordinatarum], e ultimam ordinatam, b ultimam abscissam. Quae est reg. [6.] schediasm. part. 2.

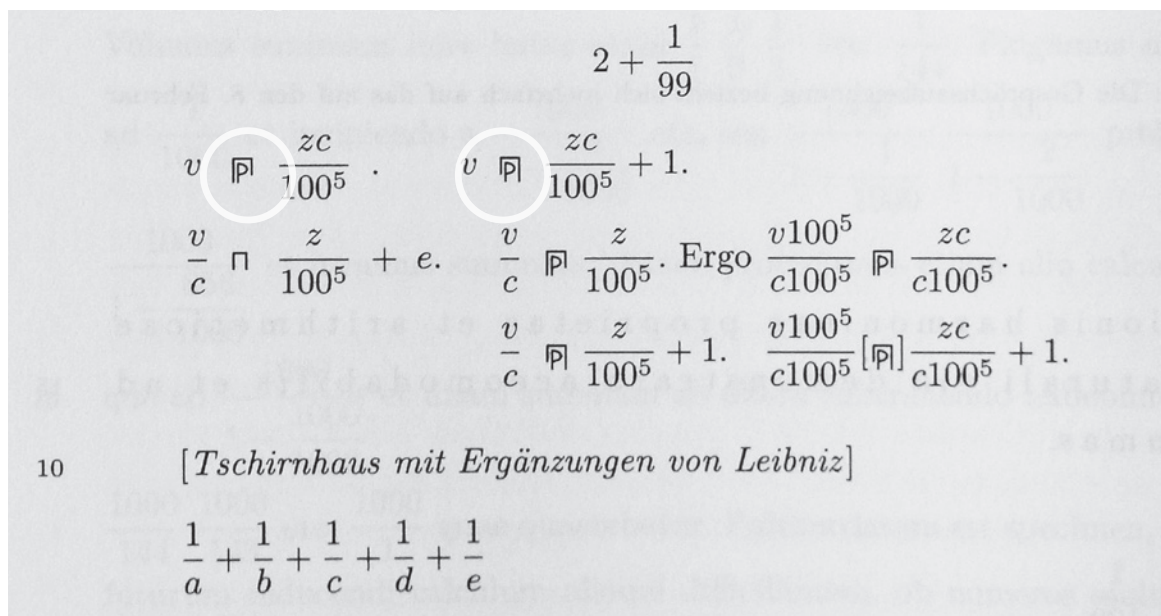
Unde duci potest corollarium semper haberi summam seriei $\frac{x^2 + yw^2 - 2ywx}{2} \sqsupset \frac{e^2b}{2}$. Quod ut exemplo nostro applicemus fiet $\frac{1}{y^2} + \frac{1}{y+1, \square, y} - \frac{2}{y^2+y} \sqsupset e^2b \sqsupset \frac{1}{b}$. Iam $\frac{2}{y^2+y} \sqsupset \frac{2}{b}$. Ergo (1) $\frac{1}{y^2} + \frac{1}{y+1, \square, y} \sqsupset e^2b + \frac{2}{b}$. Iungamus duas aequationes supra inventas: (2) $\frac{1}{2} \sqsupset 2C - B \sqsupset 2A + B$ (3). \S Ergo (4) $C \sqsupset A + B$ et (5) $\frac{1}{y^2} - \frac{1}{b} \sqsupset C$. Ergo (6) $\frac{1}{y^2} - \frac{1}{b} \sqsupset A + B$ per 5. et 4. Iam $B \sqsupset \frac{1}{b^2} - 2A$. per 2. et 3. Ergo $\frac{1}{y^2} - \frac{1}{b} \sqsupset \frac{1}{b^2} - 2A$. Iam $-A \sqsupset \frac{1}{y^2} - e^2b + \frac{2}{b}$ per aeq. 1. et fiet: $\frac{1}{y^2} - \frac{1}{b} \sqsupset \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{1}{y^2} - e^2b + \frac{2}{b}$.

Error calculi in eo quod scilicet ordinatam primam quae differentiarum summa est, cum ultima, confudi. Aequatio, in qua ultima ordinata adhibetur ut ubi est e^2b servit tantum ad finite productarum serierum inveniendas summas.

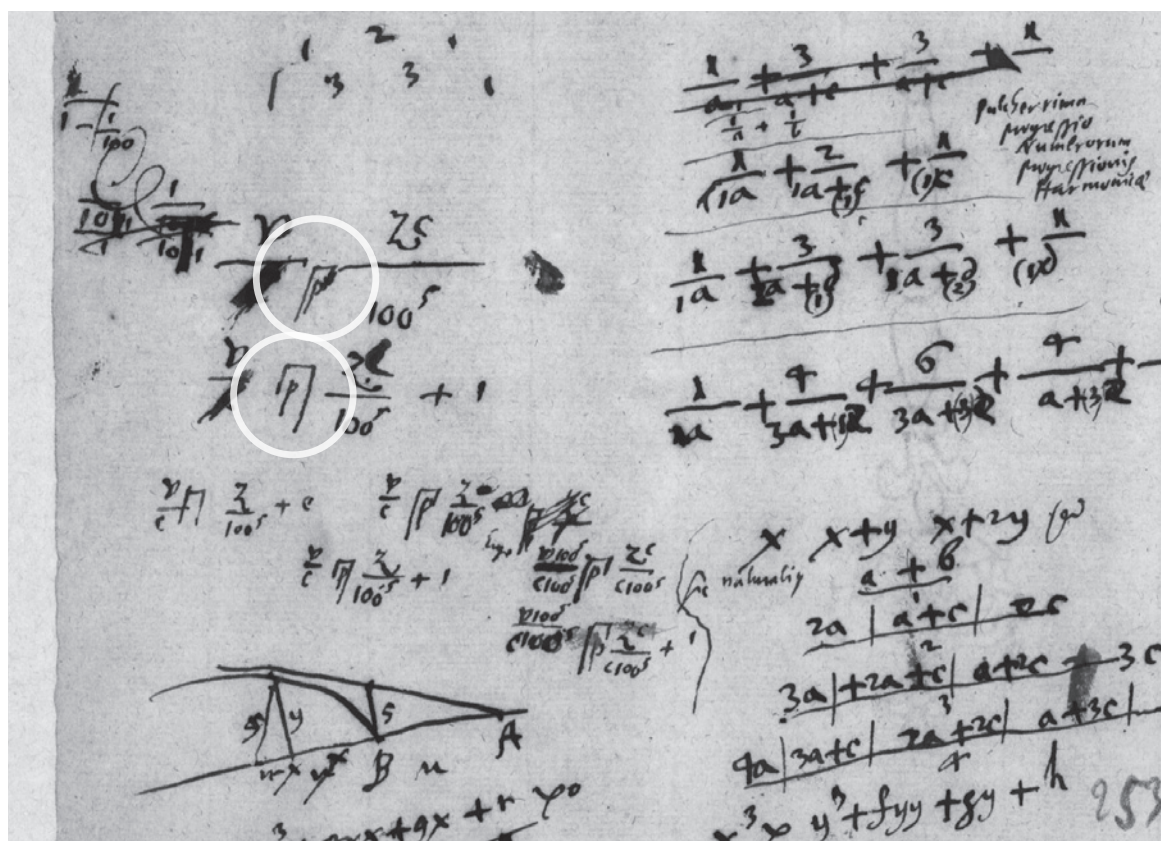
⊐ LEIBNIZIAN EQUAL WITH DOUBLE VERTICALS

Leibniz uses this symbol for “equality of sums”.

LAA VII-3 p. 443



P LEIBNIZIAN GREATER WITH SMALL P, p LEIBNIZIAN LESS WITH SMALL P
 These symbols denote “a little bit greater” and “a little bit less”, the letter “p” abbreviating the Latin word “paulo” (little). – Corresponding Ms.: see below.
 LAA VII-3 p. 732



P LEIBNIZIAN GREATER WITH SMALL P, p LEIBNIZIAN LESS WITH SMALL P
 The handwriting shows that a lowercase p was intended by the author, so the representation of these symbols in the printed edition is not accurate in this respect.
 LH 35 XII 1, fol. 253r

(7) Ungleichungen:

Zusätzlich zu den üblichen Symbolen \sqsupset für „größer“ und \sqsubset für „kleiner“ (N. 66) führt Leibniz noch Zeichen für „ein wenig größer“ ($\sqsupset\!\!\sqsupset$) bzw. „ein wenig kleiner“ ($\sqsubset\!\!\sqsubset$) ein (N. 54).

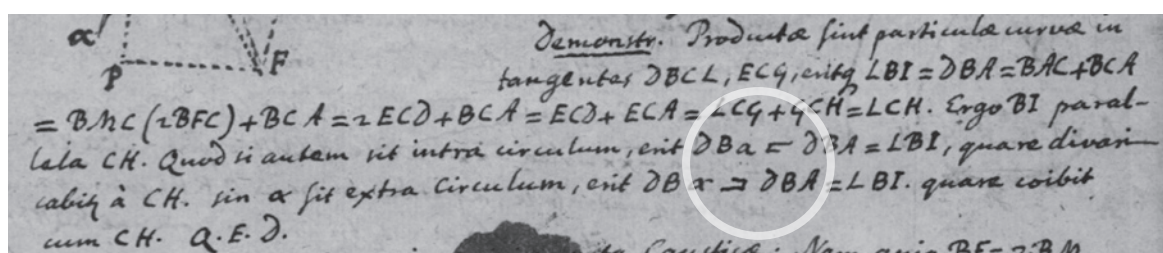
$\sqsupset\!\!\sqsupset$ LEIBNIZIAN GREATER WITH SMALL P, $\sqsubset\!\!\sqsubset$ LEIBNIZIAN LESS WITH SMALL P
LAA VII-3 p. XXXI

Demonstr. Productae sint particulae curvae in tangentes $DBCL$, ECG , eritque $LBI = DBA = BAC + BCA = BMC$ ($2BFC$) $+ BCA = 2ECD + BCA = ECD + ECA = LCG + GCH = LCH$. Ergo BI parallela CH . Quod si a sit intra circulum, erit $DBa \sqsubset DBA = LBI$, quare divaricabitur a CH . Sin α sit extra circulum, erit $DB\alpha \sqsupset DBA = LBI$, quare coibit cum CH . Q. E. D.

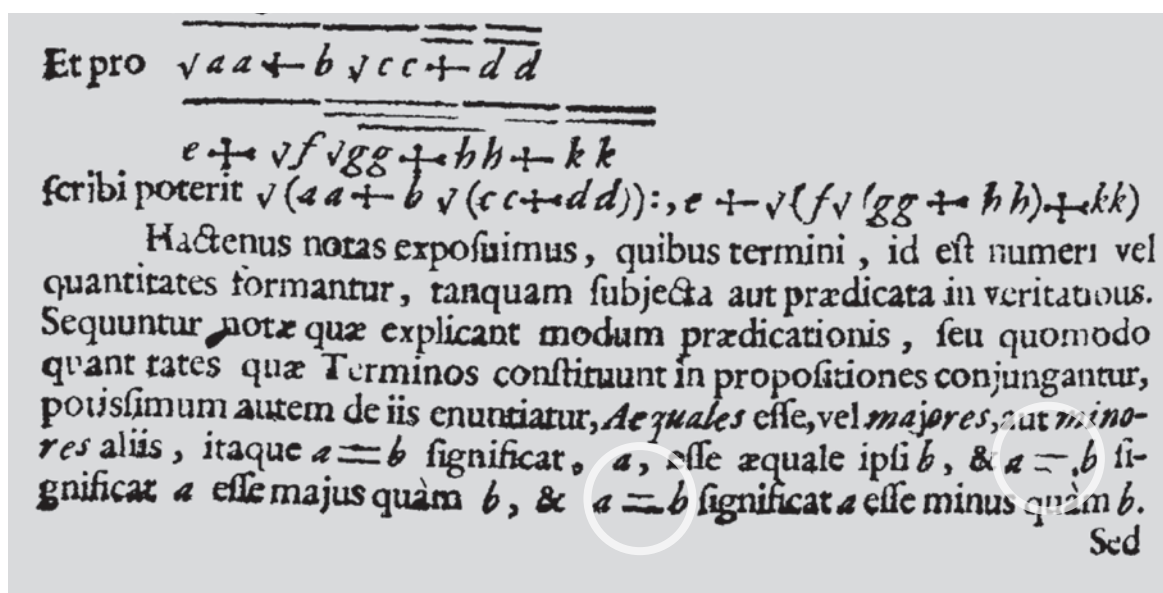
Coroll. Hinc possunt inveniri puncta Causticae: Nam quia $BF = 2BM$; et

$\sqsupset\!\!\sqsupset$ INVERTED SQUARE RIGHT OPEN BOX OPERATOR, here bearing the meaning of “less”, alongside with $\sqsubset\!\!\sqsubset$ SQUARE LEFT OPEN BOX OPERATOR 2ACD

LAA III-6 p. 688; corresponding manuscript part (below)

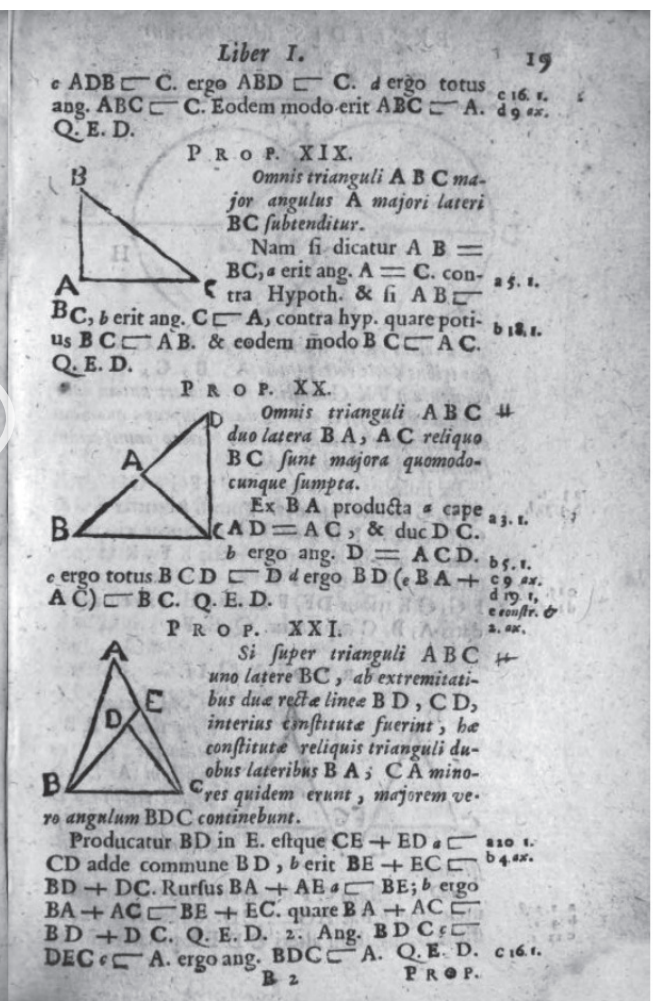
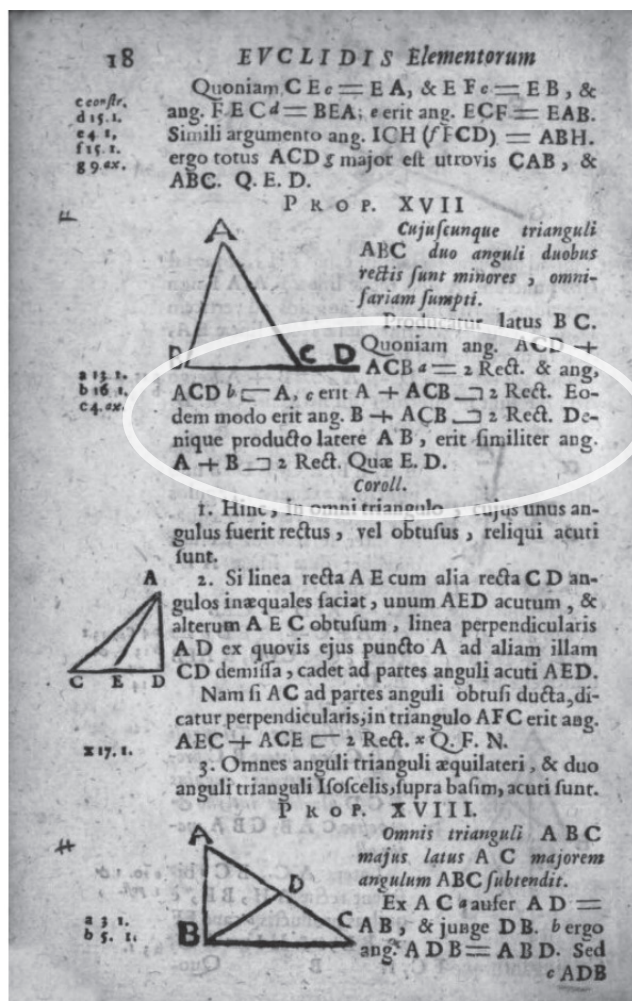
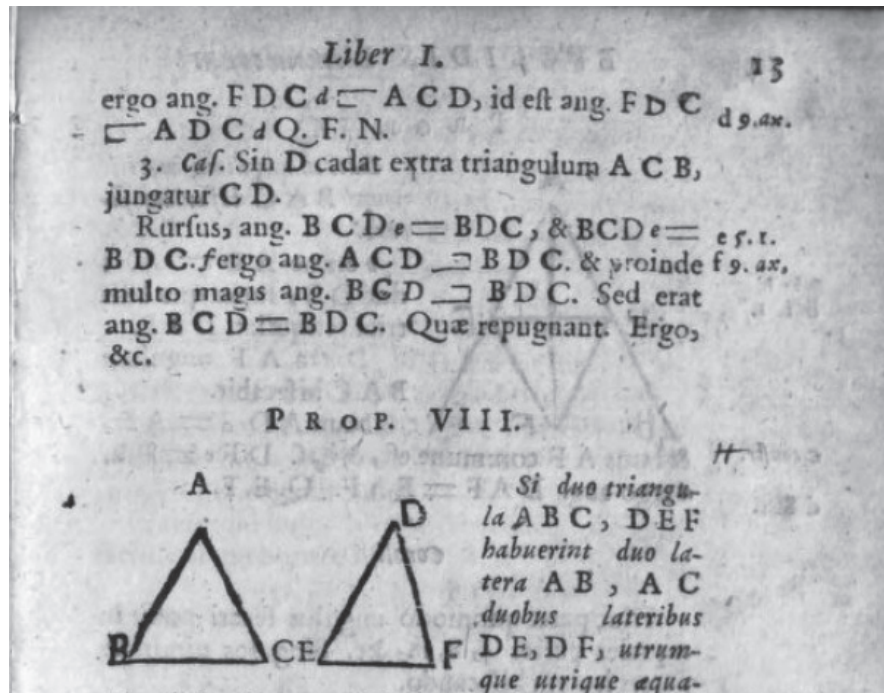


Distinct from the above signs are these two greater / less signs, which lack the vertical part:



= TWO-LINE GREATER, = TWO-LINE LESS

Monitum de Characteribus Algebraica, Miscellanea Berolinensia, 1710, p. 158



⊃ INVERTED SQUARE RIGHT OPEN BOX OPERATOR
Barrow 1659

c is equal to the excess of r above s , and $a = \sqrt{cc + \frac{1}{2}cc - \frac{1}{2}c}$ signifieth that a is equal to the remainder, when $\frac{1}{2}c$ or $\frac{c}{2}$ is subtracted from the universal square Root of $cc + \frac{1}{2}cc$ this will be made plain and easie to the ingenious practitioner by the ensuing Examples of this Treatise.

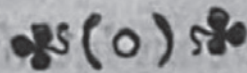
XXI. This Character (\sqsubset) stands for the word (greater) signifying the number, or quantity standing on the left hand of the said Character to be greater than that on the right hand thereof; as $8 \sqsubset 3$ signifieth that 8 is greater than 3; also $a + b \sqsubset c$ signifieth that the sum of a and b is greater than c , &c.

XXII. This Character (\sqsupset) stands for the word (less) and it signifieth that the number or quantity standing on the left hand thereof, is lesser than that on the right hand. As $4 + 3 \sqsupset 20 - 8$ signifieth that the sum of 4 and 3 is less than the excess of 20 above 8. Likewise $c - d \sqsupset b + e$ is thus read, viz. the remainder of d being subtracted from c is lesser than the sum of b and e .

In this 1685 edition of Edward Cocker's *Decimal Arithmetick* \sqsubset INVERTED SQUARE LEFT OPEN BOX OPERATOR is used to denote *greater*, whereas \sqsupset INVERTED SQUARE RIGHT OPEN BOX OPERATOR stands for *less*. Source: Google books

| An Explanation of the Signs used in Algebra. | |
|--|--|
| $+$ | More or added to |
| $-$ | Less or substracted from |
| \times | Multiplied by, or multiplying |
| \div | Divided by, or dividing |
| $\div\div$ | Continually divided by |
| $=$ | Equal to |
| $\sqrt{\quad}$ or $\sqrt[2]{\quad}$ | The Square Root, or the Root of the 2 ^d . power. |
| \propto | Continual Geomet. Proportion |
| \vdots | Disjunct Geomet. Proportion |
| \therefore | Continual Arithmet. Proportion |
| $\therefore\therefore$ | Disjunct Arithmet. Proportion |
| \sqsupset or \sqsupseteq | Greater than |
| \sqsubset or \sqsubseteq | Less than |
| \S | The difference of two Quantities, when it is not known which of them is the greater. |
| \therefore | Therefore |

\sqsupset 2ACE for *greater than*, \sqsubset INVERTED SQUARE RIGHT OPEN BOX OPERATOR for *less than*. John Parsons, Thomas Wastell: *Clavis Arithmeticae*, 1705. Source: [Google books](#)

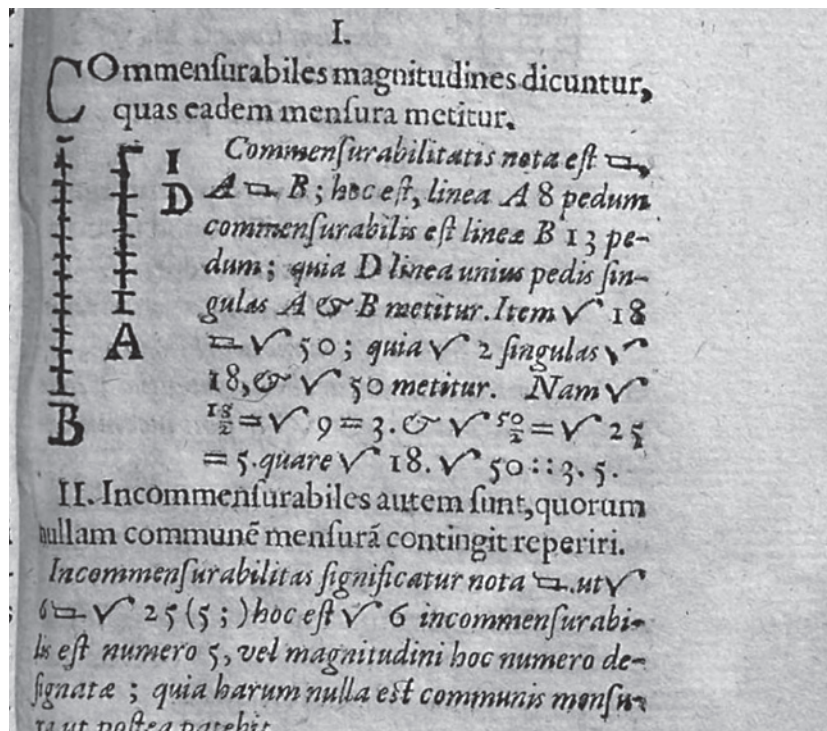


Notarum Explicatio.

- ⊐ Commensurabilis
- ⊑ Incommensurabilis
- ⊒ Commensurabilis potentia
- ⊓ Incommensurabilis potentia.
- ∴ Eiusdem rationis.
- ∵ Continue proportionales.
- = Æqualitatem
- ⊒ Majoritatem
- ⊓ Minoritatem
- ⊕ Plus, vel addendum esse
- ⊖ Minus, vel subtrahendum esse

⊐ COMMENSURABILITY, ⊑ INCOMMENSURABILITY, ⊒ COMMENSURABILITY IN SQUARE, ⊓ INCOMMENSURABILITY IN SQUARE

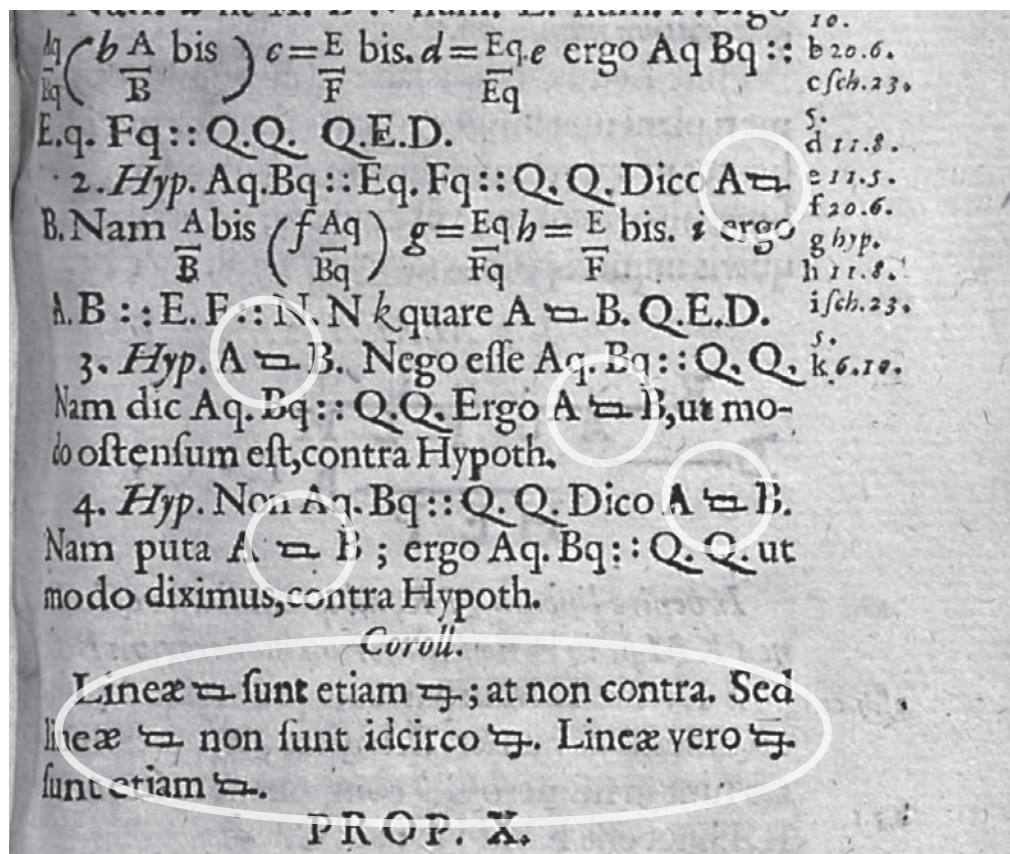
Barrow 1676



\sqsubset COMMENSURABILITY, \sqsubset INCOMMENSURABILITY, \sqsubset COMMENSURABILITY IN SQUARE, \sqsubset INCOMMENSURABILITY IN SQUARE

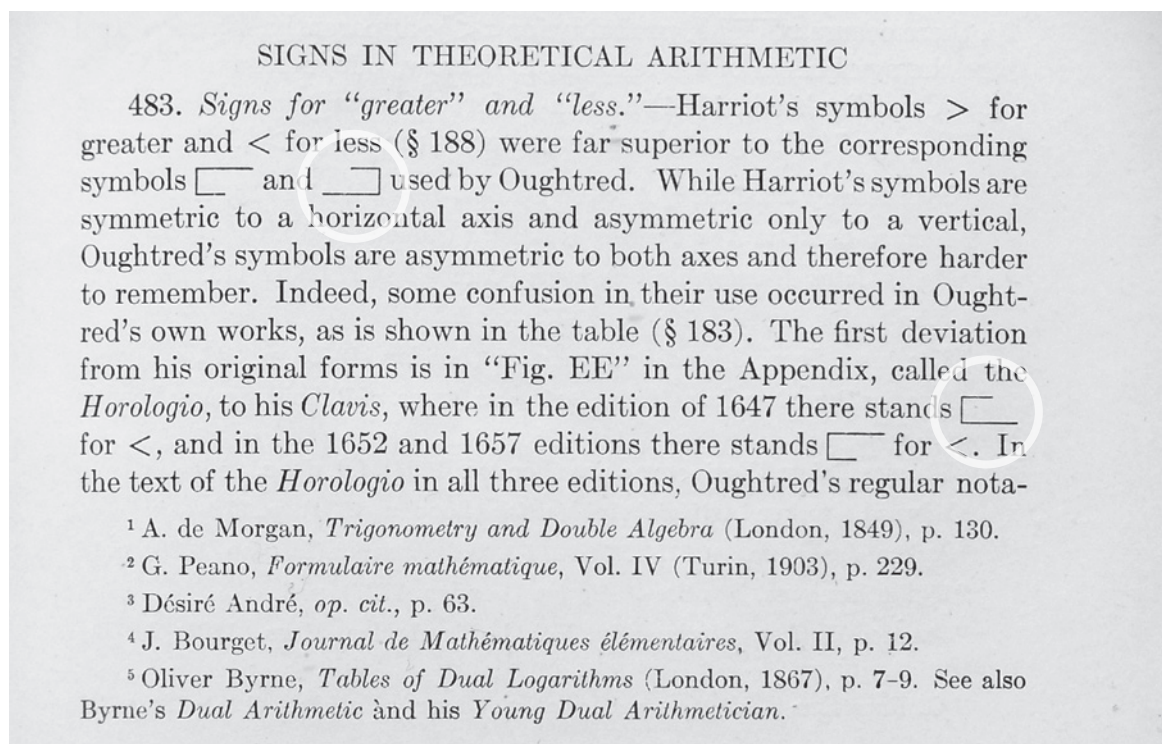
Barrow 1676





⊐ COMMENSURABILITY, ⊑ INCOMMENSURABILITY, ⊒ COMMENSURABILITY IN SQUARE, ⊓ INCOMMENSURABILITY IN SQUARE

Barrow 1676



⊐ INVERTED SQUARE LEFT OPEN BOX OPERATOR and ⊑ INVERTED SQUARE RIGHT OPEN BOX OPERATOR. Cajori vol. II p. 115 (1928)

tion is adhered to. Isaac Barrow used \sqsupset for “majus” and \sqsubset for “minus” in his *Euclidis Data* (Cambridge, 1657), page 1, and also in his *Euclid's Elements* (London, 1660), Preface, as do also John Kersey,¹ Richard Sault,² and Roger Cotes.³ In one place John Wallis⁴ writes \sqsupset for $>$, \sqsubset for $<$.

Seth Ward, another pupil of Oughtred, writes in his *In Ismaelis Bullialdi astronomiae philolaicae fundamenta inquisitio brevis* (Oxoniae, 1653), page 1, \sqsupset for “majus” and \sqsubset for “minus.” For further notices of discrepancy in the use of these symbols, see *Bibliotheca mathematica*, Volume XII⁵ (1911–12), page 64. Harriot's $>$ and $<$ easily won out over Oughtred's notation. Wallis follows Harriot almost exclusively; so do Gibson⁵ and Brancker.⁶ Richard Rawlinson of Oxford used \sqsupset for greater and \sqsubset for less (§ 193). This notation is used also by Thomas Baker⁷ in 1684, while E. Cocker⁸ prefers \sqsupset for \sqsupset . In the arithmetic of S. Jeake,⁹ who gives “ \sqsupset greater, \sqsubset next greater, \sqsupset lesser, \sqsubset next lesser, \sqsupset not greater, \sqsubset not lesser, \sqsupset equal or less, \sqsubset equal or greater,” there is close adherence to Oughtred's original symbols.

Ronayne¹⁰ writes in his *Algebra* \sqsupset for “greater than,” and \sqsubset for “less than.” As late as 1808, S. Webber¹¹ says: “. . . . we write $a \sqsupset b$, or $a > b$; $a \sqsubset b$, or $a < b$.” In Isaac Newton's *De Analysi per Aequationes*, as printed in the *Commercium Epistolicum* of 1712, page 20, there occurs $x \sqsupset \frac{1}{2}$, probably for $x < \frac{1}{2}$; apparently, Newton used here the symbolism of his teacher, I. Barrow, but in Newton's *Opuscula* (Castillion's ed., 1744) and in Lefort's *Commercium Epistolicum* (1856), page 74, the symbol is interpreted as meaning $x > \frac{1}{2}$. Eneström¹²

¹ John Kersey, *Elements of Algebra* (London, 1674), Book IV, p. 177.

² Richard Sault, *A New Treatise of Algebra* (London, n.d.).

³ Roger Cotes, *Harmonia mensurarum* (Cambridge, 1722), p. 115.

⁴ John Wallis, *Algebra* (1685), p. 127.

⁵ Thomas Gibson, *Syntaxis mathematica* (London, 1655), p. 246.

⁶ Thomas Brancker, *Introduction to Algebra* (trans. of Rahn's *Algebra*; London, 1668), p. 76.

⁷ Thomas Baker, *Clavis geometrica* (London, 1684), fol. d 2 a.

⁸ Edward Crocker, *Artificial Arithmetick* (London, 1684), p. 278.

⁹ Samuel Jeake, Sr., $\Lambda\Theta\Gamma\text{I}\Sigma\text{T}\text{I}\text{K}\text{H}\Lambda\Theta\Gamma\text{I}'\text{A}$ or *Arithmetick* (London, 1696), p. 12

¹⁰ Philip Ronayne, *Treatise of Algebra* (London, 1727), p. 3.

¹¹ Samuel Webber, *Mathematics*, Vol. I (Cambridge, Mass., 1808; 2d ed.), p. 233.

¹² G. Eneström, *Bibliotheca mathematica* (3d ser.), Vol. XII (1911–12), p. 74.

Cajori vol. II p. 116. In this chapter Cajori discusses the differing use cases of the rectangular symbols for *greater* and *less* in the works of various authors.

argues that Newton followed his teacher Barrow in the use of \sqsupset and actually took $x < \frac{1}{2}$, as is demanded by the reasoning.

In E. Stone's *New Mathematical Dictionary* (London, 1726), article "Characters," one finds \sqsupset or \sqsupseteq for "greater" and \sqsubset or \sqsubseteq for "less." In the Italian translation (1800) of the mathematical part of Diderot's *Encyclopédie*, article "Carattere," the symbols are further modified, so that \sqsupset and \sqsupseteq stand for "greater than," \sqsubset for "less than"; and the remark is added, "but today they are no longer used."

Brook Taylor¹ employed \sqsupset and \sqsubset for "greater" and "less," respectively, while E. Hatton² in 1721 used \sqsupset and \sqsubset , and also $>$ and $<$. The original symbols of Oughtred are used in Colin Maclaurin's *Algebra*.³ It is curious that as late as 1821, in an edition of Thomas Simpson's *Elements of Geometry* (London), pages 40, 42, one finds \sqsupset for $>$ and \sqsubset for $<$.

The inferiority of Oughtred's symbols and the superiority of Harriot's symbols for "greater" and "less" are shown nowhere so strongly as in the confusion which arose in the use of the former and the lack of confusion in employing the latter. The burden cast upon the memory by Oughtred's symbols was even greater than that of double asymmetry; there was difficulty in remembering the distinction between the symbol \sqsupset and the symbol \sqsupseteq . It is not strange that Oughtred's greatest admirers—John Wallis and Isaac Barrow—differed not only from Oughtred, but also from each other, in the use of these symbols. Perhaps nowhere is there another such a fine example of symbols ill chosen and symbols well chosen. Yet even in the case of Harriot's symbolism, there is on record at least one strange instance of perversion. John Frend⁴ defined $<$ as "greater than" and $>$ as "less than."

484. *Sporadic symbols for "greater" or "less."*—A symbol constructed on a similar plan to Oughtred's was employed by Leibniz⁵ in 1710, namely, " $a =$ significat a esse majus quam b , et $a =$ significat a esse minus quam b ." Leibniz borrowed these signs from his teacher Erhard Weigel,⁶ who used them in 1693. In the 1749 edition of the *Miscellanea Berolinensia* from which we now quote, these inequality

¹ Brook Taylor, *Phil. Trans.*, Vol. XXX (1717–19), p. 961.

² Edward Hatton, *Intire System of Arithmetic* (London, 1721), p. 287.

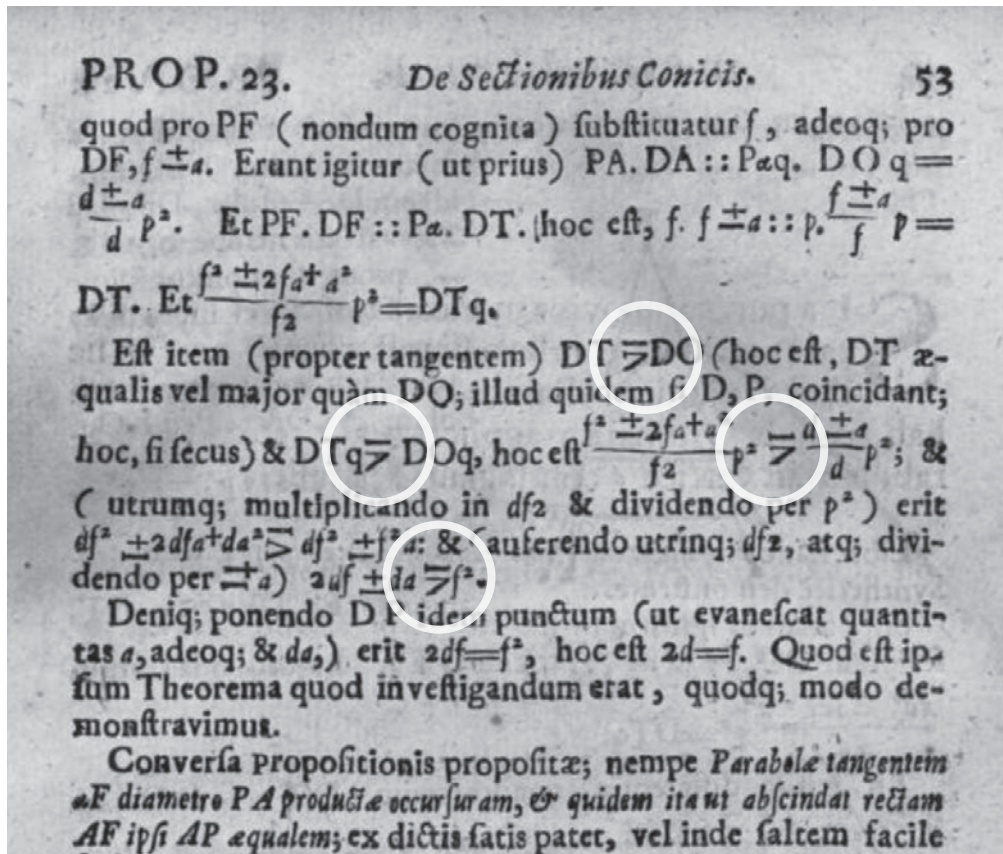
³ Colin Maclaurin, *A Treatise of Algebra* (3d ed.; London, 1771).

⁴ John Frend, *Principles of Algebra* (London, 1796), p. 3.

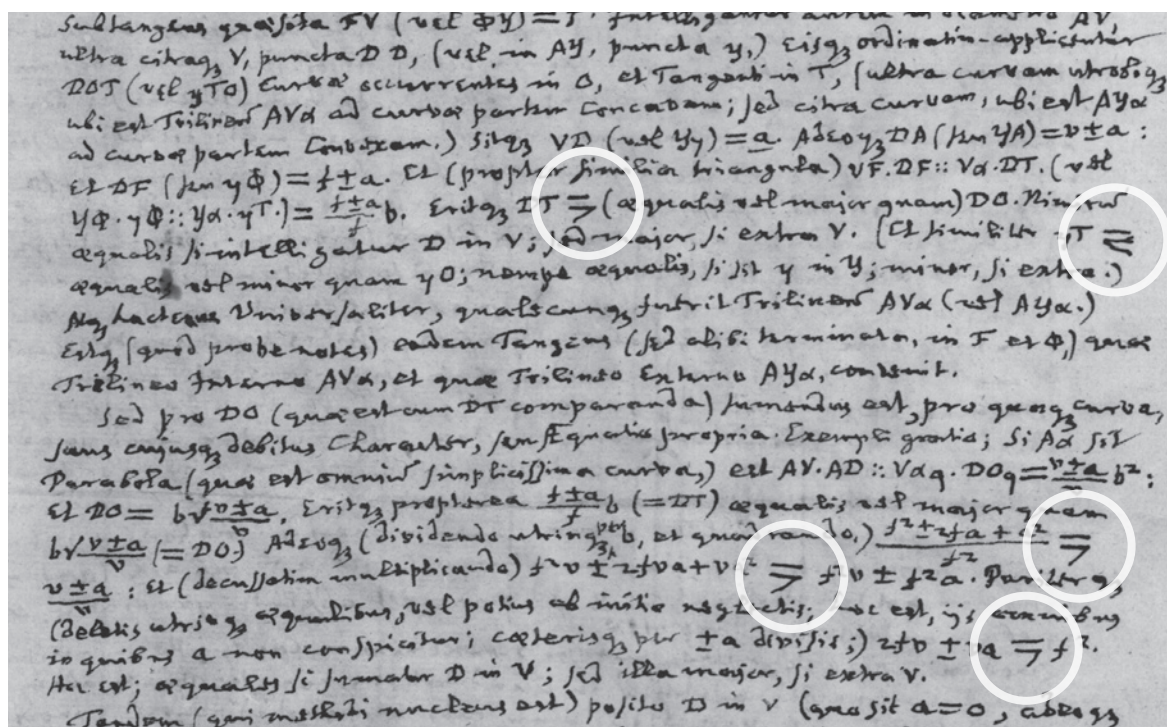
⁵ *Miscellanea Berolinensia* (Berlin, 1710), p. 158.

⁶ *Erhardi Weigelii Philosophia mathematica* (Jenae, 1693), p. 135.

Cajori vol. II p. 117. In this chapter Cajori discusses the differing use cases of the rectangular symbols for *greater* and *less* in the works of various authors.



\supset EQUAL TO OR GREATER-THAN (22DD) in the parallelised form, which we propose as a variation sequence. Wallis, De sectionibus conicis nova methodo expositis tractatus, 1655; p. 53



\supset EQUAL TO OR GREATER-THAN (22DD) and \supset EQUAL TO OR LESS-THAN (22DC) in their parallelised forms, which we propose as variation sequences. Manuscript of J. Wallis, LBr 974, 28v.

< est le signe de minorité ; Harriot introduisit le premier ces deux caractères, dont tous les auteurs modernes ont fait usage depuis.

D'autres auteurs employent d'autres signes ; quelques-uns se servent de celui-ci \sqsubset ; mais aujourd'hui on n'en fait aucun usage.

\sim est le signe de similitude, recommandé dans les *Miscellanea Berolinensia*, & dont Leibnitz, Wolf, & d'autres ont fait usage, quoiqu'en général les auteurs ne s'en servent point. Voyez SIMILITUDE.

D'autres auteurs employent ce même caractère, pour marquer la différence entre deux quantités, lorsque l'on ignore laquelle est la plus grande. Voyez DIFFÉRENCE.

Le signe \surd est le caractère de radicalité ; il fait voir que la racine de la quantité qui en est précédée, est

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nommen werden, in welcher sie am angeführten Orte erklärt sind. Man kan also auch sagen: es sey $AE = \frac{b \times c}{a} = \frac{AC \times AD}{AB}$, weil die Regel des 175 § der Rech. im 199 § so allgemein erwiesen ist, daß sie diese Folge zuläßt.

209 §.

102. Gradlinichte Figuren ABCDEF, *abcdef* heißen F. ähnliche Figuren, wenn bey einer gleichen Anzahl von Seiten, die Winkel A, B, C, u. s. f. den Winkeln *a, b, c* nach der Ordnung gleich, und die Seiten, welche die gleichen Winkel einschließen, einander proportional sind. Diese Seiten nennt man die gleichnamigten Seiten der Figuren. Man braucht dies Zeichen (\sim) die Aehnlichkeit zweier Figuren anzudeuten.

Figuren also, die auf einander passen, sind nicht allein gleiche; sondern auch ähnliche Figuren.

\sim variation sequence to 223D

Diderot, Encyclopédie, Paris 1751 (top); Karsten 1767 (bottom).

The “lazy S” character is the historic predecessor of what we know in modern math notation as the “reversed tilde”, 223D. Originally it was created by simply turning a Latin sort S by 90 degrees. It occurs in larger amount of sources, of which we show a selection on the following pages.

Das Zeichen ∞ (unendlich) findet man $a.b = c.d$ als Bezeichnung einer geometrischen Proportion, nach Saverien a. a. O., aber selten. Ein Verhältniß, welches aus den Verhältnissen $a:b, c:d, e:f$, u. s. f. zusammengesetzt ist, bezeichnet man durch $(a:b) + (c:d) + (e:f) + \dots$. Eine geometrische Progression wird auch bezeichnet durch $\div 3, 6, 12, 24, 48, \dots$; eben so eine stetige arithmetische Proportion durch $\div a, b, c$, eine stetige geometrische Proportion durch $\div a.b.c$. Eine arithmetische Progression durch $\div 2, 5, 10, 14, 18, 22, \dots$.

∞ bedeutet bei einigen englischen und französischen Schriftstellern, wenn es zwischen zwei Größen steht, wie z. B. $a \infty b$, den Unterschied der beiden Größen a und b ,

1182 Zeichen.

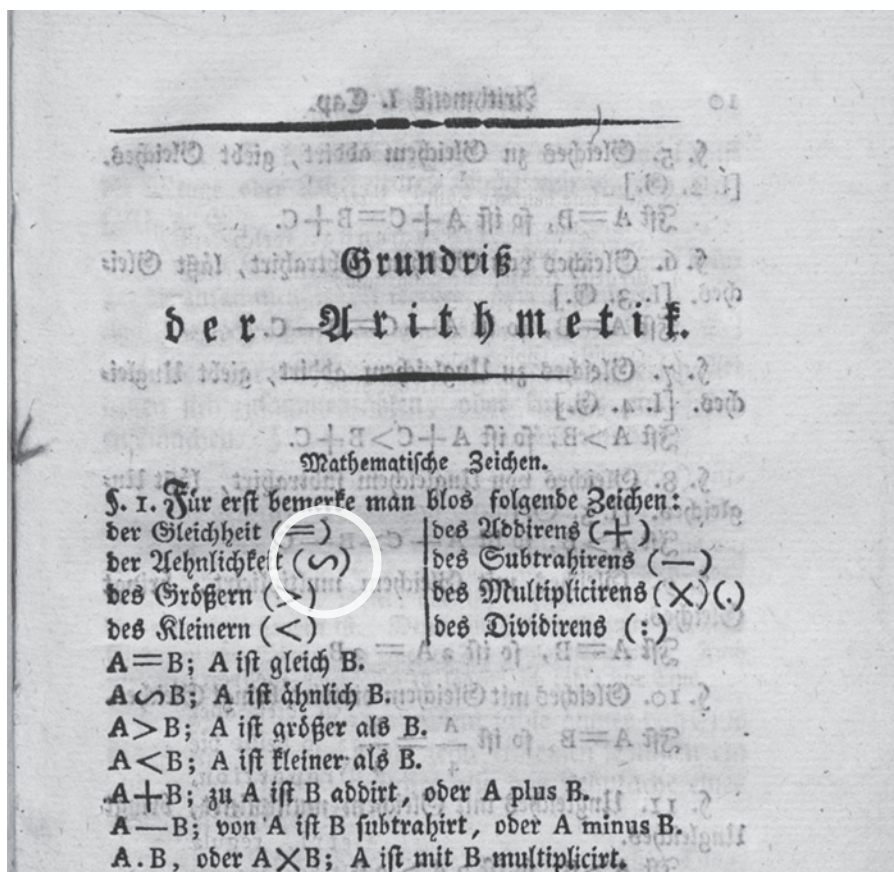
es mag die vorangesezte a die größere oder die kleinere seyn. Dieses Zeichen scheint von Wallis zuerst gebraucht zu seyn. Es ist aber völlig unnöthig und unnütz, daher auch gar nicht in Gebrauch gekommen. Das Vorzeichen der Differenz liefert die nöthige Bestimmung von selbst.

Bei deutschen Schriftstellern ist ∞ das Zeichen der Ähnlichkeit, ein liegendes lateinisches S . Leibniz und Wolf haben es zuerst angewandt. Oft gebraucht man das Wort ähnlich selbst. Vergl. Miscellan. Berolin. Part. III. p. 159.

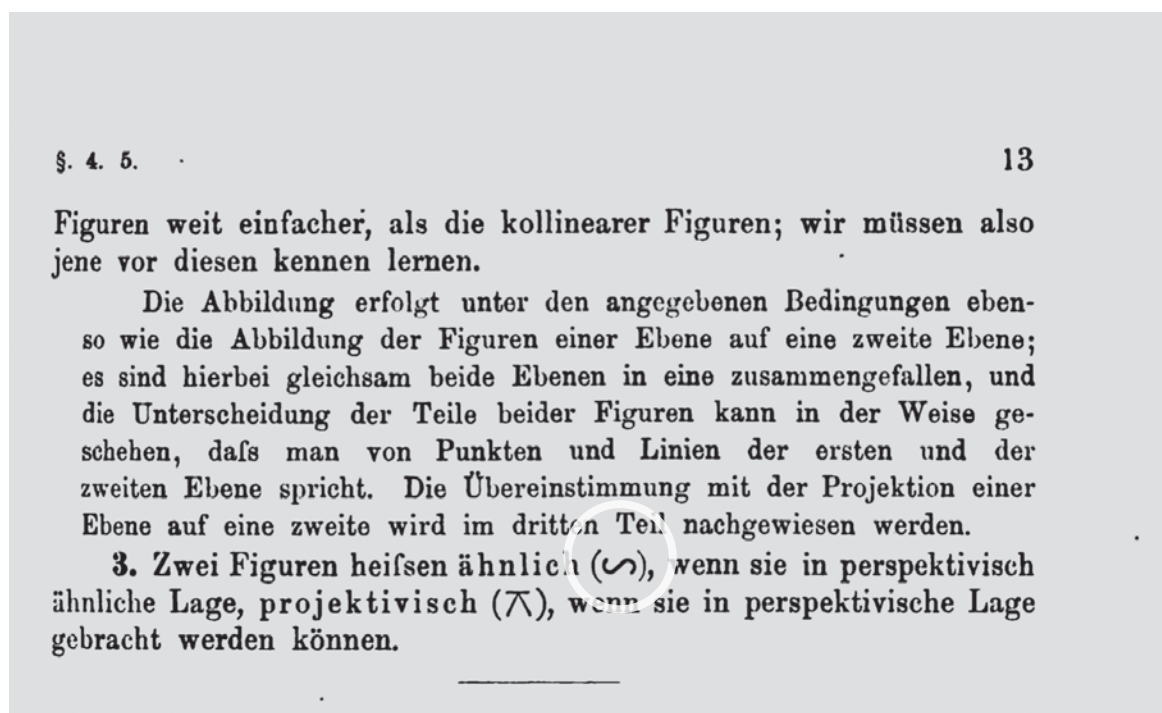
Mit dem Begriffe hat auch Gauß das Zeichen \equiv als Zeichen der Zahlen = Congruenz eingeführt (s. den Art. Zahl. II. 1.). $\sqrt{-1}$ wird oft, auch in diesem Wörterbuche, durch i bezeichnet.

Hat eine Größe mehrere Werthe, so wird nach Cauchy der Inbegriff aller Werthe durch Einschließung in doppelte

∞ variation sequence to 223D
Klügel 1831.



∞ variation sequence to 223D
Lorenz 1798.



∞ variation sequence to 223D
Henrici/Treutlein 1881.

VERKLARING der Merkteekens in dit Werk ge- bruikt.

= Beteekent gelyk.

+ ——— meer; dus $a + b$ is eenen zoo veel als a tot b vergaard.

— min; dat is $a - b$, wil zoo veel zeggen als a min b .

\times of (), verbeeld vermenigvuldigt: Dus is $a \times b$ zoo veel als a vermenigvuldigt door b ; eenen zoo is het met $(a+b)c$ of $(a+b) \times c$.

\triangleright beteekend grooter: dat is $6 \triangleright 4$ of 6 grooter als 4 .

\triangleleft ——— kleiner: dus $3 \triangleleft 5$ of 3 kleiner als 5 .

\triangle ——— driehoek.

\square ——— vierkant, vierhoek of paralelogram.

∞ ——— gelykvormig, wanneer a gelykvormig is aan b , schryft men het zelve $a \infty b$.

\perp beteekent loodrecht.

INLEI-

∞ variation sequence to 223D
Mauduit 1764, p. xxiii (top),
p. 109, 116.

in een en zelve punt A ontmoeten.

BETOOGINGE.

Laat ons voor een oogenblik veronderstellen, dat, de rechte MN de lyn PQ in het stip A ontmoet, maar dat RS het die zelve PQ in eenig ander stip als B doet, zoo is het klaar, dat 'er alleen betoogt moet worden dat de stippen A en B in elkander smelten en op een vallen; of 't geen op het zelve uitkomt, dat $AP =$ is aan BP . Dewyl de lynen PM en QN; PR en QS evenwydig aan elkander zyn ieder aan ieder zoo zyn de \triangle^n APM en AQN ∞ , als meede de \triangle^n BPR en BQS;
Door de eersten is $AP = PM : QN$ (n). . . .
en door de stelling . . . , $PM : QN = PR : QS$,
de \triangle^n BPQ en BQS geeven . . . $PR : QS = BP :$
(n) Eucl. Def. I. 6.

FIG INLEIDING TOT DE
QN zoo wel evenwydig zynde als LI en NS, (door de saamenstelling) zyn de \triangle^n CIL en OSM ∞ ; dus is $CI : OS = IL : NS$ (w); maar door de eigenschappen van de elips heeft men $IL : NS = IF : MS$, dus ook $CI : OS = IF : MS$ (a); waar uit volgt, dat de rechtehoekige \triangle^n CIF en OSM ook ∞ zyn (w), en by gevolg de lynen CF en MS evenwydig aan elkander (e).

V. GRONDLES.

§. 95. Het vierkant \overline{PM}^2 (Fig. 18.) van eene ordinaat PM aan een diameter CE in de elips, staat tot den regthoek $EP \times eP$ of $\overline{CE}^2 - \overline{CP}^2$ der abscissen EP en eP, gelyk het vierkant \overline{CF}^2 van den halven meede-diameter CF staat tot het vierkant \overline{CE}^2 van den halven diameter CE op welken

| *divisé par*, entre deux nombres. Voir \times . Devant un nombre seul signifie *le réciproque de* (Int § 22, II § 2 P21). Dans les parties I-IV il a aussi la signification du signe f.

$\sqrt{}$ *racine arithmétique*. Il se place devant un nombre positif (II § 6).

$\sqrt{*}$ *racines algébriques*. Il se place devant un nombre réel ou imaginaire (II § 9 P11).

! *factorielle* (III § 1 P30, 31).

$>$ *est plus grand que*. Il se place entre deux nombres réels finis (II § 5), entre un nombre fini et l'infini (V § 1 P6, § 3 P7), ou deux transfinis (VI § 2 P13).

$<$ *est plus petit que*. Voir $>$.

f *fonction*. Voir f.

' ' Signes qui forment des fonctions (Intr § 21). Voir \cup , \cap , \neg , Ω , etc. $a \vdash b$, $a \dashv b$, $a \vdash b$, $a \dashv b$ *intervalles de a à b*, avec, ou sans les extrêmes (Intr § 2, V § 4 P41-45).

| Signe du produit intérieur de deux nombres complexes du même ordre (V § 4 P24).

$\left(\begin{smallmatrix} b \\ a \end{smallmatrix}\right)$ Signe de la substitution de b à a (Intr § 28).

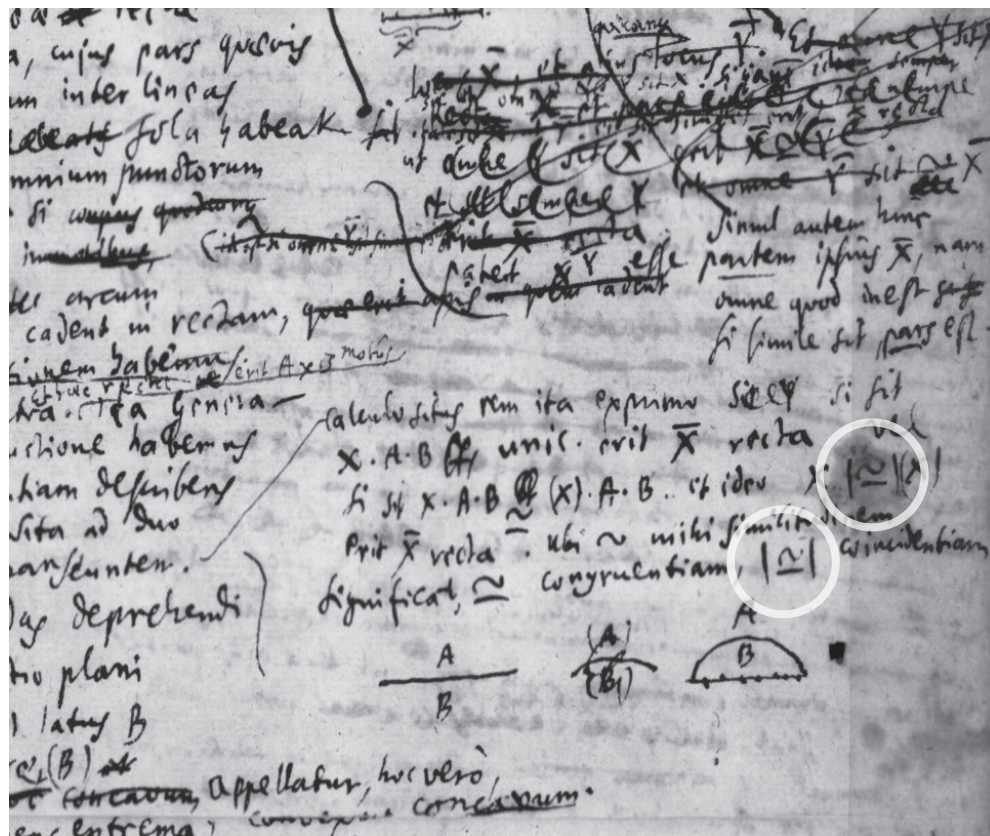
∞ *est semblable, ou de la même puissance*; on l'écrit entre deux classes (VI § 1 P1).

II *deuxième classe de nombres transfinis* (VI § 2 P27).

↑, ↓ (Intr § 32-33). Ils ne figurent pas dans le Formulaire.

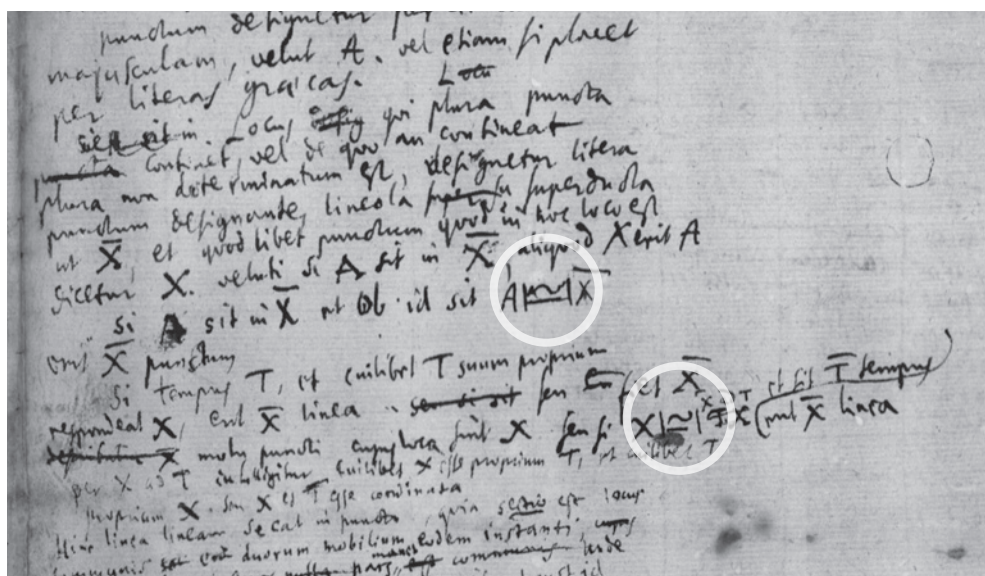
∞ variation sequence to 223D

Peano 1895.



LEIBNIZIAN COINCIDENCE

LH 35 I 1, f. 1v



LEIBNIZIAN COINCIDENCE

LH 35 I 13, f. 12r

fuiſſet aggreſſus demonſtrare, in triangulo duo quaecunque latera eſſe tertio majora; id enim ex tali definitione ſtatim conſequebatur.

(2) Ego varias lineae rectae definitiones habeo: veluti *Recta* eſt linea, cujus pars quaevis eſt ſimilis toti, quanquam Recta non ſolum inter lineas, ſed etiam inter magnitudines hoc ſola habeat. Sit locus \bar{X} (fig. 82), et locus alius quicumque \bar{Y} , qui inſit priori, ſeu cujuſque punctum quodvis Y ſit X ; ſi jam \bar{Y} eſt ſimile ipſi \bar{X} , erit \bar{X} recta. Simul autem hinc patet, \bar{Y} eſſe *partem* ipſius \bar{X} , nam omne quod in eſt ſi ſimile ſit, *pars* eſt.

(3) Definio etiam *rectam*, locum omnium punctorum ad duo puncta ſui ſitus unicorum. Et hinc ſi quaecunque magnitudo moveatur duobus punctis immotis, mota quidem puncta arcum circuli deſcribent, quieſcentia autem omnia cadent in rectam, in quam cadent omnium illorum Circulorum centra. Et haec recta erit *Axis Motus*. Ita generationem rectae et circuli una eademque conſtructione habemus. At punctum extra rectam poſitum, circumferentiam deſcribens, infinita percurrit puncta, eodem modo ſita ad duo illa puncta immota et ad rectam per ea tranſeuntem. Calculo ſitus rem ita expriſſo: Si ſit $X.A.B$ unic., erit \bar{X} recta, vel ſi ſit $X.A.B \approx (X).A.B$ et ideo $X \approx (X)$, erit \bar{X} recta, ubi \approx mihi ſimilitudinem ſignificat, \approx congruentiam, $|\approx|$ coincidentiam.

(4) Sed ad Euclidean demonstrationes perficiendas deprehendi hac opus eſſe definitione, ut *recta* ſit ſectio plani utrinque ſe habens eodem modo, ut latus A (fig. 83) et latus B , cum in *curva*

⌘ LEIBNIZIAN COINCIDENCE

Gerhard 1858, p. 185.

Ad calculum situs constituendum utile est omnia à verbis reduci ad signa, remque eo usque produci donec habeatur Analysis, id est donec demonstrationes theorematum sine ope ingenii, certo ratiocinandi filo prodeant.

Punctum designetur per literam majusculam, velut A, vel enim si placet per literas graecas.

Locus qui plura puncta continet, vel de quo an contineat plura non determinatum est, designetur litera punctum designante, lineola superducta ut \bar{X} , et quodlibet punctum quod in hoc loco est dicetur X. Veluti si A sit in \bar{X} , aliquod X erit A.

Si A sit in \bar{X} et ob id sit $A|\simeq|\bar{X}$, erit \bar{X} punctum.

Si tempus T, et cuilibet T suum proprium respondeat X, erit \bar{X} linea. Seu fiet \bar{X} motu puncti; complura sint X seu si $X|\simeq|X$ ad T et sit \bar{T} tempus erit \bar{X} linea per X ad T; intelligitur cuilibet X esse proprium T, et cuilibet T proprium X. Seu X et T esse coordinata.

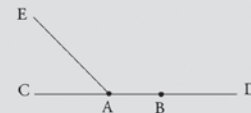
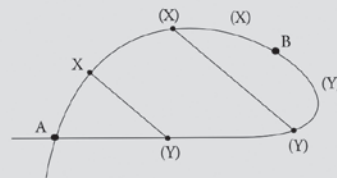
Hinc linea lineam secat in puncto, quia **sectio** est locus communis duorum mobilium eodem instanti, ita ut post id instans nihil sit ipsis mobilibus commune. Sed haec definitio non potest applicari ad sectionem in motu superficierum et corporum, quia duae lineae generantes suam quaevis superficiem, et duae superficies generantes quaevis suum corpus rari tales sunt ut ex toto vel parte congruere possint. At punctum puncto semper congruit sectionis ergo definitioni nostrae generali standum, ut sit totum commune duabus magnitudinibus partem communem non habentibus.

Ex natura similitudinis consequitur rectas duas non nisi in uno puncto sibi occurrere posse. Habeant commune punctum A et inde egrediantur AX et AY et rursus concurrant in B. Moveantur puncta X et Y velocitatibus, quae sunt ut AXB ad AYB, ita concurrant in puncto B. Sit autem cujuscunque puncti motus uniformis. Cum sit $A(X)\simeq|AX$ et $A(Y)\simeq|AY$ et motus per A(X) vel A(Y) similis motui per AX, AY, atque adeò A(X)(Y) et AXY determinentur similiter, erit et $A(X)(Y)\simeq|AXY$. Cum ergo non coincident X et Y, neque etiam coincident (X) et (Y) adeoque nec poterit dari punctum B.

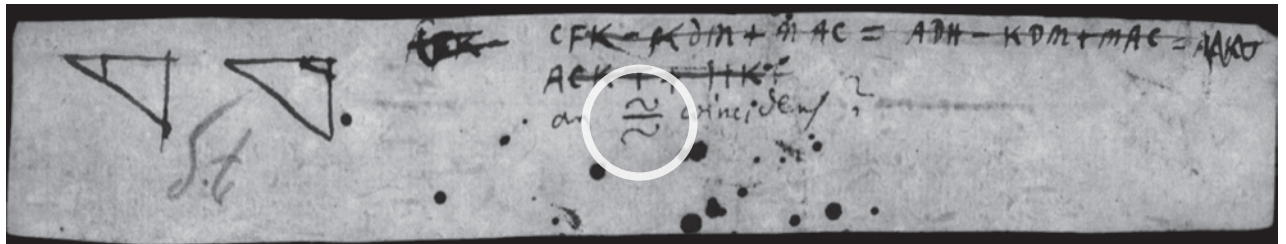
Hinc datis duobus punctis determinata est recta, quae puncta connectit; seu rectae extremis congruentes totae congruent.

Et datis duobus punctis determinata est recta infinita transiens per duo puncta. Nam determinata est recta AB, nec produci potest utrinque nisi uno modo, ut versus C vel D, nam si ex A versus C et E produci posset, rectae EAB et CAB darentur, plus quam punctum commune habentes.

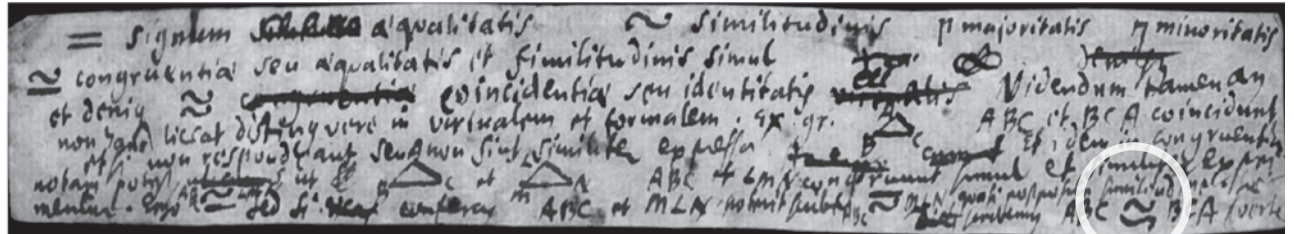
Duae rectae AB et CD sunt similes inter se: nam AB, pariter ac CD, determinatur ex eo ut duo puncta connectuntur per rectam cujus pars sit similis



⊞ LEIBNIZIAN COINCIDENCE; ∞ variation sequence to 2243
de Risi 2007, p. 604, 605.



∞ variation sequence to 2A6C
LH 35 I 14, f. 75r



∞ INVERTED LAZY S OVER LAZY S
LH 35 I 14, f. 75v

designetur per \bar{x} , lineam super litera ducendo. Si quaevis loci puncta sint \bar{y} et \bar{z} , loca erunt \bar{y} vel \bar{z} . Sit ergo totum \bar{x} , partes constituentes sint \bar{y} et \bar{z} , et sectio sit \bar{v} , formari poterunt hae propositiones: Omne \bar{y} est \bar{x} , omne \bar{z} est \bar{x} , quia \bar{y} et \bar{z} insunt ipsi \bar{x} . Sed et quod non est \bar{y} nec \bar{z} , id non est \bar{x} , posito \bar{y} et \bar{z} esse partes constituentes seu exhaustientes totum \bar{x} . Porro omne \bar{v} est \bar{y} , et omne \bar{v} est \bar{z} , quia \bar{v} est ipsis \bar{y} et \bar{z} commune, seu utrique inest. Denique quod est \bar{y} et \bar{z} simul, id etiam est \bar{v} , quia \bar{v} est sectio seu terminus communis totus, scilicet qui continet quicquid utrique commune est, partem enim (seu aliquid praeter terminum) non habent communem. Hinc omnes Logicae subalternationes, conversiones, oppositiones et consequentiae hic locum interdum cum fructu habent, cum alias a realibus proscriptae fuerint visae, hominum vitio, non propria culpa.

(8) Coincident loca \bar{x} et \bar{y} , si omne \bar{x} sit \bar{y} , et omne \bar{y} sit \bar{x} . Hoc ita designo: $\bar{x} \approx \bar{y}$.

(9) Punctum est locus, in quo nullus alius locus assumi

∞ variation sequence to 2A6C
Gerhard 1858, p. 173.

109 (40946). SIGNA CONGRUENTIAE ET COINCIDENTIAE
[1677 – 1716]

Überlieferung: L Konzept: LH 35 I 14 Bl. 75. 1 Streifen ca 16,5 × 3 cm. 8 Z. auf Bl. 75 v^o, 3 Z. auf Bl. 75 r^o. Auf Bl. 75 r^o oben Berechnungen, die bis auf die Figuren gestrichen sind (= Z. 15–18). [noch].

Datierungsgründe: [noch].

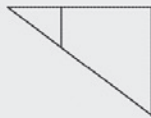
= signum aequalitatis ∞ similitudinis ∩ majoritatis ∩ minoritatis ∞ congruentiae seu aequalitatis et similitudinis simul et denique ∞ coincidentiae seu identitatis. Videndum tamen an non hanc liceat distinguere in virtualem et formalem. Ex. gr.

10 $\triangle ABC$ et BCA coincidunt etsi non respondeant seu non sint similiter expressa.

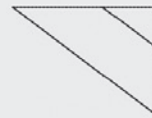
Et idem in congruentia notari potest, ut $\triangle ABC$ et $\triangle LMN$ congruunt simul et similiter exprimentur. Ergo $ABC \cong LMN$. Sed si conferas APC et MLN poterit scribi $ABC \cong MLN$, quasi postposita similitudine seu scribemus $ABC \cong BCA$. An \cong coincident?

15 [Berechnungen auf Bl. 75 r^o, bis auf Figuren gestrichen]

$$CFK - KDM + MAC = ADH - KDM + MAC =$$



[Fig. 1]



[Fig. 2]

$$ACKT + HKT$$

7 signum (1) Similitu (2) aequalitatis L 8 et (1) ∞ (2) similitudinis simul (a) ≡ co(i) (b) ∞ (c) denique (d) et denique ∞ (aa) congruentiae (bb) coincidentiae L 8 f. identitatis (1) virtualis (2).

Videndum L 10 f. expressa. (1) tantum current (2) Et L 11 ut (1) congr(u) (2) si (3) $\triangle ABC$ et L 12 f. Ergo (1) \cong Sed si (a) dicas (b) conferas ... scribi \cong (2) $ABC \cong LMN$ L 13 seu (1) dice (2) scribemus $ABC \cong BCA$. | an \cong coincident? erg. | L 16 (1) AD (2) | $CFK \dots MAC =$ gestr. | L 18 $ACKT + HKT$ gestr. L

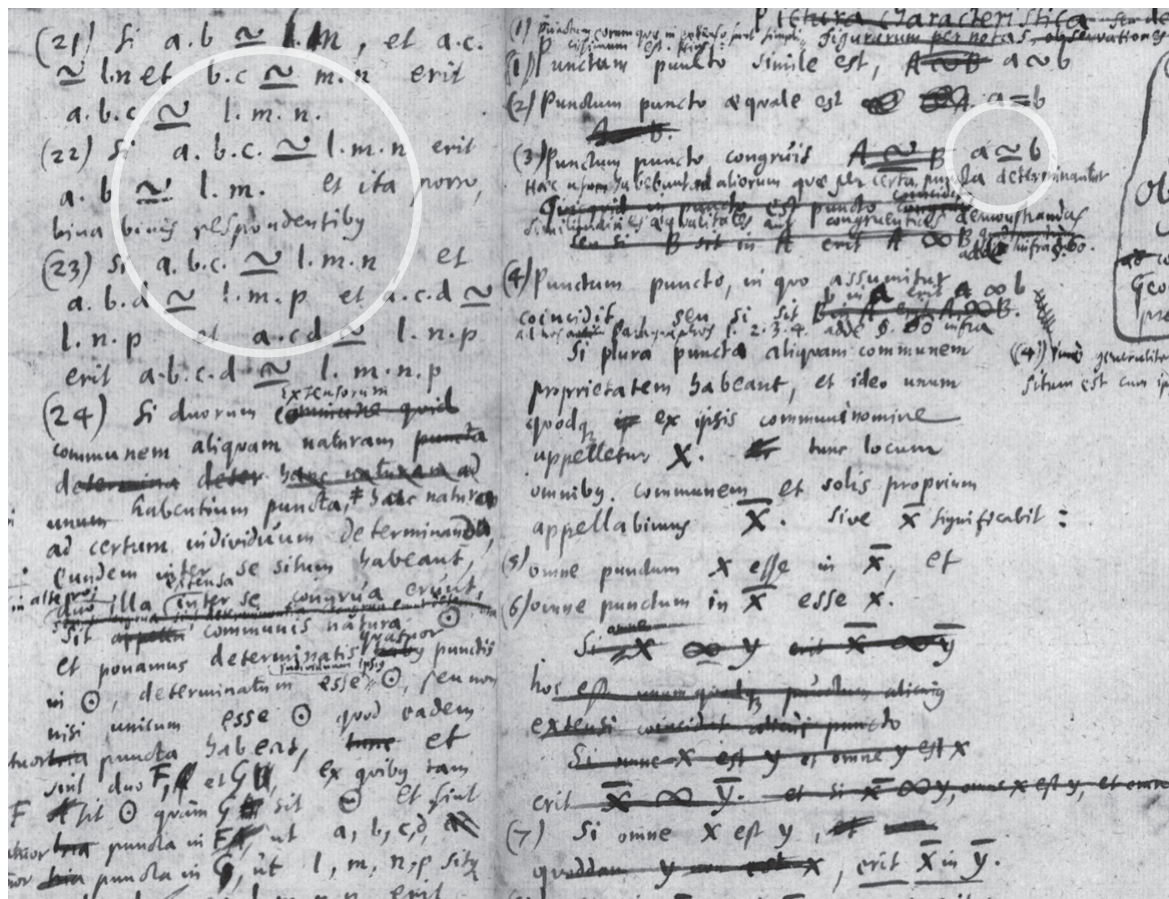
∞
∞

Ergo (1) \cong Sed si (a) dicas (b) conferas
s $ABC \cong BCA$. | an \cong coincident? erg. |
HKT gestr. L

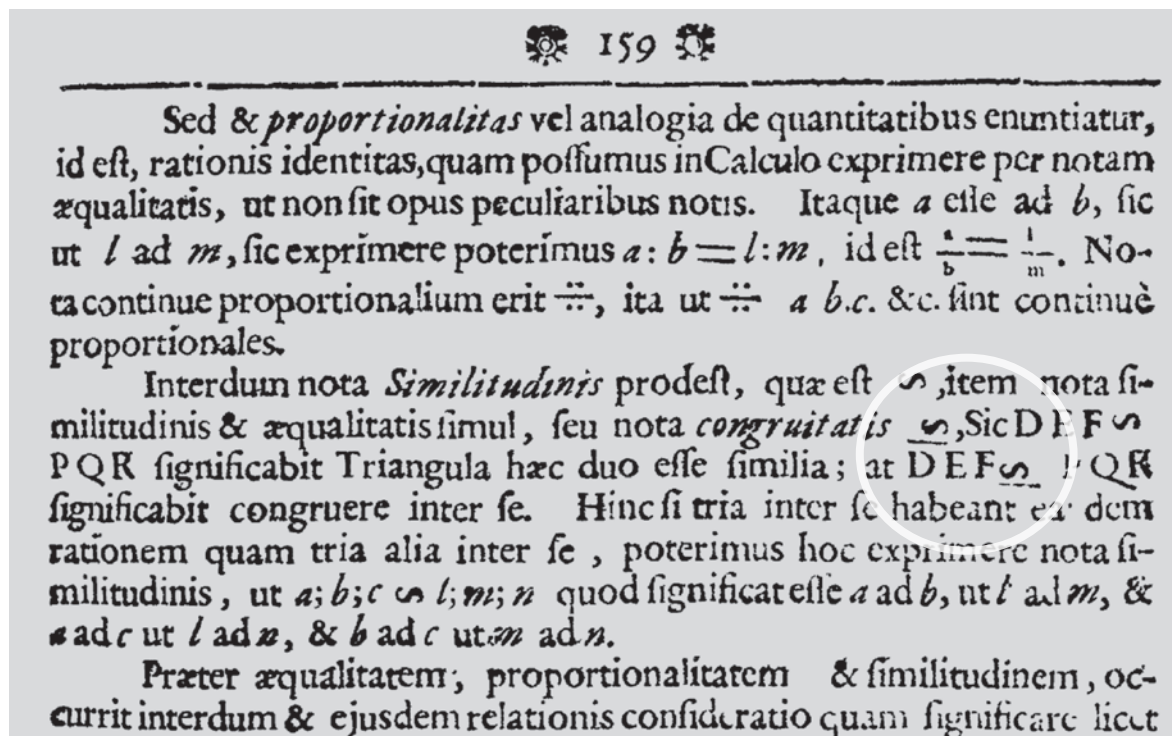
∞ INVERTED LAZY S OVER LAZY S;

∞ variation sequence to 2A6C, ∞ variation sequence to 2243, ∞ variation sequence to 2248, ∞ variation sequence to 2242.

Mathesis vs. 2, Hannover 2025 (PDF), p. 360



∞ variation sequence to 2243
LH 35 I 14, fol. 1r



∞ variation sequence to 22CD
Monitum de Characteribus Algebraica, Miscellanea Berolinensia, 1710, p. 159

angle, iufques a O, en forte qu'N O foit efgale a N L, la toute OM eft \propto la ligne cherchée. Et elle s'exprime en cete forte

$$\propto \propto \frac{1}{2} a + \sqrt{\frac{1}{4} a a + b b}.$$

Que fi i'ay $y \propto - a y + b b$, & qu'y foit la quantité qu'il faut trouver, ie fais le mefme triangle rectangle N L M, & de fa baze M N i'ofte N P efgale a N L, & le refte P M eft y la racine cherchée. De façon que iay $y \propto - \frac{1}{2} a + \sqrt{\frac{1}{4} a a + b b}$. Et tout de mefme fi i'a-uois $x^2 \propto - a x + b^2$. P M feroit x . & i'aurois $x \propto \sqrt{-\frac{1}{2} a + \sqrt{\frac{1}{4} a a + b b}}$: & ainfi des autres.

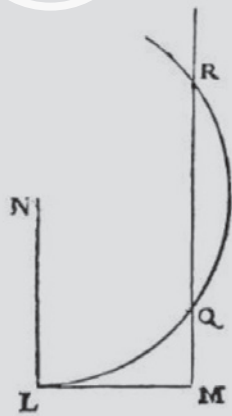
Enfin fi i'ay

$$x^2 \propto a x - b b:$$

ie fais N L efgale à $\frac{1}{2} a$, & L M efgale à b cōme deuãt, puis, au lieu de ioindre les points M N, ie tire M Q R parallele a L N. & du centre N par L ayant defcrit vn cercle qui la coupe aux points Q & R, la ligne cherchée x eft M Q, oubiẽ M R, car en ce cas elle s'ex-

prime en deux façons, a fçauoir $x \propto \frac{1}{2} a + \sqrt{\frac{1}{4} a a - b b}$, & $x \propto \frac{1}{2} a - \sqrt{\frac{1}{4} a a - b b}$.

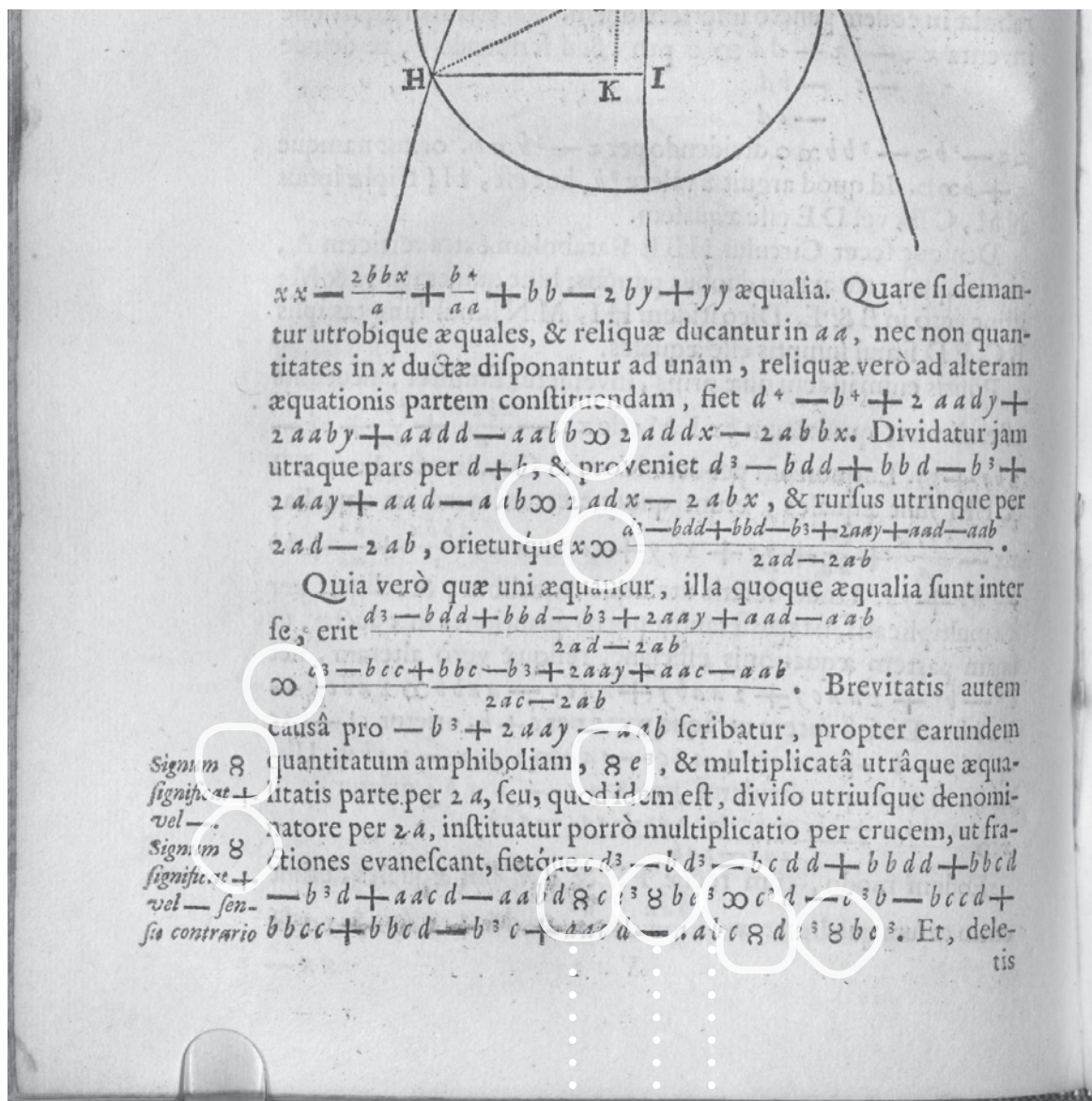
Et fi le cercle, qui ayant fon centre au point N, paffe par le point L, ne coupe ny ne touche la ligne droite M Q R, il n'y a aucune racine en l'Equation, de façon qu'on peut affurer que la construction du problefme propofé eft impoffible.



\propto CARTESIAN EQUAL

Descartes, La Géométrie, 1637, p. 303

Here the type composer utilized a turned \propto letter from which he carved off the horizontal bar of the \propto , as a makeshift for ∞ . Rather than sticking to that desperate solution, we see \propto being graphically a rotated variant of 221D \propto PROPORTIONAL TO.



∞ CARTESIAN EQUAL, ⋈ LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2,

⋈ LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2 INVERTED

Francisci à Schooten In Geometriam Renati Des Cartes Commentarii, p. 340. Amsterdam 1659.

The image is from an anthology of Descartes' *Geometria*, this copy was in possession of G. W. Leibniz. It shows that van Schooten created the characters ⋈ and ∞ on the model of Descartes' sign for *equal* ∞; here he uses them for the meanings "plusminus" and "minusplus". Leibniz eventually adopted these characters to denote "congruence".

Source: GWLB Hannover, Leibn. Marg. 178, 1

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| \sim | Multiplikation | Proportion: |
| \times | Überkreuzmultiplikation | $a:b = c:d$ |
| \div | Division | $a - b - c - d$ |
| $a^q, a^o, a^{qq} \dots$ | $a^2, a^3, a^4 \dots$ | $a \text{---} b \text{---} c \text{---} d$ (Tschirnhaus) |
| $a_2, a_3 \dots$ | $a^2, a^3 \dots$ (Ozanam) | $a \text{X} b \text{X} c \text{X} d$ |
| $\square, \boxed{2}$ | Quadrat | $a:b::c:d$ |
| $q., Q.$ | Quadrat | $a.b:c.d$ |
| $rq., Rq.$ | Quadratwurzel | $a, b,, c, d$ |
| $\sqrt[3]{C}, \sqrt[3]{(3)}, Rc$ | Kubikwurzel | $a b c d$ (Hérigone) |
| $rqq., Rqq.$ | 4. Wurzel | Elementarsymmetrische Funktionen: |
| $\sqrt[n]{\textcircled{a}}$ | n-te Wurzel | $xy = ab + ac + \dots + bd \dots$ |
| $\#$ | identisch | $vxy = abc + abd + \dots + bcd + \dots$ |
| \sqcap | gleich | ∞ Folge |
| ∞ | gleich (Descartes) | \bullet ausfallende Glieder |
| \varpropto | gleich (Tschirnhaus-Variante) | $*$ ausfallende Glieder |
| \sim | gleich (Ozanam) | S. 34: Multiplikation |
| \sqsupset | S. 57: minus (Hérigone) | Kürzung eines Bruches |
| \sqsubset | größer als | $\frac{f}{f}$ facit |
| \sqsupset | kleiner als | \times Neunerprobenkreuz |

∞ CARTESIAN EQUAL – key to symbols, LAA VII-1

German natural scientist Ehrenfried Walther von Tschirnhaus (1651–1708) adopted Descartes' symbol ∞ for *equal*, but wrote it in a more sloppy version with a straight downwards going line. This led the editors of the Leibniz Akademie-Ausgabe (LAA) to decide to distinguish the two variants, and so these two came into use for many decades. Initially we proposed a second character:

\varpropto TSCHIRNHAUS EQUAL

which reflects this typographic convention. In certain situations it is desirable to maintain the distinction for historiographical reasons, to trace different authors and writing habits. On the other hand, ∞ and \varpropto actually bear the same meaning: *equal*. Therefore we propose to encode ∞ as a new character but to encode the Tschirnhaus variant as a variation sequence:

```
xb17;CARTESIAN EQUAL;Sm;0;ON;;;;;N;;;;;
xb17 FE00; with descender; # CARTESIAN EQUAL
```

[Tschirnhaus]

$$x^3 - pxx + qx - r \varpropto 0$$

$$pp \varpropto 3q \quad x \varpropto \frac{p}{3} [-] \sqrt[3]{\frac{p^3}{27} - r}$$

$$\frac{pp}{4} - \frac{2r}{p} \varpropto 4 \quad x \varpropto \frac{p}{3} + \sqrt{\frac{pp}{9} - r}$$

$$x^4 - px^3 + qxx - rx + s \varpropto 0$$

$$\frac{rr}{p^2} \varpropto s \quad x \varpropto \frac{p}{4} + \sqrt{\frac{pp}{4}} + \sqrt{\quad} + \sqrt{\quad}$$

$$x^4 - 2ax^3 + ccx^2 + a^6 - a^4$$

\varpropto variation sequence to CARTESIAN EQUAL (Tschirnhaus variant)
LAA VII-2 p. 715

kan sien daer, AB is $\frac{1}{8}$ van AC dat het differ. ontrent is $\frac{1}{2}$ sec: soude dan diff: van de geheele AB . ontrent 3 secunden.

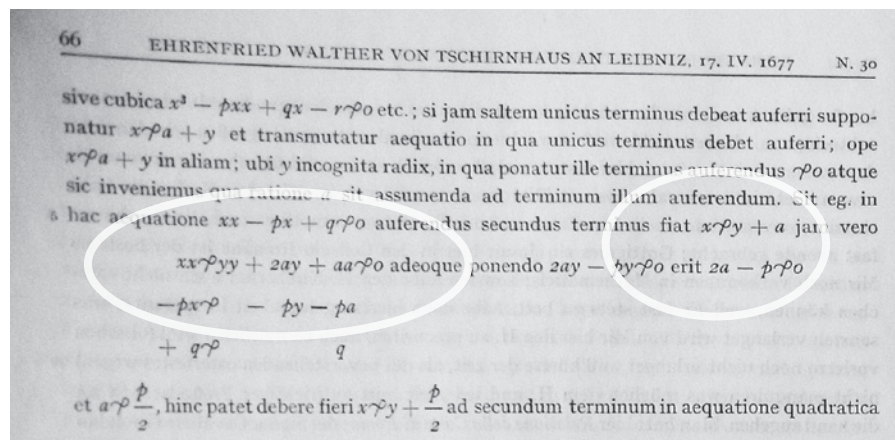
Maer soo men de $\angle ACB$, 2 mahl, in 2 gelijcke deelen deelt, dan is AB , een weijnig kleijnder als $\frac{1}{5}$ deel van AC (wen AB is $\propto AC$) en de \angle en differ. als men kan sien in de wercking bouen, daer AB is $\frac{1}{5}$ deel van AC , dat de differentie is ontrent 12 sec.

Daerom wen de sijde AB is $\propto AC$ ofte een wenig kleijnder, het is genoeg om de $\angle ACB$, te deelen in 2 mahl, in 2 gelijcke deel, de \angle sal ontrent $\frac{4}{5}$ deel, van 1 minut differen (als men met de 2 eerste termen, als $\frac{b}{1} - \frac{b^3}{3} \propto$ de arcus ADE werckt) van de Tab. sinus; ende hoe naeder het kombt tot $\frac{1}{3}$ deel van AC , hoeweeniger het verschiet.

Soo AB is $\frac{1}{3}$ deel van AC ofte een wenig groter soo heeft men van nooden de $\angle ACB$

\propto variation sequence to *CARTESIAN EQUAL* (Tschirnhaus variant)

LAA VII-6 p. 301



\propto variation sequence to *CARTESIAN EQUAL* (Tschirnhaus variant)

LAA III-2 p. 66; III-2 p. 285 (below)

incognitae potestates ordine per divisionem inserendo ac assumendo semper quotientes aequaliter compositas, quarum omnium possibilium modorum determinatus semper numerus facile exhibetur; hanc vero Methodum in praesentia abunde declaravi et specimina exhibui; sed non ita pridem ad majorem perfectionem deduxi. 2^{da} est supponendo formulas 15 omnes possibles radicalium $x \propto \sqrt[3]{a} + \sqrt[3]{b}$, $x \propto \sqrt[3]{a} + b$, $x \propto \sqrt[3]{a} + \sqrt[3]{b + \sqrt[3]{c}}$ quae facile omnes quot esse possunt numero determinantur et tunc liberandae sunt ab signis radicalibus atque comparatio instituenda. Specimen Tibi exhibebo ad formulas Cardanicas obtinendas sit $x \propto \sqrt[3]{a} + \sqrt[3]{b}$ supponatur jam $\sqrt[3]{a} \propto c$ et $\sqrt[3]{b} \propto d$ et habebimus has tres aequationes $x \propto c + d$, $a \propto c^3$ et $b \propto d^3$ quibus reductis inveniemus aequationem absque signo radicali 20 (ut Tibi jam notum erit juxta Methodum D. de Beaune radicalia signa auferendi, quaeque

[Vierter Teil]

$$\begin{array}{l} a + b \neq ac + 2cd + dd \\ a \neq cc \qquad b \neq 2cd \end{array}$$

$$a^2 + 2ab + b^2 \neq c^2 + 3cd^2 + 3c^3d + d^3$$

$$\begin{array}{lll} a^2 \neq c^3 & 2ab \neq 3c^2d & b^2 \neq 3cd^2 + d^3 \\ a \neq \sqrt{c^3} & b \neq \frac{3c^2d}{2a} & \frac{9c^4dd}{4c^3} \neq 3c^3d + d^3 \\ & & \frac{9cdd}{4} \\ & & 9cdd \neq 12c^3d + d^3 \\ & & 9cd \neq 12c^3 + dd \\ & & \hline & & dd \neq 9cd - 12c^3 \\ & & d \neq 3c + \sqrt{9cc - 12c^3} \\ & & d \neq 3c + c\sqrt{9 - 12c} \end{array}$$

\neq variation sequence to CARTESIAN EQUAL (Tschirnhaus variant)

LAA VII-8 p. 287; III-2 p. 380 (below)

380 EHRENFRIED WALTHER VON TSCHIRNHAUS AN LEIBNIZ, 10. IV. 1678 N. 154

ratione determinantur. Atque sic haec porro sese ita in infinitum habere; sed prolixioribus non opus, cum operanti juxta ea quae diximus haec sese statim manifestabunt. Attamen ut omni ex parte satisfaciam, Demonstratio possibilitatis poterat universalius et facilius sic absolvi; aequationes seu quaestiones ex aequaliter compositis primis et simplicissimis

5 quantitativibus $x + y \neq a$ et $xy \neq b$ reducuntur ad quadraticam $yy - ay + b \neq 0$; $x + y + z \neq a$, $xy + xz + yz \neq b$, $xyz \neq c$ ad Cubicam $y^3 - ayy + by - c \neq 0$; $x + y + z + t \neq a$, $xy + xz + xt + yz + yt + zt \neq b$, $xyz + xyt + xzt + yzt \neq c$, $xyzt \neq d$ ad quadrato-quadraticam $y^4 - ay^3 + byy - cy + d \neq 0$ atque sic porro ubi jam notum et facillime demonstratur.

10 Jam vero 2^{do} aequationes

$$\begin{array}{lll} xx + yy \neq a, & xy \neq b & \text{possunt reduci ad } xx + yy \neq a \text{ et } xxyy \neq bb \text{ etc.} \\ x^3 + y^3 \neq a & & x^3 + y^3 \neq a \quad x^3y^3 \neq b^3 \\ x^4 + y^4 \neq a & & x^4 + y^4 \neq a \quad x^4y^4 \neq b^4 \end{array}$$

item per superiora Theoremata aequationes

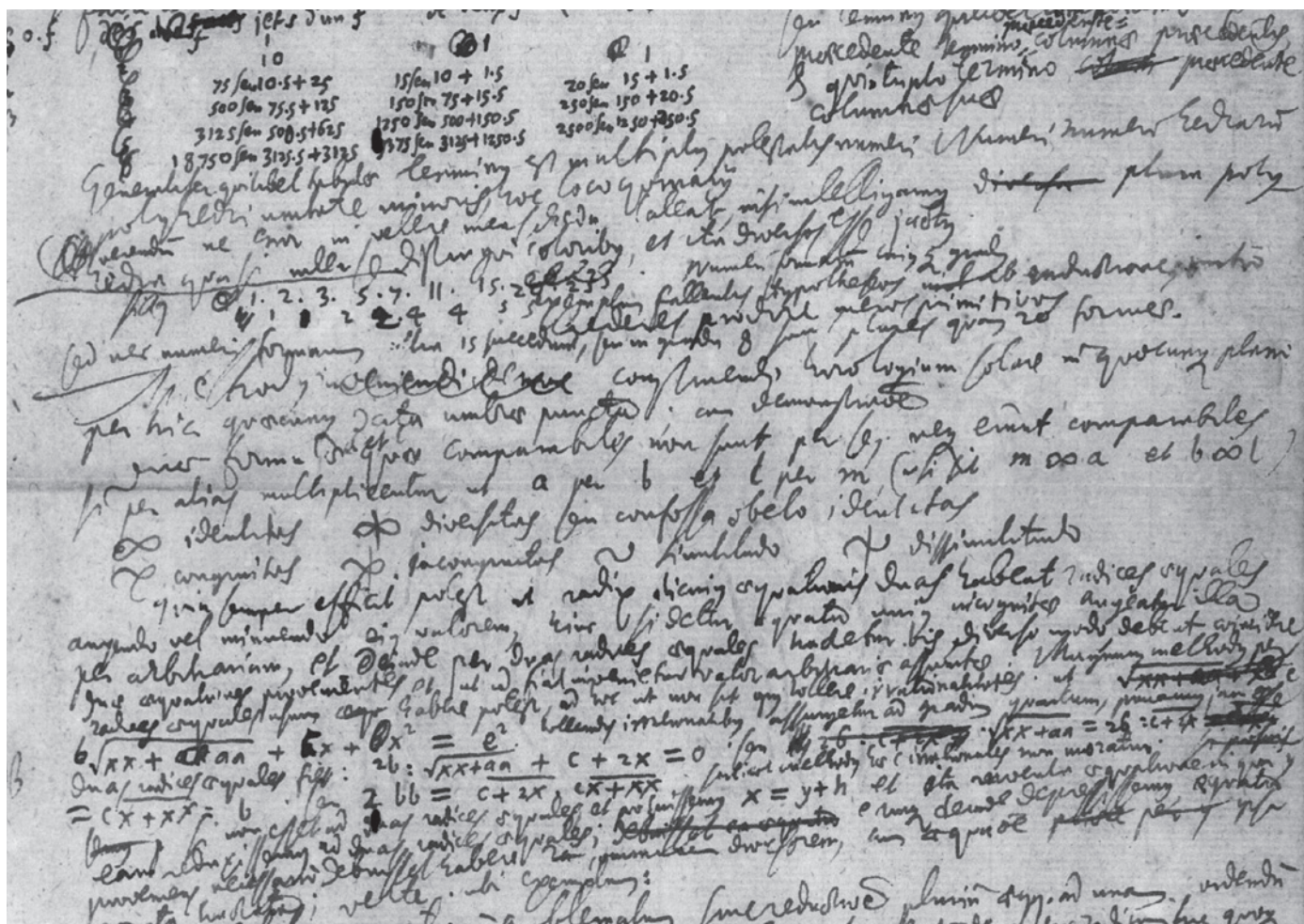
15 $xx + yy + zz \neq a$, $xy + xz + yz \neq b$, $xyz \neq c$

$$\begin{array}{l} x^3 + y^3 + z^3 \neq a \\ x^4 + y^4 + z^4 \neq a \end{array}$$

reducuntur ad aequationes

20 $xx + yy + zz \neq a$, $xxxy + yyzz + xxzz \neq$ cognitae $xxxyzz \neq cc$

$$\begin{array}{lll} x^3 + y^3 + z^3 \neq a & x^3y^3 + y^3z^3 + x^3z^3 & \text{quantitati } x^3y^3z^3 \neq c^3 \\ x^4 + y^4 + z^4 \neq a & x^4y^4 + y^4z^4 + x^4z^4 & x^4y^4z^4 \neq c^4 \end{array}$$



The marked lines read:

Duae formulae et quae comparabiles non sunt per se, neque erunt comparabiles
 si per alias multiplicentur ut a per b et l per m , (nisi sit $m \propto a$ et $b \propto l$)
 ∞ identitas \oplus diversitas seu confossa obelo identitas
 ∞ congruitas \oplus incongruitas \sim similitudo \emptyset dissimilitudo

This detail of Leibniz's manuscript [LH 35 VIII 30, f. 119v](#), shows ∞ (221E), \oplus (29DE) and \sim (variant to 223E) alongside the characters:

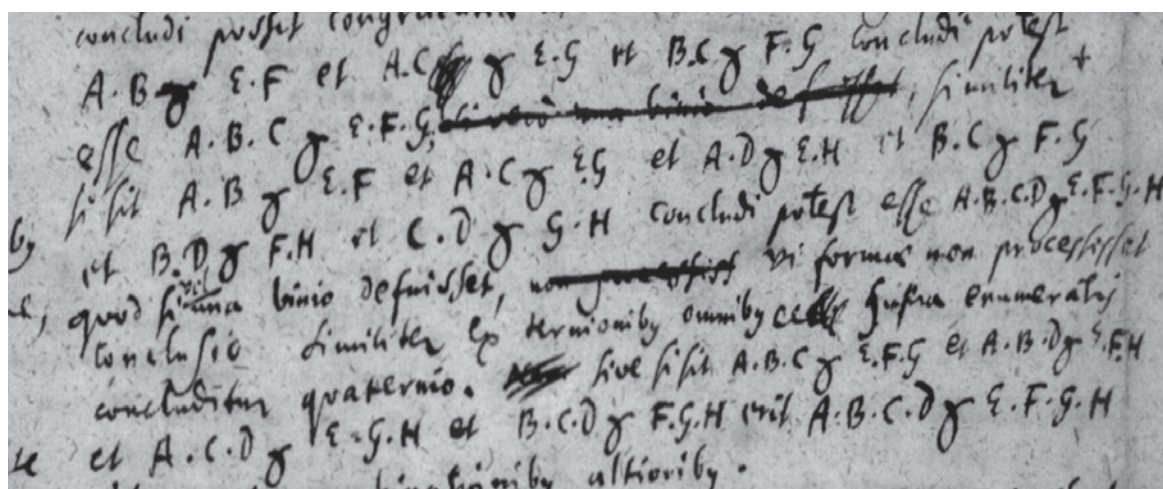
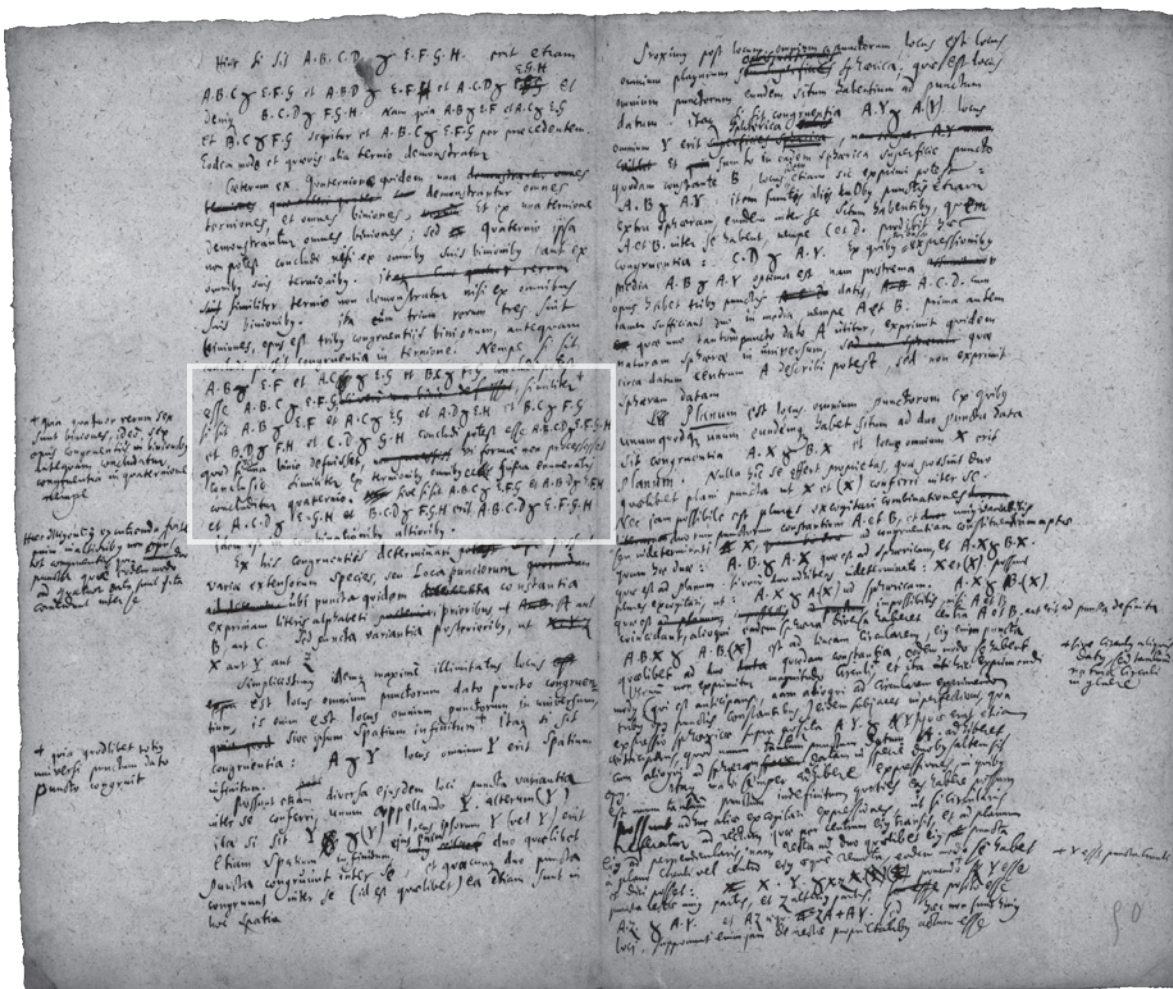
∞ LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE

\oplus LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE WITH VERTICAL BAR

\emptyset LEIBNIZIAN DISSIMILARITY

We prefer the latter character \emptyset not to be seen as a mere variant of 2241 \sim NOT TILDE and to give it its own codepoint. The obliqueness of the dash in 2241, together with the distinct lazy-S shape, does not let a unification under one codepoint seem appropriate.

Leibniz used an even greater and rather complex variety of symbols for *congruence*: ∞ , ∞ , ∞ , ∞ , ∞ , ∞ and ∞ . In this set, ∞ is a glyph derived from the letter c, but its shape also reflects the intention to show a relation to the *infinity* symbol ∞ . In a similar way he developed the symbols ∞ , ∞ and ∞ on the basis of the shape of ∞ CARTESIAN EQUAL and are used very frequently. They form a group in which the base character (∞) gets differentiated in terms of the aspect of *coincidence* (with or without). – First, a few examples from Leibniz’s manuscripts.



8 LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2

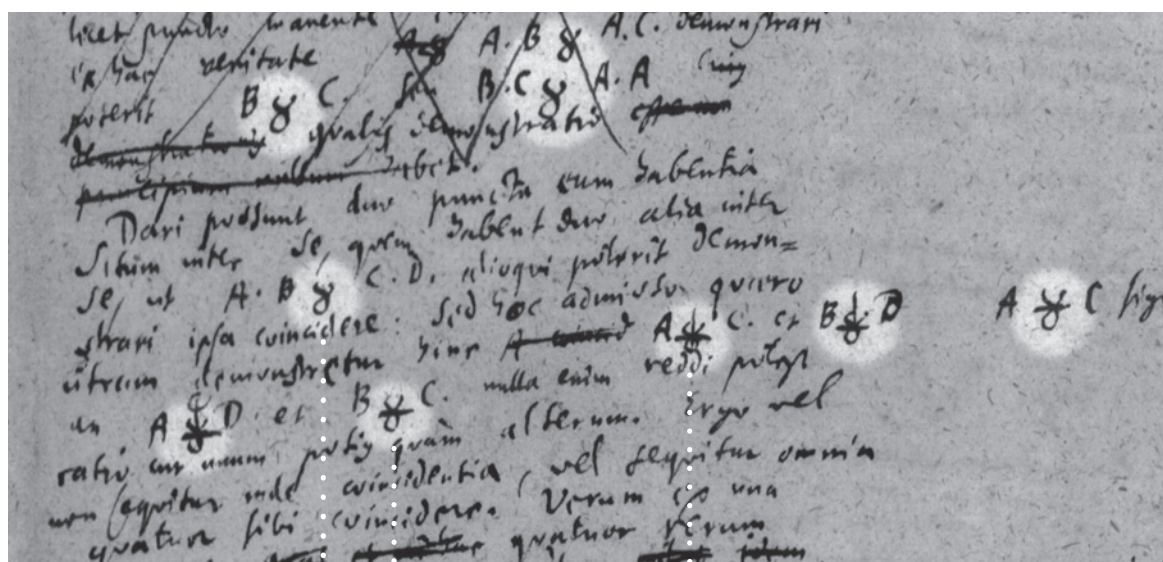
LH 35 I 11, fol. 47v-46r (top); detail of fol. 47v

see p. 46

NB.

The shape of \wp LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2 is in a way similar to \varnothing GREEK SMALL LETTER OMICRON UPSILON, which we propose in doc. L-2535 (N5335R). They have different meanings and function in the mathematical context: \wp is a relation symbol whereas \varnothing is a Greek letter used as a variable. Visually \wp and \varnothing are clearly different in their position on the baseline. – See L-2535 p. 10 for further explanation.

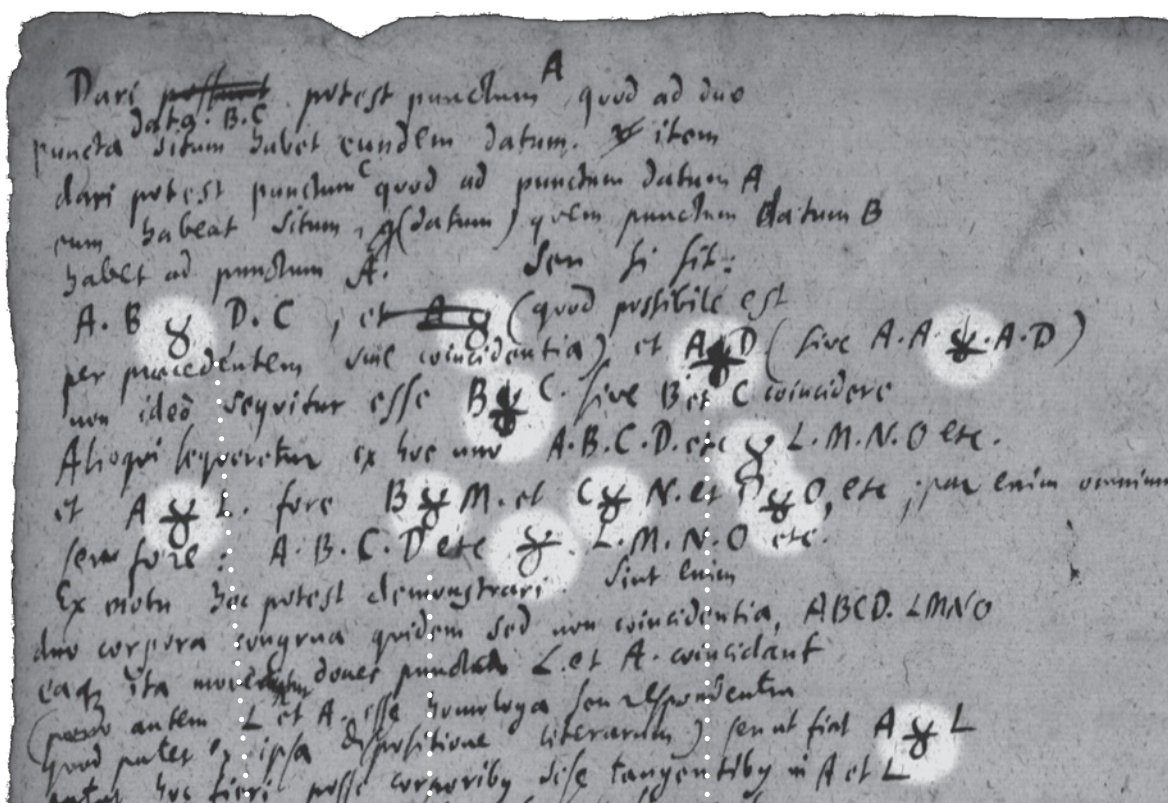
\wp LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2, \wp LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2 WITH HORIZONTAL BAR, \wp LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2 WITH HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL BAR



\wp \wp

\wp

LH 35 I 11, part of fol. 49r



\wp

\wp

\wp

LH 35 I 11, part of fol. 49v

Locus omnium punctorum Y quos se eodem
 modo habent ad duo puncta data A & B **tertium**
 punctum datum, est circulus. Ex hypo
 $A. B. C$ & $A. B. Y$ si circulus. Att
 $A. B. Y$ & $A. B. (Y)$ locus quidem fuisset circulus, qui
 est ter locus punctorum eodem modo se habentium ad
 duo puncta data (Y) non fuisset circulus, sed aliquid
 tantum (est A et B effectus datus, ut paulo ante dixi)
~~Locus omnium punctorum Y quos se eodem modo~~
~~habent ad duo puncta data, est circulus tertium punctum~~
 datum se habent eodem modo. et recta : est :
 $A. Y. C$ & $B. Y. C$. Cum hi determinationibus
 utrumque alio ulterius definitio recta ex quibus ipse locus, demon-
 stratur, quod enim recta, nihil aliud quam linea ex duobus punctis
 ~~A et B~~ L et M determinatur, seu $L. M.$ ~~per~~ punctum iam
 punctum ~~C~~ eodem modo se habere ad tria puncta $A. B. C.$
 item punctum ~~M~~ hunc etiam quodlibet punctum in recta $L. M.$
 contentum eodem modo se habebit ad A et B , etc. Ratio
 hinc in manifestis patet : $L. A. B. C$ & $M. A. B. C$ & $M. B. C$
 ergo et $L. M. A$ & $L. M. B$ & $L. M. C$

A et B
 Ex fort
 A designat
 punctum B.
 A. B. significa
 seu extensum
 etiam situs d
 A. B. C. sig
 A et B et C
 Atq. ita pon
 signa
 punctum A con
 ut nullum
 propositio
 A. B. C. t
 puncta A et
 Sive aliquod
 unum est, cum
 puncta est
 etiam conve
 eundem punct
 tractantur

§ LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2
 LH 35 I 11, part of fol. 47r

hinc spatium
 punctorum dato puncto congruentium, id
 est locus omnium punctorum absolute, quod
 speciose exprimendo, ~~est~~ est congruentia
 Y & A . ~~est~~ locus ~~omnium~~ Y . erit
 spatium illimitatum.
~~Cum~~ ~~si~~ ~~situs~~ ~~aliquis~~ ~~seu~~ ~~etiam~~ ~~inter~~
 due ~~quodlibet~~ puncta. Diximus propositis
 duobus punctis esse aliquam inter ipsa situm.
~~et~~ ~~omnem~~ ~~determinatum~~ ~~omnem~~ ~~is~~ ~~autem~~
 utiq. est determinatus. Ita definitio situs
 ut sit aliqua duorum punctorum relatio
 ex sola ipsorum ~~in~~ quod extensionem
 ex ipsorum coexistentia determinata.
 Relatio autem quae determinatur

§ LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2
 LH 35 I 11, part of fol. 49r

inter se, seu omnia puncta esse unum et idem. Nam quod unum punctum A alteri alicui C non coincidat, non potest aliter demonstrari, quam quod aliud quoddam punctum datur, B , cujus respectu diversum habent situm, ita ut $A.B.$ non $\propto C.B.$

Potest puncti ad punctum situs mutari patet ex praecedenti. Potest enim alterius puncti alius esse situs, quam hujus, ergo et hujus ipsius alius quam nunc est, quia ab altero nulla in re differt, itaque quod alteri possibile est, etiam ipsi possibile est.

Locus rei est in quo ipsa sita est, res autem in alia esse intelligitur hoc loco, si omne extremum ejus extremo parti alterius congruit. Est autem omne extremum puncti, lineae superficiei, ipsum punctum linea superficies.

Puncta Extensi determinati habent inter se situm determinatum. Ergo duo puncta determinato extenso connexa habent inter se situm determinatum.

Dari possunt duo puncta eum habentia situm inter se, quem habent duo alia inter se, ut $A.B \propto C.D$. Alioqui poterit demonstrari ipsa coincidere: sed hoc admissio quaero utrum demonstraretur hinc $A \propto C$ et $B \propto D$ an $A \propto D$ et $B \propto C$. Nulla enim reddi potest ratio cur unum potius quam alterum. Ergo vel non sequitur inde coincidentia, vel sequitur omnia quatuor sibi coincidere. Verum ex una congruentia quatuor rerum congruentiae concludi non possunt. Assertio haec nihil aliud significat, quam extensum aliquod posse moveri seu extensum ex loco cujus termini A et B posse transferri in locum cujus termini C et D .

quem habent milla alia inter se. Itaque sic scribi potest: $A.B.C.D.$ etc. $\propto (A).(B).(C).(D).$ (etc) vel $A.B.C.D.$ etc. $\propto yA.yB.yC.yD.$

Dari potest punctum A , quod ad duo puncta data $B.C$ situm habet eundem datum. Item dari potest punctum C quod ad punctum datum A eum habeat situm (datum), quem punctum datum B habet ad punctum A . Seu si sit: $A.B \propto D.C$ (quod possibile est per praecedentem sine coincidentia) et $A \propto D$ (sive $A.A \propto A.D$) non ideo sequitur esse $B \propto C$. sive B et C coincidere. Alioqui sequeretur ex hoc uno $A.B.C.D.$ etc. $\propto L.M.N.O.$ etc. et $A \propto L$. fore $B \propto M$. et $C \propto N$. et $D \propto O$, etc.; par enim omnium ratio est seu fore $A.B.C.D.$ etc. $\propto L.M.N.O.$ etc.

Ex motu hoc potest demonstrari. Sint enim duo corpora congrua quidem sed non coincidentia, $ABCD.$ $LMNO$. eaque ita moveantur donec puncta L . et A . coincident (porro autem L . et A . esse homologa seu respondentia quod patet ex ipsa dispositione literarum) seu ut fiat $A \propto L$. Patet hoc fieri posse corporibus sese tangentibus in A et L tantum, licet non coincidentibus. Sine motu res patet ex solo tactu, si ponamus duo corpora congrua nullam partem coincidentem habentia se in puncto aliquo tangere, et duo puncta contactus esse respondentia. Potest etiam intelligi corpus unum ab alio multo majore tangi, et ex majore rejectis superfluis exsculpi aliquod congruum minori et congrue positum ad punctum contactus. Sed analytica et generalissima harum possibilitatum demonstratio ex eo satis habetur, si analysi sufficiente facta, patet demonstrari contrarium non posse.

\propto LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2, \propto LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2 WITH HORIZONTAL BAR

Philiumm vs. 2 (2023), p. 83, 84

by De Witt.¹ Wallis² wrote \times for $+$ or $-$, and \oslash for the contrary. The sign \oslash was used in a restricted way, by James Bernoulli;³ he says, " \oslash significat $+$ in pr. e $-$ in post. hypoth.," i.e., the symbol stood for $+$ according to the first hypothesis, and for $-$, according to the second hypothesis. He used this same symbol in his *Ars conjectandi* (1713), page 264. Van Schooten wrote also \oslash for \mp . It should be added that \oslash appears also in the older printed Greek books as a ligature or combination of two Greek letters, the omicron \omicron and the upsilon υ . The \oslash appears also as an astronomical symbol for the constellation Taurus.

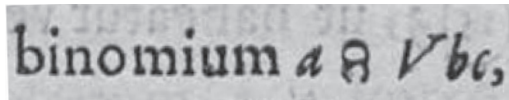
Da Cunha⁴ introduced \pm' and \pm'' , or \pm' and \mp' , to mean that the upper signs shall be taken simultaneously in both or the lower signs shall be taken simultaneously in both. Oliver, Wait, and Jones⁵ denoted positive or negative N by $\pm N$.

211. The symbol $[a]$ was introduced by Kronecker⁶ to represent

\oslash LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2, \oslash LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2 INVERTED

Cajori I p. 246. In this paragraph Cajori explains the different usage of this two symbols for " $+$ or $-$ " and " $-$ or $+$ " by van Schooten, Bernoulli and Wallis. A variety of symbols was used during the 17th century for denoting plus-minus. Leibniz used the same symbols in a different context in order to denote *congruence*, hence the proposed character name in this proposal.

Despite of what Cajori writes here about the similar looking characters *omicron-upsilon* (\oslash , see top of p. 46 and doc. L-2535 on letterlike symbols p. 10) and the astrological *Taurus* symbol \oslash (2649), \oslash must not be mixed up with neither of them.



\oslash LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2 INVERTED; Descartes, Geometria, p. 330

Where the First Term hath the Sign $+$ (because made by Multiplying $+$ into $+$;) The Second Term is wanting (because $-ya^3$ and $+ya^3$ destroy each other;) In the Third Term, yy hath $-$ (because made of $+$ y into $-y$;) and b, d , have the same Terms as in the Quadratics, (which Sign, be it $+$ or $-$, we here design by \oslash , and its contrary by \oslash ;) In the Fourth Term, e hath the same Sign as before (because Multiplied into $+$ y ;) but d the contrary to what it had (because Multiplied into $-y$;) And thus far it holds constantly, whatever be the Signs of p, q, r .

\oslash LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2, \oslash LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2 INVERTED

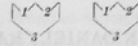
Wallis, Algebra, p. 210



\oslash LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2 INVERTED

Acta eruditorum 1701, p. 214

le rayon BC . De même l'intersection d'un plan et de la sphérique est une ligne circulaire. Car l'expression d'une sphérique est $AC \propto AY$ et celle d'un plan est $AY \propto BY$ et par conséquent $AC \propto BC$, parce que le point C est un des points Y : or BC étant $\propto AC$ et AC étant $\propto AY$, nous aurons $BC \propto AY$ et AY étant $\propto BY$ nous aurons $BC \propto BY$. Joignons ces congruïtés et nous aurons $ABC \propto ABY$ c'est à dire



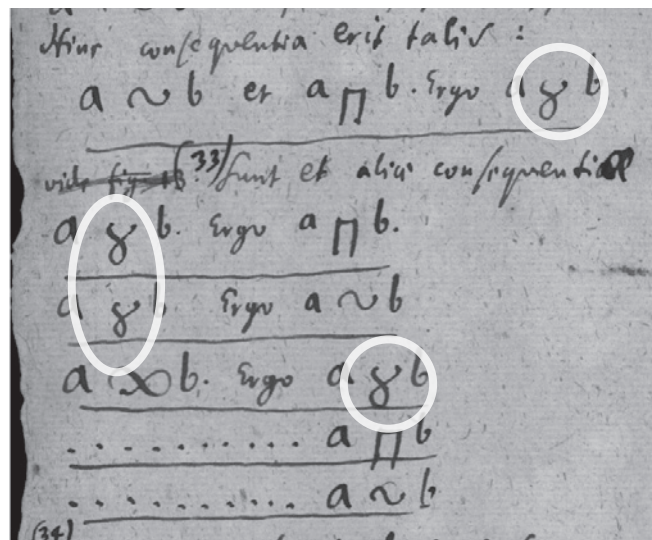
$AB \propto AB$ or $ABC \propto ABY$ est à la circulaire, donc l'intersection d'un plan et d'une $BC \propto BY$

$AC \propto AY$

surface sphérique donne la circulaire. Ce qu'il falloit démontrer par cette sorte de calcul. De la même façon il paroïtra que l'intersection de deux plans est une droite. Car soient deux congruïtés, l'une $AY \propto BY$ pour un plan, l'autre $AY \propto CY$ pour l'autre plan, nous aurons $AY \propto BY \propto CY$ dont le lieu est la droite. Enfin l'intersection de deux droites est un point car soit $AY \propto BY \propto CY$ et $BY \propto CY \propto DY$ nous aurons $AY \propto BY \propto CY \propto DY$.

Je n'ay qu'une remarque à ajouter, c'est que je voy qu'il est possible d'entendre la

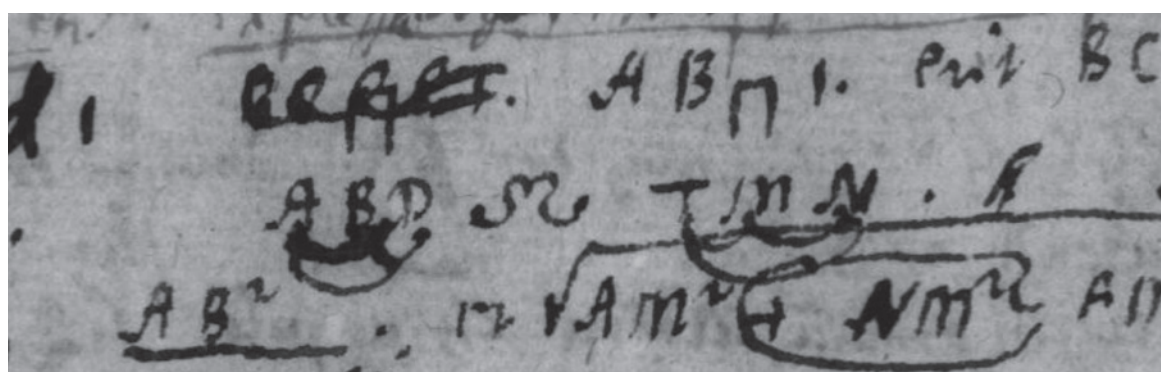
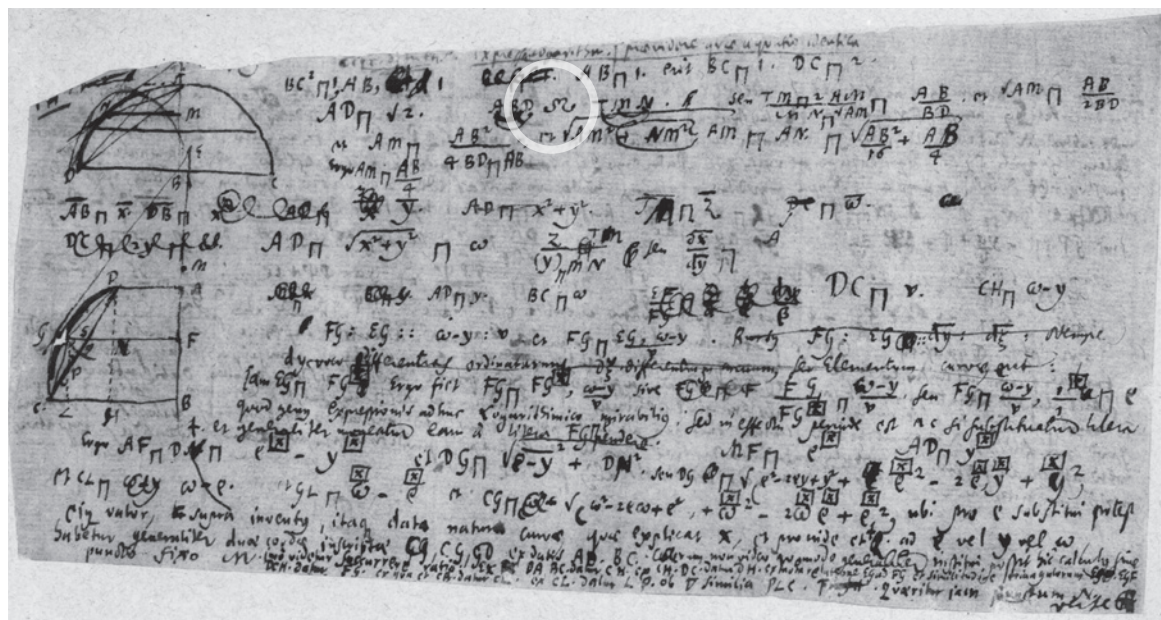
§ LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2
LAA III-2 p. 859.



§ LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2
LH 35 I 11 fol. 9r

Leibniz used a variety of symbols to denote *similarity*: \propto , \mathfrak{S} and \sim . Of these, we propose \propto as a variation sequence to 223D \sim REVERSED TILDE. This variant is already referenced in the annotations to 223D, however, it does not show up in the *Standardized Variation Sequences* chapter of the 2200 block so far.

Two other, considerably different *similarity* signs remain for new encoding: \mathfrak{S} and \sim .



\mathfrak{S} LEIBNIZIAN SIMILARITY

LH 35 XII 1, fol. 343v;

– this is the same text in the LAA edition:

$$BC^2 \propto 1, AB. \quad AB \propto 1. \text{ erit } BC \propto 1. \quad DC \propto 2. \quad AD \propto \sqrt{2}.$$

$$\underbrace{ABD} \mathfrak{S} \underbrace{TMN} \text{ seu } \frac{TM \propto 2AM}{MN \propto \sqrt{AM}} \propto \frac{AB}{BD} \text{ et } \sqrt{AM} \propto \frac{AB}{2BD} \text{ et } AM \propto \frac{AB^2}{4BD \propto AB}.$$

$$\text{Ergo } AM \propto \frac{AB}{4} \text{ et } \sqrt{AM^2 + NM^2} \quad AM \propto AN \propto \sqrt{\frac{AB^2}{16} + \frac{AB}{4}}.$$

\mathfrak{S} LEIBNIZIAN SIMILARITY

LAA VII-7 p. 595

(10) Weitere neue Notationen

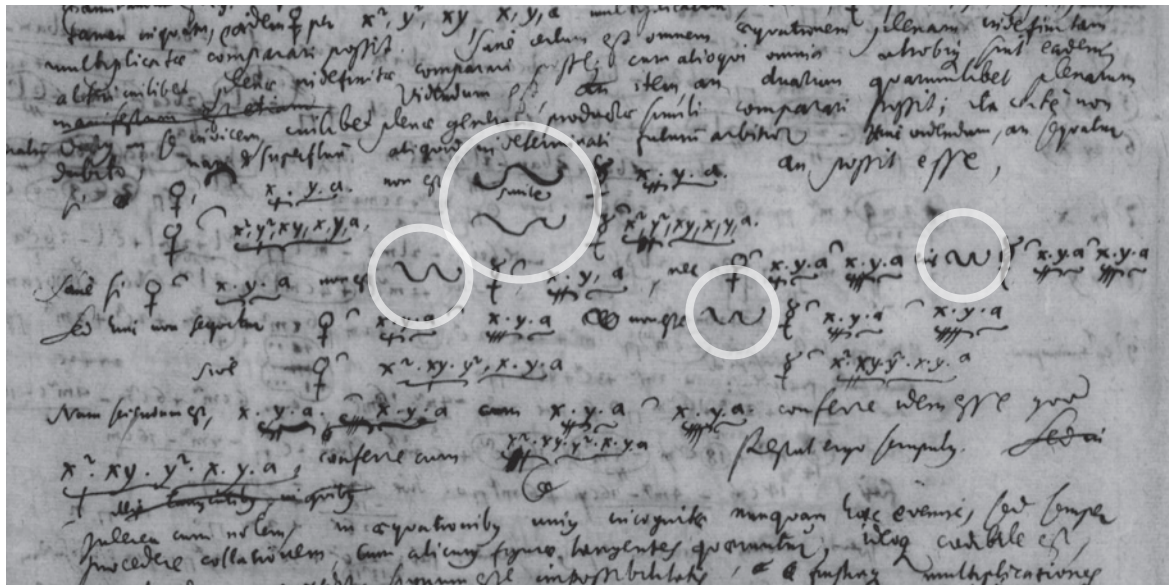
Wohl im April 1676 verwendet Leibniz mit \mathfrak{S} ein neues Symbol für die Ähnlichkeit von Dreiecken. Ob er es auch andernorts einsetzt, ist bislang nicht bekannt. Das Beispiel:

$$\underbrace{ABD} \mathfrak{S} \underbrace{TMN} \quad (\text{N. 66})$$

Im gleichen Stück entwickelt er schrittweise eine neue Notation für die eindeutige Zuordnung bestimmter geometrischer Größen zueinander. Er geht von einer Kurve aus,

\mathfrak{S} LEIBNIZIAN SIMILARITY

LAA VII-7 p. LIII



\sim LEIBNIZIAN SIMILARITY-2

LH 35 V 1 fol. 4v;

the same part in the edition:

Hinc videndum, an sequatur si

$$\underbrace{\varphi \sim x.y.a.}_{//} \quad \text{non est} \quad \underbrace{\varphi \sim x.y.a.}_{//} \quad \text{an possit esse,}$$

$$\underbrace{\varphi \sim x^2, y^2, xy, x, y, a.}_{//} \quad \sim \quad \underbrace{\varphi \sim x^2, y^2, xy, x, y, a.}_{//} \quad 20$$

Sane si $\underbrace{\varphi \sim x.y.a.}_{//}$ non est $\sim \varphi \sim x.y.a.$ nec $\underbrace{\varphi \sim x.y.a.}_{//} \underbrace{x.y.a.}_{//}$ erit $\sim \varphi \sim x.y.a.$

$\underbrace{\sim x.y.a.}_{//}$ Sed hinc non sequitur

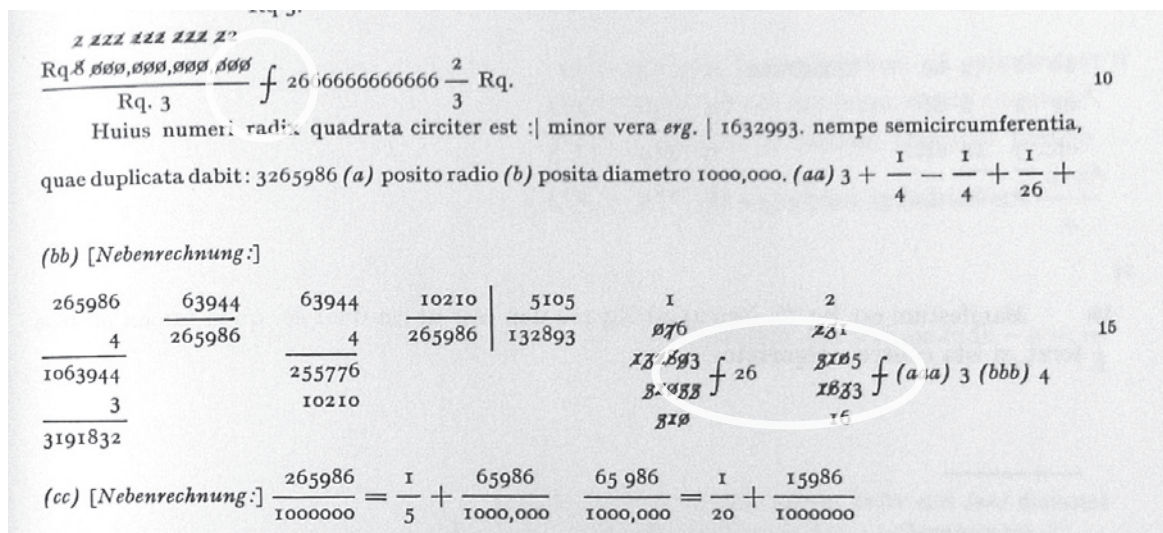
$$\underbrace{\varphi \sim x.y.a.}_{//} \underbrace{\sim x.y.a.}_{//} \quad \text{non esse} \quad \sim \quad \underbrace{\varphi \sim x.y.a.}_{//} \underbrace{\sim x.y.a.}_{//}$$

sive $\underbrace{\varphi \sim x^2, xy, y^2, x, y, a.}_{//} \quad \varphi \sim x^2, xy, y^2, x, y, a.$

19 Zu \sim : simile

\sim LEIBNIZIAN SIMILARITY-2

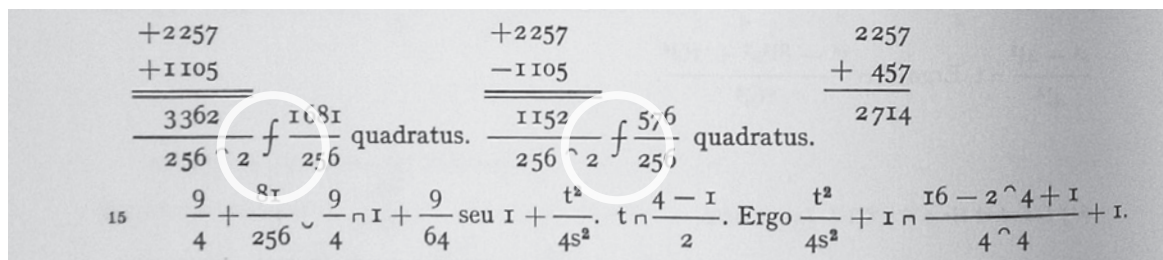
LAA VII-3 p. 75



ſ FACIT SYMBOL – LAA VII-1 p. 65

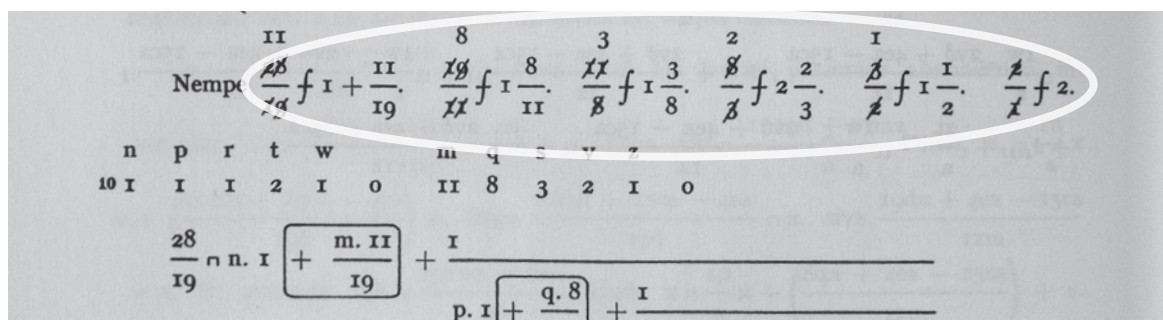
Leibniz used various script-style forms of the lowercase f for *facit* in his writings. In order to suitably represent them by one unambiguous symbol which make it distinguishable from both the ordinary (upright) f as well as the italic *f*; it is an established practice in the LAA edition for many decades to represent this expression by a specially shaped, “upright cursive” f with a descender and a reversed stress pattern (which not in any case was executed properly).

There is another similar looking character, LATIN SMALL LETTER F WITH HOOK (0192) which is defined as a currency character for *Florin* but which also gets used as an alphabetic character in the Ewe language. Since this unification is rather problematic already, we advise that 0192 not getting further loaded with other meanings. Regardless of a certain optical likeness the reason for including this character is mainly its distinctive purpose and function as an element of mathematical notation. The meaning is also different from that of the modern “function symbol” as which 0192 is annotated, additionally.



ſ FACIT SYMBOL

LAA VII-1 p. 352



ſ FACIT SYMBOL

LAA VII-1 p. 508

$$\begin{array}{r}
 +9, \quad 25fa^2 \quad +3 \wedge 25fa^2 \quad +3 \wedge 25fa^2 \\
 \mp \quad 31 \dots \quad \mp 3 \wedge 9 \dots \quad \mp \dots 9 \dots \\
 \text{sive (30) } c \sqcap \frac{\mp 3 \wedge 125\beta^2}{\mp 125\beta^2} \sqcap \frac{\mp 125\beta^2}{\mp [152]\beta^2} \cdot \\
 27 \dots \quad \dots 27 \dots \quad + 120 \dots \\
 +3 \wedge 45 \dots \quad + 45 \dots \\
 75 \dots \quad \dots 75 \dots \\
 -4, 125a^3f \quad -6, 3, 25a^3f \\
 \dots 27 \dots \quad \pm \dots 9 \dots \\
 \pm \dots 45 \dots \quad \pm 642fa^3 \\
 \text{Ac denique erit (31) } b \sqcap \frac{\dots 75 \dots}{\mp 9, 125\beta^3} \cdot, \text{ seu } b \sqcap \frac{-302 \dots}{\mp 1368\beta^3} \cdot \\
 \dots 27 \dots \quad +1080 \dots \\
 + \dots 45 \dots \\
 \dots 75 \dots
 \end{array}$$

550,15–551,5 Nebenrechnungen:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \text{zu Z. 15: } 4 \quad 15 \wedge 25 \quad \text{zu Z. 1–5: } +9, 25 \mp 99 \mp 3 \wedge 125 \quad 9 \wedge 15 \\
 2 \quad 25 \mp 25 \quad \pm 18 \mp 3 \wedge 27 \quad 9 \wedge 25 \\
 \mp 9 \quad 9 \wedge 9 \quad \mp 81 \quad 3 \wedge \mp 152 \quad 3 \wedge 45 \\
 \quad \quad \quad 3 \wedge 75
 \end{array}$$

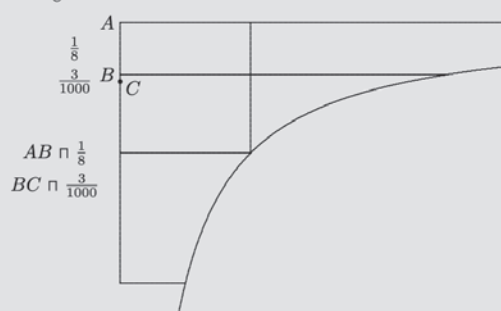
‡ FACIT SYMBOL

LAA VII-3 p. 553 (top),

LAA VII-6 p. 449 (right)

These samples demonstrate the intentional use of a specific character for “facit” in order to distinguish it from the the ordinary italic *f*.

Quaeritur log. a 10. Inveniamus a 250 id est a 25 in 10. Habebimus et a 10 ex dato a 2. Est enim 5^3 in 2. Inveniamus a 250. si habeamus a $\frac{1}{250}$. Est autem notus log. ab $\frac{1}{256}$. Quaeratur differentia inter $\frac{1}{250}$ et $\frac{1}{256}$. Ea est $\frac{256-250}{250 \cdot 256} \mid \frac{6}{64000} \mid \frac{3}{32000}$ eritque $\frac{1}{250} \sqcap \frac{1}{256} + \frac{3}{32000}$ vel $\sqcap \frac{1}{8} + \frac{3}{1000} \sqcap \frac{1024}{8000} \sqcap \frac{16}{125}$. Nam si hoc dividas per 32. habebis $\frac{1}{250}$ nam fit $\frac{1024}{8000}$ in $\frac{1}{32}$ dat $\frac{1024}{256000}$. Ergo quaerenda quantitas $\frac{d}{f} - \frac{d^2}{2f^2} + \frac{d^3}{3f^3}$ etc. ita $\frac{1}{8}$ ut d sit $\frac{3}{1000}$. et f . $\frac{1}{8}$.



[Fig. 2]

1–5 Nebenbetrachtung: $\frac{1}{250} - \frac{1}{256} \sqcap \frac{6}{64000} \mid \frac{3}{32000}$. Ergo $\frac{1}{250} \sqcap \frac{1}{256} + \frac{3}{32000}$ cujus quaeritur logarithmus.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \emptyset \\
 256 \quad 1 \\
 \underline{250} \quad 22 \\
 12800 \quad 256000 \quad f \quad 250 \\
 512 \quad 102400 \\
 \underline{64000} \quad 1022 \\
 10
 \end{array}$$

5. Unicode Character Properties

xb01;LEIBNIZIAN EQUAL;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb02;LEIBNIZIAN EQUAL WITH DOUBLE VERTICALS;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb03;LEIBNIZIAN EQUAL WITH SMALL S;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb04;LEIBNIZIAN GREATER;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb05;LEIBNIZIAN LESS;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb06;LEIBNIZIAN GREATER WITH SMALL P;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb07;LEIBNIZIAN LESS WITH SMALL P;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb08;LEIBNIZIAN GREATER-LESS;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb09;INVERTED SQUARE LEFT OPEN BOX OPERATOR;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb10;INVERTED SQUARE RIGHT OPEN BOX OPERATOR;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb11;TWO-LINE GREATER;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb12;TWO-LINE LESS;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb13;COMMENSURABILITY;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb14;INCOMMENSURABILITY;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb15;COMMENSURABILITY IN SQUARE;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb16;INCOMMENSURABILITY IN SQUARE;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb17;CARTESIAN EQUAL;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb18;LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb19;LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE WITH VERTICAL BAR;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb20;LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb21;LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2 INVERTED;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb22;LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2 WITH HORIZONTAL BAR;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb23;LEIBNIZIAN CONGRUENCE-2 WITH HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL BAR;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb24;LEIBNIZIAN COINCIDENCE;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb25;INVERTED LAZY S OVER LAZY S;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb26;LEIBNIZIAN SIMILARITY;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb27;LEIBNIZIAN SIMILARITY-2;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb28;LEIBNIZIAN DISSIMILARITY;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;
xb29;FACIT SYMBOL;Sm;0;ON;;;;N;;;;;

xb17 FE00; with descender; # CARTESIAN EQUAL
223D FE00; lazy S variant; # REVERSED TILDE
2243 FE00; lazy S variant; # ASYMPTOTICALLY EQUAL TO
22CD FE00; lazy S variant; # REVERSED TILDE EQUALS
2242 FE00; lazy S variant; # MINUS TILDE
2248 FE00; lazy S variant; # ALMOST EQUAL TO
2A6C FE00; lazy S variant; # SIMILAR MINUS SIMILAR
22DC FE00; parallelised form; # EQUAL TO OR LESS-THAN
22DD FE00; parallelised form; # EQUAL TO OR GREATER-THAN

6. Bibliography

LAA – refers to: Leibniz, Gottfried Wilhelm: *Sämtliche Schriften und Briefe*. (‘Leibniz-Akademie-Ausgabe’, many volumes)

LH – refers to: Leibniz’s original manuscripts, GWLB Hanover

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online

Leibniz-Akademie-Ausgabe (LAA, general edition of Leibniz’s writings)

LAA series VII (mathematical manuscripts, volumes 3 to 7 available online)

**ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 2/WG 2
PROPOSAL SUMMARY FORM TO ACCOMPANY SUBMISSIONS
FOR ADDITIONS TO THE REPERTOIRE OF ISO/IEC 10646¹**

Please fill all the sections A, B and C below.

Please read Principles and Procedures Document (P & P) from
<http://std.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/principles.html> for guidelines and details before filling this form.

Please ensure you are using the latest Form from
<http://std.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/summaryform.html>.

See also <http://std.dkuug.dk/JTC1/SC2/WG2/docs/roadmaps.html> for latest *Roadmaps*.

A. Administrative

| | | | |
|---|--|--|-----|
| 1. Title: | Proposal to encode historical mathematical relations | | |
| 2. Requester's name: | Uwe Mayer, Siegmund Probst, David Rabouin, Elisabeth Rinner, Andreas Stötzner, Achim Trunk, Charlotte Wahl | | |
| 3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution): | Individual (work group) | | |
| 4. Submission date: | 2026-01-19. | | |
| 5. Requester's reference (if applicable): | LUCP L-2603 | | |
| 6. Choose one of the following: | | | |
| This is a complete proposal: | | | Yes |
| (or) More information will be provided later: | | | |

B. Technical – General

| | | | |
|---|--|-----|---|
| 1. Choose one of the following: | | | |
| a. This proposal is for a new script (set of characters): | | | No |
| Proposed name of script: | | | |
| b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block: | | | No |
| Name of the existing block: | | | |
| 2. Number of characters in proposal: | | | 38 |
| 3. Proposed category (select one from below - see section 2.2 of P&P document): | | | |
| A-Contemporary | B.1-Specialized (small collection) | Yes | B.2-Specialized (large collection) |
| C-Major extinct | D-Attested extinct | | E-Minor extinct |
| F-Archaic Hieroglyphic or Ideographic | | | G-Obscure or questionable usage symbols |
| 4. Is a repertoire including character names provided? | | | Yes |
| a. If YES, are the names in accordance with the “character naming guidelines” in Annex L of P&P document? | | | Yes |
| b. Are the character shapes attached in a legible form suitable for review? | | | Yes |
| 5. Fonts related: | | | |
| a. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font to the Project Editor of 10646 for publishing the standard? | Andreas Stötzner | | |
| b. Identify the party granting a license for use of the font by the editors (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.): | Andreas Stötzner Gestaltung, Klaufügelweg 21, 88400 Biberach/R., Germany, as@signographie.de | | |
| 6. References: | | | |
| a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided? | | | Yes |
| b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources) of proposed characters attached? | | | Yes |
| 7. Special encoding issues: | | | |
| Does the proposal address other aspects of character data processing (if applicable) such as input, presentation, sorting, searching, indexing, transliteration etc. (if yes please enclose information)? | | | No |

¹ Form number: N4502-F (Original 1994-10-14; Revised 1995-01, 1995-04, 1996-04, 1996-08, 1999-03, 2001-05, 2001-09, 2003-11, 2005-01, 2005-09, 2005-10, 2007-03, 2008-05, 2009-11, 2011-03, 2012-01)

C. Technical - Justification

| | |
|--|--|
| 1. Has this proposal for addition of character(s) been submitted before? | Yes |
| If YES explain | <i>see L-2530 (N5334R), L-2519 (N5334), N5277 (L-2402n)</i> |
| 2. Has contact been made to members of the user community (for example: National Body, user groups of the script or characters, other experts, etc.)? | Yes |
| If YES, with whom? | Leibniz-Archiv, Forschungsstelle der Leibniz-Edition, Niedersächsische Landesbibliothek (GWLb), Hanover, Göttingen Academy of Science and Humanities in Lower Saxony (DE), Philippine research group of CNRS (UMR 7219, laboratoire SPHERE) / Université de Paris VII; general: scholars, researchers, authors and editors working in the field of science history and upon editions of historic text corpora (e.g. of G. W. Leibniz, but also many others) |
| If YES, available relevant documents: | L-2409, L-2410 |
| 3. Information on the user community for the proposed characters (for example: size, demographics, information technology use, or publishing use) is included? | Yes |
| Reference: | |
| 4. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare) | Common |
| Reference: | mainly specialist usage, scholarly, worldwide |
| 5. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community? | Yes |
| If YES, where? Reference: | mainly Europe, Americas; other countries |
| 6. After giving due considerations to the principles in the P&P document must the proposed characters be entirely in the BMP? | No |
| If YES, is a rationale provided? | |
| If YES, reference: | |
| 7. Should the proposed characters be kept together in a contiguous range (rather than being scattered)? | No |
| 8. Can any of the proposed characters be considered a presentation form of an existing character or character sequence? | Yes |
| If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided? | Yes |
| If YES, reference: | <i>see explanations in chapter 4.</i> |
| 9. Can any of the proposed characters be encoded using a composed character sequence of either existing characters or other proposed characters? | Yes |
| If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided? | Yes |
| If YES, reference: | <i>see explanations in chapter 4.</i> |
| 10. Can any of the proposed character(s) be considered to be similar (in appearance or function) to, or could be confused with, an existing character? | No |
| If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided? | |
| If YES, reference: | |
| 11. Does the proposal include use of combining characters and/or use of composite sequences? | No |
| If YES, is a rationale for such use provided? | |
| If YES, reference: | |
| Is a list of composite sequences and their corresponding glyph images (graphic symbols) provided? | No |
| If YES, reference: | |
| 12. Does the proposal contain characters with any special properties such as control function or similar semantics? | No |
| If YES, describe in detail (include attachment if necessary) | |
| | |
| | |
| 13. Does the proposal contain any Ideographic compatibility characters? | No |
| If YES, are the equivalent corresponding unified ideographic characters identified? | |
| If YES, reference: | |