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A Draft for the Analysis of Verbal Periphrases in the "Canterbury Tales"

1. The present paper is intended as an account of some analyses performed on a pilot, corpus[1] for the purpose of studying periphrastic verbal forms in the *Canterbury Tales*. It will also serve as a starting point for further procedure.[2]

2. The term periphrastic is often[3] applied to designate the collocation

| be + -ing | or | do + infinitive |

i. e. for the "expanded present" and for the emphatic or interrogative use of *do*.

We intend to study any compound verbal form expressing various verbal relations, and regard it as periphrastic. Verbal periphrases are to be studied as units with respect to their distribution and function, as well as with respect to the mutual relations of their members. An attempt will be made to interpret finally the results of the analyses, bearing in mind the signific- ance Chaucer's English has as a stage in the development of standard English, and in particular to interpret the periphrastic form in Chaucer as an earlier development of modern English periphrasis.

Thus, in the present paper, verbal periphrasis is regarded as a feature of verbal inflexion, expressing such verbal rela- tions as tense, modality, aspect, and voice by means of verbal phrases consisting of one auxiliary verb, inflected for person,

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[1] The General Prologue, *Canterbury Tales* by Geoffrey Chaucer, ed. F. N. Robinson, second edition. London, 1966.

[2] The study is to be submitted as a Ph. D. thesis to the Faculty of Arts of Zagreb University.

[3] e. g. Jespersen, Curme, Strang — see Bibliography

number, tense, and mood, and a non-finite form (infinitive, present or past participle) of the main verb. Optionally, in a three-member periphrasis, a second auxiliary, in a non-finite form, can be interpolated between the other members. The formula

$$\text{Vaux} + /\text{Vaux}/ + \text{V}$$

functions in the same way as does the synthetic device for expressing verbal relations i. e. stem + affix, or change of root vowel.

There is some difficulty in delimiting the verb phrases which are to be regarded as periphrastic, because of the double function, as full verb and auxiliary, of many auxiliary verbs, and because of other verb phrases with use similar to the above: longen to goon, heere cynglen. For our purpose we shall set out with verbal phrases containing one of the following verbs, to be considered as auxiliary:[4]

be, can, dar, do, gin, have, let, make, may, moot, ouhte, shal, wil;

the above verbs often show the ability to act as first member (i. e. inflected verb) in three member periphrases of the type:

he *myghte* han doon

while collocations like

he *longeth* han to goon

have not been attested.

In the course of our work we expect to be able to establish some reliable formal criteria for the definition of periphrastic verbal inflexions in Chaucer's English. It is also hoped that an extensive study of perphrastic verbal forms in the Canterbury Tales might provide a set of rules applying to the usage of verbal periphrases in Chaucer, as well as serve as a link with modern English usage.

3. It is planned that the entire corpus,[5] further CT, be divided into groups according to social and regional dialect characteristics in parts of CT where they are overtly expressed, assigning the rest to Chaucer's literary idiolect, which can be

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[4] The list is taken from Mossé *A Handbook of Middle English* and Mustanoja *A Middle English Syntax* (see Bibliography), *weorden* does not occur in the *Canterbury Tales,* and is accordingly omitted.

[5] The entire corpus is to consist of the complete *Canterbury Tales.*

tentatively classed as 14th century standard English. The various groups are then to be compared as regards structural and functional distribution of the verbal periphrases.

4. Methodologically the proposed study is to be, to some extent, an essay in computational data processing.

For this purpose the CT was encoded with regard to clauses containing verbal periphrases. Periphrastic forms were coded in detail, indicating person, number, tense and mood of the auxiliary verb, and the particular non-finite form of the full verb. Contracted forms of auxiliary and negation and/or personal pronoun are also represented in the code.[6] Other components of the clause are broadly marked as subject (distinguishing between noun, pronoun and relative pronoun), object, complement, adverbial adjunct, conjunction and agent in passive constructions.

CT was next selectively concordanced, various forms of the auxiliary serving as key.[7] The CT was thus in the first procedure sorted to give a verbal paradigm.

5. The analysis of the periphrastic forms is to include the following features:

    a. the frequency of periphrastic verbal forms in general;
    b. the frequency of periphrases with particular auxiliaries;
    c. the frequency of the particular non-finite forms accompanying the auxiliaries;
    d. the order of the members of periphrastic verbal forms;
    e. the ordering of other members of the clause;
    f. the determination of the precise grammatical function of various periphrases.

To complete data about the function of the periphrases additional study of the context, as well as a transformational approach are likely to be necessary.

6. So far a more detailed study, including some of the proposed criteria for analysis, has been performed only on the first 835 lines of CT, i. e. the General Prologue, further GNPR. The following data have been obtained from the study of this pilot corpus.

6.1. The relation between the total number of finite verbal forms and periphrastic forms is 100 : 38, i. e. more than a third

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[6] For code see *Appendix I.*

[7] The programme is described at length in D. and V. Maček »Primjena digitalnog računala pri analizi teksta, Filologija, no. 6, Zagreb, 1970.

of all finite verbal forms are periphrastic. This appears to be a considerable number and asks for comparison with a similar count in modern English, which might furnish a useful indication of the trend the development of periphrasis has taken in modern English.

6.2. Out of a total of 295 occurrences of periphrases with the auxiliaries *BE* /inclusive the forms *been, ben, is, was, were, weren/*, only 59, i. e. about 20⁰/o are used in periphrases, the rest occuring either as full verb:

    whit *was* his berd as *is* a dayesie

or as main verb in periphrasis:

    at mortal batailles hadde he *been* fiftene.

HAVE (with the forms: *had, hadde, han, hath, have*) is in 40⁰/o of its total occurrences used as an auxiliary in periphrases, CAN *(kan, koude)* in 98⁰/o,
MAY *(may, myghte)* in 90⁰/o,
MOOT *(moot, moote, moste, mote)* in 100⁰/o,
SHAL *(shal, sholde)* in 100⁰/o, and
WIL (nolde, wol, wolde, wolden, wole) in 100⁰/o of occurrences.

    Other auxiliaries were too infrequent in the GNPR (dar, do, gin, let, make, ouhte) to be indicative of anything, so for the present they will be disregarded.

    Though the frequency of the auxiliaries treated in this paper is far from being conclusive they may persuade us to assume that the "modal auxiliaries" /kan, may, shal, wil/ show a strong tendency to function as auxiliaries in verbal periphrases and therefore lose their function and meaning of main verbs. On the contrary, *be* and *do*, the two auxiliaries most frequently mentioned as periphrastic, still function to a large extent as full verbs, be it in periphrases, or in independent verbal forms. The frequent use of a verb as a means of expressing the grammatical relationship of the main verb leads, we may further assume, to the deterioration of its meaning, and reinforcement of its grammatical function. If it is replaced by another verb in the general vocabulary it may become a structural word in all usages. It is hoped that the study will yield some more information about this process.

6.2. Here are some other considerations regarding verbal relations expressed by periphrastic forms with the above auxiliary verbs.

6.2.1. BE: been — present indicative plural, infinitive, past participle
    ben — infinitive

is — 3rd person singular present indicative
was — 3rd person singular present indicative
were — plural preterite indicative, 3rd person singular preterite subjunctive
weren — plural preterite indicative

is mostly used with the past participle, while only two out of 56 of its occurrences in periphrases are accompanied by the present participle.

The first construction,

$$\boxed{be + V/pp/} \quad \text{or} \quad \boxed{Vaux + be/pp/ + V/pp/}$$

is usually the expression of the passive voice:

and she *was cleped* madame Eglentyne
and we *wol reuled been* at his devys.

In other cases it expresses aspectual relationship like perfectivity of action; also indicating its results:

for he *was* late *ycome* from his viage
whan we *were* in that hostelrye *alight*.

Sometimes it is difficult to distinguish between the passive and reflexive meaning, and the meaning of perfectivity:

and he *was clad* in cot and hood of greene.

The distribution of the three functions is 38 : 7 : 6, and the difference between them can be shown by paraphrasing:

a. X did Y "people called her madame Englentyne"
b. X finished doing Y with the result Z "we ended alighting from our horses and are now in the hostel"
c. X did Y "servants clothed the knight"
   X did Y to himself "the knight clothed himself"
   X finished doing Y with the result Z "the Knight finished putting on clothes and is now dressed"

The type: $\boxed{be + V/pres.\ p./}$ appears to be expressing a prolonged action in the present or past, depending on the form of the auxiliary:

syngynge he *was* and *floytinge* all the day
sownynge in moral vertu *was* his speeche

sometimes accompanied by an adverbial denoting the length of the duration of the action /all the day/.

It is to be noted that in three member constructions, where BE is in a non-finite form, it invariably carries a passive meaning. The same meaning is conveyed by the past participle, which is also the form of the auxiliary BE when functioning as a second auxiliary in three member periphrases. The past

participle indicates completion and is contrasted with the present participle in periphrases denoting duration:

with many a tempest hadde his berb *been shake.*

6.2.2. HAVE /had — 3rd person singular preterite indicative

hadde — 1st pers. sing. pret. ind. 3rd pers. sing. pret. ind., plural pret. ind.
han — plur. pres. ind., infinitive
hath — 3rd pers. sing. pret. ind.
have — 1st pers. sing. pres. ind., 3rd pers. sing. pres. ind./

occurs invariably with the past participle of the main verb, even in three member constructions where it is the first auxiliary, the second auxiliary /BE/ stands in the past participle:

$$\boxed{\text{have} + \text{be/pp/} + \text{V/pp/}}$$

ful many a draughte of wyn *had* he *ydrawe*
so *hadde* I *spoken* with hem everichoon
for *to han been* a marchal in a halle
the droghte of March *hath perced* to the rote
now *have* I *toold* you

The function of this periphrasis is the expression of completion and/or result of an action, similar as b. and c. in **6.2.1.**:

X has finished doing Y /with the result Z/ "I have finished talking and now you know the news" (now have I toold you) It sometimes indicates merely a past time action, though even here the idea of completedness seems to be present, which may be due to the presence of the past participle:

aventures that whilom *han bifalle*
in youthe he *hadde lerened* a good myster

The periphrasis with HAVE, it can thus be concluded, is used to express temporal and/or aspectual relation, occasionally (when in the inf.) even modal ones, denoting ability, possibility — unreality:

A semely man Oure Hooste was withalle for to
han been a marchal in a halle.

In both temporal and aspectual function, the periphrasis /or the auxiliary HAVE/ has a past time reference.

6.2.3. The auxiliaries CAN, MAY, SHAL, WIL form periprases with the infinitive of the main verb. $\boxed{\dfrac{\text{can}}{\text{may}} + \text{V/inf./}}$

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CAN /kan — 3rd person singular present ind.
koude — 3rd pers. sing. pret. ind., plur. pret. ind./
usually dentoes physical or mental ability.
MAY /may — 3rd pers. sing. pres. ind., plur. pres ind.
myghte — 3rd pers. sing. pret. ind. plur. pret. ind./
denotes ability, possibility, lieklihood, opportunity, when ac-
companied by a negation also disability and prohibition:

> and seyde as ye *may here*
> it is nat honest it *may* nat *avaunce*
> men *myghte* his brydel *heere*
> he *may* nat *spare* although he were his brother

Somewhat different seems to be the example:

> of whiche achatours *myghte take* exemple

meaning unreality: "it would be a good idea if X did Y", or the
like.

The temporal reference of both periphrases with CAN and
MAY are to present or "general" tyme, or past tyme if the
auxiliary is the preterite.

SHAL and WIL (shal — 1st pers. sing. pres. ind., 3rd
        pers. pres. ind.
    sholde 3rd pers. sing. pret. ind. plur.
        pret. ind.)
  (nolde — 3rd pres. sing. pret. ind. nega-
        tion
  wol — 1st pers. sing. pres. ind., 3rd pers.
        sing. pres. ind., plur. pres. ind.
  wolde — 1st pers. sing. pret. ind., 3rd
        pers. sing. pret. ind., plur. pret.
        ind.
  wolden — plur. pret. ind.
  wole — 3rd pres. sing. pres. ind.)

in two member periphrases: shal

$$+ V(inf)$$

wil

and three member periphrases: shal

$$+ be(pp) + V(pp)$$

wil

refer to the future time carrying important modal overtones:

SHAL — command, determination:
        as Austyn bit how *shal* the *world be served*
        and it *shal cost* noght
        and for to werken as I *shal* you *seye*

WIL — willingness, wish, intention:

> and at a knight than *wol* I *first* biginne

also repetition, habitual action in a temporally unlimited sphere:

> for curs *wol slee* right as assoilyng savith

or seemingly restricted to an extended past time sphere:

> she *wolde wepe* if that she saugh a mous

due to the narrative context, because if she, the Prioress, is still alive, she "Weeps every time she sees a mous ...". Thus it is apparently the context that determines the prevalence of temporal or modal function of the above periphrases.

The main difference between the "modal auxiliaries" CAN and MAY on the one hand and SHAL and WIL on the other, is the prominent temporal characteristic of the latter two, which have a definitely future time reference:

> I decided that it cost nothing (when in two days it comes to paying)

> I mean to tell you about it (later)

even if the future sphere is unlimited at the outer end, it has a starting point as in:

> Austin ordered that (from his times onwards) the world is to be served ....

CAN and MAY have primarily a modal reference and the temporal reference can be only "generic", i. e. to an undefined temporal sphere.

The preterite forms of CAN and MAY (could, myghte), refer to a past time sphere, while SHOLDE and WOLDE express a degree of modal relation.

* * *

Summing up the analysis in the previous paragraphs, it appears that periphrases with participles indicate aspectual relations in the first place, while the auxiliary members of such periphrases mark by their tense from the temporal relationship past v. present. BE with transitive verbs is also a marker of voice.

Periphrases with the infinitive of the full verb are functionally determined solely by the auxiliary verbs, expressing modal cum temporal relations as shown above.

6.2.4. As mentioned earlier, periphrases with other auxiliaries were insufficiently represented in the GNPR, and are therefore omitted from our present considerations. The same holds good for some other features, like the occurrence and non occurrence of the prefix y- in the past participle, or the absence or presence

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of final -e in auxiliary inflexion. Moreover the interpretations in the previous paragraphs are done intuitively and will have to be attended to with greater care and an ordered procedure.

6.3. Another interesting feature when examined more closely is the order of members in periphrases, by which the degree of homogeneity of the periphrases could be measured.

Considering that the text is written in verse and that there is considerable freedom in word ordering in Chaucer's English, it is to be expected that practically all combinations in ordering of members occur, as they indeed do, the most frequent order being:

> Subject + Vaux + /Negation/ + V

There are in the GNPR 19 cases of the periphrases with BE, 13 with HAVE, 4 with CAN, 12 with WIL, in periphrases with SHAL 13 and MAY 5 — total 65 which makes about 34% of a total of 189 peirphrastic forms:

> *we been accorded* to his judgement
> *he hadde maad* ful may a mariage
> *he may nat wepe*

Virtually the same order with modification, i. e. the object, adjunct or adverbial interpolated between *Vaux* and *V*, or *S* and *Vaux* in also common (about 17%), making with the above order 51% of all periphrastic forms. E. g.

> *he koude* bettre than his lord *purchace*
> S   Vaux   Adverbial   V

The other word order combinations are as follows:

Vaux + S + /N/ + V	35 cases
S + V + Vaux	3 ,,
Vaux + V + S	3 ,,
V + S + Vaux	2 ,,
V + Vaux + S	1 case

This particular analysis has been processed by a computer. The folowchart of the processing /including the first selection and sorting mentioned in 4./ is given in appendix II.

6.4. There are several other problems arising from the analysis which will have to be tackled in our next procedures. One of them is the absence of Vaux in a periprasis which occurs after a clause or phrase containing the auxiliary in question, like:

Ful worthy *was* he ... and ever (was he) *honoured* Another question is the delimiting of participles and adjectives:

his head *was balled*

i. e. whether the construction is to be regarded as periphrastic or merely as V/copula/ + adjectival complement.
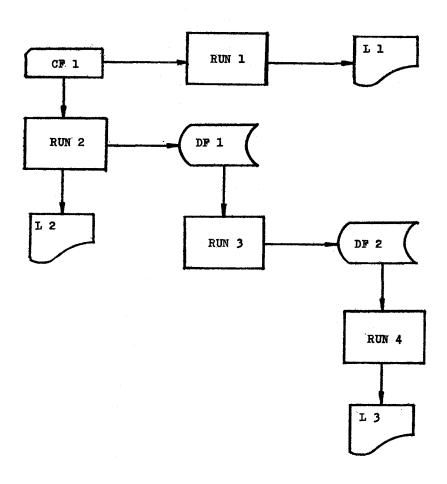
There were many questions raised in the present paper for which the answers might be furnished by more extensive analysis and a larger corpus. Even if the findings do not prove to be new it is hoped that the data arrived at will be more manageable after being systematized and the computational techniques applicable to similar studies, not only in English language, but in other, with Middle English typologically or genetically related languages.

Appendix I

CODES

1	Vaux
111	Vaux, 1st pers. sing. pres. ind.
111S	Vaux, 1st pers. sing. pres. subj.
N 111	Vaux, negation 1st pers. sing. pres. ind.
N 111S	Vaux, neg. 1st pers. sing. pres. subj.
112	Vaux, 1st pers. sing. pret. ind.
112S	Vaux, 1st pers. sing. pret. subj.
N 112	Vaux, neg. + 1st pers. sing. pret. ind.
N 112S	Vaux, neg. + 1st pers. sing. pret. subj.
121	Vaux, 2nd pers. sing. pres. ind.
121 32	Vaux, 2nd pers. sing. pres. ind. + personal pronoun
121S	Vaux, 2nd pers. sing. pres. subj.
etc.	
131	Vaux, 3rd pers. sing. pres. ind.
etc.	
141	Vanx, plur. pres. ind.
etc.	
151	Vaux, inf.
161	Vaux, participle pres.
162	Vaux, participle pret.
171	Vaux, imperative sing.
181	Vaux, imp. plur.
21	V, inf.
22	V, part. pret.
23	V, part. pres.
31	S, noun
32	S, pronoun
321	S, relative
4	Object
5	Complement
6	Adverbial
7	Conjunction
9	Agent in passive constructions

APPENDIX II
COMPUTER TEXT ANALYSIS FLOWCHART

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  ┌──────────┐          ┌──────────┐          ┌──────────┐
  │   CF 1   │────────▶ │  RUN 1   │────────▶ │   L 1    │
  └──────────┘          └──────────┘          └──────────┘
       │
       ▼
  ┌──────────┐          ┌──────────┐
  │  RUN 2   │────────▶ │   DF 1   │
  └──────────┘          └──────────┘
       │                     │
       ▼                     ▼
  ┌──────────┐          ┌──────────┐          ┌──────────┐
  │   L 2    │          │  RUN 3   │────────▶ │   DF 2   │
  └──────────┘          └──────────┘          └──────────┘
                                                   │
                                                   ▼
                                              ┌──────────┐
                                              │  RUN 4   │
                                              └──────────┘
                                                   │
                                                   ▼
                                              ┌──────────┐
                                              │   L 3    │
                                              └──────────┘
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		1	21	N 1 21 4 6	0969
		22	111	7 21 111	01059
		22	131	7 6 22 131 31	0978
		22	132	6 22 132 31	0877
		22	132	22 132 32 6	01048
		22	131S	22 131S 31	0933
		22	132S	7 32 22 132S 6	01079
		111	21	111 32 4 6 21	0873
		111	21	7 4 32 111 6 21	0885
		111	21	32 111 N 21 6 4	0889
		111	21	32 111 6 21	0892
		131	21	7 32 N 131 21 5	0923
		131	21	7 131 N 21 4	0945
		131	21	7 131 4 21 4 6	0947
		131	21	7 131 4 6 21	01040
		131	22	4 31 131 22 4	0915
		131	22	7 32 131 6 22	0924
		131	22	131 4 6 22	0944
		131	22	7 6 31 131 6 22	01025
		131	22	32 131 4 22 4	01083
		132	21	7 31 132 21	0954
		132	21	32 132 21 6 4	0960
		132	21	7 31 132 21	0962
		132	21	32 132 4 21 4	01046
		132	22	4 132 32 22	0864
		132	22	321 6 132 22 5	0867
		132	22	6 32 132 22 6 6	0894
		132	22	7 32 132 22 6	0913
		132	22	7 31 132 9 22	0963
		132	22	7 32 321 132 4 6 22	0964
		132	22	6 132 22 31	0979
		132	22	32 132 22 7 5	01041
		132	22	31 132 22 6	01049
		132	22	132 22	01065
		132	22	7 32 132 22	01073
		141	22	7 6 32 141 22 6 6	0911
		141	22	321 141 22	0943
		141	22	6 31 141 4 22	01020
		141	22	7 141 4 22 6 6	01021
		142	22	321 142 22	9922
		142	22	321 142 9 5 7 9 22	01019
		N+142	21	7 4 31 N+142 6 21	0903
	22	131S	31	22 131S 31	0925
	112	161	22	32 112 161 22 4 6 4	0876
	131	151	22	7 32 131 151 22	0910
	141	162	23	32 141 162 23 6	0929
131	22	1	22	7 32 131 4 22 7 1 22	0909
131	22	1	22	6 31 131 4 22 7 1 22 4 6	01002
132	21	1	21	6 132 32 21 N 1 21	0968
151	22	1	22	7 151 22 7 1 22	0946

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FUL MANY A RICHE CONTREE 4 HADDE 132 HE 32 WONNE 22                              0 864
THAT 321 WHILOM 6 WAS 132 YCLEPED 22 SCITHIA 5                                   0 867
LETE 111 I 32 THIS NOBLE DUC 4 TO ATHENES 6 RYDE 21                              0 873
I 72 WOLDE 112 HAVE 161 TOOLD 22 YOU 4 FULLY 6 THE MANERE 4                      0 876
HOW 6 WONNEN 22 WAS 132 THE REGNE OF FEMENYE 3                                   0 877
BUT 7 AL THAT THYNG 4 I 32 MOOT 111 AS NOW 6 FORBERE 21                          0 885
I 32 WOL 111 NAT N LETTEN 21 EEK 6 NOON OF THIS ROUTE 4                          0 889
AND TER I LEFTE , I 32 WOL 111 AYEYN 6 BIGYNNE . 21                              0 892
WHAN 6 HE 32 WAS 132 COME 22 ALMOOST 6 UTNO THE TOUN 6                           0 894
OR 7 WHO 32 HATH 131 YOW 4 MYSVODEN 22 OR 7 0 1 OFFENDED 22                      0 999
AND TELLETH ME IF 7 IT 32 MAY 131 BEN 151 AMENDED , 22                           0 910
AND 7 OF THIS CRY 4 THEY 32 NOLDE 142 NEVERE 5 STENTEN 21                        0 903
AND 7 WHY THAT 6 YE 31 BEEN 141 CLOTHED 22 THUS IN BLAK 6                        0 911
WHAN 7 SHE 32 HADDE 132 SWOWNED 22 WITH A DEEDLY CHEERE 6                        0 913
SHE SEYDE , LORD , TO 8 WHOM 4 FORTUNE 31 HATH 131 YIVEN 22 VICTORIE 4           0 915
THAT 7 SHE 32 WE N HATH 131 BEEN 21 A DUCHESSE OR A QUEENE 5                     0 923
NOW BE WE CAYTYVES , AS 7 IT 32 IS 131 WEL 6 SEENE 22                            0 924
THANKED 22 BE 131S FORTUNE 31 AND HIR FALSE WHEEL                                0 925
WE 32 HAN 141 BEN 162 WAYTYNGE 23 AL THIS FOURTENYGHT 6                          0 029
THAT STARF AT THEBES — CURSED 22 BE 131S THAT DAY 31                             0 933
OF ALLE OURE LORDES WHICHE THAT 321 BEEN 141 YSLAWE , 22                         0 943
HATH 131 ALLE THE BODYES 31 ON A HEEP 6 YDRAWE 22                                0 944
AND 7 WOL 131 NAT N SUFFREN 21 HEM 4 , BY NOON ASSENT                            0 945
NEITHER 8 TO BEEN 151 YBURYED 22 NOR 8 0 1 YBRENT 22                             0 946
BUT 8 MAKETH 131 HOUNDES 4 ETE 21 HEM 4 IN DESPIT 6                              0 947
HYM THOUGHTE THAT 7 HIS HERTE 31 WOLDE 132 BREKE 21                              0 954
HE 32 WOLDE 132 DOON 21 SO FERFORTHLY 6 HIS NIGHT 4                              0 960
THAT 7 AL THE PEPLE OF GRECE 31 SHOLDE 132 SPEKE 21                              0 962
HOW 7 CREON 31 WAS 132 OF THESEUS 9 YSERVED 22                                   0 963
AS 7 HE 32 THAT 321 HADDE 132 HIS DEETH 4 FUL WEL 6 DESERVED 22                  0 964
NO NEER ATTHENES 6 WOLDE 132 HE 32 GO 21 NE 8 0 1 RIDE 21                        0 968
NE 8 TAKE 21 HIS ESE 4 FULLY HALF A DAY 6                                        0 969
AND 8 BY HIS BANER 6 BORN 22 IS 131 HIS PENOUN 31                                0 978
OF GOLD FUL RICHE , IN WHICH THER 6 WAS 132 YBETE 22 THE MYNOTAUR 31             0 979
THE BONES OF HIR HOUSBONDES THAT 321 WERE 142 SLAYN 22                           0 922
WHAN THAT 6 THIS WORTHY DUC 31 , THIS THESEUS 31 ,                               01001
HATH 131 CREON 4 SLAYN 22 , AND 8 0 1 WONNE 22 THEBES 4 THUS 6                   01002
AS THEY THAT 321 WEREN 142 OF THE BLOOD ROIAL 10                                 01018
OF THEBES 5 , AND 8 OF SUSTREN TWO 9 0 1 YBORN 22                                01019
OUT OF THE TAAS 6 THE PILOURS 31 HAN 141 HEM 4 TORN 22                           01020
AND 8 HAN 141 HEM 4 CARRIED 22 SOFTE 6 UNTO THE TENTE 6                          01921
AND 8 WHAN 8 TIS WORTHY DUC 31 HATH 131 THUS 6 YDON 22                           01025
AND 8 MAKETH 131 HYM 4 OUT OF HIS SLEP 6 TO STERTE 41                            01940
SHE 32 WAS 132 ARISEN 22 AND 8 AL REDY DIGHT 5                                   01041
THIS 32 MAKED 132 EMELYE 4 HAVE 21 REMEMBRAUNCE 4                                01046
YCLOTHED 22 WAS 132 SHE 32 FRESSH 6 , FOR TO DEVYSE                              01048
HIR YELOW HER 31 WAS 132 BROYDED 22 IN A TRESSE 6                                01049
OF WHICH I 32 TOLDE YOW AND 8 TELLEN 21 SHAL 111                                 01059
WAS 132 RISEN 22 AND ROMED IN A CHAMBRE AN HEIGH                                 01065
THAT 8 HE 32 WAS 132 BORN 22 , FUL OFTE HE SEYDE , ALLAS                         01073
AS THOUGH 8 HE 32 STONGEN 22 WERE 132S UNTO THE HERTE 6                          01079
WHO 32 HATH 131 THEE 4 DOON 22 OFFENCE 4 ?                                       01083
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Run 1   After having the entire corpus (CT) prepunched on cards (File CF 1), during Run 1 it is sequentially searched for single predefined auxiliary verbs expressed in code numbers.

List 1   L 1 represents a sorted collection consisting of predefined verbal forms found in the corpus. (see note 7).

Run 2   The corpus is checked according to predefined syntactic structures (i. e. verbal periphrases with varying order of members). During Run 2 the programme creates a new disc file, DF 1, consisting of only the code numbers representing the above structures.

List 2   L 2 is a sequential control list, with the printout of the entire text (see *Appendix III*).

Run 3   The standard IBM sort programme sorts coded structures in an ascending sequence of numbers during Run 3. Output is sorted in disc file, DF 2.

Run 4   Run 4 lists disc file DF 2 on the printer.

List 3   L 3 presents the otput of Run 4, and consists of multi sorted structures in an adequate form. Structures pending sorted keys are printed on the left side of the page in ascending sequence, while total structure environment (the clause) is printed on the right side of the page, ending with the number of line in CT.

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