Rebooting Glosse-matics

Project Infrastructuralism

Royal Danish Academy of Sciences,

Copenhagen

Nov. 29. – 30, 2022

Welcome to the symposium!

- This symposium ***Rebooting Glossematics*** is one of the last manifestations of the Infrastrukturalism Project.
- The aim of our project has been to make a digital edition of letters and manuscripts connected with the works and aims of Louis Hjelmslev (1899-1965).
- The project was generously supported by the **Carlsberg Foundation** with 8.2 mio Dkr. (appr. 1.1 mio Euro).

Universities in the project

- The project is a cooperation between The Department of Communication and Culture at Univ. of Aarhus and the Department of Nordic Studies and Linguistics at Univ. of Copenhagen.
- The economic administration and the employment of scientific assistants was organized by the Univ. of Aarhus
- The Department of Nordic Studies and Linguistics at Univ. of Copenhagen supported us with a student assistant and with a board of consultants specialized in editorial issues.

Further collaboration and support

- The digital facilities of the edition were built by the Centre for Language Technology (Center for Sprogteknologi) at the Univ. of Copenhagen
- The Society for Danish Language and Literature (Det Danske Sprog- og Litteraturselskab) provided us with their expertise on editorial matters, especially in the initial phase of the project.

The participants

- Post docs: Lorenzo Cigana & Viggo Bank Jensen

The participants

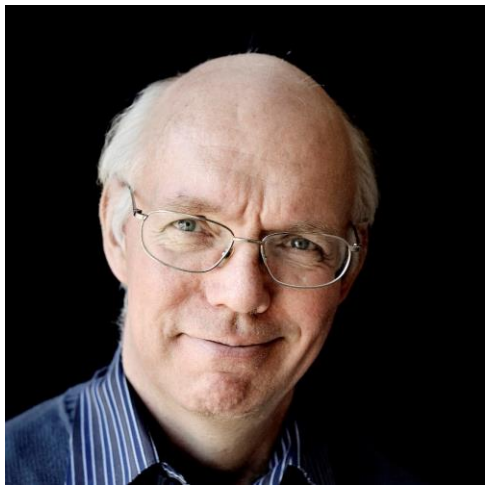
- Scientific assistants: Caroline Boolsen, Heidi McGhee, Winnie Collin & Aslak Vaag Olesen

The participants

- IT-support: Lene Offersgaard, Dorte Haltrup Hansen & Simon Gray

The participants

- PI: Henrik Jørgensen
- Head of the Advisory Board: Frans Gregersen



The Advisory Board

- Hans Basbøll, prof. emeritus, Univ. of Southern Denmark
- Una Canger, prof. emeritus , Univ. of Copenhagen
- Rens Bod, professor, Univ. of Amsterdam
- Charles van den Heuvel, Royal Dutch Academy of Sciences & Univ. of Amsterdam
- Bernard Hurch, Univ. of Graz
- John E. Joseph, Univ. of Edinburgh

Structuralism in Denmark

- The Main Character of the project is Louis Hjelmslev (1899-1965), professor of linguistics at univ. of Copenhagen from 1937 until his death.
- Hjelmslev's way of conceiving Linguistics was extremely important to the milieu of linguists in Copenhagen, both to his supporters and to his opponents – inspiration and challenge.

Hans Jørgen Uldall about 1938

Collaborators

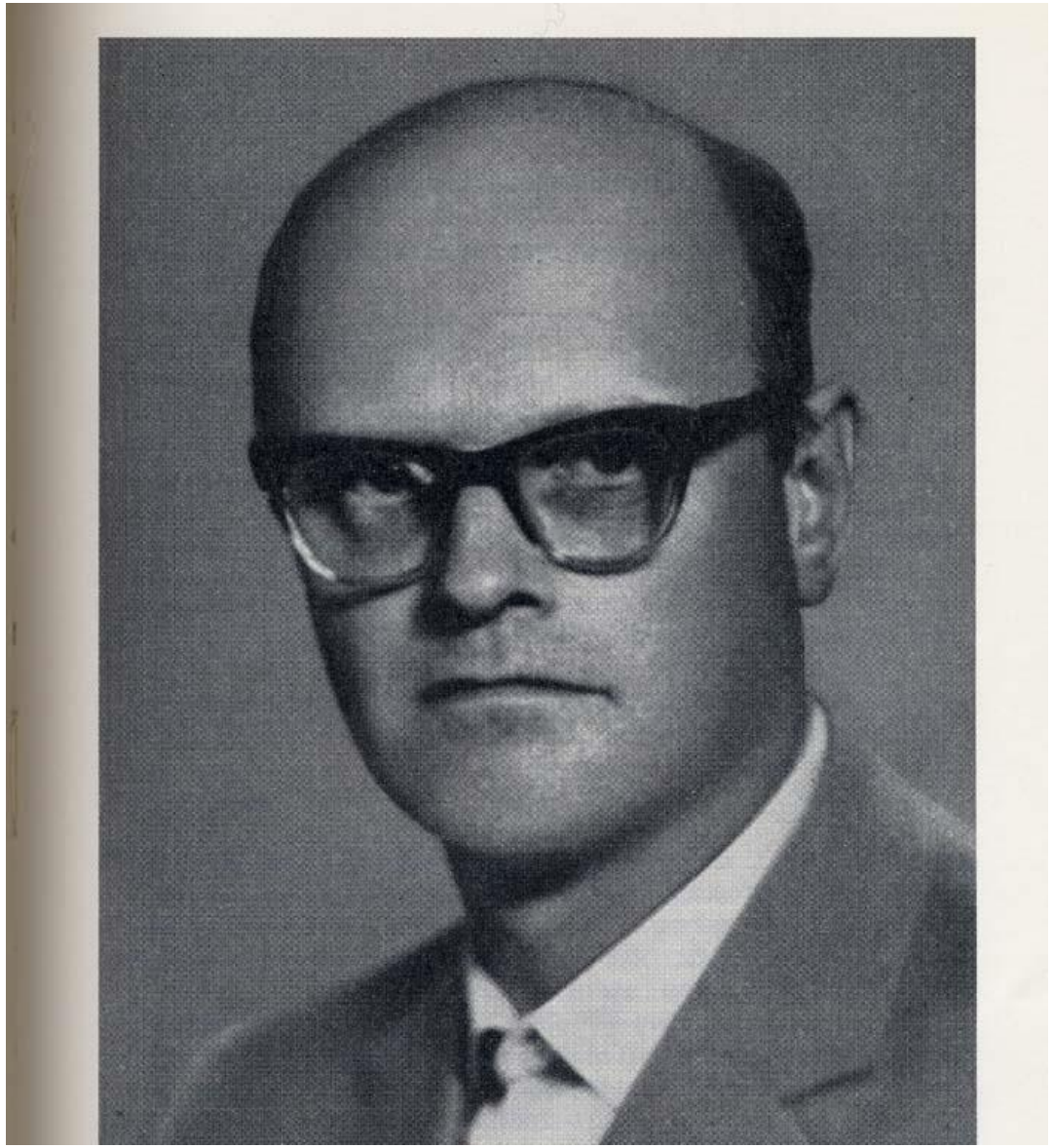
- The most important of Hjelmslev's collaborators is HANS JØRGEN ULDALL (1907-1957).

Uldall's importance falls in three phases:

- 1934-39: Close collaboration and key discussions
- 1940-49: Uldall abroad; Hjelmslev establishes his own version of the shared theory
- 1950: Uldall presents his version of the shared theory(*Outline of glossematics*). Seven years have to pass before the book appears in print.

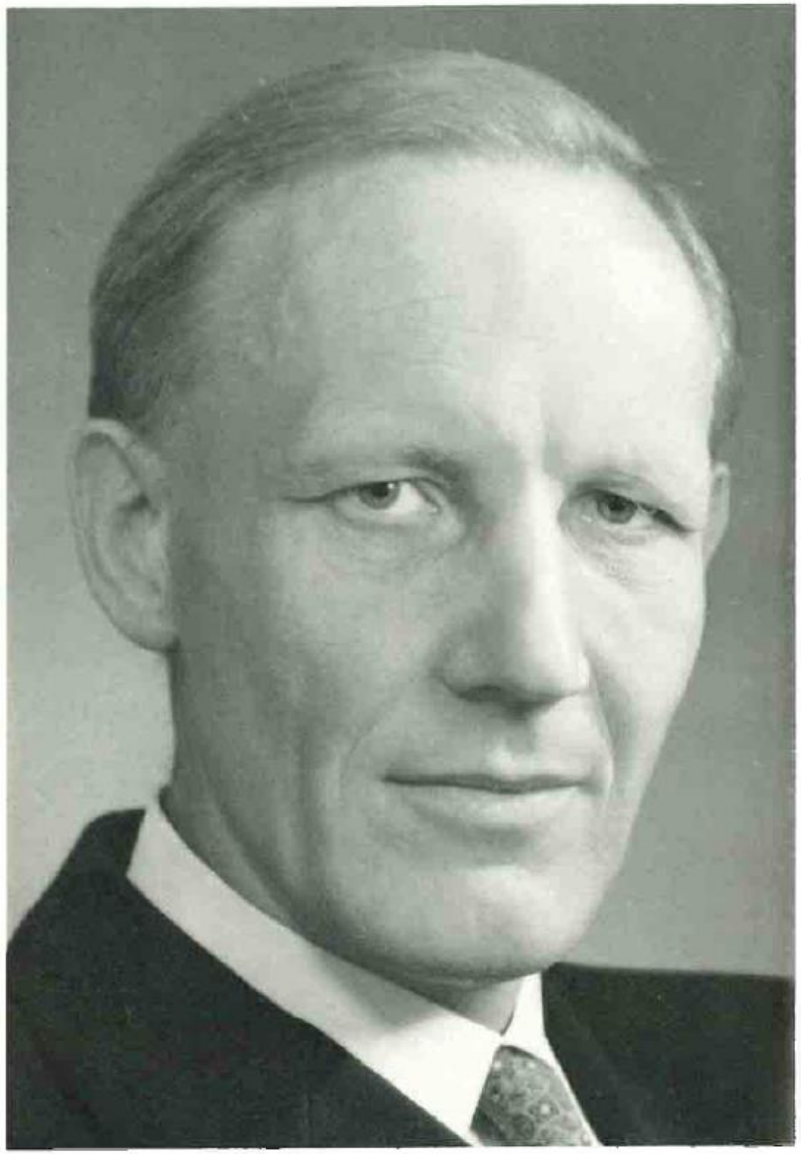
Collaborators

- Jens Holt (1904-1973) took over Hjelmslev's teaching duties in Aarhus. Until recently, he was perceived as a loyal, but not very interesting disciple of Hjelmslev (see Gregersen 1991).
- But the preserved letters indicate that he was much closer than we had believed so far.
- The letters testify to great mutual respect and contains interesting practical contributions to the solution of analytic problems in Glossematics.



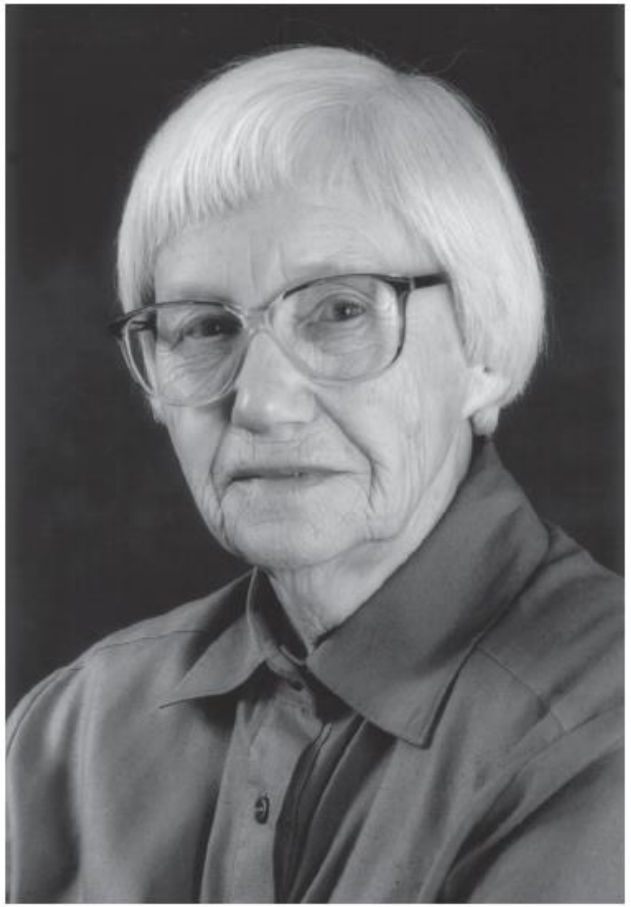
Partners in discussions

- Paul Diderichsen (1905-1964), professor of Scandinavian Linguistics at the Univ. of Copenhagen from 1949, was originally closely connected to Viggo Brøndal.
- After Brøndal died 1942, he tried to get closer to Hjelmslev. Many letters were exchanged, but it would be fair to say that they never got really close.
- Some of Diderichsen's work is strongly influenced by Hjelmslev, but never in an absolutely convinced way.



Partners in discussion

- Eli Fischer-Jørgensen (1911-2010) was Hjelmslev's most important partner in discussions after Uldall. She had different junior positions for many years, and she was not appointed professor of Phonetics until 1966.
- Eli Fischer-Jørgensen never claimed to be a glossematician. Still, she was a central figure in the discussions in the Linguistic Circle of Copenhagen. Hardly anybody had her capacity to discuss the weak points in Hjelmslev's theories.



Photograph (1968) by courtesy of the Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters.

The workflow

- first exploration of KB's archive: 2017, in relation to my research on Hjelmslev's participative correlations and on his *Forelæsninger over Sprogteori* (1942-1943)
- goals were

specific

1. to show that correlation theory was Hjelmslev's lifelong commitment, and not an "episode in structural thinking" (Viel 1984)
2. to assess to what extent such an idea was received and circulated among the members of CLC glossematic committee

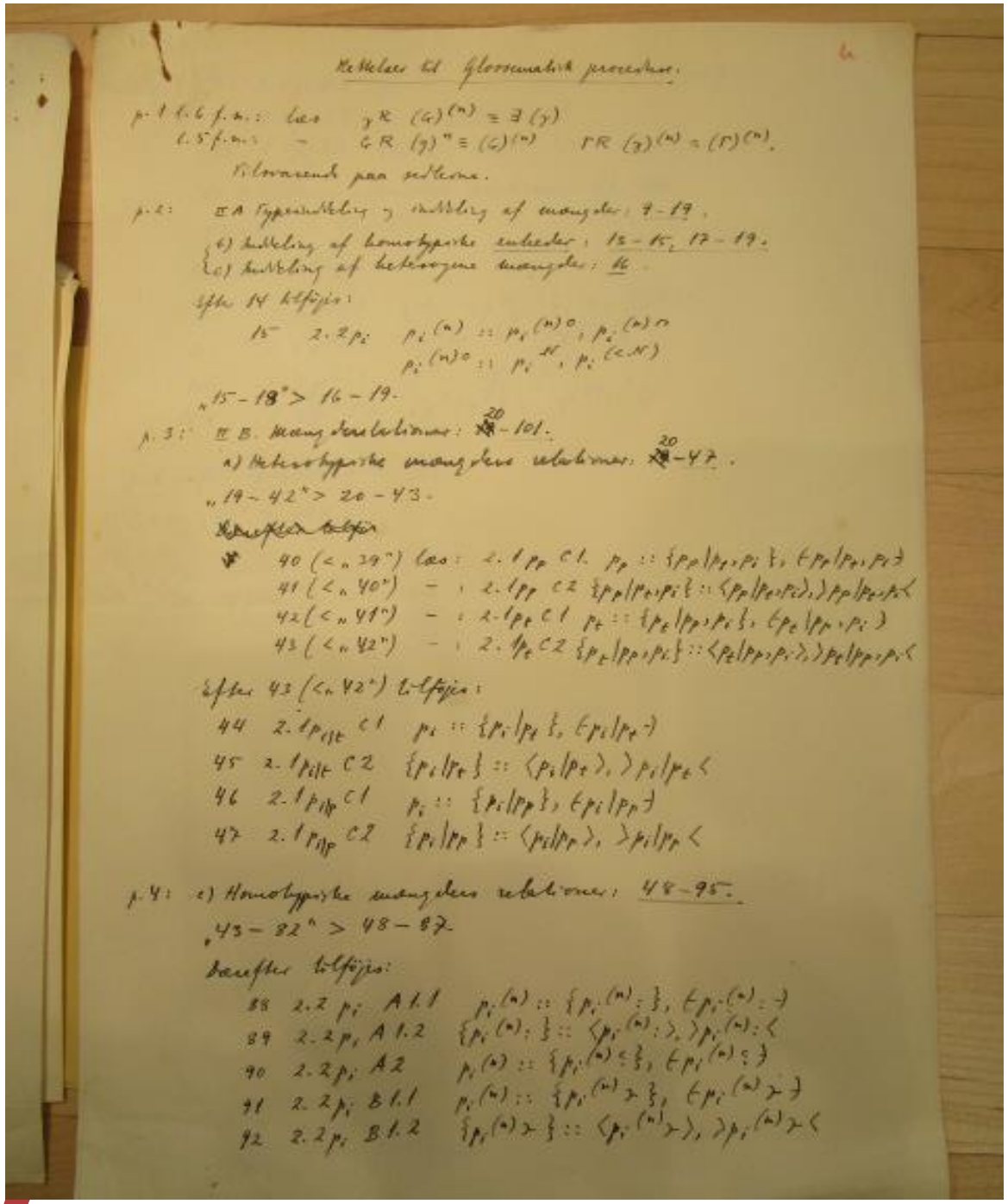
general

3. contextualization (historical and interpersonal: cf. H.J. Uldall, H.C. Sørensen, J. Holt)
4. reverse engineering on glossematics = theory in the making
5. re-appraisal of structuralism as such
6. join other coordinated researches on the archives of other linguists (F. de Saussure, J. Vendryes, R. Jakobson, S. Karcevskij)

Lorenzo

- first assessment on relevance (2018) for *Infrastructuralism*
- 1st sample of a collection of relevant capsules = 11.167 pages
  - correspondence
  - drafts
  - publishing contracts
  - (corrected) conference programs
  - notes
  - sketches and diagrams
  - manuscripts
  - pictures and photographs

kps 32



Rettelser til Glossematisk procedure.

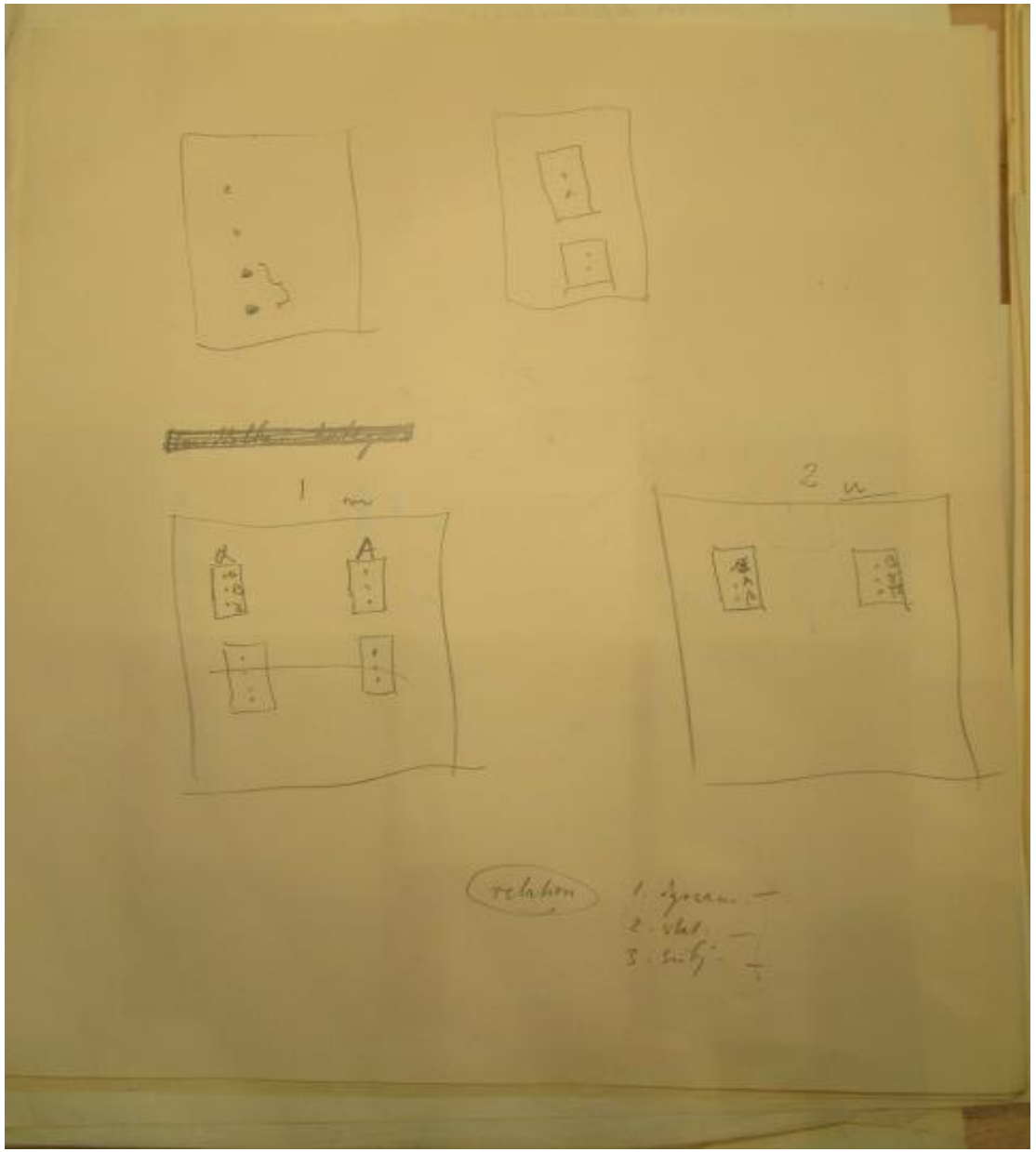
p. 1 l. 6 f. n.: læs $\gamma R\ (G)^{(n)} \equiv \exists (\gamma)$
l. 5 f. n.: – $GR\ (\gamma)^{n} \equiv (G)^{(n)}$ $\Gamma R\ (\gamma)^{(n)} \equiv (\Gamma)^{(n)}$.
Tilsvarende paa sidlerne.

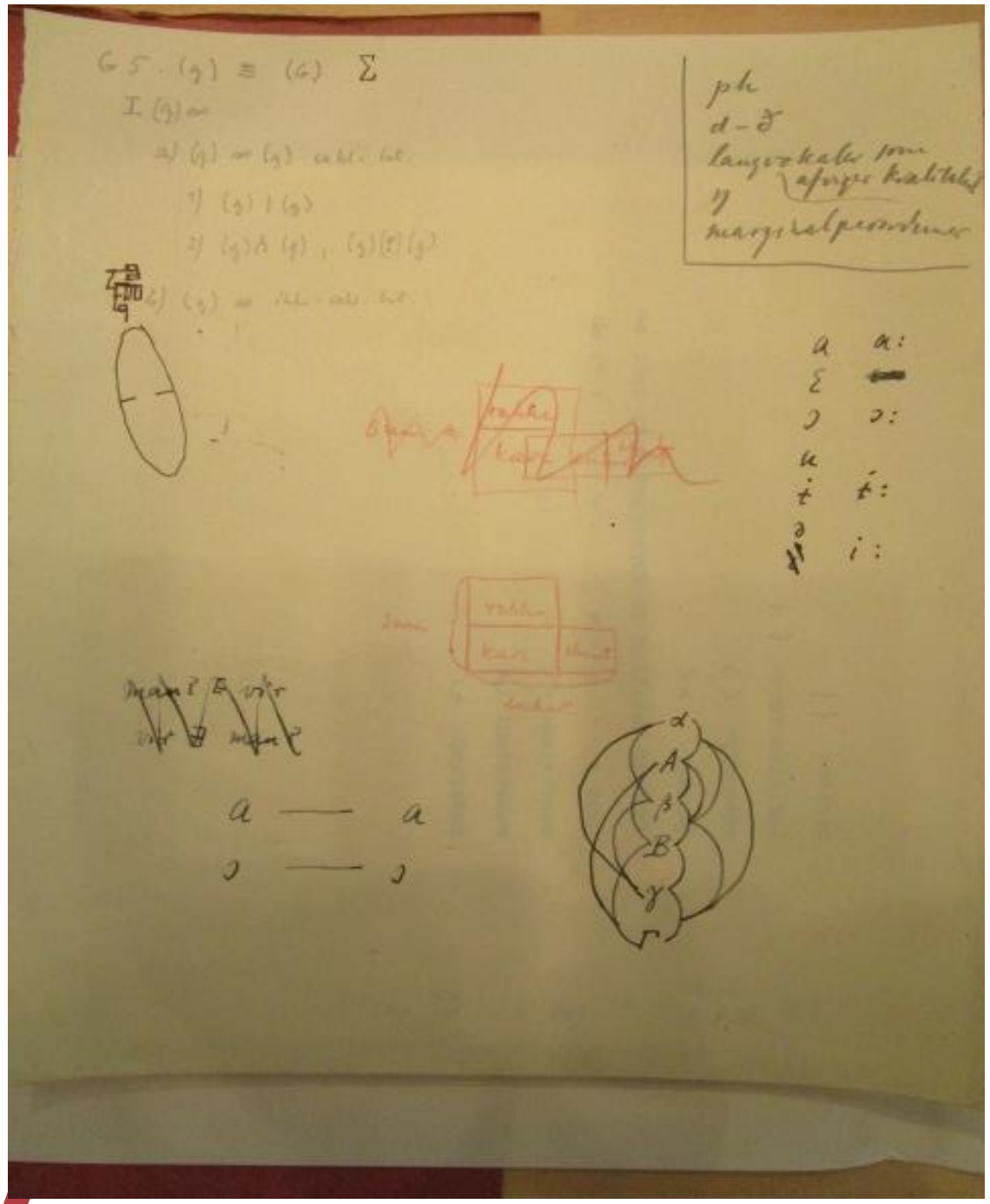
p. 2: II A Typeinddeling og inddeling af mængder: 9–19.
b) Inddeling af homotypiske enheder: 13–15, 17–19.
c) Inddeling af heterogene mængder: 16.
Efter 14 tilføjes:
15 $2.2 p_i$ $p_i^{(n)} :: p_i^{(n)0}, p_i^{(n)n}$
$p_i^{(n)0} :: p_i^{N}, p_i^{(<N)}$

„15–18" > 16–19.

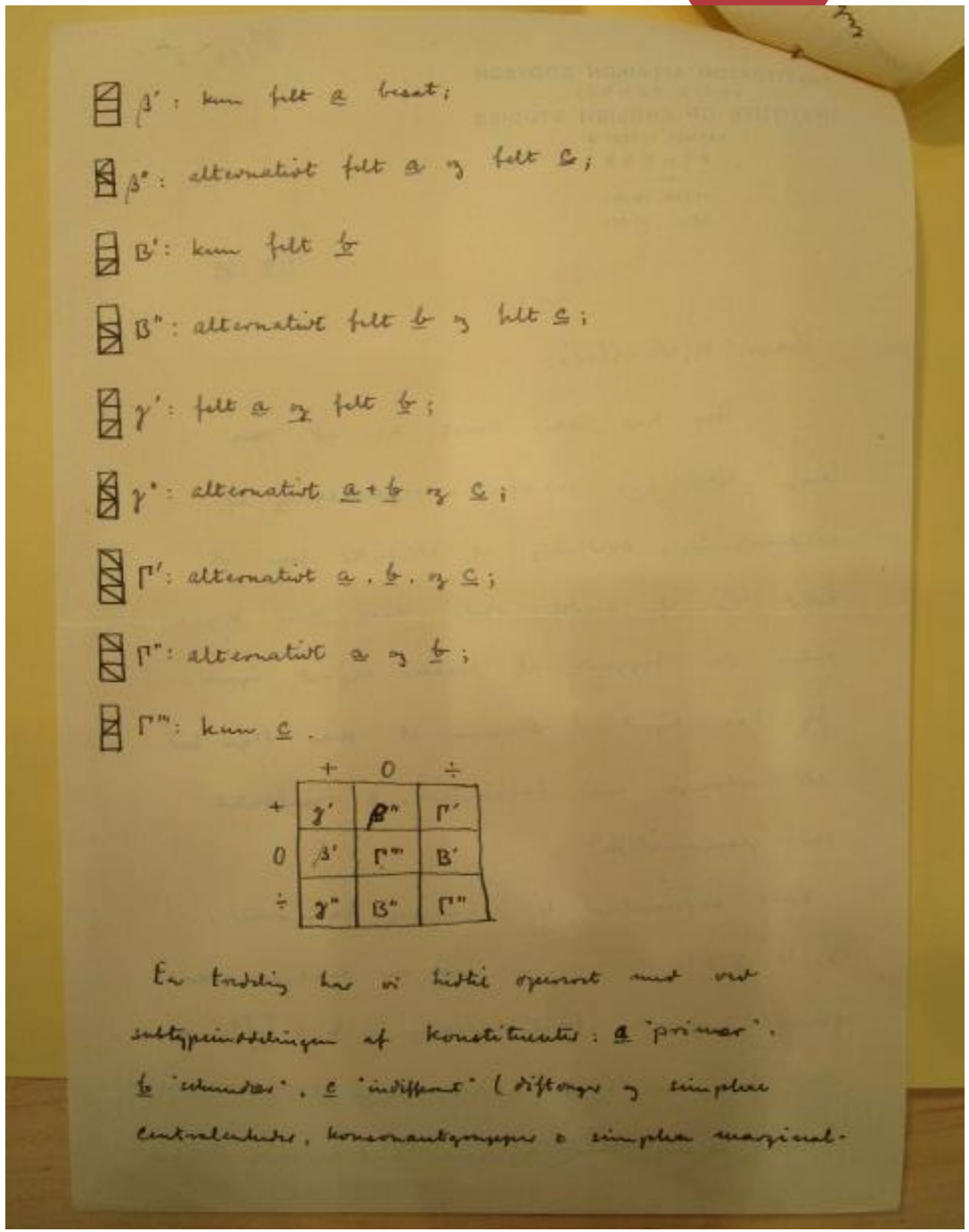
p. 3: II B. Mængderelationer: 20–101.
a) Heterotypiske mængders relationer: 20–47.
„19–42" > 20–43.
~~Dæreftet tilføjes~~
40 (< „39") læs: $2.1 p_p$ C1 $p_p :: \{p_p|p_t, p_i\}, (p_p|p_t, p_i)$
41 (< „40") – : $2.1 p_p$ C2 $\{p_p|p_t, p_i\} :: \langle p_p|p_t, p_i\rangle, \rangle p_p|p_t, p_i\langle$
42 (< „41") – : $2.1 p_t$ C1 $p_t :: \{p_t|p_p, p_i\}, (p_t|p_p, p_i)$
43 (< „42") – : $2.1 p_t$ C2 $\{p_t|p_p, p_i\} :: \langle p_t|p_p, p_i\rangle, \rangle p_t|p_p, p_i\langle$
Efter 43 (< „42") tilføjes:
44 $2.1 p_{i|t}$ C1 $p_i :: \{p_i|p_t\}, (p_i|p_t)$
45 $2.1 p_{i|t}$ C2 $\{p_i|p_t\} :: \langle p_i|p_t\rangle, \rangle p_i|p_t\langle$
46 $2.1 p_{i|p}$ C1 $p_i :: \{p_i|p_p\}, (p_i|p_p)$
47 $2.1 p_{i|p}$ C2 $\{p_i|p_p\} :: \langle p_i|p_p\rangle, \rangle p_i|p_p\langle$

p. 4: c) Homotypiske mængders relationer: 48–95.
„43–82" > 48–87.
Dæreftet tilføjes:
88 $2.2 p_i$ A1.1 $p_i^{(n)} :: \{p_i^{(n)}:\}, (p_i^{(n)}:)$
89 $2.2 p_i$ A1.2 $\{p_i^{(n)}:\} :: \langle p_i^{(n)}:\rangle, \rangle p_i^{(n)}:\langle$
90 $2.2 p_i$ A2 $p_i^{(n)} :: \{p_i^{(n)}\subseteq\}, (p_i^{(n)}\subseteq)$
91 $2.2 p_i$ B1.1 $p_i^{(n)} :: \{p_i^{(n)}\succ\}, (p_i^{(n)}\succ)$
92 $2.2 p_i$ B1.2 $\{p_i^{(n)}\succ\} :: \langle p_i^{(n)}\succ\rangle, \rangle p_i^{(n)}\succ\langle$



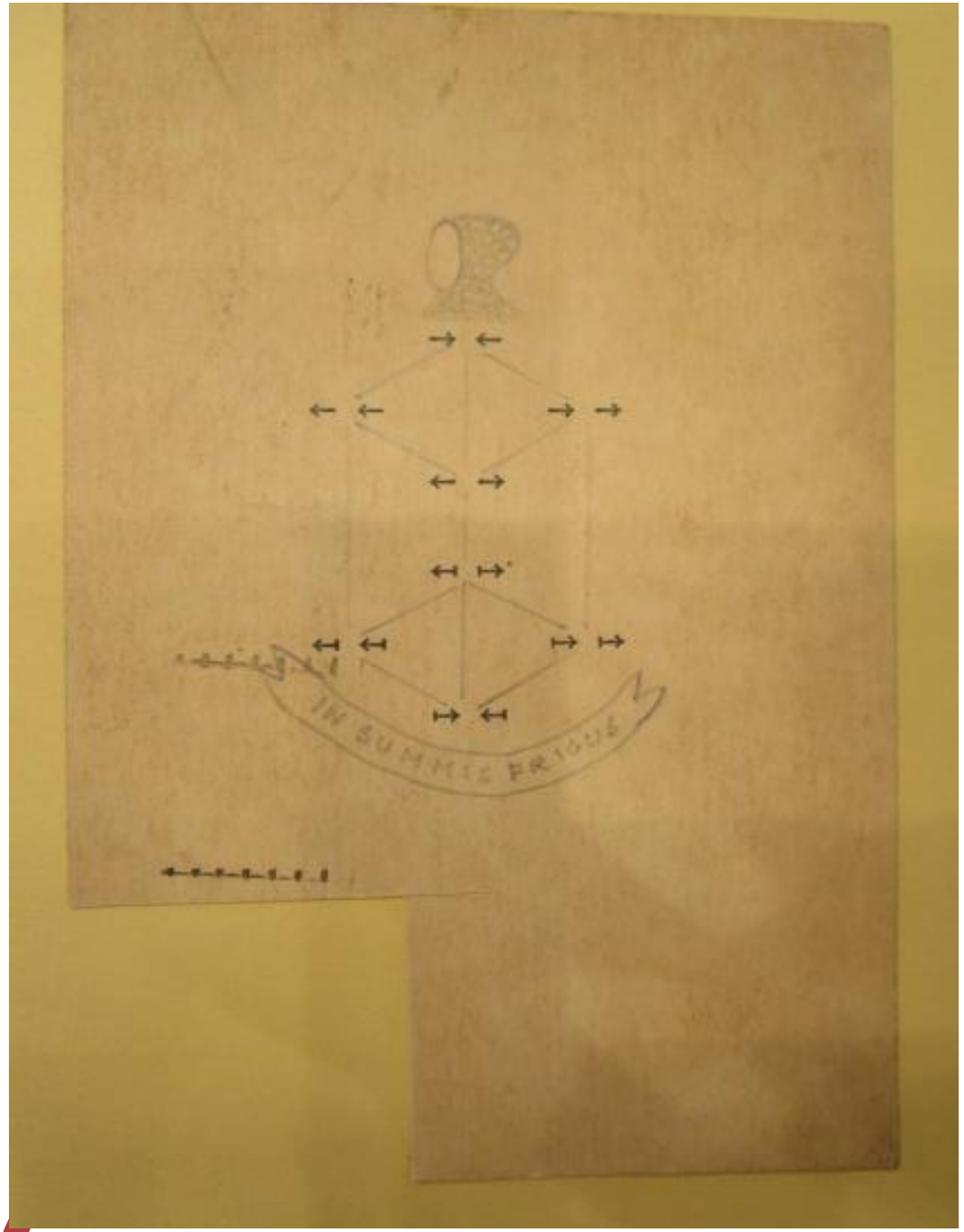

ph
d – ð
langvokaler som afviger kvalitetet
ŋ
marginalpersoner
a a:
ɔ ɔ:
i i:
a — a
ɔ — ɔ
α
A
β
B
γ
Γ

kps 32

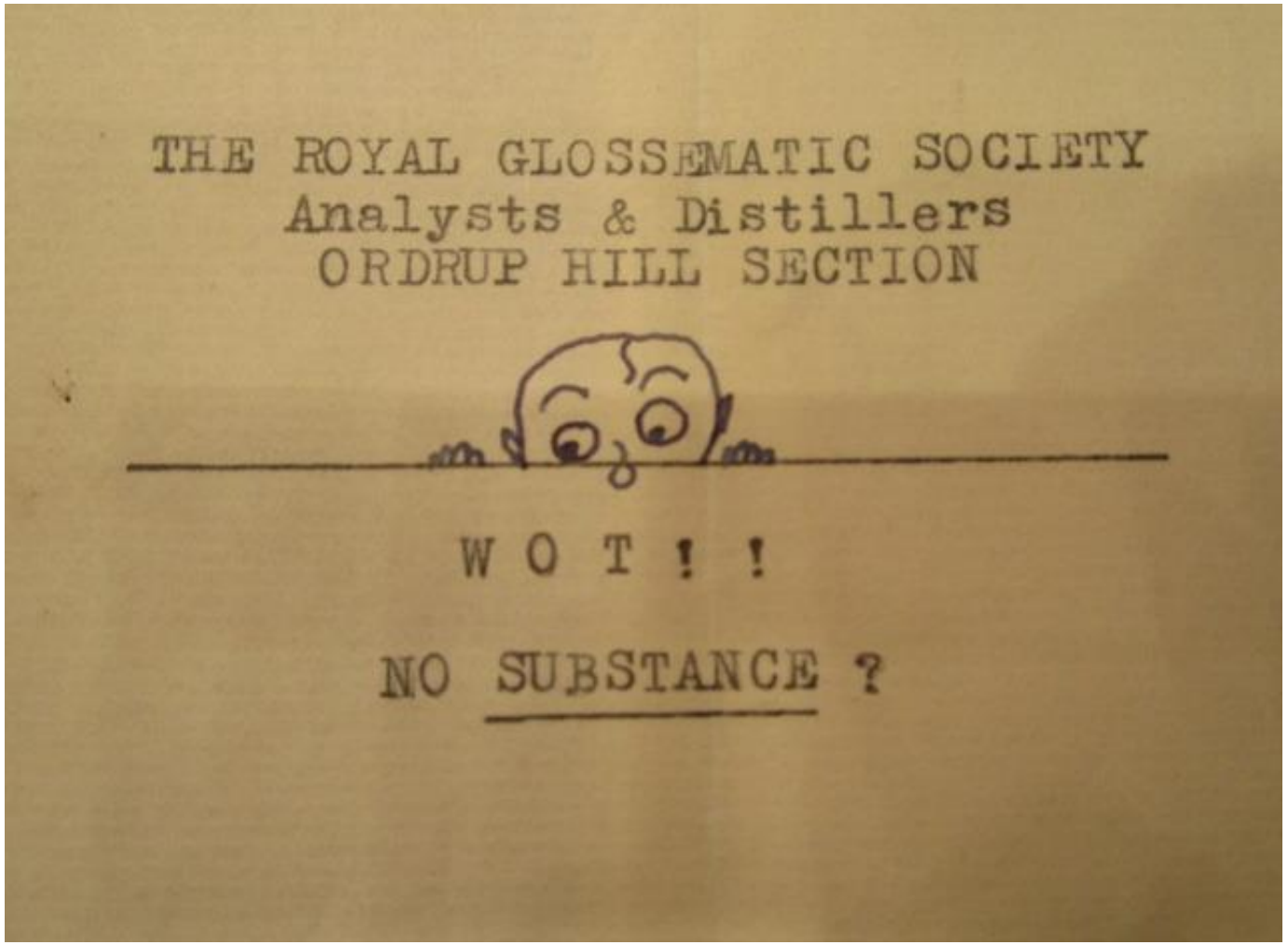

β': kun felt a besat;
β'': alternativt felt a og felt c;
B': kun felt b
B'': alternativt felt b og felt c;
γ': felt a og felt b;
γ'': alternativt a + b og c;
Γ': alternativt a, b, og c;
Γ'': alternativt a og b;
Γ''': kun c.
+ 0 ÷
+ γ' β'' Γ'
0 β' Γ''' B'
÷ γ'' B'' Γ''
En tredeling har vi hidtil opereret med ved subtypeinddelingen af konstituenter: a 'primær', b 'sekundær', c 'indifferent' (diftonger og simplex centralenheder, konsonantgrupper o simplex marginal-

kps 33

kps 34



kps 35


THE ROYAL GLOSSEMATIC SOCIETY
Analysts & Distillers
ORDRUP HILL SECTION
W O T ! !
NO SUBSTANCE ?

- the entirety of the archive(s) could not be digitalized so we had to make a selection > interest/relevance, mostly related to
- A) editorial status
  - published, unpublished manuscript, draft
  - correspondence
  - glossematics, *ab externo* and *ab interno*
- B) content
  - glossematics, *ab externo* and *ab interno*

- by doing a selection we were able to digitalize 19.140 items/pages from LH archive
- and to include selections from the archives of:
  - Hans Jørgen Uldall (1833)
  - Henning Spang-Hanssen (34)
  - Eli Fischer-Jørgensen (1533)
  - Francis J. Whitfield (1147)
  - Harry Wett-Frederiksen (2600)
  - Paul Diderichsen (1578)

tot: 25.291

Next step was to build up the database:

- to assign a *permanent identifier* to each item
- to regroup the pages into documents (!)
- to mark
  - letter/document
  - sender/recipient
  - date
  - title
  - handwritten/typewritten/shorthanded
  - relevance (topic, publication)

The Project web pages

- The Project web pages (curated by Heidi McGhee) are for the moment only available in Danish at UCPH but the web pages at Aarhus University are also available in English
- They both of them include
  - ❑Presentations
    - of the project and
    - the protagonists: Hjelmslev, Uldall, Holt, Eli, Diderichsen, Spang-Hanssen, Whitfield and Wett-Frederiksen
  - ❑Further contextualization in terms of recordings and photos documenting how they sounded and what they looked like
  - ❑Tools:
    - Our TEI manual
    - Bibliographies of the published works by the protagonists
- Thus, the web pages should function as a supplement to and an introduction to the universe you enter when you go to the infrastructure itself at glossematics.dk

The INFRASTRUCTURE

- The infrastructure at glossematics.dk contains a wealth of information but basically it contains a TIMELINE, numerous LETTERS and some DOCUMENTS
- The letters are those which have been sent from and to our protagonists, mainly Louis Hjelmslev but also Uldall, Diderichsen and Fischer-Jørgensen
- We have delimited the time frame to the life of Louis Hjelmslev (1899-1965)
- This is particularly relevant to note for Eli Fischer-Jørgensen who lived a long and fruitful life and had copious correspondence also after 1965
- Access to the infrastructure is regulated by WAYF
- The vast majority of the letters in the glossematics.dk infrastructure will also be available from the Danish Royal Library at tekster.kb.dk thanks to Bo Krantz Simonsen and his crew

The TIMELINE

- The timeline shows the academic life of Louis Hjelmslev as it is documented in his own files and in the archive materials
- Viggo Bank Jensen has classified the life into a number of categories:
  - The courses LH gave (NB we cannot say in detail about all of them how much was actually given but we can in some instances)
  - The Lectures he gave abroad
  - The travels he took and the people he met while he was outside Denmark
  - The administrative duties he had and
  - The more personal events (marriage etc) in his life, his various places of residence
- When you click on the items in the timeline, you get the details Viggo was able to dig up but even if you do not, you are able to survey an academic life in its complexity and entirety

The LETTERS

- The letters are the mainstay of the infrastructure
- Included are all letters of relevance to the history of linguistics from and to all of our protagonists as far as they have been included in the archives at the Royal Library
- Please note that we have, thanks to assiduous work by Heidi McGhee, supplemented the Holt-Hjelmslev correspondence with the materials preserved at Aarhus University, Universitetshistorisk samling AND that we have included the correspondence between Daniel Jones and Hans Jørgen Uldall which has not (yet) been transferred to the Royal Library
- Some of the letters (this goes primarily for the Hjelmslev-Uldall, the Hjelmslev-Holt and the Uldall-Jones correspondences) are transcribed using an elaborate TEI manual developed by Caroline Boolsen, but in all cases they are legible (if you have the necessary language competencies) on the basis of the picture files (facsimiles)

The DOCUMENTS

- LH left his entire archive to the Royal Library and most of Uldall's archive was integrated into Hjelmslev's
- This means that unpublished materials from these two researchers feature in the archives
- Actually, also four unpublished works from the hand of the (very young) H. Spang-Hanssen have been discovered along with the important manuscript by Diderichsen on the Danish written language structure (grafematikken). The prose history by Diderichsen awaits integration.
- Since these works are not letters, we had to develop another format for them, distinguishing between totally unpublished materials on the one hand and drafts for and cut outs from already published materials on the other
- All these types of materials will eventually be available