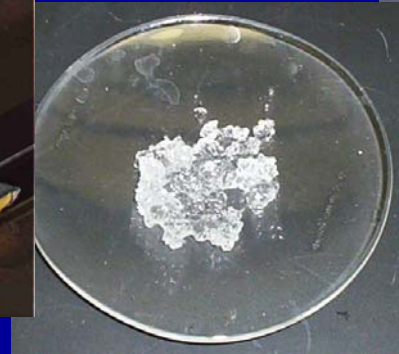


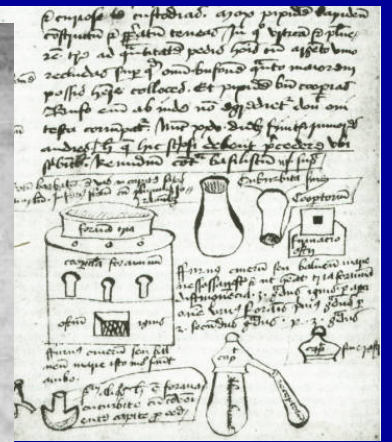
What do they think they're doing?

History, alchemy and the
digitization of manuscripts



to the Diamond

Ruby	6.5
Esperula	1.5
Balax	1.60
Emerald orient	1.10
Sapphire	1.40
Topaz	1.120
Jacynth	1.240
Analyst	1.360
Carolin	1.660
Pearle	1.40
Scid pearle undr a Rucilate = 1/2 price of A. + more.	





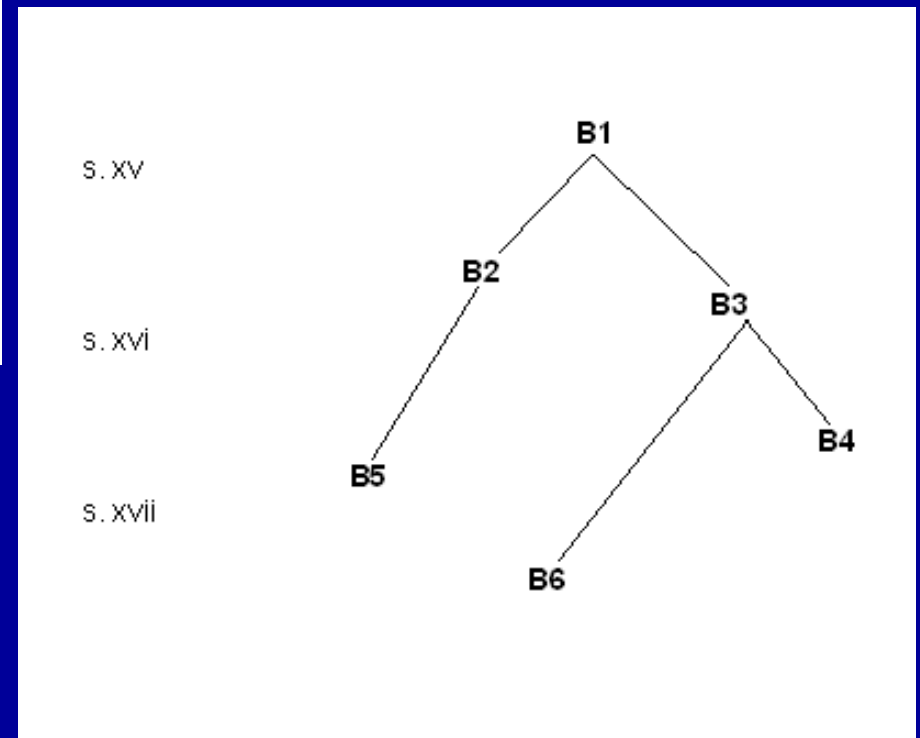
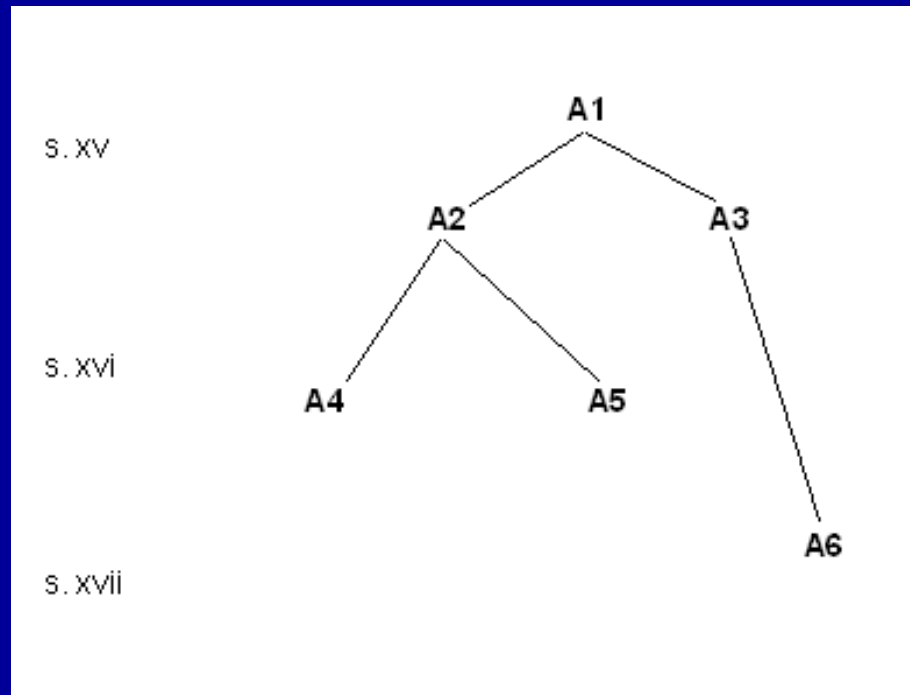
Earthe of Earth

Take earthe of earth earthes brother,
Water & earthe it is none other
& fyre of earth that beareth the price
& of that earth looke thowe bee wyse
The trewe elixer if thowe list to make,
It ^{Earthe} out of the earth looke thowe take,
pure, subtile, fayre , & good,
and doo it wth wat^r of the woodd:
ffor in ear it the earthe desolved must bee
wthout fyre days ^{wekes} three ³¹
Departe the thynne then fro the thicke
And vapoure it into gumme like picke,
A wat^r therof distill yo^r shall
Our Aqua vitae & o^r menstruall:

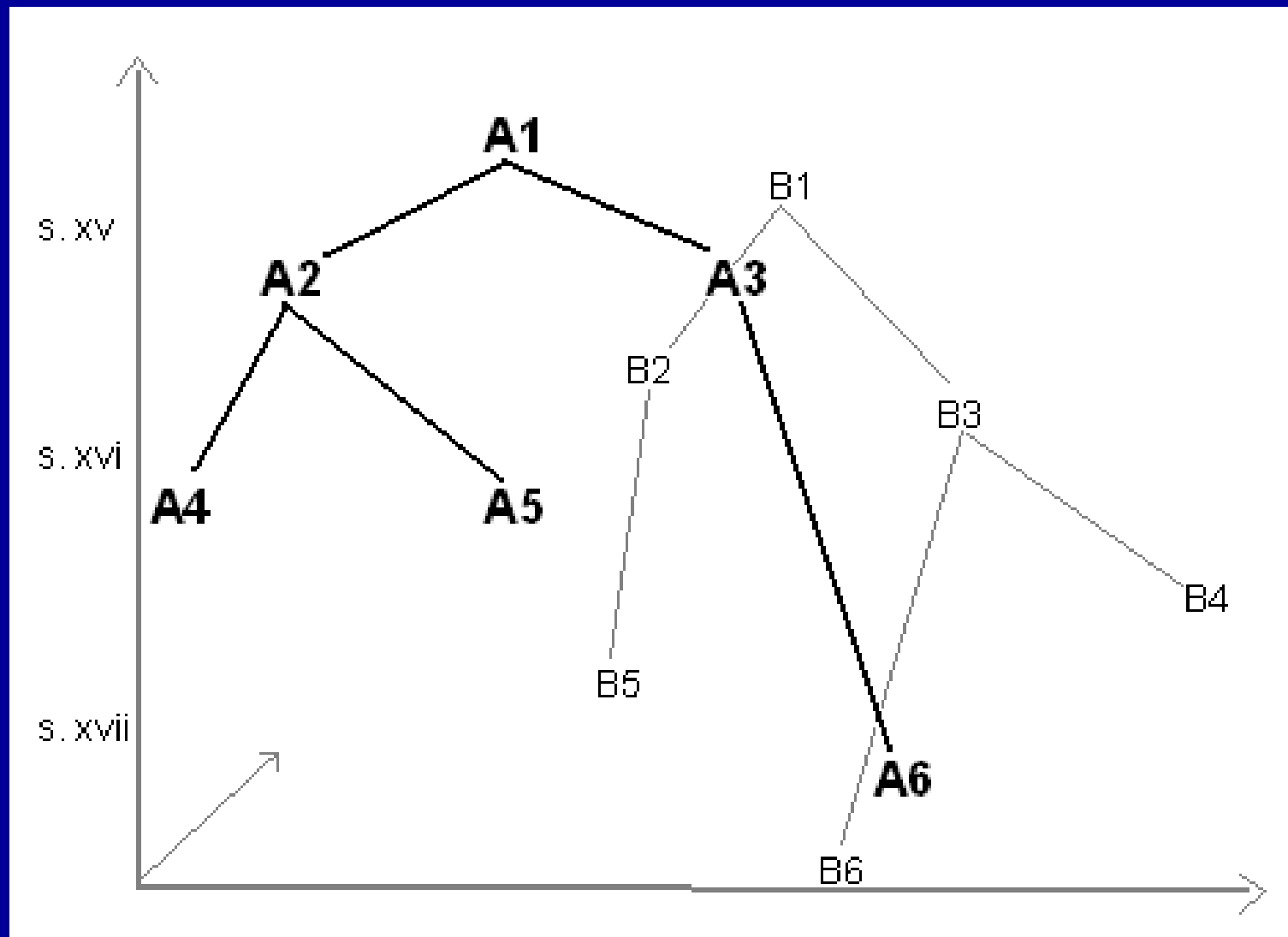
reproduction of rather busy manuscript page

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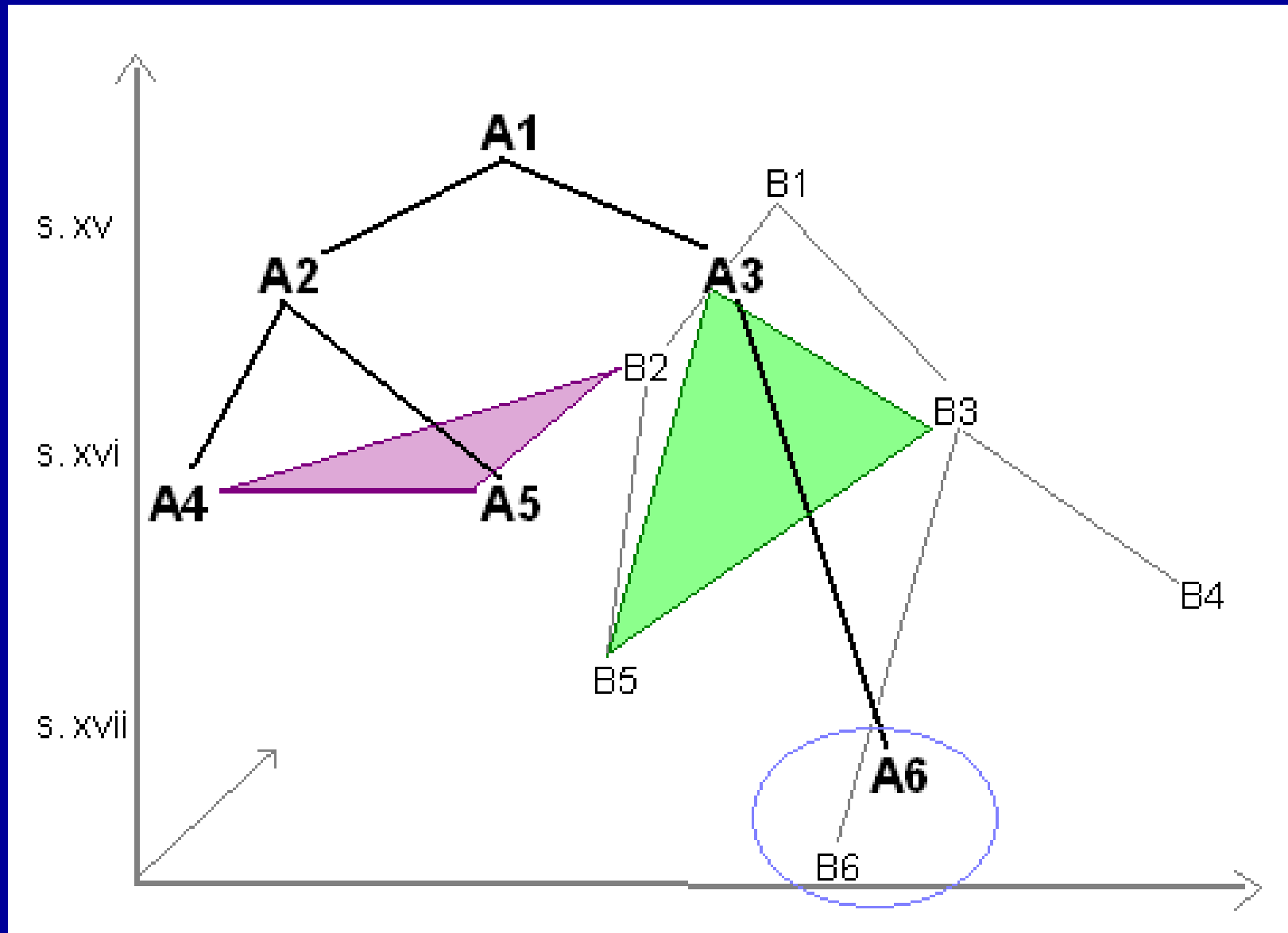
Stemmata for texts A and B



Joint stemma for texts A and B



Insights from combined stemma



Critical editions of both texts

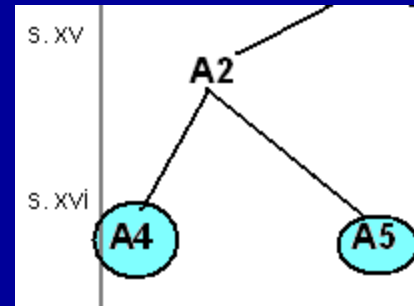
I haue a doughter that hight saturne & derlyng
 Of my doughter withouten drede 70
 Byn made elixers bothe white and rede
 Ofwhom ye must drawe a water clere
 This science if ye list to lere
 This water reducyth euery thyng
 To tendemesse and fixing. 75
 Buriouyth & groweth & yevith frute & light
 Ingression lyf and lastyng sight
 and all rightfull werkes the soth to say
 hit helpith and bryngith in a good wey

69	saturne & derlyng]	Saturns Darling A3; saturne <i>éss.</i> derlyng S#
	I haue [...] derlyng]	<i>conc.</i> , <i>alt.</i> : Nowe listen to my dawghter magge/ that hight Saturne, and Darlynge deare S3
71	bothe]	<i>om.</i> A2, A3, C1, F*
73	lere]	heare A3
76	Buriouyth]	buddeth <i>all other MSS</i>
77	sight]	in sight A2, C1, F*, S4; in hight A3
78/9		All rightfull works the fayth to sayd/ it helpeth & bringeth in a good mayd A3

Of spayn take thou thy clere light
 The redde gomme that is so bright
 Of philosophers the sulphur wif
 Callid golde withouten stryf
 Of hyme drawe out a tyncture 5
 And make a matrimony pure
 Betwene the husband and the wif
 Espoused with thesprite of lyf

1	f. 125r	
	Of [...] take]	Take of spayne o1
	Of spayn]	Off the sonne a3; Geber of Spain saith a*5
	thou thy]	<i>om.</i> <i>all other MSS except</i> then thy a2
2	The]	Off the o1
	gomme]	lyon g*; Gunne <i>éss.</i> Goomme o1
	is so]	shymyth so a2; shineth a*5
3	the]	clepid a*5
4		<i>(conc.</i> Espoused with the spirit of lif) I called gould without stif g*
	Callid golde]	gold called o1, a*, a*2; Itt is called a3
	withouten]	with owte any g1
5	hyme]	this g*; thes o1
	a]	the a*, a*2; a good a*5; thy o1
6	a]	<i>om.</i> a*; in a2
	matrimony pure]	marriage good and suer a*5
7	Betwene]	betwixt o1, a*, g*
8	sprite]	water a*

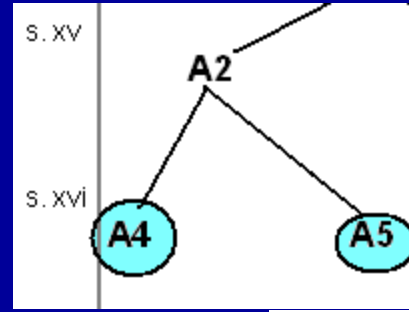
Pulling up copies A4 and A5



Then fede it furthe as ye shulde doo
wth mylke & meate that longeth therto
Tyll it be growen to his full age
Then shall it bee stronge & of greate corage
And turne all bodies that lawfull bee
To his owne poure and dignitie/
This is the makinge of o^r stone
The truth I haue tolde the eche one./
ffor truly it is none other waye of very right
But bodie of bodie & light of light
Where all the fooles in the worlde sechen
A thinge that they may neu^r maynteyn./
ffor they wolde haue metall out of them
That neu^r was founde of earthely man./
ffor of all thinges I will no mo
But 4. elementes in generall I saye to yo^r so./
Soone & moone earthe and wat^r
And here is all that men^u of clatt^r./

fro the moysture of the grape who can it take
and then do owre maystrye make
But nowe beware y^t ye not fayle
for then yowe loose yo^r greate travayle
when yowe have drawen owte of the gumme
all the mercurye that wyll comme
vnderstande then liquores three
in that mercurye conteyned be
The fyrste is the water of lyfe ardente
by bathe to be departyd y^t is moste lente
yt burnet as Aqua vitæ belyve
& is called o^r mercurye attractyve
wherewyth is made earthe chrystallyne
owte of all calces metallayne
I spaeke no more hereof as yet
for in this wourcke we neede not yet
Then commyth a water after thicke

Pulling up copies A4 and A5



manuscript page 1

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manuscript page 2

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