# A CORPUS-BASED APPROACH TO THE LEMMATISATION OF OLD ENGLISH SUPERLATIVE ADVERBS ${ }^{1}$ 

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#### Abstract

The aim of this article is to discuss the lemmatisation process of Old English adverbs inflected for the superlative from a corpus-based perspective. This study has been conducted on the basis of a semi-automatic methodology through which the inflectional forms have been automatically extracted from The York-Toronto-Helsinki Parsed Corpus of Old English Prose and The York TorontoHelsinki Parsed Corpus of Old English Poetry whereas the task of assigning a lemma has been completed manually. The list of adverbial lemmas amounts to 1, 755 and has been provided by the lexical database of Old English Nerthus. Additionally, the resulting lemmatised list has been checked against the lemmatised forms compiled by the Dictionary of Old English and Seelig's (1930) work on Old English comparative and superlative adjectives and adverbs. Through this comparison it has been possible to verify doubtful forms and incorporate new ones that are unattested by the YCOE. This pilot study bas implemented for the first time a methodology for the lemmatisation of a non-verbal class and can be further applied to those categories that are still unlemmatised, namely nouns and adjectives.


Keywords: Old English, lemmatisation, superlative adverbs, corpus linguistics, lexicography.

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# UN ENFOQUE BASADO EN CORPUS PARA LA LEMATIZACIÓN DE LOS ADVERBIOS SUPERLATIVOS DEL INGLÉS ANTIGUO 


#### Abstract

RESUMEN. Este artículo tiene como objetivo analizar el proceso de lematización de los adverbios en grado superlativo del inglés antiguo desde un enfoque basado en corpus. Este estudio se ba realizado siguiendo una metodología semiautomática mediante la cual el proceso de extracción de formas flexivas de The York-TorontoHelsinki Parsed Corpus of Old English Prose y de The York Toronto-Helsinki Parsed Corpus of Old English Poetry ba sido automático, mientras que la tarea de asignación de lema ba sido llevada a cabo manualmente. El listado de lemas consta de 1.755 formas $y$ ba sido proporcionado por la base de datos léxica del inglés antiguo Nerthus. Asimismo, los resultados obtenidos del proceso de lematización han sido cotejados con las formas atestiguadas por el Dictionary of Old English y por la obra de Seelig (1930) sobre los adjetivos y adverbios en grado comparativo y superlativo del inglés antiguo. A través de este estudio comparativo ba sido posible verificar formas dudosas e incorporar nuevas atestiguaciones que no ban sido registradas por el YCOE. Este análisis piloto ha implementado por primera vez una metodología para la lematización de una clase no verbal que puede aplicarse al resto de categorías que todavía no han sido lematizadas, en concreto los nombres y los adjetivos.


Palabras clave: inglés antiguo, lematización, adverbios superlativos, lingüística de corpus, lexicografía.

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## 1. AIMS AND RELEVANCE OF THE RESEARCH

This article deals with the lemmatisation of the Old English superlative adverbs. Lemmatisation is understood as the process by which a group of words are morphologically related and reduced to a lemma or headword, including both the predictable and the unpredictable forms. Lemmatisation is a necessary task in the field of Old English lexicography, and of historical linguistics in general, as there is not, for the moment, a fully lemmatised corpus or dictionary that compiles a systematic inventory of the Old English lexicon. Several reasons explain this fact; one of the most convincing arguments that explains the inconsistent spelling variation is the diversity of dialects (Kentish, West Saxon, Mercian and Northumbrian) and the absence of a written standard of the language.

One of the pending tasks historical corpus linguistics must tackle is precisely to increase the amount of grammatically annotated material. However, as Claridge (2008: 254 ) points out, this proves quite challenging in a historical language as Old

English due to aspects such as form and usage differences and the high internal variability. In addition to this, the limited amount of Old English texts that have been preserved, together with the difficulties in accessing some of this material, which may exist exclusively in the form of a manuscript, reduce the possibilities of finding evidence of less frequent grammatical phenomena.

This study follows one of the current lines of research of the Nerthus Project, which centres on the lemmatisation of the Old English lexicon. A few studies have already been conducted that tackle the lemmatisation of Old English verbs, including strong verbs (Metola Rodríguez 2015, 2017), preterit-present, anomalous and contracted verbs (García Fernández 2018, fc.) and weak verbs (Tío Sáenz 2019). Although substantially different methodologies, in all three cases the lemmatising task involves a semi-automatic procedure that requires an eventual manual revision and evaluation of the results.

Within this context, the pilot study presented here is conceived as a first attempt to lemmatise a non-verbal category, more specifically adverbs inflected for the superlative. A methodology has been devised to this aim that can be applied to the rest of categories that are not fully lemmatised yet, these are nouns and adjectives.

This work mainly contributes to identifying a lemma for all the inflected forms that are tagged as superlative adverbs by the York-Helsinki Parsed Corpus of Old English Prose (Taylor et al., eds., 2003) and Poetry (Pintzuk and Plug, eds., 2001). Furthermore, the comparison of the results with other sources has enriched the study by providing mutual feedback. One of these sources is The Dictionary of Old English (DOE), only available for letters A-I, which represents a valuable lexicographical source as it attests a vast amount of inflectional forms and has been elaborated on the basis of a corpus containing one example, at least, of every surviving text in this language. The other is a secondary source, the work by Seelig (1930). It consists of a compilation of adjectival and adverbial forms in the comparative and the superlative that have been grouped together under the adequate lemma.

This study is grounded on the fields of lexicography and corpus linguistics, two disciplines that bear an intimate relationship due to the mutual feedback they obtain. It is common knowledge among the scholars of this area that a quality lexicographical work must be necessarily based on a corpus. Many scholars have addressed this close connection. Faaß (2017), for instance, attaches utmost importance to the contribution of corpus linguistics to electronic dictionaries as it permits the analysis of language in natural contexts. Besides, this author draws attention to the fact that corpora should be digitalized for the sake of a greater
accuracy in data description (Faaß 2017: 124). Last but not least, another key aspect is the convenience of having fully annotated corpora, namely morphologically, syntactically and semantically, that render a valuable tool for lexicographical purposes.

Given this background, the remainder of the paper is organized as follows. Section 2 summarizes the main information regarding the description of the adverbial system and their formation. Section 3 offers a description of the sources that have been utilised in both the extraction and lemmatisation processes. Section 4 deals with the methodological steps that have been followed and the decisions made in the lemmatisation process. Section 5 discusses the results of the analysis. The paper closes with the main conclusions of the study.

## 2. AN OVERVIEW OF THE OLD ENGLISH ADVERBIAL SYSTEM

Old English is the term coined to allude to the vernacular language spoken in Great Britain and attested in manuscripts previous to 1100. It is a Germanic language, more specifically a West Germanic one, sharing group with other languages such as Old High German, Old Saxon and Frisian.

The period known as Old English comprises around 600 years ( $5^{\text {th }}-11^{\text {th }}$ centuries), although the majority of texts that are preserved date back to the late $9^{\text {th }}$ and $11^{\text {th }}$ centuries. Four main dialects existed at that time, namely Kentish, West Saxon, Mercian and Northumbrian. It is precisely the presence of this variety of dialects that makes Old English spelling system particularly complex. Besides the coexistence of different dialects, the abundant vernacular literary activity also contributed a significant variation in orthography and inflexion. In this context, West-Saxon was instituted as the standard written language as most of the manuscripts of that time belong to this dialect.

This language is characterized by a rich inflectional system with a close relation holding between word form and word function (Smith 2009: 22). Mitchell and Robinson, in turn, prefer to describe Old English as a "half-inflected language" (1985: 62) as it preserves only four cases of the eight that were present in Indoeuropean. Moreover, prepositions are often found introducing phrases in an oblique case, a circumstance in which the use of the preposition seems unnecessary.

As a synthetic language, the function of a word is marked through inflectional endings. In the case of adverbs, the only inflection they may undergo is that corresponding to the comparative and the superlative degrees. The typical
adverbial endings expressing degree are -or and -ost, although there are also other possibilities, these are -ar and -ur for the comparative and -ast, -est and -ust for the superlative.

The adverbial lexicon represents roughly a five percent of the total of Old English words. Adverbs amount to 1,755 , a considerable low figure if compared with nouns, for example, which constitute half of the Old English lexicon, or with verbs and adjectives, adding up to twenty percent each. As in Present Day English, Old English adverbs were used as modifiers of adjectives, verbs and other adverbs.

Adverbs were mostly created through the addition of suffix $-e$ to an adjective, which corresponds to the ending that indicated the instrumental case. For instance, gloed 'joyous, glad' > glade 'joyously, gladly'; sār 'sore' > sāre 'sorely'. Ending $-e$ was lost by the end of the $14^{\text {th }}$ century, as a result a number of adjectives and adverbs are formally alike. An example is a nwille, which is both an adjective ('obstinate, stubborn') and an adverb ('wilfully, obstinately'); something similar occurs with dēore, meaning 'dear, beloved' as an adjective, and 'dearly; with kindness' when it is an adverb.

Many adverbs originate in adjectives ending in -lic, which have been added suffix $-e$ eventually. For instance, adjective nābtlic 'worthless' gave rise to adverb nābtlice 'worthlessly'; in like manner, rȳnelic 'mystical' creates adverb (ge)rȳnelice 'mystically', hence -lice became a typical ending that was appended to adjectives to form adverbs (rōtlīce 'glad, cheerfully' < rōt 'glad, cheerful').

A few adverbs, and also adjectives, form the superlative through a double suffixation process (Fulk 2018: 240). In these cases, there is an $-m$ - right before the superlative suffix. For instance, both eallmēest 'almost' and endemest 'equally' undergo double suffixation. In this regard, Campbell (1959: 278) observes that this double suffixation is especially common in inflected adjectives that originate in an adverb.

A number of adverbs experience mutation in the root vowel when they form the comparative or superlative, being this mutation the only evidence of degree. An example is eald 'old' - yldra (comp.) - yldest (superl.). A few adverbs undergo suppletive comparison, that is, the stems of the positive and of the comparative or superlative forms is not the same; this is the case, for instance, of wel 'well' - bet (comp.) - betst (superl.).Attending to their formation process, adverbs can be divided into two groups: basic and non-basic. Regarding the first group, no productive morphological process is involved. Examples of basic adverbs, also called 'monomorphemic' (Fulk 2018: 237), are $n \bar{U}$ 'now', oft 'oft', under 'under', yme 'around', etc. Non-basic adverbs constitute roughly $90 \%$ of the
adverbial lexicon. Non-basic adverbs include zero derived/converted ${ }^{2}$, affixed and compound adverbs ${ }^{3}$. Zero derivation affects, approximately, a $10 \%$ of the adverbs. This process consists of category extension and semantic modification without formal change. Examples of zero derived adverbs are tōheald (adv.) 'inclined, forward, in advance manner' < tōheald (adj.) and unnēah (adv.) 'not near, far, away from' < unnēab (adj.). The most numerous group of adverbs, around $70 \%$ of the total, encompasses affixed adverbs. These have been created either through prefixation or suffixation. Examples of affixed adverbs are $\boldsymbol{s} \bar{a} \boldsymbol{m} h \bar{a} l$ 'unwell, weakly' (< hāel 'well, safe, whole'), ymbūtan 'around, about, outside, beyond' (< ūtan 'from outside'), sorglīce 'miserably, grievously' (< sorglic 'sorrowful, miserable') and wynnum 'joyfully, beautifully (< wynn 'pleasure, gladness'). Finally, compound adverbs amount to sixty-four and have been created by joining two lexeme stems of the same or different category. Compound adverbs are, for instance, $\bar{a} d u n w e a r d$
 byse 'young man' + wise 'wise, manner').

A group of adverbs are subject to suppletive comparison (Fulk 2018: 240), which means that the resulting comparative and superlative forms have a different stem from that of the positive adverb. Examples of adverbs undergoing suppletive comparison are yfle 'evil' > wiers - wierst; wel 'well' > bet/sēl-bet(e) st/best/sēlest.

## 3. SOURCES

The study presented here is framed within the Nerthus Project, one of whose current research interests is the lemmatisation of the Old English lexicon. To do so, different sources are required.

To start with, the York-Toronto-Helsinki Parsed Corpus or York Corpus of Old English (henceforth YCOE), which is divided into prose and poetry, has provided the data of analysis. The YCOE is a 1.5 million-word corpus which is both morphologically and syntactically annotated. The annotation draws on the system used by the Penn-Helsinki Parsed Corpus of Middle English. Figures 1 and 2 below showcase the fragment annotated Saga me bwilc sunu wroece arest bis faeder on hys moder innoðe [Ad:12.1.31_ID] both morphologically and syntactically:

[^0]```
<T06110002400,12.1>_CODE \$Saga_VBI me_PRO hwilc_WADJ^N sunu_N^N
wr+ace_VBDS +arest_ADVS^T \$his_PRO\$ f+ader_N on_P hys_PRO\$ moder_N^G
inno+de_N^D ._. coadrian,Ad:12.1.31_ID
```

Figure 1. POS (Part of Speech) annotation in the YCOE.
(IP-MAT-SPE (VBI \$Saga) (NP (PRO me)) (CP-QUE-SPE (WNP-NOM-1 (WADJ^N hwilc) ( $\mathrm{N}^{\wedge} \mathrm{N}$ sunu))
(IP-SUB-SPE (NP-NOM *T*-1) (VBDS wr+ace) (ADVP-TMP (ADVS^T +arest)) (NP (PRO\$ \$his) (N f+ader)) (PP (P on) (NP-DAT (NP-GEN (PRO\$ hys) ( ${ }^{\wedge} \wedge$ G moder)) ( $\mathrm{N}^{\wedge} \mathrm{D}$ inno+de)))) (. .)) (ID coadrian,Ad:12.1.31))

Figure 2. PSD (Parsed) annotation in the YCOE.
As aforementioned, the YCOE constitutes the source of the data. The inflectional forms (superlative adverbs in this case) together with their tags have been extracted from this corpus in order to be lemmatised. At this juncture it must be remarked that the totality of the inflected forms belongs to The York-Helsinki Parsed Corpus of Old English, as no evidence of superlative adverbs has been found in its poetry counterpart.

Besides, in order to lemmatise forms, it has been necessary to have a reliable list of lemmas "under which elements of the corpora containing the word forms of the same lexeme are represented" (Burkhanov 1998: 122). This list has been retrieved from Nerthus, a lexical database of Old English storing around 30,000 predicates free of context marking. This database draws on three main sources: Hall-Meritt's A Concise Dictionary of Anglo-Saxon (and the Supplement) constitutes the primary basis as it has guided the spelling of both the headwords and the alternative spellings. To a lesser extent, Nerthus is based on An Anglo-Saxon Dictionary by Bosworth-Toller ${ }^{4}$ and on Sweet's The Student Dictionary of Anglo-Saxon.

4 Including Toller's Supplement and Campbell's Addenda.

Three fields of Nerthus database are of interest for this study, these are predicate, spelling variants and predicate translation. The field "spelling variants" does not contain independent predicates or morphologically contrastive words but variants of the predicate they refer to (Martín Arista 2010: 10). The field "predicate translation" provides an equivalent of the source term in Present Day English as offered by the standard dictionaries of reference. Figure 3 below illustrates how this information is offered by the Nerthus database:


Figure 3. Fields extracted from Nerthus database.
The lemmatisation task has required the support of other sources, especially in those cases in which lemma assignment was particularly complicated. Seelig's (1930) work, titled Die Komparation der Adjektiva und Adverbien im Altenglischen, has contributed to both verifying and completing the analysis. This work basically consists of a compilation of Old English adjectives and adverbs in the comparative and the superlative, as attested in a number of texts listed at the beginning of the book, and organized under a common lemma. The second chapter of this work addresses adverbs and is divided into three subchapters on a morphological basis. Firstly, Seelig brings together all the adverbs that undergo regular comparison, being the most numerous group. The second group gathers all the adverbs whose comparative entails root vowel change. An example is adverb $\bar{e} a ð e, ~ \bar{e} ð e$, $i \not \partial e$ 'easy', which has attested the comparatives $\bar{e} ð, \bar{e} a \partial, \bar{e} ð, \bar{i} e ð, \bar{\imath} ð$ and $\bar{y} ð$ and the superlatives ēaðost, $\bar{e} a ð u s t, ~ \bar{e} a ð u s ð, ~ \bar{e} ð e s t, ~ \bar{\imath} ð e s ð, ~ \bar{y} ð c e s t, ~ \bar{y} ð a s t ~ a n d ~ \bar{y} ð o s t$. The third group of adverbs is composed of those subjected to irregular comparison, i.e. the comparative and superlative are created out of a different stem from that of the positive. Examples of irregular comparison are adverbs wyrse 'worse' ( $<$ yfle 'bad') and bet 'better' (< wel 'well').

The Dictionary of Old English (henceforth DOE) has been the main lexicographical source of reference in this study as it is, for the time being, the most complete source in what regards the number of attested inflectional forms in each entry as it is based on a collection of texts that comprise, at least, one copy of every surviving text in Old English. However, there is a major drawback, which is the fact that the DOE has only published headwords starting with A-I. The entries in the DOE include grammatical information of the headword, namely part of speech, gender and grammatical class. In addition to the different attested spellings of the headword in the corpus, each entry also provides the inflectional forms, dialectal variations, the number of occurrences in the corpus and the meaning accompanied by textual citations.

The Dictionary of Old English Corpus (henceforth DOEC) is an essential reference for scholars interested in the study of Old English as it compiles over 3 million words of this language in a more than 3,000 texts belonging to the years 600-1150. As stated in the previous paragraph, it is the source that supplies the dictionary with written evidence about the lexical stock of the Old English language. A simple search in the corpus allows to obtain all the hits corresponding to the searched word, together with the short title of the text in which it appears and the Cameron number.

## 4. METHODOLOGY

Lemmatisation is commonly understood as "the reduction of inflectional word forms to their lemmata, i.e. basic forms, and the elimination of homography" (Burkhanov 1998: 122). According to this author, this process "involves the assignment of a uniform heading under which elements of the corpora containing the word forms of same lexeme are represented" (1998: 122).

The lemmatisation process is divided into three main stages: extraction, lemma assignment and validation. This process is highly dependent upon the approach adopted: in a full-form approach, the decision of lemma assignment falls on the author, whereas from a paradigm-based perspective, words that are paradigmatically related share the same lexeme or lemma. This research adopts the second methodology, as the objective is to gather both the predictable and unpredictable forms under the same lemma.

To start with, the first step in the lemmatisation process is the extraction of the material that will be lemmatised next. This material consists of a list of adverbial lemmas and a list of inflectional forms. The former list has been automatically retrieved from the Old English database Nerthus by exporting the field called "predicate" exclusively of those predicates that are adverbs. Additionally, two other
fields have been exported, these are "spelling variants" and "predicate translation", as they contain helpful information to carry out this task. By way of illustration, Table 1 includes a few adverbial predicates together with their alternative spellings, if any, and the translation.

Table 1. List of adverbial lemmas extracted from Nerthus.

| Predicate | Alternative_Spellings | Predicate_Translation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| cēne 2 | cy ne 2 | in warlike wise |
| (ge)bēotlice |  | in a threatening manner, threateningly (BT) |
| (ge)blî̃e 2 |  | joyfully, gladly |
| (ge)braegdenlīce | (ge)bregdenlīce | cunningly, deceitfully (DOE) |
| (ge)cwēmlīce |  | graciously, kindly, bumbly, satisfactorily |
| (ge)cyndelīce |  | naturally (DOE) |
| (ge) diègollīce | (ge)dēgollīce, (ge)dēagoll̄̄ce, (ge) dēogollīce, (ge)dȳgollīce, (ge)dīgollīce (BT), (ge)dìgolīce (BT), (ge)dègelīce, (ge)dēglīce, (ge)dēgullīce, (ge)dīegellī̀ce, (ge)dīgellīce, (ge)dīgle, (ge)dīblīce | secretly; softly (of the voice) |
| (ge)ðwārelīce | (ge)ðwāerlīce (BT) | in accord (Sweet) |
| (ge)dwollīce |  | foolishly, heretically; erroneously, ignorantly, stupidly (BT) |
| (ge)ðyldelīce | (ge)ðyldiglīce (BT), (ge)ðyldelice (BT) | patiently, quietly |
| (ge)ðyldiglīce |  | patiently (Sweet) |
| (ge)dyrstiglīce | (ge)dyrstelīce | boldly, daringly (BT) |

Regarding the list of inflectional forms, this has been retrieved from the YCOE. This corpus is annotated with both POS (Part-of-Speech) and PAS (parsed) labels. At this stage of the process, only the morphological information, i.e. POS labels, will be used. To be more precise, the list of inflectional forms consists of all the forms which have been tagged with the label ADVS (superlative adverb).

The methodology for the systematic extraction of all the attested inflectional forms corresponding with the label ADVS begins by launching a preliminary search on the POS files. Next, the POS file is opened in the Notepad ++ text editor to follow a step by step procedure to ensure uniformity during the extraction procedure. Then, a number of adjustments are made: symbols $+\mathrm{a},+\mathrm{d}$ and +t are replaced with $æ, ð$ and p , respectively; spaces are replaced with mark paragraphs,
resulting in a column which is arranged in alphabetical order; punctuation marks, text codes and other undesired information are eliminated. Afterwards, the list that has been obtained divided in texts is copied into a single Excel file. Inflectional form and tag are separated into two columns and two additional fields are appended to the right, these are the text code and the text genre ${ }^{5}$ (prose or poetry). By storing the material in this way, it is possible to have access to a comprehensively organized inventory of forms that allows for both quantitative and qualitative analyses. Searches can be also launched that are restricted by tag, text code or genre, permitting a variety of approaches in this regard. A sample is provided in Table 2.

Table 2. Sample of extracted superlative adverbs from the YCOE.

| Inflectional form | Tag | Text | Genre |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| aryyst | ADVS^ T | cowsgosp.o3 | PROSE |
| andgitfullicast | ADVS | coboeth.o.02 | PROSE |
| andgitfullicost | ADVS | Coprefcura | PROSE |
| beorhtost | ADVS | coboeth.o.02 | PROSE |
| firrest | ADVS^L | coorosiu.o2 | PROSE |
| fyrmest | ADVS | cocuraC | PROSE |
| fyrmest | ADVS^ T | codocu3.o3 | PROSE |
| nyhst | ADVS^ T | comart3.o23 | PROSE |
| nyhst | ADVS^L | coorosiu.o2 | PROSE |

As observed in the second column, there are some tags that further specify the type of adverbial: ADVS^T stands for temporal superlative adverb and $\mathrm{ADVS} \wedge \mathrm{L}$ means locative superlative adverb. In the table above, the forms ceryst and fyrmest are examples of the first type, whereas firrest is a locative. This information proves particularly useful when two forms are alike but have different tags. Consider the case of fyrmest, a form that may be just a superlative or convey a temporal meaning. Something similar occurs to the form nybst, which may be locative ('near, nigh; about, almost, nearly') and temporal ('lately').

Once the material is conveniently arranged, the next stage of the process consists of assigning a lemma to the inflectional forms. This process is yet far from being automatic. Table 3 below illustrates how it takes place. As a novelty, an additional column has been inserted to the left of the table that includes the corresponding lemmas. In the event that the lemma list does not provide any adequate lemma for a particular form, the corresponding cell is left blank.

[^1]Table 3. A sample of lemmatised superlative adverbs.

| Lemma | Inflectional Forms | Tag | Text | Genre |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| beorbte | beortost | ADVS | coboeth.o.02 | PROSE |
| bet | best | ADVS | colaw2cn.o3 | PROSE |
| beorbte | biorbtost | ADVS | coverhom | PROSE |
| beorbte | biorbtust | ADVS | coverhom | PROSE |
| faestlice | faesðlicost | ADVS | cocuraC | PROSE |
| faste | faestost | ADVS | coaelive | PROSE |
| feorr | firrest | ADVS^L | coorosiu.o2 | PROSE |
| fullice | fullecost | ADVS | cocuraC | PROSE |
| fullīce | fullicost | ADVS | cocuraC | PROSE |

The list of inflectional forms is arranged alphabetically. In this way, all the tokens that are formally alike appear together, facilitating the task of assigning a lemma. The lemmatisation of the Old English superlative adverbs displaying regularity does not present much difficulty as the possible spelling variations are, for the most part, attested in the "alternative spellings" column from the lemma list. In a first round roughly eighty percent of the inflectional forms were assigned a lemma whereas twenty percent remained unlemmatised. These unlemmatised forms evinced some type of irregularity, therefore it was necessary to resort to additional sources to facilitate this task. The sources consulted include The Dictionary of Old English, available for letters A-I, which contains a fairly complete list of attested forms in each entry; also Bosworth and Toller's dictionary, although in this case the amount of inflectional forms attested is considerably inferior to the former dictionary. Besides, the main Old English grammars of reference, especially Campbell (1959), have been highly clarifying in this regard.

The third and final task in the lemmatisation process involves a contrastive analysis with the aforementioned sources. This step of the process has two main objectives: on the one hand, it permits the verification of the associations established between lemmas and inflectional forms assigned to them; on the other hand, it allows for the completion of the process in those cases in which no lemma has been assigned to a particular form or when new inflectional forms are suggested.

To illustrate this final stage of the process, Table 4 represents two different adverbial lemmas, aer 'previously, before that, soon, formerly' and ēaðelīce 'easily', and the inflectional forms (adverbs in the superlative) assigned to them by the YCOE, the DOE and Seelig.

Table 4．Attested inflectional forms belonging to the lemma aer in the different sources．

| Lemma | YCOE | DOE | Seelig（1930） |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $a r$ | arcest，cerast， ceresð，cerest， arost，cerst，cerust， ceryst，cest，arest， erest，erost | cerest，ceresð，aerest， cereast，ceryst，cercest， cerast，cerost，cerust， cest，aerst，arest，aryst， erest，erost，ercest， earest．herest，ceres， arets，cerist，aerist， ceris，cerst，arcest， | arast，arcest，ares，arest， aresð，aris，cerist，cerst， cerest，cerust，ceryst，ast |
| èaðelī̀e | eaðelicost eaðelicust，eðelicost | eapelicost，eaðelicost； eaðelicust，eaðelucust， epelicost，eðelicost， ceдelicest | eaðelicost，eaðelicust eðelicost |

As observed in this table，the DOE is the source that attests a considerably higher amount of inflectional forms．Starting with lemma arr，the DOE provides ten new forms that are not attested by the YCOE，these are ercest，earest， barest，ares，arets，arist，aerist，ceris，cerst and arcest．To a lesser extent，Seelig also contributes with new forms，in this case these are ares，aeris and arist． Regarding lemma ēaðelīce，something similar occurs．Quantitatively speaking，the DOE is the source that gathers the most complete list of inflectional forms，a total of seven．In this case，all the forms attested by the YCOE are also verified by the DOE．The DOE，in addition，provides evidence of four new forms，these are eapelicost，eaðelucust，epelicost and ceðelicest．Two of these forms contain the letter $p$（eapelicost and e⿻上丨elicost），creating pairs of forms such as eaðelicost and eapelicost or edelicost and eमelicost．This distinction is，however，not present in either the YCOE nor Seelig．As for Seelig，this author does not attest any new form for lemma ēaðelīce．

## 5．ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

In this section，the methodology previously described is applied to the superlative adverbs retrieved from the YCOE．In the first place，an overview of the results of the extraction process will be presented．Next，the lemmatised forms will be compared with the ones provided by the DOE（only for A－I adverbs）and by Seelig．The last part of this section will deal with doubtful forms and the decisions made in this regard．

A total of 1,270 forms ${ }^{6}$ have been tagged as superlative adverbs according with the POS files furnished by the YCOE. Once these forms have been identified, the list of lemmas of the Nerthus database will allow for the completion of the lemmatising task. This list contains 1,755 adverbial lemmas, although only 80 have turned out to be lemmas for these forms.

The task of lemma assignment has been accomplished manually. Each inflected form is addressed individually and the most suitable lemma from the Nerthus list is allocated. Once adverbs are deprived of the corresponding inflectional endings, these are -ast, -ast, -esð, -est, -ost, -st, -ust, -yst, -exð, -osð, -(e)-m-est, -or, -estan, -usð, the resulting form does not differ much from the adverbial lemma. In fact, this procedure has succeeded in assigning a lemma to nearly all the inflected forms, yet the following seven remained unlemmatised in the first round: eðost, leofost, liffest, liofast, suiðusð, suiðust, and ytemest. These forms present a higher degree of opaqueness, resulting in doubtful or ambiguous cases that required deeper research. In a few cases, it was simply found that the morphological analysis of the YCOE was not correct. Although the list of lemmas provided by Nerthus has mostly proved to be suitable, it was necessary to consult other sources when it was unclear which lemma to assign. In order to fill this information gap, The Dictionary of Old English and Seelig's (1930) work turned out to be of valuable help.

An initial analysis of the data evinces that most of the lemmas are associated with just one inflectional form, being the number of lemmas assigned to several forms much more limited. In the case of superlative adverbs, a total of forty lemmas hold a one-to-one correspondence with an inflectional form. Examples of hapax legomena include (the lemma is given in brackets): onlicost (onlice 'like, in like manner, similarly'), faegerost (faegre 'softly, pleasantly, gently'), orenlicost (orenlīce 'excessively, immoderately') and faesðlicost (faestlice 'firmly, certainly, stoutly'). A considerably smaller quantity of instances has been found for hapax dislegomena, that is, a lemma that is assigned to two inflectional forms. Examples of this type are rihtost, rybtosð (rihte 'right; directly, straight'), eapelicost, eðelicost (eaðelice 'easily'), nieðemesð, nyðemyst (niðer 'down, donwards, beneath, below') and andgitfullicast, andgitfullicost (andgietfullīce 'intelligibly, sensibly, clearly, plainly, distinctly'). Diametrically opposed to these cases are lemmas swiðe and cer. Lemma swiðe 'very, much, exceedingly; severely; fiercely, violently; chiefly, especially, mostly' has been assigned to fifteen different forms (types) that add up to 221 tokens. Twelve

[^2]inflectional forms share lemma ar 'previously, before that; soon; formerly, before', which amount to 690 tokens. Both lemmas also coincide in the rich spelling variation of their inflectional forms. The following forms have been gathered under lemma swiðe: swiðast, swiðest, swiðosð, swidost, swiðost, swiðusð, swiðust, swiðast, swiðest, swyðost, swyðust, swypast, swyðor, and swyðost. Of these forms, it is swiðost the one with the greatest amount of occurrences in the YCOE, a total of ninety-seven. As for $a r$, the forms gathered under this lemma include arest, cerast, cercest, cerest, ceresð, cerost, aerst, cerust, ceryst, cest, erest, erost. Among these forms, cerest turns out to be the form with the highest number of occurences, a total of 601.

Some inflected adverbs receive a specific tag that further specifies the type of comparative or superlative. Regarding the superlative, apart from ADVS, which indicates superlative degree, there are two other tags, the locative $A D V \wedge^{\wedge} \mathrm{L}$ and the temporal ADVS^T. The YCOE has alocated the tag ADVS to 422 adverbs, ADVS^L to twenty-five forms and ADVS^ ${ }^{T}$ to 762. As evinced by the figures, superlatives with a temporal meaning substantially outnumber the rest of categories.

On the other hand, the set of inflectional adverbs provided by the YCOE, although constituting a fairly comprehensive list, does not collect the totality of Old English superlative adverbs. This is the reason why this study has been enhanced with the comparison of forms attested by each of these three sources, namely the YCOE, the DOE and Seelig. Table 5 below represents the procedure adopted in the lemmatisation of superlative adverbs and the subsequent comparison of sources.

Table 5. Comparing the results of the lemmatisation with other sources.

| Lemma | Inflectional form | Tag | Text code | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Text } \\ & \text { genre } \end{aligned}$ | Seelig |  | DOE |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | Lemma | Inflectional form | Lemma | Inflectional form |
| andgietfullice | andgitfullicost | ADVS | Coprefcura | PROSE | $\checkmark$ | X | $X$ | $\checkmark$ |
| beorbte | biorbtost | ADVS | Coverbom | PROSE | $\checkmark$ | $X$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| beorbte | beorbtost | ADVS | ConicodA | PROSE | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| frestice | feşlicost | ADVS | cocuraC | PROSE | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| bāte | hatust | ADVS | Colacnu. 23 | PROSE | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | X |

As observed in the table above, two columns have been added that correspond with information relating to the DOE's and Seelig's attestations. Symbol $\checkmark$ has been used to indicate that both the lemma and the inflectional form are attested by a source and have the same status, i.e. of lemma or of inflectional form of that lemma. Symbol X indicates that either the lemma or the inflectional form are not attested by any of the sources; this same symbol may also reveal that a
different lemma has been assigned to an inflectional form. By way of illustration, lemma andgietfullīce has been attested by Seelig, although this author does not list the inflectional form andgitfullicost. The opposite is true for the DOE; this dictionary attests the form andgitfullicost, however the lemma that is assigned in this case is andgytfullīce, an alternative spelling of the Nerthus' lemma andgietfullīce. Beorbte is a lemma in both sources, the only difference is that one of its inflectional forms, biorbtost, is not attested by Seelig. In the fourth line, it can be observed that both the lemma and the inflectional forms are included with the same status in Seelig and the DOE. Finally, bāte is a lemma in both sources, however hatust is unattested by the DOE; it appears, however, in the DOEC as a unique occurrence.

The analysis has confirmed that there is a total of 886 inflectional forms (tokens) starting with letters A to I that have been mapped into eighty lemmas. Of the total, 858 tokens ( 70 types) have been attested by the DOE and 768 tokens ( 36 types) by Seelig. Some inconsistencies found in the lemmatisation of superlatives have to do with the assignment of dissimilar lemmas by the different sources. An example of this is the form foegerost, which has been assigned Nerthus' lemma faegre 'fairly, elegantly', although the DOE opts for faegere. In other cases, the DOE has helped identify a lemma for those forms undergoing suppletive comparison, such as fyrrest (feor 'far, far away').

Another possible problem is the existence of two potential lemmas for one form. This occurs with inmest. In the headword list of reference there are two lemmas, namely inn 'in, into, inwards, within, inside of; inwardly' and inne 'in, inside, within, in-door', that can be associated to the inflectional form. A search for the form in the DOEC revealed that there is only one occurrence in the corpus, particularly in the text from the Cura Pastoralis; the citation in question is tibð his fet sua be inmest maeg (CP B9.1.3 [1149 (35.241.7)]), which is used by the DOE under the entry for in, inn. Consequently, the form inmest could be lemmatised under lemma inn on the basis of the DOE's criterion.

This study has discovered two inflectional forms, andgitfullicost and eðost, which have not been attested by the DOE. The lemma suggested by Nerthus are andgietfullīce 'sensibly, clearly, plainly, distinctly; intelligibly (BT)' and $\bar{e} a ð e ~ ' e a s i l y, ~ l i g h t l y ' . ~ I n ~ t h e s e ~ p a r t i c u l a r ~ c a s e s, ~ a l t h o u g h ~ t h e ~ f o r m ~ i s ~ u n a t t e s t e d ~$ by the DOE, this dictionary attests a lemma that has the status of alternative spelling in Nerthus. This analysis has also permitted the identification of forms with the status of lemma in the DOE but which are part of the inflectional paradigm in Nerthus. This is the case of bet, which is an example of suppletive comparison of the adverb wel 'well, abundantly; very, very easily, very much' in this database.

The study has also identified a divergence in what regards the morphological status of the following forms eallmaest, endemest and fyrst. The YCOE has tagged them as inflectional adverbs in the superlative and they have been assigned Nerthus' lemmas eallmāest 'nearly all, almost, for the most part', endemest 'equally, likewise, at the same time, together' and fyrst 'at first', respectively. These forms are considered attested spellings rather than inflectional forms of their corresponding headwords in the DOE.

As for the inflectional forms starting with letters L to W, they add up to 293 tokens (36 types), which have been mapped into forty lemmas. By comparing the results with the forms compiled by Seelig, it can be checked that the vast majority of them have been attested by the author. There is one form that has a different status in Nerthus and in Seelig's work, this is wyrs. According to Seelig it is a lemma, whereas in Nerthus this form is part of the inflectional paradigm of $y$ fel 'evil, ill, wicked, bad, wretched'.

This research has contributed seventeen superlative forms that have not been compiled by Seelig, although their lemma is attested by the author. These forms are: geornlicast, geornlicest (geornlīce 'openly, manifestly'), gewissost (wise 'wisely'), batust (bate 'hotly'), bealicast (hēalīce 'highly, aloft'), bluddost (hlüde 'loudly, aloud'), langast, lanngest (lange 'long'), nearwlicast (nearolīce 'narrowly, closely'), raðust (hraðe 'hastily, quickly'), ribtlicost (ribtlice 'justly, uprightly'), swiðest, swiðosð (swiðe 'very much'), teartlicost (teartlīce 'sharply, severly'), ðwyrlicost (ðwēorlīce 'insolently'), ungeredelicost (ungerādlīce 'sharply, roughly'), widdast (wide 'widely').

The manual assignment of a lemma is not always a straightforward task. It might be the case that there is no formal coincidence in the lemmas suggested by the sources consulted. In this context, the lemma suggested by Nerthus prevails over the rest. To illustrate this, the form fagerost has been associated to Nerthus' lemma foegre, a form that is attested as an alternative spelling of foegere by the DOE.

As occurred with inmest, a similar circumstance has been identified in the assignment of a lemma to the forms suiðusð and suiðust. Apparently, there are two possible options in the lemma list, these are suð 'southwards, south' and sið 'late, afterwards'; in this case, however, there is a clear difference of meaning in both candidates. The solution adopted here was to verify the meaning of suiðusð and suiðust in the citations where they appear: ðonne ðonne bie bie selfe suiðusð eaðmedað (CP B9.1.3 [1457 (41.301.14)]) 'Then they humbled themselves the latest' and ðeah ða tunga suiðust mande (CP B9.1.3 [1517 (43.309.8)]) 'Still the tongues declare the latest'. As observed, the suitable lemma is sið 'late, afterwards' in both cases.

Three other inflectional forms required closer inspection as their lexical category is not adverbial but adjectival, these are leofost, liffest and liofast. The fact that neither Nerthus nor Seelig offered a suitable lemma arouse suspicion, that is why it was deemed appropriate to verify their lexical status in context. The following citations correspond to the occurrences of these forms in the DOEC: ponne bit ware leofost gehealden (WHom 13 B2.3.1 [0004 (12)]) 'and often it is more quickly lost when it is held dearest'; min bearn liffest gedoan (Ch 1510 (Rob 6) B15.6.27 [0002 (4)]) 'my child has done the quickest'; swa him liofast sie (Ch 1510 (Rob 6) B15.6.27 [0004 (11)]) 'as it may best please them'. As evinced in the examples, they perform an adverbial function, however these are the only three occurrences that have been tagged by the YCOE as superlative adverbs, the rest being adjectives. This leads us to suggest that even if the function they fulfil is adverbial, they are adjectives. This hypothesis is supported by Bosworth and Toller's dictionary, which confirms their adjectival status.

Likewise, endenexð, which has been tagged as a superlative adverb by the YCOE, is an adjective. This conclusion was reaches after verifying its status in different sources. Firstly, Nerthus does not provide any lemma that could be assigned to this form. In addition, the DOE considers this form an alternative spelling of the adjectival headword endēnext.

Overall this section has presented the quantitative and qualitative results of the lemmatisation of the Old English superlative adverbs as attested by the YCOE. The lemmatising task has been fully accomplished for the totality of forms and new ones have been identified that have completed the original inventory. Finally, a comparative analysis with the DOE and Seelig has provided mutual feedback and has helped verify and refine the results of the analysis.

## 6. CONCLUSIONS

This article has contributed to the design and implementation of a methodology for the lemmatisation of Old English adverbs inflected in the superlative. If compared with the verbal lexicon, already lemmatised in previous works by the Nerthus project, adverbs present a substantially lower degree of variation and opacity, which has motivated a different methodology, more appropriate for this class.

The lemmatising methodology has consisted of three main tasks: firstly, the extraction of the 1,267 forms from the YCOE identified with the tag ADVS, which has been fully automatic; secondly, the lemmatisation of these forms through the manual assignment of a lemma from the list of headwords supplied by Nerthus;
finally, the comparison of the results with a lexicographical and a secondary source. This three-step procedure has thus evinced that the study is based on a combination of sources and of analytical methods that are yet far from being completely automatic.

This work has also laid bare the difficulties that this process entails and has suggested solutions. Basically, the difficulties encountered are in line with the presence of opaque forms, ambiguous forms that can be assigned more than one lemma and, to a lesser extent, forms that have been originally wrongly analysed and are not adverbs. In order to tackle these issues, additional sources have been consulted, such as Old English grammars and dictionaries of reference in the language; in other cases, doubtful forms have been analysed in context to determine their meaning and function as attested in citations.

Considering the work that has been previously developed by members of the Nerthus group and the study presented here, it is possible to make further advances in the lemmatisation of the pending major categories, including nouns, adjectives and non-graded adverbs. In addition, a work of these characteristics has direct implications in the field of corpus linguistics as it has proved the feasibility of lemmatising a historical corpus.

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## 8. APPENDIX. LIST OF LEMMAS AND LEMMATISED FORMS

$\overline{\boldsymbol{E} \boldsymbol{r}}$ 'previously, beforel': arst [Cocathom1.O3, Coeluc2], aeraest [Coboeth.o.02], arast [Coboeth.o.02, CochronD], aresð [Coboeth.o.02, Cochrond], arest [Coadrian. O34, Coaelhom.O3, Coaelive.O3, Coalcuin, Coalex.O23,Coapollo.O3, Cobede.O2, Cobenrul.O3, Coboeth.o.02, Cobyrhtf.O3, Cocanedgx, Cocathom1.O3, Cocathom2. O3, Cochdrul, Cochronc, Cochrond, Cocura.C, Codocu1.04, Codocu3.O23, Codocu3. O3, Coeluc1, Coexodusp, Cogregdc.O24, Cogregdh.O23, Coherbar, Coinspold.O34, Coinspolx, Colacnu.O23, Colaece.O2, Colaw1cn.O3, Colaw2cn.O3, Colaw5atr.O3, Colaw6atr.O3, Colsigewz.O34, Colwgeat, Comart2, Comart3.O23, Comary, Coneot, Conicoda, Conicode, Coorosiu.o2, Coinspold.O34, Coinspolx, Colsigewz.O34, Conicoda, Coorosiu.o2, Covinsal, Cowulf.O34], arost [Cogregdc.O24, Conicodc].

Andgietfullīce 'sensibly, clearly, plainly, distinctly, and intelligibly': andgitfullicast [Coboeth.o.02], andgitfullicost [Coprefcura.O2].

Beorbte 'brightly, brilliantly, splendidly; clearly, lucidly, distinctly': beorbtost [Coboeth.o.02, Conicoda, Coverhom], beortost [Coboeth.o.02], biorhtost [Coverhom], biorbtust [Coverhom].

Beorbtlīce 'splendidly': gebeorhlicost [Coverhom].
Bet 'better, of manner better': best [Colaw2cn.O3], betesð [CocuraC], betest [CocuraC], betst [Coaelholm.o3, Coaelive.O3, Coapollo.O3, Coboeth.O2, Cobyrhtf. O3, Cochdrul, Cochrond, CocuraC, Codicts.O34, Codocu3.O3, Coinspolx, Colaw2cn. O3, Colaw5atr.O3, Colaw6atr.O3, Conicodc, Coorosiu.o2, Coverhom, Cowulf.O34].

Clāne 'clean, clearly, fully, purely' Superlative: cloenost [Cowulf.O34].
$\overline{\boldsymbol{E}} \boldsymbol{a} \boldsymbol{\boldsymbol { e }}$ 'easily, lightly, soon; willingly, readily': eaðost [Cowulf.O34,Colaece.O2], eaðust [Cowulf.O34], eðest [Coalcuin], iðesð [CocuraC], yðest [coeuphr].

Ēaðelīce 'easily (BT)': eaðelicost [coherbar], eaðelicust [Cowsgosp.O3], yðelicor [Coalex.o23, Cogregdc.o24], eðelicost [Coboeth.o.02].

Eallmēest 'nearly all, almost, for the most part': eallmaest [Cochronc, Cochrond].
Endemest 'equally, likewise, at the same time, together, unanimously; fully, entirely; in procession': andemest [Coboeth.o.02], endemest [Coboeth.o.02].

Ende-nēxt 'last, final': endenexð [Coaelholm.o3].
Faegre 'fairly, elegantly, beautifully; pleasantly, softly, gently, kindly; well, justly; early': faegerost [Coverhom].

Faeste 'fast, firmly, securely; straitly, strictly; heavily (sleep); speedily': faestost [Coaelive.O3].

Faestlice 'irmly, constantly, fast, quickly': fasðlicost [CocuraC].

Feorr far, far away, distant, remote; far back (in time); further, besides, moreover': feorst [Cogregdc.O24], firrest [Coorosiu.o2], fyrrest [Coboeth.o.02].

Forbafendlīce 'continently': forbaefendlicust [Cochdrul].
Fullīce 'entirely, fully, perfectly, completely': fullecost [CocuraC], fullicost [CocuraC].

Fyrmest 'at first, most, very well, best': fyrmest [Coaelive.O3, Coboeth.o.02, Cocathom, Cochronc, Cochrond, CocuraC, Codocu3.O3, Cogenesic, Coherbar, Coinspolx, Colaece.O2,Colaw2cn.O3, Colaw6atr.O3, Colwgeat, Coorosiu.o2, Cootest.03, Coverhom, Cowulf.O34], fyrmust [Coherbar].

Fyrst 'at first': fyrst [Cochad .024].
Gearwe 'well, effectually, sufficiently, thoroughly, entirely; quickly; near': gearost [Cogregdc.O24].

Gebende 'near, at home; closely, in detail': gehendost [Coaelive.O3, Cocathom1, Contempo.O3].

Gelīce 'like as if': geliccost [Coverhom], gelicost [Coalcuin, Coboeth.o.02, CocuraC, Codicts, Coleofri.O4, Cogregdc.O24, Colaece.O2, Coorosiu.o2, Coverhom], gelicust [Cowsgosp.O3].

Gelōmlīce 'often, repeatedly (Sweet)': gelomlicost [Coorosiu.o2].
Georne 'eagerly, zealously, earnestly, gladly; well, carefully, completely, exactly; quickly': geornast [Coinspolx], geornest [Coalcuin], geornost [CocuraC, Coinspold.O34, Coinspolx, Colaw1cn.O3, Colaw2cn.O3, Colaw5atr.O3, Colaw6atr.O3, Cowulf.O34].

Geornlīce 'earnestly, diligently, zealously, strenuously, carefully, willingly': geornlicast [Coinspolx], geornlicest [Cowulf.O34].

Gesundiglīce 'prosperously (BT)': gesundlicost [Coboeth.o.02].
Grimlīce 'fiercely, severely, cruelly (BT)': grimlicost [Comart3.O23].
Häte 'hotly, fervidly': hatost [Colacnu.O23, Colaece.O2], battost [Coverhom], hatust [Colacnu.o23].

Hēalīce 'highly, aloft; in or to high position or rank, loftily; intensely, very': healicast [Cobenrul.O3].

Hearde 'hard, hardly, firmly, very severely, strictly, vehemently; exceedingly, greatly; painfully, grievously': heardost [Coboeth.o.02, Coorosiu.o2].
$\boldsymbol{H I U}$ Ule 'loudly, aloud': bluddost [Coverhom].
Hraðe 'hastily, quickly, promptly, readily, immediately, soon; too soon': hraðost [Coboeth.o.02, Cocathom1, Coherbar], raðer [Cowulf.O34], raðosð [CocuraC],
raðost [Cochronc, Cochrond, Cogenesic, Coinspolx,Colaw2cn.O3, Colwstan1.O3, Coorosiu.o2, Cootest.O3, Cosevensl, Cowulf.O34], raðust [Cowsgosp.O3].

Inn 'in, into, inwards, within, inside of; inwardly': inmest [CocuraC].
$\boldsymbol{L a} \boldsymbol{a} \boldsymbol{\boldsymbol { e }}$ 'inimically, in detestation': laðost [Colaw6atr.O3].
Lange 'long, a long time, far': laengast [Codocu3.O3], leengest [Cogregdc.O24], laengst [Cochrond].

Late 'late; slowly; at last; lately': latost [Cobenrul.O3, Coboeth.o.02, Cogregdc. O24].

Leng 'longer': lengest [Cochronc, Codicts, Coorosiu.o2], lengst [Colsigewz.O34].
Līðe 'in a gentle, soft, calm, mild; gracious, kind, agreeable, sweet manner': licost [Coorosiu.o2]

Märlī̀ce 'gloriously, splendidly; excellently': maerlicost [coaelive.o3, cowulf.O34].
$\boldsymbol{M a} \boldsymbol{e} \boldsymbol{s t}$ 'most, chiefly, especially': maest [Cochronc, Cochrond], meast [Cochrond].
$\boldsymbol{N} \boldsymbol{e} \boldsymbol{a b}$ 'near, nigh; about, almost, nearly, lately': neaxst [Coboeth.o.02], neabst [Coboeth.o.02, Comart3.O23], nehst [Cochronc, Cogregdc.O24, Colaw1cn.O3], nehste [Coboeth.o.02], nest [Coelofri.04], nexð [Cochronc], next [Coboeth.o.02], nihst [Coorosiu.o2], nyhst [Comart3.O23, Coorosiu.o2].

Nearolīce 'narrowly, closely, briefly, accurately; strictly, stringently, oppressively; evilly': nearwlicast [Coinspolx].

Niðer 'below, beneath, down, downwards': nieðemesð [CocuraC], nyðemyst [Contempo.o3].

Nytwierðlīce 'in a 'useful, profitable, manner': nyttwyrðlicost [CocuraC], nytweorðlicor [CocuraC].

Oft 'above, on high; to or on the other side; from side to side, across; beyond, above (quantity)': oftosð [Coboeth.o.02, CocuraC], oftost [Coaelive, Coboeth.o.02, Cocathom2, Cochrond, CocuraC, Coinspold.O34, Coinspolx, Colaece.O2, Colaw6atr. O3, Colwsigexa.O34, Coorosiu.o2, Coprefcura, Coquadru.O23, Coverhom, Covinsal, Cowulf.O34], oftust [Coherbar, Coverhom].

Onlice 'in a like, resembling, similar manner': onlicost [Coorosiu.o2].
Orenlīce 'openly, manifestly, plainly, clearly, unreservedly': orenlicost [Coverhom].

Ribte 'right, due, straight (of direction, as in right on, due east), outright; precisely, exactly, just; rightly, duly, well, correctly, truly, properly, fairly, justly; directly, immediately': ribtost [Coinspold], ryhtosð [CocuraC].

Rihtlī̀e 'justly, uprightly, virtuously; properly, rightly, regularly; correctly, precisely': rihtlicost [Cobyrhtf, Cocathom1, Codocu3.O3, Coinspold.O34, Coinspolx, Contempo.O3].

Scortlī̀e 'shortly, briefly, soon': sceortlicost [Coaelholm.o3].
$\boldsymbol{S} \overline{\boldsymbol{e}} \boldsymbol{l}$ 'better, more effectually, rather, sooner, in preference': selest [Cobenrul.O3, Coboeth.o.02, Coherbar, Colaece.O2, Coverhom], selost [Coaelive.O3, Colaw1cn. O3, Colaw2cn.O3, Colaw6atr.O3, Colsigewz.O34, Colwsigexa.O35, Contempo.O3, Coquadru.O23], selust [coherbar], soelest [Codocu2.O12].

Seldor 'more seldom, less frequently': seldost [Coboeth.o.02].
Sið 'late, afterwards': siðestan [Colawine.Ox2], suiðusð [CocuraC], suiðust [CocuraC]

Smalum 'little by little': smalost [Colaece.O2].
Smēalīce 'closely, thoroughly, accurately; subtlely': smealicost [Coboeth.o.02].
Stīðlīce 'forcibly': stiðlucest [Coneot].
Sweotollīce 'clearly, precisely, plainly, visibly, openly': sweotelicost [Coorosiu. o2], sweotolost [Coboeth.o.02], swiotelecost [Coverhom], swiotolusð [CocuraC].
$\boldsymbol{S w} \boldsymbol{\imath} \boldsymbol{\jmath} \boldsymbol{e}$ 'very much, exceedingly, severely, violently, fiercely': swiðast [Coalex. o23, Comarvel.o23], swiðest [Coaelholm.o3, cochad.024], swiðosð [ CocuraC], swidost [cobenrul], swiðost [Coaelholm, Coaelive.O3, Cobenrul, Coboeth.O.02, Cocathom1, Cocathom2, Cochdrul, Cochronc, Codicts, Coepigen.O3, Coeuphr, Cogenesic, Cogregdc.O24, Coherbar, Colaece.O2, Comarvel.O24, Comary, Coorosiu.O2, Cootest, Coprefcath1.O5, Copreflives, Cosevensl, Coverhoml], swiðusð [ CocuraC], swiðust [coaelholm, cobenrul.o3, Coboeth.o.02, cocathom1, cogregdC.o24, coherbar, Coverhom], swiðast [Colacnu.o23], swiðost [Coaelive. O3,Cobenrul,Coboeth.O.02, Cocathom1, Cochronc, Cogregdc.O24, Coherbar, Colacnu.O23, Colaece.O2, Comart3.O23, Coorosiu.O2, Cowulf.O34], swiðust [Cobenrul, Coboeth.O.02, Colaece.O2], swyðost [Coaelholm, Coaelive.O3, Coalex. O23, Cocathom2, Cochronc, Cogregdh.O23, Coinspolx, Colaw2cn.O3, Comargat, Cosevensl, Cochrond, Coherbar, Coinspold.O34, Colaw6atr.O3, Cootest, Cowulf. O34], swyðust [Cobenrul], swyðast [Cowulf.o34].

Teartlīce 'sharply, severely (BT)': teartlicost [cobenrul].
Tēonlīce 'in a manner that causes harm or trouble, grievously, miserably (BT)': teonlycost [conicodA].

Tulge 'strongly, firmly, well': tylgest [Cochad.024].
Đwēorlīce 'insolently': ðwyrlicost [cogregdH.o23].

Ufor 'higher, further away, further up; later, posterior, subsequent': ufemest [coaelive.o3], yfemest [Coboeth.o.02].

Undēore 'cheap': undeorest [cobenrul].
Ungerāedlīce 'sharply, roughly, violently': ungeredelicost [Coboeth.o.02].
$\overline{\boldsymbol{U}} \boldsymbol{t}$ 'out; without, outside': ytemest [cobenrul, cowsgosp.o3].
Wāerlīce 'truly': waerlicast [cowulf.o34].
Wel 'well, abundantly; very, very easily, very much; fully, quite; nearly; indeed, to be sure': wel [cowulf.o34].

Weorðlīce 'with distinction, gloriously; befittingly (BT)': wurðlicost [coapollo.o3].
Wyrs 'worse': wierst [CocuraC], wyrest [conicodC].


[^0]:    2 The difference between zero derivation and conversion lies in the fact that the former entails a formal contrast between the source and the derived term that has an effect on the whole inflectional paradigm, while in the case of conversion the rest of the paradigm is not necessarily affected (Martín Arista 2011).
    3 All the information related to the classification and quantification of adverbs per formation process draws on Maíz Villalta (2012).

[^1]:    5 It must be noted that no examples of superlative adverbs have been found in poetry texts.

[^2]:    6 The Appendix contains the full inventory of lemmas that have been used in the analysis together with the inflectional forms lemmatised under each headword. Information about their textual occurrence is also included.

