

## Voynich MS Super Transliteration Alphabet (STA)

### *Intermediate version 16 – should become first version STA-a*

René Zandbergen, 17/04/2020

#### Introduction

The term “Super Transliteration Alphabet” is used to describe a transliteration alphabet for the Voynich MS that is a superset of all alphabets that have been published up to 2020. The most important of these are:

- “FSG” as used by Friedman’s Study groups
- “Currier” as defined by Prescott Currier
- “Eva”, either basic or extended
- “v101”

For more information about these alphabets, see: <http://www.voynich.nu/transcr.html>

In particular the extended Eva and v101 alphabets include a large number of rare or special characters, and the “STA” definition includes all of these.

The STA alphabet is subdivided into character “Families”. A STA code consists of:

- An upper case character (A-Z) that represents the family, followed by:
- A digit or a lower case character that identifies the family ‘member’

By convention, the number 0 is reserved, while 1-9 are used for the most common symbols. Rare symbols have a lower case character to identify the family member.

The following table provides the definition of the various families.

#### STA Families table.

Family code	Description	Examples	Comment
A	“Circles”	o a 9	These are the most frequent characters. They are combined into one family because intermediate forms exist.
B	“Cross-overs”	8 x 8 8	This excludes the vertical bars that also tend to have a cross-over, and the 4-shape that is very distinct.
C	Inverted S-shapes	2 2	
D	Single vertical bar	ꞤꞤ	

<b>E</b>	Double vertical bar	ff ff	
<b>F</b>	Single c	c	
<b>G</b>	Double c (without plume)	cc c	May have a connecting bar at the top.
<b>H</b>	Double c (with plume)	cc	May have a connecting bar at the top.
<b>J</b>	Triple c	ccc	May have a connecting bar at the top, but if so this must connect all three. May have a plume.
<b>K</b>	Even more c's	cccc	Without a connector at the top (these don't exist in the MS).
<b>L</b>	4 – shape	4	
<b>M</b>	Single i	i	
<b>N</b>	Double i	ii i	
<b>P</b>	Triple i	iii ii	
<b>Q</b>	Even more i's	iiii	
<b>R</b>	Single vertical bar with pedestal (part 1)	ff ff	The ones that end with a single c (or similar shape)
<b>S</b>	Single vertical bar with pedestal (part 2)		The ones that end with 0 or 2+ c's (or other shapes). These are all rare.
<b>U</b>	Double vertical bar with pedestal (part 1)	ff ff	The ones that end with a single c (or similar shape)
<b>V</b>	Double vertical bar with pedestal (part 2)		The ones that end with 0 or 2+ c's (or other shapes). These are all rare.
<b>X</b>	Unclassifiable	x ^	
<b>Z</b>	-	? ???	Used for unreadable characters