### Step 1: Native System Old and Middle English

#### A. INVENTORY

**Question:** Which verbs can be used to talk about motion in OE and ME?

**Data and Method:**
- Narrative fiction and Chronicles
  - OE: ChroA, ChroE, Othhere and Wulfstan, Ælfric’s Lives of Saints (all from Helsinki Corpus (HC)): 557 literal intransitive motion descriptions
  - ME: ChroGreg (from HC), Knight’s Tale, Miller’s Tale, Reeve’s Tale: 478 literal intransitive motion descriptions

#### B. USAGE

**Question:** Which verbs and structures are typically used to talk about motion in OE and ME?

**Data and Method:**
- OE: ChroA, ChroE, Othhere and Wulfstan, Ælfric’s Lives of Saints
- ME: ChroGreg (from HC), Knight’s Tale, Miller’s Tale, Reeve’s Tale

#### Results:

**Results: 188 Old English and 433 Middle English verbs attested in motion uses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verb Type</th>
<th>Old English Use</th>
<th>Middle English Use</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mostly MANNER verbs</td>
<td>[Graph]</td>
<td>[Graph]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Also non-motion verbs in motion uses:</td>
<td>(1) OE: some forth aye a tumen at platen, of his mæld / Some should fight their way out through all the troops, if they could!</td>
<td>[Graph]</td>
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<td>(2) ME: A colun [...] The same night through the heges gate to the yerd. / The same night, a coal-fat burett through the hedges into the yard.</td>
<td>[Graph]</td>
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<td>(3) ME: Plato bat labored how op! [...] - not ashamed he [...] should be a pilgrim. / Plato, who laboured through Egypt, not ashamed that he should be a pilgrim.</td>
<td>[Graph]</td>
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### Step 2: Integration of borrowed PATH-verbs from French. Basis: Corpus of Middle English Prose and Verse

**General Results:**
- PATH verbs apparently not borrowed as motion verbs as such, but in specific meanings, e.g. as technical terms.
- PATH verb use in translated texts is not as restricted as in autonomous texts (triggered by the exemplar, cf. Cappelle 2012) and may have paved the way for their subsequent integration.

**Results:**

1. **Verb-type frequency is genre-dependent;**
   - OE (feren/feren ‘go’, cuman ‘come’; ME pan ‘go’, cumen ‘come’) are the most frequent verbs (cf., for PDE, Cappelle 2012: 185); in BNC biographical and fictional c. 40% come/go; 20–35% MANNER

2. **PATH is typically expressed in adverbs and prepositions – in c. 90% of the Old English motion descriptions c. 76% of the Middle English ones**

   - 75% of the Old English and 74% of the Middle English MANNER verbs (token count) are combined with a PATH-expression, such as in:
     - OE: buton þe þætart swemon to barm sicnum / Except those who there out away swam to the ships.
     - ME: And by the miller in his crepon / ‘And to the miller in his corn immediately.’

**Additional Results:**
- In autonomous ME texts mostly in nonliteral uses. In literal uses typically in contexts of hostility and taking possession:
  - In autonomous ME texts mostly as a technical term and in nonliteral/metaphorical uses:
    - (10) From ym be [...] maner descande Mille, Allis his doxet / ‘From him, the manor descended to Alice, his daughter’
    - (11) My father is lysenly descened of Alisoun / ‘My father is by lineage descended of Alexander’

- In autonomous ME texts mostly in a military context as ‘make a sortie, sally forth’:
  - In autonomous ME texts mostly as a technical term or in nonliteral/metaphorical uses:
    - (12) And to 0ðe heuer shall ascendande / ‘And soo [i.e., Jesus] shall ascend to Heaven.’
    - (13) The ascendant [...] is the same degree that ascends [...] upon the east horizon / ‘The ascendant [...] is the same degree that ascend on the east horizon.’
    - (14) Be quita essentia ascendere up to be botum / ‘The quintessence shall ascend up to the bottom.’