Michael Stolz (University of Berne)

The Stemmatology of Multiple Textual Versions.
Some remarks concerning the *Parzival Project*

Recent research on the manuscript transmission of medieval vernacular texts has abandoned the idea of a rigid stemmatological tradition of handwritten texts. Instead, the conviction that texts have changed due to oral performance has yielded concepts of non-hierarchical network structures in textual traditions. In this context the *Parzival project* used phylogenetic trees to visualize manuscript relations in different sections of Wolfram von Eschenbach's poem *Parzival* (composed in the first decade of the 13th century and transmitted in 16 manuscripts and 70 fragments written between the 13th and 15th centuries). As a result, a non-hierarchical electronic edition shows relations of the different manuscript texts by respectively highlighting the existing variants.

Besides this, conventional philological research has been done which resulted in two PhD theses that have been published recently:

Robert Schöller: Die Fassung *T des *Parzival* Wolframs von Eschenbach. Untersuchungen zur Überlieferung und zum Textprofil, Berlin/New York: de Gruyter 2009 (Quellen und Forschungen zur Literatur- und Kulturgeschichte NF 56 [290])

Gabriel Viehhauser: Die *Parzival*-Überlieferung am Ausgang des Manuskriptzeitalters. Handschriften der Lauberwerkstatt und der Straßburger Druck, Berlin/New York: de Gruyter 2009 (Quellen und Forschungen zur Literatur- und Kulturgeschichte NF 55 [289])

On the base of these two publications the project team was able to distinguish four different textual versions of the Wolfram's *Parzival*, three of which might even go back to the author's lifetime. The versions are considered to be the product of a rather fluid text conception existing in the early period of the 13th century (influenced by oral transmission), which has gradually consolidated in the texts of the written transmission during the later centuries. As a result, the team has conceived a new edition type that represents these four textual versions including the variants of the manuscripts belonging to each of them. The edition is offered in printed and electronic form with manuscript transcriptions and digital images included in the latter. The example of a representative passage will show how this works.