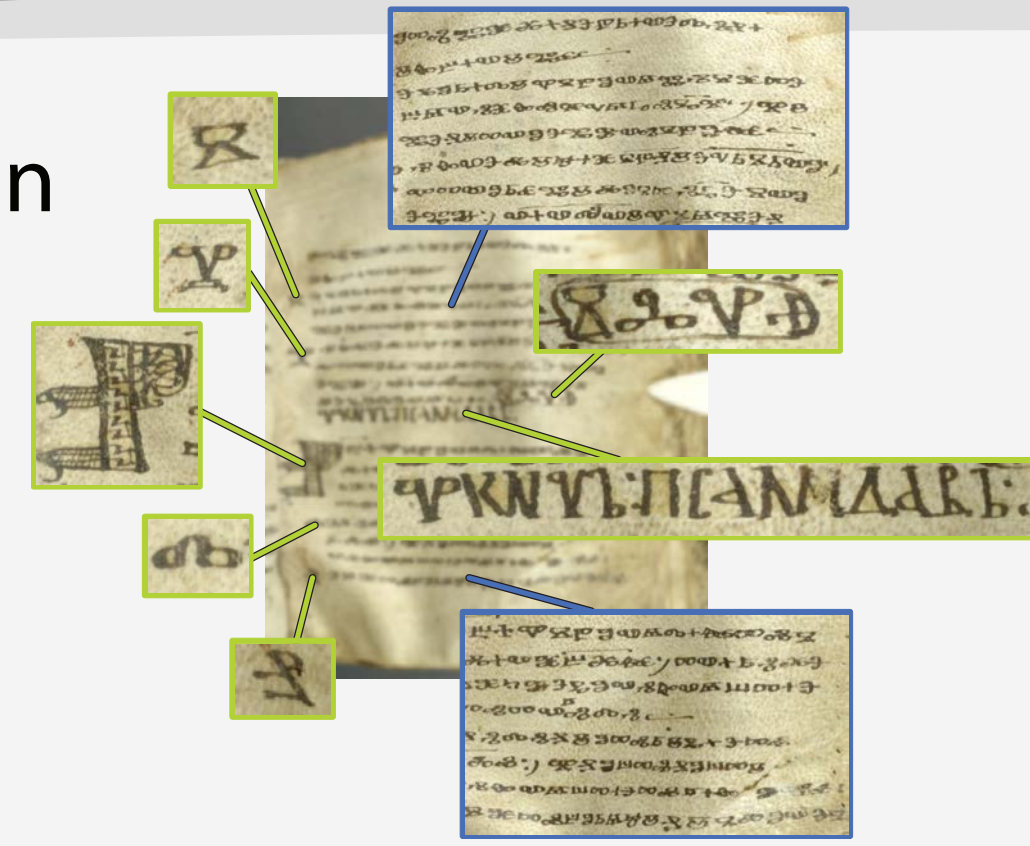


Introduction

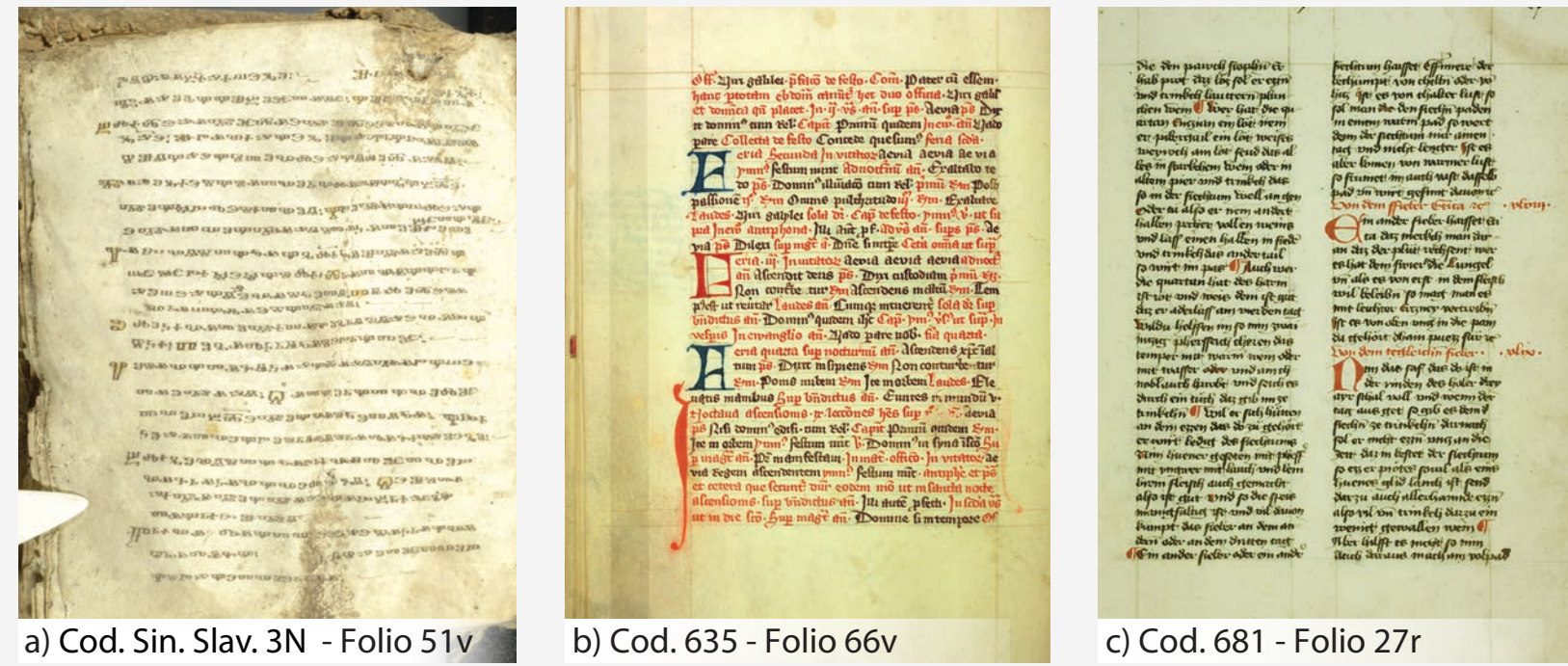
- Layout analysis of ancient handwritten documents

- Glagolitic, 11th century (a)
- Latin, 14th century (b)
- German, Latin, 1396 (c)



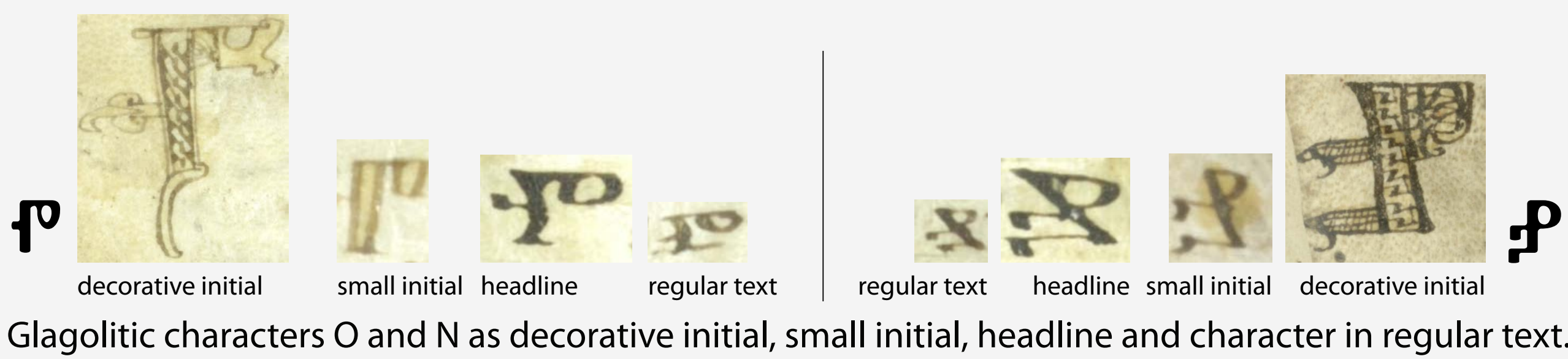
- Challenges

- Heterogeneously textured, stained
- Corrugated writing support
- Faded-out ink
- Fluctuating text lines
- Different writing styles
- Varying layouts



- Layout elements have structural similarities on the local level

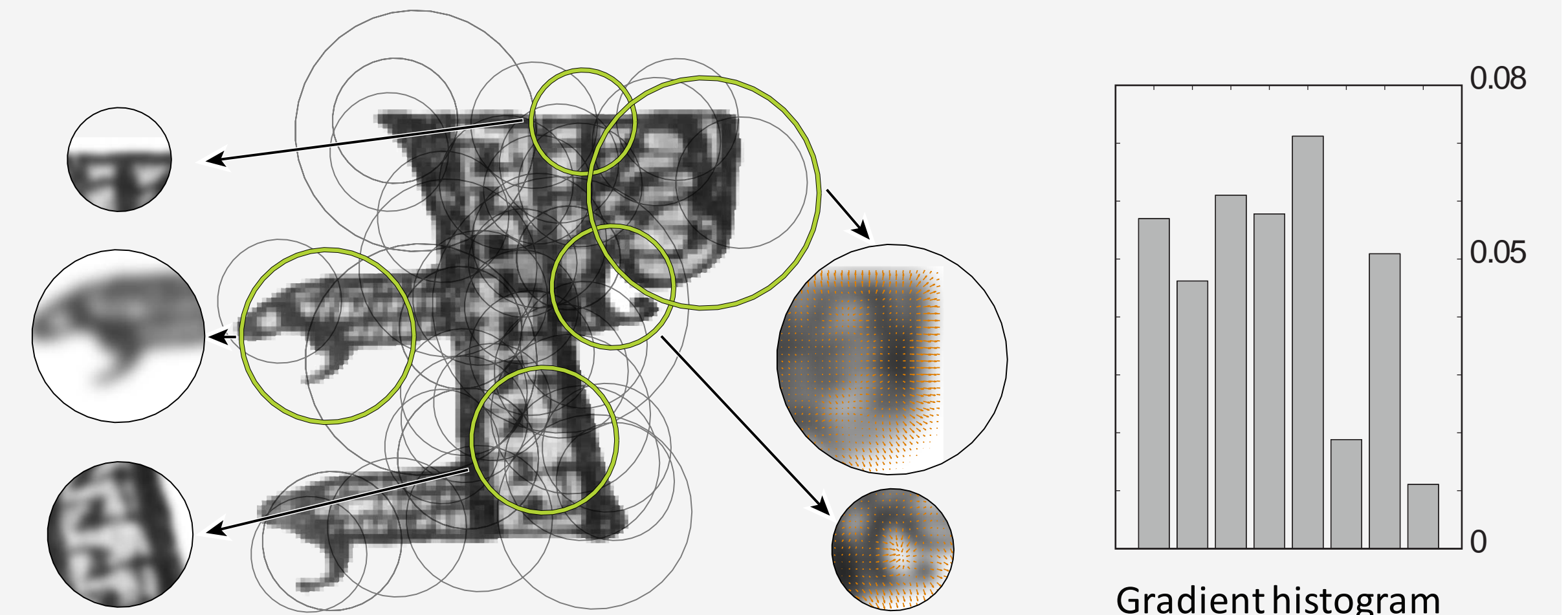
- Outlines, hachure, elongated strokes, angular/round shapes



Methodology

- Describing layout elements (junctions, endings, corners, circles)

- Interest Points (IP) by means of Difference of Gaussian (DoG)
 - 2nd order derivative scale-space
 - Detecting blob like regions at local extrema
- Scale Invariant Feature Transform (SIFT)
 - Gradient magnitude and gradient orientation
 - Gradient histograms of local patches



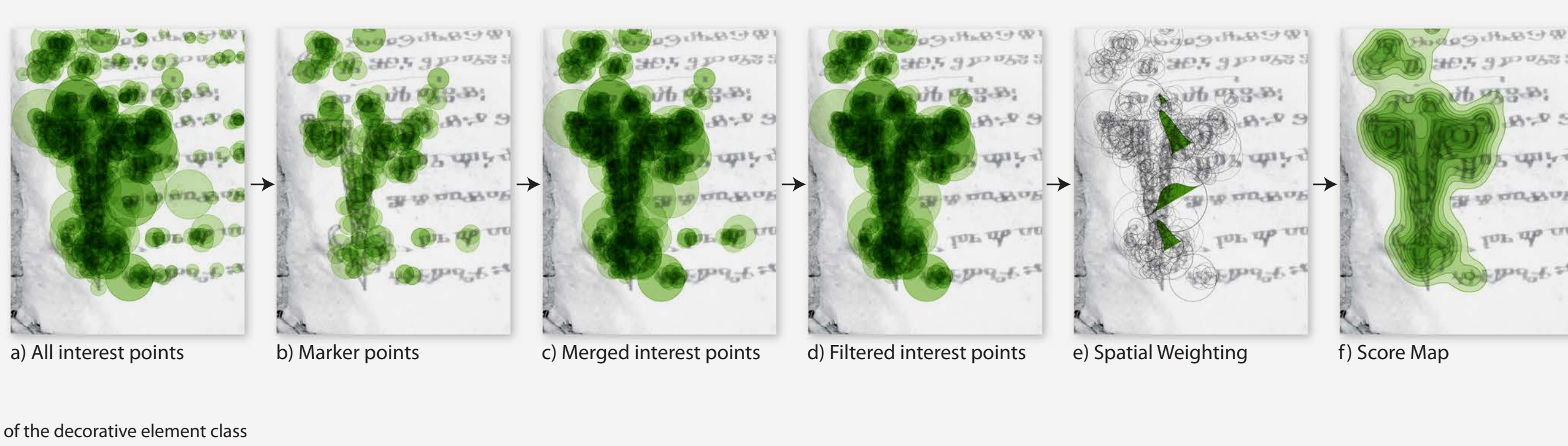
- Supervised Classification (SVM)

- Classes: regular text, embellishments
 - Headlines and initials belong to the same class
 - Similar characteristics of local structure

Methodology - Localization

Cascading localization algorithm exploiting DoG IP

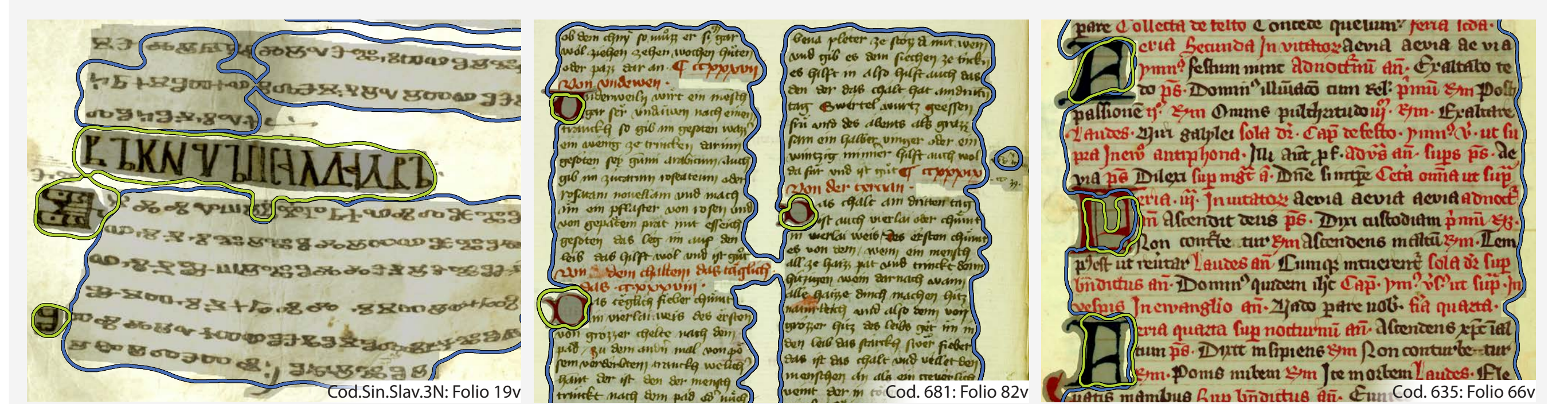
- Scale-based weighting
 - Penalizing diminutive and large scales
 - small: background clutter, dots, small structures, speckles
 - large: whole decorative initials, spots, stains, ripples
- Marker points (b)
 - IP of a specific size are most reliable
- Joining with IP overlapping with markers (c)
- Region-based processing (d)
 - Rejecting small, sparse and unreliable object candidates
- Score maps (e, f)



Results

System evaluation

- Random sample of 100 pages per manuscript
- Varying layouts and writing styles
- Trained with image patches containing layout elements
- Manually labeled ground truth



per pixel evaluation	Cod.Sin.Slav.3N			Cod.635			Cod.681		
	Rec.	Prec.	F _{0.5}	Rec.	Prec.	F _{0.5}	Rec.	Prec.	F _{0.5}
all classes ¹	0.873	0.924	0.914	0.984	0.969	0.972	0.977	0.974	0.975
main body text	0.899	0.939	0.930	0.995	0.974	0.978	0.981	0.979	0.979
DE ²	0.513	0.667	0.629	0.634	0.765	0.735	0.566	0.712	0.677

Recall, Precision and F_{0.5}-score for the manuscripts

¹ 92 % of the classified pixels belong to the regular text
² decorative elements

Conclusion

- System handles degraded manuscript images (no binarization)
- Exploiting the local structure similarity of the elements
 - Local descriptors at dedicated positions
- Cascading localization algorithm based on reliable interest points

Future work

- Distinction between decorative initials, plain initials, headings
- Text line extraction method
 - Following the highest density of interest points
 - Density Based Clustering