# Experiences with Capella and Hodder

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# Topics

- The automated pathway
- Explaining Hodder and Capella
- Our trial and main results
- Conclusions
- Announcing new service

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# The automated pathway

- Sheet music is scanned
- Capella Scan transforms the pixels into musical information
- Capella outputs that into .capx
- The .capx file is send to Hodder
- Hodder mails back music braille

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# Capella

- Capella is a German engraving software-suite
- Consists of 2 different programs
- Capella Scan and Capella

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# Hodder

- Hodder converts Capella output (.capx) to music braille (.txt).
- The .capx file is send to a server, the result is returned by mail

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# The Trial

- Our Experiences (so far) in the order of the production pathway

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# Converting sheet music to .capx

- The scan stage is crucial
- Mostly needs some editing after that
- There are 2 different Capella Programs
- Working smoothly with both programs has a learning curve.
- OCR related errors are almost inevitable but smart tools have been developed to address them

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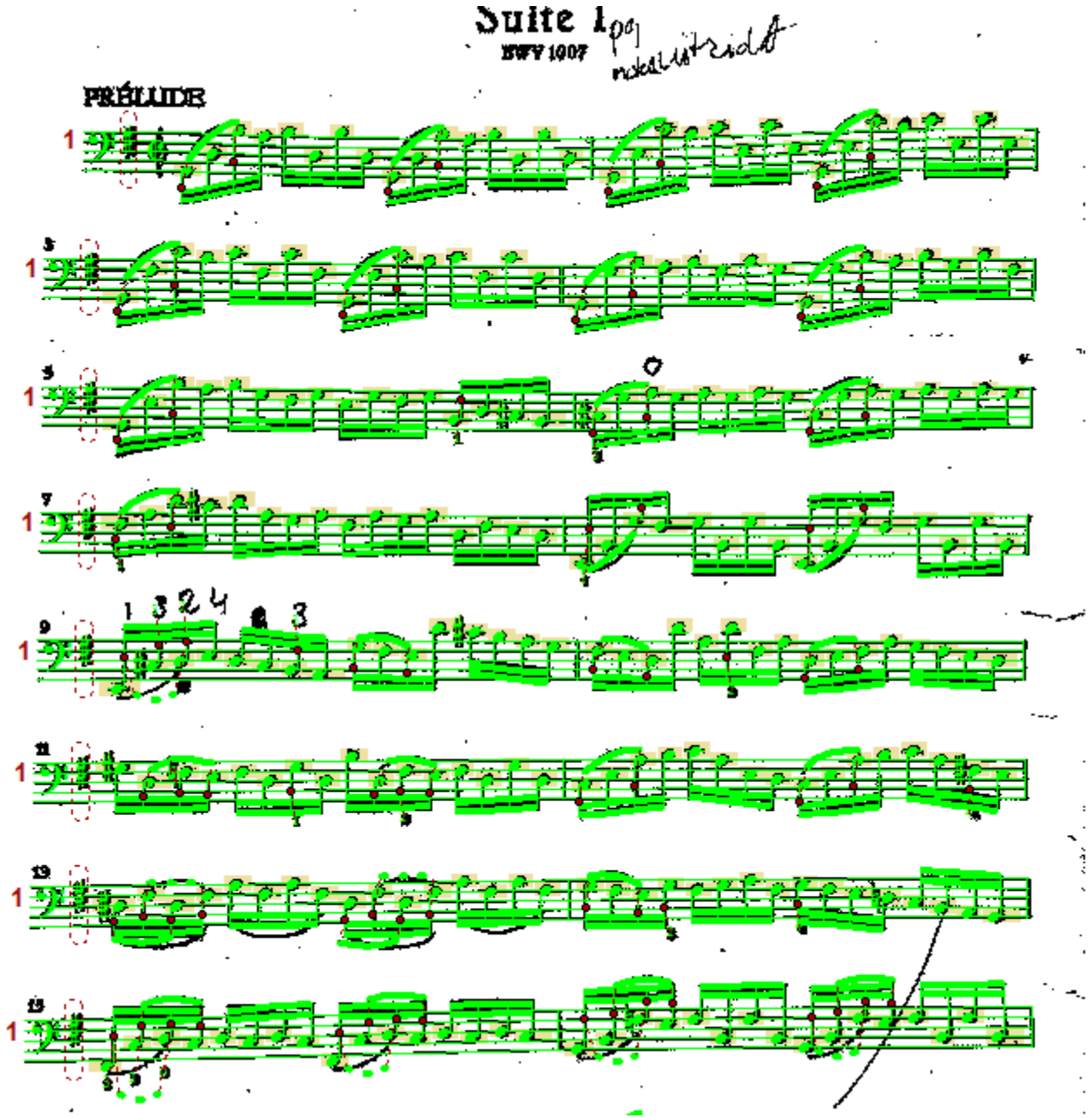
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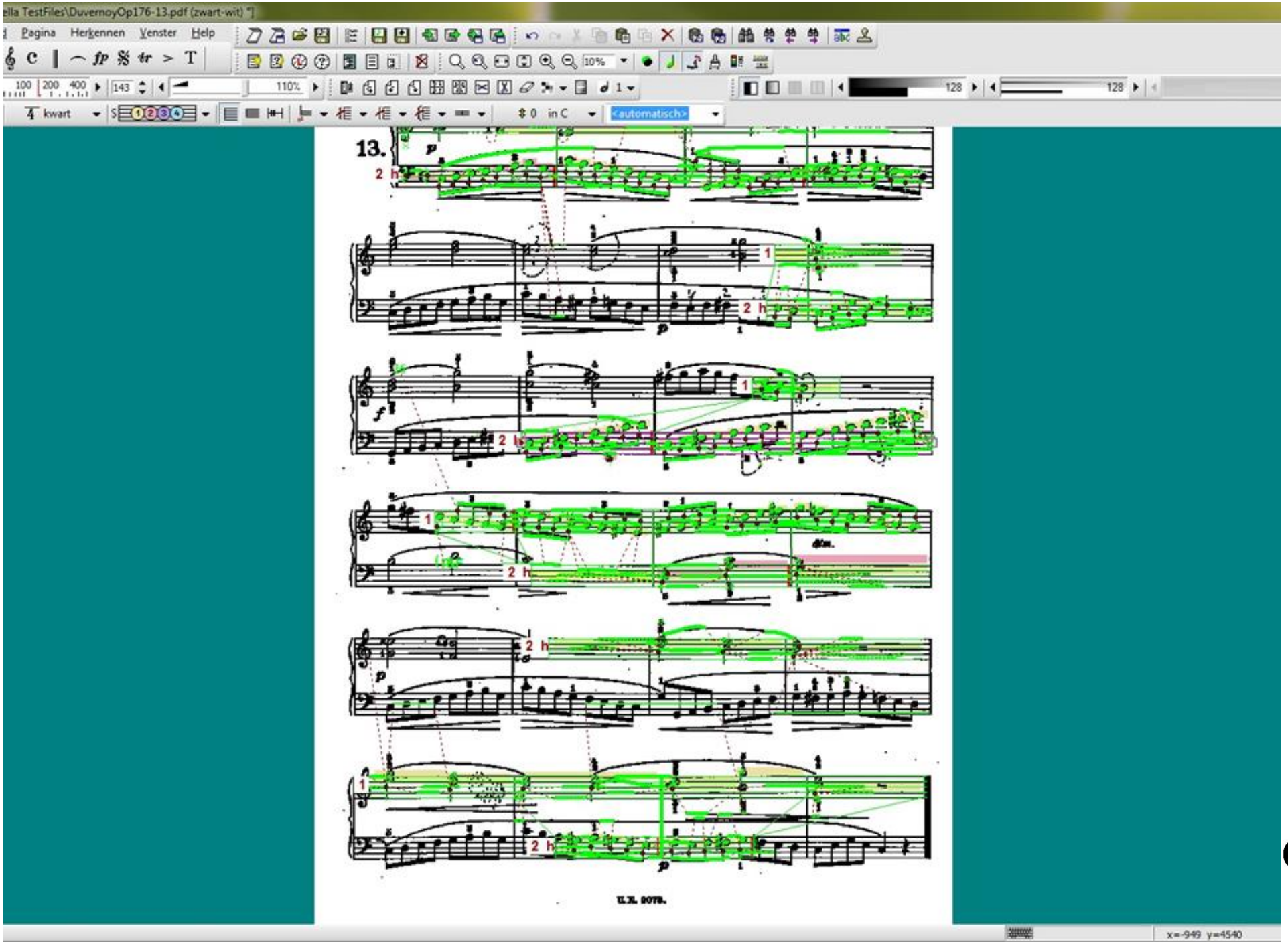
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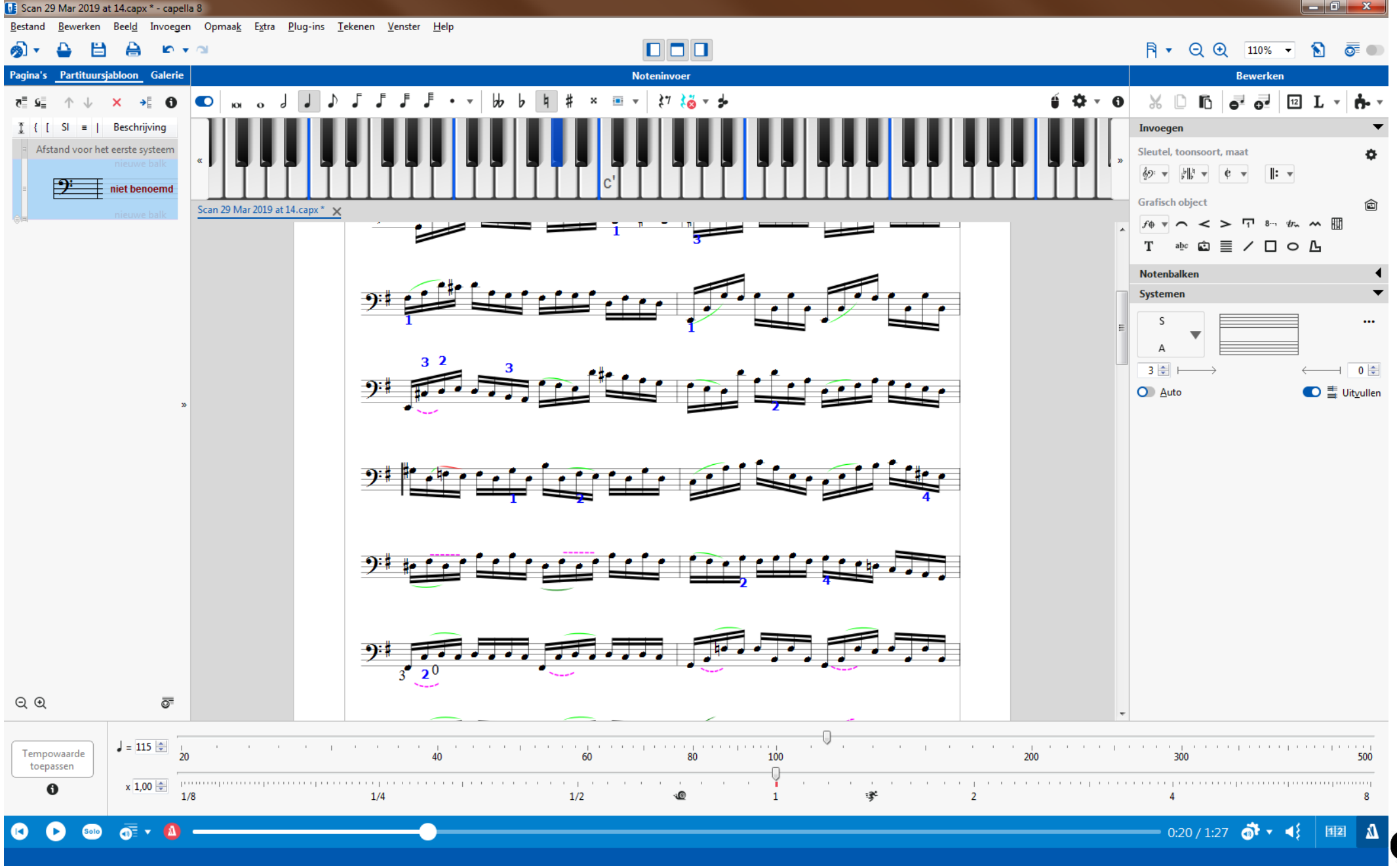
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# Hodder

- Hodder works very good
- Prior stages predict the successful conversion

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# Advantages of using Capella and Hodder

- Well matured and dedicated pathway
- Fast if source is of good quality
- No human typo’s or braille-mistakes
- Complex material easier to convert
- Capella is very flexible

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# Disadvantages of using OCR (Capella)

- Very source material dependent
- Sometimes slower than manual
- OCR can introduce “Machine”-mistakes
- Affinity with Computers and Software required.
- Not well suited for blind persons (GUI)

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# Conclusions

- Working with Capella and Hodder is a great way for sighted transcribers to produce music braille.
- With optimal source material we think it is faster and more accurate.
- Working with a GUI makes work easier for sighted braillists.
- Not all sheet music is suitable for this way of producing.
- Manual workflow is kept as an alternative

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# We can transcribe all sources of music

- Handwritten scores
- Standard sheet music
- Digital files

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# Dedicon now produces music braille for organisations worldwide

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