E. P. BOS

1. *Purpose of this article*

In this article it is my intention to edit a short sophism ascribed to the fourteenth century philosopher and theologian Marsilius of Inghen, and to comment on its text.

The text is to be found in codex 1939 of the Jagiellonic Library of Cracow. By way of the (false) proposition ‘*homo est bos*’ three different theories and rules of logic are put into practice. In the first, and foremost place Marsilius’ theory about the character of the *oratio infinitiva* and, as a closely related topic, of the proposition is brought to the fore. Secondly, Marsilius deals with the criteria of application of the well-known rule of inference ‘*quando alterum, etc.*’, which has been formulated for the first time by Aristotle in his *Categories*. Thirdly, Marsilius discusses the supposition of terms in propositions with the verb ‘*differt*’.

2. *Description of the manuscript; text of the sophism*

2.1. *Description of the manuscript*

The sophism is found in manuscript *Cracow, Biblioteka Jagiellońska, 1939*, BB XXVI 5, on f. 96v. According to the catalogue: paper-codex, dating from the year 1408, in quarto, pp. 293 (but confer the remark below), 2 leaves of parchment and 40 pp. of paper blank at the beginning and at the end. The manuscript was written by two different scribes, both handwritings in a regular gothic cursive and rather similar in character. The first handwriting (A) is on ff. 12r-45v and on ff. 58r-150v. The other hand (B) is on ff. 46r-57v and on ff. 150v-158r.

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1 I sincerely wish to acknowledge my indebtedness to Professor De Rijk (Leiden) for the encouragement and advise I received while writing this article, and to Mr E. P. Kwaadgras (Leiden) for improving my English.


There are two numerations on each folio. One counts the pages (the total number of which is 293), and is corrected by another one, that counts the folia as usual. I have preferred this last numeration.

The contents of the manuscript are as follows:

On the cover: Questiones super suppositiones et notabilia quaedam.

On the parchment at the beginning in another hand of the fifteenth century, the words 'liber facultatis artium' are read together with two paragraphs of logical content. These Latin texts are followed by a — partly stained — text in Hebrew.

1. ff. 1r-11v blank.
2. ff. 12r-43v Questiones on the suppositiones by Marsilius of Inghen.

The text ends abruptly.

3. ff. 44r-45v blank
4. ff. 46r-57v Questiones on the consequentie by Marsilius of Inghen.
5. ff. 58r-77v Questiones on the ampliationes by Marsilius of Inghen.
6. ff. 77r-82v Questiones on the restrictiones by Marsilius of Inghen.
7. ff. 83r-93v Questiones on the appellations by Marsilius of Inghen.

On folio 93v we find this instructive explicit: 'Et sic terminantur questiones tractatuum Reverendi magistri Marsilii de Inghen suppositionum, ampliationum, restrictionum et appellationum compilat per magistrum Johannem Parisyensem, scripte vero per Mathiam de Zar in studio Pragensi anno domini M°CCCC°VIII° etcetera. Deo laus sit per infinita secula seculorum. Amen'.

8. ff. 94r-96v Paralogismi by master Conrad of Zoltaw of Prague.
9. f. 96v Sophisma magistri Marsilii de Inghen (= our sophism).
10. ff. 97r-110v Sophismata by John of Hockeleym.
11. ff. 110v-111r Several logical procedures to prove the truth of a sophism.
12. f. 111v Scheme of principia causandi, essendi et cognoscendi.