

THE MANUSCRIPTS OF BEN SIRA
AND WHAT THEY TELL US
ABOUT THE ANCIENT TEXT

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THE MANUSCRIPTS

Judean Desert manuscripts

- 2Q18: 2nd half of 1st c. BCE
- 11QPs^a: 1st half of 1st c. CE
- Masada: 1st c. BCE

Cairo Geniza

- Ms A: 11th–12th c.
- Ms B: 11th or 12th c.
- Ms C: 12th c.?
- Ms D: 9th–12th c.
- Ms E: 11th–12th c.
- Ms F: 11th–12th c.

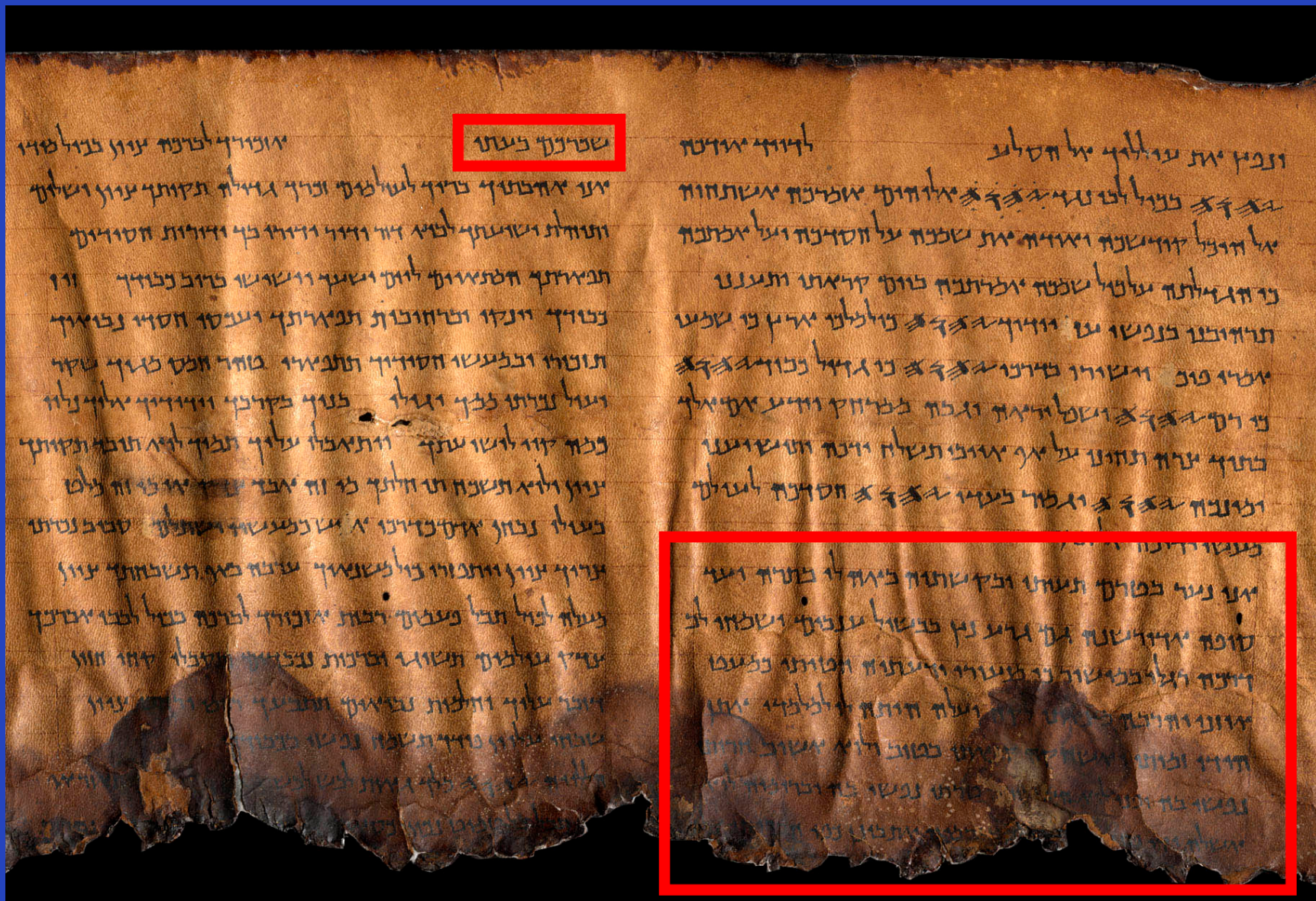
THE
MANUSCRIPTS:
2Q18



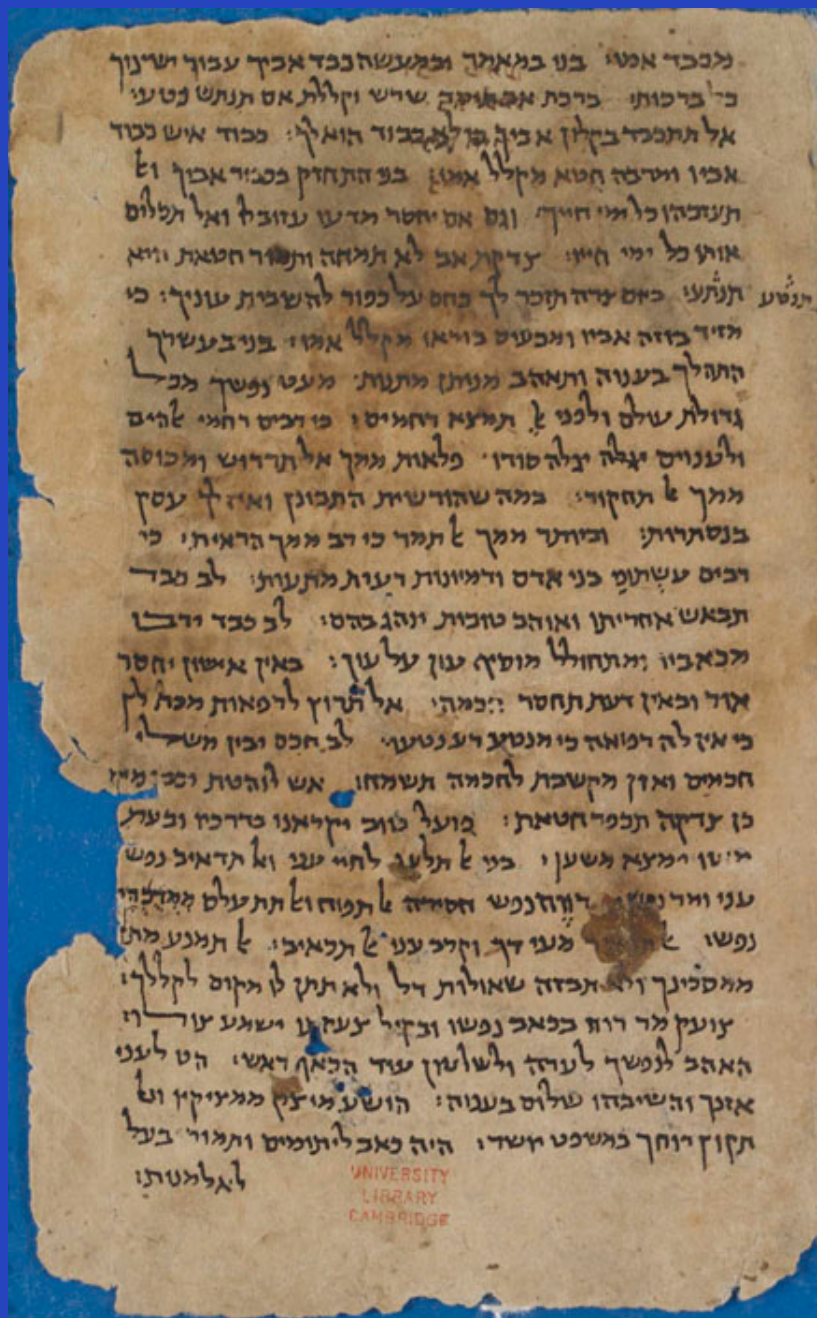
THE MANUSCRIPTS: MASADA



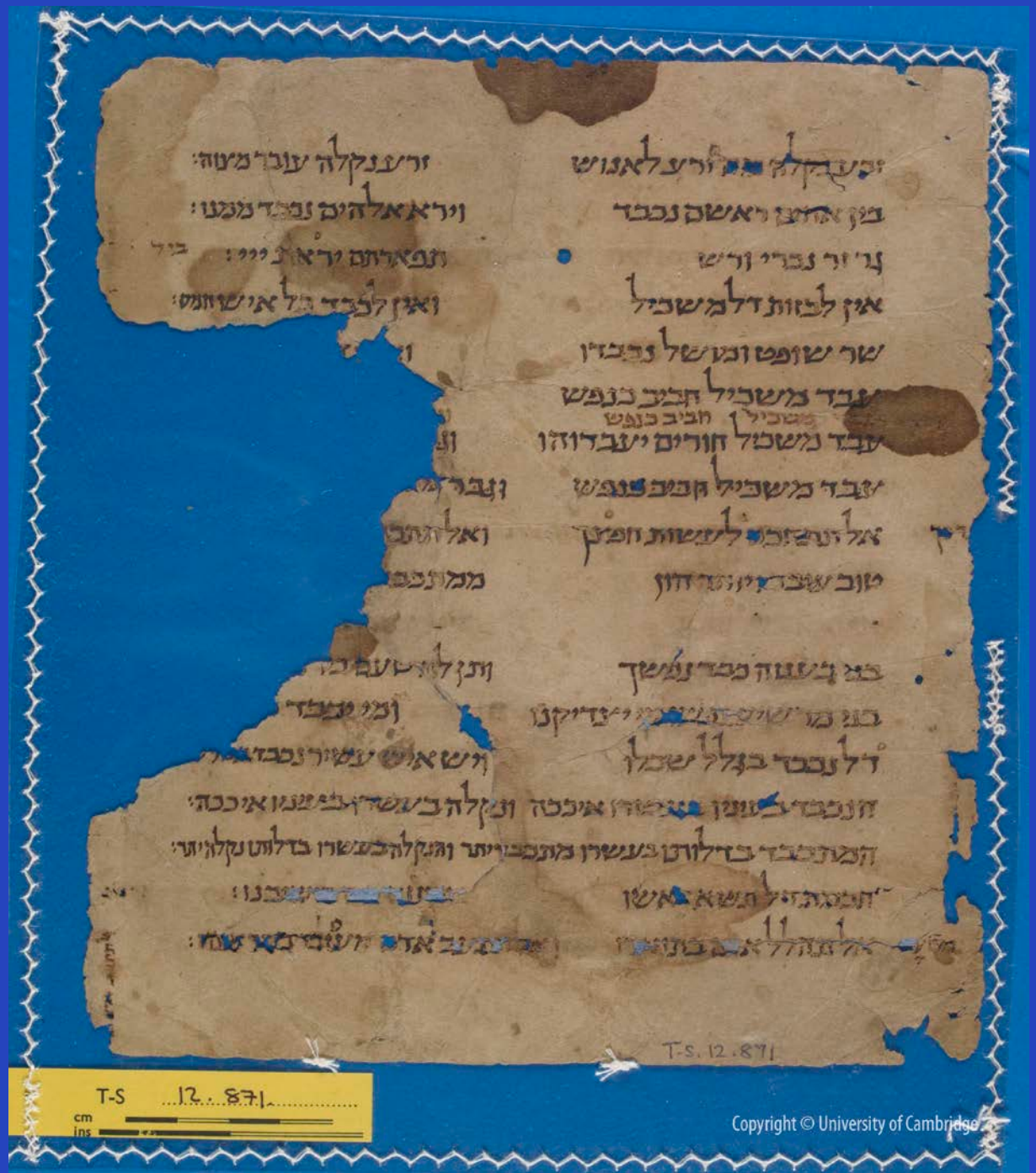
THE MANUSCRIPTS: 11QPSA



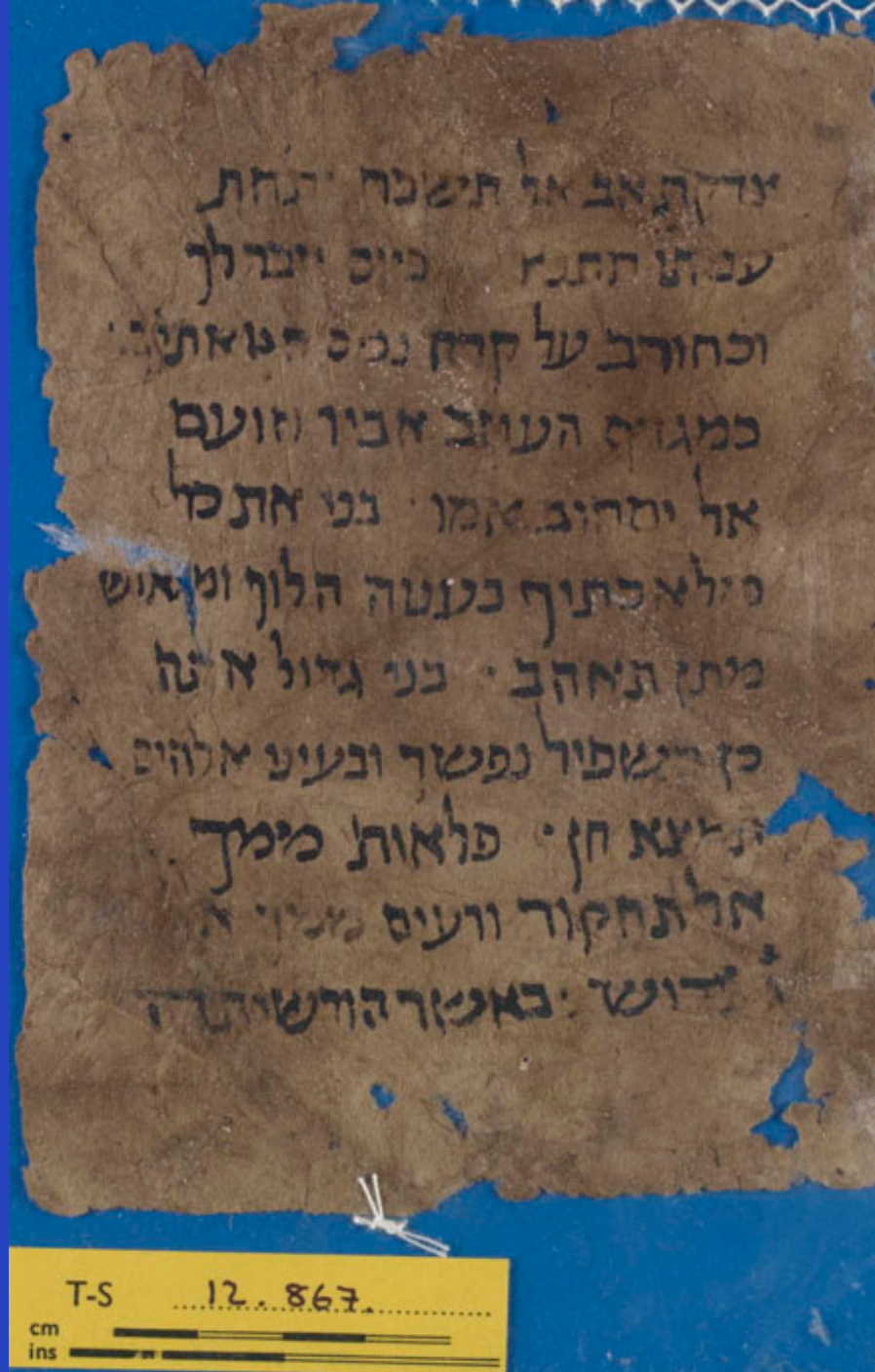
THE MANUSCRIPTS: MS A



THE MANUSCRIPTS: MS B



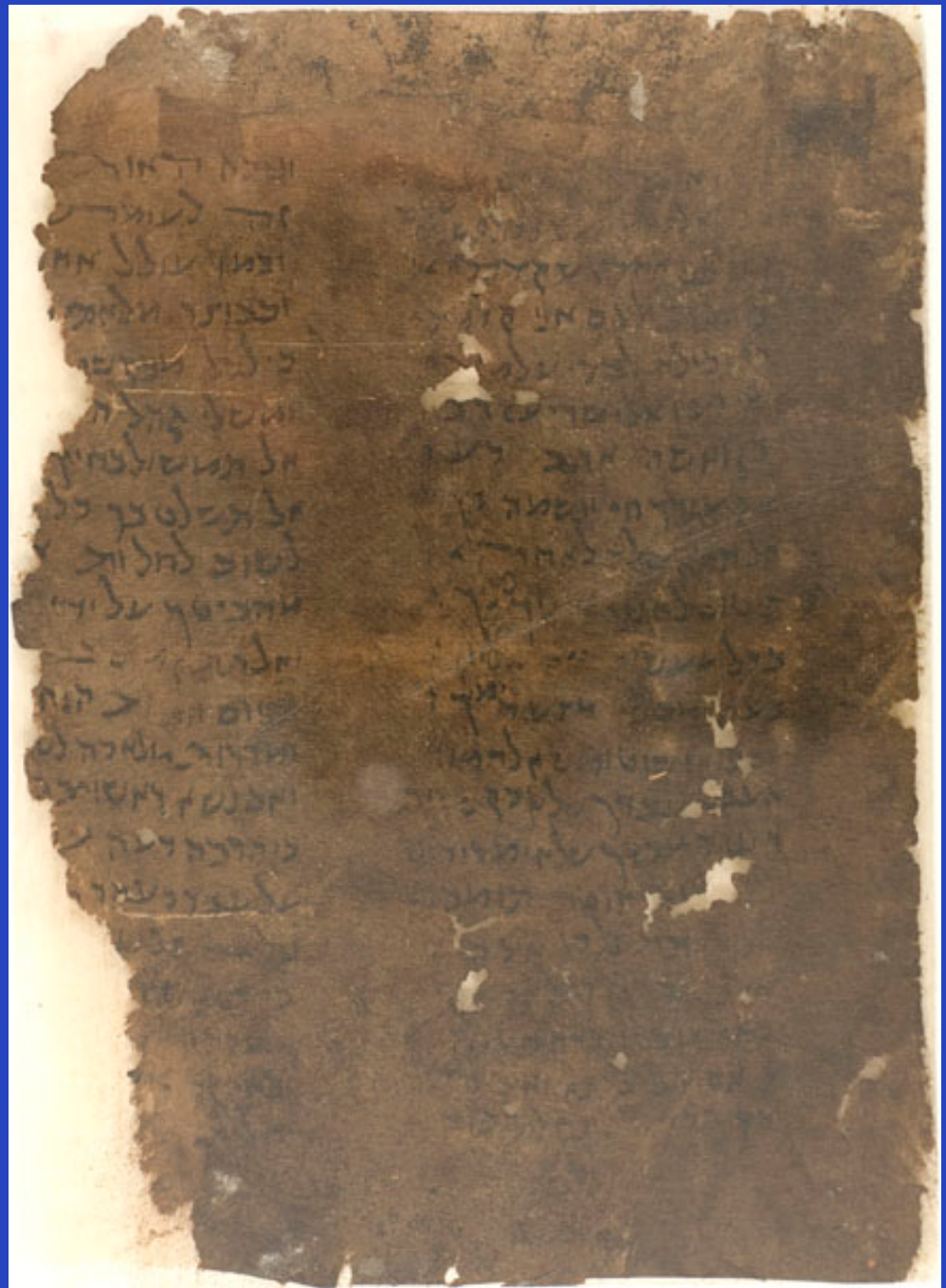
THE MANUSCRIPTS: MS C



THE MANUSCRIPTS: MS D



THE MANUSCRIPTS: MS E



THE MANUSCRIPTS: MS F



MS B of Ben Sira:

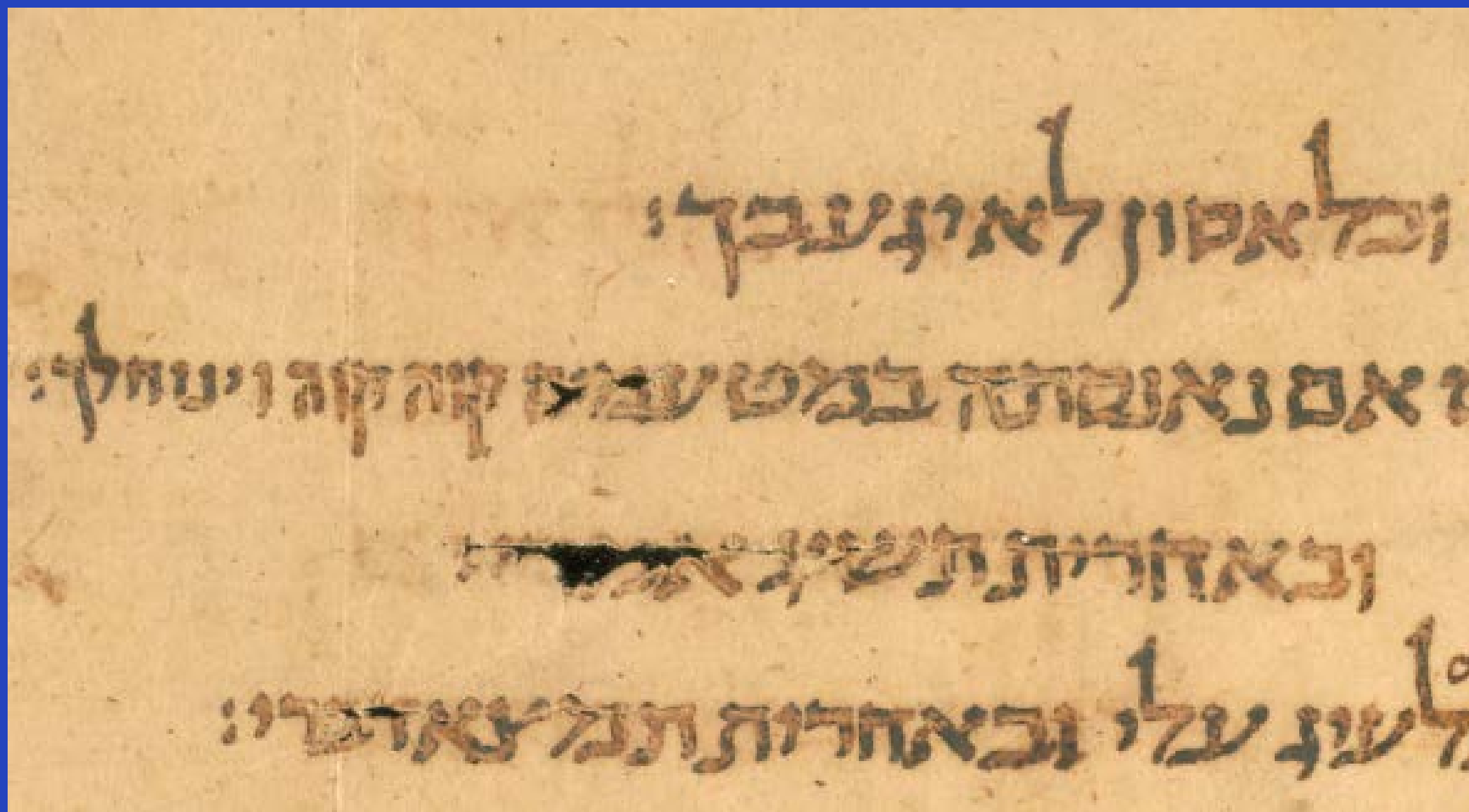
22 folios/42 pages containing
10:19–11:10; 15:1–16:7; 30:11–51
(missing 33:4–35:11)

B VI Verso, T-S 16.313
Ruling



B IV Verso, British Library Or. 5518

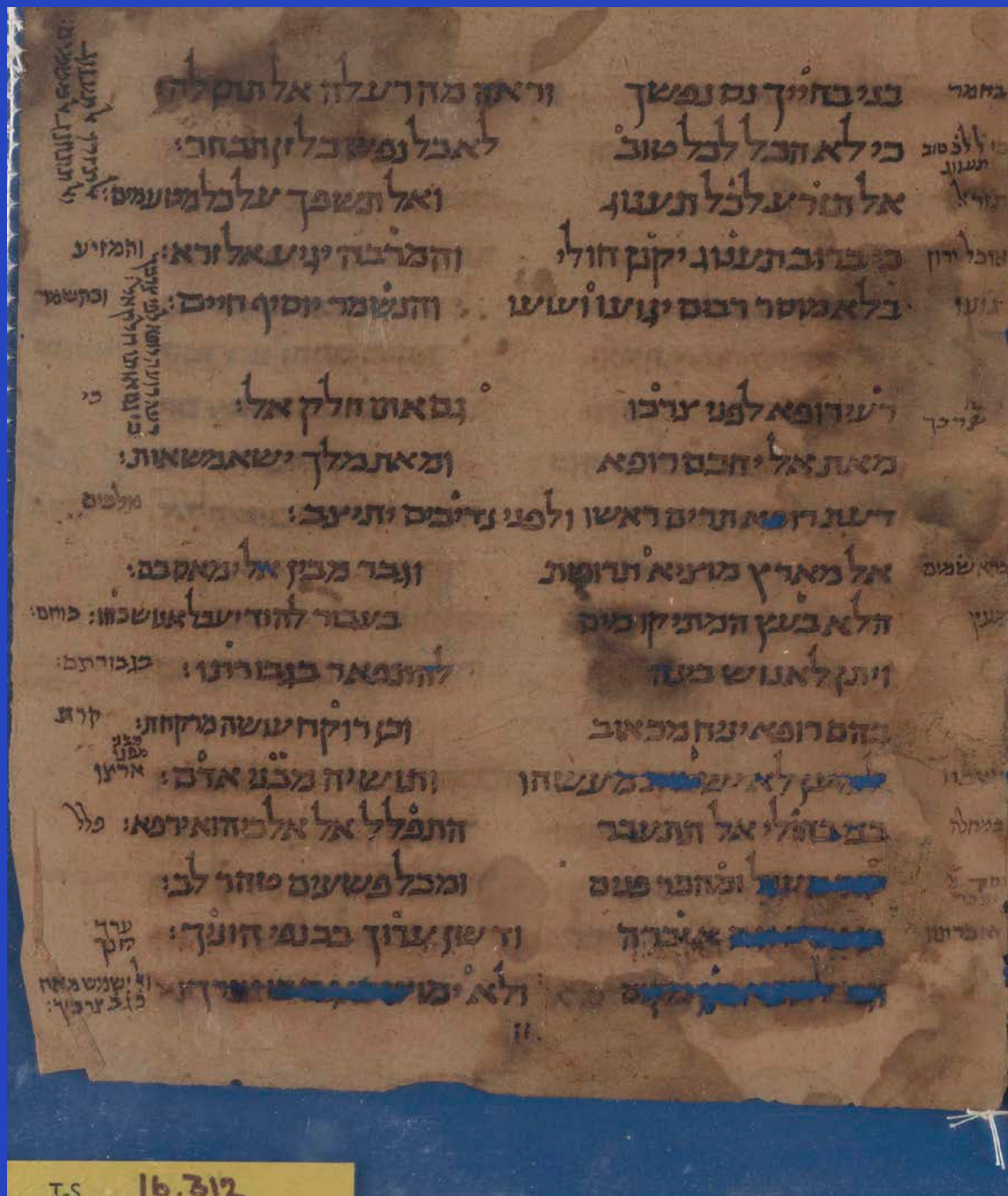
Compressed Letters



Ms B VI Recto T-S 16.313
Peh Notation

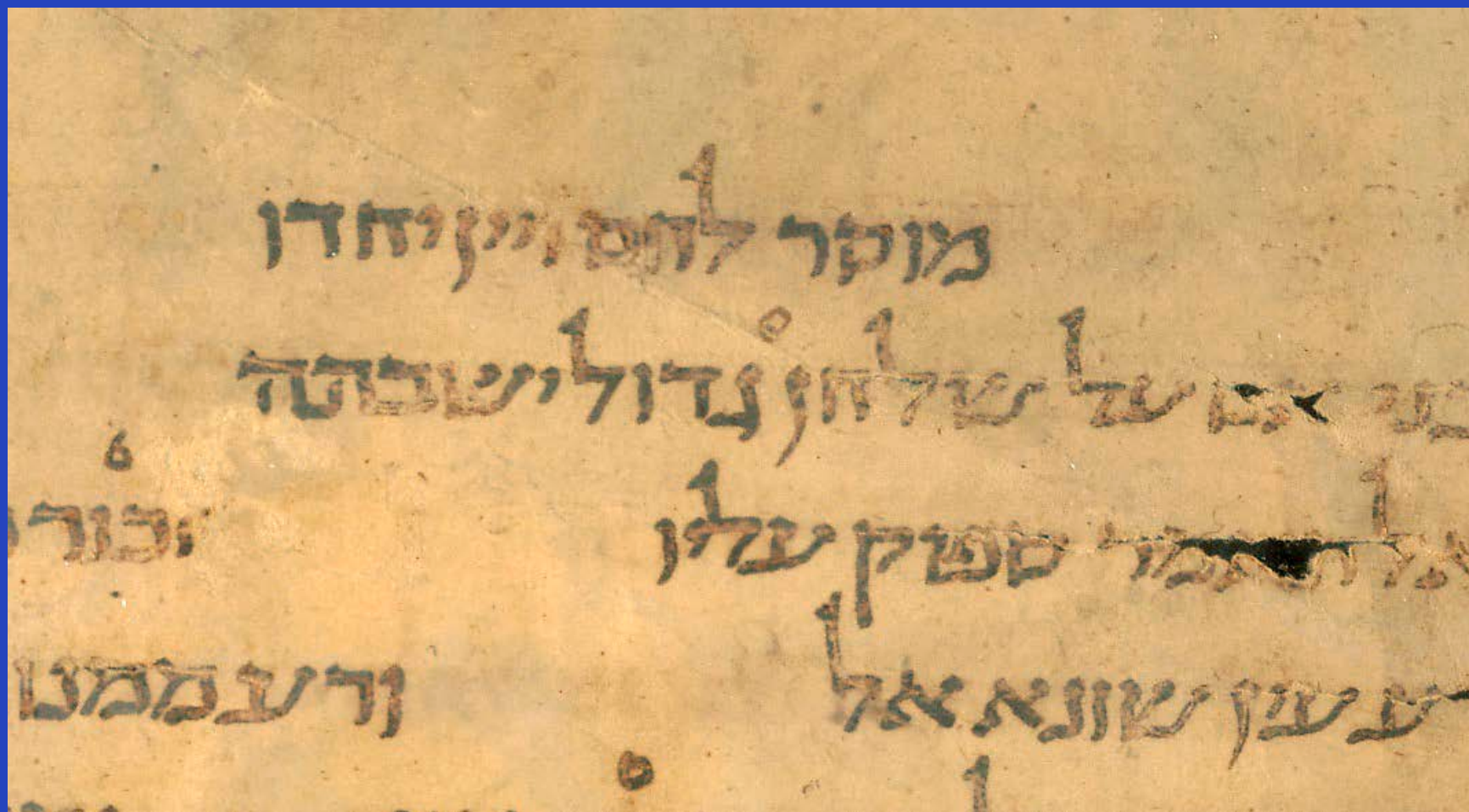


Ms B VIII Recto
T-S 16.312
Blank Line

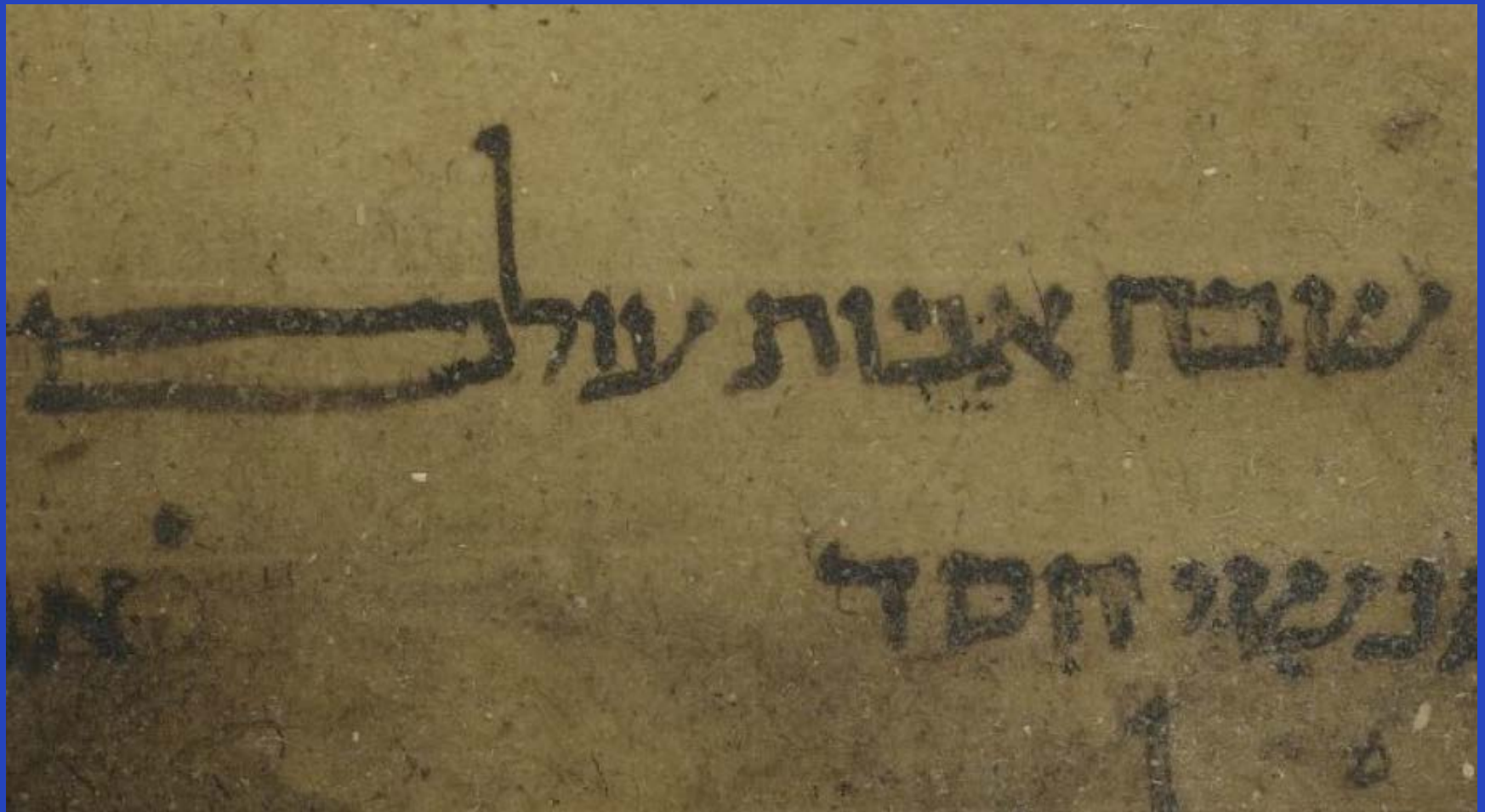


Ms. B IV Recto, British Library, Or. 5518

Title



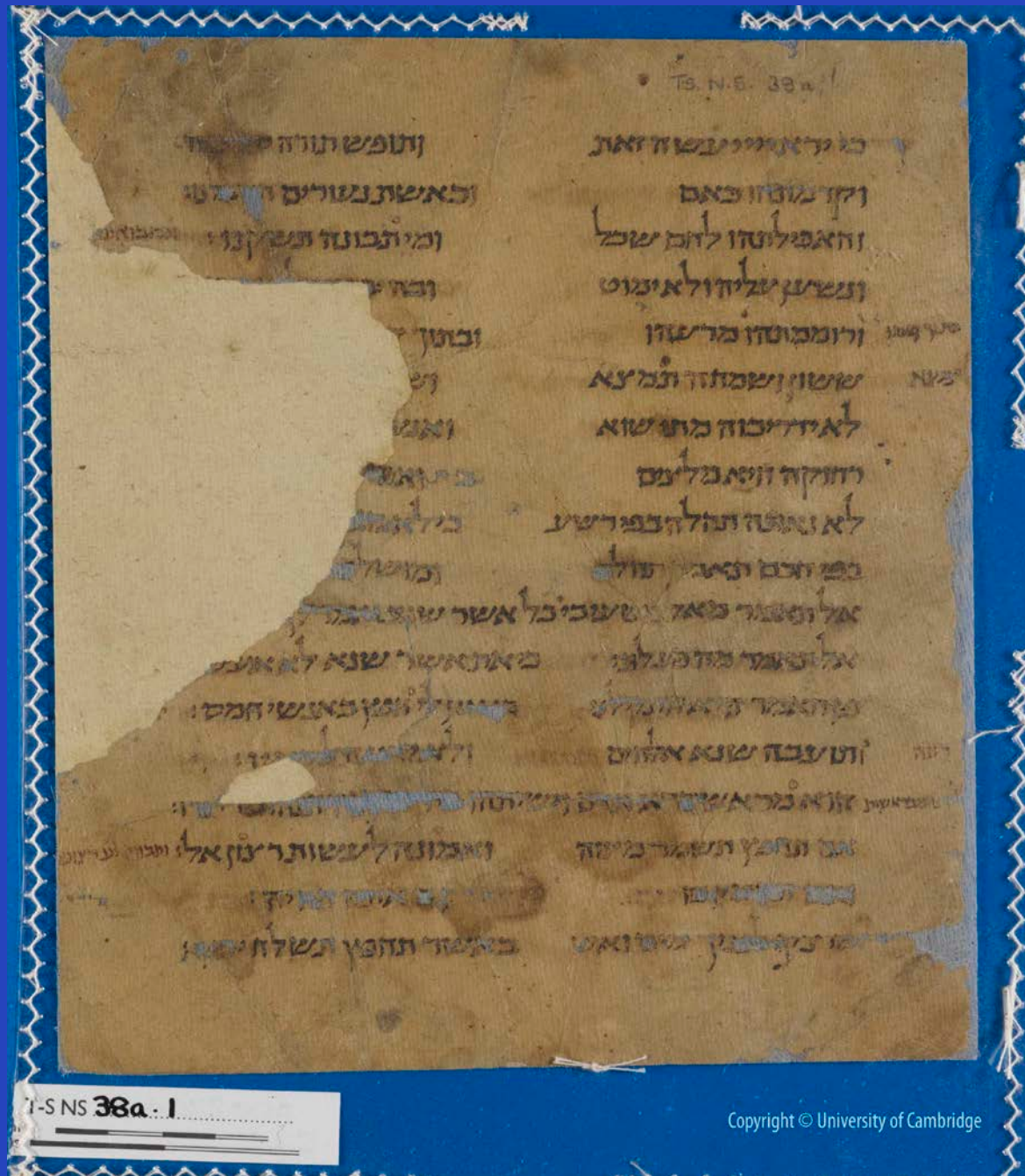
Ms. B XIII Verso, Oxford MS Heb e 62, folio 8b
Title



Ms B Subscription after Chapter 51

עד הנה דברי שמעון בן יסוע שנזקרא בן סירא:
חכמת שמעון בן יסוע בן אשר בן סירא:
יהי שם יי מבורך מעתה ועד עולם:

Ms B II Recto,
T-S NS 38 a.1
Lightly Corrected



Ms B VII Recto,
British Library
Or. 5518
Heavily Corrected

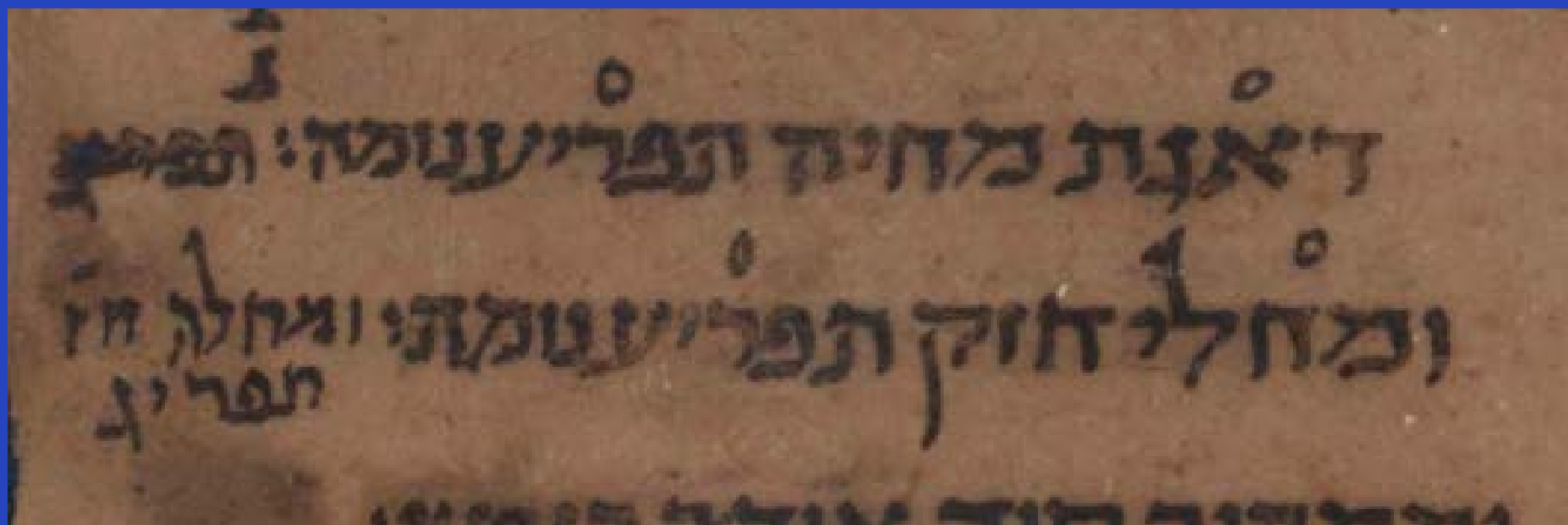


B XVI Recto, Oxford MS HEB e 62, folio 4a
B XVI Verso, Oxford MS HEB e 62, folio 4b
Final Corrections

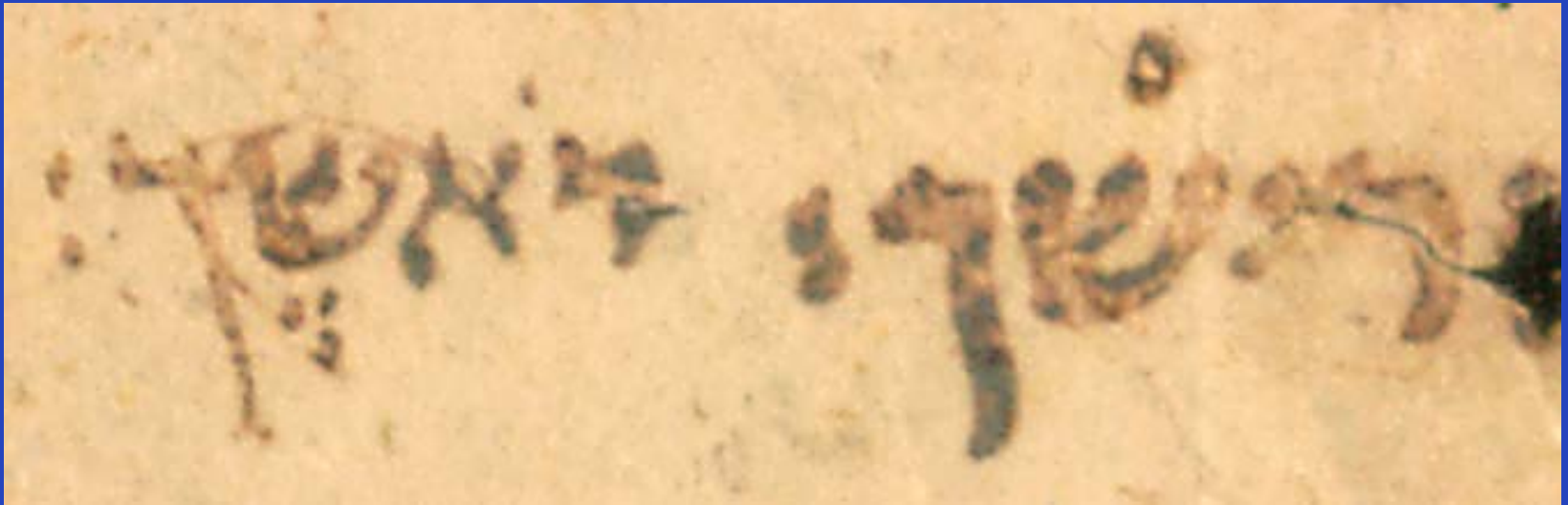


Ms B III Verso, T-S 16.312

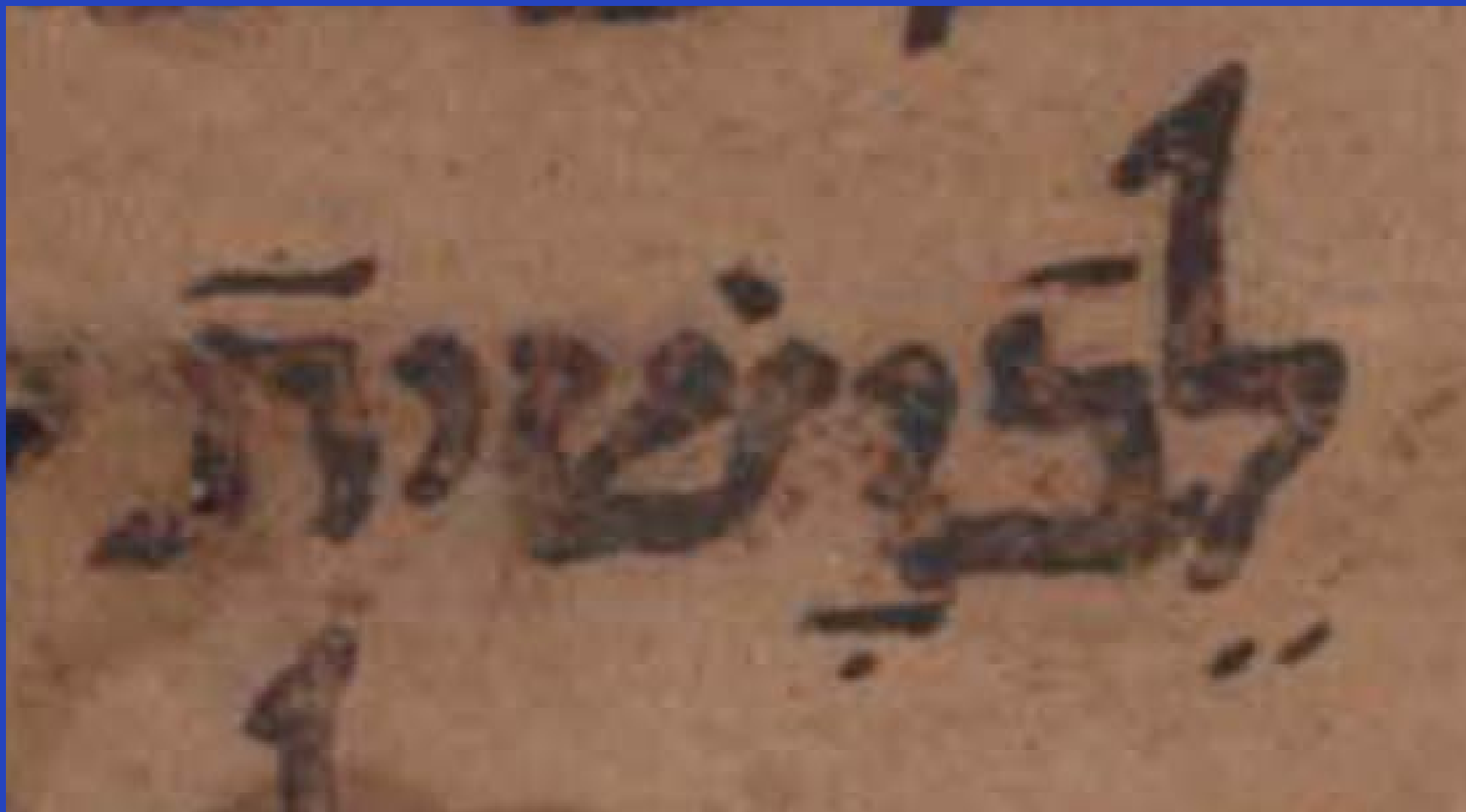
Supralinear Circles



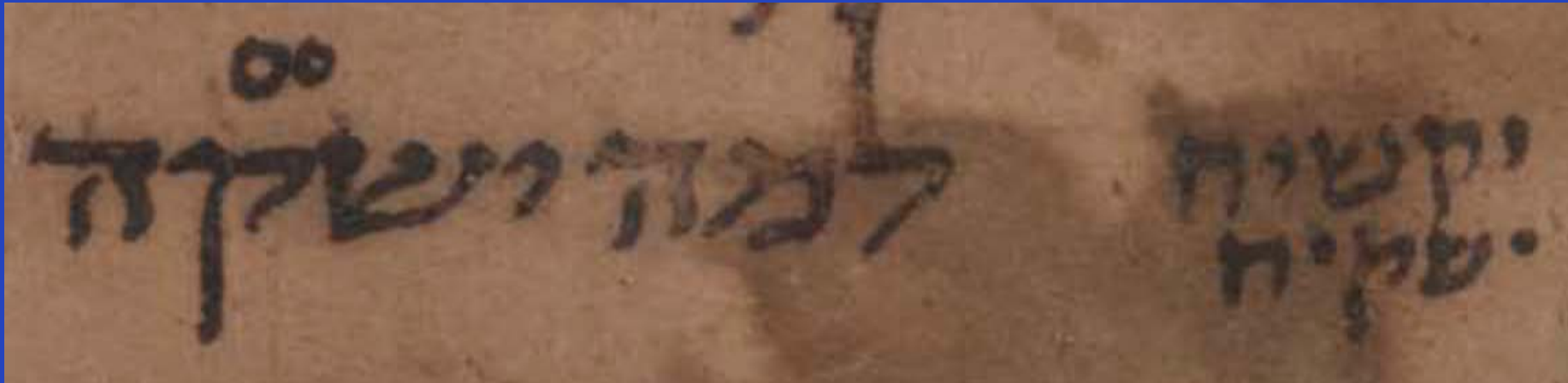
Ms B VII Recto, British Library Or. 5518
Vocalized Correction



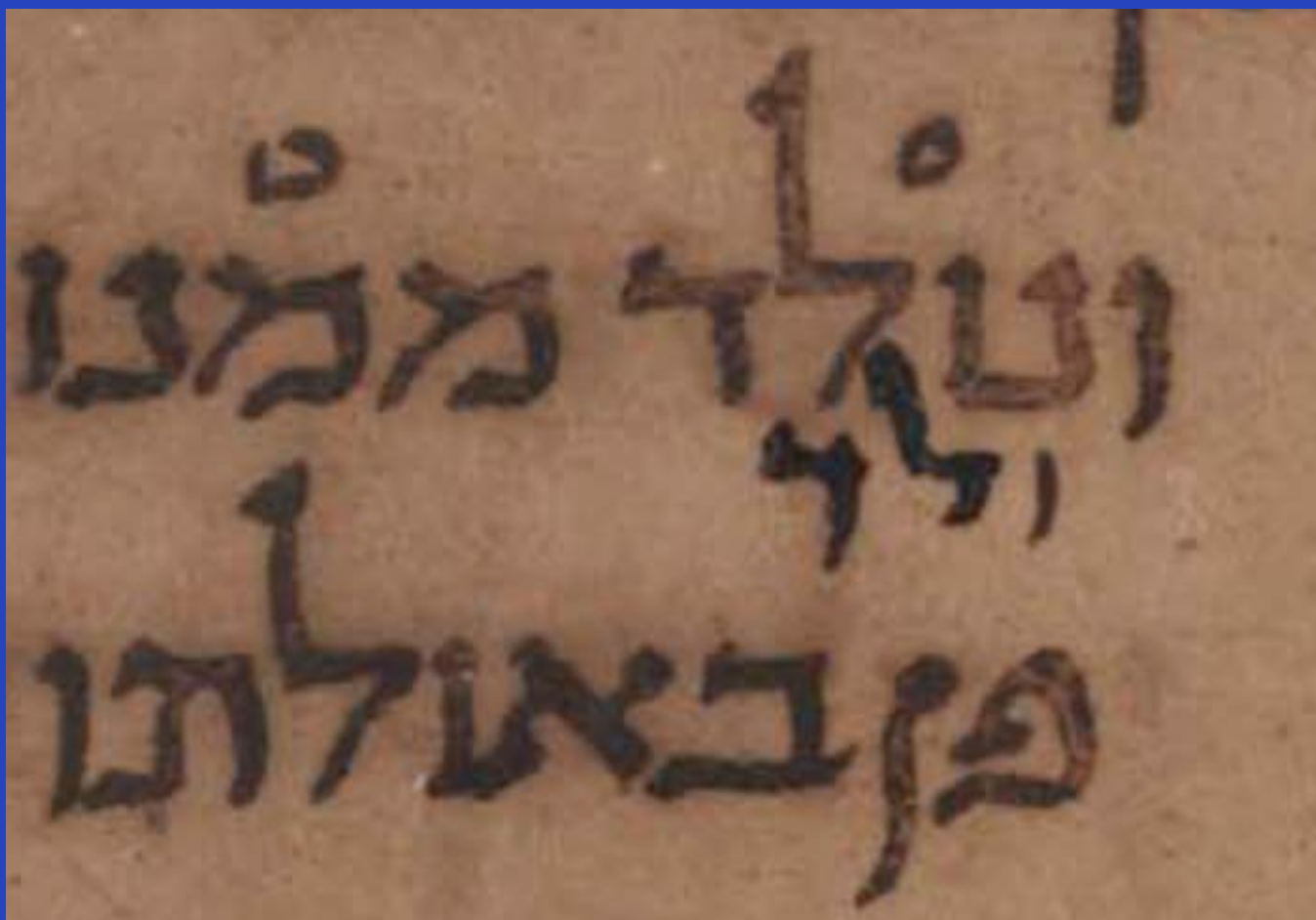
Ms B VIII Verso, T-S 16.312
Added Vocalization



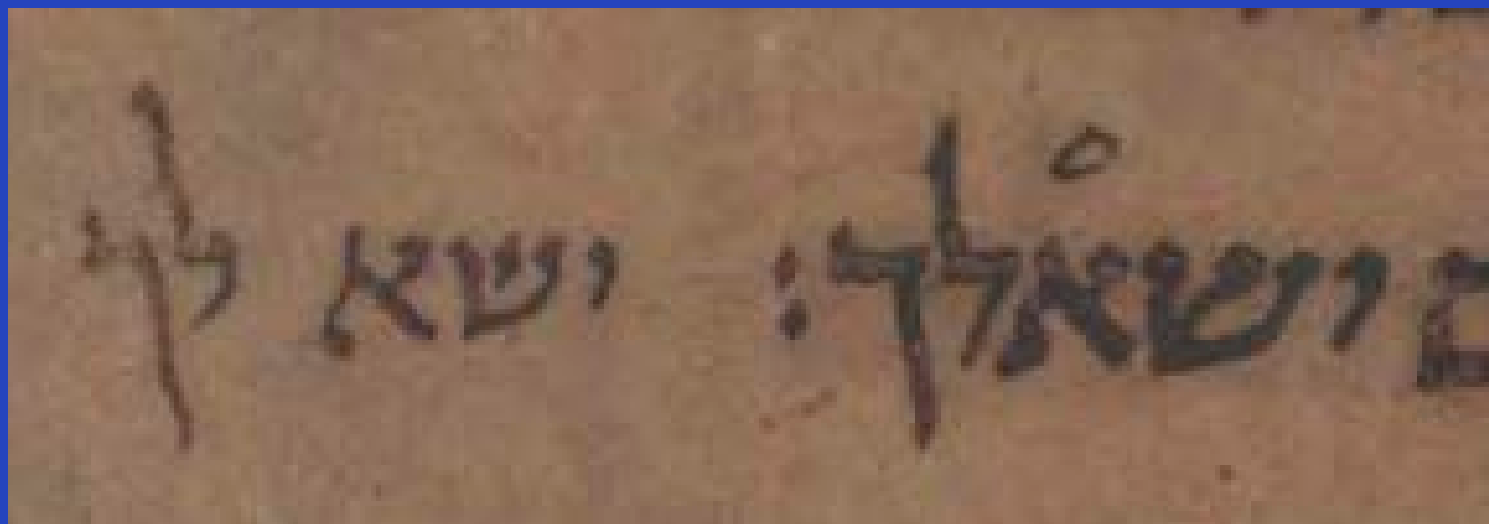
Ms B III Recto, T-S 16.312:
Double Correction Marks



Ms B III Recto, T-S 16.312
Interlinear Correction



B V Recto T-S 16.313
Corrected Word Division

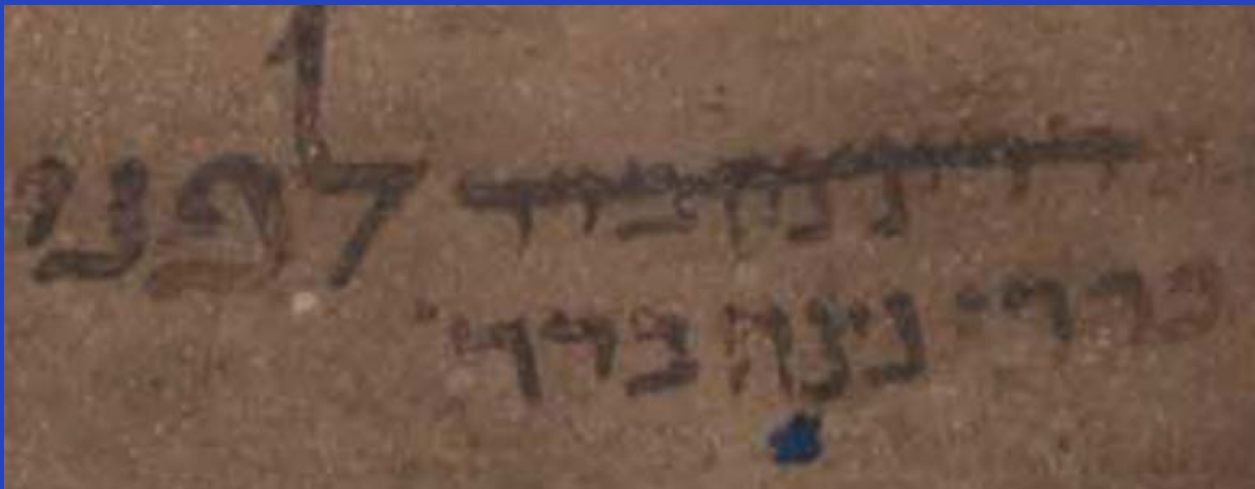


Deleted Corrections

31.1



41.15



32.10

THE PERSIAN GLOSSES AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS

Ms B V Recto
T-S 16.313

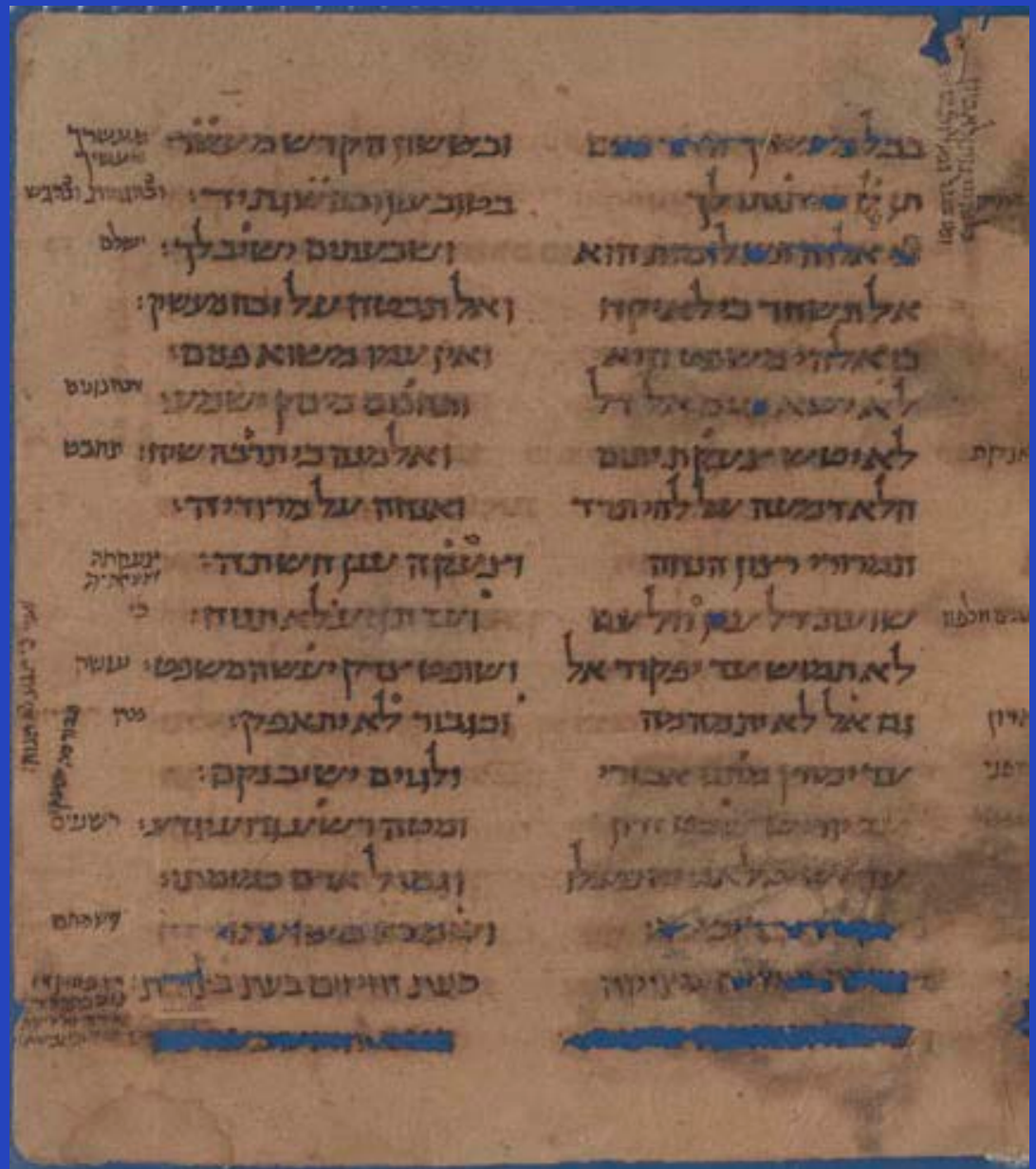
[illegible]

Ms B V Recto, T-S 16.313, Persian Gloss 32:1

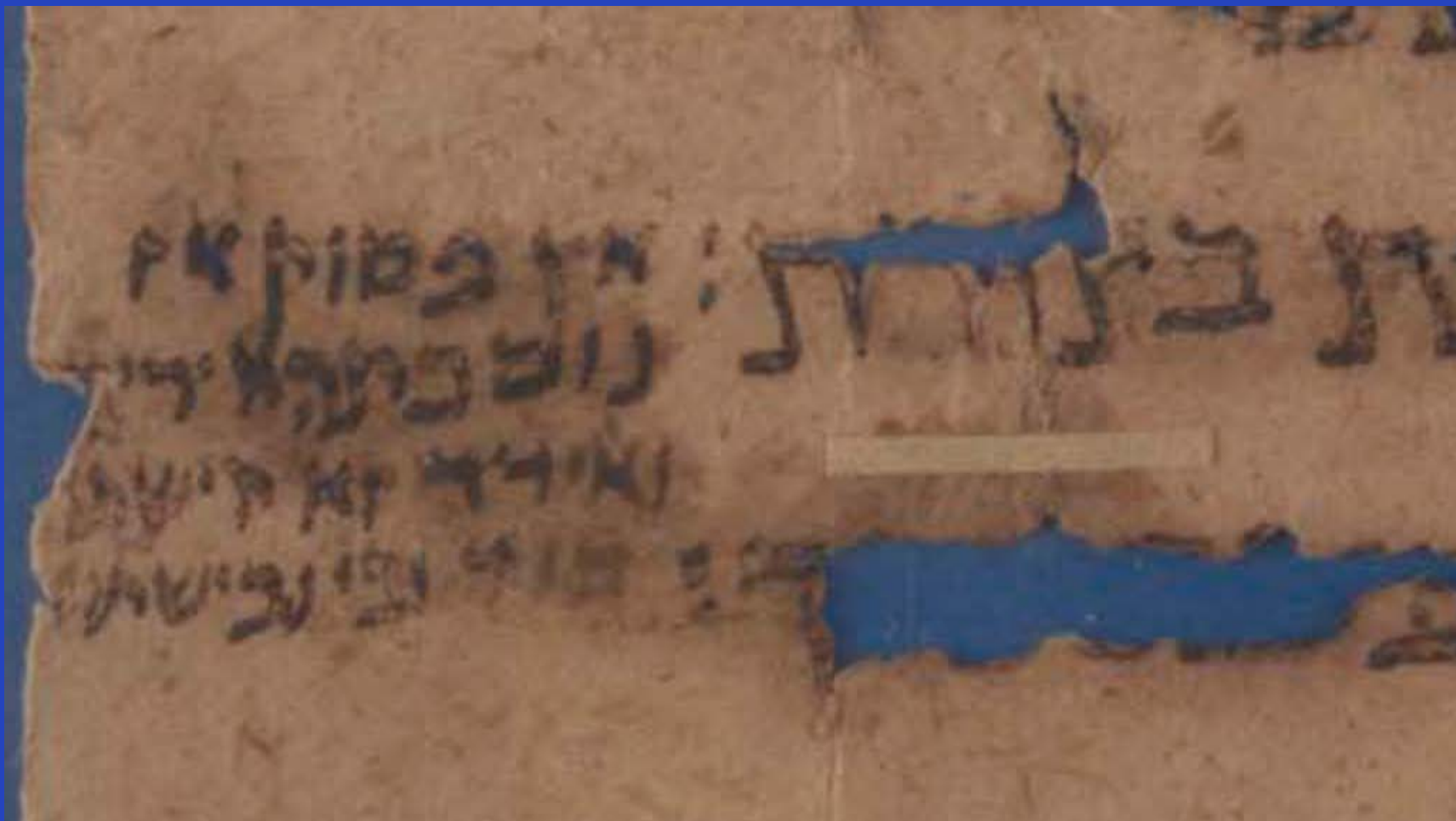


נוסכהא דיגר]פא] אבא אן פסוק איסט]..ם]אין ני

Ms B VI Recto
T-S 16.313



Ms B VI Recto, T-S 16.313, Persian Gloss, 35:26



וא הישתה בוד ובי נבישתה / אין פסוק אז נוסכתהא ידיגר ואידר זא

Ms B X Recto,
Oxford MS HEB
e 62 folio 1a



B X Recto

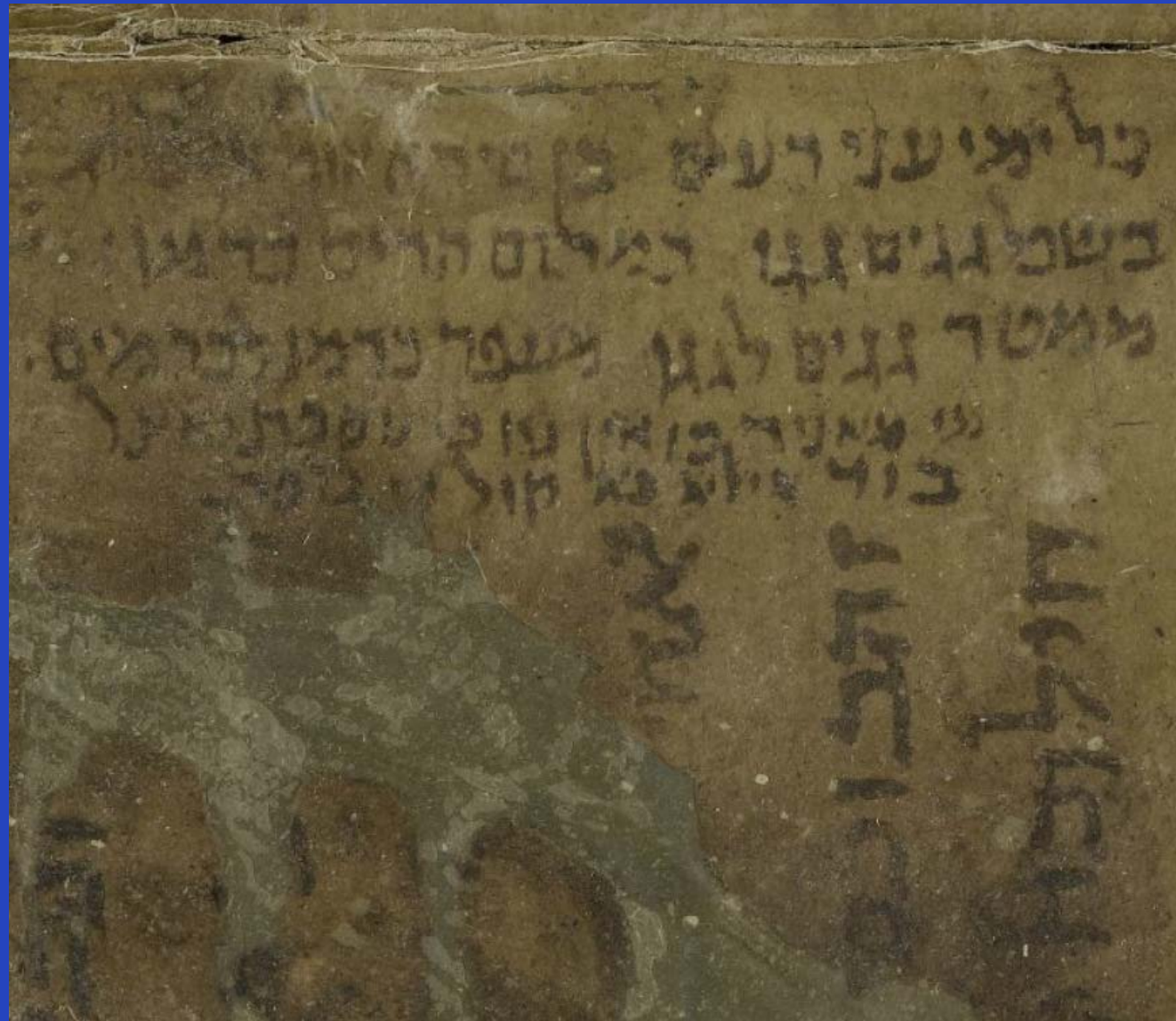
Oxford MS

HEB e 62 folio 1a

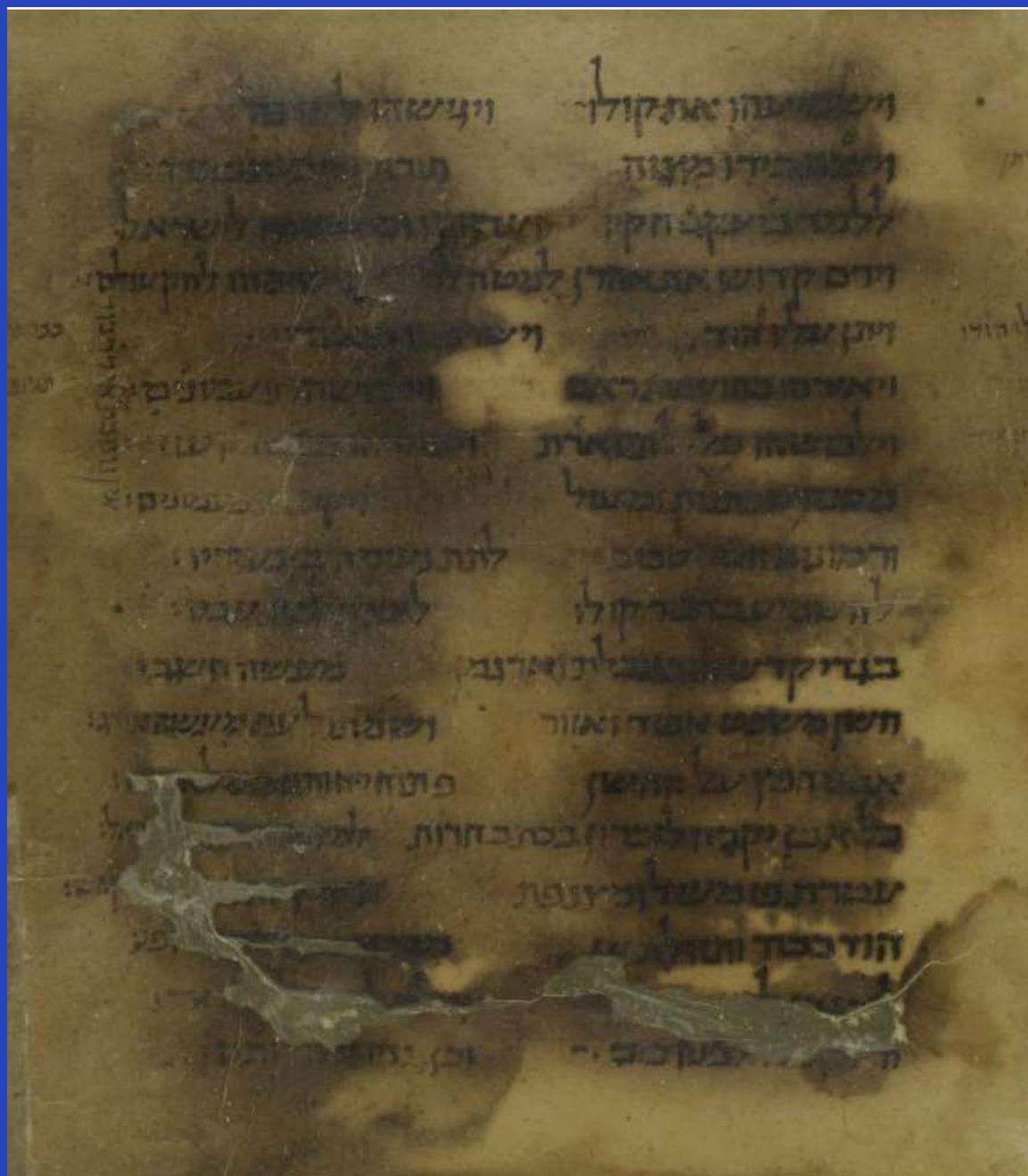
Persian Gloss,

40:22–26

מי מאניד כו אין נא
פא נוסכתי אצל בוד
קול פא/נא אילא
גופת[מי]

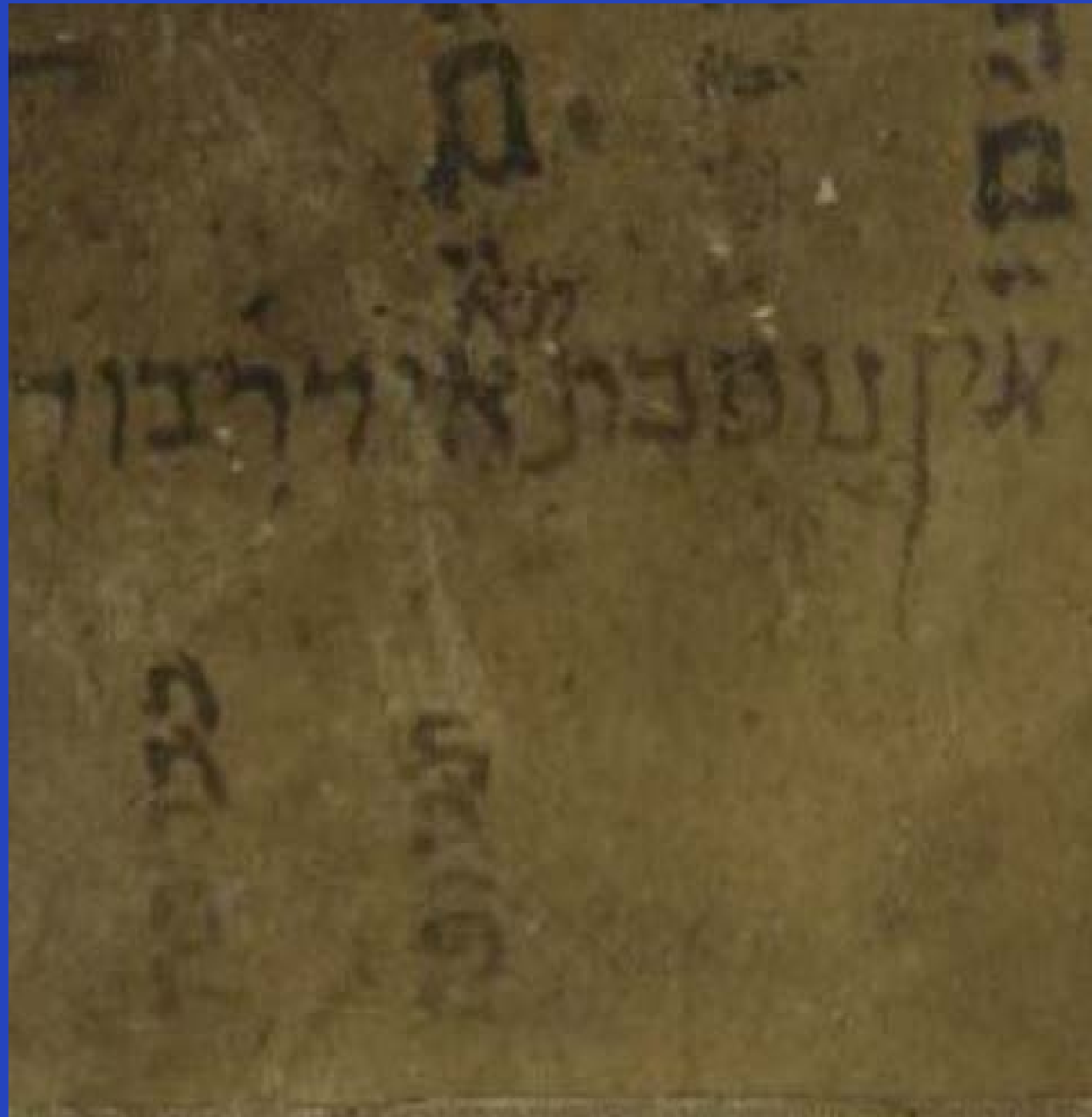


B XIV Verso,
Oxford MS
HEB e 62
folio 7b

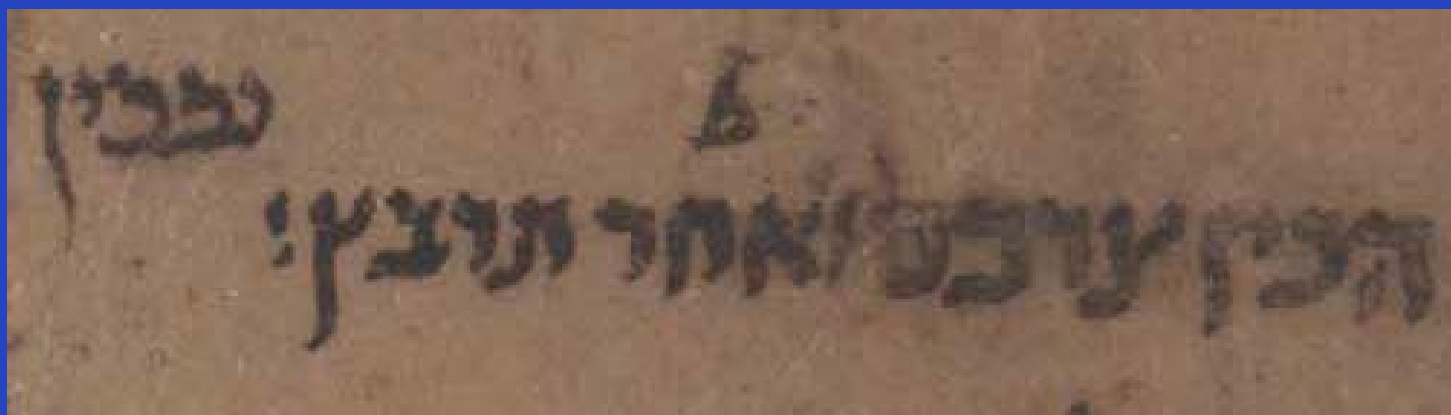


B XIV Verso,
Oxford MS HEB
e 62 folio 7b
Persian Gloss
45:8

אין נוסכת תא אידר
בוד

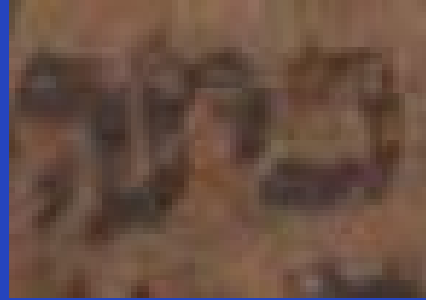
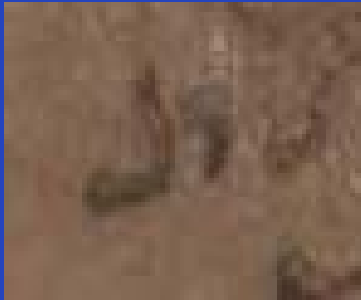


Ms B Gloss #1 and End of 32.1

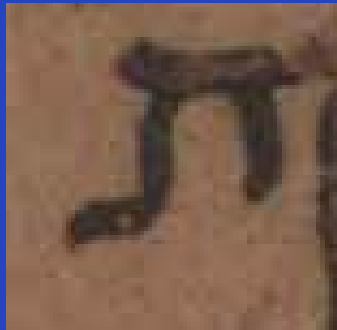


The Letter Tav

Persian
Glosses

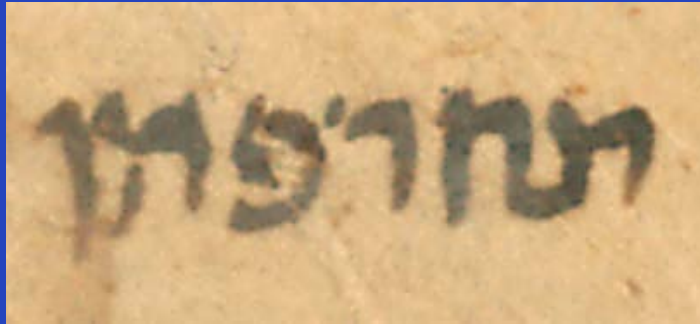


Main Hand

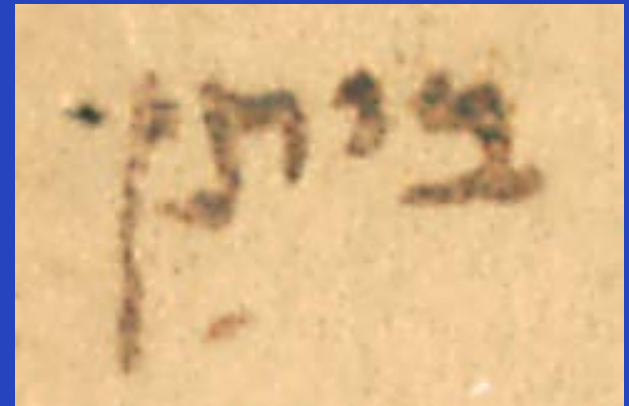
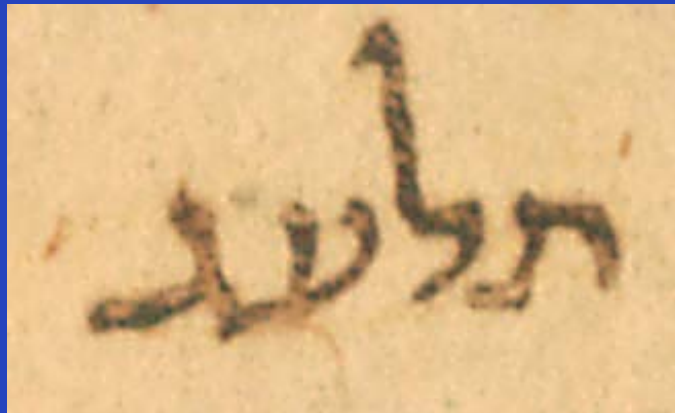


B IV Verso: Marginal Corrections

Glossator?

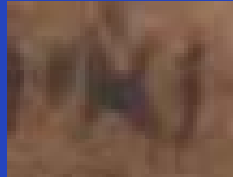
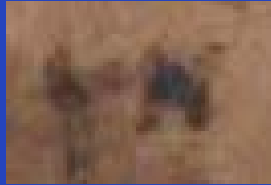


Main Hand?

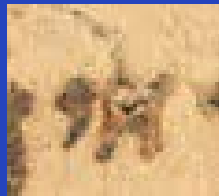


Alephs

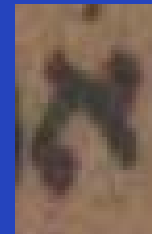
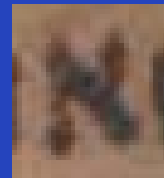
Glossator
(glosses)



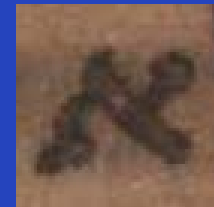
Glossator?
(marginalia)



Main Scribe?
(marginalia)



Main Text



32.4, MS B V Recto

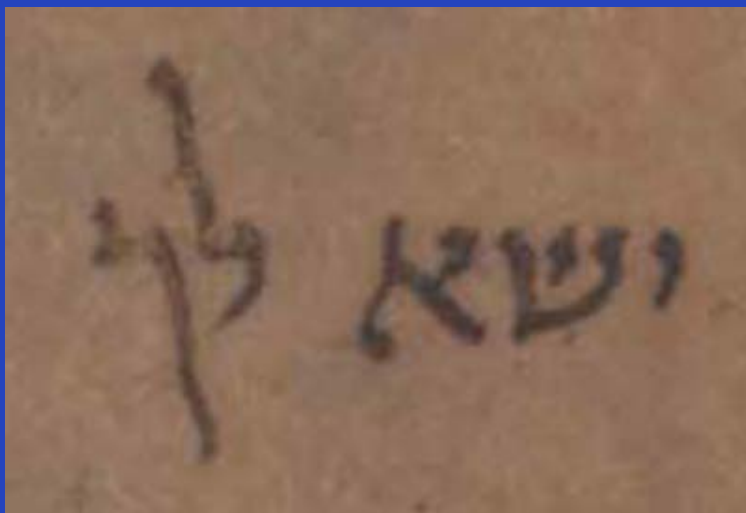


Sir 31.6–8,
B III Verso

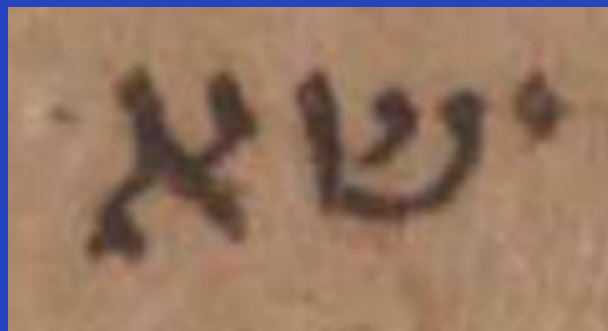
ולא מעט להנצל ביום עצה
כי הוא חסד שרנו
ולא מעט ביום הערה
כי הפלוא לעשות:

ולא מעט להנצל ביום עצה
כי הוא חסד שרנו
כי תקלה הוא לאויל
אשרי איש נמצא תמים
כי הוא זה ונאשרנו
כי הוא זה שנדבק בו
כי ברכות שלום חיו
כי ברכו וישלם חיו

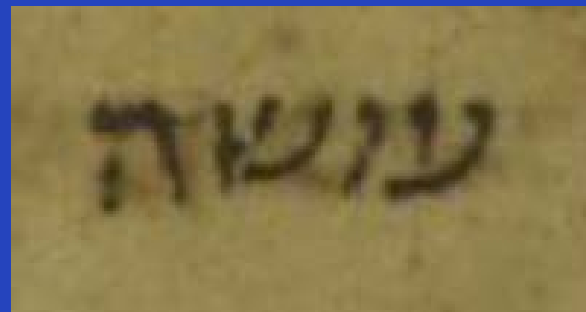
Corrections Resembling the Main Text



Sir 32.7 (B V Recto)

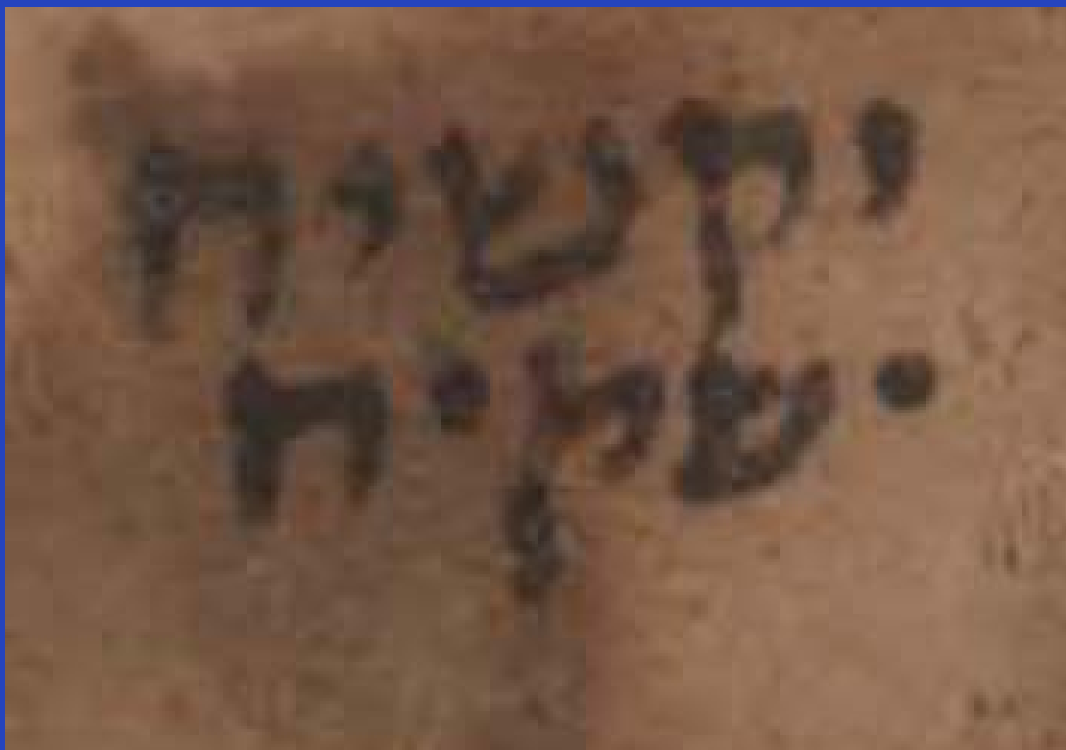


Sir 32.14 (B V Verso)



Sir 43.11 (B XII Verso)

Sir 30.12 (B III Recto)



46.10 B XVI Recto Correction?



47.8, 9 B XVI Verso
Final Corrections



THE PERSIAN GLOSSES AND
THE TEXT OF MANUSCRIPT B
REVISITED