A Linguistic Atlas of Early Middle English (LAEME)
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Key to the Grammels

The items in the LAEME corpus are referred to as 'tags'. A tag comprises two elements: (a) a lexical element (lexel), e.g. the modern English equivalent of the Middle English word being tagged, or (where this is lacking or ambiguous) a form of its etymon; (b) a grammatical element (grammel) indicating its function. Each tag is introduced by $ and elements (a) and (b) are separated by / — e.g. $heart/nOd = "heart" noun in direct object function. The lexels are often self-explanatory, but definitions and cross-references to MED and OED are given in the Tag Key. Some words have no need of a lexel because the grammel is sufficient to describe them fully, e.g. $/P13NM, where P stands for personal pronoun, 1 for singular, 3 for third person, N for nominative and M for masculine, i.e. "he". Using the following list readers may similarly decipher any combination that is not independently defined. Tags have three functions: (1) they identify lexemes; (2) they identify grammatical categories/functions; (3) they identify meanings. Some grammels contain one or more lexel as part of their contextual description, as in $/P13<prM+ward "to himward". Note that grammels that alone define lexemes (like $/P13NM above) are also given entries in the Tag Key, with definitions and cross-references to MED and OED.

NOTE: For more detailed descriptions and explanation of tags see Introduction Chapter 4. For special additions in parentheses to the grammels of verbal negators see Introduction Chapter 4, §4.4.5.

KEY

+	preceding or elided with (depending on context)
>	points forward to a syntactically connected word e.g. >pr q.v. or in negative construction to following multiple negators, e.g. neg-v>av>neithernor etc. (Lexical items included in such Grammels are listed in the Tag Key.)
<	indicates postposition of an expected preposed form and points backward to a syntactically connected word, e.g. in multiple negation.
>=	coordinating with <=
<=	coordinating with >= e.g. "neither...nor", "as...as", "both...and", "then...when", etc.
01	polite 1st plural, the royal "we".
02	polite 2nd plural, i.e. plural for singular
03	rare occasions when there is ambiguity about whether the subject is 3rd singular or plural
11	singular 1st person
12	singular 2nd person
13	singular 3rd person
21	plural 1st person
22	plural 2nd person
23	plural 3rd person
A	(1) indefinite article
	(2) animate (human), e.g. RTA = relative marker "who"
aa	rare occasions when a participle is used like a Latin ablative absolute

ad	after dental (e.g. DisN-ad demonstrative adj nom following final <t> or <d>)
aj	adjective (nominative = default)
apn	after pronoun
av	adverb or adverbial function
bpn	before pronoun
+C	preceding a consonant initial word (not <h>), e.g. P11GN+C = personal pronoun 1st person singular genitive (i.e. "my") as nominative adjective before a consonant initial word
cj	conjunction
cpv	comparative (e.g.aj-cpv)
D	dual
[D]	attached to a suffix label, indicates a preceding stem final [t, d]
D-cpv	demonstrative + comparative e.g. "the better"
Dat	demonstrative "that" (default = adjective)
Dat-pl	demonstrative "that" with plural verb
def	definite, e.g. pn-def = "the other"
Des	demonstrative "these" (default = adjective)
Dis	demonstrative "this" (default = adjective)
Dos	demonstrative "those" (default = adjective)
[F]	attached to a suffix label, indicates a preceding stem final [f]
F	(1) feminine reference (not grammatical gender)
	(2) following a verbal suffix label, French "-er" or "re" type
Fier	following a verbal suffix label, French "-ier" type
Fir	following a verbal suffix label, French "-ir" type
G	genitive
[H]	attached to a suffix label, indicates a preceding stem final [x]
+H	preceding a word initial <h>
I	inanimate (sometimes animate but non-human, i.e. "it" - not grammatical gender)
im	infinitive marker, "to" etc.
imp	imperative
indef	indefinite e.g. aj-indef = "another"
[J]	attached to a suffix label, indicates a preceding stem final [j]
[K]	attached to a suffix label, indicates a preceding stem final velar stop
k	compound (e.g. aj-k = compound adjective)
K2	attached to a verb suffix label, class II weak type "-ian"(though some verbs marked K2 may originally have belonged to class III weak type (see Campbell 1959: §763); the presence of "-i-" in the suffix is what is primarily being noted.
K2[1]	attached to a verb suffix label, indicates a historical class I verb in "-ian".
M	masculine reference (not grammatical gender)
	MX mental reflexive, e.g. "to bethink oneself". See also s.v. X
[N]	attached to a suffix label, indicates a preceding stem final nasal
N	nominative
NX	reflexive functioning as subject. See also s.v. X
n	noun (nominative = default)
neg-v	preverbal negative "ne", etc
neg-v>=	preverbal negator coordinating with postverbal negator "not" (tagged as not/av-neg<=)
	i.e. "ne..not"
neg-v>	preverbal negator followed by one or more negators other than "not", as specified

Od	direct object (accusative)
Oi	indirect object
[P]	attached to a suffix label, indicates a preceding stem final [p]
P	personal pronoun
+P	attached to a verb label indicates a post-clitic pronoun
pl	plural
pn	pronoun (other than personal)
pr	preposition or postposition
pr+T	preposition elided with following definite article e.g. ATTE = "at the"
<pr	in the scope of a preposition (whether or not the preposition historically governs old accusative or old dative case)
>pr	in the scope of a postposition
qc	quantifier cardinal
qo	quantifier ordinal
[R]	attached to a suffix label, indicates a preceding stem final liquid
[r]	attached to the grammel of a suffix of a word with stem final <r> where the suffix includes a superscript vowel (usually ^E, sometimes ^I, as abbreviations for <re> <ri>), indicates that the ^E or ^I of the suffix includes the notional <r> of the stem: e.g MAIST^ES "masters" — $/pln[r]_+^ES; yEOST+^IT "darkens" — $/vps23[r]K2_+^IT.
{rh}	occurs in rhyming position
RT	relative marker
RTA+is	relative marker animate elided with "is"
RTApl+in	relative marker animate plural elided with "in"
RTI+is	relative marker inanimate (non-human) elided with "is"
[S]	attached to a suffix label, indicates a preceding stem final [s, z]
S	after v (verb) indicates non-weak, i.e. strong or 'anomalous'
sup	superlative (e.g. aj-sup = superlative adjective)
T	definite article
t	title, e.g. $king/n-t in "king Henry"
[V]	attached to a suffix label, indicates a preceding stem final vowel
+V	preceding a vowel initial word
v	verb
vi	verb infinitive
vi-m	verb infinitive following infinite marker, "to" etc.
vn	verbal noun
voc	vocative (e.g. n-voc = noun used in vocative function)
vpp	verb non-strong past participle
vpp-aj	verb non-strong past participle functioning as adjective
vpp-pl	plural marked participle after auxiliary "be"
vps	verb present tense
vps13-ct	verb present tense 3rd singular, contracted form of any type
vpsp	verb present participle
vpsp-aj	verb present participle functioning as adjective
vpt	verb past tense
vsjps	verb present subjunctive
vsjpt	verb past subjunctive
vSpp	verb non-weak past participle (either the past participle of a strong verb or any other non-weak participle)

vSpp-aj   verb non-weak past participle functioning as adjective
vSpp-pl   plural marked non-weak participle after auxiliary "be"
[W]   attached to a suffix label, indicates a preceding stem final [w]
X   reflexive, either object with a coreferent subject e.g. "thou lettest thyself alone"
     ($/P12OdX), or appositional, e.g. "I myself" ($/P11X), cf. also MX and NX
xp   prefix
xs   suffix