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Neglected sources on Cartesianism: the academic *dictata* of Johannes de Raey

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ABSTRACT

In this article, I provide a historical and bibliographical exploration of the handwritten, dictated commentaries (*dictata*) of Johannes de Raey (1620/1622–1702) on the texts of René Descartes (1596–1650), shedding light on their structure, development, and on their relations with the academic commentaries of Johannes Clauberg (1622–1665) and Christoph Wittich (1625–1687). The study of these commentaries, which are extant as class notes, is important because they conveyed one of the first systematic teachings of Descartes's ideas and constituted a vehicle for their further dissemination across northern Europe.

KEYWORDS

Academic commentaries; *dictata*; René Descartes; Johannes de Raey; Johannes Clauberg; Christoph Wittich

1. Introduction

The study of the academic dissemination of the ideas of René Descartes (1596–1650) is essential for the comprehension of the “philosophical revolution” he prompted in the seventeenth century. This dissemination took place mostly in the Dutch Republic, where Cartesianism became a philosophy of the university in the 1630s–1640s, thanks to the teaching of Henricus Regius (1598–1679) at Utrecht (from 1638) and of Adriaan Heereboord (1613–1661) at Leiden University (from c. 1644). However, Regius and Heereboord became acquainted with Descartes's ideas only after having completed their higher education. Moreover, Regius soon clashed with Descartes himself (1645), while Heereboord assumed a remarkably syncretic approach, teaching Descartes's ideas along with Scholastic ones.¹ It was only through a student of both, namely Johannes de Raey (1620/1622–1702), that Descartes's ideas were systematically taught at Leiden from 1647. From that time, Leiden became the centre of Cartesian dissemination in the Netherlands and throughout northern Europe, thanks to its position as an educational centre which attracted students from all the Reformed countries.² Studying De Raey's teaching, therefore, is essential for comprehension of the transmission of Descartes's ideas, particularly for the peculiarities of their academic contexts of dissemination.³

A substantial part of this teaching was conveyed by De Raey and other Cartesians (such as Johannes Clauberg, 1622–1665, and Christoph Wittich, 1625–1687) by writing and dictating – or allowing copies to be made of – commentaries on Descartes's texts, which are

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extant mostly in handwritten form. Such commentaries, usually titled “dictata”, are today under increasing scrutiny by historians.⁴ More attention is being paid to the overall practice of note-taking in the early modern period (by scholars, students, erudites, and travelers), thanks in particular to the studies of Ann Blair and Richard Yeo.⁵ Theo Verbeek has published an overview of the Cartesian *dictata* extant in Dutch libraries and a comparative study of two commentaries by Clauberg on Descartes’s *Principia philosophiae* (1644), while Domenico Collacciani has more recently brought to light two previously unknown commentaries by De Raey, and Davide Cellamare has provided the first study of the Cartesian commentaries of Wittich.⁶ The latter study was made possible by the project *The Secretive Diffusion of the New Philosophy in the Southern Low Countries: Evidence on the Teaching of Cartesian Philosophy from Student Notebooks 1650–1750*. This project is related in turn to the *Magister Dixit* project, which has the goal of “digitizing and disclosing all extant handwritten lecture notes of the ancient University of Louvain (1425–1797)” and shedding light on the practice of early modern academic note-taking.⁷ Building on their evidence, in what follows I provide (Section 2) an overview of De Raey’s activities and of the methods of teaching philosophy at Leiden, where he dictated the greater part of his extant commentaries; (Section 3) a presentation of the *dictata* by De Raey; (Section 4) an analysis of their textual organization, as well as of (Section 5) their contents and dating. Finally, (Section 6) I discuss the relations between De Raey’s *dictata* and those of Clauberg and Wittich.

2. De Raey and the teaching of philosophy at Leiden

De Raey was first a student of Regius at Utrecht in 1641–1643 (acting as *respondens* in his disputations on *Physiologia*), and later of Heereboord at Leiden, where he enrolled in 1643 and graduated in arts and medicine in July 1647, becoming in the same year a private *lector philosophiae*.⁸ While still a private teacher, De Raey became so famous in Cartesian circles that, upon the suggestion of Tobias Andreae (1604–1676), Clauberg came to Leiden in 1648 in order to perfect his knowledge of Descartes’s ideas under him.⁹ Moreover, De Raey was praised by Descartes himself (as reported by Clauberg) as being an excellent teacher of his philosophy, and he was present, in March 1650, at the opening of the trunk of papers left by the Frenchman at Leiden.¹⁰ A year later he was authorized by the university curators to give public lectures and preside over disputations on the pseudo-Aristotelian *Problemata*; in fact, this was a way to allow him to teach Descartes’s physics by offering a Cartesian interpretation of Aristotelian ideas. This interpretation was substantiated in his *Clavis philosophiae naturalis Aristotelico-Cartesiana* (1654), which collected the texts of his *Disputationes ad Problemata Aristotelis* (1651–1652). In 1653 he became an extra-ordinary professor of philosophy (being allowed to teach physics only), while in 1661 he was appointed as an ordinary professor, being allowed also to teach medicine publicly and to preside over medical disputations in the meantime (November 1658–October 1662).¹¹ According to the *series lectionum* of Leiden University, De Raey publicly taught *Physica* from the summer and winter semesters of 1654, and *Institutiones medicinae* from the winter semester of 1658;¹² he also taught metaphysics and logic, at least in his private lectures.¹³ From 1654 at least, he also started to dictate commentaries on Descartes’s works.¹⁴ Eventually, in November 1668, he left Leiden for the Amsterdam Athenaeum Illustre, where he taught logic,

metaphysics, and physics, continued to dictate upon Descartes's texts, and authored his *Cogitata de interpretatione* (1692).¹⁵

When De Raey began his private lectures in 1647, the teaching of philosophy at Leiden had long since abandoned the genre of textual commentaries on Aristotle, and it was taught by textbooks. After the Synod of Dordt (1618–1619), the States of Holland had called for a reform of studies, and Franco Burgersdijk (1590–1635) was asked to provide a textbook making accessible to students the *Systema logicae* (1600) of Bartholomaeus Keckermann (1572–1608). This task was accomplished by Burgersdijk writing his *Institutiones logicae* (1626), later abridged in a *Synopsis* (1632); both of which had several editions during the seventeenth century. Notably, in the preface to his *Institutiones logicae*, Burgersdijk distanced himself from his predecessors, who, even if providing compendia of Aristotle's *Organon*, were still attempting to stick to and interpret his texts. In 1641, Heereboord refused to comply with the order of the university curators to teach philosophy by commenting on Aristotle.¹⁶ As for metaphysics, teaching was conducted with the *Primae philosophiae institutiones* (1616) of Gilbertus Jacchaeus (c. 1578–1628), and later with the *Institutiones metaphysicae* (1640) of Burgersdijk. In physics, Jacchaeus's *Institutiones physicae* (1614) had comparable success, as did Burgersdijk's *Idea philosophiae naturalis* (1622). This notwithstanding, the genre of commentaries had not completely vanished. First, the profusion of abridgements led to the appearance of annotated editions, such as Heereboord's *Ερηνηεια logica, seu Explicatio Synopseos Logicae Burgersdicianae* (1650) and his annotated edition (1658) of the *Metaphysica* (1645) of Johannes Maccovius (1588–1644); both provided with an explanatory apparatus per lemmas (as in [image 1](#), from Heereboord, *Ερηνηεια logica*, 2). Second, it was common in the 1630s and 1640s to lecture on pseudo-Aristotle's *Problemata*: as seen above, De Raey lectured on the *Problemata* in order to teach Descartes's physics at Leiden from 1651. A decade earlier (1640), Regius had done the same at Utrecht, being allowed to teach (Cartesian) physics without interfering with the official courses in this discipline.¹⁷

Quid est Logica?

Logica est *Ars* conciciens instrumenta, iisque dirigens intellectum in cognitione rerum.

<p><i>Ars</i>] non Systematica sed habitualis, quae Aristoteli definitur habitus effectivus (i. e.) aliquid efficiendi recta ratione, i. e. secundum praescriptum, normam, & regulas recte rationis. Vocatur <i>habitualis</i>, quia, ab intellectu hominis habetur, & eum reddit habitum ad operandum seu intelligendum; <i>Systematica</i>, quae systemate, i. e. complexu ac congerie praecceptorum in codice continetur: itaque Logica in cerebro est habitualis ars; Logica in libro est syste-</p>	<p>marica ars. Genus significat naturam communem rei definitae cum rebus aliis: Differentia naturam rei, definitae propriam. <i>E. G. Animal</i> est genus, quia significat naturam homini tanquam rei definitae cum rebus aliis scilicet brutis communem. <i>Rationale</i>, differentia est, quia significat naturam soli homini propriam. Sic in definitione Logicae, <i>ars</i> genus est, quia significat naturam Logicae cum Grammatica, Rhetorica, Medicina, aliisque artibus com-</p>
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Image 1. A photograph of Heereboord, *Ερηνηεια logica*, 2. Source: Allard Pierson – The Collections of the University of Amsterdam, OTM: O 61-1573. No copyright.

Even if pseudo-Aristotle's *Problemata* was used both by Regius and De Raey only as the starting point for a discussion of Cartesian ideas, such lecturing testifies to the survival of the idea of teaching philosophy by commenting on a text. This, indeed, was to happen upon the appearance of Descartes's works, which enjoyed several editions in the Netherlands from 1637 onwards.¹⁸

3. The academic *dictata* of De Raey

At present, five handwritten commentaries by De Raey on Descartes's texts are known.¹⁹ Four of these are on Descartes's *Discours de la méthode* (1637) and *Principia philosophiae*, and one is on Descartes's *Meditationes de prima philosophia* (1641). No identity of the copyists of De Raey's *dictata* can be ascertained, although probably they were all students, as his *dictata* had clear didactic aims and undoubtedly consisted of class notes, as indicated by some of their titles (to which I will return). Also, De Raey's *dictata* do not contain indications of whether they were aimed at public or private lectures; however, given the advanced contents of the *dictata* and the fact that public lectures were often overcrowded and attracted not only students but also other visitors, we may assume that all De Raey's *dictata* served for private lectures, which constituted a substantial component of university teaching and a major source of income for professors.²⁰ Moreover, De Raey's commentaries on Descartes's *Discours* and *Principia* were prepared, dictated, and copied together, given the fact that every commentary on Descartes's *Discours* is extant together with a commentary on Descartes's *Principia* in the same manuscript, and vice-versa. Moreover, De Raey used to dictate on Descartes's *Meditationes* to the same students.²¹ De Raey's Cartesian *dictata* (the details and specific contents of which I discuss below) are as follows:

- (1) *Dictata in Meditationes nobilissimi Domini des Cartes, a clarissimo Domino De Raij instar collegii*. Including: *Annotata ad Epistolam ad Theologos Sorbonicos* [...]. *Ad Praefationem* [...]. *Annotata ad Meditationes*. Copenhagen, The Royal Danish Library, ms. Thott 578b 4^o, exact format not retrieved, pages 1–212. C. 1657–1658, acquired from the private library of Otto Thott (1703–1785).²² Henceforth “CPH 1657–1658”.
- (2) *Annotata ad Principia philosophica Renati Des-Cartes, excepta in collegio, habito sub Johanne de Raei, inchoato die 1 Maii 1658, finito die 20 Decembris*. Including: *Ad Dissertationem de methodo* [...]. *Annotata ad Principia*. Copenhagen, The Royal Danish Library, ms. Don. var. nr. 145 4^{to}, exact format not retrieved, pages 1–571. 1658, left to the library by Else Magdalene Bartholin (1680–1763).²³ Henceforth “CPH 1658”.
- (3) *Dictata clarissimi atque acutissimi Domini Johannis de Raei illustris Leidensium Academiae Professoris dignissimi in Dissertationem de methodo Renati des Cartes* [...]. *Dictata* [...] in *Principia philosophiae*. Hamburg, Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Carl von Ossietzky, Cod. phil. 323 W. 28, 210 × 160 mm, pages 1–231. C. 1659–1661, included in the *Nachlass* of Joachim Jungius (1587–1657).²⁴ Henceforth “HH 1659–1661”.
- (4) *Analysis sive argumenta eorum quae continentur in Dissertatione de methodo recte utendi ratione, et veritatem in scientiis investigandi, Auctore Domino Johanne de*

Raey philosophiae in Academia Lugduno Batava Professore celeberrimo. [...] Analysis Principiorum philosophiae. [...] In Dissertationem de methodo, et c. sectio prima [-tertia]. [...] Principiorum philosophiae pars prima[-quarta]. Leiden, University Library, ms. BPL 907, exact format not retrieved, ff. I–VII, 1–102. C. 1664–1668, acquired from the private library of Petrus van Musschenbroek (1764–1823).²⁵ Henceforth “LID 1664–1668”.

- (5) *De methodo. [...] Principiorum philosophiae pars prima[-quarta].* Amsterdam, University Library, ms. X B 7, exact format not retrieved, pages 9, 171. C. 1669–1702, unknown provenance. Henceforth “AMS 1669–1702”.

Moreover, several other, now lost, *dictata* and annotations by De Raey on Descartes’s works, not limited to his *Discours*, *Principia*, and *Meditationes*, are listed in the sales catalogues of private libraries, such as those of Simon Emtinck (Lord of Noordwijkerhout, 1674–1752), Emo Lucius Vriemoet (professor at Franeker, 1699–1760), and especially that of the library of the Amsterdam lecturer Johannes Theodorus Schallbruch (1655–1723), which lists an impressive number of Cartesian materials including, besides manuscripts of *dictata*, no less than 13 copies of different editions of Descartes’s works personally annotated by De Raey, Clauberg, and Wittich, or provided with annotations dictated by them.²⁶ The collection of these items was most probably not just the result of Schallbruch’s activities as a copyist at Leiden, where he enrolled in 1678 and studied under Wittich, before moving to the Dordrecht Academy in the early 1680s, where he studied under Salomon van Til (1643–1713, professor of theology since 1683, who was to publish some of Wittich’s *dictata* in 1688, as I discuss in Section 6.3);²⁷ indeed, he also acquired from Clauberg’s son (Johannes Christophorus, 1655–1691) materials belonging to his father, which he reports having used for his edition of Clauberg’s *Opera omnia* (1691).²⁸ Moreover, relevant materials might have come from De Raey himself, given the fact that Schallbruch was his colleague at Amsterdam from 1697, and that De Raey and his wife were witnesses at the baptism of Schallbruch’s son in 1701.²⁹

Such materials show that (1) the *dictata* catalogued in libraries today constitute only a fraction of the Cartesian commentaries circulating in the second half of the seventeenth century; moreover, (2) that professors certainly developed their commentaries from personal, marginal annotations. Also, (3) commentaries of different professors came to be transcribed in parallel, as in the case of Schallbruch’s copying from autographs of De Raey, Clauberg, and Wittich on an exemplar of Descartes’s *Meditationes*.³⁰ In doing this, Schallbruch proved to be more a collector and an erudite than a student, and he might have done this after his studies at Leiden. In any case, the presence of parallel or double commentaries can be traced in other *dictata* discussed in the present article, as I show in the following sections.

4. Textual organization

As far as the textual organization of De Raey’s *dictata* is concerned, we can identify some important features.

- (1) Generally speaking, De Raey’s *dictata* include three main types of commentary:

- (A) A short commentary not concerning or starting with a specific lemma, but considering the overall contents of, or the occasion of writing, a certain text, or a main theme dealt with in it. Such a commentary is usually placed at the beginning of certain sections (as in [image 2](#), CPH 1658, 227).
- (B) A short commentary on the contents of several articles or paragraphs, labelled as “analysis textus” or “analysis sive argumenta” (as in the case of LID 1664–1668, beginning with and named after this type of commentary), and placed at the beginning or within the main commentary (which I discuss next). Such analytical sections of the *dictata* divide and epitomize arguments developed by Descartes across different articles or paragraphs, through references to lemmas and/or to article numbers (as in [image 3](#), LID 1664–1668, 21v).
- (C) A more extended commentary of lemmas of Descartes’s text, which constitutes the greater part of all the *dictata*, and which also covers, in most cases, those parts already subjected to the *analysis textus* (as in [image 3](#)).

These types of commentaries were not new. If we look, for instance, at the commentary on Aristotle’s *Physica* by Thomas Aquinas, we find, in each of the *lectiones* into which the commentary is divided, (1) an introduction to the commented text, or a sentence connecting the commentary to the previous *lectio*; (2) a *divisio textus*, namely a progressive sub-division of the contents of the book under consideration, often with the use of lemmas from the original text; (3) the *explanatio textus*, namely the main part of the commentary itself, centred around lemmas; (4) the *quaestiones*, addressing specific

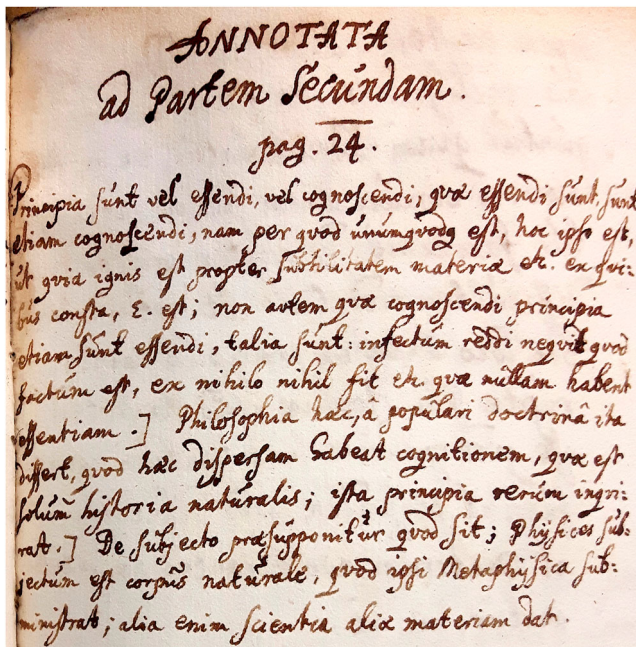


Image 2. A photograph of CPH 1658, 227. Source: Copenhagen, The Royal Danish Library, ms. Don. var. nr. 145 4^{to}. No copyright.

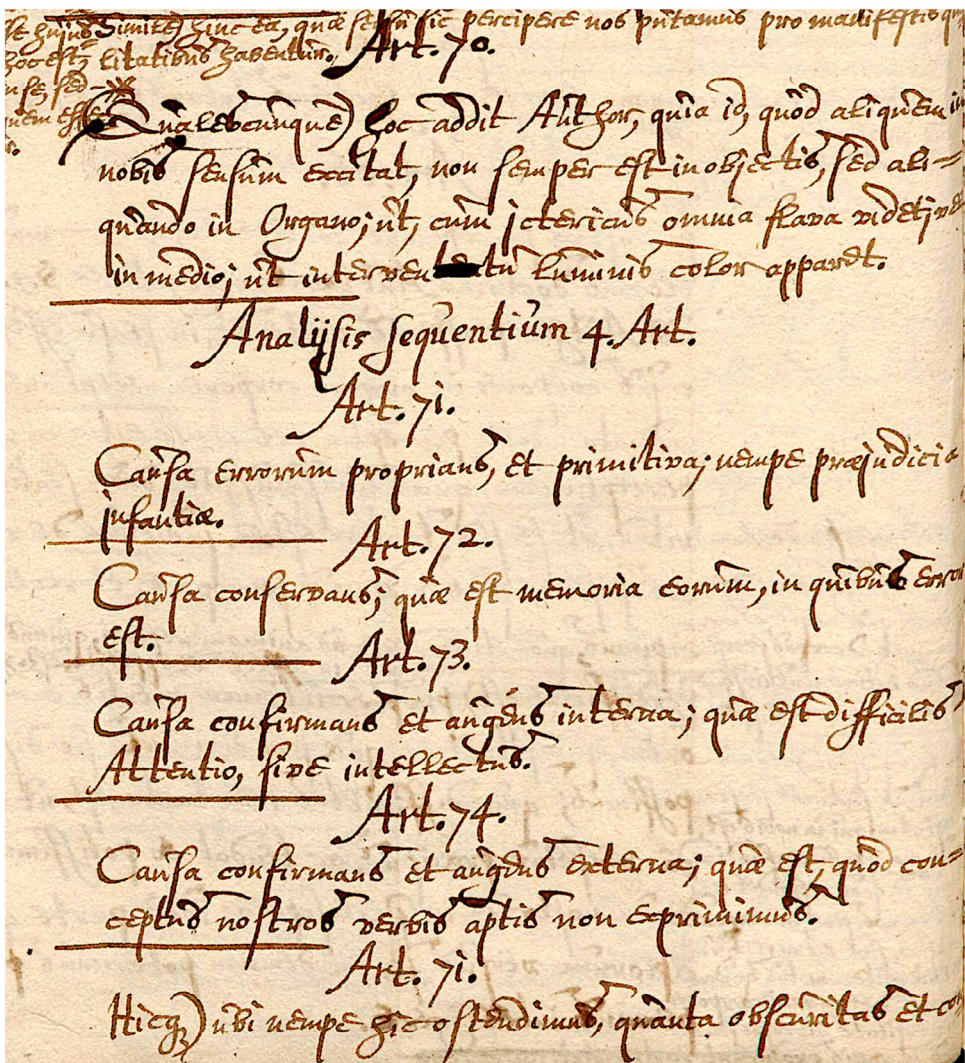


Image 3. A photograph of LID 1664–1668, 21v. Source: Leiden, University Library, ms. BPL 907. Creative Commons CC BY License.

problems in Aristotle's texts.³¹ While the introductory parts (1) constitute a very minor section of De Raey's commentaries (it is quite rare to find them), and the textual commentary (3) is akin to those provided by Heereboord (who lists a series of lemmas, each provided with a commentary of the corresponding text, as in [image 1](#)), the other parts of the commentaries deserve a separate consideration.

The medieval *divisio* (2), as John Boyle puts it,

has at least three essential characteristics. First, the interpreter articulates a theme that provides a conceptual unity to the text and the commentary as a whole. Second, the division penetrates at least to the level of verse; it does not simply articulate large blocks of the

text. And third, because the division begins with the whole and then continues through progressive subdivisions, every verse stands in an articulated relation not only with the whole but ultimately with every other part, division, and verse of the text.³²

In early modern times, however, such a *divisio textus* tends to disappear from Scholastic commentaries.³³ At the same time, the order of presenting conceptual contents by divisions became central to the logic of Petrus Ramus (1515–1572), upon which De Raey himself dictated and which informed a large number of logical and philosophical textbooks, including Burgersdijk's, particularly in the northern European areas.³⁴ This method was adopted by De Raey's first teacher, Regius, and Ramist logic was considered by De Raey as a benchmark for any other traditional logical theory, being praised by him as the best among pre-Cartesian or "vulgar" logical theories, not aimed at philosophy but only at guiding reasoning in practical disciplines.³⁵ Such a judgment, however, did not concern the method of presenting by divisions, but the very logical categories set by Ramus, not matching the Cartesian worldview. In fact, although De Raey's *analysis textus* does not proceed by progressive sub-divisions of contents but provides summaries of certain arguments or divisions of large parts of texts, De Raey also adopted a Ramist tool of exposition, namely a *tabella analytica* (as in [image 4](#), CPH 1658, 179), used in commenting upon *Principia* I.48. Thus far, if not a direct influence of medieval commentaries, a Ramist way of analysis should nonetheless be ascertained as at work in De Raey's *dictata*.

As far as the *quaestiones* (4) are concerned, these constituted an important part of early modern Scholastic commentaries, as well as of the Louvain *dictata*. As detailed by Steven Coesemans, such *dictata* were usually composed of: definitions; expositions of theories (as such *dictata* did not consist of textual commentaries); and *quaestiones*, in which certain issues were discussed in detail. Moreover, Coesemans points out a differentiation between *dictata* – consisting of the above-mentioned structure – and *annotata*, in which "the presentation is through the form of short questions and answers, rather than lengthy exposition".³⁶ This type of exposition cannot be found in De Raey's (or other Cartesians') commentaries, in which "dictata" and "annotata" are used as interchangeable titles. In any case, short *quaestiones* and *responsiones* can be found from time to time in De Raey's commentaries.³⁷

(2) Moreover, all De Raey's *dictata* on Descartes are composed of a base text (henceforth "B-T"), and additions to the B-T; in certain cases, these are clearly distinguishable from the B-T as they are placed in a second column of text, are interlinear, or just fill any available space surrounding the B-T (as in [image 5](#), LID 1664–1668, 5r). The additions usually consist of: integrations, i.e. continuations of the commentary embodied by the B-T; new commented lemmas; another commentary of a lemma already commented on in the B-T (constituting therefore a parallel or double commentary); references to other texts and/or quotations; and meta-commentaries.

(3) Finally, De Raey's *dictata* share the same commentaries to certain lemmas with each other, and also share some of their contents with Clauberg's and Wittich's *dictata* (as I discuss in Section 6). Accordingly, we can consider them as revealing the evolution of De Raey's teaching in different years, as he re-used, changed, expanded, or reduced the contents of his *dictata*, sharing them with other Cartesians and vice-versa. Each manuscript, in fact, has peculiar features, which I discuss next.

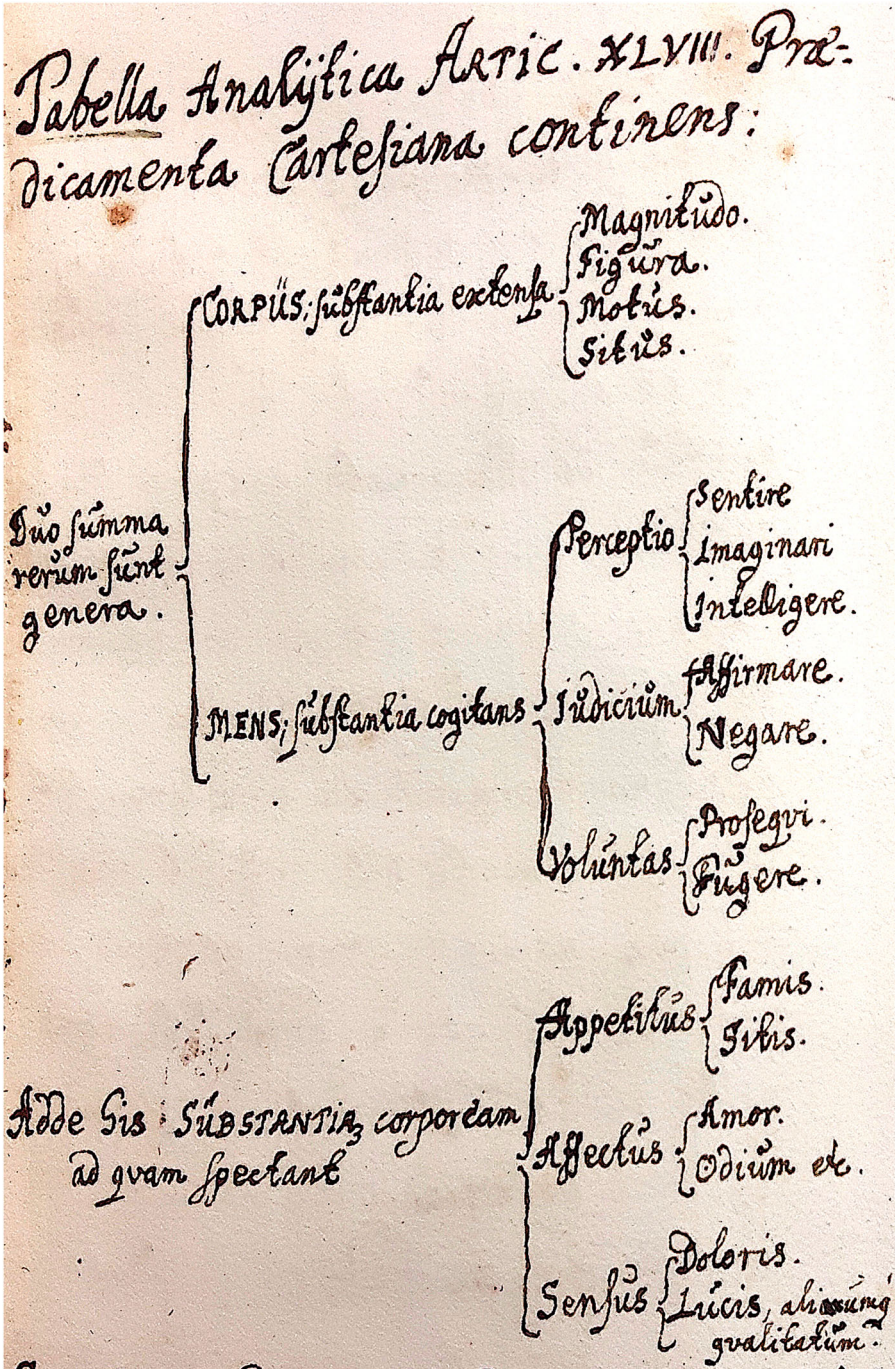


Image 4. CPH 1658, 179.

- (1) a commentary on Descartes's *Epistola dedicatoria* [...] *Facultatis Theologiae Parisiensis Decano et Doctoribus* (pages 3–6);
- (2) a commentary on the *Praefatio ad lectorem* (pages 7–8);
- (3) a commentary on the six *Meditationes*, including their synopses, and on a few lemmas of Descartes's *Responiones* and of his *Notae in Programma quoddam* (1648) (pages 9–212).³⁸

The *terminus post quem* (henceforth “TPQ”) of these *dictata* is 1657; De Raey refers to a letter of Descartes to Elisabeth of Bohemia (1618–1680) of 4 August 1645, published for the first time by Claude Clerselier (1614–1684) in the first volume of his edition of Descartes's correspondence, printed in January 1657.³⁹ A *terminus ante quem* (TAQ) cannot be clearly established; in any case, in *dictata* CPH 1658 there is a reference – in an addition to the B-T – to an annotation to page 5 of the *Meditationes*. The commentaries provided in CPH 1657–1658 and CPH 1658 parallel each other; therefore, in 1658, De Raey had already prepared parts of the text extant in CPH 1657–1658, although of course he could also have used it for lectures after 1658.⁴⁰

The pages of the manuscript are split in two columns, and very few additions are provided in the second column (as in [image 6](#), CPH 1657–1658, 121), i.e. the greater part of the text seems to be a B-T. The source of the additions could not be ascertained. Moreover, as in some instances the copyist left spaces in between the commentaries to the lemmas (as in [image 7](#), CPH 1657–1658, 159) and some parts of the text are in a smaller size (as in [image 8](#), CPH 1657–1658, 41), probably certain additions to the B-T are present in the first column too. However, the often-varying size of the script does not allow us to assess this with certainty. Notably, these *dictata* present some marginal indications of pages in green ink (as in [image 9](#), CPH 1657–1658, 38), but it is unclear if they were inserted by the same hand as in *dictata* CPH 1658 (extant in the same library), in which one can also find some underlining and marks in green; as the manuscripts come from different private collections, this is probably not the case.

5.2. Descartes's *Discours and Principia, Copenhagen, 1658*

Dictata CPH 1658, apparently written in all parts by the same hand, consist of:

- (1) a commentary on sections 1–5 of Descartes's *Discours* (pages 3–97);
- (2) a commentary on Descartes's *Principia* (pages 98–571).

This is the only manuscript which is dated; according to the title, the lectures in which the text was dictated took place from May to December 1658 (not exactly matching the summer and winter semesters of that year, so we can suppose he was also dictating upon other texts).⁴¹ The preparation of the commentary by De Raey might have taken place from 1656; indeed, he refers to the edition of Descartes's *Specimina philosophiae* and *Principia* published in 1656 (Amsterdam, Louis and Daniel Elzevir), part of Descartes's *Opera*.⁴²

The *dictata* are composed of a B-T recognizable by the bigger size of the handwriting, while the additions are in a smaller size, and occupy both the second column of text as well as the column of the B-T (as in [image 10](#), CPH 1658, 23). In the most obvious cases, a

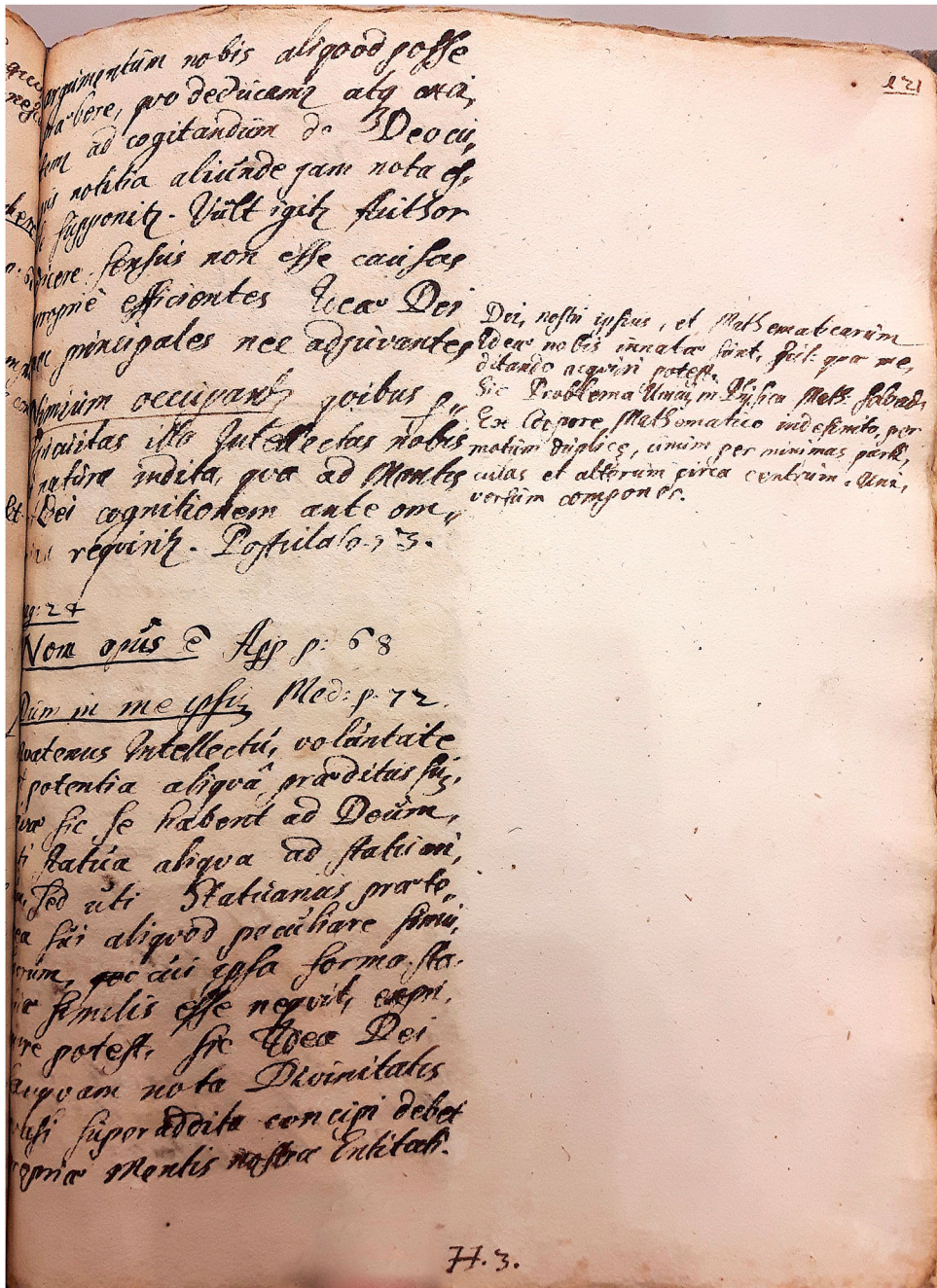


Image 6. A photograph of CPH 1657–1658, 121. Source: Copenhagen, The Royal Danish Library, ms. Thott 578b 4°. No copyright.

part of the text is in a bigger size, and (up to page 247) the lemmas have been underlined in green, and the commentary in a bigger size of the script has been marked with double green quotation marks on the margins (as in [image 10](#)). We can consider such parts as

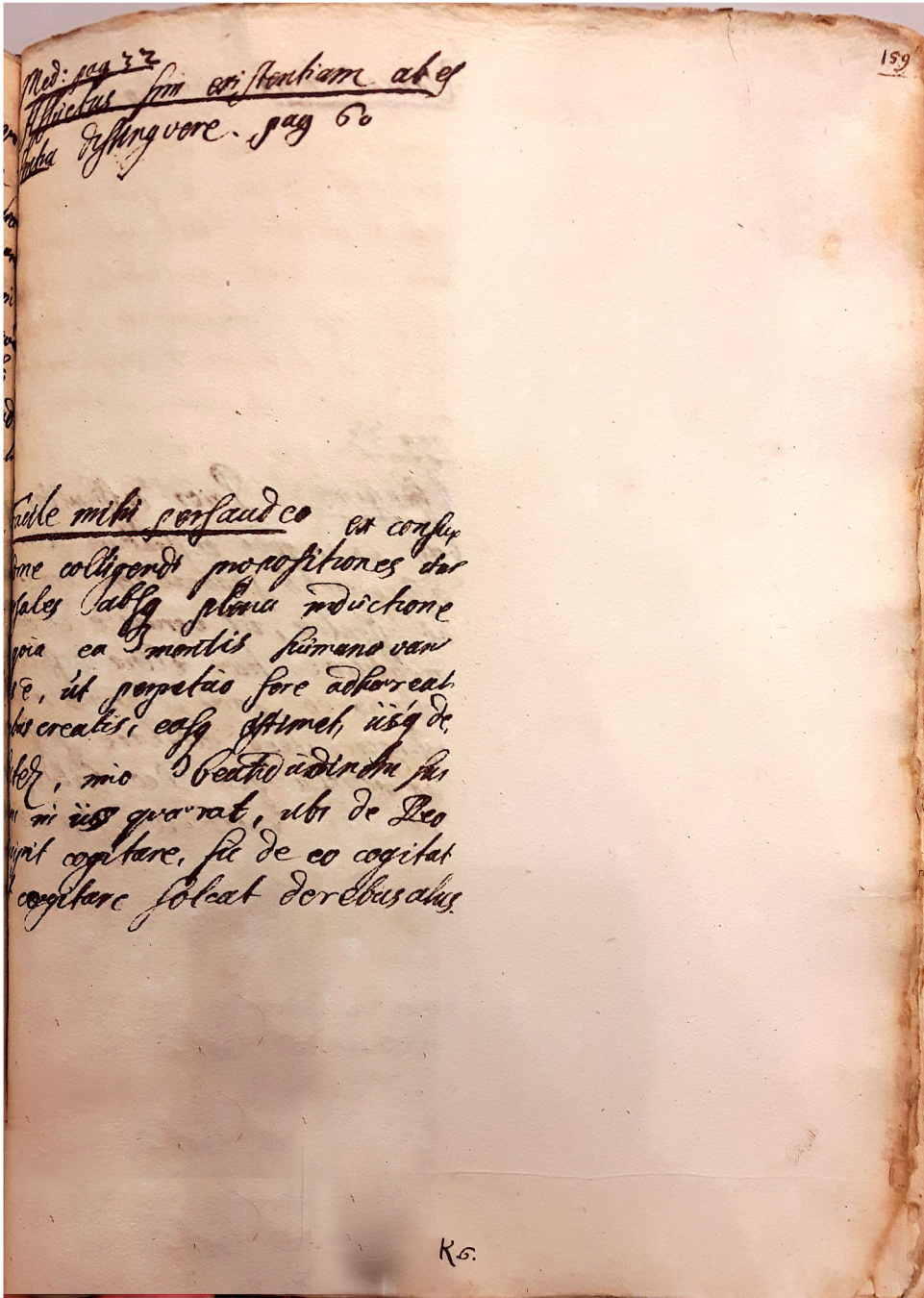


Image 7. CPH 1657–1658, 159.

belonging to the B-T and highlighted in this way by the copyist after he wrote the B-T, while the continuation of these commentaries, in a smaller size and often inserted as new paragraphs, can be considered as additions. Even when the green underlining (used to

fluctuat animus noster, anxie de
 suspitione et iniquitate aliquo cui agitur
 elicitur Met. 1.

In meo pedem figere ut loquar in sequenti.
 Solum et curam hanc Methodi testatur
 Author. pag. 72. Met.

Sententia reniando per assentionis
 exhibitionem tanquam dubium quod
 hactenus demonstratum non est. Funda
 mentum autem huius remotionis est
 regula prima Methodi

Vel minimum dubium ff. 235.

Item si omnino hoc e in rei ver
 tate.

Compositum ut tanto magis cogitatio
 hoc e assensio et foudit ab eis voce,
 tunc Lar: G. 7. h. p. 84

Lar: G. 7. p. 84

Assensio pro vero subiect. Lar: H. pag.
 86. Qu

Peritiam illud Archimedeum apprehensionem
 cogitationis vult, qua non pinet solum sed
 habere rationem habet: et potest hoc pin
 to ut Mons non solum ut pinet cui insit
 sed dicitur, ut, in Diagrama Archimedeo est
 et omnium motuum reque sententia, potest
 omnia pelluere transire.

Aliarum in se ipsas appere talem noctu
 ta: si in se homo sub sapientia in mente sua
 tunc in se respiciens tempore in speculo omne
 scilicet inveni.

Minus in se apprehensio nostra cogitatio,
 nis, sed nostra cogitatio est, quoniam in
 apprehendendo spiritum inmobile appre
 C. 5.

Image 8. CPH 1657–1658, 41.

highlight certain words in all parts of the *dictata*) and the quotation marks are absent, the bigger size of the text indicates the presence of a B-T and of additions (as in [image 11](#), CPH 1658, 406). Some other lemmas, in turn, have been underlined with dots and/or closed with a squared parenthesis, and commented with a text of smaller size (as in [image 12](#), CPH 1658, 64; [image 13](#), CPH 1658, 130; and [image 14](#), CPH 1658, 147). Given that the text in the second column is also structured in this way (as in [image](#)

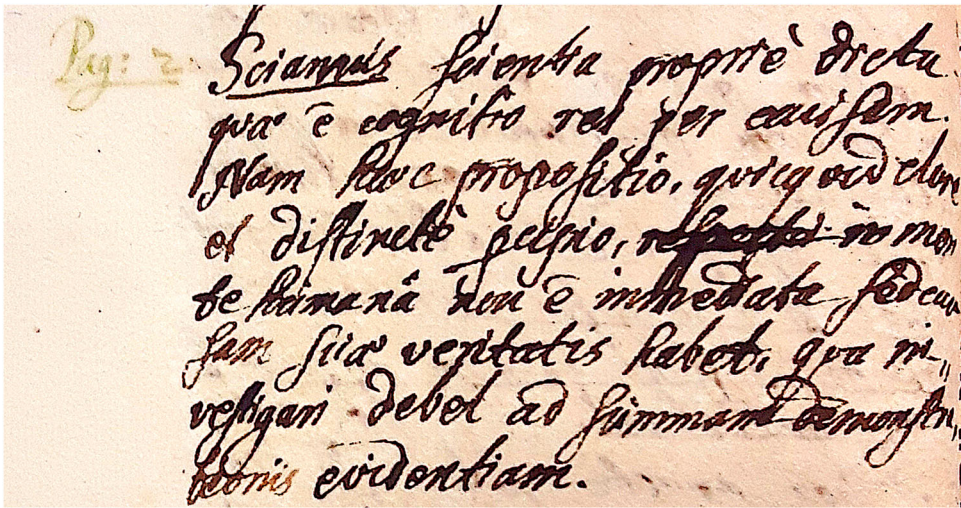


Image 9. CPH 1657–1658, 38.

13) we can consider them as additions too. Moreover, because the lemmas and the commentaries constituting the B-T are often separated by blank spaces (as in [image 15](#), CPH 1658, 91), evidently left for the additions which often fill them, and not all the additions are just double or parallel commentaries, but often serve to clarify or deepen the arguments developed in the B-T, we can suppose that the manuscript is not just a collation, by the copyist, of two courses of De Raey, one dating to May–December 1658 and another prior or posterior to it, but that it hosts different kinds of teaching by De Raey. As argued by Coesemans with regard to the Louvain *dictata*, the text of the *dictata* often circulated before the lectures themselves, and presumably this might have happened at Leiden too.⁴³ Accordingly, we can suppose that the B-T is a copy of a previously circulated text, and the additions report the contents of De Raey’s lectures, which he taught using the B-T as a textbook, deepening and expanding its contents by dictating meta-commentaries as well as new commentaries on the same lemma. Finally, it is worth noting that most of the lemmas – both of the B-T and of the additions – are sequentially numbered, often in a way not matching the order of lemmas in Descartes’s texts. Such numbering was certainly added after the writing of the whole manuscript, as it covers both the B-T and the additions, and could have served as *points de repère* to locate the comments on a copy of Descartes’s works.

5.3. Descartes’s *Discours and Principia*, Hamburg, c. 1659–1661

Dictata HH 1659–1661 consist of:

- (1) a commentary on sections 1–5 of Descartes’s *Discours* (pages 1–48);
- (2) a commentary on Descartes’s *Principia* (pages 49–231).

The TPQ can be established as to 1659; in the B-T, De Raey refers to Clauberg’s *Logica contracta* (1659) and to the *Wiskonstige musyka* (1659) by Dirk Rembrandtsz van Nierop

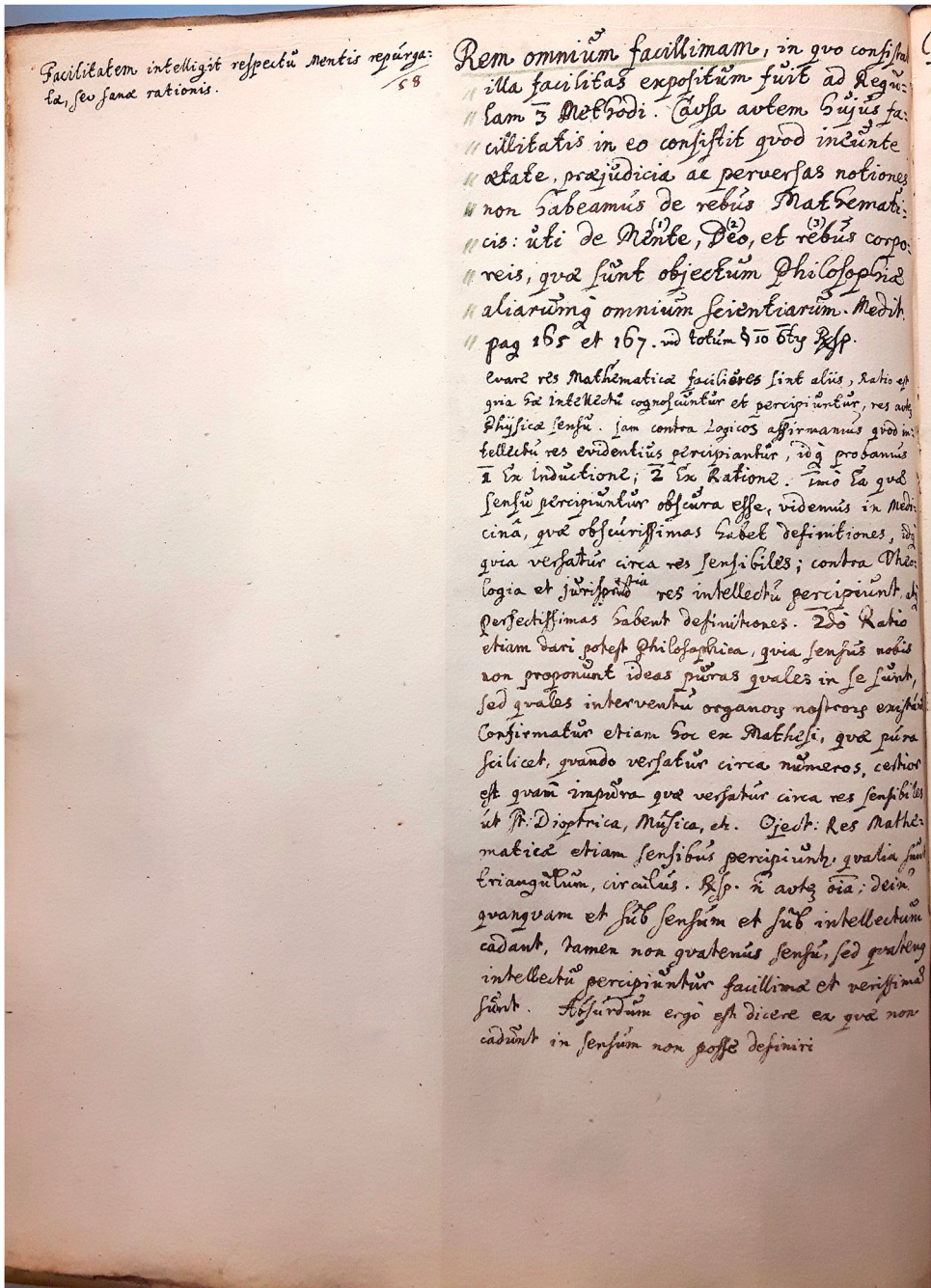


Image 10. CPH 1658, 23.

(1610–1682).⁴⁴ The TAQ cannot be clearly established; in principle, the *dictata* can date up to 1668, as De Raey is referred to as a professor at Leiden. However, as I show in Section 6.2, some contents of these *dictata* were re-used by Clauberg in a commentary

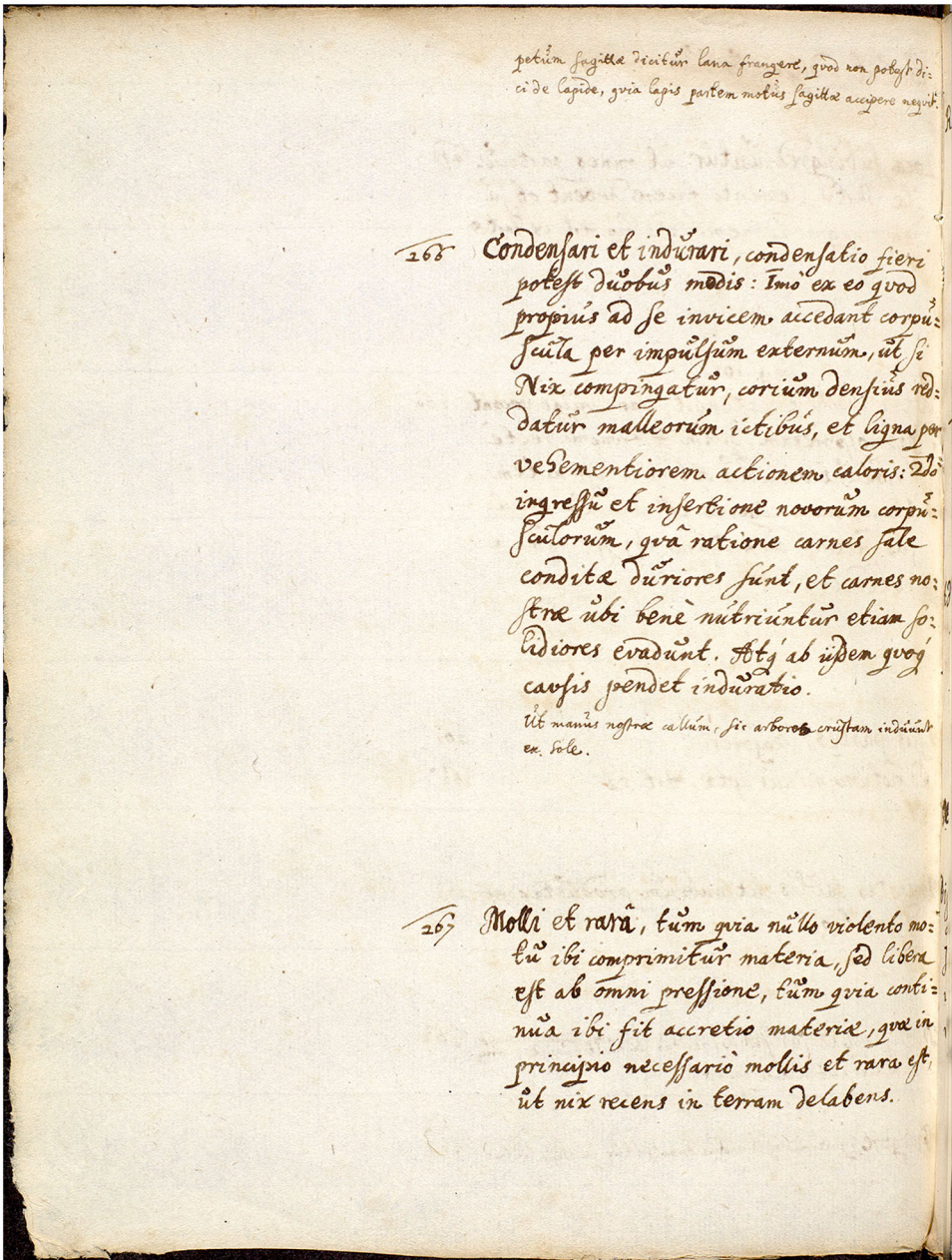


Image 11. CPH 1658, 406.

of his on Descartes's *Principia*, namely in his *Notae breves*, the TPQ of which is 1662. Therefore, I would date these *dictata* to c. 1659–1661.

As with *dictata* CPH 1658, also in this manuscript the sheets are split in two. The manuscript is composed of a B-T written in one column, while a second column is left blank, apparently for additions. These are very few, are for the most part by the same hand as the B-T, and concern mainly parts 3–4 of Descartes's *Principia*. No

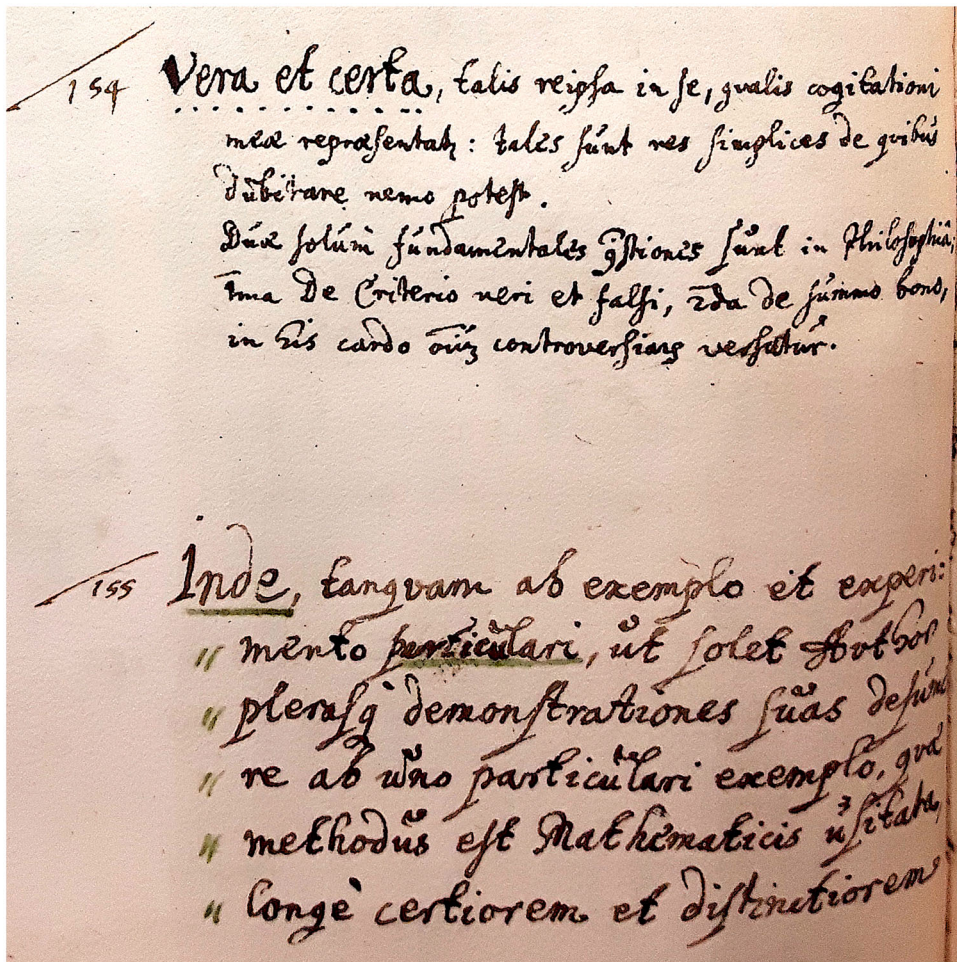


Image 12. CPH 1658, 64.

blank spaces are left in the main column of text, and no changes in the size of the writing can be observed. Therefore, we can suppose that the *dictata* were written on the basis of one text, and that only after copying were a few additions inserted; their source could not be ascertained.

5.4. Dictata on Descartes's *Discours and Principia*, Leiden, c. 1664–1668

Dictata LID 1664–1668, written in all parts by the same hand, consist of:

- (1) a bibliography of some of the works mentioned in the manuscript (f. Vr);
- (2) a succinct history of philosophy, the text of which is abruptly interrupted (f. VIr);
- (3) a separate *analysis textus* of Descartes's *Discours* (sections 1–4) (1r) and *Principia* (1r–2v) (given the fact that the commentary begins with such an *analysis textus*, the whole manuscript is named after it);

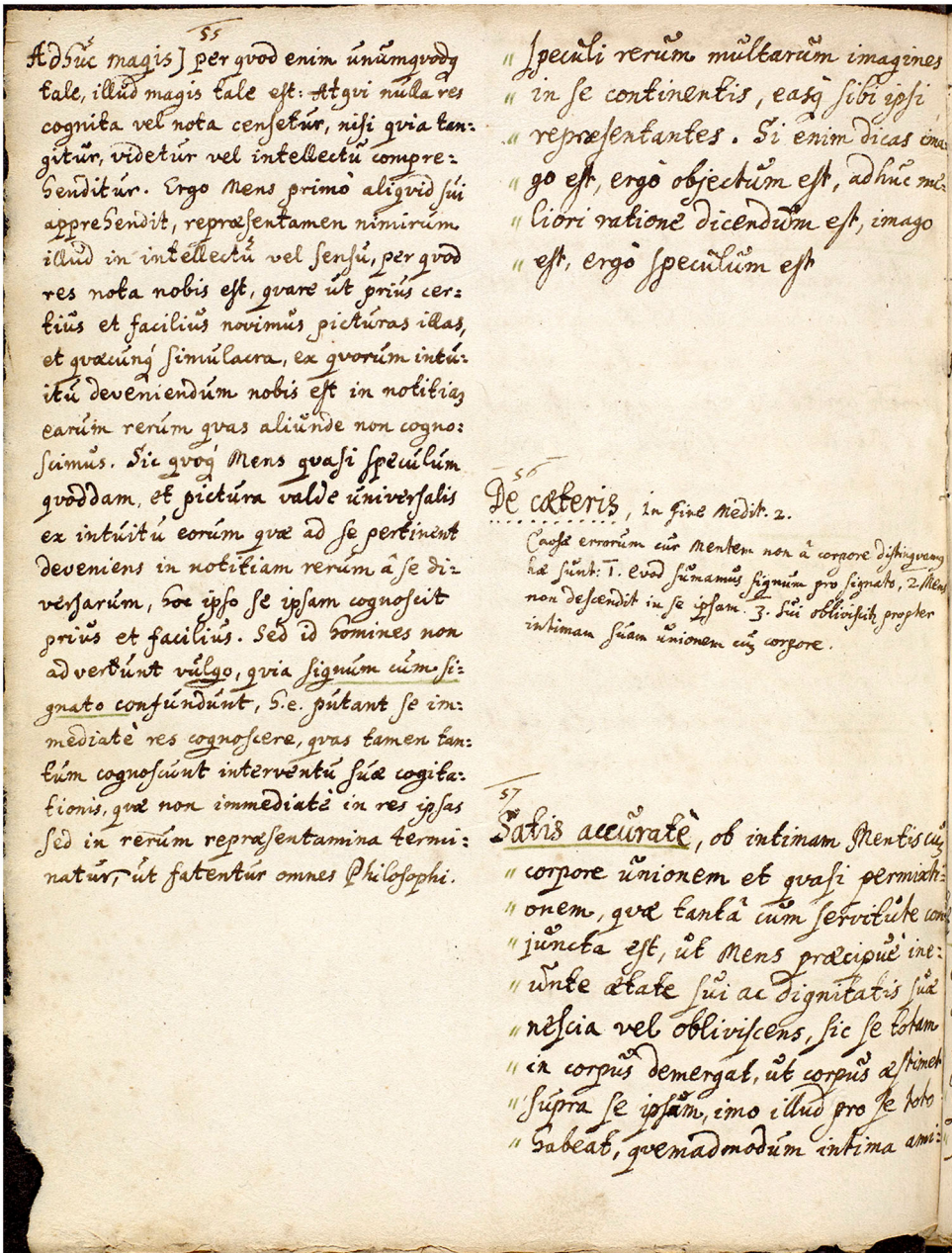


Image 13. CPH 1658, 130.

- (4) a commentary of Descartes's *Discours* (sections 1–3) (2v–8r) and of his *Principia* (8v–90v);
- (5) a summary, article by article, of parts 1–3 of Descartes's *Principia*. This text ends abruptly with *Principia* III.70, the commentary of which is left incomplete (91r–102v).

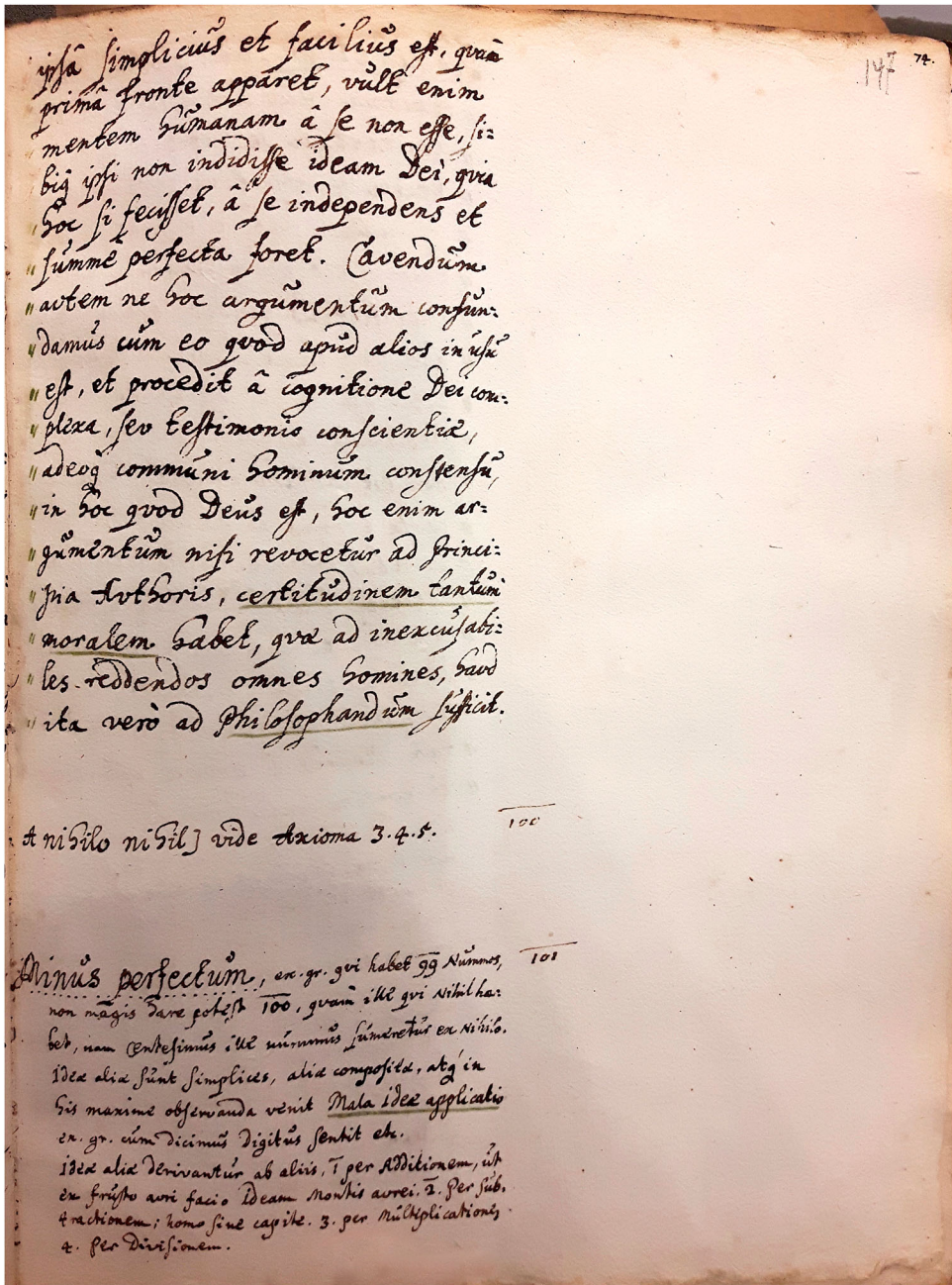


Image 14. CPH 1658, 147.

The TPQ of the B-T can be determined as to 1664. In the B-T there is a reference to the 1664 apparition of a comet; this is comet C/1664 W1, observed from November 1664 to February 1665.⁴⁵ In an addition on the same line, there is a reference to its apparition in 1665. In other additions, references are given to De Raey's disputations *De forma substantiali et anima hominis* (1665–1667) and *De vero et falso* (1667–1668), and to the

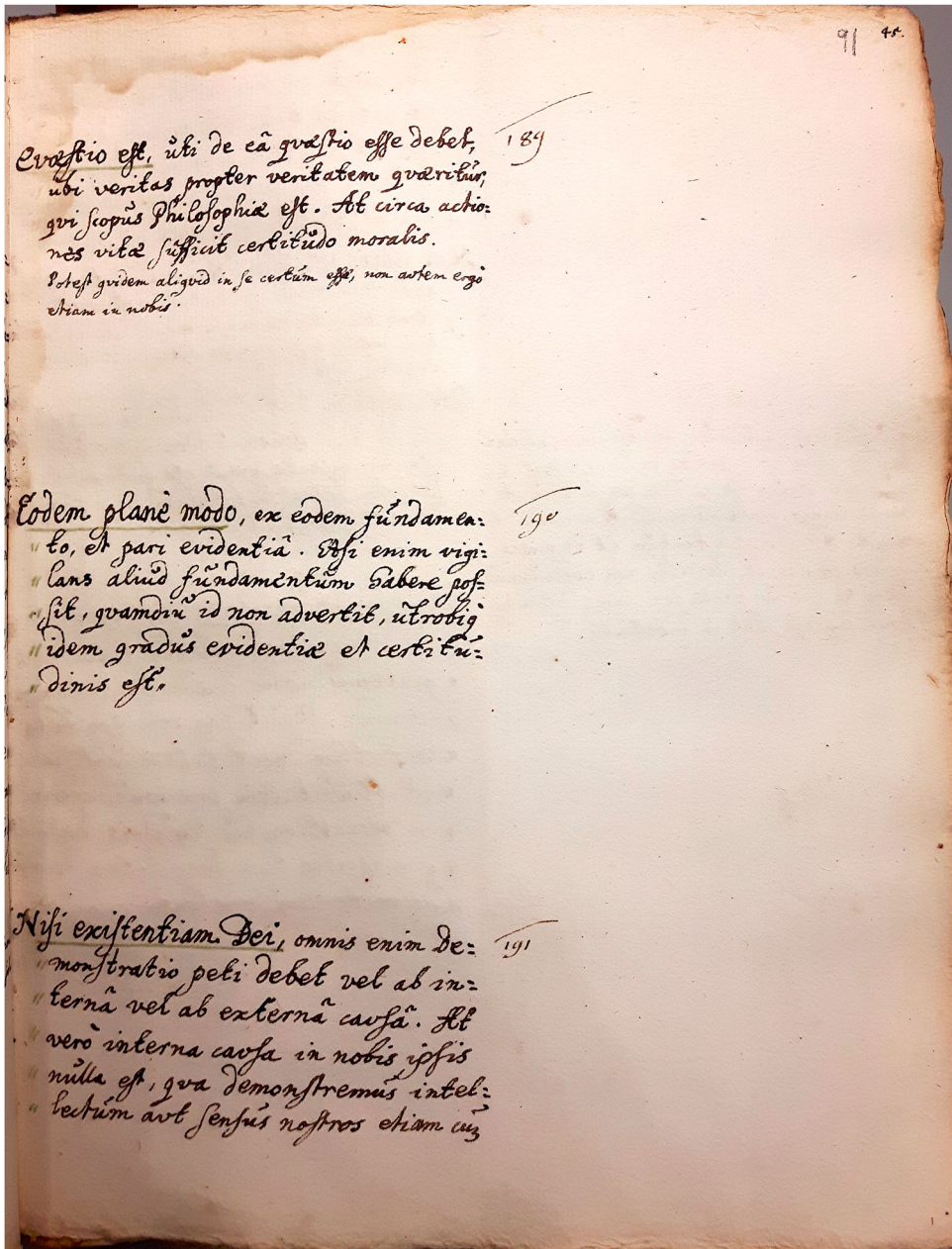


Image 15. CPH 1658, 91.

annexation of the Franche-Comté, captured by France from Spain in February 1668 during the War of Devolution, and returned to Spain with the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, signed on 2 May 1668.⁴⁶ In turn, the TAQ can be determined as to 1668 itself because De Raey is referred to as a professor at Leiden in the main title.

The manuscript is composed of a B-T written in one column, with a small marginal space often filled with additions; these occasionally fill any other available space on the

page (as in [image 6](#), LID 1664–1668, 5r, and [image 16](#), LID 1664–1668, 7r). The additions are concentrated in the commentary on Descartes's *Discours* and on parts 1–3 of his *Principia*. Starting with *Principia* III.89, conspicuous portions of the pages are left blank, corresponding to certain articles not commented on by De Raey, and sometimes only the headings of certain articles are provided, without any commentary filling the space obviously left for it (as in [image 17](#), LID 1664–1668, 97r). Also, certain commentaries

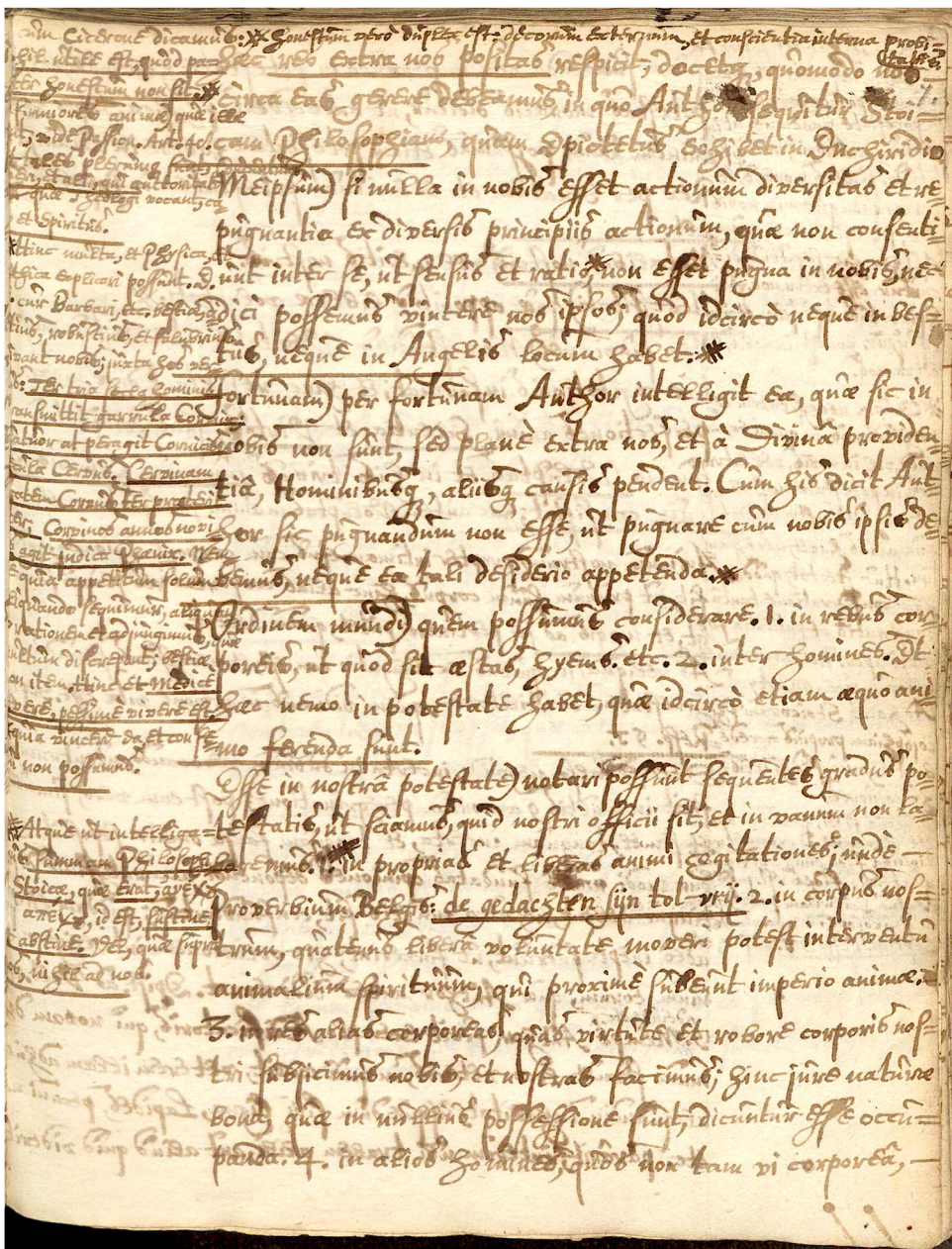


Image 16. LID 1664–1668, 7r.

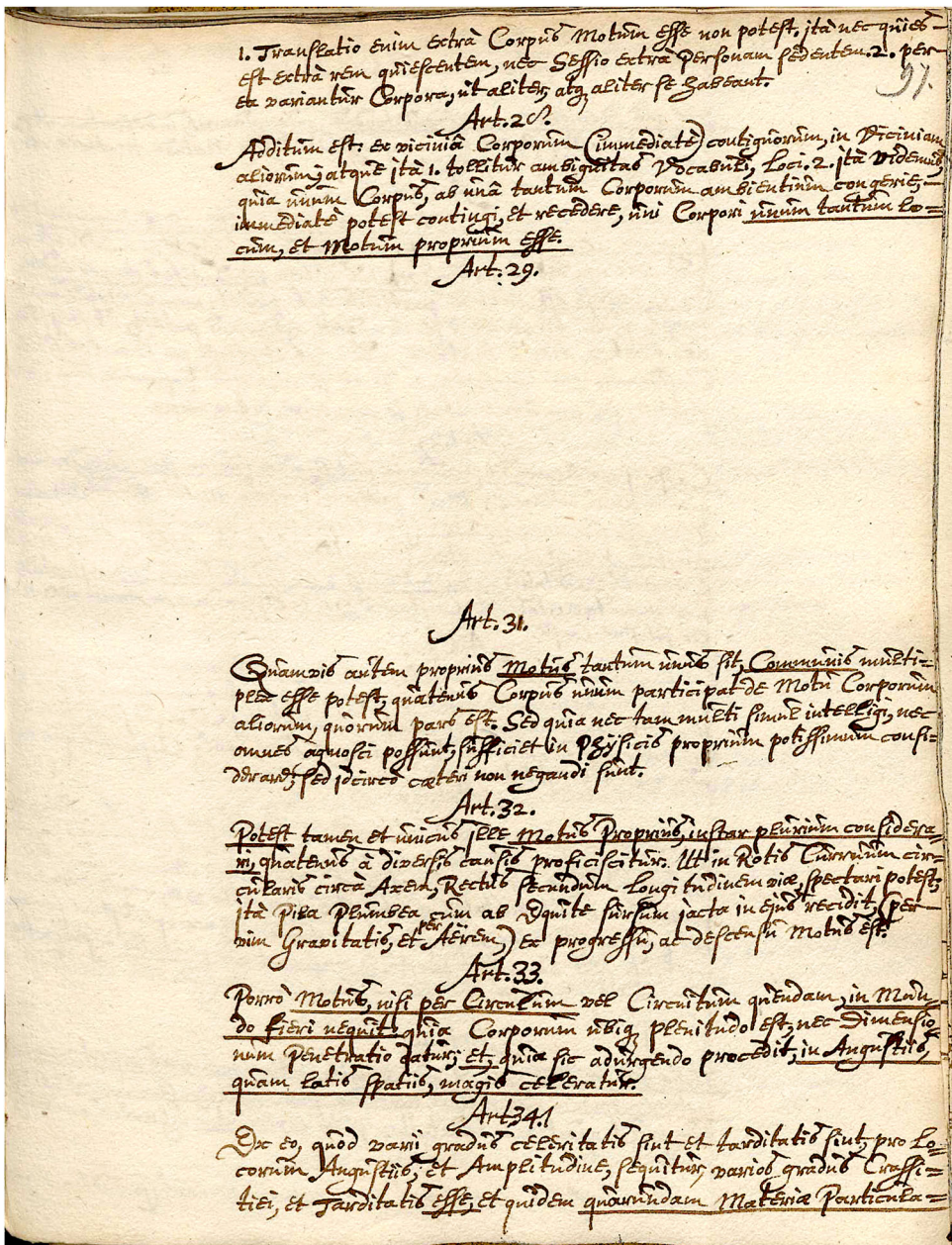


Image 17. LID 1664–1668, 97r.

are in an evidently smaller size of writing (as in [image 18](#), LID 1664–1668, 64v), so they were certainly written later than the rest of the B-T; i.e. they were additions. Considering that the marginal additions, as seen above, seem to be posterior to the B-T, we can suppose that the copyist started to transcribe a commentary (B-T) without foreseeing any additions, as in the first sections of the manuscript the additions (also concerning articles not commented in the B-T) occupy all the available spaces, often being

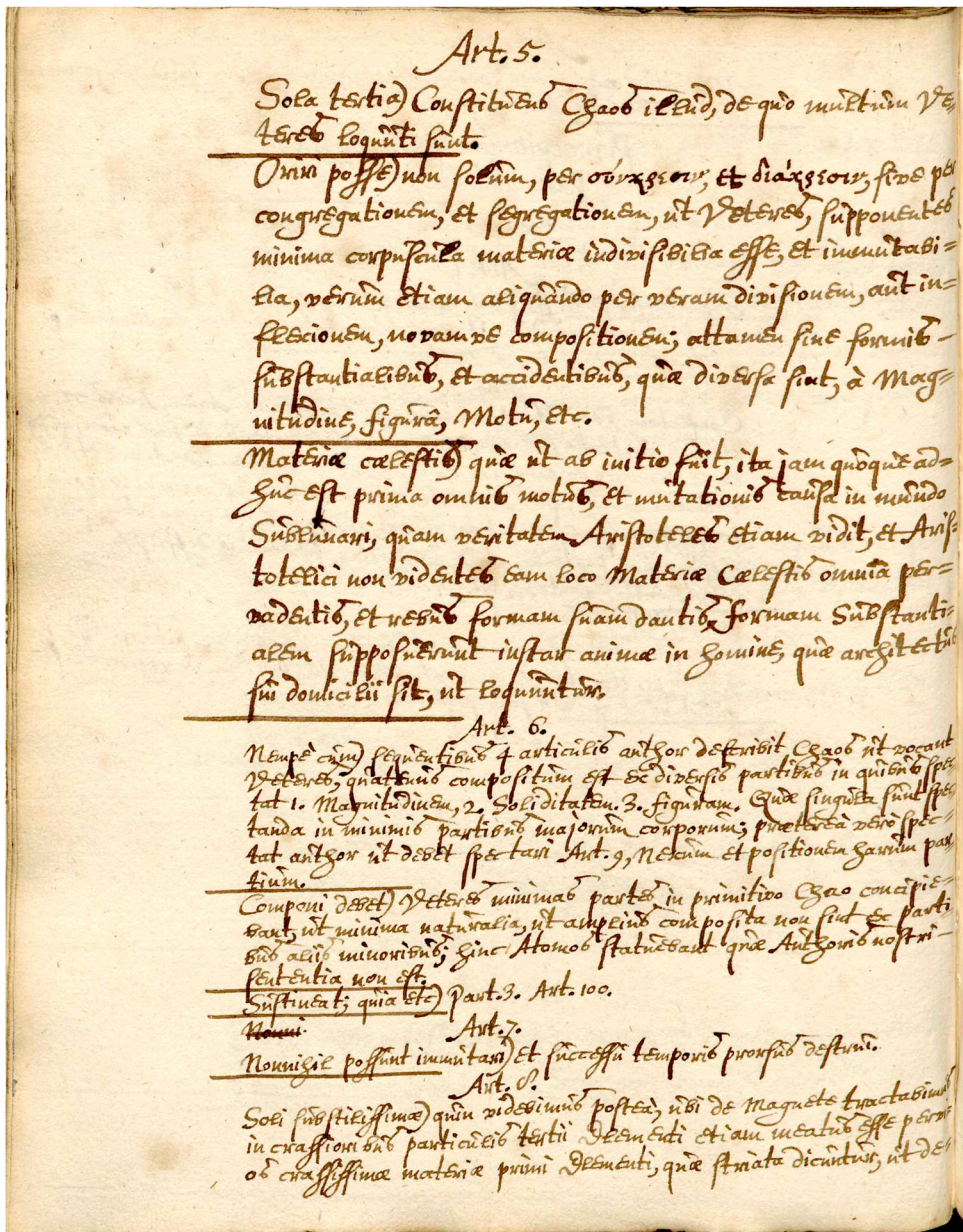


Image 18. LID 1664–1668, 64v.

interlinear. After having started to insert the additions, he began to leave spaces in the B-T to copy the commentaries of those articles not commented in the B-T itself (as in [image 19](#), LID 1664–1668, 53r). In other words, we can suppose that, in around 1668, the copyist started to transcribe a course of De Raey traceable at earliest to 1664, as a previously circulated text or B-T; shortly afterwards, and before finishing the copy of the B-T, he started to follow the course of 1668, using it to integrate this B-T with additions. He also started to leave blank spaces to host the commentaries on the articles not dealt

5.5. *Dictata on Descartes's Discours and Principia, Amsterdam, c. 1669–1702*

Dictata AMS 1669–1702, written in all parts by the same hand, consist of:

- (1) a commentary of sections 1–3 of Descartes's *Discours* (pages 1–9);
- (2) a commentary of Descartes's *Principia* (pages 1–171, separately numbered).

The manuscript does not record the name of any author, but its text substantially matches those of De Raey's *dictata*, both in the B-T (see, in the Appendix, the textual agreements in the texts concerning *Principia* I.4) and in the additions; therefore we can attribute it to him with certainty. A precise TPQ and TAQ could not be established, given that these *dictata* do not contain references to other texts or facts. As the manuscript is preserved at Amsterdam, we can nonetheless date these *dictata* to his Amsterdam years (1669–1702).

Like the other *dictata*, also in this case the manuscript contains a B-T and additions, both marginal and in the main column of text, where they are recognizable by their being written in a smaller size (as in [image 20](#), AMS 1669–1702, *Principia*, 39). The copyist did not leave space for the commentary on missing articles, although occasionally he inserted additions containing this type of commentary (as in [image 21](#), AMS 1669–1702, *Principia*, 151). Nonetheless, he left spaces for commentaries of additional lemmas within certain articles already the subject of a commentary (as in [image 22](#), AMS 1669–1702, *Principia*, 145). We can suppose that, as in the other *dictata*, the copyist drew his additions from De Raey's lectures after having copied the B-T. Notably, in these *dictata*, we do not find the same type of *analysis textus* present in all the other *dictata* (the reason for this is unknown), moreover, some parts of the commentary are underlined in red ink.

6. The relations between the *dictata*

6.1. *The relations between De Raey's dictata*

The relations between all these *dictata* by De Raey are far from being linear. We can nonetheless advance some claim about them.

(1) First, the greater part of the commentaries to lemmas given in the B-Ts of the *dictata* by De Raey reveal conspicuous variants. In other words, the B-Ts of such manuscripts report different courses taught, i.e. dictated, by De Raey, who certainly re-used many of his materials, although he did not simply dictate the same text in every course.

(2) Additions to *dictata* CPH 1658 can be found in the B-T of HH 1659–1661 (see, in the Appendix, the textual agreements in the cases of *Principia* I.3 and I.4), sometimes even when the B-T of CPH 1658 already contains a similar commentary (see the case of the lemma “ad maturiorem aetatem” in the Appendix). Moreover, the B-T of both the *dictata* show occasional agreements. Accordingly, De Raey re-used and adapted the contents of CPH 1658 for the course in which he dictated HH 1659–1661. In turn, *dictata* HH 1659–1661 contain few marginal additions, with negligible agreements with the text of other *dictata*.⁴⁷ As there are no parallel or double commentaries to the same lemma, we can exclude the copyist transcribing, in a continuous text, materials from different courses or types of lectures by De Raey (although the additions may

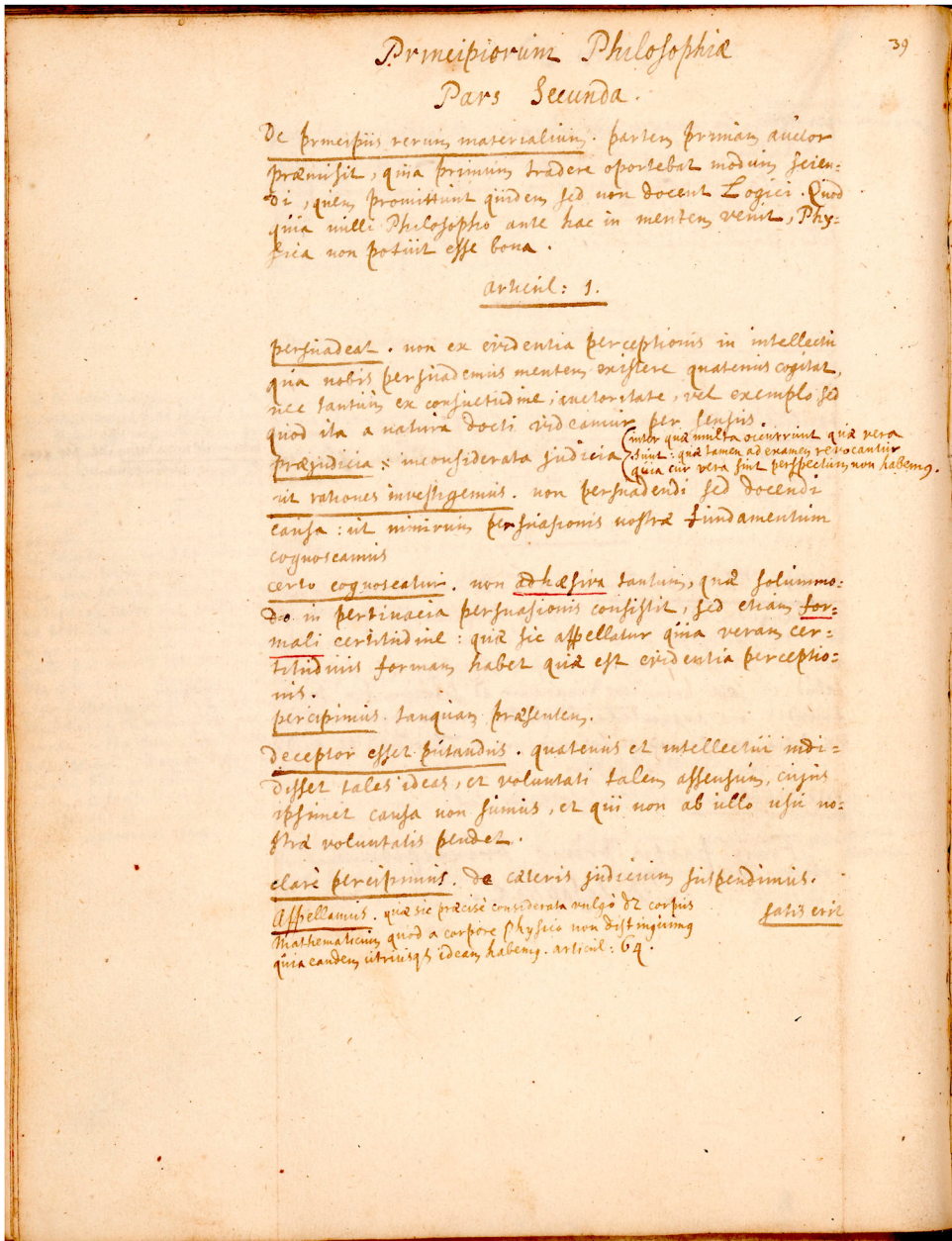
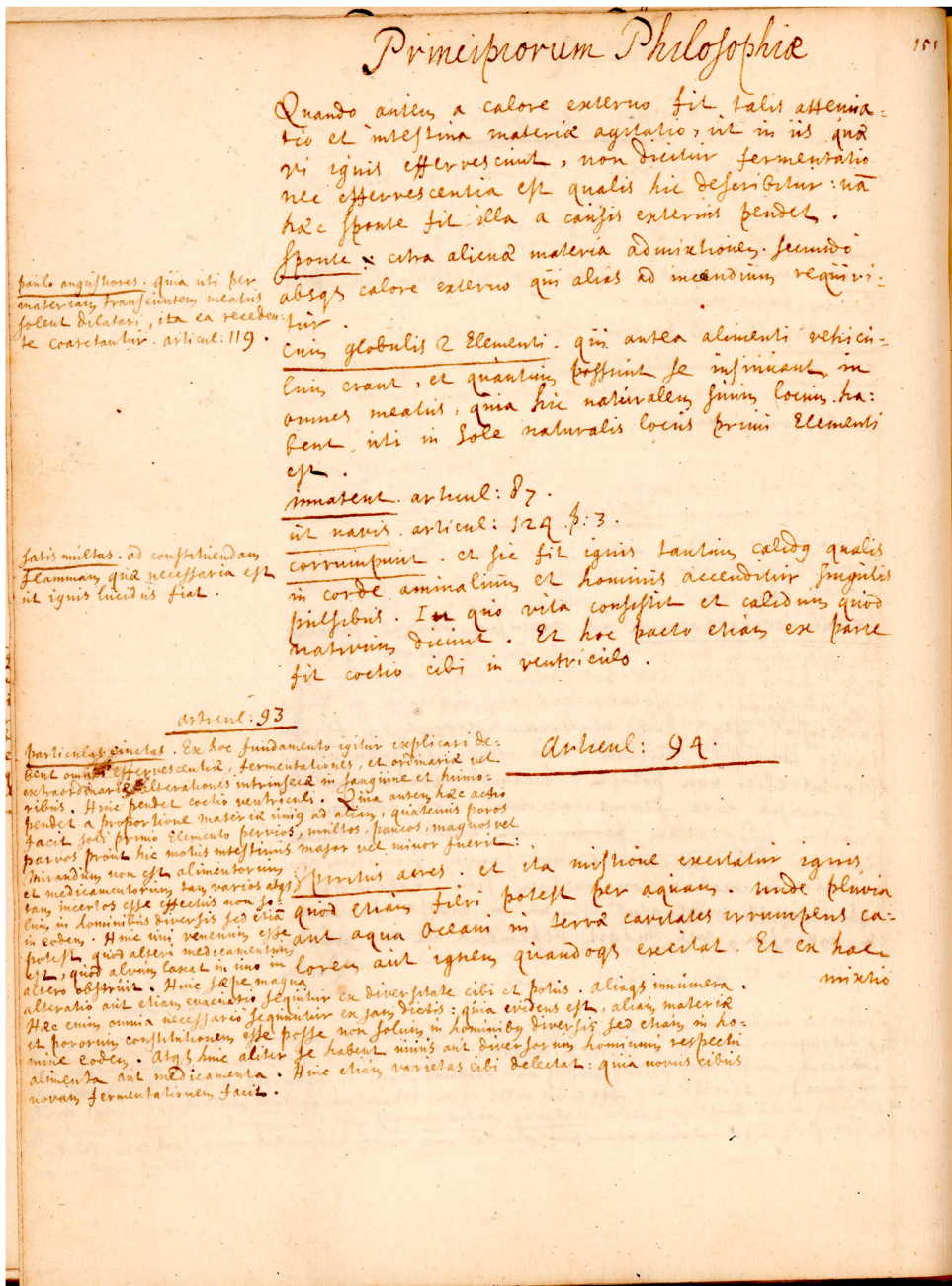


Image 20. A photograph of AMS 1669–1702, *Principia*, 39. Source: Allard Pierson – The Collections of the University of Amsterdam, ms. X B 7. No copyright.

come from such sources). Also, *dictata* LID 1664–1668 and, to a minor extent, AMS 1669–1702 have a complex structure, comparable to CPH 1658; namely, the manuscript contains many marginal or interlinear additions. Also, these manuscripts reveal agreements with the previous ones (see *Principia* I.3, I.4 and I.71), which De Raey re-used across the years.

Image 21. AMS 1669–1702, *Principia*, 151.

6.2. The relations with Clauberg's dictata

6.2.1. The case of the commentaries on Descartes's *Discours* and *Principia*

Notably, all the *dictata* on Descartes's *Principia* by De Raey show agreements with the *dictata* on Descartes's *Discours* and *Principia* by Clauberg. These are the following.

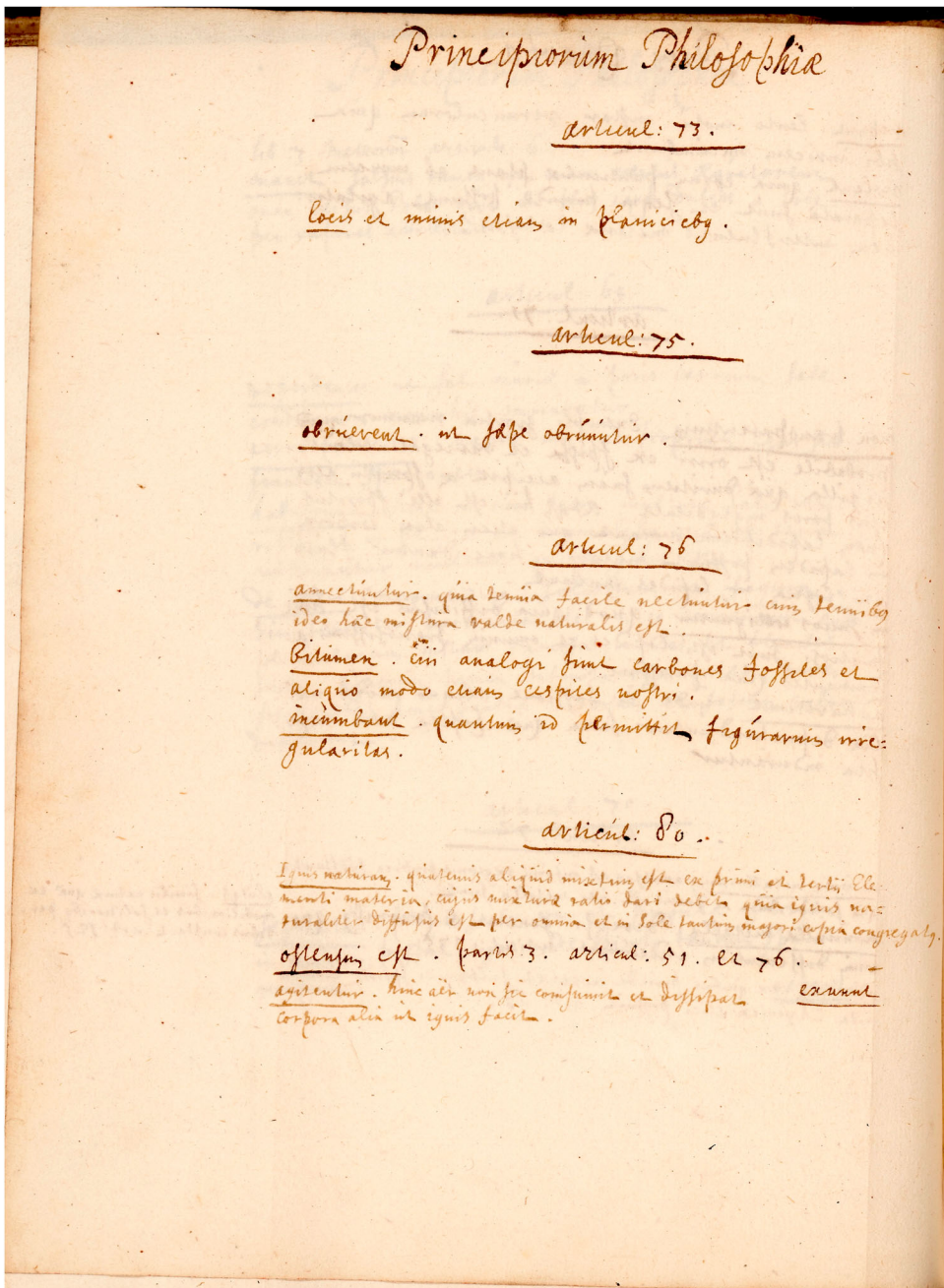


Image 22. AMS 1669–1702, *Principia*, 145.

- (1) A commentary on the first paragraph of the fourth part of Descartes's *Discours*, published as chapter 5 of Clauberg's *Initiatio philosophi sive Dubitatio Cartesiana* (1655) and structured around lemmas, as academic *dictata*. Its preparation can be dated to c. 1654–1655, as it contains a reference to Clauberg's *Logica vetus et nova* (1654).⁴⁸

Only three, short agreements with De Raey's commentaries can be retraced; therefore, no conclusion about the relations of Clauberg's and De Raey's commentaries can be drawn.⁴⁹

- (2) Some very short notes on the first eight articles of Descartes's *Principia*, published as chapter 10 of his *Initiatio*, not structured around lemmas. Such a commentary reveals agreements with Clauberg's later *dictata* and with Wittich's (see the cases of *Principia* I.1 and I.7). Also, in this commentary, Clauberg refers to his *Logica vetus et nova*, so that it can be dated to c. 1654–1655.⁵⁰
- (3) *Dictata philosophica, annotata in collegio habito super Principiis, a clarissimo Domino Johanne Claubergio, SS. theologiae et philosophiae Doctore et Professore in illustri Academia Duisburgensi*. Leiden, University Library, ms. BPL 906, exact format not retrieved, ff. 76, acquired from the private library of Petrus van Musschenbroek.⁵¹ The manuscript, written by one hand and provided with very few marginal additions, is dated by the copyist as having been finished (“absolvi”) on 5 October 1661.⁵² This stands as the TAQ of the manuscript itself. However, there is evidence that the preparation of the commentary might be traceable to 1657. The manuscript contains references to the first edition of Clauberg's *Logica vetus et nova* (1654), but not to the second (1658); moreover, there is a reference to Clauberg's disputations *De motu*, which took place in 1657–1658, but the reference is only to the year 1657.⁵³
- (4) Clauberg's *Notae breves in Renati Descartes Principia philosophiae*, intended by Clauberg for his private lectures and published for the first time by Schallbruch in Clauberg's *Opera omnia*, on the basis of a holograph manuscript given to him by Clauberg's son.⁵⁴ This commentary (also covering, unlike all the other commentaries by De Raey and Clauberg, Descartes's *Epistola dedicatoria*) can be dated to 1662 as TPQ; the text contains a reference to the *Summa theologiae* of Johannes Cocceius (1603–1669), published in that year.⁵⁵ The TAQ is c. 1664; Clauberg died in January 1665.

As far as the two latter commentaries are concerned, most of the agreements can be found between De Raey's *dictata* HH 1659–1661 and Clauberg's *Notae breves*. Identification of the author of those parts shared by De Raey's and Clauberg's commentaries is to some extent undecidable, given that Clauberg and De Raey actively cooperated in the defence of Cartesianism in the early 1650s, and could have intervened in each other's texts.⁵⁶ These common parts, however, seem nevertheless to be attributed to De Raey as their first author. The TPQ of De Raey's HH 1659–1661 is antecedent to the TPQ of Clauberg's *Notae breves* (1662); moreover, as is shown in the Appendix, some agreements with Clauberg's *Notae breves* can be found not only with De Raey's HH 1659–1661 but also with the B-T of his earlier CPH 1658 (e.g. *Principia* I.4). Those commentaries of lemmas given in Clauberg's *Notae breves* common with De Raey's *dictata* are often shorter in Clauberg's *Notae breves* than in De Raey's *dictata* (*Principia* I.4). As a matter of fact, both De Raey and Clauberg could equally have abridged or expanded their own or each other's texts (as the evolution of De Raey's commentaries shows; see *Principia* I.71). However, in the case of these two *dictata*, it is likely that Clauberg abridged De Raey's text, for the reason that, in Clauberg's *Notae breves*, indications of abbreviation (“et c.”) are sometimes provided (*Principia* I.37). Moreover,

given that the manuscript of the *Notae breves*, as reported by Schallbruch, was holograph, it is more likely that he copied some parts of De Raey's *dictata* and abridged them, rather than having copied from a more extended manuscript of his own which was also the source of De Raey's *dictata*. In Clauberg's *Notae breves*, we often find double commentaries to the same lemma, in which one of the commentaries shows agreements with the B-T of De Raey's *dictata* HH 1659–1661; Clauberg was probably interested in having De Raey's commentary in his manuscript.⁵⁷

Concerning the relations with Clauberg's *Dictata philosophica*, as seen above such a commentary was probably prepared by Clauberg in 1657 – i.e. before any other extant *dictata* by De Raey – even if the first *dictata* on Descartes by De Raey, now lost, can be traced at least to 1654.⁵⁸ Moreover, the commentaries revealing agreements between Clauberg's *Dictata philosophica* and De Raey's *dictata* are shorter in Clauberg's text, as was the case with his *Notae breves*. Nonetheless, in the case of Clauberg's *Dictata philosophica*, it was probably De Raey who expanded Clauberg's commentaries. Indeed, as we find double or parallel commentaries in Clauberg's *Notae breves*, we may notice that, in some cases, one of the two commentaries is also found in Clauberg's *Dictata philosophica* as the only commentary, while the other commentary is also found in De Raey's *dictata*. De Raey's *dictata*, in turn, include the same text found in Clauberg's *Dictata philosophica* (see *Principia* I.4 and I.71). For instance, in the case of *Principia* I.4, we find, in Clauberg's *Notae breves*, the same text already present in his *Dictata philosophica* as the only commentary of lemma “errare”, and, given as a second commentary of such a lemma, an abridged version of the commentary given by De Raey in HH 1659–1661. *Dictata* HH 1659–1661, in turn, also include the text already present in Clauberg's *Dictata philosophica*. If Clauberg were the author of the whole text present in De Raey's *dictata*, he probably would not have included a double commentary in his *Notae breves*, as the text used by De Raey already includes Clauberg's text as given in his *Dictata philosophica*. In other words, in his *Dictata philosophica* (c. 1657), Clauberg provided a short commentary of the lemma “errare” (*Principia* I.4); De Raey later expanded upon it in his CPH 1658 and HH 1659–1661; while preparing his *Notae breves*, Clauberg kept the commentary he had already provided in his *Dictata philosophica* as his B-T, and added to it an abridged version of De Raey's commentary given in HH 1659–1661, skipping, amongst others, the redundant words from it. The same kind of process can be observed also in the case of *Principia* I.71, in which, however, Clauberg did not abridge, in his *Notae breves*, De Raey's commentary provided in HH 1659–1661; given its brevity, this was probably in order to keep it comprehensible. Finally, it is worth noting that, in the preparation of his *Notae breves* and *Dictata philosophica*, Clauberg re-used some contents of his earlier notes on *Principia* I.1–8, printed in his *Initiatio* (as in *Principia* I.1 and I.7).

6.2.2. The case of the commentaries on Descartes's *Meditationes*

It is worth noting that De Raey's *dictata* on Descartes's *Meditationes* (CPH 1657–1658) show agreements with:

- (1) some *Notae* by Clauberg on Descartes's *Primae Meditationes* (published as chapters 7–9 of his *Initiatio*) probably dating to 1654–1655, as the text contains references to Clauberg's *Logica vetus et nova* (1654);⁵⁹

- (2) to a minor extent, with Clauberg's *Paraphrasis in Renati Descartes Meditationes de prima philosophia* (1658).

A textual comparison between these texts reveals that Clauberg's 1655 *Notae* is generally more developed than De Raey's commentary (see lemmas "animadverti" and "ingens opus"). As Clauberg's *Notae* certainly precedes De Raey's CPH 1657–1658, it was probably De Raey who relied on Clauberg's commentary, abridging it. In any case, the editorial evolution of Clauberg's *Notae* shows the insertion, across its editions, of materials also present in De Raey's CPH 1657–1658, such as the lemma "genium", which is found in the final version of Clauberg's *Initiatio* published by Schallbruch in Clauberg's *Opera omnia*, but which is absent in the 1655 edition. This addition probably came from a manuscript by Clauberg found by Schallbruch among his papers, the ultimate source of which, in any case, could have been a previous commentary by De Raey. In turn, the agreements with Clauberg's *Paraphrasis* are less remarked, but nonetheless reveal a stratification of texts, as both De Raey's CPH 1657–1658 and Clauberg's *Paraphrasis* show agreements with Clauberg's *Notae*, and in turn agreements with each other which cannot be found in the *Notae* itself (see lemma "ingens opus").

6.3. The relations with Wittich's dictata

Furthermore, De Raey's and Clauberg's *dictata* on Descartes's *Principia* and *Meditationes* show agreements with the *dictata* of Wittich (fellow student of Clauberg since 1642 and later colleague of his at Herborn and Duisburg) on these texts.⁶⁰ Namely the following.

- (1) Wittich's *In alma Gelrionum (quae est Noviomagi) Universitate [...] Observationes in [...] Renati Descartes [...] Meditationes de prima philosophia*, followed by his *dictata* on *Principiorum philosophiae pars prima, de principiis cognitionis humanae* (from the *Epistola dedicatoria* up to article 20), in ms. 3415, held at the Wellcome Library.⁶¹ These commentaries by Wittich – constituting, in fact, a course in metaphysics – probably date to 1664 at latest (which stands as their TAQ), and were likely transcribed by Michael de Mandeville (1639–1699, father of Bernard 1670–1733, who probably brought the manuscript to England).⁶² The commentary on the *Meditationes* contains references to works that appeared at latest in 1658 and 1659 (which stands as its TPQ), namely Clauberg's *Paraphrasis* (1658) and Wittich's own *Consensus veritatis in Scriptura divina et infallibili revelatae cum veritate philosophica a Renato Des Cartes detecta* (1659).⁶³ The commentary on the *Principia* does not contain references suitable to date it, even if it was probably dictated along with that on the *Meditationes*; i.e. we can attribute the same TPQ to it. Neither of the commentaries contains additions.
- (2) *Annotationes ad Renati Des-Cartes Meditationes*, posthumously published in *usum studiorum* by Van Til in 1688, as a collation (according to the front page) of three manuscripts, the provenance of which is not specified by the editor, although a possible source could have been Schallbruch, who – as mentioned above – studied under both Wittich at Leiden and Van Til at Dordrecht.⁶⁴ Wittich's *Annotationes* is not dated, but it contains the same references to Clauberg's *Paraphrasis* (1658) and Wittich's *Consensus veritatis* (1659) given in his *Observationes*, standing as TPQ.⁶⁵ The only sure TAQ is 1687, when Wittich died.

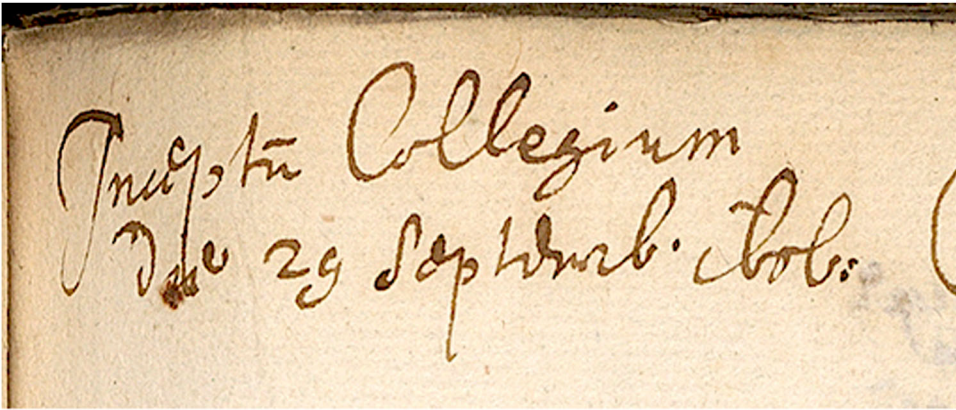


Image 23. A photograph of De Mandeville, Walter, and De Mandeville, Michael, et al. (copyists). C. 1656–1664. *Notes of Lectures at the Universities of Franeker and Nijmegen on the Institutes of Medicine, and on Cartesian Philosophy*, 134 (unnumbered). Source: London, Wellcome Library, ms. 3415. No copyright.

Given the robust agreements between Wittich’s *Observationes* and *Annotationes* (as in lemmas “animadverti” and “ingens opus”), we can consider these texts, if not conveying exactly the same course on Descartes’s *Meditationes* (as in lemmas “genium” and “exiguum”), at least as evidence that Wittich did not prepare substantially different commentaries on such a text during his career.⁶⁶ Moreover, Wittich started preparing these commentaries in around 1659 at the earliest, certainly after Clauberg’s commentary, and probably not before that of De Raey. A textual comparison between all their commentaries shows that Wittich re-used both Clauberg’s and De Raey’s commentaries, sometimes in a longer version, as in the case of the lemma “animadverti”, and sometimes in an abridged form, as in the cases of the lemmas “ingens opus” and “genium”. In some cases, we do find double, partially redundant commentaries on the same lemma by Wittich, as in lemma “exiguum”, the commentary of which was most probably taken by Wittich from De Raey (while Clauberg provided a different commentary in his *Paraphrasis*). Like De Raey’s commentaries, moreover, both Wittich’s concern Descartes’s *Epistola dedicatoria*, *Praefatio ad lectorem*, and the synopses of the six *Meditationes*, besides the *Meditationes* themselves. As far as Wittich’s re-use of Clauberg’s *Paraphrasis* is concerned, this is not only declared by Wittich himself but can be observed by direct textual appropriations (see lemma “ratio persuadet”, which cannot be found in De Raey’s *dictata*).

As far as Wittich’s commentary on Descartes’s *Principia* is concerned, we generally find different commentaries on the same lemmas by him, with respect to those of De Raey and Clauberg (as in *Principia* I.3 and I.4). Still, some agreements can be observed: the case of *Principia* I.1, with Clauberg’s *Notae breves* (in turn based on Clauberg’s notes on *Principia* I.1–8); the case of *Principia* I.7, with Clauberg’s notes on *Principia* I.1–8 (also slightly re-used in his *Dictata philosophica*, apparently not available to Wittich) and other contents of his *Initiatio*; the case of *Principia* I.9, with De Raey’s *dictata* as well. In any case, Wittich’s commentary was, for the most part, original to him.

7. Conclusion

In conclusion, it is worth remarking, first, that the complexity of De Raey's *dictata* does not allow the reconstruction of an archetype and of its variants, i.e. a traditional, philological reconstruction of their texts. Rather than single commentaries, indeed, we should rather speak of a "constellation" of texts, all with parts in common with each other, and with those of other Cartesian authors. Second, it is unclear who inaugurated this genre, i.e. who was the first to provide an academic commentary on Descartes. According to the *Bibliotheca Schalbruchiana*, De Raey dictated on Descartes's *Principia*, *Specimina*, and *Meditationes* as early as 1654, and his extant *dictata* on these texts date to 1657–1658 at the earliest.⁶⁷ In turn, Clauberg's *Dictata* on Descartes's *Principia*, dated 1661, might, in fact, be traceable to 1657, after he had already provided partial commentaries on Descartes's *Discours* and *Meditationes* in his 1655 *Initiatio*. This book can be conceived as the "esoteric" continuation of his "exoteric" *Defensio Cartesiana* (1652, focusing on method and logic), and covering the more advanced topics of metaphysics. Interestingly, however, in his earlier *Defensio*, one cannot find this type of commentary; his *Defensio* is in itself an extended commentary on Descartes's *Discours* and method (albeit not based on lemmas), so that Clauberg probably had no need to include a classroom-based commentary. However, given that such a text nevertheless includes "spare" academic materials, such as several disputations he presided over in 1650–1651 (included in Clauberg's *Defensio* as chapters 31–37), it might be that, in 1652, he had not yet started his classroom *dictata*. Thus, both Clauberg's and De Raey's earliest *dictata* – and Cartesian full-blown dictated commentaries as such – seem traceable to 1654 (when Clauberg's *Initiatio* was probably completed, as its dedicatory letter is dated 13 February 1655).⁶⁸ In fact, De Raey became a professor of philosophy at Leiden in June 1653, and taught his first public course on *Physica* in the summer semester of 1654.⁶⁹ This certainly allowed a broader circulation and survival of his *dictata* (at least in private libraries); he might even have started to dictate on Descartes's texts in that year. In turn, the Duisburg Gymnasium, where Clauberg had taught philosophy since December 1651 or January 1652 (after having taught philosophy and theology at Herborn Academy in 1649–1651), became a university in October 1655.⁷⁰ This might have prompted him to prepare full-blown commentaries on Descartes's texts, given the need to provide complete courses in philosophy to a more advanced academic audience.

As far as Wittich's *dictata* are concerned, these were certainly prepared after the first commentaries by De Raey and Clauberg. In March 1651, Wittich became professor of mathematics and colleague of Clauberg at Herborn (where he also privately taught theology), then, after having left Herborn together with him, in February 1652, professor of theology at Duisburg (where he arrived only in May), and from May 1655, professor of theology at the Nijmegen Schola Illustris (founded the same year), which, in May 1656, became a university. In his case also, the teaching of a course on Descartes – namely on his metaphysics, which could have nonetheless served as a prodrome to his teaching theology – seems to have been related to his having a post at a university. As no *series lectionum* from Nijmegen relevant to our investigation could be traced (except those of 1656, according to which Wittich was teaching theology and Hebrew), and given that he was appointed as a professor of theology, we can suppose that he imparted such teaching privately. This holds also for his period at Leiden, where he moved to in 1671 as a professor of theology and where – according to the extant *series lectionum* (of 1681 only) – he was publicly teaching only such a discipline.⁷¹

Appendix

Table of the Latin editions of Descartes's works (Amsterdam, Elzevir or Blaev) compatible with or actually used in De Raey's, Clauberg's and Wittich's commentaries

	<i>Specimina philosophiae</i>	<i>Principia philosophiae</i>	<i>Meditationes de prima philosophia</i>	<i>Appendix continens Obiectiones Quintas et Septimas</i>	<i>Epistola ad Voetium</i>
De Raey, CPH 1658	1656 (Louis and Daniel Elzevir)		1650 and 1654 (Louis Elzevir)	1649 and 1654 (Louis Elzevir)	
De Raey, CPH 1657–1658	(no suitable references given)		1650 and 1654 (Louis Elzevir)	1649 and 1654 (Louis Elzevir)	
De Raey, HH 1659–1661	1650 (Louis Elzevir) – both the two editions of this year (only compatible editions)		1650 and 1654 (Louis Elzevir)	1649 and 1654 (Louis Elzevir)	
De Raey, LID 1664–1668	1656 (Louis and Daniel Elzevir)	1656 (Louis and Daniel Elzevir) and 1664 (Daniel Elzevir)	1650, 1654 (Louis Elzevir) and 1663 (Louis and Daniel Elzevir)	1649, 1654 (Louis Elzevir), and 1663 (Louis and Daniel Elzevir)	
De Raey, AMS 1669–1702	1656 (Louis and Daniel Elzevir), 1664, 1672, 1677 (Daniel Elzevir), 1685, and 1692 (Blaev); an addition contains a reference to the 1644 edition (Louis Elzevir). ⁷²	(no suitable references given)	1650, 1654 (Louis Elzevir), 1663 (Louis and Daniel Elzevir), 1670, 1678 (Daniel Elzevir), 1685, and 1698 (Blaev)	1649, 1654 (Louis Elzevir), 1663 (Louis and Daniel Elzevir), 1670, 1678 (Daniel Elzevir), 1685, and 1698 (Blaev)	
Clauberg, commentaries on Descartes's <i>Discours, Meditationes</i> and <i>Principia</i> (c. 1654–1655, chapters 5 and 7–10 of his <i>Initiatio</i>)	1644 (Louis Elzevir)	1650 (Louis Elzevir) – both the two editions of this year	1650 (Louis Elzevir), as specified by Clauberg. ⁷³	1649 and 1654 (Louis Elzevir)	
Clauberg, <i>Dictata philosophica</i> (c. 1657)	(no suitable references given)		1650 and 1654 (Louis Elzevir)	(no suitable references given)	
Clauberg, <i>Notae breves</i> (c. 1662–1664)	1644 (Louis Elzevir) for parts 1 and 4 of the commentary and 1650 (Louis Elzevir) – both the two editions of this year – for parts 2–3	(no suitable references given). ⁷⁴	1650, 1654 (Louis Elzevir), and 1663 (Louis and Daniel Elzevir)	1649, 1654 (Louis Elzevir), and 1663 (Louis and Daniel Elzevir)	
Wittich, <i>Observationes in Meditationes</i> and <i>dictata</i> on <i>Principiorum philosophiae pars prima</i> (c. 1659–1664)	1644 (Louis Elzevir) or 1650 (Louis Elzevir) – both the two editions of this year. ⁷⁵	(no suitable references given)	1650, 1654 (Louis Elzevir), and 1663 (Louis and Daniel Elzevir)	1649, 1654 (Louis Elzevir), and 1663 (Louis and Daniel Elzevir)	
Wittich, <i>Annotationes ad Meditationes</i> (c. 1659–1687)	1644 (Louis Elzevir). ⁷⁶	(no suitable references given)	1650, 1654 (Louis Elzevir), 1663 (Louis and Daniel Elzevir), 1670, and 1678 (Daniel Elzevir). ⁷⁷	1649, 1654 (Louis Elzevir), 1663 (Louis and Daniel Elzevir), 1670, and 1678 (Daniel Elzevir). ⁷⁸	

Case of the lemma “ad maturiorem aetatem”**De Raey, CPH 1658**

Maturiorem aetatem. Nam iuvenes multum obnoxii sunt, 1. praecipitantes, idque quia praecipites spiritus habent, contra senes tardis in omnibus. Hic senes dandis, iuvenes vero exequendis consiliis idonei sunt, media autem aetas inter haec duo extrema medium ponit. 2. Anticipationi, et praeiudicii, idque quia non sunt assueti attentioni, deinde quia nimis creduli sunt: tales Galli iuvenes, at maturae aetatis anno quadragesimo, quinquagesimo, omnes excellunt.

Maturiorem aetatem. Nam aetas iuvenilis maxime obnoxia est praecipitanti propter inconsiderantiam et festinationem in iudiciis, cuius physica causa peti potest a mobilitate spirituum et temperamento calido. Imo iuvenilis aetas etiam obnoxia est anticipationibus, quatenus libentius ex praeconcepta opinione quam praesenti perceptione iudicat, iuxta articulum 73 partis primae Principiorum. Haec autem vitia non quidem omnino, sed ex parte tamen emendantur, ubi ad maturiorem aetatem accedimus. Nihil autem est quod illa vitia tam potenter eradicare possit, quam matheseos et philosophiae studium.⁷⁹

De Raey, HH 1659–1661

Quam ad maturiorem. Nam aetas iuvenilis maxime obnoxia est praecipitanti propter inconsiderantiam et festinationem in iudiciis, cuius physica causa peti potest a mobilitate spirituum, et temperamento calido. Imo iuvenilis aetas etiam obnoxia est anticipationibus quatenus libentius ex praeconcepta opinione quam praesenti perceptione iudicat iuxta articulum 73 partis primae Principiorum. Haec autem vitia non quidem omnino, sed ex parte tamen emendantur ubi ad maturiorem aetatem accedimus. Nihil autem est quod illa vitia tam potenter eradicare possit, quam matheseos et philosophiae studium.⁸⁰

Case of the lemma “animadverti”

Clauberg, Notae (c. 1654–1655)	De Raey, CPH 1657–1658	Clauberg, Paraphrasis (1658)	Wittich, Observationes (c. 1659–1664)	Wittich, Annotationes (c. 1659–1687)
<i>lam ante aliquot annos.</i> K. Notetur in authore triplex gradus illius ante aliquod annos animadversionis. Nam primo animadvertit illud, cum studiorum curriculum absolvisset in scholis, Dissertationis de methodo p. 3: “tot enim me dubiis totque erroribus implicitum esse animadverti” et c. Et simile tibi possit contingere, si iam ante male in scholis institutus ad hanc philosophiam accedas. K. Deinde	<i>Animadverti.</i> Primo, absoluto studiorum [[cursu]] curriculo, Med. pag. 3. ⁸² Secundo, sectionis secundae Methodi, ubi causam imperfectionis in scientiis detegit. Tertio, paragrapho penultimo sectionis tertiae, tempore peregrinationis suae. ⁸³	<i>Animadverti</i> non solum decurso, ut mos est, in scholis studiorum curriculo, sed etiam postea longa peregrinatione, in vasto mundi libro volvendo magis occupatus, saepius mecum cogitavi, quam multas tempore infantiae meae de rebus ad humanas scientias pertinentibus (nam de iis, quae ad fidem et vitam agendam spectant, in praesentia non ago) falsas	<i>Animadverti.</i> Tres sunt gradus istius animadversionis, primus fuit absoluto studiorum cursu, de quo agit in Dissertatione de methodo, pag. 31, articulo sexto. ⁸⁵ Secundus initio suae peregrinationis in Germania, vide Dissertationem de methodo, sectioni tertia, paragrapho penultimo. Cum rursus se ad peregrinandum accinxit et toto hoc novennio peregrinationis suae. Qui hoc animadvertit est in primo gradu ad scientiam, quemadmodum	<i>Animadverti.</i> Tres sunt gradus illius animadversionis: 1. absoluto studiorum cursu, Methodi pag. 3, articulo 6. 2. Initio suae peregrinationis in Germania, Methodi pag. 9, sectione secunda, ubi causam imperfectionis in scientiis detexit. 3. Sectionis tertiae paragrapho penultimo, cum rursus se ad peregrinandum accinxit, toto hoc novennio peregrinationis suae: qui hoc animadvertit est in primo gradu ad scientiam, quemadmodum cognitio peccati est primus gradus ad conversionem. Qui

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Clauberg, <i>Notae</i> (c. 1654–1655)	De Raey, CPH 1657–1658	Clauberg, <i>Paraphrasis</i> (1658)	Wittich, <i>Observationes</i> (c. 1659–1664)	Wittich, <i>Annotationes</i> (c. 1659–1687)
animadvertit in peregrinatione, occasione illius, quod opera quibus diversi artifices, inter se non consentientes, manum adhibere, raro tam perfecta sint, quam illa quae ab uno absoluta sunt, Dissertationis de methodo p. 11: “eodemque etiam modo cogitavi, quoniam infantes omnes ante fuimus quam viri” et c. L. Tertio illud animadvertit specialius dubitationis novennio “circa res singulas observando quidnam possit in dubium revocari, et quidnam nobis occasionem male iudicandi praeberet”, Dissertationis de methodo pag. 26. ⁸¹		opiniones pro veris admiserim. ⁸⁴	agnitio peccati est primus gradus ad conversionem. Qui hoc vero non animadvertunt, nunquam ad solidam rerum cognitionem pervenire possunt, cum meliora non desiderentur, quemadmodum ante Evangelium promulgatum gentes suas tenebras non animadvertunt. ⁸⁶	vero hoc nunquam animadvertunt, nunquam ad solidam rerum cognitionem provenire [sic] possunt, cum meliora non desiderent, quemadmodum ante Evangelium promulgatum gentes suas tenebras non animadvertunt. ⁸⁷

Case of the lemma “*ingens opus*”

Clauberg, <i>Notae</i> (c. 1654–1655)	De Raey, CPH 1657–1658	Clauberg, <i>Paraphrasis</i> (1658)	Wittich, <i>Observationes</i> (c. 1659–1664)	Wittich, <i>Annotationes</i> (c. 1659–1687)
<p><i>Sed ingens opus.</i> A. <i>Ingens hoc opus vocat primo respectu generalis opinionum eversionis, quia valde arduum et difficile est sic excutere ex animo nostro ea quae ante ab eo assumpta et approbata fuerunt, partim quia dubitandi rationes habere oportet antequam dubitare velimus (unde praecipuas earum philosophus in hac Meditatione exposuit), partim quod etsi statuerimus nihil affirmare vel negare, decreti tamen illius facile obliviscamur, nisi profunde memoriae fuerit infixum, ideoque ut attente hac de re cogitaretur postulavit, vide epistolae ad Instantias Gassendi pag. 143. [...] D. Deinde <i>ingens opus</i> hoc appellat intuitu novae inchoationis a primis solidae scientiae fundamentis, qua de re disserit author de <i>Methodo</i> in fine sectionis secundae [...].⁸⁸</i></p>	<p><i>Ingens opus esse.</i> Primo quidem generalis illa eversio male fundatarum opinionum, quae longo usu et familiaritatis ... devinctam sibi ... credulitatem nostram. Secundo, instauratio illa, omni ex parte bene fundatae et instauratae scientiae et deinde bene ordinatae a primis fundamentis. Parte ultima sectionis secundae Methodi et parte ultima sectionis tertiae et parte secunda sectionis secundae.⁸⁹</p>	<p>Sed attendenti ex una parte, quam tenaces natura simus eorum, quae rudibus annis intellecta nobis existimamus, ob longam iis credendi consuetudinem. Ex altera, quam difficile sit immota naturalis certitudinis principia, et quae a nullo humano ingenio labefactari queant fundamenta reperire, geminatum illud quod proposueram, destructionis scilicet et constructionis, opus valde arduum atque <i>ingens esse iam tum videbatur.</i>⁹⁰</p>	<p><i>Ingens opus.</i> Hoc est arduum et laboriosum, quatenus proprio Marte erat ab auctore consequendum: nunc autem glacie ab ipso fracta nobis est facilius. Illud autem opus est, tum generalis eversio omnium male fundatarum opinionum, quae familiaritate et longo usu devinctam sibi tenebant nostram credulitatem, tum instauratio philosophiae a primis fundamentis.⁹¹</p>	<p><i>Ingens opus.</i> Quatenus proprio Marte ab auctore erat exsequendum, erat valde arduum, et laboriosum, sed nunc glacie fracta nobis est facilius: illud autem opus est, tum generalis eversio omnium male fundatarum opinionum, quae longo familiaritatis usu constrictam tenebant nostram credulitatem, tum etiam instauratio philosophiae a primis fundamentis.⁹²</p>

Case of the lemma “ratio persuadet”

Clauberg, Notae (c. 1654–1655)	Clauberg, Paraphrasis (1658)	Wittich, Observationes (c. 1659–1664)	Wittich, Annotationes (c. 1659–1687)
<i>Sed quia iam ratio persuadet.</i> [...] B. Sed iam plenius dicamus, quae ratio persuadeat, [...] prima desumitur a natura philosophiae, cuius est animum humanum perficere, quantum naturae viribus est possibile in hac vita, ac proinde merito tendit ad omnem possibilem certitudinem, quae ab omnibus etiam possibilibus dubitandi rationibus libera existat. ⁹³	Etenim quia haec dubiorum reiectio eo tendit, ut prorsus indubitata principia inveniam, et quia scientia, ad quam adspiro, dubii omnis experts esse debet, cum veritas cuiusque rei talis sit, ut magis et minus non recipiat, nec nisi unum verum et rectum in re qualibet esse queat, manifestum est in hoc negotio, non minus accurate ab iis quae non plane certa sunt atque indubitata, quam ab aperte falsis, assensionem esse cohibendam. ⁹⁴	<i>Ratio persuadet.</i> Quia haec dubiorum reiectio eo tendit, ut prorsus indubitata principia inveniam, et scientiam ab omni dubio immunem. Vide Synopsin Primae Meditationis in fine. ⁹⁵	<i>Ratio persuadet.</i> Quia haec dubiorum reiectio eo tendit, ut prorsus indubitata principia inveniam, et scientiam ab omni dubio immunem. Vide Synopsin Primae Meditationis fine. ⁹⁶

Case of the lemma “genium”

De Raey, CPH 1657–1658	Wittich, <i>Observationes</i> (c. 1659–1664)	Wittich, <i>Annotationes</i> (c. 1659–1687)	Clauberg, <i>Notae</i> (posthumous edition, 1691)
<p><i>Sed genium aliquem malignum.</i> Potuisset author, hac suppositione ommissa, simpliciter fingere seu supponere falsa esse ea quibus in ineunte aetate credulitatem suam addixerat, eaque suppositio nil potuisset, frequenti conscientia et experientia nostrorum errorum. Sed quia nimirum nihil omittendum erat quod a pertinacissimo obiici vel fingi posset, author prudenter admodum, hoc etiam largitur adversario supponitque non modo nos falli in opinionibus nostris a nobismet ipsis, verum etiam aliquem esse extra nos qui nobis imponat. Et ut omnem cavillandi occasionem effugeret a Deo quem fontem veritatis vocat transfert istam fraudem in rem cogitantem et satis potentem aliam, quales censentur esse genii sive mentes separatae. Et quanquam vix quisquam inter Christianos certitudini suae scientiae sibi ... a malis geniis, certum est Gentiles multo maiorem vim iis attribuere multasque eorum experiri imposturas. Philosophia autem generalis esse debet et nulli religioni mancipata. Accedit denique peculiaris ratio huius suppositionis, quod primo multum iuvat ad distinctam cognitionem mentis si fingamus et nostri corporis et aliarum rerum corporearum ideas nobis aliunde obtrudi, quia tam manifestum est mentem quae habet tales ideas nullam talem rem corpoream esse. Adde quod valde ... et certa</p>	<p><i>Supponam igitur.</i> Sufficere potuisset supponi, nos falli in omnibus a nobis ipsis, sed ut nihil omitteret, quod a pertinacissimo adversario adduci potuisset, supponit etiam esse aliquem extra nos, qui nos data opera fallat. <i>Non optimum Deum.</i> Accurate transfert deceptionem a Deo ad genium, ad omnem calumniam effugiendam. <i>Fontem veritatis.</i> Qui propterea non potest fallere si sit fons veritatis, quod quidem hic nondum notum est certitudine infallibili sed demum notum fiet Meditatione Quarta: verum quia vel genium vel Deus hic supponi potuit nos fallere, maluit prius tanquam minus reprehensioni obnoxium. <i>Malignum.</i> Quanquam vix quisquam inter Christianos certitudini suae scientiae metuat a malis geniis, id tamen fit inter Gentiles, qui multas eorum experiantur imposturas. Et debet valde evidens esse et certa scientiae, quae posita tam hyperbolica suppositione consistere potest, uti postea videbimus.⁹⁸</p>	<p><i>Supponam et c.</i> Sufficere potuisset supponi nos falli a nobis ipsis in omnibus: sed ut nihil omitteret, quod a pertinacissimo adversario adduci potuisset, supponit etiam esse aliquem extra nos, qui nos data opera fallat. <i>Optimum Deum.</i> Accurate a Deo ad genium transfert fallaciam ad omnem calumniam effugiendam. <i>Veritatis.</i> Propter quam non posset fallere, quod de Deo nunc quidem non potuit certo cognoscere ante Meditatione Tertia, sed illud ex veteri opinione de Deo loquitur, et quia non est necessario Deo id attribuere, quod potest ad genium malignum referri. <i>Malignum.</i> Quanquam vix quisquam inter Christianos a malis geniis, id tantum fit inter Gentiles, qui multas eorum experiantur imposturas. Philosophia qualis [<i>sic</i>] esse debet, et nulli religioni mancipata. Accedit, quod valde debeat esse evidens et certa scientia, quae seposita tam hyperbolica suppositione consistere posset. Facit etiam multum ad distinctam cognitionem mentis, si fingamus, et nostri corporis et aliarum rerum corporearum ideas aliunde nobis obtendi, inde enim manifestum est mentem, qui [<i>sic</i>] habet eas ideas, nullam tamen rem corpoream esse. Epistolae ad Voetium pag. 32.⁹⁹</p>	<p><i>Genium.</i> Q. Licet vix quisquam inter Christianos certitudini suae scientiae metuat a malis geniis, certum tamen est, Gentiles multo maiorem illis vim attribuere, multasque eorum experiri imposturas. Philosophia autem generalis esse debet.¹⁰⁰</p>

(Continued)

Continued.

De Raey, CPH 1657–1658	Wittich, <i>Observationes</i> (c. 1659–1664)	Wittich, <i>Annotationes</i> (c. 1659–1687)	Clauberg, <i>Notae</i> (posthumous edition, 1691)
debeat esse conclusio, ... tam hyperbolica hypotesi sistere potest: prout videmus sequenti Meditatione de existentia mentis. ⁹⁷			

Case of the lemma “exiguum”

De Raey, CPH 1657–1658	Clauberg, <i>Paraphrasis</i> (1658)	Wittich, <i>Observationes</i> (c. 1659–1664)	Wittich, <i>Annotationes</i> (c. 1659–1687)
<i>Exiguum quid et c.</i> Cum Hippocrate, Democrito, Epicuro et plerisque aliis antiquis philosophicis [sic] et ipso etiam Aristotele, quando non logicae sed physicae considerabat animae substantiam, ut colligere licet ex libro 2 cap. 3 de Generatione animalium collato cum textibus aliis inde enim evidens est apud Aristotelem substantiam animae esse subtile et calidum atque incorruptibile quoddam corpus, quod elemento stellarum analogum dicebat, propter perennem motum et intellectum. Vide ea quae dictavimus ad pag. 69. ¹⁰¹	Vel si quid advertebam, exiguum quid imaginabar instar venti, vel aëris, vel aetheris, quod primariis sive crassioribus mei partibus esset infusum (quo sensu Virgilius in simili re dixit: “totamque infusa per artus mens agitat molem”) per attributa, ut postea liquebit, aliena et heterogenea. ¹⁰²	<i>Vel exiguum.</i> Vulgares philosophi animam considerantes logice definiunt: actum sive entelechian corporis organici potentia vitam habentis, qua definitione non magis explicatur animae essentia, quam si quis diceret: formam horologii esse, quod sit actus ferrei organici: hanc definitionem examinat author: quoniam tantum vult considerare id, quod sponte per cognitionem naturalem de se putaverit. <i>Vel exiguum quid.</i> Sic antiqui plerique philosophi de anima senserunt, et vix ulli alii etiam nunc citra revelationem divinam aliter animam concipiunt: haec sententia fuit Democriti, Hippocratis, Epicuri, ipsius Aristotelis, quando physice consideravit animae substantiam, ut colligere licet ex libro secundo de Generatione animalium comparato cum textibus aliis. Inde enim evidens est, substantiam animae secundum ipsum esse subtile, calidum atque corruptibile corpus, materiae stellarum analogum, propter perpetuum motum et	<i>Exiguum.</i> Quando Peripatetici considerant logice, definiunt actum seu ἐντελέχϊαν corporis organici potentia vitam habentis, qua definitione non magis explicatur animae essentia, quam si quis diceret formam horologii esse, quod sit actus ferrei organici potentia certum motum habentis. Alias Aristoteles quando animae substantiam consideravit physice, cum aliis antiquis philosophis consideravit eam, tanquam subtile, calidum, atque incorruptibile quoddam corpus, ut colligere licet ex libro 2 de Generatione animalium comparato cum textibus aliis: et vix alii citra revelationem divinam vel talem methodum animam aliter concipiunt. <i>Exiguum quid.</i> Sic omnes antiqui philosophi, et sic alii citra revelationem animam aliter non concipiunt. Haec sententia Democriti, Hippocratis, Epicuri, et coeterorum, ipsiusque Aristotelis, quando philosophice consideravit animae substantiam, tu colligere licet ex libro Generationis animalium

(Continued)

Continued.

De Raey, CPH 1657–1658	Clauberg, <i>Paraphrasis</i> (1658)	Wittich, <i>Observationes</i> (c. 1659–1664)	Wittich, <i>Annotationes</i> (c. 1659–1687)
		intellectum, quamvis quando animam consideravit logice, eam aliter definiverit tali definitione in ... nihil nisi vera, non intellecta prout supra vidimus. Similis sententia est Porphyrii citante eum Pena de Usu optices, "ait Porphyrius in eo libro quem scripsit de Anthro Homerico, animos et genios corpus habere, sed valde tenue, aerium et humidum, et cum aeris natura calore fundatur, et tenuior fiat, frigore vero cogatur et densescat hinc fieri colligit, ut animi interdiu aciem fugiant oculorum propter lucis calorem, noctu vero densentur et aspectabilis fiant propter nocturnum frigus". ¹⁰³	comparato cum textibus aliis. ¹⁰⁴

Case of Principia I.1

Clauberg, notes on <i>Principia</i> I.1–8 (c. 1654–1655)	Clauberg, <i>Notae breves</i> (c. 1662–1664)	Wittich, <i>dictata on Principiorum philosophiae pars prima</i> (c. 1659–1664)
Considera etiam differentiam inter Primam Meditationem et hos articulos: v.g. ibi numero singulari de se, hic in plurali de nobis loquitur, quia Principia philosophiae publici iuris faciens voluit contendere ut, si vera essent, a quam plurimis reciperentur, vide Epistolae ad Dinetum pag. 150 fine. ¹⁰⁵	<i>Quoniam infantes nati sumus.</i> Vide infra paragraphum LXXI huius partis, et Responzionum Sextarum pag. 165. Hic loquitur auctor in numero plurali, secus ac in Meditationibus, quia hoc scriptum cum ederet, iam paratus erat contendere, ut si vera essent, quae in eo traderet, a quamplurimis reciperentur et c. Vide Epistolae ad Dinetum pag. 150 fine. ¹⁰⁶	<i>Tulimus.</i> Hic loquitur author in plurali, atque ita supponit quaedam per methodum syntheticam, quae nondum erant probata. In Meditationibus loquitur in singulari de se solo, de quo per intimam conscientiam, accuratam potuit habere cognitionem. ¹⁰⁷

Case of Principia I.3

De Raey, CPH 1658	De Raey, HH 1659–1661	Clauberg, <i>Notae breves</i> (c. 1662–1664)	Wittich, <i>dictata on Principiorum philosophiae pars prima</i> (c. 1659–1664)	De Raey, LID 1664–1668	De Raey, AMS 1669–1702
<p><i>Ad contemplationem veritatis.</i> Illam nimirum quae philosophiae propria est, nam extra hunc respectum dubitatio adeo generalis et seria locum non habet. Vide regulam secundam ethices, pag. 23. Aliae disciplinae etiam quidem contemplantur veritatem, at non tam ipsius veritatis quam alterius usus, et saepe etiam actionis gratia. Ex. gr. theologia propter humanam salutem, medicina propter sanitatem, logica propter disputationem, iurisprudentia iustitiae administrandae gratia inter homines. Ideoque tam rigido ibi opus non est examine atque in philosophia, in qua ipsa veritas sibi pretium est, etiamsi alius usus inde non sequeretur.¹⁰⁸</p>	<p><i>Ad contemplationem veritatis.</i> Philosophicam nempe in qua ipsa veritas sibi pretium est, etsi alius usus inde non sequeretur. Aliae disciplinae etiam quidem contemplantur veritatem, at non ita veritatis sed alterius usus et saepe actionis gratia. E. gr. theologia propter humanam salutem, iurisprudentia iustitiae administrandae gratia inter homines, atque ideo tam rigido ibi opus non est examine.¹⁰⁹</p>	<p><i>Ad solam contemplationem veritatis.</i> Scilicet philosophicam, in qua ipsa veritas sibi pretium est, etsi alius usus inde non sequeretur. Aliae disciplinae quidem contemplantur veritatem, at non ita veritatis, sed alterius usus et saepe actionis gratia. Atque ideo tam rigido ibi opus non est examine.¹¹⁰</p>	<p><i>Ad solam contemplationem.</i> Hinc in Prima Meditatione dicit nullum hinc metuendum periculum nec errorem. Periculum esse non potest, quia haec dubitatio non versatur circa moralia vel res agendas, in quibus solis est periculum; non etiam error est metuendus, quia error per ipsam dubitationem vitatur: qui enim dubitat, non iudicat, et qui non iudicat, non errat: error enim est in iudicio. Sic ergo per hanc limitationem excipiuntur res morales; item res fidei et religionis, quae omnia ad usum vitae spectant.¹¹¹</p>	<p><i>Ad contemplationem veritatis.</i> Et quidem ad philosophiam, adeo ut haec dubitatio in aliis disciplinis locum non habeat, quippe quae ad usum vitae spectant, atque alium finem habent. Et qui rerum agendarum necessitas non semper tam accurati examini moram patitur, fatendum est, humanam vitam circa res particulares saepe erroribus esse obnoxiam. Sed illi ut nec praeiudicia non ita saepius nocent tibi, nec tam accurato examine ibi opus est, sed sufficit grossarium esse. Methodi pag. 16.¹¹²</p>	<p><i>Ad contemplationem veritatis.</i> Et quidem philosophicam quae valde accurata et rigida est et in qua veritas ultimus finis est.¹¹³</p>

Case of Principia I.4

Clauberg, <i>Dictata philosophica</i> (c. 1657)	De Raey, CPH 1658	De Raey, HH 1659–1661	Clauberg, <i>Notae breves</i> (c. 1662–1664)	Wittich, <i>dictata on Principiorum philosophiae pars prima</i> (c. 1659–1664)	De Raey, LID 1664–1668	De Raey, AMS 1669–1702
<i>Errare.</i> Nempе in tertio gradu. Vide Dubitationis p. 276. ¹¹⁴	<i>Existant.</i> De rebus sensibilibus insuper iudicamus quid sint. Ex. gr. quod Sol rotundus sit, ignis calidus. Hinc duo summa genera praeiudiciorum./ <i>Sensus errare.</i> Ratione iudicii quod tertium gradum sensus constituit, Sextarum Responsonum paragrapho 9 \pag. 163/. Ea autem circa quae sensus errat revocari possunt ad varia capita, Primo, circa obiecta propria, hoc est, patibiles qualitates, circa quas vulgo nunquam nos semper \sensus/ errare dicimus, quatenus fingimus qualitates illas tales reipsa et formaliter esse in obiecto, quales in secundo gradu sensus menti repraesentantur. Secundo, sensus versantur circa magnitudinem, figuram, motum, situm, atque distantiam, quae dicuntur vulgo obiecta communia, et circa haec etiam saepissime erramus ubi obiecta nimis parva vel	<i>Existant.</i> De rebus sensibilibus insuper iudicamus quid sint: e. gr. Sol quod rotundus sit, ignis calidus. Hinc duo summa genera praeiudiciorum. <i>Sensus errare.</i> Hoc ut intelligatur: primo, ante omnia distinguendi sunt, tres in omni sensu gradus ex paragrapho 9 Sextarum Responsonum. Secundo, notandum est authorem non dicere, quod sensus semper errent, sed interdum. Nimirum in iudicio de rerum earum quae satis magnae et propincae sunt existantiae sensus errat nunquam: ut valeat ibi semper non affirmantium tantum, sed et negativum testimonium. Sed alia ratio est earum rerum, quae satis magnae et propincae non sunt, ad afficiendum sensus nostros. Hic ergo locum inveniunt errores infiniti, quatenus ea omnia quae sensum fugiunt etiam	<i>Existant.</i> Insuper iudicavimus quid sint. <i>Interdum sensus errare.</i> De rerum, quae satis magnae et propincae, existentia nunquam errant, ut valeat ibi non affirmativum tantum, sed etiam negativum testimonium. Contra in aliis, ubi quae sensum fugiunt etiam non existere putamus. Circa propria sensibilia communiter dicunt, sensus unquam errare. Nos ex adverso eos semper errare dicimus, quatenus credimus ex iudicio sensuum qualitates illas tales existere in obiectis, quales sensui exhibentur. <i>Errare.</i> Ratione tertii gradus. Vide Sextarum Responsonum paragraphum 9. ¹¹⁷	<i>Sensus errare.</i> Picus Mirandula distinguit inter sensus indicium et iudicium, quod se fundat super indicio, cui saepe aliquid addit, vel quod pervertit error, ergo est in iudicio sensuum. ¹¹⁸	<i>Errare.</i> Circa obiectum proprium semper, ut sunt lumen, color, odor, sapor, calor, frigus, et talia, quae vulgo patibiles qualitates vocantur. Et supponuntur talia esse in obiectis, qualia sunt in sensu. Quod in physica videbimus falsum esse, quia in obiectis aliud nihil, quam motus est, quo afficitur sensus noster. Deinde circa obiectum commune, cuiusmodi est, de quantitate: rem quamlibet magnitudine sua sensui nostro respondere, ut Solem quasi pedalem esse. De qualitate: rem sensui nostro dissimilem non esse, ut Lunam instar disci habere. De existentia ipsa: non esse, quae sensus nostros fugiunt, ut aerem nihil rei esse. Unde videmus, quod circa talia sunt magnitudo, figura, motus, situs, quies,	<i>Sensus errare.</i> In tertio gradu, \nam neque in primo neque in secundo sensimus gradu, sed tantum in tertio error est,/ paragrapho 9 Sextarum Responsonum pag. 163. Et quidem circa obiecta propria, patibiles scilicet qualitates sensus errant semper, quatenus tale quid supponit in obiecto quale quid percipiunt apud se, exempli gratia colorem in parete, calorem in igne, dolorem in pede. Quod falsum esse postea videbimus. Circa obiecta communia, magnitudinem, figuram, motum, quietem, situm, distantiam, sensus quidem praeter propter assequitur veritatem in iis quae satis propincae et satis magna sunt: et haec sensuum cognitio sufficit in usu vitae et artibus. Sed vero circa dissita aut nimis parva sensus frequentissime errat quatenus negat quicquid non percipit, et id quod aliquo modo

longius dissita fuerint. Tertio, sensus animadvertit operationes et vires agendi, circa quas etiam saepissime errat, tum quatenus vim agendi adscribat subiectis quibus ea non competit, ut ventriculo vim coquendi, et c., tum quatenus vires agendi corporeas haud aliter concipit atque facultates animae, ut author ostendit exemplo gravitatis, Sextarum Responsionum pag. 10. Quarto, sensus multis modis errat in iudicio de corporum substantia atque existentia, ut ostenditur articulo 71 huius partis. Si quis nobis obiiciat sensum tamen semper non errare in tribus posterioribus casibus, responditur: hinc non sequi sensuum iudicia non debere in dubium vocari, nisi quis nobis viam ostendere possit, qua intellectus sibi permissus et sensus nondum repurgatus verum a falso tam clare discernere possit ut nulla ratio dubitandi supersit. Adde quod saepe diximus ad conclusionem philosophicam satis non esse quod verum sit, sed debet esse bene fundata, hoc est iustis rationibus stabilita. Paragrapho 9.¹¹⁵

revera non existere putamus. Quanto ad iudicia de rerum naturis et proprietatibus ea triplicia occurrunt: primum genus versatur circa propria sensuum obiecta; vulgo patibiles qualitates vocant, et hic communiter dicunt philosophi, sensus errare nunquam, nos ex adverso eos semper errare dicimus, quatenus credimus ex iudicio sensuum qualitates illas tales existere in obiectis, quales sensui exhibentur. Secundo huc spectant iudicia de magnitudine, figura, motu, quiete, situ ac distantia, quae vulgo dicuntur obiecta communia, quae quidem etiam in rebus propinquis ac satis magnis prope ad veritatem accedunt, at vero in rebus dissitis et valde parvis modo vera modo falsa sunt. Tertio addi possunt iudicia de facultatibus et viribus agendi, quae etiam infinitis modis falsa sunt.¹¹⁶

distantia, sensus saepe errat, ubi obiectum minus remotum, ... parvum est. Ut autem distinctius intelligamus, quomodo sensus erret, tres ex eo gradus distinguendi sunt. Responsiones Sextae, pag. 163, paragrapho 9: receptio nempe, perceptio, et iudicium, et in hoc ultimo tantum error est. ... denique, sensum non errare in aliquibus, et verum esse iudicium eius, hinc non sequitur sine examine, et absque ratione sensum sequendum esse in philosophia, quia iudicium sensus non bene fundatum est, ut videbimus articulo 71.¹¹⁹

percipit ut magnitudinem Solis aut Lunae praecise tale et tantum credit esse secundum se quale et quantum sensibus apparet. Si autem aliquid horum forte verum esse contingat ut casu fit, et sic non quidem falsa sed male fundata est sensuum cognitio. Possemus addere sensuum iudicia de substantia quae dicitur per accidens incurrere in sensum, item de potentiis et viribus agendi quae tantum per effectus in sensum incurrunt.¹²⁰

Case of Principia I.7

Clauberg, notes on <i>Principia</i> I.1–8 (c. 1654–1655)	Clauberg, <i>Dictata philosophica</i> (c. 1657)	Wittich, <i>dictata on Principiorum philosophiae pars prima</i> (c. 1659–1664)
<p>Illud articulum 7, “facile quidem supponimus nullum esse Deum”, duriusculum aliquibus videtur. At sciendum primo, authorem in hoc ordine philosophandi non potuisse aliter loqui, quia nec dum cognoverat Deum, necdum eius existentiam demonstraverat. [...] Denique, authorem non supponere, quod nullus sit Deus, sed tantum dicere, facile quidem supponimus, h. e. supponere sive fingere possumus, sed non ideo fingere possumus nos non esse et c. [...] Obiectionem aliam contra articulum 7 refutatam vide capituli sequentis articulo 26. [...]</p> <p>Contra qua cavillator aliquis ita insurgit: “itane certior tui quam Dei existentia? Et homuncionem, qui cum Deo comparatus revera nihil est, [...] esse necesse est, Deum esse non necesse est? Non effugies, puto, Deum impietatis ultorem et maiestatis suae vindicem”. Ubi bonus vir confundit certitudinem quae rei tribuitur estque necessitas quaedam in existendo, cum ea quae tribuitur intellectui. Nempe quia Dei existentia necessaria est, hominis vero contingens, ideo existimat, mentem humanam etiam prius et facilius de Deo certam esse qua in de semetipsa. Haec rationes si dubium in se opponatur certo in se, idem valebit quod contingens sive contingenter existens.¹²¹</p>	<p><i>Facile quidem supponimus.</i> Hoc est facile quidem possumus fingere. Dicit hic tantum author quod est possibile. Duriuscula haec verba videntur antagonistas, ideoque prolixius et clarius illa hic explicare operae pretium esse censemus [...].¹²²</p>	<p><i>Reiicientes.</i> Author hic utitur duriori voce, quia nimirum illis sensuum praeiudiciis adhaeremus. [...] <i>Facile quidem.</i> Hoc est comparative accipiendum, id est facilius supponimus nullum esse Deum et c. quam nos non existere. [...] Sed obiicies: absurdum esse, certioem esse nostri quam Dei existentia, quia inde sequatur homuncionem existere, non vero necesse sit Deum existere, id quod valde absurdum est. Respondeo hoc nullo modo inde sequitur, potest enim quod est contingens quo ad existentiam nobis tamen magis certum esse, respectu nostrae cognitionis, quam id quod respectu suae existentiae est necessarium [...].¹²³</p>

Case of Principia I.9

De Raey, CPH 1658	De Raey, HH 1659–1661	Clauberg, <i>Notae breves</i> (c. 1662–1664)	Wittich, <i>dictata on Principiorum philosophiae pars prima</i> (c. 1659–1664)	De Raey, LID 1664–1668	De Raey, AMS 1669–1702
<p><i>Nobis consciis in nobis fiunt.</i> Vel sunt ita ut mens eorum subiectum et causa efficiens sit. Quae ergo ad solum corpus spectant, nullo modo involvunt cogitationem, ut coctio cibi, secretio urinae. Secundo, quae ad solam mentem spectant, et illi per se competunt quatenus est res cogitans tantum, ut velle, nolle, affirmare, negare; sunt cogitationes merae, quarum omni ex parte mens sibi conscia est, eo momento quo eas habet. Tertio, quaedam in nobis ad totum compositum spectant, ut sensus et appetitus, quae cogitationes sunt quatenus eorum immediate nobis conscii sumus. Antecedere potest aliquid in corpore ut primus gradus sensus, et sequi ut motus arbitrarius, quae cogitationes non sunt.¹²⁴</p>	<p><i>Quatenus eorum in nobis conscientia est.</i> Trium [...] generum in nobis sunt actiones et proprietates. Quaedam ad solum corpus, aliae ad mentem tantum et aliae denique ad totum compositum spectant. Quae ad mentem spectant in iis necessario involvitur conscientia, talia sunt intelligere, velle, ratiocinari. Quae ad solum corpus spectant in iis ex adverso nulla involvitur conscientia, et talia sunt gravitas, levitas, color, figura, motus, et c. Denique ad compositum spectant sensus, appetitus et affectus. Atque in his aliquid est cuius immediatam conscientiam habemus et aliquid etiam cuius haud ita immediate sumus conscii ex. gr. ... primus sensuum, item ita vellicatio stomachi, quae causa famis est, ut et ea corporis perturbatio, quae causa affectuum est.¹²⁵</p>	<p><i>In nobis conscientia est.</i> Actiones et proprietates in nobis spectant: 1. solam mentem, 2. solum corpus, 3. compositum. Prima necessario involvunt conscientiam sui, secunda non, tertia partim involvunt, partim non, ut sensus ratione trium graduum.¹²⁶</p>	<p><i>Conscii sumus.</i>¹²⁷ Primo, in totum purae intellectionis et volitionis, quos vocant actus elicitos. Secundo, conscii sumus ex parte et aliquatenus sive cum restrictione actuum sensationis, item actuum imperatorum, qualis est actus movendi nostra membra. Tertio, conscii sumus eorum in quibus nulla cogitatio continetur, sed valde mediate et remote, cuiusmodi sunt actus omnes, qui pertinent ad nutritionem corporis nostri: istiusmodi enim actus ratiocinative demum cognoscimus, non immediate per conscientiam.¹²⁸</p>	<p><i>Quatenus in nobis eorum conscientia est.</i> Quod clarum fit, si distinguamus solius corporis, et mentis, et totius compositi, actus. Actus corporis, quorum nulla conscientia est, sunt magnitudo, figura, motus coctio, nutritio, et c. [...] Mentis actus, quorum est conscientia, sunt intelligere, velle, nolle, et c. Denique actus compositi, quorum conscientiam habemus, ut ad corpus spectant, sensus et motus sunt. Et ad intelligendum, quid in his ad animam spectet, valde utilis est distinctio trium graduum in sensu, quae traditur Sextarum Responzionum pag. 163, paragrapho 9.¹²⁹</p>	<p><i>Cogitationis nomine.</i> [...] 1. Quae ad corpus pertinent eorum nullam habemus conscientiam, exempli grati, figura, motus, calor, nutritio, aliquae innumera. 2. Quaedam ex adverso omnino propria mentis sunt, ut intelligere, affirmare, negare, velle, nolle. [...] Adeoque horum actionum per omnia sumus conscii, eo momento quo eas exercemus. 3. Quaedam sunt medii generis et ab unione mentis cum corpore pendent, ut affectus et sensus omnes, tum interni, tum externi. [...] Qui actus idcirco cogitationes sunt quatenus eorum in nobis immediata conscientia est, exempli gratia doloris quatenus tristis sensatio est in mente cuius interventu advertit corpori suo male esse in parte aliqua.¹³⁰</p>

Case of Principia I.37

De Raey, HH 1659–1661	Clauberg, <i>Notae breves</i> (c. 1662–1664)
<i>Quia necessario illos sic exhibent. Necessitas opposita libertati vulgo ponitur in intrinseco et ad unum determinato principio agendi, quod vocat naturam. Ex. gr.: quod ignis urat, lapis descendat, coelum semper in gyrum agatur et c. Qua in opinione involvitur perniciosissimus error [...]. Ut ergo nec scindendi in cultro nec laedendi in sagitta vir ab intrinseca cultri vel sagittae necessitate pendet, sic putandum est de omnibus rebus corporeis quorum idcirco necessitas in agendo eodem modo explicanda est.¹³¹</i>	<i>Quia necessario illos sic exhibent. Necessitas opposita libertati vulgo ponitur in intrinseco et ad unum determinato principio agendi, quod vocat naturam. Ex. gr. quod ignis urat, lapis descendat, et c. Qua in opinione involvitur perniciosissimus error [...]. Sicut ergo nec scindendi in cultro nec laedendi in sagitta vir ab intrinseca cultri vel sagittae necessitate pendet, ita de reliquis omnibus rebus corporeis et c.¹³²</i>

Case of Principia I.71

Clauberg, <i>Dictata philosophica</i> (c. 1657)	De Raey, CPH 1658	De Raey, HH 1659–1661	Clauberg, <i>Notae breves</i> (c. 1662–1664)	De Raey, LID 1664–1668	De Raey, AMS 1669–1702
<i>Temere. A causis internis et externis.¹³³</i>	<i>Temere. Prout ab internis vel externis causis fortuito impellebatur, adeoque illud temere opponitur imperio rationis et consilio voluntatis, quae in infantibus vix locum habent.¹³⁴</i>	<i>Temere. Hoc est absque consilio, partim ex spiritu fortuito spirituum motu et cursu, partim ex fortuito causarum externarum vel internarum impulsu in mobiles infantium partes.¹³⁵</i>	<i>Temere. Id est, absque consilio, partim ex fortuito spirituum motu et cursu, partim ex fortuito causarum externarum vel internarum impulsu in mobiles infantium partes. Temere. A causis internis et externis.¹³⁶</i>	<i>Temere. Hoc est, citra voluntatis imperium, spontaneo spirituum influxus. Tales autem motus spontanei et necessarii vi spirituum et sanguinis aliqui toto vitae tempore fiunt, pulsus cordis, arteriarum, respiratio, et c.¹³⁷</i>	<i>Temere. Prout nempe ab internis vel externis causis corporeis incitatur ad motum aut etiam ipsi animales spiritus suoapte impetu ruunt in nervos: ut faciunt continuo in respirazione et aliis motibus naturalibus. Hic autem intelliguntur motus animales qui dicuntur temere et fortuito fieri, quatenus non subsunt imperio animae in prima aetate.¹³⁸</i>

Notes

1. Bos, *Correspondence*; Verbeek, “Heereboord, Adriaan”.
2. Notably, the University of Leiden had been a centre of dissemination of ideas alternative to Aristotelianism at least since 1613, when Willebrord Snel (1580–1626) assumed the chair of mathematics and adopted a Ramist-inspired methodology in teaching, being later followed in this by Jacob Golius (1596–1667). On the Leiden tradition in teaching, see Lunsingh Scheurleer and Posthumus Meyjes, *Leiden University*; Ruestow, *Physics at Seventeenth and Eighteenth-Century Leiden*; Wiesenfeldt, *Leerer Raum*.
3. Historians are increasingly exploring different uses of Descartes in and outside academia, as well as with regard to the “higher” academic disciplines of medicine and theology: see, for instance, Schmaltz, *Early Modern Cartesianisms*.
4. I discuss the *dictata* terminology in Section 4.
5. See the special issue they edited for the *Intellectual History Review: Note-Taking in Early Modern Europe*, volume 20, issue 3, 2010.
6. Verbeek, “*Les Principia*”; Verbeek, “Clauberg et les *Principia*”; Collacciani, “Manuscripts”; Cellamare, “A Theologian”.
7. <http://lectio.ghum.kuleuven.be/lectio/magister-dixit>, accessed 28 June 2021. See also Coesmans, *Faculties of the Mind*.
8. Samuel Sorbière (1615–1670) to Pierre Petit (1594–1677), 20 February 1657, in Sorbière, *Lettres*, 687; De Raey to Melchior Leydekker (1642–1721), 25 October 1687, in De Raey, *Cogitata*, 666; Du Rieu, *Album*, XLII, 344, 366; Molhuysen, *Bronnen*, volume 3, 2. According to Adrien Baillet (1649–1706, who, however, does not declare his source), De Raey taught medicine privately and, by such teaching, Descartes’s ideas: Baillet, *Vie*, volume 2, 350. On De Raey, see Verbeek, “Tradition and Novelty”; Schuurman, “*Ex naturæ lumine*”; Strazzone, “De Raey”; Del Prete, “*Duplex Intellectus*”.
9. Clauberg enrolled at Leiden University in November 1648 and studied under De Raey until August 1649: Clauberg, *Logica vetus et nova* (1658 edition): *Tobiae Andreae [Epistola]*, 1 and 3 (unnumbered); Clauberg, *Physica: Johanni de Raey [Epistola]*, 1–2 (unnumbered); Clauberg, *Opera: Vita per Christianum Henninium descripta*, 4 (unnumbered); Du Rieu, *Album*, 391; Verbeek, “Clauberg: A Bio-Bibliographical Sketch”, 183–185.
10. Clauberg, *Logica vetus et nova* (1658 edition): *Tobiae Andreae [Epistola]*, 3 (unnumbered). This might have happened during a direct meeting of De Raey and Clauberg with Descartes at The Hague, most probably in 1649. Such a meeting is testified to in Schweling, *Exercitationes cathedrae*, 184. See, moreover, Baillet, *Vie*, volume 1, xxvii–xxxii.
11. Molhuysen, *Bronnen*, volume 3, 76, 135, 137, 139, 157–159, 171, 178. See *infra*, nn. 19 and 62.
12. In particular, he taught *Physica* in the summer and winter semesters of 1654, in the summer semester of 1656, in the summer and winter semesters of 1657–1667, and in the summer semester of 1668: Molhuysen, *Bronnen*, volume 3, 27*, 31*, 48*, 68*, 72*, 76*, 90*, 92*, 95*, 119*, 140*, 142*, 150*, 167*, 174*, 176*, 178*, 187*, 190*, 191*, 192*, 194*, 203*, 208*, 211*, 215*. He taught *Institutiones medicinae* in the winter semester of 1658, in the summer and winter semesters of 1659–1661, and in the summer semester of 1662: Molhuysen, *Bronnen*, volume 3, 90*, 92*, 94*, 119*, 140*, 141*, 150*, 167*. Ole Borch reports the contents of some lectures in physiology by De Raey, including a dissection, traceable to March 1661: Borch, *Itinerarium*, volume 1, 46–47, 53, 59–60, 69, 76; see also volume 2, 30. A *collegium in Cartesio* is mentioned in a letter of Carolus Coke (c. 1641–after 1690) to Martin Schoock (1614–1669) of 14 October 1661: Schoock, *Commercium epistolicum*, Tartu, University Library, Mscr 51, 63r.
13. De Raey taught Clauberg’s *Logica vetus et nova* (1654) in his private lectures at Leiden (De Raey to Wittich, 12 August 1680, in De Raey, *Cogitata*, 658), and also dictated a commentary on Petrus Ramus’s *Dialecticae libri* (1556; see *infra*, n. 26). In October 1651, he had 15 students in logic (*collegium logicum*) and 10 in Cartesian philosophy (*collegium Cartesianum*): De Raey to Clauberg, 3 October 1651, in Lentulus, *Cartesius triumphatus*, 6. In one of his *dictata*, dating to c. 1659–1661 (as I show below), De Raey refers to a commentary on

Franco Burgersdijk's *Institutiones logicae* (1626): “\Vide mss. logica in epistola Burgersdicii pag. 8, /” Cod. phil. 323 W. 28, 15 (in the transcriptions, the use of brackets [] indicates a deletion, dots ... (without single square brackets) indicate illegible text (regardless of the number of letters), slashes \ / indicate an addition with respect to the base text of the manuscripts, and the use of italics indicates the lemmas from Descartes's works; abbreviated words and punctuation have been integrated). All his extant *dictata* on Descartes's works cover topics in metaphysics. The sensitive character of the discipline – which led in 1647–1648 to formal prohibitions on teaching Descartes's ideas – explains why the public lectures of De Raey were, at least nominally, on physics only. Also, in his *Clavis*, De Raey does not deal with Descartes's metaphysics. See Verbeek, *Descartes and the Dutch*, chapter 4.

14. See *infra*, n. 58.
15. On De Raey's activities at Amsterdam, see Van Miert, *Humanism*, 97–100. See also Molhuysen, *Bronnen*, volume 3, 220.
16. Burgersdijk, *Institutiones logicae: Praefatio*, 3 (unnumbered); Krop, “Burgersdijk, Franck”.
17. Bos, *Correspondence*, 39–40.
18. Van Otegem, *Bibliography*.
19. Two other *dictata* by De Raey are on the *Epitome Institutionum medicarum* (1631) of Daniel Sennert (1572–1637), and are extant at London: British Library, ms. Sloane 1733, and Wellcome Library, ms. 3415 (the manuscript is digitized at: <https://wellcomecollection.org/works/qa46375z>, accessed 1 December 2021). The manuscripts, the study of which exceeds the scope of the present paper, report the same text (see *infra*, n. 62). Moreover, De Raey also used to lecture on Descartes's *Les passions de l'âme* (1649): in particular, Otto Dietrich Vögeding (1635–1700), who enrolled at Leiden on 22 October 1668, witnessed De Raey's (last) lectures on Descartes's *Principia* and *Passions*, as reported in Tering, *Descartes ja tema ideede*, 29, who, however, does not declare his source.
20. Wiesenfeldt, *Leerer Raum*, 100–105.
21. See *infra*, n. 40.
22. Moldenhawer, *Bibliotheca Thottiana*, volume 7, 411.
23. Collacciani, “Manuscripts”.
24. Meinel, *Nachlass*, 117. The manuscript is digitized at: <http://resolver.sub.uni-hamburg.de/goobi/HANSw3903>, accessed 1 December 2021. Blair draws attention to Jungius's collection of lecture notes, to which De Raey's *dictata* were added after his death: Blair, “The Rise of Note-Taking”.
25. BPL 907, IIr; Luchtman, *Bibliotheca Musschenbroekiana*, 183. The manuscript is digitized at: <http://hdl.handle.net/1887.1/item:1614649>, accessed 1 December 2021.
26. The catalogue of the private library of Emtinck lists, amongst De Raey's *dictata* on Descartes's *Discours* and *Principia*, his *dictata* on Ramus's *Dialecticae libri*, as well as an annotated copy of Descartes's *Passions*: Schouten, *Bibliotheca Emtinckiana*, volume 2, 298 (items 150–152), 309 (item 298), 343 (items 156–158), 390 (item 91). See also Brouwer, *Bibliotheca Vriemoetiana*, 114 (item 1372, *dictata* on Descartes's *Principia*); Wetsten, *Bibliotheca Schallbruchiana*, 115–124 (see esp. items 541, 545, and 579–617). Some of these items date to De Raey's years at Amsterdam, where he continued to dictate on Descartes.
27. Du Rieu, *Album*, 625; Junius, *Operum analytico-practicorum tomus: Pio et candido lectori*, 5–6 (unnumbered). Schallbruch was *respondens* in two theological disputations presided over by Wittich in 1680 (*Disputatio theologica secunda*–*tertia*), *causam Sp. S. victricem demonstrans*). Schallbruch was too young to take lectures from Clauberg (who died in January 1665) at Duisburg, where he enrolled in 1668: Rotscheidt, *Die Matrikel*, 48. On Schallbruch, see Van Dam, “Aanteekeningen”; Breen, “Schallbruch”; on Van Til, see Van der Wall, “Til, Salomon van”.
28. Clauberg, *Opera: Typographi lectori philosopho S.*, 1 (unnumbered).
29. *DTB Dopen, 1 Jan 1700 - 31 Dec 1708*, Amsterdam, Stadsarchief, archiefnummer 5001, inventarisnummer 47, 40v, nr. 8.

30. “In Meditationibus et c. quae apparent loca parallela sunt descripta ex autographis Johannis de Raei, Johannis Claubergii et Christophori Wittichii. [...] Omnia maximam partem scripta manu Johannis Theodori Schalbruchii”, Wetsten, *Bibliotheca Schalbruchiana*, 120–121 (item 591).
31. For a full-blown discussion, see Bourke, “Introduction”, xxii–xxiii.
32. Boyle, “The Theological Character”, 276.
33. In the case of the *Commentarii Collegii Conimbricensis S. J. in quatuor libros de Coelo Aristotelis Stagiritae* (1593), for instance, one finds an introduction to the text of a chapter (comparable to (A)), the *explanatio textus*, consisting of a series of commented lemmas (C), and the *quaestiones*. Similarly, the *divisio textus* cannot be found in the commentaries of Jacopo Zabarella (1533–1589), who provides, in his *In libros Aristotelis Physicorum Commentarii* (1601), introductions to the books of the text and textual explanations through references to specific words. Also, Heereboord retains only the *explanatio textus* commentary.
34. See *supra*, n. 26; Hotson, *Commonplace Learning*.
35. Strazzoni, “How did Regius become Regius?”; De Raey, *Cogitata: Specimen logicae interpretationis*, 537; De Raey to Wittich, 12 August 1680, in De Raey, *Cogitata*, 658.
36. Coesemans, *Faculties of the Mind*, 28.
37. E.g.: “Quaeritur: utrum omne bonum sit obligatorium? Negatur de bono iucundo, sed de utili et honesto affirmatur. Magis ad bonum quam ad verum obligatus homo est,!” Don. var. nr. 145, 38.
38. On the *Notae in Programma*, see, for instance, the commentary on the lemma “nos invitans”, Thott 578b, 119–120; AT VIII-2, 360.
39. “Honores ac divitiae: epistola ad Elisabetham”, Thott 578b, 37. Cf. Descartes, *Lettres*, volume 1, 11.
40. “Circa res singulas. Post novennalem peregrinationem in meditationibus suis non amplius singulas veteris scientiae opiniones, sed earum omnium fundamenta ad examen revocavit, et sic eas simul et semel delevit e mente sua. Quemadmodum eo tempore quo novi aedificii a primis fundamentis instauratio inchoanda est, omnes parietes ipsaque fundamenta evertimus, sed uti ante illam instauracionem, dum vetus aedificium adhuc inhabitandum est ad tempus, partes illius aliquas ruinam et periculum minantes destruimus, sic etiam author se gessit tempore novennalis peregrinationibus circa scientiam suam. Vide annotationem ad pag. 5 Meditationum,!” Don. var. nr. 145, 47–48. Cf. Thott 578b, 17–18: “*Generali huic*. Tempore novennalis peregrinationis, circa res singulas observabat, quidnam in dubium revocari posset: atque ita per dubitationem vel negationem seriam opiniones vere incertas aut falsas paulatim avellebat; ea fere ratione qua partes aliquas aedificii (quod suo tempore opportune a fundamentis instaurandum est) prae caeteris fatiscentes et ruinam minantes demolimur. Ubi vero architectus paratus est, et materia aliqua novi aedificii comparata, simul et semel vetus aedificium destruendum est: ita ut nec firmissima quidem fundamenta, nec parietes iis superstructi retineantur. Nam etsi in fundamento aut parietibus veteris aedificii nullum videamus vitium: evidens tamen est secundum leges architecturae destrui debere. Si quidem novum aedificium omni ex parte bene fundatum et ordinatum futurum sit, deinde ut intra firmitatem parietis et fundamenti obici potest, nos ignorare authorem eius, vel si ille bonus et probus architectus [...] fuerit, an non impostor aliquis, fuerit inter famulos qui ... facere potuit si etiam circa eas opiniones de quarum veritate sumus persuasissimi, similia ... medio pag. 7. Et hinc non sequuntur dationes [*sic*] seriae sed fictae et affectatae ... quas author hyperbolicas vocat”. See AT VI, 556; AT VII, 18. In the Appendix, I provide a table in which the editions of Descartes’s works compatible with or used in De Raey’s, Clauberg’s, and Wittich’s commentaries are listed.
41. At Leiden, the summer semester started on 1 March, and the winter semester on 1 October: Molhuysen, *Bronnen*, volume 1, 157*, 191*–2*.
42. Van Otegem, *A Bibliography*, chapter 14. The ascertainment of the editions of Descartes’s works used by De Raey in his other *dictata* does not help to date them.
43. Coesemans, *Faculties of the Mind*, 29.

44. Cod. phil. 323 W. 28, 188, 224–225. The full title of the 1659 edition of Clauberg’s book is *Logicae contractae editio secunda*, although no first edition has been retrieved: see Verbeek, “Clauberg: A Bio-Bibliographical Sketch”, 190.
45. Notably, De Raey made observations on a comet that appeared in 1664, in a now lost manuscript: Nijenhuis, “Witsen”, 250.
46. BPL 907, 19r, 56r.
47. E.g. “\Aequales. Respectu magnitudinis,/” Cod. phil. 323 W. 28, 196; cf. Don. var. nr. 145, 472: “Aequales. Quoad magnitudinem; similes, quoad figuram et soliditatem”.
48. Clauberg, *Initiatio*, 135, 161.
49. “Cogitationes. Gallice vocat meditationes, [...]. *Statim postea*. Hactenus propositum fuit argumentum Meditationis primae, sequitur secundae”, Don. var. nr. 145, 52, 58; “A communi usu remotae. Quia hic ad examen revocantur ipsae scientiae humanae fundamenta”, Cod. phil. 323 W. 28, 22–23. Cf. Clauberg, *Initiatio*, 138, 144, 167. See AT VI, 557–558.
50. Clauberg, *Initiatio*, 378.
51. BPL 906, iv (unnumbered); Luchtmans, *Bibliotheca Musschenbroekiana*, 184. The manuscript is digitized at: <http://hdl.handle.net/1887.1/item:1607666>, accessed 1 December 2021. See Verbeek, “Clauberg et les *Principia*”.
52. BPL 906, 76r.
53. BPL 906, 3r, 8r, 33v. Also, Clauberg refers to the first edition of his *Ontosophia* (1647), but not to the second one (1660), and refers to page 494 of the first volume of Clerselier’s edition of Descartes’s correspondence, without specifying the volume number. In turn, in his, certainly later, *Notae breves*, Clauberg repeatedly specified the volume number across the commentary: in fact, in 1657, only the first volume had appeared, while the second one followed in 1659. See BPL 906, 6v, 23r.
54. Clauberg, *Opera: Typographi lectori philosopho S.*, 2 (unnumbered).
55. Clauberg, *Opera: Notae breves*, 499.
56. Strazzoni, “On Three Unpublished Letters”.
57. As seen above, in CPH 1658, De Raey himself dictated this type of parallel commentaries. Accordingly, if we suppose that the presence of a double commentary, in Clauberg’s *Notae breves*, indicates that he prepared a manuscript including his own and De Raey’s commentary on certain lemmas, we cannot exclude that De Raey did the same in his own *dictata*. However, the additions in the double commentaries in De Raey’s CPH 1658 appear not to show agreements with Clauberg’s commentaries, even if his overall *dictata* CPH 1658 were also based on Clauberg’s *Dictata philosophica*. There is only an agreement between De Raey’s *dictata* and a double commentary given in Clauberg’s *Dictata philosophica* (which contains few double commentaries: see BPL 906, 2v, 7r, 34r, 51v, 67r): “*Delapsam esse. Scilicet in ullum, in quo nunc est, locum*”, BPL 906, 67v; cf. Don. var. nr. 145, 445: “*Delapsam. Esse ad eum locum in quo iam versatur*”. See AT VIII-1, 204.
58. “*Principia philosophiae, Dissertatio de methodo, Dioptrice, et Meteora, item Meditationes [...] 3 vol. Fuit olim Caroli Heidani, Abrahami Heidani filii, cum annotationibus mss. excerptis ex ore Johannis de Raai, anno 1654*”, Wetsten, *Bibliotheca Schalbruchiana*, 120 (item 590). Given that the indication of the year in such a catalogue is usually placed after the title of the item for sale and before the indication of annotations or other features of it, I presume that 1654 is the year of the annotations. Karel Heidanus (1636–1697) enrolled at Leiden as an 11-year-old honorary student in 1647 and, already as doctor of law, in 1666: Du Rieu, *Album*, 382, 528.
59. Clauberg, *Initiatio*, 180, 191.
60. After two years spent at the Solingen Gymnasium, Clauberg studied at the Bremen Gymnasium (1639–1644) and then at Groningen (1644–1646). After a stay in France and England, he came back in the Netherlands at the beginning of 1648, where he was guest of Andreae at Groningen before moving to Leiden in order to study under De Raey until the summer holidays of 1649. Afterwards, he moved to Herborn (where he stayed until December 1651) and Duisburg (where he died in January 1665). Wittich, like Clauberg, studied at Bremen in 1642–1644, at Groningen in 1644–1646, and at Leiden in 1646–1648, at the time of De

- Raey's graduation and first private teaching. Although no direct evidence that he attended his lectures could be retrieved, they eventually became associated. Hence, Wittich studied again at Groningen in 1648–1650, before becoming professor at Herborn (1651) and Duisburg (1652–1655), as I discuss in Section 7. See Verbeek, “Clauberg: A Bio-Bibliographical Sketch”, 181–186; Strazzoni, “On Three Unpublished Letters”; Eberhardt, *Wittich*, 508–510.
61. See *supra*, n. 19; Cellamare, “A Theologian”, 589.
 62. The cover of the manuscript reports “A.^o 1656” and “M[.] D[e] Mandeville, med. studios., die ultimo mensis Aprilis 1664”. “1656” might refer to De Raey's *dictata* on Sennert (see *supra*, n. 19), the only dated text of the manuscript, which appears to report, on the first page, “Inceptum collegium die 29 Septemb. 1656”, ms. 3415 (page 134, unnumbered, of the whole manuscript), but it could even report “1661” (see [image 23](#) (ms. 3415, 134 (unnumbered))). In fact, De Raey publicly taught medicine in 1658–1662 only (see *supra*, n. 11), but he could have privately imparted such teaching before then (see *supra*, n. 8; see also Borch, *Itinerarium*, volume 2, 30, reporting De Raey's private lectures in medicine around 1661). The manuscript contains different lecture notes, from Leiden, Franeker, and Nijmegen. Namely: (1) anonymous, *Philosophia moralis*; (2) *Observationes ex lectionibus osteologiae D. van Horne* (two incomplete paragraphs added on the last page of item (1), certainly taught at Leiden); (3) Philippus Matthaeus, *In alma Frisiorum (quae est Franeker) Universitate Observationes in [...] D. Alberti Kyperi Institutiones medicas*, Franeker; (4) anonymous, *Tractatus quidam de actionibus naturae* (separate pages bound within item 3); (5) Johannes de Raey, *Dictata ad Epitomen Institutionum medicarum Danielis Sennerti [...] Inceptum collegium 29 Septemb. 1656* (covering up to book 5, part 2, section 4, chapter 2), Leiden; (6) Johannes Antonides van der Linden, *Doctrina de febris*, Leiden; (7) an anonymous, untitled commentary on the *Pathologia* of Jean Fernel (1497–1558), books 5–7, part of his *Medicina* (1554); (8) Wittich, *Observationes in Renati Descartes Meditationes de prima philosophia*; (9) Wittich, *dictata on Principiorum philosophiae pars prima*, Nijmegen. We can tentatively reconstruct the hands of these items as follows: (1) is by one hand (hand A); (2) (which is just a short addition) is by hands B and C; (3) is by hand A, with marginal additions by the same hand A and by another hand D; (4) is by hand A; (5) is by hand A up to page 35, continuing from there with hand E, and its marginal additions are by hands C and D; (6) and (7) are by hand E, with marginal additions by, apparently, the same hand E or by hand D; (8) and (9) are by hand C. However, the catalogue description attributes the whole manuscript to the hand of Michael de Mandeville. Anthony McKee argues that some of the texts have to be attributed to Walter de Mandeville (1637–1662), brother of Michael. The cover, in fact, also records his name, and that of a certain “Antonette” and a “Joachimus”, whose identities could not be ascertained (and no De Mandevilles with such first names could be found). The presence of their names, in any case, makes sense of the different hands of the manuscript itself. Walter enrolled at Franeker as a student of medicine on 28 August 1655, and then at Leiden as a student of medicine on 30 September 1656 (one day after the beginning of De Raey's course on Sennert, if we read “1656” in the manuscript), and graduated in medicine at Franeker on 10 March 1659, before becoming, in February 1661, professor of medicine at Nijmegen. In turn, Michael enrolled at Leiden as a student of law in October 1665, before obtaining a degree in medicine at Nijmegen in 1666. Even if no evidence of his studies at Nijmegen before 1665 can be traced, he might have followed Wittich's lectures there in 1664 at latest. I suppose that the first lecture notes, namely those by hand A, were written by Walter, who wrote them up to 1656; hence, the manuscript was continued by someone unknown (hand E), while Michael (hand C) completed the manuscript up to April 1664, copying only Wittich's lectures. Additions were made also by two other unknown figures (hand B, as item 2 seems to be an addition written by two hands (B and C), and hand E). A comparison of the hands of the manuscript with an extant document by Michael de Mandeville could not shed light on the issue. See McKee, *An Anatomy of Power*, 22–23; Du Rieu, *Album*, 452, 686; Brinkhoff, “De doctorsbul”; Centraal Bureau van Genealogie, “The Mandeville Genealogy”; Bots, “Témoignages sur

- l'ancienne université de Nimègue”, 23; Bots, “L’enseignement de la médecine”, 249–250; Eberhardt, *Wittich*, 204; Cellamare, “A Theologian”; Jansen, “De familiebijbel”.
63. Wittich, *Observationes*, 13, 14 (unnumbered).
 64. Wittich, *Annotationes*, front page.
 65. Wittich, *Annotationes*, 19, 20.
 66. See also Cellamare, “A Theologian”.
 67. See *supra*, n. 58, and Section 3.
 68. Notably, in 1655, Johannes Placentinus (1630–1683) presided over, at Frankfurt (Oder), a series of disputations consisting of theses which are nothing but the titles of the articles of Descartes’s *Principia*, or abridgements of their contents, published in the same year as his *Renatus Des-Cartes Triumphans, id est, Principia philosophiae Cartesianae, in Alma Viadrina, ventilata atq[ue] defensa*. However, this work cannot be considered as a *dictatum*. See Omodeo, “Central European Polemics”. Similarly, De Raey commented upon passages from Descartes’s *Discours, Principia, Meditationes*, and from the epitaph of Pierre Hector Chanut (1601–1662) for Descartes in his *Disputatio philosophica specimen modestiae et prudentiae in philosophando*, held at Amsterdam on 14 June 1687 (in De Raey, *Cogitata*, 632–654). Each commentary is given in the form of a thesis after a long quotation from these texts. See also *supra*, n. 49.
 69. Molhuysen, *Bronnen*, volume 3, 76, 27*.
 70. Verbeek, “Clauberg: A Bio-Bibliographical Sketch”, 184–187; Hantsche, “Johann Moritz”. Unfortunately, no *series lectionum* from Duisburg relevant to our investigation could be traced: for a discussion, see Rasche, “Seit wann und warum gibt es Vorlesungsverzeichnisse an den deutschen Universitäten?”. See also Trevisani, *Descartes in Germania*, 85–86, supposing that Clauberg’s teaching, after the opening of the University, was focused on the commentary on Descartes. Some *series lectionum* of the Herborn Academy, dating from the year 1650, do not mention classes on Descartes: *Konferenzen und Visitationen der Hohen Schule: Schulkonferenz*, Wiesbaden, Hessisches Hauptstaatsarchiv, Bestand 95, Nr. 901, 4r–6v. See Menk, *Die Hohe Schule Herborn*; Menk, “Omnis novitas periculosa”.
 71. Molhuysen, *Bronnen*, volume 3, 272*; Lindeboom, “Het eerste lesrooster”; Trevisani, *Descartes in Germania*, 27; Eberhardt, *Wittich*, 104–111, 125–129, 196–202, 256–258, 508–509; Cellamare, “A Theologian”, 5.
 72. X B 7: *De methodo*, 9.
 73. Clauberg, *Initiatio*, 358.
 74. The only references to Descartes’s *Principia* not consisting of a part-article designation are to page 2 of the dedicatory letter to Elisabeth of Bohemia (which does not allow to identify a particular edition) and to the Latin version of Descartes’s 1647 opening letter to the French translator of his *Principia* (which is missing only from the 1644 edition): Clauberg, *Opera: Notae breves*, 529 and 581.
 75. Only a reference could be retraced, compatible with such editions: see lemma “animadverti”.
 76. Besides two references compatible with the 1644 and the 1650 editions (see lemma “animadverti”), a third reference to Descartes’s *Discours* is to the lemma “postquam huc veni”, which is said to be found on page 19: Wittich, *Annotationes*, 140. However, the lemma cannot be found on this page: it is in fact on page 29 of the 1644 edition, on page 27 of the 1650 editions, and on page 20 of those that appeared afterwards (1656, 1664, 1672, and 1677). Therefore, Wittich was most probably using the 1644 edition.
 77. Van Til declares, in his preface, that Wittich used an Elzevir edition: Wittich, *Annotationes: Benevolo lectori*, 2 (unnumbered). In his edition, Van Til reported the full text of Descartes’s *Meditationes* besides Wittich’s commentary.
 78. The use of an Elzevir edition is declared in the commentary: Wittich, *Annotationes*, 4 (unnumbered).
 79. Don. var. Nr. 145, 30; AT VI, 552. Unless indicated, in the Appendix my references to AT concern only the lemmas.
 80. Cod. phil. 323 W. 28, 11–12.

81. Clauberg, *Initiatio*, 219–220; AT VII, 17. Clauberg also provided a double commentary on the lemma “animadverti” in his *Notae* (214–219), though the first had an introductory function, i.e. certainly it was not derived from other *dictata*.
82. Read: “Methodi pag. 3”.
83. Thott 578b, 14; AT VII, 17.
84. Clauberg, *Paraphrasis*, 4.
85. Read: “pag. 3, articulo sexto”.
86. Wittich, *Observationes*, 11–12 (unnumbered).
87. Wittich, *Annotationes*, 14.
88. Clauberg, *Initiatio*, 236–237; AT VII, 17.
89. Thott 578b, 15–16.
90. Clauberg, *Paraphrasis*, 5.
91. Wittich, *Observationes*, 12 (unnumbered).
92. Wittich, *Annotationes*, 15.
93. Clauberg, *Initiatio*, 257; AT VII, 18.
94. Clauberg, *Paraphrasis*, 8.
95. Wittich, *Observationes*, 13 (unnumbered).
96. Wittich, *Annotationes*, 16.
97. Thott 578b, 31–32; AT VII, 22.
98. Wittich, *Observationes*, 17 (unnumbered); AT VII, 22.
99. Wittich, *Annotationes*, 26–27.
100. Clauberg, *Opera: Initiatio*, 1202.
101. Thott 578b, 48–49; AT VII, 26. De Raey seems to refer to a commentary of his on the text of page 69 of the 1650 or 1654 edition of Descartes’s *Meditationes*, on the *Secundae Obiectiones*, concerning the nature of the soul (AT VII, 130–132); however, no commentary of his on such a text could be retrieved.
102. Clauberg, *Paraphrasis*, 55; Virgil, *Aeneid*, book 4, verse 727.
103. Wittich, *Observationes*, 21 (unnumbered); Pena, “De usu optices”, 13–14 (unnumbered).
104. Wittich, *Annotationes*, 35.
105. Clauberg, *Initiatio*, 376–377.
106. Clauberg, *Opera: Notae breves*, 494; AT VIII-1, 5.
107. Wittich, *dictata* on *Principiorum philosophiae pars prima*, 3 (unnumbered); AT VIII-1, 5.
108. Don. var. nr. 145, 108; AT VIII-1, 5. The rule is given at page 23 of the 1656 edition of Descartes’s *Principia* (I.76), and roughly matches Descartes’s second rule of morals given in his *Discours*.
109. Cod. phil. 323 W. 28, 52.
110. Clauberg, *Opera: Notae breves*, 494.
111. Wittich, *dictata* on *Principiorum philosophiae pars prima*, 3 (unnumbered). In the commentary Wittich refers to the text given in AT VII, 22.
112. BPL 907, 9v. The reference is to page 16 of Descartes’s *Specimina* of one of the editions which appeared from 1656 onwards, where the second rule of morals is given: see *supra*, n. 108.
113. X B 7: *Principia*, 2.
114. BPL 906, 2r; AT VIII-1, 6. Cf. Clauberg, *Initiatio*, 277, referring to paragraph 9 of Descartes’s *Sextae Responsiones*.
115. Don. var. Nr. 145, 108–110; AT VIII-1, 6.
116. Cod. phil. 323 W. 28, 52–53.
117. Clauberg, *Opera: Notae breves*, 494.
118. Wittich, *dictata* on *Principiorum philosophiae pars prima*, 4 (unnumbered); Pico della Mirandola, *Examen*, book 5.
119. BPL 907, 9v–10r.
120. X B 7: *Principia*, 3–4.

121. Clauberg, *Initiatio*, 377–378 and 392–393; AT VIII-1, 7. The second part of the quotation, referred to in the first part, is from article 26 of chapter 11 of Clauberg’s *Initiatio*, and contains a quotation from Lentulus, *Nova Renati Descartes sapientia*, 243–244.
122. BPL 906, 2v.
123. Wittich, *dictata* on *Principiorum philosophiae pars prima*, 5 (unnumbered); AT VIII-1, 6.
124. Don. var. nr. 145, 122; AT VIII-1, 7.
125. Cod. phil. 323 W. 28, 55; AT VIII-1, 7.
126. Clauberg, *Opera: Notae breves*, 495–496.
127. Read: “consciis in nobis fiunt”.
128. Wittich, *dictata* on *Principiorum philosophiae pars prima*, 6 (unnumbered).
129. BPL 907, 11r.
130. X B 7: *Principia*, 5–6; AT VIII-1, 7.
131. Cod. phil. 323 W. 28, 68–69; AT VIII-1, 18–19.
132. Clauberg, *Opera: Notae breves*, 501–502. “Naturam” is emphasised in both texts, i.e. it is underlined in De Raey’s and is in italics in Clauberg’s.
133. BPL 906, 20v; AT VIII-1, 35.
134. Don. var. nr. 145, 218.
135. Cod. phil. 323 W. 28, 90.
136. Clauberg, *Opera: Notae breves*, 511.
137. BPL 907, 22r.
138. X B 7: *Principia*, 36.

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