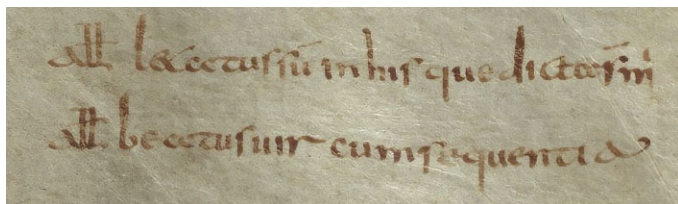


# Chronology of the Early Sequence

## c.800 Performance cues *cum sequentia* in a list of Alleluias and their verses

Brussels, Bibliothèque royale, MS 10127–10144, fols. 114v–115r (liturgical MS copied at Ghent, Belgium, c.800)

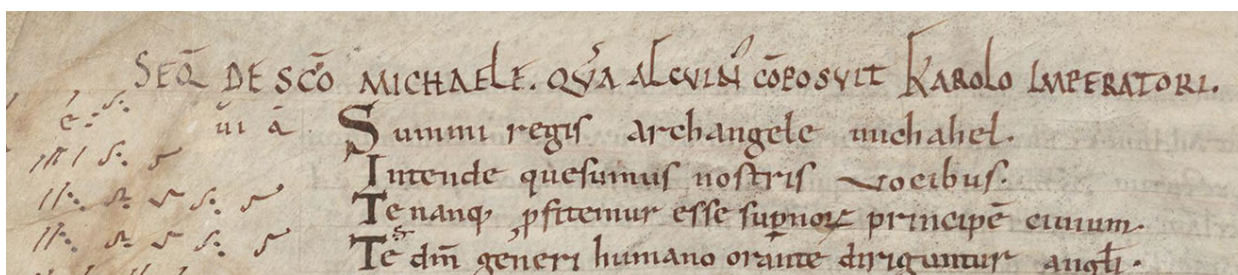


Alleluia Letatus sum in his que dicta sunt

Alleluia Beatus vir cum sequentia

## Alcuin active as a writer of sequences at the Court of Charlemagne (d.814)

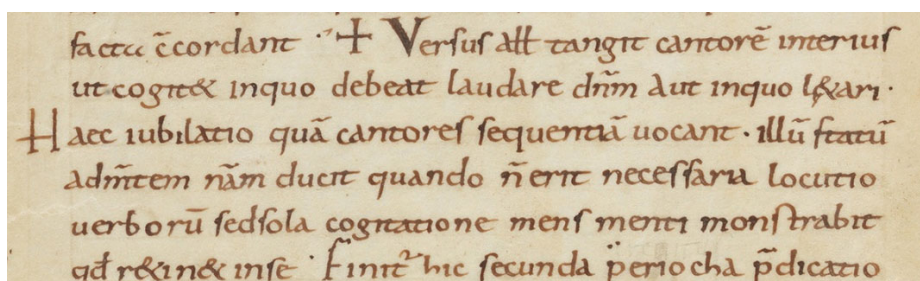
Trier, Stadtbibliothek, MS 120, fol. 185v (s. X<sup>1</sup>)



The heading reads: SEQUENTIA DE SANCTO MICHAELE QUAM ALCUINUS COMPOSUIT KAROLO IMPERATORI (Sequence of Saint Michael which Alcuin composed for Emperor Charles)

## 823 Amalarius of Metz, *De divinis officiis* (c.823)

St Gall, Stiftsbibliothek, MS 278, p. 276 (copied c.850–880)

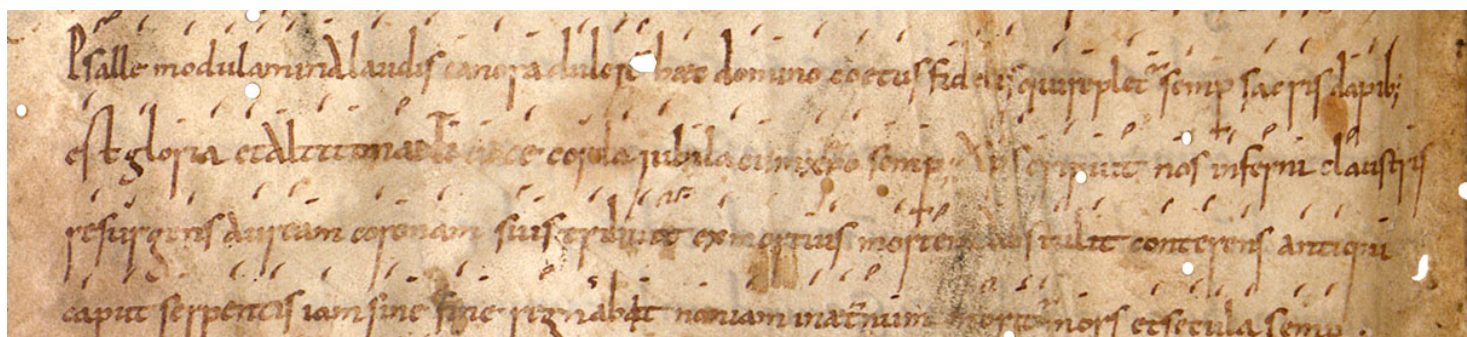


Versus Alleluia tangit cantorem interius, ut cogitet in quo debeat laudare dominum aut in quo letari. Haec iublatio, quam cantores sequentiam vocant, illum statum ad mentem nostrum ducit quando non erit necessaria locutio verborum sed sola cogitatione mens menti monstrabit quod retinet in se.

The verse of the Alleluia touches the cantor within, so that he reflects on how he should praise the Lord or how to rejoice. This jubilatio, which cantors call the sequentia, brings our mind to this state when there is no need for the speaking of words, but it is by thought alone that one mind conveys to another what it holds within.

## IX<sup>2</sup> The earliest surviving manuscript with musical notation

Munich, Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, MS clm 9543, fol. 199v (c.820–30). This is a later entry to an existing manuscript. The music is a fully texted copy of Alleluia Christus resurgens.



## 845 The Council of Meaux, AD 845

MGH [<https://www.dmgh.de/>] Leges, Concilia 3, p. 129. There are twenty-five sources for the Council of Meaux of 845.

LXXVIII. Propter improbitatem quorundam omnino dampnabilem, qui novitatibus delectati puritatem antiquitatis suis adinventionibus interpolare non metuunt, statuimus, ut nullus clericorum, nullus monachorum in ymno angelico, et in sequentiis, quae in Alleluia sollempniter decantari solent, quaslibet compositiones, quas prosas vocant, vel ulla fictiones addere, interponere, recitare, submurmurare aut decantare presummat. Quod si fecerit, deponatur.

78. Because of the wholly damnable wickedness of some who delighted by novelties and not afraid to corrupt the purity of the old with their inventions, we decree that no one among the clergy, and no one among monastics, shall take it upon themselves to add, insert, recite, murmur, or sing any compositions that they call prosas or any fables, in the Angelic Hymn [Gloria in excelsis Deo] and in the sequences which are customarily sung solemnly in the Alleluia. And if this has already been done, it must be abandoned.



