

Ethio-SPaRE

Cultural Heritage of Christian Ethiopia: Salvation, Preservation and Research

Project type: ERC Starting Grant (EU 7th Framework Programme)

Project full title: Cultural Heritage of Christian Ethiopia: Salvation, Preservation, and Research

Project acronym: Ethio-SPaRE

Project running time: Dec. 2009-Dec. 2014

Project team: PI (Principal Investigator)
Three research associates
Three PhD candidates

Morphology of Ethiopian Binding: an Overview

Workshop of COMSt teams 1 and 5 „The History and Archaeology of Oriental Bookbinding“

Arles, 11 October 2012

Session II.1. „The Archaeology of Oriental Bookbinding in Comparative Perspective“

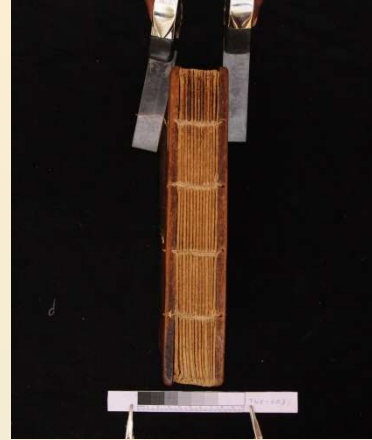
Denis Nosnitsin

Ethio-SPaRE

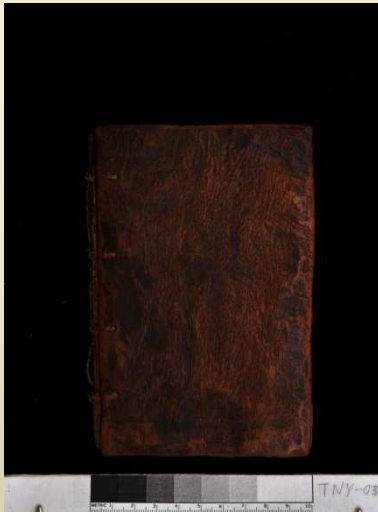
Hiob Ludolf Center for Ethiopian Studies

Hamburg University

Ethiopian bindings: two wooden boards, two pairs of sewing stations

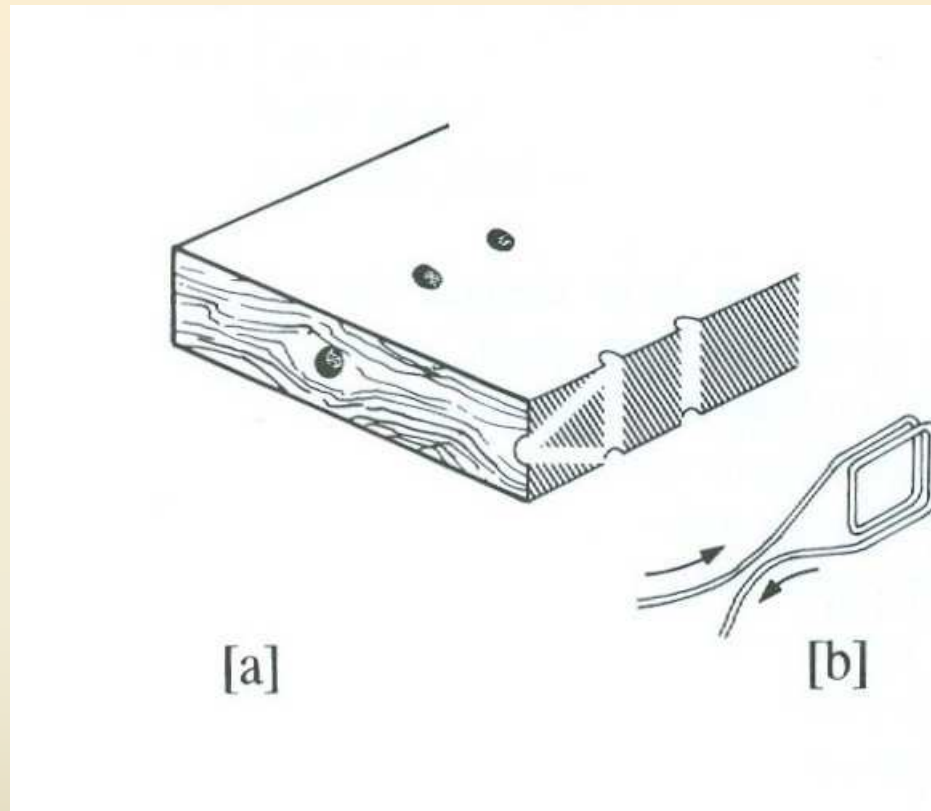


TNY-003, 30 x 26.5 x 7



TNY-037, 15 x 9.7 x 4

Ethiopian board attachment: disposition of the holes in the boards



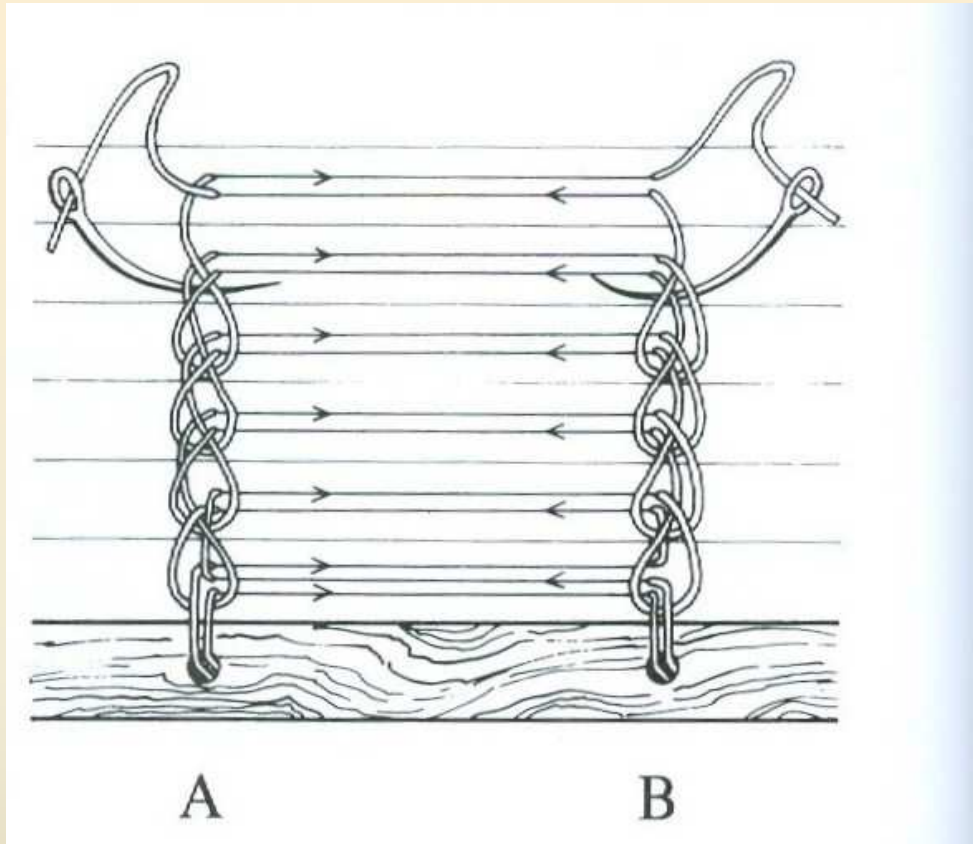
After J.A. Szirmai, *The Archaeology of Medieval Bookbinding*, Farham: Ashgate 1999, 46, fig. 4.1

Ethiopian Board attachment: threads anchored in the holes



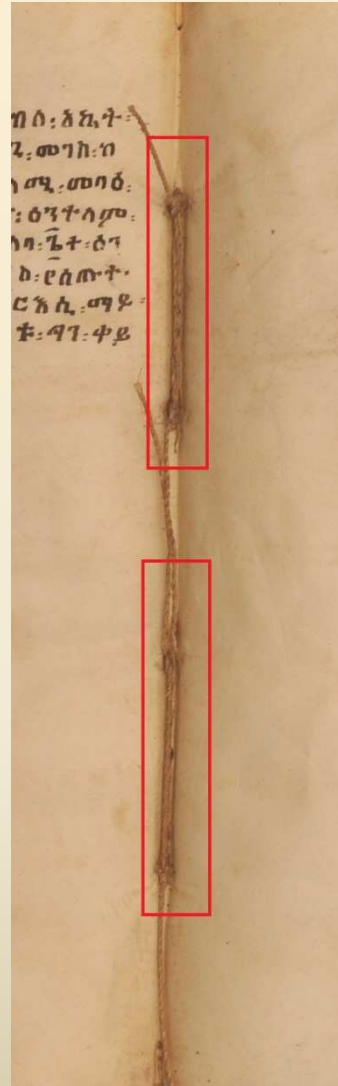
AKGM-007: Spiritual Elder,
29.5 x 25.3 x 7, 153 fols.,
17th cent.

Ethiopian link-stitch sewing: one thread, two needles



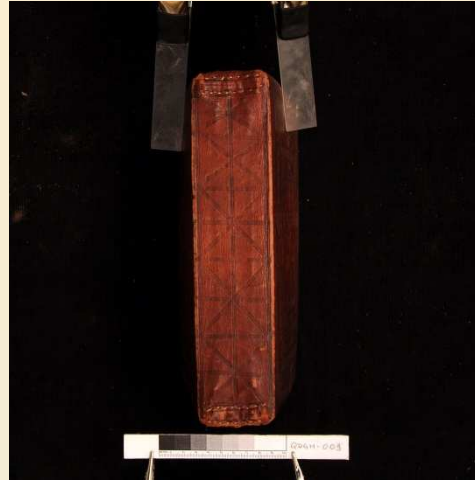
After J.A. Szirmai, *The Archaeology of Medieval Bookbinding*,
Farham: Ashgate 1999, 46, fig. 4.1

Ethiopian link-stitch sewing



**Thread of
the sewing
knotted
In the middle of
the endleaf
quire**

Ethiopian bindings: two wooden boards covered by blind-tooled leather



**QDGM-009: Commentaries of
John Chrysostom on Pauline
Epistles,
27.5 x 23 x 7.5, 144 fols.,
19th cent.**

Overback



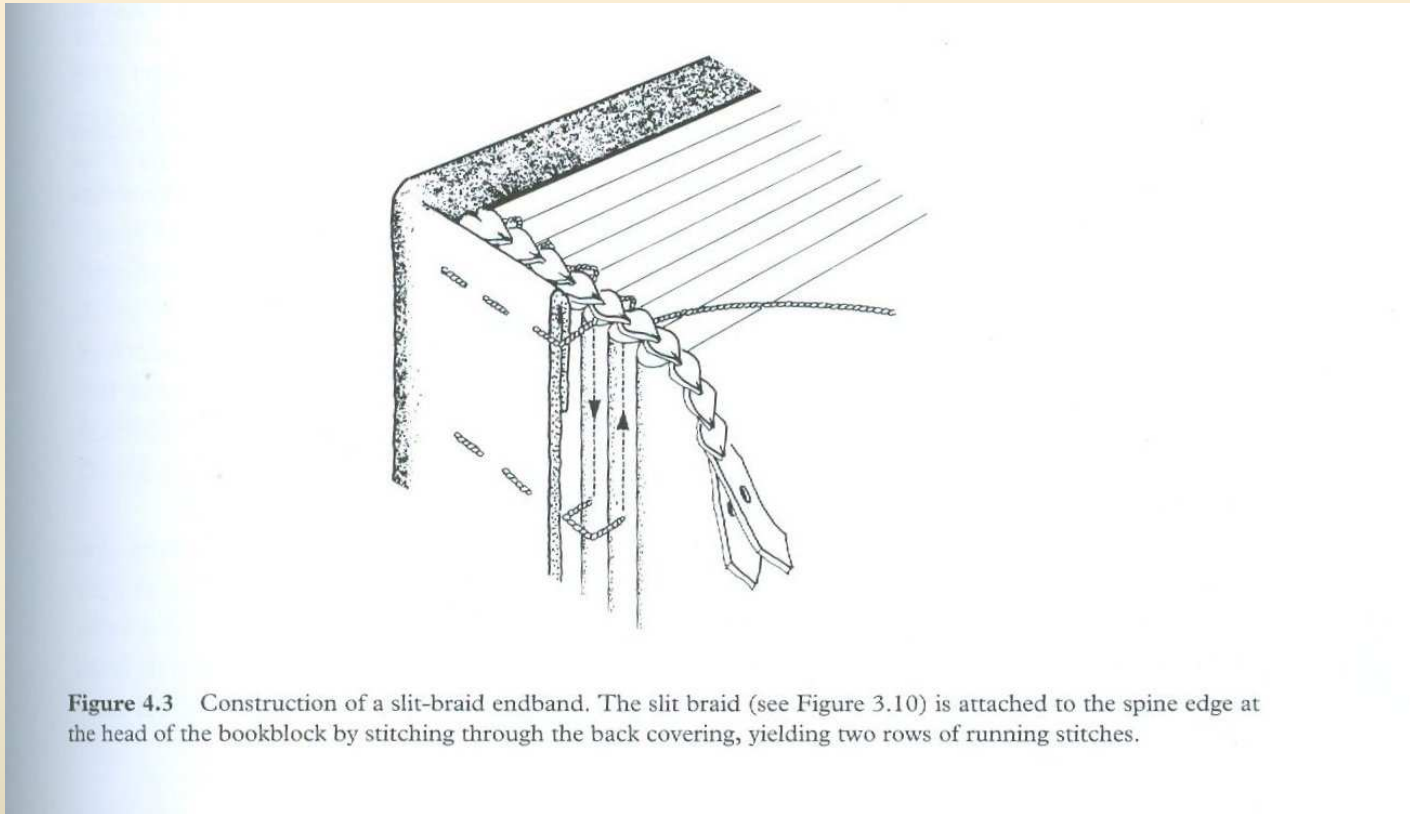
TNY-042: Hymnary manuscript (Şomä dëggwa),
14.4 x 10 x 4.5,
19th cent.

Protective piece of parchment on the spine



SM-004: Antophony,
32.5 x 4, 64 fols.,
18th/19th cent.

Structure of the Ethiopian endband



After J.A. Szirmai, *The Archaeology of Medieval Bookbinding*, Farham: Ashgate 1999, 49.

Ethiopian endbands

Endband
sewing
almost intact

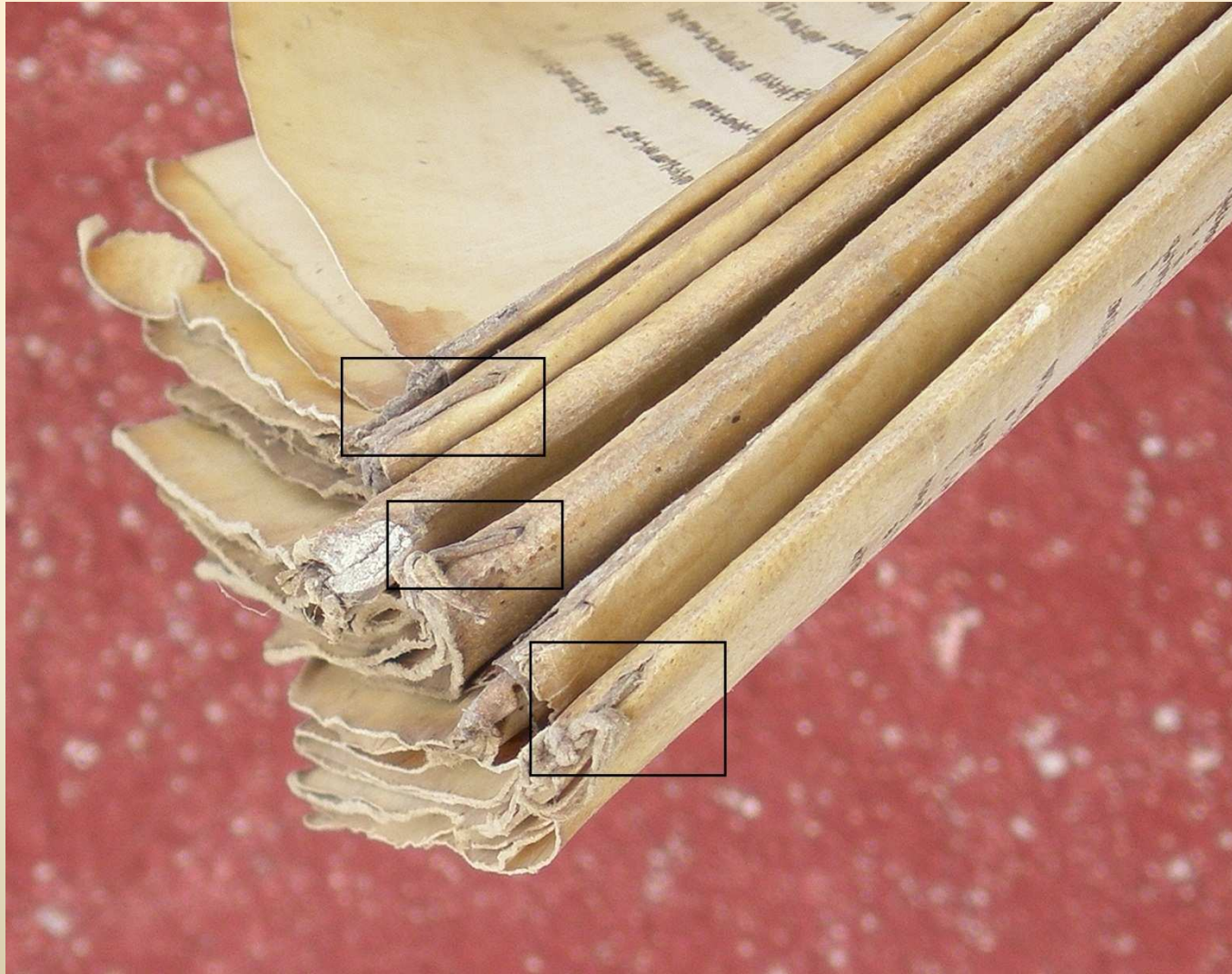


Two coloured leather
slit-braid endband

**Traces of
endband
sewing on backfolds
of the quires?**



Assembled, tacketed quires



Bookblock



UM-027: Four Gospels, 29 x 20 x 13,
263 fols., 35 quires, late 14th/early 15th cent.

Leaves of end-leaf quires as pastedowns



MY-004: Four Gospels,
30 x 20.5 x 6, 144 fols.,
early 14th cent.

UM-027: Four Gospels,
29 x 20 x 13, 263 fols.,
late 14th/early 15th cent.

