

# Antykwa Półtawskiego

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a new edition of an old Polish font

Bogusław Jackowski, Janusz Marian Nowacki  
Piotr Strzelczyk

**Antykwa Półtawskiego**  
a Polish font  
popular in the epoch of metal types

**Author:**  
Adam Półtawski

**Authors of digitization:**  
Bogusław Jackowski, Janusz Marian Nowacki  
Piotr Strzelczyk

# Antykwa Półtawskiego

## a Polish font

### popular in the epoch of metal types

- ◆ Polish “national type”
- ◆ designed in the twenties by Adam Półtawski
- ◆ designed for typesetting Polish texts
- ◆ distinctive shape of ‘ł’, ‘w’, ‘y’ and ‘g’

# Antykwa Półtawskiego

A Polish font  
popular in epoch of metal types  
again usable (and used!)

- ◆ digitalized by our team
- ◆ first working edition at May 17, 2000
- ◆ in Type 1 format, four variants, 239 glyphs
- ◆ already used in many publications,  
some very prestigious

Ten years passed...

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in the meantime  
Mojca Miklavec joined  
T<sub>E</sub>X community

Ten years passed...

**New Antykwia Półtawskiego**

We have managed to prepare  
a new, OpenType version

- ◆ OpenType format becomes standard
- ◆ wider char- and fontset required
- ◆ we have more experience with fontmaking
- ◆ some new sources were revealed
- ◆ many discussion with typographers



- ◆ many discussion with typographers

One of them controversially said:

“[...] Antykwa Półtawskiego at large is ineffectual, poorly drawn typeface, with naïve, inept rhythm, abysmal rendition of some glyphs (e.g. ‘g’), weak interchar spacing. And italic is, in general, caricature of sanity”.

But the majority of opinions is rather encouraging about both font and our digitization.

# Antykwa Półtawskiego in OpenType format

- ◆ rich repertoire of glyphs
- ◆ broad choice of variants  
including optical scaling versions
- ◆ many OpenType features implemented
- ◆ full parametrization

# Some history of Antykwa Półtawskiego

- ◆ designed by a Polish graphic artist and a typographer Adam Półtawski (1881–1952)
- ◆ designed from the first for typesetting Polish books
- ◆ it was widely used by Polish printing houses
- ◆ nearly all musical publications were printed using it
- ◆ we bring it again to live
- ◆ we have now some original drawings
- ◆ ... and some experience

# Antykwa Półtawskiego in OpenType format rich repertoire of glyphs

- 559 accented letters
- 225 small caps (including accented)
- 42 greek letters
- 120 math glyphs

37 super- and subscripts therein

# Antykwa Półtawskiego in OpenType format rich repertoire of glyphs

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ÇõñŦëXŦ ˆøˆ
- 225 small caps (including accented)  
MEEŦÎNG
- 42 greek letters  
αβ ΣπΩ
- 120 math glyphs  
±∅ ≈ ∞ × 1/4  
37 super- and subscripts therein  
H<sub>2</sub>O + C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH and a<sup>2</sup> + b<sup>2</sup> = c<sup>2</sup>

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**1126 glyphs together**  
**(more than in T<sub>E</sub>X Gyre)**

# Antykwa Półtawskiego in OpenType format broad choice of variants

- ◆ 4 weights (two new)
- ◆ 5 sizes (also width variants)

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HąnbfióŹ HąnbfióŹ HąnbfióŹ HąnbfióŹ

- 5 sizes (also width variants)

HąnbfióŹ HąnbfióŹ HąnbfióŹ HąnbfióŹ HąnbfióŹ

*and of course italic versions*  
**together: 40 fonts**



# Antykwa Półtawskiego in OpenType format more OpenType features

- ◆ kern liga dlig aalt csp
- ◆ zero onum pnum tnum lnum
- ◆ frac numr dnom sups sinf subs
- ◆ size
- ◆ scripts and languages

# Antykwa Półtawskiego in OpenType format more OpenType features

- kern liga dlig aalt cspw  
WAVAT WAVAT fifka fifka
- zero onum pnum tnum lnum  
1234567890
- frac numr dnom sups sinf subs – NEW  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  %<sub>000</sub><sup>123</sup><sub>2345</sub>
- size – not so NEW  
HHHHHeeeee€
- scripts and languages  
default PLK NLD TRK ROM

# Antykwa Półtawskiego

## some facts

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**3 seconds per glyph**  
=  
**two weeks of work**

# Antykwa Półtawskiego parametrization

all fonts from one source  
(full parametrization)

unlimited number of versions

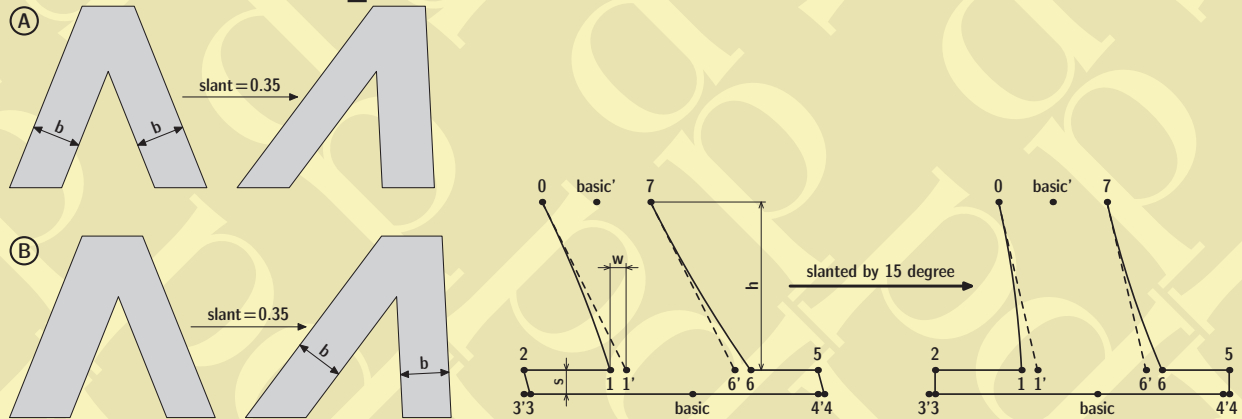


# Antykwa Półtawskiego parametrization

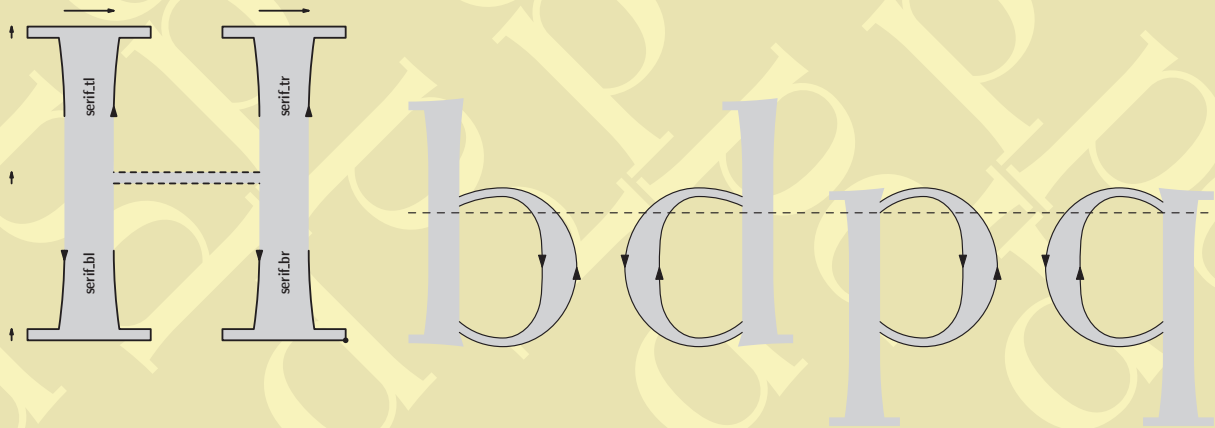
all fonts from one source  
(full parametrization)

unlimited number of versions  
needs more and more work  
(metric still may be unstable)

# Antykwa Półtawskiego parametrization



# modularization



# Our tools

- ◆ MetaType1 toolset
- ◆ mpost
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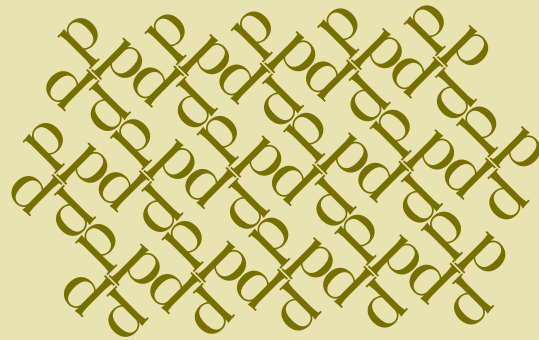
# Future

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# Future

rather distant

- ◆ better parametrization is substantial
- ◆ new tool for OpenType: Python with FontForge
- ◆ mathematization



# Antykwa Półtawskiego

can be downloaded from:

<http://www.gust.org.pl/projects/e-foundry/poltaowski>

<http://nowacki.strefa.pl/poltaowski.html>