

Old English -Anglo-Frisian Brightening and Restoration of /A/

- WGmc short vowels:

i	u
e	o
	ɑ

- ✓ **Anglo-Frisian Brightening** (AFB) is an early 5thc. sound change responsible for the appearance of a new phoneme - /æ/ both in English and Frisian (=Anglo-Frisian branch of Ingvaeonic). E.g. OE dæg, OI dagr, Go dags, OHG tag
- ✓ AFB turns /ɑ/ → /æ/ except before a nasal (hence OE and OHG mann)
- ✓ Let's take a look at some paradigms:

	WGmc			→ after AFB	
	Sg.	Pl.		Sg.	Pl.
Nom.	dag [dɑγ]	dagas		dæg [dæγ]	dægas
Gen.	dages	daga	→	dæges	dæga
Dat.	dage	dagum		dæge	dægum
Acc.	dag	dagas		dæg	dægas

- ✓ later on there was a harmonic change known as **Restoration of /ɑ/**. Stressed /æ/ followed by a back vowel retracts to /ɑ/. The result is a typical OE paradigm:

	Sg.	Pl.
Nom.	dæg [dæj]	dagas [dɑγɑs]
Gen.	dæges	daga
Dat.	dæge	dagum
Acc.	dæg	dagas

- ✓ the resulting OE system of short vowels

i	u
e	o
æ	ɑ

- ✓ Try to think of a simpler (more elegant) way of telling this fascinating (and no doubt extremely captivating) story.