ABBREVIATIONS

The printed editions of the Zohar indicate an abbreviation by different diacritical marks:

1- For an abbreviation at the beginning of a word, and for one word, it uses ' :

- Rabbi: [Gen 1:20] Rabbi Eliazar III.60a
- even: I.11a
- and so forth; etc.: "let the waters swarm" etc.

2) When more than one word is abbreviated, the Zohar uses " :

- he said to him I.2a
- the blessed Holy One I.3a

and for letters of the alefbet:

- the letter Bet entered I.3a
- likewise, Ayin is iniquity I.3a
- the holy Blessed One said to her, "Alef, Alef" I.3a
- Gimel acts kindly to her I.3a

3- But the same diacritical mark is also used to signal a mystical word [which is not abbreviated]:

- Who : Mi, Who I.1b
- What : called Mah, What I.1b

and for the divine name:

- Yah [an abbreviation of the Tetragrammeton] :
  - Yah Tzevaot; Yah of Hosts II.146b
  - to know that the Lord is God I.12a

and for the names of the letters [which are not abbreviated]:

- Alef: נספ"ר, the holy Blessed One said to her, "Alef, Alef" I.3a
- Gimel: הב"ת, Gimel acts kindly to her I.3a

4- The Tetragrammeton [the four consonant divine name] has its own abbreviation: יָה נָבְרָאָט, Adonay:

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