

Stylometry with R

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Installing R

- **R** (<http://www.r-project.org/>)
- Open-source statistical software
- Runs on all major platforms
- Install instructions: <http://cran.freestatistics.org/>



Sublime 3

- For viewing files today
- If you don't have a good text editor
- (esp. if you are on Windows)
- Install Sublime 3
- Free download
- Install: <http://www.sublimetext.com/2>



Stylo

- “Stylometry with R”
- <https://sites.google.com/site/computationalstylistics/>
- Free package for easy stylometric analysis in R
- Graphical user interface (no coding!)

There's no I in team

10 Computational
01 Stylistics
11 Group



Maciej



Jan

Install Stylo

- Install from within R
- Launch R: double-click icon (e.g. in Applications)
- To download and install, type in the console:
 - `install.packages("stylo")`
- Every time you restart R, import Stylo:
 - `library(stylo)`



Download course material

- Download course materials from:
 - tinyurl.com/y73tc2es
- Unzip the folder (pitt17)
- Place it e.g. on your Desktop

Medieval French Genres

- Jean Bodel (French poet, late 12th C.)

- Famous quote *Chanson de Saisnes*:

*Ne sont que 3 matières à nul homme atandard,
De France et de Bretaigne, et de Rome la grant.*

- Distinguishes 3 *matières* or “genres”:

1. *Matière de France* (chansons de geste; Charlemagne)
2. *Matière de Bretaigne* (romans arturiens; King Arthur)
3. *Matière de Rome* (romans antiques; e.g. Troie)

- Question: can we distinguish these using stylometry?

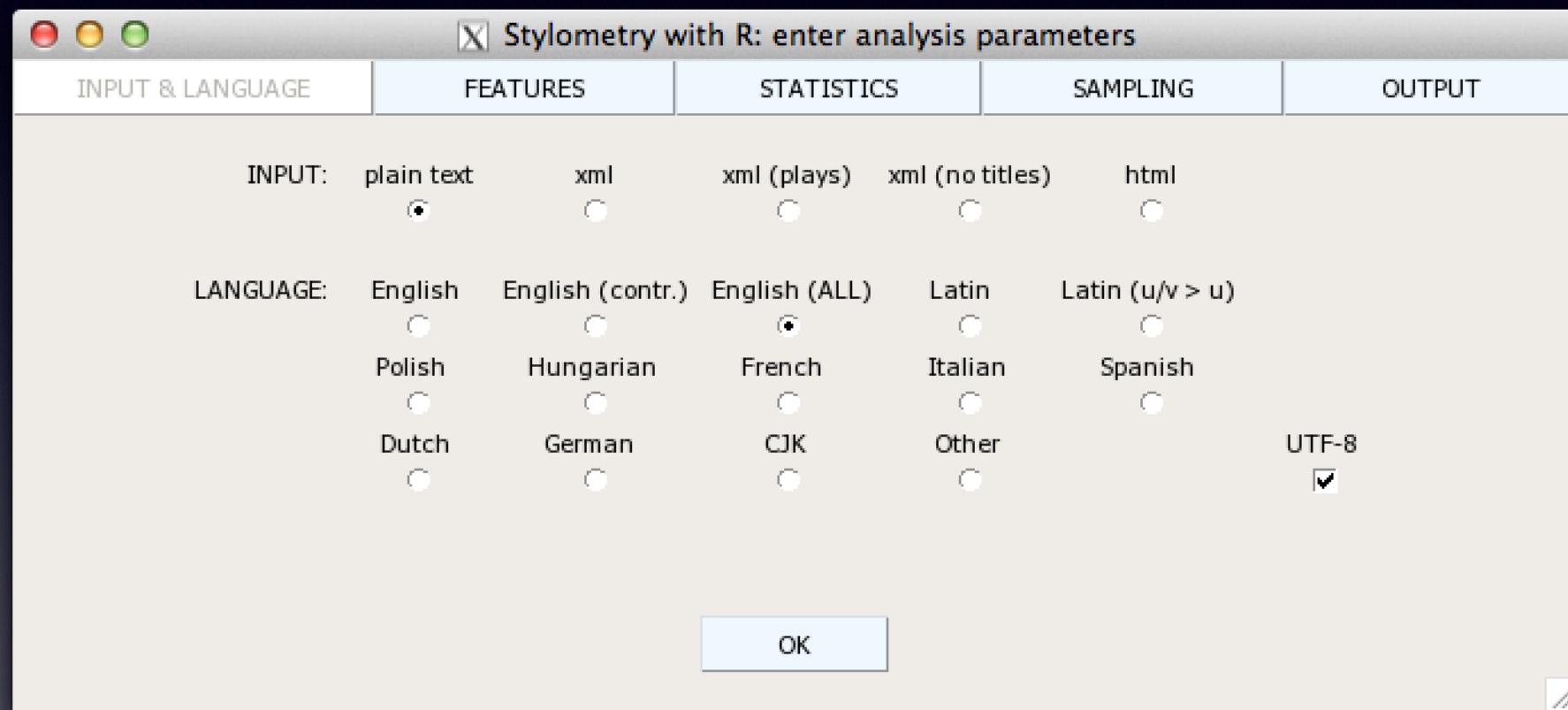
Clustering in Stylo

- Let's do a clustering experiment on our genres
- Create a folder `corpus` under `pitt17/data/genres/`
- Copy all `bre_*` and `fra_*` texts to this folder

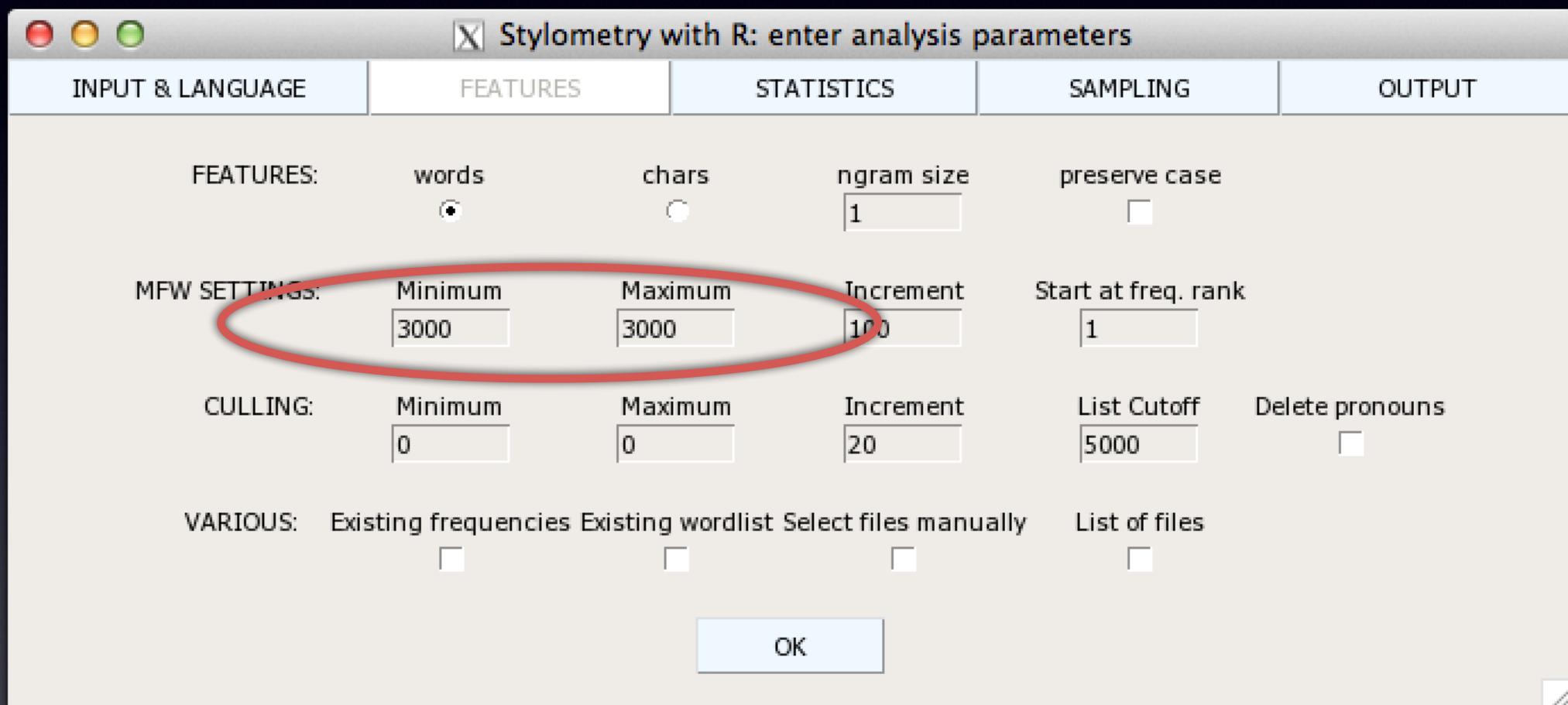
Run stylo

- Stylo needs to know where our data is. Type in R:
 - `setwd("~/Desktop/pitt17/data/genres/")`
 - (You can use tab to navigate!)
 - It has to see `corpus` (and not be inside it!)
- Make sure stylo is loaded:
 - `library(stylo)`
- Run command:
 - `stylo()`
- The GUI should load...

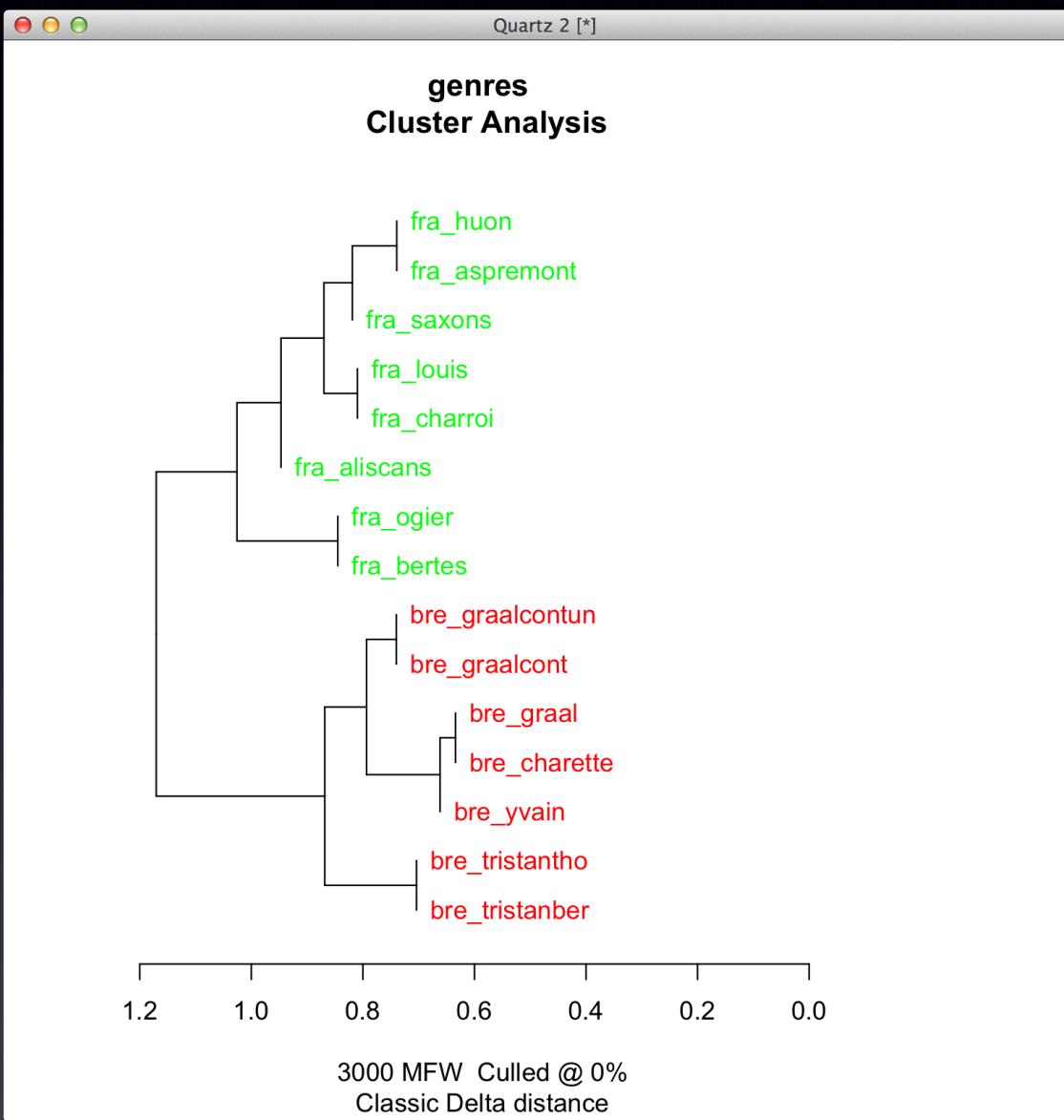
Stylo GUI



Adjust parameters and hit OK



And you should get a tree...



OK... What happened?

- We represent texts as “bags of words”
- Create a large frequency table:
 - each column = text
 - each row = word
 - each cell = relative frequency
- Check out `table_with_frequencies.txt`

table_with_frequencies.txt

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	bre_charette	bre_graal	bre_graalcon	bre_graalcon	bre_tristanbe	bre_tristanth	bre_yvain	fra_aliscans	fra_asp
2	le	6,21921182	7,19456215	6,55339806	6,69576325	6,70977187	5,52029697	5,1766025	7,7381
3	il	6,052076	5,45550847	4,66221683	5,00319353	4,22105648	5,00538858	5,2139787	3,8564
4	en	4,934905	4,12252825	3,65088997	3,93868427	5,27022081	5,69991618	4,84956083	4,0917
5	et	4,97888811	4,90819209	4,55097087	4,84351714	1,93973405	3,59238415	4,56923939	3,2935
6	de	2,33990148	2,65713277	3,00364078	3,21481797	2,41551787	3,41276494	3,07419174	3,6716
7	que	3,80893737	4,05190678	3,09466019	2,89546519	2,8059046	3,46066339	4,35432629	1,7896
8	a	1,77691766	1,65077684	2,05299353	2,00127741	2,48871538	1,98778589	1,78471314	2,4281
9	je	2,95566502	2,83368644	1,69902913	1,4477326	2,90350128	3,04155191	2,99009531	1,6131
10	avoir	1,77691766	1,40360169	2,18446602	2,05450287	2,18372575	2,74218656	1,53242385	2,5793
11	i	2,7885292	2,6924435	2,52831715	0,52160954	0,59777968	0,37121303	2,89665483	0,6805
12	estre	0,94123856	1,32415254	1,83050162	1,52224824	1,43955106	0,76637528	1,20538217	1,6881
13	si	1,76812104	1,43008475	1,56755663	1,69256973	1,06136391	1,02981679	1,9342179	1,0082
14	son	0,89725545	1,0240113	0,95064725	1,45837769	1,1589606	2,02370974	0,97178098	1,5291
15	qui	1,18754398	1,63312147	1,77993528	1,34128167	1,18335977	0,56280685	1,5043917	1,0082
16	ester	1,16995074	1,14759887	1,53721683	1,52224824	1,09796267	1,36510598	1,36423098	1,1761
17	vos	1,25791696	1,35063559	1,12257282	1,0112838	1,17116018	1,43695366	1,23341432	0,7981
18	dire	1,12596763	1,34180791	1,0315534	0,88354269	0,97596682	1,05376602	0,76621192	0,8738
19	se	1,12596763	1,14759887	1,09223301	1,20289547	1,11016225	1,44892827	1,36423098	0,8149
20	un	1,14356087	1,06814972	1,15291262	0,89418778	1,02476516	0,50293378	0,77555597	1,2939
21	par	0,80928923	0,71504237	1,00121359	0,68128593	1,28095645	0,85019758	0,72883573	1,0082
22	tot	0,82688248	0,76800847	0,82928803	1,28805621	0,76857387	0,50293378	0,99046907	0,9326

Bag of words?

- We **ignore** word order, position of word in document, syntax, ...
- Only use word counts
- Relative frequencies



Only use 3,000 words

- Most Frequent Words: MFW
- Better for statistics
- Check out `wordlist.txt`
- What kind of words are most frequent?

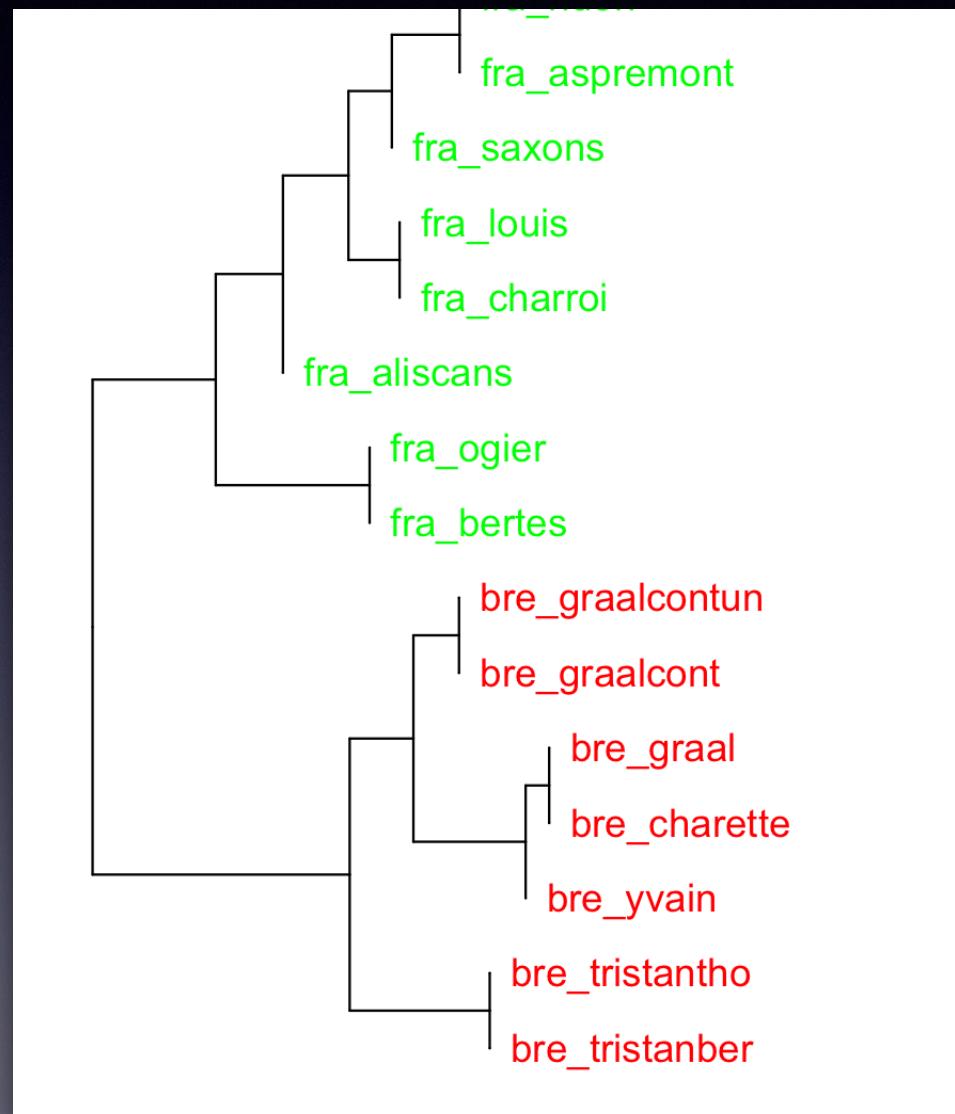
MFW SETTINGS:	Minimum <input type="text" value="3000"/>	Maximum <input type="text" value="3000"/>
CULLING:	Minimum <input type="text" value="0"/>	Maximum <input type="text" value="0"/>

Distance matrix

Dist()	Text1	Text2	Text3
Text1	0.0	Dist(Text1, Text2)	Dist(Text1, Text3)
Text2	Dist(Text2, Text1)	0.0	Dist(Text2, Text3)
Text3	Dist(Text3, Text1)	Dist(Text3, Text2)	0.0

Build tree

- Now we build a tree bottom-up
- First, join 2 texts that are most similar
- Combine them in a new node
- Work your way up the tree
- Until all texts are joined
- Horizontal axis reflects (dis)similarity



Do it yourself (1)

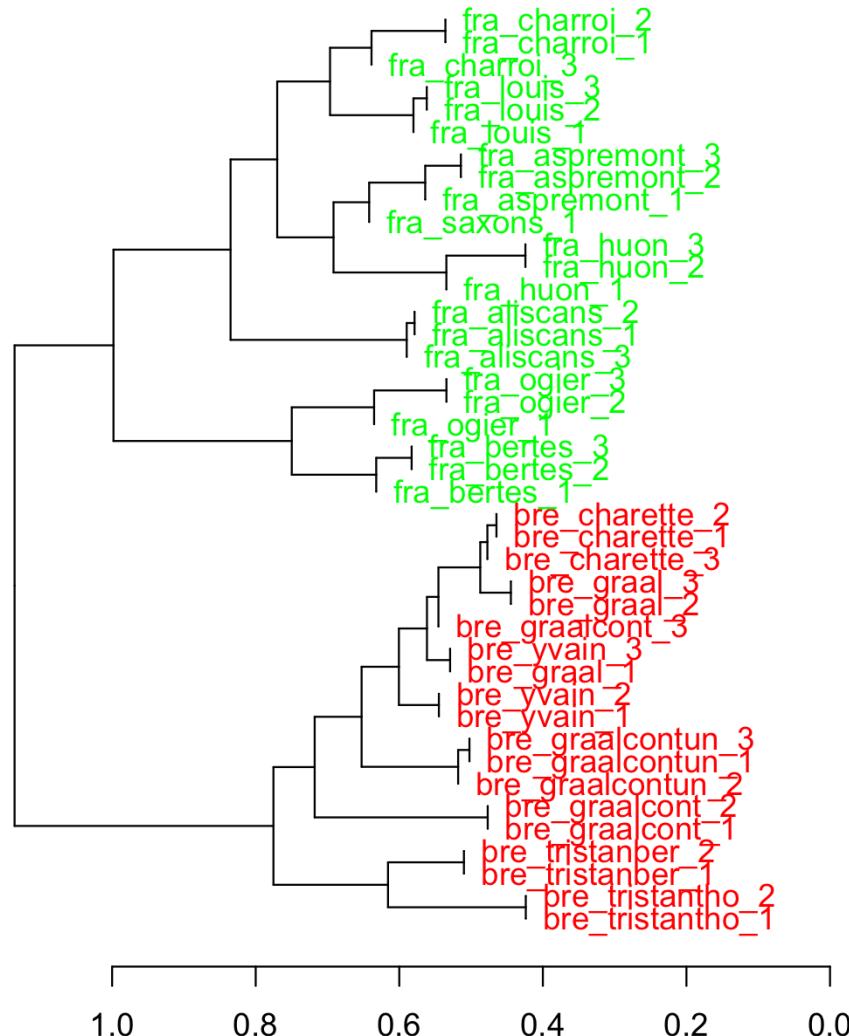
1. Try out different parameters:

- Vary the number of MFW (under features tab): 30, 50, 1000, 5000, ... (Always update Minimum and Maximum simultaneously!)
- Vary the distance metric (under statistics tab)
- Do you get different results? “Better” results?
- *Graal*, *Yvain* and *Charette* always cluster together. Can you think of an explanation why?

Do it yourself (2)

1. Under the sampling tab, select Normal sampling and insert 3,000 under Sample size.
2. Run the analysis again. There are much data points now: can you guess what happened?
3. Set the Sample size at an absurd size: e.g. 20,000. Do you get an error? Why?

genres
Cluster Analysis



3000 MFW Culled @ 0%
Classic Delta distance

Unstability

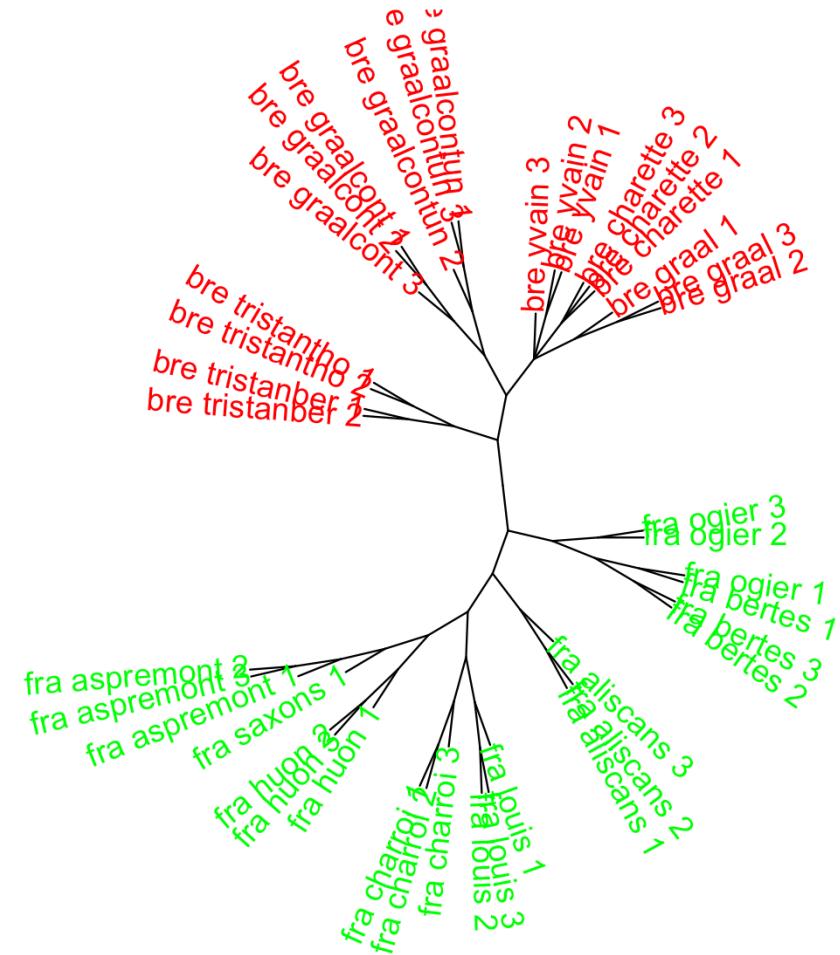
- Cluster Analyses can be unstable (cf. 30 > 31 MFW)
- Very different results for small change in parameters
- Rerun experiment with for MFW: Minimum=50 , Maximum=3000 , Increment=50
- We now iteratively run cluster analyses for different frequency bands: 50-100 MFW, 100-150 MFW, 150-200, ..., 2900-2950 MFW, 2950-3000 MFW.
- Do you see the tree change in each picture?

Bootstrap Consensus Trees

- Bootstrap Consensus Trees (BCT)
- Gives “summary” of different cluster analyses
- Only visualises nodes on which there is a consensus among the trees (50% majority vote)
- Rerun analysis, but select Consensus Tree (under statistics), but leave Consensus strength to 0.5

Quartz 2 [*]

genres Bootstrap Consensus Tree



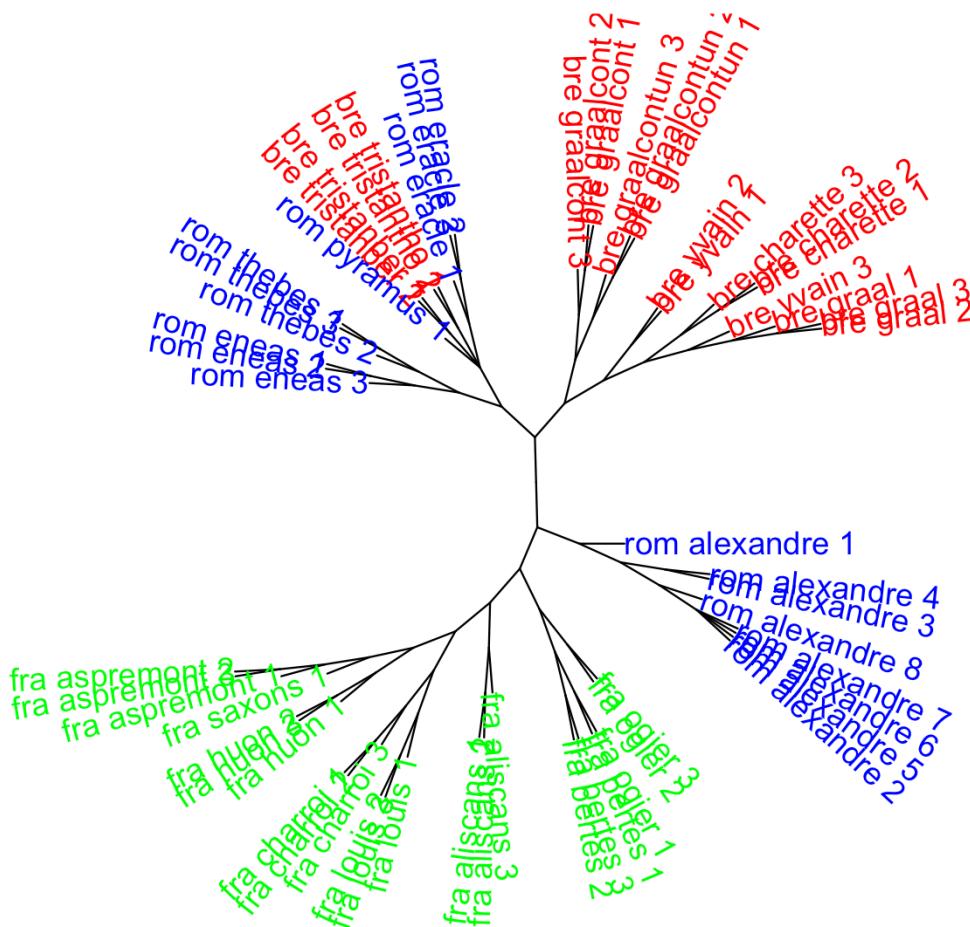
50-3000 MFW Culled @ 0%
Classic Delta distance Consensus 0.5

Do it yourself (+)

- We have seen that the cluster analyses easily distinguish Jean Bodel's *matière de Bretaigne* and *matière de France* without supervision. But what about the *matière de Rome*? Add the `rom_*` texts under data to the corpus folder.
- Rerun various cluster analyses on this expanded data set and experiment with the BCT. Experiment with different MFWs and sample sizes. What is the result? Do you get pretty clusters? How do you interpret this? Which two Arthurian texts behave strangely?

Quartz 2 [*]

genres Bootstrap Consensus Tree



50-3000 MFW Culled @ 0%
Classic Delta distance Consensus 0.5

Text selection

- Sometimes you don't want to analyse all texts under corpus
- Under features, tick Select files manually
- You will get a dialogue window:
 - (De)select individual texts using Control+Click
 - Select a range of texts using Shift+Click
- Try to run an analysis using only the bre_* and rom_* texts

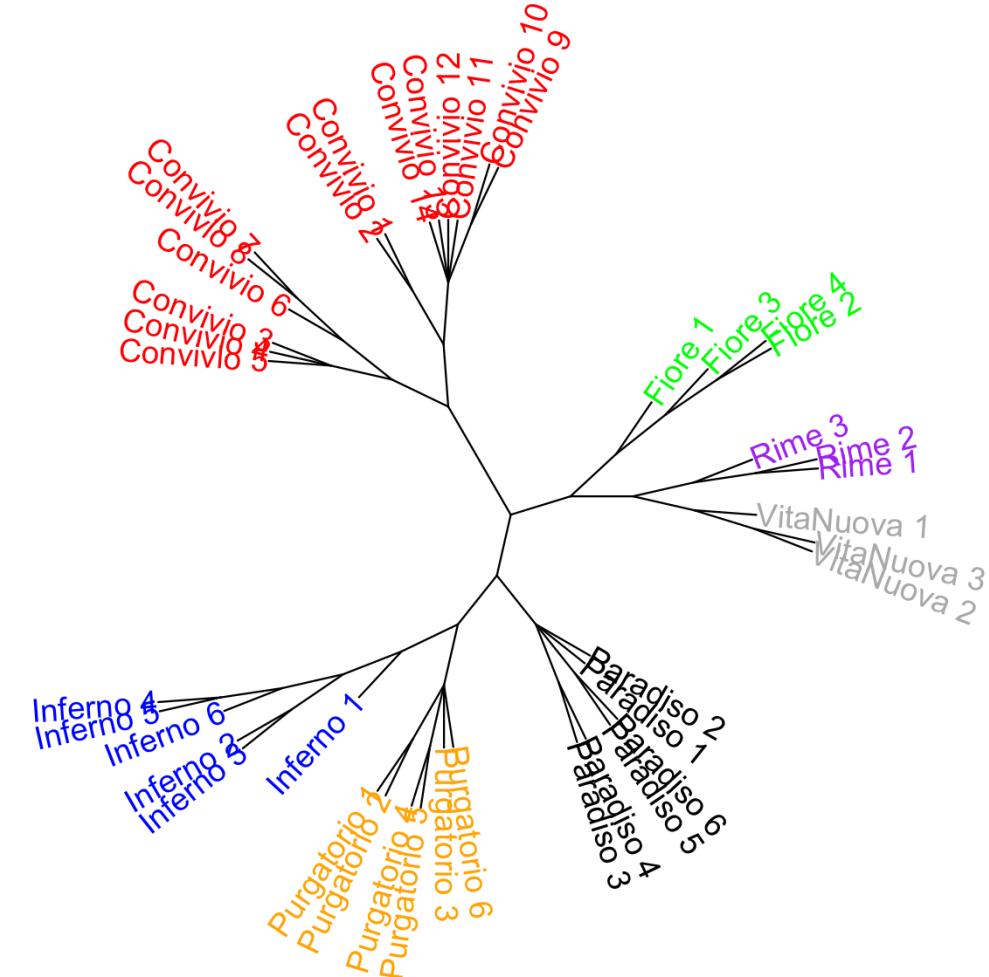
Do it yourself (1)

- I downloaded the entire oeuvre by Dante Alighieri (1265-1321) from danteonline.it
- (I don't know anything about Dante, and I don't speak Italian)
- Still, analyse his oeuvre: "Distant" Reading!
- Type `setwd("pitt17/data/dante")` in R to navigate to the correct directory

Do it yourself (2)

- Run various (normal) cluster analyses on Dante's work: try different MFWs. (Don't use sampling yet: No sampling) Do you see a clear clustering of texts?
- Analyze these two clusters using `oppose()`. Don't forget to create the folders necessary for this: divide the texts in a primary and secondary set. Result? Silly me! Can you too find out why these two clusters are there?
- Add cluster labels followed by “_” in the file names under `corpus` to sort our the colouring of the cluster plots. Each file should get a title = `clustername_title.txt`

dante
Bootstrap Consensus Tree



100-2000 MFW Culled @ 0%
Classic Delta distance Consensus 0.5

Do it yourself (3)

- Now analyse only the Italian works using `stylo()`.
- Now run Bootstrap Analysis Trees for various MFWs (adjust Minimum, Maximum and Increment).
- Try out different sample sizes (e.g. 5,000). You can leave out *DettoDAmore*, which is too short. Do you see clusters here? Can you explain them using the internet?
- Which two parts of the *Commedia* are closest to each other?
- Use `oppose()` to find out which words are typical of *Paradiso* (in comparison to the other parts).

Spelling variation

- No printing press: manual copying
- Scribes, copyists
- No standard language, spelling
- Regional, personal preferences
- Especially vernacular texts
- Each copy unique

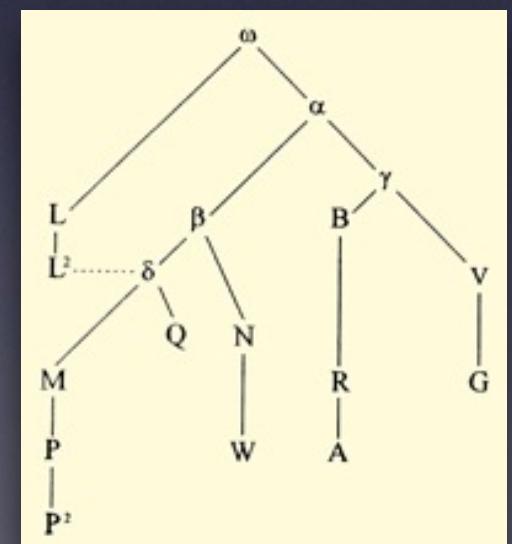


Recognizable?

- D Ter stont ende ter seluer vren
- E Tier stont ende ter seluer vren
- F TIere stont enter seluer vren
- G Tottien stonden en ter uren
- H TEn stonden ende ter seluer vren
- I Tjerst stont ende tier veren
- J Tyer stont ende tier seluer vren
- N TJer stont tier seluer vre

Huge issue

- Issue for computational text analysis
- Lemmatize, part-of-speech tag
- Often seen as problem...
- E.g. stemmatology: reconstruction
- But also interesting!
- Study scribal behaviour



Angus McIntosh

- Middle English philology
- *Linguistic Atlas of Late Medieval English*
- Scribal language
- Interested in modelling scribal behaviour



Hypothesis

- Each scribe has unique ‘profile’
- Combination of:
 - Graphetic profile (*handwriting*)
 - Linguistic profile (*language*)
- Today focus on language:
 - *alt* vs. *olt* (dialect)
 - *tijt* vs. *tyt* (spelling)



3. Chaucer

- Scribal profile in 4 MSS
- Chaucer, *Canterbury Tales*
- Well-studied scribes
- Parallel copies of 1 tale
- *The Man of Law*
- Data courtesy of J.Thaisen



Parallel content: focus on linguistic differences

hateful harmN condiciounN of povert

with thirst with cold with hungR so cunfoundid

ohatefull harme condicyouN of pouert

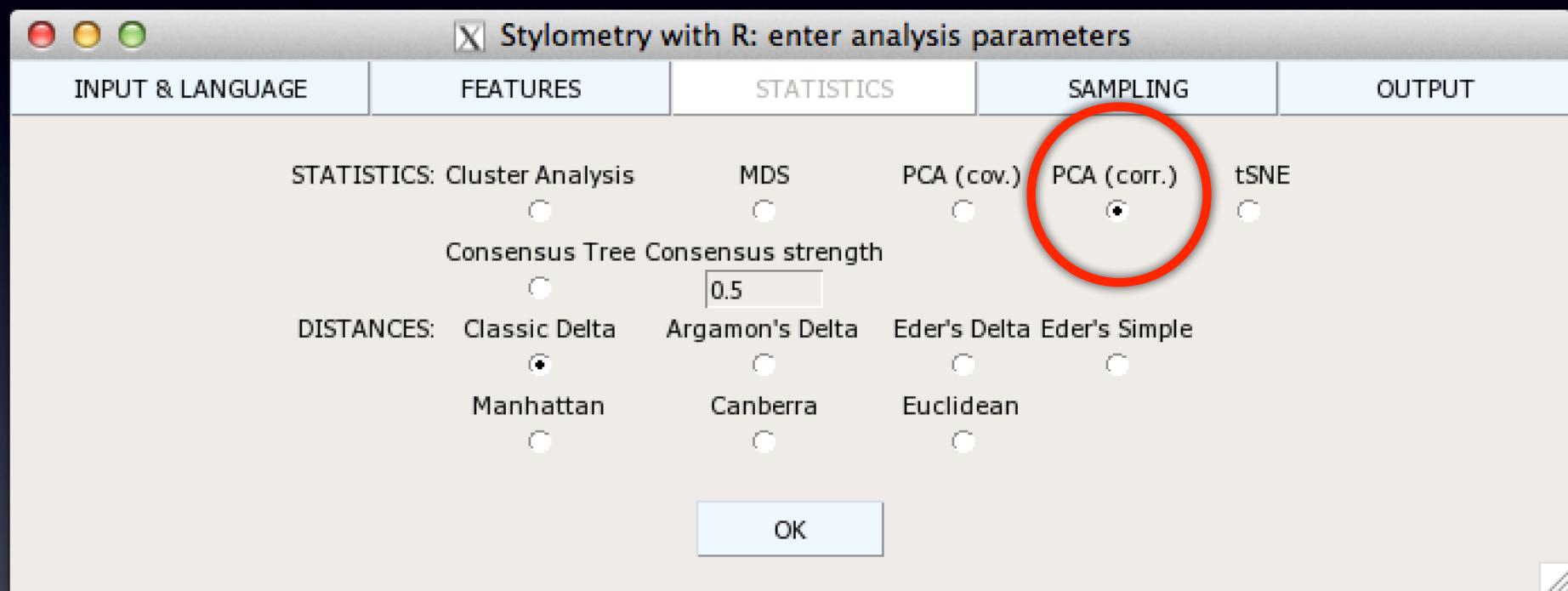
with thurste with colde with hungR so coNfounded

O hate full harme condiciouN of pouerte

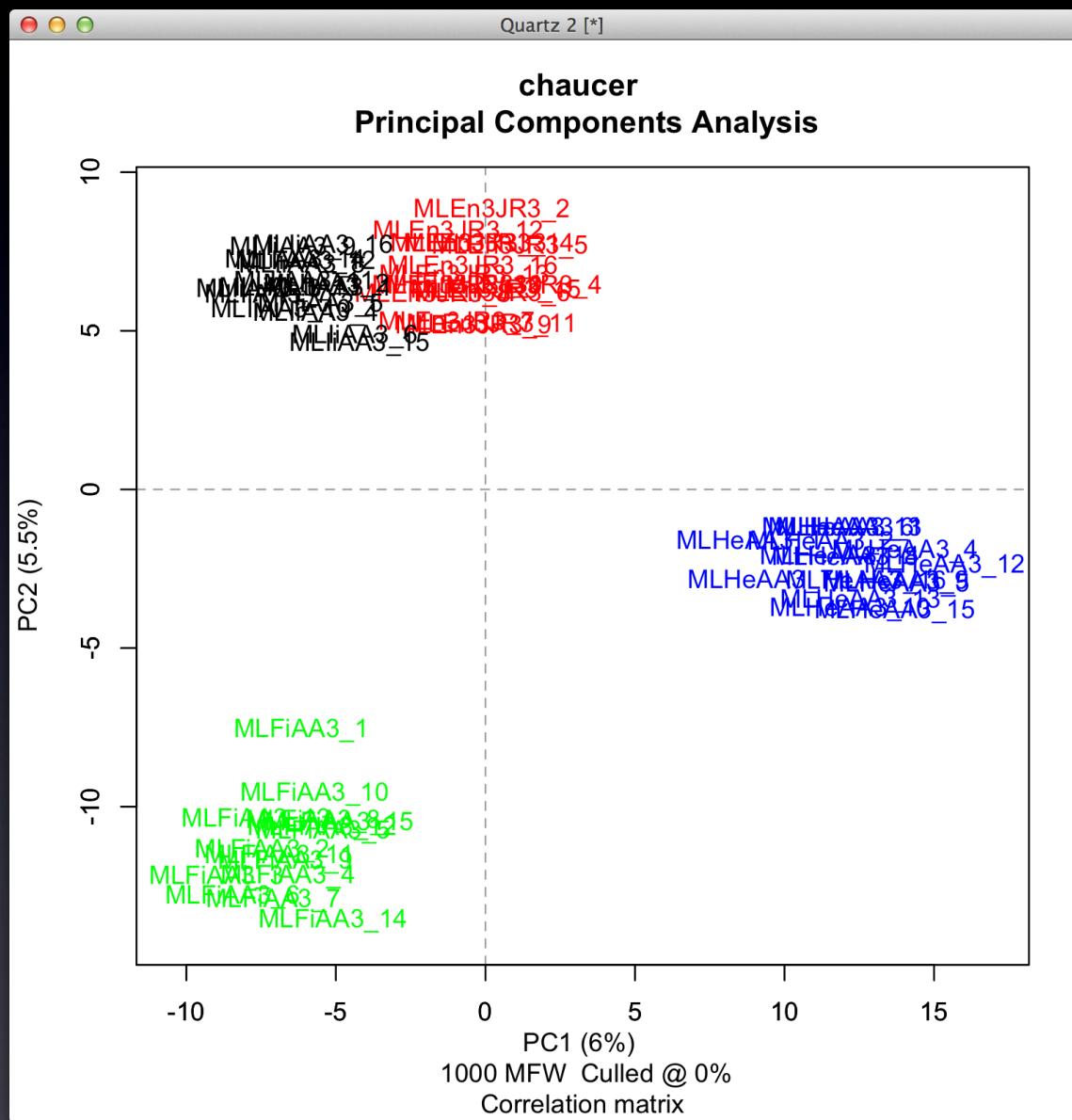
wt thrust wt colde and honger so confounded

Principal Components Analysis

- (My favourite)
- `enter setwd("~/Desktop/pitt17/data/chaucer")`
- Check out corpus folder
- launch `stylo()`:
 - Use `MFW=500`
 - Set method to PCA (`corr.`) under statistics
 - Normal sampling; `size=500` (Sampling)

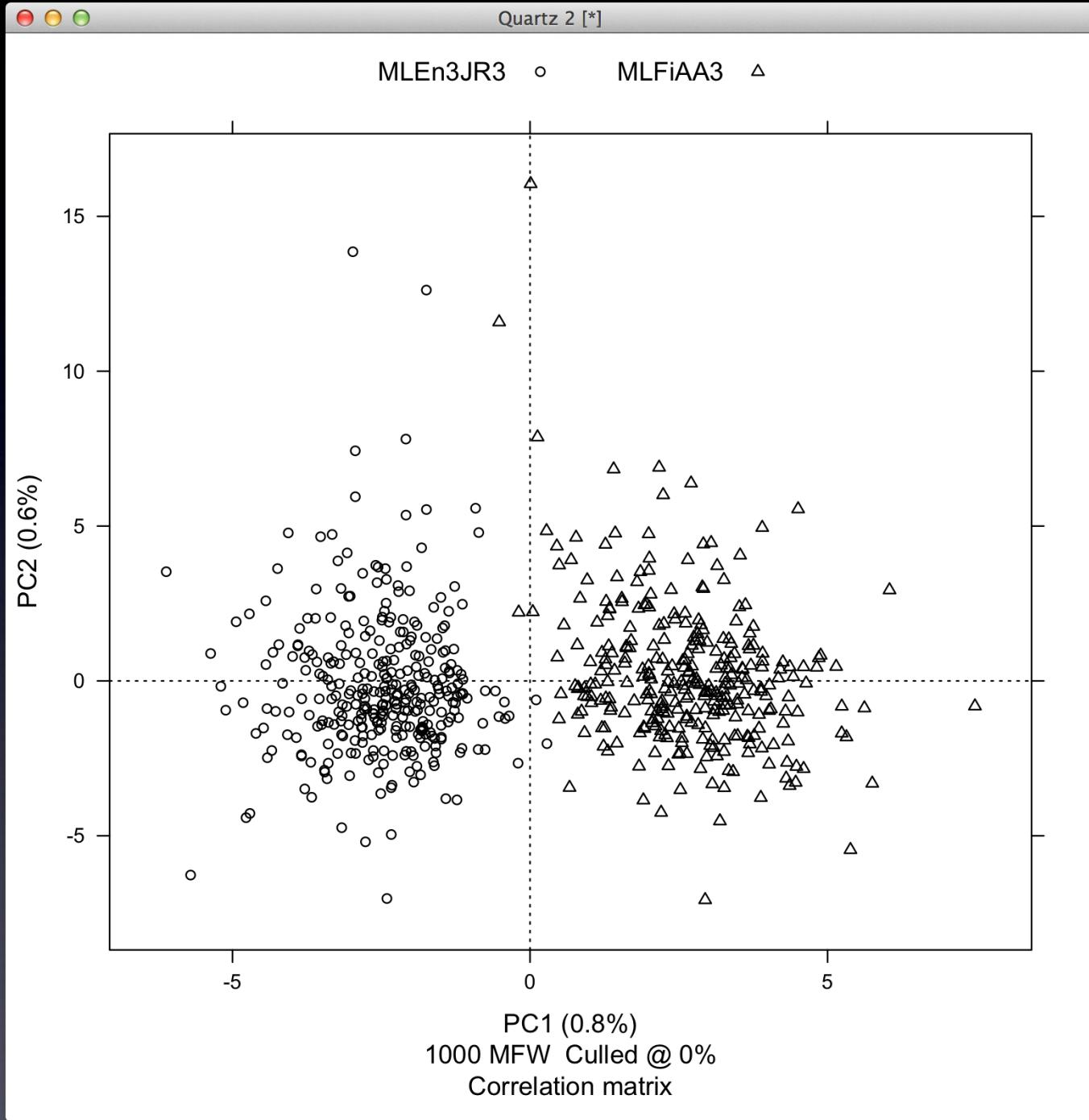


What do you see? (Does this make sense?)



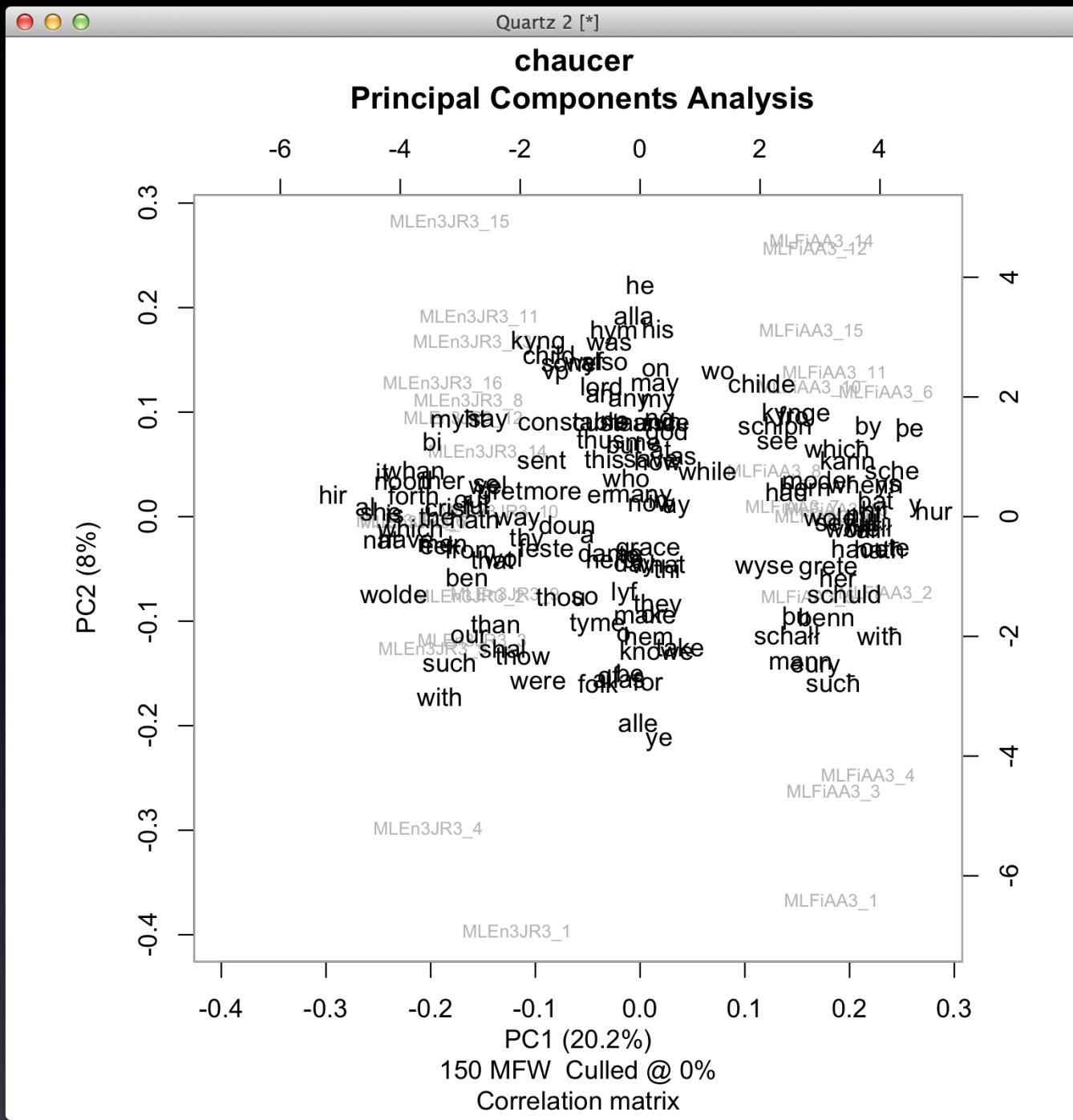
Do it yourself

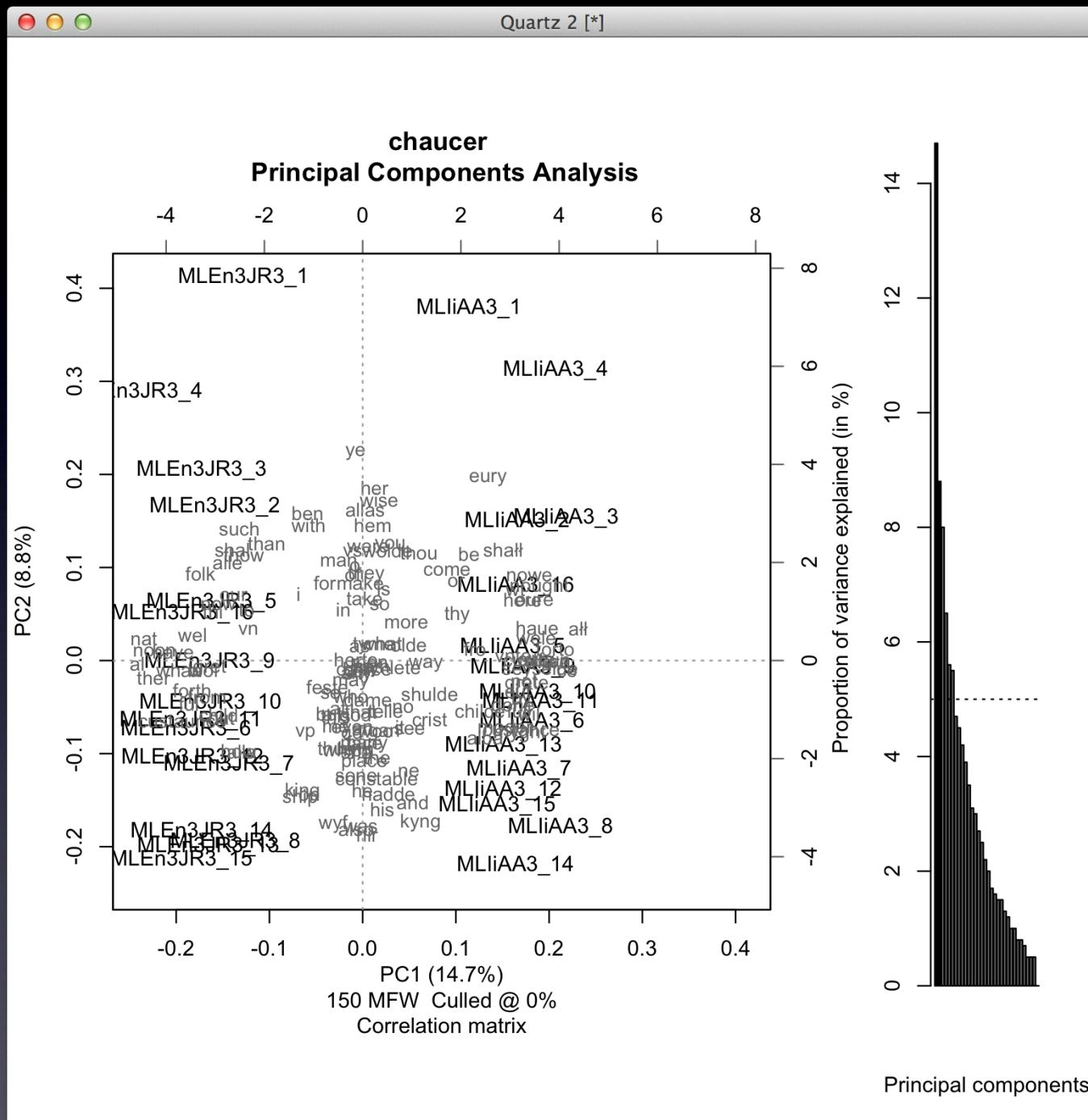
- Select a number of different manuscript *pairs* and *triples* tick Select files manually and use Control+Click. Can you describe what you see? Where are the samples positioned?
- Use 2 manuscripts. Set PCA flavour=Symbols and steadily decrease the sample size (500, 300, ..., 50,). How small can samples get before the plot gets fuzzy? What does this tell us?



Loadings

- Extremely helpful feature of PCA
- Tells on which specific word differences the PCA is based
- Use 2 manuscripts. Set PCA flavour= Loadings. The loadings will be plotted in dark; the samples in lightgrey. (If difficult to read, lower the MFW=100)
- What is there results? Inspect the original files: do the loadings make sense?



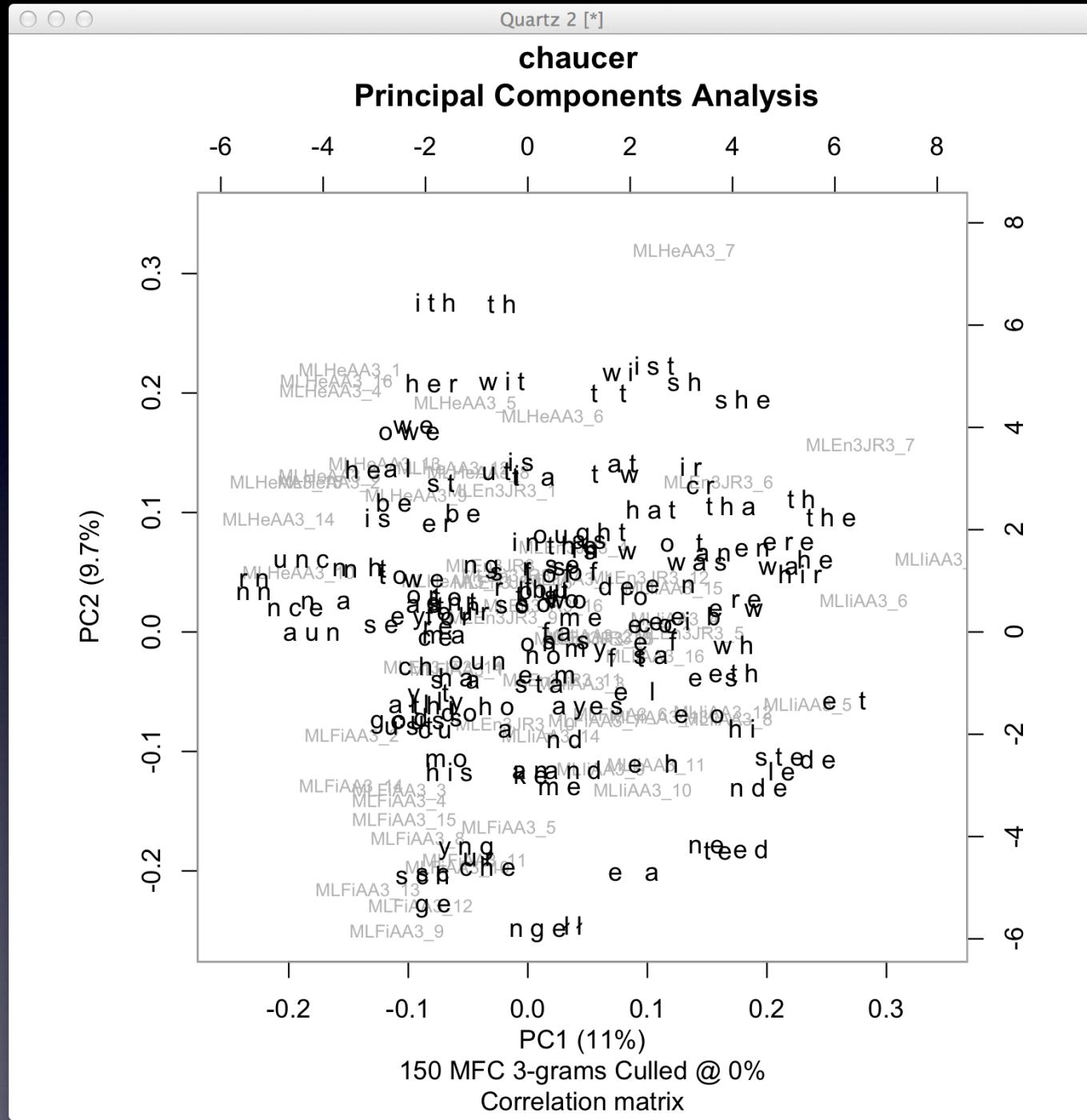


PCA flavour=

Technical

Character n-grams

- Words are not always used in *stylometry*
- Also character n-grams
- Under features tab:
 - features = chars
 - ngram size = 3
- Make sure to set PCA flavour=Loadings
- Can you guess what character n-grams are?



Hildegard of Bingen

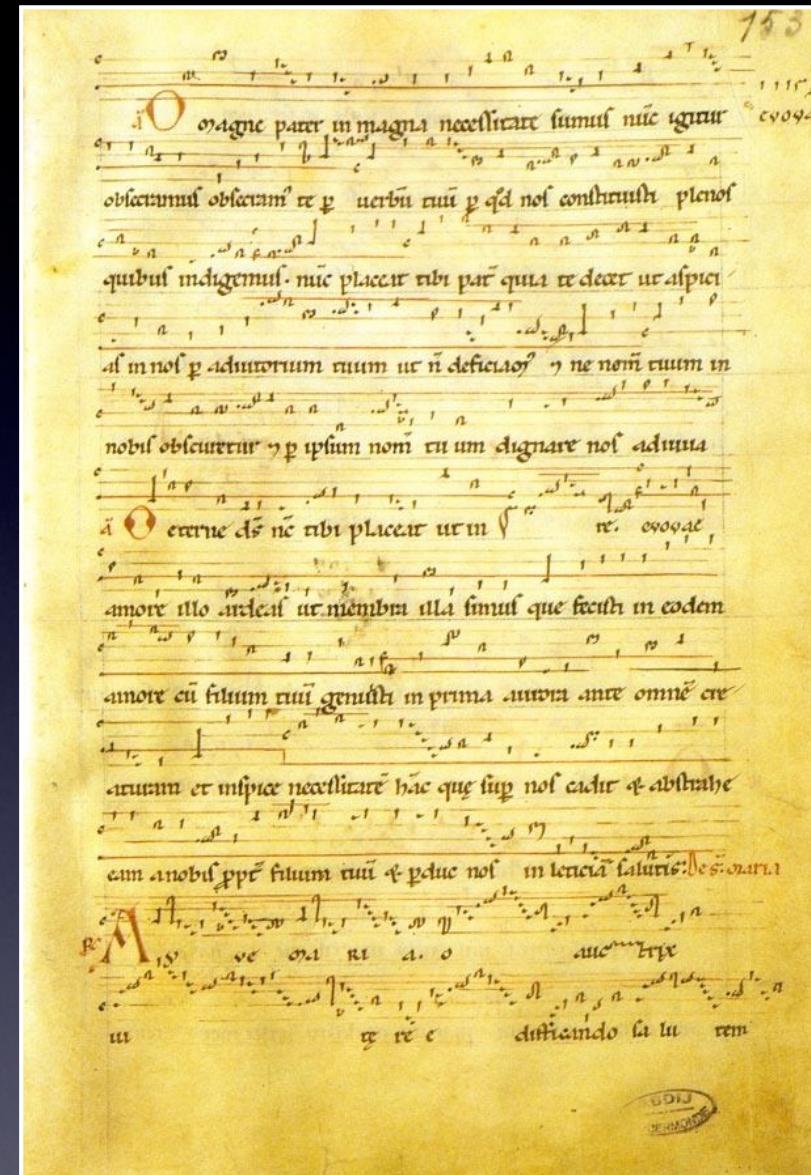
- Influential women writer
- 1098–1179
- Germany
- Divine visions
- “Sybil of the Rhine”



[Wiesbaden, Landesbibliothek, I, fol. 1r.]

Varied oeuvre

- Visions
- Music
- Scientific texts
- Recipes
- Medical treatises
- Letters (pope, emperor, ...)



[Dendermonde, St.-Pieters & Paulusabdij, Ms. Cod. 9]

Early 2012

- Sara Moens
- Jeroen Deploige
- Dept. History, UGhent
- Editing two texts
- Collaborate?



Secretaries

- Wrote in Latin...
- But was bad at it!
- No formal training as woman
- Assisted by **male secretaries**
- Gender issues...
- Dictated



[Hildegard and her 1st secretary Volmar]

Correction grammatical mistakes

(Only form, not content!)

tu impie-
nis rota
ere simi-
o annos
rib' ui-
ria ue-
abiliter
ulla ue-
deo pri-
as & eni-
m' duni-

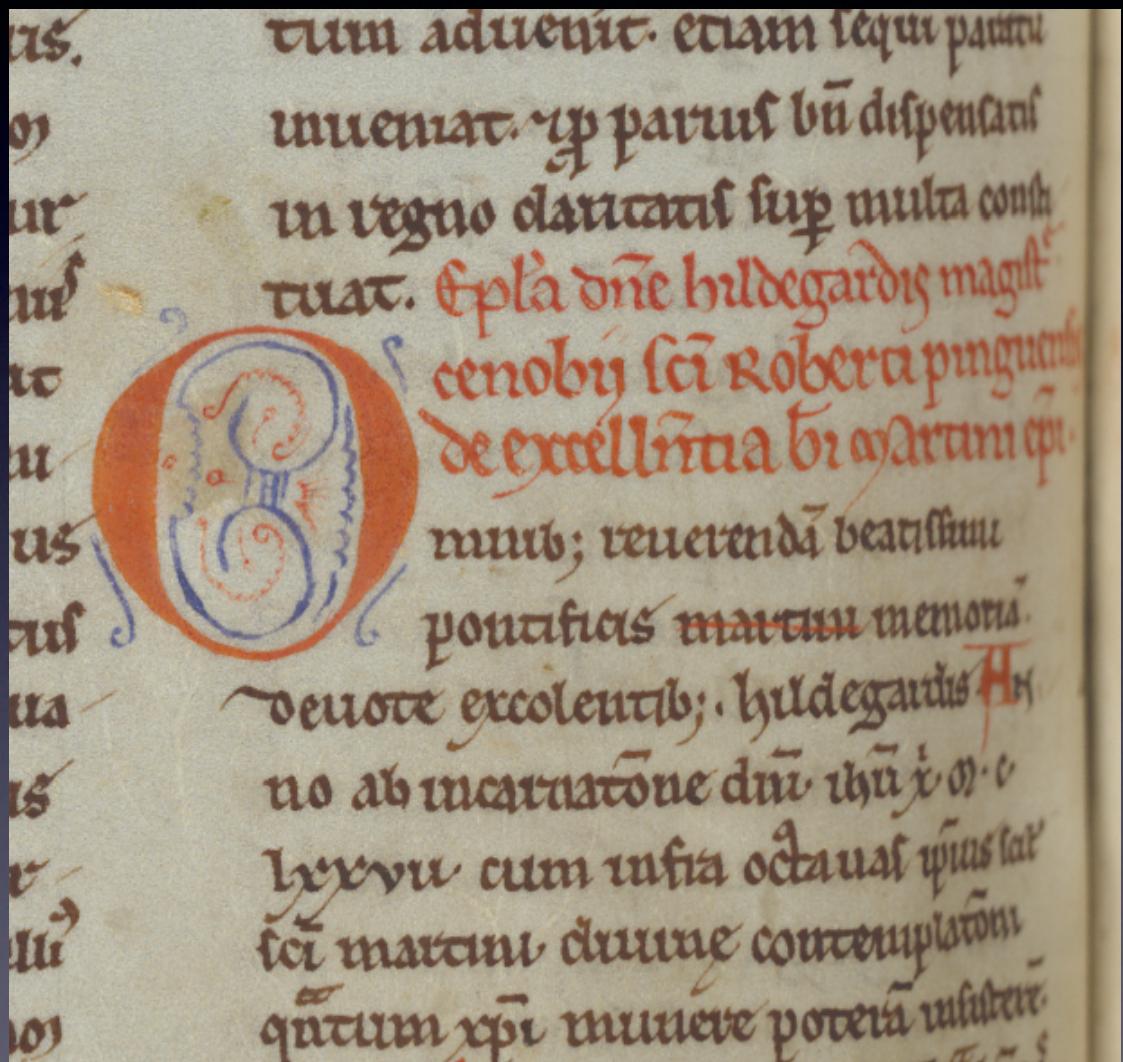
eisq; gaudiuū lumenis sui subministrat. significans potentiaā
di qui sup om̄is ē. & qui om̄ib' uitā tribuit. Sub quo circulus
alius sicut circulus ingri ignis demonstrat. quia ignis iste
sub potestate prioris existens. iudicialis & fere gehennalis ē.
ad iudicatā malę. factus nec ulli rei pareat sup quā iusto iu-
dicio cadit. qm̄ in eo ostendit̄ quod om̄is qui se dō opponit.
incasū nigredinis multaq; calamitatū uertet. Nam ^{in ecclae} cu sol
surſū ascendit. idem ignis iudicatā di in cōbustione ^{fulguris} exerceat.
cū ū sol deorsū descendit. ille iudiciales plagas ī gelui & ḡndime
ac ī frigore ostendit. qm̄ quodq; peccatiū seu igne. seu frigo-
re. seu aliis quib'dā plagiis sedm̄ modū sui examinat̄. Et idē

Two shorter texts...

Visio ad Guibertum missa &

Visio de sancto Martino

- “Attributed” to Hildegard
- *Opera omnia...*
- But style not typical of her
- Doubts authorship?
- Last secretary....



[MS Brussels, Royal Library, 5527-34, fol. 141v.]

Guibert of Gembloux

- Monk from Brabant
- Hildegard's last secretary
- Fascination St Martin
- Very elaborate style
- “Pushy”



[MS Brussels, Royal Library, 5527-34, fol. 141v.]

Stylometry?

When you correct [this text], keep to this rule: that [...] you apply your skill only to make corrections where the order or the rules of correct Latin are violated. Or if you prefer – and this is something I have conceded in this letter **beyond my normal practice** – you need not hesitate to clothe the whole sequence of the vision in a **more becoming garment of speech**, preserving the true sense

[*Visio de St. Martino*, trans. Newman, 1987, p. 23]

Corpus

- *Corpus Christianorum* (Brepols)
- Complete materials
- *Epistolaria*
- Hildegard, Guibert
- Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153)
- 3x +100k tokens

Do it yourself

- Check out folder pitt17/data/hildegard:
 - B_ep.txt = Letters from Bernard of Clairvaux
 - B_Mart.txt = Sermon about St. Martin by Bernard
 - D_Mart.txt = Dubious
 - D_Missa.txt = Dubious
 - G_ep.txt = Letters by Guibert
 - H_epG.txt = Letters by Hildegard, with Guibert
 - H_epNG.txt = Letters by Hildegard, before Guibert
- All texts lemmatised

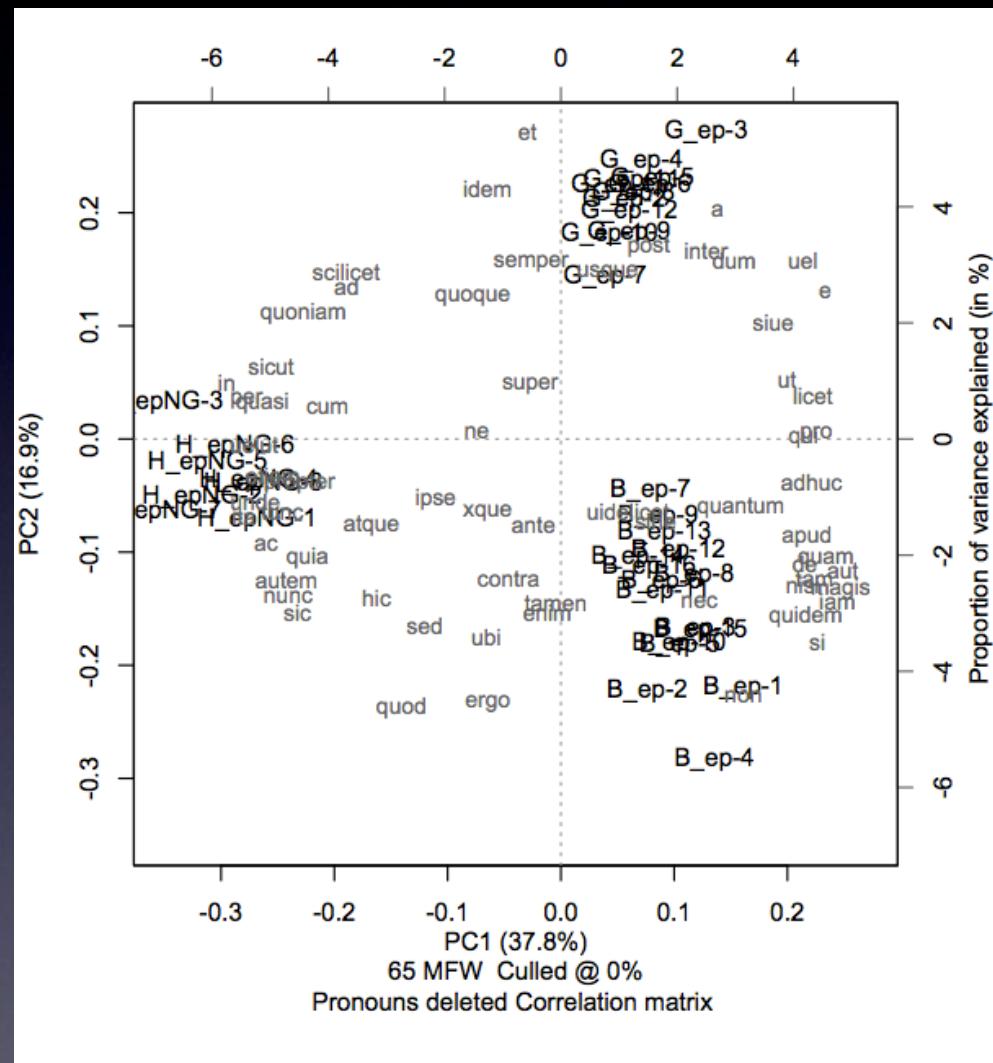
Wordlist

- Restrictive wordlist `wordlist_master.txt`
- Non-function words removed via hashtag (#)
- *Copy* `wordlist_master.txt` and rename copy to `wordlist.txt`
- Restrict analysis: tick Use existing wordlist
- Stylo will look for `wordlist.txt` and use only these words

Run PCA

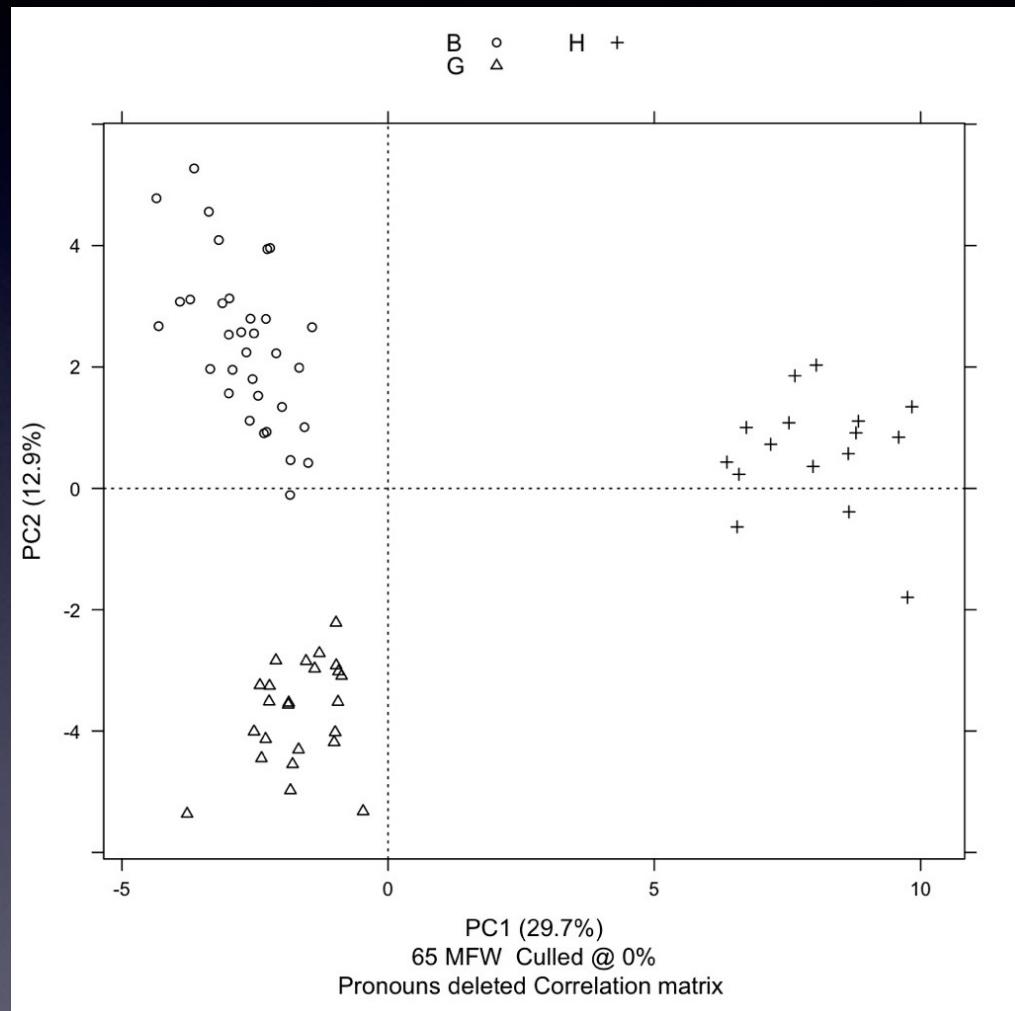
- Sample size = 10,000
- MFW = 65
- Select PCA
 - PCA Flavour = Technical
 - Select B_ep.txt, G_ep.txt, H_epNG.txt
 - Existing wordlist + Select Texts Manually
 - Same plot?

Test PCA

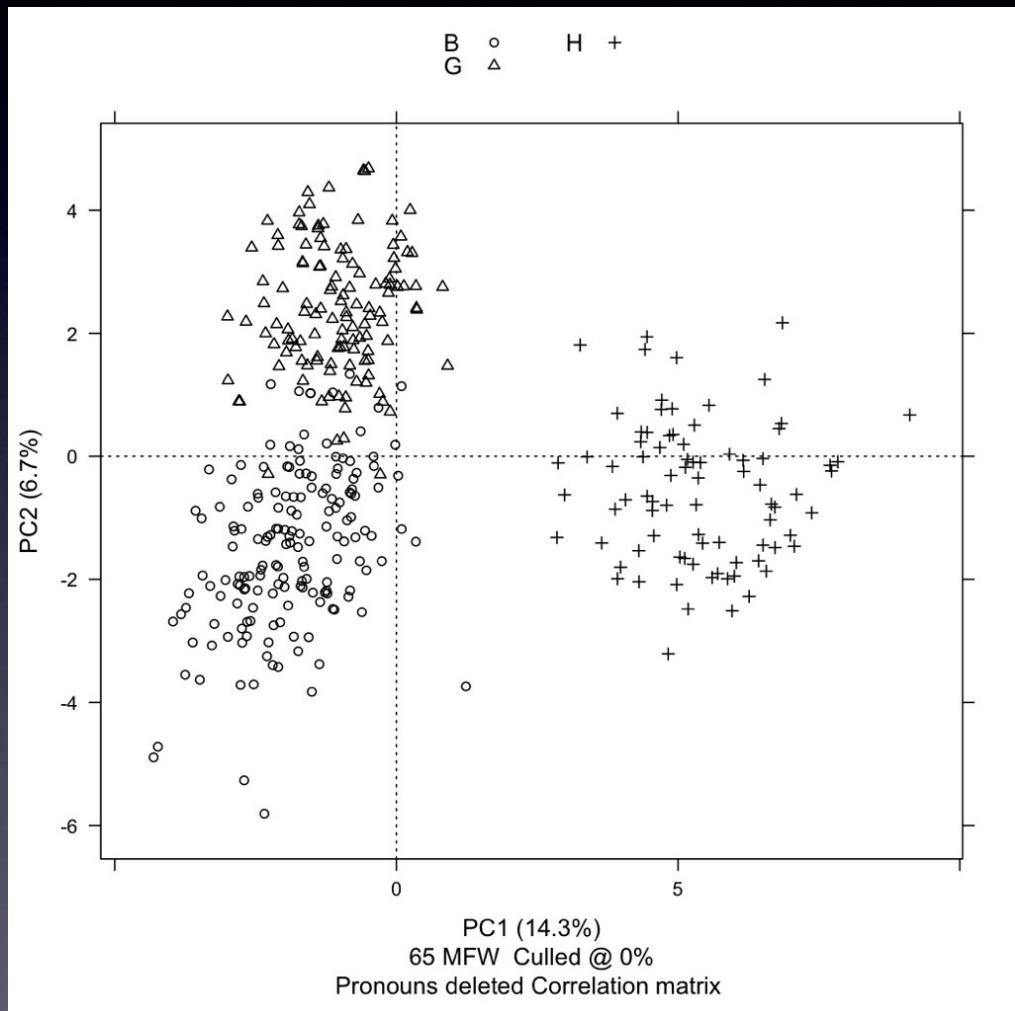


[ss=10,000; 65 MFW; content words ‘culled’]

Play with sample size



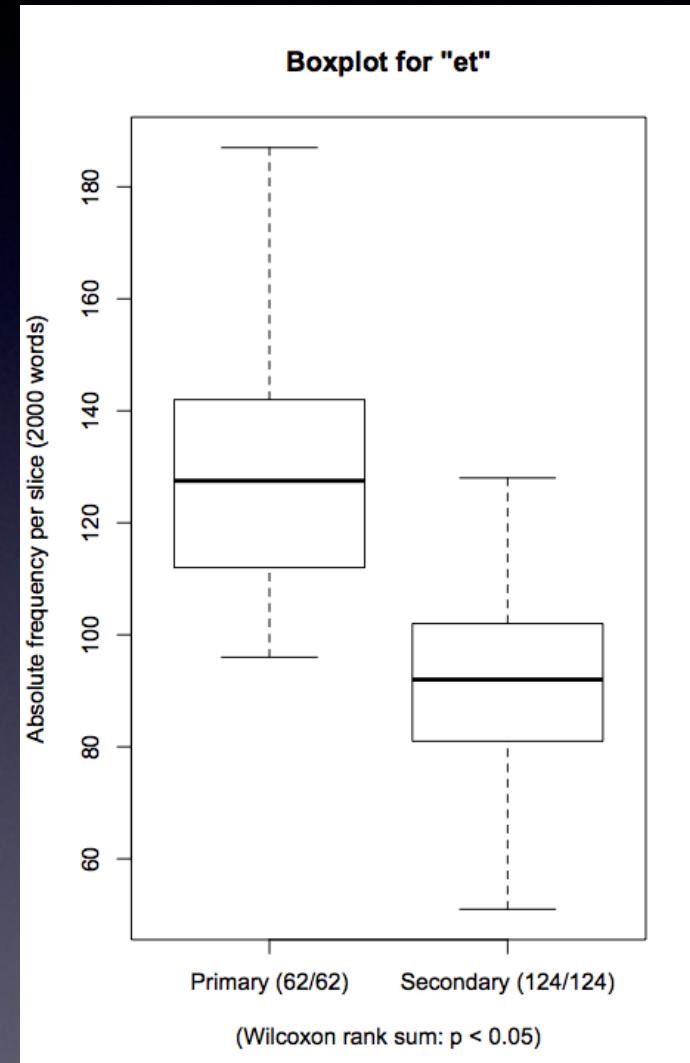
[ss=5,000]



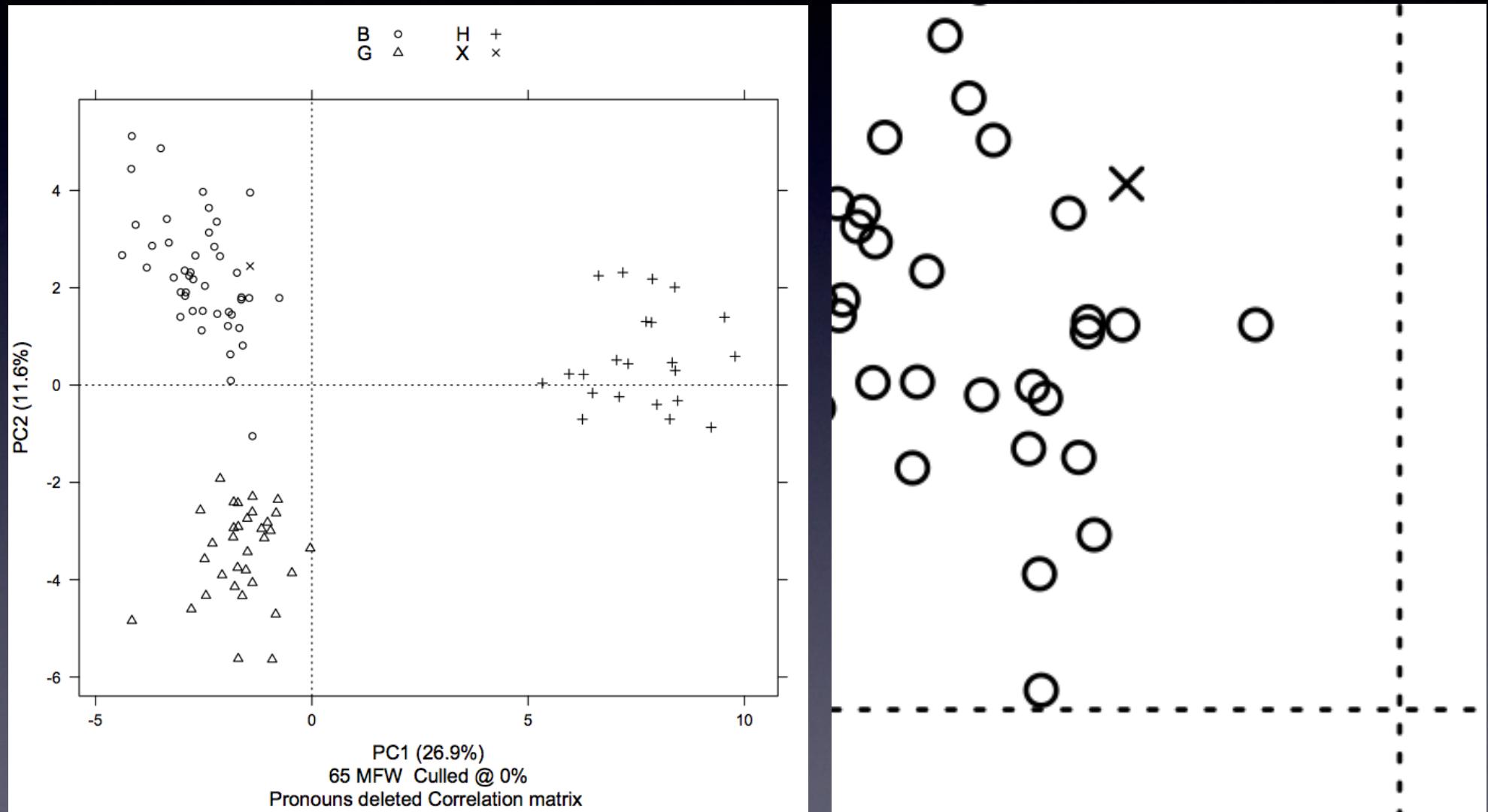
[ss=1,000]

Boxplot

- Plot differences in MFW
- Use oppose():
 - primary_set = G_ep.txt
 - secondary_set = B_ep.txt + H_ep.txt
- Also try:
 - *in* for Hildegard
 - *non* for Bernard



“Anonymous” text?

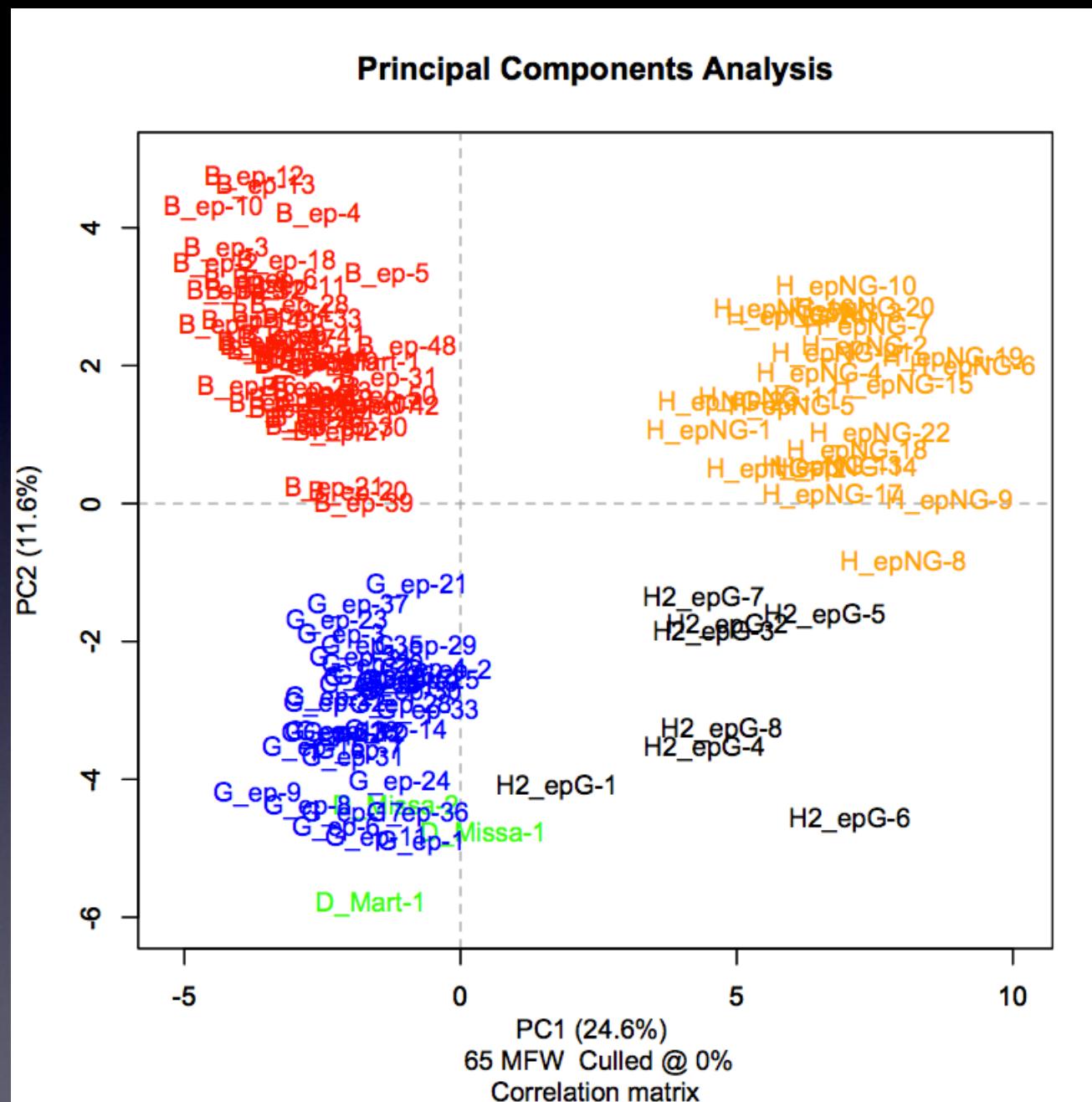
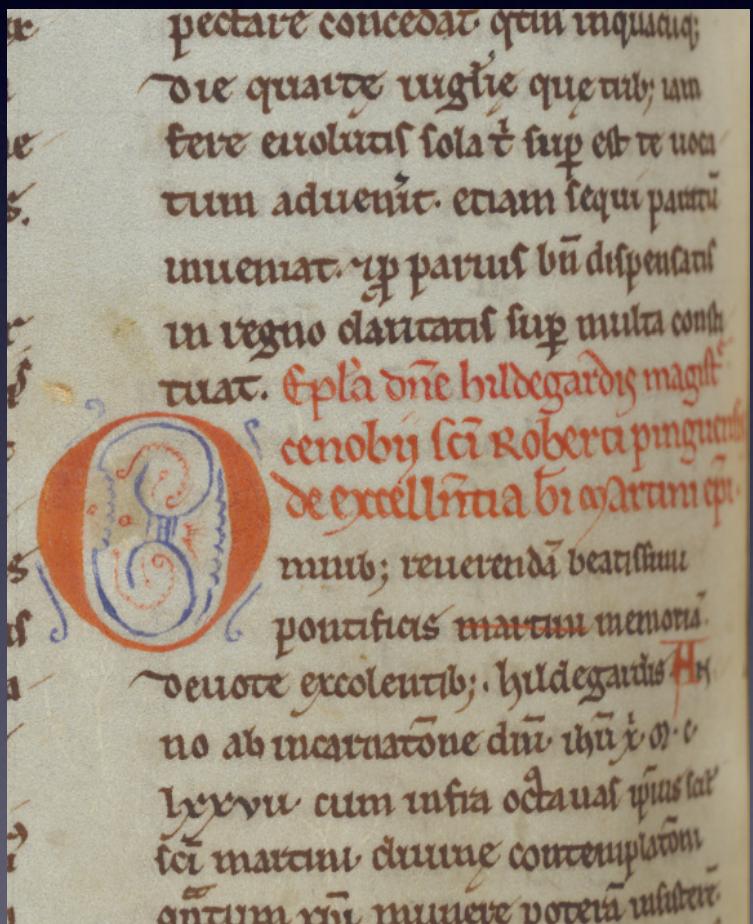


[ss=3,706; Bernard's *Sermo in festo sancti Martini* as “anonymous test case”;]

Add text

- Bernard’s *Sermo in festo sancti Martini*
- “Anonymous” test case
- Add B_Mart.txt
- Set Sample size to 3,500 (length of B_Mart.txt)
- Attribution?

Bigger picture



Concluding experiment

- Use all texts
 - Sample size = 3,000
- Don't forget: Existing wordlist
 - PCA Flavour = Classic
- Stable? Try out different settings!

Synergy Hypothesis

- Pennebaker (e.g. 2011)
- *The Secret Life of Pronouns*
- Federalist papers and Beatles songs
- Collaborative writing style?
- “unlike either of one of the styles that the collaborating authors would produce on their own”
- Practical and theoretical relevance



“Hollywood version”? Online documentary

vimeo.com/70881172



References

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