





# Stylometry

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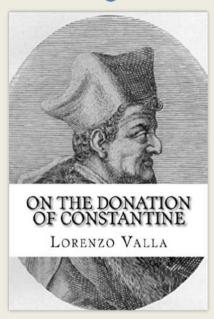








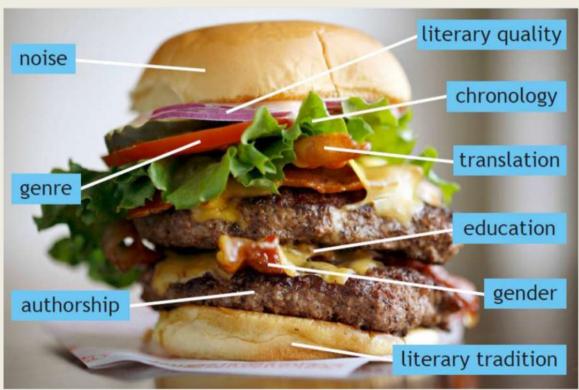
### Lorenzo Valla and the Constantini donatione



Lorenzo Valla (c. 1407–1457)

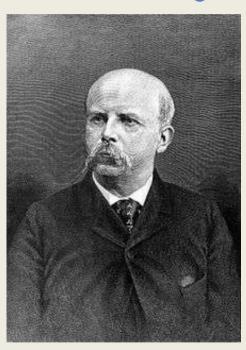
- The Constantini donatione was a forged decree where the emperor Constantine I transfers authority of the Roman Empire to the Pope.
- In De falso credita et ementita Constantini donatione declamatio (1517), Loreno Valla shows that the act was done in the eighth century by the same papal chancellery. Some grammatical forms could not have been used in the 4th century
  - Act of immense value for the history of philology. The first instance of scholarly-based investigation of style





- Author attribution identification of unknown authors
- Genre classification
- Historical study of language change
- Other applications
- Anonymity
- Plagiarism

# «Measuring» authorial style

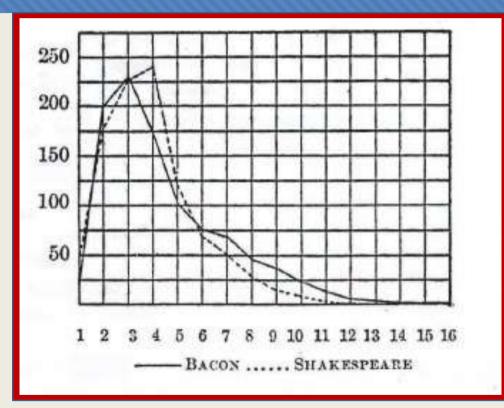


Thomas Corwin Mendenhall (October 4, 1841 – March 23, 1924) was an American autodidact physicist and meteorologist. He was the first professor hired at The Ohio State University in 1873 and the superintendent of the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey from 1889 to 1894. Alongside his work, he was also an advocate for the adoption of the metric system by the United States.

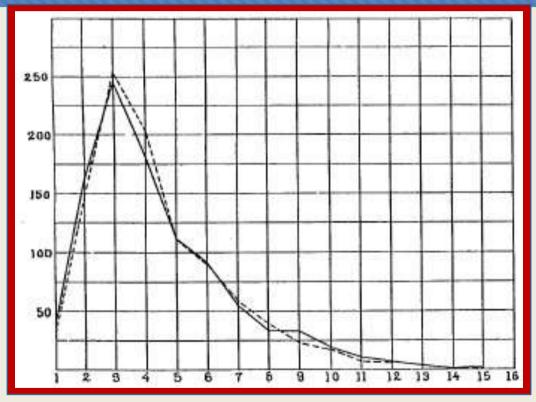
He provided the first empirical evidence in favor of de Morgan's assumptions. In two subsequent studies, Mendenhall (1887, 1901) elaborated on de Morgan's ideas, suggesting that in addition to analy- ses "based simply on mean word-length" (1887: 239), one should attempt to graphically exhibit the peculiarities of style in composition: in order to arrive at such graphics, Mendenhall counted the frequency with which words of a given length occur in 1000-word samples from different authors, among them Francis Bacon, Charles Dickens, William M. Thackerey, and John Stuart Mill.

Robert E. Moritz, On The Significance Of Characteristic Curves Of Composition, Popular Science Monthly, volume 65, June 1904. https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Popular Science Monthly/Volume 65/June 1904/On the Significance of Characteristic Curves of Composition

# Bacon, Shakespeare, Dickens (Mendenhall)



Word Length Frequencies in Bacon's and Shakespeare's Texts (Mendenhall 1901)

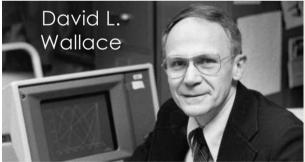


Word Length Frequencies in Dickens' Oliver Twist (Mendenhall 1887)

# Mosteller and Wallace (1964)



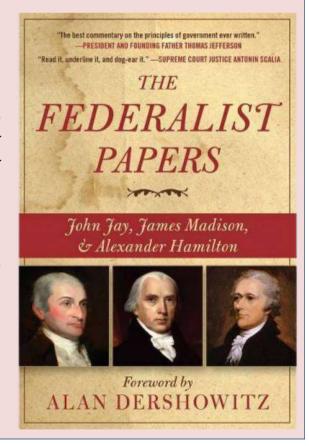
Frederick Mosteller



Case study: The Federalist Papers (1787-1788)

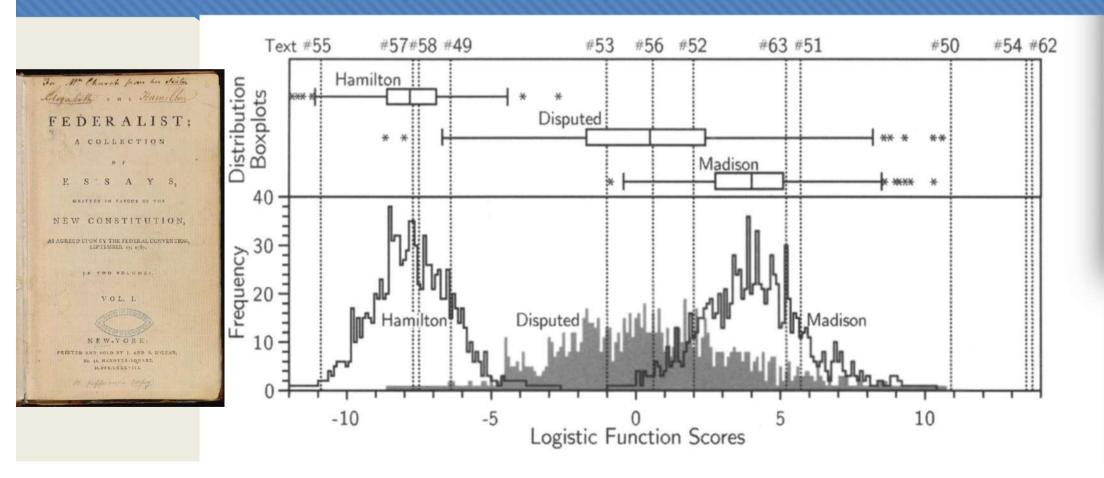
The Federalist Papers is a collection of 85 articles and essays written by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay under the pseudonym "Publius" to promote the ratification of the United States Constitution. The collection was commonly known as The Federalist until the name The Federalist Papers emerged in the 20th century.

The authors of The Federalist intended to influence the voters to ratify the Constitution.



# Statistical Approach

	enough	while	whilst	upon
Hamilton	0.59	0.26	0	2.93
Madison	0	0	0.47	0.16
Disputed texts	0	0	0.34	0.08
Co-authored texts	0.18	0	0.36	0.36



# The Methods For Stylometry And Authorship Attribution

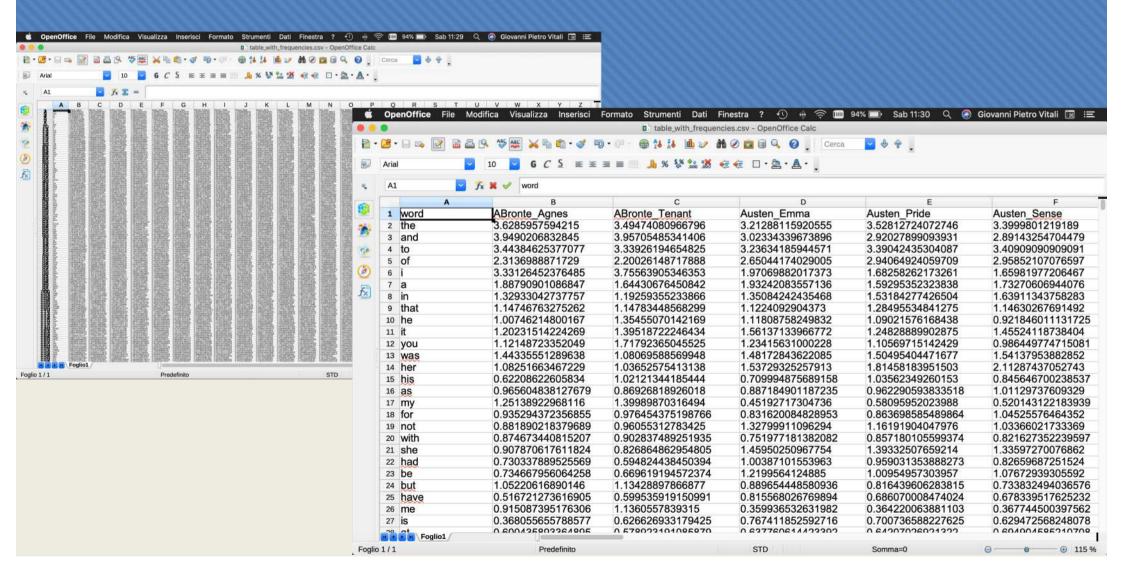
- OCharacter-level analysis
- Syntax-level analysis
- Multi-method analysis (e.g. JGAAP, PAN competition software...)
- ...and many others
- OIn this lesson, just two methods:
  - Zeta method (for the quantitative analysis of style)
  - ODelta method (for authorship attribution)



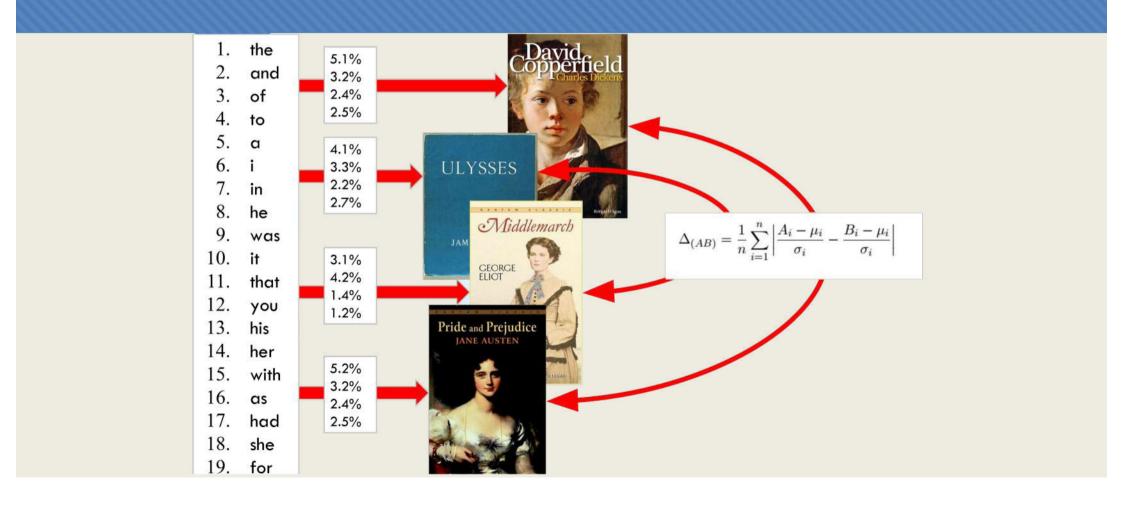
# Let's take an example: English Novels



### **WORD-FREQUENCY BASED STYLOMETRY**



# WORD-FREQUENCY BASED STYLOMETRY



# John Burrows

### **Burrows DELTA**



Frequencies of 100 – 5,000 most frequent words (MFW) form a "fingerprint" of an author's style

Standardized to z-scores to give each word equal weight

```
z(Madding Crowd) = (.53, -.23, -.32, .20, 1.66, -.37, 1.04, .52, -.44, -.92, .03, ...)
z(Tess of the d'U.) = (.75, -.48, -.08, .51, -.24, -.87, .60, .41, -.14, -.47, 1.39, ...)
z(Oliver Twist) = (1.05, .15, -.71, -.56, .37, -1.01, -.06, -.74, -.28, .48, -.94, ...)
```

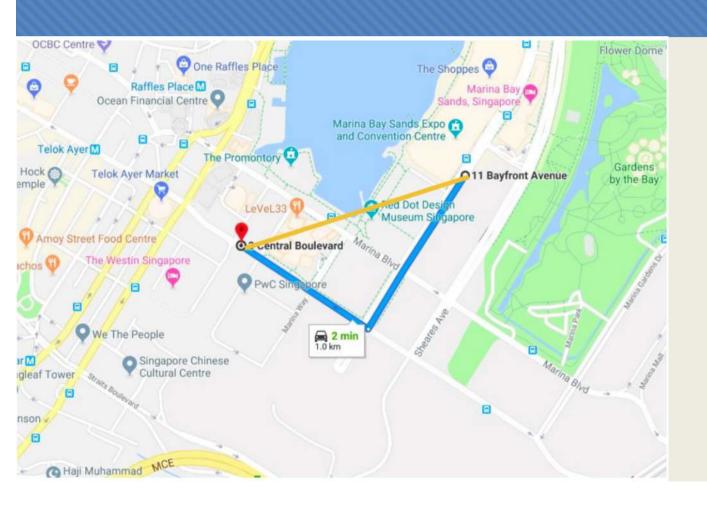
### Zeta score

$$z = \frac{X - \bar{X}}{-}$$

S

- X frequency of term
- Mean(X) mean frequency of term
- O S standard deviation

# **Distances**



OTime

OManhattan

OEuclidean

### **DELTA** measures

Burrows's Delta = Manhattan distance (Burrows 2002)

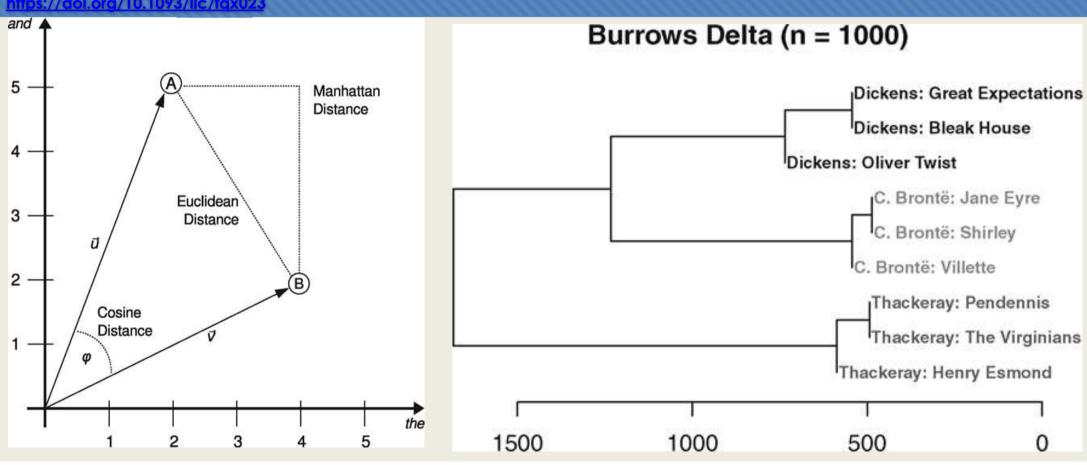
$$\Delta_B(D, D') = \|\mathbf{z}(D) - \mathbf{z}(D')\|_1 = \sum_{i=1}^{n_w} |z_i(D) - z_i(D')|$$

Quadratic Delta = Euclidean distance (Argamon 2008)

$$\Delta_Q(D, D') = \|\mathbf{z}(D) - \mathbf{z}(D')\|_2^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{n_w} (z_i(D) - z_i(D'))^2$$

### **Deltas & Distance**

Stefan Evert, Thomas Proisl, Fotis Jannidis, Isabella Reger, Steffen Pielström, Christof Schöch, Thorsten Vitt, "Understanding and explaining Delta measures for authorship attribution", Digital Scholarship in the Humanities, Volume 32, Issue suppl\_2, December 2017, Pages ii4–ii16,



# Stylo package

https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/stylo/index.html

https://sites.google.com/site/computationalstylistics/stylo

https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/stylo/stylo.pdf

https://computationalstylistics.github.io/





### Command to Start

- > install.packages("stylo")
- > library(stylo)
- > stylo()

# Installing stylo

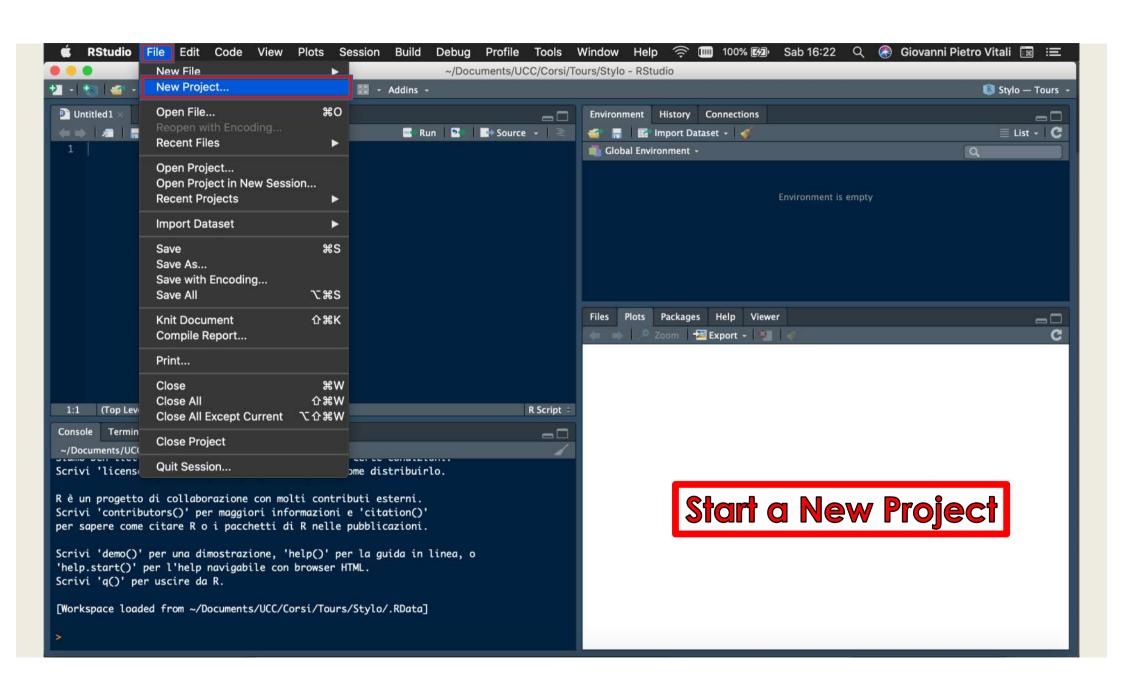
- o run R
- type install.packages("stylo")
- o pick your R server
- O click OK
- O done!

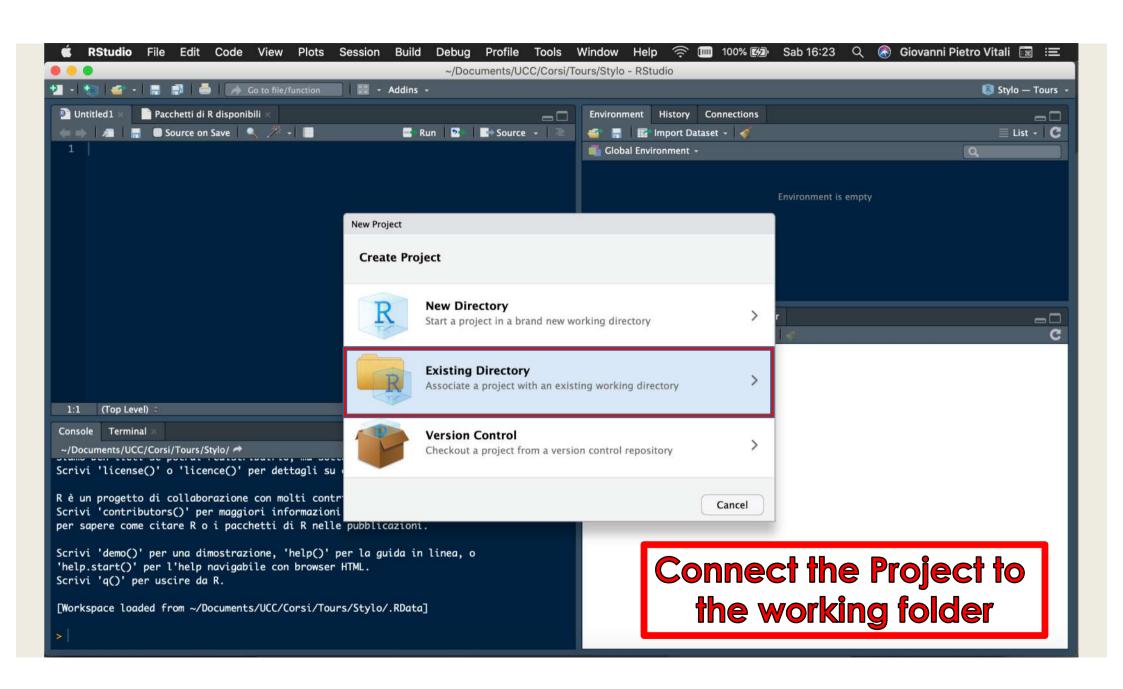
### Some basic R functions

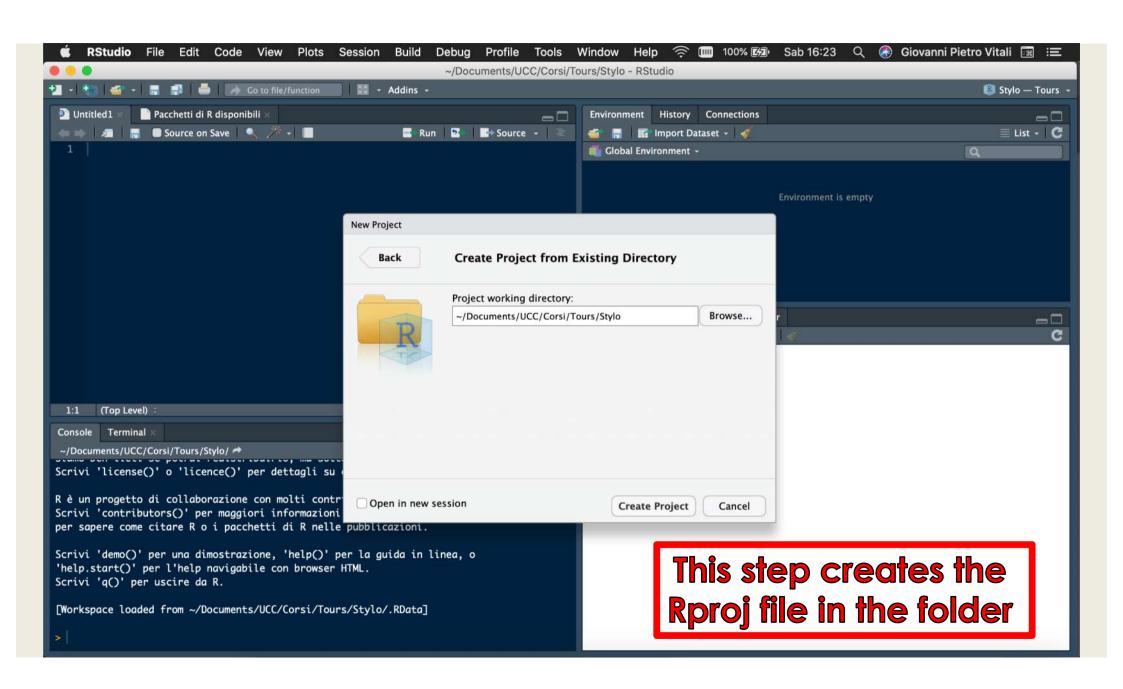
- to activate a package: library(stylo)
- o to set working directory: setwd("path/to/my/stuff")
- to find your current location: getwd()
- to list files in your current location: list.files()
- to get help: help(<function>), e.g. help(stylo)
- to quit R: q()

# Main functions: stylo()

- It computes distances (differences) between texts, ...
- ... represented as rows of frequencies of most frequent words.
- Then it plots graphs of those distances:
  - Cluster Analysis plots (dendrograms)
  - Multidimensional Scaling scatterplots
  - Principal Components Analysis scatterplots
  - Bootstrap Consensus Trees plots (for multiple parameter settings)
  - Bootstrap Consensus Networks (other software will be needed to take over)
- The plots can be both displayed on screen and saved to a file (e.g. PNG).







# Main functions: stylo()

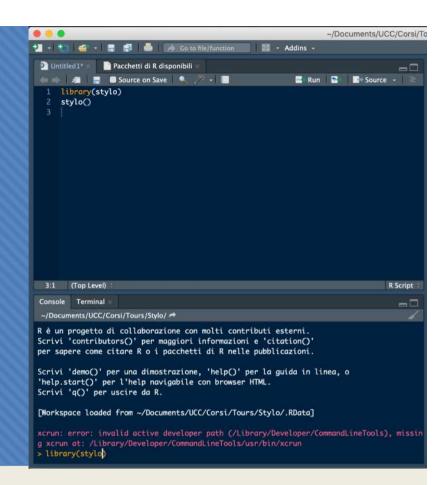
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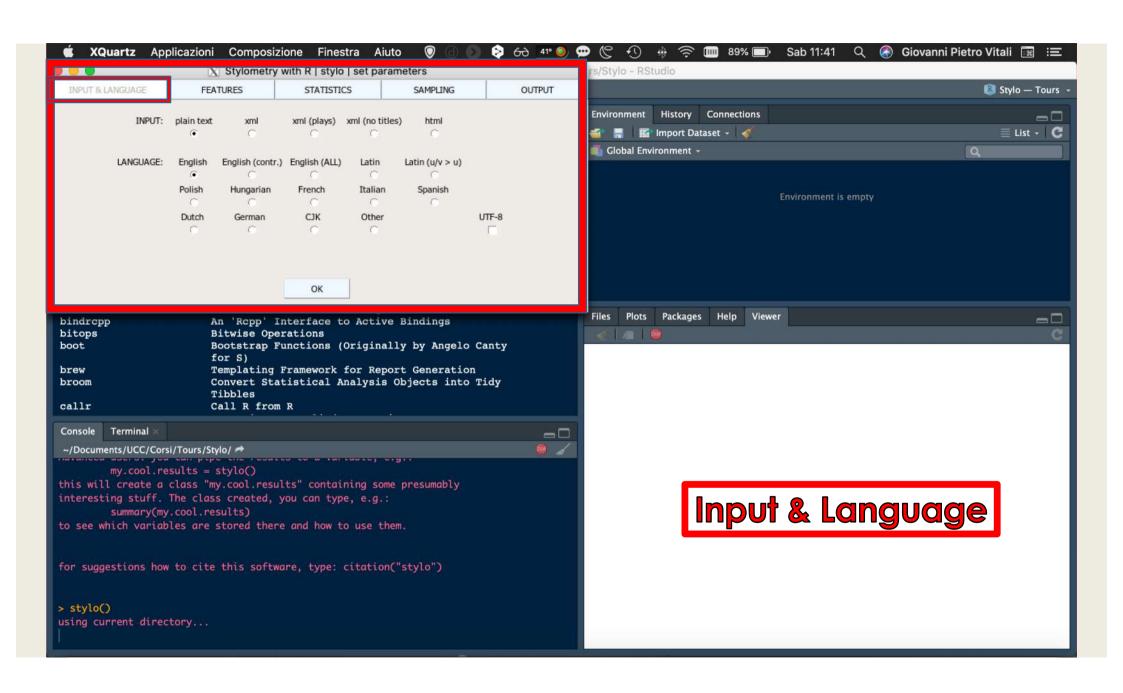
# > library(stylo)

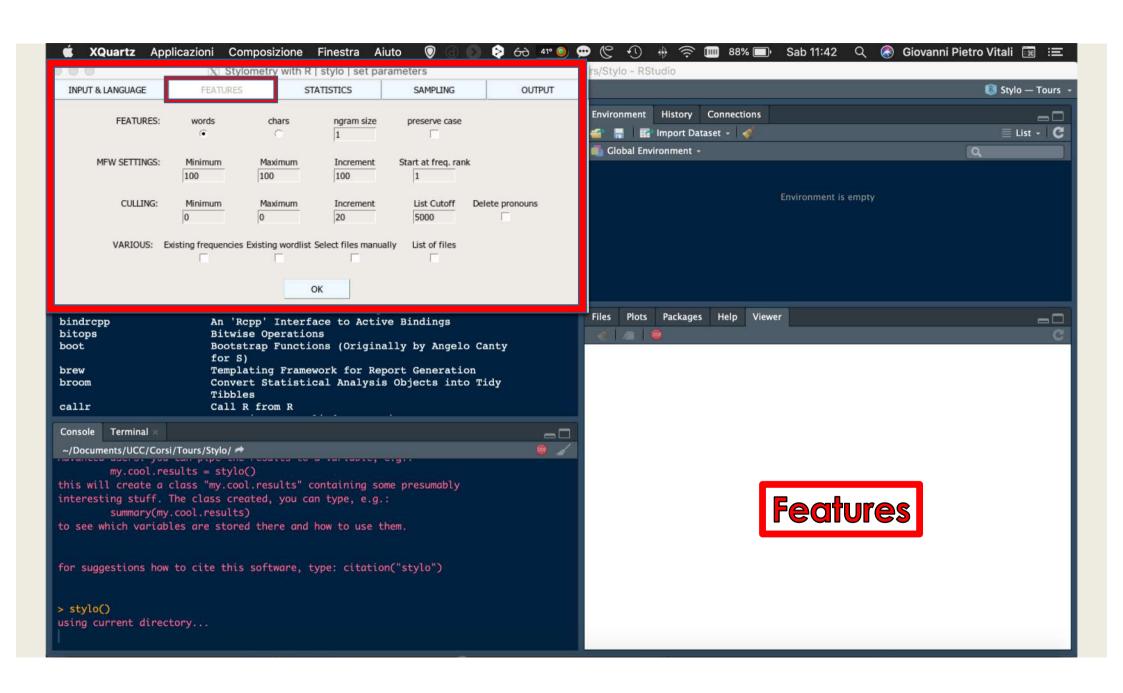
[Then]

> stylo()











- Owords: words are used as the unit.
  - Ocharacters: characters are used as the unit.
  - On-gram size: this is where you can specify the
- Ovalue of *n* for your *n*-grams
  - Opreserve case: normally, all the words from
- Othe input texts are turned into lowercase

Book Number	Word Frequency								
	The	Big-Data	Analytics	Tree	newbie	book	for	Girl	honest
1	120	80	60	20	1	5	120	0	(
2	110	0	0	100	10	20	100	40	10
3	130	0	0	10	11	30	110	20	10
4	100	0	0	2	20	40	100	10	100
5	90	0	0	10	30	20	100	100	40

# WHAT IS N-GRAM

```
N = 1 : This is a sentence unigrams: this, is, a, sentence

N = 2 : This is a sentence bigrams: this is, is a, a sentence

N = 3 : This is a sentence trigrams: this is a, is a sentence
```

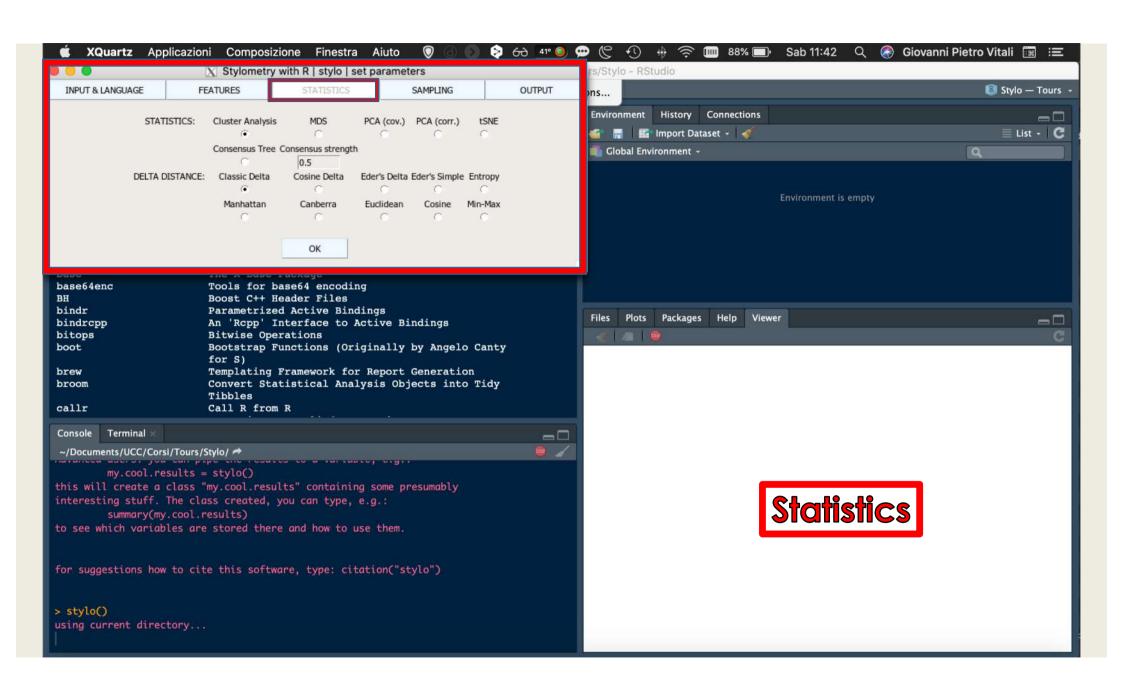
# MFV (most-frequent-word) settings

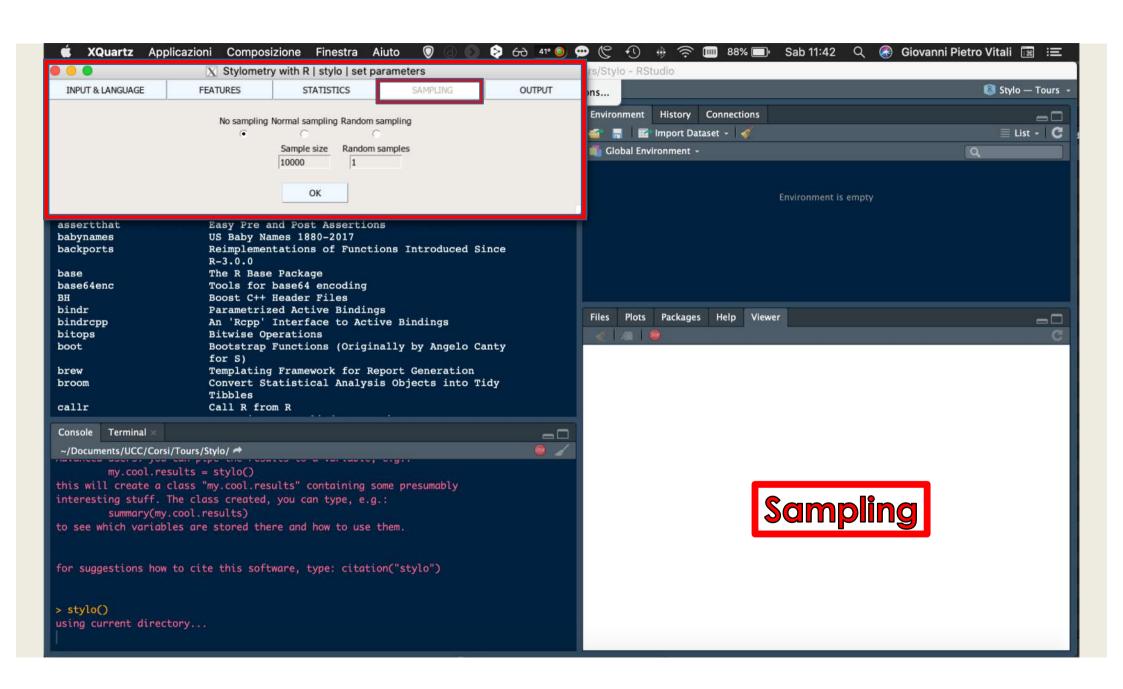
- Minimum: this setting determines how many words (or features) from the top of the frequency list will be used
- Maximum: this setting determines how many words from the top of the word frequency list for the entire corpus will be used
- Increment: defines the value by which the value of Minimum will be increased at each subsequent run of your analysis
- OStart at freq. Rank: how many words from the top overall frequency rank list to be skipped

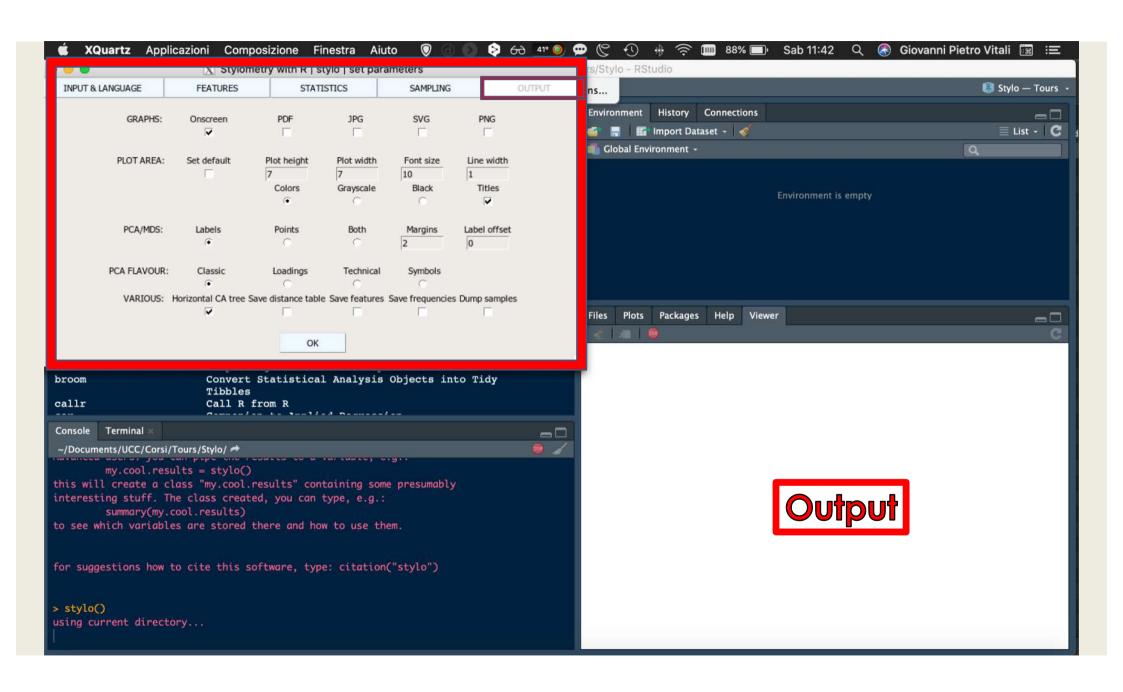
# Culling

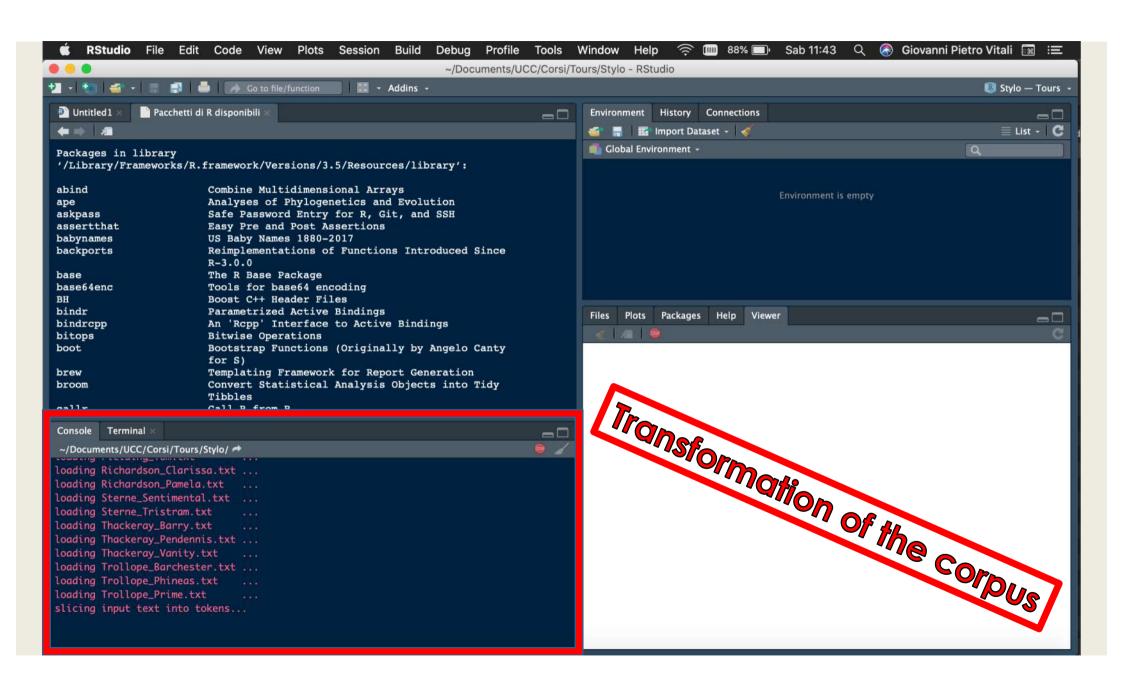
The culling values specify the degree to which words that do not appear in all the texts of your corpus will be removed. Thus, a culling value of 20 indicates that words that appear in at least 20% of the texts in the corpus will be considered in the analysis. A culling setting of 0 means that no words will be removed.

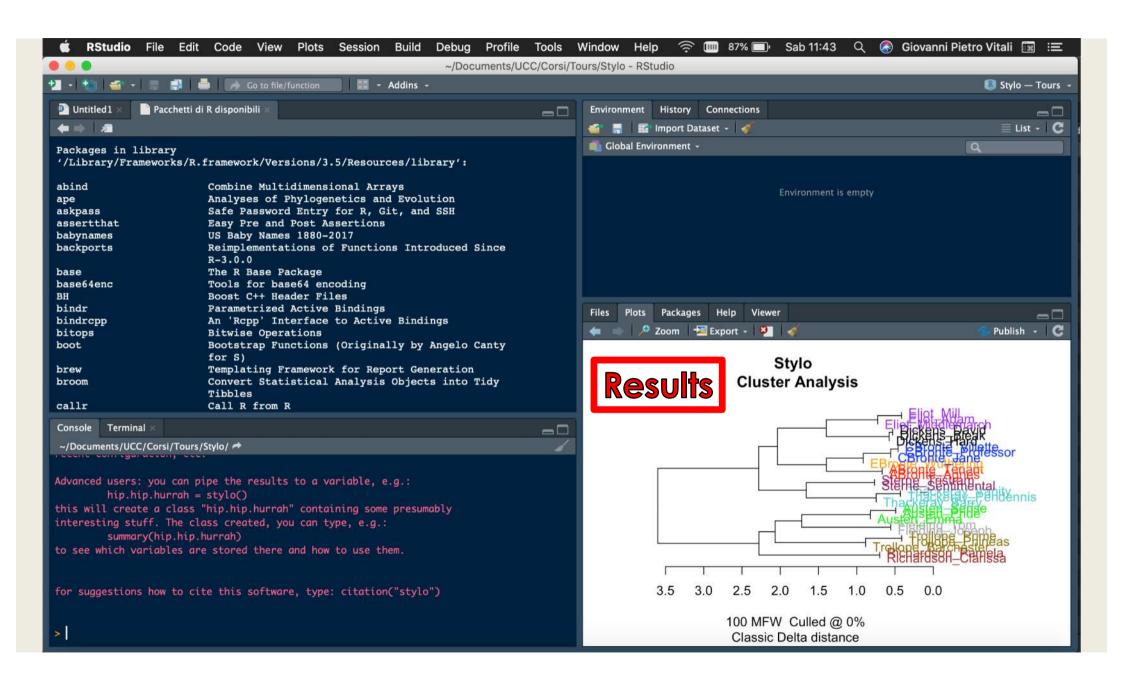
Book Number	Word Frequency									
	The	Big Data	Analytics	Tree	newbie	book	for	Girl	honest	
1	120	80	60	20	1	5	120	0	(	
2	110		0	100	10	20	100	40	1	
3	130	U	0	10	11	30	110	20	10	
4	100	0	0	2	20	40	100	10	10	
5	90	0	0	10	30	20	100	100	4	





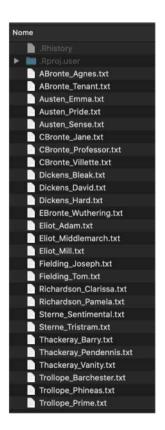




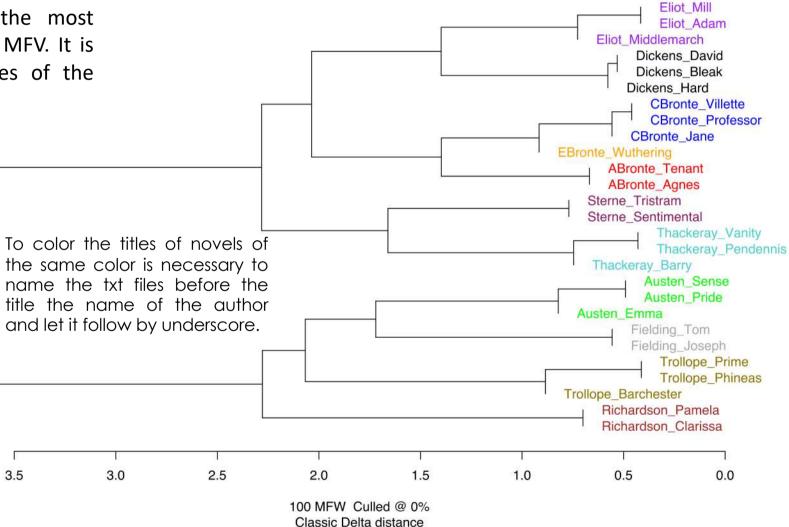


#### Cluster analysis

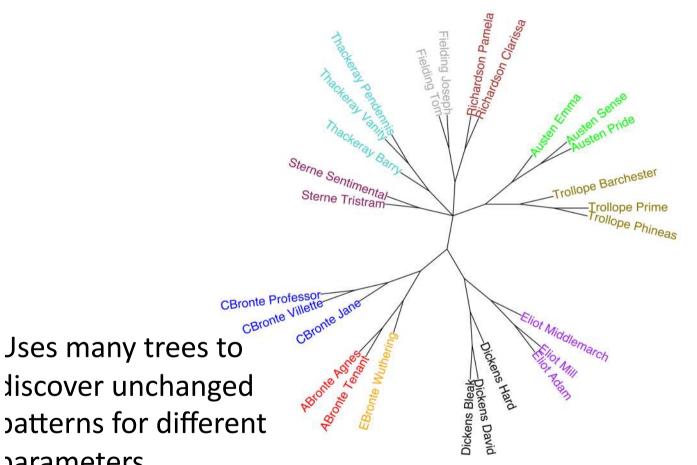
Builds "tree" based on the most similar texts based on the MFV. It is not robust on the changes of the parameters.

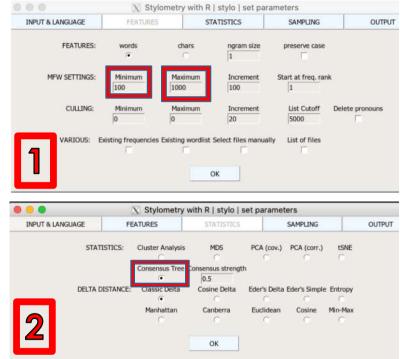


#### Stylo Cluster Analysis



#### Stylo Bootstrap Consensus Tree

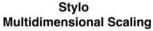


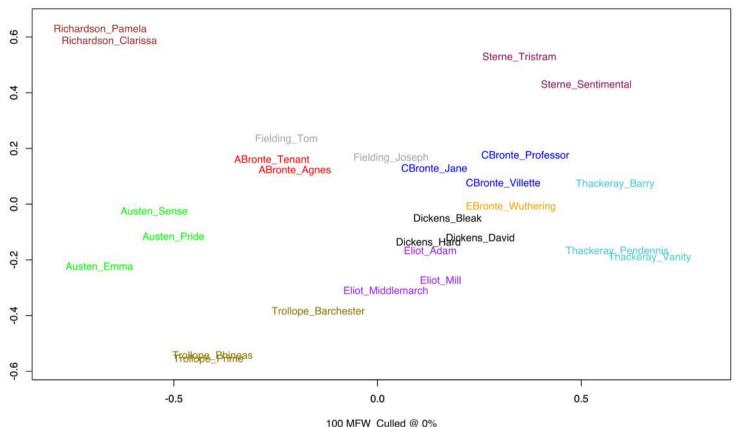


t is more robust but narder to interpret

100-1000 MFW Culled @ 0% Classic Delta distance Consensus 0.5





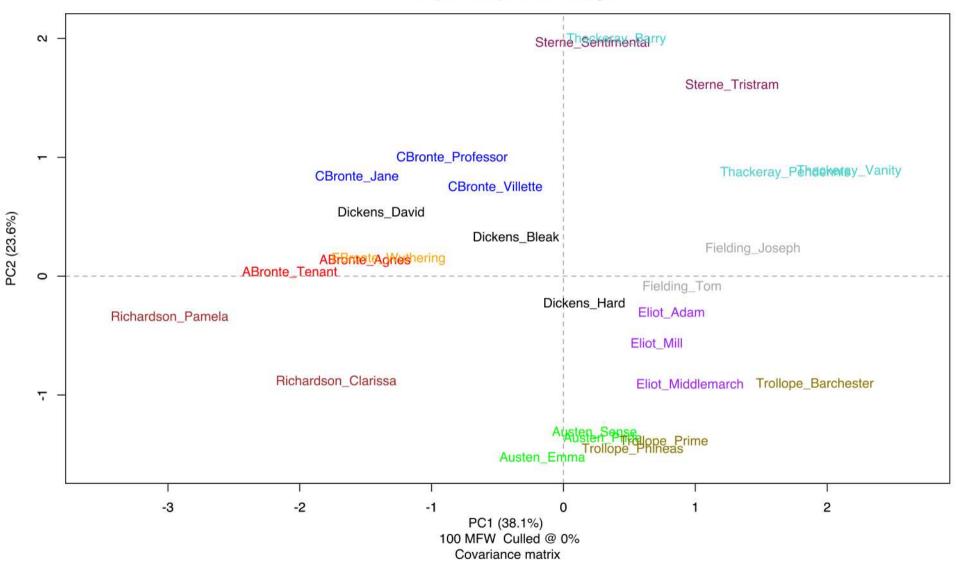


Multidimensional scalina is a analysis technique statistical often used to graphically show similarities differences or between elements of a set. It is a generalization of the concept of sorting: starting from a square matrix, containing the "similarity" of each row element with each column element. the multidimensional scalina algorithm assigns to each element a position in an Ndimensional space, with established a priori...

If N is small enough, this space can be represented with a 3D graph or display. In practice this technique starts with a system with as many dimensions as the elements of the system, and reduces the dimensions up to a certain number N. In doing this then there is an inevitable loss of information (loss) and there are therefore different algorithms to do multidimensional scaling, which are better suited to different situations of use: in particular we distinguish between metric and non-metric algorithms.

## Stylometry

Stylo
Principal Components Analysis



#### Functions: stylo.network()

https://prismatic.phon.ox.ac.uk/index\_network.html

- Olt is an extended version of the function stylo().
- Olt performs Bootstrap Consensus Networks, or a network-like generalization of the Bootstrap Consensus Trees method.
- Olt produces interactive visualizations in a web browser: to make it happen, you have to install an additional R package first.

Type: install.packages("networkD3")



#### Live Slides web content

To view

Download the add-in.

liveslides.com/download

Start the presentation.

#### Main functions: classify()

- It trains a model for pre-defined groups of texts, e.g. authors.
- O Then it computes distances (differences) between texts, ...
- ... represented as rows of frequencies of most frequent words.
- Finally, it compares the trained models with test texts, using:
  - Delta classifier (lazy learner introduced by Burrows)
  - k-NN classifier (lazy learner relying on >1 neighbors)
  - Suppor Vector Machines, a high-performance non-probabilistic classifier
  - O Naive Bayes, a classical yet slightly outdated classifier
  - Nearest Shrunken Centroids, a classifier for high-dimensional datasets
- A final report of the classifier's performance is outputted.

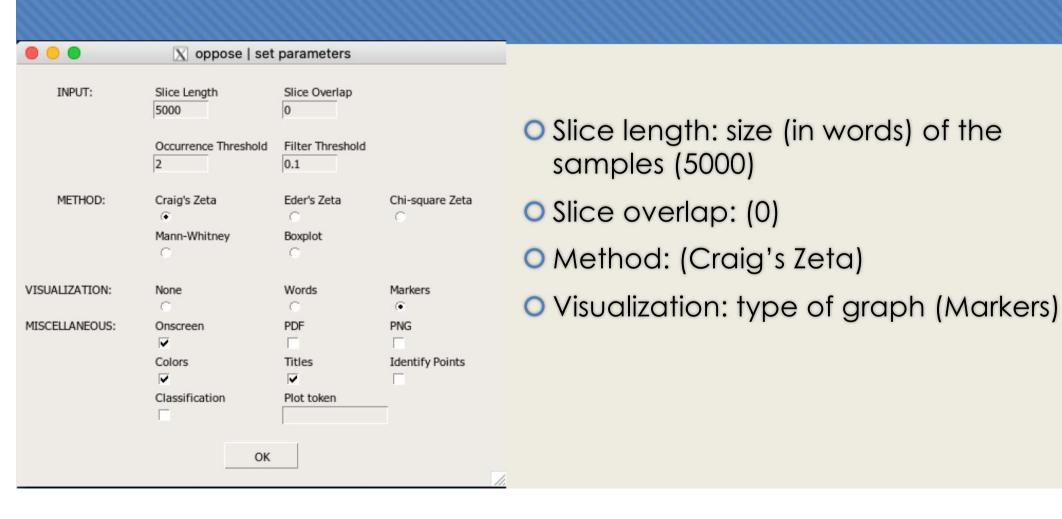
#### Main functions: oppose()

- ODesigned to compare two (groups of) texts
- Olt cuts input texts into equal-sized samples
- OFinds words characteristic for two (groups) of texts
  - OThese can be reused with stylo() or classify()
- OProduces a diagram of the use of each group's words

### Running oppose()

- Different subfolder structure:
  - o primary\_set
  - secondary\_set
  - test\_set (optional)
- Running the function:
  - library(stylo)
  - oppose()
- What we get:
  - words\_preferred.txt characteristic for the primary\_set texts
  - words\_avoided.txt characteristic for the secondary\_set texts
- word frequency graph

### oppose() parameters

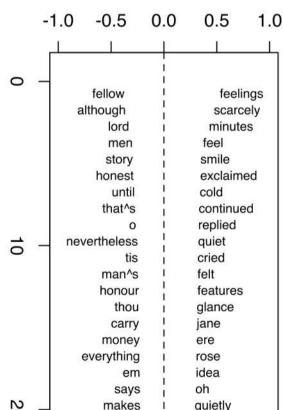


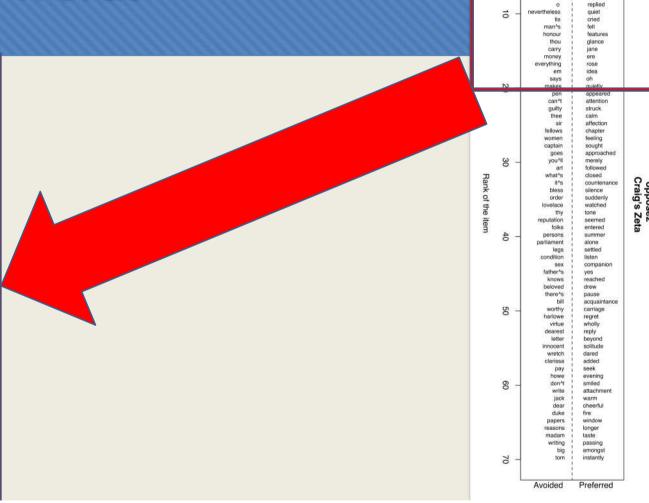
#### oppose() parameters

Most of the parameters for this somewhat underdeveloped function are not on GUI. You can switch them on as command line parameters

- Owhen your corpus contains non-Latin diacritics:
  - oppose(encoding = "UTF-8", corpus.lang = "Spanish")

# Men s Women - Words Score -1.0 -0.5 0.0 0.5 1.0





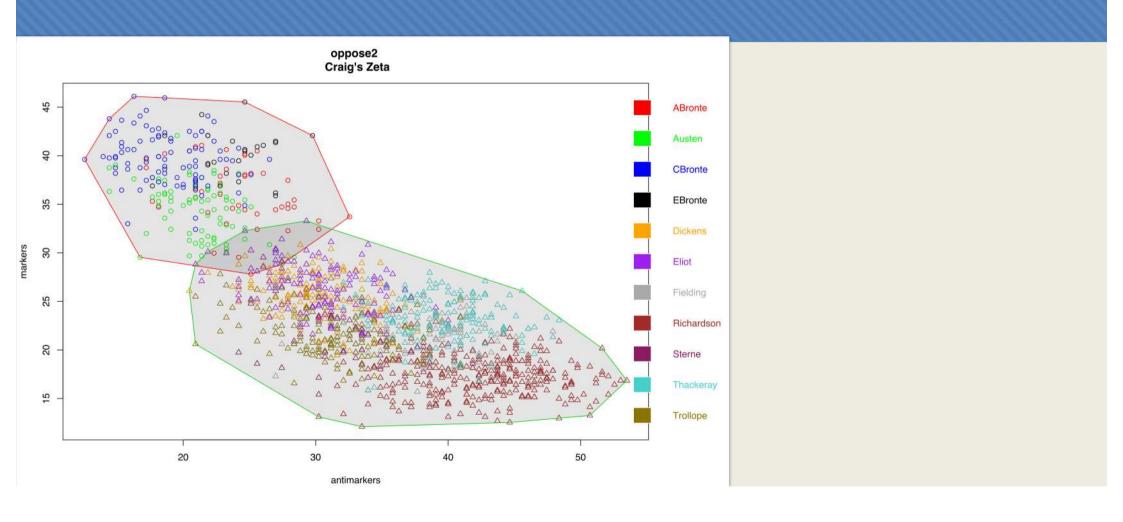
-1.0 -0.5 0.0 0.5 1.0

that/s

scarcely minutes

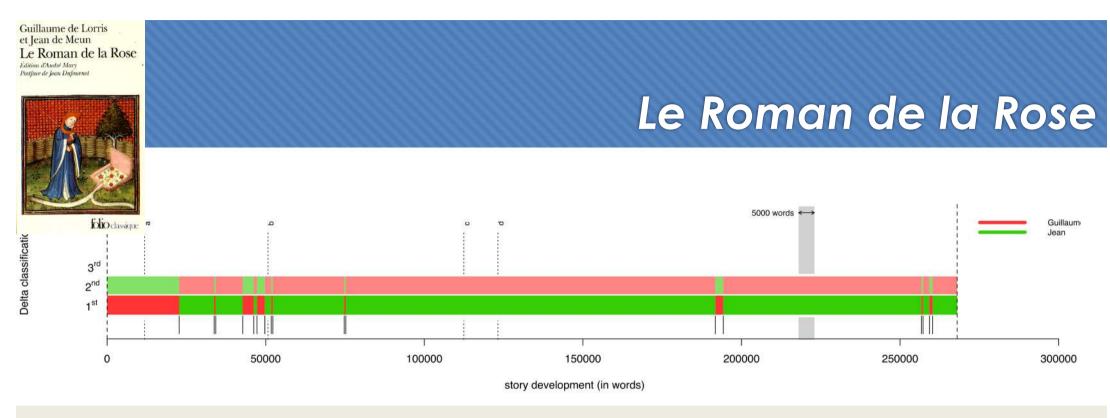
continued

#### Men Vs Women - Markers



#### Functions: rolling.classify()

- OLooks for traces of authors in a coauthored text...
- ... by sliding through this text sequentially in order to detect peculiarities.
- OProduces a graph of the respective strengths of these traces.



Le Roman de la Rose (English: The Romance of the Rose) is a medieval French poem styled as an allegorical dream vision. It is a notable instance of courtly literature. The work's stated purpose is both to entertain and to teach others about the art of romantic love. Throughout the poem, Rose is used both as the name of the titular lady and as a symbol of female sexuality. The other characters' names also function both as regular names as abstractions illustrating the various factors that are involved in a love affair.

The poem was written in two stages. The first 4,058 lines, written by Guillaume de Lorris circa 1230, describe the attempts of a courtier to woo his beloved. This part of the story is set in a walled garden (a locus amoenus), a traditional literary topos in epic and chivalric literature. Around 1275, Jean de Meun composed an additional 17,724 lines. In this enormous coda, allegorical personages (Reason, Genius, and so on) hold forth on love.

#### Bibliography

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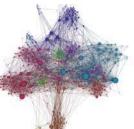
EVERT S., PROISL T., JANNIDIS F., REGER I., PIELSTRÖM S., SCHÖCH C., and VITT T. (2017), "Understanding and explaining Delta measures for authorship attribution" in Digital Scholarship in the Humanities, XXXII: suppl\_2, pp. ii4-ii16.

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## Stylometry

\_end

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