

# The Cast of Messengers: An approach to style and lexis in the news-bringers of Attic tragedy

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## Abstract

This paper argues that messenger speeches (*Botenberichte*) in the ancient tragedies of Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides have not received the computational attention that they deserve. I first draw attention to this gap by surveying traditional literary approaches to the genre, showing how the definition of “messenger speech” is already problematic from a qualitative perspective. Next, I present a series of initial inquiries into quantitative and computational approaches to messenger speeches, beginning with a stylometric comparison to Homeric epic and proceeding through topic modeling and, using the editions prepared by DraCor, network analysis. In conclusion, I offer a brief discussion of these preliminary findings and potential avenues for further inquiry.

## Keywords

tragedy, messenger speeches, Homer, topic modeling, network theory

## 1. Introduction

The usual history of (so-called) “messenger speeches” in drama begins with Homer: the ancient bard’s narrative *energeia*, to borrow a term from Pseudo-Longinus, is said to animate the off-stage events that news-bringers narrate. Irene J. F. de Jong has perhaps most famously applied a narratological lens to both Homer and tragic messengers, followed a few years later by Barbara Goward and James Barrett with their own seminal works on messenger speeches in 2002 [1, 2, 3, 4]. Although de Jong championed the view that messengers are not featureless conduits for the dramatist’s voice but are instead focalizers with bias and selective memory, Barrett then qualified this view by noting that messengers’ narrative effectiveness is inversely proportional to their stage presence: “The messenger’s own body,” he writes, “is implicitly—and explicitly, on occasion—a hindrance, inasmuch as his success as a messenger depends upon his acquiring the invulnerability granted by freedom from bodily constraints” [4, 100]. More recently, Margaret Dickin showed how the roles of messengers in tragedy increased over time and became “vehicles for star-power,” while others, like Felix Budelmann and Evert van Emde Boas, explored how messengers direct the audience’s affective energies [5, 6]. Florence Yoon’s interventions have further disrupted the “category” of messengers by revealing the mistakes of painting with too broad a brush: *angeloi*, messengers proper, and *kerykes*, “heralds,” perform different functions in tragedy [7]. We are clearly on well-traveled ground.

Despite the steady stream of innovative approaches to messenger speeches in tragedy, there have been few attempts to address the various classes of news-bringers from a computational angle. Where such examinations have occurred, they have, to my knowledge, taken place in the context of broader computational studies of drama, such as the work of Julia Jennifer Beine, Frank Fischer, and Viktor Illmer presented at the DH Conference in 2024; the examination of the chorus by María Teresa Santa María Fernández and Monika Dabrowska; or the early work on social network theory and Greek tragedy by Jeff Rydberg-Cox [8, 9, 10].

In this paper, I attempt to start some discussions about the quantifiable natures of news-bringers and their speeches in ancient tragedy. Everything that I write here should be understood as experimental

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and preliminary—there is a surprising amount of ground to cover. At the same time, I hope that by exploring the ways that we can measure a character’s “messenger-type-ness,” or the extent to which they perform a “messenger function” (to borrow a term from C. W. Marshall [11]), we can shed new light on this often-misunderstood class of dramatic actors and thus better understand how they reflect their culture’s relationship to secondhand information.

## 2. Epic Style?

In some ways, what prompted this paper was a casual investigation of the *Stylo* package [12] by way of answering the question, “Do tragic messengers really speak with epic diction?” The affirmative answer to this question is usually assumed, but even preliminary results raise important questions. As Paschalis Agapitos and Andreas van Cranenberg have shown with Seneca’s *Octavia* and *Hercules Oetaeus*, and as Nikos Manousakis and Efstathios Stamatatos have shown with Euripides’ *Rhesus*, stylometry can offer vital insights into cases of contested authorship [13, 14]. Even in a case with clear authorial and generic delineation—such as comparing Homeric epic and Attic tragedy—stylometry might help us notice outliers by providing some measure of distinction between the clusters that emerge.

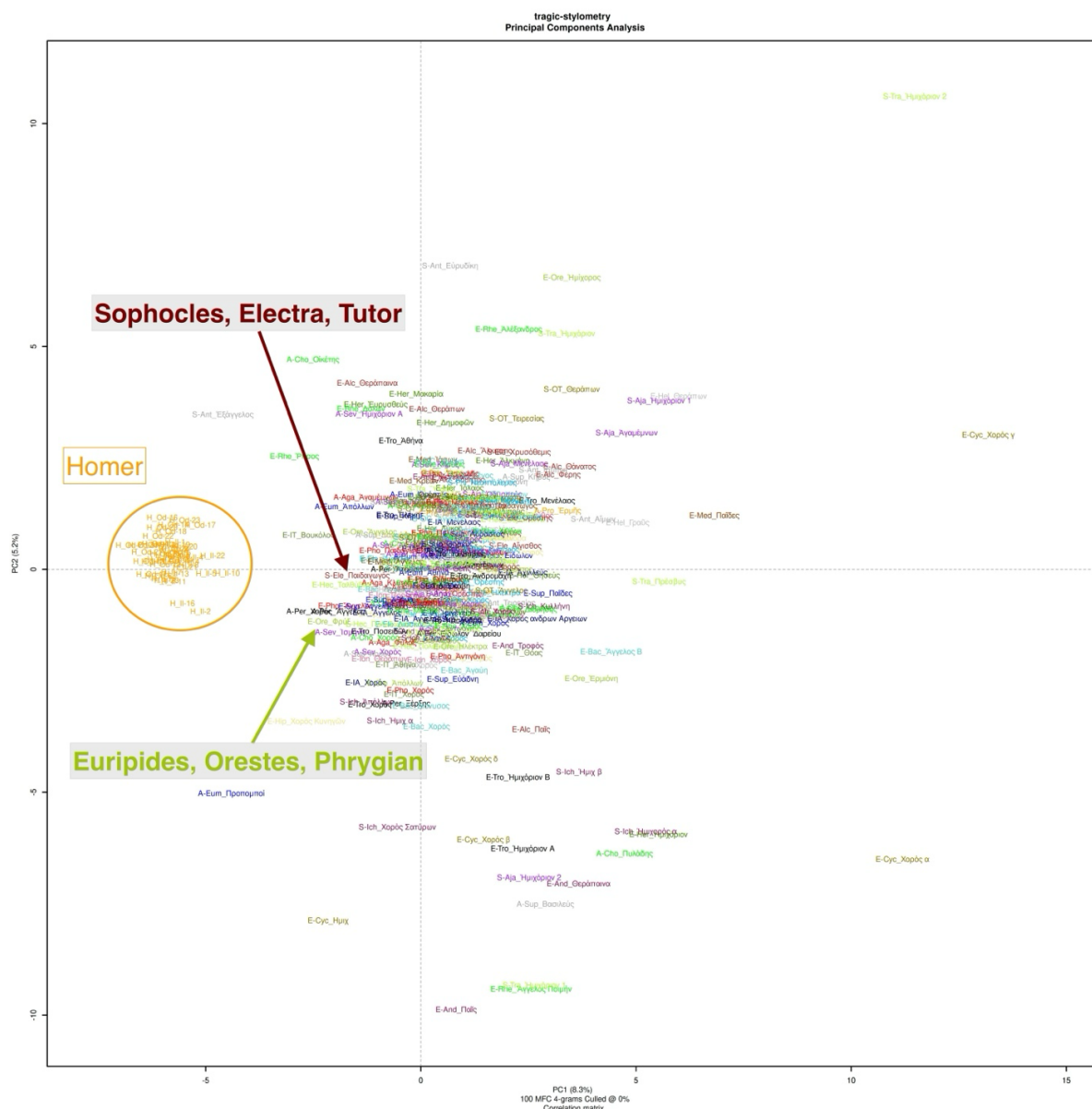
Although the dimensionality reduction in the analysis that produced the above chart did not account for metrical differences—Homeric epic is in dactylic hexameters, while messengers *usually* speak in iambic trimeters—the strong clustering effect exhibited by meter helps to highlight some of the more interesting outliers. For one, the Tutor from Sophocles’ *Electra* speaks in a style that gravitates towards the Homeric. This result makes sense, however, when we consider that much of his vocabulary—and indeed, much of the scene that he describes—comes straight from the chariot race in *Iliad* 23, even if he delivers the speech in iambs rather than dactyls.

More surprisingly, the Phrygian from Euripides’ *Orestes*—a late tragedy, first performed in 408 BCE—also exhibits a style that leans Homeric, at least compared to other speakers in tragedy. This result is unusual: unlike most of the other news-bringers, the Phrygian *sings* his report in lyric meters. We might have thus expected principal component analysis to reveal him as an outlier in the *other* direction. Perhaps, however, the variations in his lyric meters produced greater overlap with Homeric style than the typical iambs of other news-bringers.

Not to belabor the discussion of a quick and limited experiment, but it bears noting that the decision not to control for meter came from a consideration of the costs of doing so. When comparing tragedy to epic, we are working with surprisingly little data—a little under 250,000 words in tragedy, and about 350,000 words in the Homeric epics (the *Iliad* and *Odyssey*). Approaches that work well for millions of words fail to produce meaningful data on these smaller corpora, and we must consequently take care when employing any lossy data cleaning methods like lemmatization that might otherwise help us control for features like meter.

Further, if, as sometimes seems to be the case, the argument in favor of positively comparing messenger-type speeches to Homeric epic means that the audience was expected to *hear* Homeric speech during a messenger’s report, then meter is an indispensable component of the performance, and something to which any analysis should attend.

Although the tight clustering of tragedy and epic is apparent, a closer inspection does show that many messengers—*angeloi*, *kerykes*, as well as named characters like those mentioned above—tend towards the Homeric side of tragedy, even when they speak in tragic trimeters and not epic hexameters. This stylometric analysis thus provides a useful starting point for further inquiry into questions of *tragic* style specifically, as tragic messengers, despite their slight affinity for Homer, still remain clearly within their generic confines. Stylometry, in this case, appears to confirm our prior intuitions while nevertheless prompting additional questions about messenger-type speeches in tragedy: what makes them distinct from other kinds of tragic speech (or song, for that matter)? A literary question lurks here too: must we insist that tragedy answer to Homer? In other words, how can we shift our focus to how tragedy responds to itself? Further, does it use its subgenres, like odes and messenger-type speeches, to encode those responses?



**Figure 1:** Principal component analysis of stylometric features from individual speakers in tragedy (various colors) and Homeric epic (yellow). This analysis did not control for metrical differences, as it analyzed running 4-character-grams.

I turn my attention to these questions for the remainder of this paper.

### 3. What do news-bringers talk about?

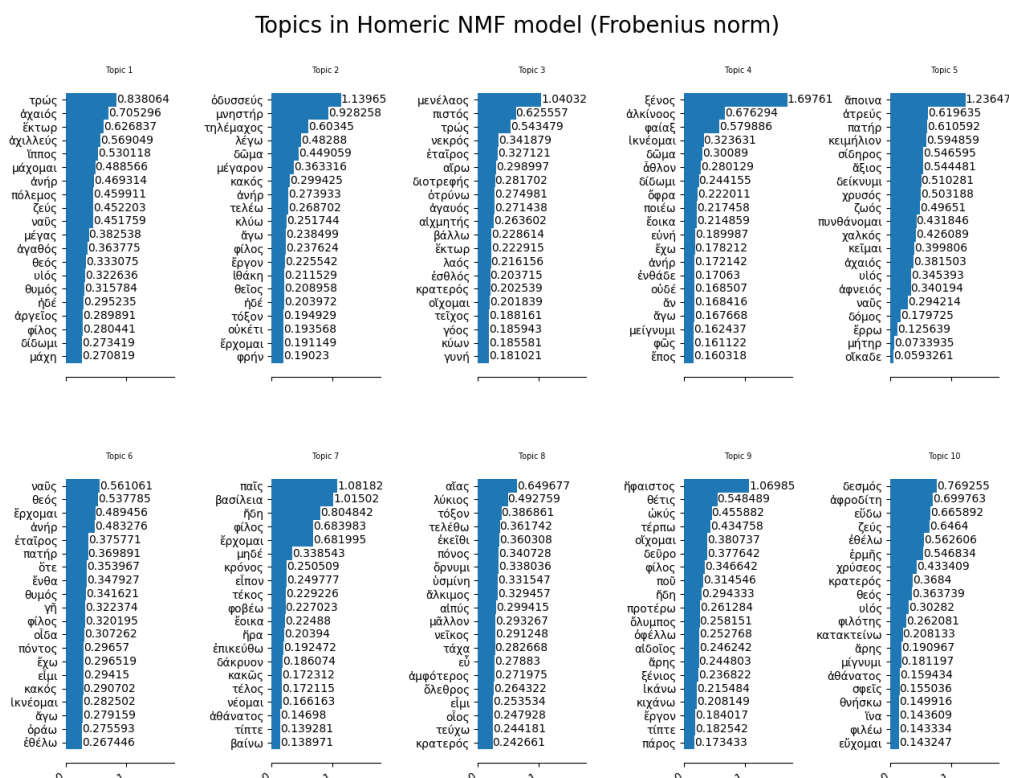
In this section, I discuss the use of topic modeling through Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA) and Non-Negative Matrix Factorization (NMF) to extract “topics”—groups of frequently cooccurring terms—from the tragic and epic corpora, as well as from the smaller corpora of speeches in Homer and of messenger-type speeches within tragedy.

For this analysis, I identified messenger-type speeches by manually adding to the list that Barrett compiled in an appendix to his 2002 monograph [4, 223–224]. For speeches in Homer, I relied on the DICES API [15]. The editions used are the latest available from the Perseus Project [16]. After extracting the text for each speaker from the TEI XML, the documents were sentencized, tokenized,

and lemmatized using the pre-trained greCy<sup>1</sup> models before finally being written in the CoNLL-U<sup>2</sup> format. Because greCy occasionally misses stop-words, an additional stop-word filter was applied via a manually curated list before running the following analyses.

These results are preliminary, and the topics are numbered rather than descriptively labeled, so I will refer to them by their (sub-)corpus and the number assigned to them in the plot, e.g., “Tragedy 1,” “Epic 5,” etc.

The tragedy corpus and the messenger sub-corpus contained too few tokens for meaningful results from LDA, which uses TF-IDF vectors, so that terms that appear in fewer “documents”—individual speakers, for these analyses—have proportionally greater weights. This approach already poses some challenges for small corpora, which are exacerbated by the prevalence of hapaxes in this data set. For these reasons, I will mainly focus on the results of the NMF analyses, which are plotted below.



**Figure 2:** NMF-based topic modeling of the corpus of speeches in Homer.

As these topics show—and as we should expect—Athenian tragedy and Homeric epic demonstrate a significant amount of lexical overlap. At the same time, notable trends emerge, and the extracted topics by and large make sense: Homer 1, for instance, includes lemmata like μάχη (“war”), ἀργεῖος (“Argive”), θυμός (“spirit”), and μάχομαι (the verb “fight”), representing the martial tenor of the *Iliad*. Tragedy 3 includes ἀγαμέμνων (“Agamemnon”), βάρβαρος (“barbarian”—apt given the frequent accusation of Agamemnon acting in an un-Greek-like manner), γάμος (“wedding” or “marriage”), alongside two terms for a household, οἶκος and δόμος, all terms that cause frequent conflict in various plays.

Inspired by the work of Thomas Koentges in measuring the “philosophical-ness” of the Greek corpus, the top 10 topics from Homer and tragedy were measured proportionally for messenger speeches and, as a control, for tragedy as a whole [17].

Although I do not have space here to discuss these results in detail, we can see at a glance that messengers speak no more “Homerically” than other characters in tragedy, at least in terms of vocabulary.

<sup>1</sup><https://spacy.io/universe/project/grecy>

<sup>2</sup><https://universaldependencies.org/format.html>

Topics in Tragic NMF model (Frobenius norm)

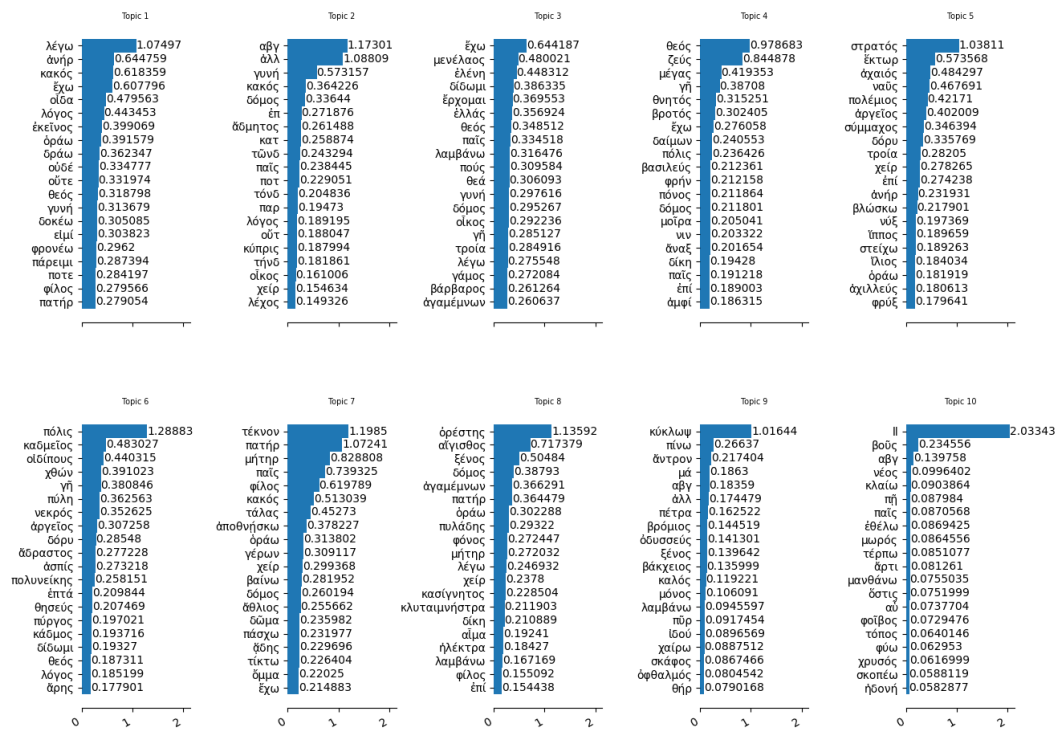


Figure 3: NMF-based topic modeling of tragedy.

It seems that we will need to find support elsewhere when it comes to the Homeric influence on tragic news-bringers.

Other trends are visible as well: named characters who deliver messenger-type speeches show a slight preference for tragic lexis in those speeches, compared to anonymous news-bringers with names like “Messenger,” “Shepherd,” and “Nurse.” And in tragedy as a whole, the proportion of Homeric vocabulary remains remarkably consistent over the seven decades measured here, even across plays that do not touch directly on the stories contained in the epics (such as Sophocles’ Theban plays or Euripides’ *Medea*).

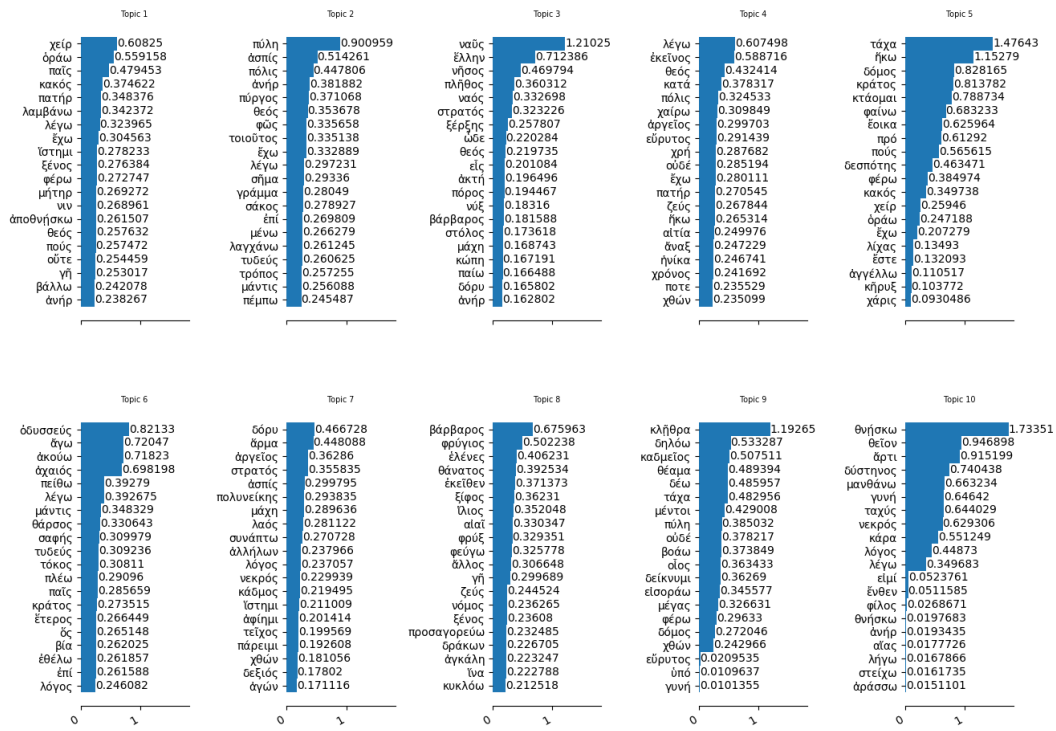
## 4. Audiences

I want to turn now to a discussion of messengers’ audiences in each tragedy. The DraCor documentation includes a helpful tutorial<sup>3</sup> describing ways of ranking character centrality. Unsurprisingly, when applied to the tragedies in DraCor, choruses and named characters dominate the centrality rankings: the first character who can even be said to deliver a messenger-type speech is Clytaemestra in Aeschylus’ *Agamemnon*, who by centrality ranking comes in 45th. Talthibiis in Euripides’ *Trojan Women* is the highest-ranking named herald at 73rd, and the first messenger-proper to appear is the Ἄγγελος (“Messenger”) of Aeschylus’ *Persians* at 79th. The next *angelos* to appear is from Euripides’ *Helen*, in 96th place. The rest of the *angeloi* appear in the bottom half of the ranking, making the messenger of *Persians* something of an outlier. (See the Appendix for a full ranked list of characters in DraCor.)

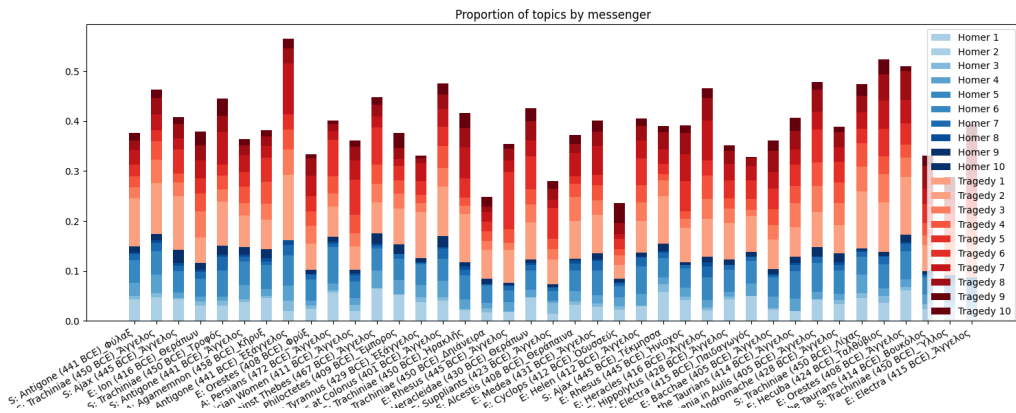
The outlier status of the messenger in *Persians* is not surprising, as he speaks at greater length than any other single messenger in tragedy. To put this in perspective, nearly every named character in Sophocles’ *Trachiniae* delivers a messenger-type speech at some point, and the play consists of nearly twenty-five percent messenger-type speeches (as Jebb surmised over a century ago) [18]. *Persians*

<sup>3</sup><https://dracor-org.github.io/dracor-notebooks/catch-a-protagonist-in-dracor/catch-a-protagonist-in-dracor.html>

## Topics in Messenger NMF model (Frobenius norm)



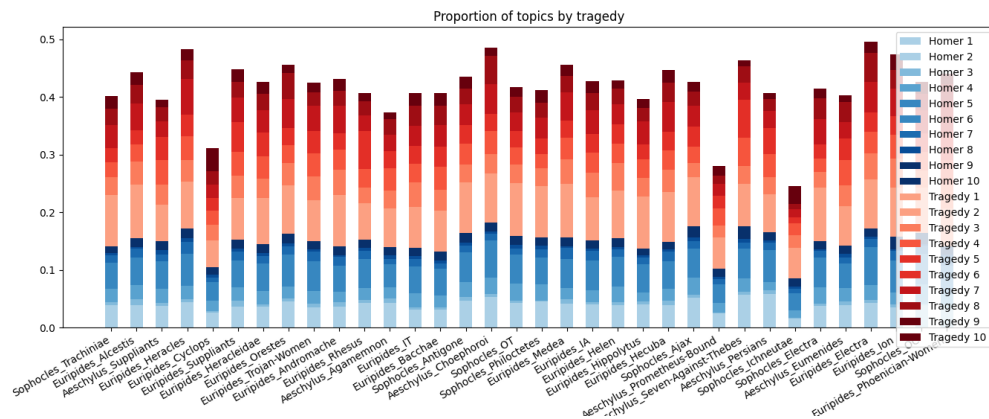
**Figure 4:** NMF-based topic modeling of messenger-type speeches in tragedy.



**Figure 5:** Proportion of each of the top 10 topics from Homer (shades of blue) and tragedy (shades of red) for each messenger in the tragic corpus.

consists of nearly seventeen percent messenger-type speech, every line of which is delivered by this single messenger. These plays contain far and away the greatest concentrations of messenger-type speeches, which on average only account for 8.5% of a given tragedy's lines.

In some ways, this is confirmation of Trilcke et al.'s observations on “small worlds” in more modern plays [19, 7–33]. A central character—usually the chorus in ancient tragedy—connects clusters of other characters in each play’s network, although I am not sure that in the case of the ancient plays we can say that the chorus “[carries] the plot” [19, 22]. There is also the problem of dramatic separation, discussed in greater detail below: the chorus in Greek tragedy typically occupied a distinct part of the performance space, the ὀρχήστρα or “dancing space,” while the action of the other actors was concentrated around the σκηνή, a wooden structure that served as a play’s background and main scenery.



In the same volume as Trilcke et al.’s paper, Rebecca Hicke and David Mimno provide another way of approaching the problems of influence in drama [19, 87–105]. By charting the percentage of words spoken by women (as a group or as specific characters) in each scene of Shakespeare’s comedies, they add a chronological element that is difficult to capture in network analyses. It might be instructive, however, to examine network “snapshots” in ancient tragedy, comparing the graphs at the beginning and end of each episode to determine what changes were introduced and by whom during a given exchange. This approach might also provide a solution to the chorus problem, as their odes take place separately from the main episodes that drive the plot.

## 5. Case Study in Movable Networks: Euripides's *Andromache*

Wanting to take a provisional stab at modeling a network over time, I have drafted a network visualization using Mike Bostock’s Observable Framework and D3.js [20, 21]. The experiment is visible here: »[REPOSITORY REMOVED]«. For this initial pass, I encoded the major actions of Euripides’ *Andromache*—that is, I noted where the text indicated an entrance or an exit, as well as where characters engaged in dialogue. Capturing dialogue is particularly important for correctly modeling a network in Athenian tragedy, largely because of the chorus. Aristotle famously criticized Euripides for not integrating the chorus into his drama as well as Sophocles and Aeschylus (*Poetics* 1456a 25–32), meaning that we cannot assume that just because the chorus is “on stage”—itself a problematic descriptor!—that they actively participate in the network of the drama. As I hope to show, recording dialogue as moments when speakers actively speak to each other, rather than moments when they stand next to each other onstage, helps reveal the intricate and shifting influences that are active in tragedy.

Oliver Taplin's pioneering work on Aeschylean stagecraft sets the scene (as it were) for this experiment. His early description of the challenges of defining "entry" and "exit" is worth quoting at length: "At first sight it might seem obvious that by 'entry' we mean the movement which brings an actor in to the field of vision of the audience, and by 'exit' we mean the movement which takes him out of it. This is certainly what we mean by the words; but their full range is more complicated. Apart from the small but valid complaints that not all of the actor comes into view at the same moment (apparently the side-entrances at Athens sloped uphill) and that he would not enter or leave the field of vision of all the audience simultaneously (especially not in a theatre of Greek shape), there is the more substantial point that we cannot possibly know at what moment the actor crossed the line between out of sight and in sight of the audience. ...And so in the study of entrances and exits the stage movement which is of interest is not the momentary movement in and out of view, but the prolonged movement across the centre of attention, and back again"[22, 7].

Further complicating matters, the chorus did not enter and exit like the other actors, nor did it do so

in the same place. Rather, it danced into the *orchēstra* during its *parodos* (“entrance song”) stayed in the *orchēstra* during its *stasima* (“stationary” songs)—and left while or shortly after it sang the *exodos* (“exit song”). Its continued presence during the bulk of the tragedy thus complicates “traditional” approaches to network analysis, even before we consider that its “presence” is dramatically attenuated by its literal separation from the rest of the actors, who performed in front of the *skēnē*.<sup>4</sup> These problems become especially apparent in a drama like *Andromache*, where the chorus alternates between close engagement with the dilemmas onstage and aloof (and, in this case, frankly misogynistic) reflection on feminine jealousy.

As the following figure shows, redrawing the dramatic network at each “event” helps to visualize when characters coexists in the performance space without addressing each other directly, as during the *parodos*.

## Networks in Euripides' *Andromache*

Visualizing interactions by line and type



**Figure 7:** The Chorus and Andromache are each in their respective performance spaces during the *parodos*, but they are not yet talking to each other.

By contrast, when Peleus enters, the characters engage in a heated *agōn* that involves every speaking character onstage and in the *orchēstra*—seemingly violating the three-actor rule with the singing Child, but I leave that discussion for another day.

Even a quick glance at these two plots reveals a striking difference between reading a dramatic network as the static result of conversations at the end of the drama versus modeling the network as an

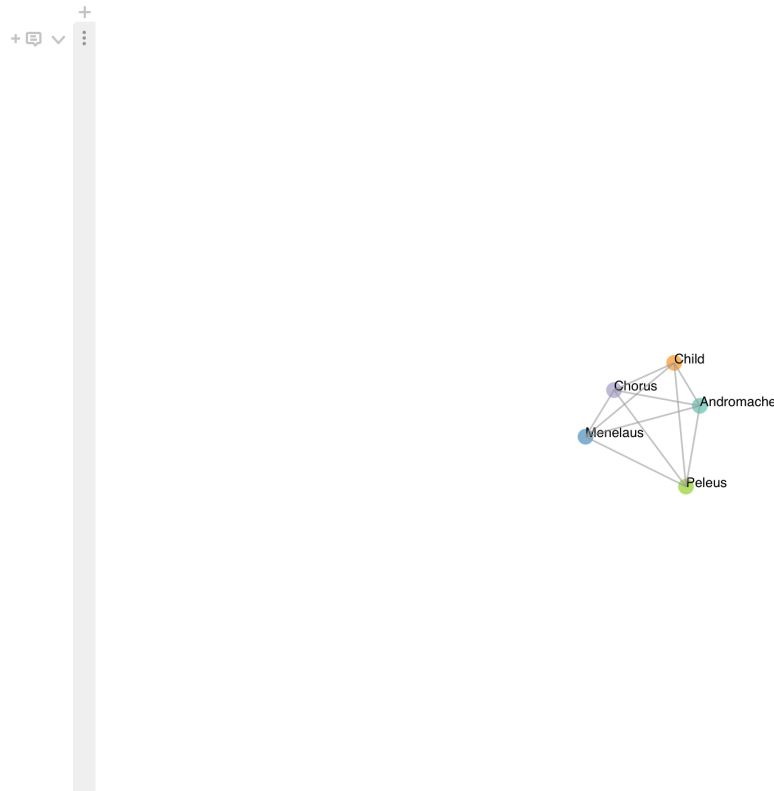
<sup>4</sup>See, e.g., Helene Foley’s “Choral Identity in Greek Tragedy” for a more in-depth discussion and additional bibliography on the chorus [23].

# Networks in Euripides' *Andromache*

Visualizing interactions by line and type

Line 545 - Peleus Menelaus Andromache Child Chorus: dialogu

Andromache Handmaid Chorus Hermione Menelaus Child Peleus Nurse Orestes Messenger Thetis



**Figure 8:** The play's central *agōn* involves every speaking character onstage at some point.

evolving group of ephemeral events. I intend for further investigation to measure the shifts in centrality and count-based measures of influence, and I welcome discussion about how to quantify this influence over time.

I want to note, too, that *Andromache* presents another, less-frequently encountered problem of mute actors at the end of the play. Scholars have long wondered whether Andromache and the Child re-enter for the final episode and *exodos*, even though they do not speak, as the *dea ex machina* Thetis seems to address them directly [24]. For this experiment, I have not attempted to model mute actors—there are also several slaves and attendants that appear earlier in the play with Menelaus, for example—but I offer this conundrum as a potential jumping-off point for further discussion.

## 6. Conclusion(s)

By way of conclusion, I want to stress the preliminary and experimental nature of this talk. Much work remains to be done, especially in terms of addressing the challenges of meaningful network analysis within the constraints of ancient tragedy. Nevertheless, a few key themes have emerged in this brief discussion.

First, the tension between Homer and the tragedians provides a productive background for continuing investigation and discussion. The results presented here demonstrate that messenger-type speeches in tragedy lack discernible Homeric lexis, which helps us view these ancient performances in a new light. The embodied and stage-directed actions delivered alongside the words of a messenger-type

speech belong to the ephemera of staged performance—we cannot recover them. Nevertheless, and contrary to much earlier work, by emphasizing the need to understand gesture and affect in addition to vocabulary and diction, we position messenger-type speeches alongside other dramatic performances, rather than an epic appendage that dramatists have maintained merely for convenience. Moreover, this examination of tragic lexis should also guide further discussion of tragic diction and performance theory, helping to make sense, for example, of the enigmatic roles that props and costumes played alongside the actors who employed them by observing how speech patterns change alongside movement. Taplin has famously tackled many of these questions from a literary and performance studies angle, and we would profitably follow his lead through our own computational engagements with the material [22, 25].

Second, the preliminary topic modeling results presented here ought to be followed by a broader investigation involving more of the Greek corpus, similar to the work carried out by Koentges [17]. Although constraining the models to the vocabulary available from lemmatized editions of Homer and tragedy helps to narrow the focus and reveal useful groupings, like “Odysseus” and “ship,” an analysis that includes larger swaths of the ancient corpus could profitably reveal connections to history and oratory (for starters) that could not be covered in this study.

Relatedly, I have left questions of Aristophanic comedy to the side. However, given the comedian’s penchant for quoting tragedy—sometimes at length, as he does with Euripides’ *Telephus*, *Helen*, and *Andromeda* in *Thesmophoriazusae*—a more thorough examination of tragic-comic intertexts could help to contextualize the performance culture of fifth-century Athens to an even greater degree.

Finally, the question of tragic networks remains. In addition to the scene co-presences analyzed here, other methods might better account for tragedy’s idiosyncracies. For example, much tragic “action” occurs off-stage, and it should be possible to study the networks that emerge from narrated interactions as well. One thinks, for example, of J. M. Mossman’s seminal article “Waiting for Neoptolemus,” which discusses the strange non-presence of Neoptolemus in Euripides’ *Andromache* [26]. Further, as noted above, it is important to examine tragedy as a series of events, and not simply as the static network of relationships that emerges at the end of the drama (when many of the characters are dead and/or destitute anyway). As even the preliminary results in this paper show, the usual assumptions about tragic messenger speech merit closer scrutiny: although scholars have long detected something unusual about the way they speak—de Jong, for example, notes the prevalence of historic present-tense verbs [2]—they do not seem to differ as readily as once supposed from the rest of tragedy’s casts. Perhaps, in the end, we should attend as much to their similarities to other tragic characters as we do to messengers’ differences.

## 7. Appendix – Speakers in tragedy ranked by network centrality average

ID	Rank	Title	Name	Centrality Average
0	0	Suppliant Women	choros	1
10	1	Seven Against Thebes	choros	1
44	2	Agamemnon	choros	1
40	3	Eumenides	choros	1
29	4	Libation Bearers	choros	1
23	5	Persians	choros	1
197	6	Oedipus Tyrannus	oidipous	1.1
163	7	Electra	elektra	1.1
154	8	Hecuba	hekabe	1.1
218	9	Ichneutae	choros	1.1
221	10	Ichneutae	kyllene	1.1
224	11	Electra	elektra	1.1

71	12	Rhesus	choros	1.1
242	13	Ajax	choros	1.1
52	14	The Trojan Women	hekabe	1.1
18	15	Prometheus Bound	prometheus	1.2
192	16	Philoctetes	neoptolemos	1.2
231	17	Antigone	choros	1.3
206	18	Oedipus at Colonus	oidipous	1.3
115	19	Iphigenia in Aulis	agamemnon	1.4
62	20	Suppliants	choros	1.4
171	21	Bacchae	choros	1.5
182	22	Trachiniae	choros	1.5
28	23	Libation Bearers	orestes	1.5
155	24	Hecuba	choros	1.6
55	25	The Trojan Women	choros	1.6
128	26	Ion	kreousa	1.6
107	27	Iphigenia in Tauris	iphigeneia	1.7
134	28	Heracles	amphitryon	1.7
209	29	Oedipus at Colonus	choros	1.7
72	30	Rhesus	hektor	1.8
225	31	Electra	choros	1.8
143	32	Helen	helene	1.8
136	33	Heracles	choros	1.8
232	34	Antigone	kreon	1.8
170	35	Bacchae	dionysos	1.8
200	36	Oedipus Tyrannus	choros	1.8
127	37	Ion	choros	1.8
194	38	Philoctetes	philoktetes	1.8
216	39	Ichneutae	silenos	1.8
110	40	Iphigenia in Tauris	choros	1.9
64	41	Suppliants	adastos	1.9
19	42	Prometheus Bound	choros	1.9
98	43	Orestes	orestes	1.9
45	44	Agamemnon	klytaimestra	2.1
241	45	Ajax	aiaias	2.2
24	46	Persians	atossa	2.2
145	47	Helen	choros	2.2
243	48	Ajax	tekmesa	2.2
165	49	Electra	choros	2.2
215	50	Ichneutae	apollon	2.2
97	51	Orestes	choros	2.3
126	52	Ion	ion	2.3
37	53	Eumenides	apollon	2.4
193	54	Philoctetes	choros	2.4
179	55	Trachiniae	deianeira	2.5
38	56	Eumenides	orestes	2.5
87	57	Phoenissae	choros	2.5
219	58	Ichneutae	hemichoros a	2.6
63	59	Suppliants	theseus	2.6
95	60	Orestes	elektra	2.6

207	61	Oedipus at Colonus	antigone	2.6
138	62	Heracles	herakles	2.6
90	63	Phoenissae	kreon	2.7
121	64	Iphigenia in Aulis	klytaimestra	2.7
223	65	Electra	orestes	2.7
174	66	Bacchae	pentheus	2.7
117	67	Iphigenia in Aulis	choros	2.7
164	68	Electra	orestes	2.7
21	69	Prometheus Bound	io	2.8
229	70	Antigone	antigone	2.8
86	71	Phoenissae	antigone	2.8
56	72	The Trojan Women	talthybios	2.9
220	73	Ichneutae	hemichoros b	3
48	74	Agamemnon	kasandra	3
181	75	Trachiniae	hyllos	3.1
108	76	Iphigenia in Tauris	orestes	3.1
160	77	Hecuba	agamemnon	3.1
25	78	Persians	angelos	3.2
32	79	Libation Bearers	klytaimestra	3.2
13	80	Seven Against Thebes	antigone	3.3
202	81	Oedipus Tyrannus	iokaste	3.3
146	82	Helen	meneleos	3.4
112	83	Iphigenia in Tauris	thoas	3.4
217	84	Ichneutae	choros satyron	3.4
26	85	Persians	eidolon dareiou	3.4
1	86	Suppliant Women	danaos	3.5
199	87	Oedipus Tyrannus	kreon	3.5
2	88	Suppliant Women	basileus	3.5
84	89	Phoenissae	iokaste	3.5
135	90	Heracles	megara	3.6
58	91	The Trojan Women	andromache	3.6
211	92	Oedipus at Colonus	theseus	3.6
47	93	Agamemnon	agamemnon	3.7
191	94	Philoctetes	odysseus	3.7
148	95	Helen	angelos	3.7
22	96	Prometheus Bound	hermes	3.7
6	97	Suppliant Women	danais	3.7
8	98	Seven Against Thebes	eteokles	3.7
5	99	Suppliant Women	choros therapainon	3.7
233	100	Antigone	phylax	3.8
99	101	Orestes	menelaos	3.8
150	102	Helen	theoklymenos	3.9
101	103	Orestes	pylades	3.9
80	104	Rhesus	athena	3.9
122	105	Iphigenia in Aulis	iphigeneia	4
161	106	Hecuba	polymestor	4
173	107	Bacchae	kadmos	4.2
78	108	Rhesus	odysseus	4.2
162	109	Electra	autourgos	4.2

222	110	Electra	paidagogos	4.2
20	111	Prometheus Bound	okeanos	4.3
31	112	Libation Bearers	oiketes	4.3
41	113	Eumenides	athena	4.3
12	114	Seven Against Thebes	hemichorion b	4.3
4	115	Suppliant Women	choros danaidon	4.4
39	116	Eumenides	klytaimstras eidolon	4.4
16	117	Prometheus Bound	kratos	4.4
156	118	Hecuba	polyxene	4.4
131	119	Ion	therapon	4.4
240	120	Ajax	odysseus	4.4
166	121	Electra	presbys	4.5
168	122	Electra	klytaimestra	4.5
227	123	Electra	klytaimnestra	4.5
109	124	Iphigenia in Tauris	pylades	4.5
27	125	Persians	xerxes	4.5
46	126	Agamemnon	keryx	4.5
9	127	Seven Against Thebes	angelos	4.5
7	128	Suppliant Women	therapaina	4.5
230	129	Antigone	ismene	4.5
247	130	Ajax	teukros	4.6
11	131	Seven Against Thebes	hemichorion a	4.6
3	132	Suppliant Women	keryx	4.6
65	133	Suppliants	keryx	4.7
36	134	Eumenides	pythias	4.7
57	135	The Trojan Women	kasandra	4.7
61	136	Suppliants	aithra	4.7
123	137	Iphigenia in Aulis	achilleus	4.7
196	138	Philoctetes	herakles	4.8
79	139	Rhesus	diomedes	4.9
17	140	Prometheus Bound	hephaistos	4.9
203	141	Oedipus Tyrannus	angelos	5
212	142	Oedipus at Colonus	kreon	5
113	143	Iphigenia in Tauris	angelos	5
142	144	Heracles	theseus	5.1
49	145	Agamemnon	aigisthos	5.1
132	146	Ion	prophetis	5.1
176	147	Bacchae	angelos	5.2
82	148	Rhesus	heniochos	5.2
190	149	Trachiniae	herakles	5.2
195	150	Philoctetes	emporos	5.2
157	151	Hecuba	odysseus	5.3
137	152	Heracles	lykos	5.3
59	153	The Trojan Women	menelaos	5.3
60	154	The Trojan Women	helene	5.3
133	155	Ion	athena	5.4
34	156	Libation Bearers	aigisthos	5.4
184	157	Trachiniae	lichas	5.5
89	158	Phoenissae	eteokles	5.5

116	159	Iphigenia in Aulis	presbytes	5.5
15	160	Seven Against Thebes	keryx	5.6
129	161	Ion	xouthos	5.6
93	162	Phoenissae	angelos	5.6
188	163	Trachiniae	trophos	5.6
30	164	Libation Bearers	elektra	5.6
226	165	Electra	chrysothemis	5.7
183	166	Trachiniae	angelos	5.7
210	167	Oedipus at Colonus	ismene	5.7
234	168	Antigone	haimon	5.7
159	169	Hecuba	therapaina	5.7
235	170	Antigone	teiresias	5.8
169	171	Electra	dioskoyroi	5.8
70	172	Suppliants	athena	5.8
213	173	Oedipus at Colonus	polyneikes	5.8
66	174	Suppliants	angelos	5.8
178	175	Bacchae	agaue	5.9
74	176	Rhesus	dolon	5.9
172	177	Bacchae	teiresias	5.9
81	178	Rhesus	alexandros	6
147	179	Helen	graus	6
35	180	Libation Bearers	pylades	6.1
42	181	Eumenides	propompoi	6.1
114	182	Iphigenia in Tauris	athena	6.1
201	183	Oedipus Tyrannus	teiresias	6.2
53	184	The Trojan Women	hemichorion a	6.2
33	185	Libation Bearers	trophos	6.3
228	186	Electra	aigisthos	6.3
244	187	Ajax	angelos	6.3
68	188	Suppliants	iphis	6.4
43	189	Agamemnon	phylax	6.4
94	190	Phoenissae	oidipous	6.4
149	191	Helen	theonoe	6.4
236	192	Antigone	angelos	6.5
124	193	Iphigenia in Aulis	angelos	6.5
130	194	Ion	presbytes	6.5
96	195	Orestes	helene	6.5
14	196	Seven Against Thebes	ismene	6.5
205	197	Oedipus Tyrannus	exangelos	6.6
76	198	Rhesus	angelos	6.6
54	199	The Trojan Women	hemichorion b	6.7
83	200	Rhesus	mousa	6.7
204	201	Oedipus Tyrannus	therapon	6.7
187	202	Trachiniae	hemichorion	6.7
185	203	Trachiniae	hemichorion 1	6.7
245	204	Ajax	hemichorion 1	6.7
100	205	Orestes	tyndareos	6.8
140	206	Heracles	lyssa	6.8
238	207	Antigone	exangelos	6.9

111	208	Iphigenia in Tauris	boukolos	6.9
67	209	Suppliants	euadne	6.9
73	210	Rhesus	aineias	7
158	211	Hecuba	talthybios	7
167	212	Electra	angelos	7.1
246	213	Ajax	hemichorion 2	7.1
139	214	Heracles	iris	7.2
91	215	Phoenissae	teiresias	7.3
118	216	Iphigenia in Aulis	menelaos	7.4
208	217	Oedipus at Colonus	xenos	7.4
175	218	Bacchae	therapon	7.4
198	219	Oedipus Tyrannus	hiereus	7.4
186	220	Trachiniae	hemichorion 2	7.4
104	221	Orestes	ermione	7.4
88	222	Phoenissae	polyneikes	7.5
239	223	Ajax	athena	7.6
237	224	Antigone	eurydike	7.6
141	225	Heracles	angelos	7.7
151	226	Helen	therapon	7.7
152	227	Helen	dioskoroi	7.7
248	228	Ajax	menelaos	7.8
125	229	Ion	hermes	7.8
50	230	The Trojan Women	poseidon	7.9
119	231	Iphigenia in Aulis	angelos a	7.9
177	232	Bacchae	angelos b	7.9
214	233	Oedipus at Colonus	angelos	8
153	234	Hecuba	polydorou eidolon	8
120	235	Iphigenia in Aulis	xorosandronargeion	8.2
75	236	Rhesus	angelos poimen	8.3
51	237	The Trojan Women	athena	8.3
249	238	Ajax	agamemnon	8.4
144	239	Helen	teukros	8.4
106	240	Orestes	apollon	8.5
92	241	Phoenissae	menoikeus	8.6
105	242	Orestes	phryx	8.6
69	243	Suppliants	paides	8.7
189	244	Trachiniae	presbys	9.1
102	245	Orestes	angelos	9.4
180	246	Trachiniae	therapaina	9.4
77	247	Rhesus	resos	9.6
85	248	Phoenissae	paidagogos	9.7
103	249	Orestes	hemichoros	9.7

## 8. Declaration on Generative AI

The author has not employed any Generative AI tools.

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