

# Stylometry with R

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July 2017

# 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  
01 Stylistics 0101000  
11 Group 011010110

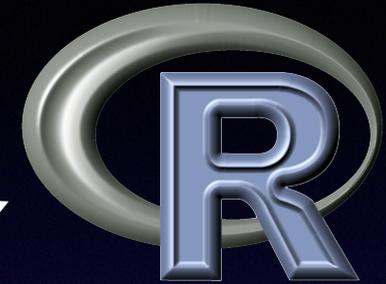


Maciej



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](https://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 atendant,  
De France et de Bretagne, et de Rome la grant.*

- Distinguishes 3 *matières* or “genres”:
  1. *Matière de France* (chansons de geste; Charlemagne)
  2. *Matière de Bretagne* (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

The screenshot shows a window titled "Stylometry with R: enter analysis parameters" with five tabs: "INPUT & LANGUAGE", "FEATURES", "STATISTICS", "SAMPLING", and "OUTPUT". The "INPUT & LANGUAGE" tab is active. It contains the following options:

INPUT:	plain text	xml	xml (plays)	xml (no titles)	html
	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

LANGUAGE:	English	English (contr.)	English (ALL)	Latin	Latin (u/v > u)
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Polish	Hungarian	French	Italian	Spanish
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Dutch	German	CJK	Other	
	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	

UTF-8

OK

# Adjust parameters and hit OK

Stylometry with R: enter analysis parameters

INPUT & LANGUAGE    FEATURES    STATISTICS    SAMPLING    OUTPUT

FEATURES:    words    chars    ngram size    preserve case  
        1   

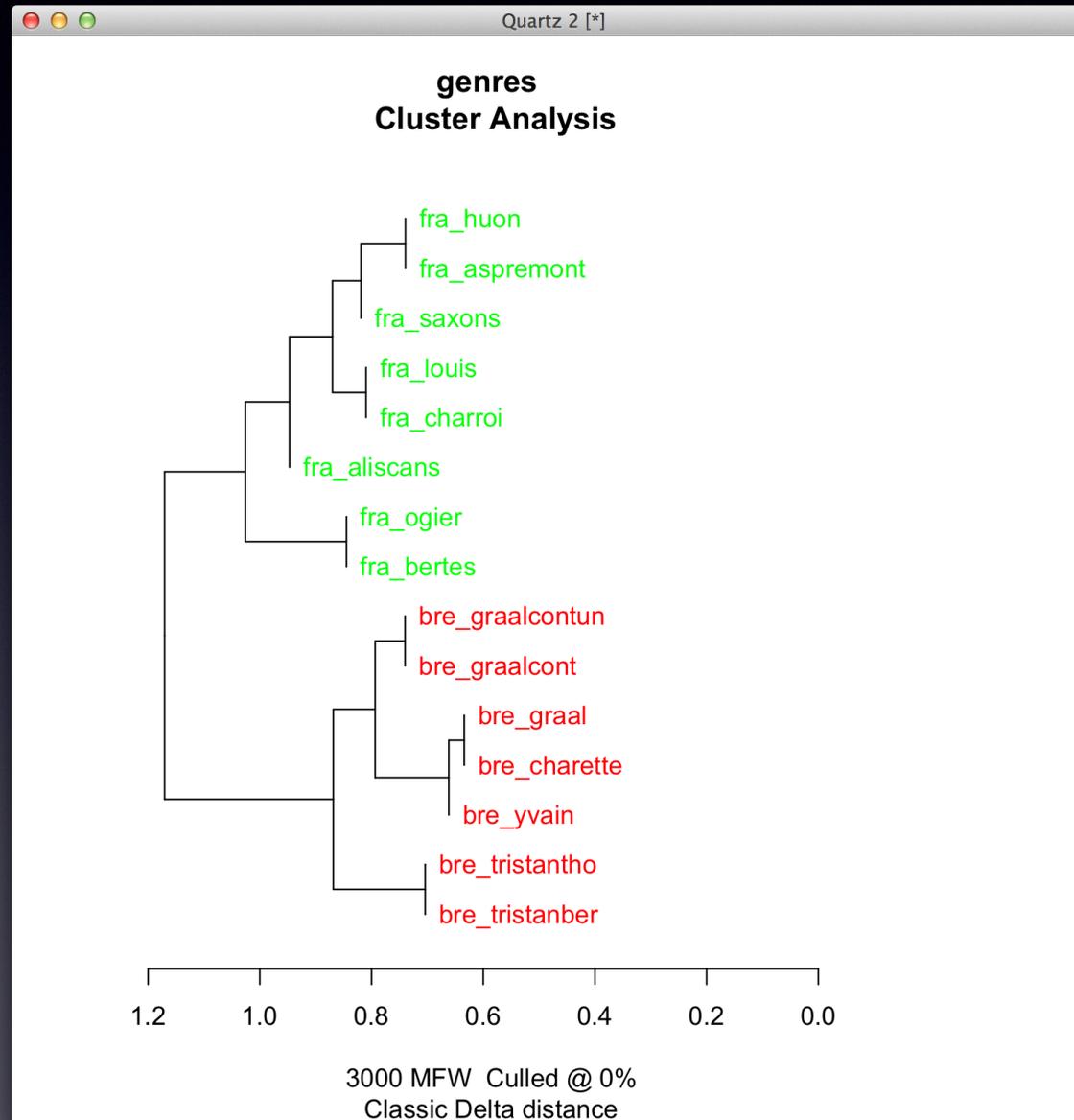
MFW SETTINGS:    Minimum    Maximum    Increment    Start at freq. rank  
3000    3000    100    1

CULLING:    Minimum    Maximum    Increment    List Cutoff    Delete pronouns  
0    0    20    5000   

VARIOUS:    Existing frequencies    Existing wordlist    Select files manually    List of files  
           

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`

150%

Home Layout Tables Charts SmartArt Formulas Data Review

Edit Font Alignment Number

Calibri (Body) 12 A A abc Wrap Text General

Paste Clear B I U Merge % .00 .00 Conditional Formatting

	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	1,688
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	1,176
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

3000

Maximum

3000

CULLING:

Minimum

0

Maximum

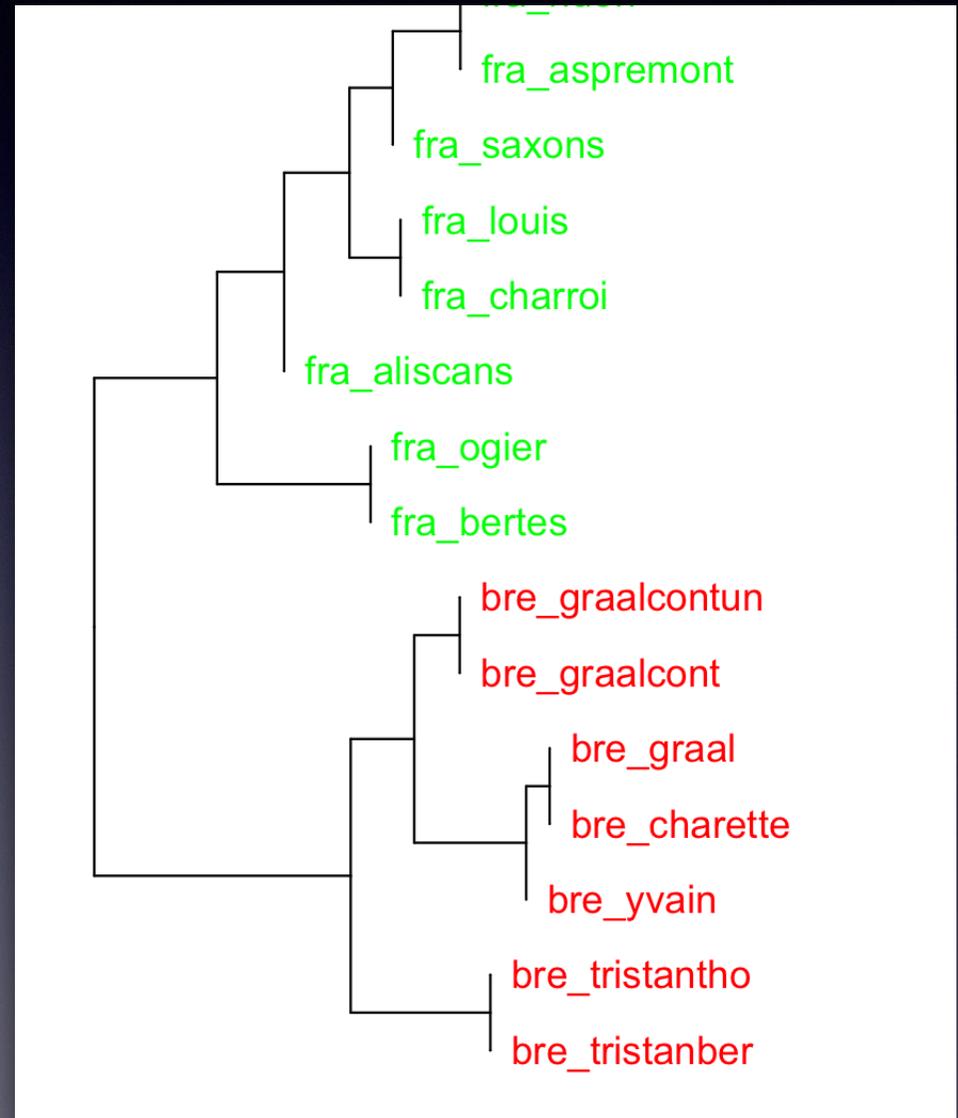
0

# 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 you way up the three
- Until all texts are joined
- Horizontal axis reflects (dis)similarity



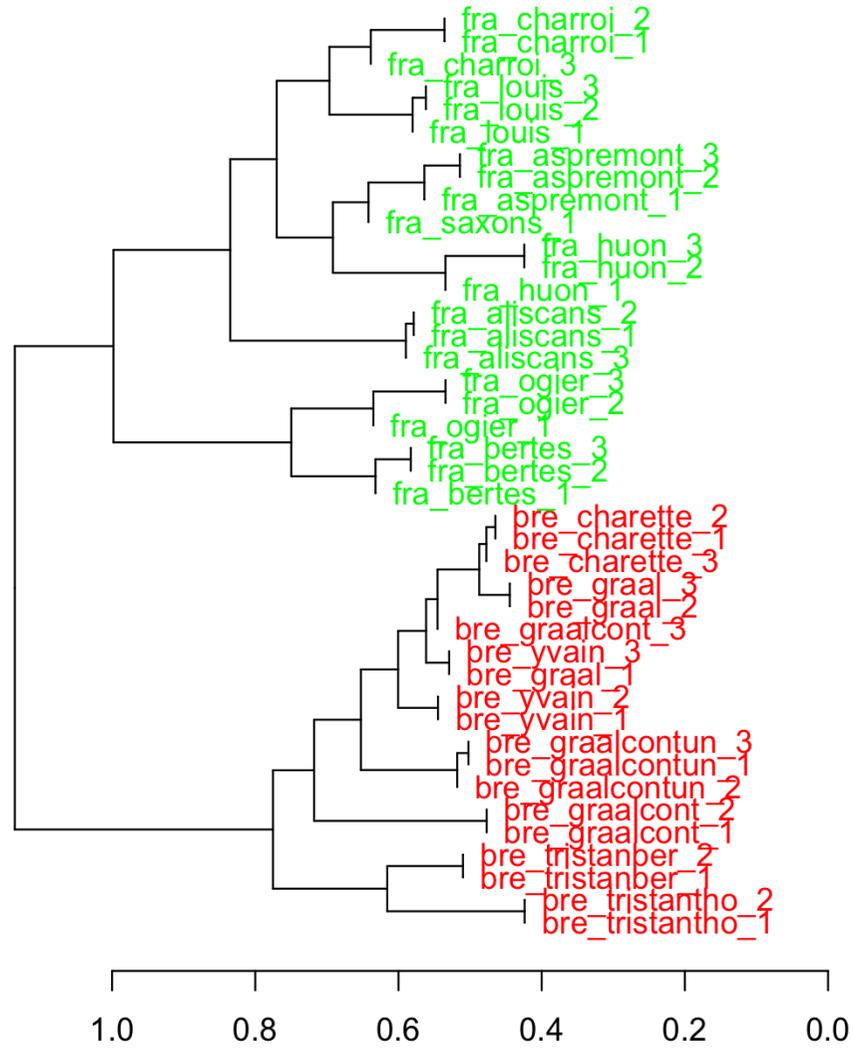
# Do it yourself (1)

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

# genres Bootstrap Consensus Tree



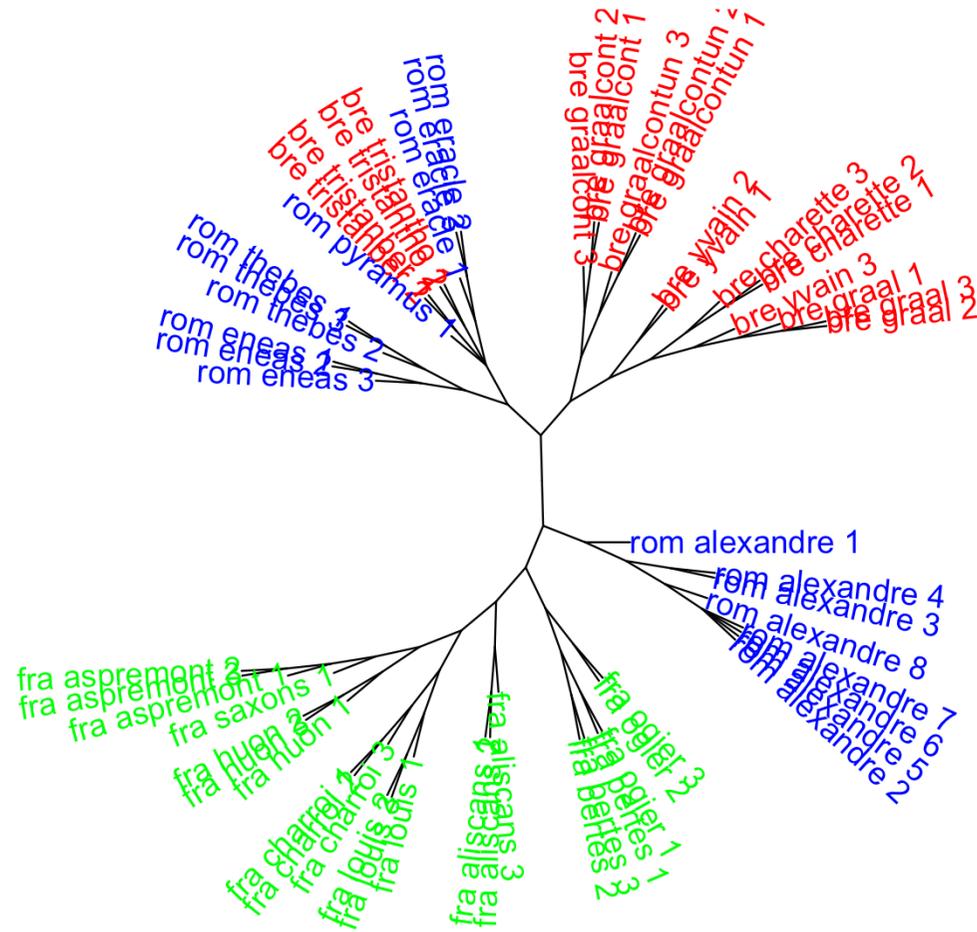
50-3000 MFW Culled @ 0%  
Classic Delta distance Consensus 0.5

# Do it yourself (+)

- We have seen that the cluster analyses easily distinguish Jean Bodel's *matière de Bretagne* 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?

# 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

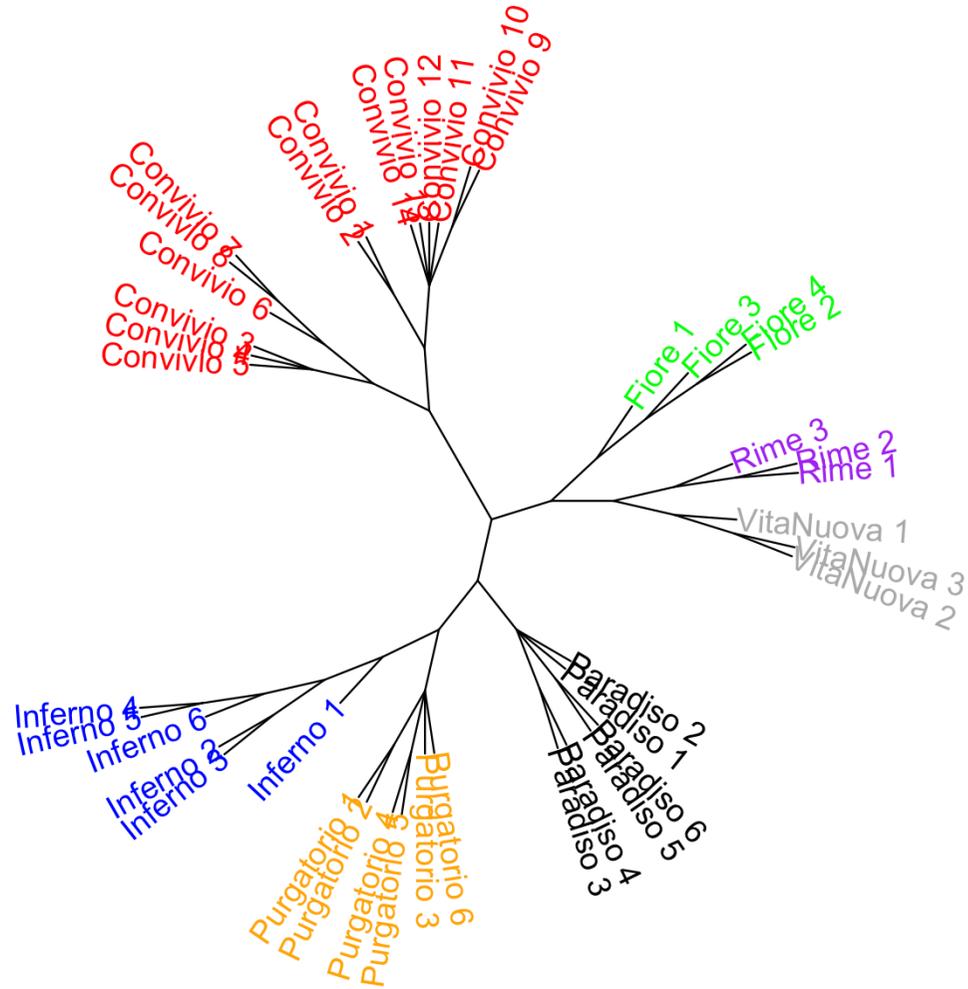
# Do it yourself (1)

- I downloaded the entire oeuvre by Dante Alighieri (1265-1321) from [danteonline.it](http://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 out 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

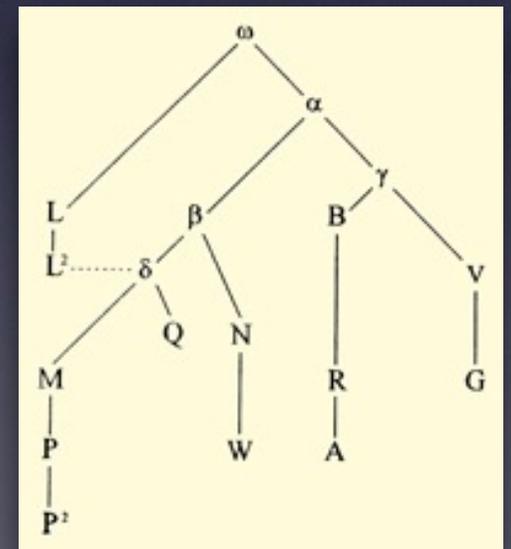


# Recognizable?

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 thrist with cold with hungR so counfoundid

ohatefull harme condicyouN of pouert

with thurste with colde with hungR so coNfounded

○ hate full harme condiciounN of pouerte

wt thrust wt colde and hunger 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)

Stylometry with R: enter analysis parameters

INPUT & LANGUAGE    FEATURES    STATISTICS    **SAMPLING**    OUTPUT

STATISTICS: Cluster Analysis    MDS    PCA (cov.)    **PCA (corr.)**    tSNE

Consensus Tree    Consensus strength

0.5

DISTANCES: Classic Delta    Argamon's Delta    Eder's Delta    Eder's Simple

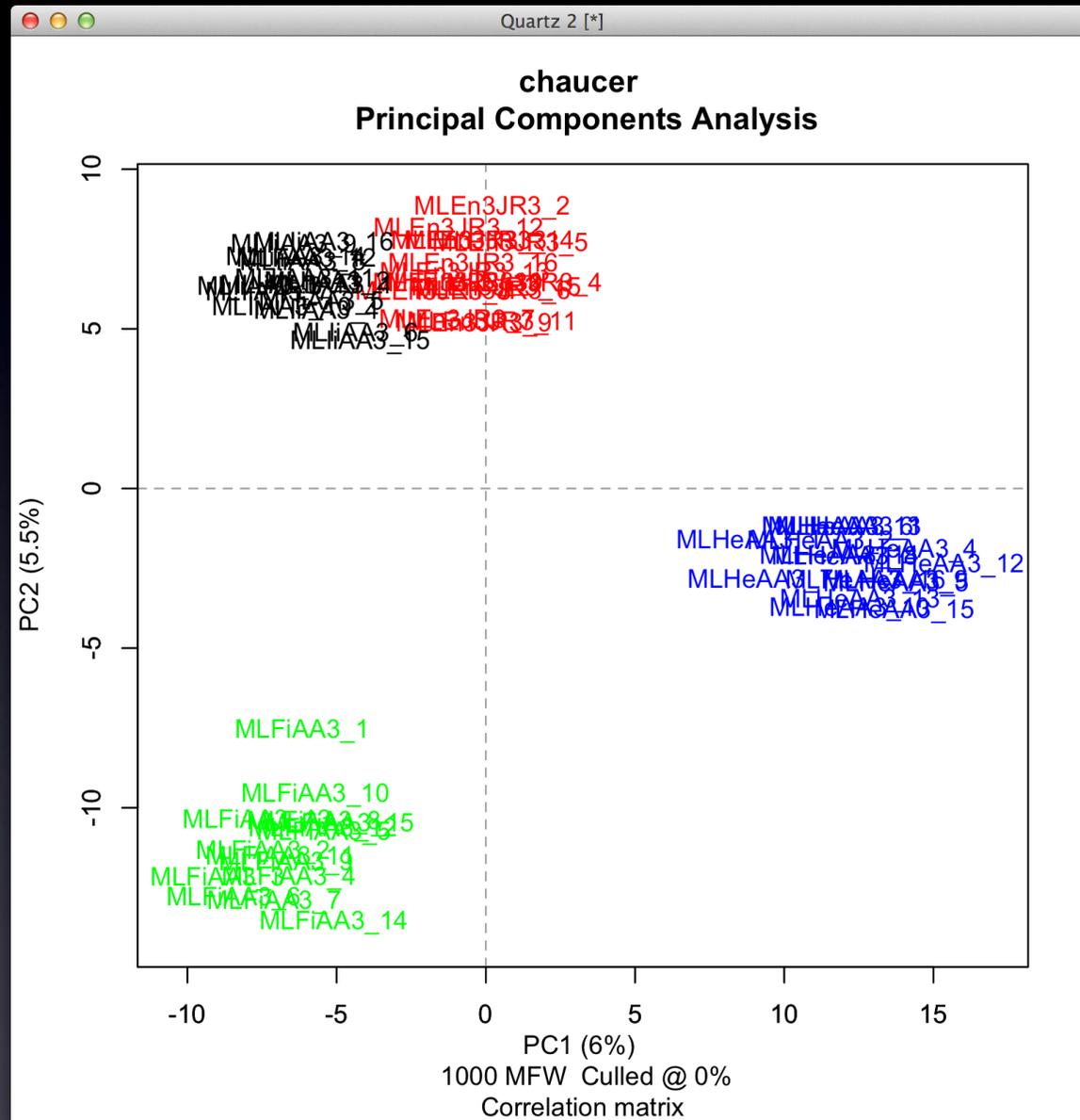
Manhattan    Canberra    Euclidean

OK

OK

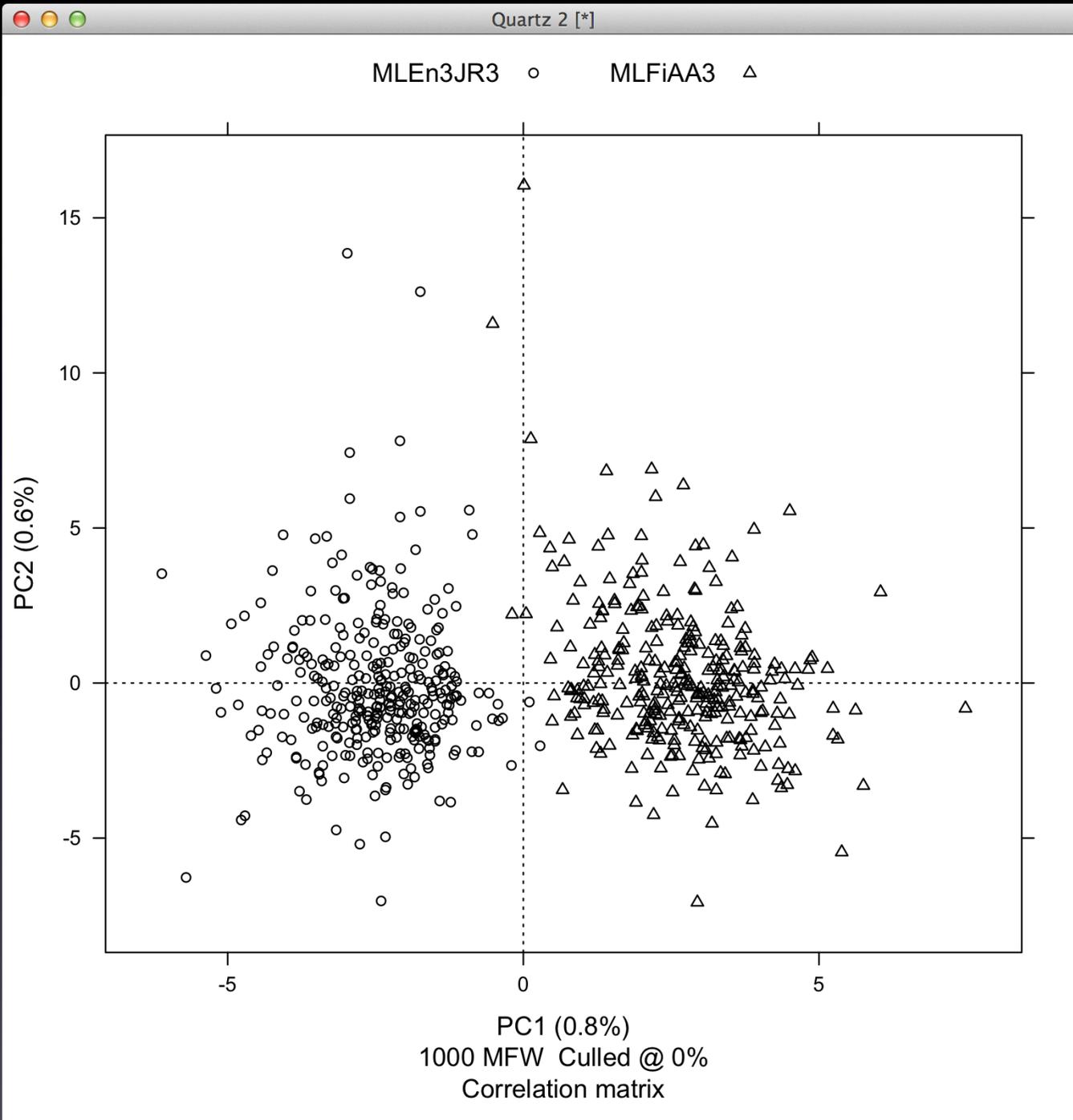
# What do you see?

(Does this make sense?)



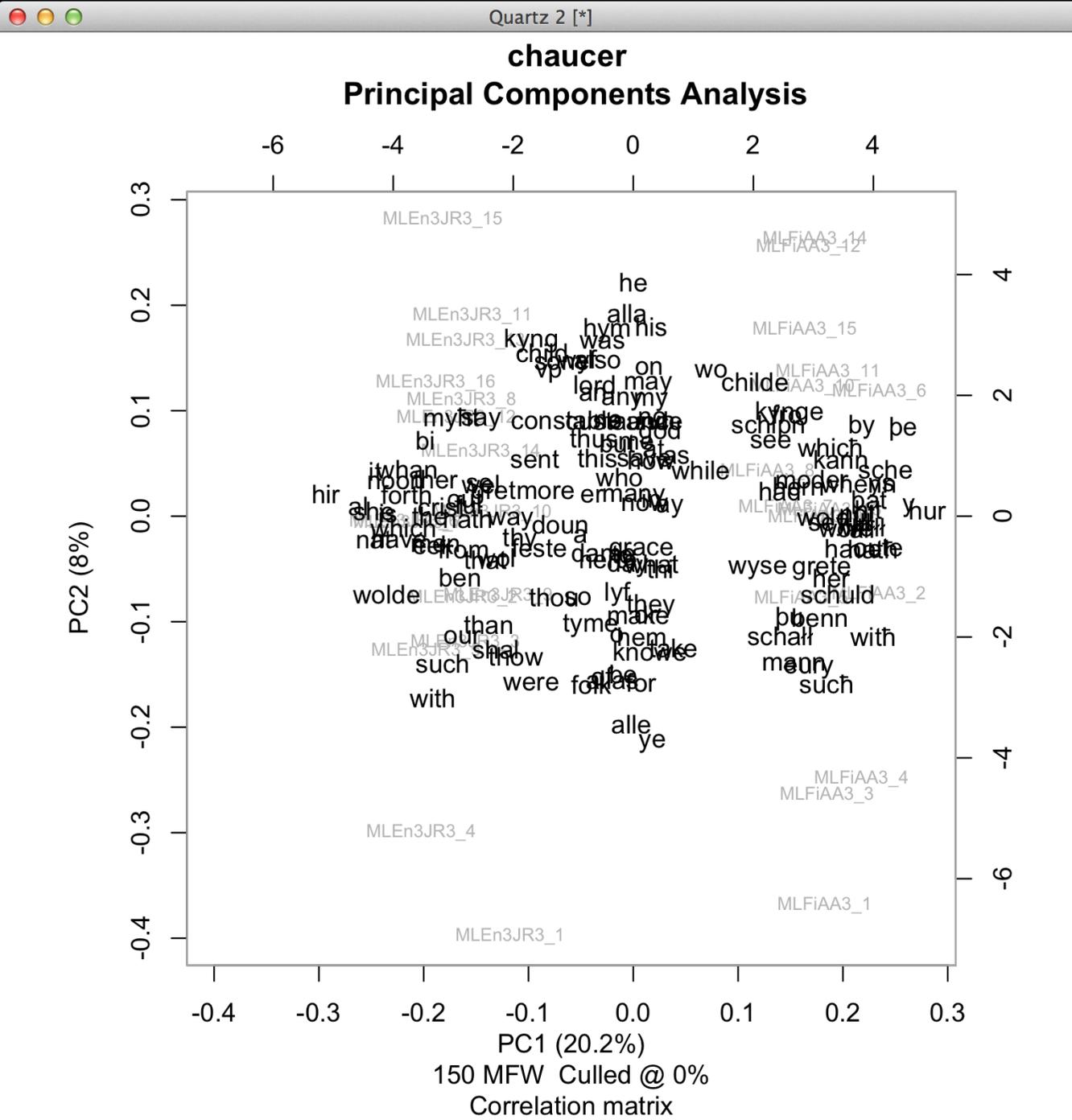
# Do it yourself

- 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

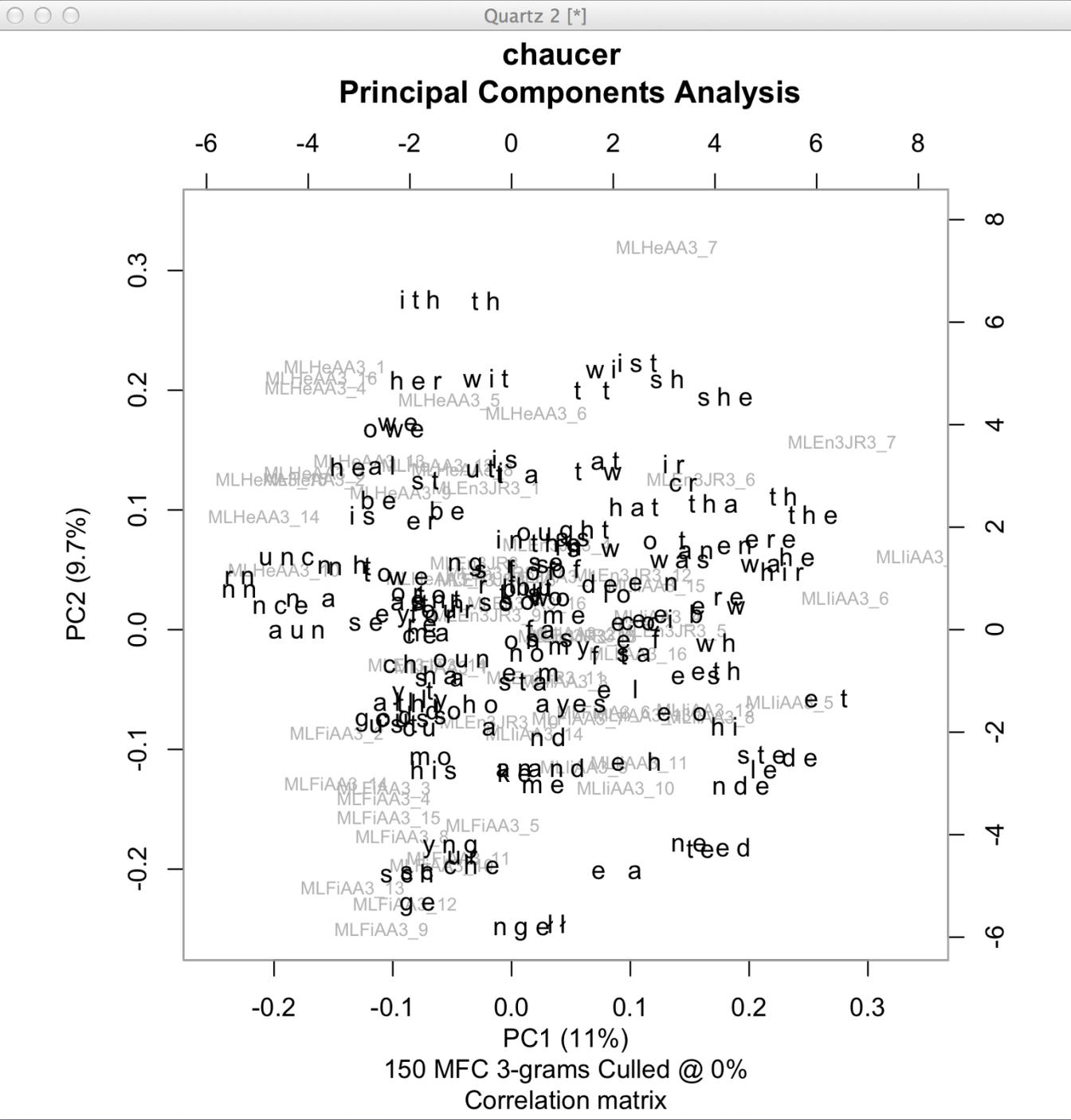
- Extremely helpful feature of PCA
- Tells on which specific word differences the PCA is based
- Use 2 manuscripts. Set PCA flavour= Loadings. The loadings will be plotted in dark; the samples in lightgrey. (If difficult to read, lower the MFW=100)
- What is there results? Inspect the original files: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





# 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

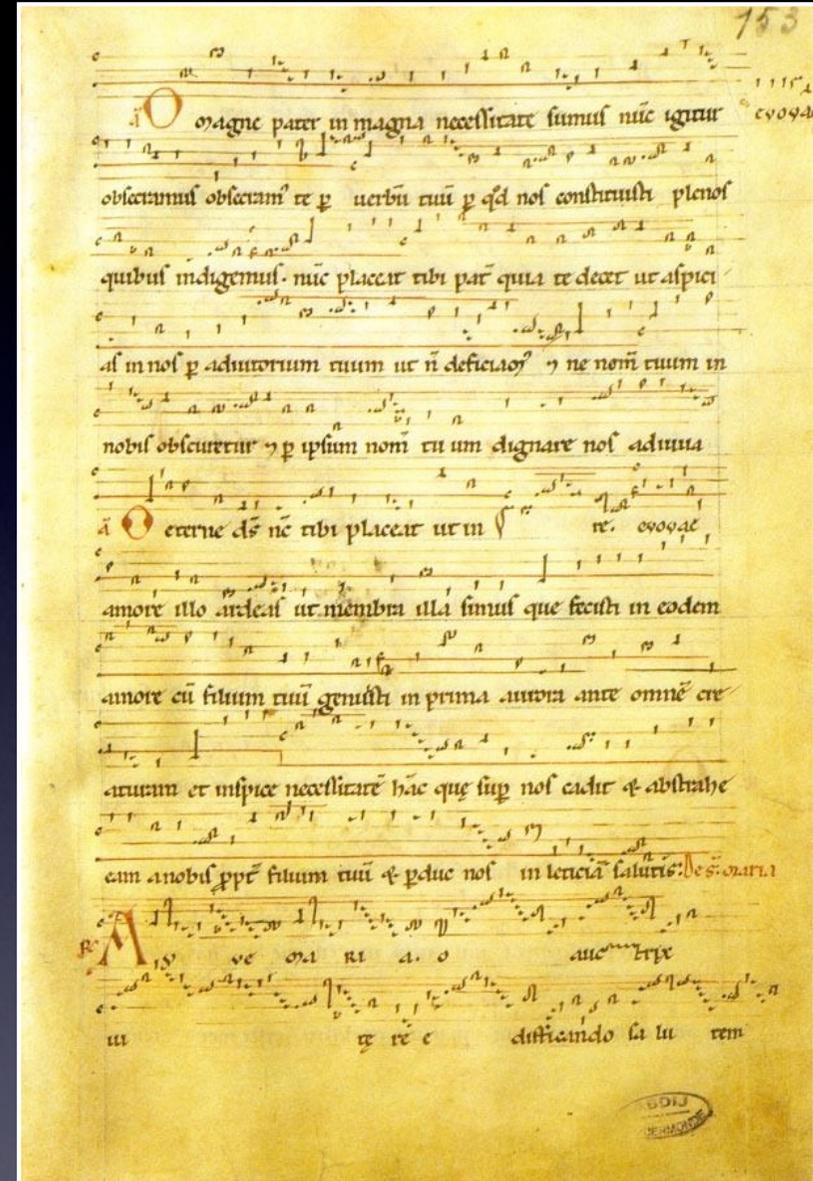
- Influential women writer
- 1098–1179
- Germany
- Divine visions
- “Sybil of the Rhine”



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

# Varied oeuvre

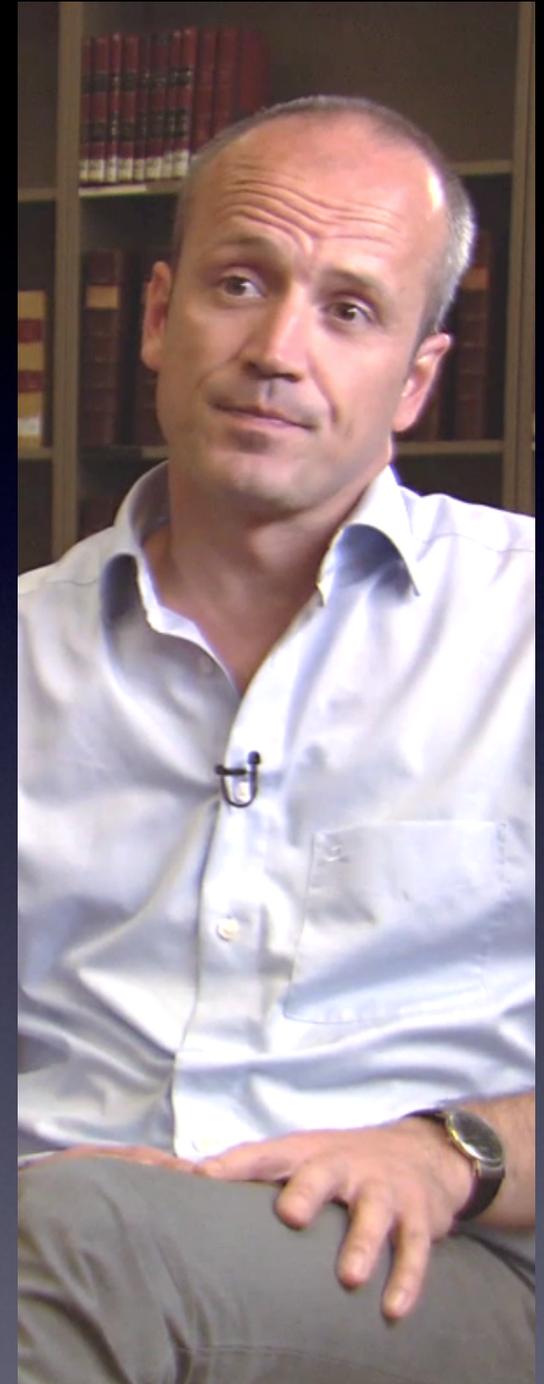
- Visions
- Music
- Scientific texts
- Recipes
- Medical treatises
- **Letters** (pope, emperor, ...)



[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!)

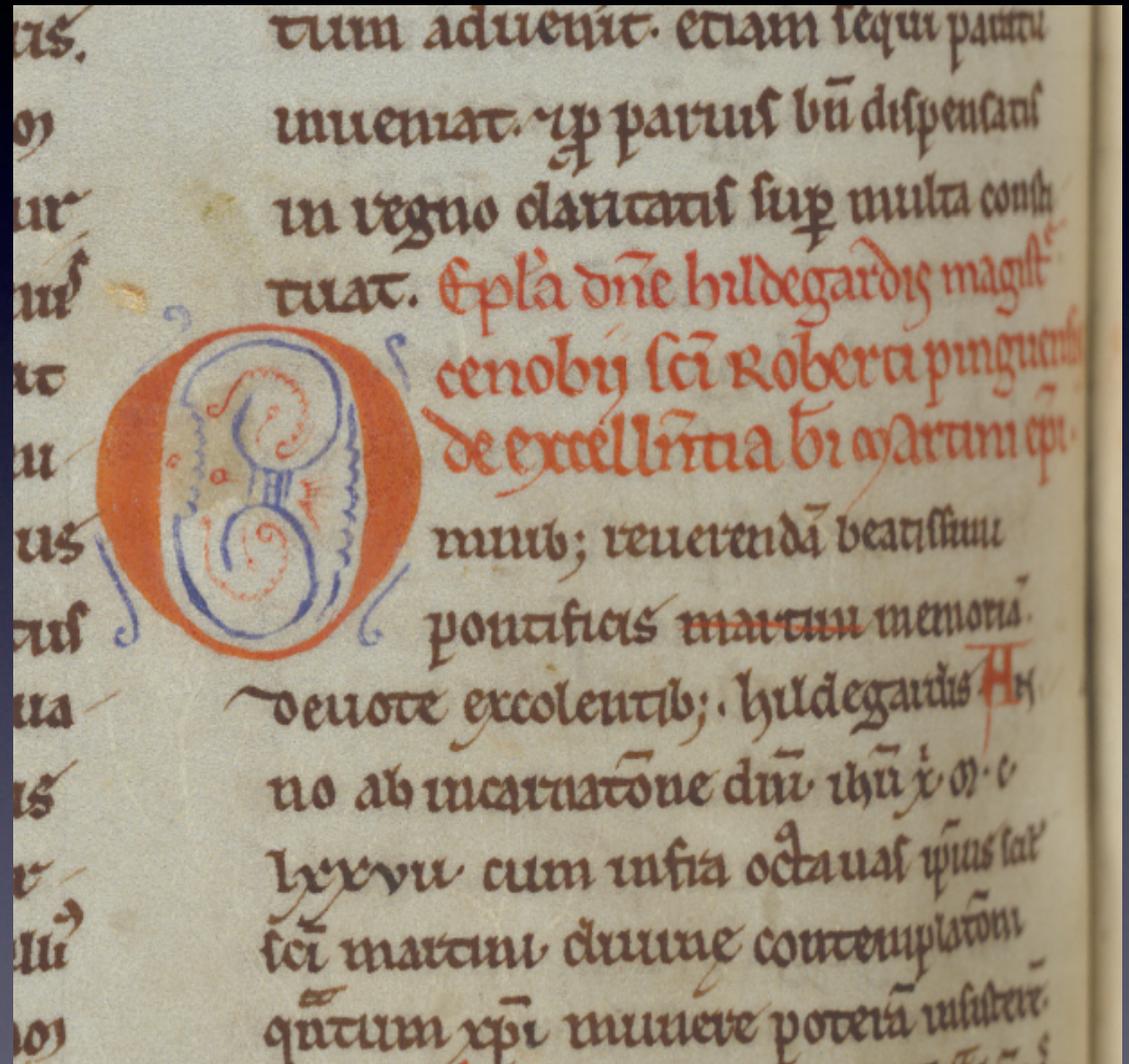
uisq; gaudiū luminum sui subministrat. significans potentiā  
di qui sup om̄s ē. & qui om̄ib' uitā tribuit. Sub quo circulus  
alius sicut circulus nigri ignis demonstrat. quia ignis iste  
sub potestate prioris existens. iudicialis & fere gehennalis ē.  
ad iudiciā malorū factus nec ulli rei pareit sup quā iusto iu  
dicio cadit. qm̄ in eo ostendit̄ quod om̄is qui se dō opponit.  
in casū nigredinis multarūq; calamitatū uertet. Nam <sup>in estate</sup> cū sol  
sursū ascendit. idem ignis iudiciā dī in cōbustione <sup>fulguris</sup> exercet.  
cū ū <sup>in heme</sup> sol deorsū descendit. ille iudiciales plagas ī gelu & gndine  
ac ī frigore ostendit. qm̄ quodq; peccatū seu igne. seu frigo  
re. seu aliis quib'dā plagis scdm̄ modū suū examinat. 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....



# 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

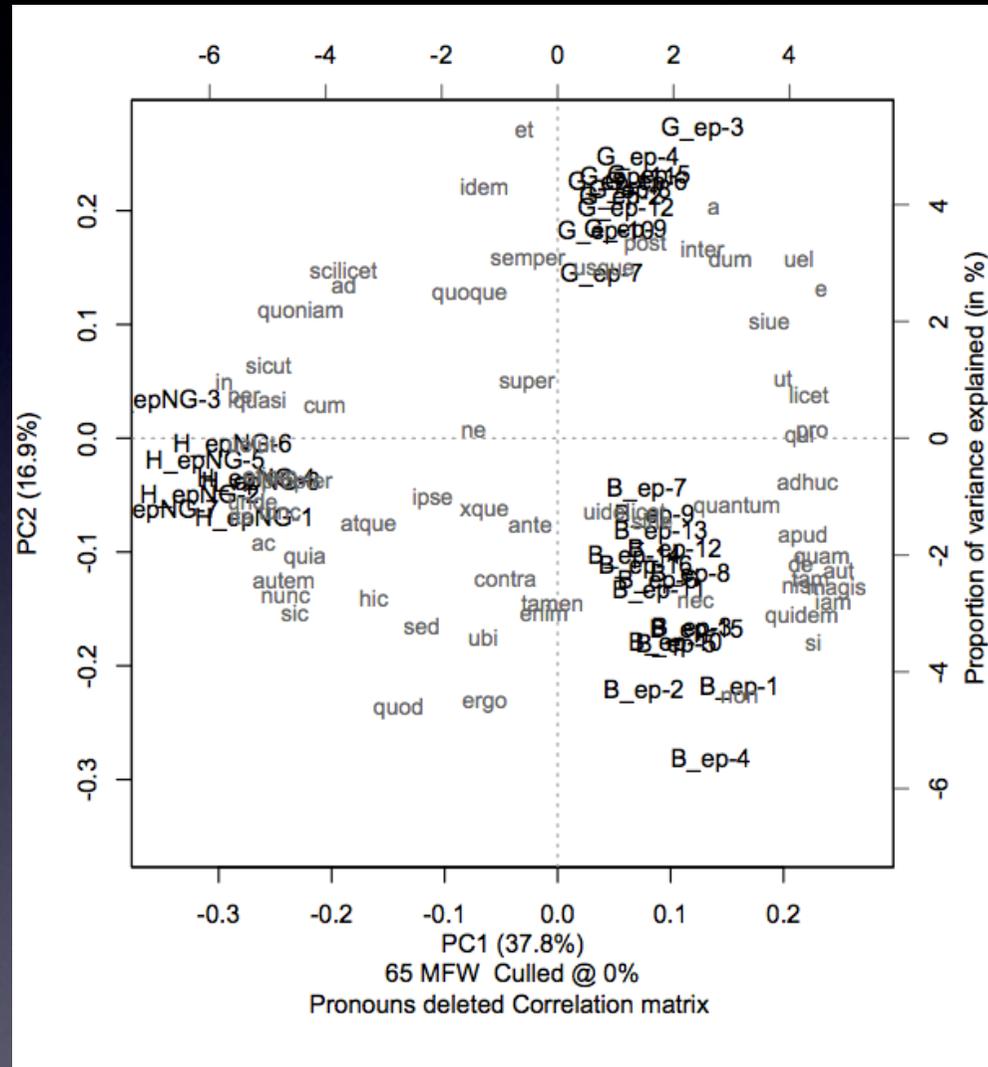
# Wordlist

- 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

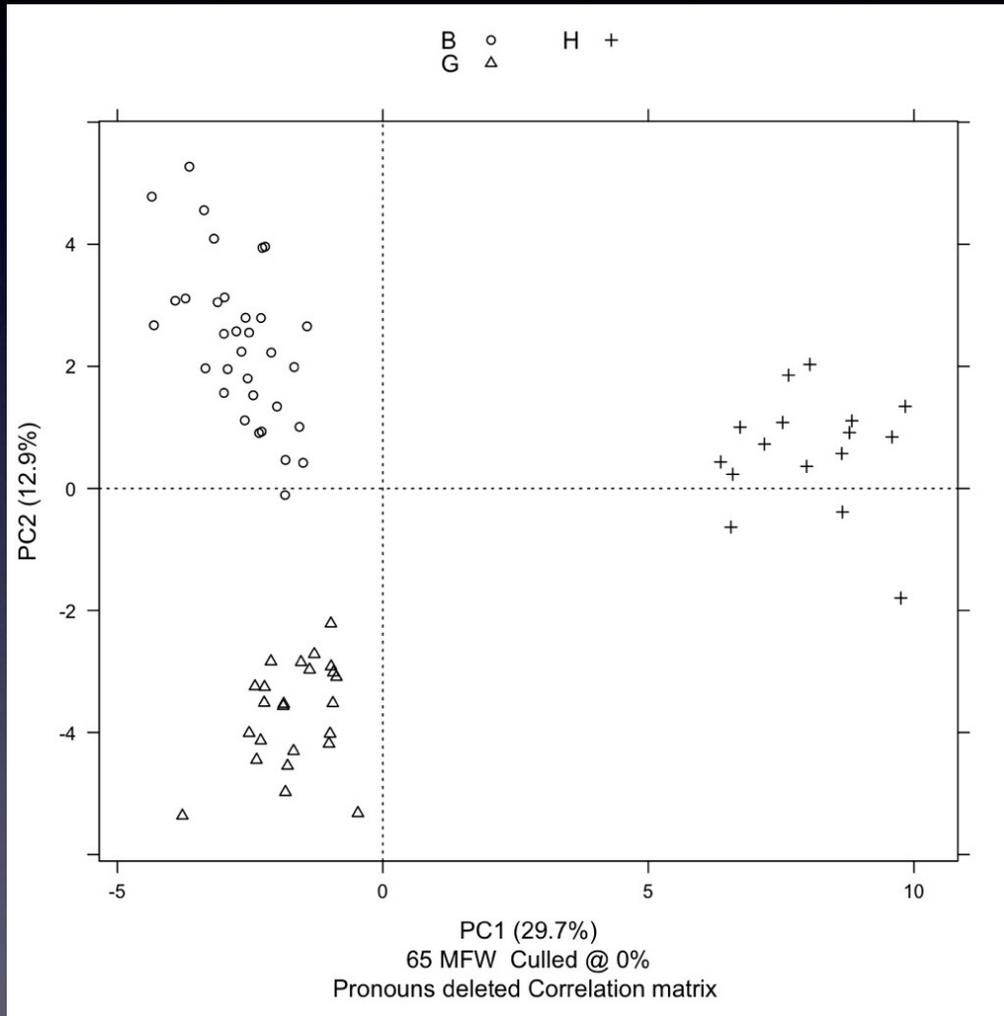
- Sample size = 10,000
- MFW = 65
- Select PCA
  - PCA Flavour = Technical
- Select B\_ep.txt, G\_ep.txt, H\_epNG.txt
- Existing wordlist + Select Texts Manually
- Same plot?

# Test PCA

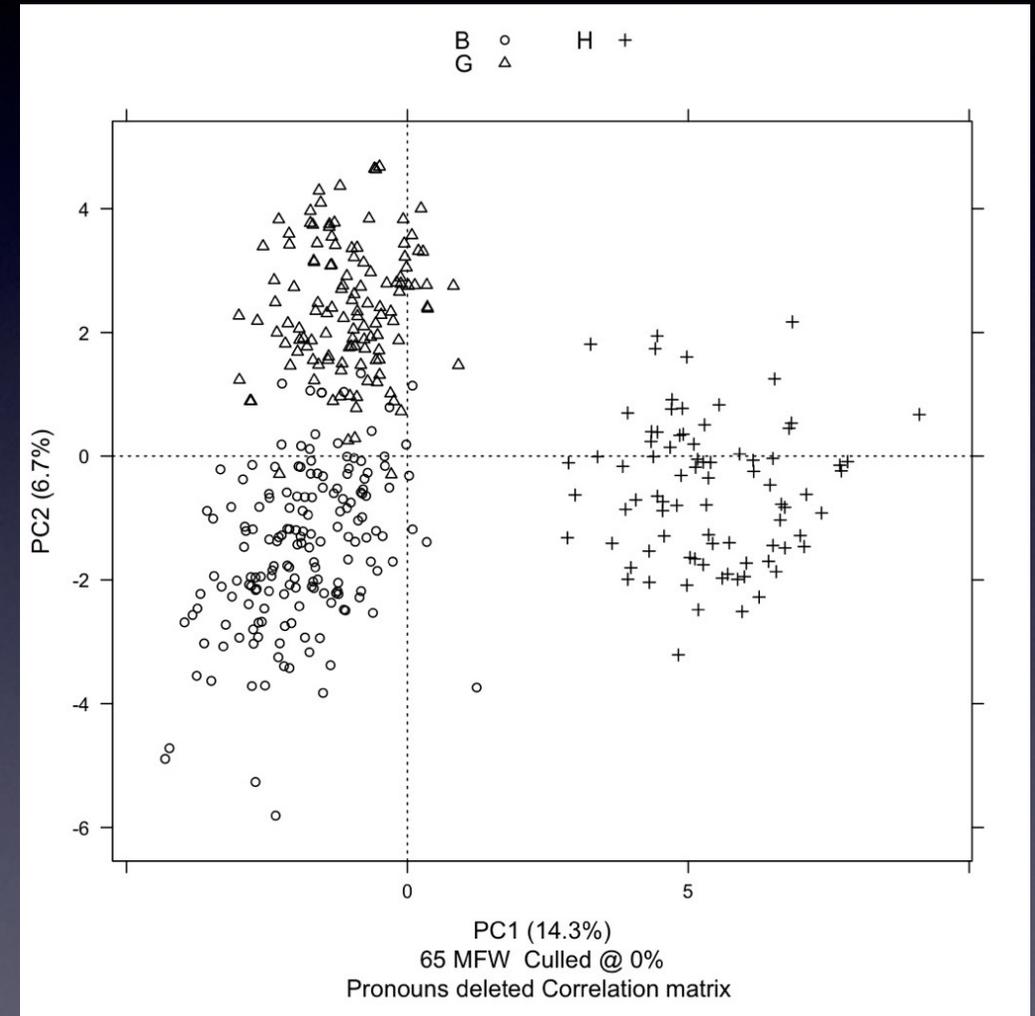


[ss=10,000; 65 MFW; content words 'culled']

# Play with sample size



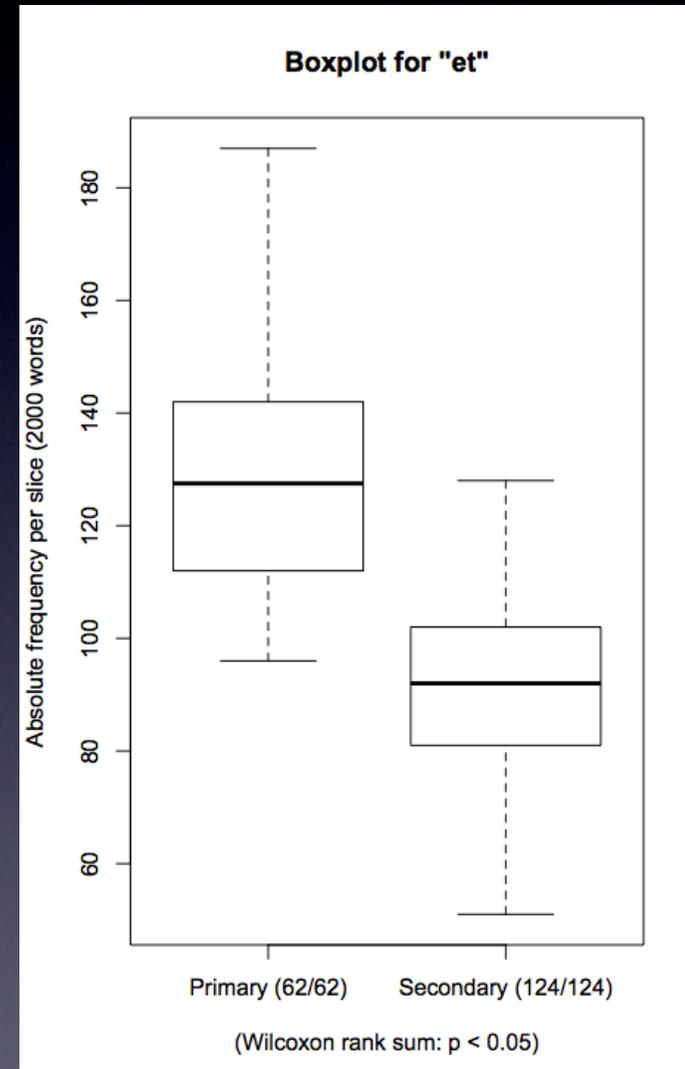
[ss=5,000]



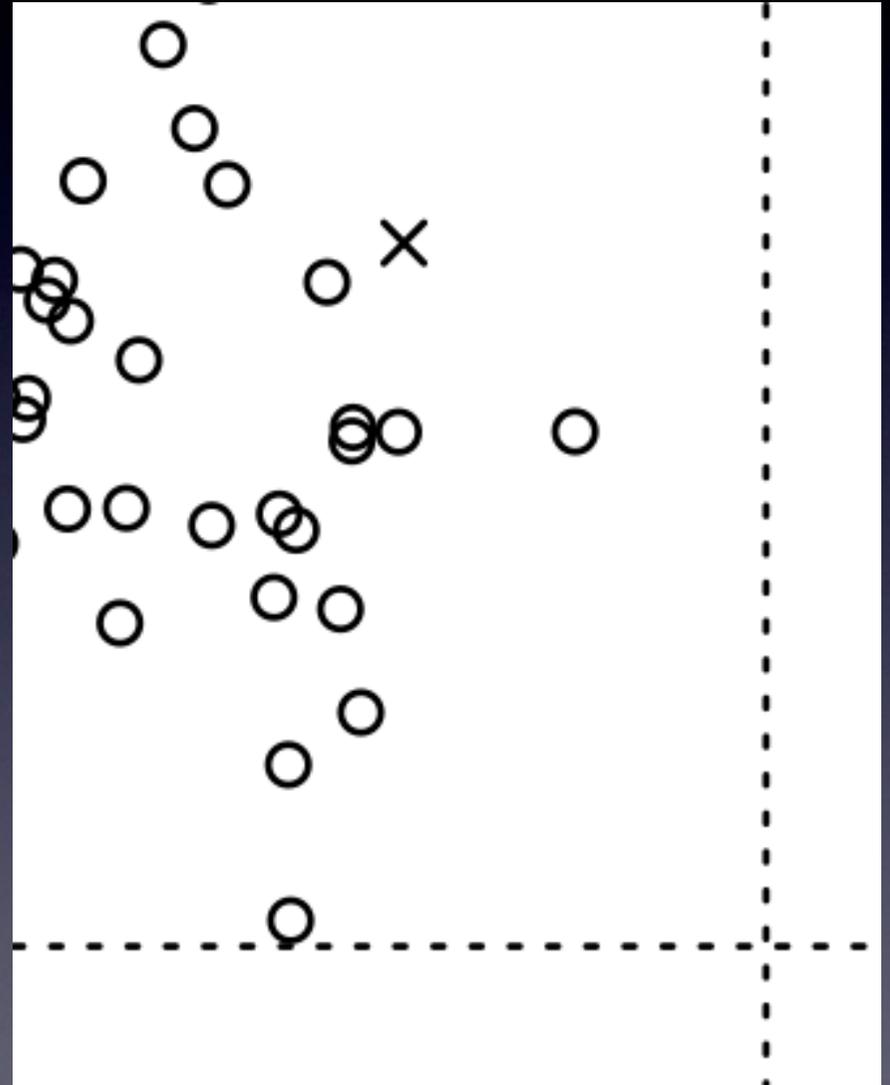
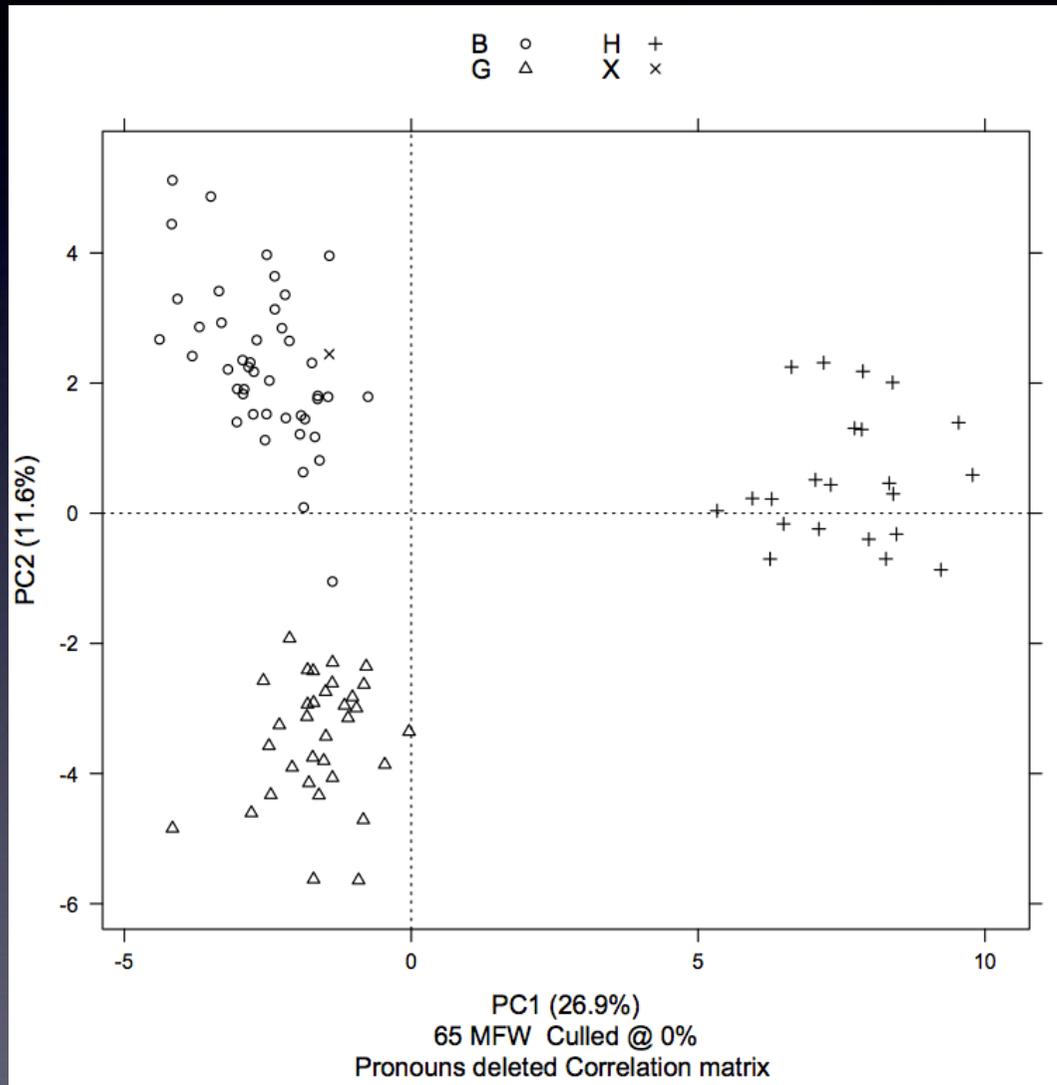
[ss=1,000]

# 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?

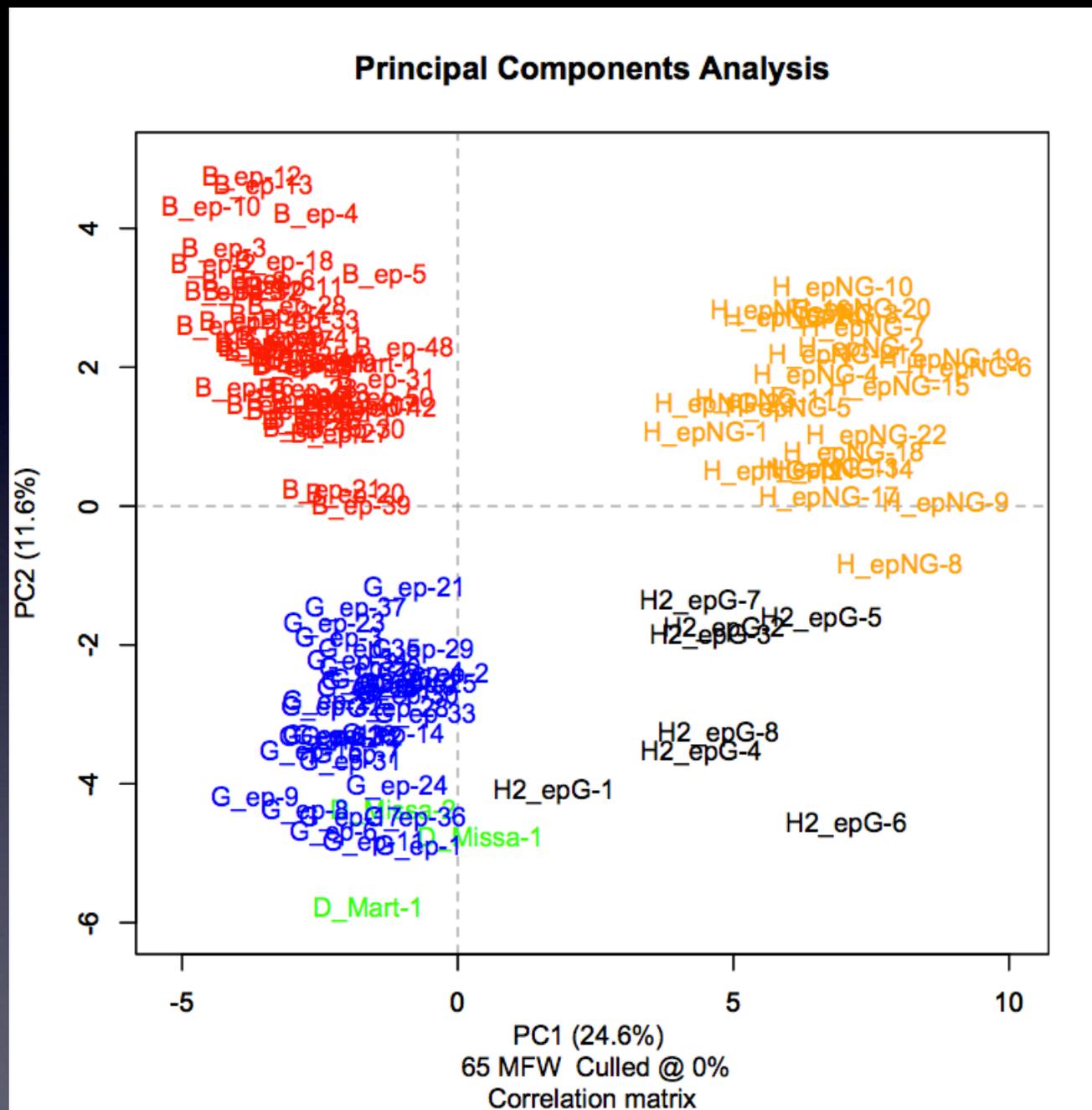
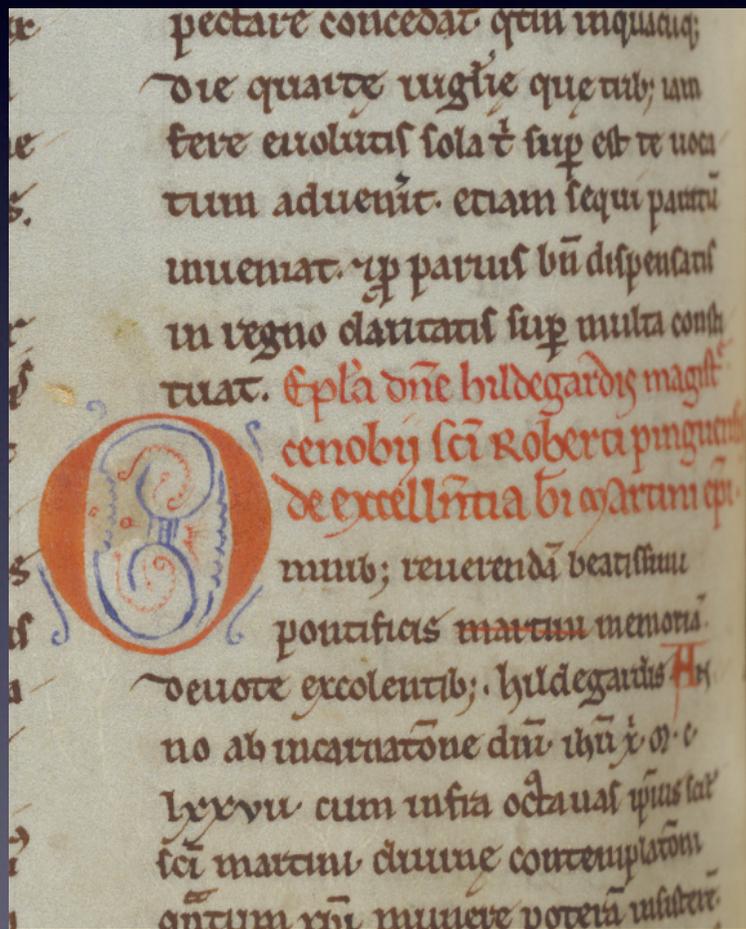


[ss=3,706; Bernard's *Sermo in festo sancti Martini* as “anonymous test case”;

# 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](https://vimeo.com/70881172)



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