



# STYLOMETRY

...in detail



# Theoretical implications

“It has been noted that the switch from content words to function words in authorship attribution studies has **an interesting historic parallel in art-historic research.** [...] **Giovanni Morelli** (1816-1891) was among the first to suggest that the attribution of, for instance, a *Quattrocento* painting to some Italian master, could not happen based on ‘content’ [...] **Morelli thought it better to restrict an authorship analysis to discrete details such as ears, hands and feet:** such fairly functional elements are naturally very frequent in nearly all paintings, because they are to some extent content-independent. [...] the argument is often raised that **the use of these [function] words would not be under an author’s conscious control** during the writing process.”

(Kestemont, 2014)

# Theoretical Implications

“Style is a property of texts constituted by an ensemble of formal features which can be observed quantitatively or qualitatively.”

- style [...] should be seen as **a complex system**, with features situated at different linguistic levels
- we conceive of stylistic features as **explicitly defined** and clearly identifiable.
- a certain style can be described using methods based on computing frequencies, relations, and distributions of features and relevant statistics **[quantitative]**, as well as methods based on precise observation and description of individual occurrences **[qualitative]**

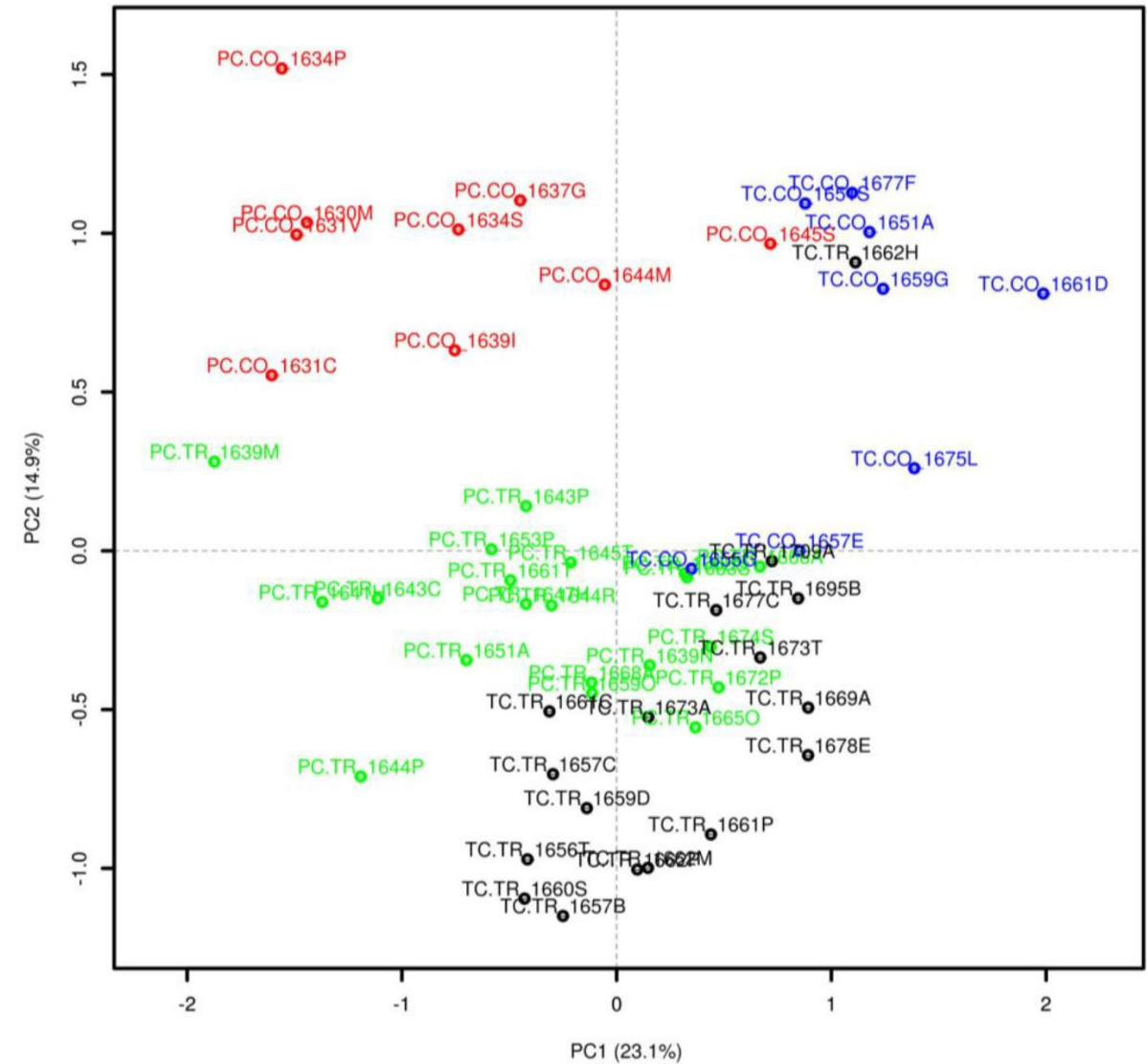
(Herrmann et al. 2015)

# Applications...



(Jannidis and Lauer, 2014)

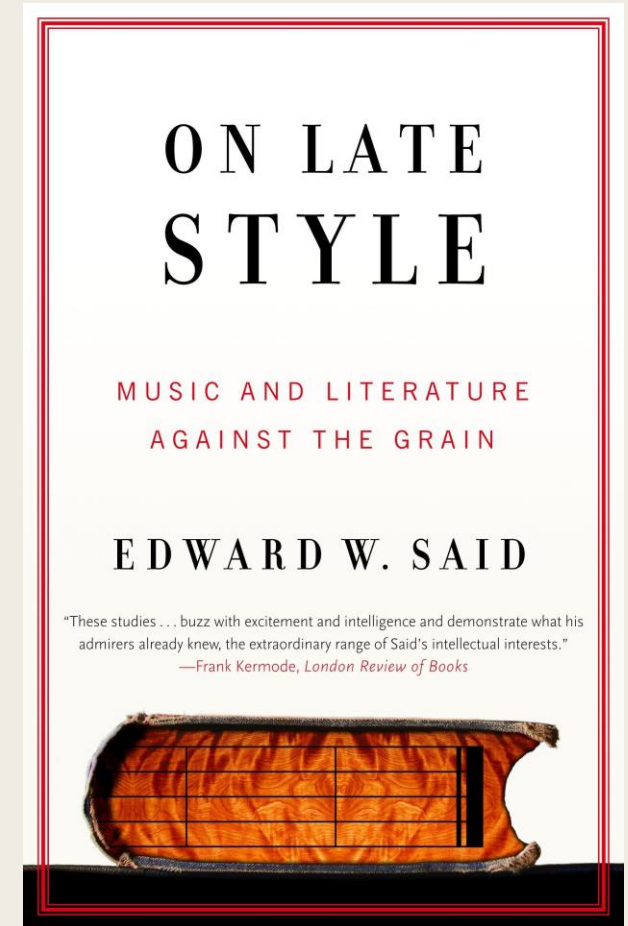
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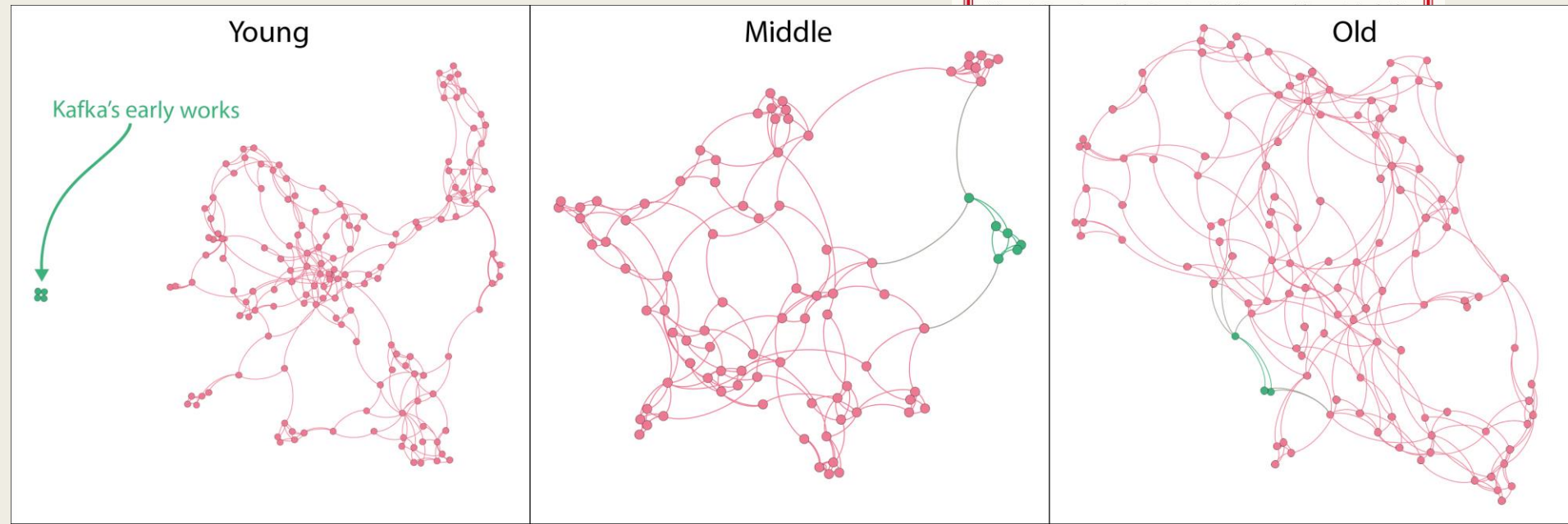
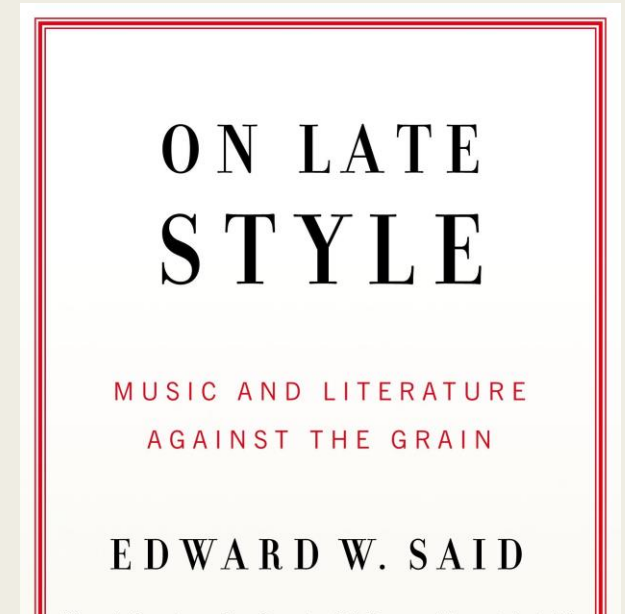
(Schöch, 2014)

Abb. 8: Principal Component Analysis  
(Kürzel: PC = Pierre Corneille, TC = Thomas Corneille, CO = comédies, TR = tragédies)

# Applications...

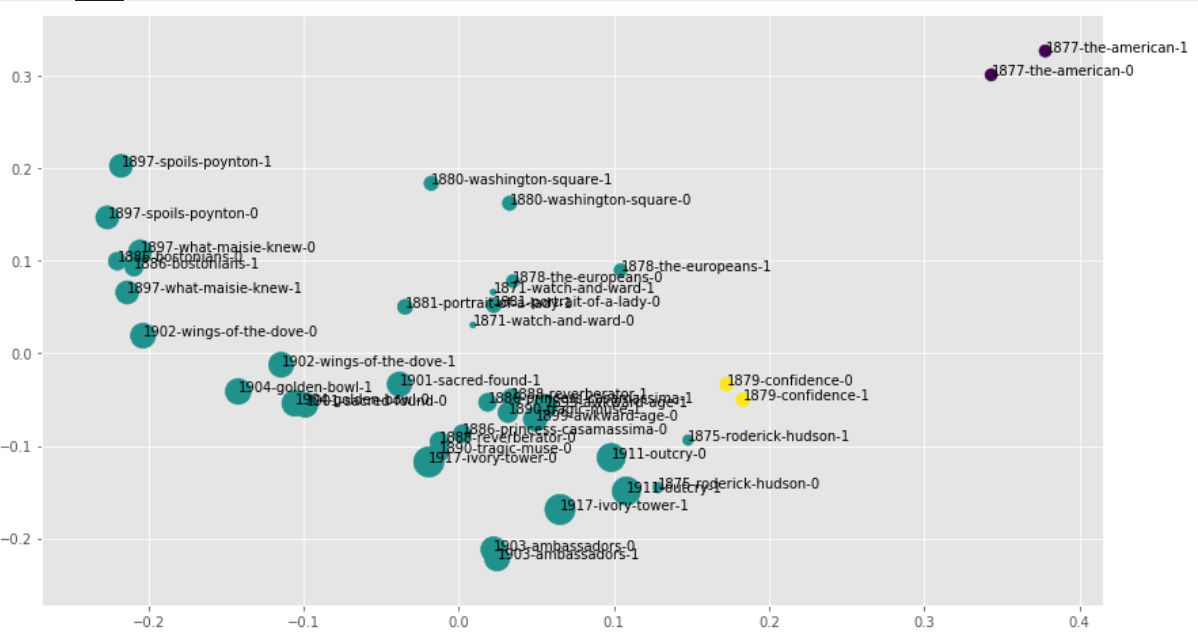


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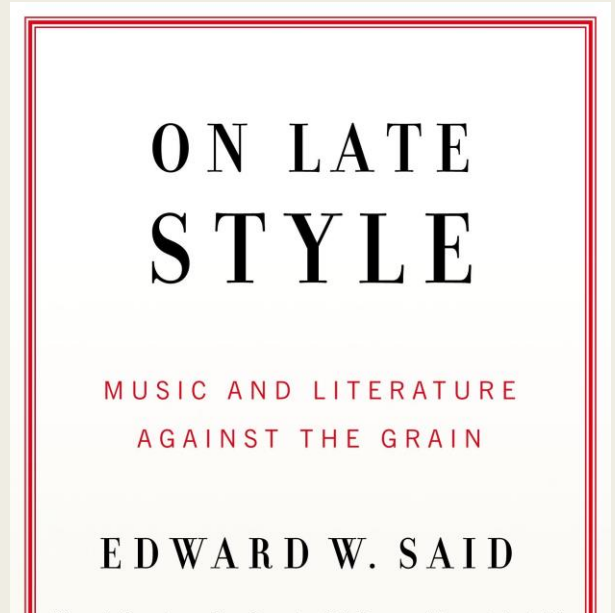


(Rebora and Salgado, 2018)

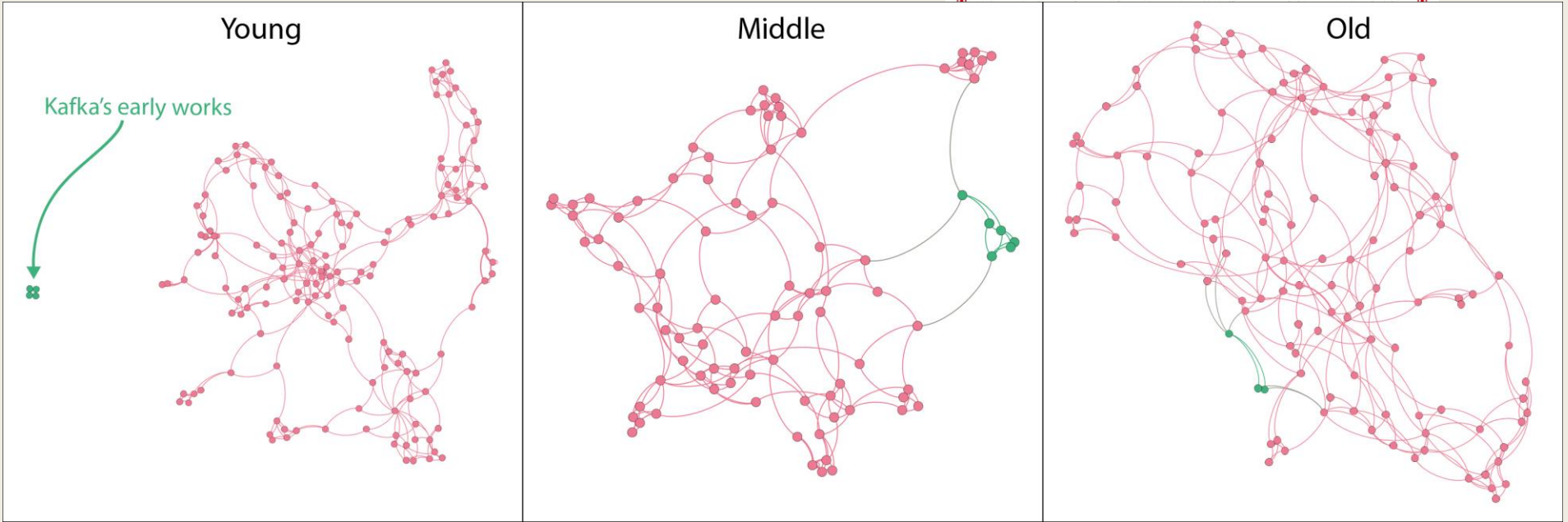




(Reeve, 2018)



(Rebora and Salgaro, 2018)





A bit of mathematics...

# The (many) distance measures

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$$\Delta_{(AB)} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left| \frac{A_i - \mu_i}{\sigma_i} - \frac{B_i - \mu_i}{\sigma_i} \right|$$

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$x$  is a number in a series

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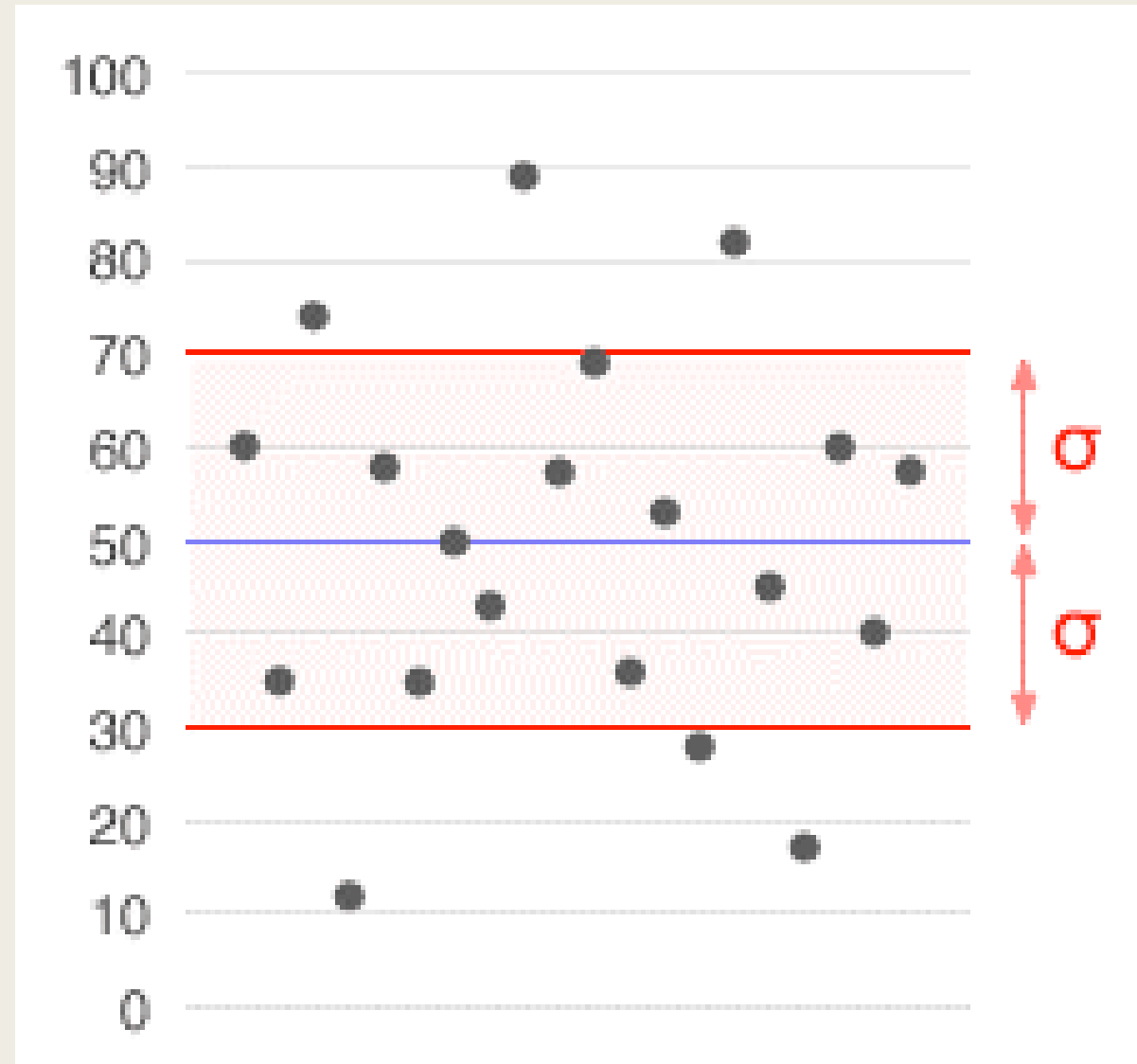
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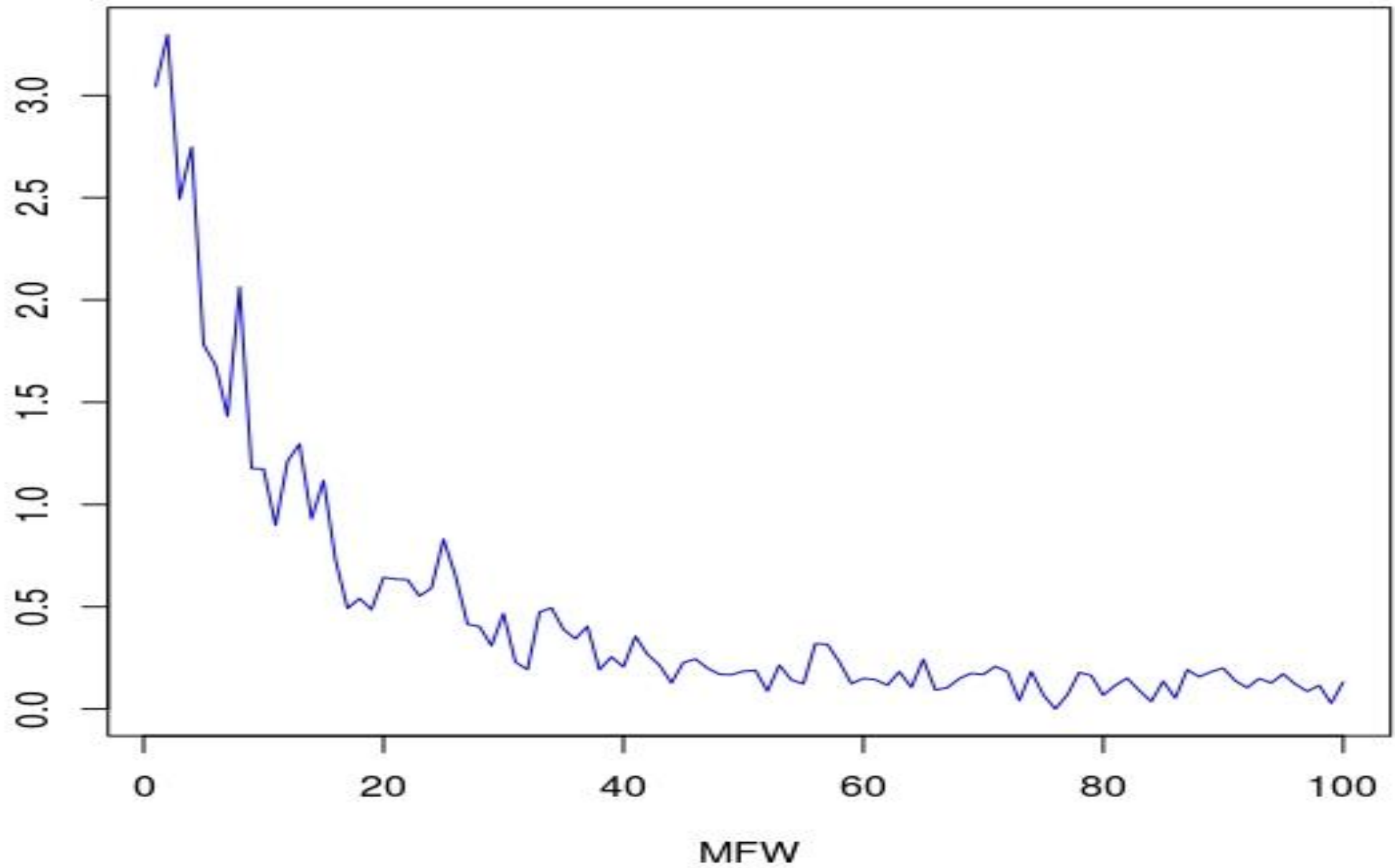
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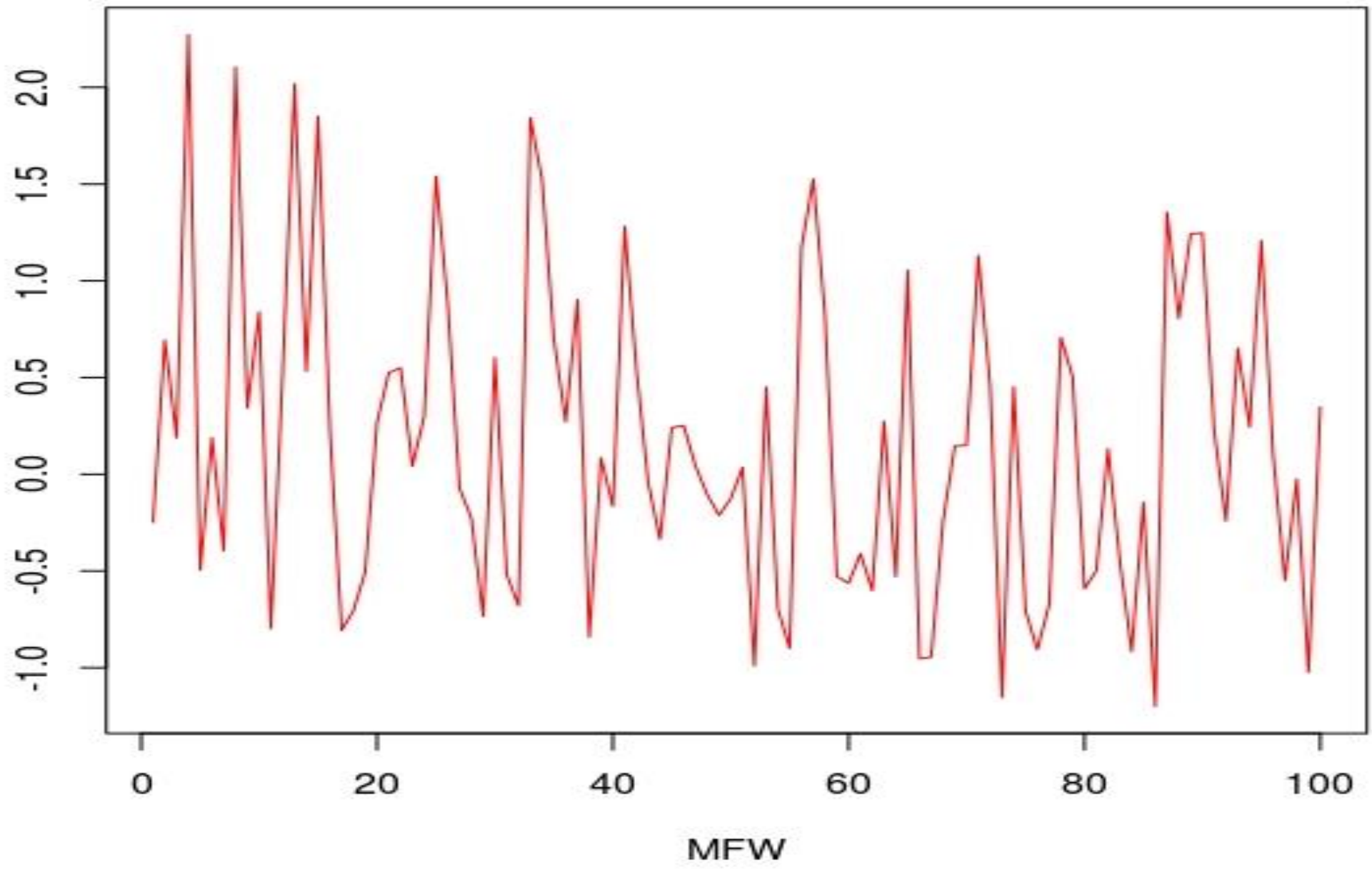
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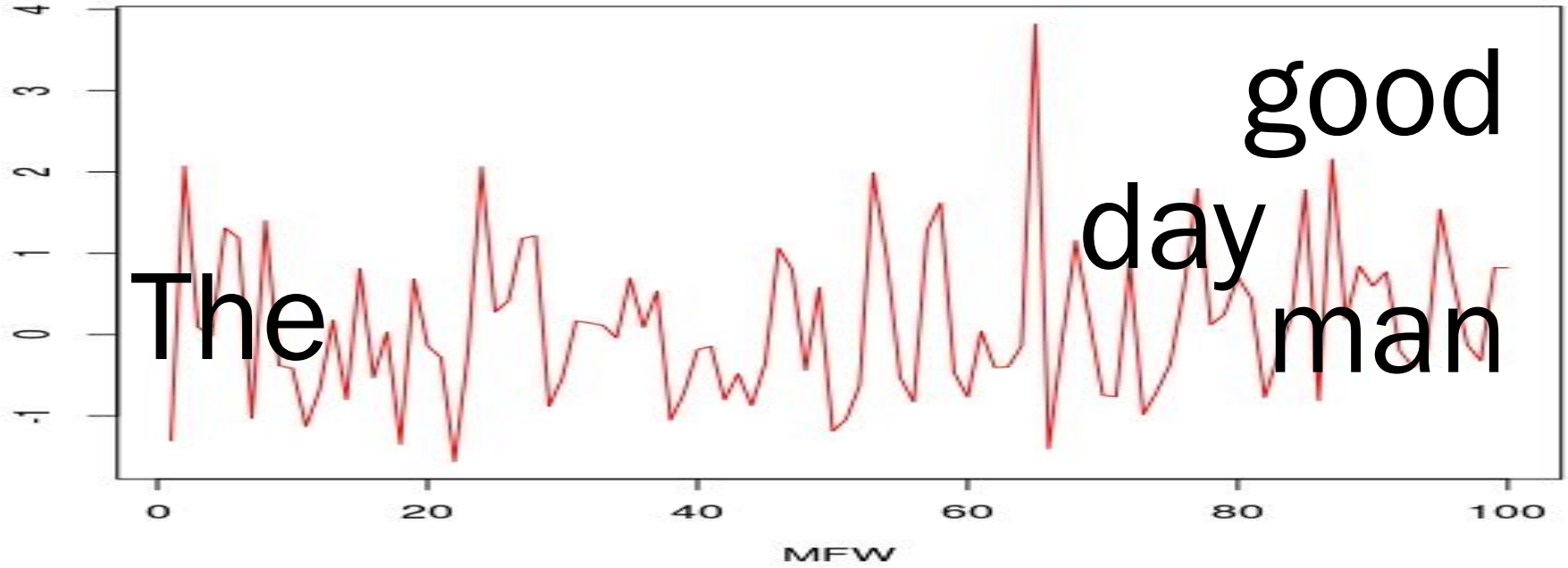
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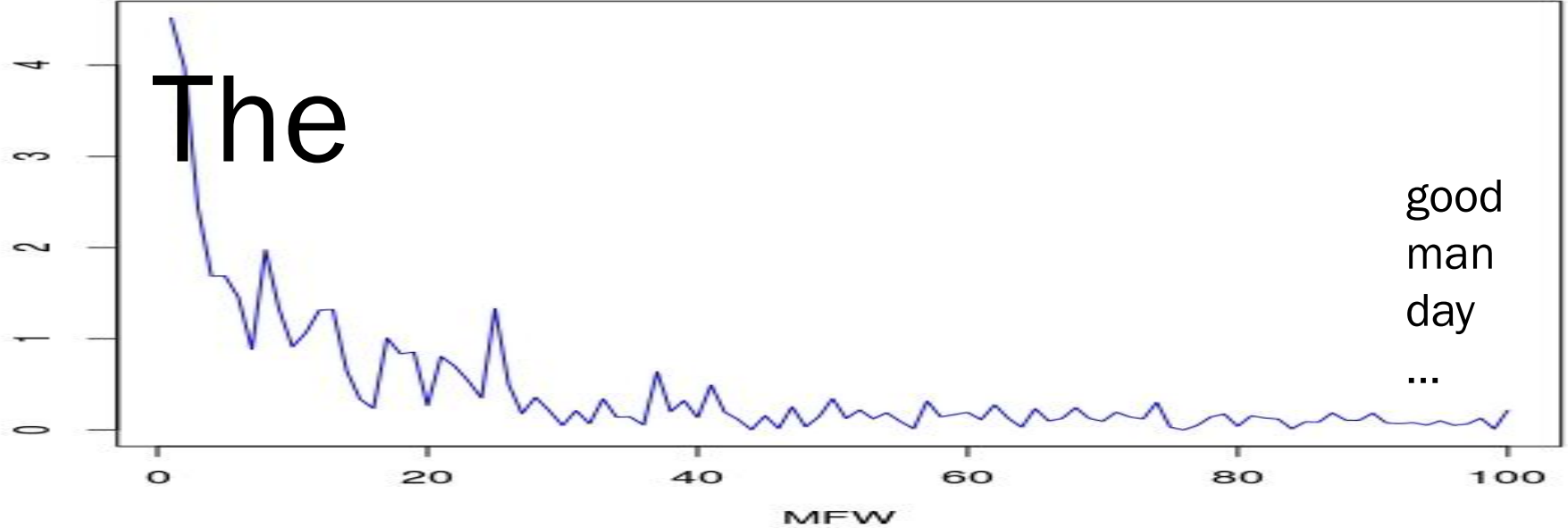
Zeta

results\$stable.with.all.zscores[2, 1:100]



Not-Zeta

results\$stable.with.all.freqs[1, 1:100]



# How the distance is calculated

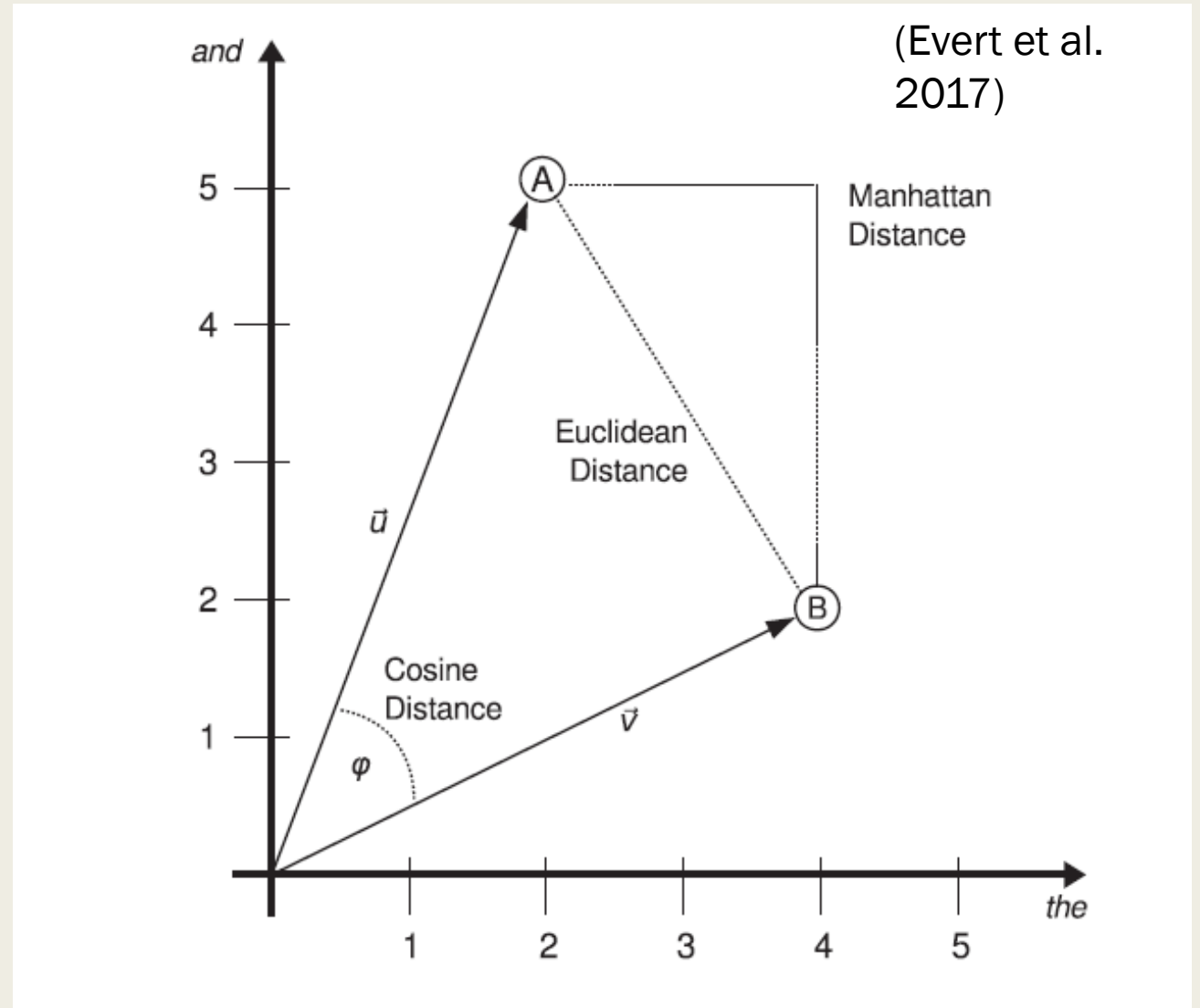
	text A	text B
and	5	2
the	2	4
of	3	5
in	0	1
for	1	0
...	...	...

# How the distance is calculated

	text A	text B
and	5	2
the	2	4
or	3	3
in	0	1
for	1	0
...	...	...

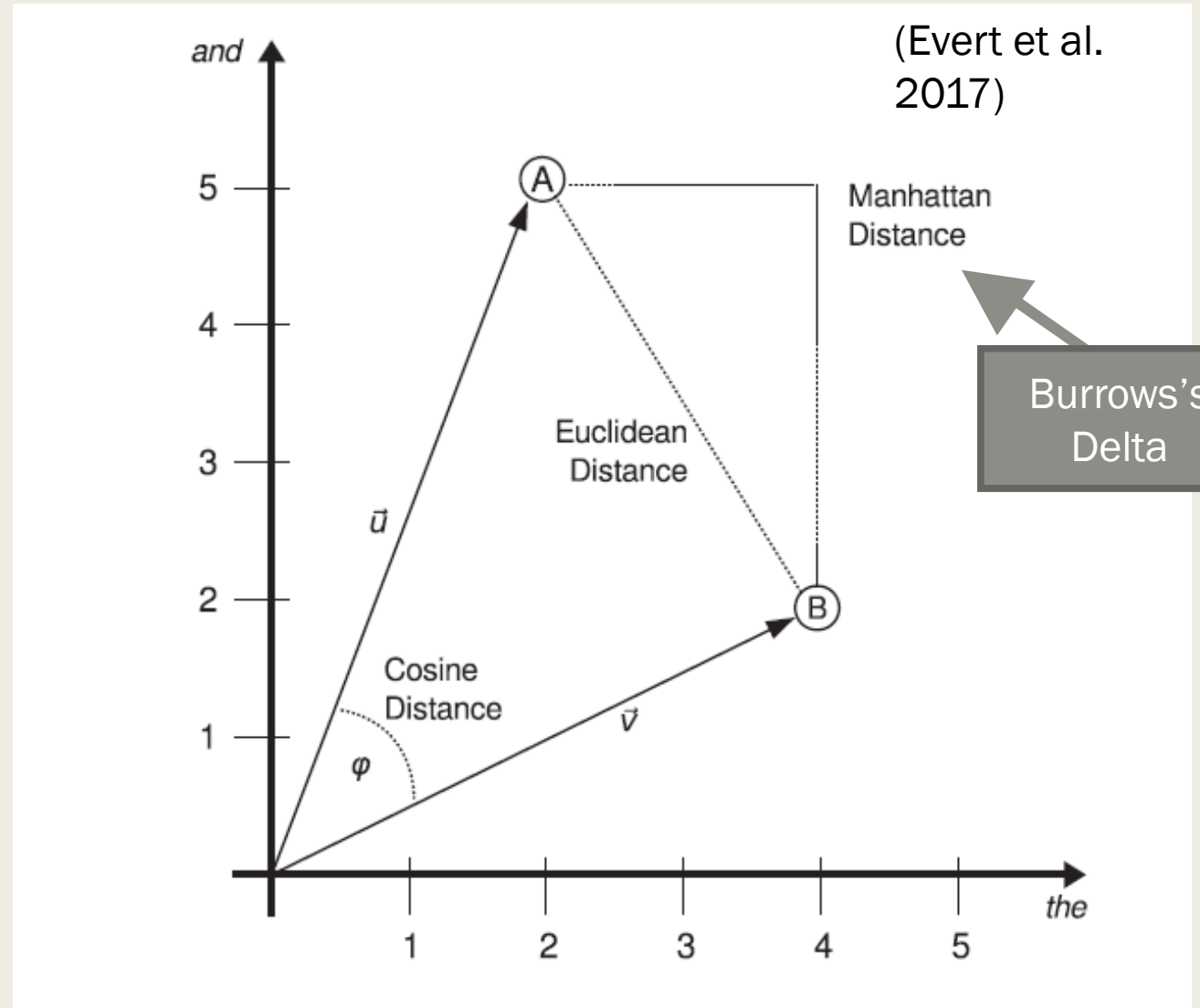
# How the distance is calculated

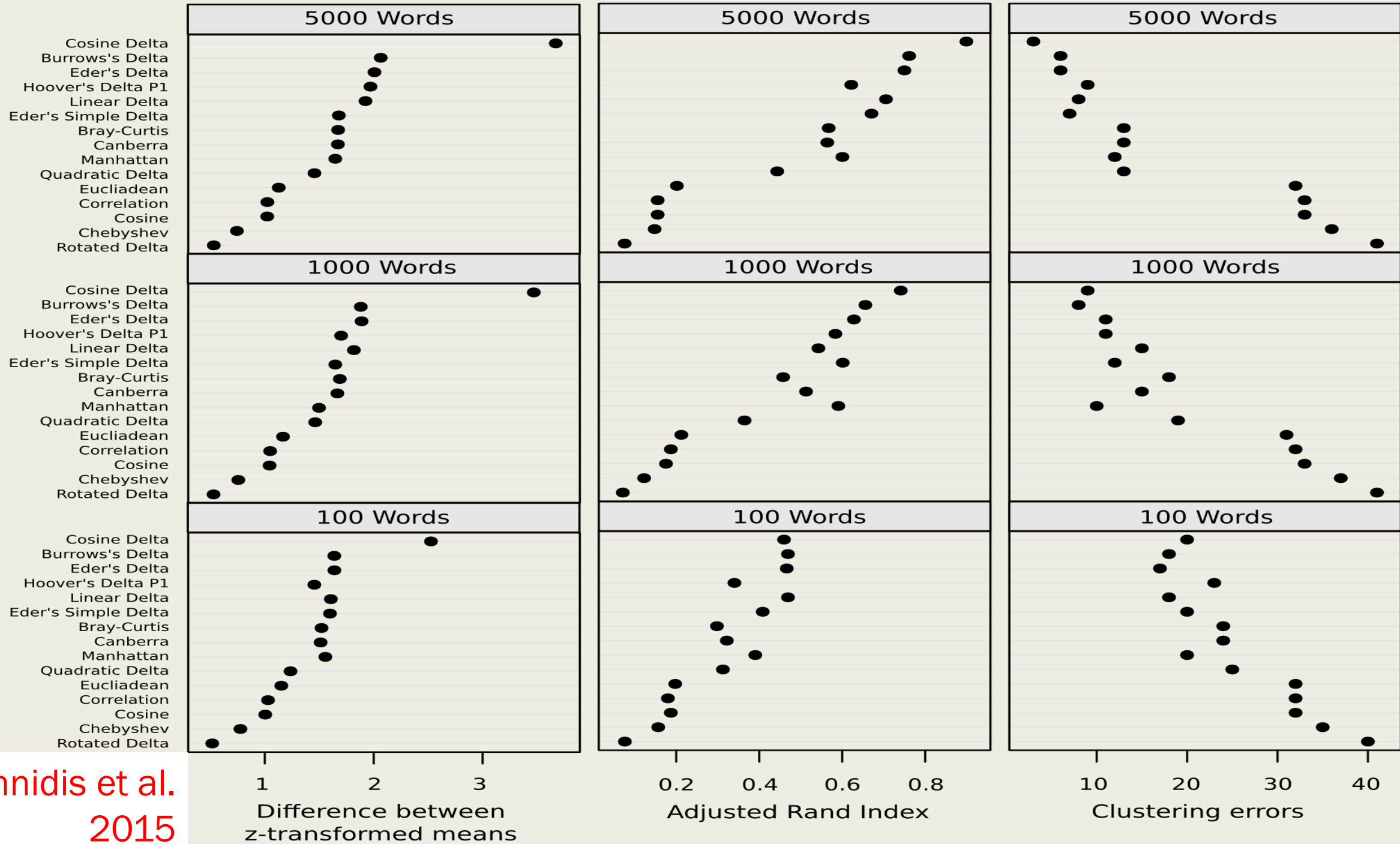
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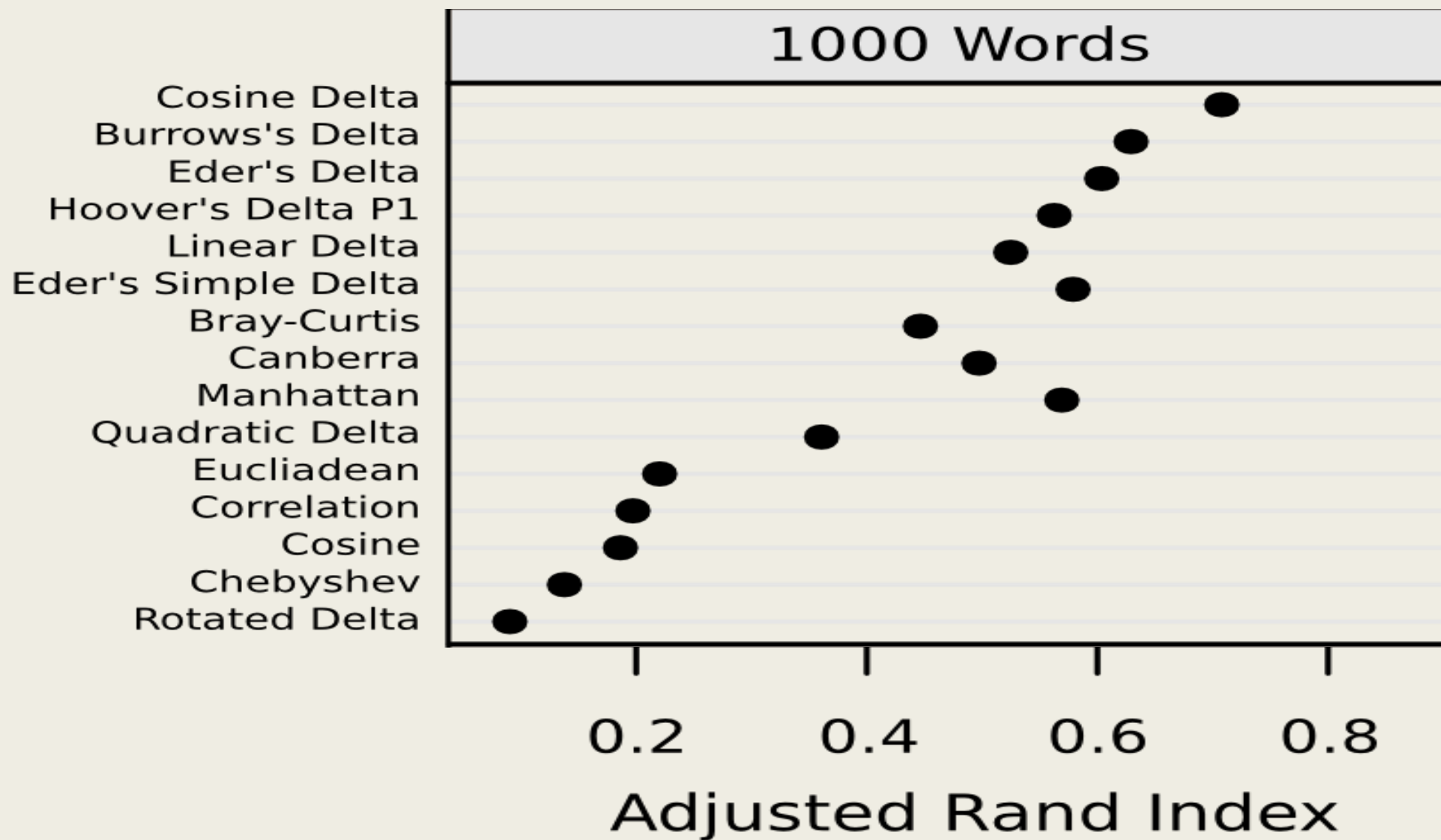


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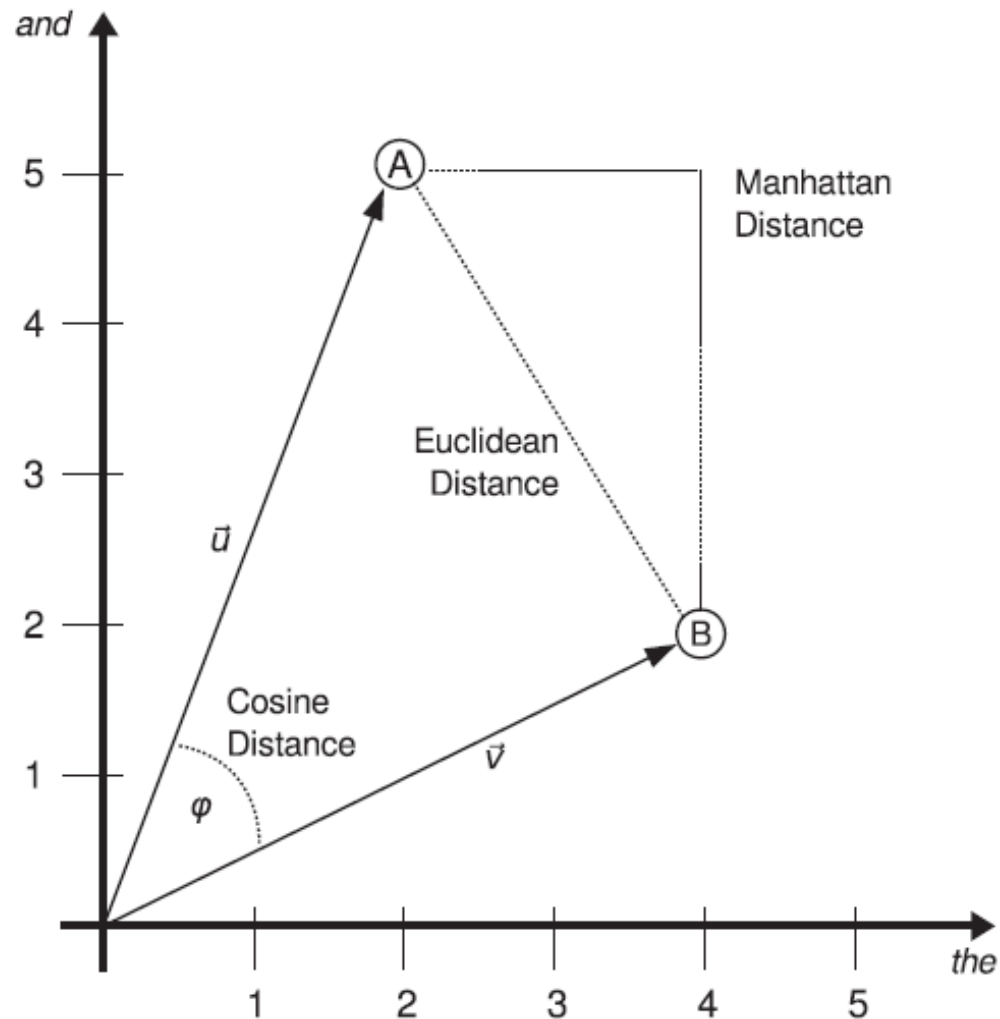




# Delta and Cosine Delta

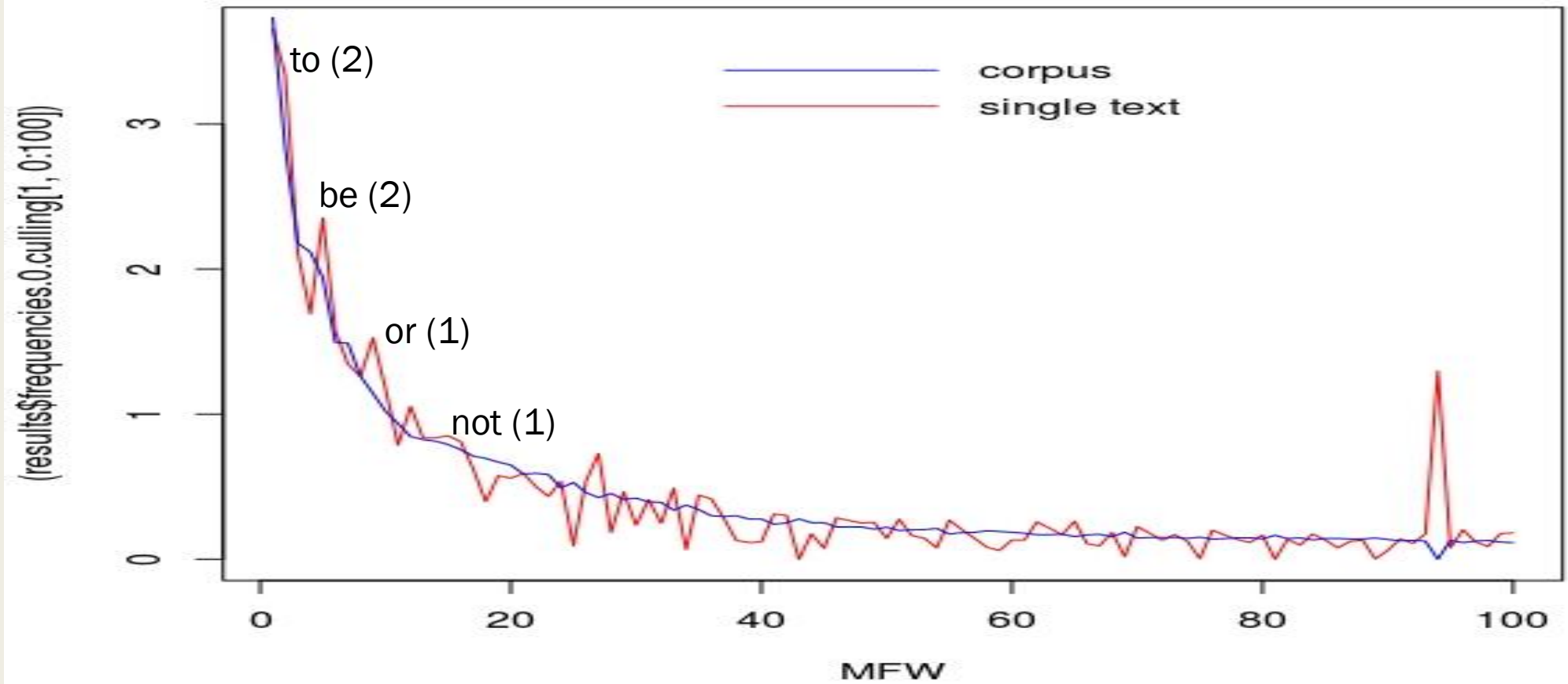
- They measure an angle (or a taxi drive) between two vectors (representing two texts)
- In a n-dimensional space (representing the most frequent words)
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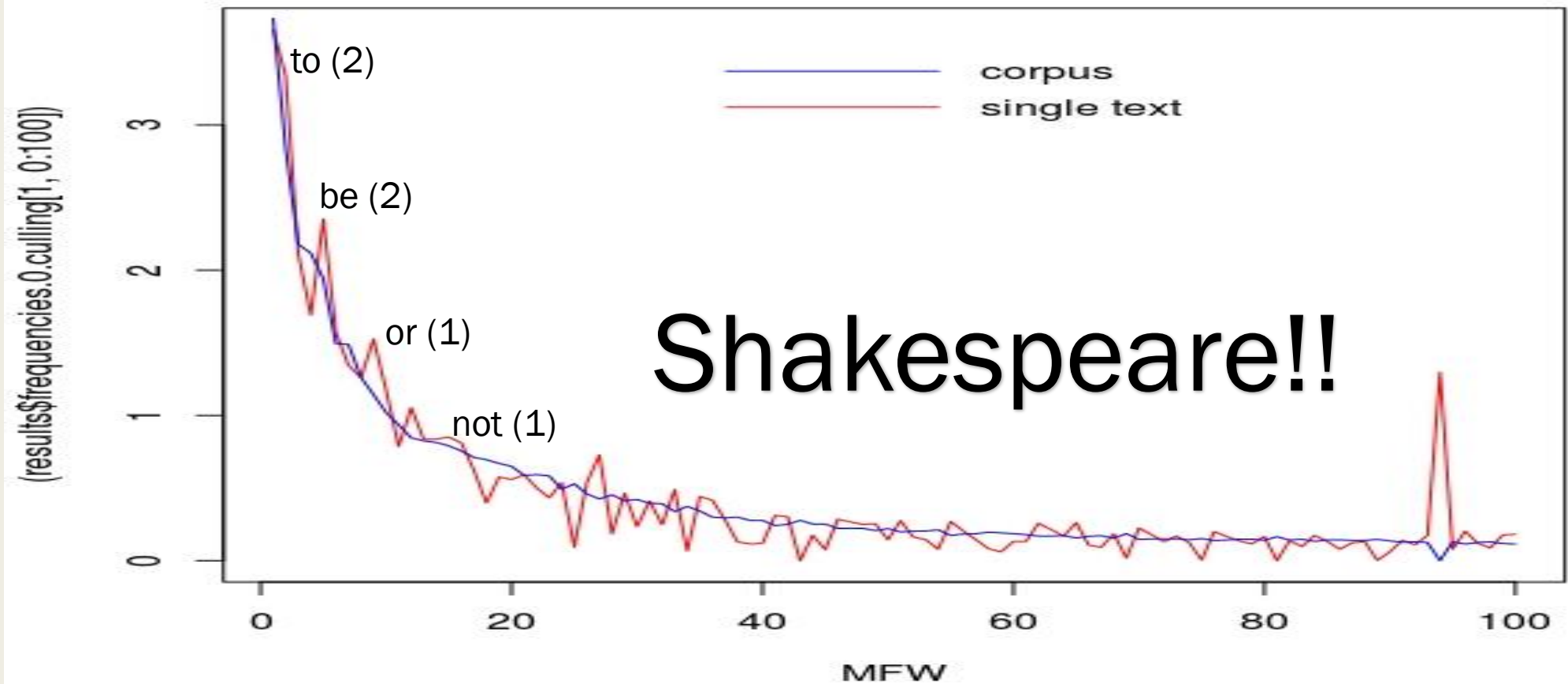


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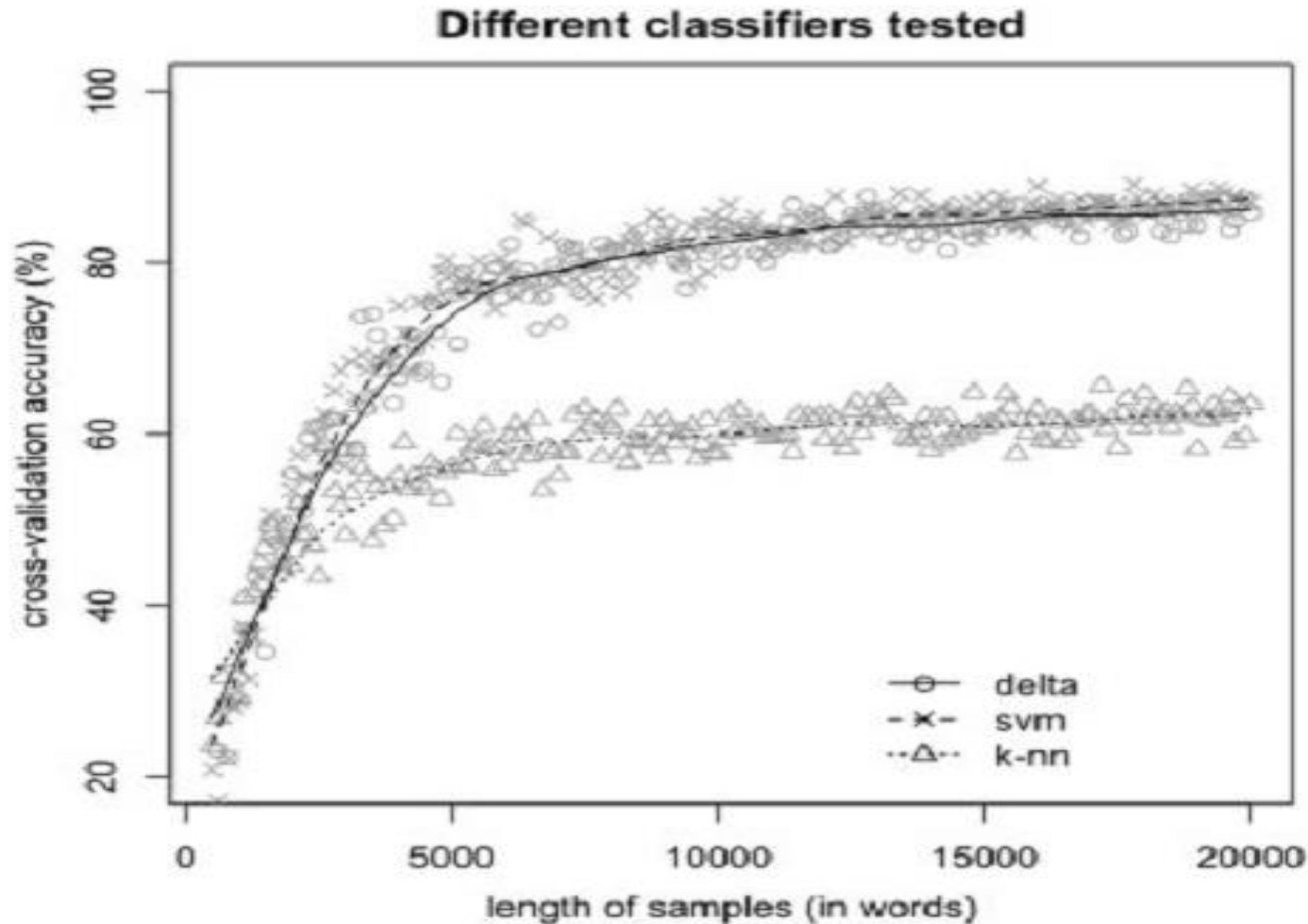
# Caveat! Text Length



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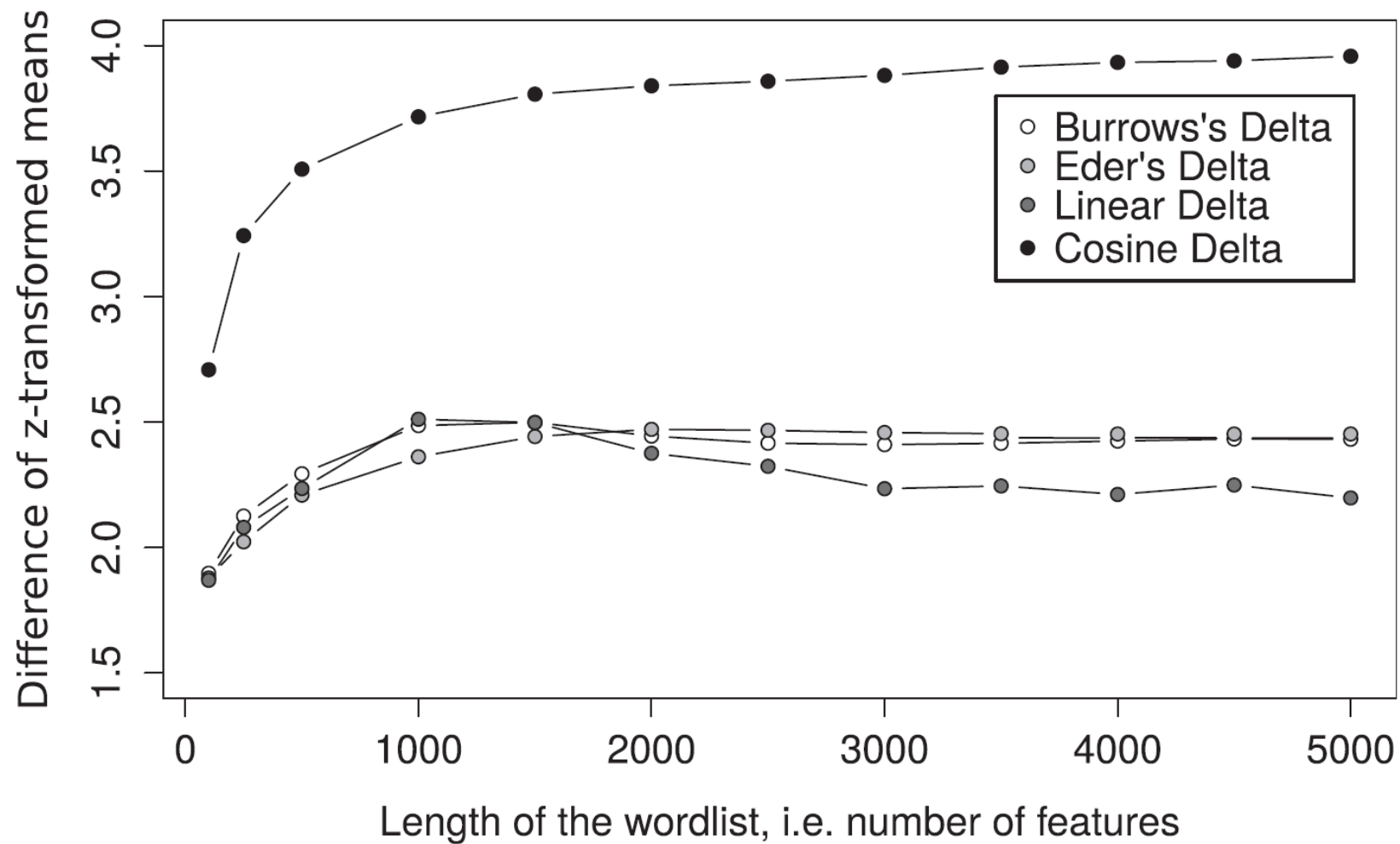


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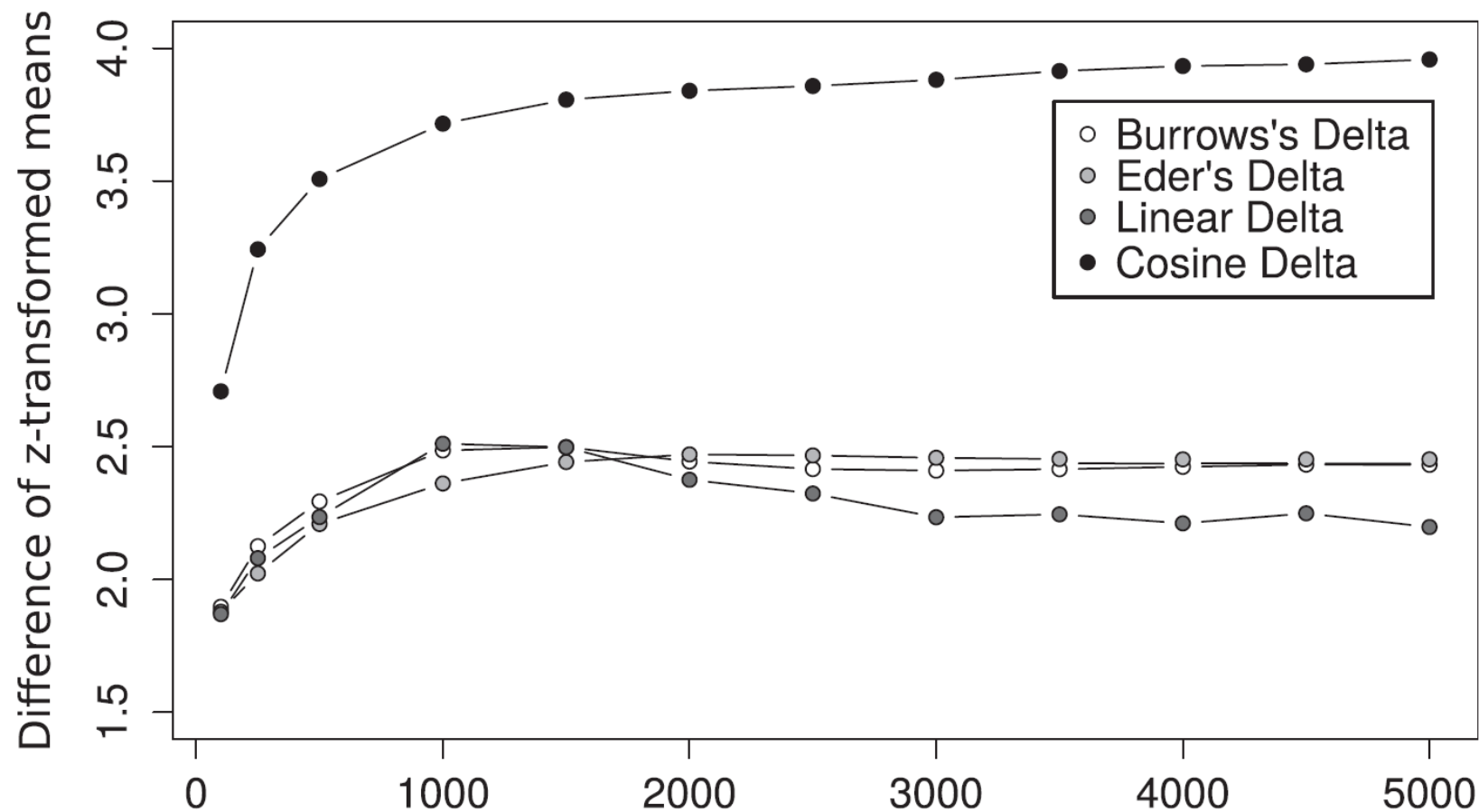
Minimum text length for a reliable stylometric analysis is about 5,000 words (Eder 2015)

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About **2,000**  
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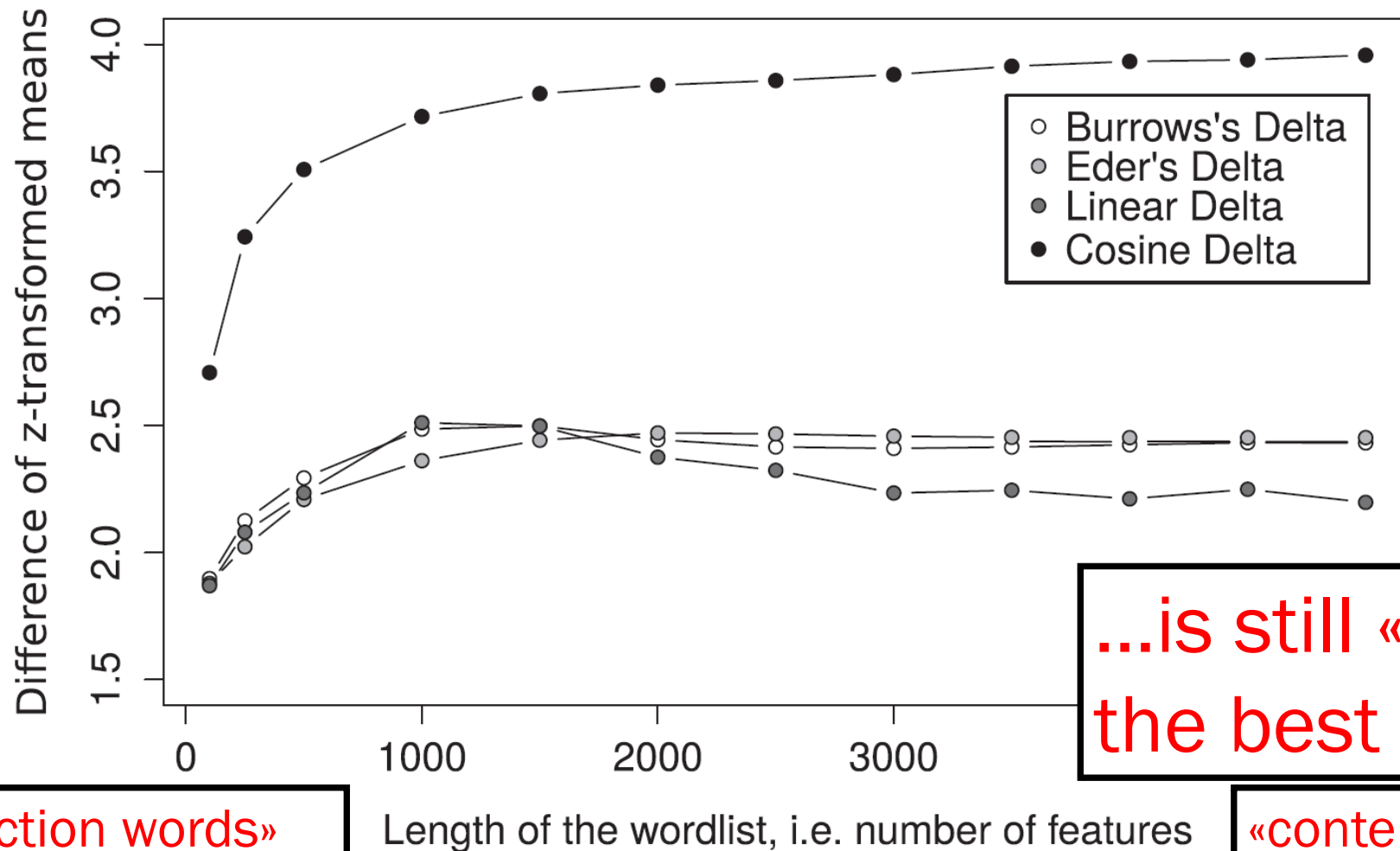
«function words»

Length of the wordlist, i.e. number of features

«content words»



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**...is still «stylometry» the best definition?**

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- ...

**Table 1**

The nine feature categories  $F_1, F_2, \dots, F_9$  used by our method by applying each  $F_i$  on a given document  $\mathcal{D}$ .

Havani et al. 2016

Feature category	Feature description & example	Parameters
$F_1$ : Punctuation $n$ -grams	A sequence of $n$ consecutive punctuation marks (commas, hyphens, etc.) taken from $\mathcal{D}$ after reduction to punctuation characters. This.is/a:sample-text $\xrightarrow{n=3}$ (./:, /:-)	$n \in \{1, 2, \dots, 10\}$
$F_2$ : Character $n$ -grams	A sequence of $n$ consecutive characters in $\mathcal{D}$ . This is a sample text $\xrightarrow{n=3}$ (Thi, his, is_, s_i, _is, is_, s_a, ...)	$n \in \{1, 2, \dots, 10\}$
$F_3$ : $n\%$ frequent tokens	The $n\%$ most frequently occurring tokens in $\mathcal{D}$ .	$n \in \{5, 10, \dots, 50\}$
$F_4$ : Token $k$ -prefixes	The first $k$ characters of a token. This is a sample text $\xrightarrow{n=2}$ (Th, is, sa, te)	$k \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$
$F_5$ : Token $k$ -suffixes	The last $k$ characters of a token. This is a sample text $\xrightarrow{n=2}$ (is, is, le, xt)	$k \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$
$F_6$ : Token $k$ -prefix $n$ -grams	The first $k$ characters of each token within a token $n$ -gram. This is a sample text $\xrightarrow{n=2}$ (This_is, is_a, a_sample, sample_text) $\xrightarrow{k=2}$ (Th_is, sa_te)	$n \in \{2, 3, 4\}, k \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$
$F_7$ : Token $k$ -suffix $n$ -grams	The last $k$ characters of each token within a token $n$ -gram. This is a sample text $\xrightarrow{n=2}$ (This_is, is_a, a_sample, sample_text) $\xrightarrow{k=2}$ (is_is, le_xt)	$n \in \{2, 3, 4\}, k \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$
$F_8$ : $n$ -prefixes– $k$ -suffixes	The first $n$ and last $k$ characters of a token. This is a sample text $\xrightarrow{n,k=2}$ (Th_is, is, sa_le, te_xt)	$n, k \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$
$F_9$ : $n$ -suffixes– $k$ -prefixes	The last $n$ characters of a token and the first $k$ characters of the next token. This is a sample text $\xrightarrow{n=3, k=2}$ (his_is, ple_te)	$n, k \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$

# Technology

The research carried out at PAN's shared tasks informs the development of new digital text forensics technology. For reproducibility sake, the prototypes submitted for evaluation are made available by participants open source, as executables on TIRA, or both. The choice of license is at the discretion of participants, who retain copyright of their software.

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## Code

### PAN at GitHub

PAN maintains a code repository for the digital text forensics at GitHub at [github.com/pan-webis-de](https://github.com/pan-webis-de). Since many participants of PAN's shared tasks have expressed interest to share their code with the digital text forensics community, our repository provides for a central place to do so.



#### How to get access?

Viewing PAN's repository is simple: just

#### Why share at all?

Many researchers do not share their

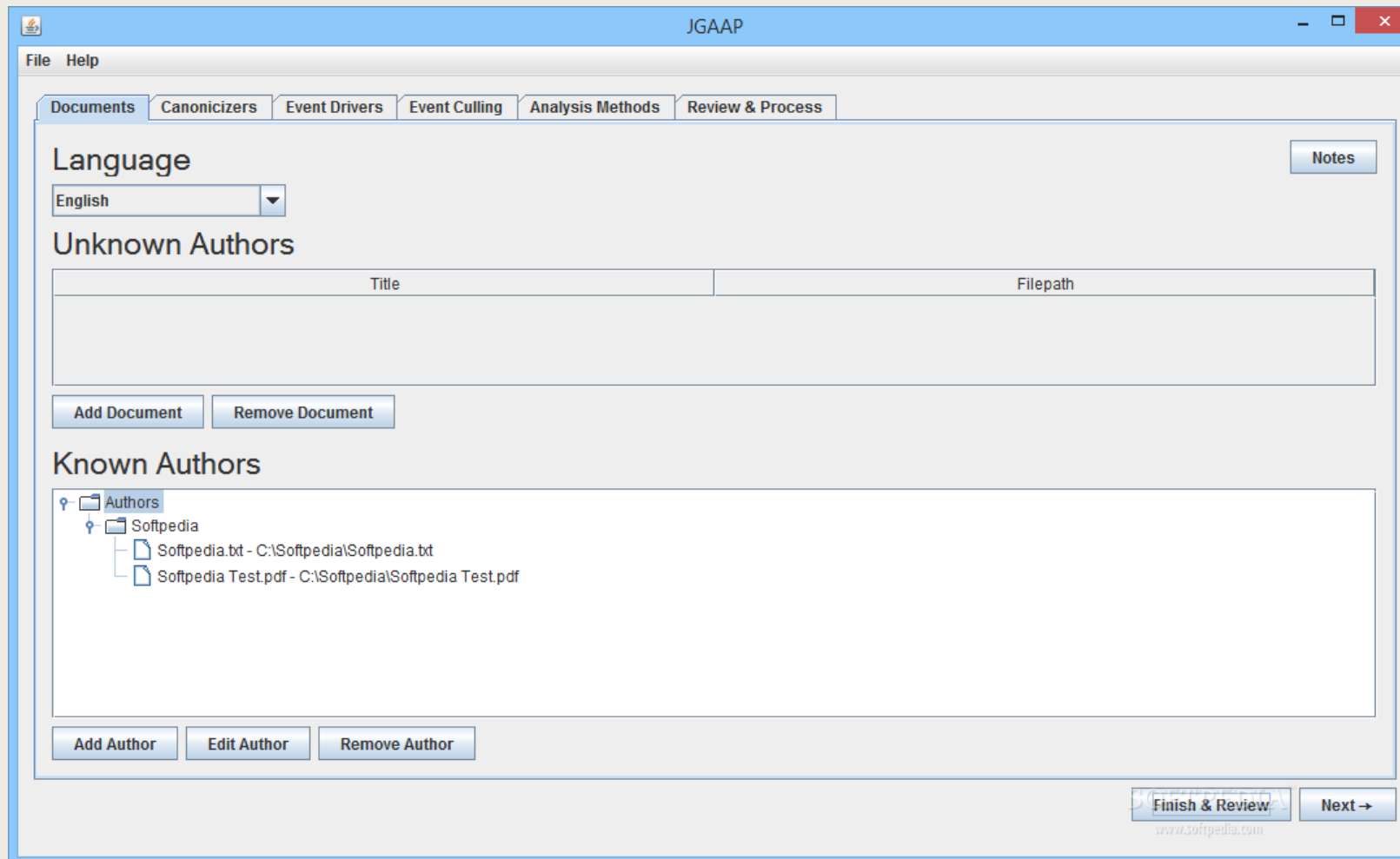
#### How to share my code?

To get started, send us an email with the

#### What are the terms?

- **Authors retain copyright** of all their

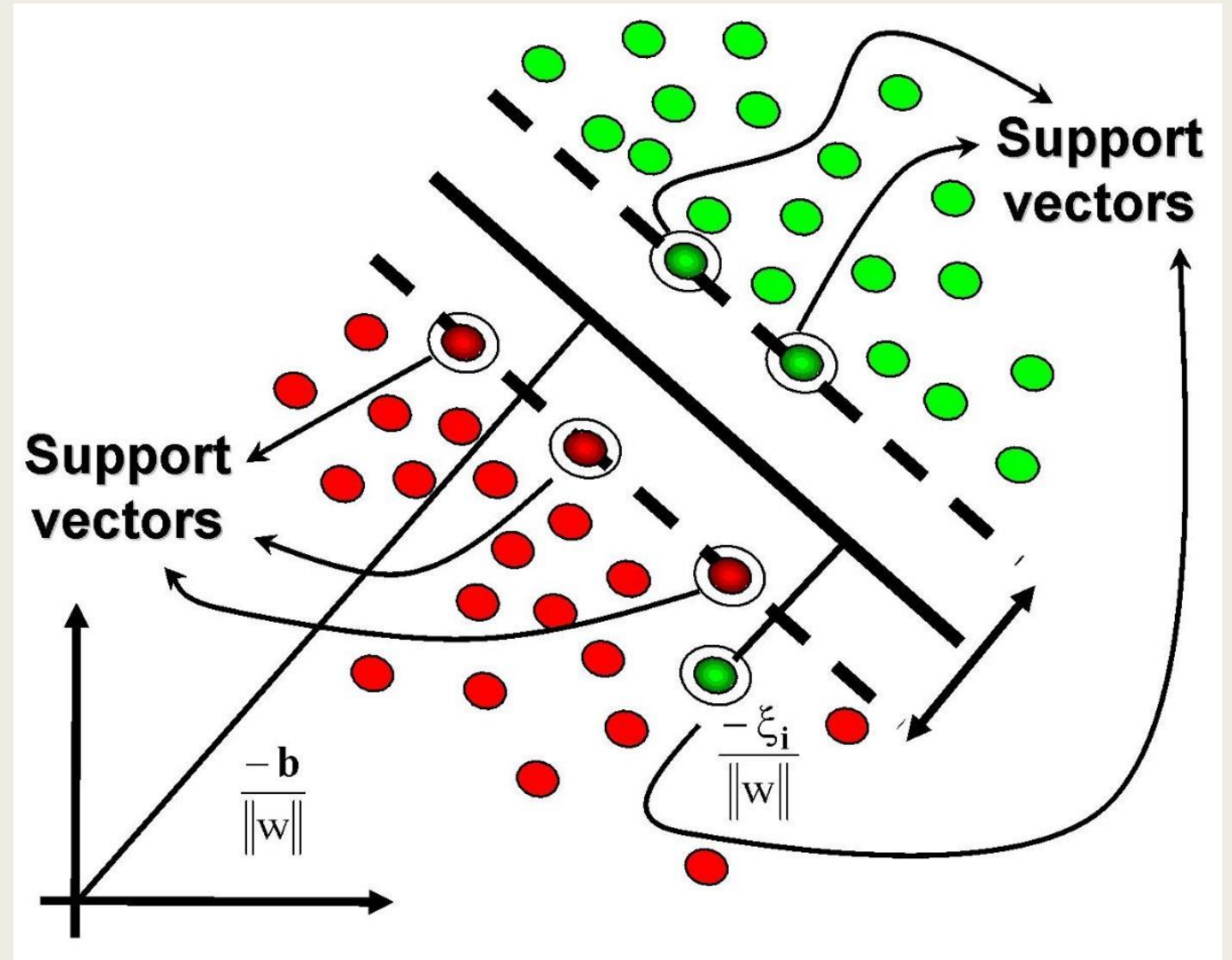
# JGAAP -> authorship attribution with thousands of features!



Not only distance  
measures...

# Machine Learning

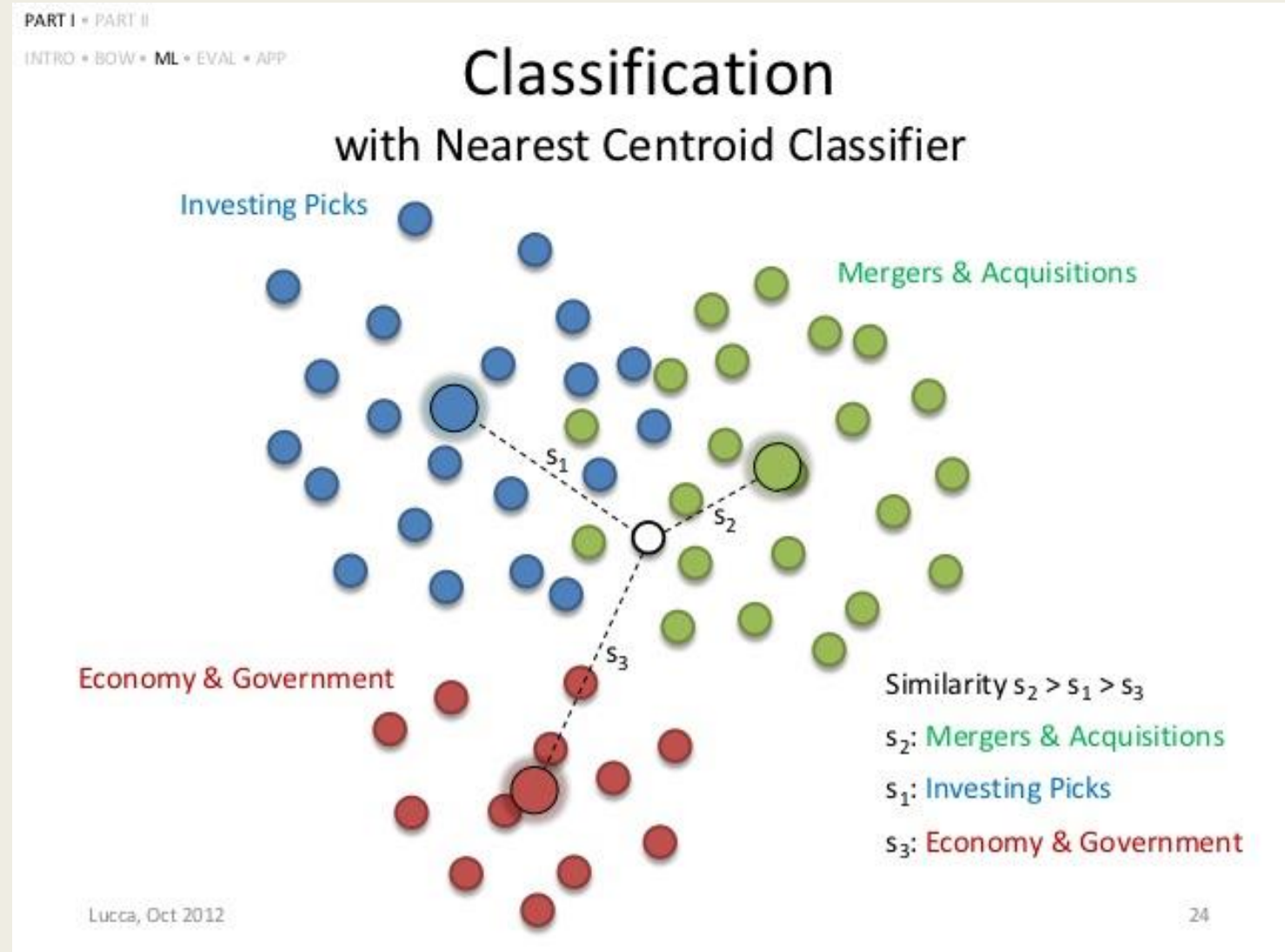
- Support Vector Machines





# Machine Learning

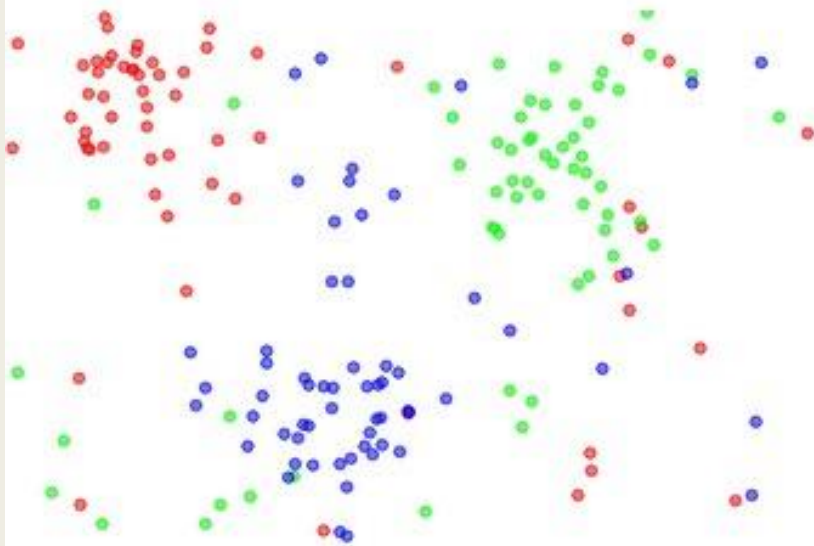
- Nearest Shrunken Centroids



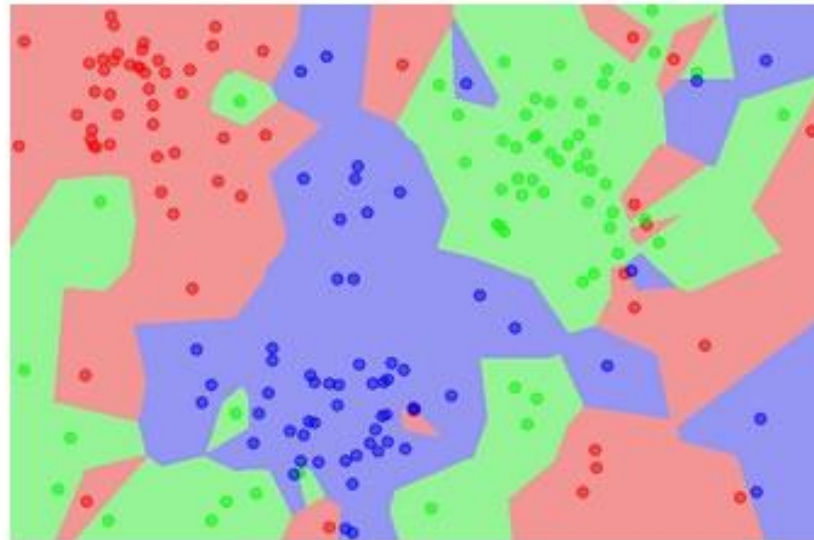
# Machine Learning

- k-NN

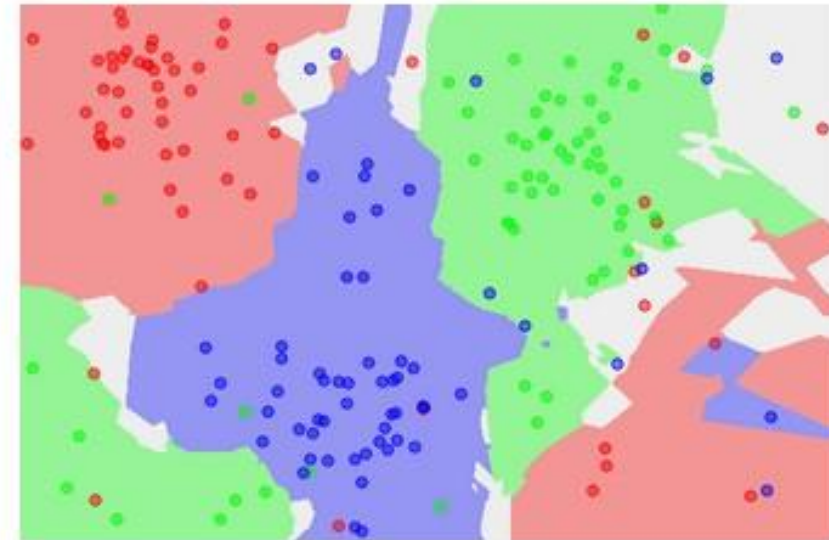
the data



NN classifier



5-NN classifier



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- The corpus is divided in two parts:  
training set  
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- The algorithms «learn» to distinguish the authors by working on the training set
- ...and they are «tested» on the test set

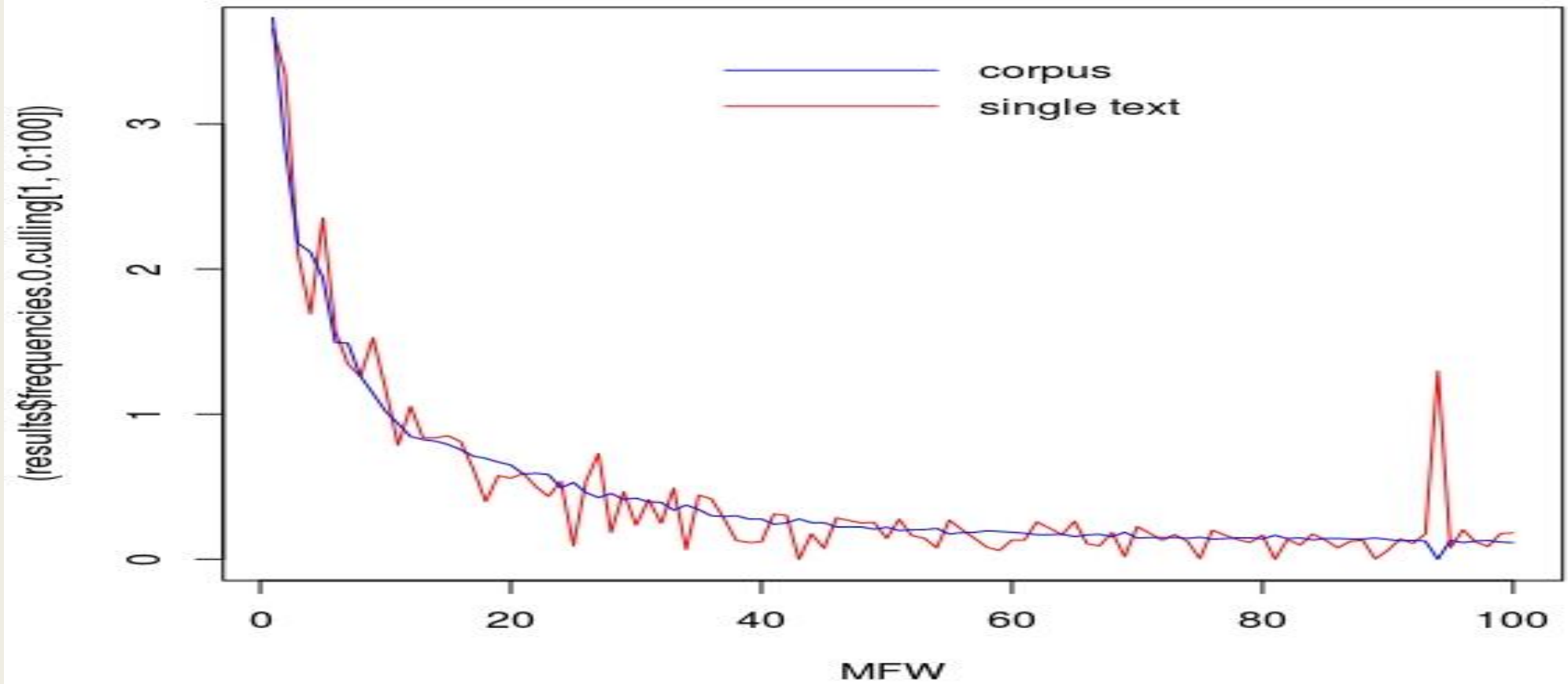
# Keyness analysis



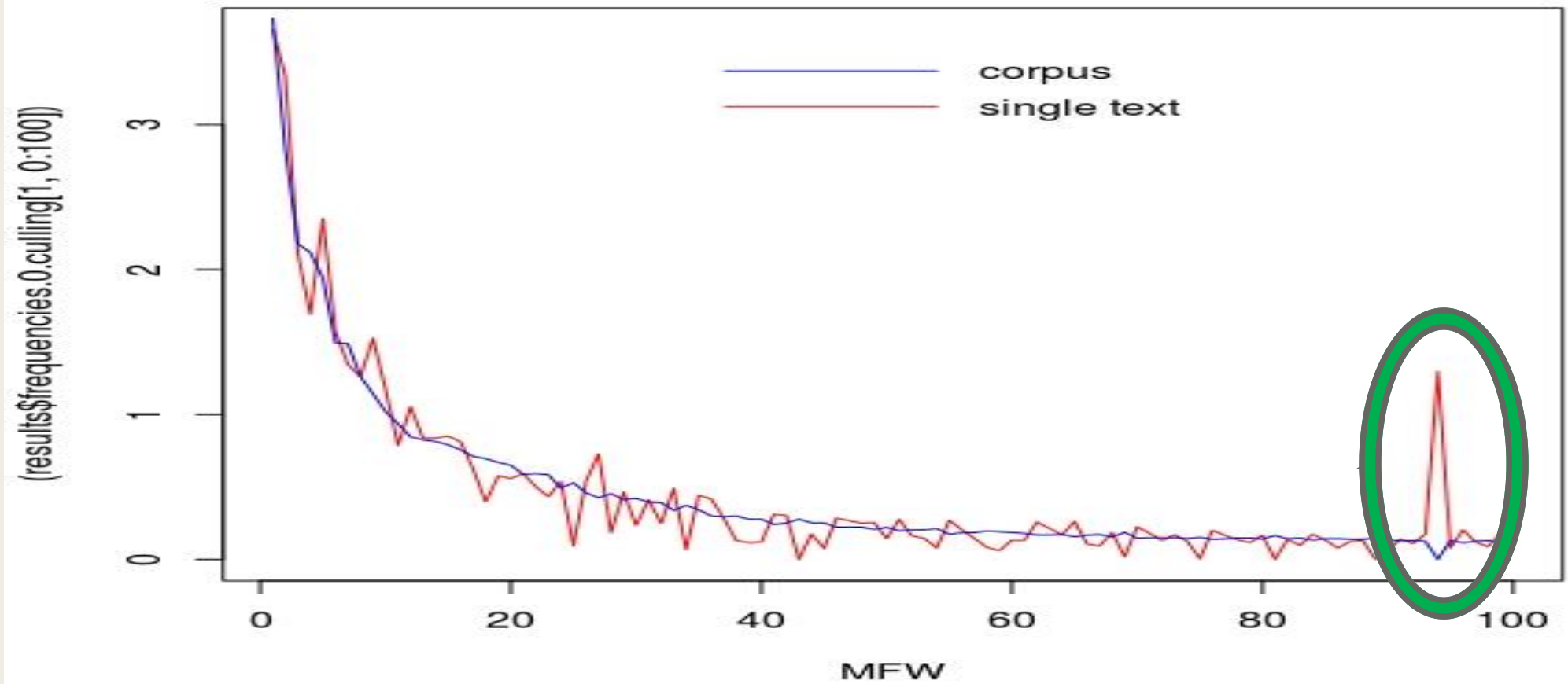
# Keyness Analysis

“This established measure of corpus stylistics (cf. Hoover et al., 2015) compares the frequencies of single words included in some text (collection) with those obtained in a (normally larger) reference corpus. It outputs a long list of words that deviate statistically from that reference corpus (cf. Rayson, 2012; Scott & Tribble, 2006). Here, the reference corpus acts as a statistical ‘norm’ against which the word use in the text(s) under scrutiny may be compared. The examined words, depending on whether they deviate positively or negatively, are thus “over-” or “under-represented” with regard to that norm.” (Herrmann 2017)

# Keyness Analysis



# Keyness Analysis



# Zeta Analysis



# Zeta Analysis

Pick up a word:  
«fou» (for example)

Text A



Text B



3,000 words 3,000 words ... ..

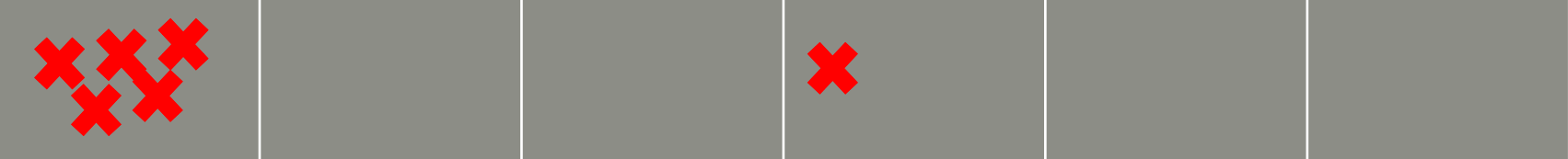
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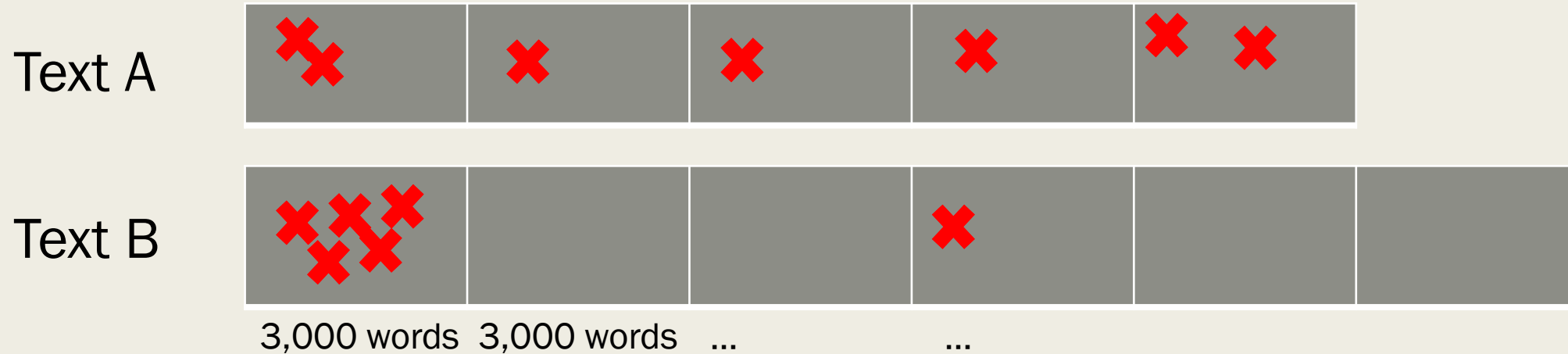
Text B



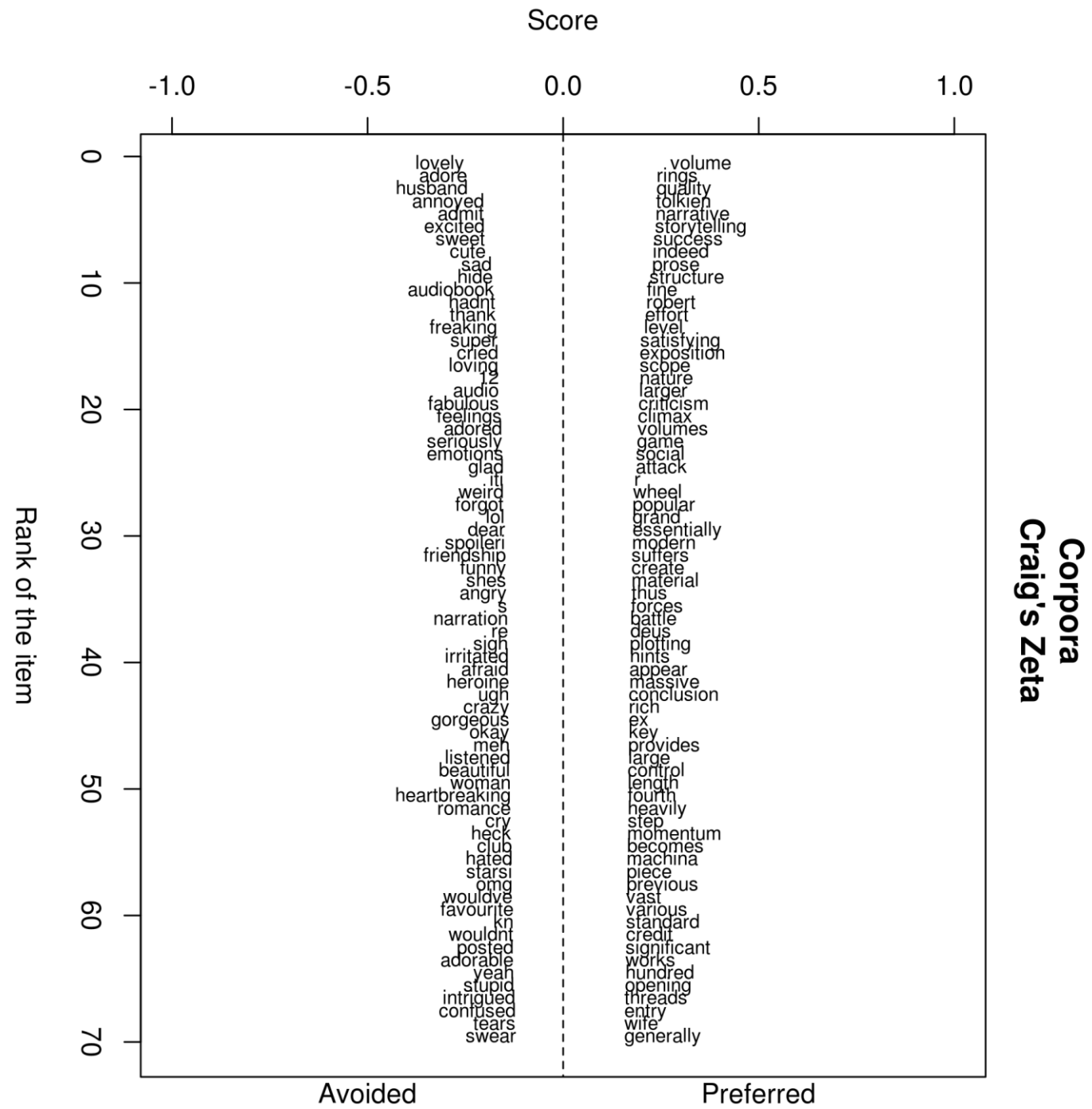
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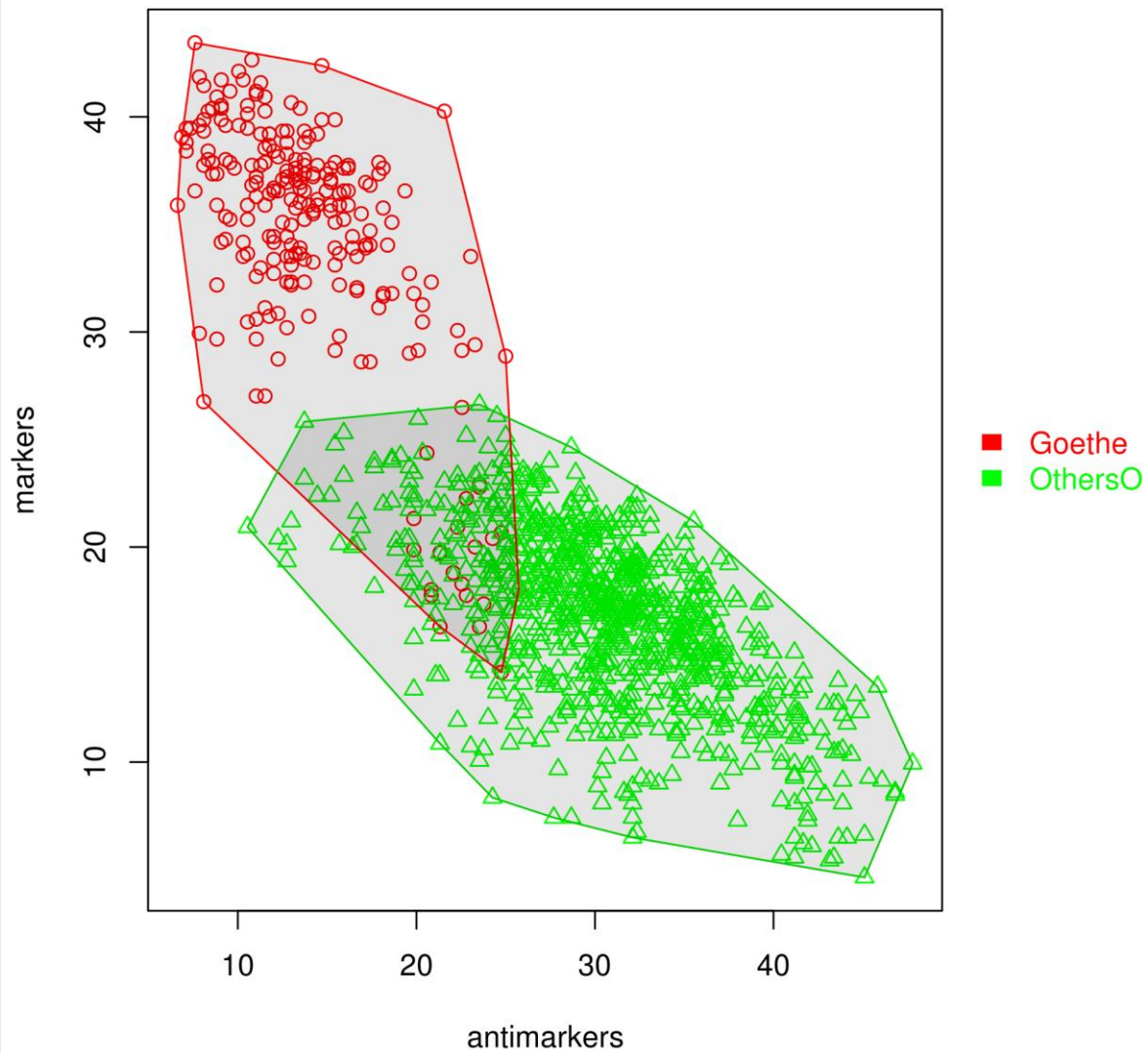


- **Count** in how many slices of the text appears the word «fou»
- **Calculate** the proportion  
Text A: 1 (100%); text B: 0.33 (33%)
- **Subtract** the two values  
(so the word «fou» has Zeta = 0.66 for Text A)
- **Repeat** the operation for all the words in the two texts

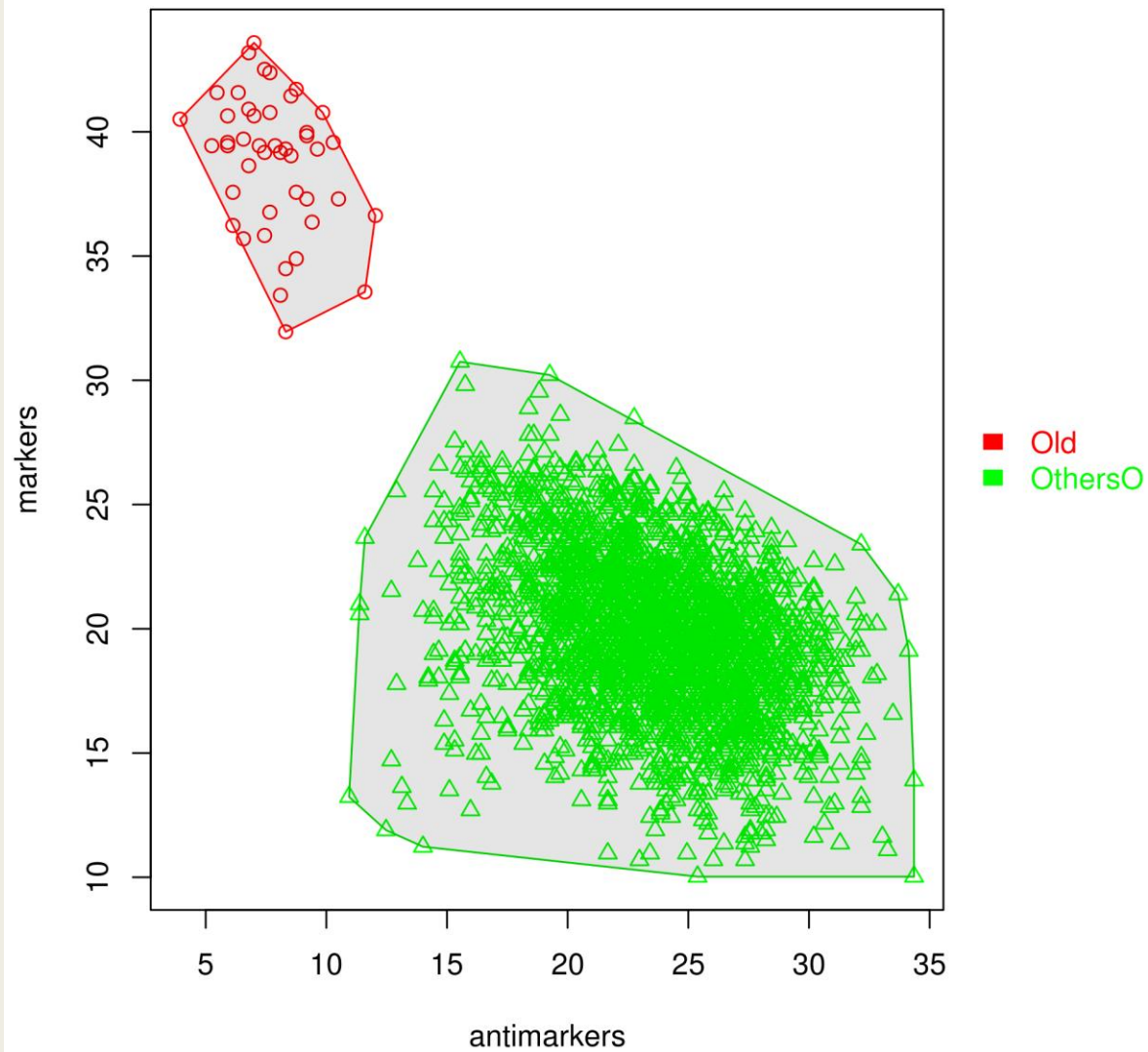




Kolimo\_experiment  
Craig's Zeta



Kolimo\_experiment  
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Log-likelihood

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- “[...] rather than two groups of texts characterized by different word rates, **this hypothesis claims that there is, in fact, a single group.** Words are examined one at a time; those **words for which this hypothesis seems most wrong will be counted as distinctive**” (Riddell 2015)

# Log-likelihood formula

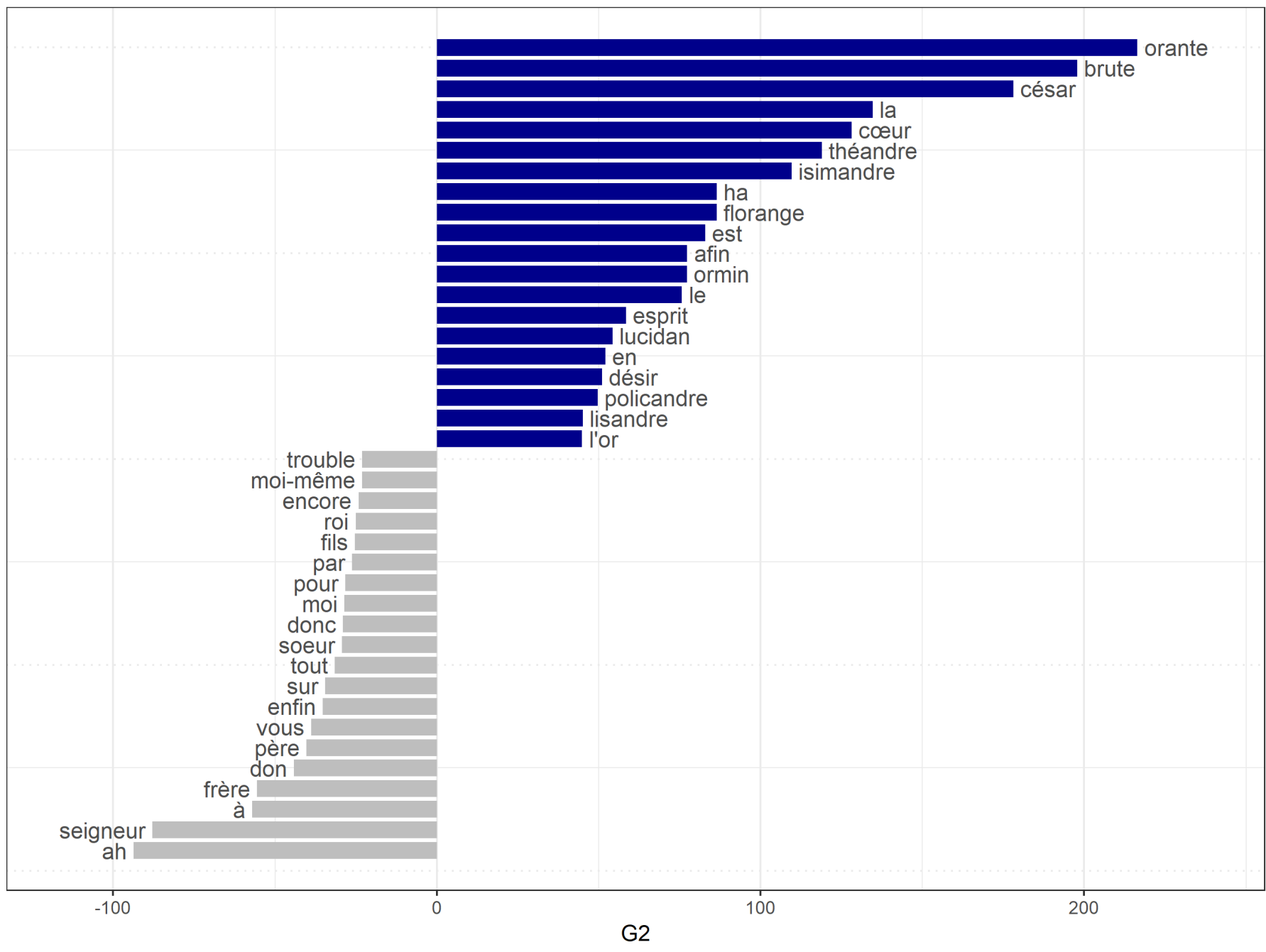
$$\sum_i O_i \times \ln \frac{O_i}{E_i}$$

O

	«fou»	Not «fou»
Text a	11	388592
Text b	96	445265

E

	«fou»	Not «fou»
Text a	48.06	388553
Text b	51.94	445303

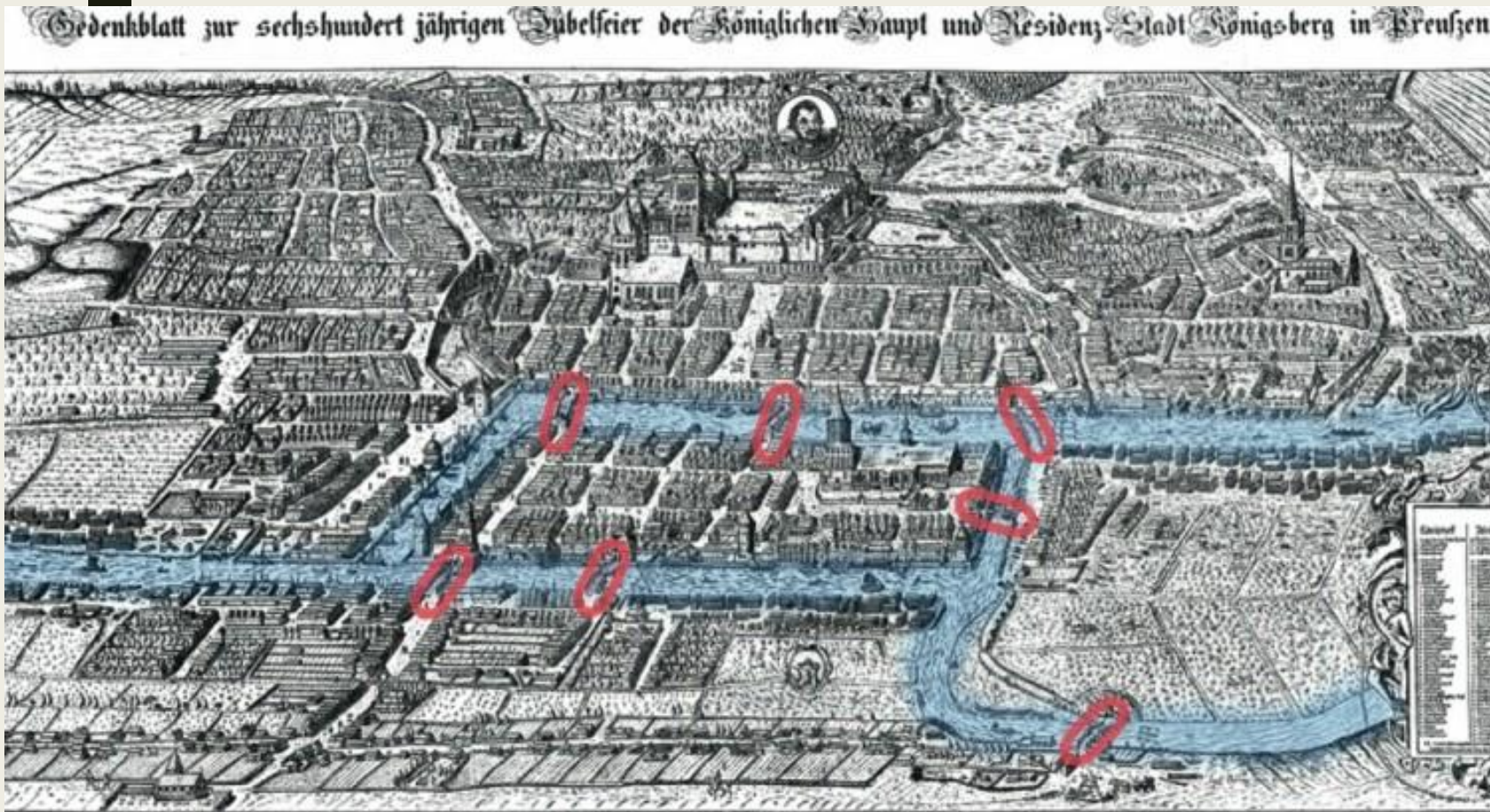


■ Scudery  
 ■ Others

# Network analysis



# Seven Bridges of Königsberg



“The problem was to devise a walk through the city that would cross each of those bridges once and only once.

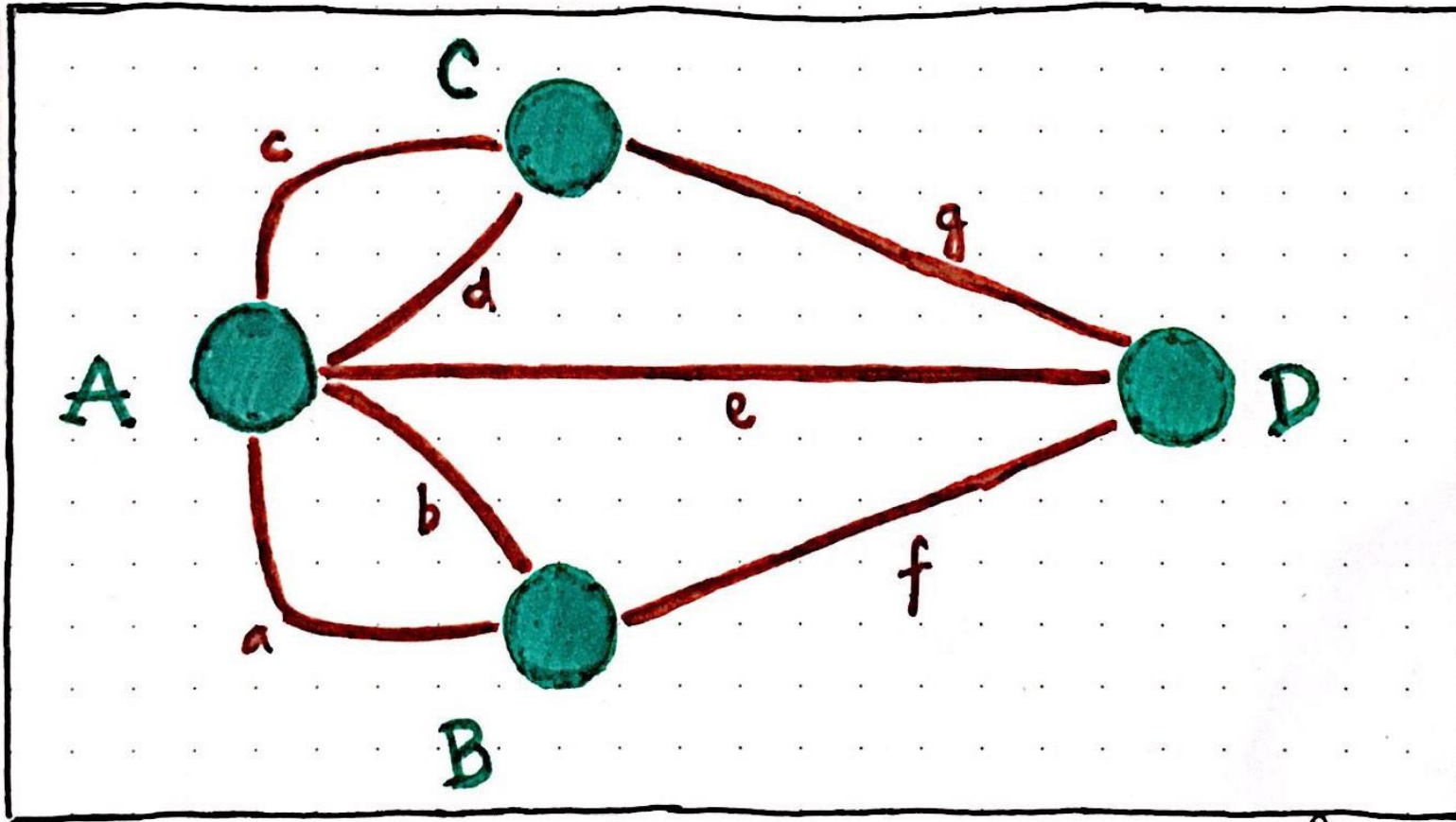
[...]

Euler proved that **the problem has no solution.**”

(Wikipedia)



# Seven Bridges of Königsberg



The Seven Bridges of Königsberg — Revisualized

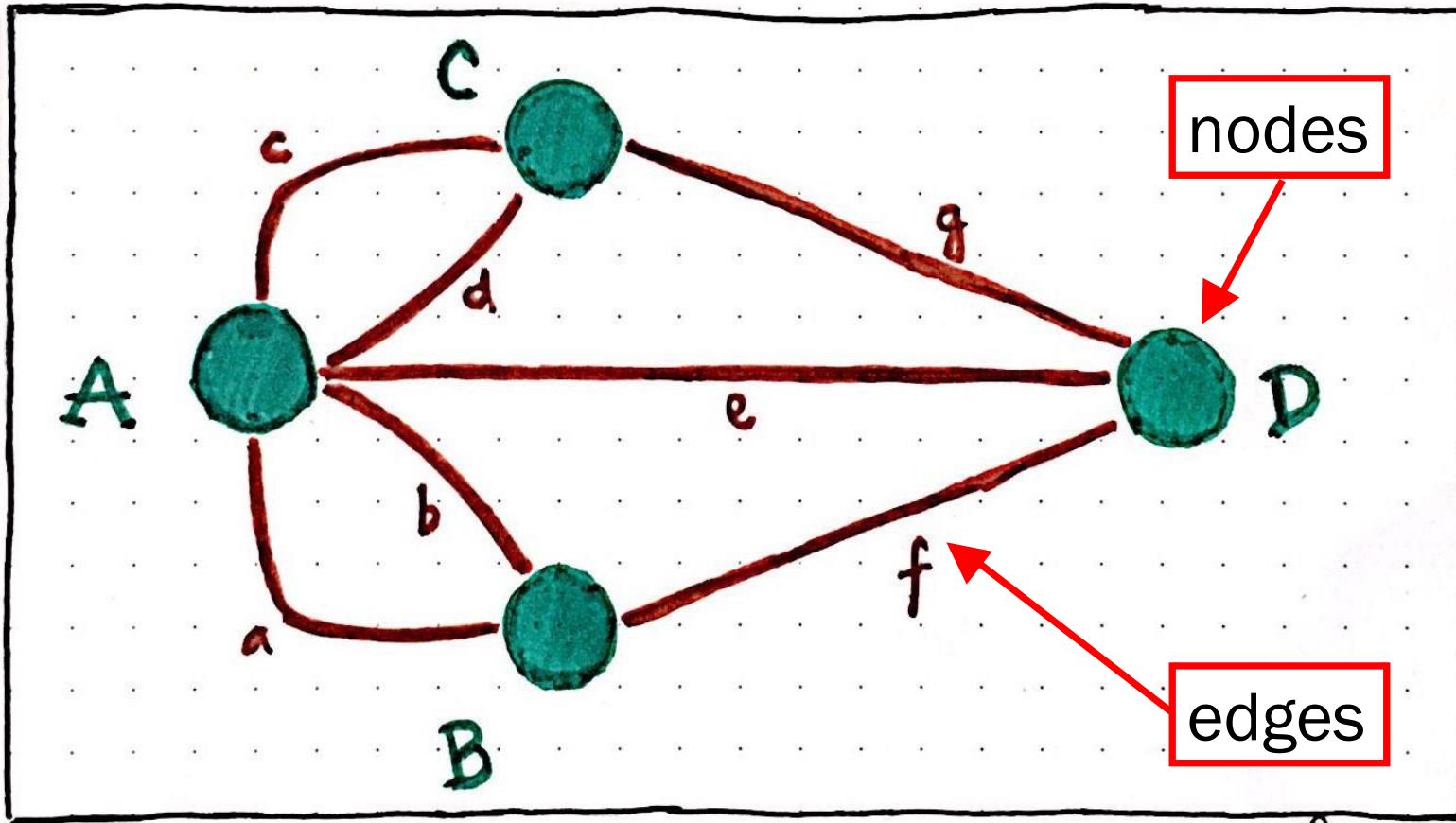
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# Seven Bridges of Königsberg



“The problem was to devise a walk through the city that would cross each of those bridges once and only once.

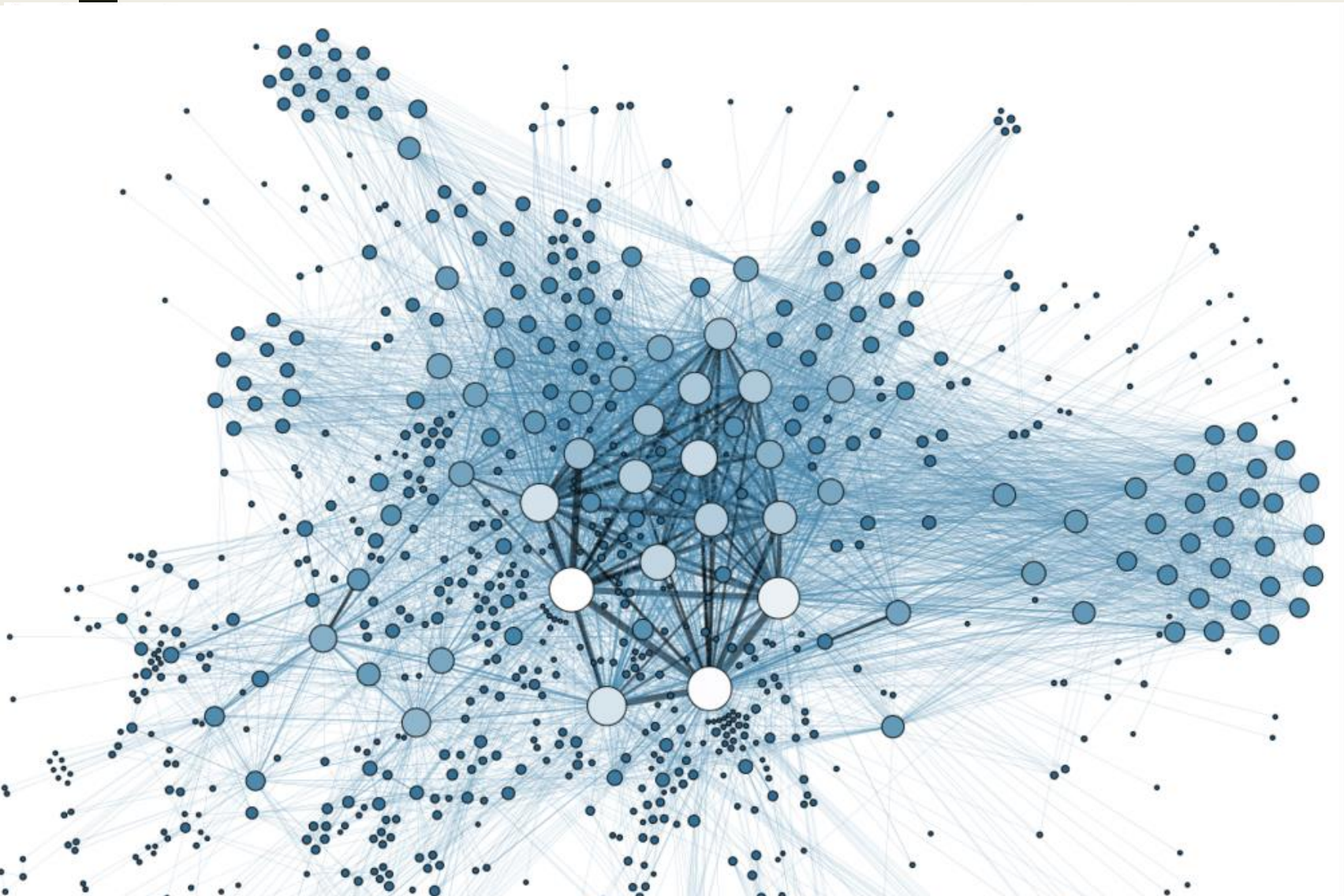
[...]

Euler proved that **the problem has no solution.**”

(Wikipedia)

*The Seven Bridges of Königsberg — Revisualized*

# Seven Bridges of Königsberg



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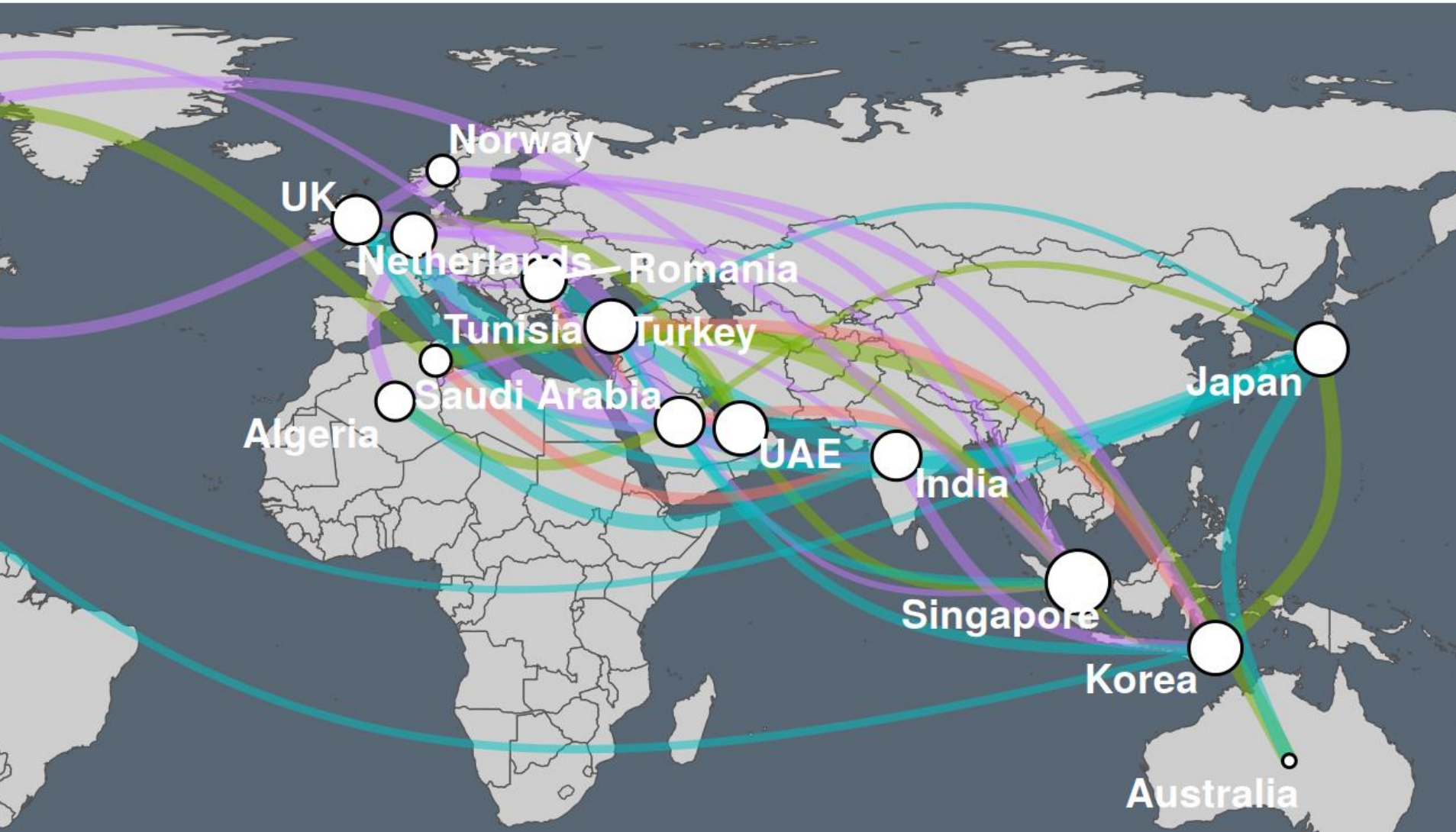
[...]

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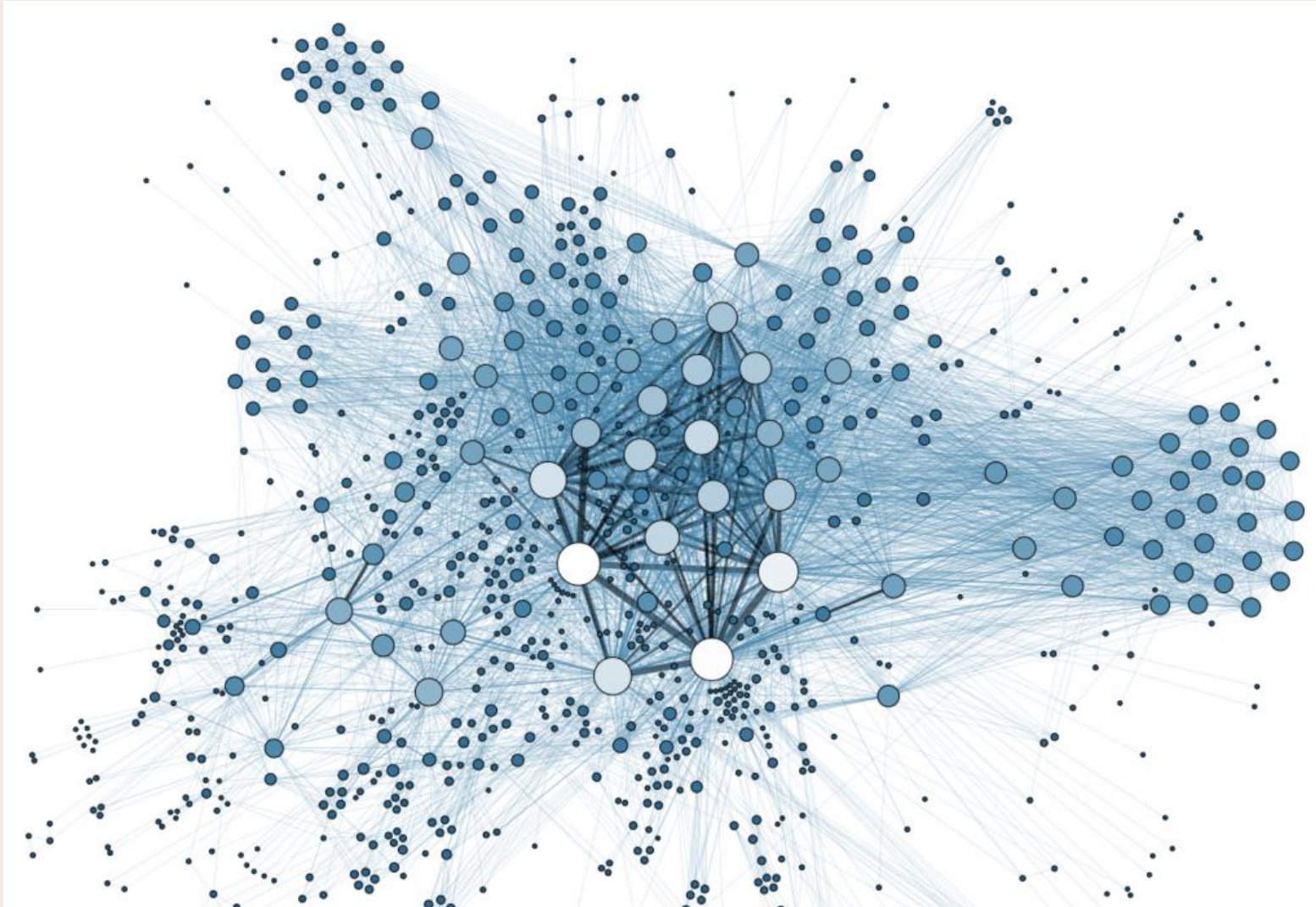


# Geo-coded networks



The position of the nodes is fixed on the map

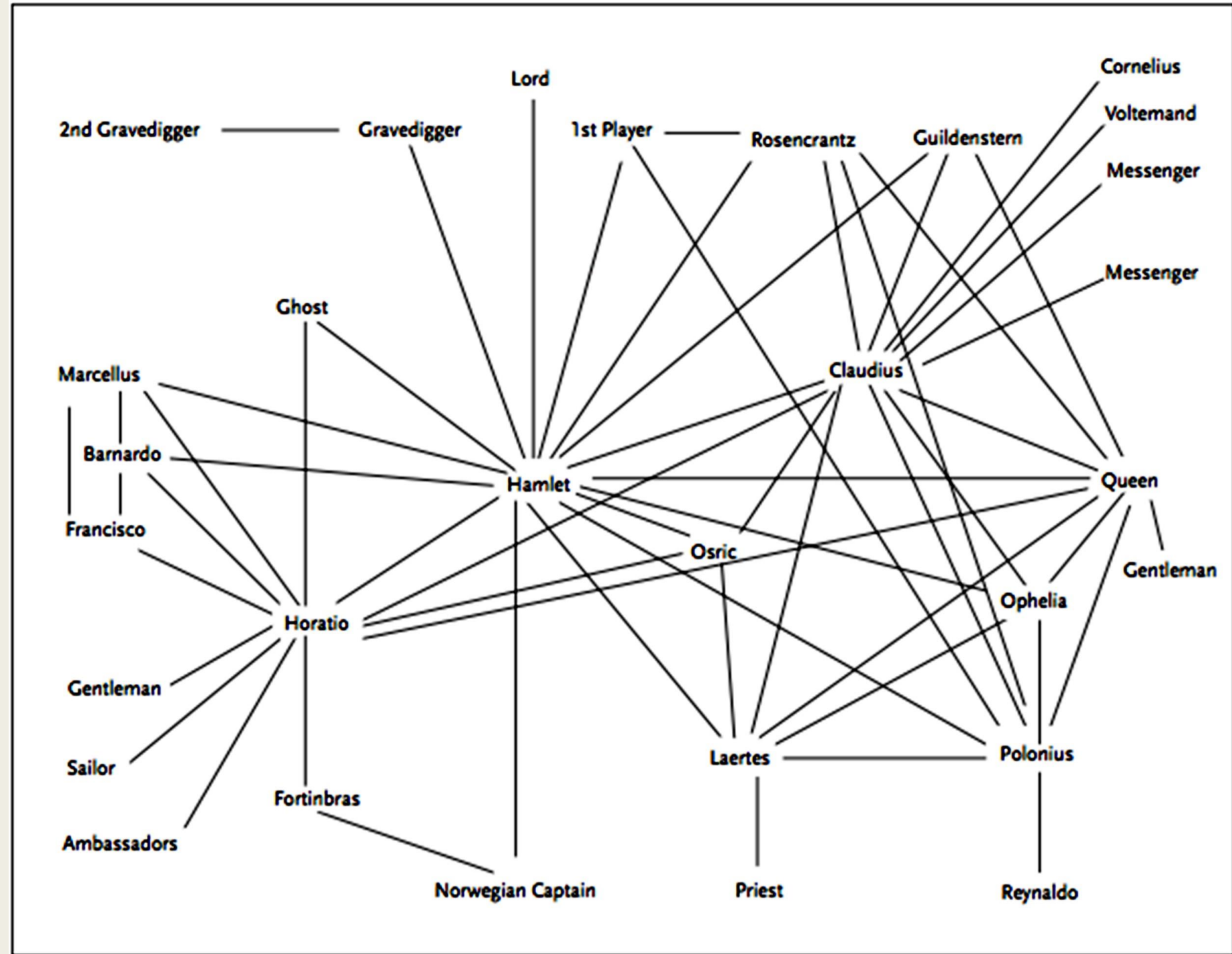
# «Bootstrap» networks



The position of the nodes is determined by the strength of their connections (i.e. by the edge's «weight»)



# Character Networks



(cf. Moretti 2011)

# Network Analysis of 200 years of (German) theater

## Distant Reading Showcase

200 Jahre deutsche Dramen-geschichte auf einen Blick

Rechts im Bild sind die Konzentriertwerke von 495 Dramen aus den Jahren 1713–1929. Das Poster ist zum Lesen auf der Ferne geeignet. Man erkennt zum Beispiel, wann die Autoren erlagen, Skulpturen zu lesen: Die Figurennetzwerke erklären. Die Dramen sind und abgelesen (bisher) Beispiel für zwischenmenschlich. Genannt wurde das Poster außerdem mit einem Superposterboard dramatis.

### Sechs Autorinnen

Wichtigste, die nicht nur häufig, sondern auch in den Jahren 1713–1929.

Goethe, Schiller, Wieland, Lessing, Schlegel, Andreev



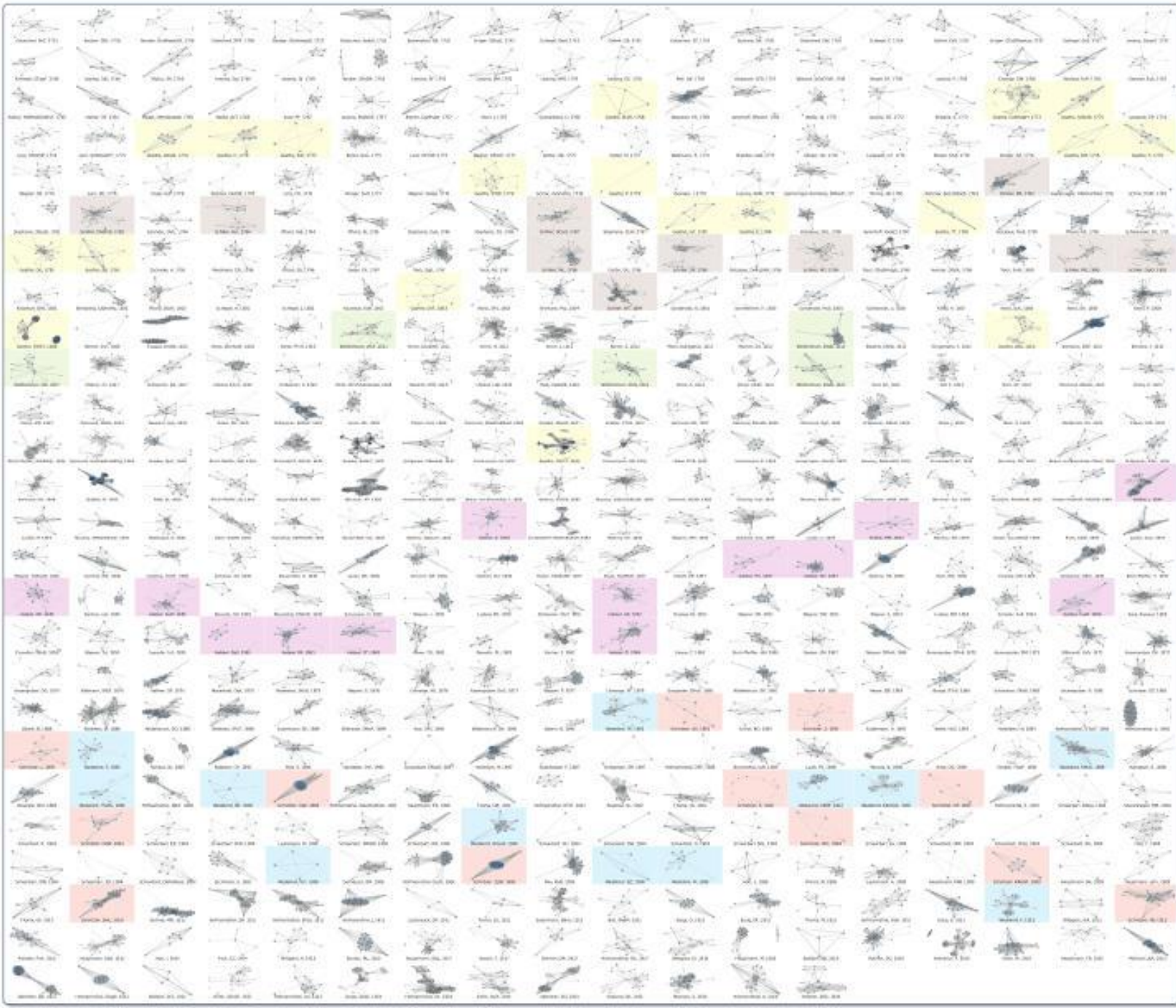
### Homepage des Projekts

<http://ina.digital>

Project: Ina: The Invention of German Playwrights – The Birth and Death of German Playwrights – Invention: A Tool for Mapping and Calculating Literary Network Data – Invention: A Tool for Mapping and Calculating Literary Network Data – Invention: A Tool for Mapping and Calculating Literary Network Data

### Credits

Project: Ina: The Invention of German Playwrights – The Birth and Death of German Playwrights – Invention: A Tool for Mapping and Calculating Literary Network Data – Invention: A Tool for Mapping and Calculating Literary Network Data



(Fischer et al. 2016)





Wedekind, FE, 1891



Schnitzler, AG, 1891



Schlaf, MO, 1892



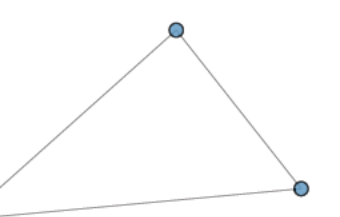
Schnitzler, A, 1893



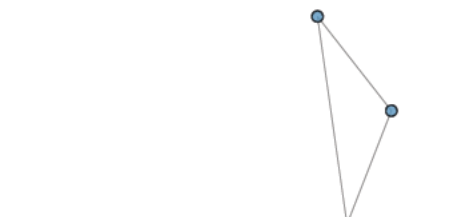
Sudermann, H, 1893



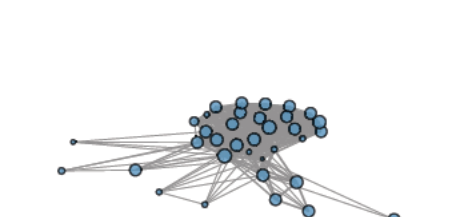
Wette, HuG, 1893



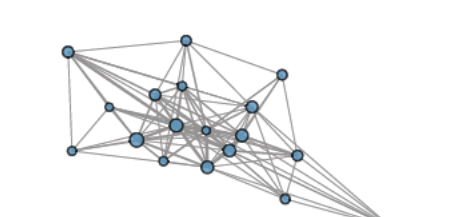
Scheerbart, DR, 1897



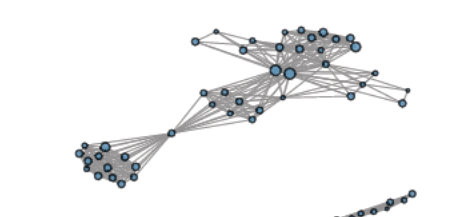
Hofmannsthal, DFIF, 1898



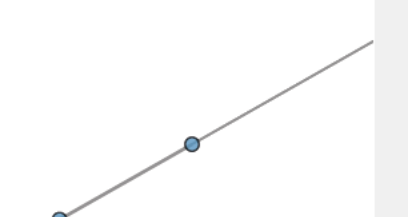
Blumenthal, IwR, 1898



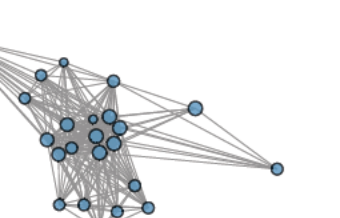
Laufs, PS, 1898



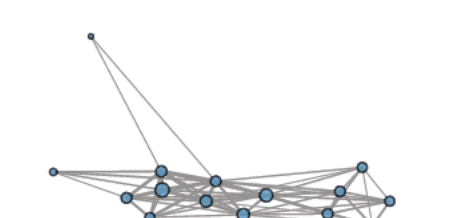
Panizza, N, 1898



Rilke, OG, 1898



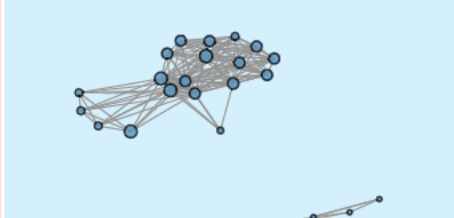
Rosenow, KL, 1902



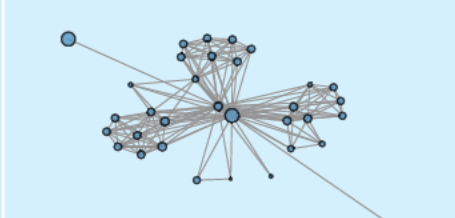
Thoma, DL, 1902



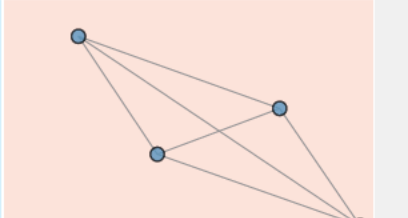
Schnitzler, R, 1902



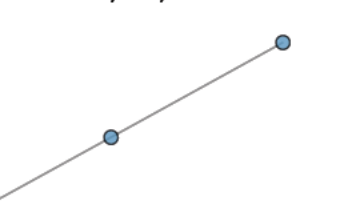
Wedekind, DBdP, 1902



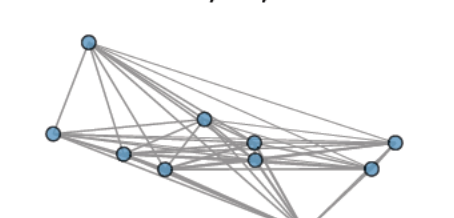
Wedekind, KNoSidL, 1902



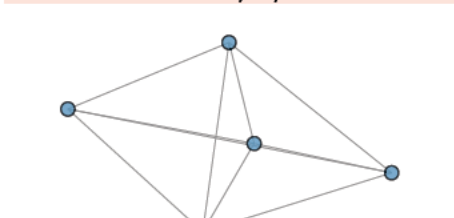
Schnitzler, DP, 1903



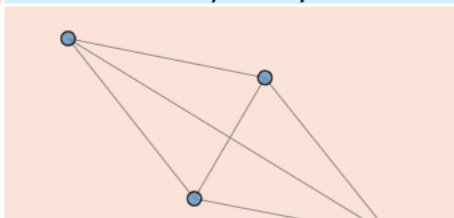
Scheerbart, DW, 1904



Scheerbart, O, 1904



Scheerbart, DdL, 1904



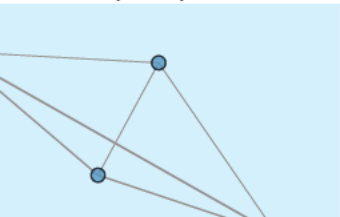
Schnitzler, DtC, 1904



Scheerbart, LG, 1904



Scheerbart, HKK, 1904



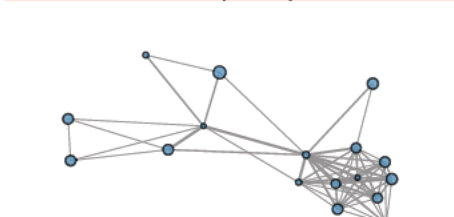
Wedekind, DZ, 1908



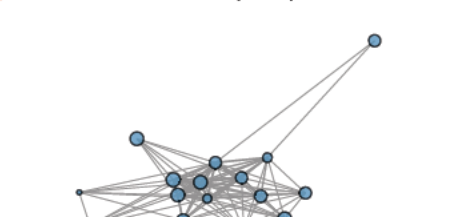
Wedekind, M, 1908



Holz, S, 1908



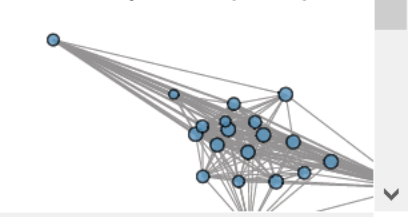
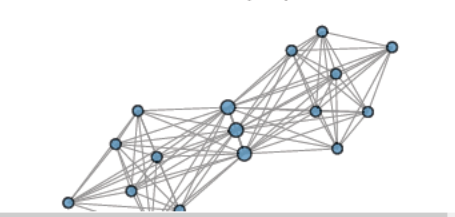
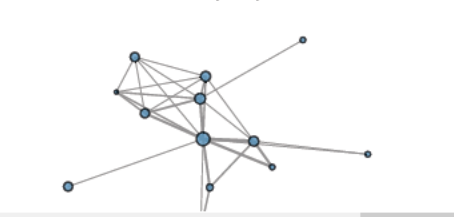
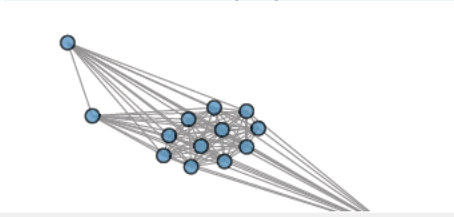
Thoma, M, 1908



Lautensack, H, 1908



Hauptmann, FNB, 1908





# Network Analysis in stylometry

