

Góngora and Digital Humanities:  
New Methods for a New Poetry

Organizers:  
Mercedes Blanco (Université Paris-Sorbonne)  
and  
Aude Plagnard (Casa de Velázquez, Madrid)

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**Abstract:** Luis de Góngora (1561-1627) intensified and deepened what was understood by imitation of Classical and Italian models in Spanish literary practice for almost a century. How did he become, in doing so, the master of a new poetry in Spain, Portugal and America? Why was a singular, borderline eccentric poet converted into a paradigm? Why did he provoke such violent resistance? With the goal of resolving this tension and rethinking its theoretical and historical implications, we undertake a thorough examination of the documents tracing this poet's reception. Because this vast corpus is so diverse and mostly unpublished, it resists being covered in a traditional manner. In consequence, at the Sorbonne laboratory OBVIL we have established an international working group whose aim is twofold: on one hand, to produce digital scholarly editions of critical texts that discuss Góngora's poems; on the other hand, to design and implement an environment that enables searches and quantitative analysis of the whole corpus. We are seeking papers that explore ideas, rhetorical devices, and legitimation strategies mobilized by the censors, advocates, imitators and commentators of Góngora's poetry, testing them by digital methods such as lexical statistics, stylometry, automatic determination of semantic co-occurrence, graphs, and arborescences.

**Key words:** Góngora controversy, TEI edition, Stylometry, Graphs, Digital humanities

**NEW METHODS FOR A NEW POETRY (I):  
TESTING DIGITAL METHODS APPLIED TO GÓNGORA'S POETRY AND RECEPTION**

**Respondent : Mercedes Blanco**

**Antonio Rojas Castro:** How Many Góngoras Can We Read? A Quantitative Approach to the Study of Luis de Góngora's Poetry.

The aim of this paper is to study Luis de Góngora's poetry using quantitative stylistic means, namely the Stylo R package. This software assesses the similarity between texts on the basis of the most frequent words. It is well known that Pedro de Valencia, among others scholars, argued in his letter to Góngora that the poet had shifted his style by 1613. Thanks to the digital publication of the collected works edited by Antonio Carreira, I will analyze the authentic corpus in order to compare two groups of texts (dateing from before and after 1613) with the function `opposite()`. This function generates a list of preferred words so the researcher can compare both groups. After this, I will classify the texts into genres and I will try to assess their similarity using the function `stylo()`. The resulting output will be a consensus tree that will represent the distance between texts.

Keywords: Genre, Góngora, Poetry, Stylometry, Style

**Hector Ruiz:** Mapping Intertextuality: a Social Network Analysis of Góngora's Polemical Reception

In order to glimpse the formation of a new poetic paradigm, I will approach Góngora's poetry and its controversial reception with concepts of network analysis. My purpose is to evaluate the centrality of each text in the debate, the network's degree of betweenness to determine its polarization for or against Góngora, and how the density of relations varies diachronically, in order to understand how the discussion arises and ends. Computational network analysis, still not applied to this corpus, can now be applied to the XML markup of Góngora's poetry and the controversy surrounding it, both published by labex OBVIL. I would like to explore the connections between networks centered on a single polemical document, and the network dealing with the entire corpus, including Góngora's poetry.

Tags: Computational Network Analysis, Intertextuality, Góngora Controversy, Graphs, Digital Humanities.

**NEW METHODS FOR A NEW POETRY (II):  
MAPPING THE CRITICAL VOCABULARY ABOUT GONGORISM**

**François-Xavier Guerry:** The implicit in the Gongorine controversy

How did the authors who were involved in the Gongorine controversy refer to Góngora? How could these references be analyzed in order to deduce the authors' position towards the poet and his followers? I will pay attention to the strategies underlying indirect mentions, periphrases, and generic epithets relating to Góngora within the texts. I will use digital tools that enable a comparative and diachronic representation of these descriptions, and the XML markup of these designations (thesaurus). And yet, what first appears as encomiastic designation is sometimes misleading: can irony, and more generally, implicit meaning, be computationally measured and

detected? Consequently, the textual context of these direct or indirect mentions to Góngora must be taken into account, in order to understand how the digital devices of lexical statistics and determination of semantic co-occurrence can bring out the real intention of our polemicists.

Tags: Digital Humanities, Gongorine controversy, TEI markup, semantic co-occurrence, the computational measure of the implicit

**Aude Plagnard:** Góngora as the Spanish Homer? A Textometric Answer through the Corpus of the Controversy.

Góngora was sometimes called the Spanish Homer by his contemporaries. Yet even if Mercedes Blanco demonstrated that Góngora's poetry had a lot in common with Homer as he was read during the Renaissance, we still don't know precisely what impact this homeric quality had on his controversial reception. Was it widespread among the polemicists? Was it at issue in the birth of a "new poetry"?

Facing these questions, I will analyze Góngora's poetry and controversy using both textometry and XML markup. First, I will compare Góngora's poetry with Homer's translations in Italy and Spain before 1613, looking for lexical and syntactical similitudes. Then, I will analyze the quoted authorities and titles marked with XML elements in the controversy corpus by the editors. Which opinions about epic poetry are they most frequently associated with? Can we conclude that here existed a Homeric vision of the "new poetry", implicit in this corpus?

Tags: Digital Humanities, Gongorian controversy, homeric style, XML markup, textometry

**Marie-Églantine Lescasse:** "Nueva torre de Babel" or Gongorism as Linguistic Confusion. A Textometric Analysis.

This paper aims to compare Francisco de Quevedo's 'Aguja de navegar cultos' (c. 1631) with texts from seventeenth-century grammarians (Jiménez Patón, Mateo Alemán), using statistical methods for textual analysis, in order to cast a new –digital- light upon the criteria of anti-Gongorism. The lexical fields used by Quevedo in this ad hominem lampoon are very close to those used by the purists to censure linguistic mistake-doers. Can gongorism itself, then, be considered as an illegitimate idiolect, made up of barbarisms, one of the many language misuses described in grammatical treatises?

The statistical methods for textual analysis will give us a new insight into the semantics of words such as Babel, macarronea, and jerigonza, that were applied to Góngora's idiosyncratic language. These semantic fields will be examined using multidimensional analysis methods, specifically Descending Hierarchical Classification, Correspondence Factor Analysis and Similitude Analysis.

Keywords: Digital Humanities, Statistical Textual Analysis, Gongorine controversy, Babel, macaronism, textometry.