

# 1 The Anonymous 1821 Translation of Goethe's Faustus: A 2 Cluster Analytic Approach

3 Refat Aljumily<sup>1</sup>

4 <sup>1</sup> Newcastle University

5 *Received: 10 April 2015 Accepted: 4 May 2015 Published: 15 May 2015*

6

---

## 7 **Abstract**

8 The scholars, Frederick Burwick and James McKusick, published at Oxford University Press,  
9 Faustus from the German of Goethe translated by Samuel Taylor Coleridge in 2007. This  
10 edition articulated the result that Samuel Taylor Coleridge is the actual translator of the  
11 anonymously published translation Faustus from the German of Goethe (London: Boosey:  
12 1821). The present article tests that result. The approach to test this result is stylometric.  
13 Specifically, function word usage is selected as the stylometric criterion, and 80 function words  
14 are used to define a 73-dimensional function word frequency profile vector for each text in the  
15 corpus of Coleridge's literary works and for a selection of works by a range of contemporary  
16 English authors. Each profile vector is a point in 80-dimensional vector space, and 5 different  
17 cluster analytic methods are used to determine the distribution of profile vectors in the space.  
18 If the result being tested is valid, then the profile for the 1821 translation should be closer in  
19 the space to works known to be by Coleridge than to works by the other authors. The cluster  
20 analytic results show, however, that this is not the case, and the conclusion is that the  
21 Burwick and McKusick result is falsified relative to the stylometric criterion and analytic  
22 methodology used. Where, in Popperian terms, falsification does not mean 'prove to be false'.  
23 It means that evidence which contradicts a hypothesis has been presented, and it is up to the  
24 proposer of the hypothesis either to show that the evidence is inadmissible or irrelevant, or  
25 else to emend the hypothesis accordingly. The rest of the article is organized as follows. In  
26 section 1 we give the motivation for doing this work. In section 2 we provide a quick  
27 introduction to the 1821 Faustus translations that we hope will shed some light on the  
28 problem. In section 3 we discuss the previous attempts to attribute the 1821 Faustus to  
29 Coleridge. In section 4 we outline the methodology used to add

30

---

31 **Index terms**— vector space, PCA, MDS, SOM, Isomap, Centroid, variance, stylometric, authorship  
32 verification.

33 The approach to test this result is stylometric. Specifically, function word usage is selected as the stylometric  
34 criterion, and 80 function words are used to define a 73-dimensional function word frequency profile vector for  
35 each text in the corpus of Coleridge's literary works and for a selection of works by a range of contemporary  
36 English authors. Each profile vector is a point in 80-dimensional vector space, and 5 different cluster analytic  
37 methods are used to determine the distribution of profile vectors in the space. If the result being tested is valid,  
38 then the profile for the 1821 translation should be closer in the space to works known to be by Coleridge than  
39 to works by the other authors. The cluster analytic results show, however, that this is not the case, and the  
40 conclusion is that the Burwick and McKusick result is falsified relative to the stylometric criterion and analytic  
41 methodology used. Where, in Popperian terms, falsification does not mean 'prove to be false'. It means that  
42 evidence which contradicts a hypothesis has been presented, and it is up to the proposer of the hypothesis either

43 to show that the evidence is inadmissible or irrelevant, or else to emend the hypothesis accordingly. The rest  
44 of the article is organized as follows. In section 1 we give the motivation for doing this work. In section 2 we  
45 provide a quick introduction to the 1821 Faustus translations that we hope will shed some light on the problem.  
46 In section 3 we discuss the previous attempts to attribute the 1821 Faustus to Coleridge. In section 4 we outline  
47 the methodology used to address the 1821 Faust translation authorship debate. In section 5 we present data  
48 preparation. In section 6 we present our main analytical arguments deriving the evidence to refute Coleridge's  
49 authorship of Faustus. We also present the clustering results obtained in section 6. In section 7 we provide  
50 additional interpretation for the analytical results obtained in section 6. We conclude in section 8 with a summary  
51 of the results, and discussing open questions and possible future directions.

52 I. I began to read the book as one who was convinced that the Burwick and McKusick's evidence was sufficient  
53 to attribute the translation to Coleridge and, as a stylometrist whose concern is largely methodological, to look  
54 closely at the stylometric section (2007: 311-30). I finished it with the conviction, though I am not the first to  
55 point it out, that there are grounds for doubt. The analysis was partial and many attribution questions, which I  
56 became fascinated with, remained open.

### 57 1 Motivation

58 McKusick's general approach was to use quantitative evidence based on formal indicators of texts, which is in  
59 my view, is a correct and instructive methodology. But it was obviously not possible to give a definitive answer  
60 to the question of Coleridge's involvement in the translation of Faust. This is the central inquiry of this article.

61 Given the methods used in his analysis, McKusick drew reasonable conclusions though the methods were  
62 insufficient to give more than indicative, that is, inconclusive results. To his credit, McKusick was aware of  
63 this and made it clear that the conclusion was suggestive only. McKusick, however, encourages scholars and  
64 stylometrists (2007: 315-16, 327, 330) to pursue further analysis and examine the attribution questions raised  
65 by the Faust translations, together with the hypothesis advanced in his and Burwick's edition, by using more  
66 advanced stylometric methods.

67 McKusick's approach, however, inspired me to contribute with further evidence to the current literature about  
68 the Faust-Coleridge authorship question. In the end my conclusion is quite different. It is based on more advanced  
69 multivariate analytical methods, a large number of variables proposed as distinguishing features, and hundred  
70 texts. More is said about these in the subsequent discussion.

71 The scope of my empirical approach is extensive. I have examined not only Coleridge's and other likely  
72 candidates' involvement in the translation of

### 73 2 Introduction

74 Goethe published his Faust, the first part of the drama, in 1808. The play attracted considerable publishing  
75 interest and publishers of English translations of German's literature decided to translate and publish the play  
76 and make extracts from of it available to English readers. Over six partial English translations were issued in  
77 about the same time; i.e. the first probably in 1813.

### 78 3 III.

79 Previous Attempts to Attribute the 1821

### 80 4 Faust to Coleridge

81 The 1821 Boosey translation has been variously attributed to the translator of Staël's version (Francis Hodgson),  
82 George Soane (1820, 1821, and 1825), John Anster (1820), Daniel Boileau (1820), Leveson Gower (1823), and,  
83 recently but strongly, to Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1821). The current scholarly consensus is that none of these  
84 translators ever claimed to be the author of Boosey's 1821 edition of Faust.

85 Paul Zall, a scholar of English Romanticism and American literature, was one of the first researchers to suggest  
86 in 1971 a connection between Coleridge and the 1821 translation of Faustus. He observed stylistic similarities  
87 between the 1821 Faust and Coleridge's two tragedies, namely Remorse (1813) and Zapolya (1817), and also  
88 he sensed echoes of Coleridge's mastery of blank verse in the translation. Literary scholars of the time were  
89 not satisfied with the claiming that Coleridge actually translated Faust in 1821. They argued that the case for  
90 Coleridge could not be accepted on the available evidence; a great deal of instinct and intuition was used to  
91 support the case for Coleridge. To accept it, additional compelling proof should be reached. Following Zall's  
92 attempt, Frederick Burwick joined McKusick to re-examine Zall's conclusion with much greater detail. The two  
93 scholars make their case that Coleridge was the author and the result included in the 2007 edition referred to  
94 above. However, this edition has been much debated and the stylometric analysis has been called into question  
95 by many reviewers.

96 Details of which are available in Goethe's Faust/Coleridge as translator of Goethe's Faust.

97 In this edition, Burwick's case is based on two types of argument (i) circumstantial historical evidence and  
98 (ii) qualitative stylistic criteria, and these are available in ??1: xv-xxxv). On the other hand, McKusick's case  
99 is based on quantitative stylistic criteria, that is, stylometry. The general nature of the article is stylometric

100 and, for this reason, the remainder of the section will focus exclusively on McKusick's stylometric analysis that  
101 included in the 2007 edition.

102 McKusick's role was to find quantitative evidence in support of the joint claim of Coleridgean authorship (1:  
103 312-30). To this end, he compiled a digital electronic corpus comprising: Two types of data were abstracted from  
104 the texts comprising the corpus: i) Relative frequencies of word lengths. ii) Relative frequencies of 10 selected  
105 function words.

106 For (i), McKusick counted all two-letter words, all three-letter words, and so on up to eight-letter words  
107 for each of the Faust translations and for each of Coleridge's four plays and plotted the word-length frequency  
108 distribution for each of these relative to the distribution of the 1821 Faustus. He then applied the chisquared test  
109 in order to determine whether or not the differences between the word-length distributions for the anonymous  
110 1821 Faust on the one hand and the five other translations and Coleridge's plays on the other were statistically  
111 significant, reasoning that if the differences were significant, then the author of the 1821 Faust could not be  
112 the author of the other texts in the corpus. The finding was that the differences between the 1821 translation  
113 and Coleridge's Remorse were not significant, but that the differences between the 1821 translation and all the  
114 other texts were. His conclusion was that, although such analysis of relative word length frequency "is no longer  
115 considered definitive or particularly reliable by stylometrists, it is nevertheless possible to gain interesting and  
116 suggestive results by looking at this kind of data" (p.316), and that "although these are not definitive results,  
117 they are indeed suggestive. These findings suggest that there is a general similarity in vocabulary, as reflected  
118 in wordlength distribution, between Remorse and the 1821 Faustus. There is no such resemblance between the  
119 1821 Faustus and any one of the other contemporary translations of Faust. This finding is consistent with our  
120 hypothesis that Coleridge is the author of the 1821 Faustus, and our findings also suggest that, of all of Coleridge's  
121 dramatic works, Remorse is the one that most closely resembles the 1821 Faustus in its vocabulary" (p.318).

122 For (ii), McKusick identified a set of 10 function words, counted their frequencies in each of the texts in his  
123 corpus, and then proceeded as for (i) above: the distribution for the 1821 Faustus was graphed and compared to  
124 the graphs for each of the other texts, and the differences between each textual pair were tested for statistical  
125 significance. And, again as in (i), no significant difference was found between the 1821 Faustus and Remorse,  
126 but the differences between Faustus and the other texts were significant.

127 The conclusion was that "on the basis of the relative frequency of these ten keywords, none of the other  
128 contemporary translators is a likely candidate for authorship of the 1821 Faust" (p.327) and that "this finding  
129 does not 'prove' that Coleridge is the author of the 1821 Faustus, but this finding is fully consistent with that  
130 hypothesis, and (in the absence of other strong contenders) it does indicate a strong likelihood that Coleridge is  
131 the author" (p.325).

132 Speaking about this, McKusick's quantitative stylometric argument supports the case for Coleridge's  
133 authorship of the 1821 Faustus, but only weakly. Average word length is an intuitively attractive stylistic  
134 criterion, but one whose effectiveness in characterising authorial style and in distinguishing one author from  
135 another is at the very least not demonstrated, and there are indications that it is in fact ineffective. McKusick  
136 explicitly recognised this in the relevant foregoing quotation, and only went so far as to say that the "general  
137 similarity in vocabulary, as reflected in wordlength distribution, between Remorse and the 1821 Faustus" is  
138 "suggestive". Function word distribution is a much better stylistic criterion, but McKusick again claims only that  
139 it does not "prove" Coleridge's authorship, but is only "consistent with" it. McKusick appears to realise that the  
140 real problem lies not in the selection of stylistic criteria, fundamental as this is, but with logic. A statistically  
141 significant difference between two texts relative to some given criterion tells one only that the texts are different,  
142 not that they are by different authors, and a statistically non-significant difference that the texts are similar in  
143 terms of that criterion, but not that they are by the same author. McKusick's results can only serve to support  
144 Coleridge's authorship in this instance. He is thus right in claiming only that his results are "consistent with"  
145 the hypothesis of Coleridge as authorship, but his further claim that they indicate a strong likelihood" of it is  
146 unjustified.

147 Overall, therefore, the view of the present article is that McKusick goes beyond the evidence in the title of  
148 their re-edition of the 1821 Faustus: From the German of Goethe Translated by Samuel Taylor Coleridge, and  
149 this motivates the present discussion to test the result of Coleridge's authorship.

## 150 5 IV.

## 151 6 Methodology

152 The present article is concerned specifically with authorship verification (2,3,4): Given a disputed text and a  
153 corpus of works by that author, the aim is to decide whether he or she wrote the text. In the present case, this  
154 becomes: Is Coleridge the author of the 1821 Boosey translation of Goethe's Faust?

155 The answer to this question is based on falsifiable methodology. This methodology approaches the problem  
156 not by proposing and attempting to justify McKusick's result that Coleridge was or was not the author, but by  
157 testing an existing one: the Burwick and McKusick result that he was.

158 **7 b) Principal Components Analysis**

159 PCA is a non-hierarchical linear method based on preservation of data variance. The principal components  
160 analysis was in a four-stage procedure. The first step was the construction of a symmetric proximity matrix  
161 for distances among vectors. The second was the construction of an orthogonal basis for the covariance matrix  
162 in such a way that each axis was the least-squares best fit to one of the n directions of maximum of variation  
163 in D. The third was the selection of dimensions; we removed the axes along which that had Volume XV Issue  
164 XI Version I Hierarchical cluster analysis constructs clusters in terms of measures of spatial distance among  
165 data vectors in the space as the basis for clustering. It provides more information than non-hierarchical ones  
166 in that it not only identifies the main clusters, but also its constituency relations relative to one another as  
167 well as their internal structures (5,6,7). The hierarchical analysis was in a three-stage procedure. The first step  
168 was the calculation of the distances between all possible pairs of vectors. The second was the construction of a  
169 onedimensional symmetric matrix of the distances calculated in the first step. The third step was the construction  
170 of a hierarchical tree based on the symmetric matrix of distances.

171 Multivariate methods are used to achieve this. Multivariate methods are essentially variations on a theme:  
172 cluster analysis. Cluster analysis aims to detect and graphically to reveal structures or patterns in the distribution  
173 of data items, variables or texts, in ndimensional space, where n is the number of variables used to describe an  
174 author's style. The class of methods for doing so all depend on finding structure in a highdimensional data  
175 space, and then using that structure either to formulate or, in the present case, to attempt to falsify McKusick's  
176 result. This class includes hierarchical clustering, principle components analysis, multidimensional scaling, self-  
177 organizing map, and Isomap. maximum variation in D, that is, the total combined variance of all vectors (8,9).

178 **8 c) (Metric) Multidimensional scaling**

179 MDS is a dimensionality reduction method which can be used for clustering if the data dimensionality is reduced  
180 to three or less. It uses variance preservation as its criterion for keeping as much of the information contained  
181 in the original set of data as possible in dimensionality reduction, MDS preserves the proximities among pairs  
182 of objects on the basis that the proximity is an indicator of the relative similarities or dissimilarities among  
183 the physical objects which the data represents, and therefore of information contained in: if a low-dimensional  
184 representation of the proximities can be built, then the representation preserves the information contained in the  
185 original data (8,10).

186 **9 d) Self-Organizing Map**

187 SOM has been successfully used in a wide variety of research applications to represent a set of high-dimensional  
188 vector points in a low dimensional space without reducing the dimensionality of the original space, while preserving  
189 the relationships among the input data vectors. In other words, SOM provides a topology preserving projection  
190 from a high-dimensional to a low-dimensional space; that space is usually twodimensional. The property of  
191 topology preservation means simply that the projection preserves vector neighborhood relations. Vectors that  
192 are near each other in the input space are projected to nearby map units in the SOM. The SOM can therefore  
193 be used cluster analysis method by projecting data of arbitrary dimensionality into two-dimensional space and  
194 visualizing any structure in the data in a variety of ways (8,11).

195 **10 e) Isomap**

196 Isomap reduces dimensionality by working on a nonlinear rather than on a linear distance matrix. Given a  
197 linear distance matrix D L generated from a data matrix M, Isomap approximates the geodesic distances by first  
198 deriving a neighbourhood graph to represent different points of a manifold, that is, a geodesic distance matrix  
199 D G is approximated mathematically by computing graph distances from D L, and D G is then the ground  
200 for dimensionality reduction using either the classical or the metric least squares MDS mathematical procedure.  
201 Graph distance approximation to geodesic distance is a widely used paradigm in data analysis to approximate  
202 geodesic distance between different points of a manifold using graph distance (8,12).

203 V.

204 **11 Data Preparation b) Constructing a target corpus and text  
205 pre-processing**

206 The standard tradition of creating a corpus for attribution test has always been based on the assumption that  
207 the corpus is large and representative of an author respective writings. Therefore, a relevant issue in the current  
208 application is what size the corpus should be in order to be representative of Coleridge' literary style. The corpus  
209 on which the clustering analysis of Coleridge corpus is based consists of 363 texts of Coleridge's literary output in  
210 prose, verse, and drama. However, significant variations in the lengths of these texts are found. Some texts are  
211 large enough in size to be analytically practical; they are 31 texts and are shown in Table (1A). Other texts are  
212 too short to achieve a good level of analytical accuracy; they are 332 texts and are amalgamated and assigned  
213 into 21 collections of texts according to their appearance in journals and poetry collections; they are treated as  
214 unitary texts. These are shown in table (1B). In authorship attribution and text clustering, data preparation is

215 the key to obtaining accurate clustering results and to achieve this, variables must be carefully selected. Data  
 216 analysis should be confined to only and all the important variables that contribute meaningfully to an author's  
 217 style. In this attempt, the data matrix is built up of only and all the important function words within the  
 218 texts. The reason for using function words representation is that the frequency distribution of function words  
 219 is taken to be an indicator of an author's syntactic usage, and, because syntax is largely independent of topic,  
 220 is regarded as a more reliable criterion for author attribution. Moreover, the experimental results of authorship  
 221 attribution indicate that function words representation gives good results in identifying the style of a text and  
 222 distinguishing between a set of authors. Equally important, most studies seem to agree that up till now function  
 223 word representation has been proven to be giving much better results than any other, more sophisticated stylistic  
 224 criteria to authorship style. (13,14,15). number of times that function word  $j$  occurs in text  $i$ . The same is  
 225 applied to other data matrices (D1, D2, and D3). The texts are given, where necessary, the first or second name  
 226 or initials as given in the work used. For example Mariner.txt is given for 'the Rime of the Ancient Mariner' and  
 227 Sibylline.txt is given for 'Sibylline Leaves'. Each matrix row vector therefore represents a function word lexical  
 228 frequency profile for the corresponding text.

<sup>229</sup> 12 Volume XV Issue XI Version I

230 Since each function word variable in the profile has a label, the profile gives a representation of which function  
231 word is in a text and which is not. However, it is observed that the data matrices  $D$ ,  $D1$ ,  $D2$ , and  $D3$  have some  
232 characteristics that can skew the validity of the clustering results. First, there are many superfluous function  
233 words that are included in the data matrices.

234 Second, there is a very substantial variation in the lengths of the texts in the data matrices: some texts are  
235 very long while others are very short. These matrices have to be transformed prior to analysis.

## 13 d) Significant and insignificant Function Words

247 Frequencies for all the columns data matrices ( $D$ ,  $D1$ ,  $D2$ ,  $D3$ ) are calculated, the function words are sorted  
248 in descending order of frequency, the most frequent function words are selected, and the less frequent function  
249 words are eliminated from ( $D$ ,  $D1$ ,  $D2$ ,  $D3$ ). Substantial dimensionality reduction can be achieved by applying  
250 this criterion to data matrices ( $D$ ,  $D1$ ,  $D2$ ,  $D3$ ).

## 251 14 e) Text length Normalization

252 The 52 texts in D, the 53 texts in D1, the 73 texts in D2, and the 23 texts in D3 vary substantially in length.  
253 This is shown in Figure (1). The number to the right of each of the text names is the number of words in the  
254 text; there is a clear and very strong tendency to cluster by length.

255 The problem now is that we need a clustering structure that shows the distances among the texts based on  
 256 the function words similarity, not length. To do this, the row vectors in each data matrix are normalized to  
 257 adjust the disparity in length among the texts in such a way as to eliminate variation in document length as a  
 258 factor affecting the frequencies. This normalization is relative to mean document length using the equation: The  
 259 mean length across all texts are calculated. In each row vector, the count for a function word is multiplied by  
 260 the mean text length, then divided by the total number of frequency counts occurring in that row vector. The  
 261 effect of normalization using mean document length is that the values in the row vectors that represent long texts  
 262 are decreased while the values of the row vectors that represent the short ones are increased. For texts that are  
 263 near or at the mean, little or no change in the corresponding row vectors occur. The overall effect is that all the  
 264 corresponding texts are now in effect all the same length and are ready for clustering.

265 15 f) Data dimensionality and the elimination of low variance  
266 variables

267 Clustering of texts depends on there being variability in their characteristics; identical texts having the same  
268 function words cannot be validly clustered.

269 Where the texts to be clustered are described by function words, then the function words are only useful for  
270 the purpose if there is significant variation in the values that they take. In the current application, therefore,  
271 we looked for function words with substantial variation in their values, and ignored function words with little or

272 no variation. Function words with no or little variation are removed from data matrices as they contained little  
273 information and would complicate cluster analysis by making the data higher-dimensionality than it needs to  
274 be. Mathematically, the degree of variation in the values of a variable is described by its variance. The variance  
275 of 193 function word values is the average deviation of those values from their mean. The standard definition  
276 of variance for an m-row x n-column vectors matrix in which the columns represent 193 function words and the  
277 rows represent the texts they describe, the variance of the columns is:

278 The function word frequencies of the columns in each data matrix are calculated using the above equation  
279 and sorted in descending order of frequency magnitude. The column vectors are sorted in descending order  
280 as shown in Figure (3). In this figure there are a few relatively highfrequency function words, a moderate  
281 number of medium-frequency ones, and a large number of lowfrequency ones. There is considerable scope for  
282 dimensionality reduction here; a conservative reduction would be to keep the 80 highest-frequency columns in D,  
283 discarding the rest. The same procedure is applied to the other data matrices. That is, function word columns  
284 193 to 80 are removed on the grounds that they contribute little to differentiation of the texts. The selected 80  
285 highest-frequency function words are shown in Table (2): ? = ? = n i n x v . . 1 2 / ) ) ( (

### 286 16 g) Clustering validity

287 In the present application the generated clustering results are validated in two ways: each data matrix. The  
288 clustering analyses of D, D1, and D2 are not shown in this article. There is no hope of being able to show (36)  
289 analyses in such an article, but this section addresses them only briefly to the extent to which presentation of the  
290 analytical results is necessary for the purpose of this article. The clustering analyses of D showed that there is  
291 structure in Coleridge's usage of function words but that usage varies in accordance with genre. The clustering  
292 analysis of D1 supports the hypothesis of Coleridge as the author of the 1821 Boosey Faustus, and so is the  
293 clustering analysis of D2. This result has serious implications for the validity of the central tent of authorship  
294 attribution and the article does not take this similarity as evidence that Coleridge is the actual translator of the  
295 1821 Faustus. This result suggests no more that Coleridge is a likely candidate for the authorship of Faustus  
296 since the researcher does not yet know if the five other translations of the play by other likely candidate authors  
297 are also closest in style to that of the 1821 text or not. This is where the translations of Faustus by de Staël  
298 1813, Soane, 1821-1825, Anster 1820, Boileau 1820, and Gower 1823 come in. Now all the observations have  
299 been captured and the reminder of the discussion will switch to the final stage of the analysis by applying the  
300 clustering methods to D3 to see where in the data space the Boosey Faustus sits in relation to the locations  
301 of these authors in the space. Because the foregoing clustering results have identified that the Boosey Faustus  
302 clusters with closet dramas, and because the additional Faust translations also belong to this genre, only the  
303 closet drama (abbreviated CD) texts are clustered and the verse and prose texts are eliminated. This is done  
304 for clarity of presentation. D3 contains Faustus, the dramatic texts by Coleridge, Byron, Shelley, Wordsworth,  
305 and the translations of Faust by Staël, Soane, Anster, Boileau, and Gower. For this data matrix, we have the  
306 following clusterings:

### 307 17 T

308 ii. A range of clustering methods are applied to the same data matrices, each method based on a different view  
309 of what constitutes a cluster and how clusters can be identified, and interprets such agreement as is found among  
310 them as an indication of the intrinsic or 'true' structure of the data. Specifically:

311 ? PCA is a linear method based on preservation of data variance.

312 ? MDS is a linear method based on preservation of distance relations among objects in data space. ? Isomap  
313 is a nonlinear method based on preservation of distance relations among objects in data space.

314 ? SOM is a nonlinear method based on preservation of data topology. ? Single Linkage hierarchical clustering  
315 is a linear method based on preservation of data topology. ? Complete, Average, and Increase in Sum of Squares  
316 hierarchical clustering are all linear methods based on preservation of distance relations in data space, though  
317 they differ in how distance among clusters is defined.

318 VI.

## 319 18 The Clustering Analysis

320 The data matrices (D, D1, D2, D3) are analysed using five different clustering methods. all of these methods agree  
321 with each other in clustering the texts in i. The degree of consistency between the distance matrix underlying the  
322 cluster tree and another distance matrix is measured using Cophenetic Correlation Coefficient Measure (5,6,8).  
323 Based on this, the trees generated by Average Linkage for D, D1, D2, and D3 seem to fit these data matrices  
324 more well than the clusterings produced by Single, Complete, and Ward analyses Coefficient Measure above. In  
325 Isomap, CD Faustus is in the neighborhood of Anster, Boileau, and Gower: it is a compromise between Anster  
326 Faustus and Boileau's, but far apart from Gower's. Finally, in SOM, CD Faustus is a compromise between CD  
327 Anster Faustus and CD Gower Faustus, i.e. it is close to both of them equally.

328 ? Among these authors, the Boosey Faustus is always closer to Anster than to any other author, including

329 Coleridge. More specifically, Faustus is no longer closest to Coleridge, but to other authors and in particular  
330 to Anster and Gower; there's some variation in degree of closeness to these two, but the overall picture is clear.

331 ? No matter how many other authors are included in the test or how many other texts are added to the corpus,  
332 that is, more authors or texts won't help: Anster and Gower will always be closer than Coleridge to Faustus.

333 ? Based on the above, therefore, this means that the hypothesis that Coleridge was the author of the 1821  
334 Boosey Faustus is falsified by the methodology used in this test.

335 Finally, having established that Anster and Gower are closer to Boosey than to Coleridge or any other of the  
336 authors included here, it remains to show why, that is, what aspect or aspects of function word usage underlie  
337 this result. A centroid-based analysis is used to answer this question. That analysis proceeds as follows.

338 ? From D3, the data matrix used for the preceding cluster analyses, the row representing work by each of the  
339 authors are abstracted and, where there is more than one work, the centroid is calculated.

340 Thus, all the rows of D3 representing work by Coleridge are abstracted and their centroid is calculated, and  
341 the same is done for Byron and Shelley; for authors represented by only one work, that is, the various Faust  
342 translators and Wordsworth, the corresponding single matrix row is used.

343 ? The set of individual matrix rows and calculated centroids are co-plotted as bar plots and the amount of  
344 variation in the variable centroids are calculated. A variable with a larger amount of variability in its centroid  
345 than the other variables in a set of data is taken to be the most important discriminator between the authors or  
346 the clusters of interest because there is much change in the values of that variable throughout text row vectors.

347 ? Because it is difficult to interpret the very crowded bar plots for the full 80 variables, only the dozen variables  
348 with the largest variation in relative bar plot heights are shown in what follows.

349 The centroids of most important function words to each of the authors are first calculated, as shown in Table  
350 ???3) and the resulting centroids are then bar plotted onto a bar chart, as shown in figure (9): The number and  
351 type of function words per column has been represented along the horizontal axis, and the centroids per column  
352 up the vertical axis. Each one of the function words has its own a label on the horizontal x-axis that holds a value  
353 on the vertical y-axis of the bar chart, where the height of each bar represents the variable centroid containing  
354 the values of a given variable in each text row vector. The bars are displayed arbitrarily following the order of  
355 the function words, which are given in table (3) rather than ordered by size from the smallest to largest or vice  
356 versa.

357 From Table ???3) and the plot in Figure (9), it can be seen that there is pattern of differences among the 10  
358 authors considered in the study with respect to the most important functions words and this yields empirically  
359 stylistic criteria showing how each author's usage of a set of 10 function words, and, more particularly, how the  
360 usage of this set of 10 function words by Anster, Coleridge, the 1821 anonymous translator, and Gower does  
361 not overlap with that of each other's or any other author's usage. For example, Staël shows a higher usage of  
362 'of' and 'to' than in any other author, the 1821 anonymous translator shows a higher usage of 'and' than in any  
363 other author, Shelley shows a lower usage of 'then' than in any other author, Wordsworth and Boileau show a  
364 lower, though an equal, usage of 'yet'. Boileau and Staël show a lower usage of 'or' than in any other author.  
365 For others, the usage of this set of 10 function words is somewhere between these extremes. For example, 'of',  
366 'and', and 'to' usages are very frequent in Anster's Faustus; 'of', 'and', 'that', and 'with' usages are much lower in  
367 Byron's than in any other author; 'and', 'of', 'to', and 'that' usages are more frequently in Boileau's than in some  
368 other authors; 'of', 'and', 'to', and 'that' usages are frequent and consistent in Coleridge's dramas and so are in  
369 Wordsworth's The Borderers. The usage of 'then' is much higher in Faustus than in any other author. Finally,  
370 'from', 'or', 'with', and 'by' are marked with relatively consistent or frequent usages among all the authors and  
371 therefore do not distinguish between them.

372 All in all, based on the centroid values in the Table ???3) above and their corresponding plots in the Figure  
373 (9), we can draw the following results:

374 ? Function words 'that', 'and', and 'with' are the most important in determining the distance relations in the  
375 foregoing cluster analyses. This is based on the amount of variation in each variable-centroid, which is calculated  
376 and shown in varies from the other authors, and in particular from the 1821 anonymous translator, Anster, and  
377 Gower in terms of his usage of 'that', 'to', 'then', 'from', 'and', and 'of', which is either higher or less than them.  
378 This is a substantive, empirically-based criterion for distinguishing the styles of the authors which have been  
379 included in the study, with respect to the closet drama genre. The general conclusion is that the 1821 Faust  
380 translation is mathematically similar to the translations of the play by Anster and Gower and that the function  
381 words 'of', 'yet' and 'that' are the main determinants for that similarity. This is a plausible result for Anster and  
382 Gower, but it is by far not the only interpretation. The next section will justify this claim.

## 383 19 VII. Additional Interpretation

384 Since all of the three translations appear in such close proximity, the conclusion would surely be that either  
385 Anster or Gower translated the 1821 Faustus (Boosey edition); or at least that Anster and Gower are likely the  
386 best candidates for its authorship, considering Anster as the most probable translator among the translators  
387 tested and Gower among the less likely. In such a case, the question is: can the 1821 anonymous Faustus be  
388 attributed to Anster or should it rather be attributed to Gower based on this new evidence? The answer is no.  
389 The argument is that it is perhaps not so surprising that the 1821 Faustus, claimed by Burwick and McKusick  
390 for Coleridge, is closer to two other contemporary translations of the play by Anster and Gower. There are  
391 only a limited number of function words that can be used to translate the German words of the original; and  
392 the possibility of borrowing from one author to another is also stronger. Many examples could be given of such

393 borrowing of function words (and other style features), but few will suffice here to support this claim. These  
394 are taken from Anonymous (trans.) *Faustus* from the German of Goethe. London: Boosey and Sons, 1821;  
395 John Anster (trans.) 'The Faustus of Goethe', *Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine*, vii, 1820; and Leveson-Gower  
396 (trans.) *Faust: A Drama By Goethe*. They are quoted, identified by the verse lines, and then highlighted.

## 397 20 Line number

398 Anster Anster and Gower: specific function words and (short phrases) used by Anster were used by the anonymous  
399 translator of the 1821 *Faustus* and Gower as well as some function words used by the anonymous translator of the  
400 1821 *Faustus* were used by Gower in his own translation (though Gower borrowed less frequently than the 1821  
401 anonymous translator). And this has the effect of clustering the three translations by Anster, the anonymous  
402 translator, and Gower together.

403 The historical and, to some degree, the literarycritical evidence suggest Coleridge an authorship, but the  
404 stylometric evidence, based on what is currently regarded as the best stylometric criterion and using objective  
405 and replicable mathematical methods, suggests otherwise. The study has analysed Coleridge's plays and has  
406 found they are mathematically quite distinct from the 1821 *Faustus* translation. However, it is important not to  
407 over-interpret this result since the present attribution attempt is based on a particular type of test, proximity in  
408 vector space, using a particular stylistic criterion, the frequency of function word usage. Other stylistic criteria  
409 and/or other types of test may well give a different result, and the next research step with respect to the Burwick  
410 and McKusick result is to devise other types of test based on other criteria. Any future study must, however, take  
411 account of the result of the present one, and until one or more such studies appear, the Burwick and McKusick  
412 result is abandoned. The article also has closely examined the *Faust* text and the texts by the 1821 anonymous  
413 translator of the 1821 *Faust*, Anster, and Gower and found that translating the words of the original text of  
Faust slides over into borrowing from one author into another. <sup>1 2</sup>



Figure 1: n 2007 ,

---

<sup>1</sup>© 2015 Global Journals Inc. (US)

<sup>2</sup>© 2015 Global Journals Inc. (US)

---

-  Alice1828
-  Ancient Mariner1798
-  Autumnal1788
-  Christabel1797
-  Deathofchatterton1790
-  Dejection1802
-  Delinquent1824
-  Departing1796
-  Destiny of Nations
-  Fears1798
-  France1798
-  Friend1818
-  Grenville1799
-  Happiness1791
-  Improvisatore1827
-  Oldman1798
-  Osorio1797
-  Piccolomini1800
-  Picture1802
-  Pixies1793
-  Recantation1798
-  Religious Musings1795
-  Remorse1813
-  Robespierre1794
-  Tears1820
-  The Nightingale 1798
-  The Wanderings of Cain1798
-  Three Graves1798
-  ToWordsworth1807
-  Wallenstein1800
-  Zapolya1816

Figure 2:

- Adaptations
- An Old Man's Diary 1871
- Anthology 1795
- Biographia 1817
- Cambridge Intelligencer
- Early Recollections 1837
- Epigrams and Jeux D'esprit
- Fragments
- Friendship offering, New Mirror, magnet
- Juvenile poems
- Literary Remains 1836
- Literary Souvenir
- Lyrical Ballads 1798
- Metrical Feet
- Miscellaneous (later day)
- Morning Chronicle
- Morning Post
- Sibylline Leaves 1817
- The Courier
- Unfinished Letters
- Watchman

Figure 3:

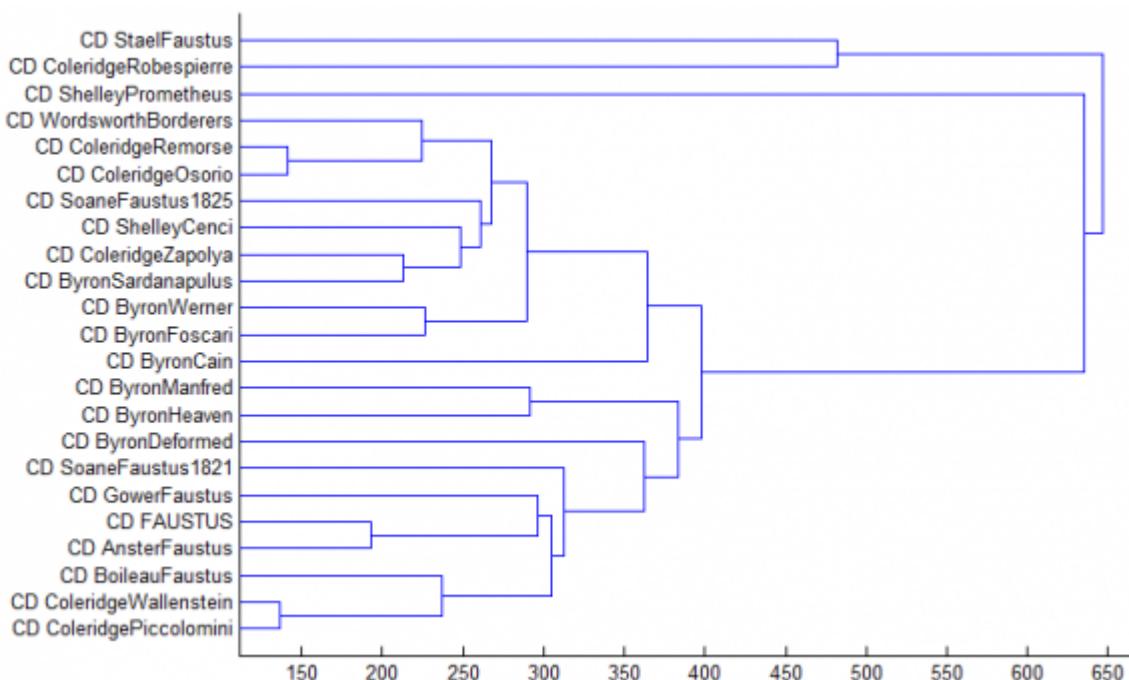


Figure 4:

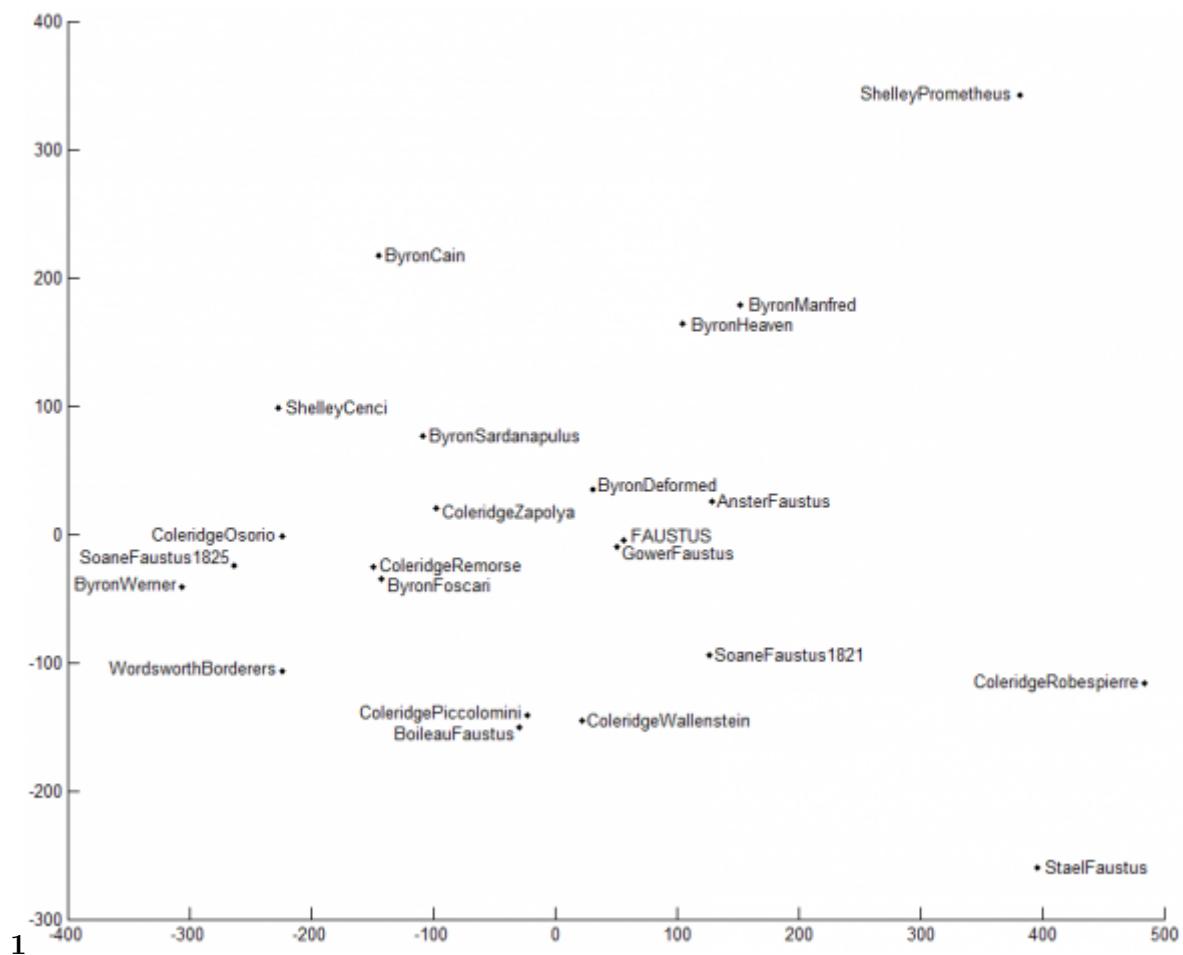


Figure 5: able 1 :

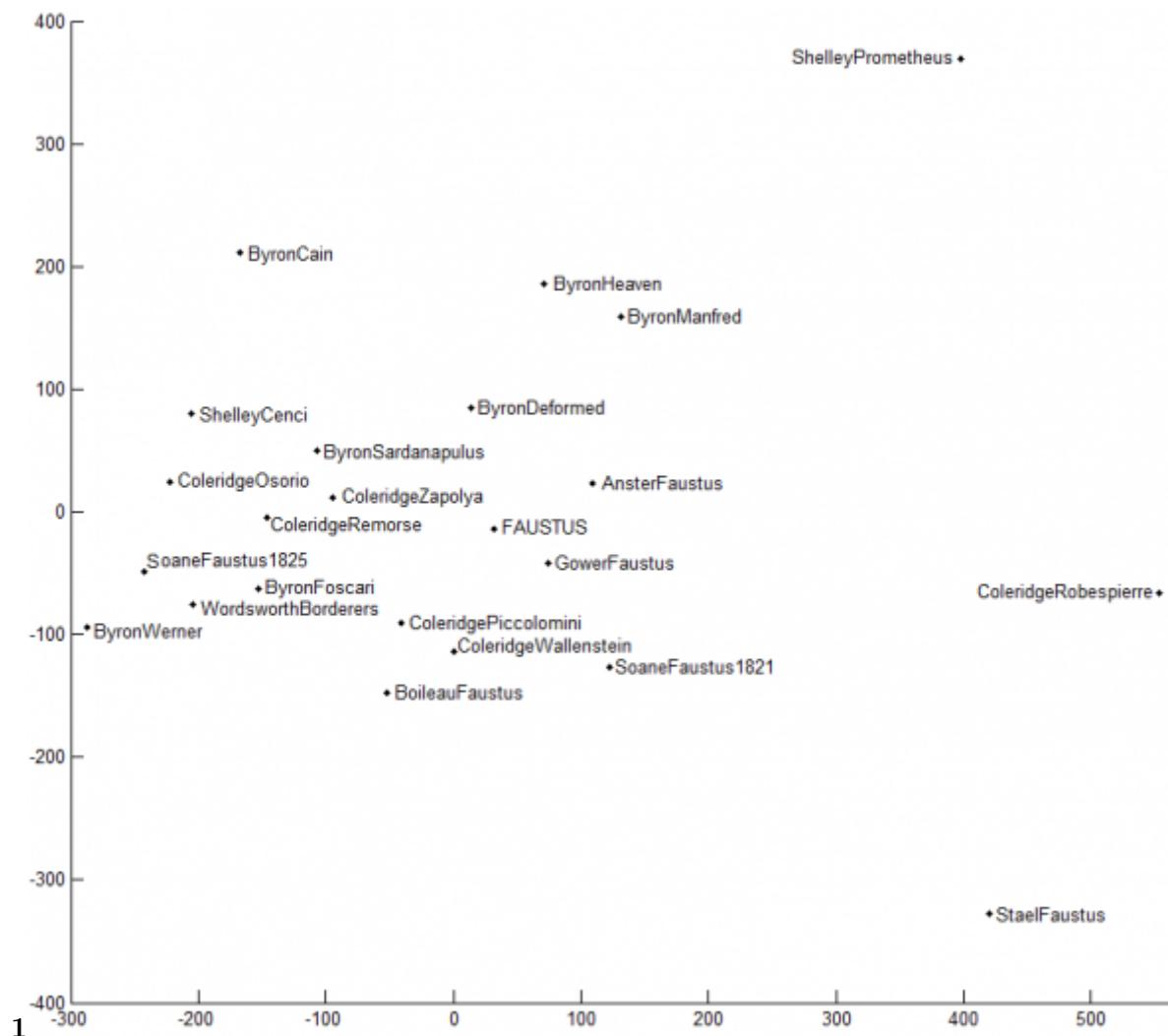


Figure 6: Figure 1 :

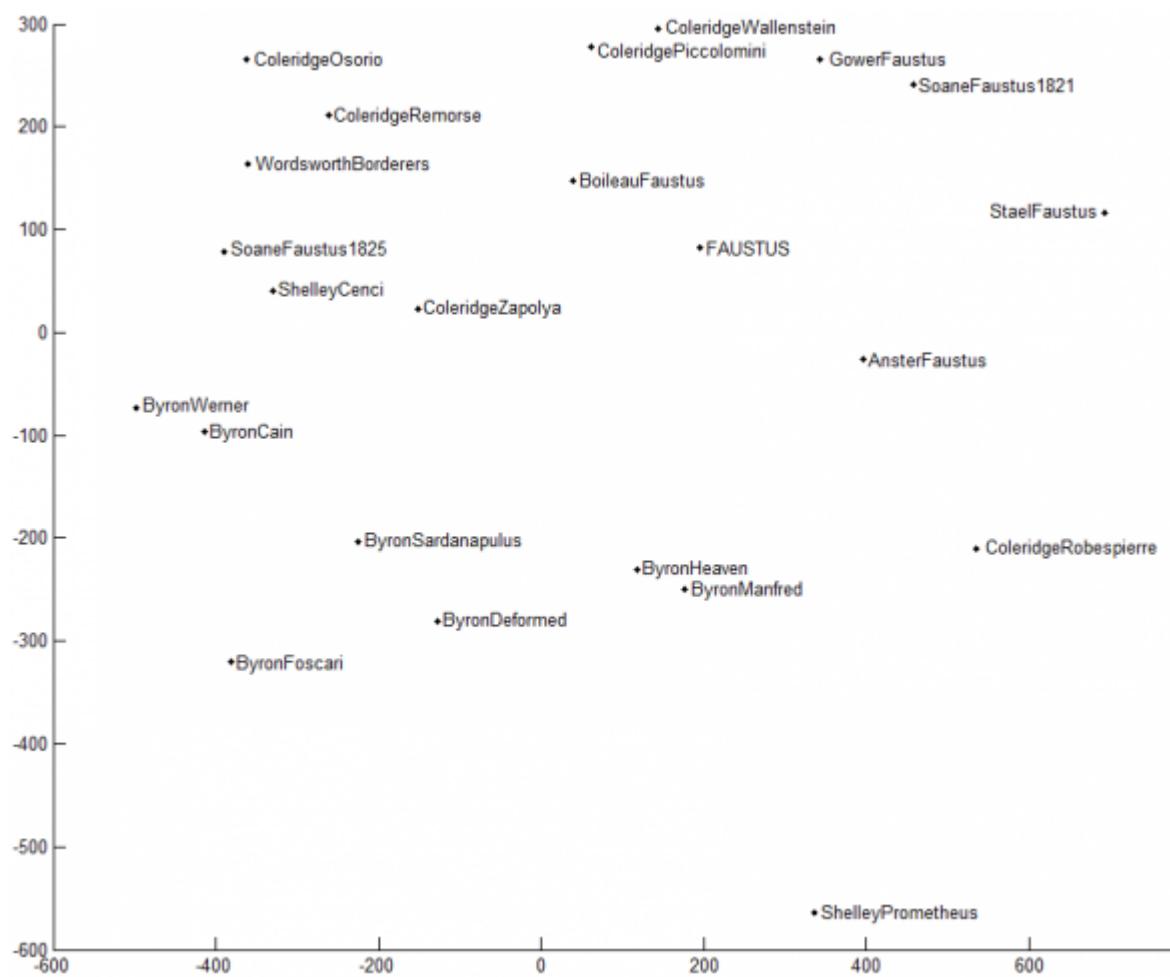


Figure 7:

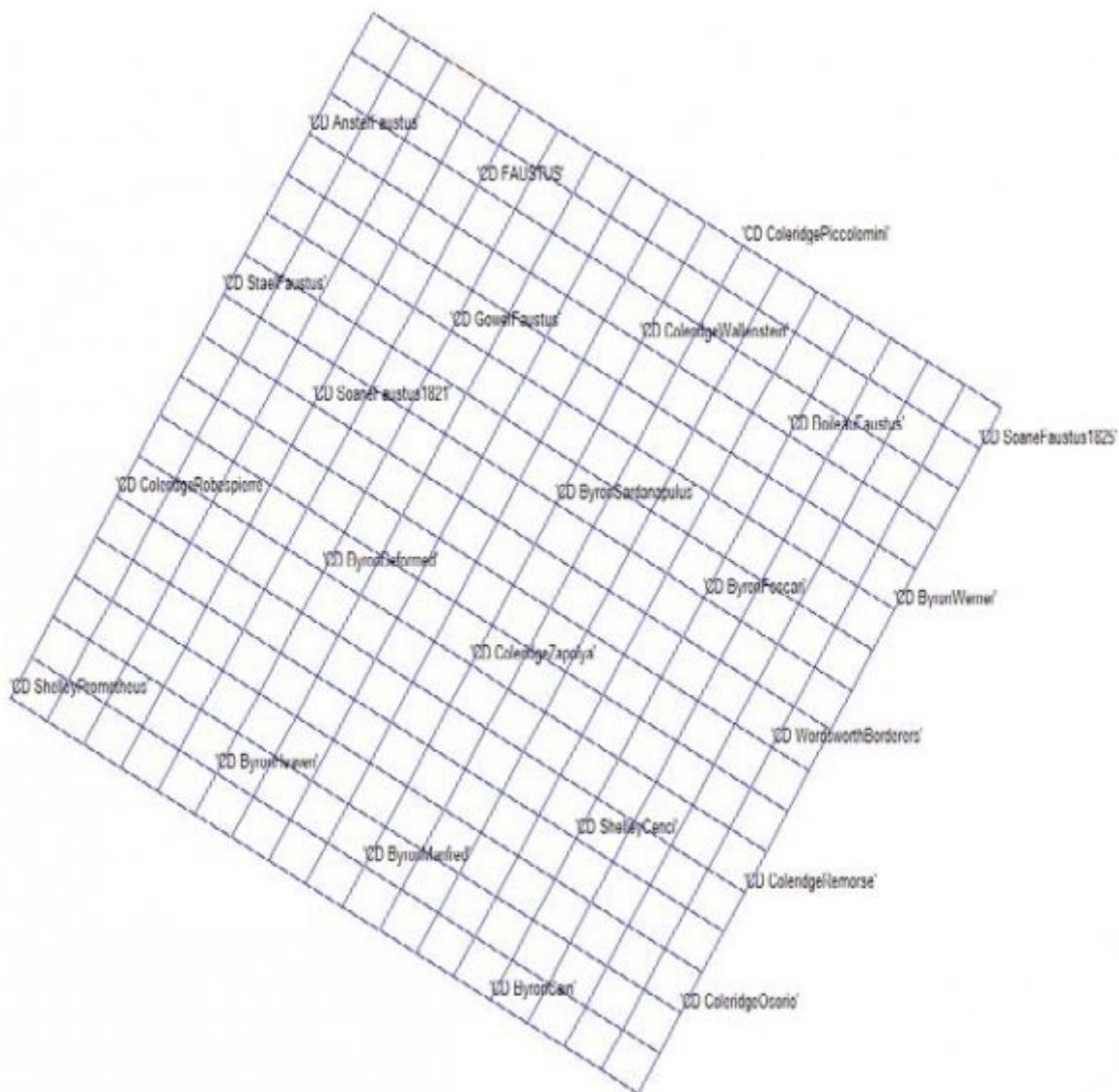


Figure 8: Figure 2 :

Figure 9:

---

### 3

Word type	Anster	Boileau	Byron	Coleridge	Faustus	Gower	Shelley	Stael	Soane	W.worth	
of	475		363	213	381	400	293	315	733	316	338
from	115		75	45	88	103	85	64	81	90	76
or	49		26	43	36	33	56	45	28	46	39
and	585		508	308	477	601	533	407	413	470	447
with	176		156	75	150	169	154	90	147	158	104
then	35		35	21	48	71	40	12	26	83	29
yet	30		21	25	44	33	74	23	22	45	21
To	406		433	208	357	428	445	168	560	365	381
by	80		57	34	62	55	58	39	78	79	69
that	181		152	84	192	167	133	105	220	165	226

Figure 10: Table 3 :

### 4

? Function words 'and' and 'with' are those with respect to which Anster and the 1821 anonymous translator are closest, and 'with' is that to which Gower and the 1821 anonymous translator are closest.

? Coleridge's usage of this set of 10 function words

Figure 11: Table 4 :

Word	Amount of variation
type	19.9977.1222
of	379.7333
from	90.3222
or	7733.2111
and	1226.5444
with	487.3333
then	280.1777
yet	13050
to	256.9888
by	Year that
	2114.0555
2015	
16	
Volume	
XV	
Is-	
sue	
XI	
Ver-	
sion	
I	
( A	
)	
Global354-	1820 Alas! I have explored
Jour- 364	Philosophy, and law, and
nal 1675-	medicine, And over deep di-
of 1682	vinity have pored, Studying
Human	with ardent and laborious
Social	zeal Andhere I am at last, a
Science	very foal, With useless learn-
-	ing cursed, No wiser than at
	first! They call me doctor-
	and I lead These ten years
	past my pupils' creed, What
	can'st thou give, poor miser-
	able devil.
	Anonymous 1821 Now I
	have toil'd thro' all; phi-
	losophy, Law, physic, and
	theology: alas All, all I
	have explor'd; and here I
	am A weak blind fool at
	last: in wisdom risen No
	higher than before: Mas-
	ter and Doctor They style
	me now; and I for ten
	long years Have led my
	pupils up and down, thro'
	paths Involv'd and intri-
	cate, only to find Thou
	miserable fiend? can
	man's high spirit,
	Gower 1823
	WITH
	medicine and
	philosophy I
	have no more
	to do; And
	all thy maze,
	theology,
	At length
	have waded
	through
	And stand a
	scientific fool,
	As wise as
	when 1 went
	to school.
	'Tis true,
	with years of
	science ten, A
	teacher of my
	fellow men,
	Above, below,
	and round
	about, Not
	Translated
Thinkeſt thou that man's	Full of immortal longings,
?By	be by
ſuch aſthou art? wretch,	such
what canſt	
thou give?	16
	As thou art, comprehenſive
	1. 12. Th

### 415 .1 Acknowledgments

416 The author wishes to thank all those who dedicated their time answering my queries and providing me with  
417 valuable comments during the preparation of this study.

### 418 .2 a) Conflicts of Interest

419 The author declares no conflict of interest.

420 [Everitt et al. ()] , B S Everitt , S Landau , M Leese . 2001. Arnold: London.

421 [Argamon and Levitan (2005)] , S Argamon , S Levitan . <http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.71.6935&rep=rep1&type=pdf> 2005. July 2009. p. 11.

423 [Hair et al. ()] , J Hair , W Black , B Babin , Anderson , R Multivariate Data . *Analysis* 2010. Prentice-Hall  
424 International. (7) . (th ed)

425 [Koppel et al. (2008)] , M Koppel , J Schler , Online . <http://www.machinelearning.org/proceedings/icml2004/papers/415.pdf> July 2008. p. 20.

427 [Anderberg ()] *Cluster analysis for applications*, Michael Anderberg . 1973. Academic Press, Inc: London.

428 [Moisl ()] *Cluster analysis for corpus linguistics*, Hermann Moisl . 2015. Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton.

429 [Romesburg ()] *Cluster Analysis for Researchers*, Charles Romesburg . 1984. Wadsworth Inc: USA.

430 [Koppel and Schler ()] ‘Computational methods in authorship attribution’. Moshe Koppel , J Schler , Argamon  
431 , S . *Journal of American Society for Information and Technology* 2009. 60 p. .

432 [Burwick and Mckusick ()] *Faustus from the German of Goethe Translated by Samuel Taylor Coleridge*, Frederick  
433 Burwick , James Mckusick . 2007. Great Britain: Oxford University Press.

434 [Juola] Patric Juola . *Authorship attribution*. *ACMDL2006*, 1 p. .

435 [Bishop ()] *Neural Networks for Pattern Recognition*, C M Bishop . 1995. USA: Oxford University Press.

436 [Lee and Verleysen ()] ‘Nonlinear Dimensionality Reduction’. J A Lee , M Verleysen . *Springer science and  
437 business media*, (New York) 2007.

438 [Grieve ()] *Quantitative authorship attribution: an evaluation of techniques*. *Literary and linguistic Computing*,  
439 Jack Grieve . 2007. 22 p. .

440 [Kohonen ()] *Self-Organizing Maps*, Teuvo Kohonen . 2001. Berlin: Springer. (3rd ed)

441 [Holmes ()] *The Evolution of Stylometry in humanities scholarship*. *Literary and Linguistic Computing*, David  
442 Holmes . 1998. 13 p. .