

HOTT

HISTORY OF
TEXT TECHNOLOGIES

Text Mining Ancient Greek Poetry: Prospects and Perspective

Allen Romano
Assistant Professor of Classics
Florida State University

Monday, 11 April 2011
11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Common Room, Williams 013

Digital archives of ancient Greek texts, along with their associated content libraries and lexica, have become an everyday tool of classical scholarship. Will text mining prove a similarly quotidian addition to the toolkit? More to the point, what vision of ancient texts does machine learning offer and how might we best deploy such techniques? In this presentation, I describe text mining experiments to date on Greek literature first by situating this type of work against the more familiar and longstanding procedures of statistical analysis of Greek texts and digital text searching. I then detail some initial results from my study of status and ethnicity in the most canonical of Greek verse, Attic drama and Homeric epic.

