



Digital Humanities 2016
Kraków, 11–16 July



Digital Literary Stylistics

Anne BANDRY-SCUBBI

Women's Novels 1750s-1830s and the Company They Keep: A Computational Stylistic Approach



‘what corpus stylistics can do beyond the obvious provision of quantitative data, is help with the analysis of an individual text by providing various options for the comparison of one text with groups of other texts to identify tendencies, intertextual relationships, or reflections of social and cultural contexts’.

Michaela Mahlberg

‘Corpus Stylistics: Bridging the Gap between Linguistic and Literary Studies’, in *Text, Discourse and Corpora: Theory and Analysis*, by Michael Hoey, Michaela Mahlberg, Michael Stubbs, Wolfgang Teubert (London: Continuum, 2007), p.221.

RoutledgeBETTINA
FISCHER-STARCKE

Jane Austen and Her Contemporaries

A LINGUISTIC INTRODUCTION TO
ENGLISH FICTIONAL PROSE

Geoffrey N. Leech & Michael H. Short

[illegible]

ENGLISH · LANGUAGE · SERIES

J. F. BURROWS

COMPUTATION
INTO CRITICISM

A Study of Jane Austen's Novels
and an Experiment in Method



CLARENDON PRESS
OXFORD

Chawton Novels on line



- 34 “**domestic dramas** where heroines blush, swoon, or face unbearable social ostracism because of minor breaches of decorum”

The English Novel 1770-1829, Peter Garside, James Raven and Rainer Schöwerling eds (OUP, 2000), I p. 28

- “the ‘**feminine**’ **novel**—domestic comedy, centring on a heroine, in which the critical action is an inward progress towards judgment”

Marilyn Butler, *Austen and the War of Ideas* p.145

→ **CHAWTN34**: 3.9 million words
38% pre 1800, 62% post1800

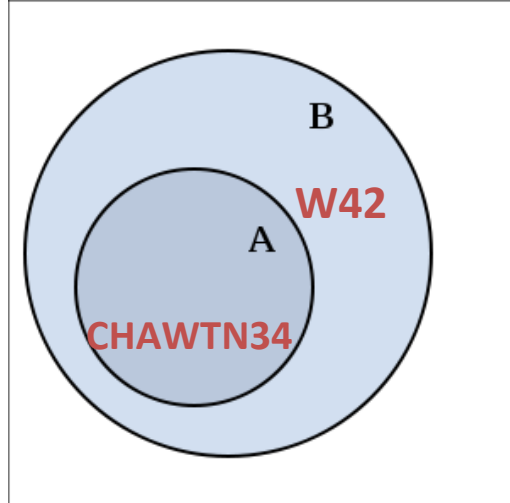
- CHAWTN34 \subset W42

- Haywood, Burney, Edgeworth, Austen, Ferrier

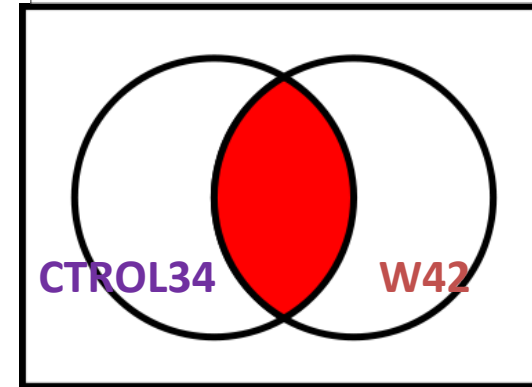
→ W42: 5.8 million words
41% pre 1800, 51% post1800

→ CHAWTN34: 3.9 million words
38% pre 1800, 62% post1800

- CHAWTN34 \subset W42
1769-1830 1752-1834



- CTROL34 : 5.4 million words
 - 1748-1834
 - 41% pre1800
 - 44% male
 - Clive Probyn's *English Fiction of the 18th Century, 1700-1789* and Gary Kelly's *English Fiction of the Romantic Period 1789-1830* (Longman 1987, 1990)
 - <http://www.gutenberg.org/>



http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alg%C3%A8bre_des_parties_d%27un_ensemble#mediaviewer/%3CSet-subset-A-of-B.svg%3E

Figure 1 – Lexical connection on types for CNTROL34 (Principal component analysis, *Hyperbase*)
Titles in red by women, in black by men

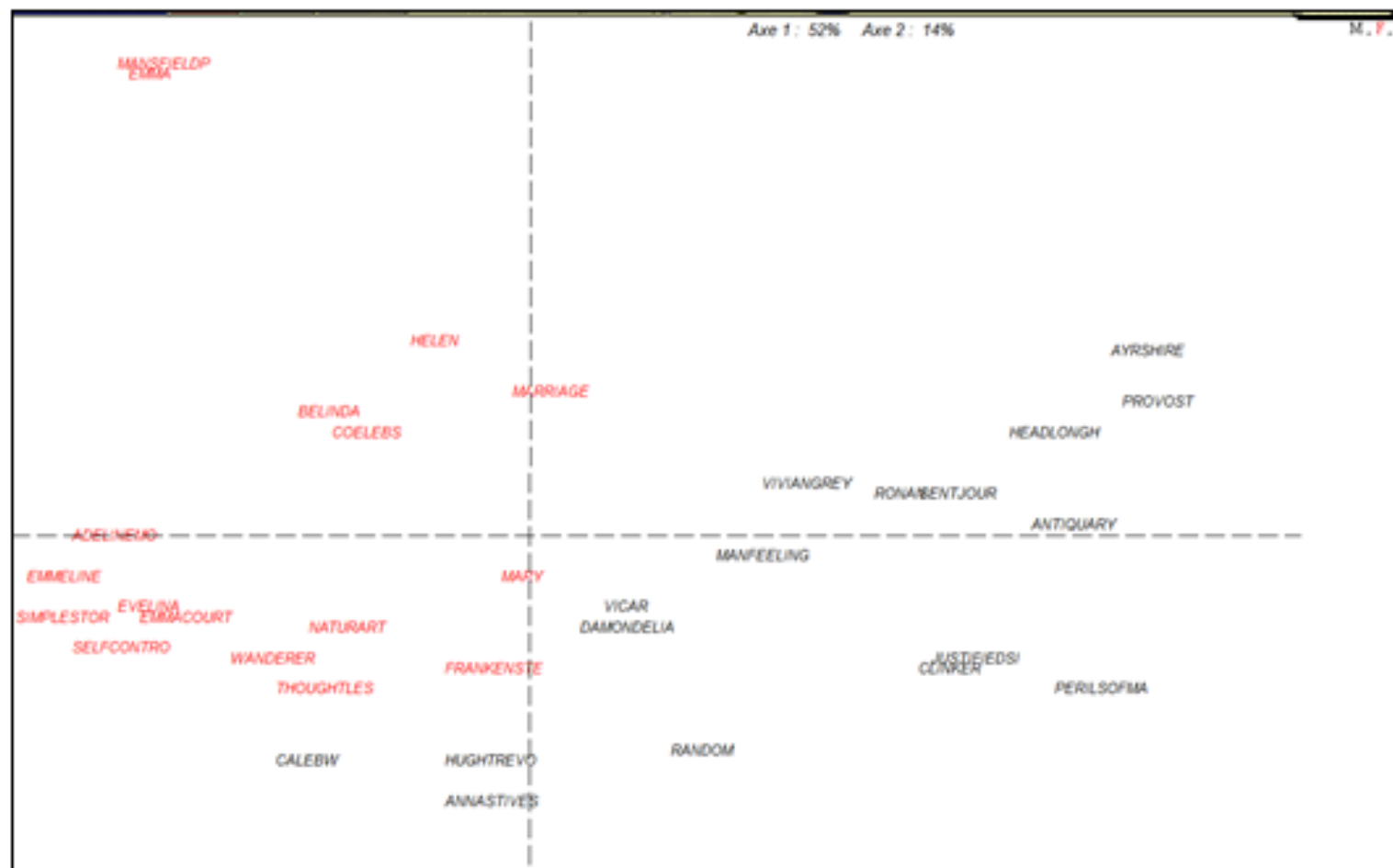


Figure 2– lexical connection on tokens for *CNTROL34* (Principal component analysis, *Hyperbase*)
Titles in red by women, in black by men

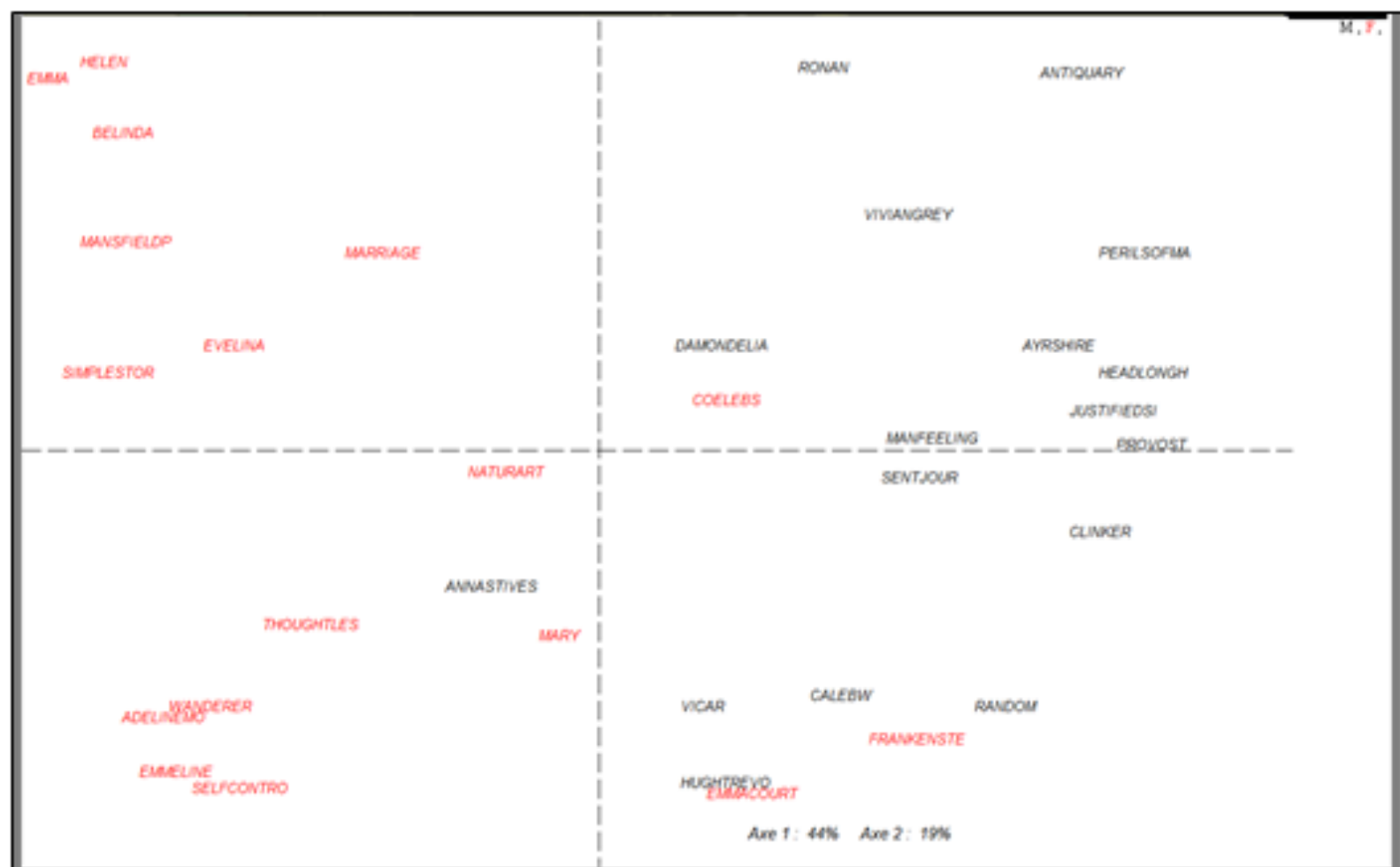


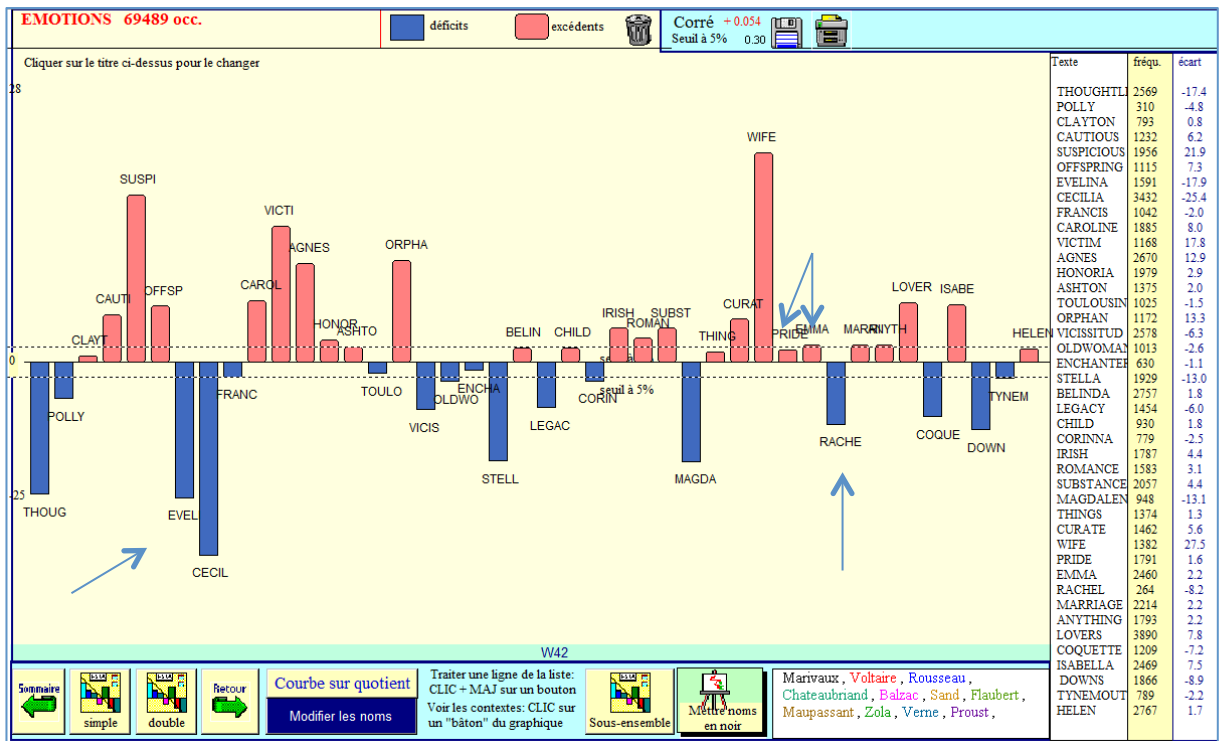
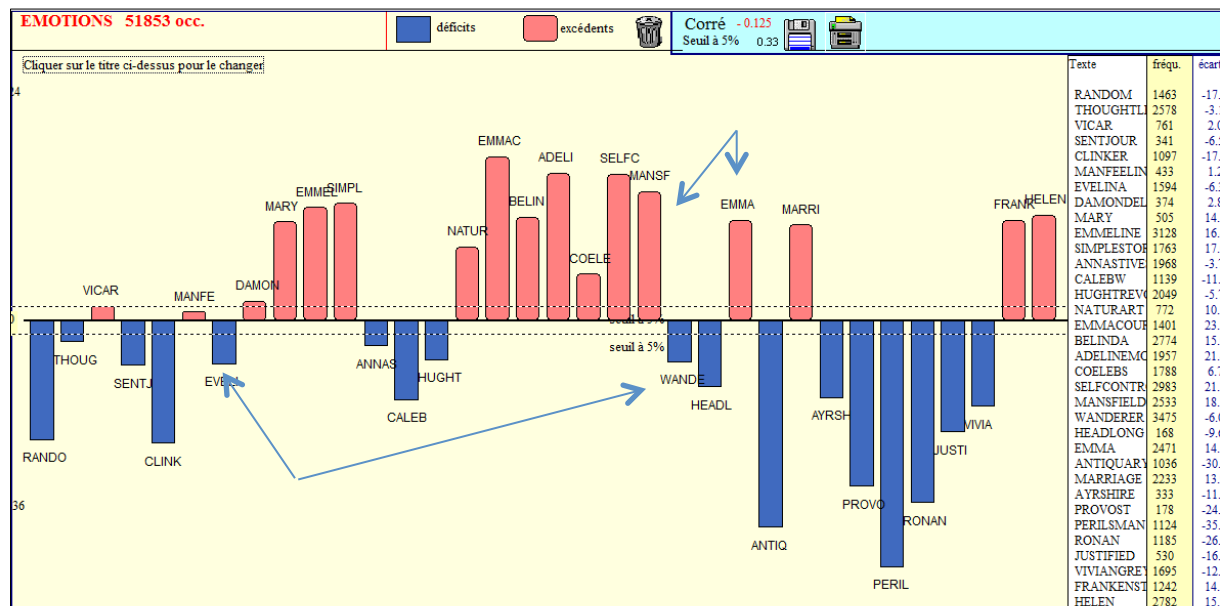
Figure 3 – Words whose relative frequency is higher in texts written by female authors than by male authors (CNTROL34): top of the 'positive specificity' list established by *Hyperbase* (left) exported into *Excel* (right)
(326 words in all, 266 without names)

écart	corpus	texte	mot	HIERAR	POSITIF
37.58	1529	1523	helen		
37.58	1497	1496	emmeline		
37.58	1252	1252	adeline		
37.58	1246	1246	delacour		
37.58	1219	1218	cecilia		
37.58	1153	1128	ellis		
37.58	1118	1117	juliet		
37.58	1016	1016	delamere		
37.58	977	976	emma		
37.58	971	968	fanny		
37.58	949	949	belinda		
37.58	934	934	montreville		
37.58	924	924	betsy		
37.57	56675	45923	her		
37.57	43315	36227	she		
37.57	9615	7876	lady		
37.57	8196	6819	miss		
37.57	6937	5803	mrs		
37.57	4146	3588	herself		
37.57	2217	2121	laura		
37.39	41516	26211	you		
36.03	3792	2999	cried		
35.57	773	773	harleigh		
35.41	110230	66123	-		
32.70	667	667	davenant		
32.61	664	664	hervey		

CNTROL34	<u>Female authors</u>		
56 675	45 923	81%	<u>her</u>
43 315	36 227	84%	<u>she</u>
9 615	7 876	82%	lady
8 196	6 819	83%	miss
6 937	5 803	84%	<u>mrs</u>
4 146	3 588	87%	<u>herself</u>
41 516	26 211	63%	<u>you</u>
3 792	2 999	79%	<u>cried</u>

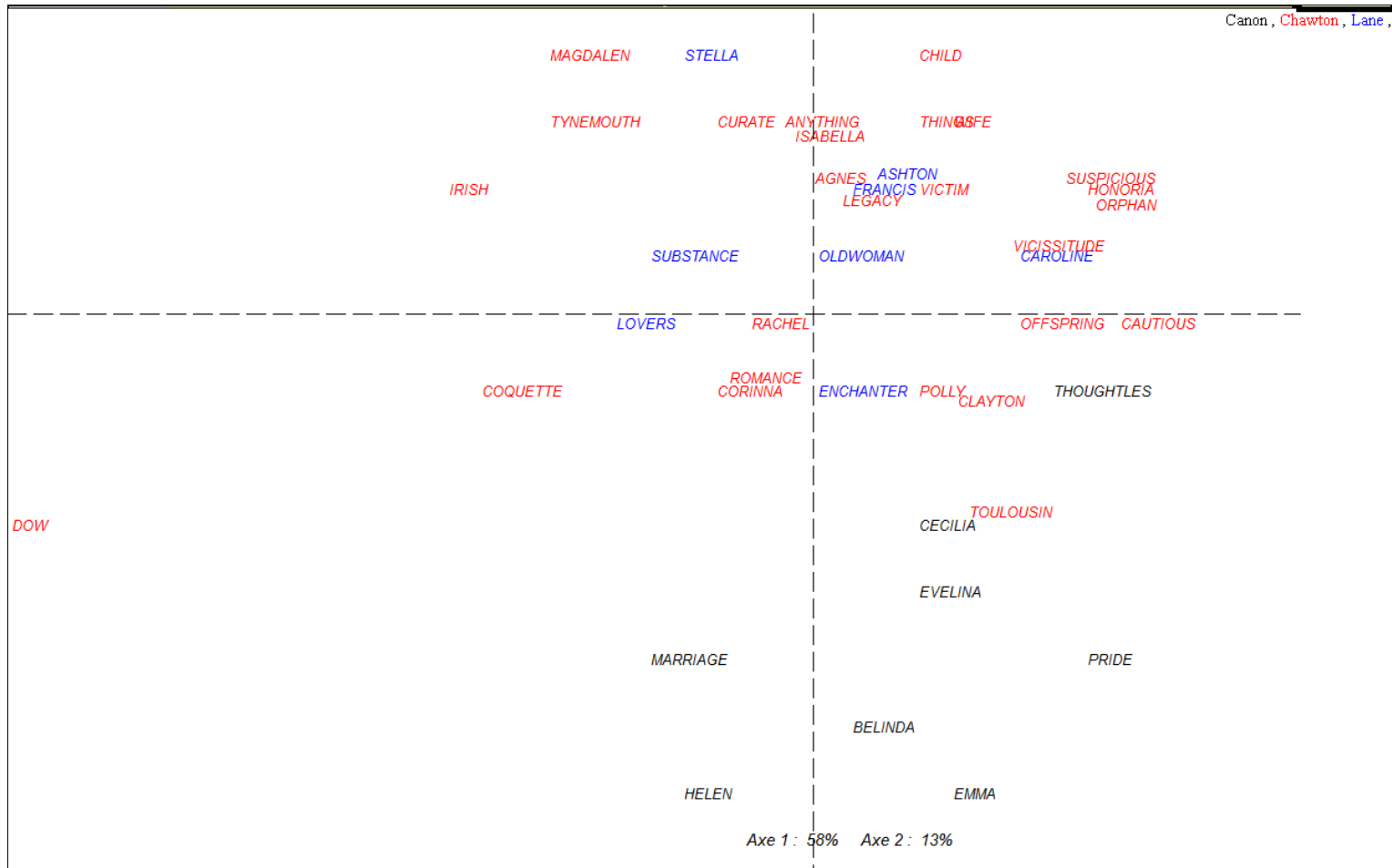
Figure 4 – Words whose relative frequency is lower in texts written by female authors than by male authors (CNTROL34): top of the 'negative specificity' list established by *Hyperbase* (67 words in all)

écart	corpus	texte	mot	HIERAR	NEGATIF
-37.55	217241	104872	the		
-37.55	89135	44774	a		
-36.49	46468	22547	his		
-35.67	141241	72959	of		
-35.39	5841	2111	our		
-33.69	138822	71933	and		
-29.40	10104	4347	we		
-28.53	1627	414	master		
-24.75	7134	3050	man		
-21.78	2080	716	men		
-19.45	3013	1195	old		
-18.98	1125	340	fellow		
-18.89	69171	36236	in		
-17.94	25873	13082	me		
-17.77	4157	1791	us		
-16.30	4539	2021	like		
-12.78	1751	723	three		
-12.16	1621	671	country		
-12.11	15300	7807	an		
-11.81	1872	800	gentleman		
-11.80	13971	7115	they		
-11.22	1339	550	captain		
-10.97	27750	14573	which		
-10.61	53644	28678	he		
-10.52	9424	4758	there		
-10.26	19927	10398	on		
-10.16	1065	434	small		
-10.11	991	399	case		
-9.96	1119	463	god		



Lexical connection on types in W42 (*Hyperbase*)

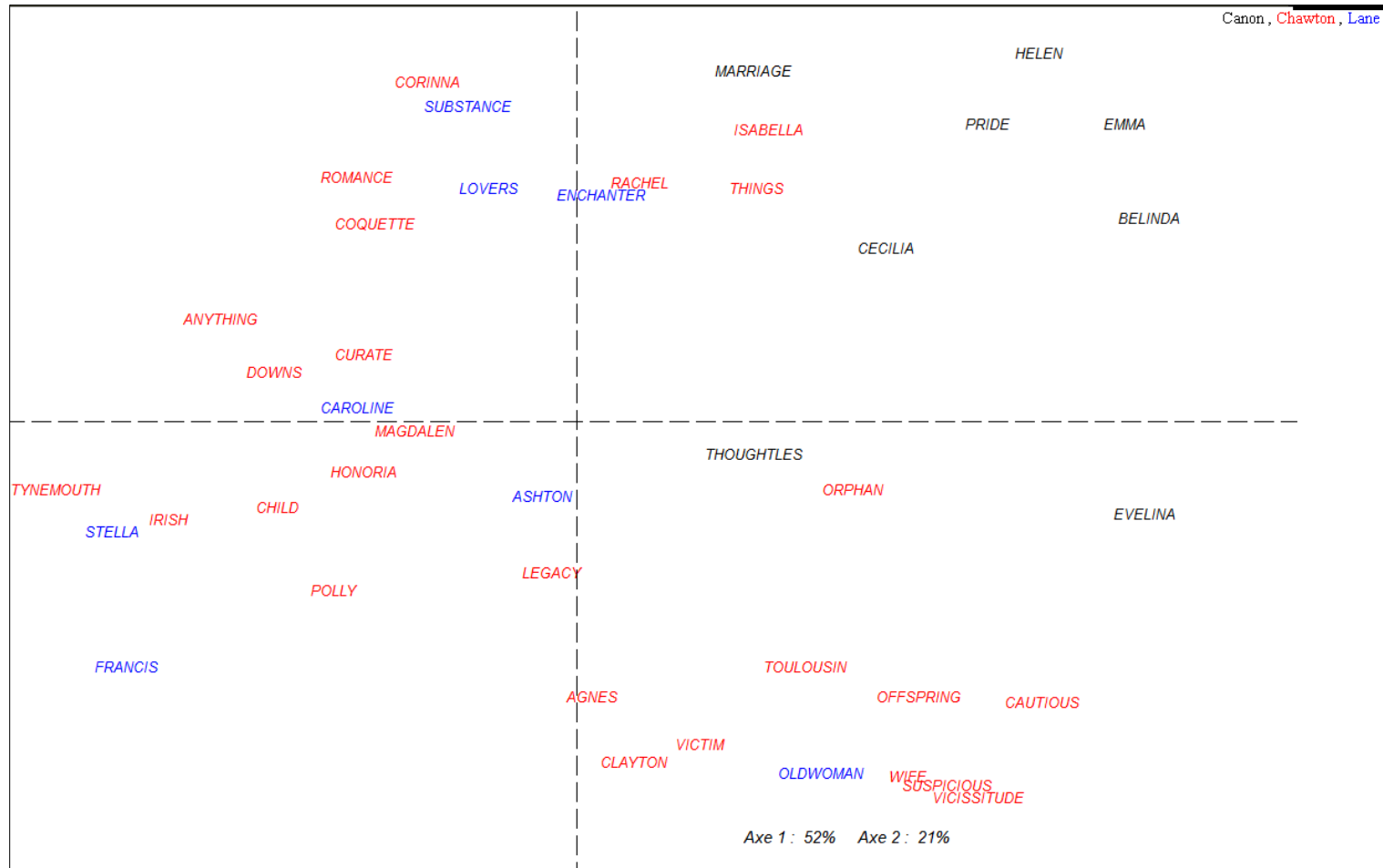
Canonical novels in black, *Minerva novels in blue*,
non-Minerva Chawton novels in red



Lexical connection on tokens in W42 (*Hyperbase*)

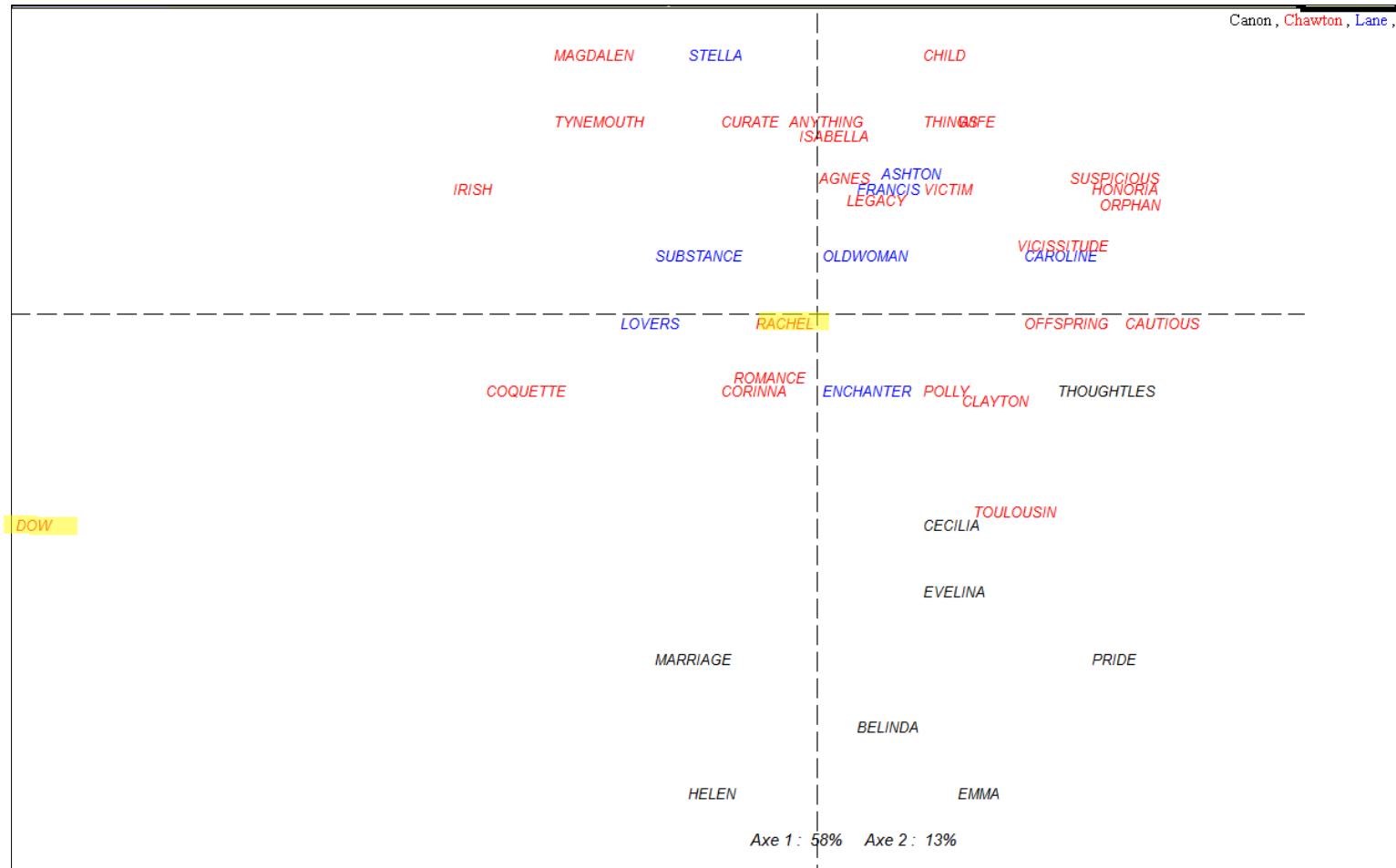
Canonical novels in black, Minerva novels in blue,

non-Minerva Chawton novels in red



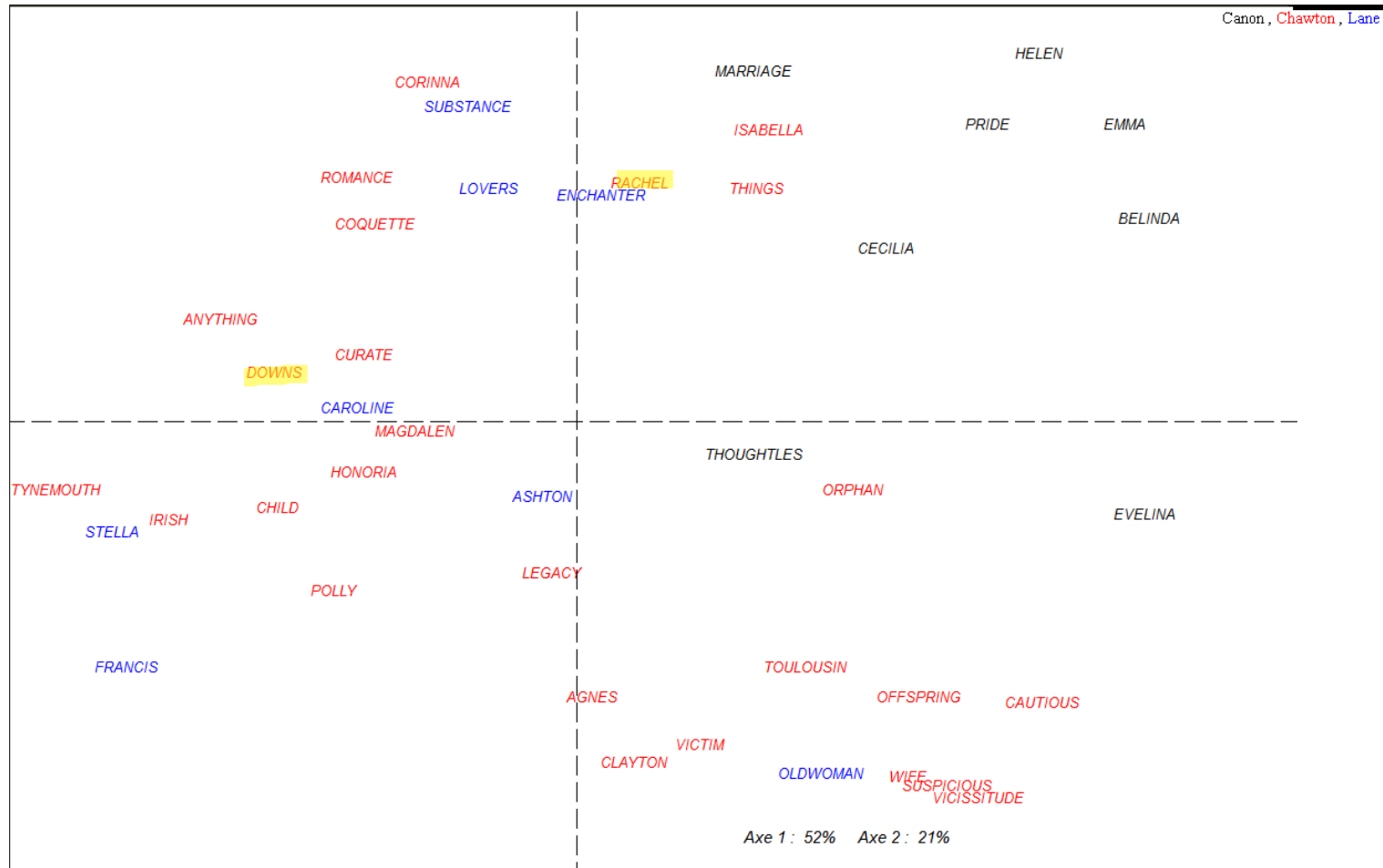
Lexical connection on types in W42 (*Hyperbase*)

Canonical novels in black, *Minerva novels in blue*,
non-Minerva Chawton novels in red

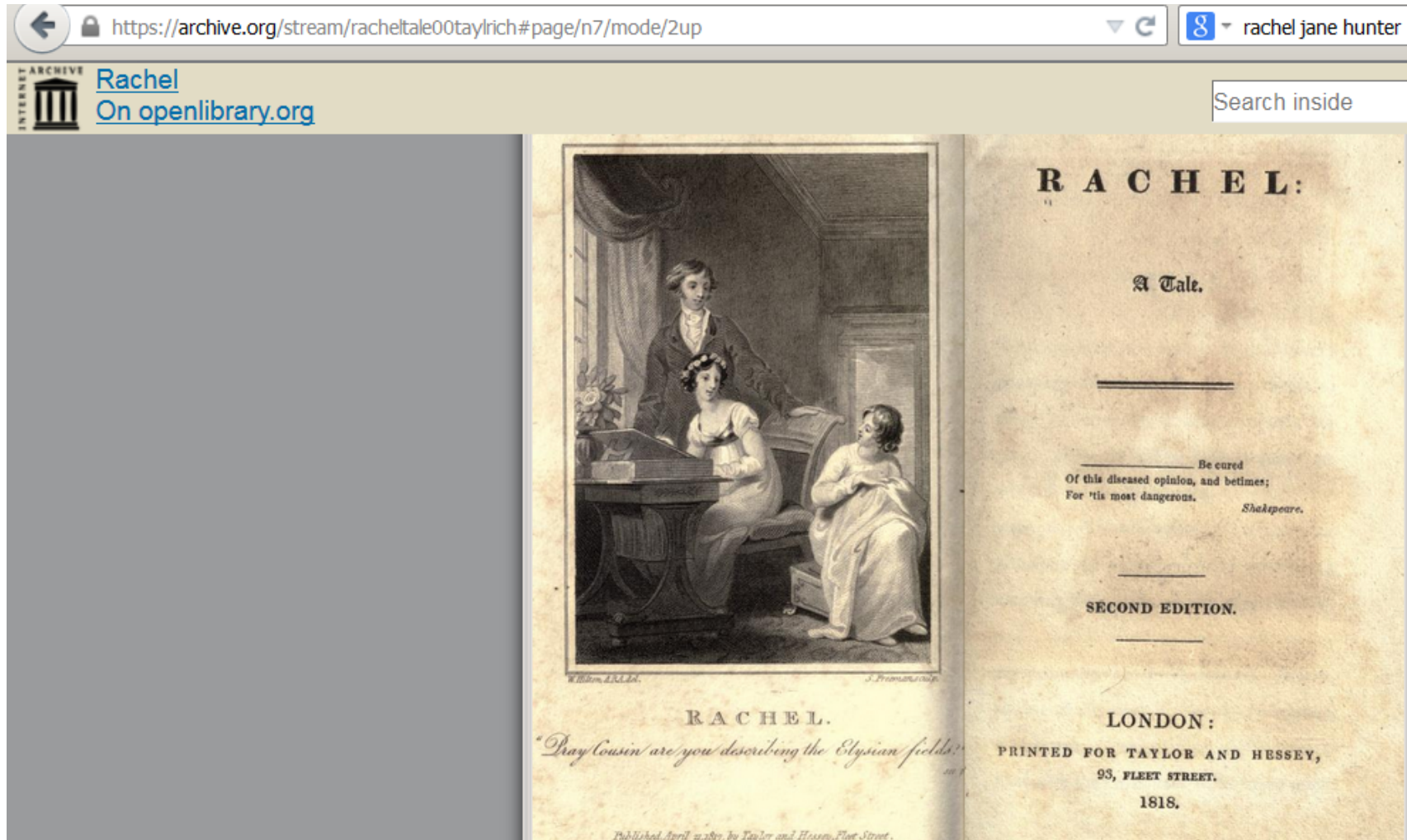


Lexical connection on **tokens** in W42 (*Hyperbase*)

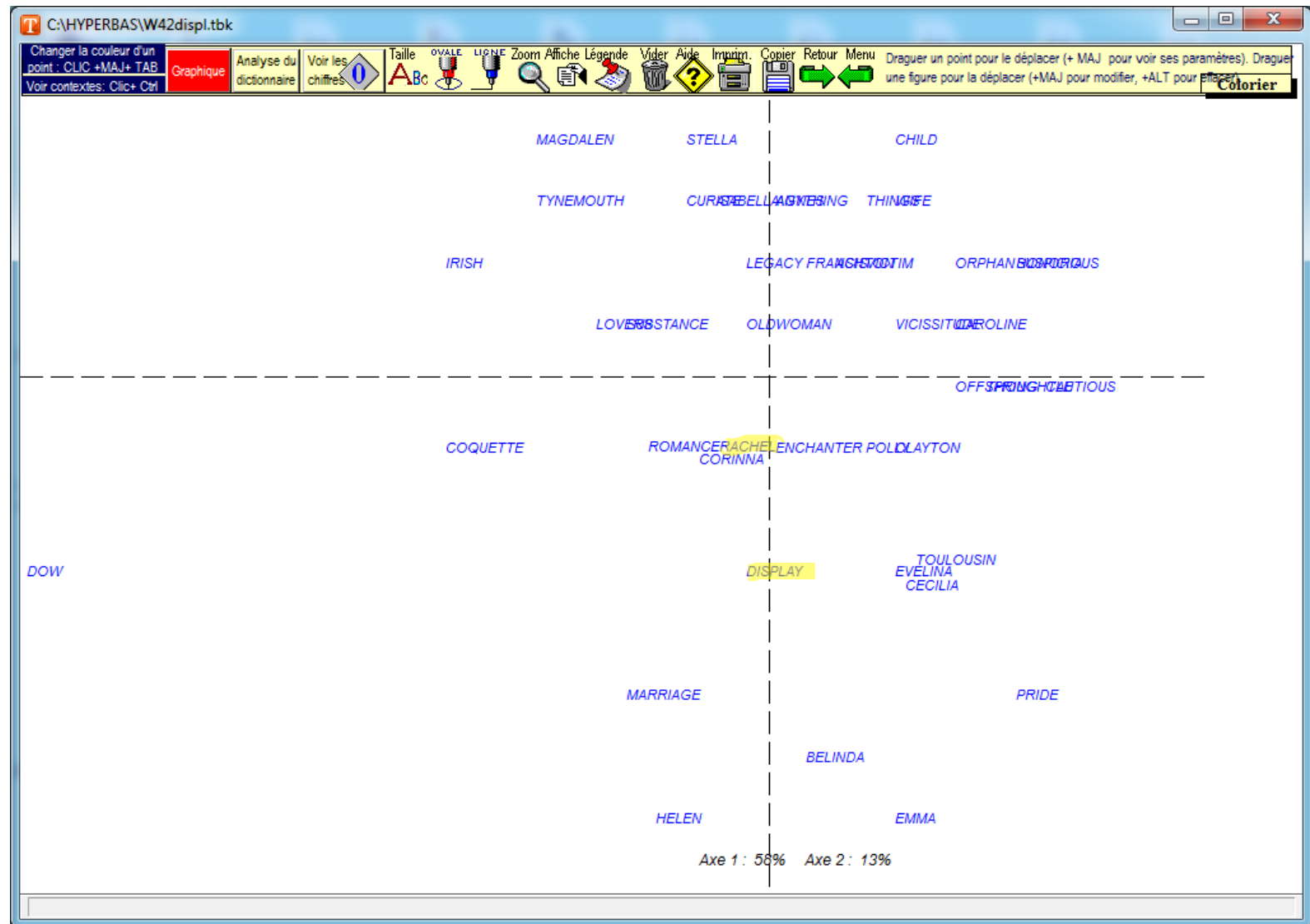
Canonical novels in black, Minerva novels in blue,
non-Minerva Chawton novels in red



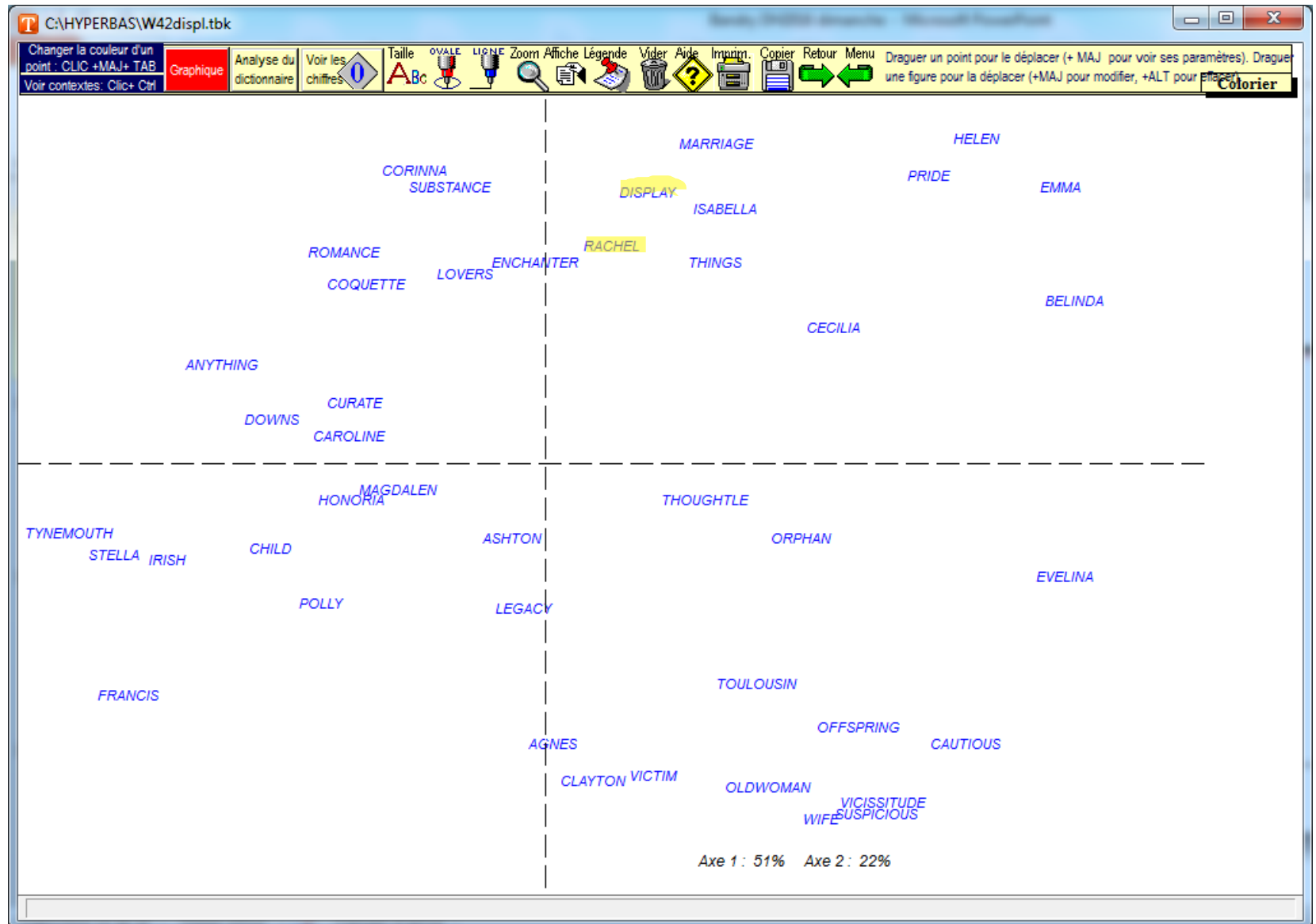
Rachel, Jane Hunter (1817): A 'highly original' tale told in unoriginal terms



W42+Display: Lexical connection types



W42+Display: Lexical connection tokens



What is style?

- Oh, well....
- Contrastive stylistics
 - [XVII-XVIII](#): Sterne & Swift, fiction & sermons
 - [JADT 2010](#): Smollett's *Roderick Random*

- ***ABO: Interactive Journal for Women in the Arts, 1640-1830 :***
[Chawton Novels Online, Women's Writing 1751-1834 and Computer-Aided Textual Analysis](http://scholarcommons.usf.edu/abo/vol5/iss2/1/)
<http://scholarcommons.usf.edu/abo/vol5/iss2/1/>
- ***Georgian Cities: 18th-century Cities***
[The Use of Toponyms in *Pride and Prejudice*](http://www.18thc-cities.paris-sorbonne.fr/Space-and-Emotions)
<http://www.18thc-cities.paris-sorbonne.fr/Space-and-Emotions>