

Maria Chiara Parisi

Curriculum Vitae

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Affiliation

University of Amsterdam
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Institute of Logic, Language and Computation (ILLC)

Current Position

Ph.D. candidate at the University of Amsterdam Faculty of Humanities - Institute for Logic, Language and Computation Sep 2021 - present

Project: *Mathematics & Scientific Explanation in Antiquity: A 'Slow Science' and 'Big Data' Study*

Supervisor: Arianna Betti; Co-supervisor: Marije Martijn

With a focus on clarifying the emergence of the paradox about mathematics (mathematics is explanatory vs. mathematics is *not* explanatory) within the ancient debate on scientific explanation, my research aims to find the stem and to assess the spread of the paradox over nine centuries by identifying actors, reconstructing the views and elucidating conceptual presuppositions, through qualitative, quantitative and computational methods.

Research Experience

Research Assistant to the NWO VICI project *Ideas at Scale - Towards a Computational History of Ideas (e-Ideas)* Aug 2019-Aug 2021

PI: Arianna Betti (University of Amsterdam)

I work with qualitative, quantitative and computational methods applied to the history of philosophy (e.g., building and annotating philosophical corpora for text-mining purposes). In particular, I focus on the use of digital tools in the analysis of philosophical texts in Classical Greek and (Neo-)Latin.

Research Assistant to the CLUE+ project *A case study in digital history of philosophy* Apr-July 2021

PI: Marije Martijn (VU Amsterdam)

I apply computational tools for topic modeling to a Greek philosophical corpus (~15 authors, 25 texts, 2M words) including Aristotle's *Organon* or logical works and its commentaries between the 2nd and 6th cent. CE.

Research Assistant to the CLUE+ project *A Digital History of Philosophy* Oct-Dec 2020

PI: Marije Martijn (VU Amsterdam)

I am researching digital tools for topic modeling ancient and medieval philosophy, especially for Classical Greek, Latin and Arabic corpora.

Education

Degrees

Universiteit van Amsterdam, the Netherlands

2017 – 2019

Master of Arts. Philosophy (research) (8/10)

Date: 28.06.2019

Thesis: *On How Perspectival Hylomorphism Got the Facts Wrong.*

Supervisor: Prof. dr. Arianna Betti

Sapienza Università di Roma, Italy

2013 – 2016

Bachelor of Arts. *Philosophy* (110 cum laude/110)

Date: 15.07.2016

Thesis: *Objects and Substances: an Aristotelian Metaphysics of Particular Ousia.*

Supervisor: Prof. Tito Magri

Selected Relevant Coursework (32; 26 unlisted, complete list available [here](#))

1. Programming in Python for Text Analysis
2. Tutorial: *Internship Concepts in Motion*
3. Methods and Debates in the History of Philosophy
4. Epistemology and Philosophy of Science
5. Theoretical Philosophy: Ontology & Metaphysics
6. History of Ancient Philosophy: Aristotle's *Prior and Posterior Analytics, Metaphysics, Physics*

Selected Relevant Workshops and Schools Attended (16; 9 unlisted, complete list available [here](#))

1. *Linking a text to LiLa Knowledge Database* Digital Workshop, Linked Pasts 6, December 11, 2020.
2. *HIPE (Identifying Historical People, Places, and other Entities)* Digital Workshop, CLEF 2020, September 14, 2020.
3. *Transkribus for Advanced Use* Digital Workshop, Huygens ING, May 19, 2020.
4. *CREATE Digital History Workshop*, University of Amsterdam, November 28, 2019.
5. *International Congress of Logic, Methodology and Philosophy of Science and Technology (CLMPST)*, Institute of Philosophy of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague, August 5-10, 2019.
6. *Summer School on Aristotle's Metaphysics - Yesterday and Today*, Università' della Svizzera Italiana & Universität Luzern, September 3-6, 2018 (selected participant).
7. *MCMP Summer School in Mathematical Philosophy for Female Students*, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, July 15-21, 2018 (selected participant).

Honours, prizes, scholarships and grants

- Fully funded attendance (€ 500) to *Summer School on Aristotle's Metaphysics - Yesterday and Today*, Università' della Svizzera Italiana & Universität Luzern. Sept 3-6, 2018
- Travel grant (€ 100) to attend *MCMP Summer School in Mathematical Philosophy for Female Students*, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München. Jul 15-21, 2018
- Merit-based Internship (€1300) at the Philosophy Library, Sapienza Università di Roma 2014 – 2016

Teaching Experience

COURSES

- Teaching Assistant in the course Data-Driven History of Ideas, MA Philosophy, University of Amsterdam Feb-Mar 2022
- Teaching Assistant in the course Logic and Philosophy, MA Philosophy, University of Amsterdam Sep-Oct 2022

SUPERVISION

- Internship Concept in Motion, MA Philosophy, University of Amsterdam (individual supervision) Mar-Jul 2021
MA Student: F. Eskens
- PPE Honour Course “A digital history of ideas”, BA PPE, VU Amsterdam (joint supervision with M. Martijn) Feb-Jul 2021
BA Student: L. Karreman
- MA Thesis Project *Creating a generalized framework to support the computational study of historical literature*, MA Computer Science, TU Eindhoven in collaboration with the University of Amsterdam (joint supervision as expert user and general feedback & support, with A. Salway and A. Betti) Jan-Jul 2021
MA student: D. Kortleven
- Project Computational Philosophy, MA Philosophy, University of Amsterdam (joint supervision with Y. Oortwijn, F. Eskens, A. Betti, and A. Salway) Jun 2021
MA students: H. D’Arcy, E. Lissoni, I. Luden, F. Spencer-Piacentini

Research Output

PAPERS

Published

- [1] Bloem, J., **Parisi, M.C.**, Reynaert, M., Oortwijn Y., and Betti, A. Distributional Semantics for Neo-Latin. In *Proceedings of LT4HALA 2020 - 1st Workshop on Language Technologies for Historical and Ancient Languages* (pp. 84–93), LREC 2020. Marseille: European Language Resources Association (ELRA). [\[OA\]](#)

This paper applies distributional semantic models to a very small Neo-Latin corpus in order to discuss the problem of creating and evaluating quality Neo-Latin word embeddings for the purpose of philosophical research. Builds on [2] and [3].

Ongoing

- [2] Van den Berg, H., **Parisi, M.C.**, Oortwijn, Y., and Betti, A., The Spread of the Mathematical Method in Eighteenth-Century Germany: A Quantitative Investigation. (Ongoing; first draft available [here](#); submission planned for September 2021; target: *Synthese*).

This paper assesses the influence of Wolff’s ‘Mathematical Method’ in 18th-century Germany by applying a mixed (quantitative, qualitative, and computational) approach to a bilingual (German/Latin), multi-author 18th-century philosophy corpus of approximately 350 books. I have been annotating 160 books written in Latin.

- [3] Betti, A., Van den Berg, H., Oortwijn, Y., **Parisi, M.C.**, Wang, S., Koopman, R., and Bloem, J. Historians and the ‘Great Unread’ A New Method for Objective Corpus Building in the History of Philosophy. (Ongoing; submission planned for October 2021; target: *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*).

This paper describes existing practices in source selection and corpus building and proposes a new method of corpus selection.

INVITED TALKS

- [4] **Parisi, M.C.**, and Oortwijn, Y., “Distributional Semantics for Neo-Latin”, Neo-Latin Studies and Digital Humanities, International Association for Neo-Latin Studies, online, April 15, 2021. **(international)**
- [5] **Parisi, M.C.**, "Mathematics & Scientific Explanation in Antiquity: A Slow Science and Big Data Study", Workshop on Neoplatonism and the Sciences, March 12, 2021. **(international)**
- [6] Betti, A. and **Parisi, M.C.**, “Computational History of (ancient) Ideas”, *Digital Classics* Workshop, Oikos National Research School in Classical Studies, The Netherlands, online, March 1, 2020. **(national)**
- [7] **Parisi, M.C.**, “Hylomorphism and The Principles of Extensionality”, *Propositions, properties, sets, and other abstract objects* Workshop, Amsterdam, February 7-8, 2020. **(international)**

CONTRIBUTED TALKS WITH ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

- [8] **Parisi, M.C.**, “Hylomorphism and The Principles of Extensionality”, Spring School on *Wholes and Their Parts. Mereology and Its History*, CUSO, ISFI, SNSF-Project *The Metaphysics of Quantum Objects*, April 30 - May 3, 2020. (postponed due to COVID-19). **(international)**
- [9] **Parisi, M.C.**, “The Problem of Material Constitution: identity and composition of ordinary objects”, Summer School on *Aristotle's Metaphysics - Yesterday and Today*, Università della Svizzera Italiana & Universität Luzern, September 6, 2018. **(international)**

INVITED GUEST LECTURES

- [10] “Computational History of Ideas: preliminaries and corpus-building” in the course “Data-driven History of Ideas”, MA course, Universiteit van Amsterdam, November 20, 2020. **(national)**
- [11] “Computational History of Ideas: preliminaries and corpus-building” in the course “History of Ideas: Foundational Topics and Computational Applications”, MA Philosophy, Università di Torino, May 19, 2020. **(international)**
- [12] “Aristotle’s Mereology” in the course “Logic and Philosophy”, MA course, Universiteit van Amsterdam, February 14, 2020. **(national)**

INTERNAL SEMINAR TALKS (all national)

- [13] **Parisi, M.C.**, “A Digital History of Philosophy”, at Agora - VU History of Philosophy seminar, Amsterdam, October 30, 2020.
- [14] **Parisi, M.C.**, and Salway, A., “Developing a database and associated tools for corpus building”, at e-Ideas seminar, Amsterdam, October 27, 2020.
- [15] **Parisi, M.C.**, and Van den Berg, H., “Expert Annotations”, at e-Ideas seminar, Zuidoostbeemster, February 11, 2020.

RESOURCES: Software, Data Models, User Scenarios, Corpora, Bibliographic (Meta)dataset Curation, Annotation Sets, Philosophical Models, Annotation Schemes & Workflows and Ground Truth Preparation. **All resources publicly accessible by clicking on the underlined text.**

Software: Bibliobase, *Bibliographic Manager & Corpus Building Tool* (software prototype, data model & user scenarios)

- [16] **Parisi, M.C.**, ‘[Bibliobase](#)’ (software prototype), Jan 2021.

This is a screenshot of a GUI-equipped tool prototype based on FileMaker that aims to help researchers to collect, store and annotate (collections of) books metadata, to sort/filter data easily, and to retrieve hierarchical relations among the digital copies and the works; it will also help researchers to access quickly the *best* digital copies of a work.

- [17] **Parisi, M.C.**, and Betti, A., '[Bibliobase Data Model 1.0](#)', (data model), Oct 2020.
This is version 1.0 of the Data Model for BiblioBase [15]. It draws on the FRBR (Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records) conceptual entity-relationship model that explains relationships between entities appearing in records in a hierarchical structure. The Bibliobase Data Model has been optimised for corpus building procedures and to work with digital versions of texts.
- [18] **Parisi, M.C.**, and Betti, A., '[FileMaker & Gbooks for User-Controlled Corpus Building - User Scenarios](#)', July - September 2020.
These are two user scenarios that describe how the use of FileMaker and gBooks can help researchers and improve the quality of corpus building procedures. FileMaker is the relational database software on which BiblioBase [15-16] is based.

Corpora

- [19-20] [The Spread of the Mathematical Method - Latin Corpus \(PDFs\)](#) and [The Spread of the Mathematical Method - German Corpus \(PDFs\)](#)

The folder contains all the Latin and German texts in pdf with an OCR layer downloaded. We have two distinct corpora: one for the specific purpose of the philosophical research for [2] (164 texts) and the other for other purposes, e.g. (computational) linguistic research (195 texts). For e.g. linguistic purposes it is not relevant whether a text meets the criteria specified in [2], so texts that do not strictly fall under these criteria are included.

Bibliographic Datasets & Corpora Metadata Curation

- [21-22] **Parisi, M.C.**, and Van den Berg, H., '[The Spread of the Mathematical Method - Latin corpus for Linguistic Analysis](#)' and '[The Spread of the Mathematical Method - German corpus for Linguistic Analysis](#)', November 2020.
These spreadsheets contain the bibliographic metadata of the Latin and German corpora for linguistic analysis. The records are chronologically ordered according to the correct year of publication. Each record is associated with a URL link to the full-text.
- [23-24] **Parisi, M.C.**, and Van den Berg, H., '[MM18th - German corpus for Philosophical Analysis](#) and [MM18th - Latin corpus for Philosophical Analysis](#)', November 2020
These spreadsheets contain the bibliographic metadata of the Latin and German corpora, built as described in [3], for the philosophical analysis of [2]. Each of them includes a first worksheet that contains also excluded texts and duplicates, and a second worksheet that is the final corpus containing records of texts published between 1720 and 1790 in Germany. The records are chronologically ordered according to the correct year of publication and the year of their first edition is specified. Each record is associated with a URL link to the full-text.
- [25] Van den Berg, H., **Parisi, M.C.**, Wang, S., and Oortwijn, Y., '[Expert Metadata Corpus Based on Risse Spread of the Mathematical Method - Phase II.](#)', February 2020.
This document contains several versions of the corpus used for [2]. The description of the corpus building procedure can be found in [2] and [3].
- [26] **Parisi, M.C.**, and Martijn, M., '[Digital History of Philosophy - Curated Directory of Corpora](#)', (dynamic), Dec 2020.
This spreadsheet is a dataset of Ancient Greek, Latin and Arabic corpora and library databases that are relevant for the *A Digital History of Philosophy project* (see **Current Positions**).
- [27] **Parisi, M.C.**, and Reynaert, M., '[The Spread of the Mathematical Method - Latin Background Corpora](#)', July 2020.
This spreadsheet represents a dataset of background corpora and library catalogues that are relevant for a follow-up we plan to [2], namely we plan to build an OCR-ed and postcorrected (by using corpus-induced post-correction), enriched and segmented corpus from the pdfs of 164 texts.

- [28] **Parisi, M.C.**, '[EvaLatin - Neo-Latin Dataset for Nonce2Vec](#)', February 2020

This dataset is the Neo-Latin corpus used in [1] and consists of a small, manually-typed and manually-checked set of 30 target terms and, for each term, three sentences in which the term occurs. The target term is replaced in the snippets with '___'. This corpus was a very small, but sufficient set of data to test the consistency of Neo-Latin word embeddings.

Annotation Sets

- [29] Van den Berg, H., **Parisi, M.C.**, Oortwijn, Y., Koopman, R., and Wang, S., '[Annotation Expert Metadata Spread of the Mathematical Method - Phase II.](#)', November 2020.

This document contains all the annotation results for [2], for which I was one of the two annotators, and an earlier version of the corpus for that paper.

- [30] Van den Berg, H., **Parisi, M.C.**, and Oortwijn, Y., '[Annotation Expert Metadata Spread of the Mathematical Method - Phase I.](#)', December 2019.

This document contains a deprecated version of the annotation results for [2], for which I was one of the two annotators, and an earlier version of the corpus metadata for that paper.

Philosophical Models, Annotation Schemes & Workflows and Ground Truth Preparation

- [31] Betti, A., **Parisi, M.C.**, Oortwijn, Y., and Van den Berg, H., '[Interpretative Framework \(Model\) for Mathematical Method](#)', July 2020.

This document contains the interpretive conceptual framework or model of (Wolff's) Mathematical Method that has been used to analyse the Latin and German corpora for [2].

- [32] Betti, A., **Parisi, M.C.**, Oortwijn, Y., and Van den Berg, H., '[The Spread of the Mathematical Method - Annotation Scheme](#)', July 2020.

This document reports (i) the conditions of the model for (Wolff's) Mathematical Method and (ii) the annotation scheme according to which every condition of the model has been annotated, including the sub-questions that were answered for each condition during the annotations for [2].

- [33] **Parisi, M.C.**, '[MM18th - Keywords Searched \(Latin\)](#)', July 2020.

This document contains the lists of the searched Latin words divided according to the criteria of the model of Mathematical Method [28]. This list of words was used to search the relevant passages during the annotations for [2].

- [34] **Parisi, M.C.**, and Van den Berg, H., '[The Spread of the Mathematical Method - Relevant Documents + Link&Descriptions](#)', June 2020.

This document contains all the relevant documents/folders for [2], their descriptions, and their links. The document is divided into what concerns (i) annotations, (ii) the model, and (iii) the corpus.

Annotation Workflow Descriptions

- [35] **Parisi, M.C.**, and Van den Berg, H., '[The Spread of the Mathematical Method - Post Annotation Report](#)', June 2020.

This report describes what has been done during the annotations for [2]. The report is divided into what concerns (i) annotations, (ii) the model, and (iii) the corpus.

- [36] **Parisi, M.C.**, and Van den Berg, H., '[Expert Annotations Workflow](#)', February 2020.

This document describes the annotation's workflow step-by-step for each of the two annotators (Maria Chiara Parisi and Hein van den Berg).

Pilot Studies for Ground Truths

- [37] Betti, A., **Parisi, M. C.**, and Van den Berg, H., '[Conceptual Network Data The Spread of Mathematical Method](#)', Ongoing.

This document contains a conceptual network of relevant terms collected during the annotations for [2]. It has 8 worksheets, each corresponding to one of the seven criteria of the [interpretative framework](#) (Model) for the concept of *mathematical method* (except for the third worksheet *Sciences in B*, which is a list of sciences that could adopt the mathematical method in 18th-century, built on the basis of the annotations results). We listed a Latin term (or its translation), a related concept (in English), and a German term (or its translation) on the same row to show that the two terms relate to the same concept. We then scored the relevance of the concept to the criterion of the Model considered in the worksheet on a scale from 1 (slightly relevant) to 3 (very relevant). The data is meant as a

preparation for the construction of an expert ground truth in the sense of Betti et al. 2020. "Expert Concept-Modeling Ground Truth Construction For Word Embeddings Evaluation in Concept-Focused Domains." COLING2020.

Other

Languages

Italian (mother tongue), English (Proficient, C1), French (Intermediate, B1), Latin and Classical Greek (reading and translating)

Computer Skills

SQL (intermediate), Python (basic), HTML (basic)

Administrative Skills

Conferences, workshops, and courses organisation

General assistance to large project coordination and management (spreadsheets, communication, financial paperwork)