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Studying Selections of Poems by Statistical Methods

A sample of selections of P.B. Shelley's poems is studied by applying various statistical methods. The selections, produced by different editors in the time range from 1840 to 2014, were obtained from published selected editions and anthologies. Multidimensional scaling is applied to both selections and poems, with distances obtained computed by transforming appropriate correlation coefficients. Then cluster and classification analysis is performed on the scaled data. Conclusions about evolution and some non-obvious features of the reception of Shelley's poetry can be made from the study.