Entropic Analysis of the Latin Language

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Abstract

In this paper I will explore the entropy of the Latin language with a particular eye towards the differences in entropy between authors and between times when Latin was a living language. I expect to find that not only are the texts of authors discernible by their entropies, but that there is a gradual change in the entropy of the language from the earliest Latin texts until later ‘Church Latin’ texts. This investigation will involve processing large numbers of Latin texts, available in digital format from the Tufts Perseus Project (http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/).