

Cycle de conférences du CTELA

RYTHME ET RÉPÉTITION

3^e conférence

CTELA salle D304

20 mai 2026, 17h-19h

Petr Plecháč (Académie des Sciences
Tchèque, Prague):

Comparative Computational Poetics

<http://ctela.univ-cotedazur.fr>

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ARTS ET HUMANITÉ



Résumé de la conférence

Petr Plecháč: *Comparative Computational Poetics*

The talk will introduce PoeTree, a standardised, open-access collection of poetic corpora in eleven languages, and demonstrate how such dataset may be used in cross-language comparative study of poetry, using the case of fixed forms.

PoeTree brings together poetry in Czech, English, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Norwegian, Portuguese, Russian, Slovenian, and Spanish. In total, it comprises more than 330,000 poems, nearly 12 million lines, and close to 90 million tokens. The resource is designed to be both human- and machine-accessible: researchers can work with the data via direct download, full-text in-browser search, a REST API, and dedicated Python and R packages.

As an illustration of its comparative potential, the talk will focus on fixed forms (sonnet, terza rima, ritornello...). Defined primarily by finite or recurrent rhyme schemes—features that are largely independent of any single language—these forms have travelled easily across European traditions while often retaining associations with their earlier uses. An experienced reader who encounters a fourteen-line sonnet, regardless of language, may anticipate themes of love or introspection, while terza rima almost inevitably evokes Dante's Divine Comedy and, by extension, the grand tradition of Italian Renaissance. The presentation will show how methods inspired by corpus linguistics and bioinformatics can be used to detect such forms at scale, and how NLP-driven modelling can trace the semantic and cultural associations that accompany them across languages and traditions.

Petr Plecháč est chercheur, spécialiste de l'analyse computationnelle de la poésie. Membre du Cercle linguistique de Prague, il dirige le Groupe de Recherche de la Versification à l'Institut d'Etudes Littéraires de l'Académie des Sciences Tchèque.

La conférence sera suivie d'un débat et d'un pot. Vous êtes toutes et tous les bienvenu.e.s !

Lien zoom:

<https://univ-cotedazur.zoom.us/j/83741534057?pwd=IkxDkBXfPbWVygMBPC7tgQOwnducT4.1>

Meeting chat link: <https://univ-cotedazur.zoom.us/jc/83741534057>

Meeting ID: 837 4153 4057

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