

# Unraveling the diversity of scholars in the Humanities: Profiling humanists based on their publication patterns



**UACHASS**  
Research-in-progress  
paper



RESSH  
2024

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# 1. ■ INTRODUCTION

## ➤ Main assumptions

- Humanities differ from others fields in **publication pattern**
  - ↳ *prioritize books and monographs*
- **Coverage issues** arise due to the local focus of these disciplines
  - ↳ *better but incomplete coverage in national databases*
- **Citations** are not a valid indicator of impact
  - ↳ *traditional indicators are not suitable for evaluation*

# 1. INTRODUCTION

➤ Why such differences?

Particularity	Dimension
<b>Audience focus</b> (Hammarfelt, 2016)	Domestic and interdisciplinary; books reach all audiences, including non-scholarly
<b>Production</b> (Reale et al., 2018)	Reflexive, non-cumulative, focuses on new approaches rather than discoveries
<b>Research style</b> (Guzmán-Valenzuela et al., 2022)	Higher rate of solo research, although decreasing
<b>Disciplines</b> (Kulczycki et al., 2018)	Differences influenced by disciplines, country size, and cultural heritage
<b>Academic prestige</b> (Cronin & La Barre, 2004; Hammarfelt, 2017)	Books and monographs are essential for recognition, tenure, and societal influence
<b>Validation</b> (Huang & Chang, 2008)	Humanities also gain validation from the general public through publications in magazines, newspapers, etc.

# 1. INTRODUCTION

› Bibliometrics

RESSH 2024

RESEARCH QUESTION

To what extent are humanists different from others?

NOT OUTPUTS

## CHALLENGES

Mismatch with  
STEM metrics  
for evaluating  
Humanities  
research

Database  
coverage  
issues in  
Humanities

## SOLUTIONS

Alternative  
methods for  
evaluating  
Humanities  
research

New metrics  
for  
Humanities  
research  
evaluation

### MAIN OBJECTIVE

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To assess the **degree of bibliodiversity** in the Humanities by conducting a longitudinal analysis of humanists and exploring the relationship between publication patterns, generational differences, and thematic variations

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### SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. To analyse the **publication patterns** of humanists in different fields using the manually curated author profiles in Dialnet
2. To explore **generational characteristics** that may influence the publication patterns of humanists
3. To investigate **topic-related factors** that may affect the publication patterns of humanists

# 3. METHODOLOGY

## ➤ Data



Daniel Torres-Salinas

**Instituciones**

Universidad de Granada  
(Departamento de Información y Comunicación)

**Área de conocimiento**

Bibliotecología y Documentación

**Aclaración de materia/profesión**

Técnico de Gestión de la Investigación / CEO de EC3metrics Spin off - UGR

**Páginas web**

<https://sites.google.com/go.ugr.es/torressalinas/> <sup>↗</sup>  
[http://directorio.ugr.es/static/PersonalUGR/\\*show/9eac5cce76f561e411915e09f3be2...](http://directorio.ugr.es/static/PersonalUGR/*show/9eac5cce76f561e411915e09f3be2...) <sup>↗</sup>

**Portal Institucional (Dialnet CRIS)**

[Universidad de Granada](#) <sup>↗</sup>

**Identificadores de autor**

[Academia.edu](#) <sup>↗</sup>

[Google Scholar](#) <sup>↗</sup>

[OpenAlex](#) <sup>↗</sup>

[ORCID](#) <sup>↗</sup>

[ResearchGate](#) <sup>↗</sup>

[ResearcherID](#) <sup>↗</sup>

[Scopus](#) <sup>↗</sup>

**Periodo de publicación recogido**

2005 - 2024

**Dialnet Métricas:** 987 Citas (Índice H: 19)

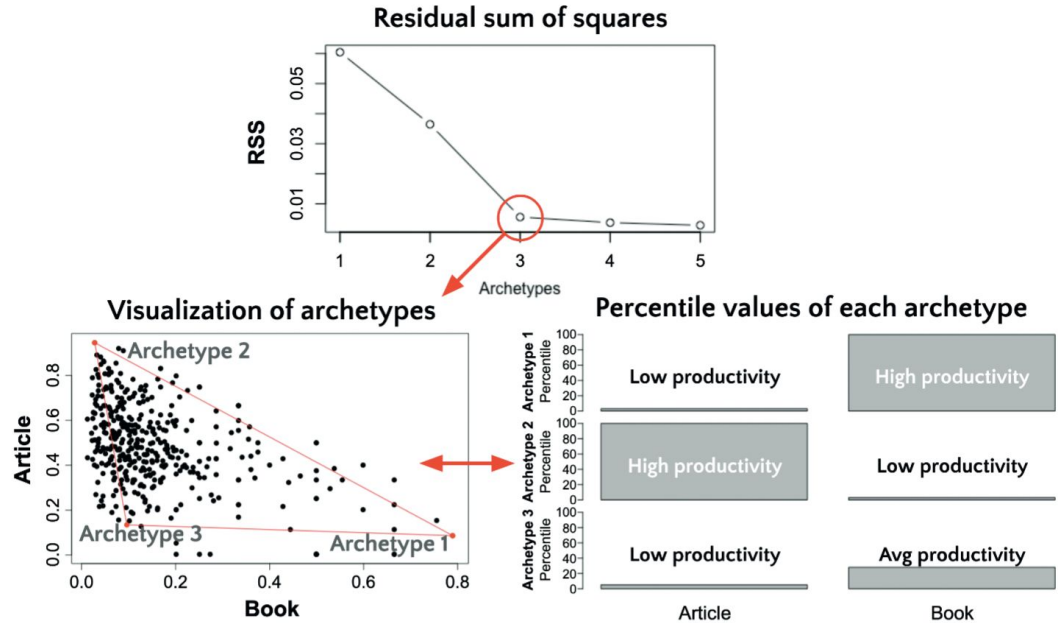
Artículos de revistas (76) Colaboraciones en obras colectivas (12) Libros (2) Tesis (1) Tesis dirigidas (2)

- **Source:** Dialnet, a comprehensive bibliographic database covering around 2,500 journals in Social Sciences and Humanities from Spain and South America
- **Dataset:** 39,753 researchers who began publishing from 1950 onwards across 13 research fields and their publications, each with at least 2 scholarly outputs

# 3. METHODOLOGY

## ➤ Methods

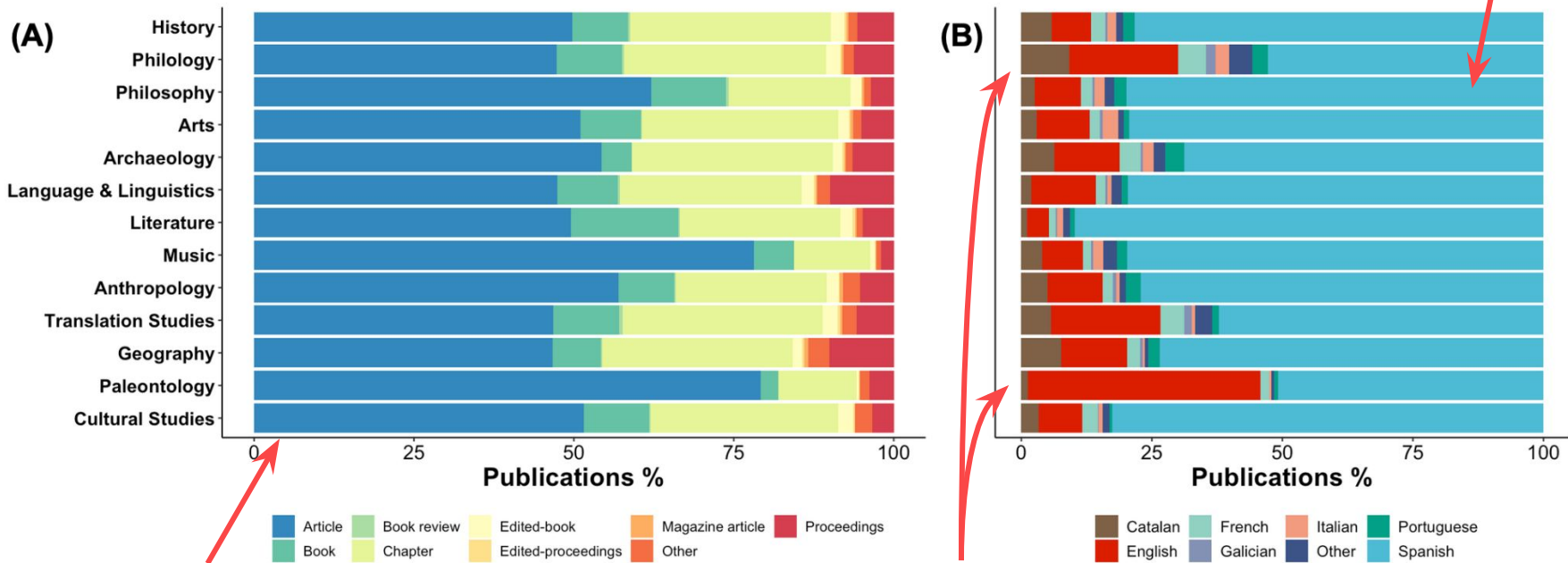
- We analyse 8 variables, including authored publications (*journal articles, proceedings papers, book chapters, books*), edited publications (*books, conference proceedings*), and outreach (*mainstream and local publications*)
- We apply archetypal analysis to identify extreme profiles (**archetypes**) in the dataset, indicating the distance ( $\alpha$  score) between cases and each archetype



Arroyo-Machado, W. & Robinson-Garcia, N. (2024). Towards a Science of Humanities: How Big Data can Solve the Limitations of Scientometrics. In A. Gallego Cuiñas & D. Torres-Salinas (Ed.), *Humanities and Big Data in Ibero-America: Theory, methodology and practical applications* (pp. 75-92). Berlin, Boston: De Gruyter.  
<https://doi.org/10.1515/9783110753523-006>

# 4. RESULTS

## ➤ Description of data



Spanish predominates

articles are the primary publication type, though in some disciplines they constitute only half of the outputs

the most language-diverse discipline



# 4. RESULTS

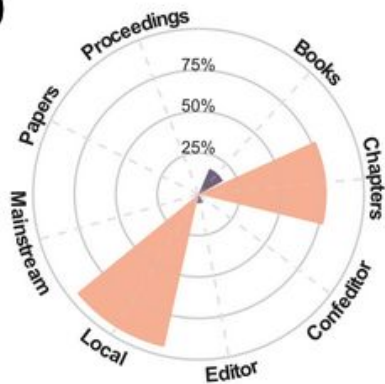
➤ Archetypal analysis

## How to interpret each archetype

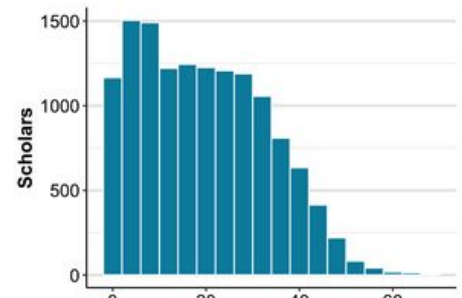
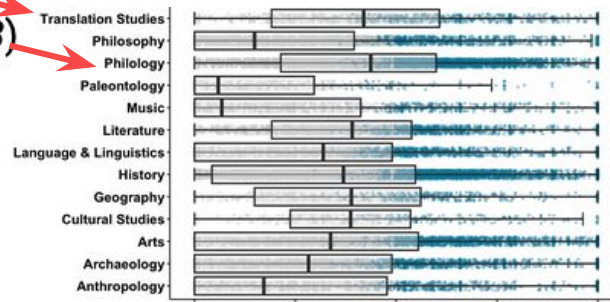
researchers from **Translation Studies** and **Philology** are closest to this archetype

researchers' academic age concentrates up to 30

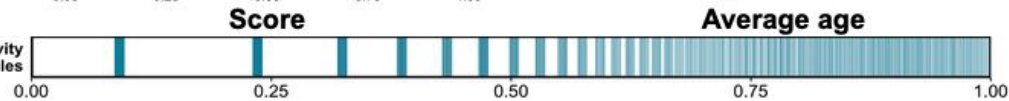
(A)



(B)



Productivity percentiles



high percentage of publishing book chapters in local oriented scholarly publications

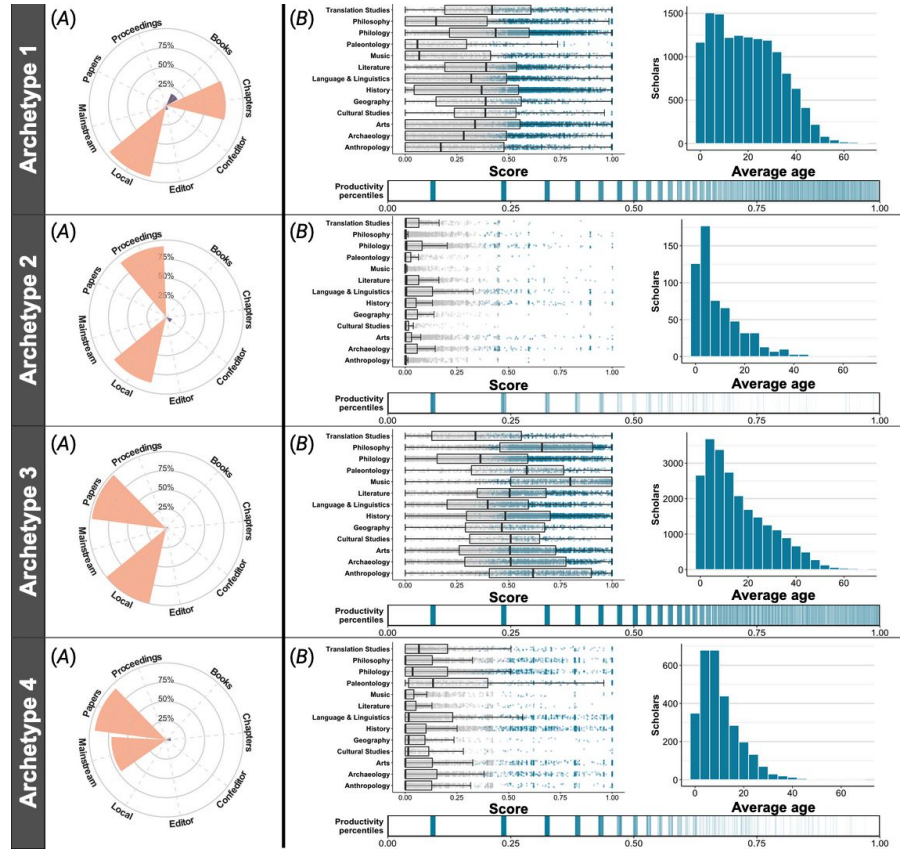
concentration of researchers in the most productive percentile

# 4. RESULTS

## ↳ Archetypal analysis

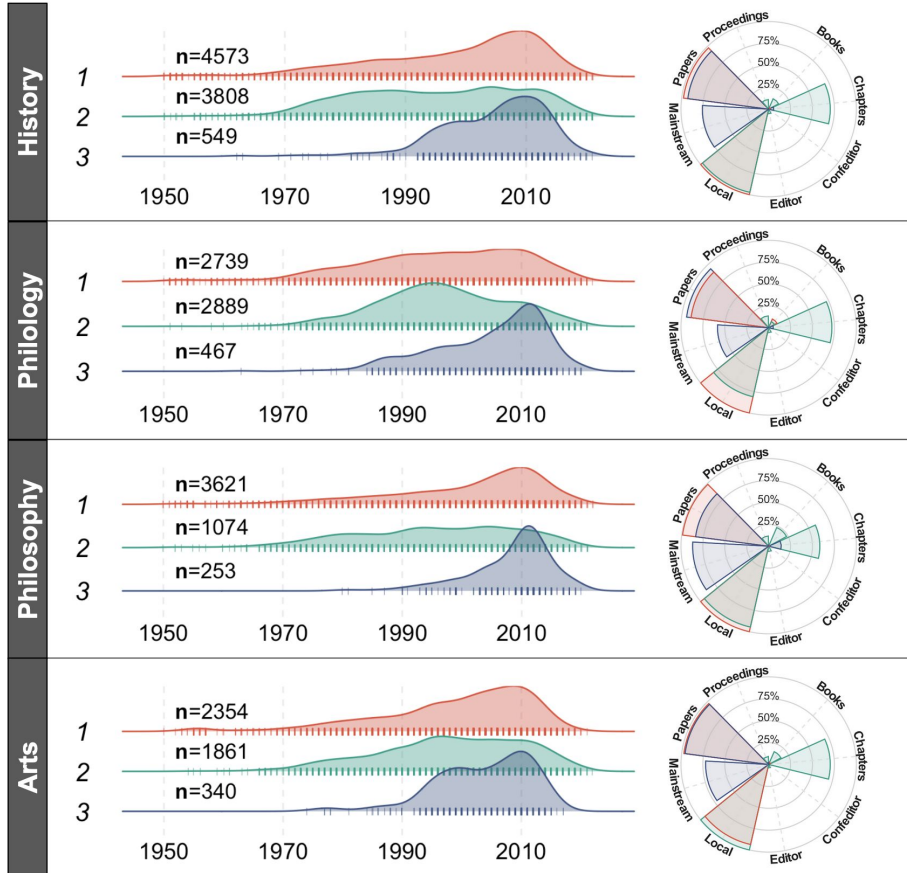
Four distinct researcher profiles:

- **Archetype 1 (34.1%)** mainly publish books in non-English languages
- **Archetype 2 (1.5%)** are early-career researchers who primarily publish local conference proceedings
- **Archetype 3 (57.1%)** focus on publishing papers in local journals, common across all disciplines
- **Archetype 4 (7.3%)** primarily publish papers in international journals, with notable representation in Paleontology and Translation Studies



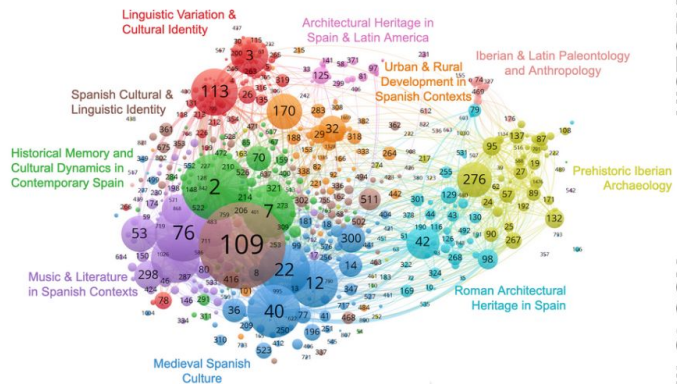
# 4. RESULTS

## ➤ Patterns by field



- Across disciplines, there is a **decline in publishing local book chapters**, with newer generations favoring research articles in mainstream journals
- **Archetype 1** (local papers) and **archetype 3** (mainstream papers) are growing, while **archetype 2** (local book chapters) is declining in popularity
- Similar publication patterns and generational trends are observed across History, Philology, Philosophy and Arts

# THEMATIC LANDSCAPE



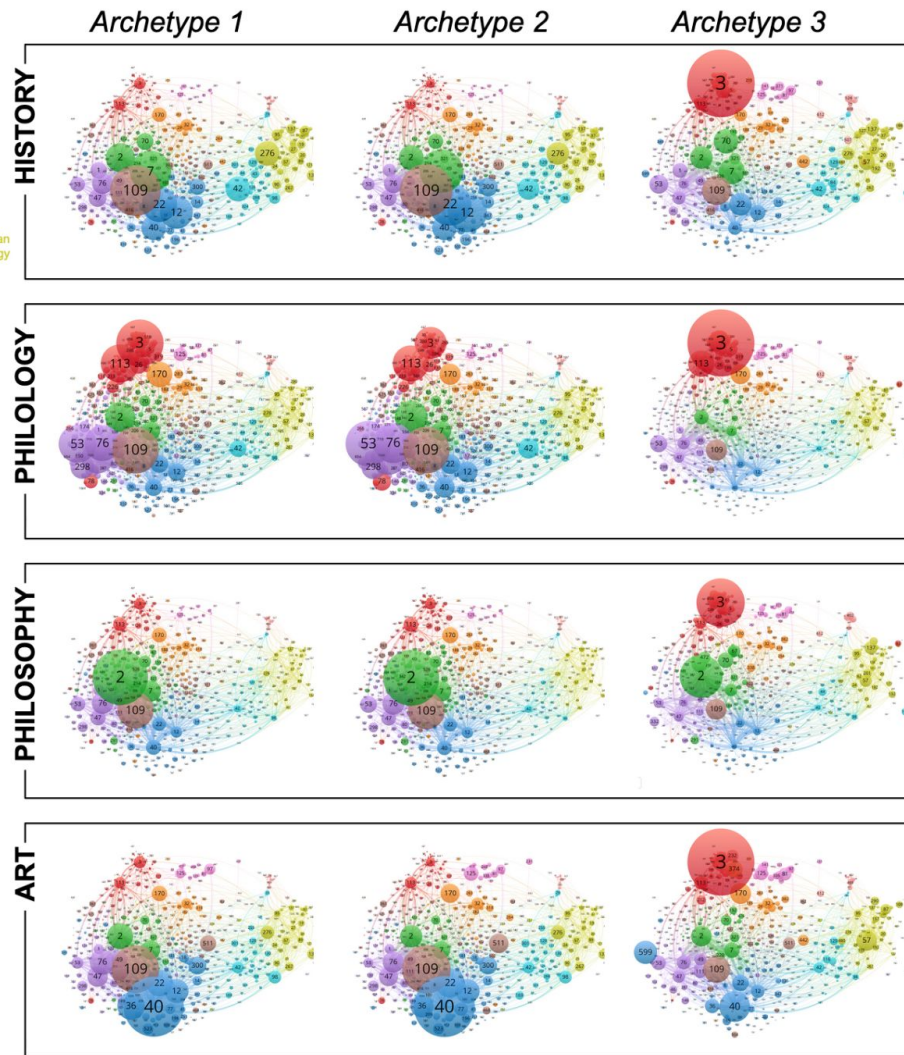
## Base map

**Creation:** From the titles of the documents, keywords have been extracted and a term co-mention network has been generated (only in Spanish and English), grouping the resulting terms into clusters, which represent research themes.

**Interpretation:** The general map includes 871 topics, which are further clustered into 10 major areas represented by colors. The size of the node indicates the number of scholarly outputs on that topic.

## Overlay map

From the general map, an overlay is created for each archetype of each discipline, showcasing the research fronts where they publish the most.



1. This paper reveals the extent of **bibliodiversity** in the Humanities by identifying distinct **researcher profiles** and highlighting the unique characteristics associated with each
2. Evolving scholarly practices are led by **newer generations** favouring diverse and mainstream formats over more traditional publication patterns
3. Generational and thematic differences are evident, with significant **changes in research agendas** required to adopt new publication practices

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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## Any questions?

*Unraveling the diversity of scholars in the **Humanities**:  
**Profiling** humanists based on their publication patterns*



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