

Engaging in digital multimodal composing for science communication online

Female scientists' perspective

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Science communication and gender

Institutional practices: **Open Science** agenda

Women scientists more likely than men to engage in science communication (Pérez-Llantada et al. 2022)

Science communication as an alternative to traditional publication genres to increase the visibility and impact of women scientists (Lillis, McMullan & Tuck 2018)



UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science
<https://doi.org/10.54677/MNMH8546>

Science communication and digital genres



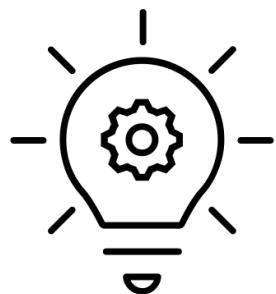
Digital genre knowledge

- Genre knowledge transfer (Pérez-Llantada 2023)
- Hybrid rhetorical communicative purpose(s) and audience(s)
- Genre networks

Digital literacies

- Multimodality, hypertextuality, interactivity (Pérez-Llantada 2021)
- Digital technologies
- Remediation & recontextualization (Luzón 2017)

Research questions



RQ1 What challenges are encountered during the composing process and what strategies do they develop to overcome them? What motivations, feelings, beliefs are involved?

RQ2 What identity is developed?

RQ3 What is the ecology / the assemblage the genre is part of like?

Participants and data collection



CASE STUDY RESEARCH

3 STEMM women scientists

Members of The Spanish Association of Women Scientists



Design of qualitative data collection instruments



INSTRUMENTS

- 1 **Digital literacy self-assessment checklist**
What is your level of competence in multimodal orchestration and digital technologies?

- 2 **Autobiography of a composing a digital genre**
How do you go about composing a digital text for science dissemination beyond experts?
- 3 **Genre plot**
What relations does this text establish with other texts?

Data analysis



- Inductive approach to developing codes & categories
- Coding in several cycles “to develop a sense of categorical, thematic, conceptual, and/or theoretical organization” (Saldaña 2009, p. 149)

The screenshot displays the ATLAS.ti software interface, version 8.0. The main window shows a list of documents in the center pane, which include various types of files such as PDFs and images. On the left, there is a navigation bar with tabs like Home, Search & Code, Analyse, Import & Export, and Help. Below the navigation bar, there are sections for Documents, Discourse, Codes, Memory, Networks, and Data. A large central pane shows a detailed view of a document, likely a transcript or interview. To the right of the central pane, there is a 'Code Group Manager' window showing a hierarchical structure of codes and categories. The bottom right corner of the screen has a small green bar.

Digital literacies

Self-assessed proficiency



Digital literacy profile

- case & proficiency level

Digital literacies

Self-assessed proficiency



Digital literacy profile

- genre & cognitive domain

Digital genre composing Processes

Composing stage: 'during'

En el “DURING”, es decir, en el proceso de la escritura del hilo en el que explicaba el mecanismo del “robo” de escaños a través del recuento del voto CERA, lo que hice fue escribir el texto inicial en un documento Word para poder organizarlo mejor y cortarlo posteriormente en los mensajes del hilo.

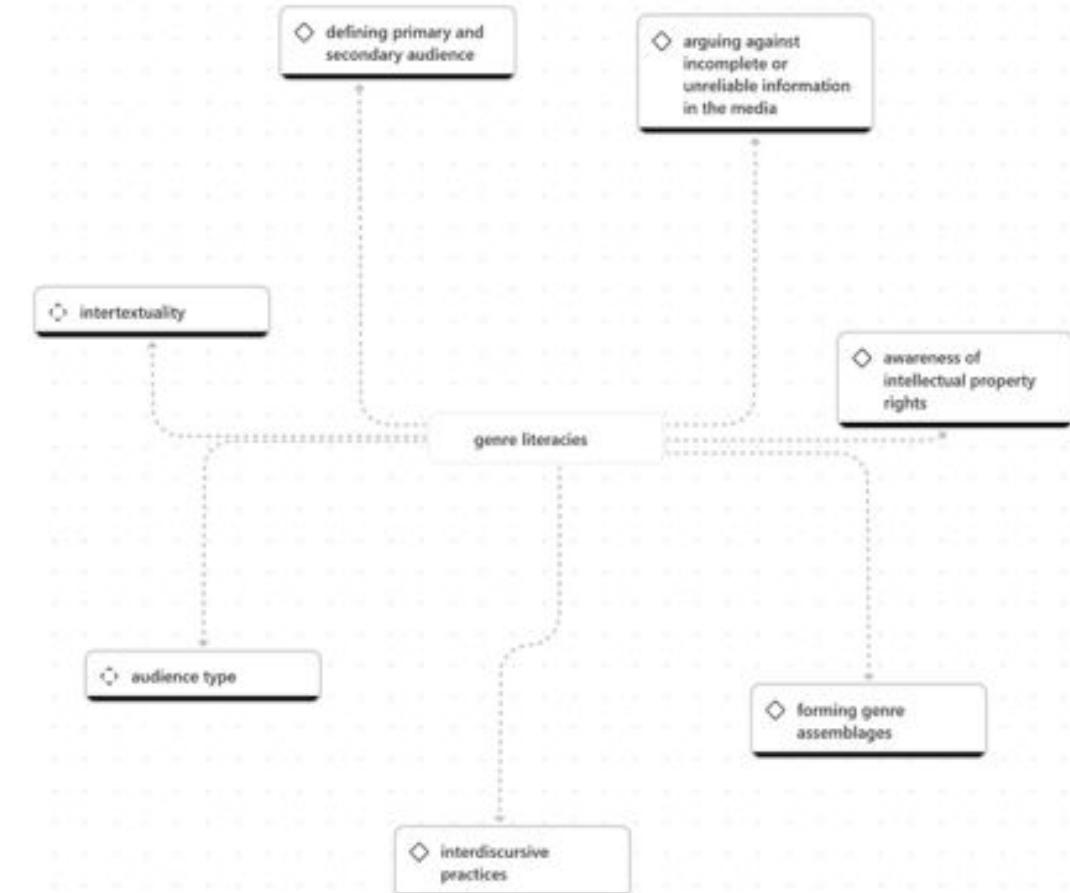
Además, al tratarse de un hilo con alto contenido matemático, tuve que decidir cómo escribir las fórmulas de la mejor manera posible, eligiendo un lenguaje formal pero que pudiera ser entendido por el público general, o al menos, por los periodistas que en esos momentos estaban interesados en esa noticia.

- Drafting: organizing text of a long commentary → linear flow of connected tweets
- Drafting: threading; cutting & pasting
- Digital tools: for drafting & publishing
- Digital tools: adapting to constraints of digital technologies
- Audience definition: primary & secondary
- Audience: tailoring message to audiences
- Language: adapting to audiences' level of knowledge
- Language: formal style & visualization modes

Digital genre composing Processes

Composing stage: 'after'

A pesar de toda la repercusión posterior, en la reflexión "AFTER" me di cuenta que hubiera sido más interesante incluir alguna imagen o gráfico dinámico (o incluso un gif hecho "ad hoc") más allá de las ecuaciones, para conseguir una mejor comprensión del concepto para aquellos que tenían las matemáticas más olvidadas. Sin duda, la no inclusión de estos elementos fue debido a la rapidez de la necesidad del mensaje.



Digital genre composing Processes

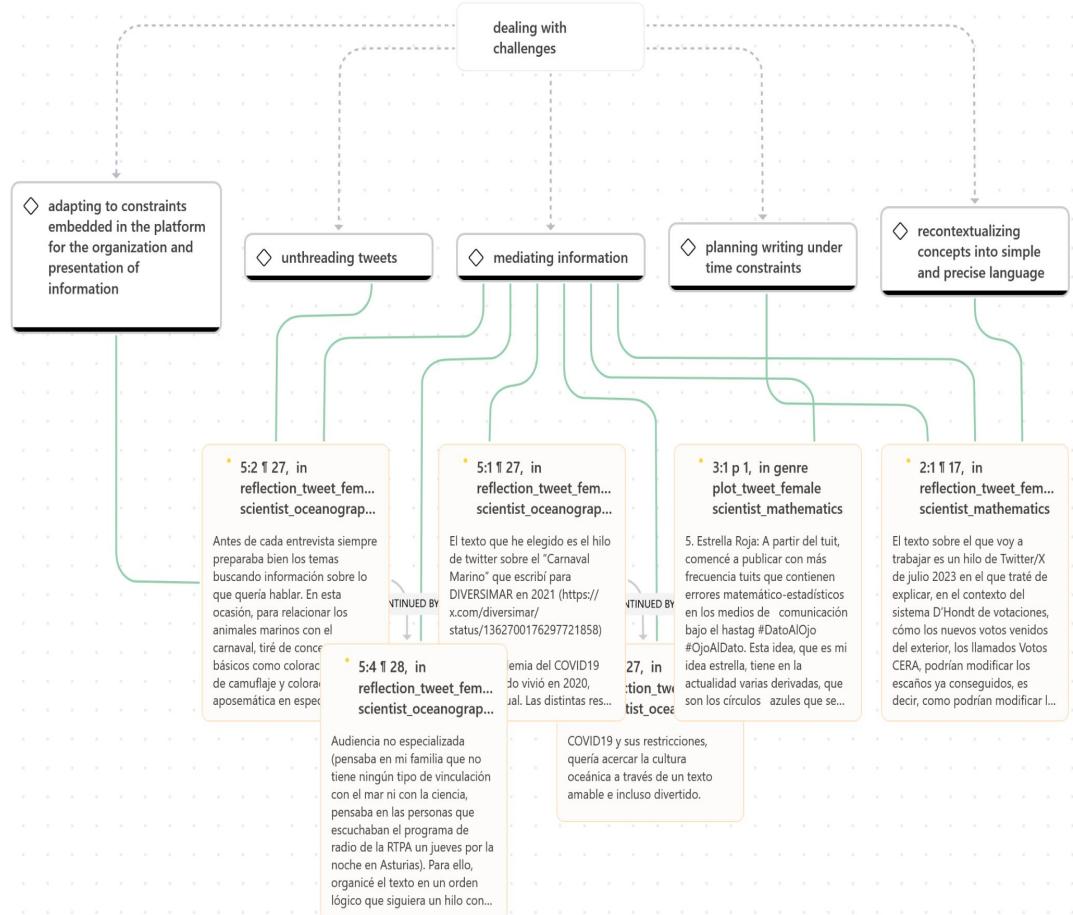
Discursive strategies

Quería hacer sentir bien a la gente que me escuchara (en la radio) o me leyera (en twitter o en el blog), y si además era capaz de transmitir algún conocimiento a través de estas anécdotas o despertar la curiosidad, se habría cumplido el objetivo.

Discursive strategies

- Audience engagement
- Immediacy
 - Affectivity
 - Shared goals
 - Social support
 - storytelling

Digital genre composing Dealing with challenges

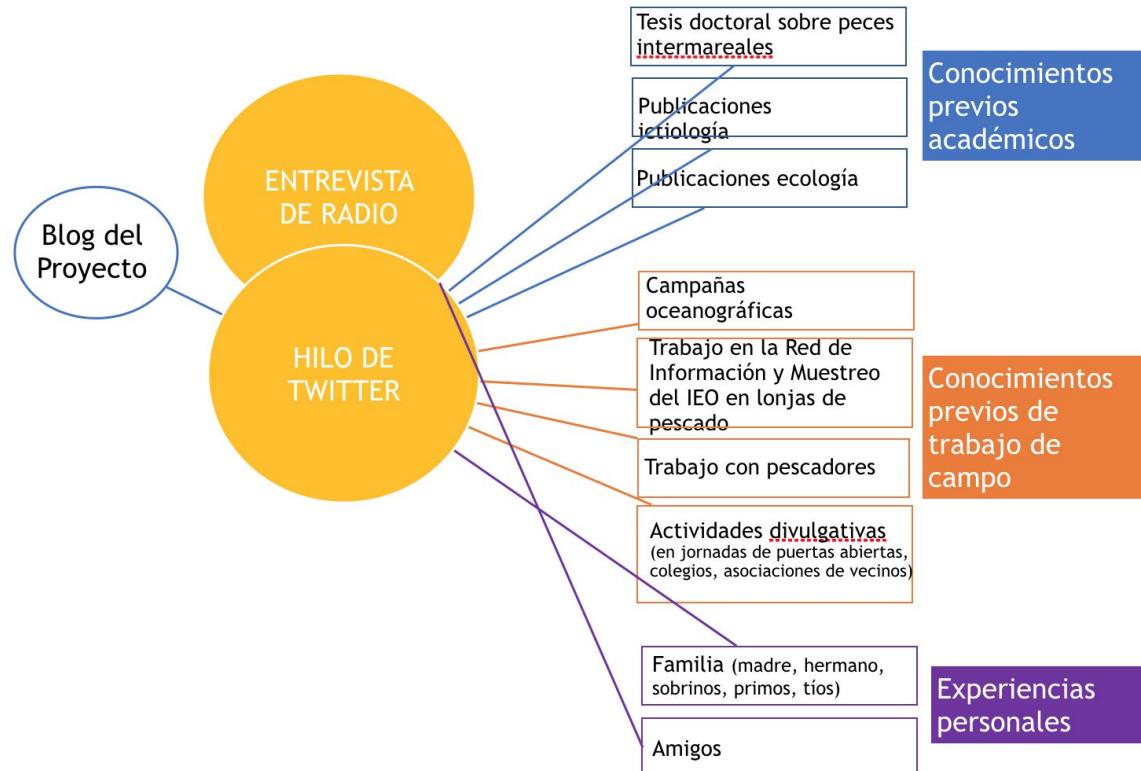


Mobilising resources

Antes de cada entrevista siempre preparaba bien los temas buscando información sobre lo que quería hablar. En esta ocasión, para relacionar los animales marinos con el carnaval, tiré de conceptos básicos como coloración críptica de camuflaje y coloración aposemática en especies marinas y escribí un guión en word con todas las cosas que podía/quería decir en la entrevista (era la forma de ordenar bien las ideas priorizando lo más importante). Después, escribía un hilo de twitter, buscando imágenes propias o de personas que me daban su permiso, buscando siempre conexiones tanto con la actualidad como con twits de otras personas para mejorar la visibilidad. Este hilo de twitter se publicó al día siguiente de la entrevista en la radio (...). Además, toda la información la escribía en el blog de DIVERSIMAR (wordpress), lo que servía para tener “desenrollado el hilo de twitter” sin necesidad de usar ningún bot de unroll y servía también para compartirlo en otras redes como Facebook o enviar por email (...), y también se enlazaba la entrada del blog en el último twit para ganar en visibilidad.

Digital genre assemblages

Agents and relation

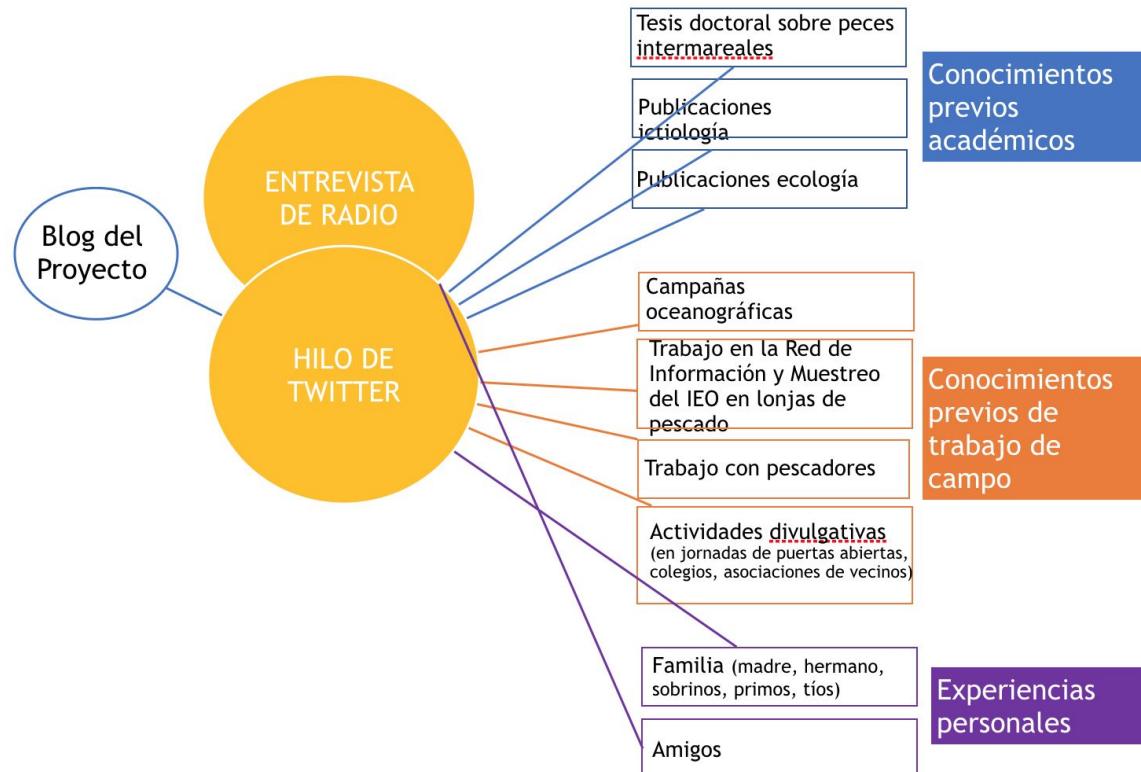


Genre Plot

- Genre ecologies = intertextual collections
- Intermediality & interdisciplinary intertextuality (Bazerman 2004)
- Agentivities: individual & distributed (Spinuzzi 2004)
- Relationships between genres: overlap

Digital genre assemblages

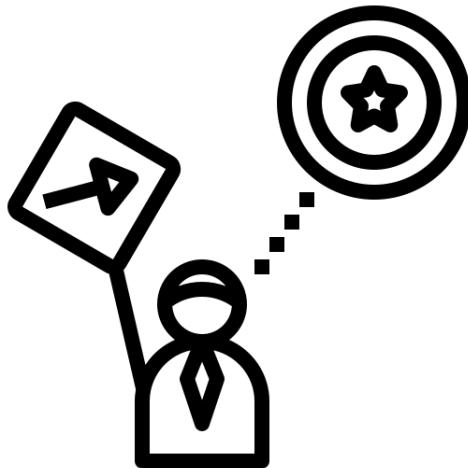
Identity



Genre Plot

- Strategic designer
- Cluster of communication artifacts & activities
- Projecting an informed identity

Best practice Continuous professional development



Understanding the form and flow of text in genre ecologies

- how to disrupt or change an activity system (the deletion, addition or, modification of a text type)
- engage in a new set of activities and roles

Understanding audience(s) and communicative rhetorical purpose(s)

- genre knowledge transfer → skills and content knowledge across genres
- how to write innovatively to accomplish something new or different
- hybrid communicative purposes

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