Questionnaire on the Actual On-line Poetical Repertories

TraLiRo
Description by Alessio Decaria

The title of the database: *Repertorio ipertestuale della tradizione lirica romanza delle Origini* (TraLiRO) [*Texts and Transmission of Medieval Romance Lyric Poetry: a Database*]
The on-line address of the database: TraLiRO database is not yet available on-line. All information about TraLiRO project is available on the website www.traliro.unisi.it.

1. Who are (and were) the contributors of the repertory?
   The four research units working on the project are composed by a scientific supervisor and one or two research fellows; some files are assigned to external contributors who made specific studies on the authors included in the repertory.

2. During which period did you work on the database? Could you please describe the major steps of the work? Do you consider the repertorization completely accomplished?
   TraLiRO project started in 2012 and will end in 2015, so all researchers involved in the project during this period work on the project. Our repertory consists in simple files concerning poets operating in the first phases of the Romance lyric tradition. Each research unit is due to accomplish a particular part of the repertory: Siena unit works on Italian texts, Milan on French and Galician-Portuguese, Rome on Castilian, Cosenza on Provençal poetry. Our repertorization is due to be accomplished at the end of the project (March 2015).

3. Did you get any financial aid from public or private foundations helping your investigation related to or facilitating the accomplishment of the database?
   Our project has received a FIRB grant for young researchers by the Italian Ministry of University and Research (MIUR).

4. What corpus is treated in your repertory? Are there any previous printed or on-line scientific works dedicated to the same corpus? Did you succeed to reveal further sources or elements to this corpus in comparison to the previous state of the research? How many poems and sources are involved in the database?
   TraLiRO extends its analysis to the first phases of Romance lyric poetry: from a chronological point of view, each area has different limits (e.g. for the Italian area we consider the period 1230-1374, for the Provençal 1100-1200 and so on). For each lyrical tradition already exists one or more repertories accessible on-line (for the Italian texts the project LIO, for Provençal Asperti's BedT, for Galician Portuguese the database created by the Centro Ramón Piñeiro para a Investigación Centro en Humanidades' of Santiago de Compostela etc.): our aim is to connect to them for analitical information concerning authors and texts and to draw, for each author, a synthetic profile of the manuscript tradition that in those repertories is missing.
   As concerns new acquisitions generated by our work, for some of the

authors we found new witnesses or we were able to rediscover manuscripts ignored or neglected by most recent editors. For a large part of the authors we can offer new hypothesis concerning the attribution of the texts or the relationships between the manuscripts, thus indicating new ecdotic strategies to the future editors of these texts.
The database will concern about 600 authors; at the moment the database includes about 150 records. It's difficult to estimate the exact number of manuscripts or other sources because a large part of these lyric corpus has not still a reliable edition based on the entire available tradition. Only at the conclusion of our project we will be able to define the size of the whole manuscript tradition examined.

5. Are all the data figuring in the repertory available to the users?
No, they aren't. At the moment data can be accessed only by people working on the project, but in a few months they will be available on the SISMEL-Fondazione Ezio Franceschini (FEF) archive of Medieval texts and manuscripts (www.mirabileweb.it).

6. Is it possible to perform complex searches in the database (combining different criteria, in order to determine a specific part of the integral corpus)? In this respect does your database offer a benefit of being constructed on computer as an on-line resource?
TraLiRO data are organized in a database which allows complex searches combining different parameters and criteria concerning authors, texts, manuscripts and bibliography. One of the most important peculiarities in managing data in a database concerns the possibility of connecting with other important databases on the web. When TraLiRO will be included in the SISMEL-FEF network, it could be interrogated together with other important repertories already available in that wide digital archive.

7. Could you please enumerate all poetical, musical, metric criteria registered in your database? What are the most significant patterns of the poems included in the corpus?
TraLiRO focuses on the analysis of the manuscript tradition. Above all, it aims to identify the relationship between the witnesses containing the lyric corpus of each author. TraLiRO researchers are also required to summarize the size of the lyric corpus of each author, to give an account of the issues concerning attribution, to specify metric characteristics of the texts, to compile a list of manuscripts containing the poems of each author and of the most important editions.
Data concerning the specific analysis of every single text is allowed by the structure of the database but usually is not necessary because this kind of information is already available in other repertories. In these cases we are going to link our file to the existing one.

8. Do you consider as the unit of the description « abstract » poems as the philological work can reconstruct their ideal form, or the actual, conserved form of the poems? Did you take some specific data related to the poems from the manuscripts themselves or from reliable critical editions?
We consider both information available in modern editions and data taken directly from the manuscripts. We take from the manuscripts (or

from the existing repertories that draw information directly from the manuscripts) all data which is not available in modern editions (i.e. the intitulations of poems or other philologically relevant data), especially when we find manuscripts unknown to previous scholars.

9. Do you offer the text or/and the music of the poems in diplomatic edition, in critical edition or/and by the photographies of the original sources?
We don't include editions in our repertory, but critical editions and philological studies on some of the authors included in the repertory are planned to be realized within our project as further products of our research. We are going to connect our files to the images of sources on the web, but we don't offer new images.

10. What kind or bibliographical information are offered to the users?
We try to give to the users the most complete bibliographical information, but we select only philologically relevant bibliography. As regards modern editions we point out all critical editions and the most important annotated editions and anthologies.

11. Did you construct cross-references in order to facilitate the comparison of the corpus with other corpora treated in similar on-line or printed databases?
We are going to refer to existing repertories as often as we can. We also resort to other corpora to define the lyric corpus of each author or to face the frequent issues concerning the attribution of texts or even the identification of the authors. Besides, TraLiRO files are to be connected whenever possible with other databases existing online. Surely, as soon as TraLiRO will be available on-line in the SISMEL-FEF website, it will be connected with other projects included in the same digital archive network concerning medieval texts and manuscripts: *Lirica Italiana delle Origini* (LIO), *Biblioteca Agiografica Italiana* (BAI), *Guiron le Courtois* (Guiron), *Manoscritti Francesi e Provenzali esemplati in Italia* (MaFra), *Medioevo Latino* (MEL). Other projects are connected to the SISMEL-FEF network through the website **Manuscript texts and traditions of the European Middle Ages: a portal for research** (Trame), created in the context of an interoperability project directed by Lino Leonardi.

12. How do you register the metrical and rhyming structure of the poems, and the different figures of repetition on the level of the poems' text (like refrain, leixa-pren, etc.)?
Usually we don't register this information, except to correct any data present in the existing literature. The database, however, allows us to enter this data: we can specify the metrical genre of the poems (such as ballad, song, sonnet), their metrical structure using numerical sequences (11 07 11 11 07 11) and their rhyming pattern using alphabetic sequences (A B B C A B B C).

13. Is your database freely accessible? With or without a confidential password?
At the moment TraLiRO is accessible only to people involved in the project who need enter data in the database. They are requested to insert a confidential password and they can consult the whole data

concerning the project. External access at the moment is not allowed. When data will be available on SISMEL-FEF digital archive network (Mirabile website) its consultation will be free.