THE LEGAL LEXICON IN THE FIRST DICTIONARY OF THE SPANISH ROYAL ACADEMY (1726-1739)

THE CONCEPT OF THE JUDGE

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Lexicographical legacy of the Royal Spanish Academy:

- includes 23 editions of the general monolingual dictionary of the Spanish language (1726-2014);
- allows the study of the Spanish language from different perspectives;
- enables different approaches to history of lexicology and lexicography from the 18th century to today.
AIMS OF THE THESIS

1. Interpretation the lexicographical treatment of the legal lexicon in four editions dating from four different time periods: the 18th, the 19th, the 20th and the 21st century.

2. Investigation of the extent to which the lexicographical data reveals:
   - the semantic-paradigmatic properties of the lexical units;
   - the influence of the external factors on the lexicographical information (such as the current state of law, the political situation, and the Zeitgeist of the era).

3. Overview of the reflection of the semantic development of the legal lexicon in the Academy's dictionaries.
Method 1:
diatechnical marks.

Method 2:
key concepts from the relevant legal texts.
Legal Vocabulary in the *Diccionario de Autoridades* (1726-1739):

Numbers and Facts

Sources of the Legal Lexicon

- The legal lexical units in the *Diccionario de Autoridades* quote a total of 196 different texts.
- Only 29 of these texts are quoted in more than 10 entries.
- The most frequently quoted documents are:
  1) a law code promulgated by King Felipe II in the 16th century, *La Nueva Recopilación de las Leyes del Réino*, quoted in almost 17% of the entries and subentries of the corpus of this study.
  2) a law code *Las siete partidas* compiled during the reign of Don Alfonso X in the 13th century, that appears in 3.5% of the entries and subentries of the corpus.
A total of 489 entries and subentries in the corpus are marked as authentic legal lexical units using various references that provide some limitation of employment.

Two main methods of diatechnical labelling of the legal lexicon:

1. The lexical units used in what they designate as *estilo forense* (‘forensic style’), i.e. subentries that treat general language lexical units used in a legal context, labeled as: “en lo forense”, “en el estilo forense”, “en lo jurídico”, etc.;

2. The specialised lexical units marked as legal terms by employing the following labels: “term. forense”, “término forense”, “term. jurídico”.
• Sporadic labelling of the relation of a lexical unit to a specific legal area by shortcuts and sense indicators in the definitions:
The concept of the judge in the *Diccionario de Autoridades*

- The extralinguistic factors related to the legal context surrounding the publication of the dictionary: the Bourbon reforms and the advancing Enlightenment thought.
- The *Diccionario de Autoridades* reflects a broad image of the fragmentation of the judicial system of the Old Regime.
- The concept of judge is treated within a total of 63 entries and subentries related to the different officials who, among their other duties, had the authority of presiding over different types of court proceedings.
• 47 of these denotations are lemmatized as either an alcalde (‘mayor’) or as a juez (‘judge’):

> “The person enjoying the dignity of judge, that administers justice in the town under their jurisdiction […]”, s.v. alcalde.

> “The one who has authority and power to judge […]”, s.v. juez.
• A total of 17 different subentries are devoted to *alcalde* exercising different types of jurisdictions.

• 13 of these refer to the concept of a judge of ordinary jurisdiction and 4 to judges of special jurisdictions.

An example of *alcalde* (‘mayor’) denoting a concept of judge of ordinary jurisdiction.

An example of *alcalde* (‘mayor’) denoting a concept of judge of a specialised jurisdiction.
A total of 13 different subentries are devoted to *juez*.

8 of these refer to the concept of a judge of ordinary jurisdiction and 5 to judges of special jurisdictions.

An example of *juez* ('judge') denoting a concept of judge of ordinary jurisdiction.

An example of *juez* ('judge') denoting a concept of judge of a specialised jurisdiction.
A thin line between the concept of *alcalde* and the concept of *juez*:

"Judge appointed by the *Mesta*, and approved by the Council, to hear the lawsuits of shepherds, and other things related to group that appointed him [...]", s. v. *alcalde*.

"Official in the *Mesta*, that can move the hearings to the locations of the parties, and that enforces compliance with the laws, and fines the transgressors [...]", s. v. *juez*.
The degree of authority is often portrayed by two objects that symbolized the judicial power in the 18th century: *la garnácha* (distinctive clothing that was used exclusively by the counsellors and the judges of the Real Audiencia) and *la vara* (the cane used by certain officials as an emblem of their authority).

“Learned judge without Garnácha, with ordinary jurisdiction, approved by the King in his Royal Council and Chamber of Castile […], s. v. alcalde.”

“Judge who uses Garnacha, and a vara: he has ordinary jurisdiction in the Court, and five leagues around it […], s. v. alcalde.”
Apart from the two groups of nouns lemmatized as either *juez* or *alcalde*, there are 16 additional entries that treat professions with capacities similar to those of judge of ordinary jurisdiction, as well as 13 entries devoted to the officials of specialised jurisdictions.

**Visitador.** Se llama también el juez, o Ministro, que tiene a su cargo el hacer la visita, o reconocimiento en cualquier línea. “A judge in charge of conducting a visit or a recognition on any basis [...]”, s.v. visitador.

**Oidor.** Se llama también cualquiera de los Ministros Togados, destinados, en los Consejos, Chancellerías y Audiencias, para oir en justicia á las partes, y decidir, segun lo que unas y otras alegan. Lat. Auditor. Regius con-

**Adelantado.** s. m. Oficio en España, que corresponde á Presidente, ó Gobernador de Provincia, que con la Audiencia que habia en aquella juzgaba de todas las causas civiles y criminales. Dixen Adelantado, por estar mas adelante los otros para los negocios de importancia. “Office in Spain, which corresponds to the president, or governor of the province, who, judges all civil and criminal cases [...]”, s.v. adelantado.
Conclusion and future work

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