

Lab 07 - Children's word learning

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Load packages and data

```
library(tidyverse)
```

```
wordbank <- read_csv("data/wordbank-item-freq.csv")
```

```
## Rows: 609 Columns: 22
## -- Column specification -----
## Delimiter: ","
## chr   (3): item_definition, category, word
## dbl  (18): item_id, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, ...
## date  (1): downloaded
##
## i Use `spec()` to retrieve the full column specification for this data.
## i Specify the column types or set `show_col_types = FALSE` to quiet this message.
```

```
glimpse(wordbank)
```

```
## Rows: 609
## Columns: 22
## $ downloaded      <date> 2022-09-22, 2022-09-22, 2022-09-22, 2022-09-22, 2022--
## $ item_id         <dbl> 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, ~
## $ item_definition <chr> "grrr", "meow", "moo", "ouch", "uh oh", "vroom", "alli~
## $ category        <chr> "sounds", "sounds", "sounds", "sounds", "sounds", "sou~
## $ `16`            <dbl> 0.48, 0.41, 0.50, 0.34, 0.71, 0.38, 0.02, 0.03, 0.04, ~
## $ `17`            <dbl> 0.49, 0.48, 0.52, 0.41, 0.68, 0.40, 0.04, 0.07, 0.06, ~
## $ `18`            <dbl> 0.55, 0.56, 0.62, 0.51, 0.78, 0.51, 0.06, 0.11, 0.10, ~
## $ `19`            <dbl> 0.64, 0.68, 0.75, 0.61, 0.87, 0.57, 0.13, 0.20, 0.18, ~
## $ `20`            <dbl> 0.65, 0.71, 0.76, 0.64, 0.87, 0.57, 0.14, 0.21, 0.21, ~
## $ `21`            <dbl> 0.67, 0.78, 0.78, 0.67, 0.89, 0.61, 0.19, 0.28, 0.23, ~
## $ `22`            <dbl> 0.65, 0.77, 0.79, 0.70, 0.88, 0.60, 0.22, 0.33, 0.26, ~
## $ `23`            <dbl> 0.74, 0.81, 0.85, 0.77, 0.88, 0.69, 0.30, 0.44, 0.37, ~
## $ `24`            <dbl> 0.77, 0.86, 0.88, 0.78, 0.90, 0.70, 0.40, 0.50, 0.43, ~
## $ `25`            <dbl> 0.78, 0.89, 0.88, 0.86, 0.93, 0.75, 0.47, 0.56, 0.49, ~
## $ `26`            <dbl> 0.76, 0.88, 0.88, 0.82, 0.90, 0.71, 0.50, 0.58, 0.51, ~
## $ `27`            <dbl> 0.80, 0.92, 0.92, 0.83, 0.93, 0.70, 0.52, 0.61, 0.54, ~
## $ `28`            <dbl> 0.90, 0.96, 0.95, 0.93, 0.97, 0.86, 0.74, 0.78, 0.74, ~
## $ `29`            <dbl> 0.79, 0.91, 0.92, 0.86, 0.91, 0.72, 0.66, 0.71, 0.63, ~
## $ `30`            <dbl> 0.82, 0.93, 0.93, 0.88, 0.89, 0.74, 0.70, 0.73, 0.66, ~
## $ word            <chr> "grrr", "meow", "moo", "ouch", "uhoh", "vroom", "allig~
## $ freq            <dbl> 276325, 810281, 1631972, 1174728, 27389, 209222, 14176~
## $ freqrnk         <dbl> 0.8327283, 0.9108456, 0.9405968, 0.9281497, 0.3541304, ~
```

Exercises

Exercise 1

```
wordbank_long <- wordbank %>%
pivot_longer(cols= c(`16`:`30`), names_to = "AgeinMonths",
values_to = "Proportion")

wordbank_18mo <- wordbank_long %>% filter(AgeinMonths == "18") %>% select(word, Proportion) %>%
  arrange(desc(Proportion)) %>% head(3)
wordbank_30mo_sounds <- wordbank_long %>% filter(category == "sounds", AgeinMonths == "30") %>%
  select(word, Proportion) %>% arrange(Proportion) %>% head(1)
glimpse(wordbank_18mo)
```

```
## Rows: 3
## Columns: 2
## $ word      <chr> "ball", "bye", "uhoh"
## $ Proportion <dbl> 0.84, 0.80, 0.78
```

```
glimpse(wordbank_30mo_sounds)
```

```
## Rows: 1
## Columns: 2
## $ word      <chr> "vroom"
## $ Proportion <dbl> 0.74
```

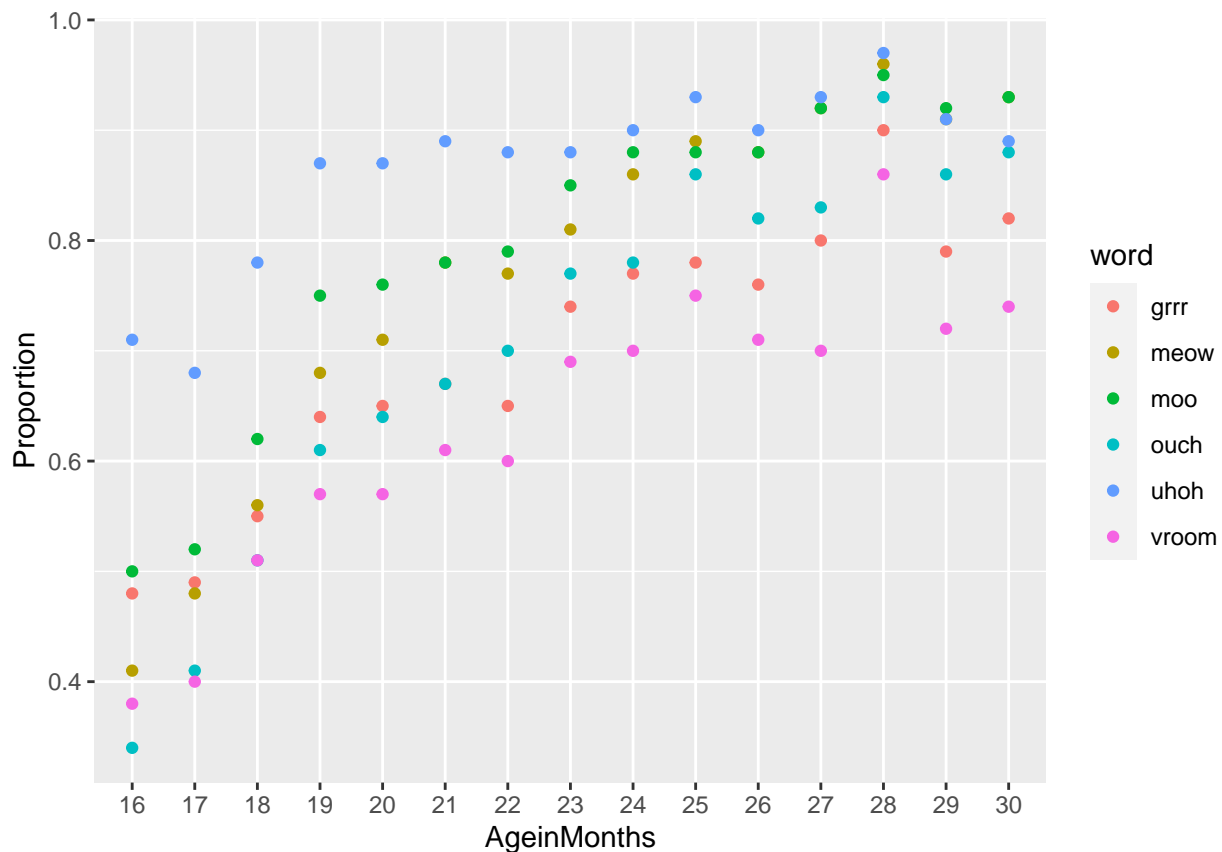
The three most commonly produced words by 18 months are ball, bye, and uhoh. Vroom is the least likely sounds to be produced by 30 months.

Exercise 2

```
wordbank_long <- wordbank %>%
pivot_longer(cols= c(`16`:`30`), names_to = "AgeinMonths",
values_to = "Proportion")

wordbank_long_sounds <- wordbank %>% filter(category == "sounds") %>%
pivot_longer(cols= c(`16`:`30`), names_to = "AgeinMonths",
values_to = "Proportion")

wordbank_long_sounds %>% ggplot(aes(x = AgeinMonths, y = Proportion,
fill = word, color = word)) + geom_point()
```



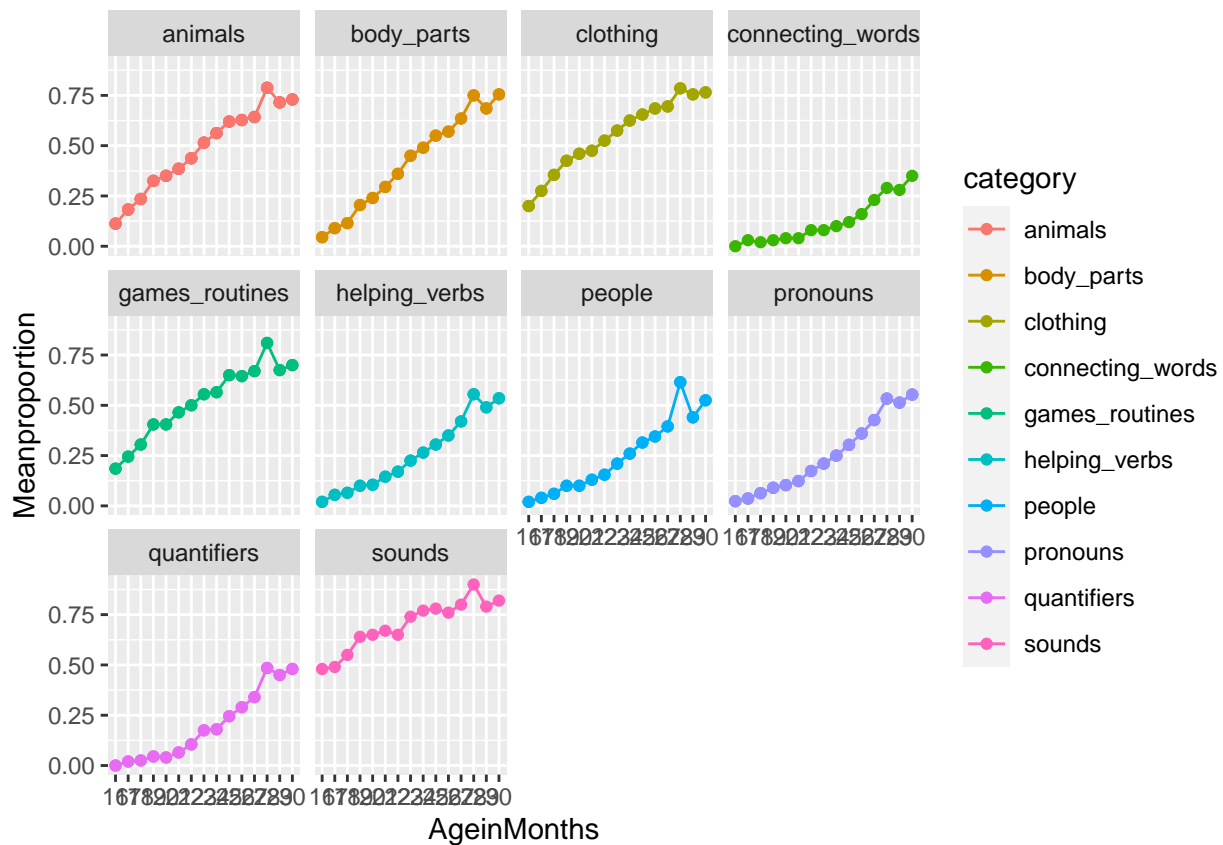
Children at 28 months tend to have a higher average of children that are able to pronounce these words. From 16 to 25 months, “uhoh” is learned the fastest. This word is probably vocalized more to younger children when they are in the learning process, as opposed to “meow” or “vroom.”

Exercise 3

```
wordbank_long_category <- wordbank %>% filter(category== c("sounds",
"games_routines", "body_parts", "animals", "clothing", "people", "pronouns",
"connecting_words", "quantifiers", "helping_verbs")) %>%
pivot_longer(cols= c(`16`:`30`), names_to = "AgeinMonths",
values_to = "Proportion")

## Warning in category == c("sounds", "games_routines", "body_parts", "animals", :
## longer object length is not a multiple of shorter object length

wordbank_long_category %>% group_by(category, AgeinMonths) %>%
  mutate(Meanproportion=mean(Proportion)) %>%
  ggplot( aes(x=AgeinMonths, y=Meanproportion, group=category,
              color=category)) +
  geom_point() +
  geom_line() +
  facet_wrap(~category)
```



Exercise 4

```
wordbank_10_most_frequent <- wordbank[order(-wordbank$freq), ] %>% select(word,
  freq) %>% head(10)

wordbank_10_least_frequent <- wordbank[order(wordbank$freq), ] %>% select(word,
  freq) %>% head(10)

print(wordbank_10_least_frequent)
```

```
## # A tibble: 10 x 2
##   word      freq
##   <chr>    <dbl>
## 1 uhoh      27389
## 2 patty cake 28656
## 3 playdough 44892
## 4 peanut butter 46161
## 5 teddy bear 51233
## 6 fire truck 71915
## 7 snow suit 76873
## 8 hafta     82485
## 9 peekaboo 117785
## 10 yucky    154277
```

```
print(wordbank_10_most_frequent)
```

```
## # A tibble: 10 x 2
##   word      freq
```

```
##      <chr>      <dbl>
## 1 the      23135851162
## 2 and      12997637966
## 3 a        9081174698
## 4 is       4705743816
## 5 that     3400031103
## 6 this     3228469771
## 7 i        3086225277
## 8 you      2996181025
## 9 it       2813163874
## 10 not     2633487141
```

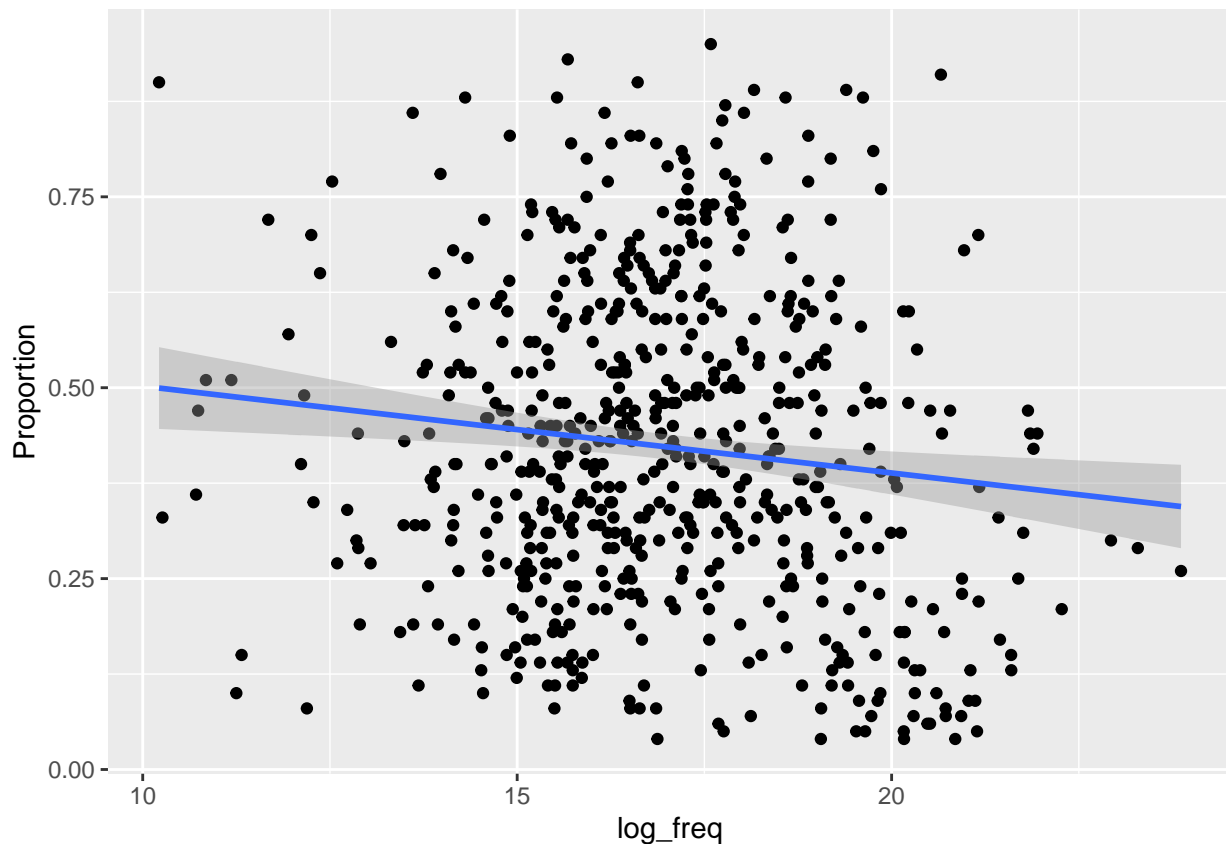
- Most frequent: the, and, a, is, that, this, i, you, it, not
- Least frequent: uhoh, pattycake, playdough, peanutbutter, teddybear, firetruck, snowsuit, hafta, peekaboo, yucky

Exercise 5

```
wordbank_long_2_years <- wordbank_long %>% filter(AgeinMonths == "24")

wordbank_long_2_years %>% mutate(log_freq = log(freq)) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = log_freq, y = Proportion)) + geom_point() +
  geom_smooth(method="lm")
```

```
## `geom_smooth()` using formula = 'y ~ x'
```



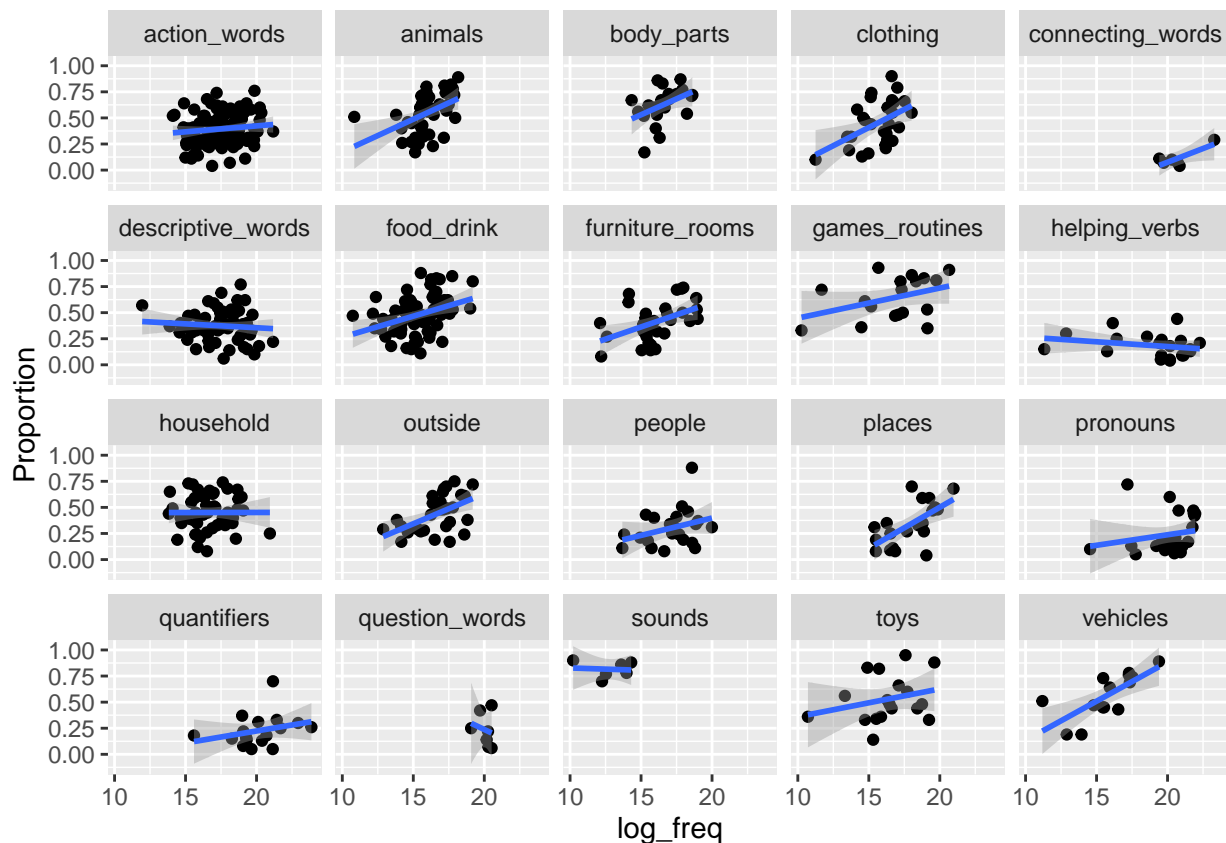
Exercise 6

This relationship is negative. There seems to be a negative relationship between the frequency a word is used and the proportion of children who use it. This does seem surprising because I would think that if a word is heard and used more in general, children would pick up on learning it quicker, and also use it more. This relationship may be explained by the combination of many types of words into one analysis.

Exercise 7

```
wordbank_long_2_years %>% mutate(log_freq = log(freq)) %>%  
  ggplot(aes(x = log_freq, y = Proportion)) + geom_point() +  
  geom_smooth(method="lm") + facet_wrap(~category)
```

```
## `geom_smooth()` using formula = 'y ~ x'
```



This graph illustrates the differences in log frequencies of words used and the proportion of words used by category. Here, differences between types of words are much more visible. For example, there is a positive relationship in log frequency and proportion for vehicles, game_routines, animals, and body_parts. There is a neutral relationship for household, sounds, and pronouns. The first plot illustrates a combination of all points, regardless of category, while the second plot shows more specific relationships between the log frequency of a word and the proportion of 2 year olds using it based on category.

Exercise 8

People, sounds, furniture_rooms seem to be categories that should be heard more often in real life than written in books.

Exercise 9

```
wordbank_high_freq <- wordbank_long_2_years %>% filter(category == c("connecting_words",  
"quantifiers")) %>% mutate(log_freq = log(freq))
```

```
## Warning in category == c("connecting_words", "quantifiers"): longer object  
## length is not a multiple of shorter object length
```

```
wordbank_high_freq %>% select(log_freq, word, category) %>%  
arrange(desc(log_freq)) %>% head(10)
```

```
## # A tibble: 10 x 3  
##   log_freq word      category  
##   <dbl> <chr>    <chr>  
## 1    23.9 the      quantifiers  
## 2    21.7 not      quantifiers  
## 3    21.4 all      quantifiers  
## 4    21.1 an       quantifiers  
## 5    20.8 if       connecting_words  
## 6    20.4 any      quantifiers  
## 7    19.7 then     connecting_words  
## 8    19.4 because connecting_words  
## 9    19.3 much     quantifiers  
## 10   19.3 same     quantifiers
```

The most frequent words are the, not, all, an, if, any, then, because, much, and same. I would assume that children hear these words very often. They also probably see these words written fairly often.